

# **Concerto for prepared piano and percussion**

## **Instrument list**

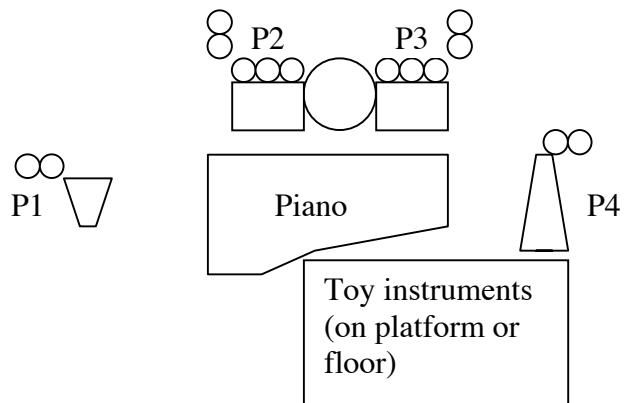
Grand Piano with lid off.

Player 1: Glockenspiel, Ukulele, Toy Piano, 2 Bongos, Suspended Cymbal, 2 Stones, 3 Tuned Bowls, Nipple Gong (20").

Player 2: Crotales (F#, A, B, C#, E), Toy Glockenspiel, Vibraphone (shared with player 3), China Cymbal, Suspended Cymbal, 2 Stones, 3 Tuned Bowls, 3 Wood Blocks, 2 Bongos, Snare Drum, 2 Tom Toms, Bass Drum.

Player 3: Crotales (E, G#, B, D#), Toy Piano, Vibraphone (shared with player 2), China Cymbal, Suspended Cymbal, 2 Stones, 3 Tuned Bowls, 2 Bongos, Snare Drum, 2 Tom Toms, Bass Drum.

Player 4: Xylophone, Toy Glockenspiel, Melodica, 2 Bongos, Suspended Cymbal, 2 Stones, 3 Tuned Bowls, Nipple Gong (16").



## Instructions for preparing the piano

Paper

8<sup>va</sup>- - - - - , 8<sup>vib</sup>- - - - -

This musical notation illustrates the preparation of a piano using strips of paper. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The bass staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The notation uses eighth notes and sixteenth notes. Above the treble staff, there is a dynamic marking '8<sup>va</sup>- - - - -' followed by a short vertical line. Below the bass staff, there is a dynamic marking '8<sup>vib</sup>- - - - -' followed by a short vertical line.

Use strips of 80 gsm paper approximately 4 x 8 cm. Lace the strips under the middle string (for treble pitches), or one double or single string (for bass pitches). The upper octave should be a sharp, biting attack. Middle and lower register pitches should have a buzzing quality.

Rubber

This musical notation illustrates the preparation of a piano using flat rubber elastic. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The bass staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The notation uses eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The attacks are indicated by different symbols: some are sharp and biting, while others are muted and plucked.

Use strips of flat rubber elastic approximately 2.5 cm wide and 1 mm thick. Lace the strips under the middle string (for treble pitches), or one double or single string (for bass pitches). These notes should have a muted quality, and a plucked quality to the attack.

Single Screws

This musical notation illustrates the preparation of a piano using wood screws. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The bass staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The notation uses eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The attacks are sharp and biting.

Use wood screws approximately 4 cm long, fitting snugly between the strings. Screw one screw between two of the three treble strings and carefully slide the screw along the string to tune the undertone. The sound quality consists of the original (higher) pitch, the (lower) undertone, and a slight buzz.

Double Screws or bolts

This musical notation illustrates the preparation of a piano using wood screws or machine bolts. It consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The bass staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The notation uses eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The attacks are sharp and biting.

Use wood screws (as above) or machine bolts 3-4mm x 2.5 cm, fitting snugly between the strings. Place two screws in the two gaps between each set of three strings, to produce a gong like sound consisting only of the lower undertone (and any resultant harmonics).

Cardboard

This musical notation illustrates the preparation of a piano using cardboard pieces. It consists of a single bass staff. The bass staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The notation uses eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The attacks are sharp and biting.

Use cardboard pieces 2 x 4 x .5 cm. Place pieces in the two gaps between each set of three strings. Use as many pieces as necessary for a snug fit to produce the given undertone.

Large bolt or thick rubber strips

This musical notation illustrates the preparation of a piano using large bolts or thick rubber strips. It consists of a single bass staff. The bass staff has a bass clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The notation uses eighth notes and sixteenth notes. The attacks are sharp and biting.

Use bolts .6 x 4 cm coated in electrical tape, or rubber strips approximately 2 mm x 4 cm. Place the bolts between double strings, or lace the strips between single strings at the node of the fifth harmonic.

# Concerto for Prepared Piano and Percussion

Commissioned by the Queensland Conservatorium Griffith University on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary (1957-2007).  
This commission has been made possible through the generosity of Bruce & Jocelyn Wolfe.

P1: Glockenspiel  
P2: Crotalles, 1 tuned bowl (F#, B, E)  
P3: Bowed Vibraphone  
P4: Gong

## Part 1

Erik Griswold

**Pno**

**Glockenspiel**

**P1**

**P2**

**P3**

**P4**

*p* = 72 *Molto Rubato - Wistful*

Repeat independently 3 Times

Repeat independently 4 Times

Repeat independently 4 Times

Gently scrape gong with triangle beater - ad lib

**Pno**

**P1**

**P2**

**P3**

**P4**

Bowed Vibraphone

Repeat independently 5 Times

P1: Glockenspiel  
 P2 & P3: Bass Drum, 2 Tom Toms, China Cymbal,  
 Bowed vibraphone (shared)  
 P4: Xylophone

## Part 2

Erik Griswold

*D=160 Driving*

4 Times

Pno

P1

P2

P3

P4

B.D., 2 Tom Toms

B.D., 2 Tom Toms

A

Pno

P2

P3

P1: Ukulele  
 P2: Toy Piano  
 P3: Toy Glockenspiel  
 P4: Melodica

## Part 3

Erik Griswold

$\text{♩} = 88$  Delicate and precise - like miniature clockworks

4 Times - - - - , 4 Times - - - - , 4 Times - - - -

Pno {

dim. poco a poco

Ukulele

P1

pp cresc. poco a poco mp

Toy Piano

pp cresc. poco a poco mp

Toy Glockenspiel

P3

pp cresc. poco a poco mp

Melodica

P4

pp cresc. poco a poco mp

4 Times - - - -

[A]

Pno {

pp cresc. poco a poco

A

mp

P1

dim. poco a poco

P2

dim. poco a poco

P3

dim. poco a poco

P4

dim. poco a poco

P1 & 4: 2 Bongos, Suspended Cymbal,  
2 Stones, 3 Tuned Bowls, Gong  
P 2 & 3: 2 Bongos, Suspended Cymbal,  
2 Stones, 3 Tuned Bowls, 3 W.B.,  
Bass Drum

## Part 4

Erik Griswold

Musical score for Part 4:

**Pno:** Treble clef, no key signature. Dynamics: **p**. Performance instruction: **2 Bongos w/ snare sticks**. Tempo:  $\text{♩} = 240$ , *rit.*

**P1:** Treble clef, no key signature. Dynamics: **p**. Performance instruction: **2 Bongos w/ snare sticks**. Tempo:  $\text{♩} = 120$ , *accel.*

**P2:** Treble clef, no key signature. Dynamics: **p**. Performance instruction: **2 Bongos w/ snare sticks**. Tempo:  $\text{♩} = 240$ , *rit.*

**P3:** Treble clef, no key signature. Dynamics: **p**.

P1: Glockenspiel  
 P2 & 3: Tom Tom, Bass Drum  
 China Cymbal, Bowed Vibraphone (shared)  
 P4: Xylophone

## Part 5

Erik Griswold

*d = 80 Frantic*

4 Times

Pno

P1

P2

P3

P4

Glockenspiel

Tom Tom & B.D.

sub. **p**

cresc. poco a poco (until "A")

Xylophone

*f*

*sub. p*

*cresc. poco a poco (until "A")*

*f*

Pno

P1

P2

P3

P4

**A**

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

P1: Toy Glockenspiel, Melodica  
 P2 & 3: 3 Crotales, 3 Wood Blocks,  
 Snare Drum, Bass Drum  
 P4: Toy Piano

## Part 6

Erik Griswold

**J = 112 Joyful**

Pno {

4 Times                          4 Times                          4 Times                          4 Times

pp cresc. poco a poco                          mp dim. poco a poco                          dim. poco a poco

Toy Glockenspiel

3 Crotales (C#, A, F#), 3 Wood Blocks

3 Crotales (B, G#, E), 3 Wood Blocks

Toy Piano

A

pp cresc. poco a poco                          mp

pp cresc. poco a poco                          mp

mp

pp cresc. poco a poco                          mp

pp cresc. poco a poco                          mp