

Welcome Somer

Lyrics by Geoffrey Chaucer
from the Poem "Parlement of Foules"
Late 14th Cent

Music by Don Macdonald

tempo ♩ = 175 Energetically

S. *ff*

wel- come, wel- come, wel- come, so- mer, wel- come, wel- come, wel- come,

A. *ff*

wel- come, wel- come, wel- come, so- mer, wel- come, wel- come, wel- come,

7 *p cresc. poco a poco*

wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer

p cresc. poco a poco

wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer wel- come, so- mer

13 *mf* **A**

wel- come, so-mer wel- come, wel- come, so-mer, with the son - ne softe, wel- come, so-mer, wel- come, so-mer,

mf

wel- come, so-mer wel- come, wel- come, so-mer, with the son - ne softe, wel- come, so-mer, wel- come, so-mer,

19

wel- come wel- come, That hast this win-tres we - dres o - ver shake, And dri-ven a - way the lo -

wel- come, so- mer, wel- come, That hast this win-tres we - dres o - ver shake, And dri-ven a - way the lo -

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24

- nge nygh - tes blake! wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer, Now wel-come,

- nge nygh - tes blake! wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer, Now wel-come,

29

B

wel-come, so - mer, with the son - ne softe, wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer,

wel-come, so - mer, with the son - ne softe, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come,

34

wel-come, That hast this win-tres we - dres o - ver shake and dri-ven a-way_ the lo - nge nygh - tes blake!

wel-come, That hast this win-tres we - dres o - ver shake, And dri-ven a-way_ the lo - nge nygh - tes blake!

39

C

wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, so - mer, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come,

wel-come, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come,

45

wel-come, so - mer, wel - come, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come, so - mer wel-come, so - mer

wel-come, so - mer, wel - come, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come, so - mer wel-come, so - mer

51 *mp* *f*

wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come,

wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come, so - mer wel - come,

D

57 *dolce* *p* *mp*

wel - come, so - mer, wel - come, wel - come, mer, wel - come, Saint

wel - come, so - mer, wel - come, wel - come, so - mer, wel - come, Saynt

65

va - le - tine Thou are full on lof - te That syn - gen sma - le fou - les

Val - en - tine Thou are hy on lof - te syn - gen smal - le fou - les

71

for to gla - den of - te Now wel - come, so - mer wi thy so - ne sof - te

to gla - den of - te wel - come, so - mer wi thy son - ne sof - te That

77 *mf* wel-come so-mer

That hast this win-tres-wed-res o-ver-sha-ke wel-come, so-mer

mf wel-come so-mer

— hast this win-tres-wed-res o-ver-sha-ke wel-come, so-mer

83 *f*

wel-come, wel-come, so-mer, wel-come, wel-come, wel-come,

wel-come, wel-come, so-mer, we! come, wel-come, wel-come,

Meno Mosso Freely
 ♩ = 145 *solo or small group*
 91 *mp*

Saynt Va-len-tyn that art-ful hy-mn-lof-te Thus syn-gen sma-le fou-les for thy sa-ke

p *mp*

mm

mp

mm

94 *mp* *mf*

Wel han-the-re-use for to gla-den of-te Sith ech of hem re-co-vered hath hys ma-ke

mf

mf

oh

oh

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

molto rit.

96

mf

f

Full bliss - full mo - we they sy - nge when they wa - ke.

Musical notation for measures 96-98. The vocal line starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features sustained chords in the left hand and moving lines in the right hand.

Tempo Primo ♩ = 175

98

pp

wel - come, wel - come, wel - come, wel - come,

wel - come, wel - come, wel - come, so - mer, wel - come,

Musical notation for measures 98-103. The vocal line begins with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic and ends with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment consists of sustained chords in the left hand and rhythmic patterns in the right hand.

E

104

mp

wel - come, so - mer, wel - come, wel - come, so - mer with the son - ne softe, That

wel - come, so - mer, wel - come, wel - come.

wel - come, wel - come.

Musical notation for measures 104-109. The vocal line starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features sustained chords in the left hand and moving lines in the right hand.

110

mp

hast this w... we - dres o - ver shake, And dri - ven a - way the lo - nge nygh - tes blake!

mp

mp

Musical notation for measures 110-114. The vocal line continues with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment consists of sustained chords in the left hand and rhythmic patterns in the right hand.

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

114 **F**

wel-come, so-mer, wel-come, wel-come, so-mer, wel-come, wel-come, so-mer, wel-come, so-mer, wel-come, so-mer, wel-come, so-mer,

so-mer, wel-come, so-mer, so-mer, wel-come, so-mer, so-mer, wel-come, so-mer,

120

wel-come, wel-come, so-mer, with the son-ne, wel-come,

wel-come, wel-come, so-mer, with the son-ne, wel-come, so-mer, wel-come,

125

wel-come, so-mer, with the son-ne, wel-come, wel-come,

wel-come, so-mer with the son-ne, wel-come, so-mer wel-come, wel-come,

130

- come, wel-come

wel-come, wel-come

molto rit.

PERUSAL SCORE ONLY - PLEASE DO NOT COPY

Now welcome, somer, with thy sonne softe,
That hast this wintres wedres overshake,
And driven away the longe nyghtes blake!

Saynt Valentyn, that art ful hy on-lofte,
Thus syngen smale foules for thy sake:
Now welcome, somer, with thy sonne softe,
That hast this wintres wedres overshake.

Wel han they cause for to gladen ofte,
Sith ech of hem recovered hath hys make;
Ful blissful mowe they syng when they wake:
Now welcome, somer, with thy sonne softe
That hast this wintres wedres overshake
And driven away the longe nyghtes blake!

Pronunciation

Now - pronounced 'Noo'

somer - so+mer

sonne - soon+a

overshake and blake - same vowel sound like 'black'

away - a+why

nyghtes - like the German word 'nicht' + 'es'

Valentyn - Valen + teen

foules - fool+es

sake, make, wake - rhyming - same sound as 'black'

Translation

“Welcome, summer, with sunshine soft,
The winter’s tempest you will break,
And drive away the long nights black!
Saint Valentine, throned aloft,
Thus little birds sing for your sake:
Welcome, summer, with sunshine soft,
The winter’s tempest you will shake!
Good cause have they glad them oft,
His own true-love a bird will take;
Blithe may they be when they awake,
Welcome, summer, with sunshine soft,
The winter’s tempest you will break,
And drive away the long nights black!”

