

Foreword

Christmas carols have always held a warm place in my heart, especially those beloved carols which have stood the test of time. Their familiar melodies and texts, many by authors and composers unknown, still have the power to enchant, to comfort, and to inspire.

This collection represents some of my very favorites. I sincerely hope these fresh arrangements of those cherished melodies will enchant, comfort, and inspire both you and your listeners for many Christmases to come!

—Tony Giamanco

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Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

3

Anthony Giamanco

Tune: MENDELSSOHN

by Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

Boldly ♩ = ca. 96

ff

simile

pedal harmonically

5

f

9

mp

13

mf

f

17

Duration: 2:55

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People, Look East

Anthony Giamanco

Tune: BESANÇON

Traditional French carol

With joyful anticipation ♩ = ca. 63

The piano score is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) in 6/8 time. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The score is divided into five systems, each containing four measures. Measure numbers 5, 9, 13, and 17 are indicated at the start of their respective systems. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The piece features a mix of chords and moving lines, with some measures containing triplets or beamed eighth notes. The final measure of the fifth system (measure 21) ends with a repeat sign.

Duration: 1:50

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The Coventry Carol

9

Anthony Giamanco
Traditional English carol

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$

p

6

12

mp

18

24

Duration: 3:20

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A Spiritual Christmas

Moderately, with rubato ♩ = ca. 88
 “Mary Had a Baby”

Anthony Giamanco
 Traditional American spirituals

The piano score for "Mary Had a Baby" is written for piano in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The tempo is "Moderately, with rubato" with a quarter note equal to approximately 88 beats per minute. The score consists of 20 measures, divided into five systems of four measures each. The dynamics range from piano (*p*) to fortissimo (*f*), with crescendos and decrescendos. The piece includes a variety of musical textures, including arpeggiated chords, sustained chords, and moving lines in both hands. The final measure of the piece is marked with a repeat sign and a decrescendo.

Duration: 4:20

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Creator of the Stars of Night

Anthony Giamanco

Tune: CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

Sarum plainsong

Flexibly ♩ = ca. 56

p

poco rall. mp a tempo

cresc. poco rall. f

dim.

Duration: 2:30

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The Cherry Tree Carol

Anthony Giamanco
Based on a traditional English carol

Gently ♩ = ca. 74

p

8^{va}

6 (8^{va})

12 (8^{va})

mp

17

21

Duration: 3:15

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We Three Kings

21

Anthony Giamanco

Tune: KINGS OF ORIENT

by John H. Hopkins (1820–1891)

Gently ♩ = ca. 132

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of five systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, while the bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. Measure numbers 6, 11, 17, and 23 are indicated at the start of their respective systems. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and rests, along with slurs and ties to indicate phrasing and duration.

Duration: 3:20

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Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella

Anthony Giamanco
17th century Provençal carol

Merrily ♩ = ca. 60

The musical score is written for piano in 6/8 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into five systems, each containing two staves. The first system starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second system begins at measure 6. The third system begins at measure 11 and includes dynamics of piano (*p*), mezzo-piano (*mp*), and piano (*p*). The fourth system begins at measure 16 and includes mezzo-piano (*mp*) and mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamics. The fifth system begins at measure 21. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, as well as dynamic markings and articulation symbols like accents and slurs.

Duration: 2:35

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The Holly and the Ivy

29

Anthony Giamanco
Traditional English carol

Gently, with expression ♩ = ca. 80

The musical score is written for piano in 3/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score is divided into four systems, each starting with a measure number (1, 5, 9, 13). The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second system starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and includes a melisma (*mel.*) in the final measure. The third system also begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The fourth system concludes with a *poco rall.* (slowing down) instruction. The notation includes various note values, rests, and articulation marks such as slurs and hairpins.

Duration: 2:20

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Anthony Giamanco

Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO

14th century German carol

Brightly ♩ = ca. 66

mp

5

10

15

mf

20

Duration: 2:55

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Ding Dong, Merrily on High

Anthony Giamanco

Branle de l'Officiel from Orchesographie
by Thoinot Arbeau (1589)

With spirit $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$

The musical score is written for piano and treble clef. It begins with a tempo marking of 'With spirit' and a quarter note equal to approximately 60 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into five systems, each with a measure number (1, 5, 10, 15, 19) at the start of the first staff. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) at the beginning, *f* (forte) at measure 10, and *mf* (mezzo-forte) at measure 19. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, half notes, and rests, along with slurs and articulation marks.

Duration: 2:05

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Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head

39

Anthony Giamanco
Appalachian folk song

Rubato; ethereal ♩ = ca. 76

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into four systems. The first system (measures 1-4) is marked *p* (piano) and includes the instruction 'Rubato; ethereal ♩ = ca. 76'. The second system (measures 5-8) is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The third system (measures 9-12) includes markings for *dim.* (diminuendo), *poco rall.* (poco rallentando), and *p* (piano). The fourth system (measures 13-16) is marked *Con moto* ♩ = ca. 92 and *mp*. A dashed line labeled *8va* (octave) is placed above the treble staff in this system. A *half-pedal* instruction is located below the first two measures of the fourth system.

Duration: 3:45

He Is Born

Anthony Giamanco

Tune: IL EST NÉ

18th century French carol

With sparkle ♩ = ca. 116

p

5 (8^{va})

9 (8^{va})

p

13

18 *mp* *mf*

The piano score for 'He Is Born' is written for two staves (treble and bass clef) in 2/2 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'With sparkle ♩ = ca. 116'. The score is divided into five systems. The first system starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second system begins at measure 5 and includes an 8va (octave up) marking. The third system begins at measure 9 and also includes an 8va marking. The fourth system begins at measure 13. The fifth system begins at measure 18 and includes a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic, followed by a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The score concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a sustained bass line in the left hand.

Duration: 2:20

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