

JAZZ BAND SERIES

Belwin™ JAZZ
a division of Alfred

The Opener II

CARL STROMMEN

INSTRUMENTATION

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

Optional/Alternate Parts

C Flute
Vibraphone
Tuba (Doubles Bass)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)
2nd Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 2nd Trombone)
3rd Baritone Horn T.C./B♭ Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 3rd Trombone)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

The Opener II is a classic bright swing chart that will work at various tempos. Particularly for young players, it is essential to find the right tempo pocket so that the rhythm section locks in. The intro is an 8-bar drum solo on hi-hat and ride cymbal that can be extended, if desired. To maintain the bright, fast tempo, the walking bass line and the drummer's ride cymbal are key. The bass player and drummer should spend some quality time simply playing the pulse or "time," first at different tempos and then at the tempo that the ensemble is comfortable performing.

The piano and guitar parts are guides that support the ensemble with comping, indicated by slash marks. Comping can be described as improvising rhythmically to provide the harmonic structure of the chart. To prevent comping clutter, caution the guitar and piano player not to play too much. Have the players either take turns in various sections of the chart, or position themselves so they can easily hear each other and tastefully share comping responsibilities. I suggest that the chords be played lightly behind ensemble sections and a bit stronger during the solos so the soloist can hear the chord changes.

Regarding ensemble articulation, *marcato*, or rooftop (▲), markings are played detached and accented. Regarding releases, notes should be held for their full value, and each section should release together. Clean releases will make any band sound more mature.

For an ensemble, at a bright tempo, dragging can tend to be an easy occurrence. Simply direct the band to not play too loud, as playing loudly can bog the band down and make them lose energy. Keep it light with focused energy throughout—easier said than done!

Suggested solos are provided, but I encourage soloists to improvise and create their own solo. Soloists can begin by embellishing the written solos. Another step to begin to improvise is to listen for the chord changes, hear the chord root, and know when it moves to another chord. Focus! Listen for and know the form, too. For additional solos, repeat the solo section. Backgrounds should stay dynamically under solos.

Speaking of dynamics, at m. 89, the entire ensemble should come way down to a whisper and gradually builds as indicated.

Have fun playing jazz!

—Carl Strommen



**Carl
Strommen**

Carl Strommen teaches orchestration and composition at the C. W. Post Campus of Long Island University (NY) and was Director of Bands at Mamaroneck High School in Mamaroneck, New York. An ASCAP award winner, he continues to maintain an active commission, clinic, and writing schedule. Mr. Strommen is a graduate of Long Island University (NY) and The City College of New York.

THE OPENER II

By Carl Strommen (ASCAP)

SWING ♩ = 208

1st Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

1st Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

E♭ BARITONE SAXOPHONE

1st Bb TRUMPET

2ND Bb TRUMPET

3RD Bb TRUMPET

4TH Bb TRUMPET

1st TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE

BASS TROMBONE

GUITAR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

SOLO H.H. 1

CRISP. 2

RIDE Cym. 3 4 5

FILL 7 8

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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

BASS TBN.

GRE.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. It includes parts for vocalists (Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Baritone), four trumpets (TPT. 1-4), three trombones (TBN. 1-3), Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano part includes chord voicings such as G15, Cm7, Em7, A7, Dm7, Bbm7, Bb6, and Dm7. The drum part includes a snare line and a fill. The conductor's part is indicated by a circled '2'.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

ALTO 1
ALTO 2
TENOR 1
TENOR 2
BARI.
TRP. 1
TRP. 2
TRP. 3
TRP. 4
TBN. 1
TBN. 2
TBN. 3
BASS TBN.

GRAND CRESC. (written on each staff)

GR. (Gtr.)
PNO.
BASS
DRUMS

25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

Chord progression for GR. and PNO.:

- 25: Bbmaj9, G7(b9)
- 26: G7, G7, G9, Bbmaj7, Cm7
- 27: Em7(b9), A7, Dm7
- 28: Bbmaj9, Bb6, Dm7
- 29: Bbmaj9, Bb6, Dm7
- 30: Bbmaj9, Bb6, Dm7
- 31: G13, G7
- 32: G7



Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring vocal parts (ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BARI., TRP. 1, TRP. 2, TRP. 3, TRP. 4, TEN. 1, TEN. 2, TEN. 3, BASS TEN.), GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark: "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GRG.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56

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Chord symbols: E^{mi}7, C^{mi}7, C⁶, E^{mi}7, A7(⁹), A7(⁹), D^{mi}7, B^{mi}7, E⁹, A^{mi}11, A^{mi}7, D^{mi}7, B^{mi}9, B^b6, D^{mi}7, G7(⁹), G7(⁹), C^{mi}7, A^{mi}7, D⁹, G¹¹, G^{mi}7, D^{mi}7, B^{mi}9, B^b6, D^{mi}7, G7(⁹), G7(⁹), C^{mi}7, A^{mi}7, D⁹, G^{mi}11, G^{mi}7, D^{mi}7, B^{mi}7, B^b6, D^{mi}7, G7, C^{mi}7, A^{mi}7, D⁹, G^{mi}11, G^{mi}7

Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BARI., TPT. 1, TPT. 2, TPT. 3, TPT. 4, TBN. 1, TBN. 2, TBN. 3, BASS TBN., GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and chords, along with a large red watermark reading "Preview Only Requires Purchase".

Chord progressions for GTR., PNO., and BASS:

- 57: G15, C15, Cmi7
- 58: G15, C15, Cmi7
- 59: F15, F15(b9), Bbm9
- 60: G15, F15(b9), Bbm9
- 61: G15, Cmi7, A7
- 62: G15, Cmi7, A7
- 63: G15, Cmi7, A7
- 64: G15, Cmi7, A7



ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BAR. 1

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

Chords: Em7, Cmaj9, C6, Em7, A15, Dmi7, Bmi7, E9, Am11, Am7, Em7, A15, Em7, A15, Dmi7, Cmi7, Am7, D9, Gmi11, Gmi7, Dmi7, G15(13), Dmi7, G15(13), Dmi7, G7

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

1.

END SOLO

SOLO BREAK

5

C#17

E#m7

C#17

E#m7

C#17

8#6

C#17/f

(AS WRITTEN)

78

79

80

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Musical score for CONDUCTOR, featuring parts for ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BARI., TRP. 1, TRP. 2, TRP. 3, TRP. 4, TBN. 1, TBN. 2, TBN. 3, BASS TBN., GTR., PNO., BASS, and DRUMS. The score includes a large red watermark reading "Preview Only" and "Legal Use Requires Purchase".

Key features of the score include:

- ALTO 1 & 2:** Melodic lines with accents and slurs.
- TENOR 1 & 2:** Harmonic support with slurs.
- BARI.:** Solo part with a "2." marking and a "END SOLO" instruction.
- TRP. 1-4:** Trumpet parts with various articulations.
- TBN. 1-3 & BASS TBN.:** Trombone parts with long slurs.
- PNO.:** Piano accompaniment with complex textures.
- BASS & DRUMS:** Rhythmic foundation for the ensemble.

89

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GRP.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

GRAD. CRESC.

SOLO

CLARIN 9

A7

D7

F#7

B7

E7

CLARIN 9

C6

E7

A7

FILL

89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96



ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

UNISON SOLI

m2

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97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104

105 112

ALTO 1
ALTO 2
TENOR 1
TENOR 2
BARI.

TRP. 1
TRP. 2
TRP. 3
TRP. 4
TBN. 1
TBN. 2
TBN. 3
BASS TBN.

GTR.
PNO.
BASS
DRUMS

GRAD. CRESC.

SAX. SOLI

SAXES

FILL

END

105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112

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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

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

CONDUCTOR

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GRG.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

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