

World Percussion Ensemble Literature  
Compiled by  
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The following is a selection of works for percussion ensemble representing a variety of world music influences. Many are based on authentic indigenous music, while others borrow freely in matters of rhythm, style, modality, or instrumentation. I have included works by such contemporary composers as Steve Reich, John Cage, Henry Cowell, and Lou Harrison because these composers have expressed their debt to the music of the world's cultures in shaping their compositional styles. Indeed, it is difficult to draw a clear line of demarcation between many of our staple early percussion ensemble works and the music of world cultures that influenced them. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but a sample of the kinds of works available for exploring world music through the percussion ensemble medium.

***Contemporary Percussion Ensemble – Indonesian or Asian Influence***

Richard Kvistad	Gending Bali	7 players
Mantle Hood	Implosion	4 pl.
George Frock	Three Asiatic Dances	6 pl.
Gordon Peters	Swords of Moda Ling	9 pl.
John Bergamo	Piru Bole	Variable
Robert Damm	Hoo-Daiko	6 pl.
Ney Rosauro	Japanese Overture	7 pl.
Hideko Kawamoto	Around the Corner	4 pl.
Bob Becker	Palta	7 pl. + tabla
	Mudra	5 pl.
Walter Mays	Six Invocations to the Svava Mandala	13 pl.
Alan Hovhaness	Bacchanale	5 pl.
	October Mountain	6 pl.
Ronald Keezer	Fantasy on a Raga	8 pl. + trombone
Edward Jay Miller	Basho Songs	4 pl. + voice

***Contemporary Percussion Ensemble – African Influence***

Bob Becker	Atenteben	7 players
Kent Williams	African Sketches	4 pl.
Daniel Levitan	Variations on a Ghanaian Theme	3 pl.
Matthew Davidson	Millet Music (Found Objects)	Variable
Steve Reich	Clapping Music	2 pl.
	Music for Pieces of Wood	5 pl.
Theodore Frazuer	Uhuru	7 pl.
Michael Udow	African Welcome Piece	12 pl.
Emmanuel Sejourne	Akadinda Trio (Marimba Trio)	3 pl.
Phil Faini	Highlife	10 pl.
	Afro-Amoro	8 pl.
John Bergamo	Frembe (Frame Drums + Djembe)	4 pl.

***Contemporary Percussion Ensemble – Afro-Latin, Cuban, Brazilian Influence***

Morris Lang	Three Puerto Rican Songs	6 pl. + voice
Christopher Rouse	Ogoun Badagris	5 pl.
Amadeo Roldan	Ritmica 5 and 6	11 pl.
Ney Rosauero	Samba	6 pl.
	Cenas Brasileiras	4 pl.
	Fred No Frevo	4 pl.
	Brazilian Myths	4 pl.
Phil Faini	El Cumbanchero	12 pl.
Larry Snider	Four Comments for Latin Hand Instruments	4 pl.
J.B. Smith	Slap Shift (Congas)	6 pl.
	Congastück (Congas)	2 pl.
N. Scott Robinson	Trio for Ogun (Congas + Conch Trumpets)	6 pl.
Mitchell Peters	A La Nanigo	5 pl.
	A La Samba	6 pl.

***Contemporary Percussion Ensemble – Mixed or Other Influences***

Christopher Rouse	Ku-Ka-Ilimoku	4 players
Halim El-Dabh	Tabla-Tahmeel No. 1	Variable
	Hindi-Yaat No. 1	5 pl.
Eugene Novotney	Alone or Together	Variable
	Cross	Variable
Carlos Chavez	Toccata	6 pl.
Henry Cowell	Pulse	5 pl.
	Ostinato Pianissimo	8 pl.
Russell Peck	Lift Off!	3 pl.
N. Scott Robinson	Mirage (Riq Duet)	2 pl.
	Bear Talk (Pandeiro Duet)	2 pl.
Scott Meister	Taqsim	7 pl.
Robert Damm	World Beat Sonata	6 pl.
David MacBride	Friends (Frame Drums)	4 pl.
Michael Udow	Music for Cross Cultures No. 1	12 pl.
John Cage	First Construction	7 pl.
	Third Construction	4 pl.
	Amores	4 pl.
Cage/Harrison	Double Music	4 pl.
Lou Harrison	Canticle No 1	5 pl.
	Simfony No. 13	4 pl.
	Suite	5 pl.
	Bomba	5 pl.
Steve Reich	Nagoya Marimbas	2 pl.
Rich O'Meara	Puzzle Piece (Mallet Trio)	3 pl.

***Traditional Works for Marimba Ensemble***

Balalaika, arr. William Cahn	5 players
Un Misterio, arr. Cahn	4 pl.
The Jolly Caballero, arr. Cahn	5 pl.
La Negra, arr. Cahn	5 pl.
La Bamba, arr. Cahn	5 pl.
Maryen, arr. Larry Kaptain	4 pl.
Nandiume, arr. Kaptain	4 pl.
Pichulcalco, arr. Kaptain	4 pl.
Rondalla Aragonesa Enrique Granados	7 pl.
La Spagnola, arr. Ruth Jeanne	4 pl.
La Comparsa, Ernesto Lecuona, arr. Jose Bethancourt	7 pl.
Ritual Fire Dance, Manuel de Falla, arr. M. Peters	7 pl.
Tico-Tico, Ziquina Abreu, Arr. G. Peters	7 pl.
Malaguena, Ernesto Lecuona, Arr. G. Peters	7 pl.
Three Shona Songs, arr. Michael Williams	8 pl.
Shona Celebration, arr. Williams	8 pl.

***Published Materials for Exploring African Drumming***

Locke, David. *Drum Gahu: The Rhythms of West African Drumming*. Crown Point, IN: White Cliffs Media, 1987.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Kpegisu: A War Drum of the Ewe*. Tempe, AZ: White Cliffs Media, 1992.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Drum Damba: Talking Drum Lessons*. Crown Point, IN: White Cliffs Media, 1990.

Kofi, Francis and Paul Neely. *Traditional Dance Rhythms of Ghana*. Everett, PA: HoneyRock Publications, 1997.

Hartigan, Royal with Abraham Adzinyah and Freeman Donkor. *West African Rhythms for Drumset*. Miami, FL: Manhattan Music, 1995.

Konate, Famoudou and Thomas Ott. *Rhythms and Songs from Guinea*. Oldershausen, Germany: Lugert Verlag, 2000.

Blanc, Serge. *African Percussion: The Djembe*. Paris: Percudanse Association, 1997.

Billmeier, Uschii. *Mamady Keita: A Life for the Djembe*. Engerda, Germany: Arun-Verlag, 1999.