



# Bonse Aba

TRADITIONAL AFRICAN FOLK TUNE  
Arranged by DOUGLAS E. WAGNER (ASCAP)

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## INSTRUMENTATION

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- 1 Conductor
- 10 Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 10 B $\flat$  Clarinet
- 2 B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet
- 6 E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone
- 4 B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone
- 2 E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone
- 8 B $\flat$  Trumpet
- 4 F Horn

- 6 Trombone/Baritone/Bassoon
- 2 Baritone Treble Clef  
(World Part Trombone in B $\flat$  Treble Clef)
- 4 Tuba
- 1 Mallet Percussion  
(Bells)
- 1 Optional Timpani  
(Tune: F, B $\flat$ )
- 2 Percussion 1  
(Djembe or Hand Drum)
- 3 Percussion 2  
(Shaker, Cowbell/Triangle)

### WORLD PARTS

Available for download from  
[www.alfred.com/worldparts](http://www.alfred.com/worldparts)

- Horn in E $\flat$
- Trombone/Baritone in B $\flat$  Bass Clef
- Tuba in E $\flat$  Bass Clef
- Tuba in E $\flat$  Treble Clef
- Tuba in B $\flat$  Bass Clef
- Tuba in B $\flat$  Treble Clef

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## PROGRAM NOTES

This happy music is based on a traditional African folk song from the Republic of Zambia. Though English is the country's official language, Bemba is spoken most frequently as a secondary regional language. Literal word-for-word translations are difficult because of the complexity of the language. However, "Bonse Aba" loosely translated from Bemba equates to "all who sing." Compelling rhythms and solid harmonies all come together in presenting this musical celebration of life, a joyful experience for players and audiences alike.

## NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Involve all of your players in learning the key rhythm set out in the bass line in the first measure. Just about everyone will encounter it at one time or another. Hand clapping or call-and-response will work well, in addition to having percussion play along to help everyone feel the groove. Five levels of dynamics are used throughout (*piano* to *fortissimo*). Incorporating this dimension into your warm-up exercises would be an effective way to focus your players' sensitivity on this important facet of the work. Depending on the size of your ensemble, consider using more than one drum. This could create a powerful visual image on stage. Lastly, adding a "pizzicato" string bass (reading the Tuba part an octave higher) would help add depth to the bass voices.

**Preview Only**  
Legal Use Requires Purchase

# Bonse Aba

FULL SCORE  
Approx. Duration - 2:00

Traditional African Folk Tune  
Arranged by Douglas E. Wagner (ASCAP)

Joyfully ♩ = 126

Flute

Oboe

B♭ Clarinet

B♭ Bass Clarinet

E♭ Alto  
Saxophone

B♭ Tenor  
Saxophone

E♭ Baritone  
Saxophone

B♭ Trumpet

F Horn

Trombone/Baritone/  
Bassoon

Tuba

Mallet Percussion  
(Bells)

Optional  
Timpani

Percussion 1  
(Djembe or Hand Drums)

Percussion 2  
(Shaker, Cowbell/Triangle)

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with 14 staves. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Joyfully' with a quarter note equal to 126 beats per minute. The score includes parts for Flute, Oboe, B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Bass Clarinet, E♭ Alto Saxophone, B♭ Tenor Saxophone, E♭ Baritone Saxophone, B♭ Trumpet, F Horn, Trombone/Baritone/Bassoon, Tuba, Mallet Percussion (Bells), Optional Timpani, Percussion 1 (Djembe or Hand Drums), and Percussion 2 (Shaker, Cowbell/Triangle). The B♭ Bass Clarinet and E♭ Baritone Saxophone parts begin with a melody in the first measure, marked *mp*. The Tuba part also begins with a similar melody. The Mallet Percussion part has a 'Tune: F, B♭' and begins with a melody in the second measure, marked *p*. The Djembe part begins with a rhythmic pattern in the first measure, marked *mp* and *ad lib.*. The Shaker part begins with a rhythmic pattern in the first measure, marked *mp*. The score is divided into four measures, numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4.

5

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *mp*

B. Cl.

A. Sax. *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

Bar. Sax.

5

Tpt.

Hn. *mp*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *mp*

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

5 6 7 8

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

9 10 11 12

*mp*

13

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

Bar. Sax. *mf*

13

Tpt. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Mlt. Perc. *mf*

Bells

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf*

Cowbell

Perc. 2 *mf*

17

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cl. *mp*

B. Cl. *mp*

A. Sax. *mp*

T. Sax. *mp*

Bar. Sax. *mp*

17

Tpt. *mp*

Hn. *mp*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Mlt. Perc. *mp*

Timp. *p*

Perc. 1 *mp*

Perc. 2 *mp*

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

mp



25

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf*

B. Cl. *mf*

A. Sax. *mf*

T. Sax. *mf*

Bar. Sax. *mf*

25

Tpt. *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *mf*

Tuba *mf*

Mlt. Perc. *mf*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

*mf* 25 26 27 28

29

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

29

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Triangle *mf*

29 30 31 32 33

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

37

37

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

41

41

*f*

38 39 40 41

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

Tpt.

Hn.

Tbn./Bar./Bsn.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

49

Fl. *sub. p*

Ob. *sub. p*

Cl. *sub. p*

B. Cl. *sub. p*

A. Sax. *sub. p*

T. Sax. *sub. p*

Bar. Sax. *sub. p*

49

Tpt. *sub. p*

Hn. *sub. p*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *sub. p*

Tuba *sub. p*

Mlt. Perc.

Timp. *p*

Perc. 1 *sub. p*

Perc. 2 *sub. p* Cowbell

46 47 48 49

Fl. *mp* *mf*

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Cl. *mp* *mf*

B. Cl. *mp* *mf*

A. Sax. *mp* *mf*

T. Sax. *mp* *mf*

Bar. Sax. *mp* *mf*

Tpt. *p* *mp*

Hn. *mp* *mf*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *mp* *mf*

Tuba *mp* *mf*

Mlt. Perc. *p* *mp*

Timp. *mp* *mf*

Perc. 1 *mp* *mf*

Perc. 2 *mp* *mf*

55

Fl. *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff*

Cl. *f* *ff*

B. Cl. *f* *ff*

A. Sax. *f* *ff*

T. Sax. *f* *ff*

Bar. Sax. *f* *ff*

55

Tpt. *mf* *f* *ff*

Hn. *f* *ff*

Tbn./Bar./Bsn. *f* *ff*

Tuba *f* *ff*

Mlt. Perc. *mf* *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 *f* *ff*

Perc. 2 *f* *ff*

54 55 56 57 58