# Ittai Rosenbaum

# ILINX

# For percussionist and visiting musicians and dancers

# (2014)

*Ilinx* is a fifty minute long composition in six episodes for solo percussionist and changing ensemble of musicians and dancers. The setup of the percussion instruments is changing for each episode according to specific floor plans and diagrams, and poses constant ergonomic challenges for the percussionist. The score cannot be performed without much movement of the percussionist: running, walking in circles, crawling, jumping and swirling. Gestures in *Ilinx* are made equally of sound and movement, but it is not a dance or a theatrical work, only an exaggeration of the motions percussionists do.

The six episodes are seamlessly tied one to the other and subtitled *Edges, Intimate Things, Metallophone Nest, Pitches, Frontal Variations* and *Ending*. The subtitles represent the general topic of the episodes, yet they are not disclosed to the audience. In each episode the percussionist concentrates on a particular musical topic or theme and uses instruments of different timbre groups. Each episode presents different relations to space, different trajectories or axes of movement across the venue in varying velocity and manner, and a different attitude towards the audience. Meanwhile, the other musicians and dancers perform a parallel, seemingly disconnected set of short cues, never synchronized in tempo with the percussion part and absolutely unmindful and disregarding of the space, the audience and especially of the percussionist. The ensemble offers a contrasted musical and performative reality to that of the percussionist.

#### **Performers**

Percussion Accordion Vocalists:
Flute Piano Soprano
Tenor saxophone Synthesizer/Keyboard Alto
Violin Tenor
Cello Baritone

Trombone

Soprano recorder Two dancers

### **Percussion instruments**

Bass drum, 3 wood blocks on rack, claves, African claves, jaw Harp, sheets of paper, dry leaves, small pouch, tiny bell, beads chain, wrist bells, 2 finger cymbals, small shaker, stationary castanets, small bell ("High Bell")\*, 9 metal pipes in different pitches, 10 Alpenglocken in different pitches, agogo, metal spiral, hand bells, shells, foot bells, tubular bells, medium-small gong, medium gong, crotales, vibraphone, 2 smooth cobbles, frame drum, rain-stick, wind chimes, suspended triangle, metal bowl, large gong

Cymbals: ride 1, ride 2, crash 1, crash 2, splash, China

Tom-toms: high, medium-high, low-medium, low, floor 1, floor 2

Rototoms: high, medium, low

Mallets: standard drum sticks (2 pairs), medium-hard mallets (2 pairs), single large bass drum soft mallet, pair of soft bass drum mallets, triangle wand,

\* The small bell is hanged at the top of the tripod (see p. 92), and should preferably be of a special, attractive design.

# Additional equipment

- 1. Simple shoulder cloth bag
- 2. Instrument stand for claves
- 3. Music stands: no more than 4 for the percussion, preferably none, 5 stands at storage room (see room plan, p. 93), 6 stands in passage room, 1 for keyboard (total: 16-12)
- 4. Stool for cello, behind the piano
- 5. Stool for frame drum, stored under the piano
- 6. Rain-stick stand or a tall basket for diagonal position
- 7. Sheets of paper (see specifications in page 106)

# Locations of beaters at the beginning of the performance

- 1. Hard mallets on clave stand
- 2. Hard mallets inside tripod (to be used later also for episode 4 and for the bowl of episode 6)
- 3. Pair and single soft large mallets near bass drum
- 4. Large gong mallet attached to the gong frame
- 5. Drum sticks by wood blocks
- 6. Drum sticks on piano (for episode 5)

# Special stage design and objects

1. Ten-foot truncated tripod with poles held together near the top and rungs at about half the height and ¾ the height to hang bells and metal pipes. A small bell is hung at the top so that the percussionist cannot reach it with a drum stick. If the tripod is too low for that, add an extension to one of the poles. The High Bell inside the tripod should be hanged on a hook; the hook should be tied to a fishing string that can be rolled easily in order to pull down the bell at the end of episode 3.

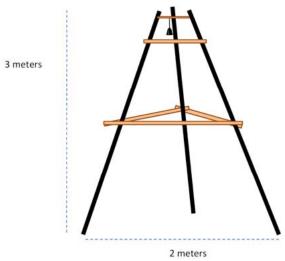


Figure 1. Tripod, view from side, high bell

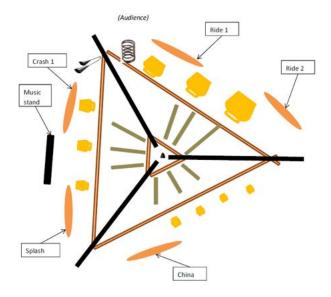


Figure 2. Tripod, view from above and location of metal pipes, bells, cymbals, agogo and large spiral spring

2. Truncated cone to attach the percussion parts of episode 4



3. 3 partitions to cover the backstage entrances and the keyboard player. The partitions should preferably be white and simple.

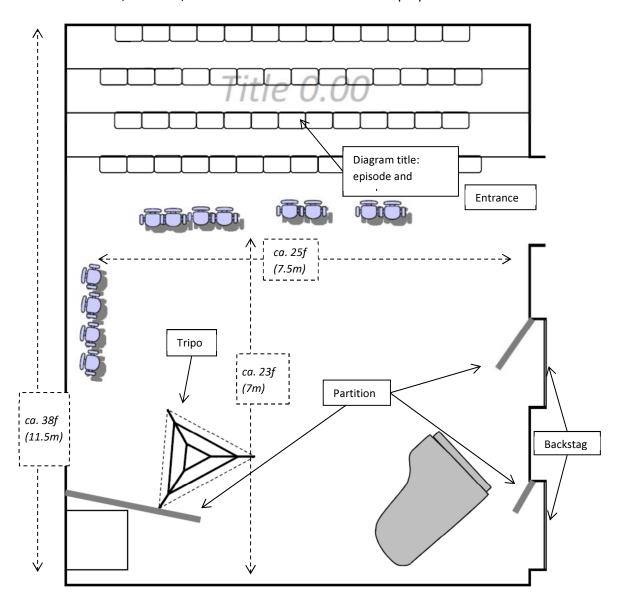
# Room plan

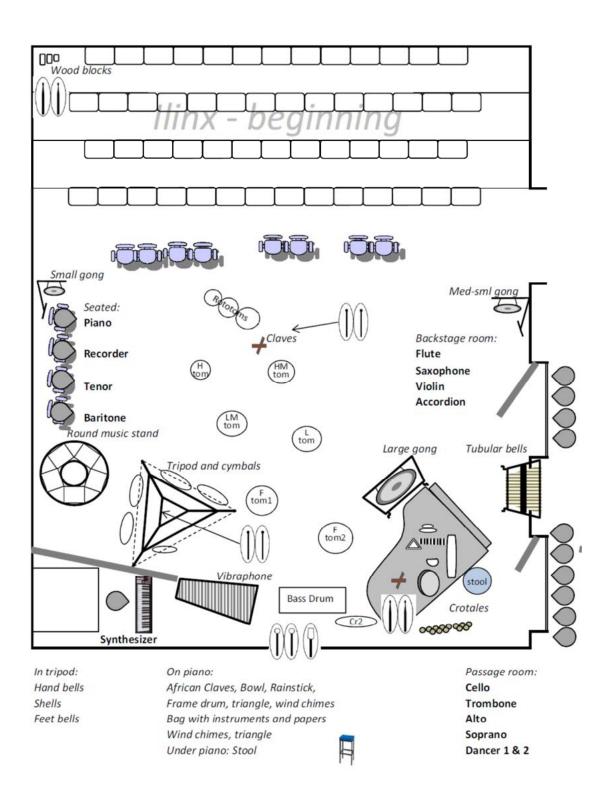
This version is designed for the performance studio (room 131) at the music department in the University of California Santa Cruz. The work may be performed in other venues of these characteristics:

- 1. Stage area should be at least 25 feet wide and 23 feet deep
- 2. Stage area and audience should be at somewhat the same level, and there should be easy access of the performers to areas around or behind the audience area

- 3. There should be either backstage room or a partitioned area on-stage large enough to accommodate about twelve musicians
- 4. The main entrance to the venue should be within easy access to the performers

The score should, however, be accommodated to the different proportions.





#### **Technical Instructions**

- 1. The cloth bag should contain the following items: jaw Harp, sheets of paper, dry leaves, small pouch, tiny bell, beads chain, wrist bells, 2 finger cymbals and dice. The bag should be installed behind the partition at the lower left side of the floor plan
- 2. Four ensemble members sit on the right side of stage. They leave their seats at the end of episode 1 and move according to routes prescribed by the score
- 3. The sustain pedals of the vibraphone and the tubular bells should be set into pressed position

### **Performance Instructions**

#### General

- 1. Unless indicated otherwise, performers should not assume theatrical behavior but only concentrate on performing the scored music. The composition ends with all performers leave the hall and there should not be any formal ending to the performance.
- 2. The score should not necessarily be memorized, although playing from memory would be beneficial. The percussion parts should be placed in restricted number of locations.
- 3. Some passages entail swift, virtuosic and even frantic movement. The movement instruction is either "(follow)", or not indicated at all. It is understood that at times the scored music might not be successfully executed.
- 4. The text whispered in the second episode is a random selection of short texts by Malcolm de Chazal. The text is printed both in a concentrated format on two pages, and also on single pages: one poem on each page. The single poems are, however in a font too large to fit a single page (see specifications), hence only several words will be printed and only fragments of the poem appear. The performer whispers poems either to individual audience members or to a small group of close by audience:
  - a. Choose one of these single pages
  - b. Finds the poem in the concentrated format
  - c. Read the poem from the concentrated format
  - d. After reading hand over the single page, with the fragmented poem to the audience member to whom you whispered (if whispered to a group, hand over to one of them)
- 5. Cymbals are never choked unless indicated otherwise

#### Visiting performers

1. At the beginning of the performance the performers are located as in floor plan

- 2. The ensemble members should totally disregard the audience and the percussionist
- 3. Unless indicated otherwise, ensemble members should always return to their original location backstage after completing activity in the stage zone.
- 4. Recorder player should have the instrument ready to play but preferably hidden from audience
- 5. Backstage rooms should be comfortable to sit at
- 6. Synthesizer and keyboard player should be hidden from audience
- 7. For each cue in the score of the ensemble there is an excerpt from the percussion part and an arrow pointing at the beginning. Entrances need not be absolutely precise.
- 8. Conducting and cues are the responsibility of various members of the ensemble. The inscription <u>CONDUCTOR</u> is marked above the staff of the responsible member for each cue
- 9. When in the venue, ensemble members should absolutely avoid any sign of communication with the percussionist and the audience or acknowledgement of their existence. All activity should be reduced to the minimum necessary. Except for the last cue, music should be either memorized or read from parts set in indistinctive locations:
  - a. Tucked to the walls: cue 8 (episode 2) flute, violin, saxophone, trombone, cello
  - b. For the last cue musicians should enter with a music stand, and set it at the location indicated by the score
- 10. A stool should be prepared in front of the passage room for the cellist
- 11. Locations for performers' parts:
  - a. Copies of the full score and a performance outline should be located in the two backstage rooms
  - b. All piano parts should be prepared to play on the piano rack
  - c. Parts for alto in cues 7, 10, 18 and 19 should be placed on the closed piano lid
  - d. Parts for the instrumentalists in cues 11 and 12 should be tucked to the backstage doors

# Legend

# Verbal and numerical instructions

Example	Format	Meaning
	Number in circle	Rehearsal numbers for
		percussionist
Variations 1.01	Plain font text and	Reference to a room-plan
Variations 1.01	number in rectangle	of the same number
Edges, ensemble cue 1	Plain font text and number in rectangle	Ensemble cue number
Place medium tom in front-center	Italic font text	Action instruction. Usually
facing audience		these actions are not
		restricted by beat or time.
Theme	Plain font text in rectangle	Rehearsal mark
	Text in hexagon	Go to the indicated
to claves		location and/or
Control and the Control		instrument

# Signs and symbols

Sign	Meaning	Comment
	performer	The tip indicates the
		direction of the face
<b>⊕</b> ■ ⊙	Instruments for episode 2	Beads, wrist bells,
0 11 0 0		stationary castanets, tiny bell, egg/shaker, two
		finger cymbals
	Cymbal	inger cymodis
HM	Tomtom	
000	Wood blocks	
Ritotoms	Rototoms	High, medium, low
7.77	Small gong	Suspended on a high
$\otimes$ /		stand
<b>∀</b>		

	Large gong	
<del></del>		
+	Claves	
	Tubular bells	
	Vibraphone	
880¢8800o	Crotales	
	Frame drum	
	Rain-stick	
	Wind chimes	Suspended on a high stand
8	Two smooth cobble stones	
D	Metal bowl	
	Triangle	Suspended on a high stand
2	Route of performer's movement	

L tom	Relocate an instrument	
	Music stand	
	Round music stand	Episode 4
*	Pouch full with dry leaves	
\$	Dry leave	
Ĺ	Tiny bell	
	Arrangement of small instruments in episode II	The arrangement changes constantly and indicated every few measures
-5 4 -5 4 -2 3 -1	Small instrument game clef	The clef represents the array of six locations and a stationary pair of castanets as they are represented on the staff. In reality the percussionist faces locations 3,4 and the castanets thus:
Right Center Left	(Episode II) Percussionist conducts audience	The vertical lines stand for the right, center and left sections of the audience.  Darker color denotes louder sound.
	(Episode II) Percussionist conducts audience	Accelerated and decelerated single sounds

# **Notation**

Sign	Meaning	Comment
(S)	As softly as possible,	
	preferably silently	
Mvmt. II to point B	X note-heads notation on "Movement" staff	Move in rhythm according to indication (in this example: walk)
•	Stand still at location	May appear above the last step of a walk or a run
<b>*</b>	Walk	
•	Bow	
<u> </u>	Stand beside drum	
关	Run	
*	Jump	
<b>-</b> ★	Walk backwards	
<b>*</b>	Walk with instrument	
Ĺ	Sit on floor	
<u>k</u> / h	Alternate between walking and leaning towards audience	
<b>₹</b> =>	Change direction	
	Dashed circle, arrow	Move in circle
(Around LM-tom)	Dashed circle, instruction	Move in circle according to instruction
1/ O 1/4 -2 /1	Dashed circle around object, numbers	Move in circle around object according to indicated steps. Counting refers in this example to the beats in the measure

4	Whisper	
AM)		
Abbreviations:	Cymbals	
Ch	China	
Sp	Splash	
Cr	Crash	
R	Ride	
	Tom-toms	
Н	High	
HM	High-medium	
LM	Low-medium	
L	Low	
F	Floor	
	Indefinite number of the	In this example:
<u>n</u>	rhythmic value in the	indefinite number
Ď	denominator	of eights
7		
P	Lay down instrument/mallet	These signs appear
		only when the
		action of laying or
		picking up the
		instrument has
		rhythmic
		significance
<u></u>	Pick up instrument/mallet	These signs appear
		only when the
		action of laying or
		picking up the
		instrument has
		rhythmic
		significance
	Interchange locations of	The first two notes
	instruments	denote picking
		instruments up and
		the second pair
3		indicate laying them down
	(Enicodo II) Diek un instrumente	mem down
	(Episode II) Pick up instruments	
400	and play them one against the other	
	Otilei	

<b>E</b>	Play on music stand	
back	Specific instrument note-head and the inscription "back"	Play on the back of the instrument
r	Diamond shaped empty note- head	Silent note
Cym.  Agg. Spr. H.bls	Vertical double headed arrow between two notes of different instruments	Beat one instrument with the other. In this example beat cymbal with hand bells

# Bass drum

ŕ	Beat and retain beater on skin to choke resonance	
Ī	Scrape skin	
	Advance with beating/muffling according to the arrow	
R L AR	Scrape skin with right hand finger Beat the drum at the point indicated by asterisk	
	Muffle with knee	In this example the knee muffles while advancing towards the center of the membrane
P	Flat hand	
5	Scrape with thumb	

_fh	Tap with index finger	
21m	Tap with maex miger	
B	Snap finger	Index or middle
	Shap mger	finger, held by
		thumb and
		released
		powerfully
. 80-	Beat with hand and then raise	As if propagating
J. J	arm to the air	the sound
//		
II à		Example: beater
" [ ]		retained on skin to
		muffle resonance
		in eighth notes,
		beginning at center
		of skin, advancing
	Beating advances on the skin	to the edge
(fingers tips)		Example: finger
2000		tips play
HH		accelerated notes,
		beginning at edge
		of skin, advancing
		to the center
<b>P</b>	Crumple paper	
	Inserted music (music or	Arrow points to the
	directions appear in the box)	approximate
		beginning point.
		The inserted music
		is not synchronized
		to the main score.
<b></b>	Inserted music, no box: same as	
	above, but the inserted music	
	appears later in the score	

# Mallets

	Mallet	
Ü	drum stick	

	Bass drum large and soft mallet	Should always remain by bass drum
	Claves	
(hold)	Hold beaters without playing	
	Soft mallet	Should always remain by bass drum

#### Ensemble cues score

	The note to whice point is on the be		
Slap tongue Scratch	X or slash note-h	eads: Extended	If there is no verbal
7	techniques		indication use
<del>*</del> +			previous technique
Abbreviations of percussion cues	:	Cym. = c	ymbal
B.Dr., BD = bass drum		A.Cl. = At	rican claves
Act. = actions		F.Dr. = fr	ame drum
Shls. = shells		Rstk. = ra	ninstick
F.Bls. = foot bells			

# **Instruments and playing techniques**

## Frame drum

#### Strokes:

- 1. Pa (Ka) center of drum, 4 fingers of dominant hand hitting and stopping the vibrations
- 2. Doom side of drum, thumb of dominant hand
- 3. Tek (Tak) side of drum, ring finger of dominant hand
- 4. Ke (Ka) side of drum, ring finger of holding hand

## Jaw harp

The jaw harp should preferably be made of bamboo and not be too loud.

Tied notes: single pluck with multiple mouth movements

## **Technical Specifications**

Printed sheets of paper

Font: Aparajita (or similar), size 146

• Paper size: Letter or A4

• Paper color: brown/light-brown

#### Text

## The texts in episode II

**Malcolm de Chazal**, from *Sens-Plastique* (1945) and *Sens Magique* (1957), translated by Patricia Terry. Surrealist Painters and Poets, an Anthology. Edited by Mary Ann Cows. MIT Press. Cambridge, MA; London, 2001

A bicycle rolls on the road. The eye The road
The road is the third wheel Is a one-actor Runs
Rolling the other two. Theater. In both directions

That's why It stands still.

The water says to the wave, Absolute "Take me "You are swallowing me." Mastery Naked"

"How could I?"

Of the body

The flower said

Replied the wave,

"I am your mouth."

To the sun,

"Before

Night Closes My thighs"

The dew "I'll never The noise,

Said to the sun, Be bit off bits of itself

"Do you see me?"

Old"

And left

"No," said the sun.

Said the man

Its teeth

"I have hope."

Among

The keys

Of the piano.

With their peaks
Two mountains
Were touching a cloud.
For an instant
The cloud felt
Topsy-turvy
Unable to find
Its head.

Emptiness Has no Way Out. She wore Her smile Pinned To her teeth.

When the fine
Seized the branch
The branch gave way
And the flower
Stuck its head out
To see what was going on.

If light unfurled Its peacock tail There would be No room For life. Light
Dressed
For the afternoon
Went
To play golf
With the holes.

Fanning yourself?
Not so.
The fan's in the wind's I

The fan's in the wind's hand That's why You feel cool. Sugar
Doesn't know
What it tastes like.
Someone
Tasting it
Gives sugar
A taste of sugar.

The lake
This morning
After
A bad
Night
Got into
Its tub
To relax.

"I've gone all the way around The Earth," One man said. "Poor fellow And all that time You haven't progressed Half an inch In your body."

A stone Hears its heart beat Only In the rain. The wave Out of its depth On the shore Went down.

The pupil
Turned the eyes
The iris followed
The white of the eye
Delayed

Just long enough
Friend
for you
To slip into the face
Of the one you love.

The circle
Is an alibi
For the center
And the center
Is a pretext
For the circle.

He was In such a hurry To get to life That it Let him go. "I love you,"
The woman said.
"Be careful,"
Said her lover,
"Don't love me
Too much

Or you'll come back

To yourself Love is round."

"One and one Make two"

Said the mathematician. What's that
To God and the zero?

The quickest route From ourselves To ourselves Is the Universe. She anchored Her hips In his eyes And brought him

To port.

Blue The car
Always has Will never
An idea Attain
Up its sleeve. The speed
Of the road.

Cut water As much as you like Never

Will you find The skeleton.

The skeleton of wind

In life itself.

Night Is a rimless Hole.

## Texts sung by the ensemble

**Sappho**, from *Sappho*: *a new translation*, translated by Mary Barnard, Berkeley: University of California Press, 1958.

You may forget but let me tell you this: someone in some future time will think of us

**Federico García Lorca**, from "ciudad sin sueño (Nocturno del Brooklyn Bridge)", *Poeta en Nueva York; Tierra y luna*, edición crítica de Eutimio Martín. Barcelona: Ariel, 1981.

"No duerme nadie por el cielo. Nadie, nadie. No duerme nadie."

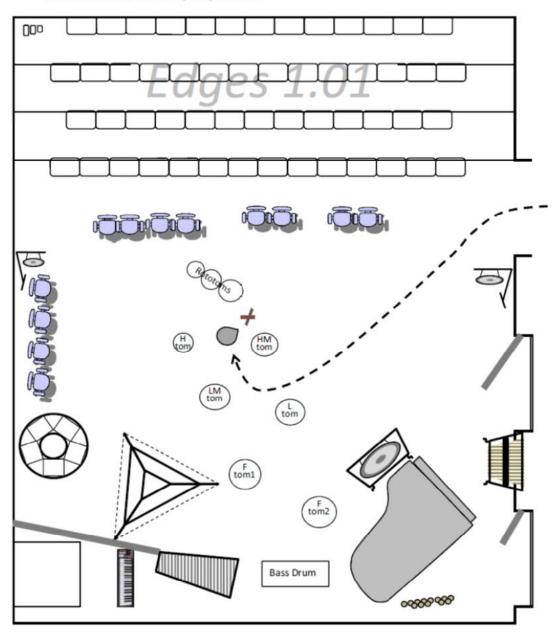
# Ilinx I (Edges)

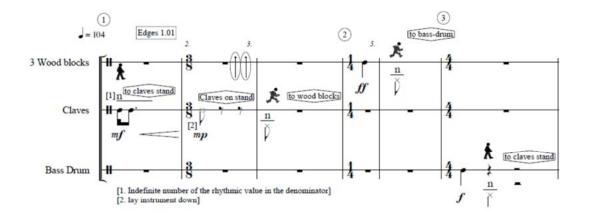
Percussion:
3 Wood blocks, claves, bass drum
Tom-toms: H, HM, LM, L, F1, F2
Rototoms: H, M, L

Beaters: sticks, hard mallets, single large soft mallet

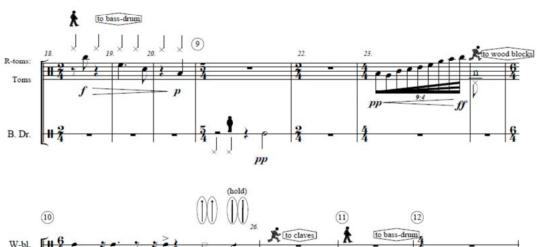
#### Ensemble:

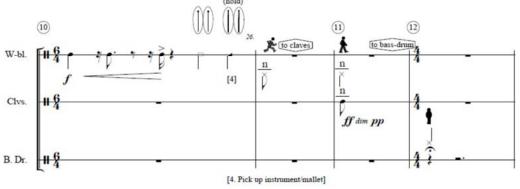
flute, violin, T. Sax, trombone, cello, synth, piano, recorder

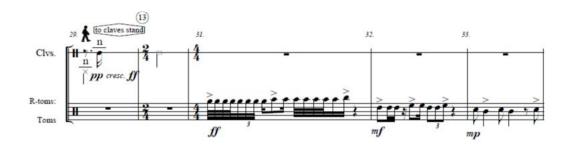




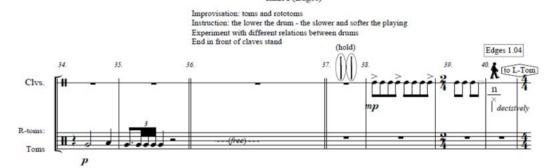


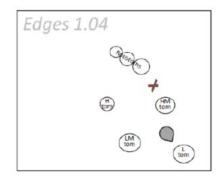




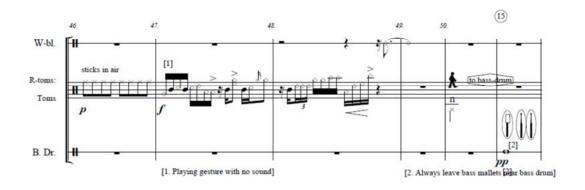


Ilinx I (Edges)

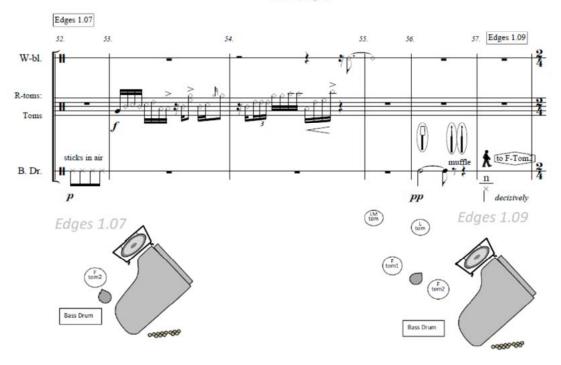




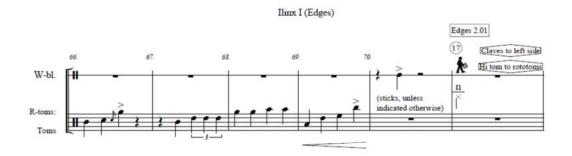


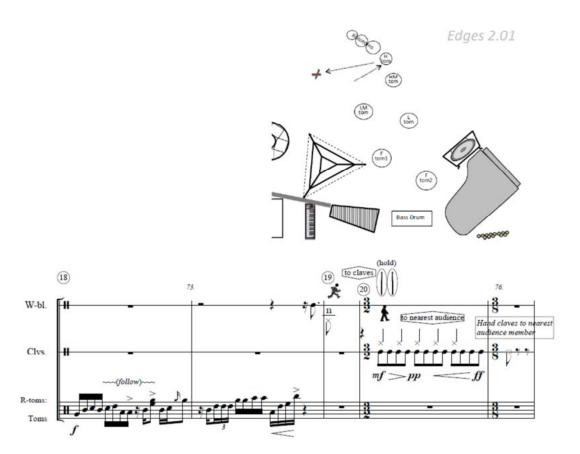


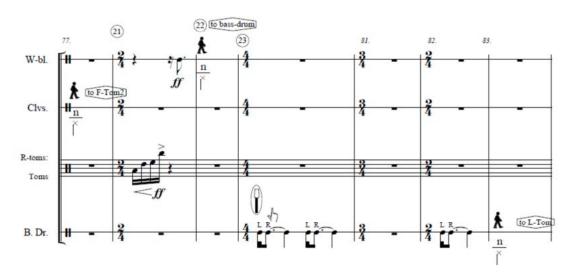
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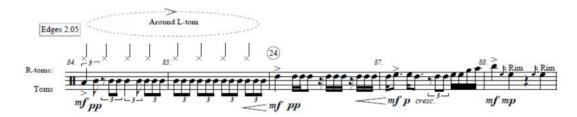


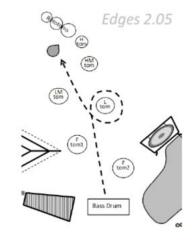


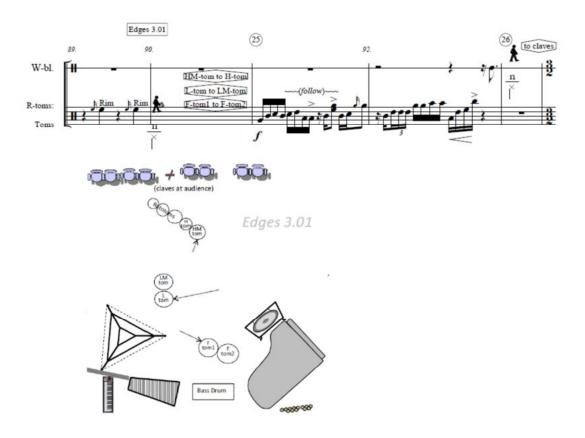




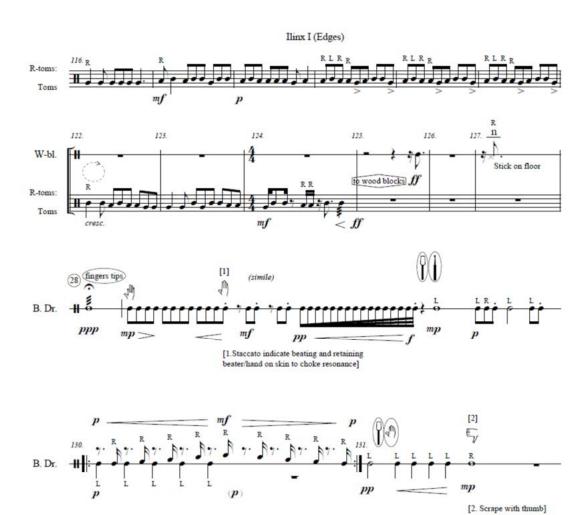


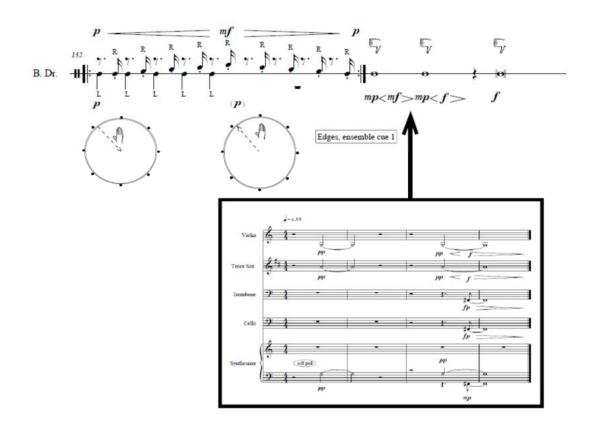


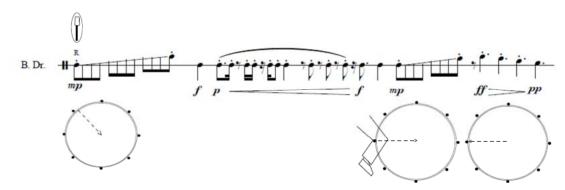


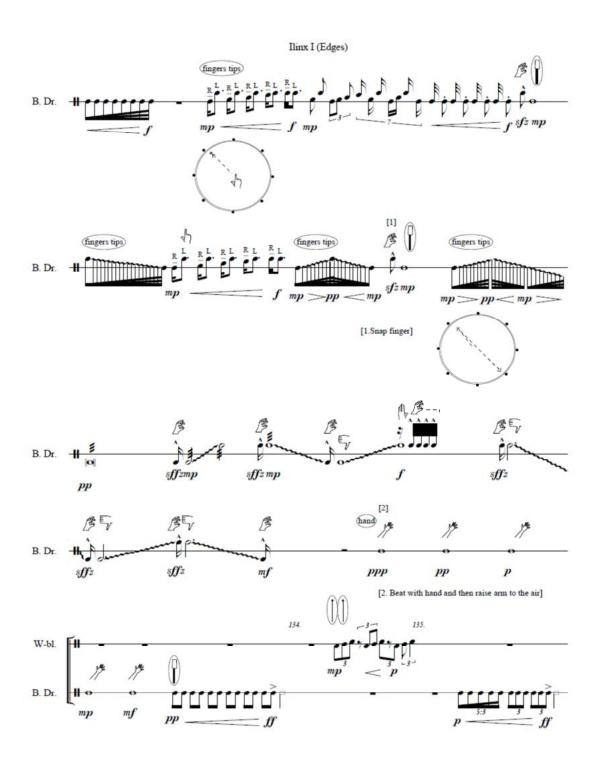




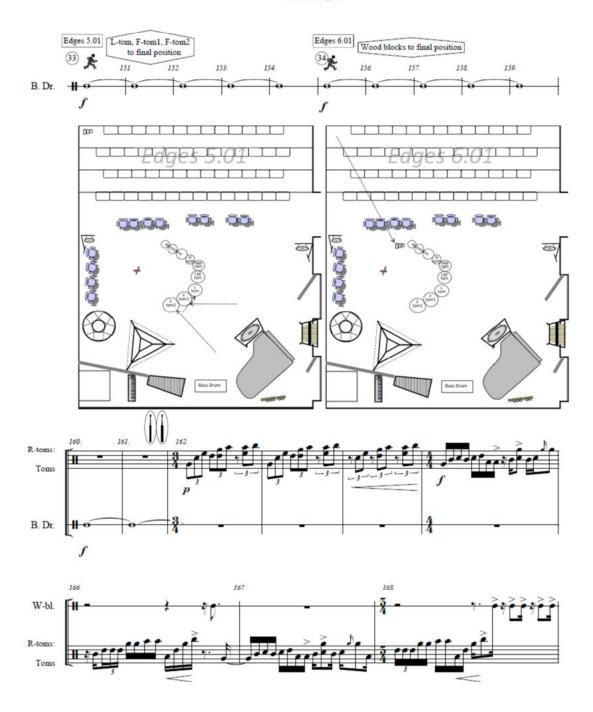


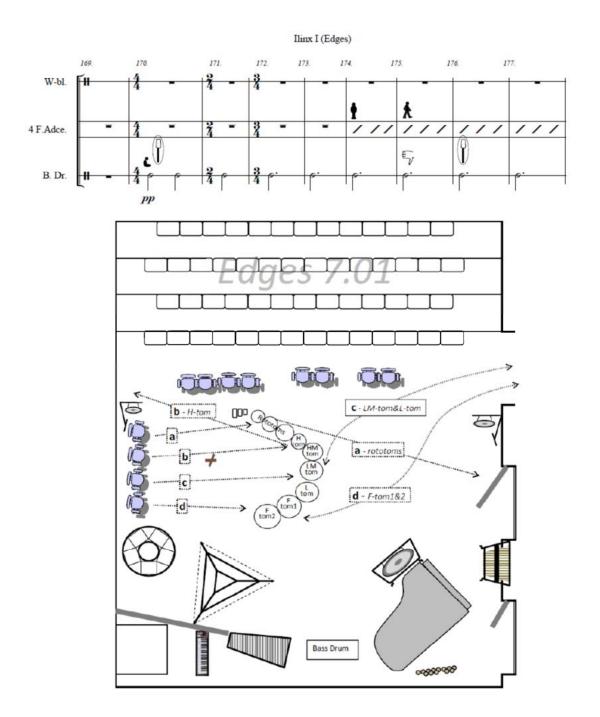


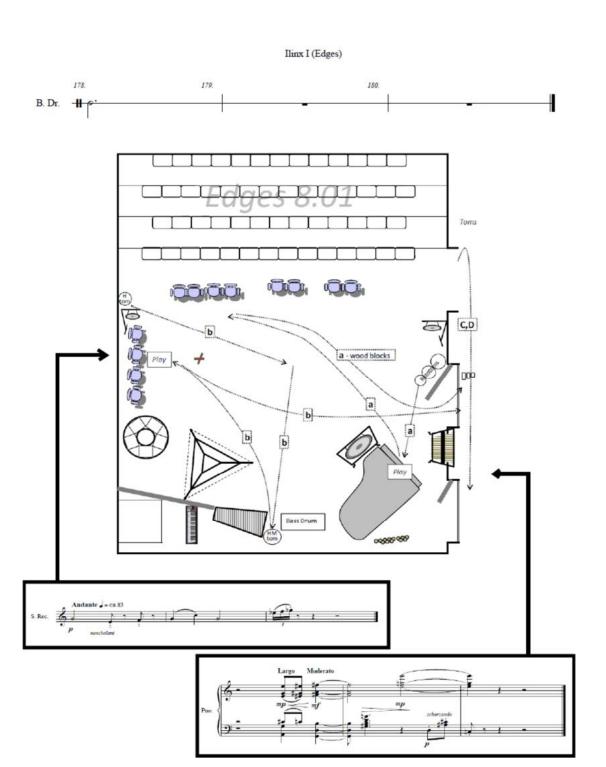












# Ilinx II (Intimate things)

Percussion: simple shoulder cloth bag containing a jaw Harp, sheets of paper, dry leaves, small pouch, tiny bell, beads chain, wrist bells, 2 finger cymbals, small shaker, stationary castanets

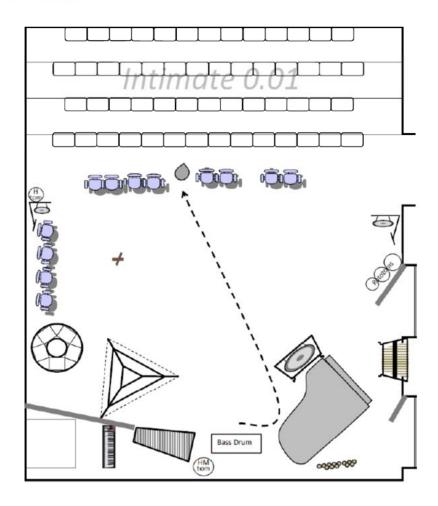
claves, bass drum Mallets: 2 soft, 1 large soft

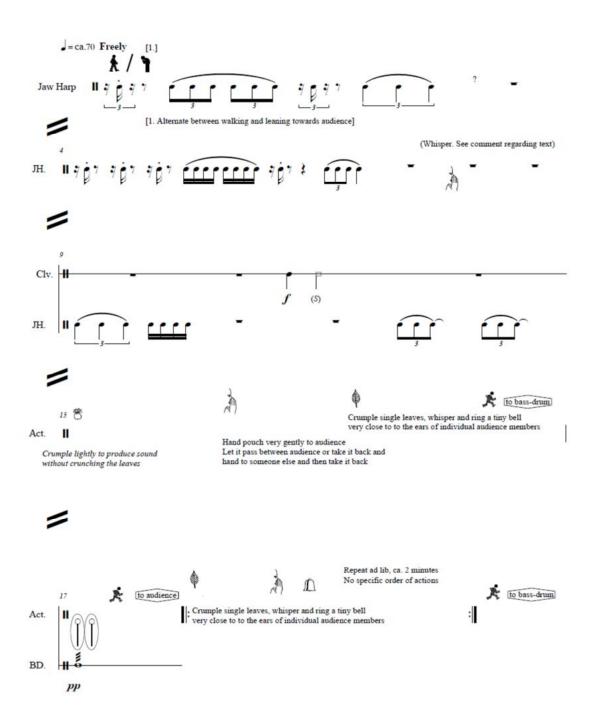
Ensemble: 2 dancers, voc. SATB, piano, flute, violin, sax, trombone, cello, recorder, accordion

The percussionist carries a shoulder cloth bag from under the piano, approaches audience and communicates to them soft sounds and small and light objects taken from the bag.

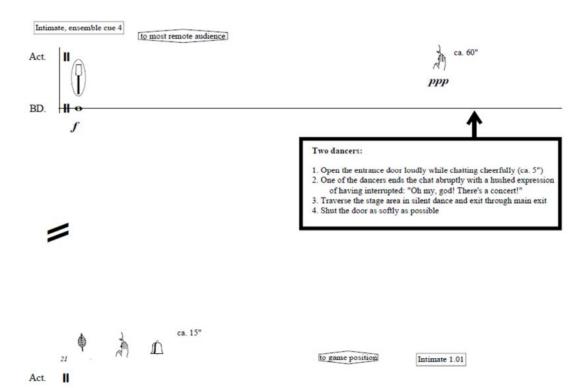
#### Instructions

- 1. Approach audience in random order, trying to eventually interact with all members of audience
- 2. Keep a light movement, do not obtrude yourself upon audience and try to avoid physical contact
- 3. When passing sheets of paper, reach out to remote audience by passing it to them via neighboring audience members
- 4. Do not use voice except prescribed whispered texts in the score
- When audience cooperation is required, use minimal body gestures to express desired action and avoid explicit directions to audience.

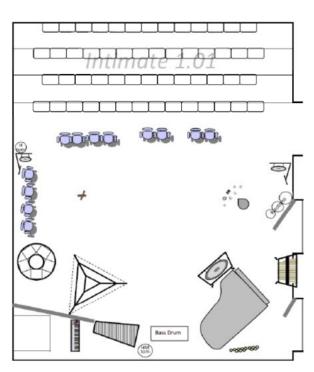




Ilinx II (Intimate things)

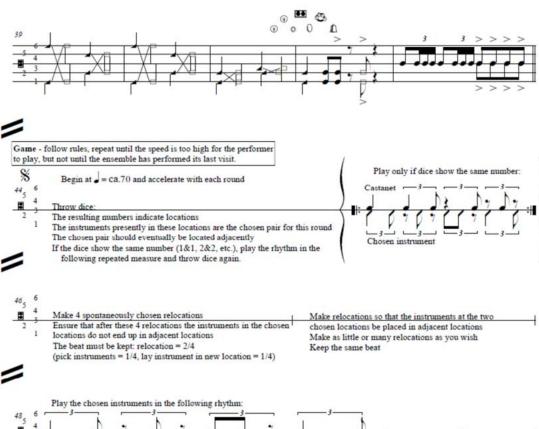


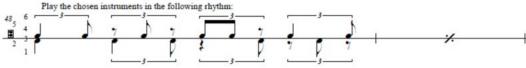
Ilinx II (Intimate things)





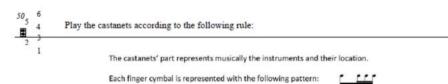
# Ilinx II (Intimate things) Intimate, ensemble cues 5-10 Ensemble enters: cues 5-10





### Ilinx II (Intimate things)

D.S.



Each other instrument is represented with an eighth note.

Thus, for example, if the setup is:  $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$   $\bigcirc$ 

- 1. Beads (eighth note)
- 2. Egg (eighth note)
- 3. Finger cymbal 1 (eighth note and 1/16 triplet)
- 4. Finger cymbal 2 (eighth note and 1/16 triplet)
- 5. Wrist bells (eighth note)
- 6. Bell (eighth note)

They will be represented by the castanets in the following rhythm:



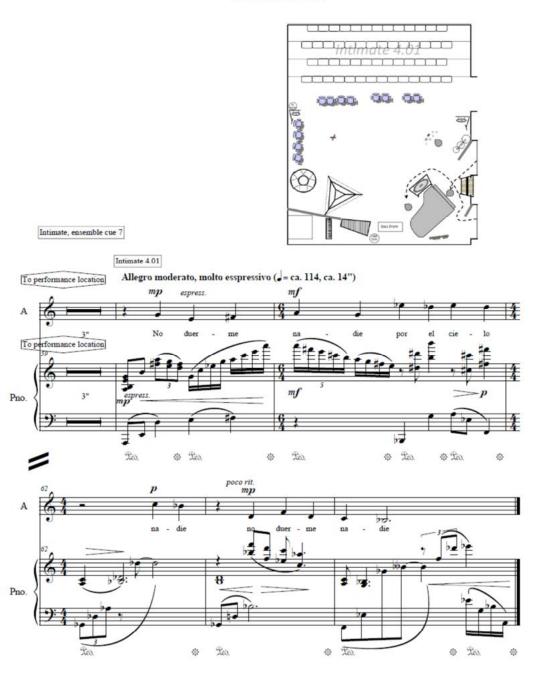
Ilinx II (Intimate things)



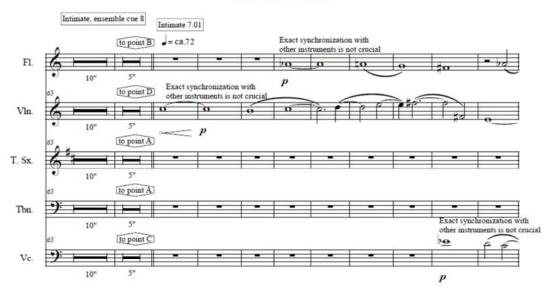
Ilinx II (Intimate things)

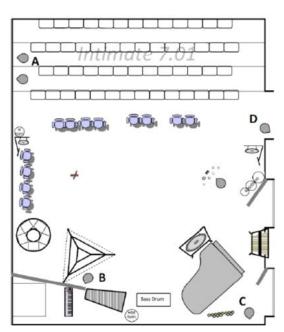


Ilinx II (Intimate things)



Ilinx II (Intimate things)







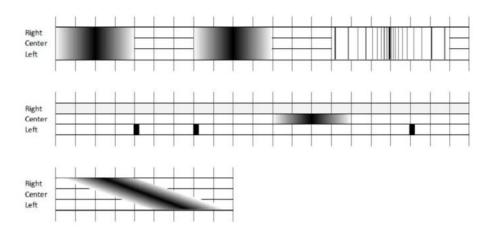


Les.

=60bpm 91

Act.

- 1. Collect instruments back into bag
  2. Approach audience and disperse some more pieces of paper
  3. Stand in front of audience
  4. Take a sheet of paper out of bag
  5. Look intently at audience and extend your arm forward, holding the paper in front of you to express the will for audience participation
  - Gesture audience to hold their sheets of paper and shaking them according to your conducting:
     Use body gesture to condct audience:



8. Collect the papers back from the audience. Do not insist on collecting all the sheets.

# Ilinx III (Metallophone nest)

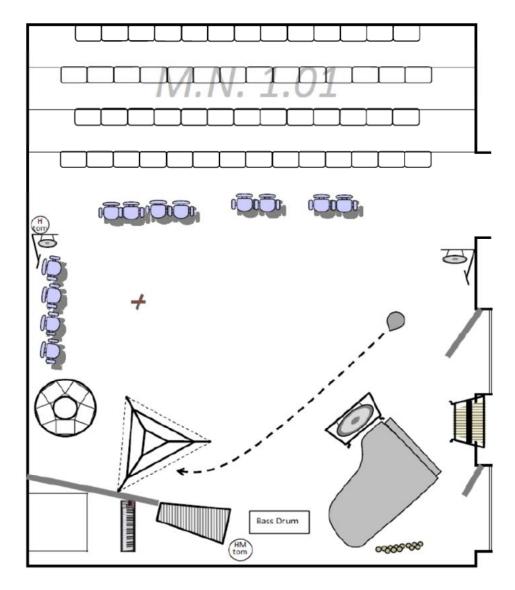
Percussion: Small bell, metal pipes, Alpenglocken, Cymbals, agogo, metal spiral, hand bells, castanets, rattle sheets of paper, shells, foot bells
Cymbals: R1, R2, Cr1, Sp, Ch
Ensemble: soprano, sax, trombone, cello, ac

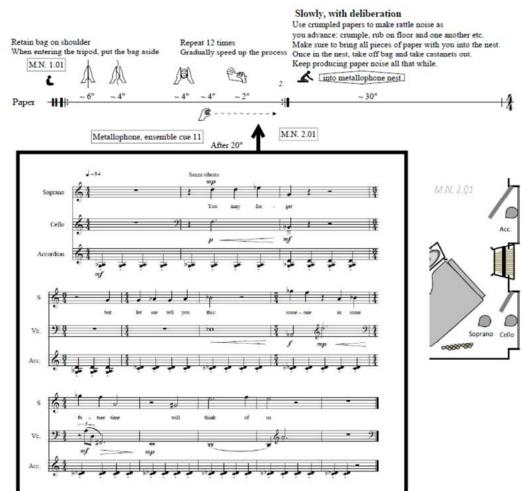
Metal pipes: 9, in different pitches

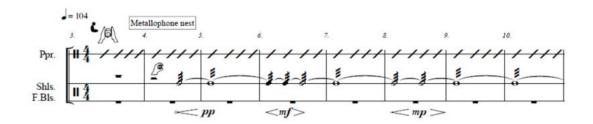
Alpenglocken: D4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, A5

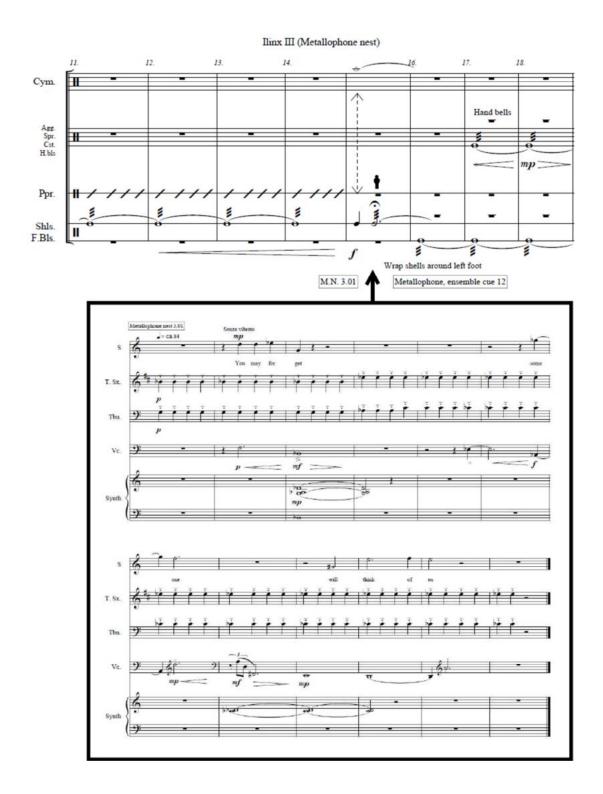
Beaters: hard mallets

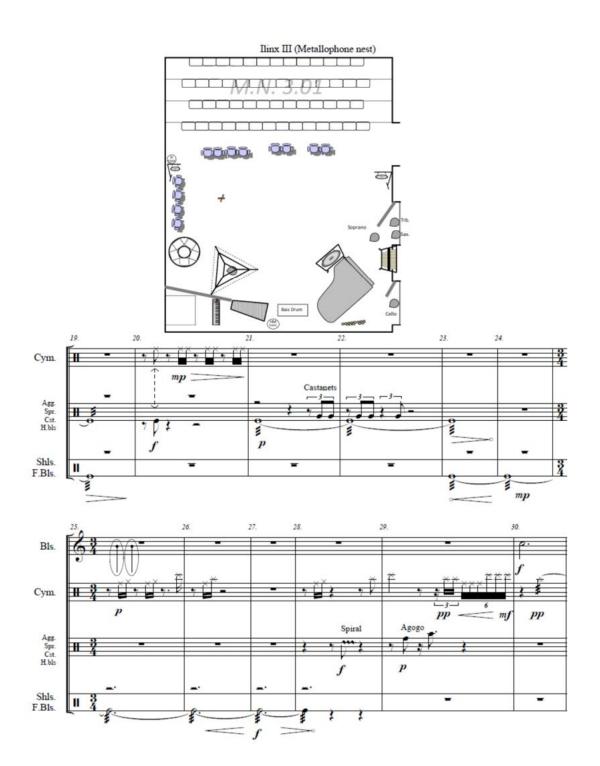
Ensemble: soprano, sax, trombone, cello, accordion, synthesizer,















Ilinx III (Metallophone nest)





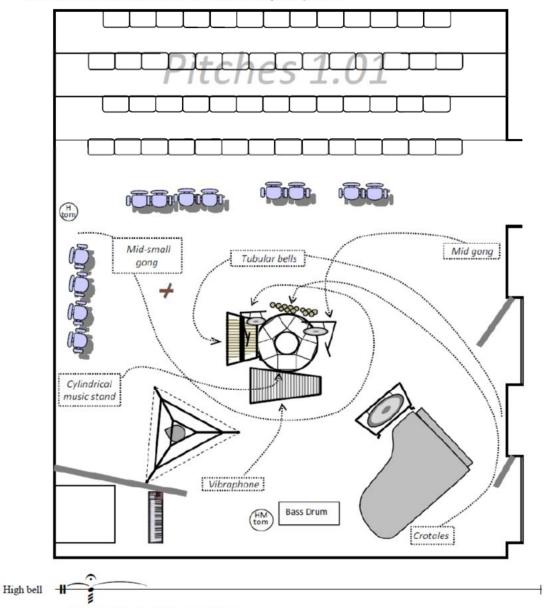


# Ilinx IV (Pitches)

Percussion: triangle, tubular bells, medium-small gong, medium gong, crotales, vibraphone

Beaters: hard mallets

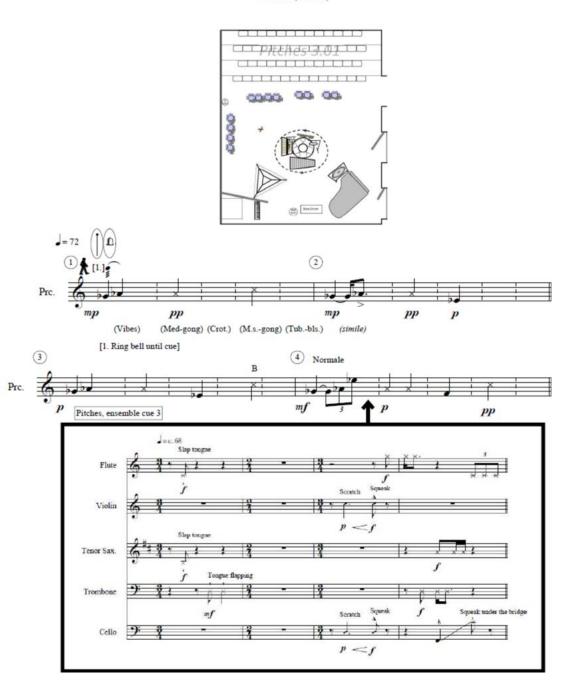
Ensemble: voc: SATB, flute, violin, sax, trombone, cello, piano, synthesizer



Relocation is done by the following performers:

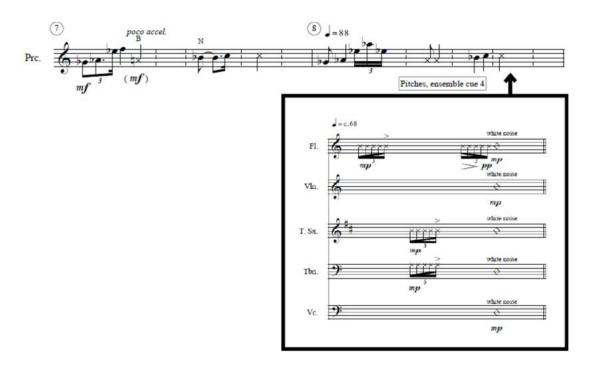
Tubular bells - soprano; Crotale - tenor; vibes - bass; med-gong - piano; med-small-gong - recorder; cyl. music stand - accordion

### Ilinx IV (Pitches)

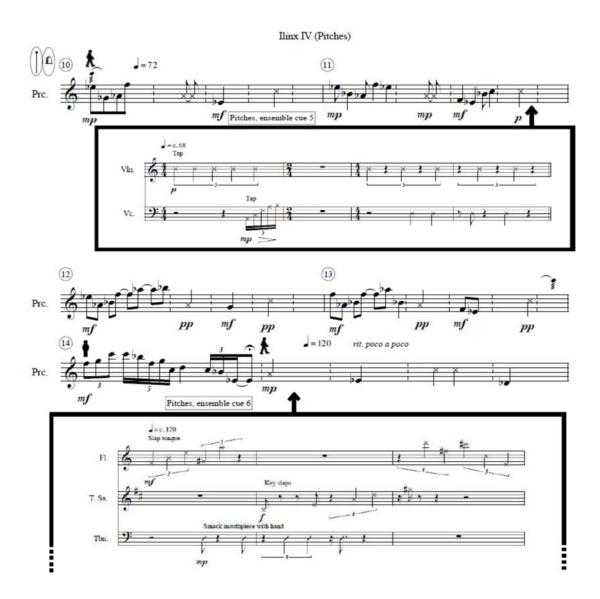


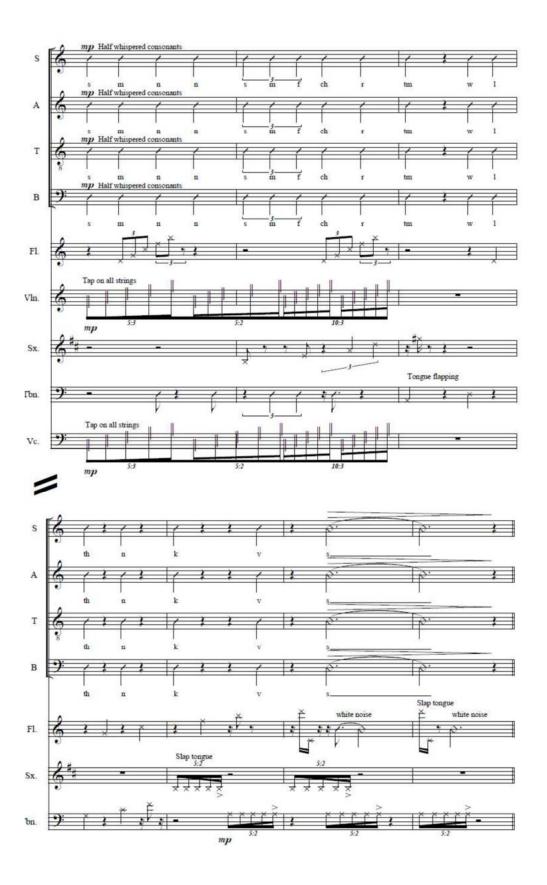
### Ilinx IV (Pitches)









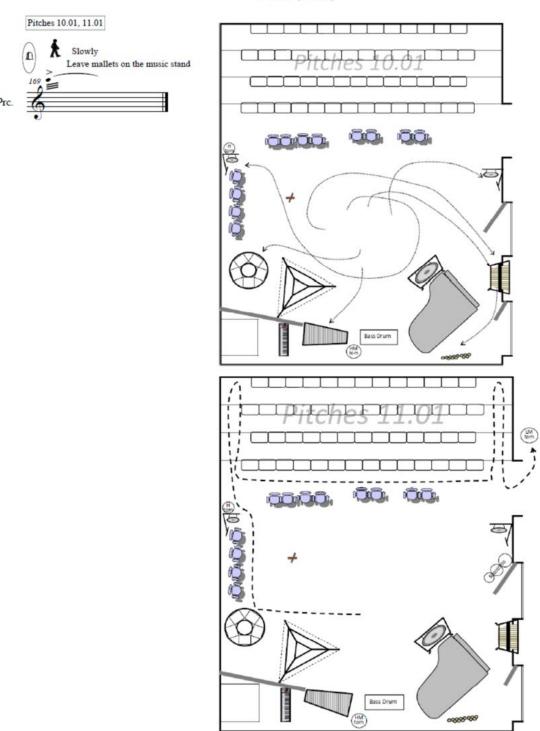










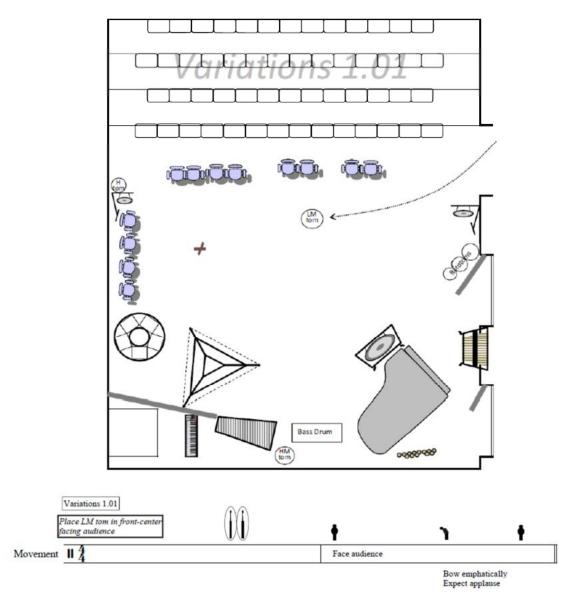


# Ilinx V (Frontal variations)

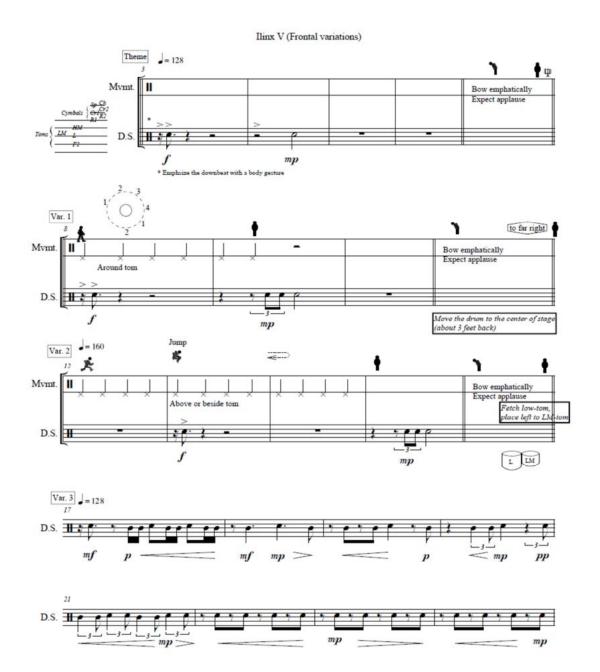
Percussion: Toms: F1, L, LM, HM Cymbals: R1, R2, Cr1, Cr2, Sp, Ch

Claves

Beaters: drum sticks

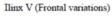


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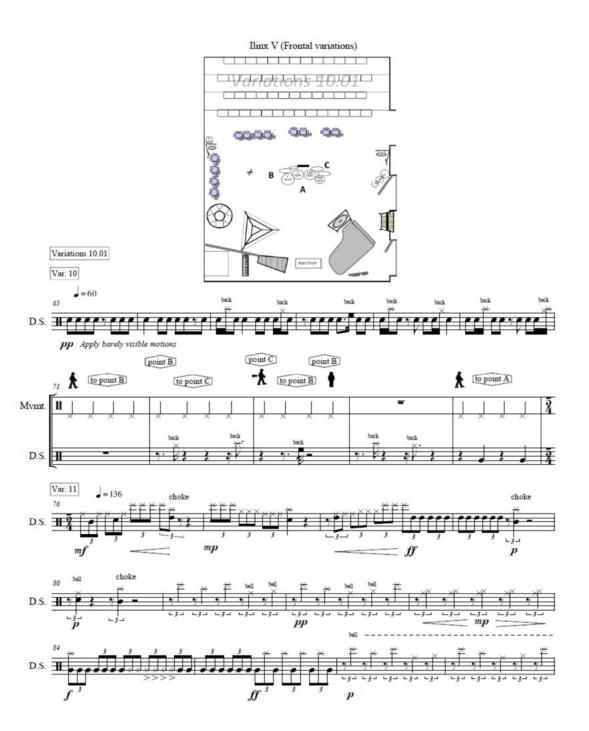


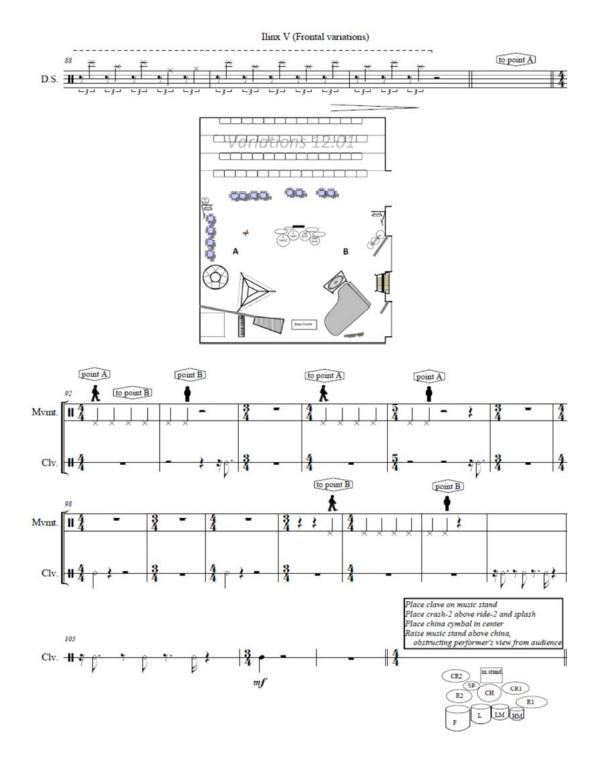
Ilinx V (Frontal variations)







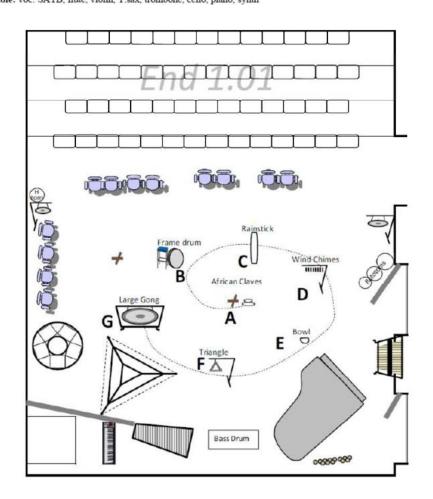


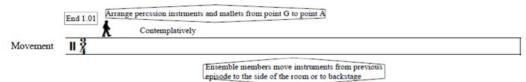




# Ilinx VI (Ending)

Percussion: 2 smooth cobbles, African claves, frame drum, rainstick, wind chimes, suspended triangle, metal bowl, large gong Beaters: triangle wand, single hard mallet for bowl, large soft mallet for gong Ensemble: voc: SATB, flute, violin, T.sax, trombone, cello, piano, synth





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