

Echoes

for orator and triggered media

Stephen F. Lilly

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Echoes

performance notes

Orator (performing Spoken)

If desired, the orator may be amplified, but not effects should be applied—the associated Max patch included an input channel for orator amplification. On the score, each phrase enclosed within quotation marks is to be read as a single statement, without any exaggerated internal pauses. The performer may insert pauses in-between quotations as need be to control the pacing of the piece. Some lines are broken up over two or more quotations to accommodate a recorded cue—this is designated in the score through the use of ellipses. Here, a dramatic pause is desired, long enough to clearly hear the recorded cue. Above all else, quotations joined by ellipses should sound like they belong to the same statement. In cases where a recorded cue occurs in the middle of a quotation—without the accompanying presence of ellipses—the orator should ignore the cue and give it no pause. The Orator should perform seated, reading the score from a laptop or tablet positioned in their lap as if scanning through social media posts. Much of the text is to be delivered “matter of fact” in the style of a news anchor—neutral and objective—with just a hint of “news overload” resignation/apathy. The dynamic level should hovering around the mezzo forte dynamic level. When any other inflection is given, the orator should use that to derive pitch contour and dynamic shaping. Once an inflection is introduced, it should be used on subsequent quotations until cancelled by a new indication.

Triggered Media (performing Recorded)

The triggered media consists of the pre-recorded words indicated in the score, processed with various time-based effects beforehand by the composer. In performance, the 68 cues are triggered using a Max patch designed by the composer. In a pinch, the orator may operate the Max patch, but it is preferable to have an additional performer work it. The long arrows to the right of cues indicate compound cues—cues containing more than just a single one or two word phrase and its associated echoes. In the case of cues 56 and 58, the cue includes all of the words—and associated echoes—above the arrow. In all other cases, the cue includes one or more whispers pitched feedback that will overlap with subsequent cues.

Echoes

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<i>Expression</i>	<i>mf</i> <i>matter of fact</i>		
<i>Spoken</i>	“Friends and family.”	“One only posts after a few beers.”	“One always seems to be on
<i>Recorded High</i>			
<i>Low</i>	Friends and family	few beers	
<i>Recording Cue</i>	<i>mp</i> 1	2	

	vacation.”	“One takes quizzes that show how much she’s an introvert.”	“One finds solace in the past.”
<i>H</i>	-ca- on va-		past
<i>L</i>	-tion	in- trovert	
	3	4	5

	<i>lower in pitch, hesitant</i> “One says I should come see his band.”	<i>wait at least four echoes</i>	<i>matter of fact</i> “One blames the mainstream media.”
<i>H</i>			blame
<i>L</i>	bad		
	6		7

	<i>with a tinge of wistfulness</i>	<i>a bit bitter</i>	<i>matter of fact</i>
	“One is always on a horse.”	“One reminisces about an event...”	“I wasn’t invited”
<i>H</i>	horse	event	in-
<i>L</i>			-vited
	8	9	10

	<i>lower in pitch</i>	<i>ominously low</i>	<i>brief pause</i>	<i>with some confidence</i>
	false women.”	“One prays for success.”	“One has a birthday.”	“One decides that violence <i>is</i> necessary,
<i>H</i>	false	praise	be-	
<i>L</i>			-lated	
	<i>mp</i> 11	12	13	

		<i>matter of fact</i>		<i>lower in pitch</i>
	for freedom...”	“...for sport.”	“One celebrates the death of a rival...”	“...he’s never met.”
<i>H</i>			death	
<i>L</i>	freedom	sport		never met
	14	15	<i>mf</i> 16	<i>mp</i> 17

	<i>lifting, impressed</i>		<i>verging on self-righteous</i>
	who insult his dog...”	“...who, by the way, frequents all the finest bars and restaurants.”	“One realizes people dislike
<i>H</i>	insult		bone
<i>L</i>			appetite
	18		19

	him because he speaks truth.”	<i>matter of fact</i> “One runs a lot.”	<i>lower in pitch, resigned</i> “One announces he’ll be following Phish this summer.”	<i>wait at least five echoes</i>
H				why?
L	dislikes		the lot	
	20	21		<i>mf</i> 22
	<i>wistful</i>			<i>serious</i>
	“One quotes lyrics from the love songs of his youth...”	“...all of which seem to resonate only just now.”		“One posts an article
H				
L		love		now
		<i>mp</i> 23		24
		<i>sinking</i>		
	on coral reefs dying faster than predicted.”		“One shares a video that illustrates how climate scientists are greedy.”	
H				> science
L	dying	faster		
	25	26		<i>f</i> 27
	<i>lower in pitch, defeated</i>	<i>wait two echoes</i>	<i>as if it’s common sense</i>	
	“One feels left out.”		“One thinks it’s obvious someone with a face tattoo would be wanted by the police.”	
H				
L	left out		<i>whispers start</i>	wanted
	<i>p</i> 28			<i>mp</i> 29

	<i>matter of fact</i>			<i>pause until high frequency portion of feedback fades</i>
	“One embarrasses her son.”	“One wants you to know he’s armed.”		
H			he’s armed	<i>feedback</i>
L	her son			
			<i>f</i>	
	30		31	
	<i>lower in pitch, regretful</i>	<i>wait until the whispers stop and then a breath more</i>	<i>happy</i>	<i>resolute</i>
	“One is making a mistake.”		“One cooks.”	“One is taking a break.”
H				cooks
L	mistake			
	<i>p</i>			<i>mp</i>
	32			33
	<i>leaning self-righteous</i>			<i>veering conspiratorial</i>
	“One suggests that if laws are unwisely enforced, there should be fewer of them.”	“One notes that government cannot be		
H		^{>} law		
	break			few
L				
	<i>f</i>			<i>mp</i>
	34	35		36
	<i>pleasantly surprised</i>		<i>bemused but accepting</i>	<i>amused</i>
	trusted.” “One alerts me to a change in my security settings.”	“One communicates by way of memes”	“One speaks as	
H				
L	trust	security		idjits
				<i>p</i>
	37	38		39

her pet.” *quick and excited* “One just let us know he finished that piece he’s been toiling over for weeks, months...” *impressed* “and there’s

H speak so long

>

L

mp **41**

40

photographic evidence” *slightly worried* “One stresses over his good fortune.” *calm* “One is freaking out.” *impressed* “One is going to a lingerie party.”

H

L wow freak

tragic

p *mf*

42 **43** **44**

confident “One feels certain that people like him best without his shirt on.” *pause*

H #MaleModel #SixPack #GreatHair

L party

45 *mp*

46

disapproving “One makes fun of his students.” *with a hint of disgust* “One collects puns.” *disppointed* “One likes his own work.” *pause*

H hey, me my bad

that’s

L not funny whispers start

mp

47 *in composer’s voice* **48** **49** *in composer’s voice*

smug "One is surprised you don't know what's in your own best interest."
disappointed "One answers twenty questions..." "...and suggests

H no known answers
 >

L

f dim.....
50 **51** **52**

skeptical "One only logs in for research."
dejected "One lost her phone."
wait only two echoes *quickly, impatient* "One wants to know what

H I do the same." "One only logs in for research." "One lost her phone." "One wants to know what

L spam research lost *more whispers* knows

.....p *mp cresc.....*
53 **54** **55** **56**

with a tinge of disgust "One disagrees with a woman because she's ugly."
self-righteous "One simply states,

H the difference between sex and gender is." "One disagrees with a woman because she's ugly." "One simply states,

L the difference is *more whispers* disagree woman ugly the state
 > >

.....f *p cresc.....f* *ff*
57 **58** **59**

Angry "they're illegal; arrest them." "One is frustrated that there aren't more picking up litter on the side of the road."

H them litter
 >

L the road

f *dim.....*
60 **61** **62**

calming, but with some residual disgust

“One proposes that they all be collected in Wyoming...”

“...and then ejected from the country.”

“One resents all *those*

H

collected

ejected

L

63

64

people.” *matter of fact*
“One harbors a healthy skepticism.”

pause

resigned

“One doesn’t think her protest vote had

H

^a skeptic *feedback*

doesn’t think *final whisper*

L

people

p

65

mp

dim

66

67

the impact you claim it did.” *wait until all whispers and echoes are gone*

matter of fact

“One is angry, very angry.”

H

L the impact

p

68