

Front Ensemble Exercises

L'Anse Creuse North Percussion

This exercise is designed to isolate and develop stroke technique and accuracy with both singles and double stops. Strive for smooth motions and a consistent sound. This exercise will be played in major and minor keys (melodic minor). We will also vary accent patterns and dynamics on this as well.

A

Lockjaw

David Mety

Mallets

Percussion

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8 9

R R etc

L L etc

R

R B B etc

L

L B B etc

B

R R etc

R B B etc

L L etc

L B B etc

B

Detailed description: This musical score is for a percussion exercise titled 'Lockjaw' by David Mety. It is written for Mallets and Percussion in 4/4 time. The exercise consists of 9 measures. Measures 1-4 are marked with '2', '3', and '4' above them. Measures 5-9 are marked with '5', '6', '7', '8', and '9' above them. The Mallets part features various rhythmic patterns, including single strokes and double stops. The Percussion part provides a steady accompaniment. The score includes specific malleting instructions such as 'R R etc', 'L L etc', 'R', 'R B B etc', 'L', 'L B B etc', and 'B'.

The first bar of this exercise is considered a check bar and should be used to check the consistency of sound between the hands. This is one of the main goals of the exercise! Position the mallet heads so they land in the center of the playing zone. As the tempo increases, move to the edge of the accidentals to decrease the path from note to note. Prepare this in all major and minor keys.

B

Green Scales - Major & Minor

Mallets

Perc.

1 2 3

4 5 6 7

r l r l

Detailed description: This musical score is for a percussion exercise titled 'Green Scales - Major & Minor'. It is written for Mallets and Percussion in 4/4 time. The exercise consists of 7 measures. Measures 1-3 are marked with '1', '2', and '3' above them. Measures 4-7 are marked with '4', '5', '6', and '7' above them. The Mallets part features a continuous scale pattern. The Percussion part provides a steady accompaniment. The score includes specific malleting instructions such as 'r l r l'.

2 This exercise was written in 1993 for Star of Indiana's front ensemble. It's a great exercise to work on duple vs triple meter along with the changing of intervals. That's not a huge challenge in the 2 mallet version, but the intent of this exercise is to also play it with 4 mallets as well. In preparation for that, practice it with the RH only and then vice versa. Once that is comfortable, play the exercise with both hands together an octave apart.

Summertime ('93 Star of Indiana)

1 **C** 2 3 4 5 6

Mallets Perc.

7 8 9 10 11 12

Mallets Perc.

13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Mallets Perc.

21 22 23 24 25

Mallets Perc.

This exercise is designed to work on block chords and accents with 4 mallets. Focus on playing the unaccented notes with a consistent sound. The accents should be "higher" strokes, not faster/harsher strokes. Make sure to play from the wrist, with relaxed elbows. Memorize this chord progression as well: I - vi - ii7 - V7 - I. We will plan on transposing the key signature once C major is comfortable.

D

Block Chord Accents

The musical score is titled "Block Chord Accents" and is set in the key of D major (indicated by the letter 'D' in a box) and 4/4 time. It consists of 12 measures, divided into three systems of four measures each. Each system includes a Mallets staff and a Percussion staff. The Mallets staff uses a treble clef and features block chords with accents (>) on the notes. The Percussion staff uses a bass clef and features a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The chord progression is as follows:

- Measures 1-3: Chord I (D major)
- Measures 4-5: Chord vi (B minor)
- Measures 6-7: Chord ii7 (E minor 7)
- Measure 8: Chord V7 (A7)
- Measures 9-10: Chord I (D major)
- Measure 11: Chord ii7 (E minor 7)
- Measure 12: Chord V7 (A7)
- Measure 12 (end): Chord I (D major)

This exercise is an excerpt from the Adam Hopper marimba solo titled "Ghost Garden". It is designed to work on a variety of roll types for marimba players and for the vibraphonists to work on pedaling. Prepare this using the following roll types: traditional (hand-to-hand) rolls, lateral/ripple rolls, and combination rolls (using a double stop in one hand and a lateral stroke in the other). Ensure all voices are heard evenly and be sure to check mallet placement on the bars throughout the exercise. This exercise will also be used to work on mallet permutations through the chord progression.

Roll/Pedaling Exercise: Excerpt from "Ghost Garden"

E

1 $\text{♩} = 72$ 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Mallets

Perc.

9 10 11 12 13 14

Mallets

Perc.

The score is written for marimba and percussion. It is in 4/4 time with a tempo of quarter note = 72. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The exercise is divided into two systems of staves. The first system contains measures 1 through 8, and the second system contains measures 9 through 14. The Mallets part is written in two staves (treble and bass clefs), and the Percussion part is written in a single staff. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *ff*. Pedaling markings (Ped.) are present in measures 3, 5, 7, 11, and 13. The exercise focuses on various roll types and mallet permutations.