The Man with the Hammer

A music theatre work for two percussionists, masks and tape [ca. 17']. (2010-13)

Transcribed score and stage directions.

Nektarios Rodosthenous

Instruments and props

Performer 1 (stage right)

- Sticks: 4 hard sticks, 1 agung soft mallet
- bass drum on a rotating stand (sharing with P2)
- *agung* cybmbal I (low)
- kick drum
- piccolo snare drum
- 2 roto toms
- 2 congas
- 2 medium dice
- white, neutral face mask
- stopwatch

Performer 2 (stage left)

- **Sticks**: 4 hard sticks, 2 medium soft mallets, 1 *agung* soft mallet
- bass drum on a rotating stand (sharing with P1)
- *agung* cybmbal II (slightly higher in pitch than *agung* I)
- kick drum
- tom tom
- empty canvas on a stand
- black spray paint (one with a metal ball inside which acts as a shaker)
- leather belt
- white, neutral face mask
- stopwatch
- study lamp or halogen heater

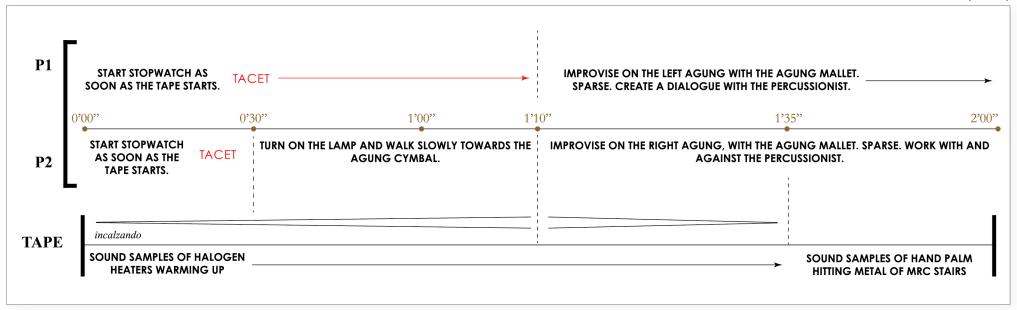
The percussionists are opted to perform barefoot to minimize the unwanted noise while moving from one instrument to another.

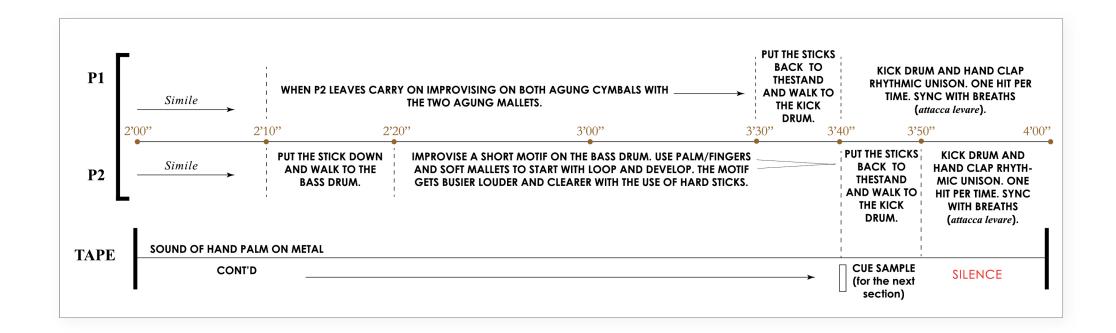


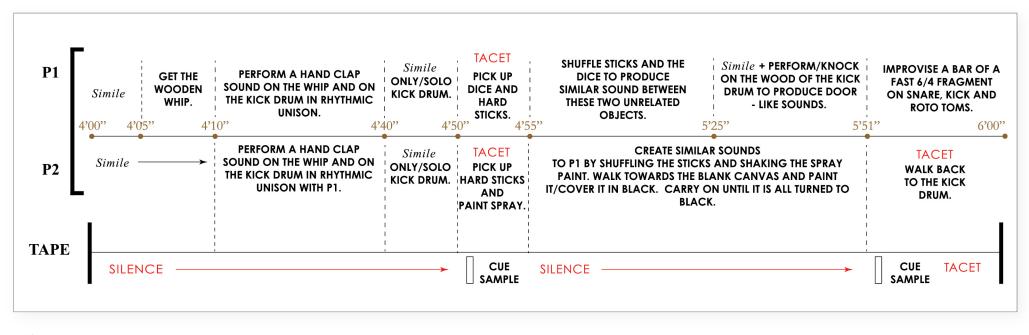
¹ The performers are marooned in the circular stage plan, back to back, facing and performing at their instrumental stations. They come side to side only in the first *agung* sequence, and in the end, during the bass drum sequence where they are sharing the instrument, and facing each other with the masks on.

The man with the hammer (2010 - 13)

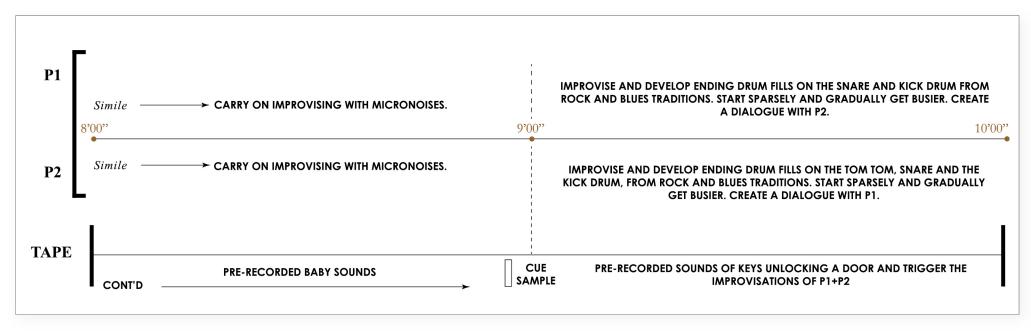
Nektarios Rodosthenous (b.1986)







P1	DRUM IMPRC PREVIOU	FILL BY P2. AND DVISE ON YOUR	TACET PUT THE STICK BACK.	4 BARS OF 5/8 IMPROVISA- TION ON CONGAS AND KICK.	PERFORM 7 BARS OF 5/8 PREVIOUS MOTIF AND HAVE KICK DRUM ON EVERY FIRST BEAT.	P1+P2 PERFORM MICRONOISES ON ALL THE PERCUSSION OF YOUR SIDE. MAKE IT LOOK LIKE YOU ARE 20" EXPLORING THE SOUNDS FOR THE FIRST TIME. 8'00"
P2	IMPROVISATION ON SNARE AND BASS DRUM AS INTRO TO NEXT SESSION. MENT. ON MITH P1 T		TACET PUT THE STICK BACK.	TACET	AFTER 4 BARS OF 5/8 OF P1 COME IN BY PERFORMING 5 BARS OF 7/8 IMPROVISATION AT THE SAME TEMPO. KICK DRUM ON EVERY FIRST BEAT.	WORK WITH AND AGAINST THE TAPE BUT DO NOT PRODUCE ANY VOCAL SOUNDS.
TAPE	SILENCE	[CUE SAMPLE	SILENCE ——		FIELD RECORDING OF A 9-MONTH-OLD BABY IMPRO- VISING THE ON AN EMPTY 20LITRE WATER CONTAINER



TACET GRADUALLY BLEND INTO PARADIDDLES, OR QUIET Simile **P1** WALK TO THE FACE MASK SEMIQUARTERS ON THE SNAPE (piano, 140 bpm) rallentando P1+P2 AND ON THE SECOND AND THE KICK DRUM AS THE BEAT, IN AN ALMOST **HEATER SOUND PUT THE** ON THE THIRD HEATER SOUND TURN TOWARDS THE MACHINE-GUN SOUND. incalzando. MASK ON, KEEP HARD BASS DRUM FACING P2 STEP AWAY AND WATCH STICKS WITH YOU. 10'25" 11'00" 11'10" 11'15" 11'25" 11'35" 12'00" .0'00'' HIM PERFORM HIS RITUAL. ON THE THIRD HEATER SOUND TURN TOWARDS THE GRADUALLY SYNC ON THE PENULTIMATE CARRY ON IMPROVISING WALK TO THE FACE MASK BASS DRUM AND START TILTING IT UPSIDE DOWN PLAY RIGHT WITH THE PREVIOUS DRUM WITH P1 BY EAR AND | HIT, ADD AN EXTRA AND ON THE SECOND **P2** WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY RUBBING THE THUMB ON GONG. COME IN RHYTHMIC **KICK FOR P1 TO** FILLS. DEVELOP THAT HEATER SOUND PUT THE THE DRUM SKIN TO TO FIT THE ACTION TO THE UNISON, SOUND AS KNOW THAT THIS IS Let ring. MATERIAL EXTENSIVELY. MASK ON SIMULTANE-SOUNDS. ONE. THE END. PUT STICKS OUSLY WITH P1. BACK TO Simile PLACE. rallentando TAPE CUE SAMPLE + PRE-RECORDED PRE-RECORDED SESSION OF A REAL NOSE OPERATION SILENCE -**HEATER SOUNDS** FROM A HOSPITAL IN CYPRUS

P1	TACET	WALK TOWARDS THE BASS DRUM AND FORCE- FULLY HOLD IT STILL (SKIN FACING UP). THIS STOPS THE TILTING OF P2. 27'' 12''	DRUM.	DROP THE STICKS ON THE SOUND OF THE VENTILATOR.	PI+P2 Simile MIRROR SEQUENCE (P1+P2) IMPROVISE AND DEVELOP THE ABOVE SEQUENCE BUT WHEN THE STICKS ARE DROPPED, CREATE A mF DRUM ROLL WITH THE FINGERS. THIS IS DUE TO THE RUMBLING ON THE FOUR STICKS ON THE BASS DRUM. WHILE YOU PERFORM THE ROLL, GO CLOSER TO THE SKIN WITH YOUR EAR AS IF YOU ARE ABOUT TO LISTEN TO SOMETHING. WHILE YOUR EAR IS CLOSE TO THE SKIN.	KEEP HOLD- ING THE HARD STICK WITH THE LH WHILE SIMULTANE- OUSLY WALKING OVER THE BASS DRUM WITH THE RH FINGERS FROM YOUR RIGHT SIDE TO LEFT. 13'40'' 13'50	Simile: CARRY ON WITH THE PREVIOUS MIRROR SEQUENCE WITH ONE STICK. 'GOING DOWN' ELEVATOR SOUND.	DROP THE STICK WITH THE TAPE ('GOING DOWN'). SAMPLE.
P2	CONT'D: Tilling + Hand sequences Simile	AFTER P1 HOLDS THE BASS DRUM STILL, GET	HOLD THE STICKS IN NORMAL CONDUCTING POSITION AND MIRROR AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE WHAT P1 IS DOING.	DROP THE STICKS ON THE SOUND OF THE VENTILATOR.	THE DYNAMIC OF THE ROLL DROPS TO pp. ALTERNATE THE 'LISTENING' SEQUENCE A FEW TIMES WITH THE OTHER PERFORMER. THIS IS NOT MIRRORED/SYNCED. REPEAT 3-4 TIMES AND GRADUALLY DROP THE RUMBLING STICKS THAT GET IN YOUR WAY (HANDS) OUT OF THE BASS DRUM. WHEN ONLY TWO STICKS ARE LEFT PICK ONE WITH YOUR LH (P1) + RH (P2) AND HOLD IT AT HEAD-HEIGHT.	KEEP HOLDING THE HARD STICK WITH THE RH WHILE SIMUTANE- OUSLY 'WALKING' OVER THE BASS DRUM WITH THE LH FINGERS FROM YOUR LEFT SIDE TO THE RIGHT AND BACK.	Simile: CARRY ON WITH THE PREVIOUS MIRROR SEQUENCE WITH ONE STICK. 'GOING DOWN' ELEVATOR SOUND.	DROP THE STICK WITH THE TAPE ('GOING DOWN'). SAMPLE.
TAPE	CONT'D: PRE-RECORDED SOUND OF A NOSE OPERATION	MEDICAL VENTILATOR: 3 BEEPS OS		MEDICAL VENTILATOR: 3 BEEPS		MEDICAL VENTILATOR: 3 BEEPS		'GOING DOWN' ELEVATOR SOUND

P1	Simile: CARRY ON WITH THE PREVIOUS ONE-STICK (LH) MIRROR SEQUENCE. YOU ARE NOT ONLY LEADING BUT ALSO FOLLOWING WHAT P2 IS DOING. DROP THE STICKS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ON THE BASS DRUM. 14'00'' 14'	AT THIS POINT PICK UP WITH TWO HANDS BOTH STICKS AND CREATE A 'MOCKING' SEQUENCE BY LOOKING AT P2 AND PRETEND TO THROW THE STICKS ON THE BASS 35" DRUM. 15	DROP THE STICKS FOR THE LAST TIMES ON THE BASS DRUM. 200" 15"	STRAIGHT AFT		KS, START THE 'AERIAL KNOC FORM 3 MEDIUM - FAST AER	
P2	Simile: CARRY ON WITH THE PREVIOUS ONE-STICK (RH) MIRROR SEQUENCE. DO NOT JUST FOLLOW WHAT P1 IS DOING BUT ALSO LEAD THE WAY (HE IS NOW FOLLOWING YOU). DROP THE STICKS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE THE BASS DRUM.	AFTER P1 GETS BOTH OF THE STICKS PLACE BOTH HANDS ON THE RING OF THE BASS DRUM AND LOOK DOWN AS IF YOU HAVE BEEN DEFEATED.	TACET	LOOK SLOWLY DOWN AT P1 AND SUDDENLY PIC THE TWO STICKS STRAIGHT AFTER HE DROPS THEM ON THE BASS DRUM PUT THEM ON THE STICKS STAND.	WALK SLOWLY AND THEATRICALLY TOWARDS THE STUDY LAMP AND TURN IT OFF.		THE EMERGENCY EXIT OF VENUE.
TAPE	SILENCE		· · · · · ·	FIELD RECORDING OF THE ELEVATOR FROM THE LEEDS ONCOLOGY WARD	·	ELEVATOR DOOR: OPENING SOUND	ELEVATOR DOOR: CLOSING SOUND

