All the Little Things

A Musical Installation for 2 pianos & 2 guitars

Richard Harding

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This piece is to be performed with the four musicians spaced as widely apart as possible within the space available. Each player has a separate, related, part from which to play. The four parts comprise a number of musical fragments from which the performance is realised as each player, in isolation, chooses fragments at random from the page to be played. There is no particular order in which the fragments should be played, the choice being left to the individual musician.

The fragments draw from three note values; white note heads, which are sustained, black note heads, which are short, and tiny black note heads which are played fleetingly. The fragments are to be played slowly, the precise speed being open to continual variation by the performer as the piece progresses. The generally quiet dynamic may also be varied between *pppp* and *mp* during the performance.

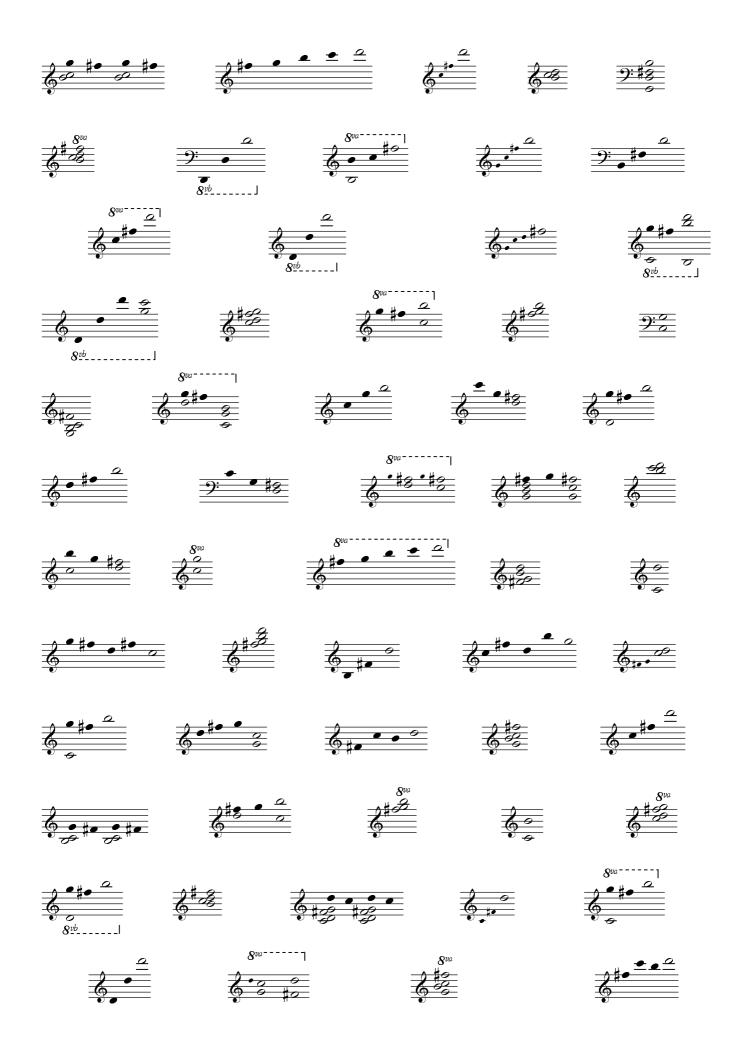
The performance may be of any length, to be decided at the outset by all the players. Once the duration is determined, the players may fill up the space as the will takes them, based on the material in their given part. The musical fragments may be played and repeated in any order. Further, any of the notes that occur in a part may be played in isolation or combined with other such notes to create new fragments. Silent spaces should be interspersed with the musical fragments so the duration of the performance is filled with sound and silence.

With the players in place, the listeners create the final layer of the music for themselves by moving, as they please, around the performance space, between one musician and the next, thus experiencing changes in timbre and harmonic material as they move out of earshot of one instrument and towards another.

If desired, a recorded performance of the piece may be prepared. In this instance, separate recordings of each part should be made and played at a distance from each other, as with a live performance. The individual recordings may be of any practical length for the desired duration of performance. For longer performances, the recordings may be set to loop at the end and repeat. The prepared recordings, in this case, should be of different lengths, so that the repeats will begin at different times and thus ensure a continual change in the juxtaposition of one part to another. A final performance option would involve a mixture one or more live musicians and pre-recorded parts.

All the Little Things - Piano 1.





All the Little Things - Guitar 1.

