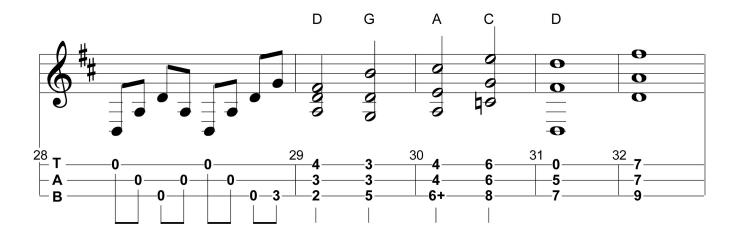
Joy To The World

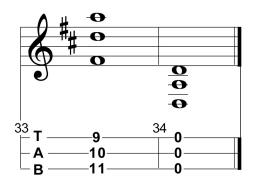
Arranged by Bing Futch











Stuff You Need To Know

Track #: 1
Key: D
Tuning: dd-A-D
Speed/Difficulty: Slow/Moderate
Repetitions: 4 (kind-of)
Length of track: 2:45
Style: symphonic

We kick things off in a spectacular way, placing you at center-stage as the soloist with a symphony orchestra! The trickiest thing about this, of course, will be the absence of a conductor, so you'll need to follow your score (sheet music) and pay close attention to whatever might lock you in with the tempo. This includes the pulse of a string section, the rattle of timpani and the arpeggios of concert pianos.

This book contains many arrangements of tunes that were featured on my first Christmas album "Christmas Each Day" and this is one of them, so the second and fourth times through the familiar strains of "Joy To The World", things will take a minor turn as I add a bit of invention. Measure 16 is a bit of a tricky rhythm, made all the more so by the orchestra's slightly different take.

The tempo is 93 b.p.m., which is not a bruising pace and your melodies will sail through different movements until the big finale, where the main theme is interspersed with arpeggios in D, leading up to a dramatic conclusion that will lead you up into the fretboard's second octave. Feel free to really let loose on those final chords.

There's not a lot of improvisation in this book as I just wanted to present the music of Christmas as an enjoyable and engaging exercise in ensemble playing. However, do experiment with things like counter-melody and different chord voicings, as these could come in handy when playing with one or more other dulcimer musicians.