

please

for harmonica and piccolo

Ian Power

two people offering things to each other

2016

Section I

Piccolo (Stephanie) and Harmonica (Ian) are seated across a table. Ian plays a section on his own first:

1. Low G, very soft, straight tone drone. Soft enough to hear heartbeat interrupt tone. Quick inhales for breath, but quiet.
2. Pause.
3. Soft tone, maybe hear heartbeat, hear more reeds. Push the tone and do quick inhales, flat tone. Four times.
4. Pause.
5. Longer tones, medium, starting to hear overtones. Slowly introduce overtones, so that it's not clear whether they're happening.
6. Loud, "rough" tones. Play with durations. Quick to inhale.

Now Stephanie joins for a similar section:

1. Low G, very soft, straight tone drone. Soft enough to hear heartbeat interrupt tone. Quick inhales for breath, but quiet. (Stagger breathing. Play as softly as possible. Unstable tone ok.)
2. Soft tone, maybe hear heart beat, hear more reeds. Push the tone and do quick inhales, flat tone. Four times, 5" each.
3. Longer tones, medium, starting to hear overtones. Slowly introduce overtones, so that it's not clear whether they're happening. Each tone 5" long. Repeat 8x.
4. Loud, "rough" tones, coordinated, the following rhythm at quarter = 60:

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The first staff contains a sequence of notes on a single line, with slurs and breath marks (7) indicating phrasing. The second staff shows a similar sequence, but with a double bar line and the text "stop cueing" above it, followed by a repeat sign and "11x" above it, indicating a repeated section.

Section II

1. Ian will play a long, loud(er) inhale (D).
2. Stephanie will join on the second D, doing the following on each one thereafter:
3. Play a very flat low D.
4. Same, a tiny bit sharper.
3. Same, a tiny bit sharper.
4. <The harmonica pauses.>
5. Over the course of a few seconds, roll from the very flat D to the D from #3, then hold.
6. Same.
7. Same.
8. Similar roll, from the “middle” to the “upper” register of the D.
9. Same.
10. Play a straight-tone a tiny bit above the harmonica's pitch.
11. Same. This will repeat until the break.

Section III: High Es

After a pause.

1. Stephanie: Low E, completely straight tone, sharp attack & cutoff, 8". Pause 4".
2. Ian: High E, soft, medium-long.
3. Stephanie: Repeat.
4. Pause.
5. Ian: High E, soft, medium-long.
6. Pause.
7. Stephanie: High E (two octaves up), soft, 8".
8. Pause.
9. Ian: High E, soft, then loud, medium-long.
10. Pause.
11. Stephanie: High E, start medium but cresc. to loud immediately. Hold as long as you can; upon inhale, inhale fully through the mouth hole of the piccolo. Upon exhale, loud high E again. Repeat this many times.
12. Ian: Join in on a loud high E with Stephanie's. Inhale through the harmonica with B's.

Beating out of tune is good. We want beating, but shouldn't be obviously going for it. Stephanie: If you want to play with the beating, adjust your high E's by very small intervals ($\frac{1}{4}$ tone or less), never during a note, but perhaps from note to note.

Ends with Ian giving a loud accent and then whimpering away, Stephanie follows.