

ailanthus

for any solo instrument
(2009)

Andrea LaRose

A meditation, of sorts, for any solo instrument.

Not difficult, but requires long-term concentration.

The ailanthus is the tree that "grows in Brooklyn," a book you should read if you haven't yet. I improvised this piece for my performance as a "ghost flutist" for Introceptual Ghostland, a fantastical walking tour of the intersection of East Williamsburg/Bushwick/Maspeth on the Brooklyn-Queens border, masterminded by scrapworm, Henken Bean, and jo scari. I stood next to an especially lonely, but stalwart ailanthus on the corner of Bogart and Meadow, and listened to my sounds reflect off of a warehouse door. Then I actually remembered what I did long enough to write it down.

Timing is indeterminate.

Try to go as long as you can.

ailanthus

for introceptual ghostland

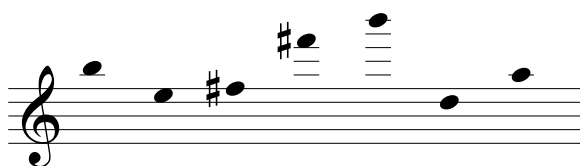
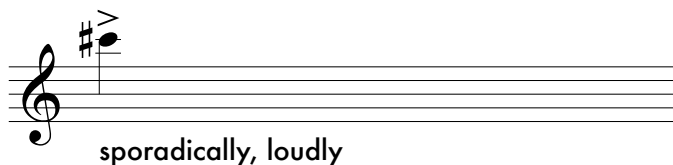
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Adjust range to fit your instrument and personality.

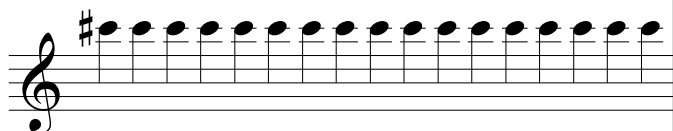
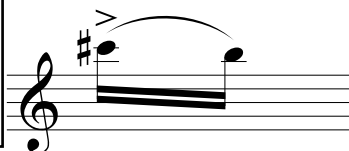
Repeat each measure/process for as long as you can, and then longer still.

Feel free to add theatrical, physical movement to fit your instrument and personality.

I like to slowly spin around.



<<< Occasionally and gradually add these pitches in (kind of in this order, but whatever moves you), also as sporadic quarter notes, but also as an afterthought, something like this >>>

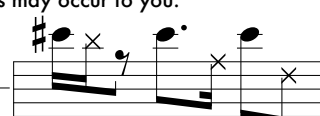


Gradually establish a beat, ca. 120bpm, mostly with C#, but still using pitches and figures developed above.

Throw in these and other similar figures.



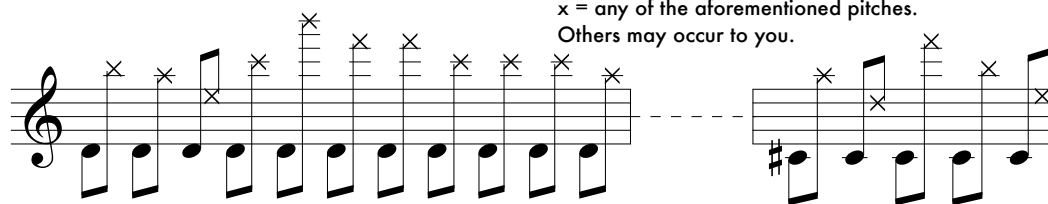
x = any of the aforementioned pitches.
Others may occur to you.



Then gradually work your way backwards...

optional addendum:

constant eighths, alternating between D and any aforementioned pitches or harmonics thereof. Eventually switch to C# as bass/base pitch, then back or not... fade out....



x = any of the aforementioned pitches.
Others may occur to you.