

1st place winner of the 2015 Ithaca College Jazz Ensemble Composition Contest

Mirage

RICK HIRSCH

JAZZ ENSEMBLE INSTRUMENTATION

Soprano saxophone

Clarinet OR Alto saxophone

Flute OR Tenor OR Soprano saxophone

Tenor saxophone

Baritone Saxophone

4 Trumpets

4 Trombones (incl. 1 Bass Tbn.)

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drums

IMPROVISED SOLOS: Trombone, Flute OR Tenor Saxophone, Trumpet

DURATION: 9-10 minutes

LEVEL: Advanced

HIRSCHMUSIC PUBLICATIONS

PROGRAM NOTES

This one-of-a-kind piece for jazz ensemble paints the picture of small nomadic caravan. They are plodding through an endless desert until they spot what appears to be Eden. They are in true ecstasy in this lush heavenly place — until it vanishes.

Mirage is dedicated to the memory of my teacher Yusef Lateef, a thoughtful, humble man who was always seeking new ways to find truth and beauty.

Mirage came to be when I considered writing a “jazz tune” that comes from a scale I refer to as the *Jewish Mode* (which happens to be the 5th mode of the harmonic minor scale). The music that resulted had a clear Middle Eastern sound to it, which guided me to this work.

Enjoy!

~ Rick Hirsch

REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE NOTES

- In the opening section encourage the “desert sound effects” wind players to get creative. They might make unconventional sounds with their horns, including percussive key pops and otherworldly multi-phonics.
- Encourage these same players to not play all the time, and to really engage in all the sounds around them.
- The woodwind melodies during the opening (slow) section should be flavored with pitch bends and other middle-Eastern melodic gestures.
- Encourage every player—especially the rhythm section—to listen to the several recordings of this tune online.
- Guitarist should use some overdrive, and could be considered for one of the solos.
- Take a deep breath and have fun!

RICK HIRSCH

I’m a composer, arranger, and educator based in State College, PA. After earning music degrees from UMass-Amherst and Northern Illinois Univ., I apprenticed with Bob Mintzer and Toshiko Akiyoshi, serving each as a personal music copyist. Drop me a line if you have any questions, or if you’d like to tell me about a performance. And be sure to check out much more music on my website.

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Plodding through the vast desert,
 a small caravan finds Eden.
 And then it's gone.

Mirage

Winner of the 2015 Ithaca College Jazz Composition Contest

in fond memory of
 Bro. Yusef Lateef

RICK HIRSCH (2014)

SAXES & TPPTS: USE THE SOUNDS OF YOUR INSTRUMENT TO CREATE THE DESOLATE MOOD OF A DESERT TRAIL. SOME PLAYERS SHOULD MAKE A SWIRLING DESERT WIND. EXTENDED TECHNIQUES ARE WELCOME, INCLUDING PERCUSSIVE EFFECTS. BE RESOURCEFUL. TRY NOT TO HYPERVENTILATE.

(A TEMPO) ♩ = 50 BREATHE & LEAVE SPACES... STAGGER YOUR BREAKS / RESTS WITH THE OTHERS

SAX 1: B♭ SOPRANO
SAX 2: B♭ CLARINET
 * SUB. ALTO PART INCLUDED

SAX 3: FLUTE
 * SUB. TENOR/SOP PART INCLUDED

SAX 4: B♭ TENOR

SAX 5: E♭ BARITONE

B♭ TRUMPET 1

B♭ TRUMPET 2

B♭ TRUMPET 3

B♭ TRUMPET 4

TRUMPONE 1
 (STRAIGHT MUTE) (SOLO) OFF IN THE DISTANCE

TRUMPONE 2

TRUMPONE 3

BASS TRUMPONE

GIHAR
 (SOLO-LIKE FILLS) MAYBE SOMETHING LIKE THIS... (USING "A" GIBRALTAR MODE - D HARMONIC MINOR, PESH A TO A)
 * OPT. * (LETTER YOU'RE FREE)

PIANO
 (SOLO-LIKE FILLS) MAYBE SOMETHING LIKE THIS... (USING "A" GIBRALTAR MODE - D HARMONIC MINOR, PESH A TO A)
 (MORE SIM. FILLS) LEAVE WIDE SPACES... YOU'RE A DISTANT SOUND IN THE DESERT. AFTER ALL... KIND OF ALTERNATE W/ MUTE'D TRN.

BASS
 (SIM. "A" PEDAL)

DRUMS
 KEEP IT SIMPLE & DRIVING (CYMS) (ADD OTHER AMBIENT "DESERT" SOUNDS, TOO)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Mirage...p.3

(MIDDLE EASTERN-SOUNDING FILLS)

FASTER ♩=120 **(B)**

87 (18) (MIDDLE EASTERN-SOUNDING FILLS) 87 (18) 15 16

SOP. (MIDDLE EASTERN-SOUNDING FILLS) mp

CLAR. 87 (18) 3

FL. 3 GMI CADENZA [SOLO YOU SET THE TEMPO] 3

TENOR 2

BARI mp

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1 (OPEN)

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR. (8)

PIANO (8)

BASS (8) GMI

DRUMS (8) (PLAY) A MIDDLE-EASTERN-SOUNDING TAMBOURINE GROOVE WITH A GOOD PULSE Etc...

1. TAMB. WITH HEAD IS PREFERRED
2. PLAY WITH HANDS...USE MOUNTED TAMB. LATER

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

(EVEN FASTER) ♩=144

SOP.
mf
SOLO

CLAR.
mf
SOLO

FL.

TENOR 2
mp
SOLO

BARI.
mf
SOLO

TRP. 1

TRP. 2
FLUGEL
USE FLUGEL UNTIL []
mf
SOLO

TRP. 3

TRP. 4
BUCKET
USE BUCKET UNTIL []
mf
SOLO

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS
FOR REFERENCE
"SOLO GROOVE - YOU GET THE NEW TEMPO"
Etc... (4)





Musical score for various instruments including Soprano, Clarinet, Flute, Tenors 1-4, Trombones 1-3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score includes musical notation, dynamics (mp), and a large 'PREVIEW' watermark.

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

Mirage...p.6

This musical score is for the piece 'Mirage...p.6'. It features a variety of instruments and vocal parts. The vocal parts include Soprano (SOP.), Tenor 1 (TEN. 1), Tenor 2 (TEN. 2), Tenor 3 (TEN. 3), and Bass Tenor (BASS TEN.). The instrumental parts include Clarinet (CLAR.), Flute (FL.), Trombone 1 (TPP. 1), Trombone 2 (TPP. 2), Trombone 3 (TPP. 3), Trombone 4 (TPP. 4), Trumpet 1 (TRN. 1), Trumpet 2 (TRN. 2), Trumpet 3 (TRN. 3), Bass Trumpet (BASS TRN.), Guitar (GTR.), Piano (PIANO), Bass, and Drums (DRUMS). The score is written in 6/4 and 4/4 time signatures. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid on the page. The Drums part includes performance instructions: '(5)', '(NEW PHRASE)', '* ADD FEET', and '(FILL)'. The page number '45' is visible at the bottom left.

F

SOP.
 CLAR. (Opt. BVA)
 FL.
 TENG. 2
 BARI.
 TRP. 1
 TRP. 2
 TRP. 3 (KEEP USING HARMON ALL THE WAY TO H)
 TRP. 4
 TEN. 1
 TEN. 2
 TEN. 3
 BASS TEN.
 GTR.
 PIANO
 BASS
 DRUMS (Get Busier!)

Musical score for 'Mirage...p.9' featuring various instruments including Soprano, Clarinet, Flute, Tenors, Trumpets, Trombones, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The score includes dynamic markings like 'f' and 'sf', articulation like 'acc', and performance instructions such as 'KEEP USING HARMON ALL THE WAY TO H' and 'BIG LEAD-IN'.

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

H **OPEN**

SOP.

CLAR.

FL.

TENOR 2

BARI

TPP. 1

TPP. 2

TPP. 3

TPP. 4

TRM. 1

TRM. 2

TRM. 3

BASS TRM.

GTR.

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

(TO TRUMPET) →

A7(13) (SOLD) USE THIS "JEWISH" MODE, MORE OR LESS

LAST X^o - ON CUE >

mp

mp

mp

A7(13) GMI A7(13) A7(13) GMI GMI BbMA A7(13)

A7(13) GMI A7(13) A7(13) GMI GMI BbMA A7(13)

A7 GMI A7 A7 GMI GMI BbMA A7

87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94

J

Musical score for Mirage...p.13, measures 103-110. The score includes staves for Soprano, Clarinet, Flute, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Tenor 3, Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2, Trumpet 3, Trumpet 4, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid on the score.

Measures 103-110 are shown. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (f), articulation (>), and performance instructions (OPEN, TRUMPET).

Chord progressions for Guitar, Piano, and Bass are indicated below the staves:

- Guitar: A7(9), Gm1, A7(9), A7(9), Gm1, Gm1, BbMA, A7(9)
- Piano: A7(9), Gm1, A7(9), A7(9), Gm1, Gm1, BbMA, A7(9)
- Bass: A7, Gm1, A7, A7, Gm1, Gm1, BbMA, A7

Drums are marked with a slash (/) in each measure, indicating a rhythmic pattern.

(K)

Musical score for Mirage...p.14, measures 111-118. The score includes staves for Soprano, Clarinet, Flute, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Tenor 3, Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2, Trumpet 3, Trumpet 4, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Measures 111-118 are shown. The guitar and bass parts include chord diagrams for A7(9), Gm1, Fm1, E5, and A7. The piano part includes a dynamic marking of *fz* at measure 115.

L *SOLO*

SOP.
CLAR.
FL.
TENOR 2
BARI.
TPR. 1
TPR. 2
TPR. 3
TPR. 4
TBN. 1
TBN. 2
TBN. 3
BASS TBN.
GTR.
PIANO
BASS
DRUMS

ELECTRIFYING!
fp
fz
fp
f

A7(9) Gm1 A7(9) A7(9) Gm1 Gm1 BbmA A7(9)
A7(9) Gm1 A7(9) A7(9) Gm1 Gm1 BbmA A7(9)
A7 Gm1 A7 A7 Gm1 Gm1 BbmA A7

Kick!

f 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126

M

Musical score for Mirage...p.16, measures 127-134. The score includes staves for Soprano, Clarinet, Flute, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, Tenor 3, Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2, Trumpet 3, Trumpet 4, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score. The score is in 4/4 time and features various musical notations including notes, rests, and dynamics. The guitar and bass parts include chord diagrams for A7(9), Gm1, and BbMA. The drums part shows a consistent rhythmic pattern.

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

fz

N

SOP. *ff*

CLAR. *ff*

FL. *ff*

TENOR 2 *ff*

BARI. *ff*

TRP. 1 *ff*

TRP. 2 *ff*

TRP. 3 *ff*

TRP. 4 *ff*

TEN. 1 *ff*

TEN. 2 UNLOAD !!! (8)

TEN. 3 *ff*

BASS TEN. *ff*

GTR. *ff*

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS *Big & STRONG!*

135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142

0

SOP.

CLAR.

FL.

TENOR 2

BARI

TRP. 1

TRP. 2

TRP. 3

TRP. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

BEING OUT

MOTEO DIMIN.

(TO PLUNGER →)

WAIT -- DON'T COME RIGHT AWAY IN NEXT SECTION

FOR REFERENCE:

(4)

(6)

BACK TO 'DEV' TIME →
CROSS-STICK, TAMBOURINE, HI-HAT, ETC...

143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150



P OPEN

SOP.

CLAR.

FL.

TENOR 2

BARI.

TPR. 1

TPR. 2

TPR. 3

TPR. 4

TBN. 1

TBN. 2

TBN. 3

BASS TBN.

GTR.

PIANO

BASS

DRUMS

(SOLO - TRADE W/ TPT) USE THIS "JEWISH" MODE, MORE OR LESS

(SOLO - TRADE W/ FLUTE) USE THIS "JEWISH" MODE, MORE OR LESS

*(MODAL CLIPPING) USE CHORD STRUCTURES OR CLUSTERS FROM THIS SCALE *** BUT WAIT A WHILE BEFORE YOU ENTER ****

*(MODAL CLIPPING) USE CHORD STRUCTURES OR CLUSTERS FROM THIS SCALE *** BUT WAIT A WHILE BEFORE YOU ENTER ****

BEING IT WAY DOWN HERE -- USE LOTS OF SPACE (SAMPLE LINE SHOWN)

(CROSS-STICK / MOUNTED TAMS) AND SIM. "DRY" TIME YOU CAN BE "OPEN" WITH TIME FEEL -- THERE'LL BE TIME TO REALLY LAY DOWN GROOVE A LITTLE LATER ON

p

-15H A

151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158

Q ON CUE

SOP.

CLAR. *p* WHILE CONTINUING TO "READ", OVERLAP YOUR PHRASES W/ TRUMPET

FL.

TENOR 2 *p*

BARI *p*

TPR. 1 *p*

TPR. 2 *p*

TPR. 3 *p*

TPR. 4 WHILE CONTINUING TO "READ", OVERLAP YOUR PHRASES W/ FLUTE

TBN. 1 *p*

TBN. 2 *p*

TBN. 3 *p*

BASS TBN. *p*

GTR. *mp* Use this "A Jewish" Mode throughout

PIANO *p* Use this "A Jewish" Mode throughout

BASS A7(9) etc... BEGIN THE LONG BUILD TO **IV** or **V**, GRADUALLY GETTING BUSIER & STRONGER

DRUMS LONG BUILD TO **IV** or **V**

R

Musical score for Mirage...p.21, measures 167-174. The score includes staves for Soprano (SOP.), Clarinet (CLAR.), Flute (FL.), Trombone 1 (TBN. 1), Trombone 2 (TBN. 2), Trombone 3 (TBN. 3), Bass Trombone (BASS TBN.), Guitar (GTR.), Piano (PIANO), Bass (BASS), and Drums (DRUMS). The score features various musical notations including notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as 'PUNCH' and 'p'. A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'REHEARSAL' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

167

168

169

170

171

172

173

174

S

mp

mp

No MORE TEADING - JUST PLAY

mp

mp

mp

No MORE TEADING - JUST PLAY

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mf

w/ SAXES (OVERDRIVE)

mp

PIANO

mf

DIG IN MORE

mp

175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182

T

SOP. *mf*
 CLAR. *mf*
 FL.
 TENG. 2 *mf*
 BARI. *mf*
 TPR. 1 *mf*
 TPR. 2 *mf*
 TPR. 3 *mf*
 TPR. 4
 TEN. 1 *mf*
 TEN. 2 *mf*
 TEN. 3 *mf*
 BASS TEN. *mf*
 GTR. *mf*
 PIANO
 BASS *mf*
 DRUMS *mf*

BEGINNING TO ROCK IT HERE. (BASS 'HITS' ARE PUNCHIER)
 etc... (4)

U

Musical score for *Mirage...p.24*, featuring a large watermark "PREVIEW". The score includes parts for Soprano (SOP.), Clarinet (CLAR.), Flute (FL.), Tenor 2 (TENOR 2), Baritone (BARI.), Trumpet 1 (TPP. 1), Trumpet 2 (TPP. 2), Trumpet 3 (TPP. 3), Trumpet 4 (TPP. 4), Trombone 1 (TBN. 1), Trombone 2 (TBN. 2), Trombone 3 (TBN. 3), Bass Trombone (BASS TBN.), Guitar (GTR.), Piano (PIANO), Bass (BASS), and Drums (DRUMS).

Key annotations include:

- (BIG ENG. HIT)**: Located above the Flute and Trumpet 3 parts.
- Rock it HARD**: Located above the Bass part.
- ETC...**: Located above the Bass part.
- (4)**: A measure rest annotation above the Bass part.
- AS IS**: Located above the Bass part.
- BIG LEAD-IN**: Located above the Bass and Drums parts with arrows pointing to the right.
- ff**: Fortissimo dynamic markings at the end of several parts.
- f**: Forte dynamic markings at the beginning of several parts.
- 3**: Triplet markings above various notes in the Flute, Trumpet 3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Trombone 3, and Drums parts.

The score spans measures 191 to 198, with measure numbers 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, and 198 clearly visible at the bottom.

Mirage...p.25

V

Musical score for 'Mirage...p.25' featuring various instruments and vocal parts. The score includes a large 'PREVIEW' watermark.

INSTRUMENTS: SOPRANO (SOP.), CLARINET (CLAR.), FLUTE (FL.), TENOR 1 (TEN. 1), TENOR 2 (TEN. 2), TENOR 3 (TEN. 3), TENOR 4 (TEN. 4), TRUMPET 1 (TPP. 1), TRUMPET 2 (TPP. 2), TRUMPET 3 (TPP. 3), TRUMPET 4 (TPP. 4), TENOR 1 (TEN. 1), TENOR 2 (TEN. 2), TENOR 3 (TEN. 3), BASS TENOR (BASS TEN.), GUITAR (GTR.), PIANO (PIANO), BASS (BASS), DRUMS (DRUMS).

Annotations:

- PALM KEY:** Indicated above measures 203 and 204.
- ff:** Fortissimo dynamic markings are present in measures 203 and 204.
- REMOVE MORE:** Annotation for TRUMPET 4 in measure 203.
- SHOUT SECTION - BRASS RECAP ORIGINAL THEME:** Annotation for TRUMPET 4 in measure 203.
- NEW PHRASE:** Annotations for GUITAR, BASS, and DRUMS in measures 204 and 206.
- Chord Progression:** A5, Gm1, A5, A5, Gm1, A5.
- Drum Patterns:** (5) and (4) are noted for the drum parts.

MEASURE NUMBERS: 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207.

GRADUAL RIT. (DOWN TO ♩=100)

This musical score is for the piece "Mirage...p.26" and includes a "GRADUAL RIT." (down to ♩=100) instruction. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- SOPRANO (SOP.)
- CLARINET (CLAR.)
- FLUTE (FL.)
- TENOR 2 (TENOR 2)
- BARI (BARI)
- TRUMPET 1 (TPR. 1)
- TRUMPET 2 (TPR. 2)
- TRUMPET 3 (TPR. 3)
- TRUMPET 4 (TPR. 4)
- TROMBONE 1 (TBN. 1)
- TROMBONE 2 (TBN. 2)
- TROMBONE 3 (TBN. 3)
- BASS TROMBONE (BASS TBN.)
- GUITAR (GTR.)
- PIANO (PIANO)
- BASS
- DRUMS (DRUMS)

The score features various musical notations including dynamics (mp, fz), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions like "IN STAND". A large, semi-transparent watermark "PREVIEW" is overlaid across the center of the page. The page number "208" is visible at the bottom left, and the measure numbers 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, and 215 are indicated at the bottom.

Mirage...p.27

1/2-TIME ♩ = 50

Handwritten musical score for 'Mirage...p.27' in 1/2-time, tempo 50. The score includes parts for Soprano, Clarinet, Flute, Tenor 1 & 2, Baritone, Trumpets 1-4, Trombones 1-3, Bass Trombone, Guitar, Piano, Bass, and Drums. The music is marked with 'PREVIEW' and contains several performance instructions and annotations:

- Woodwinds:** (MAKE DESERT SOUNDS) (LIKE AT BEGINNING) and STAGGER BREAKS WITH OTHERS.
- Flute:** (SPACE FILLS) (USING THE SAME "GENISH" MODE).
- Trumpets:** (MAKE DESERT SOUNDS) (LIKE AT BEGINNING) and STAGGER BREAKS WITH OTHERS.
- Trombones:** (TO STRAIGHT MUTE) → and (SOLO) STRAIGHT MUTE.
- Guitar/Piano:** (DUO-LIKE FILLS) LIKE AT THE BEGINNING. HERE'S A BEHINDER SAMPLE, USING "A GENISH" MODE... (with 6 and 3 fret markings).
- Bass:** A^b and (SIM. "A" PEDAL).
- Drums:** (SIMPLE & DEJING) LIKE THE BEGINNING.

The score spans measures 216 to 221, with a double bar line at the end of measure 221.

SOP. *SWELING WIND*
 CLAR. *(8)*
 FL. *(MAKE DESERT SOUNDS) (LIKE AT BEGINNING)*
 TENOR 2 *(8)*
 BARI. *(8)*
 TPT. 1 *(8)*
 TPT. 2 *(8)*
 TPT. 3 *(8)*
 TPT. 4 *(4)*
 TBN. 1
 TBN. 2
 TBN. 3
 BASS TBN. *FADE OUT TO NIENTE*
 GTR. *(SIM. FILL)*
 PIANO *(SIM. FILL)*
 BASS *2* *2* *DISAPPEAR MID-PHASE* *2*
 DRUMS *(6)* *(8)* *DISAPPEAR MID-PHASE*

PREVIEW

222 223 224 *FADE OUT TO NIENTE* 225 226 227 228