

CHRISTOPHER BRADFORD
MARIMBA QUARTET NO. 2
for eight hands on two marimbas



Marimba Quartet No. 2 by Christopher Bradford
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TSPCE17-007

PROGRAM NOTES

Marimba Quartet No. 2 premiered in June 2016 by the Portland Percussion Group. The piece primarily consists of fast, rhythmic ideas, complex time changes, and interesting harmonic motion that will complement many different programming possibilities.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Marimba Quartet No. 2 begins with fast rhythmic ideas on the tone center of C. The harmonic motion is quite long for a minute or so, but begins to move more and more throughout the first section of the piece. The middle section consists of a minimalistic layering of ideas that expands into more complex time meter changes and harmonic stability. The ending brings back familiar themes and rhythmic structures in a new way and introduces new concepts and ideas in a very energized ending.

OPTIONAL CUTS

Two optional cuts have been provided (courtesy of Portland Percussion Group), and these have been marked within the score and parts, should a shorter version be necessary. The two edit points are as follows:

Optional cut 1:

Bars 96–151

Optional cut 2:

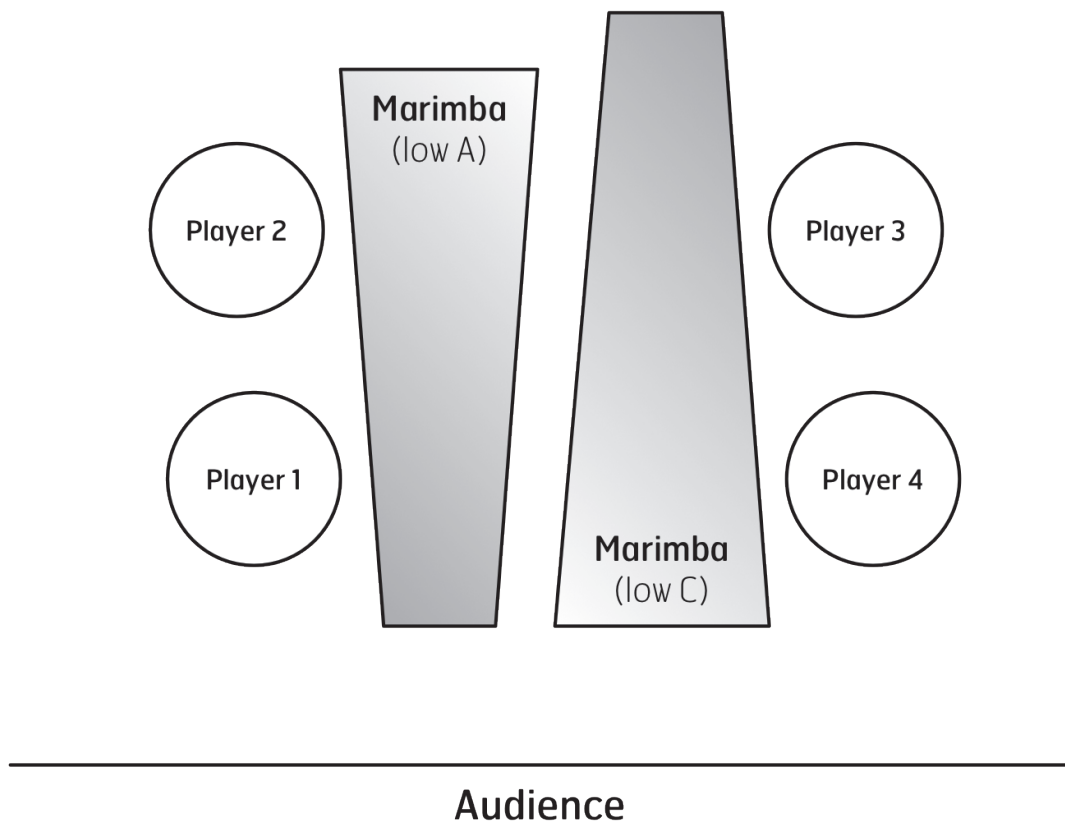
Bars 215–270

PLAYERS AND INSTRUMENTATION

Marimba Quartet No. 2 requires **four players** with the following instrumentation:

- 1 shared 4.3-octave marimba (low A)
- 1 shared 5-octave marimba (low C)

SUGGESTED SETUP



Level: Advanced
Duration: 8'00" (full)
5'40" (w/ opt. cuts)

MARIMBA QUARTET NO. 2

CHRISTOPHER BRADFORD

♩. = 95

Player 1

Player 2

Player 3

Player 4

mp

pp

4

7

1

2

3

4

mf

8

mf

12

1

2

3

4

mf cresc.

cresc.

c.

mf cresc.

Sample
Image

18

1 *mp sub.*

2 *mp sub.*

3 *mp sub.*

4

23

1

2

3

4 *mf*

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

Sample
Image

33

37

A

42

Sample
Image

47

1 2 3 4

52

1 2 3 4

Sample
Image

B

60

1 *f*

2 *f*

3 *f*

4 *f*

65

1 *mf*

2 *mf*

3 *mf*

4 *mf*

70

1

2

3

4

Sample
Image

C

74

1 *f*

2 *f*

3 *f*

4 *f*

tr *tr* *tr* *tr*

(b)

78

1

2

3

4

Sample
Image

86

1

2

3

4

91

*optional cut 1

1

2

3

4

pp

mp

pp

pp

mp

f

97

D

1

2

3

4

mf

mf

mf

Sample
Image

103

1 2 3 4

p *p* *cresc.* *cresc.*

110

1 2 3 4

cresc.

Sample
Image

120

1 2 3 4

125

1 2 3 4

mf

mf

mf

mf

130

1 2 3 4

Sample
Image

135

1 *f*

2 *f*

3 *f*

4 *f*

140

1

2

3

4

cresc.

Sample
Image

**end of optional cut 1*

151

1

2

3

4

ff

ff

ff

E

157

1

2

3

4

p

pp sub.

pp

165

1

2

3

4

pp

pp

pp

The musical score is for a Marimba Quartet. It consists of four staves, numbered 1 to 4. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into three systems. The first system starts at measure 151 and ends at measure 156. It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The dynamic marking *ff* (fortissimo) is used in measures 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, and 156. A section marker **E** is placed above measure 157. The second system starts at measure 157 and ends at measure 164. It continues the rhythmic patterns, with a *p* (piano) dynamic marking in measure 158 and *pp sub.* (pianissimo subito) in measure 160. The third system starts at measure 165 and ends at measure 168. It features a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking in measures 165, 166, and 167. A large, faint watermark of a hand is visible in the background of the score.

Sample
Image

172

1 2 3 4

pp

179

1 2 3 4

pp

8va

Sample
Image

190 (8)

1 *ppp*

2 *ppp*

3 *ppp*

4 *ppp*

196 (8)

1 *cresc.*

2 *cresc.*

3 *cresc.*

4 *cresc.*

203 (8)

1 *pp*

2 *pp*

3 *pp*

4 *pp*

Sample
Image

*optional cut 2

209 (8)

1 *cresc.*

2 *cresc.*

3 *cresc.*

4 *cresc.*

215 (8)

1 *p*

2 *p*

3 *p*

4 *p*

F

Sample
Image

229 (8)

1

2

3

4

235 (8)

mf *pp*

mf *pp*

mf *pp*

mf *pp*

240 (8)

1

2

3

4

Sample
Image

G

246 (8)

1 *p*

2 *p*

3 *p*

4 *p*

254 (8)

1 *cresc.*

2 *cresc.*

3 *cresc.*

4 *cresc.*

1

2

3

4

Sample
Image

*end of optional cut 2

266 (8)

1 2 3 4

H

271 (8)

1 2 3 4

mf *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.*

276 (8)

1 2 3 4

Sample
Image

281 (8)

1 2 3 4

285 (8)

1 2 3 4

1 2 3 4

Sample
Image

294 (8)

1 *ff*

2 *ff*

3 *ff*

4 *ff*

299 (8)

1 *p* *f*

2 *p* *f*

3 *p* *f*

4 *p*

304 (8)

1

2

3

4

Sample
Image

310 (8)

1

2

3

4

315 (8)

1

2

3

4

1

2

3

4

Sample
Image

J

326 (8)

1 *mf* *cresc.*

2

3 *ff* *mf* *cresc.*

4 *ff* *mf* *cresc.*

332 (8)

1 4

2 *f* *cresc.*

3

4

337 (8)

1

2 *ff*

3

4

Sample
Image

342 (8)

4

1 2 3 4

348 (8)

8

1 2 3 4

42

loco

mf *cresc.*

mf sub. *cresc.*

mf sub. *cresc.*

mf sub. *cresc.*

Sample
Image

356

1 *ff*

2 *ff*

3 *ff*

4 *ff*

361 (8)

1 *ff*

2 *ff*

3 *ff*

4 *ff*

366 (8)

1 *ff*

2 *ff*

3 *ff*

4 *ff*

Sample
Image

369

The musical score consists of four staves, numbered 1 to 4. Staves 1, 2, and 3 are in treble clef, and staff 4 is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 6/8. The score shows measures 369 and 370. In measure 369, all four staves have continuous eighth-note patterns. In measure 370, the first three staves have a dynamic marking of *fff* followed by a wedge-shaped crescendo leading to *fff*. Staff 4 has a rest in measure 370, with a *fff* marking below the staff. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 370.

Sample
Image

