

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor

1st El Alto Saxophone

2nd El Alto Saxophone

1st B♭ Tenor Saxophone

2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Optional)

El Baritone Saxophone (Optional)

1st Bl Trumpet

2nd B Trumpet

3rd B♭ Trumpet (Optional)

1st Trombone

2nd Trombone (Optional)

3rd Trombone (Optional)

Guitar Chords

Guitar (Optional)

Piano

Bass

Drums

Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute

Tuba

Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)

Baritone T.C. (Doubles 1st Trombone)



FOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

"T.M.I. (Too Much Information)" is a straight-ahead Latin rock original in the style of Santana that should cook right from the start. Articulations have been marked to aid in achieving the correct style. Staccatos are detached and short, but don't cut them too short; think "dit." The vertical rooftop accents in measure 18 should be detached but longer and fatter than a staccato; think "daht."

At measure 23, a written solo is provided for piano; however, after becoming comfortable with the solo and the sound of the chord progression, the student may want to embellish the written solo. Notice the tremolo at measure 23; this is a trill or rocking between the two notes, a nice effect if the piano player can work on this technique. The same embellishment idea goes for the trombone solo at measure 37. Both solos can be repeated if desired, or add additional solos with or without backgrounds. For both the piano and trombone solos, the chord progression is primarily Gmi7 and Ami7. Regarding chord progression, the common tones in these two chords are G, A, C, D, and E; therefore, these are safe note choices throughout.

Consider rehearsing the rhythm section as a unit to develop a nice cohesive sound. The drummer should play straight eights with a Latin-rock feel backbeat on beats 2 and 4. The bass player must lock in the time with the drummer. Bass and drums should think and play together. To help this process, I suggest positioning these two players so they can easily see and hear each other. If the bass player is having difficulty with some of the ensemble figures, they can be simplified by playing simple quarter notes instead of the written eighth notes as in measures 4, 17, and 18. The bass player will want to focus on the basic pattern in this style, which is the dotted quarter-eighth pattern. The guitar player has written rhythmic patterns to suggest a comping pattern. The piano player has the bass part doubled in the left hand, tacet if not needed. Optional percussion parts add to the Latin style. As always, auxiliary percussion can enhance the Latin groove tremendously, but don't overdo it.

Please enjoy.

-Ralph Ford



Ralph Ford

Ralph Ford is an accomplished composer/arranger and is an indemand conductor and educator. He is currently band director at Troy University (AL), having been a member of its music faculty since receiving a bachelor's degree in 1986. He also holds a master's degree from Troy.



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