

HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS

T & A
Traditional Spiritual
Arr.: Cedric Dent

ECC17.2072.011



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About the Work

Negro spirituals are famously known for their beautiful word pictures. Writing in 1903, W. E. B. Dubois opined "The Negro folk-song ... the most beautiful expression of human experience born this side the seas ... still remains as the singular spiritual heritage of the nation and the greatest gift of the Negro people." He could not have captured better the essence of the spiritual *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands*. This arrangement draws on traditional choral music, South African musical influences, and a touch of the gospel/jazz style of TAKE 6 to paint a portrait of a world that sits in the palm of God's hand.

Knowing that this arrangement would be premiered by the Jason Max Ferdinand Singers made the creative process a labor of love from conception to completion.

-Cedric Dent

He'S Got the Whole World in His Hands

He's got the whole world in His hands.
He's got you and me, brother, in His hands.
He's got you and me, sister, in His hands.
He's got the itty bitty babies in His hands.
Uphe the bonk'a bantu Ezandle' Uphe thum hlab' hlab'leni.
He's got the whole world in His hands.

About the Arranger

Cedric Carl Dent, a native of Detroit, Michigan, was a baritone vocalist, music arranger, and co-producer of the 10-time GRAMMY Award-winning vocal group, TAKE 6. In 2011, Dent retired from TAKE 6 after 25 years with the group. He is also a 2-time Grammy-nominated music arranger and created several arrangements for the Grammy-award winning recording *Handel's Messiah A Soulful Celebration* (2012). In 2014, Dent rejoined TAKE 6 for their induction into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame in Nashville, TN.

Dent is also a professor at Middle Tennessee State University (Murfreesboro, TN) where he directs the MTSU Singers (a vocal jazz ensemble), teaches a course he developed on the history of black gospel music, as well as undergraduate and graduate courses in music theory. He continues to compose and arrange for various live and recording projects. His composition, *I Hear the Drum*, was premiered by the Nashville Symphony Orchestra and Chorus, and the MET Singers in 2016.

Dent holds degrees from the University of Michigan, the University of Alabama, and the University of Maryland. As an alumnus of the University of Michigan, Dent was selected to receive the 2016 Hall of Fame Award from the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Alumni Society.

Duration: Approx: 4:45

HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS

Traditional Spiritual
Arranged by CEDRIC DENT (b. 1962)

With inexplicable joy! (♩ = 102)

Soprano *f* He's got the whole world in His... *sf*

Alto *f* He's got the whole world in His... *sf*

Tenor *f* whole world in His... *mf* Hm oo weh

Bass *f* whole world in His... *mf* Hm oo weh

Piano (for rehearsal only)

5 *p* Hm oo weh oh weh oh *p* Hm oo weh

12 *mp* in His hands in His hands *mp* whole world He's got the whole world He's got the

mm eh oo weh

mm eh oo weh

oh

hm oo weh oo eh oh hm oo weh oh He's got the

hm oo weh oo eh oh hm oo weh oh oo

12 *mp* in His hands in His hands *mp* whole world He's got the whole world He's got the

16

in His hands — He's got the
 in His hands —
 whole world He's got the whole world in His hands

19

whole world in His hands — hm eh oo weh
 whole world in His hands — hm eh oo weh oh
all tenors
 — Hm oo hm oo weh oo eh oh hm oo weh oh
 weh hm oo weh oo eh oh hm oo weh

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22

mp
 in His hands
mp
 in His hands
 — He's got you and me broth - er He's got you and me broth - er
 oh — Oh — oh —

26

in His hands — in His hands —
 in His hands — in His hands —
 — got you — and — me He's got the
 got you oh —

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29

aye yay —
 whole world in His — hands — oh oo oh, oh, hm oo weh
 hands — oh oo oh, oh, hm oo weh

32

— aye yay — aye yay — oh —
 hm oo weh weh oo hm oo weh oh — doop doop.
 hm oo weh oo weh oo hm oo weh oh — doop doop.

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35

Hm oo weh aye yay — hm oo weh eh oh —
 in ee boo in ee boo in ee bo in ee hm oo weh eh in ee
 Hm oo weh oo weh oo eh oh

37

mf
 He's got
 hm oo weh oh —
 boop in ee boo in ee bo oh — doop doop — oh.
 oo weh oh — doop doop — oh.

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40

you and me sis - ter He's got you and me sis - ter

mf

you and me sis - ter

mp

in His ha - and

mp

in His ha - and

43

He's got and no sis - ter He's got the

you and me sis - ter

in His hands in His hands

in His hands in His hands

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10

46

whole world in His hands.

whole world in His doo do do do do do

mf

do doo do do doo do

mf

do doo do ba doo do

49

rit. *p* oh oo. *mp* He's got the

p oh oo. *mp* *p* oo oo oo

p oh oo. *mp* *p* oo oo oo oo

ah oo. dm dm dm dm ba

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55

it - ty bit - ty ba - by in His hands *p* oh oo

mp tenderly

oo oo oo oo He's got the ty bit - ty

oo oo oo oo

dm dm dm dm ba dm

60

oo oo oo oo

ba - by in His hands oo oo oo

mp tenderly

dm oo He's got the it - ty bit - ty ba - by in His

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12

66

slower (♩ = ca. 77) *mp* He's got the whole world in His hands

mp oo whole world in His hands

mp oo whole world in hands

hands whole world in His hands

rit.

70

pull way back! (♩ = ca. 86) *mf* Tempo I (♩ = 86)

He's got the whole world in His hands.

He's got the whole world in His Hm oo weh

got the whole world in His

got the whole world in His

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74

Hm Hm
hm oo weh oo weh oo
hm oo weh hm oo weh oh oh
in ee boo in ee boo in ee bo in ee hm oo weh oh in ee
Hm oo weh hm oo weh oh oh

77

rit. *Broad and deliberate*

mm eh oo weh oh U-phe-the bonk'-a ba-ntu
hm eh oo weh oh U-phe-the bonk'-a ba-ntu
boo in ee boo in ee boo in ee bo oh U-phe-the bonk'-a ba-ntu
oo weh oh U-phe-the bonk'-a ba-ntu

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80

E - za - ndle' - U - phe-the bonk' - a ba - ntu E - za - ndle' -
E - za - ndle' - bonk' - a ba - ntu E - za - ndle' - U - phe-the
E - za - ndle' - U - phe-the bonk' - a ba - ntu E - za - ndle' - U - phe-the
E - za - ndle' - bonk' - a ba - ntu E - za - ndle' -

83

bonk' - a ba - ntu E - za - ndle' - U - phe thum hlab' E -
bonk' - a ba - ntu E - za - ndle' - phe thum hlab' E -
bonk' - a ba - ntu E - za - ndle' - phe thum hlab' E -
ba - ntu E - za - ndle' - phe thum hlab' E -

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86

Tempo I (♩ = 86)

za - ndle - ni Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal -
za - ndle - ni Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal -
za - ndle - Hm oo weh Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal -
za - ndle - Hm oo weh Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal -

89

Slower and dramatically

le - lu He's got the whole world in His hands. Hum.
le - lu He's got the whole world in His hands. Hum.
le - lu He's got the whole world in His hands. Hum.
He's got the whole world in His hands. Hum.

* Six higher if low Bb cannot be achieved.

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