

TRANSIT AUTHORITY

by Scott Smallwood

for alto saxophone, bass clarinet, violin, and piano

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T R A N S I T A U T H O R I T Y

for alto saxophone (E \flat), bass clarinet (B \flat), violin, and piano

Notes

1.

Players should consider of the response of the acoustic space at all times.
(play the room)

2.

The pianist controls the time-line, and should cue each major division in the composition.
These are indicated as letter markings:

A

3.

Each section consists of one or more repeated patterns (loops).
Rhythm/pulse should be individually determined and internalized.
Each player should play these patterns until the cue is received from the pianist to transition to the next section.
Players should “gracefully” end the loop they have been playing and begin the next section when ready (avoid being abrupt).

4.

Extended performance techniques include slap tones (indicated with +), some flutter/growling, subtone,
timbral trills (switching between different fingers for one pitch), and a few multiphonics.

ca. 10:00

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A

Alto Sax

(silence until B)



Bass Clarinet

(silence until B)



Violin

(silence until B)



Piano

♩ = 80

repeat this entire line until C

B

A.Sax

frenetically, percussive ($\text{♩} \approx 100$)

mp include one or two of these on some repeats

repeat several times (4-6), then play:

mf *mp* *f*

gradual flutter; then growlingly...

gliss.

B.Clar.

tempo ad lib ($\text{♩} \approx 100$)

mp *mp* *f*

timbral trill (start slow and accel into trill)

mf *p*

slap tongue, aggressively 6-10 times

repeat until C

repeat this entire line until C

Vn.

wavering ($\text{♩} \approx 120$) *n.vib, lightly, sul tasto*

mf *mp* *mf*

bend slightly

gliss.

mp *mf*

n.vib, lightly, sul tasto

repeat until you hear this (piano)

mf

sul pont, n.vib.

Pno.

6 7 7 8 8 9 9 10 10 11

p *f*

8va

C

repeat this entire line until D

A.Sax

repeat 2-4 times, then play either:

gradual flutter, then growlingly...
gliss.
mf mp f
subtone
mf

B.Clar.

timbral trill (start slow and accel into trill) slap tongue, aggressively 6-10 times

f mp mp f mf p

repeat this entire line until D

alternate between Group A and Group B, always interrupted by piano cue, followed by sustained high pitches.

Vn.

Group A n.vib, lightly, sul tasto n.vib, lightly, sul tasto

mf mp mf mp mf

spiccato wavering, slow, always glissing, n.vib.

repeat until you hear this (piano)

include one or two of these on some repeats

8^{va} sul pont, n.vib. mf

Pno.

6 7 7 8 8 9 9 10 10 11 11 12

mf mf mf

8^{va} 8^{va} 8^{va}

very gradually become less staccato (· · · · ·)

D

E

A.Sax → *mf* *gradual flutter, then growlingly...* *mp* *ff* *mp*

B.Clar. → *f* *mf* *mp* *ff* *timbral trill (start slow and accel into trill)*

Vn. → *faster...no gliss, n.vib.* *mf* *f* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *n.vib, sul pont*

Pno. → *f* *mf* *f* *mp* *8^{va}* *8^{vb}* *12* *13* *13* *14* *14* *15* *15* *16* *16* *f* *mp*

very gradually press down on pedal

The score is divided into two systems, D and E, separated by vertical dashed lines. System D covers measures 12-14, and System E covers measures 15-16. The instruments are A.Sax, B.Clar., Vn., and Pno. The A.Sax part features a melodic line with dynamic markings from *mf* to *ff* and performance instructions like 'gradual flutter, then growlingly...'. The B.Clar. part includes a 'timbral trill' instruction. The Vn. part has 'faster...no gliss, n.vib.' and 'n.vib, sul pont' instructions. The Pno. part shows a complex texture with multiple staves, including a right-hand staff with chords and a left-hand staff with a bass line and pedal. Measure numbers 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 are indicated below the Pno. staves. A thick black bar at the bottom of the page indicates the pedal duration, with the instruction 'very gradually press down on pedal'.

F

A.Sax

subtone
gradual flutter, then growlingly...
subtone

mp mf mp f mp ff mp mf mf mf

* free multiphonic, but try to include these pitches - any octave

B.Clar.

timbral trill (start slow and accel into trill)
6-10 times

ff f mp ff f mf

Vn.

faster...no gliss, n.vib.
n.vib, sul pont
spiccato
n.vib, sul pont

mf f mp mf mp ff mf

Pno.

8va
8vb

17 17 18 18 19

ff

The musical score is divided into four staves. The A.Sax staff begins with a triplet of eighth notes on a whole note, marked *mp*, followed by a half note with a *mf* dynamic. A slur covers a half note with a trill, marked *mp*, and a half note with a *f* dynamic. This is followed by a slur over a half note with a *mp* dynamic and a half note with a *ff* dynamic. The staff then returns to a triplet of eighth notes on a whole note, marked *mp*, followed by a half note with a *mf* dynamic. The piece concludes with a half note marked *mf* and another half note marked *mf*, both with a circled asterisk. The B.Clar. staff starts with a half note marked *ff*, followed by a half note marked *f*. A slur covers a half note with a *mp* dynamic and a half note with a *ff* dynamic. This is followed by a half note marked *f* and a half note marked *mf*. The staff ends with a half note marked *mf* and a half note with a trill, marked *mf*, with an arrow indicating 6-10 repetitions. The Vn. staff begins with a half note marked *mf*, followed by a half note marked *f*. A slur covers a half note marked *mp* and a half note marked *mf*. This is followed by a half note marked *mp* and a half note marked *ff*, both with a circled asterisk. The staff concludes with a half note marked *mf* and a half note marked *mf*. The Pno. staff has two systems. The first system shows a treble clef with a half note marked *f* and a bass clef with a half note marked *f*. The second system shows a treble clef with a half note marked *f* and a bass clef with a half note marked *f*. The piece concludes with a half note marked *ff* in the bass clef.

G

A.Sax

subtone

gradual flutter, then growlingly...

mp *mf* *mp* *mp* *ff*

B.Clar.

mp *mf* *ff*

Vn.

spiccato

sim, ca. 10"

n.vib

ff *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Pno.

ff

repeat 6 times

7 8 9 10

ff *f*

8^{vb}

8^{vb}

ped. (down all the way)

H

A.Sax *subtone*
mp

B.Clar. *mp* *mf* *ff*

Vn. *n.vib* *pizz.* *sim, ca. 10"*
ff *mf*

Pno. *11*
8vb *gradually decresc. in left hand...* *mf*
8vb *p*

The score is for a page of music. It features four staves: A.Sax, B.Clar., Vn., and Pno. The A.Sax part starts with a circled 'H' and a 'subtone' instruction, playing a melodic line with triplets and a dynamic of *mp*. The B.Clar. part also starts with a circled 'H' and plays a melodic line with triplets, starting at *mp*, moving to *mf*, and then *ff*. The Vn. part starts with a circled 'H' and plays a melodic line with a dynamic of *ff*, moving to *mf*, and includes instructions for *n.vib*, *pizz.*, and *sim, ca. 10"*. The Pno. part consists of two systems of grand staff notation. The first system has a dynamic of *mf* and includes the instruction *gradually decresc. in left hand...*. The second system has a dynamic of *p*. There are various performance markings such as *11*, *8vb*, and *8vb* throughout the piano part.



A.Sax

mp *constantly fading...*

B.Clar.

mp *constantly fading...*

Vn.

arco, n.vib *pizz.* *(arco)*
mf *mp* *mp*

Pno.

mp *mf* *(arco)*

A.Sax

mp constantly fading...

B.Clar.

mp constantly fading...

Vn.

arco, n.vib *mf* *pizz.* *mp* *(arco)* *mp*

Pno.

mp *mf* (arco) →

A.Sax

mp *constantly fading...*

B.Clar.

mp *constantly fading...*

Vn.

arco, n.vib *mf* *pizz.* *mp* *(arco)* *mp*

Pno.

mp (F#) ----->

J

A.Sax *subtone* *no repeats...just play notes slowly and then rest*
mf *mp*

B.Clar. *no repeats...just play note slowly and then rest*
mf

Vn. *arco, n.vib* *no repeats...just play notes slowly and then rest*
mp

Pno. *mp*

8th *mp*

30", slowly, softly, random "note walk" in this range (really draw it out...)

The score consists of four staves. The A.Sax staff has a treble clef and contains a half note with a 'subtone' marking, followed by a long note with a 'mf' dynamic and a 'mp' dynamic. The B.Clar. staff has a treble clef and contains a long note with a 'mf' dynamic. The Vn. staff has a treble clef and contains a long note with an 'arco, n.vib' marking and a 'mp' dynamic. The Pno. staff has a bass clef and contains a complex rhythmic pattern with a 'mp' dynamic, followed by a section of sustained notes with an '8th' marking and a 'mp' dynamic. A large arrow points from the Pno. staff to a section of the score below, which shows a 'note walk' in the bass clef with a 'mp' dynamic and an '8th' marking. The 'note walk' is a series of notes that move up and down in a random fashion. The text '30", slowly, softly, random "note walk" in this range (really draw it out...)' is written below the 'note walk' section.