

Jazz/Rock Performance

A Collection of 13 Exciting Pieces for Acoustic and Electronic Keyboards

Bert Konowitz

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Foreword

Performance Book, Level 2 of Alfred's Jazz/Rock Course may be assigned after the student has learned "Piano Man," page 3 of the Jazz/Rock Course, Level 2.

This book is uniquely written to be played on either a traditional acoustic piano or an electronic keyboard. At the bottom of each page, suggestions are offered for ways that acoustic and electronic instruments may be used together: **Acoustic Jamming** suggestions offer a supportive left hand accompaniment that may be added by a teacher, a parent who plays piano, or a more experienced student. **Electronic Jamming** suggestions offer specific *sounds* and *rhythm backgrounds* that may be used when playing on an electronic keyboard. Finally, the electronic *rhythm backgrounds* may also be added as an accompaniment when performing on an acoustic piano.

The use of this book in conjunction with Jazz/Rock Course, Level 2 will virtually guarantee that each basic concept introduced at this level will have more than adequate drill and review. This Performance Book is coordinated page-by-page with the Jazz/Rock Course, Level 2, and is intended to provide a variety of pieces to reinforce all the new principles, concepts and ideas introduced in that book. The instructions in the upper right-hand corner of each piece tell where that piece may be assigned. It is not advisable to assign a piece sooner than these references indicate, to avoid introducing concepts not yet covered. Any piece, however, may be assigned after the student has covered the designated pages.

The author strongly recommends that each student participate frequently in recitals and other public performances. These pieces are especially appropriate for such use. Some of the pieces are entertaining and some are more quiet, but they are all serious in their intent of being instructional as well as pleasurable. These pieces will satisfy a variety of tastes and help to develop the versatility of the student.

Dedicated to the memory of Belle, my mother

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Jazz/Rock music helps us to express our changing feelings.

When you express your feelings through music, you create different moods. Some of the ways you can express yourself are by playing faster or slower, louder or softer, and higher or lower than written. See how many ways you can play ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN to express different moods.

ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN

Moderate and steady

ACOUSTIC JAMMING: Play an octave lower.

ELECTRONIC JAMMING:

REGISTER: Brass/Synth Ensemble

RHYTHM: Jazz/Rock

Jam Session

RENT PARTY

In the early days of Jazz, keyboard players would earn money to pay for their rent by inviting several pianists to join them in performing for a small audience. It was a time to dazzle everyone by demonstrating individual skills and creativity while entertaining friends and neighbors.

Now reward *your* audience for coming to listen to you by adding some of these improv ideas to make this piece sound special.

Play with different dynamics.

Play the eighth notes in Jazz or Rock style.

Use *repetition* and *repetition 8va* for the motif improvs (m. 11–12, 23–24).

Not too fast

5 4 2

mf

5 3

5

1. 2. 2.

2

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the musical score for 'Rent Party'. It is written for piano in 4/4 time. The first staff (treble clef) begins with a melodic phrase marked with fingerings 5, 4, and 2, followed by a repeat sign. The second staff (bass clef) provides a harmonic accompaniment. The tempo instruction 'Not too fast' is above the first staff, and the dynamic 'mf' is below the first staff. Measure numbers 5 and 3 are indicated below the first staff. The system concludes with two first/second endings for the treble staff, with measure numbers 1, 2, and 2. below them.

ACOUSTIC JAMMING: Play an octave lower.

5

mf

9 13

5

f

17 21

25 29

mf

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score, labeled 'ACOUSTIC JAMMING'. It is written for piano in 4/4 time, with the instruction 'Play an octave lower.' above the first staff. The first staff (bass clef) contains a melodic line with measure numbers 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 25, and 29 indicated above it. The dynamic 'mf' is below the first staff, and 'f' is below the second staff. The system concludes with a repeat sign and a double bar line.

ELECTRONIC JAMMING:

REGISTER: Brass/Synth Ensemble

RHYTHM: Jazz/Rock