

JAZZ LINES PUBLICATIONS

Presents

JUST PLAIN TALKIN'

WRITTEN FOR BENNY GOODMAN

ARRANGED BY TADD DAMERON

EDITED BY JEFFREY SULTANOF

FULL SCORE

FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT

JLP-8823

MUSIC BY TADD DAMERON

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JUST PLAIN TALKIN' (1962)

Background:

Tadd Dameron was one of the most influential composer/arrangers in American music. Born in 1917, he wrote for bands led by Jimmie Lunceford, Count Basie, Billy Eckstine (many original compositions later performed by the Dizzy Gillespie Orchestra were originally written for Eckstine), Ted Heath and Tommy Dorsey. He also arranged for Sarah Vaughan, Pearl Bailey and the underrated Kay Penton. Dameron led various groups for live gigs and recordings, and the musicians he played with constituted a who's who of jazz. At one time or another his ensembles included Fats Navarro, Freddie Webster, Charlie Rouse, Kenny Clarke, Kai Winding, Wardell Gray, J.J. Johnson, Dexter Gordon, Miles Davis, Kenny Dorham, John Coltrane and Clifford Brown.

Unfortunately Dameron was institutionalized in Kentucky for drug possession from 1958 through 1961. While still in prison, he contributed several arrangements to a Blue Mitchell album on Riverside Records, and when he was released, Riverside wanted him to make an album of his own. *The Magic Touch* was the result, and this resulted in various composing and arranging assignments, most notably for Benny Goodman, who commissioned several scores from Dameron for his 1962 big band that made an historic tour of the Soviet Union.



The Music:

Just Plain Talkin' was a piece that Dameron wrote for *The Magic Touch*. For that album, the piece was played by a nonet. Dameron prepared this big band version for the Benny Goodman Orchestra in May, 1962. No recording seems to exist.

Notes to the Conductor:

Dameron's love of counterpoint is exhibited in this smooth, fun-to-play score. Even though his musical lines are beautiful to play, the melody, which often remains on one pitch (reminiscent of one of Dameron's musical influences, George Gershwin) should still predominate. Balance is of particular importance, and yes, those half-step dissonances in the trombones are correct.

In order to appeal to a wide variety of bands, Goodman's clarinet solo has been assigned to a trumpet. Of course, if you have a clarinetist who improvises, you can change it back.

Acknowledgements:

We wish to thank Mia Dameron and Don Sickler for their support of our Tadd Dameron series of arrangements.

Jeffrey Sultanof

- February 2011

JUST PLAIN TALKIN'

SCORE

MUSIC BY TADD DAMERON
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① MEDIUM SWING ♩ = 120

ALTO SAX. 1
 ALTO SAX. 2
 TENOR SAX. 1
 TENOR SAX. 2
 BARITONE SAX.
 TRUMPET 1
 TRUMPET 2
 TRUMPET 3
 TRUMPET 4
 TROMBONE 1
 TROMBONE 2
 TROMBONE 3
 GUITAR
 PIANO
 BASS
 DRUM SET

1 2 3 4

(A)

A. Sax. 1
A. Sax. 2
T. Sax. 1
T. Sax. 2
B. Sax.

Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Tpt. 3
Tpt. 4
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
Tbn. 3

Gtr.

PNO

BASS

D. S.

(PLAY TIME)

5 6 7 8

(4)