

JodyJazz Jet Baritone Sax Mouthpiece

Clean & Focused with a Mighty Roar

JodyJazz continues to develop its popular Jet line of saxophone mouthpieces with the introduction of a new baritone model—one that might help saxophonists overcome some of the instrument's perceived barriers and ultimately lead to more bari converts.

Like the company's alto and tenor Jet models, the new bari version is designed to ramp up your projection and boost your ability to “cut” when desired, especially in sonic environments that are challenging for saxophonists. Alto and tenor players who have already caught on to the Jet's concept have also discovered that it's capable of so much more, and the bari model is no exception. It is available in size 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 tip openings.

I played the Jet in multiple settings: in the horn section of a classic rock cover band, in a big band and in a New Orleans r&b band (on Mardi Gras). And I used it on two very different baris: a vintage low-B-flat King and a new low-A horn by Antigua. In that time, I decided that I want the Jet to be my go-to mouthpiece whenever I want a little extra oomph or seek a more subtle change in my approach.

First things first: The Jet is indeed capable of a mighty roar, as its name suggests. I not only could achieve extreme volume (especially useful with the rock group), but I could use my chops to put noticeably more emphasis on the high and mid-level overtones in my sound. I was able to be heard over the amplified bass, guitars and keyboards that I'm normally fighting against in that kind of setting. It was a real relief to be heard—and still get a

clean, focused sound—without blowing a gasket in the process.

Unlike some mouthpieces that are designed to achieve extreme effects, the Jet sounds great in the bari's lower register, all the way down to low B-flat and low A. And, you can get a great tone out of it at low dynamic levels, like when I was playing sweet-sounding passages and blending with four other saxes in the big band. This flexibility is what will make the Jet an attractive piece for working bari players who are called upon to play different roles in various types of ensembles. That, and its affordability.

The ease with which the Jet responds will also make it a great choice for students, especially those who already play saxophone and are making the switch to bari. They will surely experience less of the muddiness and resistance that can discourage young players who are still learning the horn's idiosyncrasies. Why should anyone suffer through stuffiness (and fatigue) when they could be wailing effortlessly—or subtoning with subtlety—on the Jet for bari? Book yourself a flight and enjoy the ride. —Ed Enright

Ordering info: jodyjazz.com

