

Storyboard:

Zodiac

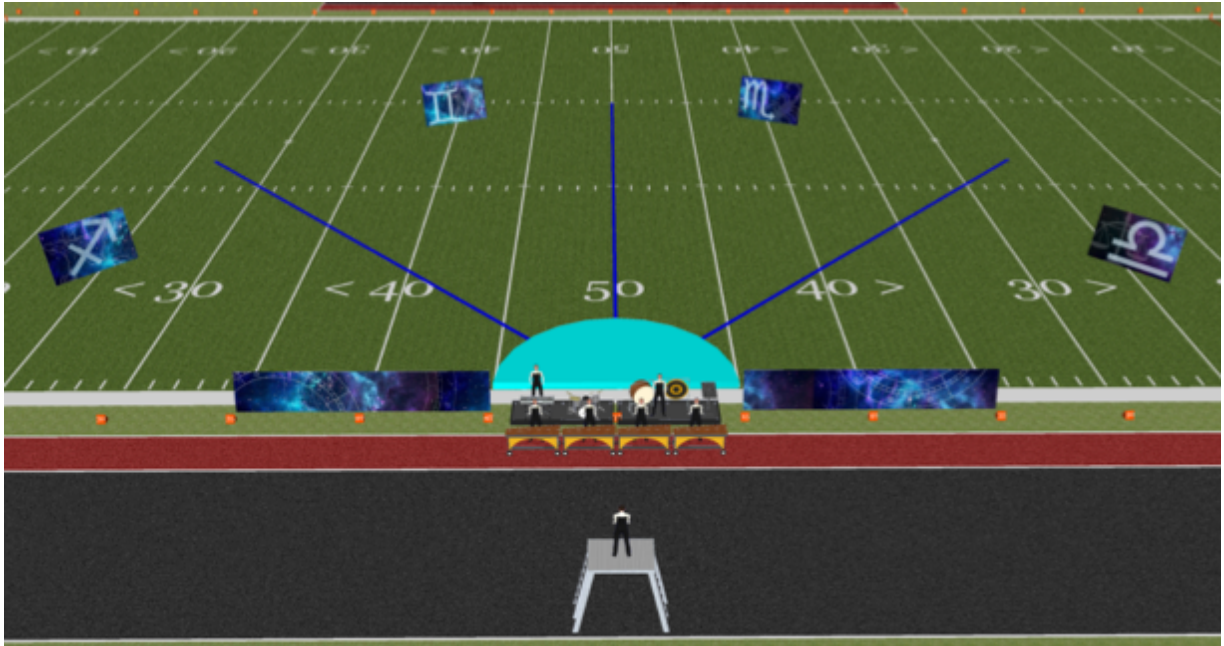
Fannin Musical Productions



Overview

Zodiac is a musical and visual reflection on the ancient art of astrology. The show progresses through, and draws its effects from, four of the 'houses' of the Zodiac: Sagittarius the Archer, Gemini the Twins, Scorpio the Scorpion, and Libra the Scales.

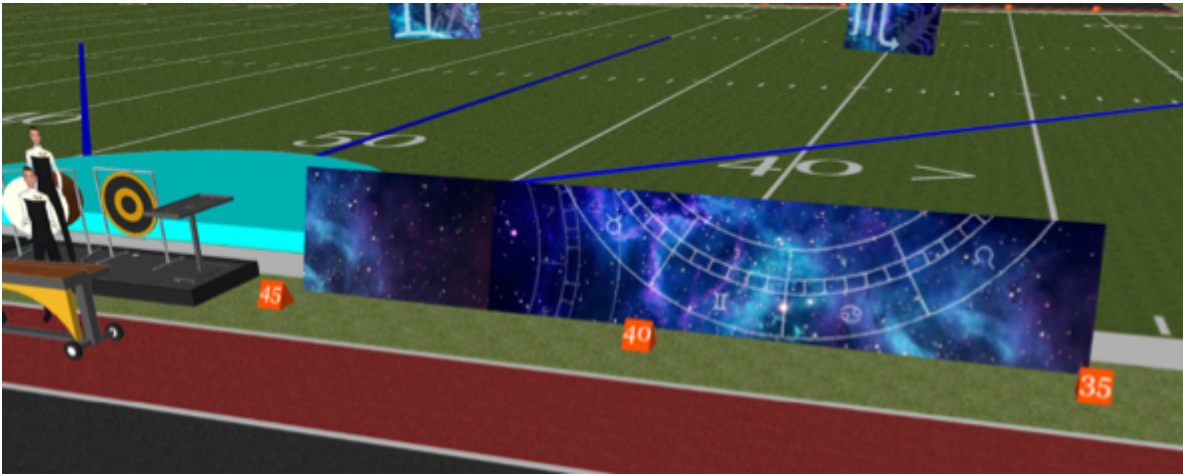
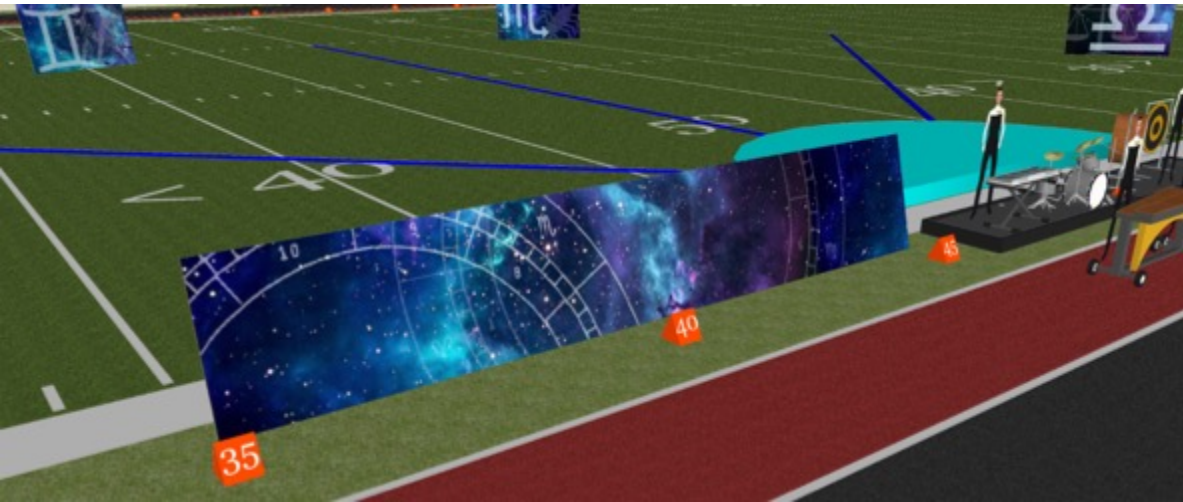
Set Design



Zodiac uses several props which reflect the ancient art of astrology. The overall set is designed to mimic the look of a standard astrological chart while framing the field and providing a narrative for the audience to fall. Along the front, two large screens hide guard equipment changes, and a large, semicircular stage serves as a place to highlight soloists and featured groups. In the back, four large backdrops represent the four astrological signs which have inspired the four movements of the program and provide a place for equipment changes and effect staging.

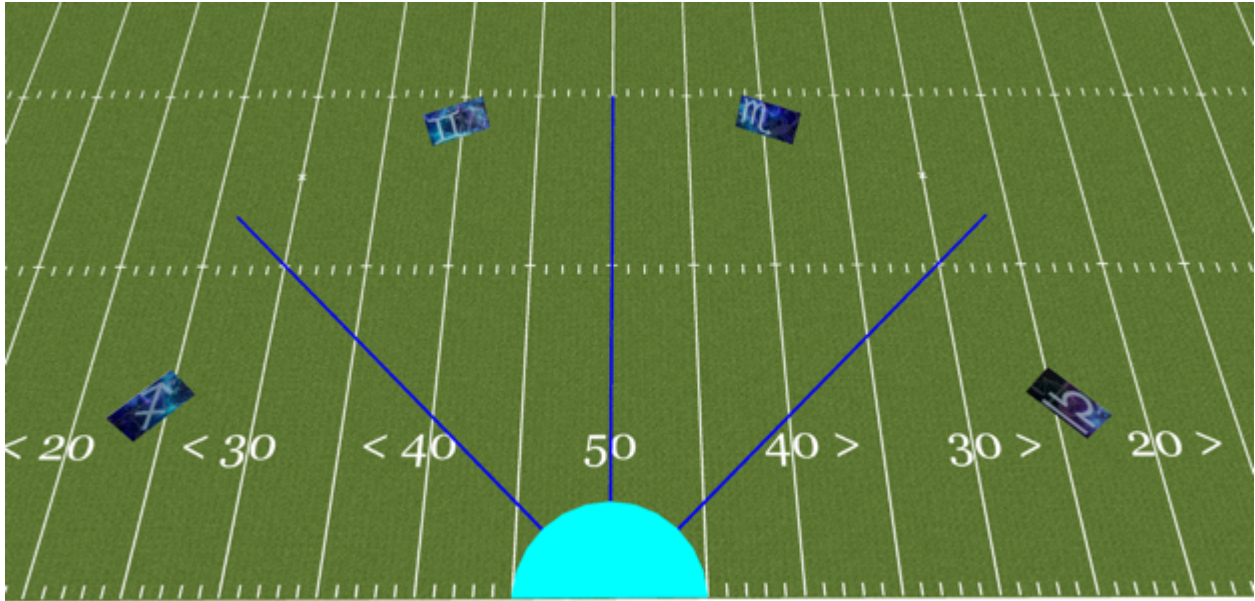
Props

Two large front screens provide a staging point for color guard equipment changes.





Directly behind the pit, a large semicircular stage serves as a feature area for soloists and groups, painted in the bright blue [cyan] 'pop' color. Sketched here as a slightly elevated stage, a simple tarp could also be used.



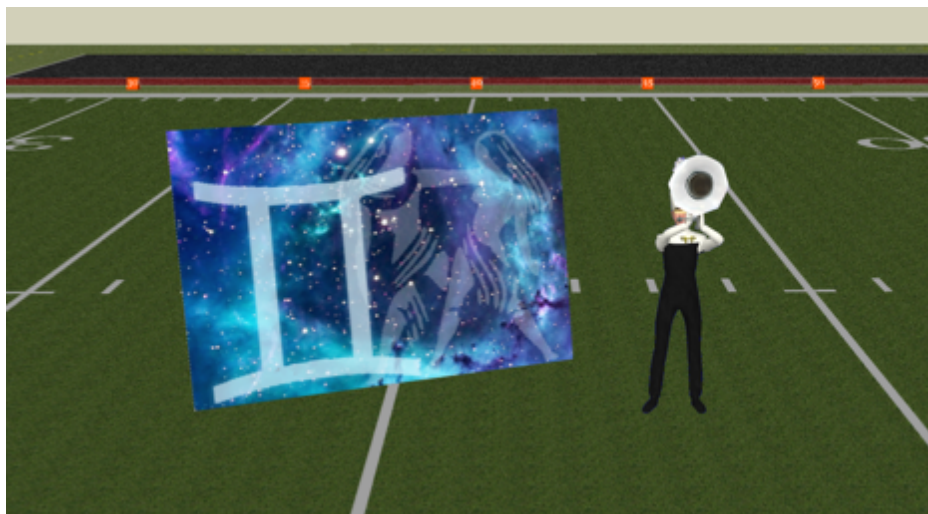
Radiating back from the stage are three strips of tarp material painted in the slightly darker blue which serve to divide the field into the 'houses' of an astrological chart. This provides a narrative to the show, allowing the drill to progress from one house to the next as the movements change. The strips themselves can be inexpensively made from surplus billboard material and then weighted to avoid wind issues.

In each of the four quadrants, a backdrop serves to label the 'house' upon which a movement will be based, and as a staging point for effects.

Sagittarius the Archer



Gemini the Twins



Scorpio



Libra the Scales



The four movements of the show play off of these four 'houses' of the Zodiac to motivate their effects, both musically and visually.

Colors, Costuming, Flags



COLOR GUARD CONCEPT SKETCH

ONE PIECE BODY SUIT--LOOSE LEG OR TIGHT

OPTIONAL, SEPARATE HOOD HELPS CONVEY MYSTERIOUS MOOD-- COULD BE WORN IN SOME MOVEMENTS, PUSHED OFF IN OTHERS

ASTROLOGICAL CHART PRINT ON CHEST

VERTICAL, ELECTRIC BLUE STRIPE ADDS HEIGHT, DRAWS EYE TO PERFORMERS

GALAXY-PRINT ON RIGHT SIDE CONNECTS TO THEME, PROPS



CONSISTENT COLOR PALETTE THROUGHOUT--PROPS, FLAGS, & COSTUMING--SHADES OF BLUE, SILVER, & BLUE GALAXY PRINT--BRIGHT, ELECTRIC BLUE USED AS POP COLOR



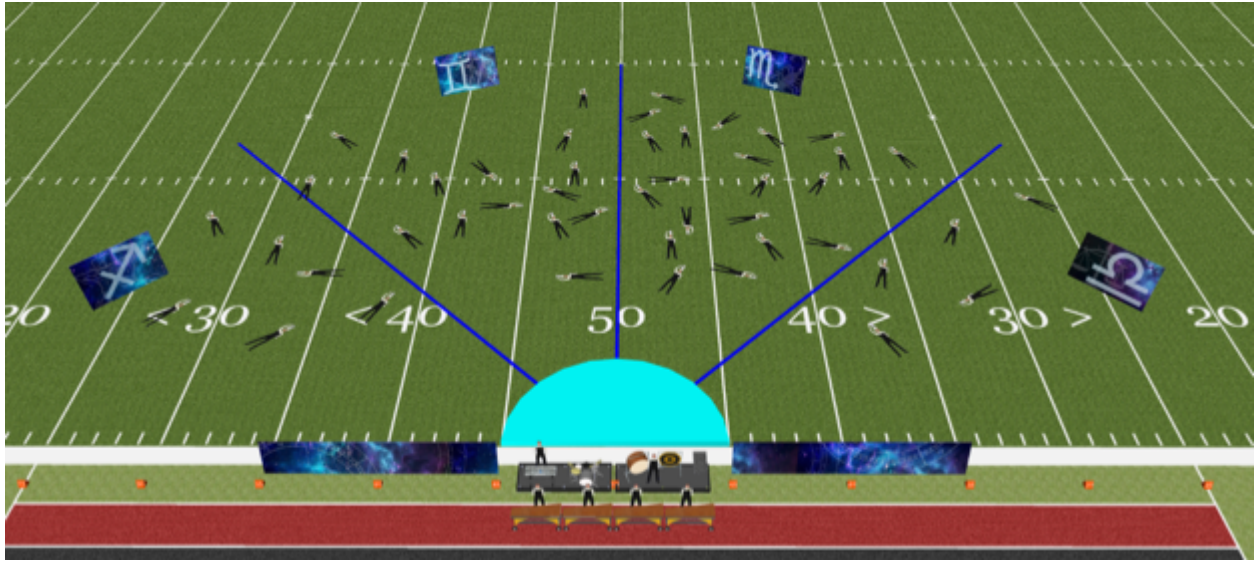
Fannin Musical Productions



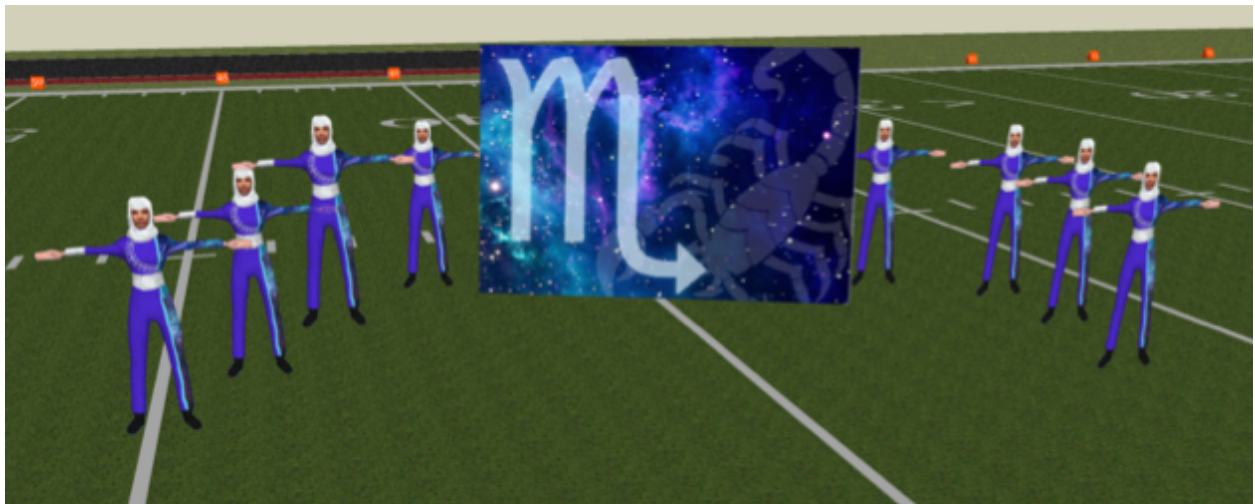
All flags tied conceptually to show theme. Flags, costuming, and props all tied together by color palette and use of pattern.



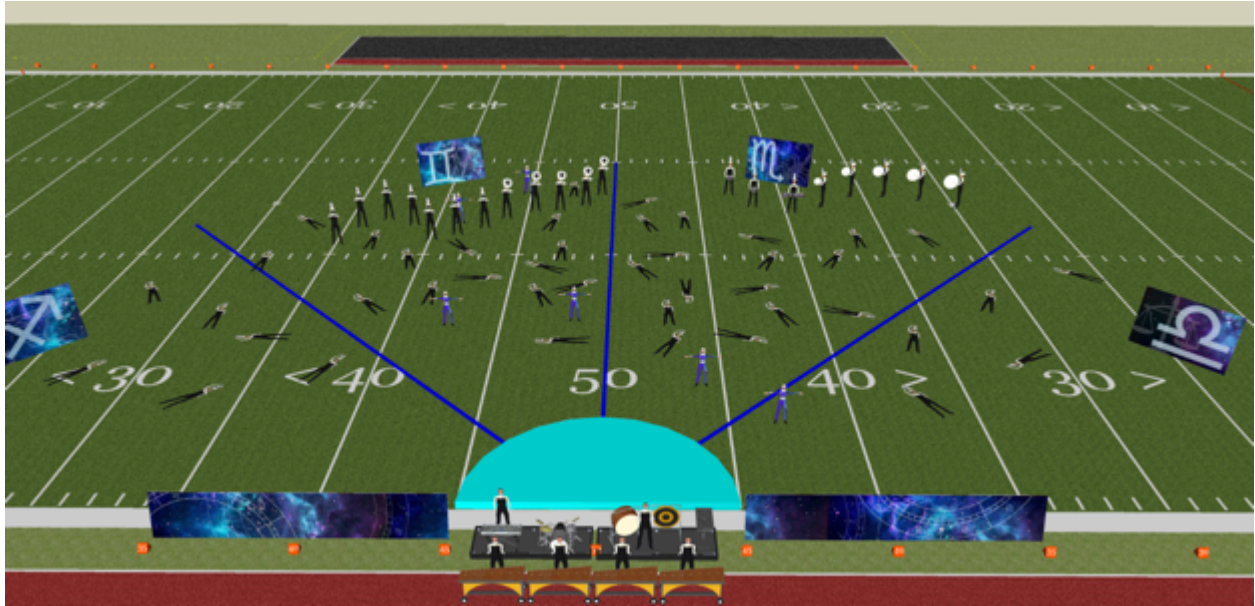
Movements 1 & 2 [Preshow & Sagittarius, the Archer] Effects



The preshow begins with the guard hidden behind the backdrops and the musicians lying on their backs across the field, one arm up as though watching the night sky. The music and visual combine to convey the sense of wonder one feels when looking up at the sky.

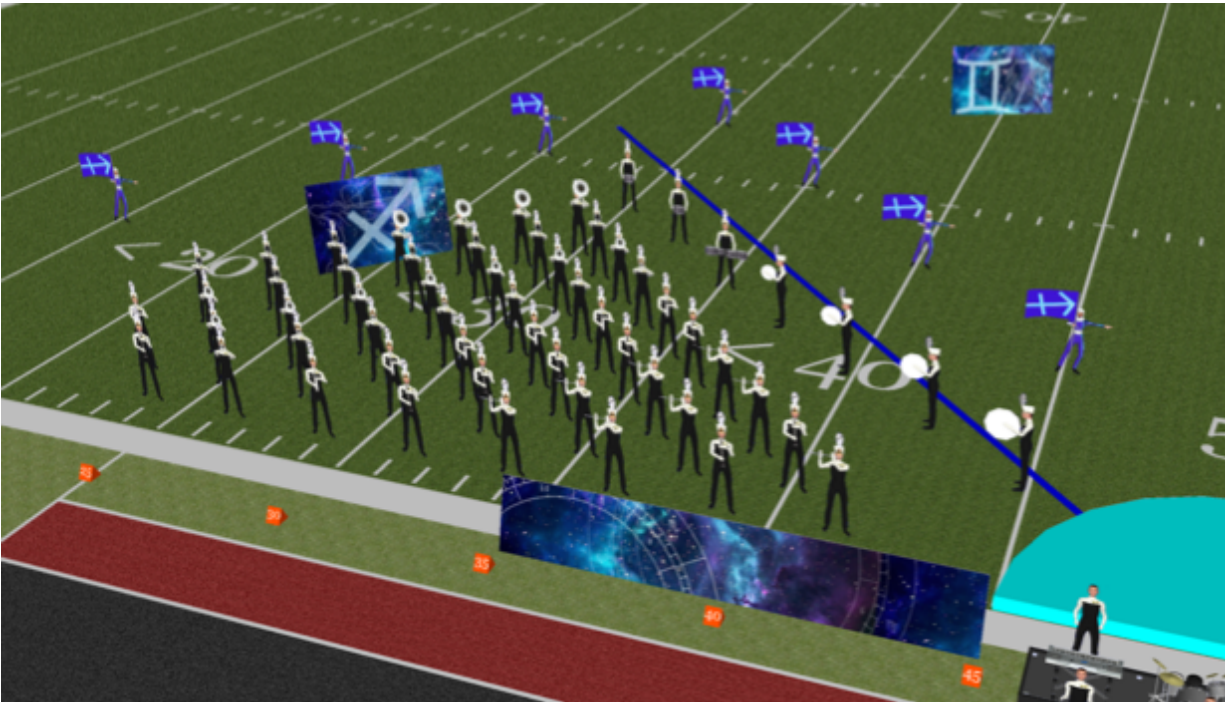


While the musicians continue to lie on their back and gesture towards the sky [periodically shifting direction as they point] the guard enters from behind the backdrops as though in a ceremonial procession, evoking the ancient nature of astrology as a practice.



As the musicians begin to enter, they rise from the ground and begin drill that weaves those still on the ground. The guard at this point breaks out of the 'procession' and begins to perform choreography.

The entire ensemble then builds into the 'house' of Sagittarius for the first impact of Movement. Narration could be used to enhance this effect of the 'planets moving into Sagittarius.'

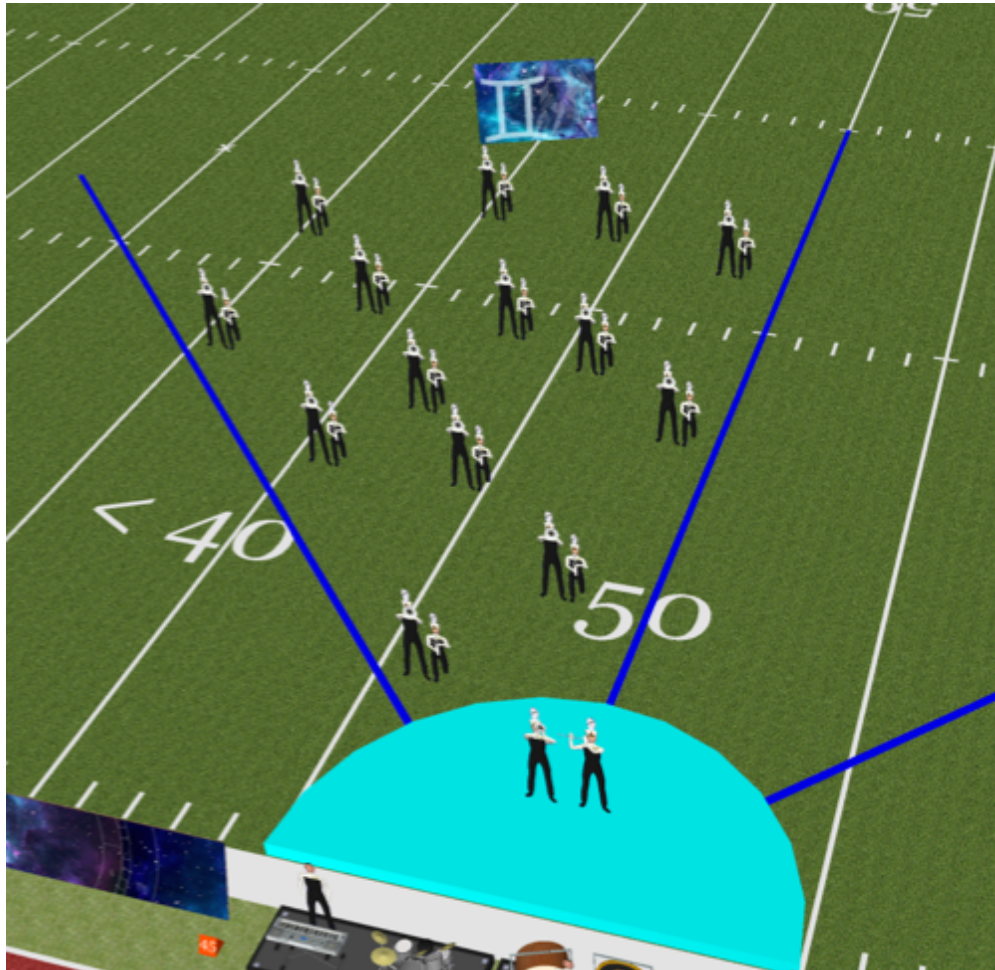




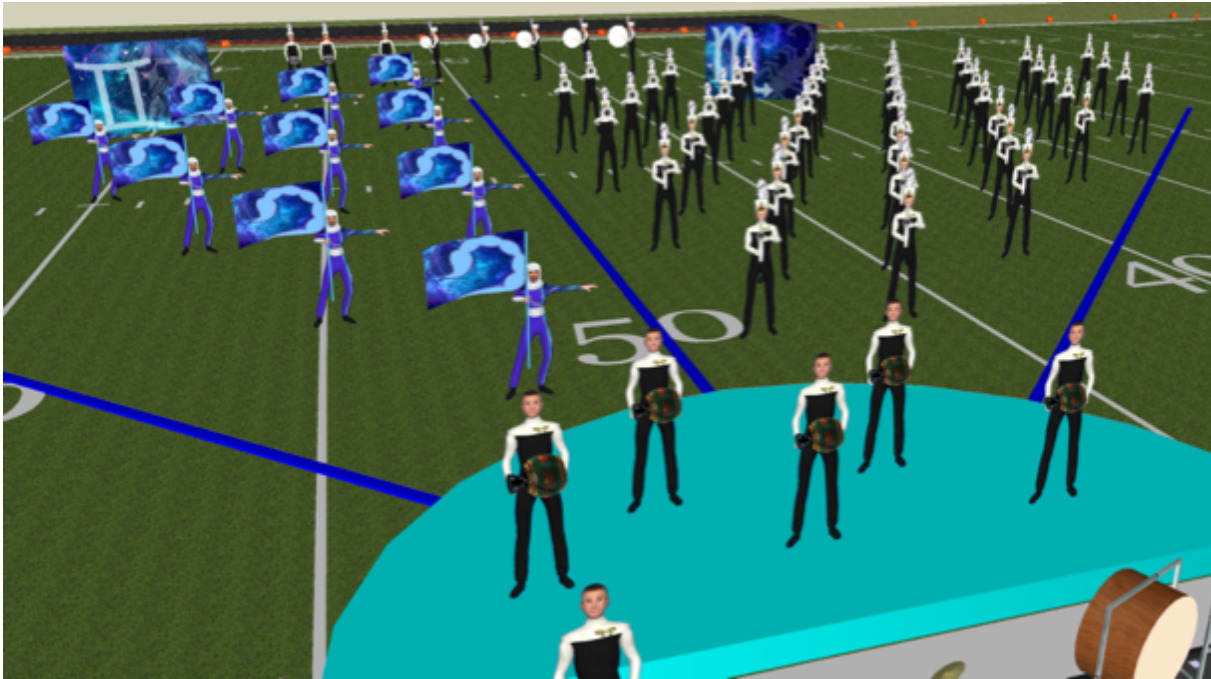
For the final Movement 2 effect, a guard performer takes center stage on the feature area, then gestures dramatically down a line of musicians who ripple to face the Sagittarius backdrop just as an arrow prop is launched from a simple catapult hidden behind the backdrop. Such catapults can be easily built using compressed air or other methods, and the addition to brightly glowing, blue LED lights to the arrow helps convey everything back to the theme of the stars and astrology. Full plans for launcher and arrow available.

Movement 3 [Gemini, the Twins] Effects

In movement 3, the idea of the Twins is conveyed musically via a featured duet [sketched here as trombone-flute, but adjustable to meet the needs of any ensemble] and visually via constantly shifting sets of pairs. The main visual action takes place 'in the house of Gemini' and once again narration could be used to help make that idea more obvious.



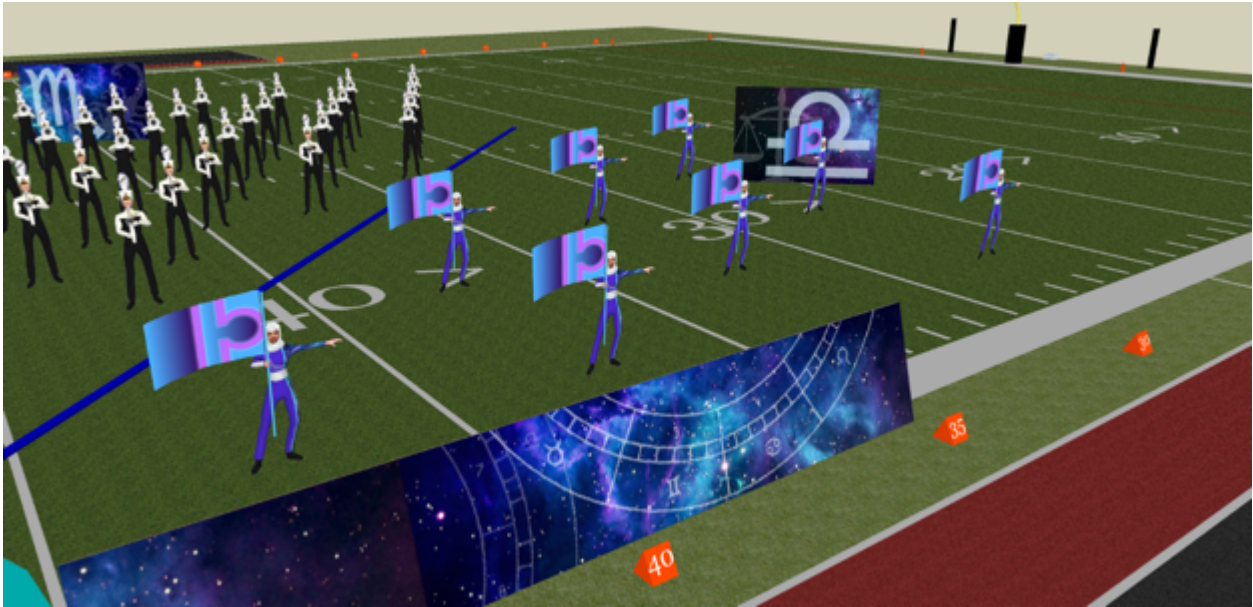
Movement 4 [Scorpio] Effects



In Movement 4, the aggressive nature of the scorpion is portrayed musically with strong, desert-inspired percussion. These performers take center stage behind the pit for a moment both musically and visually choreographed, shown here with shekere-type instruments. These could be pit percussionists, as sketched here, or hornline or guard members who temporarily become percussionists for this scene.

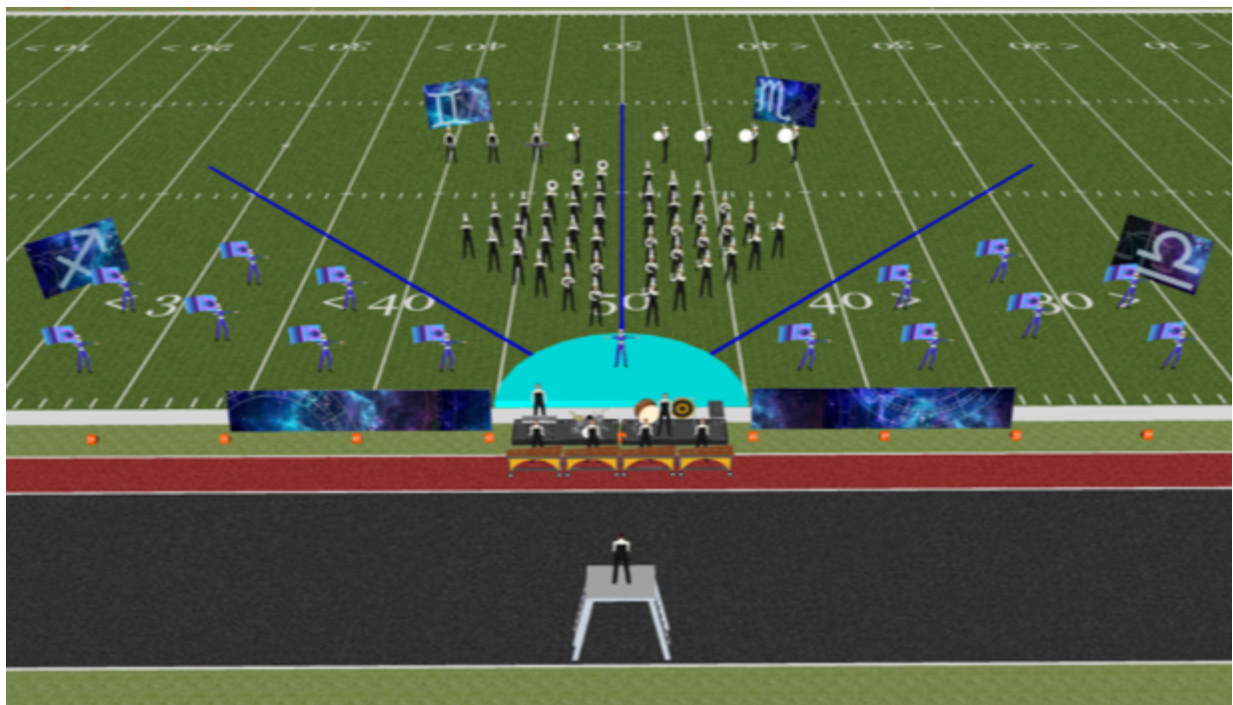
If featured, the drumline could also take this moment on center stage interacting with the pit percussionists in a musically and visually appealing synthesis.

Movement 5 [Libra, the Scales] and Reprise



After the aggression of Scorpio, the mood returns to one of wonder at the grandeur of the stars and fate in Libra. The color guard signals this change by introducing a new silk, introducing a vibrant purple into the color palette.

As the music begins to reprise some of the ideas from the opening, the drill evolves towards a final, majestic statement.



Created with Pyware 3D®

