



Last Christmas

Words and Music by George Michael
Arranged by Chris M. Bernotas

INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Full Score
- 8 Violin I
- 8 Violin II
- 5 Violin III (Viola )
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- 2 Drumset
(Optional)
- 2 Percussion
(Tambourine, Sleigh Bells)
(Optional)

PROGRAM NOTES

As classic as Santa and Rudolph, George Michael's iconic Wham! hit has been covered by Taylor Swift, Ariana Grande, and now it's your orchestra's turn. A snap to rehearse and program, this Chris M. Bernotas arrangement is suitable for all level string orchestras to usher in the holiday season.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

If you have a combined music department concert, this would be an excellent closer to bring the choir (and even strings singing) in at the repeat of measure 49 for the last musical statement of the chorus. You could even print the lyrics in your holiday program and invite the audience to sing-along at that same point without the echos.

Chorus:

Last Christmas, I gave you my heart—echo (I gave you my heart)
But the very next day, you gave it away—echo (you gave it away)
This year, to save me from tears
I'll give it to someone special—echo (special)

While this arrangement works great with strings alone, an added drumset and easy tambourine and sleigh bell parts will add extra sparkle to the performance.

Best wishes for a joy-filled performance!



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

In orchestral music, there are many editorial markings that are open for interpretation. In an effort to maintain consistency and clarity you may find some of these markings in this piece. In general, markings for fingerings, bowing patterns, and other items will only be marked with their initial appearance. For a more detailed explanation of our editorial markings, please download the free PDF at www.alfred.com/stringeditorial.

X
extended position

—
shift

’
bow lift/reset

(b), (#), (q)
high or low fingerings

▮▮ or V V
hooked bowings

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Last Christmas

FULL SCORE
Duration - 2:30

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Moderately $\text{♩} = 108$

Violins
I mf
II mf

Viola (Violin III)
 mf

Cello
 mf

String Bass
 mf

Drumset (Optional)
H.H. S.D.
B.D. mf

Percussion (Optional)
Tambourine

Vlins.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

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Score for measures 7, 8, and 9. The score includes staves for Vlns. I & II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, Str. Bass, Drumset, and Perc.

Measure 7: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to A4, B4, and C5. Vla. (Vln. III) plays a sustained note on G3. Cello and Str. Bass play a sustained note on G2. Drumset plays a steady eighth-note pattern. Perc. plays a sustained note on G2.

Measure 8: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to A4, B4, and C5. Vla. (Vln. III) plays a sustained note on G3. Cello and Str. Bass play a sustained note on G2. Drumset plays a steady eighth-note pattern. Perc. plays a sustained note on G2.

Measure 9: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to A4, B4, and C5. Vla. (Vln. III) plays a sustained note on G3. Cello and Str. Bass play a sustained note on G2. Drumset plays a steady eighth-note pattern. Perc. plays a sustained note on G2.

Dynamic markings: *f* (forte) for Vlns. I & II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, Str. Bass, and Perc. in measure 9. *f* (forte) for Drumset in measure 9.

Performance markings: *0* (fingerings) for Vlns. I & II in measure 7. *4* (fingerings) for Vlns. I & II in measure 8. *V* (breath mark) for Vla. (Vln. III) in measure 8. *Tom-Toms* and *Cr. Cym.* (Cymbal) for Drumset in measure 9.

Score for measures 10, 11, and 12. The score includes staves for Vlns. I & II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, Str. Bass, Drumset, and Perc.

Measure 10: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to A4, B4, and C5. Vla. (Vln. III) plays a sustained note on G3. Cello and Str. Bass play a sustained note on G2. Drumset plays a steady eighth-note pattern. Perc. plays a sustained note on G2.

Measure 11: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to A4, B4, and C5. Vla. (Vln. III) plays a sustained note on G3. Cello and Str. Bass play a sustained note on G2. Drumset plays a steady eighth-note pattern. Perc. plays a sustained note on G2.

Measure 12: Vlns. I & II play a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to A4, B4, and C5. Vla. (Vln. III) plays a sustained note on G3. Cello and Str. Bass play a sustained note on G2. Drumset plays a steady eighth-note pattern. Perc. plays a sustained note on G2.

Dynamic markings: *f* (forte) for Vlns. I & II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, Str. Bass, and Perc. in measure 10. *f* (forte) for Drumset in measure 10.

Performance markings: *0* (fingerings) for Vlns. I & II in measure 10. *-3* (fingerings) for Cello in measure 11. *V* (breath mark) for Vla. (Vln. III) in measure 12.

13 14 15 16

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

17 18 19 20

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

6

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

21 22 23 24

25

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

Sleigh Bells

mf

25 26 27 28

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla. (Vln. III)
 Cello
 Str. Bass
 Drumset
 Perc.

29 30 31 32

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla. (Vln. III)
 Cello
 Str. Bass
 Drumset
 Perc.

33 34 35 36

Score for measures 37-40. The score includes parts for Vlns. I & II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, Str. Bass, Drumset, and Perc.

Measures 37-40 show a sequence of notes and rests across the staves. The Vlns. I & II parts feature a melodic line with a *div.* (divisi) instruction in measure 38. The Vla. (Vln. III) and Cello parts have a *4* (quadruple) measure rest in measure 38. The Str. Bass part has a *-3* (three-measure rest) in measure 38. The Drumset and Perc. parts have a *-1* (one-measure rest) in measure 38.

Measures 37, 38, 39, and 40 are marked below the staves.

Score for measures 41-44. The score includes parts for Vlns. I & II, Vla. (Vln. III), Cello, Str. Bass, Drumset, and Perc.

Measures 41-44 show a sequence of notes and rests across the staves. The Vlns. I & II parts feature a *div. arco* (divisi arco) instruction in measure 41. The Vla. (Vln. III) and Cello parts have a *4* (quadruple) measure rest in measure 41. The Str. Bass part has a *f* (forte) dynamic marking in measure 41. The Drumset and Perc. parts have a *-4* (four-measure rest) in measure 41.

Measures 41, 42, 43, and 44 are marked below the staves.

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla. (Vln. III)
 Cello
 Str. Bass
 Drumset
 Perc.

45 46 47 48

Vlns. I
 Vlns. II
 Vla. (Vln. III)
 Cello
 Str. Bass
 Drumset
 Perc.

49 Joyously! *f*

50 51 52

f

1.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

53 54 55 56

2.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

57 58 59 60 61

Fill

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