

CHOPS

A Concert March

by

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PROGRAM NOTES

This contemporary march, although based on standard commercial jazz progressions, is in traditional form, consisting of an introduction, first and second strains, and a trio in the key of the subdominant. The rhythms are meant to be played in precise classical fashion from the introduction to the trio at which point a jazz interpretation (triplet feeling) should be used. Woven into this number are rhythms and harmonies from the era of the big jazz bands, making this concert march fun for the audience as well as for the performers.

The term "chops" is commonly used in light-hearted banter among professional musicians, especially jazz musicians, and refers to the specialized muscles used in playing one's instrument. This number is designed to sound "big time" while not requiring highly developed chops of its young performers.

INSTRUMENTATION

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|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 — Conductor Score | 3 — 1st Bb Cornet |
| 6 — Flute (Opt. Picc.) | 3 — 2nd Bb Cornet |
| 3 — Oboe, Bells (Opt. 2nd Flute) | 3 — 3rd Bb Cornet |
| 2 — Bassoon | 2 — 1st Horn in F |
| 4 — 1st Bb Clarinet | 2 — 2nd Horn in F |
| 4 — 2nd Bb Clarinet | 2 — 1st Trombone |
| 4 — 3rd Bb Clarinet | 2 — 2nd Trombone |
| 2 — Eb Alto Clarinet | 2 — 3rd Trombone |
| 2 — Bb Bass Clarinet | 2 — Baritone T.C. |
| 1 — 1st Eb Alto Saxophone | 2 — Baritone B.C. |
| 1 — 2nd Eb Alto Saxophone | 4 — Tuba |
| 1 — Bb Tenor Saxophone | 3 — Percussion |
| 1 — Eb Baritone Saxophone | (S.D., B.D., Cym.) |



1.

This system contains the first measure of the piece. It features a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4 and B4, and a quarter note C5. The bass line consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and textures.

2. 27

This system contains measures 2 through 27. It includes a first ending bracket at the end of the system. The music continues with similar melodic and harmonic patterns. Dynamics include piano (*p*) and forte (*f*). The piano part features more complex textures and arpeggiated figures.

This system contains measures 28 through 42. The music continues with dynamic markings of *f* and *p*. The piano part has a prominent role with arpeggiated patterns and chords. The overall texture is rich and layered.

43

This system contains measures 43 through 47. It includes a *Cym.* (Cymbal) marking with an accent (>) at the end. The music concludes with a final chord and melodic flourish. Dynamics include *f* and *p*.

First system of musical notation, featuring a grand staff with treble, bass, and piano parts. The piano part includes a complex rhythmic pattern with sixteenth notes and rests.

Second system of musical notation, including first and second endings. It features dynamics such as *p* and *mf*. A rehearsal mark **55** is present, with the instruction "In jazz style" and a triplet notation. The part is labeled "Saxes. and Horns".

Third system of musical notation, starting with the instruction "simile" and a rehearsal mark **73**. It includes the instruction "+Trpts." and features a consistent rhythmic accompaniment in the piano part.

Fourth system of musical notation, starting with a rehearsal mark **81**. It continues the musical piece with similar accompaniment and melodic lines.

89

+ Trombones, Baritone

Musical score system 1, measures 89-96. It features three staves: a top staff with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats, a middle staff with a bass clef and the same key signature, and a bottom staff with a double bass clef and the same key signature. The music consists of chords and melodic lines.

+ W. Ws.

97

Musical score system 2, measures 97-104. It features three staves: a top staff with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats, a middle staff with a bass clef and the same key signature, and a bottom staff with a double bass clef and the same key signature. The music includes triplets in the bottom staff and a dynamic marking of *mf* in the top staff.

105

Musical score system 3, measures 105-112. It features three staves: a top staff with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats, a middle staff with a bass clef and the same key signature, and a bottom staff with a double bass clef and the same key signature. The music includes triplets in the bottom staff and a dynamic marking of *simile* in the top staff.

First system of musical notation, featuring a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and a piano part below. The music is in a key with three flats and includes various note values and rests.

Second system of musical notation, starting with measure 113. It includes a trumpet part labeled "Trpts." with dynamics like *f* and accents. The piano part features triplets and rests.

Third system of musical notation, featuring a grand staff with treble and bass clefs, and a piano part below. It includes dynamics like *ff* and accents, and the piano part features triplets.

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