

ORFF-SCHULWERK
Music for Children

Carl Orff
The Christmas Story
Music: Gunild Kejnert

PREVIEW
Low Resolution

This work was written for the Bavarian Broadcasting Corporation
and was sung and performed by children.
First broadcast performance: Christmas 1955.

This "Christmas Story" was originally written in the Bavarian dialect in order to reach as wide an English-speaking public as possible, and the particular dialect has been made. But to retain the spirit of the original, the English words have been chosen to suit the local traditions and forms of speech used by the people of the region. The instrumental part judicious changes in the orchestration may be made to suit the local instruments. (The violin and viola may be substituted for the two violas, and the viola da gamba, for instance.)

CAST AND ORCHESTRA:

CAST: Narrator, the Angel, Mary and Joseph, Children's Chorus and Soloists
ORCHESTRA: 2 Sopranoes 1st, 3 Descant c^o, 2 Treble F, 1 Tenor c^o, 1 Bass f.
ENSEMBLE: 1 Flute, 1 Treble and 1 Tenor Viol, 1 Viola da Gamba, Cello and Bass, Timpani.

PERCUSSION: 2 Basses and 4 Alto Glockenspiels, 1 Soprano and 1 Alto Xylophone, Small Cymbals, Large Cymbals, Triangle, Steigh Bells, Tambourine, Tom-tom, Bass Drum.

1. Introduction

2. Allegretto (♩ = 94)

Descant Recorder c''
p dolce, non legato

Treble Recorder f'
1
p dolce, non legato

2
p dolce, legato

Tenor Recorder c'
p dolce, legato

Descant Recorder c''

Treble Recorder f'
1

2

Tenor Recorder c'

Descant Recorder c''

Treble Recorder f'
1

2

Tenor Recorder c'

Descant Recorder c''

Treble Recorder f'

Tenor Recorder c'

Fine

$\frac{2}{4}$ (♩ = 52)

Treble Recorder f'

Tenor Recorder c'

p espr., legato

Treble Recorder f'

Tenor Recorder c'

Speaker :

And there were in the same country
shepherds abiding in the field,
keeping watch over their flock by night.

Distant bleating of sheep and tinkling of bells.
Two shepherds with a third, who is quite old.

2. *Tranquillo, sempre molto rubato, quasi improvvisamente*

P (as if from the distance)

più mosso

quasi rit.

a tempo

(eco)

the shepherds speak

1. Are all the sheep inside?

2. They're all together.

3. Are all the sheep inside?
2. They're all together.

1. The old fellow may as well go to sleep, for he doesn't hear a thing.

2. My hands are getting quite stiff in this biting cold, and my breath is freezing inside my flute.

1. Come nearer to the fire !

2. D'you hear anything? Is something wrong? Those sheep are giving no peace to-night, and the dogs are barking. D'you hear?

1. Don't fuss! What's it likely to be? Let's huddle closer together and get ourselves warm.

Descant Recorder c''

Tenor Recorder c'

Descant Recorder c''

Tenor Recorder c'

Descant Recorder c''

Tenor Recorder c'

Descant Recorder c''

Tenor Recorder c'

3. Pastorale

 $\frac{3}{4}$ Tranquillo (♩. = 48)

Descant Recorder c'

Treble Recorder F¹

Treble Recorder F²

Tenor Recorder c'

Violoncello

p legato

p

Descant Recorder c'

Treble Recorder F¹

Treble Recorder F²

Tenor Recorder c'

Violoncello

non legato

pizz., con sord.

p

Descant Recorder c''

1

Treble Recorder f'

2

segue

Tenor Recorder c'

Violoncello

Descant Recorder c''

1

Treble Recorder f'

2

Tenor Recorder c'

Violoncello

Triangle

pp

attacca

4.

Soprano
Glockenspiels

1 *pp* C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4

2 C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4 *pp* C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4

3 C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4 *pp* C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4

Alto
Glockenspiels

1 C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4

2 C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4 *pp* *gliss* C4 E4 G4

3 C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4

4 C4 E4 G4 C4 E4 G4

2. But it's only just midnight.

pp *gliss*