

Malcolm Dedman

Battle of Wits

for Piano Duet with Percussion

2012

Note: the first pianist is required to play a pair of bongos which are to be positioned to the immediate right of the piano;
the second pianist is required to play a pair of conga drums which are to be positioned to the immediate left of the piano.

This piece is dedicated to the Maclé Duo who requested its creation

Duration: 3 mins 15 secs

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Note: the texts in *italics* are for interpretation of the 'story' behind this piece.
It is not necessary for these to be recited.

Presto, ♩ = 144

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The first system of the score includes five staves: Bongos, Piano 1, Piano 2, and Conga Drums. The Bongos staff shows a sequence of 6/4, 4/4, and 6/4 time signatures. The Piano 1 staff features a treble clef and a *ff* dynamic marking. The Piano 2 staff features a bass clef and a *ff* dynamic marking. The Conga Drums staff shows a sequence of 6/4, 4/4, and 6/4 time signatures. *8va* and *8vb* markings are present above and below the piano parts respectively. *ff* and *f* dynamic markings are also present. *8va* and *8vb* markings are present above and below the piano parts respectively. *ff* and *f* dynamic markings are also present.

The second system of the score includes two staves: Pno. 1 and Pno. 2. The Pno. 1 staff features a treble clef and a *f* dynamic marking. The Pno. 2 staff features a bass clef. *8va* and *8vb* markings are present above and below the piano parts respectively. *f* dynamic marking is also present.

8^{va} ('I am listening, really!')

ff

('My point is this')

p

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

ff

(8)

3

3

10 *8^{va}*

mf *p*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

p *mf* *f*

('Oh no!')

('I disagree')

Ped.

8^{va} ('Listen to me again')

15

mf *f*

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

f *più f*

('Not again!')

('I disagree')

Ped.

(You're getting it wrong!)

Pno. 1

(I can turn your argument upside down!)

Pno. 2

20

(I can turn yours upside down too!)

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

rit.

A tempo

8va

f ('This is my point, again!')

Pno. 1

(I'm not listening!)

(And this is mine!)

Pno. 2

8vb

25 (8)

Pno. 1

più f *ff* To Pair of Bongos

Pno. 2

(8)

(I will drum my argument home!)

With hands

Bong.

ff

Pno. 2

ff

(Oh no!)

(8)---|

Bong.

(See how I can show off!)

Pno. 2

35

Bong.

Pno. 2 *f* *Red.*

(I still disagree)

Bong. *(I seem to be alone in this matter)*

RH on Bongos *p*
LH on Piano *mf*

Pno. 1 *p* *mf*

Pno. 2 *To Pair of Conga Drums*

40

To Piano

Pno. 1 *p* *ff* *gva* *(I don't care for any of this!)*

Cong. *(I can also drum my argument home!)* *With hands* *ff*

(I can show off too!)

(8)

45

A tempo
 ('Let battle begin')
 With sticks

rit.

Bong.

Pno. 1 *p* To Pair of Bongos

Pno. 2 *p* RH on Piano LH on Congas *f*

Cong. *p* *f* With sticks *ff*

50

Bong.

Cong.

55

Bong.

Cong.

To Piano

Pluck, or use plectrum, inside piano, approximate pitch.

(*Stop, stop!*)

ff

Red.

Adagio, ♩ = 60

I.v.

Cong.

f

Both players look at each other, then slowly resume positions at the piano.

60 (*'Why are we fighting?'*)

(*'I don't know'*)

p

3

Pno. 1

To Piano

(*'Why are we fighting?'*)

(*'Nor I'*)

p

3

Pno. 2

(‘Why don’t we accept our differences?’)

(‘We are the same family’)

Piano score for measures 65-69. Pno. 1 (right hand) features chords with *8va* markings and a *mf* dynamic. Pno. 2 (left hand) features a melodic line with a *mf* dynamic. The lyrics are: (‘Why don’t we accept our differences?’) and (‘We are the same family’). A *Ped.* marking is present at the bottom.

Piano score for measures 70-74. Pno. 1 (right hand) features chords with an *8* marking and a *f* dynamic. Pno. 2 (left hand) features a melodic line with a *f* dynamic and a triplet. The lyrics are: (‘Let’s get along together’).

Piano score for measures 75-79. Pno. 1 (right hand) features chords with *p* and *pp* dynamics. Pno. 2 (left hand) features a melodic line with *p* and *pp* dynamics, and a *ppp* dynamic. The lyrics are: (‘And live in harmony, love..’) and (‘And peace’). A *8^{ub}* marking is present at the bottom.