

The Color Grey


for voice, B \flat clarinet, E \flat alto clarinet, and 3 other musicians

Rodrigo Constanzo

Personnel and Form: [A] = voice, B \flat clarinet, and E \flat alto clarinet [B] = everyone* [C] = double trio*

[A] ♩ = 50

Voice



Sing dā, nā, or mā. Modulate between consonants.
Ritard slightly on last measure then continue to [B]

[A] ♩ = 50

B \flat Cl.

E \flat A.Cl.



*sections [B] and [C] are written in concert pitch.

B₁

Everyone comes in on the pitch B. It can be any B, not just the one listed above. Everyone plays at their own tempo. No exaggerated pitch or tempo choices. Move to the top left note in **B₂** after repeats. Maintain your tempo throughout.

B₂

B	C#	F	G
A ^b	C	G#	E
E ^b	A	B	F#
D	C#	D#	E

Play all of the notes by moving only to adjacent ones. Play each note 16 times (2 measures). You cannot cross over the same position twice. Move to section **C₁** when done, and wait.

C₁

When everyone reaches **C₁** start merging into a homogenized tempo. Do not adapt your tempo until everyone is on G#. The change to **C₂** will be signaled with a hand cue, which is assigned to someone before the piece begins.

C₂

Divide the ensemble into two trios. It does not matter how the instruments are grouped. Each trio has a set of exclusive variables that must change every measure (8 notes). If what you are playing does not meet the criteria you must change what you are playing. You must make a new decision every measure. Role assigning and pre-planning are forbidden. You must do your best to keep your next choice hidden from the other players, as well as trying not to see what the others are going to do next. Trio #1 players also have constants they must follow.

Trio #1 : variables = play *ff*, *mf*, or *pp*

player 1 : constant = move chromatically up from G# every measure*

player 2 : constant = play G#

player 3 : constant = move chromatically down from G# every measure*

Trio #2 : variables = G#, higher than G#, or lower than G#**

The piece is over when both trios have performed two perfect measures in a row. A perfect measure is one in which the exclusivity is met on the first beat of the measure and maintained for the duration of the measure.

* if you reach the range of your instrument drop down to the appropriate note nearest your starting G#

** higher or lower than whatever G# is currently being played by your trio