

Wynton Marsalis, Artistic Director, Jazz at Lincoln Center

I Like the Sunrise

By Duke Ellington

As performed by the Duke Ellington Orchestra
Transcribed and Edited by David Berger for Jazz at Lincoln Center

Full Score

This transcription was made especially for Jazz at Lincoln Center's 2013-14
Nineteenth Annual *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program.

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ESSENTIALLY
ELLINGTON

jazz

NOTES ON PLAYING ELLINGTON

At least 95% of modern-day large ensemble jazz playing comes out of three traditions: Count Basie's band, Duke Ellington's band, and the orchestrations of small groups. Those young players interested in jazz will be drawn to small groups for the opportunity to improvise and for practical reasons (it is much easier to organize 4 or 5 people than it is 15). Schools have taken over the task (formerly performed by dance bands) of training musicians to be ensemble players. Due to the Basie Band's popularity and its simplicity of style and emphasis on blues and swing, the better educators have almost exclusively adopted this tradition for teaching jazz ensemble playing. As wonderful as Count Basie's style is, it doesn't address many of the important styles developed under the great musical umbrella we call jazz. Duke Ellington's comprehensive and eclectic approach to music offers an alternative.

The stylistic richness of Ellington's music presents a great challenge to educators and performers alike. In Basie's music, the conventions are very nearly consistent. In Ellington's music there are many more exceptions to the rules. This calls for greater knowledge of the language of jazz. Clark Terry, who left Count Basie's band to join Duke Ellington, said, "Count Basie was college, but Duke Ellington was graduate school." Knowledge of Ellington's music prepares you to play any big band music.

The following is a list of performance conventions for the great majority of Ellington's music. Any deviations or additions will be spelled out in the individual performance notes which follow.

1. Listen carefully many times to the Ellington recording of these pieces. There are many subtleties that will elude even the most sophisticated listener at first. Although it was never Ellington's wish to have his recordings imitated, knowledge of these definitive versions will lead musicians to make more educated choices when creating new performances. Ellington's music, though written for specific individuals, is designed to inspire all musicians to express themselves. In addition, you will hear slight note differences in the recording and the transcriptions. This is intentional, as there are mistakes and alterations from the original intent of the music in the recording. You should have your players play what's in the score.
2. General use of swing phrasing. The triplet feel prevails except for ballads or where notations such as even eighths or Latin appear. In these cases, eighth notes are given equal value.
3. There is a chain of command in ensemble playing. The lead players in each section determine the phrasing and volume for their own section, and their section-mates must conform to the lead. When the saxes and / or trombones play with the trumpets, the lead trumpet is the boss. The lead alto and trombone must listen to the first trumpet and follow him. In turn, the other saxes and trombones must follow their lead players. When the clarinet leads the brass section, the brass should not overblow him. That means that the first trumpet is actually playing "second." If this is done effectively, there will be very little balancing work left for the conductor.
4. In Ellington's music, each player should express the individuality of his own line. He must find a musical balance of supporting and following the section leader and bringing out the character of the underpart. Each

player should be encouraged to express his or her personality through the music. In this music, the underparts are played at the same volume and with the same conviction as the lead.

5. Blues inflection should permeate all parts at all times, not just when these opportunities occur in the lead.
6. Vibrato is used quite a bit to warm up the sound. Saxes (who most frequently represent the sensual side of things) usually employ vibrato on harmonized passages and no vibrato on unisons. The vibrato can be either heavy or light depending on the context. Occasionally saxes use a light vibrato on unisons. Trumpets (who very often are used for heat and power) use a little vibrato on harmonized passages and no vibrato on unisons. Trombones (who are usually noble) do not use slide vibrato. A little lip vibrato is good on harmonized passages at times. Try to match the speed of vibrato. In general unisons are played with no vibrato.
7. Crescendo as you ascend and diminuendo as you descend. The upper notes of phrases receive a natural accent and the lower notes are ghosted. Alto and tenor saxophones need to use sub-tone in the lower part of their range in order to blend properly with the rest of the section. This music was originally written with no dynamics. It pretty much follows the natural tendencies of the instruments; play loud in the loud part of the instrument and soft in the soft part of the instrument. For instance, a high C for a trumpet will be loud and a low C will be soft.
8. Quarter notes are generally played short unless otherwise notated. Long marks above or below a pitch indicate full value: not just long, but full value. Eighth notes are played full value except when followed by a rest or otherwise notated. All notes longer than a quarter note are played full value, which means if it is followed by a rest, release the note where the rest appears. For example, a half note occurring on beat one of a measure would be released on beat three.
9. Unless they are part of a legato background figure, long notes should be played somewhat *fp* (forte-piano); accent then diminish the volume. This is important so that the moving parts can be heard over the sustained notes. Don't just hold out the long notes, but give them life and personality: that is, vibrato, inflection, crescendo, or diminuendo. There is a great deal of inflection in this music, and much of this is highly interpretive. Straight or curved lines imply non-pitched glisses, and wavy lines mean scalar (chromatic or diatonic) glisses. In general, all rhythmic figures need to be accented. Accents give the music life and swing. This is very important.
10. Ellington's music is about individuality: one person per part – do not double up because you have extra players or need more strength. More than one on a part makes it sound more like a concert band and less like a jazz band.
11. This is acoustic music. Keep amplification to an absolute minimum; in the best halls, almost no amplification should be necessary. Everyone needs to develop a big sound. It is the conductor's job to balance the band. When a guitar is used, it should be a hollow-body, unamplified rhythm guitar. Simple three-note voicings should be used throughout. An acoustic string bass is a must. In mediocre or poorly designed halls, the bass and piano may need a bit of a boost. I recommend miking them and putting them through the

house sound system. This should provide a much better tone than an amplifier. Keep in mind that the rhythm section's primary function is to accompany. The bass should not be as loud as a trumpet. That is unnatural and leads to over-amplification, bad tone, and limited dynamics. Stay away from monitors. They provide a false sense of balance.

12. Solos and rhythm section parts without chord changes should be played as is or with a little embellishment. Solos and rhythm section parts with chord changes should be improvised. However, written passages should be learned because they are an important part of our jazz heritage and help the player understand the function of his particular solo or accompaniment. Soloists should learn the chord changes. Solos should not be approached as opportunities to show off technique, range, or volume, but should be looked at as a great opportunity to further develop the interesting thematic material that Ellington has provided.
13. The notation of plungers for the brass means a rubber toilet plunger bought in a hardware store. Kirkhill is a very good brand (especially if you can find one of their old hard rubber ones, like the one I loaned Wynton and he lost). Trumpets use 5" diameter and trombones use 6" diameter. Where Plunger/Mute is notated, insert a pixie mute in the bell and use the plunger over the mute. Pixies are available from Humes & Berg in Chicago. Tricky Sam Nanton and his successors in the Ellington plunger trombone chair did not use pixies. Rather, each of them employed a Nonpareil (that's the brand name) trumpet straight mute. Nonpareil has gone out of business, but the Tom Crown Nonpareil trumpet straight mute is very close to the same thing. These mute/plunger combinations create a wonderful sound (very close to the human voice), but they also can create some intonation problems which must be corrected by the lip or by using alternate slide positions. It would be easier to move the tuning slide, but part of the sound is in the struggle to correct the pitch. If this proves too much, stick with the pixie – it's pretty close.
14. The drummer is the de facto leader of the band. He establishes the beat and controls the volume of the ensemble. For big band playing, the drummer needs to use a larger bass drum than he would for small group drumming. A 22" or 24" is preferred. The bass drum is played softly (nearly inaudible) on each beat. This is called feathering the bass drum. It provides a very important bottom to the band. The bass drum sound is not a boom and not a thud – it's in between. The larger size drum is necessary for the kicks; a smaller drum just won't be heard. The key to this style is to just keep time. A rim knock on two and four (chopping wood) is used to lock in the swing. When it comes to playing fills, the fewer, the better.
15. The horn players should stand for their solos and solis. Brass players should come down front for moderate to long solos, surrounding rests permitting. The same applies to the pep section (two trumpets and one trombone in plunger/mutes).
16. Horns should pay close attention to attacks and releases. Everyone should hit together and release together.
17. Above all, everyone's focus should remain at all times on the swing. As the great bassist Chuck Israels says, "The three most important things in jazz are rhythm, rhythm, and rhythm, in that order." Or as Bubber Miley

I LIKE THE SUNRISE • INSTRUMENTATION

Vocals
Reed 1 • Alto Sax
Reed 2 • Alto Sax
Reed 3 • Clarinet
Reed 4 • Tenor Sax
Reed 5 • Baritone Sax
Trumpet 1
Trumpet 2
Trumpet 3
Trumpet 4
Trombone 1
Trombone 2
Trombone 3
Guitar
Bass
Drums

ORIGINAL RECORDING INFORMATION

Composer • Duke Ellington
Arranger • Duke Ellington
Recorded • December 24, 1947 in New York City
Master # • XCO40789
Original Issue • Columbia CL6073 (*Liberian Suite*) [TEN-INCH LP]
Currently Available on CD • Columbia CK87066 (*Ellington Uptown*)
Download Available • *Liberian Suite* • [itunes.com](#)

Personnel • Duke Ellington (piano); Shelton Hemphill, Francis Williams, Harold “Shorty” Baker, Al Killian, Ray Nance (trumpet); Lawrence Brown, Claude Jones, Tyree Glenn (trombone); Johnny Hodges (alto sax/soprano sax/clarinet); Russell Procope (alto sax/clarinet); Jimmy Hamilton (tenor sax/clarinet); Al Sears (tenor sax); Harry Carney (baritone sax/bass clarinet); Fred Guy (guitar); Oscar Pettiford (bass); Sonny Greer (drums); possibly Elayne Jones (tympani); Al Hibbler (vocal)

Soloists • Al Hibbler (vocal); Harry Carney (baritone sax)

REHEARSAL NOTES

• Of the 30-some suites Duke Ellington composed, none is more integrated and thoroughly satisfying than the *Liberian Suite*. Commissioned to celebrate the centennial of the African nation of Liberia, the suite consists of a song (*I Like the Sunrise*) and 5 dances. All of the material in the 5 dances is derived from the song. Ellington premiered the suite at Carnegie Hall on December 27, 1947 having recorded it in a recording studio 3 days prior. He never performed it again. However he did record the song 3 more times in the 1960s with Ella Fitzgerald, Tony Watkins (unreleased) and Frank Sinatra. Neither Fitzgerald nor Sinatra used the original arrangement. The song itself is rather simple and not particularly groundbreaking. On the other hand the arrangement is one of the finest vocal arrangements in all of jazz. In fact it could serve as a prototype for the perfect Broadway musical orchestration, except that it doesn't use strings.

• The song uses the standard 32-bar AABA structure. After a long introduction (14 bars – which makes sense since it is introducing the entire suite), there is a vocal chorus (AABA) baritone solo (BA) and recap of the vocal (BA).

• Although Al Hibbler was best known for his hit recordings with Ellington: *Do Nothing 'Til You Hear From Me* and *Don't Get Around Much Anymore*, *I Like the Sunrise* is probably his finest work. The story line of the *Liberian Suite* is about a young man who wakes up in the countryside of Liberia on Independence Day and travels to the city to celebrate the centennial of his country and then returns home. Hibbler's performance expresses the wide-eyed optimism of youth, a connection with nature and spirituality ending with a humble prayer: “I hope it likes poor me”. Neither Fitzgerald nor Sinatra came close to the spirituality of this song. You might listen to the recording of Milt Grayson singing this arrangement with the JLCO from our *Portraits By Ellington* CD. Milt doesn't have Hibbler's country vibe, but he brings sophistication, nobility and power. We used to say that when Milt sang, it was the voice of God.

• Ellington's arrangement of *I Like the Sunrise* is pretty much a set piece with the only improvisation being in the bass (on the bridges), drums (Duke never wrote a drum part) and the flexibility of rhythms in the vocal. The rhythmic feel for nearly the entire piece is even 8ths with the following exceptions that are played with swing 8ths:

- Vocal throughout
- Trombones at **B**
- All the horns at **F**

• The use of vibrato in this piece should be extremely judicious – none for the first 5 bars then *molto* vibrato in the reeds and 3rd trombone for the next 2 bars, then back to *NY*. The style of this piece is what we used to call Classical or legit with a few moments of swing. It demands excellent tone, intonation, instrumental control and obedience to the dynamics. Don't forget to accent – especially the syncopations. The trumpets need to be rude, even nasty, and snap their plungers open in letter **F**. On the other hand the baritone sax solo at **E** and **F** should be sung in a confident, even heroic, yet warm style.

• The little clarinet solos should be delicate and orchestral. Unlike many of Ellington's clarinet parts, this is not the sound of New Orleans. As a teacher of mine used to say, “Think of drinking a cup of tea in fine china – keep your pinky up in the air”.

– David Berger

Courtesy of Tutti Dynamics, Inc., videos of Wynton Marsalis leading the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra in rehearsals of the *Essentially Ellington* 2013-14 repertoire can be downloaded FREE at [jalco.org/EssentiallyEllington](#)

CONDUCTOR

Jazz at Lincoln Center Library - Essentially Ellington

I LIKE THE SUNRISE

(from Liberian Suite)

Duke Ellington
Transcribed by David Berger

Andante $\text{♩} = 76$
Even 8ths

Vocals

Reeds 1
Alto Sax
2
Alto Sax *mf*
Clarinet *mf*
3
Tenor Sax *mf*
4
Baritone Sax *mf*
5

Trumpets 1
2
3
4

Trombones 1
2
3

Guitar

Bass
pizz. *f*

Drums
mp
timpani
mf

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I Like the Sunrise

This musical score is for the piece "I Like the Sunrise" and includes parts for the following instruments and voices:

- Vox:** Vocal line, currently silent.
- Alto:** Two Alto parts, currently silent.
- Clarinet:** Clarinet part with a *Solo* marking and *mf* dynamics.
- Tenor:** Tenor part with a *Solo* marking and *mf* dynamics.
- Bari:** Bari part with a *Solo* marking and *mf* dynamics.
- 1:** Trumpet 1 part with *cup* and *to open* markings.
- 2:** Trumpet 2 part with *cup*, *open - solo*, and *mf* markings.
- 3:** Trumpet 3 part with *cup* and *to open* markings.
- 4:** Trumpet 4 part with *cup* marking.
- Tbn. 1:** Trombone 1 part with *mf* dynamics.
- 2:** Trombone 2 part with *mf* dynamics.
- 3:** Trombone 3 part with *mf* dynamics.
- Gtr.:** Guitar part, currently silent.
- Bass:** Bass part with *arco*, *p*, and *pizz.* markings.
- Drs.:** Drums part with *timpani* and *p* markings.

The score is overlaid with a large red watermark that reads "Preview Only" and "Legal Use Requires Purchase".

I Like the Sunrise

A

Vox. *mf*
I like the sun - rise _____ 'cause _____ it brings a new day _____ I like the sun - rise _____ It brings new hope they say

Alto *p* *mf* *p*

Alto *p* *mf* *p*

Clarinet *p* *mf* *p*

Tenor *p* *mf* *p*

Bari *p* *mf* *p*

1

2

3

4

Tbn. 1

2

3

Gtr. *p*
arco

Bass *p*
brushes

Drs. *p* (no HH)

C Am Bb F C Bb Ab+ G7 C Am Bb F C G7 Ab7 Bb7

I Like the Sunrise

B

Vox. I like the sun - rise _____ Blaz - ing in the new sky Night - time is wear - y _____ oh _____ and so am I

Alto

Alto

Clarinet

Tenor

Bari

1

2

3

4

Tbn. 1 *mp*

2 *mp*

3 *mp*

p

C A m B \flat F C B \flat 7 A \flat + G7 C A m B \flat F7 C G7 A \flat 7 B \flat 7

Gtr.

Bass

Drs.

The image shows a page of a musical score for the song "I Like the Sunrise". It includes a vocal line with lyrics, two alto parts, a clarinet part, a tenor part, a baritone part, four trumpet parts (1-4), three trombone parts (1-3), guitar, bass, and drums. A large red watermark "Preview Only Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the score.

I Like the Sunrise

[C]

Vox. Ev-'ry eve-ning I wish u-pon a star that my brand new bright to-mor-row is-n't ver-y far when that hea-vy blue cur-tain of night is rais'd up high way out of sight

Alto

Alto

Clarinet Solo *mf*

Tenor Solo

Bari *mf*

1 open *p* cresc. *mp*

2 open *p* cresc. *mp*

3 open *p* cresc. *mp*

4 open *p* cresc. *mp*

Tbn. 1 *p*

2 *p*

3 *p*

Gtr. pizz.

Bass

Drs. HH - foot *stim.* HH throughout



I Like the Sunrise

D

Vox. *mp* I like the sun - rise *mf* so heav - en - ly to see I like the sun - rise I hope it likes poor me

Alto

Alto

Clarinet *mf*

Tenor

Bari

1 *mf* *mp* *mf*

2 *mf* *mp* *mf*

3 *mf* *mp* *mf*

4 *mf* *mp* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *mf* *mp*

2 *mf* *mp*

3 *mf* *mp*

Gtr. C Am Bb F C7 Bb7 G7 C Am Bb F F#m7-5 C G7 Ab7 Bb7

Bass

Drs.

The image shows a page of a musical score for the song "I Like the Sunrise". It includes parts for Voice, Alto, Clarinet, Tenor, Bari, four strings (1-4), three Trombones (1-3), Guitar, Bass, and Drums. The score is in the key of D major and 4/4 time. A large red watermark "Legal Use Requires Purchase" is overlaid diagonally across the page. The lyrics are: "I like the sun - rise so heav - en - ly to see I like the sun - rise I hope it likes poor me". Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. The guitar part lists chords: C, Am, Bb, F, C7, Bb7, G7, C, Am, Bb, F, F#m7-5, C, G7, Ab7, Bb7.

I Like the Sunrise

F

Vox.

Alto

Alto

Clarinet

Tenor

Bari

1

2

3

4

Tbn. 1

2

3

Gtr.

Bass

Drs.

ff

plunger w/mute
+o + +o +o

f

mp

mf

p

f

mp

mp

mp

mp

C Am Bb F C Bb7 Ab7 G7 C Am Bb F G Db C F G7

The image shows a page of a musical score for the song "I Like the Sunrise". The score is for a full band and includes parts for Voice, Alto, Clarinet, Tenor, Bari, four trumpets (1-4), three trombones (1-3), guitar, bass, and drums. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. A large red watermark "Preview Only" is overlaid diagonally across the page. The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff*, *f*, *mp*, *mf*, and *p*. There are also performance instructions like "plunger w/mute" and "plunger w/mute" with notes marked with "+o". Chord symbols are provided for the guitar part: C, Am, Bb, F, C, Bb7, Ab7, G7, C, Am, Bb, F, G, Db, C, F, G7. The page number "8" is in the top left, and the title "I Like the Sunrise" is at the top center. A small box with the letter "F" is in the top left corner of the score area.

I Like the Sunrise

G

Vox. Ev-'ry eve-ning I wish u-pon a star that my brand new bright to - mor-row is-n't ver-y far when that hea - vy blue cur-tain of night is rais'd up high way out of sight

mp *mf* *f*

Alto *pp*

Alto *pp*

Clarinet *mf*

Tenor *pp*

Bari *mp*

1 to open open *p* *ff*

2 to open open *p* *ff*

3 to open open *p* *ff*

4 to open open *p* *ff*

Tbn. 1 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

2 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

3 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

Gtr. C C7 F Fm C G7 C A D F G7 *cresc. poco a poco*

Bass *cresc. poco a poco*

Drs. brushes mallets *cresc. poco a poco*

I Like the Sunrise

[H]

Slowly - ad lib

Vox. I like the sun - rise so heav-en - ly to see I like the sun - rise I hope it likes poor me

Alto *mf* *f* *p*

Alto *mf* *f* *p*

Clarinet *mp* "I hope"

Tenor *mf* *f* *p*

Bari *f* *p*

1 *f*

2 *f*

3 *f*

4 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f*

2 *f*

3 *f*

Gtr. C Am Bb F C E7+5 Fm7 G7 C Am Bb F D7 C Ab7 Bb7 C

Bass *arco* *p*

Drs. brushes *pp*

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The *Essentially Ellington* High School Jazz Band Program (*EE*) is one of the most unique curriculum resources for high school jazz bands in the United States, Canada, and American schools abroad. *EE* extends the legacy of Duke Ellington and other seminal big band composers and arrangers by widely disseminating music, in its original arrangements, to high school musicians for study and performance. Utilizing this music challenges students to increase their musical proficiency and knowledge of the jazz language. *EE* consists of the following initiatives and services:

Supplying the Music • Each year Jazz at Lincoln Center (JALC) transcribes, publishes, and distributes original transcriptions and arrangements, along with additional educational materials including recordings and teaching guides, to high school bands in the U.S., Canada, and American schools abroad.

Talking about the Music • Throughout the school year, band directors and students correspond with professional clinicians who answer questions regarding the *EE* music. *EE* strives to foster mentoring relationships through email correspondence, various conference presentations, and the festival weekend.

Professional Feedback • Bands are invited to submit a recording of their performance of the charts either for entry in the competition or for comments only. Every submission receives a thorough written assessment. Bands are also invited to attend *EE* Regional Festivals for an opportunity to perform and receive a workshop.

Finalists and In-School Workshops • Fifteen bands are selected from competition entries to attend the annual Competition & Festival in New York City. To prepare, each finalist band receives an in-school workshop led by a professional musician. Local *EE* members are also invited to attend these workshops.

Competition & Festival • The *EE* year culminates in a three-day festival at Jazz at Lincoln Center's Frederick P. Rose Hall. Students, teachers, and musicians participate in workshops, rehearsals, and performances. The festival concludes with an evening concert that features the three top-placing bands, joining the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis in concert previewing next year's *EE* repertoire.

Jazz at Lincoln Center Band Director Academy • This professional development session for band directors is designed to enhance their ability to teach and conduct the music of Duke Ellington and other big band composers. Led by prominent jazz educators each summer, this companion program to *EE* integrates performance, history, pedagogy, and discussion into an intensive educational experience for band directors at all levels.

As of May 2013, *EE* has distributed scores to more than 4,200 schools in all 50 states, Canadian provinces, and American schools abroad.

Since 1995, over 309,000 students have been exposed to Duke Ellington's music through *Essentially Ellington*.

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