

Dirty Low-Down Good-for-Nothin' Blues

The Composer

Dan Adams is retired from the Wooster City Schools in Wooster, Ohio, where he served as Band and Orchestra director and Instrumental Music Coordinator for nearly three decades. Prior to Wooster he taught at Mount Anthony Union High School in Bennington, Vermont.

He received a Bachelor of Music Education degree from The Ohio State University (major instrument trombone) and a Master of Music in Band Conducting from Northwestern University where he studied with John Paynter.

Adams has decades of experience as an adjudicator, brass musician, and conductor. Present and past memberships include the Ohio Music Education Association, NAFME, ASCAP, College Band Directors National Association, and American Federation of Musicians Local 159.

His compositions have been performed internationally and have been featured at The Midwest Band Clinic, the Western International Band Clinic, and have received recognition in the Bandworld Top 100 as well as numerous J.W. Pepper Editors' Choice selections.

Performance Concerns

- Potential new (fun!) challenges in this piece:
 - Swing 8ths
 - Db concert
 - Glissando, smear, fall
 - Wa Wa in trumpet: use hand over bell (add plunger for additional challenge)
- In general, unless marked otherwise: 8ths are played legato; quarter notes separated.
- Play up the finger snaps. Even consider adding a head nod on the beat.
- Take care to avoid rushing the tempo. Keep it laid back and “cool.”
- To help with swing style in rehearsal, try adding the meas. 6 rhythm in percussion while rehearsing parts in the winds.

Program Notes

Dirty Low-Down Good-for-Nothin' Blues is a swingin' 12 bar blues that will make you want to nod your head and snap your fingers to the beat. Finger snaps, glissandos, smears, wa-wa's, and falls all challenge the performers but add lots of fun for the players and audience alike.