

5 Christmas Hits

Volume 2

Contrabass & Organ / Piano

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

EMR 90087

1. God Rest You Merry Gentlemen
2. A Silent Night Fantasy
3. Gospel
4. When The Stars Begin To Fall
5. Good King Wenceslas

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Jean-François Michel

Français:

Chaque culture célèbre Noël à sa manière, avec ses traditions musicales uniques. Dans nos pays, cette fête est souvent associée à des mélodies douces et apaisantes : berceuses, hymnes et danses populaires rythment nos veillées, enveloppant cette période d'une atmosphère de sérénité et de recueillement. Ces airs intemporels bercent notre enfance et perpétuent la magie de Noël à travers les générations.

Cependant, j'ai eu l'envie d'explorer une autre facette de cette fête en lui apportant une touche plus dynamique et festive. Pourquoi ne pas revisiter ces mélodies avec une influence plus jazzy ? Le jazz, avec sa richesse harmonique et sa liberté rythmique, permet d'insuffler une nouvelle énergie aux chants traditionnels. Des arrangements swinguant, des improvisations lumineuses et des harmonies colorées pourraient offrir une palette sonore éclatante, comme autant de lumières scintillantes sur un sapin de Noël.

En intégrant ces sonorités plus modernes, on enrichit la fête d'une ambiance chaleureuse et pétillante, où l'esprit de Noël se pare d'accents joyeux et dansants. Entre douceur et vivacité, tradition et modernité, ces arrangements jazz apporteraient une touche de fraîcheur à notre répertoire de Noël. Une façon originale de célébrer cette période magique en alliant le charme du passé à l'énergie du présent.

Deutsch:

Jede Kultur feiert Weihnachten auf ihre Weise und mit ihren eigenen musikalischen Traditionen. In unseren Breitengraden ist das Fest oft mit sanften und beruhigenden Melodien verbunden: Wiegenlieder, Kirchenlieder und Volkstänze bestimmen den Rhythmus der nächtlichen Stunden und hüllen diese Zeit in eine Atmosphäre der Ruhe und Besinnlichkeit. Diese zeitlosen Melodien sind die Wiege unserer Kindheit und tragen den Zauber von Weihnachten über Generationen hinweg.

Ich hatte jedoch den Wunsch, eine andere Facette dieses Festes zu erforschen und ihm eine dynamischere und festlichere Note zu verleihen. Warum nicht diese Melodien neu interpretieren und dabei mehr Jazz einfließen lassen? Der Jazz mit seinem harmonischen Reichtum und seiner rhythmischen Freiheit ermöglicht es, den traditionellen Liedern neue Energie einzuhauchen. Swingende Arrangements, brillante Improvisationen und farbige Harmonien könnten eine strahlende Klangpalette bieten, wie so viele funkelnde Lichter an einem Weihnachtsbaum.

Durch die Integration dieser moderneren Klänge wird das Fest um eine warme und prickelnde Atmosphäre bereichert, in der die Spiritualität der Weihnacht mit fröhlichen und tanzbaren Akzenten angereichert wird. Zwischen Sanftheit und Lebendigkeit, Tradition und Moderne bringen diese Jazz-Arrangements frischen Wind in unser Weihnachtsrepertoire. Eine originelle Art, diese magische Zeit zu feiern, die den Charme der Vergangenheit mit der Energie der Gegenwart verbindet.

English:

Every culture celebrates Christmas in its own way, with its own unique musical traditions. In our part of the world, this holiday is often associated with soft, soothing melodies: lullabies, hymns and folk dances fill our evenings and wrap the season in an atmosphere of serenity and contemplation. These timeless melodies cradle our childhood and perpetuate the magic of Christmas through the generations.

However, I wanted to explore a different facet of this holiday by giving it a more dynamic and festive touch. Why not revisit these melodies with a jazzier influence? Jazz, with its harmonic richness and rhythmic freedom, breathes new energy into traditional songs. Swinging arrangements, bright improvisations and colourful harmonies could provide a dazzling palette of sounds, like so many twinkling lights on a Christmas tree.

By integrating these more modern sounds, we enrich the festivities with a warm, sparkling atmosphere, where the spirit of Christmas is adorned with joyful, dancing accents. Between sweetness and liveliness, tradition and modernity, these jazz arrangements bring a touch of freshness to our Christmas repertoire. An original way to celebrate this magical time of year, combining the charm of the past with the energy of the present.



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Arr.: Jean-François Michel

1. God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

♩ = ca. 168 Bebop

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10 **A** 3

p *mf* *f*

18 **B** *p* *cresc.* *mf* *p* *cresc.*

28 **C** *f* 3 *f*

38 **D** 2 *f* *fp*

48 **E** *f* 3 *f*

58 1. 4 *p* *f* *ff* 2.

66 3 *f* 3

76 *p subito cresc.* *f*

5 Christmas Hits

Volume 2



1. God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

♩ = ca. 168 Bebop

Contrabass

Piano / or Organ

Contrabass (optional)

The first system of the musical score for 'God Rest You Merry Gentlemen'. It features three staves: Contrabass, Piano / or Organ, and Contrabass (optional). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as 'ca. 168 Bebop'. The Contrabass staff starts with a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. The Piano / or Organ staff starts with a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. The Contrabass (optional) staff starts with a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, and *f*. The Contrabass (optional) staff is marked *pizz.* (pizzicato).

5

A

The second system of the musical score, starting at measure 5. It features three staves: Contrabass, Piano / or Organ, and Contrabass (optional). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The Contrabass staff has a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. The Piano / or Organ staff has a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. The Contrabass (optional) staff has a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. Dynamics include *p* and *mf*. The Contrabass (optional) staff is marked *p* (piano).

10

B

The third system of the musical score, starting at measure 10. It features three staves: Contrabass, Piano / or Organ, and Contrabass (optional). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The Contrabass staff has a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. The Piano / or Organ staff has a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. The Contrabass (optional) staff has a half note G2, followed by a half note A2, and then a half note B2. Dynamics include *p*, *cresc.* (crescendo), *mf*, and *p* (piano).

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15

C

15

cresc. *f* *mf* *mf* *mf*

20

20

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

25

25

f *f* *f* *f*

29

D

29

f *mf* *mf* *mf*

2. A Silent Night Fantasy

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

♩ = ca. 92

Measures 1-7 of the piece. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked as ♩ = ca. 92. The music features a piano (p) dynamic. The right hand plays a series of chords, while the left hand has a melodic line with a pizzicato (pizz.) instruction at measure 4.

8

A

Measures 8-14 of the piece. The music continues with the same piano (p) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a repeat sign at measure 10. The left hand has a steady accompaniment.

15

Measures 15-20 of the piece. The music continues with the same piano (p) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a repeat sign at measure 18. The left hand has a steady accompaniment.

21 B

Measures 21-27 of the piece. The music continues with the same piano (p) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with a repeat sign at measure 24. The left hand has a steady accompaniment.

28 C

mf *p*

35

p

42 D

p *pp* *arco* *p* *pp*

49

mf

3. Gospel

Jean-François Michel

Largo ♩ = ca. 66

Piano

Play

A

Measures 1-5. Dynamics: *p*, *sostenuto*, *f*, *dim.*, *p*, *pizz.*, *f*, *dim.*, *p*.

6

Measures 6-11. Dynamics: *sim.*

12

Measures 12-18.

19

B

Measures 19-24. Dynamics: *cresc.*, *f*, *cresc.*, *f*.

26

C Moderato ♩ = ca. 112

26

f *dim.*

dim. *f marcato*

f

33

f marcato

43

53

D

4. When The Stars Begin To Fall

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

♩. = ca. 68

p

arco *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.*

p

5 A

p *p*

arco *pizz.*

9

13

mf

17 **B**

Measures 17-21 of section B. The score is written for three staves: a single bass staff at the top, a grand staff (treble and bass) in the middle, and a single bass staff at the bottom. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 17 features a melodic line in the top bass staff and a complex chordal texture in the grand staff. Measures 18-21 continue with similar textures, including sustained chords and moving lines.

22

C

Measures 22-26 of section C. The score continues with the same three-staff layout. Measure 22 shows a continuation of the textures from the previous section. Measures 23-26 introduce a new melodic motif in the top bass staff. A *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic marking appears in measure 24 on the grand staff and in measure 26 on the bottom bass staff.

27

Measures 27-31. The score continues with the same three-staff layout. Measures 27-31 feature a more active melodic line in the top bass staff, often beamed in eighth or sixteenth notes. The grand staff provides harmonic support with sustained chords and moving lines. The bottom bass staff continues with a steady melodic pattern.

32

D

Measures 32-36 of section D. The score continues with the same three-staff layout. Measure 32 begins with a *mf* dynamic marking in the top bass staff. Measures 32-36 feature a more active melodic line in the top bass staff, often beamed in eighth or sixteenth notes. The grand staff provides harmonic support with sustained chords and moving lines. The bottom bass staff continues with a steady melodic pattern.

5. Good King Wenceslas

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

Cool ♩ = ca. 172

7

13

19 A

p

pizz.

mf

p

mf

p

mf

25

B

Musical score for measures 25-30, section B. The score is written for three staves: Bass, Treble, and Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a variety of note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The section is marked with a box labeled 'B'.

31

Musical score for measures 31-37. The score is written for three staves: Bass, Treble, and Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a variety of note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *p* (piano). The section is marked with a box labeled 'B'.

38

C

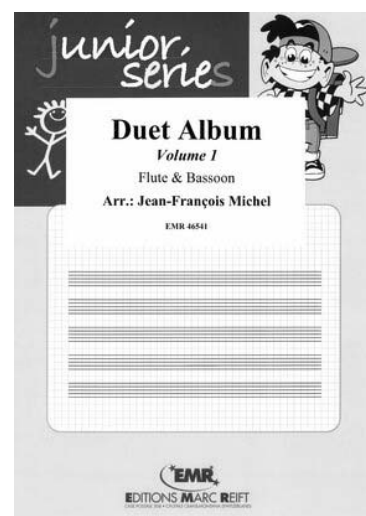
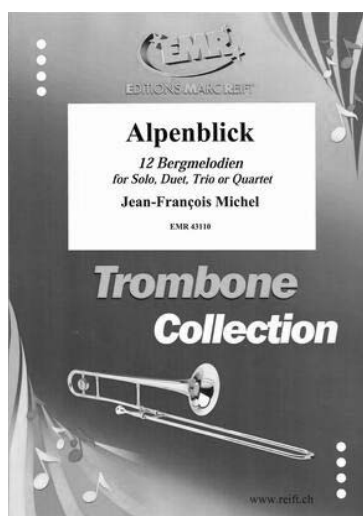
Musical score for measures 38-43, section C. The score is written for three staves: Bass, Treble, and Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a variety of note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The section is marked with a box labeled 'C'.

44

D

Musical score for measures 44-49, section D. The score is written for three staves: Bass, Treble, and Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a variety of note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano). The section is marked with a box labeled 'D'.

Collection Jean-François Michel



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