

Matthew

Fountain

Voltage

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For Bassoon, Contrabassoon, and Fixed Media

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Performers Notes

Duration: 4'40"

Instrumentation: Bassoon, Contrabassoon, 5.1 Channel Fixed Media

Special Notation: Diamond note-heads indicate need for a multi-
phonic chord, this is completely up to the performer to make a
choice based on the interval given. My only stipulation is that it
makes the note grungy and "electric like". Note heads with an x
indicate the click track's entrance.

3rd stave: As the performers use a click track and do not listen to
the fixed media, the wave-form for the audio is included here,
with notes about the kinds of sounds they will be hearing.

Technology Notes

This piece should be played in complete darkness, with stand
lights for the performers. Each performer should have the
included click track routed to an in-ear or on-ear monitor.

Included are the audio files for the five speaker channels, as
well as a stereo mix to be used in rehearsal. For performance the
speaker configuration should be Front-left, Center, Front-right,
Surround-left, and Surround-right. All the channels should be
routed to the subwoofer. The bassoons should be mic'd and
routed to all five speakers (only slightly in the back speakers and
not in the sub).

Program Notes

Voltage is a piece that I wrote to contradict the traditional
bassoon repertoire. At its base, it is electronic dance music with
bassoons being the driving force. All the sounds heard are built
off of humming or electric shocks. Combined with the growling,
gritty quality of the bassoons, an atmosphere of crackling
electricity is created and maintained throughout.

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Ominously ♩ = 98

Click Track

Bassoon

Contrabassoon

Fixed Media

Electricity Humming Ms. 1-36

Low Whistle Synth Ms. 5-15

9

Bassoon

Contra

mf *n* *p* *mf*

mf < *f* > *n* *fp* *mf* > *n*

16

mf *n* *p* *mf* > *n*

p *f* *mf* *p*

Periodic Shocks Ms. 17-32

Low Whistle Synth Ms. 18-25

2 24

Low Whistle Synth Ms. 26-33

33

Click Track

Bassoon

Shock Drums Ms. 35-60

40

44

Low Whistle Synth Ms. 47-54

48

Musical score for measures 48-50. The top staff features a complex melodic line with triplets and a sextuplet. The bottom staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. A yellow waveform visualization is shown below the staves.

51

Musical score for measures 51-53. The top staff includes dynamic markings *fp* and *mp*. The bottom staff includes dynamic markings *fp* and *mp*. A yellow waveform visualization is shown below the staves.

54

Musical score for measures 54-55. The top staff includes dynamic markings *mf* and *mf*. The bottom staff includes dynamic markings *mf*. A yellow waveform visualization is shown below the staves.

Electric Synths Expand Ms. 55-60

56

Musical score for measures 56-58. The top staff includes dynamic markings *f* and *f*. The bottom staff includes dynamic markings *f*. A yellow waveform visualization is shown below the staves.

4 58 *rit.*

ff *ff*

Siren and Bass Drop

61 *Violently* ♩ = 88

fff *fff*

Bombastic Synths and Shock Drums Ms. 61-73

67 *rit.* ♩ = 58

fff

73 *Click Track* *Bassoon*

fff *fff* *f*

Contra

Shock explosion and reverberant shocks ms. 73-end

82

Musical score for measures 82-85. The score is written for two staves in bass clef with a key signature of two flats. The first staff contains notes with dynamics *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *mf*. The second staff contains notes with dynamics *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *mf*. Below the staves are four yellow waveform segments.

90

Musical score for measures 90-93. The score is written for two staves in bass clef with a key signature of two flats. The first staff contains notes with dynamics *mf*, *n*, *p*, and *ff*. The second staff contains notes with dynamics *mf*, *n*, *p*, and *ff*. Below the staves are five yellow waveform segments.