"I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles"

(for Jimmy Wyble and Jack Grassel)
Arranged by David Oakes

Since last December, I have been studying many of the books written by Jack Grassel. Jack is one of the great guitarist of our generation. I encourage you to visit his website: http://www.jackgrassel.com/ I highly recommend adding his method books and CD's to your music libraries.

The techniques that first caught my ears were Jacks ability to seamlessly move between solo guitar single line runs, comping with bass lines and then playing bass lines while at the same time playing single note lines over top of the walking bass. What I did with this chord melody arrangement is my first attempt at combining these techniques in a chord melody arrangement.

One of Jack's strategies for playing solo guitar is to make the listener think they are hearing a bass line, chords and a solo all being played simultaneously but he is only playing one or two of the parts at any given time in the solo. He has developed the ability to switch back and forth every bar or two and keep all the threads of a good solo, comp and bass line intact.

This arrangement has been written with this strategy in mind. I am using Jimmy Wyble's two line techniques and moving into walking bass lines and then adding some four to the bar comping while all the time implying the melody. My feeling about this arrangement is that it brings a very full pianistic quality to the arrangement.

Thanks Jack, and I hope everyone that takes the time to learn this arrangement will study these techniques further. Remember that if you steal from one musician, it is plagiarism. If you steal from everyone, it is research!

David Oakes
March 2010

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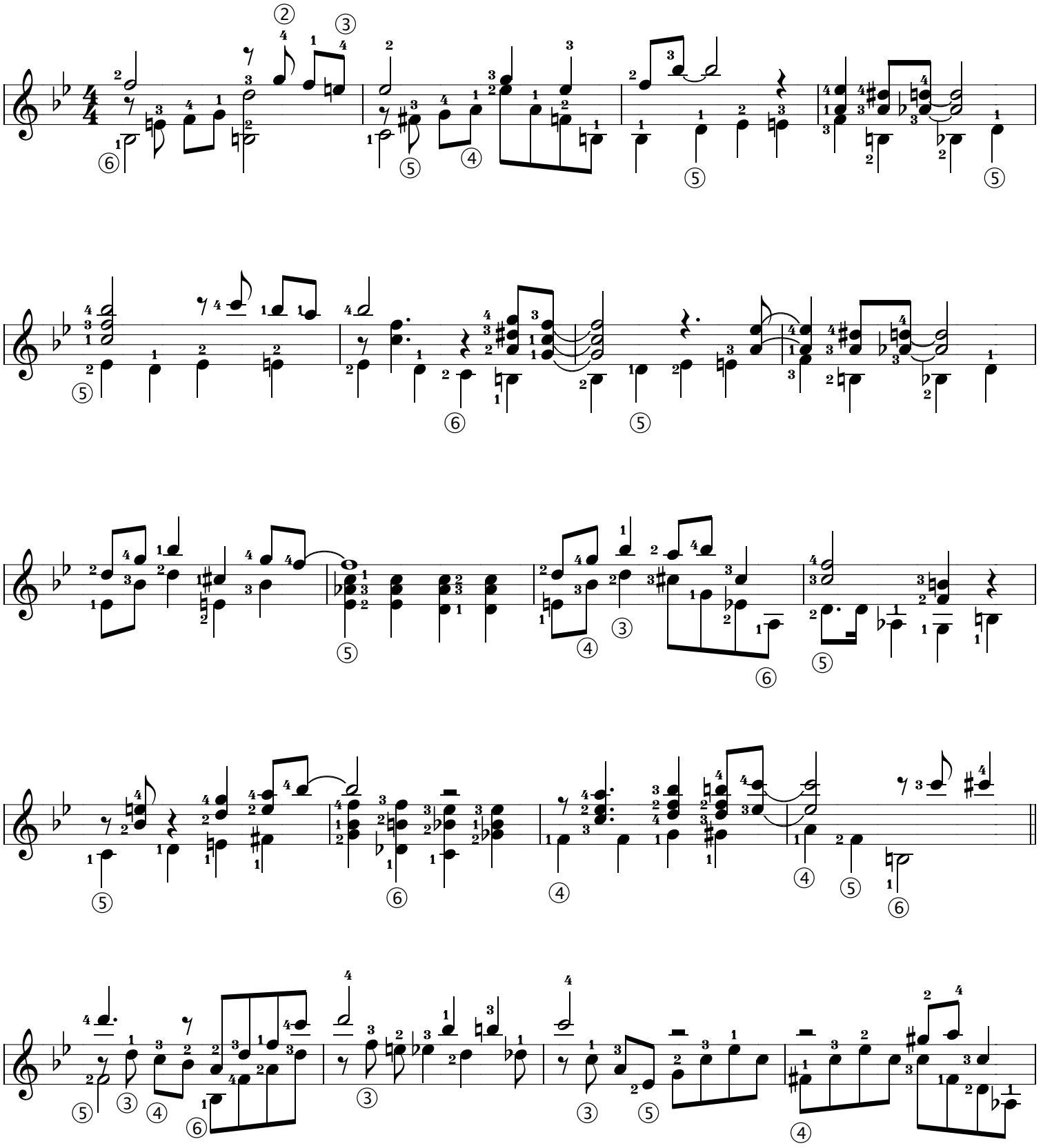

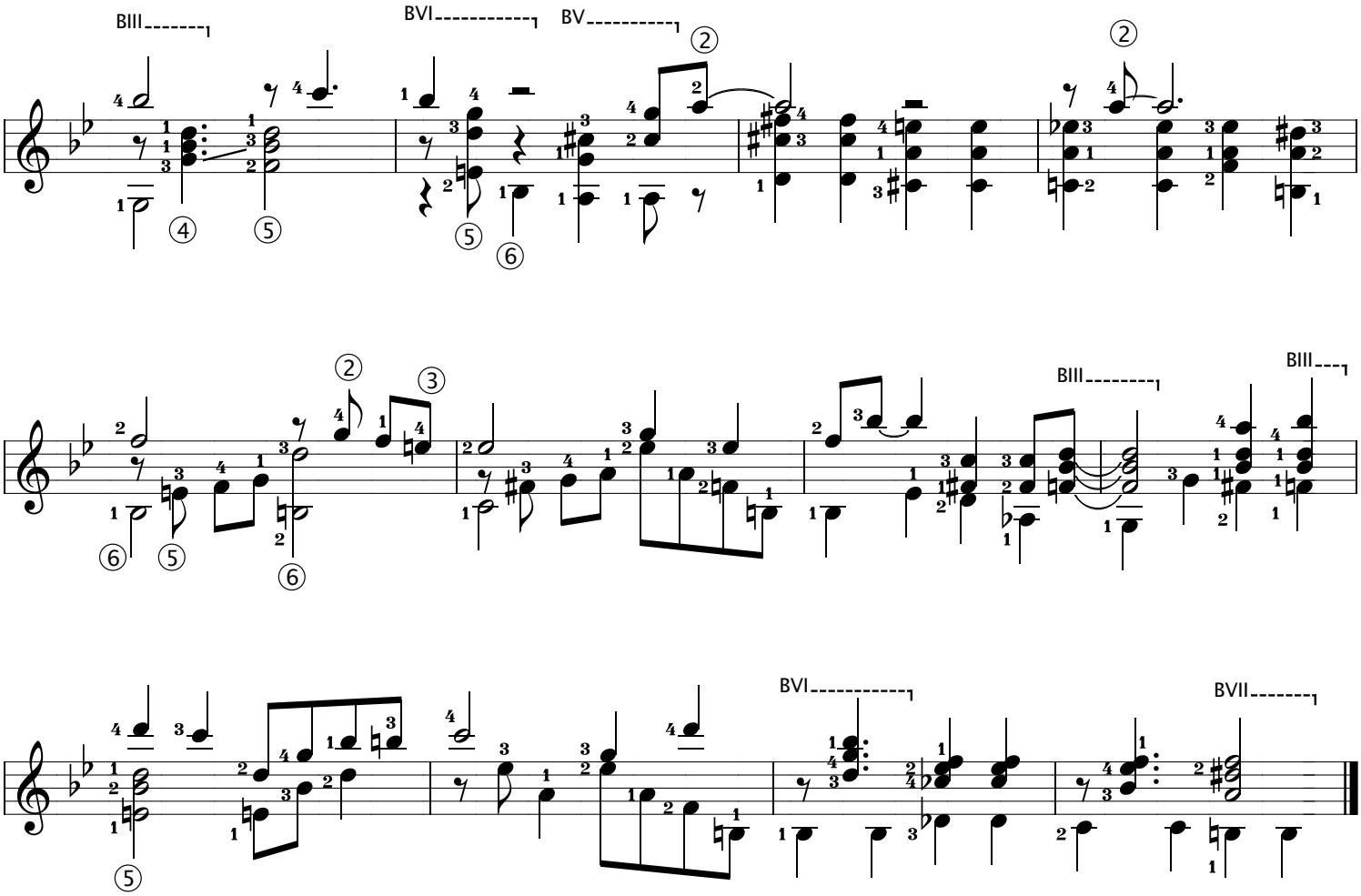
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