

STREET MUSIC-
a sound sculpture for
200 performers, 5 conductors,
and coordinated radios
by Wendy Chambers
written to be performed
in Washington Sq. Pk. on
a fall day near the end
of September

All instrumentalists divide into five groups. Each group is composed of like instruments (woodwinds, flutes & recorders, brass, strings, and percussion). Each conductor is assigned to one group. The groups are arranged in a circle, performers facing out towards the audience, conductors facing in towards performers. The audience surrounds the ensemble.

Radios may be played by anyone and be stationed anywhere. All radios tune to WBAI, 99.5 FM, before the piece starts. Having found the correct station, radios turn off. Radios remain off until an air horn cue in the middle of the piece (4 PM exactly) at which point radios turn on FULL BLAST!! The radios remain on until the end of the Close Encounters record (ca. 3 minutes 27 seconds) and then turn off.

Cue cards are made of 11"x14" poster board. The letters A, B, G, D, and X are painted in the same color. All the other signs should be painted in different colors and NOT the same color as the first five cue cards.

Each conductor has an identical set of 13 cue cards, except for the percussion conductor who has a different set of 11 cue cards. (See attached sheet for percussion cue cards.)

CUE CARDS:

A=pitch A sustained
B=pitch B sustained
G=pitch G sustained
D=pitch D sustained
X=whole tune A-B-G-G-D

S=sound effects

M=manic improvisation around whole tune (Close Encounters' tune)

↑=glissando

5=fifth chord C-G-D-A sustained

H=G major triad sustained. If conductor rocks hand, weave in and out by a quarter tone.

T=trill up=C#,D down=A#,B side=B,C#

∧=dissonance sustained unless conductor beats time

U=unison (non-predesignated pitch) used at end of piece ONLY!

Everyone sustains the same pitch. Conductor indicates swelling.

The conductor will first hold up the cue card. Performers do not play until conductor gives them a downbeat!! Performers continue to play until specifically cued off!!! (even if conductor puts card down) Conductor indicates beat, speed, and dynamics.

The piece begins at 3:45 exactly.

The piece begins with a fanfare for 5 trumpets (see attached sheets). Then one trumpet plays the first four notes of the Close Encounters' tune (A,B,G,G) and the orchestra joins in on the last note (D). This happens four times. Each time the D is sustained for ca. 10" except the third D is short.

After this introduction, the conductors are confined to using the first five cue cards for ca. 3 minutes. Then all cue cards are used for ca. 7 minutes more.

At this point the air horn is set off (being exactly 4 PM). The orchestra cues off IMMEDIATELY and the radios turn on FULL BLAST!! Percussion enters as the radios play. The other groups play march tune (see attached sheets) near or after the end of the Close Encounters' record (ca. 3 minutes 27 seconds). Everyone adopts the same rhythm from the radios. Within a group everyone starts on the same beat although each group enters on a different beat. At this point all players fall in line and march through the audience playing march tune. After encircling audience once, all players return to original location. After returning to original location, conductors blow police whistle to cue off group. After a brief pause, conductor beats 5 and players within a group play

4

the Close Encounters' tune in rhythmic unison from very slow to as fast as possible (slow accelerando). However, groups are not in rhythmic unison with one another and do not cue off and begin at the same time.

A second air horn cue will be given (when everyone is playing as fast as possible) and the entire orchestra cues off. (no radios this time)

After the orchestra cues off the opening fanfare returns. After this second introduction, the conductors use all of the cue cards. The piece ends in ca. 7 minutes when a conductor holds up the unison card. The other conductors cue their unison card as soon as they see another conductor do so. Any conductor can make the decision to end the piece. Conductors cue swelling with unison card and decide when to cue off group (not necessarily with the other groups).

Percussion Cue Cards

①



②



③



④



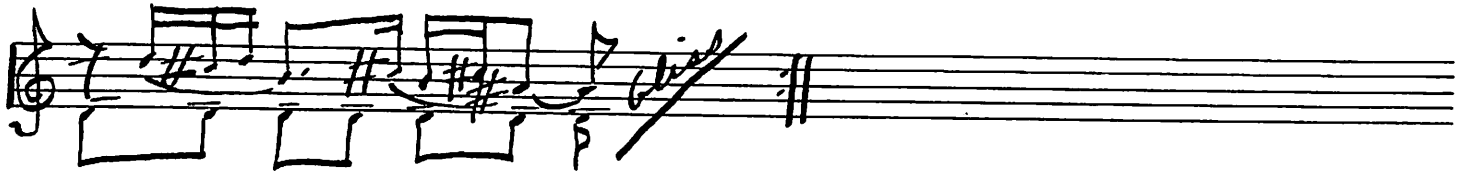
⑤



- X=Close Encounters' tune (A,B,G G,D)
- N=manic improvisation-if pitched instrument improvise around Close Encounters' tune
- /=sound effects
- C=cymbals only
- S=soft sounds
- R=roll

Percussionists may be cued individually.

toy piano



Toy piano and toy piano player (preferably someone small) are placed in a children's wagon. During the march section the wagon is wheeled through the audience and the above tune is played.

Handwritten musical score for five staves, measures 1-3. The score features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sixteenth notes. The first staff has a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The second and third staves have treble clefs and 3/4 time signatures. The fourth and fifth staves have treble clefs and 3/4 time signatures. The piece concludes with a 1/4 time signature.

Two sets of empty musical staves, each consisting of five lines.

Handwritten musical score for five staves, measures 4-5. The score features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sixteenth notes. The first staff has a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The second and third staves have treble clefs and 4/4 time signatures. The fourth and fifth staves have treble clefs and 4/4 time signatures. The piece concludes with a 1/4 time signature.

ca. 8¹⁴

Handwritten musical score for five staves. The first measure shows rests with a 'f' dynamic marking. The second measure shows chords with a sharp sign and a '3' (triple), with 'p' dynamics. A large bracket above the second measure is labeled 'ca. 8¹⁴'. A long horizontal line with a 'f' dynamic marking is below the staves.

8¹⁴

Handwritten musical score for five staves. The first measure shows rests with 'mp' dynamics. The second measure shows chords with a sharp sign and a '3' (triple), with 'mp' dynamics. A large bracket above the second measure is labeled 'ca. 8¹⁴'.

3

Handwritten musical score for five staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music consists of a few notes in the first measure, followed by rests. Dynamic markings 'mp' are present on the first, second, third, and fourth staves. A vertical line separates the first measure from the second, which contains more notes. A second vertical line follows.

Sister.

Handwritten musical score for five staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music consists of a few notes in the first measure, followed by rests. Dynamic markings 'p' are present on the first, second, third, and fourth staves. A vertical line separates the first measure from the second, which contains more notes. A second vertical line follows. Above the second measure, there is a handwritten '10'' and a box containing '17.1'. Below the staves, there are several 'ss' markings and lines.

MARCH TUNES

Group 1 = Flutes + recorders

Handwritten musical notation for Group 1 (Flutes + recorders). The score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G3, A3, B3, and C4. Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots. Above the first staff, there are handwritten notes: 'tr' above the first staff and 'tr' above the second staff, with a 'b' above the second staff. There are also some scribbles and a 'p' dynamic marking.

Group 4 = brass

Handwritten musical notation for Group 4 (brass). The score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G3, A3, B3, and C4. Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots. Above the first staff, there are handwritten notes: 'mp' above the first staff and 'ff' above the second staff, with a 'p' dynamic marking. There are also some scribbles and a 'p' dynamic marking.

Handwritten musical notation for Group 4 (brass). The score is in 4/4 time and consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G3, A3, B3, and C4. Both staves end with a double bar line and repeat dots. Above the first staff, there are handwritten notes: 'ff' above the first staff and 'mp' above the second staff, with a 'p' dynamic marking. There are also some scribbles and a 'p' dynamic marking.

March lures continued

Group 2 = strings (violin + viola only for march)

Handwritten musical notation for Group 2, strings, first system. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The music is in 3/4 time and includes dynamic markings like 'mf' and '8va'.

Handwritten musical notation for Group 2, strings, second system. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The music is in 3/4 time and includes dynamic markings like 'loco' and '8va'.

Handwritten musical notation for Group 2, strings, third system. It features a grand staff with treble and bass clefs. The music is in 4/4 time and includes dynamic markings like '8va' and 'loco'.

March Tunes - continued

Group 2 continued

8va

8va loco

March Tunes continued

Group 3 = woodwinds

Handwritten musical notation for the first system, Group 3 = woodwinds. It consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains a melodic line with a repeat sign at the beginning and a fermata over the final note. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp. It contains a bass line with a fermata over the final note. A small 's' is written below the first measure of the bottom staff.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system, Group 3 = woodwinds. It consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp. It contains a melodic line with a repeat sign at the beginning and a fermata over the final note. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp. It contains a bass line with a fermata over the final note.