

## 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.

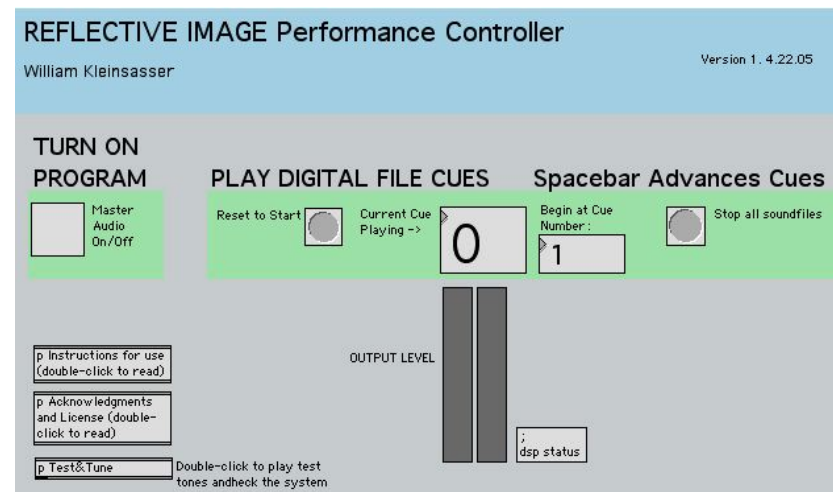
---

## 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

# REFLECTIVE IMAGE

Written for Michael Ericson and Tridib K. Pal

William Kleinsasser  
(2003)

Expansively,  
as an invocation

Oboe

Accidentals carry until barline and apply to all octaves

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

4

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

7

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

$\bullet = 60$

*p*

\*Select alt. fingerings gradually focusing on E

START CUE 1

Pulse on tape provides tempo

10

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*n.*

13

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

"chatter"

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 13, 14, and 15. The Oboe and Sopr. Saxophone staves are empty. The Tape staff has a series of notes with rests. A box labeled "chatter" with an arrow pointing to the right is located in the Sopr. Saxophone staff area.

16

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*pp*

*sfz*

*f*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 16, 17, and 18. The Oboe staff has a rapid sixteenth-note passage starting in measure 17, marked with *pp* and *sfz*. The Sopr. Saxophone staff is empty. The Tape staff has a boxed eighth-note figure in measure 16 and a long arrow pointing to the right in measure 18.

19

Oboe

*sfz* *f*

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

22

Oboe

*sfz* *f*

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

24

25

**2/4** **4/4**

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

"chatter"

*p* *f*

6

3

28

**3/4** **4/4**

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*tr tr*

Sax Chords

31

Oboe

*pp*

*dolce*

*pp* *mf*

(Overblown D#)

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

35

Oboe

3

"Bite" to hold back multiphonic

5  
4

4  
4

Sopr. Saxophone

*f*

7

Tape



4/4                      5/4                      4/4

38

Oboe

*p* *f* 5 *f* 5

Sopr. Saxophone

5 *sfz* *mf*

Tape

41

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

*fl.* *norm.* *p* *f* 3 3 *p*

Tape

44

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Flutter/Key clicks

3 *f*

rall-

2  
4

4  
4

47

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Flutter/Key clicks

ca. 12 sec.

Matching the sound of 5th the beginning of Cue 2

*pp* *f*

ca. 25 sec.

ca. 25 sec.

START CUE 2

*n.*

*n.*

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 5/4 4/4

50

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*pp* *mf* *p* *f* *pp*

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

*f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

56

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*pp* *f*

6 6 3

59

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

3 3

Key Clicks



5  
4

4  
4

67

Oboe

Sopr.  
Saxophone

Tape

Musical score for measures 67-68. The Oboe part features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a triplet in measure 68. The Soprano Saxophone part provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes, also featuring a triplet in measure 68. The Tape part is empty.

4  
4

69

Oboe

Sopr.  
Saxophone

Tape

Musical score for measures 69-70. The Oboe part continues the melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The Soprano Saxophone part provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes, including triplets in measures 69 and 70. The Tape part is empty.

71

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

5  
4

73

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

4  
4

75

Oboe

Sopr.  
Saxophone

Tape

Key Clicks

*f*

----- Gradually slower & fewer -----

reversed  
key clicks

etc.

"Boom"

*tr.*

*tr.*

79

Oboe

Sopr.  
Saxophone

Tape

*tr.*

*tr.*



3  
4

4  
4

84

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*tr.* [fifth boom]

*pp* *fp*

*p* *f*

6 6 7 7 5

[sixth boom]

88

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

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

*sfz*

3 6 7 6

91

Oboe

*p* *mf*

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

94

Oboe

5 6 3 5

Sopr. Saxophone

7

Tape

Tape out

2  
4

97

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*f*

*p*

*f*

5

6

5

6

3

rall

Bb

C

4  
4

100

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

With a sense of arrival.

ca. 1' 16"

ca. 1' 16"

START CUE 3

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.

*n.*

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  
4

Gracefully, like a memory

104

Oboe

*pp*

Sopr. Saxophone

*pp*

START CUE 4

Tape

106

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

108

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

5

6

3

110

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

gradually slow trill

3

3

3

**2**  
**4**

Without a break in  
the sound

**4**  
**4**

112

Oboe

Sopr.  
Saxophone

Tape

3 3 5 3

**4**  
**4**

115

Oboe

Sopr.  
Saxophone

Tape

5 3

5  
4

117

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

Without a break in the sound

dim

Long gliss

5  
4

4  
4

120

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

sim.

ca. 22 sec.

ca. 22 sec.

START CUE 5

125

Oboe

Freely,  
with reflection

Sopr. Saxophone

Key Clicks

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

5

3

5

6

Tape

5  
4

128

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

5

6

3

3

3

Tape



4  
4

131

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

emerge as harmonic

to

flt.

norm.

LSK 1, 3

RSK 3

*p*

*n.* TAPE ENDS

135

Oboe

Sopr. Saxophone

Tape

*pp*

*n.*