

# 15 MOMENTS

From – *The Time of Rivers*

Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Contrabass, and Percussion (vibraphone and bass drum)

***Commissioned by and dedicated to Paul Taub***

Frog Peak Music 2015

Tom Baker

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**Performance notes:**

15 Moments is a series of 15 pages, each lasting approximately 1 minute, labeled A-O. These pages are designed to be performed in any order, predetermined by the ensemble through discussion/rehearsal or using aleatoric means. The moments should be played *attaca*, (they are not to be considered "movements").

This piece is part of a larger cycle of works entitled The Time of Rivers. Each moment is a transcription of a moment experienced in/around rivers (mostly in the Western US and Canada). These moments are not meant to *sound* like a moment in a river or nature, but instead are mere impressions or translations of the *experience* of that moment.

Each page is approx. 1 minute long. Some pages are measured with time signatures and tempi, some are more free. Each bar in the free pages should be approx. 5 seconds.

There are 4 pages using a graphic notation called *Shendos*. These shapes are meant to guide the performer through an improvisation, and they represent the intensity of the sound at any given time. There are suggested pitch centers for these shapes, but they are optional.

Some pages have one or more instruments holding their final sounds into the next page, if possible.

The Vibraphone part includes pitches down to C#3. If a 4-octave vibraphone is unavailable, all of the pitches below F3 may be played one octave higher.

# Moment A Quartet

Transposed Score

♩ = 60

Musical score for Moment A, Quartet, measures 1-6. The score is in 2/4 time and features five staves: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 60. The score includes dynamic markings such as *pp* and *n.* (noisy), and articulation like a triplet in the Vibraphone part. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 7/4, then 5/4, 3/4, and back to 5/4.

Musical score for Moment A, Quartet, measures 7-10. The score is in 3/4 time and features five staves: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score includes dynamic markings such as *pp*, *ppp*, and *p*, and articulation like a fermata in the Bass Drum part. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 5/4, then 3/4, and back to 3/4. A performance instruction "hold into next moment if possible..." is present at the end of the section.

# Moment B

## Duo

(5 sec. per measure)

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*murmuring...  
any order of pitches*

*pp*

*pp*

*bow behind bridge  
any order of strings*

*p*

*Pont. (white-noise)*

*p*

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*mf*

*n.*

*bow behind bridge  
any order of strings*

*p*

*pp*

*n.*

# Moment C

## Solo (with bass drum)

(5 sec. per measure)

mostly textural, lots of air  
multiphonics, humming and key clicks

Score for Moment C, Solo (with bass drum), measures 1-6. The score is written for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The Bass Flute part features a melodic line with dynamic markings (crescendo and decrescendo) and a final note marked (EbFBb). The Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, and Double Bass parts are marked with a flat line and a vertical bar, indicating they are silent. The Bass Drum part features a rhythmic pattern of irregular shapes, marked *ppp* and with the instruction "rub rice randomly on bass drum head".

Bass Flute: *pitch centers (if there are pitches) (CDG)* (EbFBb)

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum: *rub rice randomly on bass drum head* *ppp*

Double Bass

Score for Moment C, Solo (with bass drum), measures 7-12. The score is written for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The Bass Flute part features a melodic line with dynamic markings (crescendo and decrescendo) and a final note marked (CDG). The Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, and Double Bass parts are marked with a flat line and a vertical bar, indicating they are silent. The Bass Drum part features a rhythmic pattern of irregular shapes, marked *ppp*.

Bass Flute: (AbBbEb) (CDG)

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum: *ppp*

Double Bass

# Moment D

## Duo

(5 sec. per measure)

Musical score for Moment D Duo, measures 1-6. The score is for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The tempo is 5 seconds per measure. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into six measures. In measure 1, the Bass Flute plays a half note G4 (mp) and a half note A4 (mp). In measure 2, the Bass Clarinet plays a half note G4 (mp) and a half note A4 (mp). In measure 3, the Bass Flute plays a half note B4 (p) and a half note C5 (p). In measure 4, the Bass Clarinet plays a half note B4 (p) and a half note C5 (p). In measure 5, the Bass Flute plays a half note D5 (p) and a half note E5 (p). In measure 6, the Bass Flute plays a half note F5 (p) and a half note G5 (p). The Bass Clarinet plays a half note F5 (p) and a half note G5 (p). The Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass are silent throughout the piece.

quickly, beginning in unison, flute keeps steady  
as clarinet slows slightly to fall out of phase.

Musical score for Moment D Duo, measures 7-12. The score is for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The tempo is 5 seconds per measure. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into six measures. In measure 7, the Bass Flute plays a half note G4 (mp) and a half note A4 (mp). In measure 8, the Bass Flute and Bass Clarinet play a half note B4 (pp) and a half note C5 (pp) in unison. In measure 9, the Bass Flute and Bass Clarinet play a half note D5 (pp) and a half note E5 (pp) in unison. In measure 10, the Bass Flute and Bass Clarinet play a half note F5 (pp) and a half note G5 (pp) in unison. In measure 11, the Bass Flute and Bass Clarinet play a half note A5 (pp) and a half note B5 (pp) in unison. In measure 12, the Bass Flute and Bass Clarinet play a half note C6 (pp) and a half note D6 (pp) in unison. The Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass are silent throughout the piece.

# Moment E

Solo (with bass drum)

(5 sec. per measure)

Bass Flute

8 *mostly textural, lots of air multiphonics, humming and key clicks*

Bass Clarinet

*pitch centers (if there are pitches) (DbEbAb)*

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

*rub rice randomly on bass drum head*

*ppp*

Double Bass

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

*(BbCE)*

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

*ppp*

*hold into next moment if possible...*

*ppp*

Double Bass

# Moment F

## Trio

(5 sec. per measure)

Bass Flute *pp*

Bass Clarinet *pp*

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass *pp* tremolo bow behind bridge

Bass Flute *pp* *ppp*

Bass Clarinet *pp* *ppp*

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass *pp* hold into next moment if possible...



# Moment G

## Duo

(5 sec. per measure)

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone *with slow bow*

Bass Drum

Double Bass

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

# Moment H

## Duo-Trios

(5 sec. per measure)

air only... white noise

Musical score for measures 1-6 of Moment H, Duo-Trios. The score is for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The time signature is 8/8. The tempo is 5 seconds per measure. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

- Bass Flute:** Measures 1-6. Starts with a whole note rest. In measure 2, a whole note is marked *pp*. In measure 3, a half note is marked *p*. In measure 4, a whole note is marked *p*. In measure 5, a whole note is marked *n.* In measure 6, a whole note rest.
- Bass Clarinet:** Measures 1-6. Starts with a whole note marked *pp*. In measure 2, a whole note rest. In measure 3, a whole note. In measure 4, a whole note. In measure 5, a whole note. In measure 6, a whole note rest.
- Vibraphone:** Measures 1-6. Starts with a whole note marked *pp* and *bowed*. In measure 2, a whole note rest. In measure 3, a whole note. In measure 4, a whole note. In measure 5, a whole note. In measure 6, a whole note rest.
- Bass Drum:** Measures 1-6. Whole note rests in all measures.
- Double Bass:** Measures 1-6. Whole note rests in all measures.

Musical score for measures 7-12 of Moment H, Duo-Trios. The score is for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The time signature is 8/8. The tempo is 5 seconds per measure. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

- Bass Flute:** Measures 7-12. Starts with a whole note marked *pp*. In measure 8, a whole note. In measure 9, a whole note marked *p*. In measure 10, a whole note. In measure 11, a whole note marked *n.* In measure 12, a whole note rest.
- Bass Clarinet:** Measures 7-12. Whole note rests in all measures.
- Vibraphone:** Measures 7-12. Starts with a whole note marked *pp*. In measure 8, a whole note rest. In measure 9, a whole note rest. In measure 10, a whole note. In measure 11, a whole note. In measure 12, a whole note rest.
- Bass Drum:** Measures 7-12. Whole note rests in all measures.
- Double Bass:** Measures 7-12. Starts with a whole note marked *pp*. In measure 8, a whole note. In measure 9, a whole note rest. In measure 10, a whole note. In measure 11, a whole note. In measure 12, a whole note rest.

# Moment I

## Duo

♩ = 60

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*p*

*mp*

(if needed, play notes 8va)-----,

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*mp*

*p*

*pp*

hold into next moment if possible...

# Moment J

Trio

(5 sec. per measure)

Musical score for Moment J, Trio, measures 1-6. The score is written for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The tempo is indicated as (5 sec. per measure). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is not explicitly shown but the notation suggests a 4/4 or similar meter. The score consists of six measures. The Bass Flute part is mostly rests with some notes in the final measure. The Bass Clarinet part features a melodic line with dynamics *pp*, *p*, and *pp*. The Vibraphone part has a sustained chord with dynamics *pp* and *pp*. The Bass Drum part has a steady pulse. The Double Bass part has a melodic line with dynamics *pp* and *p*. A note in the Vibraphone part in measure 5 is marked with a circled '8' and the instruction '(if needed, play notes 8va)'. The score ends with a double bar line in measure 6.

Musical score for Moment J, Trio, measures 7-12. The score is written for five instruments: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The score consists of six measures. The Bass Flute part is mostly rests. The Bass Clarinet part has a melodic line with dynamics *p* and *pp*, and a note in measure 10 is marked with a circled '8' and the instruction 'hold into next moment if possible...'. The Vibraphone part has a sustained chord with dynamics *pp* and *pp*. The Bass Drum part has a steady pulse. The Double Bass part has a melodic line with dynamics *p* and *pp*. The score ends with a double bar line in measure 12.

# Moment K

## Solo

(5 sec. per measure)

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone *soft mallet*  
*p*

Bass Drum *rub rice randomly on bass drum head*  
*pp* *drip rice randomly on bass drum head*

Double Bass

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone *p*

Bass Drum *pp*

Double Bass

# Moment L

## Duo

♩ = 60

non-vib.

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*ppp* *n.* *ppp* *n.*

hold into next moment if possible...

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*n.* *ppp* *n.* *ppp* *n.* *ppp* *n.*

# Moment M

## Solo

(5 sec. per measure)

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*bowed, mostly textural, mostly pont.  
bow behind bridge, battuto, bowing parallel to strings*

*pitch centers (if there are pitches)  
(DEA)*

*rub rice randomly on bass drum head*

*pp*

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*drip rice randomly on bass drum head*

*hold into next moment if possible...*

(BC#F#)

(DEA)

# Moment N

## Duo

(5 sec. per measure)

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

battuto

*p*

*ad lib random and angular rhythms  
no clear pitch  
leave space*

Bass Flute

Bass Clarinet

Vibraphone

Bass Drum

Double Bass

*hold into next moment if possible...*

*p*

*pp*



# Moment O

## Quartet

♩ = 60

First system of the musical score for 'Moment O' Quartet. It consists of five staves: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score includes dynamic markings such as *p*, *pp*, and *mp*. The Bass Flute and Bass Clarinet parts feature a triplet of eighth notes. The Double Bass part includes a *pizz.* marking and an *arco sul pont.* marking.

Second system of the musical score for 'Moment O' Quartet. It consists of five staves: Bass Flute, Bass Clarinet, Vibraphone, Bass Drum, and Double Bass. The time signature is 3/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score includes dynamic markings such as *p*, *pp*, and *mp*. The Bass Flute part features a triplet of eighth notes and a *pp* marking. The Bass Clarinet part includes a *p* marking and a *pp* marking. The Double Bass part includes a *p* marking, a *sul tasto* marking, and a *pizz.* marking. The text *hold into next moment if possible...* is written above the Bass Flute and Bass Clarinet staves.