

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor

1st Eb Alto Saxophone

2nd Eb Alto Saxophone

1st Bb Tenor Saxophone

2nd Bb Tenor Saxophone

Eb Baritone Saxophone (Optional)

1st Bb Trumpet

2nd Bb Trumpet

3rd Bb Trumpet

4th Bb Trumpet (Optional)

1st Trombone
2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone (Optional)
4th Trombone (Optional)
Guitar Chords
Guitar (Optional)
Piano
Bass
Drums

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)



NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This arrangement of "Emily" provides a challenge to young bands in balance and creating smooth melodic phrases. Throughout the chart I have dovetailed the melodic phrases. For example, we begin in measure 9 with the melodic statement by the trombone and tenor sax in a unison duet; then when the saxophone section enters in measure 12, it should feel like an extension of the duet, supporting it rather than breaking it up. The saxes smoothly hand over the melodic material to the trumpets in measure 17 but weave back in by measure 20. In this chart and as a general rule, always encourage your players to be aware of who has the melody and to match that volume and tone as an ensemble when they enter so that no significant bumps disrupt the smoothness of the phrase. Phrasing—connecting a short passage to form a larger unit—is a big factor in this chart. Playing lyrically, connecting the typical four-measure phrases, blending within sections/ensemble, creating phrase contour for dynamics, and using vibrato, slurs, and breath marks are but a few of the issues on which to focus.

The solo in measure 51 is written for trombone and cued for trumpet. I suggest that the soloist(s) first learn the melody—preferably by memory—and then work on the written solo to see how it weaves in and out of the actual melody. Next, practice playing the chord roots to hear the sound of the chord progression; study the notes of the chords and examine them for any common tones. These are a few first steps to prepare to improvise. Always keep the style of the harmony and the arrangement in mind when improvising.

The rhythm section should keep it simple and give a gentle weight to the downbeat, thereby providing a solid ground for the rest of the band to float above. The piano, bass, and the guitar parts are written out, however, more experienced players may embellish these parts as desired, but always caution the students about the tendency to overplay when comping. The bass should play as smoothly and connected as possible. If using an electric bass, strive for as much of an acoustic sound as possible. Start by adjusting all the tone settings at the midpoint and go from there to achieve an acoustic sound. The drummer may focus on learning brush technique or how to "stir soup" on the snare. The expression "stir soup" refers to the brush technique to glide the left-hand brush clockwise in a circle in half notes on the snare drum—not jerky motions, but a smooth and connected circle. As that technique is mastered, then the drummer can also tap the right-hand brush on beats 2 and 3 to reinforce the time pattern. I suggest that the students listen to the demo recording as the listening model. Another excellent reference is drummer Ed Thigpen's publication *Essence of Brushes*.

—Lisa DeSpain



Lisa DeSpain

Lisa DeSpain is the recipient of numerous composition awards, including an Aaron Copland Fellowship and the ASCAP/IAJE Commission Honoring Duke Ellington. She studied jazz piano under Elaine Elias and Ellis Marsalis and jazz composition with Manny Album. Ms. DeSpain's music has been heralded by the New York Times as "intoxicating" and "intelligent and witty."



















