

Split

for soprano & electronics

Martyna Kosecka

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Dedicated to Sophia Körber

Performance Note:

Split is a scene for female voice and electronics. Text used in composition is a poem by Edgar Allan Poe called "Dream within a dream".




An accidental refers only to note it precedes.

The score has no strict barline indications. The music material should be performed according to a general metronomic tempo indication as precisely as it is possible. The fermata can be interpreted with more space, wherever introduced in the score. The dashed slurs are introduced in the part to easily read the phrasing and narration of music.






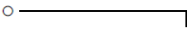





There is no click track, but the performer can trigger the cues to start sound files for precised execution. Live processing of the voice, as well as the system synchronization for the sound files, is controlled by the sound artist through Max MSP patch.

Duration of the piece should take around 9 minutes.

A voice part is written on three different kinds of stave notation:

-  - definite high pitches, traditional notation
-  - relative pitch notation (high, medium, low) for singing, referring to voiced and unvoiced phenomena, as well as various voiced actions that can be clearly pitch-organized
-  - speaking, whispering, shouting etc.

Signs:

-  - raising the sound a 1/4 tone
-  - lowering the sound a 1/4 tone
-  - lowering the sound a 3/4 tone
-  - whisper / unvoiced air sound
-  - perform with clenched larynx (closed throat, matted in sound, bit harsh)
-  - duration of unvoiced event manipulation
-  - unvoiced/voiced sounds / melodic speaking indications
-  - oscillate around the pitch, changing the height of pitch by microtones
-  - the highest possible sound
-  - rapidly break a sound
-  - slide

All the alterations from explained signs and additional advices are described in the score.

Split

scene for soprano and electronics

Martyna Kosecka

Calmo ♩ = 56

p delicate, melancholic

unvoiced, vary melodic with tongue positioning for /t/:
highest pitch - flat behind the teeth, lowest pitch - rounded towards the back of palate

gain strength →

A

SOPRANO

ELECTRONICS

SF: []
LE: 1 ON (delay + quadraphonic spatialization)

mp firm, spoken bright, with hope ☺

pp come prima

mp broken voiced

S.

take, /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - /t/ - this

clenched larynx, non vibrato, stress on voiced /i/ with slight microtonal oscillation

sfpp ————— *mp* *p* shyly, whisper, dreamy

non vibrato, al niente, come poss.

mp slightly aggressive

S.

k/i/ (ss) u-upon the brow! /a/ - nd-/d/ - /d/,

SF: [2] (e3 - rear)
LE: OFF

LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

no cresc.! short, fragile

fluently morph into the bright melodic speaking

pp with resignation but well articulated, breathy

S.

in part - ing from, from you, in, in, you, in, par - ting from you now,

p delicate, melancholic

broken voiced

on breath exhale, melodic

mp *p*

S.

/t/-/t/ - /t/ - /t/-/t/-/t/, thus m much let me, /t/ let me, let me,

LE: 1 ON (delay + quadraphonic spatialization)

ff con forza subito non vibrato, confident like completely different character

S. *sf* *ff*
 thus much let me a - vow: you! you! You!

EL. SF: [3] (drone E)
 LE: 1 OFF SF: [4] (drone E attack one more time)

mp suddenly very fragile, vulnerable, like in the beginning

pp (sonorous a breath mormorando) on releasing

S. You! You, you are not wrong, who deem, who deem that my days have been (n) a dream,

EL. LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)
 SF: [5] (delicated parsed glittering sounds)

REPEAT THREE TIMES!
 EACH TIME INTENSIFY AND EXAGGERATE MORE THE GIVEN MATERIAL,
 TREAT LIKE A LONG NARRATION PHRASE!

S. *sf* *pp* warm *mp fragile* melodic whisper, agitated! spoken, question-like
 harsh spoken with fear voiced
 Yet, /i/-/f/ hope has /f/ - lown a - way in a night, in a night, o/r/

EL. SF: [6] (glitched whispering and speaking patterns in low dynamic, spatially parsed, slowly intensifying with dynamic and texture)

melodic whisper, agitated, vary the expression from previous exclamation

mp playful

melodic, dream-like, delicate

spoken firm, unpleasant

S. *gliss.*
 in a day, in a day, /i/ - /i/ - /i/ - /i/-/i/ - /i/ - in a vi - sion, or in none,

DYNAMIC VALID ONLY FOR REPETITION 3!

mf

whisper scared

S. *mp fragile*
 /i/ - /i/ - is it there-fore /t/-/t/ - /t/ - /t/-/t/ - /t/ - the less gone? Is it there-fore,

EL. PLAY IN REPEAT 3!
 SF: [7] (same type of material, time-wise leading to a dynamic climax and material change after the repeated fragment)

DYNAMIC VALID ONLY FOR REPETITION 3!

f

spoken firm


S. the less gone? Is it there - fore /t/-/t/-/t/ the less gone? Gone? Gone? Gone?

"white voice" singing technique,
exclamation, almost like a scream

ff con forza, semplice

fluently morph
into the bright melodic speaking

with resignation
and breaking voice,
well articulated

S. 

All that we see or seem (m) is but a dream wi-thin a dream...

EL. SF: [8] (same type of material, time-wise leading to a dynamic climax and material change after the repeated fragment)

ONLY ELECTRONICS - ca. 30"


EL. Dense, heavy structures from the previous materials, that gradually fade away and dissolve in a quadraphonic environment.

ENTER FREELY, WHEN THERE IS ALMOST NO RADICAL TAPE SOUNDS

Piangendo ♩ = 66

p inquieto, sonorous but very breathy

whisper

S. 

I, I stand a-mid the roar of a surf - tor-men-ted shore,

EL. LE: 3 ON (reverbs, tape delays, spatialization)
SF: [9] (grain-like, white noise filterings spatially distributed)

non vibrato, al niente,
come poss.

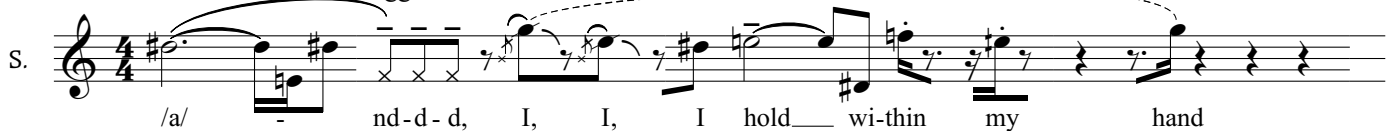
mp

slightly
aggressive

p meno, fragile, mesmerised

poco vibr.

non vibr.

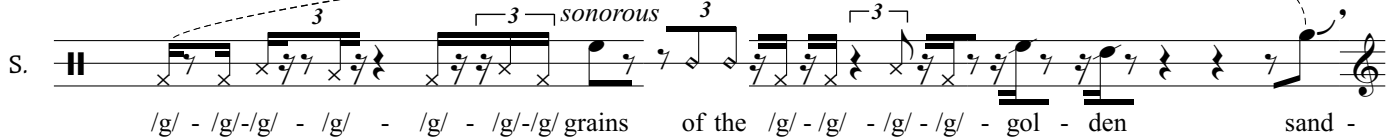
S. 

/a/ nd-d-d, I, I, I hold wi-thin my hand

voiced, stuttering-like

mp subito p meno

sonorous

S. 

/g/ - /g/-/g/ - /g/ - /g/ - /g/-/g/ grains of the /g/ - /g/ - /g/ - /g/ - gol - den sand -


f subito,
with pain

spoken
hard

p meno, fragile, mesmerised

shout with
breaking voice,
disappointed

mf

S. 

How few! yet how they, how they creep through my /f/ - in - gers to the deep, while I

EL. SF: [10] (granular focused low-pitched buzzes moving between the speakers)

S. *dolcissimo* *p* non vibr. *mp* poco vibr., breathy

(wait circa 6 seconds)

weep, while I weep!

O,

EL. SF: [11] (slowly arising low E drone) LE: 3 OFF LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

S. *p subito* *sfpp*

voiced, stuttering-like

with air, disappointed

/k/ percussive
clenched larynx, non vibrato,
stress on voiced nasal /a/
with slight microtonal oscillation

god! k/a/ (can)

EL. SF: [11] (slowly arising low E drone) LE: 3 OFF LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

S. *mp* *p delicate*

whisper melodically,
with hope

(wait circa 3 seconds)

- (n) I not grasp them with a tigh - ter, tigh - ter clasp?

EL. SF: [11] (slowly arising low E drone) LE: 3 OFF LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

S. *p inquieto* *molto* vibr. *non vibr.* voiced, stuttering-like

O, /g/-/g/ - /g/-/g/ - /g/-/g/ - /g/-/g/ - /g/-/g/ - /g/-/g/ -

EL. SF: [11] (slowly arising low E drone) LE: 3 OFF LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

S. *sfpp* *mf* *mp meno*

/k/ percussive
clenched larynx, non vibrato,
stress on voiced nasal /a/
with slight microtonal oscillation

whisper with breaking voice,
dispair

god! k/a/ (can) - - - (n) I not save one from the

EL. SF: [11] (slowly arising low E drone) LE: 3 OFF LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

S. *mf non troppo* spoken with breaking voice, scared

modulate unvoiced melodic positions
with a lip shape, very active apparatus

/p/-/p/ /p/-/p/ - /p/-/p/-/p/ - /p/-/p/ - /p/-/p/ - /p/-/p/-/p/-/p/-/p/ - pi-ti-less wave?

EL. SF: [12] (slowly emerging low D sharp to the E drone) LE: 1 ON (delay + quadraphonic spatialization)

IMPROVISATION - CA. 30 SECONDS

Improvise on the given sentence, mixing the feelings of anxious laughter, scare, disappointment or despair. You can stutter, speak slowly, speed up, pronounce separately, but do not rush repetitions of the sentence one after another. Perform like in a delirium.

S. **whisper** → **spoken** → **lament** *f*

Is all that we see or seem but a dream within a dream?

EL. SF: [13] (glitched whispering and speaking patterns in low dynamic, spatially parsed, slowly intensifying with dynamic and texture)
LE: 4 ON (glitch generator, reverbs, spatialization)

"white voice" singing technique, exclamation, almost like a scream
ff con forza, semplice, the eye of the hurricane

fluently morph into the bright melodic speaking → fluently morph

S. Is all that we see or seem (m) but a dream within a dream?

EL. SF: [14] (low drone hits on the circulating sound glitches and whispers)
LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

short, pearl like sobbing in trance
mp non troppo

slowly raise your hands close to your head

S. /a(h)/ → sim.

EL. SF: [15] (low drone hits on the circulating sound glitches and whispers)
LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

perform very "breathy", fade away

S. *mp* → *pp*

open mouth position stays

EL. SF: [16] (low drone hits on the circulating sound glitches and whispers)
LE: 2 ON (equal spatialization)

FADE AWAY - CA 25 SECONDS

S. Remain frozen with mouth open and scared expression of the face. Hands on the side of your head in desperate gesture. Eyes fixed on one point. Make no sound.

Remain frozen with mouth wide open and scared expression of the face. Slowly close your eyes. Make no sound.

Stay in the position for several seconds after the tape ends. Extremely focused. Release, open your eyes and end the performance.

EL. Tape material continues to decrease in dynamic. → Silence