Search
for string septet and tape

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Scored for 3 violins, viola, 2 cellos, double bass and tape.

Duration 5'00

Evelyn Ficarra, 1997

Commissioned by The Gogmagogs with funds from the Arts Council of England. Premiered in the City of London Festival, June, 1997.

Technical requirements:

DAT player

Mixer/PA system suitable to performing venue.

The piece will be more effective if the players are amplified. Slight reversion live sounds may help the blend with the tape part.

Performance notes:

There is no click track. Players need to learn the tape part carefully so that they can take their cues from the loud bursts of white noise. For the starred section, players get their tempo from the gurgling short-wave sound on the tape which starts just before the three minute mark. The sound serves as a 2 bar 'intro.' (2 x 4 crotchet beats oscillating between F sharp and E) for the first violin's entrance. The tempo on tape is not very regular so players should keep in time with each other rather than trying to stick to the tape.

Contact the British Music Information Centre for details of how to obtain recordings and a copy of the DAT.

KEY TO GRAPHIC NOTATION - LIVE PARTS

A STATE OF THE STA	Long ghostly whistling.
mmm	Pressing the bow very hard on the strings for a grating sound. Use lower pitches derived from notes in the final section.
	Celli; bow the wood below the bridge.
de la	Play arco on the tiny strings above the finger board.
Lahahah	Use the bow like a windscreen wiper brushing up and down on the strings. Open strings or choose pitches from the final section.
	Glissando up and down through the natural harmonics on open strings.

KEY TO GRAPHIC NOTATION - TAPE PART

Market Ma	High buzzing sound created from radio static.
	Radio static layered and transposed down; a sort of wind.
10000	A brief scroll through different radio stations.
-	Quiet low sustained tones derived from string effects.

\$	A brief smatch of music.
1	A low, ghostly whistling sound.
	A loud brief burst of static, as if between stations.
(00000000000000000000000000000000000000	A low, quiet stattering, produced from lower string sounds transposed down.
- see - 566 -	A fairly pure, string harmonic sound, derived from a recording of the matching effect as described above.
A STATE OF THE STA	Various transpositions of a recording of the matching string effect described above.
John Miniming	A gurgling, short wave radio sound.
is with win	Short wave radio sound, as above, transposed down.
	A high burst of static.
Sahahah	The string 'wind screen wiper' effect, as described above.
	Recording of the natural harmonic glissandi, as described above.











