

West Coast Whiskers - Jazz

A $\frac{3}{4}$ jazz inspired piece in the West Coast Jazz tradition, which explores a performers command of rhythmic independence, stylistic nuance and soloistic virtuosity. Beginning with an open solo, each performer is required to set the stylistic framework while demonstrating instrumental and compositional dexterity.

The definition of the primary drum kit groove presents a specific coordination challenge with the juxtaposition of a triplet feel in the ride cymbal with straight semiquavers played between the snare and bass. For the guitarist, the fluency of the octaves, with a rubato feel, coupled with a demonstration of stylistic awareness and harmonic and rhythmic confidence, will define a successful performance. A successful bass performance will contribute to the rhythmic freedom that is implied throughout, while employing linear and polytonal techniques.

For all instruments an understanding of the concept of 'swing' within the genre is required for a successful and fluent performance. Along with this there is a fundamental component of Jazz, that of improvisation and the interaction with other instruments. There are several bars here for each performer to apply their own interpretation of this dynamic, with the freedom to work with and around the rhythmic structure, harmonic framework and stylistic parameters; as in the drum solo, which plays with and against the phrasing.