

Steve Gisby

com-bi-na-to-ri-al-ly

for speaking voice / voices

2016

Performance notes

Typoglycemia is the neologism given to the idea that the understanding of a word can be preserved even when the letters are rearranged, as long as the two outer letters remain in their original positions. *com-bi-na-to-ri-al-ly* explores this concept with the spoken word, as opposed to the written, and with syllables rather than letters.

The piece can be performed using any seven syllable word, from any language. It is preferable that each syllable occur only once. A list of seven syllable words in the English language can be found at: <https://www.wordnik.com/lists/seven-syllable-english-words>

Performers are to use their normal speaking voice/s in terms of both register and dynamic, and the syllables are to be articulated at a normal speaking tempo. Pronunciation of each syllable must be as per the original word. There should be a pause of approximately two seconds between each permutation. In the score, space has left so that individual syllables can be written above each permutation, to aid with performance.

Duration: c. 7'30".

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Paris, September 2016

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