# Transposed score

# I'm Actually Just Making Stuff Up

for Violin, Clarinet, Cello, and Piano

by Aidan Gold

## Format and Structure

This piece consists primarily of a game called *Find the Improviser*, in which one musician is improvising and the other three are trying to figure out who is improvising. The piece begins with an *Introduction* (pg. 8-14) in which each musician is introduced, and then the musicians play six rounds of *Find the Improviser*. Between each round, the musicians play a *Transition* (pg. 15) where they tally up their current scores. After the final round, the musicians play a *Conclusion* (pg. 16-22) in which they determine and celebrate the winner.

#### Before the Piece Begins

There will be a bucket with 4 pieces of paper in it, labelled A, B, C, and I (the Improviser). Each performer should draw one piece of paper from the bucket and write down their letter. After all performers have drawn their pieces of paper, they should put them all back in the bucket. The ensemble should do this six times until everyone has six letters written down (do not show the letters to the other performers). These letters will indicate the roles that that musician will play in each of the six rounds of the game *Find the Improviser*. After drawing six times, each performer should then find the pages in this score that correspond with the roles they just drew for each round:

<b>Rounds 1 &amp; 4</b>			
Violin	Clarinet	Cello	Piano
A: pg. 23	A: pg. 24	A: pg. 25	A: pg. 26
B: pg. 27	B: pg. 28	B: pg. 29	B: pg. 30
C: pg. 31	C: pg. 32	C: pg. 33	C: pg. 34
I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58
	Round	$\mathbf{s}~2~\&~5$	
Violin	Clarinet	Cello	Piano
A: pg. 35	A: pg. 36	A: pg. 37	A: pg. 38
B: pg. 39	B: pg. 40	B: pg. 41	B: pg. 42
C: pg. 43	C: pg. 44	C: pg. 45	C: pg. 46
I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58
<b>Rounds 3 &amp; 6</b>			
Violin	Clarinet	Cello	Piano
A: pg. 47	A: pg. 48	A: pg. 49	A: pg. 50
B: pg. 51	B: pg. 52	B: pg. 53	B: pg. 54
C: pg. 55	C: pg. 56	C: pg. 55	C: pg. 57
I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58	I: pg. 58

Once the players have identified which pages they will be playing from for **each of the six rounds**, they should **separate those pages** and **put them in the order of the rounds** so they can easily move between them without having to jump around the whole score. One way to do this would be to have paper copies of pages 23-58 of the score, select the pages from the paper copy and place them on the stand, and read the fixed sections of the score (pg. 8-22) on an ipad next to the paper on the stand.

Each performer should also come up with a **musical name**. This is a short gesture that you can play on your instrument that represents you in some way - a technique or sound you like, or a musicalization of your literal name (e.g. 'BACH' or 'DSCH'), or something else. **Do not tell your musical name to the other performers beforehand**, and try to come up with a different musical name for yourself each time you play the piece.

One performer should have a **stopwatch** or **timer** that all the musicians can see (they can use their phone if they can position it so that all the musicians can see it).

# Find the Improviser - Rules

Each round of *Find the Improviser* will have a different time limit. Depending on how the pacing feels to the ensemble, they may choose to modify these time limits, but the proportion should be maintained:

Round 1: 60 seconds Round 2: 60 seconds Round 3: 50 seconds Round 4: 40 seconds Round 5: 30 seconds Round 6: 20 seconds

In each round of *Find the Improviser*, each player will have one of four roles: A, B, C, or I (the Improviser). There will always be **exactly one** player with each role, but the roles are randomly selected and different for each round (see page 2 for how this is done). A, B, and C will each be looking at a page of music with short fragments written on it. This page will be determined by a combination of their **role**, their **instrument**, and **which round** of the game it is (see page 2 for a table to find the pages). However, I (the Improviser) will be looking at a page with no written music on it.

At the beginning of each round, the performer with the **stopwatch** or **timer** should set the timer to the **listed time limit for that round** and then begin the timer, at which point all the musicians can begin playing their music for that round.

The performers with roles A, B, and C will move around their musical fragments in any order they prefer. The specifics on how many times a given fragment can be repeated are listed on each page, along with additional tempo and synchronization information. Meanwhile, the **Improviser** will be improvising.

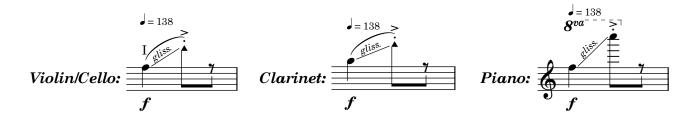
The goal of the **Improviser** is to last the entire duration of the round without the other musicians realizing that they are improvising, and the goal of the other three musicians is to **figure out who is improvising**.

After the timer reaches half of the alloted time for that round (e.g. 30 seconds in the first round), callouts are allowed. If you are not improvising and believe that you confidently know who is improvising, you can call them out by stopping the music using the "stop" gesture:

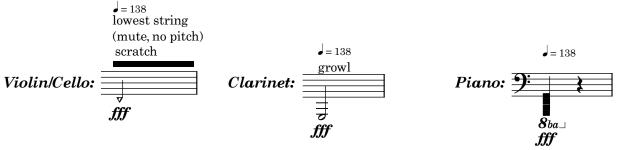


If you hear any of the other musicians play this gesture, **stop playing immediately**. Then, as soon as everyone else stops, the person who played the "stop" gesture must play the **musical name** (determined in the *Introduction*) of the person who they believe is improvising. If your **musical name** is played, then you must respond immediately with the following **musical answer** (next page):

#### YES, if you were the Improviser:

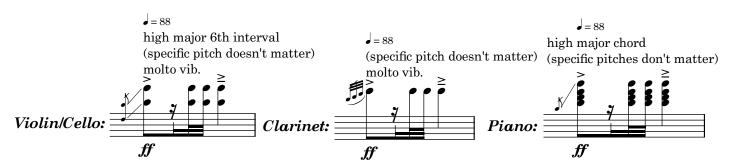


NO, if you were not the **Improviser**:

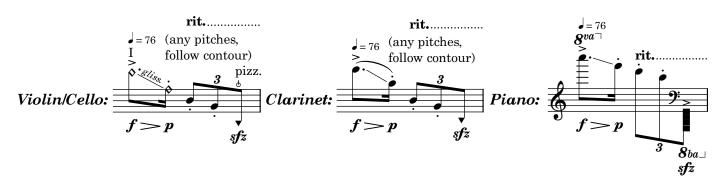


After the **musical answer** has been played, the person who stopped the music must immediately play a **response**:

#### YES, you correctly predicted who the Improviser was:



NO, you did not correctly pick who the **Improviser** was:



After the **response** has been played, this round of *Find the Improviser* is over.

If no one stopped the music to call out the **Improviser** before the timer ends for that round, then everyone stops playing when the timer ends, and the **Improviser** plays the YES **response** (above), in celebration of their victory. Then this round of *Find the Improviser* is over.

Each player begins with **6 points** (this is so that no one will have a negative point score). At the end of each round of *Find the Improviser*, players can gain or lose **points**:

IF the person who stopped the music **correctly guessed** the Improviser, then that person recieves 1 **point**. The Improviser loses 1 **point**.

IF the person who stopped the music **did not correctly guess** who the Improvisor was, then the Improviser recieves 1 **point**. The person who stopped the music loses 1 **point**.

**IF** no one stops the music until the round timer runs out, the Improviser recieves **1 point**. No one loses any **points**.

The **winner** of the whole game/piece is the one who has the most **points** at the end of the sixth round. Each musician should keep track of how many points they have throughout the game. During each *Transition* there is a point tally section where each player communicates (via repeated notes) how many points they currently have.

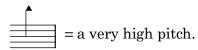
## Notation

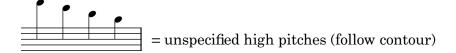
# All Musicians

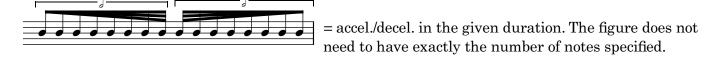
= point your finger at yourself or another player (specified in the score). The point should be a rhythmic gesture that happens in time.



= play a **musical name**, timed to fill the duration specified. It does not have to be synchronized with other musicians. The text specifies which musical name should be played (your own, one of the other musicians, the person who has just been pointed at, the winner of the game, etc.). You will not know the **musical names** of the other musicians in advance, so listen to them when they present their own **musical name** and then try to recreate it to the best of your ability.



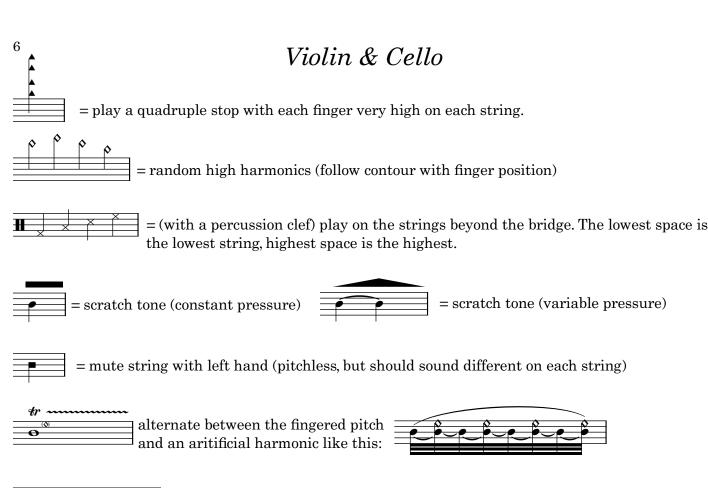




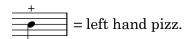
= stemless notes indicate rhythmic freedom - an approximate duration per note is given in the score, but the exact duration of each note can vary. A quarter rest in this notation is equivalent to the approximate duration of one stemless note.

Microtonal accidentals: d = 1/4 flat;  $\sharp = 1/4$  sharp; d = 3/4 flat;  $\sharp = 3/4$  sharp

Unless specified for a passage, use of vibrato is up to the performers. The marking *espr.* implies the use of an expressive vibrato.



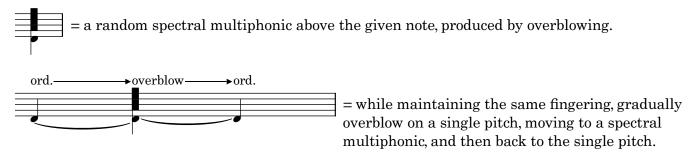
= move smoothly between normal finger pressure and harmonic pressure and back.



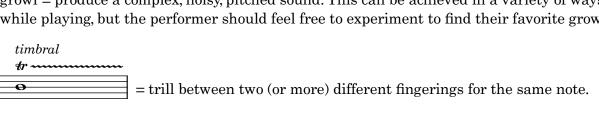
slow bow = a very slow bow speed, the pitch should be distorted but still audible.

Abbreviations: sp = sul ponticello; st = sul tasto; msp = molto sul ponticello; mst = molto sul tasto

# Clarinet



growl = produce a complex, noisy, pitched sound. This can be achieved in a variety of ways, e.g. singing while playing, but the performer should feel free to experiment to find their favorite growl sound to use.





= sing while playing. The full-size notes should be played while the bracketed smaller note should be sung (both in written Bb pitch - sung note can be transposed to most comfortable octave)



= sim. to the spectral multiphonic, produce a gliss. of overtones by overblowing on a single note. However, here try to make the overtones create as continuous of a gliss. sound as possible. The diamond pitches do not indicate sounding pitches, but simply show the contour of the resulting gliss. sound.



= play the given pitch with an alternate fingering (the specific fingering used is up to the performer)

#### Piano

Inside the piano, the following strings/ranges should be accessible and labelled such that the performer can easily find all of these pitches: A0, D1 through A1, B3 through F5 (C4 = middle C).



= pluck or strum (if a gliss. line is present) the strings inside the piano.



= play a cluster with the palm, approximately covering the range specified (both naturals & accidentals)



= play the note on the keyboard while stopping the string inside the piano with one finger. If no harmonic is specified, the location where the string is stopped is up to the performer.



= play the normal-sized note on the keyboard while stopping the string inside the piano with one finger at a nodal point to produce a harmonic. The small, parenthized note is the sounding pitch.



= play the note on the keyboard while stopping the string inside the piano with one finger. Slide that finger across the string in the direction of the arrow (up = away from the performer; down = towards the performer)



= silently depress the note on the keyboard without making sound.



= smoothly and continuously strum the strings around the given register.



= scrape the string with your fingernail back and forth. The jagged line above indicates the scrape speed - here moving from slow to fast.



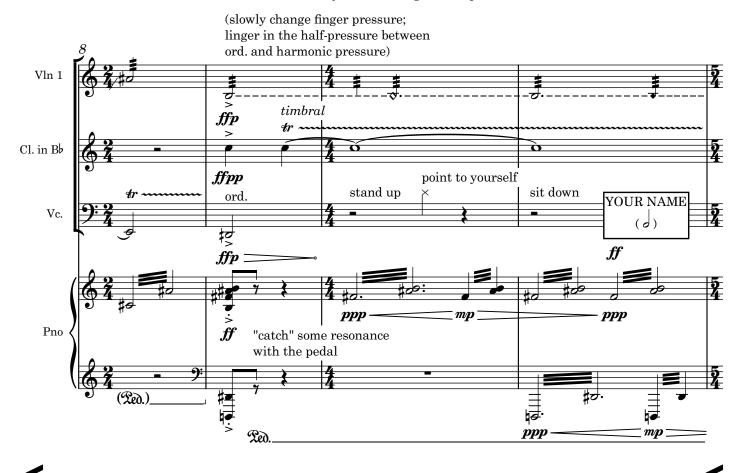
= pluck or strum (if a gliss. line is present) the strings between the tuning peg and the player. Pitch is not specified - higher strings may not correspond to higher sounding pitches.



= knock on the crossbeams with your knuckle. The two different pitches indicate two different crossbeams to knock on (the upper one should have a higher sound)

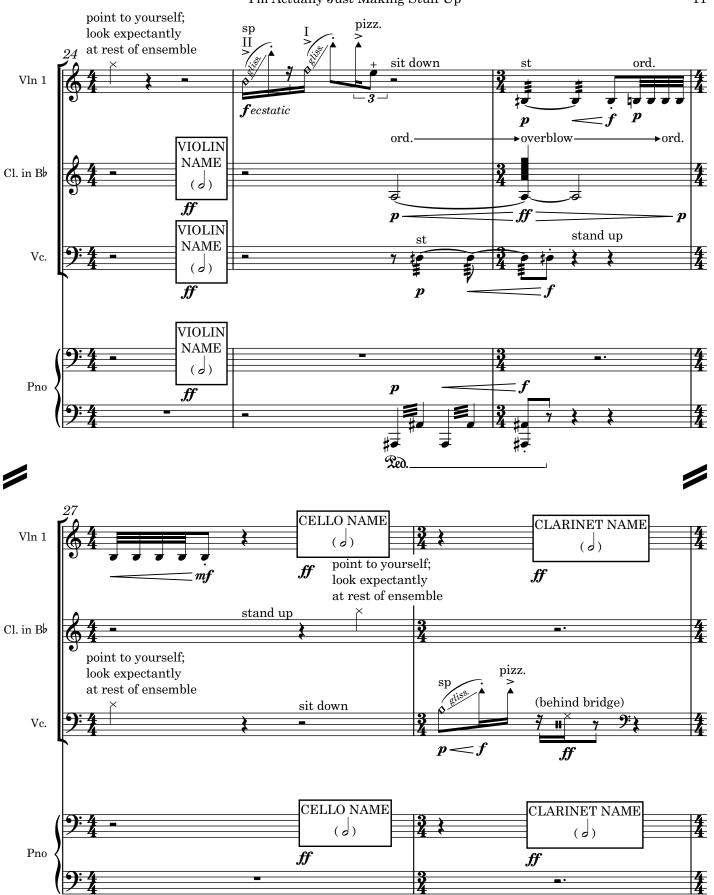
# I'm Actually Just Making Stuff Up

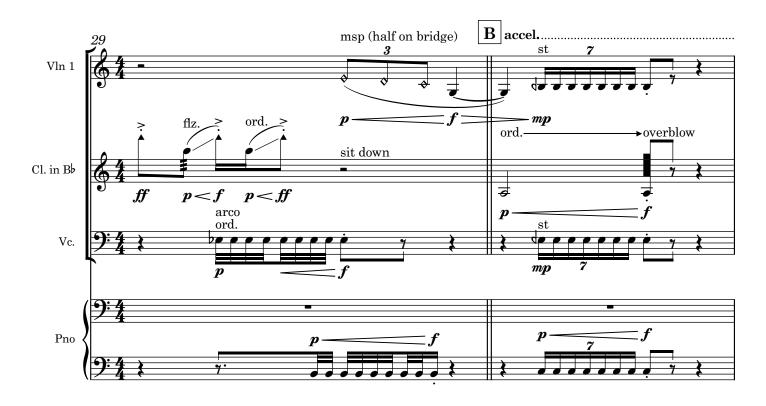


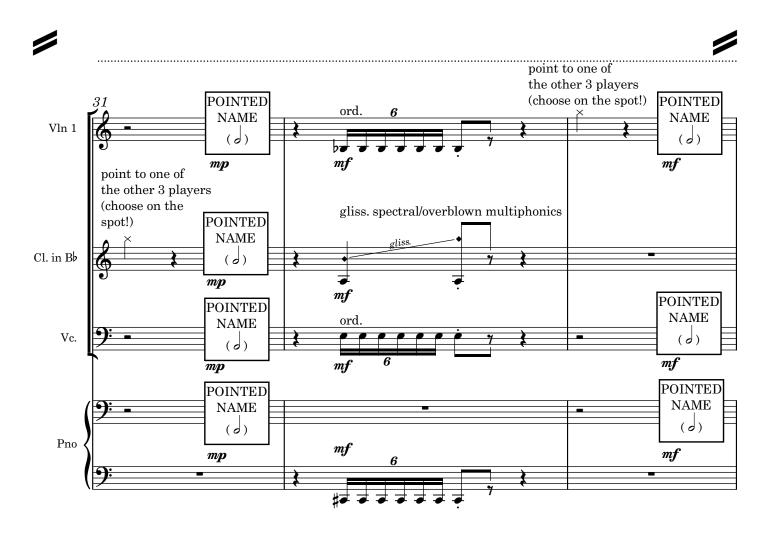


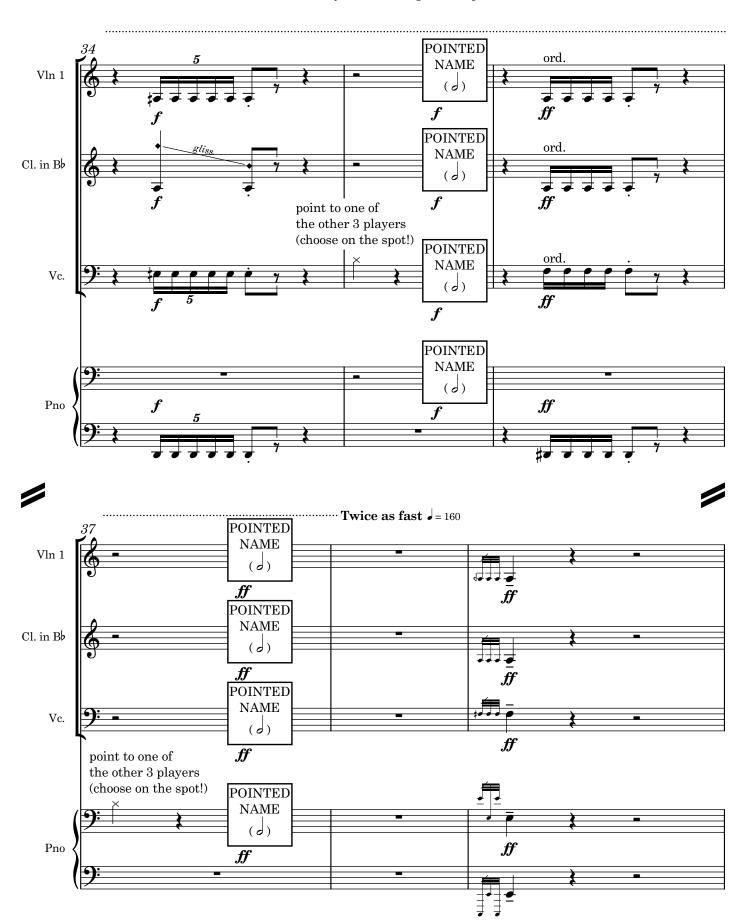


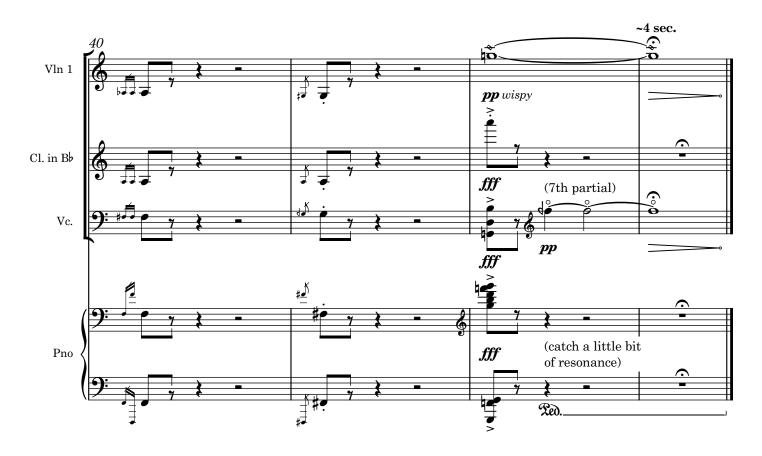












Begin Round 1 of *Find the Improviser!* (see **pages 2-5** for setup and rules)

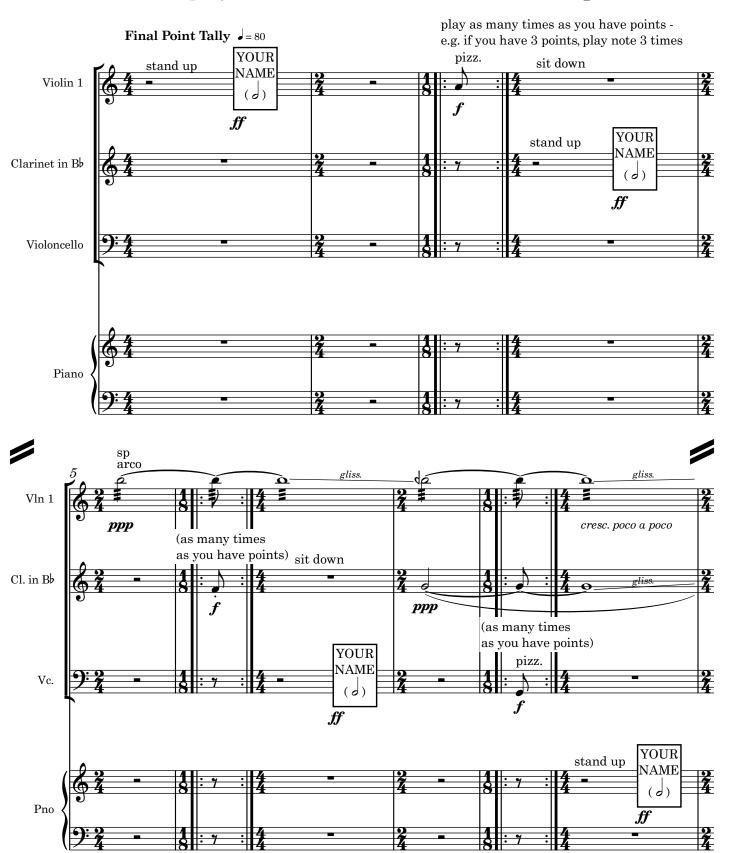
# Transition - play between each round of Find the Improviser

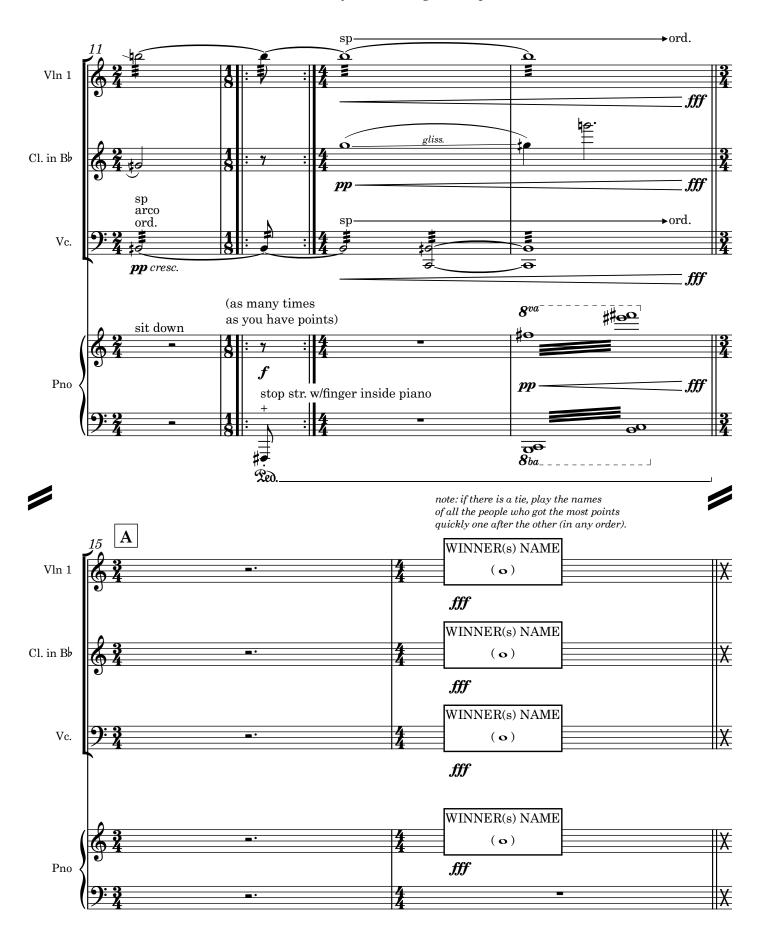
**Point Tally**  $\downarrow$  = 108, 120, 138, 160, 200 (each of the 5 times the Transition is played, choose a faster tempo) play as many times as you have points -

e.g. if you have 3 points, play quarter note 3 times



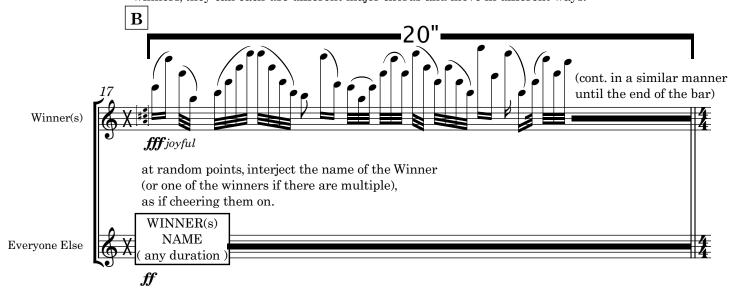
# Conclusion - play after the last round of Find the Improviser

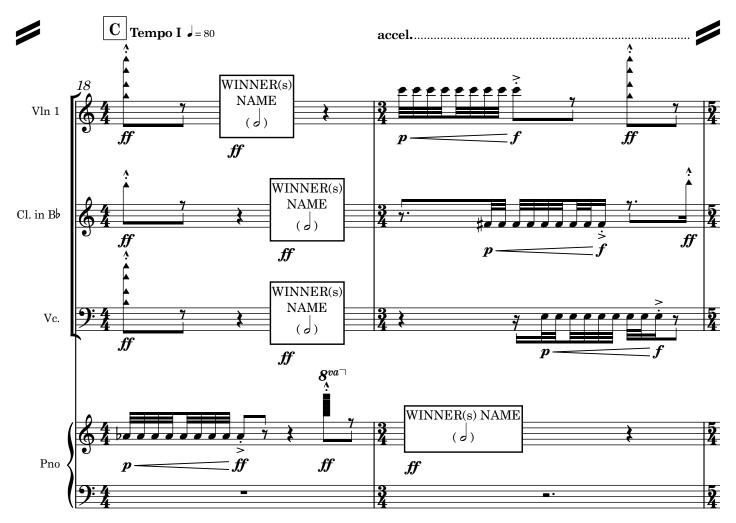


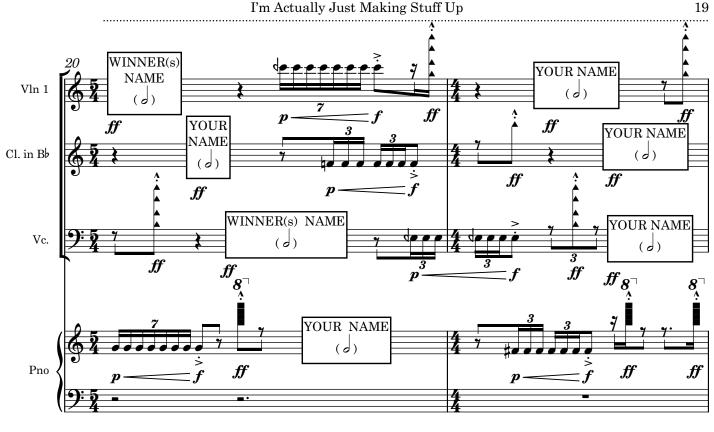


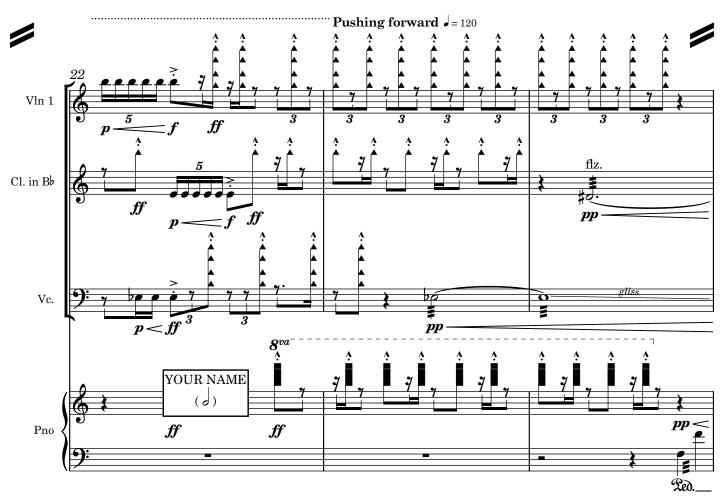
#### play notes from a very high major chord and wildly improvise,

celebrating your victory. As you play, feel free to move the chord around (and play in different octaves) so that it changes freely (maintain the relative intervals between the pitches so it still sounds like a major chord). If there are multiple winners, they can each use different major chords and move in different ways.



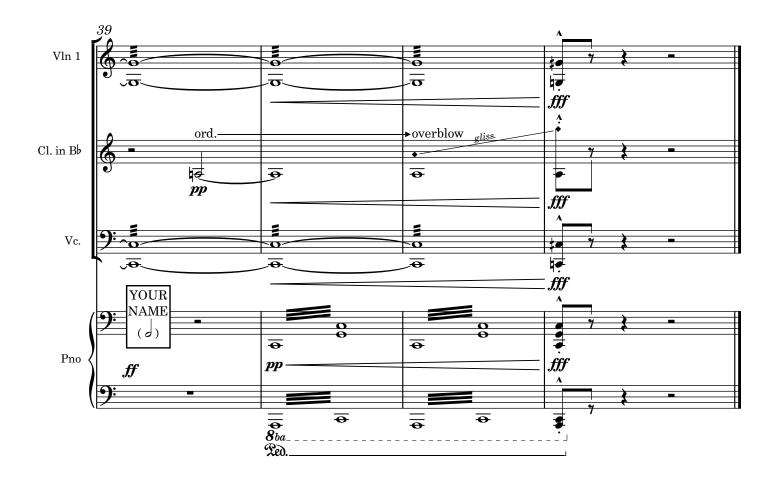






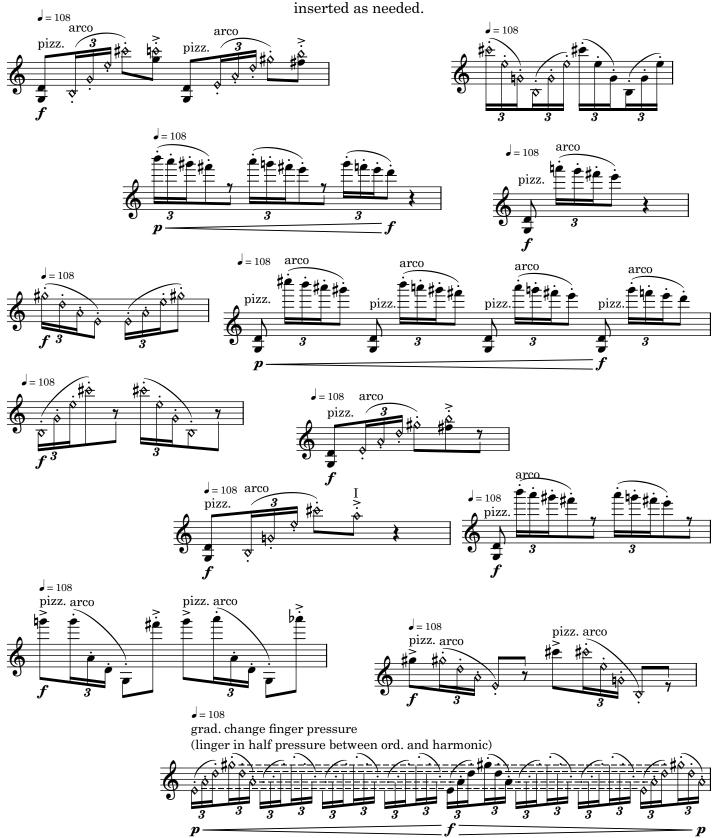






This is the **end** of the piece. The rest of the score contains the individual pages that musicians will play off of in each round of *Find the Improviser*. See **page 2** for information about which pages each musician will use.

#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Violin A Cells



#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Clarinet A Cells



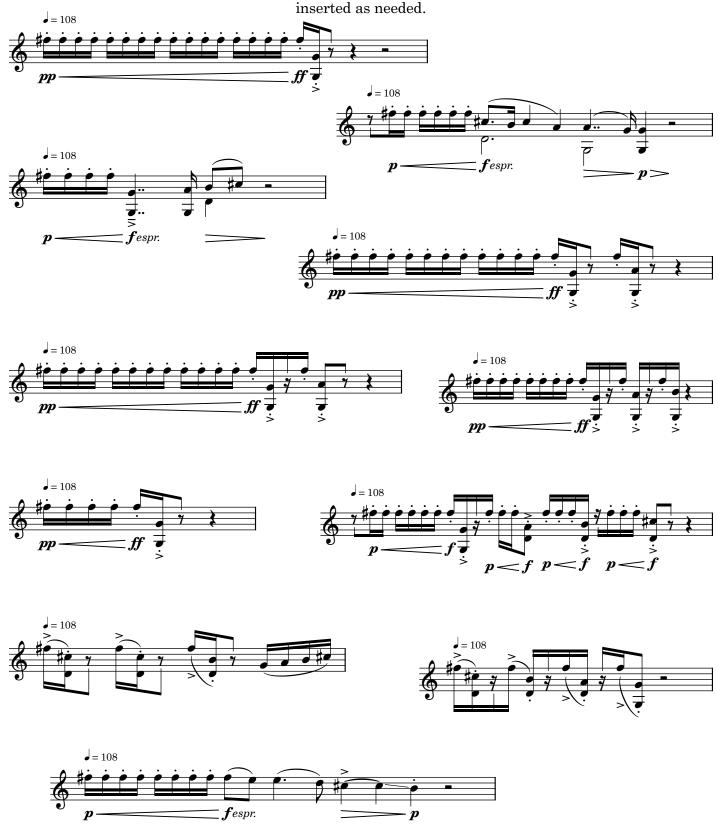
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Cello A Cells



#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Piano A Cells



#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Violin B Cells



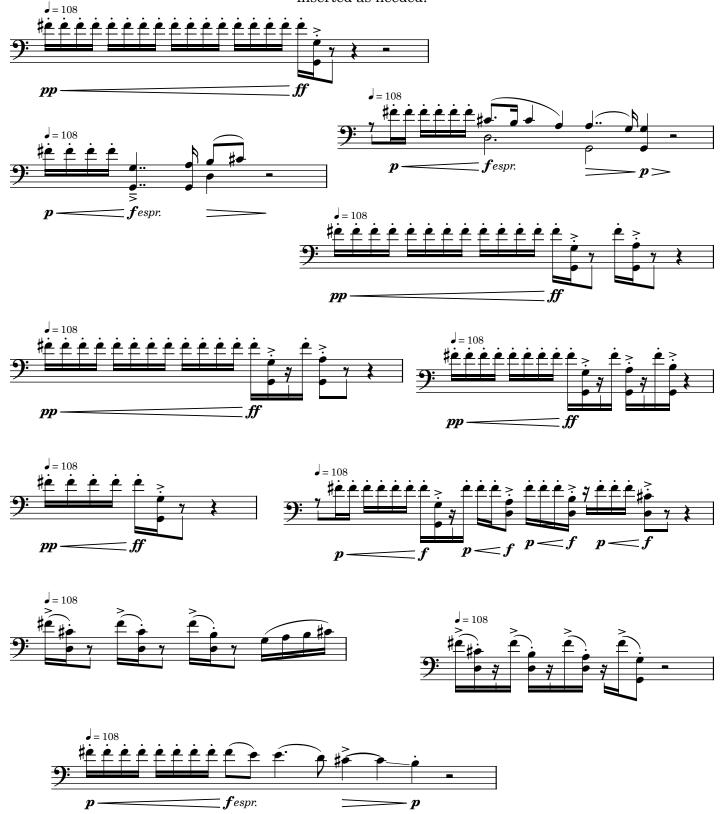
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Clarinet B Cells

Play the small fragments on this page in tempo, synchronizing to the **eighth note** with other musicians. You can begin on any fragment, move between any fragment and any other fragment, and you can play the same fragment a maximum of **five** times before moving on to a different fragment. If possible, move between fragments without a break in the rhythm, though the occassional quarter and half rest may be inserted as needed.

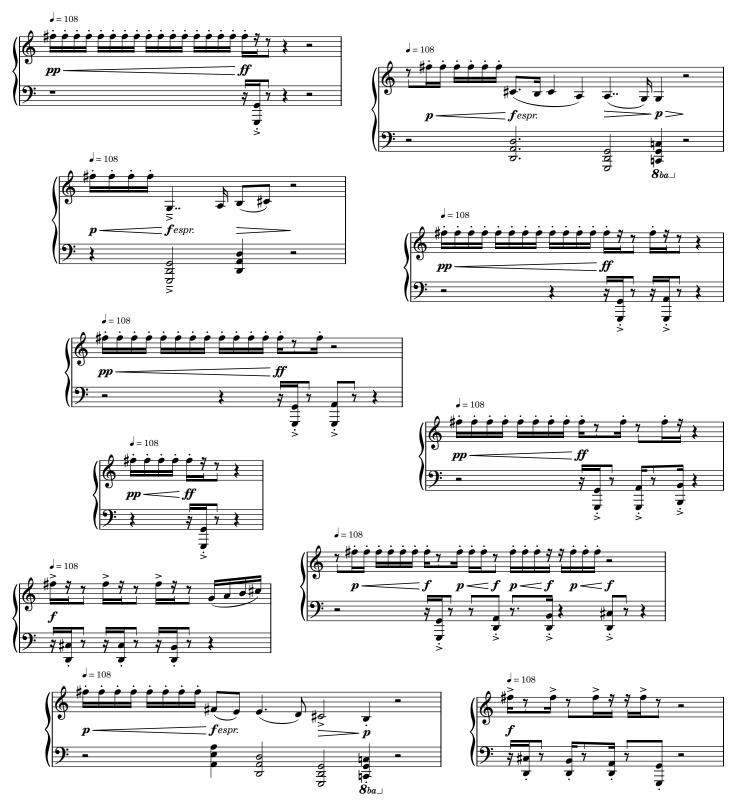


fespr.

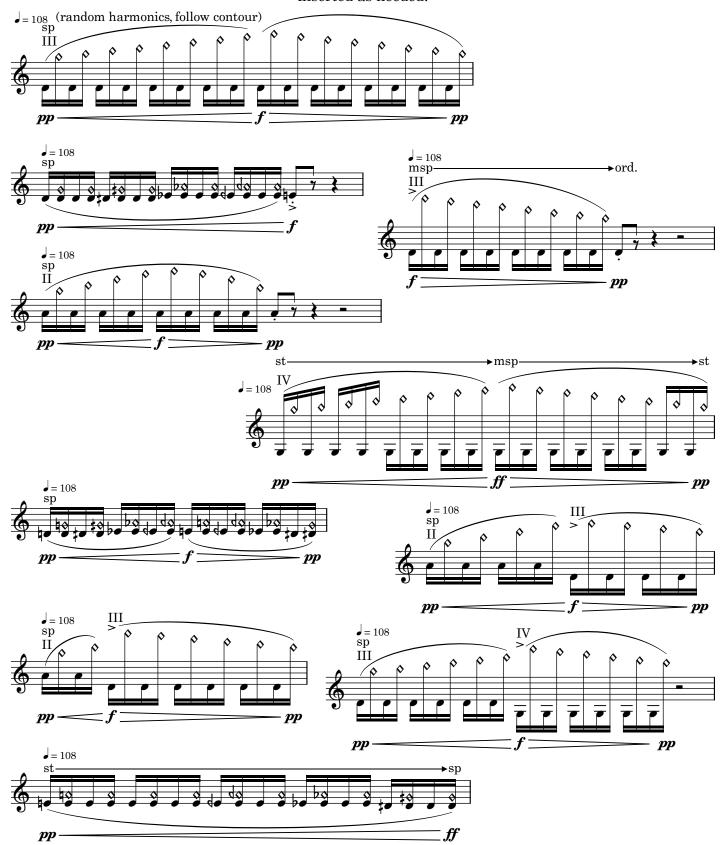
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Cello B Cells



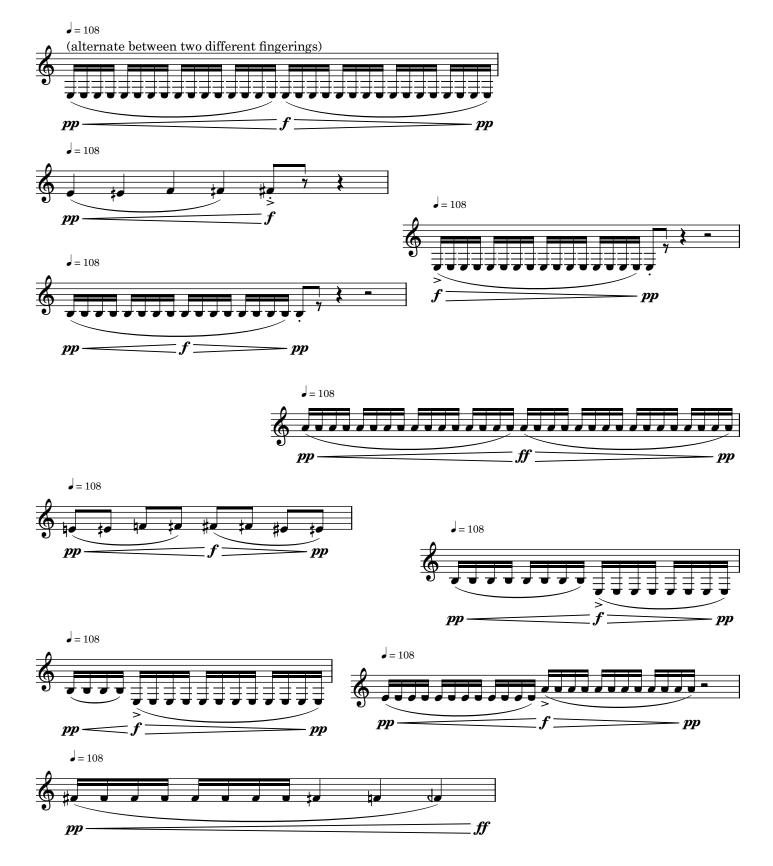
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Piano B Cells



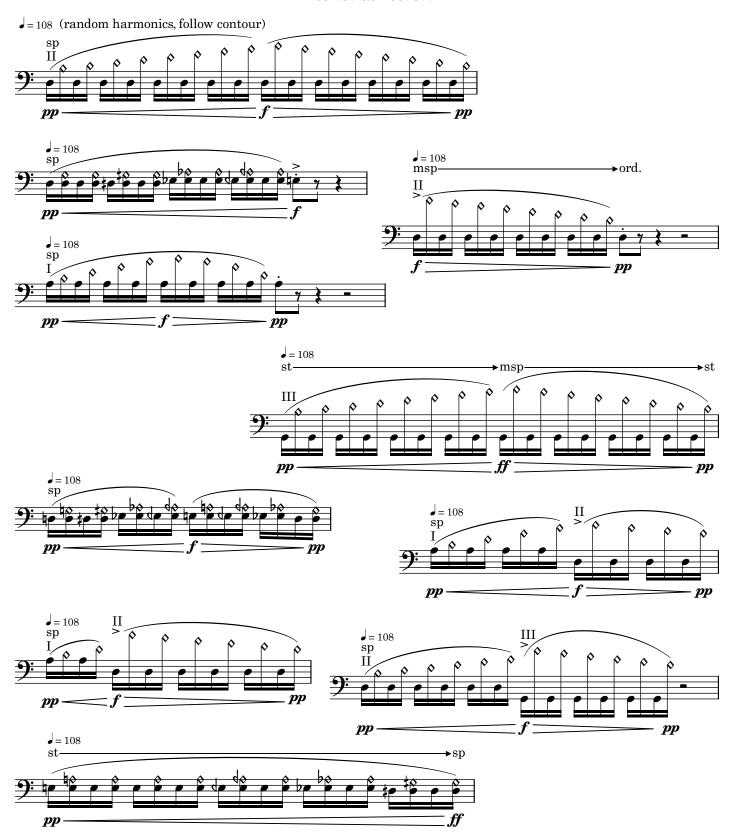
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Violin C Cells



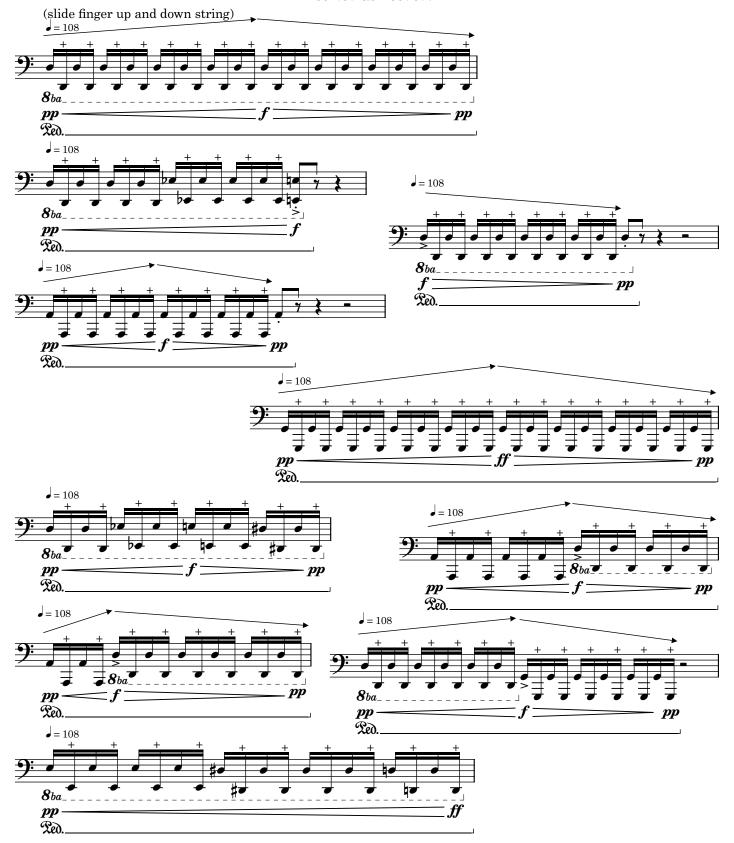
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Clarinet C Cells



#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Cello C Cells

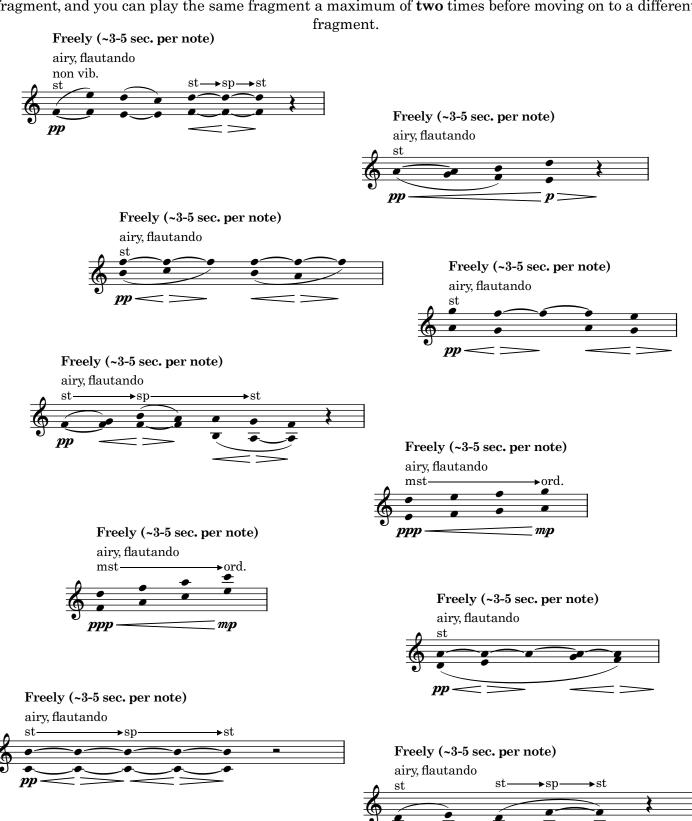


#### Find the Improviser Rounds 1 and 4: Piano C Cells



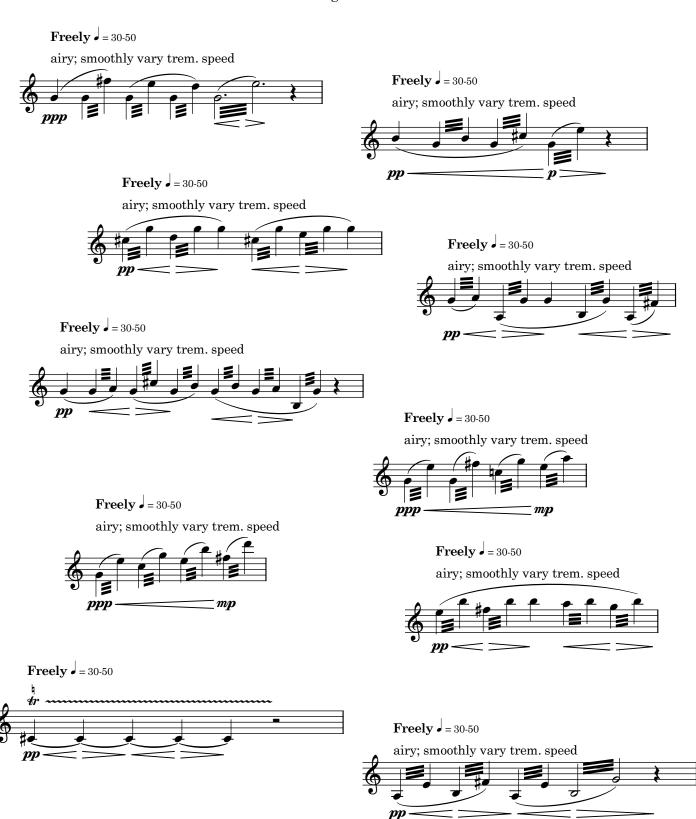
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Violin A Cells

Play the small fragments on this page in any order, at your own pace, without regard to staying together with other musicians. You can begin on any fragment, move between any fragment and any other fragment, and you can play the same fragment a maximum of **two** times before moving on to a different fragment.

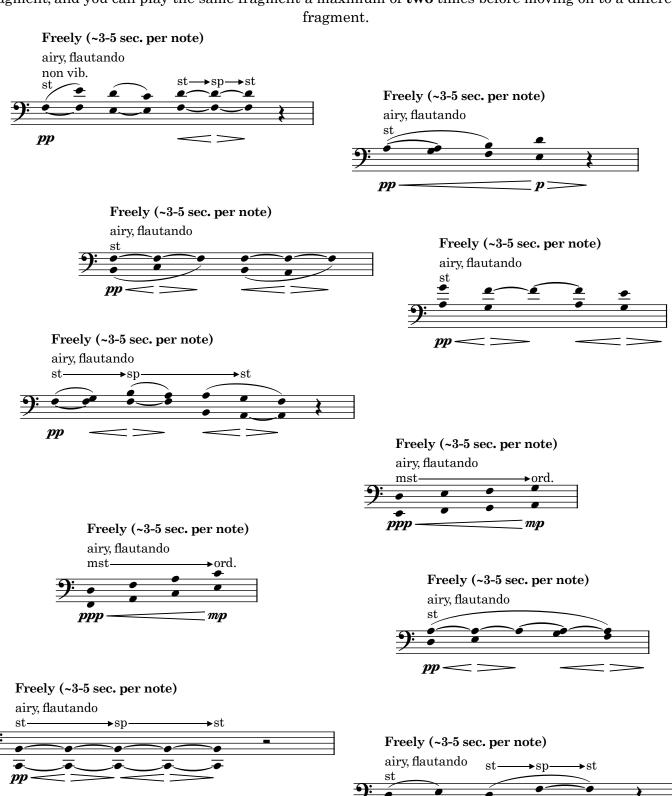


#### Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Clarinet A Cells

Play the small fragments on this page in any order, at your own pace, without regard to staying together with other musicians. You can begin on any fragment, move between any fragment and any other fragment, and you can play the same fragment a maximum of **two** times before moving on to a different fragment.



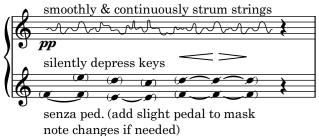
# Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Cello A Cells



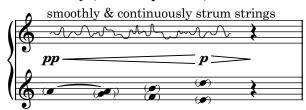
# Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Piano A Cells

Play the small fragments on this page in any order, at your own pace, without regard to staying together with other musicians. You can begin on any fragment, move between any fragment and any other fragment, and you can play the same fragment a maximum of **two** times before moving on to a different fragment.

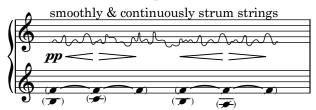
Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)



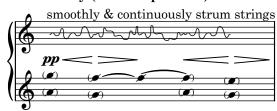
Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)



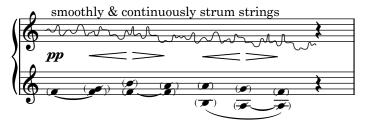
Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)



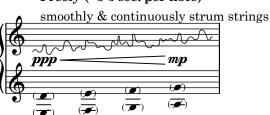
Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)



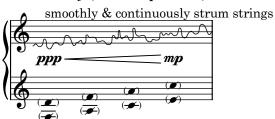
Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)



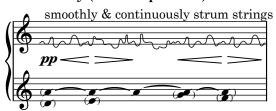
Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)



Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)

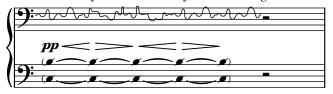


Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)

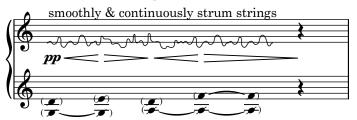


Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)

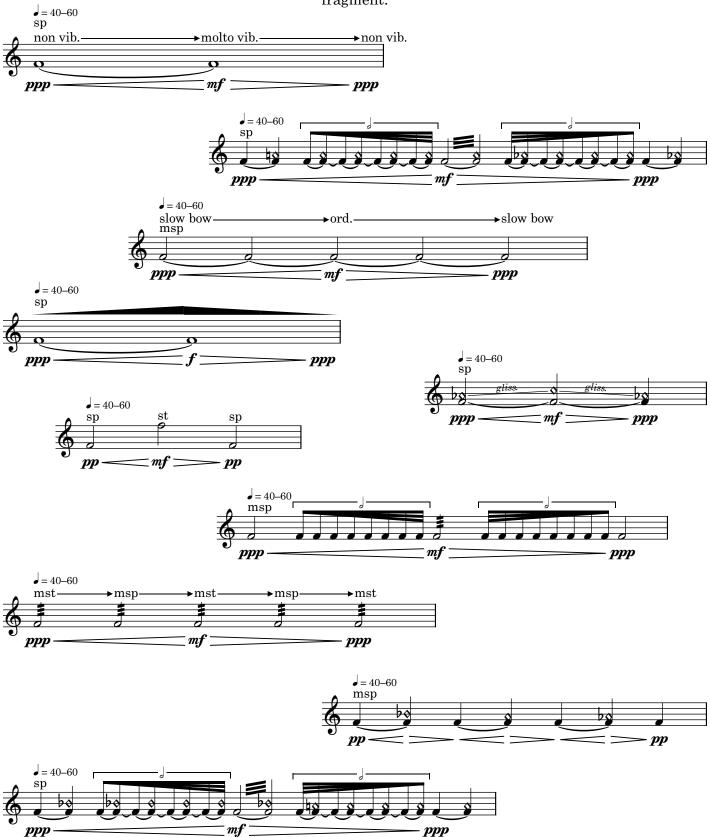
smoothly & continuously strum strings



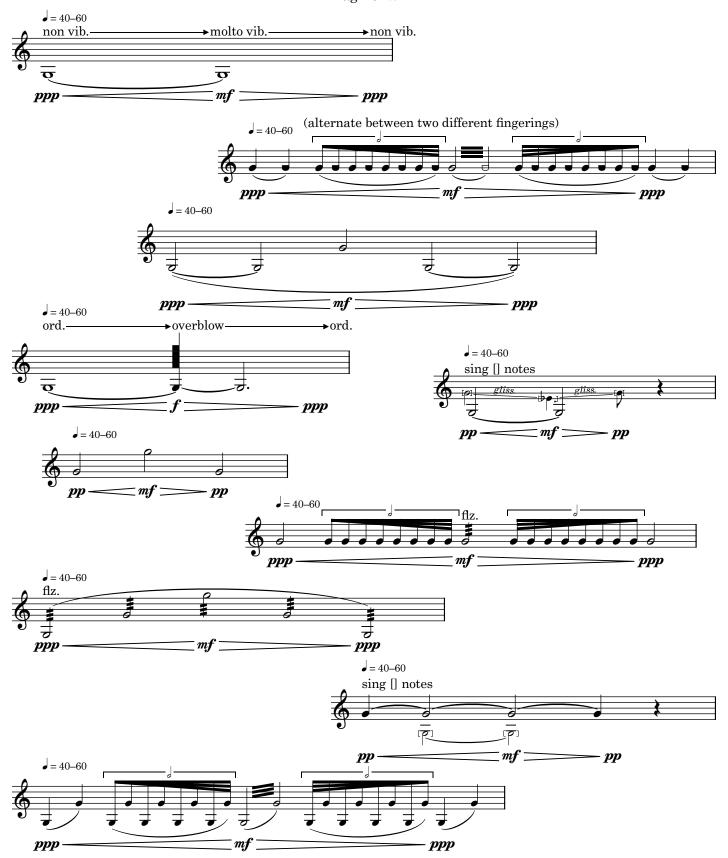
Freely (~3-5 sec. per note)



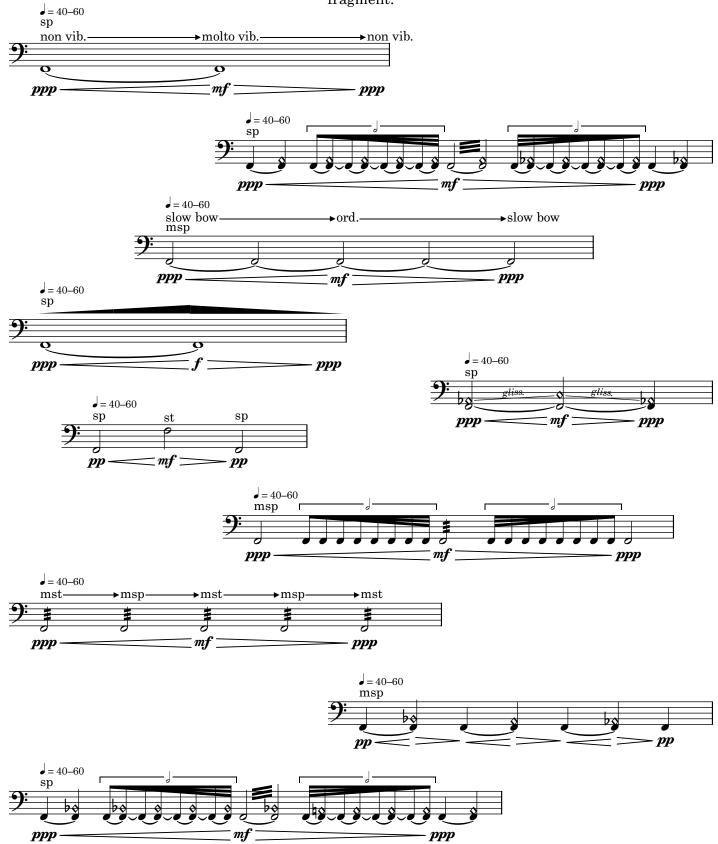
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Violin B Cells



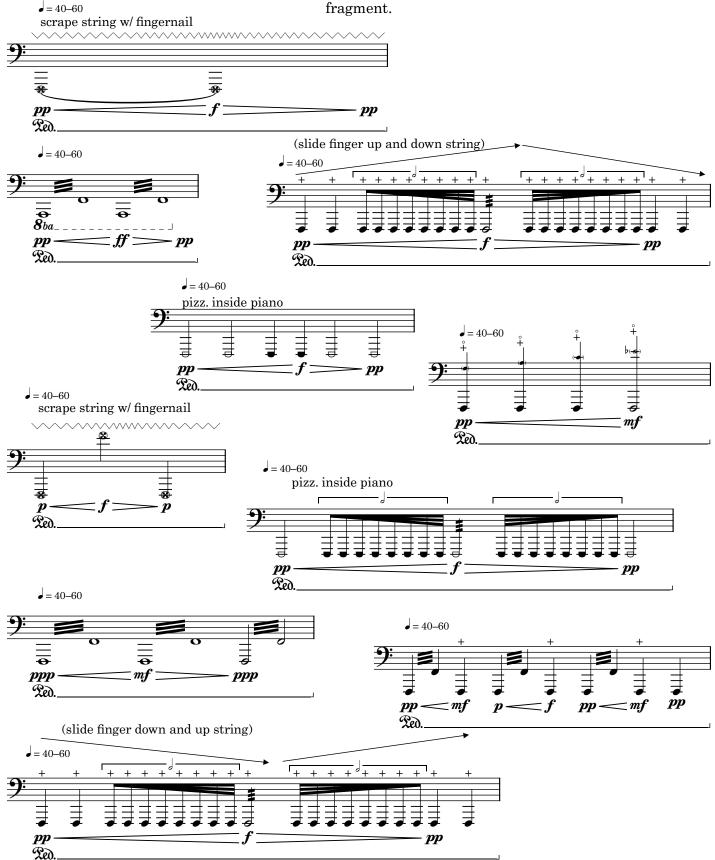
# Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Clarinet B Cells



# Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Cello B Cells



#### Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Piano B Cells



# Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Violin C Cells



# Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Clarinet C Cells



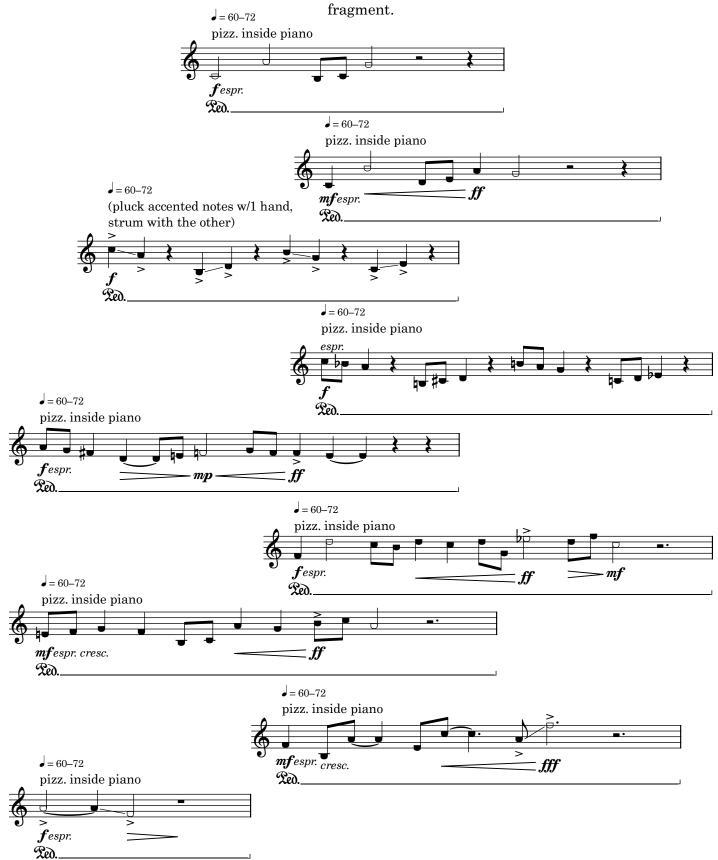
# Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Cello C Cells

Play the small fragments on this page in any order, at your own pace, without regard to staying together with other musicians. You can begin on any fragment, move between any fragment and any other fragment, and you can play the same fragment a maximum of **two** times before moving on to a different fragment

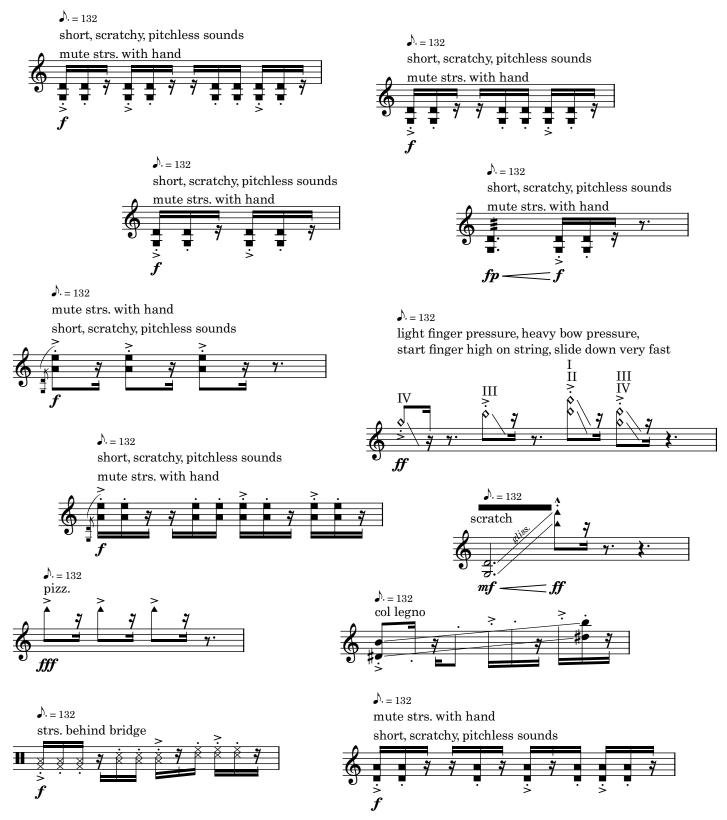


mp espr.

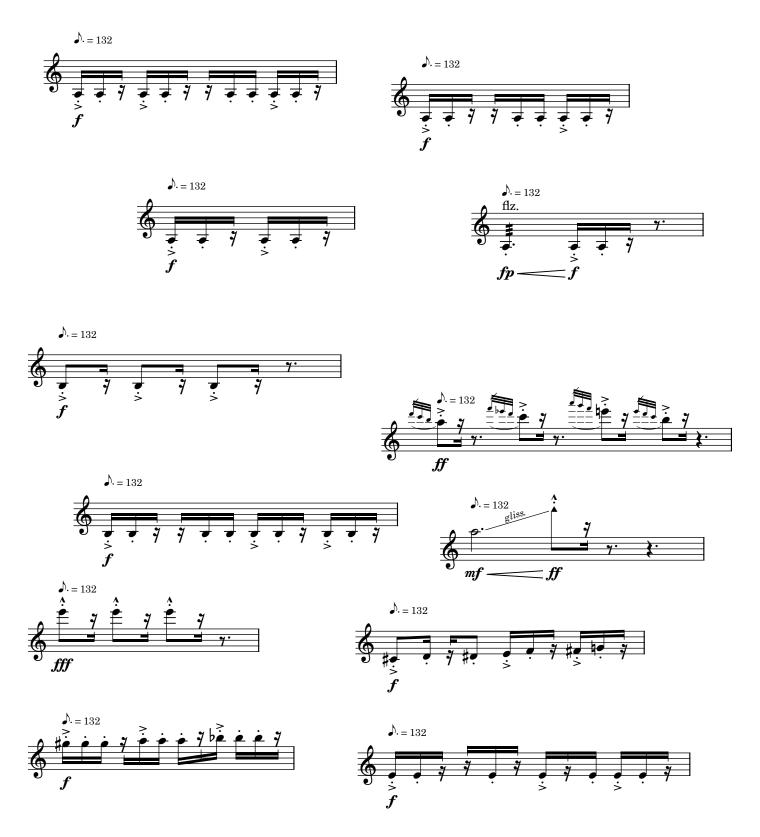
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 2 and 5: Piano C Cells



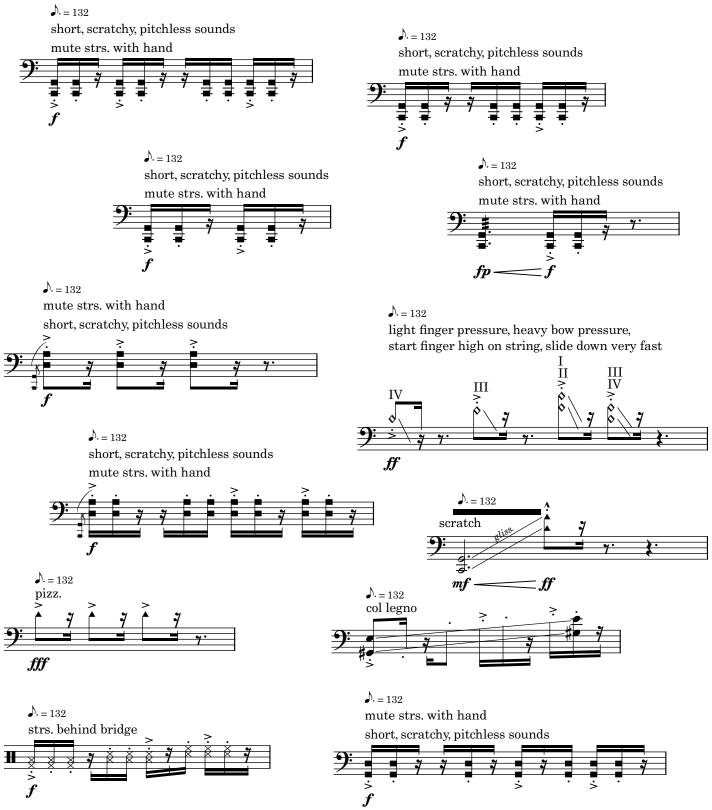
# Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Violin A Cells



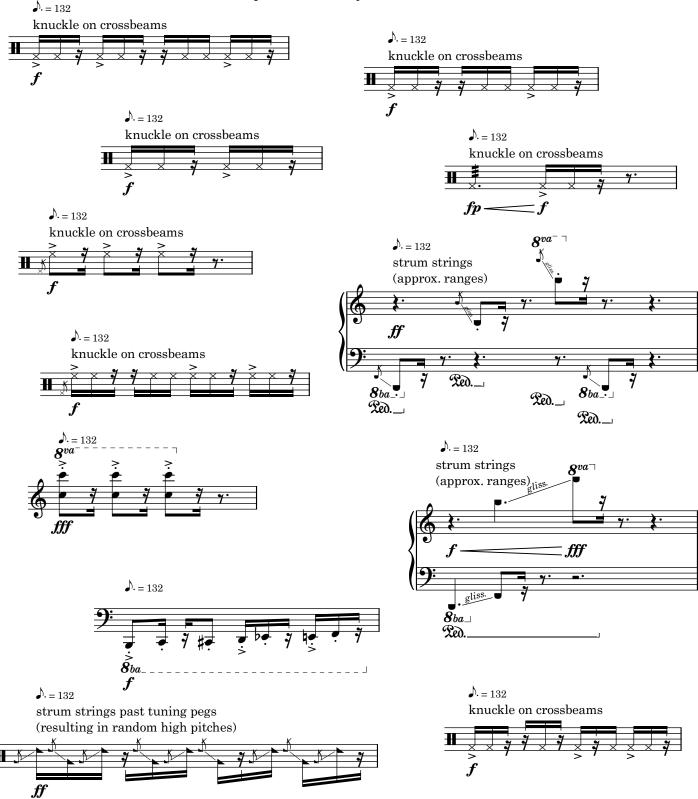
# Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Clarinet A Cells



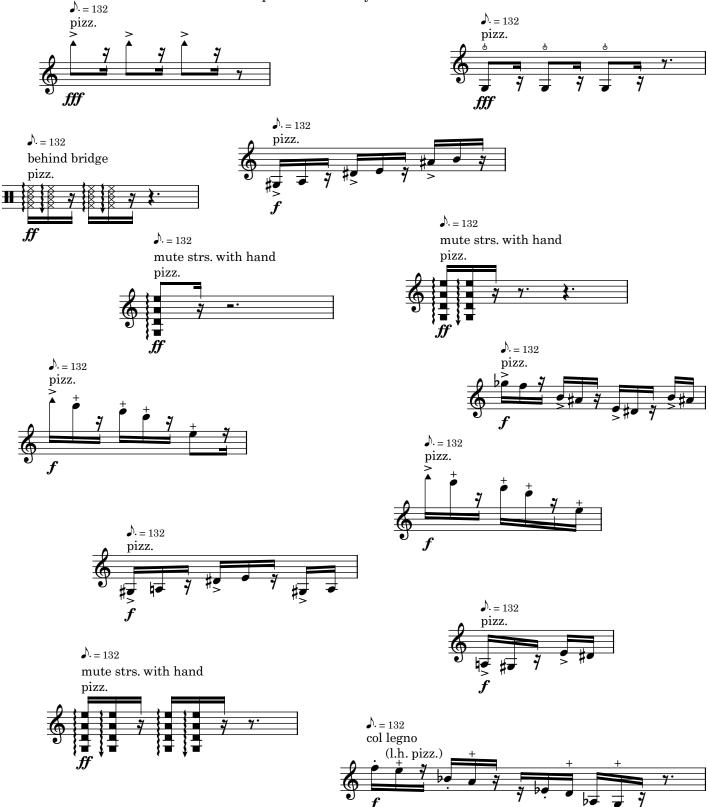
# Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Cello A Cells



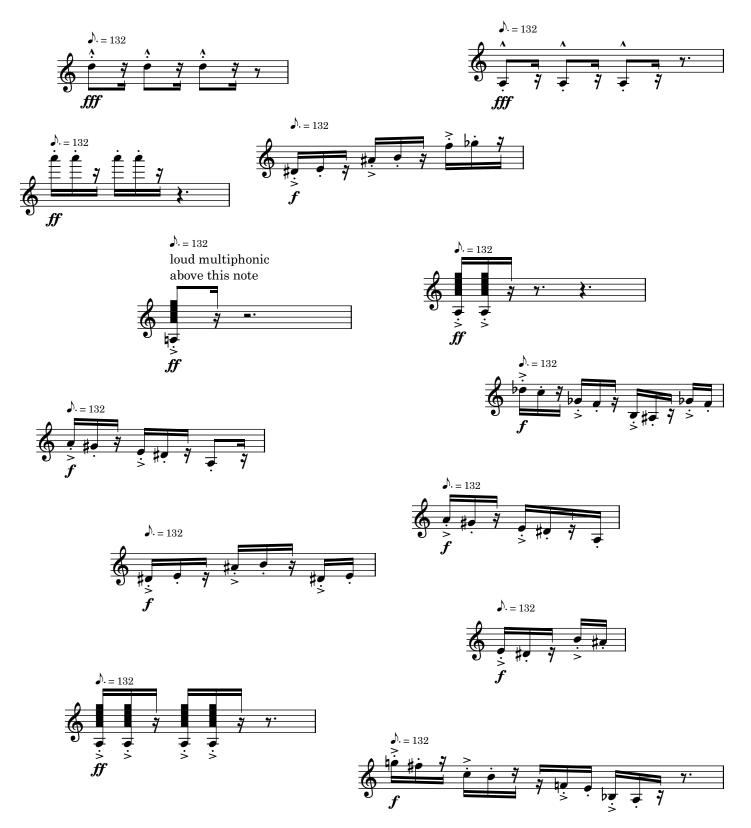
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Piano A Cells



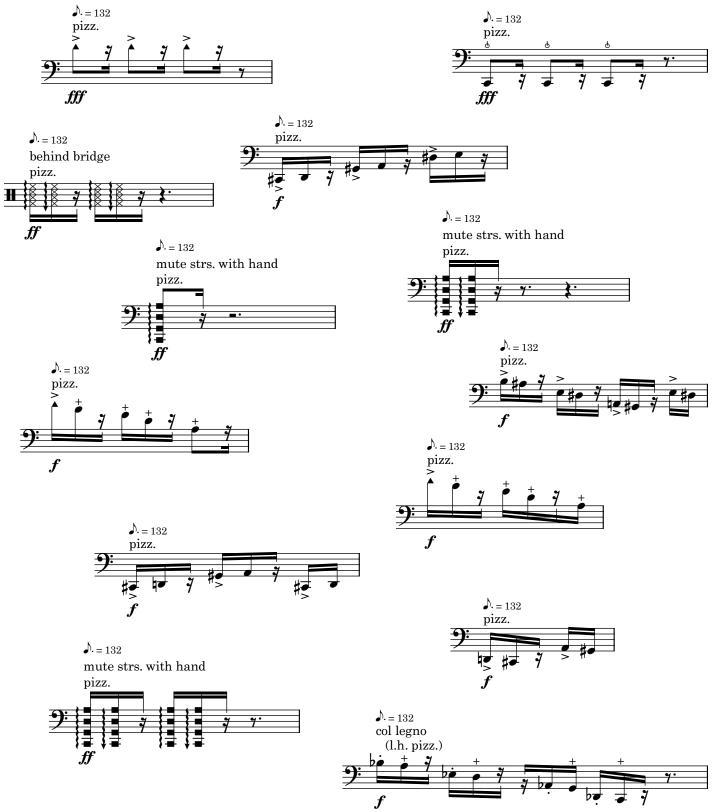
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Violin B Cells



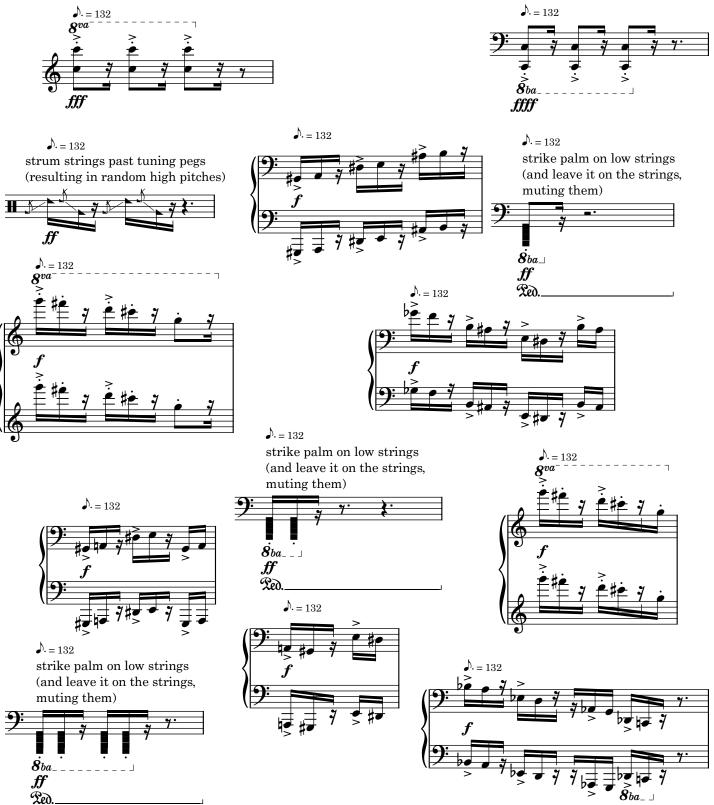
# Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Clarinet B Cells



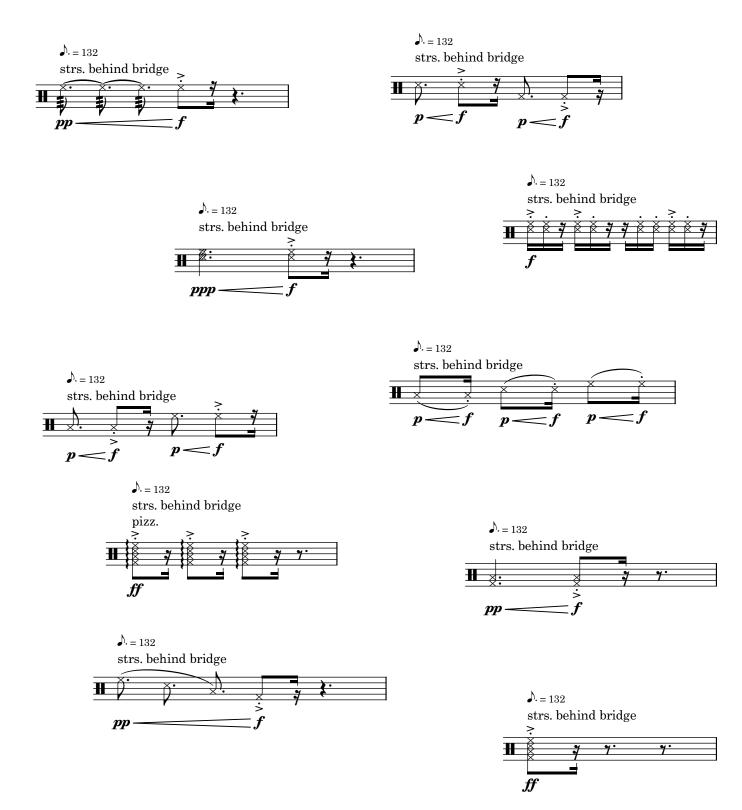
# Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Cello B Cells



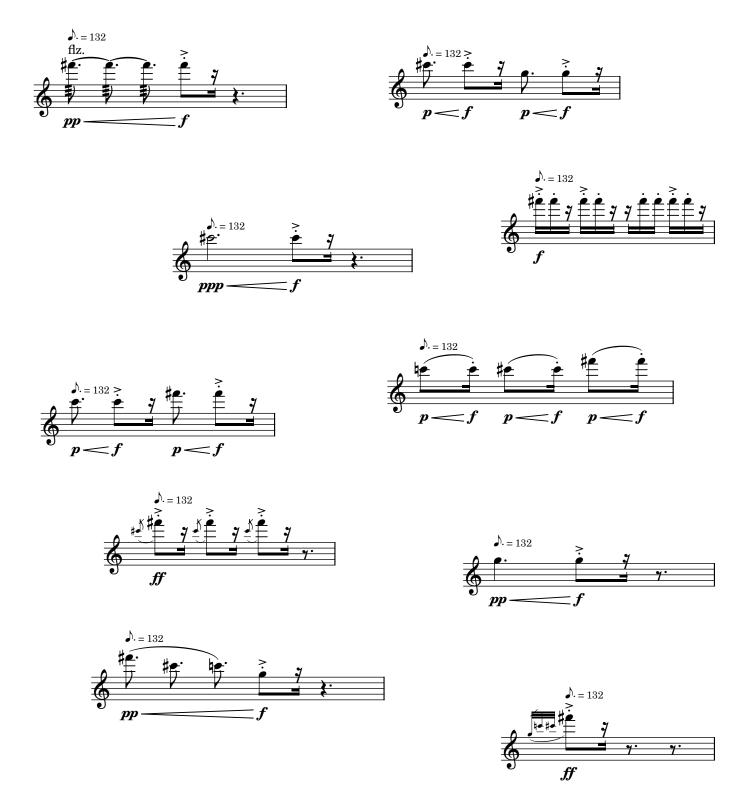
#### Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Piano B Cells



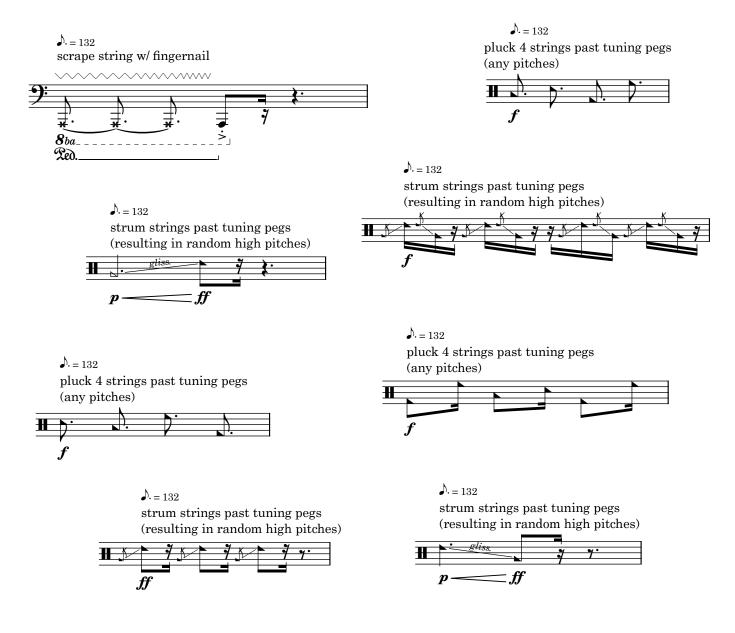
# Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Violin or Cello C Cells

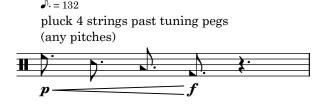


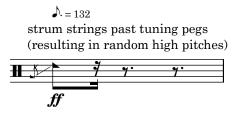
# Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Clarinet C Cells



#### Find the Improviser Rounds 3 and 6: Piano C Cells







# Improvise!!

Your goal is to fit yourself well enough into the texture of the other three players so that they cannot tell that you are actually improvising. They should believe that you are moving around various fixed cells like they are.