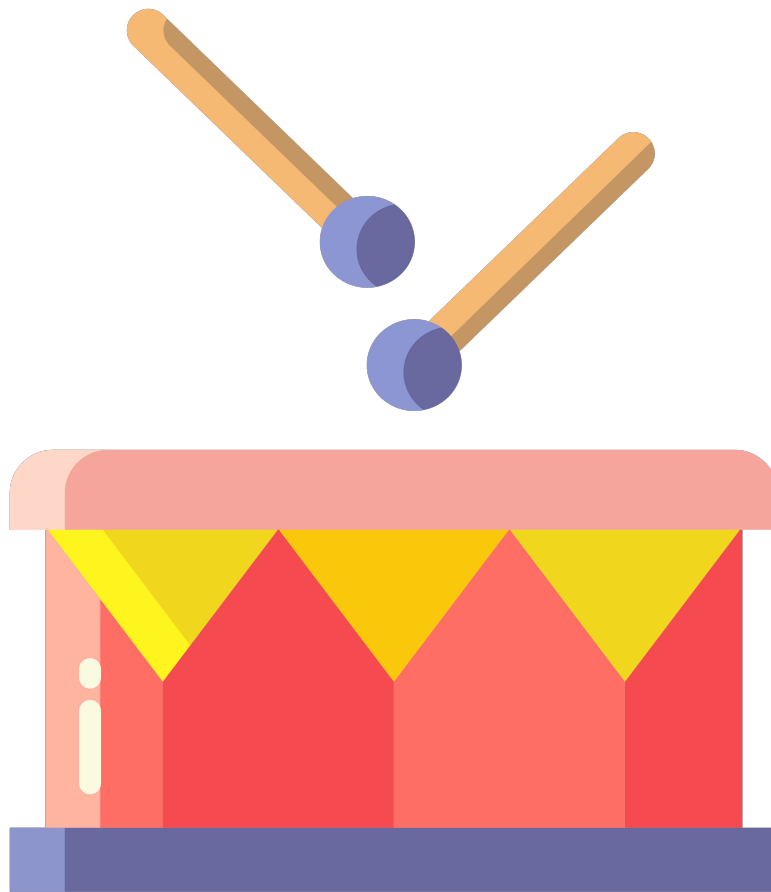


# TWELVE DRUMMERS

**SATB Choir a cappella**



# Shruthi Rajasekar

**Text:**

Twelve drummers drumming  
- from *'Twelve Days of Christmas'*

**Performance Notes:**

- Overall, endeavour to make the text as clear as possible.
- For the basses, there are three different percussive sounds. The first “drum”s should ring (like timpani, perhaps) as much as possible. The repeated “d”s are sung with a neutral schwa after each. The rolled r in “drr” is meant to resemble a rapid percussion roll with drumsticks (on a snare drum, perhaps).
- In the alto divisi (m.18), if there is an uneven number of singers use fewer voices for the Alto I line.

- Shruthi Rajasekar, 2020



“[Shruthi] Rajasekar has allowed boldness to be her guiding light in the journey through her dense and evocative creativity... Rajasekar will continue to sail forward, into a cartography of her own delineation.”

– The Seattle Times

Composer and vocalist Shruthi Rajasekar (she/her) is a McKnight Fellow, Jerome Hill Artist Fellow, Associate of the Royal Northern College of Music (ARNCM), winner of the Global Women in Music Award from the United Nations, and a Marshall Scholarship recipient. Her creative work highlights identity, community, and joy. Shruthi’s music reflects her deep roots in the Carnatic (South Indian classical) and Western classical idioms, her diasporic South Asian background, and her belief in the importance of communal gathering and civic engagement. Globally, her compositions have been featured at the Royal Albert Hall (London, UK), the Cannes Film Festival (France), the National Centre for Performing Arts (Mumbai, India), Victoria Concert Hall (Singapore), and the United Nations’ COP 26 (Glasgow, UK).

[www.shruthirajasekar.com](http://www.shruthirajasekar.com)

*Commissioned by the Corvus Consort, UK. Director: Freddie Crowley. 2020*

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Twelve Drummers

Shruthi Rajasekar

Feisty ♩ = 88

Musical score for the first system of 'Twelve Drummers'. It features five staves: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Piano (rehearsal only). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked 'Feisty ♩ = 88'. The Soprano part begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and the lyrics 'drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum drum - mer drum'. The Alto part begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and the lyrics 'drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming'. The Tenor and Bass parts are silent. The Piano part is marked '(rehearsal only)' and provides accompaniment for the vocalists.

Musical score for the second system of 'Twelve Drummers', starting at measure 4. It features five staves: Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), Bass (B.), and Piano. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 2/4. The Soprano part begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and the lyrics 'drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum drum - mer drum'. The Alto part begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and the lyrics 'drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming'. The Tenor part begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic and the lyrics 'Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum -'. The Bass part is silent. The Piano part provides accompaniment for the vocalists.

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7

S. *mf*  
drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum - mer drum

A. *mf*  
drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming drum - mer drum drum - mer

T. *mf*  
- ing Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum -

B. *mf*  
Drum! Drum! Drum! Drum! Drum!

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10

S. *cresc.* *p sub.*  
drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum drum - mer drum drum drum - mer

A. *cresc.* *cresc.* *p sub.*  
drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming

T. *cresc.* *p sub.*  
- ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum -

B. *p sub.*  
Drum! d - d - d - d d - d - d - d

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13 *mf*

S. Twelve drum - - - - - mers!

A. *mp* *mf* *cresc.*  
 drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - mer drum drum - mer drum drum - mer drum - ming

T. *mp* *mf* *cresc.*  
 - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming, Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming Drum -

B. *mp* *mf* *cresc.*  
 d - d - d - d d - rr d - rr d - rr d - rr d - rr d - rr

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16 *mf* *p sub.* *f* *ff*

S. Twelve drum - mers, Twelve drum - mers drum - ming!

A. *f* *mf* *p sub.* *f* *ff*  
 drum - mer drum drum - mer Twelve drum - mers, Twelve drum - mers drum - ming!

T. *f* *mf* *p sub.* *f* *ff*  
 - ming Drum - ming Drum - ming, Twelve drum - mers, Twelve drum - mers drum - ming!

B. *f* *mf* *p sub.* *f* *ff*  
 d - rr d - rr Twelve drum - mers, Twelve drum - mers drum - ming!

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