Santa Claus Is Coming to Town

Music by J. FRED COOTS Arranged by MIKE LEWIS

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor

1st El- Alto Saxophone

2nd El- Alto Saxophone

1st Bl- Tenor Saxophone

2nd Bl- Tenor Saxophone

El- Baritone Saxophone (Optional)

1st Bl- Trumpet

2nd Bl- Trumpet

3rd Bl- Trumpet

4th B♭ Trumpet (Optional)

1st Trombone
2nd Trombone
3rd Trombone (Optional)
4th Trombone (Optional)
Guitar Chords
Guitar (Optional)
Piano
Bass
Drums

Optional Alternate Parts

C Flute (Optional)
Tuba (Optional)
Horn in F (Doubles 1st Trombone)
1st Baritone T.C. (Doubles 2nd Trombone)
2nd Baritone T.C. (Doubles 2nd Trombone)





NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This arrangement is all about having fun with the swing feel. The tempo can be anywhere from mm 120 to 134 but not too much faster. In the introduction, caution the brass not to rush the swing figures, especially the "and" of beat 2. Observe the accent in measure 3 on the "and" of one; the rooftop accent is detached but not too short—think "daht." Saxes should dig into the melody with all parts balanced in volume. Brass kicks should be tight and detached but not staccato. Also, the brass must be careful to align kicks with the sax figures. The brass tutti at measure 22 should be balanced and full. Make sure the lower parts are played with confidence. Again, the rooftop accents should be detached but not staccato. The brass and rhythm triplet figure in measure 37 should sound relaxed, but don't get behind the pulse or time. Observe the accidentals at the key changes.

The tenor sax and piano soloists should play the written solo a few times to lock in the sound of the chord progression and begin to improvise by embellishing the rhythm and the notes. A soloist can always play the melody too.

For the rhythm section: the piano player should comp sparingly using rhythmic accents. The ensemble plays quite a bit in this chart, so to avoid rhythmic conflict with the ensemble, listen for space between figures. The guitarist will have the same challenge, plus the temptation to overplay. I suggest positioning the piano player and the guitarist close to each other so they can hear and share in the comping duties. The bass part is clear. As for the drummer, always use the drum part as a guide and overall musical map. The tendency for the drummer is to also overplay. Listen to the demo recording for suggested playing style suggestions. The band figures should be played but do not always need to be set up. A general rule is that notes written above the staff are optional and notes written within the staff are essential.

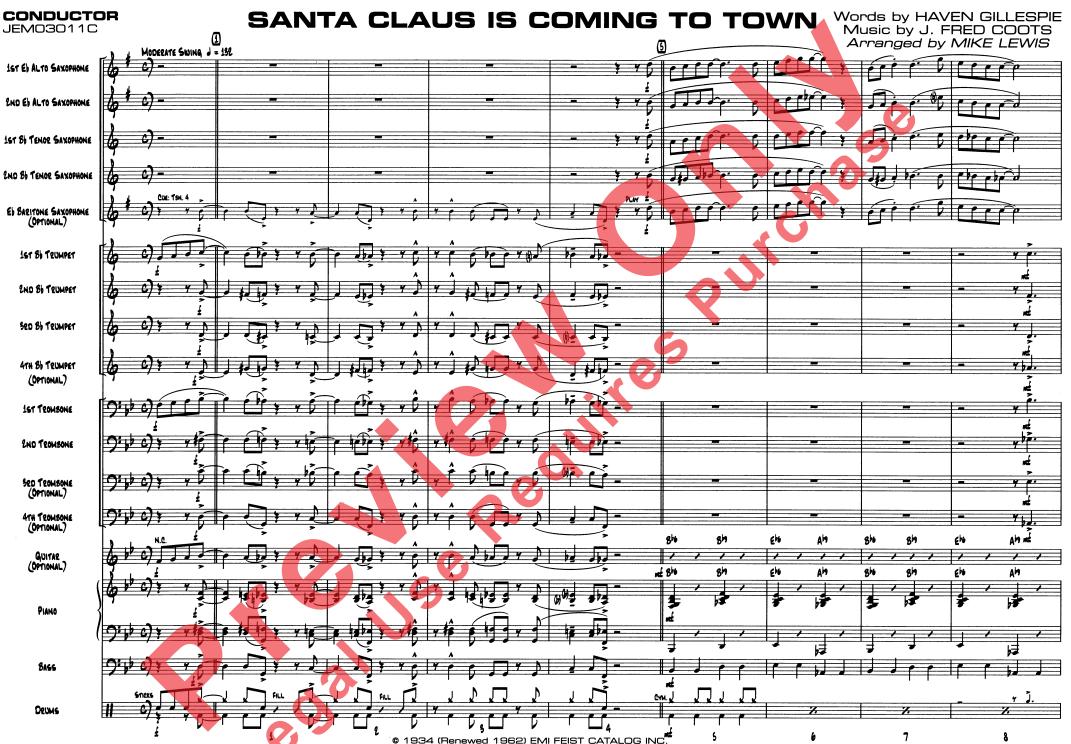
Please enjoy.

—Mike Lewis



Mike Lewis

Mike Lewis has been a freelance arranger/composer for many years. Starting with the "Jackie Gleason TV Variety Show" as a staff arranger, he became heavily involved in the pop music field, arranging hit records for some of the top pop artists today. He has also been commissioned to write charts for the Glenn Miller Orchestra, and the Lionel Hampton and Jimmy Dorsey orchestras.



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