imperfections on the surface are occasionally apparent (2009)

James Saunders

programme note

imperfections on the surface are occasionally apparent (2009) is for ten players, each with a coffee cup and five different surfaces. Players draw their cup across their surfaces as a means of sounding them, through a sequence of timed actions. The piece is part of the series divisions that could be autonomous but that comprise the whole (2009-) and was written for the Dogstar Orchestra

performance information

ten players, seated in a line at tables, facing the audience each player has a single card coffee cup and five surfaces each surface should be sonically different, such that there are fifty surfaces in total surfaces should be large enough to allow for continuous friction sounds all actions comprise drawing the coffee cup across a surface to produce a noise/pitch tone as follows:

[drag] constant, steady dragging across the indicated

surface – avoid articulations or direction change

where possible

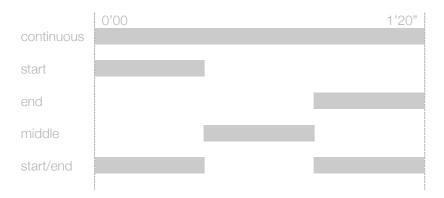
[circle] a faster circling action

J use base of cup on surface

use rim of cup on surface (upside down)

each player has ten score pages

these should be distributed between the players such that each has five pages with actions [1'20"], and five with silences [1'00"] each player should have one of each of the following action placements:



one surface should be used per page (including those with two actions) pages are played in any sequence

use carefully synchronised stopwatches

duration: 11'40"

imperfections on the surface are occasionally apparent was written in September 2009 for the Dogstar Orchestra

coffee up or sorface

[diag] []

[diag] 17 0"

[circle] [0-1/20"

[cride] []

[hing] 17 0 120"

[diay] []

When cup or sufare

[cride] []

[circle] [7]

[diag] []

[circle] [

[diag] []
38"

[chide] Π

[diay] []
28"

coffee cup on sulare

30"

[120]

raffee cup on sufface

33

Whele cup on surface

[diag]\\
5" 37"

41"

[diag][]
39"

33"

[circle] 17 0-47'

48"

[circle]]]

53

[drag] [] 27"

59"

[csccle] []
0
22"

104"

[diay] []

110"

[circle] [

1118"

[diag] [] 2"

[1'20]

36"

[diag][] 44"

[circle] []
38"

[circle] []
4" 38"

caffer cup or suface

[cide] []
37"

[circle] [7]

[dray] []
36"

8" 36"

[diag] [] 0 34"

12"

[diag] [7]

[circle]]

14"

[circle] []
33"

[circle] [7

18"

[civele] []

[dray][]
30"

20

[diag] []
30"

caffee up or surface

[drag] 17 28"

24"

[diay] M

[circle] L1

26

[civde] [

[circle] 17 25"

30"

[cincle] []

100