

FIRST YEAR CHARTS FOR JAZZ ENSEMBLE



INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor 1st Eb Alto Saxophone 2nd Eb Alto Saxophone 1st Bb Tenor Saxophone 2nd Bb Tenor Saxophone (Optional) Eb Baritone Saxophone (Optional) 1st Bb Trumpet 2nd Bb Trumpet 3rd Bb Trumpet (Optional)

1st Trombone 2nd Trombone (Optional) 3rd Trombone (Optional) Guitar Chords Guitar (Optional) Piano Bass Drums

Optional/Alternate Parts

C Flute Tuba Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone) Baritone Horn T.C./B, Tenor Saxophone (Doubles 1st Trombone)

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Energy is the name of the game on this chart. The tempo can be adjusted according to the skills of the ensemble. Don't hesitate rehearsing the chart slower, then moving the tempo up as the group gains confidence.

The whole ensemble contributes to the chart, of course, but the drummer is really the key. First, check out the demo recording of this chart on alfred.com, and then check out the original (legendary) version by Benny Goodman with Gene Krupa on drums. I suggest spending some time with your drummer to make sure he or she is locked into the tempo, the style, and is generally in control and confident. Practicing with a metronome is essential! This goes for everyone, but drummer and bass player especially.

Saxes and trombones should be solid at measure 17. As far as dynamics are concerned, it's pretty much $\frac{1}{2}$ all the way through; however, there are a few opportunities (measure 60 and onward) to work on dynamic shading. Make as much dynamic difference as you can at places like measure 119. The whole ensemble should be strong to the end. Your students should be listening for balance and blend within their section and throughout the band,

The rhythm section parts are notated, but the guitar part has a lot of slashes to indicate comping. Ask the guitarist to use medium thickness picks which will give the guitar sound a very bright, acoustic quality, and to hold the pick loosely between the thumb and index finger. Strum straight quarter notes, trying to cut off (mute) the sound of the chord right after striking the strings. Strum from the elbow, giving a bright, swinging sound that propels the rhythm section forward.

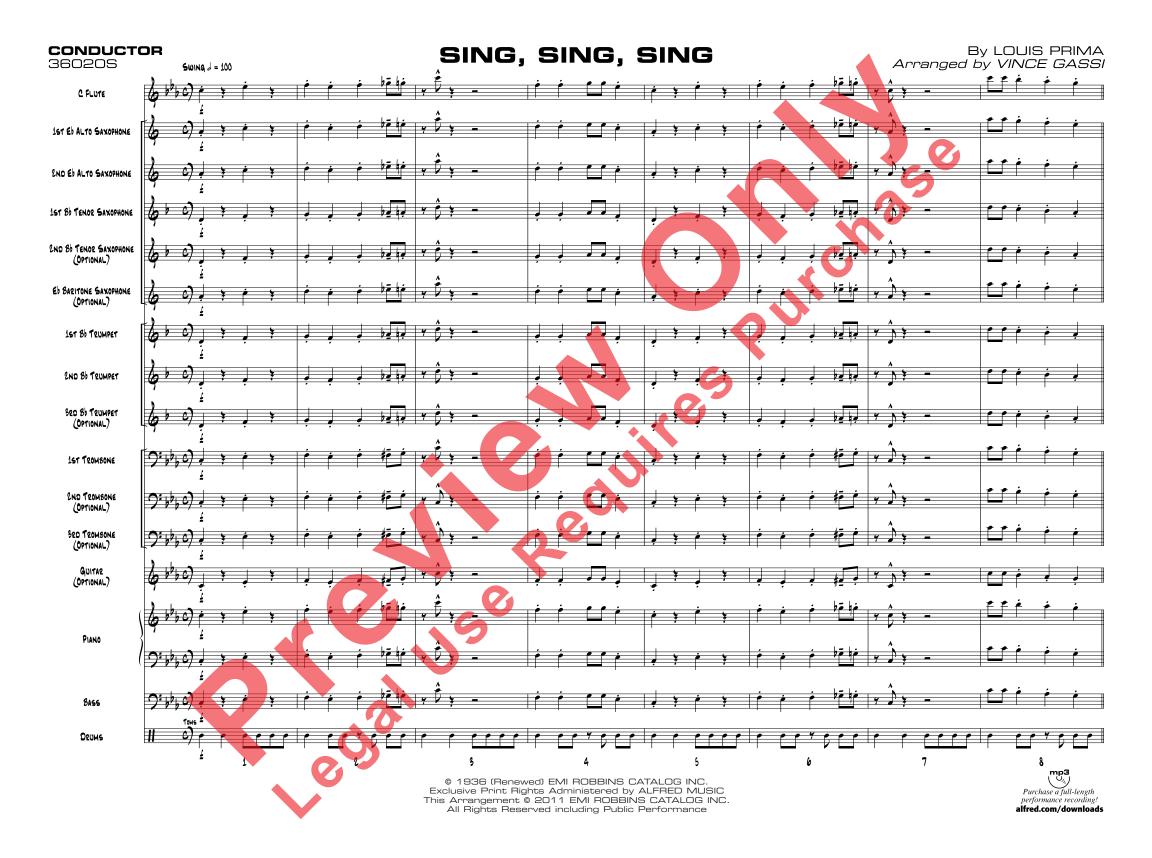
Enjoy!

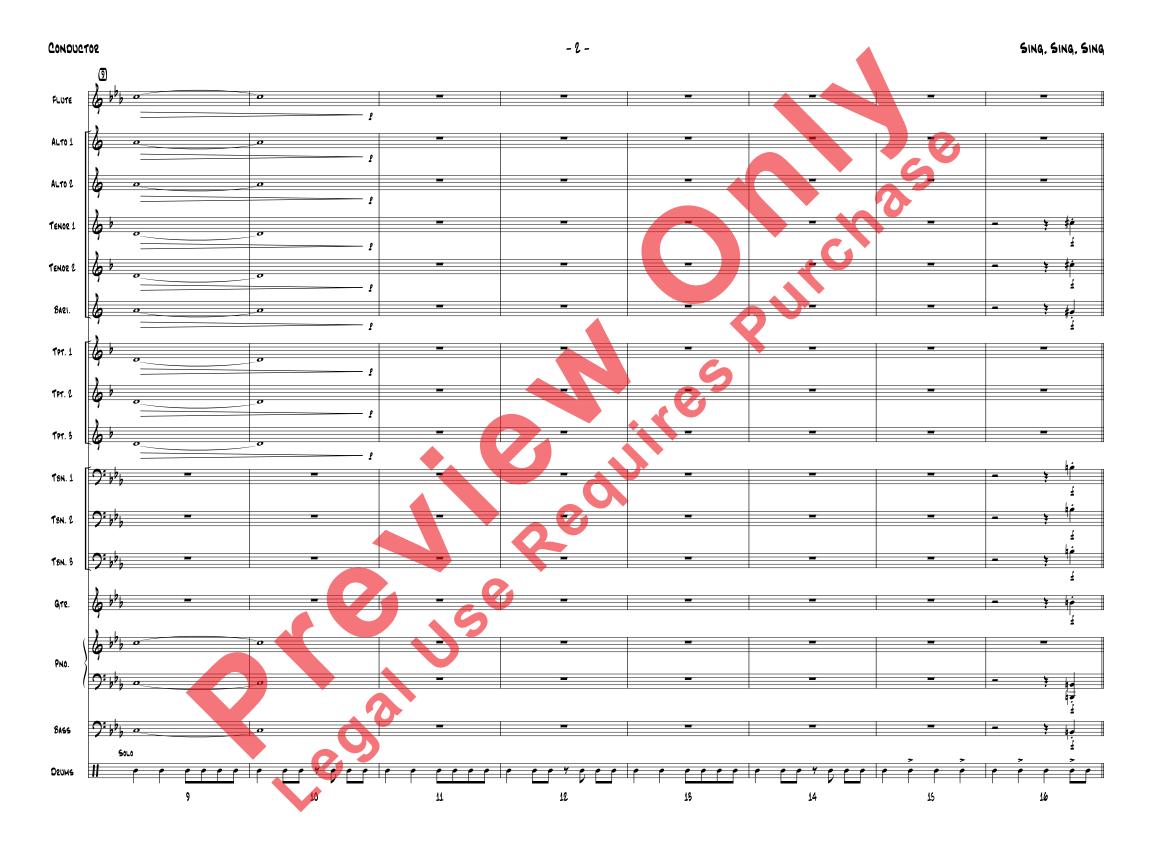
—Vince Gassi



Vince Gassi received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from the University of Western Ontario in London, Canada and attended the Dick Grove School of Music specializing in composition and arranging. Mr. Gassi has written for concert band, jazz ensemble, orchestra, woodwind and brass ensembles, and choral groups. Currently, Mr. Gassi teaches instrumental music, MIDI technology, composition and musical theatre at Mary Ward Catholic Secondary School in Toronto, Canada.

Vince Gassi































- 15 -





