

Alto Saxophone 1

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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Alto Saxophone 1

What If

Mark Phillips

alto soloist *cue:*

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

① Replace mouthpiece (baritone saxes) 0:00 (approx. running time in minutes : seconds)

② (tenor saxes) 0:10

③ (alto 5 saxes) 0:15

④ (alto 4 saxes) 0:20

⑤ (alto 3 saxes) 0:30

⑥ (alto 2 saxes) 0:40

0:45



cue ⑦ 0:45
On cue #7 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 motifs in boxes:

-
-
-
-
-

Cue markers on timeline:

- ⑧** 0:55
- ⑨** 1:15
- ⑩** 1:25
- 1:40

cue
11

1:40

On cue #11 from conductor:
Finish whatever motif you are currently playing (if any). Choose freely from the 5 musical motifs in the boxes below. 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, 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, starting at 1:40. It consists of four staves, each with a musical motif in a box. The motifs are:

- Staff 1: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.) \gg ppp \ll mp
- Staff 2: ppp \ll mp \gg $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)
- Staff 3: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)
- Staff 4: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)

 Lines from the boxes converge to a central point on a horizontal timeline. The timeline ends at 3:10 with an arrowhead.

cue
12

3:10

On cue #12 from conductor:
Finish whatever motif you are currently playing (if any). Choose freely from the 5 musical motifs in the boxes below. 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, 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, starting at 3:10. It consists of five staves, each with a musical motif in a box. The motifs are:

- Staff 1: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)
- Staff 2: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)
- Staff 3: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)
- Staff 4: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)
- Staff 5: $ppp \sim pp$ (ad lib.)

 Lines from the boxes converge to a central point on a horizontal timeline. The timeline continues to the right with the instruction "Gradually fade out and stop playing, one by one." and ends at 3:45 with a circled cue number 13. Below the timeline, there are three rectangular blocks representing the bari saxes.

cue
14

cue
15

soloist

Cadenza - slowly and freely
dolce

mp

mp

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

Drop out one by one.

alto saxes (tutti)

pp~mp (ad lib.)

attacca →

What if
(movement II)

♩ = 80-88

10

soli (~3 players)

(repeat 2-4 times)

15

A

2

soli (~3 players)

22

soli (~3 players)

soli (~3 players)

27

32

B

~1/2 section

mp

37

C

43

D

tutti

ff

49

51

alto 1

What If

-5-

E

ff

58

60

F

62

65

f

G

68

~1/2 section

mp

73

H

~1/2 section

3

mp

V.S. →

85 ~1/2 section

I

tutti

Musical staff 85: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line starting with a quarter rest, followed by eighth and quarter notes. Dynamics include *mp* and *ff*. A hairpin crescendo is shown below the staff.

Musical staff 90: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. Dynamics include *ff*.

Musical staff 92: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. Dynamics include *ff*.

Musical staff 94: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with eighth and quarter notes. Dynamics include *ff*.

Musical staff 97: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with quarter and eighth notes. Dynamics include *ff*. A box labeled 'J' is placed above the staff.

Musical staff 101: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with quarter and eighth notes. Dynamics include *ff*.

Musical staff 106: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with quarter and eighth notes, including triplets. Dynamics include *ff*. A box labeled 'K' is placed above the staff.

Musical staff 109: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with quarter and eighth notes, including triplets. Dynamics include *ff*. A hairpin crescendo is shown below the staff.

Musical staff 109: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. The staff contains a melodic line with quarter and eighth notes. Dynamics include *mf*, *p*, and *sfz*. A hairpin crescendo is shown below the staff. A large number '2' is placed above the staff.