

Scrap Metal

FOR PIANO AND FIXED MEDIA

JASON BOLTE

**COMMISSIONED BY THE MUSIC TEACHERS NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
AND THE MISSOURI MUSIC TEACHERS ASSOCIATION**

Scrap Metal

Instrumentation: piano and fixed media (CD)

Duration: 7:55

Date Composed: 2007

Scrap Metal is an electroacoustic work that explores the relationships between the sonic material produced on the piano and various metal produced sounds. *Scrap Metal* was commissioned by the Music Teachers National Association and the Missouri Music Teachers Association.

Jason Bolte (b.1976) is currently pursuing a D.M.A. in Music Composition at the University of Missouri – Kansas City Conservatory of Music and Dance, where he is a Chancellor's Doctoral Fellow. Along with his responsibilities at UMKC, he is also an Adjunct Instructor of Music at the Kansas City Kansas Community College. Jason is a member of the organizational staff of the Electronic Music Midwest Festival, and a founding member of the Kansas City Electronic Music Alliance. Jason holds a B.M. with an emphasis in Music Engineering Technology and a M.M. in Music Composition from Ball State University. His music has been performed throughout the United States and in Chile, France, Hungary, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. He is the 2007 recipient of the Music Teachers National Association / Missouri Music Teachers Association Composition Commission. In the summer of 2007, Jason was an Associate Artist in Residence at the Atlantic Center for the Arts, with Master Artist Denis Smalley. Jason's work, *Friction* for digital audio, was selected as a Finalist at the 33rd Bourges International Competition of Electroacoustic Music and Sonic Art – 2006. His composition *Forgotten Dreams* for double bass, max/msp, and eight-channel digital audio has also been recognized by The International Society of Bassists, receiving First Prize at the 2004/05 ISB Composition Competition - Media Division.

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Technical Requirements

Fixed Media

stereo playback sound system (subwoofer optional)

stage monitor(s)

2 microphones / preamps (amplification of piano)

CD player (fixed media)

Piano

2 guitar picks

rubber doorstop (to hold the sustain pedal in the down position)

Performance Notes

Fixed Media

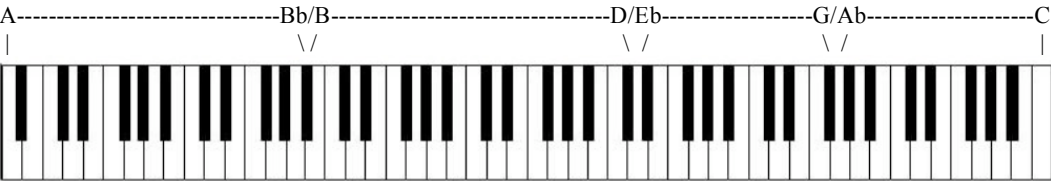
The fixed media part is located on the accompanying audio CD. A graphical representation of the fixed media part can be found in the score. The score does not describe every sound and construction that appears in the fixed media, it does however describe several cues. The pianist should use these cues in order to sonically integrate the piano and fixed media parts.

Piano

Given the nature of the composition, the piano part contains a large amount of flexibility and freedom. Through controlled improvisation, the performer is encouraged to explore multiple possibilities in the piece. The pianist should pay close attention to the fixed media part in order to hear the cues that have been set up and notated to aid in the performance of the work. The piano part requires the use of two guitar picks and a rubber doorstop (to hold the sustain pedal in the down position). The sustain pedal should be engaged throughout the entirety of the piece. The piano part also employs several extended techniques including large cluster cords and techniques employed inside the piano. The following are examples of notation and descriptions of the techniques used.

Extended Techniques

1. *Scrap Metal* was composed using a Young Chang piano. Given that most pianos have inside structures that vary by brand and model, it is recommended that the performance be modified to best suit this structure. The following diagram describes the string's location between the brace structure used in the notation of the piece.



2. Forearm cluster, white keys



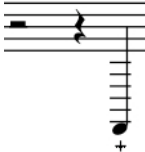
3. Glissando inside piano, arrows designate direction



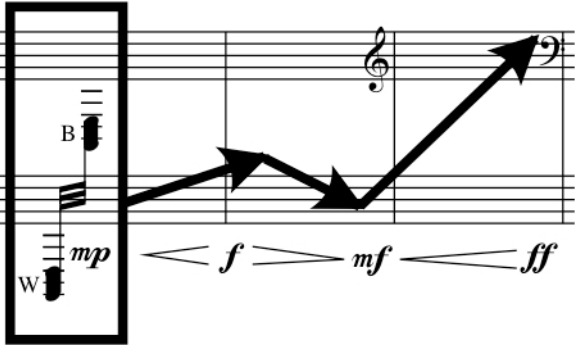
4. Scrape string (flesh, finger nail, or pick – designated in the score)



5. Pizzicato inside the piano



6. Tremolo fist clusters, B = black keys, W = white keys
Repeat box notation, following arrow pitch contours



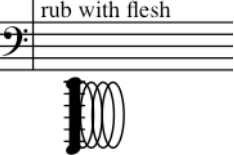
7. Scrape string aggressively (tremolo)



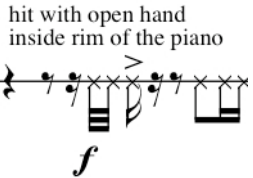
8. Scrape string aggressively (tremolo) while glissading



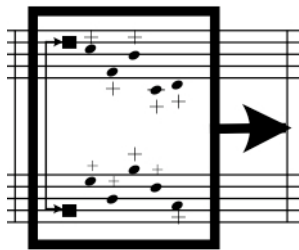
9. Rub lower strings with open hand



10. Percussive, hit inside of the rim of the piano with open hand

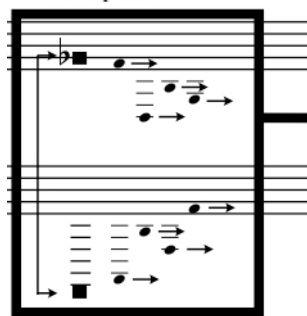


11. Pluck strings within the range designated with varied rhythm

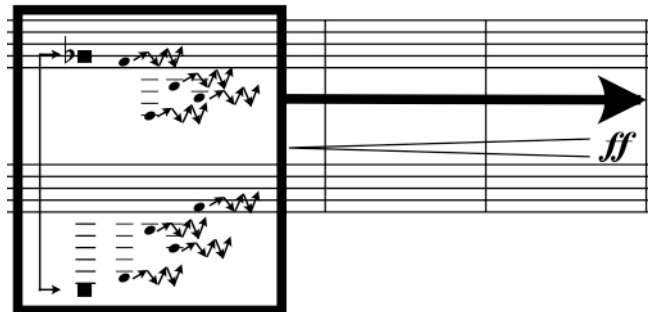


12. Scrape strings within the range designated with varied rhythm

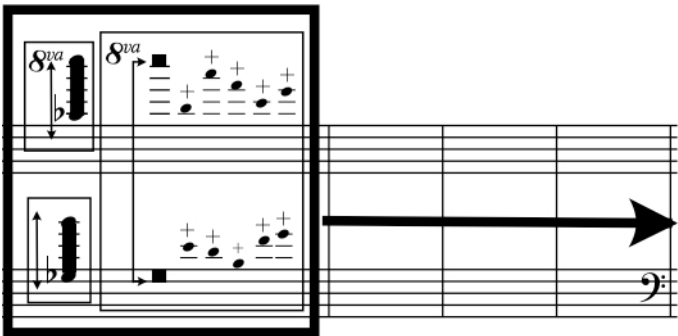
scrape string with pick,
random pitches and duration.
variable speed



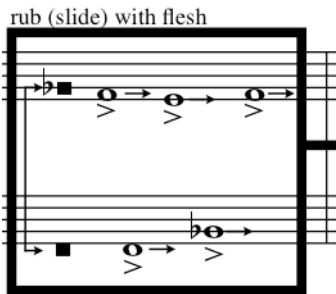
13. Scrape string aggressively (tremolo) within the range designated with varied rhythm



14. Improvise based on included material over duration of arrow



15. Using long motions, rub (slide) string with finger, varied rhythm



Scrap Metal

for piano and fixed media

Commissioned by the Music Teachers National Association
and the Missouri Music Teachers Association

Jason Bolte (b. 1976)

Duration 7:55

Piano

$\text{♩} = 120$

ff

mp

f

mf

ff

ff

f

ff

f

Fixed Media

Pno.

$\text{♩} = 60$

0:21

inside piano (on the side)

with flesh

L.H.

R.H.

mp

scrape with finger nail

p

mp

p

mf

scrape string with pick

F.M.

24

Pno.

p *f* *mf* *ff*

scrape string with pick,
random pitches and durations
variable speed

becoming more agitated

24

F.M.

1:53

$\bullet = 120$

35

with pick

random glissandos interspersed
with scrapes and tremolo scrapes

2:09

$\bullet = 60$

fff

35

F.M.

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "Scrap Metal". It consists of two main parts: Piano (Pno.) and F.M. (Field Music). The Piano part is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and includes dynamic markings *p*, *f*, *mf*, and *ff*. A section of the Piano part is highlighted with a box and labeled "scrape string with pick, random pitches and durations variable speed". Another section is labeled "becoming more agitated". The F.M. part is written on a single staff and includes a section of "random glissandos interspersed with scrapes and tremolo scrapes". Time markers 1:53 and 2:09 are present. The score also includes a tempo marking $\bullet = 120$ and a note value $\bullet = 60$. The F.M. part includes a section of "with pick" and a section of "fff".

2:25

47

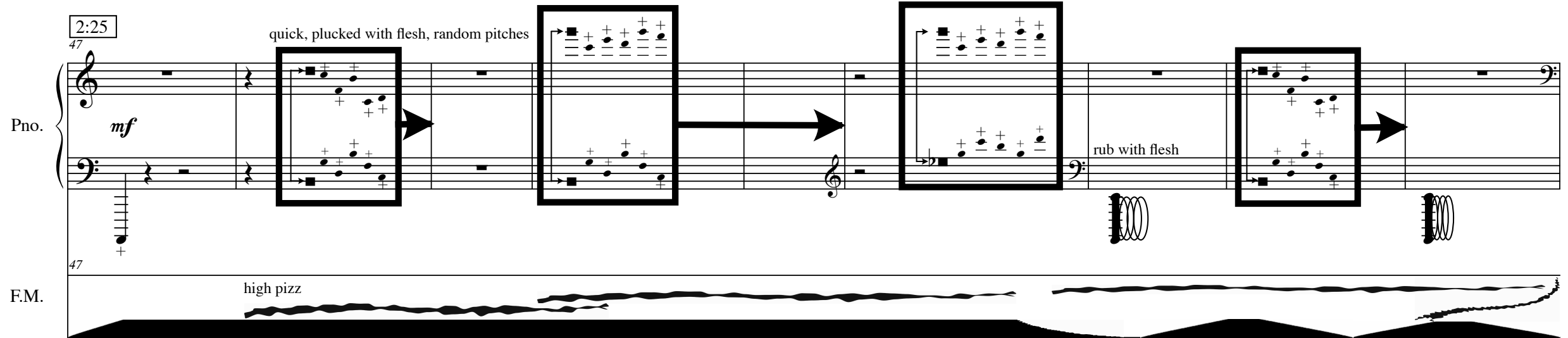
Pno. *mf*

quick, plucked with flesh, random pitches

rub with flesh

F.M.

high pizz



3:01

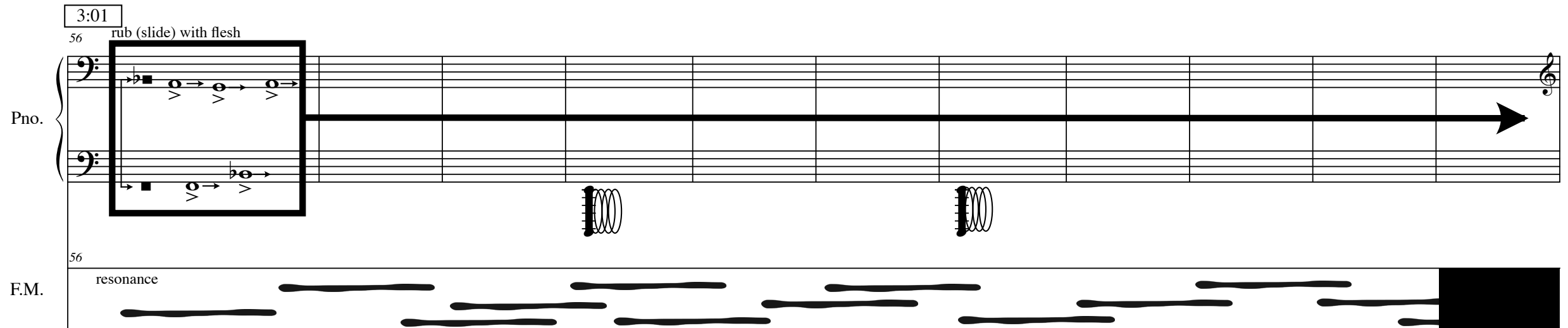
56

Pno.

rub (slide) with flesh

F.M.

resonance



3:45

67 with pick

Pno.

ff *f* *mf* *mp*

quick, plucked with pick,
random pitches and durations

f *p* *mf*

F.M.

67

78

scrape string with pick,
random pitches and durations
variable speed

scrape string with pick

p *mp* *mf* *f* *ff*

hit with hand

5:05

Pno.

F.M.

78

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "Scrap Metal". It is divided into two systems, each with a piano (Pno.) part and a Field Music (F.M.) part. The piano part is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The F.M. part is represented by a single staff with a waveform. The first system starts at measure 67, marked with a time stamp of 3:45. The piano part begins with a forte fortissimo (ff) dynamic, followed by a series of notes with varying dynamics (f, mf, mp). A boxed-in section of the piano part is annotated with the instruction "quick, plucked with pick, random pitches and durations". The F.M. part shows a corresponding waveform. The second system starts at measure 78, marked with a time stamp of 5:05. The piano part continues with dynamics (p, mp, mf, f, ff) and includes the instruction "scrape string with pick, random pitches and durations variable speed". A final instruction "hit with hand" is present near the end of the system. The F.M. part shows a waveform with some star-like symbols at the end. The overall layout is clean and professional, with clear notation and instructions.

89 hit with open hand
inside rim of the piano

Pno.

f *mf* *f* *f* *mp* *mf*

89

F.M.

percussive hits

5:49

98 at the keyboard,
inside the piano

Pno.

mp *mf* *f*

8va

with pick by hammers

F.M.

98

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled "Scrap Metal". It is divided into two systems, each with a piano (Pno.) and field recording (F.M.) track. The first system (measures 89-97) features a piano part with a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, some marked with accents (>). The dynamics range from forte (f) to mezzo-forte (mf) and mezzo-piano (mp). The field recording track shows percussive hits, represented by short, sharp bursts of sound. The second system (measures 98-106) includes a time signature change to 5/4 at measure 98. The piano part has a more melodic line with some octaves marked (8va). Dynamics include mezzo-piano (mp), mezzo-forte (mf), and forte (f). The field recording track shows sustained, textured sounds with some percussive elements. The score is annotated with performance instructions like "hit with open hand inside rim of the piano" and "at the keyboard, inside the piano".

6:45

♩ = 120
at the keyboard

112

Pno.

112

F.M.

124

Pno.

124

F.M.