

Carol of the Bells

for mallet ensemble

Valerie Dreith

2021
(revised 2024)

Carol of the Bells

for mallet ensemble

Traditional Ukrainian Carol by Mykola Leontovych

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ca. 2 min

INSTRUMENTATION

8 players

- Marimba 1 & 2 (Two players share a 4.3 octave Marimba)
- Marimba 3 & 4 (Two players share a 4.3 octave Marimba)
 - Vibraphone 1
 - Vibraphone 2
 - Glockenspiel
- Percussion (second Glockenspiel, Chimes, Timpani)

PROGRAM NOTES

Originally composed and performed during my senior year at Walnut Hills, this arrangement of "Carol of the Bells" puts a spin on the classic carol's repetitive, drone-like melody by turning it into a 2:3 polyrhythm, fit for student percussionists who are beginning to grasp this concept. It expands upon this through new textures and harmonic content that may sound unfamiliar, yet intriguing, to fans of the original. The piece slowly builds energy until it explodes into a wall of counterpoint to wrap everything up in a neat bow, ready to be placed under your tree.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

1) Vibraphone 1 & 2 cannot share an instrument, just as the Glockenspiel and Percussion part cannot share a glockenspiel. Marimbas may use their own instruments, but it is not necessary.

1) Vibraphones should keep their pedals mostly open throughout the main melody to create a bell-like sound

2) At the end of the piece, Vibraphone 2 should move to the Percussion part's set of Chimes, as opposed to using an entire second set.

Score

For the percussionists of Walnut Hills High School

Carol of the Bells

for mallet ensemble

Mykola Leontovych

arr. Valerie Dreith

Dance-like, ♩ = 160

Marimba 1

Marimba 2

Marimba 3

Marimba 4

Vibraphone 1

Vibraphone 2

Glockenspiel

Percussion

Marimba 1: Treble clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-4: quarter notes (G4, A4, B4, C5). Measures 5-8: quarter notes (B4, A4, G4, F#4).

Marimba 2: Bass clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-4: quarter notes (F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measures 5-8: quarter notes (A3, G3, F#3, E3).

Marimba 3: Treble clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-4: quarter notes (G4, A4, B4, C5). Measures 5-8: quarter notes (B4, A4, G4, F#4).

Marimba 4: Bass clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-4: quarter notes (F#3, G3, A3, B3). Measures 5-8: quarter notes (A3, G3, F#3, E3).

Vibraphone 1: Treble clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-4: quarter notes (G4, A4, B4, C5). Measures 5-8: quarter notes (B4, A4, G4, F#4). Dynamic: *p*.

Vibraphone 2: Treble clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-4: quarter notes (G4, A4, B4, C5). Measures 5-8: quarter notes (B4, A4, G4, F#4). Dynamic: *p*.

Glockenspiel: Treble clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-8: quarter notes (G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4).

Percussion: Treble clef, 3/4 time, 3/4 key signature. Measures 1-8: quarter notes (G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4).

Carol of the Bells

A

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Perc.

p

p

p

Glockenspiel

p

B

5

Carol of the Bells

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Glk.

25

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

The musical score for "Carol of the Bells" on page 6 features a percussion ensemble. The notation is as follows:

- Mrb. 1:** Treble clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a steady eighth-note pattern: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5.
- Mrb. 2:** Bass clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a steady eighth-note pattern: G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4.
- Mrb. 3:** Treble clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5.
- Mrb. 4:** Bass clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes: G3, A3, B3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4.
- Vib. 1:** Treble clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5.
- Vib. 2:** Treble clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5.
- Glk. 1:** Treble clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5.
- Glk. 2:** Treble clef, starting at measure 25. It plays a pattern of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5.

The dynamic is mezzo-piano (*mp*) throughout the section.

C

7

Carol of the Bells

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Chm.

40

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp

Carol of the Bells

D

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Chm.

45

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

Carol of the Bells

E

Mrb. 1

53

mp

Mrb. 2

53

mp

Mrb. 3

53

mp

Mrb. 4

53

mp

Vib. 1

53

mp

Vib. 2

53

mp

Glk.

53

Chm.

53

The musical score for "Carol of the Bells" on page 10 features eight parts: Mrb. 1, Mrb. 2, Mrb. 3, Mrb. 4, Vib. 1, Vib. 2, Glk., and Chm. The score is written in 3/4 time and includes a key signature change to E major at measure 53. The dynamics are marked mezzo-piano (mp). The Mrb. 1 and Vib. 1 parts play a melodic line, while the other parts provide a rhythmic accompaniment. The score is divided into measures, with some measures containing rests or specific rhythmic patterns.

Carol of the Bells

[illegible]

Carol of the Bells

F

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Glk.

69

69

69

69

69

69

69

69

Carol of the Bells

Mrb. 1

77 *mf* *f* **G**

Mrb. 2

77 *mf* *f*

Mrb. 3

77 *mf* *f*

Mrb. 4

77 *mf* *f*

Vib. 1

77 *mf* *f*

Vib. 2

77 *mf* *f*

Glk.

77 *mf* *f*

Glk.

77 Chimes *f*

Carol of the Bells

83

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Chm.

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

Carol of the Bells

87

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

mp

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

f

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

87

Chm.

Timp.

The musical score is for the piece 'Carol of the Bells'. It features four mridangas (Mrb. 1, 2, 3, 4), two vibraphones (Vib. 1, 2), a glockenspiel (Glk.), and a chime (Chm.). The score begins at measure 87. The mridangas play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, while the vibraphones and glockenspiel play a melodic line. The chime plays a sustained note. The tempo is marked 'mp' and the dynamics are 'f'.

Carol of the Bells

93

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Timp.

H

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

Carol of the Bells

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Timp.

98

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

Carol of the Bells

102 I

Mrb. 1 *mf*

Mrb. 2 *mf*

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4 *mf*

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Timp. *mf*

This musical score is for the piece 'Carol of the Bells'. It features a multi-measure rest of 102 measures at the beginning of each part. The score is divided into four systems. The first system contains Mridangam 1, Mridangam 2, Mridangam 3, and Mridangam 4. The second system contains Vibraphone 1 and Vibraphone 2. The third system contains the Glockenspiel. The fourth system contains the Timpani. The Mridangam parts have specific melodic lines, while the Vibraphone and Glockenspiel parts have more rhythmic patterns. The Timpani part has a simple rhythmic pattern. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is used for Mridangam 1, Mridangam 2, and Mridangam 4. A first ending bracket labeled 'I' is placed above the first measure of the Mridangam 1 part.

Carol of the Bells

106

Mrb. 1

Mrb. 2

Mrb. 3

Mrb. 4

Vib. 1

Vib. 2

Glk.

Timp.

mf

f

Carol of the Bells

Musical score for percussion instruments. The score is written for eight parts: Mrb. 1, Mrb. 2, Mrb. 3, Mrb. 4, Vib. 1, Vib. 2, Glk., and Timp. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (*ff*, *mf*). The score is organized into measures, with some measures containing multiple notes or rests. The instruments are listed on the left side of the score.