

Foreword

The Christmas season bring with it a tremendous spirit of sharing, not just between neighbors but also globally, as many cultures and customs intermingle in seasonal celebrations observed concurrently throughout the western world.

The resulting body of carols was the starting point for Douglas E. Wagner, who took great care to select those that both best represent their country and provide the foundation for idiomatic instrumental settings. The result of his efforts is a wonderful collection of arrangements varied in style and level of difficulty (although most are accessible to a good high school player). Where octaves are indicated, the soloist may choose whichever notes to play that best fit his or her range.

Suitable as offerings during the worship service as well as for concert programming, each of these eight settings may be performed singly or paired according to the following suggestions:

The First Nowell with The Seven Joys of Mary

Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella with Masters in This Hall

The Rocking Carol with The Wexford Carol

O Come to the Manger with The Seven Joys of Mary

The Rocking Carol with A La Ru

The Wexford Carol with Masters in This Hall

The Wexford Carol with A La Ru

O Come to the Manger with The First Nowell