

Tansy Davies

grind show (electric)

Commissioned by Integra for Bit 20. First performed at the USF Verftet (Arts Centre), Bergen, Norway on Saturday 15th September by BIT20 Ensemble, conducted by Halldis Rønning.

Instrumentation:

Flute

Clarinet

Piano: prepared and processed electronically

Violin

Cello

Sampler

All of the instruments should be amplified so that the electronic sounds and the acoustic instruments can be balanced from the mixing desk. This will produce an altogether more electronic sound-world and make the two separate sound sources more unified.

Duration: c. 6 mins

Score in C

Piano preparation and live electronic manipulation:

Place paper between dampers and strings, or on the strings, from the lowest note, up to D: middle line of bass clef. The piano should also be processed live, by putting the sound through a flanger. This will create the effect of a honky-tonk piano.

Sampler:

This part consists of 21 sounds, which are triggered live by assigned keys on a MIDI keyboard. The sounds are also marked with letters in the score (from A to U), which are the same as those on the CD. This is to clarify which sounds (from the CD) are to be triggered by the sampler.

This part could be played by any kind of sampler or even on a CD player. However, it was constructed using a patch called MaWe, designed using Max MSP, I would suggest using this patch for the performance.

The score comes with an audio CD of all of the audio tracks, and a computer CD containing all necessary information, programs and patches needed for performance, including the flanger effect for the live piano processing.

The following is a track list for the audio CD, and also shows the sound-key assignments for the sampler part (A1 is the MIDI-Standard description for pitch "a" which is 1 octave and 1 third lower than middle C):

track 1.	A1 – "A" – "A.aif"
track 2.	B1 – "B" – "B.aif"
track 3.	C2 – "C" – "C.aif"
track 4.	D2 – "D" – "D.aif"
track 5.	E2 – "E" – "E.aif"
track 6.	F2 – "F" – "F.aif"
track 7.	G2 – "G" – "G.aif"
track 8.	A2 – "H" – "H.aif"
track 9.	B2 – "I" – "I.aif"
track 10.	C3 (middle C) – "J" – "J.aif"
track 11.	D3 – "K" – "K.aif"
track 12.	E3 – "L" – "L.aif"
track 13.	F3 – "M" – "M.aif"
track 14.	G3 – "N" – "N.aif"
track 15.	A3 – "O" – "O.aif"
track 16.	B3 – "P" – "P.aif"
track 17.	C4 – "Q" – "Q.aif"
track 18.	D4 – "R" – "R.aif"
track 19.	E4 – "S" – "S.aif"
track 20.	F4 – "T" – "T.aif"
track 21.	G4 – "U" – "U.aif"

Audio CD Track list:

1. A (1:04)
2. B (0:30)
3. C (0:16)
4. D (0:18)
5. E (0:24)
6. F (0:51)
7. G (0:06)
8. H (0:02)
9. I (0:24)
10. J (0:06)

- 11. K (0:23)
- 12. L (0:39)
- 13. M (0:06)
- 14. N (0:17)
- 15. O (0:17)
- 16. P (0:20)
- 17. Q (0:38)
- 18. R (0:04)
- 19. T (0:08)
- 20. U (0:02)

Preview File Only

Tansy Davies 'grind show'

'grind show' is a superimposition of two scenes: the foreground in a bawdy dance hall, and the background a rainy landscape at night. The acoustic instruments play out a drama with a dialogue of irregular dances, while the electronics depict a sinister outside world.

While composing 'grind show' I saw a painting by Goya: 'The St Isidore Pilgrimage', which shows a crowd of debauched and frightened revelers appearing to flee across the hills from a distant town. It's painted over an earlier landscape on which, in turn, the figures were superimposed.

Preview File Only