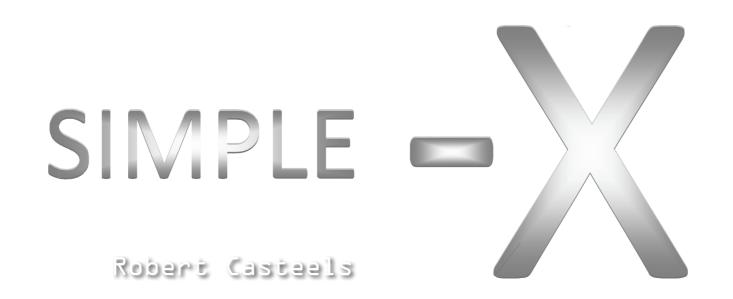


Cover by Seah Huan Yuh

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ISMN 979-0-9016510-2-9



Concertante for eight violins, four violas, four celli, two contrabasses, one grand piano (or harp), three iPads and electro-acoustic sounds

Commissioned by The Chamber Players



Full score

With an appendix on page 52 that is the graphic representation of the electro-acoustic sounds.

Programme notes

To celebrate the 10th anniversary of The Chamber Players, Robert Casteels and Seah Huan Yuh collaborated to create a new composition entitled *Simple-X*. The title combines an attempt at capturing the straightforward quality of joy with the complexity of all that such a feeling contains, expressed through multiple musical layers. Casteels conceived the formal structure, composed the acoustic music and played the piano part during the premiere. Seah designed the cover and graphics of the score, created the electro-acoustic music and played them during the premiere. The premiere took place on 19-IX-2010 in the Conservatory Concert Hall of the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore.

The piece builds up in ten steps to reach a joyous conclusion. In accordance with the true spirit of chamber music without a conductor, the 18 string players, the pianist and electro-soundman play an equally important role, whilst each interacting musically with the rest of the players. Musicians engage in a series of interplays that require them to use iPads to trigger off additional sounds or that require them to assume a variety of stage positions to form smaller units of independent chamber music playing. Sounds from the iPad apps are used as core sounds for the electro-acoustic music.

Performance notes

- Duration: 12' to 14' (depending on the length of the interplays)
- *Simple-X* is to be performed without conductor. Hence, this full score is only for reference during rehearsals.
- The numbering of the parts only serves a practical purpose, as all parts are equally important. Players must observe their independent dynamics and play their rhythms with accuracy by clearly differentiating triplets from \$, quintuplets and sextuplets.
- Tempo: except when marked *suspended tempo*, the tempo until 1 bar before rehearsal number 14 remains at \downarrow = 100. The tempo increases to \downarrow = 120 @ rehearsal number 14. The last three bars take off at \downarrow = 144.

At many rehearsal numbers, the pianist or harpist dictates the tempo by playing a short and lively melody with a characteristic rhythm. Double bar lines indicate a tempo change.

• Position:

Strings players stand with the exception of cellists. Players are positioned quincuncially and as far as possible from each other as follows:

feedback speakers		cello 1		cello 2		cello 3		cello 4		feedback speakers
	viola 2		violin 3		violin 2		violin 1		viola 1	
feedback speakers		violin 4		contrabass 1		contrabass 2		violin 8		feedback speakers
	viola 3		violin 5		violin 6		violin 7		viola 4	
main speakers			grand piano (or harp)			mixing de electro-acou	esk for the ustic sounds			main speakers
	iPad 1				iPad 2				iPad 3	
					AUDIENCE					



• Interplay:

Simple-X includes six interplays. The duration of each interplay is left at the discretion of the 'actor'. Once an 'actor' has been called, 'initiators' are not allowed to call him/her again.

Interplay	Initiator	Actor	Reactor	
1	Pianist or harpist	1 violist on left iPad	3 other violists	
	@ rehearsal number 1	@ 2 bars before rehearsal number 2	@ 2 bars before rehearsal number 2	
rehearsa	I number 1. If the violists hear pitch b	ur times. If the violists hear pitch b once, viola 1 should proceed to the twice, then viola 2 should proceed to the iPad. If the violists hear pitch, then viola 4 should proceed to the iPad.	h bo thrice, then viola 3 should proceed	
to the iPa	ad. If violists hear pitch b	sts who are not playing the iPad, respond <i>dolce flautando</i> to the iPad so		
2	Pianist or harpist	2 violinists on left and right iPad	6 other violinists	
	@ rehearsal number 2	@ 2 bars before rehearsal number 3	@ 2 bars before rehearsal number 3	
2 procee	ds to iPad. Simile until hearing pitch f	ceeds to iPad once players start playing 2 nd bar of rehearsal number 2. If f 8 times will be signal for violin 8. nists who are not playing the iPad, respond <i>dolce flautando</i> to the iPad s		
3	Pianist or harpist	2 players out of the violin and viola sections on left and right iPad	Cellists and bassists	
	@ rehearsal number 3	@ 2 bars before rehearsal number 4	@ 2 bars before rehearsal number 4	
	per interplay 1 and 2. before rehearsal number 4, the celli	sts and bassists respond in <i>pizzicato</i> to the iPad sounds they hear.	<u>.</u>	
4	Pianist or harpist	3 players out of the violin and viola sections on three iPads	Pianist	
	@ 2 nd bar of rehearsal number 11	@ 4 bars before rehearsal number 13	@ 4 bars before rehearsal number 13	
Violists:	ar of rehearsal number 12, the pians	itch played by the pianist is g [#] .	<u>.</u>	
5	-	All violinists and violists after rehearsal number 14	-	

Interplay	Initiator	Actor	Reactor			
		st and violist gets up, meanders on stage or through the audience, whils elcome to include extemporized snippets of the H melody. At the end of				
6.1	- All cellists and bassists in <i>pizzicato</i> @ rehearsal number 15 All violinists and violists					
2 who pr • All violist • The <i>pizzi</i>	roceeds to cello 1. Etc ts listen to the bassists playing <i>pizzico</i> <i>cato</i> calling order in fast succession is	 b. Ex.: if cello 1 plays one <i>pizzicato</i>, violin 1 proceeds towards cello 1. If cello c. Ex.: if bass 2 plays three <i>pizzicati</i>, then viola 3 proceeds to bass 3. Etc c. cello 1, cello 2, cello 3, cello 4, bass 1 and bass 2. ellist or bassist must make another call. 				
6.2	- All cellists and bassists in <i>arco</i> @ rehearsal number 16		All violinists and violists			
Violinists	per interplay 6.1 playing <i>arco</i> . Cellist s and violists recognize their signal as calling order is: bass 2, bass 1, cello		ists.			
6.3	-	All cellists and bassists in arco @ rehearsal number 17	All violinists and violists			
each of 1	L bassist + 2 violists.	6.2 and 6.3, there are now 6 trios on stage: 4 trios consisting each of 1 we trio in the <i>pizzicato accelerando</i> . Each violinist and violist follows his/H	-			
		All cellists and bassists @ rehearsal number 18	All violinists and violists			



• Ambulation:

Simple-X includes three ambulations:

1	@ the very beginning	ad libitum as performer may opt to start with rehearsal number 1	All string players proceed onto the stage in order as the score		
2	from the 3 rd bar of rehearsal number 14 onwards	obbligato	All violinists and violists start to meander one by one as indicated in their part, whilst playing their part from memory and freezing upon completion @ 1 bar before rehearsal number 15.		
3	@ rehearsal number 15	obbligato	In order as the score, cellists call violinists 1 to 4, bassists call viola 1 and 2		
3	@ rehearsal number 16	obbligato	In order as the score, bassists call viola 3 and 4, cellists call violinists 5 to 8		

The electro-acoustic music

- Seah derived the electro-acoustic music from the original sounds generated by the 3 iPad apps used during the course of
 performance. As these apps are random generalizations, Seah sculpted them using different audio programs including *GRMTools*, *Soundhack, AudioSculpt* and various plug-ins via *Digidesign's ProTools*. After conceptualizing the structure of the piece, Casteels and
 Seah decided where the electro-acoustic sounds would come into play. Each of the sounds was given a certain imagery to place them
 at the specific place in the overall structure. This helps to distinguish where and what the musicians are responding to 'live' on stage.
- Rental parts include a CD with 5 pre-recorded tracks:

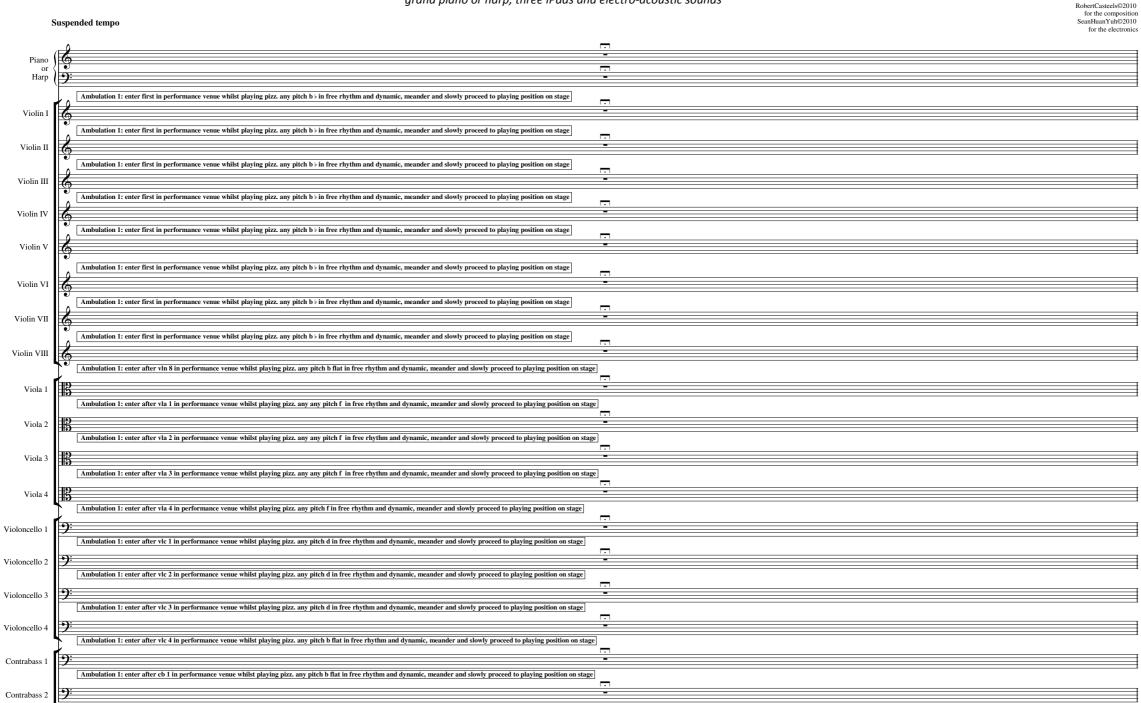
Electro-acoustic tracks	Location in the score	name	duration	primary iPad app source
1	From rehearsal number 4 to 6	"Genesis"	1'04"	Soundrop
2	From rehearsal number 8 to 10	"Bloom and Gloom"	1'49"	Bloom
3	@ Rehearsal number 13	"Playmorphosis"	53"	Soundprism
4	@ Rehearsal number 14	"Ascension"	2'26"	Combinatory
5	@ Rehearsal number 19	"Final 43"	43"	Combinatory

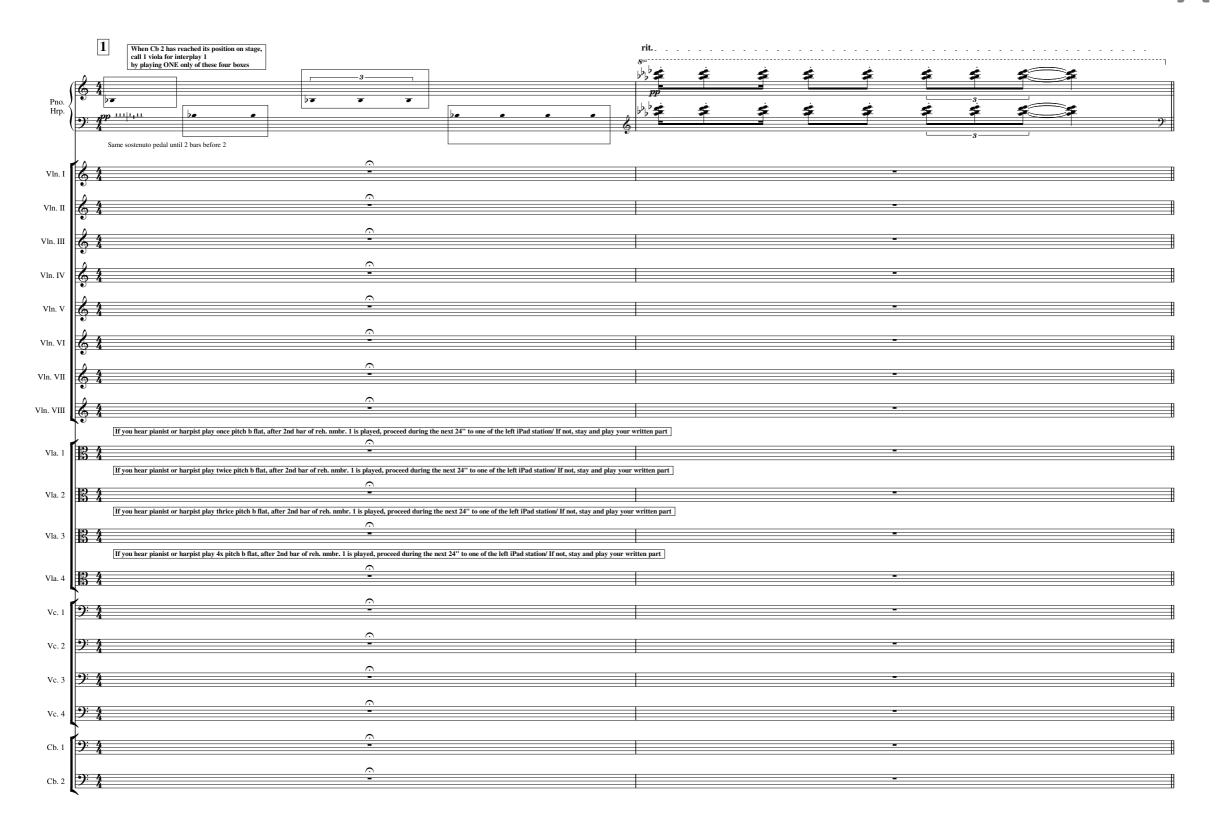
- The duration of each electro-acoustic track will depend on concert situations, but it will be safer to have a fixed duration during rehearsals for the musicians to get accustomed to the start and end of the sounds.
- Sounds from the iPads are to be mixed into the mixing board.
- The 3 mono input sources, together with the electro-acoustic sound (from laptop) are to be channeled into the main house speakers and also the feedback speakers for the musicians.
- The mixer should be the ultimate control or gate for the sound produced by the musicians.
- The set of parts comes with the cd comprising the five electro-acoustic tracks.
- The set of parts comprises a reduction score for the electro-acoustician.
- Page 52, the appendix contains the graphic representation of the electro-acoustic sounds.



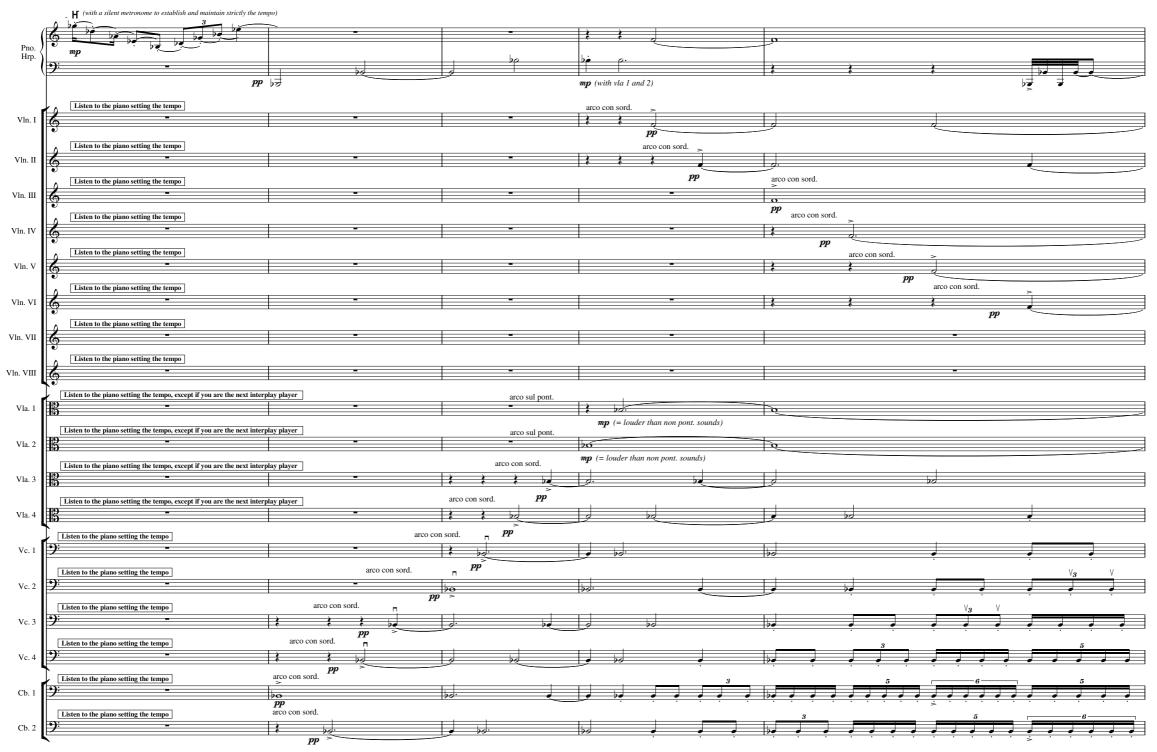
Simple-X

Concertante for eight violins, four violas, four celli, two contrabasses, grand piano or harp, three iPads and electro-acoustic sounds

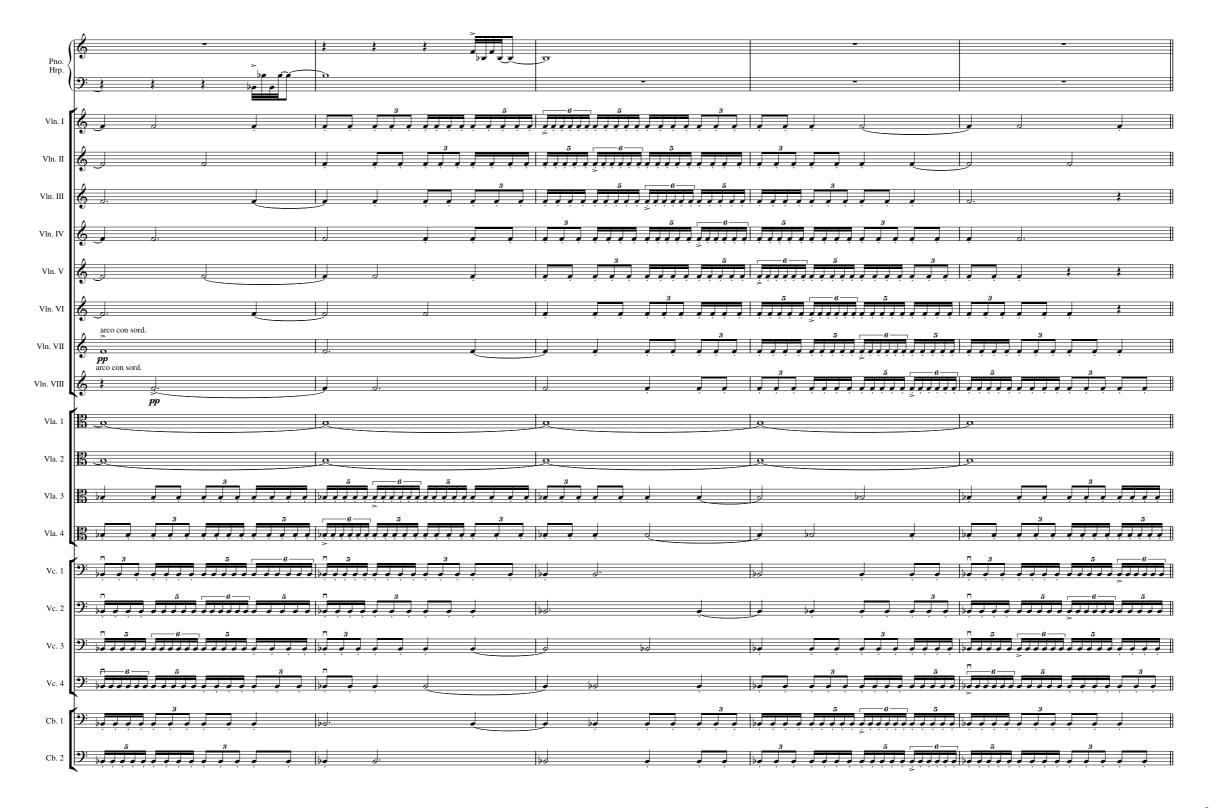




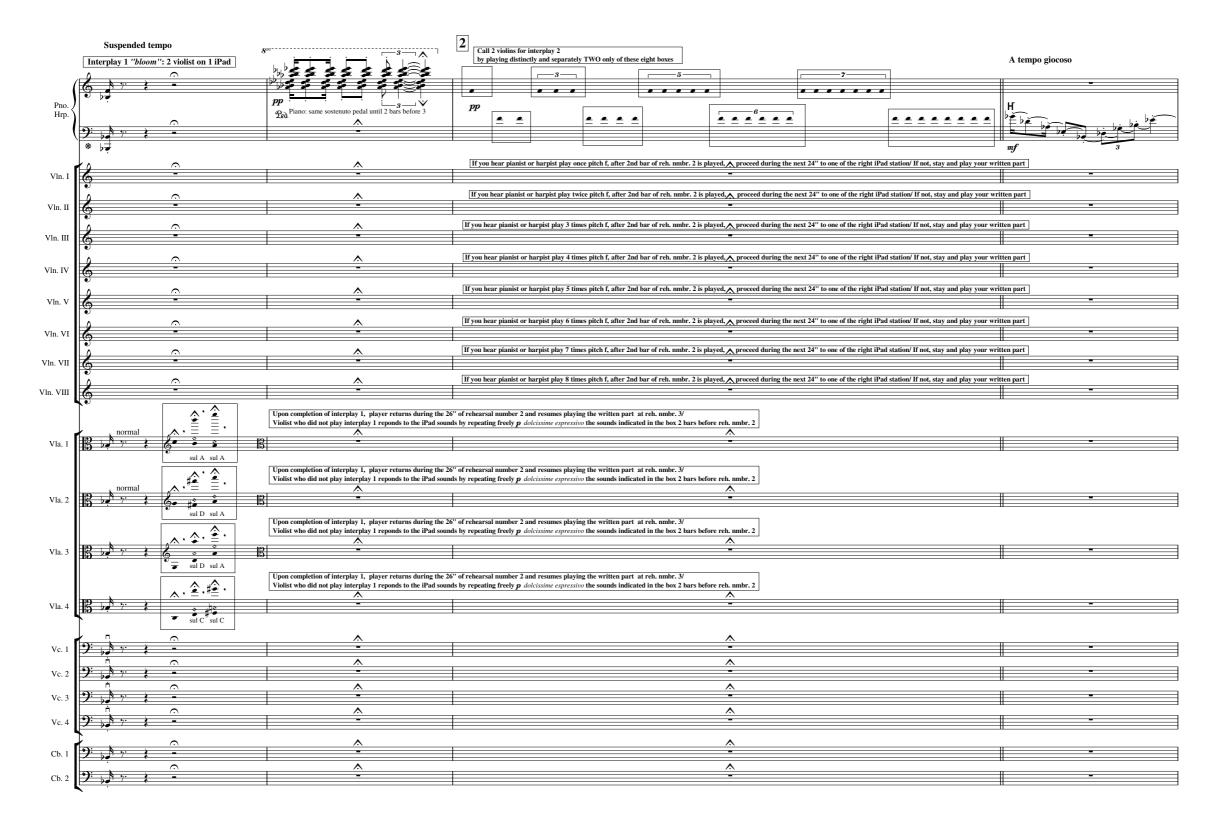
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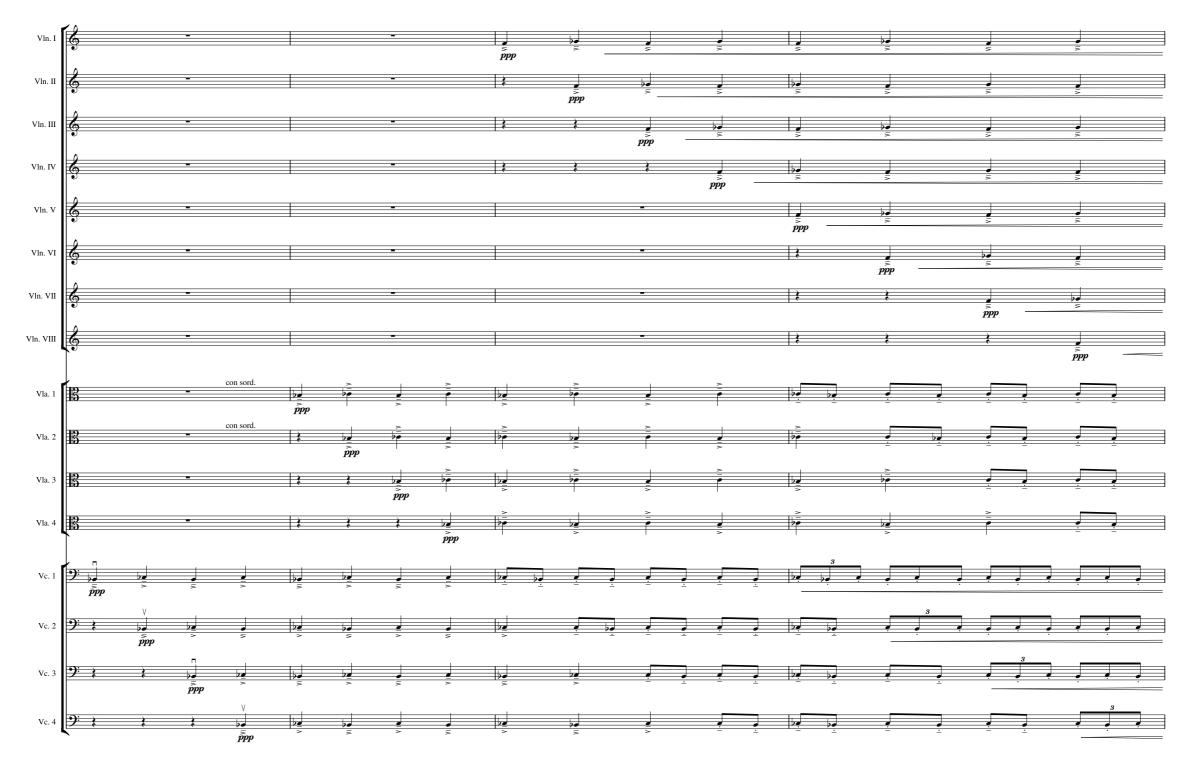
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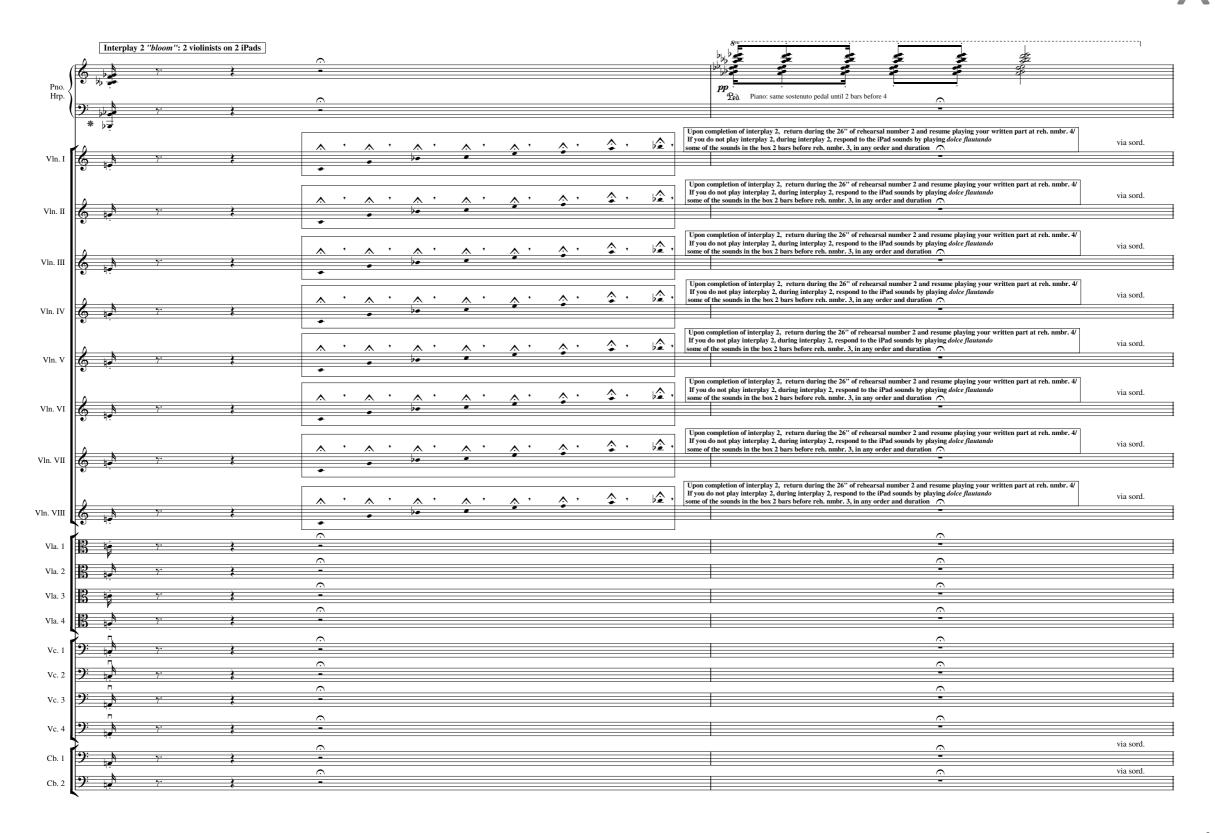
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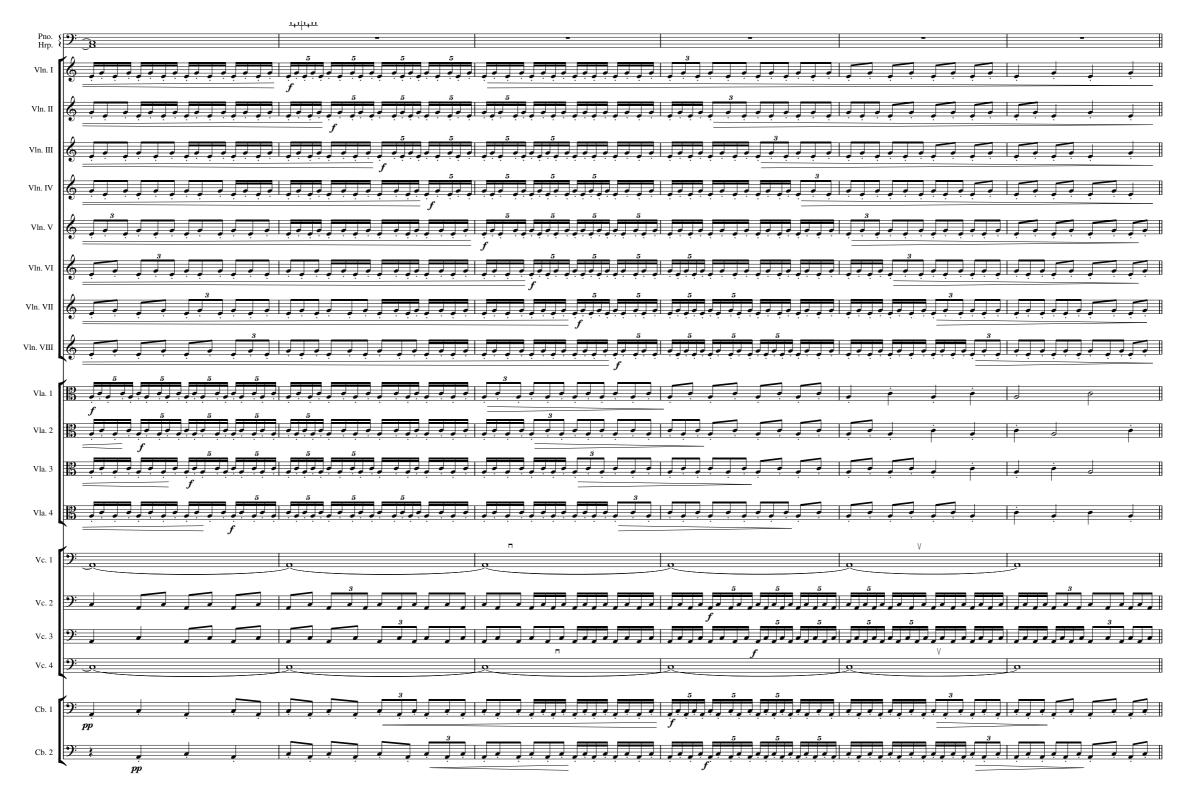
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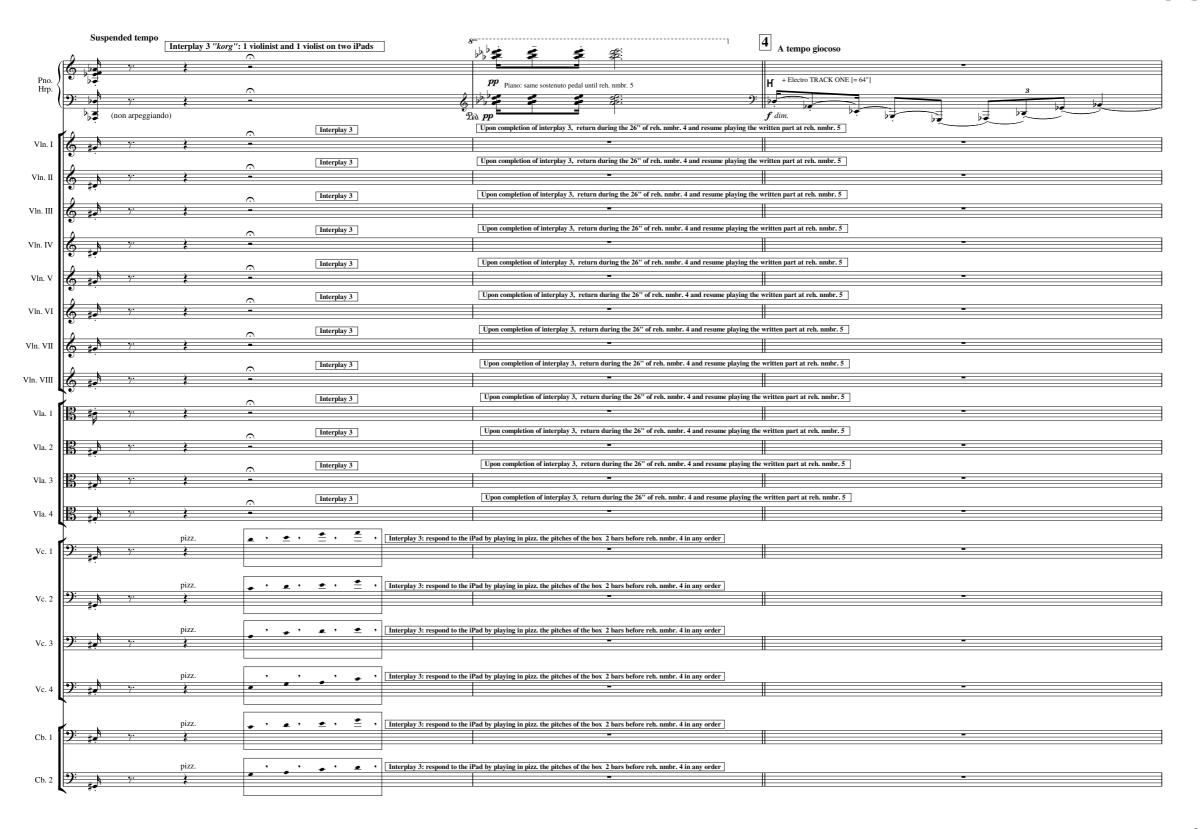


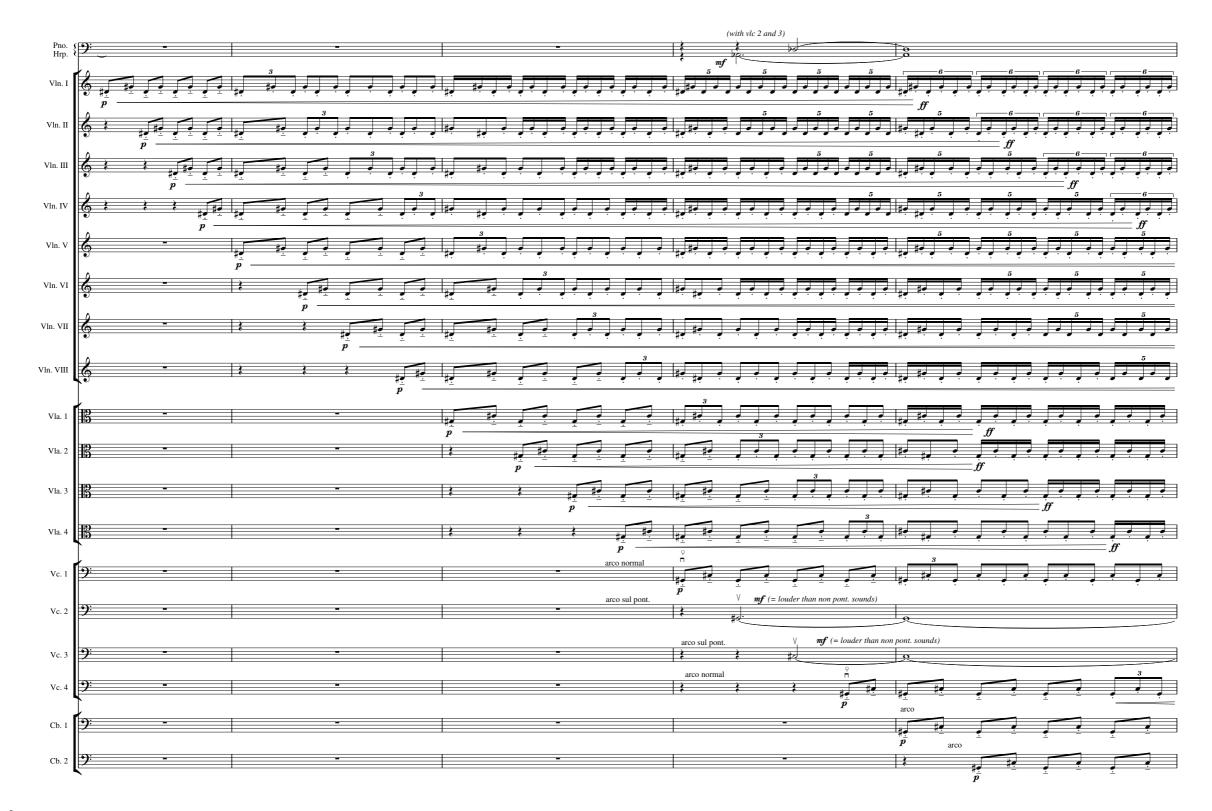


3 Suspended tempo Call 1 violin and 1 viola for interplay 3 by playing ONE F box and ONE B> box, excluding those boxes already played for previous interplays A tempo giocoso -3--3--5 6 7 7 Pno. Hrp. • • • • <u>•</u> • • • • • • • н 9: Same sostenuto pedal until 2 bars before 4 mf If you hear planist or harpist play once pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ٨ Vln. I If you hear pianist or harpist play twice pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ~ Vln. II If you hear pianist or harpist play thrice pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ٨ Vln. III If you hear pianist or harpist play 4x pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ٨ Vln. IV If you hear pianist or harpist play 5x pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ٨ Vln. V If you hear pianist or harpist play 6x pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ~ Vln. VI If you hear planist or harpist play 7x pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ٨ Vln. VII If you hear pianist or harpist play 8x pitch f, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part ~ Vln. VIII If you hear pianist or harpist play once pitch b >, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part via sord. ~ B Vla. 1 If you hear pianist or harpist play twice pitch b b, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part via sord. ۸ Vla. 2 В If you hear pianist or harpist play thrice pitch b is, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part via sord. ٨ Vla. 3 В If you hear pianist or harpist play 4x pitch b >, after 2nd bar of reh. nmbr. 3 is played, proceed during the next 24" to one of the iPad stations/ If not, stay and play your written part via sord. ٨ Vla. 4 8 -









Vln. Vln. II Vln. III • | #• Vln. IV Vln. V • **•** • • *: ff* Vln. VI -** . **30** Vln. VII Vln. VIII Vla. 1 #0 0 Vla. 2 Vla. 3 ĴĴ, Vla. 4 Vc. 1 ff Vc. 2 9[:] _ @ Vc. 3 ╞[┿]╶╗╴┵╶╴┵╶╴┵╶╴┵╶┙╔_╝╪┵╶┵╶┵╌┥╞┙╶┙╞╪┙╌┙╎╪┙_╔┙┎╴┙╻┙┍╻┙┍╻┙┍╻┙┍╻┙┍╻╸┍╻╸┍╻╸┍╻╸┍╻╸┍╻╸┍╻╸┍╻╸┍╻╸┍ Vc. 4 9: # ŦŁ . Cb. 1

Cb. 2

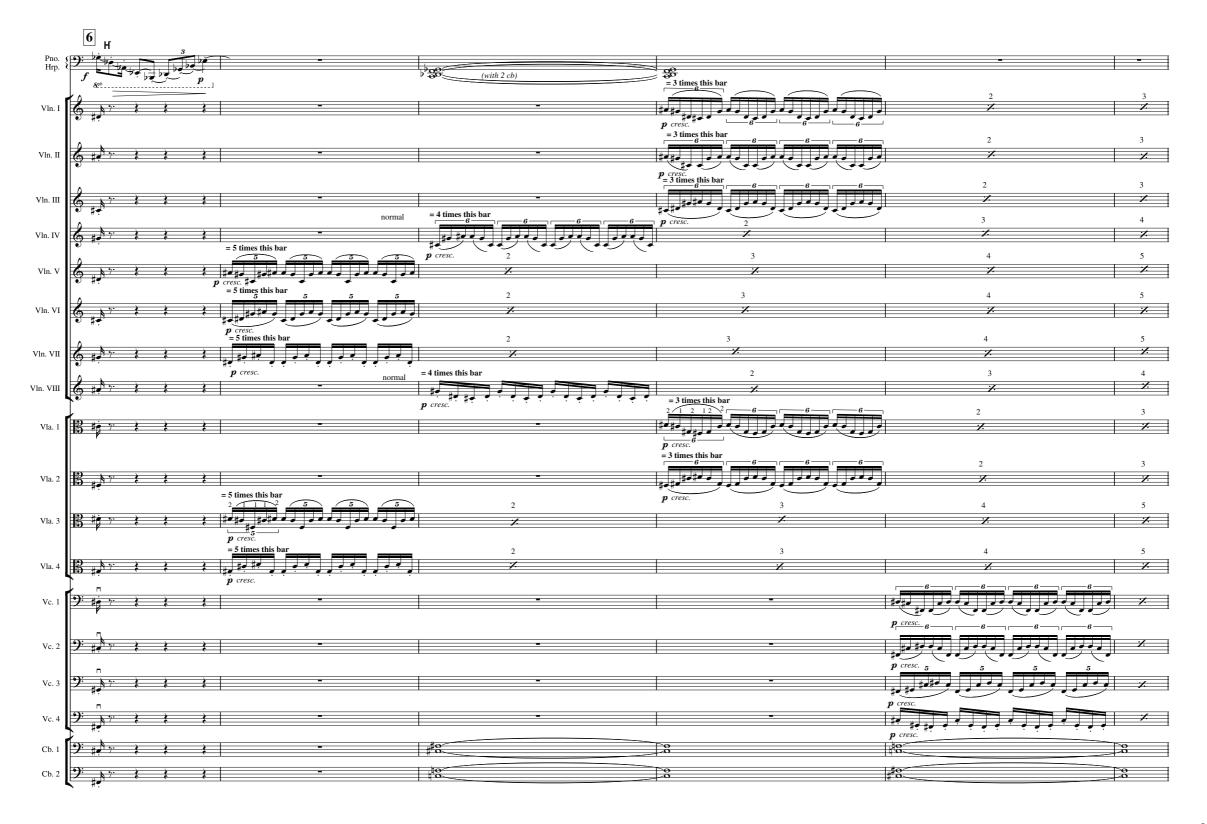
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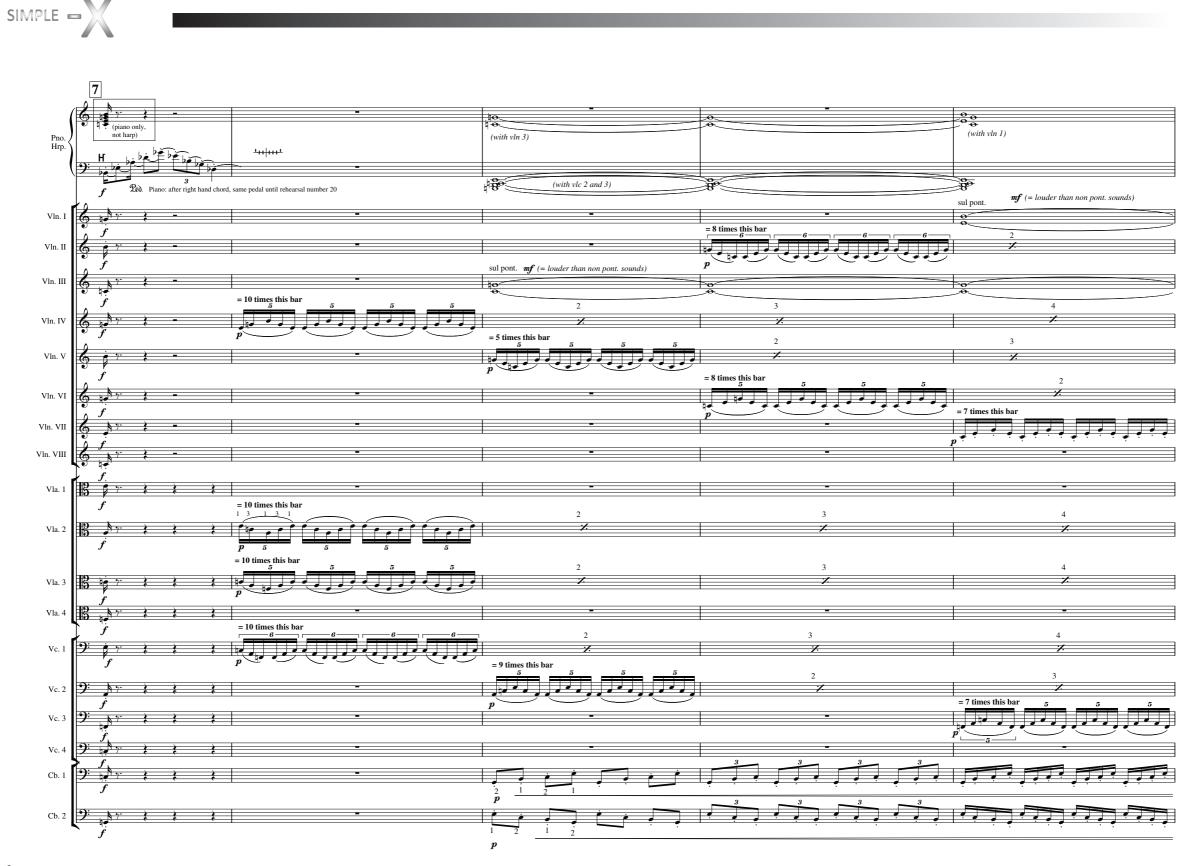
. ff

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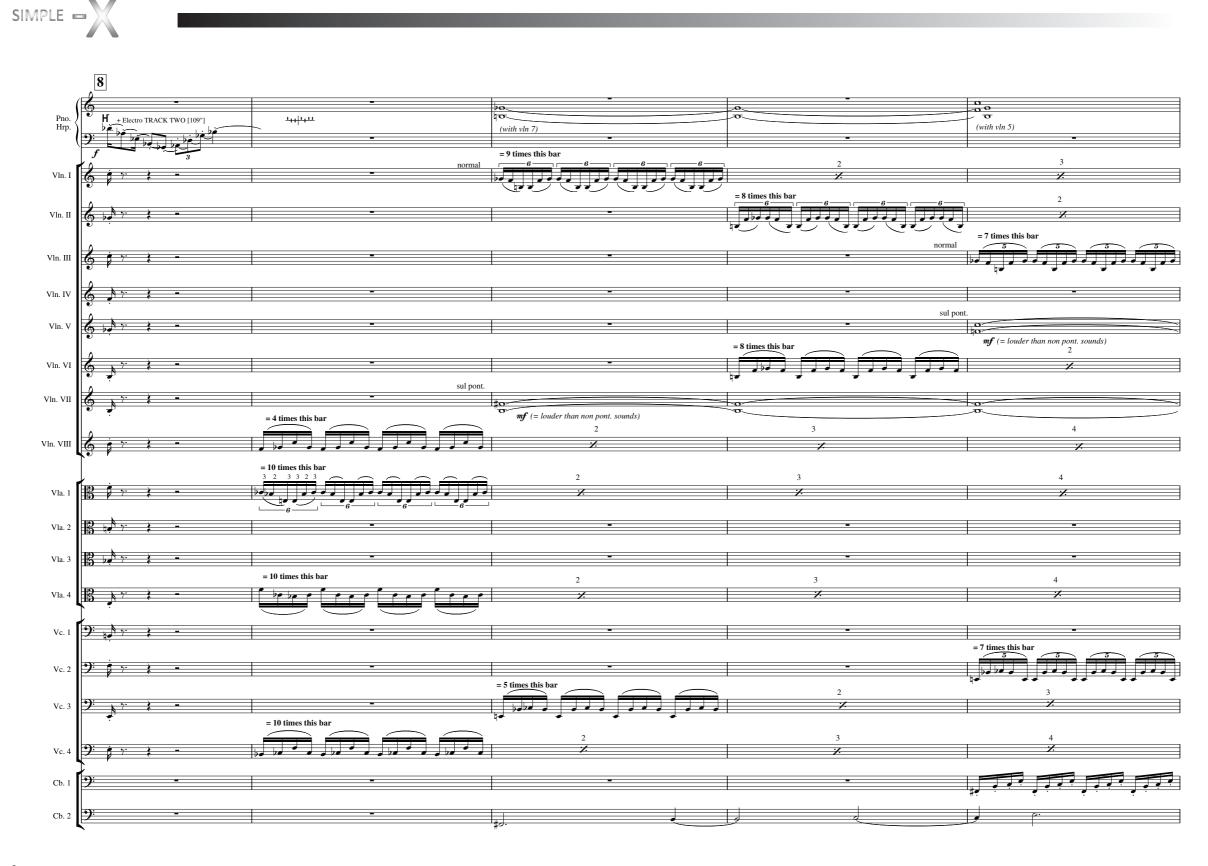


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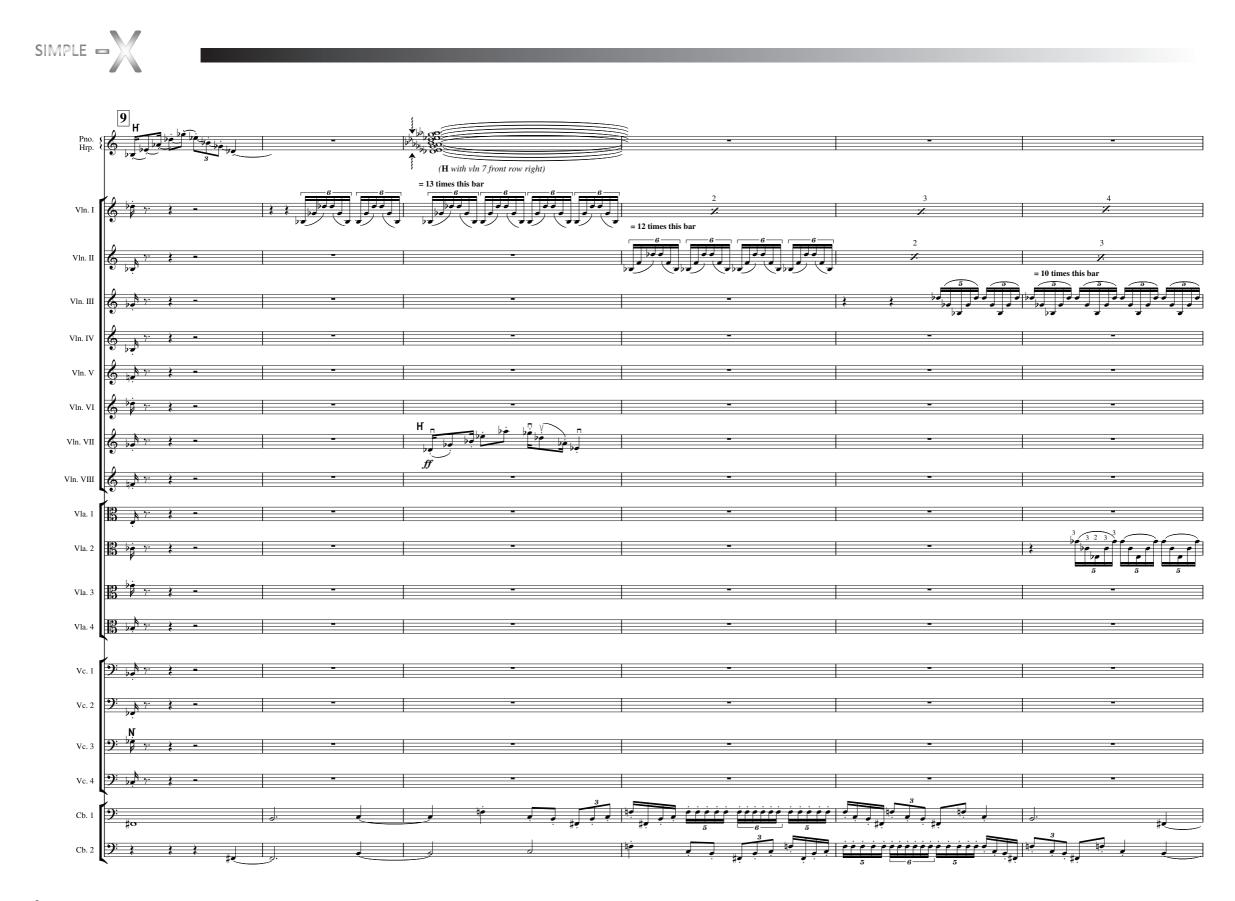




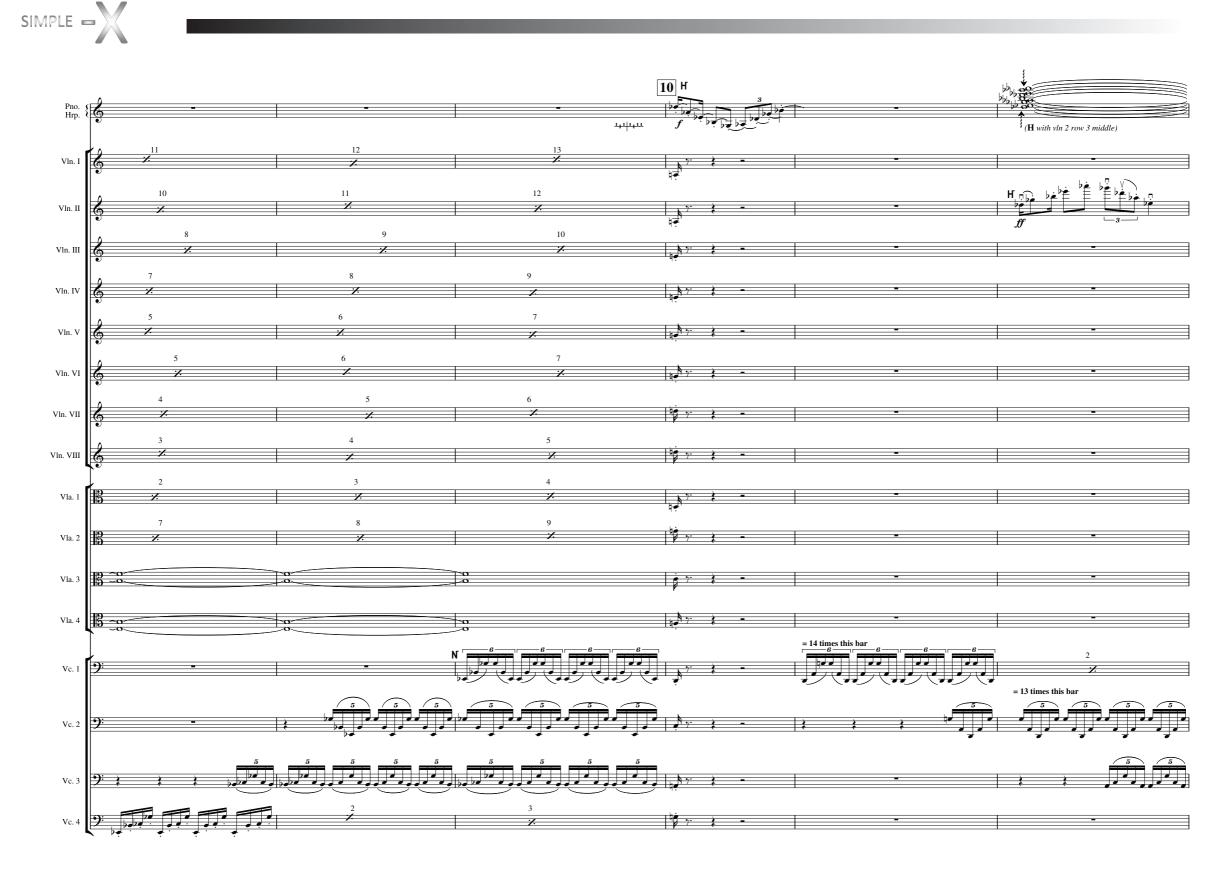


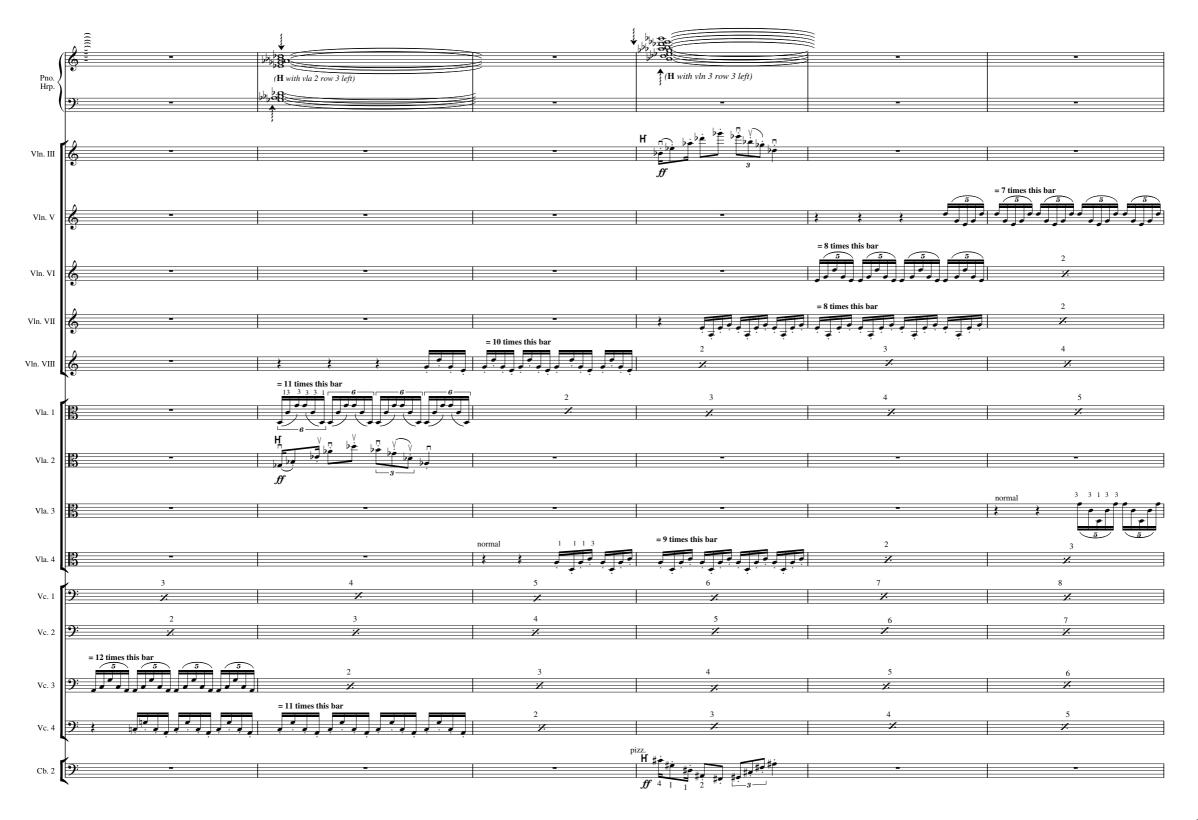


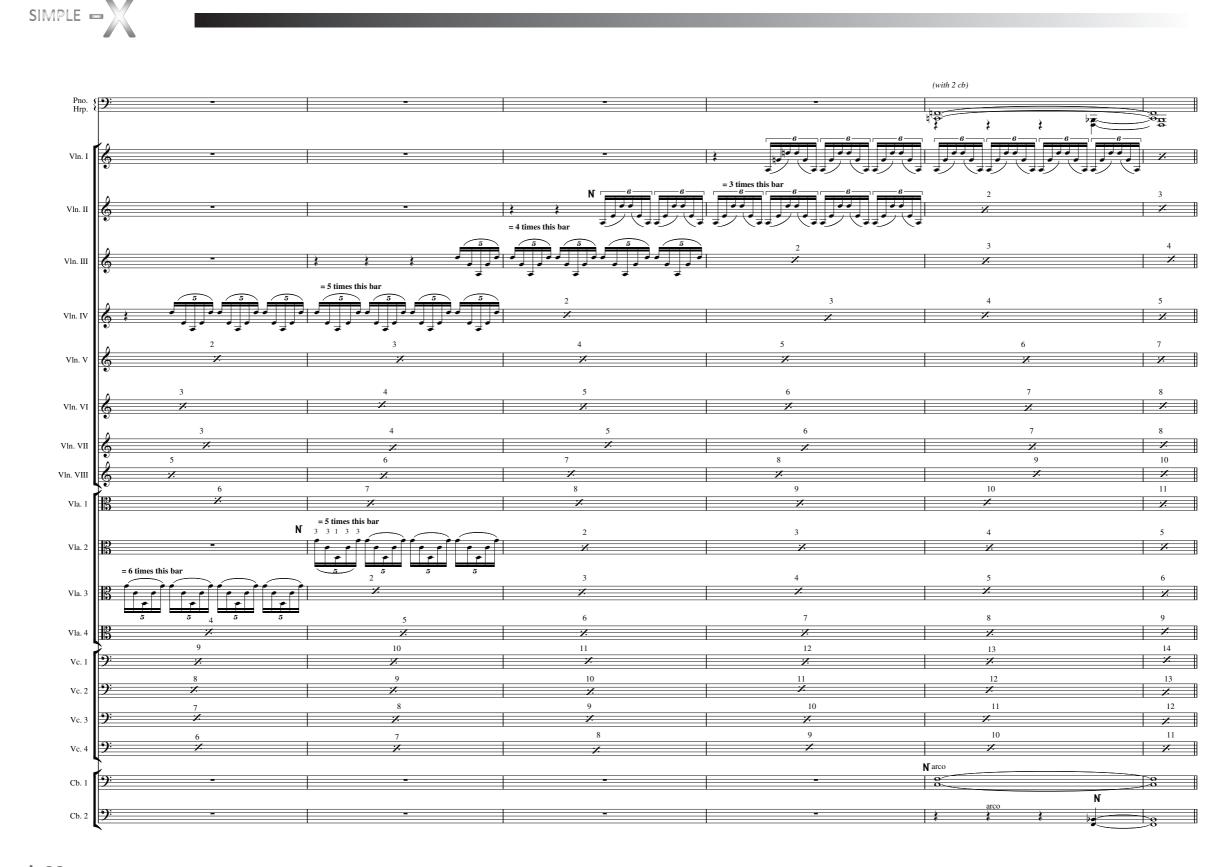


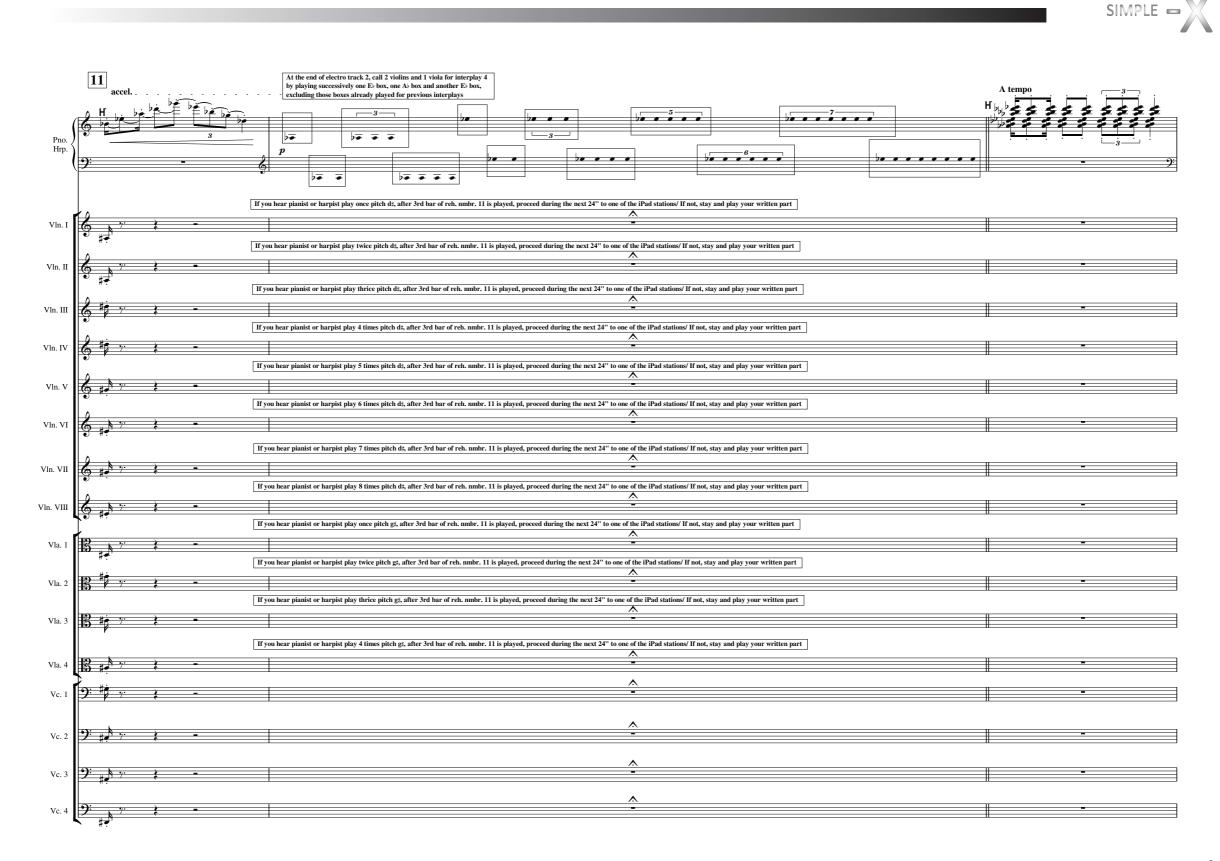


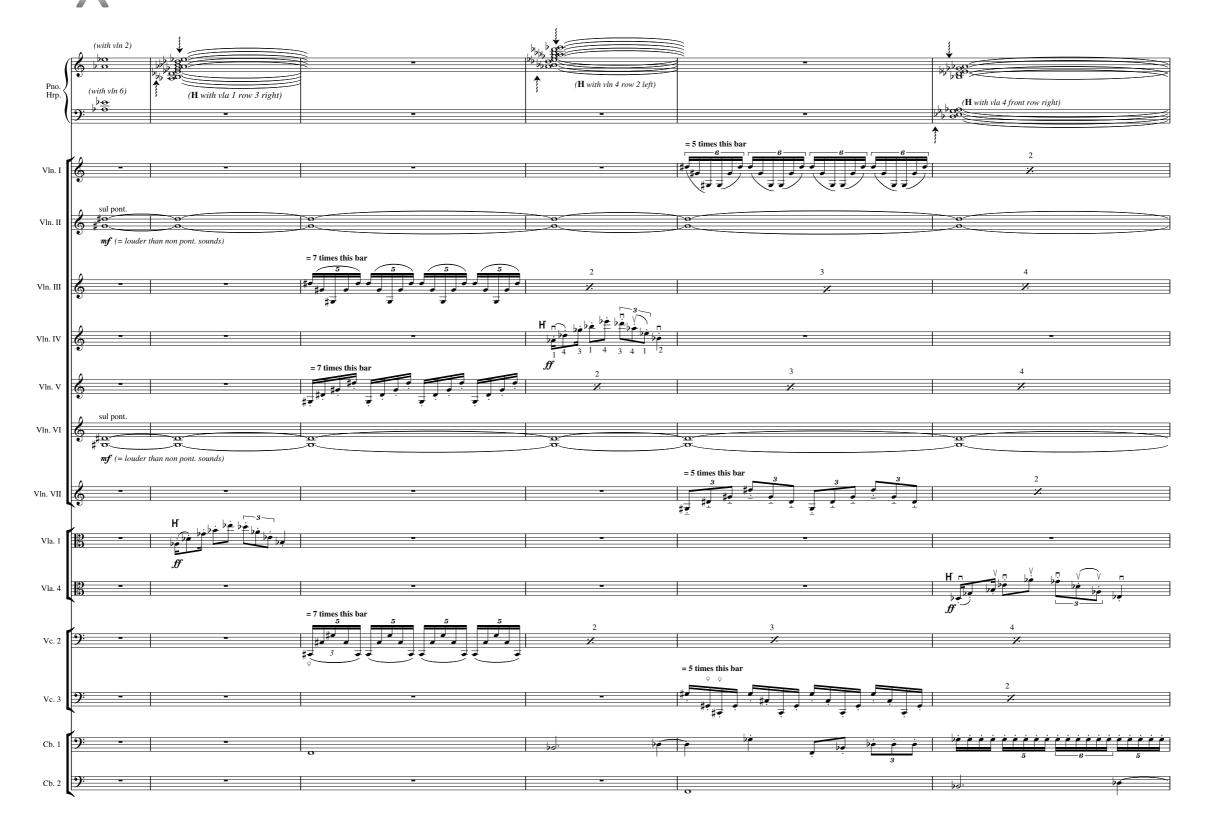








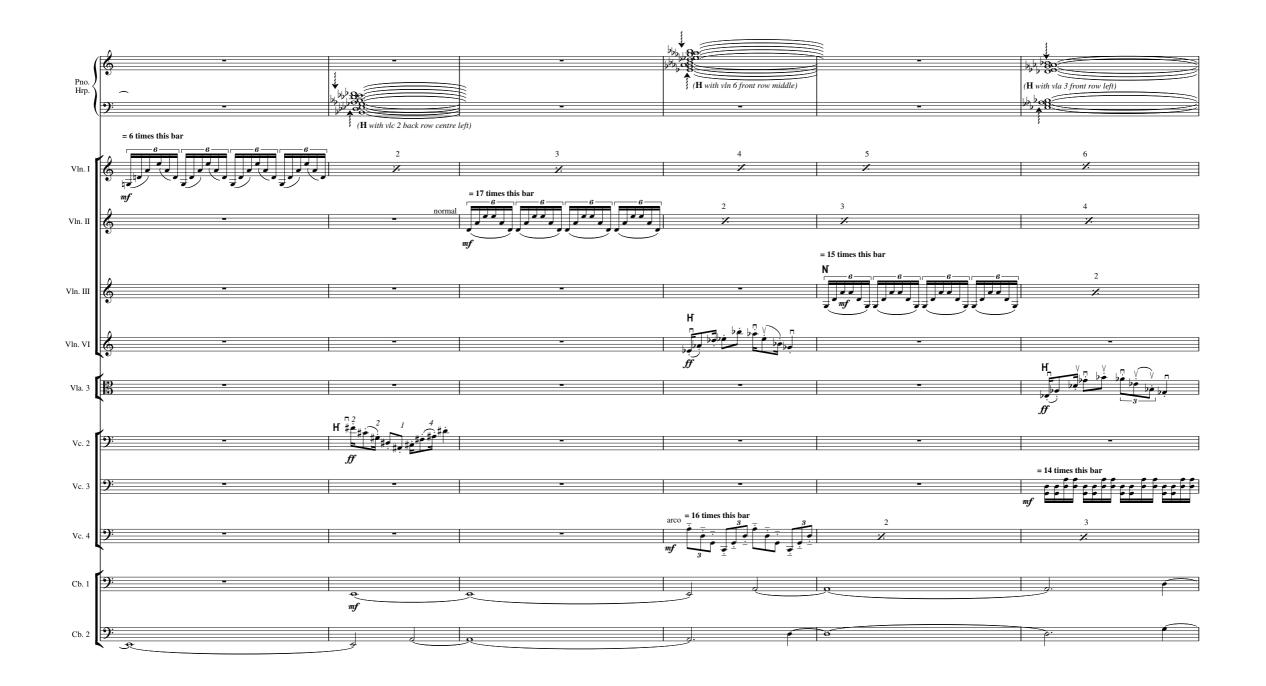






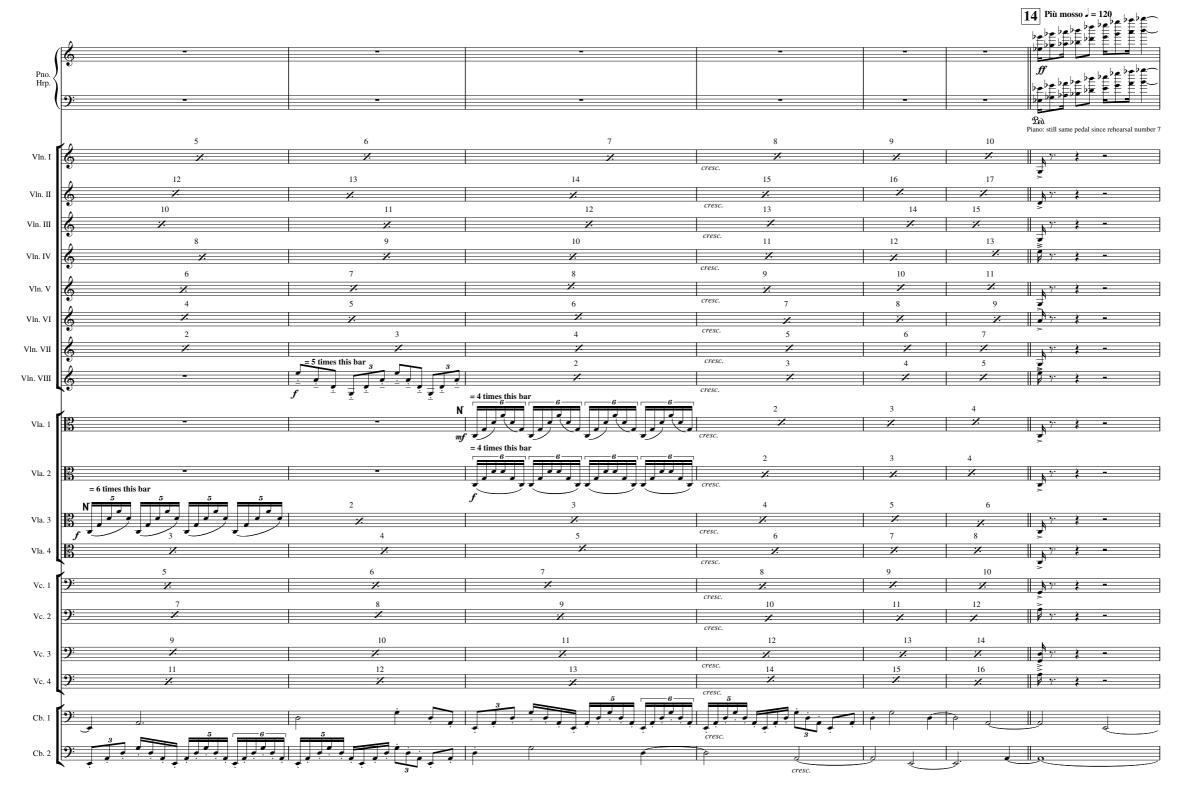












SIMPLE 📼 + Electro TRACK FOUR [146"] + interspersed extemporised melodic snippets on A, C⁺, B, F⁺ in response to electro track 4 Pno. { Hrp. = 15 times this bar 5 4 6 Vln. I Ó 13 times this bar -6-7 ₹₽₽₽ 2 3 4 5 6 Vln. II = 11 times this bar 65 4 6 7 Vln. III 00 00 ... ×. 1 1 X 1 , <u>†</u>† 2 3 4 5 7 6 Vln. IV 7 5 5₽ 5 7 times this bar 2 3 4 5 6 7 . Vln. V 7. 1. 1. 1. 1. . Ambulation 2: start walking whilst playing from memory 5 times this ba 2 3 4 5 = 17 times this bar . . Vln. VI % <u>.</u> 0.0 Ó 3 mf Ambulation 2: start walking whilst playing from memory = 3 times this bar = 17 times this bar 2 3 è ----Vln. VII - - - -Ambulation 2: start walking whilst playing from memory m_f = 17 times this bar Vln. VIII - /. ·/. 3 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4 5 6 % Vla. 1 1 7. 1 ·**/**. = 17 times this bar 3 5 2 4 6 7 % Vla. 2 . **%** 1 1 Ambulation 2: start walking whilst playing from memory = 17 times this bar = 5 = 17 times this bar -. . - -Vla. 3 1 Ambulation 2: start walking whilst playing from memory = 4 times this bar = 17 times this bar 2 4 Vla. 4 = 17 times this bar mf 5 T = 6 times this bar 5 Þ 2 3 4 - - -Vc. 1 ·7 = 8 times this bar 5Á 3 4 2 5 Vc. 2 1 7. = 10 times this bar 2 3 Δ 5 6): Vc. 3 Z ./ . . . f = 12 times this bar 2 3 4 Z 1. Vc. 4

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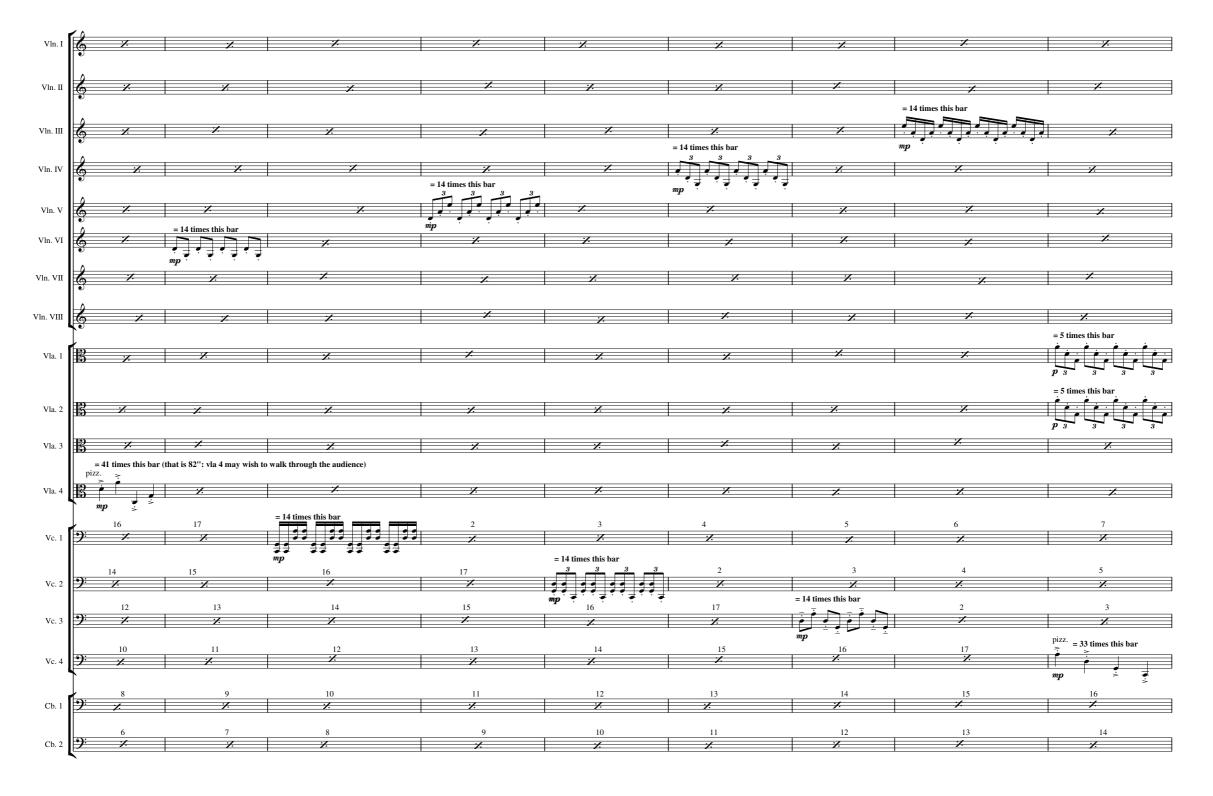
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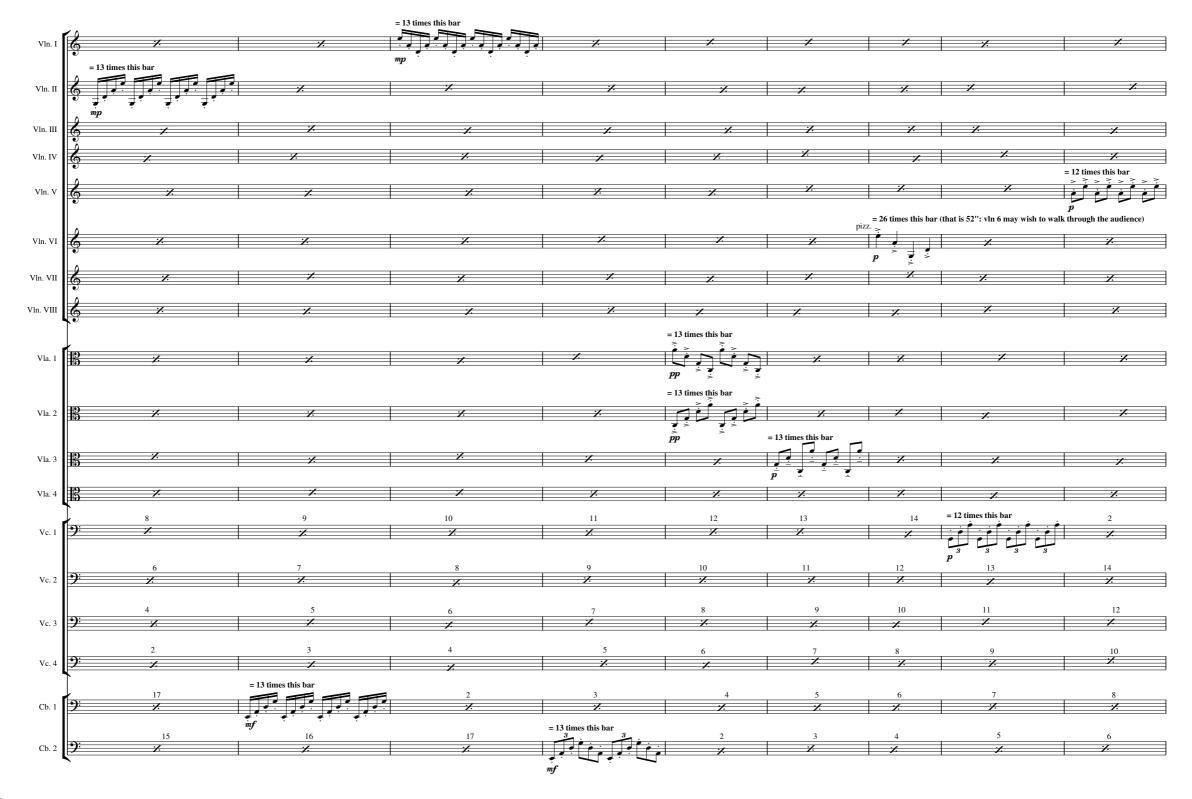
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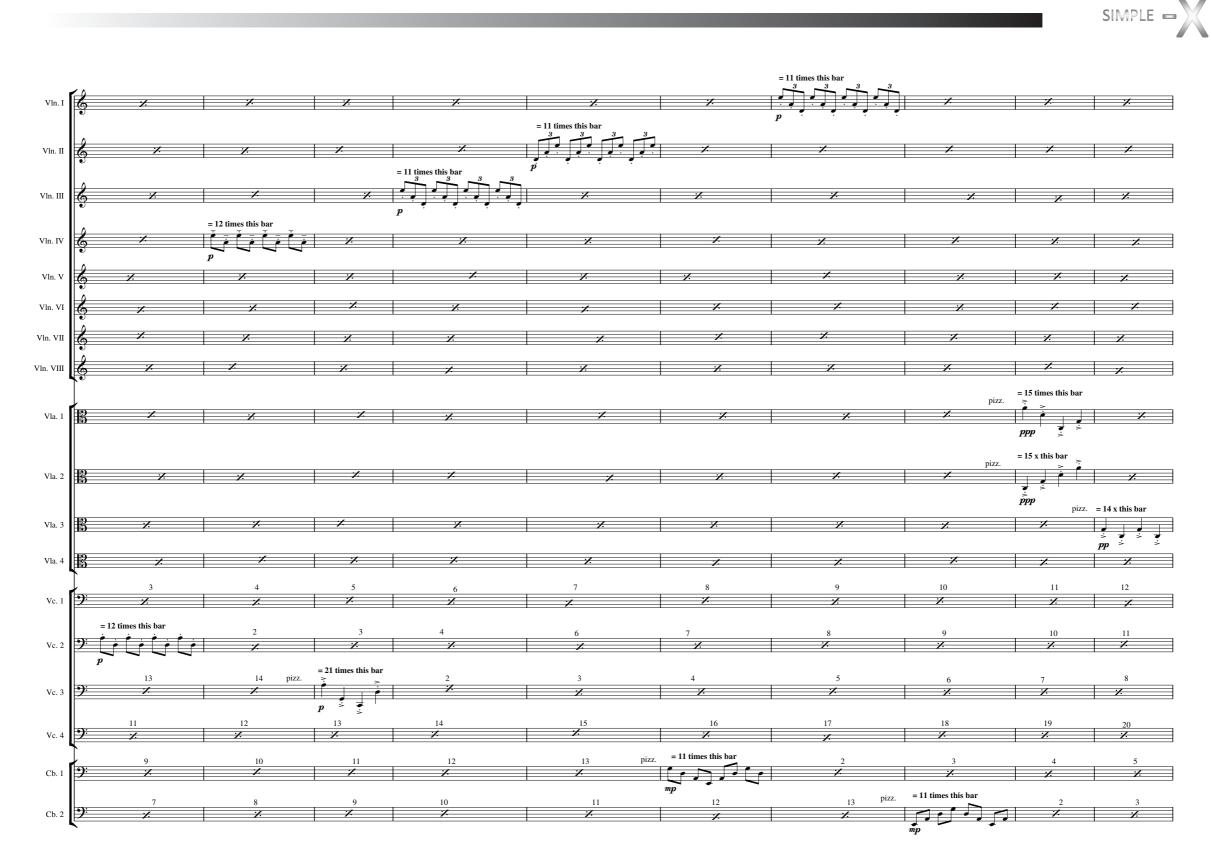


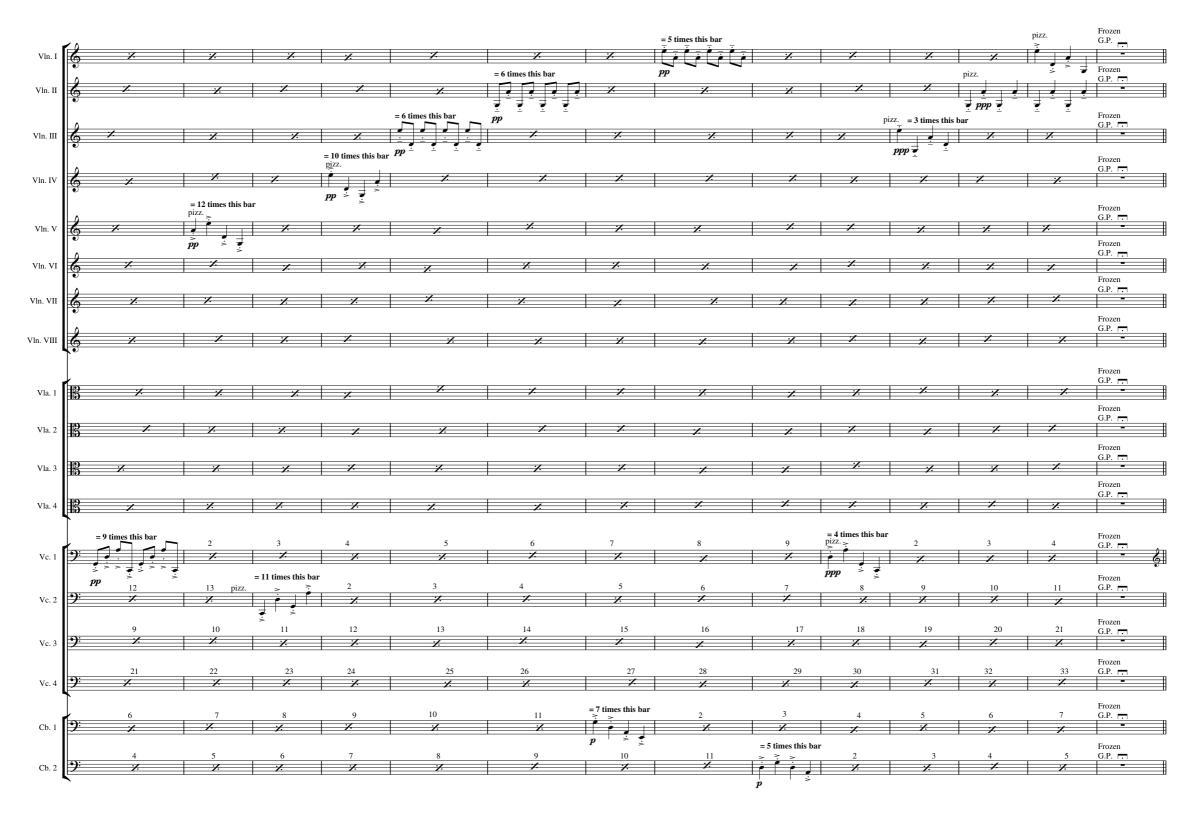




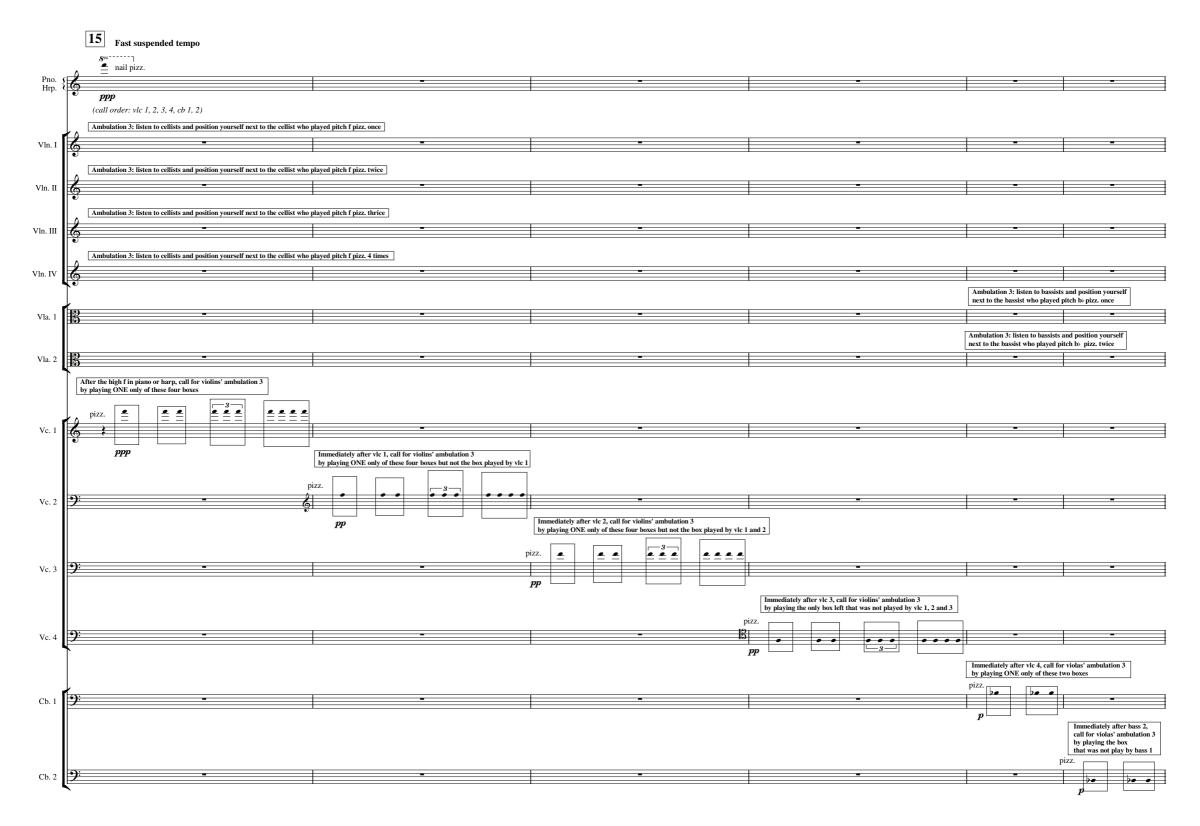






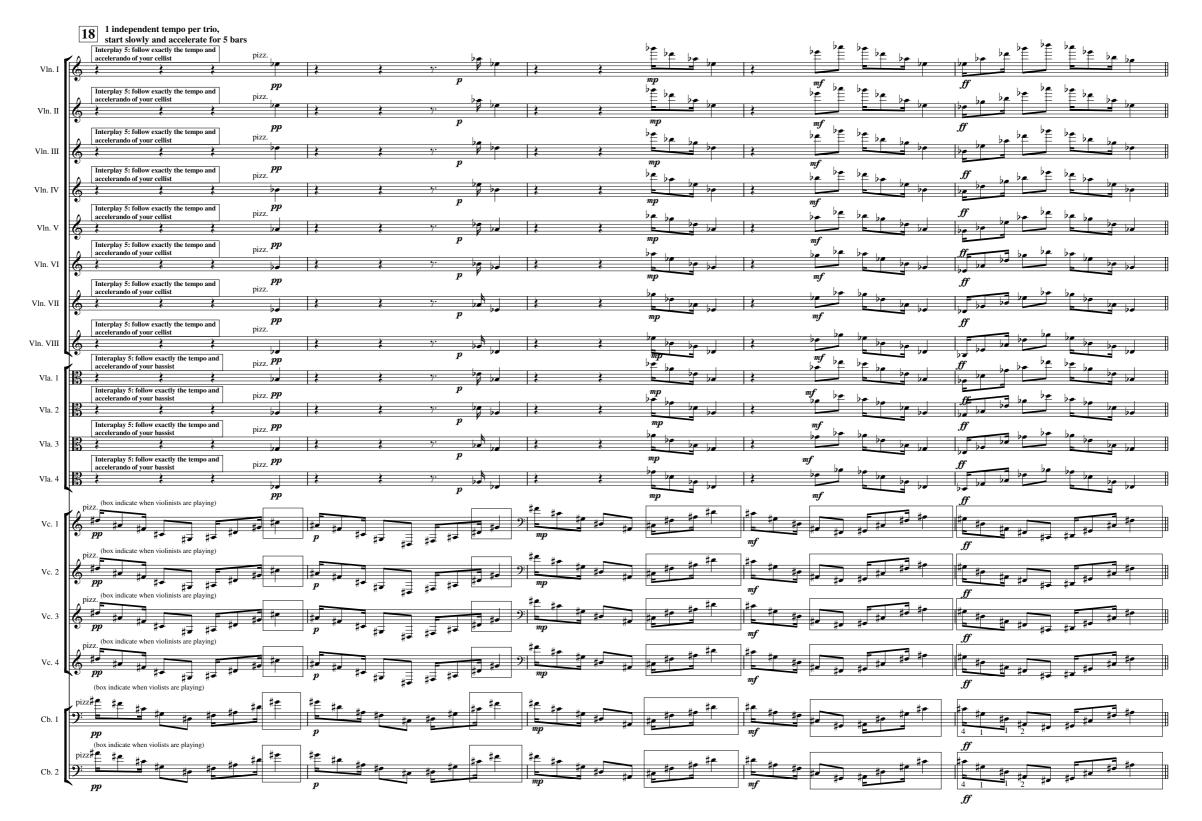


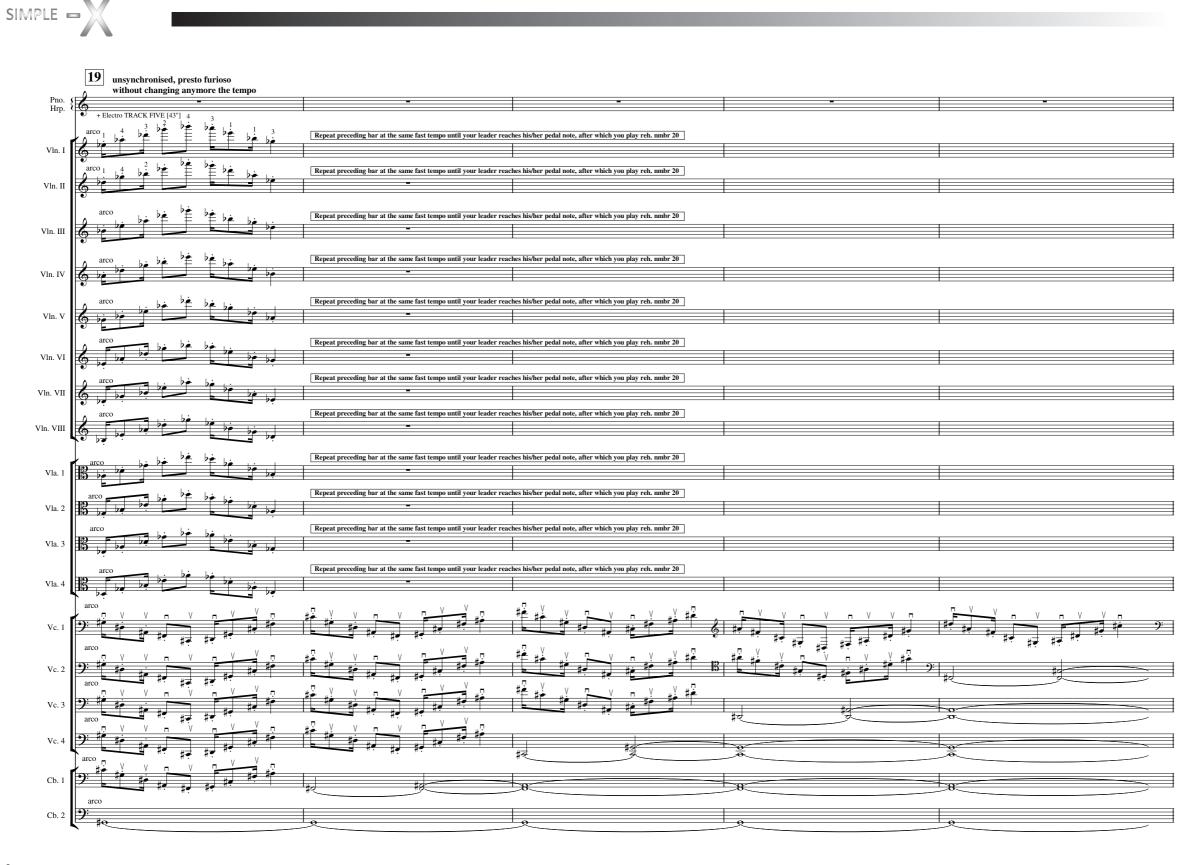
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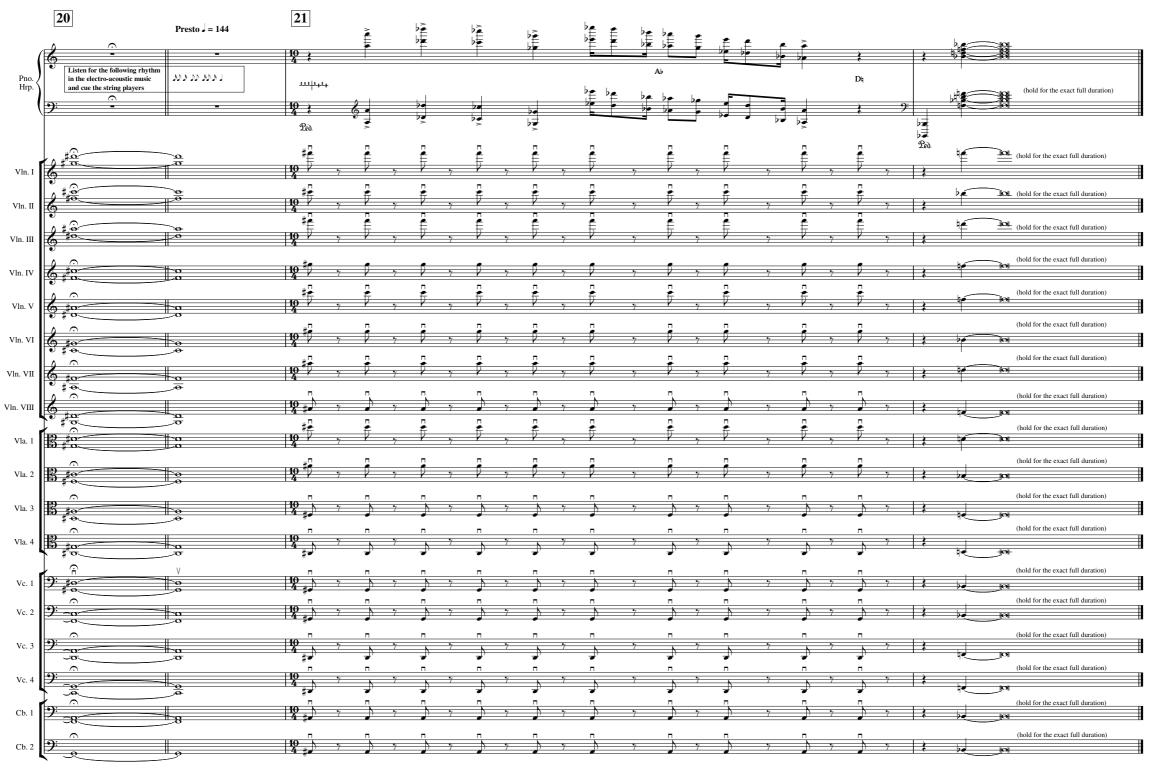


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	16 (call order: cb 2, 1, vlc 4, 3, 2, 1)							
Pno. Hrp.	2						-	
Hrp. (Ambulation 3: listen to cellists and position y	ourself next to the cellist who	played pitch f arco 5 times				
Vln. V							•	
	·	Ambulation 3: listen to cellists and position y	ourself next to the cellist who	played pitch f parco 6 times	•			
Vln. VI	· ·						•	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Ambulation 3: listen to cellists and position y	ourself next to the cellist who	nlaved nitch f arco 7 times				
Vln. VII			-				-	
	Ŭ Í	Ambulation 3: listen to cellists and position y	courself next to the cellist who	nlaved nitch f area 8 times				
Vln. VIII	/	Ambulation 5. listen to cenists and position y	-	played pitch i arco o times			•	
	Ambulation 24 listers to begoints and monition scanned funct to the begoint who along duited by an a	times						
Vla. 3	Ambulation 3: listen to bassists and position yourself next to the bassist who played pitch b> arco 3	umes						
v 1a. 5					I			
Vla. 4	Ambulation 3: listen to bassists and position yourself next to the bassist who played pitch by arco for	our times						
V Ia. 4								
					Immedi	ately after vic 4, play arco one of these fo	ur boxes, but not the box played by vic	4
_	×				arco 🖉 🖉			
Vc. 3	9		-					
		Immediately after bass 2, play arco one of	f these four boxes					
Vc. 4	<u> </u>							
10.4	Immediately after bass 1, play arco				• • • • •			
	the box that was not play by bass 2							
Cb. 1	•):							
	Then play arco one of these 2 boxes mp							
	arco be e e							
Cb. 2	9							
							17 Slow rubato	
1							ن <u>ن زالا</u> ام مر مر مر مرابط	
Pno. { Hrp. {	£				-			
Hrp. C			Immediately after vlc 2, pla	ay the only box left that was not pl	aved by vlc 2, 3 and 4			
			5	6	77		Interplay 5: listen to to electro-a	coustician giving you the signal
	(A)	ar					to start playing 18 and lead you	r 2 violists from very slow,
Vc. 1								
	Immediately after vlc 3, play arco one of these 4 boxes, but not the 2 boxes played by vlc 4 and 3	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	f				Interplay 5: listen to to electro-a	coustician giving you the signal
							to start playing 18 and lead you accelerando towards 19 and pre	sto arco at 19
Vc. 2					-			-
	f						to start playing 18 and lead you	acoustician giving you the signal or 2 violists from very slow,
Vc. 3) :						accelerando towards 19 and pre	sto arco at 19
							Interplay 5: listen to to electro-a	coustician giving you the signal
	19						to start playing 18 and lead you accelerando towards 19 and pre	r 2 violists from very slow,
Vc. 4	-				-			-
							Interplay 5: listen to to electro-a to start playing 18 and lead you	acoustician giving you the signal or 2 violists from very slow
	<u>-</u>						accelerando towards 19 and pre	
Cb. 1							Interplay 5: listen to to electro-a	acoustician giving you the signal
							to start playing 18 and lead you accelerando towards 19 and pre	r 2 violists from very slow,
Cb. 2	•):				-			•
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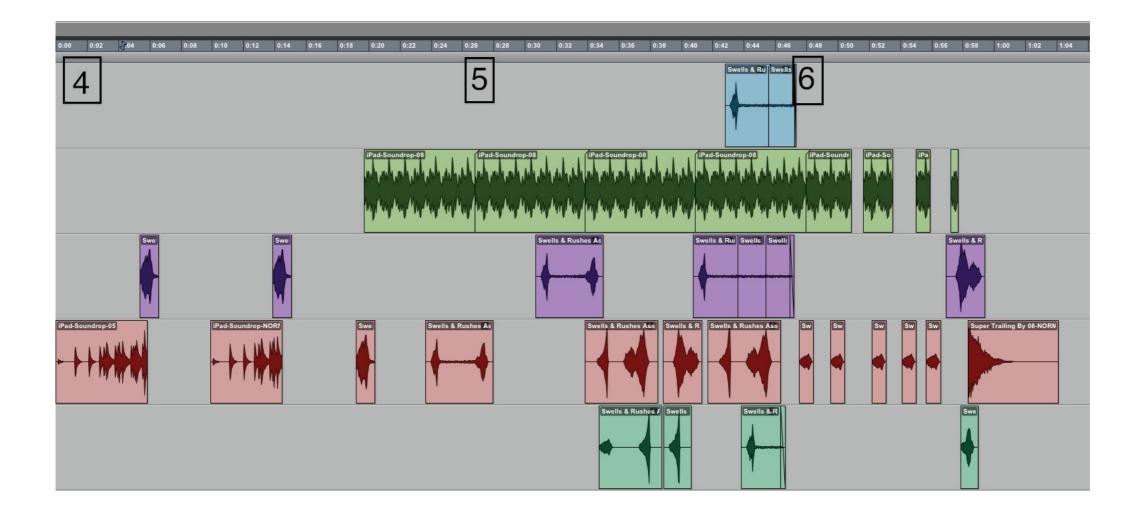




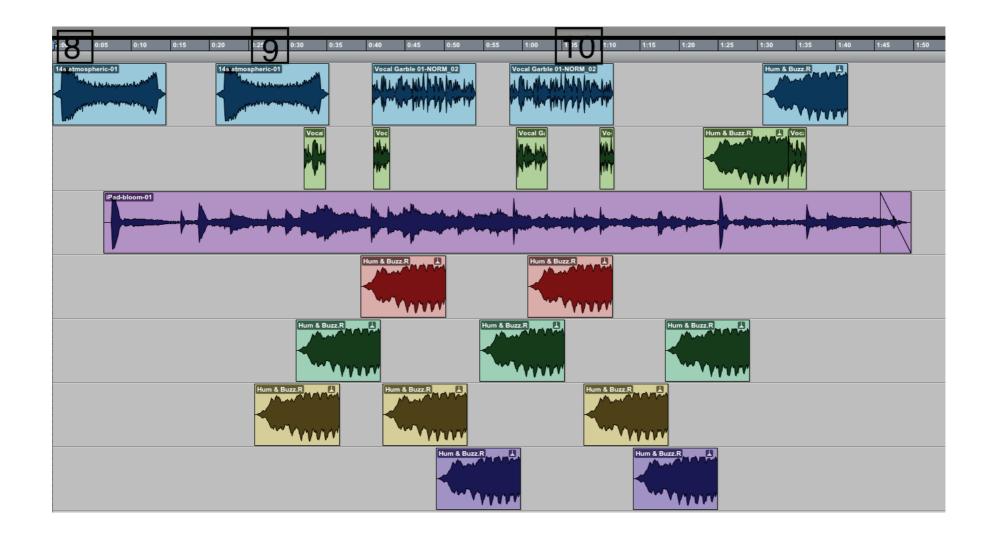
Singapore, Ulaanbaatar, Singapore 20-VIII-2010



Appendix: Electro-acoustic Sounds



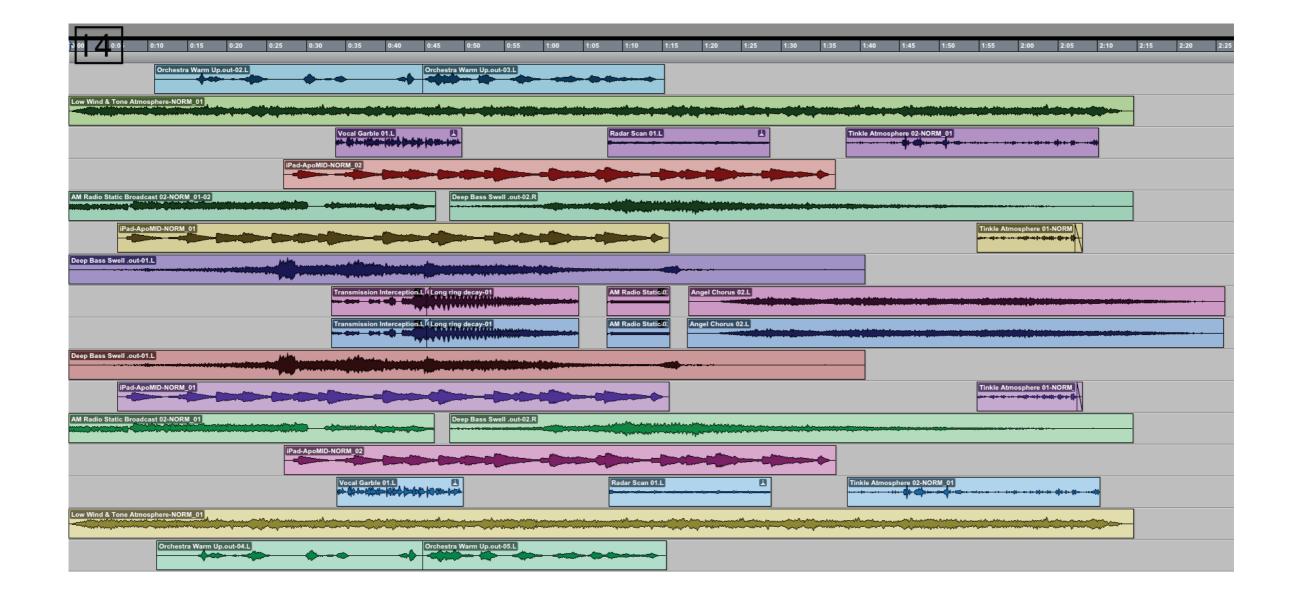
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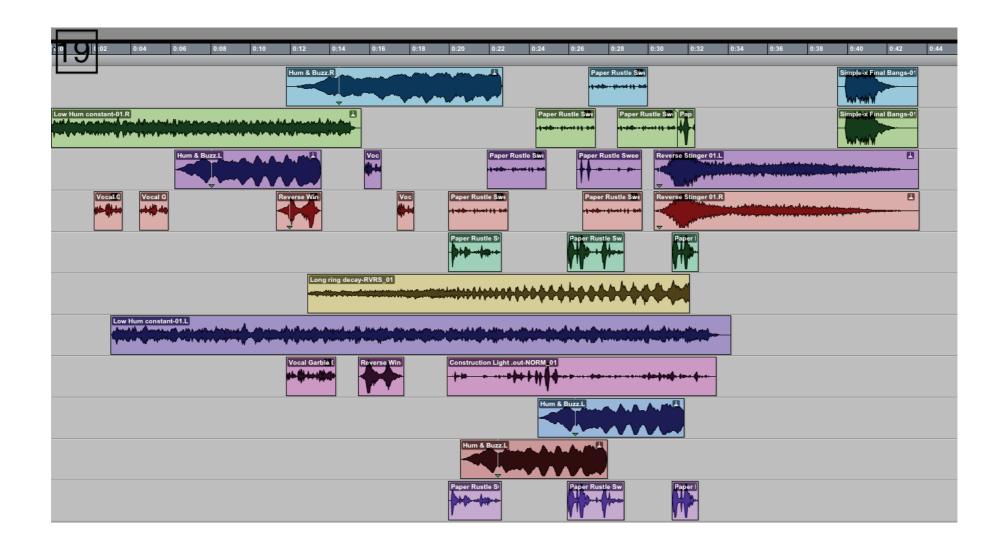
Appendix: Electro-acoustic Sounds

0 00 0	0:0	4 0:06	0:08	0:10	0:12	0:14	0:16	0:18	0:20	0:22	0:24	0:26	0:28	0:30	0:32	0:34	0:36	0:38	0:40	0:42	0:44	0:46	0:48	0:50
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Appendix: Electro-acoustic Sounds



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