

Expanding the Elementary Music Percussion Ensemble:
Drums, Orff Instruments, Small Percussion, Recorder, Ukuleles

A World Music Drumming approach

January 17, 2025. 4:00 PM

CASMEC 2025

Clinician: Paul Corbière

email: musithang@gmail.com

General tips for this music:

- Use rubber mallets when playing Orff mallet instruments with drums. Yarn mallets will not project through the drum sound.
- Instrument substitutions – always use your best judgment:
 - Any C instrument can play the recorder parts.
 - High drums – bongos, children's tom-toms, or small, high pitched frame drums can play these parts.
 - Low and medium drums – congas or gathering drums can play many of these parts.
 - Bass Bars – bass guitar or a keyboard instrument.
 - Shekeres, rattles, or maracas – any type of shaker instrument can play these parts.
 - When substituting instruments, choose those that have the same timbre as the original.

Teaching the Ensemble Pieces:

Score study

- Timeline – Finding relationships within the music
- Sticking issues
- What is the "skeleton ensemble?"

Teaching Process

- Generally teach the recorder parts first. In this session, we will start with timeline, drums and mallet instruments first to better understand the score.
- Sequential steps - Maintain the piece as "performance ready"
- Form
- Staging issues

Extensions

- Arrangements
- Improvisation
- Other ideas

Baba Gaga *from From BAGS to Riches*

- Easy piece that most students can learn quickly.
- B-A-G piece for recorder that features a step-wise melody.
- The melody is also in the soprano and alto xylophone parts.
- This early piece will allow for the teacher to promote some independence within their classroom ensemble.

Score Study for Baba Gaga

- The bell is the timeline.
- Note the relationship between the bell and recorder part. Listen for this!

- The soprano and alto xylophone parts are variations of the recorder melody. Sticking is important!
- Isolate the shekere and medium drum part.
- When teaching the low drum part, be sure to have consistent sticking (S-w S...S-w S, etc..)

Teaching Process

- Start with students clapping the clave part and patting the shekere parts.
- Review the notes for the recorder (B A G) and read/play the recorder part with the claves/shekere.
- Next teach the LD and HD parts.
- Add the MD part and have these players listen to the shekere part as they play their part.
- Once this is solid, teach the BX and CCB parts (the CBB can be played on BM or bass guitar).
- Then teach the glockenspiel and AM part.
- Teach the AX (and SX) part. It is the same as the recorder part! Use the sticking in the AX part for both AX and SX.

Use the following arrangement: perform each layer for 4 measures before adding the next

- Layer in percussion parts: bell and shekere, LD, MD, HD
- Layer in Orff instruments: CBB, AM, glock
- Layer in AX as an intro to the recorder part
- Perform the recorder part
- Add the SX as an interlude between each time the recorder plays

Hidden Path from *Happy Jammin'* by Paul Corbiere

Score Study:

- Look at the score to discover relationships between different parts.
- Claves are the timeline
- Look at the recorder part's relation to the timeline.
- Teach the claves part to everyone. Take special note of the "space" of beat four.

Teaching Process:

- Teach the timeline – claves – to everyone, clapping while walking in time.
- Teach recorder part - note its relationship to the claves. As students learn the recorder part, have the clave part playing.
- Combine the recorder and clave part.
- Teach the xylophone parts (bass first, then alto). Add these parts to the ensemble.
- Once the ensemble parts are solid, teach the rest of the other instruments. Drum parts should have been pre-taught (echo patterns warm up!) in an earlier session.
- Add rest of ensemble – note the relationship of each part to the other parts.

Extensions:

- Perform the recorder part as a round
- Class study piece: Intervals: Examine the recorder part and have students describe the melodic movement as it moves in steps, skips, leaps, and repeated tones. Melodic contour can also be discussed.
- Use this opportunity to review music literacy: note identification - note values and note names; time signature; repeat signs.

Baba Gaga

P. Corbiere

Recorder

Recorder part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of two staves. The first staff contains four measures of music: a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note C5. The second staff contains four measures: a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, a half note C5, and a whole rest.

Claves

Claves part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by a quarter rest. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

Shekere

Shekere part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by a quarter rest. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

HD

HD part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: eighth notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by a quarter rest. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

MD

MD part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by a quarter rest. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

LD

LD part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by a quarter rest. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

Glock

Glock part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note C5. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

AM

AM part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a half note C5. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

SX

SX part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: eighth notes G4, A4, B4, and C5, followed by a quarter rest. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

AX

AX part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

R L R L R L R L R

BX

BX part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

CBB

CBB part notation in 4/4 time, consisting of one staff with four measures of music: a whole rest. This pattern repeats in the second and third measures, and ends with a double bar line and repeat sign in the fourth measure.

"Baba Gaga" is from *From BAGs to Riches* by Paul Corbière, © 2014 Heritage Press, a division of The Lorenz Company

For participants use only; please do not reproduce.

Hidden Path

Recorder

Recorder staff 1: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. A triplet of G4, A4, B4 is marked above the staff. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Recorder staff 2: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. A triplet of G4, A4, B4 is marked above the staff. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Claves: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Triangle or Finger Cymbal: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Temple Blocks: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Shekere: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

High Drum: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Includes 'x' marks above the staff. A legend below the staff reads: "x = Muted tone on drum". Ends with a double bar line.

Medium Drum: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Low Drum: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Glockenspiel or Soprano Metallophone: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Alto Metallophone: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Alto Xylophone: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

Bass Xylophone: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. Ends with a double bar line.

"Hidden Path" is from Happy Jammin' by Paul Corbière

© 2011 Heritage Music Press, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.

For participants use only; please do not reproduce.