

Murmuring Bosk

For Banjo and Marimba

Duration: Approx. 4' 15"

Clay Westman

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Instrumentation:

5-String Banjo (Standard G Tuning)

Marimba (4.5 Octave)

Program Notes:

During a pleasant walk in the woods, you come across an idyllic clearing. As the leaves and branches rustle in the gentle breeze, it feels like the trees themselves are chattering and gossiping about you being there. When the wind picks up and dark clouds roll overhead, an argument breaks out and leads to new conversation. Eventually, the trees remember you're there and shyly go back to their quiet murmurs.

Performance Notes:

Both: Whenever the first melody appears, it should be played with a slight fade in over the triplets. In the build to 88, the quarter note triplets should start to be felt as eighth notes in the new tempo. Likewise, in the transition at 115, the sixteenths should be felt as triplet eighths in the first tempo.

Banjo: Try to sustain notes and pronounce the slides as much as possible. Especially when playing the back-up part, sustaining the notes will contrast with the dead strokes in the marimba. Throughout, any slides notated without a slur should be rearticulated on the end note. At 46, the eighths should be played as a bend up and back in rhythm.

Marimba: In the first back-up part, the staccato chords should be played as dead strokes. Be very, very careful not to rush the new tempo at 88. Very careful. The final rolled chord should be played almost lazily, with a slower roll speed and a gentle fade over several seconds.

About the Composer:

Clay Westman (b.1993) grew up in the concert band and percussion ensemble worlds and combines his love for music with his other passion: gaming. He finds inspiration in the stories and settings of both video and tabletop games and seeks to channel those worlds through his music. Clay has a Bachelor's in Music Composition from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and currently lives in Durham, North Carolina with his wife and their three cats.

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Score

Murmuring Bosk

For Banjo and Marimba

Clay Westman (ASCAP)

Moderate Swing

The musical score is written for Banjo and Marimba in 4/4 time with a moderate swing feel. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-4) shows the Banjo with whole rests and the Marimba with a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth and quarter notes, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second system (measures 5-8) features the Banjo with eighth-note patterns and triplets, while the Marimba continues its accompaniment. The third system (measures 9-10) shows the Banjo with a melodic line and the Marimba with a more active accompaniment. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSAL COPY' is overlaid across the entire score.

Murmuring Bosk

17

4
15

Bjo.

Mrb.

20

Bjo.

Mrb.

25

Bjo.

Mrb.

29

30

Bjo.

Mrb.

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34 37

Bjo.

Mrb.

38

Bjo.

Mrb.

42

Bjo.

Mrb.

46 49

Bjo.

Mrb.

f

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6
50

Bjo.

Mrb.

54

Bjo.

Mrb.

59

Bjo.

Mrb.

ff

62

Bjo.

Mrb.

sim.

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66

Bjo.

Mrb.

70

Bjo.

Mrb.

ff

74

Bjo.

Mrb.

f *ff*

78

Bjo.

Mrb.

f *ff* *sim.*

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8
83

Bjo.

Mrb.

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

88 More Relaxed, no Swing (♩ = ♪)

Bjo.

Mrb.

ff

ff

88

Bjo.

Mrb.

93

93

97

Bjo.

Mrb.

99

f

mf

101

Bjo.

Mrb.

f *mf* *f*

104

Bjo.

Mrb.

107

Bjo.

Mrb.

f

113

Bjo.

Mrb.

Tempo I, with Swing (♩ = $\frac{3}{4}$)

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119

Bjo. 10 117

ff

Detailed description: This block shows the first system of music for the Bjo. instrument. It starts at measure 10 and ends at measure 117. The notation consists of a single staff with a treble clef. The music features a continuous sequence of eighth notes, with several groups of three notes beamed together, indicating triplets. The dynamics are marked as fortissimo (ff).

Mrb. 117

f

Detailed description: This block shows the first system of music for the Mrb. instrument. It starts at measure 117 and ends at measure 119. The notation is written for a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The music includes eighth notes, quarter notes, and some rests. The dynamics are marked as forte (f).

Bjo. 121

f

Detailed description: This block shows the second system of music for the Bjo. instrument. It starts at measure 121 and ends at measure 123. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef. It features a triplet of eighth notes. The dynamics are marked as forte (f).

Mrb. 121

Detailed description: This block shows the second system of music for the Mrb. instrument. It starts at measure 121 and ends at measure 123. The notation is on a grand staff. It includes eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests. The dynamics are marked as forte (f).

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