MILES DAVIS
"KIND OF BLUE + PRESTIGE YEARS"

In the mid-40's a teenaged Miles Davis would cross the river from East St. Louis to West to see Dizzy Gillespie and Charlie Parker perform fascinated by this new artform called "bebop". In 1947 at the age of 21 he's finally get the chance to play with Parker when Diz leaves the band. Bebop would be the 1st sounds Miles would make as a young creator.
-- Play Scrapple from the Apple

From 1951 to 1956 Miles would record for the Prestige label, much of it with tenor saxophone giant John Coltrane, who would stand next to Miles until well into the late 50's. In 1956, over 2 separate recording sessions with Rudy Van Gelder, enough material for 4 records would be recorded and slowly released as 4 of the most inspired recordings in Miles' career -- Cookin', Steamin', Workin' and Relaxing with the Miles Davis Quintet. Here's a quick taste of what that sounded like →
-- Play If I Were A Bell

This brings us to 1959.

Kind of Blue is a studio album, released on August 17, 1959, by Columbia Records. Recording sessions for the album took place in New York City on March 2 and April 22, 1959. The sessions featured Davis's ensemble sextet, with pianist Bill Evans, drummer Jimmy Cobb, bassist Paul Chambers, and saxophonists John Coltrane and Cannonball Adderley. After the entry of Evans into his sextet, Davis followed up on the modal experimentations of Milestones (1958) by basing Kind of Blue entirely on modality, in contrast to his earlier work with the bebop style of jazz.

Kind of Blue has been described by many music writers not only as Davis's best-selling album, but as the best-selling jazz record of all time. On October 7, 2008, it was certified quadruple platinum in sales by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). It has been regarded by many critics as the greatest jazz album of all time and Davis's masterpiece.

The album's influence on music, including jazz, rock, and classical music, has led music writers to acknowledge it as one of the most influential albums ever made. In 2002, it was one of fifty recordings chosen that year by the Library of Congress to be added to the National Recording Registry. In 2003, the album was ranked number 12 on Rolling Stone magazine's list of the 500 greatest albums of all time. And has been described by reviewer Seth Jacobson as "a genre-defining moment in twentieth-century music"

So -- for our the 2nd set we'll romp around Miles' on the Prestige label – but right now, for the next 45 minutes or so, my colleagues and I will take you on a journey though that primordial record in it's entirety playing all 5 magnificent tunes on that album -- welcome to Kind Of Blue.

1 -- **So What** (Kind Of Blue)
2 -- **Freddie Freeloader** (Kind Of Blue)
5 -- **Flamenco Sketches** (Kind Of Blue)
3 -- **Blue In Green** (Kind Of Blue)
4 -- **All Blues** (Kind Of Blue)

Brownman Ali, Browntasauras Records, The Museum & Terry Pender presents:

MILES: Kind Of Blue + Prestige Years

Sun-Nov-09, 2025 – 4-7pm @ The Museum, Kitchener

:: Brownman Ali – trumpet **:: Miles Davis**
:: Evan Miles – piano **:: Bill Evans / Wynton Kelly** **on Freddie Freeloader**
:: Bennett Young – bass **:: Paul Chambers**
:: Frank Botos – drums **:: Jimmy Cobb**

TUNE LIST

SET 1 -- The Road To & From "Kind Of Blue"

- *short* **Scrapple from the Apple** (Parker years, '47)
- *short* **If I Were A Bell** (Relaxin, '56)
KIND OF BLUE starts :
- So What (Kind of Blue, '59)
- Freddie Freeloader (Kind of Blue, '59)
- Blue In Green (Kind of Blue, '59)
- Flamenco Sketches (Kind of Blue, '59)
- All Blues (Kind of Blue, '59) (*Band Intros over end vamp)

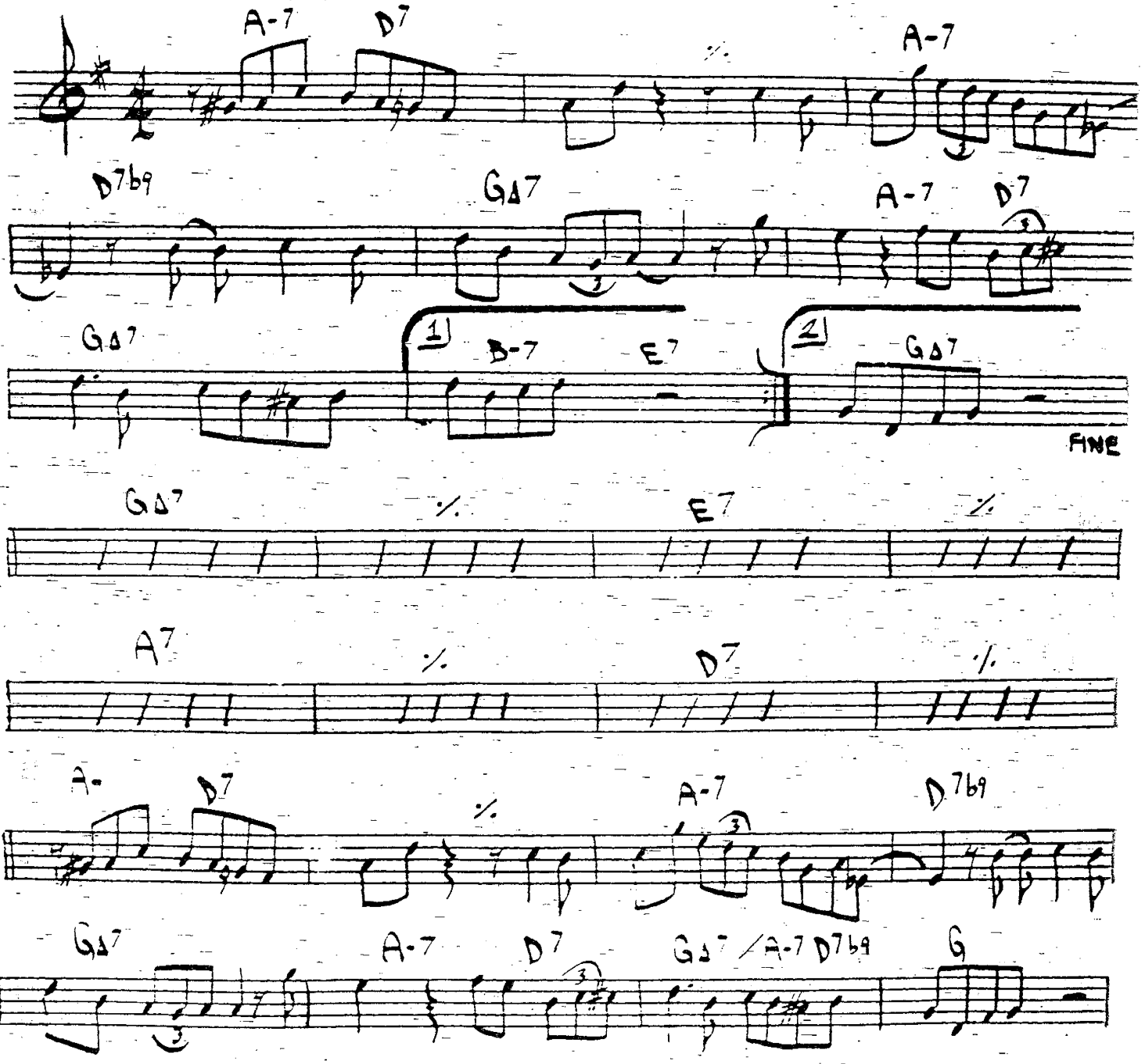
SET 2 – Prestige Years Miles

- I Could Write A Book (rec 56, rel 58 - Relaxin)
- If I Were a Bell (rec 56, rel 58 - Relaxin)
- When Lights Are Low (rec 53, rel 56 – Blue Haze)
- In Your Own Sweet Way (rec 56, rel 59 – Workin)
- Four (3 times Miles Davis 4-tet, Blue Haze, Workin rec 56, rel 59)
- It Could Happen To You (rec 56, rel 58 - Relaxin)
- Solar (rec 54, rel 57 - Walkin)

Bb

SCRAPPLE FROM THE APPLE

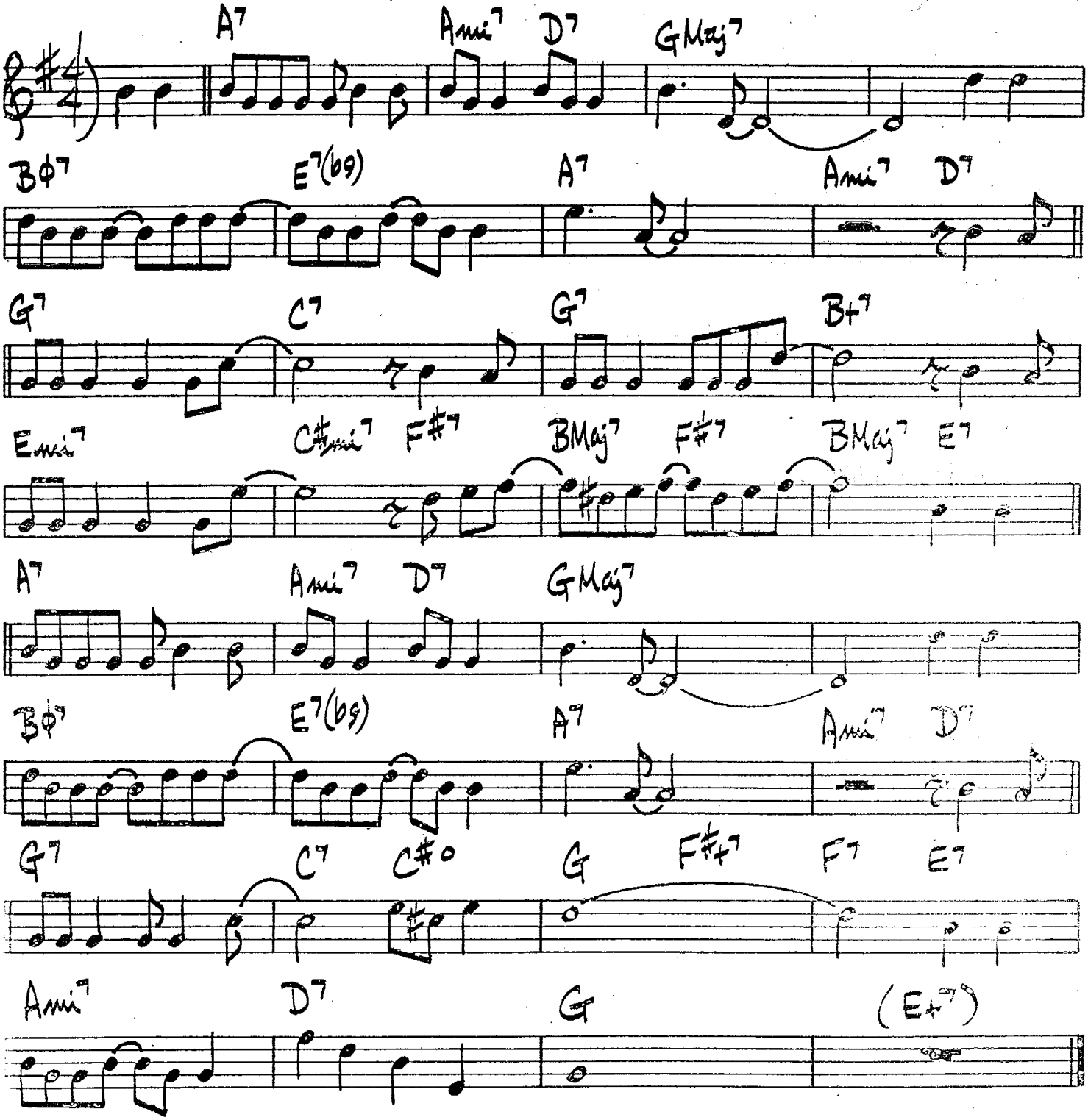
· CHARLIE PARKER



156. Bb

(MED. SWING) # IF I WERE A BELL

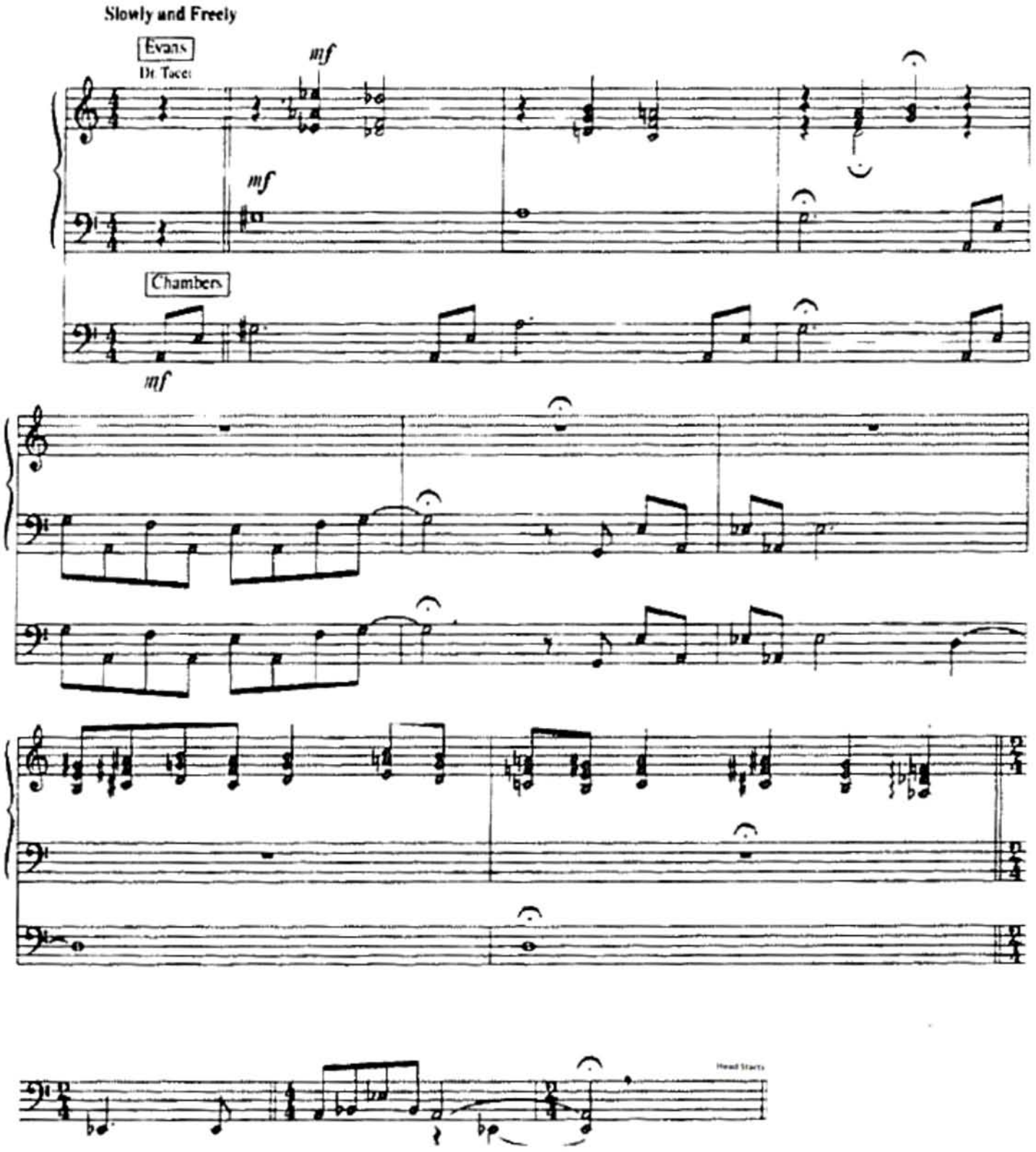
F. LOESSER



MILES - "MILES DAVIS"

C

SO WHAT - Intro



Brownman Music Inc.

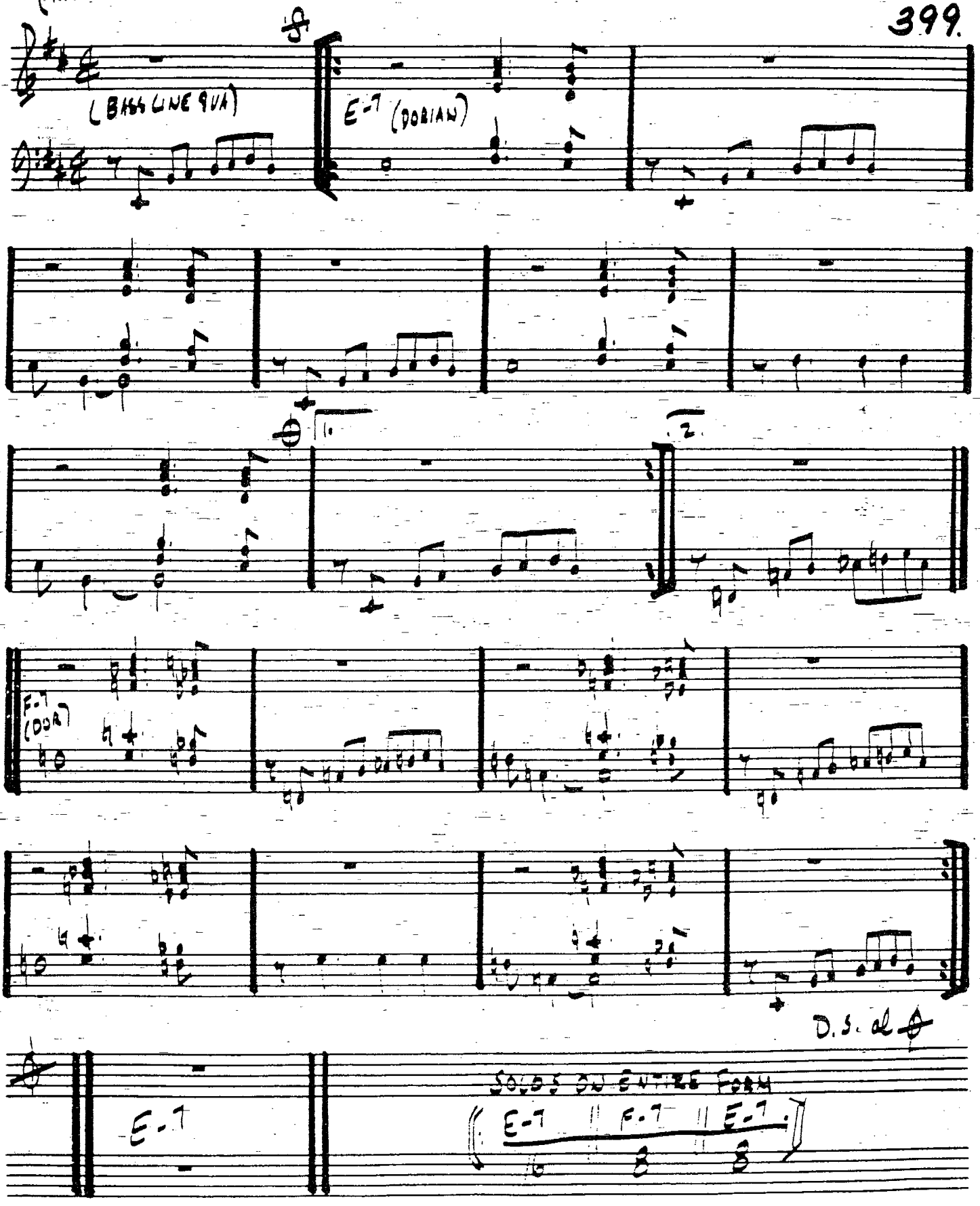
Bb

SO WHAT

(MED JAZZ)

— MILES DAVIS

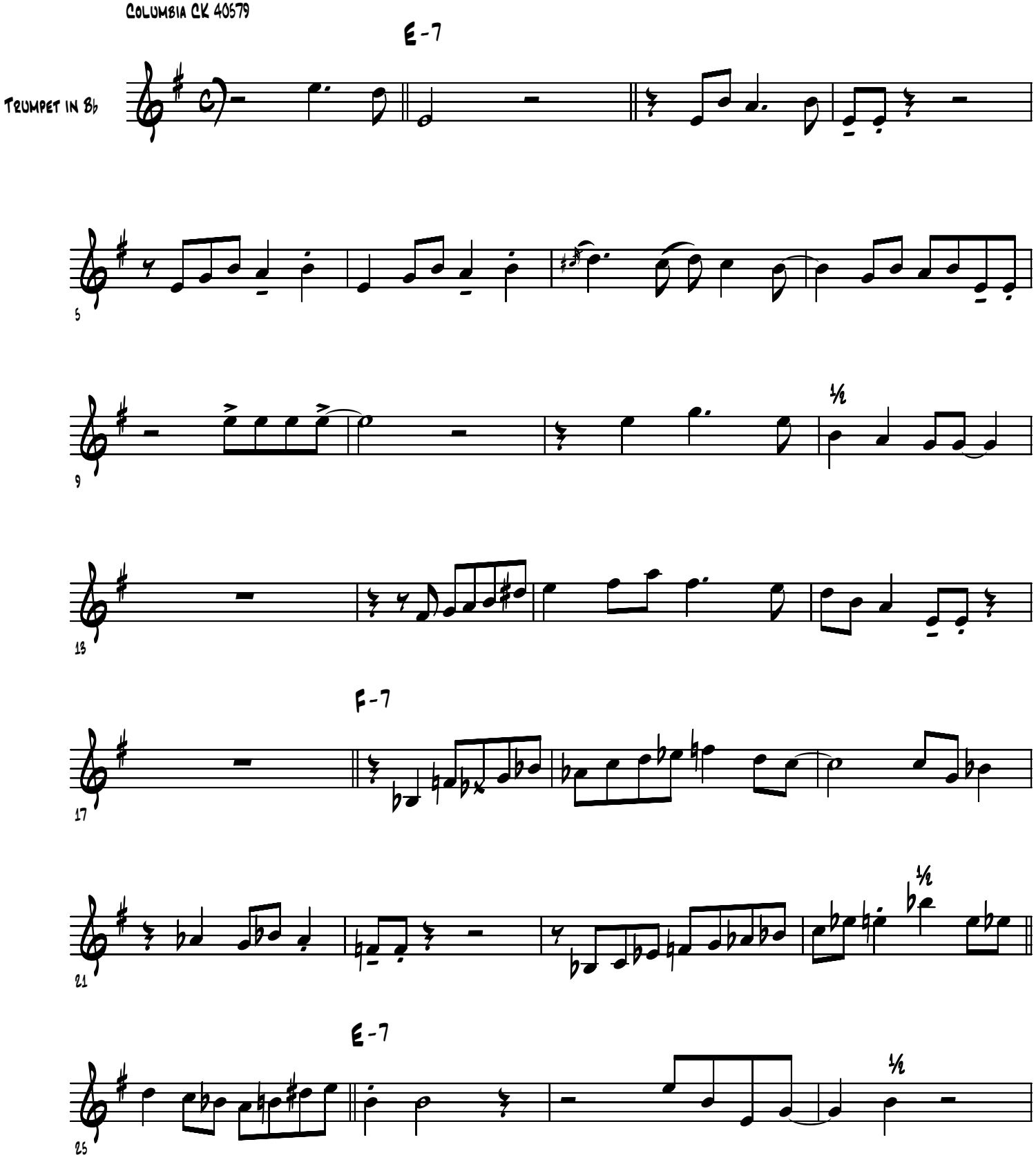
399.

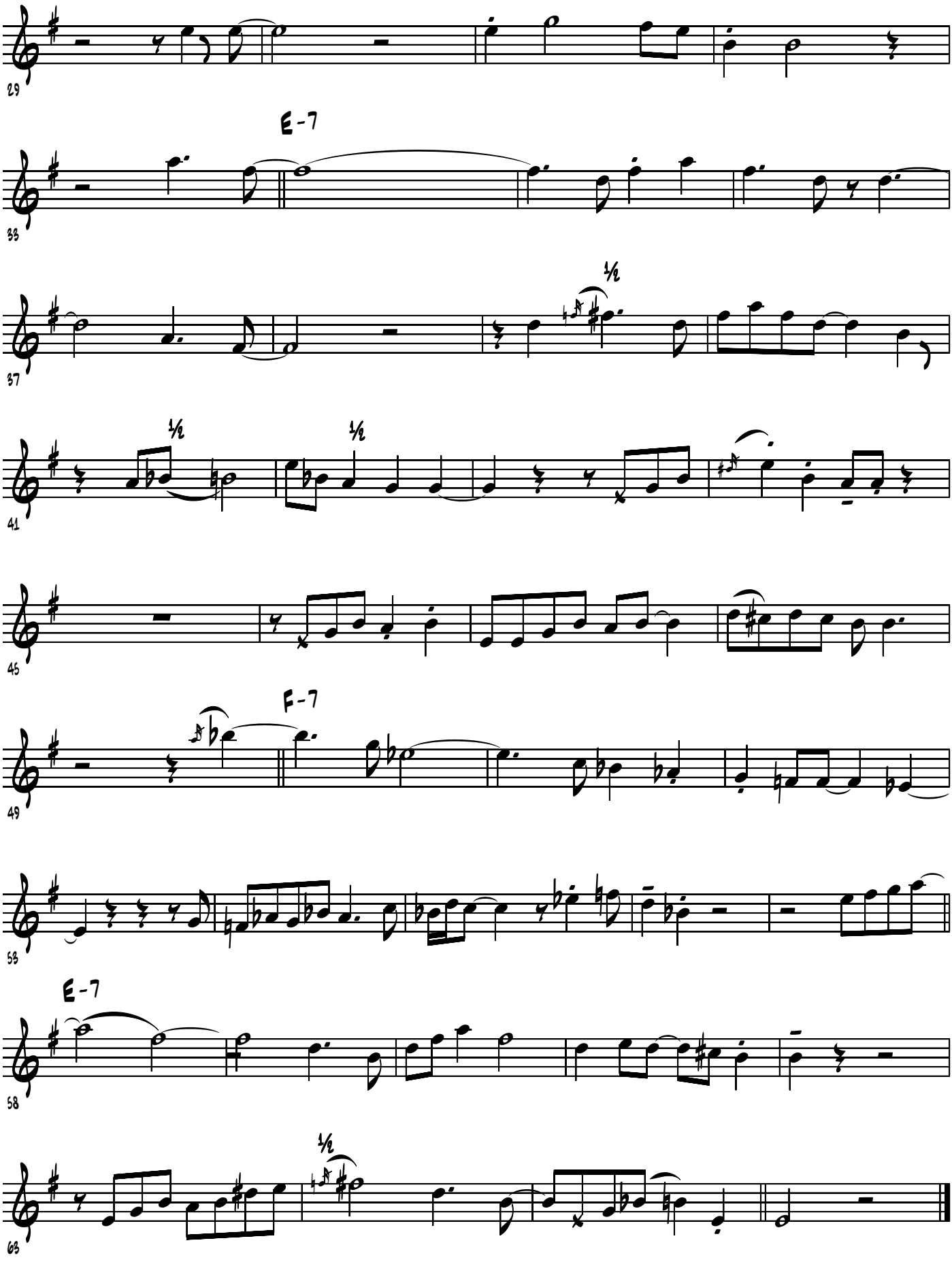


Miles Davis' trumpet Solo on "So What"

From Miles Davis - "Kinda of Blue"
Columbia CK 40579

Transcribed by John Keady

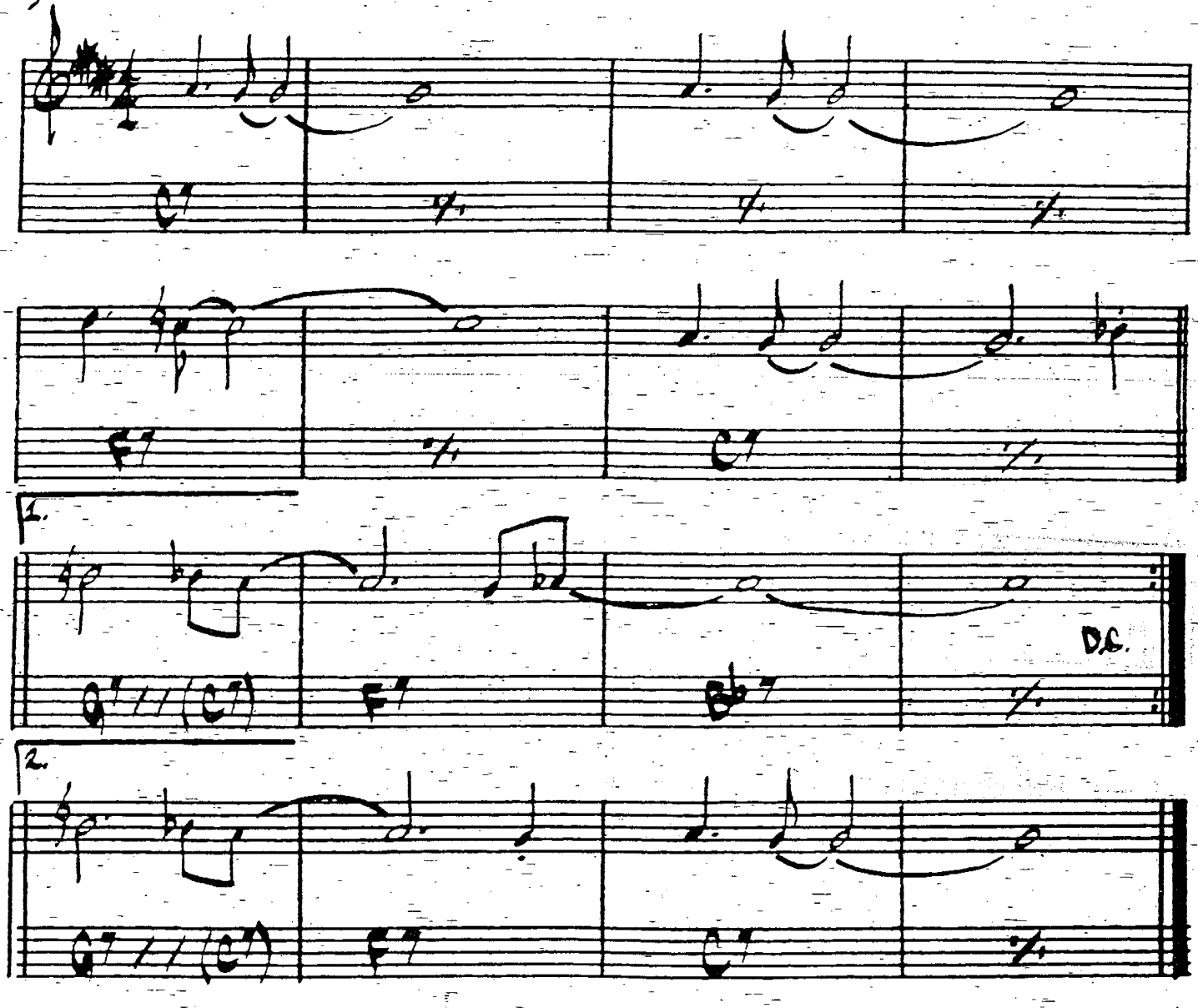



29
E-7
33
37
1/2
41
1/2
1/2
45
F-7
49
53
E-7
58
1/2
63

Bb

MED. SLOW

FREDDIE THE FREELOADER - MILES



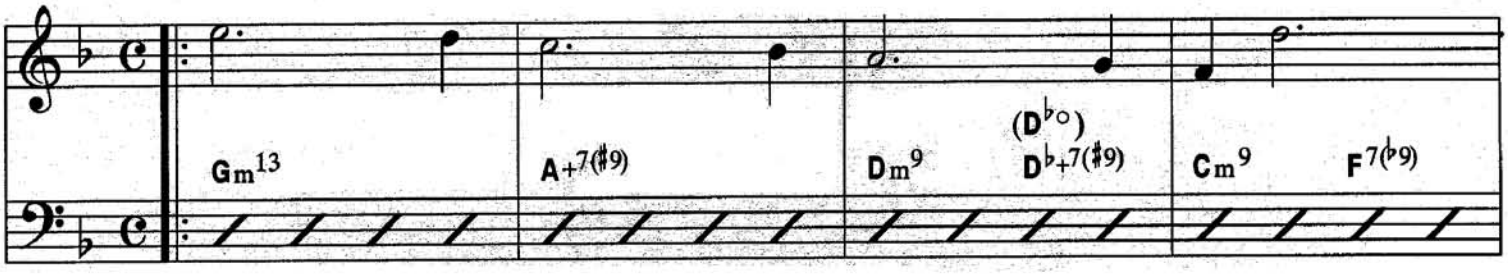
MILES "KIND OF BLUE"

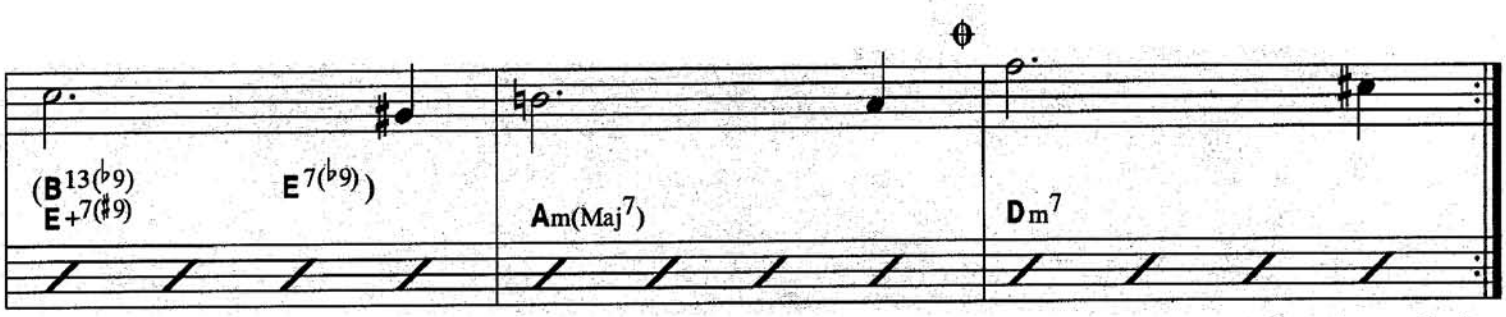
C-concert

Blue In Green

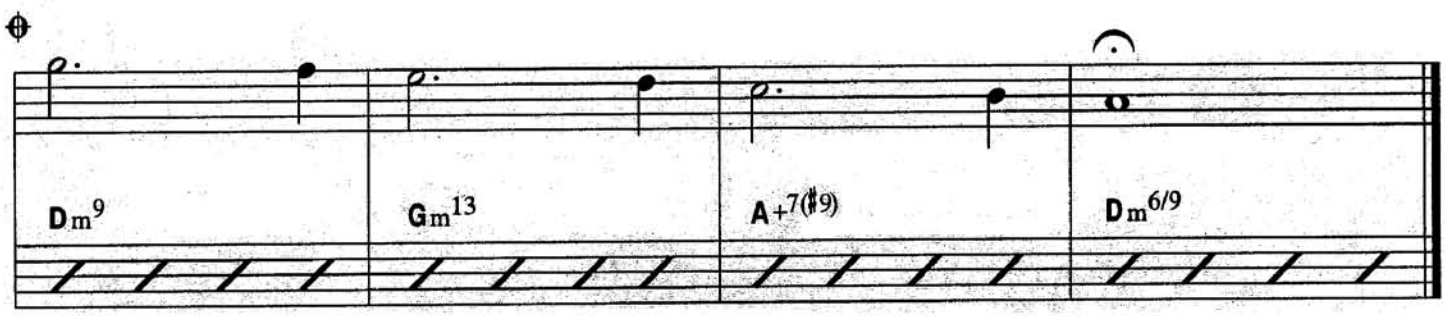
MILES DAVIS

Ballad





Last time to Coda



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C-concert

Blue in Green

Miles Davis
(Bill Evans)

BALLAD (SWING 16THS)

♩ = 56

THEME

TRUMPET CON SORD. (HARMON MUTE)

mp

6 LAID BACK EVEN EVEN 16THS

11 ZART EARLY EVEN

16 LAID BACK. EVEN 16THS

20 EVEN EVEN

24 PIANO SOLO I

48 TRUMPET SOLO TRUMPET EVEN

52 EVEN. LAID BACK +4 EVEN SENZA RIGORE EVEN

57 EVEN CANTABILE EVEN

61 EVEN

65 LAID BACK SEHR ZART

69 EVEN CODA

Gm11 | A7 ALT. | Dm | Cm11 | F7 | B♭maj7 | A7 ALT. | Dm | E7 ALT. | A(SUS2) | Dm

Flamenco Sketches is described by Bill Evans as "a series of five scales, each to be played as long as the soloist wishes until he has completed the series"

Bb

|: Dma7 A7sus :| ... D E F# G A B C# D

|: Bb9sus :| ... F G Ab Bb C D Eb F

|: Cma7 G7sus :| ... C D E F G A B C

|: E F/E (Esusb9) :| ... E F G# A B C D E
(soloists sometimes play F instead of F#)

|: A-9 :| ... A B C D E F# G A

C

|: Cma7 G7sus :| ... C D E F G A B C

|: Ab9sus :| ... Eb F Gb Ab Bb C Db Eb

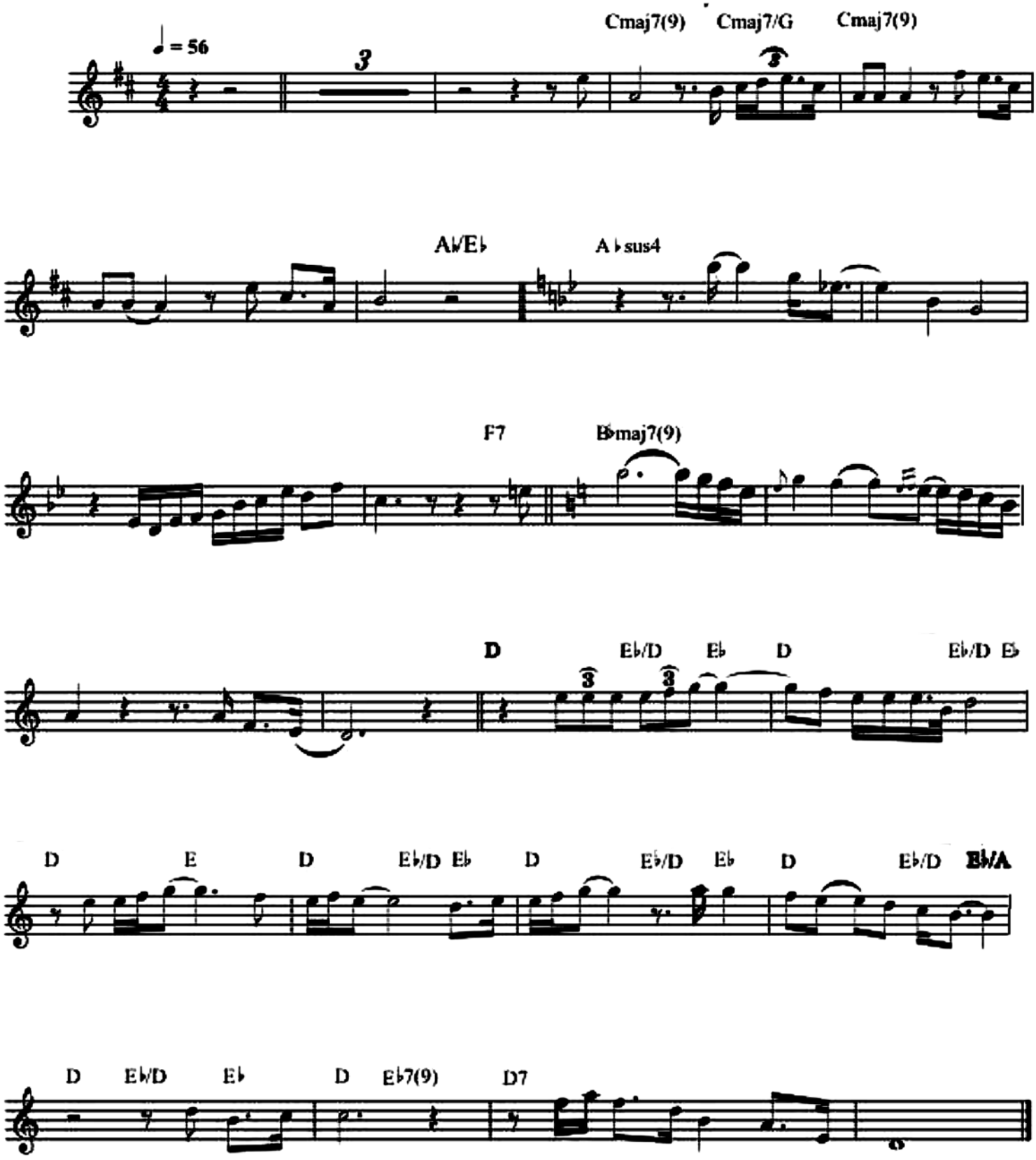
|: Bbma7 F7sus :| ... Bb C D Eb F G A Bb

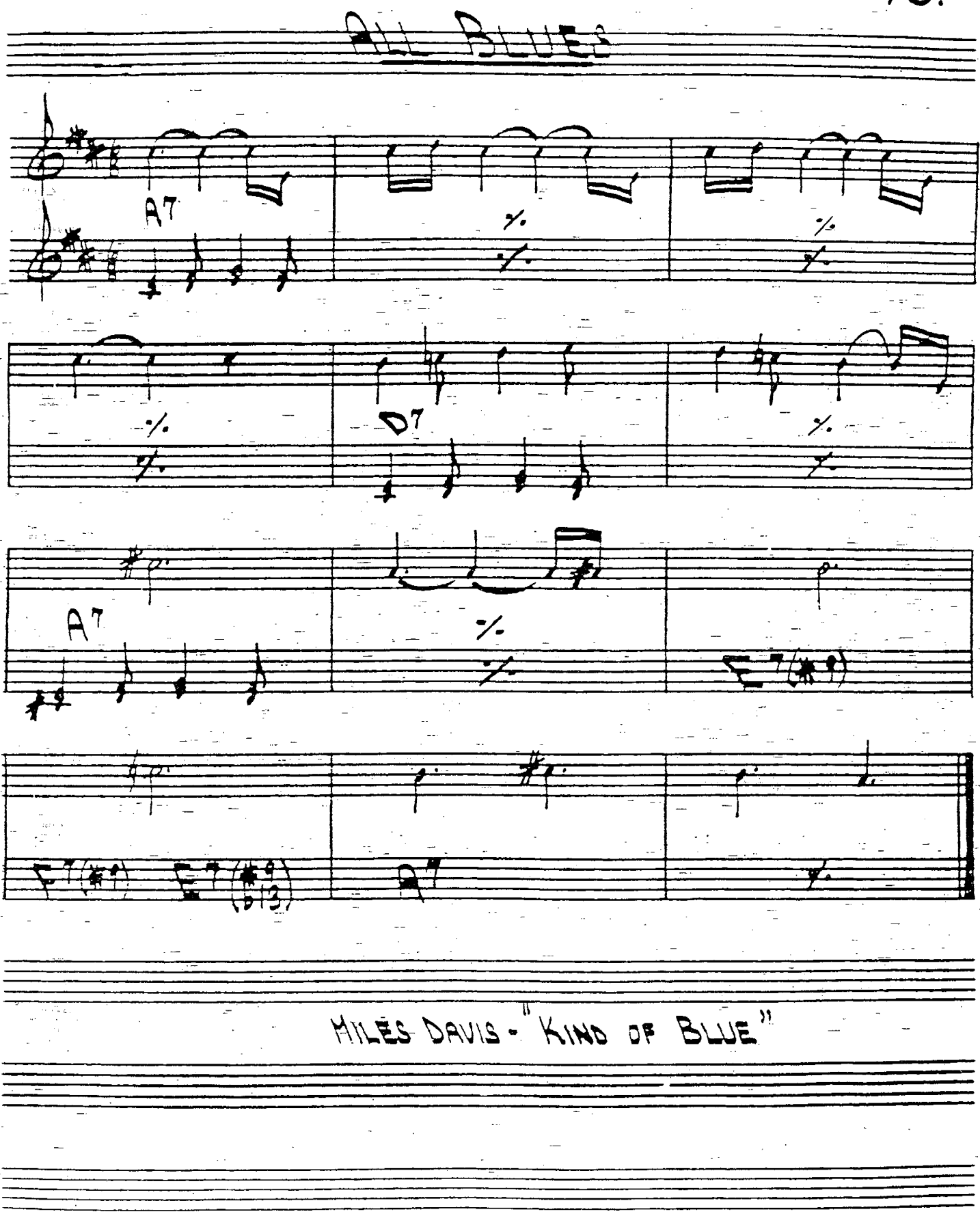
|: D Eb/D (Dsusb9):| ... D Eb F# G A Bb C D
(soloists sometimes play F instead of F#)

|: G-9 :| ... G A Bb C D E F G

Bb Flamenco Sketches

MILES DAVIS



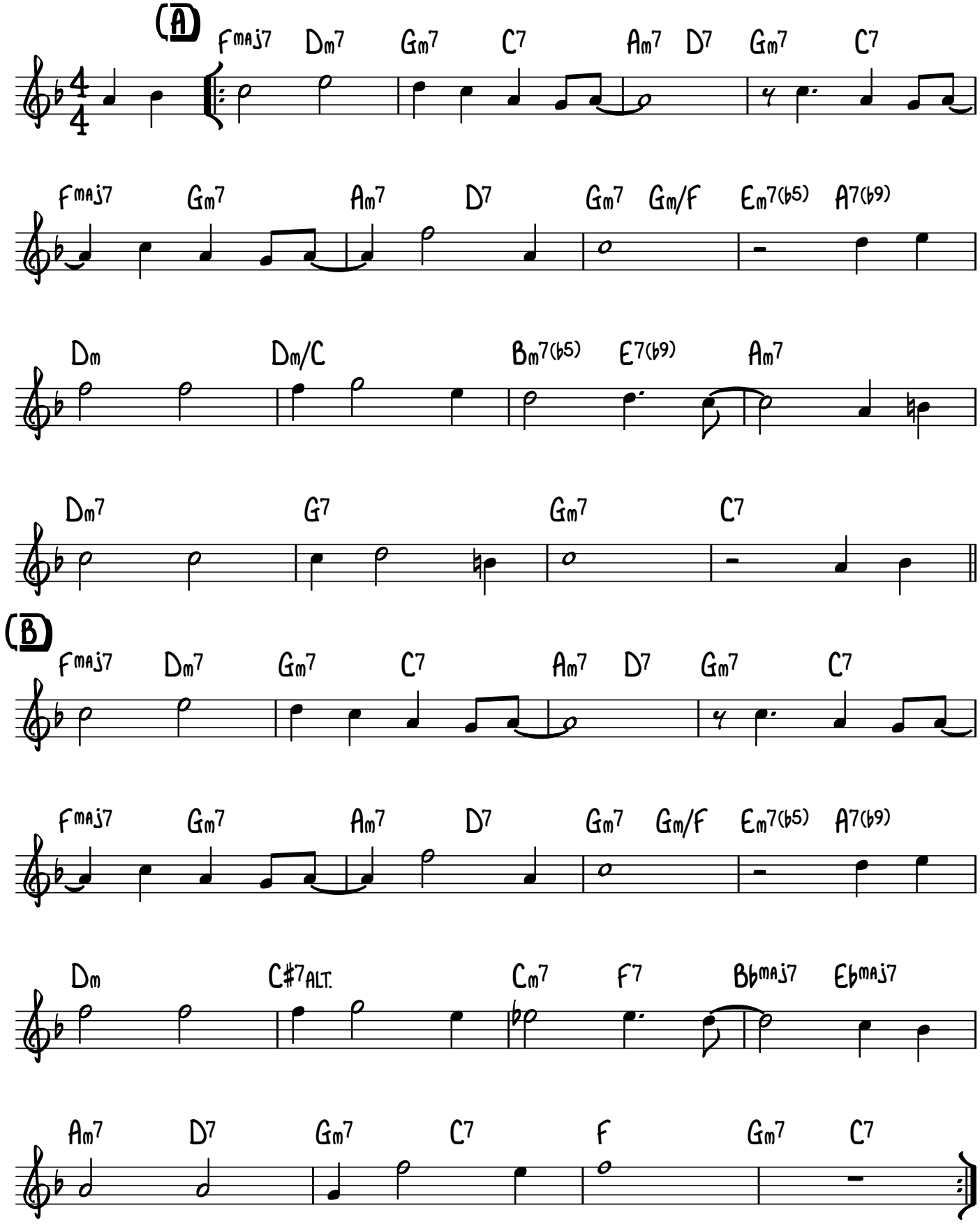


Miles Davis - "Kind of Blue"

TRUMPET IN B♭

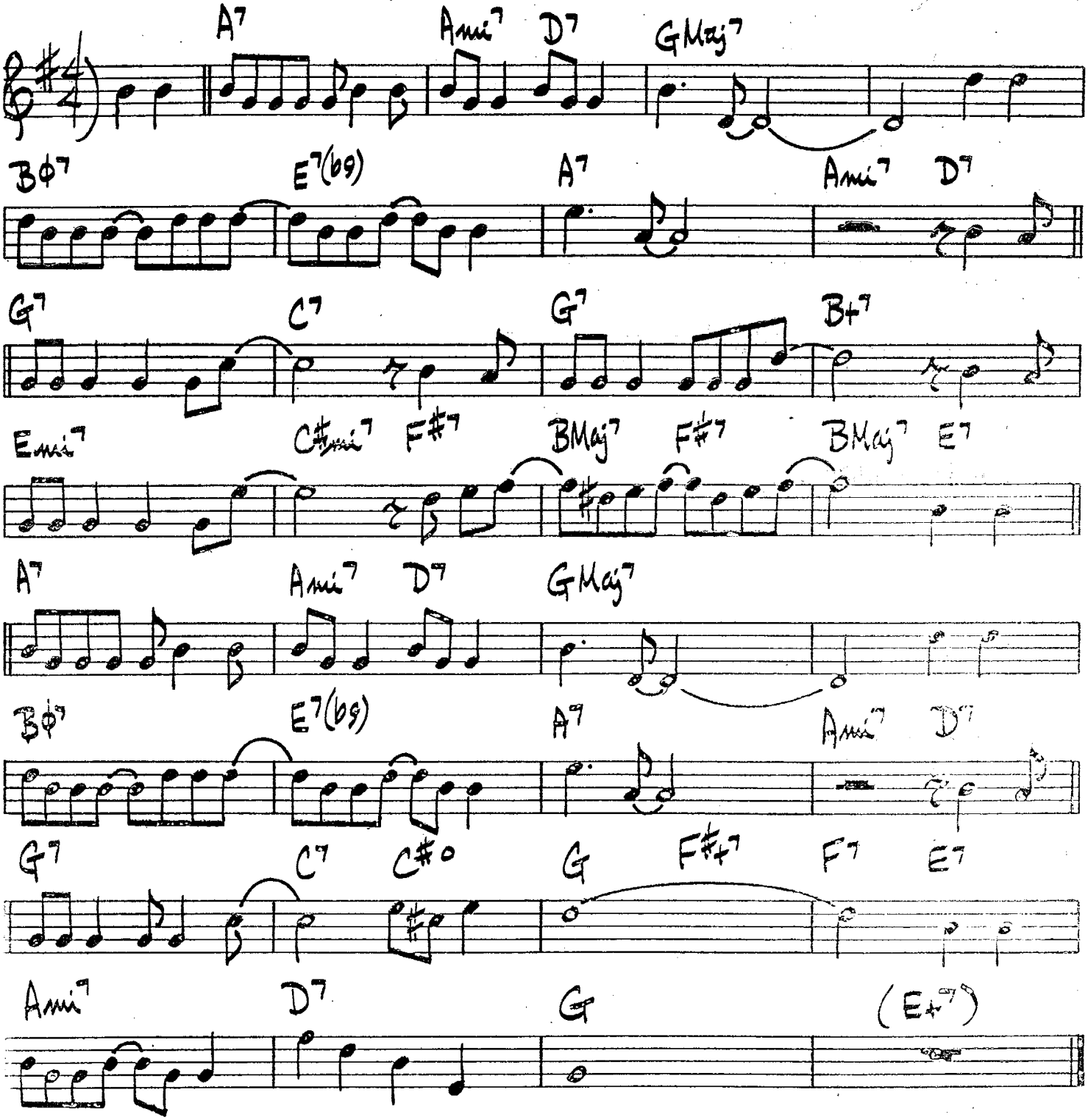
I COULD WRITE A BOOK

R&H



156. Bb

(MED. SWING) # IF I WERE A BELL — F. LOESSER



MILES - "MILES DAVIS"

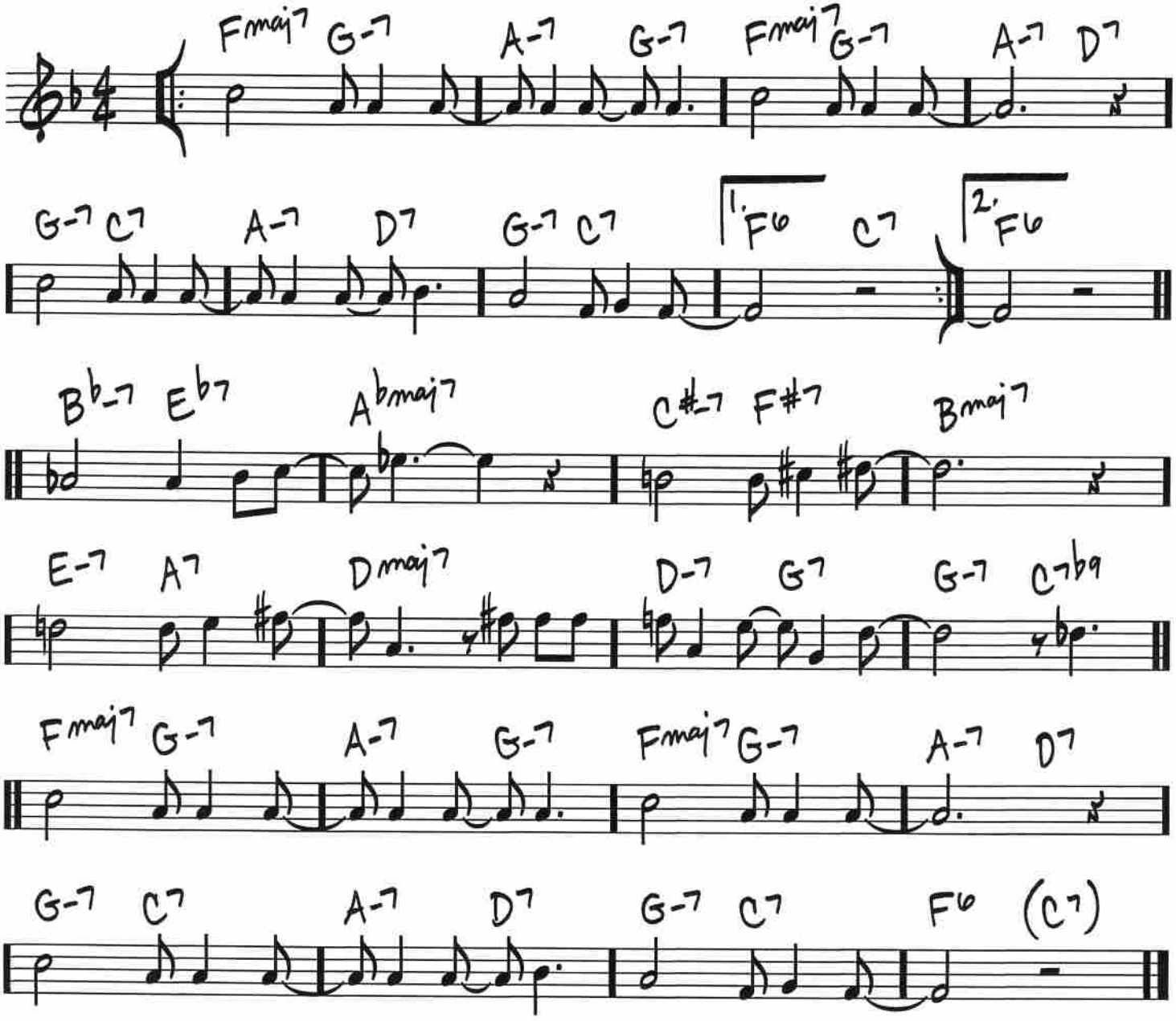
Bb

4/21

(MED.)

WHEN LIGHTS ARE LOW

- BENNY CARTER/ SPENCER WILLIAMS



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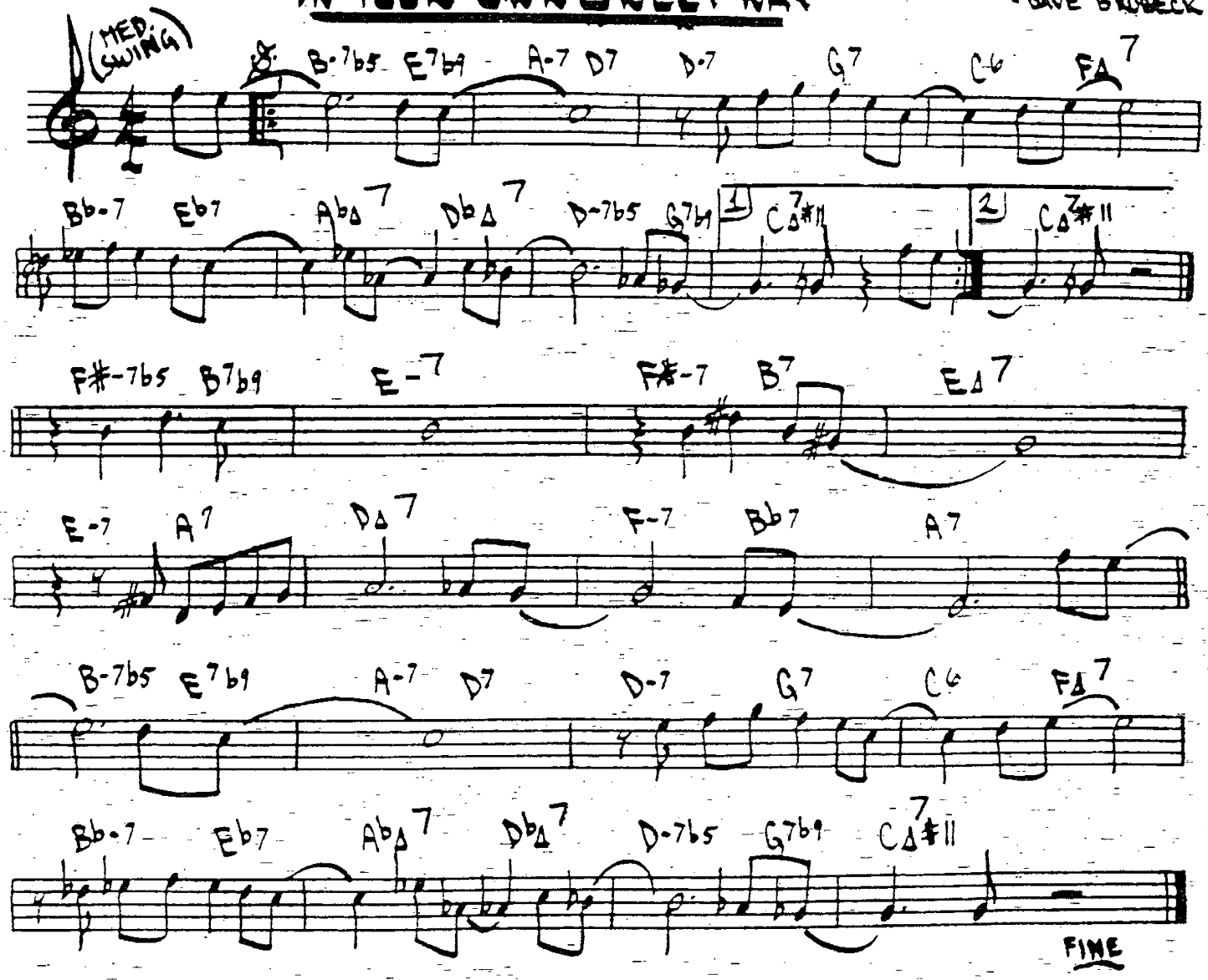
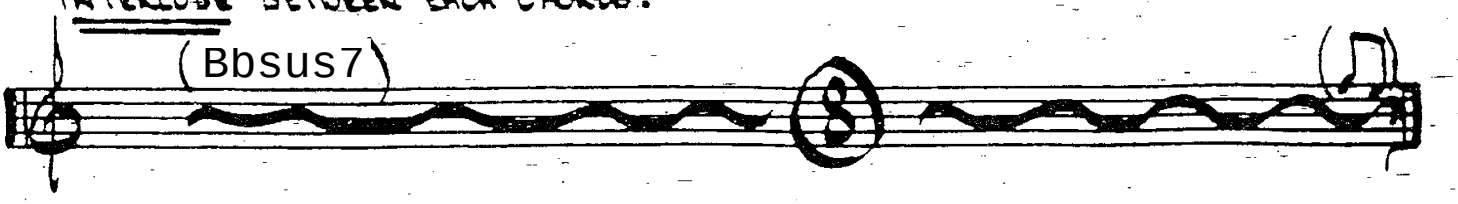
Bb

IN YOUR OWN SWEET WAY

- DAVE BRUBECK



INTERLUDE BETWEEN EACH CHORUS:



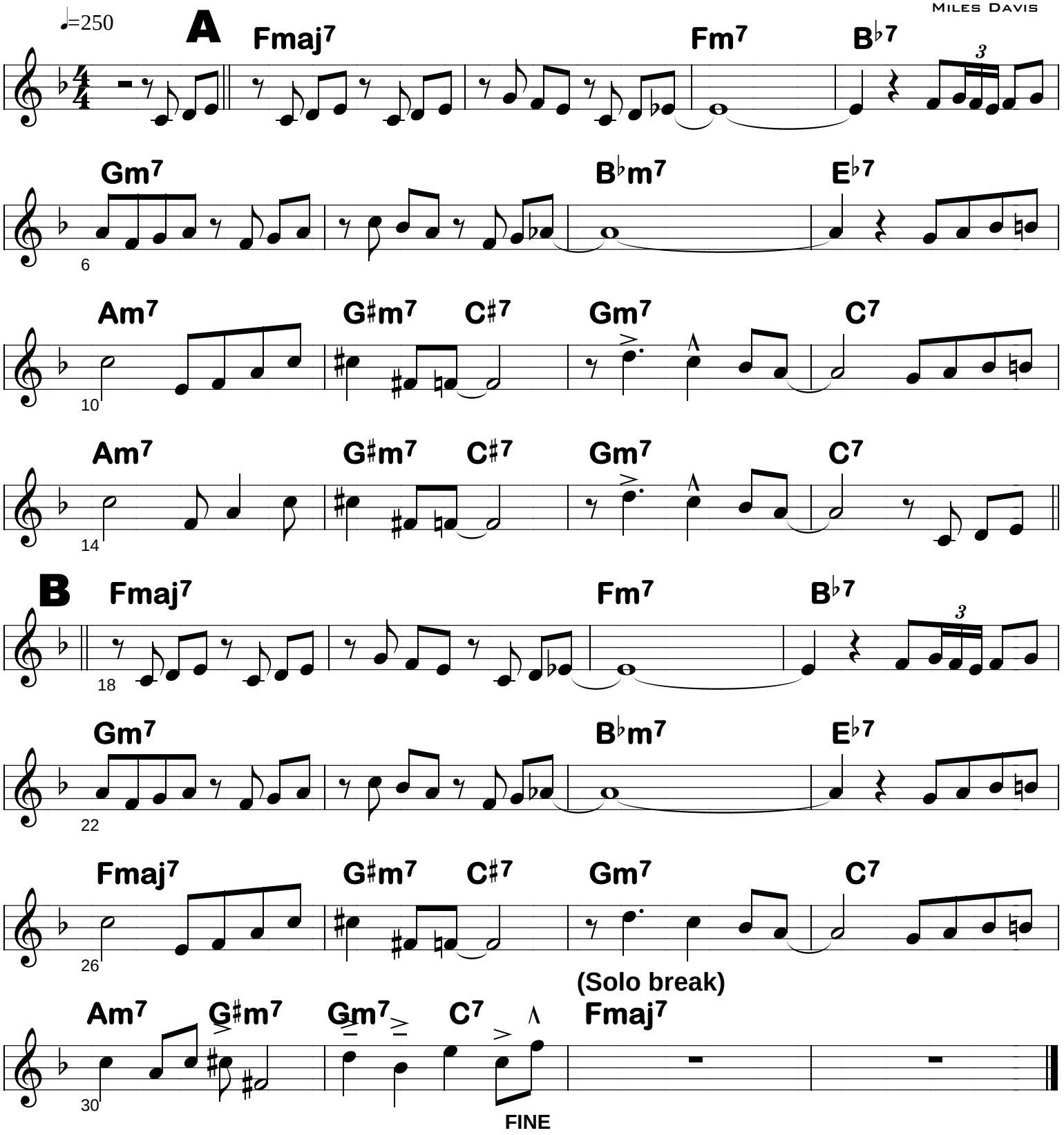
DAVE BRUBECK - "GREATEST HITS"

TRUMPET

Four

(how Miles played it)

Composed by :
Miles Davis



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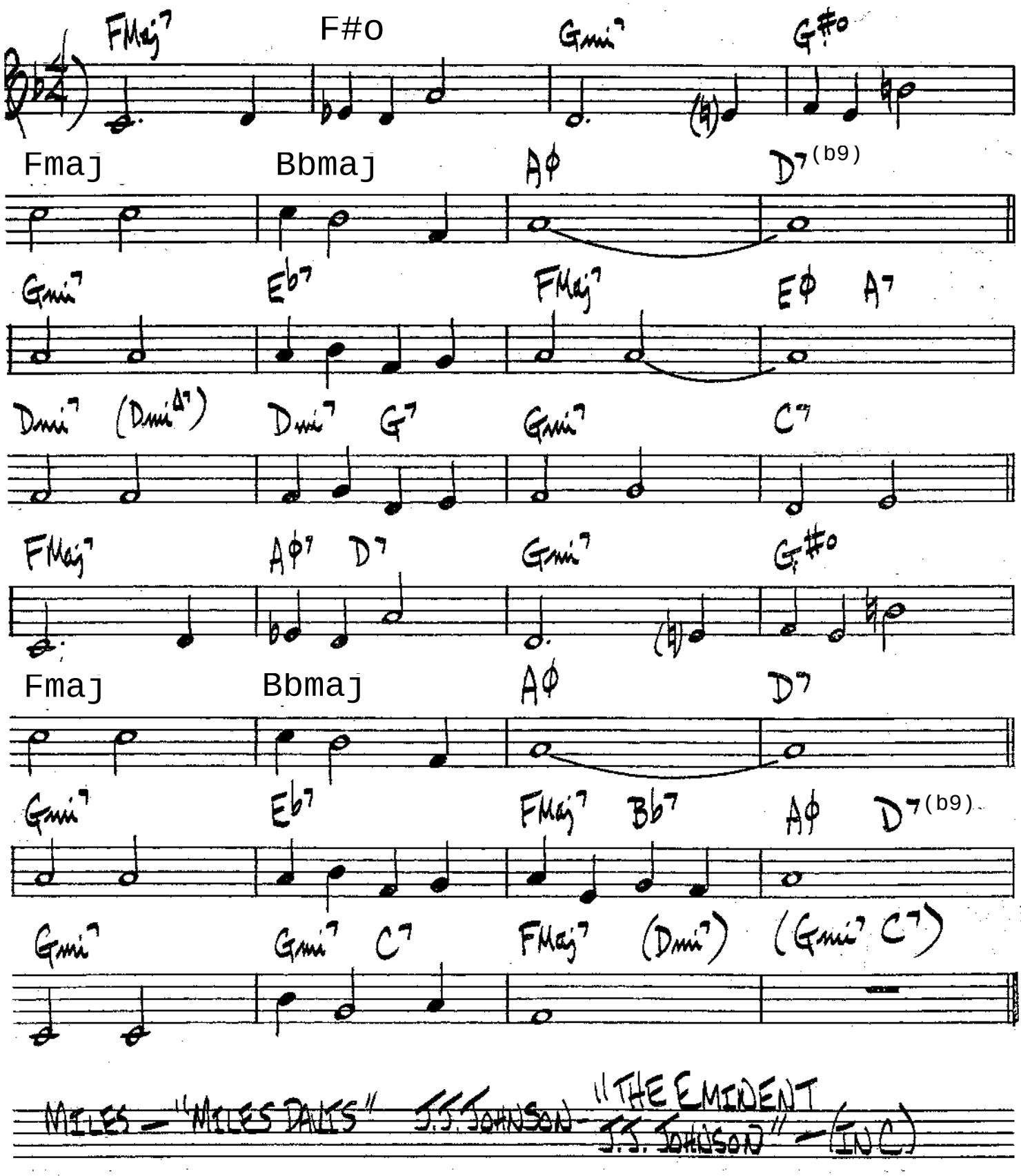
IT COULD HAPPEN TO YOU

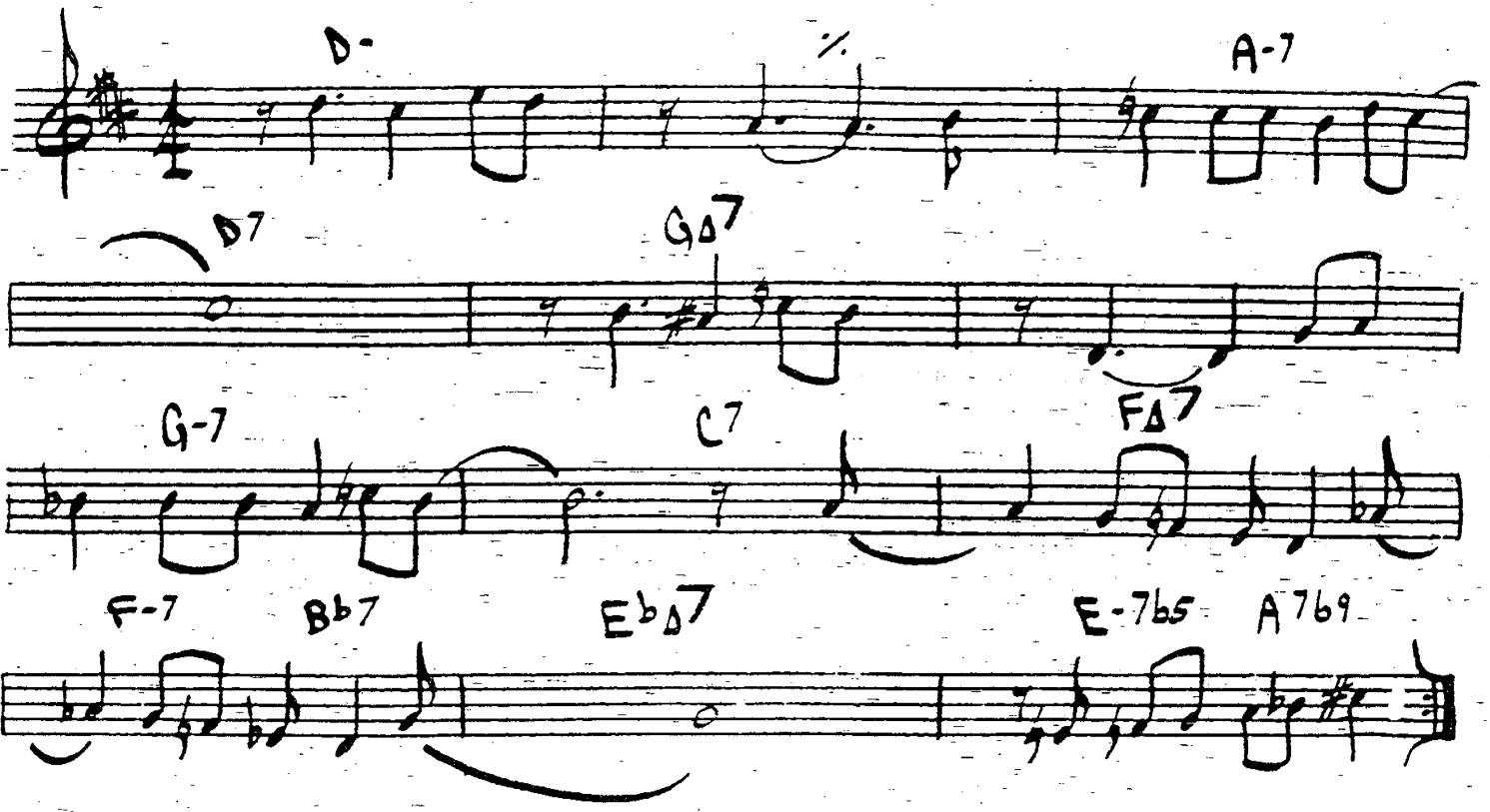
BURKE/VAN HUSEN



386.

SOLAR

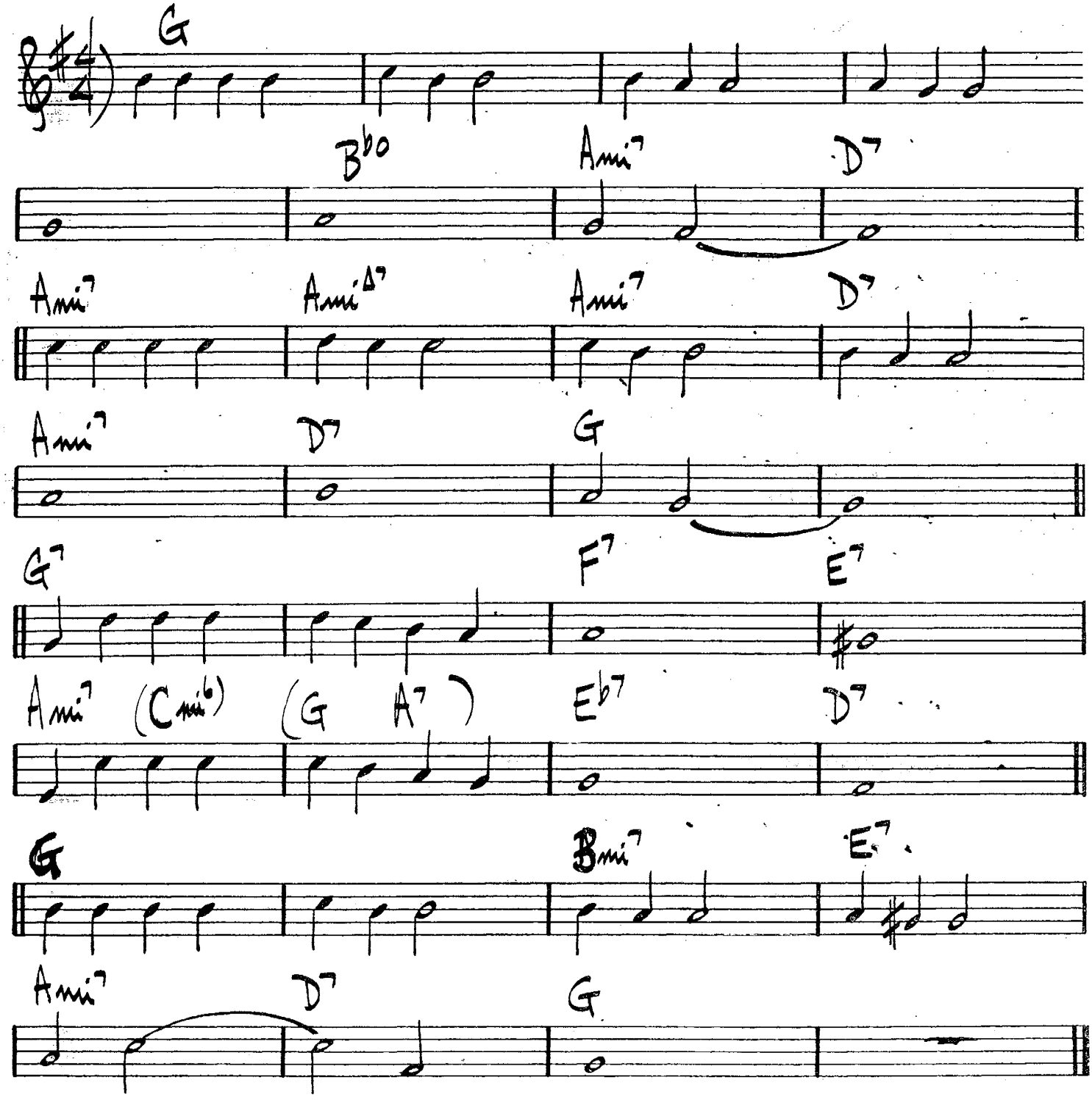
- MILES DAVIS



MILES DAVIS - "WALKIN"

BYE BYE BLACKBIRD

DIXON/HENDERSON



MILES DAVIS - "ROUND MIDNIGHT"