

# BEHOLDEN

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FOR PERCUSSION SEXTET

KATHRYN SALFELDER

**Instrumentation:**

10 Timpani: (32", 29", 26", 23", 20") x 2  
2 Vibraphones  
2 Bass Drums  
Crotales (low octave)

**Program Listing:**

*Beholden* (2019)

Kathryn Salfelder (b. 1987)

- I. No One
- II. No Principle
- III. No Expectation

**Program Note:**

*Set yourself free.  
For you are beholden to no one, no principle, no expectation.*

*Beholden* is a satirical commentary on this notion that we are free: beholden to no one, to no principle, to no expectation.

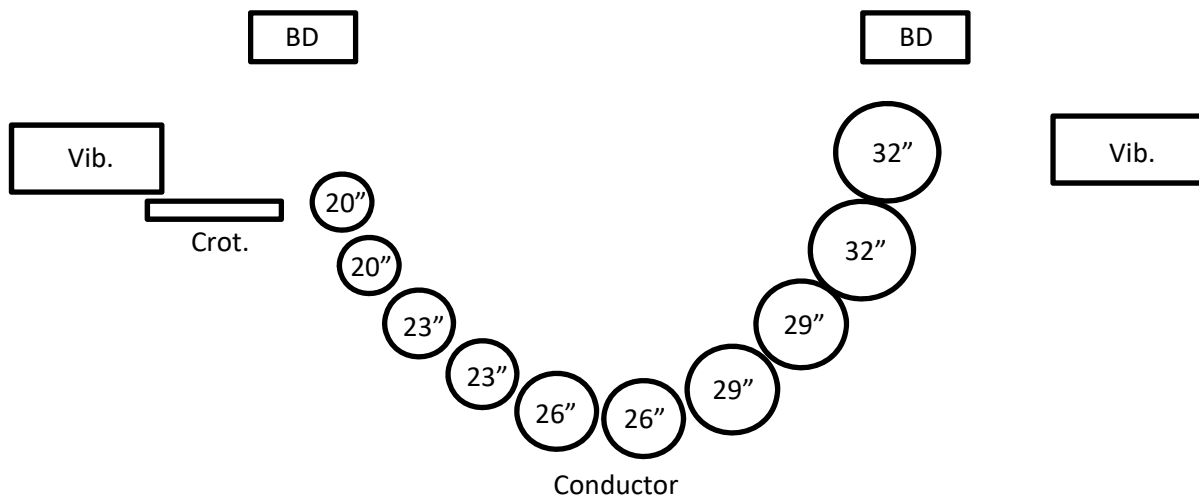
The first movement, "No One," is barren and sparse, with ghostly remnants of a tonal progression. It ends abruptly and prematurely, unable to fully form. When alone in the world, one is free – but never able to flourish.

Beholden to no principle, the second movement is through-composed and lacks macro-level structure and organization. The rhythmic figures, which sound like repeated ostinatos, vary with each iteration. As the music progresses, the principles of chamber music "etiquette" disintegrate; the players' comical power struggles and shenanigans descend into chaos.

The final movement, "No Expectation," opens with a tonal song in common-practice harmony – inherently mired both tonal and structural expectations. While the music never cadences to a "tonic" pitch, it is unable to fully escape tonal formulas and remains trapped in cyclical patterns.

**To the Conductor:**

In movements 1 & 3, players remain with "their timpani," as assigned at the beginning of the movement, re-tuning "their" drums as needed. In movement 2, the tuning is fixed: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, C4; players move to the appropriate drum(s) to accommodate the pitches in their parts.



Commissioned by the New England Conservatory Percussion Ensemble, Frank Epstein, director

# BEHOLDEN

Set yourself free.  
For you are beholden to no one, no principle, no expectation.

## I. NO ONE

A Whisper  
The Shadows of Tonality  
♩ = 54

KATHRYN SALFELDER

Musical score for Percussion 1-6, measures 1-6. The score is in 4/2 time and features six staves. Percussion 1 (20", 20", Vib.) has rests in measures 1-3 and notes in measures 4-6, marked *ppp*. Percussion 2 (23", 23", Crot.) has notes in measures 1-6, marked *ppp*. Percussion 3 (26", 26", BD) has notes in measures 1-6, marked *ppp*. Percussion 4 (29") has notes in measures 1-6, marked *ppp*. Percussion 5 (29", 32", BD) has notes in measures 1-6, marked *ppp*. Percussion 6 (32", BD, Vib.) has notes in measures 1-6, marked *ppp*. A box with the number 9 is positioned above measure 3.

Musical score for Percussion 1-6, measures 7-11. The score continues with six staves. Percussion 1 (20", 20", Vib.) has notes in measures 7-11, marked *p-ppp*. Percussion 2 (23", 23", Crot.) has notes in measures 7-11, marked *p*, with triplets in measures 8, 9, and 10. Percussion 3 (26", 26", BD) has notes in measures 7-11. Percussion 4 (29") has notes in measures 7-11. Percussion 5 (29", 32", BD) has notes in measures 7-11. Percussion 6 (32", BD, Vib.) has notes in measures 7-11. A box with the number 9 is positioned above measure 7.

BEHOLDEN

13 14

Perc. 1  
20", 20", Vib.

Perc. 2  
23", 23", Crot.

Perc. 3  
26", 26", BD

Perc. 4  
29"

Perc. 5  
29", 32", BD

Perc. 6  
32", BD, Vib

*p* *p-ppp* *p* *ppp sub* *ppp*

17 20

Perc. 1  
20", 20", Vib.

Perc. 2  
23", 23", Crot.

Perc. 3  
26", 26", BD

Perc. 4  
29"

Perc. 5  
29", 32", BD

Perc. 6  
32", BD, Vib

Bass Drum

Vibraphone

*p* *p-ppp* *p* *p sub* *ppp* *p*

(Use 32" drum from Perc. 6, already tuned to Eb)

21

Perc. 1  
20", 20", Vib.

Perc. 2  
23", 23", Crot.

Perc. 3  
26", 26", BD

Perc. 4  
29"

Perc. 5  
29", 32", BD

Perc. 6  
32", BD, Vib.

24

Perc. 1  
20", 20", Vib.

Perc. 2  
23", 23", Crot.

Perc. 3  
26", 26", BD

Perc. 4  
29"

Perc. 5  
29", 32", BD

Perc. 6  
32", BD, Vib.

BEHOLDEN

28 29

Perc. 1  
20", 20", Vib.

Perc. 2  
23", 23", Crot.

Perc. 3  
26", 26", BD

Perc. 4  
29"

Perc. 5  
29", 32", BD

Perc. 6  
32", BD, Vib

*pp*

*p* *p - ppp*

Bass Drum *p* dampen

31 dampen *pp.* dampen

Perc. 1  
20", 20", Vib.

Perc. 2  
23", 23", Crot.

Perc. 3  
26", 26", BD

Perc. 4  
29"

Perc. 5  
29", 32", BD

Perc. 6  
32", BD, Vib

*pp*

*mp*

*poco a poco cresc.*

*sim.*

35

36

Perc. 1  
20", 20", Vib.

Perc. 2  
23", 23", Cro.

Perc. 3  
26", 26", BD

Perc. 4  
29"

Perc. 5  
29", 32", BD

Perc. 6  
32", BD, Vib

Vibraphone

Crotales

Bass Drum

*mf*

*pp*

*ppp*

*ff*

*f*

*pp sub*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a percussion ensemble, specifically page 5 of the piece 'BEHOLDEN'. The score is divided into two systems, 35 and 36. System 35 (measures 1-4) features six percussion parts: Perc. 1 (20" Vibraphone), Perc. 2 (23" Crotales), Perc. 3 (26" Bass Drum), Perc. 4 (29" Tom), Perc. 5 (29" and 32" Bass Drum), and Perc. 6 (32" Bass Drum and Vibraphone). Perc. 5 has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with triplets. Perc. 6 has a melodic line with triplets. System 36 (measures 5-8) shows changes in dynamics and articulation. Perc. 1 has a *pp* dynamic with accents. Perc. 2 has a *ppp* dynamic with a melodic line. Perc. 3 has a *ff* dynamic with an accent. Perc. 5 has a *f* dynamic with an accent. Perc. 6 has a *pp sub* dynamic with an accent. The score uses various musical notations including rests, notes, triplets, and dynamic markings.

BEHOLDEN

II. NO PRINCIPLE

Fixed tuning for this movement: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, C4

**Shenanigans**  
 ♩ = 152  
 Vibraphone

Perc. 1  
 Perc. 2  
 Perc. 3  
 Perc. 4  
 Perc. 5  
 Perc. 6

*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*sfz*  
*ff*

Timpani\*  
 sempre l.v.  
 distinctly, adding accents as you wish

Timpani\*  
 sempre l.v.  
 distinctly, adding accents as you wish

Timpani\*  
 sempre l.v.  
 distinctly, adding accents as you wish

Timpani\*  
 sempre l.v.  
 distinctly, adding accents as you wish

Bass Drum  
 Timpani\*  
 sempre l.v.  
 distinctly, adding accents as you wish

Vibraphone

7 10

Perc. 1  
 Perc. 2  
 Perc. 3  
 Perc. 4  
 Perc. 5  
 Perc. 6

*mf*

\*No noticeable difference in the performance of quarter notes vs. eighth notes; rhythmic notation is for readability.



13

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

confidently *mf*

humbly at first... *mp*

18

19

bowed *mf*

ord. *mf*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

*f*

23

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

*f*

*mf*

*poco a poco cresc.*

BEHOLDEN

28

Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Perc. 3  
Perc. 4  
Perc. 5  
Perc. 6

**33** Scramble for Power

Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Perc. 3  
Perc. 4  
Perc. 5  
Perc. 6

*f* 3  
*mf* (encroach on other players' drums)  
*mf* (encroach on other players' drums)  
*mf*  
Timpani  
militaristic, staccato mallets  
*p* sempre

**38**

Perc. 1  
Perc. 2  
Perc. 3  
Perc. 4  
Perc. 5  
Perc. 6

36  
Timpani militaristic, staccato mallets  
*p* sempre

BEHOLDEN

39

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

*poco a poco cresc.*

Perc. 4

*poco a poco cresc.*

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

42

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

45

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

*mf*

Perc. 6

## BEHOLDEN

48

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

51

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

54

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

(glare at Player 3)

(displace Player 1)

*ff*

(displace Player 5 & 6)

*ff*

(glare at Player 4)

58 **61** Chaos annoyingly

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 (feign collaboration with Player 6)

Perc. 3 triumphantly *fff* (glare at Player 6) *mp* (feign collaboration with Player 6)

Perc. 4 triumphantly *fff* (glare at Player 6) *mp*

Perc. 5

Perc. 6 Seize the opportunity! *f*

65

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5 *mp*

Perc. 6 *mp*

**69** even more annoyingly

Perc. 1 *mp* *f*

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6 Obnoxiously  
Play these drums from the outside of the circle, with your back to the audience *ff*

## BEHOLDEN

73

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

(demonstrably choke G drum, preventing Player 6 from finishing the tune)

(frown at Player 5, and sulk over to the BD)

(attempt this note)

*poco a poco cresc.*

*poco a poco cresc.*

**f**

77

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

(elbow Player 4 out of the way)

(Swap places with Player 4, etc.)

(Swap places with Player 5, etc.)

**f**

81

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

**fp**

84

turn and glare at Player 6

87

Perc. 1 *ff* BD turn and glare at Player 6 (scramble over to lowest 32" drum) Boldly - pushing people out of the way, as needed

Perc. 2 *ff* BD turn and glare at Player 6 *f*

Perc. 3 *ff* BD turn and glare at Player 6

Perc. 4 BD turn and glare at Player 6

Perc. 5 *ff* BD Interrupt!

Perc. 6 Bass Drum (shrug) *sfz*

88

Vibraphone

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *mf* *Red.* *dramatically gliss.* *gliss.*

Perc. 3 *mp*

Perc. 4

Perc. 5 *mp* *p*

Perc. 6 *mf* *Red.* *Vibraphone*

Gracefully

III. NO EXPECTATION

$\text{♩} = 72$

Vibraphone

Perc. 1 Vib. *mf*

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

Perc. 4 Vib. *mp*

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

blend with vib. timbre

*mp*

8

Perc. 1 Vib. *mp*

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

Perc. 4 Vib. *p*

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

blend with vib. timbre

*p*

11

14

Perc. 1 Vib. *mf*

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

Perc. 4 Vib. *mp*

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

blend with vib. timbre

*pp*

distinctly



19

Perc. 1 Vib. *pp*

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

Perc. 4 Vib.

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

23

quasi dead stroke

Perc. 1 Vib. *pp*

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

quasi dead stroke *pp*

Perc. 4 Vib. *pp*

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

*pp*

Perc. 6 32", 32"

27

ord.

Perc. 1 Vib. *p*

Perc. 2 Crotales bowed *mp*

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

ord. *p*

Perc. 4 Vib. *p*

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

BEHOLDEN

34

31

Perc. 1 Vib.

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

Perc. 4 Vib.

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

with tiny triangle beaters

*ppp* *sempre*

*pp*

*pp*

35

Perc. 1 Vib.

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

Perc. 4 Vib.

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

*pp*

*p* *poco a poco cresc.*

*p*

*mp* *poco a poco cresc.*

*sempre l.v.*

42 More Boldly

39

Perc. 1 Vib.

Perc. 2 Crotales

Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"

Perc. 4 Vib.

Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6 32", 32"

*mf*

*mp*

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

43

Perc. 1 Vib.  
Perc. 2 Crotales  
Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"  
Perc. 4 Vib.  
Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"  
Perc. 6 32", 32"

Detailed description: This system contains measures 43 through 46. Percussion 1 (Vib.) plays sustained chords in the treble clef. Percussion 2 (Crotales) plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the treble clef. Percussion 3 (20", 20", 23", 23", 26") plays sustained chords in the bass clef. Percussion 4 (Vib.) plays sustained chords in the treble clef. Percussion 5 (26", 29", 29") plays sustained chords in the bass clef. Percussion 6 (32", 32") plays sustained chords in the bass clef.

47

Perc. 1 Vib.  
Perc. 2 Crotales  
Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"  
Perc. 4 Vib.  
Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"  
Perc. 6 32", 32"

Detailed description: This system contains measures 47 through 50. Percussion 1 (Vib.) plays sustained chords in the treble clef. Percussion 2 (Crotales) plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the treble clef. Percussion 3 (20", 20", 23", 23", 26") plays sustained chords in the bass clef. Percussion 4 (Vib.) plays sustained chords in the treble clef. Percussion 5 (26", 29", 29") plays sustained chords in the bass clef. Percussion 6 (32", 32") plays sustained chords in the bass clef.

50

Perc. 1 Vib.  
Perc. 2 Crotales  
Perc. 3 20", 20", 23" 23", 26"  
Perc. 4 Vib.  
Perc. 5 26", 29", 29"  
Perc. 6 32", 32"

*p sub*  
*mp poco a poco cresc.*  
*p sub*  
*mf poco a poco cresc.*  
*mp poco a poco cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 50 through 53. Percussion 1 (Vib.) plays sustained chords in the treble clef, starting at *p sub*. Percussion 2 (Crotales) is silent. Percussion 3 (20", 20", 23", 23", 26") plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the bass clef, starting at *mp* and *poco a poco cresc.* Percussion 4 (Vib.) plays sustained chords in the treble clef, starting at *p sub*. Percussion 5 (26", 29", 29") plays sustained chords in the bass clef, starting at *mf* and *poco a poco cresc.* Percussion 6 (32", 32") plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the bass clef, starting at *mp* and *poco a poco cresc.*

57

54

Perc. 1  
Vib.

Perc. 2  
Crotales

Perc. 3  
20", 20", 23"  
23", 26"

Perc. 4  
Vib.

Perc. 5  
26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6  
32", 32"

*f sub*

*f*

*ff*

*f sub*

*ff*

*ff*

58

Perc. 1  
Vib.

Perc. 2  
Crotales

Perc. 3  
20", 20", 23"  
23", 26"

Perc. 4  
Vib.

Perc. 5  
26", 29", 29"

Perc. 6  
32", 32"

*mf*

*ppp*

*mf*

*ppp*