

# **Drifts**

for ensemble

Sam Yulsman  
(2017)

Written for Ensemble Korea and the New York New Music Ensemble

**Instrumentation:**

Bass Flute  
Piano  
Perucussion  
Geomungo  
Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng

The score is transposed.

**Duration - 8 min.**

# Performance Notes

## Tunings for Geomungo and Ajaeng

Geomungo



Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng

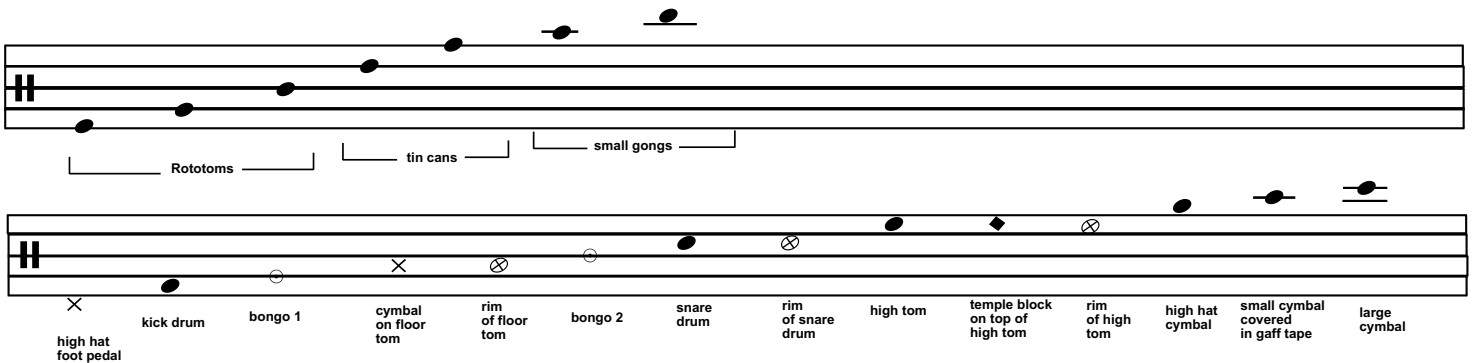


# Performance Notes

## Percussion List:

- +kick drum
- +snare drum with three pieces of gaffer tape placed across the drum head, running from one rim to the other. These will be removed during the course of the piece.
- + floor Tom
- +high tom
- +large cymbal with two pieces of gaffer tape (around 1/2 foot long) placed on two locations towards the edge of the cymbal. These will be removed during the course of the piece.
- +small cymbal with three pieces of gaffer tape placed across the entire body of the cymbal. This should close to completely deaden the cymbal
- +small cymbal, stacked on top of the floor tom. The cymbal should be small enough so its edges are touching the drum head completely.
- +high hat: for the top cymbal use a regular high hat cymbal; for the lower cymbal use a 10" or 11" bell cymbal (Sabian alu bell cymbals work particularly well) This should result in a much darker, choked timbre (when using the high hat pedal)
- +temple block, placed on top of the high tom towards the rim so as to leave enough space to strike the drum head as well.
- +three rototoms
- +two bongos
- +two tin cans with different pitches
- +two small gongs (8" - 12")
- +almglocken: A3 A#3 C4 C#4 D#4 E4 F4 F#4 G#4 A4 A#4 B4 C5 C#5
- +one plastic bag filled with at least two sets each (the more the better) of ankle bells and chajchas. These are available from the composer on request.
- +drum sticks
- +brushes
- +felt mallets
- +very soft mallets
- +super ball
- +triangle beater

## Key:



# Bass Flute

## Vocal symbols:

[x], [th], [sh] Use the indicated vowel sound to articulate the attack. Sustain for the given duration

[x(a)] Sustain the fricative consonant and the vowel in the parentheses

[x(a)] → x[(u)] Gradually move from one phoneme to another over the given duration

Here is a guide to some of the more unusual phonemes used:

x = IPA: χ german *doch*, Dutch *goed*

w = IPA: w like English *water*, but voiceless

xw = simultaneously [x] and [w], similar to english *wh*

e = IPA: ə english *father*

r = IPA: r rolled r, (italian or russian, not French or German)

\*\*\*[p] and [k] should be aspirated: "puh" and "kuh"

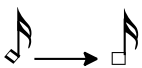
## Noteheads:



covered embouchure. Direct all the sound into the flute instead of over it.



a quasi-covered embouchure. Half way between a normal open embouchure and a covered embouchure. The result should be a mixture of pitch and phoneme noise



gradual transition between different embouchures over a given duration.

## Two Stave System

In passages where the voice and hands move independently of each other, they have been decoupled into two separate staves. The top staff indicates fingerings, and the lower staff is used to indicate different spoken phonemes. The two staves only appear in passages where phonemes are spoken. For primarily pitched playing, one staff is always used.

## Glissandi

Glissandi from one indicated pitch to another indicated pitch should be treated as fast scalar runs or grace notes. Their velocity corresponds to the indicated duration.

Glissandi trailing from an attack should be played as pitch bends. In this case, no ending pitch will be indicated, only the pitch of the initial attack.



13

B. Fl. *fp* *fp* *ffpp* (normal playing) *mf* *p* *ff* *n* *f* *n* *3*

Perc. *mf* *f* *snare off* *p* *f*

Pno. *ppp* *n* *pp* *ppp* *n* *l.v.* *l.v.* *l.v.* *pp*

gradually lift pedal

Geomungo *n* *5* *ff* *p* *f* *p* *ff* *p*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *p*

**A**

16

B. Fl. *ff* *p* *subito* *n* *f* *p* *ff* *bend* *p*

Perc. *f* *mf* *blend with ajaeng*

Pno. *n* *ppp* *n* *ppp* *l.v.*

gradually lift pedal

Geomungo *f* *p* *ff* *p* *ff* *p*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *n*

**A**

19

B. Fl. *pp* *mfpp* *f* *n* *ff* *mf* *n*

Perc. *snare on* *p* *ffpp* *p* *snare off* *p* *f* *snare on*

Pno. *ppp* *n* *pp* *n* *ppp* *n* *pp* *n* *pp* *l.v.* *l.v.* *l.v.*

*sober snare edge of symbol with the back of the drum stick*

gradually lift pedal

Geomungo *blend with piano* *f* *p* *f*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *n* *p*





B. Fl. *f* *p* *f* *fp* *fz* *p* *fz* *p*

Perc. *pp* *mp* *pp* *ppp* *fz* *p* *f* *p* *fz*

Pno. *f* *mf*

Geomungo *f* *subito p* *fz* *p* *f*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *f* *mp* *f*

*very fast narrow vibrato*

B. Fl. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. *f* *mf* *f* *mf < f*

Pno. *f* *mf* *8va*

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

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

*\*m. 42-50, pitches indicate how the string should be pushed; achieving the exact frequency is not important*

B. Fl. *p* *f* *mp* *pp* *f*

Perc. *f* *p* *f* *mf* *f* *f* *f*

Pno. *f* *p* *f*

Geomungo *f* *f* *f*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *p* *f* *mp* *mp* *f*

48

B. Fl. *p* *f* *p* *f* *rit.*

Perc. *f* *rit.* *snare off*

Pno. *6<sup>th</sup>*

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

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *f* *ff* *mf* *f* *mp* *f*

**D**

52 *♩* = 66 *accel.* *♩* = 100

B. Fl. *f* *p* *fff* *non dim.*

Perc. *Hand 1: drum stick, brush*  
*Hand 2: super ball mallet, triangle beater*  
*cross stick* *scrape w/whirl from one indicated contact point to another* *scrape w/whirl from the center of the drum head outwards towards the rim* *scrape w/whirl of drum stick to produce a rich, harmonic wobble* *scrape in a zig-zag pattern at indicated contact point*  
*strike temple block w/drum stick* *scrape w/triangle beater, spiraling from the center of the drum head outwards towards the rim*  
*heavy pressure*  
*tip* *butt* *rub with less pressure to create a buzzing "woodchuck" effect*

Pno. *mp* *f*

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

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *f* *p* *f*

**D**

55

B. Fl. *fff* *non dim.* *[a(4)]* *[a(0)]* *mp* *pp* *mp* *p* *ppp*

Perc. *scrape w/triangle beater* *scrape w/whirl* *rub with less pressure to create a buzzing "woodchuck" effect* *scrape w/whirl from one indicated contact point to another* *scrape w/triangle beater, spiraling from the center of the drum head outwards towards the rim*

Pno.

Geomungo *p* *mp* *pp* *mp* *p*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *p* *f* *ppp* *molto sul pont.* *cod.* *molto sul pont.* *ppp* *ff* *ppp* *ff* *ppp*

*m. 55 + m. 57: hollow tones. Direct the air slightly higher than usual across the flute and open the inside of the mouth and throat*

*rub back and forth very fast w/brush as un-interrupted as possible*

*\*m. 56-58, pitches indicate how the string should be pushed; achieving the exact frequency is not important*



**E**

subito

♩ = 80

as legato as possible

B. Fl. *pp* *pp*

Perc.

Pno. *pp*

Geomungo *pp* *pp*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *mp* *p* *mp*

**E**

B. Fl. *fff* *non dim.*

Perc. *p* *fp* *f* *mf* *f* *f*

Pno. *f*

Geomungo *ppp* *p* *f* *p*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *p* *pp* *fff*

w/brush  
whisper ball  
bass

scrape whip  
of drum stick

scrape whisks

[x(a)] [x(o)]

**F** subito

♩ = 105 - 110: slightly faster

Airy timbre: open embouchure  
a little more than usual to create  
a less focused sound

B. Fl. *pp* *mpz* *f*

Perc.

Pno. *pp* *pp* *mp* *ppp* *f* *p* *mf*

Geomungo *pp* *fppp* *p* *n*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *mp* *p* *n* *mp*

as legato as possible



95

B. Fl. *[s(e)] [s(e)] [s(e)]*

Perc. *[s(e)] [s(e)]*

Pno. *mf*

Geomungo *n f n f p*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *n f n f p*

99

B. Fl. *[s(e)] [s(e)] [s(e)]*

Perc. *switch one hand to felt mallet felt mallet and drum stick*

Pno. *f*

Geomungo *fast, wide vibrato ff*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *ppp*

103

B. Fl. *[s(e)] [s(e)] [s(e)] [s(e)] [s(e)]* *hollow timbre*

Perc. *almglocken felt mallet lv. lv. drum stick p*

Pno. *pp mp*

Geomungo *subito p*

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *ff* *sul pont. very fast tremolo vibrato*

107

B. Fl. *mp* *non dim.* *n* *< mp*

Perc.

Pno. *p* *pp*

Geomungo

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *n* *fp*

*sul pont.*  
*very fast narrow vibrato*



111

B. Fl. *p* *mp* *pp*

Perc. *n* *f* *f* *f*

Pno. *f*

Geomungo

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *n* *fpp* *sim.* *sim.* *ost.* *n* *p < mp* *n*

*sul pont.*  
*very fast narrow vibrato*

*scrape w/rip of drum stick to produce a rich, harmonic screech*

*scrape rim w/triangle beater*

*w/upper ball near rim*

*strike temple block with drum stick*

*scrape w/hammer beater in a zig-zag pattern*



115

B. Fl. *ppp* *mf* *pp* *fff* *p* *ppp*

Perc. *f*

Pno. *f* *mp* *f* *pp*

Geomungo

Eight-stringed Sanjo Ajaeng *f* *f* *p* *fp*

*old. timbre*

*rub back and forth very fast w/brush*

*w/upper ball near rim*

*rub with loose pressure to create a buzzing "teacher" effect*

*switch to drum sticks only*

*drum sticks*

*sho*

*very fast narrow vibrato*













