

Soprano Saxophone

Commissioned for SaxOpen - XVII World Saxophone Congress & Festival - Strasbourg 2015

What If

for 101 saxophones*

(an ensemble of 100 saxophones + 1 alto saxophone soloist)

(2014)

(duration: c. 12)

Mark Phillips

* scored for 8 ensemble parts plus 1 alto saxophone soloist

(12 soprano + 12 alto 1 + 12 alto 2 + 12 alto 3 + 12 alto 4 + 12 alto 5 + 12 tenor + 16 baritone + 1 alto soloist)

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Soprano Saxophone

What If

Mark Phillips

cue: **4** *Cadanza - slowly and freely*
dolce
 alto soloist *pp~mp (ad lib.)*

soprano saxophones (tutti) *pp~mp (ad lib.)*
 Remove mouthpiece and blow air through instrument while rattling keys.

① Replace mouthpiece (baritone saxes) 0:00
 ② (tenor saxes) 0:10
 ③ (alt 5 saxes) 0:15
 ④ (alt 4 saxes) 0:20
 ⑤ (alt 3 saxes) 0:30
 ⑥ (alt 2 saxes) 0:40
 ⑦ (alt 1 saxes) 0:45
 0:55



On cue #8 from conductor:

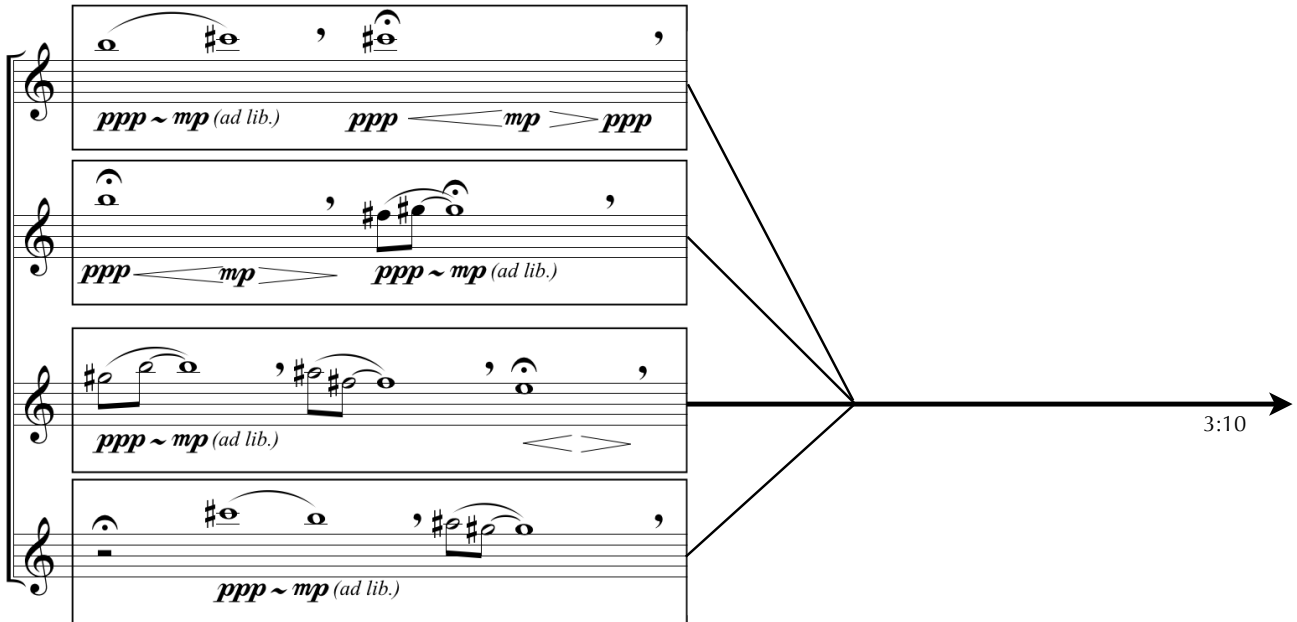
Choose freely from the 5 musical motifs in the boxes. Play any number of these motifs in any order. Wide latitude is granted in the interpretation of these motifs, in terms of pacing, note duration, and length of silent pauses. Never repeat a motif in the exact the same manner. Avoid exact synchronicity with other players as much as possible.

cue ⑧ 0:55

⑨ 1:15
 ⑩ 1:25
 1:40
 (approximate running time in minutes : seconds)

cue
11
1:40

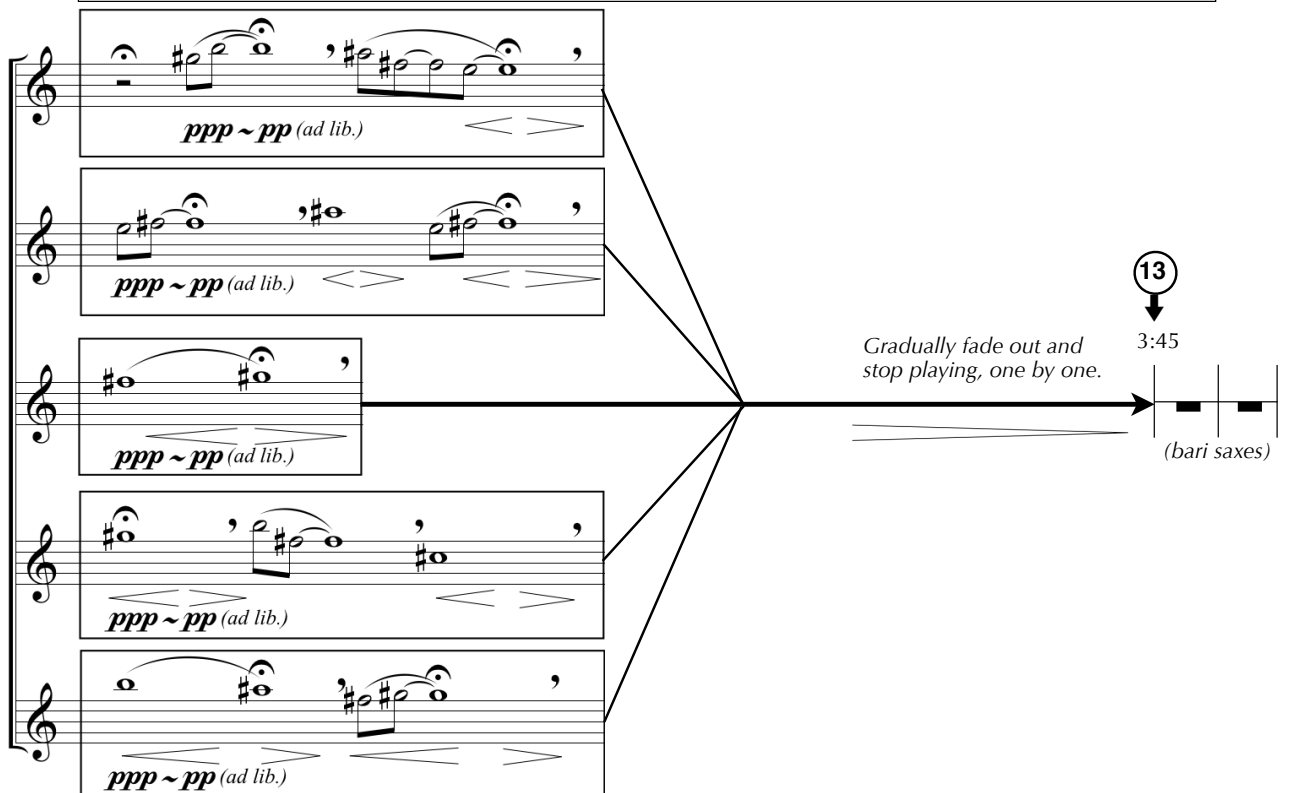
On cue #11 from conductor:
Choose freely from the 5 musical motifs in the boxes. Play any number of these motifs in any order. Wide latitude is granted in the interpretation of these motifs, in terms of pacing, note duration, and length of silent pauses. Never repeat a motif in the exact the same manner. Avoid exact synchronicity with other players as much as possible.



Musical notation for cue 11, consisting of four staves. Each staff contains a musical motif with dynamic markings: *ppp ~ mp (ad lib.)* and *ppp < mp > ppp*. A large arrow points from the right side of the motifs to the right, with the time mark 3:10 at its tip.

cue
12
3:10

On cue #12 from conductor:
Choose freely from the 5 musical motifs in the boxes. Play any number of these motifs in any order. Wide latitude is granted in the interpretation of these motifs, in terms of pacing, note duration, and length of silent pauses. Never repeat a motif in the exact the same manner. Avoid exact synchronicity with other players as much as possible.



Musical notation for cue 12, consisting of five staves. Each staff contains a musical motif with dynamic markings: *ppp ~ pp (ad lib.)*. A large arrow points from the right side of the motifs to the right. At the tip of the arrow is the time mark 3:45 and a circled number 13. Below the arrow, the text reads "Gradually fade out and stop playing, one by one." To the right of this text is a bar line with two short horizontal bars below it, labeled "(bari saxes)".

What If

Soprano Sax

cue
14

cue
15

soloist

Cadenza - slowly and freely
dolce
mp

soprano saxes (tutti)

Remove mouthpiece and blow air through instrument, while rattling keys.

Drop out one by one.

pp~mp (ad lib.)

attacca →

What if
(movement II)

soprano (or alto)

♩ = 80-88

15 A 16 B 8 C 5

(repeat 2-4 times) (tenor sax solo) (alto 1 entrance) (alto solist)

D

ff

51 E

55

ff

59

F

62

66

f *mp*

G 7 H 8 ~1/2 section

70

mp

I

tutti
ff

92

95

97

J

102

K

105

109

mf *p* *p* *sfz*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is written for soprano or alto voice. It begins with a box labeled 'I' at measure 92. The first system (measures 92-97) is marked 'tutti' and 'ff'. It features a melodic line with many slurs and ties. Measure 95 has a wavy line under a note, and measure 97 has a wavy line under a note. System J (measures 102-105) starts with a box labeled 'J'. It contains triplets and accents. Measure 102 has a box labeled 'K' above a triplet. System K (measure 109) starts with a box labeled 'K' above a measure. It includes dynamic markings: 'mf' and 'p' with a hairpin, and 'p' and 'sfz' with a hairpin. A large number '2' is placed above the staff in measure 109.