

Midnight Ride!

for Percussion Quartet

Jared Spears

Score

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ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Dr. Jared Spears is Professor of Music Emeritus at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, and received the B.S.E. degree in Music Education from Northern Illinois University; the B.M. and M.M. in Percussion and Composition from the Cosmopolitan School of Music; and the D.M. in Composition from Northwestern University. Some of his teachers were Blyth Owen, Alan Stout, and Anthony Donato.

Spears has taught theory, history, composition, percussion and band on all educational levels from elementary school through college. Since his retirement from ASU in May of 1999 and moving to the St. Louis area, he has maintained a heavy schedule of composing and conducting.

The most outstanding of his awards have been the Faricy Award for Creative Music from Northwestern University School of Music, Award of Merit from the Arkansas Chapter of the National

Federation of Music Clubs, Outstanding Educators of America, International Who's Who in Music and Who's Who in the World of Percussion—U.S.A., Citations of Excellence from the National Band Association, Sigma Alpha Iota National Arts Associate, and several ASCAP Awards. During his tenure at Arkansas State University, Spears received the University President's Award for the outstanding faculty member, as well as an appointment as a President's Fellow.

To date, he has produced over 250 original works for band, choir, orchestra, and chamber ensembles, a majority of which are published by American and European companies. His music has been performed and recorded worldwide, and he has conducted band festivals, camps and clinics in Canada, Europe, throughout the United States, and has appeared at several universities as a guest lecturer.

PROGRAM NOTES

Midnight Ride! was inspired by the famous ride of Paul Revere. While not specifically programmatic,

it tries to convey the excitement and urgency of Revere's journey of warning.

PERFORMANCE SUGGESTIONS

There are many subtleties to be handled in the performance of this work. Players must utilize different implements to produce sounds, use several beating points on the instruments, and employ a wide range of dynamics. Players must always be alert and looking ahead in the music so they can make rapid changes of beaters, instruments, and beating points.

The bass drum should be placed on a stand so the beating head points to the ceiling (a tilt stand works quite well because it does not dampen the opposite head). The triangle should be suspended from a clamp-style holder attached to a music stand so the player can make a rapid switch

to tambourine. The rolls in the tambourine part should be thumb or finger rolls, produced by rubbing the digit across the head or around the rim. Players must take care not to press too hard or the instrument will not respond. Beeswax or fly line dressing can help make the tambourine head sticky enough so that the rolls are easier to execute.

It is critical for players to understand balance in a percussion ensemble. To develop this skill, they must be taught to listen for the softest instrument being played at any point in the music. If that instrument can be heard, balance is most probably just right.

MIDNIGHT RIDE!

Allegro, with spirit! $\text{♩} = 132$

Jared Spears (ASCAP)

on bell of cym. with butt end of S. D. stick

Sus. Cym.  let ring 

Percussion 1

S. D.  ff

Percussion 2

2 Tomtoms with S. D. sticks  mp < f  p

Percussion 3

B. D. near center of head near edge of head  mp < f  p

Percussion 4

2 hard yarn mallets  f  p

5 to 2 hard yarn mallets

near edge of cym.

 p  f

 mf p  f

 f

 mp  mf  f

10

 f

 > > >  > > >  > > >  mf

 > > >  > > >  mp  f

 p

15 grab 2 S. D. sticks

Measure 1: **p** **f**

Measure 2: **f**

Measure 3: **p** **f** **mf**

Measure 4: **f**

Measure 5: **mf** **>**

Measure 6: **p** **f** **>**

Measure 7: **f**

19

23

p < mf

f

mp < f

fp

f

on metal rims of drums

throw bath towel over drum head

mf

24

play in center of head (over towel)

70

74

on bell of cym. with butt end of S. D. stick to 2 hard yarn mallets near edge of cym.

80

S. D. sticks

84

rim shots > normal

mf *f*

mp *f* *mp* *f*

p *f*

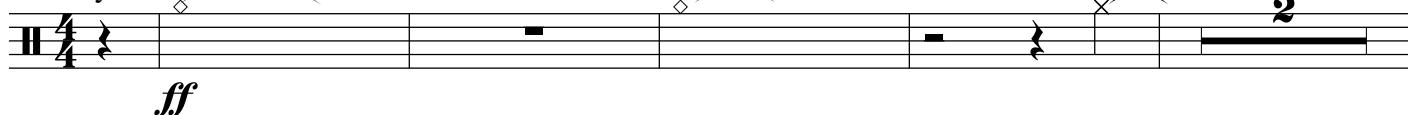
Percussion 1
Suspended Cymbal,
Triangle, Tambourine

MIDNIGHT RIDE!

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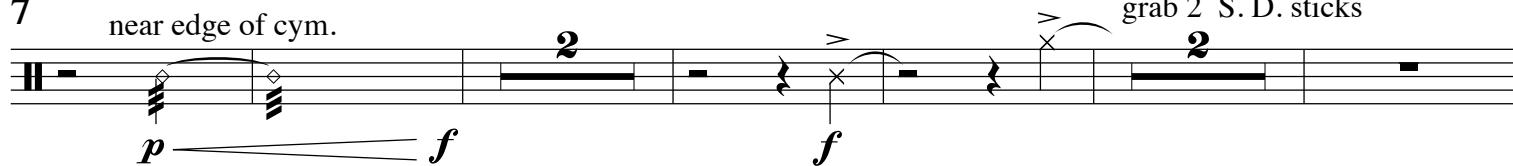
Allegro, with spirit! ♩ = 132

Sus. Cym. on bell of cym. with butt end of S. D. stick



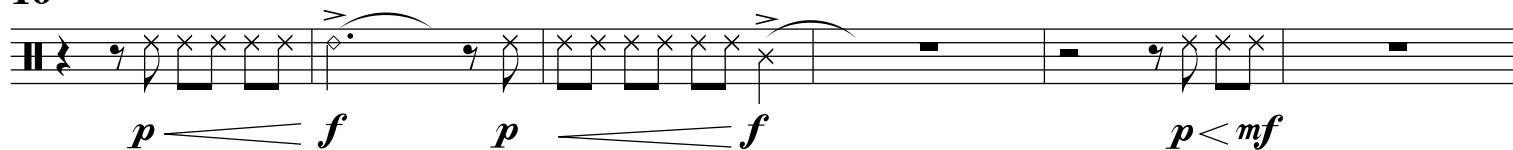
let ring to 2 hard yarn
mallets

7 near edge of cym.



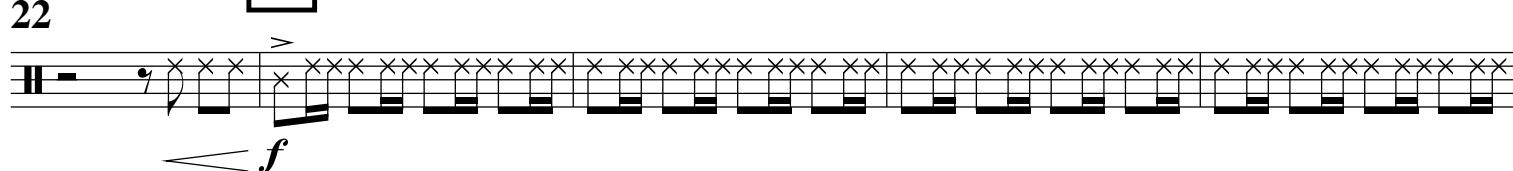
15

16



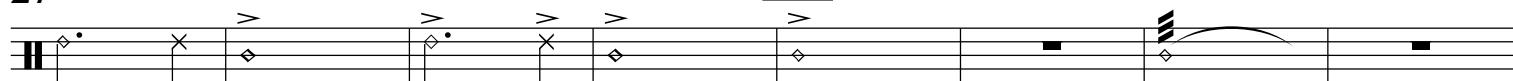
22

23



27

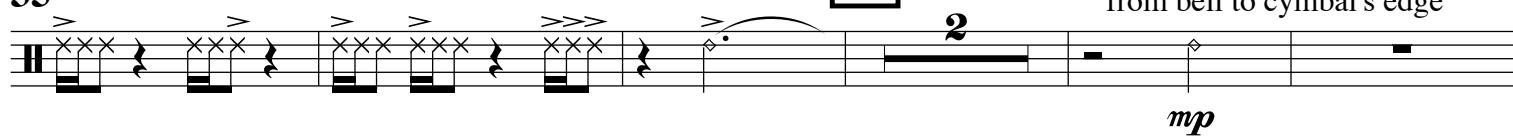
31



35

38

scrape coin across cymbal
from bell to cymbal's edge

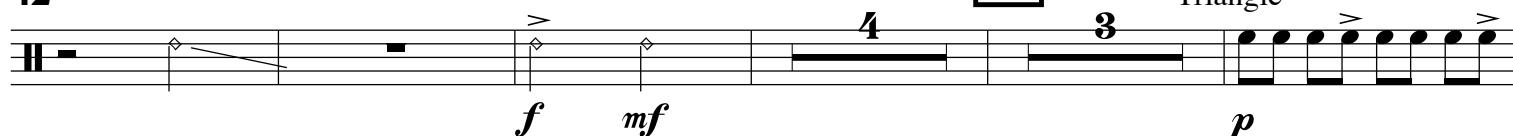


42

to Triangle
on stand

49

Triangle



Percussion 2

Snare Drum, Wood Block

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Allegro, with spirit! ♩ = 132

S. D.

S. D.

1

2

mp ***f***

p

p

mf p

>

9

15

19

23

25

to Wood Block on
stand or trap table

stand of trap table

31

(W. B.)

35

to Snare Drum

S. D.

38

strike S. D.
sticks together

41

49

56

Percussion 3

2 Tomtoms

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2 Tomtoms
with S. D. sticks

Musical score for 'S. D. sticks' in 2/4 time. The score consists of two staves. The top staff shows a bassoon line with various rests and grace notes. The bottom staff shows a piano line with a dynamic marking of *mp* followed by *f*. The piano line includes a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 2/4 time signature.

7

2

13

15

19 on metal rims of drums

A musical staff with 16 measures. The first measure has a double bar line and a repeat sign. Measures 2 through 16 each begin with a 'X' and a vertical bar, indicating a specific performance technique.

23

2

30

31

A musical score for a single instrument, likely a woodwind or brass, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The score consists of two staves of music. The first staff begins with a forte dynamic (f) and consists of a series of eighth-note patterns: a pair of eighth-note pairs, a single eighth note, a pair of eighth-note pairs, a single eighth note, and a pair of eighth-note pairs. The second staff begins with a single eighth note, followed by a pair of eighth-note pairs, a single eighth note, and a pair of eighth-note pairs. The music is written in common time.

35

38

40

2

MIDNIGHT RIDE!

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Allegro, with spirit! $\text{J} = 132$

B. D.*

near center of head near edge of head

2 hard yarn mallets

f

p

7

mp

mf

f

13

15

p

f

mf

p < **f**

19

23

throw bath towel
over drum head

2

mf

26 play in center of
head (over towel)

f

30

31

remove towel

p

36

38

p

43

49

mp

mf

p < **mp** > **p**

* place on stand or tilt so B. D. head faces ceiling