

Vasken Ohanian

# Pimps Under Attack

for Percussion Duo

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## **Instrumentation:**

### **Percussion 1:**

Suspended Cymbal (with metal scrape), Brake Drum, Bongos, 29" Timpani

### **Percussion 2:**

Snare Drum, High & Medium Tom-toms, Bass Drum, Tam-tam (with metal scrape)

## **Performance Notes:**

Ideally, the two percussionists should be facing directly at one another rather than out towards the audience, as the two musicians are representative of two conflicting forces. Immediately after the final note of the piece, the performers' mallets should be dropped or thrown as if to say "I'm done with this shit," and then walk away. When performed correctly, *Pimps Under Attack* should be both as ridiculous as the title sounds and as serious as the underlying issue implies. To quote Elinor Armer upon first hearing the title: "*Pimps Under Attack...* as they should be."

## **Duration:**

4:00

## **About the Composer:**

As a composer and conductor, Vasken Ohanian is known for the expressivity in his music making. He strives to compose music that is relevant to the human experience, often incorporating elements of his Armenian heritage in his compositions. He is a former winner of the *Annual Kris Getz Composition Competition* and a recipient of the *Dean Emeritus Luis Costa Award for Music*. As a conductor, he formerly served as Co-director and Resident Conductor for the 4th Annual *Hot Air Music Festival*.



Vasken Ohanian received his Bachelor of Music in Composition from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, studying under Elinor Armer. He holds a double Master of Music in Composition and Choral-Conducting from the Bob Cole Conservatory of Music, studying with Dr. Martin Herman (Composition) and Dr. Jonathan Talberg (Choral-Conducting)

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# Pimps Under Attack

Vasken Ohanian (1990)

Moderato ♩=64

The score is for a percussion ensemble in 4/4 time, marked Moderato with a tempo of ♩=64. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Cymbal Brake Drum Bongos:** This group is indicated by a bracket on the left. The notation shows rests for all three instruments in the first system.
- Timpani:** Plays a single note in the first system.
- Snare Drum Toms:** Plays a rhythmic pattern starting in the second system, marked *fffz*, *ppp*, and *poco a poco cresc.* It includes a triplet and a section labeled "Back to Mallets".
- Bass Drum Tam-Tam:** Plays a rhythmic pattern starting in the second system, marked *fffz*. It includes a section labeled "Metal Scrape" marked *ppp*.
- Second System (Measures 6-8):**
  - Cym. Br.D. Bongos:** Plays a rhythmic pattern marked *ppp* *poco a poco cresc.* and *p*. It includes triplets.
  - Timp.:** Plays a single note marked *fffz*.
  - S.D. Tms:** Plays a rhythmic pattern marked *pp*.
  - B.D. T.-t.:** Plays a rhythmic pattern marked *fffz* and *pp*.

11

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

*sffz*

*mp*

*p*

16

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

*sffz*

*mp*

20

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

*f*

*mf*

*sffz*

*mp*

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**VAOMusi **

**System 1 (Measures 29-30):**

- Cym. Br.D. Bongos:** Measure 29 has a rest. Measure 30 features a *sffz* dynamic with a slur over a series of sixteenth notes.
- Timp.:** Measure 29 has a rest. Measure 30 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '5' above the staff.
- S.D. Tms:** Measure 29 has a rest. Measure 30 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '7' below the staff.
- B.D. T.-t.:** Measure 29 has a rest. Measure 30 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes.

**System 2 (Measures 31-32):**

- Cym. Br.D. Bongos:** Measure 31 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '7' below the staff. Measure 32 features a *poco a poco dim.* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '6' below the staff.
- Timp.:** Measure 31 has a rest. Measure 32 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '7' below the staff.
- S.D. Tms:** Measure 31 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '6' below the staff. Measure 32 features a *poco a poco dim.* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '7' below the staff.
- B.D. T.-t.:** Measure 31 has a rest. Measure 32 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '7' below the staff.

**System 3 (Measures 33-34):**

- Cym. Br.D. Bongos:** Measure 33 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '7' below the staff. Measure 34 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes.
- Timp.:** Measure 33 has a rest. Measure 34 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes.
- S.D. Tms:** Measure 33 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes. Measure 34 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes.
- B.D. T.-t.:** Measure 33 has a rest. Measure 34 features a *fff* dynamic with a slur over a series of eighth notes, with a '5' below the staff.

35

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

37

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

39

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

41

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

*fffz*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

44

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

*mf*

*fffz*

47

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

*fffz*



50

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

54

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

58

Cym.  
Br.D.  
Bongos

Timp.

S.D.  
Tms

B.D.  
T.-t.

Metal Scrape

Back to Mallets

Throw/Drop mallets on ground and walk away.