

Midpoints

by Erik Carlson

A piece for 3 or more players (sitting in a circle, rotating roles) in which during each minute: one player remains silent, one player plays whenever they want, and the other performers play a tone at the time halfway between when the 2 performers to their right played tones during the previous minute.

Players sit in a circle.

Everyone watches a clock.

Tones are short and soft.

The first minute

One player (Player 1) remains silent and all the other players play their tone whenever they want to.

Players note the time when the 2 players to their right play tones

.
The exceptions being the two players to the left of the silent player (Player 1). These two players would normally listen to Player 1 and another player, but in the first minute Player 1 is silent.

The second minute

The player to the left of Player 1 remains silent.

The player 2-to-the-left-of Player 1 plays whenever they want to,

and all other performers play at the time halfway between when the 2 players to their right played in the previous minute.

For example, if during minute 1, the player to your right played at :03 and 2-to-your right played at :27, during minute 2, you would play at :15.

Every other minute

The process continues but the roles shift.

The position of the silent player and the player who plays whenever they want to shift to the left every minute.