

O
V
HERONS
R
H
E
A
D

for
three percussionists
and piano

COLIN
SUTHERLIN

Thanks



Cara Haxo

Peter Mowrey

Timothy Freeze

Dylan Findley

Conception



- Translation of my personal life
 - Extramusical meaning
- Beyond notes
 - Music as an experience
 - Creation of a soundworld
- Instrumentation
 - Percussion
 - Unorthodox / alternative sounds

Aesthetic Dualities



- Visual and aural stimulation
 - Live dancers
 - Sheets
- Density vs clarity
- Metered vs unmetered
- Pitched vs unpitched
- Immediacy vs graduality

Form



- Series of “heron” moments
 - Range of feelings/textures/sounds/etc
- Contrasting connective tissue
- Return of certain ideas
- 23'-24'

Flowing/nuanced

Percussive/strictly metered/rhythmic pulse

Atmospheric/ shimmery/dissolution of pitch



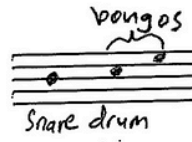

Bittersweet piano interlude

Driving rhythm/very percussive

Punctual/elegant

Gradual dissolution of pitch

Instrumentation

	[Instruments]	[Implements]	[Keys]	[Cajon]
P1	suspended cymbal piano* sheet** brake drum cowbell agogo bells tam tam rainstick*** Cajon	triangle beater soft mallets cello/bass bow drum sticks brushes Superball mallet rods		
P2	crotales (2 octaves) rainstick*** sheet** 2 bongos (high & low) snare drum	hard mallets cello/bass bow medium mallets brushes		
P3	vibraphone kick drum sheet** toms (high & low)	soft mallets hard mallets cello/bass bow drum sticks		
P4	piano* sheet**	violin bow hair (2 sets) paper* Superball mallet		

- * piano is shared between P1 and P4
- ** sheets should be grey and twin-sized
- *** rainstick is shared between P1 and P2
- D any number of dancers
- dancers should be dressed in grey
- flowy clothing


[Notation]

X cancels previous meter; music is timed by seconds and rhythm is interpreted proportionately

— indicates order of events between players

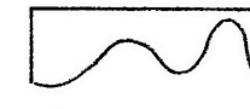
| indicates alignment between players

• — note is held until end of line and then left to ring freely

 rhythmic speed increases gradually relative to beam spacing; interpret gesturally

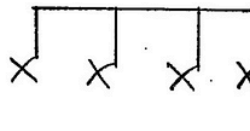
 swirl implement on instrument in indicated manner with respect to intensity, dynamic and duration


 gradually release pedal from fully depressed to released entirely

 relates to vibraphone motor speed; base of box is lowest speed and top of box is highest speed

∅ — movement between implement positions


- Suspended cymbal: scraping triangle beater from center to edge
- rainstick: action of gradually flipping instrument 180°

 — rainsticks: shaking instrument
— snare drums & toms: rim shot

 bowed notes on piano

ped — depress sustain pedal until stated otherwise

* — release pedal

 indicates both rate & intensity of "flapping" sheets; faster frequency indicates faster flapping and larger amplitude indicates more intensity

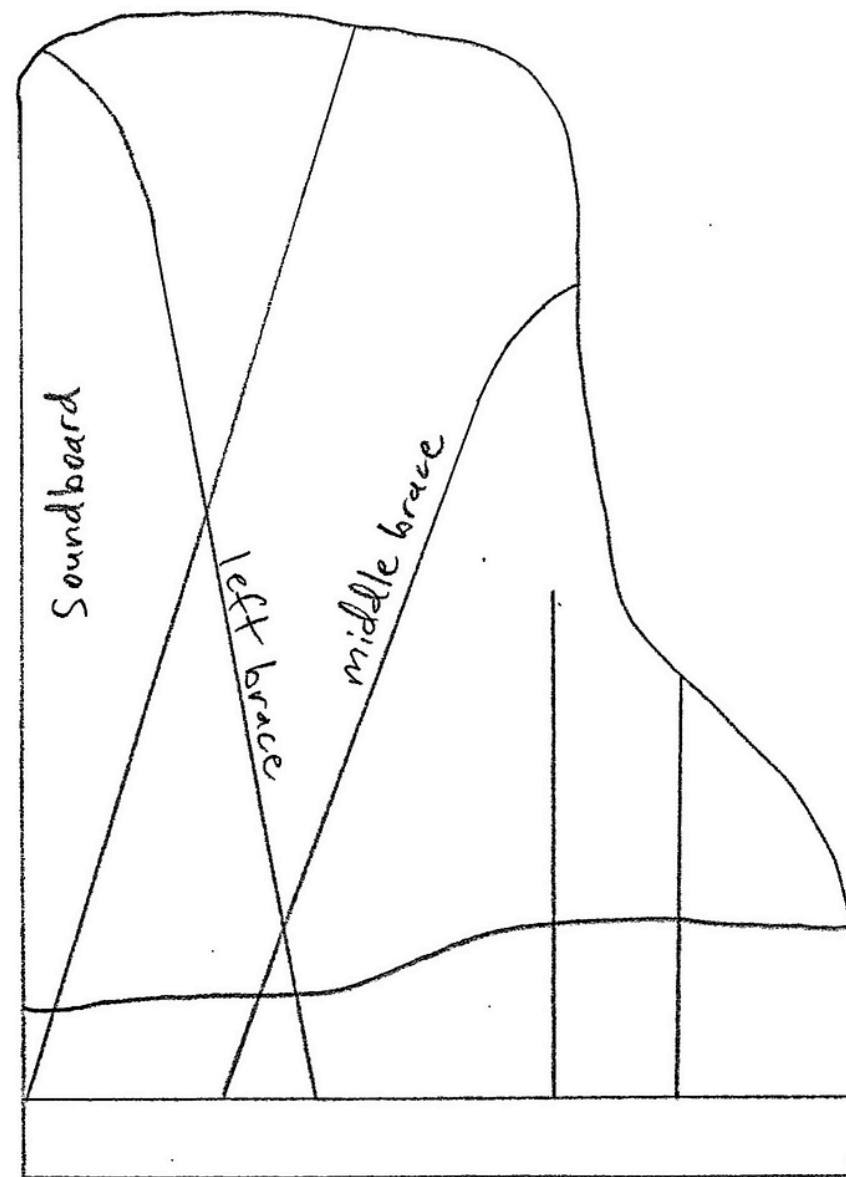
Accidentals apply only to the notes they immediately precede; accidentals also remain in effect for all tied and immediately repeated notes

[Prepared Piano]

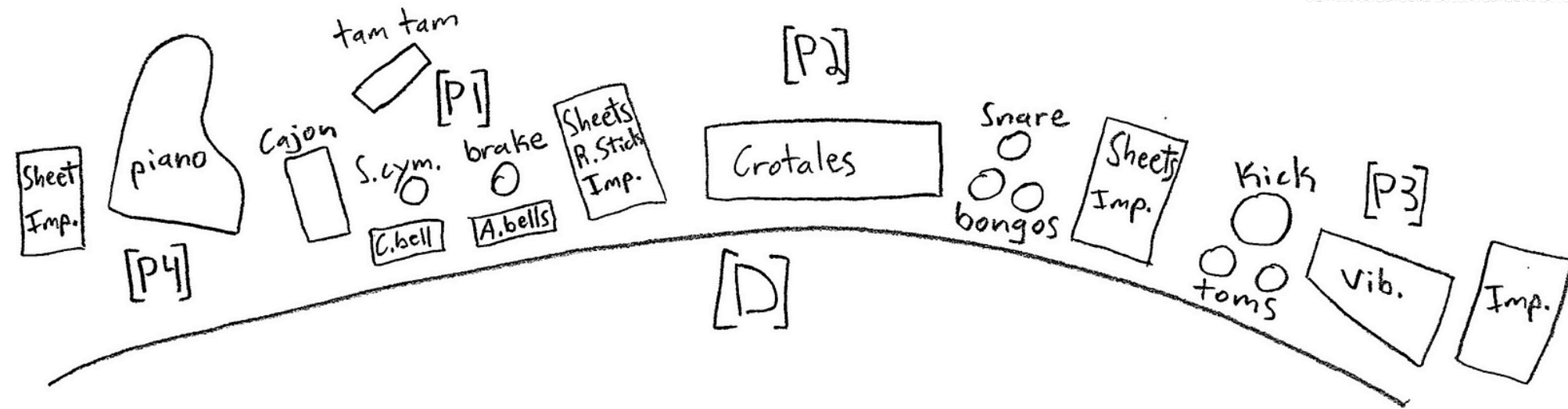
Paper is to be arranged on top of strings, as to dampen sound and achieve a crackly effect

Bowed notes are E4, D5 and Ab5 and should be marked with tape before performance
Strings are prepared by looping bow hair under strings

Bowing is achieved through pulling bow hair under piano string at moderate speed and pressure



[Staging]



[Dancers]

Stage to performers' desire with respect
to venue size

Players should form a semicircle around
dancers



Colin Schrein
2025

Spacious

[triangle beater]

P1
Sus. LM.

P2
Crotales

P3
vib.

P4
piano

12''

lightly, just a shimmer

10''

12''

5''

7''

[hard mallet]

motor on low

nucanced

pp

mp

mf

f

ped

*

10''

10'' with more pressure

15''

8''

4''

[soft mallet]

motor off

to kick drum

ff

to vib.

4''

4''

8vb

* ped

* ped

* ped

* ped

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Handwritten musical score for the first system, featuring five staves (P1 to P4) and various performance instructions.

Staff P1 (Sus. Cym.): 3", 5", 6", 9", 7", 5".

Staff P2 (Crotales): *mf*, *as an echo*, *to rain stick*, *motor on low*, *motor off*.

Staff P3 (vib.): *motor on low*, *motor off*.

Staff P4 (piano): *f*, *mf*, *mp*, *f*, *f*, *pp*. Includes *ped* markings.

Performance Notes: *as an echo*, *to rain stick*, *motor on low*, *motor off*, *ped*.

Handwritten musical score for the second system, featuring four staves (P1 to P4) and various performance instructions.

Staff P1: *accel.*, *rit.*, 4", 10", 3", 5".

Staff P2: *crotales*, *rainstick*, *rainsticks*, *attacca*.

Staff P3: *motor on low*, *with announcement*, *motor off*.

Staff P4: *accel.*, *rit.*, *mf*, *f*, *f*, *pp*. Includes *ped* markings.

Performance Notes: *accel.*, *rit.*, *motor on low*, *with announcement*, *motor off*, *ped*.

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Handwritten musical score for Percussion 1 (P1) and Percussion 2 (P2).

P1 Sus. cym. (Suspended Cymbal):

- Measure 10: **[brushes]** (10")
- Measure 9: **9"**
- Measure 13: **13"**

P2 crotals (Crotals):

- Measure 9: **[mallet]** (9")
- Measure 10: **to snare** (10")
- Measure 13: **[brushes]** (13")

P3 sheet (Sheet):

- Measure 10: **10"**

P4 sheet (Sheet):

- Measure 10: **10"**

Dotted lines indicate cross-stick patterns between P1, P2, P3, and P4.

Handwritten musical score for Percussion 1 (P1) and Percussion 2 (P2).

P1 (Percussion 1):

- Measure 11: **11"**
- Measure 10: **to tam tam** (10")
- Measure 10: **[Superball]** (10")

P2 (Percussion 2):

- Measure 11: **to bongos [brushes]** (11")
- Measure 10: **to sheet** (10")

P3 (Percussion 3):

- Measure 11: **11"**

P4 (Percussion 4):

- Measure 11: **11"**

Dotted lines indicate cross-stick patterns between P1, P2, P3, and P4.

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Handwritten musical score for the first system, measures 1-6. The score is for four parts: P1 (Cajon), P2 (bongos/snaredrum), P3 (vib.), and P4 (piano). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Dynamics are marked as *fp* (fortissimo piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano).

P1 Cajon

P2 bongos
snaredrum

P3 vib.

P4 piano

Handwritten musical score for the second system, measures 7-12. The score continues with the same four parts: P1, P2, P3, and P4. Dynamics include *fp*, *mp*, *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *f* (fortissimo). The notation includes various rhythmic patterns and melodic lines.

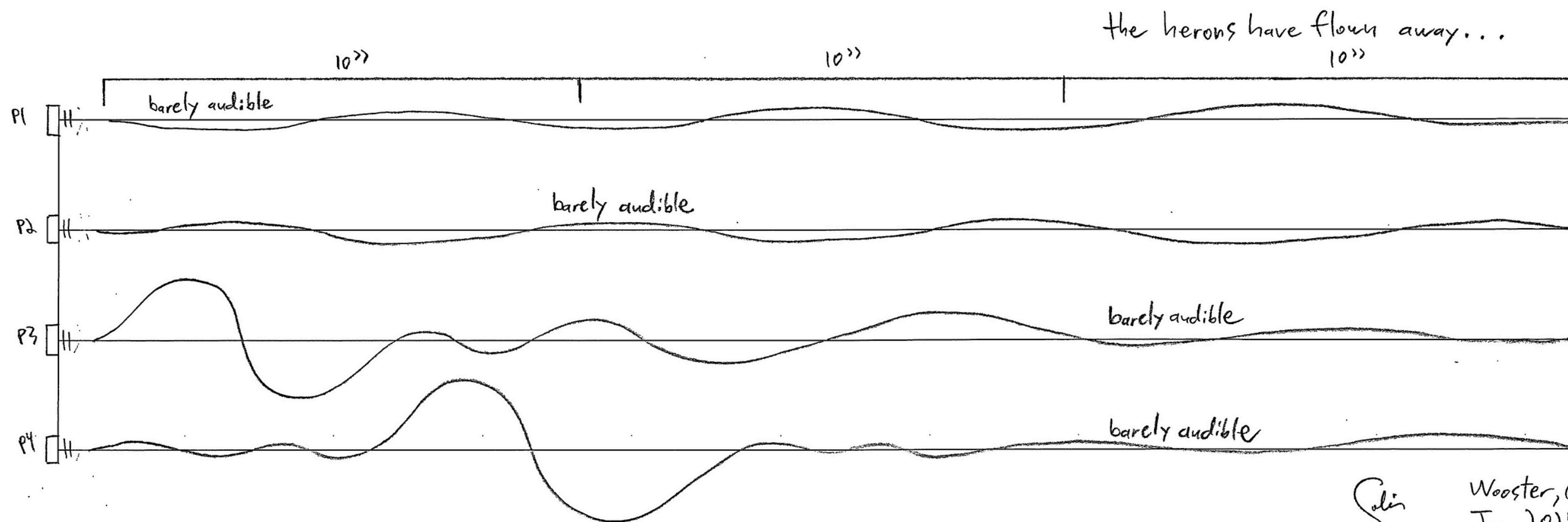
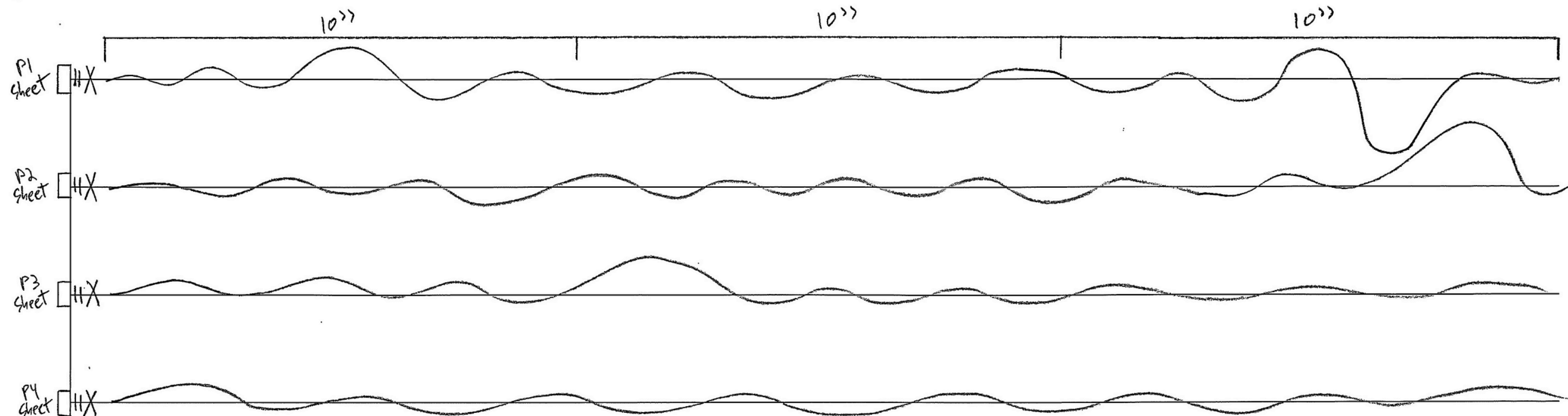
P1

P2

P3

P4

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Solin
chi

Wooster, Ohio
Jan. 2025

