

ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE

Lyrics by Johnny Mercer

Music by Harold Arlen

Arranged by Steve Zegree

DISCOVERY **Jazz** series



08551689
Showtrax
CD



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PERFORMANCE NOTES

1. This is an arrangement of a standard by Harold Arlen, in my opinion one of the greatest American composers whose name most people do not recognize, with a terrific uplifting text by Johnny Mercer. (Check out the Harold Arlen Songbook to see how many well-known songs he composed!)

2. The arrangement is written with elements of jazz, swing, and improvisation, with the intention of introducing developing voices to the jazz style AND have some fun in the process!

3. In this arrangement, as in most swing music, the best results are achieved when sequential eighth notes are performed as though they are written in 12/8 meter.

Thus  becomes 

Eighth notes on the off-beat  can be performed as 

Encourage your group to feel beats 2 and 4 in 4/4 meter and even snap their fingers on those beats. Beats 2 and 4 and the off-beats are essential to the groove in America's classical music.

4. The singers can get a feel for improvisation in m. 36 - 52, where I have written a group scat "soli" – a written improvisation that may be sung by the entire choir, a few selected voices, or soloists.

5. The piano accompaniment has been written with the non-jazz pianist in mind. The accompanist is encouraged to play the part as written, and with a little practice should sound like a jazz pianist!

6. Have fun and enjoy the educational process!

Dr. Steve Zegree

AC-CENT-TCHU-ATE THE POSITIVE

For 2-Part* and Piano

Performance Time: Approx. 2:30

Arranged by
STEVE ZEGREE

Lyric by JOHNNY MERCER
Music by HAROLD ARLEN

Medium swing ($\text{♩} = 108$) ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}^{\text{3}} \text{♩}$)

Part I
Part II

Unis. *mf*

You've got to

Piano

mf

5

ac - cent - tchu - ate the pos - i - tive, e - lim - i - nate the neg - a - tive, —

F6 Bb9

mp

5

latch on to the af - firm - a - tive. Don't mess with Mis - ter In - be - tween. — You've got to

F6 D9 Ab13 Gm7 C9 Fmaj9 C7

9

*ShowTrax CD also available

DO NOT
PHOTOCOPY



13

Part I

spread joy up to the max-i-mum, bring gloom down to the min-i-mum, —

Part II

spread joy up to the max-i-mum, bring gloom down to the min-i-mum, —

F Faug/C F6 F7 Bb6 Bbm6 Db9(#11) G7(#5) C9

13

have faith or pan-de-mo-ni-um li-'ble to walk up-on the scene. — To il-lus-

have faith or pan-de-mo-ni-um li-'ble to walk up-on the, on the scene. — To il-lus-

F Faug/C F6 F7 Gm7 C9sus F Bb/F F

17

21

trate my last re-mark Jo-nah in the whale. What did they

trate my last re-mark, No - ah in the Ark. — What did they

F7 C7 F7 A7(#5) Bb7 Bb/C F Bb/F F

3

21

do just when ev-'ry-thing looked so dark? "Man," they said, "we bet-ter

do just when ev-'ry-thing looked so dun da dun dun? "Man," they said, "we bet-ter

F13 D7(b9) G9 C7(#5) F13 Db7(#11) G7(#9) C7

25

29

ac - cent - tchu-ate the pos - i - tive, e - lim - i - nate the neg - a - tive, —

ac - cent - tchu-ate the pos - i - tive, e - lim - i - nate the neg - a - tive, —

F6 Bb9

29

latch on to the af-firm-a-tive. Don't mess with Mis-ter In - be - tween." Ba dool ya

latch on to the af-firm-a-tive. Don't mess with Mis-ter In - be - tween."

F6 D9 Ab13 Gm7 C9 Fmaj9 C7

33

37

do ba do ba do ba do ba do do doot do dah do ba do ba doot do ba do ba do ba — dah da

F6 Bb9

37

Spoken:

da da da da dah dat do ba do ba do dah do ba do ba do ba do dot Your turn! Da ba

F6 D9 Ab13 Gm7 C9 Fmaj9 C7

41

45

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do bah — da ba da ba da ba da ba da ba do ba do bah — do ba

F Faug/C F6 F7 Bb6 Bbm6 Db9(#11) G7(#5) C9

45

To il-lus-

do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba do ba — da ba da dah da do ba da ba do ba To il-lus-

F Faug/C F6 F7 Gm7 C⁹sus F B^b/F F

49

53

trate my last re-mark Jo-nah in the whale. What did they

trate my last re-mark, No-ah in the Ark. — What did they

F7 C7 F7 A7(♯5) B^b7 B^b/C F B^b/F F

53

do just when ev-'ry-thing looked so dark? "Man," they said, "we bet-ter

do just when ev-'ry-thing looked so dun da dun dun? "Man," they said, "we bet-ter

F13 D7(^b₉) G9 C7(♯5) F13 D^b9(♯11) G7(♯9) C7

57

61

ac - cent - tchu-ate the pos-i-tive, e - lim - i - nate the neg-a-tive, - latch on

ac - cent - tchu-ate the pos-i-tive, e - lim - i - nate the neg-a-tive, - latch on

F6 Bb9 F6

61

to the af-firm-a-tive. Don't mess with Mis-ter In-be - tween. Don't mess with Mis-ter In-be -

to the af-firm-a-tive. Don't mess with Mis-ter In-be - tween. Don't mess with Mis-ter In-be -

D9 Ab13 Gm7 C9 F D7 Gm7 C9

66

tween. Don't mess with Mis - ter In - be-tween."

tween. Don't mess — with Mis - ter In - be-tween."

F D7 Gm7 C9 F N.C.

70

AC-CENT-TCHU-ATE THE POSITIVE - 2-Part

