

# Preface

I have been listening to jazz trombonist Steve Davis for almost all of my trombone-playing life. Whether on his albums as a leader, his recorded performances as a sideman, or miscellaneous audio and video clips from live performances, I've always been impressed by his trombone playing, improvisations, compositions, and arrangements. And yet, there was something special about his 2012 release *Gettin' It Done* that left a lasting impression on me from the very first listen. The band sounded incredible together, the solos were terrific, the compositions were interesting and engaging, and the flow and energy of the album made it a joy to listen to. Right away, I knew that this was a standout album. In getting a chance to speak with Mr. Davis about this project, he confirmed that this was indeed a special day in the studio, resulting in an album of which he was exceptionally proud.

I began transcribing each of Mr. Davis' solos from *Gettin' It Done* during my graduate studies at DePaul University in 2013. In a matter of weeks, I had transcribed over half of the album, with the idea that this collection of solos would make an interesting educational resource. Now, with some extra time on my hands in 2021, I set out to get this project over the finish line.

I would like to thank Steve Davis for his support in bringing this book to life. Mr. Davis provided the original lead sheets from this recording session, allowing me to present the compositions and chord changes exactly as the band saw them in the studio. He provided the picture on p. 2 from the day of the session and shared stories of his colleagues and memories in bringing all this music to life. Lastly, he took the time to edit each of these transcriptions, giving everyone that picks up this book unique insight into his creative process. In short, Mr. Davis was an invaluable resource and I cannot thank him enough for his contributions to this project.

I had an absolute blast working on this book and learned a great deal spending even more time with this fantastic recording. I hope that these transcriptions not only aid your jazz and improvisational studies, but also help to enhance your experience when listening to *Gettin' It Done*. Happy practicing!

Brian Scarborough  
*Trombonist, Improviser, Composer, Educator*

**Gettin' It Done: Steve Davis' Improvised Trombone Solos © 2022**  
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