

el martillo

for three pairs of bongos

Karim Al-Zand
(2013)

PROGRAM NOTE:

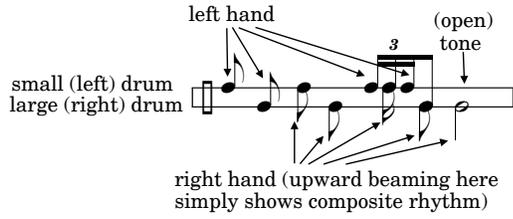
This short piece is a kind of fanfare on Afro-Cuban rhythms. Its title, *el martillo* [the hammer], is the name of the quintessential Afro-Cuban bongo rhythm, a repeated pattern which is one of the basic building blocks in dances like rumba, guaguancó, bolero, merengue and so on. The piece is dedicated to American pioneer composer Elliott Carter who died in November of 2012 year at the age of 103. Though its music sounds quite unlike Carter's in style, the piece does make use of a rhythmic technique with which he is associated, to "modulate" between the diverse tempos of the piece.

Dani Alzard. February 2013

DURATION:

ca. 3'

- T thumb, left hand
- T— keep thumb down to mute next right hand note
- H hand (fingers 1–4 together), left hand
- D dead stroke, flat of the hand, no rebound
- F played with individual fingers (1-2-3-4)



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Quickly; buoyant, full of energy ♩ = 144

Player 1

Player 2

Player 3

f

mf

T

H

3

T

sim.

3

5/8

⑦

cresc.

T

H

T

T

3

2/4

13

3 = $\frac{3}{4}$ = $\frac{3}{4}$

f *as before*

H 3

T

SOLO

19

sub.f

p cresc. poco a poco

sim.

H T

24

mf

H T

$\text{♩} = \text{♩} = 192$

30

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

f

f

f

sim.

sim.

sim.

37

p cresc. poco a poco

SOLO

sub.f

p cresc. poco a poco

43

p cresc. poco a poco

SOLO

sub.f

p cresc. poco a poco

$\overset{3}{\text{J}} = \text{J}$ $\text{J} = \text{J}$ (♩ = 144)

④8

f *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

H H H

as before as before as before

⑤4

cresc. *cresc.* *cresc.*

T — H T T — H T T — H

⑥1

f *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

H H H

as before as before as before

cresc. *cresc.* *cresc.*

$\text{♩} = \text{♩} = \text{ca. } 116$

68

ff *sim.* *ff* *sim.* *ff* *sim.*

T H T H T H T H T-H D T H T-H D

74

p cresc. poco a poco *p cresc. poco a poco* **SOLO** *sub.f*

79

f *f* *f* *D* *D* *D*

5 = ♩ (♩ = 144)

83

ff mf *ff mf* *ff mf*

H H H

as before as before as before

♩ = ♩

89

cresc. *cresc.* *cresc.*

T H T T H T

♩ = ♩ (♩ = 216)

96

pp cresc. poco a poco *pp cresc. poco a poco* *pp cresc. poco a poco*

F → 3-2-1 3-2-1 3-2-1

gradually move to full hand strokes

102

Musical score for measures 102-106. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of three staves. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the lower staves and a more active melody in the upper staves. Trills and triplets are used for ornamentation. The key signature has one flat.

107

Musical score for measures 107-110. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of three staves. This section is characterized by frequent triplets in all staves. The dynamics are marked with *f cresc.* (forte crescendo) in the middle and bottom staves, indicating a gradual increase in volume.

111

Musical score for measures 111-114. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of three staves. This section features a high level of intensity, with dynamics marked as *ff* (fortissimo) and *fff* (fortississimo). The music is dominated by triplets and includes some rests in the upper staves towards the end of the passage.