

Shortwave

For Quartet

Cello, Bass Trombone (or tenor trombone), Piano, Percussion

Anton Lindström

Program Notes

Shortwave is inspired by the process of using and listening to a shortwave radio, the noisy, uncertain and almost low qualitative charm. The bad signal covering the signal and music hidden beneath it

The piece represents three states, the uneven, noisy dialing in of channels, the quiet and simple beauty of music hidden between the bad signal and the occasional panic of encountering an overly strong signal

Performance Notes

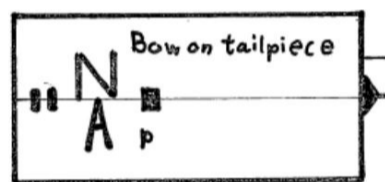
General

Square noteheads indicates an unpitched noise on an instrument otherwise capable of producing pitched sounds, such as blowing air through the trombone, dragging fingers across the keys on the piano or bowing on the tailpiece of the cello.



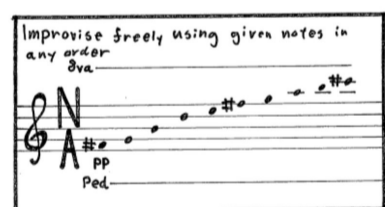
A two line staff indicates a minimum/maximum value for a parameter. For example, the bottom line might represent lowest pitch, and upper line representing the highest pitch

Boxed notation means to repeat/continue the contents of the box until further notice. Musical parameters may be subject to change during this time if indicated



The NA time signatures stands for "Not Applicable" and means that for this specific bar, box or similar, time signature and tempo aren't relevant and should be given no focus or attention

Improvised sections should be performed with an ambiguous relation to melody and rhythm, avoid playing too clearly rhythmical or melodic passages, instead aim mainly towards conveying the sense of a texture or atmosphere within these sections



The changes between the quiet and loud sections should be as sudden as possible

As a contrast to the rhythmically and metrically open sections, the more "notated" sections should be performed with a very strict, metronomic consideration to tempo

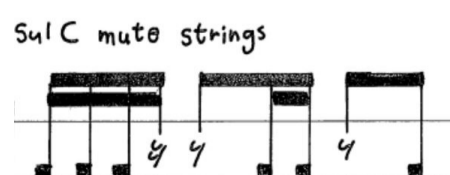
If needed, the piece may be performed with a conductor

Instrument Specific

Cello (C)

The piece features both tapping on the instrument body as well as bowing on the tailpiece. If this is a problem for the cellists care for their instrument, then I'd recommend using a less valuable instrument

Mute strings refers to applying light pressure (not pressing down completely, but more than

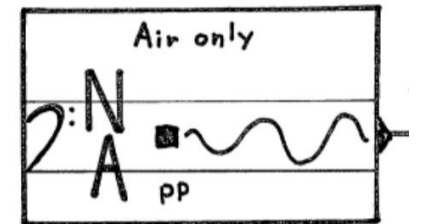


when playing a harmonic) over a large area of the string in order to prevent a discernible pitch from being produced when bowing or plucking the string

Trombone (T)

The piece is ideally performed on a bass trombone, but if one is not available to the performer, a tenor trombone may be used instead

The specific technique for blowing wind through the trombone lies within the discretion of the performer, whether it be with the mouthpiece attached normally, removed, turned around etc.

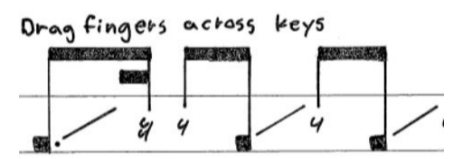


Piano (Pn)

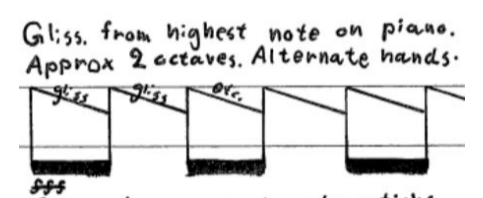
For plucking specified pitches on the piano on the strings inside the instrument, marking these pitches in some way beforehand, either with a removable marker, pieces of paper or anything else next to the tuning pegs of the strings to quickly find them is recommended. For plucking the strings, some sort of plectrum or plastic card could be used

Similarly, in measure 28, marking out the clearest harmonic on the string beforehand is also a good idea

When dragging your fingers across the keys, nails are preferred, however, if the performer worries this can damage their nails, using a tool like a plastic card also works. Helmut Lachenmanns Guero (1969) is a good showcase for this technique



For the passage in measure 31, using some way to protect the hands might be necessary, in this case, as silly as it might sound, using a long, thick, sleeved shirt that you can pull up over your hands or quickly putting on something like oven mitts, can help reduce any potential pain significantly



Percussion (Pc)

Instruments

- Snare drum
- Kalimba (tuned in G, or knowledge of where the scale of G major is on the instrument)
- Ratchet
- Rainstick
- Bamboo Chimes

Beaters

- Vic Firth Dreadlocks
- Drumsticks

The Kalimba should be placed on the snare drum when used, and the snare drum should buzz along with it

For further information or questions about the score or music, email antonrunelindstrom@gmail.com

$\text{♩} = 290$ Sul C mute strings

C 7/8 p

Air only

Drag fingers across keys

Pn mp

Scrape dreadlocks against each other

Pc 7/8 p

3

C 7/4

T 7/4

Pn 3/4

Pc 3/4

7+7+4

6

C 7/4

T 7/4

Pn 5/4

Pc 5/4

8

C

T

Pn

Pc

Ord

Mute

Improvise freely using given notes in any order
 Ord
 dynamics ad lib.
 between ppp and mp

C

T

Pn

Pc

14

C

T

Pn

Pc

3/4

7/16

C →

T 9/8

Pn 9/8

Pc 9/8

2+4+2+4+4+2

18 C →

T 4/4

Pn

Pc 4/4

2/4

Improvise freely using given pitches in any order

8va

pp

ped.

ad lib.

21 C →

T 3/4

Pn

Pc 3/4

24

C

Morph between "dark" and "bright" air sound ad lib.

T

Pn

Pc

26

T

Pn

Pc

Improvise freely across entire kalimba range
N A mp

28

C

T

Pn

Pc

OR maximum length of one breath

29

C Tapping on body of cello ad lib. Dynamics between pp and mf ad lib. Gradually shift between fingertips and nails. $\sim 10s$ $\sim 20s$

T Nord. ppp $\sim 10s$ $\sim 20s$

Pn Pluck strings inside piano. Improvise using given pitches in any order. mf Ped. $\sim 10s$ $\sim 20s$

Pc Bamboo chimes ppp $\sim 10s$ Rainstick mf $\sim 20s$

$\text{J} = 100$ Sul A gliss as high as possible.

31 C fff gliss. gliss. etc. T fff flz. gliss. gliss. gliss. Pn fff Gliss. from highest note on piano. Approx 2 octaves. Alternate hands. Snare drum, regular drumsticks Pc fff

32 C LH RH gliss. Pn LH RH gliss. Pc pp Drag nail against drumhead $\sim 15s$

34

Air only

T

N

A

pp

~ 20s

Improvise freely using given notes in any order

8va

Pn

N

A

pp

Ped

~ 10s

Pc

~ 20s

36

Bow on tailpiece

C

N

A

p

~ 30s

Tremolo as fast as possible

No tremolo

T

N

A

Ord.

pp

~ 10s

~ 20s

Pn

~ 30s

Pc

~ 10s

Improvise freely across entire kalimba range

N

A

pp

~ 20s

39

Improvise freely using given notes in any order

C

N

A

pp

I

II

III

IV

~ 20s

T

~ 20s

Pn

~ 20s

Pc

~ 20s

Sul C

mute string

fff

Slap Tongue

fff

15

ff

Snare drum rim

ff