

Kevin Swenson

Movements

(for Clarinet and Live Electronics)

Program Notes:

Lately, it seems that every third piece I compose feels like pulling teeth. For reasons that (mostly) have nothing to do with the work itself, *Movements (for Clarinet and Live Electronics)* is one of those pieces. Whatever dramas unfolded between April and May, here is some dry information about the piece.

Movements consists of four short moments. The first three are fully notated; the fourth is improvisatory. Each movement was constructed using a pitch-class set derived from the name “Jacob Wolf”, the performer for whom this piece was composed. The Bach library for Max/MSP was used to create sketches that then underwent “composition surgery” in Sibelius. The final score is displayed in Max, synced with the live signal processing.

Technical Notes:

To perform this piece the player needs:

1. A computer
2. A stereo USB audio interface (microphone in input 1, stereo outs)
3. A microphone (in input 1 of the interface)
4. A MIDI foot pedal programmed to output note 64 (for changing cues – spacebar also works if absolutely necessary)
5. Max/MSP (available here: <https://cycling74.com/downloads>)

Upon opening the patch, a “landing screen” is displayed that provides further information about operating the patch (see the screenshot on the next page).

Note that this is a practice score only. The player reads the score from the patch during performance. Descriptions about the audio processing at each cue are displayed in the patch.

<=== Current Cue and Processing

Start Over ==>

init

1. Turn Audio On (click) ==>

2. Check for Incoming Audio ==>

Movement 1

<=== 1. Create a Named File to Record Your Performance

<=== 2. Begin Recording Before Beginning the Piece

1. Check to make sure audio is on (speaker should be blue).
2. Check that there is some level from the microphone.
3. Press the spacebar or the pedal to begin the piece.

The computer counts these pedal presses - every pedal press shown on the score must be performed. The current cue number and list of effects are shown in the top left corner of the patch.

The two arrow symbols below appear in the score when spacebar or pedal presses are required.

Depress Pedal to Change Processing ==>



Depress Pedal to Turn Pages or Trigger Next Movement ==>

***Movements (for Clarinet
and Live Electronics)***

Movement 1

(1) With Concentrated and Unrelenting Momentum ♩=132

Measures 1-12 of the musical score for Movement 1. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as ♩=132. The music features a continuous, driving melody with frequent quintuplets (marked with a '5' over the notes) and dynamic contrasts. The dynamics include fortissimo (f), piano (p), sforzando (sfz), fortissimo piano (fp), mezzo-forte (mf), fortissimo (ff), and poco ritardando (poco rit.). The piece concludes with a triplets (marked with a '3' over the notes) and a page turn instruction.

Measures 1-12 of the musical score for Movement 1. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as ♩=132. The music features a continuous, driving melody with frequent quintuplets (marked with a '5' over the notes) and dynamic contrasts. The dynamics include fortissimo (f), piano (p), sforzando (sfz), fortissimo piano (fp), mezzo-forte (mf), fortissimo (ff), and poco ritardando (poco rit.). The piece concludes with a triplets (marked with a '3' over the notes) and a page turn instruction.

(2)
17 **a Tempo** timbre-trill

fp 5 *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *f* 5 *fp* *fp* *fp*

2

fp *f* 5 *fp* *f* 5 *fp* *fp* 5

(3)

31

ff *sfz* *fp* *fp* *fp* 5 *fp* 5 *fp* 5 *fp* 5 *ff* (to mov. 2) (5)

Movement 2

(5) Misty (♩=165)

musical score for Movement 2, titled "Misty" (♩=165). The score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time, spanning 17 measures. The notation includes various dynamic markings, articulation marks, and phrasing slurs.

Measures 1-4: *ppp subito* (first measure), *sfz* (fourth measure), *sfz* (fifth measure), *f ppp subito* (sixth measure).

Measures 5-8: *sfz* (fifth measure), *sfz* (sixth measure), *f ppp subito* (seventh measure), *sfz* (eighth measure), *f ppp subito* (ninth measure).

Measures 9-12: *sfz* (ninth measure), *sfz* (tenth measure), *f ppp subito* (eleventh measure), *sfz* (twelfth measure), *sfz* (thirteenth measure), *sfz* (fourteenth measure), *sfz* (fifteenth measure), *sfz* (sixteenth measure).

Measures 13-16: *fp* (thirteenth measure), *f* (fourteenth measure), *p subito* (fifteenth measure), *sfz* (sixteenth measure), *sfz* (seventeenth measure), *sfz* (eighteenth measure), *sfz* (nineteenth measure), *fp* (twentieth measure), *f* (twenty-first measure).

Measures 17-20: *p subito* (seventeenth measure), *sfz* (eighteenth measure), *sfz* (nineteenth measure), *mp* (twentieth measure), *mf* (twenty-first measure).

Measures 21-24: *mp* (twenty-first measure), *mf* (twenty-second measure), *mf* (twenty-third measure), *mf* (twenty-fourth measure).

Measures 25-28: *mf* (twenty-fifth measure), *mf* (twenty-sixth measure), *mf* (twenty-seventh measure), *mf* (twenty-eighth measure).

Measures 29-32: *mf* (twenty-ninth measure), *mf* (thirtieth measure), *mf* (thirty-first measure), *mf* (thirty-second measure).

Measures 33-36: *mf* (thirty-third measure), *mf* (thirty-fourth measure), *mf* (thirty-fifth measure), *mf* (thirty-sixth measure).

Measures 37-40: *mf* (thirty-seventh measure), *mf* (thirty-eighth measure), *mf* (thirty-ninth measure), *mf* (fortieth measure).

Measures 41-44: *mf* (forty-first measure), *mf* (forty-second measure), *mf* (forty-third measure), *mf* (forty-fourth measure).

Measures 45-48: *mf* (forty-fifth measure), *mf* (forty-sixth measure), *mf* (forty-seventh measure), *mf* (forty-eighth measure).

Measures 49-52: *mf* (forty-ninth measure), *mf* (fiftieth measure), *mf* (fifty-first measure), *mf* (fifty-second measure).

Measures 53-56: *mf* (fifty-third measure), *mf* (fifty-fourth measure), *mf* (fifty-fifth measure), *mf* (fifty-sixth measure).

Measures 57-60: *mf* (fifty-seventh measure), *mf* (fifty-eighth measure), *mf* (fifty-ninth measure), *mf* (sixtieth measure).

Measures 61-64: *mf* (sixty-first measure), *mf* (sixty-second measure), *mf* (sixty-third measure), *mf* (sixty-fourth measure).

Measures 65-68: *mf* (sixty-fifth measure), *mf* (sixty-sixth measure), *mf* (sixty-seventh measure), *mf* (sixty-eighth measure).

Measures 69-72: *mf* (sixty-ninth measure), *mf* (seventieth measure), *mf* (seventy-first measure), *mf* (seventy-second measure).

Measures 73-76: *mf* (seventy-third measure), *mf* (seventy-fourth measure), *mf* (seventy-fifth measure), *mf* (seventy-sixth measure).

Measures 77-80: *mf* (seventy-seventh measure), *mf* (seventy-eighth measure), *mf* (seventy-ninth measure), *mf* (eightieth measure).

Measures 81-84: *mf* (eighty-first measure), *mf* (eighty-second measure), *mf* (eighty-third measure), *mf* (eighty-fourth measure).

Measures 85-88: *mf* (eighty-fifth measure), *mf* (eighty-sixth measure), *mf* (eighty-seventh measure), *mf* (eighty-eighth measure).

Measures 89-92: *mf* (eighty-ninth measure), *mf* (ninetieth measure), *mf* (ninety-first measure), *mf* (ninety-second measure).

Measures 93-96: *mf* (ninety-third measure), *mf* (ninety-fourth measure), *mf* (ninety-fifth measure), *mf* (ninety-sixth measure).

Measures 97-100: *mf* (ninety-seventh measure), *mf* (ninety-eighth measure), *mf* (ninety-ninth measure), *mf* (one hundred measure).

21 (7) *ffp ffp ffp ffp fff* *spec. mult.* (8) *ppp sfz sfz sfz ppp*

28 *sfz sfz sfz ppp sfz sfz sfz ppp*

32 *sfz sfz sfz ppp sfz sfz sfz*

36 (9) *rit. a Tempo rit. a Tempo* *ppp sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz sfz* (10) (11) (to mov. 3)

Movement 3

(11) Lyrically ♩=68

pp < p pp < p > ppp *echo* p mp ppp

alternate fingerings

This system contains measures 11, 12, and 13. Measure 11 is in 4/4 time and features a melodic line with slurs and dynamic markings of *pp*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, and *ppp* with an *echo* instruction. Measure 12 is in 3/4 time. Measure 13 is in 4/4 time and includes a trill marked *ppp* with the instruction 'alternate fingerings' above it. Dynamics *p*, *mp*, and *ppp* are also indicated across the measures.

8 (12) ↓

3 5

mp *mf* *f* *p subito*

This system contains measures 12 and 13. Measure 12 is in 4/4 time and includes a triplet marked '3'. Measure 13 is in 4/4 time and includes a quintuplet marked '5'. Dynamics *mp*, *mf*, *f*, and *p subito* are indicated. A downward arrow is placed above measure 12.

(13) ↓

12 *f*

5

(14) ↓ (3-14)

(15) →

This system contains measures 13, 14, and 15. Measure 13 is in 4/4 time and starts with a forte *f* dynamic. Measure 14 is in 4/4 time and includes a quintuplet marked '5'. Measure 15 is in 4/4 time and ends with a double bar line and an arrow pointing right. Dynamics *f* and *p subito* are indicated. Downward arrows are placed above measures 13 and 14. The instruction '(3-14)' is written above measure 14.

To
Improvisatory
Moments

Choose a Moment and Improvise Upon It

Change Moments as Desired

(15)

1A

mf *sfz*

1B

mf *sfz*

1C

mp *f*

2A

mp song-like

continue with syncopated triplets →

3A

sing diamond notes

3B

pp *mp*

3C

spec. mult.

pp *mp* *pp*

(End Piece) → (16)