

FULL SCORE

First Plus String Orchestra



CARL FISCHER  
**PERFORMANCE**  
SERIES

Grade 1.5

# A Japanese Christmas

Traditional

*Arranged by*

**Larry Clark**

**FAS69**

**INSTRUMENTATION**

Full Score .....	1
Violin I .....	8
Violin II .....	8
Violin III (Viola I.C.) .....	2
Viola .....	5
Cello .....	5
Bass .....	5
Piano .....	1

## Program Notes

This arrangement was written to give all who play it a little bit of a taste of how popular Christmas carols could be written and performed in the style of Japanese folk songs. I endeavored to present two beautiful carols, "The Holly and the Ivy" and "Bring A Torch Jeanette Isabella" in a lush and lyrical setting that has some added flavor of the music of Japan.

The piece begins with an original introduction using cascading figures in the violins that use fourths commonly found in Japanese music. The first carol "The Holly and the Ivy" is then stated first using some non-traditional harmonies and again some fourths to add the Japanese flavor to the piece. "Bring A Torch Jeanette Isabella" is then stated, first simply with the melody in the violas and celli with a return of the cascading type of figures in the upper strings. The second section of this carol should be lush and full, except for the pianissimo chords on the lyric "Hush". The crescendos on these notes should be slight and subtle as if saying the word hush. The arrangement then continues to develop with both carols played at the same time follow by a return of the climactic second section of "Bring A Torch Jeanette Isabella". The arrangement is then completed with a gentle reminder of the opening material as a coda.

I hope this piece helps to lift your spirits during the holiday season.

# A Japanese Christmas

Traditional  
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Expressive ♩ = 72

Violin I *mp legato*

Violin II *mp legato*

Viola *mp legato* div.

Cello *mp legato*

Bass *mp legato*

Piano *mp legato*

*mf*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

10 A Tempo

*poco rit.*

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Cello *mp*

Bass *mp*

Pno. *poco rit.* 10 A Tempo *mp*

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16

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18

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Bass *mf*

Pno. *mf*

17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

26

Vln. I *p*

Vln. II *p*

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno. *p*

25 26 27 28 29 30 31

34

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

*mp*

32 33 34 35 36 37 38

42

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

*f*

39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46

I Vln. *pp* *pp* *mp*

II Vln. *pp* *pp* *mp*

Vla. *pp* *pp* *mp*

Cello *pp* *pp* *mp*

Bass *pp* *pp* *mp*

Pno. *pp* *pp* *mp*

47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

I Vln. *pp* *pp* *mp*

II Vln. *pp* *pp* *mp*

Vla. *pp* *pp* *mp*

Cello *pp* *pp* *mp*

Bass *pp* *pp* *mp*

Pno. *pp* *pp*

*rit.* **59** *A Tempo*

55 56 57 58 59 60 61

*poco rit.* **67** A Tempo

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*poco rit.* **67** A Tempo

Pno.

*mf*

62 63 64 65 66 67 68

**75**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

**75**

Pno.

*f*

69 70 71 72 73 74 75

I Vln. II Vln. Vla. Cello Bass Pno.

76 77 78 79 80 81 82

I Vln. II Vln. Vla. Cello Bass Pno.

*molto rit. to end*

*pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

*pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

*pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

*pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

*pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

*pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

*pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90

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