



mimenrosp

for haegeum, vibraphone, drum set, electric guitar, accordion, and video

Samuel Wells

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11 minutes

Composed and recorded in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, *mimenrosp* is a reflection on the connectedness I have experienced with my colleagues despite the isolation brought on the pandemic. *mimenrosp* layers performances and audiovisual field recordings taken by each instrumentalist in their respective locations. This conflation of places and times results in a unique sense of location in the work. This reduction of physical distance mirrors our current interactions, condensed into video conferencing and networked performance. “mimenrosp” is an anagram of the word “persimmon.” My collaborators in this work were located in Amherst, MA, Taos, NM, Los Angeles, CA, and Seoul, South Korea. The average of all of our geographic coordinates was near Mount Persimmon in Alberta, Canada. So, if we could have all gotten together, maybe that would have been the place! With endless gratitude, *mimenrosp* is dedicated to my collaborators:

Emilia Moscoso Borja, vibraphone (Los Angeles, CA)

Alex Buck, drum set (Taos, NM)

Jeonghyeon Joo, haegeum (Seoul, South Korea)

Alkis Nicolaidis, electric guitar (Los Angeles, CA)

Ben Richter, accordion (Amherst, MA)

mimenrosp was specifically created for virtual performance. In the creation of this work, the boundaries between composition, improvisation, collaboration, and post-production blurred. I would compose sections of the work and have it immediately recorded. That musical information would inform my next compositional steps. As I received the music and field recordings from the performers, the final steps of composition occurred during post-production. Audio processing and video layering provided the final glue that binds the work together.

mimenrosp uses a mixed-intonation system combining equal temperament in the vibraphone and accordion with a five-limit tuning system in the haegeum and electric guitar. This “mismatch” of systems serves to further reinforce, the sense of layered, disparate locations.

Five-Limit Tuning System

$\frac{6}{5}$
176.20 Hz

$\frac{15}{8}$
275.31 Hz

Haeguem

Musical staff for Haeguem. The first note is a low note with a flat (B-flat). The second note is a higher note with a sharp (F-sharp).

$\frac{8}{15}$
78.31 Hz

$\frac{3}{4}$
110.12 Hz

$\frac{1}{1}$
146.83 Hz

$\frac{4}{3}$
195.78 Hz

$\frac{5}{3}$
244.72 Hz

$\frac{5}{2}$
367.08 Hz

Electric Guitar

Musical staff for Electric Guitar. The top staff shows notes with accidentals: B-flat, B, C, D, E, F-sharp. The middle staff shows fret numbers: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 5, 7, 5, 7, 12, 3, 9, 5, 7, 7. The bottom staff shows string names: T, A, B. Time markers are at 00:00:00:00, 00:00:02:18, 00:00:03:18, 00:00:04:18, 00:00:05:18, and 00:00:06:18.

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The musical score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. From top to bottom, the staves are:

- Haeguem**: A single treble clef staff.
- Vibraphone**: A single treble clef staff.
- Electric Guitar**: A treble clef staff with a double bar line at the beginning. It contains a melodic line starting on a flat note (Bb) with a dynamic marking *p* and a wavy, oscillating texture. Above the staff, the word "ebow" is written. Below the staff, there are three horizontal lines representing a fretboard, with a circled "0" indicating an open string.
- Accordion**: A grand staff consisting of two staves, one with a treble clef and one with a bass clef.
- Drum Set**: A staff with two vertical bar lines at the beginning, indicating a drum hit.
- Time**: A staff with two vertical bar lines at the beginning, indicating a time signature.

The bottom of the score features a horizontal timeline with tick marks and labels at 00:00:00:00, 00:00:05:00, 00:00:10:00, 00:00:15:00, 00:00:20:00, and 00:00:25:00.

7

Hae.

Vib.

E. Gtr.

Accord.

Dr.

Time

00:00:30:00 00:00:35:00 00:00:40:00 00:00:45:00

8^{va}

15^{ma}

p

arco

p

soft felt/yarn mallets

T
A
B

0

3,2

0

The musical score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. From top to bottom, the parts are:

- Haerich (Hae.):** Treble clef, featuring a sustained high note with a *p* dynamic and an *arco* marking.
- Vibraphone (Vib.):** Treble clef, mirroring the Haerich part with a *p* dynamic and *arco* marking.
- Electric Guitar (E. Gtr.):** Treble clef, showing a tremolo effect and a fret number of 15. Below it is a guitar tablature (TAB) with fret numbers 3, 9, 5, and 5, 8.
- Accordion (Accord.):** Treble and Bass clefs, featuring a sustained note with an *8va* marking and a *p* dynamic.
- Drums (Dr.):** Two staves showing drum notation.
- Time:** A single staff at the bottom with vertical bar lines.

The score includes time markers at the bottom: 00:00:50:00, 00:00:55:00, 00:01:00:00, 00:01:05:00, 00:01:10:00, 00:01:15:00, and 00:01:20:00. Dashed lines connect the fret number 15 in the guitar part to the notes in the Haerich and Vibraphone parts.

18

Hae.

Vib.

E. Gtr

Accord.

Dr.

Time

00:01:25:00 00:01:30:00 00:01:35:00 00:01:40:00 00:01:45:00

pp

strike side of cymbal

p

arco

arco

15^{ma}

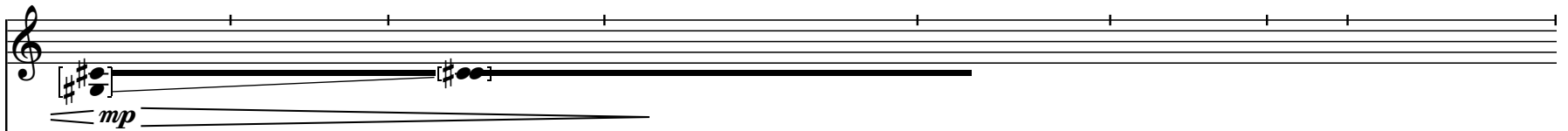
8^{va}

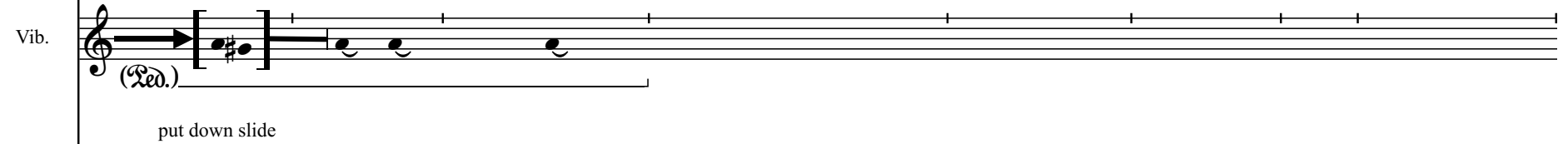
8^{va}

0 2 7 5

TAB

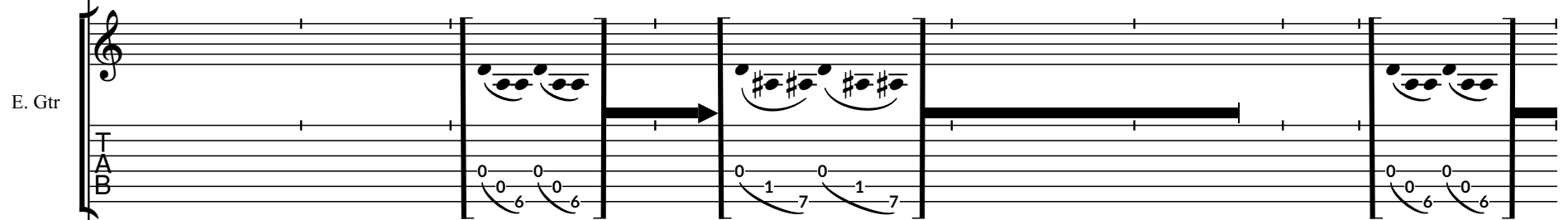
41

Hae. 

Vib. 

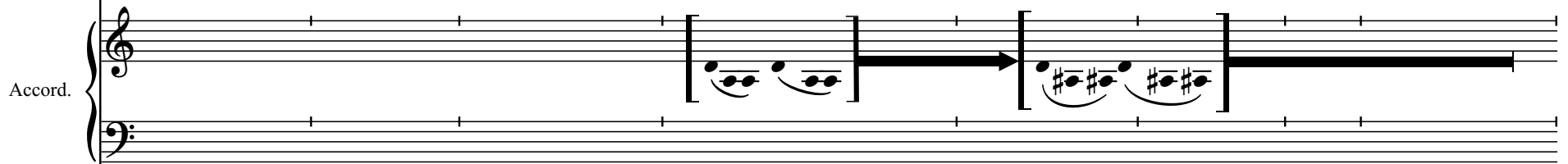
(Led.)

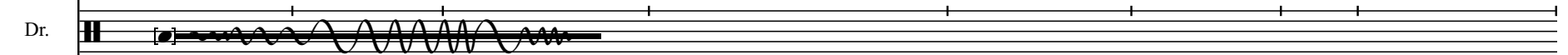
put down slide

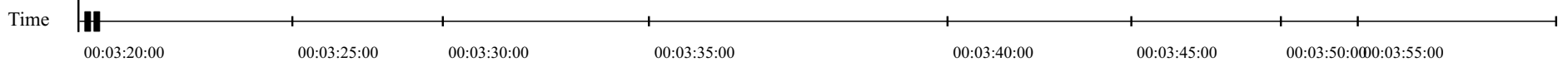
E. Gtr 

T
A
B

0 0 0 0 6 6 | 0 1 0 1 7 7 | 0 0 0 0 6 6

Accord. 

Dr. 

Time 

00:03:20:00 00:03:25:00 00:03:30:00 00:03:35:00 00:03:40:00 00:03:45:00 00:03:50:00 00:03:55:00

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49

Hae. *ord.* bend

Vib. arco, try to bend down to D *ord.* *p*

E. Gtr

Accord. bend and hold, repeat freely *p* *pp* *8va*

Dr. roll, felt mallets (snare off)

Time

The musical score is arranged in a multi-stem format. The Hae. part starts with a natural note on a high string, followed by a series of bends. The Vib. part enters with an arco section, playing notes with a downward bend, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The E. Gtr. part features a sequence of chords and bends, with a thick black bar indicating a sustained or muted section. The Accord. part has a piano (*p*) section with a 'bend and hold, repeat freely' instruction, followed by a very piano (*pp*) section with an octave (*8va*) shift. The Dr. part uses felt mallets for a 'roll' effect with the snare off. The Time track shows the progression from 00:04:00:00 to 00:04:35:00.

57

Hae. bend up as high as possible, while diminuendo Tacet until 7:45

Vib. Tacet until 8:10

E. Gtr. *8va* play natural harmonics on strings 3, 4 & 6 sparsely Tacet until 7:50

2.3 3.2 12

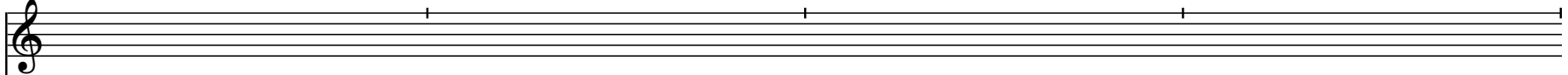
Accord. *8* Tacet until 7:15

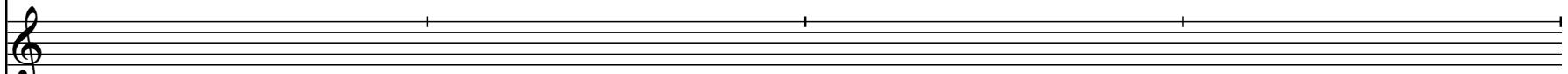
Dr. improvise in reaction to guitar harmonics, cymbal bell only Tacet until 8:55


Time

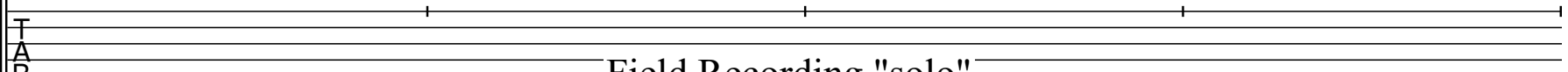
00:04:40:00 00:04:45:00 00:04:50:00 00:04:55:00 00:05:00:00 00:05:05:00 00:05:10:00 00:05:15:00 00:05:20:00 00:05:25:00

67

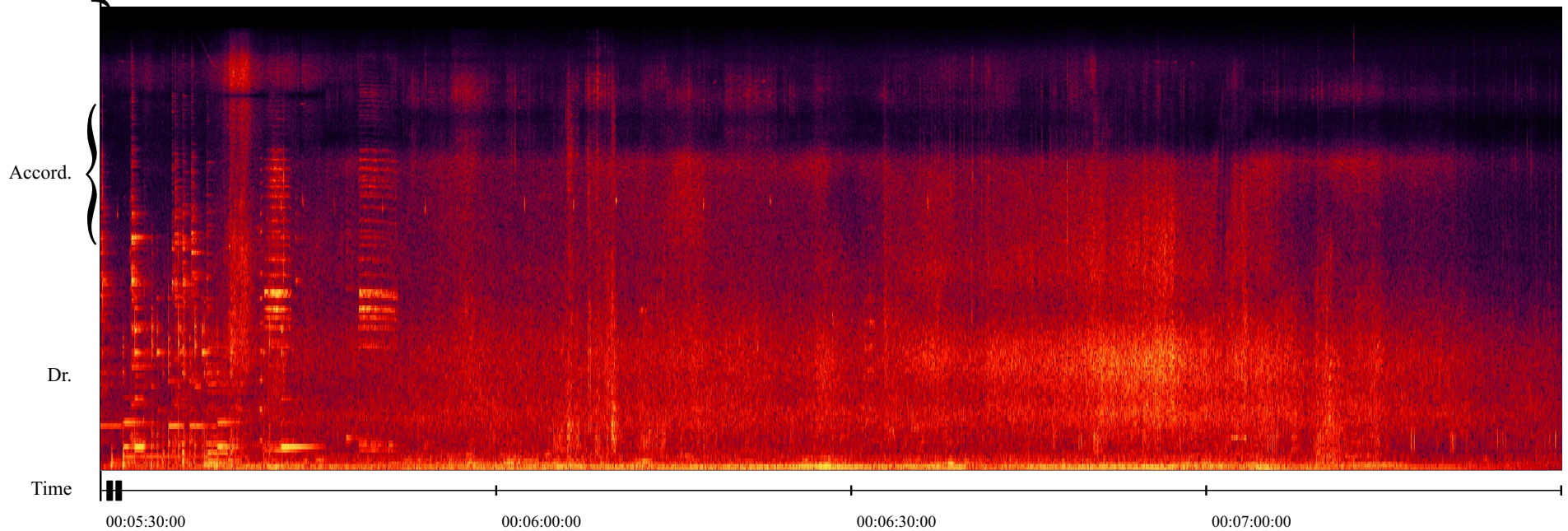
Hae. 

Vib. 

E. Gtr 

T
A
B 

Field Recording "solo"



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The musical score is arranged in a multi-stem format. The tracks are as follows:

- Haec:** Treble clef. Starts at measure 71 with a note marked *8^{va}* and *p*. It features three long horizontal lines representing sustained notes, each with a *p* dynamic marking.
- Vib.:** Treble clef. Contains a *pp* marking and the instruction *Ad. ad lib* with a wavy line.
- E. Gtr:** Treble clef. Features a *15^{ma}* marking and three notes with *p* dynamics. Below it is a TAB section with fret numbers 3, 2, 3, 9, and 5.
- Accord.:** Grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Includes a *p* dynamic marking.
- Dr.:** Drum track with a single initial drum hit.
- Time:** Time track with a single initial time signature.

The score includes a time axis at the bottom with markers at 00:07:30:00, 00:07:35:00, 00:07:40:00, 00:07:45:00, 00:07:50:00, 00:07:55:00, 00:08:00:00, 00:08:05:00, 00:08:10:00, 00:08:15:00, and 00:08:20:00.

82

Hae.

Vib.

E. Gtr

Accord.

Dr.

Time

00:08:25:00 00:08:30:00 00:08:35:00 00:08:40:00 00:08:45:00 00:08:50:00 00:08:55:00 00:09:00:00 00:09:05:00

(15)

3.2

3.2

7

5

8^{va}

#

#

#

#

p

improvise,
bridging the divide between the
instruments and the field recordings

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a piece titled 'mimenrosp'. The score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. From top to bottom, the staves are: Hae. (Harp), Vib. (Vibraphone), E. Gtr. (Electric Guitar), Accord. (Accordion), Dr. (Drum), and Time. The Hae. staff starts at measure 82 with a whole note chord marked with a sharp sign. The Vib. staff has two notes with stems pointing down. The E. Gtr. staff has a treble clef with a sharp sign and a bracketed '15' above it, and a bass clef with fret numbers 3, 2, 7, and 5. The Accord. staff has a treble clef with a sharp sign and a dynamic marking of 'p' (piano) with hairpins. The Dr. staff has a drum set icon and a text box that says 'improvise, bridging the divide between the instruments and the field recordings'. The Time staff has a drum set icon. The score is set against a timeline from 00:08:25:00 to 00:09:05:00.

91

Hae. *p*

Vib. echo guitar

E. Gtr

Dr.

Time

00:09:10:00 00:09:15:00 00:09:20:00 00:09:25:00 00:09:30:00 00:09:35:00

The musical score is arranged in a vertical stack of staves. From top to bottom, the staves are: Haerich (Hae.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Electric Guitar (E. Gtr), Accordions (Accord.), Drums (Dr.), and Time. The Haerich staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a dynamic marking of *p*. The Vibraphone staff features a treble clef and includes a dashed line with an arrow pointing to a note, labeled 'echo guitar'. The Electric Guitar staff uses a treble clef and contains several notes with circled numbers (8, 5, 12, 7, 3, 9) and a dashed line. The Accordions staff consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) and includes dynamic markings of *p*. The Drums and Time staves are represented by vertical bars indicating specific time points. A horizontal timeline at the bottom of the page marks time intervals from 00:09:10:00 to 00:09:35:00 in 5-second increments.

wide vibrato (trill-like)



97

Hae.

Vib.

E. Gtr

Dr.

Time

00:09:40:00 00:09:45:00 00:09:50:00

12

3.2 5 3.9 7 5

tr

tr

tr

pp

0-(1)

103

Hae.

Vib.

E. Gtr

Accord.

Dr.

Time

00:10:10:00 00:10:15:00 00:10:20:00 00:10:25:00 00:10:30:00

tr

p

pp

ppp

arco

12

0-5

0-3.9

0-3.2

Harm.

0

0

7

7

7

mimenrosp

108

Hae.

Vib.

E. Gtr

Accord.

Dr.

Time

00:10:35:00 00:10:40:00 00:10:45:00

p

p solo

p

soft felt/yarn mallets

The musical score is arranged in a system with six staves. The top staff is for Hae. (Harp), the second for Vib. (Vibraphone), the third for E. Gtr (Electric Guitar), the fourth for Accord. (Accordion), the fifth for Dr. (Drum), and the sixth for Time. The Hae. staff has a whole note chord with a sharp sign and a fermata. The Vib. staff has a series of notes with accents and a dynamic marking of *p*. The E. Gtr staff has a tremolo section with a dynamic marking of *p solo*. The Accord. staff has a whole note chord with a sharp sign and a dynamic marking of *p*. The Dr. staff has a drum pattern with a dynamic marking of *p* and the instruction 'soft felt/yarn mallets'. The Time staff has a drum pattern. The score is marked with time stamps: 00:10:35:00, 00:10:40:00, and 00:10:45:00.

III

Hae.

Vib.

E. Gtr

Accord.

Dr.

Time

00:10:50:00 00:10:55:00 00:11:00:00 00:11:05:00 00:11:10:00 00:11:15:00 00:11:20:00

TAB

0
0
7
7
7

p