

Cellular Hallucinations

for Solo Percussionist

Benjamin R. Fuhrman

Circa Seven Minutes, Thirty Seconds

Instrumentation

The piece utilizes multiple percussion instruments, all of which should be readily available in any band or orchestra hall. They are: Tam-Tam, Gong, Suspended Cymbal, Triangle, Chimes, Snare Drum, Three Temple Blocks (low, medium, and high pitch), and Bass Drum. In addition to these instruments, a bucket of water is also required. Additionally, I recommend using four hard marimba mallets for the performance of the piece. In the case of the triangle, this will require that the mallet be inserted through the triangle, and that the stick is used to play it.

In this piece, I've added several additional symbols to the notation. An arrow pointing up signifies a chime sweep from the low end to the high end. An arrow pointing down signifies a chime sweep from the high end to the low end. A diagonal arrow attached to a gong note indicates that the performer is to lower the gong into a bucket of water to produce the pitch bend effect.

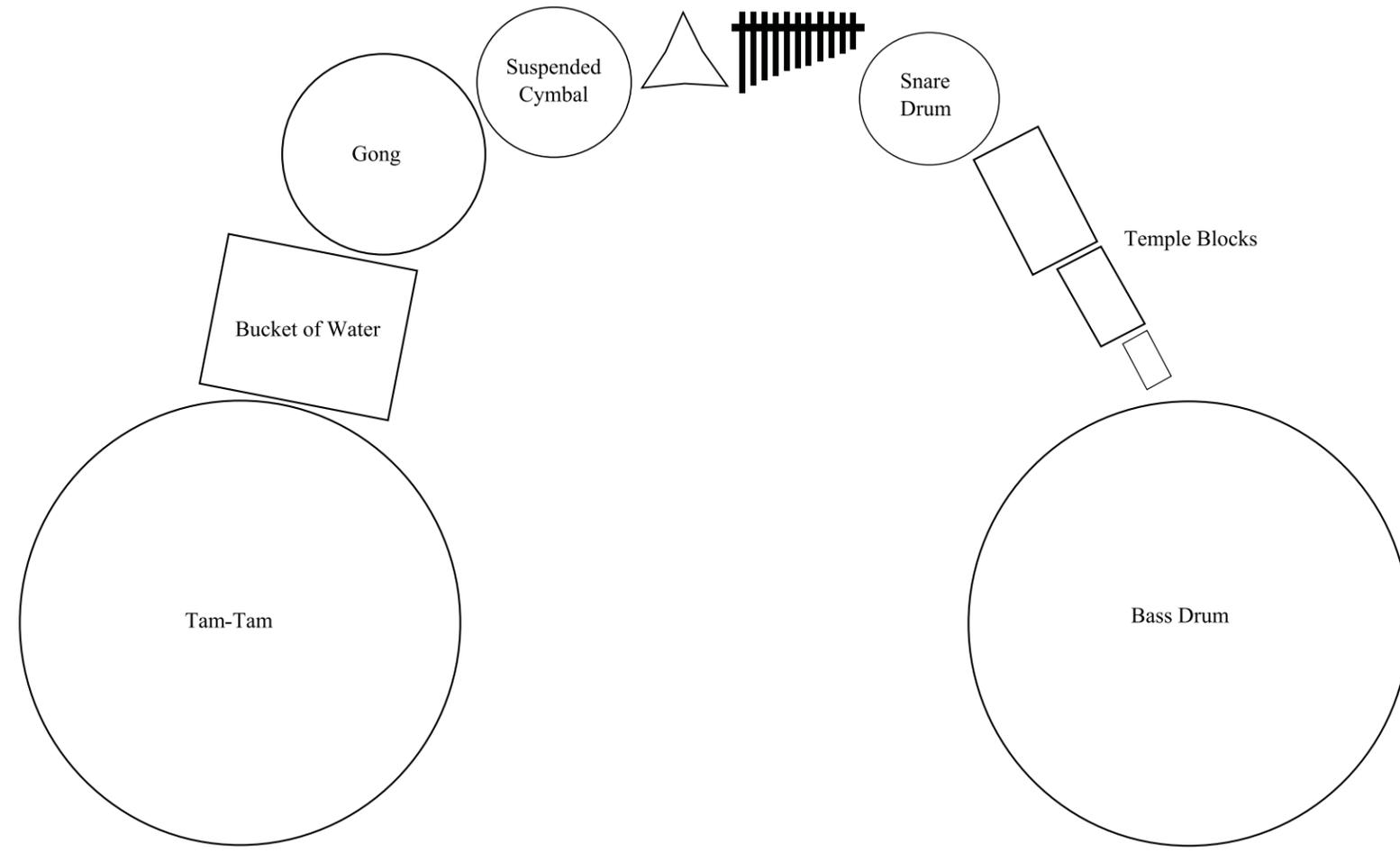
Performance Notes

Ideally, the piece is to be played from memory in a pitch-black room to heighten the audience's awareness of the various aspects of the piece. To enhance some of the trance-like segments of the piece, incense burners should be placed around the audience.

To begin the piece, the performer positions himself in the center of the instruments. All lights are cut, and the piece begins immediately. At the conclusion of the piece, the performer is to leave the stage before the lights are turned on.

Program Notes

Cellular Hallucinations is based on the idea of reproduction by division. As such, parent cells of rhythmic and timbral material multiply to create similar and dissimilar child cells that then become parents in their own right. The interplay of these divisions gives way to musical phrases and dialogues between the instruments (some real, and some imagined) that grow over time to become organic, stream-of-consciousness style discourses on the synthetic evolution of the material.



Tam-Tam

Gong

Suspended
Cymbal

Snare
Drum

Temple Blocks

Bass Drum

Bucket of Water

To Grant, Ty, and all the other percussionists who have supported me through the years.

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Strictly in time ♩ = 144
Begin with snares off

Instrument Legend:
Bass Drum (BD), High Temple Block (HTB), Medium Temple Block (MTB), Low Temple Block (LTB), Snare Drum (SD), Chimes (Ch), Triangle (Tri), Suspended Cymbal (Sus), Gong (G), Tam-Tam (Tam)

Measure 1-15: *f* < *f* < *sfz* *f* < *f* < *mf* *sfz sfz* *f* < *mp* *f* < *f* < *mf*

Measure 16-29: Allow every note to dissipate naturally. Do not stop any notes. *f*
mf *fff* *sfz* *mp* *p* *sfz* *ff* < *ff* < *p* *mp* *f*

Measure 30-44: *f* < *p* *sfz sfz* *sfz sfz* *p* *p* *sfz ff* *ff* *p* *sfz* *mp* *f* *5* *ff*

Measure 45-59: snares on
p *ff* *p* *ff* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *sfz* *p* < *mf* *mp* *f* *sfz* *mp* *5*

Measure 60-74: *fff* *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp* < *mf* *ff* *f* *sfz* *ff*

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

mf

sfz mp

p mp

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

p

ff³ sfz

ff

sfz ff

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

ff

mp

ff mp

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

ff

mp ff mp ff

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

mp ff

ff

mp

Gamelan-esque,
snare off somewhat rubato ♩ = 120

9/16

p

f

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

mp ff mf ff ff p mp

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

ff

p

p

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

ff

mp sfz mp sfz ff mp sfz mp sfz ff

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

p

mp

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

f

138

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

f *mp* *mp* *f*

mf sfz ff

148

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

mp *mp* *ff*

158

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

mp *f* *mp* *mp* *sfz* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *mp*

167

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

p *ff* *mf* *f* *ff*

176

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

sfz *sfz* *sfz* *f* *f* *f* *pp* *ff* *p* *p* *ff*

4
187

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

198

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

213

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

226

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

240

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

251

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

262

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

275

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

288

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

snare off

299

BD
H TB
M TB
L TB
SD

Chimes
Tri.
Sus.
Gong
Tam

Throw mallets to the floor and walk offstage.