

a division of Alfred

NUTCRACKER ROCK

TCHAIKOWSKY
Arranged by MIKE SMUKAL

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor

Ist E♭ Alto Saxophone
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone
Ist B♭ Tenor Saxophone
2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone
(Optional)

Ist By Trumpet 2nd By Trumpet

3rd B Trumpet

4th B Trumpet (Optional)

Ist Trombone
2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone (Optional)
4th Trombone (Optional)
Guitar Chords

Guitar (Optional)

Piano Bass Drums

Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute
Tuba
Horn in F (Doubles
Ist Trombone)
Ist Baritone T.C. (Doubles
Ist Trombone)
2nd Baritone T.C. (Doubles
2nd Trombone)



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NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This contemporary arrangement of the classic Tchaikowsky composition should maintain a solid rhythmic drive. The rhythm section should keep a constant steady pulse within the dynamic markings and always be sensitive to the blend of the rhythm section and the winds. The rock feel dictates that eighth notes be played even, not in a swing style.

Care should be taken that the written dynamics are noticeable to the listener exaggerate the dynamics! Students may think that they played soft and loud but remind them that the listener in the 30th row of the auditorium should be able to The brass should approach this arrangement as a fanfare—broad and strong but hear dynamics. I like to remind my students that the music is what we hear, and not what we do. Ensure that the decrescendo in measures 39-40 is played soft enough so that the melody in measure 41 (trumpet and alto) can be played at a comfortable volume. The tied notes in measures 7-8 (saxophones) should be shaped so that they begin loud but then play at a background dynamic so that the brass fanfare can be heard.

There are several different types of articulations used in this arrangement. Students should understand that the articulations might be compared to indicating the way that the notes are pronounced. Precision and accuracy are important so that the listener can clearly understand the music. In general, the beginning and the ending

of each note should be exactly the same in every part. A comparison can be made by assigning a percentage to the length of each articulation. The staccato (.) notes in measure 1–4 should be played at 50% of normal length quarter notes. The marcato accent (>) notes should be 90% normal length. And the rooftop accent (^) should be 60% value. This helps to make the accented notes sound separated and crisp. It's also important that there is a noticeable difference between accented notes and notes that are not accented.

not necessarily loud. Caution the students to play the ascending staccato lines evenly and with the same attack for example measures 22-24. Also, beware of staggered entrances in this section.

At measure 41 alto and trumpet should bring out the sixteenth notes and play them evenly. Caution the 2nd trumpet and 2nd alto sax to join the 1st players in harmony, playing their parts with equal volume to balance the harmony.

Please enjoy

-Mike Smukal



















