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Breath, Smoke, Crystals

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**Breath, Smoke, Crystals
(2018)**

solo alto saxophone

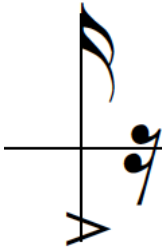
John M. Kennedy

Breath, Smoke, Crystals, solo alto saxophone

Breath, Smoke, Crystals explores the process of transformation through musical gestures. The work begins with air juxtaposed with simple chromatic and microtonal phrases that transform to gestures of more substance. From these more complex melodic gestures, the piece begins to explore the act of crystallization with multi-phonic textures. The final section presents the completion of the process from the simple air and melodic phrases, to more complex fragments and textures of sound.

Premiere: 18th World Saxophone Congress, July 11, 2018, Zagreb, Croatia
Tong Yang, Beijing, China, soloist

Notation Legend



sfz

Blow air through the horn quickly, no pitch

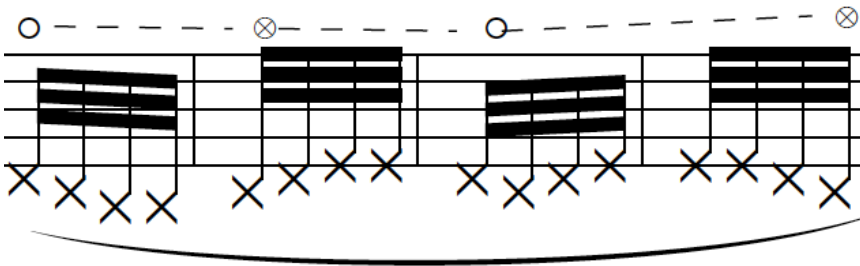


With Key Clicks, mouth open

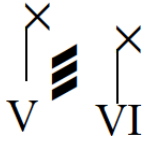


With Key clicks, mouth closed

Key clicks with mouth aperture



While playing key clicks, gradually close then re-open the mouth aperture.



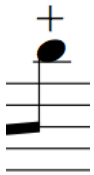
Tremolo (Shake) key clicks with suggested keys to allow sustain of upper note.

S. T.

Sub tone

Timbre Trill ———

Quick trill between two fingerings of the same note.

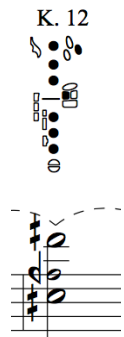


Slap tongue

Multi-phonics

All multi-phonics are based on the fingerings and pitches from “Les sons multiples aux saxophones”, by Daniel Kientzy. Alternates are acceptable as long as they approximate the sound and the melodic contour of the line.

Notation of multi-phonics include the Kientzy text number (K. 3, K. 12, etc.) for the alto saxophone Multi-ponic.



E♭ Alto Saxophone

Breath, Smoke, Crystals

for Tong Yang, Beijing, China

John M. Kennedy (2018)

♩=110

The musical score is written for E♭ Alto Saxophone in 2/4 time, with a tempo of 110 beats per minute. It consists of seven staves of music. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score includes various dynamics and articulations:

- Staff 1: *sfz*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, *mf*, *p*
- Staff 2: *pp*, *f*, *p*, *sfz*
- Staff 3: *p*, *mf*, *mf*, *p*
- Staff 4: *pp*
- Staff 5: *sfz*
- Staff 6: *pp*
- Staff 7: *mf*, *sfz*, *f*, *mf*, *sfz*, *p*, *f*

Additional markings include slurs, accents, and fingerings (e.g., V, VI). There are also some 'x' marks under notes, possibly indicating breath marks or specific articulations.

Breath, Smoke, Crystals

meno mosso accentuate

a tempo

S. T. --- Air

III IV V VI

mf *pp* *sfz*

S. T. ord.

mf *f* *pp* *mf*

IV V III II III IV V VI

pp *p* *sfz* *p*

pp *sfz* *p*

S. T. ord. S. T. ord. S. T. ord. S. T.

p *p* *subito f* *subito p*

subito f *p* *mf*

S. T. ord. ord.

p *subito f* *subito p* *sub. f* *sub. p*

sub. f *subito p* *sfz* *p* *ff* *sfz* *p*

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a 6/16 time signature, followed by a 7/16 time signature, and ends with a 16/16 time signature. The music features a series of sixteenth-note runs. Dynamics include *ff* and *pp*.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a 16/8 time signature, followed by a 7/16 time signature, and ends with a 7/8 time signature. Dynamics include *mf*, *pp*, and *f*.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a 7/8 time signature, followed by 2/4, 3/4, 5/16, and 8/8 time signatures. Dynamics include *pp*, *p*, *mf*, and *subitf*.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a 5/8 time signature, followed by a 4/4 time signature. It includes a section marked "S. T." with a dotted line and a section marked "ord." with a five-measure rest. Dynamics include *p*, *f*, and *pp*. Fingerings 3 and VI are indicated.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a 4/8 time signature, followed by 2/8, 3/8, 6/8, 2/8, and 3/2 time signatures. It includes a section marked "ord." with a three-measure rest. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*.

Musical staff 6: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a 6/16 time signature, followed by a 32/32 time signature. Dynamics include *p* and *f*. The instruction *poco rit.* is present.

Musical staff 7: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff begins with a 6/16 time signature, followed by a 32/32 time signature. Dynamics include *ppp* and *ff*. The instruction *a tempo* is present.

Musical staff 8: Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff continues with sixteenth-note runs. Dynamics include *f*.

Breath, Smoke, Crystals

The musical score consists of ten staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is characterized by complex rhythmic patterns, often using eighth and sixteenth notes, and is heavily marked with slurs and accents. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *ff* (fortissimo). The time signatures are 5/32, 6/16, and 5/32. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

Staff 1: *ff* *p* *pp*

Staff 2: *pp* *mf* *f*

Staff 3: *p*

Staff 4: *mf* *f*

Staff 5: *mf* *p*

Staff 6: *f*

Staff 7: *6/16*

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 6/16 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *mp*, *f*. Features a melodic line with slurs and accents, and a bass line with dense sixteenth-note patterns.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, 6/16 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *f*. Continues the melodic and bass line patterns from the first staff.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, 3/2 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *f*, *ppp*. Includes a section with 'x' marks in the bass line.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *mf*, *pp*, *ppp*. Features a long melodic slur.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *mf*, *f*, *p*. Includes a section labeled "Timbre Trill".

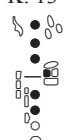
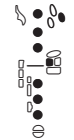
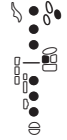
Musical staff 6: Treble clef, 18/32 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *mp*, *f*, *p*, *mp*. Includes a section labeled "Timbre Trill".

Breath, Smoke, Crystals

K. 12

K. 12

K. 13



poco rit. *a tempo*

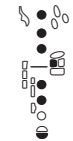
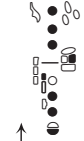
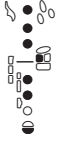
p *f* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

K. 19

K. 27

K. 132

K. 13



pp *f* *pp* *mf* *p*

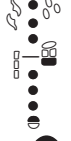
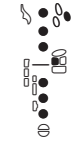
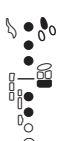
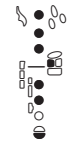
K. 13

K. 17

K. 12

K. 27

K. 3



poco rit.

f *p* *p* *mf* *mp*

K. 65

K. 66



mf *f* *subito p* *poco* *mf* *f*

♩ = 75-80

mf *f* *f* *p* *poco* *p*

K. 12 K. 13 K. 53

mp *mf* *f* *accel.*

K. 102 K. 80

a tempo ♩=110

sfp *f* *mf*

Timbre Trill Growl

p *poco* *p* *f*

K. 13

Timbre Trill ord.

p *pp* *p* *mp* *mf*

K. 13

K. 12

mp *mf* *p* *pp* *sfz* *f*

mf *f* *mf* *f*

subito pp⁵ *p* *mf*

K. 102

mf *poco* *p* *f* *mp* *f* *p* *f*

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 3/8 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *f* (with 7-fingered scale), *mf* (with 5-fingered scale), *sfz*, *f*, *mf*, *p*. Includes a fermata and a plus sign above a note.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *f*, *p*, *pp*, *f*. Includes a 7-fingered scale and various rests.

K. 13



Musical staff 3: Treble clef, 4/4 time signature. Dynamics: *p*, *f*, *f*, *pp*. Includes a 3-fingered trill, a 5-fingered scale, and a 'Timbre Trill' label. A plus sign is above a note.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Dynamics: *subito p*. Includes a 3-fingered trill, a 'Timbre Trill' label, and a '16' measure rest.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Dynamics: *ppp*, *pp*, *ppp*, *f*, *p*, *ppp*, *sfz*, *pp*. Includes 'ord.' (order) markings, a 'Growl' marking, and a plus sign above a note.

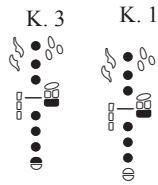
Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a series of sixteenth-note runs. Dynamics include *p* and *poco mp*.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. The staff contains a series of sixteenth-note runs. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, *mf*, *f*, *mf*, *p*, and *pp*.

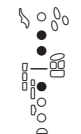
Musical staff 3: Treble clef, 3/8 time signature. The staff contains a series of sixteenth-note runs. Dynamics include *mp > pp*, *p*, and *f+*.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, 3/8 time signature. The staff contains a series of sixteenth-note runs. Dynamics include *sfzp*, *ff*, *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *sfz*. Above the staff are two diagrams labeled K. 1 and K. 3, showing a sequence of notes with various articulations.

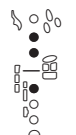
Musical staff 5: Treble clef, 3/8 time signature. The staff contains a series of sixteenth-note runs. Dynamics include *f*, *subito p*, *f*, *mf*, *mf*, *f*, *mf*, *f*, *ff*, and *mf*. Above the staff is a diagram labeled K. 50, showing a sequence of notes with various articulations.



K. 105



K. 105



K. 138



K. 27



K. 42



K. 138



K. 3

