

# 5 Christmas Hits

## *Volume 2*

Oboe & Organ / Piano

**Arr.: Jean-François Michel**

**EMR 90091**

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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# 5 Christmas Hits

## *Volume 2*

**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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OBOE

# 5 Christmas Hits

## Volume 2

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

### 1. God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

♩ = ca. 168 Bebop

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The musical score is written for Oboe in 4/4 time, with a tempo of approximately 168 beats per minute in a Bebop style. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 10, 18, 28, 38, 48, 58, 66, and 76 indicated at the start of their respective staves. The piece features several dynamic markings: *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *cresc.* (crescendo), *mf > p*, *fp* (fortissimo piano), and *ff* (fortissimo). There are also articulation marks such as accents (>) and slurs. The score includes repeat signs with first and second endings at measures 48-50. Section markers A, B, C, D, and E are placed above the staves. Measure 66 begins with a triplet of eighth notes. The piece concludes with a *p subito cresc.* marking followed by a final *f* dynamic.

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# 5 Christmas Hits

## Volume 2

### 1. God Rest You Merry Gentlemen

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

♩ = ca. 168 Bebop

Oboe

Piano /  
or Organ

Contrabass  
(optional)

*p* *mf* *f*

*p* *mf*

*pizz.* *p* *mf*

5

A

*p*

10

B

*p* *cresc.* *mf* *p*

15

C

15

*cresc.*

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

20

20

25

25

*f*

*f*

*f*

29 D

29

*f*

*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 one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as ca. 92. The music features a piano (p) dynamic. The right hand plays a melody with slurs and accents, while the left hand provides harmonic support with chords and single notes. A 'pizz.' (pizzicato) marking is present in the left hand at measure 2.

8

A

Measures 8-14 of the piece. Measure 8 is marked with a box 'A'. The music continues with the same piano (p) dynamic. The right hand features more complex melodic lines with slurs and ties. The left hand maintains a steady accompaniment.

15

Measures 15-20 of the piece. The music continues with the same piano (p) dynamic. The right hand has a more active role with eighth and sixteenth notes. The left hand provides a consistent harmonic foundation.

21

B

Measures 21-27 of the piece. Measure 21 is marked with a box 'B'. The music continues with the same piano (p) dynamic. The right hand features long, flowing melodic lines with slurs. The left hand continues its accompaniment.



# 3. Gospel

Jean-François Michel

Largo ♩ = ca. 66

Piano

Play

**A**

Measures 1-5 of the musical score. The vocal line begins with a piano (p) dynamic and a sostenuto marking. The piano accompaniment starts with a forte (f) dynamic. The bass line is marked pizz. (pizzicato) and starts with a forte (f) dynamic. Dynamics change to dim. (diminuendo) and p (piano) in measure 5.

6

Measures 6-11. The piano part features a 'sim.' (simile) marking in measure 6. The bass line continues with a steady eighth-note pattern.

12

Measures 12-18. The piano part features a 'sim.' (simile) marking in measure 12. The bass line continues with a steady eighth-note pattern.

19

**B**

Measures 19-24. The score includes a 'cresc.' (crescendo) marking and a forte (f) dynamic. The piano part features a 'cresc.' (crescendo) marking in measure 19. The bass line continues with a steady eighth-note pattern.



**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

5

9

13

*p*

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

*p*

*A*

*mf*

17 **B**

Measures 17-21 of section B. The score is written for three staves: a single treble staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass) below. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and some rests. The grand staff includes chords and arpeggiated figures.

22

**C**

Measures 22-26 of section C. The score continues with three staves. Measure 22 has a double bar line. Measures 23-26 show more complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth-note runs. A *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic marking appears in measure 24 on the grand staff.

27

Measures 27-31. The score continues with three staves. This section features more intricate harmonic textures with many beamed sixteenth notes and chords in the grand staff.

32

**D**

Measures 32-35 of section D. The score continues with three staves. Measure 32 has a double bar line and a *mf* dynamic marking. The music concludes with a final cadence in measure 35.

# 5. Good King Wenceslas

17

Arr.: Jean-François Michel

Cool ♩ = ca. 172

The musical score is written for three staves: a single treble staff at the top, and a grand staff (treble and bass) below it. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Cool ♩ = ca. 172'. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 7, 13, and 19 indicated. Dynamics include *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *pizz.* (pizzicato). The melody in the top staff features various ornaments and rests. The piano accompaniment in the grand staff includes chords, arpeggios, and a pizzicato line in the bass. A section starting at measure 19 is marked with a box containing the letter 'A'.

7

13

19 A

*p*

*mf*

*pizz.*

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*mf*

25 B

*mf*

31

*f* *mf* *p*

38 C

*p* *mf*

44 D

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