

A PARENTHETICAL (MEDITATION)

FOR PIANO, PRE-RECORDED PIANO AND THREE NOISE OSCILLATORS

PREVIEW ONLY

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Performance Note and Guidelines

General

A Parenthetical (Meditation) is scored for solo piano, pre-recorded piano sounds and three noise oscillators. The pre-recorded sounds and oscillators are controlled through MaxMSP. Although each patch change is enabled by the pianist through a MIDI foot pedal It is suggested that another "performer" should be at the computer during the performance to control dynamics and provide otherwise necessary troubleshooting.

Sound Design Considerations

This piece is designed to be performed in a 5.1 surround setting. The piano itself should receive sufficient amplification as to blend clearly with the pre-recorded and noise sounds. Each channel should already be established through the MaxMSP patch. Here is a further clarification for sound dispersal throughout the different channels:

R: Buffers 2,5,8

L: Buffers 1,4,7

C: Osc.3, Buffer 9, Solo Piano

Rs: Osc.2, Buffers 2,3,6,7,8

Ls: Osc.1, Buffers 3,7

Notational

Each boxed figure should be treated according to given directions.

① = Patch changes triggered by soloist via MIDI control pedal.



hit lower strings inside piano

hit any cluster of lower notes on keyboard

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The score is divided into two main sections. Section 1, marked with a circled '1', begins with the 'Pre-recorded piano' and '3 Noise Oscillators' (labeled 1, 2, 3) playing a continuous, dense, wavy noise. This section is divided into five time intervals: 'ca. 15"', 'ca. 8"', 'ca. 3"', 'ca. 5"', and 'ca. 3"'. The 'Piano' part features a series of chords in the bass clef, with the instruction 'ppp inside, hit lower strings'. A large instruction reads: 'Press down damper and soft pedal from beginning of noise throughout the piece'. Section 2, marked with a circled '2', is titled 'Arp/drone'. It contains three boxed musical events: 1) A diad in the treble clef with the instruction 'play diads in any order at a leisurely tempo*' and 'delicately pp sempre!' with a '3-5x' repetition arrow. 2) A diad in the bass clef with 'pp' and a '2x' repetition arrow. 3) A single note in the bass clef with 'ppp' and a '1x' repetition arrow.

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* all boxed events may be played in any order, preferably interspersed creatively. Do not move on until the required repetitions have been fulfilled.

③ *mid-chords*

④ *low sus_tones/hichords_arp*

ff sub.

1 random waves

2 random changes in sound (after 23" delay)

3

6" choose two diads from previous top box figure to form a tetrachord

4" 5"

ca. 25"

ca. 5" = 54

8^{va-}

loco

8^{va|} loco = 50

8^{va-}

L.H.*

pp

pp

ppp

ff sub.

pp

pp

* L.H. always plays top note in this arpeggio.

⑤ *midsustones_midchord*

⑥ *slow arps, drones and low chords*

⑦ *low sus_tones/midchords*

Pre.rc.sd

f

slower oscillation and more randomized

(ctd.)

N.O.

20"

random fuzzy gliss. between F#1-D3

• = 46

(8)

ca. 5"

8va

• = 38

6x

• = 54

mp sempre

8vb

play figure at any rate 7-10x (at least one less than L.H. figure)

play figure 8-11x (at least one more than R.H. figure, trigger pedal right at last reiteration of figure)

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is divided into three systems. The first system, 'Pre.rc.sd', features a piano staff with a dynamic marking of *f* and a triangular crescendo. The second system, 'N.O.', includes a piano staff with a '20"' annotation and a 'random fuzzy gliss. between F#1-D3' box. The third system, 'Pno.', contains a grand staff with multiple annotations: '(8)', 'ca. 5"', '8va', '6x', and 'mp sempre 8vb'. It also includes two boxed rhythmic figures with instructions: 'play figure at any rate 7-10x (at least one less than L.H. figure)' and 'play figure 8-11x (at least one more than R.H. figure, trigger pedal right at last reiteration of figure)'. A large diagonal watermark 'PREVIEW ONLY' is overlaid on the score.

⑧ *lowchords only*

Pre.rc.sd

N.O.

ca. 15-25"

8^{va} L.H.

mp sempre

3-5x

Pno.

8^{vb}

f *p*

2x

R.H.

p or f L.H.

3-5x (last time, play chord loud and trigger event 9)

⑨ All sounds!

ff

20" before N.O. change

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for three parts: Pre.rc.sd (Pre-recorded sounds), N.O. (Noise Oscillator), and Pno. (Piano). The Pre.rc.sd part has a box labeled '8 lowchords only' containing three bass notes. The N.O. part has three staves with wavy lines and a box labeled '8vb' with a dashed line. The Pno. part has two staves. A large box contains a left-hand chord diagram labeled '8va L.H.' with dynamics 'mp sempre' and '3-5x'. Another box contains a right-hand chord diagram labeled 'R.H.' and a left-hand chord diagram labeled 'p or f L.H.', with dynamics 'f' and 'p' and '2x'. A third box contains a right-hand chord diagram and a left-hand chord diagram, with dynamics 'p or f' and '3-5x (last time, play chord loud and trigger event 9)'. A large triangle labeled '9 All sounds!' with 'ff' and '20" before N.O. change' is positioned at the end of the score. A diagonal watermark 'DRUMMOND' is overlaid on the score.

10*

11

12

13

The musical score consists of three staves: Pre.rc.sd (bass clef), N.O. (saxophone clef), and Pno. (bass clef). The N.O. staff begins with a 'random noise oscillation' indicated by a jagged line and the text 'etc. to the end'. The Pno. staff has five vertical event markers with horizontal lines above them indicating durations: ca. 10", ca. 10", ca. 5", ca. 3", and ca. 10". The Pre.rc.sd staff is mostly empty, with a 'Fade out' label at the end. A large 'PREVIEW ONLY' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

* each event from here until the end gradually phases out the pre-recorded sounds until there is only a pad-like decay (event 13). Whoever is manning the computer should fade out remaining sounds.

slc, ut 21 Dec 06
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