

First Band Book

Alto Saxophone

Michael Dehner, Eva Garín,
Alberto Moreno & Josep Morera



Reg. B.4036

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In 2014, after 7 years as a music teacher in Secondary Education at Hamelin-Laie International School, I presented a very risky project that basically aimed at making music an experience for the student rather than a subject based on theoretical concepts. Hamelin-Laie International School, interested in the idea that the students could form musical groups, supported the idea.

Based on the Big Band, I thought of creating one per class. To carry out the proposal and take care of the training of each of the rhythmic sections myself, I needed a team of teachers to train the students to play the wind instruments; that is where I was lucky enough to have Michael Dehner, Eva Garín and Josep Morera and share the excitement of this new methodology with them.

Throughout this period, and working with 12 classes in each academic year, the four of us have learned a lot from the students and their instrumental initiation. I thought it would be a good idea to create our own repertoire that could be performed with the Big Band, another type of smaller formation or even individually, but always suitable for instrumental initiation, allowing the student to improvise and perform different musical styles from the beginning. The tool that you have in your hands is the one that we have designed so that the students can familiarize themselves with the instrument, practicing and improvising from the beginning. They can practice pieces of diverse styles, in an individual or collaborative way, making it possible to understand and enjoy the work that they carry out integrating their musical education as an experiential and significant learning experience.

We hope it will be as useful for you as it is to us.

Alberto Moreno

Alto saxophone

The alto saxophone belongs to the woodwind family.

It is a single-reed instrument. Like most common saxophones the alto is a transposing instrument. It is tuned in Eb (or E flat).

That means, the note C of the alto sax is, really, sounding as an E flat.

To make the saxophone sound, you have to make the reed vibrate enclosing your lips around it.



Main parts of the saxophone

Table of characteristics

	Title	Style	Key	Time Signature
1	Tension And Rest	Folk	G	4/4
2	Neat Conclusion	Pop	G	4/4
3	Blues 2 You	Blues	G	4/4
4	Sudden Stops Blues	Blues	G	4/4
5	Almost Lidian	Vals	G	3/4
6	Mirror Mirror	Pop-rock	A	4/4
7	Bluesing The Moment	Blues	D	4/4
8	Whistling In The Darkness	Pop-rock	Am	4/4
9	Opening Up	Latin-rock	Am	4/4
10	Paddling	Vals	C	3/4
11	One, Two... Play!	Bossa	E	4/4
12	Before The Beat	Blues	C	4/4
13	Clapping Coast	Bossa	G	4/4
14	The Cradle	Vals	D	3/4
15	Dancing The Waltz	Vals	G	6/8
16	Moving On	Latin	E	4/4
17	Blues Not Blue	Blues	A	4/4
18	Cool Breeze	Bossa	D	4/4
19	Answering Machine	Pop-rock	Am	4/4
20	Climbing The Wave	Vals	Am	3/4
21	Teeter Song	Folklore	Bm	3/4
22	Bossa De Paper	Bossa	Bm	4/4
23	Chirping	Vals	C	6/8
24	Crossing The Sea	Bossa	A	4/4
25	Two Directions	Pop-rock	A	4/4
26	Taking The Step	Medium swing	D	4/4
27	Fast Blues	Blues	D	4/4
28	Go Blues!	Blues	F	4/4
29	Johnny Brazilian	Bossa	B♭	4/4
30	A Short Journey	Vals	A	3/4
31	Jumping	Blues	F	4/4
32	Andalusian Folky	Folklore	Bm	3/4
33	Chromatically Correct	Blues	D	4/4
34	Whispering	Medium funk	G	4/4
35	A Long Journey	Bossa	D	4/4
36	Two-Step In	Folklore	e	4/4
37	Sparkly Syncopation	Pop-rock	D	4/4
38	Fine Dango	Bossa	D	4/4
39	Rings A Bell	Pop-rock	Bm	4/4
40	All Times Ranchera	Ranchera	D	3/4
41	Music Solutions Blues	Blues	Dm	4/4
42	Guadarrama's Blues	Blues	A	4/4
43	Dark Night	Bossa	Bm	4/4
44	Guaracheando	Latin	Dm	4/4
45	Untouchable Flats	Pop-rock	C	6/8
46	Enjoy The Voices	Vals	G	3/4
47	The Seventh Major Street	Symphonic rock	modal	3/4
48	Mars Funk	Funk	F	4/4

New Notes	New Rhythmic Figures	Improvisation	Page #
g a b c'		g a b c	11
e'		g a b c	12
c#'		g a b c e	13
d' f# f'		g a b c e	14
a#		g a b c# d e	15
g' a'		a b d e f#	16
f#		a b d e f f#	17
		Am	18
		a c d e g	19
		C	20
		Em	21
		Pent. C	22
		G	23
		D	24
		g a b c d e	25
		g a(a#) b d e	26
		Pent. A	27
		d e f# a b	28
		Pent. A	29
g#		Pent. A	30
d#'		Bm	31
		b d e(e#) f# a	32
		C	33
g#'		A Em	34
e#'(f')		A	35
		Pent. D	36
		Pent. D	37
b b f		Pent. F	38
ab' ab d#'		Bb G F#	39
eb'		A (Solos on A)	40
		Pent. F	41
		Bm (+a#)	42
		Pent. D	43
		Pent. G	44
b#(c') a#'		Pent. D (Solos on A)	46
b'		Em	47
		D	48
		D C Em	50
		Pent. Bm	52
		D	54
		Pent. Dm	56
		Pent. A	58
		Bm	59
		Pent. Dm	62
		No impro	64
		No impro	66
		No impro	68
		No impro	71

1. Tension And Rest

Folk

♩ = 134

Form: **A** **B**

Scale for improvisation



Josep Morera

A

4

9

13

G D7 G

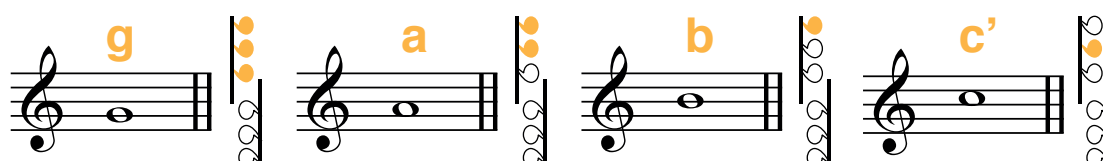
G D7 G

D7 G

New rhythmic figures



New notes



A - B

Musical form designates both a musical structure that has been built over time, and a particular musical genre; a musical composition that we differentiated by various criteria.

2. Neat Conclusion

Track # 2

Pop

♩ = 145

Form: **A** **A'**

Scale for improvisation



Michael Dehner

Musical score for "Neat Conclusion" in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff is labeled 'A' and the second '5'. The third staff is labeled 'A'' and the fourth '13'. Chord symbols G and D7 are placed above the notes. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

Pop

Pop music is an eclectic style that derives from many other genres. Mainly, it is characterized by friendly melodies, simple harmonies and square structures. Therefore, it is a popular music that tries to please as many people as possible. It was born in England in the sixties.

39. Rings A Bell

Pop-rock

♩ = 100

Form: **A A B A**

Scale for improvisation



Michael Dehner

A

Alto Sax

Trumpet

Trombone

5

B⁻ A G F[#]7 B⁻ A G F[#]7

Fine

B

9 E-7 F#-7 Gmaj7 E-7 F#-7 Gmaj7

13 E-7 F#-7 Gmaj7 G/A

D.C. al Fine

“Every artist was first an amateur.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Music... transcends the boundaries of
language, politics and nations.”

Pau Casals