

# Cycles

*Percussion Trio*

Gabriel Almazan

2017

*Cycles:*

*I.*

*II.*

For Percussion Trio (Vibraphone, Güiro, Maracas, Tam-Tam, Triangle, Mark Tree, Tubular Bells, Castanets, & Drum Kit) & Piano

Duration: 8'

*Cycles* is in two movements; the first movement is strictly an exploration of overlapping, non-matching rhythmic patterns played by the three performers. Each performer plays their cycle until all performers reach the downbeat together, at which time they continue the next set of rhythmic patterns. The second movement follows the same outline but also contains an added narrative: the patterns represent the cyclical patterns of abuse that were brought to light around the time that this composition was being written, and as the movement continues, the performers attempt to stifle the patterns by saying "stop." Each time the patterns continue, the gestures become louder and more chaotic to overpower the dissenting "stops." The piece ends with the three performers shouting one last "stop" as loud as they can, ending the cyclical patterns for good.

Percussion I

Vibraphone: Player needs String Bow along with Vibraphone Mallets

Percussion II

Miscellaneous Percussion: Legend

Tubular Bells

Piano & Castanets

|  |       |     |      |         |          |        |      |
|--|-------|-----|------|---------|----------|--------|------|
|  |       |     |      |         | Triangle |        |      |
|  |       |     |      |         | Open     | Closed | Mark |
|  | Güiro | Low | High | Tam-tam | ○        | +      | Tree |
|  | ●     | ●   | ●    | x       | x        | x      | x    |

Percussion III

Drum Kit: Attach Tambourine to Hi-Hat; Player needs Drum Sticks and Yarn Mallets

Tubular Bells

# Cycles I

Gabriel Almazan

♩ = 80

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes three staves: Vibraphone (treble clef, 4/4 time), Misc. Percussion (percussion clef, 4/4 time), and Drum Set (percussion clef, 4/4 time). The Vibraphone part begins with a dynamic marking of *f* and features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and slurs. The Misc. Percussion part starts with a dynamic marking of *f* and consists of rhythmic patterns using various percussion instruments. The Drum Set part begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* and features a complex rhythmic pattern with many sixteenth notes. The second system includes three staves: Vib. (treble clef, 4/4 time), Misc. Perc. (percussion clef, 4/4 time), and Dr. (percussion clef, 4/4 time). The Vib. part starts with a measure rest followed by a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f*. The Misc. Perc. part continues with rhythmic patterns. The Dr. part features a complex rhythmic pattern with several triplet markings (indicated by the number 3) and a dynamic marking of *f*.

A

9

Vib.

Misc. Perc.

Dr.

12

Vib.

Misc. Perc.

Dr.

3 3 3 3

accel./rall. ad libitum

16

Vib.

Misc. Perc.

Dr.

*ppp*

*mf*

L.V.

*p*

**B**

19

Vib.


Misc. Perc.

Dr.

Play triangle on top for mute,  
on right for open

*mf*

22


Vib. 


Misc. Perc. 


Dr. 

Detailed description: This system covers measures 22-24. The vibraphone part features a continuous sequence of eighth-note triplets, each marked with an accent (>) and a '3' above it. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The miscellaneous percussion part consists of eighth notes with a '+' above them, alternating with rests. The drum part features a steady eighth-note pattern with 'x' marks above each note, indicating cymbal use.

25

Vib. 

Misc. Perc. 

Dr. 

Detailed description: This system covers measures 25-27. The vibraphone part continues with eighth-note triplets, marked with accents and '3's. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The miscellaneous percussion part follows the same eighth-note pattern as in the previous system. The drum part maintains the eighth-note pattern with cymbal marks.

**C**

Musical score for Vibraphone (Vib.), Misc. Percussion (Misc. Perc.), and Drums (Dr.) across measures 28 to 32.

**Measure 28:**

- Vib.:** Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Starts with a *ff* dynamic. A five-measure phrase of chords is marked with a '5' above the staff. The chords are: F major (F4, A4, C5), F major (F4, A4, C5), F major (F4, A4, C5), F major (F4, A4, C5), and F major (F4, A4, C5). The staff then continues with a whole rest.
- Misc. Perc.:** Starts with a snare drum hit (marked with a '+') and a cymbal hit (marked with a 'o'). This is followed by a continuous eighth-note pattern.
- Dr.:** Features a series of snare drum hits (marked with 'x') on the first four notes of the five-measure phrase, followed by a whole rest.

**Measure 32:**

- Vib.:** Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a whole rest for the first two measures. In the third measure, a five-measure phrase of chords is marked with a '5' above the staff. The chords are: F major (F4, A4, C5), F major (F4, A4, C5), F major (F4, A4, C5), F major (F4, A4, C5), and F major (F4, A4, C5). The staff then continues with a whole rest.
- Misc. Perc.:** Continues with the eighth-note pattern.
- Dr.:** Features a series of snare drum hits (marked with 'x') on the first four notes of the five-measure phrase, followed by a whole rest. The dynamic is marked *mf*.



36

Vib.

Misc. Perc.

Dr.

single buzz stroke

Detailed description: This system covers measures 36 to 39. The Vib. part begins with a whole rest in measure 36. In measure 37, it plays a melodic line with a flat key signature. Measures 38 and 39 continue with similar melodic lines, including some tied notes. The Misc. Perc. part maintains a steady eighth-note pattern throughout. The Dr. part includes a variety of rhythms: measure 36 has a triplet of eighth notes followed by a quarter note and a half note; measure 37 has a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, and a quarter note; measure 38 has a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, and a quarter note; measure 39 has a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, and a quarter note. The text "single buzz stroke" is placed above the drum staff in measure 38.

40

Vib.

Misc. Perc.

Dr.

**D**

Detailed description: This system covers measures 40 to 43. The Vib. part has a whole rest in measure 40. In measure 41, it plays a melodic line with a flat key signature. Measures 42 and 43 continue with similar melodic lines, including some tied notes. The Misc. Perc. part maintains a steady eighth-note pattern throughout. The Dr. part includes a variety of rhythms: measure 40 has a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, and a quarter note; measure 41 has a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, and a quarter note; measure 42 has a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, and a quarter note; measure 43 has a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, and a quarter note. A large box containing the letter "D" is positioned above the Vib. staff in measure 41.

44

Vib.

Misc. Perc.

Dr.

single buzz stroke

Detailed description: This system covers measures 44 to 48. The vibraphone part starts with a whole rest in measure 44, followed by a series of chords with slurs and ties. The misc. percussion part consists of a continuous eighth-note pattern. The drum part features a triplet in measure 44, a quintuplet in measure 45, and another triplet in measure 46. A 'single buzz stroke' is indicated in measure 47.

49

Vib.

Misc. Perc.

Dr.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 49 to 53. The vibraphone part has a whole rest in measure 49, followed by chords with slurs and ties. The misc. percussion part continues with the eighth-note pattern. The drum part includes a triplet in measure 50, a triplet in measure 51, and a triplet in measure 52.

**E**

53

Vib. *ff* *mp* Switch to bow arco

Misc. Perc. as fast as possible *ppp*

Dr. *f* Switch to yarn mallets

**F**

59

Vib. *ff* *mp* *fff*

Tub. B. Tubular Bells

Misc. Perc.

Dr. *pp* *mf* *pp* *f* *pp*

**G**

Musical score for four instruments: Vib. (Vibraphone), Tub. B. (Tuba), Misc. Perc. (Miscellaneous Percussion), and Dr. (Drums). The score is in 4/4 time and begins at measure 71. The Vib. part starts with a *mp* dynamic and a *fff* dynamic marking. The Tub. B. part starts with a *f* dynamic. The Dr. part features a series of snare drum hits with a *fff* dynamic marking. Performance instructions include "Switch back to Mallets" for the Vib. and "Move to Piano" for the Tub. B. at the end of the section, and "Move to Tubular Bells" for the Dr. at the end of the section.

71

Vib. *mp* *fff* Switch back to Mallets

Tub. B. *f* Move to Piano

Misc. Perc.

Dr. *fff* Move to Tubular Bells