tree piece #8

for solo percussion

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Tree Piece No. 8 for solo percussion

Explanation of Symbols

color symbols

Color indicates the category of percussion instrument from which the performer selects, unless a specific instrument is indicated.

Green = membrane Yellow = metal Brown = wood Blue = glass Pink = open (mixed)

letter symbols

Choice of instruments for portions indicated (a), (b), (c) or (d) are to remain constant throughout the performance.

NOTE: (a) and (c) might employ the same instrument.

instrument abbreviations

When an abbreviation for a specific instrument is indicated more than once, the performer need not play the exact same instrument; e.g., four different gongs may be used.

(f. cym.) = finger cymbal
(wnd ch.) = wind chimes
(gng.) = gong, or a gong-like instrument

miscellaneous symbols



Begin reading each page at the bottom. Read the system from left to right, and proceed upward.

- Continue reading upward without pause. When there is no arrow at the end of a system the performer should pause 2-4 seconds before proceeding upward.
- X "Root note," to be emphasized throughout performance.

AFAP Play as fast as possible.

with fingers Play instrument(s) with fingers only for duration of dots (....). Other sections may be played with fingers if the performer desires.

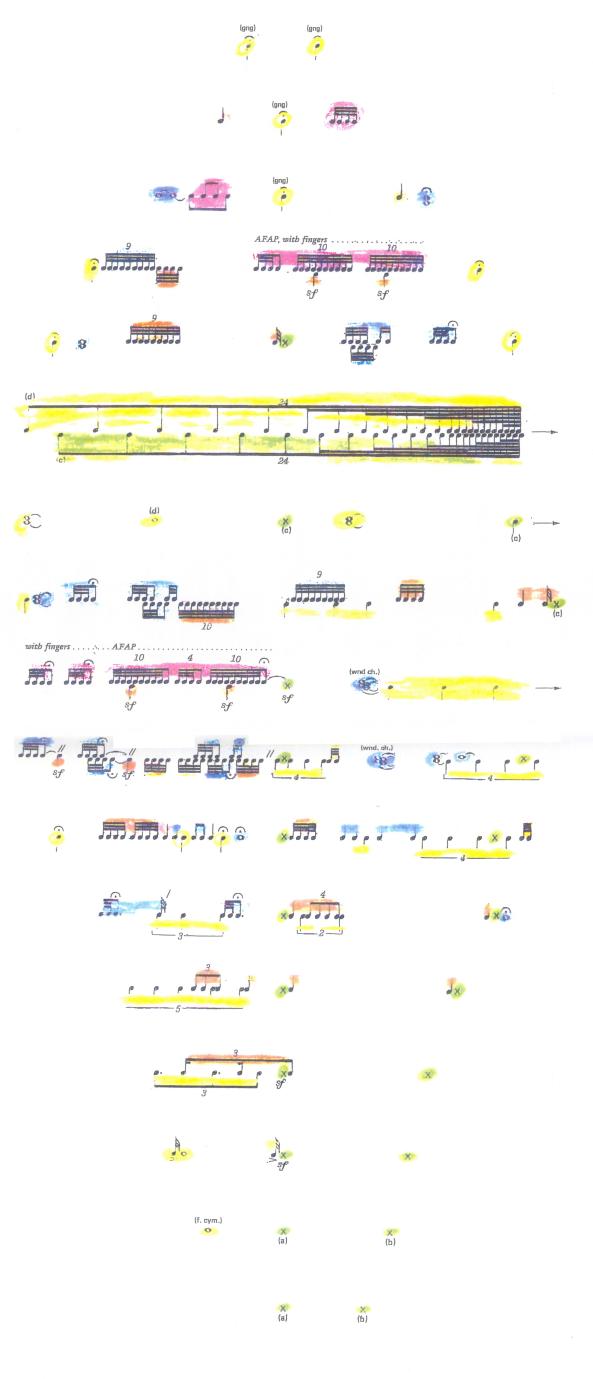
other remarks

Dynamic level should remain relatively low (p, pp) throughout.

Duration is 6–8 minutes.

Tree Piece No. 8 is part of a collection of musical processes entitled Tree Pieces which attempt to parallel nature's manner of operation. In performance, an attempt is made at a spontaneous, unforced growing of sound and silence in which emphasis is placed on formation rather than form, as in the building and shaping of cell-like units in living processes. In this piece the Fibonacci series is used — a summation sequence in which each number is the sum of the two preceding numbers. The series was introduced in the Thirteenth Century by an Italian monk, Filius Bonacci, who derived it from plant and animal reproduction.

William Winant, for whom the piece was written and to whom it is dedicated, played the première performance May 29, 1984 at the New Performance Gallery in San Francisco.



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