



Lamberto Caccioli

Touch

piano and live electronics

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Programme Notes

Touch represents an experiment in transparent electronics. I wanted to create a performing environment where technology expands, magnifies and projects the musical gestures of the performer. Four identical musical objects are observed from different points of view, each time using a different transformation tool in order to emphasize a different aspect of piano playing: touch, resonance, the harmonic and melodic dimensions.

The performer is completely in control of the technology and external intervention is kept to a minimum. I achieved this by creating an interface that reacts to the nuances of musical performance in a very subtle way. Specific attention has been given to the detection of the attack of the piano sound: the player's touch triggers each time the whole transformation process.

Performance Notes

The performance requires another person to operate the computer and control the sound diffusion.

The electronics consist in a Max/MSP software patch available from the composer. The score indicates which "performance environment" needs to be loaded at the beginning of each section.

Technical requirements for the performance (between brackets *minimum* requirements):

- computer (Mac or PC) running Max/MSP software, <http://www.cycling74.com>
- 4 in/8 out audio interface (4 in/4 out)
- 1 small condenser microphone to be placed inside the piano for detection
- 2 condenser microphones on stands for piano amplification
- Reverb unit
- 6-point sound diffusion system with 6 speakers: front L/R 1-2, sides L/R 3-4, rear L/R 5-6 (4-point, front L/R 1-2, rear L/R 3-4)

A recording is available on request.

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Touch

for piano and live electronics

♩ = 40-44

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Piano

The first system of the score is in 3/4 time. It features three staves: a top staff for the piano, a middle staff for the piano with an electronics effect, and a bottom staff for the piano. The top staff begins with a rest followed by a melodic line starting on a B-flat. The middle staff has a rest followed by chords and a melodic line. The bottom staff has a rest followed by a bass line. Dynamics include *mp espress.* for the top staff, *p* for the middle staff, and *pp* for the bottom staff. A box labeled "Electronics: Resonance 1" is positioned between the middle and bottom staves. A "Sost. Pedal" line is at the bottom.

mp espress.

Electronics: Resonance 1

p

pp

Sost. Pedal

The second system of the score continues the piece. It features three staves. The top staff has a melodic line with a fermata. The middle staff has chords and a melodic line. The bottom staff has a bass line. Dynamics include *p espress.* for the top staff, *pp* for the middle staff, and *ppp* for the bottom staff. A "poco cresc." marking is present in the middle staff. A "Ped." marking is at the bottom right. A bracket labeled "8vb" is at the bottom left.

p espress.

pp

ppp

poco cresc.

8vb

Ped.

10

*Ped. *Ped. *Ped. * Ped. * Ped.

15

*Ped. *Ped. *

20

ff Electronics: Resonance 2 f mf f p mp

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 20 through 23. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. Measure 20 starts with a fortissimo (ff) dynamic and includes a box labeled 'Electronics: Resonance 2'. The dynamics progress through f, mf, f, p, and mp. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in measure 23.

24

mf f pp cresc. molto f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 24 through 27. The dynamics are mf, f, pp, cresc. molto, and f. The music features long melodic lines and some rests.

28

p f p mf

3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 28 through 30. The dynamics are p, f, p, and mf. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in measure 29. There are some rests in the bass line.

31

p mf p mf f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 31 through 34. The dynamics are p, mf, p, mf, and f. The music is more rhythmically active with many notes.

♩ = 60

35

p *espress.*

Electronics: Resonance 3

5

39

3

3

3

3

5

43

3

3

3

5

3

47

3

3

3

3

♩ = 84

52

mf *mf* *ff*

Electronics: Delays 1

54

mp *p* *pp*

57

mf *f* *p*

60

p *ff*

62 *pp* *legatissimo* *simile*

70

mf *p* *p espress.*

74

77

81

poco rallentando

♩ = 60

84

p *espress.*

Electronics: Harnos 1

Musical score for measures 84-87. Treble clef: measures 84-87 with a 5-measure slur. Bass clef: measures 84-87 with 3-measure slurs. Includes dynamics *p* *espress.* and *Electronics: Harnos 1*.

88

Musical score for measures 88-91. Treble clef: measures 88-91 with 3-measure slurs. Bass clef: measures 88-91 with 3-measure and 5-measure slurs.

92

Musical score for measures 92-95. Treble clef: measures 92-95 with 3-measure slurs. Bass clef: measures 92-95 with 3-measure and 5-measure slurs.

96

Musical score for measures 96-99. Treble clef: measures 96-99 with 3-measure slurs. Bass clef: measures 96-99 with 3-measure slurs.

101

ff

Electronics: Harnos 2

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

105

mf *f* *pp* *cresc. molto f*

109

p *f* *p* *mf*

112

p *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

♩ = 84

116

mf

ff

Electronics: Delays 1

118

mp

p

pp

121

mf

f

p

124

p

ff

126 *pp legatissimo* *simile*

127 *8va*

129 *mf* *p* *crescendo*

131 *molto cresc.* *fff*

133

f *mf* *p*

3

3

p

Detailed description: This system contains measures 133 to 136. Measure 133 features a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a single eighth note in the bass. Dynamic markings include *f* (forte) in the treble and *p* (piano) in the bass. Measures 134 and 135 show a complex texture with multiple voices in both staves, including a *mf* (mezzo-forte) marking. Measure 136 concludes with a triplet of eighth notes in the treble and a half note in the bass.

137

p espress.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 137 to 140. Measure 137 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 4/4 time signature. The dynamic marking is *p espress.* (piano, expressive). The music is characterized by flowing eighth-note patterns in both staves, with many notes beamed together and slurred. Measure 140 ends with a 4/4 time signature.

140

Detailed description: This system contains measures 140 to 143. Measure 140 begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 4/4 time signature. The music continues with eighth-note patterns and slurs. Measure 141 shows a change in time signature to 3/4. Measure 142 returns to 4/4. Measure 143 ends with a 4/4 time signature.

143

Detailed description: This system contains measures 143 to 145. Measure 143 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 4/4 time signature. The music features eighth-note patterns with slurs. Measure 144 continues the eighth-note texture. Measure 145 ends with a 4/4 time signature.

145

poco rallentando

Detailed description: This system contains measures 145 to 148. Measure 145 begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 4/4 time signature. The dynamic marking is *poco rallentando* (slightly slowing down). The music consists of eighth-note patterns with slurs. Measure 146 continues the texture. Measure 147 shows a change in time signature to 3/4. Measure 148 ends with a 3/4 time signature.

148

mp espress.

Electronics: Resynthesis 2

p

pp

Sost. Pedal

154

p espress.

pp

poco cresc.

ppp

Ped. *Ped. *Ped.

(8)...1

159

* Ped. * Ped. * Ped. * Ped.

163

The musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef and contains a melodic line with a series of slurs over six measures, followed by a quarter rest and two eighth notes. The middle staff is in treble clef and contains a complex texture with multiple voices, including slurs and ties across measures. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a simple bass line with slurs and ties, marked with an asterisk and 'Ped.' at the beginning and another asterisk at the end of the first phrase.

* Ped.

*