

JodyJazz Super Jet—Baritone

Giant Tone, Explosive Response

With its hefty presence and timbral richness, the baritone saxophone is a powerfully expressive instrument. More than just a big-band sax-section anchor, the bari has played an increasingly prominent role in the horn sections of funk, rock and r&b bands. It also steadily has been emerging as the instrument of choice for jazz-combo frontmen who have found their voice on the “big pipe.”

But the bari can be vulnerable, too. Once you bring it onstage with electric keyboards, amplified guitars, oversized drumsets and thundering bass guitars, the instrument’s uniquely appealing sonics can get lost in the mix. The new Super Jet—Baritone mouthpiece from JodyJazz solves that problem by empowering the bari player with the right tool for the job.

My first live play-testing experience with the Super Jet was in the five-piece horn section of a high-decibel rock band. The mouthpiece gave me access to a huge dynamic range and provided me with power and projection to spare. My

sound was appropriately bright, clear and explosively loud, while retaining the sweet-and-punchy bottom end I always strive for on playing baritone.

Next, I played a raucous Mardi Gras gig where the Super Jet supported me in the roles of melodist, soloist and quasi-tubist. The mouthpiece not only got me wailing in the spirit of the carnival-like celebration, but its free-blowing small chamber and step baffle kept me going virtually fatigue-free all night. And I had outrageous fun up in the baritone’s altissimo range.

Made of silver-plated brass, the Super Jet—Baritone is available in 6 (.100), 7 (.110), 8 (.120), 9 (.130) and 10 (.140) tip openings. —Ed Enright

jodyjazz.com



JodyJazz Super Jet—Soprano

Easy-Blowing Burner with Massive Power

JodyJazz has added a soprano saxophone model to its Super Jet series of metal mouthpieces. The Super Jet—Alto and Super Jet—Tenor mouthpieces that the company released in recent years were outstanding players, and I’m equally impressed by this new addition to the line.

The Super Jet—Soprano mouthpiece I play-tested was a silver-plated #7 outfit with a D’Addario Woodwinds H-style ligature. The mouthpiece shined as I pulled it from its purple drawstring pouch and removed the cap. I noticed the side of the box read “simply burning” in large print.

I play-tested the Super Jet on my vintage Selmer Mark VI soprano with #2½ Vandoren Java Red Box reeds, both in the practice room and in a large ensemble performance. The results were exciting, to say the least. My soprano was turbo-charged. High notes were soaring, flying out easily—simply burning, indeed. The lower register remained quite responsive and retained the well-rounded tonal qualities that distinguish the Mark VI

series of saxophones.

Intonation was excellent and articulation was comfortable throughout all ranges. The Super Jet’s thin tip-rail and side-rails assist in the mouthpiece’s ease of response at all dynamic levels. Tone and pitch inflections were readily available and easy to achieve.

This flexible and powerful mouthpiece should give soprano players everything they require to play lead on a Thad Jones big band chart or really let it rip with a funk/rock or Latin group. While the Super Jet—Soprano is designed for maximum projection, bright sound and enhanced altissimo range, it also allows for softer dynamic levels without loss of response or control. It’s a great option for the advanced saxophonist desiring a flexible, easy-blowing mouthpiece with massive power.

The Super Jet—Soprano is offered in the following tip openings: 5 (.050), 6 (.060), 7 (.070), 8 (.080), 9 (.090) and 10 (.100). —Bruce Gibson

jodyjazz.com

