



Classics Simplified

By Jon Madin and
Heather McLaughlin

Easy arrangements for
xylophones, diatonic
marimbas, recorders
and other instruments

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BPP-JMCS



A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC

(from *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*) by Mozart

Arr. H.McL

Mozart in three notes!

This piece is based on the Allegro, the first of four movements in the original composition.

Our version works well with recorders playing the main melody and harmony; bass marimba (or Boomwhackers with octavator caps) on a simple bass line; and just G, A and B chime bars, beginner recorders, or regular Boomwhackers playing the 'Easy' part.

The simplified charts I use for these are:

Easy part:

G G G G A A AA A

GG GG etc AA AA etc

GG GG etc AA AA etc

G G G G G

(4) (4) (4) G A B

(4) (4) (4) G X 3

Coda: Lots of Gs!!

(4) = count four rests

Bass:

G G G G G D D D D D

Gs.... Ds.... Gs.... Ds...

G G G G

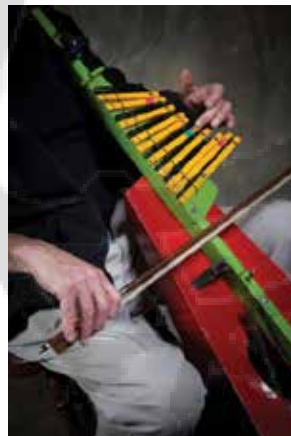
(4) (4) (4) G D G

(4) (4) (4) G

Coda: Lots of Gs!!

(4) = count four rests

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Echocello

Melody (recorder)

Easy (boomwhackers chime bars)

Harmony (recorder)

Bass (Marimba Boomwhackers)

CAN CAN

By Offenbach

Arr. H.McL

This piece is also found in the book/CD MARIMBA SONGS by Jon Madin as the song "The Can Can: Sitting in a Café". It is presented here as an instrumental piece which has proved popular with adult groups as well as in schools.

Although it takes some experience to play the whole melody, the middle section has just 4 notes (E' C' A G) which sound effective on chime bars and/or Boomwhackers. This can be answered by low-pitched instruments – perhaps more Boomwhackers with octavator caps, or big notes on the marimba (G G G C) and are repeated four times over. The bass line also uses limited notes (C, G and F) in the first and third sections.

After the introduction, the version we play has this structure:

Sections 1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3.

It can be helpful to call these out when a group is learning the piece.

I use this chart for Sections 1 and 3:

Bass:

(Section 1)

G G C C F F C C G G C C G G G G
G G C C F F C C G G C C G G C C

(Section 3)

C C C C C C C C G G G G C C
(4 times)

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Musical score for 'Can Can' showing Introduction and Section 1. The score is arranged for five parts: Melody, Easy (chime bars, boomwhackers), Xylophone (1 1/2 oct.), Glockenspiel, and Bass (marimba or BX). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major) and the time signature is 4/4. The Introduction consists of 8 measures, and Section 1 consists of 8 measures. The Bass part in Section 1 uses notes G, C, and F.

Musical score for 'Can Can' showing two first endings for the melody and bass line. The score is arranged for five parts: Melody, Easy (chime bars, boomwhackers), Xylophone (1 1/2 oct.), Glockenspiel, and Bass (marimba or BX). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major) and the time signature is 4/4. The first ending consists of 4 measures, and the second ending consists of 4 measures. The Bass part in the first ending uses notes F, C, G, and C.

THE FOUR SEASONS: WINTER

by Vivaldi

Slowly Arr. J.M.

Melody

Xylophone or Marimba

four very good rea - sons: 'cause Sum - mer's fan - tas - tic and Aut - umn's ro -

The melody can be played on recorder or other instrument, or sung.
Lyrics can be changed to something more appropriate than “shopping” etc.

The accompaniment line for this piece is very simple.
Very soft tremolo E notes, then Ds, Cs, Ds again and back to Es.
All at the appropriate time, as indicated by the conductor.

man - tic and Win - ter's ma - ges - tic and Spring is just ma - gic to me!

Then a call and response section

(Wait, wait, wait, wait) GGGG
(Wait, wait, wait, wait) AAAA
(Wait, wait, wait, wait) BBBB
(Wait, wait, wait, wait) CCCC.

And one tremolo held C to finish.
Then repeat the whole piece.

It's good for weddings and candle-light dinners, it's good for

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NEW WORLD THEME

By Dvořák

Arr. H.McL

This well-known melody from a symphony by Czech composer Dvořák (pronounced 'Dvor-zhark') is often known for the words "Going home, going home" and is played in playgrounds in Japan at 5 p.m. to let children know it's time to head homewards.

The rolling bass line for marimba or bass xylophone can be displayed as a chart in the following way, with four beats/counts on each letter:

C C G G
 C C G C
 F F F F
 F F F F
 C C G G
 C C G C

This line sounds good played on a cello.

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Melody

Harmony (treble recorder)

Chime Bars

Bass

 The first system of the musical score is in 4/4 time. It consists of four staves. The top staff is the melody in treble clef. The second staff is the harmony for treble recorder in treble clef. The third staff is for chime bars in treble clef, with chord symbols C, G, and C. The bottom staff is the bass line in bass clef, featuring a continuous rolling eighth-note pattern.

The second system of the musical score continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes the same four staves as the first system. The chime bars staff has chord symbols G, C, and F. The bass line continues with its rolling eighth-note pattern.

May be played octave higher

 The third system of the musical score continues the melody and accompaniment. It includes the same four staves. The melody staff has a note with a sharp sign above it. The chime bars staff has a chord symbol C. The bass line continues with its rolling eighth-note pattern.

TRUMPET VOLUNTARY

by Clarke

Arr. J.M.

Melody

Easy

Bass

The first system of musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Melody' and contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes in G major. The middle staff is labeled 'Easy' and contains a single note G followed by five bars with a double slash indicating a rest. The bottom staff is labeled 'Bass' and contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes, with chord symbols G, D7, and G placed below the staff.

Fine

Glockenspiel

The second system of musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Fine' and contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. The middle staff is labeled 'Glockenspiel' and contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. The bottom staff contains chord symbols D7, G, A7, D7, and G placed below the staff.

D.C. al Fine

The third system of musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes. The middle staff contains chord symbols A7, D7, G, and D7 placed below the staff. The bottom staff contains a sequence of eighth and quarter notes.

TRUMPET VOLUNTARY – lyrics by Jon Madin

Ride on through the hills and valleys
Follow me to a place I know.
Deep pools and a steep rock garden
Narrow tracks go high and low.

Way out here where the air's vibrating
Creatures jump and hum and burrow
In my head there's a trumpet sounding
From such a long, long time ago.

For the first half of this arrangement a simple accompaniment uses only one note. The lyrics are inspired by a current passion for mountain bike riding.

The second half of the melody also has a simple part using just three notes. Various instruments such as Boomwhackers, chime bars, or xylophones can be used. The dramatic nature of this piece lends itself to percussion being added.



Combining music and cycling

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JEREMIAH CLARKE
1674 - 1707)

Clarke lived in England.

His famous piece the "Prince of Denmark's March" came to be called "Trumpet Voluntary". Grand and optimistic, it has been found to be most suitable for royal weddings.

WILLIAM TELL THEME

By Rossini

This well-known piece is always popular, and familiar even to children. (It's known by many older adults as the theme tune for the old TV series "The Lone Ranger", and is often used in cartoons to accompany horse segments or chase scenes.)

In this arrangement, the bass line is fairly straightforward, and can be presented on a chart with letters, as shown below.

The tune has two sections. Although the full melody needs someone with music background, much of this arrangement requires little musical experience, and I have used it in many situations with children and adults who have not played these instruments before. In ten minutes it can sound good!

Total novices can "Just play G" in Section 1, and "Just E" in Section 2. Play to the rhythm of "Tick-a-ti tick-a-ti tick-a-TA!" if possible! Some players (e.g. those who play piano to a reasonable level) can be shown the more complex parts and often rise to the challenge.

The actual melody is divided among two parts, shown here as 'Top marimba' and 'Glockenspiel', but is also feasible for two xylophone parts.

Meanwhile in Section 1, the second player or part adds in the other segments of melody:

(rest, rest) CD E
(rest, rest) DD D
(rest, rest) CD E
(rest, rest) CC C.

Introduction Arr. H. McL

Melody (xylophone)

Top Marimba

Section 1

Melody (Xylophone)

Glockenspiel

Top Marimba

Middle Marimba

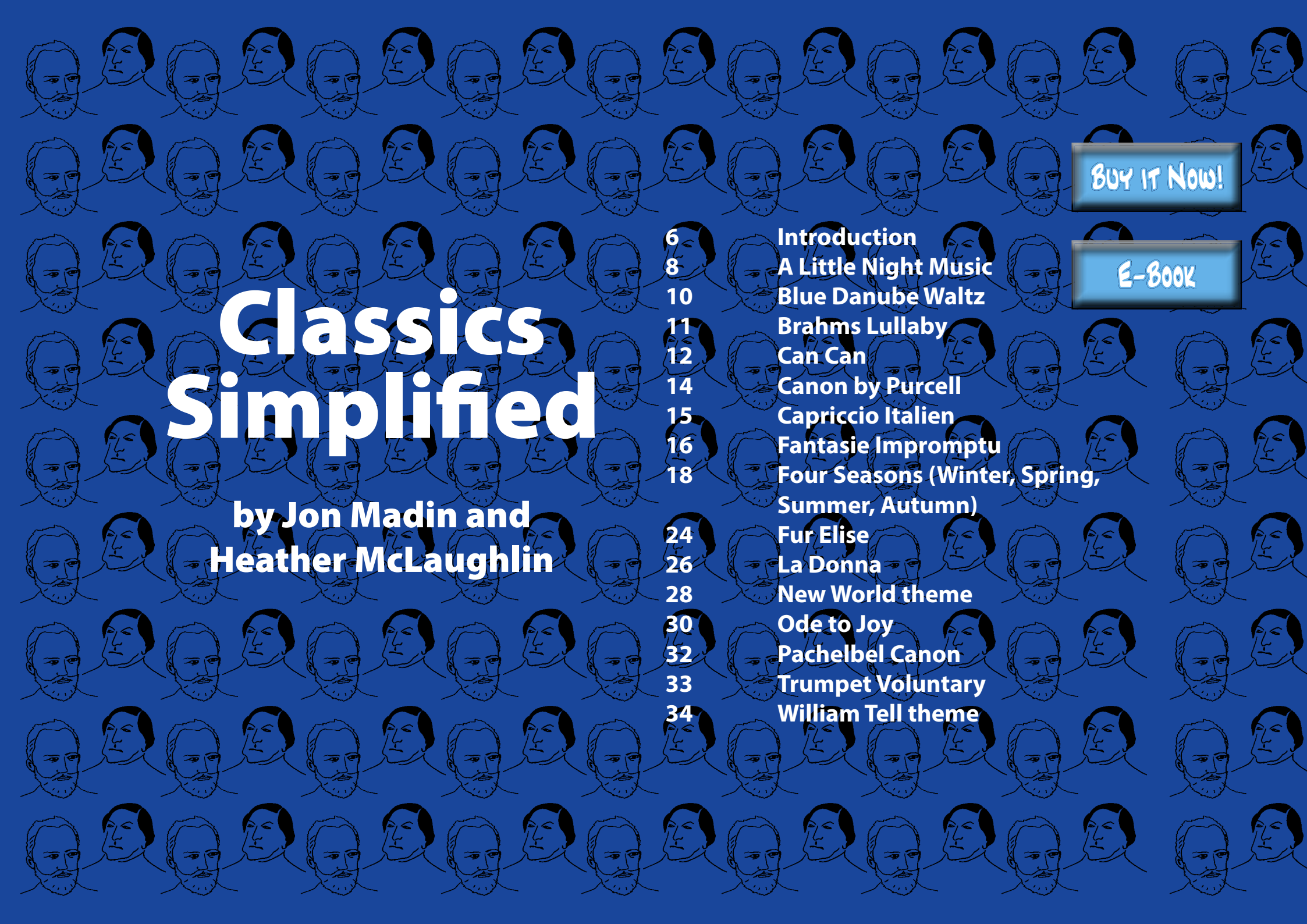
Boomwhack

Bass Melody

Triangle

Tambourine

Drum



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6	Introduction
8	A Little Night Music
10	Blue Danube Waltz
11	Brahms Lullaby
12	Can Can
14	Canon by Purcell
15	Capriccio Italien
16	Fantasia Impromptu
18	Four Seasons (Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn)
24	Fur Elise
26	La Donna
28	New World theme
30	Ode to Joy
32	Pachelbel Canon
33	Trumpet Voluntary
34	William Tell theme

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