

Music in Two Dimensions: no.2a

For Lauren Redhead (organist)

Organ:

Preparation

- Bring a small weight to hold down one key.
- Prepare a complex chord in the low-middle register that can be sustained using one hand and one foot.
- Prepare a set of stop changes that can be performed with the free hand.
 - these should be easy enough to perform at a fixed tempo: non-specific, but to be performed metronomically.
 - stop changes should (where possible) be limited to the same register in any given iteration: aim for subtle timbral changes between stops, but obviously some iterations will have to contain less subtle stop changes
- The piece should last a minimum of eight iterations, this amount should be agreed among the players beforehand.

Performance

1. Place the weight on a note approximately an octave above the prepared chord and allow it to sound throughout the piece (excepting one event - see step 4 below).
2. Sustain the chord (the same chord throughout the piece), at a medium/loud volume. Periodically and at a fixed tempo (approximately in the range 30-70bpm), change the stop, alternating between two sounds.
 - sustain this action for 5-30" then stop.
 - pause until the sound has died away (ignoring the weight-sustained note).
3. Repeat step 2, but using different stop changes and at a different tempo.
4. Once in the piece the weight should be removed at the start of step 2, and replaced at the start of the next iteration of step 2, leaving a silence between the events.
 - this should not happen within two events of the start or end of the piece.
5. The final iteration of the piece should use only a single stop, and the chord should be attacked repeatedly at a fixed tempo (replacing the motion of the stops with the motion of the chord)