

These pieces are adaptations to a workshop device used by “Elephant In The Room”, “Structure for Four Players”

In its original form each section is identified by the players in the moment; the clock is not relevant. This piece played in a circle facing inward; ... Apart from the final ensemble at least one player is listening/playing passively at all times

So in the context of our brief Capstone discussion, the question for me is will it work with changes as each single minute passes?

Structure for Four Players (original)

1 + 2

1 + 2 + 3

2 + 3

2 + 3 + 4

3 + 4

3 + 4 + 1

4 + 1

4 + 1 + 2

ALL / or REPEAT /

So put in a time

A piece for four players #1 – in which each player plays two duets and a solo

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8							
	A+B														
		B													
			B+C												
				C											
					C+D										
						D									
							D+A								
								A							

First pair play together for the first minute. Player A stops playing as appropriate during the second minute leaving Player B to solo. Player C joins Player B during minute 3. Player B stops playing as appropriate during minute 4 to enable C to solo ...etc

A piece for four players #2 – each plays a one minute solo and a duet with x2 others.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
A								
	A+B							
		B						
			B+C					
				C				
					C+D			
						D		
							D+A	

First player continues for at least one minute-plus from the start

Second / incoming player comes in at any time after the first minute. First player does not end before second player starts

The first player stops playing “at the appropriate time” time before the end of the “duet” minute and so on

The “even” minutes are solos; the “odd” minutes support duets

The above two pieces may challenge in the “solo” area, which is why perhaps best for players with some confidence/experience (?)

The piece below offers the security of working at all times within a group

A piece for groups.

Players are divided into four groups (equal? unequal? ...)

The horizontal axis of the chart shows numbers that represent each minute of the piece, but could represent any specific / unspecific amount of time

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8								
	A															
		A+B														
			B													
				B+C												
					C											
						C+D										
							D									
								D+A								

Group A plays for one minute

During the second minute members of Group B join; all are “in” by the end of the second minute, and all Group A are out, but there will have been a period of playing ensemble (notionally)

By the start of minute 3, all Group A should have stopped playing, leaving Group B to play for a complete minute before being joined by Group C in minute 4 etc

The ideas above can be offered with other qualifications

Each player may play only one note / sound in a given minute / the piece (I like single note pieces)

Each player should play without silence / tacet

Each player should play a repeated phrase

All playing should be played staccato

Pieces / minutes may be prescribed in terms of dynamics / volume /

Each player may be given instruction / choose to play quickly / slowly

etc etc ...

Note; No guidance here as to how players observe passage of time – so this needs thinking about.

CJ

24.03.18