

Santa's Sleigh Ride

Ryan Meeboer

Santa's Sleigh Ride is a creative arrangement of *Up on the Housetop* as it would be heard in various cultures from around the world. The original melody has been mixed with traditional songs or has been modified to fit the style of music well known to these cultures.

The piece opens with a fanfare, featuring the melody broken into small pieces. The counter melody quotes *Deck the Halls*, which is referenced a few times in this piece. As the introduction draws to a dramatic close, with the *rit.* in measure 9, the piece breaks into a mambo, a style of music that originated in Cuba. This section is to be energetic, but not heavy, so keep all the background figures light.

Measure 34 features the music of Hawaii. Although it is not a country, this musical style creates a good transition into the bridge of *Up on the Housetop*, while bringing the music back into 4/4 time. Note that the eighth notes are to be played with a swing (triplet) feel. As the melody is performed the traditional Hawaiian piece *Aloha 'Oe* can be heard.

Measures 83-87 act as transitional material from the strong music of Spain, into the gentle, melodic style of Japan. At measure 92, there is a slower moving form of the melody, where both the melody and harmony modified to fit into a major pentatonic scale.

The piece moves into its final section at measure 110, by having the percussionist quote a famous snare drum march lick. Afterwards *Up on the Housetop* is performed in the traditional American march style. Be sure the melody is always dominant in this final section, even with all the flourishes played.

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This image shows measures 12 through 17 of the musical score for 'The Sound of Silence' by Simon & Garfunkel. The score is written for four staves: three vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) and one bass line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 12-14 show the vocalists singing the line 'Hello darkness, my old friend'. Measures 15-17 show the vocalists singing the line 'I have a secret, you've got a plan'. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment, featuring a 'lead' in measure 12 and a 'bass' in measure 14.

18 *The Caribbean* 19 20 21 22 23

mf

mf

mf

mf

Ride Cymbal

mf

24 25 26 27 28 29

mf

PREVIEW ONLY

30 31 32 33 34

In 4 - swing eighths $\text{♩} = \text{ne}$

Hawaii

not lead

mp

mp

lead

35 36 37 38 39 40

41 lead 42 44 46

mf

mf

mf

turn snares off

47 48 In 2 - straight eighths $\text{♩} = \text{me}$ India 49 50 51

p

p

p

p

52 53 54 55 56 57

mf *mf* *lead* *mf* *mp*

58 59 60 61 62 63

PREVIEW ONLY

64 65 66 67 68

f *f* *f* *f* *in 4* *Spain*

69 70 71 72 73 74

75 76 77 78 79 80

PREVIEW ONLY

81 82 83 to st mute 85 86 87 *rit.*

to st mute

lead

mp

mp

Flowing $\text{♩} = 120$

Japan

st mute

88 89 90 91 92 93

p

st mute

p

p

3 tons

p

94 95 96 97 98

p

PREVIEW ONLY

99 100 101 102 103 104

open

open

p

105 106 open 107 108 109 110 March Tempo - still $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

112 113 114 *United States* 115 116 117 118 119

120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127

128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135

p
mp
lead
mf
p
on rim
mp

136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143

ff
ff
ff
ff
on head
ff

144 145 146 147 148 149 150

fp
ff
fp
ff
fp
ff
Λ
3