

## THE DMA MAJOR FIELD EXAM IN PERCUSSION

### **Part I. Listening**

Standard “drop the needle-“ type test

Around 10 examples for each category

Students will write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) on each

Categories:

1. Percussion Ensemble  
Will focus on John Cage, Iannis Xenakis, and James Wood
2. Solo Marimba  
Will focus on standard repertoire
3. Solo Multiple-Percussion  
Will focus on standard repertoire

### **Part II. Percussion History**

20 questions that will focus on the history of percussion music

Will deal primarily with the dates of composers and master percussion pieces

Ex. Order ten composers by their date of birth

Ex. Order fifteen percussion masterworks by their composition date

### **Part III. Pedagogy**

Students will teach two 15-minute lessons (1 pitched, 1 non-pitched)

Will focus on large playing issues (identifying problems and fixing them)

### **Part IV. Performing**

Two days prior to the exam, students will be given:

1. A short marimba piece (1-2 minutes)
2. A short multiple-percussion piece (1-2 minutes)

Students will then perform the works after the allotted amount of time