

Bells Across The Snows

PERFORMANCE TIME 2:53

Words - Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879)
Music - Patrick Riley (1933-)

Lyrics: Nostalgically longing for the Christmas seasons of long ago.

Tempo: ♩ = 90

Vocal Parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass

Instrumental Part: Celesta

Dynamic: *mp*

5

S

A

T

B

Cel.

mp

mp

mer - ry

O Christ - mas, mer - ry

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a choral and cello ensemble. It consists of five staves. The top four staves are for voices: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The bottom staff is for Cello (Cel.) in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The music is in common time (C). The lyrics are 'mer - ry' and 'O Christ - mas, mer - ry'. The dynamic is mezzo-piano (mp). The Soprano part has a measure rest in the first two measures, then a quarter note G5 in the third measure, and a quarter note A5 in the fourth measure. The Alto part has a measure rest in the first two measures, then a quarter note G4 in the third measure, and a quarter note A4 in the fourth measure. The Tenor part has a measure rest in the first two measures, then a quarter note G3 in the third measure, and a quarter note A3 in the fourth measure. The Bass part has a measure rest in the first two measures, then a quarter note G2 in the third measure, and a quarter note A2 in the fourth measure. The Cello part has a complex melodic line in the first two measures, then a quarter note G4 in the third measure, and a quarter note A4 in the fourth measure.

9 *mf*

S Christ - mas! Is it real - ly come a - gain, —

A Christ - mas! Is it real - ly come a - gain, —

T *mf* Is it real - ly come a - gain, —

B *mf* with its mem - o - ries —

9 Cel. *mf*

13

S *f* There's a mi - nor in the car - ol, —

A *mp* , *f* with its joy and with its pain? There's a mi - nor in the car - ol, —

T *mp* , *f* with its joy and with its pain? There's a mi - nor in the car - ol, —

B , *mp* , *f* — and greet - ings, with its joy and with its pain? There's a mi - nor in the car - ol, —

Cel. 13 *mp* *f* 8^{va} — — — — ,

17

S *mf*
and a shad - ow in the light, and a spray of cy - press twin - ing with the

A *mp*
and a shad - ow in the light, O Christ -

T *mp*
and a shad - ow in the light, O Christ -

B *mp*
and a shad - ow in the light, O Christ -

Cel. *mf*

20

S
hol - ly wreath to - night.

A
mas, And the hush is nev - er bro - ken by laugh - ter light and low, as we

T
8 mas, mer - ry - Christ - mas! as we

B
mas, mer - ry Christ - mas! as we

20

Cel.
8^{va} 8^{va}

The musical score is written for five parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), and Cello (Cel.). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Soprano part begins at measure 20 with the lyrics 'hol - ly wreath to - night.' The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts enter at measure 20 with the lyrics 'mas, And the hush is nev - er bro - ken by laugh - ter light and low, as we'. The Cello part also enters at measure 20 with the lyrics 'mas, mer - ry Christ - mas! as we'. The score includes musical notation with notes, rests, and dynamics such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The Cello part features an 8^{va} (octave up) marking. The page number '20' is indicated in a box at the beginning of the Soprano and Cello staves.

23

S

A

T

B

lis - ten in the star - light to the bells a - cross the snow.

lis - ten in the star - light to the bells a - cross the snow.

lis - ten in the star - light to the bells a - cross the snow.

23

Cel.

mp

26

S

A

T

B

8

O Christ - mas, mer - ry Christ - mas! 'Tis not so ver - y long

mp *mf* *mf*

26

Cel.

30

S

A

T

B

Cel.

8

f

mf

f

mf

f

If we

with the car - ol and the song! If we

with the car - ol and the song! If we

— since oth - er voic - es blend - ed with the car - ol and the song! If we

30

f

34 *mf*

S could but hear them sing - ing ————— as they are sing - ing now, if we

A could but hear them sing - ing ————— as they are sing - ing now,

T 8 could but hear them sing - ing ————— as they are sing - ing now,

B could but hear them sing - ing ————— as they are sing - ing now,

Cel. 34

37

S could but see the rad-iance of the crown on each dear brow;

A *mp* O Christ - mas, *mf* there would be no sigh to smoth-er, no

T *mp* O Christ - mas, *mp* mer - ry Christ - mas!—

B *mp* O Christ - mas, *mp* mer - ry Christ - mas!—

37

Cel. *mf* *8va*—

43

S *mp* mer - ry Christ - mas! *, mf* This nev - er

A *mp* O Christ - mas, mer - ry Christ - mas! *, mf* This nev - er

T *mf* This nev - er

B

Cel. *mp* *mf*

47

S
more can be;

A
more can be; *mp* of

T
more can be; *mp* of

B
mf We can - not bring a - gain the days *mp* of

Cel.
47 *mp*

The musical score is for a vocal ensemble and piano. It is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The vocal parts are Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The piano accompaniment includes a cello line (Cel.). The lyrics are: 'more can be; We can - not bring a - gain the days of'. The piano part includes a cello line. Dynamics include *mf* and *mp*. The score is marked with a rehearsal mark 47.

50

S

A

T

B

Cel.

8

f

f

f

f

our un - shad - owed glee. But Christ - mas, hap - py Christ - mas, _____

our un - shad - owed glee. But Christ - mas, hap - py Christ - mas, _____

our un - shad - owed glee. But Christ - mas, hap - py Christ - mas, _____

our un - shad - owed glee. But Christ - mas, hap - py Christ - mas, _____

50

f

f

53

S *mf*
 sweet her - ald of good - will, with ho - ly songs of glo - ry brings

A *mp*
 sweet her - ald of good - will, O Christ -

T *mp*
 sweet her - ald of good - will, O Christ -

B *mp*
 sweet her - ald of good - will, O Christ -

Cel. *mf*
 53 *8va* *8va*

56

S
ho - ly glad - ness still.

A
, mf
mas, For peace and hope may bright - en, and pa - tient love may glow, as we

T
mp
mas, mer - ry Christ - mas! ————— *, mf* as we

B
mp
mas, mer - ry Christ - mas! ————— *, mf* as we

Cel.
56
(8^{va}) 8^{va}

59

S

A

T

B

8

59

8va

Cel.

p

p

lis - ten in the star - light to the bells a - cross the snow, as we lis - ten in the star - light to the

lis - ten in the star - light to the bells a - cross the snow, as we lis - ten in the star - light to the

lis - ten in the star - light to the bells a - cross the snow, as we lis - ten in the star - light to the

62 *mp* *f* *rit.*

S bells a - cross the snow.

A *mp* *f* *rit.*

T bells a - cross the snow.

B *mp* *f* *rit.*

8 bells a - cross the snow.

62 *mp* *mf* *f* *mf* *rit.*

Cel. *8va* *Glissando* *8va*