



## Belwin JAZZ

a division of Alfred

# SESSION SAMBA

W. SCOTT RAGSDALE

### INSTRUMENTATION

#### Conductor

Ist E Alto Saxophone

2nd E Alto Saxophone

Ist By Tenor Saxophone

2nd B Tenor Saxophone

E Baritone Saxophone

Ist B Trumpet

2nd B Trumpet

3rd B Trumpet

4th B Trumpet

**Ist Trombone** 2nd Trombone

3rd Trombone

4th Trombone

**Guitar Chords** 

Guitar Piano

Bass

**Drums** 

**Auxiliary Percussion** 

#### **Optional/Alternate Parts**

C Flute (Optional)

Tuba (Optional)

Horn in F

(Doubles 1st Trombone)

**Ist Baritone Treble Clef** 

(Doubles 1st Trombone)

2nd Baritone Treble Clef

(Doubles 2nd Trombone)

3rd Baritone Treble Clef

(Doubles 3rd Trombone)



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#### NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

"Session Samba" is a mixture of samba rhythmic elements and a pop-Latin groove for the drums. The first goal should be to achieve a smooth, easygoing two feel in the rhythm section so that the horns and soloists can float easily over the groove. Try to stay close to the suggested tempo to enhance the contrasting blend of excitement and a relaxed feel.

#### THE RHYTHM SECTION

The **guitar** part is notated rhythmically at measure 13 for a few bars to establish the overall pattern and should continue in the same style as indicated by *simile*. The straight-eighth pattern is marked with accents that will line it up with the piano rhythm figures. Typically, Latin music requires that all rhythmic notations be carefully studied and performed with the strictest time possible.

The **bass** rhythm also should be played as notated and is essential to the groove. The left hand of the **piano** part doubles the bass and can be used to solidify the bass part if extra support is necessary. If the bass is well covered, it's best to omit the left hand altogether where indicated as *L.H. Optional*. The piano part is well notated, but experienced players may embellish if desired.

The bass drum may be simplified to straight half notes if it will improve the overall flow. Remember, a smooth feel is the top priority!

In measure 149 *all* horn players have a percussion cue in their part. There should be only one player per each percussion instrument, so assign them accordingly. I suggest you assign them either by entire section, mixed sections, or individual. This section may be either open for the drum solo/percussion jam or measured to a predetermined length: 16 or 32 bars, for example. This section should be fun to play.

#### THE HORNS

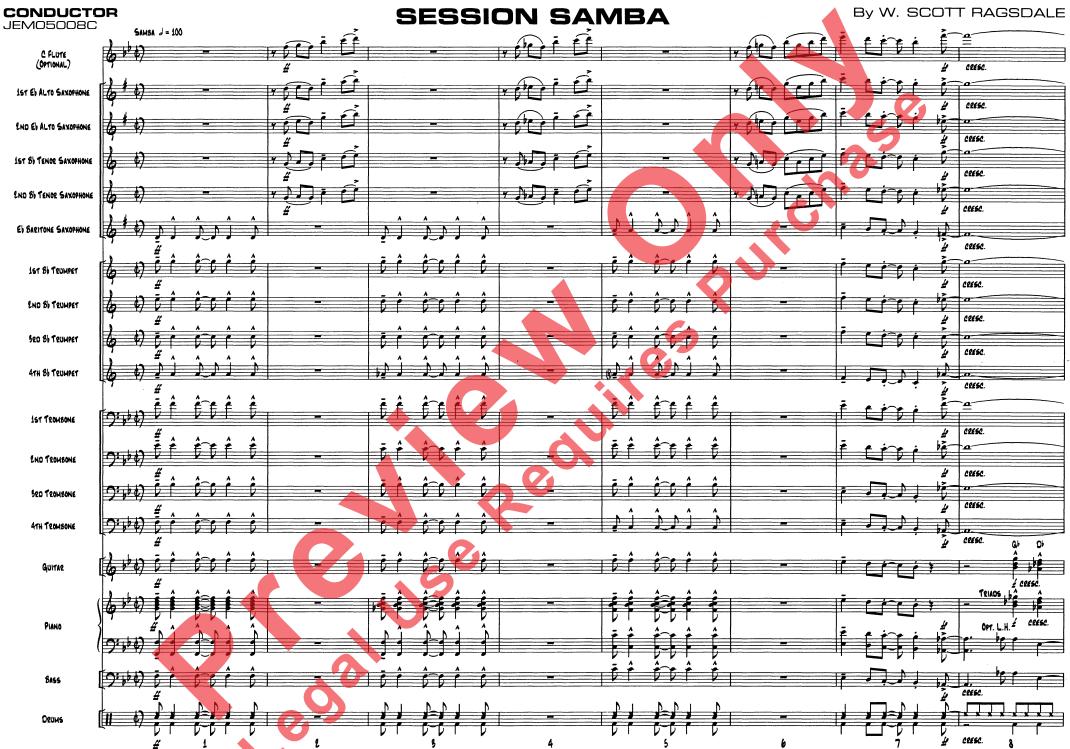
As in the rhythm section, the straight eighths should be carefully executed. To keep the forward momentum, it will be necessary to play on top of the beat as opposed to laying back as on a swing chart. You may have to remind the players of this concept.

Measures 36–48 need careful attention. The tendency here is to relax the eighths in measures 37 and 39, resulting in a late answering figure. But it all starts in measure 36, so make sure the first group of eighths is locked. This section recurs throughout the chart, so spend some time securing this question-and-answer rhythm. Note the *forte piano* crescendo in measures 43–48.

Capped notes (rooftop accents), as in measures 48 and 111, are fat caps, so don't play them too short; think "daht." In measure 92, trumpets should bring out the unison soli. During solos, background parts are always subordinate to solos.

#### THE SOLOISTS

Soloists should first learn the melody and be able to play the tune—ideally without music. Listen as the saxes play it during the first section, measures 13–48. Knowing the melody will help them play their solos with more confidence and possibly encourage them to venture out from the written notes as they become more comfortable with the sound of the chord progression. Remember, it's always okay to play the melody in a solo. The alto soloist at measure 112 should be careful to keep good time during the solo break since it will affect the time of the entire band.



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