DER TINTENFISCH for Ensemble

Jonathan Packham

INTRODUCTION AND SPATIAL ARRANGEMENT

1.

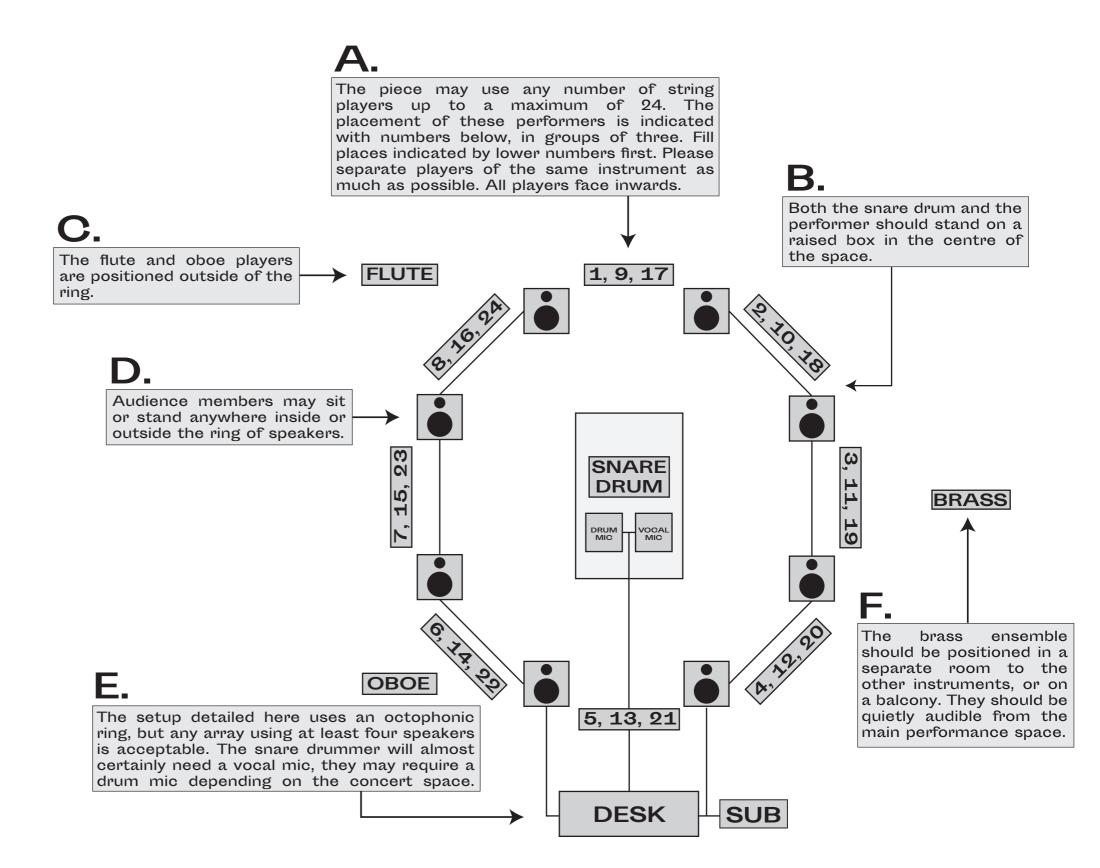
DER TINTENFISCH is a tribute to the late Paul the Octopus, who correctly predicted all of Germany's results at the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

2

Players are arranged in the space according to the diagram across. Please give each performer the relevant instruction sheet and their score page.

3

Each player follows their own timer, the starting of which should be synchronised via the snare drum player. These timers dictate the beginning of each of the piece's eight sections. The electronics operator should also use this signal to begin playback of the fixed electronics part.



DER TINTENFISCH was premiered by Ensemble ISIS at the JdP Music Building in Oxford in January 2019.

DURATION: 9¹

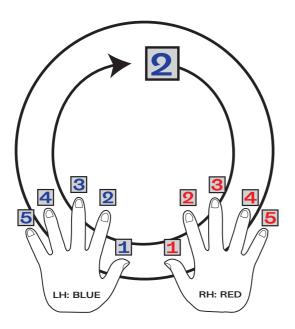
INSTRUCTION SHEET – SNARE DRUM (THE ORACLE)

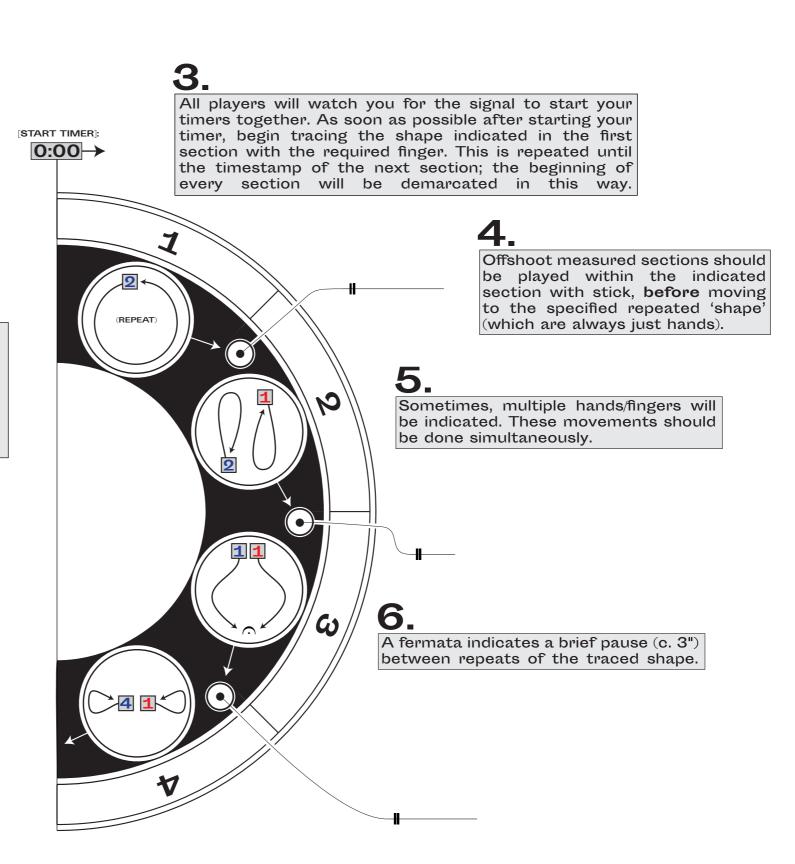
1.

Stand behind the snare drum in the centre of the space, if possible on a raised platform. In this piece you are the oracle, and should therefore perform each action with a divine wisdom and dignity. If it is possible to close your eyes for a moment several times during the piece, I recommend it. Above all feel as if your movements foretell a great future.

2.

The circles in your score represent the whole surface of the snare drum. Boxed numbers indicate hand and finger (see below); arrows indicate shapes to trace slowly across the surface with the specified fingernail. Shapes are repeated constantly within a section. Each movement should take approximately the same amount of time (excluding fermatas); accordingly more complicated shapes (e.g. 7) are traced faster.

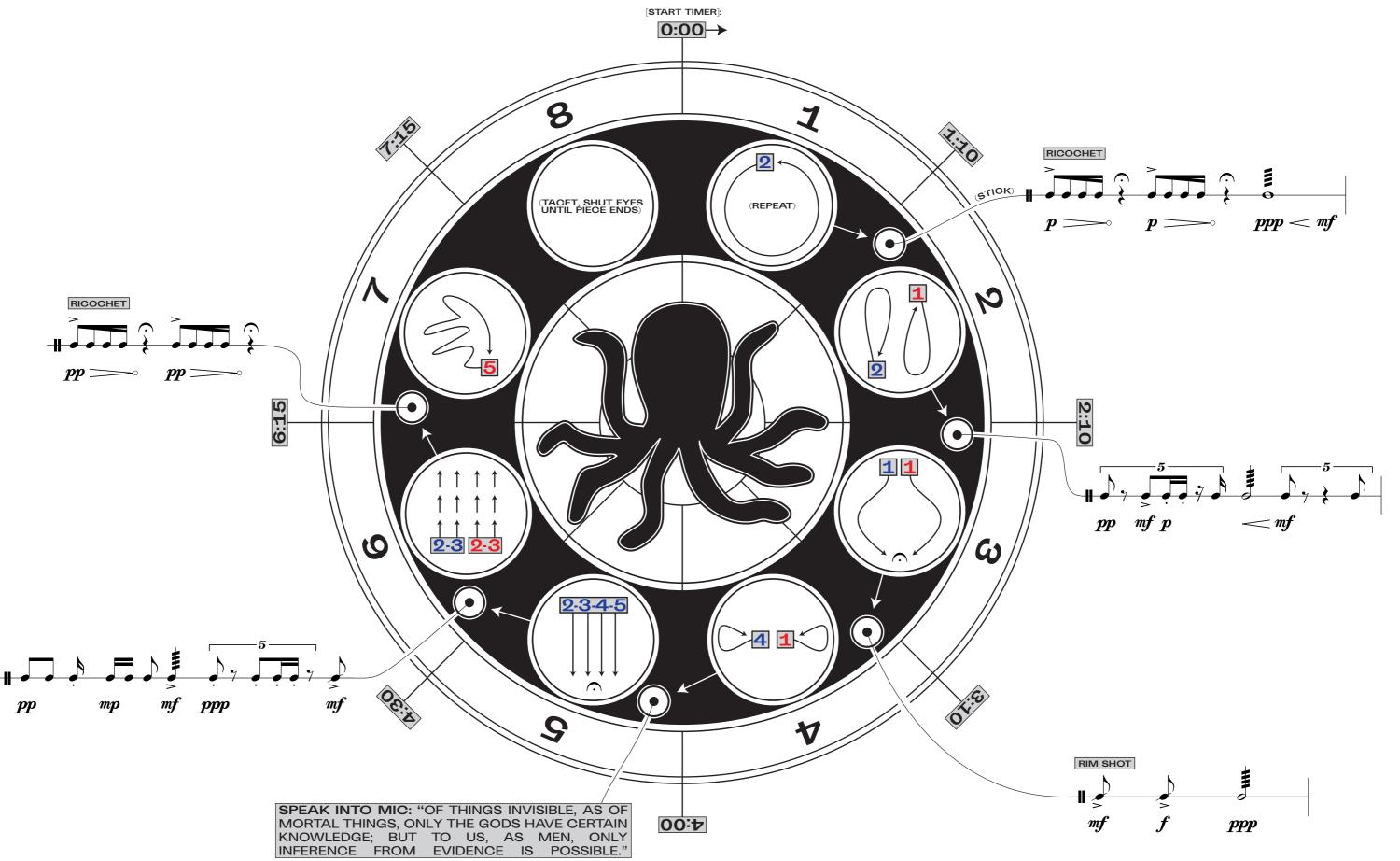




for Ensemble

Snare Drum (The Oracle)
Stoic and Intense | = 54-66 in measured sections

Jonathan Packham Oxford, January 2019



INSTRUCTION SHEET – STRINGS

1.

The piece is split into 8 sections; follow your timer for the beginning of each. Start your timer with the snare drummer. During each section you are instructed to play long, held notes using one pitch at a time from the set indicated (these are registrally fixed).

2.

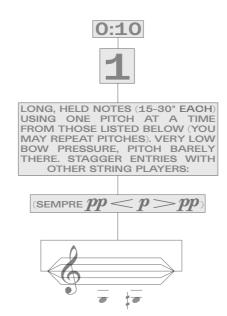
As the example to the left indicates, you are to produce long held tones from the set of notes indicated below, always using the dynamic phrasing and bow pressure that is marked. If there are changes in bow pressure or duration, these are marked in red.

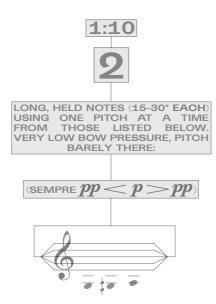
3.

Try to stagger your entries with the other string players, aiming for a continuous but fragile texture.

4.

When the timestamp for a new section arrives, finish the note you are playing before moving on; carefully reading the new instructions.



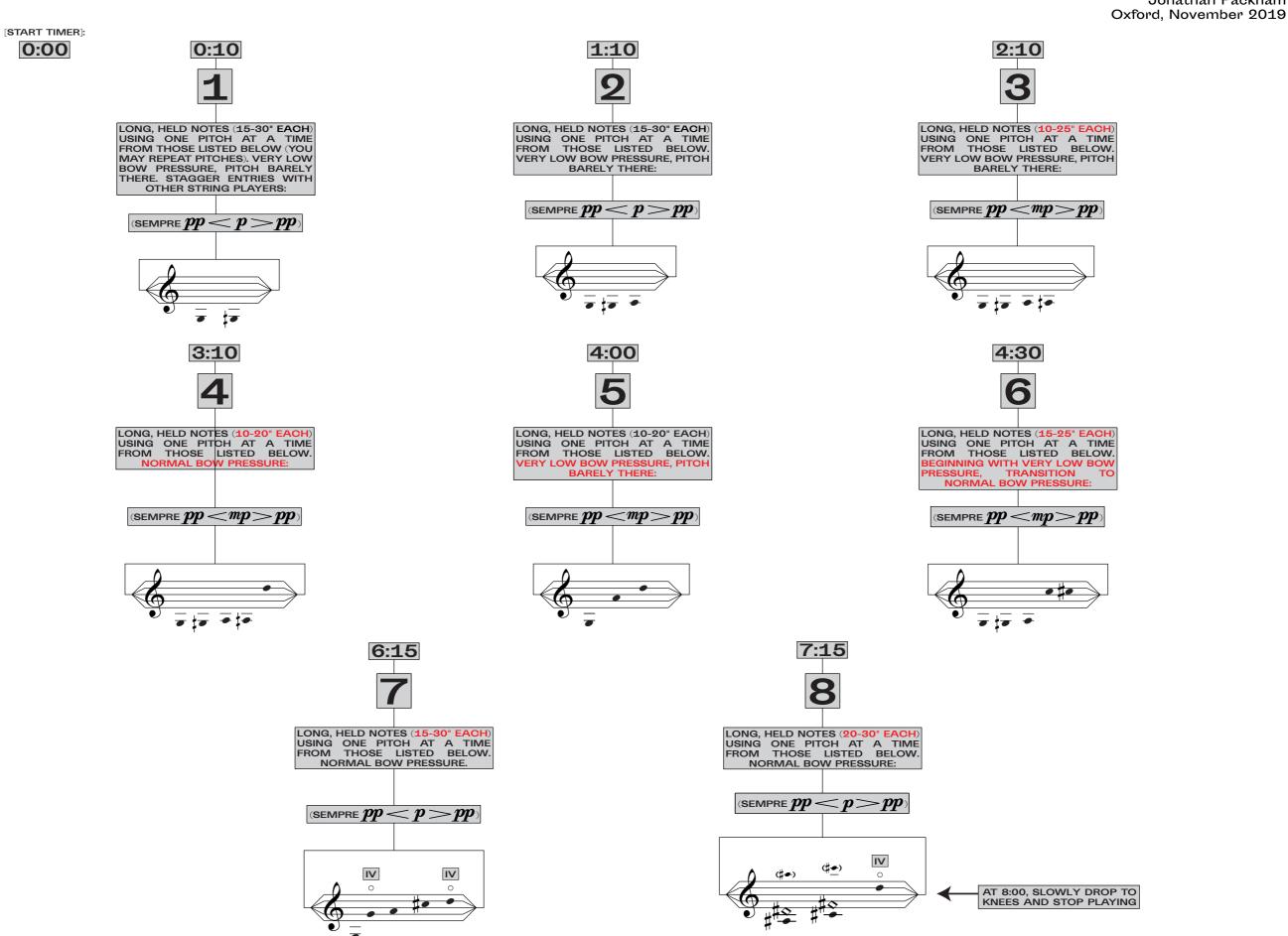


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for Ensemble

Violin

0:00

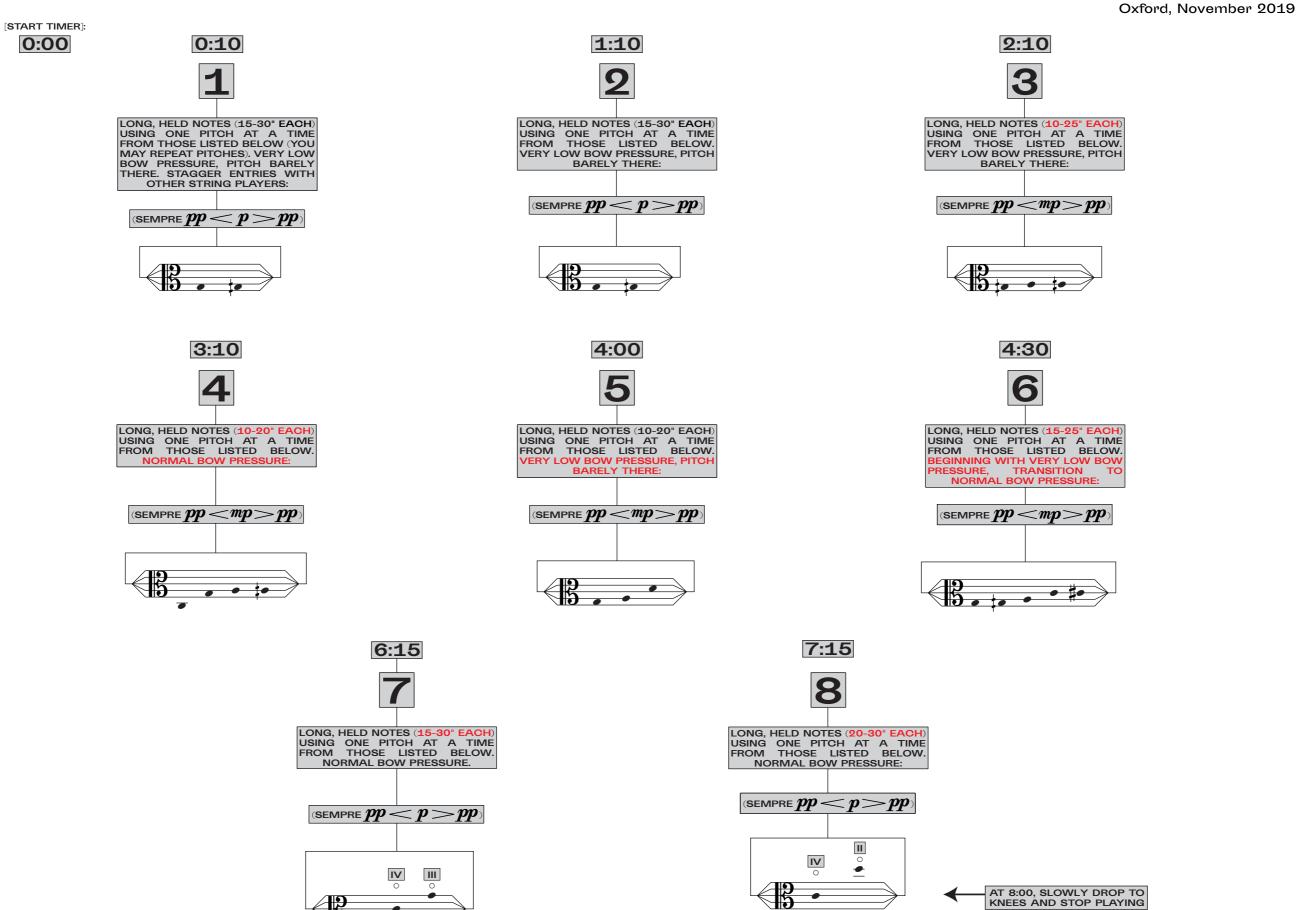


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for Ensemble

Viola

0:00



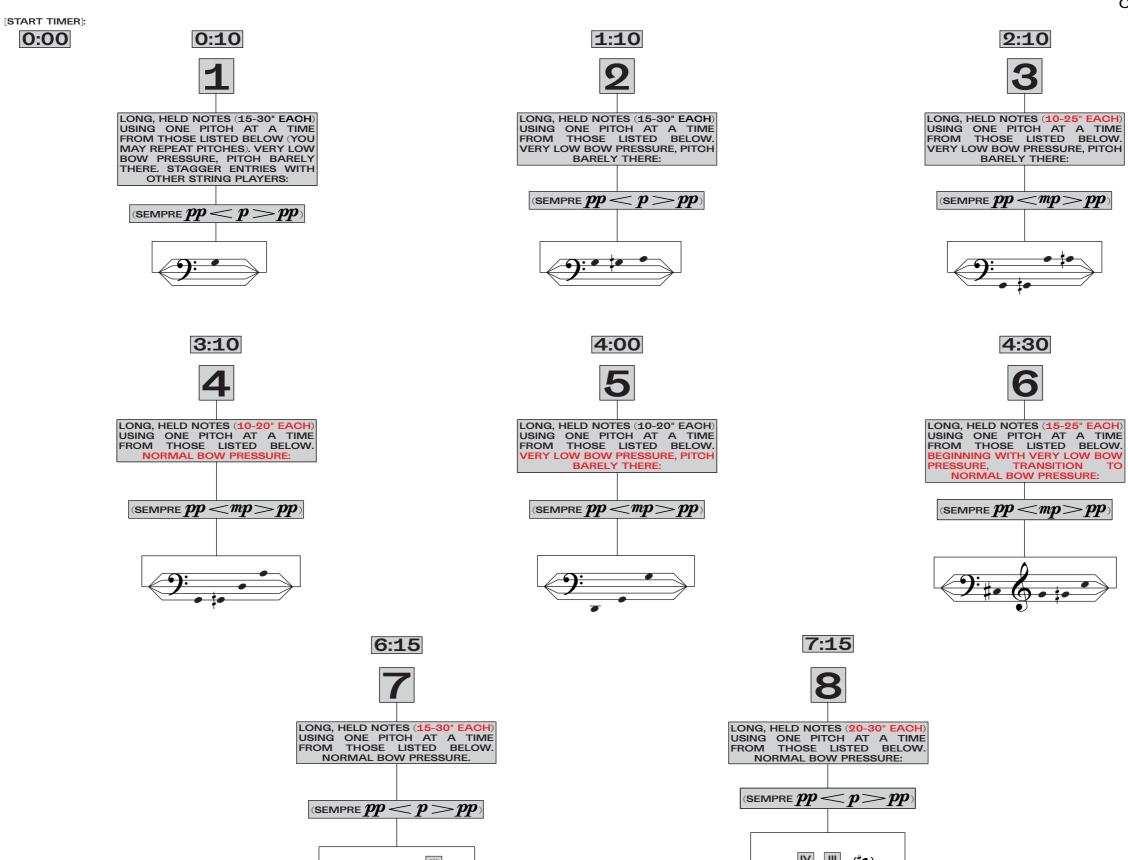
for Ensemble

Violoncello

0:00

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AT 8:00, STOP



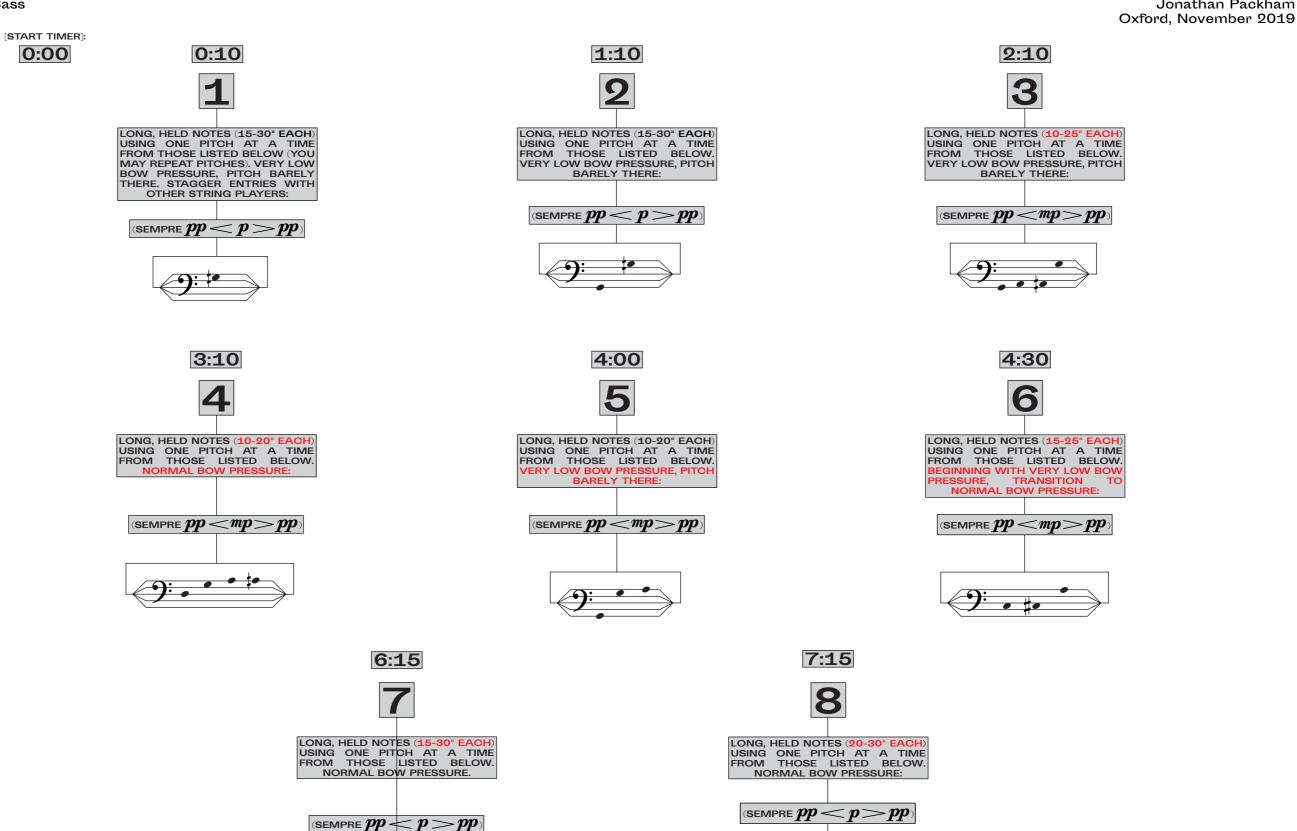
for Ensemble

Double Bass

1

AT 8:00, STOP

Jonathan Packham



for Ensemble

Offstage Brass (Trumpet in B-Flat, Horn in F, Trombone)

Jonathan Packham Oxford, November 2019

[START TIMER W/ SNARE DRUM]:

ALL TACET

4:00

HORN loudly announces "PLEASE STAND FOR THE GHANAIAN NATIONAL ANTHEM". ALL then play (individually transposed parts):



4:30 ALL TACET

6:15 ALL whisper text manically and repeatedly, quietly:

"NOW SHALL MINE ORACLE NO MORE LOOK FORTH OUT OF A DIM VEIL LIKE NEW-WEDDED BRIDE, BUT PUT ON A BRIGHTNESS AS A WIND THAT BLOWS TOWARDS THE SUN'S UPRISING 'GAINST THE LIGHT"

ppp

7:15 ALL continue frenzied whispering without break:

"NOW SHALL MINE ORACLE NO MORE LOOK FORTH OUT OF A DIM VEIL LIKE NEW-WEDDED BRIDE, BUT PUT ON A BRIGHTNESS AS A WIND THAT BLOWS TOWARDS THE SUN'S UPRISING 'GAINST THE LIGHT"

AT 8:00, STOP

ppp ______ mp _____ ppp

INSTRUCTION SHEET – FLUTE AND OBOE

1.

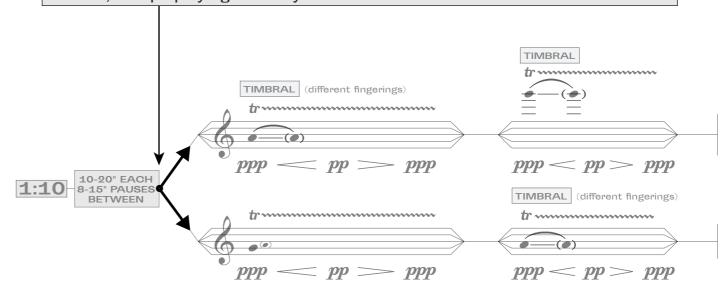
The piece is divided into eight sections. Each performer uses their own timer; look to the snare drummer to synchronise the start of your stopwatches.

2.

Read the score from left to right, always following a horizontal or diagonal line, even through stave areas. Your clef remains the same throughout.

3.

At forks in your path, you are free to choose any of the options. This choice cannot be undone and will decide which notes you play. When you have decided, continue to follow that line. When you reach the end of a line for a section, stop playing until you reach the time of the next section.



4.

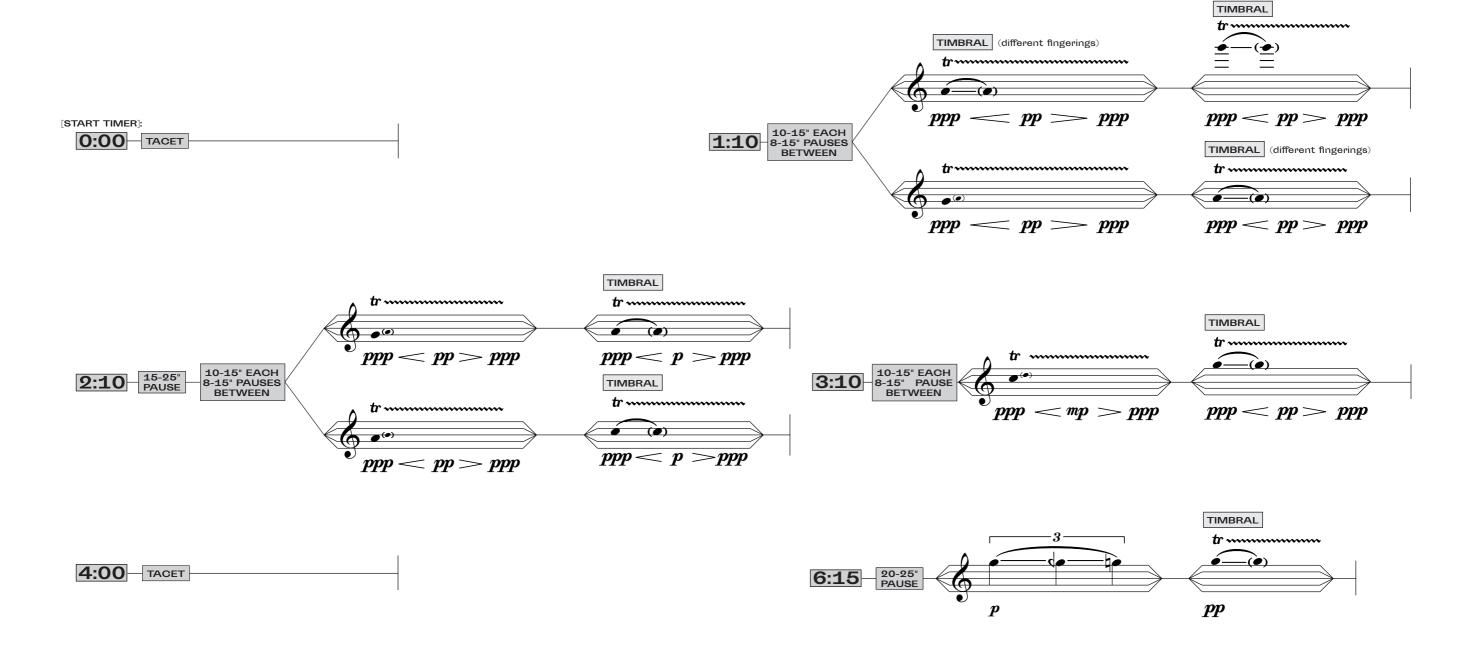
Follow each section through, observing pauses and tacets as they appear. When you finish your material in the eighth section, stay still and quiet until there is total silence. If you are still playing material from a section when a new one begins, finish the note you are playing in the next five seconds and then move to the new section, without being too abrupt.

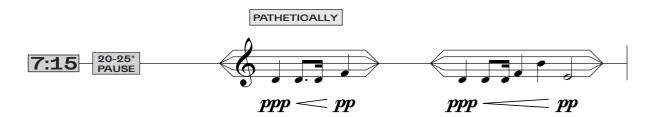
5.

Broadly, the two wind players should stagger your entries; awareness of one another is key.

for Ensemble

Flute
Jonathan Packham
Oxford, November 2019





for Ensemble

Oboe

Jonathan Packham
Oxford, November 2019

