

Intersections by David Schumacher

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Glockenspiel

Xylophone

Vibraphone 1

Vibraphone 2

Marimba 1

Marimba 2

Marimba 3A

Marimba 3B

*optional e-bass and drum set parts available

Intersections, is written for a 7 piece mallet ensemble with 8 players (if a fourth marimba is available to your ensemble, then it should be used to avoid players sharing an instrument). The concept for the piece is based on *Rubin's Vase*, the bi-stable two-dimensional form developed around 1915 by the Danish psychologist Edgar Rubin. An optical illusion commonly used in the world of visual art, works employing the concept are designed so that the viewer can see two different images within the same drawing. *Intersections*, is my attempt at an aural version of the concept. While the time signature remains constant throughout, the pulse of the piece can be heard and felt either in a fast 3, or in a slower 4 by adopting a different rhythmic perspective. The piece was designed in such a way that the listener should be able to shift attention between the two pulses, never knowing for sure which is intended at any point. This will allow the listener to enjoy the work from a unique perspective depending on which pulse he or she chooses to follow.

Written with high school or young college level players in mind, this piece brings layered textures and a colorful harmonic palette together to create a groove of certain appeal. Purposefully more accessible than my other works of this style, *Intersections* is intended to be a meditation of through-composed, organically evolving material, the subtlety of which will become more apparent after multiple hearings. The listener should close their eyes (so as not to be distracted or influenced by the conductor) and attempt to allow the lines, textures, and colors to wash over them equally, rather than seeking out specific melodies or accompaniments. It's akin to relaxing one's visual gaze or focus in order to see both images of *Rubin's Vase*.

Many other works of various style, instrumentation, and level of difficulty are available from this composer. Commissions for new works, orders for existing works, and information about guest artist residencies should be directed to David Schumacher:

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