

TMEA ALL-STATE PERCUSSION ETUDES

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2-Mallets

FOCUS ON...

First Steps:

Sticking options - avoid double-strokes w/ RH lead at the start

Recognize patterns - step-wise motions, chromatic motions, chords/arpeggios

Next Steps:

Phrasing - add slight agogic weight according to slur markings and beat 1's for a "dance-like" 3/8 feel

Phrasing - adding shapings to accentuate the natural musical lines

Musical peaks - m. 42 (loudest), m. 37 (second loudest), m. 17 (third loudest)

Music valleys - ending (softest), m. 9 & 25 (second softest)

4-Mallets

FOCUS ON...

First Steps:

Technique - develop coordination of LH ostinato and RH melody (A & B sections)

Note accuracy - practice hands separately

Next Steps:

Phrasing - add slight agogic weight on beat 1 to create a smooth "dance-like" 3/4 feel

Phrasing - adding shapings to accentuate the natural musical lines

Balance - bring down the accompaniment voices and bring out the melody lines

Mallet Selection - graduated set to have warm sound for the bass, even sound in 2 & 3, then harder melody line in 4

Snare Drum

FOCUS ON...

First Steps:

Sticking Options - experiment with what works for you - RH consistent, LH grace notes/low notes, alternating...I prefer a RH consistent flow

Timing - work with metronome and/or Tonal Energy to establish clear sense of pulse

Next Steps:

Phrasing - add slight agogic weight to establish the meter throughout the etude; this creates a "melodic" flow

Rolls - even sound with 16th-note base on both tied and untied rolls

Rhythm accuracy - hand evenness on 16th-note passages

Timpani

FOCUS ON...

First Steps:

Drum accuracy - first work on mm. 79-end-this is hardest part of etude

Stroke types - rebound, rebound, rebound-don't stop mallets and strive for a full, rich sound on every single note

Sticking - mark your music to ensure consistent practice and development

Next Steps:

Hands Development - practice exercises to develop comfortable and even double-strokes around the drums

Phrasing - adjust stroke types and agogic weight to create natural flow and added character

ALL INSTRUMENTS - FOCUS ON...

Sound Quality & Natural Motions/Technique

THANKS TO...



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