

ken davies

NOTASONATA

for
trombone and digital media

(CD enclosed)



KD 119

kenvad music
www.kendavies.net

Performance Notes

A front or overhead microphone is recommended for the trombone. Its purpose is to blend the trombone with the loudspeakers to avoid so sharp a timbre contrast between the electronically generated soundtrack and the acoustic trombone in a performance venue. The soundtrack should be loud enough to surround the trombone with its volume.

The Digital Media Cues (lower) staff provides a concise, easy to read reduction of the events in the recorded compact disc part of the work. The reduction is designed for the performer to follow the CD rather than for the musicologist or theorist to study the inner workings. For this reason, the cues are reduced to what is essential for cues and intonations.

The predominant rhythmic driving feature is electronic drum sounds. These figures are notated with "x" note heads for easy visual differentiation from other events. While a general contour of the drum sound's "pitches" are indicated, they are reduced to remain predominantly within the staff and identified simply as **Drums**.

There are several sounds used in the lower registers. These are notated for pitch accuracy but, for concise readability, not necessarily for octave accuracy. These are identified simply as **Bass**.

Most other sounds need not always be identified as they are 1) clearly noted, and 2) are often combined with various other sounds so as to lose their distinct identity. These sounds consist of various *bell*-like sounds, *string*-like sounds, *sawtooth* and *square wave* sounds, and *flute*-like sounds.

The free rubato figures at mm. 123 to 150 need not be precise as to rhythm or beat placement. "Close is good enough" as it is the effect between the live instrument and the media that matters. Contrapuntal space is provided in order to achieve a free recitative feel and avoid being "tied to the digital clock."

There are, additionally, some spatial attributes to the work. These can be best brought out where it is feasible to place speakers sufficiently wide apart to make them apparent to the audience.

Notasonata was composed in Finale while extensively utilizing Finale's MIDI tools. The score was then imported to Digital Performer for additional note and MIDI transformations, recording and digital sound processing. The sounds were designed using a Kurzweil K2600.

Program Notes

The composer, living in the Gulf Coast of Mississippi, began this work in August 2005 as part of a planned local concert of solo instrument with electronics works. After completing the opening 30 measures, work was stopped by hurricane Katrina and its aftermath. The work was finally completed two years later. While there are two themes, development and recapitulation sections (of sorts) the work is not a sonata. *Notasonata* was premiered by the composer at the 2007 by Ken Davies Electroacoustic Juke Joint Festival at Delta State University, Cleveland, Mississippi.

The Composer

Ken Davies holds advanced degrees in both trombone performance and in composition worked for several years, as a full time professional trombonist in classical and commercial music. As a working commercial arranger-composer-songwriter, his work has appeared on records, radio and network TV. His art music has been performed at the International Trombone Festival (2005) and across the USA at major new music festivals such as are sponsored by Society of Composers and Southeastern Composers' League. Among his grants, commissions and awards is the 2005-2006 Artist Fellowship in Composition award by the Mississippi Arts Commission.

When performing this work, please send a program (PDF ok) or email information as to venue, institution, city, state or province, country to the publisher, kenvadmusic, at ken@kendavies.net. Thank you.

NOTASONATA

for Trombone and Digital Media

Duration 8:55

KEN DAVIES

$\text{♩} = 120$

Trombone

Digital Media Cues

Bells

f

Drums

4

Bass

f

Drums

8

0:15

(Drums continue)

Bass

12

0:30

(Drums continue)

17

(Drums stop)

Bass

21

0:45

25

29

1:00

33

1:15

41

(Drums stop)

(Bells continue)

stge left spkr

stge right spkr

1:30

45

49

mf

Drums

1:45

53

(Drums continue)

57

p

Bells

(Drums continue)

(Drums stop)

4

2:00

60

63

panning - stage R to L

Bells

66

mf

2:15

70

73

mp

2:30

76

string hits

80

stge right spkr stge left spkr

string hits

15mb

2:46

83

mf

87

Flute

3:00

90

Bass

15mb

excerpt incomplete - score is 14 pages