

Mobile

for tenor saxophone

Jeffrey Treviño, 2005

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Instructions for the Performer

This composition is a binary form of approximately 7' duration. It consists of two different indeterminate structures to be navigated by the performer: structure A, heard first for approximately 3', followed by structure B, heard for approximately 4'. You need not exercise exact durational awareness during performance; rather, a subjective sense of time, with awareness of a subjective duration, should inform.

Navigating Structure A

Compositional Indeterminacy

1. Begin playing at the top of the mobile.
2. The initial conditions for performing the music in the topmost frame are a mezzo forte dynamic and a tempo of 76 eighth notes per minute.
3. For the duration of section A, proceed either clockwise or counter-clockwise along the perimeter from the frame of music last played; when the perimeter next touches a frame of music, play this new frame with the dynamic and tempo specifications contained within the circle traversed en route to the new frame. Make a new choice of direction, clockwise/counterclockwise, each time you leave a frame. Quick and/or repetitive reversals of direction are allowed and encouraged.

3b. For example, after performing the topmost frame with the initial conditions specified above, one might travel counter-clockwise along the perimeter, passing through the forte/76 bpm circle, to perform the music in the frame to the immediate lower left of the top frame at a dynamic level of forte and a tempo of 76 eighth notes per minute.

4. Breaths should be taken as necessary.

5. Perform silences of duration from 2'' – 40'' between frames. Play long silences much less frequently. Perform a long silence between parts A and B.

Navigating Structure B

Notational Indeterminacy

1. Choose seven different multiphonic trills (A multiphonic trill is a trill between one multiphonic and another multiphonic.).
2. These seven distinct trills are represented notationally by the numbers one through seven. Assign numbers to specific trills according to the relative consonance and dissonance (beating) of their constituent pitches: Number one represents the least dissonant multiphonic, number two a slightly more dissonant multiphonic, etc., increasing in dissonance gradually through the seventh and most dissonant multiphonic.

Compositional Indeterminacy

1. Proceed through this structure in a manner identical to that of structure A, with the exception that, in place of circled dynamic and tempo information to inform performance of the subsequent frame, structure B provides (in order from top to bottom in each circle) dynamic, gestural (trill shape), and durational specification for the frame. Initial conditions for the top of B: mf, medium trill speed, and a duration of seven seconds).
2. Trill shape and dynamic specifications graft onto the entire specified duration of a frame, i.e. a crescendo from piano to forte over the course of the specified duration, while gradually trilling more and more slowly over the course of the specified duration (specific trill notation below).

A

dur. approx. 3'

moving freely between mechanical rotation and singing (con molto rubato)

f
♩ = 76

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a forte (f) symbol.

mf
♩ = 76

p
♩ = 96

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a piano (p) symbol.

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a mezzo-forte (mf) symbol.

mp
♩ = 96

p
♩ = 144

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a piano (p) symbol.

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a mezzo-piano (mp) symbol.

f
♩ = 56

p
♩ = 56

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a piano (p) symbol.

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a forte (f) symbol.

pp
♩ = 144

Musical staff with notes and dynamics. The staff contains a series of notes, some with accents, and a final measure with a double bar line. The dynamics are indicated by a pianissimo (pp) symbol.

B
dur. approx. 4'

