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MUSICAL COMPOSITION FOCUSING ON THE QUALITY OF PRESENCE IN PERFORMANCE

WIESENFELD, RUTH

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MUSICAL COMPOSITION FOCUSING ON THE QUALITY OF PRESENCE IN PERFORMANCE

by

RUTH WIESENFELD

Volume II: Portfolio

A thesis submitted to the University of Plymouth

In partial fulfilment for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Dartington College of Arts

October 2008

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Audio recordings

CD 1 (p. 180)

Track + Title Duration Performers

1 I name you (2006) 10'52" James Fulkerson, trombone and voice

Recording of the première in new thinking (Berlin) 04 September 2006

2 wer weiss-material (2004) 1'20" Ruth Wiesenfeld, cello

Recorded in May 2004: an edited version of a short improvisation to serve as an illustration

3 – 5 Hautfelder (2007) field 1: 6'50" Bode Quartett

field 2: 7'50"

field 3: 5'44"

Recording of the première in Kunstmuseum Liechtenstein (Vaduz) 20 September 2007

6 manourney (2006) 5'25" Thomas Gerwin, voice

Klaus Schöpp, flute

Tobias Dutschke, zither-like instrument

Recording of the première in Akadenie der Künste am Hanseatenweg (Berlin)

21 December 2006

7 weiß (rhapsody) (2006) 9'01" Ruth Wiesenfeld, piano

Recorded in September 2006

, track + title	duration	performers		
•				
1 shark synchrony (2007)	20'30"	Jochen Carls, double bass		
		Sebastian Kunzke, tuba		
•		Ruth Wiesenfeld, accordion		
	·			
Slightly edited recording of the première (I deleted some noise and conversations) in				
Josettihöfe (Berlin) 07 July 2007				
2 spun yarn (2007)	17'30"	Torbay Symphony Orchestra		
÷		Conductor: Richard Gonski		
Recording of the performance in Central Church, Torquay (UK) 8 March 2008				
2 Abt (2002)	5'47"	Sarah Nunius, famala speaker		
3 Akt (2003)	547	Sarah Nunius, female speaker		
		Jochen Decker, male speaker		
	•	Gerhard Gschlössl, trombone		
		Ruth Wiesenfeld, piano		
Recording of the première in Ku	inetversin Landshut (Lan	debut Germany) 13 May 2004		
Recording of the première in Kunstverein Landshut (Landshut, Germany) 13 May 2004				
		•		
4 Lichtungen (2005)	8'09"	Matthias Badczong, clarinet		
		Milena Tschikov, accordion		
		Ruth Wiesenfeld, speaker		
		. ,		
Recording of the première at the festival 48 Stunden Neukölln (Berlin) 24 June 2006				
5 open – close (2006)	4'55"	Christine Paté, accordion and voice		

Recording of the première in new thinking (Berlin) 04 September 2006

Video Recordings

DVD 1 (p. 182)

Title

Performers

beneath b (2007)

Anne Bregentzer

Recordings of three different performances in E-Werk Freiburg 23 – 25 March 2007.

I recommend 'Donnerstag' (Thursday).

Duration: ca. 18 minutes each

DVD 2 (p. 182)

Lichtungen (2005)

Matthias Badczong, clarinet

Milena Tschikov, accordion

Ruth Wiesenfeld, female speaker

Recording of the première at the festival 48 Stunden Neukölln (Berlin) 24 June 2006.

Duration: 8 minutes

Cameras, Sound and Cut: Laura Schnurre and her team

DVD 3 (p. 184)

Akt - (the particularity of nakedness) (2003)

Sarah Nunius, female speaker

Jochen Decker, male speaker

Gerhard Gschlössi, trombone

Ruth Wiesenfeld, piano

Recording of the première in Kunstverein Landshut (Landshut) 13 May 2004,

File 'aktmovie' (Mp4)

Camera: Daniel Wiesenfeld

Duration: 7 minutes

Cello und Tanz (2004-2005)

Janine Schneider, dance

Ruth Wiesenfeld, cello

Excerpt of the recording of the première in Schillerpalais, Berlin 16 September 2004

File 'CelloTanz' (Mp4)

Camera: Daniel Wiesenfeld

Duration: 2'45"

l name you

I name you

for speaking and singing trombonist

Explanations / Instructions:

Timing: The overall tempo is calm, the durations of the muiscal phrases are determined by the length of the player's breath.

I name you

During the piece the phrase "I name you" undergoes a transition from a verbal to a musical phrase in four stages. Stage I: spoken (plain, no drama, emphasis as in "I name you Ben"). Stage II: spoken into the instrument The pitch on which it should be spoken is indicated in brackets at the end of the preceeding line. Stage III: emphasis on the consonants, so the phrase turns from a verbal phrase to a more abstract, musical one.

Stage IV: the rhythm of the speech is made by manipulations of the mute only.

- (u) If in part II IV the "you" is followed by a note on "u" the transition should be as smooth as possible.

 (a) The same is true for an "I" preceeded by an "a", unless breathing is necessary there.

 Symbols

 play on inhale, no specific pitch

 slap tone
 - glissando

 breathe air through the instrument, let it become a note which immediately vanishes back into the sound of air
 - sing into the instrument
 sing (without instrument)

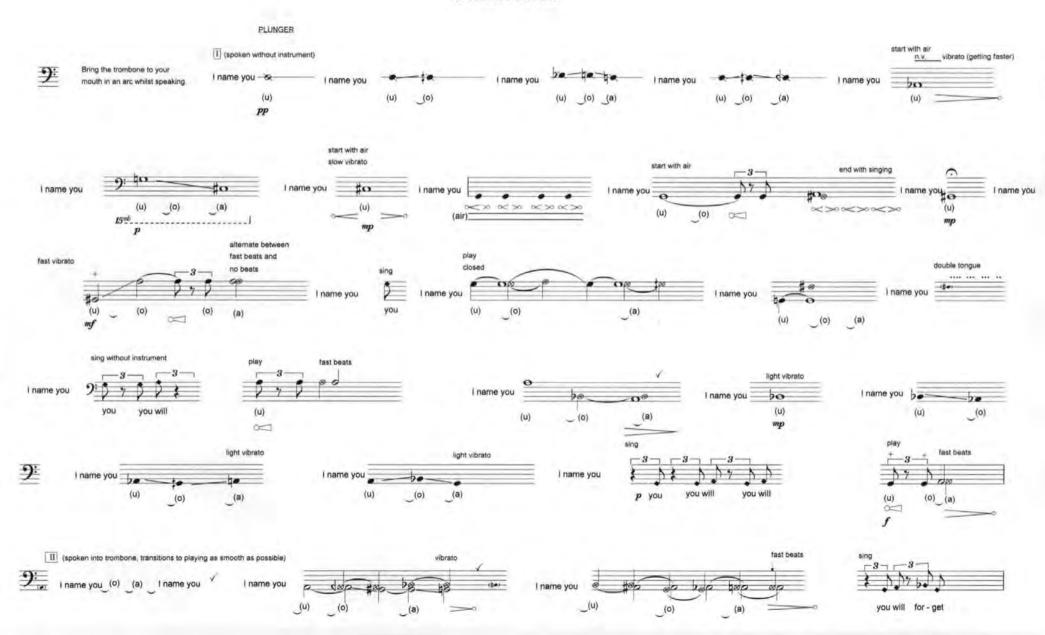
Presence:

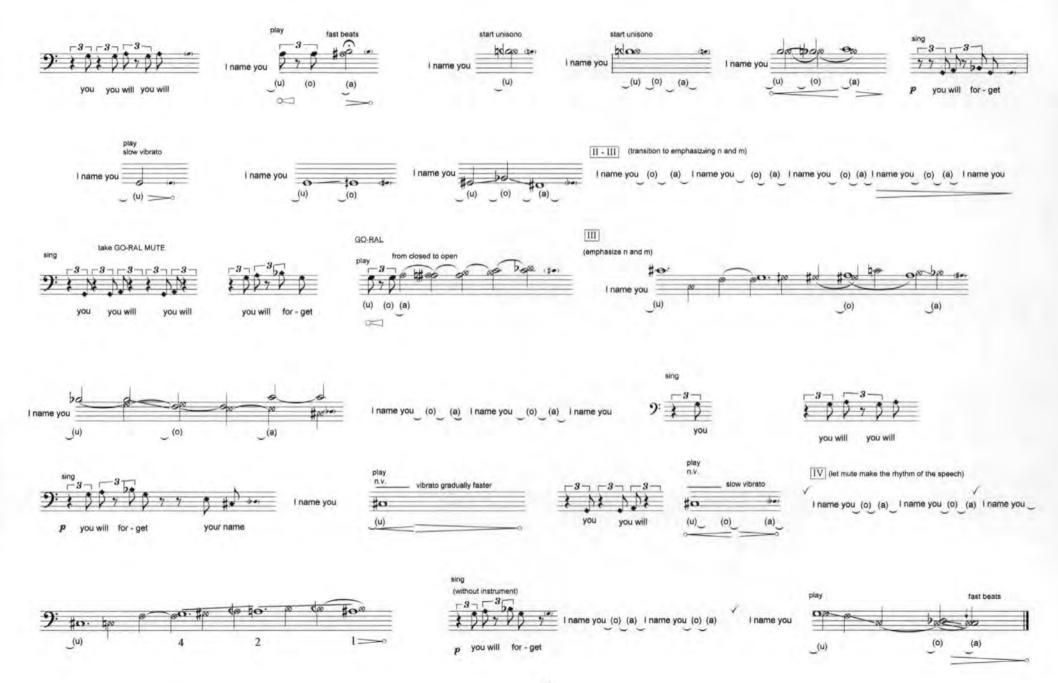
The player has his eyes closed or is looking at the trombone. His whole attention is on the dialogue with his instrument. The audience is never adressed directly. The sounds are to be investigated, not presented. The focus is on vibration and friction - physically and sensually. Here the act of naming something resembles the search for the essence of that which is to be named.

The piece should be played from memory. If the player can't memorize it exactly, he should play it in the way he remembers it.

I name you

for James Fulkerson





wer weiss

for

male or female speaker and male cellist

The cellist is placed on a large stage, absorbed in playing - a continuously repeated gesture of the right arm with a fragile and porous acoustic result: a ricochet down-stroke, rising over all four strings with a clear rhythmical form, finely balanced between gravity and touch. The gesture always remains the same; the fingers of the left hand are closer together and apply less pressure to the strings than usual. This means that not every note sounds every time. Some are "breathy"; harmonics are sometimes clear, sometimes less so. The tonal result of the physical movement is unpredictable, and a dialogue arises between player and instrument — as if the player, through his movement, is asking the cello a question, which is answered by the tonal reaction of the instrument. He takes a risk, in that he must partially relinquish control over sound and instrument. While doing so he is observed from behind and to one side by a male or female speaker, who after a while asks the following questions:

"Wer weiß, sind sie vielleicht um den Verstand gebracht, mein Herr? Um die Phantasie? Auch ums Herz? Um alles? Um die Schönheit? Um alles? - Erinnern Sie sich." (Text: Ruth Wiesenfeld) Translation: Who knows, dear sir, perhaps you have been deprived of your senses? Of your fantasy? Even of your heart? Of everything? Of beauty?

Of everything? - Remember.

The words as well as the physical-musical gesture serve as material for an improvisation between both performers. A more detailed structure as well as a spatial arrangement is to be developed during the rehearsal process.

The attached CD contains the recording of a short improvisation by two celli using the gesture described above (CD 1, track 2)

for five violas

Instructions / explanations:

The piece is divided into time units (bars without meter), each of them should last roughly 20 seconds. During the course of one time unit, the notated events are to be repeated until one of the players decides to move on to the next unit. *1 marks which player has the responsibility to carry out this change. The duration of 20 seconds only serves as a rough orientation, when exactly the change takes place is left to the performer. After the first player has done the transition, the others follow in the given order. A time unit begins with the change carried out by the first player. The entries at the beginning of each of the three sections take place in succession. The decision about the order should be left to the moment.

*Ending marks which player should give the cue to end each section. Once this player has played his figure for the last time, the others bring their playing to a conclusion or take whatever they play gradually all niente in Field # 3.

This structure demands a very poised quality of attention from the players, which corresponds to the effect of the triptych Hautfelder - the paintings by Daniel Wiesenfeld on which this composition is based. These paintings do not present skin (our largest communication and sense organ), but convey its sensation, render it palpable in its transparency, vulnerability and malleability. In the performance of the composition the sounds as well as the instrument should be approached in a similarly palpable and perceptive manner. A strong focus lies on the way the bow touches the strings. For this reason the pressure of the bow is divided into six degrees:

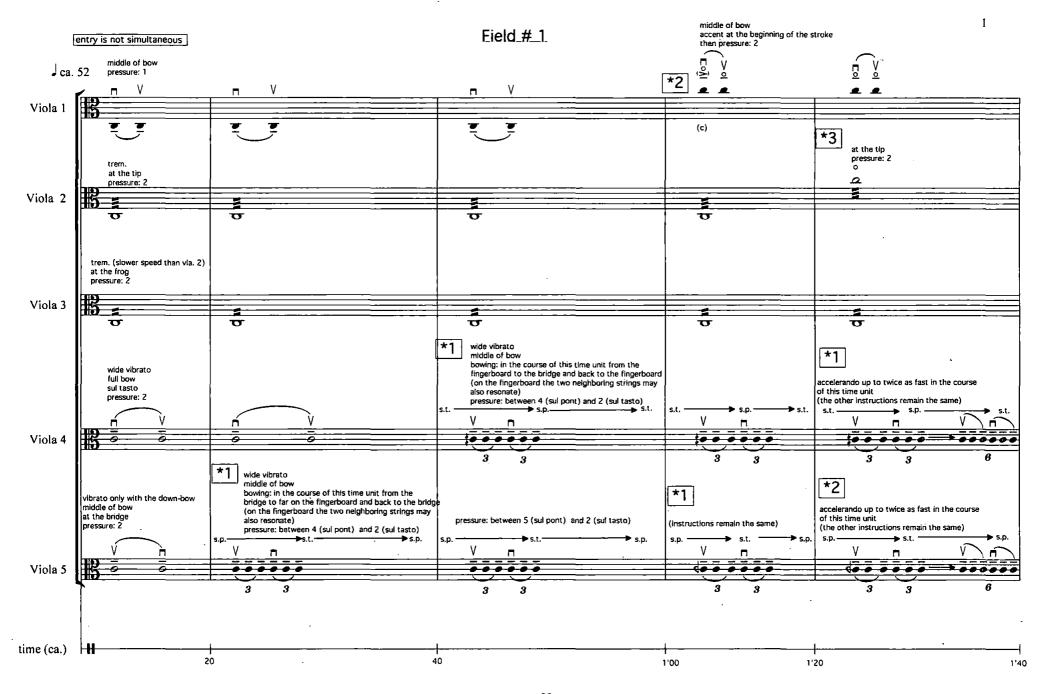
the hair of the bow is almost not touching the strings
minimal pressure necessary to engender a continuous sound
light - medium
medium - heavy
maximal pressure possible, but without noise
scratch tone

- The accidentals apply to one time unit.
- · Volumes are hardly indicated, they result from the intensities of pressure.
- Rhythm and speed are quite free. If, for example, a quintuplet is notated, it should convey the feeling of a quintuplet, the exact tempo however is left to the player.

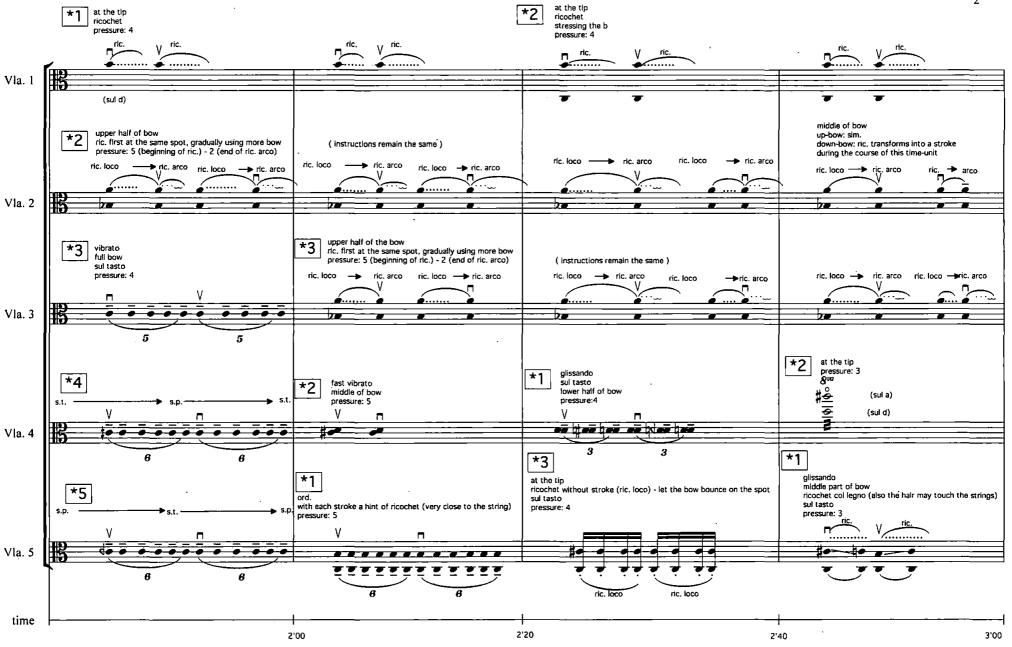
 The voices are rhythmically independent. The fact that triplets, for example are sometimes written vertically underneath each other, does not mean that they have to be played simultaneously (yet they may be played simultaneously if it happens like that). If more precise rhythmical figures are asked for, stems are notated.
- An arrow before an instruction indicates that something has to happen gradually, e.g.:→. sul tasto: gradually towards and onto the fingerboard
- ric. loco und ric. arco distinguish between two kinds of ricochet. The first, where the bow bounces on the string without being stroked across it (ric. loco) and the second, where the bow bounces whilst stroking the string (ric. arco). When an unspecified ricochet is indicated, the bow should be dropped onto the skin and bounce naturally.
- sul pont: on the bridge
- · at the bridge: close to the bridge
- · In the course of one time unit the events are to be repeated continuously, unless breaks are notated.
- n.v: no vibrato; if the quality of vibrato isn't mentioned in the instructions, its shaping is up to the player
- Criteria for the decision-making: the exact sound of both single events and the whole piece, depends on the players' sensitivities in several particular ways. What matters most is the player's physical relationship to the instrument and the quality of the movements. The overall sound should resemble a constantly changing organic texture with different degrees of permeability.

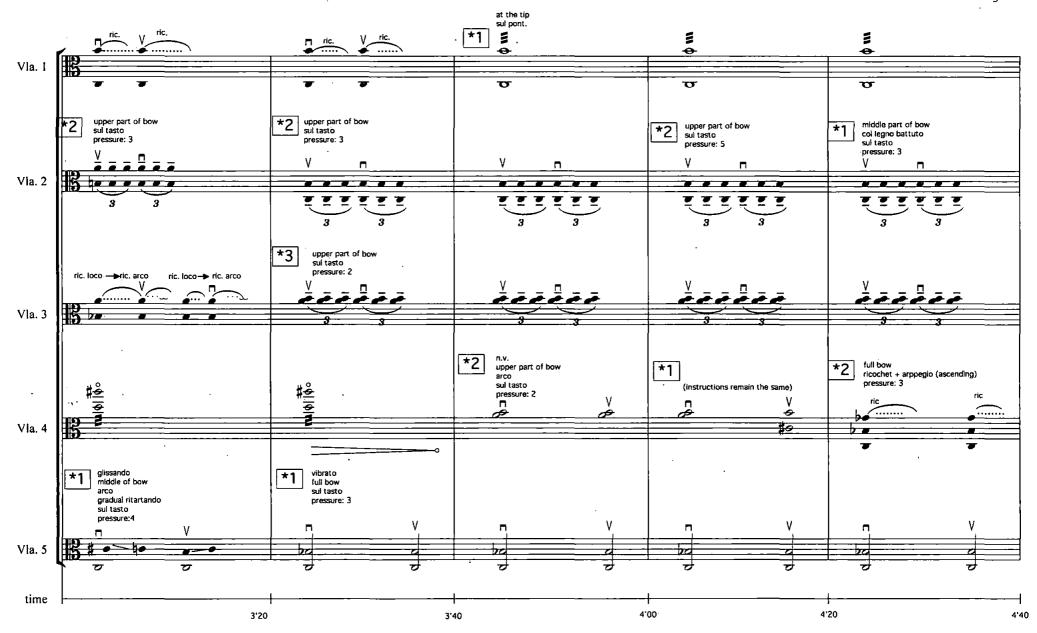


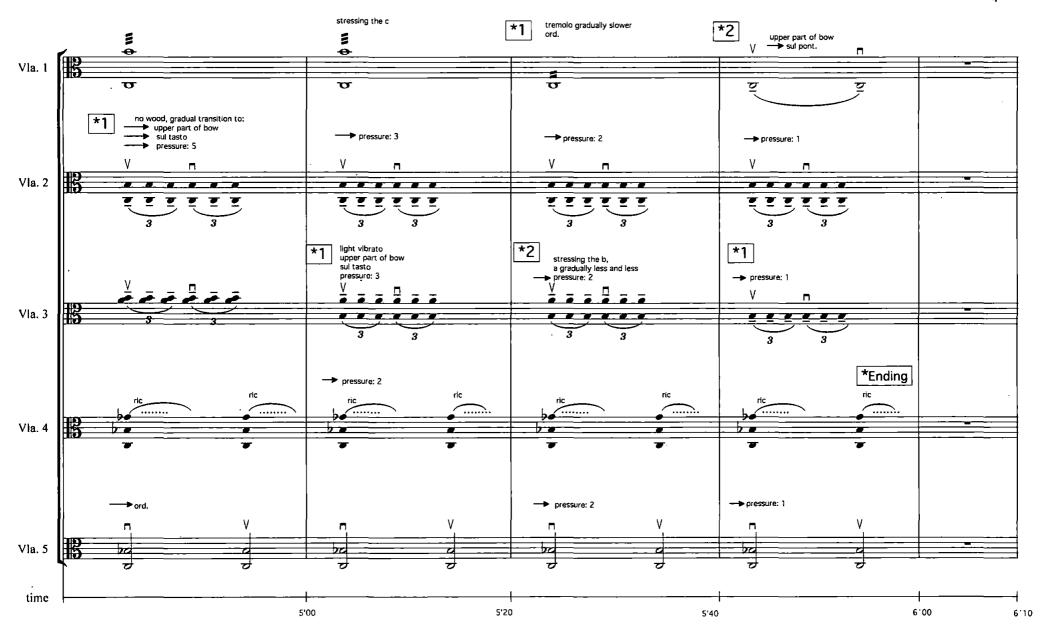
Hautfelder 1-3 (Triptych), 116 x 100 cm each, oil on canvas, 1999 by Daniel Wiesenfeld

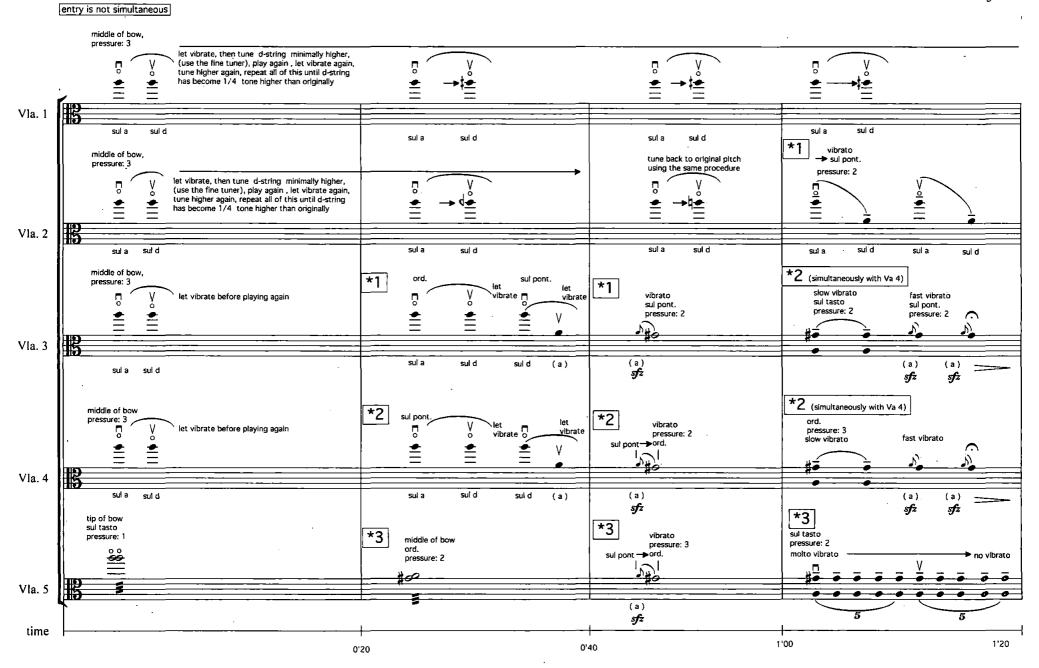


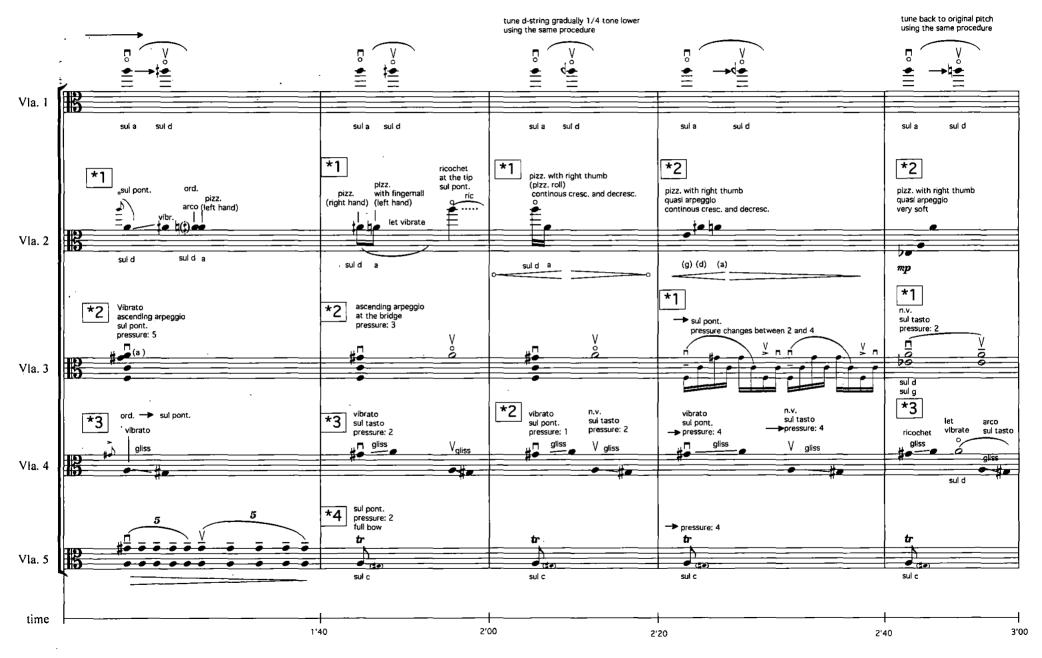


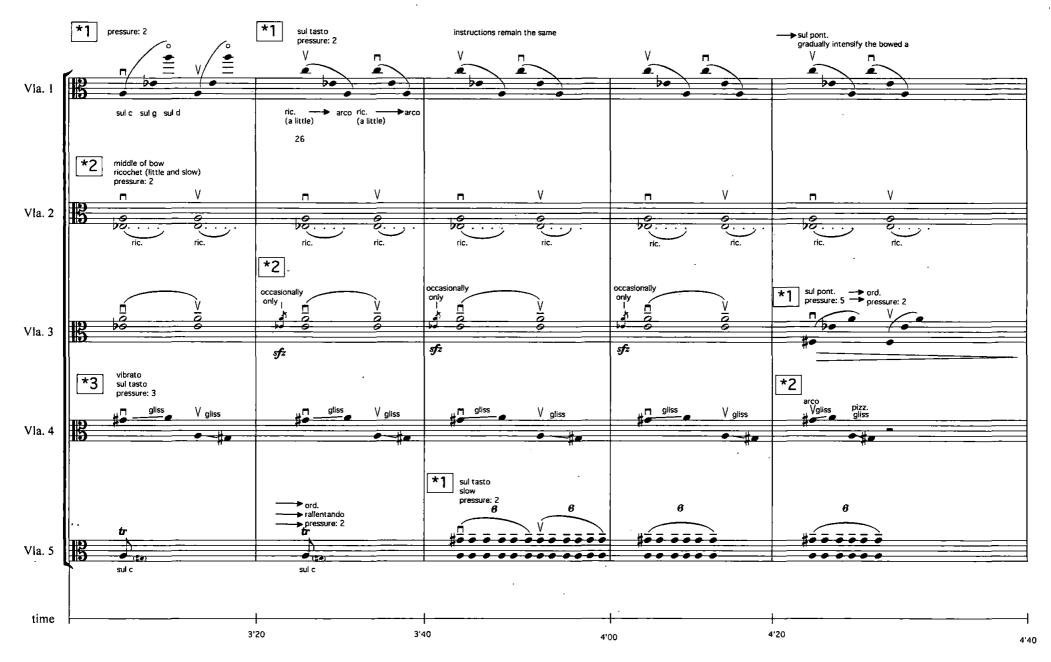


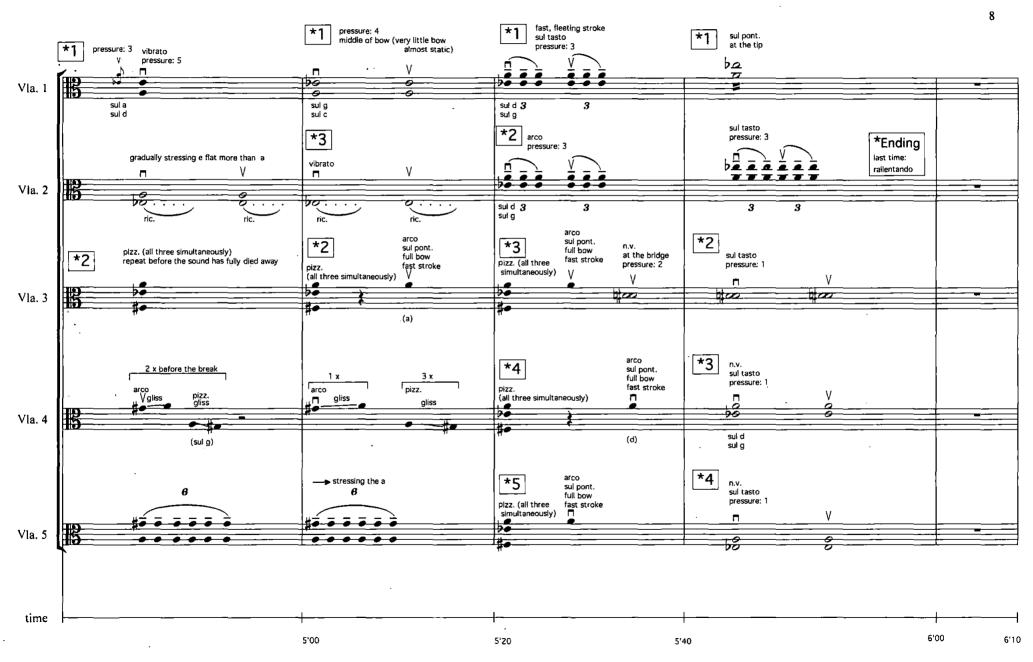


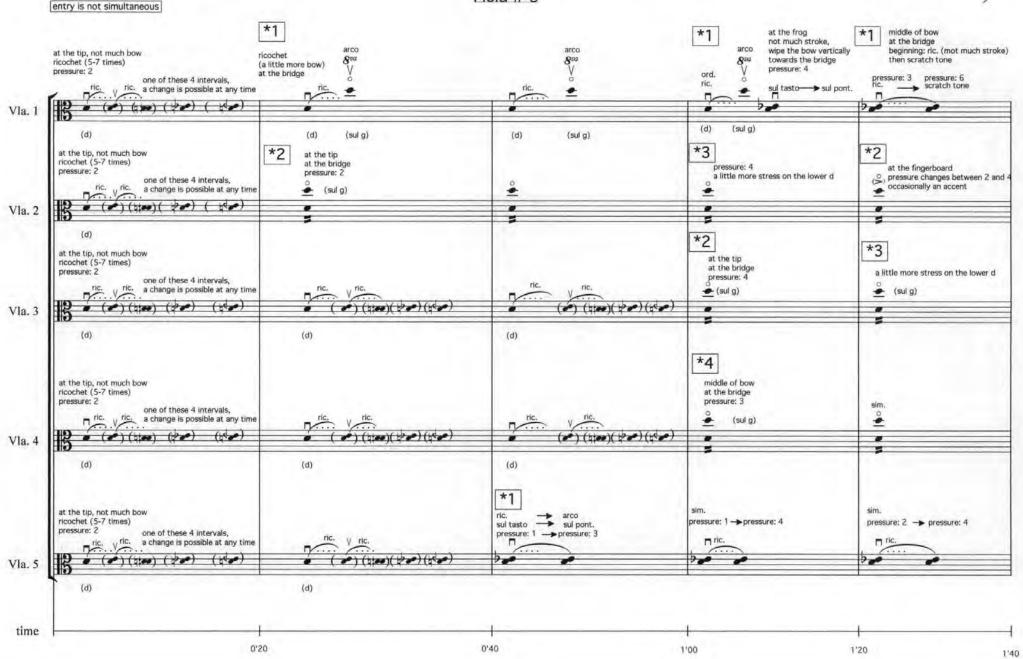


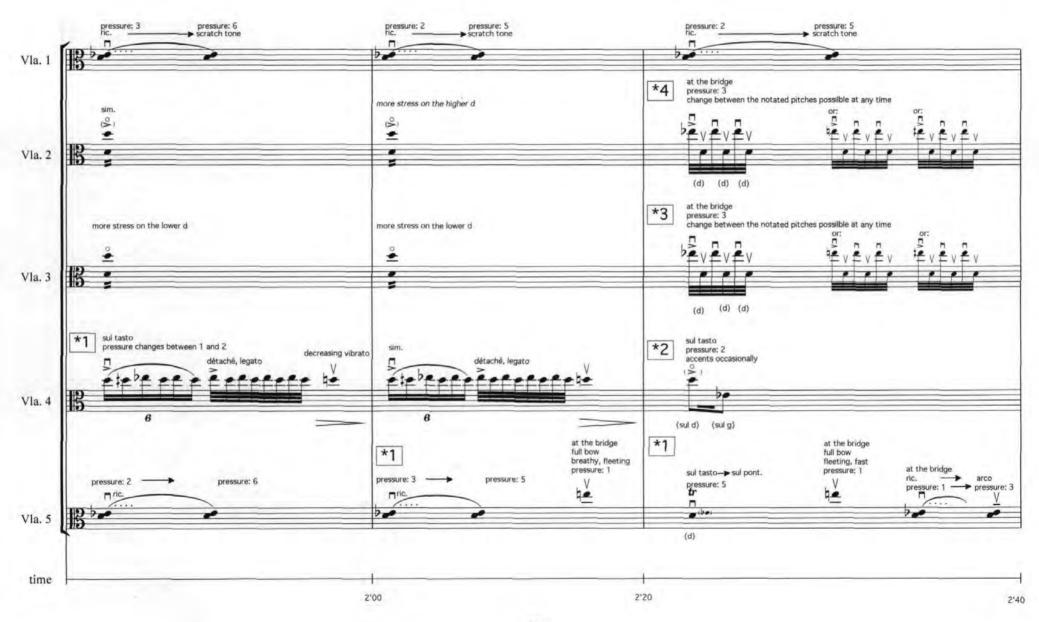


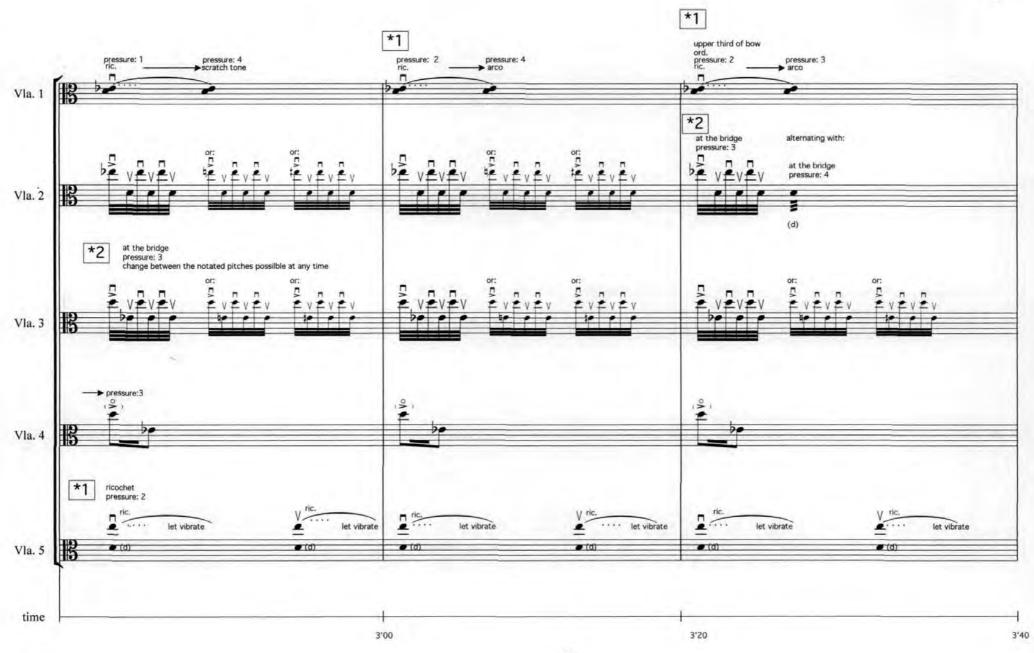


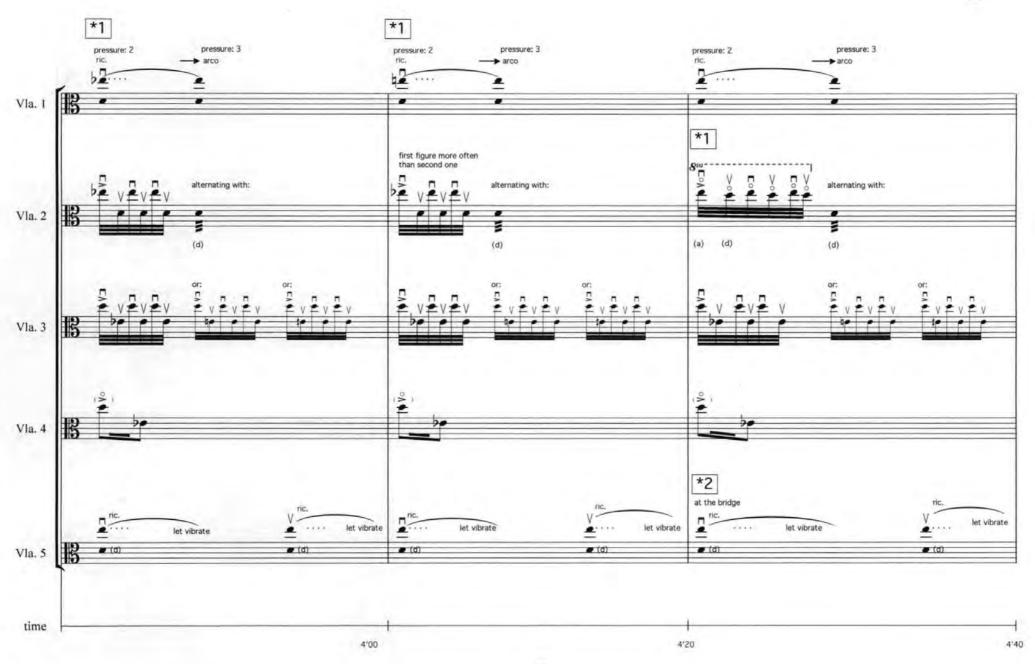


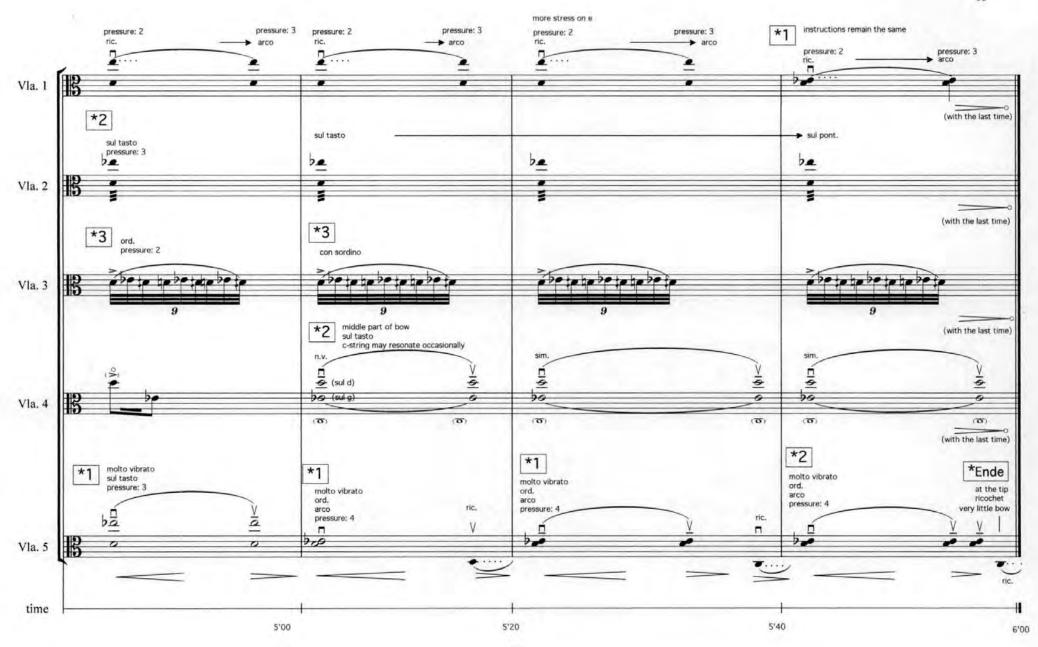












for string quartet

Instructions / explanations:

The piece is divided into time units (bars without meter), each of them should last roughly 20 seconds. During the course of one time unit, the notated events are to be repeated until one of the players decides to move on to the next unit. *1 marks which player has the responsibility to carry out this change. The duration of 20 seconds only serves as a rough orientation, when exactly the change takes place is left to the performer. After the first player has done the transition, the others follow in the given order. A time unit begins with the change carried out by the first player. The entries at the beginning of each of the three sections take place in succession. The decision about the order should be left to the moment.

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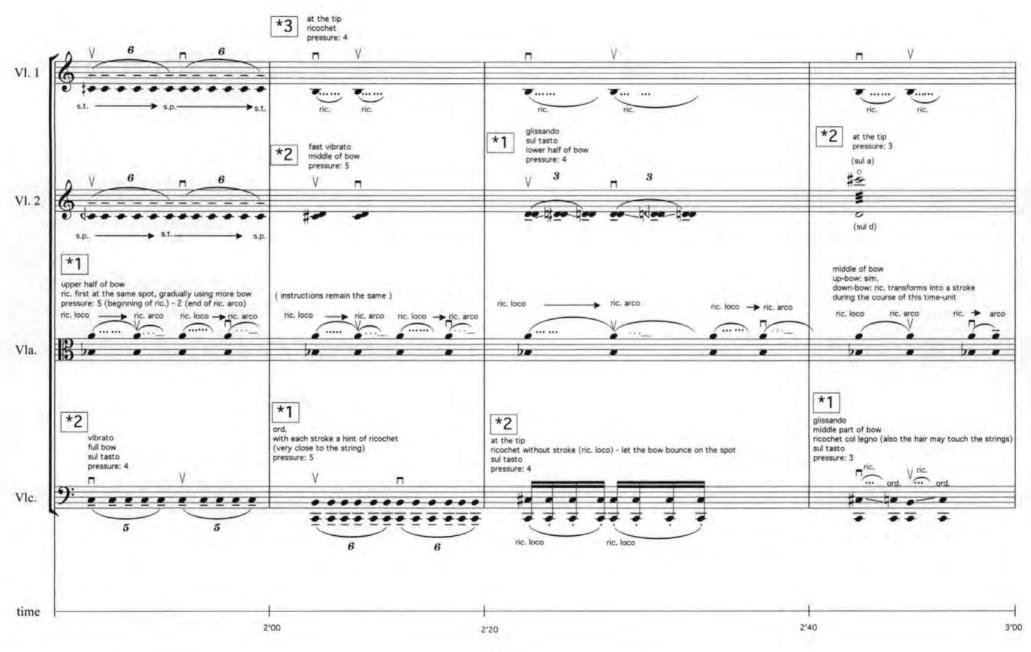
the hair of the bow is almost not touching the strings
minimal pressure necessary to engender a continuous sound
light - medium
medium - heavy
maximal pressure possible, but without noise
scratch tone

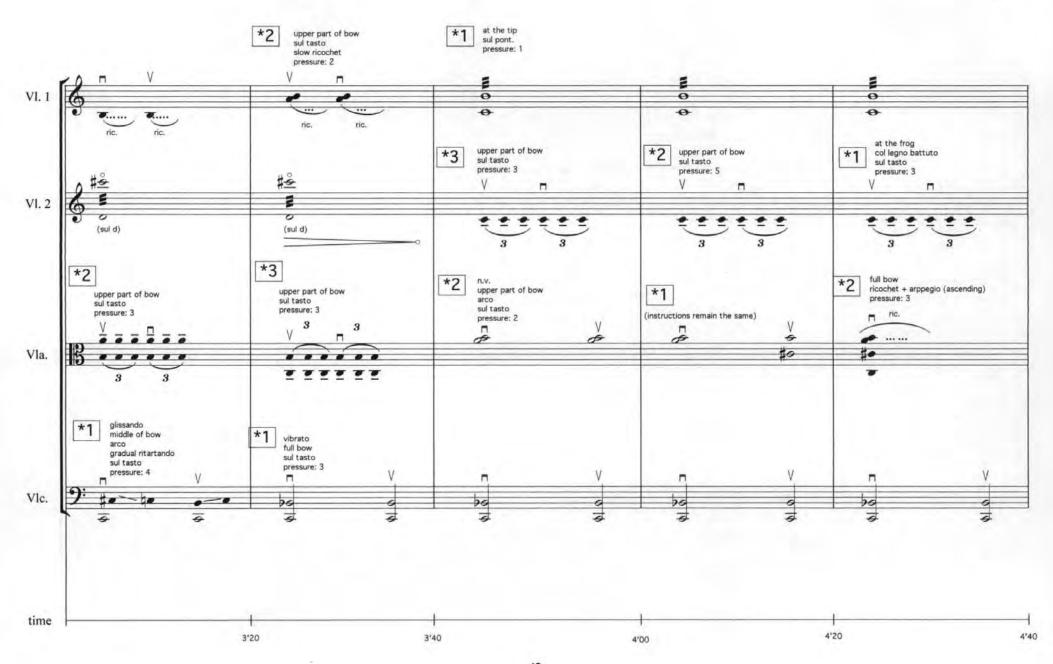
- The accidentals apply to one time unit.
- Volumes are hardly indicated, they result from the intensities of pressure.
- Rhythm and speed are quite free. If, for example, a quintuplet is notated, it should convey the feeling of a quintuplet, the exact tempo however is left to the player.

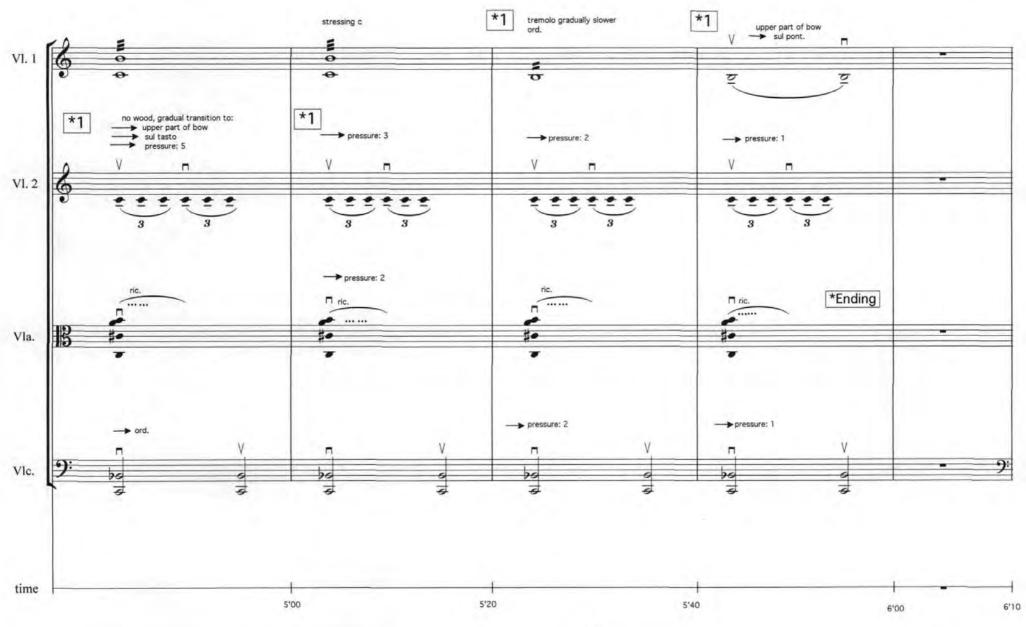
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- An arrow before an instruction indicates that something has to happen gradually, e.g.:→. sul tasto: gradually towards and onto the fingerboard
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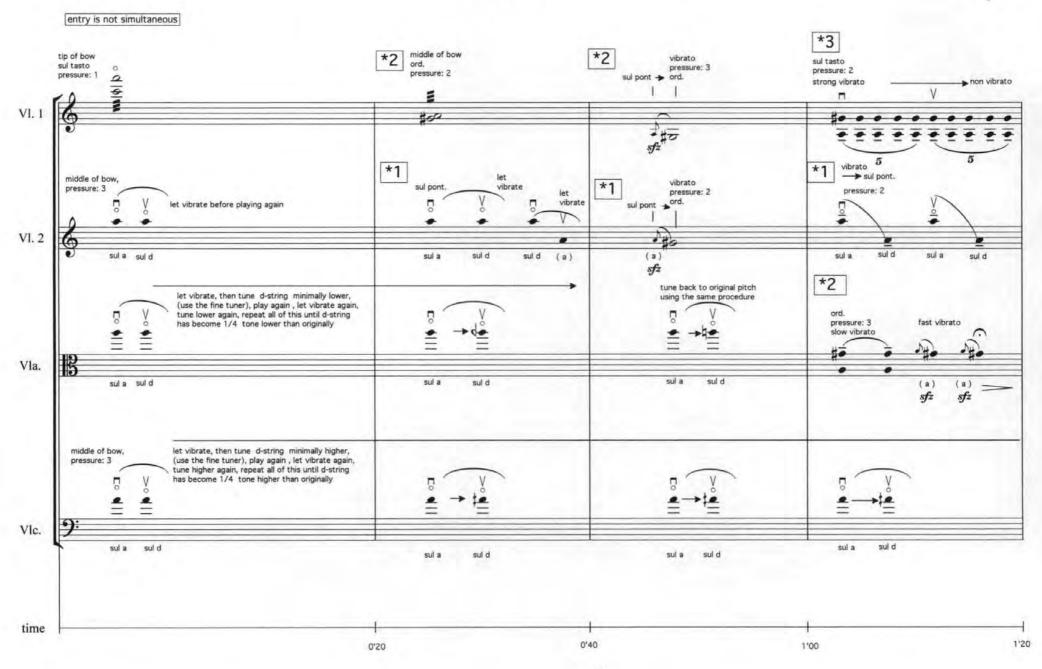


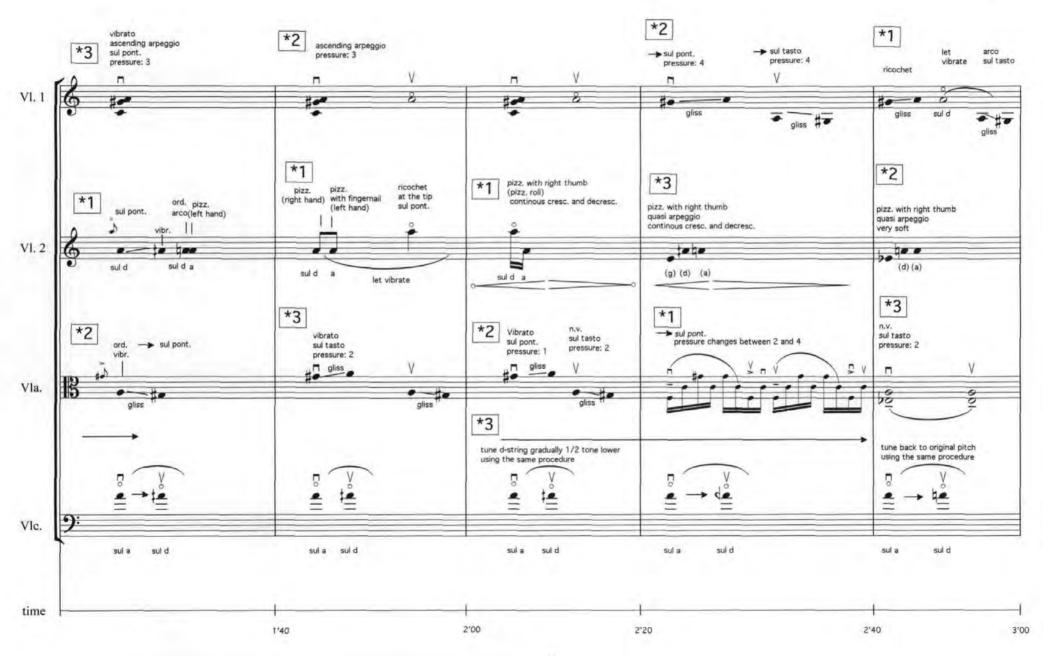
Hautfelder 1-3 (Triptych), 116 x 100 cm each, oil on canvas, 1999 by Daniel Wiesenfeld

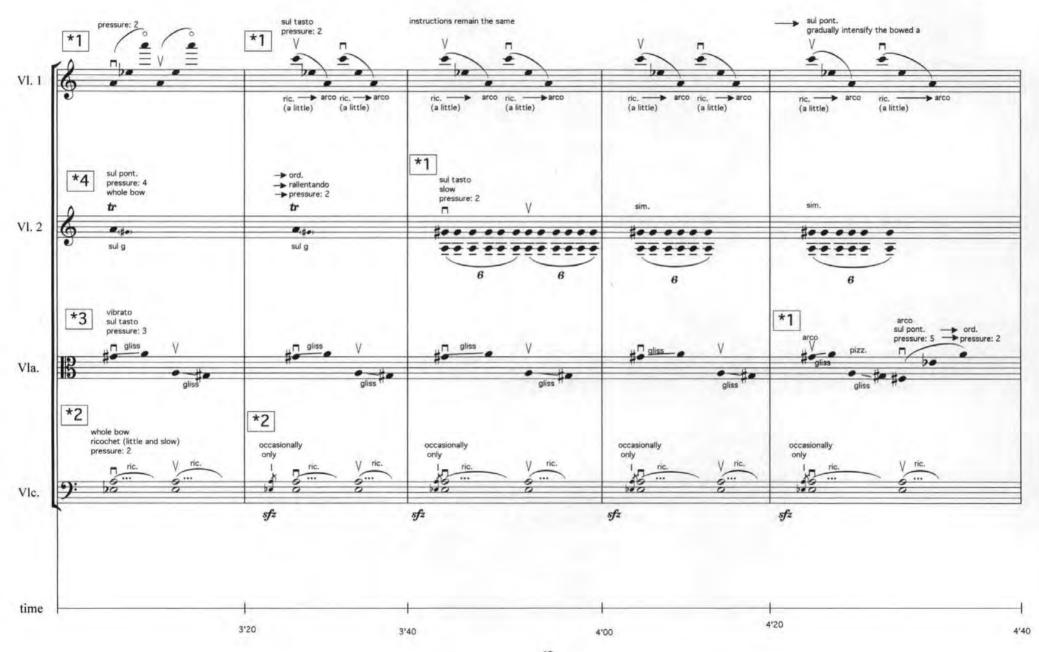


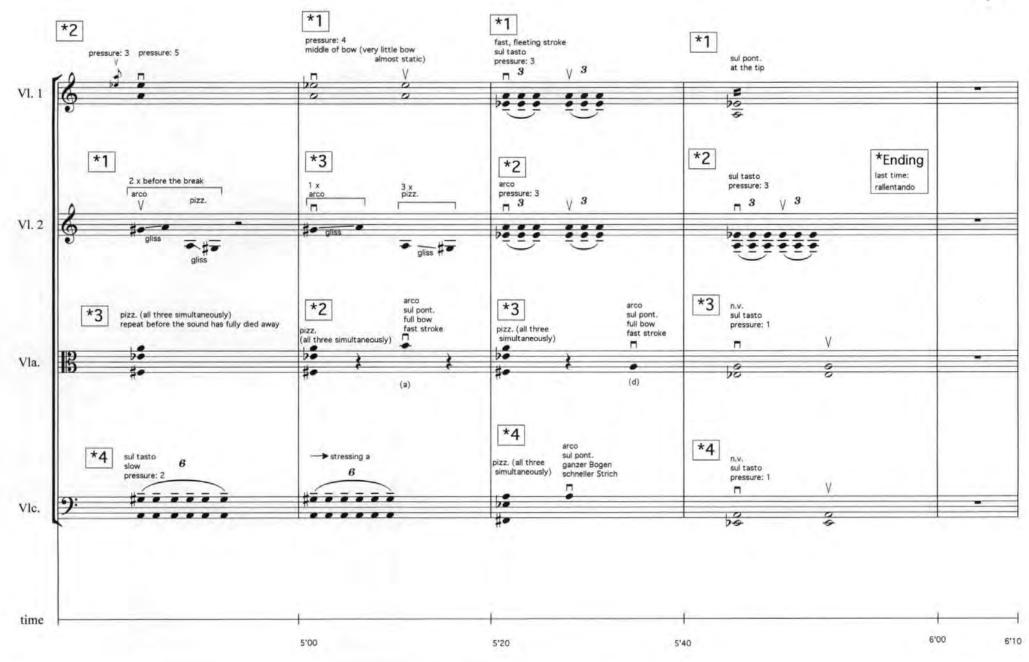


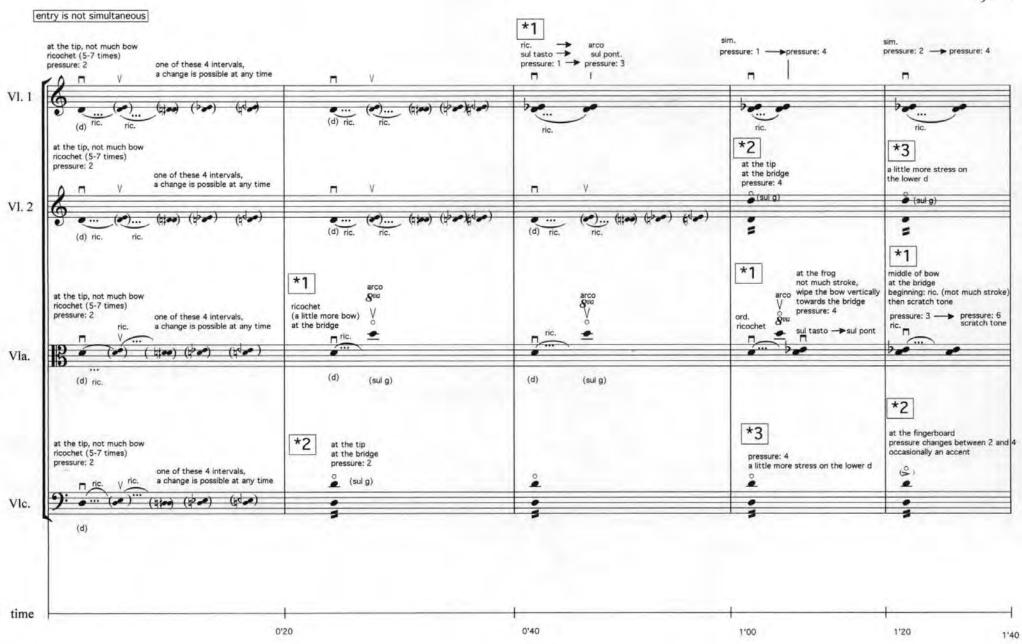


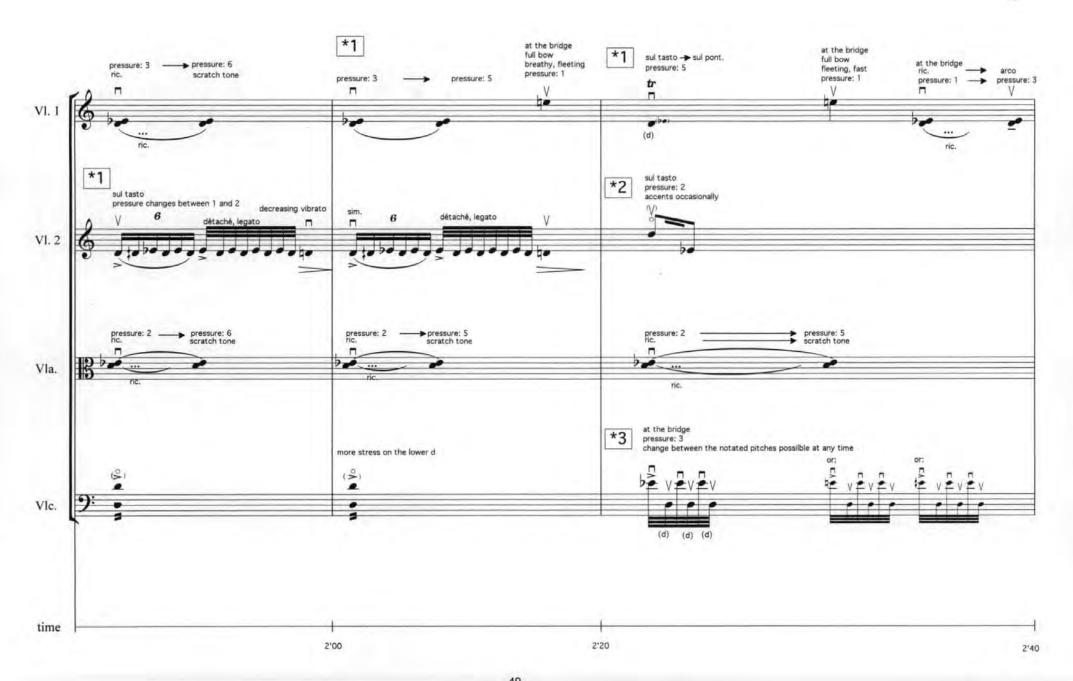


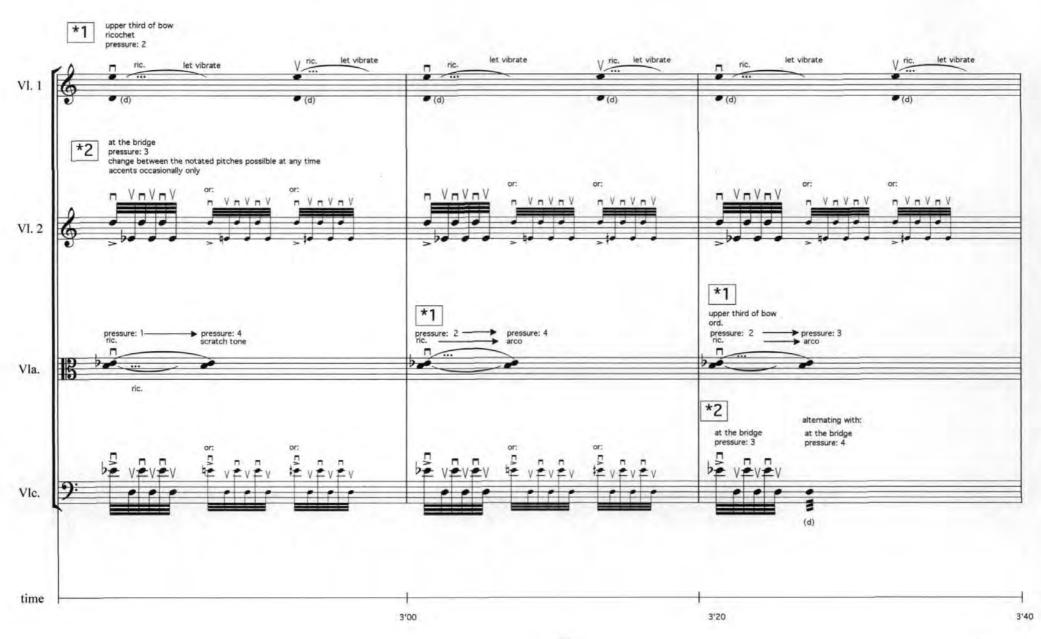


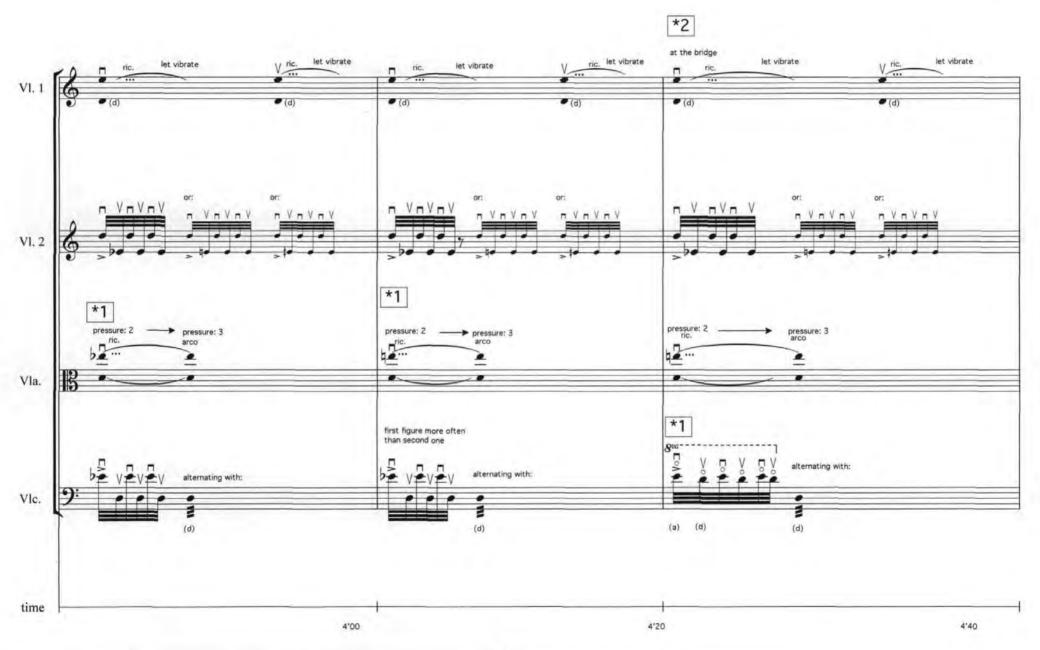




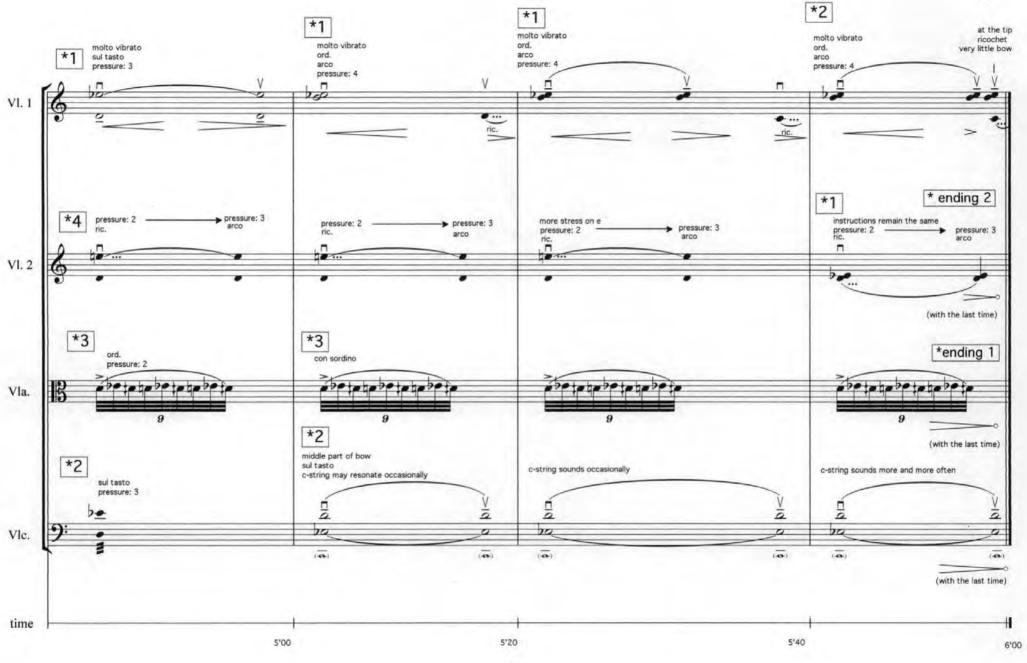












manourney

for male trio: speaker, flute and small zither-like instrument

text: Paul Auster

the parts (constituting the score) are in the envelope at the inside of the back cover

weiß (auf grau)

for piano

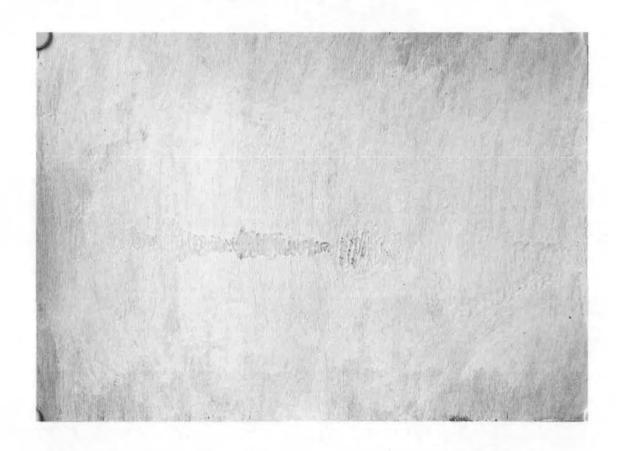
The original score consists of twelve loose cards (DIN A5).

The stave notation is printed on the back of each card.

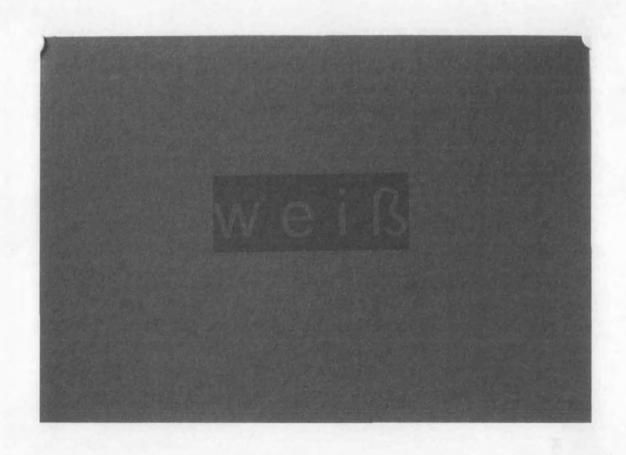
The diagram on card # 12 represents a possible order of the cards.

Any other order might be chosen.

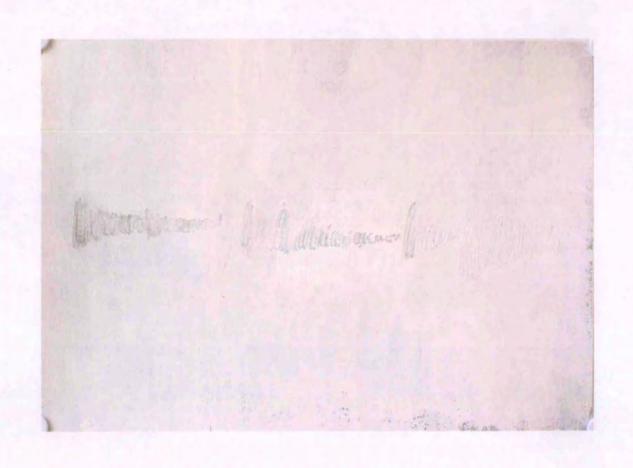
The duration of each card is open.







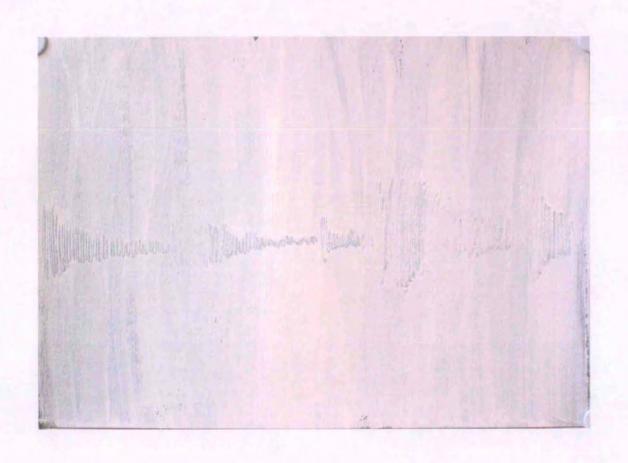
for piano



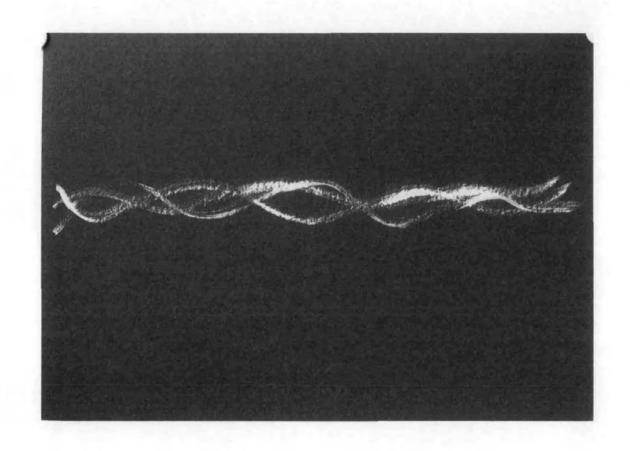












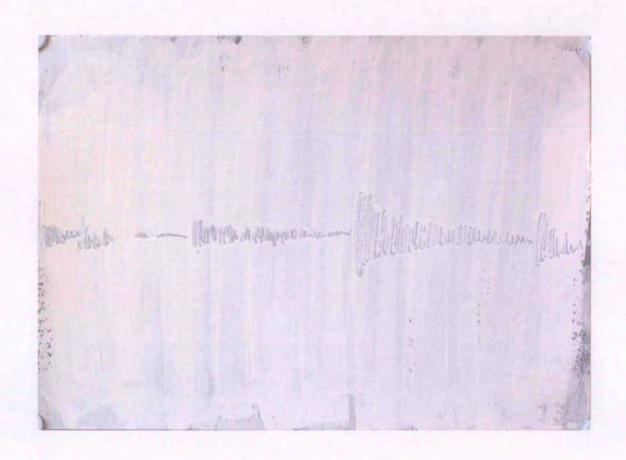




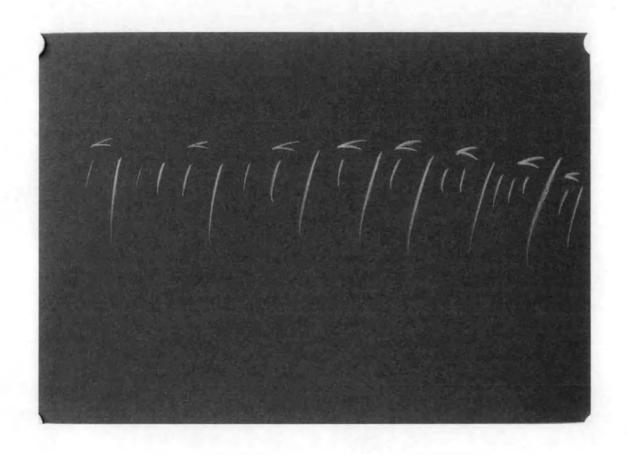








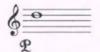


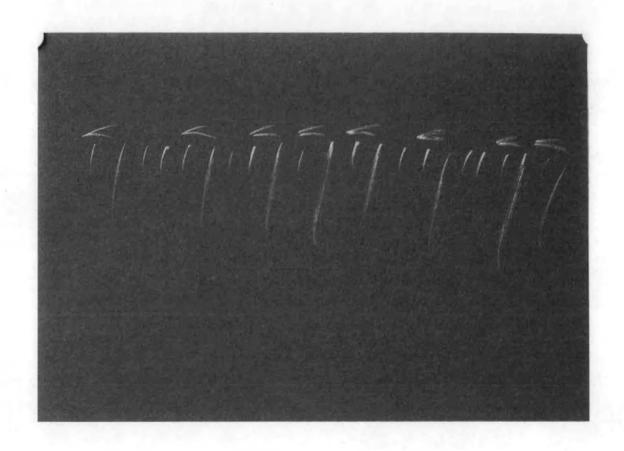


very fast rhythm - see from







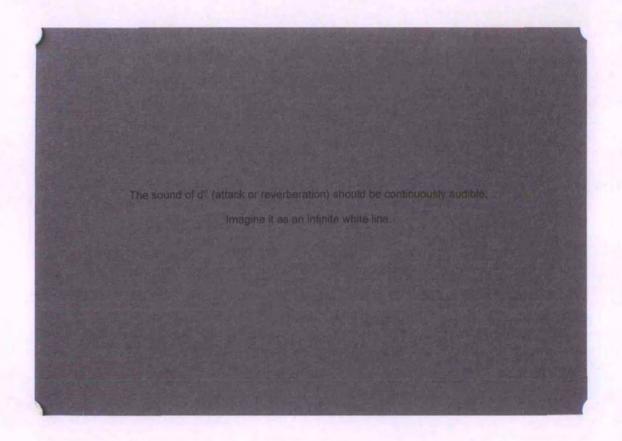


very fast rhythm - see front









1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12

spun yarn

for Orchestra

spun yarn

by Ruth Wiesenfeld for orchestra

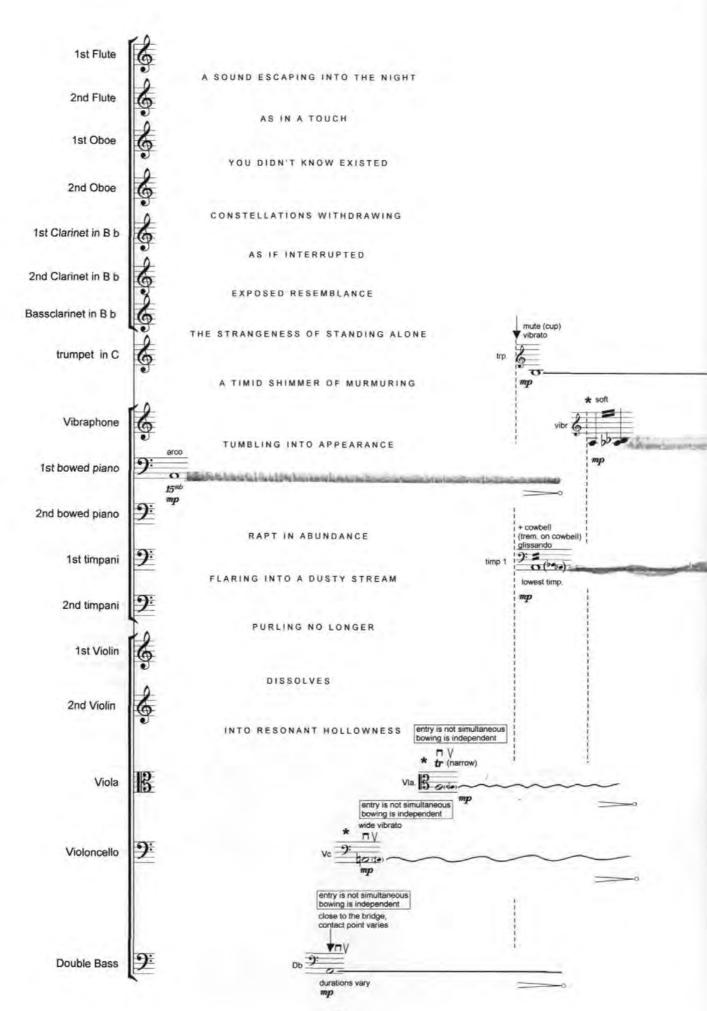
Explanations / Instructions

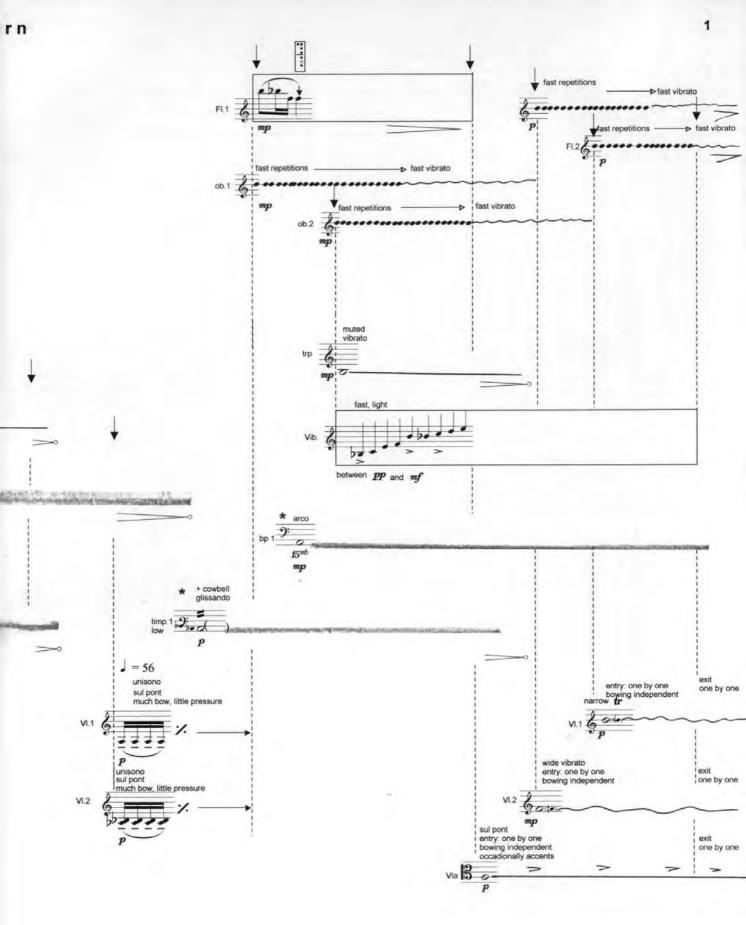
symbols

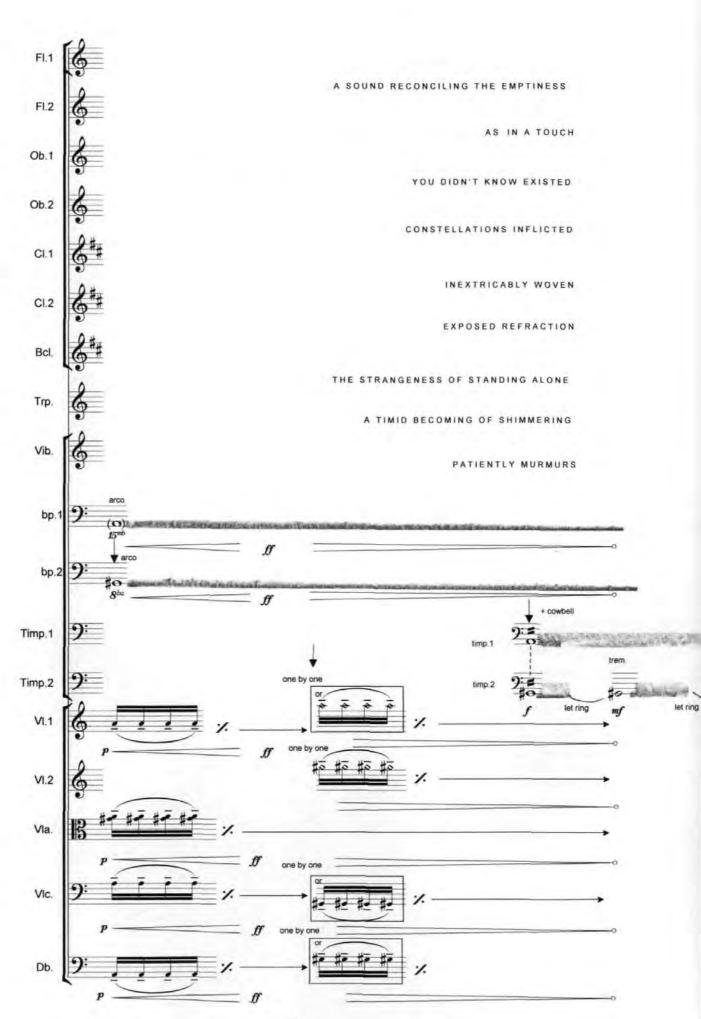
durations are not specified, each double page should last for approximately two minutes, page 8 for approximately one minute.

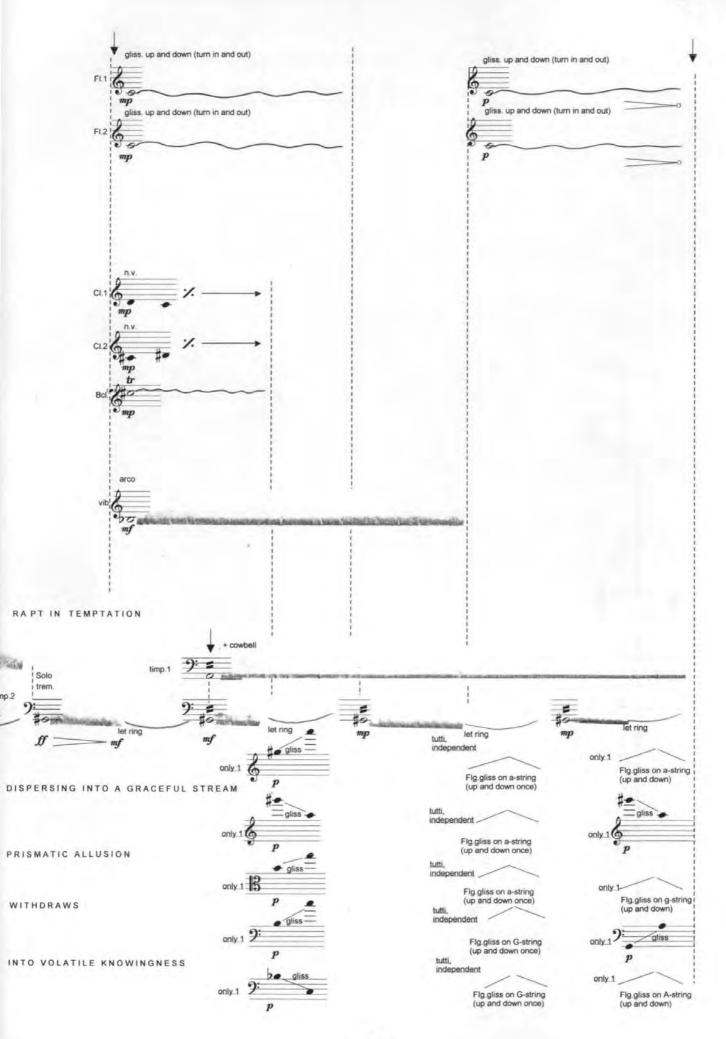
Symbols	
1	signal for an entrance or for the beginning of a decrescendo to be given by the
conductor	
*	the players decide when to enter
	events notated in a box may be played at any time within the timeframe of this box
	and may be repeated any number of times (or only played once)
text	the text notated in the score describes the imagery of the piece's sound world. It is
	only included to suggest what the musical textures and colours refer to. It is not to be
	spoken or read aloud. It refers to the overall sound, not to specific instruments.
timpani	
+ cowbell:	a large cowbell is to be placed on the instrument. The playing should take place on
	the cowbell.
+ cymbal:	a large cymbal is to be placed on the instrument. The playing should take place on the
	cymbal with soft beaters.
bowed piano:	the indicated strings are to be bowed with rosined fishing line or double bass bow hair
	(in the low register); both players use the same piano. The right pedal must be kept
	down during the bowing.
winds:	when sustained notes are notated, breathing is possibly at any time – as needed
graphic notation	n: the graphic elements here are used for the sake of visualisation and to allow the
	players to follow their parts easily whilst also being able to turn their attention towards
	the overall soundworld.

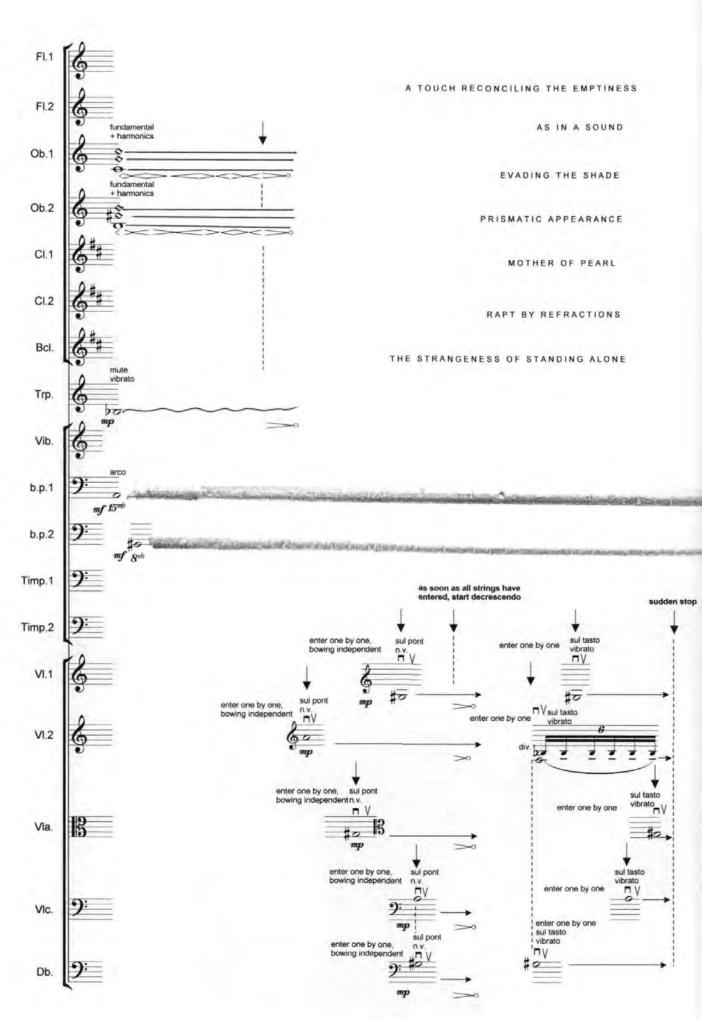
Double Bass and Bass Clarinet sound one octave lower than written











A TIMID RECOGNITION OF FLATTERING

EXPOSED RESEMBLANCE

INEXTRICABLY WOVEN

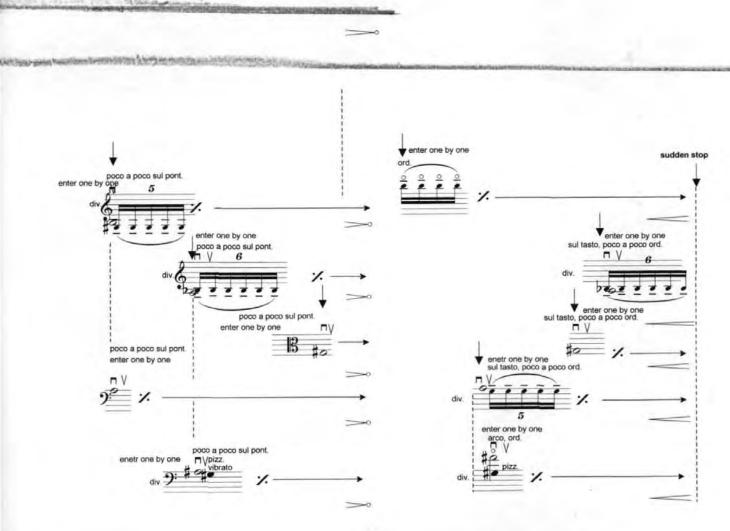
FLARING INTO A PULVERISED STREAM

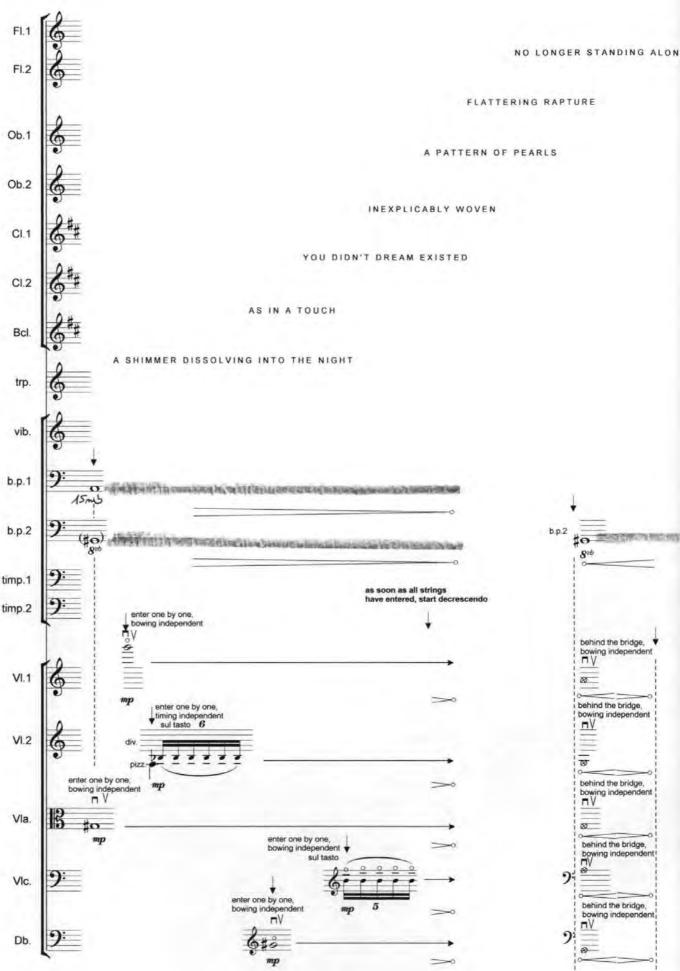
as soon as all strings have entered, start decrescendo

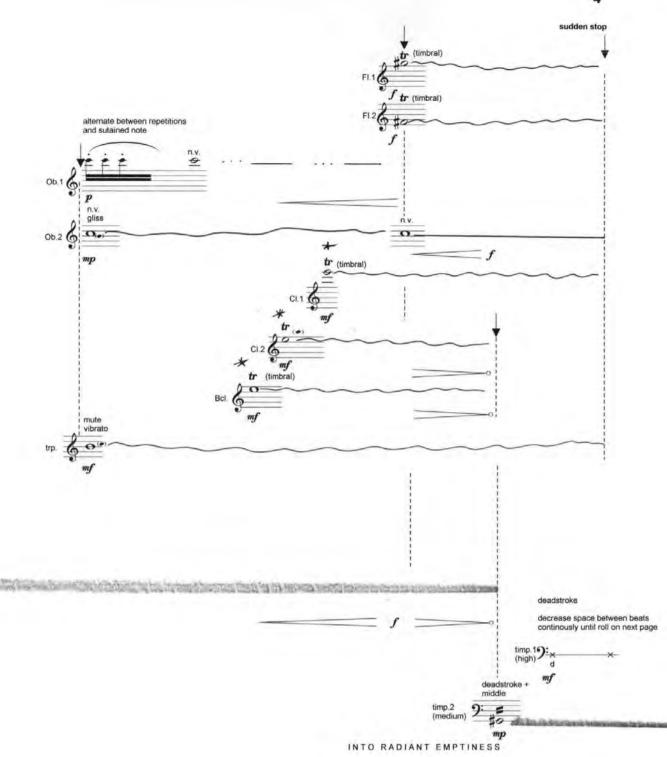
ATTACHED NO LONGER

OVERCOME

BY HESITANT GENTLENESS







WITHDRAWS

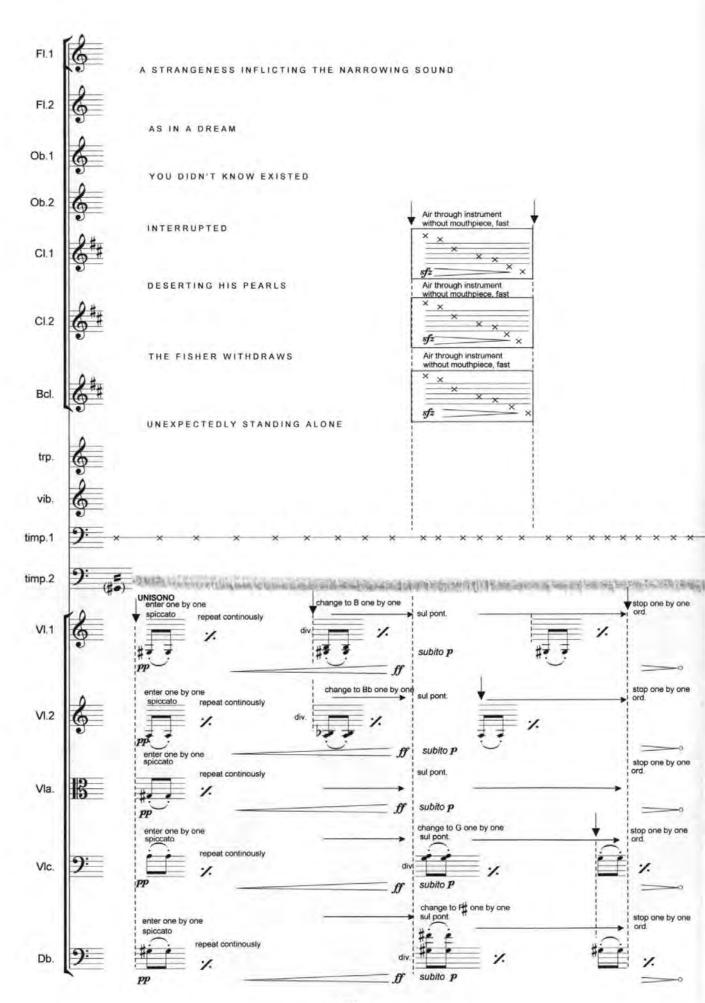
DESERTING THE SHADE

EXPOSED BECOMING

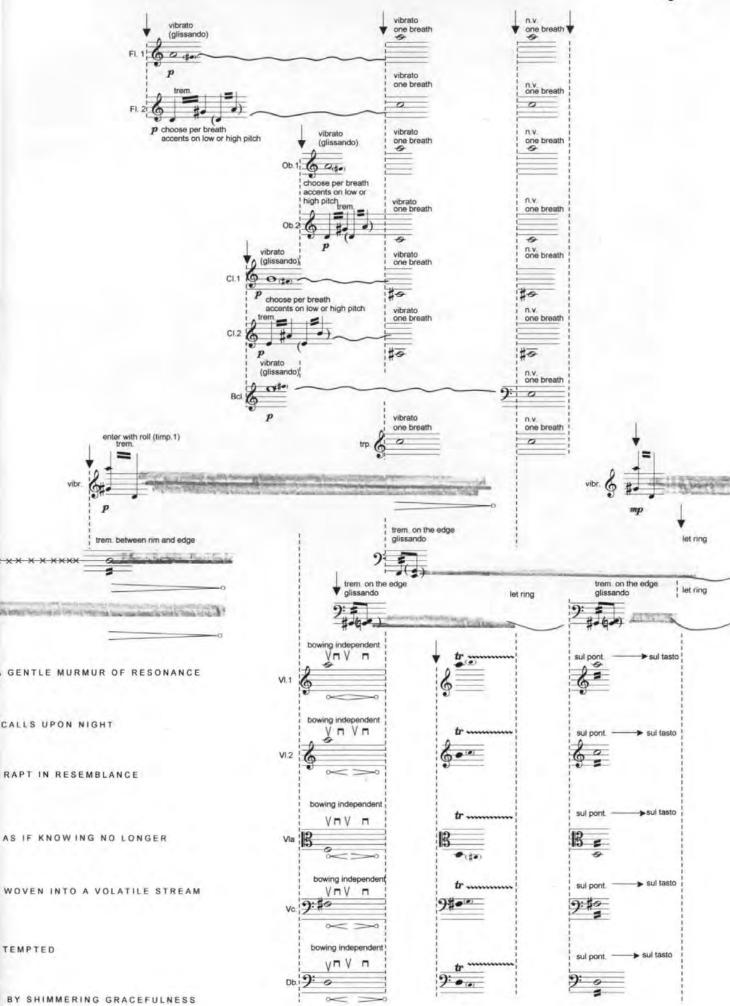
A DUSTY APPEARANCE

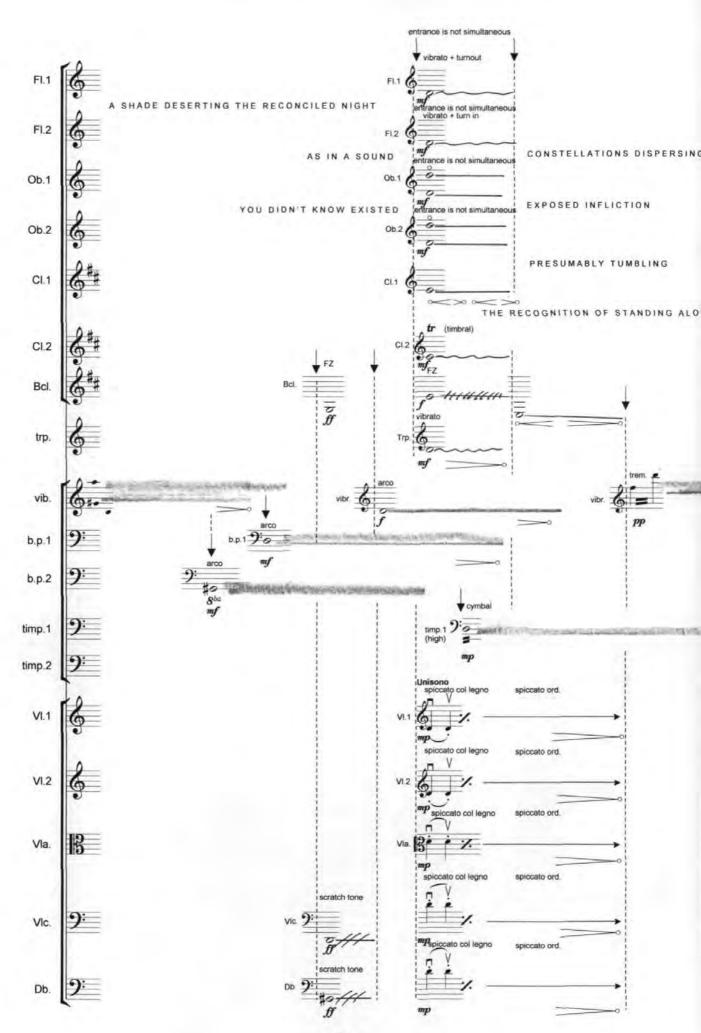
TUMBLING INTO RESEMBLANCE

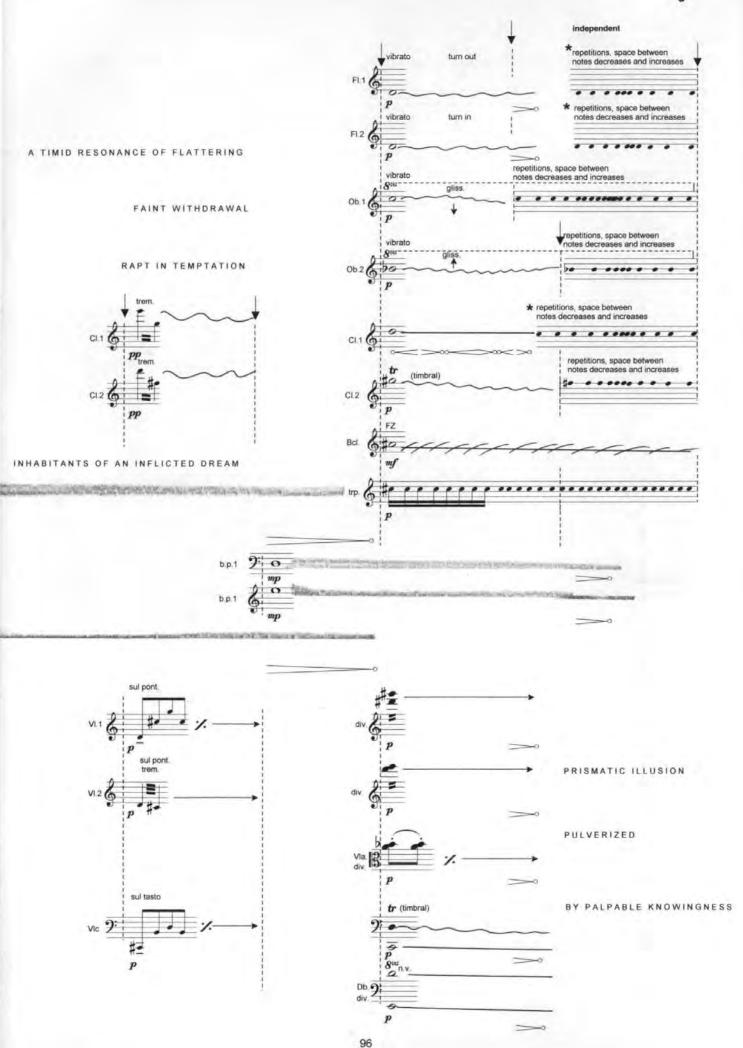
STRANGE PEARL OF A DREAM

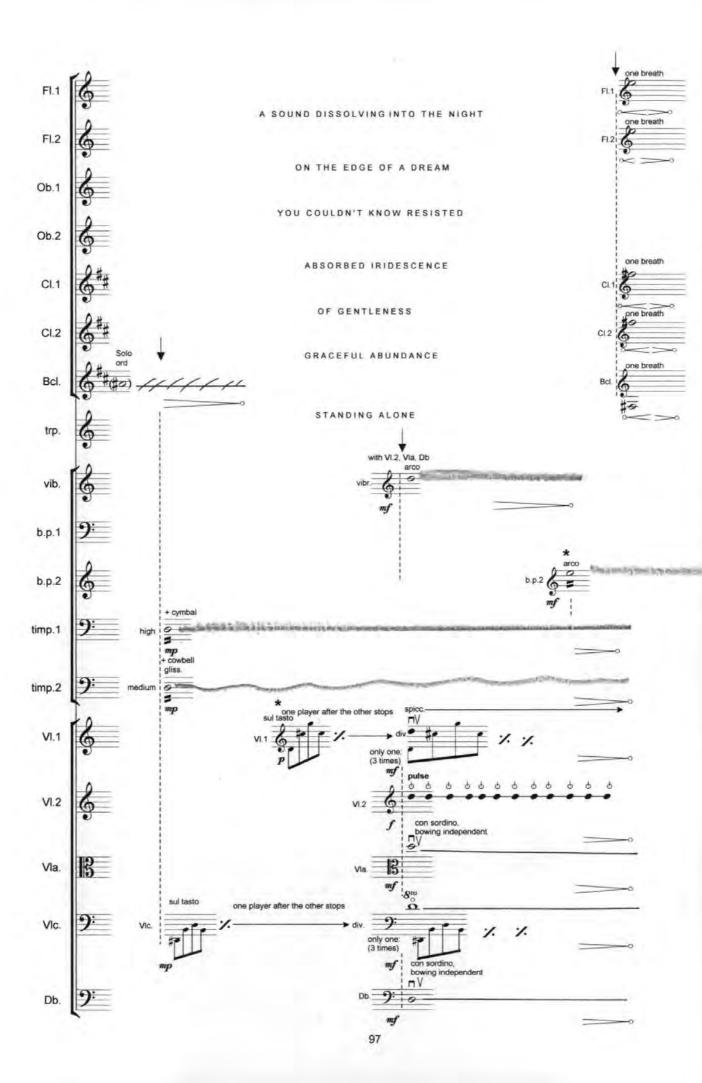




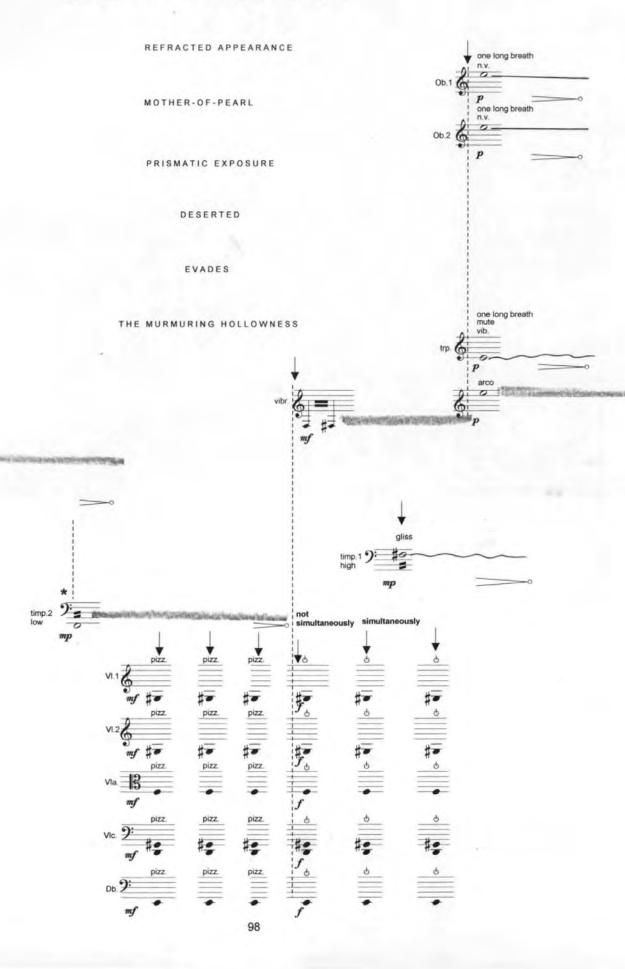


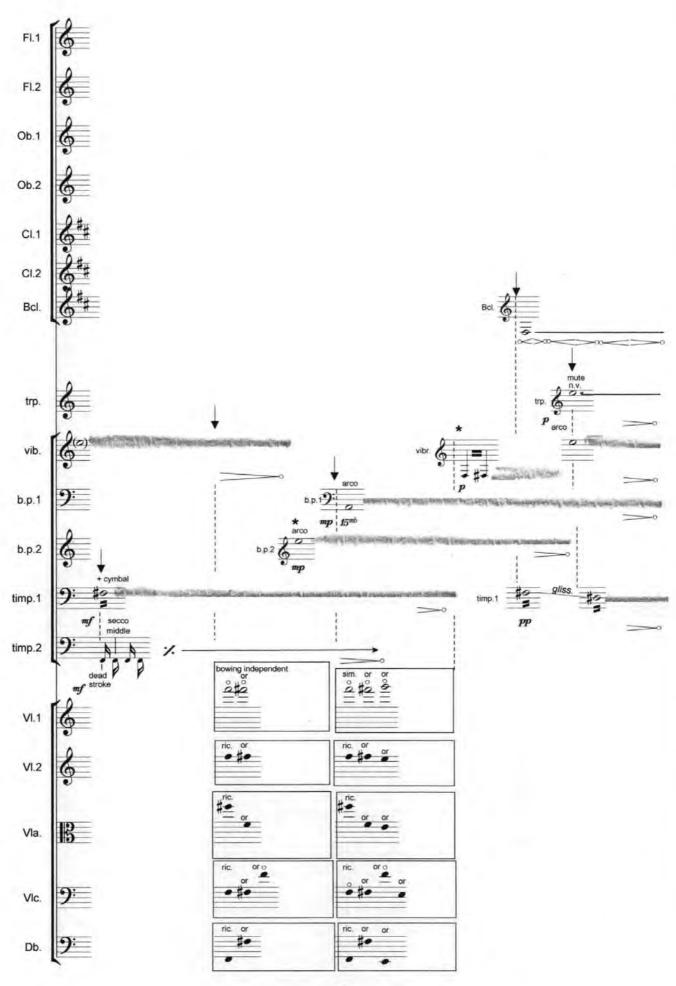






THE STRANGENESS OF PULVERIZED EMPTINESS





RAPTURES ESCAPING THE RESONANT NIGHT

AS IN A TOUCH

YOU DIDN'T KNOW EXISTED

INEXTRICABLY WOVEN

A PATTERN OF PEARLS

IN A MURMURING STREAM

THE FISHER OF GRACE GENTLY STANDING ALONE

HESITATING NO LONGER

A PATIENT BECOMING

IMPOSED ALLUSION

INHABITANT OF A DESERTED DREAM

UNEXPECTEDLY PARTED

DISSOLVES

INTO FLATTERING SOUNDLESSNESS

the fisher of pearls

the fisher of pearls

for male speaker, boewd piano (two players), clarinet, trombone and cello

Text: Ruth Wiesenfeld

Speaker: The crotchets above the text indicate an underlying pulse. The syllabels placed underneath a crotchet should be spoken on the beat. Apart from this

obligatory pulse, the delivery of the language is subject to the speaker's own idiosyncratic diction.

Trombone: Which mutes are to be used when, will be decided in the rehearsals.

+ : play whilst inhaling

bowed piano: the indicated strings of a grand piano are to be bowed with rosined fishing line or double bass bow hair (in the lower registers). The right pedal must

be kept down during the bowing. Release the pedal during the indicated rests.

Stage placing: The spatial arrangement of the performers will be determined in the rehearsal process.

- Text: 1) a sound escaping into the night as in a touch you didn't know existed constellations withdrawing as if interrupted exposed resemblance the strangeness of standing alone a timid shimmer of murmuring tumbling into appearance rapt in abundance flaring into a dusty stream purling no longer dissolves into resonant hollowness
 - a touch reconciling the emptiness
 as in a sound
 evading the shade
 prismatic appearance
 mother of pearl
 rapt by refractions
 the strangeness of standing alone
 resonant knowingness
 exposed resemblance
 inextricably woven
 flaring into a pulverized stream
 attached no longer
 overcome
 by hesitant gentleness
- a sound reconciling the emptiness as in a touch you didn't know existed constellations inflicted inextricably woven exposed refraction the strangeness of standing alone a timid becoming of shimmering patiently murmurs rapt in temptation dispersing into a graceful stream prismatic allusion withdraws into volatile knowingness
- a shimmer dissolving into the night as in a touch you didn't dream existed inexplicably woven a pattern of pearls flattering rapture no longer standing alone strange pearl of a dream tumbling into resemblance a dusty appearance exposed becoming deserting the shade withdraws into radiant emptiness

- a sound inflicting resemblances
 exposing the strangeness
 of standing alone
 as the fisher of pearls
 in spite of the night
 rapt in abundance
 unexpectedly parted
 a timid recognition of flattering
 iridescent appearance
 patiently dreams
 flaring into a dusty stream
 hesitating no longer
 absorbs
 the palpable knowingness
- as in a dream
 you didn't know existed
 interrupted
 deserting his pearls
 the fisher withdraws
 unexpectedly standing alone
 the gentle murmur of resonance
 calls upon night
 rapt in resemblance
 as if knowing no longer
 woven into a volatile stream
 tempted
 by shimmering gracefulness

- 7) a shade deserting the reconciled night as in a sound you didn't know existed constellations dispersing exposed infliction presumably tumbling the recognition of standing alone a timid resonance of flattering faint withdrawal rapt in temptation inhabitants of an inflicted dream prismatic illusion pulverized by palpable knowingness
- a sound dissolving into the night
 on the edge of a dream
 you couldn't know resisted
 absorbed iridescence
 of gentleness
 graceful abundance
 standing alone
 the strangeness of pulverized emptiness
 refracted appearance
 mother-of-pearl
 prismatic exposure
 deserted
 evades
 the murmuring hollowness
- raptures escaping the resonant night
 as in a touch
 you didn't know existed
 inextricably woven
 a pattern of pearls
 in a murmuring stream
 the fisher of grace gently standing alone
 flaring into appearance
 a patient becoming
 imposed allusion
 inhabitant of a deserted dream
 withdrawn no longer
 dissolves
 into flattering soundlessness

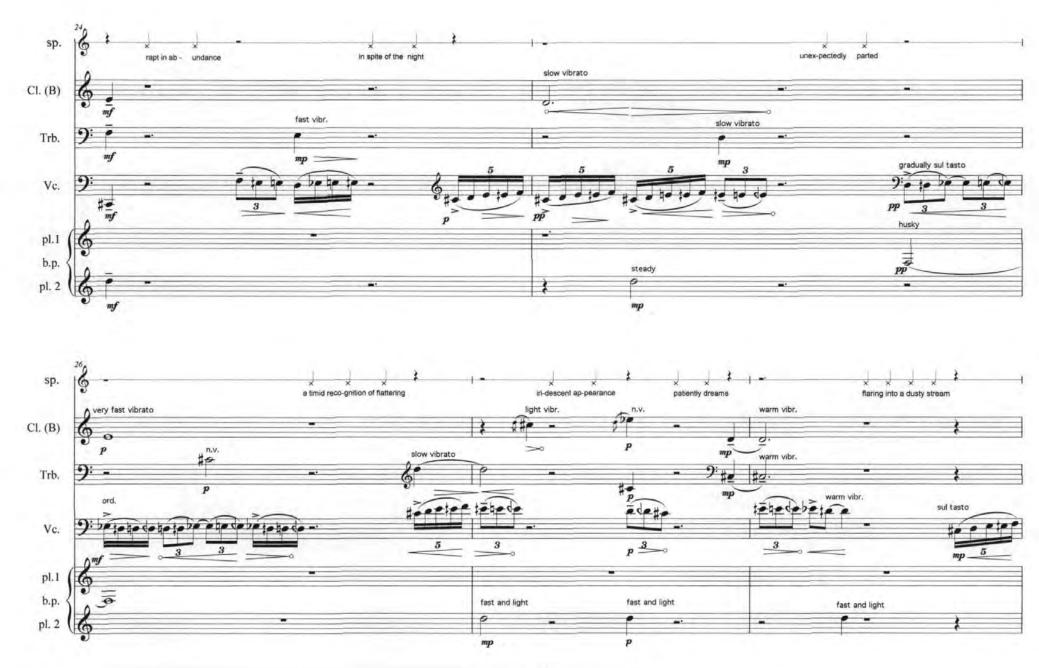


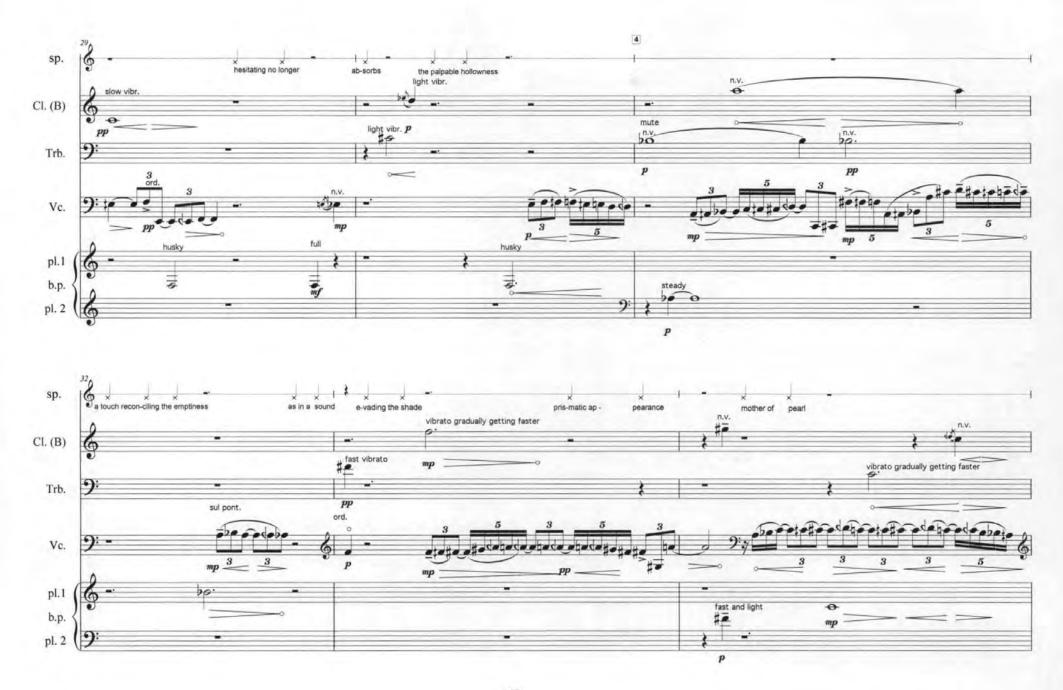














resonant knowingness

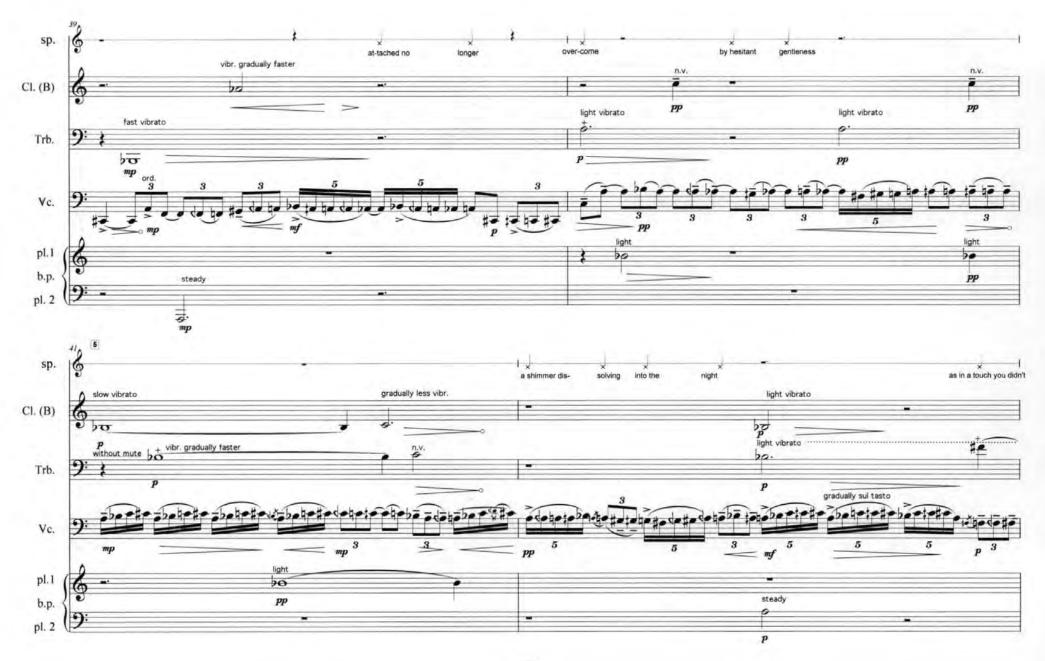
slow vibrato

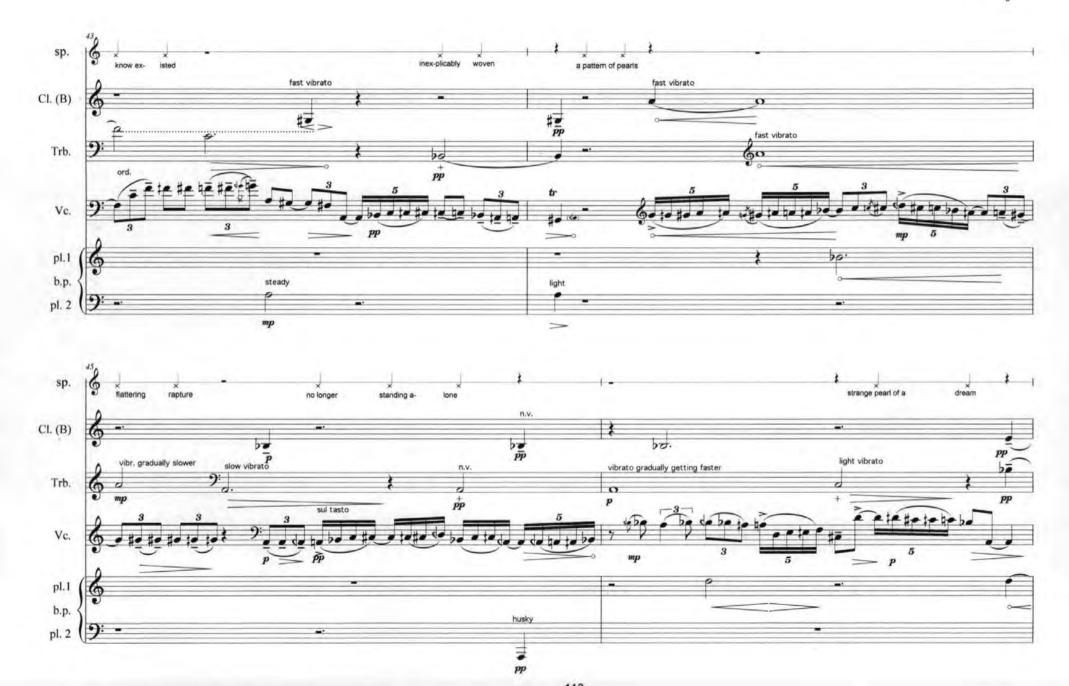


the strangeness of standing a- lone

fractions

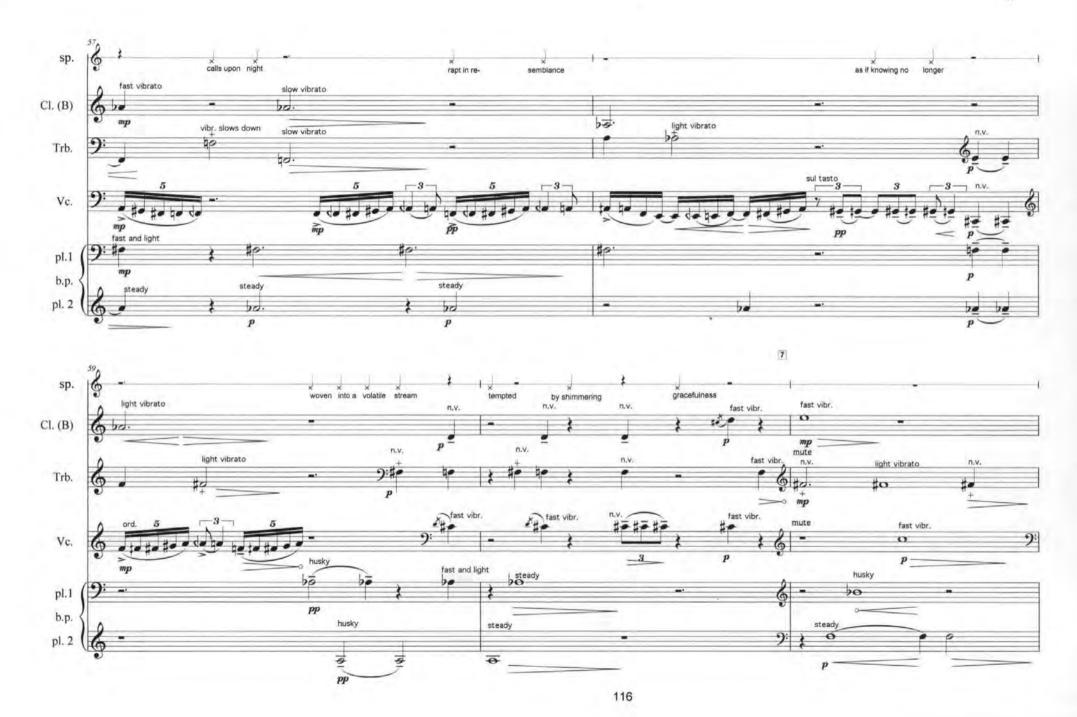
vibrato gradually getting faster

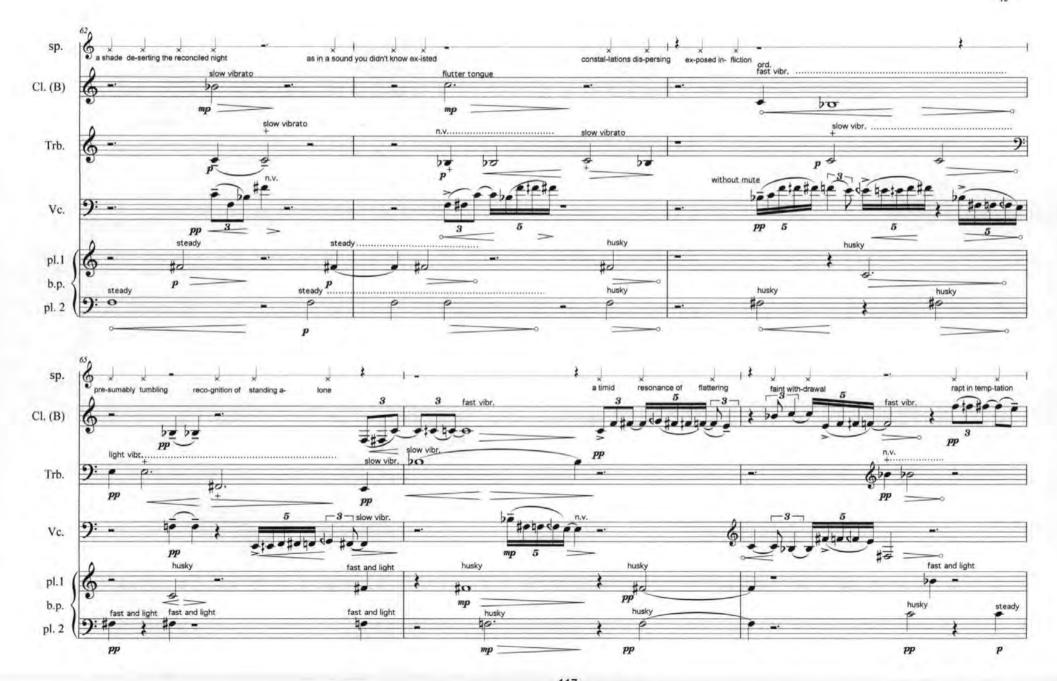


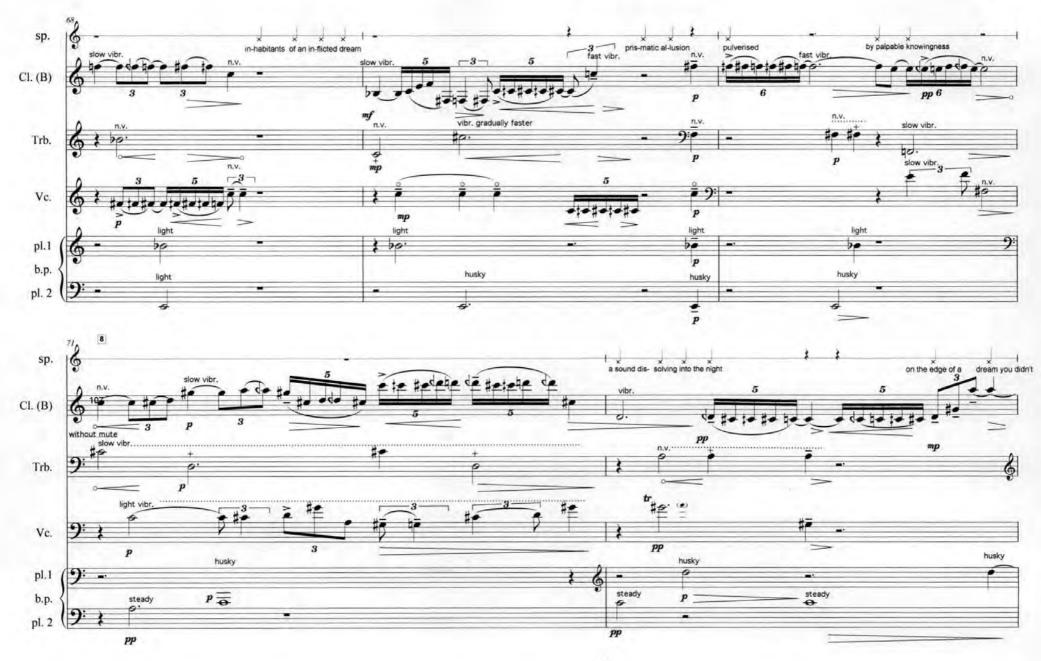


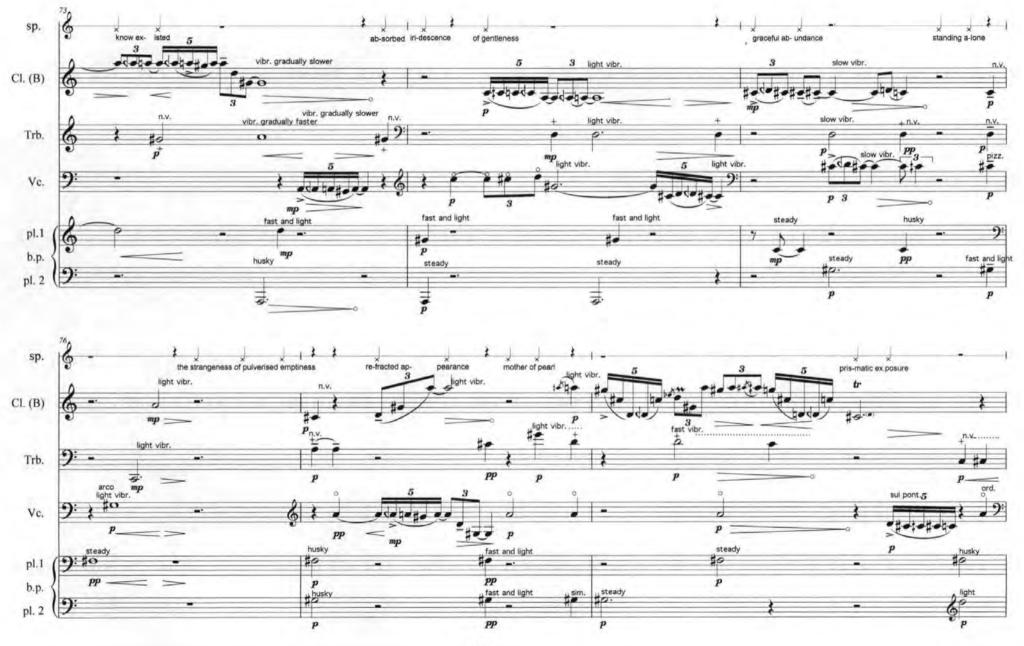












hollowness

the murmuring



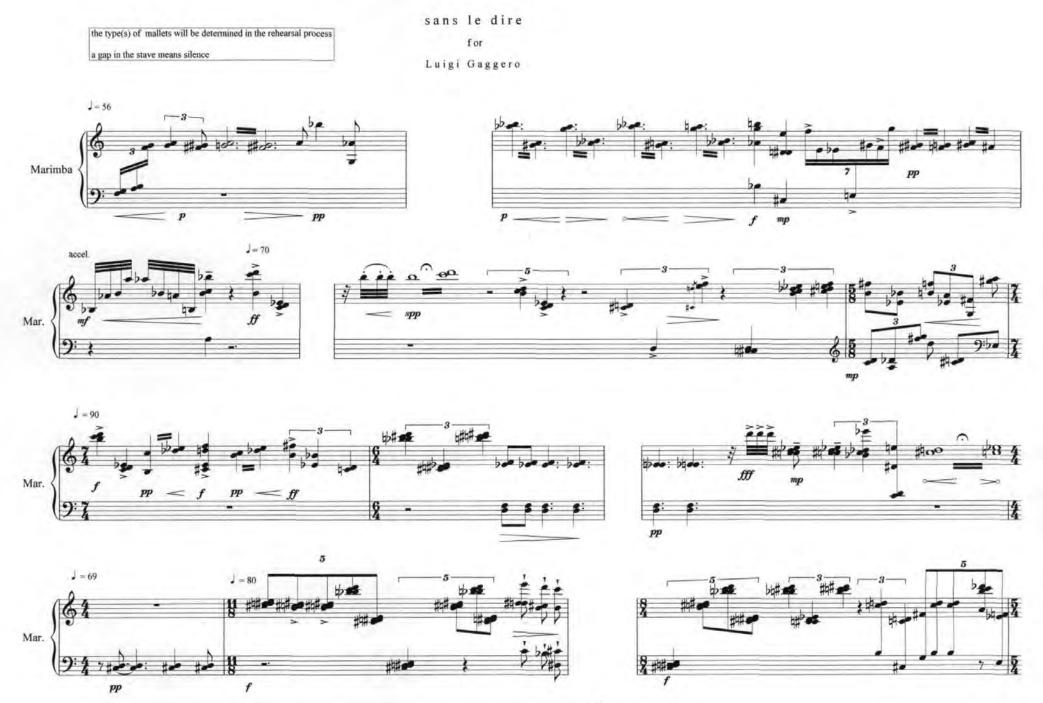
de-serted

e-vades



sans le dire

for marimba solo





Akt -

(the particularity of nakedness)

- Bankerson

Akt - (the particularity of nakedness)

for trombone, piano, male and female speakers

Spacing (all directions as if looking at the stage from the auditorium):

Both speakers are placed at the very front of the stage, to the far right, the man facing the audience, the woman standing to his left, diagonally, in profile, a little behind him, looking at him. Both musicians are placed at the left side of the stage, a little behind the centre line,

Lighting:

One warm, subdued, wide spot on both musicians together. Two separate spots - cold and harsh - for the two speakers.

Instructions for the speakers:

Throughout the piece speak very clearly, distinctly, from memory.

'(...) frozen, hardly breathing, as if through the simplicity of the words more and more meaning would gradually arise.

No part of the text should be delivered with any special emotion. No gestures either. Just the emotion aroused by the unveiling of the words.

(from: Marguerite Duras, Les yeux bleus, les cheveux noirs)

Language:

French or German, depending on the performers' native languages.

Accidentals:

An accidental pertains only to the note it precedes, for the ease of better reading naturals following accidentals are indicated.

Trombone: Vibrato: only if instructed.

page 6 "con sordino": use a plunger mute

x: to be sung into the instrument

Text (original French, German and English translation) from Marguerite Duras, Les yeux bleus, les cheveux noirs

Act 1, Scene 1

Le noir serait fait dans la salle, la pièce commencerait. Im Saal würde es dunkel, das Stück begänne. It would get dark in the hall, the piece would begin.

Act 1, Scene 2

La salle serait dans le noir, dirait l'acteur. La pièce commencerait sans cesse. A chaque phrase, à chaque mot. Der Saal läge im Dunkeln, würde der Schauspieler sagen. Das Stück begänne unablässig. Mit jedem Satz, mit jedem Wort. The hall would be dark, the actor would say. The piece would begin incessantly. With each sentence, with each word.

Act 2, Scene 1

On ne saurait pas, dirait un acteur, pour les héros de l'histoire, qui ils sont ni pourquoi. In bezug auf die Helden der Geschichte, würde ein Schauspieler sagen, wüßte man nicht wer, noch warum sie sind. Concerning the story's heroes, one actor would say, one would neither know who they are nor why.

Act 2, Scene 2

Les deux héros de l'histoire occuperaient la place centrale de la scène près de la rampe. Il ferait toujours une lumière indécise, sauf à cet endroit du lieu des héros où la lumière serait violente et égale.

Die beiden Helden der Geschichte würden die Mitte der Bühne in der Nähe der Rampe besetzen. Ständig würde unbestimmtes Licht herrschen, ausgenommen an jener Stelle, wo sich die Helden befänden und wo das Licht grell und gleichmäßig wäre.

The two heroes of the story would occupy the center of the stage close to the apron. There would constantly be a vague lighting, except where the heroes were placed, the lighting there would be violent and even.

Act 2, Scene 3

Ils restent debout, les yeux fermés, sans paroles. Sie bleiben stehen mit geschlossenen Augen, sprachlos. They stand still, eyes closed, no words.

Act 2. Scene 4

Parfois, pour pouvoir les regarder, on les laisserait à eux-mêmes, dans le silence, un long moment. Um sie betrachten zu können, überließe man sie manchmal sich selbst, schweigend, eine geraume Weile. Sometimes, so one could observe them, one would leave them alone, in silence, for quite a while.

Act 3, Scene 1

La dernière nuit, annonce l'acteur. Die letzte Nacht, verkündet der Scgauspieler. The last night, announces the actor.

Act 3, Scene 2

Les spectateurs s'immobilisent et regardent dans la direction du silence, celle des héros. L'acteur les désigne du regard. Les héros sont encore exposès dans la lumière intense du bord de la rivière.

Die Zuschauer bewegen sich nicht mehr und blicken in Richtung des Schweigens, in Richtung der Helden. Der Schauspieler weist mit dem Blick auf sie hin. Die Helden sind noch im starken Licht des Stromrands zur Schau gestellt.

The audience grows still and looks towards the silence, towards the heroes. The actor points to them with his eyes. The heroes are still exposed in the intense light on the brink of the river.

Act 3, Scene 3

Une demière phrase, dit l'acteur, aurait peut-être été dite avant le silence.

Ein letzter Satz, sagte der Schauspieler, wäre vor dem Verstummen vielleicht gesagt worden.

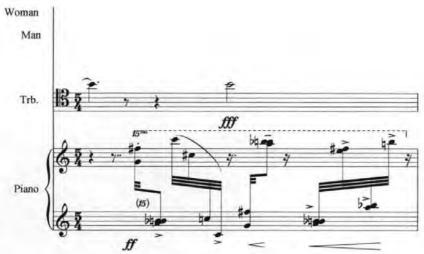
One last phrase, says the actor, may perhaps have been said before the silence.







Act 1, Scene 2

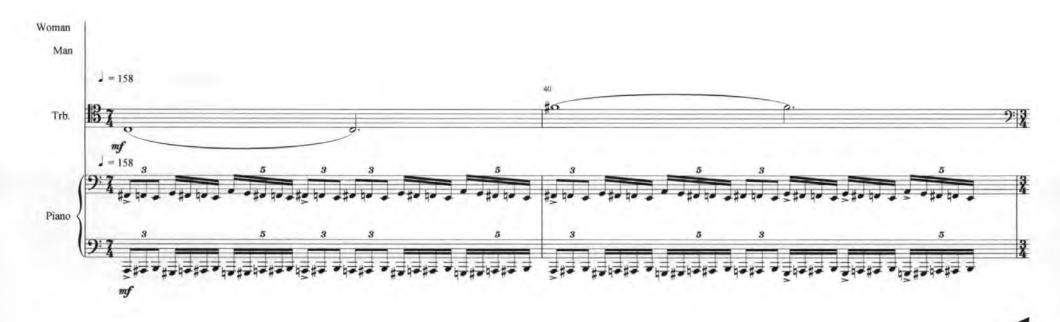


Der Saal läge im Dunkeln, würde der Schauspieler sagen. Das Stück begänne unablässig. Mit jedem Satz, mit jedem Wort.

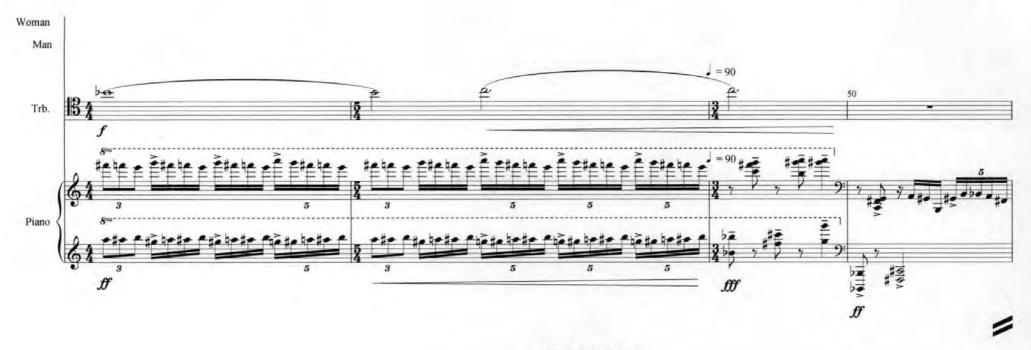






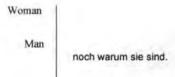


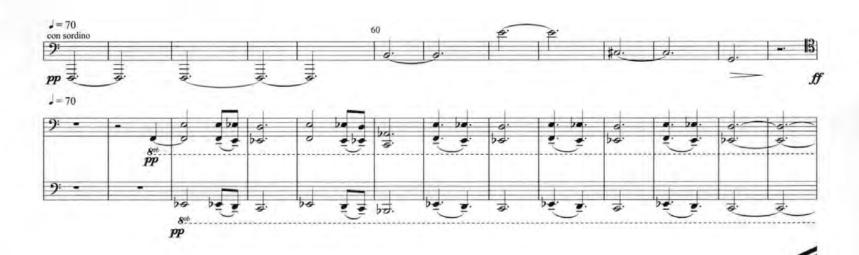


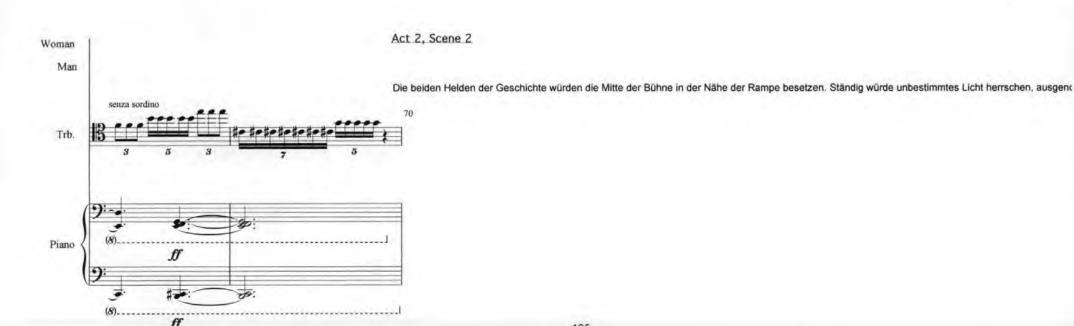


Act 2, Scene 1







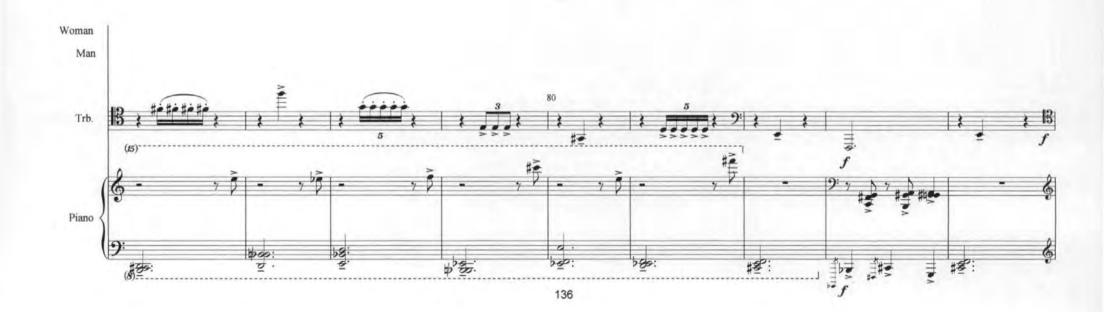


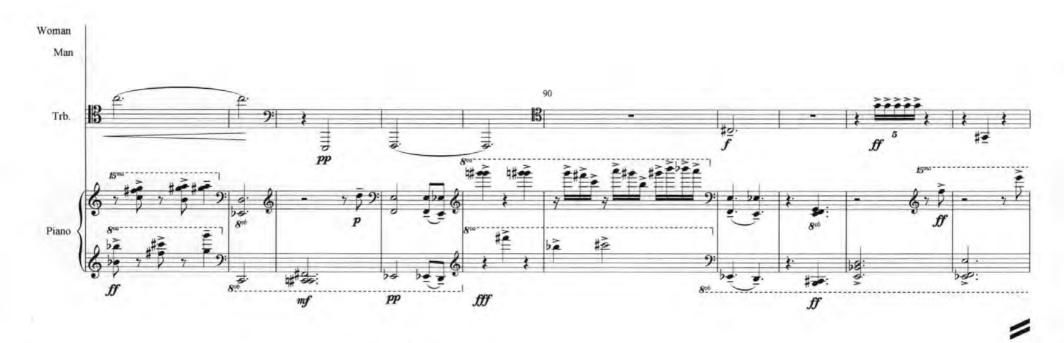
Woman

Man

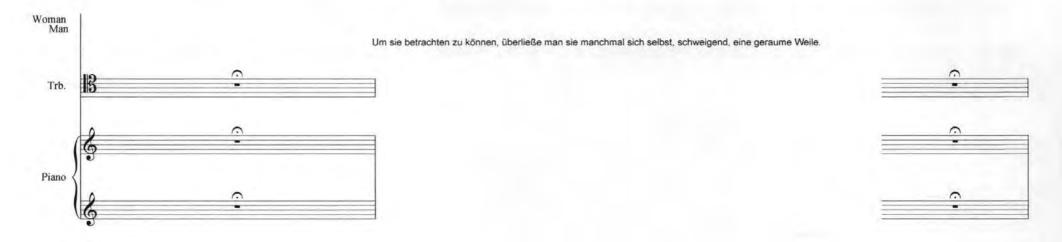
an jener Stelle, wo sich die beiden Helden befänden und wo das Licht grell und gleichmäßig wäre.





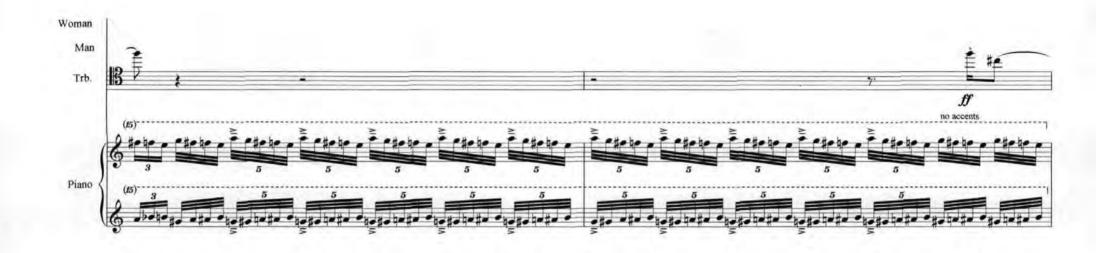






Act 3, Scene 1



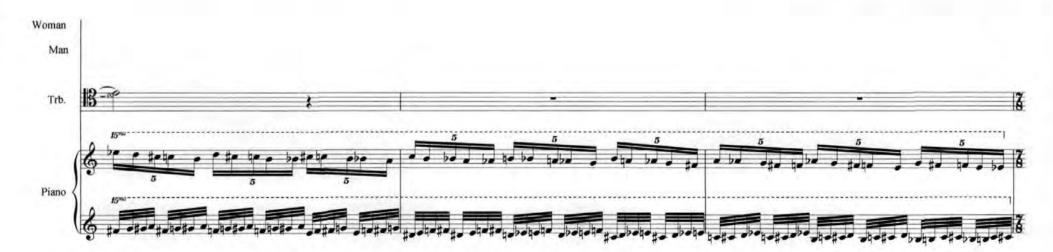
















Act 3, Scene 2

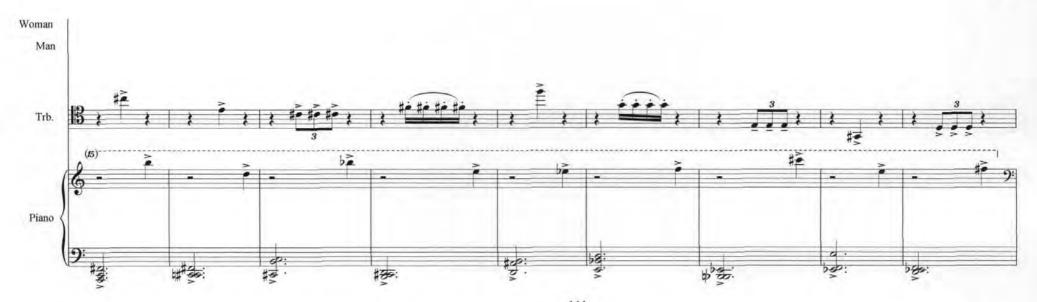
130

Woman Man

Die Zuschauer bewegen sich nicht mehr und blicken in Richtung des Schweigens, in Richtung der Helden. Der Schauspieler weist mit dem Blick auf sie hin. Die Helden sind noch im starken Licht des Stromrands zur Schau gestellt.









Ein letzter Satz, sagte der Schauspieler, wäre vor dem Verstummen vielleicht gesagt worden.

Lichtungen

Text (Ruth Wiesenfeld)

- 1) Was tun mit soviel übriger Zeit und soviel, soviel übrigem Licht das Licht, sagte er, macht uns alt, davor fürchten wir uns gnadenlos gleißender Strahl um sie herum immerfort tag und nacht verflochten, zersprungen vor Glück die Königin aber kann nach ihrem Herzen nicht wählen das Herz, das bestraft werden muss der Kopf vielleicht Nacht fällt ein, senkt sich schwer graue, grauenhafte Traurigkeit.
- 4) Man kann nicht auf alle Arten und Weisen, niemals, so sehr ich auch suchen mag zu selbstverständlich, erschrocken, befangen Sie schweigen – brauchen Sie mich?

Lichtungen

for female speaker, accordion and clarinet

- 2) Sich notfalls verlieren, um Zeit zu gewinnen dürfte man? gelegentlich, wohin denn sonst bar jeder Fantasie, ohne Vernunft, ohne Schonung verstimmt, verloren in grellweisser Finsternis gläsernes Ende der Welt hier quälen wir uns, gehen unter, halten wir inne hier wissen wir, dürfen wir nichts übertreiben unbewohnt Strom ohne Strömung Gefahr.
- 5) Ich tanzte manchmal, sehr mühsam die Stimmen verändern sich. Pause. Er nimmt sie am Arm, niemand folgt, ein Hauch sie verbirgt sich fast, hört ihm zu sinkt zum Grund gibt der Strömung jetzt nach.

- 3) Da beginnt man, ein wenig rascher zu gehen verschont alles weitere ohne Interesse entkommt nie man richtet sich anders ein, ohne Zweifel dreht sich nicht um, wer wagt es noch dämmert es leise wie lange, das hat nichts zu sagen verweifelt entschieden in rasch verschwimmender Helligkeit.
- 6) Ohrenbetäubend die Gefahren des Tages vielleicht irrte ich mich als ob man auf einmal nicht mehr alleine immer noch fraglich tonlos, erstaunt.

- 7) Die Ouvertüre gezwungen, immerfort ein Geheimnis die Luft riecht nach Feuer wieder beginnt es, das Pochen, das Schlagen, etwas öffnet sich Taumel Facetten von Grausamkeit offengelegt Schicht um Schicht ein Zeichen keine Erklärung sich notfalls verlieren leichte Gebeugtheit wie du dich näherst. von weiterem niemals die Rede ein Aufschub im Grunde fast einfach, nicht zu vermeiden warum auch und ganz ohne Schmerz.
- 10) Die Wunde, mein Herr, offensichtlich meist lautlos der Aufprall Treibholz man wollte, dass es geschah ein Lamm ohne Argwohn mit zu weicher Flanke sie warteten, schlugen den Takt ohne Unterlass wer gäbe auf?

- 8) Undurchdringlicher Schwindel
 Dein Blick, der scheue, in Splittern
 alles sieht anders aus
 wer würde zweifeln
 entsetzt, entsetzlich, doch ohne sich anzusehn
 plötzlich sehr kalt, ohne jede Betonung
 Schwebung im Fall
 im Vergessen ein Schauspiel
 auf der Bühne herrscht Schweigen
 gelingt nicht, verhaltenes Lachen
 er zögert, sagt nichts, sie senken die Augen
 zärtlich, trotz all der verlorenen Zeit.
- 11) Ganz ruhig jetzt, Hoffnung auf Hoffnung, unwillkürlich, verletzlich, sie haben zu tanzen begonnen, mehr oder weniger lebhaft, du weißt, ich spiele hab es gehört, stell mich taub voll Hingabe zwar, überrascht, doch ohne Bedeutung gekünsteltes Lachen, dann Murmeln, ein Schrei widersprüchliches Zartes um Dich hohe Stille Ahnung Schauer zerreiß mich, glaube mir, ja oder nein Befehl Deiner Augen schweig, da war ich ein Kind.

Eindringlich, forschend, ein letztes Wort nur, voll Hoffnung, voll Ferne man hat nicht verstanden es ist eine Freude so spielen sie weiter gnadenlos stotternd um fast jeden Preis.

12) Was das betrifft, man tötet Erinnrung
es langweilt mich
ja, ich vergaß, weisse Kühle
inzwischen fast dunkel
ganz wie gewöhnlich, es klingt überzeugt
man wagt nicht, sich anzusehen
wissend
als könne man alles andre entbehren
eine andere Wahl
kein Wort
ein Skallpell nur, das lautlos den Weg sich bahnt.

13) Wächserne Nähe, die Haut poröser entblößt man glaubte, es müsste so kommen unausweichlich die Zeit vertrieben jeder wird schwächer das Spiel fällt zu Boden zerbrochen er sammelt es ein hört nie wieder auf rücksichtslos Lärm und Geschrei.

14) Die Stimme klingt anders
verhalten, erlischt
einer wendet sich um
flieht auf sich zu
schamhaft, leise, in Dunkelheit
rückhaltlos, ohne Vernunft, ohne Schonung
setzt Du Dich aus
stellst dich dar
da geschieht es, es gilt keine Regel
immer noch übriges Licht
schwirrend, voll Ungeduld, ansteckend, eingebrannt,
fortschreitend
unentwegt wissend, dass es Rückkehr nicht gibt.

15) Verspielt,
das Herz wird bestraft
man eilt sich
wessen Triumph?
ohne Behausung
entgleitet, verfängt sich in Schönheit
die Fühler weit ausgestreckt tasten ins Leere
Stille – bis zum Ersticken dicht, unauflöslich
verzeihen Sie bitte das Funkeln, die Feder im Strauch
die Schamlosigkeit
das Enthüllte.

16) Abhanden gekommen
ahnungslos
zu Finden gewagt, zur Neige gegangen
stehengeblieben, zurückgezogen
hineingeraten unmerklich ins Dickicht
vielleicht sollte man lieber
weswegen ich singe
im Staub
Dein Glanz
fordernd, als würde es Tag.

English Translation (by Michael Turnbull):

- 1) What to do with so much extraneous time and so much, so much light that remains light, he said, makes us old, that's what we fear callously luminous ray constantly around, night and day interwoven, shattered with joy however, the queen, in her choice, cannot follow her heart her heart, which has to be punished the head, perhaps night falls, sinks heavily sadness cruelly grey.
- Not all ways are possible,
 never, no matter how thorough my search
 too much self-evidence, startled, inhibited
 you remain silent can I offer my help?

- 2) Dispersing if need be to win some more time is it allowed?

 Occasionally, otherwise where bare of all fantasy, reason and mercy out of sorts, lost in dazzling gloom end of the world made of glass where we torture each other, perish and pause here we know we can't go too far unoccupied currentless current peril.
- 5) Sometimes I dance, with much effort the voices alter. Pause.

 He takes her arm, no one follows a breath wafer-thin she hides now listens sinks to the bottom gives in to the flow.

3) Then one starts walking a little quicker spared the rest of no interest never escaping one settles in differently, no doubt doesn't look back, who would dare a twilight remains irrelevant, though for how long despairingly decisive in brightness that swiftly blurs.

6) Deafening perils of day I might be mistaken as if all of the sudden we were no longer alone - still questionable soundless, amazed.

- 7) The overture forced, a constant mystery the air smells of fire again it begins, the throbbing, the beating something is opening vertigo facets of cruelty revealed and exposed layer upon layer a sign no explanation dispersing if need be bowed lightly the way you approach, nothing else ever mentioned postponement basically simple, proportioned, can't be avoided why try and quite without pain.
- 10) Dear sir, the wound is quite obvious, a crash, usually soundless driftwood one wants it to happen a lamb, unsuspecting, its flank far too tender they waited, incessantly beating the beat who would give in?

- 8) Impenetrable dizziness
 your gaze shy in splinters
 how different all looks now
 no doubt
 appalled, appalling, no look at each other
 suddenly cold, no emphasis
 suspense in free fall
 a spectacle: the act of forgetting
 on stage it's silent
 a failure, laughter subdued
 he pauses, says nothing, they lower their eyes
 tender, despite irrecoverable time.
- 11) Calm now, hope upon hope involuntary, defenceless they've taken up dancing more or less lively you know that I'm playing I heard, acted deaf full of abandon, surprised, no importance counterfeit laughter, a murmur, a scream contradictory tenderness high silence around you a sense a shiver tear me apart, believe me, yes or no command of your eyes be still and I was a child.

9) Urgent, inquiring, a final last word full of hope, full of distance nothing understood it is a delight they carry on acting merciless stuttering playing for their lives.

12) As for that - we kill recollection it bores me to death yes, I forgot, white coolness meanwhile it darkened business as usual, sounding convinced not daring a closer look knowing as if all the rest was disposable a different choice not a word merely a scalpel, silently making its way.

13) a waxy closeness, the skin more porous stripped bare one thought it was bound to happen that way inescapable time expelled everyone weakens the game collapses shattered he gathers it up never to stop ruthless the jarring outcry.

14) The voice sounds changed subdued extinguished one of them turns flees inwardly shameful, quiet, in darkness without reservation, or reason, or mercy you expose yourself resent an appearance and so it occurs, the rules are abandoned still extraneous light whirling, impatient, infectious, emblazoned, advancing ceaselessly knowing there is no return.

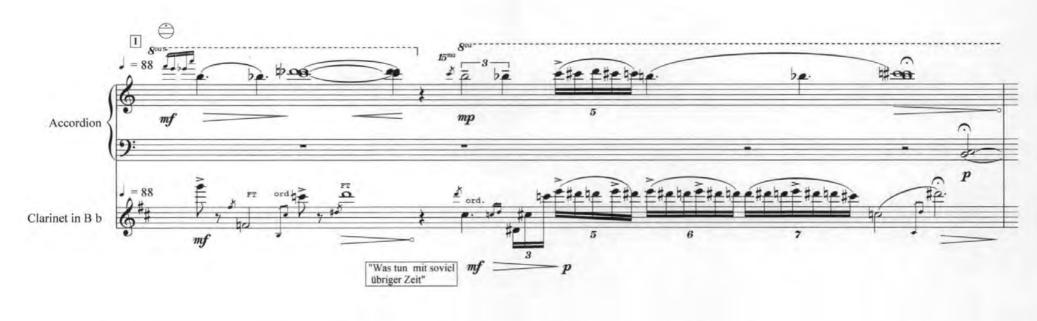
16) Gone astray
cluelessly
daring to find, drawn to a close
remaining behind, retiring, withdrawn
imperceptibly stumbling into the thicket
perhaps we should rather
the reason I sing
in the dust
your splendour
imperious as if it was turning day.

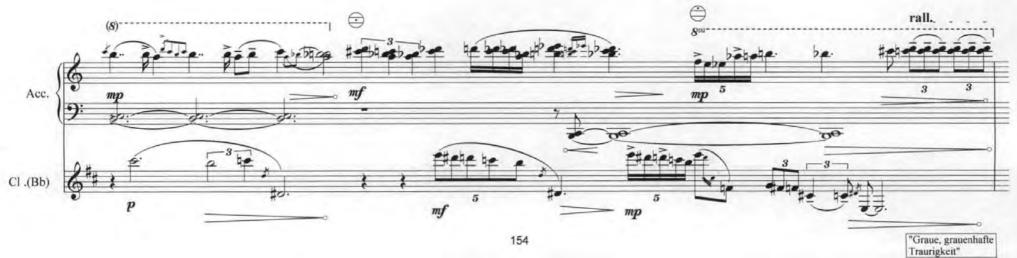
15) Gambled away
the heart is punished
we hurry
whose triumph?
homelessly
slipping, caught up in beauty
feelers outstretched groping in vain
silence – suffocatingly dense, insoluble
dispersing if need be
excuse the sparkle, the plume in the bush
the shamelessness
the exposed.

Instructions on the relationship between language and music:

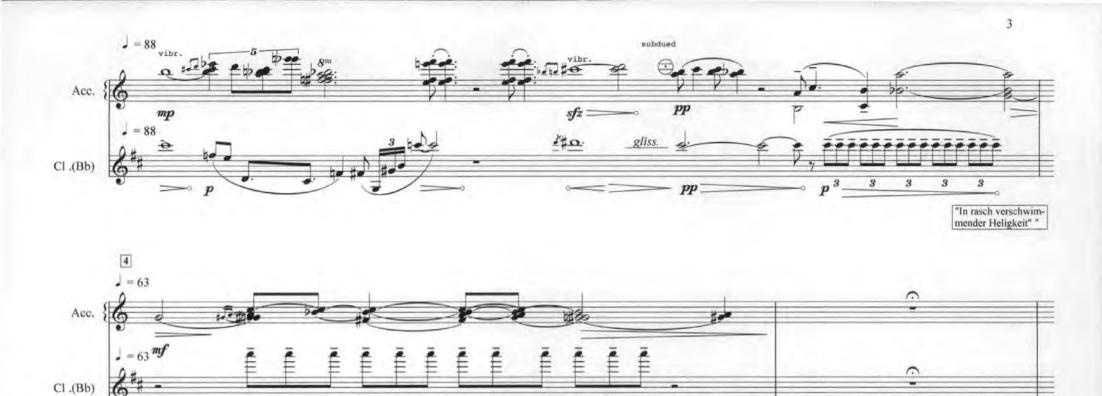
The beginning and end of the individual stanzas are set regarding the temporal connection between music and speech. In the course of each stanza text and music – apart from a few exceptional, indicated moments – move independently of one another. The text is to be approached from a musical point of view. Its deliverance should focus on timing, rhythm and intonation. The imagery should not be re-enacted. The speaker reads the text during the performance and should use a music stand. The text has to be spoken in German.

Lichtungen











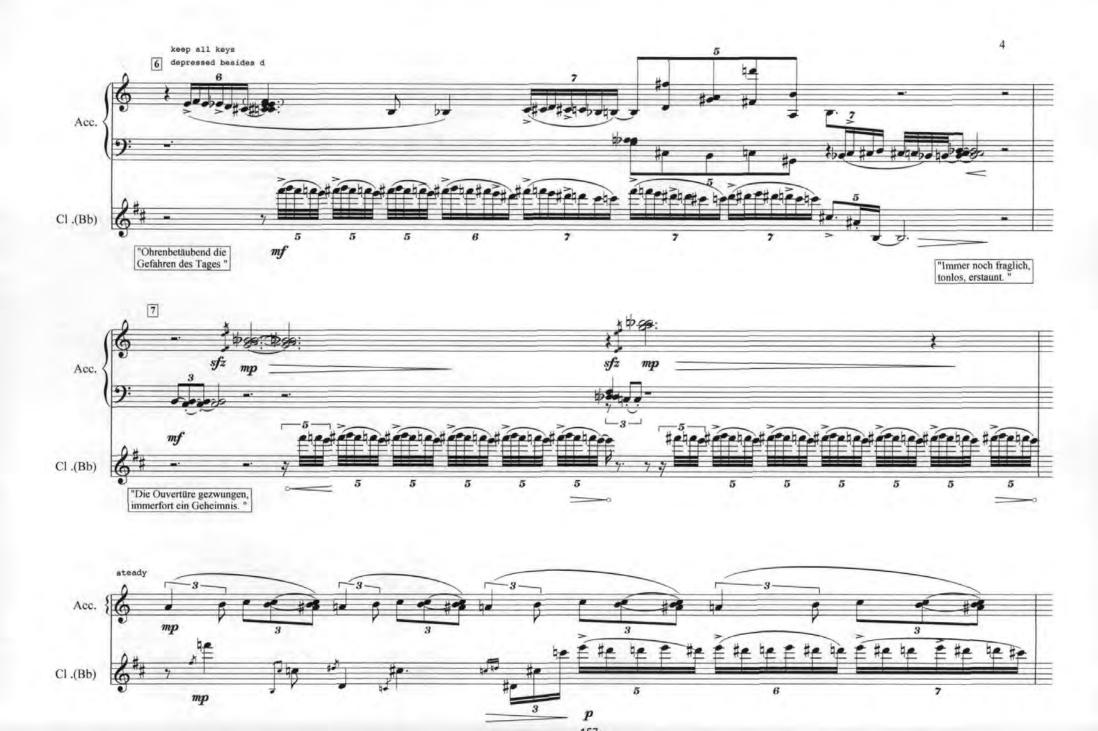
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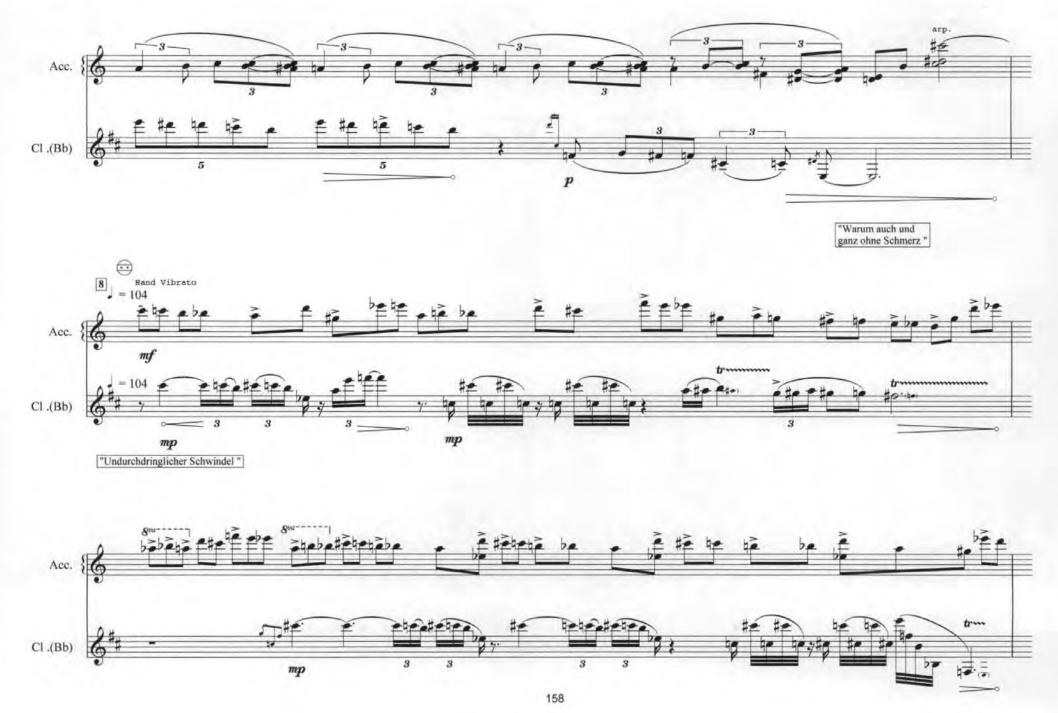
"Sie schweigen - brauchen Sie mich?"

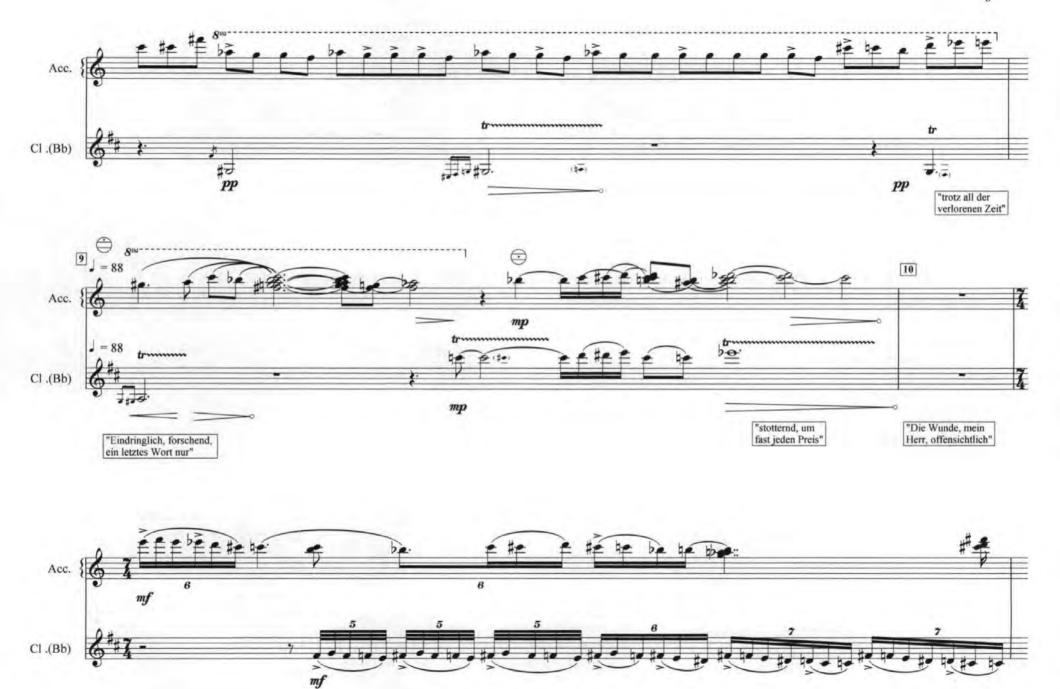
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3

"Man kann nicht auf alle Arten und Weisen " 3







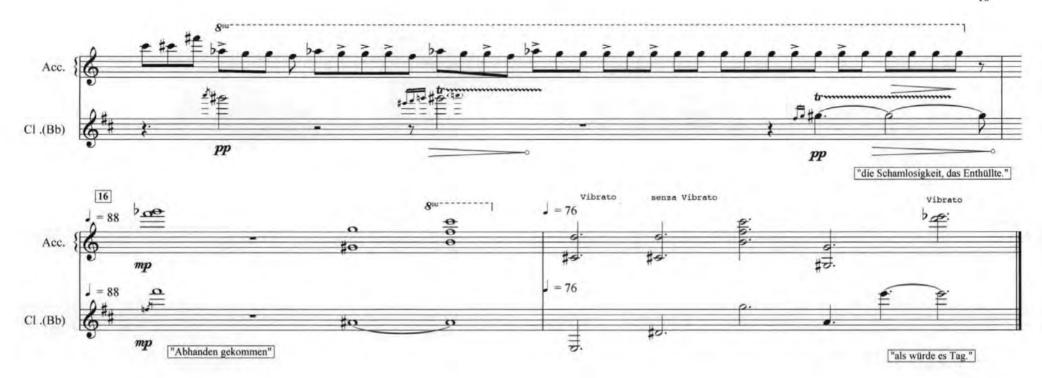












wer weiss II

for

two cellists and one dancer

Two cellists and a dancer improvise using the fragile gestures of *wer weiss I*.

The quality of the dancer's movements corresponds with the music's delicate elegance and restraint.

open - close

open - close

for speaking and singing accordion player

approximate speech rhythm:

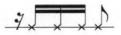




ce se-rait



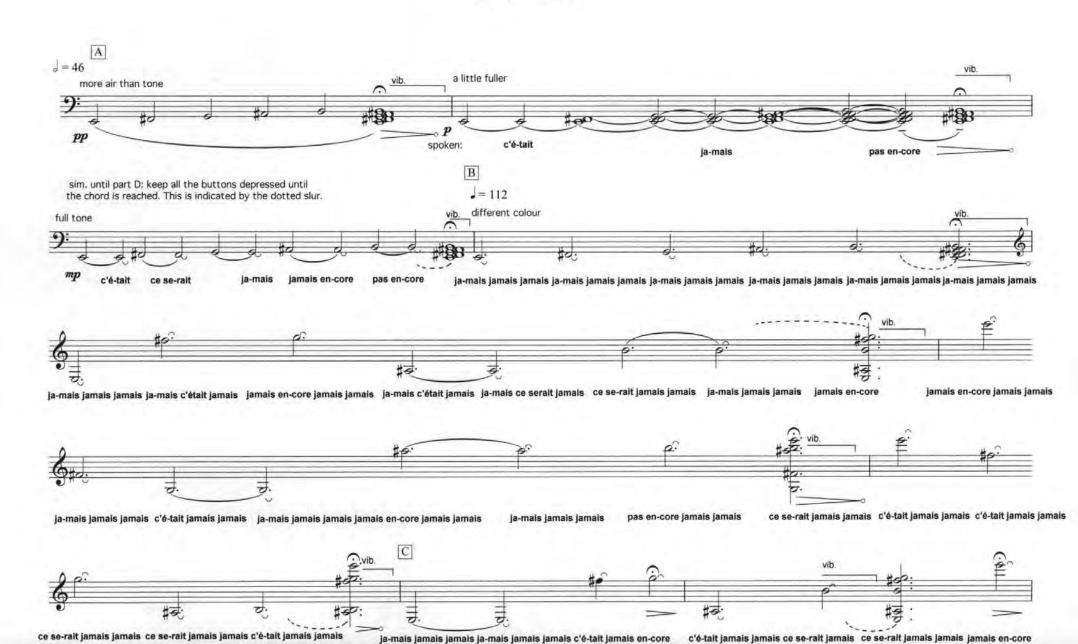
ja - mais

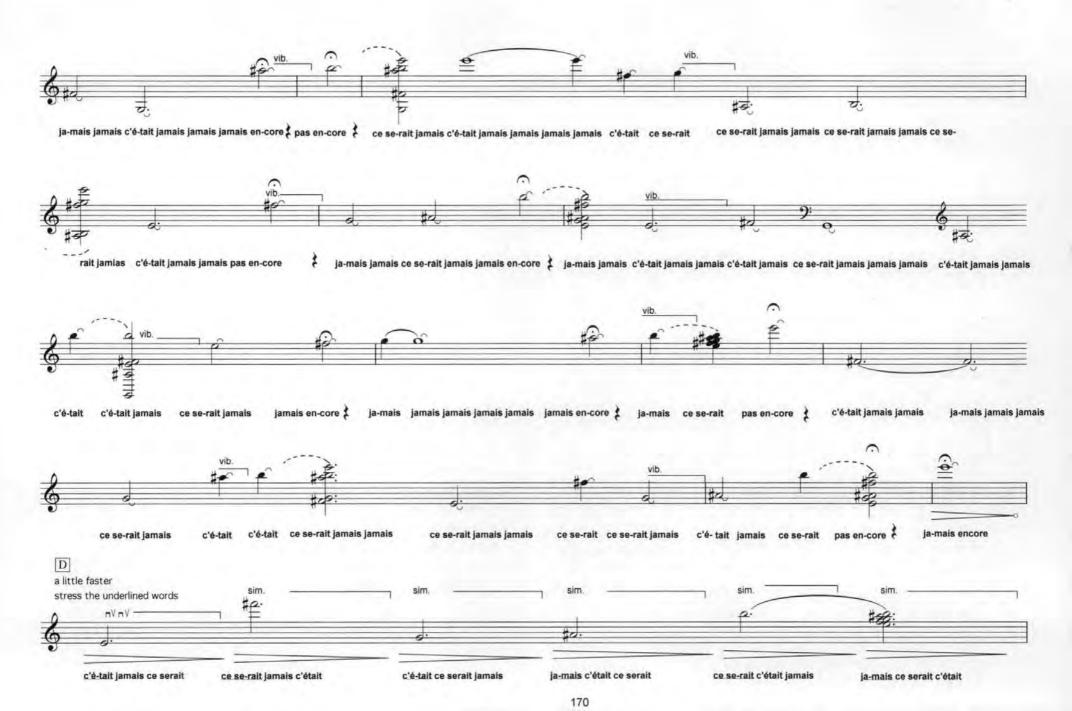


ja - mais en - core

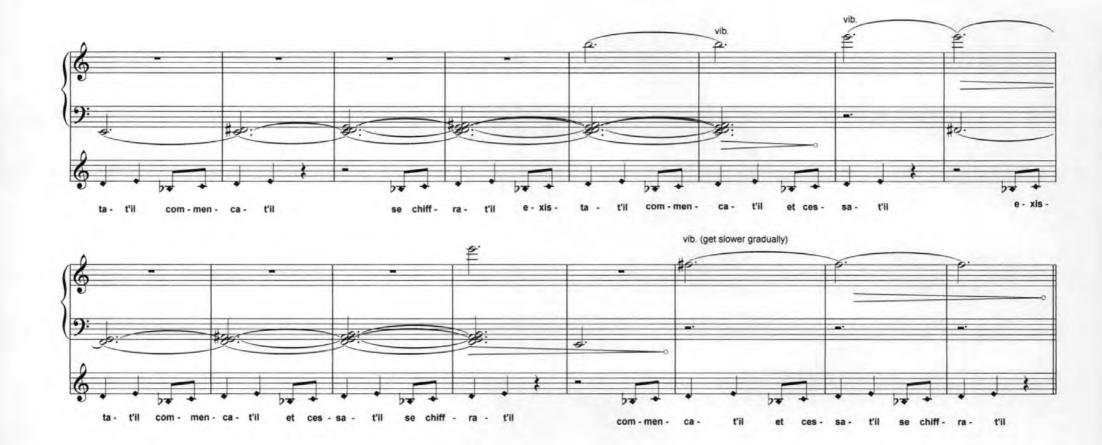


open - close









... for a brighter silence

... for a brighter silence

for female and male speaker, accordion and cello

Text:

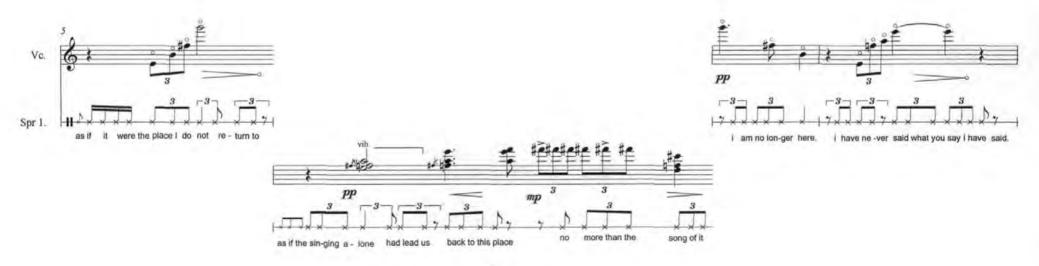
I am no longer here
I have never said what you say I have said

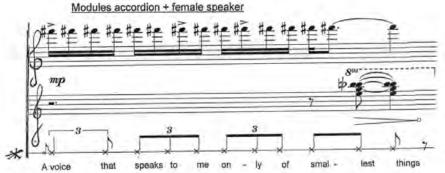
a voice that speaks to me only of smallest things not only things but their names

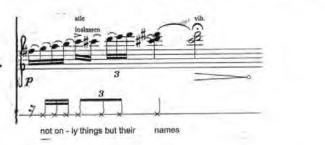
the voice echoing back to me is no longer my own I sing therefore of nothing as if it was the place I do not return to

as if the singing alone had lead us back to this place no more than the song of it

(Paul Auster, edited by Ruth Wiesenfeld)











Structured improvisation Rules:

The speakers continue to form a duet with the instrument assigned to them.

The duet accordion+speaker can choose from four, the duet cello+speaker from five modules.

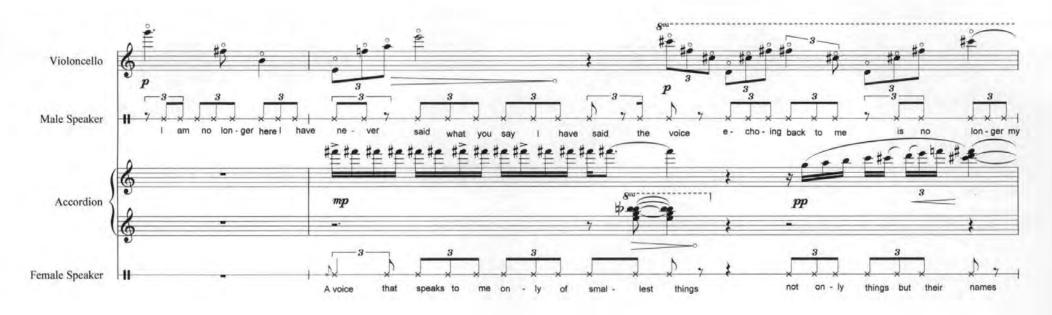
Either the musician or the speaker chooses one module that he/she will play or speak, the other duet partner follows with the corresponding part which he /she performs completely or in parts. He / she also can choose not to respond at all.

* indicates who of both performers might begin with which module.

Both duets can perform simultaneously.

The end of this improvisation, as well as the transition to the third page are to be determined during the rehearsal process.







manourney

for speaker, flute, small zither-like instrument (both instruments amplified, all performers male) and pre-recorded tape

painting: Daniel Wiesenfeld, painting # 2 from Hautfelder 1 - 3 (j100 x 116 cm) each, oil on canvas

text: Paul Auster, from White Spaces

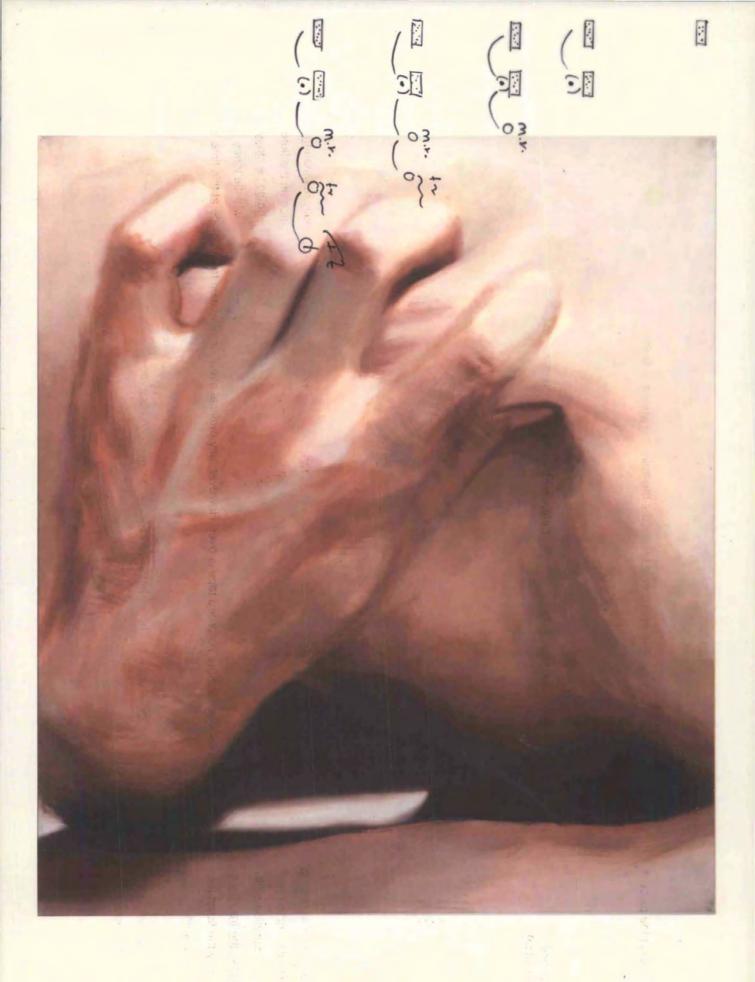
flute

For the flutist the piece is divided into five sections during which in an additive procedure the following phrase is built :

		(·)		m.r.		tr o		+2	
whistle tones (on any pitch)		fundamental may resonate occasionally		fundamental without vibrato	1	fundamental with vibrato or timbral trill	1	fundamental with lots of air and flatter tongue	
	section 1								
	-		section 2	2					
		34-			section 3				
						•	section 4		
									section 5

During the first section the flutist plays only whistle tones, during the second section whistles tones followed by whistles tones + occasionally resonating fundamental and so on. The duration of the sections is up to the player. In between the sections there should be a clearly perceptible silence (in the flute part). The duration of the entire phrase or one of its parts is equivalent to the duration of one exhalation. During the inhalation the mouth should be closed. Compress the trachea slightly in order to make the sound produced by drawing the air in through the throat audible. The piece starts with whistle tones played by the flutist (section 1). The piece ends when the pre-recorded tape is over. However, any musical event or inhalation taking place at this time is to be completed.

The flutist is amplified through a microphone; he plays very soft. There should be noticeable differences between the various textures; they refer to the textures and shades of colour applied in the painting.



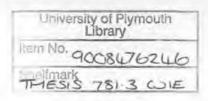
manourney

for speaker, flute, small zither-like instrument (both instruments amplified, all performers male) and pre-recorded tape

painting: Daniel Wiesenfeld, painting # 2 from Hautfelder 1 - 3 (j100 x 116 cm) each, oil on canvas

text: Paul Auster, from White Spaces

speaker + pre-recorded tape



Speaker:

During the performance the speaker is reading the text passage, amplified by a microphone. His reading is soft and subdued. When he has reached the end of the text he starts at the beginning again. Larger spaces in the text indicate a break, during which the speaker inhales. This inhalation should happen with closed mouth and slightly compressed trachea in order to make the sound caused by drawing the air in through the throat audible. In the beginning some of the breaks may be ignored, in the course of the performance the breaks (and the inhalation) become more frequent and longer. Towards the end the breaks (and the inhalation) should be noticeably longer than the spoken passages.

The entrance of the speaker is possible any time after the flutist's first whistle tones. The end of the pre-recorded tape marks the ending of the entire piece. However, the sentence or the inhalation taking place when the tape ends is to be completed.

Pre-recorded tape:

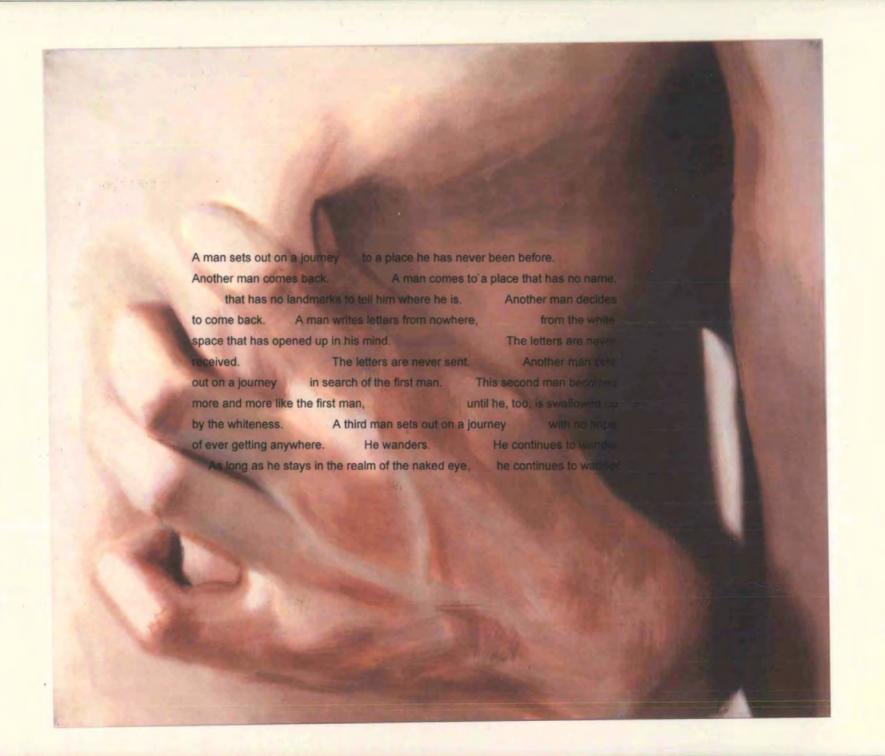
For the making of the pre-recorded tape the speaker is to be recorded whilst repeating the following sentence (including breaks of decreasing duration in between the repetitions, see below):

"I ask whoever is listening to this voice to forget the words it is speaking".

In terms of speed, rhythm and intonation the speaker should decide upon one version to which he sticks during the reading. During the course of the piece the breaks in between the repetitions should continually become shorter until the repetitions follow one another continuously (without breaks), accompanied by a long decrescendo back into silence. The break between the first and the second reading of the sentence can be very long (about one minute depending on the length of the piece). The duration of the pre-recorded tape is up to the performing ensemble's decision. This duration determines the duration of the piece.

Entrance and ending of the pre-recorded tape: the tape is started when during the first reading of the text passage the following sentence has been spoken: "A man writes letters from nowhere, from the white space that has opened up in his mind." The end of the pre-recorded tape marks the end of the piece.

The voice from the pre-recorded tape should be slightly louder than the voice reading live. The volume is to be set accordingly.



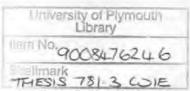
manourney

for speaker, flute, small zither-like instrument (both instruments amplified, all performers male) and pre-recorded tape

painting: Daniel Wiesenfeld, painting # 2 from Hautfelder 1 - 3 (j100 x 116 cm) each, oil on canvas

text: Paul Auster, from White Spaces

small zither-like instrument



A small zither-like instrument with 15 strings is available from the composer. The tuning can stay as it is, slight changes caused by transportation etc. don't matter. However, if a renewed tuning should be unavoidable, the following rules are to be observed:

· The tuning is divided in four registers

Register 1: high strings 1 - 3 (from above)

Register 2: high - middle strings 4 - 7
Register 3: middle - low strings 8 - 12

Register 4: low strings 13 - 15

- · The tuning is microtonal
- Occasionally single strings, which are located higher than their neighbours should nevertheless be tuned lower, in order to gain ascending as well as descending intervals when performing an arpeggio
- A different small instrument from the zither family may be used, in which case the rules for tuning have to be applied accordingly.

The upper right corner of the instrument is to be held in the left hand, its longer side resting against the player's breast. Only the fingers should be used for plucking.

The player only plays within one register at a time, in the course of the piece he ascends from register 4 to register 1. A microphone amplifies his performance. The following materials are at his disposal:

- Rhythmically regular tapping with one or more fingertips (one after he other) against the back of the instrument (= 58), crescendo or decrescendo simultaneously.
 This action only may take place in the beginning of the piece, before the instrument has been plucked.
- Arpeggio (ascending or descending) of one complete register with or without repetitions (increasing or decreasing in volume); varying ways and different qualities of plucking may be used.
- . One single tone with or without repetitions (increasing or decreasing in volume); varying ways (fingernail) and different qualities of plucking may be used.
- The combination of two pitches (within one register) simultaneously or one after the other with or without repetitions (increasing or decreasing in volume); varying ways and different qualities of plucking may be used).
- Vibrato by swivelling the instrument, whereby it continues to rest against the chest, the movement is produced by the left hand.
- Silence

The entrance (tapping) is possible any time after the flutist's first whistle tones. The piece ends when the pre-recorded tape is over. However, any musical event taking place at this time is to be completed.

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