

REFLECTIVE IMAGE (1989)

William Kleinsasser

Program Note

The composer writes: I feel that there is an evocative relationship between oboe and soprano saxophone. The oboe is an instrument with considerable history and has a powerful expressive ability to conjure and invite. The saxophone is a more modern instrument which can connote a sensuous, improvisatory music. In *Reflective Image* I have addressed this relationship. The oboe begins the piece—inviting the music. Through the course of the work the two instruments investigate their own sound potentials, both of tone and various noise elements. The two merge in complex interweaving, leaving the saxophone to reflect and complete the piece—releasing the music.

The relationship of the two instruments is amplified and further explored by the music on tape. The tape consists entirely of sounds generated by the two acoustic instruments. Michael Ericson and Tridib Kumar Pal provided the original material for the oboe and saxophone sounds respectively. By using these instruments as sources for the music on tape a kind of integration is established between and among all of the sounds of the piece. There is an essential aspect of overlap and interaction between the electronic music and the acoustic music. Each of the three instruments develops the elements of expression unique to itself while offering telling perspectives on the others.

Reflective Image, was selected to represent the United States in the 1990 International Rostrum of Composers and in the programming consideration for the 1991 World Music Days. This work was also selected as a winner of the 1990 League of Composers-ISCM National Composers Competition, First Prize in the 1990 SCI/SESAC Student Composition Contest, and Honorable Mentions in the First Leonie Rothchild Composition Contest and the Bourges 18th International Electro-acoustic Music Competition.

WK

Performer Notes

All alternate fingerings are notated as harmonics (°) and should be chosen for their timbral complement to normally-fingered notes.

The electro-acoustic music (tape) is divided into five sections with the beginning of each section indicated in the score. Timing of music synchronizing with the electro-acoustic music within each cue should be rehearsed.

The oboe and saxophone should be slightly amplified to aid in general balance and match of presence between the instruments and the electro-acoustic music.

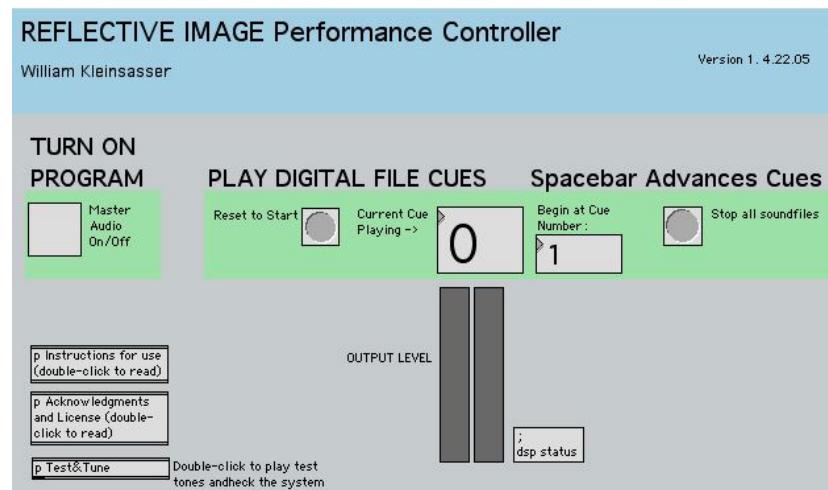
An overall balance between oboe, saxophone, and electro-acoustic music should be carefully maintained by a person at the mixer.

Equipment and Technical Requirements for Performance

Equipment:

- 1 Direct-from-disk digital sound file playback system (Mac laptop running a stand-alone application designed by the composer (wkleinsasser@towson.edu))
- 2 Directional mics for the amplification of oboe and soprano saxophone.
- 1 Monitor speaker for stage monitoring of electro-acoustic music playback.
- 2 Stage speakers approximately 15 feet apart facing audience.
- 1 Mixer (minimum 4 input channels) for the mix of tape (L,R), oboe and saxophone to two stereo program outputs. Must also be capable of sending the two tape channels to stage monitor.

Performance software screen image



Personnel:

- 1 Computer/levels operator. The electro-acoustic music is divided into indexed cues that begin at various times throughout the piece. The overall level should be mixed so that the acoustic instruments are only slightly amplified and balance with the electro-acoustic. For a good indication of general balance set for measures 66-100.

SCORE IN C

4

4

Freely

Expansively,
as an invocation

Oboe

Sopr.
Saxophone

Tape

Accidentals carry until
barline and apply to
all octaves

B

C#

p *f* *f* *sfp* *f* *pp*

REFLECTIVE IMAGE

Written for Michael Ericson and Tridib K. Pal

William Kleinsasser

(2003)

4

Oboe

Sopr.
Saxophone

Tape

pp *f* *p* *f*

7

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

p

*Select alt. fingerings gradually focusing on E

= 60

START CUE 1

Pulse on tape provides tempo

This musical score page contains three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, which plays a melodic line with various fingerings and dynamics. The middle staff is for the Soprano Saxophone, which remains mostly silent. The bottom staff is for the Tape, which provides a continuous pulse. A dynamic marking 'p' is placed under the Oboe staff. A note with an asterisk and the instruction 'Select alt. fingerings gradually focusing on E' is shown above the Oboe staff. The tempo is set at 60 BPM. A vertical arrow labeled 'START CUE 1' points to the beginning of the Tape staff's pulse pattern.

10

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

n.

This musical score page contains three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, which continues its melodic line. The middle staff is for the Soprano Saxophone, which begins to play with a dynamic marking 'n.'. The bottom staff is for the Tape, which shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The score indicates that the pulse from the Tape provides the tempo.

13

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

"chatter"

16

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

5 6

pp

sfp

f

19

Oboe: *sffz* → *f*

Sopr. Saxophone:

Tape: (Performance instructions: play eighth-note patterns on the first and third beats of each measure.)

22

$\frac{2}{4}$

Oboe: (Performance instructions: play eighth-note patterns on the first and third beats of each measure.)

Sopr. Saxophone:

Tape: (Performance instructions: play eighth-note patterns on the first and third beats of each measure.)

25

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

"chatter"

6

28

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

tr tr

so

Sax Chords

31

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

pp

dolce

pp — *mf*

pp

(Overblown D#)

35

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

f

"Bite" to hold back multiphonic

7

5

4

4

38

4 **4** **5** **4** **4**

Oboe: *p* → *f* 5 | *f* 5 | -

Sopr. Saxophone: *p* | *p* 5 | *p* | *p* | *sfpz* | *mf*

Tape: - | - | - | - | *p* | -

41

Oboe: -

Sopr. Saxophone: *p* | *f* | *flt.* *norm.* | *p* | -

Tape: -

44

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

rall-

f

Flutter/Key clicks

2
4

47

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

ca. 12 sec.

Matching the sound of the beginning of Cue 2

ca. 25 sec.

n. *pp* <*f*

START CUE 2

During these 25 seconds the tape is playing an altered but rhythmically exact version of measures 50-56 beat 3. The tape then begins again with the music at 50 beginning with B-natural.

4
4

50

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This section of the tape is a timbrally altered, rhythmically exact version of measures 50-74.
Using a reversed envelope of oboe and saxophone timbres, the result should be a slight
"pre-verberation" for the oboe and sax music from 50-74.

4
4

3
4

4
4

53

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

5
4

56

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, the middle for the Soprano Saxophone, and the bottom for the Tape. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). Measure 56 begins with a dynamic of *pp*. The Oboe has a long sustained note followed by six eighth-note pairs. The Soprano Saxophone has a similar pattern with dynamics *pp* and *f*. Measure 6 starts with a dynamic of *f*. The Oboe has a sixteenth-note pattern. The Soprano Saxophone has a sixteenth-note pattern. The Tape staff is empty.

5
44
4

59

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, the middle for the Soprano Saxophone, and the bottom for the Tape. The key signature changes to A major (no sharps or flats). Measure 59 begins with a dynamic of *pp*. The Oboe has a sixteenth-note pattern. The Soprano Saxophone has a sixteenth-note pattern. Measure 60 begins with a dynamic of *mf*. The Oboe has a sixteenth-note pattern. The Soprano Saxophone has a sixteenth-note pattern. Measure 61 begins with a dynamic of *pp*. The Oboe has a sixteenth-note pattern. The Soprano Saxophone has a sixteenth-note pattern. Measure 62 begins with a dynamic of *pp*. The Oboe has a sixteenth-note pattern. The Soprano Saxophone has a sixteenth-note pattern. The Tape staff has a box labeled "Key Clicks" with an arrow pointing to it.

62

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

With Growing Intensity *

65

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

* The oboe and sax music between measures 66-75 should have an improvisatory character that tries to merge with the complex texture of the tape. By meas. 75 the oboe and sax should be playing wildly.

4
4

5
4

[67]

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, the middle for the Soprano Saxophone, and the bottom for Tape. The Oboe and Soprano Saxophone parts are active, while the Tape part is silent. Measure 67 begins with eighth-note patterns in common time. The Oboe has a sixteenth-note run starting on the third beat. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 68 starts with a sixteenth-note run on the first beat. The Oboe has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note runs. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 69 starts with a sixteenth-note run on the first beat. The Oboe has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note runs. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 70 starts with a sixteenth-note run on the first beat. The Oboe has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note runs. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns.

[69]

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, the middle for the Soprano Saxophone, and the bottom for Tape. The Oboe and Soprano Saxophone parts are active, while the Tape part is silent. Measure 69 begins with eighth-note patterns in common time. The Oboe has a sixteenth-note run starting on the third beat. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 70 starts with a sixteenth-note run on the first beat. The Oboe has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note runs. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 71 starts with a sixteenth-note run on the first beat. The Oboe has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note runs. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 72 starts with a sixteenth-note run on the first beat. The Oboe has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note runs. The Soprano Saxophone has eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note patterns.

71

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows two staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, which plays a melodic line with various dynamics and articulations. The bottom staff is for the Soprano Saxophone, which also has a melodic line. There is a blank staff for 'Tape' below the saxophone staff.

**5
4**

73

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows two staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, and the bottom staff is for the Soprano Saxophone. Both instruments play melodic lines. The score includes a key signature change indicated by a '5' over a '4'. There is a blank staff for 'Tape' below the saxophone staff.

75

4

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Key Clicks

f

reversed key clicks

etc.

"Boom"

Gradually slower & fewer

79

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

tr.

tr.

84

3
44
4

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

<img alt="Musical score for page 88 showing three staves: Oboe, Sopr. Saxophone, and Tape. The Oboe and Sopr. Saxophone staves have treble clefs and four sets of horizontal lines. The Tape staff has a treble clef and five sets of horizontal lines. Measure 1 starts with a single note on the Oboe staff. Measures 2-3 show eighth-note patterns on both staves. Measures 4-5 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 6-7 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 8-9 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 10-11 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 12-13 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 14-15 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 16-17 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 18-19 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 20-21 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 22-23 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 24-25 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 26-27 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 28-29 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 30-31 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 32-33 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 34-35 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 36-37 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 38-39 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 40-41 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 42-43 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 44-45 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 46-47 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 48-49 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 50-51 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 52-53 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 54-55 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 56-57 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 58-59 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 60-61 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 62-63 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 64-65 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 66-67 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 68-69 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 70-71 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 72-73 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 74-75 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 76-77 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 78-79 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 80-81 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 82-83 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 84-85 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 86-87 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 88-89 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 90-91 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 92-93 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 94-95 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 96-97 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 98-99 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 100-101 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 102-103 show eighth-note patterns. Measures 104-105 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 106-1

91

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

94

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Tape out

2
4

97

Oboe f v

Sopr. Saxophone f

Tape

2
4

With a sense of arrival.

100

Oboe 3

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

ca. 1' 16"

Oboe: wait for 4 seconds after Cue 3 ends and then proceed with measure 104.

Saxophone: begin just before Cue 3 ends, emerging from the final sustained sound.

ca. 1' 16"

START CUE 3

The music of Cue 3 is a contrapuntal weaving of the opening oboe solo, the closing saxophone solo, and reversed sections of both solos.

4

Gracefully, like a memory

104

Oboe *p*

Sopr. Saxophone <*p*

Tape

START CUE 4

3 6 5 6

106

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

3 3 3 5 3

108

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, the middle for the Soprano Saxophone, and the bottom for the Tape. The Oboe staff features sixteenth-note patterns with various dynamics and grace notes. The Soprano Saxophone staff has eighth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes. The Tape staff is blank. Measure numbers 5, 6, and 3 are placed below specific measures in the Oboe and Soprano Saxophone parts.

110

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

This musical score excerpt shows three staves. The top staff is for the Oboe, the middle for the Soprano Saxophone, and the bottom for the Tape. The Oboe staff begins with eighth-note pairs followed by a sixteenth-note pattern. The Soprano Saxophone staff features eighth-note patterns with slurs and grace notes. The Tape staff is blank. A dynamic instruction "gradually slow trill" is written above the Soprano Saxophone staff. Measure numbers 3 are placed below specific measures in both the Oboe and Soprano Saxophone parts.

Musical score for Oboe, Soprano Saxophone, and Tape. The score is in 4/4 time, key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and dynamic is piano. The Oboe part features a melodic line with grace notes and slurs. The Soprano Saxophone part includes sustained notes and grace notes. The Tape part is indicated by a blank staff.

115

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

**5
4**

117

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Without a break in the sound

dim

Long gliss

5
4

4
4

ca. 22 sec.

ca. 22 sec.

START CUE 5

120

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

125

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Freely,
with reflection

5

Key Clicks

3

5

6

Choose key clicks that
slightly alter teh timbre of the
sustained tones.

 $\frac{5}{4}$

128

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

5

6

3

4

131

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

emerge as harmonic

to ----- fit. ----- norm.

KO LSK 1, 3
RSK 3

p

n. TAPE ENDS

This musical score for three instruments (Oboe, Soprano Saxophone, and Tape) spans four measures. The Oboe and Soprano Saxophone parts begin with eighth-note patterns, followed by sustained notes with grace notes. The Soprano Saxophone has a dynamic instruction 'emerge as harmonic' above it. The Oboe part includes a performance note 'to ----- fit. ----- norm.' The Tape part features a technical diagram with two boxes: 'KO LSK 1, 3' and 'RSK 3'. The score concludes with a dynamic 'p' and a note labeled 'n. TAPE ENDS'.

135

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

pp

n.

This musical score for three instruments (Oboe, Soprano Saxophone, and Tape) spans four measures. The Soprano Saxophone part begins with a dynamic 'pp' and a sustained note with a grace note. The Oboe and Tape parts are silent throughout the measure. The score ends with a dynamic 'n.'