

# JAZZ BAND SERIES

# A Child Is Born

Music by THAD JONES

Arranged by JOHN DENTON

## INSTRUMENTATION

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

## Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute (Optional)  
Tuba (Optional)  
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)  
1st Baritone T.C. (Doubles 1st Trombone)  
2nd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 2nd Trombone)  
3rd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 3rd Trombone)

## NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This version of the great jazz standard “A Child Is Born” is a little more upbeat than the original composed and arranged by trumpeter/bandleader Thad Jones. It’s intended to express a parent’s joy when a child is born.

Exaggerating the dynamic and tempo changes in the introduction will get the immediate attention of the audience. The piano sets the tempo at measure 9 in a loose and comfortable swing style with the rest of the rhythm section added four measures later. Most of the first chorus is played *mf* with the melody passed between unison saxes and brass. The dynamics should start to build in measure 38, leading to the ensemble in measure 47.

The chart should transition smoothly from the ballad intro in the jazz waltz at measure 9. Keep it relaxed and smooth. The transition at measure 83 into 4/4 meter is seamless. The quarter note is constant and the groove is a relaxed bossa. The return to the waltz at measure 119 will be at a slightly slower tempo with a ritardando in measure 118 to set up the transition. The saxes can help make the transition and ritardando very smooth. Caution the players about the modulations.

The ensemble leads into an alto sax solo at measure 63, which may be played as written or improvised. I suggest directing the soloist to learn and memorize the melody and then study each chord to learn the chord tones. Next, the soloist may play only the roots of the chords to hear the sound of the chord progression. Learn the written solo and compare it to the melody—listen for the similarities and differences. These simple exercises will assist the soloist in understanding the chords and their relationship to the melody. This step-by-step learning process will make improvisation more fun and interesting. The backgrounds at the end of the alto solo should start soft and build to the 4/4 ensemble section at measure 83.

The trumpet solo at measure 99 should begin simple and gradually build in intensity as the solo progresses. The same improvisation learning process applies to the trumpet soloist. If time permits, I suggest teaching this improvisation learning process to the entire ensemble.

The final statement of the melody is in measure 119, which should be played broadly and, as mentioned earlier, at a slightly slower tempo. Emphasize the dynamics throughout the last chorus and bring out the moving voices in the ensemble. The arrangement ends as it began, with a brief piano solo and a tutti statement of the first melodic phrase.

Please enjoy.

—John Denton

CONDUCTOR  
JEMO4036C

# A CHILD IS BORN

Music by THAD JONES  
Arranged by JOHN DENTON

RUBATO  $\text{♩} = 90$

1st Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE  
2nd Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE  
1st Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE  
2nd Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE  
Eb BARITONE SAXOPHONE  
1st Bb TRUMPET  
2nd Bb TRUMPET  
3rd Bb TRUMPET  
4th Bb TRUMPET  
1st TROMBONE  
2nd TROMBONE  
3rd TROMBONE  
4th TROMBONE  
GUITAR  
PIANO  
BASS  
DRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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CONDUCTOR

Moderate JAZZ WALTZ ♩ = 126

37

Musical score for various instruments including ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BAR. (Baritone), TPT. 1-4 (Trumpets), TBN. 1-4 (Trombones), GTR. (Guitar), PNO. (Piano), BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark: "Legal View Only Requires Purchase".

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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Detailed description of the musical score: This page contains the conductor's score for the third page of the piece 'A Child is Born'. It features vocal parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Baritone. There are four trumpet parts (Trp. 1-4) and four tenor saxophone parts (Ten. 1-4). The instrumental ensemble includes a guitar (QTR.), piano (PNO.), bass, and drums. The piano part includes a 'Pia.' (Piano) marking. The guitar part lists chords: Bbmaj7, Ebm7/b7, Bbmaj7, Ebm7/b7, Am11, D7(b9), Gm(AoD2), D7(b9), Gm(AoD2), and D7(b9). The piano part includes a 'Pia.' marking. The bass part includes a 'TEN. 4' marking. The drums part includes a 'TEN. 4' marking. The score is numbered 19 to 28 at the bottom.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

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29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37

Musical score for 'A Child is Born' featuring vocalists (Alto, Tenor, Bass), brass (Trumpet, Trombone), guitar, piano, bass, and drums. The score includes a large red watermark: 'Preview Only! Legal Use Requires Purchase'. The score is divided into measures 38 through 46. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamics. The guitar part includes chord diagrams and chord names: D7(b9), Ebmaj7, Ab9, Bb/F, Ebmaj7/Gb, Gmi7, C9, Cmi7, and F7sus. The piano part includes various chord voicings. The bass and drums parts provide a rhythmic foundation for the piece.

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

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This musical score is for a conductor and includes the following parts:

- ALTO 1
- ALTO 2
- TENOR 1
- TENOR 2
- BARI.
- TRP. 1
- TRP. 2
- TRP. 3
- TRP. 4
- TBN. 1
- TBN. 2
- TBN. 3
- TBN. 4
- GTR. (Guitar)
- PNO. (Piano)
- BASS
- DRUMS

The score spans measures 55 to 62. A large red watermark reading "Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

CONDUCTOR

63 Gmaj7 SOLO - AD LIB. Cmaj7/D Gmaj7 Cmaj7/D Gmaj7 B7(9) Cmaj7 F9

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

GTR. Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 D7(9) Ebmaj7 Ab9

PNO. Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 D7(9) Ebmaj7 Ab9

BASS

DRUMS SAX SOLO

63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

Chords: G/D, Cm6, Cm6, Em7, A9, Am7, D9, Bm7, E9, Ebm7, Ebm7, Gm7, C9, Cm7, F9, Dm7, G9

71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78

Handwritten musical score for various instruments and voices. The score includes parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1-4, Trombone 1-4, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The music is written in a key with one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The score is divided into measures 79 through 86. Chord symbols are written above the staves, including C#m7, F#m, Bm7, E15(b9), Am7, E15(b9), Gm7, A9, Dm7, G15(b9), Cm7, Fm7/C, and Cm7. Performance markings such as 'cresc.', 'f', and 'END SOLO' are present. A large red watermark 'Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BAR.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

SOLO

SOLO - Ad Lib.

Dmaj7

Gmi6

Fmi6/C

Cmaj7

F#m7

G15(b9)

AMi9

GAmi9

AMi9

D9

Dmi9

D7(b9)

Dmi7

Cmaj7

F#m7

G15(b9)

Cmaj7

Fmi6/C

Cmaj7

Fmi6/C

TRP. SOLO

SAVES

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110

Chorus

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Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring vocal parts (ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BARI.), brass (TPT. 1-4, TBN. 1-4), guitar (GTR.), piano (PNO.), bass (BASS), and drums (DRUMS). The score includes dynamic markings such as *mezzo-forte* (*mf*), *crescendo* (*cresc.*), and *ritardando* (*rit.*). It also contains performance instructions like *5* and *5* (fingerings) and *rit. C. 15 (b9)*. A large red watermark "Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid on the score.



ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

END SOLO

E♭maj7/B♭ F#m7(b9)/B♭ E♭maj7/B♭ F#m7(b9)/B♭ E♭maj7/B♭ F#m7(b9) Dm7(b9) G7(b9)/B♭

119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GRG.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134

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Detailed description of the musical score: This page contains the conductor's score for measures 127-134 of the piece 'A Child is Born'. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout. At the top, it lists the vocal soloists: Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Baritone. Below them are four Trumpets (Trp. 1-4) and four Trombones (Tbn. 1-4). The instrumental section includes a Guitar (GrG.), Piano (Pno.), Bass, and Drums. The piano part includes chord symbols such as G/C, G7(#9)(b9), F7, Cm7, Bb(b9), Bb(b9), and G7(b9)/B. The vocal lines feature melodic phrases with some lyrics partially obscured by the watermark. The instrumental parts provide harmonic support and texture. The score concludes with a double bar line at measure 134.

135

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DEUMS

144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162

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Chord symbols: F#10/G, C#m7, F#10/G, END SOLO, C#m7, G/B, A#m7, G#m7, G#7(b9), F#m9, Bb9, C#m9

Dynamic markings: mf, p, rit.

Performance instructions: rit.

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