pocket pieces (1999) (commissioned by the Freiburger Schlagzeugquartett)

instruments:

- 4 piccolo woodblocks
- 8 high metal sleigh bells (small Hindu or Tibetan bells)
- 16 suspended finger cymbals (4 for each player)
- clapping hands
- 4 pairs of claves of different pitches

- choose an adequate placing in a space as free as possible of other instruments
  - use stage lights to produce color differences between each piece

I

- 4 woodblocks
  - 2 very hard rubber mallets for each player
  - 1 high metal sleigh bell hanging around each wrist of all players all through the pieces

II

- same sleigh bells
  - 16 finger cymbals
  - * shake wrists slowly and softly
  - create an oneiric and static atmosphere with different timbres and mallets/beaters using 4 cymbals each freely
III

- same sleigh bells
- clap hands
A: 1 and 2 clap fingers against fingers; 3 and 4 clap fingers against palms  
B: the same but each one alternating one note fingers against fingers and another fingers against palms 
C: alternate one note with hands of two players against hands of the other two, and the other note clapping one’s own hands  
D: clap own hands 
E: clap quarter notes with one’s own hands and the rest with someone else’s (e.g. 1-2, 3-4)  
F: with both hands: 1-2, 3-4 alternating 1-3, 2-4 
G: arms down, snap thumb and middle finger of each hand  
- these indications are to be alternated with freedom, as in a children’s game

IV

- same sleigh bells
- 4 pairs of claves
- 4 woodblocks (same as before)  
* play on the woodblocks 
** only claves 
*** only sleigh bells, arms down  
- all lights out on the last fermata

my thanks to Jorge Camiruaga for his wise advice