

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

31 • 28 • 31 • 30 • 31 • 30 • 31 • 31 • 30 • 31 • 30 • 31

- tenor guitar
- tenor banjo
- mandocello
- viola

progressions or contrasts  
layered or sequenced to years

12 months 12 movements  
3 months can become 4 seasons  
12 months can become 1 year  
4 seasons can become 1 year  
13 lunar months 13 movements  
the seasons and years are complex  
twelve tones in thirteen techniques

Months can build in unlinked unisons  
Seasons can build from sequential or layered months  
Performers may be in one area or distant unknown or online  
Events may be separated by milliseconds or months

endless loop  
== and/or ==  
stretch layering  
length of days  
psychology of months

== recorded sound ==  
LOOP  
[Vermont] LOOP  
[Northern North America] LOOP  
[Cold World Hemispheres] LOOP  
[Beyond] LOOP  
== live mix ==

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz  
for Seth Gordon

possible sounds (rural northern and urban northern environments)

- January rural – close-miked falling snow, sizzling ice
- January urban – New Year’s celebration, spinning tires
- February rural – roaring/crackling woodstove, sugaring
- February urban – valentine celebrations, football
- March rural – slush walking, cracking ice, heavy snow shoveling
- March urban – parties, school classrooms, dark bars at night
- April rural – mudsucking, rushing water, rain pouring
- April urban – opening cafés, conversation and babble, glasses
- May rural – tillers running, shoveling soil, rain failing gently
- May urban – storm sewers, baseball games, wind blowing
- June rural – sizzling burgers, swimming and diving
- June urban – indoor swimming and diving, school letting out
- July rural – waterfalls, thunderstorms, fireworks shows
- July urban – street arguments, street parties, air conditioners
- August rural – horse shows, cows milking, laughing children
- August urban – open hydrants, radio/tv from open windows
- September rural – hayrides, crunching leaves, crickets
- September urban – school going in, clubs, soccer games
- October rural – train whistles and night echoes, roaring freights
- October urban – subway chimes and voices, incoming trains
- November rural – splitting wood, animals foraging, dull rain
- November urban – water plant, car wash, window washers
- December rural – sleighs, shopping in stores, distant carols
- December urban – buses, shopping in malls, distant carols

modules & moons  
synchronizing calendar and lunar months (blue moons)

- January 3
- February 2
- March 3
- April 2
- May 2
- June 30
- July 29
- August 28
- September 26
- October 26
- November 24
- December 23

## The Thirteen Techniques

- pluck (single)
- pluck (multiple)
- strum
- brush
- pick
- snap
- knock (strings)
- knock (body)
- pat (strings)
- pat (body)
- slide (nails)
- slide (fingers)

- January (excitement, cold, brittleness, bright glints, inner smoke)
- February (boredom, length of perceived time, dark thoughts)
- March (lightness approaches, rain, lifting bleakness)
- April (rain, mud, breaking through, budding)
- May (light hearts, cool briskness, haze and fog)
- June (open skies, gentle evenings, outer smoke)
- July (warmth, excitement as opposite from January)
- August (warmth, shorter days, red hints, free water)
- September (coolness, feathered falling, redness, brownth)
- October (orange, brown, dark nights, failing light, sighing)
- November (bleakness, brownness, boredom, stretchiness)
- December (bright whiteness, excitement, falling to darkness)

for Seth Gordon

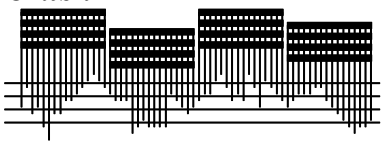
# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

January

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

!

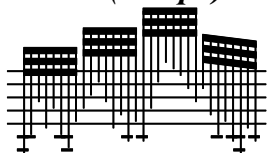
*brush*



A musical staff with a series of vertical lines representing notes, grouped into four clusters. The clusters are connected by a horizontal line at the bottom.



*brush (scrape)*

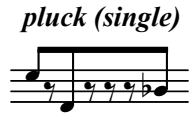


A musical staff with a series of vertical lines representing notes, grouped into four clusters. The clusters are connected by a horizontal line at the bottom.



>


*pluck (single)*



A musical staff with a single note followed by a series of eighth notes.




*pick (/bow)*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.




*strum*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.



*pluck (multiple)*




A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.



!

*snap*



A musical staff with a single note followed by a slur.

Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
January 19, 2007

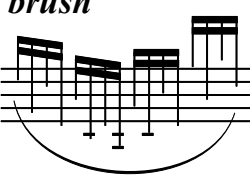
*pick (/bow)*



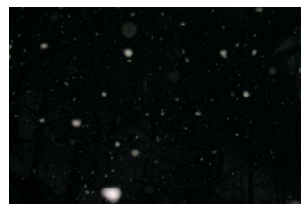
A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.



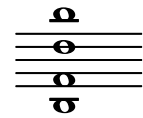
*brush*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.

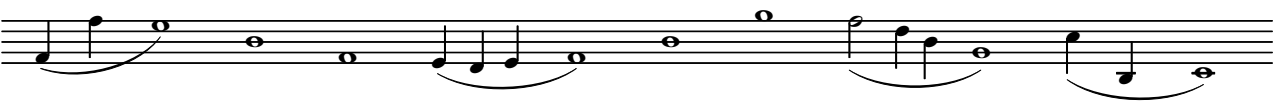


*brush (scrape)*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.

*slide (nails)*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.




*knock (body)*




A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.

*knock (strings)*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.


*pat (strings)*



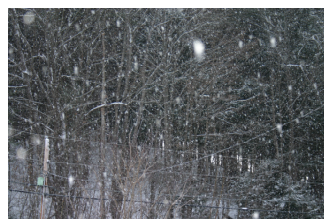
A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.



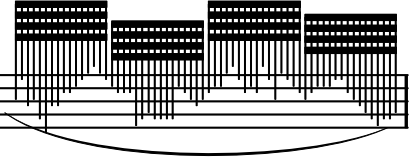
*pat (body)*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.



*brush*



A musical staff with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note, connected by a slur.



for Seth Gordon

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

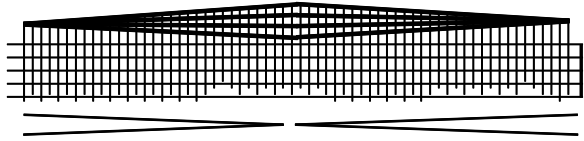
February

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

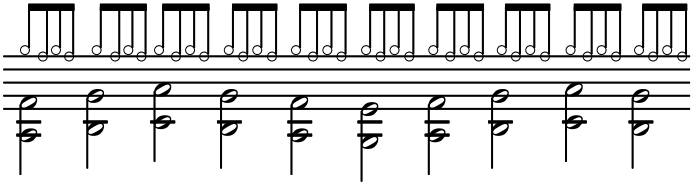
sections, continuous — no break  
crossfade technique & modules

*p*

brush



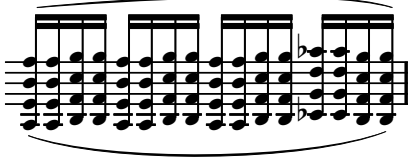
irregular pick (/bow)



loop on



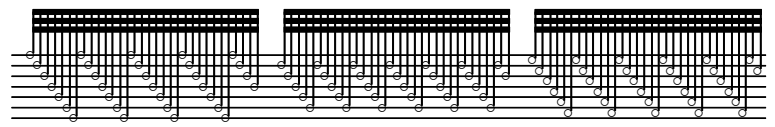
pluck (multiple)



loop  
xfade



brush (scrape)



Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
February 17, 2007



loop  
restart



knock (strings)



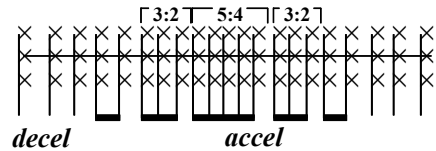
strum



loop  
fade



knock (body)



slide (nails)



loop  
restart



pat (strings)



pat (body)



loop  
cont'd



pluck (single)



snap



loop  
out



for Seth Gordon

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

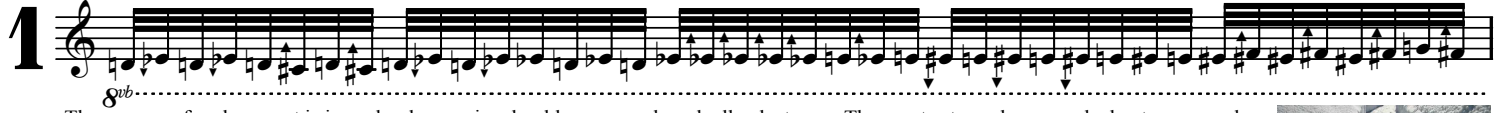
Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
March 21, 2007

March

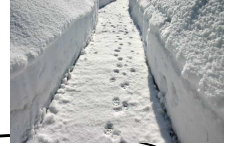
Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

This is a prelude and interlude section. During interludes, any given two sixteenth notes are replaced with the harmonics in the last section until they are all harmonics.

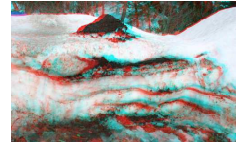
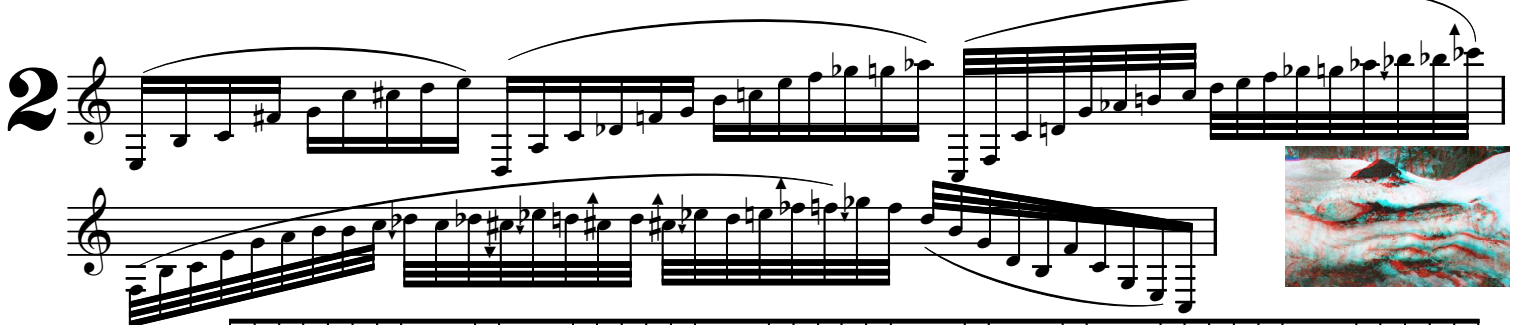
**1**



The process of replacement is irregular; harmonics should appear and gradually cluster up. The quarter-tones here may be bent or pressed.



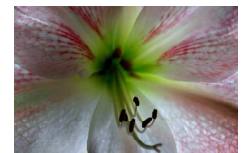
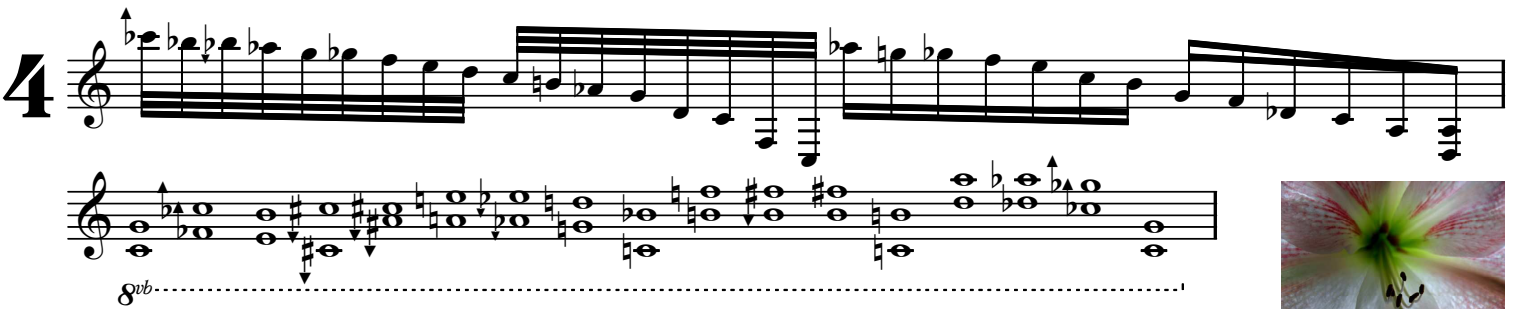
**2**



**3**



**4**

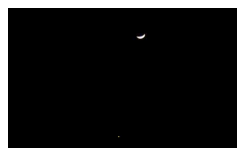
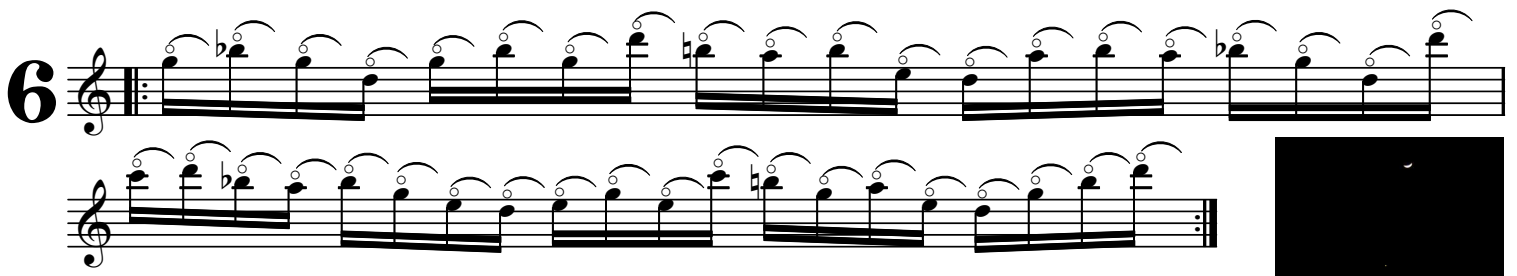


**5**

*let ring here to end...*



**6**



Above are the harmonics which conclude the piece and which gradually overtake the low quarter-tones. They should be natural harmonics as much as possible.

for Seth Gordon



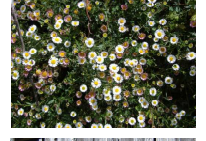
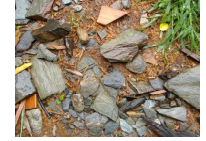
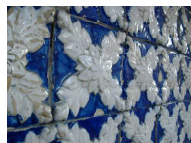
Nodar, Portugal  
April 17, 2007  
Revised  
Northfield Falls, Vermont  
May 16, 2007

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

April

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

All modules repeated & overlapped by merging rhythmic/pitch figures



*very fast* (keep pick at the ready)

*pluck* 5:4 5:4

*(thump)*  
*fingernails*

*scrape* *wipe*  
*(knock)*

*(knock)* *scrape* *(take up pick! choreograph mix!)*

5:4 5:4 5:4  
*pick* *scrape back & forth* *scrape*

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4  
*(knock)*

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4  
*scrape* *(knock)*

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4  
*(choreograph losing pick)* *scrape back & forth* *(knock)*

*fingernails* *scrape* *(knock)*

*wipe* *scrape* 5:4  
*(knock)*

*begin long fade...*  
*pluck* 5:4 5:4

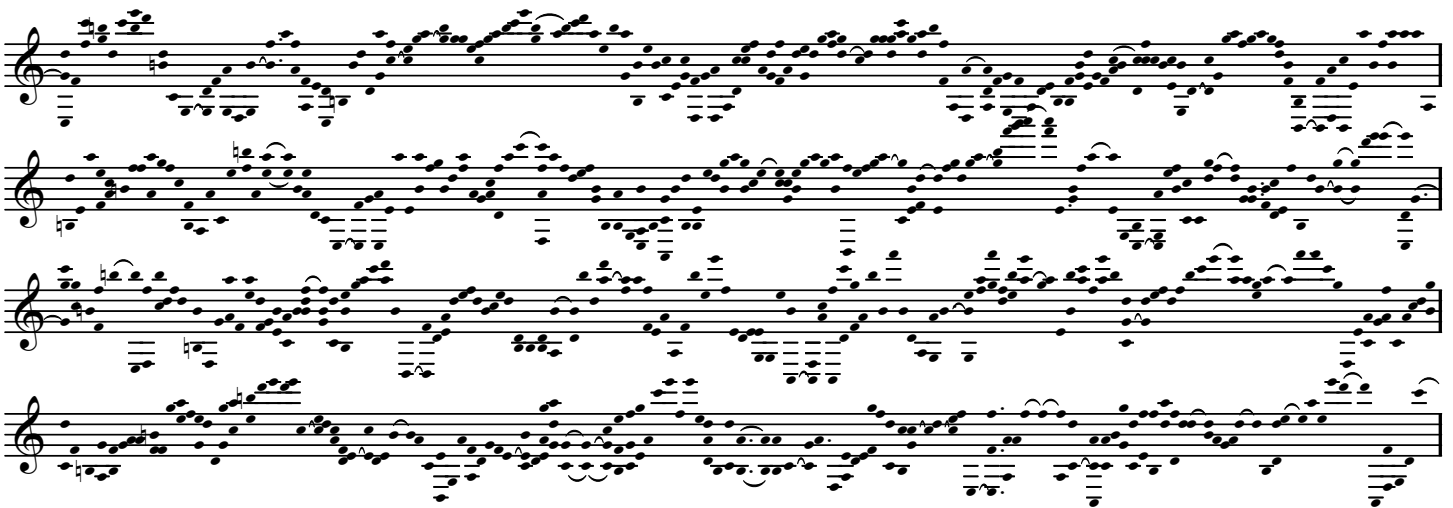
for Seth Gordon

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
May 16, 2007

May

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz



*for Seth Gordon*

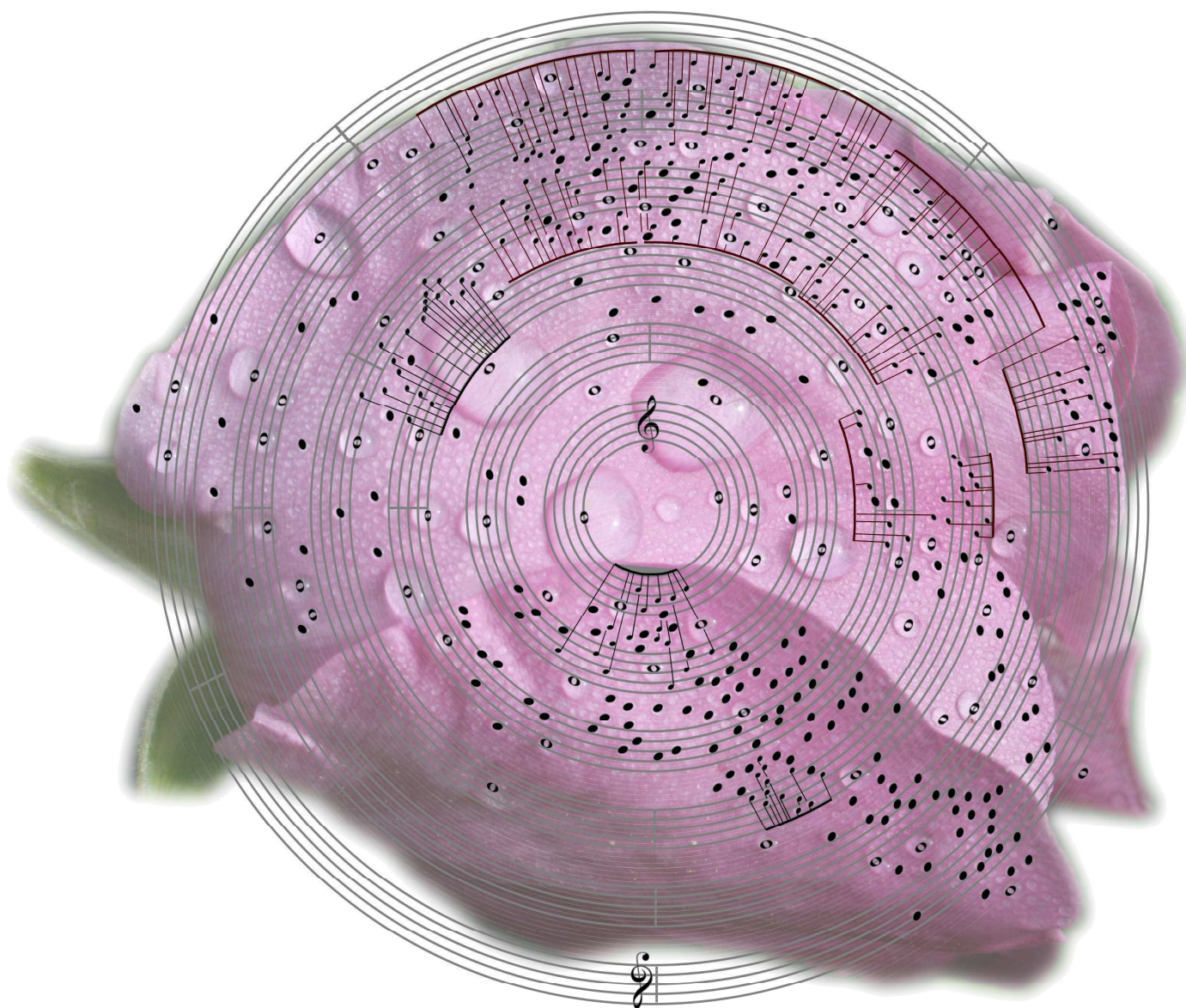
*Lunar Cascade in Serial Time*

*Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
June 15, 2007*

*June*

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

Start playing at the inside or outside ring. The performance moves from ring to ring, but should not skip them. Length of notes is a combination of their values and their importance within the photograph. Areas without pitches can be silence or improvisation, depending on the context of the performance and the photograph.



The full moon of mid-year brings new blooms and deep intensity of tactile experience. This should be reflected in a dynamic that is always quiet, fully expressive within the microscopic nature of the dynamic, and often dropping to the point of sub-ambient silence.

for Seth Gordon

Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
September 3, 2007

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

July

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

The musical score is presented on 12 staves. It begins with a treble clef and a 3/8 time signature. The music is characterized by dense, rhythmic patterns, often consisting of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some measures containing beamed sixteenth notes. The piece is written in a key with one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The notation includes various rhythmic values, rests, and dynamic markings. The overall texture is intricate and rhythmic, typical of serial music.



for Seth Gordon

Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
September 24, 2007

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

August

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

♩ = 84

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a grand staff. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 84. The piece is in 4/4 time and features a complex serial structure. The notation includes a variety of rhythmic values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are numerous accidentals, including flats and naturals, scattered throughout the score. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

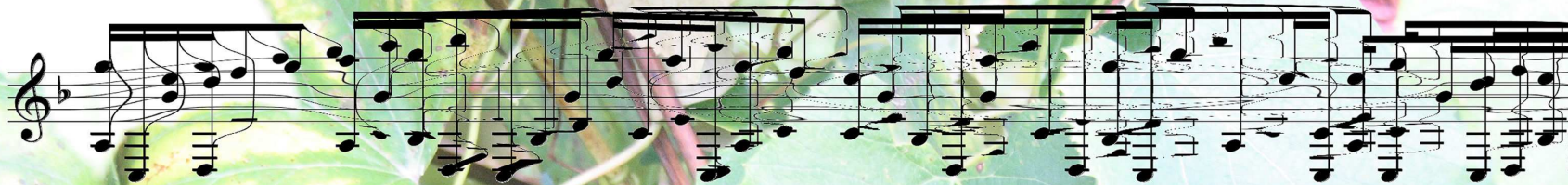
for Seth Gordon

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

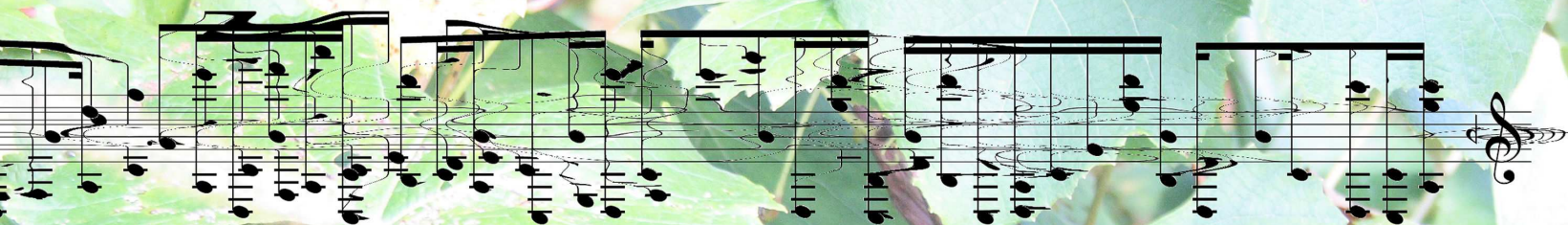
Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
October 9, 2007

September

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

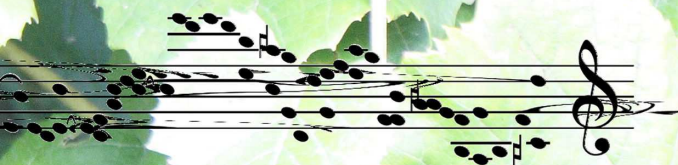


*Strum above, scrape below.*



Each of the six elements (five complete and one broken) is taken from the summer months.

The distortion and direction shown in the staves should be transferred to the playing of the music, with each ending in a suspended state.

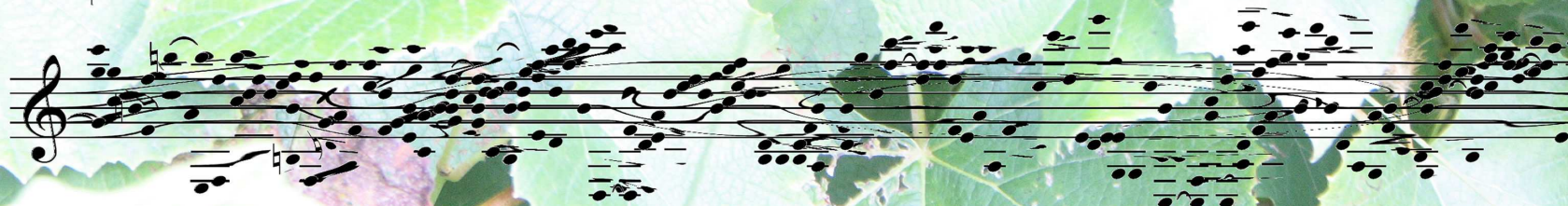


The final suspension/improvisation is without any sense of ending until performed with the October *Lunar Cascade in Serial Time*.

The suspended state becomes an improvisation of failure and decay.



*Harsh above, resigned below.*



*Quaking aspens above, emptiness below.*

for Seth Gordon

Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
October 29, 2007

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

October

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

♩.40  
p  
mp

The top line may be the soloist's voice humming or be played on another tenor guitar. The line may also be played on a viola, because the part is derived from the first section of the sonata for solo viola, *In Search of the Seven Blue Stars*.

for Seth Gordon

Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
November 20, 2007

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

November

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

Prepare the guitar with twelve 'capos' (reverse frets) made of butcher's twine or other soft string. Tie each tightly, the first at the top above the first fret, the remaining eleven between the frets. The performer will also need a knife or blade and twelve pairs of mallets (very soft foam or yarn through firm plastic like Delrin). The first measure of the pair is performed (repeated if necessary), the string is cut during the second measure of the pair, and each successively harder mallet is used. The dynamics increase proportionately through all thirteen levels. The positions to strike or roll on each string are: on bridge (B), near bridge (>B), near center (C), near frets (>F), on frets (F).

The musical score consists of 13 systems of notation, each with a dynamic marking and performance instructions. The dynamics range from *ppppp* to *fffff*. The notation includes various rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and rests. The performance instructions specify the positions to strike or roll on each string: on bridge (B), near bridge (>B), near center (C), near frets (>F), and on frets (F). The score is flanked by a vertical strip of 13 images showing various winter scenes and textures, and a diagram at the bottom right showing the sequence of striking positions (B, >B, C, >F, F) across the strings.

for Seth Gordon

Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
December 11, 2007

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

December

Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

♩ = 60

The musical score is presented on 11 staves. The first staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a tempo marking of quarter note = 60. The music is a complex serial composition with a dense, rhythmic texture. The lower staves feature a series of chords and intervals, some of which are marked with vertical lines, possibly indicating specific serial sets or intervals. The piece concludes with a final cadence on the 11th staff.

for Seth Gordon

# Lunar Cascade in Serial Time

New Moon

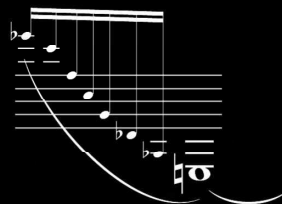
Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

*gentle; change techniques each repeat*



(silence)

*brush*



(silence)



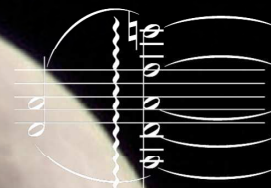
(silence)



(silence)



(silence)



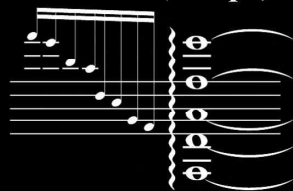
Northfield Falls,  
Vermont  
October 27, 2008

*pluck (single)*

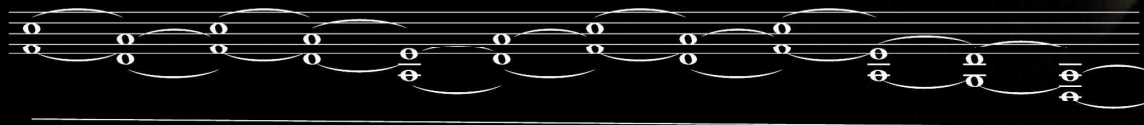
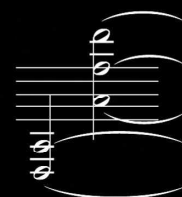


(silence)

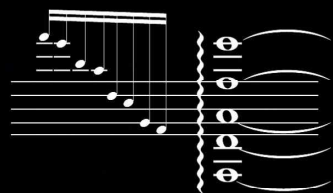
*brush (scrape)*



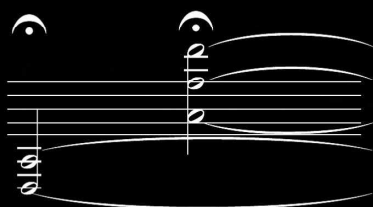
(silence)



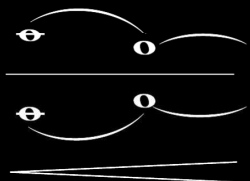
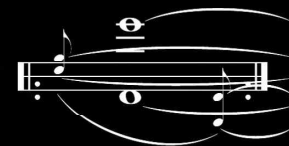
(silence)



...



...



(silence)

*gentle; change techniques each repeat*

