

Cheong Li
Ripples
for acoustic guitar

2011

Programme Notes

Approx. duration: 6 mins

Ripples was written in 2010 and performed in a workshop by Stefan Östersjö in May 2011. Most of the music is written out, yet there are some moments for the guitarist to improvise. The piece is inspired by traditional music for the *pipa* (a pear-shaped Chinese lute), which often starts with an introduction without a regular pulse.

Performance Directions

R

Rasgueado (followed by an accented chord)

T

Tambora

Tapping on the wood surface
(with four fingers successively)

sul tasto → sul pont.

Gradually shift the plucking position from near the fingerboard to near the bridge

ord.

Return to normal plucking position

(LH) (RH)

H P H P

Hammer-on (H) and pull-off (P)
(with left hand and right hand fingers)
(zero indicates open string)

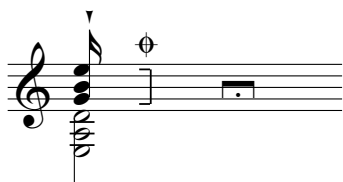
H P

① (RH) ② (LH)

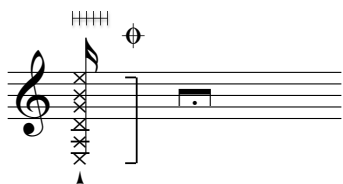
Alternate hammering-on and pulling-off

⑥ ⑤

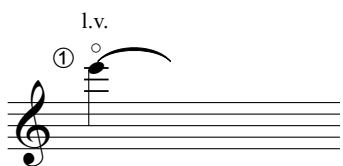
Pressing the two strings towards each other
to produce a snare-drum like sound



Damp the bracketed notes immediately after played



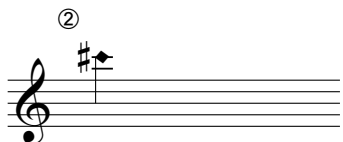
Slap and damp all strings with R.H. palm



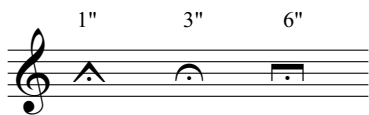
Natural harmonics (let vibrate)



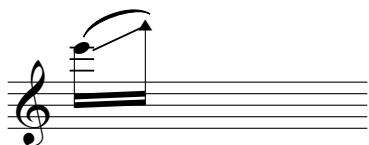
Artificial harmonics (white diamond-shaped notehead)



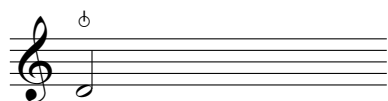
Artificial harmonics (black diamond-shaped notehead)
The left hand finger is put at an 8ve lower than the notated pitch,
while the right hand touches lightly at the notated pitch and plucks



Short / medium / long pauses



Glissando to highest possible note



Snap pizzicato

Ripples

for classical guitar

Cheong Li

6" 6" 8"

p *ff* *mp* *pp*

6"

p *mf*

8" (bend) sul pont. sul tasto ord. 1"

f *ff* *pp* *fff*

5" 2" 4" *l.v.*

6 5 sul pont. sul tasto 2 1 3

ff

5"

mp

2" 1" 7"

f *l.v.* 5 4 3 2 1 5 4

8^{va}

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5"

mp *mf*

4" 7" 8va-----1

mf *ff*

5" 5"

p *f* *pp*

7" pizz.

mf

8" normal

f *ff*

15"

p *ff*

3"

Improvise with the pattern
with any pitch on any string
from slow to fast.
(Start from open string position,
and gradually move the hands
towards higher pitches.)

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6" 2" 4" 5" 4"
8^{va} 8^{va} 8^{va}
l.v. ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ② ⑤ ④ ③
mp *pp* *p*

8"
H P
ff *pp*

♩=120
R sul pont. ord. R
ff *p* *f*

sul tasto T
p *f*

fingers tap on wood ord.
f *p* *pp*

R
fff

② ①
ff

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2" 6" 8^{va} 1. v. ⑤ ④ ② ③ ① ⑤ ④

mf

5" *mp* *p*

4" 7" 8^{va} ① ② ⑤ ④ ③

fp *mf*

5" *p* *f*

7" *tr* *ff*

15" 3" *pp* *mp*

4" 2" 8" 8^{va} ⑥ ④ ③ ⑤ ② ⑤ ④ ③ 4"

p *p* *pp*

Improvise with the pattern on all 6 strings with arbitrary pitch from slow to fast