

Jay C. Batzner

STALKER

(2016)

for percussion soloist

UNSAFE BULL MUSIC

Program Notes

Stalker is based on the book *Roadside Picnic* by Arkady and Boris Strugatsky and was composed for Aaron Ragsdale. In this book, aliens have visited Earth and left strange objects behind in certain “zones” around the globe. Stalkers are black market dealers who enter these zones and procure these rare and often dangerous objects. In this composition, the mundane world is represented by the tin cans and flower pots. The various mysterious alien artifacts are the more standard percussion instruments.

The alien objects encountered are, in order: Empty, Carbonated Clay, Full Empty, Hell Slime, and the Golden Sphere.

Percussion Key

The diagram illustrates the Percussion Key for the composition, organized into three stations. Each station is represented by a set of five staves. Station I includes tin cans, clay pots, bongos, and tambourine. Station II includes snare, temple blocks, triangles, bamboo chimes, and flexatone (relative pitch). Station III includes tuned metal pipes. The diagram uses musical notation to show the relative pitch of each instrument across the stations.

Station I

- tin cans
- clay pots
- bongos
- tambourine

Station II

- snare
- temple blocks
- triangles
- bamboo chimes
- flexatone (relative pitch)

Station III

- tuned metal pipes

Stalker

for Aaron Ragsdale

Jay C. Batzner

$\text{♩} = 92$

Pots & Cans

Station I

f *f* *f*

6

f *f* *sfz p* *f*

12

sfz p *f* *sfz p* *f*

17

sfz p *sfz p* *f* *p*

22

f *p* *f* *p*

25

f *p* *p* *f*

28

p *f* *p*

Empty

33 $\text{♩} = 60$

I

Blocks & Metals
sempre l.v.

with hands

p *mf* *p* *p* *f* *p*³

III 38 *p* $\text{♩} = 92$

I 44 *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

III

Pots & Cans

I 49 *p* *f* *p*

I 54 *f* *p* *f* *pp*

I 59 *f* *p* *pp*

Carbonated Clay

I 65 $\text{♩} = 112$

II Skins *p* *f*

II 70 *f* *p*

II 73 *f* *fp*

77

II

f

82

II

87

I

II

$\text{♩} = 92$
Pots & Cans

f

92

I

p < f *p < f* *sfz p* *f³*

97

I

p *sfz p* *f* *p* *sfz p* *f*

101

I

f

105

I

f *ff*

110

I

f

4
Full Empty

♩=60

Blocks & Metals
sempre l.v.

III

114

p < *mf* > sempre l.v. *p* *p* *p*

*p*³

III

121

p *p*

III

127

f *pp*

f

Hell Slime

Senza misura
Skins

II

132

superball

n.<>n. *f* *n.<>n.* *f* *n.<>n.* *f* *p* *n.<>n.* *n.<>n.*

II

140

superball

n.<>n. *f* *p* *f* *flop, gross* *superball* *superball*

II

146

superball

p *f* *superball* *superball*

♩=92
152 Pots & Cans

I

n. *f* 3 3 *p* *f* 3 3 3

156

I

p *f* *p* 3 3 *f*

III

f *p* *f* 3

Blocks & Metals

160

III

p *f* *p* *f* 3

164

III

p *f* *p*

Golden Sphere

169 Pots & Cans

♩=60

I

f

III

p sempre l.v.

Blocks & Metals

174

III

p

6
180

III

Musical notation for measures 180-185. The upper staff contains six measures, each with a repeat sign. The lower staff contains six measures: measure 180 is a whole rest; measure 181 contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note F4, and a quarter note E4; measure 182 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a quarter note B3; measure 183 contains a quarter note A3, a quarter note G3, and a quarter note F3; measure 184 contains a quarter note E3, a quarter note D3, and a quarter note C3; measure 185 contains a quarter note B2, a quarter note A2, and a quarter note G2.

186

III

Musical notation for measures 186-190. The upper staff contains five measures, each with a repeat sign. The lower staff contains five measures: measure 186 contains a whole note G#4; measure 187 contains a whole rest; measure 188 contains a whole note G#4; measure 189 contains a whole rest; measure 190 contains a whole note G#4.

repeat final measure
until it is enough