

Brian Blume

Scenes from the Woods

for marimba quartet



Scenes from the Woods by Brian Blume
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Program Notes

Growing up in rural Indiana, I got to spend a great deal of time in the woods. This piece is a look back at some of the special times I spent in the woods near my parents' house: a fast-paced game of tag or hide-and-seek; the quiet moments of solitude and reflection; a mysterious, foggy evening; the sun's rays slicing through the canopy of trees; and making the most of a rainy day. *Scenes from the Woods* was premiered in 2011 by the Center Grove High School percussion ensemble (Josh Torres, director) at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Scenes from the Woods is dedicated to my parents, who helped give me a fun and memorable childhood and provided every opportunity I could ask for.

— Brian Blume (2011)

Performance Notes

The piece may be performed using two 4.3-octave marimbas and two 5-octave marimbas. If only one 5-octave marimba is available, players 2 and 4 may switch parts in mm. 38–52 in order to keep the lowest notes in the Marimba 4 part.

Each player uses one wood block as indicated below:

- Marimba 1 – high
- Marimba 2 – med. high
- Marimba 3 – med. low
- Marimba 4 – low

Players should place the wood block in front of the middle-upper range of the keyboard (or wherever works best), as some parts require playing the wood block and marimba with the same hand (players 1 & 4, mm. 72–75).

Mallet choices are indicated by the following markings and apply until another mallet choice is indicated:

- (hard) – hard mallets
- (med.) – medium mallets
- (soft) – soft mallets
- (w/ shafts) – play with the back end of the mallets

When using the shafts to play, the loudest sound is produced by striking the bar or the wood block with the shoulder of the stick on the edge of the bar or block. This may be useful within louder dynamics. Also, in order for the marimba w/ shaft to match the dynamic of the marimba dead strokes (rehearsal letter I), the shaft notes need to be struck harder than the dead strokes.

Feathered beams (I ) over long wood block notes mean to start a roll slowly and increase the roll speed until the beams begin to go the other way, at which point the roll speed slows back down. These beams are also found in the marimba parts at letter E and also mean to begin slowly, speed up, and slow back down.

Notation Key

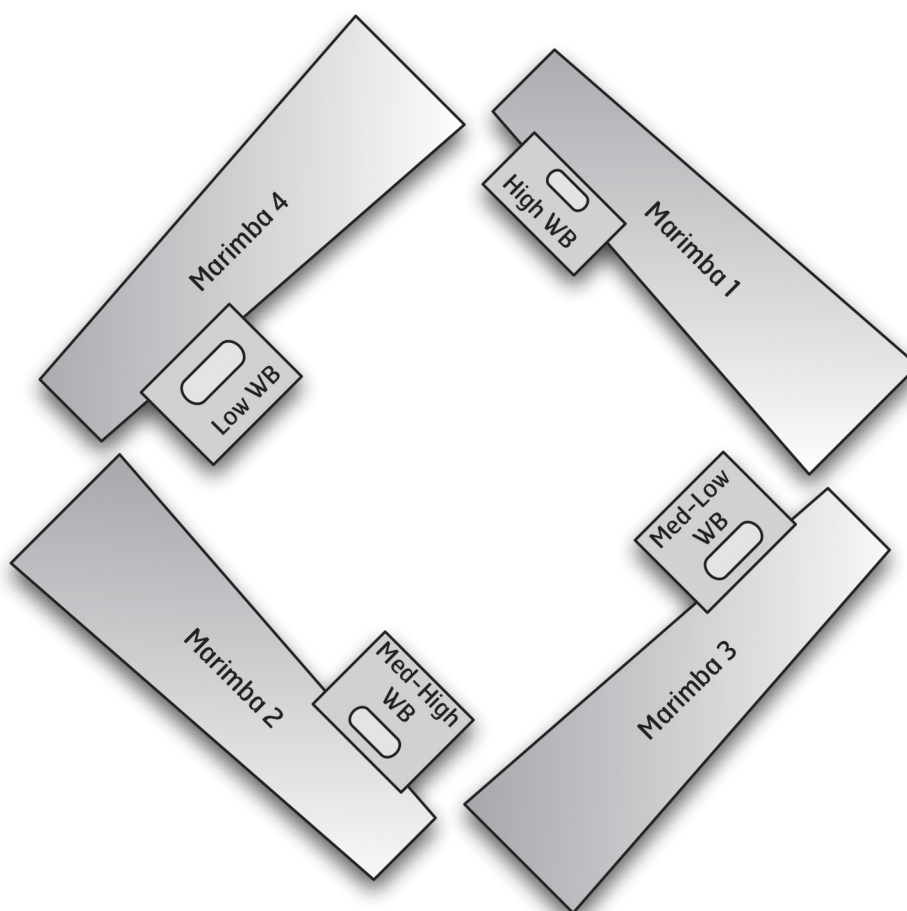
 or  = wood block with head of mallet (always on top line)

 or  = wood block w/ shaft (always on top line)

 = marimba w/ shaft

 or  = dead stroke (on marimba or on wood block)

Suggested Setup



Level: Advanced
Approx. playing time: 8'15"

Dedicated to my parents, Craig and Andra Blume.
Written for Center Grove H.S., for performance at PASIC 2011.

Scenes from the Woods

for marimba quartet

Brian Blume

With childlike energy ♩ = 172

A

Marimba 1
ξ high wood block

Marimba 2
ξ med. high wood block

Marimba 3
ξ med. low wood block

Marimba 4
ξ low wood block

(hard) wood block

(med.) wood block

f *ff* *f* *ff* *ff* *ff*

(w.b.)

5

f *fp* *f* *p*

(w.b.)

f *n*

p *mp*

f *p*

Sample
Image

17

w.b.

1 *f* *n*

2 *f* *n* *p* *f*

3 *p* *mf* *pp* *p*

4 *mf* *p* *f*

23

1 *mf* *f* *mp* *n* *f*

2 *f* *p* *f* *nf*

3 *mf* *f* *n*

31

w.b.

1 *p*

2 *n*

3 *f* *p*

4 *f*

Sample
Image

38

1 *mp* *mf* *n*

2 *mp*

3

4 *mf* *n* *mf*



44 *n* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mf*

n

n *mf*

Sample
Image

C

52

1 *f* (w.b.) *ff p* (accents *mf*)

2 *mp* *f* (w.b.) *ff p* (accents *mf*)

3 *f* *mp* *ff p* (accents *mf*)

4 *mf* *f* (w.b.) *ff*

f

57

1 *mf* *f* *p*

2 *mf*

3 *mf*

4 *p* (accents *mf*)

61

1 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

2 *p*

3 *p*

4

Sample
Image

65

1 *p* *f*

2 *f*

3 *p* *f*

4 *mf* *f*

70

70

1 *fp*

2 *fp*

3 *fp*

4 *fp*

D

G.P.

(soft) *tr*

p *mf* *p*

p *mp*

p

(soft) *tr*

p *n*

Sample
Image

82 (tr) ~~~~~

1 *mp* *n* *mp* *p*

2 (soft) *n* *pp*

3 *pp* *n*

4 (tr) *p* *n* *p* *mp* *p* *n*

94 rit.

1 *pp*

2 *p*

3 (not as fast as mm. 5-10) (soft) *pp* *mp* *pp* *n* *p* *n*

4 (tr) *p* *n* *p* *mp*

E Misty, molto rubato

107

1

2 (hard) *mf* interpretation as close to Marimba 3 as possible

3 (hard) *mf*

4

Sample
Image

108

1

2

3

4

mf *f* *n*

ad lib.

ad lib.

109

1

2

3

4

mf *pp*

8vb

8vb

tr

1

2

3

4

f *n*

n

n (*pp*)

(lower note)

Sample
Image

112 **Contemplative, lyrically** ($\text{♩} \approx 50$) **Più mosso** **rit.**

1 *mf* *pp* *(med.)* *(w.b.)* *p* *n* *p*

120 **rit.** **F** $\text{♩} = 60$ (in time)

1 *p* *mp* *pp* *(med.)* *(w.b.)* *n* *p* *mf* *f* *n*

124 **rit.** **A tempo**

1 *n* *p* *mp* *p* *f* *mp* *mp* *p* *n*

Sample
Image

(8)

126

1 *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

2 *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

3 *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

4

(8)

128

1 *p* *mf* *pp* *f* (release before downbeat)

2 *mp* *p* (w.b.) *f* *pp* (6)

3 *mp* *p* (w.b.) (release before downbeat) *pp* *f* (6)

4 (w.b.) *f* *pp* (6)

er (♩ = 66)

mf *p* *mf*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

mf *p*

Sample
Image

132 (8)

1 *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *pp* (w.b.)

2 *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f*

3 5 *mf* *p*

4 6 *mf* *p* *f* 6

134 8^{va}

1 *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

2 *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* (w.b.)

3 5 *mf* *p*

4 6 *p* 6 6 6

136 (8)

1 *p* *mf* *p*

2 *f* *p* *mf*

3 5

4 6 *mf* *p* *mf* 6

Sample
Image

138 (8)

1 2 3 4

f p mf p mf

f mf mp mf f p mf

f p f 5

mf mp mf 6

140 (8)

1 2 3 4

p mf mp

mf p

p f p 5

f mp 6

8va

ff mf mp

mp ff

mp 5

mp 6

Sample
Image

143 (8) H

Measures 143-144 of the musical score. The score is in 5/4 time and features four staves. Measure 143 contains a complex rhythmic pattern with various dynamics: *f*, *mf*, *ff*, *mf*, *mp*, *f*, and *mf*. Measure 144 continues the pattern with dynamics *mp*, *ff*, *mf*, and triplets of sixteenth notes. Fingerings 5, 6, and 3 are indicated for various notes.

145

Measures 145-146 of the musical score. Measure 145 features dynamics *f* and *p*, with triplets of eighth notes. Measure 146 continues with dynamics *mp*, *mf*, and *p*, including fingerings 6, 5, and 3. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks.

147

Measures 147-148 of the musical score. Measure 147 features a *pp* dynamic and a fermata. Measure 148 continues with dynamics *n* and *p*, including fingerings 5 and 5. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks.

The TSPCE-61
Shoofly Sound
of soul

Sample
Image

Droplike, freely

c. 15"

151

1 mar. (w/ shaft) dead stroke (hard)

2 mar. (w/ shaft) dead stroke (hard)

3 w.b. (w/ shaft) *p* dead stroke (hard) w.b. dead stroke (hard)

4 *pp* w.b. (w/ shaft) *p*

Timing within the bar approximate. Should sound random. May vary types of sounds within given parameters.

Timing within the bar approximate. Should sound random. May vary types of sounds within given parameters.

♩ = 72 (in time)

accel.

phrasing simile

155

1 *mp* *mf*

2 *mp*

3 mar. (w/ shaft) (M2 8th notes begin)

4 mar. (w/ shaft) w.b. dead stroke (hard)

Sample
Image

Rowdy and playful (♩ = 132)

(play B₂ w/ shaft)

164

1 *mp* *n*

2 *p* *mp* *mf* *mp*

3 *n* *mf* w.b. (w/ shaft)

4 *f* *p* *p* *n* (low F only fade out)

170 (articulate release of roll)

1 *f* *mf* *f* *fr* (w.b.)

2 (hard) *mf* *p* *mf*

3 *pp*

4

Sample
Image

174

1 (articulate release of roll) *f* *mf* *f* *fp*

2 (articulate release of roll) *f* *mf* *f* *fp*

3 *mf* (w.b.) *mf*

4 *mf* (w.b.) *mp*

178

K

mf *f* *mf* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

(w.b.) (w.b.) (w.b.) (w.b.)

f *p* *f* *p* *f*

(w.b. w/ hard)

mf *p* *f*

f *p* *f*

(w.b.) *p* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

Sample
Image

183

1 *mf* *f* *mp*

2 *mp* *mf* *f*

3 (w.b.) *p* *f* *mf* *mp* (w.b.)

4 *mp* *mf* *mf*

(hard) (w/ shaft)

187

1 *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

2 *mp* (w.b.) *mp* *f* *mf*

3 *f* *mp* *mf* *f*

4 (reg.) *f* *mp* *f* (w.b.)

2 + 3

192

1 *f* *mf*

2 *f* *mf*

3 *f*

4 *f*

L

Sample
Image

197

1 *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

2 *mf* *f* *mf*

3 *mp*

4 (w.b.) *mp*

202

1 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

2 *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

3 *mp*

4 *mp*

f *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

mf *f* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Sample
Image

210

1 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *p*

2 *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *p*

3 *f* *mf* *f* *p*

4

213

1 *f*

2 *f*

3

4

M

Sample
Image

217

to 4 mallets

ff *mf* *ff*

ff *mf* *ff*

ff *mf* *ff*

mf *ff*

220

Slightly slower

poco rit.

fp *ff*

fp *ff* *mf* *n*

fp *ff*

mf *n*

Sample
Image

