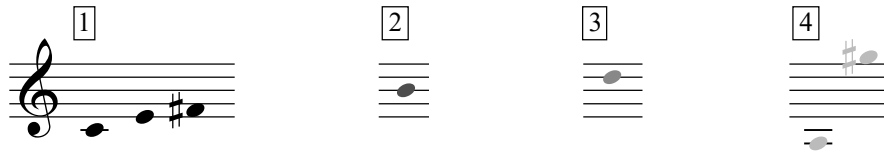


Richard Harding

Four Elements

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2011



Four Elements is for a soloist or mixed ensemble of any size.

The performance is constructed from the combination of the above, numbered, elements.

The three notes of pattern 1 form the basis of the piece, and are to be played most often.

The notes from patterns 2, 3 & 4 are to be included less often. Of these, 2 is to be more frequently played than 3 which is, in turn, more frequent than 4. Thus, a hierarchy of pitch classes is formed.

The rhythmic values of the notes are free and may be played, variously, as long sustained tones or shorter notes, either in isolation or combined into melodic fragments. The given pitches may be played in any order, both within and between cells.

The players are encouraged to listen for, pick up and develop, such melodic fragments as they appear within the ensemble during the performance.

At the outset, all notes are to be played at the written pitch. Ignore any that lie outside your range. As the piece progresses the notes can be gradually moved through different octaves.

The duration of the performance is also left to the discretion of the players involved. This may either be decided in advance, or negotiated in performance.