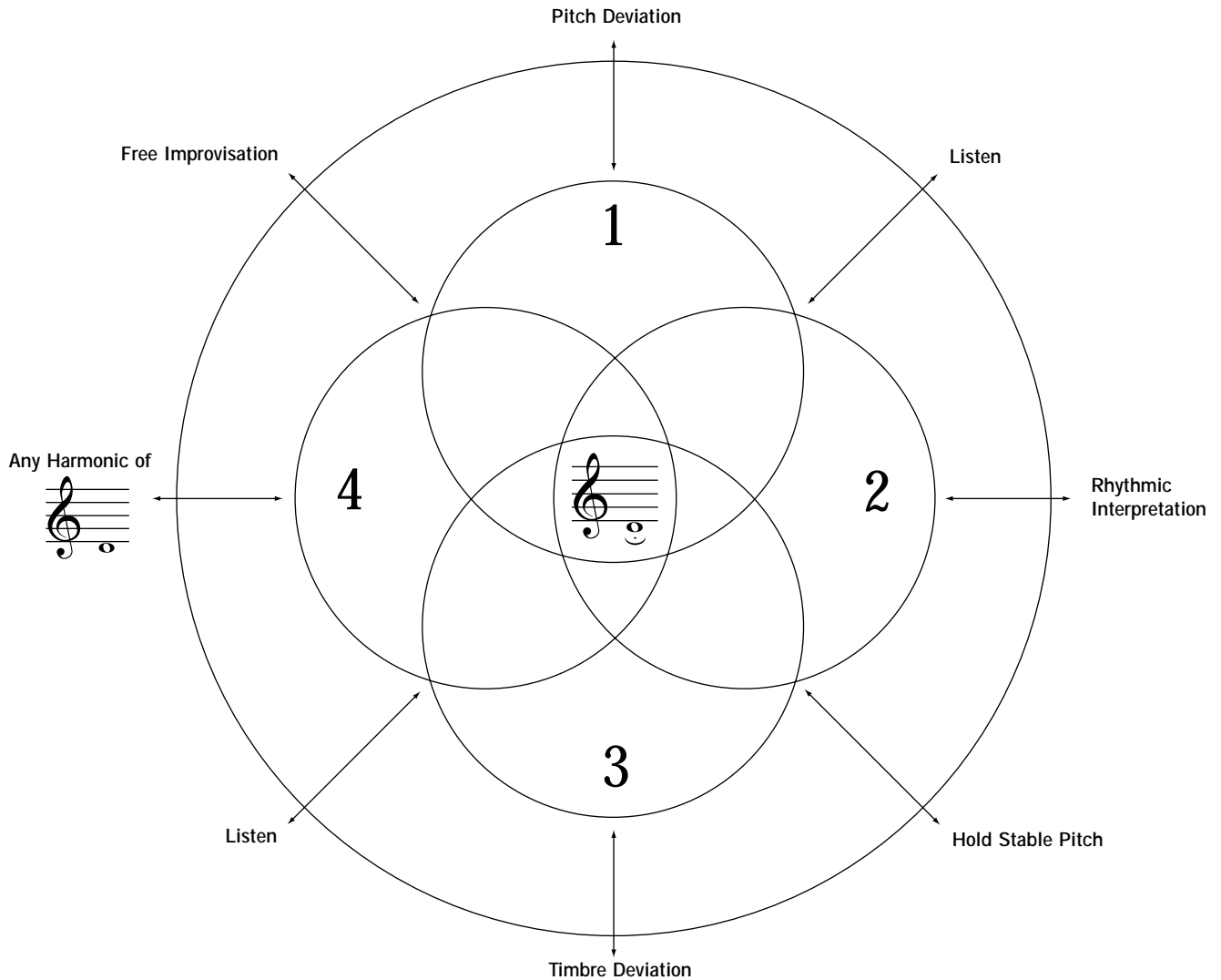


Out of the Dark

Pauline Oliveros


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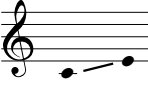
All players surround or encircle the audience. Instruments should be mixed rather than in choirs. Two basses, two cellos, two violas, two violins should be on opposite side of the circle (180 degrees). Violins should be dispersed with unlike instruments on either side. If optional instrument or voices are used they should also be in pairs opposite on another.


If possible, players proceed to their positions in the dark after lights go down.


From  concert pitch play only within the given interval for any of the five circles.


Pitch Deviation:

Circle 1 — Half step down to D \flat or up to D \sharp . 

Circle 2 — Whole step down to C or up to E. 

Circle 3 — Minor third down to B or up to F. 


Circle 4 — Major third down to B \flat or up to F \sharp . 

Circle 5 — Perfect fourth down to A or up to G. 


Establish a unison D with the player opposite you in the circle. (Each player has a partner with a like instrument). Deviate slightly from the unison D and listen for beats. Slide very gradually or in microtonal steps either towards D \sharp or D \flat . Once you decide to go up or down don't change direction. Only go up or only go down in pitch. Take a very long time to reach the half step away from D.

Repeat this process with each circle and interval limit. (Whole step, minor third, major third perfect fourth the free — no limits.)

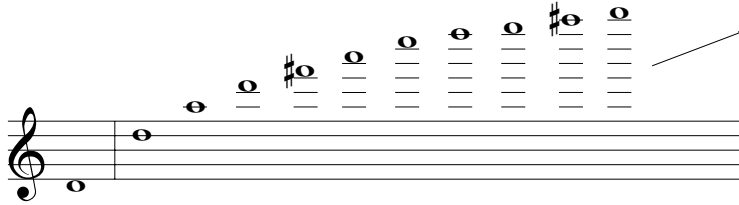
Timbre Deviation

Play  with slowly and constantly changing timbre.

Rhythmic Interpretation

Impose a rhythm on 

Any Harmonic of



Choose freely which harmonic to play.

Hold Stable Pitch

Hold any pitch within the given interval limit of the section — Circle 1, Circle 2, Circle 3, Circle 4, Circle 5 then free (no limits).

Free Improvisation

Anything goes as long as you are listening.

Play through the Circles in order more or less together. Circles may overlap. Choose freely from the given options (Pitch Deviation, Timbre Deviation, Rhythmic Interpretation etc). When you perceive a player on either side of you, fade out and wait several breaths to start again from

Duration of the piece is variable. Each Circle may be proportional in length.

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