

Songs without Words/Lieder Ohne Worte I (2002)

Hans Roels

a commission for the ensemble Q-O2

for voice, viola, percussion and mixer

The voice and percussion may be amplified (percussion with a contact microphone); the viola also if necessary.

Percussion: a big cardboard box.

Mixer: necessary: equalizer with high, middle and low knobs and two microphone inputs (to produce noise).

The four instruments play in their own tempo, chronometers are used for the timing (the piece starts at 10", first 10 seconds for a comfortable beginning), the voice listens to a sound track (a kind of click track with chords) with one small earphone.

From 2'46" until 3'10" the instruments do play in the same tempo!

VOICE (amplified)

-this is not just normal singing but "open whistling": tout the lips –like whistling- but use less strength compared to whistling and open your mouth a bit more; result: a pitch with a lot of air and noise, very silent.

-this "open whistling" causes fast glissandi between two pitches; the notation of slower glissandi is:



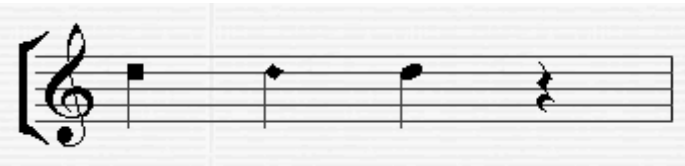
= the triangle-note isn't played but represents the duration of the glissando



= breathe audibly through the microphone, the note represents the duration

VIOLA

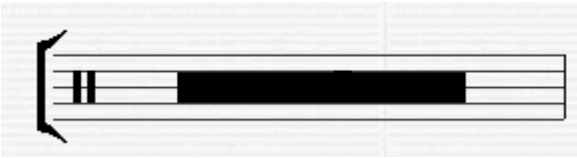
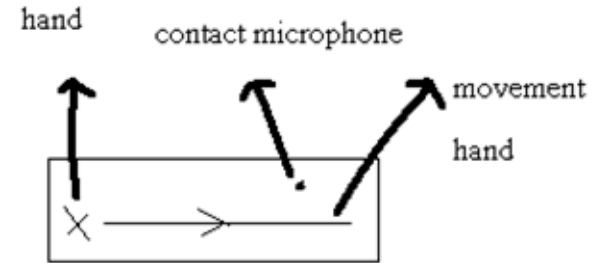
-scordatura: tune C-string to Bb



= first note: only noise, no pitch (ponticello); second note: clear pitch with a lot of noise (left hand almost on top of the string, less pressure on the string with left hand); third note: normal playing

PERCUSSION

= rub over the cardboard box (noise),
place (different sound according to the
distance from contact microphone):



fingers:

RH

5 little finger
4 ring finger
3 middle finger
2 fore finger
1 thumb

LH

1
2
3
4
5

A musical staff with five lines. The top three lines are labeled 'RH' and the bottom two lines are labeled 'LH'. The RH lines are numbered 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 from top to bottom, corresponding to 'little finger', 'ring finger', 'middle finger', 'fore finger', and 'thumb'. The LH lines are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 from top to bottom. A double bar line is on the left side of the staff.

= the staff with 5 lines doesn't represent the pitches but the fingers

MIXER

-the noise (rausch) is produced by turning the GAIN knobs of the microphone-inputs completely open; the equalizer modifies this noise; the three lines of the staff represent the high, middle and low knob of this equalizer, the small numbers (7 9 12 15 17) show how far the knobs should be opened; the numbers from a clock are used (12 = middle, 7 = softest level, 17= loudest level); the black blocks represent the noise and the timing (duration).

Ohne Worte I (2002)

Hans Roels

♩ = ca. 54

10"

gliss. gliss. gliss.

3

(26")

pp sempre molto rubato

♩ = ca. 60

tempo rubato

10"

(21")

pp sempre

♩ = ca. 54

10"

5 3 3

fingertip - rub

p

fingertip - rub

more fingers-----> hand palm

(28")

10"

High 15

Medium 7

Low 7

pp

14" 17 18" 7

22" 26"

High 7

Medium 7

Low 7

17

pp

Voice

30" whistle p pp p gliss. gliss.

Vla

34" pp bow slow bow acc. bow fast bow slower-more pressure 52"

perc.

34" p fingernail-slowly < p

mix.

30" 34" 38" 42" 46" 50" pp p

Voice

54" gliss. (56") 1'03" 3 5 gliss. gliss.

Vla

1'02" bridge pp fingerboard (just beside fingers LH) (1'10")

perc.

fingertip < p 1'05" p 3

mix.

54" 58" 1'02" 1'06" pp 7 9 (9) 7

Voice

1'10" whistle (1'20") mp

Vla

1'22" = ca.90 gliss. gliss. pp sempre

perc.

1'26" fingernails LH - RH 3 mp

mix.

1'10" 1'13" (9) 17 mf

ohne worte I

5

Voice

$1'34''$ $1'35''$ whistle

$(1'46'')$

mp

Vla

fingerboard

gliss.

$(1'42'')$

perc.

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 90$

$1'46''$ fingertip

pp

3

5

3

3

3

Voice

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 90$ $1'50''$ $1'51''$ animato

p

in

f

$(2'07'')$

Vla

$1'50''$

gliss.

gliss.

$(2'02'')$

$2'07''$

perc.

stringendo

A tempo

$(2'03'')$

5

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

2'10"

Voice

2'11" *p* *f* *in* (2'18") *in* 2'25" *in*

Vla

gliss. *gliss.* *gliss.* 3

perc.

2'10" 5 3 5 3 **ritenuto** **A tempo** (2'23")

mix.

2'10" 2'14" 2'18" 2'22" 2'26" 17 9 9 9 15 7 *p*

3'18" $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$ in *pp* *calmo*

3'26" 10" 10"

Voice *pp* *sempre*

Vla $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$ 3'20" *arco* *pp* *gliss.* *gliss.* *pp* *with fingers LH* (3'41") *pp* *sempre*

perc. 3'18" $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 60$ *fingertip* *p* *fingertip* *p* *fingertip - press hard* (3'37") \times° *tennis ball* *pp* *with coin (money)*

mix. 3'18" 3'22" 3'26" 3'30" 3'34" 3'38"

7 7 7 7 7 7 17 *pp* *mp* *pp*

The musical score consists of four staves:

- Voice:** Starts at 3'42" with the word "in" written above a quarter note. A long horizontal line above the staff indicates a 10" duration. The staff contains a whole note with a sharp sign (#) and a fermata.
- Vla:** Features a series of chords and a glissando (gliss.) indicated by a line with a diamond shape.
- perc.:** Shows a continuous rhythmic pattern with two thick black bars and double slashes (//) indicating specific points in the piece.
- mix.:** Divided into four segments by vertical dashed lines, with time markers 3'42", 3'46", 3'50", and 3'54" above each segment. The first segment has a thick black bar and a wedge-shaped graphic below it.

3'58" *pp sempre* *sing/blow closer and closer to the microphone - at the end only the sound/noise of blowing (no whistling any more)*

Voice

Vla

perc.

mix.

3'58" 4'02" 4'06" 4'10"