

Performance Notes:

Clean Sweep is a novelty broom quintet written for four push brooms & one plastic/rubber trash can. The piece begins with someone walking across the stage with a small trash can that contains limited trash. (A few pieces of wadded-up paper, 2 or 3 plastic bottles and a pair of large marching sticks.) The person accidentally spills the can and the trash goes all over the floor. (Incidentally, I might recommend that this person be the band director or principal, etc...) At this point the person is mad at what has happened and yells back stage for “*put name here*” to come out and “clean up this mess!” The Janitor proceeds on stage with the large rubber or plastic trash can. The trash can is placed center stage and the Janitor picks up the trash and throws it in the can, finally grabbing the sticks. As the Janitor is about to throw the sticks in the can, he looks around to see if anyone is watching and then proceeds to play on the sides of the can. This first entrance will be in **bars 3 & 4**. After that, he feels a bit more confident and plays **bar 5** which immediately after he hears a broom response from offstage right. The Janitor turns back to look in puzzlement and then plays **bar 6** with the same effect happening from offstage left. After a short pause, the Janitor plays **bars 7 & 8** and gets a loud response from offstage making him jump in surprise. At this point the Janitor begins the groove at **letter A** and at **bar 11** the Sweepers begin playing while moving out onstage. Although the movement from the Sweepers should look random, it should be rehearsed and a line should begin forming at **bar 19** directly behind the Janitor and his can. In **bar 19**, beats 3 & 4, Sweepers 2 & 3 play the eighth notes loudly and it scares the Janitor and he retaliates in **bar 21**. At **letter B** the Janitor picks up his can and walks back around to the back of the Sweepers. At **bar 29** the Janitor comes back around to perform his solo, facing the audience, beating the dust pans on the ground. At **letter C**, once again, the Janitor runs back behind the Sweepers. The Sweepers open up a hole in the middle by blowing out two diagonals to backstage and the Janitor walks in between Sweepers 2 & 3 and plays **bars 39-44** trying to intimidate them. (In this section the pans are struck together.) **Letter D** changes to a 9/8 feel and special care needs to be taken to execute the groove pattern in **bars 49-59**. The Janitor returns, with can, to front & center still trying to upstage the Sweepers. The can should be placed “bottom up” for this. (See score notes for **bars 55 & 59**.) In **bar 60**, the Sweepers finally get fed-up with the Janitor and tell him to “Get Off The Stage” to which he responds with a “raspberry”. Sweeper 1 then sets a new tempo by striking the end of the broom handle on the ground, (see the “technique notes” for this). The Sweepers continue to groove through **bar 73** and then at **bar 74** “splits” begin to happen with a 360 degree-broom spin between each executed technique. All the Sweepers build in **bar 79** to a loud vocal “Huh!” on beat 4 while pretending to throw the brooms out to the audience. The Janitor tries to “show-off” by running across the stage in **bars 80 & 81** playing loudly and slowing down as he does while the Sweepers look at him like he has flames shooting out of his ears. (Hopefully, much audience laughter will ensue at this point.) At **letter F** Sweeper 1 counts in the new tempo with a police whistle and the Sweepers begin to move about the stage jamming but in an organized, random fashion. Once again, the Janitor brings the can back around in front of the Sweepers facing the audience and ready to play by **bar 87**. The Sweepers form a straight line behind the Janitor by **bar 91**. Be extreme with the subito piano at **bar 93**, keeping the tempo in the splits steady and even with a crescendo all the way to **bar 96**. In **bar 97** the Sweepers bring the broom up by their feet and place their right foot at the base, slamming the handle part down toward the audience by pushing down with the foot on beat 4. After much applause, Sweeper 1 kicks off the “Outro” with the police whistle and the players “groove” off the stage repeating the last 2 bar groove.

Check-out the Key and Technique explanations on the following page.

For more visual help, view the video tutorial of “Clean Sweep” at the Video Lounge of www.rowloff.com.

Thanks and enjoy the ensemble!!

Janitor Key: Foot Stomp Sides of Can Vocal Dust Pans Stick Clicks

Sweeper Key: Foot Stomp Feather Brush LH on Belly Slam Vocal Knock Handle Police Whistle

Technique Notes:

Foot Stomp - Pick up foot (feet), stomp on floor. If possible, use both feet for stomping in bars 39, 40, 43, 44, 91 & 92. In bars 62 through 73 alternate feet R, L, R, L, etc...

Feather - Simply tap the bristle end of the broom on the floor.

Brush - Make a simple sweeping motion for the duration of the note.

Left Hand on Belly - With an open palm, slap the left side of the belly to make a loud “pop” sound.

Slam - Completely flip the broom over and slam the flat side against the ground.

Knock - Turn the broom 90 degrees and strike the end of the broom against the ground.

Handle - Turn the broom upside down. Holding the handle, strike the pole (handle) on the ground vertically.

Clean Sweep

by Chris Crockarell

♩ = 116 With Sweeping Comedy!

The musical score is arranged in five systems, each representing a character: Janitor, Sweep 1, Sweep 2, Sweep 3, and Sweep 4. The music is in common time (C) and begins with a tempo of 116 beats per minute. The score is divided into measures 1 through 8. The Janitor's part includes lyrics and stage directions: "Hey Charlie... Get out here and clean up this mess!!" (measures 1-2), "Janitor comes on stage w/ large rubber can. Begins cleaning up and starts to play against the sides of the can." (measures 2-3), and "gives audience a cocky look" (measure 4). The Sweep characters have stage directions: Sweep 1 "from offstage right" (measure 5), Sweep 2 "from offstage left" (measure 6), and Sweep 3 "from offstage left" (measure 6). The Janitor has stage directions: "turns back to stage right with puzzled look" (measure 5), "turns back to stage left with puzzled look" (measure 6), and "Looks around and nods head as if to say... 'Oh, I get it.'" (measure 8). Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *ff* (fortissimo).

ff

Clean Sweep

pg 2

A ♩ = 120

9 10 11 12

Janitor

Sweep 1

Sweep 2

Sweep 3

Sweep 4

enter from stage right

f

enter from stage right

f

enter from stage left

f

enter from stage left

f

13 14 15 16

Janitor

Sweep 1

Sweep 2

Sweep 3

Sweep 4

Clean Sweep

pg 6

41 *toward sweepers 1 & 2* *mf* *ff* 42 *toward sweepers 3 & 4* *mf* *ff* 43 44 *runs frightened back to can*

D ♩ = ♩

45 46 47 48 49

all move back to straight line facing audience

sniff *Huh?* *mf* *mf* *mf*

cough *mf* *mf* *mf*

broom vertical, upside down, striking handle on ground *knock - edge of broom against floor*

Clean Sweep

pg 7

janitor moves can to middle-front of sweepers
facing audience, proceeds to play on the
sides of can with broom handle
sticks, cut to 18"

50 51 52 53 54

Janitor

Sweep 1

Sweep 2

Sweep 3

Sweep 4

turns w / back to audience,
swings butt with accents

55 56 57 58

Janitor

Sweep 1

Sweep 2

Sweep 3

Sweep 4

R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R R L

Clean Sweep

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E

♩ = 130

lean head back &
"shake like a rock star!"

big raspberry! ^

59 60 61 62

Janitor

R L R L R L R Pfffttt!

Sweep 1

f Get Off The Stage! *ff*

Sweep 2

f Get Off The Stage!

Sweep 3

f Get Off The Stage!

Sweep 4

f Get Off The Stage!

f x = left hand on belly

63 64 65 66

Janitor

Sweep 1

Sweep 2

Sweep 3

Sweep 4

toss broom straight up, catch and bring to floor

knock - edge of broom against floor

knock - edge of broom against floor

knock - edge of broom against floor