

About This Book

Edward Freytag has put together an outstanding collection of 15 solos and 5 duets all specifically designed for the beginning percussionist. Each solo and duet is composed at performance Grade Level I. This is the collection that instructors and directors of beginning percussion students have been waiting for! Each solo and duet has been carefully designed to not only be accessible to beginners but to also provide interesting rhythms, melodies, textures, and sounds all wrapped within logical musical forms and structures. These pieces will prove to not only be excellent educational tools but also serve as great performance pieces for concerts, recitals, and competitive solo and ensemble events.

Rhythmic content of this collection has been limited to whole notes, half notes, quarter notes, quarter rests, eighth notes, eighth rests, and sixteenth notes in groups of four. There are some instances of simple syncopations involving eighth notes and quarter notes. Melodic motion in keyboard pieces is limited to steps and small skips using half notes, quarter notes, eighth notes, and single pitched sixteenth notes only for rhythmic content. Keyboard melodies utilize common key signatures appropriate for beginners and do include some instances of isolated simple double stops that should not be difficult to execute. Time signatures are limited to 4/4 and 3/4 and do not mix within compositions (with the exception of Bonus Solo #2). Some stickings are indicated in every solo and duet as logical means to navigate particular passages or for visual interest. Instructors should feel free to override the suggestions and have their students play whatever stickings best meets their needs.

It is suggested that the snare solos and duet be performed on a standard concert snare drum(s); however, this does still provide quite a bit of leeway when choosing brand, diameter, depth, heads, and tuning. Many will prefer a bright sounding instrument. This can be achieved by higher pitched tuning, shallower depth, and possibly a metallic shell. Others will prefer a darker sounding instrument potentially achieved by lower pitched tuning, deeper depth, and a wood shell. The combination of a piccolo snare drum and a standard snare drum would work very well on Duet #1, *Snares and a Haircut*, as well as two standard snare drums, one tuned higher than the other.

The concert toms can be any standard sizes desired. Solo #11, *Three Twos*, will need two concert toms of different sizes tuned to different pitches. An interval of a perfect 4th between the drums is recommended in order to achieve adequate pitch distance and to represent a standard interval in tom, timbale, and timpani tuning. The accessories (cowbell, tambourine, woodblock) should be mounted either to cymbal stands or to an accessory bar in order to be placed easily in the multi-percussion set-ups. See the next page for suggested set-ups for each multi-percussion piece.

The keyboard solos and duets can be played on any percussion keyboard(s) desired as long as the range of the instrument accommodates the written notation. It is suggested that Duet #2, *Sergeant Major Minor*, be performed on mixed instruments, i.e, xylophone and marimba, vibraphone and marimba, bells and vibraphone, or any other combination available or desired.

All timpani pieces can be performed with either a combination of drum sizes 32-29-26 or 29-26-23. The pieces requiring only two drums can be performed on sizes 29-26. Intervals in the compositions are either thirds, fourths, or fifths making for easy tuning and to assist with early ear training. There are minimal places in the timpani pieces requiring dampening.

A variety of stick and mallet choices can be made for each composition in the collection. Medium weight concert sticks will work well for all snare pieces; however, heavier sticks would be just as appropriate if desiring a larger more resonant sound. Sometimes the hand size of young beginning performers may be a factor in stick choice.

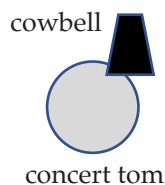
A stick with a thicker shoulder will work well on the multi-percussion pieces due to its ability to get maximum resonance out of the accessory instruments. Medium to medium-hard timpani mallets would be appropriate for all timpani pieces. Softer timpani mallets may lead to rhythmic clarity losses while harder mallets could sound abrasive. Keyboard mallets of medium hardness should be selected that are appropriate for whatever keyboard instrument is being used. Although it goes without saying, please have students avoid using yarn mallets on xylophone or hard plastic on marimba. The correct stick and/or mallet makes a huge difference in the quality of a student's performance.

Have fun playing the **Bonus Solos & Duet** with the play-along tracks from Row-Loff's *Toolbox Curriculum*! These tracks can be downloaded from the *First Solos & Duets* page at www.rowloff.com.

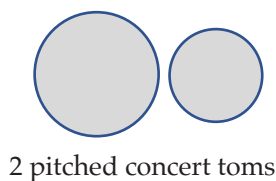
Even though this collection is designed for the young beginner, instructors and students should be diligent to always perform on well tuned and well maintained instruments and with the appropriate sticks and/or mallets. Don't give away the easiest part of producing a quality solo or duet...the instrument and the implement! We certainly hope that this collection will be enjoyed by many and will assist in providing quality literature for the younger musicians to perform. Happy Drumming...!

Multi-Percussion Set-ups

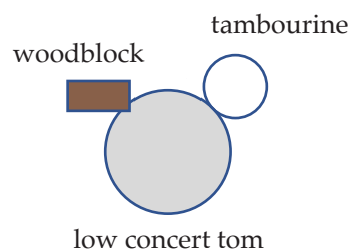
Solo #10 - *Tombella*



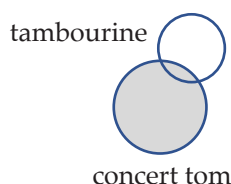
Solo #11 - *Three Twos*



Solo #12 - *Triple Play*



Duet #3 - *Echoes*



Solo #2
Concert Snare

Tango

by Edward Freytag

$\text{♩} = 96 - 116$

R L R L R L L R *mp*

A

f *mp* *f* L L R

mp *f*

B

mf *ff*

mp *mf*

1st 2nd

C on drum rim

f *mp* *f*

mp *f* R L R L

Solo #4
Keyboard

Wolfgang

- for Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart -

by Edward Freytag

A ♩ = 92 - 116

mf

2 3 4

5 6 7 8

R R R

B

f

9 10 11 12

R R L

13 14 15 16

R R

C

mf

17 18 19 20

21 22 23 24

R R

Solo #8
Timpani (2) / A, D

Great Eights

by Edward Freytag

A

♩ = 96 - 120

First staff of music (Measures 1-9). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in bass clef. Measure 1 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measures 2-4 show a sequence of eighth notes. Measures 5-7 show a sequence of eighth notes with alternating right (R) and left (L) hand markings. Measures 8-9 show a sequence of eighth notes with a first ending bracket labeled "1st" and a second ending bracket labeled "2nd".

B

Second staff of music (Measures 10-17). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in bass clef. Measure 10 starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measures 11-13 show a sequence of eighth notes with alternating right (R) and left (L) hand markings. Measures 14-17 show a sequence of eighth notes with alternating right (R) and left (L) hand markings.

C

Third staff of music (Measures 18-25). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in bass clef. Measure 18 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measures 19-21 show a sequence of eighth notes with alternating right (R) and left (L) hand markings. Measures 22-25 show a sequence of eighth notes with alternating right (R) and left (L) hand markings.

D

Fourth staff of music (Measures 26-29). The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in bass clef. Measures 26-29 show a sequence of eighth notes.

Multi-Percussion
Mounted Cowbell, Concert Tom

by Edward Freytag

♩ = 88 - 108

The first system of the musical score for 'The Little Boat' consists of two staves. The upper staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together. The lower staff is a bass clef, mostly containing rests, with some notes in the first and third measures. The system is marked with a '5' at the beginning and a '6' in the middle. The tempo is marked 'mp' (moderato piano) at the bottom left. The system ends with a repeat sign.

[illegible]

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented on a single staff. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto' and the time signature is 3/4. The score is divided into measures numbered 13 through 16. Measure 13 contains a whole note G4. Measure 14 contains a whole note A4. Measure 15 contains a whole note B-flat4. Measure 16 contains a whole note C5. The piece concludes with a double bar line. The dynamics are marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte) at the beginning and 'f' (forte) at the end. The lyrics 'The Rose Tree' are written below the staff, aligned with the notes: 'The' under G, 'Rose' under A, 'Tree' under B-flat, and 'The' under C.

Snares And A Haircut

by Edward Freytag

♩ = 86 - 118

high pitched

low pitched

Player 1

Player 2

stick click

stick click

f *mf* *mp* *f*

f *mf* *mp* *f*

A

5 6 7 8

mf

mf

R L L R R L L L R R

R L L L R

9 10 11 12

mf

mf

R L L L R R L L L R R L L R

R L L L R R L L L R

B on drum rim

13 14 15 16

stick click

Get A Handel On It

by Edward Freytag

A ♩ = 80 - 116

Keyboard

Timpani
C, F

f

2 R L R

3

4

5

6 R L R

7

8

B

9 *mf*

10

11

12

mf

R L R L

13

14

15

16

Rock 'N Roll

Can be performed with play-along-track from the Snare Drummer's Toolbox
Flam I Am

by Edward Freytag

A ♩=112

1 2 3 4

R L R L R L R L R L L R L R L

f *ff*

B

5 6 7 8

L R L R L L R L R R L R L R L R L R L

f *mf* *ff*

9 10 11 12

R R L R R L R R L R L R L R L R L

f *mf* *f* *ff*

C

13 14 15 16

L R L R R R L L R R L R L R L R L

mf *ff*

D

17 18 19 20

L R L R L L R L R R L R L R L R L R L

f *mf* *ff*