

fo(u)r timpani

4 timpani

eva-maria houben

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catalogue number ew16.565

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2025

For Kyohei Sugihara.

each page a place to listen.

playing at least two pages.

any order of the pages.

four different timpani: I, II, III, IV.

for each instrument an individual tuning. this tuning is maintained during the whole piece.

four striking positions: C, N, R, Rr.

C: center; N: normal position; R: close to the rim; Rr: on the rim.

four dynamic levels for each instrument. increasing order: 1, 2, 3, 4.

all sounds: a roll. the duration is the same for all sounds (10-15 seconds).

one activity: roman numeral for the instrument, capital letter for the striking position, arabic numeral for the dynamics.

the order of the activities: following the vertical line downwards.

all kinds of timpani mallets: felt, leather, flannel, textile, wood, sponge heads... mallets can be changed anytime.

duration of pauses between the activities: ad libitum.

in addition:

each page includes one special activity: any barely audible roll, emerging once per page anytime.

any instrument, any striking position, any mallets, any duration.

some silence between one page and the following one: a silent space to listen to the resonances and reverberations of the past.

II $N \rightarrow Rr$ $4 > 1$

+ barely audible roll

double tremolo

I R 2 < 4

III R 2 < 4

IV C → Rr 1

+ barely audible roll

III R 3

double tremolo

II N 1 < 2

IV N 1 < 2

I N → Rr 1

+ barely audible roll

I C 2 > 1

IV Rr 1

double tremolo

II R 2

IV R 2

III N 3 > 1

IV C → R 4

+ barely audible roll

III N → Rr 2

IV R 3

II Rr 2 > 1

double tremolo

I N 4

IV N 4

II R 2 < 4

IV C 1

III N 1 < 4

I C → Rr 4

+ barely audible roll