

**piano\_prosthesis**

Michael Young

Indicative Score

## Introduction

This score can be used as a creative starting point, as a open-form score that defines all materials you use, or ignored.

The overall aim is to establish clearly differentiated musical materials, characterised by pitch, loudness, density, rhythmic activity, sustained-ness and the degree of internal variation (within a timeframe of 10-20 sec.) Having decided upon materials, either in advance or during the performance, the improvisation should focus on recalling and varying these types. Silence is recognised as a material. As you introduce new materials or recall previous ones, you should hear complementary responses from the computer improviser, which should seem both reactive and proactive in its behaviour.

## Score Notation



A definitive pitch range should be established for each occurrence of a material type. The range can be small (one octave or less) or the maximum range of the keyboard, or any range in between. Two bass or treble symbols denote that only the lower or upper half of the full range should be used as a maximum range.

All other notations and instructions are open to interpretation ad lib.

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separates

A musical score for piano, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a brace on the left. The notation is sparse, featuring scattered dots representing notes across the staves. A dynamic marking  $\{pp/mp\}$  is written in the treble clef. The score ends with a dashed vertical line on the right.

unphrased; slightly detached & uneven;  
wide pitch space; effortless

remembering

A musical score for piano, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a brace on the left. The notation is more dense than the first piece, with various note values, slurs, and a fermata. A dynamic marking  $\{p \ll mp\}$  is written below the staves.

A continuation of the musical score for 'remembering', showing two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a brace on the left. The notation includes a fermata and a slur. The score ends with a dashed vertical line on the right.

narrow pitch space; even rhythms with pauses;  
some notes sustained through;  
little phrases hint at each other; whistful

pulsing

A musical score for piano, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef) grouped by a brace. The tempo is marked {mf/p}. The music features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes with frequent rests, creating a pulsing effect. The notes are mostly clustered in the lower register. The piece ends with a dashed vertical line on the right.

reinvent fixed-pitch chords in new groupings;  
restrict pitch space; regular with short pauses now and then;  
mildly insistent;

locking

A musical score for piano, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef) grouped by a brace. The tempo is marked *f*. The music is characterized by repeated rhythmic motifs, often with accents, and frequent rests, creating a locking effect. The notes are spread across a wider pitch range than in the 'pulsing' section. The piece ends with a double bar line.

vary repeats - sometimes don't repeat;  
alter tempo on repeats; pitch space is wide or narrow;  
well-articulated; emphatic, not aggressive

frantic

Musical score for 'frantic' in G major, 2/4 time. The score consists of two systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first system begins with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a hairpin indicating a crescendo to *mf*. The music is characterized by rapid, repetitive eighth-note patterns in the right hand, often with triplets, and more sparse, rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The overall feel is one of intense, chaotic energy.

mid-pitches stretch out to extremes;  
suddenly irregular; you can take a breath;  
not assertive, hesitant;

resist

Musical score for 'resist' in G major, 2/4 time. The score consists of two systems, each with a grand staff. The first system begins with a dynamic marking of *ff/mp*. The music features a mix of sustained chords and clusters in the right hand, often with long, held notes, and more rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The overall feel is one of resistance and tension.

hold & release; very long or less long;  
clusters and sometimes far reaches;  
appearing to have purpose;

deep pluck

The musical score for 'deep pluck' consists of two systems, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first system begins with a dynamic marking of *{f/mp}*. The notation features a prominent, thick horizontal line across the bass clef staff, indicating a sustained or heavily accented chord. Above this line, various notes and rests are written, some with stems pointing downwards. The second system continues this pattern, ending with a dashed vertical line on the right side.

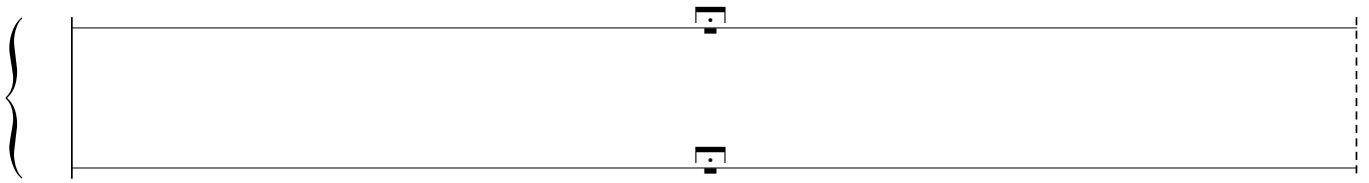
nail or thumb; find harmonics, or not;  
easy or forceful;  
allow some to resonate; animate

morse

The musical score for 'morse' features a grand staff with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The upper part of the score is filled with numerous vertical stems, each topped with a small black dot, representing a rhythmic pattern. The lower part of the score shows a few notes in the bass clef staff, with stems pointing downwards, interspersed with rests. A dashed vertical line is present on the right side of the score.

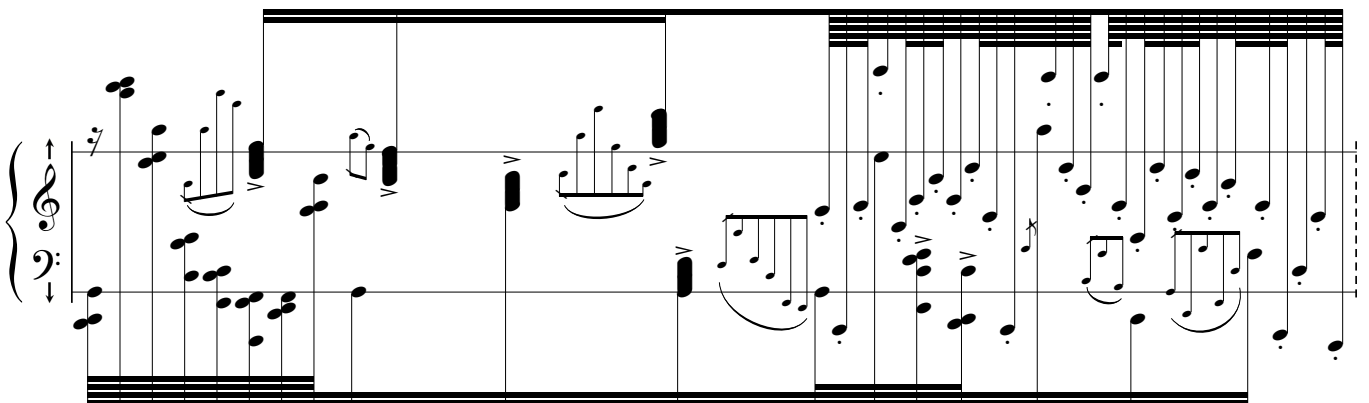
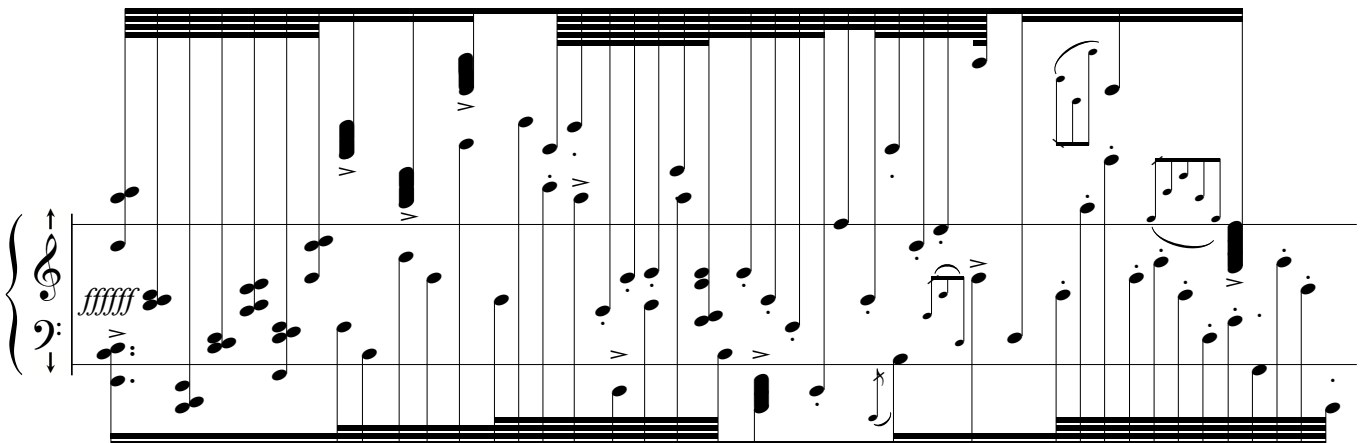
regular, a little; tap it out, detached;  
articulate below;  
as if there's something to say;

listen



as if something is being said;

monster



almost in control; excessively loud & unremitting;  
mechanical maniacal;

roundabout

The musical score for 'roundabout' consists of two systems. The first system begins with a repeat sign and a first ending bracket. Above the first ending, there is a 'X n' marking with an arrow pointing to the right. The piano part features a complex, repetitive melodic line with many notes, some of which are beamed together. The bass line has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The dynamic marking *{f/mp}* is placed below the piano part. The second system continues the melodic and bass lines, ending with a dashed vertical line.

even, well-articulated; not forceful;  
always in-and-out of repeats to vary in length & number;  
flighty;

sweet

The musical score for 'sweet' consists of two systems. The piano part features a sparse, melodic line with few notes, some of which are beamed together. The bass line has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The dynamic marking *mp* is placed below the piano part. The score ends with a dashed vertical line.

try to sound out-of-tune; favour clusters;  
explore similar groups with slight changes;  
sickly;



aurora

Musical score for 'aurora' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves, Treble and Bass clef. The dynamic marking is  $\{mf/ff\}$ . The piece features a series of chords and melodic lines with various articulations, including accents and slurs. A 'Ped.' (pedal) line is indicated below the staves. The score ends with a dashed vertical line on the right.

plucked or swept; experiment; dampen or harsh;  
ring, finger or nail on string; resonant;

pianism

Musical score for 'pianism' in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves, Treble and Bass clef. The dynamic marking is  $\{pp/mp - f\}$ . The piece features a series of chords and melodic lines with various articulations, including accents and slurs. The score ends with a dashed vertical line on the right.

constant change; lightly, mildly percussive;  
vary hammer & pluck; caprice no consequence;

expansive

Musical score for 'expansive' featuring two systems of piano staves. The first system includes a dynamic marking of  $\{mp/f - ppppp\}$ . The notation is characterized by wide intervals and a full range of notes, with some notes appearing in the extreme upper and lower registers. The second system continues this expansive style, ending with a dashed line. The overall texture is sparse and contemplative.

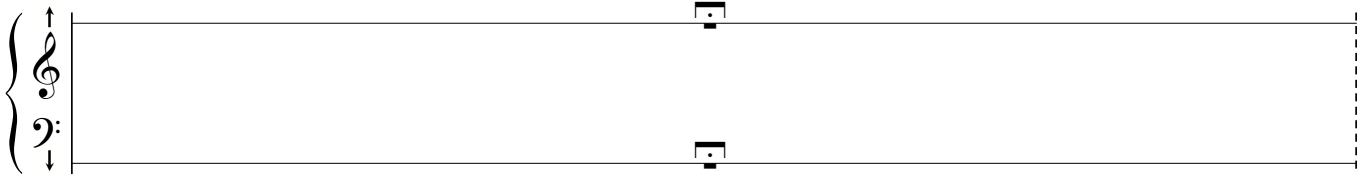
full range with a far reach; chordal in extremis;  
pondering but aimless;

notwalking

Musical score for 'notwalking' featuring two systems of piano staves. The first system includes a dynamic marking of  $\{p < mf\}$ . The notation is characterized by a dense, continuous flow of notes, with a thick, dark line representing a dense cluster of notes in the lower register. The overall texture is fluid and gently moving, with a sense of breathing and pausing.

fluid and gently on top;  
breathing with pause;

listen again



as something might yet is said;