

STRING ALTERNATIVES SERIES

I Got Rhythm

Music and Lyrics by George Gershwin® and Ira Gershwin™

Arranged by Bert Ligon

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5
Piano Accompaniment	1
Drumset	1

I Got Rhythm

All jazz musicians improvise over the chord changes to George and Ira Gershwin's *I Got Rhythm*. The introduction allows the string orchestra to become a percussion ensemble by improvising or playing the notated rhythms. The strings should experiment with percussive sounds (chops, pops, and snaps). The first four measures can be made open until m. 5 is cued. The introduction can be opened up by using separate entrances for each section, thus building intensity to the cued measure. Long notes should be played *fp*. The background material for the solos can be cued in creative ways, depending on the number of soloists. For example: 1st time, play only the 8-measure phrase from mm. 71-78; 2nd time play the other parts. Have a few players chop on beats two and four behind the soloists. There is room for improvisation after the first statement of the melody. Have the cello, piano and bass shape the four measure ascending lines at mm. 103-110. Even though they are marked the same, accent beats 2 & 4 slightly more than 1 & 3. Written solos are provided, but students should be encouraged to improvise over the "rhythm changes" using the suggested solos as a point of departure. An ensemble section follows with quotes from other tunes based on this progression before the original melody returns..

I Got Rhythm

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 3:35

Music and Lyrics by
George Gershwin and Ira Gershwin
Arr. by Bert Ligon

Swing eighth notes ♩ = 180

Violins I chop V arco mf

Violins II chop V

Viola chop V

Cello chop

String Bass pizz. mf

Piano Swing eighth notes ♩ = 180 mf

Drumset mp H.H. 1 2 3 4 B.D. 5

Vlns. I arco mf

Vlns. II arco mf

Vla. arco mf

Cello arco mf

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset 6 7 8 9 10

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13 *pizz.*

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

Ride Cym. Hi-hat pedal only

11 12 13 14 15 16

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

17 18 19 20 21 22

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

23 24 25 26 27 *mf* 28

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

29 *f* arco

Piano

Drumset

29 30 31 32 33

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

34 35 36 37 38

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

39 40 41 42 43

47

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

47

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

55 Play from 55-86 as many times as there are soloists.

Opt. Vln. I Solo*

Opt. Vln. II Solo*

Opt. Vla. Solo*

Opt. Cello Solo*

Musical notation for optional solo parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. Each part begins with a repeat sign and a box containing the number 55. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings.

Vlns. I

II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Musical notation for the string section, including Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The notation includes dynamic markings such as *mp* and chord symbols: B \flat , Gm, Cm, F7, B \flat , Gm, Cm, F7.

Piano

Musical notation for the Piano part, including dynamic markings such as *mp*.

Swing for solos

Drumset

Musical notation for the Drumset part, including dynamic markings such as *mp* and measure numbers 55, 56, 57, 58.

*Optional solo or section solo

Opt. Vln. I Solo

Opt. Vln. II Solo

Opt. Vla. Solo

Opt. Cello Solo

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

B \flat 7 E \flat 7 C \sharp 7/E B \flat /F G7 C \flat F7

59 60 61 62

Opt. Vln. I Solo

Opt. Vln. II Solo

Opt. Vla. Solo

Opt. Cello Solo

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

B \flat Gm Cm F7 B \flat Gm Cm F7

Piano

Drumset

63 64 65 66

Opt. Vln. I Solo

Opt. Vln. II Solo

Opt. Vla. Solo

Opt. Cello Solo

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

67 68 69 70

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Opt. Vln. I Solo

Opt. Vln. II Solo

Opt. Vla. Solo

Opt. Cello Solo

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

D7

G7

71 72 73 74

The musical score for page 11 includes parts for Opt. Vln. I Solo, Opt. Vln. II Solo, Opt. Vla. Solo, Opt. Cello Solo, Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla., Cello, Str. Bass, Piano, and Drumset. The score is in 4/4 time and features a variety of musical notations, including solo parts, ensemble parts, and a drumset part. A large red watermark reading 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score. The page number '11' is in the top right corner. The score includes measures 71 through 74, with a 'D7' chord marking above measure 71 and a 'G7' chord marking above measure 73. The drumset part is shown as a series of 'x' marks on a staff, indicating hits on the snare and cymbals.

Opt. Vln. I Solo

Opt. Vln. II Solo

Opt. Vla. Solo

Opt. Cello Solo

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

C7

F7

75

76

77

78

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Opt. Vln. I Solo

Opt. Vln. II Solo

Opt. Vla. Solo

Opt. Cello Solo

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

B \flat Gm Cm F7 B \flat Gm Cm F7

Piano

Drumset

79 80 81 82

Opt. Vln. I Solo

Opt. Vln. II Solo

Opt. Vla. Solo

Opt. Cello Solo

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

83 84 85 86

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87

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

Piano *f*

Drumset *f*

87 88 89 90 91

95

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

Piano *f*

Drumset *f*

92 93 94 95 96 97

103

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

98 99 100 101 102 103

f *cresc.* Slight accent on 2 & 4

f *cresc.* Slight accent on 2 & 4

f *cresc.* Slight accent on 2 & 4

f *cresc.*

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano

Drumset

104 105 106 107 108 109

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

111 sul tasto

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

111

Piano

Drumset

mp *p*

110 111 112 113 114 115

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mf *mf*

Piano

Drumset

116 117 118 119 120

121

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mf

sfz

Detailed description: This block contains the string section of the score for measures 121 to 125. It includes staves for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature has two flats. Dynamics range from mezzo-forte (mf) to sforzando (sfz). A 'V' marking is present above the Cello staff in measure 121.

121

Piano

Drumset

mf

sfz

121 122 123 124 125

Detailed description: This block contains the piano and drumset parts for measures 121 to 125. The piano part is in grand staff notation with dynamics from mf to sfz. The drumset part uses 'x' for cymbals and shows a steady rhythmic pattern.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

p

fp

ff

Detailed description: This block contains the string section of the score for measures 126 to 130. Dynamics range from piano (p) to fortissimo (ff). A 'V' marking is present above the Cello staff in measure 130.

Piano

Drumset

p

fp

ff

Detailed description: This block contains the piano and drumset parts for measures 126 to 130. Dynamics range from piano (p) to fortissimo (ff). The drumset part shows a more complex rhythmic pattern with accents.

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