

In Dulci Jubilo (Good Christian Men Rejoice)

TRADITIONAL/MICHAEL PRAETORIUS, ARR. HUGH LEVEY



WIND QUINTET

SCORE & PARTS

In Dulci Jubilo (with optional Fanfare)

TRADITIONAL/PRAETORIUS ARR. HUGH LEVEY

In Dulci Jubilo (In Sweet Rejoicing) is one of the oldest Christmas Carols that we sing today. The earliest known appearance of the melody is in a Codex dating to around 1400 in Leipzig University library. It appears in printed collections from 1533, 1537 and in the Swedish Piae Cantiones collection of 1582. The tune is probably even older than 1400.

In Dulci Jubilo has been arranged by many composers and arrangers over the centuries; including Michael Praetorius, Johann Sebastien Bach, Johann Michael Bach, Buxtehude, Liszt, Gustav Holst, and Robert Lucas de Pearsall. In the United Kingdom an amended version of the tune has also been used for the carol, Good Christian Men Rejoice, but the most common choral version of the original is in the 19th century setting by de Pearsall.

The starting point for this Wind Quintet arrangement, however, is a 4-part setting by the German Renaissance composer, Michael Praetorious (1571-1621). The first verse is a straight transcription of this work from the first decade of the 17th century, with its interesting Renaissance harmonies and part-writing. The arranger then takes us off in a more contrapuntal direction while referring back to the Praetorius from time to time. There are three verses in total, all arranged differently.

An optional fanfare and postlude is also included. These are based on another Praetorius setting of In Dulci Jubilo (in his Polyhymnia Caduceatrix et Panegyrica of 1618–19). The original is scored for up to 20 voices with instrumental accompaniment, including brass. There are interludes where the brass play fanfare like figures which have been adapted as a short fanfare and postlude in this arrangement. The arranger believes that the fanfare sets the Renaissance context and starting point of this Wind Quintet version, but it and the postlude are entirely optional.

Duration. Approx. 2 minutes 30 seconds

Cover images: (1) In Dulci Jubilo from Klug'sches Gesangbuch, Germany, 1533. via Wikimedia Commons, https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:In_dulci_iubilo_(1533).jpg, Public Domain, (2) Instruments, Yamaha Corporation, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons

Copyright © Hugh Levey, woodwindly.com, 2022. All rights reserved. Do not copy.

In Dulci Jubilo - with Fanfare

Traditional/Praetorious arr. Hugh Levey









