

Arranged by MIKE STORY

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor 1st EJ- Alto Saxophone 2nd EJ- Alto Saxophone 1st BJ- Tenor Saxophone 2nd BJ- Tenor Saxophone (Optional) EJ- Baritone Saxophone (Optional) 1st BJ- Trumpet 2nd BJ- Trumpet 3rd BJ- Trumpet (Optional)

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

Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute Tuba Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone) Baritone T.C./B, Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)

FIRST STATES OF LAZZ ENSEMBLE



NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This arrangement of "Sunny," composer Bobby Hebb's huge '60s hit, is in a moderately fast rock style; therefore, the eighth notes are played even or straight and not with a swing feel.

The trumpet melody beginning in measure 5 will need to be heard above the rest of the ensemble, so direct the saxes and trombones to keep their volume balanced. At measure 13, the descending line played by the trombones and baritone sax is important but is secondary to the sax melody, so again, balance is a priority. Ask the players to always listen for the melody.

The articulation markings should be clear, but note that the rooftop accent (A) is detached and short but not staccato. In general, the last eighth note in a group is played short.

The tenor solo beginning in measure 25 is completely written out, with chord symbols included to encourage some improvisation. I suggest the soloist first learn the melody by memory and then work on the written solo to see and hear the embellishments, articulation, and style I have written in the solo. Next, teach the soloist the notes (and scales) in the chords. The soloist can then begin to embellish the melody, the written solo, and the rhythm using the chord/scale notes to create a simple improvised solo. All of these skills will help lay the foundation for basic improvisation.

Note that the left hand of the piano part mirrors the bass line. Although the piano part is written out, the pianist may want to experiment with simple comping using the given chord changes. (Comping means to accompany or complement the ensemble or soloist.) The guitar player may play either a quarter-note comp using the written chords or an eighth-note pattern to add more energy. Either way, caution the guitarist on volume and style. Use the demo recording as an example of the style. The drummer should keep it simple and play a straight eighth-note pattern with a backbeat or accent on beats 2 and 4.

I hope you and your ensemble find "Sunny" to be a fun and worthwhile experience.

-Mike Story



Mike Story has written extensively for junior high, high school, and college school groups as well as for professional groups including the Houston Pops Orchestra. He is a solid and dynamic writer with more than 750 compositions to his name. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from the University of Houston (TX).

Mike

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