

**Happy Birthday to You**, also known more simply as "Happy Birthday", is a song that is traditionally sung to celebrate the anniversary of a person's birth. According to the 1998 Guinness Book of World Records, "Happy Birthday to You" is the most recognized song in the English language, followed by "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow". The song's base lyrics have been translated into at least 18 languages. The melody of "Happy Birthday to You" comes from the song "Good Morning to All", which was written and composed by American siblings Patty Hill and Mildred J. Hill in 1893. Patty was a kindergarten principal in Louisville, Kentucky, developing various teaching methods at what is now the Little Loomhouse; Mildred was a pianist and composer. The sisters created "Good Morning to All" as a song that would be easy to be sung by young children. The combination of melody and lyrics in "Happy Birthday to You" first appeared in print in 1912.

**Dr. Michael Pratt** has degrees in music education and music composition from The University of Toledo, The University of Michigan, and Boston University. He studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan, and taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan.

He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of The University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Kirov Orchestra, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars.

He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, The Crosswell Opera House, The Adrian Symphony Orchestra and The Adrian City Band.

He has performed with many notable conductors, including, Valery Gergiev, Michael Tilson Thomas, Neeme Jarve, Mikhail Pletnev, Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, Leonard Slatkin, John Adams, Gennady Rozhdestvensky, Paul McCreech, Peter Phillips, Catherine Comet, Eric Kunzel, Margaret Hillis, Martin Katz, and John Finley Williamson.

Michael Pratt is a member of ASCAP.

# Birthday Greetings

Duration 2:00

Variations on a Theme by Mildred J. Hill

Michael Pratt  
for Brass Septet

Moderato ♩ = 84

Musical score for the first system (measures 1-7) of "Birthday Greetings". The score is for a Brass Septet and is in 4/4 time. The tempo is Moderato with a metronome marking of ♩ = 84. The key signature has two flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The instruments are: Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2, Trumpet in B♭ 3, Horn in F, Trombone, Euphonium, and Tuba. Measure numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are indicated above the staves. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *Mute* for the Trumpet in B♭ 3. The Trumpet in B♭ 3 also has an *Open* marking. The Tuba has a *f* marking at the end of the system.

1 Allegro ♩ = 120

Musical score for the second system (measures 8-13) of "Birthday Greetings". The score is for a Brass Septet and is in 3/4 time. The tempo is Allegro with a metronome marking of ♩ = 120. The key signature has two flats. The instruments are: B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, B♭ Tpt. 3, Hn., Tbn., Euph., and Tuba. Measure numbers 8, 10, 11, 12, and 13 are indicated above the staves. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and rests.