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# noise decay

*for Bb Clarinet, Piano, Violin, Cello*

Gunter Gaupp

2021

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WRITTEN

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Summer 2021  
Memphis, TN

*for*

*Bb Clarinet*

*Piano*

*Violin*

*and*

*Cello*

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5 minutes in duration

# Notes

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## Bow pressure



indicates a slow bow with heavy bow pressure resulting in a distorted scratch tone with little pitch



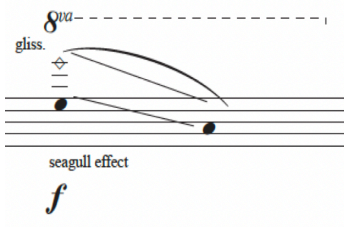
indicates an increase from **normal** to **heavy** bow pressure

## Circular Bowing



indicates a harsher swirling sound produced by scraping the bow down and across open strings in a constant, circular motion. The resulting sound alternates between scratch tones, harmonics, and fundamental pitches.

## Seagull Gliss



The piece borrows Crumb's "Seagull Effect" harmonic glissando wherein the player maintains the notated interval while moving through the gliss, producing rapidly moving harmonic pitches

## Overblowing

The clarinet has a section that utilizes rapid shifts in overblowing over written pitches. Here, the notated pitches should be fingered while the jagged line is used to indicate the approximate level of overblowing:



The lowest points on the line are the normal fundamentals and the highest are the highest possible overblown harmonic. The resulting pitches should sound unwieldy with random honks and squeaks.

# Noise Decay

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**A**

♩ = 110

Clarinet in B $\flat$

Violin

*molto sul pont.*  
allow bow to shift slightly on and off the bridge for random elements of noise and shifts in sounding harmonics

Cello

*molto sul pont.*  
allow bow to shift slightly on and off the bridge for random elements of noise and shifts in sounding harmonics

Piano

B $\flat$  Cl.

*mp*

Vln.

*mf*

Vc.

*mf*

*p*

Pno.

*p*  
ped

9

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*p*

*mf* ————— *ff*

**B**

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

m.s.p  
drift between light and heavy bow  
pressure as desired. Dynamics should  
range between nearly silent and quite loud

*p*

*p*

*ped*

6

15

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

6

15

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

17

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*p* ————— *mf*

m.s.p

*p*

17

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*p* ————— *mf*

m.s.p

*p*

21

B♭ Cl.

*mf*

Vln.

*mf*

Vc.

Pno.

25

B♭ Cl.

*mp* *f* *mp*

Vln.

*p* *mp* ord.

Vc.

*mp* ord. m.s.p. *p*

Pno.

*f* *mp* *p*

*8vb* *8vb*

8

29

B $\flat$  Cl. *mf* *f* ord.

Vln. *m.s.p* *p* *mp*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *mf* *8<sup>vb</sup>*

33

B $\flat$  Cl. *mp* *mf*

Vln. *m.s.p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mf* *8<sup>vb</sup>*

All vertical bow motion, bouncing up and down off the strings in a percussive gesture



37

B $\flat$  Cl. *f*

Vln. ord. *mp* *mf* m.s.p.

Vc. m.s.p. *mp*

Pno.

41

B $\flat$  Cl. *mp* *f*

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f* sul pont. *f*

Pno. *ff*

ped

C

10  
44

B $\flat$  Cl. *f*

Vln. *mf* sul pont. *mp*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

47

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln. *mf* ord. *mp*

Vc. ord. *mf* *mp*

Pno. *mf*

ped

50

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mf*

*mp*

*f*

m.s.p

*mp*

*f*

ped

53

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mf*

*f*

ord.

m.s.p

ord.

*mf*

*f*

*mf*

sub

*mp*

12  
56

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mf*

m.s.p

*p* *mf* *p* *p*

8vb

59

B♭ Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*f*

gliss. *8va*

seagull effect

ord. *f* *mp* ord.

m.s.p

8vb

This musical score page contains five systems of staves for measures 62 through 65. The instruments are B♭ Clarinet (B♭ Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vc.), Piano (Pno.), and Percussion (Perc.).

- System 1 (Measures 62-64):**
  - B♭ Cl.:** Measures 62-64. Measure 62 starts with a treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a common time signature. It features a melodic line with a slur over measures 63 and 64.
  - Vln.:** Measures 62-64. Measure 62 has a whole note. Measure 63 includes a glissando (gliss.) and a 'seagull effect' marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 64 has a whole note with a mezzo-soprano (*m.s.p*) dynamic.
  - Vc.:** Measures 62-64. Measure 62 has a whole note with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measure 63 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 64 has a whole note with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic.
  - Pno.:** Measures 62-64. Measure 62 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 63 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 64 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic.
  - Perc.:** Measures 62-64. Measure 62 has a whole note with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Measure 63 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 64 has a whole note with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic.
- System 2 (Measures 65-67):**
  - B♭ Cl.:** Measures 65-67. Measure 65 starts with a treble clef, key signature of two sharps, and a common time signature. It features a melodic line with a slur over measures 66 and 67. A fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic is indicated in measure 66.
  - Vln.:** Measures 65-67. Measure 65 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 66 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 67 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic.
  - Vc.:** Measures 65-67. Measure 65 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 66 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 67 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic.
  - Pno.:** Measures 65-67. Measure 65 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 66 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 67 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic.
  - Perc.:** Measures 65-67. Measure 65 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 66 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 67 has a whole note with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

14

D

68

B $\flat$  Cl. *mp*

Vln. *m.s.p*

Vc.

Pno.

73

B $\flat$  Cl. *mp*

Vln.

Vc. *mp*

Pno.

*gva*  
gliss.

seagull effect

77

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

*p*

*8 $\flat$*

ped

move bow in continuous circular motion over open strings with varying light to medium bow pressure

81

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mf*

*mp*

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

ped

sul pont.

16  
85

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*m.s.p*

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

E

89

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*f*

*mf*

*p*

*gliss.*

*8va*

*ord.*

*seagull effect*

*mp*

*mf*

*f*



92

B $\flat$  Cl. *mf*

Vln. *mf* sul pont.

Vc. *f* *8va* gliss. seagull effect

Pno.

95

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln. *f* *8va* gliss. seagull effect *mf* ord.

Vc. *mf* *f* m.s.p.

Pno.

18  
97

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mf*

ord.

*f*

*mf*

*f*

*f*

99

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mp*

101

B $\flat$  Cl. *f* *mp*

Vln. ord. *f* *mf* *f*

Vc. *ff* *f*

Pno. *f*

All vertical bow motion, bouncing up and down off the strings in a percussive gesture

104

B $\flat$  Cl. *f*

Vln. *mp* *mf*

Vc.

Pno.

Level of  
Overblowing:

B♭ Cl.

106 *f*

Vln.

106

Vc.

106

Pno.

106

B♭ Cl.

108 *f*

Vln.

108 *f* sul pont.

Vc.

108 *f* ord.

Pno.

108

**F**

B $\flat$  Cl. *f.t*  
*pp* *f*

Vln. 110 *mp*

Vc.

Pno. 110

B $\flat$  Cl. 112 *f*

Vln. 112  
continuous circular bowing as before  
steadily increase speed and volume

Vc.

Pno. 112

22  
114

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

ord.

mf

8va  
gliss.

seagull effect  
mf

ord.

f

116

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

sul pont.

f

m.s.p

p

118

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*f*

*mf*

*ff*

*f*

All vertical bow motion, bouncing up and down off the strings in a percussive gesture

120

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

continuous circular bowing as before  
steadily increase speed and volume until  
sound becomes unwieldy, chaotic noise

24

122

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

ord.

*f*

124

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

All vertical bow motion, bouncing up and down off the strings in a percussive gesture

*f*



126

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*mf* *f* *mf*

This system covers measures 126 and 127. The B $\flat$  Clarinet part features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The Violin part consists of sustained chords with a tremolo effect. The Violoncello part has a single note in measure 126 that transitions to a half note in measure 127, with a dynamic shift from *mf* to *f*. The Piano part includes chords with accents in the upper register and a rhythmic pattern in the lower register.

128

B $\flat$  Cl.

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

*ff* *ff*

This system covers measures 128 through 131. The B $\flat$  Clarinet part continues with eighth notes. The Violin part has sustained chords with a tremolo, marked *ff*. The Violoncello part features a thick, sustained chord block in the lower register, also marked *ff*. The Piano part continues with chords and rhythmic patterns, marked *ff*.