

with grateful thanks to Neil Ferris and Wimbledon Choral, Christmas 2020

Christmas Fantasy

1. Deck the hall

Trad. Welsh

arr. MICHAEL HIGGINS

Bright and lively ♩ = 84

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

PIANO

Bright and lively ♩ = 84

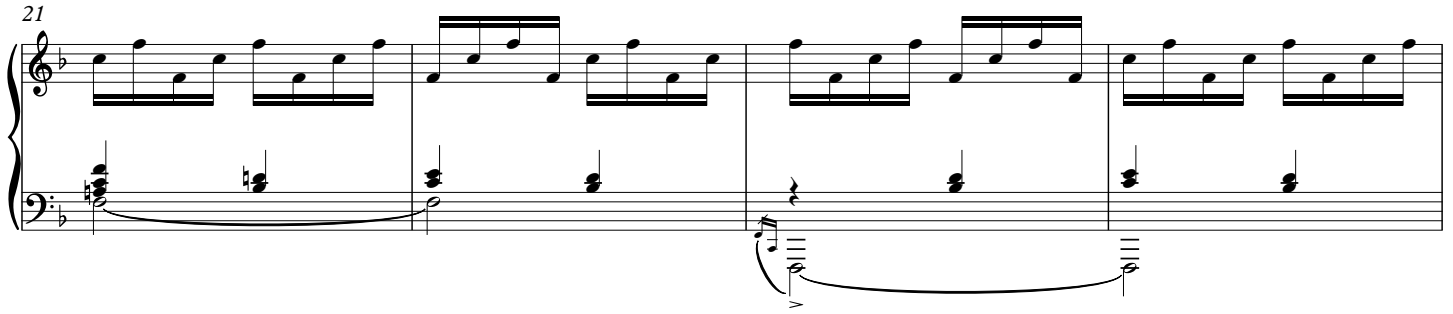
con Ped.

5

11

17

21

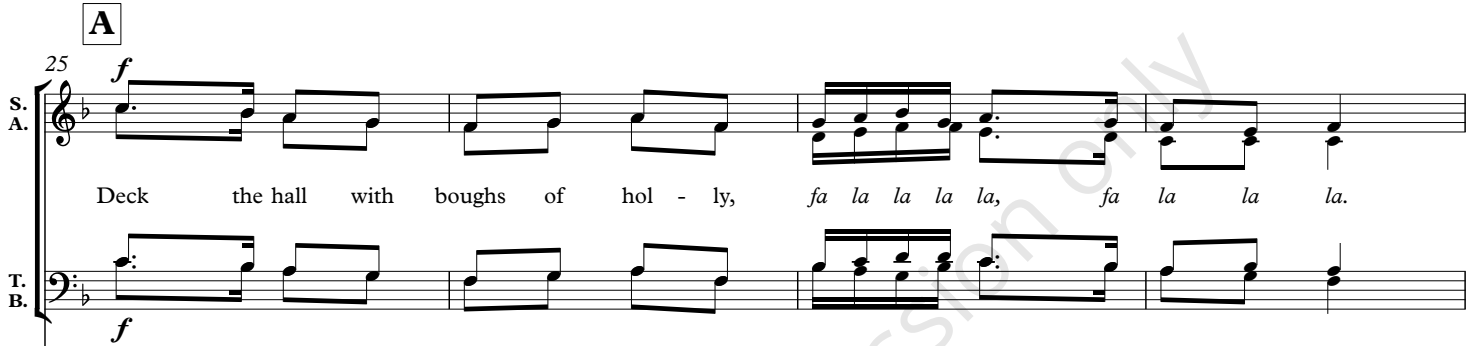


A

25 *f*

S. A. Deck the hall with boughs of hol - ly, *fa la la la la,* *fa la la la.*

T. B. *f*



A



29

'Tis the sea - son to be jol - ly, *fa la la la la,* *fa la la la.*



33

Fill the mead cup, drain the bar - rel, fa la la la la la la la.

37

Troll the an - cient Christ - mas ca - rol, fa la la la la, fa la la la.

41

mf

p

45 **B** *mp*

mf *fa la la la la, fa la la la.*

See the flow - ing bowl be - fore us, *mp*

B *p* *mp* 5

mf

49 *mf* *mp*

Strike the harp and join the cho - rus, *fa la la la la, fa la la la.*

mp

8va *mf* *mp*

53 *mf*

mf *fa la la la la la la la.*

Fol - low me in mer - ry mea - sure,

mf

57 *mf*

mf

fa la la la la, — fa la la la.

mf

p

mf

mf

While I sing of beau - ty's trea - sure,

61

65 **C**

f

DESCANT (SOPRANOS)

69 *f*

Fast a - way the old year pass - es, *fa la la, fa la la la, fa la la la.*

ALL OTHER VOICES

f

Fast a - way the old year pass - es, *fa la la la la, fa la la la.*

73

Hail the new, ye lads and lass - es, *fa la la, fa la la la, fa la la la.*

Hail the new, ye lads and lass - es, *fa la la la la, fa la la la.*

77

S. A. Laugh - ing, quaff - ing all to - ge - ther, *fa la la la la la la la la.*

T. B.

molto rit. **a tempo**

81

Heed - less of the wind and wea - ther,

p *mf*

fa la la la la, fa la la la,

p *mp*

fa la la la la, fa la la la la,

molto rit. **a tempo**

p

85

f

fa la la la la, — fa la la la.

f

f

LH RH

RH

8va

89

poco rit.

poco rit.

p

attacca

2. Carol of the Bells

Michael Higgins

Trad. Ukrainian
arr. MICHAEL HIGGINS

Lightly $\text{♩} = 56$

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Lightly $\text{♩} = 56$

p

con Ped.

6

A

p legato

Ring, hap - py bells, joy - ful - ly chime

A

p
Ding* dong, ding

songs of — hope, new bless-ings shine. Fill - ing the air with pure de - light, guid - ing us through

p
Ding* dong, ding

dark - est — night. Ring out the old, ring in the new, dreams and — hopes come in - to view.

* close straight to ng throughout

21 *mp legato*

Dark - ness__ breaks, bright days ap - pear, dawn a - wakes, New Year draws near.

mp
ding dong, ding dong.

mp
ding dong, ding dong,

mp
Ding* dong, ding dong,

mp

25 *mf*

Ring wild__ bells, let them__ ring, e - cho - ing, all night they__ sing

mf legato

Ring wild__ bells, let them__ ring, e - cho - ing, all night they__ sing

mf
ding dong, ding, ding__ dong.

mf
ding dong, ding, ding__ dong.

mf

* close straight to *ng* throughout

29 *f*

songs of joy, — songs of love, — sound - ing o'er — skies a - bove.

f

songs of — joy, songs of — love, sound - ing o'er — skies a - bove.

f legato

Songs of joy, songs of love, sound - ing o'er — skies a - bove.

f

Songs of — joy, songs of — love, sound - ing — o'er skies a - bove.

f

33

Ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong.

Ding dong, — ding — dong, ding dong, — ding — dong.

Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas.

Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas.

37 *mf* *mp*

With ev - 'ry chime new joys ap - pear, sounds of _____ hope for all to hear.

mf *mp* *p*

ah

mf *mp* *p*

ah

mf *mp*

ah

mf *mp*

B 41 *p*

Ring, hap - py bells, joy - ful - ly chime songs of _____ hope, new bless - ings shine. Fill - ing the air

p

Ding

B *p*

46

with pure de - light, guid - ing us through dark - est night. Ring out the old, ring in the new,

dong, ding dong, ding dong,

p
Ding dong,

measures 46-50

51

dreams and hopes come in - to view. Dark - ness breaks, bright days ap - pear, dawn a - wakes,

mp
ding dong, ding dong, ding

mp
ding dong, ding dong, ding

mp
Ding dong, ding

measures 51-55

56 *mf*

New Year draws near. Ring wild bells, let them ring, e - cho - ing, all

mf

dong. Ring wild bells, let them ring, e - cho - ing, all

mf

dong, ding dong, ding, ding

mf

dong, ding dong, ding, ding

60 *f*

night they sing songs of joy, songs of love, sound - ing o'er

f

night they sing songs of joy, songs of love, sound - ing o'er

f

dong. Songs of joy, songs of love, sound - ing o'er

f

dong. Songs of joy, songs of love, sound - ing o'er

64

skies a - bove. Ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, ding dong, _

skies a - bove. Ding dong, _ ding _ dong, ding _ dong, _

skies a - bove. Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry,

skies a - bove. Mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas, mer - ry, mer - ry, mer - ry,

68

ding dong, ding dong. ah. ding _ dong. ah. mer - ry Christ - mas. With ev - 'ry chime new joys ap - pear, sounds of _ hope

ding _ dong. ah. mer - ry Christ - mas. With ev - 'ry chime new joys ap - pear, sounds of _ hope

mer - ry Christ - mas. With ev - 'ry chime new joys ap - pear, sounds of _ hope

mer - ry Christ - mas. With ev - 'ry chime new joys ap - pear, sounds of _ hope

72 *p*

p

p

for all to hear.

p *pp*

for all to hear. With ev - 'ry chime new joys ap - pear, sounds of — hope for all to hear.

p

meno mosso ♩ = 66

77 *f*

f

f

f

Ding dong, — ding dong.*

Ding dong, — ding dong.*

Ding dong, — ding dong.*

Ding dong, — ding dong.*

meno mosso ♩ = 66

† *f*

attacca

* Stay on the open vowel, closing to *ng* on the final quaver.

† Play small notes if required for support.

3. O Christmas tree

Ernst Anschütz (1780–1861)
trans. Michael Higgins

Trad. German
arr. **MICHAEL HIGGINS**

With gentle warmth ♩ = 72

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

With gentle warmth ♩ = 72

p

con Ped.

5

SOPRANOS *p* **A**

O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, how

11

s. p

A.

faith - ful and un - chang - ing, O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, how

15 *mp*

faith - ful and un - chang - ing. Your boughs are green in sum - mer bright, and

19 *p*

through the win - ter snow - y white. O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, how

23

faith - ful and un - chang - ing.

28 **SOLO VOICE or SMALL GROUP** *p*

O

B

33

Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, of all the trees most love - ly, O

pp (stagger breathing)

S. A.

T. B.

pp (stagger breathing)

37

Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, of all the trees most love - ly. Through

mp

41

cold, dark days, your leaves that shine bring us de - light in win - ter - time. O

p

mp

p

*The choral lines may be doubled on the piano if desired for bars/measures 33–48.

45

p

Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, of all the trees most love - ly.

pp

pp

49

S. A. *mp*

T. B. *mp*

p

53

C

Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree, your boughs bring us new hope, O Christ-mas tree, O

C

mp

The musical score is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 45-48) features a vocal melody with lyrics 'Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, of all the trees most love - ly.' and piano accompaniment with long, flowing lines. Dynamics include *p* and *pp*. The second system (measures 49-52) shows the vocal parts with rests and a final vocal entry, while the piano accompaniment continues. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. The third system (measures 53-56) begins with a chorus marker **C** and the lyrics 'Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree, your boughs bring us new hope, O Christ-mas tree, O'. The piano accompaniment features a more rhythmic, arpeggiated pattern. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. A second chorus marker **C** is present at the end of the system.

58

Christ - mas tree, your boughs bring us new hope: That con-stant strength, when times are drear, gives

63

peace and com - fort all the year. *p* O Christ - mas tree, *p* O Christ - mas tree, your

67

boughs bring us new hope: *poco rit.* *poco meno mosso*

poco rit. *poco meno mosso*

attacca

4. Here we come a-wassailing

Trad. English, adap.

Trad. English
arr. MICHAEL HIGGINS

Merrily ♩ = 88

SOPRANO
ALTO

TENOR
BASS

Merrily ♩ = 88

mf

con Ped.

5 *unis. mf*

Here we come a - was - sail - ing a - mong the leaves so green, _____

unis. mf

9

Here we come a - wan - d'ring so fair to be seen: Love and joy come to

S. 2

A. 2

T. 2

B. 2

← ♩ = ♩ →

2 3

14

you, and to you your was - sail too, and we wish — you a hap - py, a

19

hap - py New Year, and we wish you a hap - py New

23

Year. —

unis. mf

Call

27 **A**

up the but - ler of this house, put on his gold - en ring; Let him bring us up a

32

glass of beer, and bet - ter we shall sing: Love and joy come to

36

you, and to you your was - sail too, and we wish you a

40

hap - py, a hap - py New Year, and we wish you a hap - py New

45

Year.

49 **B** poco rit. **mp** meno mosso ♩ = 69

Good mas - ter and good

B poco rit. **mp** meno mosso ♩ = 69

54

mis - tress, as you sit be - side the fire, Pray think of us poor chil - dren who are

59

wan - d'ring in the mire: Love and joy come to you, and to you your was - sail

64

too, and we wish you a hap - py, a hap - py New Year, and we

accel. poco a poco

Tempo I

mf

69

wish you a hap - py New Year. _____

mf

Tempo I

mf

tr

73

unis. f [C]

To you, your kin and kins - folk, that _____

unis. f

[C]

77

dwell both far and near, _____ We wish you mer - ry Christ - mas and a

81

hap - py New Year: Love and joy come to you, and to

85

you your was - sail too, and we wish you a hap - py, a

89

hap - py New Year, and we wish you a

93 *ff* **accel. poco a poco al fine**

hap - py New Year.

ff **accel. poco a poco al fine**

97

mf

100 *ff* *freely**

Mer - ry Christ - mas!

ff *freely**

f *colla voce* *ff*

8^{va}

* Each singer should shout the written rhythm, but starting at slightly different times.