## **Christmas Collage**

Grade 1.5

### **Teaching Suggestions**

**The Cygnet Series** is composed for first, second or third year band musicians. Schools that have beginning band every day can play any selection in The Series toward the end of the first year. All of these selections sound great with older groups, too! They can be a quick piece to fill in a hole in a program.

Each piece in The Series can be played by a large ensemble with full instrumentation or by a small ensemble with mixed instrumentation that may be missing entire sections. Three clarinet parts are included - one for those who can play across the break ("High Clarinet") and two for those who cannot.

Up to 5 percussion players may be used (score lists order of importance).



*Christmas Collage* is a collection of secular Christmas melodies juxtaposed in often humorous fashion. Such a piece is called a "quodlibet." The melodies included are:

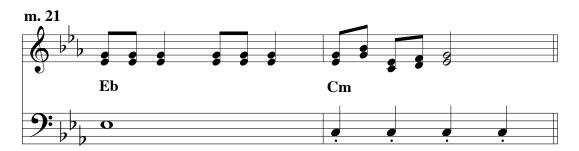
Deck The Halls
Jingle Bells
The Twelve Days of Christmas
Patapan
Jolly Old St. Nicholas
We Wish You A Merry Christmas
O Tannenbaum

*Christmas Collage* includes meter changes. The beat value always stays the same. These are good sections to speak syllables, move with eurhythmics or use whatever rhythm system is familiar.

**The Alto Sax and Horn melody in measure 15 -** this is the "dashing through the snow" part of *Jingle Bells*. The horn has many pitches lowered an octave for ease of execution. Practice this with the saxes alone, then add the horn.

**Melodies at Measure 34** - 1x, 5x = play the first and fifth times and rest the other repeats. Some of the cadences have been changed so that the melodies will all work together on the last repeat. Have the musicians read what's on the page and not play by ear.

**Theory - Measure 21** - Notice the modulation from major to relative minor. The melody stays the same but the bass line drops a third creating the minor. Can your students figure out where it changes back?



**Composition Practice** - have your students compose rhythms with whole, half, quarter and eighth notes. Start in 4/4 time and have the students include at least 2 meter changes. Perform the rhythms and, perhaps, have the students create a melody for them.

# **Christmas Collage**

For Cygnet Band

#### Grade 1.5

#### **Craig Thomas Naylor**









