17 HANDS

for Piano & Intermediate Mallet Ensemble

Written & Arranged by:
HUNTER W. DAVIS

featuring the Original Music of:
ALFONSO PEDUTO

17 Hands by Alfonso Peduto, arranged by Hunter W. Davis
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OVERVIEW

Based on the original composition from Alfonso Peduto's "This Is Not a Piano, Vol. 2", this arrangement for piano and intermediate mallet percussion captures the hypnotic repetition and gradual transformation that define the original work. What begins as a simple, looping idea steadily expands—layer by layer—into a rich, interlocking texture of rhythmic and tonal motion.

The piece opens with soft, transparent sonorities and an unwavering pulse. Each phrase introduces new colors and rhythmic displacements, allowing the texture to evolve organically while maintaining a steady sense of forward momentum. As the music progresses, the mallets and piano intertwine to create an intricate balance between clarity and density.

Midway through, layers of 5-against-6 ostinati emerge, testing the ensemble's rhythmic precision and internal pulse. In the latter half, the texture becomes increasingly dense and rhythmically saturated, demanding heightened focus and communication among players. Maintaining ensemble-wide clarity—particularly during transitions between overlapping rhythmic figures—is key to preserving the piece's cohesion and sense of motion.

By the closing section, earlier motives reappear in new harmonic and textural contexts, eventually dissolving into overlapping rhythmic fragments that mirror the work's beginning. With its reliance on recurring figures and polymetric interplay, "17 Hands" challenges performers to balance patience with precision, yielding a result that is at once meditative and mechanical—a sonic exploration of repetition as momentum.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Ensemble Pulse & Alignment
Keep the tempo steady and collective—everyone should feel the same internal pulse. Focus on locking into the ensemble's groove rather than individual phrasing.

Dynamic Control & Transparency
Soft dynamics must stay full and resonant, not thin or hesitant. Let the texture breathe so early sections feel spacious and clear.

Clarity in Dense Textures
When the music thickens, prioritize blend and precision over sheer volume. Listen across the ensemble to maintain clarity through complex rhythms. Ideally begin to form one, single sound.

Interlocking Rhythms
Repeated figures must interlock, not compete. Think horizontally—align the composite rhythm instead of your own beat.

Shaping Repetition
Each recurrence should evolve slightly in tone or balance. Subtle dynamic and color shifts keep the music moving forward.

OVERVIEW

INSTRUMENTATION

MALLET PERCUSSION

- **1 Solo Marimba (5-Octave)**
  Four soft mallets
- **5 Marimbas (4.3-Octave)**
  Two soft mallets
- **1 Xylophone (3.5-Octave)**
  Two medium-dark mallets
- **5 Vibraphones (Three 3-Octave & Two 3.5-Octave)**
  Two soft mallets (Vibraphone #5 w/ Three soft mallets)
- **1 Glockenspiel (2.5 to 3-Octave) & Crotales (2-Octave) Combo**
  Two medium plastic mallets
- **1 Piano/Keys**
  via MainStage/live playback, or acoustic grand piano

Full Score

from Alfonso Peduto's "This Is Not a Piano, Volume 2"

17 HANDS

for Piano & Intermediate Mallet Ensemble

Alfonso Peduto
arr. Hunter Davis

Allegro (♩ = 131)

Marimba (Solo)

I

II

Marimba III

IV

V

Xylophone

Vibraphone III

Glockenspiel & Crotales

Piano

w/ soft mallets

Bowed Vibes

Bowed Crotales

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25 26 27 28 F 30 31 32

Sl. Mar.

I

II

Mar. III

IV

V

Xylo.

Vibes

Vib. III

Glock. & Crot.

Piano

w/ soft mallets
5 against 6 — pattern repeats every 5 counts

w/ medium-dark mallets
5 against 6 — pattern repeats every 5 counts

mf p mf pp ppp mp (4)

I

42

43

44

J

46

47

48

Sl. Mar.

I

II

Mar. III

IV

V

Xylo.

(8)

(16)

Vib. III

Glock. & Crot.

Piano

56 57 59 60 61

Sl. Mar.

I

II

Mar. III

IV

V

Xylo.

II

Vib. III

IV

V

Glock. & Crot.

Crotales

w/ medium-plastic mallets

Piano

M

mf

f

(4)

68 69 **P** 71 72 73 **Q** poco rall. 75 76 77

Sl. Mar.

I

II

Mar. III

IV

V

Xylo.

I

II

Vib. III

IV

V

Glock. & Crot.

Glockenspiel

w/ medium-plastic mallets

P

Q poco rall.

Piano

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