

## 2. *Advanced Playing Concepts Series Part 1*

a. *Working on your sound* - In order to continuously improve you must be constantly working on the sound you wish to achieve. When I was younger, I was in love with Oscar Peterson. I loved his touch, his articulation of his lines, the feeling it gave me, and much more. I wanted to sound just like him! I'm sure you have players you love and want to sound like as well, and there is nothing wrong with that. When you study certain players you adapt their textures and it becomes a part of yourself and your playing. But you need to set out with a focus. If you like the way Art Tatum sounds for example you have to study his playing and ask yourself, "Why does Art Tatum sound like Art Tatum?" This will help you achieve the sound you are looking for as you play.

Everyone has their own sound when they play. The more confident you are about what type of sound you want to achieve while playing, the better you'll be at picking players to study and help you reach your goal.