



LA ALMEJA PEQUEÑA

(The Little Clam)

GORDON GOODWIN

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor	1st Trombone
Soprano Saxophone	2nd Trombone
1st E♭ Alto Saxophone (Optional)	3rd Trombone
2nd E♭ Alto Saxophone	4th Trombone
1st B♭ Tenor Saxophone	Guitar Chords
2nd B♭ Tenor Saxophone	Guitar
E♭ Baritone Saxophone	Piano
1st B♭ Trumpet	Bass
2nd B♭ Trumpet	Drums
3rd B♭ Trumpet	1st Auxiliary Percussion
4th B♭ Trumpet	2nd Auxiliary Percussion

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This piece was commissioned by the USAF Band of the West, MSgt. Steve Watkins, director.

There's often a temptation to plunge headfirst into Latin charts, but if you start this chart with a quiet but percolating groove, you'll leave yourself some dynamic room to grow. With the exception of a few measures here and there (8, 10, 40, 76–77, and 91–92), this chart doesn't get all that loud, at least at the beginning. But even when you are playing at a softer dynamic level, the horns can still spit out those rhythmic figures with tightness and polish. Don't forget all of those little internal dynamic markings, like the crescendos in measures 96, 97, 100, and 104.

After the solo section, start a long vamp (measure 153) that needs to start soft and build as each independent horn part is layered on. If you have a good timbales player, you might let him or her solo throughout the entire vamp to really help build the excitement.

Keep an eye out for places where the melody is passed back and forth among the sections. One example is measures 199–204, where the melody jumps from the saxes to the trombones, back to the saxes, and then to the brass. Maintaining the proper balance in a passage like this one takes teamwork and an awareness of not only the individual parts but also of what's going on around each player. Of course, that comment could apply to every chart you play. You can hear the Big Phat Band's version of "La Almeja Pequeña" on our Silverline Records release *The Phat Pack*.

I hope that you have fun with this chart and that you avoid all clams, large and small.

—Gordon Goodwin



**Gordon
Goodwin**

Gordon Goodwin is a three-time Emmy Award winner and GRAMMY® winner. His band's debut album *Swingin' for the Fences* (Silverline Records) received two GRAMMY® nominations and is the best-selling jazz item in the DVD® Audio 5.1 surround-sound format.

CONDUCTOR
JEM05021C

LA ALMEJA PEQUENA

"THE LITTLE CLAM"

LATIN SONGO GROOVE ♩ = 120

A TIMES

PLAY 3RD & 4TH TIMES ONLY

Bb SOPRANO SAXOPHONE
 2ND Eb ALTO SAXOPHONE
 1ST Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE
 2ND Bb TENOR SAXOPHONE
 Eb BARITONE SAXOPHONE
 1ST Bb TRUMPET
 2ND Bb TRUMPET
 3RD Bb TRUMPET
 4TH Bb TRUMPET
 1ST TROMBONE
 2ND TROMBONE
 3RD TROMBONE
 4TH TROMBONE
 GUITAR
 PIANO
 BASS (ACOUSTIC OR ELECTRIC)
 DRUMS
 1ST AUX. PERCUSSION (CONGELL, TIMBALES, SHAKER)
 2ND AUX. PERCUSSION (SHAKER, CONGAS, TIMBALES)