



Program

Étude *for Modern Musicians*

Performed *with Computer, Shortwave
Radio, Alto Flute and Baritone Saxophone*

Composed *in the Fall of 2011*
by

Brendan Bernhardt
Gaffney

Performance Notes

This piece is composed for three players. The alto flute and baritone saxophone can read from the parts page, and the radio is to read from the score. It was originally intended to be processed by a computer live, using a granular resynthesis program, which can be found at <http://bit.ly/tKAp5W>. It may be necessary for a fourth player to attend to the computer. Microphone placement for the computer program should be such that each instrument is picked up equally, and there is no clipping when each is playing at its loudest. This program should run from a separate position than the players, and be given its own spot and a localized speaker, and not be broadcast over a soundsystem.

The shortwave radio used originally in this piece was constructed specifically for it. As many radios have many interfaces (digital tuners, dials, etc.) for which to control volume and frequency, the radio's score is only to provide an idea for dynamics and frequency, not a strict and rigorous limitation of performance. Similarly, during the solo section for the radio, if a particularly interesting sound or station is picked-up, it should be fully explored, and not simply glossed over. The radio's amplification should be localized to the location of the player i.e. the sound of the radio emanates from its player's position.

The alto flute is expected to have some familiarity with flatterzunge and quarter sharp bends. In the beginning passage, it is expected that the flute perform in a rubato manner, executing the sustained notes through a full breath. Similarly, in the final passage, it is expected that the player simply play in such a way that we fully empty his lungs on the given note, quickly refills them and continues playing.

The baritone saxophone is instructed to play with heavy breath at several points. The desired sound is one in which the player's exhalation is clearly audible, and the articulation is relatively legato. When instructed to overblow, the player is expected to attempt to produce some sort of multi-harmonics, and the "note" in this instance can be ignored if the player produces multiphonics with a different fingering.

Program

Composed by Brendan Bernhardt Gaffney

Slowly ♩ = 60

Frequency

Shortwave Radio

Volume

10

0

10

0

4/4

4/4

4/4

4/4

Without vibrato

fltz.

Alto Flute

Baritone Saxophone

pp

f > ppp

pp

f > ppp

p

ff > ppp

pp

f > ppp

pp

f > ppp

Frq.

Radio

Vol.

10

0

10

0

4/4

4/4

4/4

4/4

18

Alt. Flt.

Bari. Sax.

p < ff > ppp

ppp < mf > ppp

p < mf > ppp

p < mf > p > ppp

overblown

breathy

unsounded

8^{vb}

f < fff > mp

f

mf

mp

p

pp

Outside of meter, times (in seconds) approximate

Frq. 10 0

Radio 10 0

Vol. 10 0

36

3-5" 15-20" 3-5" 4-6" 2-4" 15-20" 10-14" 3-5"

Alt. Flt.

Bari. Sax.

Frq. 10 0

Radio 10 0

Vol. 10 0

44

Alt. Flt.

Bari. Sax.

p

pp

8vb

Frq. 10 0

Radio 10 0

Vol. 10 0

Alt. Flt. *mf*

Bari. Sax. *8^{vb} mp*

48

Frq. 10 0

Radio 10 0

Vol. 10 0

Alt. Flt. *ppp*

Bari. Sax. *8^{vb} ppp*

52 Take breath as necessary

Alto Flute

Bari Sax

Slowly ♩ = 60

pp f ppp p ff ppp pp f ppp pp

17

f ppp p ff ppp ppp mf ppp p mf ppp

overblown

breathy

f fff mp

25

p mf p ppp

mf mp p pp

unsounded

36 Shortwave radio solo, wait for silence before commencing with measure 44

Musical notation for measures 36 through 43. The system consists of two staves, both of which contain whole rests for every measure, indicating a period of silence.

Musical notation for measures 44 through 47. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking and contains a complex melodic line with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes, some beamed together. The lower staff contains a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes, including some triplets. The key signature has two flats, and the time signature is 4/4. The section ends with repeat signs in both staves.

Musical notation for measures 48 through 51. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking and features sustained notes, many of which are marked with a fermata. The lower staff contains a piano accompaniment with sustained notes and some eighth notes. The key signature has two flats, and the time signature is 4/4. The section ends with repeat signs in both staves.

Take breath as necessary

52

ppp

ppp