

Bluesette

Jean (Toots) Thielemans

*arranged by Paul De Bra for
accordion quintet (1, 2, 3, 4, bass)*

Bluesette is by far the most famous composition by Toots Thielemans. This seemingly easy piece is actually difficult to play right, as a jazz waltz, not a regular waltz. The solo can be played on accordina or harmonica. (Originally it was whistled, but after Toots got a stroke he could no longer whistle and started playing it on the harmonica.) The arrangement dates back to 2009, but a new version was made in 2022 (with a few subtle changes and corrections).

This composition is still under copyright until January 1, 2067 in some countries (like Canada) and 2087 in other countries (like EU countries).

A live recording by accordion ensemble Avanti (from Antwerp, Belgium) is available on YouTube. (The solo is played on accordina.) This was recorded in 2009. A new recording by Professor P is also available on YouTube.

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Bluesette

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 160$

Jean (Toots) Thielemans
arr. Paul De Bra

solo (accordina)

Acc. 1

Acc. 2

Acc. 3

Acc. 4

Bass

I

II

III

IV

B

6

I

II

III

IV

B

11

(continue to play the second beat a bit early)

solosolo

(continue to play the second beat a bit early)

Bluesette

18

I
II
III
IV
V

25

I
II
III tutti
IV
V

33

I
II
III
IV
V

Bluesette

3

39

45

52

Bluesette

61

I

II

III

IV

V

68

I

II

III

IV

V

75

I

II

III

IV

V

Bluesette

5

83

92

99

Bluesette

105

I
II
III
IV
B

110

I
II
III
IV
B

116

I
II
III
IV
B

Bluesette

7

122

I II III IV B

128

I II III IV B

135

I II III IV B

Bluesette

143

I
II
III
IV
B

150

I
II
III
IV
B

mf
mp
mp
mp

158

I
II
III
IV
B

Bluesette

9

166

I
II
III
IV
B

f
mf
mf
mf
mf

3
6

175

I
II
III
IV
B

3
6

181

I
II
III
IV
B

poco a poco dim (until the end)
poco a poco dim (until the end)
poco a poco dim (until the end)
poco a poco dim (until the end)

poco a poco dim (until the end)

Bluesette

186

I
II
III
IV
B

191

I
II
III
IV
B

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