

Take the "A" Train

BILLY STRAYHORN

Arranged by ALAN BAYLOCK

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor
1st E \flat Alto Saxophone
2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone
1st B \flat Tenor Saxophone
2nd B \flat Tenor Saxophone
E \flat Baritone Saxophone
1st B \flat Trumpet
2nd B \flat Trumpet
3rd B \flat Trumpet
4th B \flat Trumpet
1st Trombone
2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone
Bass Trombone
Guitar Chords
Guitar
Piano
Bass
Drums

**PREMIER
JAZZ
SERIES**

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This is a new and more contemporary arrangement of the classic Billy Strayhorn tune, *Take the "A" Train*. It always feels like a daunting task to find a new spin on such a classic tune, but I hope you enjoy how this piece unfolds.

After a short full-band intro, the counter-melody (in the basses) is stated first, over a half-time funk groove. Pay special attention to the articulations. The more traditional melody joins in eight measures later and at the bridge, switch to a Latin groove. The drummer should always strive to make the transitions between different "feels" as smooth as possible. This can be achieved by hinting at the new groove a few beats ahead of where it's actually written.

For the last A section, you're back in the funk groove, which quickly sets up a series of solo breaks (based on the original intro) for alto 1. Trombone 1 solos the second time through if desired, and then trumpet 2 has a chance to play over some solo breaks, then solo. Baritone sax rounds out the solos (if desired on the repeat) and the full band launches into breaks for each of the soloists. I've kept the standard chord changes, so please encourage your soloists to listen to and transcribe one or more solos from any great jazz musician who has recorded this tune—which is most of them!

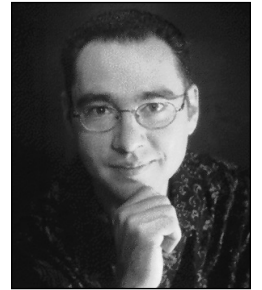
A return of the original intro material sets up a D.S. where the second A melody is restated. A bluesy riff heard throughout is augmented at the Coda and the icing on the cake is the ending from the original arrangement...almost!

On the D.S., from measure 63 through to end, the intensity should be building. Make sure the drummer makes the most of the short fills, especially during the Coda.

This arrangement was originally commissioned by Chris Allen and the Walt Whitman High School Jazz Ensemble, Bethesda, MD.

Thanks a lot for your interest and I hope you enjoy playing this chart!

—Alan Baylock



Alan Baylock

Alan Baylock holds the position of Staff Arranger with the United States Air Force Band in Washington, D.C. and is the chief arranger for the Air Force's premier jazz ensemble, the Airmen of Note. Alan holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Shenandoah University (VA) and a master's degree in jazz studies from the University of North Texas.

CONDUCTOR
30644S

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

By BILLY STRAYHORN
Arranged by ALAN BAYLOCK

SWING ♩ = 196-224

1st Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

1st Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

E♭ BARITONE SAXOPHONE

1st Bb TRUMPET

2ND Bb TRUMPET

3RD Bb TRUMPET

4TH Bb TRUMPET

1st TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE

BASS TROMBONE

GUITAR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with 14 staves. The instruments are: 1st and 2nd Eb Alto Saxophone, 1st and 2nd Bb Tenor Saxophone, Eb Baritone Saxophone, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Bb Trumpet, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is in 4/4 time with a swing feel. A large red watermark 'Legal Use Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the entire page. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and articulation marks. The drum part includes 'FILL' and 'SOLO FILL' markings.

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11 FUNK (HALF-TIME FEEL)

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SAX.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

B. TEN.

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

W/ S. TEN. & BASS

W/ BARI. SAX & BASS

W/ BARI. SAX & B. TEN.

W/ BARI. SAX & B. TEN.

W/ BARI. SAX & B. TEN.

GRAND

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17

This musical score is for the piece "Take the 'A' Train". It is a conductor's score, indicated by the "CONDUCTOR" label at the top left. The score is for page 3 of the piece, as shown by the page number "- 3 -" at the top center. The title "TAKE THE 'A' TRAIN" is printed at the top right. The score includes parts for the following instruments and voices:

- ALTO 1
- ALTO 2
- TENOR 1
- TENOR 2
- SAX. (Saxophone)
- TRP. 1 (Trumpet 1)
- TRP. 2 (Trumpet 2)
- TRP. 3 (Trumpet 3)
- TRP. 4 (Trumpet 4)
- TBN. 1 (Trombone 1)
- TBN. 2 (Trombone 2)
- TBN. 3 (Trombone 3)
- S. TBN. (Soprano Trombone)
- GR. (Guitar)
- PNO. (Piano)
- BASS (Double Bass)
- DRUMS (Drums)

The score is written in standard musical notation with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor) and a 4/4 time signature. The vocal parts (Alto, Tenor, and Soprano) have lyrics written below the notes. The instrumental parts include complex rhythmic patterns and melodic lines. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid across the entire score, and "Legal Use Requires Purchase" is written below it.

CONDUCTOR

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SAX.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

B. TEN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

(FUNK - HALF-TIME FEEL)

CONDUCTOR

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

43 LATIN - (END HALF-TIME FEEL)

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SAX.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

S. TBN.

GR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

B. TBN.

GR. TR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

PLAY ON D.S. ONLY

SOFT TIMES

50 PUNK (HALF-TIME PEEL)

me

Ob. 7/8

F#m7(b9)/G

Bbm7/C

Bbm7(b9)/C

Bbm7/C

Bbm7(b9)/C

Ob. 7/8

FILL

GEORGE

46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55

This musical score is for the piece "Take the A Train". It is a conductor's score, indicated by the "CONDUCTOR" label at the top left. The score is for a full orchestra and vocal ensemble. The vocal parts include Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Baritone. The instrumental parts include Trumpet 1 through 4, Trombone 1 through 3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is written in 4/4 time and features a prominent red watermark that reads "Preview Legal Use Requires Purchase". The page number "- 7 -" is centered at the top, and the title "TAKE THE 'A' TRAIN" is in the top right corner. The bottom of the page is marked with measure numbers 56 through 64.

CONDUCTOR

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SAX.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

S. TEN.

GR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

TO COCA

SWING - (NO HALF-TIME FEEL)

- 8 -

ALTO 1(S) SOLO w/ DRUMS

ALTO 2(S) SOLO w/ DRUMS

TRP. 1(S) SOLO w/ DRUMS

TRP. 2(S) SOLO w/ DRUMS

TRP. 3(S) SOLO w/ DRUMS

TRP. 4(S) SOLO w/ DRUMS

GR. (S) SOLO w/ DRUMS

DRUMS (S) SOLO w/ ALTO SAX

66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74

Handwritten annotations above the staffs: *Sax Solo* SOLO w/ DRUMS (measures 77-80), *Drum* SOLO BREAK (measures 81-84).

Handwritten annotations below the staffs: *Cues* (measures 75-80), *Drum* (measures 81-84), *Solo with ALTO Sax* (measures 77-80), *FILL* (measure 84).

Measures 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84 are numbered at the bottom of the page.



CONDUCTOR

89(94) 8m7 E7 Am7 Em7 A7 Dm7 89

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

Dm7 G7 C#m7 Gm7 C7 F#m7 D9

Dm7 G7 C#m7 Gm7 C7 F#m7 D9

Dm7 G7 C#m7 Gm7 C7 F#m7 D9

TRB. 1

TRB. 2

TRB. 3

S. TRB.

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

END THE DAY

CONDUCTOR

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

Score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, SAI., TRP. 1, TRP. 2, TRP. 3, TRP. 4, TSN. 1, TSN. 2, TSN. 3, S. TSN., GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes musical notation, chord symbols (e.g., Bm7, E7(b9), Am7, B(b9), Dm7, G7(b9), Cm7, D(b9), G7, Cm7, Eb7, D7, Db7), and performance instructions such as "END TIME ONLY".

1.

ALTO I

ALTO II

TENOR I

TENOR II

BARI.

TRP. I

TRP. II

TRP. III

TRP. IV

TBN. I

TBN. II

TBN. III

S. TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

Legal Use Requires Purchase

SOLO w/ DRUMS

SOLO WITH TEMPER

SOLO WITH TEMPER

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

S. TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

SOLO BREAK

SOLO WITH TRUMPET

FILL

126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134

Legal Use Requires Purchase

135

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BARI., TRP. 1, TRP. 2, TRP. 3, TRP. 4, TSN. 1, TSN. 2, TSN. 3, S. TSN., Gtr., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes various musical notations such as clefs, time signatures, and chord symbols.

Chord symbols for Gtr., PNO., and BASS:

- 135: Cm7
- 136: D9(b9)
- 137: Dm7
- 138: G7
- 139: Em7
- 140: A7(b9)
- 141: Dm7
- 142: G7
- 143: Cm7

Chord symbols for BARI. and TRP. 1:

- 135: Am7
- 136: B9(b9)
- 137: Bm7
- 138: E7
- 139: Cm7
- 140: F#7(b9)
- 141: Bm7
- 142: E7
- 143: Am7

Chord symbols for TRP. 2:

- 135: Dm7
- 136: E9(b9)
- 137: Em7
- 138: A7
- 139: F#m7
- 140: B7(b9)
- 141: Em7
- 142: A7
- 143: Dm7

Annotations for BARI. and TRP. 1:

- BARI.: SOLO END TIME ONLY
- TRP. 1: SOLO 1ST TIME ONLY

Annotations for BASS:

- WALK

Annotation for DRUMS:

- TIME

151

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SAX.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

B. TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

END TIME ONLY

END TIME ONLY

END TIME ONLY

END TIME ONLY

B9(b9)

Bm7

E7

A7

E7

A7

me

Dm7

B9

E9(b9)

E7

A7

Dm7

A7

D7

Gm7

E9

END TIME ONLY

END TIME ONLY

me

me

D9(b9)

Dm7

G7

Cm7

Gm7

C7

Fm7

D9

D9(b9)

Dm7

G7

Cm7

Gm7

C7

Fm7

D9

D9(b9)

Dm7

G7

Cm7

Gm7

C7

Fm7

D9

145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156

Musical score for 'Take the A Train'. The score is arranged for a full band and vocal ensemble. It includes parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Soprano, Trumpets 1-4, Trombones 1-3, Baritone, Piano, and Drums. The score is divided into two systems, labeled '1.' and '2.'. A large red watermark 'Legal Use Only' is overlaid across the score. Various musical notations are present, including notes, rests, and chords (e.g., Bm7, E7(b9), Am7, Eb9, Em7, A7, Dm7, F7, Eb7, Gm7, G7, Cm7, Eb7, D7, Db7, C#m7, Db7, C7, B7).

169

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TOM. 1

TOM. 2

TOM. 3

S. TOM.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

AM7 D9(b9) Gm7 b7 A7 Ab G

Dm7(b9) Bm7(b9) Gm7(b9) Em7(b9) Cm7 F#(b9) Bbm7 D7 C7 B7

Cm7 F#(b9) Bbm7 D7 C7 B7

Cm7 F#(b9) Bbm7 D7 C7 B7

FILL FILL FILL

169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

B. TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190

185

F#m7

Cm7

F#m7

Bbm7

Fm7

Bb7

Ebm7

Dm7(b9)

Bbm7(b9)

Gm7(b9)

Ebm7(b9)

Cm7

F#m7

Bbm7

Fm7

Bb7

Ebm7

Ebm7

Dm7

Dm7

C9

Ebm7

Dm7

Dm7

C9

Cm7

F#m7

Bbm7

Fm7

Bb7

Ebm7

C9



CONDUCTOR

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

SARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

B. TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

Chord symbols: A7, D13(b9), Gm7, B7, A7, Ab7, Cm7, G13(b9), Cm7, Eb7, D7, Db7, Cm7, F13(b9), Bbm7, Db7, C7, B7, F7(b9), Dbm7(b9), Bbm7(b9), Gm7(b9), E7m7(b9), Cm7, F13(b9), Bbm7, Db7, C7, B7, F7(b9), Dbm7(b9), Bbm7(b9), Gm7(b9), E7m7(b9), Cm7, F13(b9), Bbm7, Db7, C7, B7.

Fill: FILL

CONDUCTOR

TAKE THE 'A' TRAIN

D.S. AL CODA

201

ALTO 1 *C_{major}(b9)*

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI. *C_{major}(b9)*

TRP. 1

TRP. 2 *C_{major}(b9)*

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1 *B^b_{major}(b9)*

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

S. TEN.

GTR.

PNO. *B^b_{major}(b9) B_{major}(b9) B^b_{major}(b9) B_{major}(b9) B^b_{major}(b9) C_{major}(b9) B^b_{major}(b9) C_{major}(b9) C_{major}(b9) D^b_{major}(b9) B^b_{major}(b9) C_{major}(b9) D^b_{major}(b9) D_{major}(b9)*

BASS

DRUMS

FILL

FILL

SOLO FILL

201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210



CONDUCTOR

TAKE THE "A" TRAIN

ALTO 1
 ALTO 2
 TENOR 1
 TENOR 2
 BARI.
 TRP. 1
 TRP. 2
 TRP. 3
 TRP. 4
 TBN. 1
 TBN. 2
 TBN. 3
 S. TBN.
 GTR.
 PNO.
 BASS
 DRUMS

CODA
 FILL
 FILL

211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221