

We Dare You to Play These Scores!



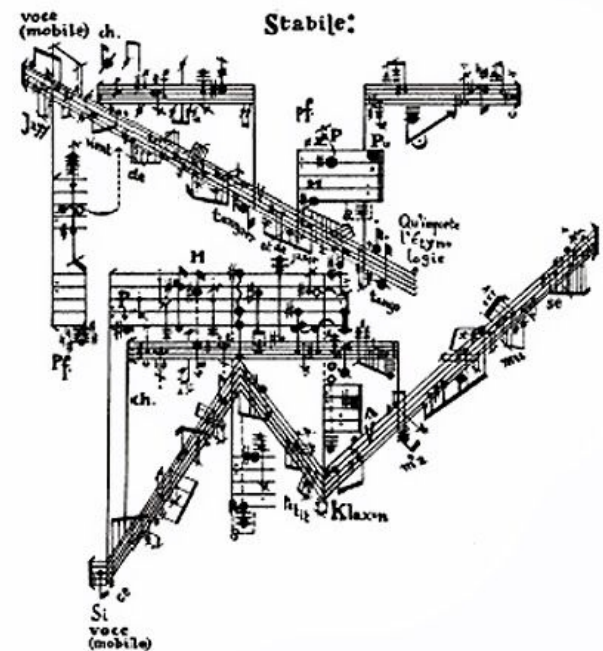
"QUANTUM SHOT" #124(rev)

[Link](#) - article by Avi Abrams

Play them at your own risk: Exploring the extremes of conventional music notation

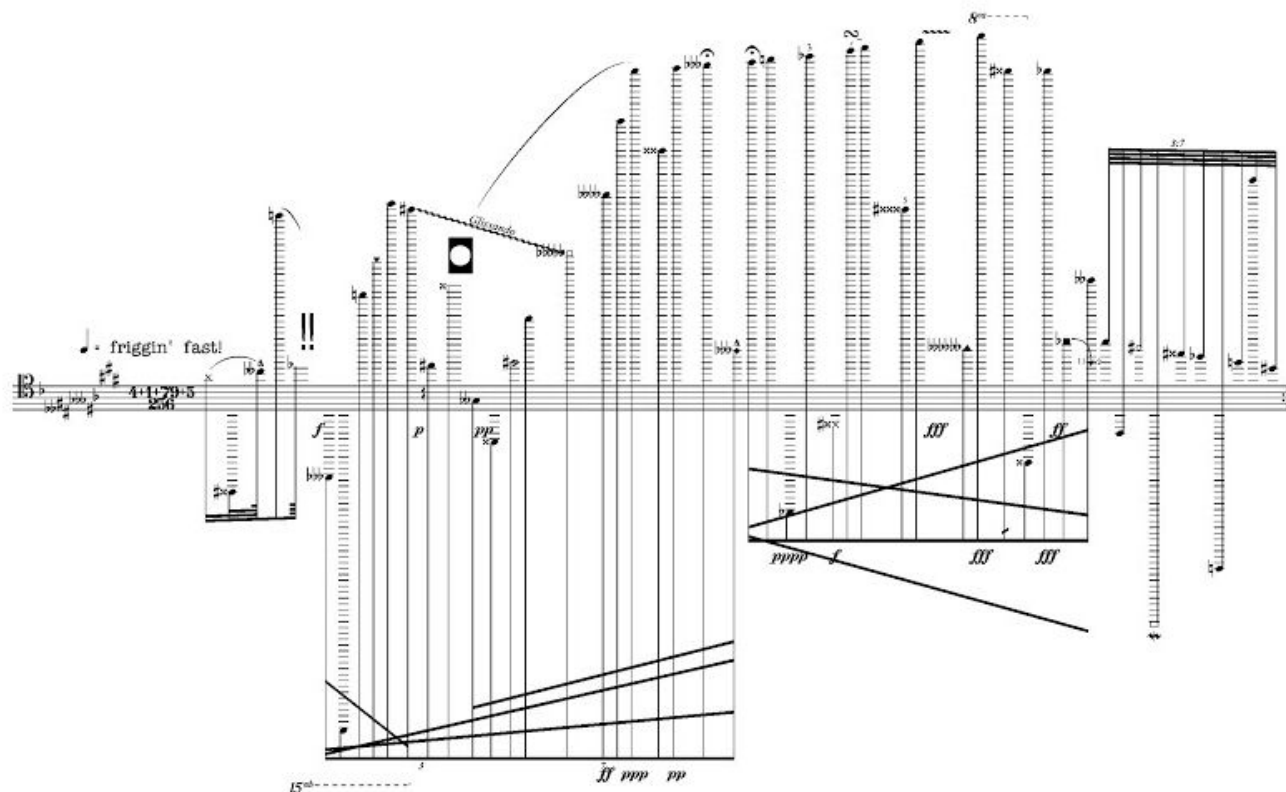
It seems that no amount of automated computer scoring can replace a personal, deliciously wicked human touch. Many composers are preferring non-standard music notation, and some musicians are ambitious enough to perform these impossible pieces, for the enjoyment of increasingly dumbfounded listeners.

So, we dare you to play these scores!... although it may be hazardous to your mental health.



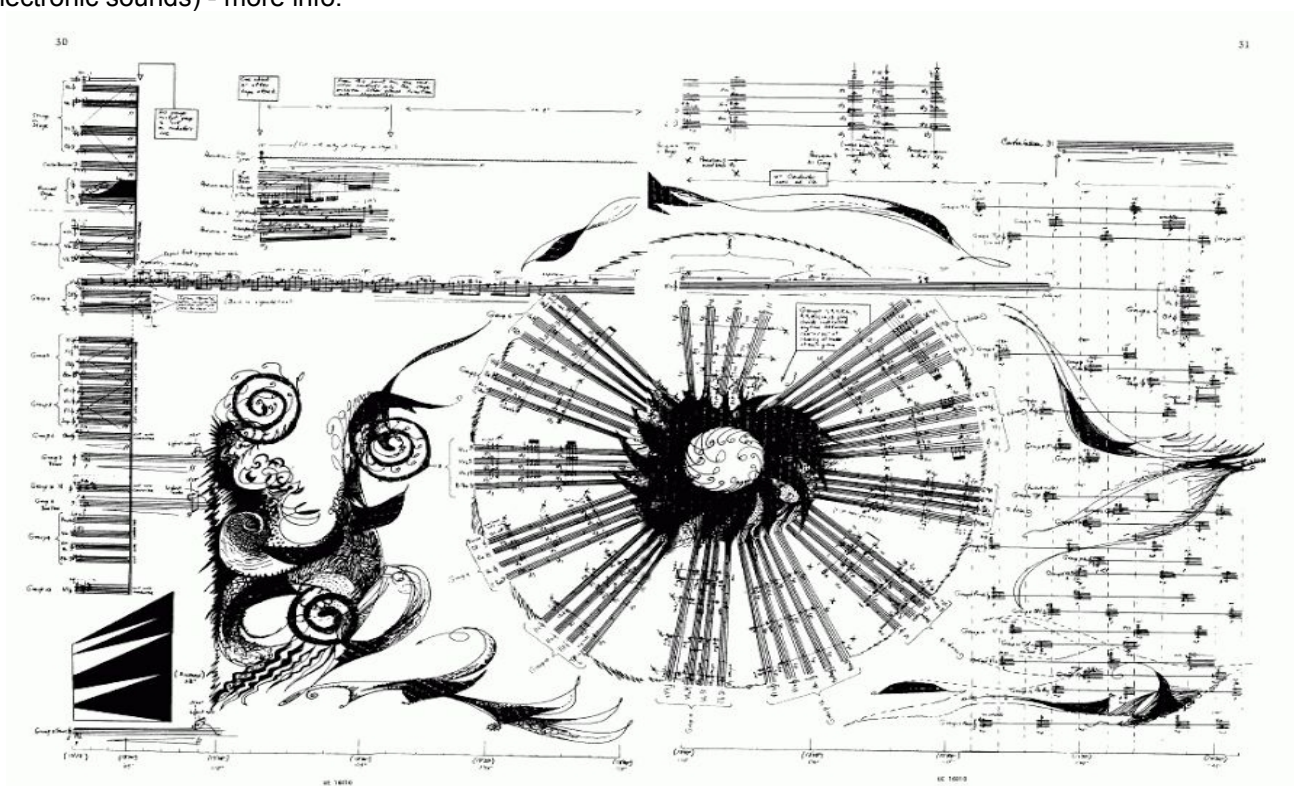
(right: Sylvano Bussotti's "Mobile-Stabile per Chitarre, Canto e Piano", see below)

We'll start with this piece, which is supposed to be played "friggin' fast", so you'd better get crackin' -



(image [via](#))

Here is a Canadian composer Murray Schafer's "Divan I Shams I Tabriz" (for Orchestra, seven singers and electronic sounds) - more info:



(image [via](#))

(image courtesy [Brian Higgins](#))

Besides many references to a mysterious "frog" that has "left the building", and mad requests like "INFLATE THE CIRCUS CLOWNS!", there are bizarre notations like:

"If you can't play this, why don't you call your mommy?"

"With Pesto... With much passionfruit..."

"There is no wrong way to play this"

"Justin, wake up!", "Damelle, did you have a burrito for lunch?"

Don't forget to "leap over cellist", and make "glissando using tip of nose".

It comes with helpful advice: "if arm falls off, re-attach and play much slower", "shock therapy may be necessary to finish"... Musicians are not supposed to fly over the audience, but they are expected to "Pluck with Dignity", and additionally - "Any players from Wisonsin are free to roam among the audience members and look for Mr. Howigg"

Also, notice the fine print: "Really big notes do not exist", and the 23/4 measure (which is officially unplayable).

The final verdict on this piece? "Musically, this is not very challenging" (by Isaac Stern).

Another bizarre score: "Atushi Ojisama and Ijigen Waltz":

ATUSHI OJISAMA and IJIGEN WALTZ

(from "A Tribute to Yamasaki Atushi")

Words and Music by
Yamasaki Atushi

Arranged by Accident

Based on a Cro-magnon skinning chant

DaDa Domuw (rotate embouchures) *tr* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

AVOID LUMPING Like a Zudobanuuuuu *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

from the frog *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

If you can't play this, why don't you call Atushi As a Ojisama *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

There is no wrong way to ryumin Like a Ojisama *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Remain instrument if it says "Muttel" *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Play real zippy-like Like (or as) the Atushi *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Damelle, did you have a burrito for lunch? Ijigen-style *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Move those chubby little fingers!! *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Swordskily *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Here, Anya Garba *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Without the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Finger with right hand and bow with left hand *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

TURN MUSIC UP SIDE-DOWN *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Phonicians must leave the car pit soon *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Use a semi-full pitching wedge to back of green *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Remove Crotch from ice *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Ouch! Stoo putting your box *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

START OVER *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Everyone rotate one chair *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

WET REED SLEEP FOR TWO BARS *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

AIKAWARAZU YOI UGOKIWO SHITEIRUNE *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

through the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Ijigen Fuita. *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Who it. *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Pass the program, please *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Beethoven this ain't *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

in the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

perpendicular to the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

istris being *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Lean forward *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

far away from the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

I saw Elvis in the 4th row! *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Bowing is mandatory *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Hay look rainbow sturs *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Re-coat! with marm *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

most of the have discover of anti-matteers into some darbie *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

without the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

This music really sinks! *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

without the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Finger with right hand and bow with left hand *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

TURN MUSIC UP SIDE-DOWN *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Phonicians must leave the car pit soon *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Use a semi-full pitching wedge to back of green *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Remove Crotch from ice *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Ouch! Stoo putting your box *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

START OVER *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Everyone rotate one chair *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

WET REED SLEEP FOR TWO BARS *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

AIKAWARAZU YOI UGOKIWO SHITEIRUNE *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

through the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Ijigen Fuita. *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Who it. *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Pass the program, please *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Beethoven this ain't *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

in the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

perpendicular to the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

istris being *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Lean forward *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

far away from the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

I saw Elvis in the 4th row! *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Bowing is mandatory *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Hay look rainbow sturs *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Re-coat! with marm *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

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without the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Finger with right hand and bow with left hand *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

TURN MUSIC UP SIDE-DOWN *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Phonicians must leave the car pit soon *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Use a semi-full pitching wedge to back of green *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Remove Crotch from ice *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Ouch! Stoo putting your box *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

START OVER *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Everyone rotate one chair *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

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Ijigen Fuita. *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Who it. *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Pass the program, please *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

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istris being *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Lean forward *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

far away from the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

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Bowing is mandatory *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

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Re-coat! with marm *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

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This music really sinks! *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

without the frog *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Finger with right hand and bow with left hand *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

TURN MUSIC UP SIDE-DOWN *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Phonicians must leave the car pit soon *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Use a semi-full pitching wedge to back of green *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Remove Crotch from ice *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Ouch! Stoo putting your box *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

START OVER *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz* *pp* *ppp* *Credenza* *pp* *Slippery when wet*

Everyone rotate one chair *ryumin* *mf* *p* *What's important* *tr* *sfz* *ppp* *sfz*

"Lament of the Introspective Turnbuckle", by Andrew Fielding

Dedicated to a swimsuit model, and played by... blondes? -

LAMENT OF THE INTROSPECTIVE TURNBUCKLE
Theme of the 1979 Miss Albuquerque, New Mexico
Swimsuit and Short Fiction Writing Competition

BICUSPO N. BEHEMOUTH
Op. 7 15/16

Lento vivace
♩ = 0.5 *Fine* 3

TAKE CODA EXCEPT
TUE. 7-9 A.M.
STREET CLEANING

Piccolo tpt. *al nuncio noncarborundum* *falsetto* Bassoons Quad-
rangle Fluid Drive

cresc. 3 dim. Con amore unirequitutto Tenderly *dim.*
basso marinaro *acciaccaturallura*

Not available in all areas

Act II Prepared piano *cresc.* Geldings 8
con brie 90 days *Thematically*

glissando lasvegasoso LAXLY 5 *PPP* *P.* *chimes*
DC. al *Perdido interminando* Triptych

Buy the Bantam paperback 52 *snorizando* B12 DIRECTED Clayinova also on laser disc
pickup small pepperoni sackbut cocktail drums Vocal in
refuso non biodegradable phlegmoso congestivo grosso nonet

peck horn *fppsf P* TACET

BHT 28 *quasi intellectuo* Wait for conductor *remove shoes strike zone accel--1
Excitedly cuttlefish 2 PLACE MUTE ON HEAD

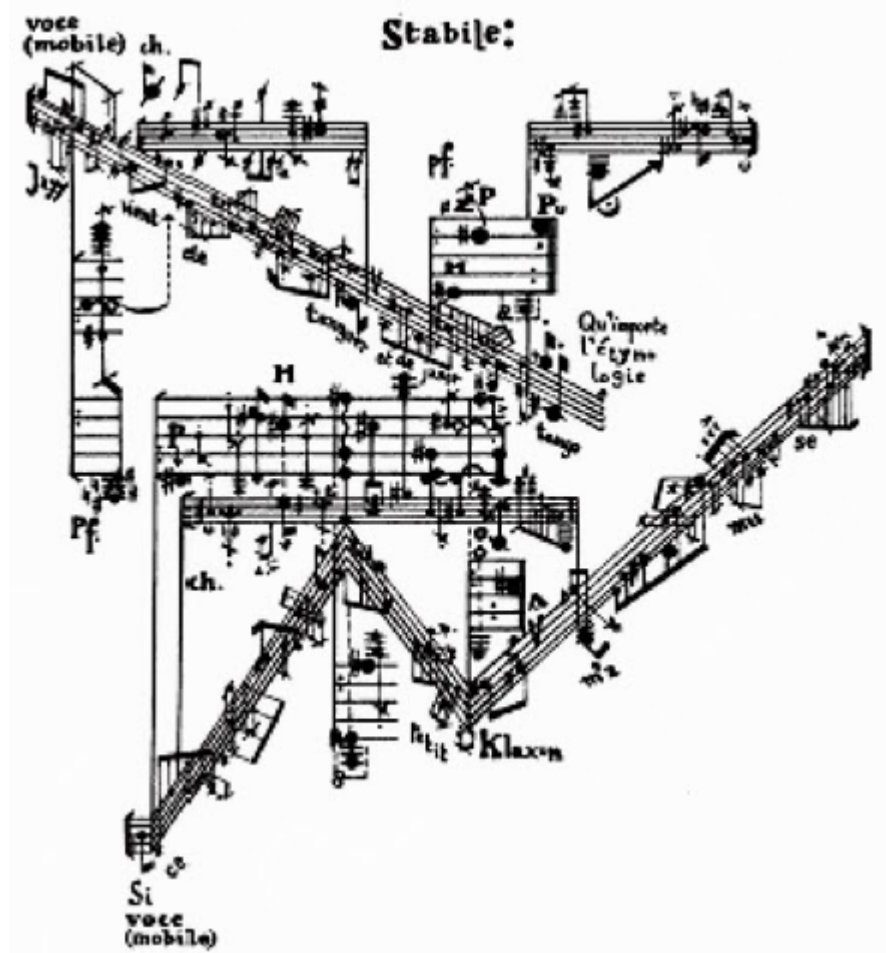
you mf!! Organ Some assembly required 11.8 *dim. sum*
con las naranjas cerridas unannounced layoff *ffff*

© 1992 Andrew Fielding

All rights reserved including public performance for profit, private performance for snackfoods, parties, yachting, bolo-tie manufacturing, plea-bargaining in antebellum cubicalae, Neo-Calvinist photoplays and semi-formal peanut-butter performance art. All models over 18. Made in Altoona.

(image via)

Sylvano Bussotti's "Sette Fogli: Mobile-Stabile per Chitarre, Canto e Piano" -



(image [via](#))

Here is another fragment of Sylvano Bussotti's score: "Pour Clavier" (apres Pieces de Chair II), published in 1961. It does not seem as crazy as the previous one - perhaps even (oh, perish the thought!) ALMOST possible to play! -



(image [via](#))

"Helicopter String Quartet" by Karl Heinz Stockhausen - this one has actually been performed!

This was a part of an opera "Wednesday from Light", and required the following:

- a string quartet,
- 4 helicopters with pilots and 4 sound technicians,
- 4 television transmitters, 4 x 3 sound transmitters,
- auditorium with 4 columns of televisions and 4 columns of loudspeakers,
- sound projectionist with mixing console.

HELIKOPTER-STREICHQUARTETT Stockhausen

AUFSTIEG

VI.1 f tremolo
VI.2 f tremolo
Va. f tremolo
Vc. f tremolo

START 1 FLUG

20 $\text{I} = 50,5$ $0'00''$ [23,8]

2

3

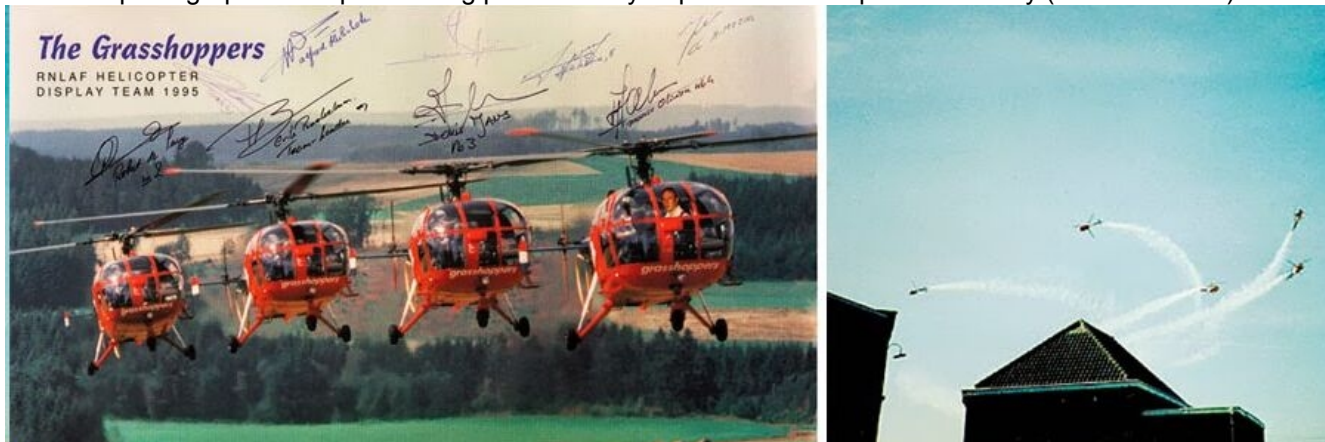
8 $53,5$ $23,8''$ [9]

12 $52,8''$ [16]

non trem.
non trem. start
non trem. start
c.l. battuto IRR
Flag. #8 non trem.
Flag. 0
trem. sul pont.
+ c.l. battuto IRR
trem.
trem. sul pont.
trem. sul pont.
trem. sul pont.

(image credit: Stockhausen.org)

Here is a photograph of this piece being performed by a quartet of helicopters in the sky (see more here):



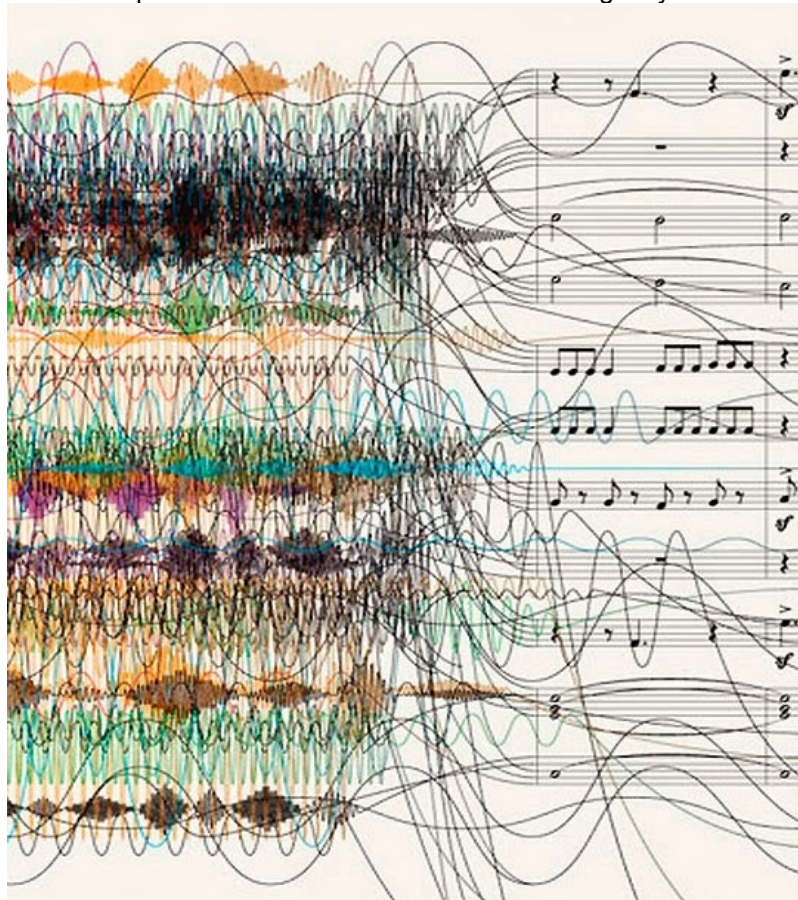
(images credit: [Kathinka Pasveer](#))

Stockhausen describes how he came up with this piece: "I had a dream: I heard and saw the four string players in four helicopters flying in the air and playing. At the same time I saw people on the ground seated in an audio-visual hall, others were standing outdoors on a large public plaza. In front of them, four towers of television screens and loudspeakers had been set up: at the left, half-left, half-right, right. At each of the four positions one of the four string players could be heard and seen in close-up." Read [more](#).

The "HELICOPTER STRING QUARTET" is dedicated to all astronauts. Click [here](#) to listen to part of the performance.

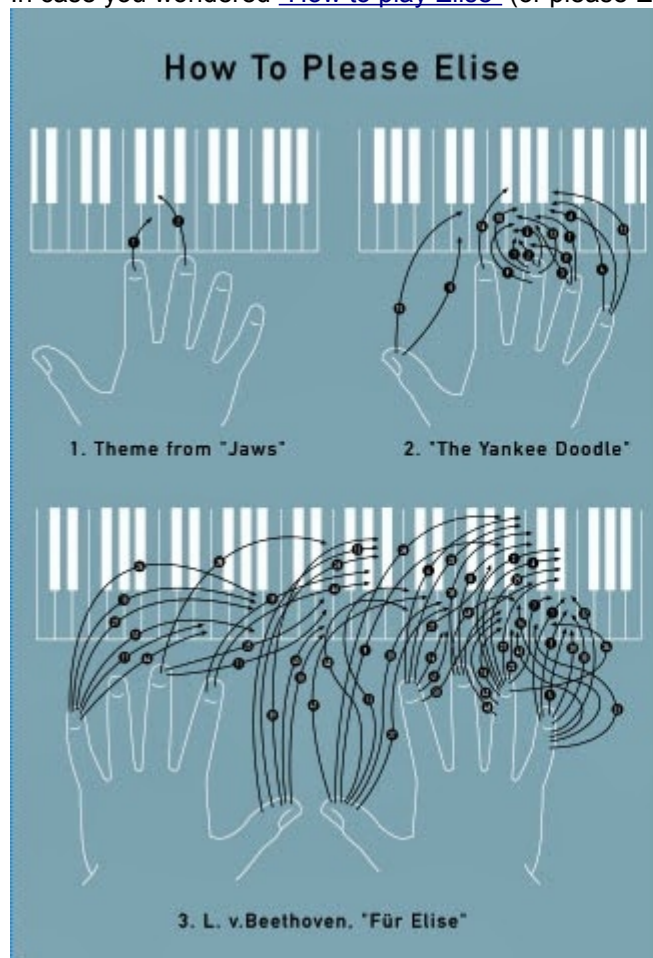
Don't Panic! Tackle it note-by-note.

Another impossible score looks like a bunch of tangled yarn in a stash of a knitter:



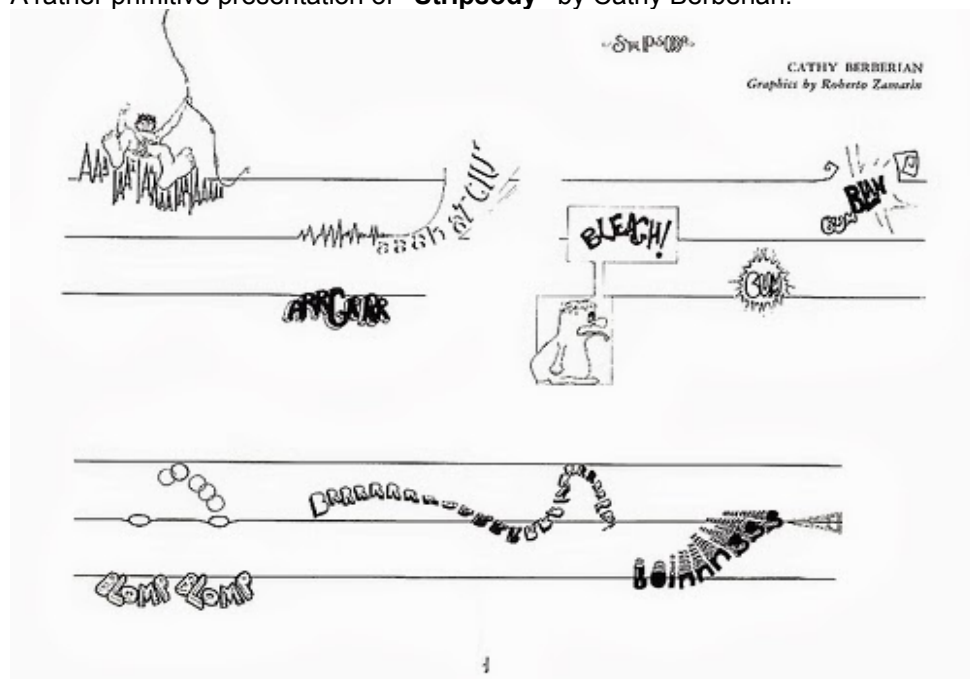
(image [via](#))

In case you wondered ["How to play Elise"](#) (or please Elise):



(left image [via](#); right image: original unknown)

A rather primitive presentation of **"Stripsody"** by Cathy Berberian:



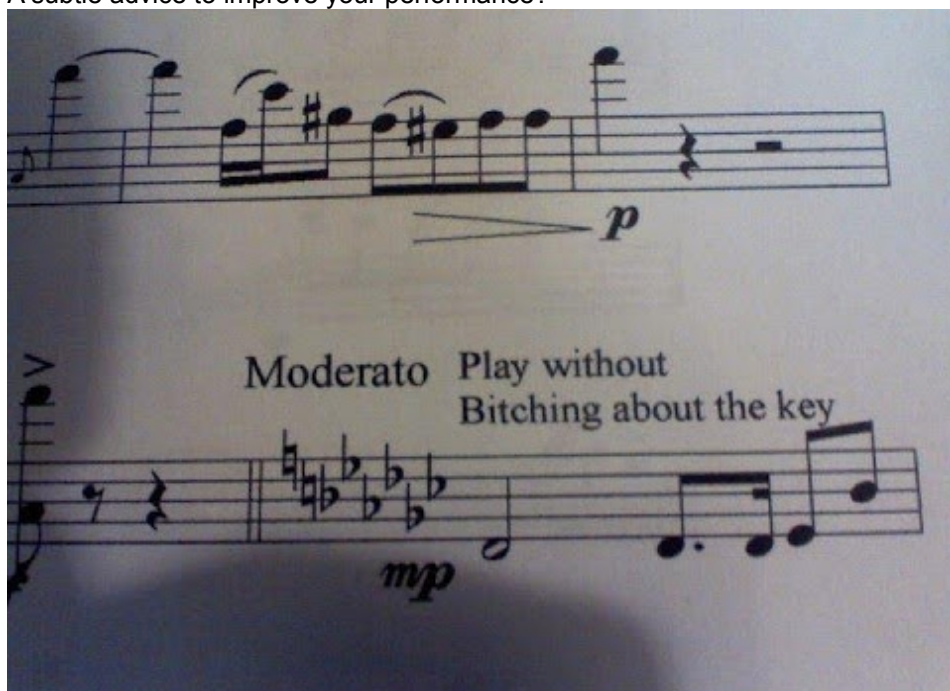
(image [via](#))

[Mark Jacobsen](#) makes collages on top of his Steinway piano, here is one of them:



(image courtesy [Mark Jacobsen](#))

A subtle advice to improve your performance? -



(original unknown)

If your brain overheats trying to figure out how to play all that, we suggest you take a break and try to play something simpler:



(original unknown)

Article by [Avi Abrams](#). Dark Roasted Blend.

It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad Music

In [Part 1](#) we saw music notation from hell, from the fringes of sanity and straight outside of this mortal coil... Music written by aliens to be played by aliens (who will have a few extra limbs to spare).

We did not exhaust this subject by any means, however, as new examples of this highly-ordered and extremely sophisticated madness (a secret vice for many a composer, perhaps...) kept popping up.

Pavane of the Reconstituted Visigoths

Andy Fielding sent us his new creation (he says "I do this kind of thing each time I change notation apps"):

Pavane of the Reconstituted Visigoths
Dedicated to the Guelph, Ontario Lawn Bowling Society

Db Canola Horn Rankworth P. LaFon
(1948 - 1902)

Plagiarismo
pppppp

Ilva *Cattle drums* *nauseoso* *ff*

Condescendingly

con flautenza bombastica en la noche

KEEP WALLET AWAY FROM TROMBONISTS

© 2005 for all countries except those with the letters E and R. Do not perform this music while operating heavy machinery or even medium-weight machinery. Contains cellulite. Any resemblance to actual celebrities is purely confidential. Do not drive an SUV. Yes, you are a robot. We reserve the right to serve refuse to anyone. Did you practice? Go outside and do something till I'm off the phone. Be Kind, Rewind. Fill your sitzmarks. For more details, consult someone with a bad toupee.

Semi-prepared by
Andy Fielding
andrewriter@gmail.com

B.C. al Vancouver

Starting with a "Plagiarismo" tempo, the notes are increasingly bizarre: you are advised to play it -

- "fast enough to impress other musicians..."
- "condescendingly"
- slow down to "nauseoso" tempo...
- "keep wallet away from trombonists"
- emitting blood-curdling screams from time to time.
- keep repeating some sections to relieve the painful itch
- and even include a special "Pop Music Section", details of which are mercifully withheld.

Gotta love his copyright / disclaimer note:

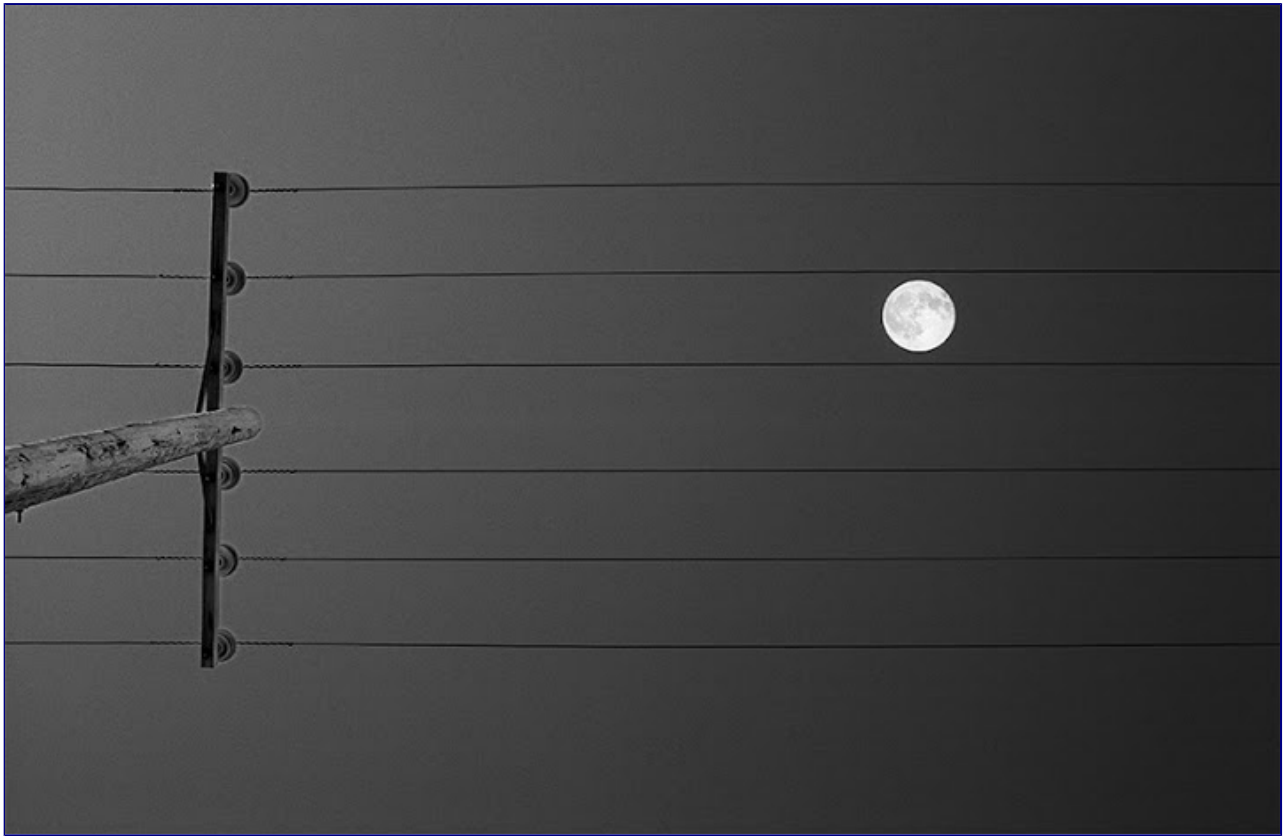
© 2005 for all countries except those with the letters E and R. Do not perform this music while operating heavy machinery or even medium-weight machinery. Contains cellulite. Any resemblance to actual celebrities is purely confidential. Do not drive an SUV. Yes, you are a robot. We reserve the right to serve refuse to anyone. Did you practice? Go outside and do something till I'm off the phone. Be Kind, Rewind. Fill your sitzmarks. For more details, consult someone with a bad toupee.

(score credit: Andy Fielding, Musician, Composer, Music Editor, Richmond, BC)

Be careful when performing this piece, you may find that your audience will **start** climbing up the walls, so aim your instrument gradually toward the ceiling to improve acoustics.

Simplicity itself!

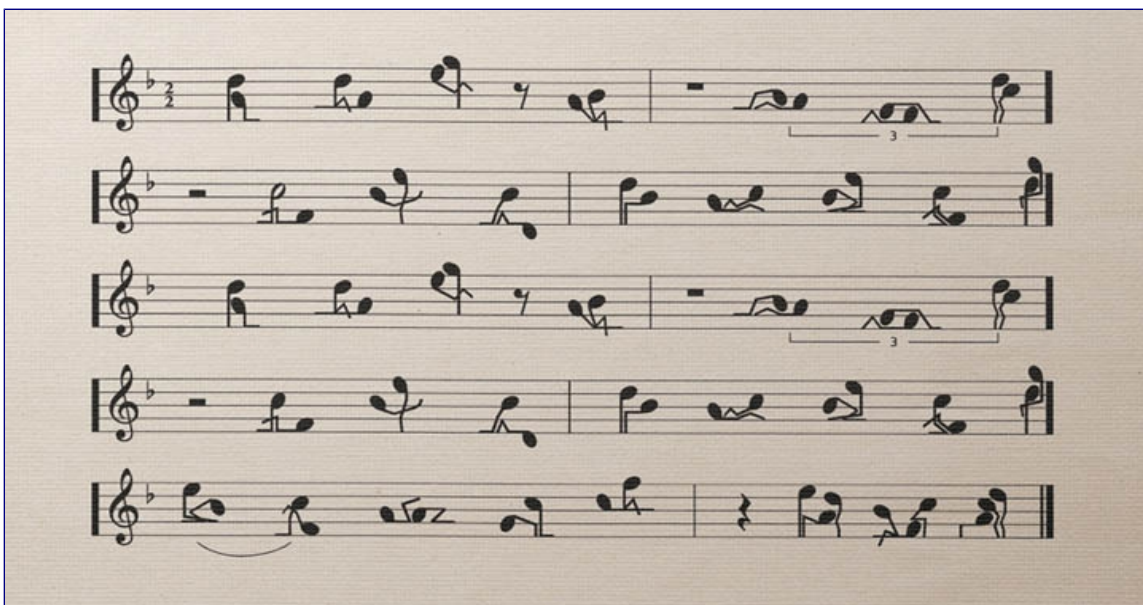
Sometimes less is more, and the absence of notation could be even better, when accompanied by the moonlit night:



(image via)


A Tribute to Serge Gainsbourg

Remember the highly sublime and scandalously sensual song by Serge Gainsbourg and Jane Birkin [Je t'aime... moi non plus](#)? This is how it translates in appropriate notation (which might take a little longer to play) -



(image credit: [Scary Ideas](#))

Yoko Ono's "Voice Piece for Soprano":




VOICE PIECE FOR SOPRANO

Scream.

1. against the wind
2. against the wall
3. against the sky

1961 autumn

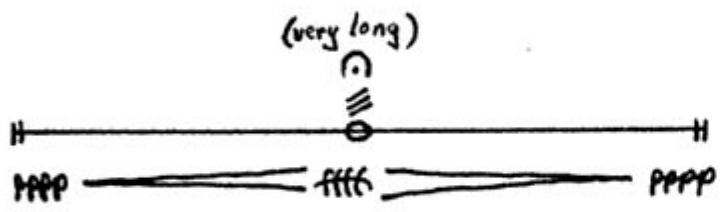


(image via)

James Tenney invents a note for percussion (left), while a very strange note structure convulses in death throes on the right (taken from Sylvano Bussotti's "Pour Clavier", 1961):

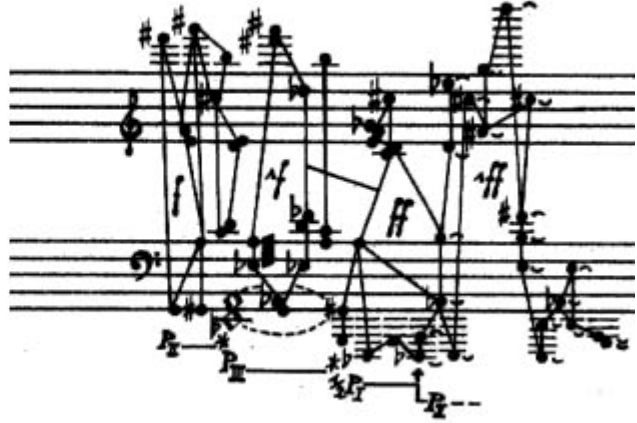
HAVING NEVER WRITTEN A NOTE FOR PERCUSSION

for John Bergamo



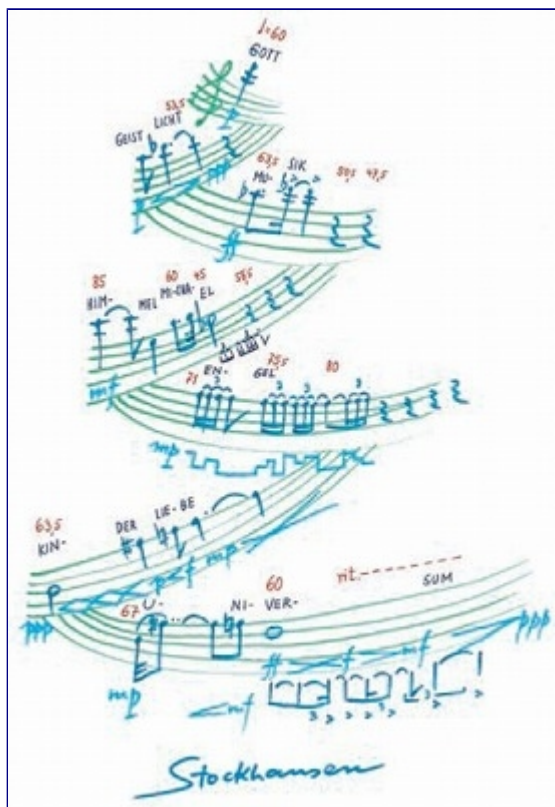
James Tenney

8/6/71



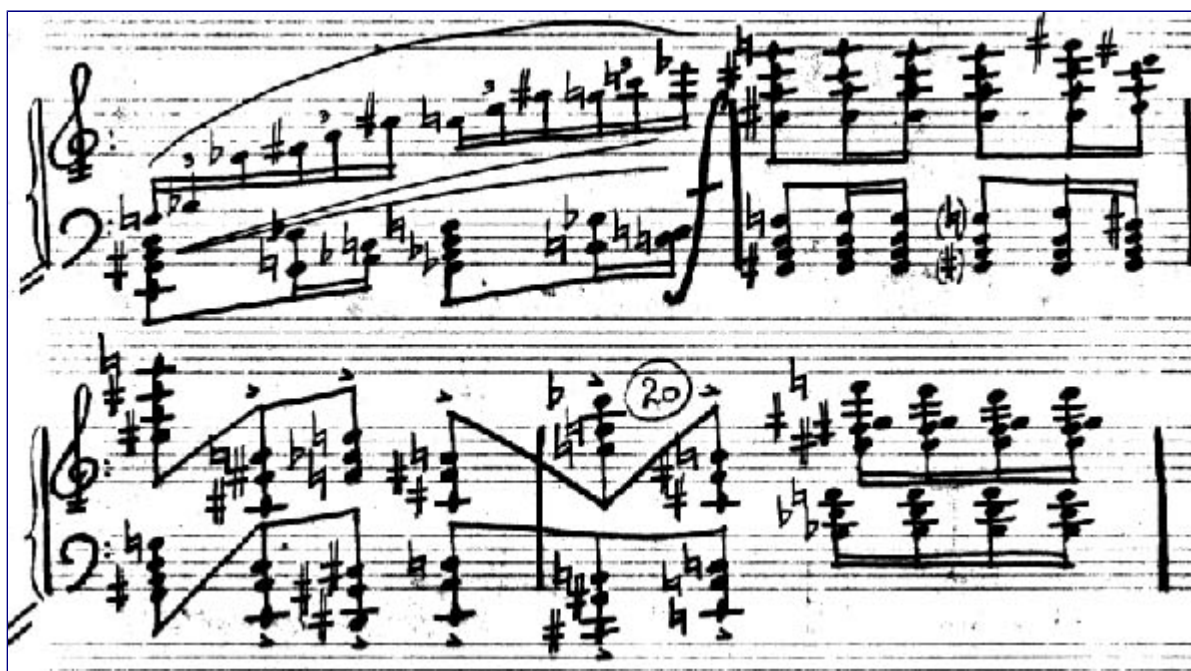
(images via)

Christmas time is here!
 (Stockhausen, "Die zehn wichtigsten Wörter", 1991)



(image via)

Nikos Skalkottas "Four Etudes [No.2](1941)" - (check out these chords... powerful!)



(image via)

Speaking about even more cryptic notation, here is "Play II" for harpsichord and synthesizer, from John Stead (with just a hint of spermatozooids in there, dancing) -

PLAY II - for Harpsichord and Synthesizer - written for Nigel Barton and dedicated to John Houet.

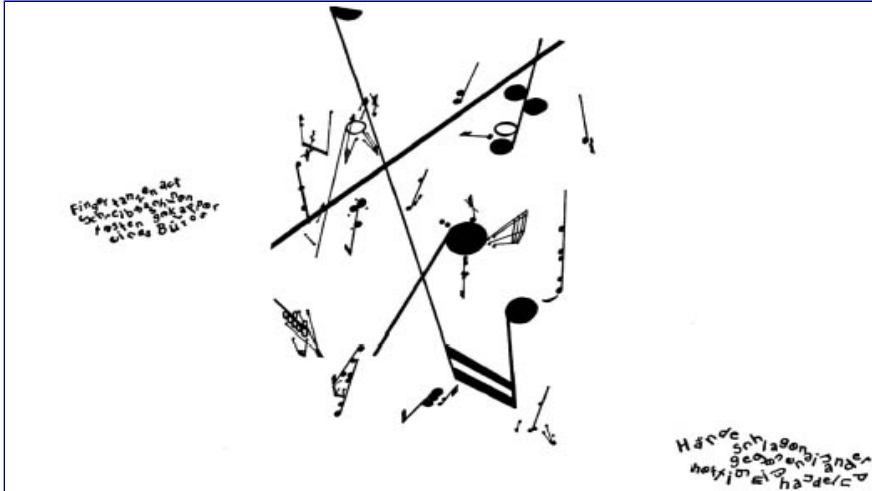
(image via)

OK, so how would you play the "Syncopated Texture" shown on the left image below? No wonder it's been called the "Imaginary Music" (though I suspect I may like it... may sound somewhat like spring, grass growing, etc.). But then, there is an even more puzzling score: Takehisa Kosugi's "+ -" (1987), shown on the right:

+ - Takehisa Kosugi - 1987 -

Tom Johnson "Imaginary Music", No. 65. "Syncopated Texture"; Takehisa Kosugi "+ -" (1987)

Trying to perform the next piece may result in something loosely described as a "musical train crash" -



Dieter Schnebel: MO-NO. Musik z. Lesen (1969)

This is not notation, but certainly a creative use of the favorite media of nostalgic fans of Jimi Hendrix: a bunch of good old tape (art by [iRI5](#), Erika Iris Simmons):



"Ghost in the Machine" - art by [Erika Iris Simmons](#)

In the meantime, good old Johann Sebastian Bach sends his regards across the centuries and musical styles:



(image credit: [Worth1000](#))

<http://www.darkroastedblend.com/2013/08/we-dare-you-to-play-these-scores.html>

<http://www.darkroastedblend.com/2009/03/strangest-music-scores-part-2.html>