

Brian Blume

Psalm 104

solo for multiple percussion



Psalm 104. by Brian Blume
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Notes

Psalm 104 for Multiple Percussion is a challenging work written in the fall of 2007. The idea was to use a multi-percussion setup of drums and cymbals to depict some of the characteristics of God. Psalm 104 reflects on several traits of God, such as His greatness and majesty, His care and perfect precision in His creation, and His provision and ability to satisfy man's heart.

Bless the LORD, O my soul!
O LORD my God, You are very great;
You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak,
Stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.
He lays the beams of His upper chambers in the waters;
He makes the clouds His chariot;
He walks upon the wings of the wind;
He makes the winds His messengers,
Flaming fire His ministers. (1-4)

The mountains rose; the valleys sank down
To the place which You established for them.
You set a boundary that they may not pass over,
So that they will not return to cover the earth.
He sends forth springs in the valleys;
They flow between the mountains;
They give drink to every beast of the field;
The wild donkeys quench their thirst.
The earth is satisfied with the fruit of his works.
You give to them, they gather it up;
You open Your hand, they are satisfied with good. (8-11, 13, 28)

A contrasting section of the piece (letter I and J) is based on the following passage:

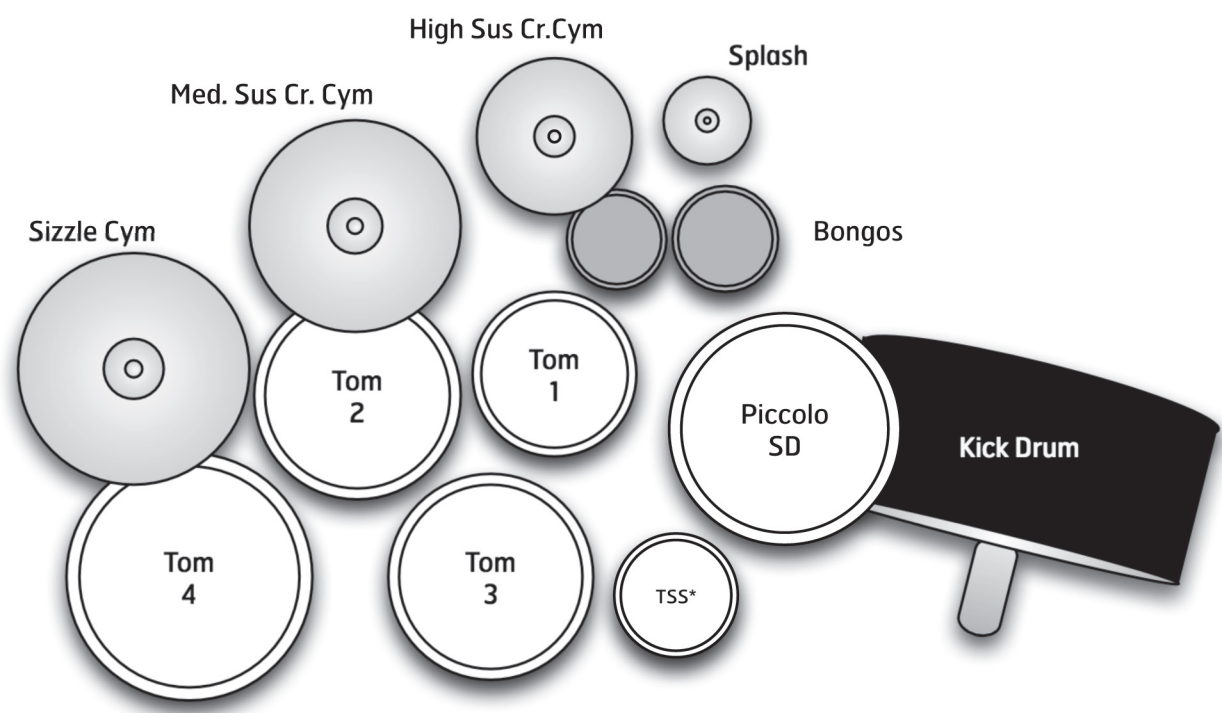
You appoint darkness and it becomes night,
In which all the beasts of the forest prowl about.
The young lions roar after their prey
And seek their food from God.
When the sun rises they withdraw
And lie down in their dens.
Man goes forth to his work
And to his labor until evening. (20-23)

And to finish the piece (letter K):

Let the glory of the LORD endure forever;
Let the LORD be glad in His works;
I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have my being
Bless the LORD, O my soul
Praise the LORD! (31, 33, 35)

All Scripture passages are taken from the New American Standard Bible translation.

Suggested Setup



** Total Sound System (6") by Remo - Could be substituted by firecracker snare drum or similar*

Notation Key



STICKS REQUIRED:
-Double-sided "swizzle" sticks
-Retractable wire brushes

WT = wood tip	^ = rim shot	˘ = slight accent	ˆ = peak of crescendo
FT = felt tip			

Psalm 104

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With Energy **Slowly, Reverently**

1 WT *ff* *p* *mf* *p*

5 *più f* *p* *WT* *WT* *FT* *accel.* *cresc.* *WT & FT*

9 *(♩ = ♪)*

15 *(♩ = 180)* **fast!**

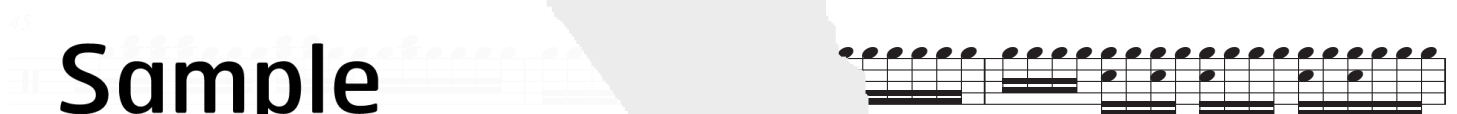
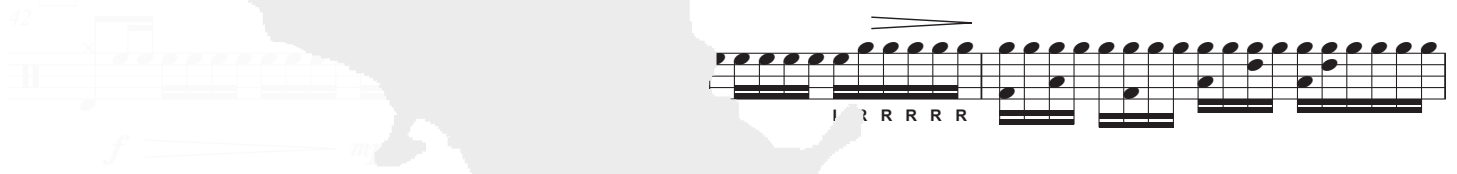
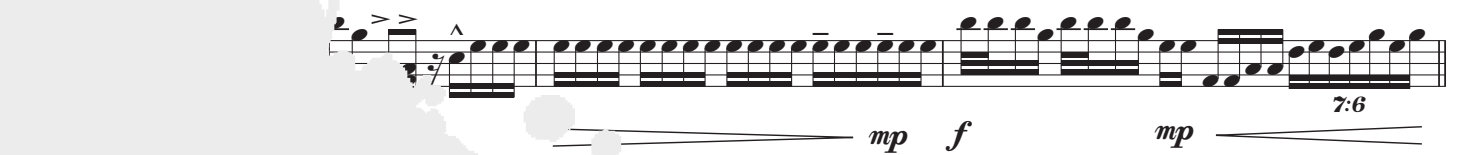
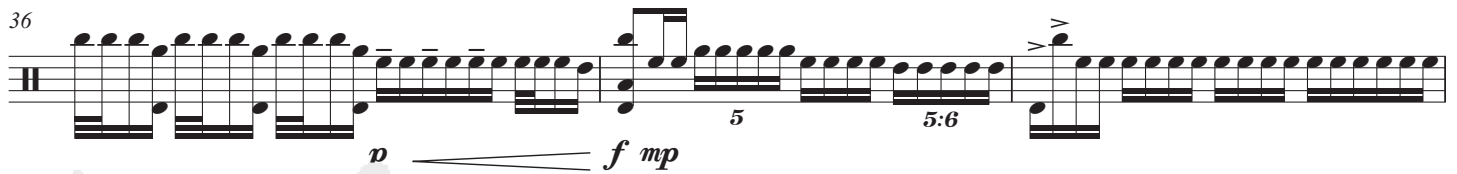
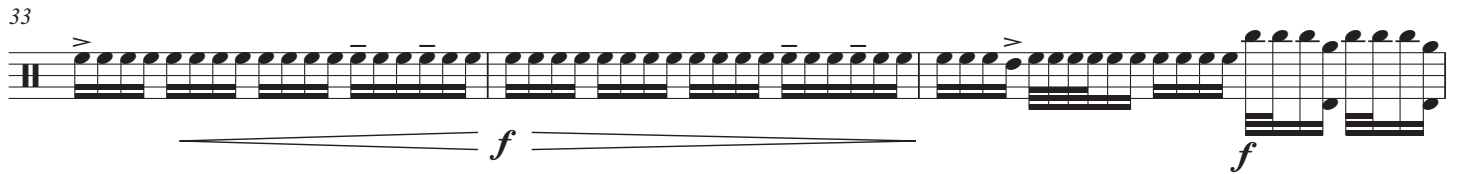
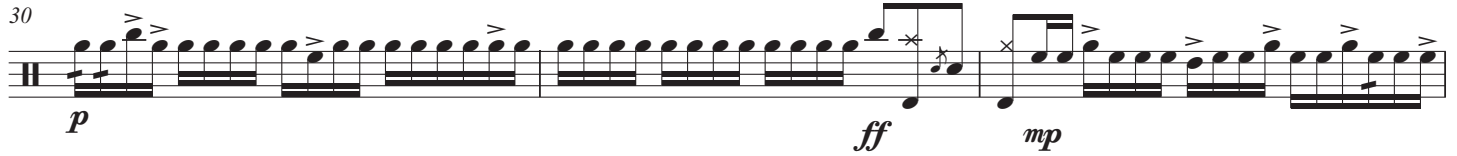
21 **A**

24

27 *mf*

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It begins in 5/4 time and changes to 7/4 at measure 5, then to 3/4 at measure 9. The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and dynamic markings. Performance instructions like 'With Energy', 'Slowly, Reverently', 'fast!', and 'accel.' are placed above the staff. A large, faint watermark of a hand playing a piano is visible in the background.

Sample
Image



Sample
Image

50 **C** *f* *mp*

53 5 6 10:8 R R L L R L

56 on bell R R

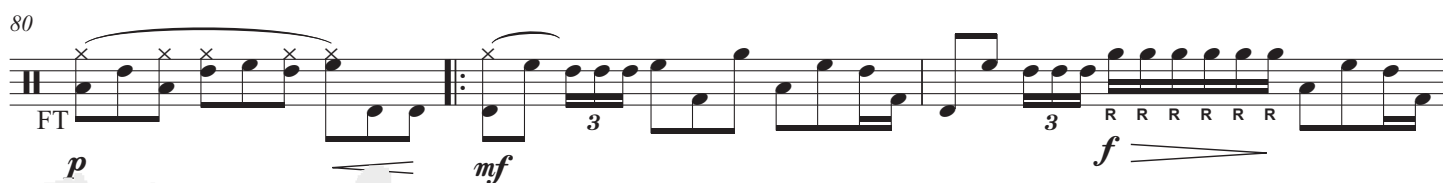
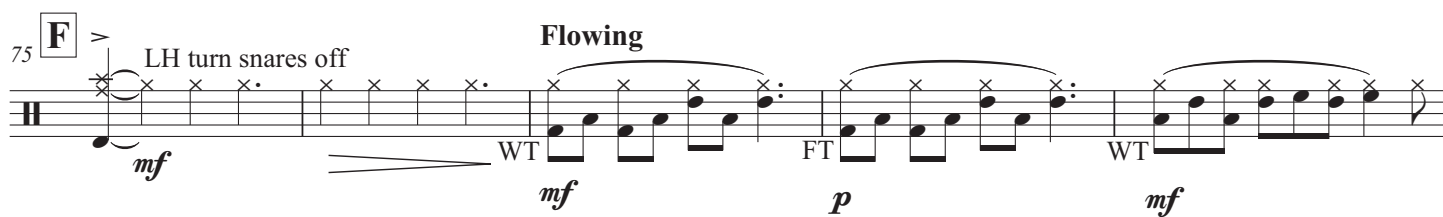
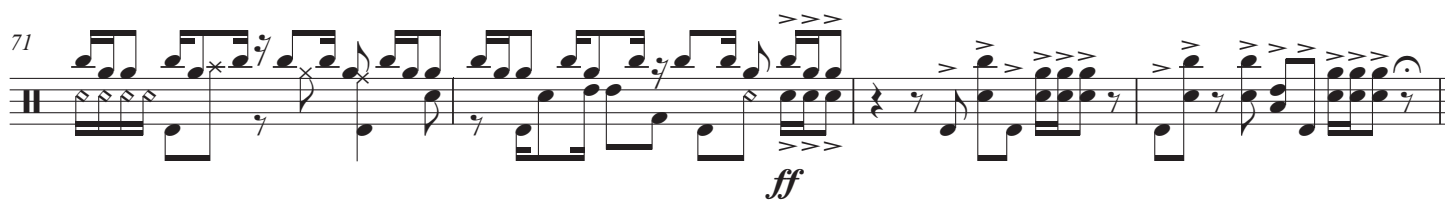
58 **F** *f* *f*

61 *p*

64 *pp* *cresc.*

68 **E** *m* *f*

Sample
Image



Sample
Image

98 *mf*

102 *ppp* edge
RH turn snares on*

107 **H** *pp* *mp* SD simile (keep playing 8th notes)

112 *mf* SD and kick
p

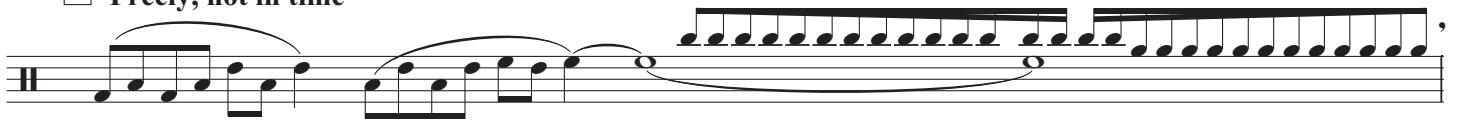
116 *f*

121 *p* Slig

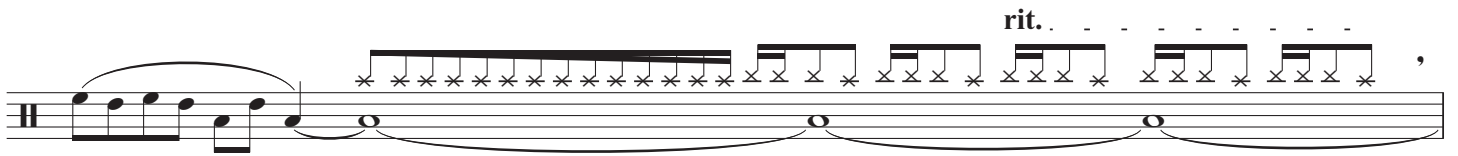
123 (echo) *pp* 6 6

* Extra LH notes may be added during diminuendo

I Freely, not in time



swish with brushes - overlap slurred notes

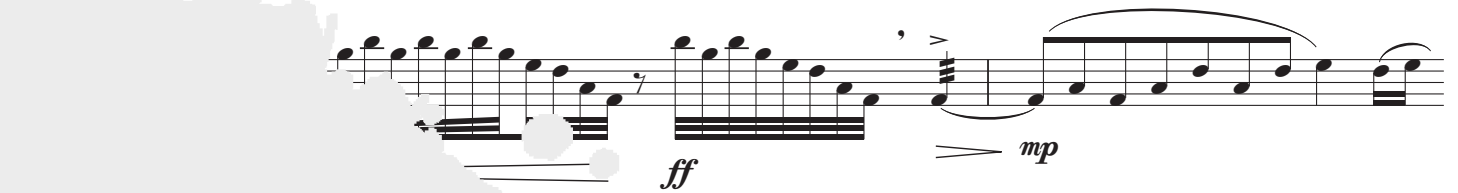


rit.



ff

mp



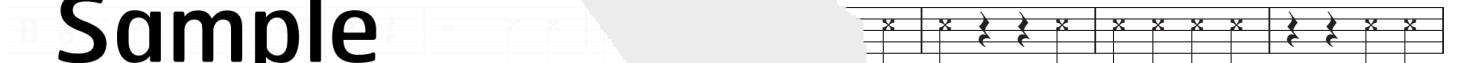
3

J ♩ = 170

141

Sample Image

LH brush out, to WT



149



ff (accents only)

156

161

rit.

165

$\text{♩} = 170$

pp *mp*

171

p *f*

K

177

182

f

185

f

Sample Image

189

molto cresc.

191

ff

fff

Sample
Image



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