Through Music Blues Beginner's Blues The Teach Throu

teach through music

Shaping the future of KS3 Music in London

Arranged for the Key Stage Three Classroom by

Keir C. Crawley

'Beginner's Blues' Arranged by Keir C. Crawley

Context and notes from the teacher/arranger.

This arrangement of 'Beginner's Blues' is the culmination of an Artist's Collaboration between *Keir C. Crawley* (Head of Performing Arts, composer and arranger) and *Ben Cottrell* (band leader, composer and arranger) as part of Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance's Teach Through Music initiative. This project aimed to make music the dominant language of the Key Stage 3 classroom and ran during the academic year 2014/2015. It paired Fellows, experienced music educators with teachers looking to develop their music teaching through a range of musical interests. Continuing professional development was provided by Trinity Laban in the form of workshops; inspire events and short courses on a range of topics including composition, performance and assessment at high profile venues such as the Barbican and South Bank Centre in London.

'Beginner's Blues' is to be performed by students as a way to introduce jazz, blues and swing music to the Key Stage 3 classroom, perhaps at the end of Year 8 or the start of Year 9. The central melodic material, first stated in bar 33 is designed to fall under the hand for keyboards and to be easily accessible for the glockenspiel or xylophone. The arrangement includes a differentiated bass part designed for those students with special educational needs. This part may be played on any available pitched percussion instrument or on a tablet computer via the use of a suitable keyboard application. The arrangement also, at Ben's suggestion, includes Duke Ellington's 'C Jam Blues' starting bar 9 and a vocal section from bar 57. There are two sections for instrumental and vocal improvisation, starting bars 45 and 69 respectively.

The melodic part may be played on any pitched classroom percussion or keyboards; I like to use glockenspiels when introducing this as it provides immediate access to get things moving before suggesting that students may wish to try on keyboards.

The percussion part, which uses tambourines, shakers, claves and agogos may be played by individual students or, as I teach this in my own classroom, by smaller table groups.

The vocal line (written on a separate stave) is designed to be sung by the class as a whole with responses encouraged from brave soloists or smaller groups.

The trumpet (or Bb part), alto saxophone (or Eb part), electric, bass guitar and drum kit parts (still playable by the students) aim to bring the big band feel to the classroom and players should certainly join in with the improvisation sections. These parts could also be performed by older students as a way of generating interest in GCSE or A Level music.

The piano part is aimed at the teacher but again could be played by a more experienced student.

Keir C. Crawley Teach Through Music Fellow Head of Performing Arts Preston Manor School July 2015, London

Beginner's Blues (The Teach Through Music Blues)

Incorporating 'C Jam Blues' composed by Duke Ellington

Arranged for the Key Stage 3 classroom by Keir C. Crawley

Trumpet in B Flat (or Bb part)
Alto Saxophone in E Flat (or Eb part)

Vocal Part – to be sung by the whole class.

Melodic Part – to be played by the whole class and/or subdivisions thereof. Suitable for pitched classroom percussion including glockenspiels, xylophones and keyboards.

Bass Part – differentiated, suitable for students with Special Educational Needs to be played on pitched classroom percussion or on any suitable app on a tablet computer.

Percussion – tambourines, shakers, claves and agogos, may be played by soloists (one per instrument) or smaller subdivisions of the whole class.

Electric Guitar Bass Guitar Drum Kit

Piano – aimed primarily at the teacher but could also be played by a student.

SCORE IN C

Duration – minimum of 2:45

Beginner's Blues

(The Teach Through Music Blues)







'C JAM BLUES' - Ellington





















Solos and Improv.

































