Richard Barrett

rift

2012-2014
piccolo trumpet, percussion and (optional) lap steel guitar

performing score

rift

(2012-14) for piccolo trumpet in Bb, percussion and (optional) lap steel guitar

commissioned by TRANSIT New Music Festival (Leuven, Belgium) and premiered by ELISION

in memory of Simon Howard

duration: approximately 6 minutes

Trills, tremoli and gracenotes always as fast as possible.

Quartertones: 𝄲 𝄳 𝄭 𝄳 𝄮 𝄯 𝄰 𝄱 𝄲

] = damp all sound, or, where indicated, damp selected sounds (guitar/percussion); abrupt and audible cutting-off of sound (trumpet).
The piccolo trumpet is notated a minor seventh lower than it sounds, the guitar an octave higher.

The **dynamics** form a crucial aspect of the structure of *rift*. Firstly, the accented and non-accented sounds should be clearly distinguished from one another: the accented sounds are notated throughout two degrees louder than the non-accented ones. Secondly, this scheme is subject to rapid and often extreme variation in the trumpet and percussion parts, for example between *p/ppp* and *fff/f*. The lap steel guitar part, on the other hand, consists mostly of gradual *crescendi* and *diminuendi* to be executed using the volume pedal.

The **barring** of the entire composition is intended as an aid to coordination and has no metrical implications. The constantly-changing "metre" of the music should be associated principally with the aforementioned accentual framework.

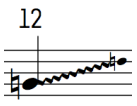
When ***rift*** is performed alone (ie. not as part of the composite work ***world-line***) the guitar part may be omitted.

piccolo trumpet

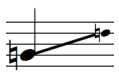
The fourth valve tubing is pulled out sufficiently to lower the pitch by a further quartertone. The quartertones in the trumpet part are intended to be realised in this way, although of course players may find more appropriate ways of realising them in some cases. Departures from equal temperament caused by notated combinations of pitch and valve-combination should not be "corrected".

Normal ***staccato*** points indicate a shortening of the sound (and thus may occur at the end of a *legato* phrase); wedges indicate a more sharply percussive attack.

△ = as high as possible

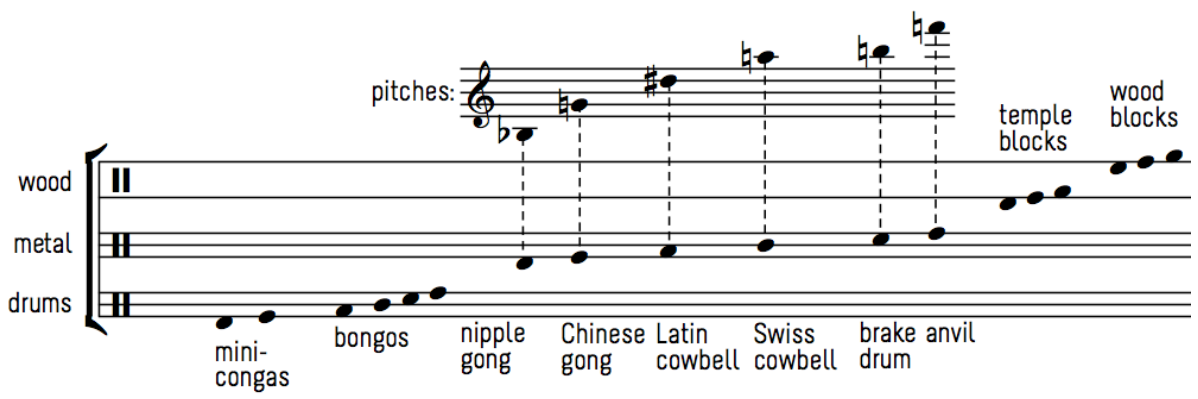


= "**glissando**" through natural harmonics on the fingering given.


= glissando to be produced by whatever means are appropriate (through harmonics and/or using half-valving and/or embouchure)

percussion

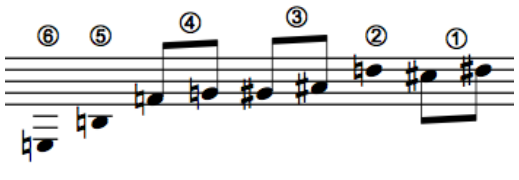
instrumentation:
3 woodblocks
3 temple blocks
anvil
brake drum
Swiss cowbell
Latin cowbell
Chinese gong
nipple gong
2 pairs of bongos
2 "mini-congas" (eg. 22 and 25 cm)



All three temple-blocks should be lower in pitch than the lowest of the woodblocks. The largest temple block should be the largest available, the smallest woodblock very high and piercing in sound. The four bongos are notated from low to high, which may require thinking of the two pairs as "interlocked". The pitches of the metal instruments should be as shown in the diagram. The instruments should be placed as close together as possible to maximise fluency across the entire composite "instrument". The four mallets used should be as hard and incisive in sound as is compatible with hearing the timbral characteristics of each instrument (without these being dominated by the contact sound).

lap steel guitar

A six-string instrument is used, equipped with legs to allow free use of pedals, with the following tuning (which includes three string-benders each with a range of a major second, applied to the first, third and fourth strings, although these are not used in ***rift***):



See the score of ***lens*** for further details of the instrument. In ***rift*** the lap steel guitar is played throughout with an EBow, using a volume pedal to realise the dynamic changes. The dynamic range of the amplified instrument should be adjusted to coincide as far as possible with that of the other instruments. Two distinct but related timbres are indicated for the guitar - see beginning of score and bar 140. Two slides are used in the left hand, indicated by H (high) and L (low) - the low one should be a heavy chrome slide (Shubb or equivalent) held between second and third fingers, and the high one a brass bottleneck on the first finger.

rift

Richard Barrett
2013-14

1
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
(4 hard mallets)
lap steel guitar
(EBow)
sound rich in overtones, perhaps with very slowly (but unpredictably) changing timbre
(L)
⑥ until end of bar 9

3
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
lap steel guitar
(EBow)
p sub.

5
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
lap steel guitar
(EBow)

7
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
lap steel guitar
(EBow)

9

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

11

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

13

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

15

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

17
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
lap steel guitar
(EBow)

19
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
lap steel guitar
(EBow)

21
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
lap steel guitar
(EBow)

23
piccolo trumpet in B♭
perc.
wood
metal
drums
lap steel guitar
(EBow)

25

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

non tr.

(play the repeated sounds with one hand, progressively damp with the other)

secco

(lip)

sub.

27

29

31

("dead-stick")

33

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

(alternating between 3 and 1234)

35

(sim.)

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

(L) H L H L H L

37

(23)

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

39

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

41

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.

wood

metal

drums

lap steel guitar

(EBow)

14:11

43

45

(gradually losing pitch)

sub.

47

49

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

234 23 124 1234 14

mp ff mp ff mf mp pp mp pp mp pp

mf ff mf ff mf mp pp mp pp 3:2 3:2 mp pp

⑤ ③ (L) H L H L 3:2 3:2

f pp

51

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

6:5 4:3 3:2 3:2 6:5 9:7 4:5

mp pp mp pp f mp f mp f mp f mp p ppp p pppp pppp p pppp pppp ffff ffff p ppp fff f fff (p)

④

mf ppp ff

53

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

124 123 234 4 5:4 4:3

(f) mp pp pp f ppp ppp p

10:11 6:5 4:3

p f pp mp pp f mf ppp p ppp ppp p

②

f pp f ppp pp

♪=112

55

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

(1) (2)

24 234 24 234 24 234 Ø 1 Ø 1 23 Ø 23 34 Ø 34 Ø 1 Ø 1 4 Ø 4 Ø 24 Ø

8:9 5:4 3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2

ffff fff ffff fff ffff mp mf ff mf ff ff mf p mp

7:6 3:2

fff mp mf ff mf ff ff mf p mp

f ff mp f

57

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.

wood

metal

drums

lap steel guitar

(EBow)

(porta.)

sub!

59

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.

wood

metal

drums

lap steel guitar

(EBow)

(sub.)

61

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.

wood

metal

drums

lap steel guitar

(EBow)

63

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.

wood

metal

drums

lap steel guitar

(EBow)

65

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

67

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

69

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

71

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

73

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

(2)
(4)
(independent trills keeping pitch as close as possible to D)

75

123 134

(all to same pitch!) (3) (13) (34) (23) (13)(23) (12)(23)
24 1 4 2 1 34 Ø

77

(sim.) (23) (34)
14 12

34 13 14 12 4 134 1234 23 134

(13)

79

(gliss. + vibrato)

vibr.

senza vibr.

81

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

♪=120

(bounce stick against edge of drumhead, raising pitch by shifting point of contact towards end of stick)

change to significantly more distorted sound (but with same dynamic range!)

⑥ (L/H) (keeping the slides approximately the same distance apart during the glissando/trill, so that the interval becomes smaller)

83

85

H

87

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

89

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

91

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

93

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

95

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

97

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

99

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

101

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

5:4 4:5 3:2 4:3

103

extremely high sound, irregularly fluctuating in pitch

piccolo trumpet in B♭

perc.
wood
metal
drums

3:2 7:8 11:8 6:5

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

H L H L H....
10:11
(H/L)
irregular pitch-fluctuations of both slides

105

piccolo trumpet in B♭

1234 Ø 134 3:2 234 13 134 234 13 24 23

perc.
wood
metal
drums

11:8 5:4 4:3 4:3 3:2

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

107

piccolo trumpet in B♭

5:4 4:5 4:3

perc.
wood
metal
drums

damp each sound rapidly!
5:6 6:5 4:5 4:3

lap steel guitar
(EBow)

10:8