

The Last Days of Winter

(Keyboard Percussion Quartet)

By Anthony Di Sanza

Notes to the Conductor

The Last Days of Winter can be realized in a variety of instrumental configurations depending on the needs of each performance group (see below). Composed in 1994 (rev. 2004), it is musically and technically accessible to beginning and intermediate percussionists and is intended to assist in the development of the young percussionist's chamber-music skills.

In measure 19, on beat 3 (and in subsequent similar measures), it is preferable for Keyboard 2 to play an F. This, however, may not be possible when realized on marimba with eight hands, due to the difficulty of crossing Keyboard 3. If crossing is not possible, Keyboard 2 should play a G (i.e., both players play G).

As indicated, Keyboard 1 (the most difficult of the four parts) is to be played one octave above written pitch and Keyboard 4 (the least difficult of the four parts), one octave below.

Instrumentation Suggestions

1. Marimba with eight hands (four percussionists performing on a single, four-octave marimba).
2. Any combination of two, three, or four keyboard percussion instruments (e.g., glockenspiel, xylophone, vibraphone, marimba, etc.). Please note that chimes will probably not work for this piece.

Instrumentation (Number of Players: 4–8)

- 1 Conductor Score
- 3 Keyboard 1
- 3 Keyboard 2
- 3 Keyboard 3
- 3 Keyboard 4



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