A note for note transcription of

Rick Margitza

performing

"Cry Me A River"

From the Peter Protschka CD

Twilight Jamboree

(Live At The Bird's Eye Basel)

Transcribed by

Charles McNeal

A few words about this transcription

I've been a fan of Rick Margitza's saxophone playing since I first heard him on a recording of guitarist, Steve Masakowski (Friends), in the early 90's. While possessing a great sound that is influenced by Michael Brecker and John Coltrane and a deep understanding of advanced jazz harmony, he has remained among the top of my "Favorite Jazz Saxophonist" list to this day. Over the last few years I have been very fortunate to play a few gigs and jam sessions, plus take a lesson from him (playing next to Mr. Margitza is a lesson unto itself). Having a friendship with Rick has definitely made me a better musician!

In the past I've done a few transcriptions of his solos but wanted to do something special for what would be my latest "Rick Margitza" solo transcription. Since I have witnessed him playing a cadenza at the end of the Arthur Hamilton composition "Cry Me A River" on a couple of our performances together and was always amazed at his inventiveness, I felt that one of those cadenzas would be beneficial to transcribe. This performance, which comes from the Peter Protschka CD "Twilight Jamboree: Live At Bird's Eye Basel" was personally picked by Rick and it is a GREAT performance! From the beautiful interpretation of the melody and a very understated solo on the bridge coming out of the bass solo, this is a masterful performance. But the pièce de résistance is Rick's cadenza!

There are enough ideas in those 3 ½ minutes to keep the serious jazz student busy for quite awhile! It contains wonderful usage of intervallic ideas, inverted triads taken through various transpositions, also the employment of many modern jazz and bebop devices. There's a lot to study here! Also checkout his use of dynamics and articulation (which can only be done by listening and playing along with the recording). Those aspects are a very unique part of Rick's sound. Learning this solo will add many options to draw from when you're playing jazz!

As for the actual notating of this solo, Rick agreed to look over my transcription and add his personal input. Because of this, you have a note for note transcription that is very accurate. His input on chord changes, rhythmic notation and phrasing were invaluable! Having the chord change over the cadenza (exactly when he was thinking of them) will give you insight into his thought process involving note choices and scale usage that would not have been possible without his help. Writing out the exact rhythms of a freely improvised cadenza is nearly impossible, but I think we got very close with this transcription!

In relation to the handling of "accidentals" during the cadenza. Sharps and flats, only apply to the current group of beamed notes you are playing. Once a new group of beamed notes are played the accidentals are reset for that group of notes. Accidentals DO NOT carry over within the staff. I did write in some courtesy accidentals but only when altered notes were in close proximity. The tenor saxophone key of "F" (concert "Eb") is constant throughout.

Enjoy,
Charles McNeal

Tenor Saxophone

Cry Me A River

57 BPM

Rick Margitza's solo from Peter Protschka's CD - Twilight Jamboree

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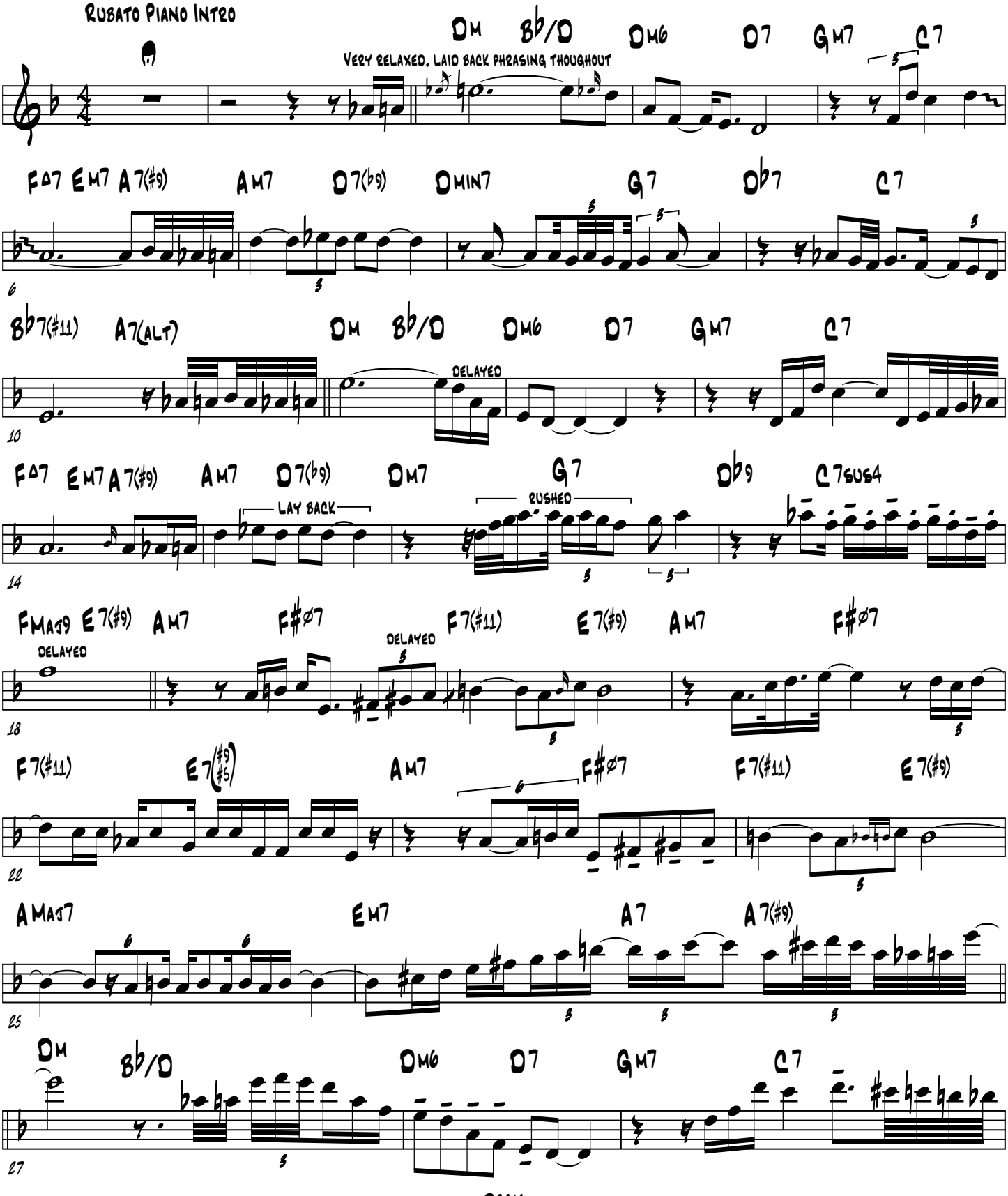
Charles McNeal



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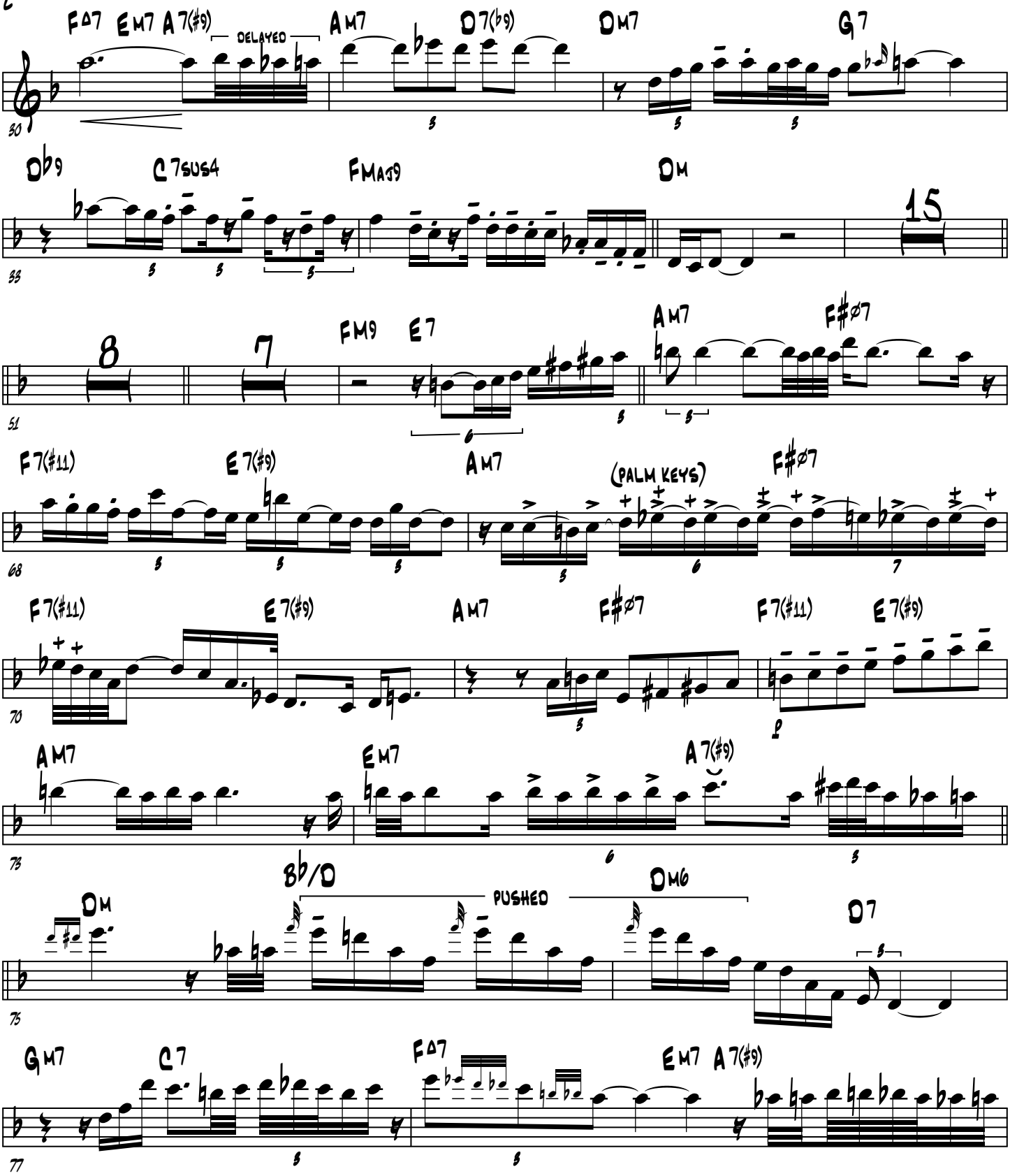
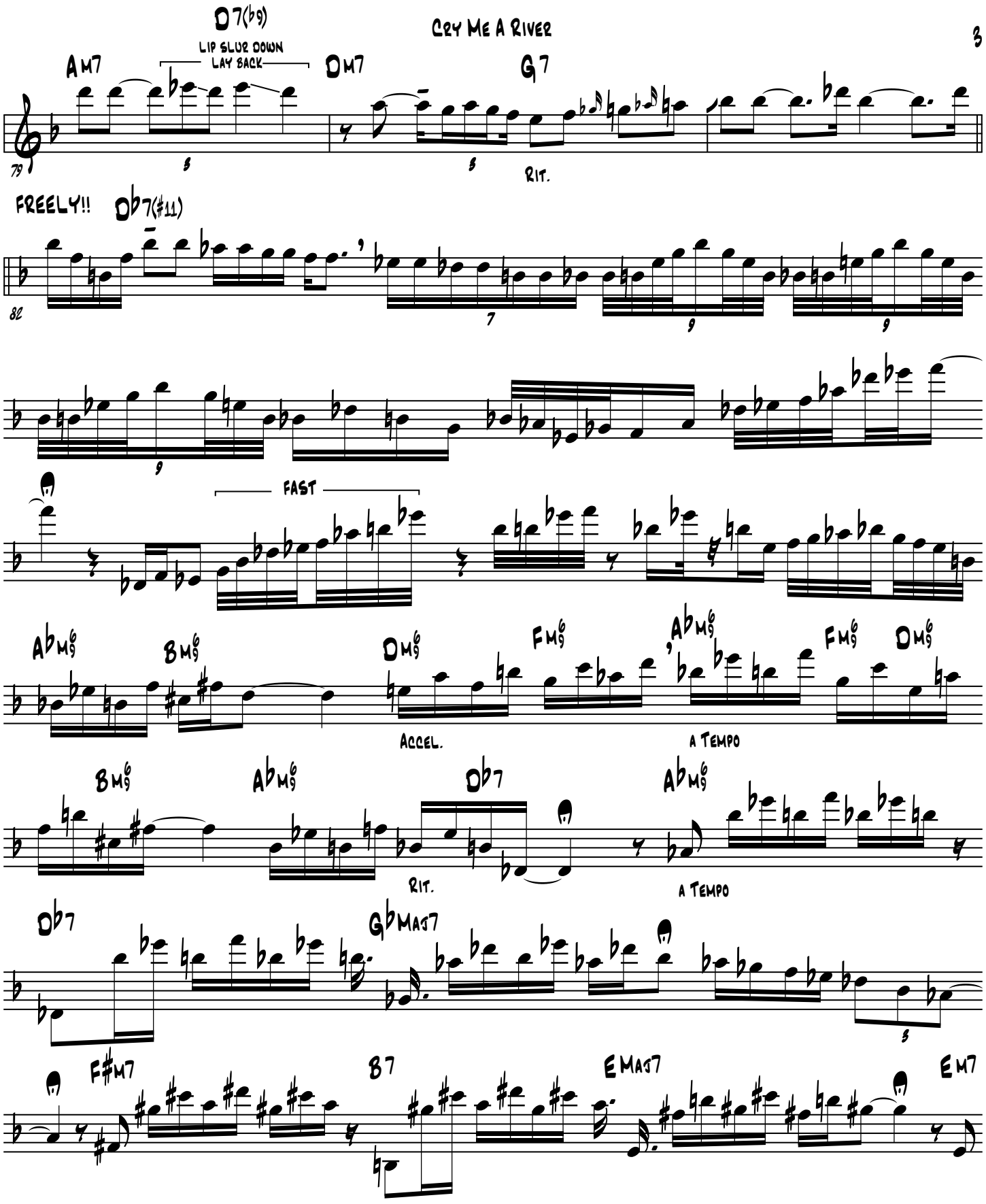
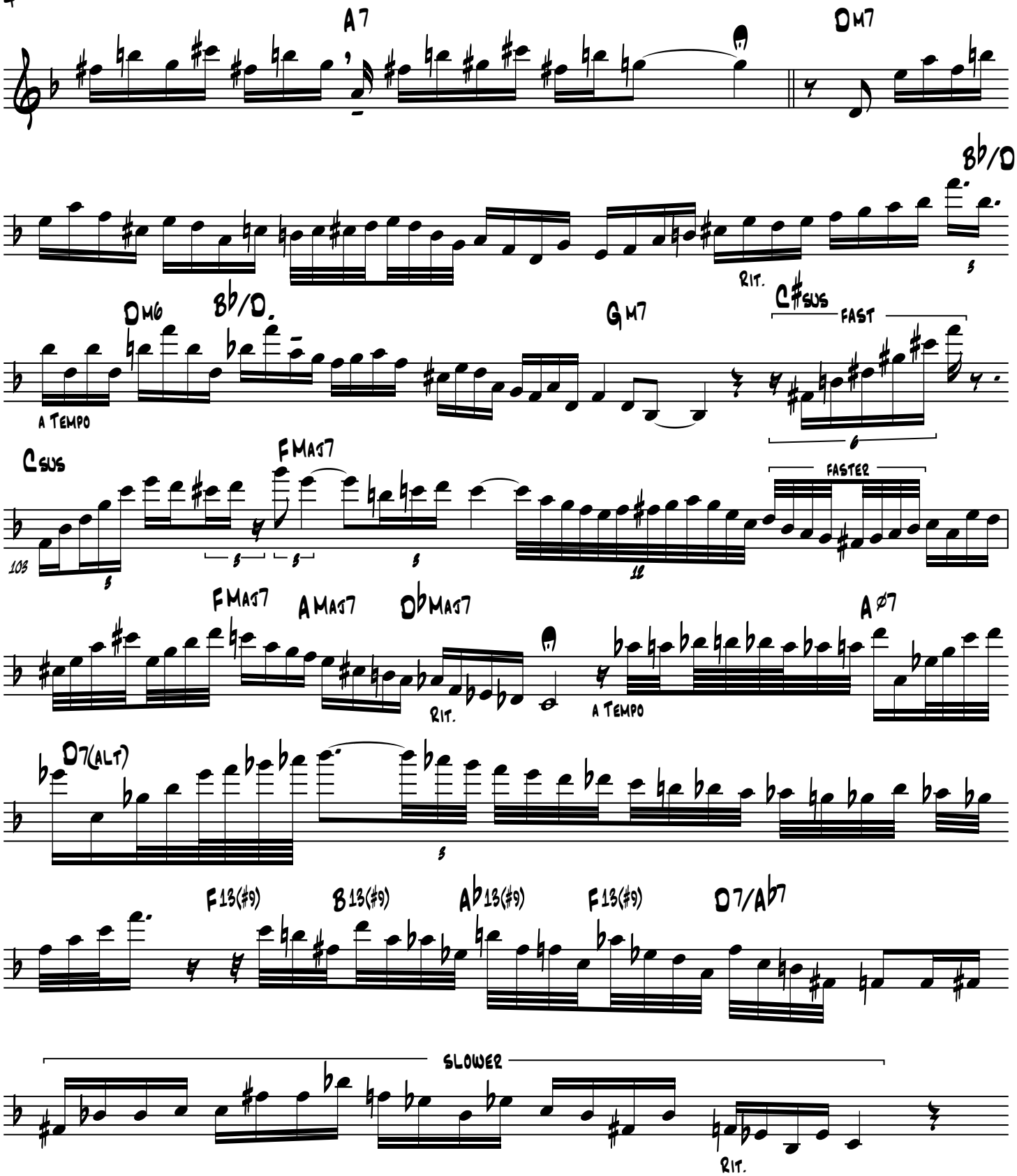
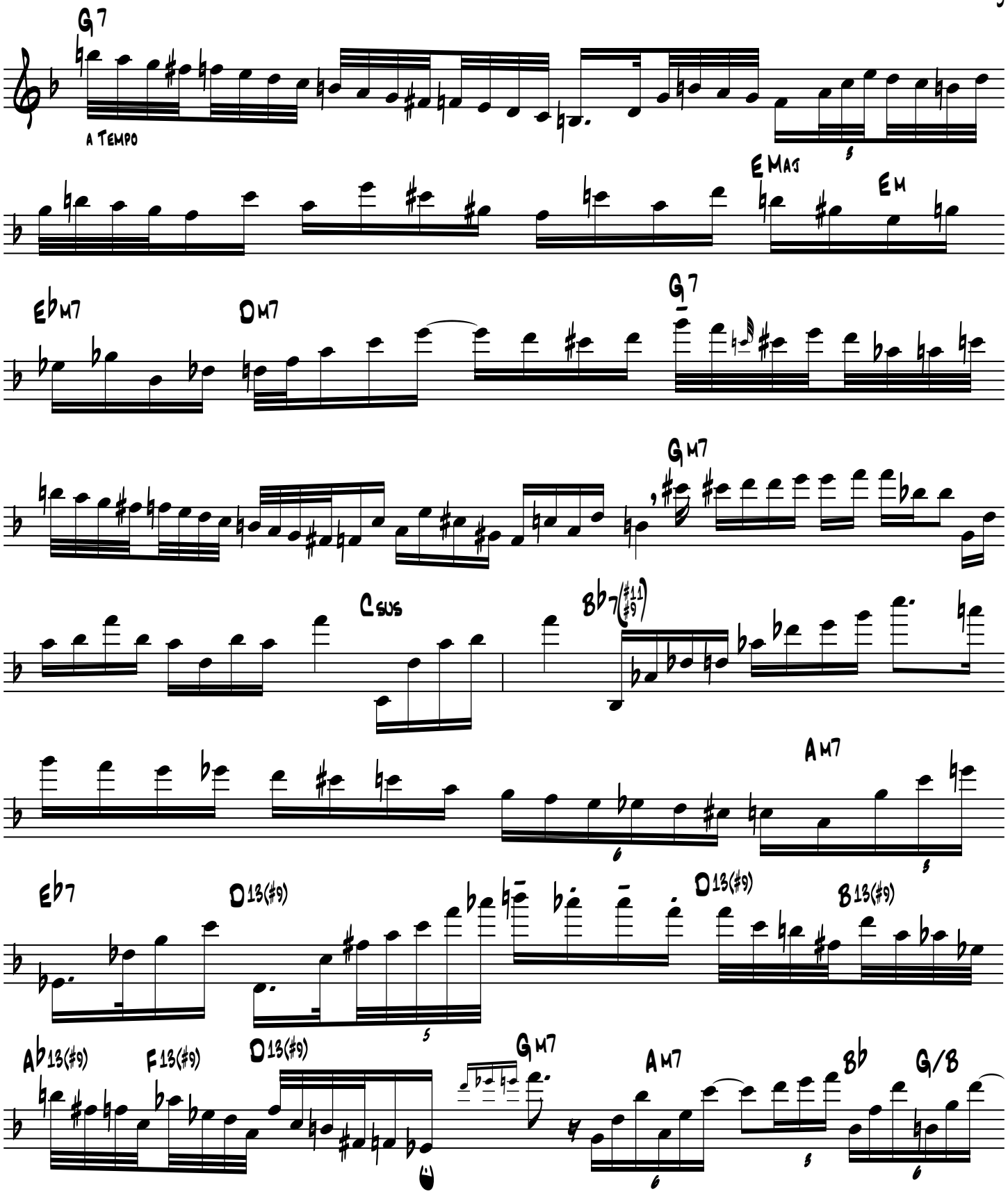
Cry Me A River



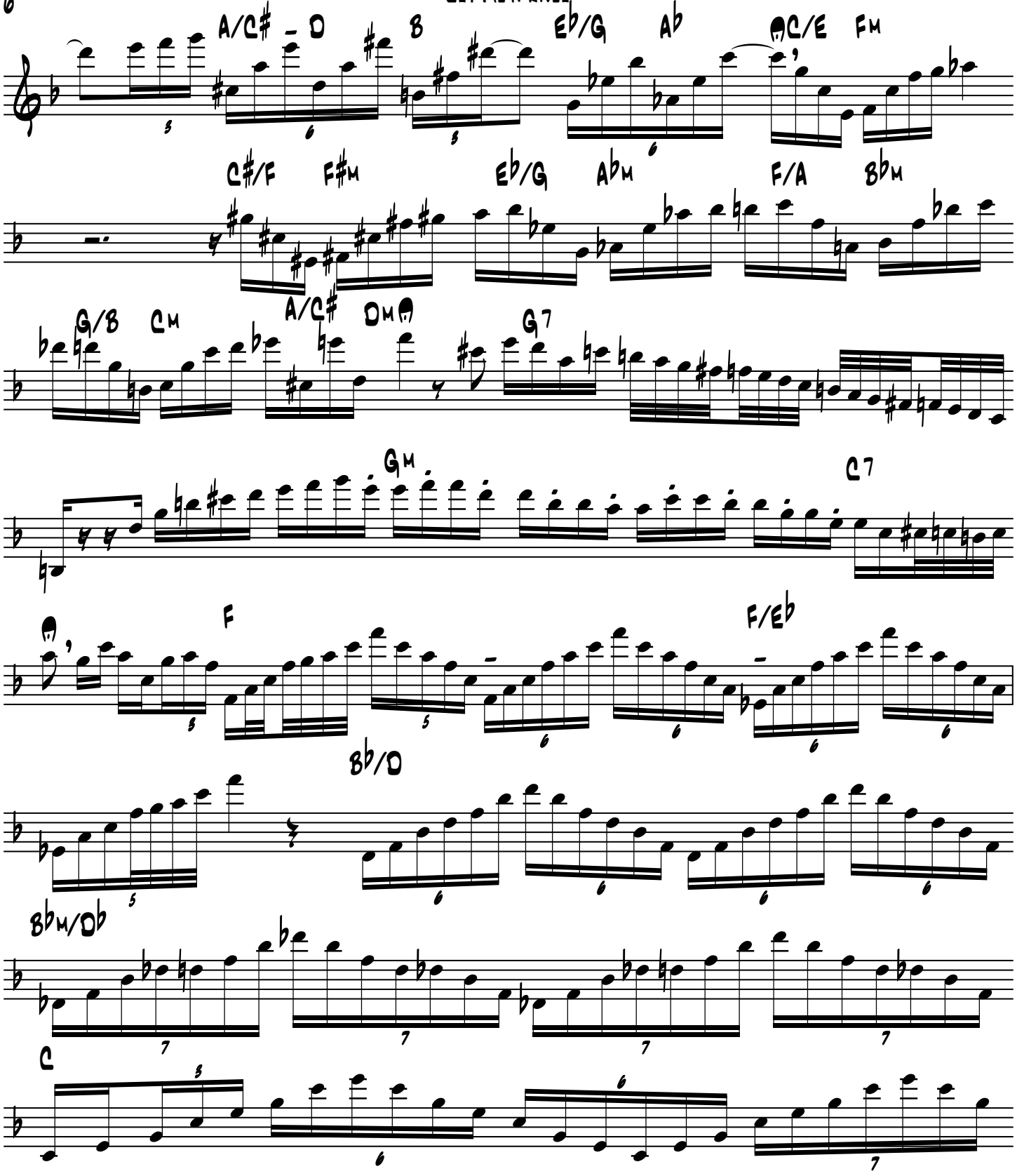

D7(b9)
Lip slur down
Lay back
Am7
Dm7
G7
79
Rit.
Freely!!
Db7(#11)
82
Fast
Abmaj9
Bmaj9
Dmaj9
Fmaj9
Accel.
A Tempo
Rit.
Db7
Gbmaj7
F#m7
B7
Emaj7
Em7

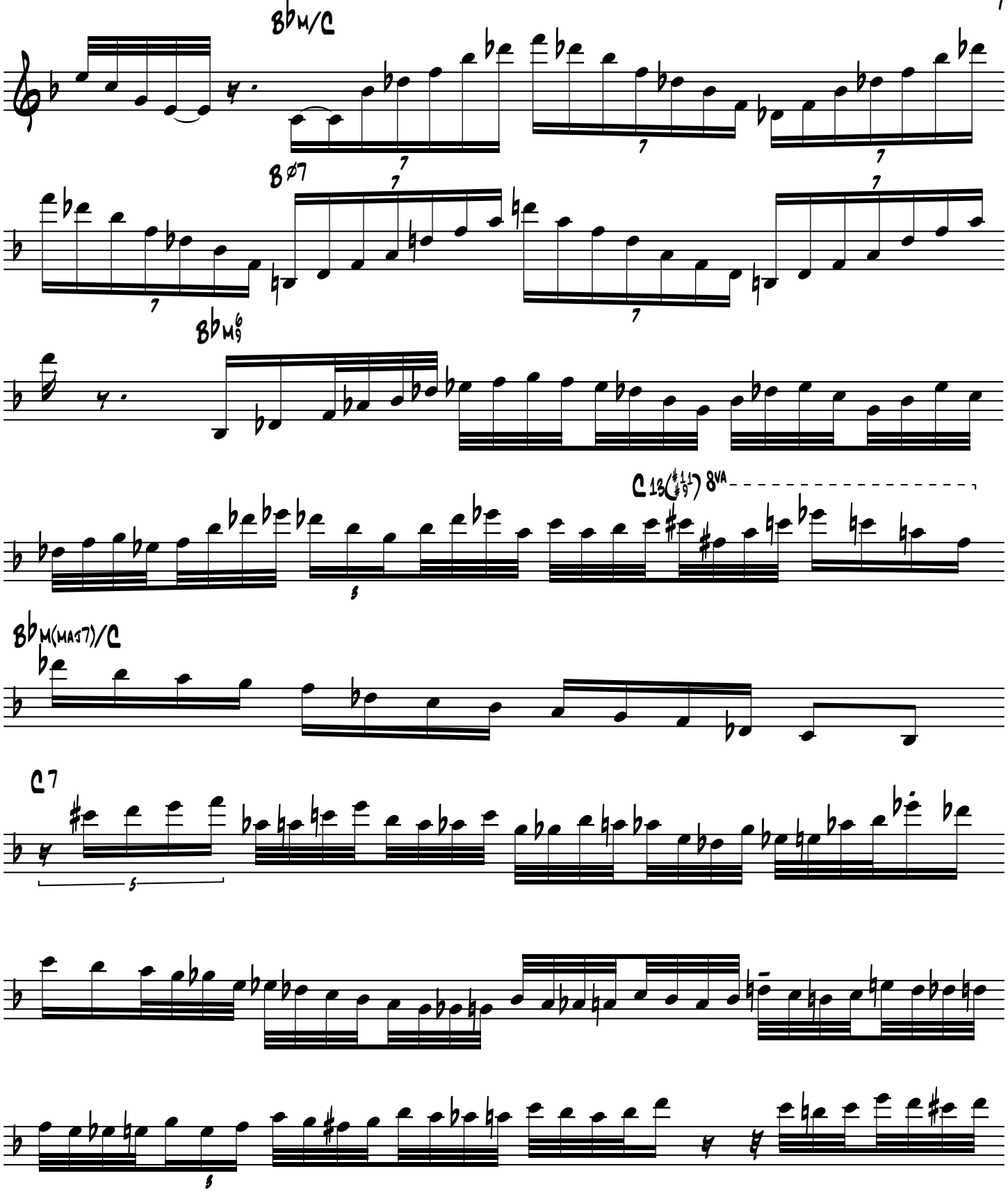
Cry Me A River



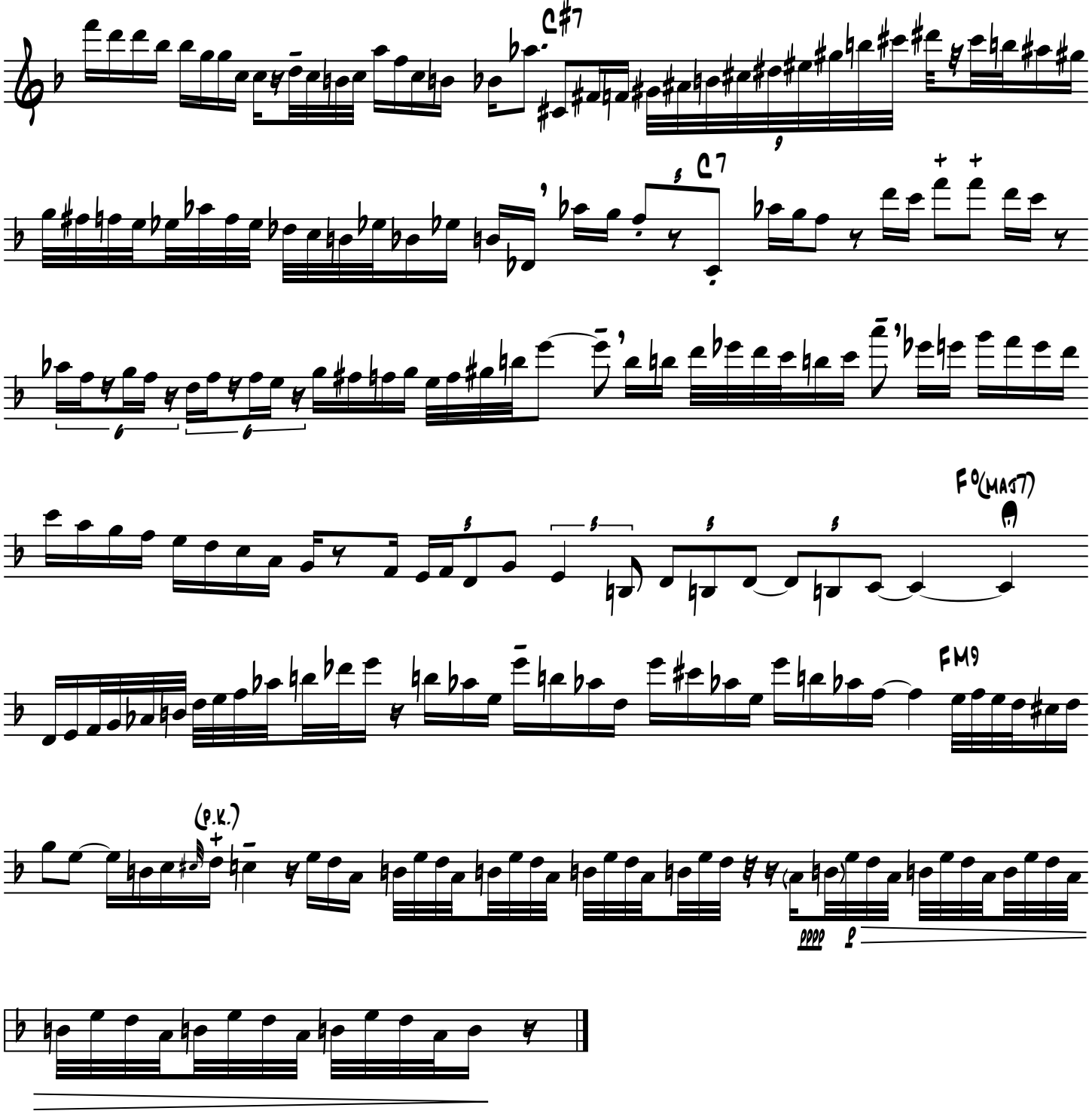

G7
A Tempo
EMaj
Em
Eb M7
DM7
G7
GM7
Csus
Bb7(#11 #9)
AM7
Eb7
D13(#9)
D13(#9)
B13(#9)
Ab13(#9)
F13(#9)
D13(#9)
GM7
AM7
Bb
G/B

Cry Me A River




B♭M/C
B∅7
B♭M6/9
C13(♯11/♯9) 8VA
B♭M(MAJ7)/C
C7

CRY ME A RIVER



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