

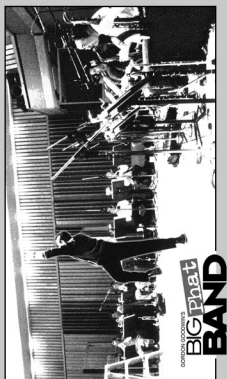
Rhapsody in Blue

GEORGE GERSHWIN®

Arranged by GORDON GOODWIN

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor
1st E♭ Alto Saxophone (Piccolo)
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone (Clarinet, Flute)
1st B♭ Tenor Saxophone
2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone (Bass Clarinet)
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
Auxiliary Percussion
(Vibraphone, Xylophone, Congas,
Triangle, Timpani)



NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

It was with great respect that I took a shot at arranging one of the great pieces in American music. I did not want to distort George Gershwin's intent with any wacky concepts, yet I wanted to adapt his melodies to jazz ensemble in somewhat of a unique way.

Your band will need a good grasp of jazz and classical concepts to play this arrangement. Of course there's no getting around the fact that you need a good clarinet player to play this piece, right? I guess the opening solo would kinda work on a soprano sax (except for that first low G) if you had to go there, but I don't think that's anybody's first preference. This piece also benefits greatly from having a percussionist that can play mallets and timpani. If your regular percussionist does not play those instruments, maybe you can borrow one from a concert band or orchestra.

The introduction is a mélange of some of the thematic fragments Gershwin used building to the familiar clarinet solo gliss. The tempo in the intro (measures 1–28) can be very fluid just like the orchestral version. When you get to measure 29, lock into a medium Basie swing feel, so play it nice and easy — not too loud, and not too fast. The tempo picks up at measure 44, where the horns play the solo piano part taken from the original Gershwin — make sure to keep those triplets nice and tight.

A fast swing tempo kicks in at measure 54, and the saxes get a workout, once again playing the original solo piano lick; it's tough, but don't blame me, I just arranged it! Saxes should practice 56–63 slowly and work it up to speed.

Your best soloists crank it up at measure 96, and I know the chart is in the key of A, but be brave, hang in there — the key of C is right around the corner at measure 112. After the solo(s), the chart transitions to one of the more beautiful melodies ever written, in my opinion. The trombone solo at 149 should be played with a warm tone, and I suggest some nice vibrato. Check out Tommy Dorsey for the definitive example of that lyrical, melodic style. Saxes, play nice and soft behind the soloist and give the 'bone player a nice cushion of support.

Things start to build at 167, where the lead trumpet gets a shot at this great melody. Don't worry about playing too loud, but save some air for the big climax at measure 176. What a thrilling moment this will be—go for it!

Saxes, be sure to lock in the rhythm at measure 180—listen to the hi-hat for the "time". The final statement at measure 188 should be full out—it's time to bring this medley home. At measure 204, the medley ends very much like Gershwin's original, so that means straight eighths with an orchestral feel and sound. And when you hit that last chord, check out your audience as it rises up in tribute to one of the more enduring pieces of music ever written: George Gershwin's *Rhapsody in Blue*.

Please enjoy!

—Gordon Goodwin



**Gordon
Goodwin**

Gordon Goodwin is a three-time Emmy Award winner and GRAMMY® winner. His band's debut album *Swingin' for the Fences* (Silverline Records) received two GRAMMY® nominations and is the best-selling jazz item in the DVD® Audio 5.1 surround-sound format.

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

rit.

SLOWER

To ALTO 13

♩ = 92

Musical score for Rhapsody in Blue, page 2. The score includes parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1-4, Trombone 1-3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, Drums, and Auxiliary Percussion. The score is marked with 'cresc.' and 'rit.' and includes performance instructions such as 'Solo', 'To Alto', 'To Bari. Sax', and 'OPEN'. A large red watermark 'Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

FASTER (♩ = 112)

ALTO SAX

Musical score for woodwinds: ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, and BARI. Includes dynamic markings like *mf* and *SOLO*.

Musical score for trumpets: TPT. 1, TPT. 2, TPT. 3, and TPT. 4. Includes dynamic markings like *mf* and *SOLO TONE MUTE*.

Musical score for trombones and bass trombone: TBN. 1, TBN. 2, TBN. 3, and BASS TBN. Includes dynamic markings like *mf* and *SOLO TONE MUTE*.

Musical score for guitar (GTR.) with rhythmic notation.

Musical score for piano (PNO.) with chordal accompaniment and dynamic markings like *mf*.

Musical score for bass (BASS).

Musical score for drums (DRUMS) with dynamic markings like *mf*.

Musical score for auxiliary percussion (AUX. PERC.) with dynamic markings like *mf*.



CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

rit.

$\text{♩} = 115$

23 SWING FEEL

Musical score for Rhapsody in Blue, page 4. The score includes parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1-4, Trombone 1-3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, Drums, and Auxiliary Percussion. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 115 beats per minute. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is present at the beginning of the page. A '23 SWING FEEL' marking is also present. The score features various musical notations including notes, rests, dynamics (e.g., mf , mfz), and articulation marks. A large red watermark 'Preview Only - Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the score. The piano part includes chord symbols: $G^{\flat}9(9\flat5)$, $E^{\flat}7(\flat9)$, $A^{\flat}9$, $E^{\flat}7(\flat9)$, $A^{\flat}9$, $D^{\flat}9$, $D^{\flat}9$, $C^{\flat}w7$, $C^{\flat}9$, $g^{\flat}w7(A)$, $E^{\flat}7(\flat9)$, $A^{\flat}9$, $E^{\flat}7(\flat9)(\flat5)$, $g^{\flat}7(\flat9)$, and $E^{\flat}7(\flat9)$. The score is numbered 25 through 32 at the bottom.

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

33

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

AUX. PEER.

Cue:

Ab9 Eb7(b9) Ab D7 D9 Ab/C C9 Bb7(A) Eb7(b9) Eb7(b9) D9(b9) D9(b9) D7 D7 Eb7(b9) G7(b9) G7(b9)

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

44

FASTER $\text{♩} = 123$

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

AUX. PERC.

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41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48

CONDUCTOR

FAST SWING! ♩ = c. 250

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

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

AUX. PERC.

rit.

TIME W/ILLS

64

Musical score for Rhapsody in Blue, page 9. The score includes 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
- DRUMS
- AUX. PERC.

The score is in 4/4 time and features a large red watermark reading "Preview Only - Legal Use Requires Purchase".

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

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

AUX. PERC.

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

30

SOLO STARTS (BEAT 1)

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

AUX. PERC.

Chords: C⁹, G¹⁵, D⁹11/G, G¹⁵, D⁹11/G, G⁰, G⁹, C¹⁵, B⁹15, A⁹15

SOLOS
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 TEN.

GRG.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

AUX. PERC.

1ST TIME ONLY

BEATS 1 & 2 REST 1ST TIME ONLY

CONGAS

96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103

F#

C#7(#9)

F#

G9

F#

B9

F#7(#9)

B9

C9

B9

F#

C#7(#9)

F#

G9

F#

A9

E7(#9)

A9

Bb9

A9

A9

E7(#9)

A9

Bb9

A9

A9

E7(#9)

A9

Bb9

A9

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

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, DRUMS, and AUX. PERO. The score includes various musical notations such as clefs, time signatures, and chord symbols (e.g., C#7(#9), B9, A9, E7(#9)).

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111



CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

REPEAT AS NEEDED FOR SOLOS

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

AUX. PERC.

Chords: A9, B7(#9), E7(#9), A9, G9, F9, E7, D9, C9, Bb9, A7(#9), E7(#9), A9, G9, E9, E7, C7(#9), D9, G7(#9), C9, Bb9, Ab9, G9, E7(#9), C9, Bb9, Ab9, G9, E7(#9), C9, Bb9, Ab9, G9, E7(#9)

ON CLUE AFTER SOLOS

128

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

AUX. PERC.

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

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

AUX. PERO.

SOLO W/PNO.

TOP NOTE SWA ME

SOLO W/GTR.

TO MALLETS

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

SOLO

rit.

(149) BROADLY $\text{♩} = 109$

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

DRUMS

AUX. PERO.

SOLO

MALLERS

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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

AUX. PERC.

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SOLO

F#m7b9 B7(#9) Eb E2 G#m7 G#m7/C#m7 A2 G#m7 C#7(#9)

CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

167 SLIGHTLY FASTER $\text{♩} = 115$

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

AUX. PERO.

SOLO

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167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174

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.
GTR.
PNO.
BASS
DRUMS
AUX. PEER.

217. (180) FASTER $\text{♩} = 180$

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175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182

Chords: $G\flat 7$, $F\flat 7$, $D\flat 9(b9)$, $G\flat 7$, $C\flat 9$, $C\flat 7(\flat 9)$, $C\flat 7$ SOLO

PERCUSSION: MUREO, (KIT) STICKS, TRIANGLE

CONDUCTOR

SLOWER SWING $\text{♩} = 100$

183

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

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

AUX. PERC.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TEN.

GR. (Guitar)

PNO. (Piano)

BASS

DRUMS

AUX. PERC.

CONDUCTOR

STRAIGHT 8THS rit.

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

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

AUX. PERC.

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CONDUCTOR

RHAPSODY IN BLUE

204

♩ = 92

rit.

♩ = 87

rit.

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

AUX. PEER.

204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211

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