

Sonic boom list

Skins –

Concert Bass Drum (laid flat on stand)

3 tom toms (Low, med, high)

Wood –

3 temple Blocks (medium, med-high, high)

Metals -

Tam tam

2 suspended cymbals (low, med)

3 hanging crotales – upper octave - (struck, not bowed – hung close to glockenspiel – you choose any 3 pitches, except Bb)

Aux perc (all optional – choose up to 2) –

vibraslap (it can be lv or you can specify the duration)

1 javanese ‘Angklung’ - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yeEBoiQaN4>

(Need 1 hand free to play 1 - give me 5 pitches to choose from, in order of preference)

1 or 2 small Chinese opera gongs (with pitch bend up)

shaker

tambourine

Tibetan ‘finger cymbals’ (not suspended, need 2 hands free to play them)

Notes:

For each instrument that is struck, pls specify soft, medium or hard mallets and leave it to the player to choose the most appropriate mallets.

Only sus cymbals, tam tam can be bowed. Long notes are most successful when bowing.

Important: by assembling all these individual instruments into a specific set up, they are no longer just independent instruments. Rather, the setup of the individual instruments results in 1 musical instrument, with its own limitations and possibilities, based on pure physics.

Always keep in mind the setup and placement of instruments. A graph of the setup has been provided. Make sure to allow enough time to switch mallets, move from instrument to instrument, etc. Try out the physics of movement yourself. See how long it takes to get from here to there, or to switch mallets, for example. Make friends w/ percussionists and try out the instruments.

Duration: with any long sounding instrument, like the cymbals, bass drum, Tam tam, finger cyms, etc – pls either mark LV (Let ring), or, in the absence of a written LV, then I’ll expect you to mark when the instrument should be muffled (stop the

sound). This is easily achieved by marking a rest where you want the sound stopped. Be consistent w/ this, for clarity, pls.

Recommended score/listening study:

Stravinsky – L'Histoire du Soldat 'complete', not the suite.

Essential reference book for percussion composition:

<https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/how-to-write-for-percussion-samuel-z-solomon-v9780199920358?duration=180>

Classic book on percussion in general

https://biblio.co.uk/book/percussion-instruments-history-blades-james/d/1200869769?aid=frg&gclid=Cj0KCQjwyOuYBhCGARIsAIdGQR07n8S0tisyGdbzzEkS2pqbcLglINApRenVRdNZpchV3Vmny8vEUSKAaAavgxEALw_wcB