

MASSED PIECES

***Crown Him with Many Crowns* AG35340 Matthew Compton 2015**

This big arrangement of a big hymn should grab the audience with the very first beat!

Work for accuracy on the malleted rhythm which is consistent throughout except measure 27 (which is, of course, at a page turn!), measure 49, and measure 74. Drill those three measures separately and be ready when they appear. Be sure to alternate your mallets (I like to use my dominant hand for the beat and sometimes half beat and my non-dominant for the off beats) and let the strong beats shine through. Follow the printed dynamics throughout, exaggerating the *fp* at the beginning and each time it appears. Those on bass mallets will really be driving here!

In the middle section, think twinkling stars in the stems up treble bells. Keep them soft and watch the LV markings.

You who are playing ▼ and ▼↑ for verse 3 at measure 50 may feel a little like you're rubbing your tummy and patting your head. Be sure you are not patting your tummy and rubbing your head! Drill down on the two one-measure patterns and keep them light (in spite of the *f* marking!). As Tammy Waldrop said, it's martellato, not Whack a Mole!

We'll review that finger-damped RT some of us learned in Scranton 2015 for the treble bells in the last measure when I get there. We'll want that to be really short so beat 2 will feel like a splash at the end!

***Joyous Spirit* RRBL5019 Valerie Stephenson 1999**

Just as the title suggests, this should be light and uplifting – even in its loud and martellato!

We will likely be on the slower end of the tempo marking, maybe 126-ish.

For decisions on whether or not to ring the notes in () and [], let's pretend we are all one big 6-octave choir – no one plays the notes in [] (m. 4, 18, 20) for the festival because even if you don't have the lower octaves, someone else in the room will! Everyone may ring the () because, again, someone in the room has the lower octaves to complete those musical lines.

▼ and ▼↑ need to be well prepared and light. Bring those dotted-half note lifts up to vertical and then right back down to prepare for the next ▼.

I *LOVE* the sound of pluck! Be the pizzicato strings here!

The two melody lines are marked in measure 61 as they play with each other. Bring them out! Treble bells pull back just a little so we'll hear those middle and low bell melodies.

That is one very long crescendo from m. 77 - 89! Start soft and build slowly...not too much on those upper octave too soon!

Feel the stretch in 92 and watch that *a tempo* cut off at the end. Best to memorize those last three measures!

TINS (cont'd)

Ring Around a Rainbow 17550 Barbara Kinyon 1998

Such a great piece for honing your articulations skills! Ring to pluck in m. 17-22 and 30 - 35(D6 and higher may TD), to martellato and martellato lift (make sure we can hear the difference!), to shake (take time to prepare the martellato after it!). Measure 39 - try a pluck lift instead of just ringing that G3 (no mart lift with that bell!).

Pay attention to the sometimes dramatic dynamic contrasts and keep the big chords together with good group breathing.

Have fun!

COPPERS

Rondo Passacaglia 1237 Cynthia Dobrinski 1987

Let's head for ♩=144! It would be great if I can conduct this in 1.

Measure 76-83 is my favorite spot! Keep it light and don't stomp on my toes!

Check out all those little *crescendos* and *decrescendos*. They really show the shape of the phrases.

We might not come all the way back to *a tempo* at 150, but we probably will at 158. Keep watch!

Let's waltz the audience around in circles (in a great way)!

Tower Praises CGB1045 Karen Buckwalter 2017

Put yourself in the bell tower here!

Be careful not to rush the marked tempo. Breathe a lot and work to land the big chords together.

Here's my challenge to you! No wrong notes at the sudden key changes. And work hard for a legato R in the eighth notes where indicated. We don't want them to sound choppy in between the LV measures just because the harmony changes faster.

Please add a *crescendo* m. 89 -93. I realize we are already *ff*, but this needs to build even more until it is heard in the neighboring towns on the last page!

I look forward to seeing you all very soon! Happy spring ringing!
-Barbara