# Drive

## Brian W. Jagger

#### Instrumentation

12 Boomwhackers Chromatic Scale from C to C

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#### **Program Notes**

Drive was written during the Covid-19 pandemic, with the goal of providing music that could be played in a classroom without traditional instruments. Boomwhackers allow students to play in an ensemble while being physically distanced, and avoids using instruments through which performers must breathe or remove their masks.

The piece uses a single chromatic octave (C to C). Each performer covers the notes of a semitone, with the exception of one musician who also covers the high C. The piece can be performed by any group that has a multiple of six performers.

The music consists of a driving rhythmic component, with alternating chordal and melodic content. The middle section pauses the rhythmic drive to briefly explore some textural ideas before returning to the rhythmic drive of the opening.

#### About the Composer

Brian W. Jagger is a Canadian composer born and raised in Hamilton, Ontario. Growing up, he was exposed to many styles of music, from "Classical" to The Ink Spots and Nat King Cole to New Wave. As part of his local church choir, he learned to hear the harmonies and relationships of the different voices in the choir, and as a tuba player in school, he learned to appreciate the importance of the lower realms of the music world.

Brian has played piano since the age of 5, working his way through the Royal Conservatory and into university. While at university, he studied piano performance and composition, earning his Bachelor of Music degree from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. From there, he continued studying composition at the University of British Columbia and the University of Michigan, earning his Master of Music and Doctor of the Musical Arts. Over the years, Brian studied composition with John Burge and Clifford Crawley (Queen's), Keith Hamel (UBC), and George Wilson, Leslie Bassett and William Albright (U of M).

Brian has written for many different ensembles, including orchestra, string quartet, concert band, solo piano, and electronics, and has won two CBC Young Composer awards and one SOCAN Young Composers award.

Apart from composing, Brian teaches piano and theory lessons, and is the Music Director and Conductor for the Top Hat Marching Orchestra, the Albertones Senior Men's Choir and the Pinetones Senior's Choir. Brian and his wife Leah reside in Burlington, Ontario, where he enjoys playing in the best band in the area.

#### Commissions

For commission inquiries, please contact Brian through his website at bwjmusic.com or email him directly at brianwjagger@gmail.com

### Drive

#### Approx. Duration: 2'36"

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