

Full score

Thomas Hewitt Jones

A Christmas Cracker

Promotional copy

for reading purposes only

for orchestra

ORCHESTRA

2 Flutes
 2 Oboes
 2 Clarinets in B flat
 2 Bassoons
 2 Horns in F
 2 Trumpets in B flat
 2 Trombones
 Tuba
 Timpani
 Percussion (1 player: crash cymbals; plus an optional 2nd part)
 1st Violins
 2nd Violins
 Viola
 Cello
 Double Bass

All the woodwind and brass parts in *A Christmas Cracker* can be played by one player instead of two.

The trombone and tuba parts are entirely optional and this piece can be performed without including them. There is another optional part for a second percussion player in the last bar of the work. If used, the slapstick (whip) is intended to create the sound of a snap, which is heard when you pull a Christmas cracker! Alternatively, conductors could encourage members of their audience, especially any children, to join in the performance by pulling real crackers at the end of this work.

Full score and orchestral parts are available on hire from the publisher.
A study score edition is available for sale.

Duration about 3½ minutes.

NOTE ABOUT THE MUSIC & ITS COMPOSER

Christmas is all wrapped up in this sparkling concert work. It's a glittering, upbeat medley of the composer's favourite carols, which will help audiences get into the Christmas spirit. The festive fun begins with a burst of *Deck the Hall*. The musical fillers and jokes continue with decorated themes from *Hark! the Herald-Angels Sing*, *The Twelve Days of Christmas* and *Ding Dong! Merrily on High*. A grand rendition of *O Come, all ye Faithful* leads into a final fanfare delivering plenty of Christmas cheer. Just pull a cracker, put on a paper party hat and enjoy this seasonal piece.

Thomas Hewitt Jones is an award-winning composer of both concert and commercial music. Winner of the BBC Young Composer competition in 2003, he has since had a number of pieces performed, broadcast, and published. His ballet and instrumental music, in particular, is highly acclaimed. He has also worked in Hollywood, and is composing the music for the 2012 Olympics Mascots films.

This work was first performed by the Bristol Ensemble, conducted by David Ogden,
at St George's Bristol on 21 December 2010.

A Christmas Cracker has been recorded by the
RTÉ Concert Orchestra, conducted by Gavin Sutherland (Naxos, 8.572744).

A Christmas Cracker

Thomas Hewitt Jones

Lively, with vigour $\text{♩} = 90$

The score is for a 4/4 piece in D major. It features a woodwind section (2 Flutes, 2 Oboes, 2 Clarinets in B♭, 2 Bassoons), a brass section (2 Horns in F, 2 Trumpets in B♭, 2 Trombones, Tuba), percussion (Timpani, Cymbals), and a string section (1st Violin, 2nd Violin, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass). The woodwinds and brass play rhythmic patterns with accents and slurs. The strings provide harmonic support with various dynamics and articulations. A large orange watermark 'Promotional copy for reading purposes only' is overlaid on the score.

2 Flutes
2 Oboes
2 Clarinets in B \flat
2 Bassoons
2 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in B \flat
2 Trombones
Tuba
Timpani
Cymbals
1st Violin
2nd Violin
Viola
Violoncello
Double Bass

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

Fl. *mf* *ff* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *f* *mf*

Cl. *mf* *ff* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

Hn. *f* *mp*

Tpt. *ff* *f*

Tbn. *f* *mp*

Tba. *mp*

Timp. *mp* *mf*

Cym.

Vln. I *mf* *f* *mf*

Vln. II *mf* *f* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *f* *ff*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mf* *f* (pizz.)

Cb. *mf* *f* (pizz.)

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

A

Fl. *f* *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *mf*

Cl. *f* *mf*

Bsn. *f* *f*

Hn. *mf* *mf*

Tpt. *f* *mf*

Tbn. *f* *mf* *mp*

Tba. *mp*

Timp.

Cym.

A

Vln. I *f* *mf*

Vln. II *f* *mf* *tr*

Vla. *f* *mf* arco

Vc. *mf* arco

Cb. *mf*

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

23

Fl. *mp* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

Ob. *mp* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

Cl. *mp* *f* *ff* *fff*

Bsn. *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Tpt. *ff*

Tbn. *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *mp* *f* *tr*

Cym.

Vln. I *mp* *f* *ff* *fff*

Vln. II *mp* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

Vla. *mp* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

Vc. *mp* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

Cb. *mp* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

B

29

Musical score for woodwinds and percussion. The instruments listed are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), and Cymbal (Cym.). The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *ff*, and *mf*, and features various musical notations including slurs, accents, and rests.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

B

Musical score for strings. The instruments listed are Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* and features various musical notations including slurs and rests.

35

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

mf

41

Fl. *ff* *mf* *f* *tr*

Ob. *ff* *f*

Cl. *f*

Bsn. *f*

Hn. *f* *ff*

Tpt. *mf* *ff*

Tbn. *tr*

Tba. *tr*

Timp. *mp*

Cym.

Vln. I *tr* *ff* *V*

Vln. II *tr* *V*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f* *V*

Cb. *f* *V*

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

47

Fl.

Ob. *ff* *f*

Cl. *ff* *f*

Bsn. *f*

Hn. *mp* *f*

Tpt. *mp* *f*

Tbn. *f*

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I *mf* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *f*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Cb. *ff*

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

53

Fl. *mf* *ff* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *ff* *mf*

Cl. *mf* *ff*³ *mf*

Bsn. *mf* *ff*³ *mf*

Hn. *mf* *f* *mp*

Tpt. *mf* *ff* *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Timp. *mf*

Cym.

Vln. I *mf* *ff* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *ff* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f* *ff* *f*

Vc. *f* *ff* *f*

Cb. *f* *ff* *f* pizz.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

C

Playful

58

Musical score for woodwinds and percussion. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), and Timpani (Timp.). The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The woodwinds and bassoon parts feature dynamic markings of *mp*, *ff*, and *f*. The Tuba part is marked *mp*. The Timpani part has a *f* marking. The Horn and Trumpet parts have *f* and *ff* markings. The Trombone part is mostly silent.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

C

Playful

Musical score for strings. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The string parts feature dynamic markings of *mf*, *f*, and *mf*. The Violin I, Violin II, and Viola parts are marked *pizz.* (pizzicato). The Violoncello and Contrabass parts are marked *pizz.* (pizzicato). The Violin I, Violin II, and Viola parts have *arco* markings and triplet markings (3). The Violoncello and Contrabass parts have *arco* markings and triplet markings (3).

64

Fl. *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Cl. *ff*

Bsn. *f* *ff*

Hn. *mf* *ff* *mf*

Tpt. *f* *mf*

Tbn. *mf*

Tba. *f* *mf*

Timp. *f*

Cym.

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Cb. *ff*

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

70

Fl. *mf* *mp*

Ob. *mf* *mp*

Cl. *mf* *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *mp*

Hn. *mp* *mp*

Tpt. *mp* *mp*

Tbn. *mp* *p*

Tba. *mp* *p*

Timp. *mf* *mp*

Cym.

Vln. I *ff* *mf* *mp* *molto cresc.*

Vln. II *mf* *mp*

Vla. *mf* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *mp* pizz.

Cb. *mf* *mp* pizz.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

D

Gradually increasing tension

Musical score for woodwinds and percussion, measures 76-81. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba (Tba.). The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), Cymbals (Cym.), and Snare Drum (Sdr.). The woodwinds and strings play a melody that gradually increases in tension, marked with dynamics such as *ff* and *f*. The percussion provides a rhythmic accompaniment, with the timpani playing a pattern of notes marked *(mp)* and *f*. The cymbals play a pattern of notes marked *mf*. The snare drum plays a pattern of notes marked *f*. The woodwinds and strings play a melody that gradually increases in tension, marked with dynamics such as *ff* and *f*. The percussion provides a rhythmic accompaniment, with the timpani playing a pattern of notes marked *(mp)* and *f*. The cymbals play a pattern of notes marked *mf*. The snare drum plays a pattern of notes marked *f*.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

D

Gradually increasing tension

Musical score for strings, measures 76-81. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The strings play a melody that gradually increases in tension, marked with dynamics such as *f* and *ff*. The Violin I and Violin II parts play a melody that gradually increases in tension, marked with dynamics such as *f* and *ff*. The Viola part plays a melody that gradually increases in tension, marked with dynamics such as *f* and *ff*. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts play a melody that gradually increases in tension, marked with dynamics such as *f* and *ff*. The strings play a melody that gradually increases in tension, marked with dynamics such as *f* and *ff*.

83

Fl. *ff* *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *mf*

Cl. *f* *mf*

Bsn. *ff* *f*

Hn. *ff* *f*

Tpt. *ff* *mf*

Tbn. *ff* *mf*

Tba. *f* *mf*

Timp. *f* *mf* *mf*

Cym. *mf* *mp*

Vln. I *ff* *f* *ff*

Vln. II *ff* *f* *ff*

Vla. *ff* *f*

Vc. *ff* *f*

Cb. *ff* *f*

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

E

Musical score for woodwinds and percussion, measures 90-93. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), and Cymbal (Cym.). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is marked with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The Flute part features sixteenth-note runs with accents and slurs, with fingerings 5 and 6 indicated. The Clarinet part has sixteenth-note runs with accents and slurs, and a sixteenth-note triplet. The Bassoon part has eighth-note triplets. The Horn part has quarter notes with accents. The Trumpet part has quarter notes with accents. The Timpani part has a steady eighth-note pattern. The Cymbal part has a single cymbal stroke at the beginning of the section.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

E

Musical score for strings, measures 90-93. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is marked with a forte (*ff*) dynamic. The Violin I, Violin II, and Viola parts feature sixteenth-note triplets with accents and slurs, and a *simile* marking. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts have quarter notes with accents and slurs.

94

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for an orchestra, starting at measure 94. The score is written for various instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Cymbal (Cym.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 3/4. The Flute part features sixteenth-note runs with accents and slurs, marked with a '6'. The Clarinet part has similar sixteenth-note runs, also marked with a '6'. The Bassoon part includes triplet eighth notes, marked with a '3'. The Horn part plays sustained notes with accents. The Trumpet part has eighth-note patterns with accents. The Trombone and Tuba parts are mostly silent. The Timpani part plays a steady eighth-note pattern. The Cymbal part is silent. The Violin I and II parts play eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs, marked with a '3'. The Viola part plays eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs, marked with a '3'. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts play eighth-note patterns with accents and slurs, marked with a '3'. A large red watermark 'Promotional copy for reading purposes only' is overlaid on the center of the page.

Musical score for page 19, featuring woodwinds, brass, and strings. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Cymbal (Cym.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The score is in 3/4 time and features various musical notations such as sixteenth notes, eighth notes, and triplets. A large red watermark is overlaid on the score.

98

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

F Triumphant

Musical score for woodwinds and percussion. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Tuba (Tba.). The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), Cymbals (Cym.), and a snare drum. The music is in 2/4 time and features a variety of dynamics including *fff* and *ff*. The Flute part begins at measure 101 and includes a triplet. The woodwinds play sustained notes with accents. The percussion provides a rhythmic accompaniment.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

F Triumphant

Musical score for strings. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music is in 2/4 time and features a variety of dynamics including *fff*. The strings play a rhythmic accompaniment with accents and slurs.

107

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

ff

div.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

113

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

unis.

119

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

G

125

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

**Promotional copy
for reading purposes only**

H

Musical score for woodwinds and percussion. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), and Timpani (Timp.). The music is in a key with three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. The woodwind parts feature various techniques such as triplets, sixteenth-note runs, and slurs. The percussion parts include a timpani line with a forte (ff) dynamic marking and a cymbal line.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

H

Musical score for strings. The score includes parts for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music is in a key with three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a common time signature. The violin parts feature a triplet and a sixteenth-note run. The viola, cello, and contrabass parts provide a harmonic foundation with sustained notes and rhythmic patterns.

137

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Cym.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

143

Fl. *tr* *fff* **I**

Ob. *tr* *fff* **I**

Cl. *tr* *fff* **I**

Bsn. *tr* *fff* **I**

Hn. *fff* **I**

Tpt. *fff* **I**

Tbn. *fff* **I**

Tba. *tr* *fff* **I**

Timp. *ff* *tr* *fff* **I**

Cym. *fff* **I**

Vln. I *ff* *tr* *fff* **I**

Vln. II *ff* *tr* *fff* **I**

Vla. *ff* *tr* *fff* **I**

Vc. *ff* *tr* *fff* **I**

Cb. *ff* *tr* *fff* **I**

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

The image shows a page of a musical score for an orchestra, starting at measure 149. The instruments listed on the left are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), Timpani (Timp.), Cymbal (Cym.), Percussion (Perc.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings like *fffz*. There are also some performance instructions like *3* and *7* under slurs. A large red watermark is overlaid on the score.

Promotional copy
for reading purposes only

* The second percussion part for slapstick (whip) is optional.