

## Natya (Dance-Drama from India)

## Kevin Mixon

## YPS97 <br> INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score. .....  . 1
Flute ..... 8
Oboe (Opt. Flute 2) .....  2
Clarinet 1 in Bb ..... 4
Clarinet 2 in Bb ..... 4
Bass Clarinet in $B b$ ..... 2
Bassoon. .....  2
Alto Saxophone in Eb ..... 5
Tenor Saxophone in $B b$ .....  2
Baritone Saxophone in Eb. .....  2
Trumpet 1 in $B b$ ..... 4
Trumpet 2 in $B b$ ..... 4
Horn in F ..... 4
Trombone ..... 6
Euphonium T.C. in Bb ..... 2
Euphonium B.C.. .....  3
Tuba. .....  3
Mallet Percussion .....  1
Bells
Timpani ..... 1
Percussion 1 .....  2Bongos or High-pitched Tom-toms with Sticks,Bass Drum with Wood and Felt Beaters
Percussion 2 ..... 4Conga or Hand Drum, Shaker,
Crash Cymbals, Triangle


## Program Notes

Natya ("NAH-tee-ya") is a Sanskrit word meaning both dance and drama as the two are inextricably linked in much of Indian tradition. Music is used as accompaniment, though Indian classical music does not have the emphasis on harmony that western classical music does, but is characterized instead by much more complex rhythm, timbral variety, and improvisation. The many Indian classical dance and drama forms are ancient. However, the Indian film industry's "Bollywood" movies (a combining of the two words "Bombay"-now called Mumbai and the center of the film industry-and "Hollywood") are comprised largely of music and dance that hearkens back to Indian classical arts traditions while incorporating western harmony and musical styles from around the world. It is the modern, eclectic form of Indian music on which this piece Natya is based.

South Indian Solkattu ("SOL-ka-too"), also called konnakol "(CON-uh-cul"), is an onomatopoeic way of counting rhythm that is also used in performance as well. Performers chant rhythm syllables with the same dizzying speed and complexity required for accomplished tabla (Indian drums) and other instrumental performance. Foot stomps and claps in this piece evoke dancing, while the simplified solkattu syllables correspond to rhythm groupings: Ta-ka ("tah kah") for eighth-note pairs, ta-ki-ta ("tah kee tah") for groupings of three eighth notes, and thom ("tome") for quarter notes. These should be chanted assertively and should sound as prominent as the percussion. The spirited tempo indications must be observed to convey the dramatic elements in this piece. Of course, access to authentic Indian instruments would be ideal but unlikely in most ensembles, so there are substitutions in the score, such as the bongos, conga, and bass drum that replace tabla and mridangam, tambourine for the kanjira, and the bowl of the timpani for the ghatam. The percussion should be prominent without overpowering throughout the piece, and doublings are included to achieve this. To give a solid feeling of downbeat, make sure that the shaft of beater or wood stick against shell in the bass-drum part and copper bowl in timpani part (beginning in m .11 ) are heard clearly. I hope that this piece serves as a springboard for studying the magnificent Indian culture while providing performers and audiences with much musical enjoyment.


## About the Composer

Kevin Mixon was an instrumental music teacher for several years and is currently the Director of Fine Arts for the Syracuse City School District, New York. He is in frequent demand as a conductor and clinician for festivals and conferences such as the International Society for Music Education Convention, The Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic, Music Educators National Conference events, and state and regional music conferences. He holds degrees, summa cum laude, from Onondaga Community College, State University of New York at Oswego, Syracuse University, and University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign). Several of his articles have appeared in Music Educators Journal, Teaching Music, The Instrumentalist, and The National Band Association Journal. He is author of Reaching and Teaching All Instrumental Music Students and co-author of Teaching Music in the Urban Classroom (both MENC/ Rowman \& Littlefield Publications). Mr. Mixon is also an accomplished composer and arranger with several published works for band and orchestra.

Flute
Oboe
(Opt. Flute 2)


Trombone

Euphonium

Tuba

Mallet
Percussion (Bells,Tambourine)
Timpani

(Bongos or High-Pitched Toms with Sticks, Bass Drum with 1 Wood and Felt Beater)
Percussion
(Hand Drum or Conga, Shaker, Crash Cymbals,
Triangle)


Fl.


Ob.
Cl.


Fl.
11


A. Sax in E b
T. Sax. in $B b$

Bar. Sax.
in E b


11

Tpt.



Mall.
Perc.

Timp.










Tpt.
in Bb




8

Cl.
in Bb
$\qquad$



Fl.

Cl.






Perc.

Timp.


10

Cl.
in $\mathrm{B} b$




Fl.

$\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Ka}-\mathrm{Ka}-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Ka}-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Ka}$ Thom!
Cl.
in Bb
BSn.
in Bb

A. Sax.
in Eb
in Bb
Bar. Sax.
in Eb

$\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Ki}-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Ta}-\mathrm{Ki}-\mathrm{Ta}$ - Thom!
Hn. in F





 in E b
T. Sax. in $B b$


Tpt.






Fl.





Tbn.


YPS97F

67 Rhythmically
Fl.

Cl. in $B b$

A. Sax. in E b
T. Sax. in $B b$

Bar. Sax. in E b



67 Rhythmically

Tot.


Hin. in $F$



$\qquad$

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$$


Mall.
Pere.
Time.


Fl.

Cl.
in Bb

Cl. in Bb

Bsn.





FI.



Cl.

A. Sax.
in $E b$
T. Sax. in $B b$

Bar. Sax. in E b


Tbn.


Mall.
Perc.

Timp.


Fl.

Cl.







B. Cl.
in $\mathrm{B} b$

Bsn.


Tbn.

Euph.








Fl.

Cl.


$\underset{\sim}{8}$


PEAEA
(oser
A. Sax.
in E b
T. Sax. in $B b$



$>$
$b$
$\overrightarrow{f f}$
$\vdots$
$\overrightarrow{f f}$
Hn. in $\mathrm{F} \underset{\mathrm{c}}{\mathrm{a}} \mathrm{a}$
ij


YPS97F

Fl.


Cl.
in $\mathbf{B b}$

A. Sax.
in $E b$
T. Sax. in $B b$

Bar. Sax. in $E b$






