

Bradley Slayter
Breakdown
for percussion quartet



Breakdown by Bradley Slayter
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Program Notes

Breakdown is a percussion ensemble written for four percussionists. The main theme throughout the piece is aggression. It starts off strong and ends even stronger. The purpose of the writing is to combine the timbre of the metal and drum sounds while keeping a groove constant. *Breakdown* was written in the fall of 2009 and was originally performed by the Southwest High School in Fort Worth, Texas.

Performance Notes

Mallet/Stick preferences:

Concert toms: Heavy “rock” style sticks (similar to Vic Firth’s “Metal” drumsticks)

Drum Set: Drum set style sticks

Percussion 1: Articulate bass mallets for the concert bass drum. Any type of drumstick for the cymbals

Percussion 2: Drum set style sticks

Style notes:

All dynamics should be exaggerated. All crescendos should stay quiet longer and grow dramatically towards the end.

Letters C and I are meant to be big backbeat “jam” sections. They should have a halftime groove while being loud and powerful.

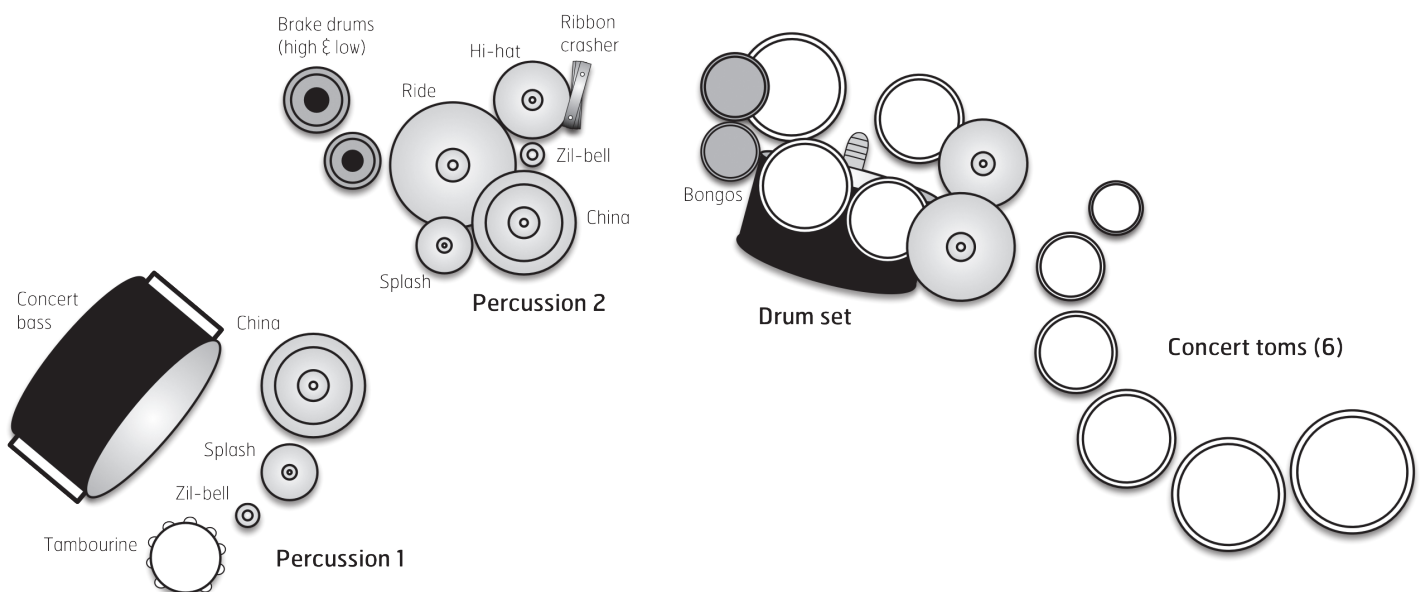
At letter H, while the concert bass drum is marked ***pp***, it should still be at a reasonably audible level.

Players and Instrumentation

Breakdown requires **4 players** with the following instrumentation:

6 concert toms, 1 drum set (kick, snare, 2 rack toms, 1 floor tom, hi-hat, crash cymbal), **1 set of bongos**, **2 brake drums** (high & low), **1 concert bass drum**, **hi-hat**, **ride cymbal**, **2 china cymbals**, **2 splash cymbals**, **2 Zil-bells**, **1 tambourine**, **1 ribbon crasher**

Suggested Setup



Level: Medium
Approx. playing time: 4'00"

Breakdown

for percussion quartet

Bradley Slayter

$\text{♩} = 180$

Concert Toms

Drum Set/
Bongos

Percussion 1

Percussion 2

ff

ff

all sounds ring unless otherwise noted

China

Spl.

(choke)

Ride bell

Hi-hat

Zil-bell

ff

8

A

CT

DS

P1

P2

f

mf

B.D.

China

p

Brake drum (high)

ff

p

ff

B

DS

P1

P2

ff

ff

Brake drum (low)

Sample
Image

19

CT

DS

P1

P2

mf

f

Tambourine

25

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff

mf

f

31

CT

DS

P1

P2

fff

ff

f

C

Sample
Image

36

CT

DS

P1

P2

mp

pp

pp

pp

42

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff

mf

ff

ff

Spl.

ff

D

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff

pp

pp

pp

Sample
Image

53

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff

59

CT

DS

P1

P2

mp

E

65

CT

DS

P1

P2

p *mf*

mf

mf

mf

71

CT

DS

P1

P2

f

76

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff

F

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff *p < f*

mf *ff* *mf* *ff*

ff *mf* *ff*

f *ff*

(choke)

Sample
Image

Sample Image

104

CT

DS

P1

P2

p

mp

p

113

CT

DS

P1

P2

Bongos (w/ sticks)

mp

DS

P1

P2

Sample
Image

126

CT

mp

Drum Set

DS

mf

P1

mf

P2

mp *f*

132

CT

DS

P1

P2

138

CT

DS

P1

P2

f

Sample
Image

144

CT

DS

P1

P2

mf

151

CT

DS

P1

P2

I

fff

DS

P1

P2

Sample
Image

163

J

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff

ff

ff

ff

170

K

CT

DS

P1

P2

ff

173

CT

DS

P1

P2

Sample
Image