

singular

for chamber ensemble:

flute

violin

viola/cello

2 four-hand pianos

approx. 8'

by hunter t. johnson

htj

singular

singular is written as an étude in monotony and simplicity, both for the audience and the performers. players should allow themselves to truly dedicate to the basic, simplistic nature of the music they will be making in this piece.

performance notes:

singular is divided into 8 cells. each cell should be repeated to form a section approximately 60 seconds in length. rehearsal letters mark the beginning of a new section. the entire work should last for approximately 8 minutes.

the flute, violin, and violoncello should play the given pitches in a sustained, arhythmic fashion. players may begin their parts soon as the appropriate letter is reached; however, there is no need for a rhythmic unison between these instruments at the onset of each section.

each piano is to be split between two players; each staff is to be played by one individual. pianos hold down the sustain pedal from the beginning of the piece until the very end.

piano i maintains a steady tempo of half note = 60 beats per minute throughout the entire piece. this includes both players.

piano ii will "phase" in and out of the given tempo. at letters b, d, and f players should speed up for about 30 seconds, gradually increasing over the course of half the section to a significantly faster tempo, then gradually slowing back to the original tempo. at the end of each phasing section, rhythmic unison should be achieved between the pianos. piano ii players may decide to phase at either the same or different rates.

this piece should be performed, in the broadest sense, in a *legato* manner.

dynamic choices may be made as an ensemble; the general tone of this work should be meditative, reflective, and peaceful. the work should end by fading into silence.

when the ensemble has decided that the music should end, the pianos should gradually slow down together, diminishing slowly to nothing. allow the sound to decay; do not lift the pedal until silence has already been reached.

- hunter t. johnson (10/8/18)

htj

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for flute, violin, violoncello, and 2 four-hand pianos

legatissimo, meditative, peaceful ♩=60

hunter t. johnson

Score for **singular**, composed by hunter t. johnson. The piece is for flute, violin, violoncello, and two four-hand pianos. The tempo is marked **legatissimo, meditative, peaceful** with a metronome marking of ♩=60.

The score is divided into sections labeled **a** through **h**.

Flute (fl.): Sections a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h. Section f includes the marking *pp possibile*.

Violin (vln.): Sections a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h. Section h includes a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (**f**) dynamic.

Violoncello (vc.): Sections a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h. Section h includes a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (**f**) dynamic.

Piano I (pno. i): Sections a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h. Section a starts with *pp*. Sections b and d include the instruction *maintaining steady tempo*. Section h includes a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (**f**) dynamic.

Piano II (pno. ii): Sections a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h. Section a starts with *pp*. Section b includes the instruction *accel ----- rit*. Section c is marked *a tempo*. Section d includes the instruction *accel ----- rit*. Section h includes a crescendo leading to a fortissimo (**f**) dynamic.

Instructions for the end of the piece: *to end the piece, rit molto.*