

SKYLARK RUSSELL MALONE SOLO

**FROM 'SOME OF MY BEST FRIENDS ARE SINGERS'
BY RAY BROWN
WITH KEVIN MAHOGANY - VOCALS
RAY BROWN - BASS
GEOFF KEEZER - PIANO
GREG HUTCHINSON - DRUMS
RUSSELL MALONE - GUITAR SOLO**

A short but sweet 8 bar solo from Russell Malone over the Hoagy Carmichael song 'Skylark.'

Malone plays soulful melodic lines through the chords, most of which imply a double time feel, with lots of triplets. The fast line in the 3rd bar is based around the Diminished scale, first implying G7b9, then over the C7 itself. Malone, like many jazz musicians, often uses this scale over altered chords, and likes to use large intervals such as the major 7th to add to the tension. He also plays an A Major triad over the C7, to imply a C13b9 chord, again from the Diminished scale.

Malone always seems to have a great tone, and this recording is no exception. Listen to his use of vibrato, which is wide and controlled like a blues guitarist. I chose this solo to show Malone's melodic note choice and his quality of touch and phrasing, which are all of the utmost importance, and often get taken for granted in our study. Also, listen to the beautiful accompaniment from the trio.

As some of the rhythms look rather daunting, I've also included a version with the note lengths doubled, for ease of reading.

Transcribed by Sam Dunn
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♩ = 50 C⁶ D^m E^{m7} D^{m7} C^{maj7} G^{b7}

F^{maj7} E^{m7} F^{maj7} E^{m7} E^{b7} D^{m7} G⁷

C^{maj7} A⁷ D^{m7} G⁷ C⁶

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RHYTHMS DOUBLED

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Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C⁶, D^m, E^{m7}, D^{m7}. The staff contains a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes at the end.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C^{maj7}, G^{b7}, F^{maj7}, E^{m7}. The staff contains a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: F^{maj7}, E^{m7}, E^{b7}, D^{m7}, G⁷. The staff contains a melodic line with multiple triplet markings.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: C^{maj7}, A⁷, D^{m7}. The staff contains a melodic line with triplet markings.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Chords: G⁷, C⁶. The staff contains a melodic line with a long note and a triplet of eighth notes.