

Ukulele Yes!

The Ukulele Teacher's **eZine**

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THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE: SHOUT CHORUS

Traditional, arr. James Hill

Teaching/Learning Notes

Focus On:

- Syncopated rhythms
- Note reading
- Ensemble techniques

Key Points:

- While the rhythms are repetitive – this arrangement is, after all, intended for a beginner-level big band – they're very syncopated and should not be taken for granted.
- Have students clap the rhythm of m. 1-2 many times. Keep it interesting by changing dynamics, splitting the class, snapping, tapping, and saying words to the rhythm. Then play the rhythm on a single note. Finally, play as written.
- With very few exceptions, all the melodic movement is by semi-tone, i.e. the note you're looking for is probably only one fret higher or one fret lower than the note you're on. Take it slow for a start.
- Notice on the recording that the shout chorus is repeated and on the second time dynamics are added. This is just a suggestion, just one of many things that can be done to enhance this chart. Be creative; let your students put "their own spin" on the arrangement.

Additional Suggestions and Comments:

- This arrangement can be played by ensembles of many shapes and sizes. The minimum number of players is five (one to a part, one strummer). The maximum number? That's up to you to decide!
- This arrangement does not require a low fourth string. In other words, it is 100% compatible with both low- and high-4th string tunings.
- Be sure to play recordings of the great big bands (Miller, Ellington, Basie) for your students.