Holiday Short Cuts 1

Featuring Sleigh Ride, Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, Let It Snow! Let It Snow!, and Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town

> Arranged by MICHAEL STORY INSTRUMENTATION Conductor 1st Violin 2nd Violin 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.) 5 Viola 5 Cello String Bass Piano Accompaniment Percussion (Sleigh Bells, Slapstick, Cowbell, Tambourine, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle)

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Belwin/Pop String Editor



NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

A perfect set of four individual arrangements of classic holiday songs that can be performed individually or as a complete concert program! Each piece reinforces specific musical objectives listed below. There are piano accompaniment and percussion parts included, which are both completely optional. The percussion part is easy enough for your string players to perform.

1. "Sleigh Ride"

American composer Leroy Anderson wrote this piece, one of the most popular of all holiday songs, in 1948. Though set in a moderately fast $\frac{4}{4}$ time, as your orchestra progresses, you may wish to gradually increase the tempo, and even eventually conduct the music in "2." This arrangement is designed to introduce or reinforce key changes, as the music modulates from G to C, then returning to the key of G. It also develops the performance of dynamic changes through crescendos from piano to forte. Teaching proper use of bowing lanes will help young players control the dynamics.

2. "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"

This song has been a holiday favorite since 1958, when it was first recorded by 13-year old Brenda Lee. The piece reinforces changing from arco to pizzicato, then back to arco again. There are also two measures that contain accents. Games can also be used to reinforce the change from arco to pizz including teacher/student races to see if the students can change more quickly than the teacher.

3. "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!"

Written in 1945, this popular holiday song has been covered by dozens of performers. This arrangement introduces/reinforces the concepts of divisi and unison. Alternate the divisi parts with your students so that everyone can play each line. It is also a great example of ABA form.

4. "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town"

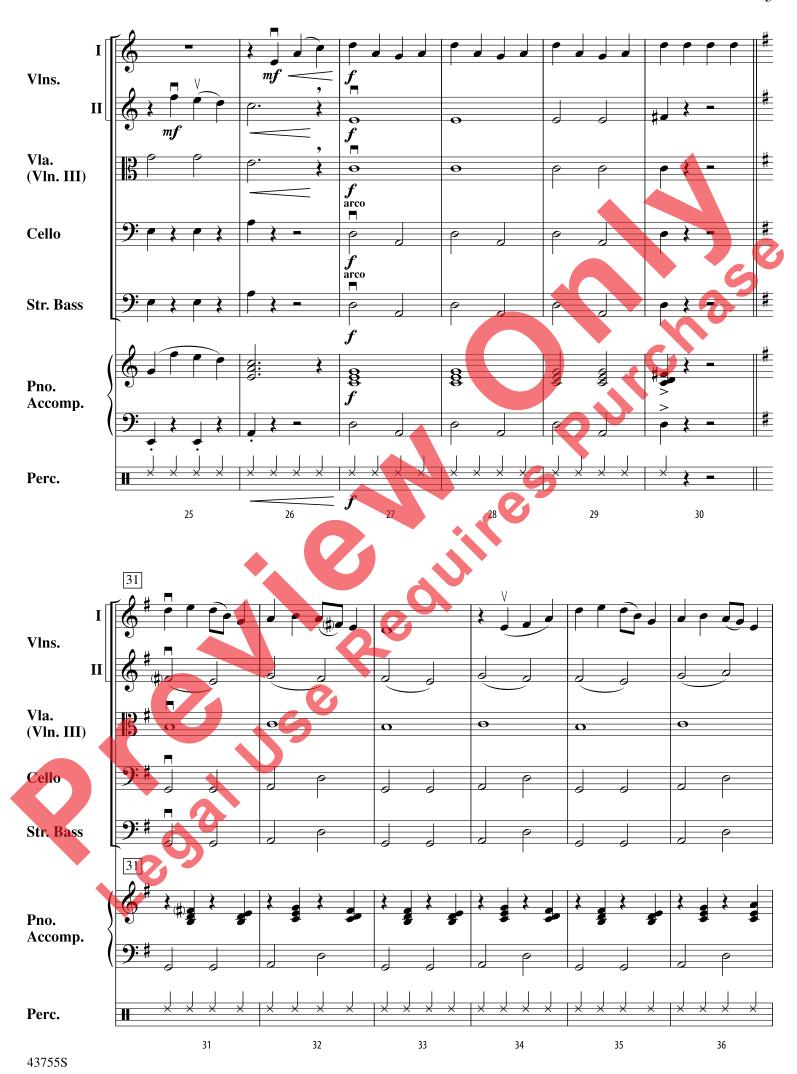
This arrangement of the timeless holiday classic reinforces the concept of D.S. al Coda. It also offers solo opportunities for each instrument. Rotate the solos so that all players get a chance to perform.

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