

She said you meddle. I dare you.

Aaron Gervais

Based on *Mobile* by Sarah Lang

June 2003

aaron.gervais@utoronto.ca
647 297 6977

She said you meddle. I dare you.

for amplified chamber ensemble

Duration: 8 minutes

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Version 2

Based on *Mobile* by Sarah Lang

First Performance

13 September 2003
Earshot! Nine Circles
The Music Gallery
Toronto, Canada

Conductor: Scott Good
Soprano: Kristin Mueller
Violin: Christian Robinson
Viola: Alexander McLeod
Cello: Alexandra Lee
Baritone Saxophone: Rebecca Sajo
Drumkit: Michael Gambacurta

Instrumentation

- Soprano — C4–B5 (with microphone)
- Violin (with contact pickup)
- Viola (with contact pickup)
- Cello (with contact pickup)
- Baritone Saxophone (with microphone)
- Drum Kit (preferably jungle or trip-hop kit):
 - 10–13" Snare Drum
 - 12" Hi-Hats
 - 16–18" Bass Drum
 - Small Crash Cymbal (not Splash)

Amplification

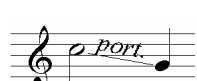
The ensemble should be amplified so that all voices have the same dynamic strength as the drum kit at a fortissimo level. The baritone saxophone microphone is used only for reverb and should be significantly less loud than the others. It should also preferably be *EQ*ed separately with an emphasis on low–mids and steep high and low shelves to give a muted or muffled effect.

Reverb cues are marked in the score for the sound engineer. **Reverb: Normal** should be interpreted as the default reverb setting appropriate for the performance venue. **Reverb: Long** is a high–refraction delay of 0.5–2 seconds in length, depending on the venue. **Reverb: Slightly wet** is a setting that is a little bit wetter than **Normal** but much drier than **Long**. Reverb changes are made exactly on the beat and settings should be pre–programmed so that they can be executed instantly without any transition.

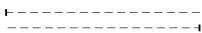
Drum Key

- 1. Hi–Hat with foot
- 2. Bass Drum
- 3. Snare Drum (accented at fortissimo to be played as a rim shot)
- 4. Cross–stick
- 5. Snare Drum near rim (always played as a rim shot)
- 6. Hi–Hat with stick
- 7. Open Hi–Hat (cymbals should never completely lose contact however)
- 8. Slightly open or loose Hi–Hat
- 9. Crash Cymbal

Notation

	Quarter tone sharp
	Quarter tone flat
	Three-quarter tone sharp
	Three-quarter tone flat
	Highest pitch
	Lowest pitch
	Scratch tone
	Portamento to indefinite pitch; fall off
	Saxophone embouchure glissando/portamento
	Saxophone chromatic fingered glissando

Performance Notes

Dotted lines  signify changes from one technique to another, such as *sul tasto* to *sul ponticello*, or the continuation of a notation that would be tedious if repeated, such as multiple successive open Hi-Hat notes.

Strings should observe *con vib.* and *senza vib.* precisely; the soprano should interpret *senza vib.* as: “with the smallest possible amount of natural vibrato.” More vibrato is desirable for the high soprano notes and less for the low notes in sections mark *senza vib.*

Sections surrounded by boxes should be played freely as if improvised; exact rhythms and placement are not crucial but fluidity of the line is. Notes without stems are played approximately.

Excerpt from *Mobile* by Sarah Lang (© 2002 reproduced by permission of the author)

She said you meddle. I dare you. For once. Two
hoots. Who are in everything. But have forgotten
my name. Or I yours.

Generations ago. My book stolen. A blade that did not

slip. To name is not. To change your country's. Men, this body. You would clip
these nerves. Unnamed. With your eye. Over unmapped nerves as.

You please.

As its own. Light as. A song. In the old style. As my laughter. As wound. The old
style. Glistens open. In your two eyes.

Such beauty I have not seen.

In rattled walls.

Proffered.

A book. With pages as though. Torn as though. Read. You

take this as metaphor. You

run round. Catalogue arms, blood. I count
courage mistaken. Count
sight-of-hand. Count
doctors. Count
soldiers. Say
it does not matter. You
who differentiate. My tongue

drawn over. To name is. In your hand. My hand has its own. Light as blood moves.
Hopeful. From a well. Placed wound.

Sarah Lang

She said you meddle. I dare you.

Based on *Mobile* by Sarah Lang

Aaron Gervais

Aimlessly, arhythmic ♩ = 120

—Reverb: Long—

Soprano

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

Bari Sax

Drum Set

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

12 *f* con vib.

S. hoots. Who are in ever-y - thing. But have for - got - ten my name. Or I yours._____

mf senza vib.

mp *f*

rit.

Vln. senza vib. *pp*

Vla. ord. senza vib. *p*

Vc. senza vib. *pp*

B. Sax.

She said you meddle. I dare you.

Foreshadow

18 $\text{♩} = 90$ **accel.** $\text{♩} = 132$

S. *mp*

Vln. *con vib.* *fp*

Vla. *con vib.* *fp*

Vc. *con vib.* *mf* *fp*

B. Sax. *p* *mf*

Dr. *p*

Explosion, driving
spic., sul pont. **B** sempre marcato

Vln. *ff sub.*

Vla. *spic., sul pont.* *ff sub.* sempre marcato

Vc. *spic., sul pont.* *ff sub.* sempre marcato

B. Sax. *port.* *mp*

Dr. *ff*

24

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Dr.

She said you meddle. I dare you.

28

Vln. non-spic. *mf* *ff* **C** spic.

Vla. non-spic. *mf* *ff* spic.

Vc. non-spic. *mf* *ff* spic.

B. Sax. *ff* *port.* *mp*

Dr. *mf* *ff*

32

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax. *ff* *mp* *mf* *ff* ^D ^A ^C

Dr.

36

Vln. non-spic. *mf*

Vla. non-spic. *mf*

Vc. non-spic. *mf*

B. Sax. *mp* *ff* *mp* *ff*

Dr.

40

Vln. *spic.* *ff* *non-spic.* *mf* *ff* *spic.*

Vla. *spic.* *ff* *non-spic.* *mf* *ff* *spic.*

Vc. *spic.* *ff* *non-spic.* *mf* *ff* *spic.*

B. Sax. *p* *ff* *ff*

Dr. *mf* *ff*

43

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

46

Vln. *non-spic.* *f* *spic.* *ff* *(spic.) (sul pont.) dim.*

Vla. *non-spic.* *f* *spic.* *ff* *(spic.) (sul pont.) dim.*

Vc. *non-spic.* *f* *spic.* *ff* *(spic.) (sul pont.) dim.*

B. Sax. *dim.*

Dr. *dim.*

She said you meddle. I dare you.

rit. non-spic. ord.

49

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

p

E Tense, motionless

52 ♩ = 55 senza vib. *mp* *mf* *mf*

S. *legato nasal edge* Ge - ne - ra - tions a - go. My book

—Reverb: Long—

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p* sul tasto

Vc. *p*

B. Sax. *pp* play into mic *mp* subtone *p* *mp* use teeth use teeth *rambling, improvisatory*

Dr.

55 *mp* *mf*

S. sto - len. A blade that did not

Vla.

B. Sax. C (Bb) Bb (Gb)

58

S. *f* *mp* *mf*
slip. To name is not. To change your coun - try's.

Vln. *p* *mf*
sul pont. jeté ord.

Vla.

B. Sax. *pp* *mf*

61

S. con vib. *ff* *f*
Men, this bo - dy. You would clip these nerves. Un- senza vib.

Vln. *p* *ff* *mp*
sul pont. jeté ord. senza vib.

Vla.

Vc. *f* possibile *mp*
senza vib.

B. Sax. *mp* *mp* *mf* *f*

64

S. *ff* molto accel.
named. With your eye. Ov - er un mapped - nerves as.

Vln. *mp* *f/mf*
jeté

Vla. *gliss.*

Vc. *f* *f/mf*

B. Sax. *mp* *f* *mf* *ffp*
tr

Dr. *mf*

69 con vib. *ff*

S. You please.

Vln. 6

Vla. 6

Vc. 6

B. Sax.

Dr.

71 *mp* *rit.*

S. *mp*

Vln. non-spic. sul pont.

Vla. non-spic. sul pont.

Vc. non-spic. sul pont.

B. Sax. *n*

Dr.

G
Tense, more motion
♩ = 63
74 *mf* senza vib.

S. As its own. Light as. A song.

—Reverb: Long—

Vln. sul tasto *p* ord. *mp* *n*

Vla. senza vib. sul tasto *p*

Vc. (con vib.) sul tasto *mp/p* improvisatory

B. Sax. play into mic *pp* subtone *mf*

Dr. *pp* *mp*

She said you meddle. I dare you.

77

S. *f*
In the old style.

Vln. *f* ord., con vib. 3

Vla.

Vc. *pp* *mf*

B. Sax. *p* *f*

79 *mp* *f*
As my laugh-ter. As wound... The

Vln. 3 *gliss.* *mp*

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax. *mf* *f* *p*

82 (as little vibrato as possible)
old style. Gli - stens op - en. In your

Vln. *f* *ff* *fp* sul pont.

Vla. con vib. sul pont.

Vc. ord. *ff* *fp* sul pont.

B. Sax. *pp* *f*

Dr. *mf* *f* *f* 3 6

84

S. two eyes.

Vln. *gliss.* ord. *ff*

Vla. ord. *ff*

Vc. *gliss.* ord. *ff*

B. Sax. *ff* *ppp*

Dr. *ff*

H Release, relaxation

—Reverb: Diminuendo to slightly wet—

87

Vln. *> n* *mp* sul tasto, senza vib.

Vla. *> n* *mp* sul tasto, senza vib.

Vc. *> n* *mp* sul tasto, senza vib.

B. Sax. *mf* *f* *ppp* less teeth more teeth less teeth

Dr. *f* *sim.* *mp*

89

Vln. 6 6 3

Vla. 3 3 3

Vc. 3

Dr.

She said you meddle. I dare you.

I Dance-like, gentle, calm yet strange
—Reverb: Slightly wet—

91

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Dr.

p

p

p

ppp

95

S.

con vib.
dolce, legato mp

Such__ beau - ty__ I have not__ seen.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

101

S.

ppp

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

ppp

f

mf

J

106 *mp*

S. In rat - tled walls.

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax. *f* *mf* *mp*

Dr. *mf* *p* *mp* 9

110 *pp* *mf*

S. Prof -

Vln. 3

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax. *ppp* *f* *ppp*

Dr. *mf* *pp*

114

S. ferred. A

Vln. 3 *cresc.*

Vla. *cresc.*

Vc. *cresc.*

B. Sax. *mf*

Dr. *mf* *mp* 9 *mf*

She said you meddle. I dare you.

K Growing turmoil

118

S. book. With pa - ges as though.

Vln. *poco a poco* *mp cresc.* ord.

Vla. *poco a poco* *mp cresc.* ord.

Vc. *poco a poco* *mp cresc.* ord.

B. Sax. use teeth *p*

Dr. *p < mf* *p* *mf* *mp*



121

S. Torn as though. Read. You *f accel.*

Vln. *poco a poco* *mf*

Vla. *poco a poco* *mf*

Vc. *poco a poco* *mf*

B. Sax. *mp* *mf*

Dr. *f* *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

125 *f*

S. take this _____ as me - ta - phor.

Vln. *f*

Vla. *cresc.*

Vc. *cresc.*

B. Sax. *cresc.*

mp

Dr.



129 *ff*

S. You _____ ou _____

Vln. *cresc.*

Vla. *poco a poco*

Vc. *poco a poco*

B. Sax. *f* *mf* *cresc.*

Dr. *cresc.*

She said you meddle. I dare you.

L Measured, relentless

$\text{♩} = 132$
 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

132

S.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

—Reverb: Normal—

spic.
sul pont.

ff

spic.
sul pont.

ff

spic.
sul pont.

ff

poco a poco

poco a poco

ff

ff

135

S.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

ff

run round. Ca - ta - logue

mf

ff

138

S. arms, blood... I count Cour - age mis

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

141

S. tak - en. Count

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

144

S. sight - of - hand. Count

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

147

S. *doc - tors. Count sol - diers. Say*

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

B. Sax. *mp* *ff*

Dr. *sim. cont.*

151

S. *it does not mat - ter. You who dif - fer - ren - ti -*

Vln. (8)

Vla. *8va*

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

154

S.

ate. My tongue

Vln.

(8)

Vla.

(8)

Vc.

B. Sax.

Dr.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

ate. My tongue

(8)

(8)

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

[illegible]

She said you meddle. I dare you.

160 rit.

Vln. *dim.*

Vla. pizz *mf* *dim.*

Vc. pizz *mf* *dim.*

B. Sax.

162

S. **M** Dreamlike, distant ♩ = 55 senza vib.

Vln. *pp*

Vla. arco, senza vib. *mp*

Vc. *p*

B. Sax. *n*

freely, rubato,
very legato
165 *mp*

S. drawn ov - er. — To name is. — In your hand. — My hand has its own. — Light as

Vla. arco, senza vib.

Vc. *ppp*

171

S. blood moves. Hope - ful. From a well.

Vla.

Vc.

174 poco rall.

S. Placed wound.

Vla. gliss.

Vc.