

Tinikling

The Rice Bird Dance

Tinikling (ti-NI-kling) is the national dance of the Philippines. The word means "in the manner of the tikling," a bird that lives in the marshes and rice fields of the central Philippine islands, particularly Leyte. This bird feeds on the rice seeds and seedlings, damaging an important crop. To protect their investment from this avian opportunist, the farmer sets a bamboo trap that snaps shut if a bird steps inside it.

The dance mimics the skill of the tikling bird as it craftily evades the traps. Two individuals hold a pair of long bamboo poles that represent the traps. For each three beats, they rhythmically clap the poles together once to symbolize the trap snapping shut then twice on the floor about six to twelve inches apart. One or more dancers, representing the tikling birds, jump in and out from between the poles. They don't want to be caught when the trap snaps shut. Advanced dancers add other acrobatic maneuvers. The tempo of the music can accelerate during the dance.

On November 8, 2013, Super Typhoon Haiyan (known locally as Typhoon Yolanda) with 145 mph winds, struck the Philippines. Tacloban City, on the island of Leyte, was badly hit, and the path of destruction crossed the central Philippines, leaving behind 6000 dead and many thousands homeless. This handbell arrangement is dedicated to those who suffered and survived this calamity and to the many lives that were lost forever.

For the Blaza family: Jon, Glenda, Jonathan and Jessica

Tinikling

The Rice Bird Dance

For 4 to 6 Octave Handbell Choir *optional*

Handbells used: 37, (47), (51)

Handbell choir notation for Tinikling. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The music consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. There are two bracketed sections labeled "optional": one in the treble staff and one in the bass staff.

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

4-octave choirs omit notes in ().

5-octave choirs omit notes in [].

5 and 6-octave choirs omit notes in < >.

Philippine Folk Dance

Arranged by LONNIE J. DORGAN

Piano accompaniment notation for Tinikling. The music is in 3/4 time with a tempo of 120. It consists of 16 measures. The notation includes treble and bass staves. There are various musical symbols such as rests, staccato marks (*), and dynamic markings (R). The key signature has one sharp (F#).

* Staccato notes may be malletted on the table.

17 18 19 20 21 22

Faster ♩ = 126

23 24 25 26 27

28 29 30 31 32

33 34 35 36 37

38 39 **Faster** ♩ = 132 40 41 42

43 44 45 46 47

48 49 50 51 52

Faster ♩ = 138 53 54 55 56 57

* 4-octave choirs omit bottom octave notes meas. 55 - 63.
HB496-5

58 59 60 61 62

R R R R R

63 64 65 66 67

R R R R R

68 69 70 71 72

Faster ♩ = 144

R R R R R

73 74 75 76 77

R R R R R