

nine

labyrinths

/ 2021

/ James Saunders

[solo guitar]

## PERFORMANCE INSTRUCTIONS

The pieces can be played in any order, as a complete set, or as individually selected groupings.

For each labyrinth, begin in any bar.

On reaching the end of a bar, either continue to the next bar directly after it, or follow one of the coloured lines from the end of the bar to the beginning of another bar.

When following a line, move either forwards or backwards in the sequence of bars.

In this way, it is possible to loop endlessly through each piece.

Finish a piece at any point.

Do not plan routes in advance.

Duration is variable.

Dynamics and expression are free, but see the notes below for some suggestions as to the character of each piece.

Generally empty noteheads are long or slow, and filled noteheads are shorter or faster

A short pause can be made at the end of any bar as required.

It is likely that moving from one bar to another along a line may result in a natural break or pause.

## NOTES

first: flowing and fairly even, mostly continuous with occasional pauses

second: flowing and wavelike, perhaps with variations in tempo

third: quite slow and measured, occasionally with a faster bar, and some pauses

fourth: slow and let ring

fifth: mostly an even pulse, tolling

sixth: flurries of movement and then held

seventh: spacious and resonant

eighth: flowing and even, with moments of rest

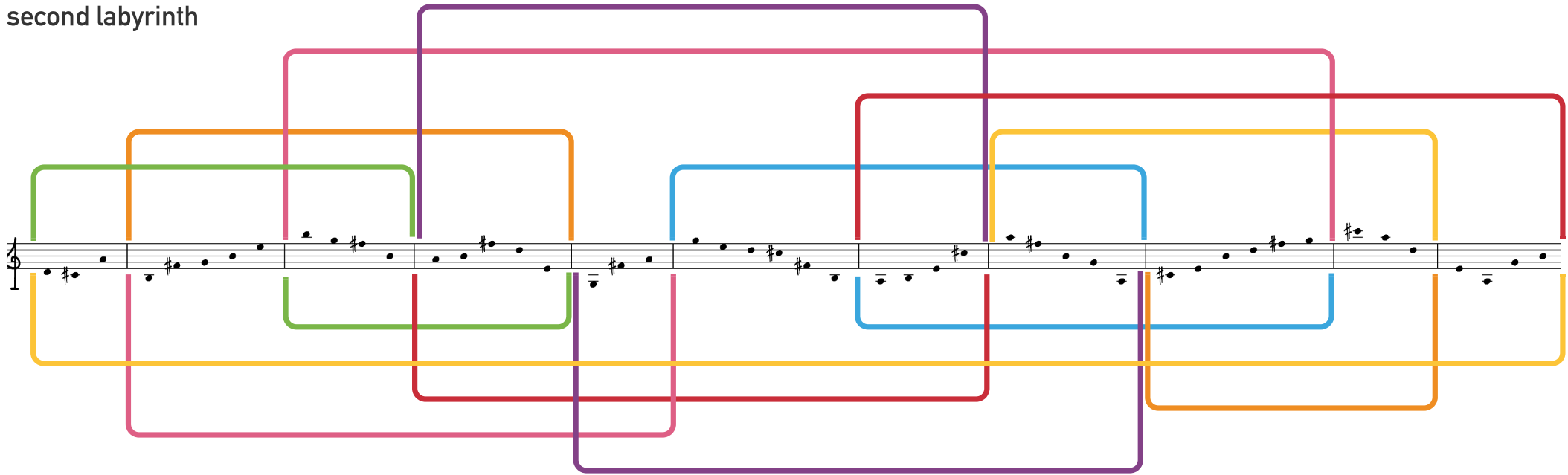
ninth: very slow, spacious, and even

first labyrinth

James Saunders

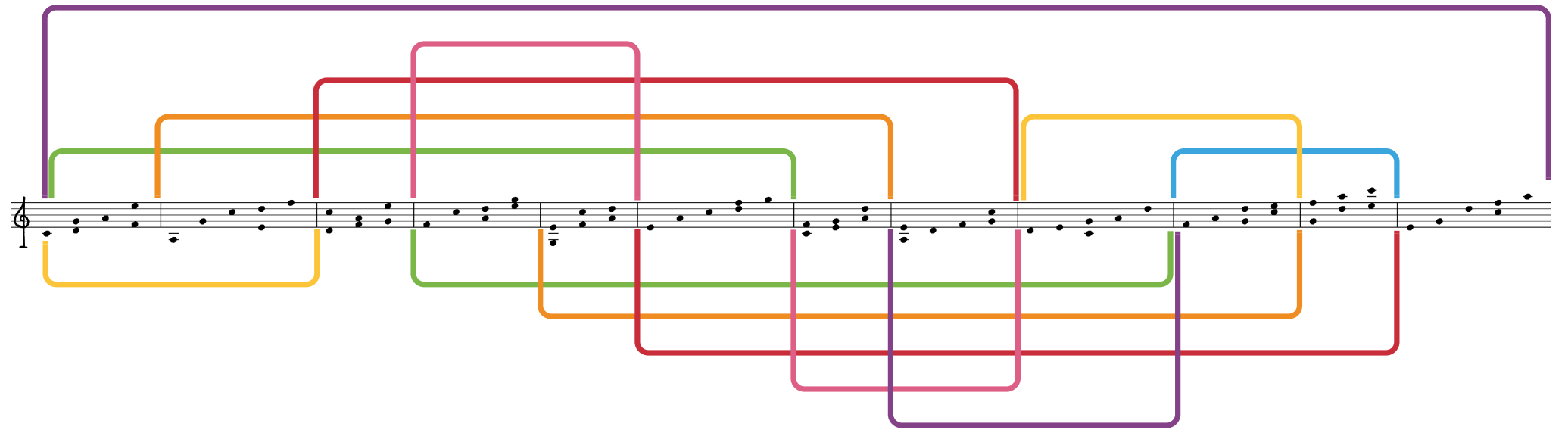
A musical score on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score consists of ten measures of music, primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes. Overlaid on the staff is a complex, multi-colored labyrinth. The labyrinth is formed by several overlapping rectangular paths in various colors: purple, red, orange, green, blue, and yellow. These paths weave through the notes and rests of the music, creating a visual maze that corresponds to the structure of the piece. The colors of the paths are: purple (topmost), red, orange, green, blue, and yellow (bottommost).

# second labyrinth



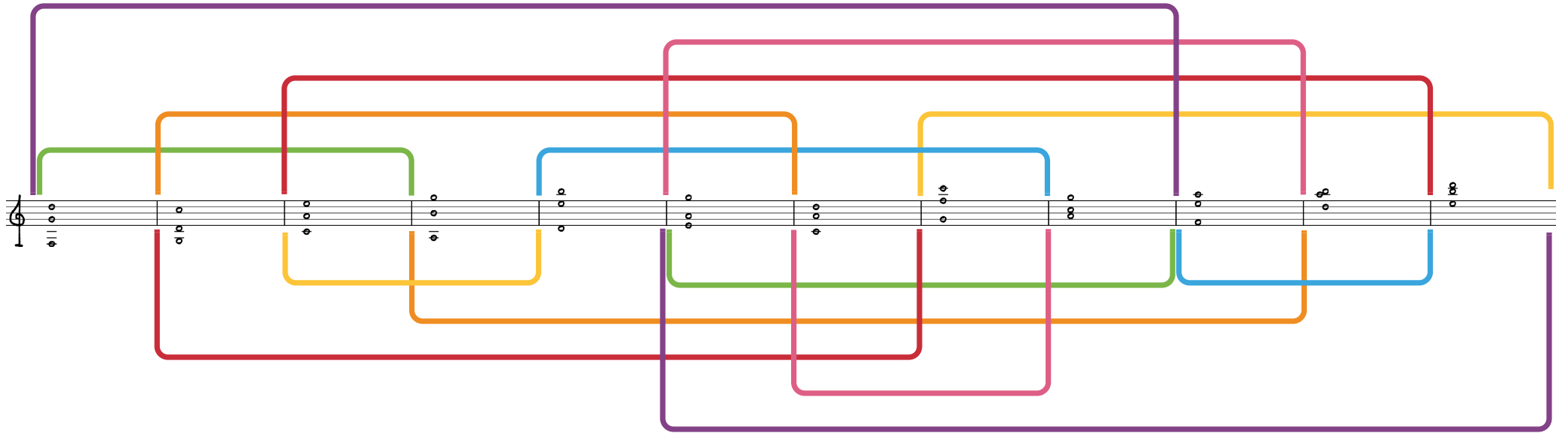
third labyrinth

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fourth labyrinth

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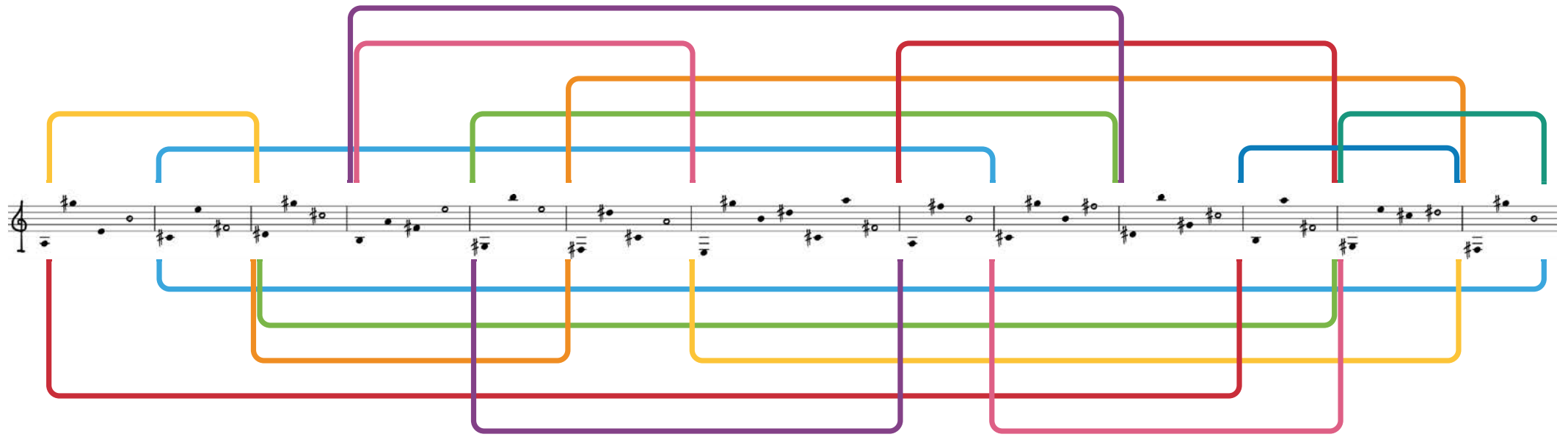
fifth labyrinth

James Saunders

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "fifth labyrinth" by James Saunders. The score is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as eighth and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The piece is characterized by a complex, multi-colored labyrinthine graphic that is overlaid on the musical staff. This graphic consists of several overlapping, rectangular paths in different colors: purple, red, yellow, green, blue, and orange. These paths create a series of interconnected loops and crossings, resembling a maze. The paths are drawn in a way that they appear to follow the horizontal lines of the musical staff, with some paths starting and ending at specific points along the staff. The overall effect is a visual representation of a labyrinth, which is likely related to the title of the piece.

sixth labyrinth

James Saunders





seventh labyrinth

Janus Saunders

The image features a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The staff contains 12 measures of music, each with a single eighth note. The notes are: B-flat, A, G, F, E, D, C, B, A, G, F, E. Overlaid on the staff is a complex labyrinth consisting of multiple overlapping paths in various colors: orange, green, red, yellow, purple, pink, and blue. Each path starts at a specific measure and ends at another, creating a series of interconnected loops and crossings. The paths are drawn with thick, rounded lines.

eighth labyrinth

James Saunders

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "eighth labyrinth" by James Saunders. The score is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of a sequence of notes, including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests. Overlaid on the staff are eight distinct, colorful paths that form a complex labyrinthine structure. These paths are: orange, blue, green, red, purple, yellow, pink, and blue. Each path starts at a specific point on the staff and ends at another, with some paths crossing each other. The paths are drawn with rounded corners and are set against a white background.

ninth labyrinth

James Saunders

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "ninth labyrinth" by James Saunders. The score is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and *pp* (pianissimo). The piece is characterized by a complex, multi-colored labyrinthine graphic that is overlaid on the musical staff. This graphic consists of numerous overlapping, horizontal and vertical lines in various colors (purple, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, pink) that form a dense, intricate pattern. The lines of the labyrinth are connected to the musical staff, suggesting a relationship between the visual structure and the musical composition. The overall aesthetic is modern and abstract, combining traditional musical notation with contemporary visual art.