BUOY

(after Laurence Crane)

for electric organ
and electric appliances

2015/16

Ian Power

Program Note

BUOY (after Laurence Crane) is inspired by Crane's *The Swim* for electric organ. BUOY uses chords from *The Swim* as source material.

The title makes reference to Crane's title: BUOY floats, moored against its surroundings, wavering, dithering, but immersed, tethered.

Special thanks to Amnon Wolman and Musica Nova, Yaron Deutsch with Ensemble Nikel and Tzlil Meudcan.

Ian Power
Baltimore, Md.
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MANUAL

Necessary materials:

- **Electric Organ** with a range from F1-F4, or an octaver or patch which can achieve this range.
- **Audio file** either obtained from the composer or recreated yourself.
- **Three power strips**, in addition to necessary outlets.
- **At least six appliances** dicussed below.

Electric Organ

- A subwoofer for the organ is desirable. The organ sound is at the discretion of the performer, aiming for an immersive sound, with the close intervals creating interference which is not too harsh.
- The piece may be transposed if desired, but alterations to the audio file will be necessary. You also need a sustain pedal, and a volume knob that can be turned while playing, or a volume pedal.
- There is one section in which the organ raises and lowers the volume rhythmically. This can be done either with a volume pedal, or a knob on the console or amplifier, at the discretion of the performer.

Appliances & Power

You will need standalone outlets (or power strips) for the organ, appliance power strip, fan, PA or amplifier, and the source for the audio file if it needs to be plugged in.

On top of this, you will need three dedicated power strips for the appliances, placed along the floor so that they can be switched on and off with a foot.

You will need at least six appliances of your choice, plus a fan with three settings. My setup usually includes a radio (tuned to white noise), a cuisinart, an air mattress inflater, a hand mixer (beaters removed), a vacuum, and a blender. You can place water or other things in the blender/cuisinart to get a sound you like.

Label your power strips 1, 2, and 3. Everything not plugged into one of these power strips should be plugged into the wall, or a separate power strip.

I offer my setup as a default and a guide. You can add more appliances, or different ones, if you like, but you will need to adjust the score to make sure they are all getting turned on and off at the right times. If you have a different setup you are passionate about, I'm happy to consult on how to alter the score. The only requirement is that the appliances,

when switched on and after power is cut, must come back on after power is restored without you having to switch them on again. Certain appliances, like the hand mixer and blender, also have different settings, which I have incorporated into the score. If yours are different, there are many ways to adapt, including just junking those changes.

Power strip 1 is plugged into the wall (or a different strip), and power strips 2 and 3 are both plugged into power strip 1. Here is how I distribute the appliances to power:

Wall
Organ, Fan, computer (if necessary), PA, etc.

Power Strip 1	Power Strip 2	Power Strip 3
Radio	Cuisinart	Vacuum
	Inflater	Blender
	Hand Mixer	

This way you can turn on and off each column of appliances by switching their power strips, or, if all are switched on, you can turn on and off all of the appliances at once by switching power strip 1. You will also need to be able to reach each appliance with your hand or foot to adjust it individually.

Audio File
At one point in the piece, you switch on an audio file and play along with it. I recorded it with an electric guitar; it is a melody that you can create another way if you like, but it should be approximately the same rhythm and intensity of timbre. The file I use is an Audacity project with four seconds of silent lead time so that I can start playing roughly just after the wave form begins. You can use this, or a WAV or MP3 version, at your discretion. If you create your own file, that will require altering the score, but not drastically.

Score
There are two versions of the score: one with my appliances labeled, and one with blank spaces for you to label yourself.

The score makes use of breves and breve rests.

 = switch on

 = switch off

Accidentals only apply to immediate repetitions.

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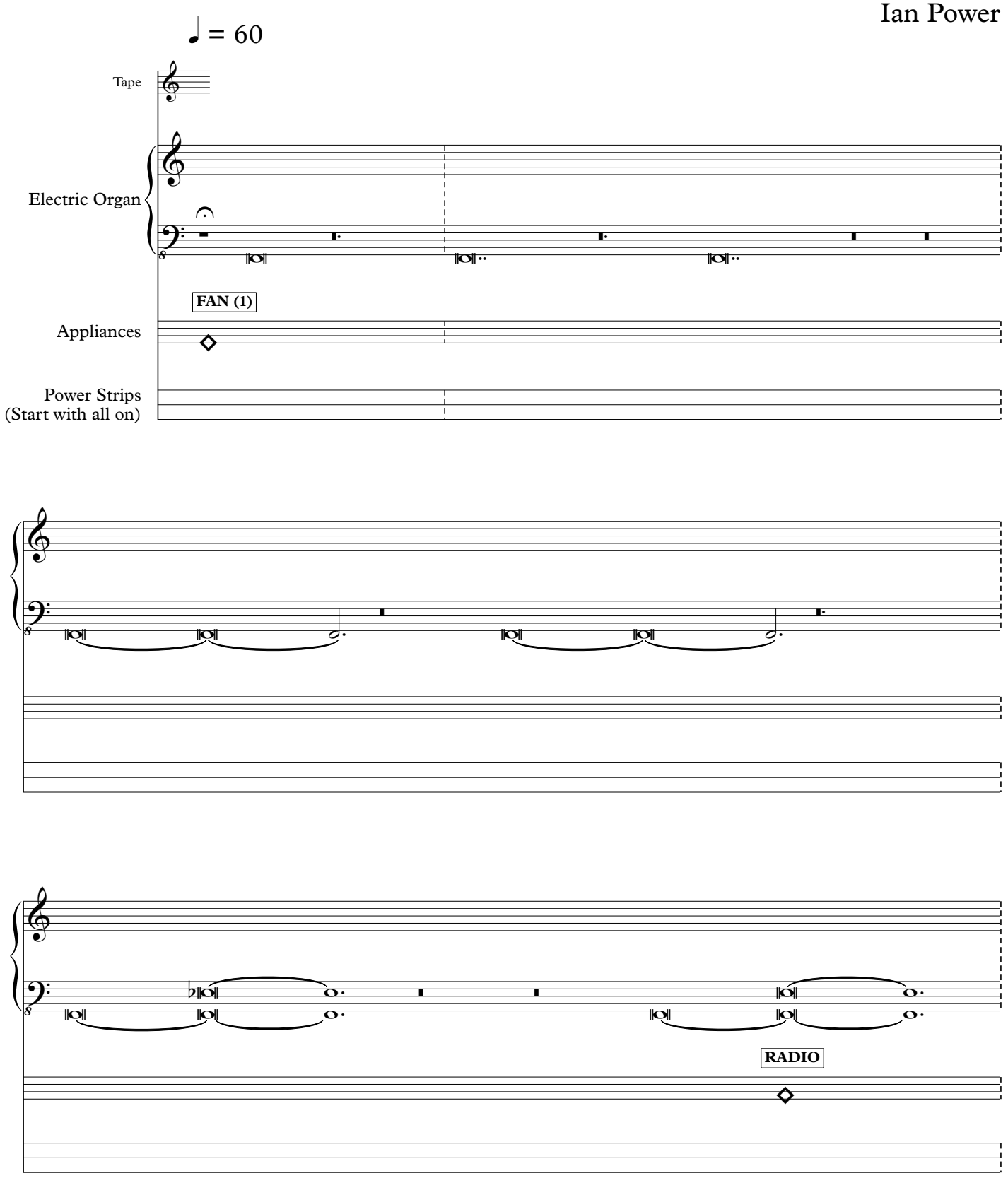
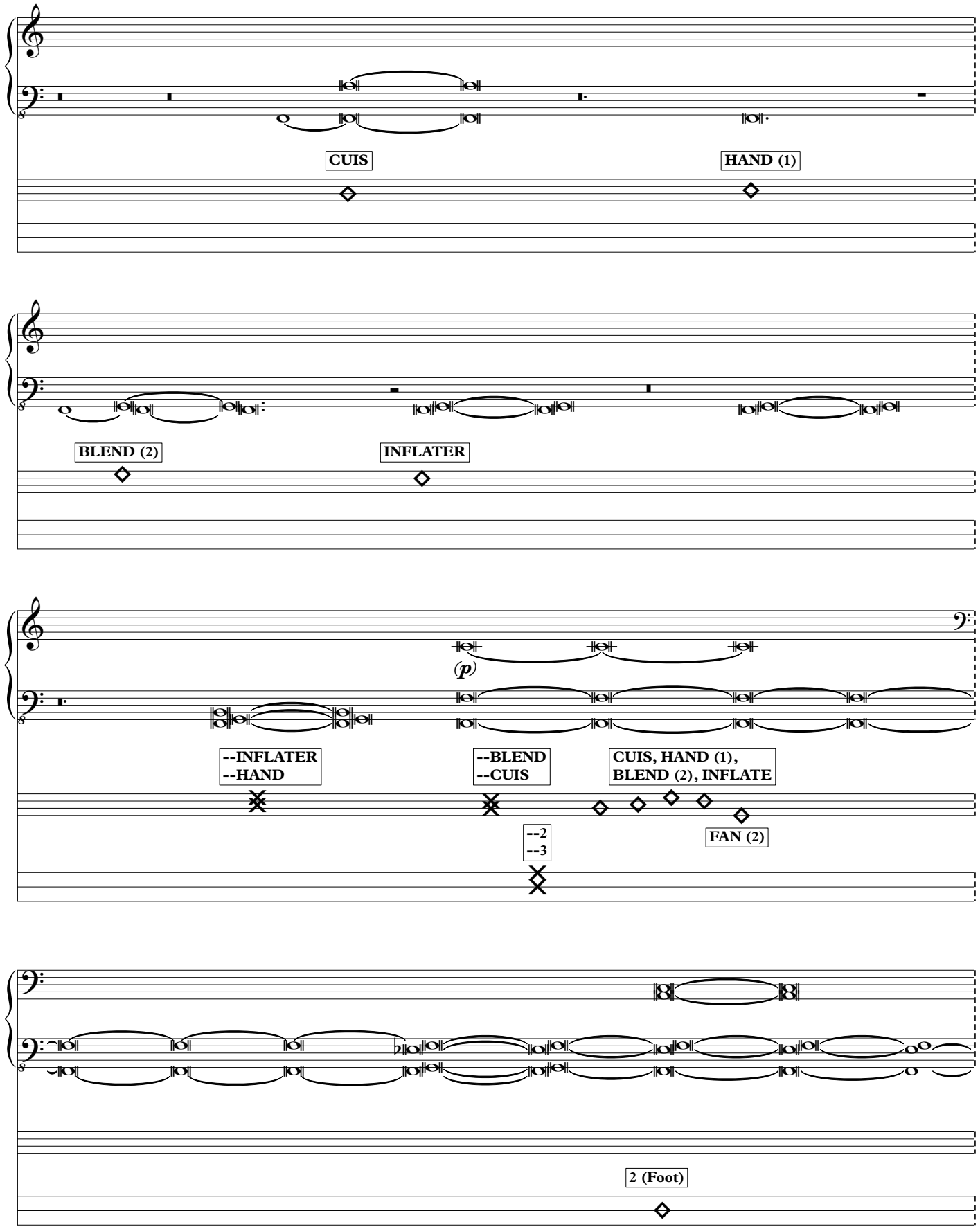
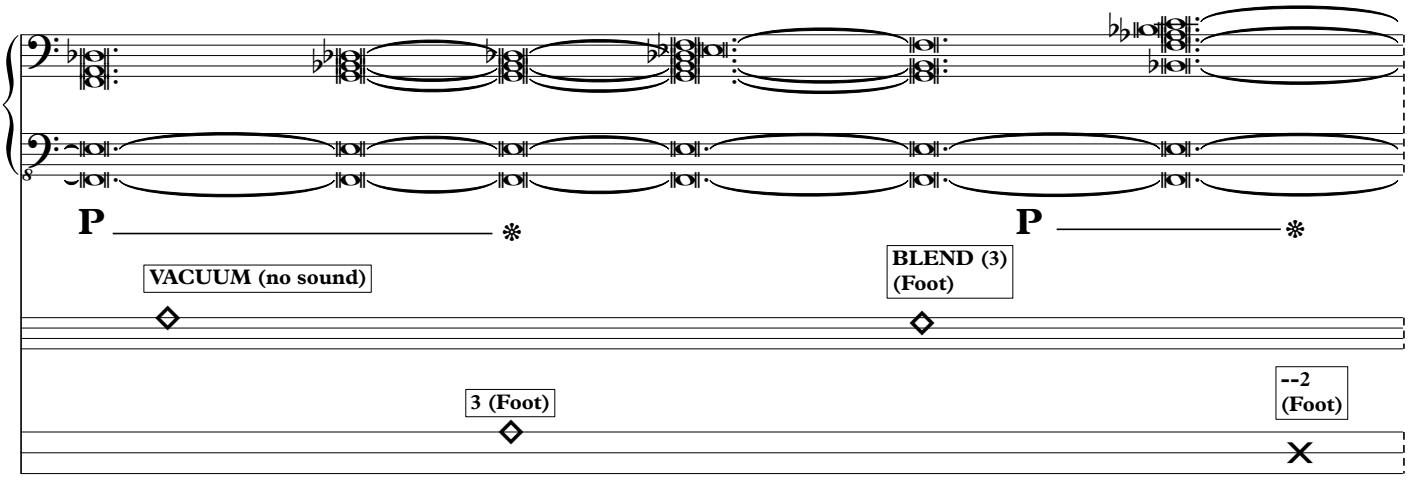
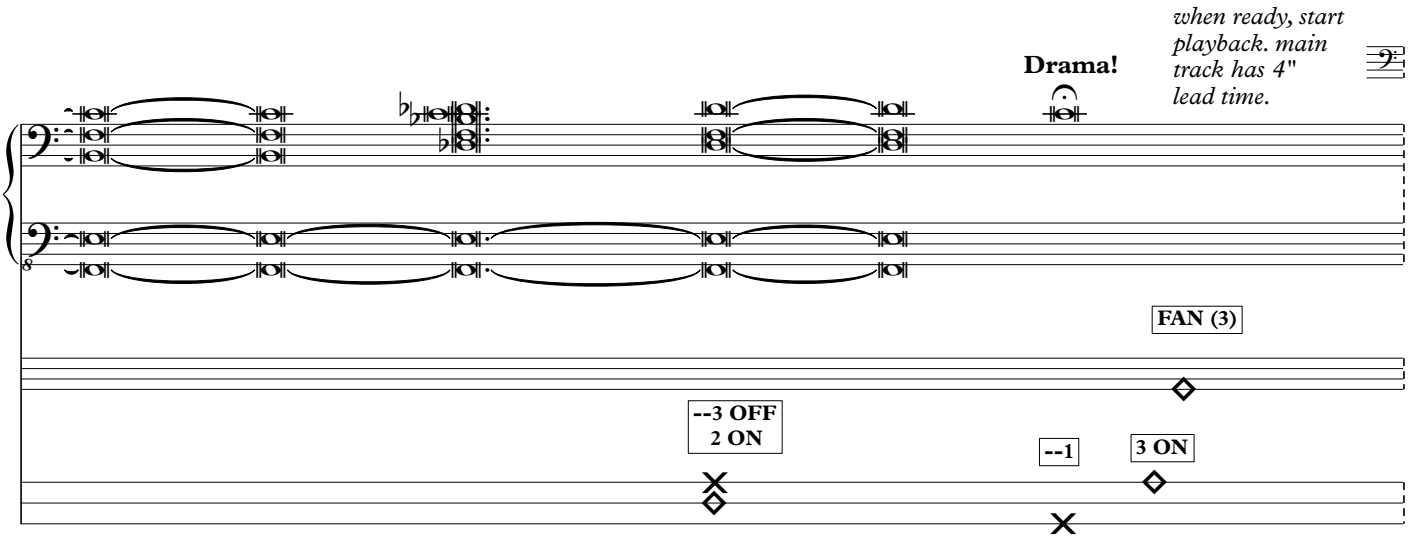


2


CUIS
HAND (1)
BLEND (2)
INFLATER
(p)
--INFLATER
--HAND
--BLEND
--CUIS
CUIS, HAND (1),
BLEND (2), INFLATE
--2
--3
FAN (2)
2 (Foot)

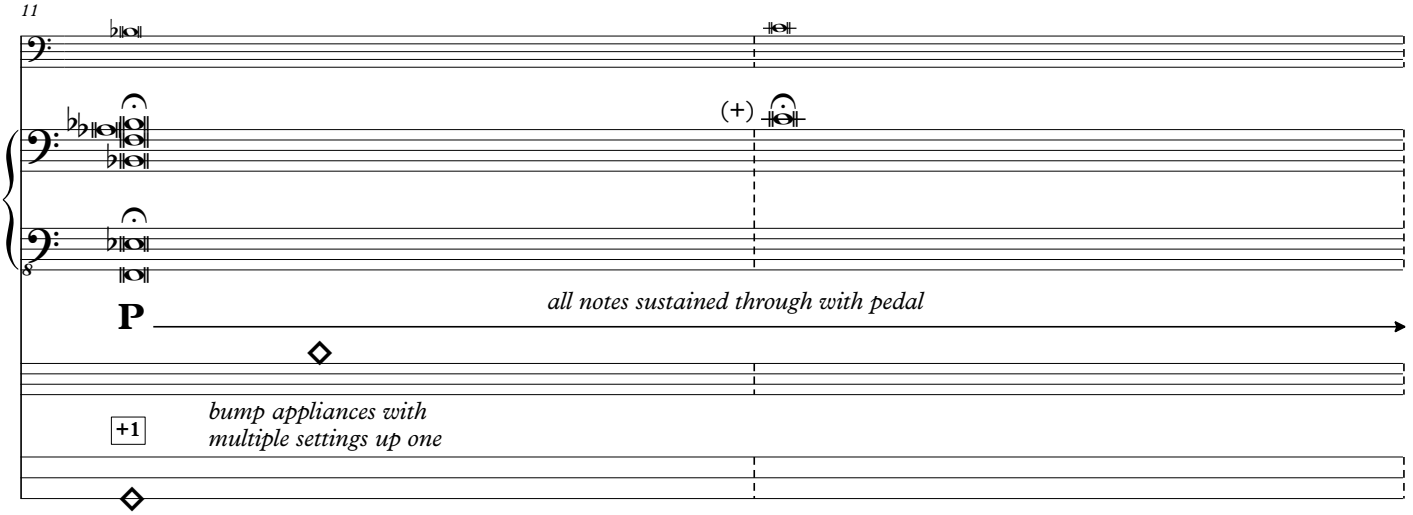
3





4" *(timings on the audio track)* **16"**

11



28.5"

41"

13

(P)

sim.

52.5"

15

(P)

Cutoff/Release
pedal/Turn 1 off
with Tape

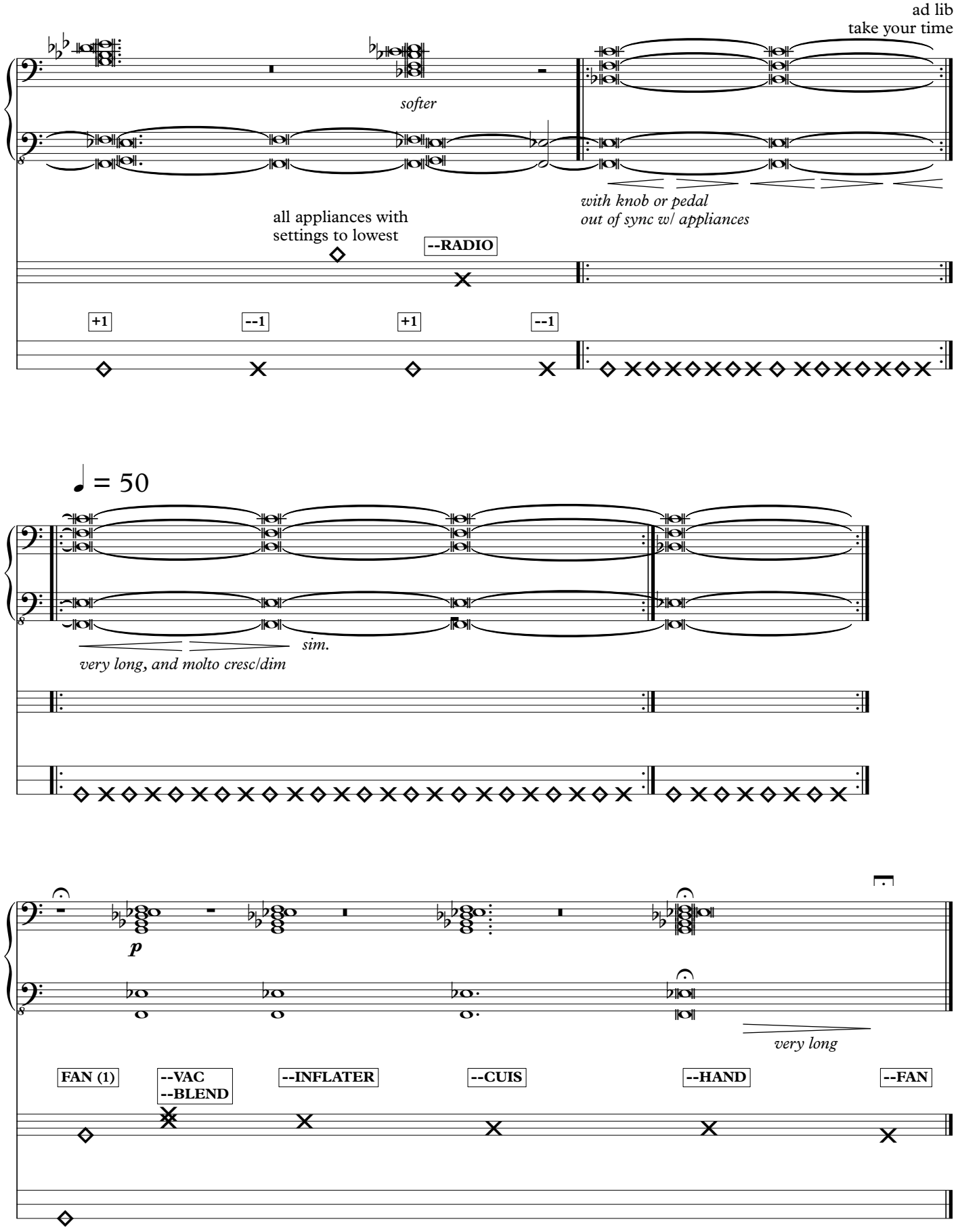
1'09.5"

balance volume with appliances

FAN (2)

bump appliances with multiple settings up one

--1 +1 --1 +1 --1 +1 --1


ad lib
take your time
softer
with knob or pedal
out of sync w/ appliances
all appliances with
settings to lowest
--RADIO
+1
--1
+1
--1
♩ = 50
sim.
very long, and molto cresc/dim
p
very long
FAN (1)
--VAC
--BLEND
--INFLATER
--CUIS
--HAND
--FAN