

Wendy Reid

Tree Piece #34
frog ostinato
for
oboe
percussion
&
tape



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TREE PIECE #34 'frog estinato' is dedicated to oboist William Banovetz and percussionist William Winant who premiered the work on November 16, 1985 at New Langton Arts in San Francisco.

Instrumentation

Oboe

Percussion:

finger cymbals (4 or more)
wood block (1 or more)
claves, mounted
gourd, or gourd-like instrument
large glass bowl with water & thin sticks
small stones (2)
medium stones (10) with metal mallet
large rock with metal mallet
sand block, mounted
small bongo drum
small tambourine
Vibraphone
Xylophone
Other possible instruments performer chooses for open instrumentation.

Tape of a single low-pitched frog croak which repeats every 20 seconds.

Tape of a single high-pitched frog croak which grows more numerous in croaks (2,3,5,8,13), then returns to a single croak - a pattern which repeats every 3 minutes.

Performance Instructions

1. At the beginning of the performance, the recordings of the two frog ostinatos should be turned on simultaneously.
2. The oboe begins playing immediately after the first frog croak.
3. The dynamic levels of both live performers should remain fairly low and work in such a way that the various parameters of timbre and sound coalesce.
4. Throughout the performance, the live performers improvise rhythmically on the given pitch and sound material, and interact with the frog ostinatos whenever possible.
5. On the final page, third system, the percussionist fades out the recording of the high pitched frogs while the oboist is playing his keys. After which, the percussionist begins the splashing water sounds which continue until the next frog croak which ends the pieces. At this time, the percussionist should immediately fade out the second recording of frogs.

Symbols

- ↑ -Begin reading each page at the bottom; read the system from left to right, and proceed upward.
- -Continue reading upward without a pause. If an arrow isn't indicated at the end of a system, a pause of 2-4 seconds may be taken before proceeding upward.
- frog: x -Listen for a frog croak (when this symbol lies between the two staves).
- -Play a short note or sound.
 - o -Play a sustained note or sound.
 - ⋮ -Play note(s) or sound(s) in relation to the other player's note(s) or sound(s).
 - ⌈ -Play notes under bracket as fast as possible.
 - ⌒ -Play slurred notes quickly.
- -Make an accelerando. At the end of the arrow, return to the original tempo.
- ∨ -Decrescendo into silence.
- *for oboe:
- ✕ -Tremolo on the keys of the instrument.
 -  -Flutter-tongue without vibrating the reed.
 -  -Stutter the pitch.
 -  -Stutter the pitch without vibrating the reed.
- SAVEAK -Play a very short pinched note that squeaks more than sounds.
- *for percussion:
- f. cym. -Play finger cymbal (- on page 4 of the score, use different finger cymbals).
- wood -Play any wood instrument.
- open -Play any appropriate instrument with an indefinite pitch.
- L.V. -Let sound continue to ring.
- -Stutter the pitch and let the sound continue to ring.
-  -Play 4 sounds in 1 second: 3 wood sounds and 1 metal sound.
-  -Play 3 sounds in half a second: 2 membrane sounds and 1 metal sound.
-  -Play 4 sounds in 1 second: 3 to be chosen by the performer and one metal sound.

pp p

mp p mp p

pp

pp

Oboe

fmg. x

Percussion

finger cymbal

(with finger) pp



Handwritten musical notation for the first system. It consists of two staves. The upper staff begins with a treble clef and contains a series of notes with a slur over them. A dynamic marking 'pp' is written below the first note. A handwritten instruction 'Bowed Vibe' is written above the staff, with a '+' sign and a line pointing to a note. A vertical line with a double bar and a dot above it is drawn across both staves. The lower staff contains notes with a slur and a dynamic marking 'pp' below it. The system ends with an arrow pointing to the right.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. It consists of two staves. The upper staff contains notes with a slur and a '+' sign above it. A dynamic marking 'mp' is written below the first note. The lower staff contains notes with a slur and a '+' sign above it. A dynamic marking 'mp' is written below the first note, followed by a '+' sign and a 'p' dynamic marking. The system ends with an arrow pointing to the right.

Handwritten musical notation for the third system. It consists of a single staff with a treble clef. The staff contains several notes with accidentals (sharps and flats) and a slur over a group of notes. A bracket is drawn above the notes. The system ends with a vertical line and a double bar, with an arrow pointing to the right.

↑

All Keys

8^{va}) Xylo

pp sf PPP

Stones Even

with metal mallet (accel.)

molto accel.

finger cym.

Drum (with fingers)

4:1 (L.V.)
3 open
1 metal

4:1" (L.V.)
3 wood
1 metal

3:1/2"
2 memb.
1 metal

claves

All Keys

Drop stone in water

splash water (ppp) with stick

Handwritten musical notation for the first system. The upper staff is a treble clef with a whole note. The lower staff is a bass clef with rhythmic notation: a quarter note marked 'P', followed by a half note marked 'pp', and a final quarter note marked 'P'. Above the bass staff, the text 'gourd with stick' is written with an arrow pointing to the first quarter note. Further right, 'Bowed Vibe' is written with an arrow spanning the half note. A large horizontal line with an arrow at the end is drawn above the bass staff, extending from the start of the half note to the end of the system.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. The upper staff is a treble clef with a whole note. The lower staff is a bass clef with a whole note. The text 'vibe' is written between the staves, with a vertical dashed line extending from the whole note in the bass staff down to the text. Below the bass staff, the text 'PPP' is written. A large horizontal line with an arrow at the end is drawn above the bass staff, extending from the start of the whole note to the end of the system.

Handwritten musical notation for the third system. The upper staff is a treble clef with a whole note. The lower staff is a bass clef with rhythmic notation: a series of six eighth notes marked 'x', followed by a quarter note marked 'x'. Above the bass staff, the text '-10' is written with an arrow pointing to the eighth notes. Below the bass staff, the text 'claves' is written with an arrow pointing to the eighth notes, and 'st Drum, PP (with fingers)' is written with an arrow pointing to the quarter note. A large horizontal line with an arrow at the end is drawn above the bass staff, extending from the start of the eighth notes to the end of the system.

Handwritten musical notation for the first system. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with notes, accidentals (sharps and flats), and a slur. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains rhythmic markings with the text "sand Block" written below it.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. The upper staff is in treble clef with notes and accidentals. The lower staff is in bass clef with rhythmic markings and the text "wood" and "sand Block" written below it.

Handwritten musical notation for the third system. The upper staff is in treble clef with notes and accidentals. The lower staff is in bass clef with rhythmic markings and the text "wood" and "sand Block" written below it.

Handwritten musical notation for the fourth system. The upper staff is in treble clef with notes, accidentals, and dynamic markings "Presto" and "P". The lower staff is in bass clef with rhythmic markings and the text "wood", "Vibe", and "sand Block (with finger nail)" written below it.

↑

Handwritten musical notation for the first system. The top staff contains a melodic line with notes, rests, and a slur. The bottom staff contains a bass line with notes and rests, including markings for wood blocks. An arrow points to the right above the top staff.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. The top staff contains a melodic line with notes and rests, including a marking for 'f.t.'. The bottom staff contains a bass line with notes and rests, including a marking for '(8va)'. An arrow points to the right above the top staff.

Handwritten musical notation for the third system. The top staff contains a melodic line with notes and rests, including a marking for 'corno'. The bottom staff contains a bass line with notes and rests, including markings for 'viba.', 'pp', 'poco accel.', and '(8va) xyl.'. An arrow points to the right above the top staff.

Handwritten musical notation for the fourth system. The top staff contains a melodic line with notes and rests, including a marking for 'f.t.'. The bottom staff contains a bass line with notes and rests, including markings for 'Sand Block' and 'wood sf'. An arrow points to the right above the top staff.

↑

Prest. ssimo
(8^{va})
open open open

(8^{va})
pp

(8^{va})
open pp

f.t.
coll.
accel. (sim.)
open pp

Keys only

(8va) Xylo

molto accel.

P

PP

p

PP

(loco) Vibe

with fingers

Keys only

(8va)

molto accel.

P

PP

Drum (with fingers) PP

Rock PP (with metal mallet)

f.t. with keys

(8va) Xylo

molto accel.

P

PP

Drum (with fingers) PP

(8va) Xylo P

f.t.

(8va)

molto accel.

f.t.

PP

P

Drum (with fingers) PP

Handwritten musical notation on two staves. The top staff contains four notes with sharp signs and dotted lines, marked with 'PP'. The bottom staff is marked 'Sand Block' and 'PP' at the beginning, and 'Rock with mallet' further along. A long horizontal line with a wavy underline spans across both staves, indicating a sustained or glissando effect.

Handwritten musical notation on two staves. The top staff has three notes with sharp signs and dotted lines, marked with 'PPP'. The bottom staff is marked 'Erratic (L.V.)' and has three notes with sharp signs and dotted lines, also marked with '(L.V.)'. A long horizontal line with a wavy underline spans across both staves.

Handwritten musical notation on two staves. The top staff has one note with a sharp sign and a dotted line, marked with 'PP'. The bottom staff is marked 'Vibe (L.V.)' and has two notes with sharp signs and dotted lines, marked with '(L.V.)'. A long horizontal line with a wavy underline spans across both staves.

Handwritten musical notation on two staves. The top staff has one note with a sharp sign and a dotted line, marked with 'PP'. The bottom staff is marked 'Vibe with fingers' and has two notes with sharp signs and dotted lines, marked with 'PPP'. A long horizontal line with a wavy underline spans across both staves. The word 'Keys' is written above the top staff with a wavy line underneath it.

↑

(PP)
Erratic
Vibe

(8va) Xylo
PP

Vibe Rock Vibe Rock Vibe Rock

(8va) Xylo (with mallet) PPP PP Xylo PPP

PP

(Rock) Vibe Rock

PPP

Rock Rock Rock

Sand Block PP Sand Block PP

↑

Musical notation for two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a note with a circled 'x' above it. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a note with a circled 'x' above it. A bracket connects the two notes. Below the bottom staff, the text "Splash water with stick" is written. To the right, "frog: X" is written with a circled 'x' above it.

Musical notation for two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a note with a circled 'x' above it. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a note with a circled 'x' above it. A bracket connects the two notes. Below the bottom staff, the text "Drop stone in water" is written. To the left, "f. cym." is written. To the right, "frog: X" is written with a circled 'x' above it. Further right, "(fade out high-pitched frogs)" is written with an arrow pointing right. Above the top staff, "Key sound only" is written with a bracket. Below the bottom staff, "PP" is written. On the far left, "wood-block sf" is written.

Musical notation for two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a series of notes. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a series of notes. Below the bottom staff, the text "molto accel." is written. On the far left, "Vibe" and "Xylo" are written. On the far right, "sf" is written.

Musical notation for two staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a series of notes. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a series of notes. Below the bottom staff, the text "poco accel." is written. On the far left, "Vibe" and "Xylo" are written. On the far right, "SQUEAK" is written above a note.

↑