

THE DAVE BRUBECK QUARTET

JAZZ IMPRESSIONS of the U.S.A.

FOR PIANO

By

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Transcribed from the Columbia Recordings, and edited

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A music notebook is as important to the traveling musician, as a sketch pad is to the artist. When lulled by the sounds of travel, the drone of the plane, the rumble of the bus, the clack of the rails, or even the hiss of the radiator in a strange hotel room, themes suddenly spring into consciousness. If a sketchbook is handy, the elusive idea is captured to be developed, arranged or changed. "Jazz Impressions" is a group of compositions created in just such a manner, from notebook scribbblings made while on tour. It was recorded on three different dates, in three different cities (New York, Hollywood and Oakland) as our itinerary permitted.

As many popular songs have been transformed by jazz into almost different tunes — different in emotional content, rhythmic conception, and melodic development — so these sketches by the Quartet vary according to the mood of the group and the individual interpretations of the soloist. The themes themselves, which are but the skeletal framework for improvisation, occasionally use musical devices which are typical of certain regions in the United States. Although these pieces have their moments of humor, at no time do we attempt to satirize the indigenous music which served as inspiration for these impressions. Much of the folk music of America has become integrated into jazz, and conversely, jazz has affected folk music itself, so that today we find endless cross-influences.

Ode to a Cowboy is an example of *group* creation, after the theme has been presented and the idea discussed. Paul Desmond's alto becomes the plaintive voice of a singing cowboy, and Norman Bates' bass, his guitar

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ODE TO A COWBOY

DAVE BRUBECK

Easy swing ♩ = 128
Fm

B♭

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B♭ and E♭). The tempo is marked 'Easy swing' with a quarter note equal to 128 beats per minute. The first measure is marked with a dynamic of *mp legato*. The music features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Fingering numbers (1-5) are indicated above and below notes. A slur covers the first two measures. The bass line includes a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The system concludes with a double bar line.

Basso sempre non-legato

The second system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The first measure is marked with a dynamic of *R. H.* (Right Hand). The music continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Fingering numbers are present. A slur covers the first two measures. The bass line includes a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The system concludes with a double bar line.

The third system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The music continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Fingering numbers are present. A slur covers the first two measures. The bass line includes a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The system concludes with a double bar line.

The fourth system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The music continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Fingering numbers are present. A slur covers the first two measures. The bass line includes a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure. The system concludes with a double bar line.