

# BLACK WIDOW | *Bradley Baird*

## for Solo Snare Drum & Marimba Quartet

### INSTRUMENTATION

Snare Drum  
Marimba 1 [4.3-octave]  
Marimba 2 [4.3-octave]  
Marimba 3 [5.0-octave]  
Marimba 4 [5.0-octave]

### PROGRAM NOTES

*Black Widow* is a chamber percussion ensemble for Solo Snare Drum accompanied by Marimba Quartet.

The first deadly spider that comes to mind for many people is the black widow spider. Its daunting characteristics and portrayal in pop culture makes it widely known and recognized. While brainstorming titles for this work, I was (un)fortunate enough to have an encounter with one. Afterwards, I began comparing this experience with characteristics of the piece and found many parallels between the eerie nature of the spider and what was written for the ensemble. The first sound you hear from the snare drum soloist is the swirling of their hand in circles around the drum which calls to mind the spinning of a spider's web. Additionally, the swelling dynamics performed by the marimbas evoke the lurking of a spider in the environment. *Black Widow* is a challenging ensemble that will test both musical and technical capabilities of all performers.

*Black Widow* was premiered on March 31, 2021 at Texas Christian University by Bradley Baird, Jack Beckley, Lester Rushin, Josh Villanueva, and Alex Rodzewich.

### SNARE DRUM NOTATION KEY



### PERFORMANCE NOTES

#### Hand Swirl

Place fingertips/fingernails on the drumhead and swirl your hand across the head. Feel free to vary the hand speed as needed.

#### Rim Knocks

In measures 74-76, treat the rim knock rhythms as a rhythmic *accelerando* to beat 3 of measure 75.

#### Hand Tremolo

In measure 80, perform this figure as a hand tremolo. Alternate strokes between the thumb and your other fingertips. Use the same technique used at measure 79.

# BLACK WIDOW

for Solo Snare Drum & Marimba Quartet

Bradley Baird  
(ASCAP)

$\text{♩} = 80$   
hand swirl (L.H.)

Solo Snare

pp

Marimba 1 [4.3-octave]

p

Marimba 2 [4.3-octave]

Marimba 3 [5.0-octave]

Marimba 4 [5.0-octave]

4

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

pp

pp

8

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

pp

12 A

S.D. *pp* *pp* stick on rim (R.H.)

Mar. 1 *pp* *pp*

Mar. 2

Mar. 3 *pp* *pp*

Mar. 4 *pp* *pp*

16

S.D. *pp*

Mar. 1 *pp* *pp*

Mar. 2

Mar. 3 *pp* *pp*

Mar. 4 *pp* *pp*

20 B

S.D. *pp* *p* L.H. to stick

Mar. 1 *pp* *pp*

Mar. 2 *pp* *pp*

Mar. 3 *pp*

Mar. 4 *pp*

24

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

28

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

32

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

*n*

*p*

*mp*

36 C

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

40

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

44

S.D.

Mar. 1

Mar. 2

Mar. 3

Mar. 4

R L l r r L r r L r l r L R l R L r l R L r l R L l r l R L l r l R

