

vi reiser
wir reisen we journey

for
Piano w. resitation and Percussion w. resitation, Computer and amplification

Knut Vaage
Text: Helga G. Eriksen

Written for Leon Milo and Susanne Kessel to be premiered at Beethovenfest in Bonn Sept. 2007

Computer programming/sound design/recording of samplings: Leon Milo
Ideas and performance of piano/perc./voice samplings: Knut Vaage
Text recitation for computer: Helga. G. Eriksen

Translation:
German: Susanne Kessel and Ole Fredrik Kvamme
English: Perry McPartland

Technical needs: PA, 4 speakers quadrafonic, computer w. MAX/MSP, 2 mics on Piano, Percussion and 2 recitation-mics

ABOUT THE SCORE:

Accidentals apply throughout the measure within the same octave. Trills are chromatic (1/2 step)
Delay is possible on all text parts (Senza misura) except bar 80 to 88
The recitation parts may be performed live or programmed as playback into the computer

PERCUSSION LIST:

Marimba, 3 Temple Blocks, Slit Drum (w. 2 indef. low pitches),
"Octopad" or other 8pad percussion controller playable with mallets

DURATION:

Approximate 12 min.

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Score at Music Information Centre Norway, P.Box 2674 Solli, N-0203 OSLO, info@mic.no

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Prologue (♩ = c. 88)

Recitative

Piano

Recitative

Percussion

Computer/Oct. *)

Marimba

(4 speakers quadrafonic)
Mar. cloud delay (continues until stop mic. effects)

**) Pno. and Mar. independent tempos (not in sync.)

(Z = tremolo)

f *mp* *marc.* *f* *15^{ma}* *8^{va}* *8^{va}* *ppp sub.* *mf*

8^{vb} *p* *pp* *mf* *p leggiero* *pp* *mp* *8^{vb} ppp dolciss. u.c.*

silent pressure, lowest white and black cluster w. palm of hand

*) 8 lines for Octopad used as a controller - top to bottom
line 1: sample off
line 2: pno. mic. effect
line 3: mar. mic. effect
line 4: mic effects off
line 5: voice mic. effect
line 6: playback sampl. text edit
line 7: playback sampl. poem
line 8: playback sampl. music

**) play shorter (i.e. half note, and then make rest to next chord)
to make space for the delay

Rec. [Empty staff]

Pno. *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *mp marc.* *p leggiero* *mf leggiero*

ppp *dolciss.* *pp*

8^{vb} *tre corde* *u.c.* *tre corde* *u.c.* *tre corde* *p leggiero* *8^{vb-1}*

Rec. [Empty staff]

Perc. [Empty staff]

Comp. [Empty staff]

Mrb. [Empty staff]

17 **Senza misura** *******

whisper close to mic
wir reisen wir reisen

(ord. voice)
wir reisen wir reisen im strassenlärm

gehen wir ohne waffen

lassen alles hinter uns während das laub umherwirbelt

**) play shorter (i.e. quarter note, and then make rest to next chord) to make space for the delay

Intermezzo I (♩ = c. 88)

Pno. and Mar. independent tempos (not in sync.)

(Z = tremolo)

pppp

u.c.

Rec. [Empty staff]

Perc. [Empty staff]

Comp. playback whistling sound from pno strings and cymb. etc.

whisper close to mic
we journey we journey

(ord. voice)
we journey we journey in the sounds from the streets

we go without weapons

leaving everything behind while the leaves whirl about

piano cloud delay stop sample playback

very compr., stacc. attacs from voice samples

stop mic. effect

(pa) (pl)

Mrb. *f leggiero* *mf* *p < f*

***) Delay is possible on all text parts (Senza misura) except bar 80 to 88.
The recitation parts may be performed live or programmed as playback into the computer

Rec. [Staff]

Pno. [Staff]

Rec. [Staff]

Perc. [Staff]

Comp. [Staff]

Mrb. [Staff]

(po) (ke) (pl) (po) (fl) (ho)

mp *pp* *mf* *mp* *f* *p* *mf* *pp* *f* *mp*

33

Rec. *Senza misura* whisper close to mic *p* (increasing in volume, but not dramatically) (ord. voice) *mp* whisper close to mic *mf* (ord. voice) *f*

wir reisen wir reisen wir passieren mit urnen in plastiktüten wir reisen wir reisen wir fliegen mit unseren händen über dem kopf

Pno. *non cresc.*

Rec. whisper close to mic *p* (increasing in volume, but not dramatically) (ord. voice) *mp* whisper close to mic *mf* (ord. voice) *f*

we journey we journey we pass with urns in plastic bags we journey we journey we fly with our hands above our head

Perc. improvise fills on Log drum (small sounds, sparingly) *non cresc.* add Temple Blocks gradually gradually into rapidly impr. solo

Comp. (de) 5 6 7 8 9 10

vi reiser vi reiser vi passerer med krukker i plastposar vi reiser vi reiser vi flyr med hendene over hovudet

Mrb. *mf*

41 Intermezzo II

approx. 30 sec.

Senza misura

Rec. *whisper close to mic*
 Pno. *ad lib., slowly* → *ad lib., rapidly*
 Perc. *improvise small sounds (i.e. on strings)*
 Comp. *ambient background, samplings from ininside pno./ perc.instr*
 Mrb. *secco, leggero* *p* → *f* → *fff*

Rec. *whisper close to mic*
 Perc. *improvise small sounds (i.e. bowings etc.)*
 Comp. *stop mic. effect*
 Mrb. *ad lib., rapidly* → *ad lib., slowly*

Lyrics:
 Rec. wir reisen wir reisen
 Perc. we journey we journey
 Comp. vi reiser vi reiser
 Mrb. vi reiser vi reiser

46

Intermezzo III

between 7 - 21 sec.

Rec. (ord. voice) *whisper close to mic* (ord. voice)
 Pno. *ad lib.* *f*

Rec. (ord. voice) *whisper close to mic* (ord. voice)
 Perc. *stop sample playback*

Comp. (ambient continues)
 Mrb. *ad lib.* *f*

Lyrics:
 Rec. wir wandern durch alte sprachen neu für uns wir reisen wir reisen ohne worte wir treffen uns aufs neue wir reisen wir reisen wir reisen zwischendrin ohne gepäck
 Perc. we wander through old tongues new for us we journey we journey without words we meet anew we journey we journey we journey in between without baggage
 Comp. vi vandrar i gamle språk nye for oss vi reiser vi reiser utan ord møtest vi på nytt vi reiser vi reiser vi reiser imellom utan bagasje

54 **Tempo I** (♩ = c. 88)

Senza misura

Intermezzo IV (♩ = c. 104)

Rec. *whisper close to mic* (ord. voice)

wir reisen
wir reisen

wir bewegen uns
aufeinander zu

umeinander herum

entfernen uns voneinander

Pno. *leggiero*

14:12

15^{ma} 8^{va}

secco a la pizz., groovy

8^{vb} f

Rec. *whisper close to mic* (ord. voice)

we journey
we journey

we move
towards each other

round each other

away from each other

Perc.

Comp.

18 19 20 21

vi reiser
vi reiser

vi rører oss
mot kvarandre

rundt kvarandre

frå kvarandre

choose between ad lib., or groovy w. Pno.

Mrb. *fp* *f* *f*

60

Rec.

Pno.

Rec.

Perc.

Comp.

Mrb.

8^{vb}



66

Rec. whisper close to mic wir reisen
wir reisen wir reisen
wir reisen

Pno. *mp*

Rec. whisper close to mic we journey
we journey we journey
we journey

Perc.

Comp. Mar. cloud delay (22) (23)

Mrb. *ppp*

improvise fills, short fragments of phrase, octaves ad lib.

***) play shorter (i.e. quarter note, and then make rest to next chord) to make space for the delay

73

Intermezzo V (♩ = c. 72)

Rec. wir legen unsere handflächen
gegeneinander wir treffen uns wieder

Pno. *p* (grace notes always anticipated)

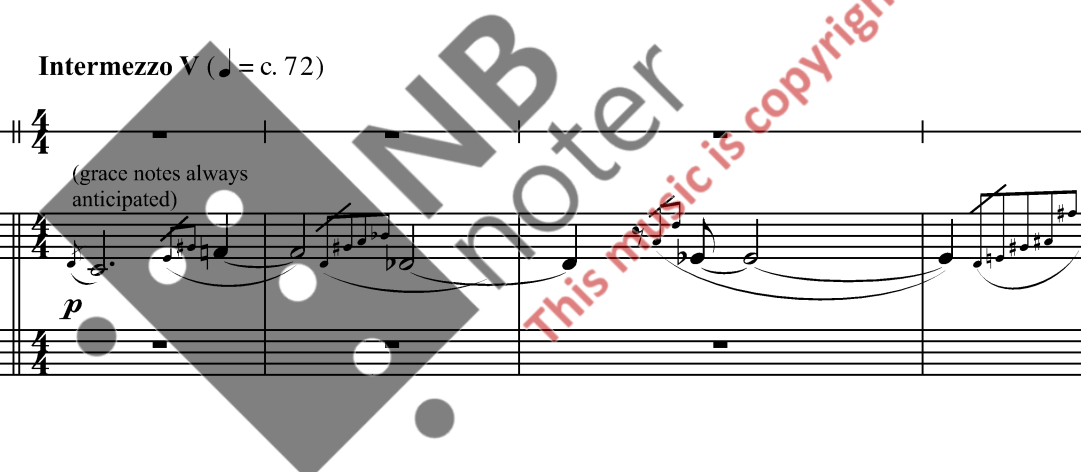
Rec. we place our palms
against each others we meet once more

Perc.

Comp. (24) (25) playback soft ambient sampling of all 3 voices/languages (superimposed multi-polyphony) stop sample playback

Mrb. *pp* stop mic. effect

vi legg handflatene mot kvarandre vi møtest atter



80 **Senza misura**

Rec. 80 in sync. with computer voice
improvise fills, small sounds (i.e. scratch on bass strings/knockings, etc.)

Pno.

Rec. in sync. with computer voice

Perc. in sync. with computer voice

Comp. granulation/flanger on resitation (all voices) playback voice samplings, ad lib.

Mrb.

wir gehen fort und kehren zurück wir gucken heim mit neuen erschreckten blicken wir können nichts wieder erkennen wir haben neue augen die häuser und felder sind kleiner geworden es kommt ein stärkerer gestank aus den gräben das brot und der wein schmecken nicht so wie früher kalte morgen gegen die haut

we go away and turn back we view our home with new anxious looks we can't recognise it we have new eyes the houses and the fields have become smaller there is a stronger stench from the ditches the bread and the wine don't taste as they did before cold mornings against the skin

vi dreg bort og vender tilbake vi ser heimover med nye skremte blick vi kjenner oss ikkje att vi har fått nye auge husa og åkrane har blitt mindre det er ein sterkare stank frå gropene brødet og vinen smakar ikkje som før kald morgon mot huden

89 **Intermezzo VI** (♩ = c. 104)

Rec. 4/4 ad lib. 15^{ma} 8^{va}

Pno. *f* (loco) *ppp* very slow gliss. ad lib. on strings from lowest to highest optional: vary rhythm by playing fragments ad lib.

Rec. **Senza misura** (in tempo ♩ = c. 92) (ad lib. spaces between rhythmic cells)

Perc. *Red*

Comp. stop sample playback stop mic. effect playback distant small bells pno. high string pizz etc.

Mrb. *ppp*

wir kehren zurück wir reisen heim wir können nichts wieder erkennen

we come back we journey home we can't recognise it

vi vender tilbake vi reiser heim vi kjenner oss ikkje att

95 die geräusche der nachbaren haben sich zum schlechten verändert die lichter der strassenlaternen sind schärfer geworden oder gelöscht Intermezzo VII (♩ = c. 126)

Rec. *Groovy*

Pno. *ff*

Perc. *Groovy*
Temple Blocks
Slit Drum

Comp. stop sample playback *ff*

Mrb. (in tempo ♩ = c. 92)

lyden frå naboane har endra seg til det verre
lysa frå gatelyktene har blitt skarpere
eller slokna

the noises from the neighbours have altered for the worse
the lights of the street lamps have become sharper
or extinguished

103

Rec.

Pno.

Perc.

Comp.

Mrb. *ff*

playback marimba bass trem. (lowest note poss)
optional: add pitched 2 octaves down to create sub bass

CONT. UNTIL STOP SAMPLING STROKE

x = optional: drop F# when to awkward

Rec. **x = pitch ad lib. (quasi cluster)**

Pno. **pp**
u.c.

Rec.

Perc.

Comp. Mar. cloud delay

Mrb. **ppp**

(SAMPLING) →

Senza misura

Intermezzo VIII

Rec. **der geschmack von metall ist nicht von der zunge zu entfernen** **können wir immer noch den staub mit neuen augen sehen** **können wir immer noch den entfernten larm mit neuen ohren hören** **können wir immer noch das in die erde gesunkene blut riechen**

Pno. **improvise fills, small sounds (i.e. scratch on bass strings/knockings, etc.)**
tre corde
silent pressure, lowest white and black cluster w. palm of hand

Rec. **the taste of metal can't be removed from the tongue** **can we still see the dust with new eyes** **can we still hear the distant clamour with new ears** **can we still smell the blood sunk in the earth**

Perc. **improvise fills, small sounds on edges of instr. w. handles (use rests)**

Comp. **(Mar. bass sampling continues)** **granulation/flanger on resitation (all voices)** **stop mic. effect** **stop sample playback**

Mrb. **playback cymbal and piano scratches (ambient but harsh)** **smaken av metall er ikkje til å få bort frå tunga** **kan vi ennå sjå støvet med nye auge** **kan vi ennå høyre gnyet med nye øyre** **kan vi ennå lukte blodet trekt ned i jorda**

122

Rec. **Senza misura** whisper close to mic
 wir reisen
 wir reisen

Pno. *leggiere*
 14:12
 ad lib. patterns and fills with wire brushes on strings
 Ped. ad lib (not too much - immitate Marimba)

Rec. (ord. voice)
 wir reisen dazwischen

Rec. whisper close to mic
 we journey
 we journey

Perc. (ord. voice)
 we journey in between

Comp. palyback sub bass Mar. trem., ambient voices, inside pno (optional: perc.)
 (44) vi reiser
 vi reiser
 (45) vi reiser imellom
 ad lib. patterns and fills with wire brushes

Mrb. *fp*

126

Rec. **Smorzando** between 7 - 21 sec.
 wir entfernen uns vom bekannten
 und kommen zum unbekanntem heim
 wir reisen
 wir bleiben
 der sechste sinn funktioniert nicht mehr

Pno. make the patterns more and more fragmented, with gradually more rests into a *morendo*

Rec. we go away from the known
 and come back to the unknown
 we journey
 we remain
 the sixth sense no longer works

Perc.

Comp. (46) vi dreg bort fra det kjente
 (47) og kjem heim til det ukjente
 (48) vi reiser
 (49) vi vert verande
 (50) den sjette sansen fungerer ikkje lengre
 (fade sampling)

Mrb. make the patterns more and more fragmented, with gradually more rests into a *morendo*

VI REISER
Helga G. Eriksen

vi reiser
vi reiser
i lyden frå gatene
vi dreg
utan våpen
vi forlet alt
medan lauvet virvlar opp

vi passerer
med krukker i plastposar
vi flyr
med hendene over hovudet

vi vandrar
i gamle språk
nye for oss
utan ord
møtest vi på nytt
vi reiser
vi reiser
vi reiser imellom
utan bagasje

vi rører oss
mot kvarandre
rundt kvarandre
frå kvarandre

vi reiser
vi reiser
vi legg handflatene
mot kvarandre
vi møtest atter

vi dreg bort
og vender tilbake
vi ser heimover
med nye skremte blikk
vi kjenner oss ikkje att
vi har fått nye auge
husa og åkrane har blitt mindre
det er ein sterkare stank frå gropene
brødet og vinen
smakar ikkje som før
kald morgon mot huda

vi vender tilbake
vi reiser heim
vi kjenner oss ikkje att
lyden frå naboane
har endra seg til det verre
lysa frå gatelyktene
har blitt skarpere
eller slokna

smaken av metall
er ikkje til å få bort frå tunga
kan vi ennå sjå
støvet med nye auge
kan vi ennå høyre
gnyet med nye øyre
kan vi ennå lukte
blodet trekt ned i jorda

vi reiser imellom
vi dreg bort
frå det kjente
og kjem heim
til det ukjente
vi reiser
vi vert verande
den sjette sansen
fungerer ikkje lengre

WIR REISEN

Helga G. Eriksen
zu deutsch: Susanne Kessel und Ole Fredrik Kvamme

wir reisen
wir reisen
im strassenlärm
gehen wir
ohne waffen
lassen alles hinter uns
während das laub umherwirbelt

wir passieren
mit urnen in plastiktüten
wir fliegen
mit unseren händen über dem kopf

wir wandern
durch alte sprachen
neu für uns
ohne worte
wir treffen uns aufs neue
wir reisen
wir reisen
wir reisen zwischendrin
ohne gepäck

wir bewegen uns
aufeinander zu
umeinander herum
entfernen uns voneinander

wir reisen
wir reisen
wir legen unsere handflächen
gegeneinander
wir treffen uns wieder

wir gehen fort
und kehren zurück
wir gucken heim
mit neuen erschreckten blicken
wir können nichts wieder erkennen
wir haben neue augen
die häuser und felder sind kleiner geworden
es kommt ein stärkerer gestank aus den gräben
das brot und der wein
schmecken nicht so wie früher
kalte morgen gegen die haut

wir kehren zurück
wir reisen heim
wir können nichts wieder erkennen
die geräusche der nachbaren
haben sich zum schlechten verändert
die lichter der strassenlaternen
sind schärfer geworden
oder gelöscht

der geschmack von metall
ist nicht von der zunge zu entfernen
können wir immer noch
den staub mit neuen augen sehen
können wir immer noch
den entfernten larm
mit neuen ohren hören
können wir immer noch
das in die erde gesunkene blut riechen

wir reisen dazwischen
wir entfernen uns
vom bekannten
und kommen
zum unbekanntem heim
wir reisen
wir bleiben
der sechste sinn
funktioniert nicht mehr

WE JOURNEY

by Helga G. Eriksen
translation by Perry McPartland

we journey
we journey
in the sounds from the streets
we go
without weapons
leaving everything behind
while the leaves whirl about

we pass
with urns in plastic bags
we fly
with our hands above our head

we wander
through old tongues
new for us
without words
we meet anew
we journey
we journey
we journey in between
without baggage

we move
towards each other
round each other
away from each other

we journey
we journey
we place our palms
against each others
we meet once more

we go away
and turn back
we view our home
with new anxious looks
we can't recognise it
we have new eyes
the houses and the fields have become smaller
there is a stronger stench from the ditches
the bread and the wine
don't taste as they did before
cold mornings against the skin

we come back
we journey home
we can't recognise it
the noises from the neighbours
have altered for the worse
the lights of the street lamps
have become sharper
or extinguished

the taste of metal
can't be removed from the tongue
can we still see
the dust with new eyes
can we still hear
the distant clamour
with new ears
can we still smell
the blood sunk in the earth

we journey in between
we go away
from the known
and come back
to the unknown
we journey
we remain
the sixth sense
no longer works