

THE SPARROWS OF KESHUM



DEREK BROMME



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Albuquerque, NM
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for Strikepoint

THE SPARROWS OF KESHUM

Cat. 20872

Level 4-

Handbells used: 5 - 7 octaves



All groups ring notes in range
The Water Dip technique on p.8 is optional

Intense ♩ = 160

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Measures 1-8 of the second system, featuring various time signatures (6/8, 2/4, 3/8, 7/8) and dynamics (f, LV).

9 10 11 12 13 14

mp *cresc.* *Accents simile through m. 81*

15 16 17 18 19

20 21 22 23 24

IV

25 26 27 28 29

30 31 32 33 34

f R

mf LV *mp*

35 36 37 38

LV LV

39 40 41 42

LV LV

43 44 45 46

LV LV

47 48 49 50

mf LV
mp

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51 52 53 54

LV LV

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55 56 57 58

LV LV

59 60 61 62

LV LV

63 64 65 66 R LV LV

67 68 69 70 LV *

71 72 73 74 LV LV

75 76 77 78 LV LV **

* mm. 68-69: D5 scored in bass clef

** mm. 78-82: C5 scored in treble clef

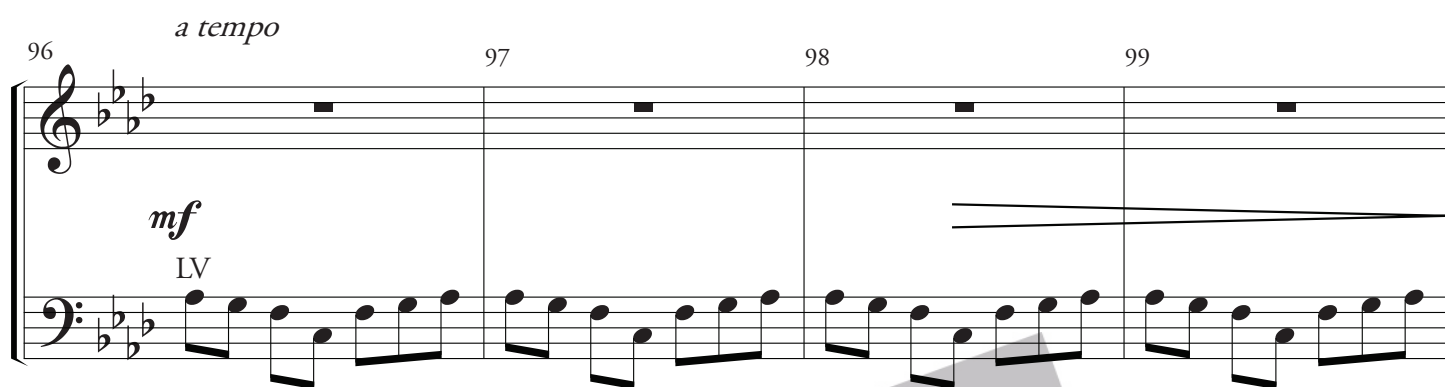
The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The score is divided into measures 79 through 95. Measures 79-82 feature a complex texture with multiple layers of notes and rests, including a wavy line in the Treble staff at the top. Measures 83-86 show a transition with a 'rit.' marking. Measures 87-95 are marked with 'Out of Time' and feature various performance instructions: 'R WD **' at measure 87, 'SB' at measure 86, 'WD' at measures 89 and 91, 'WD **' at measure 93, and 'R' at measure 94. The score concludes with a double bar line at measure 95.

*mm. 87-95: C5 and B-nat4 are scored in treble clef

**mm. 87, 89, 91, 93: Water Dip pitches until they sound down a half step to B-nat, then remove bell from water.
m. 95: WB both Db4 and Db5. As soon as the pitches are bent to C, ring the C4 and C5 bells to sustain the sound.

96 *a tempo* 97 98 99

mf
LV



100 101 102 103

mf
R
p



104 105 106 107



108 109 110 111



112 113 114 115

116 117 119

120 121 122 123

LV

LV

ff LV

LV

LV

* mm. 121-122: D5 scored in bass clef

124

125

126

127

LV

LV

128

129

130

131

LV

132

133

134

135

137

138

R

f

139

140

141

142

143

144

THE SPARROWS OF KESHUM

BY DEREK BROMME

Composer's Note

The Sparrows of Keshum was inspired by the fantasy world of author R.R. Virdi in his novel "The First Binding." He created the city of *Keshum* which is, to me, reminiscent of ancient Baghdad or Marrakech. The *Sparrows* are not birds, but rather a band of street urchin thieves who (*spoiler alert*) overthrow their masters and win their freedom.

The piece is written using the Hindu Scale, also known as the double harmonic minor scale, which has a rather exotic sound I thought fitting for *Keshum*.

In Western music, we are limited to the notes we have on the piano. Many Asian and Middle Eastern cultures use instruments and scales that play between the notes we commonly hear. The optional water dips in the piece are to help showcase these sounds.

