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Christmas Songs: Jazz Piano Solos Series Volume 25



Synopsis

(Jazz Piano Solos). 21 holiday classics arranged for jazz piano. Includes: Blue Christmas * The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire) * Christmas Time Is Here * Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas * I'll Be Home for Christmas * Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! * My Favorite Things * Santa Baby * Silver Bells * White Christmas * and more. Includes chord names.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I cannot arrange myself, but luckily, publishers such as Hal Leonard and Alfred Publishing do it for me. I have a large collection of various Christmas piano books, I can find many I like. This book will surely become one of my best. I received it yesterday and have been learning it all day. The first thing you notice about the arrangements is how professional they sound. The sophisticated and fresh chords, and the phrasing. These arrangements sound similar to the ones I've heard on various easy listening radio stations: jazzy, fresh, never boring, Hal Leonard did an outstanding job picking cream of the crop and transcribing them in one lovely book! My absolute favorites are Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas and Winter Wonderland, but almost every song is just a gem of its own. Hope you'll enjoy it as much I do. Other solos books I liked Yes, of course I can recommend: Check out other books in this wonderful series of Popular Performer by Alfred Publishing, about 30 books, especially the ones arranged by Mark Hayes. Also check out other series such as Steinway Library Piano Music series (about 6 books) and Jazz Piano Solos Series published by Hal Leonard (about

35 books). In addition, check out youtube an amazing source for piano player especially search for Jazz2511 and Fabrizio Calligaris. Try search words such "piano tutorials" and you will be amazed what pops

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I'm thrilled about this purchase. Let me explain that as a long-time jazz musician (trombone player) and classically trained pianist (but, surprisingly NOT a jazz pianist per se), this book is like gold. I have not had time to play many of the arrangements, so I am going to keep my preliminary review fairly simple. Surprisingly, the technical requirements of this book should not be beyond that of any intermediate to advanced pianist even with a largely classical training. That is because being based primarily on sight reading rather than chordal improvisation, these arrangements can be accessible to anyone who appreciates but has never truly had time to study the discipline. Having said that, some knowledge of the jazz idiom is extremely helpful. Case in point, when playing chords with multiple accidental alterations, it helps to be able to use the chord notations to verify that you are playing the intended harmonies. What I like most about these arrangements is that they have been written to closely resemble (if not in identical form to) the music that you would hear in commercial recordings. A fairly obvious example of this is "Christmas Time is Here," which blew me away when I first played it because it so closely resembles the Vince Guaraldi version we are used to hearing. It may in fact be a simplified version of what he and other true jazz artists have done with the piece, but it makes the amateur pianist feel as if he or she were playing the original, and that's what this is all about: empowering the performer to expand his/her musical horizons. Indeed, through careful study and rehearsing of these pieces, I believe there is a lot that can be learned about jazz chord progressions and voicings. "A Child is Born" is another arrangements that fits this same pattern.

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