

# “Wombat Combat”

Composed by Jonas vom Orde, Arranged by TAIKO BASTARDS

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*Trouble is brewing in the Australian outback today!*

*The Clutterbuck Creek dried out long ago and the tumbleweeds have been ruling the wastelands ever since. In the dusty heat of the outback, two wombats are having a fur-ious disagreement.*

*Their paws are scraping the ground as they circle each other, their butts are wiggling and wagging as they dash forward – and then retreat again - as they search for the perfect moment to bite each other's ears.*

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This is the story of “Wombat Combat” – a piece that (quite literally) resembles a fight of two animals in the wild.

In this Kumi-Daiko piece, this rivalry can be seen in the drum setup of both chu-daikos, but most importantly also in the constant back and forth between the chu- and the oke-shime players. One major concept of “Wombat Combat” is to showcase the shime players, elevating them from the role of simple timekeepers, to a leading force of musical themes.

As silly as the names of the different parts of the piece may sound at first (TapTap, Wiggle, Waggle, Warning and Combat), they do reflect the musical intention of those parts.

**TapTap** resembles some kind of wombattian standoff.

**Wiggle** focuses on the actions (attacks) of the chu players.

**Waggle** is the response (the counter-attack) of the oke-shime players.

**Warning** feels like both parties circling and threatening each other – leading into a short attack-retreat-action from both opponents.

**Combat** is the climax of the fight.

As you can see, “Wombat Combat” walks the line between a very serious concept and being light hearted with a bit of self-irony at the same time. Which is, in its core, the very concept of the TAIKO BASTARDS: An attempt to fuse together the many facets and playing styles of modern Kumi-Daiko.

For example: The chu-daiko voices have a clear choreographic concept, while the rhythms of the shime-oke players have more of a “groove-taiko” approach. If you watch the full performance clip of “Wombat Combat” (<https://youtu.be/UOexwaFa7ok>), you may notice that all four of the TAIKO BASTARDS have a bit of their own individual playing style – but still, the song is played with the same intention.

This is what we’d like to offer to you with “Wombat Combat”. You are welcome to make this piece your own. If you want this piece to be played at lightning speed, you are free to do so. If you want

this to be more down to earth and relaxed, you can do this too. If you want to simplify some parts which might be a little complicated – please do. Make it your own. It doesn't matter in which style (or styles) this piece is played in. If everyone in the group is playing it with the same intention, and wants to tell a little story about some fighting wombats... it will still be "**Wombat Combat**"!

So, have fun with this piece, and **release the wombats!!**

## Learning Materials:

### Notation (pdf):

1x Chu-daiko, 1x Shime-Oke

### YouTube Videos:

1x Full runthrough with Chu-daiko and Shime-Oke (Moderate tempo)

1x Full runthrough with Chu-daiko only (Fast tempo)

1x Full runthrough with Shime-Oke only (Fast tempo)

1x Part-by-part for Chu-daiko (Slow tempo)

1x Part-by-part for Shime-Oke (Slow tempo)

### Zip file download:

8x One part per video for Chu-daiko (Slow tempo)

8x One part per video for Shime-Oke (Slow tempo)

## Contact:

[TaikoBastards@gmail.com](mailto:TaikoBastards@gmail.com)

We are happy to respond to any feedback or questions you have about this piece. Email us and we'll get back to you as soon as possible!

## Social Media:

We'd love to see you playing this piece! If you have a video of your progress, please upload and tag it with **#ReleaseTheWombats** and **#WombatCombat** to share it with the community.

Find us on YouTube, Facebook and Instagram:

[Youtube.com/TaikoBastards](https://www.youtube.com/TaikoBastards)   [Facebook.com/TaikoBastards](https://www.facebook.com/TaikoBastards)   [Instagram.com/TaikoBastards](https://www.instagram.com/TaikoBastards)