In One Human Lifetime

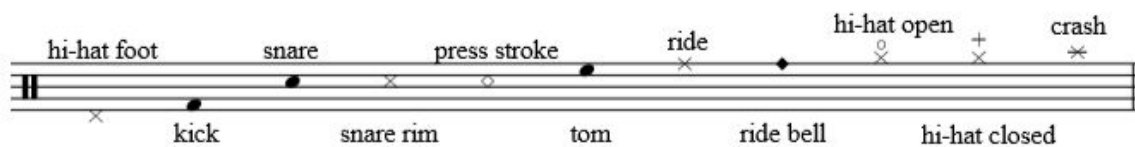solo for drums and stereo electronics

Jaya Story

In One Human Lifetime

In One Human Lifetime take samples of recordings from various era of this past generation, to which the drums provide the contextual levels of chaotic transformation within our environment. The first movement, "stats", uses recordings ranging from the early half of the 20th century to modern day documentaries. In "gas", the music is interpreted freely through a graph representing global CO_2 emissions from 1850 to the present day, and extends to the predicted emissions until 2040. The movement requires a stopwatch, and lasts three minutes -- the approximate amount of time humans can go without oxygen. The final movement, "plastic", uses samples from early advertisements of plastic products to construct rhythms that are simultaneously performed by the drums.

In One Human Lifetime was commissioned in 2019 by the Vancouver-based composer and percussionist Christopher Blaber.

Drum Legend

Performance Notes
The audio file tracks required for all three movements can be downloaded at:
https://www.jayastory.com/in-one-human-lifetime-tracks

I. stats
1. *Cue track and begin playing.*
2. *For each system, advance onto the next one once the quote at the end of the system sounds.*
3. *Make each added rhythm in each variation look and feel more like a "mistake" that gets eased into each following repetition.*

II. gas
1. *Cue track and begin stopwatch as soon as quote begins.*
2. *Follow the graph in relation to the second marks on the x axis. Interpret the graph however one desires.*
3. *In addition to the quote, a pre-recorded track may be created and used to emphasize the interpretation of the graph.*

III. plastic
1. *Cue and play along with the track, lining up the rhythms and keeping to the beat.*

I. stats

Jaya Story

*"Due to our release...
... this is bad?"*

*"In the space of just
one human lifetime ... by 60%"*

*"In the last century...
.... fahrenheit"*

*"Tom is the climate...
... not only in this country, Bill"*

*"Readings taken from...
... in the past 420,000 years"*

*"The average temperature...
.... and has continued rising since then"*

(As soon as cluster of quotes begins,
start playing next system until end)***

Faster, as if 4 bars = 1 bar of 4/4
Gradually accel.

1st time ♩. = 110 **2nd time** ♩. = 120

accel.

♩. = 130

accel.

molto accel.

choke

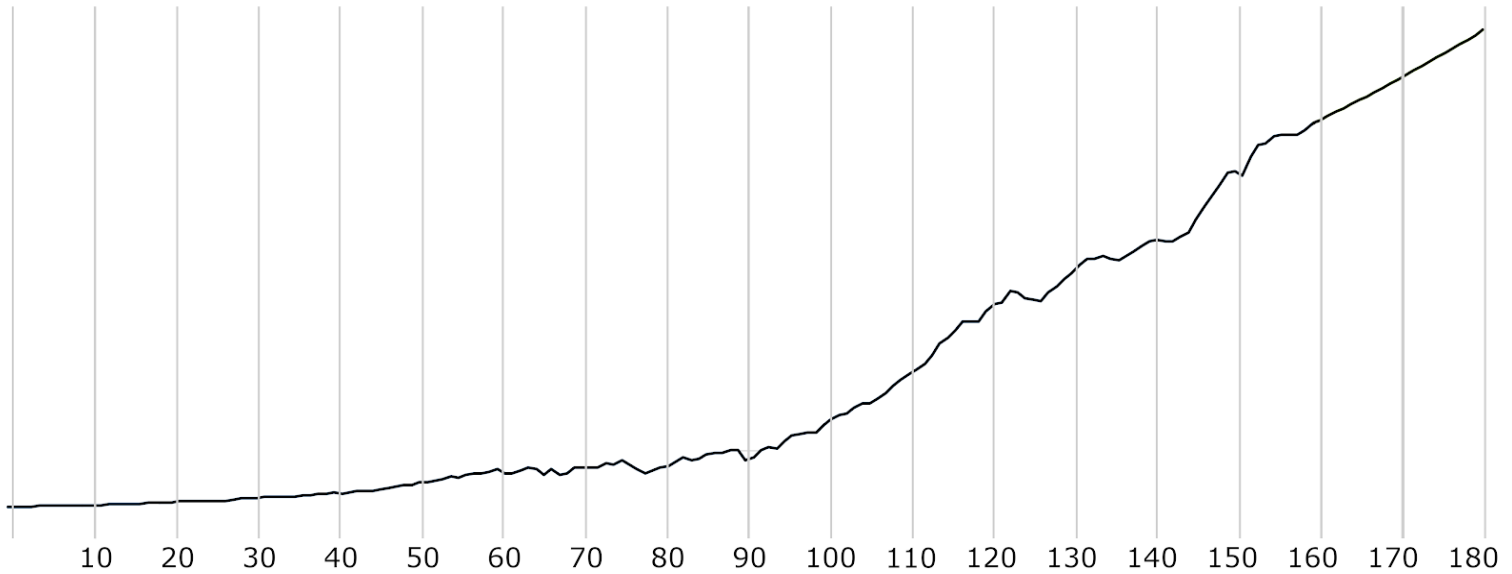*** Quotes should end slightly before the last bar or earlier

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II. gas

stopwatch piece   Jaya Story

"... Look, I know this is difficult. What do you think is the most important thing every human being needs? Well I can see he's kind of thinking, money, a job, and I said, if you don't have any air for three minutes you're dead. If you have to breathe polluted air, you're sick. So surely you would agree with me the greatest need we have is for clean air."

- David Suzuki, CBC interview "David Suzuki reflects on his last 80 years" (2016)

✴   Graph modified from C2ES, *"Global Carbon Dioxide Emissions, 1850–2040". (2019).* https://www.c2es.org/content/international-emissions/

III. plastic

Jaya Story

"Presenting the possibilities of plastics!"