

# PREFACE

## 1 Performance notes

Some notes on performance techniques:

### 1.1 Whispering

Whispers fall into two categories: inhaled and exhaled. When exhaling, the performer should affect the consonant indicated (f-, sh-, etc.) and then simply whisper it, as though starting to speak a word and halting suddenly. There should be no pitch, no sustain, just variations of white noise as dictated by the consonant expression. Inhaling is much the same: affect the given consonant (h-, f-, etc.) and then audibly breathe in, creating lighter or darker variations of white noise. If extra breathe is necessary, take it. In general, one shouldn't need much air, as the effect of these whisperings are very quiet in the ensemble texture.

### 1.2 Pitch pipes

When performing with circular pitch pipes, place enough of the instrument into the mouth that four or more notes can be sounded at once. Breathe liberally, changing inhale to exhale as necessary. The effect should be a dense chromatic chord. Don't try to match the chord of fellow performers. Ideally each performer would be playing a slightly different chord, causing the harmony drift as performers enter and exit.

### 1.3 Wine glasses

Wine glasses should be filled partially with water and performed by dipping one finger into that water and then circling that same finger around the lip of the glass, causing it to resonate. Each wine glass should be filled slightly differently from each other wine glass, allowing the harmony to drift (like the pitch pipes) as wine glass music enters and exits the ensemble texture.

### 1.4 Guiros

## 2 Instrumentation

The work consists of two identical choruses of four performers each, and an inner heterogenous trio.

All performers vocalize, and should have a circular chromatic pitch pipe with which to play chords.

Each chorus member has:

- A wine glass, filled with water,
- A castanet,
- A shaker (maraca, caxixi, etc.), and
- A guiro.

The first trio member has:

- A set of crotales (with bowed),
- A marimba, and
- Five wood blocks

The second trio member has:

- A vibraphone (with mallets and bow),
- A ratchet,
- A snare drum (with wire brush), and
- A tam-tam (with mallet and super-ball mallet).

The third trio member has:

- A set of tubular bells,
- Four toms or congas, and
- A large bass drum.