The Art of Docking

By Nathaniel Currie

Frequently Asked Questions

What to do when there is a rest?

Bass Drum: Let drum head ring throughout unless instructed to dampen or dead stroke.

Suspended Cymbal: Dampen cymbal at rests throughout unless instructed to let ring.

Tam-tam: Let ring throughout unless instructed to dampen (’ used).

Why are there two types of slurs?

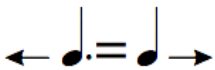
Ordinary use — let ring (l.v.)

Continue roll over bar line to tied note value as indicated.

What are the double bar lines?

Double bar lines indicate the measure where a metric modulation occurs. This is to aid in visual identification and preparation.

How to read metric modulations?



These symbols appear for each metric modulation and indicate how the subdivision has modulated. This example illustrates that the duration of a crotchet after the double bar line is equal to the duration of a dotted crotchet before the double bar line i.e. slowing down.

Glossary of Terms & Symbols

Bass Drum

Play on skin / head

Centre of drum

Play on hoop / rim

Edge of drum skin *or* hoop depending on context

Dead stroke (d.s.)

Apply pressure to skin with one stick to raise pitch. Width of wedge indicates pressure.

Suspended Cymbal

Play on bow

+

Strike whilst damping

Play on bell

d.s

Dead stroke

Tam-tam

Play on edge of tam-tam

Scrape stick from centre to edge for duration of notehead. At end of gesture, violently fling stick off surface and let ring.

+

Strike whilst damping

Dampen

Rub stick around edge for duration of notehead

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written for Line Upon Line Percussion

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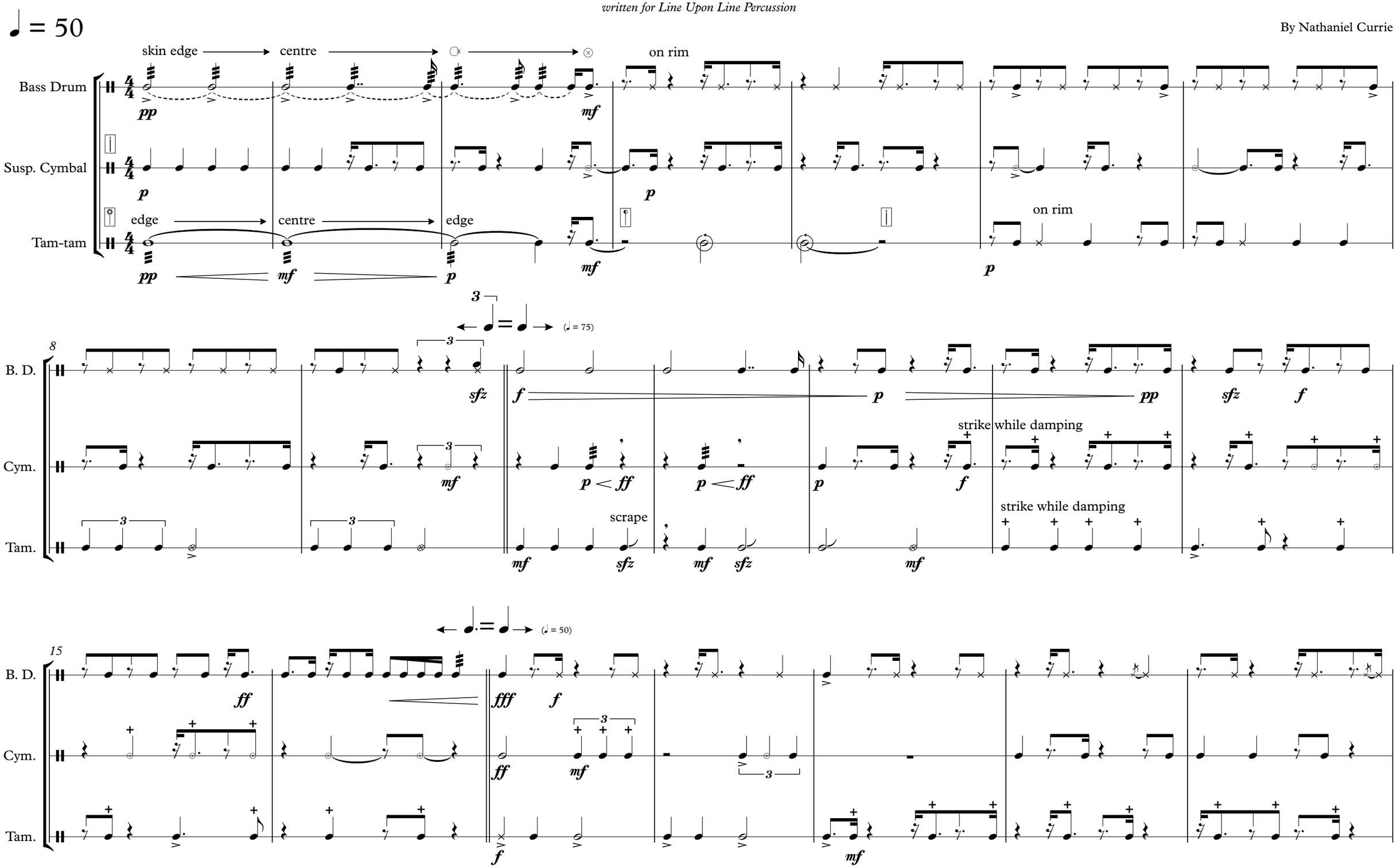
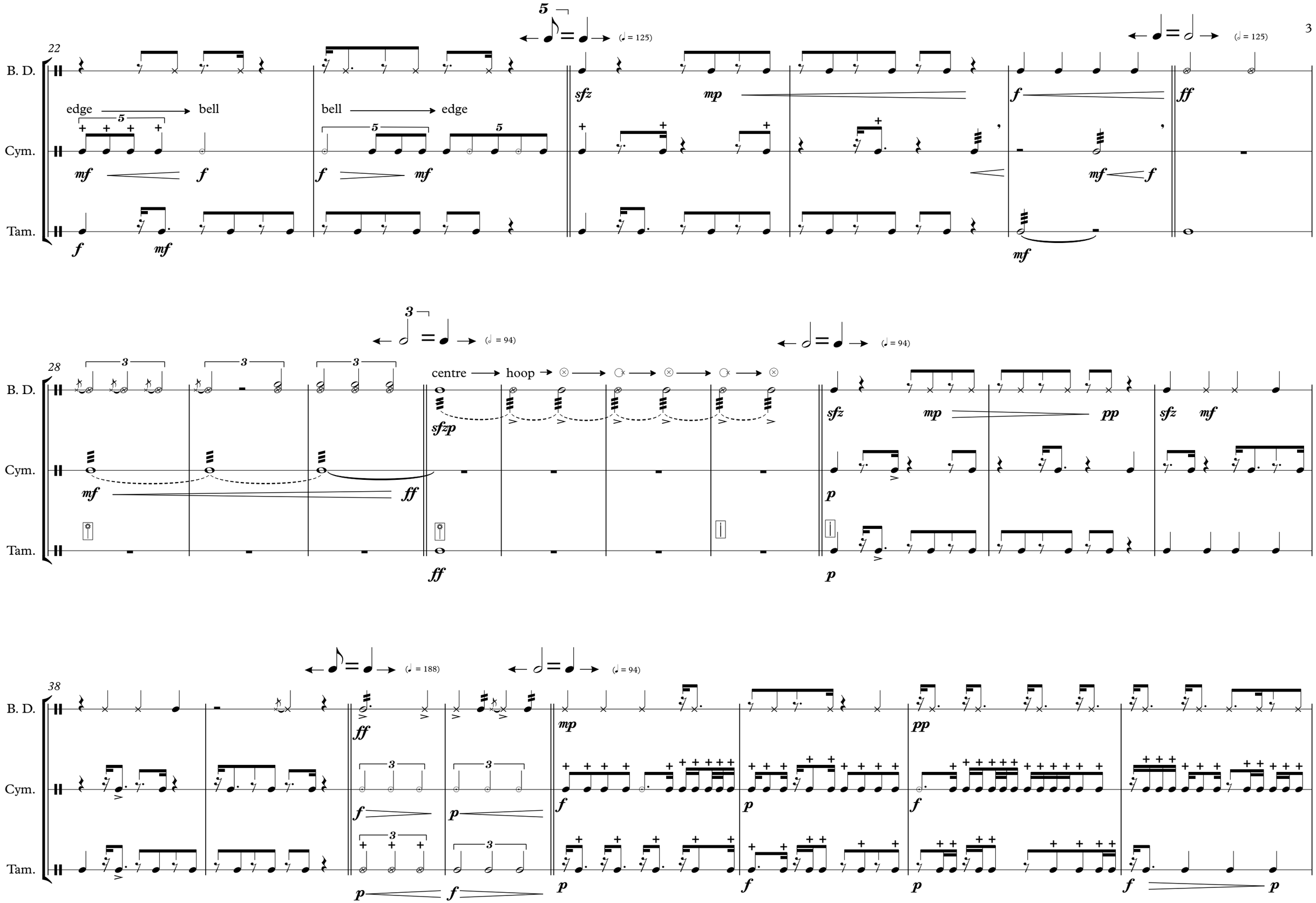



22
B. D.
Cym.
Tam.
edge
bell
bell
edge
(♩ = 125)
(𝅗𝅥 = 125)
28
centre
hoop
(𝅗𝅥 = 94)
(♩ = 94)
38
(♩ = 188)
(♩ = 94)

46

B. D.

Cym.

Tam.

(pp) ff

pp sfz

pp

dead stroke

mp mp sfz

mf

d.s

pp sfz

pp ff

mf

f ff

d.s

f ff

ff

pp sfz

f pp

ff mp

mf ff

mf

53

B. D.

Cym.

Tam.

mf

f

ff

p ff

p f ff

mp

ff

p ff

f

ff mf

ff

ff

pp mf

gradually
release damp

5 = ♩ → (♩ = 117)

61

B. D.

Cym.

Tam.

f

p f

pp

f

d.s.

mp

f

mp f

ff

mp

ff

f

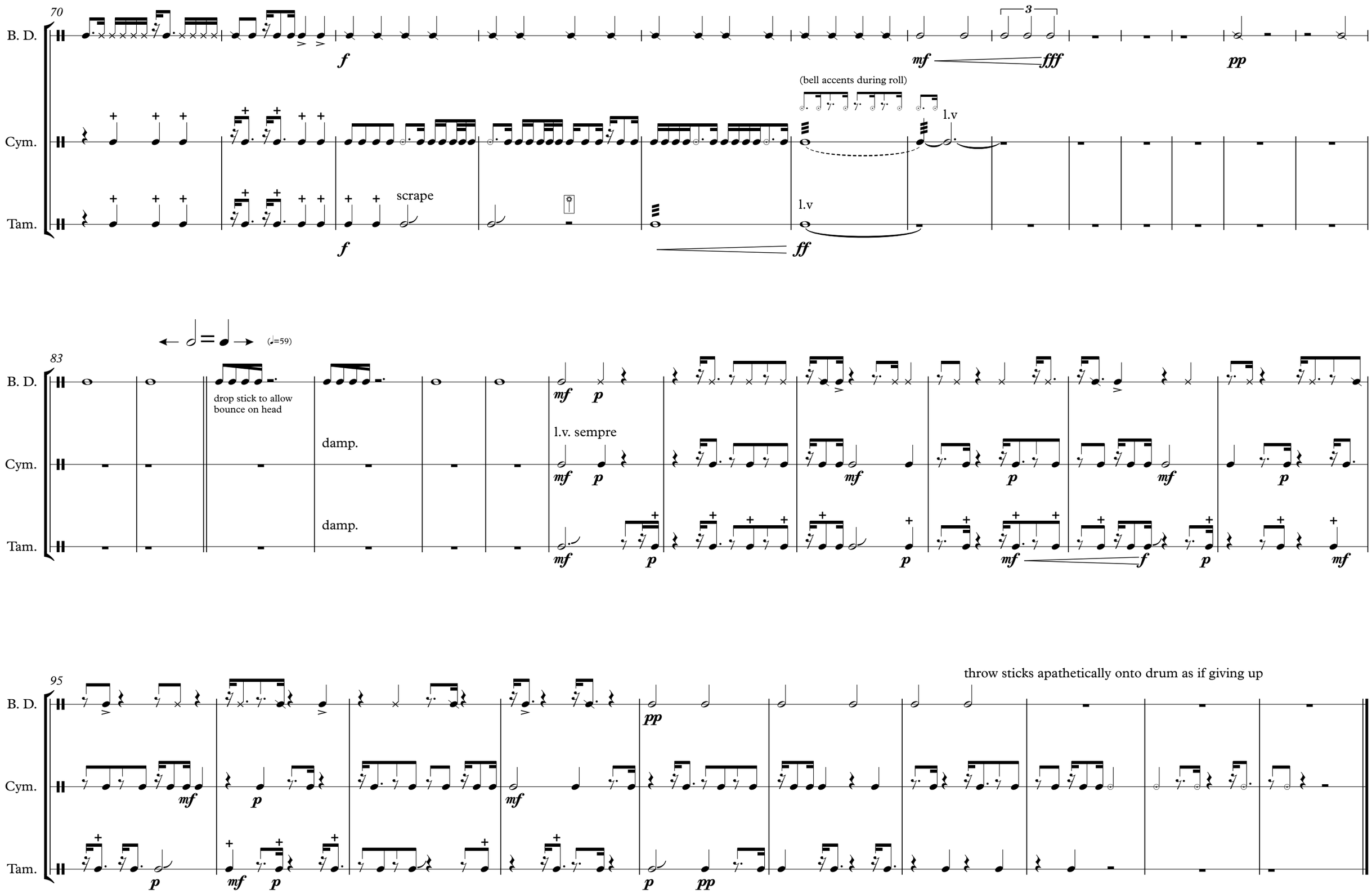
mp f

mp

ff

mp

ff


70
B. D.
Cym.
Tam.
(bell accents during roll)
l.v
scrape
l.v
83
(♩=59)
drop stick to allow bounce on head
damp.
damp.
l.v. sempre
95
throw sticks apathetically onto drum as if giving up