

birds caught in the storm eye

Joel Kirk (2020-21)

trumpet, trombone, electric lap-steel guitar

c. 7-8 minutes

program note:

from *Sing Data*

(I2)

birds caught in the storm eye
circling round for days and
days and when the storm reaches land
the wealthy have already left
for vacation the prison guards have abdicated
have you noticed when the poor
leave it's called an evacuation
land nullified of poverty
birds land exhausted
find shelter too tired
to mourn those evacuated
under water the prisoners stand
on makeshift step stools heads
sideways kissing the ceiling keeping
the water out of their lungs their lips
pulse

- *Travis Sharp*

(reproduced with kind permission)

notations (I)


general

- despite the polytempic nature of this piece, click-tracks should NOT be used.
- intentional direct lining-up points are indicated with grey lines; unintentional lining-up points have not been indicated.
- greyed out areas are notated across pages to help keep lining up as consistent as possible.


notations (2)

trumpet

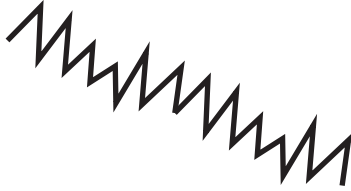
- all glissandi are half-valve




approximate pitch (half-valved);
filled-in noteheads indicate exact
pitch




flz. OR throat-growl (agree on choice
with trombone and stick to it
throughout entirety of piece)



half valve horse-whinny
effect; shake instrument

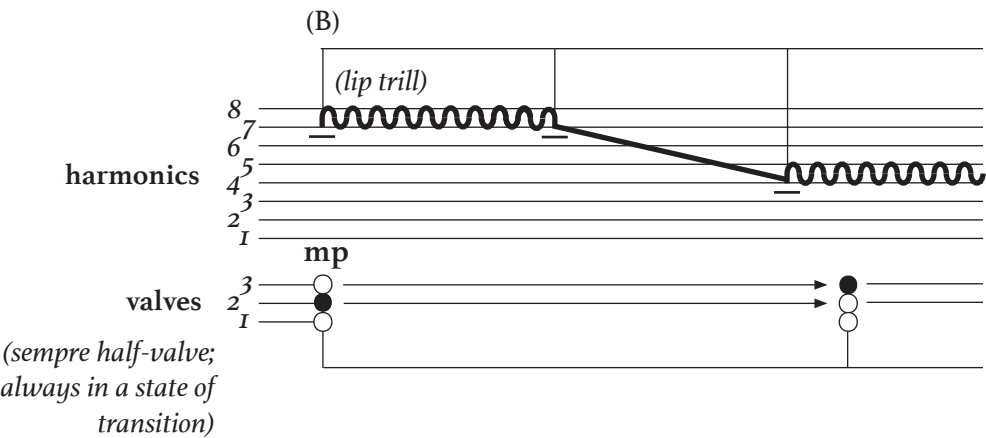


scoop up (or down) to pitch given
(slight pitch-bend with lips)



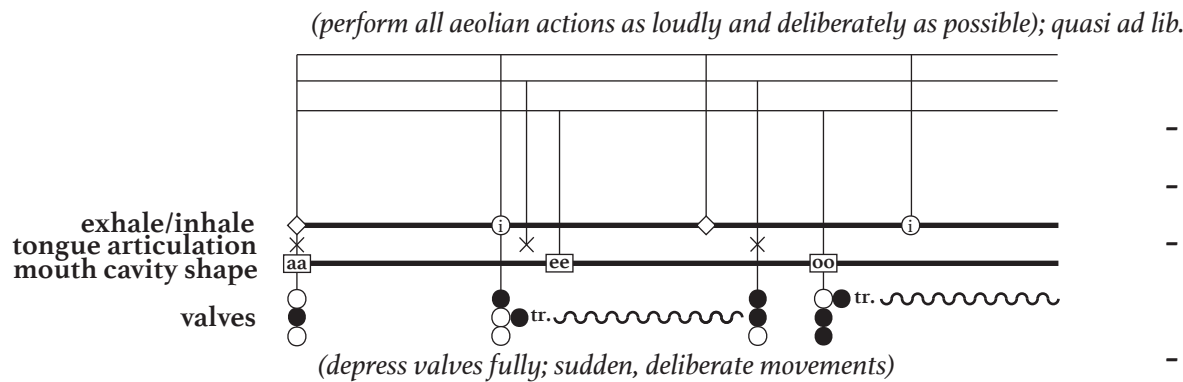
cancels flz.

trumpet tablature 1 (figure y)



- the top staff indicates harmonic (if valve combination was open: one being the low C4, eight being the high C6)
- the lower staff indicates valve combination - this should always be half-valve and in a continuous state of transition

trumpet tablature 2 (figure a')

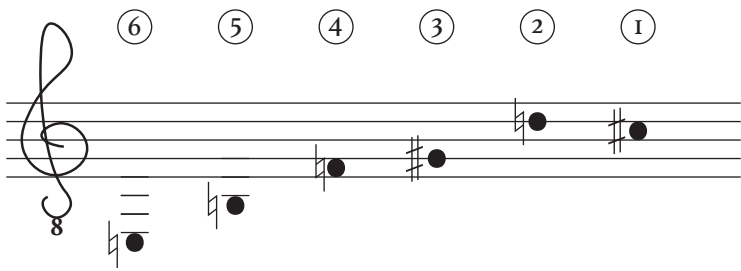


- the top continuous line indicates exhale (diamond) and inhale (circle with letter 'i')
- the intermittent middle 'x' note-heads indicate tonguing (always 't')
- the bottom continuous line indicates mouth cavity shape (either: 'aa' as in 'father'; 'ee' as in 'sheep'; 'oo' as in 'loop')
- circles underneath indicate which valves to depress (when filled in)

notations (3)

lap-steel guitar

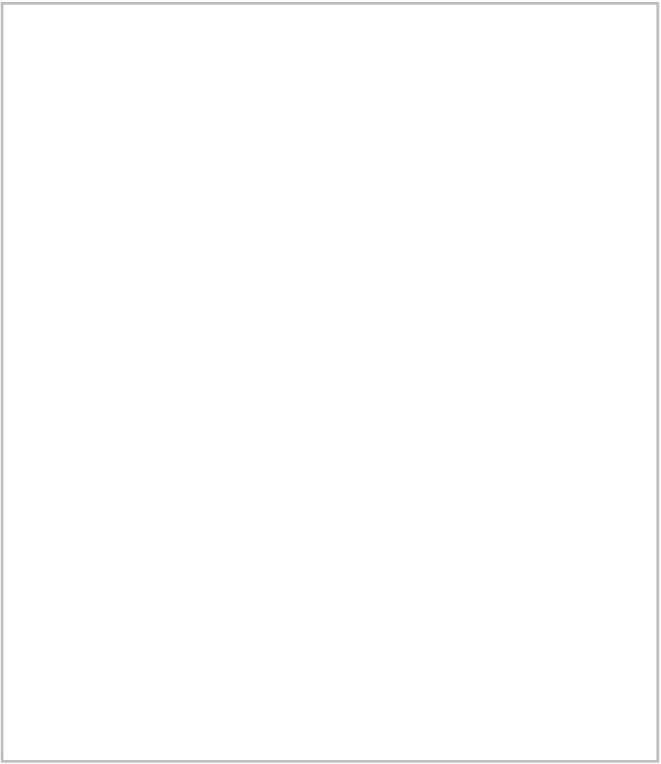
scordatura:



- ▼ cocked-wah effect facilitated by wah pedal
- ≡ tremolo effect; tap slider rapidly on string

lap-steel guitar pedals

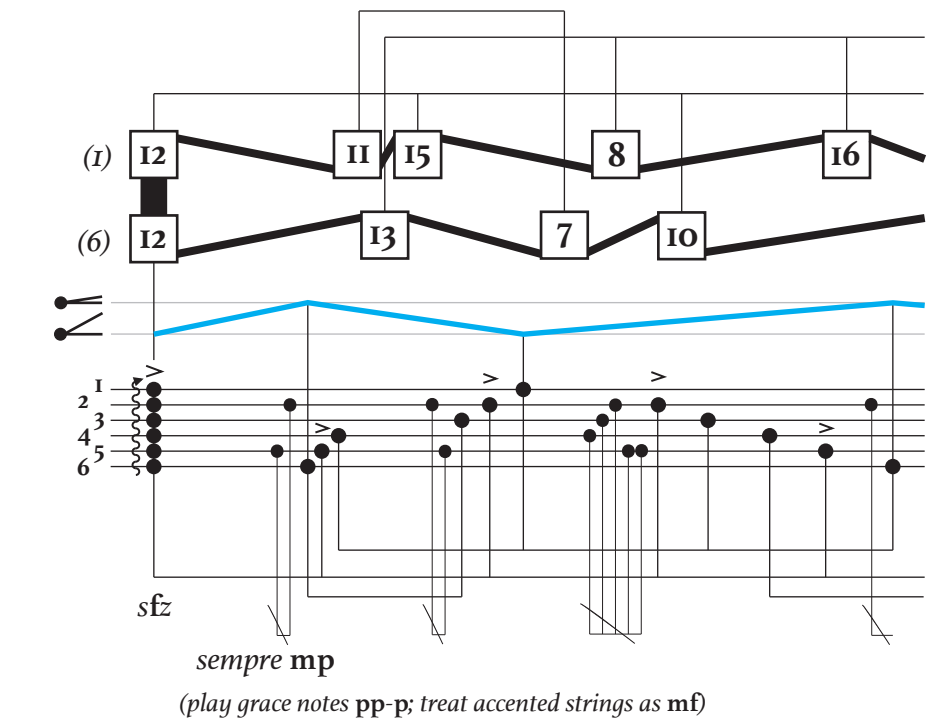
wah pedal settings



reverb pedal settings
(draume pladask pedal used on first performance)



lap-steel guitar tablature (figure s)





- the top 'slider position' staff indicates the fret position of each end of the slider, mapping how they move up/down the fretboard at constantly shifting angles
- the middle 'expression pedal' staff indicates the extent to which the pedal is open (emphasizing the bass end of the frequency of the guitar sound) or closed (emphasizing the treble end); expression pedal should never be completely open (i.e. off)
- the bottom 'strings' staff indicates which strings the performer should pluck; do not stop strings - allow them to resonate.


notations (4)


trombone

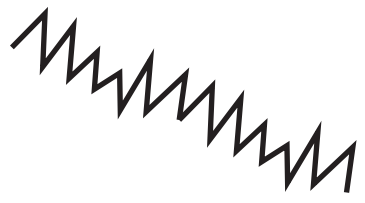
- a roll of toilet paper is required as a mute (muffled/strained sound).

 approximate pitch (due to mute); filled-in noteheads indicate exact pitch

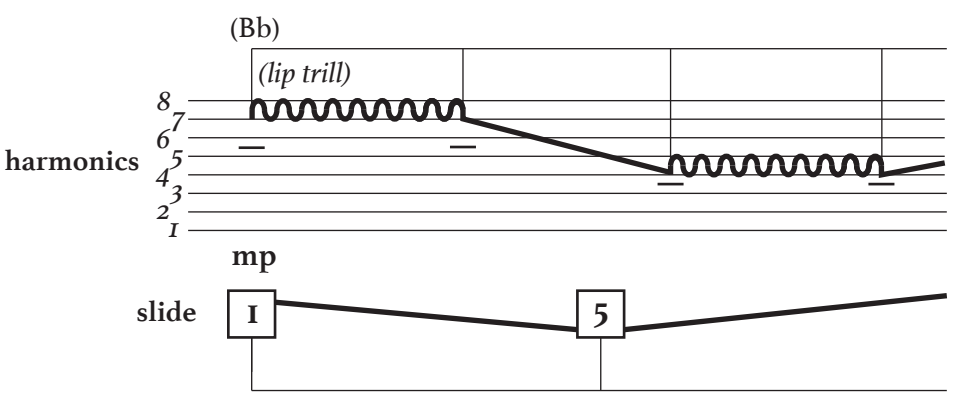
 flz. OR throat-growl (agree on choice with trumpet and stick to it throughout entirety of piece)

 mute out/in (found above staff)

 cancels flz. (found on stem of note)

 horse-whinny effect; shake instrument

trombone tablature 1

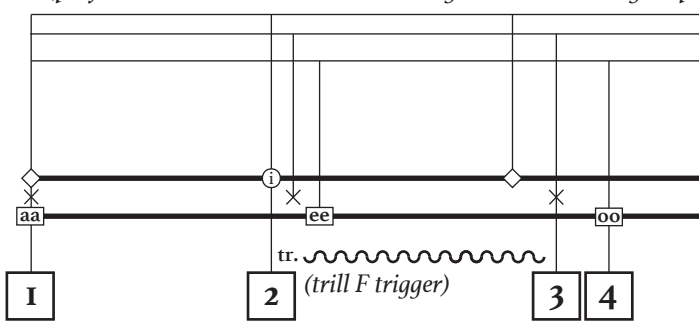


The diagram shows two staves. The top staff is labeled 'harmonics' and has a key signature of one flat (Bb). It contains a wavy line representing a lip trill, with a label '(lip trill)' above it. The bottom staff is labeled 'slide' and shows a line representing the slide position, with a label 'mp' above it. The slide position is marked with a box containing the number '1' and another box containing the number '5'.

- the top staff indicates harmonic (in first position: one being the low Bb2, eight being the high C5)
- the lower staff indicates slide position, which should always be in a state of transition

trombone tablature 2

(perform all aeolian actions as loudly and deliberately as possible); quasi ad lib.



The diagram shows three staves. The top staff has a continuous line with diamond shapes indicating exhale and inhale actions. The middle staff has intermittent 'x' note-heads indicating tonguing. The bottom staff has a continuous line indicating mouth cavity shape, with labels 'aa', 'ee', and 'oo' below it. Below the bottom staff are four boxes labeled '1', '2', '3', and '4', representing slide positions. A wavy line labeled 'tr.' and '(trill F trigger)' is positioned between the middle and bottom staves.

(sudden, deliberate movements of slide)

- the top continuous line indicates exhale (diamond) and inhale (circle with letter 'i')
- the intermittent middle 'x' note-heads indicate tonguing (always 't')
- the bottom continuous line indicates mouth cavity shape (either: 'aa' as in 'father'; 'ee' as in 'sheep'; 'oo' as in 'loop')
- squares underneath indicate slide position
- trills refer to intermittent trilling of F-trigger

birds caught in the storm eye

trumpet, trombone, electric lap-steel guitar

for ELISION

murky; languidly swirling; like stirring treacle

N.B. for ALL! intentional direct lining-up points are indicated with grey lines; unintentional lining-up points have not been indicated. Greyed-out areas are notated across pages to help keep lining up as consistent as possible.

[illegible]

44

[illegible]

The musical score is arranged in three staves: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba). The Tpt. staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature change to G major (one sharp). It features a melody with slurs and a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (f) dynamic. The Gtr. staff uses a treble clef and includes a key signature change to G major. It features a melody with slurs and a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (f) dynamic. The Tbn. staff uses a bass clef and includes a key signature change to G major. It features a melody with slurs and a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (f) dynamic. The score includes dynamics (mf, p, mp, f), articulation (smfz), and fingering (6/8, 5/8, 4/3). It features a key signature change to G major and a tempo change to 88 bpm.

The musical score is for three instruments: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba). The time signature is 4/4. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score is divided into three systems, each with a tempo marking of 64, 72, and 80 respectively. The Tpt. part features a melodic line with various dynamics (mf, p, mp, mf) and articulation (smfz). The Gtr. part features a complex rhythmic pattern with various dynamics (mp, mf, p) and articulation (smfz). The Tbn. part features a complex rhythmic pattern with various dynamics (p, mp, mf, p) and articulation (smfz). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, accidentals, and dynamic markings.

h

6
8

5
8

56

Tpt.

mf

smfz

p

mp

mf

smfz

h

7
8

88

(5) (5) (5) (5) (4) (4)

4
4

(2) (2) (2) (2) (1) (1)

Gtr.

mp

smfz

mf

p

mp

smfz

5
8

88

(5)

3

7
8

96

(VII - III)

p

mp

smfz

mf

p

4
4

(IV - VII)

h

i

i

Score for Tpt., Gtr., and Tbn. featuring dynamic markings, articulation, and performance instructions.

Instrument Labels: Tpt., Gtr., Tbn.

Dynamic Markings: *mf*, *mp*, *smfz*, *p*.

Performance Instructions:

- Tpt.:** (half-valve horse-whinny; shake instrument)
- Gtr.:** (5), (4), (2), (1) (fingerings)
- Tbn.:** (IV - VII), (horse-whinny effect; shake instrument), (III)

Rehearsal Markers: i, j

Measure Numbers: 6/8, 5/8, 4/8

Tempo/Speed Markings: = 88, = 64

The score is written for three instruments: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba). The Tpt. part starts with a dynamic of *mf* and a *smfz* (sforzando) marking. It features a half-valve horse-whinny effect and a shake instrument technique. The Gtr. part has dynamics of *mp* and *mf*, with fingerings (5), (4), (2), and (1) indicated. The Tbn. part starts with a dynamic of *p* and a *smfz* marking, followed by a horse-whinny effect and a shake instrument technique. The score includes rehearsal markers i and j, and measure numbers 6/8, 5/8, and 4/8. Tempo markings of = 88 and = 64 are also present.

bumbling; grotesquely kaleidoscopic; wibbly wobbly

The musical score consists of three staves: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba). The Tpt. staff begins with a rehearsal mark 'j' and a tempo marking of 88, followed by the instruction 'sempre molto legato'. The Gtr. staff begins with a tempo marking of 80, followed by 'sempre molto legato'. The Tbn. staff begins with a tempo marking of 72, followed by 'sempre molto legato'. The score includes dynamic markings 'mf' and 'f', and performance instructions 'SET DOWN MUTE' and 'WAH ON'. Rehearsal marks 'j' and 'k' are placed at the beginning and end of the section, respectively.



1

Tpt.

mf

= 56

Gtr.

8

= 88

WAH ON

= 80

f

Tbn.

1

f

(III - I) (III - VII)

m

m

f

= 72

= 64

= 72

m

The musical score is arranged in three staves. The top staff is for Trumpet (Tpt.) in treble clef, the middle for Guitar (Gtr.) in treble clef, and the bottom for Trombone (Tbn.) in bass clef. The Tpt. staff begins with a first ending bracket labeled '1' and a dynamic of 'mf'. It features a melodic line with a tempo marking of 56. The Gtr. staff starts with a guitar-specific notation '8' and a tempo marking of 88. It includes a 'WAH ON' instruction in a box and a dynamic of 'f'. The Tbn. staff begins with a first ending bracket labeled '1' and a dynamic of 'f'. It includes a tempo marking of 72 and a section labeled '(III - I) (III - VII)'. The score concludes with a 'm' (marcato) marking on the Tpt. staff and a 'f' (forte) marking on the Tbn. staff. Various other tempo markings (56, 64, 72, 80, 88) are placed above specific notes or measures.

Sheet music for Tpt., Gtr., and Tbn. featuring dynamic markings, articulation, and performance instructions.

Instrumentation: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), Tbn. (Tuba).

Key Features:

- Tpt. Part:** Starts with a melodic line marked **f** (forte) and **m** (marcato). Includes a section marked **mf** (mezzo-forte) and **n** (noisy).
- Gtr. Part:** Features a **WAH OFF** instruction. Includes a section marked **mf** (mezzo-forte) and **n** (noisy).
- Tbn. Part:** Includes a section marked **mf** (mezzo-forte) and **n** (noisy).

Dynamic Markings: **f** (forte), **mf** (mezzo-forte), **n** (noisy).

Articulation: **m** (marcato), **n** (noisy).

Performance Instructions: **WAH OFF**.

Tempo/Speed Markings: = 72, = 56, = 64, = 88, = 96, = 64.

Other Markings: 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 38, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 50, 52, 54, 56, 58, 60, 62, 64, 66, 68, 70, 72, 74, 76, 78, 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, 92, 94, 96, 98, 100.

The musical score consists of three staves: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba).

- Tpt. Staff:** Features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including accidentals (sharps and naturals). A dynamic marking **f** (forte) is present. A tempo or rehearsal mark **= 72** is indicated. A large triangle at the top contains the letter **n**.
- Gtr. Staff:** Features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including accidentals. A dynamic marking **f** is present. A tempo or rehearsal mark **= 80** is indicated. A box labeled **WAH ON** is placed above the staff. A large triangle at the top contains the letter **o**.
- Tbn. Staff:** Features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including accidentals. A dynamic marking **f** is present. A tempo or rehearsal mark **= 64** is indicated. A large triangle at the bottom contains the letter **n**.

Vertical lines connect the staves, indicating synchronization or specific measures across the instruments. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, accidentals, and dynamic markings.

Sheet music for three instruments: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba), featuring dynamic markings and performance instructions.

Instrument Labels: Tpt., Gtr., Tbn.

Dynamic Markings: **f** (forte), **mf** (mezzo-forte), **p** (piano).

Performance Instructions: **WAH OFF** (indicated in a box for the Gtr. part).

Tempo/Speed Markings: = 88, = 56, = 96, = 64.

Other Markings: **O** (up-bow or breath mark), **p** (piano).

The score is written in treble clef for Tpt. and Gtr., and bass clef for Tbn. The Tpt. part features a series of eighth notes with accents and slurs, followed by a melodic line. The Gtr. part includes a "WAH OFF" instruction and a melodic line with slurs. The Tbn. part features a series of eighth notes with accents and slurs, followed by a melodic line. The dynamics range from **f** to **p**.

Musical score for three instruments: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba). The score is divided into two systems. The first system is marked with a **p** (piano) dynamic, and the second system is marked with a **q** (quasi) dynamic. The Tpt. part features a melodic line with a **WAH ON** effect indicated by a box. The Gtr. part includes a **WAH ON** effect and a **f** (forte) dynamic. The Tbn. part includes a **f** (forte) dynamic and a **q** (quasi) dynamic. The score is written in 4/4 time and includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

q r

Tpt.

Gtr.

Tbn.

f

f

8

= 88

= 64

= 72

= 96

= 56

= 88

(III - I)

(III - VII)

(IV - I)

(IV-VII)

(III - I)

q r

Detailed description: This musical score is for three instruments: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba). The Tpt. part is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a rest, followed by a series of eighth notes with accents and slurs, marked with a forte (f) dynamic and a tempo marking of 88. The Gtr. part is in treble clef and features a series of eighth notes with accents and slurs, marked with a forte (f) dynamic and a tempo marking of 64. The Tbn. part is in bass clef and features a series of eighth notes with accents and slurs, marked with a forte (f) dynamic and a tempo marking of 72. The score includes various performance markings such as slurs, accents, and slurs, as well as dynamic markings (f) and tempo markings (= 88, = 64, = 72, = 96, = 56, = 88). The score is divided into two systems, with the first system ending at measure 16 and the second system starting at measure 17. The first system is marked with a 'q' (quasi) and the second system is marked with an 'r' (ritardando). The Tbn. part includes specific fingering or breath marks: (III - I), (III - VII), (IV - I), (IV-VII), and (III - I).

Tpt.

r

S

= 80

Gtr.

WAH OFF

REVERB ON

sffz

8

= 64

Tbn.

r

S

= 88

(III - I) (III - VII)

= 72

(IV - I) (IV-VII)

Gtr.

8

S

c. 4 seconds

sfz accel. gliss.

c. 6 seconds

sfz simile

c. 8 seconds

smfz

smpz

Gtr.

8

t

c. 10 seconds

smpz



attacca

Psychedelic swirling; bubbling

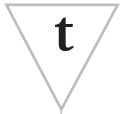
Tablature explanation (LAP STEEL GUITAR):

- the top 'slider position' staff indicates the fret position of each end of the slider, mapping how they move up/down the fretboard at constantly shifting angles.
- the middle 'expression pedal' staff indicates the extent to which the pedal is open (emphasizing the bass end of the frequency of the guitar sound) or closed (emphasizing the treble end); expression pedal should never be completely open (i.e. off).
- the bottom 'strings' staff indicates which strings the performer should pluck; do not stop strings - allow them to resonate.


slider position
(always remains barred across all six strings regardless of angle)

expression pedal
(closed) 
(pedal should never be completely open/off)
(open) 


strings

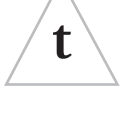
t  c. 2 seconds

sfz **sempre mp**
(play grace notes pp-p; treat accented strings as mf)

u 

simile

(●) 



t 

(I) **(6)**

8 **16** **I3** **I5** **20** **7** **10** **I2** **0** **11**


(vib. + gliss.)


7 **10** **I5** **I3** **I7** **6** **8** **I2** **0** **I3**

(closed) 
(open) 

1 **2** **3** **4** **5** **6**

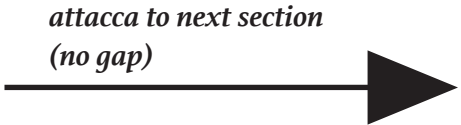
sfz **simile**

v 

v 

First system of a musical score. The piano part (top) consists of two staves. The upper staff has notes labeled 15, 8, 16, 13, 15, 20, and 7. The lower staff has notes labeled 7, 10, 15, 13, 17, and 6. Wavy lines indicate sustained notes. The double bass part (bottom) is on a single staff with notes labeled 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. The score includes fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), dynamics (>), and articulation marks (vertical lines with flags). A blue line indicates the pedal point.

Second system of a musical score. The piano part (top) consists of two staves. The upper staff has notes labeled 10, 12, 24, 11, 15, 8, and 10. The lower staff has notes labeled 8, 12, 24, 13, 7, and 10. Wavy lines indicate sustained notes. The double bass part (bottom) is on a single staff with notes labeled 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. The score includes fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), dynamics (>), and articulation marks (vertical lines with flags). A blue line indicates the pedal point. A double bar line is present at the beginning of the system. A 'W' symbol is placed above the first staff and below the double bass staff. The text 'sfz' and 'simile' are written below the double bass staff. The text '(vib. pedal)' is written above the blue line.



x **Ethereal; like a dystopian aurora**

y

freely; in accordance with guitar *half-valve/shake instrument (quasi horse-whinny)* *(simile)*

(all glissandi hald-valve)

Tpt. *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

c. 2 seconds

lead ensemble

(I) O II I5 7 IO I5 I3

(6) O II I5 7 IO I5 I3

Gtr. *smfz* *sempre p*
(treat accented strings as mp)

c. 2 seconds

freely; in accordance with guitar
shake instrument (quasi horse-whinny)

I - VII V - I II (simile) VII VI - I I - VII VI

Tbn. *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

X y

The image displays a musical score for three instruments: Tpt. (Trumpet), Gtr. (Guitar), and Tbn. (Tuba).

Tpt. (Trumpet): The score is written in treble clef. It features a melodic line with various articulations, including slurs, accents, and trills. The dynamics range from *mf* (mezzo-forte) to *mp* (mezzo-piano). The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score includes a section labeled "harmonics" and a section labeled "valves" with the instruction "(sempre half-valve; always in a state of transition)". The final measure is marked with a "lip trill" and a "Z" symbol.

Gtr. (Guitar): The score is written in standard guitar notation. It includes a wavy line representing a tremolo or a specific playing technique. The dynamics range from *mf* to *smfz* (sforzando). The score includes a section labeled "lip trill" and a "Z" symbol.

Tbn. (Tuba): The score is written in bass clef. It features a melodic line with various articulations, including slurs, accents, and trills. The dynamics range from *mf* to *mp*. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score includes a section labeled "harmonics" and a section labeled "slide" with the instruction "(sempre half-valve; always in a state of transition)". The final measure is marked with a "lip trill" and a "Z" symbol.

The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The measures are numbered 1 through 12. The score includes various musical notations, including notes, rests, slurs, accents, and trills. The dynamics range from *mf* to *smfz*. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score includes a section labeled "lip trill" and a "Z" symbol.

Z**Tablature explanation (TRUMPET):**

- the top staff indicates harmonic (if valve combination was open: one being the low C₄, eight being the high C₆)
- the lower staff indicates valve combination - this should always be half-valve and in a continuous state of transition

a'

Tpt.

harmonics

(B) (D)

(lip trill)

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

mp

valves

3
2
1

(sempre half-valve;
always in a state of
transition)

Gtr.

(1) (12) (12)

(6) (12)

mp mp mp

8

(let strings resonate)

1
2
3
4
5
6

smfz

Tablature explanation (TROMBONE):

- the top staff indicates harmonic (in first position: one being the low B_b₂, eight being the high C₅)
- the lower staff indicates slide position, which should always be in a state of transition

Tbn.

harmonics

(Bb) (Eb)

(lip trill)

8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1

mp

slide

1 5 2 6 3 7 1

(keep moving the
slide when pausing
for breath)

Z **a'**

The musical score is divided into three systems, each with a key signature change indicated by a triangle at the top and bottom: **a'** (top) and **b'** (bottom).

Tpt. (Trumpet): The staff shows harmonics (1-8) and valves (1-3). The performance instruction is: *(semprè half-valve; always in a state of transition)*. The score includes a section labeled "to air noise" with a right-pointing arrow.

Gtr. (Guitar): The staff shows a treble clef and a key signature change from **a'** to **b'**. The performance instruction is: *(molto vibrato al niente; wide + slow; gliss. as high as possible al niente)*. The score includes a section labeled "to air noise" with a right-pointing arrow.

Tbn. (Tuba): The staff shows harmonics (1-8) and a slide section. The performance instruction is: *(perform all aeolian actions as loudly and deliberately as possible); quasi ad lib.*. The score includes a section labeled "to air noise" with a right-pointing arrow.

The score is marked with **mp** (mezzo-piano) and **sfz** (sforzando) dynamics. The key signature changes are indicated by triangles at the top and bottom of the score.

- the top continuous line indicates exhale (diamond) and inhale (circle with letter 'i')
- the intermittent middle 'x' note-heads indicate tonguing (always 't')
- the bottom continuous line indicates mouth cavity shape (either: 'aa' as in 'father'; 'ee' as in 'sheep'; 'oo' as in 'loop')
- squares underneath indicate slide position
- trills refer to intermittent trilling of F-trigger

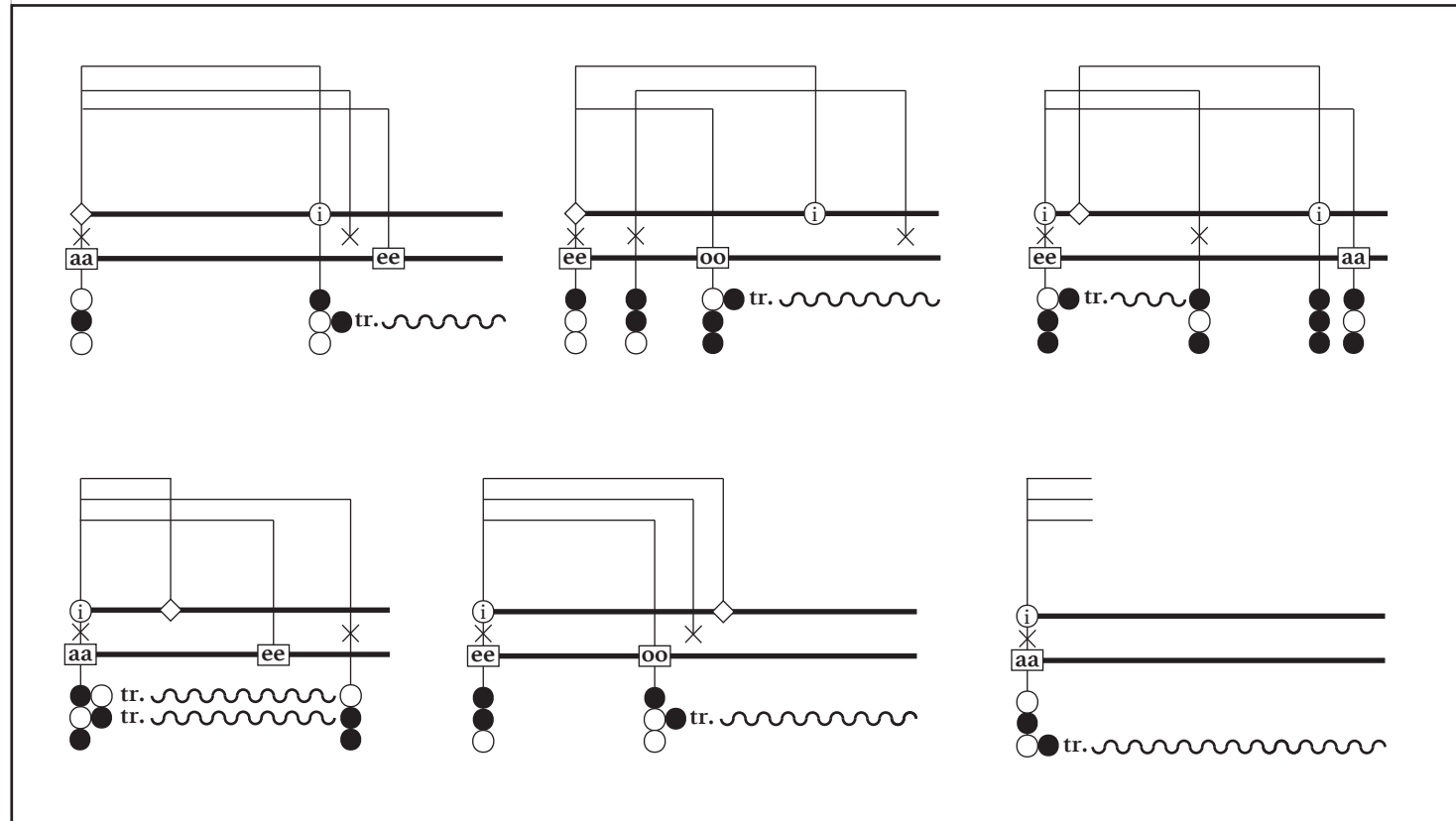
The image shows a musical score for two instruments, Tpt. (Trumpet) and Tbn. (Trombone), with lyrics and musical notation. The score is written on two staves, one for each instrument. The lyrics are: c', d', c', d'. The musical notation includes notes, rests, and various symbols. The Tpt. staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The Tbn. staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the staves. The Tpt. staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The Tbn. staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the staves. The Tpt. staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The Tbn. staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 4/4. The lyrics are written below the staves.

The musical score is written for Tpt. (Trumpet) and Tbn. (Tuba) with vocal lines d' and e'. The Tpt. part features a melodic line with various intervals and a wavy line indicating a specific technique. The Tbn. part features a melodic line with various intervals and a wavy line indicating a specific technique. The vocal lines d' and e' are represented by triangles at the top and bottom of the page.

e' Splintering; exfoliating dust

choose fragments at random; play each fragment at least once; each outburst should be no longer than 2 seconds in duration; 1-2 seconds between outbursts; NOT in time with one-another

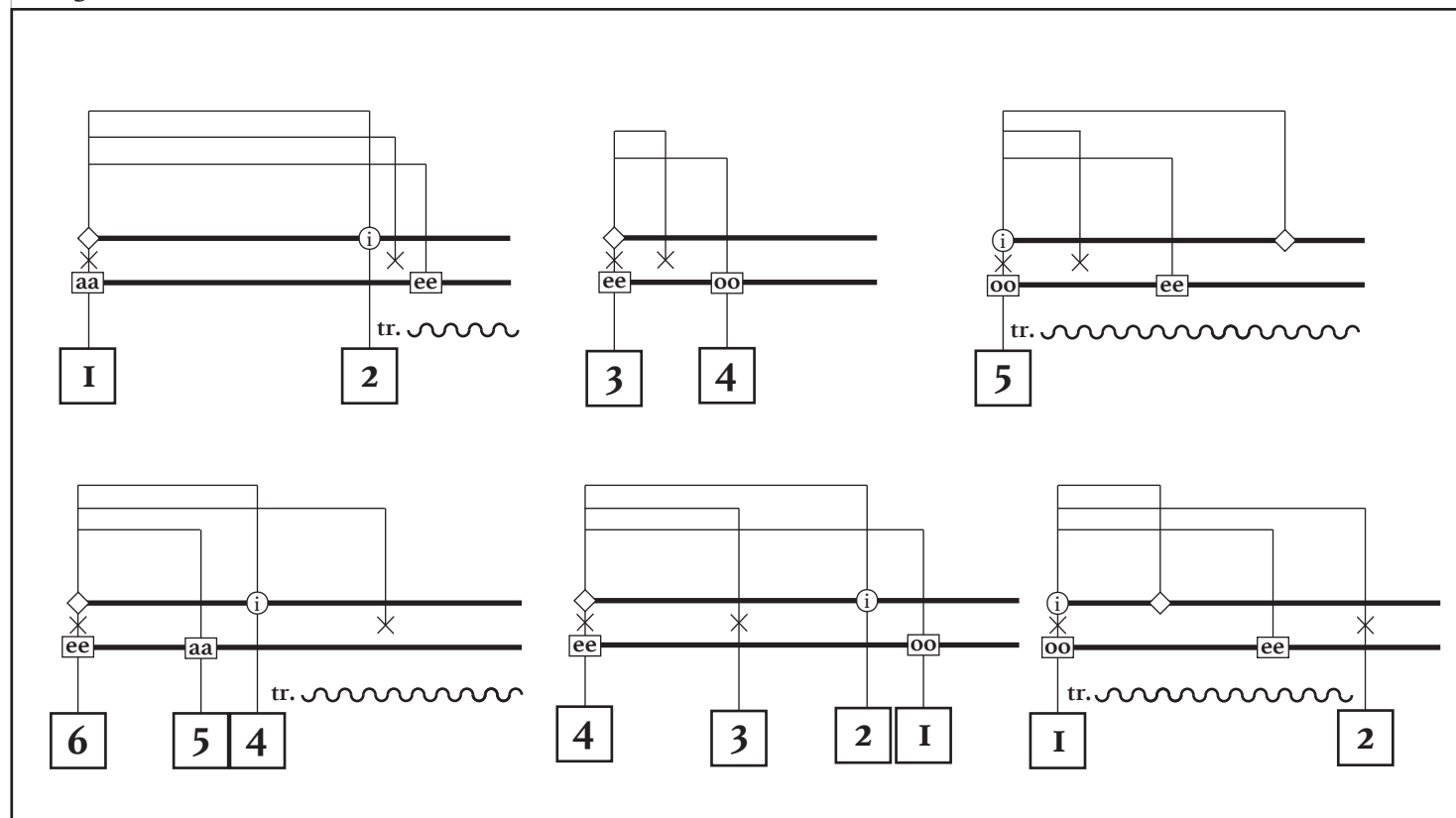
Tpt.



c. 30 seconds

choose fragments at random; play each fragment at least once; each outburst should be no longer than 2 seconds in duration; 1-2 seconds between outbursts; NOT in time with one-another

Tbn.

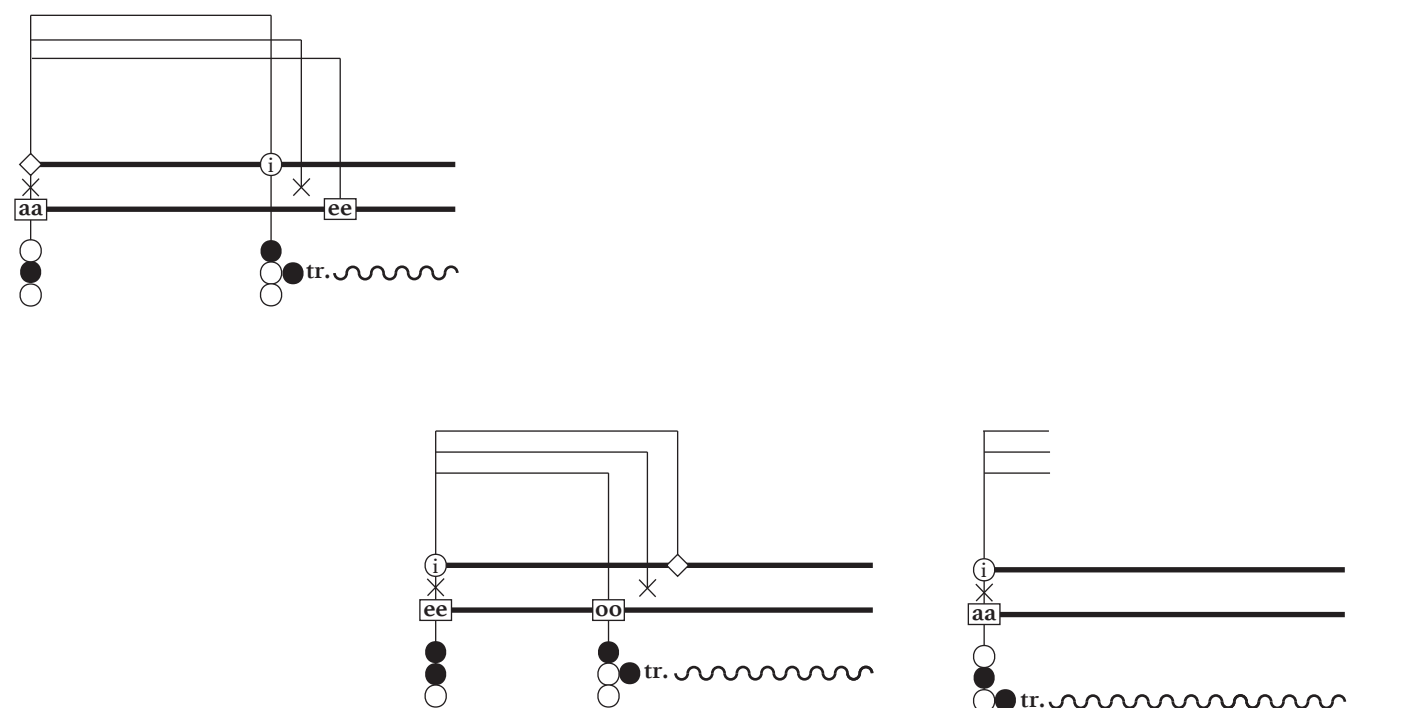


c. 30 seconds

f'

choose fragments at random; play each fragment at least once; each outburst should be no longer than 2 seconds in duration; 3-4 seconds between outbursts; NOT in time with one-another

Tpt.

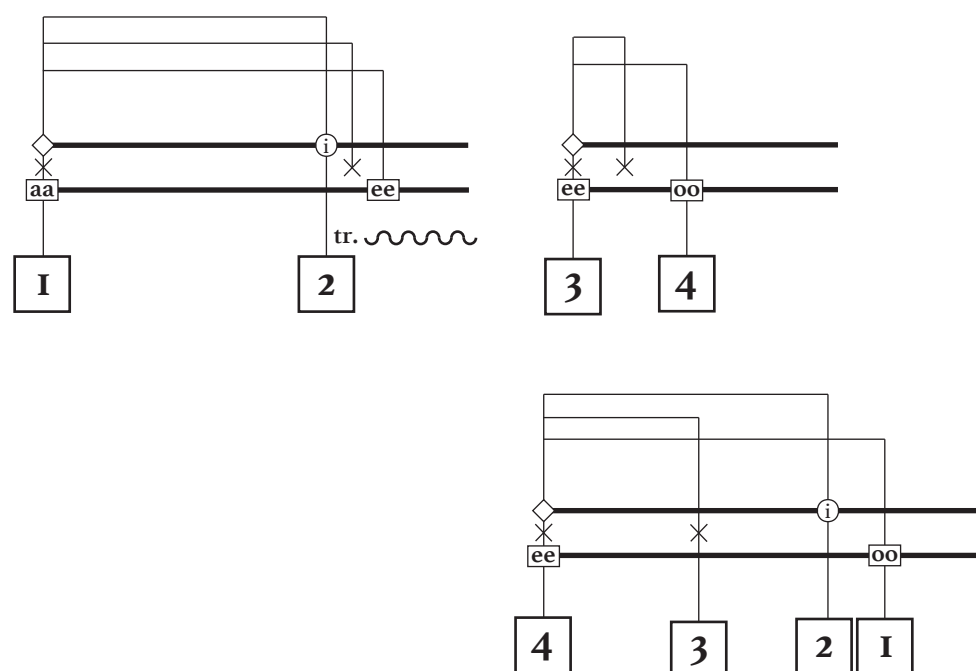


c. 30 seconds



choose fragments at random; play each fragment at least once; each outburst should be no longer than 2 seconds in duration; 3-4 seconds between outbursts; NOT in time with one-another

Tbn.



c. 30 seconds



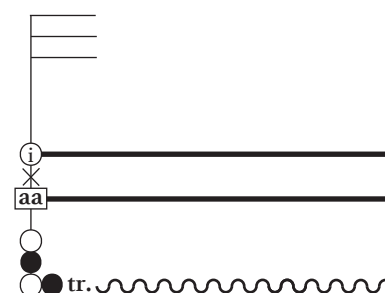
f'

gg'

*each outburst should be no longer than two seconds in duration; 5-6 seconds between outbursts;
NOT in time with one-another*

Tpt.

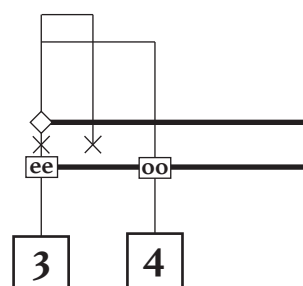
c. 30 seconds



*each outburst should be no longer than two seconds in duration; 5-6 seconds between outbursts;
NOT in time with one-another*

Tbn.

c. 30 seconds



Buffalo, USA

08/2020-12/2020

gg'