

"A Collection of Seven Steel Pan Ensembles" (Grades II-IV)

by Jim Royle

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To hear these ensembles in their entirety, go the Pansicles page at www.rowloff.com!

Cover Artwork - Donaldson Design Group

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Pansicles Performance Notes

We Like We Pan (Grade 2) - We Like We Pan brings a traditional vocal call and response in a soca feel. The steel pan lines keep it cooking along. It is a fun crowd pleaser that is a great concert opener!

Ping Pong Ping (Grade 2) - is a minimalist piece based on early explorations of pan players having only three notes on a drum. In addition, the full engine room with a thick glass bottle played with a spoon is in the mix. Great for your beginning band.

Camp Reggae (Grade 3) - Camp Reggae is a wonderful way to introduce your steel band to a reggae feel. The middle section features the melody in the cellos and bass. The finale has each section dropping out ending the piece with the low bass.

KoSA Soca (Grade 3) - An up tempo soca that begins with a burning engine room. The melody is stated with the background pans strumming up a storm. In the tradition we added rhythmic metallic call and response on the pan rims, which creates a different sound texture. Beyond the parts in the score, directors can add elements of the traditional engine room such as brake drum and conga in standard eighth note soca patterns to fill out the rhythmic styling of the work. This piece is very attainable for the beginning steel band.

Calypso Jim (Grade 3) - Calypso Jim is two parts calypso and one part songo. The songo bridge has drums and percussion grooving behind the pans playing brass-like kicks. In the "B" section tenor and double tenor have a tricky syncopated melody that makes for a very interesting feel. Timbales and drums get to set up the songo with their own soli section. If you're looking for something just a bit more challenging than a beginning calypso, this is it!

Afro Pan (Grade 4) - Percussion solos, active bass lines, and fun polyrhythms all come together to form an exciting chart with an afro-cuban feel. The pans have three different sections that are interspersed with percussion solos featuring drums, congas, cabasa, and cowbell. The final section has the melody played by the cellos and double seconds. This chart is a great way for your band to explore basic african polyrhythms.

Funky Shoes (Grade 4) - Funky Shoes is a medium tempo funky groove in the beginning, with strumming styles of guitar in the upper register pans. The piece also takes an interesting style curve and moves to a Brazilian street samba with challenging but attainable syncopation between parts. Your students will have fun playing this piece while working on two very important groove styles.

Let's Talk Engine Room!

The name engine room comes from the fact that this group of instruments "drives" the steel band. Each instrument in the engine room repeatedly plays a fixed rhythm. When played together, the different instruments interlock, called Braiding to create a polyrhythm that maintains the pulse and energy for the rest of the steel band.

Those instruments are Iron (Brake Drum), Congas, Cowbell, Scratcher, Tambourine, Claves, and Shaker to name a few.

We Like We Pan



We Like We Pan



Ping Pong Ping









Camp Reggae



KoSA Soca



KoSA Soca



Calypso Jim



Calypso Jim



Afro Pan







mf

Funky Shoes by Jim Royle Double Tenors DoubleCellos Bass Pans (Bass Guita Hi hat Percussion Whistle Cowbell Congas DoubleDouble SecondsCellosmf Bass Pans (Bass Guitar mf mf Percussion Whistle Cowbell Congas

