

**Richard Hillert**

# **The First Noel**

*THE FIRST NOEWLL*

**LBW 56**

Brass Quintet  
Harp  
Children's Choir  
Schola Cantorum  
Organ

***Prelude:* Brass Quintet**

***Stanza 1:* Children, Organ**

***Stanza 2:* Schola, Organ**

***Stanza 3:* Harp, Children, Organ**

***Stanza 4:* Schola-SATB**

***Stanza 5:* Children, Organ**

***Stanza 6:* Trumpet solo  
Horn solo  
Children, Schola  
Organ**

***Postlude:* Brass Quintet**

# The First Noel

## Prelude

Brass Quintet

Richard Hillert

**Moderato**

Trpt. 1  
2

Horn

Trbn.  
Tuba

*mf* *legato*

*mf* *legato*

*mf* *legato*

6

*rall.*

*rall.*

*rall.*

## Stanza 1

## Children's Choir

1. The first No - el the an - gel did say Was to cer - tain poor

The first system of the children's choir part, measures 1-5. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are: "1. The first No - el the an - gel did say Was to cer - tain poor".

6 shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay, keep ing their

The second system of the children's choir part, measures 6-11. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "6 shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay, keep ing their".

12 *REFRAIN*  
sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep. Noe - el, No -

The third system of the children's choir part, measures 12-17. It begins with the word "REFRAIN" in italics. The lyrics are: "12 sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep. Noe - el, No -".

18 el, No - el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The fourth system of the children's choir part, measures 18-23. The lyrics are: "18 el, No - el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.".

3  
Stanza 2

(Men)

2. They look- ed up and saw a star Shin- ing in the

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of music for the men's part. It features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "2. They look- ed up and saw a star Shin- ing in the".

6 (Women)

east be- yond them far; And to the earth it gave great

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of music for the women's part. It features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on grand staff. The lyrics are: "east be- yond them far; And to the earth it gave great".

12 **REFRAIN (All)**

light, And so it con- tin- ued both day and night. No- el, No-

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of music, the beginning of the refrain. It features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on grand staff. The lyrics are: "light, And so it con- tin- ued both day and night. No- el, No-".

18

el, No- el, No- el! Born is the King of Is- ra- el.

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of music, the end of the refrain. It features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on grand staff. The lyrics are: "el, No- el, No- el! Born is the King of Is- ra- el."

HARP

# The First Noel

## Stanza 3

Richard Hillert

Harp

mf

Choir

3. And by the light of that same star Three Wise Men

came from country far; To seek for a king was their in-

12

REFRAIN

tent, And to follow the star wherever it went. Noel, No-

HARP

RH: The First Noel  
Stanza 3

Piano accompaniment for measures 18-21. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth notes, and the left hand provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

Vocal line for measures 18-21. The lyrics are: el, No- el, No- ell Born is the

Piano accompaniment for measures 22-25. The right hand continues the melodic line, and the left hand features a prominent bass line with a long note in measure 25.

Vocal line for measures 22-25. The lyrics are: King of Is - ra- el.

Children's Choir

Stanza 3

Harp

*mf*

Choir

3. And — by — the — light of — that — same star Three — Wise — Men

Organ

6

6

came — from coun — try far; To — seek — for — a king was — their — in —

12

12 *REFRAIN*

tent, And to fol- low the star— wher— ev— er it went. Noe- el, No-

18

18

el, No- el, No- el! Born is the

Stanza 3

The musical score for Stanza 3 consists of three systems. The first system features a piano introduction with a treble clef staff containing a melodic line of eighth notes and a bass clef staff with a simple harmonic accompaniment. The second system is the vocal line, starting at measure 22, with the lyrics "King of Is - ra - el." written below the notes. The third system provides the piano accompaniment for the vocal line, with the treble clef staff playing chords and the bass clef staff providing a steady harmonic foundation.

RH: The First Noel  
Schola: SATB

7  
Stanza 4

4. This star drew near to the north-west, O'er Beth-le-

6 hem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and

12 stay Right over the place where Je - sus lay. No - el, No-  
*REFRAIN*  
No - el, No-

18 el, No- el, No- el! Born is the King of Is- ra- el.  
el, No- el, No- el!

Stanza 5

5. Then en-tered in those wise men three Full-rev-erent-

ly up-on their knee, And of-fered there in his pres-

This system contains the first two lines of musical notation. The top line is the vocal melody for the first line of lyrics. The bottom two lines are the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "5. Then en-tered in those wise men three Full-rev-erent-".

*Without pedal*

6

ence Their gold, and myrrh, and frank-in-cense. No-el, No-

This system contains the second two lines of musical notation. The top line is the vocal melody for the second line of lyrics. The bottom two lines are the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "6 ly up-on their knee, And of-fered there in his pres-".

12

**REFRAIN**

el, No-el, No-el! Born is the King of Is-ra-el.

*Pedal*

This system contains the third two lines of musical notation. The top line is the vocal melody for the first line of the refrain. The bottom two lines are the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "12 ence Their gold, and myrrh, and frank-in-cense. No-el, No-".

18

el, No-el, No-el! Born is the King of Is-ra-el.

This system contains the fourth two lines of musical notation. The top line is the vocal melody for the second line of the refrain. The bottom two lines are the piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are: "18 el, No-el, No-el! Born is the King of Is-ra-el."

Stanza 6

Children's Choir  
Schola Cantorum

**Maestoso**

Trpt.1

Horn

Choirs

Organ

6. Then let us all with one accord Sing

5

5

5

praises to our heav'nly Lord; That hath made heav'n and

11

*f*

earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath

16

*piu f*

*piu f*  
**REFRAIN**

bought. No - el, No - el, No - el, No -

20

20

20

el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The musical score is written for a right-hand piano accompaniment and a vocal line. It consists of five staves. The first three staves are vocal lines, and the last two are piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 20. The vocal line starts with a half note 'el!' followed by a series of quarter notes: 'Born', 'is', 'the', 'King', 'of', 'Is', 'ra', 'el'. The piano accompaniment provides a harmonic and rhythmic foundation, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a steady bass line.

Hillert: The First Noel

# Postlude

## Brass Quintet

**Maestoso**

1. *mf* *f*

2. *mf cresc.* *cresc.* *piu f*

*mf* *cresc.* *f*

6

*molto rit.* *molto rit.* *molto rit.*