

Wachet Auf
from Cantata 140

Johann Sebastian Bach
Arranged by David Marlatt

Wachet Auf (Sleepers Awake) is a section from J.S. Bach's (1685-1750) Cantata No. 140. Heralded as one of Bach's finest cantatas, it was written for the 27th Sunday after Trinity. What is interesting about this time, is that this Sunday does not exist unless Easter is very early. Therefore this happened only twice during Bach's years in Leipzig. The libretto is based of a hymn by Philipp Nicolai (1599) and due to the nature of the writing, this work is considered a chorale cantata.

Bach wrote many cantatas but none have maintained the popularity as this excerpt from No. 140. This is most likely due to the elegant, flowing nature of the writing that is so distinctly Bach.

notes by Kenneth Bray

PREVIEW ONLY

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DIFFICULTY RATING: Medium
Saxophone Quartet (AATB)

WACHET AUF

Sleepers Awake from Cantata 140

J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)
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Moderato $\downarrow = 66$

E♭ Alto Saxophone 1 *mp*

E♭ Alto Saxophone 2

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *mp*

5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12 13 14

15 16 17 18 19

mp *p* *mp*

tr *tr*

Musical score for measures 20-23. The score consists of four staves. Measure 20 shows a melodic line in the upper staves and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staves. Measure 21 continues the melodic and rhythmic patterns. Measure 22 features a melodic line with a fermata. Measure 23 concludes the section with a melodic line and a dynamic marking of *mp*.

Musical score for measures 24-27. The score consists of four staves. Measure 24 begins with a melodic line and a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 25 continues the melodic and rhythmic patterns. Measure 26 features a melodic line with a fermata. Measure 27 concludes the section with a melodic line and a dynamic marking of *mp*.

Musical score for measures 28-31. The score consists of four staves. Measure 28 begins with a melodic line and a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 29 continues the melodic and rhythmic patterns. Measure 30 features a melodic line with a fermata and a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 31 concludes the section with a melodic line and a dynamic marking of *mp*. A large watermark "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the entire section.

Musical score for measures 32-35. The score consists of four staves. Measure 32 begins with a melodic line and a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 33 continues the melodic and rhythmic patterns. Measure 34 features a melodic line with a fermata and a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 35 concludes the section with a melodic line and a dynamic marking of *mp*.

36 37 38 39

lead
mf

40 41 42 43

f
mf *f*
mf *f*

44 45 46 47 48

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49 50 51 52

molto rit.
ff
ff
ff
ff