

# **At The Drop Of A Hat**

**Michael Flanders & Donald Swann**  
**arr. Sandy Smith**

Code Schwierigkeitsgrad  
code degré de difficulté  
code degree of difficulty

C = medium

Spieldauer  
durée  
playing time

not recorded yet

**At The Drop Of A Hat** is a selection of the music of British duo **Michael Flanders** and **Donald Swann**, who achieved fame in the late 1950's and early 1960's with their musical revue of comedic and satirical songs.

The arrangement features four of these - **The Gasman Cometh** tells of the trials and tribulations of employing tradesmen. **The Slow Train** details the loss of many small British train stations closed on the order of Dr. Beeching in the early 1960's. **The Wompom** lists the numerous uses of the multi-purpose animal, vegetable AND mineral which is the Wompom. The final song is perhaps the duos' most famous – **The Hippopotamus Song**, which naturally enough is a feature for the Tuba section.

There is provision in the arrangement for some visual humour, which would be in keeping with this light-hearted music.

**Sandy Smith**  
September 2008

### Note on Percussion

In **The Wompom** other rhythmic percussion or vocal noises may be added at the discretion of the conductor to illustrate this mythical beast!

# At The Drop of a Hat

## The Songs of Flanders & Swann

Michael Flanders & Donald Swann  
arr. Sandy Smith

Vivo  $\text{♩} = 112$  rit. Brightly  $\text{♩} = 138$  The Gasman Cometh

The musical score is arranged for a large ensemble. It begins with a tempo of *Vivo* at 112 beats per minute, marked *rit.* (ritardando). The tempo then changes to *Brightly* at 138 beats per minute for the section titled "The Gasman Cometh". The score includes parts for:

- Soprano E♭ Cornet
- Solo B♭ Cornet
- Repiano B♭ Cornet
- 2nd B♭ Cornet
- 3rd B♭ Cornet
- Flugelhorn
- Solo E♭ Horn
- 1st E♭ Horn
- 2nd E♭ Horn
- 1st B♭ Baritone
- 2nd B♭ Baritone
- 1st B♭ Trombone
- 2nd B♭ Trombone
- Bass Trombone
- B♭ Euphonium
- E♭ Bass
- B♭ Bass
- Timpani
- Drum Kit
- Xylophone

The score features various dynamics such as *f* (forte), *fp* (fortissimo piano), and *f* (forte) throughout. There are also markings for *rit.* and *rit.* (ritardando). The score is written in 2/4 time and includes a key signature of one sharp (F#).



Soprano Eb Cornet

Solo Bb Cornet

Repiano Bb Cornet

2nd Bb Cornet

3rd Bb Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo Eb Horn

1st Eb Horn

2nd Eb Horn

1st Bb Baritone

2nd Bb Baritone

1st Bb Trombone

2nd Bb Trombone

Bass Trombone

Bb Euphonium

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Drum Kit

Xylophone

24

Soprano Eb Cornet

Solo Bb Cornet

Repiano Bb Cornet

2nd Bb Cornet

3rd Bb Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo Eb Horn

1st Eb Horn

2nd Eb Horn

1st Bb Baritone

2nd Bb Baritone

1st Bb Trombone

2nd Bb Trombone

Bass Trombone

Bb Euphonium

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Xylophone

*mf*

32 **B**

Soprano Eb Cornet

Solo Bb Cornet

Repiano Bb Cornet

2nd Bb Cornet

3rd Bb Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo Eb Horn

1st Eb Horn

2nd Eb Horn

1st Bb Baritone

2nd Bb Baritone

1st Bb Trombone

2nd Bb Trombone

Bass Trombone

Eb Euphonium

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Xylophone

*mf*

Soprano Eb Cornet

Solo Bb Cornet

Repiano Bb Cornet

2nd Bb Cornet

3rd Bb Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo Eb Horn

1st Eb Horn

2nd Eb Horn

1st Bb Baritone

2nd Bb Baritone

1st Bb Trombone

2nd Bb Trombone

Bass Trombone

Bb Euphonium

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Xylophone

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a large ensemble. It features 17 staves, each with a different instrument label on the left. The instruments are: Soprano Eb Cornet, Solo Bb Cornet, Repiano Bb Cornet, 2nd Bb Cornet, 3rd Bb Cornet, Flugelhorn, Solo Eb Horn, 1st Eb Horn, 2nd Eb Horn, 1st Bb Baritone, 2nd Bb Baritone, 1st Bb Trombone, 2nd Bb Trombone, Bass Trombone, Bb Euphonium, Eb Bass, Bb Bass, Timpani, Drum Kit, and Xylophone. The score is written in a common time signature (C) and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music consists of various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The 1st and 2nd Bb Trombone parts have a similar rhythmic pattern, as do the 1st and 2nd Eb Bass parts. The Drum Kit part shows a steady beat with some accents. The Xylophone part has a melodic line with some grace notes. The overall texture is dense and rhythmic.



49

Soprano Eb Cornet

Solo Bb Cornet

Repiano Bb Cornet

2nd Bb Cornet

3rd Bb Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo Eb Horn

1st Eb Horn

2nd Eb Horn

1st Bb Baritone

2nd Bb Baritone

1st Bb Trombone

2nd Bb Trombone

Bass Trombone

Bb Euphonium

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Xylophone

*mf* *mf*

molto rit.

\* soloist "hams up" cadenza  
to the dismay of all

**D** A tempo

Soprano E♭ Cornet

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano B♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone

2nd B♭ Trombone

Bass Trombone

B♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Xylophone

The musical score for page 8, measures 57-64, is arranged in a standard orchestral format. It features 17 staves, each representing a different instrument or section. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'molto rit.' at the beginning of the page and 'A tempo' at the end, indicated by a 'D' in a box. The score includes various dynamic markings such as 'poco f' and 'mf'. A solo cadenza for the E♭ Horn section is marked 'solo cadenza ad. lib.' and 'both'. The score is written in a clear, professional style with standard musical notation, including notes, rests, and articulation marks.

66

Soprano E $\flat$  Cornet

Solo B $\flat$  Cornet

Repiano B $\flat$  Cornet

2nd B $\flat$  Cornet

3rd B $\flat$  Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E $\flat$  Horn

1st E $\flat$  Horn

2nd E $\flat$  Horn

1st B $\flat$  Baritone

2nd B $\flat$  Baritone

1st B $\flat$  Trombone

2nd B $\flat$  Trombone

Bass Trombone

B $\flat$  Euphonium

E $\flat$  Bass

B $\flat$  Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Xylophone

molto rit. E Slower  $\text{♩} = 72$

Tempo 1 ( $\text{♩} = 138$ )

75

Soprano E $\flat$  Cornet *mf* solo

Solo B $\flat$  Cornet

Repiano B $\flat$  Cornet *f*

2nd B $\flat$  Cornet *f*

3rd B $\flat$  Cornet *f*

Flugelhorn *f* *mf*

Solo E $\flat$  Horn *mf*

1st E $\flat$  Horn *mf*

2nd E $\flat$  Horn *mf*

1st B $\flat$  Baritone *f* *mf*

2nd B $\flat$  Baritone *f*

1st B $\flat$  Trombone *f* *mf*

2nd B $\flat$  Trombone *f* *mf*

Bass Trombone *f* *mf*

B $\flat$  Euphonium *f* *mf*

E $\flat$  Bass *f* *mf*

B $\flat$  Bass *f* *mf*

Timpani

Drum Kit *f* *mf*

Xylophone

*molto rit.*

Gently *J. = 46* *The Slow Train*

Soprano Eb Cornet

Solo Bb Cornet

Repiano Bb Cornet

2nd Bb Cornet

3rd Bb Cornet

Flugelhorn

solo

*mf espress.*

Solo Eb Horn

1st Eb Horn

2nd Eb Horn

1st Bb Baritone

2nd Bb Baritone

1st Bb Trombone

2nd Bb Trombone

Bass Trombone

Bb Euphonium

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

[Cabasa]

[Sandpaper Blocks]

Soprano E♭ Cornet

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano B♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone

2nd B♭ Trombone

Bass Trombone

B♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Soprano E♭ Cornet

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano B♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone

2nd B♭ Trombone

Bass Trombone

B♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Soprano E♭ Cornet *mp*

Solo B♭ Cornet *tutti*  
*mf espress.*

Repiano B♭ Cornet *mf espress.*

2nd B♭ Cornet *mf*

3rd B♭ Cornet *mf*

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn *mf*

1st E♭ Horn *mf*

2nd E♭ Horn *mf*

1st B♭ Baritone *mf*

2nd B♭ Baritone *mf*

1st B♭ Trombone *mp*

2nd B♭ Trombone *mp*

Bass Trombone *mp*

B♭ Euphonium *mf espress.*

E♭ Bass *mf*

B♭ Bass *mf*

Timpani *mf*

Drum Kit *mf*



Soprano E♭ Cornet *mf espress.*

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano B♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn *mf* *mf espress.*

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone *mf espress.*

2nd B♭ Trombone *mf* *mf espress.*

Bass Trombone *mf*

B♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Soprano E♭ Cornet

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano B♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone

2nd B♭ Trombone

Bass Trombone

B♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

119

Soprano Eb Cornet

Solo Bb Cornet

Repiano Bb Cornet

2nd Bb Cornet

3rd Bb Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo Eb Horn

1st Eb Horn

2nd Eb Horn

1st Bb Baritone

2nd Bb Baritone

1st Bb Trombone

2nd Bb Trombone

Bass Trombone

Bb Euphonium

Eb Bass

Bb Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

I Gently  $\text{♩} = 46$

125

Soprano E♭ Cornet

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano B♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone

2nd B♭ Trombone

Bass Trombone

E♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Soprano Eb Cornet  
 Solo Bb Cornet  
 Repliano Bb Cornet  
 2nd Bb Cornet  
 3rd Bb Cornet  
 Flugelhorn  
 Solo Eb Horn  
 1st Eb Horn  
 2nd Eb Horn  
 1st Bb Baritone  
 2nd Bb Baritone  
 1st Bb Trombone  
 2nd Bb Trombone  
 Bass Trombone  
 Bb Euphonium  
 Eb Bass  
 Bb Bass  
 Timpani  
 Drum Kit

metal mute  
 mp  
 open



Soprano E♭ Cornet

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano E♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone

2nd B♭ Trombone

Bass Trombone

B♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bass

Timpani

Drum Kit

Xylophone

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with 17 staves. The top five staves are for the cornet section (Soprano E♭, Solo B♭, Repiano E♭, 2nd B♭, 3rd B♭). The next five staves are for the horn section (Flugelhorn, Solo E♭, 1st E♭, 2nd E♭). The following four staves are for the trombone and euphonium section (1st B♭, 2nd B♭, Bass Trombone, B♭ Euphonium). The bottom three staves are for the percussion section (E♭ Bass, B♭ Bass, Timpani, Drum Kit, Xylophone). The score includes various musical notations such as rests, notes, slurs, and dynamic markings like 'mf' and 'lv.'.

Soprano E♭ Cornet

Solo B♭ Cornet

Repiano B♭ Cornet

2nd B♭ Cornet

3rd B♭ Cornet

Flugelhorn

Solo E♭ Horn

1st E♭ Horn

2nd E♭ Horn

1st B♭ Baritone

2nd B♭ Baritone

1st B♭ Trombone

2nd B♭ Trombone

Bass Trombone

B♭ Euphonium

E♭ Bass

B♭ Bar

diese Partitur ist unvollständig  
this score is not complete  
ce score n'est pas complet