Matthew Peterson

Thunderheads

for two percussionists

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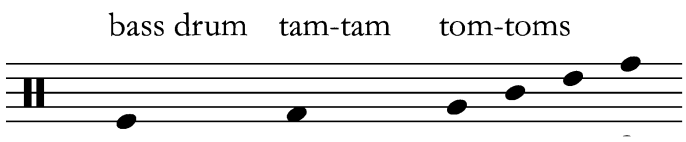
instrumentation

two setups, each containing:

large bass drum
large tam-tam

four tom-toms (low to med. high)

instrument key



instructions

beaters
beaters are only suggested, with exact beater selection left to the musicians

laissez vibrer sempre
always let vibrate unless otherwise indicated

setup
instrument setups used should mirror one another as much as possible in tone, timbre, and appearance

stereophonic effects
the work is designed for the players to play from opposite ends of the stage (or from opposing balconies, etc.) to create a stereo effect - setups should face one another in "mirrored" fashion

"waves technique"
the waves technique - pioneered by Per Nørgård in *Waves* (1969) - is a gradual displacement of stress from one note in a repeated pattern to another, so that the listener experiences a multivalent pulse where the "beat" is constantly changing (see mm. 40-60, 70-81)

program note

A thunderhead is a *cumulonimbus* cloud, a tall and dense formation that often brings heavy rain, thunder and lightning.

Thunderheads is a fanfare. Two players with identical setups are separated in space and echo each other in canons and imitations. The effect suggests two great storm cells approaching from a great distance before colliding.

acknowledgements

Thunderheads is dedicated to Jonathan Hess and Dave Hagedorn, with thanks for their dedication to new music and for their superb music-making.

contact

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duration c. 3'

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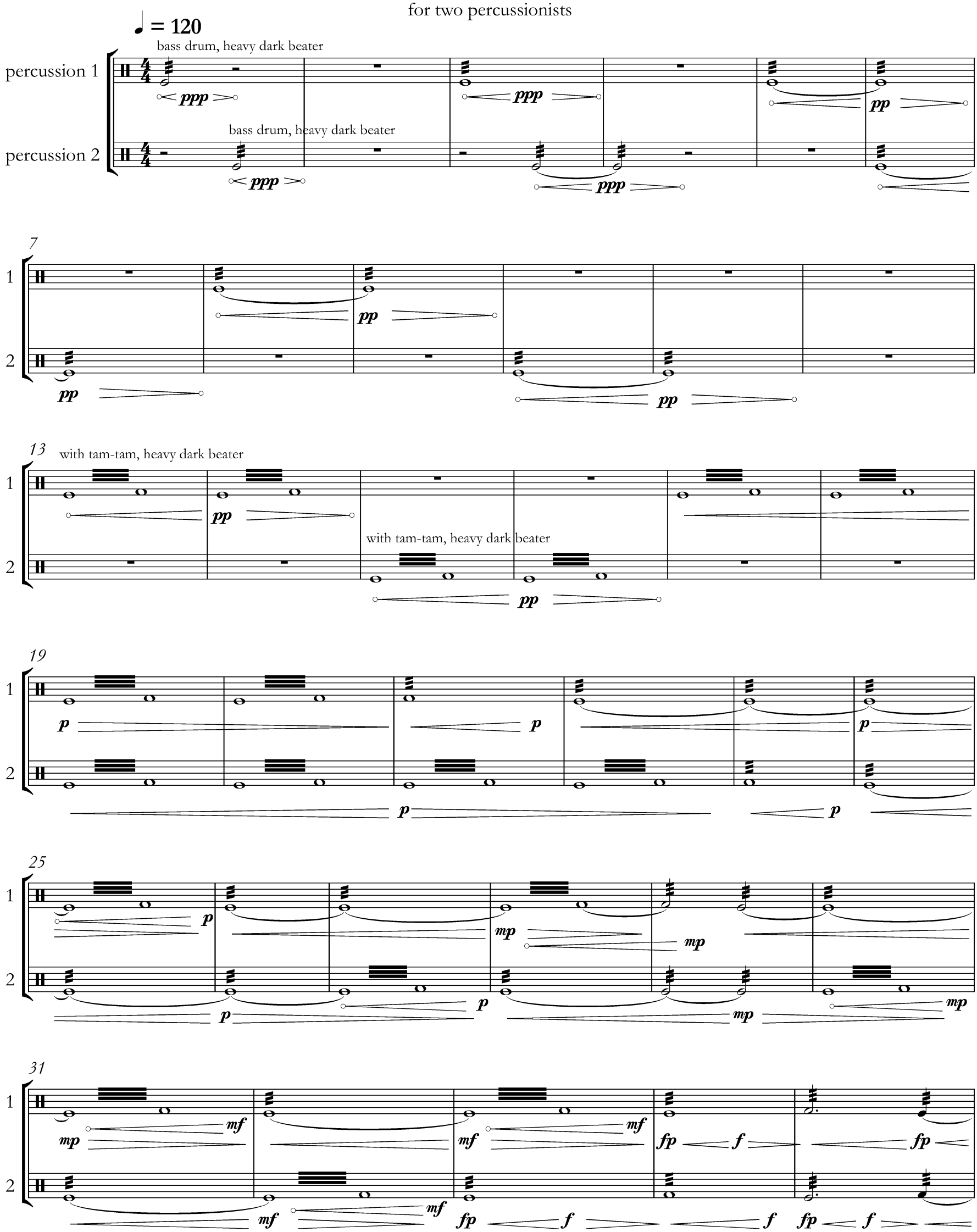
Matthew Peterson (2011)



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36

(l.v.)

(l.v.)

40

tom-toms, hard felt mallets
1 "waves technique"

tom-toms, hard felt mallets
2 "waves technique"

44

sim.

48

52

56

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59

1 mf pp cresc. poco a poco

2 pp cresc. poco a poco

63

1 ff

2 ff

67

1 (Tam) (B.D.) ffp ff ffp ff

2 (B.D.) ffp ff (Tam) ffp ff ffp

71

1 p ff p ff

2 ff p ff p ff

75

1 pp sub. ff

2 pp sub. ff fp

78

1 fp mf p sub. fp f f

2 mf mf p sub. fp f f ffp

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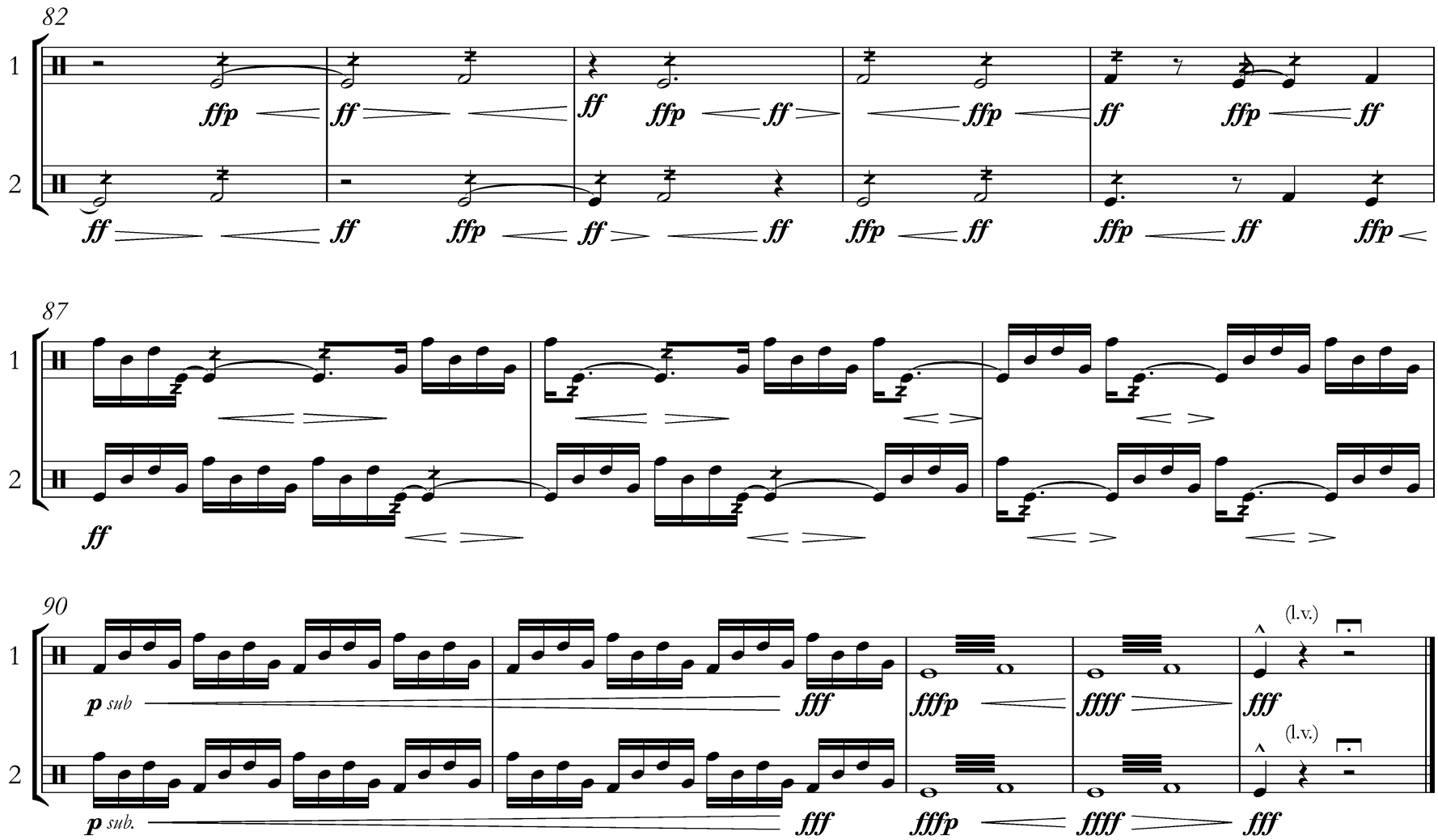

Matthew Peterson
Näsviken
6-20-2011

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