

Work: Bang. volume 4

Composer: Gordon Hughes

Written: 2004

Players: 4

Duration: 2:33

Instrumentation: 4 pitched drums

Complete recording: available on 'REVOLUTIONS' RCD-691

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Program notes – Bang. volume 4

Bang. volume 4 was written as the final work in the **Bang.** series*. This piece is an explosive work that displays the dynamic and primeval feeling that only drums can inspire. Use of strong accented notes and the vocal rhythms add to the intensity of this piece to get your blood pumping and your heart pounding.

Written for four tuned toms, **Bang. volume 4** combines basic rhythmic motives to create various levels of rhythmic density. From simple eighth notes (played on a single hand) to each line carrying an independent rhythmic idea, this work explores rhythmic energy through density and layers. The incorporation of the voice (and also the tuning of the toms) explores the duality between rhythm ('untuned' percussion) and pitch.

* The **Bang.** series is a sequentially written set of 4 percussion ensemble works designed to introduce developmental reading, technical concepts and expressive directions.

Bang. volumes 1 and 2 utilise easily available band instruments. Structurally, repeated sections aid in the reinforcement of learned concepts. **Bang.** volumes 3 and 4 take material from previous volumes and continue developmental processes whilst extending previous concepts.

Across the **Bang.** series, full and sparse textures promote ensemble listening skills whilst solo/soli passages work to develop player confidence (other parts develop accompanying skills)

*The **Bang.** series was written in 2004 by two leading percussion performers and educators, Mary Broughton and Gordon Hughes at the request of a group of Australian percussion educators.*