

*Commissioned by St. William the Abbot Roman Catholic Church (Seaford, NY) and
St. James Roman Catholic Church (Seaford, NY) for their 2018 Christmas Carol Sing*

The Little Drummer Boy

for SATB Choir and Full Orchestra

Words and Music by Katherine Davis, Henry Onorati, and Harry Simeone
Arr. SATB/Full Orchestra by Robert Buonaspina (b. 1996)

Duration: 07:15 Minutes (approx.)

This arrangement of "The Little Drummer Boy" is the perfect musical addition to any holiday concert or event. With four verses (including a modulated reprise of Verse 1 at the end with a descant) — and vigorous, melodically driven interludes that propel the arrangement forward — choirs of all abilities will enjoy taking part in this immense choral celebration.

The commission for this piece of music comes in response to the honored tradition of "Carol Sings" at both churches — a tradition that authoritatively defines the true meaning of Christmas. While the demands of its famous text are seemingly simplistic, I truly believe that the purposeful gathering of community in song is truly emblematic of what "The Little Drummer Boy" represents: the notion of offering our gifts of musical praise to the King, no matter how big or small.

Orchestration:

-RB

Voices:

Soprano solo (or Boy Solo)
Soprano (some 2-way div. and descant split)
Alto (some 2-way div.)
Tenor (some 2-way div.)
Bass (with 2-way div.)

Woodwinds

Flute 1
Flute 2
Oboe 1
Oboe 2
Bb Clarinet 1
Bb Clarinet 2
Bb Clarinet 3
Bass Clarinet
Bassoon 1
Bassoon 2

Brass

Horn in F 1
Horn in F 2
Horn in F 3
Horn in F 4

Bb Trumpet 1 (*Cup Mute*)
Bb Trumpet 2 (*Cup Mute*)
Bb Trumpet 3 (*Cup Mute*)
Bb Trumpet 4

Trombone 1 (*Cup Mute*)
Trombone 2 (*Cup Mute*)
Trombone 3 (*Cup Mute*)
Bass Trombone
Tuba

Percussion

Timpani (32-30", 29-28", 26-25", 24-23")
Percussion 1 (Snare Drum/Suspended Cymbal)
Glockenspiel (optional)
Piano (obbligato) — may be Glockenspiel double if need be (omit Glock for this part if so).

Strings

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass

Supplementary Parts

Organ Reduction — two-manual staff + pedals, available to supplement/substitute "full orchestra" sound, written with instrument cues



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The Little Drummer Boy

for SATB Choir and Full Orchestra

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4 Maestoso, $\text{♩} = 110$

5

9

2 **4** **4**

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Flutes 1
2

Oboes 1
2

Bb Clarinets 1
2

Bb Clarinet 3
Bass Clarinet

Bassoons 1
2

Horns in F 1
2

Horns in F 1
2

Bb Trumpets 1
2

Bb Trumpets 3
4

Trombones 1
2

Trombone 3
Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Percussion 1:
Snare Drum
suspended Cymbal

Glockenspiel

4 Maestoso, $\text{♩} = 110$

5

9

2 **4** **4**

Piano

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

Organ (Reduction)

(Solo horn) p *espressivo*

(Horns 1 & 2) mp

(Trpts) pp

cresc. molto f ff (All brass)

(Timpani cue) ff

13 **4**

S.

A.

T.

B.

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Cl. 3

Bs. Cl.

Bsn. 1
2

Hn. 1
2

Hn. 3
4

Tpt. 1
2

Tpt. 3
4

Tbn. 1
2

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

Pno.

2 **4** **4**

13 **4**

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

Org. Red.

S. Come, they told me, pa - rum pum pum pum. A new-born King to see, pa - rum pum pum pum.

A.

T.

B.

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

ppp

Cl. 3
Bs. Cl

ppp
a²

Bsn. 1
2

ppp

Hn. 1
2

ppp

Hn. 3
4

ppp

Tpt. 1
2

Tpt. 3
4

Tbn. 1
2

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn.

ppp

Tba.

ppp

Timp.

Perc.

sempre ppp

Glock.

29

sim.

Pno.

Vln. 1

sempre ppp

Vln. 2

sempre ppp

Vla.

sempre ppp

Vc.

sempre ppp

Db.

sempre ppp

(Piano/strings)

sim.

Org. Red.

sempre ppp

ppp

37

S. Our fin-est gifts we bring pa - rum pum pum pum. To lay be - fore the King, pa - rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

A.

T. 8

B.

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl

Bsn. 1 2

Hn. 1 2

Hn. 3 4

Tpt. 1 2

Tpt. 3 4

Tbn. 1 2

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Tim.

Perc.

Glock.

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D. b

Org. Red.

47

*mp*2
4

4

S. rum pum pum pum,—— So, to hon - or Him, pa - rum pum pum pum.—— When we

A.

T.

B.

Fl. 1 2 *sub p* *pp* *pp* *a2* *sub mf* *a2*

Ob. 1 2 *sub p* *pp* *pp* *a2* *sub mf*

Cl. 1 2 *pp* *sub mf*

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl. *pp* *sub mf*

Bsn. 1 2 *sub p* *pp* *sub mf*

Hn. 1 2 *sub p* *3* *pp* *sub mf*

Hn. 3 4 *sub p* *3* *pp* *sub mf*

Tpt. 1 2 *sub p* *pp* *sub mf*

Tpt. 3 4 *sub mf*

Tbn. 1 2 *2.* *sub p* *p*

Bs. Tbn. *sub p*

Tba. *sub p*

Timp. *pp* *mf*

Perc. *sub p* *p* *pp* *mf*

Glock. *p* *pp* *sub mf*

Pno. *sub p* *pp* *sub mf*

Vln. 1 *sub p* *pp*

Vln. 2 *sub p* *pp*

Vla. *sub p* *pp*

Vc. *sub p* *pp*

D. *sub p* *pp*

Org Red. *sub p* *pp* *sub mf*

(Add horns) (Woodwinds)

52

Slightly Slower, $\text{♩} = 100$

S. come.

A.

T.

B.

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Cl. 3
Bs. Cl

Bsn. 1
2

Hn. 1
2

Hn. 3
4

Tpt. 1
2

Tpt. 3
4

Tbn. 1
2

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

52

Slightly Slower, $\text{♩} = 100$

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

(Brass tutti)

Org. Red.

mf Flowing, always driving forward

S. Lit - tle Ba - by, pa rum pum pum pum. I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum.

A. Lit - tle Ba - by, pa rum pum pum pum. I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum.

T. Lit - tle Ba - by, pa rum pum pum pum. I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum pum.

B. Lit - tle Ba - by, pa rum pum pum pum, pa rum. I am a poor boy too, pa rum pum pum, pa rum pum, pa

Fl. 1 2 *dim. al niente*

Ob. 1 2 *dim. al niente*

Cl. 1 2 *dim. al niente*

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl *dim. al niente*

Bsn. 1 2 *dim. al niente*

Hn. 1 2 *dim. al niente*

Hn. 3 4 *dim. al niente*

Tpt. 1 2 *dim. al niente*

Tpt. 3 4 *dim. al niente*

Tbn. 1 2 *dim. al niente*

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn. *dim. al niente*

Tba. *dim. al niente*

Tim. *l.r. dim. al niente*

Perc.

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Org. Red. *(Choir)* *ff* *mf*

64

mp legatissimo

S. I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum. That's fit to give our King pa

A. I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum. That's fit to give our King pa

T. I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum. That's fit to give our King pa

B. rum. I have no gift to bring, pa rum pum pum pum. That's fit to give our King pa

rum. pum pa rum pum pum pa rum pum pum pa

mp with subdued determination

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl

Bsn. 1 2

Hn. 1 2

Hn. 3 4

Tpt. 1 2

Tpt. 3 4

Tbn. 1 2

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Tim. 1

Perc.

Glock.

64

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D. 1

Org. Red.

mp

70

S. rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, Shall I play for you? Pa rum pum pum pum on my

A. rum pum pum. O, Shall I play for you? Pa rum pum pum on my

T. rum pum pum, rum pum pum pa rum pum pum. O, Shall I play for you? Pa rum pum pum on my

B. rum pum pum pa rum pum pa rum pum. O, Shall I play for you? Pa rum pum pum on my

Fl. 1

Ob. 1

Cl. 1

Cl. 3

Bs. Cl

Bsn. 1

Hn. 1

Hn. 3

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 3

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 3

Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

70

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Org Red.

74

mp

2 4 4

2 4 4

88

S.

A.

T. *s*

B.

Fl. 1
2 *a2 rinforzando*

Ob. 1
2 *f* *ff espressivo*

Cl. 1
2 *f* *ff espressivo*

Cl. 3
Bs. Cl *rinforzando* *ff espressivo*

Bsn. 1
2 *rinforzando* *ff espressivo*

Hn. 1
2 *ff espressivo* *molto espressivo*

Hn. 3
4

Tpt. 1
2 *ff espressivo*

Tpt. 3
4 *ff espressivo* *molto espressivo*

Tbn. 1
2 *ff espressivo*

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn. *2. rinforzando* *ff espressivo*

Tba. *f* *ff espressivo*

Timp. *ff*

Perc. *ff* *To Cym.* *Cymbals*

Glock.

88

Pno.

Vln. 1 *ff espressivo*

Vln. 2 *ff espressivo*

Vla. *ff espressivo*

Vc. *ff espressivo*

D. b. *ff espressivo*

Org. Red. *[Tutti]* *ff espressivo* *molto espressivo*

2 **4** **4**

S. *mf*
Ma - ry nod - ded pa rum pum pum pum,—— the ox and lamb kept time pa rum pum pum pum,——

A. *mf*
Ma - ry nod - ded pa rum pum pum pum,—— the ox and lamb kept time pa rum pum pum pum,——

T. —
s

B. —

Fl. 1 2 *leggiere*
sub mf a2

Ob. 1 2 *sub mf*

Cl. 1 2 *leggiere*
sub mf

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl. *sub mf*

Bsn. 1 2 *leggiere* 1
sub mf

Hn. 1 2 *sub mf*

Hn. 3 4 *sub mf*

Tpt. 1 2 *sub mf* a2

Tpt. 3 4 *sub mf*

Tbn. 1 2 *sub mf*

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn. *sub mf*

Tba. *sub mf*

F-->D, A, C-->Eb, F-->G

Tim. —

Cym. *l.v.* To S.D.

Glock. — *leggiere* *tr* — *tr* —

93 **2** **4** **4**

Pno. —

Vln. 1 *sub mf* — Solo *tr* — *tr* Tutti

Vln. 2 *pizz.* *sub p* *pizz.*

Vla. *sub p* *espressivo*

Vc. *sub mf*

Db. *sub mf* — (WW/Plucked Strings)

Org. Red. *sub mf* — *leggiere*

101

S.

A.

T. *molto pesante*
f I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum,

B. *molto pesante*
f I played my drum for Him, pa rum pum pum pum,

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2 *molto pesante*
f

Cl. 3
Bs. Cl. *molto pesante*
f a2

Bsn. 1
2 *molto pesante*
f a2

Hn. 1
2 *molto pesante*
f a2

Hn. 3
4

Tpt. 1
2

Tpt. 3
4 *molto pesante*

Tbn. 1
2 *molto pesante*
f

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn. *molto pesante*
f

Tba. *molto pesante*
f

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

101

Pno.

Vln. 1 *molto pesante*
f arco.

Vln. 2 *molto pesante*
f arco.

Vla. *molto pesante*
f molto pesante

Vc. *molto pesante*
f molto pesante

D. *molto pesante*
f

Org. Red. *(Low WW/brass/strings)*
f molto pesante

molto pesante
f

S.

A.

T. *espressivo*
I played my best for him pa rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, _____

B. I played my best for him pa rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum, _____

Fl. 1 2 *f* *ff*

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2 *espressivo* *ff ff ff*

Cl. 3 2. 1. *espressivo*

Bs. Cl. *vib*

Bsn. 1 2 *espressivo* *ff*

Hn. 1 2 1. *ff* *a2*

Hn. 3 4 1. *ff* *a2*

Tpt. 1 2 *f* *ff*

Tpt. 3 4

Tbn. 1 2

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn. *espressivo* *ff*

Tba. *espressivo* *ff*

Timp.

Perc.

Glock. *ff*

Pno.

Vln. 1 *espressivo* *ff*

Vln. 2 *espressivo* *ff*

Vla. *espressivo* *ff*

Vc. *espressivo* *ff*

D. *espressivo* *ff*

Org. Red. *ff*

111

S. *mf*
Then he smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum.

A. *mf*
Then he smiled at me, pa rum pum pum pum.

T.

B.

Fl. 1 2 *grazioso*
sub mf grazioso

Ob. 1 2 *sub mf* a2

Cl. 1 2 *fff* *sub mf* a2

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl *sub mf* 1. *grazioso*
sub mf

Bsn. 1 2 *grazioso* a2
sub mf grazioso

Hn. 1 2 *sub mf*
sub mf

Hn. 3 4

Tpt. 1 2 *fff*

Tpt. 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 *sub mf*

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn. *sub mf*

Tba.

Timpani

Perc.

Glock. *fff* *p* *tr* *tr*

111

Pno.

Vln. 1 *sub mf* Solo *p* *tr*

Vln. 2 *grazioso* *sub mf* *sub mf*

Vla.

Vc. *pizz.* *sub mf* *grazioso* *pizz.*

D. *sub mf* *grazioso* (WW/Plucked Strings) *grazioso*

Org. Red. *fff* *sub mf*

2 **4** **116**

S. — Me and my drum. *dim al niente*

A. — Me and my drum. *mf* *dim al niente*

T. — Me and my drum. *mf* *dim al niente*

B. — Me and my drum. *mf*

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. 1 2

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl

Bsn. 1 2

Hn. 1 2

Hn. 3 4

Tpt. 1 2

Tpt. 3 4

Tbn. 1 2

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

2 **4** **116**

Pno.

Vln. 1 Tutti *dim al niente* *rinforzando*

Vln. 2 *dim al niente* *mf* *rinforzando*

Vla. *pizz.* *mf* *rinforzando* *arc*

Vc. *mf* *mf* *rinforzando* *arc*

D. *mf* *mf* *mf* *rinforzando*

Org. Red. *(Trpts)* *dim al niente* *f* *(Upper Strings)* *mf* *cresc. gradual* *(Building Brass Tutti)*

(Timpani cue.) *mf* *rinforzando* *(Low Strings)*

125

S.

A.

T.

B.

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Cl. 3

Bs. Cl.

Bsn. 1
2

Hn. 1
2

Hn. 3
4

Tpt. 1
2

Tpt. 3
4

Tbn. 1
2

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

rinforzando a2 espressivo

rinforzando sub p espressivo

rinforzando sub p espressivo

f sub p espressivo

rinforzando sub p espressivo

sub p pp

1. espressivo sub p pp ppp

sub p pp

A->G

125

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Org. Red.

First Desk Only

Tutti molto espressivo

sub pp

molto espressivo

molto espressivo

molto espressivo

p

(WW) espressivo

sub p

(Str.) molto espressivo

espressivo

p

pp

p

sub p

131

S.

A.

T.

B.

Fl. 1
2

Ob. 1
2

Cl. 1
2

Cl. 3
Bs. Cl.

Bsn. 1
2

Hn. 1
2

Hn. 3
4

Tpt. 1
2

Tpt. 3
4

Tbn. 1
2

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

139

131

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D. b.

Org. Red.

poco rall.

147

A Tempo ($\text{♩} = 100$)

poco rit.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Fl. 1
2

molto legato e cantabile

molto legato e cantabile

Ob. 1
2

molto legato e cantabile

Cl. 1
2

molto legato e cantabile

Cl. 3

Bs. Cl

Bsn. 1
2

molto legato e cantabile

Hn. 1
2

molto legato e cantabile

Hn. 3
4

Tpt. 1
2

Tpt. 3
4

Tbn. 1
2

Tbn. 3
Bs. Tbn.

Tba.

Eb->D

Timp.

Perc.

Glock.

147

A Tempo ($\text{♩} = 100$)

poco rit.

Pno.

Vln. 1

molto legato e cantabile

f

Vln. 2

molto legato e cantabile

f

Vla.

molto legato e cantabile

f

Vc.

molto legato e cantabile

f

D. b.

WW/Str. Growing Tutti

(Add Low Brass)

(Tutti)

Org. Red.

molto legato e cantabile

f

molto legato e cantabile

f

Risoluto (A Tempo)
(Soprano 1 Descant)

155 *ff with royal splendor*

S. O come they told me pa - rum pum pum pum! rum pum pum! New born King to see, pa rum pum pum pa rum pum

(Soprano 2s join Altos) *ff with royal splendor*

A. Come, they told me, pa - rum pum pum pum. A new-born King to see, pa - rum pum pum pum.

T. Come, they told me, pa - rum pum pum pum. A new-born King to see, pa - rum pum pum pum.

B. Come, they told me, pa - rum pum pum pum. A new-born King to see, pa - rum pum pum pum.

159 *tr*

Fl. 1 2 *ff* *a2*

Ob. 1 2 *ff* *a2* *tr*

Cl. 1 2 *ff* *a2 with royal splendor*

Cl. 3 *ff with royal splendor*

Bs. Cl.

Bsn. 1 2 *ff*

Hn. 1 2 *with royal splendor*

Hn. 3 4 *ff*

Tpt. 1 2 *ff with royal splendor*

Tpt. 3 4 *ff with royal splendor*

Tbn. 1 2 *ff with royal splendor*

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn. *ff with royal splendor*

Tba. *ff*

Tim. *ff* To S.D.

Cym. *ff* *l.a.*

Glock. *ff*

155 Risoluto (A Tempo)

Pno. *with royal splendor*

Vln. 1 *ff with royal splendor*

Vln. 2 *ff with royal splendor*

Vla. *ff with royal splendor*

Vc. *ff with royal splendor*

D. *ff with royal splendor*

Org. Red. *ff with royal splendor*

159 *tr* *(Full Tutti)*

23

163

S. *sub f*
pum! Our fin-est gifts we bring pa rum pum pum pum! To lay be - fore the King, pa (ah)
sub f
A. Our fin-est gifts we bring pa - rum pum pum pum.
sub f
T. 8 Our fin-est gifts we bring pa - rum pum pum pum.
sub f
B. Our fin-est gifts we bring pa - rum pum pum pum.
Our fin-est gifts we bring pa - rum pum pum pum.
To lay be - fore the King, pa - rum pum pum pum, rum pum pum pum,

167

Fl. 1 2 *cresc. gradual*
sub f
Ob. 1 2 *cresc. gradual* a2
sub f
Cl. 1 2 *cresc. gradual*
sub f
Cl. 3 Bs. Cl. *cresc. gradual*
2. a2 *cresc. gradual* a2
Bsn. 1 2 *sub f*
a2 1. *cresc. gradual* a2 *cresc. gradual*
Hn. 1 2 *sub f* a2 *cresc.*
Hn. 3 4 *cresc.*
Tpt. 1 2 a2 a2 *cresc.*
Tpt. 3 4 *cresc.*
Tbn. 1 2 *cresc. gradual*
Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn. *Bs trb.* *cresc. gradual*
sub f
Tba. *cresc. gradual*
Tim. *cresc. gradual* f *sub f*
Perc. *sub f*
Glock. *cresc. gradual* *sub f*

163

167

Pno. *cresc. gradual*
Vln. 1 *sub f*
Vln. 2 *sub f*
Vla. *sub f*
Vc. *sub f*
Db. *f cresc. gradual*
(WW/Str.)
Org. Red. *sub f*
cresc. gradual *Tutti* *ff*

poco rall.

173 A Tempo ($\text{♩} = 100$)

poco rall.

Pno.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Org Red.

179 A Tempo

sub **f**

S. — We come. — Me and my drum! **fff**

A. — we come. — Me and my drum! **fff**

T. — we come. — Me and my drum! **fff**

B. — we come. — Me and my drum! **fff**

Fl. 1 2 — sub **f** — **sffz** **a2** **tr**

Ob. 1 2 — sub **f** — **sffz** **tr**

Cl. 1 2 — sub **f** — **a2** **sffz** **tr**

Cl. 3 Bs. Cl — sub **f** — **sffz** **tr**

Bsn. 1 2 — sub **f** — **sffz** **tr**

Hn. 1 2 — sub **f** — **sffz** **a2**

Hn. 3 4 — sub **f** — **sffz** **a2**

Tpt. 1 2 — sub **f** — **sffz** **a2**

Tpt. 3 4 — sub **f** — **sffz** **a2**

Tbn. 1 2 — sub **f** — **sffz** **a2**

Tbn. 3 Bs. Tbn. — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff** **a2**

Tba. — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

Tim. — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

Perc. — **tr** — **sffz** **fff**

Glock. — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

179 A Tempo

Pno. —

Vln. 1 — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

Vln. 2 — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

Vla. — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

Vc. — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

D. — sub **f** — **sffz** **fff**

Org. Red. — (Trpts) — (Trbs) — (Tutti) — (Choir Cue:) — (Low Br./Str.) — **fff**