

As recorded on "A CHICAGO CHRISTMAS with the ROB PARTON BIG BAND"

Silent Night

arranged by RICK HIRSCH (2002)

FOR LARGE JAZZ ENSEMBLE

5 Saxes (2 altos, 2 tenors, 1 bari)

5 Trumpets (optional flugel on all parts)

4 Trombones (incl. 1 Bass Tbn.)

*A Capella treatment — Rhythm Section tacets throughout

NO IMPROVISED SOLOS

DURATION: 1:20

LEVEL: MEDIUM

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Good, jazzy music from Pennsylvania

PROGRAM NOTES

The most vivid memory I have of *Silent Night* took place during a Christmas Eve service at my Father-in-Law's Methodist church. At the conclusion of the service the choir began singing this carol, and were eventually joined by all of us there. The lights were turned off, the chapel illuminated by the warm glow of candles held by all of the congregants.

Growing up Jewish (and continuing to be so), I'd never experienced anything quite like that in a worship service. It was lovely and extremely peaceful.

I've attempted to capture the warmth of that moment in this treatment of *Silent Night*. I have found that this arrangement is particularly effective when used as a concert closer.

Incidentally, I have a related arrangement of *Silent Night* for saxophone quartet that you may also enjoy.

Wishing you a fantastic holiday gig,
~ Rick Hirsch

CONTACT ME

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REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE NOTES

Before I put pencil to paper on this arrangement, I already knew that it had to be a *capella*.

I also knew that it had to be in common time. Why? I don't know. Probably for the same reason I've adapted several 4/4 tune intros '3'!

The biggest issues in this piece tend to be intonation and balance. Encourage your musicians to listen, listen, listen to the ensemble, allowing themselves to become enveloped by the lush sounds around them. Open ears generally take care of these problems.

The harmonic influence is from Bob Mintzer, a mentor of mine. I had just completed the copywork for one of his saxophone quartets when I wrote this treatment of *Silent Night*. Bob's harmonic approach was fresh in my mind, and I recall using this arrangement to test out some of the things I learned when dissecting his score(s).

Rick Hirsch is an award-winning composer who apprenticed with **Bob Mintzer** and **Toshiko Akiyoshi**, serving each as their personal music copyist. He lives in State College, PA.



Silent Night

FRANZ GRUBER
arranged by RICK HIRSCH

(GENTLY) ♩ = 88 (STR. M^s)

ALTO 1
ALTO 2
SAXES
TENOR 1
TENOR 2
BARITONE

1ST
2ND
B^b TRPTS
3RD
4TH
5TH

1ST
2ND
TRBS
3RD
4TH/BASS

RHYTHM SECTION

QUITE SOFTLY

(FLUGEL) OR TRPT. IN STAND

A CAPELLA ARRANGEMENT - RHYTHM SECTION TACETS THROUGHOUT

Silent . . . 2

9

Musical score for Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, and Rhythm section. The score is divided into four main sections: SAXES, B \flat TRPTS, TRBS, and RHYTHM. The saxophone section includes parts for Alto 1, Alto 2, Tenor 1, Tenor 2, and Baritone. The trumpet section includes parts for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th. The trombone section includes parts for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th. The rhythm section is indicated by a single staff. The score spans measures 9 to 16. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid on the page. Performance markings include '-1', '-3', and '3' with slurs, and 'LIFT' instructions for the brass sections.