

Dustin Schulze

# Raspberry Tango

for marimba quartet



**Raspberry Tango** by Dustin Schulze  
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# Program Notes

This piece was inspired by a trip to Manhattan in the spring of 2011. When I returned to Texas, I had a few melodies dancing around in my brain that I had to get out. I started writing a quartet that I wanted to be playful and have a nice motion to it. After settling on the two main melodies, I tried to create some unique counterpoint and harmony to make it more colorful. The phrase “Raspberry Tango” jumped into my head while writing it and wouldn’t leave, therefore leaving me with no choice but to make that the title of the piece.

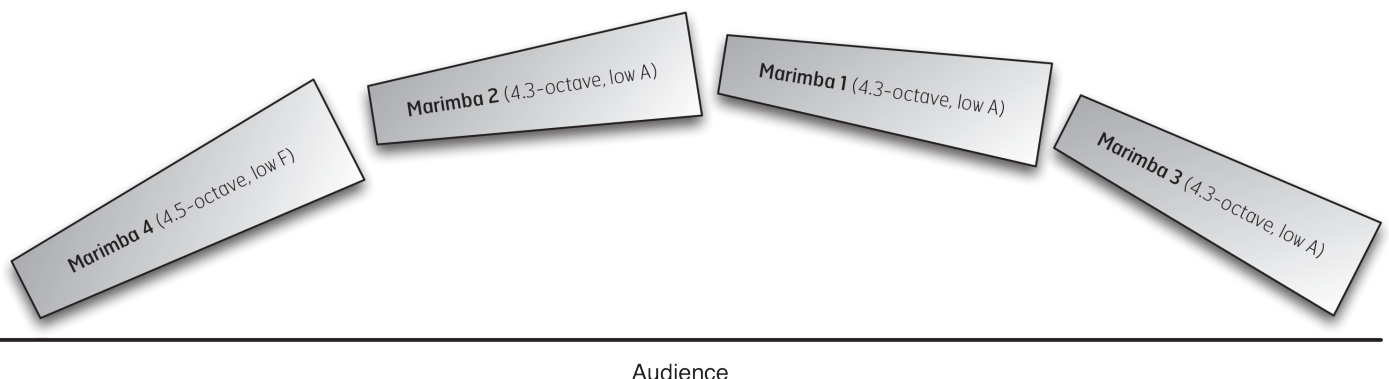
## Performance Notes

Performers should set up in a way to be able to visually communicate with each other. I recommend a smooth symmetrical arch shape. One of the difficult aspects of this piece is coming in together after two beats of rest, which happens frequently. During these moments of space, players should be in sync visually in order to play the attacks together. It is also important to balance each part accordingly so that the melody is always present and not overshadowed by the counterparts. All staccato markings should be played with a “dead stroke” into the bars in order to create a shorter sound. Also, I recommend playing the “shaft spank” (Marimba 2, 1 bar before letter K) in the middle register of the keyboard over the accidentals. It should not have a definite pitch, rather the sound of a colorful woodblock.

## Instrumentation and Suggested Setup

*Raspberry Tango* requires **4 marimbas** as follows:

- **Marimba 1:** 4.3-octave (low A)
- **Marimba 2:** 4.3-octave (low A)
- **Marimba 3:** 4.3-octave (low A)
- **Marimba 4:** 4.5-octave (low F)



Level: Medium  
Approx. playing time: 2'30"

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♩ = 156

Marimba 1

Marimba 2

Marimba 3

Marimba 4

M1

M2

M3

M4

2nd x only

*p*

*mf*

M2

M3

Sample  
Image

19

M1

M2

M3

M4

*f*

*pp*

*f*

*pp*

*f*

*pp*

*f*

*pp*

*f*

**B**

M1

M2

M3

M4

*mp*

*f*

*mp*

31

M1

M2

M3

M4

Sample  
Image



Musical score for four staves (M1, M2, M3, M4) in treble and bass clef, key of D major. The score is marked *p* (piano). A dashed line with a circled 8 and a 1 indicates a specific measure.

Musical score for four staves (M1, M2, M3, M4) in treble and bass clef, key of D major. The score is marked *f* (forte), *p* (piano), *ff* (fortissimo), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). A box labeled **C** is present above the first staff.

Musical score for four staves (M1, M2, M3, M4) in treble and bass clef, key of D major. The score is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score includes triplets and a crescendo.

Sample  
Image

54 D

M1

M2

M3

M4

Shaft Spank

*f*

61 E

M1

M2

M3

M4

*p*

*p*

*p*

*n*

67

M1

M2

M3

M4

*mf*

*p*

Sample  
Image

M1

M2

M3

M4

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*mp*

*pp*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

Sample  
Image

