

# Jazz Cats Recorder



**By Brad Keller and Bonnie Rossa**  
**Published by Themes & Variations**

# JAZZ CATS

## RECORDER COLLECTION

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# INTRODUCTION

We hope you enjoy learning the melodies and rhythms from the Jazz Cats Recorder Songbook. Each song focuses on a different style of jazz from Dixieland to contemporary. Dizzy's BAG, Bossa Cat and Simba Samba use only the notes B, A, G for the melodies; Dixie Cat adds E. The last two songs, Winka Cat and Cat Walk, include the more challenging B flat. We chose to include B flat because it is a "blues note" (minor third in G major and flatted fifth in E minor). "Blues notes" are an essential ingredient for jazz improvisations.

Each song has a section for improvising (making up the melody). The note choices for improvisation that will fit with the accompaniment are provided for each song. We suggest the beginning improvisers use rhythms from the song's melody while choosing from the suggested notes to create new melodies. Additional note choices are provided for more advanced students.

You will notice that the sheet music for Dizzy's BAG, Dixie Cat and Winka Cat are written using straight 8th notes. The rhythm of jazz is difficult to notate as it falls somewhere between straight eighth notes and triplets. Various styles of jazz approach the degree of "swing" eighth notes differently. Play the songs from the CD and imitate the rhythms. You will notice that jazz rhythms often feel relaxed and are slightly behind the beat. In addition, jazz music accents the upbeats rather than the downbeats.

The accompaniments on the CD are stylistically accurate and may be used as examples of the represented jazz styles. The songs and advanced soloing scales can be applied to all barred Orff instruments.

Have fun and keep swingin'!

The Jazz Cats- Bonnie Rossa and Brad Keller



**Student Version**  
**Echo Part**

# 1. DIZZY'S BAG

*In the style of swing jazz*

**CD Track 1 & 7**

[Eighth notes are played as  
Swing eighths - triplet feel]

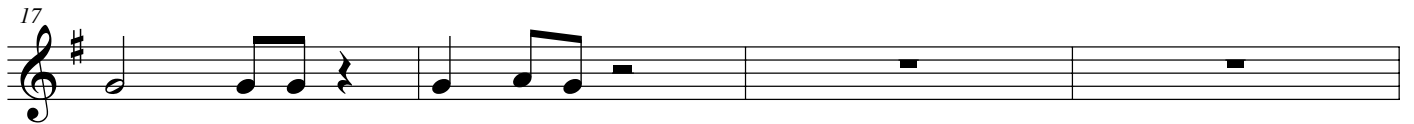
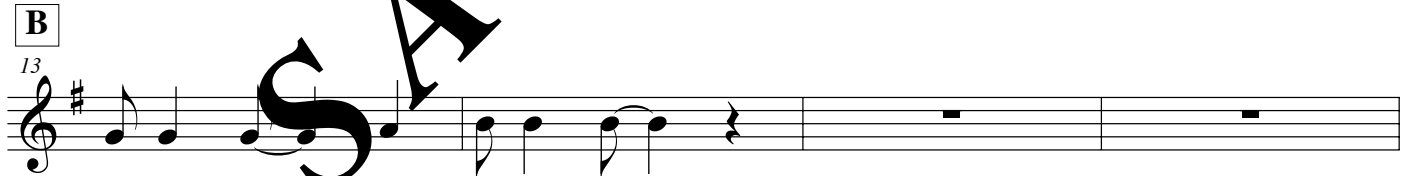
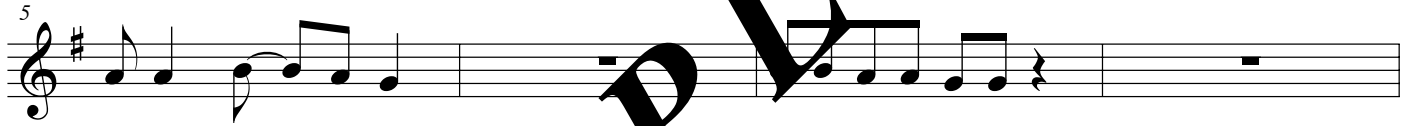
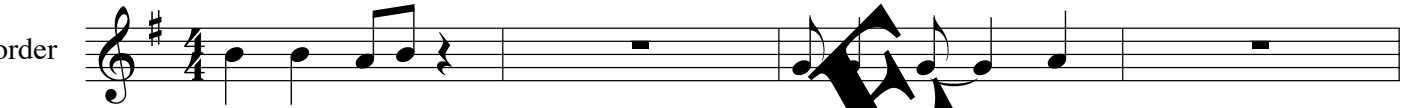
*Scales for Improvisation*  
**Beginner scale: B A G**  
**Advanced scale: D E G A B D**

[Echo melody  
or jazz solo]

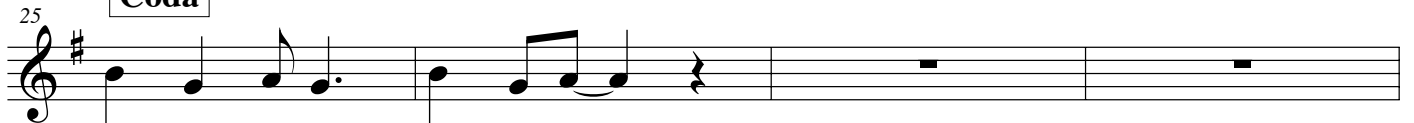
*Keller/Rossa*

Recorder

**A**



**Coda**



**Unison**



# 2. BOSSA CAT

In the style of bossa nova

CD Track 2 & 8

*Scales for Improvisation*

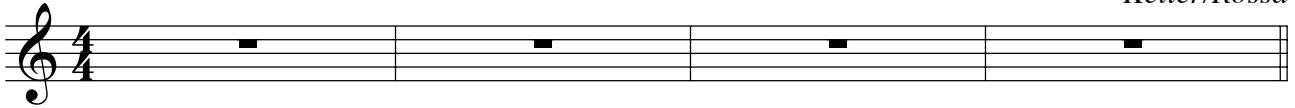
Beginner scale: *B A G*

Advanced scale *C D G A B C D*

*Keller/Rossa*

**Intro**

Recorder



**A**

5



In Bra - zil peo - ple dance, mov - ing to the beat.

13



There's a cat who loves jazz, plays with heart and soul.

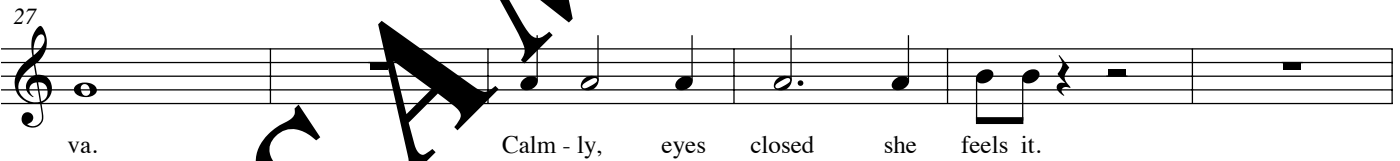
**B**

21



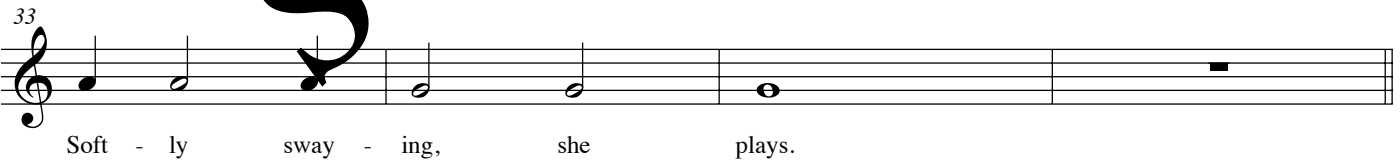
Feel - ing that mag - ic tim. She plays bos - sa no -

27



va. Calm - ly, eyes closed she feels it.

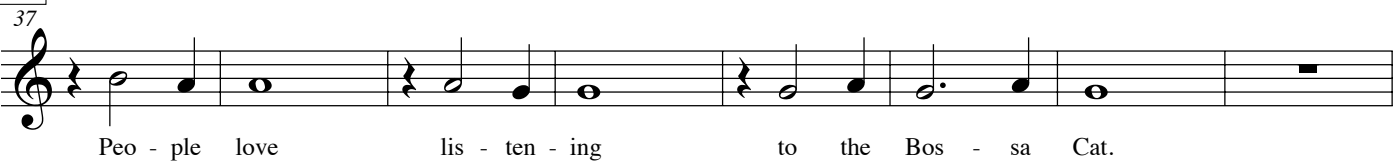
33



Soft - ly sway - ing, she plays.

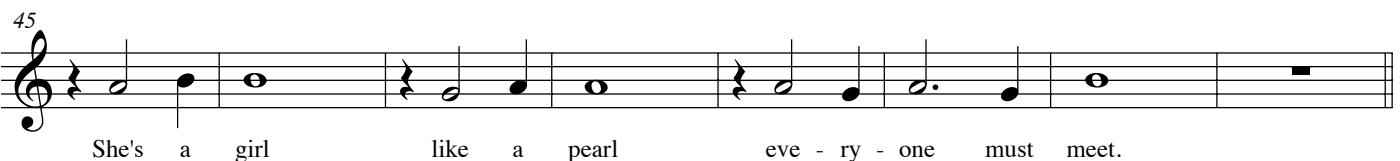
**A**

37



Peo - ple love lis - ten - ing to the Bos - sa Cat.

45



She's a girl like a pearl eve - ry - one must meet.

# 3. SIMBA SAMBA

In the style of jazz fusion

CD Tracks 3 & 9

Keller/Rossa

Repeat 4 times  
(to m. 5)

**Intro** Fast Jazz Samba **A**

Recorder

**B**

Repeat 3 times  
(to m. 9)

**C**



# 5. WINKA CAT

In the style of swing jazz

CD Track 5 & 11

[Eighth notes are played as  
Swing eighth - triplet feel]

*Scales for Improvisation*  
Beginner scale: Bb A G  
Advanced scale: D E G A Bb D

Keller/Rossa

**Verses 1 - 5**

Recorder



Win-ka, one cool cat! Win-ka, one cool cat!

7 Repeat 5 times



Win-ka knows where it's at.

Jazz Solos:

Beginner scale: Bb A G ~ Advanced scale: D E G A Bb D  
G7 (Blues form) C7

13



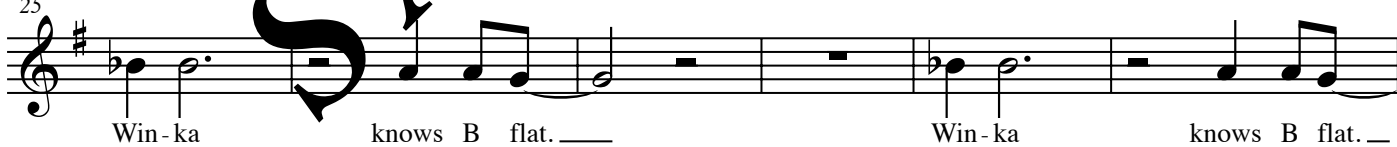
19 Repeat (to m. 13)



G7 E7 Am7 D7 G7 Bb7 Eb7 D7

**Verse 6**

25



Win-ka knows B flat. Win-ka knows B flat.

31



Win-ka is one cool cat! Yeah!

**VERSE 2:** Winka plays the blues. Winka plays the blues. Winka knows all the rules.

**VERSE 3:** Cool cats always swing. Cool cats always swing. They know rhythm's the thing.

**VERSE 4:** Cool cats need B flat. Cool cats need B flat. B flat makes one hip cat!

**VERSE 5:** Blues notes are unique. Blues notes are unique. Blues notes are what you seek.



