

StudioWorks

four grade 4-5 pieces
by John H. Beck

Performance Suggestions

The music in this unique collection may be used in three ways:

1. The snare drum solos may be played alone.
2. The timpani solos may be played alone.
3. The snare drum and timpani solos may be played together as a duet.

When the music is played in duet form, the timpani mallets should be of a hard quality in order to blend with the snare drum. If the timpani solos are played alone, a softer timpani mallet may be used. Because the timpani parts are a bit more challenging to perform than the snare drum, a more proficient timpanist would be a good choice. Playing these as duets during private lessons is a great learning experience.

About The Composer

John H. Beck was a member of the U.S. Marine Band for four years before joining the Rochester Philharmonic as principal percussionist in 1959 and becoming principal timpanist in 1962. With BM and MM degrees from the Eastman School of Music, he currently heads the percussion department there and conducts the Eastman Percussion Ensemble.

He has made solo appearances with the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra, the Eastman Wind Ensemble, the Syracuse (NY) Wind Ensemble, the Chautauqua Band, Memphis State Band, Rochester Chamber Orchestra and Filharmonia Pomorska in Poland. Other performing and teaching engagements have taken him to all corners of the world including Luxembourg, Russia, Japan, Denmark, and Brazil. As a recording artist, he has recorded for the CRI, Turnabout, Mark and Heritage labels.

John was instrumental in bringing the Percussive Arts Society (PAS) to Rochester for their first international convention, at which he performed Phillip Lambro's "Two Pictures." He is a Past President of PAS and in 1999 was inducted into the prestigious PAS Hall of Fame. That same year he received an award from the Arts & Culture Council of Greater Rochester for contributions to the arts. In May 1997 he received the Eisenhart Award in recognition of distinguished teaching from the Eastman School of Music, and in May 2003 he received the Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching from the University of Rochester.