

25 Hot Hot Hot

RESOURCES ▶ CD2 track 2 (performance) and 24 (backing)

Information

This calypso tune is an ideal show-closer and crowd-pleaser. A favourite of wedding bands and footballers everywhere, it was a hit for Alphonsus Cassell (aka Arrow), as well as for the singer David Johansen in his 'Buster Poindexter' persona. It's a high-energy song all about celebrating!

Starting

- Warm up the body to a calypso beat, perhaps using the backing track. Start with the shoulders, rolling them back and forth, then let shoulders and arms bounce. Rotate wrists and shake out hands. Now turn the upper body from side to side, then rotate your knees, alternating from left to right. Finally, standing on tiptoe, stretch high with arms above the head, then flop down like a rag doll and slowly roll downward until your upper body is as far down as it will comfortably go. Hold and relax. Then slowly roll upward and shake it all out.
- Clap the rhythm of 'Hot hot hot' against a stamped crotchet/quarter-note pulse (approx. $\text{♩} = 120$). Try clapping only two out of the three notes: the first then the last; the first then the second; or the second then the third.
- Establish a bright, energized vocal tone on a single note, and sing 'Hot hot hot' in rhythm—keep it tight and clean.
- Divide into three or four groups. Starting at about $\text{♩} = 87$, and working up to $\text{♩} = 120$, build up this drum-kit exercise part by part.

Shaker or hi-hat

shih k tih k etc.

Tom-toms

k dn

Hand claps

k dn dn

Foot stomps

Now, using call and response, chant the lyrics of bars 54–61 over this backing.

Teaching and rehearsing

- Start by setting a party mood! Have some of your group perform the drum-kit exercise above, and teach bars

54–61 call and response style.

- Teach the opening 'olé's in the same fashion, building part by part.
- Speak bars 18–24. Once the rhythm is solid, teach the notes for each part separately then sing it together. Sing in a bright 'belt' with minimal vibrato to create an 'island' sound.
- Next, speak bars 25–9, with the upper and lower parts as separate groups. Then teach the notes for each part separately as before, and sing it together.
- Teach bars 30–40 and 66–end in the same fashion. Give the triplets (bar 66 onwards) a stretched feel to keep them from becoming too short.
- You might want to try singing with a Caribbean accent. For ideas, listen to the recordings suggested below, or to the CD demo.
- Add in bars 46–61, learnt earlier, and sing the whole piece.

Ideas

- Get performance ideas by listening to the original recording by Arrow, as well as the famous version by Buster Poindexter. Although basically the same song performed in the same style, David Johansen puts on a character—Buster Poindexter—whereas Arrow is simply being himself. What similarities or differences do you notice? What could you incorporate into your performance?
- Invite your group to 'party' during the instrumental sections: shout, dance, and maybe even start a conga-line! Listen to the CD for ideas.

Listen out

- Check that the song doesn't rush, and ensure that the rhythm and words are clean and precise—e.g. in bars 20 (and similar), 22–3, 33, and 54–61.
- Be wary of over-singing. Your singers should aim to achieve an energetic 'party vibe' by maintaining a precise and punchy sound rather than shouting, which can damage the voice and affect blend and precision. Perhaps ask singers to check their voices for any pain or hoarseness during or immediately after rehearsal. Listen for any louder, more confident voices sticking out.

Performing

- Create a party spirit! Maybe even parade your conga-line through the audience and invite them to join in!

25 Hot Hot Hot

Alphonsus Cassell
arr. Steve Milloy

Fast calypso; celebration time! ♩ = 120

S. A.

O - lé o - lé o - lé o - lé, o - lé o - lé o - lé o - lé.

T. B.

Fast calypso; celebration time! ♩ = 120 *f*

Piano

6 Bb Eb Gm F/C Bb Eb Gm F/C

10 Bb Eb F Eb/F Bb Eb F Eb/F

14 Bb Eb F Eb/F Bb Eb F 16va gliss.

18 *unis. mf*

Me mind on fi - re, me soul on fi - re, feel-in' hot hot hot.
 See peo-ple rock-in', hear peo-ple chant-in', feel-in' hot hot hot.

mf *mf* *f*

B \flat E \flat F E \flat /F B \flat E \flat

21

Par-ty peo-ple all a-round me feel-in'
 Keep up the spir-it, come on let's do it, feel-in'

unis.

F E \flat /F B \flat E \flat F E \flat /F

mf

24

hot hot hot. Hot hot hot.
 hot hot hot.

unis.

Uh what to do _____ on a night like
 It's in the air, _____ cel-e-bra-tion

B \flat E \flat F E \flat /F B \flat E \flat

27

Hot hot hot... Hot hot hot... Hot hot hot... We

this? time! Mu-sic sweet, I can't re - sist. We
 Mu-sic sweet, cap-ti-vate your mind.

F Eb/F Bb Eb F Eb/F

30

need a - par-ty song, a fun - da - men-tal
 have this par-ty song, this fun - da - men-tal

Bb Eb F Eb/F Bb Eb

33

charm, charm, so we can room boom boom boom! Yeah, we

F Eb/F Bb Eb F Eb/F

36

room boom boom boom! Feel-in' hot hot hot.

Bb Eb F Eb/F Bb Eb

39

Feel-in' hot hot hot.

F Eb/F Bb Eb F Eb/F

42

Bb Eb Gm F Bb Eb F

46

-lé o - lé o - lé o - lé, o - lé o - lé o - lé o - lé. O -

f

50

-lé o - lé o - lé o - lé, o - lé o - lé o - lé o - lé.

B \flat Eb F B \flat B \flat Eb F B \flat

f

54

unis. f (spoken)

Peo-ple in the par - ty, hot hot hot.

unis. f (spoken)

Peo-ple in the par - ty, hot hot hot. they

56

They come to the par-ty know-in' what they got.

come to the par-ty know-in' what they got.

58

I'm hot, you're hot. He's hot, she's hot. I'm hot, you're hot.

61

He's hot, she's hot.

65

Hot hot hot. How you feel-in'?

How you feel-in'? Hot hot hot.

68

Hot hot hot. How you feel-in? Hot hot hot.

How you feel-in? Hot hot hot.

B \flat F B \flat

71

Hot hot hot. Hot hot hot. Hot hot hot.

F B \flat F B \flat