

Lesson Plan and Analysis

TITLE: The Elephant

COMPOSER: Camille Saint-Saëns (1835-1921)

KEY: C Major

RANGE: F#1-C3

FORM: ABA

PREPARATION:

- Listen to recording of professional bassist playing this piece
- C Major Scale
- Yankee Doodle in C Major

TEACHING POINTS:

- Character piece. Play with a heavy articulation style to bring out the elephant-like character of the piece
- Dynamic contrast in middle, lyrical section (mm. 17-32)
- Melody vs. accompaniment. Discuss which measures the student has the melody (mm. 1-16 and mm. 33-48). In mm. 17-32, the student has the accompaniment, which should be played lightly and softly. The teacher (or duet partner) plays the contrasting melody