

***Duel* - for piano and sound projection**

By Rob Godman

DEMO ONLY

For Philip Mead

Duel was commissioned by Philip Mead with funds provided by the Arts Council of England 2007

[with extensive revisions January 2008]

DEMO ONLY

Duel is dedicated to Aaron Benjamin Godman to mark his birth on July 25th 2006

Duel - for piano and sound projection

Movement 1 06'22"
Movement 2 (*Aaron's Peal*) 10'00"
Movement 3 06'15"

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Performance Duration **23'30"**

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PROGRAMME NOTE

Duel explores issues of communication that arise when working with different medias and, more importantly, individuals.

The word duel itself can mean a contest or joust, a brawl or fight, a battle, a gunfight, combat, or clash... Famous duels have involved playwright Ben Jonson, who in 1598 killed actor Gabriel Spenser; the infamous petticoat duel of 1792 between Lady Almeria Braddock and Mrs Ephinstone on London's Hyde Park – pistol shots were first exchanged in which Lady Almeria's hat was damaged...; a sword fight between the Black Knight and Arthur (not strictly a duel but relevant all the same), which was temporarily suspended when Arthur chopped off one of the Knight's arms – the Knight played down the severity of his injury by stating "tis but a scratch" (*Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, 1975); the 1957 movie *Gunfight at the O.K. Corral*, starring Kirk Douglas as Doc Holliday about the notorious gunfight in Tombstone, Arizona Territory and not least; Spielberg's magnificent road movie *Duel* – a tale of man against machine...

Bells have provided symbolic and cultural messages for civilisations throughout the centuries. They can provide signals and important information (someone's coming, bring out your dead...). Composers have used bells for a corresponding amount of time, whether it is to investigate the spectral content (the very sound of a bell) or the envelope or pattern created through a peal of bells.

English Change Ringing patterns are found in various guises throughout *Duel*. The central movement (*Aaron's Peal*) is a duel of peals and is a celebration of the birth of its namesake.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Philip Mead

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Howard Burrell, UH Arts Record Label and the University of Hertfordshire

Eric Lyon (sample accurate timing objects, Max/MSP), SARC, Queen's University, Belfast

... and especially, Aaron Benjamin Godman

NOTES ON PERFORMANCE

Networked Laptops

The laptop used by the pianist provides a clock and a means of achieving accurate BPM for certain sections (1'29" of Movement 1, the start of Movement 2 etc.). The information is sent to the pianist's laptop from the sound projectionist in synchronisation via a LAN. The timings and tempo are intended as a guide only. The pianist also performs on the AKAI MPD16 that is connected to the pianist's laptop. A visual confirmation is sent to the Sound Projectionist indicating that this is happening (a flashing light for every hit of a pad). The pianist's laptop will also receive a corresponding visual confirmation each time the sound projectionist uses the AKAI MPD24 connected to the sound projection laptop (this is useful during the EA Cadenza – Movement 2, *Aaron's Peal*). See image of Pianists Max/MSP patch.

The Score

Numbers in circles are bar numbers. The score is written in a combination of space/time and standard notation. Synchronisation between pianist and sound projectionist is assisted through the networked clock that can be seen from both laptops. It will operate automatically at those sections and requires no input from either performer.

Notation *[Pad (n)]* indicates that an event (a sound file or effect) is to be triggered by the sound projectionist. The number *(n...)* shows which pad of the MPD24 or MPD16 to be pressed.

Responsive System ON/OFF indicates that the sound projectionist turns the microphone gain up and down (via the AKAI MPD24 Pads), triggering the Responsive System. The Responsive System is an algorithmic generator with the microphone being used to detect rhythmic and dynamic changes from the pianist. The resultant audio will consist of live sampled piano sound treated with a granular synthesizer (Eric Lyon objects).

Duel - for piano and sound projection includes an optional responsive video part. This is not featured in this score.

TECHNICAL SHEET

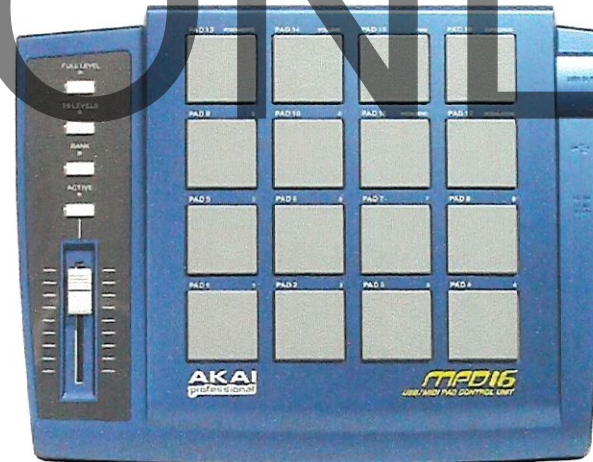
- 2 networked Apple Macintosh laptops (G4 1.25 512 OS10.3.9 minimum) running Max/MSP 4.6.2

One Macintosh is controlled by the sound projectionist and the other by the pianist. Each machine runs a Max/MSP patch. The Macintosh used by the pianist serves as a controller and a 'score/timer'. Each Macintosh is capable of sending and receiving although only the sound projectionists machine is directly connected to the soundcard.

- MOTU 828mk2 or similar soundcard (nine outputs in total)
- Microphone input (used for sound projection and responsive capture)
- 8.1 Octophonic Loudspeaker System (shoebox formation) or 4.1 Quad (semicircle)
- AKAI MPD16 USB/MIDI Pad Control Unit for Pianist and AKAI MPD24 USB/MIDI Pad Control Unit for Sound Projectionist
- Saitek P880 gamepad for Sound Projectionist



Drum Pad for Sound Projectionist



Drum Pad for Pianist

Square pads are arranged 1-16 starting at the bottom left hand pad. Information for other controllers (sliders and dials) is provided with the software.

DUEL - MOVEMENT I

Timeline and Video

0'00" Video Optional (see notes on performance)

37.5"

0'37.5"

Piano

7' X

fff (pass.)

7' >

8

SUSTAIN WITH RH UNTIL 1'36"

Electroacoustics

X DISPLAY COUNTER ON (MANUAL)

LOAD DUEL PATCH 1

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ONE

⑤ 1'15" 1'22" 1'29" 1'36" 1'47" 1'52"

PNO

EA

display pulse (auto)

laptop provides pulse (F=39.1)

Sim.

RELEASE SILENT NOTES (RH)

[PAD2]

1'52" 1'58" 2'09" 2'15" 2'19" 2'30"

PNO

EA

Granular

[PAD3]

[PAD4]

[PAD5]

2'30" 2'33" 2'41" 2'44" 2'56" 3'02" 3'05"

PNO

EA

laptop provides pulse (F=77)

SOST. PEDAL

display pulse (auto)

[PAD6]

[PAD7]

[PAD8]

pulsed samples (15:14)

—TWO—

PAN-A3 18 STAVE

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Handwritten musical score for PNO and EA staves, featuring time signatures, dynamics, and tempo markings.

Staff 1 (PNO):

- Time signature: 3/4
- Measure 1: $3'05''$, fmp , $RELEASE SOST. PEDAL$
- Measure 2: $3'19.5''$
- Measure 3: $3'26''$, mfP
- Measure 4: $3'31''$
- Measure 5: $3'36''$, $g = 58$
- Measure 6: $3'45''$

Staff 2 (EA):

- Measure 1: $[PAD9]$
- Measure 2: $[PAD10]$
- Measure 3: $[PAD11]$
- Measure 4: $[PAD12]$
- Measure 5: $[PAD13]$
- Measure 6: $[PAD14]$

Staff 3 (PNO):

- Measure 1: $3'45''$
- Measure 2: $3'49''$
- Measure 3: $3'54''$, $g = 92$
- Measure 4: $4'06''$, $(F = 42.25 BPM)$, $laptop provides pulse (F = 42.25)$, $(SOST. PEDAL)$
- Measure 5: $4'18''$, $(F = 77 BPM)$, $(F = 42.25 BPM)$

Staff 4 (EA):

- Measure 1: $[PAD12]$
- Measure 2: $[PAD13]$
- Measure 3: $[PAD14]$
- Measure 4: $[PAD15]$
- Measure 5: $[PAD16]$
- Measure 6: $[PAD17]$

Staff 5 (PNO):

- Measure 1: $4'20''$
- Measure 2: $4'28''$
- Measure 3: $4'39''$
- Measure 4: $4'53''$
- Measure 5: $5'00''$

Staff 6 (EA):

- Measure 1: $[PAD14]$, $Granular$
- Measure 2: $[PAD15]$, $MULTI-PULSES 15:14:9:8$, $(F = 39.4 BPM)$
- Measure 3: $[PAD16]$, $(F = 58.4 BPM)$, $(F = 33.8 BPM)$
- Measure 4: $[PAD17]$
- Measure 5: $[PAD18]$
- Measure 6: $[PAD19]$

Additional markings:

- $RELEASE SOST. PEDAL$ (multiple instances)
- $CHANGE BANK$
- $THREE$
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DUEL - MOVEMENT 2 (AARON'S PEAL)

TIMELINE
AND VIDEO

PIANO

laptop provides
pulse (d=124)

Handwritten musical notation for the first system, measures 54-69. The notation includes a treble clef, a 2/4 time signature, and a tempo marking of 124. The music features a series of chords and melodic lines. A dynamic marking 'p' is present, followed by a note '(SUSTAIN UNTIL BAR 199)'. Above the staff, there are circled measure numbers 54, 60, and 66. Above the staff, there are also some handwritten notes: 'Bve' and '8e'.

ELECTROACOUSTICS

LOAD
DUEL PATCH 2
(CHANGE TO BANK A)

display pulse
(manual)

(pulse off)

Handwritten musical notation for the second system, measures 70-89. The notation includes a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The music features a series of chords and melodic lines. A dynamic marking 'mp' is present. Above the staff, there are circled measure numbers 70, 76, and 82. Above the staff, there are also some handwritten notes: 'Bve' and '8e'.

Handwritten musical notation for the third system, measures 90-109. The notation includes a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. The music features a series of chords and melodic lines. A dynamic marking 'mp' is present. Above the staff, there are circled measure numbers 90, 96, and 102. Above the staff, there are also some handwritten notes: 'Bve' and '8e'.

(DELAY 1) [PAD 9]
| DELAY 1 ON

FIVE

Handwritten musical notation for measures 100-104. The notation includes treble and bass staves with notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large "DEMO ONLY" watermark is overlaid across the page.

Measures 100-104: Treble staff notation with notes and rests. Bass staff notation includes [PAD 9] OFF, [PAD 9] ON, [PAD 9] OFF, [PAD 9] ON, and [PAD 9] OFF.

Handwritten musical notation for measures 110-114. The notation includes treble and bass staves with notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large "DEMO ONLY" watermark is overlaid across the page.

Measures 110-114: Treble staff notation with notes and rests. Bass staff notation includes [PAD 9] ON, [PAD 9] OFF, [PAD 9] ON, and [PAD 9] OFF.

Handwritten musical notation for measures 137-140. The notation includes treble and bass staves with notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large "DEMO ONLY" watermark is overlaid across the page.

Measures 137-140: Treble staff notation with notes and rests. Bass staff notation includes [PAD 9] ON, [PAD 9] OFF, and [PAD 9] ON.

Handwritten musical notation on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mf*, and *p*. Above the staff, there are handwritten notes: "8ve", "15ve", and "16ve". Below the staff, there are handwritten instructions: "[PAD 9] OFF", "[PAD 1] Sustained granular", and "[PAD 10] DELAY (2) ON".

Handwritten musical notation on a grand staff. The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mf*, and *p*. Above the staff, there are handwritten notes: "15ve", "16ve", and "17ve". Below the staff, there are handwritten instructions: "[PAD 10] OFF", "[PAD 11] ON", "DELAY (3) ON", "ADJUST FEEDBACK USING CONTINUOUS CONTROLLER DIALS 1 & 2". A large, semi-transparent watermark "DEMO ONLY" is overlaid across the center of the page.

Handwritten musical notation on a grand staff. The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *pp*, *mf*, and *p*. Above the staff, there are handwritten notes: "15ve", "16ve", and "17ve". Below the staff, there are handwritten instructions: "[PAD 11] OFF", "display pulse (auto)", "[PAD 12] RESPONSIVE SYSTEM ON", "(See Notes on Performance)", "RELEASE PEDAL UNA CORDA", and "(Granular sound fades automatically) (pulse off)". A large, semi-transparent watermark "DEMO ONLY" is overlaid across the center of the page.

RESPONSIVE SYSTEM ———→

RS ———→

RS ———→

— EIGHT —

DEMO ONLY

$\text{♩} = 60$
8ve

RELEASE SOST. PEDAL
CON PED

PITCH SHIFT OFF
SINUSOIDAL DRONE (GRAN. OFF)
[PAD 14]

$\text{♩} = 86$ (EVEN - EXACT TEMPO)
8ve

L.V.

SOST PEDAL SILENTLY DEPRESS

RESPONSIVE SYSTEM ON (with delay = one crotchet)
[PAD 15] DRONES CONTINUE

