

Green, or Beautiful in Green.

For ELISION

trombone and percussion

aulich
april 2021 revision

Performance Notes

Percussion list

2x Chinese Hand Cymbals.

1x Stainless steel plate.

1x Large piece of polystyrene.

Bundle of wooden sticks for crackling.

1x Drum stick.

1x Bow.

1x Ceramic plate w/ ridge.

1x Glass, tuned to G4.

Dried chickpeas

1x Ceramic tile.

2x Small stones.

Wooden bowl

TROMBONE

The trombone part is written in a single-stave tablature, which primarily dictates air pressure, lip pressure, and slide position.

Lip pressure and slide position

Because lip pressure and slide position both map to pitch, slide position and harmonics track in opposite directions from their numerical order. The first slide position and the highest given harmonic (7) are at the top of the staff, while the lowest harmonic (1) and the seventh slide position are at the bottom. Each of the faint lines dividing the space represent a given discrete position or harmonic.

Air/Dynamics

Air/dynamics are notated with wedges which also behave like beams to group patterns of attacks. The length of the wedge also dictates the length of a note.

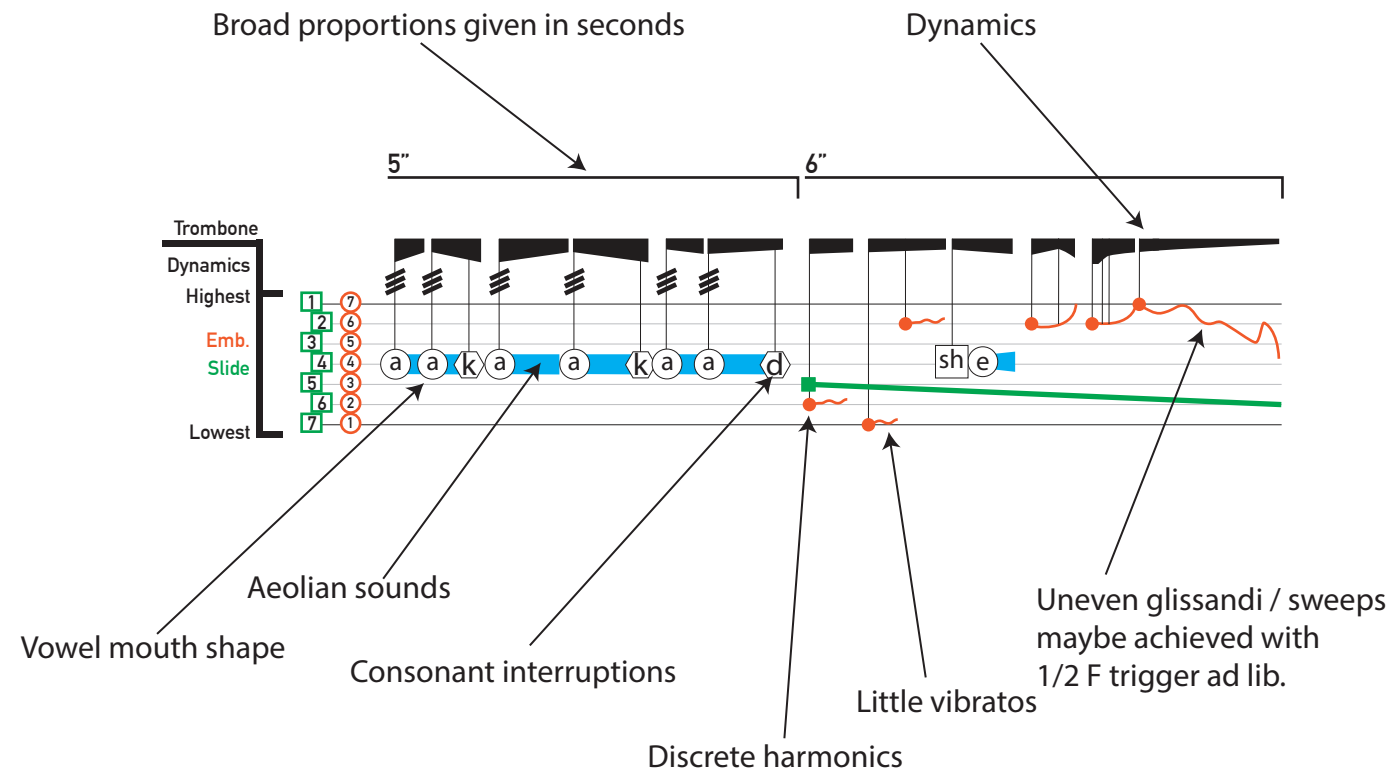
Special notes pertaining to page 3 - Partials and slide positions

Lip pressure and slide position

Slide position is as above, but the striation lines across the staff are green to indicate that they pertain only to slide position. For lip pressure, a more indeterminate space is given, where the bottom of the staff is the 5th partial, and the top of the staff is the highest possible partial in context. The space should be considered smooth, such that no regard is given to the striations relative to the partials, only to slide position.

Proportions and timing

The piece is notated proportionally, with seconds indications showing the length of phrases and passages. The internal proportions therein are dictated purely spatially. While strict exactitude in this regard is not necessary, care should be taken that the two instruments align with cues.

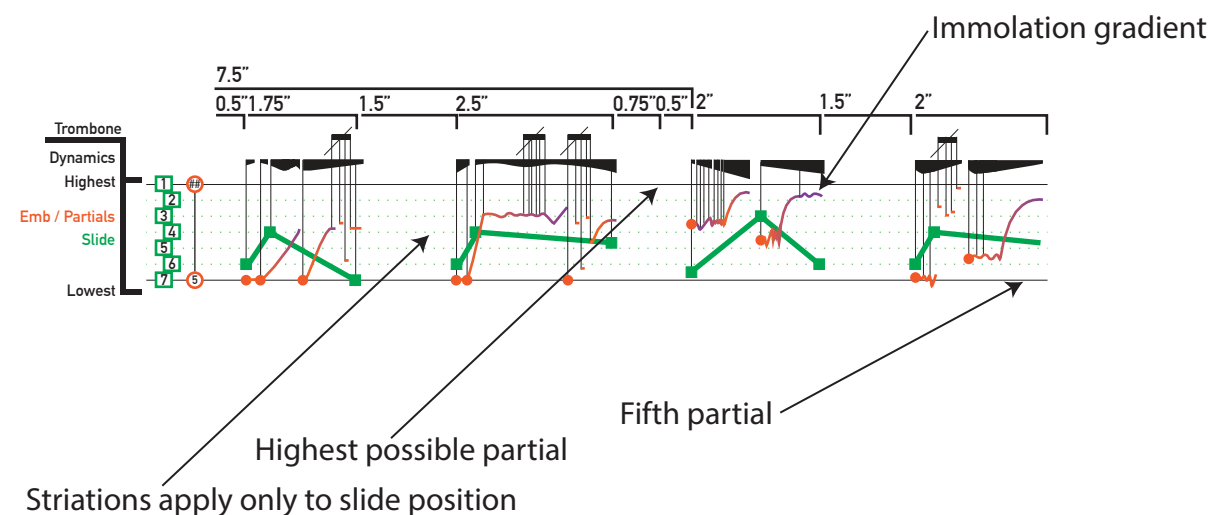


Aeolian sounds

Aeolian sounds are dictated with blue wedges or blocks in the middle of the staff. The width of the wedge or block dictates the embouchure tightness. Additional sounds and mouth shapes are notated in squares and circles. 'Sh' sounds are contained within squares and apply for the duration of the breath sound. The sounds in circles are vowels that show a general mouth shape in addition to tightness.

Consonant interruptions

Consonants interrupt aeolian sound are given in hexagons. If the blue wedge continues beyond the hexagon, the sound is continued through the interruption where possible, or else resumed immediately after.



Special notes pertaining to page 3 - Immolation gradient

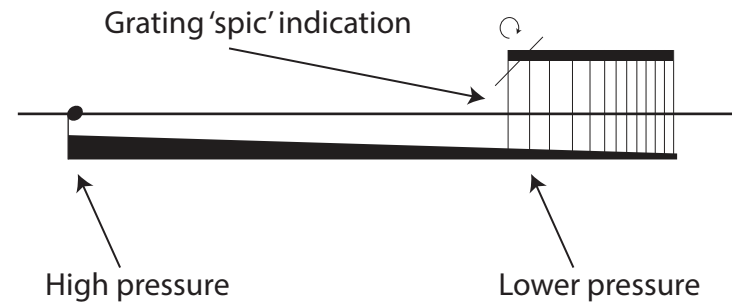
In lieu of specific techniques for instability, the partial pressure lines include gradients from orange to purple and solid purple lines that represent transitions to unstable techniques (split tones, whistles, growls, etc). Since the entire passage tends toward self-immolation.

Orange lines should be played normally, purple lines should be in some way destabilized, and gradient lines should be transitions between the two.

PERCUSSION

Chinese hand cymbals

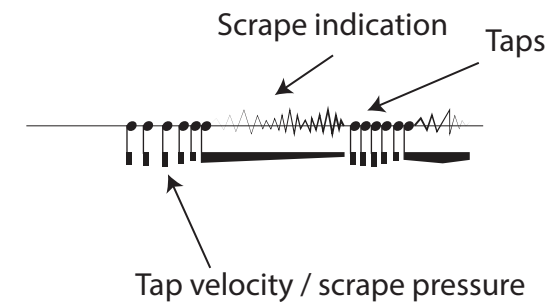
The Chinese hand cymbals are to be ground against one another in a perpendicular fashion so as to produce a rusty, metallic sounds. The pressure to be applied is given with wedge shapes, while the note-heads mark the onset of an attack. For the spic-like grace-note indications, the cymbals back and forth very quickly in a small circular motion.



Tile and stone

Noteheads - The stone is to be tapped against the tile to produce little attacks for each notehead. All of these taps are gentle.

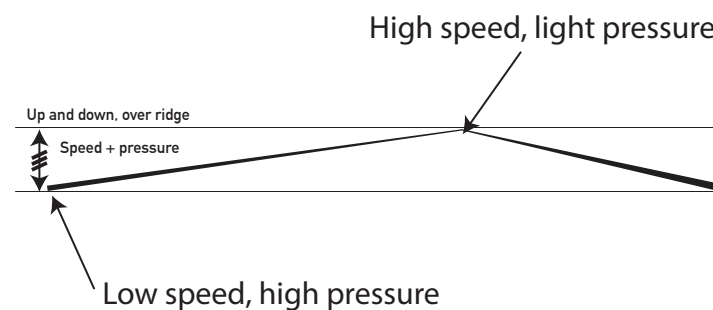
Scrape indications - The back of a tile is to be rubbed with stone to generate mechanical scraping effects marked by zig zagged lines.



Ceramic plate and stone

There are two styles of playing for the ceramic plate and stone.

Scraping over the ridge - Scrapes should be relatively short, and directly over the ridge. The speed of the scrapes and the pressure are indicated by a single line. The vertical position of the line dictates speed, while its thickness dictates the pressure to be applied.



Circular scraping around the plate - TAs above, the speed of scraping is indicated by the height of the line, while pressure is indicated by thickness. Smaller circles can be made to increase speed.



Stick and Stainless Steel dish

The tip of the stick should be pressed against the dish to produce indeterminate pitched glissandi. The white circle indicates a rearticulation, while the line of varying thickness is a very general pressure indication.



Bowed polystyrene

For the bowed polystyrene, typical string-playing indications are given; the changes bow direction indicate re-articulation when they are not slurred.

The wedges indicate bow pressure. Where necessary, an additional indication of 'overpressure' is used. For tremolos, an arrow ending in a circle indicates a gradual slowing of the tremolo until it stops.

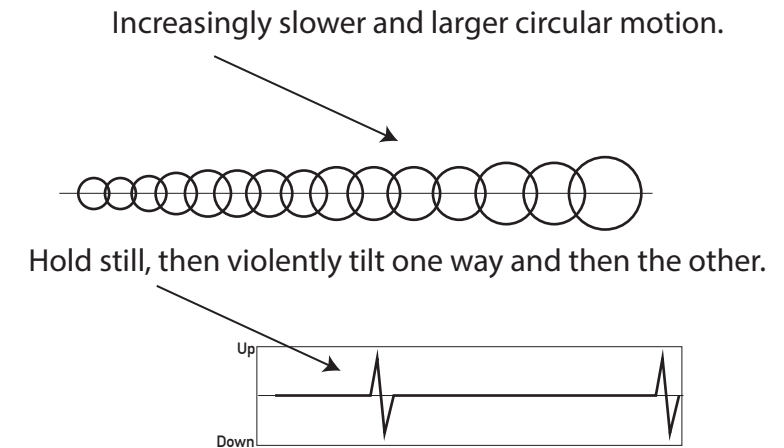


Wood bowl and chickpeas

The chickpeas inside the wood bowl are actuated in one of two ways: either by gently tilting the bowl in circular motions of various speeds and sizes, or by tilting laterally, such that at some unpredictable moment the chickpeas rush to one end or the other.

Circles on the staff are indicative of the first way, their size and density on the staff indicating the manner of motion.

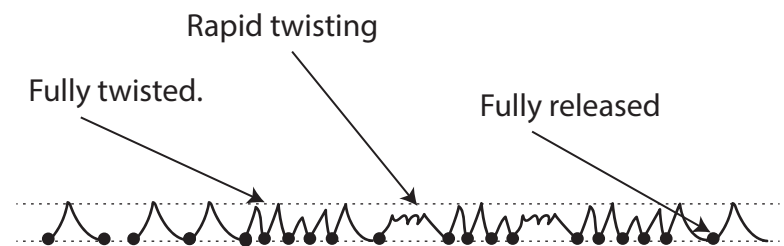
A line showing the degree and (by virtue of proportions) speed of a lateral tilt is indicative of the second way.



Bundle of sticks

Use the bundle of sticks to make crackling sounds by twisting in the hands. The notation indicates the building of tension and release in the sticks; where the line is low, the sticks are full released, when the line is at its highest, they are fully tense. Therefore, a descending line is a release of tension, while an ascending line is a twisting motion.

Vibrato or trill-like lines indicate a rapid twist-and-release motion.



Low groans and rumbles

15" 10" 7" 1" 18" 1.5" 7.5"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partial
Slide
Lowest

Chinese hand cymbals
Percussion

Creaking metal door sounds

Rapid rotations back and forth.

13" 8" 10" 13"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partial
Slide
Lowest

Chinese hand cymbals
Percussion

12" 6" 13" 15"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partial
Slide
Lowest

Chinese hand cymbals
Percussion

Tile + stone

Change to tile and stone for one hand, and ceramic plate and stone for the other.

12" 20" 2.5" 2.5" 2" 2" 2"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partial
Slide
Lowest

Ceramic + stone
Percussion

Scrapes
Up and down, over ridge
Speed + pressure

Tile + stone
Hits, scrapes
Pressure

7" 5.5" 10.5" 7" 14"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partial
Slide
Lowest

Ceramic
Percussion
Tile

(not over ridge)

Change ceramic stone for stick and stainless steel dish

Stick / steel dish

6" 7" 6" 12" 13" 2" 2" 2" 1.5" 1" 1" 1" 1.5"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Steel/stick
Percussion
Tile

Rub tip of stick against dish ad lib.

(squeeks)

(squeek at the start of each attack)

7" 12" 5" 9" 9"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Steel/stick
Percussion
Tile

(very gently)

Change tile and stone for wine glass.

4" 6.5" 7.5" 11" 9" 7"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Steel/stick
Percussion
Glass G4

Induce beating w/ wine glass

Change both hands for bow + styrene

3 Screeching and clawing; mostly claustrophobic, trapped.

Half-F-trigger ad-lib, particularly for larger glissandi

7.5" 0.5" 1.75" 1.5" 2.5" 0.75" 0.5" 1.2" 1.5" 2" 4" 2.5" 1.5" 0.5" 1" 2.5" 4" 0.5" 2" 4" 1.5" 2.5" 11"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partials
Slide
Lowest
Styrene
Percussion
Bow pressure

1/2 hair Full hair 1/2 hair Full hair 1/2 hair Full hair Col legno tratto (slowing) 1/2 hair Full hair 1/2 hair Full hair Col legno tratto (slowing) (spicc.) (spicc.) (spicc.)

Except for col legno tratto passages, which should be breathy / noisy, aim for mostly distorted / unclear pitches + multiphonic sounds.

5" 0.5" 4" 0.5" 4" 3" 3" 6" 0.5" 3.5" 2" 2" 3" 4.5" 7" 1.5"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest
Styrene
Percussion
Bow pressure

Ord. Col legno tratto Ord. Col legno tratto Ord. (Ord.) Col legno tratto (spicc.) (Overpressure)

Woody and dusty half-light, gloomy and patient, with sudden bursts of statistical activity.

2" 4" 3" 3.5" 2" 3.5" 2" 6" 6" 6" 2.75" 3.25" 5" 6"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest
Styrene
Percussion
Bow pressure

Ord. Col legno tratto Col legno tratto Ord. Col legno tratto (Overpressure) (Overpressure) Wood bowl + chickpeas Circles

Pick up wood bowl and chickpeas. Try to maintain bowing so that it overlaps.

Gentle woody statistical sounds, with bumps and rustles as the chickpeas move along the surface and hit one another.

0.5" 6.5" 7" 10" 6" 5" 13"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest
Wood bowl
Percussion
Tilt

Growl Growl Growl (balanced) Down

8" 7" 11" 20"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partial
Slide
Lowest

Wood bowl + chickpeas

Tilt
Up
Down

8" 4" 6" 6" 9" 4" 8"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Wood bowl

Percussion

Tilt: Up Down

Slow to stop
Change chickpeas for crackling bundle of sticks.

8" 8" 5" 10" 12" 3"

2" 4" 1" 1.5" 1" 4" 1.5" 1" 4" 4.5" 0.5" 3.5" 1.5" 1" 3.5" 1" 6.5"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Bundle of sticks

Percussion

full tension
Twisting
full release

14" 14" 9" 9"

1" 2.75" 1.75" 2" 1" 1" 2.5" 2" 2" 3" 2" 4" 3" 4" 5" 8" 1"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Bundle of sticks

Percussion

full tension
Twisting
full release

11" 9" 1" 1" 7" 4.5" 2.5"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Bundle of sticks
Percussion
full tension
Twisting
full release

8" 7" 11" 15"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Bundle of sticks
Percussion
full tension
Twisting
full release

Breath ad lib. sempre

9" 8" 8" 8" 8"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb.
Slide
Lowest

Bundle of sticks
Percussion
full tension
Twisting
full release

Switch back to woodbowl and chickpeas.

6" 7" 4" 6" 2" 3.5" 3.5" 3" 9"

Trombone
Dynamics
Highest
Emb / Partial
Slide
Lowest

Wood bowl
Percussion