

Circular Factory 4 for bandoneon, trombone & electronics

Mercedes Krapovickas | 2023

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Duration *circa* 10'

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Pic by Kristian Presnal,
feat. Marija Šumarac

Performance Notes

The name "Circular Factory" suggests a concept of perpetual motion, repetition, and a continuous process. In a musical context, it could evoke the idea of recurring motifs, themes, or patterns that evolve and transform throughout the piece. It might also imply a sense of automation or machinery, which could be represented through both live and fixed media elements, creating a blend of human performance and electronic manipulation. The title encourages the listener to explore the cyclical nature of music and the interplay between tradition and innovation, making it an intriguing and thought-provoking choice for a contemporary classical composition.

The Score:

The music consists of repeating patterns, mirroring the repetitive tasks often found in a factory setting. However, these patterns are not static; they allow room for variations and creativity within the framework. To play this piece you will repeat patterns. As if you were a machine or working at a factory. Every pattern can have changes. Each pattern should be repeated multiple times, maintaining a consistent tempo throughout. Use musical dynamics and effects to enhance the industrial atmosphere, incorporating elements like staccato notes, metallic sounds, and rhythmic dissonance

Instrumentation

Bandoneon

Trombone

2 condenser microphones for each instrument

Sound card

Computer with Ableton live 11 Suite with Max for live

Stereo speakers

2 chairs

Electronics Setup/Technical Requirements

- This work is written for bandoneon, trombone and live electronics, and stereo fixed media. The work can be performed with two inputs, and a stereo speaker set-up.

Ableton Live instructions

- To perform this piece, the performer should have a working version of Ableton Live 11 or an older version, equipped with Max for Live.
- A link to the Ableton session for this composition is available on www.mekrapov.com/bandoneon-explorations, specifically on the Compositions page. I developed this session personally using SP-tools. If you encounter any difficulties in getting the session to function, feel free to reach out to me at mekrapov@gmail.com.

Loop 1

Trombone

Air with letters. Make a rhythm using air and the following consonants: Tf... Sh...Tf-sh-a

For example (use as inspiration):

The image shows two musical staves for a trombone exercise. Each staff begins with a double bar line. The first staff has the following markings above it: 'Tfff...' with a downward arrow, 'f' with a downward arrow, 'Shh...' with a rightward arrow, 'sh' with a downward arrow, and 'fff' with a downward arrow. The notes are: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on C5, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on G4. The second staff has the following markings above it: 'Tfff...' with a downward arrow, 'f' with a downward arrow, 'Shh...' with a wavy line above it labeled 'vib.', 'sh' with a rightward arrow, and 'fff' with a downward arrow. The notes are: a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on C5, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on A4, and a quarter note on G4. Both staves end with a double bar line.

Introduce a new element to the pattern, repeat until you have added 5 new elements.

Bandoneon

Improvise by playing with button sounds and button güiro with the right-hand keyboard. Listen and engage in a dialogue with the trombone. Keep a *p* or *mp* dynamic range. Remember silences. You can be standing, sitting or laying.

Loop 2

Trombone & Bandoneon

Explore your instrument. Make sounds with the buttons, tap it with your fingers, touch it, find new sounds. This exploration have their own movements: exaggerate them, make them big. Include repetitive gestures, synchronized hand movements, and coordinated body motions to enhance the visual aspect of the performance.

Loop 3

Trombone & Bandoneon

Repeating notes. Choose one note and make a rhythmical pattern repeating it. Make silence between patterns. Slowly add notes to the pattern (one by one). Continue until the pattern has 5 notes.

Loop 4

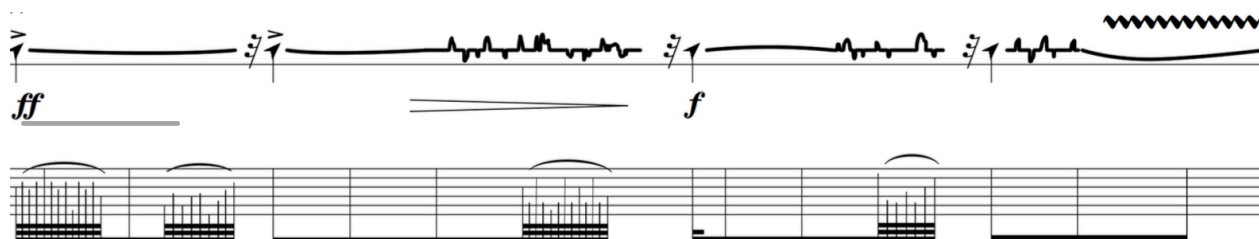
Trombone & Bandoneon

Develop choreographed movements that resemble the synchronized actions of factory workers. No sounds are needed.

Loop 5

Trombone & Bandoneon

Interpret the following graphic as you want. Repeat it at least 5 times. Make silence in between the repetitions.



Loop 6

Trombone & Bandoneon

"The Factory": Use your instrument to convey a range of emotions, from the precision and order of the factory to moments of chaos and improvisation. Gradually increase the complexity and intensity of the music and movements as the performance progresses.