

Timothy Ferchen

Sideman II

for percussion and tape

1993



Music Finland

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I have always had a great admiration for machines. One of my fondest memories as a young aspiring percussionist was the the time I spent standing in the doorway of the lounge at a bowling alley where my parents were defending the company's honour. What intrigued me so much was the lounge band that played from Thursday through Saturday. The group consisted of an organ and a trumpet...that was it. Well, not exactly, because when it came time to play the Latin set, the trumpet player used a maraca pedal. For those of you who don't know what that is, the maraca pedal was a bass drum pedal with two maracas attached to it, one slanting forward and one backwards. As you pressed the pedal down the maracas changed position creating a sound similiar to rustling a bag of hard candy in a movie theatre. However I was fascinated by the ensemble and spent most of the evening listenng to them. Imagine then my amazement when one evening as I approached the doorway and heard the most wonderful array of percussion sounds. At first I thought that the trumpet player had grown ten more legs, but search as I may I could'nt see any percussion instruments. It was only when the piece ended and I heard a three and one third measure percussion solo as the organist groped around the side of the organ to find the button and make the solo stop. And then I saw it, the SIDEMAN. It was a revolution. Here was a drummer that had twenty hands, who could play at unbelievable tempos, whose hands never tired, whose tempos never varied, who could play louder or softer than any of us mere mortals. And on top of this everything was played with absolutely no musicality what so ever! How could anyone resist such inventions? This piece then is a small token of homage to the original SIDEMAN and all the machines that followed. May they someday learn to rush and drag and break sticks and heads like the rest of us.

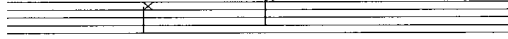
KEY TO THE SYMBOLS

 = 2 snare drums

 = 4 tom toms


 = 2 wood blocks


 = a bass drum with a pedal attached


 = 2 cymbals

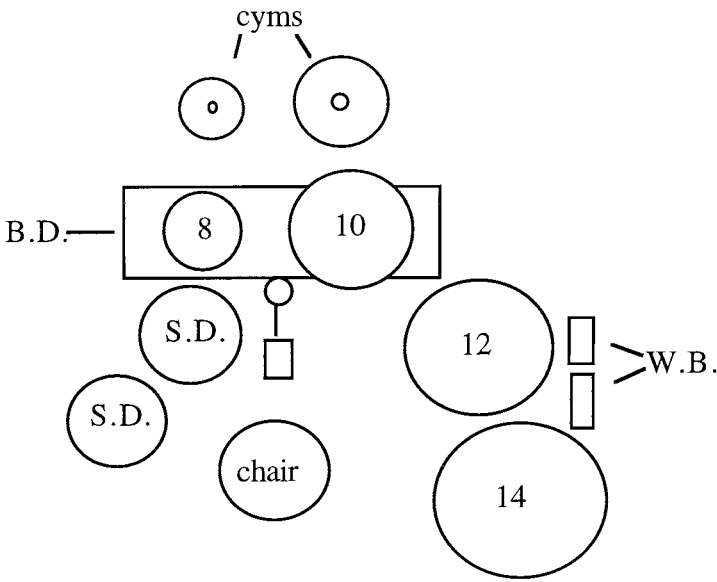
C>> = played from the center to the edge of the head

E>> = played from the edge to the center of the head

 = with brushes

 = with sticks

 = dragging the brush in a circular motion around the head



It is possible to use a drum set to perform the piece. A workable set-up has been drawn. In order to assure that the balance between the percussion and the tape is correct,one or two overhead mikes should be used on the percussion instruments. A person will be needed to mix the the tape and percussion together so that their sound blend together.
Many thanks to Sami Koskela for his help in the editing of this piece.I respectfully dedicate it to him.



SIDEMAN 2

I

Tim Ferchen 1993

1 ♩ = 96

Percussion

Tape

10

18

♩ = 112

mf

f

23

27

mf

34

p

41

pp

f

pp

46

p

E

C → E →

E → C → E → C → E →

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normal playing area

69

E → C → E →

E → C → E → C

75

p

80

f

86

ff

p

91

f

97

♩ = 65

poco rall.

(add tamb)

mf

p

105

rim shot

pp

112

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II.

♩ = 77

Y = brush
| = s.d. stick

Percussion

TAPE

mf

10

6

5

7

5

16

3

3

3

3

23

3

3

3

3

29

3

33

16

16

37

16

16

32

42

66

single stroke roll
snare off

cks

48

48

54

54

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56

mp

59

mf *f*

62

65

67

69

ff *pp*

73

Tempo I ♩=77 snares on

on the bell

6

82

rit. e morendo



on bell rim shot

on the rims

Music Finland

70

75

82

89

95

103

110

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