#### STRING ALTERNATIVES SERIES

# I Got Rhythm

Music and Lyrics by George Gershwin® and Ira Gershwin™

Arranged by Bert Ligon

▲

#### INSTRUMENTATION

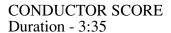
Conductor Score		
Violin I		
Violin II		
Viola		
Cello		
String Bass	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
Piano Accompaniment		1
Drumset		<b>)</b> 1

### I Got Rhythm

All jazz musicians improvise over the chord changes to George and Ira Gershwin's I Got Rhythm. The introduction allows the string orchestra to become a percussion ensemble by improvising or playing the notated rhythms. The strings should experiment with percussive sounds (chops, pops, and snaps). The first four measures can be made open until m. 5 is cued. The introduction can be opened up by using separate entrances for each section, thus building intensity to the cued measure. Long notes should be played p. The background material for the solos can be cued in creative ways, depending on the number of soloists. For example: 1st time, play only the 8-measure phrase from mm. 71-78; 2nd time play the other parts. Have a few players chop on beats two and four behind the soloists. There is room for improvisation after the first statement of the melody. Have the cello, piano and bass shape the four measure ascending lines at mm. 103-110. Even though they are marked the same, accent beats 2 & 4 slightly more than 1 & 3. Written solos are provided, but students should be encouraged to improvise over the "rhythm changes" using the suggested solos as a point of departure. An ensemble section follows with quotes from other tunes based on this progression before the original melody returns...



## I Got Rhythm



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