

Sneaking on the Housetops

Ryan Meeboer

Instrumentation:

Flute - 8

Oboe - 2

Bb Clarinet - 8

Bb Bass Clarinet - 1

Eb Alto Saxophone - 6

Bb Tenor Saxophone - 3

Eb Baritone Saxophone - 1

Bb Trumpet - 6

F Horn - 2

Trombone, Baritone, Bassoon - 6

Baritone Treble Clef - 2

Tuba - 2

String Bass - 1

Bells - 1

Snare Drum, Bass Drum - 2

Crash Cymbals, Cabasa, Wood Block, Tambourine - 4

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Have you ever wondered how Santa can get around everyone's house without making a sound? This arrangement of *Up on the Housetop* is a musical depiction of what it would sound like if Santa was caught sneaking around.

The piece has a grand opening written in a traditional chorale fashion. At measure 9, the feel of the main body of the piece is introduced. A major factor of this piece is extreme use of staccato markings, which help give the piece that light, sneaky feeling. On top of that, many of the dynamic markings reflect Santa being quiet as he tiptoes around the house. Make sure you stress both of these concepts with your students as you work through this piece.

Every instrument gets an opportunity to shine in this piece, either by playing the melody, or getting short solis. Flutes, clarinet, trumpets, and alto saxes pass the main melody around throughout the remainder of the piece, as well as all getting the chance to play the light, fun background to the main melody. The low brass and winds have the chance to show their skills by representing Santa climbing down the chimney, in measure 23, going up the chimney, in measure 46, or by playing the role of jolly old St. Nick himself, by 'ho ho ho'ing in the B section of this piece at measure 29. Even the woodblock gets a moment, as Santa is up on the housetop with a 'click click click' at measure 39.

A final factor to note, be sure that your students are careful to read the music accurately. The melody of this piece has been modified to suit the feeling and mood of sneaking old Kris Kringle, including parts where the melody is delayed, such as at measures 19 and 39, where the rhythm is held off to leave room for two bass drum hits.

Ryan Meeboer is a music educator, who obtained his degree through the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto. As a composer, he has written and arranged many pieces for concert band, jazz band, and small ensembles. His young band piece, *Last Voyage of the Queen Anne's Revenge*, has been well received by performers, educators, and audiences, and his pieces are starting to be found on festival and contest lists. As a performer, he has had experience in several groups, including concert and stage bands, chamber choir, vocal jazz ensemble, acoustic duets, and the Hamilton based swing group, "The Main Swing Connection".

Ryan began studying music at the age of seven through private guitar lessons. During his years in elementary and secondary school, he gained experience in several families of instruments. Focusing on music education and theory (including composition and orchestration), he attended McMaster University to achieve his honours degree in music. Ryan is currently a teacher for the Halton District School Board in Ontario, where he continues to compose and arrange.

*Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece
or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.*

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SNEAKING ON THE HOUSETOPS

Ryan Meeboer

Boldly, Half-time feel ♩ = 120

3

4

5

6

Flute *f*

Oboe *f*

B♭ Clarinet *f*

B♭ Bass Clarinet *f*

E♭ Alto Saxophone *f* div. 8

B♭ Tenor Saxophone *f*

E♭ Baritone Saxophone *f*

B♭ Trumpet *f*

F Horn *f*

Trombone
Baritone
Bassoon *f*

Tuba *f*

Bells *f*

Snare Drum

PREVIEW ONLY

7

8

9

10

11

12

rit.

Lively ♩ = 140

Fl

Ob

Cl

B Cl

Sax

Sax

Sax

Tpt

Hn

trbn

Bari

Bsn

Tuba

Mells

S.D.

B.D.

PREVIEW ONLY



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13

14

15

16

17

18

Fl *mf*

Ob

Cl *mf*

B Cl *mf*

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt *mf*

Hn

Trbn *mf* Baritone only

Bari

Bsn

Tuba

Bells

S.D.

B.D.

PREVIEW ONLY

25

26

27

28

29

30

Fl

Ob

Cl

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt

Hn

Trbn
Bari
Bsn

Tuba

Bells

S.D.
B.D.

p

p

div.
p

p

p

p

p

p

p

on rim

PREVIEW ONLY

37

38

39

40

41

42

Fl

Ob

Cl

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt

Hn

Trbn
Bari
Bsn

Tuba

Bells

S.D.
B.D.

PREVIEW ONLY

The musical score is written for measures 37 through 42. The instruments are arranged in a standard orchestral layout. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is not explicitly shown but appears to be 4/4 based on the notation. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large, semi-transparent 'PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is centered across the middle of the page, overlapping the staves for Baritone Saxophone, Trumpet, and Horn.

43

44

45

46

47

Fl

Ob

Cl

B Cl

A Sax

T Sax

B Sax

Tpt

Hn

Trbn
Bari
Bsn

Tuba

Bells

S.D.
B.D.

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