

# YE MERRY GENTS

TRADITIONAL

*Arranged by David Marlatt and Ryan Meeboer*

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* is a famous and popular Christmas carol. This arrangement is presented in two very different ways. One section is a slow and mysterious with a steady low voice ostinato and muted trumpets above, while the other section is an upbeat swing with a walking bass line with cool harmonies and backgrounds. Trumpets, saxes and trombones all get opportunities with melody in the swing section.

For ease of playing, the guitar should play measures 39 through 51 in fifth position. This will make all the pitches in this section easily accessible, while being able to hit the high range.

## Instrumentation:

- \*Alto Sax 1
- \*Alto Sax 2
- \*Tenor Sax 1
- Tenor Sax 2
- Baritone Sax
- \*Trumpet 1
- \*Trumpet 2
- Trumpet 3
- \*Trombone 1
- Trombone 2
- Trombone 3
- Guitar
- \*Piano
- Bass Guitar
- \*Drum Set

\* required instrument

## The Writer

David Marlatt has composed pieces for concert band, string orchestra, brass quintet, trumpet ensemble, piano, tuba and trumpet. His writing style is diverse and he has written for a wide range of difficulty levels from very young concert band to professional brass quintet. His jazz based trumpet ensemble pieces Groovy Vamp and A Coconut Named Alex have been well received by audiences everywhere and his concert band compositions are found on many festival lists. He has also arranged over 800 pieces of repertoire from the Baroque to the Romantic eras such as Monteverdi madrigals, a large suite of music from Handel's Messiah, Largo from New World Symphony and even Mahler's First Symphony.

Mr. Marlatt is a trumpet player who obtained a music education degree from the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He was Principal Cornet in the Whitby Brass Band for 6 years and founder of the trumpet ensemble Trumpets in Style. As a performer, he has played in jazz bands, brass quintets, orchestras, concert bands, brass bands and period instrument ensembles.

*Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.*

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## Alternate Parts

# PREVIEW ONLY

Sometimes there may be players who wish to join the band who do not play a standard jazz band instrument (flute, clarinet, tuba, etc). Also, there may be situations when one of the listed required instruments is not present. On our website, under each piece, is a list of alternate and substitute parts that are available as a free download for use with the ensemble.

There are parts for: Flute, Clarinet, Bass Clarinet, F Horn, Baritone Treble Clef and Tuba.

There are substitute parts for:  
Alto Sax - plays Trombone 1 part  
Tenor Sax - plays Trombone 1 part

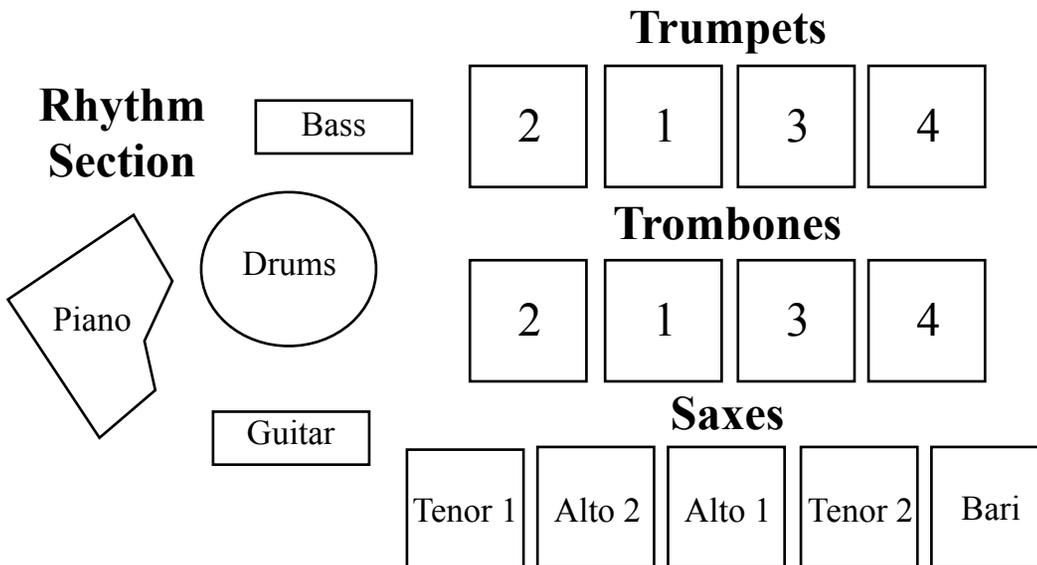
*For more information on the EMERGING JAZZ SERIES - instrument ranges, lots of free downloadable alternate parts, copies of the guitar/drum sheet, full length MP3s and more, please visit [www.enpmusic.com/jazz](http://www.enpmusic.com/jazz).*

# Getting Started

Starting a jazz band can seem like a huge task. You may or may not have any jazz playing experience and are not quite sure where to start. Here are some general things to think about:

- Try to have the minimum instrumentation covered, even if it means that you do not have the instrumentation of a ‘traditional’ jazz band (use alternate parts if necessary). In order to arrange a chart so that it is playable with minimum instrumentation, sometimes the range of the 3rd trumpet/trombone is higher than the 2nd. If you have a full band, have a stronger player on the 3rd part, rather than the 2nd.
- Look over the score and select a section in which all players play (especially a unison section). First, have the rhythm section lay down the groove. Next, have the horn sections sing their rhythms with articulations. Finally, have the horns play their parts along with the rhythm section. Try to get your band to play with the correct feel before trying to conquer the notes of the entire piece.
- Know your players. Select charts that your students will be able to play successfully, but will also provide a challenge so they will not get bored easily and will learn something new. Include different styles of jazz music in your repertoire.

## Traditional Set-Up



# Jazz Terms

**break** - A brief solo passage during a cessation of the accompaniment, usually only one or two bars in length.

**call and response** - The performance of musical items in alternation between two distinct groups of musicians or between a soloist and a group.

**comping** - to provide a chordal accompaniment for a soloist.

**fall off** - A gliss which falls from the end of a chord or note.

**lay back** - To play slightly behind the beat.

**riff** - A short melodic idea which is repeated as an accompaniment behind a soloist.

**short chorus** - a climactic chorus of a band arrangement.

**stop time** - when the rhythm section stops playing for part of one or more bars, while the soloist continues unaccompanied.

**swing eighths** - a triplet subdivision feel where the first eighth note is held longer than the second (although written the same).

## Suggested Articulations

	- DAH - long		- TUT - short accent
	- DIT - short		- DAHT - long-stop
	- TAH - long accent		- DOO-DAH - swing

# Role of the Rhythm Section

The rhythm section (drums, bass, piano and optional guitar) is key. These players keep the time, provide the harmony and create the groove for each piece.

**TIME** - keeping the time steady; creating the pulse

**GROOVE** - providing the sub-division for the style; creating rhythmic interaction with the band

**HARMONY** - providing the harmonic progression for the melody or improvisation

## Drums

- supply the stylistic foundation
- lock in the groove with the bass
- embellish the rhythm with the guitar and piano

## Bass

- creates the groove with the drums
- provides the harmonic progression

## Guitar

- creates a harmonic groove by providing the progression, while playing a rhythmic groove
- has a delicate relationship with the piano

## Piano

- creates harmonic groove with the guitar, but the two should not conflict with each other
- uses comping rhythms

# Jazz Styles

## Swing

- characterized by a triplet subdivision and uses 'uneven' eighth notes
- subtle stress of beats 2 and 4

## Rock

- relies on a solid backbeat (emphasis on beats 2 and 4)
- straight eighth subdivision
- repeated patterns

## Shuffle

- a cross between swing and rock styles by stressing the backbeat and using the triplet subdivision
- groove primarily created by bass and drums

## Mambo

- Afro-Cuban style with stress on the 'end of 2'
- straight-eighth subdivision

## Samba

- a light, Brazilian-based style with stress is ON beat 3
- relies on straight-eighth subdivision and a *partito alto* (chordal) rhythm

## Funk

- sixteenth note subdivision and syncopation, particularly in the bass
- beats 2 and 4 prominent in snare drum
- often complex, unison lines performed by horns

## Ballad

- a slow tempo, jazz ballad flows seamlessly through various subdivisions (straight-eighth, triplet, or double time)
- needs space; laid back feel

# YE MERRY GENTS

TRADITIONAL

ARRANGED BY DAVID MARLATT AND RYAN MEEBOER

SLOWLY-MYSTERIOUSLY  $\text{♩} = 60$

The musical score is arranged for a jazz ensemble. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- E♭ ALTO SAX 1 & 2:** Play a melodic line starting in measure 3, marked with a  $mf$  dynamic.
- B♭ TENOR SAX 1 & 2:** Play a similar melodic line to the alto saxophones, also marked with a  $mf$  dynamic.
- E♭ BARITONE SAX:** Remains silent throughout the piece.
- B♭ TRUMPET 1, 2, & 3:** Play a harmonic accompaniment, each marked with a  $p$  dynamic and the instruction "HARMON MUTE - STEM REMOVED".
- TROMBONE 1, 2, & 3:** Remains silent throughout the piece.
- GUITAR:** Provides harmonic accompaniment with chords: F#m, E♭, Cm7, A♭7, Cm7, G7. Chords are marked with a  $p$  dynamic.
- PIANO:** Provides harmonic accompaniment. The right hand plays chords, and the left hand plays a steady eighth-note bass line. A  $p$  dynamic is indicated, with the instruction "PLAY LH ONLY IF NO BASS".
- BASS GUITAR:** Provides harmonic accompaniment with a steady eighth-note bass line.
- DRUM SET:** Plays a steady eighth-note bass drum pattern, marked with a  $p$  dynamic and the instruction "RIDE".

The score is divided into measures 1 through 9. Measures 1-2 are mostly rests for the saxophones. Measures 3-9 contain the main melodic and harmonic material. A large "PREVIEW ONLY" watermark is overlaid across the middle of the score.

RIT.

BRIGHT SWING  $\text{♩} = 100$

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI

TPT 1

TPT 2

TPT 3

TRBN 1

TRBN 2

TRBN 3

PREVIEW ONLY

GTR

CH DM7(b9)/F CH G7 C#7 A#7 G7 C#7 A#7 G7 C#7 A#7 G7

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

HI-HAT

RIM SHOT

SIMILE

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI

TPT 1

TPT 2

TPT 3

TRBN 1

TRBN 2

TRBN 3

GTR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

PREVIEW ONLY

ON HEAD

RIDE

HI-HAT WITH FOOT

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27

This musical score is for the piece "The Merry Gents" and includes parts for the following instruments and voices:

- Vocalists: ALTO 1, ALTO 2, TENOR 1, TENOR 2, BARI
- Trumpets: TPT 1, TPT 2, TPT 3
- Trombones: TRBN 1, TRBN 2, TRBN 3
- Guitar: GTR
- Piano: PIANO
- Bass: BASS
- Drums: DRUMS

The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor) and a 4/4 time signature. A large "PREVIEW ONLY" watermark is centered across the middle of the page. The guitar part includes chord diagrams for F#m, Bb, Cm, F, F#m, Cm, G7, and Cm. The drum part features a consistent pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes, with some measures containing triplets. The vocal parts consist of rhythmic patterns and melodic lines, with some notes marked with a "mf" dynamic.

PREVIEW ONLY

ALTO 1

ALTO 2

TENOR 1

TENOR 2

BARI

TPT 1

TPT 2

TPT 3

TRBN 1

TRBN 2

TRBN 3

GTR

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

PREVIEW ONLY

HALF VALVE

FM CM G7 CM

HI-HAT

RIM SHOT

SIMILE

37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

ALTO 1  
ALTO 2  
TENOR 1  
TENOR 2  
BARI  
TPT 1  
TPT 2  
TPT 3  
TRBN 1  
TRBN 2  
TRBN 3  
GTR  
PIANO  
BASS  
DRUMS

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46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

ON HEAD

RIDE

Musical score for 'Ye Merry Gents' featuring vocal parts (Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Baritone), brass (Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2, Trumpet 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3), guitar, piano, bass, and drums. The score includes a large 'PREVIEW ONLY' watermark across the center.

PREVIEW ONLY

55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62

