Scoring with Sibelius

Tom Rudolph, presenter
Email: tom@tomrudolph.com
Website: www.tomrudolph.com

A. Creating Scores: Always use the Score Setup (Instruments) window to create scores. Sibelius knows the transpositions, playback sound and instrument name.

1. In Sibelius, choose File > New. Select a Manuscript Paper option such as Big Band.
2. Customize your score using the Change Instruments button in the Score Setup window.
3. After a score has been created, to add/delete staves, press the shortcut the Letter I or select "Instruments" from the Create menu.

TIP: If you often use a custom score setting, save it as manuscript paper for later use. Name the file (File > Save) and then Export the file as manuscript paper (File > Export > Manuscript paper).

B. Copy and Pasting and Moving Octaves. Use the shortcut to copy and paste – select a passage then hold down the Alt Key (Windows) or the Option key (Mac) and click in the desired location. Hold down CTRL (Win) or ⌘ (Mac) and press the up or down arrows to transpose an octave.

1. Open the file: Hey Hoe Start.sib
2. Selection options:
    a. Single click in the lines and spaces = 1 bar selected
    b. Double-click in the lines and spaces = 1 system selected
    c. Triple-click in the lines and spaces = entire staff selected.
3. Select the top staff, first system (double-click).
4. To repeat it, press the letter R.
5. To copy it to the trombone part, hold down the Alt Key (Win) or the Option Key (Mac) and click in the Trbn. Part in bar 11.
6. To transpose an octave, select the music, hold down CTRL (Win) or ⌘ (Mac) and press the up or down arrow keys.
7. To copy it to the tuba part, hold down the Alt Key (Win) or the Option Key (Mac) and click in the tuba part in bar 13.

TIP: To add an octave to any pitch, select it and then press the number 8 at the top of the keyboard. Press Shift+8 to put an octave below selected notes. You can also choose this options from Notes > Add Interval.

Basic Note entry: Step time entry with a MIDI keyboard

1. Press escape key (ESC)
2. Select empty measure with mouse
3. Type **the letter N**
4. Choose note value (on Keypad on screen) with mouse – or use numeric keypad on right of computer keyboard to select note value
5. Play pitches on MIDI keyboard – type zero on number pad for rests

Press ESC when done.

C. Use the Re-Pitch option to score harmony parts. Often a second part has the same rhythm as the first part but with different pitches. A fast way to copy the rhythm and enter new notes is via re-pitch.

1. Open the finished file: Hey Hoe.
2. Select the first note of the second staff so the notehead turns blue.
3. From the notes menu, choose Re-input Notes.
4. Enter the new harmony notes by playing them on the MIDI keyboard or typing the letter names. Only the pitches will be changed.

TIP: It can save a lot of time if you add all the articulations to the lead part and then copy and paste it and re-pitch the second part. All the markings attached to notes will remain.

D. Adding Articulations

1. Select the articulation before entering the note
2. Select the note (or notes) and choose the articulation from the KeyPad.
3. You can select non-conituous notes: Select one notehead. Hold down the CTRL key and click on selected other notes.
4. Then choose the articulation on the First KeyPad layout (the 4th KeyPad has more articulations).

E. Ties and Slurs

1. Enter ties from the First KeyPad. After entering the left note of the tie, press the Enter key on the first KeyPad.
2. To enter a slur, select the first note and press the letter S. Press the space bar to extend the slur.

F. Use the Arrange feature to orchestrate a chord or melody in other parts.
The arrange feature uses source material that is copied to the computer's clipboard. This material can be orchestrated into a new or the existing file. For this example, the arrange feature will be used to copy and paste a unison melody to every part in the score.

1. Open the file: File#1JoshuaArrange.sib
2. *Select bars 2 through 9 in the Alto 1 part (use click and shift-click).*
3. Select **Edit** > Copy or use the shortcut ⌘-C (Mac), Ctrl-C (Win).
4. Zoom out of the file so you can see the entire score on the page.
5. Select in the first measure of the Alto 2 part.
6. Hold down Shift and click in the first bar of the Bass Trombone part.
7. Select **Notes** > Arrange.
8. From the Arrange Styles window, select "Standard Arrangement."

G. Further Arrange Feature techniques
Using polyphonic/homophonic parts, such as a piano part, the Arrange feature can be used to orchestrate specific sections of a piece in a variety of pre-programmed styles.

1. Open the file: ArrangeStyles.sib
2. Select the top part.
3. Use the shortcut: ⌘-C (Mac); CTRL-C (Win) to copy the selected bars.
4. Click on the Alto 1 staff in bar 1, then shift-click on the Baritone part.
5. Select **Notes** > Arrange or use the shortcut: Shift-⌘-V (Mac); Shift-CTRL-V (Win) to access the Arrange Styles list.
6. At the top of the Arrange window, choose Explode.

Explore some other Arrange options:
1. Press the Undo arrow at the top of the screen several times to remove the notes just entered.
2. Select the top part.
3. Use the shortcut: ⌘-C (Mac); CTRL-C (Win) to copy the selected bars.
4. Click on the Alto 1 staff in bar 1, then shift-click on the Baritone part.
5. Select **Notes** > Arrange or use the shortcut: Shift-⌘-V (Mac); Shift-CTRL-V (Win) to access the Arrange Styles list.
6. Choose: Jazz: Saxes Tenor Lead 1.
7. Undo this and experiment with other Arrange options.

H. Use the Arrange Feature to Create a Piano Reduction.

1. Open the file: BachPianoReduce.sib
2. Select the staves to be reduced: Triple-click on the top staff. Then hold down Shift and click in the bottom staff.
3. Copy the selection (Edit > Copy).

4. Select the piano staves at the bottom of the score. Click the top staff and then hold down Shift and click the bottom staff.
5. Open the Arrange window: Shift-⌘-V (Mac); Shift-CTRL-V (Win)
6. Choose a piano reduction option: Keyboard Reduction: 1 Voice per staff
7. To adjust the notation, use the plug-in:
   a. Triple-click on the treble staff
   b. Hold down Shift and click in the bass staff
   c. Choose: Plug-ins > Simplify Notation > Remove Overlapping Notes
   (Also experiment with the Arrange option: Two Voices per staff)

I. Change the Staff Transposition for Instrument Doublings
Sibelius can add instrument doublings that include instruments with different transpositions

---

1. Open file: File#3JoshuaDoubling.sib
2. Be sure the transposition button is highlighted at the top of the screen.
3. In the Alto 1 staff, select bar 11 through 21 by clicking in bar 11 and holding down Shift and clicking in bar 21.

TIP: Try to give the player a bar or two warning when there is an instrument change.

4. Select **Create** > Other > Instrument Change.
5. Select Flute (or the desired instrument).

For more practice, information, and further study:

---

1. View the Sibelius Tutorial Videos – Arrange Feature
2. Review the Sibelius 5 Reference – Arrange Feature
3. Go through Chapter 11 in the book: *Sibelius, A Comprehensive Guide To Sibelius Music Notation Software*.
4. Go throught the new Sibelius Tutorial Videos – Beginner by Tom Rudolph and Intermediate by Marc Schonbrun www.halleonard.com
5. Download Robin Hodson's quickstart: http://www.sibelius.com/helpcenter/hintsandtips/index.html
6. Summer courses on Sibelius at TI:ME locations (www.ti-me.org/summer)
7. 12-week Sibelius online course: www.berkleemusic.com
   (Tom Rudolph, author)