JAZZ REHEARSAL TECHNIQUES

1. Rehearse as technically as a symphony orchestra.
2. Mark releases.
3. Dynamics-add them to the score-rewrite at times to make it more musical.
4. Every melodic figure should have a "SHAPE".
5. Every line should move somewhere.
6. Same dynamics will make the audience "dead". Code red.
7. Repeated sections should change dynamically to avoid boredom.
8. In a 8 bar intro start out stronger then shape it down before the head starts.
9. Audiences respond to dynamics 1st.
10. Music is drama, don't bore the audience with same dynamics.
11. Long notes need to MOVE into the next phrase.
12. Intonation needs to be accurate, (some people make a ignorant statement that "it's close enough for jazz"), wrong.
13. Have students mark everything on their music.
14. Isolate intervals with other members of the ensemble.
15. Articulations mark them along with long phrase markings.
16. Section leaders slur from off-beat to on-beat.
17. BALANCE-like mixing a record. What to bring out and what to fade. The mix is important because you move the listener's attention. Power over his mind , absolutely critical.
18. Write from phrase to phrase, ex. over saxes, under trumpets, under soloist, etc.
19. Attacks-don't cover up the MAIN melodic figure.
20. Rhythm section dynamics-not unchanging.
21. Rhythm section-listen to everything I tell the horns. You will understand the tune better.
22. Sax soli section-rhythm section-keep intensity but go under the saxes in volume so they can be heard.
23. Technical-approach the music artistically.
24. Attacks-entrances not early.
25. Ornamentation- mark release of falls, grace notes-on the beat, not in front.
26. Rhythm section- think of matching your styles.
27. Guitar and piano-comping together-don't do it. Trade off phrases or sections, if you comp together you create comping chaos.
28. Pianist do not comp in the lower register, you are in the bassist's territory, stay out.
29. Don't ornament too much when walking bass.