

# **Albumblatt**

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for Percussion

Willyn Whiting

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## SETUP

Percussionist playing

2 Pieces of 9"x6", 25lb, Tracing Paper

Trap Stand or Desk

Music Stand (optional)

Amplification (optional)

## PROGRAM NOTE

Written in 2020, but fully notated in 2022, this piece focuses on the intimate sounds of paper and their relation to my creative work.

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

The piece is divided into two movements. Each movement requires its own piece of paper.

The movements may be performed with or without pause.

Most techniques should be self-explanatory in the score. The paper should be held by its *two short edges* when executing all of them. With the exception of m.46-m.48 of Mvt I, where palms are in contact with either side of the paper. And m.50-51 of the same movement, where many small pieces of paper are manipulated from various angles.

Hissing is the only vocal technique in the piece and is indicated by a note below the staff.



# Albumblatt

## for 2 pieces of paper

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### I - Sporadically

♩ = 100

hold paper from both sides loosely  
quickly extend the paper with one hand  
creating a snapping sound

tap the paper with a free  
fingertip that is not holding  
the paper

RH

LH

Musical notation for the first system, measures 1-8. It features a 4/4 time signature. The right hand (RH) plays a sequence of notes with accents (>) and dynamic markings: *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*. The left hand (LH) provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes.

shake the paper from one side  
while the other hand holds  
creating a loose tremolo

Fast

Fast

Musical notation for the second system, measures 9-17. It features a 4/4 time signature. The right hand (RH) plays notes with accents (>) and dynamic markings: *pp*, *p*, *f*. The left hand (LH) plays a tremolo indicated by a wavy line, with dynamic markings *pp* and *f*. The tempo is marked 'Fast'.

maintain the same dynamic  
by varying the size of the shake  
as you change speed, tap  
with the hand that is not shaking

LH tap is also fine  
if it makes the grace  
note easier

Musical notation for the third system, measures 18-24. It features a 4/4 time signature. The right hand (RH) plays notes with accents (>) and dynamic markings: *pp*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*. The left hand (LH) plays a tremolo indicated by a wavy line, with dynamic markings *pp* and *f*. The tempo is marked 'Fast' and 'Slow' with a double-headed arrow. The system ends with a repeat sign and a '4x' marking. The time signature changes to 2/4 and then 3/4.

25

Fast  $ppp$  3x  $mp$   $pp$  2x  $ppp$   $p$  Very Slow

tapping rapidly hold the paper loosely, resting it on top of your hands

30

Very Slow  $ppp$   $ff$  5x  $pp$

(make sure that you have time to grab the paper)

36

VSlow  $p$   $pp$   $fp$   $f$   $pp$   $p$   $pp$   $pp$   $pp$

rub the paper on both sides in circles you will have to quickly flip one hand to the opposite side. the page should be resting on the palm of one hand

emphasize rests by freezing abruptly

45

$ff$  4-6x  $sffz$  5-7x

Hiss on an [s] sound, crescendo into the rest. If find yourself running out of breath before the end of this gesture, shorten it accordingly.

hold the paper from both ends and stretch until it breaks into two pieces. Silently drop one half onto the table. Continue drawing a piece and breaking until you have a small pile

delicately scoop the pile of papers loosely rustle them between both hands allow enough room between your hands such that pieces start falling out. Don't avoid crumpling the pieces of paper but also don't aim to crumple them. The movement is finished when only one piece remains between your hands.

49

*f* *pp* *mp* *pppp*

hiss each time starting when you begin to stretch the paper, ending when the paper breaks

## II - Mechanically

$\text{♩} = 80$

pick up a new, untouched piece of paper

*pp* *f* *pp* *f<sub>sub.</sub>* *f* *p*

(the technique should gradually wear out the paper, adding complexity to the sound, while weakening its attack)

*ppp* *pppp* *pppp*

