

# MODAL (Dorian) PLAYING

J. Coker

## The "So What" \* Voicings

(D dorian)

Each of these voicings has a major third interval on top, all others below that being perfect fourth intervals. The uppermost pitches are the sixth, fifth, and ninth (second) of D dorian, respectively.

When compacted into one octave, each of the above produces a pentatonic scale:

Quartal left hand voicings used by pianists (i.e., McCoy Tyner) in D dorian

Note that the successive top notes form the F pentatonic, the middle notes form a C pentatonic, and the bottom notes form a G pentatonic

Summation: Against any dorian mode, pentatonic scales may be used which are built on the third, seventh, or fourth of the scale.

\* - "So What", from the lp, Kind of Blue, Miles Davis, 1957