

## Quick-study Guide to the Genius of Charlie "Bird" Parker

When Charlie Parker introduces a new voice, he constantly keeps track of it, always guiding it stepwise over time.

In the example below, notice three (3) voices are analyzed.

Both the (1) upper voice and (2) lowest voice are stemmed and bracketed.

(3) Middle voice below is traced with circles. It acts as a constant pedal point throughout.

Reduction on "Perhaps" (Charlie Parker)

The image shows a musical score for the song "Perhaps" by Charlie Parker, reduced to three voices. The score is written on three staves. The top staff is labeled "Middle voice (circled)" and "Upper voice". The middle staff is labeled "Lowest voice". The bottom staff shows chord symbols: C6, Gm7, C7, F7, C7, Em7, A7(b9), Dm7, G7, C7, Dm7, G7, C6. The music is in G major and 4/4 time. The upper voice is a melodic line, the middle voice is a constant pedal point, and the lowest voice is a bass line.

