

Worldlines

for 3 or more sustaining instruments

Holland Hopson

2017

Parts

All parts contain the same musical material. Musicians choose the part that fits their preferred clef and transposition.

Beginning

Each performer begins with the first phrase when ready; performers may not necessarily begin together.

Cueing and Hand Signals

Throughout the piece performers provide cues using hand signals. These signals change the mode in which the performers move through the score. The available modes are Repeat, Forward, Scramble, Backward, Ending and Freeze. See the chart below for details. Any performer may provide a cue at any time (see the exception for Ending below). The new cue becomes active at the end of each performer's current phrase. Each phrase ends with a solid bar line. For example, a performer cues a new mode: each performer finishes his or her current phrase by playing until the next bar line and then moves to an appropriate phrase—or repeats the current phrase—according to the rules of the new mode, continuing until another mode is cued.

The default mode at the beginning of the piece is Repeat.

Performers may choose to briefly interrupt their phrase in order to provide a cue.

The ensemble is encouraged to work out a method to resolve any instances of multiple, conflicting cues.

Modes	Repeat	Forward	Scramble	Backward	Ending	Freeze
Hand Gesture	1 finger	2 fingers	3 fingers	4 fingers	Hand vertical, palm out, “stop” sign	Hand horizontal, palm down
Mostly	Same	Next	Beginning	Previous	Last	Same
Sometimes to Rarely	Next	Same, Previous		Same, Next		
Rarely to Never			Next, Previous		Previous	
Never			Same			

Same = Repeat current phrase.

Next = Play next phrase. The last phrase wraps around to the first phrase

Previous = Play previous phrase. The first phrase wraps around the last phrase

Beginning = Play any phrase at the beginning a system (marked A-G).

Last = Play the phrase at the beginning of the last system (marked G).

Octave Transposition

Musical material is notated in an octave that is convenient and easy to read. Some phrases are marked with suggested register placement (i.e. middle range, upper range). These phrases should be transposed by octaves to fit the performer's instrument.

Performers are encouraged to transpose phrases without specific range indications into other octaves in order to better suit their instrument or the ensemble and/or provide contrast. Phrases should be transposed as a whole; individual pitches or subsets of phrases should not be transposed.

Ending

When ready to end, cue the Ending mode. The Ending mode may not be cued until the last phrase (marked G) has been heard at least once. When the Ending mode is cued, each performer moves to phrase G at the end of his or her current phrase. Performers play in Ending mode until they wish to stop. Performers will not necessarily end together.

Performers may cue a new mode while in Ending mode. In which case, the piece continues until the Ending mode is cued again.

Duration of the piece is free, but should be no less than six minutes in length and preferably longer.

In a good performance of this work

- rest durations are respected and musicians employ a variety of durations for rests during the piece
- every musician provides at least one cue
- not all modes need to be cued
- not all phrases need to be performed

Worldlines

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A middle range

C Instruments

timbre changes in regular rhythm

upper range

p 3 - 6" *mp* 3 - 10" *mp* *pp* 1 - 3"

B middle range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

10 or more irregularly spaced notes

mp *mf* *mp* 3 - 10" *mf* 3 - 6" *f* *mp* 1 - 3"

C mysterious, middle range

slow_ _ _ slightly faster slow_ _ _

upper range, 6 to 10 regularly spaced notes, ad lib 1/4 tone variations

short groups of irregular rhythms

pp *p* 3 - 10" *p* 3 - 6" *mf* 1 - 2" 1 - 2"

D middle range, no vib

lyrical

lyrical

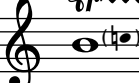
mp 1 - 3" *mf* *f* *mf* 1 - 3" *mf* *mp* *f* *mf* 1 - 3"

rubato

rubato

rubato

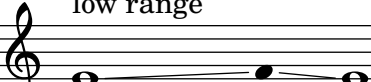
mp *f* 1 - 2" *mp* *f* 1 - 2" *mp* *f* 1 - 2"

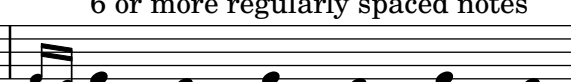
E middle range, fast, intense *fr*  3 - 10"

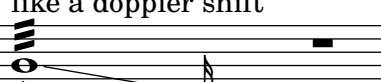
9 or more regularly spaced notes *accel.*  3 - 10"

highest pitch that speaks clearly and easily, 10 or more irregularly spaced notes  1 - 3"

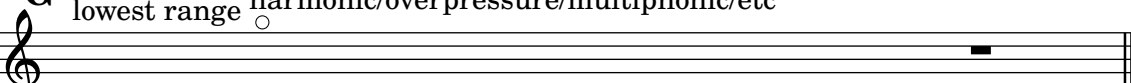
mf *mp* *f* *f*

F low range  3 - 6"

6 or more regularly spaced notes  3 - 6"

slowing tremolo, like a doppler shift  1 - 2"

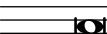
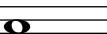
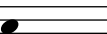
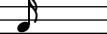
mp *mf* *mp* *mf* *f* *p*

G lowest range  3 - 10"

continue fundamental while emphasizing harmonic/overpressure/multiphonic/etc

p

Duration Guide

12" or more very long	4 - 10" long	0.5 - 2" short	less than 0.5" very short
			

Worldlines

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A middle range

C Instruments

timbre changes in regular rhythm

upper range

p 3 - 6" *mp* 3 - 10" *mp* *pp* 1 - 3"

B middle range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

10 or more irregularly spaced notes

mp *mf* *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

3 - 10" 3 - 6" 1 - 3"

C

mysterious, middle range

slow - - - slightly faster slow - - -

upper range, 6 to 10 regularly spaced notes, ad lib 1/4 tone variations

short groups of irregular rhythms

pp *p* *pp* *p* *mf*

3 - 10" 3 - 6" 1 - 2" 1 - 2"

D middle range, no vib

lyrical

lyrical

mp *mf* *f* *mf* *mf* *mp* *f* *mf*

1 - 3" 1 - 3" 1 - 3"

E

rubato

rubato

rubato

mp *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

1 - 2" 1 - 2" 1 - 2"

E middle range, fast, intense

9 or more regularly spaced notes

highest pitch that speaks clearly and easily, 10 or more irregularly spaced notes

mf 3 - 10" 3 - 10" *mp* *f* *f* 1 - 3"

accel. - - - - -

F low range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

slowing tremolo, like a doppler shift

3 - 6"

3 - 6"

1 - 2"

mp *mf* *mp*

mf

f *p*

continue fundamental while emphasizing harmonic/overpressure/multiphonic/etc

G lowest range

3 - 10"

p

Duration Guide

12" or more very long	4 - 10" long	0.5 - 2" short	less than 0.5" very short

Worldlines

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A middle range

C Instruments

timbre changes in regular rhythm

upper range

p 3 - 6" *mp* 3 - 10" *mp* *pp* 1 - 3"

B middle range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

10 or more irregularly spaced notes

mp *mf* *mp* 3 - 10" *mf* 3 - 6" *f* *mp* 1 - 3"

mysterious, middle range

slow - - - slightly faster - - -

upper range, 6 to 10 regularly spaced notes, ad lib 1/4 tone variations

short groups of irregular rhythms

pp *p* 3 - 10" *p* 3 - 6" *mf* 1 - 2" 1 - 2"

D middle range, no vib

lyrical

lyrical

mp 1 - 3" *mf* *f* *mf* 1 - 3" *mf* *mp* *f* *mf* 1 - 3"

rubato

rubato

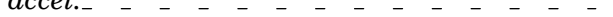
rubato

mp *f* 1 - 2" *mp* *f* 1 - 2" *mp* *f* 1 - 2"

E middle range, fast, intense
tr 

3 - 10"

3 - 10"

9 or more regularly spaced notes
accel. 

highest pitch that speaks clearly and easily,
 10 or more irregularly spaced notes 

1 - 3"

F low range

3 - 6"

6 or more regularly spaced notes

3 - 6"

slowing tremolo, like a doppler shift 

1 - 2"

G lowest range

continue fundamental while emphasizing harmonic/overpressure/multiphonic/etc 

3 - 10"

Duration Guide

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Worldlines

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A middle range

Bb Instruments

timbre changes in regular rhythm

upper range

p 3 - 6"

mp 3 - 10"

mp *pp* 1 - 3"

B middle range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

10 or more irregularly spaced notes

mp *mf* *mp* 3 - 10"

mf 3 - 6"

f *mp* 1 - 3"

C mysterious, middle range

slow - - - slightly faster slow - - -

upper range, 6 to 10 regularly spaced notes, ad lib 1/4 tone variations

short groups of irregular rhythms

pp *p* 3 - 10"

p 3 - 6"

mf 1 - 2" 1 - 2"

D middle range, no vib

lyrical

lyrical

mp 1 - 3"

mf *f* *mf* 1 - 3"

mf *mp* *f* *mf* 1 - 3"

rubato

rubato

rubato

mp *f* 1 - 2"

mp *f* 1 - 2"

mp *f* 1 - 2"

E middle range, fast, intense

3 - 10"

3 - 10"

9 or more regularly spaced notes
accel.

highest pitch that speaks clearly and easily,
10 or more irregularly spaced notes

mf *mp* *f* *f* 1 - 3"

F low range

3 - 6"

6 or more regularly spaced notes

3 - 6"

slowing tremolo, like a doppler shift

mp *mf* *mp* *mf* *f* *p* 1 - 2"

G lowest range

continue fundamental while emphasizing harmonic/overpressure/multiphonic/etc

3 - 10"

p

Duration Guide

12" or more very long	4 - 10" long	0.5 - 2" short	less than 0.5" very short

Worldlines

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A middle range

timbre changes in regular rhythm

upper range

E♭ Instruments

3 - 6"

3 - 10"

1 - 3"

p

mp

mp

pp

B middle range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

10 or more irregularly spaced notes

3 - 10"

3 - 6"

1 - 3"

mp

mf

mp

mf

f

mp

C mysterious, middle range

slow - - - slightly faster - - - slow - - -

upper range, 6 to 10 regularly spaced notes, ad lib 1/4 tone variations

short groups of irregular rhythms

3 - 10"

3 - 6"

1 - 2"

1 - 2"

pp

p

pp

p

mf

D middle range, no vib

lyrical

lyrical

1 - 3"

1 - 3"

1 - 3"

mp

mf

f

mf

mf

mp

f

mf

rubato

rubato

rubato

1 - 2"

1 - 2"

1 - 2"

mp

f

mp

f

mp

f

E middle range, fast, intense *tr* *mf* 3 - 10" 3 - 10" 9 or more regularly spaced notes *accel.* *mp* *f* highest pitch that speaks clearly and easily, 10 or more irregularly spaced notes *f* 1 - 3"

F low range *mp* *mf* *mp* 3 - 6" 6 or more regularly spaced notes *mf* 3 - 6" slowing tremolo, like a doppler shift *f* *p* 1 - 2"

G lowest range continue fundamental while emphasizing harmonic/overpressure/multiphonic/etc *p* 3 - 10"

Duration Guide

12" or more very long	4 - 10" long	0.5 - 2" short	less than 0.5" very short

Worldlines

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A middle range

F Instruments

timbre changes in regular rhythm

upper range

3 - 6"

3 - 10"

1 - 3"

p

mp

mp

pp

B middle range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

10 or more irregularly spaced notes

3 - 10"

3 - 6"

1 - 3"

mp

mf

f

mp

C mysterious, middle range

slow - - *slightly faster* *slow* - -

upper range, 6 to 10 regularly spaced notes, ad lib 1/4 tone variations

short groups of irregular rhythms

3 - 10"

3 - 6"

1 - 2"

1 - 2"

pp

p

pp

p

mf

D middle range, no vib

lyrical

lyrical

1 - 3"

1 - 3"

1 - 3"

mp

mf

f

mf

mf

mp

f

mf

rubato

rubato

rubato

1 - 2"

1 - 2"

1 - 2"

mp

f

mp

f

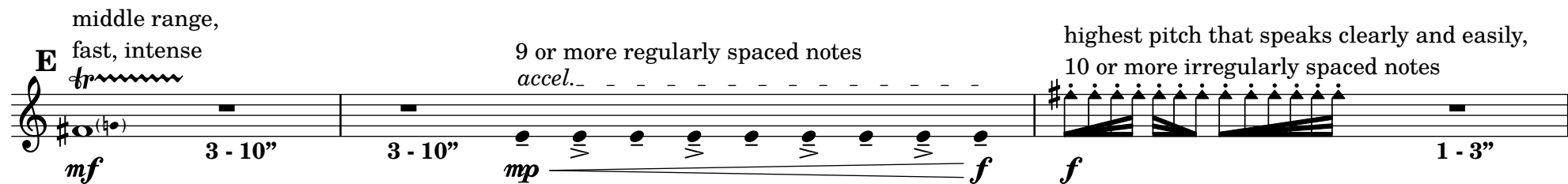
mp

f

E middle range,
fast, intense
tr 

9 or more regularly spaced notes
accel. _ _ _ _ _

highest pitch that speaks clearly and easily,
10 or more irregularly spaced notes

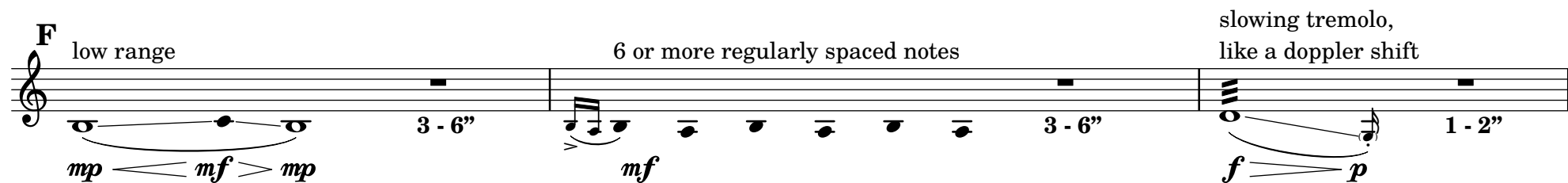


mf 3 - 10" 3 - 10" *mp* *f* *f* 1 - 3"

F low range

6 or more regularly spaced notes

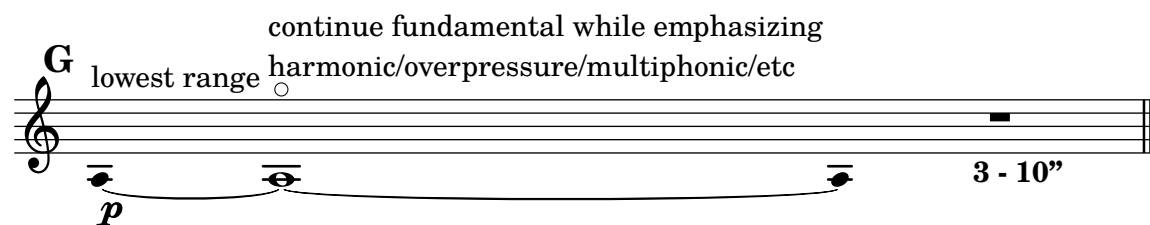
slowing tremolo,
like a doppler shift



mp *mf* *mp* 3 - 6" *mf* 3 - 6" *f* *p* 1 - 2"

G lowest range

continue fundamental while emphasizing
harmonic/overpressure/multiphonic/etc



p 3 - 10"

Duration Guide

12" or more very long	4 - 10" long	0.5 - 2" short	less than 0.5" very short
