

# Santa's Sleigh Ride

Ryan Meeboer

## Instrumentation:

Flute - 8  
Oboe - 2  
Bb Clarinet 1 - 4  
Bb Clarinet 2 - 4  
Bb Bass Clarinet - 1  
Eb Alto Saxophone 1 - 2  
Eb Alto Saxophone 2 - 2  
Bb Tenor Saxophone - 2  
Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1  
Bb Trumpet 1 - 2  
Bb Trumpet 2 - 2  
F Horn - 2  
Trombone 1 - 2  
Trombone 2 - 2  
Baritone/Bassoon - 2  
Baritone Treble Clef - 1  
Tuba - 2  
String Bass - 1  
Bells - 1  
Drum Set, Snare Drum, Bass Drum - 2  
Crash Cymbals, Claves, Maracas, Tambourine, Castenets, Gong - 4  
Congas - 1



## Santa's Sleigh Ride

Ryan Meeboer

*Santa's Sleigh Ride* is a creative arrangement of *Up on the Housetop* as it would be heard in various cultures from around the world. The original melody has been mixed with traditional songs or has been modified to fit the style of music well known to these cultures. The percussion section plays an important role throughout the entirety of this piece. If a percussionist is not capable of playing the drum set parts in the required sections, it is possible to separate the part between performers.

The piece opens with a fanfare, featuring the melody broken into small pieces by the trumpets and alto saxes. The counter melody quotes *Deck the Halls*, which is referenced a few times in this piece. As the introduction draws to a dramatic close, with the *rit.* in measure 9, the piece breaks into a mambo, a style of music that originated in Cuba. At measure 9, the clarinets and tenor sax quote the 'piano' chordal accompaniment, with the bass instruments carrying a typical latin bass line. This section is to be energetic, but not heavy, so keep all the background figures light.

Measure 34 features the music of Hawaii. Although it is not a country, this musical style creates a good transition into the bridge of *Up on the Housetop*, while bringing the music back into 4/4 time. Note that the eight notes are to be played with a swing (triplet) feel. This is especially important for the bass instruments and the alto saxes, who are playing the ukelele chordal accompaniment style. As the low brass and tenor sax perform the melody, the clarinets introduce the traditional Hawaiian piece *Aloha 'Oe*.

At measure 48, Santa's sleigh flies over India. The conga and bass drum play a huge role here, as they provide the foundation from the music of India. It is also possible for this part to be played on a single drum, like a djembe or doumbek, if conga are not available, simply by having the top line note played as a tone or slap (on the edge of the drum), and the bottom played as a bass (in the middle of the drum). Both the alto saxes and clarinets play a big melodic role here, with the altos providing a repetitive Indian style lick, while the clarinets perform the main melody of the song, again in pieces. Here, it is important that both the instruments are well balanced, as they play in call-and-response fashion.

The next section of the piece, beginning at measure 68, features the brass section of the band, as they perform in a *pasodoble* style. The trumpets play a modified version of the melody (the B melody), with the remaining performers playing strong chords. At measure 77, the flute, oboe, and alto sax 1 are brought in, playing the A melody of *Up on the Housetop*.

Measures 83-87 act as transitional material from the strong music of Spain, into the gentle, melodic style of Japan. The percussion perform rhythms in the style of Taiko drummers. Percussionists are to play with lots of energy, although the rest of the band is to play gently. Again, if absent, the conga part can be performed on a snare drum with snares off. At measure 92, the winds play a slower moving form of the melody, where both the melody and harmony modified to fit into a major pentatonic scale.

The piece moves into its final section at measure 110, by having the percussionist quote a famous snare drum march lick. Afterwards, *Up on the Housetop* is performed in the traditional American march style. Be sure the melody is always dominant in this final section, even with all the flourishes played by other sections of the band throughout. In the closing measures, be sure the low instruments are brought out, particularly in measures 148 and 149, since they are the only sections with any melodic movement.

Ryan Meeboer is a music educator, who obtained his degree through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. As a composer, he has written and arranged many pieces for concert band, jazz band, and small ensembles. His young band piece, *Last Voyage of the Queen Anne's Revenge*, has been well received by performers, educators, and audiences, and his pieces are starting to be found on festival and contest lists. As a performer, he has had experience in several groups, including concert and stage bands, chamber choir, vocal jazz ensemble, acoustic duets, and the Hamilton based swing group, "The Main Swing Connection".

Ryan began studying music at the age of seven through private guitar lessons. During his years in elementary and secondary school, he gained experience in several families of instruments. Focusing on music education and theory (including composition and orchestration), he attended McMaster University to achieve his honours degree in music. Ryan is currently a teacher for the Halton District School Board in Ontario, where he continues to compose and arrange.

Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.

ryan.meeboer@enpmusic.com

ISBN: 9781554739950  
CATALOG NUMBER: CB13238

COST: \$58.00  
DURATION: 4:00

DIFFICULTY RATING: GRADE 2  
Concert Band

# SANTA'S SLEIGH RIDE

Ryan Meeboer

Maestoso  $\text{♩} = 96$

Flute *f* *tr* 3 *tr* 5

Oboe *f* *tr* *tr*

B♭ Clarinet 1 *f* *tr* *tr*

B♭ Clarinet 2 *f*

B♭ Bass Clarinet *f*

E♭ Alto Saxophone 1,2 *f*

B♭ Tenor Saxophone *f*

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *f*

B♭ Trumpet 1 *f*

B♭ Trumpet 2 *f*

F Horn *f*

Trombone 1,2 *f* *a2*

Baritone Bassoon *f*

Tuba *f*

Bells

Drum Set

Snare Drum *f* B.D.

Bass Drum *f*

Crash Cymbals *f* Crash Cymbals

Claves

Maracas

Tambourine

Castanets

Gong

Congas (2)

6

7

8

9

10

*rit.*

Mambo  $\text{♩} = 112$

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

*Legal Use Requires Purchase*

*Preview Only*

*Set*

Closed Hi-Hat  
Drum Set

choke

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

Crash

*f*

Fl

Ob

Cl 1  
*mf*

Cl 2  
*mf*

B Cl  
*mf*

A Sax

T Sax  
*mf*

B Sax  
*mf*

Tpt 1  
*mf*

Tpt 2  
*mf*

Hn

Trbn

Bari  
Bsn

Tuba  
*mf*

Bells

Set  
S.D.  
B.D.  
*mf*

C.C.  
Claves  
Marac  
Tamb.  
Cast.  
Gong  
*mf*

Cong  
*mf*

Ride Cymbal

Claves

Maracas

Fl *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax *mf*

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn *mf*

Trbn *mf*

Bari Bsn *mf*

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

30

31

32

33

In 4 - swing eighths  $\text{♩} = 112$   
*Hawaii*

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

Closed Hi-Hat

Closed Hi-Hat



Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

In 2 - straight eighths  $\text{♩} = 112$   
*India*

50

51

52

53

54

55

Fl *p*

Ob *p*

Cl 1 *p* *mf*

Cl 2 *p* *mf*

B Cl *mp*

A Sax *p* *mf* a2

T Sax *p* *mp*

B Sax *p*

Tpt 1 *p*

Tpt 2 *p*

Hn *p*

Trbn *p* a2

Bari Bsn *mp* B. Cl. cues

Tuba *p*

Bells

Set

S.D. 1 2 3 4 5 6

B.D. *mf* B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb. Tambourine *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Cast.

Gong

Cong *mf*

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

*p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*



Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set S.D. B.D.

C.C. Claves Marac Tamb. Cast. Gong

Cong

*mf*

*mf*

**Preview Only**  
 Legal Use Requires Purchase

Fl *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl *mf*

A Sax *mf*

T Sax *mf*

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells *mf*

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

Tambourine

82

83

84

85

86

87

*rit.*

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari  
Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set  
S.D.  
B.D.

C.C.  
Claves  
Marac  
Tamb.  
Cast.  
Gong

Cong

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

Cl. cues

*mp*

Triangle

*mp*

Legal Use Preview Only Requires Purchase



Flowing  $\bullet = 136$   
Japan

89

90

91

92

93

94

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

Floor Tom

*mp* B.D. w/ timp. mallets

Gong

*mp*

with sticks

*mp*

1 2 3 4 5 6

FL

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set S.D. B.D.

C.C. Claves Marac Tamb. Cast. Gong

Cong

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

7

8

9

10

11

12



FL

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set S.D. B.D.

C.C. Claves Marac Tamb. Cast. Gong

Cong

*mp*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

13 14 15 16

107

108

109

110

111

112

113

March Tempo - still ♩ = 136

Fl *mf*

Ob *mf*

Cl 1 *mp*

Cl 2 *mp*

B Cl *mp*

A Sax *mf*

T Sax *mp*

B Sax *mp*

Tpt 1 *mf*

Tpt 2 *mf*

Hn *mp*

Trbn *mp* a2

Bari *mp*

Bsn *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Bells *mp*

Set

S.D.

B.D.

C.C.

Claves

Marac

Tamb.

Cast.

Gong

Cong

*f*

S.D.  
B.D. w/ standard mallet  
Crash Cymbals

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set  
S.D.  
B.D.

C.C.  
Claves  
Marac  
Tamb.  
Cast.  
Gong

Cong

**Preview Only**  
Legal Use Requires Purchase

122

123

124

125

126

127

128

129

Fl *f* *tr*

Ob *f* *tr*

Cl 1 *f* *tr*

Cl 2 *f*

B Cl

A Sax *f*

T Sax *a2*

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn *f*

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells *f*

Set S.D. B.D.

C.C. Claves Marac Tamb. Cast. Gong

Cong

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set S.D. B.D.

C.C. Claves Marac Tamb. Cast. Gong

Cong

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

*p*

*mp*

*on rim*

*on head*

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

Fl *ff*

Ob *ff*

Cl 1 *ff*

Cl 2 *ff*

B Cl *ff*

A Sax *ff*

T Sax *ff*

B Sax *ff*

Tpt 1 *ff*

Tpt 2 *ff*

Hn *ff*

Trbn *ff*

Bari Bsn *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Bells *ff*

Set S.D. B.D. *ff*

C.C. Claves Marac Tamb. Cast. Gong *ff*

Cong *ff*

choke



145

146

147

148

149

150

151

Fl

Ob

Cl 1

Cl 2

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Hn

Trbn

Bari Bsn

Tuba

Bells

Set  
S.D.  
B.D.

C.C.  
Claves  
Marac  
Tamb.  
Cast.  
Gong

Cong

with hands

choke

*ff*