the empiricist view

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For the Nieuw Ensemble
2009

Set out the ensemble as below:
Performance Notes

Some peculiarities of notation are explained in the score. However:

Duration, Metre, and Tempo

\[ \frac{7}{8} \]

Conducted bar. Follow the conductor; no tempo will be indicated.

\[ \downarrow \]

Downbeat. Where applicable a tempo will be given.

\[ (\downarrow) \]

Downbeat which you should be aware of but does not cue anything.

Other cues from the ensemble are shown in the parts.

\[ \circ \]

Long duration (all not necessarily of equal length)

\[ \bullet \]

Short duration (all not necessarily of equal length)

\[ \cdots \]

Relative notation; each ½ as long as that preceding

Dynamics

'f'; 'ff'; 'p' Dynamics written in this way indicate an implied dynamic. More than likely it will not be possible to play at the dynamic given in the score. These should be seen to correspond as much to the energy expended in producing the sound as to the resultant sound. Where these imply the sound should be quieter than is possible to play, the sound should also be unstable.
Microtones

The following microtones are exact and should be achieved by precise fingerings:

- $\frac{1}{4}$ Flat
- $\frac{1}{4}$ Sharp
- $\frac{1}{2}$ Flat

The following microtones are inflectional and should sound $8 < \bullet < 14$ cents higher or lower. These may be achieved by changes in fingering, embouchure, breath pressure e.t.c.:

- $\dagger, \ddagger, \dagger\ddagger, \dagger\ddagger\ddagger\ddagger \text{ etc.}$
Strings

flautando: Light bowing pressure

ord. Usual bowing pressure or technique

pressare: Heavy bowing pressure

molto pressare: Very heavy bowing pressure

premuto: Extremely heavy bowing pressure so as to obscure pitch

At the frog: \[ \downarrow \] \[ \leftarrow \] : At the end of the bow hair.

Unless indicated, please play without vibrato.
Bass Flute

The following multiphonic fingerings are required in the score:

Percussive sound (e.g. key clicks) Method of production will be noted in the score

Jet whistle

Mouthpiece in usual position

Turned inwards

Turned outwards
Oboe

The following multiphonic fingerings are required in the score. The all require some excess air pressure and excess reed:

Shows the position of the reed in the mouth
Bass Clarinet

The following multiphonic fingerings are required in the score:

Percussive sound (e.g. key clicks) Method of production will be noted in the score
Percussion

Percussion Key (with abbreviations):

Bd  Kd  Sd  Sd/c  Cb  M6  Sg  CC

Bassdrum  Snare drum  Small cymbal  Cowbell  Mmmba bar  Gong  Crash  Cymbal  Glock bars on snare drum

Kickdrum

The cowbell should be the largest (lowest) available. The cymbal should be placed on the snare drum that is otherwise used (in total there should be only two snare drums. Therefore a place to put the cymbal when it is not in use is required.

Glock bars on snare drum: 3 glockenspiel bars (B4; F#/Gb3; E3) should be mounted on a snare drum with the snares on. Some foam cut into a triangle shape is required to allow the bars to resonate.

l.v. only where indicated.

• Hard beater(s)

•(met.) Hard beaters with brass end (s)

• Soft beater(s)

• Medium beater (s)

Where only one beater is shown, strike the percussion using only one beater.
Mandolin

A plectrum with a shark’s fin edge is required.

- With shark’s fin edge
- With the point
- Mute strings with right hand
- Tremolo

Clef showing the four pairs of strings of the instrument. Play where indicated.
Guitar

A plectrum with a shark’s fin edge is required.

- With shark’s fin edge
- With the point

Mute strings with left hand, strike with right hand.
Harp

Strike strings with hand, let ring.

For all pedal changes, do not mute the strings, but leave the strings to ring.
Conductor

Most instructions are given in the score

Accelerando

Rallentando
Visibly an ordered jumble of drives, desires, obsessions.

"Dimension implies direction, implies measurement, implies the more and the less. Now all our [laws] are equally and unintenionally [thick or high, whichever you like], consequently there is nothing in them to lead our minds to the concept of that direction. No 'delicate nuance' world in the least avails us, for we should not know what to measure, nor in what direction."
the happiness of a stone
The search for the neutralino, underground at Boulby Potash Mine.
IV

the broken melody
Fellow Vco
Cond || Iacce

Muto vibrato portamento where indicated
Very free with much rubato, all durations are approximate

Vco
fp → p 5 8
mf → p
mp → p
mp → 3 p
mp
segue

Vco

pizz

non vib.

Grv

Mnd

BCI

TF

even

\frac{1}{2}
Card

(Russian looking down)

Bel

Pro

Mud

Vco

(excessive vib (microphonic))
the search for the neutralino, underground at Granive
on sex, violence, supersymmetry, entropy, and inflation
Cond | tacet

- (meti)
  Glock bells on snare drum

perc

separate each one bow length in duration

V13

f (throughout)

Vc

f (throughout)
Look straight at percussionist throughout
Spoken, clear, slow, loud.

and because,

becoming increasingly belligerent

no sane person should believe,

are our way,

Perc

each time increasing in volume

and they are,

fing something as the thing that speaks,

merely because things will not stay.

Perc
The image contains a handwritten musical notation. The notation appears to be for a musical piece, with several symbols and notes indicating rhythm and melody. The text on the page mentions 'End' and 'End hands on instrument'. The symbols and markings suggest a specific timing or phrasing, likely important for the performance of the piece.