

Sarah Santa Cruz
Sky Music
for low brass and percussion ensemble



Sky Music by Sarah Santa Cruz
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Program Notes

Sky Music is written for seven percussionists accompanied by a low brass octet. There are a few technically challenging passages for the brass players, but overall the ensemble is carried by the percussionists. The low brass sounds provide a warm background and occasional melodic lines that give the ensemble depth.

Sky Music is meant to be a musical representation of a flight with an unknown destination and the many colorful images one would experience along the way. One listener may envision scenes of skies with beautiful coloration and cloud patterns, while another experiences the nostalgia of a euphoric time in life. The interpretation is dependent on the listener and is meant to be different for each person. *Sky Music* was commissioned by the Cedar Ridge High School Low Brass Ensemble for their performance at Midwest Clinic 2013 and the Cedar Ridge Percussion Ensemble for their performance at TMEA 2014.

Performance Notes

- The number of players on each brass part is flexible.
- Marimba 1 and Marimba 4 players can share a 5-octave marimba.
- Marimba 3 notes in parentheses can be played up one octave if needed, which would allow the use of a 4.3-octave marimba.
- The types of cymbals used at letter K by the Vibraphone 1 player can be decided by the director. Two or more cymbals should be used.

Players and Instrumentation

Sky Music requires **15 players** with the following instrumentation:

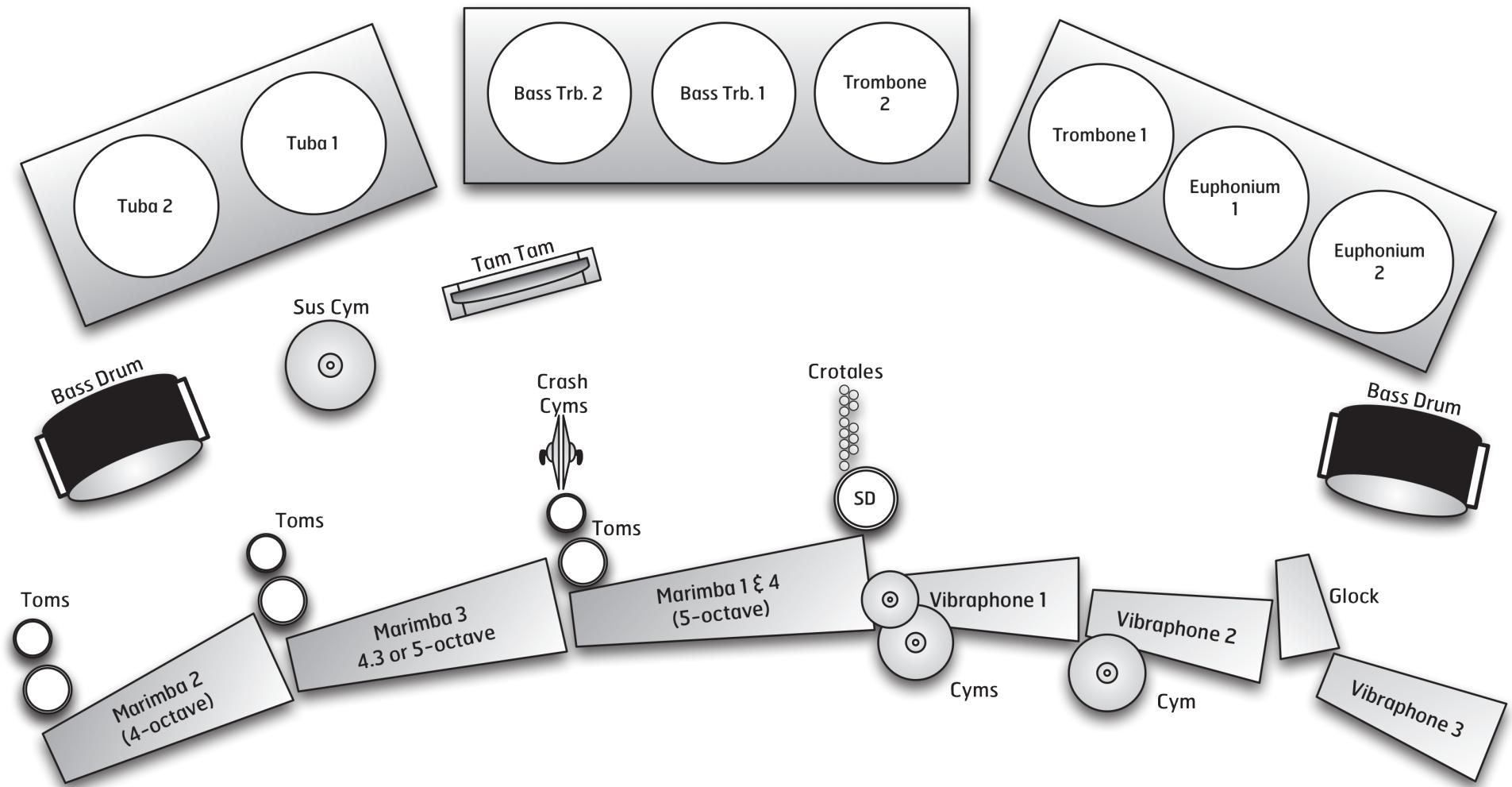
LOW BRASS:

- **Trombone 1**
- **Trombone 2**
- **Bass Trombone 1**
- **Bass Trombone 2** (+ tam tam, suspended cymbal)
- **Euphonium 1**
- **Euphonium 2**
- **Tuba 1**
- **Tuba 2** (+ bass drum)

PERCUSSION:

- **Marimba 1 (4-oct. or share with M4)** (+2 small toms, crash cymbals)
- **Marimba 2 (4-oct.)** (+2 medium toms, suspended cymbal)
- **Marimba 3 (5-oct., adaptable for 4.3)** (+2 large toms, sus. cymbal)
- **Marimba 4 (5-oct.)** (+crotales, snare drum)
- **Vibraphone 1** (+2 cymbals, high and low)
- **Vibraphone 2** (+suspended cymbal)
- **Vibraphone 3** (glockenspiel, bass drum)

Suggested Setup



Level: Advanced
Approx. playing time: 5'40"

Commissioned by the Cedar Ridge High School Low Brass Ensemble from Round Rock, Texas
for their performance at the 2013 Midwest Clinic.

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$\text{♩} = 110$

Musical score for low brass and percussion ensemble, section A. The score includes parts for Trombone 1, Trombone 2, Bass Trombone 1, Bass Trombone 2, Euphonium 1, Euphonium 2, Tuba 1, Tuba 2, Marimba 1, Marimba 2, Marimba 3, Marimba 4, Vibraphone 1, Vibraphone 2, and Vibraphone 3. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system starts with rests for all instruments, followed by a dynamic instruction **A**. The second system begins with a dynamic $\text{♩} = 110$, followed by a dynamic instruction **A**.

Detailed view of the vibraphone parts in section A. Vibraphone 1 and Vibraphone 2 play eighth-note patterns with grace notes and slurs. Vibraphone 3 remains silent. Dynamics include mp and p . Vibraphone 2 has a dynamic **glock** (glockenspiel) instruction. The score ends with a dynamic p .

Sample
Image

B

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Eup. 1

Eup. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

B

Sample Image

C

26

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
Euph. 1
Euph. 2
Tba. 1
Tba. 2

D

C

M1
M2
M3
M4

VI
V2
V3

D

Sample Image

38

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2 *f*

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

E

E

Sample Image

Sky Music – Santa Cruz

F ♩ = 120

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

M1

M2

M3

M4

V1

V2

V3

Sample Image

Sample Image

Sky Music – Santa Cruz

67

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

M1

M2

M3

M4

V1

V2

V3

Sample Image

Sample Image

Sky Music – Santa Cruz

82

rit. H = 102

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
Euph. 1
Euph. 2
Tba. 1
Tba. 2

sus. cym. *tam tam*

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

ff *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

ff *p* *pp* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

mf *ff* *p* *p* *mf* *f* *p* *mf* *tuba*

M1
M2
M3
M4

toms *f* *toms* *f*

sus. cym. *f*

pp *f* *pp* *f* *p*

V1
V2
V3

ff *ff* *ff* *ff*

mf *ff*

ff

Sample Image

acc.

93

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

I $\text{♩} = 120$

ff f^3 f p

ff f p

ff mp f p

f p

ff f^3 f p

ff f^3 f p

ff mp f p

ff mp f p

acc.

marimba

marimba

marimba

ff

crotales

f

mp

vibrphone

Sample Image

99

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

M1

M2

M3

M4

V1

V2

V3

Sample
Image

104

J

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

J

Sample Image

12

TSPCE-76

II

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
Euph. 1
Euph. 2
Tba. 1
Tba. 2

M1
M2
M3
M4
VI
V2
V3

K

Sample Image

II7

L

Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn. 1
B. Tbn. 2
Euph. 1
Euph. 2
Tba. 1
Tba. 2

L

marimba

marimba
marimba
marimba
marimba
marimba
marimba
bass drum

Sample Image

125

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

M1

M2

M3

M4

V1

V2

V3

vibrphone

vibrphone

vibrphone

Sample Image

M

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Eup. 1

Eup. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

130

p

p

p

p

p

p

p

Sample Image

8

mp

8

mp

8

8

8

8

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

M1

M2

M3

M4

V1

V2

V3

N

N

Sample Image

146

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Eup. 1

Eup. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

O

O

Sample Image

8

154

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn. 1

B. Tbn. 2

Euph. 1

Euph. 2

Tba. 1

Tba. 2

M1

M2

M3

M4

V1

V2

V3

Sample Image

Sample Image