The Strictly Strings Orchestra Series

Jazzy Blues

By Edmund J. Siennicki

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Violin III (Viola 🕏)	3
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5
Piano Accompaniment	1

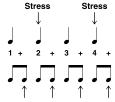
JAZZY BLUES

This piece introduces young performers to music that swings. It is based upon the basic twelve-bar blues cherd progression, which begins here after a four-measure introduction. The piece incorporates many stylistic elements characteristic of blues and jazz, which will be new to most young musicians. It features all sections of the orchestra and is meant to be played at a moderate tempo.

In most musical styles, successive eighth notes are played with equal length. In blues and jazz, a "swing" feel is created by playing the eighth notes that occur on numbered beats longer than eighth notes played on the "ands." Together, these form beats that sound like triplets made up of a quarter note and an eighth note.

When playing a jazz motif (a small group of notes in a melody), the highest note should be played louder than the rest. In measure 3, for example, the "B" on beat 2 would be played louder than the other notes in the group.

Young players are usually instructed to play beats 1 and 3 in a strong manner. The opposite is done in jazz by stressing beats 2 and 4 instead.





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