

It's a Wonderful Life – The Musical

Musical Overview

Product Code: I02000

To help you find the perfect musical for your next performance, we have provided this overview of the vocal and orchestral demands for this title.

Solo Songs: Yes

Ensemble/Large Chorus Songs: Yes

Main Character Details:

George (m): A3-E5 vocals, moderate

Mary (w): A3-G5 vocals, moderate

Children (m/w): C4-E5 vocals, moderate

Clarence (m): C4-E5 vocals, moderate

Uncle Billy (m): D4-E5 vocals, easy

Aunt Tilly (w): D4-E5 vocals, easy

Violet (w): D4-E5 vocals, easy

Mother Bailey (w): E4-E5 vocals, easy

Townspeople:

Women: G3-G5 vocals, moderate

Men: G3-E5 vocals, moderate

Total Number of Songs: 24

Vocal Demands: Moderate

Orchestral Demands: Moderate

Size of Orchestra: Small (piano only)

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JAMES W. RODGERS
Music by
JOHN HIGGINS

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(IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE, the Musical)

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#1 Overture

music by John Higgins

majestic $\text{♩} = 100$

n.c.

E/B

The first system of the piano introduction features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music begins with a whole note chord in the bass clef, marked with *sfz* and *f*. The treble clef has a whole rest. The system concludes with a half note chord in the bass clef and a quarter note melody in the treble clef.

D/B

E/B

G#m

The second system continues the piano introduction. It starts with a half note chord in the bass clef (D/B) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef. The system concludes with a half note chord in the bass clef (G#m) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef.

A

8

E

C#m

F#m7

The third system continues the piano introduction. It starts with a half note chord in the bass clef (A) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef. The system concludes with a half note chord in the bass clef (F#m7) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef.

Bsus⁴

B

G

F

The fourth system continues the piano introduction. It starts with a half note chord in the bass clef (Bsus⁴) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef. The system concludes with a half note chord in the bass clef (F) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef.

G

B

C

The fifth system continues the piano introduction. It starts with a half note chord in the bass clef (G) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef. The system concludes with a half note chord in the bass clef (C) and a quarter note melody in the treble clef.

♩ = 170

16 G Em Am⁷ Dsus⁴ D Gmaj⁷

poco rit. *mf*

Am⁷ D⁷ Gmaj⁷ Am⁷ D⁷

G Am⁷ D⁷ 24 G G⁷/F

C Cm/E^b G/D A⁷ A⁷ A⁷

Am⁷ D⁷ C/E D⁷/F[#] G

Am⁷ D⁷ 32 G G⁷/F C/E Cm/E^b

G/D A⁷ A⁷ D⁷ G Am⁷

Gdim/A[#] G/B Cmaj⁷ Cm(maj⁷)

40 G Gmaj⁷ G⁷ Cmaj⁷

Cm(maj⁷) G

#2 Find and Protect Him

music by John Higgins
lyrics by James W. Rodgers

MARY: I've called nearly everyone we know.
MRS. HATCH: We've got to pray. We've all got to pray.

VOICE 1: There's a soul that's lost to

Agitated ♩ = 120
Dm(add2) (vamp)
mf mp

MISS ANDREWS: Haven't you heard?
MRS. THOMPSON: Heard what?

4

-night.

VOICE 2: Some-where

Am7 (vamp)

MR. MARTINI: ...He looked terrible.
ERNIE: Heard he got into a fight.

out in the cold to night.

Gm7 F/A B \flat B \flat (vamp)

JANE: Do you see him?
TOMMY: Why isn't he home?

Find and pro- tect him to night.

VOICE 3:

Gm7 F/A C C (vamp)

CE 4: Guide and di-rect him out in the cold, there's a soul that's lost to-

Gm7 F/A Gm7 F/A Gm7 F/A

PETER: Where's Daddy?
ZUZU: I want my Daddy!

16

WOMEN: To - night.

night.

MEN: Find and pro-

Bb C

#11 Suddenly

(GEORGE grabs MARY and kisses her passionately)

music by John Higgins
lyrics by James W. Rodgers

slowly

GEORGE: Wait a min-ute! What's happ-'ning here? Why is my head in a

Chords: Eb/Bb, Db/Bb, Ab, Am

spin? My head and my heart are act-ing up here.

Chords: Eb, Gm, Cm

Why does the air seem so thin? Sud-den-ly the my
Sud-den-ly

Chords: Eb/Bb, Eb+/Bb, 8, Fm7, Bb7, Eb, Cm7

Tempo: slow swing ♩ = 110

Performance instruction: rit.

night feels cool - er. Sud-den-ly there's a breeze on my face.
heart feels light - er. Sud-den-ly there's a smile on my face.

Chords: Fm7, Ab/Bb, Eb, Cm7, Fm7, Bb7

Eb Cm7 G7 Cm | 1 Cm7 F7
 Sud-den-ly I'm loose and free-er. Is this what po-ets call
 Sud-den-ly the world seems bright-er. Is

16 Fm7 Bb7 | 2. Fm7 Bb7 Eb
 love? this what po-ets call love. If it

Bbm7 Eb7 s Ab Fm Bbm7 Eb7 s
 is then let me em- brace it, tie it up with a

Ab6 Cm7 F7 s | 24 Bb Gm
 born. Call it fate, for I can't es- cape it.

D⁹ — s — C⁷ — s — Fdim⁷ B^{b7} E^b Cm⁷
 Sud - den - ly some - how I know. Sud - den - ly I have
 Fm⁷ A^{b/B^b} E^b Cm Fm⁷ B^{b7}
 no more ques - tions. Sud - den - ly it's all per - fect - ly clear.
 E^b Cm 32 G⁷ Cm Cm Cm E^{b/B^b}
 Sud - den - ly I know these sen - sa - tions will not ver - y soon dis - ap -
 pear, Cm/A A^{b7} Gm⁷ — s — B^bdim⁷/G^b — s — Fm⁷ B^{b7} B^{b7}/A^b
 for this is what po - ets call love, and I

#17 Listen to the Bells

GEORGE: ...One of us is going to jail! Well it's not going to be me!

music by John Higgins
lyrics by James W. Rodgers

brightly ♩ = 160

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The first system is for George, with a tempo of 160 and a dynamic of *f*. The second and third systems are for the Children, with dynamics of *mf* and *f* respectively. The fourth system continues the Children's part. Chord symbols are provided above the vocal lines. A box containing the number '8' is placed above the vocal line in the third system.

System 1 (George): Chords: F⁵, F⁵, F⁵. Dynamic: *f*.

System 2 (Children): Chords: F⁵, F, B^b/F, C/F. Lyrics: CHILDREN: Lis - ten to the bells on Christ - mas morn - ing,

System 3 (Children): Chords: F, C/F, F, C, F/A. Lyrics: hear how pure and clear they sound. They're the voic - es

System 4 (Children): Chords: B^b, A/C[#], Dm, Gm⁷, C. Lyrics: of God's an - gels; "Peace on Earth, Good will a-

F F F

bound."

f

16 F F B \flat /F C/F

There's a bit of mag - ic told to chil - dren,

mf

F C/F F C F/A

it's the gift the sea - son brings. Hear a bell on

B \flat A/C \sharp Dm 24 Gm 7 C

Christ - mas morn - ing; an - oth - er an - gel's got his

#22 A Christmas Greeting (reprise)

festive, a capella ♩. = 55

music by John Higgins
lyrics by James W. Rodgers

With mis - tle - toe and hol - ly and
CAROLERS: car - ols in the par - ly and
cel - e - brate the sea - son with its

lots of good cheer, we'll prom - ise you a mer - ry
star all you hold dear, we'll prom - ise you a mer - ry
bright and clear, and al - ways cher - ish and pro -

Christ - mas and a Hap - py New Year. Sing year.
tect it each a a year af - ter Year. So year.