

mittagspause

(nach robert walser)

für flöte/klarinette, violoncello, klavier, pauke,
becken, claves

lunchtime

(according to robert walser)

for flute/clarinet, violoncello, piano, kettle drum,
cymbals, claves

eva-maria houben

2004

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MITTAGSPAUSE

Ich lag eines Tages, in der Mittagspause, im Gras, unter einem Apfelbaum. Heiß war es, und es schwamm alles in einem leichten Hellgrün vor meinen Augen. Durch den Baum und durch das liebe Gras strich der Wind. Hinter mir lag der dunkle Waldrand mit seinen ernsten, treuen Tannen. Wünsche gingen mir durch den Kopf. Ich wünschte mir eine Geliebte, die zum süßen duftenden Wind paßte. Da ich nun die Augen schloß und so dalag, mit gegen den Himmel gerichtetem Gesichte, bequem und träg auf dem Rücken, umsummt vom sommerlichen Gesumm, erschienen mir, aus all der sonnigen Meeres- und Himmelshelligkeit herab, zwei Augen, die mich unendlich liebenswürdig anschauten. Auch die Wangen sah ich deutlich, die sich den meinigen näherten, als wollten sie sie berühren, und ein wunderbar schöner, wie aus lauter Sonne geformter, feingeschweifter und üppiger Mund kam aus der rötlich-bläulichen Luft nahe bis zu dem meinigen, ebenfalls so, als wolle er ihn berühren. Das Firmament, das ich zugedrückt Augen sah, war ganz rosarot, umsäumt von edlem Sammetschwarz. Es war eine Welt von lichter Seligkeit, in die ich schaute. Doch da öffnete ich dummerweise plötzlich die Augen, und da waren Mund und Wangen und Augen verschwunden, und des süßen Himmelskusses war ich mit einmal beraubt. Auch war es ja Zeit, in die Stadt hinunterzugehen, in das Geschäft, an die tägliche Arbeit. Soviel ich mich erinnere, machte ich mich nur ungern auf die Beine, um die Wiese, den Baum, den Wind und den schönen Traum zu verlassen. Doch in der Welt hat alles, was das Gemüt bezaubert und die Seele beglückt, seine Grenze, wie ja auch, was uns Angst und Unbehagen einflößt, glücklicherweise begrenzt ist. So sprang ich denn hinunter in mein trockenes Bureau und war hübsch fleißig bis an den Feierabend.

(Robert Walser)

Robert Walser, Das Gesamtwerk, hrsg. von Jochen Greven, Bd. II (Kleine Dichtungen. Prosastücke. Kleine Prosa), Zürich und Frankfurt am Main: Suhrkamp 1978, S. 10-11.

es gibt 30 situationen zur mittagspause:
ortsbeschreibungen, lichteinfälle, kleine pausen –
(notiert auf 30 partiturseiten).

jeder spieler spielt irgendwann.

die leserichtung von oben nach unten (flöte/klarinetten, violoncello, klavier, pauke, becken, claves) gibt nicht eine reihenfolge an. die reihenfolge der einsätze ist frei.

flöte und klarinette treten wie *ein* instrument auf. sie spielen immer eine zeitlang zusammen, so dass sich ihre klänge mehr oder weniger überschneiden.

einige der 30 pausen auswählen und in freier reihenfolge (ohne wiederholungen) aufführen.
mit großer ruhe.

flöte/klarinetten

jeder klang: eine ruhige ausatmung.

die partitur ist klingend notiert.

◊ : fast nur luft; luftstrom, mit klanganteilen gefärbt.

violoncello

jeder klang: ein ruhiger bogenstrich.

klavier

◊̇ : kurzer anschlag; taste eine oktave tiefer stumm niedergedrückt halten.

pauke

⌘ : wirbel.

⌘̇ : eher kurzer impuls.

⌘̇, ⌘̇ : kurzer vorschlag, kurze vorschläge.

becken

⌘̇ : wirbel mit stäbchen, fast unhörbar leise.

there are 30 situations at lunchtime:

descriptions of places here and there, incidences of light, short pauses –

(notated on 30 pages of the score).

each player plays sometime.

the reading direction from top to bottom (flute/clarinet, violoncello, piano, kettle drum, cymbals, claves) does not give the order to enter. the instruments enter freely, each one for itself.

flute and clarinet appear as *one* instrument. they always play together for a while, in a way that their sounds more or less overlap.

choose some of the 30 pauses and perform in free order (without any repetition of a pause).

with great calmness.

flute/clarinet

each sound: one quiet breath.

notation: sounding.

◇ : nearly air; stream of air, coloured with a small amount of sound.

violoncello

each sound: one quiet bow.

piano

◇ : a short attack; the key one octave lower is kept down mutely.

kettle drum

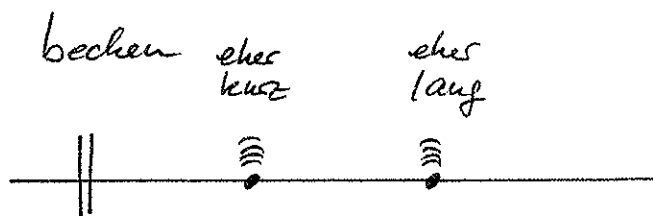
⌘ : drum roll.

⌘ : a rather short attack.

⌘, ⌘ : a short grace note, short grace notes.

cymbals

⌘ : roll with small sticks, nearly inaudibly soft.



cymbals

rather
short

rather
long

Zwischen den
Wirbeln bleibt es
eine Zeitlang still.

between the rolls
it remains silent
for a while.

flöte / klarinette

quasi echo (unmittelbar an dem ersten klang anschließend.)

p fl

follow the first sound immediately.

klarinete / 2x
piano

b \equiv
mp/mf
ohne ped.
without ped.

flöte / klarinette

A musical staff with a treble clef. Below the staff, the handwritten text "fl" and "b kl" is written.

klarinets / piano

A musical staff with a treble clef. Above the staff, there are ten groups of notes, each consisting of a single note with a flat sign and a double underline. The notes are: b, b, b, b, b, b, b, b, b, b.

ohne ped.

pannel eher lang rather long
kettle drum

A musical staff with a bass clef. Below the staff, there are two groups of notes, each consisting of a single note with a flat sign and a double underline. The notes are: b, b.

p

subito

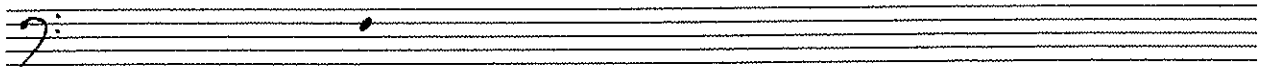
˘

harte Schlegel
hard sticks

Violoncello

sul tasto

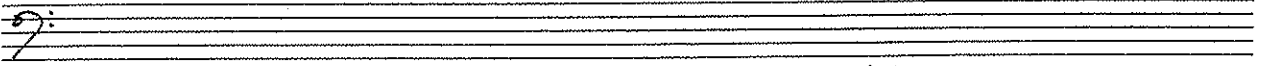
2x



PPP

ein wenig zeit lassen
zwischen den klängen.
allow time between
the sounds.

Klavier / piano



b̄
mf
ped.

b̄

b̄

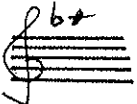
becken /
cymbals

Lang



flöte / klarinette


fl + b + kl
p


viola cello eher kurz rather short  bartók - pizz. (unterbrechung) (interruption)

ppp

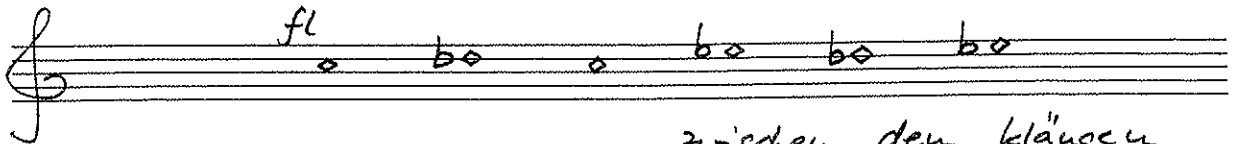
klavier / piano

mp/mf ped.

paule / kettle drum kurz short 
ppp

claves 2x 

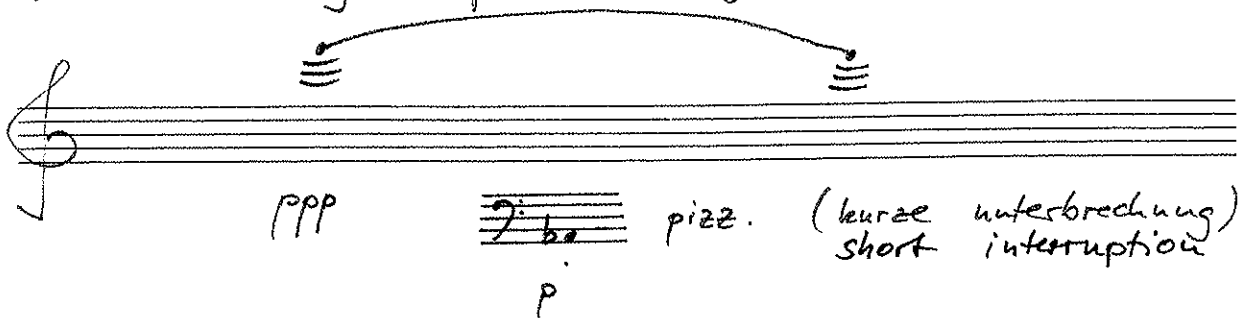
flöte / klarinette



zwischen den klängen
etwas zeit zum atmen
lassen (auch längere
zeit...)

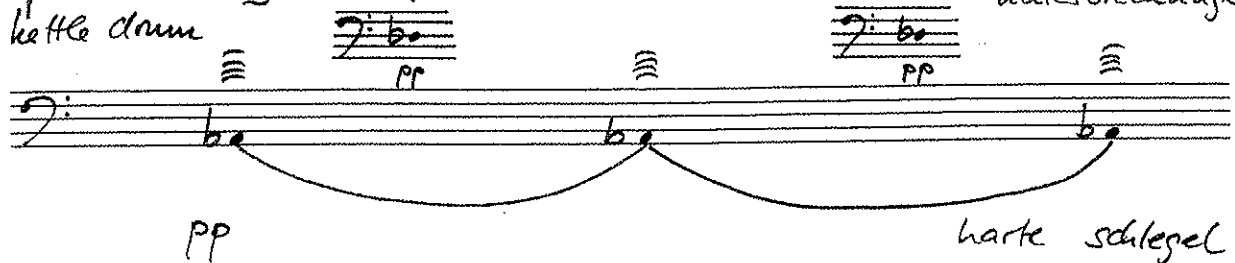
between the sounds some
time to breathe (even some
more time...)

violoncello lang (auf einem bogenstrich)



pizz. (kurze unterbrechung)
short interruption

pauke eher lang
kette drum



heavily impercep-
tible interruptions

fast unmerkliche
unterbrechungen

harte schlegel
hard sticks

flöte / Klarinete 2x

A musical staff in treble clef with a single note on the second line (B4). The dynamic marking *pp* is written below the note. A hairpin starts under the note and tapers to the right, with the marking *hl* written above the hairpin.

viola/cello *very long*
sehr lang (unmerklicher bowwechsel) (rather im-
perceptible change of the
bow)

A musical staff in treble clef with a long note on the second line (B4). The dynamic marking *pp* is written below the note. A long horizontal line with a bow symbol above it spans the length of the note. At the end of this line, there is a *pizz.* marking. Below the *pizz.* marking, there is a small musical staff showing a chord of two notes (G4 and F4) with the dynamic marking *f*.

kurze unterbrechung
des sehr langen
flageolettklangs
short interruption
of the long
harmonic.

long up to very long
pauke lang bis sehr lang

A musical staff in bass clef with a single note on the second line (B3). The dynamic marking *pp* is written below the note. Above the note, there are three horizontal lines representing a timpani drum. To the right of the note, the text *weiche schlegel* and *soft sticks* is written.

flöte / klarinette

A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains four notes, each with a dynamic marking above it and an instrument marking below it. The notes are: a quarter note with 'fl.' above and 'b. kl.' below; a quarter note with 'fl.' above and 'b. kl.' below; a quarter note with 'fl.' above and 'b. kl.' below; and a quarter note with 'fl.' above and 'b. kl.' below.


Violoncello

col legno 1x, evtl. 2x

A musical staff with a treble clef, currently empty.

klavier / x mal
piano x times

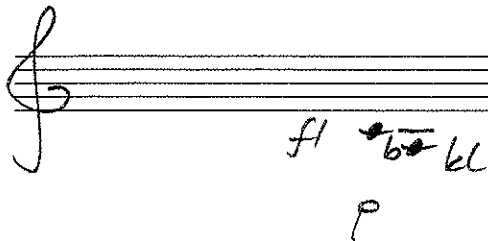
A musical staff with a treble clef, currently empty.

PPP  ----->
ped. ----->

den klang durch
immer wiederkehrende,
regelmäßige anstöße
sehr, sehr lange
fortsetzen.
insgesamt sehr leise.

continue...
very even, for a
very long time.
very soft.

flöte / klarinette 3x



weite abstände zwischen den zusammenklängen.
wide distances between the two-note sounds.

claves 2x

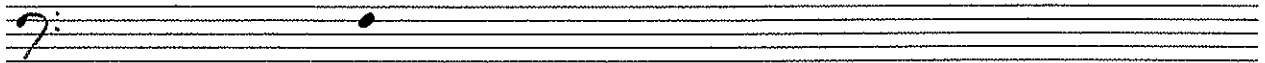
7x



weite abstände zwischen den einzelimpulsen und impulsfolgen.

wide distances between the single impulses and between the groups of impulses.

violoncello very long
 sehr lang



ppp

bogenwechsel nahezu unmerklich.
changes of the bow happen nearly imperceptibly.

pauke rather long rather long
kette drum eher lang eher lang



ppp

der Übergang von einem zum
anderen Wirbel geschieht nahezu
unmerklich.

the change from one roll to the
other one happens nearly
imperceptibly.

klavier/
piano 3x

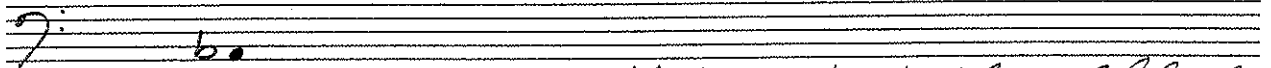


b
mf
ped.

dem klang jeder mal
längste zeit nachhören.

listen to the sound,
which decays, for
rather a long time.

panke/
kettle
drum rather long
eher lang



pp

wibel mit weichen schlegeln.
toll with soft sticks.

flöte / klarinette

A musical staff in treble clef. The first measure contains a half note on the first line (F4) and a half note on the second line (G4). The second measure contains a half note on the second space (A4) and a half note on the third line (B4). The notes in the second measure are beamed together. The dynamic marking 'pp' is written below the first measure.

violon cello

A musical staff in bass clef. The first measure contains a single half note on the second line (F3). The dynamic marking 'pp' is written below the note.

pauke /
kette drum

A musical staff in bass clef. The first measure contains a single half note on the second line (F3). The dynamic marking 'pp' is written below the note. To the right of the staff, the text 'harter schlegel' and 'hard sticks' is written on two lines.

flöte / klarinette

A musical staff with a treble clef. Below the staff, the text "fl" is written, followed by a sharp sign and a flat sign, and then "kl". Below that, the dynamic marking "pp" is written.

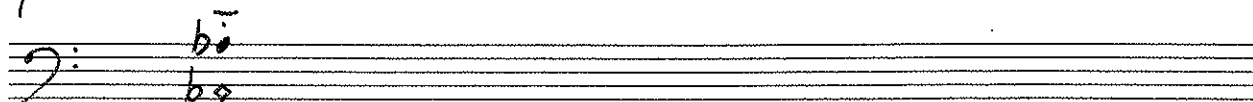
Violoncello

A musical staff with a bass clef. Above the staff, the text "b" is written with a sharp sign and a flat sign. Below the staff, the dynamic marking "pp" is written.

claves 2x

A horizontal line with a double bar line on the left and a solid dot on the right.

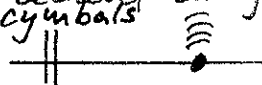
Klavier/ 3x
piano



mp

den klang jedes mal
einige zeit nachhören.
listen to the decaying sound
for a while.

becken/ lang long
cymbals



claves 2x



flöte / Klarinette

A musical staff with a treble clef. A single note is written on the staff, labeled with a flat sign and the letter 'b', followed by 'ke'.

rather long
rather long
rather long
rather long

A musical staff with a bass clef. A single note is written on the staff, labeled with a flat sign and the letter 'b', followed by 'ke'.

ppp

weiche Schlegel
soft sticks

Claves

A horizontal line with two vertical bars on the left and a solid black dot on the right, representing the notation for Claves.

flöte / klarinette

A musical staff with a treble clef. The notation includes the letters 'fl' and 'kl' with a flat symbol and a bar line over them. Below the staff, the dynamic marking 'pp' is written.

violoncello

A musical staff with a bass clef. The notation includes a flat symbol and a bar line over it. Below the staff, the dynamic marking 'pp' is written.

klavier/
piano

A musical staff with a treble clef. The notation includes the letters 'b' and 'p' with a flat symbol and a bar line over them. Below the staff, the dynamic marking 'p' is written.

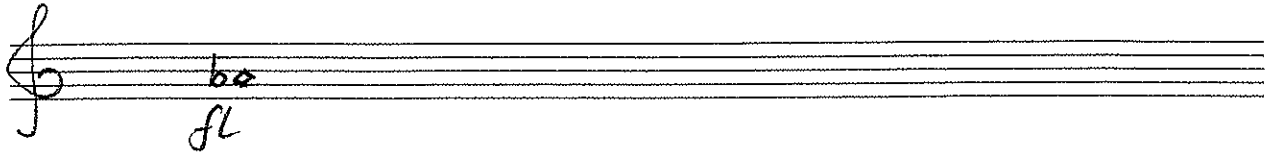
panke /
nette drum

A musical staff with a bass clef. The notation includes a flat symbol and a bar line over it. Below the staff, the dynamic marking 'p' is written. To the right of the staff, the text 'weicher schlegel' and 'soft stick' is written. Below the staff, there are two vertical lines representing cymbals, with the word 'becken / cymbals' written above them. To the right of the cymbals, the word 'lang' is written twice.

claves

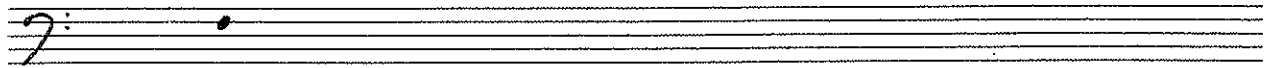
A musical staff with two vertical lines representing claves. A dot is placed on the staff below the lines.

flöte / klarinette

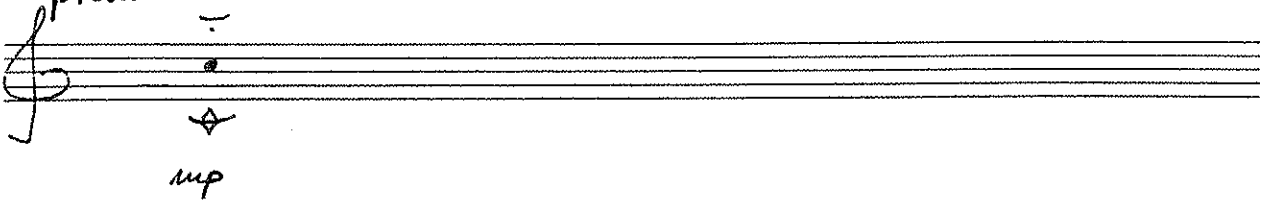


Violoncello

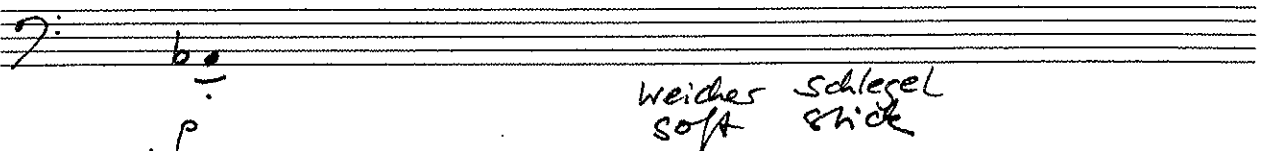
sul tasto / col legno



klavier / piano

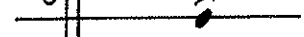


panke / 2x
kettle drum



weiches schlegel
soft stick

beden / eher kurz rather short
cymbals



clares 2x



viola cello

Handwritten musical notation for viola/cello. It features a treble clef on a five-line staff. A note with a flat sign (b) and a fermata is written above the staff. Below the staff, the dynamic marking 'ppp' is written.

becken /
cymbals

sehr lang very long

Violoncello noise of the bow, for a very long time.
Streichgeräusch, sehr lang



claves

2x

5x

5x



zwischen den impuls-
gruppen längere zeit
still bleiben.

it remains silent
between the groups
of impulses for
rather a long time.

clarinet/ 144x
piano

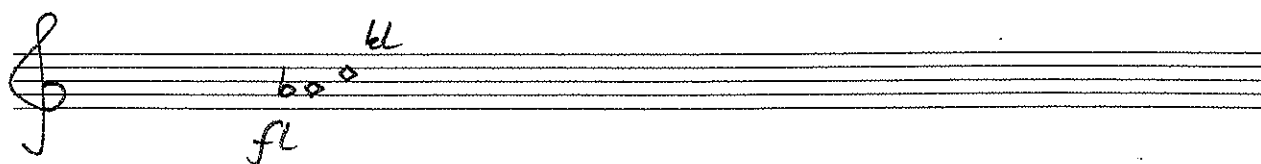
34x

mp subito mp
ped. →

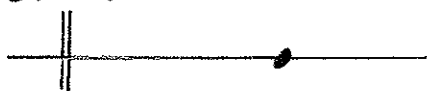
die einzelimpulse folgen gelassen ruhig, aber
zügig voranstrübend aufeinander.

the single impulses follow each other
impassively and calmly, but
smoothly striving ahead.

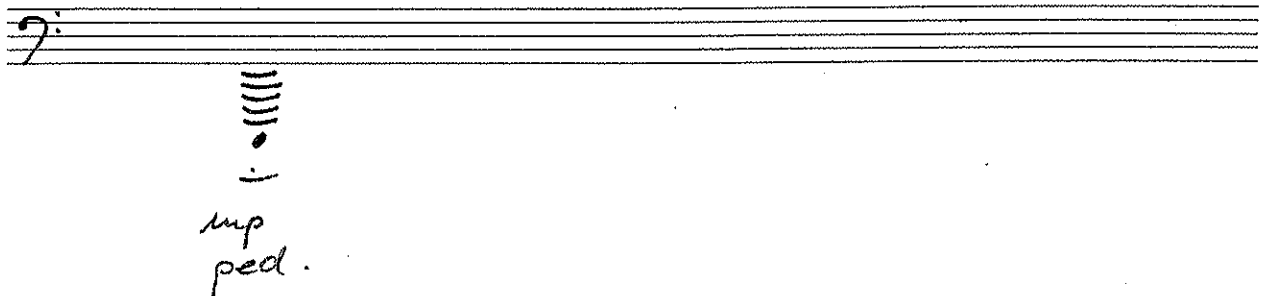
flöte / klawinette



claves



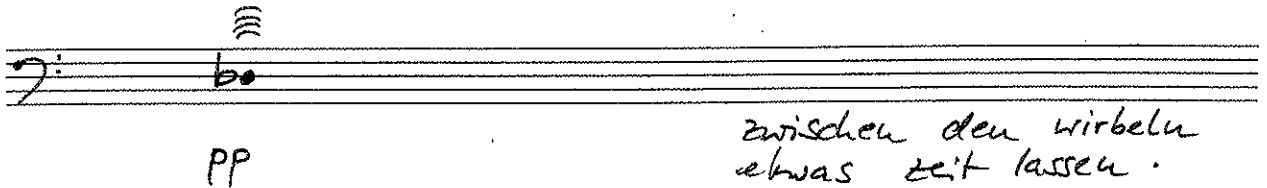
klavier /
piano 2x



A musical staff with a bass clef and a repeat sign. The notation consists of a series of five horizontal lines stacked vertically, with a small circle below the bottom line, and a vertical line below that. The text "mp ped." is written below the notation.

mp
ped.

weither long nor short
pauke / weder lang noch kurz; 2x
kettle drum



A musical staff with a bass clef and a repeat sign. The notation consists of a series of five horizontal lines stacked vertically, with a small circle below the bottom line, and a vertical line below that. The text "pp" is written below the notation.

pp

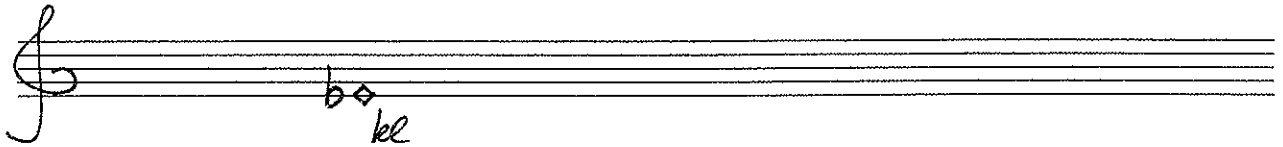
claves 2x



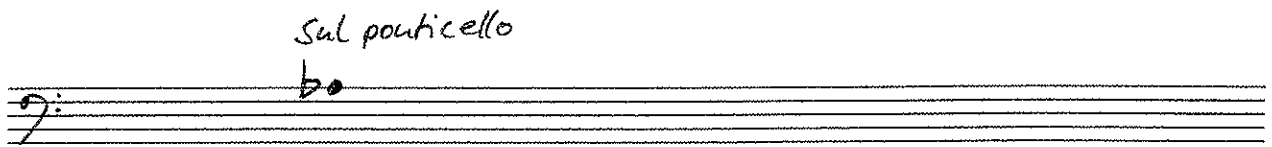
A musical staff with a single horizontal line. The notation consists of a vertical double bar line on the left and a small circle on the line.

zwischen den wirbeln
etwas zeit lassen.
weiche schlegel
allow time between
the rolls.
soft sticks.

flöte / klarinette



violoncello



kaum hörbar

nearly inaudible

clares



flöte / klarinette

A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains two notes: a quarter note on the second line (F) marked with a dynamic of *fl* (fortissimo) above it, and a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *p* (piano) below it. The text *b^o kl* is written above the second note.

violoncello *b^o* sul ponticello

A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains one note: a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *p* (piano) below it. The text *b^o* is written above the note, and *sul ponticello* is written to the right of the staff.

klavier / piano 12x

A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains two notes: a quarter note on the second line (F) and a quarter note on the first space (C), both marked with a dynamic of *p* (piano) below them.

zurückhaltend vorwärtstreibend
guardedly striving ahead.

paufe / kettle drum 2x

A musical staff with a bass clef. It contains seven notes: a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it; a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it; a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it and a triplet symbol below it; a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it; a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it; a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it; and a quarter note on the first space (C) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it.

3x

becken! eher kurz
cymbals

A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains one note: a quarter note on the second line (F) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it.

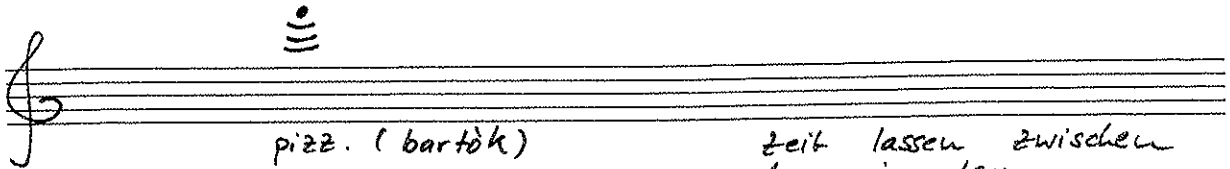
claves

A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains one note: a quarter note on the second line (F) marked with a dynamic of *b^o* below it.

zwischen den impulsen
bzw. impulsgruppen bleibt
es eine weile still.

between the impulses
resp. groups of impulses
it remains silent
for a while.

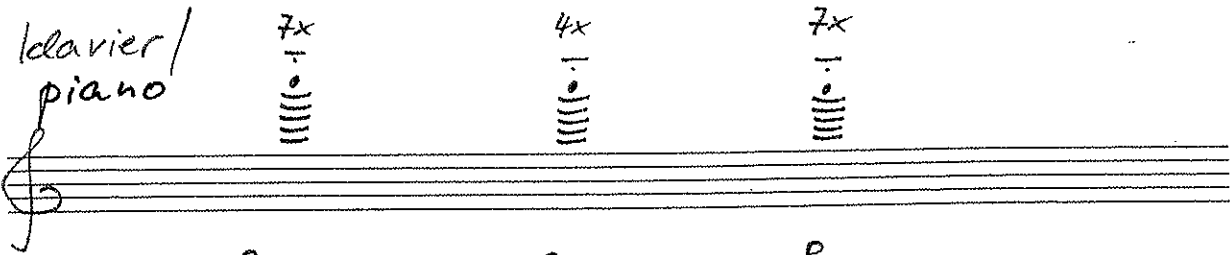
violoncello 3x



pizz. (bartók)
mp/mf

zeit lassen zwischen
den impulsen.
allow time between
the impulses.

klavier/
piano



p p p

nach dem ende einer impulsgruppe längere
zeit auf die nächste warten.
after the end of one group of impulses
wait for the next one for rather a long
time.

pauske / 3x 7
hette drum

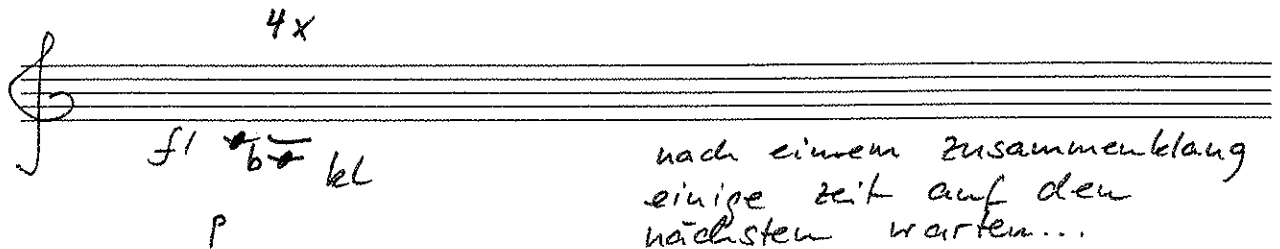


p p

harter schlegel hard sticks
zwischen den impulsgruppen
bleibt es längere zeit still.
between the groups of
impulses it remains
silent for rather a long
time.

flöte / klarinette

4x



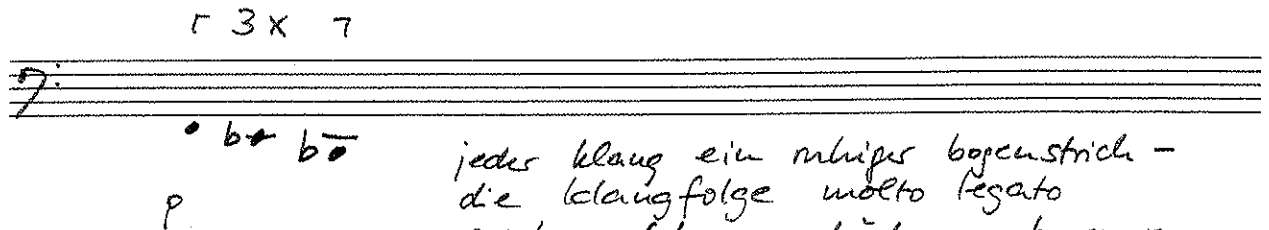
A musical staff with a treble clef. It contains two notes: a quarter note with a flat (B-flat) and a quarter note with a natural (B). The notes are connected by a slur. Below the staff, the letters 'fl' and 'kl' are written, with a small 'p' (piano) dynamic marking below 'fl'.

nach einem zusammenklang
einige zeit auf den
nächsten warten...

after a two-tone
sound: wait for the
next one for a while.

violoncello

3x 7



A musical staff with a bass clef. It contains two notes: a quarter note with a flat (B-flat) and a quarter note with a natural (B). The notes are connected by a slur. Below the staff, the letters 'b' and 'b' are written, with a small 'p' (piano) dynamic marking below the first 'b'.

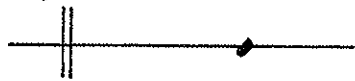
jeder klang ein mehrer bogenstrich -
die klangfolge molto legato
spielen (kaum hörbarer bogen-
wechsel).

nach einer klangfolge einige zeit
auf die nächste warten...

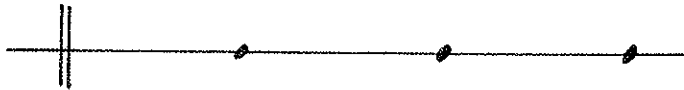
each sound a quiet bow -
the group of sounds molto
legato (nearly inaudible
change of the bow).

after a group of sounds:
wait for the next one for
a while.

becken / cymbals sehr lang very long



claves

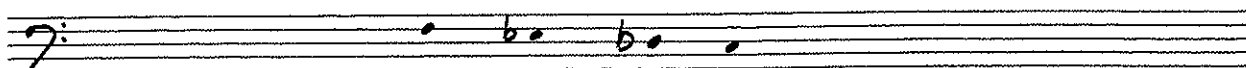


nach einem impuls längere zeit
auf den nächsten warten...

after one impulse: wait for
the next one for rather a
long time.

Violoncello

┌ 3x ┐



Like a slow melody - each sound even in different octaves. between the single sounds some time to breathe.

wie eine langsame melodie spielen - jeder klang auch in unterschiedlichen oktavlagen. zwischen den einzelnen klängen (bogenstrichen) etwas zeit zum atmen lassen.

nach dem ende einer melodie einige zeit auf die nächste warten.

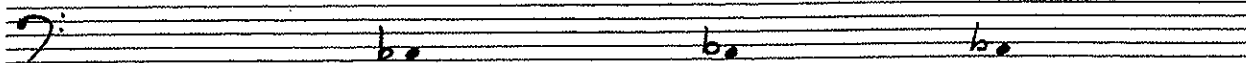
after the end of a melody: wait for the next one for a while.

panke / kettle drum

rather short
eher kurz

short
kurz

long
lang



zwischen den wirbeln bleibt es einige zeit still.

between the rolls it remains silent for a while.

flöte / klarinete 3x

A single musical staff with a treble clef. The notes are not clearly visible, but there is a dynamic marking 'p' and a fingering 'b 7 kl' written below the staff.

violoncello 3x

A single musical staff with a treble clef. The notes are not clearly visible, but there is a dynamic marking 'ppp' and a fingering 'b 7' written below the staff.

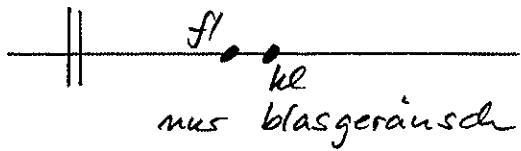
panne /
helle drum

Two musical staves with a bass clef. The notes are not clearly visible, but there are dynamic markings 'ppp' and 'ppp' written below the staves.

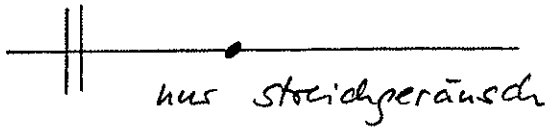
wie einen langsamen marsch
spielen. weiche schlegel -
die vorschläge fast unpräzise
insgesamt sehr leise.

like a slow march. soft
sticks. grace notes nearly imprecise.
very soft.

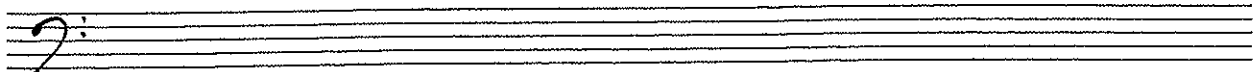
flöte / klarinette



violoncello



klavier /
piano



verklingen lassen.
let fade away.

clares

