

the mutiny of rivers

for ekg

christopher burns

Performance notes:

For both players

Performance duration should be established in advance. The minimum duration is fifteen minutes; the maximum is twenty-five.

English horn

There are thirteen leaves of music for English horn. You may play these leaves in any order, but you must play them all.

Any amount of silence in between leaves is possible.

The tempo (duration) of each leaf is at your discretion; maintain a consistent tempo throughout each leaf.

Certain leaves explicitly invite manipulation of the English horn timbre, through instrumental and/or electronic means. However, these are not the only leaves where timbral exploration is possible; think broadly about timbral possibilities at all times.

Accidentals persist throughout the measure of their appearance. Many reminder accidentals are provided.

Electronics

Six tracks of pre-recorded material are provided, each twenty-five minutes in duration. For performances less than twenty-five minutes in duration, you may begin from any point which will allow the tracks to run continuously throughout the performance. Play the tracks as given, without interruption or noncontiguous access.

Overall volume, balance between individual tracks, and panning/diffusion are all at your discretion, and may be adjusted continuously.

No more than five tracks of the pre-recorded material (and as few as zero) should be audible at any moment in the performance.

You may apply additional electronic manipulation or processing to any of the sounding tracks at your discretion.

Each track features three general categories of sound material. Each category of sound material appears on two tracks:

track 1: acoustic feedback, granulated English horn material, echoing drones

track 2: acoustic feedback, digital feedback, time-stretched electric guitar

track 3: digital feedback, English horn material with a variety of treatments, reverberant English horn "chorale"

track 4: granulated English horn material, English horn material with a variety of treatments, drones with melodic contours imposed

track 5: time-stretched electric guitar, drones with melodic contours imposed, layered English horn material

track 6: echoing drones, reverberant English horn "chorale", layered English horn material

grace notes are to be played on the beat, with the "main note" filling the remainder of its written duration

The musical score consists of six staves, each with a different time signature and dynamic markings. The dynamics are indicated by *f*, *ff*, *fff*, *mp*, and *mf*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and articulation marks.

Staff 1: 2/4 time signature. Dynamics: *f*, *ff*, *f*, *mf*, *f*. Includes a slur over the first three notes and another slur over the last two notes.

Staff 2: 3/4 time signature. Dynamics: *fff*, *ff*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*. Includes a slur over the first two notes and another slur over the last two notes.

Staff 3: 7/8 time signature. Dynamics: *fff*, *f*, *mp*, *fff*, *mp*, *f*. Includes a slur over the first two notes and another slur over the last two notes.

Staff 4: 3/4 time signature. Dynamics: *ffff*, *mp*, *mf*. Includes a slur over the first two notes and another slur over the last two notes.

Staff 5: 2/4 time signature. Dynamics: *f*, *ff*, *f*, *ff*, *fff*. Includes a slur over the first two notes and another slur over the last two notes.

Staff 6: 15/8 time signature. Dynamics: *ff*, *fff*. Includes a slur over the first two notes and another slur over the last two notes.

drone

on a single pitch

continuously and gradually

varying in both dynamics and timbre

improvise highly contrasting

gestures

all sharing a common duration

separate gestures with

silences

sharing another common duration

trill to the semitone above the written pitch

1 *mf* *fp* *mf* *fp* *p* *mf* *mp* *pp* *mf* *fp*

5 *mf* *fp* *mf* *fp* *p* *mf*

8 *mf* *fp* *mf* *fp* *mf* *f*

11 *f* *ff* *p* *p* *f* *mf* *mp* *mf* *fff*

14 *pp* *f* *p* *mf* *f* *pp* *f* *mp* *pp*

17 *ff* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *p* *mp*

play every single
possible pitch
presto possibile

crescendo
from *niente* to
maximum loudness

articulation and timbral
inflections as desired

avoid
perceptible
intervallic
pattern

maximize timbral contrast between adjacent events using any available instrumental and/or electronic resources

pp ppp pp fff

5 pppp p possibile mp pp

9 pppp ppp mf pp

13 ppp ff mp pp

17 ppp p ppp pp

21 pppp

improvise a gesture

repeat the gesture
while applying a variation

repeat the variation
while applying another variation

continue this process

repeats at the performer's discretion: any number of repeats, from any notated end point, to any previous start point

sempre ppp e molto legato

4

7

10

14

17

20

22

24

The musical score consists of nine staves of music in treble clef. The piece begins with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/8. The first staff contains the initial notation, including a repeat sign. The second staff starts at measure 4. The third staff starts at measure 7. The fourth staff starts at measure 10 and features a change in time signature to 12/8. The fifth staff starts at measure 14 and features a change in time signature to 6/8. The sixth staff starts at measure 17 and features a change in time signature to 3/4. The seventh staff starts at measure 20 and features a change in time signature to 15/8. The eighth staff starts at measure 22 and features a change in time signature to 6/8. The ninth staff starts at measure 24 and features a change in time signature to 3/4. The piece concludes with a final repeat sign.

> > > v v v > > > v > > > v > > v v v > > v > v >

> > ≥ > > ≥ ≥ > > - > - > - v v v v v v v . > >

v v v v v v v

what
is
necessary

This musical score consists of seven staves of music, each starting with a measure number (4, 7, 10, 14, 16, 19). The notation includes various dynamics such as *ff*, *p*, *mf*, *fp*, *fff*, *ppp*, *pppp*, and *f*. Articulations like accents and slurs are used throughout. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 3, 5, and 5 above notes. The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and rests. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature changes from 7/4 to 3/4 and back to 7/4. The score concludes with a final double bar line.