JAMSICLES!

A Collection of Grade II-III Concert Percussion Ensembles

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NOTE: **Player 3** plays keyboard on five of the eight ensembles as well as being the only player without a timpani part. **Player 6** has only one mallet part throughout the ensembles.

Classicle

Program Notes: "Classicle" will prove to be an entertaining program piece for any middle school or young high school percussion ensemble concert. Designed to be a "name that tune" musical statement, the piece features themes from composers such as Beethoven, Mozart, Rossini, Handel, Holst, and Vivaldi. The themes are interwoven with each other to create a fun montage of music history. Challenge your students and your audience to name that tune when performing and listening to "Classicle".

Performance Notes: The mallet parts for "Classicle" are written to be playable on various combinations of instruments. The bell part can obviously be played on vibraphone if a warmer sound is desired. The xylophone and marimba parts can both be played on a single xylophone or a single marimba. If both are played on a marimba, the written registers will work perfectly. If played as notated (xylo and marimba), the distance between voices can be reduced by playing the marimba part an octave higher. If a low bass voice is desired, "as written" works very well.

It is suggested that the tambourine part be played with an instrument having a tuned head for a more orchestral sound. The woodblock on the snare part should be mounted and played with a stick. A synthetic block will work nicely. The timpani part can easily be played (with no tuning changes) on the two middle drums of a set of four (29" and 26").

Set-Up

Player Five

Player One

Timpani

Marimba, Tambourine

Player Four

Player Two

Bass Drum

Xylo, Triangle, Tenor Drum

Player Six

Player Three

Snare Drum, Wood Block

Bells, Concert Toms, Sus. Cymb.

Classicle

Based on themes by Beethoven, Mozart, Rossini, Handel, Holst and Vivaldi **J** = **116** - **126** With Class arr. Edward Freytag **Player 2** Xylophone Tri./TD L.V.Player 4 Bass Drum f fPlayer 5 Timpani Player 6 Snare Drum Wood Block mf Player 2 Xylophone Tri./TD Player 3 Bells / Toms Player 4 Bass Drum Player 5 Timpani Player 6 Snare Drum Wood Block

This arrangement © 2012 by Row-Loff Productions

$\underset{pg.\,2}{\underline{\textbf{Classicle}}}$





Mi Cha Cha Pa' Ti

Performance Notes: "Mi Cha Cha Pa' Ti" is a fun little tune in the style known as Cha Cha. I suggest that the xylophone (who carries the majority of the melody) be placed between the marimba and vibraphone. The marimba's role is that of the bass accompaniment. If you have a 4 1/2 octave marimba (low F), I recommend that the marimba play their notes one octave lower than written. The vibraphone places mostly a harmonic accompaniment. The timpani, congas and timbale players can be placed behind the keyboard percussion. If you are using a guiro player, you can place that player either next to the conga player or the timbale player. Make sure the timbale player is playing a "cha cha" cowbell. The use of this cowbell is important in order for the ensemble to stay in true form of a cha cha. Make sure that the high pitch conga is tuned nice and high (tight) so as to be able to produce a nice "slap" sound. Letter D and E can be played as written, or it can be used as an "open" solo section between the timbales and congas. The bar before Letter G must be forte by everyone in the section in order for it to be very effective. **HAVE FUN!**

Set-Up

Player One

Timbales, Cowbell

Player Six

Timpani

Player Two

Congas (Guiro)

Player Four

Marimba

Player Three

Xylophone

Player Five

Vibes

Mi Cha Cha Pa' Ti



$\underset{pg.\;2}{\underline{\textbf{Mi Cha Cha Pa' Ti}}}$



Witch Doctor

Performance Notes: "Witch Doctor" is a medium tempo lumbering tribal groove. The combination of snare drums with snares off, djembes and/or congas, a large concert bass drum, and rhythmical timpani figures give the ensemble a mysterious feel. If you have them, use three to six hand drums. It's not at all necessary for them to be of the same type, a combination of different kinds of hand drums will give the ensemble more interesting colors. You can even use drum set toms played with the hands.

Muting for the timpani is accomplished with small squares of felt atteched to the drum with a shoe string. Put the string through a small hole in the felt and tie it around a lug screw so when it's placed on the head of the drum it's 6" to 8" from the rim. The suspended cymbal should be placed to the right of the timpanist's music stand 12" to 15" above the heads of the timpani.

The snare drums are placed on opposite sides of the set-up so you create an antiphonal effect. This makes the ensemble a little more challenging for the two snare players, so they will have to listen closely to each other in order to make sure they're rhythmically accurate.

At Letter F the timpanist sets the tempo. The bass drum enters in the next measure so it's essential that he/she lock in with the timpanist. The timpanist solos through Letter G are a little challenging, but making sure your timpanist uses the notated sticking will make the figures relatively easy for a moderately experienced timpanist to master.

The accelarando in the final section is marked to accelerate to $\int_{-1}^{1} 144$, but can go faster if you'd like. Play this ensemble with lots of style and fire!

Set-Up

Player Six

Player Two

Bass Drum

Timpani, Suspended Cymbal

Player Five

Player Three

Hand Drum(s)

Shaker, Sleigh Bells, Tam Tam

Player One

Player Four

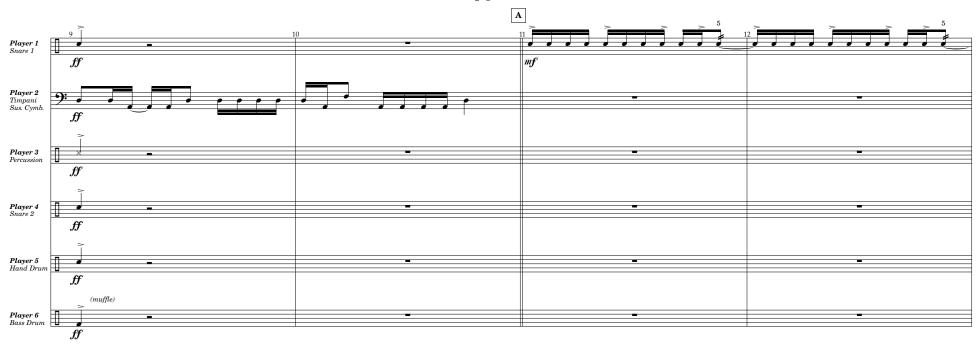
Snare Drum 1 (snares off)

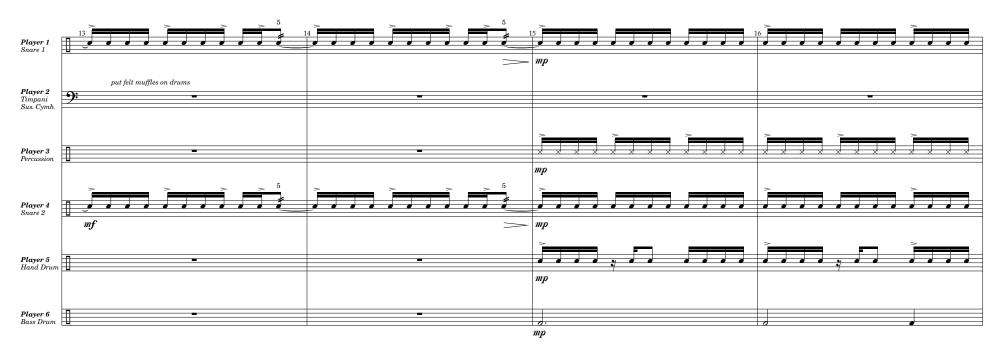
Snare Drum 2 (snares off)

Witch Doctor



$\underbrace{\textbf{Witch Doctor}}_{pg.\,2}$





Festivus

Performance Notes: "Festivus" was written to be performed in a concert or festival setting. This ensemble relies heavily on the part of Player 1 (Timpani) as well as Player 4 (Snare Drum). These parts sustain the essential ongoing groove throughout most of the piece. Work for tightness in the Quarter/Dotted Eighth/Sixteenth rhythms that start between the Timpani, Snare & Bass Drum at Letter A. Make sure the Bass Drum & Snare Drum solos can be heard in bars 25-32. Keep the pulse consistent transferring to the 12/8 meter at Letter D and then back to 4/4 at Letter E. Be sure to make bar 49 a dynamic stepping-stone down to the lighter feel and softer dynamic at Letter D while treating Letter E as a loud four bar fanfare followed by the almost inaudible eighth-note timpani line at Letter F.

Note all Crash Cymbal dampens (mutes) throughout the piece. This is essential and can be accomplished by simply pulling the plates in to the armpit area to stop the cymbal ring.

The Snare drummer (Player 4) should have the Mark Tree set-up at elbow level and to the right of the Snare Drum.

It is recommended that Player 6 sit down when playing the hi-hat in bars 24-40. Play all suspended cymbal rolls with soft to medium hard yarn mallets.

Set-Up

Player Four

Player Five

Snare Drum, Mark Tree Player One

Timpani

Bass Drum

Player Six Crash Cymbals, Hi-Hat,

Suspended Cymbal

Player Two

Player Three

Xylophone Bells

Audience

Festivus



Festivus

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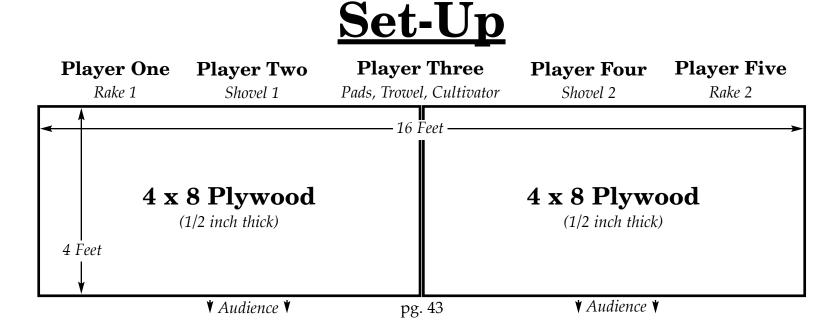


Lawn & Garden

Performance Notes: "Lawn & Garden" is a fun novelty piece set with landscaping workers being hurried by The BOSS Man to get their job for the day done. He needs to get home on time for dinner in order to avoid a grouchy wife. To perform the piece you'll need (2) wooden handle leaf rakes (preferably with metal tines), (2) wooden handle metal shovels (a garden hoe could be used for one of the shovels), a hand garden shovel (trowel), a hand garden cultivator (looks like a claw), (2) rectangular rubberized gardening knee pads, a two-speed electric blower w/extension cord (could be cordless, as long it's relatively loud), and (4) large plastic trash bags. For the stage set-up you'll need (2) 4' x 8' sheets of plywood (1/2 inch thick is adequate) laid together on the floor making an area that's 4' x 16' to avoid damaging the floor with the garden tools. Lower grade plywood with a rough grain is best for getting the most out of the scraping sound with the rakes. All the other garden tools should ring a bit when hit on the floor. Experiment to see if hitting the edge of the shovel, or flat area works best for maximum ring. The blower is used mostly for a goofy sound effect and some visuals.

You may want to start the piece by having all the tools brought onto the stage in a wheelbarrow by one of the players. While The BOSS Man is giving his opening spiel, the players/workers should be getting their respective implements and assemble in a line behind the plywood. Except for the shovel duet, the players never stand on the plywood. Once the piece begins, The BOSS Man should be continually wandering around the stage, checking the workers and giving an air of anxiety. The workers should ham it up and give The BOSS Man grumpy looks and comical body language that's in character with the piece.

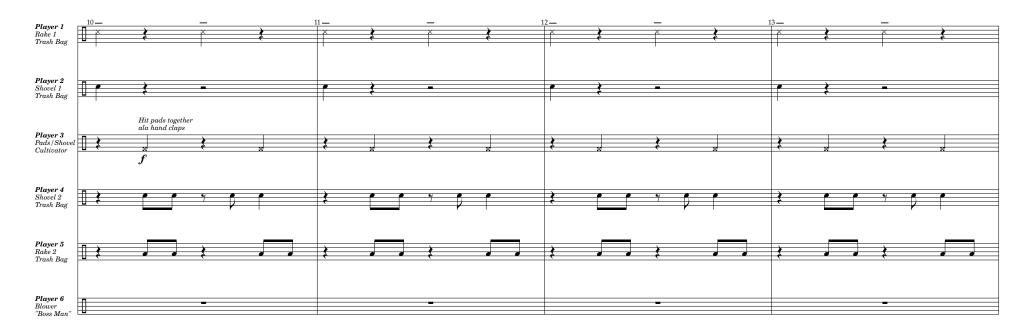
The trash bags should be hanging from the player's back pocket at the start of the piece. A trash bag is played by holding it with both hands at the opening on opposite sides, and basically popping the bag with a hard downward snap so it catches as much air as possible. Also, foot stomps will sound best if the players are all wearing heavy boots. Vocals should be performed with lots of enthusiasm. As they say, "SELL IT" to the audience.

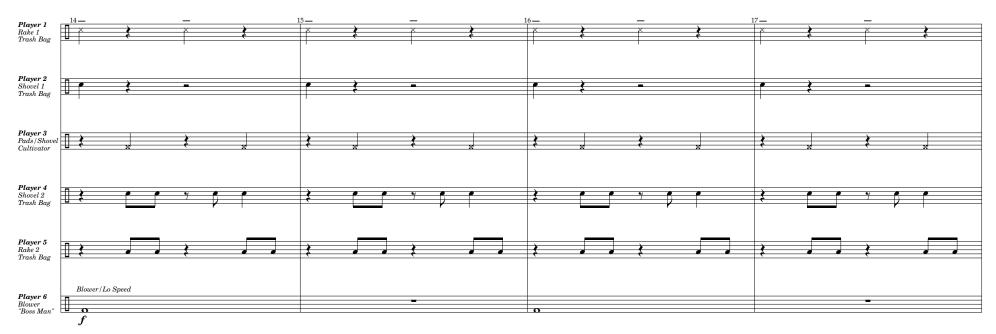


Lawn & Garden



$\underset{pg.\,2}{\underline{\textbf{Lawn}}}\,\, \underset{pg.\,2}{\underline{\textbf{\& Garden}}}$





<u>Ultraviolet</u>

Performance Notes: "Ultraviolet" consists mainly of 5-measure phrases (Beginning, Letters "A" and "C") with a few 4-measure phrases thrown in (Letter "B" and measure 50 to the end). The players should take care to feel the 5-bar phrases as this will be a new concept for most students.

Players should be careful of their dynamics, especially at the beginning where the piece slowly builds in volume up to measure 14. The snare and bass players should be concerned with balance and blend at all times.

The sticking for the mallets at Letter "B" gives the vibes and marimba players a chance to use the same sticking for each two-bar phrase. They can practice this sticking on a drum until it is comfortable, and then move it to the keyboards. The sticking has been doubled in the snare drum so that all three players can practice the same sticking together.

The timpani player is featured from measure 50 to the end. Write in stickings as necessary. Although the part is written at forte (and above), be as musical as possible; this isn't a time to destroy the timpani. Practice the drum-to-drum parts in measures 57, 60, 61, and 63 slowly until it flows.

Player 1 should use yarn mallets to play the cymbal (yarn for rolls, the shaft or to a stick for rhythmic patterns). Players 2 and 3 should use sticks to play their percussion parts (hi hat and floor tom). Player 4 can use the back of the timpani mallets to play the ride cymbal but a drum stick is preferred.

Player 5 should have the high tom placed to the right of the snare drum.

Set-Up

Player Five

Snare Drum, High Tom

Player Six

Bass Drum

Player Two

Vibes, Hi-Hat

Player Three

Marimba, Wind Chimes, Floor Tom

Player Four

Timpani, Ride Cymbal

Player One

Bells, Sus. Cymbal

Ultraviolet

by John R. Hearnes



$\underline{\textbf{Ultraviolet}}$

pg. 2



Snomz

Performance Notes: "Snomz" was written as a black-light ensemble in mind, but is not a necessity. If using black-lights, you'll need three to four to be most effective. Place each on a music stand laid flat, spaced evenly between the six players, turned in toward the players. The stands should be placed about three to four feet out in front of the section. If possible, hang black draping from the stands that will reach the floor so as to block anything below drum head level that may show in the black-light. Use black duct tape to hold lights and draping in place. Paint or use fluorescent tape on the sticks. If possible, the three Snare Drums should vary in pitch, (Snares 1-3 / High to Low). The Toms as well, High to Low.

Be sure and pay close attention to the stickings as this will be very prominent using black-lights and will be most effective (visually) if played together.

Note the "groove" established at Letter A between the three Tom players. Strive for a smooth volume balance here as well as all sections during any "call & answer" between Snares & Toms, (ex: bars 4, 26, 50 etc...).

In bars 12 & 26 the Snare players execute "air toms" during the Tom passages and pretend to be playing toms moving from their left to right out in front, face level.

Practice achieving an even volume during the pyramid section at bars 43-46.

Be sure all soloists can be heard at Letter D.

Have fun and innovate during all suggested (and un-suggested) "visual" sections. (Add other walk-by effects from non-players dressed in black!)

See the video tutorial on suggested visual ideas found on the Jamsicles page at www.rowloff.com

Set-Up

Player One Snare 1 Snare 2 Snare 3 Low Tom Player Five Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 1 Snare 2 Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom Medium Tom High Tom One Snare 3 Low Tom Medium Tom





"SNOMS" by Chris Crockarell © 2012 by Row-Loff Productions International Copyright Secured All Rights Reserved pg. 62 **Snomz**



Ave Maria

Performance Notes: "Ave Maria" is written in 4/4 and has a quarter note metronome marking, but it should have something of a cut-time feel to give it the right Latin flavor.

Play the accents (1 & 3) of the shaker rhythm higher in the air and the unaccented notes (2 & 4) lower. This helps the accents speak and gives the part a nice flow.

The sizzle cymbal should be played with a finger or a soft mallet. Using a stick or the clave will produce an attack that is too harsh.

On vibraphone, put the pedal down at the beginning of each phrase and let it up at the end of each phrase. It may help to get the repetitive rhythm by thinking, "(Rest) down up up up up -- down down".

On bells, use plastic mallets. Brass mallets would produce too bright a sound for this piece.

The Marimba 1 part may be played on a xylophone, but the parts are written so that Marimba 1 & 2 can share one 4 1/3 octave instrument.

Set-Up

Player One

Player Two

Shaker

Claves

Player Three Vibes

Player Five

Player Four

Marimba 1 (Xylo)

Bells

Player Six Marimba 2

Ave Maria

C. Gounod / J.S. Bach



Ave Maria

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