

ARITH-METRIC NO. 1

for any combination of instruments

Brian Balmages

Instrumentation

Usage Guidelines

Treble Clef C Instruments

B \flat Instruments

E \flat Instruments

F Horn

Trombone / Euphonium / Bassoon

Tuba

Alto Clef

About the Music

Arith-Metric No. 1 is the first in a series of pieces that explores self-paced developing music for literally any combination of instruments. Inspired by Terry Riley's *In C*, the piece has no score and each part includes the same series of short fragments that performers move through at their own pace. The piece is written in 5 sections, all performed without stopping. Musicians repeat each fragment as much as they desire and then move on to the next line. Further, performers have the option of skipping a line or going backward any number of lines so long as they stay in the same section. Directors cue the entire ensemble at the beginning of each new section; regardless of where any performer is in the sequence, they immediately skip to the next section on cue (even if they are in the middle of a phrase). The last section builds constantly until all players have completed line 35. Then, at the discretion of the conductor, all players move into the final chord.

This type of music allows students to explore pacing, development, and orchestration. There are a ton of "teachable moments" throughout and many opportunities to engage every single member of the ensemble. Students will enjoy a completely different sound each time and a wonderful spontaneity in every performance (something we all can benefit from in the long run!).

Also available: *Arith-Metric No. 1 for Strings* (a more string-friendly key with bowings included).

-Brian Balmages

Master Set: \$50.00

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T H E
F J H
M U S I C
C O M P A N Y
I N C.
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BRIAN BALMAGES
(ASCAP)

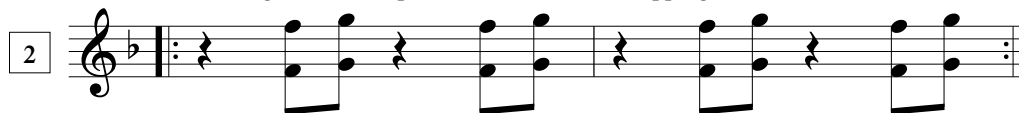
SECTION 1

With precision (♩ = 144)

Many players should delay starting until others are a few lines in to the piece.
Repeat each line as desired before moving on, generally 1–3 times.



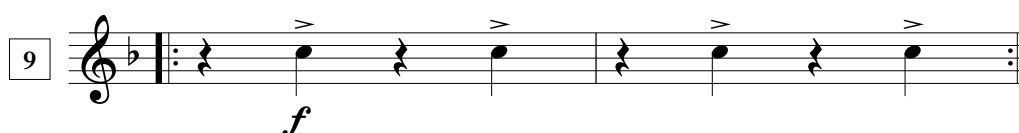
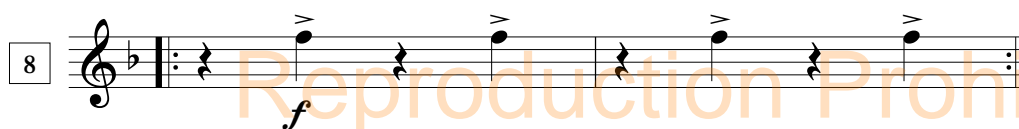
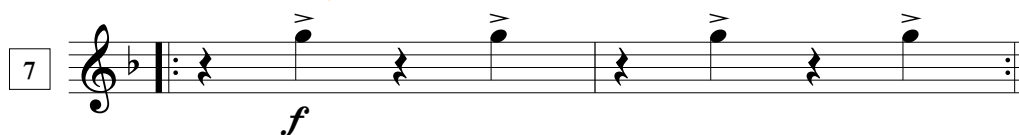
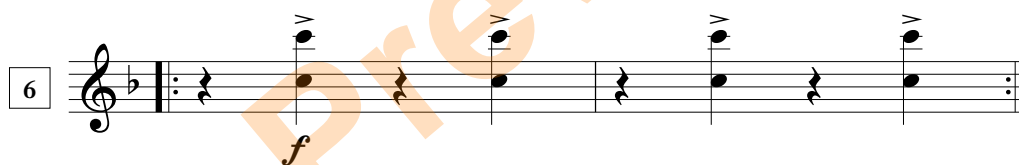
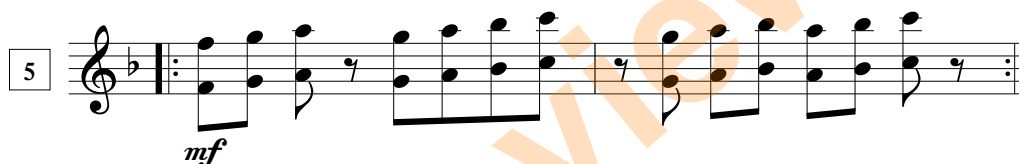
Continue repeating each line as desired before moving on,
moving back to the previous line, or even skipping a line.



Musicians may choose to jump back to any previous line at any time.



begin gradual cresc. through the end of Section 1...



End of Section 1.
Proceed to Section 2 all at once (on cue).
Some players will not have played all lines,
which is perfectly acceptable.

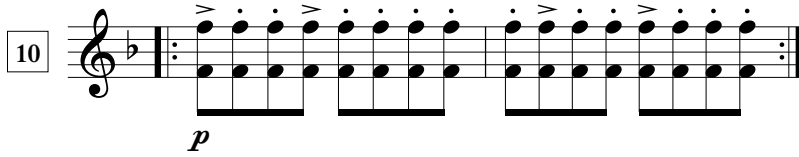
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SECTION 2 (ON CUE)

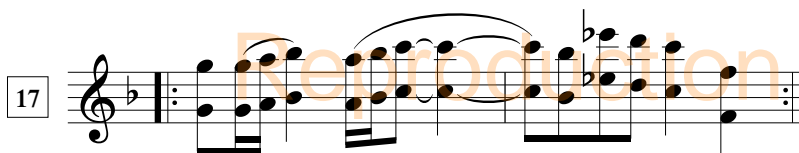
As before, with only a few players starting right away on line 10
and others coming in gradually as initial players move on.



gradual cresc. approaching line 14...



gradual cresc. approaching Section 3...



End of Section 2.
Proceed to Section 3 all at once (on cue).