

((as reflected in the glimmer of the black pond))

((emerging from white clouds))

(silver glimmers of the moon)

for percussion ensemble (4 or more performers)

Holland Hopson

A *single sound at any time of your choosing, placed within silence*

play listen

1x 3x

ppp

B *single sounds with silences between*

play listen

3x 7x

ppp

C *single sounds with silences between*

play listen

7x 15x

pp

D *single sounds with shorter silences between; remaining distinguishable as independent events; not yet blending together into gestures*

play listen

15x 31x

pp

E *single sounds with very short silences between; still distinguishable as independent events; beginning to blend together into gestures*

play listen

15x 7x

p

F *single sounds with almost no silences between; beginning to blend together into one or more gestures*

play listen

7x 3x

p

play

single sounds clustered together; barely distinguishable as independent events; and blending together into a single gesture

G 3x listen

mp

play

gestures at any time of your choosing, with silences between

H 3x listen

mp

play

gestures with shorter silences between

J 7x listen

mf

play

gestures with almost no silences between; beginning to blend together into longer phrases

K 7x listen

f

play

gestures clustered together; barely distinguishable as independent gestures; and blending together into a single phrase

L 3x listen

mp

play

single sounds clustered together; barely distinguishable as independent events; and blending together into a single gesture

M 3x listen

mp

play
single sounds with slightly longer silences
between

N 7x

listen

15x

p

play
sounds should each be distinguishable as
independent events; no longer blending
together into one or more gestures

O 15x

listen

31x

p

play
single sounds with slightly longer silences
between

P 15x

listen

7x

pp

play
single sounds at any time of your
choosing, with silences between

Q 7x

listen

3x

pp

play
single sounds at any time of your
choosing, with silences between

R 3x

listen

1x

ppp

play
single sound at any time of your choosing, placed within silence

S 1x

ppp

Instrumentation

Performers play very short, damped metallic sounds throughout. Use triangle beaters or other small metal rods to strike metal objects arranged on a black towel on the head of a snare drum. Performers may also strike the rim, brackets, stand, or any other metal part of the instrument, as long as the resulting sound is damped and very short. Snare may be on, off, or changed during the piece at the discretion of each performer. Number and type of metal objects is at the discretion of each performer.

Form

The piece moves from individual, isolated sounds placed within silences, to sounds that merge into gestures, to gestures that merge into phrases, then back again to individual sounds. Gestures and phrases may be generated by individual performers and/or emerge as a result of collective activity.

Process

Play: Each musician moves at their own pace, choosing when to play the specified number of sounds/events using one of more of the available metal objects.

Listen: Each musician waits and listens for the prescribed number of events/sounds before moving to the next 'play' section. Events/sounds may be made by other musicians or any unintentional events/sounds arising from the environment or created by non-performers.

At any given moment, some musicians act independently, while others are unable to act, waiting for the actions of others.

The group begins the piece together, then each player proceeds at their own pace in free time. Durations are relative, approximate, and not bound to a consistent tempo or pulse. Rehearsal markings are for reference only; the group will rarely perform the same section at the same time. Some performers will end before others. The piece is over when the last performer reaches the end.

