

MUMBO JUMBO MARACAS

Lee-Sean Huang | ITP NIME | November 2009

Description

Mumbo Jumbo Maracas is an Electro-Tiki trio for three musicians playing Wiimote MIDI controller playing a custom MainStage patch, keytar controlling a SidStation synthesizer, and maracas. The Wiimote player doubles as a vocalist.

Technical Requirements

- Power strip with outlets for one laptop, a MIDI-controlled synth module, and the keytar MIDI controller.
- One vocal mic with stand
- One small table or stand for a laptop and audio interface
- Three music stands

Performance Notes

The Wiimote player (Lee-Sean) will stand in the center of the stage. The maracas player will stand to his left (Eric), and the keytar player to his right (Arturo).

The piece is divided into four sections: a short intro and three mini-movements of approximately 2 minutes duration each (labelled with Roman numerals in the score).

In each “mini-movement” the maracas and keytar player will play “modules” that are enclosed by brackets []. The players may play the modules in any order in a given mini-movement. The Wiimote player’s vocal cues signal the end of a given section. The notes in a given module may be played at any speed or rhythm based on the general performance instructions of the section.

Notation Guide

Maracas

- L = single maraca hit with the left hand
- R = single maraca hit with the right hand
- B = single maraca hit with both hands
- ~ = extended shake
- O = a short period of silence

Keytar

- A-G = a single keyboard note (in any octave)
- = extend the previous note
- ~ = wiggle the previous note using the pitch wheel
- O = a short period of silence

The Score

	Maracas	Wiimote/Vocals	Keytar
Intro		<i>I forgot my native language</i> <i>I forgot my mother tongue</i> <i>I forgot the tales you told me</i> <i>I forgot the songs you sung</i>	Low G Low F Low Eb Low G Low F Low C
	B x 10		
I. Noh Slow and Meditative	[B L R O O] [B B L R O O] [B B O O]	[Taichi-like fluid motion] <i>Boronboro, boronboro, boronboro! x3</i>	[F Bb- C E~] [G- D Bb~ E~] [A D- G#~ G~]
II. Lounge Cool, syncopated, slowly building in intensity	[R B O L B O] [L L L R] [B B B]	[With some tropical attitude] <i>Take it to the bridge!</i>	[G F- C D-] [Ab Ab Eb F] [C Bb F Eb-]
III. Monkey-style Rock Out Getting faster and louder, reaching a cathartic climax of cacophony	[B B B B~~] [L R O L R O L R O] [LL R LL R LL R] [Anything you want]	[Intensely flailing limbs] <i>Incomprehension is Salvation is Obliteration x3</i>	Octaves [F F F-] [Bb Bb Bb-] [Eb Eb Eb-] [D D D-] [Anything you want]

The ending is a wall of noise. The players make eye contact and the Wiimote player/vocalist gives a nod to end the piece.