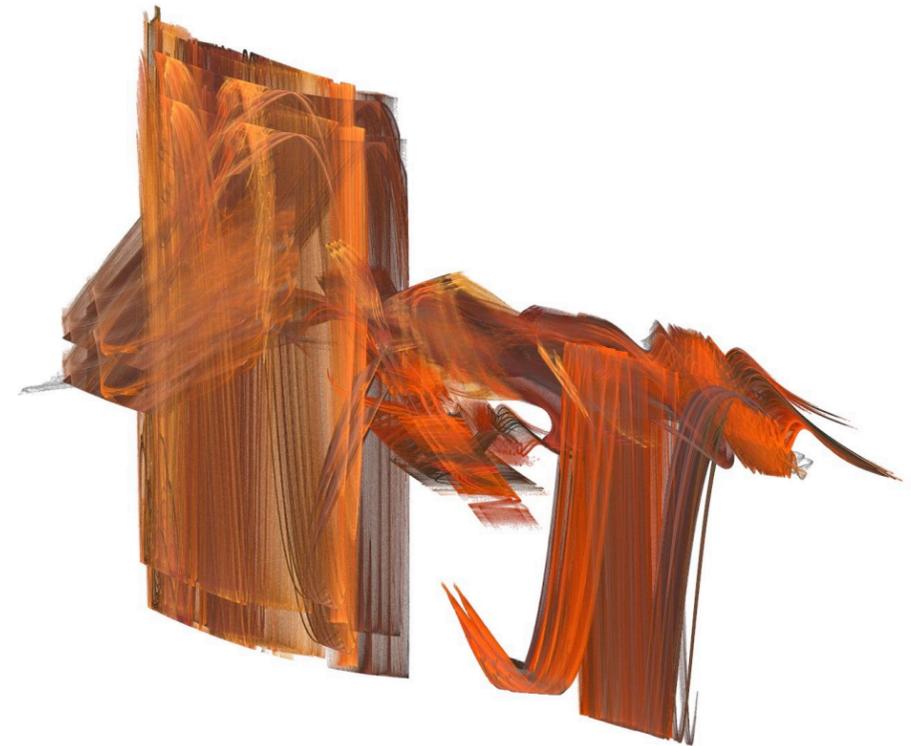


Unrepeatable Expression

A structured improvisation for any four pitched instruments



Benjamin Fuhrman - Pillars

Benjamin D. Taylor
2010

Unrepeatable Expression

A structured improvisation for any four pitched instruments

Commissioned by "Entropy Ensemble"

Benjamin D. Taylor
2010

Duration: ca. 6-8 minutes

Program Note: Lukas Foss used the term "unrepeatable expression" in describing one of the positive characteristics of improvised music. In his view, one of the virtues of improvised music is that it can never be exactly repeated. Consequently, each audience will always get a personal, individualized performance unique from any other thus allowing performers and audience members to connect in a more intimate way. The term "unrepeatable expression" in this composition also refers to the almost impossible job of looping a rhythmically syncopated phrase against other performers who may be momentarily playing in other time signatures or tempos.

Performance Notes: A clear rhythmic pulse should be felt throughout the entire piece. Syncopation, hemiola, layered time signatures and other rhythmic accents are encouraged only if the skill of the musician is such that they can seamlessly return to the original pulse after getting "off." All pitches shown below should be preserved in the notated sounding octave as much as possible except for soloists who may transpose at the octave ad lib. If an instrument can not play the pitches in the notated octave they may also freely transpose at the octave.

The four performers are identified as **P1**, **P2**, **P3**, and **P4**. **P1** starts the piece by improvising a short rhythmic fragment using only the pitches shown in **Section A**. This fragment is then looped continuously. Other performer's entrances are staggered as outlined below. Each performer will improvise their own fragment (following the pulse established by **P1**) and then loop it continuously. Performers may alter their looped patterns, change them completely or rest at any time. During **solos**, performers still only use the pitch material of the current section to create phrases that are NOT looped. With multiple soloists, a sense of call and response is encouraged. All performers move together from section to section with a cue from **P1**.

Tempo: Quarter Note = ca. 144

Cover Art: "Pillars" by Benjamin Fuhrman. Used with permission.

benjamintaylormusic.com

Unrepeatable Expression

Commissioned by *Entropy Ensemble*

Benjamin Taylor (2010)

SCORE in C

Section A



-Start **P1**
-Add **P2**
-Add **P3**
-Add **P4**

Section B



-Drop out all together
leaving **P3** alone
-Add **P2** (stress Eb)
-Add **solo P1**
-Add **solo P4**

Section C



-Fade out all but **P4**
-Add **P1**
-Add **solo P2**
-Add **solo P3**

Section D



-All looping
-End with fade out
or sudden stop*

*As determined by how the piece has progressed, where it climaxed, how it feels. . .