

Stems

for any number of singers

Scott Cazan

One person should be chosen to take on the part of the "Lead." This person will generally be in charge of choosing a root pitch that everyone can match, and queing the movement from one bar to another.

The rest of the singers should be divided into two roughly equal sections, referred to as A and B. They do not, necessarily, need to be divided spatially.

All performers should organize into a half or full-circle and the Lead should be clearly visible.

The performance can be any length between 5 minutes and 25 minutes.

Lead

As mentioned above, you will be in charge of choosing a root pitch that everyone can sing. You will also queue movement from one bar to another. Bars are not regularly paced and you should move on to the next bar when you feel it is time to do so.

Singers and Lead

The score indicates which action you should be performing in any particular bar. All of the actions are related to the root pitch chosen by the Lead and should not be synchronized with each other.

Actions

pitch

Sing the same root pitch as the leader. Octave transpositions to accomodate your range are fine but you should choose the same octave every time.

bend

Sing the root pitch. Bend up or down within a whole-tone near the middle of the bar, then return to the root pitch.

leap

Sing the root pitch. Optionally, leap up or down to fifths or octaves in relation to the root pitch.

noise

Sing the root pitch. Occasionally, introduce more noise to your pitch slowly while continuing to sing until you are only producing noise. Hold that for a moment and then snap back to your starting pitch with a slight articulation.

esiou

This is exactly the same as "noise" but inverted. Start with noise. Slowly introduce more of the pitch until you are only producing the pitch. Hold that for a moment and then snap back to your starting noise with a slight articulation.

clap

The two sections of the singers (A and B) are divided for this interlocking action. "A" should be in charge of clapping on an on-beat and "B" should be in charge of the off-beat. Choose the tempo of clapping based on what is possible with the group. When this action is performed, perform your section's beat as a steady repeating clap.

Optionally, divide the whole group into 4 sections in which "A" is a group of hocketing clappers and "B" is the same but also interlocking with "A."

