

Electronic Media I
Assignment 9
Due Monday Oct. 30.

Create 12-15 Davidovskian rhythmic cells according to the following criteria:

- 1) Each cell should consist of quasi-percussive (fast attacks), non-pitched sounds.
- 2) Each cell must be between 2 and 5 seconds in length.
- 3) The duration of any sound must not exceed one second (except for obvious cases where shortening the decay of a sound would seem unnatural).
- 4) Each cell should be as unique and distinct from the others as possible, meaning that each cell should consist of:
 - a) unique sounds not duplicated by other cells;
 - b) sounds whose repetitions are subtly varied in terms of:
 - 1) pitch (barely noticeable pitch deviation);
 - 2) duration (say, 0.1 second deviation);
 - 3) envelope (visibly noticeable difference);
 - c) unique overall registral disposition, in terms of:
 - 1) overall high and lowness;
 - 2) range of high and lowness.
 - d) unique temporal disposition of register. Motion from low to high registers should be drawn from the following patterns, alone and in combination:
 - 1) overall (never literal) ascending motion;
 - 2) overall descending motion;
 - 3) narrow, relatively unchanging registers;
 - 4) wide, wildly changing registers.
 - e) unique overall density (ranging from sparse to dense)
 - f) unique temporal disposition of density. Motion from minimum to maximum density should be drawn from the following patterns, alone and in combination:
 - 1) gradual motion from minimum to maximum density;
 - 2) sudden cuts from minimum to maximum density;
 - 3) gradual motion from maximum to minimum density;
 - 4) sudden cuts from maximum to minimum density;
 - 5) steady-state density;
 - 6) random density.
 - g) unique rhythmic structure. Rhythmic patterns should be drawn from the following types, alone and in combination:
 - 1) periodic (based on steady, underlying pulse);
 - 2) layered pulses (i.e., 5 against 4, etc.);
 - 3) shifting between pulses (i.e., 5 pulses per second to 4 pulses per second);
 - 4) non-periodic (irregular, non-steady pulse);
 - 5) accelerando (periodic and non-periodic);
 - 6) ritardando (periodic and non-periodic).

- h) unique use of silence, including:
 - 1) no silence;
 - 2) mostly silence;
 - 3) silence for articulation and separation.
- 5) Each soundfile should be normalized and monophonic.
- 6) Label these sounds "BJ.Rhythm.1", "BJ.Rhythm.2", etc. Store them in your own personal folder on the Hard Drive. Create aliases of these sounds, put them in a folder entitled "BJ.Assignment 9", and place this folder in "EMS/Assignments".
- 7) Grading criteria: interest, quality, and variety (register, timbre, rhythm).