

catchaiku

(for two performers)

polansky

for Toon Callier and Jeroen Stevens

A 1: 13x, 17" or ♩ = 52,65,78,91

B 2: 17x, 13" or ♩ = 68,85,102,119

lp, 5/17/13, Hanover
rev. 9/4/16 11:38 AM

Two versions, **A** and **B**, both performers play the same one.

The two parts repeat at different time lengths (or tempi), ending together. Performer 1 uses the top repeats and tempi, 2 the bottom. If absolute time spans are used: 17" and 13." If tempi are used, these correspond (e.g 52/68, 65/85, 78/102, 91/119). If synchronized computer click-tracks are used, any tempi in a 13/17 ratio can be used, not just whole-number metronome tempi.

Start together. For each repeat, add some small number of events (1–3) on a selected beat (in the manner of my *Ensembles of Note*). Retain those events on successive repeats while adding new events. Accent events the first time they are played. All 17 events should be played by the final repeat. Some scheme might be used for events. For example, performer 1 might use pitches, performer 2 non-pitched sounds. Or both used non-pitched, or pitched sounds (again, with some kind of plan). Or both performers might clap.

Each performer also creates a haiku, in any language — 13 syllables for performer 1 (5/3/5, 4/5/4, etc.), 17 syllables (5/7/5) for performer 2. These haikus might be simple and self-descriptive like (17) "My name is Jeroen/I play percussion and sing/I live in Belgium," or (13): "My name is Toon/I play the guitar/Antwerp's my home." Speak the haikus once — clearly, loudly, and non-theatrically — over the course of the piece, one syllable per repeat, on the same (non-rest) beat of the measure.

catchaiku is a non-coincident canon: there should be no simultaneities.

(Thanks to Alex Barnett for advice.)