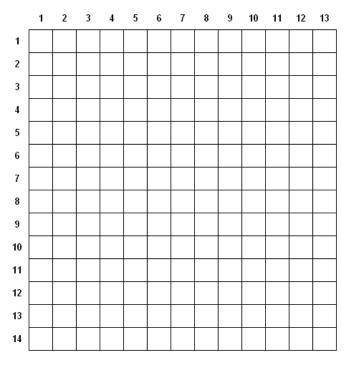
close enough for JAZZ

When you're improvising, sometimes it's the bits you leave out that really make the difference.

Answers are clued in order, but when writing in the grid entries, you'll have to skip certain squares, sometimes even within an answer.



BAPhl B

Across

- 1 Sudden convulsive movement Finger or toe
- 2 It's smaller than a city Not any
- 3 Solo Lose intensity or luster
- 4 Poorly mannered Nameless, briefly
- 5 Highlight of many an opera Strike down from the heavens
- 6 Set of methods
- 7 Later, not-as-sharp years County in eastern England
- 8 Ease up on the gas More recent
- 9 Withdrew, as floodwaters Director Scott
- 10 Cattle ranch sounds Totally focused
- 11 Ornamental tree Back in style
- 12 First Biblical character to die Common cookbook verb
- 13 Senate Majority Leader since 2007 Paying customer, as of a lawyer
- 14 Items connected to a ring White, sticky stuff

Down

- Certain valuable musical instruments, briefly • Start on a journey
- 2 One let go early
- 3 Came to a landing, as a bird Seabird with blue feet
- 4 "The March King" TV series based on the novels of forensic anthropologist Kathy Reichs
- 5 When said twice, a hit for The Mamas and the Papas Loose talk
- 6 Network of underground pipes Best Supporting Actor nominee for "The Aviator"
- 7 London's theatre district
- 8 Decides what to call Actor Bana
- 9 Cotton twill fabric, frequently used in pants Twisting, spirally pattern
- 10 Knowledge Actor who played Ricky
- 11 Small beard Some Starbucks orders
- 12 Back-of-the-book material Many a "Reader's Digest" article
- 13 Very small Rich, cake-like dessert