Augmented Scale

Hexatonic – 6 notes, 2 mutually exclusive triads.

Symmetrical - repeating minor 3rd and half-step intervals.

C augmented can be constructed by taking a C+ triad (C, E, G#) and adding:
1) augmented triad a half-step below (B aug = B, D#, F## [G]), or
2) half-step leading tone into each note, or
3) augmented triad a b3rd above (Eb+).

Scale degrees: R, #2 (b3), 3, 5, #5, 7.

There are only 4 augmented scales.
Repeated pattern of b3rd and b2nd produces three possible tonics (major thirds apart). C augmented scale can also be called E augmented or G# augmented.
(In same way that C+ triad can be named E+ or G#+).
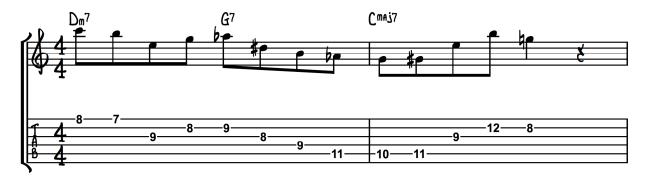
Over diatonic chords from the scale
There are many chords with roots C, E and G# contained within this scale:
* Major, minor, augmented triads
* Maj7, Maj7(with #9), Maj7#5, Min/maj7
* also 3 major triads with an added #9/b3rd: C/Eb, E/G, G#/B.

This means it can be used over any of these chords. Chromatic tones can be viewed as passing tones, or as upper extensions if you alter the chord.

II V I
Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 – use C augmented scale.
Can build an altered dominant 7th chord on leading tone of the scale. So for G7alt, use G# augmented scale (ie C augmented scale).

C augmented scale over chords diatonic to A melodic minor
Since the maj7#5 chord could be used as an upper structure for most, if not all, of the chords diatonic to the melodic minor scale:
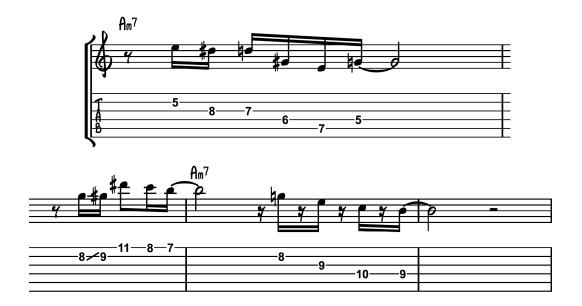
   Amin/maj7, Bm7(b9), Cmaj7#5, D7(#11), E7(b13), F#m7b5, G#7alt

B augmented scale over Giant Steps
The augmented scale contains 3 major triads major thirds apart. "Giant Steps" has major key centres that are major thirds apart. (So does the bridge to "Have You Met Miss Jones").
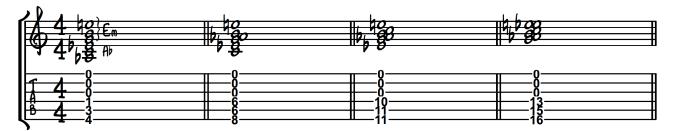
Augmented scale a half-step below the root of a tonic minor seventh chord
Use C augmented scale over C#m7, Fm7 (E aug scale), or Am7 (G# aug scale).
Gives you an altered V7 chord.

Play C augmented scale over a C7 blues
Resolve to chord tones, add in blues scale.

Polychords
Try creating polychords from the 3 major and 3 minor triads (or combine any notes in the scale). Example using Em and Ab (G#) triads from C augmented scale (with inversions):

(Notice the half-steps in the last bar!)