



# A VAN DOWN BY THE RIVER

an Original Solo for Marching Snare Drum

Written & Arranged by:  
ZACHARY L. BRUMFIELD

**A Van Down by the River** by Zachary L. Brumfield  
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## OVERVIEW ————— PERFORMANCE NOTES

With my solo "A Van Down by the River," I decided from the very beginning to branch out and expand my compositional ideas and my abilities as a drummer and performer.

As you'll notice, there are no stick tricks in the solo. I wrote this with the sole intent of experimenting with phrasing and rhythmic/sonic taste, as opposed to having a more visually oriented piece. As I usually do when writing solo pieces, I followed a general structure with three segments, or movements if you will.

The first section introduces a motif that can be found woven throughout the piece, then builds into what can be described as an “opening statement.” The next section is much more groovy, with a buzz pattern felt in groupings of 5 that gets your head “bobbing.”

Also in this section are what are known as irrational time signatures (time signatures with non-duple-based denominators). I used these to change up the motif a bit, adding and deleting small chunks of rhythms to make it more intense and “stutter-ey.”

After reintroducing the motif, the solo heads into a longer final section that showcases harder and faster rhythms, leading to a final statement of the original motif to cap it all off.

In the examples shown above, the denominator "12" denotes an 8th-note triplet partial subdivision—since a 4/4 bar contains 12 of these partials. Thus, 8/12 equals 8 triplet partials ( $\frac{2}{3}$  of a 4/4 bar, or about 2 $\frac{1}{3}$  beats), and 10/12 equals 10 triplet partials ( $\frac{5}{6}$  of a 4/4 bar, or about 3 $\frac{1}{3}$  beats).

The tuplet relations are shown to let the performer know the exact rhythmic space in which the tuplet occupies given the context of the irrational time signature(s).

## Notable Achievements

This original solo for marching snare drum was awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in Collegiate Division at the Percussive Arts Society International Convention (PASIC) in 2018.

# A VAN DOWN BY THE RIVER

an original solo for marching snare drum by Zach Brumfield

*1st Place in the Collegiate Division at PASIC 2018*

**1. to center**

**2. to edge**

**3. center**

**4. edge to center**

**5. to center**

**6. to edge**

**7. 9 to center**

**8. to edge**

**9. center**

**10. accel.**

**11. 12**

**12. 13**

**13. 14**

**14. 15**

**15. 16**

**16. 17**

**17. 18**

**18. stick shot**

**19. 20**

**20. to edge**

**21. 22**

**22. center**

**23. 24**

**24. 25**

**25. edge**

**26. halfway to center**

**27. 28**

**28. center**

**29. 30**

**30. center**

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68 . . . ^ 69 70 = 176 > — 3 to halfway — 5 — 71 3 to edge — 5 —

**ff** R L R L L ... **mf** R L R L L ... **p**

72 to center 5 . to edge 73 to center 5 . to edge 74 1. 3 to edge

**mf** R L ... L ... **p** **mf** R L ... L ... **p**

75 2. edge 3 = 160 9 to center 9 > > — 9 — 77 to edge 9 78 to center 3 to edge 3

**f** R L R L R L R R L R L R L R L ... **f** **p** **f** **p** **f** **p** **f**

76

79 3 80 9 to center 9 > > — 9 — 81 9:8 9:8 82 to center 3 to edge 3

**p** R L R L R R L R L R L R L ... **f** **p** **f** **p** **f** **p** **f**

83 accel. 9:8 9:8 84 halfway 9:8 9:8 center 5 > > 5

**p** R L R L R R R L R L R L R R R L R L R L R L R L R L R L L

85 = 190

86 > 5 > 5 > 5 > 5 > 5 > 5 > 5 > 5

R L R R L R L L R R L R L R R R L R L R R L L R L R R L R L L

88 > 5 ^ > 5 5:4 89 ^ > 5 > 5 > 5

**f** R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R L R L R L R L R R R L L

90 > 9 ^ & 9 ^ 91 > > > > 15:8 > > 92 full strokes 5:4

R L R R L L R L R R L L R L R R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L L R L ... **fff**

the 15:8 partials in the previous measure equal the standard quintuplet in this measure.

123 > > > 124 > to edge 125 to center 126 > 127 to edge

128 129 130 = 160 9 to center 9 to edge 131 > > 9 132 to center 3 to edge 3

133 3 134 = 190 3 135 3 136 137 to halfway 3

138 > 3 139 > 3 140 > to center 3 141 > > 3

142 > 3 > 3 143 > > 3 144 > 3 145 > > 3

146 > 3 > 5 147 > 3 > 5 148 > ^ 3 > ^ 3 > ^ 3 > 3

150 edge 3 3 3 3 151 3 3 3 3 to center 152 > = >

153 > 154 > > > 155 > 156 > 157 >

188  189

R L ... **p**

continue to roll for as long and as fast as desired by the performer.

190 . 9 . ^ to center 9 > 191 3 192 3 193

edge to center, to edge

**f** **p** **f** **p** **f** **p** **f** **pp**



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**SKU:** VA-002

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