

Various Artists

"Christmas Bells (Various Locations, St. Marks Plac"

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FIVE HOMELESS PEOPLE

Christmas bells are ringing
Christmas bells are ringing
Christmas bells are singing
On TV - at Saks

SQUEEGEEMAN

Honest living, honest living
Honest living, honest living
Honest living, honest living

ALL FIVE HOMELESS

Can't you spare a dime or two
Here but for the grace of God go you
You'll be merry
I'll be merry
Tho merry ain't in my vocabulary
No sleighbells
No Santa Claus
No yule log
No tinsel
No holly
No hearth
No

SOLOIST

'Rudolph the red nosed reindeer'

ALL FIVE

Rudolph the red nosed reindeer
No room at the Holiday Inn -- oh no

(A few flakes of snow begin to descend.)

And it's beginning to snow

(The stage suddenly explodes with life. The scene is St. Mark's Place on Christmas Eve -- an open-air bazaar of color, noise, and movement.)

VENDORS

Hats, bats, shoes, booze
Mountain bikes, potpourri
Leather bags, girlie mags
Forty-fives, AZT

VENDOR #1

No one's buying
Feel like crying

ALL

No room at the Holiday Inn, oh no
And it's beginning to snow

(Lights up on one woman, who is showing off a
collection of stolen
coats to COLLINS and ANGEL.)

VENDOR #2

How about a fur --
In perfect shape
Owned by an MBA from uptown
I got a tweed
Broken in by a greedy
Broker who went broke
And then broke down

COLLINS

You don't have to do this

ANGEL

Hush your mouth, it's Christmas

COLLINS

I do not deserve you, Angel

COLLINS

Give--give
All you do
Is give
Give me some way to show
How much you've touched me so

ANGEL

Wait--what's on the floor?
Let's see some more...
No--no--no...
Kiss me -- it's beginning to snow

(Lights focus on MARK and ROGER on right above.)

MARK

.. She said, "Would you light my candle?"
And she put on a pout
And she wanted you
To take her out tonight?

ROGER

Right

MARK

She got you out!

ROGER

She was more than okay
But I pushed her away
It was bad -- I got mad
And I had to get her out of my sight

MARK

Wait, wait, wait -- you said she was sweet

ROGER

Let's go eat -- I'll just get fat
It's the one vice left when you're dead meat
(MIMI has entered looking furtively for THE MAN.)
There -- that's her

MARK

Maureen?

ROGER

Mimi!

MARK

Whoa!

ROGER

I should go

MARK

Hey -- it's beginning to snow

(The POLICE OFFICERS, in riot gear, enter above.)

POLICE OFFICERS

I'm dreaming of a white, right Christmas

(POLICE OFFICERS exit.)

MIMI & JUNKIES

Follow the man -- follow the man
With his pockets full of the jam
Follow the man -- follow the man
Help me out, daddy
If you can
Got any D man?

THE MAN
I'm cool

MIMI & JUNKIES
Got any C man?

THE MAN
I'm cool

MIMI & JUNKIES
Got any X?
Any smack?
Any horse?
Any jugie boogie boy?
Any blow?

(ROGER pulls MIMI aside.)

ROGER
Hey

MIMI
Hey

ROGER
I just want to say
I'm sorry for the way --

MIMI
Forget it

ROGER
I blew up
Can I make it up to you?

MIMI
How?

ROGER
Dinner party?

MIMI
That'll do

THE MAN

Hey lover boy -- cutie pie
You steal my client -- you die

ROGER

You didn't miss me -- you won't miss her
You'll never lack for customers

JUNKIES

I'm willin'
I'm illin'
I gotta get my sickness off
Gotta run, gotta ride
Gotta gun, gotta hide -- gotta go

THE MAN

And it's beginning to snow

BENNY

(entering, talking on his cellular phone)
Wish me luck, Alison
The protest is on

COAT VENDOR

L.L Bean
Geoffrey Beene
Burburrry zip out
Lining

JUNKIES

Got any C man?
Got any D man?
Got any B man?
Got any crack?
Got any X?

SQUEEGEEMAN

Honest living --

ROGER

Mark, this is Mimi --

MARK/MIMI

Hi

ROGER

She'll be dining -- (with us)

COAT VENDOR

Here's a new arrival

THE MAN
That is an ounce

VENDORS
Hats, dats, bats

COLLINS
That's my coat!

COAT VENDOR
We give discounts

MARK
I think we've met

ANGEL
Let's get a better one

COLLINS
It's a sham

MIMI
That's what he said

THE MAN
I said it's a gram!

COLLINS
But she's a thief!

ANGEL
But she brought us together

BENNY
Which investor is coming??

COLLINS
I'll take the leather

BENNY
Your father? -- Damn!

(The following is sung simultaneously.)

HOMELESS & VENDORS
Christmas bells are swinging
Christmas bells are ringing
Christmas bells are singing
In my dreams -- next year
Once you donate you can go
Celebrate in Tuckahoe

You'll feel cheery
I'll feel cheery
Tho' I don't really know that theory
No bathrobe
No steuben glass
No cappucino makers
No pearls, no diamonds
No 'Chestnuts roasting on an open fire'
Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
No room at the Holiday Inn, oh no --

POLICE OFFICERS

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Jingle bells -- prison cells
Fa la la la -- fa la la la
You have the right to remain
Silent night holy night
Fall on your knees oh night divine
You'll do some time
Fa la la la la
Fa la la la la

JUNKIES

Got any C man?
Got any D man?
Got any B man?
Got any X? -- Crack?
I'm willin' -- I'm illin'
Gotta get my sickness off
C-D help me
Follow the man -- follow the man
Follow the man
Jugie boogie -- jugie boogie
Follow the man -- follow the man
Any crack any X any jugie boogie boy
Any blow any X any jugie boogie boy
Got any D man, got any C man
Got any crack -- any X -- any jugie boogie?

COAT VENDOR

Twenty-five

ANGEL

Fifteen

COAT VENDOR

Twenty-five

ANGEL

Fifteen

COAT VENDOR
No way
Twenty-four

ANGEL
Fifteen

COAT VENDOR
Twenty-four

ANGEL
Fifteen

COAT VENDOR
Not today
Twenty-three

ANGEL
Fifteen

COAT VENDOR
Twenty-three

ANGEL
Fifteen
It's old

COAT VENDOR
Twenty-two

ANGEL
Fifteen

COAT VENDOR
Twenty-one

ANGEL
Fifteen

COAT VENDORr
Seventeen

ANGEL
Fifteen

COAT VENDOR
Fifteen

ANGEL & COAT VENDOR
Sold!

MARK & ROGER
Let's
Go
To
The lot -- Maureen's performing

MIMI
Who's Maureen?

ROGER
His ex

MARK
But I am over her

ROGER
Let's not hold hands yet

MIMI
Is that a warning?

ALL THREE
He/You/I
Just Need(s) To take it slow I should tell you I should tell
you I should tell you I should tell you I should tell you I
... ALL And it's beginning to And it's beginning to And
it's beginning to --- (Lights blackout and a blinding
headlight comes through the door. As it reaches
downstage, the lights come up and reveal MAUREEN.)
MAUREEN Joanne, which way to the stage? ALL Snow!!!
(Blackout.)

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