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Mel Bay Easy Klezmer Tunes



Synopsis

In response to many requests for a simplified version of his highly acclaimed Klezmer Collection, Stacy Phillips has compiled a selection of pieces for beginning instrumentalists from that classic book. Klezmer music originally came from the Jewish ghettos of Eastern Europe of the 19th and early 20th Centuries. The style reflects its mix of heritages from Europe, Near East and Gypsy. These arrangements are based on some of the earliest classic recordings in Europe and America. As such, they are a great introduction to this music which is now a world-wide phenomenon. Each number is arranged for C, Bb, Eb and bass clef instruments. Brass, reed, piano, flute, and string players can receive instant gratification from these entry level arrangements. The accompanying CD demonstrates ensemble versions of all the music, performed at slow tempos, by world class Klezmer artists on clarinet, violin, guitar and bass.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am totally a beginner when it comes to Klezmer - in fact, I had never attempted to play any Klezmer until now. I found this book to be exactly what I needed to get started. Having the CD to play along with makes a huge difference.

Although this book is written primarily for violin, flute, and other "one line melody" instruments (a clarinet and tuba would be helpful), several of my family members and I have used it to play some really fun music with an odd assortment of instruments. Even though there is no keyboard in Klezmer music, I have been able to adapt a piano or electric keyboard to play either rhythm or

melody without it sounding "weird". We have a violinist, cellist, and guitar player, the last three being fairly inexperienced musicians. But with the CD to play along with and the wonderful, joyful assortment of relatively easy pieces, we have actually made some fairly good music and worked out some very interesting arrangements using each of the instruments we have. It's a lot of work to learn the rather complicated rhythms and melody lines, but it's well worth it for the fun you have. I highly recommend it for groups or individuals who are seeking to play something a little more out of the ordinary.

I play the mandolin, a C instrument, and find these wonderful tunes very accessible! I'm glad the chords are shown, and the CD is great, too.

Nice to hear and easy to play on the trombone. I play the different songs everyday as a warming up exercise

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