



# **Shoshin**

for 13-string koto and EWI

**Héctor González Orozco**









# Performance Notes


Tuning for the 13-string koto is provided on the first page of the score.

EWI stands for Electronic Wind Instrument. For the first performance of the piece an Akai EWI USB, model was used, although any MIDI controller might be used by simply mapping four MIDI continuous controllers to their respective channels as follows:

- Breath controller: CC 9.
- Mouthpiece bite controller: CC 8.
- Upper thumb bending plate: CC 64.

## Koto notation:

-  = Lowered a quarter tone.
-  = Raised a quarter tone.
-  = Raise or lower pitch by manipulating string with left hand.
-  = Play on the left side of the bridge on string indicated by pitch.
-  = Play with left hand fingers.
-  = Strike string with plectrum.
-  = Scrape string with plectrum.
-  = Pitch indicated should be reached by pressing into string with left hand.

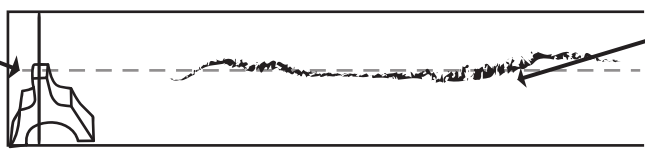


20 seconds

= Repeat gesture for indicated duration.

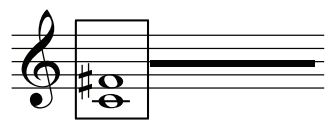

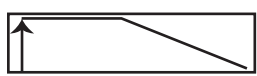
Besides the usual treble clef, a bridge clef is used on measures 18-20 in order to visually indicate the area on the string that the Koto player should strike with a plectrum.

The dotted line indicates the tip of the bridge



The contour of gesture played by striking the string with a plectrum. Volume should be modulated according to thickness of the line

## EWI notation:

-  = Choose a note within range and hold it as long as specified.
-  = Modulate bite on the mouthpiece. Bite harder when the line is closer to the top.
-  = Press upper or lower plate (depending on the direction of the arrow) and slowly release as indicated by the line.

## Electronics:

The role of the EWI is to function as an interface to process the audio coming from the Koto in real-time. A single contact microphone should be placed in the body of the instrument and a pair of speakers should be set up at each side of the performers.

In order to start the patch run the file Shoshin.scd in SuperCollider. A graphical interface provides information about the current status of loops.

Every note in the EWI is mapped independently of the octave in the following way:

- C to F# : Harmonizers with different pitches.
- G to A : Delay, distortion, and reverb. Change parameters in real-time with bite and thumbplate sensors.
- B flat to B : Start recording and stop playback of loops.

# Shoshin

Héctor González Orozco

Koto

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

2

EWI

$\text{♩} = (60-70)$

Koto

$p$

3

EWI

$f$

Koto

$mf$   $p$

4

EWI

choose note within range

$mf$   $mp$

Koto

5

EWI

$f$   $mp$

left side of the bridges

Koto

$pp$   $p$   $mf$   $+$

right side

6

EWI

accel. . . . .  $\text{♩} = 100$  rit. . . . .  $\text{♩} = (60-70)$

$mp$

Koto

accel. . . . .  $\text{♩} = 100$  rit. . . . .  $\text{♩} = (60-70)$

$f$

left side of the bridges

7

Koto

*pp* *mf*

8

EWI

*f*

Koto

*mf* *p*

9

$\text{♩} = (90 - 100)$

Koto

*mp* 7

10

EWI

*f*

Koto

*mp* pizz *ff*

11

Koto

*pp* *mp* 3 3 3 3 7

EWI

12

Koto

*f* *p*

13

EWI

start recording loop loop plays

Koto

pizz *p* 20 seconds *f*

14

Koto

*mp* 7

15

EWI

Koto

*mp*

*f* pizz

*ff*

16

Koto

*pp*

*mp*

17

Koto

plectrum strike

move closer to bridge

10 seconds

18

EWI

start recording loop

loop plays

*p*

30 sec

irregular plectrum strike on bridge of 5th string

Koto

19

EWI

*p*

30 sec

Koto

20

EWI

*f*

*f*

30 sec

Koto

21

EWI

stop loop

Koto

pizz

*p*

5 seconds

scrape

*f*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for two instruments: EWI (Electric Wind Instrument) and Koto. Measures 15-16 show EWI with rests and Koto with a melodic line. Measure 17 features a Koto section with a 'plectrum strike' and a 'move closer to bridge' instruction, followed by a 10-second duration. Measure 18 includes a 'start recording loop' instruction for EWI, a 'loop plays' box, and a '30 sec' duration. Below the EWI staff is a spectrogram for the Koto part, labeled 'irregular plectrum strike on bridge of 5th string'. Measure 19 shows EWI with a long note and a '30 sec' duration, with a spectrogram for the Koto part below. Measure 20 shows EWI with two notes and a '30 sec' duration, with a spectrogram for the Koto part below. Measure 21 shows EWI with a 'stop loop' instruction and Koto with a 'pizz' (pizzicato) instruction, a '5 seconds' duration, and a 'scrape' instruction. The score includes various dynamic markings: *mp*, *f*, *ff*, *pp*, *p*, and *f*.

4  $\text{♩} = (60-70)$

22 left side of bridges

Koto *mp*

23 stop loop

EWI

Koto *mp* *ff* *p* *sfz*

24  $\text{♩} = 90$

Koto *mp*

25

EWI

Koto *mp* *f* pizz

26

Koto *pp* *mp*

27

EWI

Koto *f* *p*

28 pizz

Koto *p* *p* *sfz*

29

Koto *mp*

30



EWI

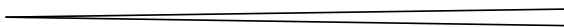
Koto *mp* *f* pizz *ff*

31 rit.



Koto *pp* *mp* *p*

32  $\text{♩} = (60 - 70)$



EWI  


Koto  $\text{♩} = (60 - 70)$   *mf* *p*

33 choose note within range

EWI  *mf*  *mp*


Koto

34  

EWI  *f* *mp*

Koto left side of the bridges *pp* right side *mf* +



35

EWI  *mp*

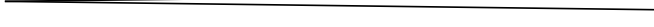
Koto *f* left side of the bridges

36

Koto *pp* *mf*

37  

EWI *f*

Koto  *mf* *p*