

Malte Giesen

easy listening studies
for small ensemble and tape

2015

comissioned by vertixe sonora

Instrumentation:

Flute, doubling Piccolo
Altosaxophone/Baritone-Saxophone
Harp
Percussion
Piano, E-Piano
Violin
Electronics/Tape

Concept:

The easy listening studies explore the nature of the musical phenomenon „easy listening“, a music which wants to be as unobtrusive and inrecognizable as possible, to make people feel comfortable, and to cover social awkwardness (embarassing silence in the elevator, etc.). The studies can be played in a certain order, or as „fill“-pieces within a concert program. The fixed order is the following:

lounge remix:

short movement-break

club

standard movement-break

resort (rondo)

attacca

embarassing silence: 1' white noise 60dB

extended movement-break

w/o club

this is the same as „club“, but without the tape part.

club:

the goal is to create a sounding environment in which the bass frequencies of a club track are the most audible thing. During the loud bass beats (but only very low frequencies) the ensemble plays sustained sounds, very quiet, almost not audible. It is crucial to find the perfect balance between the loud bass beats and the very soft high frequencies in the ensemble. It depends on the room size, material, audience, PA, etc.

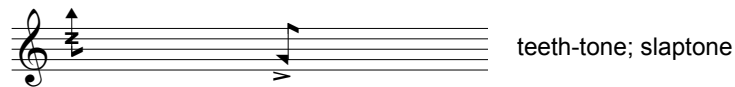
The ensemble is playing in different tempos and metric values, so the stable beats of the club track are changing their metrical „function“ continually.

Explications

Flute, doubling Piccolo

indications throughout the score

Alto-Saxophone / Baritone-Saxophone



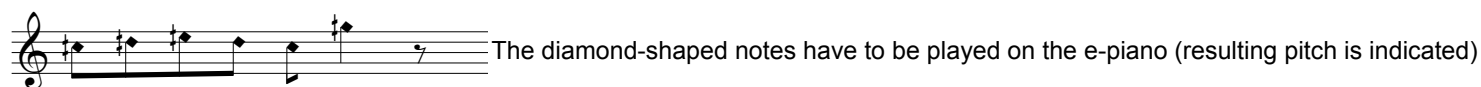
further indications throughout the score

Harp

indications throughout the score

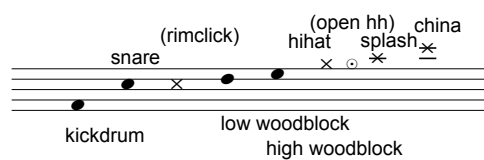
Piano/Keyboard

in addition to a standard grand piano, a 88-keys e-piano which can be tuned a quartertone higher is required. To play the part "club", an ebow is required.



Percussion

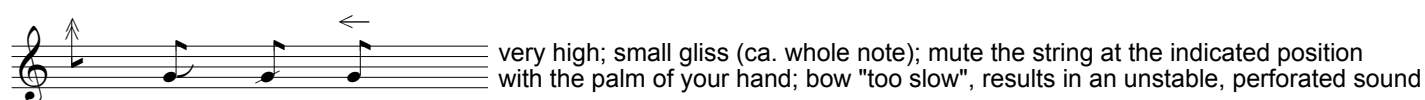
Small drumset, consisting of:



In addition to that, a small timpano (b3) is required. Mallets: drumsticks, soft mallets, bow, superball.

further indications throughout the score.

Violin



Electronics/Tape

to play the part "club", a PA-system which provides enough bass power to represent a typical "club sound" is required. The tape part in "club" can either be played in a room next to the concert room, with doors closed, volume very high, so that you hear the bass frequencies through the walls as if a club was located next to the concert. In this case, play the file "club_unfiltered.wav". Otherwise, put a PA with sufficient bass (subwoofer!) in the concert room, hidden somewhere in the back, speakers turned away from the audience. Play the file "club_filtered.wav".

For the part "lounge remix", two standard speakers (eg Genelec 2030) within the ensemble are required. To synchronize the ensemble with the tape part, an auditive or visual click for a conductor or for each member of the ensemble may be used.

lounge remix

♩ = 80

5
4

1

Piccolo *fff*

Baritone Saxophone *fff*

Percussion *mf* hi wb splash rimclick

Harp *fff*

Klavier *fff* *arco*

Violin *fff*

Tape *f*



4

Picc. *fff*

Bari. Sax. *fff*

Perc. *mf* china

Hp. *fff*

Klav. *fff*

Vln. *fff*

Tape *f*

Musical score for measures 7-9. The score includes parts for Piccolo (Picc.), Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Piano (Klav.), Violin (Vln.), and Tape. The Percussion part features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and dynamic markings: *p*, *mf*, and *pp*. The Piano part has a circled measure number (8) above the first measure. The Tape part consists of a series of pulses.



Musical score for measures 10-13. The score includes parts for Piccolo (Picc.), Baritone Saxophone (Bari. Sax.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Piano (Klav.), Violin (Vln.), and Tape. The Percussion part features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and dynamic markings: *mf*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *mf*, and *f*. The Piano part has a circled measure number (8) above the first measure. The Tape part consists of a series of pulses.

5/4 = 42 1/3 whistle tones *pppp* sempre 3/4 7/8 non vib. 5/4

Flute

Baritone Saxophone

Percussion

Harp

Klavier

Violin

Tape

club sound (filtered) *fff*

superball

bisb.

ebow*

con sordino *pppp* sempre non vib.

5/4 non vib. 3/4

Fl.

Bari. Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

Tape

ebow

club sound (filtered)

1 2 A 4 5 C3 6 7

1 2 A 4 5 C3 6 7

* to achieve a very soft dynamic, do not depress the ebow on the string for the whole duration. Lift it up when it gets to loud, depress it again when the sounds begins to disappear. A little fluctuation within the dynamic is intended.

3 7 4

9

Fl. *pp sempre* "pizz."

Bari. Sax.

Perc. knitting needle *pp sempre* low woodblock

Hp. *pp sempre* *8vb*

Klav. *pp sempre* *8vb*

Vln. *pp sempre* *127* *v*

Tape *127*



14

Fl. ord. *poco* "pizz." *3*

Bari. Sax. *pp sempre*

Perc. high woodblock

Hp. *3*

Klav.

Vln. *15^{ma} l. / 7th* *poco* pizz.

Tape

21

Fl.

Bari. Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

Tape

poco

hihat

grv

pizz. arco I./II. *poco*



54

27

Fl.

Bari. Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

Tape

whistle tone

ppp sempre

arco splash

ppp sempre

grv

ppp sempre

grv

ppp sempre

very high harmonic

ppp sempre

$\text{♩} = 31,75$

29

Fl.

Bari. Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

Tape

splash

ppp sempre

ppp sempre

ppp sempre

different very high harmonic

ppp sempre



31

Fl.

Bari. Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

Tape

splash

ppp sempre

ppp sempre

ppp sempre

different very high harmonic

ppp sempre

resort (rondo)

4

♩ = 100

Musical score for measures 1-4. The score is for a 4/4 time signature with a tempo of 100 beats per minute. The instruments are Flute, Alto Saxophone, Percussion, Harp, Klavier (Piano), and Violin. The Flute and Violin parts are mostly rests. The Alto Saxophone part has a melodic line starting in measure 4 with the annotation "joyful, groovy" and a dynamic marking of *f*. The Klavier part has a rhythmic accompaniment starting in measure 1 with the annotation "joyful, groovy" and a dynamic marking of *f*.



Musical score for measures 5-8. The score continues with the same instruments. The Flute part has a melodic line starting in measure 5 with a dynamic marking of *f*. The Alto Saxophone part continues its melodic line. The Klavier part continues its rhythmic accompaniment. The Percussion, Harp, and Violin parts are mostly rests.

9

Fl.

Alto Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

f

f



13

Fl.

Alto Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

ff

mf

p

ff

mf

ff

pizz.

ff

p

mf

ord.

Musical score for measures 17-20. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Keyboard (Klav.), and Violin (Vin.).

- Fl.:** Measures 17-20. Dynamics: *ff*, *mf*, *p*, *ff*, *mf*, *ff*, *p*, *mf*. Includes triplets, a quintuplet, and a sextuplet. Markings: "ord.", "pizz.", "3", "5", "6".
- Alto Sax.:** Rested.
- Perc.:** Rested.
- Hp.:** Rested.
- Klav.:** Accompanying chords in both hands.
- Vin.:** Rested.



Musical score for measures 21-24. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Keyboard (Klav.), and Violin (Vin.).

- Fl.:** Measures 21-24. Dynamics: *ff*. Includes quintuplets. Markings: "5", "5", "5", "5".
- Alto Sax.:** Measures 21-24. Dynamics: *ff*. Includes triplets. Markings: "3", "3", "3", "3". Text: "air", "growl", "growl", "growl".
- Perc.:** Measures 21-24. Dynamics: *ff*. Includes triplets. Markings: "3", "3", "3", "3". Text: "hi wb", "splash".
- Hp.:** Measures 21-24. Dynamics: *ff*. Includes quintuplets and triplets. Markings: "5", "3", "5", "3", "3", "5".
- Klav.:** Accompanying chords in both hands.
- Vin.:** Measures 21-24. Dynamics: *ff*. Includes accents.

Musical score for measures 25-28. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Piano (Klav.), and Violin (Vin.).

- Fl.:** Rests in measures 25-28.
- Alto Sax.:** Features a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and *fff*. Includes articulation marks like *tr* and *growl*. Fingerings of 5 and 3 are indicated. A note in measure 27 is marked with "alternate fingering".
- Perc.:** Rests in measures 25-28.
- Hp.:** Rests in measures 25-28.
- Klav.:** Provides harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both hands.
- Vin.:** Rests in measures 25-28.



Musical score for measures 29-32. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Alto Saxophone (Alto Sax.), Percussion (Perc.), Harp (Hp.), Piano (Klav.), and Violin (Vin.).

- Fl.:** Features a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and fingerings of 5 and 3. Includes articulation marks like *growl*.
- Alto Sax.:** Features a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and fingerings of 3 and 5. Includes articulation marks like *growl*.
- Perc.:** Features a rhythmic pattern with dynamics *ff*. Includes articulation marks like *hi wb* and *splash*.
- Hp.:** Features a rhythmic pattern with dynamics *ff* and fingerings of 5 and 3.
- Klav.:** Provides harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines in both hands.
- Vin.:** Features a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and articulation marks like *tr*.

33

Fl.

Alto Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

ff

ff

hi wb

splash

38

Fl.

Alto Sax.

Perc.

Hp.

Klav.

Vln.

growl

ff

42

Klav.

48

Klav.

tutta la forza fffff