

JAZZ BAND SERIES

A Child Is Born

Music by THAD JONES

Arranged by JOHN DENTON

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor	1st Trombone
1st E♭ Alto Saxophone	2nd Trombone
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone	3rd Trombone
1st B♭ Tenor Saxophone	4th Trombone
2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone	Guitar Chords
E♭ Baritone Saxophone	Guitar
1st B♭ Trumpet	Piano
2nd B♭ Trumpet	Bass
3rd B♭ Trumpet	Drums
4th B♭ Trumpet	

Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute (Optional)
Tuba (Optional)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone T.C. (Doubles 1st Trombone)
2nd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 2nd Trombone)
3rd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 3rd Trombone)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This version of the great jazz standard “A Child Is Born” is a little more upbeat than the original composed and arranged by trumpeter/bandleader Thad Jones. It’s intended to express a parent’s joy when a child is born.

Exaggerating the dynamic and tempo changes in the introduction will get the immediate attention of the audience. The piano sets the tempo at measure 9 in a loose and comfortable swing style with the rest of the rhythm section added four measures later. Most of the first chorus is played *mf* with the melody passed between unison saxes and brass. The dynamics should start to build in measure 38, leading to the ensemble in measure 47.

The chart should transition smoothly from the ballad intro in the jazz waltz at measure 9. Keep it relaxed and smooth. The transition at measure 83 into 4/4 meter is seamless. The quarter note is constant and the groove is a relaxed bossa. The return to the waltz at measure 119 will be at a slightly slower tempo with a ritardando in measure 118 to set up the transition. The saxes can help make the transition and ritardando very smooth. Caution the players about the modulations.

The ensemble leads into an alto sax solo at measure 63, which may be played as written or improvised. I suggest directing the soloist to learn and memorize the melody and then study each chord to learn the chord tones. Next, the soloist may play only the roots of the chords to hear the sound of the chord progression. Learn the written solo and compare it to the melody—listen for the similarities and differences. These simple exercises will assist the soloist in understanding the chords and their relationship to the melody. This step-by-step learning process will make improvisation more fun and interesting. The backgrounds at the end of the alto solo should start soft and build to the 4/4 ensemble section at measure 83.

The trumpet solo at measure 99 should begin simple and gradually build in intensity as the solo progresses. The same improvisation learning process applies to the trumpet soloist. If time permits, I suggest teaching this improvisation learning process to the entire ensemble.

The final statement of the melody is in measure 119, which should be played broadly and, as mentioned earlier, at a slightly slower tempo. Emphasize the dynamics throughout the last chorus and bring out the moving voices in the ensemble. The arrangement ends as it began, with a brief piano solo and a tutti statement of the first melodic phrase.

Please enjoy.

—John Denton

CONDUCTOR
JEM04036C

A CHILD IS BORN

Music by THAD JONES
Arranged by JOHN DENTON

RUBATO $\text{♩} = 90$

1ST Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

2ND Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE

1ST Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

2ND Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE

Eb BARITONE SAXOPHONE

1ST Bb TRUMPET

2ND Bb TRUMPET

3RD Bb TRUMPET

4TH Bb TRUMPET

1ST TROMBONE

2ND TROMBONE

3RD TROMBONE

4TH TROMBONE

GUITAR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

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CONDUCTOR

- 2 -

A CHILD IS BORN

⑨ MODERATE JAZZ WALTZ ♩ = 126

37

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

SOLO Bbm7 Ebm7/Bb Bbm7 Ebm7/Bb Bbm7 Ebm7/Bb Bbm7 Ebm7/Bb

END SOLO

SAXES

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46

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ENG.

Chords: D7(b9), Ebmaj7, Ab9, Bb/F, Ebm6/Ab, Gm7, C9, Cm7, F7sus

47

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TP. 1

TP. 2

TP. 3

TP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

Blues Eb mix Eb mix Blues Eb mix Blues A mix D7 (b9)

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62

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CONDUCTOR

- 8 -

A CHILD IS BORN

63 Gmaj7 SOLO - AD LIB. Cmaj7/D Gmaj7 Cmaj7/D Gmaj7 B7(9) Cmaj7 F9

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPC. 1

TPC. 2

TPC. 3

TPC. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR. Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 D7(9) Ebmaj7 Ab9

PNO. Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 Ebmaj7/B Bbmaj7 D7(9) Ebmaj7 Ab9

BASS

DRUMS

SAX SOLO

63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70

ALTO 1 G/D C#m6 C#m6 E#m7 A9 A#m7 D9 B#m7 E9

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TEN. 1

TEN. 2

TEN. 3

TEN. 4

GTR. Bb/F E#m6 E#m6 G#m7 C9 C#m7 F9 D#m7 G9

PNO. Bb/F E#m6 E#m6 G#m7 C9 C#m7 F9 D#m7 G9

BASS

DRUMS

71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78

A CHILD IS BORN

CONDUCTOR

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

CHILLO IS BOY

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

QTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94

Chorus

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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

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPC. 1

TPC. 2

TPC. 3

TPC. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110

Chorus 7

Am9

D9

Gm9

C9

Dm7

Gm6

Bm7

E9

Cm7

Gm9

C9

Fm9

Bb9

Fm6/Ab

Cm7/G

Fm6/Ab

Am7

D9

Cm7

Gm9

C9

Fm9

Bb9

Fm6/Ab

Cm7/G

Fm6/Ab

Am7

D9

This image shows a page from a musical score, likely for a large ensemble or orchestra. The score is written for various instruments and voices, including:

- Vocal Parts:** Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone.
- Brass:** Trumpets 1-4, Trombones 1-4.
- Other Instruments:** Guitar, Piano, Bass, Drums.

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large red watermark "Preview Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the page.

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

END SOLO

END

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119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126

Chord symbols: Ebmaj7/Bb, F#m7(b9)/Bb, Ebmaj7/Bb, F#m7(b9)/Bb, Ebmaj7/Bb, F#m7(b9), Dm7(b9), G7(b9)/Bb

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134

Chords: G/C, G7(#5)(b9), G/C, G7(#5)(b9), G/C, F7, C#F7, B(b9), B(b9), B(b9), G7(b9)/B

135

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPT. 1

TPT. 2

TPT. 3

TPT. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DEUMS

144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153

Chorus Solo A

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ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPC. 1

TPC. 2

TPC. 3

TPC. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

TBN. 4

GTR.

PNO.

BASS

DRUMS

154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162

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END SOLO

CHORDS: F#m6/G, Cmaj7, F#m6/G, G/B, Am7, Gm7, Gb7(b9), F#m9, Bb9, Cmaj9

REMARKS: rit.

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