

INTO THE FRAY

for 4-13 Percussionists

Robert Clayson

INSTRUMENTATION

Glockenspiel*

Xylophone

Vibraphone*

Chimes

Marimba 1 [4-octave]

Marimba 2 [4-octave]

Timpani [2 drums]

Snare Drum*

Bass Drum

Triangle

Tambourine*

Suspended Cymbal

2 Concert Toms

*These instruments are required for performance. All others are optional.

PROGRAM NOTES

Into the Fray was completed in March 2021 and is my musical portrayal of someone getting prepared to face a significant challenge. The piece starts with a slow intense melody in the glockenspiel that makes its way throughout the entire ensemble. The piece is aggressive and is sure to get your students excited about playing percussion ensemble music!

Flex band pieces have always intrigued me as an educational tool for young band programs, but I have rarely seen it done in a percussion ensemble format. In January of 2021, I set out to write pieces for percussion ensemble that employed only a small core of necessary musicians that could also be augmented by a full percussion orchestra. The “core members” of this ensemble are: glockenspiel, vibraphone, snare drum, and tambourine. Anything in addition to this is completely optional. *Into the Fray* is a perfect choice for beginning percussion ensembles of all sizes, whether performing at a concert or an ensemble festival.

– Robert Clayson



This unique series was designed specifically for young percussionists as they experience the magic of playing in a percussion ensemble. Each piece provides the director and students with great flexibility – from the number of players to the tempo to the instrumentation. *Light a fire under your students today!*

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- There is no preferred order in which to add the optional parts. However, I would suggest adding more mallet parts before any more drums or accessory percussion instruments are added in.
- The vibraphone player should make use of the dampening pedal whenever they feel the notes are running together too much.
- The suspended cymbal should always be allowed to ring freely with no muting.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Robert Clayson currently serves as a Lecturer of Music for the Troy University John M. Long School of Music. His duties at Troy University include teaching private lessons, teaching music theory and aural skills classes, and providing instruction for the “Sound of the South” Marching Percussion Section. Mr. Clayson earned his Bachelor’s Degree in Music Education from Troy University in 2015 and his Master’s Degree in Percussion Performance from Indiana University in 2017.

As a performer, Mr. Clayson is an active member of several regional orchestras across the Southeastern United States, including the LaGrange Symphony Orchestra and the Northwest Florida Symphony Orchestra. In 2012, Mr. Clayson performed with the Troy University Percussion Ensemble at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention as a member of the winning ensemble in the International Percussion Ensemble Competition. Mr. Clayson is an award-winning percussionist whose solo performances have been recognized and across the nation. In 2013, he received first place in the Percussive Arts Society Marching Festival Individual Collegiate Keyboard Competition, and he received first place in the 2017 Indiana Day of Percussion Collegiate Solo Marimba Competition. In addition to these honors, he was selected as a semi-finalist in the Great Plains International Marimba Competition in both 2014 and 2017.

Mr. Clayson is a member of the Blackswamp Percussion Educator Network, an Innovative Percussion Artist, and a Remo Artist. His compositions are available through C-Alan Publications, Excelcia Music Publishing, Row-Loff Productions, Studio 4 Music, TapSPACE Publications, and Wildlight Publications.

Website: <https://www.robertclaysonpercussion.com/>

Conductor Score
Medium Easy
Duration - ca. 3:15

The IGNITE Series for the Developing Percussion Ensemble

INTO THE FRAY

for 4-13 Percussionists

Robert Clayson

♩ = 80

Glockenspiel *mp*

Xylophone [optional]

Vibraphone

Chimes [optional]

Marimba 1 [optional]

Marimba 2 [optional]

Timpani 2 drums [optional] A-E

Snare Drum Bass Drum [B.D. optional] *p*

Triangle [optional]

Tambourine

Suspended Cymbal [optional]

Concert Toms [optional]

Glk.

Xylo. [opt.] *p*

Vib. *p*

Chm. [opt.] *p*

Mar. 1 [opt.] *p*

Mar. 2 [opt.] *pp*

Timp. [opt.] *pp*

S.D. B.D. [B.D. opt.]

Tri. [opt.] *p*

Tamb. *p*

Cym. [opt.] *p* w/ mallets

Toms [opt.] *p*

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1.

Glk. *f*

Xylo. [opt.] *f*

Vib. *f*

Chm. [opt.] *f*

Mar. 1 [opt.] *f*

Mar. 2 [opt.] *f*

Timp. [opt.] *f*

S.D. B.D. [B.D. opt.] *f*

Tri. [opt.]

Tamb.

Cym. [opt.] *p*

Toms [opt.] *f*

The musical score is arranged in a grand staff format with ten staves. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Glk. (Glockenspiel):** Treble clef, melodic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- Xylo. (Xylophone):** Treble clef, melodic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- Vib. (Vibraphone):** Treble clef, melodic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- Chm. (Chimes):** Treble clef, sparse melodic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- Mar. 1 (Maracas 1):** Treble clef, rhythmic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- Mar. 2 (Maracas 2):** Treble clef, rhythmic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- Timp. (Timpani):** Bass clef, rhythmic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- S.D./B.D. (Snare/Big Drum):** Two staves, rhythmic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.
- Tri. (Triangle):** Two staves, rhythmic line with dynamics *f*.
- Tamb. (Tambourine):** Two staves, rhythmic line with dynamics *f*.
- Cym. (Cymbal):** Two staves, rhythmic line with dynamics *p* and *mf*.
- Toms (Toms):** Two staves, rhythmic line with dynamics *p* and *f*.

30

Musical score for percussion instruments. The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes Glk., Xylo. [opt.], Vib., Chm. [opt.], Mar. 1 [opt.], Mar. 2 [opt.], Timp. [opt.], S.D./B.D. [B.D. opt.], Tri. [opt.], Tamb., Cym. [opt.], and Toms [opt.]. The second system includes S.D./B.D. [B.D. opt.], Tri. [opt.], Tamb., Cym. [opt.], and Toms [opt.]. Each instrument part features a melodic line with a crescendo leading to a *mp* dynamic marking. The Toms part includes the instruction "w/ sticks".

This musical score is for a percussion ensemble. It consists of 12 staves, each representing a different instrument. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Glk. (Glockenspiel):** Treble clef, playing a melodic line of eighth and quarter notes.
- Xylo. [opt.] (Xylophone):** Treble clef, playing a melodic line similar to the Glockenspiel.
- Vib. (Vibraphone):** Treble clef, playing a melodic line similar to the Glockenspiel.
- Chm. [opt.] (Chimes):** Treble clef, playing a sparse melodic line.
- Mar. 1 [opt.] (Maracas 1):** Treble clef, playing a melodic line.
- Mar. 2 [opt.] (Maracas 2):** Treble clef, playing a melodic line.
- Timp. [opt.] (Timpani):** Bass clef, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth and quarter notes.
- S.D. B.D. [B.D. opt.] (Snare Drum / Bass Drum):** Two staves, one with a snare drum (S.D.) and one with a bass drum (B.D.).
- Tri. [opt.] (Triangle):** Treble clef, playing a rhythmic pattern.
- Tamb. (Tambourine):** Treble clef, playing a rhythmic pattern.
- Cym. [opt.] (Cymbal):** Treble clef, playing a rhythmic pattern.
- Toms [opt.] (Tom-toms):** Treble clef, playing a rhythmic pattern.

The score is written in 4/4 time and spans five measures. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Musical score for percussion instruments. The score is arranged in a grand staff with 12 staves. The instruments are: Glk. (Glockenspiel), Xylo. [opt.] (Xylophone), Vib. (Vibraphone), Chm. [opt.] (Chimes), Mar. 1 [opt.] (Maracas 1), Mar. 2 [opt.] (Maracas 2), Timp. [opt.] (Timpani), S.D. / B.D. [B.D. opt.] (Snare Drum / Bass Drum), Tri. [opt.] (Triangle), Tamb. (Tambourine), Cym. [opt.] (Cymbal), and Toms [opt.] (Toms). The score includes various rhythmic patterns, dynamics (p, mf, f), and articulation marks (accents, slurs). The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into six measures. The first measure shows the initial rhythmic patterns for most instruments. The second measure introduces the Vib. and Chm. parts. The third measure continues the patterns. The fourth measure introduces the S.D. and B.D. parts with a dynamic change from p to f. The fifth measure continues the patterns. The sixth measure concludes the section with a final dynamic change from p to f.

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Glk.

Xylo. [opt.]

Vib.

Chm. [opt.]

Mar. 1 [opt.]

Mar. 2 [opt.]

Timp. [opt.]

S.D. B.D. [B.D. opt.]

Tri. [opt.]

Tamb.

Cym. [opt.]

Toms [opt.]

p

mf

p

Glk. *ff*

Xylo. [opt.] *ff*

Vib. *ff*

Chm. [opt.] *ff*

Mar. 1 [opt.] *ff*

Mar. 2 [opt.] *ff*

Timp. [opt.] *ff*

S.D. B.D. [B.D. opt.] *ff*

Tri. [opt.] *ff*

Tamb. *ff*

Cym. [opt.] *mf*

Toms [opt.] *ff*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for percussion instruments. It contains ten staves, each for a different instrument. The instruments are: Glockenspiel (Glk.), Xylophone (Xylo.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Chimes (Chm.), Maracas (Mar. 1 and Mar. 2), Tom-toms (Toms), Snare Drum (S.D.), Bass Drum (B.D.), Triangles (Tri.), and Tambourine (Tamb.). The score is written in treble clef for most instruments and bass clef for the Tom-toms and Timpani. The tempo and meter are not explicitly stated but are implied by the notation. The dynamics are marked as *ff* (fortissimo) for most instruments and *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the Cymbal. The score includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are also some accidentals and articulation marks.

66

64

Glk.

Xylo.
[opt.]

Vib.

Chm.
[opt.]

Mar. 1
[opt.]

Mar. 2
[opt.]

Timp.
[opt.]

S.D.
B.D.
[B.D. opt.]

Tri.
[opt.]

Tamb.

Cym.
[opt.]

Toms
[opt.]

w/ sticks

ff

Glk.

Xylo. [opt.]

Vib.

Chm. [opt.]

Mar. 1 [opt.]

Mar. 2 [opt.]

Timp. [opt.]

S.D. B.D. [B.D. opt.]

Tri. [opt.]

Tamb.

Cym. [opt.]

Toms [opt.]

p *ff*

p *ff*

p *ff*

p *ff*

p *ff*

p *ff*

p *ff*

p *ff*

p *ff*

w/ mallets *mf*

p *ff*