Mary Bellamy
Abrasion (2011) – for solo amplified cello
Commissioned by: Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival
Supported by: the University of Huddersfield
Duration: 19’

Tuning:

Performance Notes:

- Sounding pitch is written on the upper stave, stopped pitch on the lower stave.
- At bars 81-111 three staves are used to show the right and left hand separately and the stopped pitch. This passage is without the bow.
- Bars 133 onwards include passages where bowing across all 4 strings is indicated above the stave with the rhythm specified.
- Accidentals count throughout the bar.

- Dampened string, often used with distortion

- Extra bow pressure to produce distortion

- Rapid, wide gliss around the given pitches. Always appears with distortion

- Finger percussion

- Loud slap on all four strings

- Slap on all four strings followed by strummed release. Always appears with open strings.

- Fast rubbing of strings with fingernail

- Microtonal fluctuations around the given harmonic
This work was written in collaboration with cellist Séverine Ballon and includes some performance techniques relating to air sounds and unpitched sounds developed through her own work as an improviser.