

Steven Webb

Mobius Fragments

Bass Clarinet in Bb
Live Electronics

Program Notes:

An exploration in textures and spectral timbres, the piece should be played freely and not bound by any sort of metric time structure. The concept of the piece is based around the mathematical object, known as a Mobius Strip. This is a shape with only one side and one boundary and has the mathematical property of being unorientable. The piece attempts to explore the strange symmetrical properties of the Mobius strip sonically, by exploring symmetrical melodic figures, patterns, and larger sections of the piece.

The Bass Clarinet's performance will be captured and manipulated through live electronics as they play.

Boxed, bolded text are instructions for the live electronics operator. Ableton Live Project with electronic patches included.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Webb', with a horizontal line underneath.

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A Ethereal $\text{♩} = 76$ **Live Electronics: Engage reverb and delay patches prior to first note. Reverb 75%, Delay 50%**

System 1 (Measures 1-11):

- Measure 1: *Air* (dashed line with arrow), *mp*
- Measure 2: *Vent Hole Open*, *p* to *pp* to *mf*
- Measure 3: *Slowly open and close vent hole to shade pitch*, *mf*

System 2 (Measures 12-25):

- Measure 12: *Sing pitch (octave up), and slowly open and close vent hole*, *f*
- Measure 13: *Trill Register Key Slowly*, *tr*, *mp*
- Measure 14: *Trill Register Key Quickly*, *tr*, *mf*

System 3 (Measures 26-35):

- Measure 26: *Airy/Breathy* (dashed line with arrow), *flt.*, *mp*
- Measure 27: *Dial in Crackle 25%*, *Trill Register Key Slowly*, *tr*, *mf*
- Measure 28: *Trill side G# key*, *C*, *mf*
- Measure 29: *Slowly increasing speed* (dashed line with arrow), *mf*

System 4 (Measures 36-44):

- Measure 36: *Decrease Speed* (dashed line with arrow), *mf*
- Measure 37: *Slap Tongue*, *ff*
- Measure 38: *Slowly decreasing speed* (dashed line with arrow), *subito p*
- Measure 44: *(4 sec)*

Crackle 75%, dial in grain delay slowly

Crackle 50%

Trill Register Key Slowly Increase Speed ----->

Overblow Multiphonic

Trill Register Key Quickly



Musical notation for measures 41-51. Includes dynamics *p*, *ff*, *subito p*, and *mp*. Features trills and multiphonic textures.

Oscillate grain delay pitch graph slowly

Overblow Multiphonic *flt.*

Airy/Breathy ----->

Musical notation for measures 52-59. Includes dynamics *f*, *mp*, and *flt.*. Features multiphonic textures and airy/breathy articulation.

Dial down crackle to 50%

Slowly dial in distortion

Slowly increasing speed ----->

Decrease Speed ----->

Overblow Multiphonic Spectral Sweep down

Musical notation for measures 60-69. Includes dynamics *p* and *ff*. Features multiphonic textures and a spectral sweep.

Distortion 100%

Dial in Bitcrusher quickly, oscillate sampling rate rapidly.

Fade Bitcrusher and distortion to 0%

Reverb and Delay to 100%

B Registry Key Rhythm

Open Closed

Trill Register Key Quickly
tr ~~~~~
 (7 sec)

flt.

f

72

p *mf*

Quickly dial in distortion to 50 %

Fade distortion to 0%

Trill Register Key Quickly

85

p *f* *p* *pp* *mp* *mf*

rit. (5 sec)

flt.