

# BUCKETS OF FUN

FOR PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE



PREMIERED ON APRIL 26, 2013 AT THE REGINA AUDITORIUM ON THE CAMPUS OF  
NOTRE DAME COLLEGE IN SOUTH EUCLID, OHIO

## BUCKETS OF FUN - PROGRAM NOTES

BUCKETS OF FUN IS A VERY SHORT, ELEMENTARY LEVEL PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE PIECE FOR DEVELOPING PERCUSSIONISTS. THE PIECE UTILIZES BUCKETS AS THE MAIN INSTRUMENT AND IS DESIGNED TO TEACH BASIC RHYTHMIC CONCEPTS, ENSEMBLE AWARENESS, AS WELL AS ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO EXPLORE IMPROVISATION AT A VERY BASIC LEVEL. THE PIECE IS SHORT AND DESIGNED TO BE EASILY PROGRAMMABLE ON AN ELEMENTARY OR JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT.

## BUCKETS OF FUN - PERFORMANCE NOTES

- THE PIECE CAN BE PERFORMED BY ANY NUMBER OF PERCUSSIONISTS. THE ENSEMBLE SHOULD BE DIVIDED AS EVENLY AS POSSIBLE INTO BUCKET A AND BUCKET B PARTS. THE BUCKET A GROUP SHOULD BE ON STAGE LEFT AND GROUP B SHOULD BE ON STAGE RIGHT.
- THE BUCKET A PART SHOULD BE PERFORMED BY THE MORE ADVANCED PLAYERS IN THE ENSEMBLE AS IT UTILIZES A FAIR AMOUNT OF COMFORTABLENESS WITH IMPROVISATION AND SOME RUDIMENTS
- THE TYPE OF BUCKET USED SHOULD BE A 5 GALLON ALL-PURPOSE WORK BUCKET. THESE CAN BE PURCHASED AT ANY HOME IMPROVEMENT STORE.
- PERFORMERS WILL NEED STICKS TO STRIKE BUCKETS WITH. HOWEVER, GROUP B WILL NOT NEED THE STICKS UNTIL HALFWAY THROUGH THE PIECE.
- THE GROUP B PART CONTAINS A "BUCKET TOSS". IN THIS TOSS THE PERSON ON THE RIGHT END SHOULD TOSS THEIR BUCKET TO THE PERSON ON THE LEFT END. ALL PLAYERS IN THE MIDDLE (AND INCLUDING THE "CATCHER") SHOULD SLIDE THEIR BUCKETS ONE PERSON TO THE RIGHT DURING THE TOSS SO THAT AFTER THE CATCH, EVERYONE HAS A BUCKET AGAIN.
- THE FINAL EFFECT IN THE PIECE INCLUDES A "SPLIT DOWN THE LINE". THIS IS PERFORMED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER: STARTING FROM THE GROUP A PERFORMER ON THE VERY LEFT, EACH PERSON PLAYS TWO 8<sup>TH</sup> NOTES DOWN THE LINE UNTIL THE FINAL PERSON (GROUP B ON THE VERY RIGHT) PLAYS THE FINAL TWO 8<sup>TH</sup> NOTES. THIS PHRASE CAN BE EXTENDED DEPENDING ON HOW MANY PLAYERS ARE PERFORMING THE PIECE.
- THE PIECE SHOULD LAST APPROXIMATELY 2 MINUTES IN DURATION (DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF SOLOS TAKEN)

# Notation Guide

## GROUP A

Stick Clicks  
 Rim of Bucket (w/stick) R  
 Top of Bucket (w/stick) T  
 Side of Bucket (w/stick) S  
 Play on Floor (w/stick) FL  
 Bucket to your right  
 Bucket to your left

A musical staff with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The staff contains seven notes: a quarter note with an 'x' above it (Stick Clicks), a quarter note with an 'R' above it (Rim of Bucket), a quarter note with a 'T' above it (Top of Bucket), a quarter note with an 'S' above it (Side of Bucket), a quarter note with an 'FL' above it (Play on Floor), a half note (Bucket to your right), and a half note (Bucket to your left).

## GROUP B

Lift Bucket straight up and slam into ground G  
 Same as "G" but with top end of bucket Ov  
 \*Partner with person and smack buckets together  
 Partner with person on opposite side and smack buckets together  
 Hit rim on ground RG  
 Top of Bucket (w/stick)  
 Play on Floor (w/stick)  
 Shell  
 Bucket to your right  
 Bucket to your left

A musical staff with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The staff contains ten notes: a quarter note with a 'G' above it (Lift Bucket), a quarter note with an 'Ov' above it (Same as "G" but with top end of bucket), a quarter note with an 'x' above it (\*Partner with person and smack buckets together), a quarter note with an 'x' above it (Partner with person on opposite side and smack buckets together), a quarter note with an 'RG' above it (Hit rim on ground), a quarter note (Top of Bucket), a quarter note (Play on Floor), a quarter note with an 'x' above it (Shell), a half note (Bucket to your right), and a half note (Bucket to your left).



**D**

one person      two people  $\frac{2}{2}$       three people  $\frac{2}{2}$

A  $\frac{2}{2}$  T T T T T T T T T T T T R L R L L R L L L R R l r L r l R l r L r l R l R l

B pick up sticks

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All  $\frac{2}{2}$  FL FL S S T T FL FL S S T T R R R R

A  $\frac{2}{2}$

B R R L R L L L B B B B B B B B B B

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**E** FL FL T FL FL FL FL T FL FL  $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$  T T T T T T T T T T

A  $\frac{2}{2}$  R L R L R L R L B B

B  $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$  R l r L r l R l r l R l R l r l R L R L R L R L B B

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Play on bucket to right    Play on bucket to left    \*See Performance notes

$\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$  split down the line! →

A  $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$  B B B B *fff*

B  $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$   $\frac{2}{2}$  split down the line! → B B B B *fff*

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