

Desk Drumming

Volume 2

Bill Thomas

Desk Drumming is perfect material for teaching musical elements in any environment: a standard music room, a regular classroom, or even on the floor. These duets can be successfully performed by just 2 players, several people on each part or an entire class split up in half.

The piece comprises of three drumming duets that range in difficulty. Each duet is composed using mainly unison patterns and call and response sections to give performers the opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of musical concepts. Some key elements to have performers focus on would include dynamic control, balance, rhythmic figures and articulations. It is important to spend enough time teaching students the proper basic techniques of playing rhythms successfully, keeping a steady tempo as a duet or group, and listening to each other as they play before working on some of these more difficult concepts.

PREVIEW ONLY

Bill Thomas taught music for twenty-three years at the elementary and high school levels in the York Region District School Board spending most of that time as the head of the music department at Markham District High School. He is a former Drum Corps International adjudicator and he has been an arranger for over forty marching bands and drum & bugle corps in Canada and the United States. Bill is currently an Assistant Professor of Music and the conductor of the Wind Symphony at York University in Toronto.

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

bill.thomas@enpmusic.com

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DIFFICULTY RATING: Easy-Medium
Percussion Ensemble

DESK DRUMMING

Volume 2

Bill Thomas

1

Allegro ♩ = 120

2

3

4

Part 1

Part 2

1

2

1

2

mf *mp*

1

2

1

2

stick click

mf

stick click

1 21 22 23 24

2

p

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 24. Measure 21 shows a single note in the first staff and rests in the second. Measures 22-24 feature complex rhythmic patterns with accents (>) and dynamic markings. Measure 24 includes a piano (*p*) dynamic marking with a hairpin.

1 25 26 27 28

2

f

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25 through 28. Measure 25 has a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. Measures 26-28 continue with rhythmic patterns and accents (>).

1 29 30 31 32

2

mf

mf

PREVIEW ONLY

Detailed description: This system contains measures 29 through 32. Measure 29 has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. A large 'PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid across the middle of the page.

1 33 34 35 36

2

f

p

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 33 through 36. Measure 33 has a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. Measure 36 includes a piano (*p*) dynamic marking with a hairpin and an accent (^).

1 37 38 39 40

2

f

f pp

f pp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 37 through 40. Measure 37 has a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. Measure 39 has a fortissimo-pianissimo (*f pp*) dynamic marking.

41 > > 42 > > 43 > > > > 44

1
2

f *p*

45 > > > > 46 47

1
2

f *p*

48 > > 49 > > 50 > > 51 > >

1
2

f

PREVIEW ONLY

52 > > 53 > > 54 > > 55 \wedge >

1
2

ff *p*

56 \wedge > > 57 \wedge > > 58 > > > > > > \wedge

1
2

f *p* *ff* *fff*

2

Allegro ♩ = 116

2

3

4

stick click

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The score is in 4/4 time. The first staff (1) contains a melody starting with a *mf* dynamic. The second staff (2) contains a rhythmic accompaniment with 'stick click' markings. Measure numbers 2, 3, and 4 are indicated above the staves.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The first staff (1) continues the melody with 'stick click' markings. The second staff (2) continues the rhythmic accompaniment. Measure numbers 5, 6, 7, and 8 are indicated above the staves.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The first staff (1) continues the melody. The second staff (2) continues the rhythmic accompaniment. Measure numbers 9, 10, 11, and 12 are indicated above the staves.

PREVIEW ONLY

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The first staff (1) continues the melody with 'stick click' markings. The second staff (2) continues the rhythmic accompaniment. Measure numbers 13, 14, 15, and 16 are indicated above the staves. Accents (Λ) are present above notes in measures 16 and 17.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The first staff (1) continues the melody with dynamic markings *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *mp* leading to *f*. The second staff (2) continues the rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *mp* leading to *f*. Measure numbers 17, 18, 19, and 20 are indicated above the staves. Accents (Λ) and accents with stems (>) are present above notes in measures 17, 18, 19, and 20.

21 22 23 24

1 *ff* *f* *ff* Λ

2 *ff* *f* *ff* Λ

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 24. Both staves feature a continuous eighth-note pattern. Measure 21 is marked *ff*. Measure 22 is marked *f* with a hairpin indicating a crescendo. Measure 23 is marked *ff*. Measure 24 features a dynamic accent (Λ) over the final note.

25 26 27 28

1 *mp* Λ > > >

2 *mp* Λ > > >

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25 through 28. Measure 25 is marked *mp*. Measures 26 and 27 contain rests in the first staff and eighth notes in the second staff. Measure 28 features a dynamic accent (Λ) and three accents (>) over the final notes in both staves.

29 30 31 32

1 Λ > > > >

2 Λ > > > >

Detailed description: This system contains measures 29 through 32. Measures 29 and 30 have eighth notes in the first staff and rests in the second. Measures 31 and 32 feature eighth notes in both staves. Measure 32 has a dynamic accent (Λ) and four accents (>) over the final notes. A large 'PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid across the system.

33 34 35 36

1 > > > >

2 > > > >

Detailed description: This system contains measures 33 through 36. Measures 33 and 34 have eighth notes in the first staff and rests in the second. Measures 35 and 36 feature eighth notes in both staves. Measure 36 has four accents (>) over the final notes.

37 38 39 40

1 > > > >

2 > > > >

Detailed description: This system contains measures 37 through 40. Measures 37 and 38 have eighth notes in the first staff and rests in the second. Measures 39 and 40 feature eighth notes in both staves. Measure 40 has a dynamic accent (Λ) over the final note.

Musical score for desk drumming, measures 41-47. The score is written for two parts, 1 and 2, on a grand staff. Part 1 (top staff) and Part 2 (bottom staff) both begin with a *ff* dynamic marking. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Accents (>) and dynamic markings (\wedge) are used throughout. A *fff* dynamic marking is present in measures 47 and 48. The score concludes with a double bar line and a circled 'X' symbol, labeled "foot stomp".

PREVIEW ONLY

#3

Spirited $\text{♩} = 60$

2 3 4 5 6 7

1 *mp*

2 *mp*

8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15

1

2 stick click

16 17 18 19 20 21 stick click 22

1 *mp*

2 *mp*

23 24 25 26 27 28 29

1 *mf*

2 *mf*

30 31 32 33 34 35 36

1 *f mp mf*

2 *f mp mf*

37 38 39 40 41 42 43

1

2

f *p*

finger snap

Detailed description: This system contains measures 37 through 43. Stave 1 (top) features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents (>) in measures 37-39, followed by a half note in measure 40, and then a sequence of eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 41-43. Stave 2 (bottom) mirrors the eighth-note pattern in measures 37-39, then has a half note in measure 40, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 41-43. Dynamics *f* and *p* are indicated. The text 'finger snap' is written above measure 41.

44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51

1

2

finger snap

Detailed description: This system contains measures 44 through 51. Stave 1 (top) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 44-48, eighth notes in measure 49, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 50-51. Stave 2 (bottom) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 44-48, eighth notes in measure 49, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 50-51. The text 'finger snap' is written above measure 49.

52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59

1

2

f

PREVIEW ONLY

Detailed description: This system contains measures 52 through 59. Stave 1 (top) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 52-56, eighth notes in measure 57, eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 58, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 59. Stave 2 (bottom) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 52-56, eighth notes in measure 57, eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 58, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 59. A dynamic of *f* is indicated. A large, semi-transparent watermark 'PREVIEW ONLY' is overlaid across the center of the page.

60 61 62 63 64 65 66

1

2

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 60 through 66. Stave 1 (top) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 60-66. Stave 2 (bottom) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 60, eighth notes in measures 61-66, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 66. A dynamic of *f* is indicated.

67 68 69 70 71 72 73

1

2

Detailed description: This system contains measures 67 through 73. Stave 1 (top) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 67-68, eighth notes in measure 69, eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 70, eighth notes in measure 71, eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 72, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 73. Stave 2 (bottom) has eighth notes with 'x' marks in measures 67-68, eighth notes in measure 69, eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 70, eighth notes in measure 71, eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 72, and eighth notes with 'x' marks in measure 73.

74 75 76 77 78 79 80

1

2

ff

ff

foot stomp

81 82 83 84 85 86 87

1

2

f

ff

f

88 89 90 91 92 93 94

1

2

ff

fff

ff

fff

95 96 97 98 99 100 101

1

2

ff

f

ff

f

102 103 104 105 106 107 108

1

2

ff

fff

ff

fff