

Ricercar

for solo timpani

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General Information

Ricercar is an algorithmic work for solo timpani generated by a computer program. Because this program uses random procedures, a different version of this work is output at each execution. It is recommended that the performer generate a new version for each concert (more on how to generate a version below), though this is not a requirement. Also, the performer may play more than one single version on a same concert.

Durata: averagely 6'00"

Notation And General Performance Notes

- this composition uses four timpani, sizes 32", 29", 26" and 23"
- the tuning of each timpani is randomly generated for each version of this work, within the range of the setup above, and is shown below the title in the first page of the score
- the score is written in a four line staff, each line representing a timpani (from the largest one on the bottom to the smallest one on the top)
- each bar corresponds to a metronome marking of approximately 420 BPM
- tremolos should be played as fast as possible and are always unmeasured
- tremolos should last until the next note
- the player should use medium sticks

Generating a unique version

In order to generate a unique version of this work, it is necessary to have the following programs installed on a Linux computer:

- The program `ricercar.out`, which can be freely obtained by sending a request message to gilberto.agostinho.f@gmail.com
- LilyPond, which can be downloaded from www.lilypond.org

To generate a score, simply execute the file `ricercar.out` and wait until a score is automatically generated as a pdf file named `ricercar.pdf` (this will take just a few seconds). To generate a new score, simply run the executable file once again. A midi sample of this work is also generated, together with the score in LilyPond format files (`.ly`).

IMPORTANT NOTE: after generating a score, another execution of `ricercar.out` will result in the loss of all previously generated files (they will all be overwritten)! If you wish to keep a particular version of this composition, please copy all its files to a safe location.





