

Loud for Joy

E-flat Saxophone, Voice, and Synthesizers

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2019

I. Is This My Mind

Meditation

II. Rugged Maze

Lament

III. I Can't Find My Hands Today

Rage

IV. Children of a King

Redemption

This descriptive score may be used to structure solo performance of variable duration, or as a base structure for collaborative performance. The movements may be performed individually, but when they are performed together they should be played with no breaks between them.

I. Is This My Mind

Meditation

Korg Minilogue - Poly Mode

Program

Sawtooth Wave in Voice 1 and Triangle Wave in Voice 2 with the main octave switch in the middle and each voice octave switch one below the middle. Remove wave shaping, noise, and resonance to set a very clean, warm sound with the filter around half-way. Set the Amp EG to a slow attack, medium decay, medium sustain, and long release. Do not add any delay.

Sequence - 56bpm

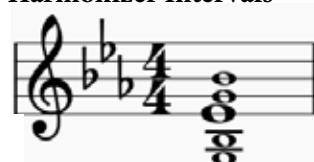


Vocal Effects - TC Helicon VoiceLive

Program

Chord E-flat major, 2 above and 2 below; Reverb 4.1s; Delay ping pong, 48% feedback.

Harmonizer Intervals



Form

1. Start sequence on minilogue
2. After a time, begin breathing audibly and speaking the word “Breathe”
3. After some time, start playing slow, spacious phrases on the minilogue under the vocals
4. When you are ready, mix in the phrases “three, two, one” and “is this my mind?” in a singsong voice, but not quite singing
5. After you have done this for long enough, prepare for the next movement

Transition

1. Stop vocals
2. Set VoiceLive to next program
3. Set Korg Volca Drum to next program
4. Pick up saxophone and prepare to play
5. Stop minilogue sequence and immediately begin next movement

II. Rugged Maze

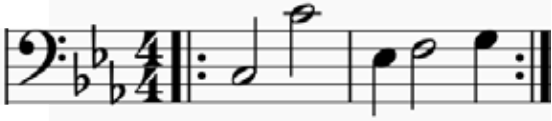
Lament

Korg Minilogue

Program - Poly Mode

Triangle Wave in both voices with main octave switch in the middle position and both voices set at one below middle. Noise is low, but resonance is at about 25%, filter is at about 60%, and there is some delay lending some buzzy overtones to this boomy bass line. Attack is close to zero, with the sustain and release both at 100%.

Sequence - 56bpm, synced from Volca Drum



Saxophone Effects - TC Helicon VoiceLive

Program

Autotune set for C and G with the tolerance as close to a whole step as possible. Harmonizer is set with a low C drone. Reverb is 3.2s and delay is 11s. The goal is to create drones on the root and fifth to play in minor and major seconds with.

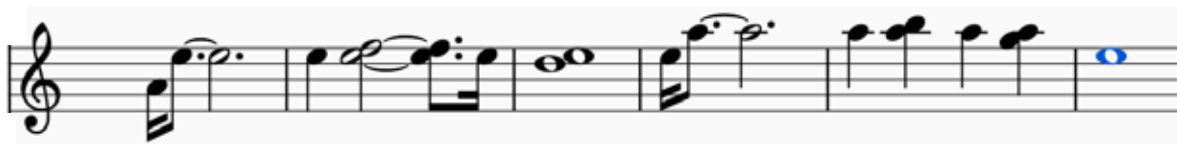
Korg Volca Drum

Program

Mostly tight snares and a buzz at different pitches with a sharp woodblock. Use the choke function combined with long releases to add some randomization to the woodblock and kick. Program a sequence with a forward eighth note feel and a consistent kick on every downbeat. Route the output to the input in the minilogue.

Form

1. Begin saxophone lament with variations on the following phrase:



As you are playing change the program on the minilogue to the correct program for this movement.

2. When you are ready, start the sequence on the minilogue and continue the melody. Explore the dissonance and play with timbral and embouchure changes to really dig into the uncomfortable sounds
3. After some time, start the sequence on the Volca Drum. Continue exploring the melody on the saxophone, taking breaks as needed or desired
4. When you are ready, prepare for the next movement

Transition

1. Put down saxophone and set VoiceLive to program for the next movement
2. Stop Volca Drum sequence and change routing to mixer. Set to program for the next movement
3. Stop sequence on minilogue and immediately begin the next movement

III. I Can't Find My Hands Today

Rage

Korg Minilogue

Program - Poly Mode

Triangle Wave in both voices with main octave switch in the middle position and both voices set at one below middle. Noise is low, but resonance is at about 25%, filter is at about 60%, and there is some delay leading to high harmonics ringing out. Attack is at around 25%, with decay and sustain around 50%, and release at 100%. The LFO is quite slow and medium intensity.

Sequence - 56bpm, synced from Volca Drum

Start with the sequencer empty and step resolution set to 1/1. This melody is not exact; slowly build the sequence live through the opening section of the piece while exploring variations.



Vocal Effects - TC Helicon VoiceLive

Program

Chromatic autotune with dramatic portamento and reverb.

Korg Volca Drum

Program

Using the frequency modulation synthesis, create an assortment of bell sounds on various pitches. Create one that is deep like a gong and program a sequence that contains just that sound on the first step and nothing else.

Form

1. Start the sequence on the Volca Drum
2. When you are ready, press Play and Record on the minilogue sequencer and begin slowly layering up the sequence. The steps will move very slowly; do not aim to play directly with them. The goal is to play out of time and introduce randomness as the sequencer picks up notes here an there.
3. When the sequence is built to your liking, begin vocals by saying and singing the phrase, “I can’t find my hands today.” Intersperse this with cries and moans that form dissonance and resolution with the minilogue. Build in intensity. During this section you may continue to build up the sequence or stop recording and play notes in a higher octave over the sequence.
4. After a while, press Edit Step on the Volca Drum and begin building out the sequence there by selecting the bell sounds one at a time. For each, start somewhere in the first 4 steps, then either start with steps that are 2,3, and 4 steps apart or 4, 3, and 2 steps apart, resulting in sounds that chime faster or slower. Alternate between these patterns as you move through the sequence building. Continue to vocalize as you are moved.
5. When both sequences are set, begin adjusting the knobs on the minilogue. First, increase the cross mod depth, change the pitch on Voice 2 and turn Pitch EG INT in the opposite direction. Increase the noise, resonance, filter, and EG INT. Reduce the AMP EG attack and increase the delay to about 80%. Then begin gradually increasing the tempo on the Volca Drum while turning the delay time knob back and forth to create interesting sounds. When the tempo is maxed out ride it for a bit then start muting the bells one by one, leaving only the downbeat gong. At the same time, quickly reset some knobs on the minilogue and turn the filter all the way down then immediately stop the sequence.
6. Allow the gong to continue while you prepare for the next movement.

Transition

1. Set minilogue to the program for the next movement
2. Set VoiceLive to the program for the next movement and turn off the harmonies
3. Pick up saxophone
4. Stop Volca Drum sequencer and immediately begin the next movement

IV. Children of a King

Redemption

Korg Minilogue

Program 1 - Poly Mode

Triangle Wave in both voices with main octave switch in the middle position and both voices set at one below middle. Noise is low, but resonance is at about 25%, filter is at about 50%, and the delay is down. Attack is at around 25%, with decay and sustain around 50%, and release at 100%. The LFO is medium slow and medium intensity, creating a vibrato effect.

Sequence 1 - 56bpm, synced from Volca Drum, step resolution is 1/2



Program 2 - Arpeggiator Mode

Triangle Wave in both voices with main octave switch in the middle position and both voices set at one below middle. Noise and resonance are off, filter is at 50%, and no delay. Attack and decay are at 0, and sustain and release are at 100%. The LFO rate is at 0, to create a pure sound reminiscent of a vibraphone.

Sequence 2



Vocal and Saxophone Effects - TC Helicon VoiceLive

Program

C major chorus, 2 above and 2 below; Reverb 4.1s; Delay ping pong, 48% feedback. Use harmony mute trigger through out to turn harmonies off and on.

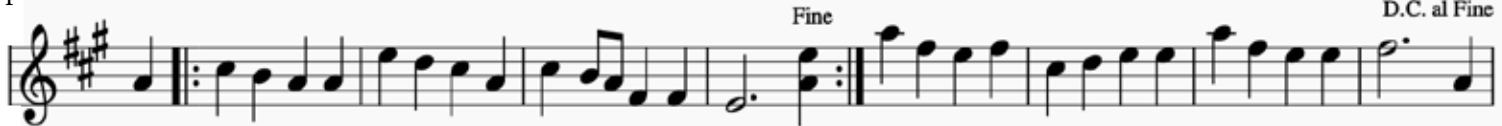
Korg Volca Drum

Program

Create a deep, metallic kick with a long release and some shaker sounds. Sequence the kick on beats one and three and fill in the shaker sounds with a sparing sixteenth note feel.

Form

1. On the saxophone, slowly play the following melody with ornamentation as desired, turning the harmonies on and off at key points as desired for effect.



2. On the last note, start the sequence on the minilogue and put down the saxophone.

3. After the sequence plays once through begin singing the following words along using the melody above, out of time but following the sequence and starting each couplet with a new round of the sequence. Ornament the melody as you are moved. Start with the VoiceLive harmonies off, then turn them on half-way through.

What poor, despised company
Of travelers are these,
That walk in yonder narrow way,
Along the rugged maze?
Ah, they are of a royal line,
All children of a King;
Heirs of immortal crowns divine,
And loud for joy they sing.

- from Maxwell's *Hymns and Spiritual Songs*, 1759

4. When you reach the end of the final sequence under the words, hold the second last word and sing the word “sing” on the downbeat of the next sequence while also starting the Volca Drum sequence at the same time.
5. Let this ride for a moment, and when you are ready, stop the minilogue sequence, switch to the second program and begin the second sequence in time with the Volca Drum.
6. Pick up the saxophone and play the following melody, then build out more melodic, diatonic phrases, while returning regularly to this melody.



7. When you are ready, stop playing the saxophone and place your hands over the stop buttons on both sequencers.
8. At a moment that feels right, stop both sequences.

Fine