Reproducible
CGB859

Starting Point

Volume I

Reproducible music for
3, 4 or 5 octaves handbells or handchimes

by Sandra Eithun

Contents

Level 1-
Reverie - Eithun 6
Quietude - Eithun 8

Level 1
Trumpet Voluntary - Clarke / arr. Eithun 10
Down to the River to Pray - Traditional / arr. Eithun 12
Scarborough Fair - English folk song / arr. Eithun 14
We Shall Overcome - African American spiritual / arr. Eithun 16
Waltz in C - Eithun 18

Level 1+
Nocturne - Chopin / arr. Eithun 20
Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini - Rachmaninoff / arr. Eithun 22

Index 24

PREVIEW

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Starting Point provides a wealth of music for beginning ringers that may be rung either on handbells or handchimes. The nine titles in this volume are written for 3, 4 or 5 octaves.

An edition for 2 or 3 octaves is also available, code CGB858. The two editions are fully compatible for festivals and other massed ringing events.

This reproducible collection is designed to meet the needs of handbell choirs by helping to stretch their music budgets. With the purchase of this collection, the original purchasing organization (church, school, or community ensemble) is granted permission to make copies as needed for their ringers. This permission to reproduce applies to this product only, and does not transfer to other churches or organizations.

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PREVIEW

PREFACE

The purpose of the *Starting Point* collection is to offer simple music to young or beginning musicians that will foster success and provide the building blocks to future ringing experiences through repetition, the limited use of techniques and no page turns.

The nine pieces in this collection range in difficulty from level 1- through 1+ and include selections from folk, classical, sacred and original repertoire. They are ideal for use in school, sacred, or festival settings. Some of the pieces have optional repeats to use as length of performance permits or as the director sees fit.

Special note: This collection has been scored for 3-5 octaves of handbells or handchimes, but the outer bells (C3-B3 and those higher than C7) can be added at the director's discretion based on the ability level of the ringers. They are not required and have been scored sparingly in this beginner's collection.

- The collection opens with two original pieces, *Reverie* and *Quietude*. They are rated level 1-, are solely comprised of whole and half notes, and offer the perfect opportunity to introduce ringing stroke and the techniques of echo and swing.
- *Trumpet Voluntary* and *Down to the River to Pray* bring quarter notes into the picture as well as introducing the shake technique.
- *Scarborough Fair* will be the first offering in ¾ meter while *We Shall Overcome* suggests the limited use of an accidental which is labeled as optional.
- *Waltz in C* introduces the thumb damp technique and the placement of the melody in the middle bells. Ringers will need to listen for balance between melody and accompaniment within the ensemble.
- *Nocturne* again offers limited opportunity for accidentals to be part of the piece. A performance note is given as to alternate ways of assigning those bells for ease of performance.
- With the melody switching between middle and treble bells, limited bell changes, echoes, LV and several dynamic changes, *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* is the most multifaceted offering of the collection.

PREVIEW

WALTZ IN C is an original piece for handbells. Its light and bouncy feel in a ¾ meter produces the dance-like feeling that will make you want to get up and waltz. Ringers will learn the technique of thumb damping, where the thumb is placed on the casting of the bell during the ringing stroke to create a short, stopped sound.

A Nocturne is typically a short and reflective piece of music hinting to the evening or the night. Romantic Era composer, Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849), wrote many works for the piano in his short lifetime. This NOCTURNE (based on Opus 9, No. 2 in Eb) was the second in a set of three that Chopin composed at the age of twenty. This reflective and graceful melody has stood the test of time and is instantly recognizable today.

Italian composer and violin virtuoso, Niccolò Paganini (1782-1840) was responsible for inspiring many prominent composers to base larger works off of many themes that he had written. The lovely and sentimental RHAPSODY ON A THEME BY PAGANINI was written by well-known Russian composer, Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943) in 1934 based on a Paganini theme. In this setting, ringers are required to work on listening and balancing the melody line heard in the middle range of the bells with the accompaniment bells that surround them.

PREVIEW


18
19
20
21
22
23
mp
24
25
26
27
28
mf
2 3 4
(A5 and lower echo)
(B5 and lower echo)
29
30
31
32
33
34
mp
(A5 and lower echo)
35
36
37
38
39
40
rit.

PREVIEW


16
17
18
19
20
2
3
4
mp
(A5 and lower echo)
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
mf
Sw
3
4
Sw
3
4
29
30
31
32
mp
rit.
p

PREVIEW

Trumpet Voluntary

3, 4, or 5 octaves
Handbells or handchimes used: 22, (27), (33)

optional

optional

3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).
4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].

PRINCE OF DENMARK'S MARCH
Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1673-1707
arr. Sandra Eithun

Stately (♩ = 92-100)

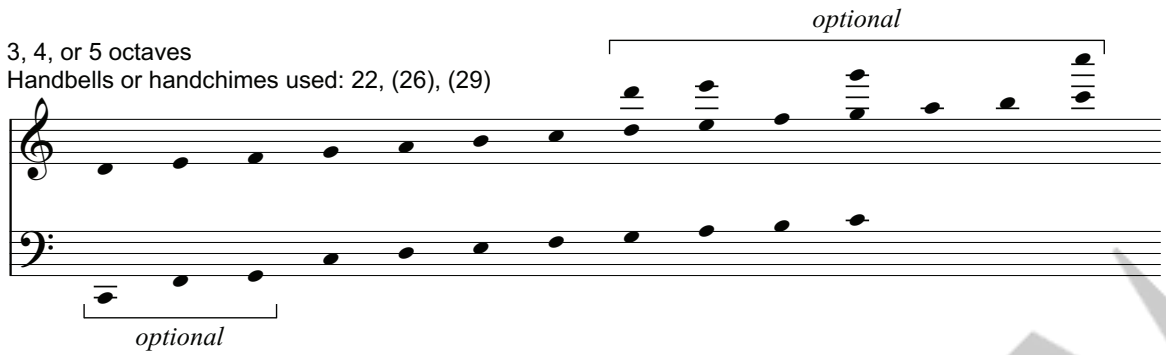


PREVIEW

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Down to the River to Pray



3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).
4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].

Traditional
arr. Sandra Eithun



PREVIEW

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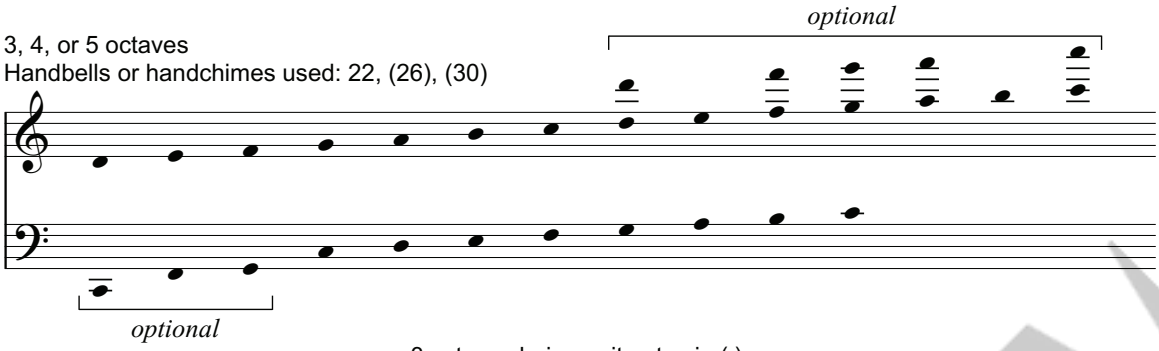

15
16
17
mf
18
19
20
optional
repeat
21
22 Sk
R
23
24 Sk
R
25
26
27
mp
rit.
28
mf
29
a tempo
30
31
f
rit.
32

PREVIEW


14
15
16
17
18
mf
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
optional
repeat
mp
29
30
31
32
33
rit.
p

PREVIEW

Waltz in C



3 octave choirs omit notes in ( ).
4 octave choirs omit notes in [ ].

Light and dance-like (♩ = ca. 100)

Sandra Eithun



*To create a staccato sound on handchimes, firmly place the index finger at the base of the tines as the chime is rung.

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PREVIEW


16
17
18
19
20
mp
21
22
23
24
25
mf (mel.)
26
27
28
29
Sk
Sk
R
30
f
31
32
33
34
35
36
rit.
mp

PREVIEW


13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
LV
mp
R
mf
23
24
25
26
27
LV
R
mp
optional
repeat
28
29
30
31
32
rit.
p

PREVIEW


16
17
18
19
20
mf
2 3 4
F5 and lower echo
21
22
23
24
25
poco rit.
f
a tempo
26
27
28
29
30
2 3 4
rit.
D5 and lower echo
31
32
33
34
35
Slowly to the end
mp LV
optional repeat
R
mf
mp

PREVIEW

Index

Down to the River to Pray - Traditional / arr. Eithun 12

Nocturne - Chopin / arr. Eithun 20

Preface 3

Program Notes 4

Quietude - Eithun 8

Reverie - Eithun 6

Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini - Rachmaninoff / arr. Eithun 22

Scarborough Fair - English folk song / arr. Eithun 14

Trumpet Voluntary - Clarke / arr. Eithun 10

Waltz in C - Eithun 18

We Shall Overcome - African American spiritual / arr. Eithun 16

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