Row-Loff Productions
"Foremost In Marching And Concert Percussion Literature"
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Kumi-Daiko

by Scott Brown
Easy/Medium - 2:15 / 5 - 20 Players

Instrumentation

Shime-daiko, Okedo-daiko, Nagado-daiko, Multiple Crash (suspended) Cymbals
(Taiko Drum substitutions are listed in the performance notes)

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Kumi-Daiko Performance Notes

This piece was written to provide young students with an opportunity to explore the Japanese art of Taiko drumming. The literal translation for Kumi-Daiko is "grouped drums", referring to the popular Japanese drum ensembles. Although the playing of Taiko drums is an ancient tradition, Kumi-Daiko is a fairly recent phenomenon with the first Taiko ensembles appearing in the 1950's. Some contemporary ensembles have taken the traditional art of Taiko and infused it with hip-hop and jazz to create a unique style. It is in this spirit that Kumi-Daiko was written. The piece should be energetic and powerful, enjoyable for the audience and performers alike!

Taiko is literally translated as "big" or "fat" drum, although the term stands for taiko of a variety of shapes and sizes. Although taiko is the word most associated with the art form, the word daiko is used to describe the different drums, ensembles, and styles of playing. For example the drums used with this piece are: Shime-daiko, Okedo-daiko, and Nagado-daiko. Listed below are descriptions of these drums along with practical substitutions.

Shime-daiko - Generally a rope-tensioned drum, although bolt and turnbuckle tensioning are also used. A small drum, approximately the size of a snare drum, tuned to a high pitch.

Suggested substitutions: bongos, snare drum (high pitched) with snare off.

Okedo-daiko - A rope-tensioned drum, much larger than the Shime-daiko with a long body.

Suggested substitutions: djun-djun, low concert tom or floor tom, medium to high pitched marching bass drum .

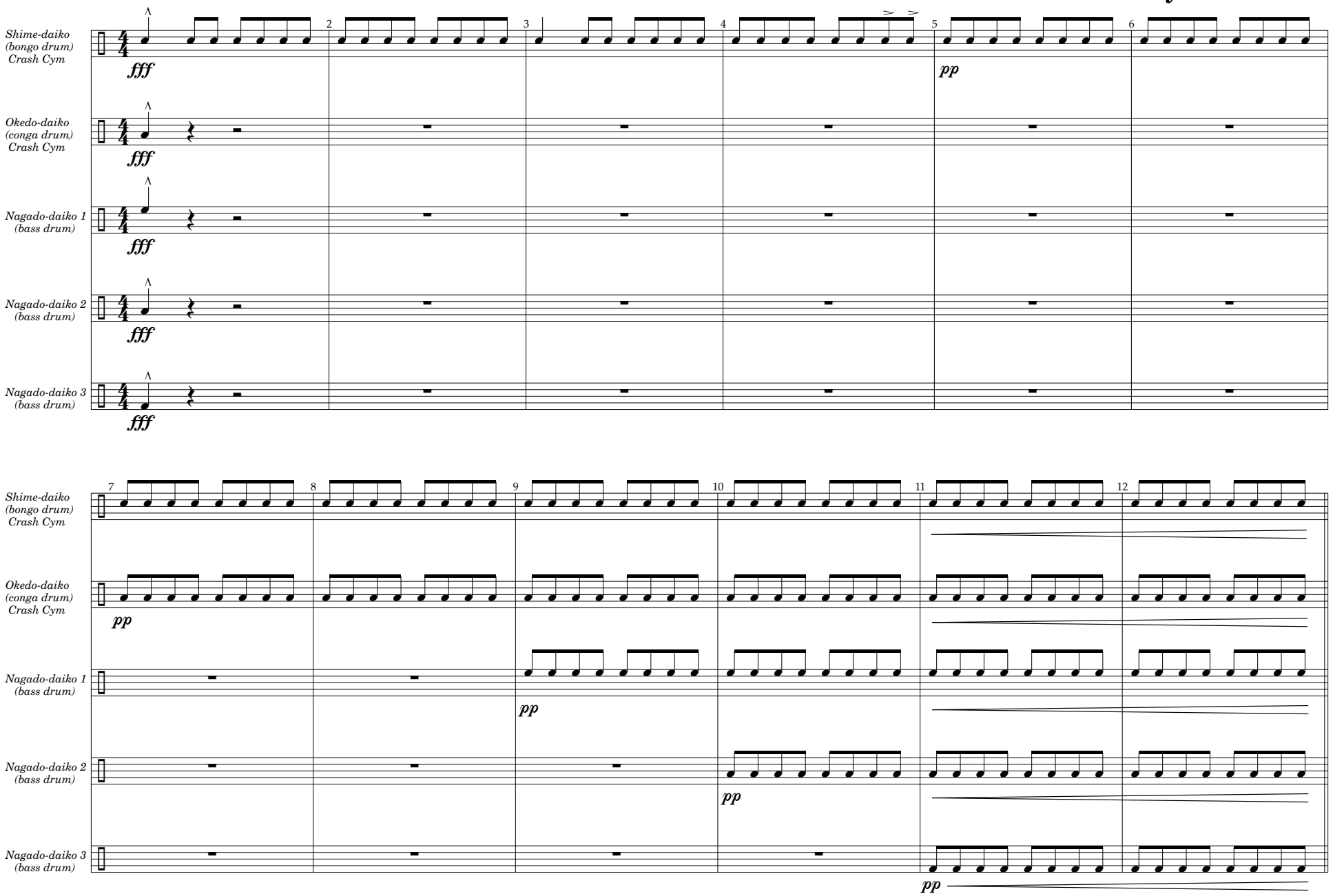
Nagado-daiko - A barrel shaped drum, traditionally made from one piece of wood, but also commonly made from wine barrels. Cowhide heads are nailed to the drum using furniture tacks.

Suggested substitutions: drumset bass drum, low pitched marching bass drum, concert bass drum, low djun-djun, surdo.

Kumi-Daiko

♩ = 190

by Scott Brown



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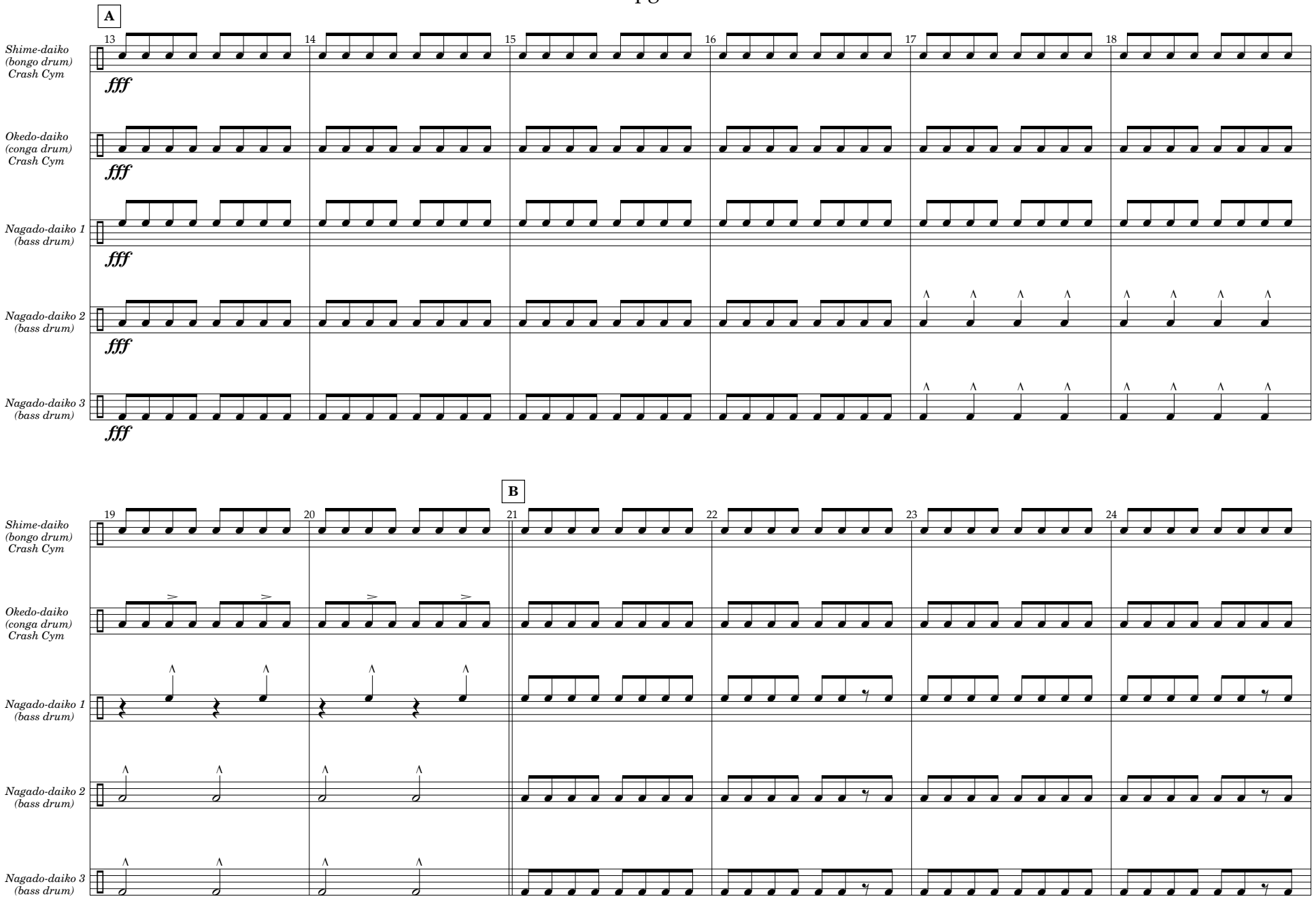
Kumi-Daiko


A
13
14
15
16
17
18
Shime-daiko
(bongo drum)
Crash Cym
Okedo-daiko
(conga drum)
Crash Cym
Nagado-daiko 1
(bass drum)
Nagado-daiko 2
(bass drum)
Nagado-daiko 3
(bass drum)
fff
B
19
20
21
22
23
24