Upon A Christmas Eve (Hugh Prestwood)

While periodically reviewing my early works I occasionally notice errors that slipped by me when I initially published these online. In keeping with this I have amended this song AGAIN, with notes below and my apologies for previous errors or misinterpretations. This is the first Michael Johnson song that I charted and in retrospect I should have taken greater care to provide a polished product.

I derived the tablature for this song from listening to his December 15, 1988 recording. I never got a chance to see him perform personally and I am the poorer for that. But his music lives on, and I try and do my best.

I changed the time signature from 3/4 waltz, to 6/8 as I feel this is more in keeping with the song’s rhythmic feel. The tempo is set at 73 bpm where these are counted on the first and fourth beat – 1-2-3-4-5-6. And I have kept the written tab for the first and final verses to give a good idea on how to perform the entire song. Michael seldom played the same verses, or entire songs the same way twice anyway, as has been noted elsewhere.

It should be kept in mind that while music needs to be structured, it mustn’t be ‘rigid.’ There is a difference. Use the tempo as a guideline for pacing; meaning you don’t need to play strictly to the metronome. Play it your way while keeping true to the original.

Enjoy,

Dale Dickson
December 2018
Amended April 2019
Amended March 2020

https://youtu.be/3iSI_rILHc4
UPON A CHRISTMAS EVE (Hugh Prestwood)

INSTRUMENTAL:

1. I walked out on Christmas eve
2. And like a wise man chasing stars
3. She smiled and said the one you’ve lost
to see the city
I looked for a child
is easy to retrieve
Up and down the ave……………nue,
one asleep in…side of me
all you need to bring him home
I marvelled at the sights
who Christmas once beguiled.
is something to believe.

CHORUS

1. Flung out diamonds, strung out pearls,
2. Through the falling snow I tracked
3. Then a thousand bells rang out
UPON A CHRISTMAS EVE - 2

shimmered in the cold
a fading memory
announcing Christmas morn

while dark skyscrapers stood their watch
until decked out in ragged clothes did feel

And at that moment I did feel
on windows dressed in gold
an angel came to me
the child in me re...born

so fill your heart with love tonight
and wear it on your sleeve
for all good things are possible
upon a Christmas Eve

for all good things are possible upon a Christmas Eve

Tablature Below
Upon A Christmas Eve (EADGBE)  capo 2 tempo 73 arr. Michael Johnson

INTRO

E        B        G        D        A        E

2-----------2
2-----------2

2

1. I walked out on Christmas Eve to see the city lights.
2. And like a wise man, I looked for the child in sleep.
3. She smiled and said, "you've lost the child you need to bring back to me."
Upon A Christmas Eve  (EADGBE)  capo 2  tempo 73  2 of 2

arr. Michael Johnson

Return to verses 2 and 3 in turn,

finish with verse 4 below.

4. So fill your heart with love tonight and we will carry it on

Your sleeve for all good things are

Pos...ible up...on a Christmas Eve

For all good things are pos...ible up...on

A Christmas Eve