Manifold

for solo guitar

by

Michael Wittgraf

for Jesse Langen

Manifold, by Michael Wittgraf

Instrumentation: Solo Guitar

Duration: approximately 11 minutes

Date of Composition: 1995

Program notes

Manifold is informed by a mathematical system involving polynomials and their roots. The system is employed as a pre-compositional tool in two different ways. The fast, single-line sections use patterns around "central" or "main" pitches. Those central pitches are transformed via the system as the work progresses. In the remaining sections, I assign numerical values to each of 6 different musical parameters (loudness, density, tessitura, degree of polyphony, attack point rhythm, and lengths of sections), and each of these was divided into 6 numerical "levels". Transforming these sets of six numbers yielded new sets of numbers which correspond to pitches. In other words, "how the music sounds" determines the pitch content of these sections. Manifold was written in 1995 for Jesse Langen.

Duration: circa 11 min.

Manifold

for solo guitar

- × indicates damped string.
 ▲ indicates rapping on the body of the guitar with the knuckles.
 ▼ indicates tapping on the body of the guitar with the fingernails.
 Arrows denote arpeggiation direction relative to the printed notes.
 All harmonics are loco.



Michael Wittgraf



































