

Reviews of Hymn-Based Organ Compositions

Joshua Brodbeck

All prices in U. S. dollars.

New Music

Carols of the British Isles

Phillip M. Young. Augsburg Fortress. 2016. ISBN 978-1-5064-1361-7. Organ Solo. \$18.00.

This collection of eight carols from the British Isles showcases some favorites in a new way. All settings are very appropriate to the texts, especially the setting of the SUSSEX CAROL. This piece includes five variations all based on part of the text. There is a Theme, Air, Pavane, Pastorale, and Gigue Fugue. The lively Gigue is based on the text, "News of great joy, news of great mirth!"

Christmas Fantasy

Sigurd M. Øgaard. Morning Star. MSM-20-125. 2017. ISBN 6-88670-20125-7. 12 USD. Organ & Violin. \$12.00.

The Christmas Fantasy is a very interesting new duet that incorporates many of the familiar tunes of the season. This medium-difficulty piece would make a great piece for Christmas Eve, or the following Sundays. Included in the piece are IN DULCI JUBILO, SUSSEX CAROL, MENDELSSOHN, AND ANTIOCH. The piece also makes full use of all the resources of the organ from the strings to full organ. I will be including this in my Christmas Eve selections this year!

Hark! The Glad Sound

Burkhardt, Callahan, Ferguson, et al. Morning Star. MSM-10-029. 2017. ISBN 6-88670-10029-1. Organ Solo. \$19.00.

This collection of eleven, rather easy, hymn arrangements includes pieces that are appropriate for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. These arrangements are not new compositions, but a collection of older works. This collection would also make a great lesson book of seasonally appropriate works for organ students.

One of My "Old" Favorites

Organ Flourish on "Joy to the World"

Michael G. Dell. Gentry Publications. JG0709. 1993. Organ Solo.

This piece is one of my Christmas warhorses. It is a wonderful toccata that is based on ANTIOCH, written in the style of Henri Mulet's, "Tu es Petra" from the "Esquisses Byzantines." Although out of print, if enough people ask for it, I hope they will consider a re-print. It is a wonderful Christmas Eve postlude that will have congregations feeling the holiday cheer!

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