

## Challenging Jazz Duets **Volume 1**

Richard Byrd

Challenging Jazz Duets Volume 1 is a set of 5 jazz duets for players of multiple combinations of instruments. The purpose of these duets is to provide players challenging jazz duets based on the chord changes to standard jazz tunes. These are not beginning jazz duets. The titles of these duets are an obvious allusion to the titles of the standard jazz tunes. Volume 1 contains the following duets with their respective jazz standard titles: 1) "Riding the Rails" (Take the A Train), 2) "Red Salsa" (Blue Bossa), 3) "In a Mellow Way" (In a Mellow Tone), 4) "Singing for Pops" (Song for My Father), and 5) "G-Man Blues" (standard concert F blues). The tempos of the duets were selected to match the tempos used on the jazz standards found on the website jazzstandards.com; however, players are welcome to play these duets at any tempo (faster or slower) they feel comfortable playing. Players may wish to explore practicing these duets with other play-along options, including Band-in-a-Box or iReal Pro, where tempos may be altered to suit the players practice needs. Band directors may wish to use these duets to feature two of their students during a jazz concert program, including the incorporation of a featured duet during the open improvisation solo section of a jazz chart with the same chord changes.

This is part of an interchangeable series to accommodate performance with any combination of instruments.

Available j v<del>r tl</del>le for owing instruments:

Flutes Clarinets Eb Saxophones Trumpets

F Horns - stand alone version (cannot be combined with others)

Trombones

Tubas

Dr. Richard Byrd is Professor of Theory and Composition at Eastern Kentucky University and trumpeter with the EKU Faculty Brass Quintet. After receiving his Bachelor's degree in trumpet performance at DePauw University, Byrd earned his Master and Ph.D. degrees in music theory from the University of Kentucky.

Various organizations have commissioned Byrd to compose or arrange music specifically for their group or special event including the Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts, the Kentucky Music Teachers Association, the Great American Brass Band Festival, Commonwealth Clarinet Quartet, Eastern Kentucky University Faculty Brass Quintet and several school band programs. His works have been performed at several international, national, and regional events including the International Trumpet Guild Conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan; Exploring Trumpet Music Festival in Kalavrita, Greece; 6th Annual DIA T Trombone Festival in Recife, Brazil; Eastern Trombone Workshop in Fort Meyer, Virginia; International Clarinet Association Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska; National Association of College Wind and Percussion Instructors National Conference in Gainesville, Florida; Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games in Lexington, Kentucky; Kentucky Center Governor's School for the Arts in Lexington, Kentucky; Kentucky Composers Invitation Concert & New Music Festival in Lexington, Kentucky; and Great American Brass Band Festival in Danville, Kentucky.

As a trumpet performer, Byrd's classical experiences include performing with the Indianapolis Symphony, West Virginia, and Lexington Philharmonic Orchestras. During his tenure with the Lexington Brass Band he was a featured soloist during the band's England tour in 2000. Byrd has performed with several prominent jazz artists including Doc Severinsen, Allen Vizzutti, Maynard Ferguson, Jens Lindemann, Byron Stripling, Louie Bellson, Bob Mintzer, Wycliffe Gordon, Victor Wooten, Take 6, and the Manhattan Transfer, and in shows with Aretha Franklin, Robert Goulet, Rosemary Clooney, Lou Rawls, Carol Channing, Cathy Rigby, Temptations, Mannheim Steamroller, and the Ringling Brothers Circus. His lead trumpet abilities with the DiMartino/Osland Jazz Orchestra are showcased on their CDs entitled *Quotient* and *Off the Charts*, with Wycliffe Gordon's Grammy-nominated CD *Somebody New*, and with The Kentucky Jazz Repertory Orchestra on their CD entitled *Flying Home*. Byrd has also recorded his own solo CD entitled *Portrait of a Trumpet*, and has recorded and produced a chamber music CD entitled *Conversations*, which includes one of his compositions. *Conversations* as well as compositions from other rising American composers. Both CDs are



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