



Better Luck Next Time



for Jazz Quartet

Tenor Saxophone

Piano

Double Bass

Drum kit

Zoe Gougousidis

Better Luck Next Time

Zoe Gougousidis

Jazz Quartet Tenor Saxophone Piano Double Bass Drum Kit
--

Better Luck Next Time was composed by Zoe Gougousidis in 2021, and was premiered in concert on the 28th of May 2021 at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music.

This piece incorporates a thematic use of the number thirteen, with the unlucky connotations of the number reflected in the title. Each section of the piece is thirteen bars long (with exception of the 4 bar transition in the opening).

The leaps and chords used in the piece often incorporate the interval of a thirteenth, and melodic fragments utilising intervals of thirteen semitones are also used. The use of diminished chords, dissonance, large motivic leaps and flattened intervals, as well as the unusual bar number in each section play into the unlucky feeling of the number thirteen.

The aforementioned pitch techniques, lopsided section lengths and uneven phrasing is combined with an overall accelerando in tempo to give the listener a sense of unease and lack of control, again tying back to the theme.

The free feel and slow sections with thin textures contrast with moments of speed and thick sound to create an energetic and sometimes manic piece.

This piece was written to feature the small jazz combo, with each instrument having solo features. The piece also allows room for improvisation amongst the written sections, which is an important aspect of the jazz style.

Better Luck Next Time

Zoe Gougousidis

Relaxed Swing ♩ = 95

Tenor Saxophone

Staff for Tenor Saxophone. Dynamics: *p*, *mf*, *p*, *mf*, *mp*. Includes slurs and accents.

Staff for Piano. Dynamics: *p*. Chords: $Em^7 Dm^7$. Includes slurs and accents.

Relaxed Swing ♩ = 95

pizz.

Double Bass

Staff for Double Bass. Dynamics: *p*. Includes slurs and accents.

Relaxed Swing ♩ = 95

Drum Set

Staff for Drum Set. Dynamics: *p*. Includes asterisks for snare and cymbal hits.

Ten. Sax.

Staff for Tenor Saxophone. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*. Includes vibrato (*vib.*) and a triplet (*3*).

Pno.

Staff for Piano. Dynamics: *p*. Chords: $Bm^7(\flat^9)$, Am^7 , $Dm^7(add6)$, Dm^{13} , $Dm(add4)$. Includes slurs and accents.

Db.

Staff for Double Bass.

Dr.

Staff for Drum Set. Dynamics: *p*. Includes asterisks for snare and cymbal hits.

10

Ten. Sax.

p *mf* *p*

Pno.

mp

8^{vb}

Db.

mp *mf*

Dr.

mp

14

Ten. Sax.

f *mf*

Pno.

f *mf*

3

Dm(add4) Dm Em⁷/D Dm⁷

Db.

f *mf*

Dr.

f *mf*

17

Ten. Sax. *mf* **A** 3

Pno. *mf* Dm Em⁷/D Dm Em⁷/D Dm⁷ Dm Em⁷(add13) Dm

Db. *mf* **A** *mf*

Dr. *mf* **A**

20

Ten. Sax. *f* *mf* 3 *f* *mf*

Pno. Dm Em⁷(add13) D^o Em⁷ Bm⁷(b5)/F A⁹/E Dm Em⁷(add13)/D

Db.

Dr.

23

Ten. Sax.

Pno.

C⁷/E Bm⁷(b⁵)/F Ab⁹/E Em⁷ Bm⁷(b⁵)/F A⁷/G

Db.

Dr.

25

Ten. Sax.

Pno.

D^o7 Ab/Eb Dm⁷(add4) G¹³ G⁷/F

Db.

Dr.