

Circle of 8 Plus 11 in a Prime of Primes for Sara (31) by Sam (29)

Sam Pluta (1979)

Composed for Melody Of China
as part of the
2008 Walden School Faculty Commissioning Project

Dedicated to my sister Sara on her 31st birthday

Handbells

- 1) Choose one bell from the 3 pitches provided
- 2) Sound travels around the circle
- 3) When it is your turn, ring your note
- 4) A note should be used 2, 3, or 5 times before a new note is chosen
- 5) You may choose to play at the same time as the player before you. Should you choose to play at the same time, you should do so 2 or 3 times in a row
- 6) Silence should exist between the sounds

Melody of China

- 1) Choose a motive on any note or chord
- 2) Sound travels around the circle
- 3) When it is your turn, play your motive
- 4) A motive should be used 2, 3, or 5 times before a new motive is chosen
- 5) You may choose to play at the same time as the player before you. Should you choose to play at the same time, you should do so 2 or 3 times in a row
- 6) Trill, flutter tongue, or bisbigliando on any motive
- 7) Pitch bend any motive
- 8) Silence should exist between the sounds

Suona

Electronics

N-channel setup in a circle around the audience

feedback is controlled by the electronic performer

each speaker has a microphone through which it is feeding back

tuned sine waves are controlled by the electronic performer

Player 1

Player 5

Bowed Piano

- 1) Bows are set up at specific pitches/dyads around the piano
- 2) Choose a bow
- 3) Sound travels around the circle
- 4) When it is your turn, bow your note, paying attention to how the sonority is phrased
- 5) A bow should be used 2, 3, or 5 times before a new bow is chosen
- 6) When it is time to find a new bow, move counterclockwise, to an unused bow on the piano
- 7) You may choose to play at the same time as the player before you. Should you choose to play at the same time, you should do so 2 or 3 times in a row
- 8) Silence should exist between the sounds

Player 2

Player 4

Player 3

sine waves pan in both directions

bowed piano pans counter clockwise

Melody of China pans clockwise

sine waves pan in both directions