

Save the Last Dance for Me

Music by MORT SHUMAN

Words by DOC POMUS

Arranged by SCOTT RAGSDALE

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor

Vocal Solo

Solo B \flat Tenor Saxophone (Substitute for Vocal)

1st E \flat Alto Saxophone

2nd E \flat Alto Saxophone

1st B \flat Tenor Saxophone

2nd B \flat Tenor Saxophone

E \flat Baritone Saxophone

1st B \flat Trumpet

2nd B \flat Trumpet

3rd B \flat Trumpet

4th B \flat Trumpet

1st Trombone

2nd Trombone

3rd Trombone

Bass Trombone

Guitar Chords

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drums

JAZZ
VOCAL
SERIES

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This is a great tune with a new twist. In addition to featuring your vocalist, the chart has plenty of excitement in the band as well. Observe dynamics and strive for a full sound, but be careful not to overpower the vocalist. The band can blow out at measures 69–76 where the vocalist rests, then resume an accompaniment volume when the vocalist returns at 77. The dynamic peak is at measures 96 and 97. One interesting feature of this song is the 5-bar phrase that occurs each time on the verse. A closer look reveals the 5-bar phrase is divided $\frac{3}{2}$, which is slightly out of the ordinary $\frac{2}{2}$ typically heard in a pop tune.

The Rhythm Section

Play the chart with a straight-eighth feel and keep a relaxed groove.

Guitar: The guitar is really the engine driving the rhythm section on this arrangement, so listen to the other rhythm players and find the groove and lock-in with the drums. Use an acoustic sound, play full-strum throughout and note the “choked” notes of the pattern. Choked refers to muting the chord after playing it. Continue this pattern where marked *Simile*. As always, blend with the ensemble.

Piano: Bring out the solo line at measure 77, joined by unison saxes 4 measures later.

Bass (electric if possible): Play with punch but always blend, and avoid overpowering the band. The line at measure 51 is in unison with the bari sax and left-hand piano—listen to each other.

Drums: Play the simple rhumba pattern as written with attention to dynamics. Listen and lock in with the guitar throughout.

The Horn Section

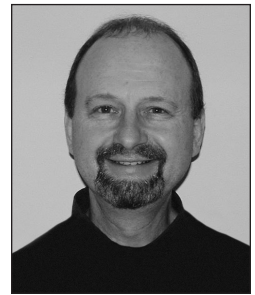
There is plenty of section unison in this chart. After becoming familiar with the chart, the lead trumpet could choose to lay out of some unison lines to prepare for certain high passages if needed. Listen carefully to each other to achieve accurate intonation. While observing dynamics, strive for full sound, being careful to not overpower the vocalist even though some figures are marked \downarrow . Horns can step up to shine in the intro, the ending and at measure 69. Carefully observe articulations—staccato notes are short but not clipped; rooftop accents (▲) are detached—think “daht.” Note that the brass have a flip or quick turn at measure 96—rehearse this figure so the entire section plays it together to follow the lead trumpet.

Vocal Soloist

The solo vocal range is from low F below middle C to fourth line D with some cued notes provided for alternate choices at the highest points of the melody. The written melody should be studied carefully and practiced with the piano player first to become comfortable with the melody. The section at measure 100 is played three times; the vocalist may feel free to “ad lib” or take liberties with the melody the 2nd and 3rd times if desired.

Please enjoy!

—Scott Ragsdale



**Scott
Ragsdale**

Scott Ragsdale is retired from the U.S. Navy Band of Washington, D.C., where he served as chief arranger, composer, and trombonist with the Navy’s premier jazz ensemble, the Commodores. He has also arranged for numerous bands up and down the East Coast for more than 30 years. He studied music at Southern Illinois University and the Berklee School of Music (MA).

CONDUCTOR
33374S

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME

Music By MORT SHUMAN
Words by DOC POMUS
Arranged by W. SCOTT RAGSDALE

BRIGHT RHUMBA ♩ = 134

VOCAL

1ST Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

1ST Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

E♭ BARIOTONE SAXOPHONE

1ST Bb TRUMPET

2ND Bb TRUMPET

3RD Bb TRUMPET

4TH Bb TRUMPET

1ST TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE

BASS TROMBONE

QUIRAR

PIANO

BASS (ELECTRIC)

DRUMS

YOU CAN DANCE EV-'EY DANCE WITH THE GIEL WHO'LL GIVE YOU A WHIEL, LET HER HOLD YOU TIGHT, YOU CAN SMILE EV-'EY

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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10 mp3

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CONDUCTOR

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME

15 - 2 -

Voc. SMILE FOR THE GEN - IO - EI - TA WHILE YOU'RE NEATH THE PALE MOON LIGHT. BUT DON'T FOR - GET WHO'S TAK - ING YOU HOME AND IN WHO'S ARMS YOU'RE GON-NA BE. SO DAR - LING, SAVE THE LAST DANCE 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.

GRG.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS



CONDUCTOR

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME

23

Voc. Me. Oh, I know that the music's fine like sparkling wine. Go and have your fun. Laugh and sing, but while we're a-part don't give your heart to any one.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI. Me.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GR. ^{8b}

PNO. ^{8b} ^{SIMILE}

BASS ^{8b}

DRUMS ^{FILL} ⁽⁴⁾ ⁽³⁾

32

Voc. AND DON'T FOR - GET WHO'S TAKE - ING YOU HOME OR IN WHO'S ARMS YOU'RE GON-NA BE SO DAR - LING SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME SA - BY DON'T YOU KNOW I

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

32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

SOLO

SOLO 5

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Voc. LOVE YOU GO? CAN'T YOU FEEL IT WHEN WE TOUCH? I WILL NEV-ER EV-ER LET YOU GO. I LOVE YOU OH, SO MUCH. YOU CAN

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

DRUMS

41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50

SOLO

OUT

Voc. DANCE, GO AND CARE- BY ON 'TIL THE NIGHT IS GONE AND IT'S TIME TO GO. IF SHE ASKS, IF YOU'RE ALL A- LONE, CAN SHE WALK YOU HOME? YOU MUST TELL HER "NO." 'CAUSE DON'T 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 TRB.

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

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CONDUCTOR

Voc. GET WHO'S TAK - ING YOU HOME AND IN WHO'S ARMS YOU'RE GON - NA BE. SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME.

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

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68

F/C C Am7 Dm7 G7 C

F F/C C Am7 Dm7 G7 C

F/C C Am7 Dm7 G7 C

61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68



Voc.

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

Oh. 1

G7

C

G7

C

Cmaj7

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

CONDUCTOR

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME

Voc. **77**

KNOW THAT THE MUS-IC'S FINE LIKE SPARK-LING WINE, GO AND HAVE YOUR FUN, LAUGH AND SING, BUT WHILE WE'RE A-PART DON'T GIVE YOUR HEART TO

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

SOLO C

G7

Loose H.H. - Ad Lib.

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CONDUCTOR

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME

87

Voc. AN - Y - ONE AND DON'T FOR - GET WHO'S TAKE - ING YOU HOME OR IN WHO'S ARMS YOU'DE GON - NA BE SO DAR - LING SAVE THE LAST DANCE 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

DRUMS

85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92

F/C F Awi7 Du7 G7

F/C Awi7 Du7 G7

F/C F Awi7 Du7 G7

TOMS



Voc. ME SO DON'T FOR - GET WHO'S TAKE - ING YOU HOME OR IN WHO'S ARMS YOU'RE GON - NA BE. SO

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. *Clusac#6*

PNO. *Clusac#6*

BASS *C*

DRUMS *OUT*

93 94 95 96 97 98 99



CONDUCTOR

100 PLAY 3 TIMES

1. 2.

3.

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME

Voc. DAR - LINA SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME. OH SAVE THE LAST DANCE THE

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. $Dm7$ $G11$ $G7$ C $A7(\#5)$ $A7$ $A7(\#5)$ $A7$ $Dm7$

PNO.

BASS $Dm1$ $G11$ $G7$ C $A7(\#5)$ $A7$ $A7(\#5)$ $A7$ $Dm1$

DRUMS

100 101 102 103 104 105

FILL -----

FILL -----



CONDUCTOR

SAVE THE LAST DANCE FOR ME

108

Voc. VER - Y LAST DANCE FOR ME.

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. Gtr. Ctr. Ctr.

PNO. Gtr. Ctr. Ctr.

BASS Gtr. Ctr. Ctr.

DRUMS FILL

106 107 108 109 110 111

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