

Pamela J. Marshall

Black Bear Dance

horn quartet or horn choir with drums

sponsored by members of the Spindrift Commissioning Guild
Green Mountain Horn Club - Alan Parshley, Director
Charles Learoyd
Anonymous

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Black Bear Dance

music by Pamela J. Marshall

Black Bear Dance was written for the annual concert of the Esprit de Cor ensemble of Lexington, MA. Ms. Marshall has written several pieces for Esprit de Cor over the years and plays in their annual concert. In 2006, she wanted to indulge her love of drumming and mix that with the horns. The result is a jazzy, lighthearted piece that is a lot of fun to play.

After writing the music there was the problem of a name. The composer writes: “The rehearsals for my choral piece *Weaving the World* in March with the Assabet Valley Mastersingers gave me the name for the horn piece. There's a line in Janisse Ray's text that reads 'and black bears roam the woods unseen'. The choral director rehearsed it a lot, looking for a natural declamation and in-tune intervals. As I thought about a name for the emphatic, dance-like horns-and-drums music, I couldn't get the image of black bears out of my mind, so I decided it must be the right title. I worried that the name might imply an American Indian musical style, which the music is not. Then on the Internet I found the Bear Dance painting of William Holbrook Beard. Aside from the fact that he was mocking stock-market bears, the image was just right.”

Drum parts

The drum part is meant to be played by a group of drummers using hand drums. The drum part is written with the African djembe in mind, but the players can use any selection of drums that is available. Some amount of improvising is OK too, as long as the rhythms stay synchronized between the horns and drums and the drums don't overwhelm with too much volume. Drumming groups tend to get faster and faster, while horns often drag, so a conductor is probably necessary to keep both groups together.

Spindrift Commissioning Guild

Black Bear Dance is one of the projects for 2006 of the Spindrift Commissioning Guild. The composer thanks heartily the Guild members sponsoring Black Bear Dance:

- Green Mountain Horn Club, Alan Parshley, Director
- Charles Learoyd, who inspired the clarinet choir version of this piece
- Anonymous

For information about the Guild, visit <http://www.spindrift.com>.

Black Bear Dance

Allegro ♩ = 120

Horn 1 in F

Horn 2 in F

Horn 3 in F

Horn 4 in F

Drums

(Dun go godogodo Dun go dogodo)

5

10

A

(Dun go dogo Dun Gun)

Score

15

Musical score for measures 15-18. The score is in B-flat major and 4/4 time. It features four staves: two treble clefs, two bass clefs, and a piano part. The piano part has a 5/4 time signature for measures 15-16 and returns to 4/4 for measures 17-18. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, and *f*. The lyrics "(Dun go dogo Dun Gun)" are written above the piano part.

19

B

Musical score for measures 19-23, marked with a section symbol **B**. The score continues in B-flat major and 4/4 time. It features four staves: two treble clefs, two bass clefs, and a piano part. Dynamics include *mp*. The lyrics "octaves ad lib. when part is doubled" are written below the piano part.

24

Musical score for measures 24-27. The score continues in B-flat major and 4/4 time. It features four staves: two treble clefs, two bass clefs, and a piano part. Dynamics include *f* and *gliss.*. The lyrics "(Dun godogo doDun go do)" are written above the piano part.

Score

29 C

Musical score for measures 29-33. It features four staves: three treble clefs and one bass clef. The key signature has two flats. Dynamics include *mf* and *f*. A 'C' in a box is above the first measure. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid diagonally.

34

Musical score for measures 34-38. It features four staves: three treble clefs and one bass clef. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*. Instructions 'get mute' and 'muted' are present. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid diagonally.

39

Musical score for measures 39-43. It features four staves: three treble clefs and one bass clef. Dynamics include *p* and *mp*. Instructions 'get mute' and 'muted' are present. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid diagonally.

Score

44

open

D

p

pp

pp

p

p

solo

49

mp

p

mf

mf

mf

mp

mf

54

f

f

f

f

mp

mp

mp

mp

Score

60

E

mf

pp

65

mf

p

f

mp

mf

p

mf

mp

69

mf

f

mp

mf

mp

Score

73

Musical score for measures 73-75. The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). It consists of four staves for the upper instruments and a bass line. The first staff has a glissando marking and a dynamic of *mp*. The second staff has dynamics of *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *ff*. The third and fourth staves have a dynamic of *f*. The bass line has a dynamic of *f*. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

76

Musical score for measures 76-80. The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of three sharps (F-sharp, C-sharp, G-sharp). A box labeled 'F' is present above the first staff. The score consists of four staves for the upper instruments and a bass line. All upper staves have a dynamic of *mf*. The bass line has a dynamic of *f*. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

81

Musical score for measures 81-85. The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of three sharps (F-sharp, C-sharp, G-sharp). It consists of four staves for the upper instruments and a bass line. The first three staves have dynamics of *mp* and *f*. The fourth staff has a dynamic of *mp*. The bass line has a dynamic of *p*. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

Score

86

Musical score for measures 86-89. The score consists of four staves. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first staff has dynamics *f* and *mp*. The second staff has dynamics *f* and *mp*. The third staff has dynamics *f* and *mp*. The fourth staff has dynamics *f* and *mp*. The bottom staff is a bass line with dynamics *f* and *mp*. A 'gliss.' marking is present in the first staff at the end of measure 89.

90

Musical score for measures 90-94. The score consists of four staves. The key signature changes to two sharps (F#, C#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first staff has dynamics *f* and *ff*. The second staff has dynamics *f* and *ff*. The third staff has dynamics *f* and *ff*. The fourth staff has dynamics *f* and *ff*. The bottom staff has dynamics *mf* and 'solo'.

95

Musical score for measures 95-98. The score consists of four staves. The key signature changes to two flats (Bb, Eb) and the time signature is 4/4. A 'G' chord symbol is present above the first staff. The first staff has dynamics *mp*, *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *mp*. The second staff has dynamics *mp*, *f*, *mp*, *f*, and *mp*. The third staff has dynamics *mp* and *f*. The fourth staff has dynamics *f* and *ff*. The bottom staff has dynamics *f* and *ff*.

Score

99

Musical score for measures 99-103. The score is written for four staves (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). A large, semi-transparent watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

104

H

Musical score for measures 104-109. The score is written for four staves (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano). A large, semi-transparent watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

110

Musical score for measures 110-114. The score is written for four staves (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano). A large, semi-transparent watermark 'PREVIEW' is overlaid on the score.

Score

116

I

Musical score for measures 116-121. The score is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of four staves: three treble clefs and one bass clef. The first three staves are marked with *pp* (pianissimo). The music begins with a rest in the first measure, followed by a melodic line in the second measure. The bass line starts with a half note B-flat in the first measure. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is visible across the score.

122

Musical score for measures 122-125. The score continues in 4/4 time with the same key signature. It consists of four staves: three treble clefs and one bass clef. The music features more complex rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is visible across the score.

126

Musical score for measures 126-131. The score continues in 4/4 time with the same key signature. It consists of four staves: three treble clefs and one bass clef. The music features more complex rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes. A large watermark 'PREVIEW' is visible across the score.

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Selected Music by Pamela J. Marshall

Orchestra

Through the Mist (2222-2220, harp, 3pc, timp, strings) in 3 mvts
A chill wind in autumn (solo voice, 2222-4221-3pc, strings)
Traditional Christmas (treble chorus or soloist, 2222-4221, harp, 3pc, timp, strings)
Three Appalachian Carols (2222-4231, harp, 2pc, timp, strings)

Keyboard

Suite for harpsichord or piano
Daydream for piano
Wordless Prayer for piano organ or SATB acapella
Imagine That Time Stops for piano
Stomp for piano

Strings

Arcanum for solo violin
Soliloquy for solo cello
Elusive Sleep for cello and piano
Pascal's Theorems for cello and doublebass
Triptoe Suite for intermediate violinist and piano
Truth Becoming for string quartet

Woodwinds

Weaving the World for SATB chorus, oboe, piano
Enchanted for oboe and chamber orchestra or piano
Communing with Birds for flute
Through the Mist for flute, violin, guitar
Elements for woodwind quintet
Poetry-Inspired Solos for flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon, horn

Brass

Waves and Fountains for oboe, horn, piano
Never Say Nevermore for horn and piano
Colored Leaves for solo horn
Black Bear Dance for horn quartet or choir and drums
"wild horn whose voice the woodland fills" for 8 horns
Star in the East (traditional carol) for 8 horns
The Future of Life for SATB chorus, trombone, piano
Wanderer for brass quintet
Among Friends for trumpet, 2 horns, euphonium or trombone

Recordings

Noises, Sounds & Strange Airs (Clique Track): Soliloquy and Sky's Mirror
Mandolin X 4 (Plucked String Inc.): Mandolin Night for mandolin performed by Neil Gladd
Enigmatica (Uncommon Strings): Blue-Gold Variations from Loosely Blue for mandolin ens.
Holidays of the New Era (ERMMedia): Windshine for SATB and cello
Just In Time Now and Then (Living Artists): Elusive Sleep for cello and piano