

Gravity Music for any ensemble of pitched, mobile instruments

Ben Kamen, Spring 2005

instructions

preparation:

1. as an ensemble, divide a large space into seven concentric circles, as shown in the diagram. the circles need not be visible.
2. divide the entire range of your instrument into seven notes, equally spaced. the lowest note corresponds to the innermost circle (VII), the highest corresponds to the outermost circle (I).
3. pick another characteristic of your instrument, such as dynamic, bow placement, vibrato speed, etc. divide this characteristic into seven steps, assigning one extreme to the innermost circle and the other extreme to the outermost circle, with the other steps filling in linearly inbetween the two.
4. each player picks their own pulse for performance. in the innermost ring (VII), play seven beats of sound followed by seven beats of silence. in the next ring (VI) play six beats of sound followed by six beats of silence. and so on, until in the outermost circle (I) you play one beat of sound followed by one beat of silence.

performance:

1. go to any location in the space.
2. begin playing when you feel ready.
3. wander slowly through the space, playing the pitch, characteristic, and rhythm determined above according to your location in the space.
4. always make sure to listen.
5. finish when you feel ready.

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