William Schuman: New England Triptych

First Movement

Recommended Tempo: \( \textit{J} = 126/132 \)

General Style: Moderato: "walking tempo"

Recommended Mallets: Soft mallets, warm sound

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Important Considerations

Perfect intonation, tempo, phrasing and balance between each drum is extremely important in this opening solo. The rhythm in mm. 4 and 6 should be within a true eighth note subdivision. The same rhythmic idea also occurs from mm. 9 to 12. You may perform this solo with or without extra phrasing. Here is an example of how you might phrase this passage:
William Schuman: New England Triptych

First Movement
Measures 122-152

Recommended Tempo: \( \text{j = 152/160} \)
Recommended Mallets: White felt staccato or colored felt mallet

General Style: Allegro Vivo

Important Considerations
Be sure to make a noticeable difference in the dotted-eighth/sixteenth rhythms and the triplet rhythms. Pay attention to the various dynamics (\( \text{ff} - \text{f} - \text{mf} \) and \( \text{p} \)) beginning at m. 122. Check your tempo at m. 132; this section may slow down due to the longer rhythms (quarter notes) and softer dynamic. Some timpani parts contain a crescendo beginning in m. 137 (for two measures) and a \text{diminuendo} in m. 139. The \text{fortississimo subito} in m. 143 should be quite loud and remain loud until the \text{piano subito} at m. 148.