

Mathieu Lacroix

Studie I: Dissolving Time

For Solo Piano & Electronics

Instructions: This piece is to be played with a grand piano with two microphones placed near the hammers. The sound is then sent directly to the patch made in MaxMSP. The numbers above certain bars represents the "scene" number inside the patch which is what controls the brain of the application. The chordal bars will be time stretched. The buffers inside Max are set to about 10 seconds but when you feel ready to go to the next scene, simply press the MIDI pedal. Certain harmonics will be accentuated within the time stretched drones. All of the melodic material is taken from the harmonic sequence of a note. Certain liberties had to be taken due to our equal temperament system which doesn't completely follow the harmonic series.

The piece has no precise tempo, except that it should be very slow. The melodic parts can be repeated as many times as the performer wishes. The parts are left without any dynamic marks as to let the performer improvise to explore the different timbral possibilities of this system.

The amount of reverb for any of the sounds should be set to be optimal for the room in which the piece is played. It should slightly caress the sound of the piano envelopping it and spread its spectral qualities over a few seconds.

Equipment needed:

One computer running OSX

The MaxMSP patch

A MIDI pedal or controller set to CC64

An extra controller for the sound technician is recommended

A grand piano or any other polyphonic instrument

Approximate duration: 8 minutes

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Free Time / Flowing

The musical score is divided into six systems, each containing two staves (treble and bass clef). The measures are numbered 1 through 16. Measure 12 is marked with 'Slight emphasis'. The score features a variety of note values, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and ties. The overall texture is sparse and flowing, characteristic of the 'Free Time' instruction.

Pno.

41 17

Pno.

46 18 19

Pno.

51 20 21

Pno.

55 22

Pno.

59 23

Pno.

62 24 25 - let resonate