

# Ripples in the Sand

## Inspirations of a Japanese Zen Garden (Karesansui)

David Marlatt

A *karesansui* is a Japanese rock garden which is an enclosed shallow sandbox containing sand, gravel, rocks, and occasionally grass or other natural elements. The main elements of *karesansui* are rocks and sand, with the sea symbolized not by water but by sand raked in patterns that suggest rippling water. The most famous Zen garden is at the Ryoan-ji Temple in Kyoto, Japan.

This short work is peaceful and reflective and accessible to young musicians. The major pentatonic scale is used as the basis for this composition which creates an interesting texture and evokes the sound of an ancient Japanese folk song. The use of cup mutes and flugel horn further explore the colours available in a brass ensemble. The percussion parts would add to the overall sound but are not necessary.

PREVIEW ONLY

David Marlatt has composed pieces for concert band, string orchestra, brass quintet, trumpet ensemble, piano, tuba and trumpet. His writing style is diverse and he has written for a wide range of difficulty levels from very young concert band to professional brass quintet. His jazz based trumpet ensemble pieces Groovy Vamp and A Coconut Named Alex have been well received by audiences everywhere and his concert band compositions are found on many festival lists. He has also arranged over 800 pieces of repertoire from the Baroque to the Romantic eras such as Monteverdi madrigals, a large suite of music from Handel's Messiah, Largo from New World Symphony and even Mahler's First Symphony.

Mr. Marlatt is a trumpet player who obtained a music education degree from the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He was Principal Cornet in the Whitby Brass Band for 6 years and founder of the trumpet ensemble Trumpets in Style. As a performer, he has played in jazz bands, brass quintets, orchestras, concert bands, brass bands and period instrument ensembles.

*Please contact the composer if you require any further information about this piece  
or his availability for commissioning new works and appearances.*

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DIFFICULTY RATING: Easy-Medium  
Brass Choir

# RIPPLES IN THE SAND

*Inspirations of a Japanese Zen Garden (Karesansui)*

Flowingly ♩ = 60

2

3

4

5

David Marlatt

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- B♭ Trumpet 1
- B♭ Trumpet 2
- B♭ Trumpet 3
- B♭ Flugel horn
- F Horn 1
- F Horn 2
- Trombone 1
- Trombone 2
- Trombone 3
- Baritone
- Tuba
- Vibraphone
- Bells
- Timpani (A♭ - E♭)
- Claves
- Wood Block
- Suspended Cymbal
- Bass Drum

The score includes a large, semi-transparent watermark reading "PREVIEW ONLY" across the middle section. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked "Flowingly" with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The score is divided into five measures, with measure numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5 indicated above the staff. Dynamics such as *p* (piano) are used throughout.

7

8

9

10

11

12

cup mute

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

B.D.

*p*

PREVIEW ONLY

Musical score for 'Ripples in the Sand' page 2, measures 7-12. The score includes parts for Tpt 1, Tpt 2, Tpt 3, Flugelhorn, Horn 1, Horn 2, Trbn 1, Trbn 2, Trbn 3, Bari, Tuba, Vibes/Bells, Timp, and Claves (W.B., S.C., B.D.).

13

14

15

16

17

18

Tpt 1 *mp* *mp*

Tpt 2 *mp* lead (open)

Tpt 3 *mp* cup mute

Flug *mp*

Hn 1 *mp*

Hn 2 *mp*

Trbn 1 *mp* *p*

Trbn 2 *mp* *p* cup mute

Trbn 3 *mp* cup mute

Bari *mp*

Tuba *mp*

Vibes Bells *p*

Timp

Claves W.B. S.C. B.D. *mp* *pp* *p* *p* Susp. Cym. Claves

**PREVIEW ONLY**

19

20

21

22

23

24

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Tpt 3

Flug

Hn 1

Hn 2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2

Trbn 3

Bari

Tuba

Vibes

Bells

Timp

Claves  
W.B.  
S.C.  
B.D.

Bells

Susp. Cym.

PREVIEW ONLY

25

26

27

28

29

30

Tpt 1

Tpt 2

Tpt 3

Flug

Hn 1

Hn 2

Trbn 1

Trbn 2

Trbn 3

Bari

Tuba

Vibes  
Bells

Timp

Claves  
W.B.  
S.C.  
B.D.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

W.B.

PREVIEW ONLY

31

32

33

34

35

36

Score for 31-36 measures, featuring:

- Tpt 1, Tpt 2, Tpt 3 (Trumpets)
- Flug (Flugelhorn)
- Hn 1, Hn 2 (Horns)
- Trbn 1, Trbn 2, Trbn 3 (Tubas)
- Bari (Baritone)
- Tuba
- Vibes Bells
- Timp (Timpani)
- Claves (W.B., S.C., B.D.)

Performance instructions include dynamics (*mp*, *mf*), mutes (cup mute, open), and percussion techniques (Susp. Cym., B.D.).

**PREVIEW ONLY**

37

38

39

*molto rit.*

Slowly

Musical score for 'Ripples in the Sand' page 7, measures 37-42. The score includes parts for Tpt 1, Tpt 2, Tpt 3, Flugel, Hn 1, Hn 2, Trbn 1, Trbn 2, Trbn 3, Bari, Tuba, Vibes and Bells, Timp, and Claves (W.B., S.C., B.D.).

Measures 37-39: *mp*

Measure 40: *molto rit.* *p*

Measure 41: Slowly *p*

Measure 42: *p*

Trbn 1: cup mute

Vibes and Bells

Claves: W.B., S.C., B.D.