



An Impressionistic Christmas

10 Arrangements Inspired by Impressionist Compositions

Arranged by **Faye López**

For the past several decades, I have taught standard piano literature and hymns to people from ages 5 to 55. The students' abilities have been as varied as their ages—beginner, adult hobbyist, college recitalist.

Last summer while attending a composers' symposium, I was intrigued by a workshop in which the clinician masterfully illustrated the blending of well-loved classics with original ideas. In the margin of my class notes, I jotted down the beginning ideas for this collection—beloved Christmas carols inspired by treasured Impressionist compositions.

Pieces such as Debussy's *Réverie* and *Clair de lune* have held universal appeal. They are beautiful, enduring classics with memorable melodies, textures and harmonies—much like so many timeless Christmas carols. In this collection, I have not attempted to “be true” to Debussy, but rather to use a fusion of his musical ideas with my own.

These arrangements can be used in church worship, Christmas recitals and receptions, and in music appreciation training. I hope you enjoy playing these pieces as much as I have enjoyed creating them!

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P.O. Box 10003
Van Nuys, CA 91410-0003
alfred.com

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Away in a Manger

(Inspired by Debussy's *Clair de lune*)

James R. Murray and William J. Kirkpatrick
Arr. Faye López

Flowing (♩ = 152) (bell-like melody)

p *mf*

5 2
with pedal

5

10

15

2

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(Inspired by Debussy's *La cathédrale engloutie*)

Felix Mendelssohn
Arr. Faye López

Majestically (♩ = ca. 96)

8va ----- 7

The first system of the musical score is in 3/4 time. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The music is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The tempo is indicated as 'Majestically' with a quarter note equal to approximately 96 beats per minute. The score includes a 'with pedal' instruction and a dynamic change to *mf*. A '8va' marking with a dashed line and a '7' indicates an octave transposition for the right hand.

The second system of the musical score continues the piece. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The music is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The tempo is indicated as 'Majestically' with a quarter note equal to approximately 96 beats per minute. The score includes a 'with pedal' instruction and a dynamic change to *mf*. A '8va' marking with a dashed line and a '7' indicates an octave transposition for the right hand.

The third system of the musical score continues the piece. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The music is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The tempo is indicated as 'Majestically' with a quarter note equal to approximately 96 beats per minute. The score includes a 'with pedal' instruction and a dynamic change to *mf*. A '8va' marking with a dashed line and a '7' indicates an octave transposition for the right hand.

The fourth system of the musical score continues the piece. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The music is marked *rit.* (ritardando) and *mp flowing* (mezzo-piano flowing). The tempo is indicated as 'a tempo'. The score includes a 'with pedal' instruction and a dynamic change to *mp flowing*. A '8va' marking with a dashed line and a '7' indicates an octave transposition for the right hand.

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

(Inspired by Debussy's *La fille aux cheveux de lin*)

Michael Praetorius

Arr. Faye López

Mysteriously (♩ = ca. 104)

5

pp

mp

9

13

p