

JAZZ LINES PUBLICATIONS

Presents

SLEIGH RIDE

AS RECORDED BY BING CROSBY WITH THE RHYTHMAIRES

MUSIC ARRANGED BY WALTER SHEETS

VOCAL GROUP ARRANGED BY JUD CONLON

PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY ROB DUBOFF AND JEFFREY SULTANOF

FULL SCORE

FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT

JLP-6093

MUSIC BY LEROY ANDERSON, WORDS BY MITCHELL PARISH

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BING CROSBY SERIES

SLEIGH RIDE (1952)

Bing Crosby Biography:

One of America's most endearing entertainers, Bing Crosby was one of the first people to attain massive crossover success as a popular figure, having equally successful careers in music and film. Born in Tacoma, Washington in 1903, Crosby became the first vocalist to achieve star billing with a big band after joining the Paul Whiteman Orchestra in 1926. More success came as the featured star of The Rhythm Boys after leaving Whiteman.

The 1930s continued to see not only a continued string of musical successes, but also Crosby's break into film. Starring in several short comedies during this time, often pairing up with comedian Bob Hope. His career as an actor reached its peak in 1944, when he won the Academy Award for Best Actor for his performance in *Going My Way*.

Crosby would branch out in several different directions in the 1950s. He became a regular sight on television, as well as becoming actively involved in the world of sports, owning several thoroughbred race horses as well as being partial owner of the Pittsburgh Pirates baseball team. He passed away in 1977.

Walter Sheets Biography:

Walter Sheets was born on August 7, 1911 in London, Ohio. He is known for his work with Bing Crosby and particularly as an arranger who would be called in to assist other arrangers; Billy May called on him to arrange for Ella Fitzgerald on the Harold Arlen Songbook album. But he is best known as an arranger/orchestrator for the Walt Disney Studios from ca. 1959 - 1980. Among his Disney credits are *The Sword in the Stone*, *The Jungle Book* (*The Bare Necessities* and *I Wanna Be Like You*), *The Aristocats*, *Summer Magic*, *The Love Bug*, and many others. He also contributed orchestrations to Disney attractions at the 1964 World's Fair (*Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln*) and for the Disney theme parks around the world.

The Music:

Over the years, Bing Crosby's silky smooth baritone has become an integral part of the sounds of the Christmas season. It goes without question, then, that his interpretation of Leroy Anderson's *Sleigh Ride* (music arranged by Walter Sheets and vocal group arranged by Jud Conlon) is one of the definitive versions of the modern holiday classic.

To the Conductor:

A delightful, but surprisingly ambitious introduction sets the stage for Crosby's entrance at measure 9. The brass stay in tight cup mutes throughout to fit the performance's natural warmth, as well as to serve as a contrast to the brightly staccato attacks of the high woodwinds. Rather than over-articulating accents, your wind players should approach them more as points of gentle emphasis. Conlon's choral writing does a wonderful job of providing both full-bodied support for Crosby's lead and playfully supportive responses; your vocal group should think of themselves as co-equals, rather than purely accompaniment.

At measure 57, Crosby steps back for a minute in order to let the vocal group have a moment to shine. Be sure to draw attention to how the instrumental accompaniment becomes a bit more flowing overall during this part to draw a contrast to the semi-percussive approach that occurs for most of the rest of the arrangement, especially in the winds. Crosby takes the lead back full-time at measure 89, with the choir emulating bell chimes before returning to the melody at measure 97. Things wrap up with some staggered pings in the woodwinds and brass, with a quick pizzicato from the strings to make for a clean, crisp ending.

This publication was prepared from Walter Sheet's pencil score and the original set of parts used for the 1952 recording - this is not a transcription.

Doug DuBoff, Jeffrey Sultanof, Dylan Canterbury, and Rob DuBoff

- November 2024



SLEIGH RIDE

mf

Picc. *SEMPRE STACCATO*

FLUTE *Col Picc.*

OBOE *SEMPRE STACCATO.*

CLAR. *Col Picc.*

BASS CLAR. *mf*

1 *mf*

Trumpets 2 *mp*

3 *mp*

SEMPRE STACCATO

1 *mp*

Trombs. 2 *mp*

3 *mp*

mp. sempre staccato

Guitar

LOCKEN PIER Drums *mp LIGHTLY*

GROUP

BING

WALTER SHEETS
DATE
COMPOSER - ARRANGER

A *f div. pizz.*

Violins B *col I*

C *col I*

FAIRLY BRIGHT TWO

Viola *f pizz.*

Cello *f pizz.*

Bass

Piano *mf sempre staccato*

- 122 -

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Above is the first page of Walter Sheets' score for *Sleigh Ride*, completed on December 18, 1951 and recorded by Bing Crosby the following year.

Prod. Binyon/19/51

Sleigh Ride

Page 1...

Handwritten musical score for the first system (measures 1-11). It features three staves: Treble (Soprano), Bass (Alto), and Bass (Bass). The Soprano staff has a 'Solo' marking and lyrics 'Snow is falling and etc'. The Alto staff has lyrics 'Yoo-Hoo Yoo'. The Bass staff has lyrics 'Solo' and 'Snow is falling and etc'. Measure numbers 1-8, 9, 10, and 11 are written in red above the staves.

Handwritten musical score for the second system (measures 12-15). It features three staves: Treble (Soprano), Bass (Alto), and Bass (Bass). The Soprano staff has lyrics '- Hoo'. The Alto staff has lyrics '- Hoo'. The Bass staff has lyrics '- Hoo'. Measure numbers 12, 13, 14, and 15 are written in red above the staves.

Handwritten musical score for the third system (measures 16-19). It features three staves: Treble (Soprano), Bass (Alto), and Bass (Bass). The Soprano staff has lyrics 'Gid-dy-YAP Gid-dy-YAP Gid-dy-YAP LET'S GO'. The Alto staff has lyrics 'Gid-dy-YAP'. The Bass staff has lyrics 'Gid-dy-YAP' and 'Let's Rock'. Measure numbers 16, 17, 18, and 19 are written in red above the staves.

Handwritten musical score for the fourth system (measures 20-23). It features three staves: Treble (Soprano), Bass (Alto), and Bass (Bass). The Soprano staff has lyrics 'WE'RE RIDING IN A WON-DER-LAND OF SNOW'. The Alto staff has lyrics 'We're'. The Bass staff has lyrics 'WE'RE RIDING IN A WON-DER-LAND OF SNOW'. Measure numbers 20, 21, 22, and 23 are written in red above the staves.

Above is the first page of Jud Conlon's vocal group score for Sleigh Ride.

BING

SLEIGH RIDE

Bing

JUST HEAR THOSE SLEIGH BELLS TIN-GLING-

RING-TING-TIN-GLING TOO COME ON IT'S LOVE-LY WEATHER FOR A

SLEIGH RIDE TO-GETH-ER WITH YOU OUT-SIDE THE SNOW IS FALL-ING AND

FRIENDS ARE CALL-ING "YOO - HOO" COME ON IT'S LOVE-LY WEATHER FOR A

SLEIGH RIDE TO-GETH-ER WITH YOU GID-DY YAP- GID-DY YAP GID-DY

YAP LET'S GO LET'S LOOK AT THE SHOW WE'RE RID-ING IN A

WON-DER-LAND OF SNOW GID-DY YAP GID-DY YAP GID-DY

YAP IT'S GRAND JUST HOLD-ING YOUR HAND



Above is the first page of Bing Crosby's part that he used for the 1952 recording session.

SLEIGH RIDE

AS RECORDED BY BING CROSBY WITH THE RHYTHMAIRES

SCORE

MUSIC BY LEROY ANDERSON, WORDS BY MITCHELL PARISH
 MUSIC ARRANGED BY WALTER SHEETS, VOCAL GROUP ARRANGED BY JUD CONLON
 PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION BY ROB DUBOFF AND JEFFREY SULTANOF

BRIGHTLY ♩ = 180

Male Vocal Soloist

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Baritone

Woodwind 1: Piccolo

Woodwind 2: Flute

Woodwind 3: Oboe

Woodwind 4: Clarinet

Woodwind 5: Bass Clarinet

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3

Viola

Cello

Guitar

Piano

Acoustic Bass

Percussion: Glockenspiel/Sleigh Bells/Drum Set

9

M
sleigh bells jin - gl - ing, ring ting tin - gl - ing too. Come on, it's love - ly wea - ther for a sleigh ride to - geth - er with you. Out - side the

Ww 1 (Picc.)
mf f f

Ww 2 (Fl.)
mf f f

Ww 3 (Ob.)
mf f f

Ww 4 (Cl.)
mf f f

Ww 5 (Bs Cl.)
mp 2 2 2

Tpt. 1
mf mp f

Tpt. 2
mf mp f

Tpt. 3
mf mp f

Tbn. 1
mf mp f

Tbn. 2
mf mp f

Tbn. 3
mf mp f

Vln. 1
mf f mf

Vln. 2
mf f mf

Vln. 3
mf f mf

Vla.
mf f mf

Vc.
mf f mf

Gtr.
p E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13 E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13 E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13 E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13

Pno.
p E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13 E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13 E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13 E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13

Bs.
mp Pizz. E^b6/9 Fm⁹ B^b13 2 2 2

Perc. (D. S.)
p Brushes Sleigh Bells Sleigh Bells

9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16