

Program Notes

This piece is a semi-autobiographical account of a visit to the chiropractor. In the fall of 2009 I went to the chiropractor due to back pain and learned that my left leg had shifted up in its socket 5/8 of an Inch. After telling a couple people this, their reaction to this story as a Doctor Frankenstein procedure made me want to capture the nature of what such a visit would be like. In actuality, the visits were quite pleasant and provided a great deal of relief. Thank you Dr. Roberts.

Performance Notes

The progression of this piece will be aided greatly by some form of conductor that possesses a means of measuring the time who should simply indicates the boxed number that the ensemble is playing. There should be no readily apparent transition between any section, other than from numbers five to six. This will allow a bleeding over of a second or so between sections..

In addition to the players presented in the score, another instrument-less performer should be placed in the ensemble and merely observe the goings-on. This may be someone who has practiced the piece with the ensemble, or a random audience member.

Percussion needed: marimba, suspended cymbal, triangle, claves, a single chime (any pitch), bass drum, ratchet, rainstick, metallic windchimes

Tools and materials needed: sanding sponge, wooden plank 2x4 or larger, tape-measurer, screwdriver, hammer, PVC pipe 6" radius 5' length minimum (the bigger, the better), baking sheet, staple gun, handsaw, power drill

With Varying Intensity =90ish

5/8 of an Inch

Daniel J. McIntosh

1

30"

2

25"

3

30"

4

20"

Flute

Play both half and whole step trills on any notes throughout the range of the instrument
mf

Perform arpeggiated figures and the occasional high blips
mp

Play short atonal melodic motifs in the upper range, occasionally stopping to make a short grunt of pain, i.e. by saying "Ouch"
f

Play arpeggiated figures and high blips with increased intensity, occasionally making complaining about pain, i.e. by saying "Hey, that really hurts!"
ff

Trombone

Blow air through horn without buzzing lips. Move slide so as to perform a change in the pitch of the air
p

Play short atonal melodic motifs in the upper partials
mf

Play slow moving glissandi in any range occasionally stopping to make a short grunt of pain, i.e. by saying "Ouch"
mp

Play staccato patterns and long tones that utilize flutter tongue, occasionally making complaining about pain, i.e. by saying "Hey, that really hurts!"
mf

Acoustic Guitar 1

Play arpeggiated figures on any notes through the range of the instrument
mp

Play tapping gestures anywhere on the guitar but on the strings
mf

Play arpeggiated figures, alternating between sul tasto and sul ponticello styles, occasionally making short grunts of pain, i.e. by saying "Ouch"
mf

Play crazy riffs, occasionally making complaining about pain, i.e. by saying "Hey, that really hurts!"
f

Acoustic Guitar 2

Play one and two notes "pops" anywhere on the highest two strings
mf

Perform isolated harmonics anywhere on the guitar
p

Play tapping gestures anywhere on the guitar but on the strings, occasionally making short grunts of pain, i.e. by saying "Ouch!"
ff

Strum dissonant chords of your choice rather violently, occasionally making complaining about pain, i.e. by saying "Hey, that really hurts!"
f

Piano

Using fingernails, play taps and scrapes on the strings in the lower half of the piano
f

Play chime-like figures in the middle ranges of the piano by muting the desired strings with the palm of the hand, and then playing the desired note on the keyboard
mp

Play dense clusters of notes throughout the range of the piano, occasionally making short grunts of pain, i.e. by saying "Ouch!"
p

Play busy atonal patterns throughout the range of the piano, occasionally making complaining about pain, i.e. by saying "Hey, that really hurts!"
mf

Percussion

Play low tremolos in the marimba on any pitch and occasional swells
mp

Play short atonal melodic motifs in the upper ranges, occasionally playing short accents on the triangle with the triangle beater
mf

Play light accentuations with the claves, occasionally making short grunts of pain, i.e. by saying "Ouch". Anytime a sadistic laugh is heard through the PVC, accentuate it by a single chime strike
p

Perform sustained sounds on the bass drum and ratchet, occasionally making complaining about pain, i.e. by saying "Hey, that really hurts!"
f

Tools

Improvise using the sanding sponge on the wooden plank and snapping the tape-measurer
mf

Play light accentuations with the screwdriver and hammer on both the wooden plank and the PVC
mp

Strike the metal sheet with the hammer and use the staple gun on the wooden plank, occasionally performing deep sadistic laughter into the PVC pipe
f

Begin sawing off sections of the plank with increasing vigor
ff