

Ken Davies

If Debussy Wrote Jazz...

for solo piano



KD 301

kenvad music

www.kendavies.net

If Debussy Wrote Jazz...

Playing time about a minute and a half

I was experimenting with a chord study—transformations of pitch sets, actually. The pitch sets 0158, 0259, 0269 and 0369 form the very traditional chords major- seventh, minor-seventh, dominant-seventh and diminished-seventh respectively.

As I worked, an image formed in my mind of Claude Debussy playing lounge piano in the 1930s or 40s, long past his time. So I thought: what if Debussy had been around then, had heard the piano stylings of Ellington, Basie and others of that era? What might he have come up with. Thus, this piece, *If Debussy Wrote Jazz*, is a speculation on one of my all time favorite composers.

Composer Bio

Wisconsin native Ken Davies (www.kendavies.net) has had acoustic and electronic works performed at numerous new music festivals such as the Society of Composers, Electroacoustic Barn Dance, Southeastern Composers League (he is a past president), Electronic Music Midwest, International Trombone Festival, National Association of Composers USA, Christian Fellowship of Art Music Composers, Parma Music Festival, London New Wind Festival (UK), and Sonic Coast (UK). Since 2002, he resides in coastal south Mississippi. Awards include the Mississippi Arts Commission's Performing Arts Fellowship for Composition (twice), the Mississippi Music Teachers' Association's Commissioned Composer Of The Year, and winner of the American Trombone Workshop National Composition Competition. His music studies were at the University of Wisconsin at Madison, Yale School of Music, Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro (MA trombone), and the University of Colorado at Boulder (MM composition). A writer and publisher member of ASCAP, his music is published by Kenvad Music.

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Duration 1:35

Slowly, lazily a la lounge piano $\bullet = 42$

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Piano

Faster and rubato $\bullet = 60$