

Patrick Harrex

untitled (2013)
for large ensemble



Performance directions

The work may be performed by any number of players, but at least 10, playing any melody/ sustaining instruments (so a piano may not be used but an organ or other electronic keyboard could be included).

The positioning of the players is to be determined by the conductor. It may be convenient to adopt a conventional orchestral layout but alternative arrangements, such as mixing high and low instruments together, will allow for more variety in the mix of lines as each player enters. If there is a very large number of players, they could be placed around the audience.

The performance is begun by the conductor making a fairly slow single sweep of the arm from left to right or right to left, each player beginning as the conductor's arm passes that player. The conductor may vary the speed of the sweep as it goes across the ensemble – the effect being to create overlaps of parts more quickly or slowly as the case may be.

There are four basic parts (I to IV), but these exist in (a) high, (b) medium/ high, (c) medium/ low and (d) low versions. The four parts and the various versions should be allocated among the players to achieve the maximum possible mix of parts. In any performance all four parts (I to IV) must be used but not necessarily all the versions if, for example, no low/ bass instruments are available or chosen by the conductor. Parts are available for instruments in C, B flat, E flat, F and G.

The work is not to be conducted in the traditional sense. Each player must determine and maintain their own tempo, set at crotchet = ca. 30 (or quaver = ca 60). They must not attempt or consciously allow themselves to coordinate with any other player. It is important to avoid creating what may seem to be a regular beat of whatever length. (Bar lines and bar numbers are provided purely for reference/ rehearsal purposes.)

The dynamic must at all times be very quiet: ***ppp***. String and brass players may use a mute (brass: straight mute). Parts should be allocated in such a way that each player has a part that is appropriate to the dynamic envelope of the instrument. For example, string players can play very quietly at any pitch, whereas flutes become naturally louder in the higher register of the instrument, so flutes should be given parts where the notes are predominately between middle C and about a tenth or so above that.

Players may transpose individual notes or a short series of notes, but not long sequences, by an octave to allow them to play the passage more quietly or if the given note(s) is (are) outside the range of the instrument.

Instruments that transpose by an octave, such as piccolo and bass clarinet, should play their parts as written, i.e. sounding, as usual, an octave higher or lower.

Always play as smoothly (legato) as possible, with as little attack as possible on each note. String players should endeavour to play more than one note per bow (but not at the expense of maintaining a steady tone or accentuating the attack on the next change of bow direction), wind players more than two notes per breath. Repeat the final note, still with minimal attack, until all players reach it.

After all the players have reached the final note (concert C sharp) the conductor indicates that, together, they fade to nothing.

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score in C

very slow $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 30$ ($\text{♪} = \text{ca. } 60$)
sempre molto legato - minimal attack on each note

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The score consists of 16 staves, each representing a different instrument or section of the ensemble. The staves are labeled as follows:

- Ia
- Ib
- Ic
- Id
- IIa
- IIb
- IIc
- IID
- IIIa
- IIIb
- IIIc
- IIID
- IVa
- IVb
- IVc
- IVd

Each staff begins with the dynamic instruction **ppp**. The music is characterized by a minimalist, repetitive style using various note heads (open circles, filled circles, horizontal dashes) and rests. The key signature is one sharp throughout.

15

I
Ia Ib Ic Id

II
IIa IIb IIc IId

III
IIIa IIIb IIIc IIId

IV
IVa IVb IVc IVd

29

A musical score consisting of 12 staves, each with a unique label: Ia, Ib, Ic, Id, IIa, IIb, IIc, IIId, IIIa, IIIb, IIIc, IIIId, IVa, IVb, IVc, and IVd. The staves are arranged vertically. The first four staves (Ia, Ib, Ic, Id) are in treble clef, while the remaining eight (IIa through IVd) are in bass clef. The music is written in a rhythmic style using vertical stems and horizontal dashes to represent note heads. The labels correspond to the following approximate ranges of notes:

- Ia: G4 to A5
- Ib: G4 to A5
- Ic: G4 to A5
- Id: C4 to D5
- IIa: G4 to A5
- IIb: G4 to A5
- IIc: G4 to A5
- IIId: C4 to D5
- IIIa: G4 to A5
- IIIb: G4 to A5
- IIIc: C4 to D5
- IIIId: C4 to D5
- IVa: G4 to A5
- IVb: G4 to A5
- IVc: G4 to A5
- IVd: C4 to D5

43

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

57

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IID

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

71

This musical score page contains 16 staves of music, organized into two groups of eight staves each. The first group (measures 71) includes staves Ia, Ib, Ic, Id, IIa, IIb, IIc, and IIId. The second group (measures 72) includes staves IIIa, IIIb, IIIc, IIId, IVa, IVb, IVc, and IVd. Each staff uses a different clef (G, F, or C) and has a unique set of note heads (represented by various symbols like circles, squares, and triangles). Measure 71 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measure 72 begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat.

85

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

10

99

Ia

lb

lc

ld

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

113

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

12

127

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IID

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIID

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

141

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

Vb

14

155

A musical score consisting of 14 staves, each with a unique identifier (Ia through IVd) on the left. The score is in common time. Measure 155 begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The notes are represented by vertical stems with small circles at the top, indicating pitch. The music consists of a series of eighth-note patterns. The first staff (Ia) starts with a sharp. Staff IIb starts with a sharp. Staff Ic starts with a sharp. Staff Id starts with a sharp. Staff IIa starts with a flat. Staff IIb starts with a sharp. Staff IIc starts with a flat. Staff IIId starts with a flat. Staff IIIa starts with a sharp. Staff IIIb starts with a sharp. Staff IIIc starts with a flat. Staff IIIId starts with a flat. Staff IVa starts with a sharp. Staff IVb starts with a sharp. Staff IVc starts with a sharp. Staff IVd starts with a sharp.

169

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

16

183

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IID

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIID

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

197

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

211

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IID

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

V

225

This musical score page contains 12 staves of music, each with a unique identifier consisting of Roman numerals and lowercase letters (Ia through IVd). The music is in common time and consists of three measures. Measure 1 (measures 225-226) features mostly eighth-note patterns. Measure 2 (measure 227) introduces sixteenth-note patterns, particularly in the lower voices. The notation uses a combination of treble and bass clefs, with various note heads (circles, squares, diamonds) and stems.

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IID

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIID

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd

Hold the final note until all players have reached this point, then fade away to nothing.

239

Ia

Ib

Ic

Id

IIa

IIb

IIc

IIId

IIIa

IIIb

IIIc

IIIId

IVa

IVb

IVc

IVd