

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

This arrangement of the popular standard, *I'm Beginning to See the Light*, is surprisingly unique in a fun way. While most of the melodic parts stay true to the original, the chord progressions and rhythmic setting really add a distinctive flavor to the tune.

The arrangement gracefully moves through several tonalities, though the key signature of C was used throughout to make reading easier.

Pronounce the syllable “dot” with an “ah” vowel as in “hot.” Pronounce “dat” with a slightly brighter vowel, a cross between the vowels in “hot” and “hat.”

Avoid using vibrato most of the time, especially on held chords.

Regarding the Small Group lines:

Treble voices should always sing in unison. Mixed voices should be male and female voices in unison, or where singing in octaves is indicated, the men should sing an octave lower than the women.

Enjoy!

Michele Weir

# I'M BEGINNING TO SEE THE LIGHT

for S.A.T.B. voices and piano  
with optional SoundPax and SoundTrax CD\*

Arranged by  
**MICHELE WEIR**

Words and Music by  
**DON GEORGE, JOHNNY HODGES,  
DUKE ELLINGTON, and HARRY JAMES**

Samba (♩ = ca. 80)

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

*f*

Da ba da dot dot da bop da dot dot da

Samba (♩ = ca. 80)

PIANO

*f*

G A7/G Cm/G G

5

G A7/G Cm/G G

*mp*

\* SoundTrax CD available (38155).  
SoundPax available (38156) - includes parts for Piano, Bass, and Drumset.

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*mp*

I

*mp*

*mf*

Em7 A9 Em7 A9

13

nev-er cared much for moon - lit skies. ...

I

*mp*

Em7 A9 Em7 A9

17

SMALL GROUP (treble) *mf*

S. But

nev-er wink back at fire - flies. ...

T.

B.

Dm7 G9 Dm7 G9

21

now that the stars are in \_\_\_\_ your eyes, \_ I'm be - gin-ning to see \_ the light. \_

Your eyes. \_

Cm<sup>7</sup> F<sup>9</sup> Eb/G F<sup>(9)</sup>/A Bb/Ab

25

*mf*  
I  
*mf*

Gm<sup>7</sup> C<sup>9</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup> C<sup>9</sup>

*mf*

29

nev-er went in \_\_\_ for af - ter - glow, \_\_\_ or

Em7 Em7/A Em7 A9

33

SMALL GROUP (treble)

*mf*

But

can-dle-light on \_\_\_ a mis - tle - toe. \_\_\_

Dm7 Dm7/G Dm7 G9

37

now when you turn the lights \_\_\_ down low, \_\_\_ I'm be - gin - ning to see \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light. \_

*mp*

Down low. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

Cm7 F9 Eb/G F(9)/A Bb/Ab

41 (rejoin section) to TENOR SOLO

Empty musical staves for the tenor solo section.

Bb C7/Bb Ebm/Bb Bb

### Funky Samba

45 TENOR SOLO

*f* (end SOLO)

Used to ram-ble through the park.

### Funky Samba

*mf* bright and rhythmic

Da ah dat dat doo dat

### Funky Samba

*f* *strong and rhythmic*

D<sup>9</sup>sus D<sup>9</sup> D<sup>9</sup>sus D<sup>9</sup>

### SOPRANO SOLO

*f* (end SOLO)

Shad-ow-box-ing in the dark.

*mf* *f*

da ah dat dat doo dat and

B<sup>9</sup>sus

B<sup>9</sup>

B<sup>9</sup>sus

B<sup>9</sup>

53 SMALL GROUP (*mixed voices in unison*) *mf*

You came and you caused a

*sub. p smoother* *mf* *f*

then, you came and you caused a spark. That's a

*sub. p* *mf* *f*

*C*<sup>9(sus4)</sup> *C* *C/Bb* *A7*<sup>(#9)</sup> *Eb13*<sup>(#11)</sup>

*smoother* *p* *mf*

57 *f* (*rejoin section*) **Funky Samba**

spark!

*ff* **Funky Samba**

four a-larm fi - re, four a-larm fi - re.

*ff* *sub. p cool and calm*

four a-larm fi - re, four a-larm fi - re now.

**Funky Samba**

*A*<sup>b</sup>*m*<sup>11</sup> *Db*<sup>7</sup>*sus* *G*<sup>m</sup><sup>7</sup> *C*<sup>9</sup>

*f* *ff* *sub. p*



61

Musical notation for measures 61-64. The vocal line has a long note on the first measure. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

I'm be - gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light.

Piano accompaniment for measures 61-64. Chord labels: Am7, D9, Gm7, C9.

65

Musical notation for measures 65-68. The vocal line has a long note on the first measure. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

I'm be - gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light.

Piano accompaniment for measures 65-68. Chord labels: Am7, D9, Gm7, C9.

69

Musical notation for measures 69-72. The vocal line has a long note on the first measure. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

I'm be - gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the light. \_

I'm be - gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light.

Piano accompaniment for measures 69-72. Chord labels: Am7, D9, Gm7, C9sus.

73

## Relaxed Samba

SMALL GROUP (*mixed voices in octaves*) *mf*

The \_

## Relaxed Samba

La \_ la la ba da ba da dn da ba doo da \_ ba dot

## Relaxed Samba

*mf* Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>9</sup> Em<sup>7</sup> A<sup>9</sup>

77

light. \_ I'm be - gin-ning to see \_ the \_ light. \_

Ba doo da \_ ba da ba da ba da dn da ba doo da \_

*mf* Dm<sup>7</sup> G<sup>9</sup> Dm<sup>7</sup> G<sup>9</sup>

SMALL GROUP (mixed voices in unison)

La la ley ah —

Ba doo da — ba da ya da ba da dn doo da —

Cm7 F9 Eb/G F9/A Bb/Ab

This block contains the musical notation for the first system. It includes a vocal line with lyrics 'La la ley ah —' and 'Ba doo da — ba da ya da ba da dn doo da —'. Below the vocal line is a piano accompaniment with chords Cm7, F9, Eb/G, and F9/A Bb/Ab. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

Funky Samba

SMALL GROUP (mixed voices in octaves)

(rejoin section)

La la ley ah —

**Funky Samba**  
*f* bright and rhythmic

Dat dat doot dat dat dat doot dat

**Funky Samba**  
Gm7 C9 Gm7 C9

This block contains the musical notation for the second system. It includes a vocal line with lyrics 'La la ley ah —' and 'Dat dat doot dat dat dat doot dat'. Below the vocal line is a piano accompaniment with chords Gm7, C9, Gm7, and C9. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

89 Relaxed Samba

la ley ya. \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

La la la la la — la la la la la ley ya — ley ah —

*mf*

Relaxed Samba

la ley ya \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

Em7 A9 Em7 A9

93

La la la la la la — la la la la ley ya — la la leh — ah —

Dm7 C9 Dm7 G9

97

ba da ba da dot dot dot bay da doo da dey — ah —

Dey —

Cm7 F9 Eb/G F(9)/A Bb/Ab Bb/Ab



101 *ah*

ba da dot dot da — bop da dot dot da —

Bb C7/Bb Ebm/Bb Bb

**105 Funky Samba**

*f* bright and rhythmic

Used to ram-ble through the park,

Used to ram-ble through the park, through the park, —

**Funky Samba**

*f* strong and rhythmic

D<sup>9</sup>sus D<sup>9</sup> D<sup>9</sup>sus D<sup>9</sup>

109

shad-ow box-ing in the dark, —  
shad-ow box-ing in the dark, in the dark, and

shad-ow box-ing in the dark, —

B<sup>9</sup>sus B<sup>9</sup> B<sup>9</sup>sus B<sup>9</sup>

113

SMALL GROUP (*mixed voices in octaves*) *mf*

You came and you

then, you came and you caused a spark.

*sub. p smoother* *mf*

*sub. p* *mf*

C<sup>9</sup>(sus4) C smoother C/B<sup>b</sup> A7(<sup>#9</sup>/<sub>5</sub>)

*p* *mf*

116

*(rejoin section)*

caused a spark.

That's a four a-larm fi-re, four a-larm fi-re

*ff* *ff*

E<sup>b</sup><sup>9</sup> A<sup>b</sup>m<sup>11</sup> D<sup>b</sup>7sus

*f* *ff*

119 Funky Samba

*sub p cool and calm*

now. \_\_\_\_\_ I'm be - gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light. \_

Funky Samba

*p*

Gm7 C9 Am7 D9

123

*p playful*

It's a four a-larm fi - re now. \_\_\_\_\_

I'm be - gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light. \_

Gm7 C9 Am7 D9

*mp*

127

When you turn the lights \_\_\_ down low, \_\_\_\_\_

I'm be -

Gm7 C9sus Am7

130

SMALL GROUP (mixed voices in octaves) *mf*

Musical staff with lyrics: I'm be-

Musical staff with lyrics: it's a four a-larm fi-re now. —

Musical staff with lyrics: gin-ning to see — the — light. —

Piano accompaniment with chords: D<sup>9</sup>, Gm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>9</sup>, Am<sup>7</sup>

134

Musical staff with lyrics: gin-ning to see — the light, — the — light. —

Musical staff with lyrics: *bright and rhythmic* *mf*

Musical staff with lyrics: *Dat doot doot dat* *mf*

Piano accompaniment with chords: D<sup>9</sup>, Gm<sup>7</sup>, C<sup>9</sup> and dynamics: *strong and rhythmic* *mf*





137

I'm be - gin - ning to see the light,

dat doot dat dat dat doot dat

Am<sup>7</sup> D<sup>9</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup>

140

to see the light. I'm be - gin - ning to see the light,

dat dat doot dat dat

C<sup>9</sup> Am<sup>7</sup> D<sup>9</sup>

143

\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light. \_\_\_ I'm be -

Dat doot dat dat dat doot dat

Gm<sup>7</sup> C<sup>9</sup> Am<sup>7</sup>

146

gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the \_\_\_ light. I'm be - gin-ning to see \_\_\_ the light. *mf*

dat dat doot da \_\_\_ *mf*

D<sup>9</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup> C<sup>9</sup>sus *mf*

(rejoin section)

Ba da dot dot da — bop da dot dot da —

F G7/F Bbm/F F

153 *f* Da ba da dot dot da — bop da dot dot dot!

*f*

G7/F Bbm/F F