

μοιρολόι (n.) – L' I meant

A performer-specific, music theatre work for countertenor James Cave,
actress, mezzo, tenor saxophone and tape [ca. 16'30"].

(2012)

Transcribed score and stage directions.

Nektarios Rodosthenous

Instruments

Actress

- needle
- presentation black paper folder
- random neurology texts on hypothermia, in hand-out form (contained in the black folder)

Countertenor

- 5 black balloons
- coffee wooden sticks
- temple blocks

Tenor saxophone

- (empty) soft drink can in the bell of the saxophone

Mezzo

Tape operator

- Produce the water drop sound effect with his mouth during the temple blocks sequence

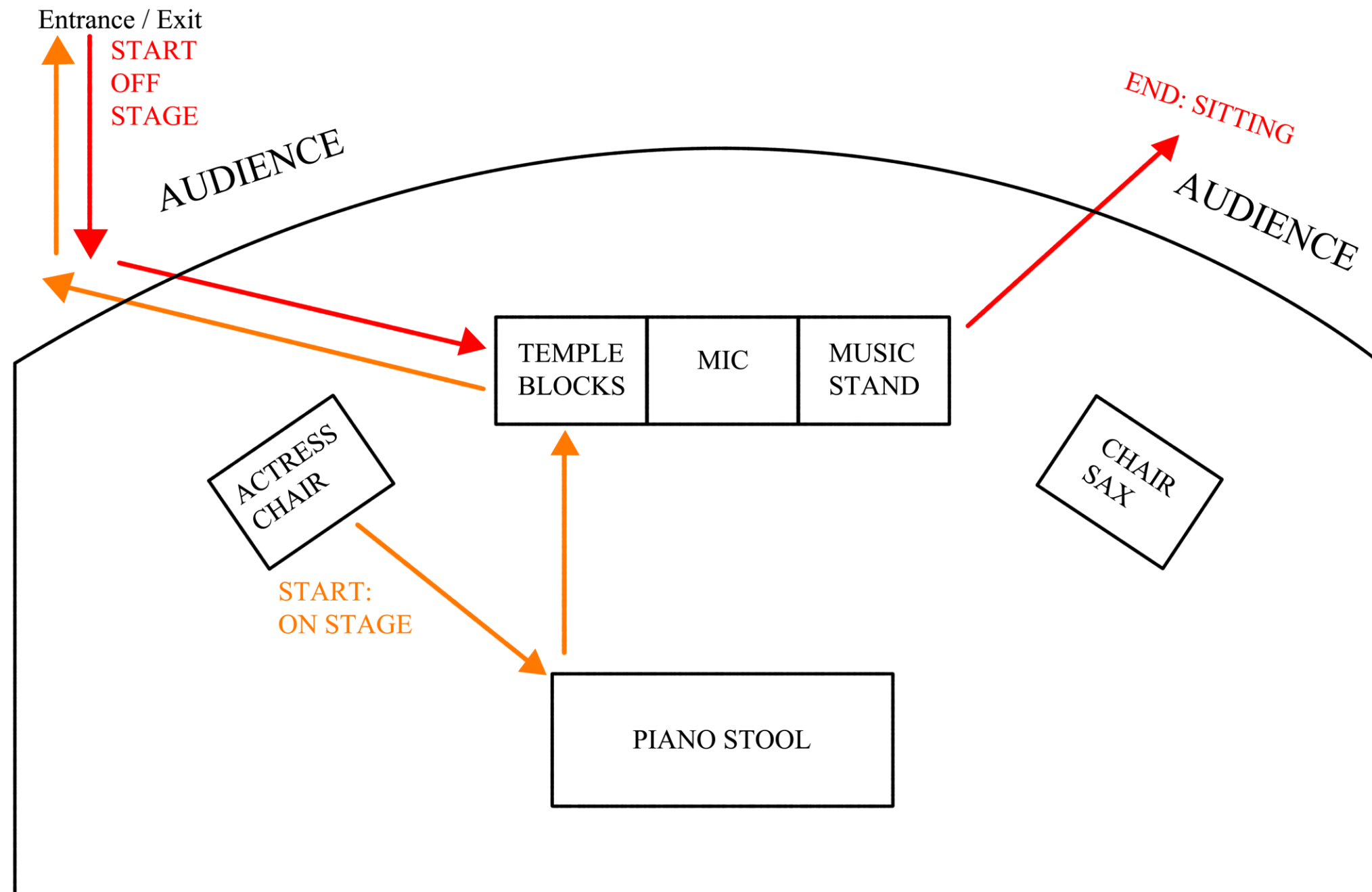
Characters (all performers are opted to wear black)

Protagonist – Countertenor: James Cave

Wife figure – Actress: Lauren Garnham

Lover – Mezzo: Anna Papagiannaki Divani

Stage Plan¹



¹ The current version was premiered in Sir Jack Lyons Concert Hall, Music Department, York. This is a good reference point for the stage plan, but it can be re-structured for future performances.

For James Cave

L'I meant

Dedicated to the people that died due to hypothermia

Nektarios Rodosthenous

Actress



ON STAGE:
Sat on chair

Tacet



Mezzo

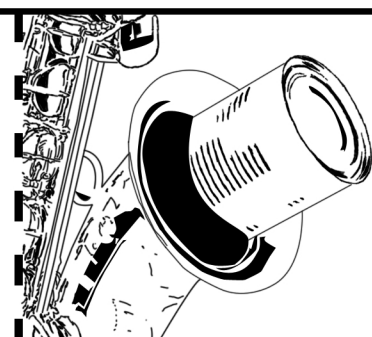
OFF STAGE:
Out of the venue

Tacet



Tenor
Saxophone

Tacet



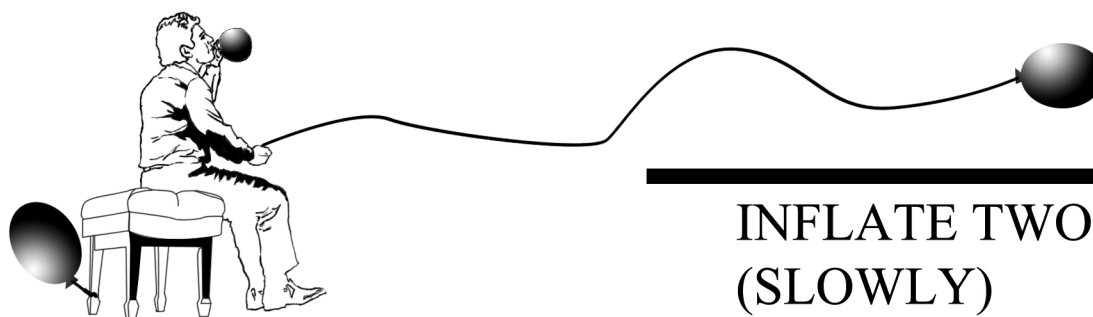
ON STAGE:
MIDDLE REGISTER
MULTIPHONES +CAN NOISE (BELL) (p) poss.



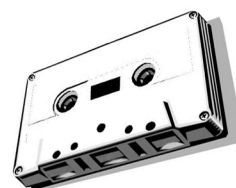
Countertenor



Tacet

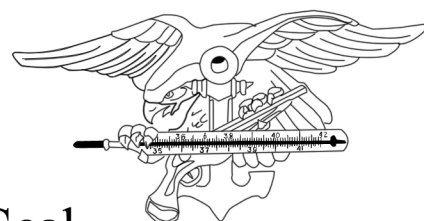


INFLATE TWO BALLOONS + TIE THEM UP
(SLOWLY)

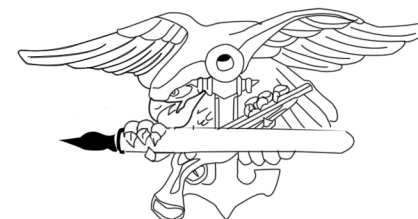


4/4 Rhythm
Made from
edited breaths

Navy Seal
Interview On Cold Water



Navy Seal
Interview II
(Poem)



Navy Seal Interview I
(Edited)

Navy Seal Interview II
(Edited Poem)



0'00''

0'06''

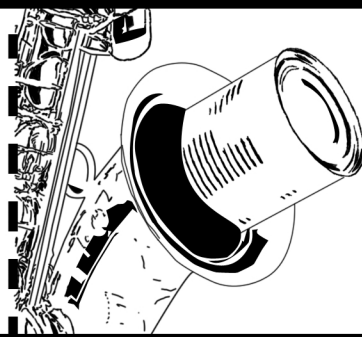
0'19''

0'36''

1'00''

**Tenor
Saxophone**

*Simile: Middle
Registered
Multiphonics*



Tacet

ON STAGE:
Sit on chair

Countertenor

Move from
stool to center
microphone



Navy Seal Interview I
(Edited)



Navy Seal Interview II
(Edited Poem)



NHS *"Breathe Normally"*



1'00"

1'10"

1'30"

2'00"

Countertenor

*Simile: inflate and
let the air come
out (cont'd)*



Put the deflated
balloon on
the stand and
stand still/neutral

Tacet

*Simile: Scuba Diving
Sounds*



Tenor: (pre-recorded) ' *This is...* ' for James Cave

Monarch

Monarch Delay Apology:
Text-to-speech computer realisation of e-mail



2'00"

2'22"

2'30"

3'00"

Countertenor

Tacet

CONTINUE
THE TAPE
"This is the
edited
recording of"



COUGH
With and
against the
tape

Exhale
In
Microphone
(long)

Simile:

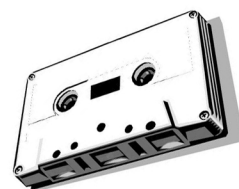
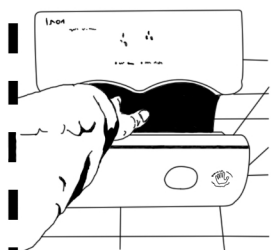
 Monarch

N.B.

COUGHS (Dryer Button)
Baby Coughs
Prepared Piano
Hits



CUE



3'00"

3'30" 3'32"

3'53" 3'54"

4'00"

Countertenor

Simile: Exhale
In Microphone

Sing Melody (dolce p)
"Breathe, Keep
Breathing"

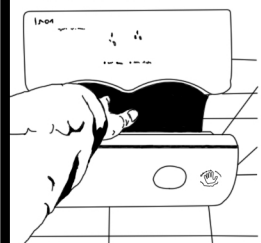
Cough (Sim) F poss
with and against
the tape.
PAINFULLY



Exhale: (Sim)
In Microphone

Sing Melody (dolce p)
"Breathe, Keep
Breathing"

Simile:

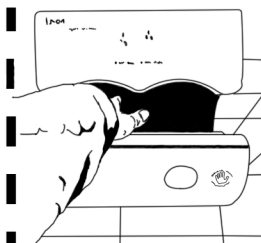


SILENCE

COUGHS (Sim)
Baby, Buttons
Prepared Piano



CUE



SILENCE

4'00"

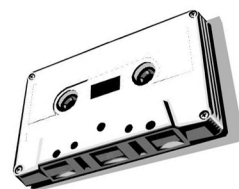
4'08"

4'20"

4'33" 4'34"

4'48"

5'00"

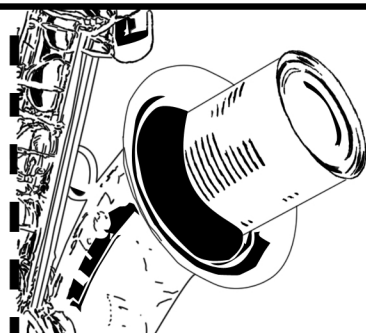


Countertenor



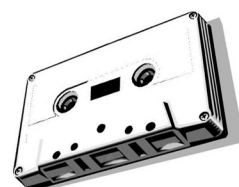
<i>Sing Melody</i> (dolce p) "We hope, that you choke, that you choke" : 'Exit Music'	Sing: Previous Ending Note	UPS (Hand Shakes)	Tacet (REST) Breathe Silently	Sing: (Simile) UPS (Hand Shakes)	Tacet (REST) Breathe Silently	Sing: Previous Note UPS
 SILENCE		Jazz: Edited Extreme Vibrato Incalzando	Prepared Piano Resonance	Jazz: Edited Extreme Vibrato Incalzando	Prepared Piano Resonance	Jazz: Edited Extreme Vibrato
5'00"	5'14"	5'24"	5'34"	5'35"	5'45"	5'54" 6'00"

Tenor
Saxophone

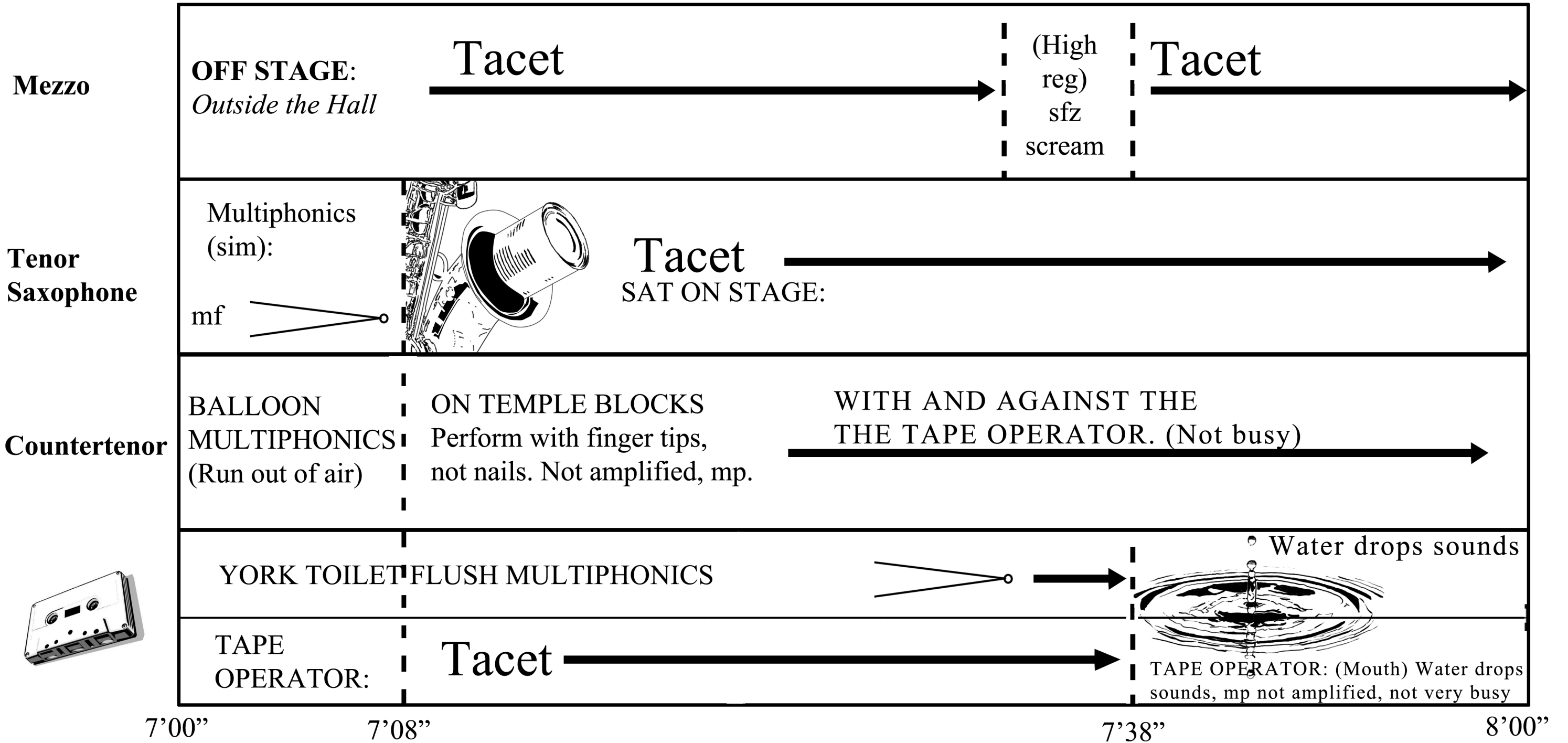


Tacet (Sat on stage)	STANDING: Multiphonics p. High Reg	Multiphonics: Low Reg. mf
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Countertenor



Tacet	Inflate a Balloon and pull the neck mouthpiece sideways to produce multiphonics	f, Amplified hold for as long as possible
<i>Sim:</i> UPS vibrato	Prepared Piano Resonance	Baby's edited high register screams/ multiphonics
	YORK TOILET FLUSH: High reg multiphonics	cresc. t ascending pitch
6'00"	6'06"	6'12"
		6'28"
		6'36"
		7'00"



Mezzo

Tacet

OFF STAGE: Outside the hall

Tacet

Start walking slowly towards the microphone

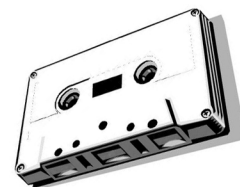
Countertenor

With and against
the tape operator

Meno Mosso

Tacet

Get Ready Piano intro



Water Drops

Meno Mosso

Tape Operator

Meno Mosso

a tempo (tape) *p* (amplified)

I can scarce-ly mo-ve or dra-w my breath can scarce-ly mo-ve or dra-w my

08'00"

'28"

'36"

09'00"

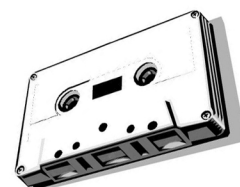
Mezzo

Tacet

Walk Silently
off stage

Countertenor

Tacet



p dolce (amplified) *mp* *p* *rall.*

Πα-ει ο η-λιος Την α-κρι-βη σου νιο-τη Πα-ει ο η-λιος παει κι α-μοργος κη α-κρι-βη σου, κη α-κρι-βη σου, την α-κρι-βη σου. Πα-ει ο η-λιος παει κη α-μο-ργος

a tempo (tape)

breath Let me, let me, let me freeze a- gain let me, let me freeze a-gain to dea- th let me, let me free- ze a-gain to death

(mf) *dim.* *rall.*

Baby:
Edited
'Tette'

09'00"

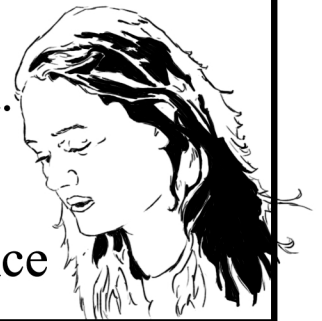
'54"

10'00"

Actress

Tacet

Look at him.
He looks at you.
Start getting
involved presence



Countertenor/
Coffee sticks

Perform: 'Tttt' like when you
do when you are in cold water
shake. Perform uneven roll
on stand/temple blocks (p)

Perform: with and against the tape (mf) unamplified.
Use words that have similar sounds choose from:
old, cold, colder, πάγος, agony, άγονος

Sim: Turn to the
Actress. Loss of
speech / love



TETTE: Baby (Edited)

Pre-Recorded CT's Voice: Words

Prepared Piano Improv

Cold Cold Older Πάγος Πάγος Agony Agony Άγονος Άγονος Πάγος Άγονος

10'00"

'20"

'24"

'29"

'34"

'38"

'42"

'44"

'47"

'50"

'53"

'56"

11'00"

Actress



*"What are you talking
about?
I don't understand
I can't hear you"*

Stand up and
walk
towards
him

INTENSITY

Continue the dialogue

SHOUT:
*"Look at me.
Talk to me"*

Tacet

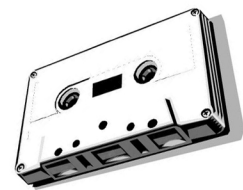
Countertenor



TACET: Loss of
speech love and
now life. Slowly
go in on embryo
position

DEATH

Tacet



Άγονος

SILENCE

11'00"

'02"

'05"

'20"

'40"

'45"

12'00"

Actress

Tacet - Slowly get the presentation folder and get ready to give a lecture (Unamplified)



Text: One of the functions of the human brain is body temperature management. No, not core body temperature, whole body temperature. The part of the brain responsible is the oldest and therefore the most experienced one: the Hypothalamus, situated in the limbic system body temperature management can be proven tricky and challenging at times. And if the brain does not have the means to keep the body at a steady temperature, then it starts making compromises. You get cold fingers, toes, ears and nose then cold hands and feet (pause).



Navy seal Interview I 'cold' - title



12'00"

'10"

'15"

13'00"

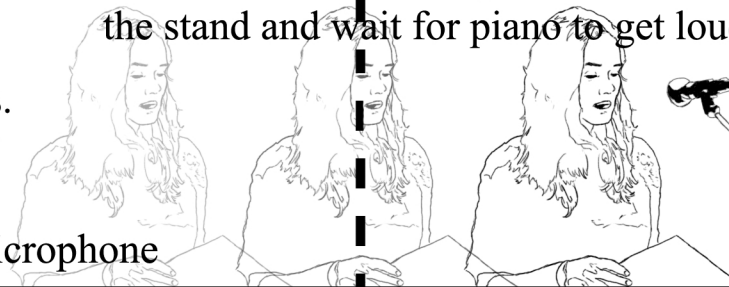
Actress

Text: The human body can lose heat in four ways: conduction, convection, radiation and vaporisation. All these are good and even welcomed by the human body as they keep it from over-heating. Nevertheless in certain environmental conditions the human body can lose too much heat. For example the human body when immerced in water can lose 32 more times heat.

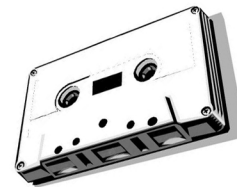
Walk towards the audience and give them the handouts. 'Can you pass these around please?'

Walk slowly back to the microphone

Arrive at microphone, put the folder on the stand and wait for piano to get loud



Text: After the initial symptoms, shivering begins and starts to become violent and uncontrollable



'Hold your breath' - looped

Prepared piano improv.



Navy seal Interview I 'cold' - title

Cluster hits: can violenzia Prepared piano improv.

13'00"

'26"

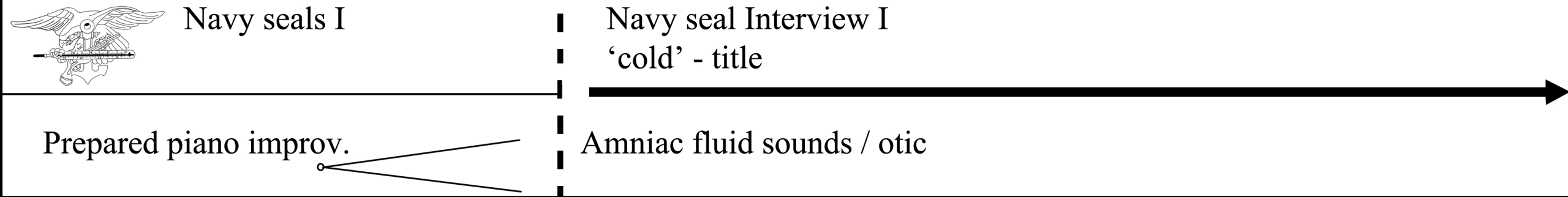
'42"

'53"

14'00"

Actress

Text: You cannot talk anymore or talk freely, and you gradually lose alertness. This leads to full muscle rigidity, blue lips and blue skin under your nails and a blue-ish tint to the skin all over your body. Once the shivering has stopped, you are stunned, breathing is too shallow to sustain life and your heart beat is too erratic. Soon you are unconscious and moments after you fall into a coma, and this leads to death. During those few moments, the brain has been trying to preserve life. It was shutting down parts of the body, one after the other in order to keep the most important parts of the body warm: the internal organs.



14'00"

'20"

15'00"

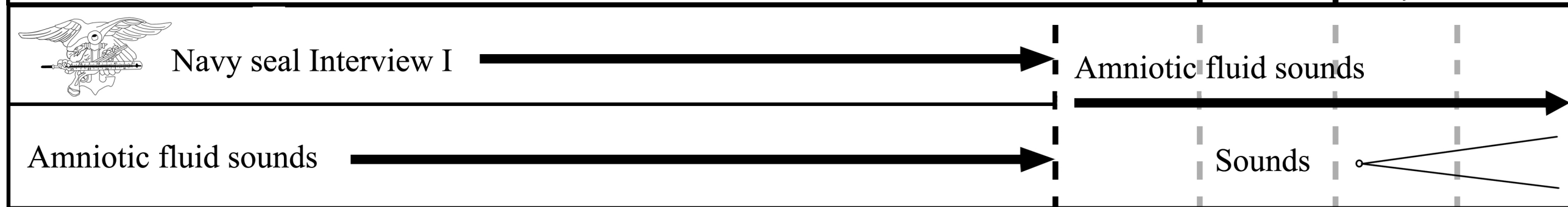
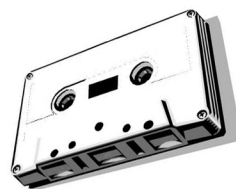
Actress

Text: In the very last moments before expiring it does the second to last move: it switches off breathing. Breathing, regardless how vital it is, is a double threat: inhaling invites more cold air in the core of the body, and exhaling is getting rid of precious heat balancing on the razor edge between life and death. The brain runs its last trick. It releases all painkiller hormones available, and paralysed, calm, task-free and pain-free, it fades.

Tacet

Text: 'The final shudder marks the beginning of the end.'

Get the needle and go/walk slowly to stool



15'00"

'40"

'45"

'50"

'55"

16'00"

Actress

Pick up a balloon walk slowly above countertenor body and pop the balloon



Throw the leftovers of the balloon to the countertenor.

Text: What was he trying to say I wonder (Pause)

Read the venue's floor letters (or sitting letters) on the way out. Leave the hall.

16'00"

'10"

'20"

16'30"