

Party Person

For Guitar Quartet

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*Winner of the Gohar & Ovanes Andriassian
Classical Guitar Ensemble Composition Competition
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Party Person:

I. "Oh God..."

II. "So..."

III. "One More Drink..."

For Guitar Quartet (Classical Guitars & One Steel-String Doubling)

Duration: 5'

Party Person is a three movement piece, where each movement becomes more "structured" than the previous: the first movement is improvisational, the second movement alternates between musical phrases and silence, and the third movement is continuous and combines new contrapuntal themes with previously established motives. The narrative follows an introverted subject at a party: first, the subject sits alone, listening to everyone's conversations but not participating; next, the subject tries to engage in conversation, only to be met with awkward silence, which leads to the subject binge drinking to boost socialization (final gesture of the second movement); and finally, the subject socializes, lacking etiquette and being obnoxious to those around him until finally becoming violently ill (final gesture of the piece).

First Movement Instructions

Guitar 4: The performer is to cycle between the five given motives in any order at his or her own volition, adding a rest between each motivic iteration that is equal to or less than four beats long. This will continue for the entire movement.

Guitar 1: All notes given are to be played in any order on strings five and six only with any duration that is equal to or less than four beats. The performer is to begin playing after 15 seconds from the start of the piece. He or she is to cycle through the first five harmonics until one minute into the piece. The performer will then cycle through the new set of four harmonics until one minute and 15 seconds, at which time, he or she will let the last note played continue to ring for five seconds. At one minute and 20 seconds, the performer is to resume playing the same set of four harmonics until one minute and 35 seconds, at which time he or she will cycle through the last five harmonics until one minute and 50 seconds into the piece, where he or she will allow the last note played to ring indefinitely. The performer is to also intermittently pluck behind the nut at his or her own volition during performance.

Guitar 2: All notes given are to be played in any order on strings three and four only with any duration that is equal to or less than four beats. The performer is to begin playing after 30 seconds from the start of the piece. He or she is to cycle through the first four harmonics until one minute into the piece. He or she will then cycle through the new set of three harmonics until one minute and 15 seconds, at which time, he or she will let the last note played continue to ring for five seconds. At one minute and 20 seconds, the performer is to resume playing the same set of three harmonics until one minute and 35 seconds, at which time he or she will cycle through the last four harmonics until one minute and 55 seconds into the piece, where he or she will allow the last note played to ring indefinitely. The performer is to also intermittently pluck behind the nut at his or her own volition during performance.

Guitar 3: The performer is to start the piece with a steel string guitar. All notes given are to be played in any order on strings one and two only with any duration that is equal to or less than four beats. The performer is to begin playing after 45 seconds from the start of the piece. He or she is to cycle through the first five harmonics until one minute into the piece. He or she will then cycle through the new set of four harmonics one minute and 15 seconds, at which time, he or she will let the last note played continue to ring for five seconds. At one minute and 20 seconds, the performer is to resume playing the same set of four harmonics until one minute and 35 seconds, at which time he or she will cycle through the last five harmonics until two minutes into the piece, where he or she will allow the last note played to ring indefinitely. The performer is to also intermittently pluck behind the nut at his or her own volition during performance.

First Movement ends at 2:05

I - "Oh God..."

All Parts ad libitum as per instructions

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♩ = 123

at 0:15

Guitar I: ⑥ XII, ⑥ VII, ⑤ VII, ⑥ IX, ⑤ IX

Guitar II: at 0:30 ④ XII, ③ XII, ④ v, ③ v

Guitar III: Steel-String Guitar

Guitar IV: palm mute w/ plectrum

at 1:00

4

at 0:45 ② XII, ① XII, ② v, ① v, ① #IX

8va

⑤ XII, ⑥ VII, ⑥ #IX, ⑤ v

④ XII, ③ VII, ④ #IX

② XII, ① VII, ② #IX, ① #IX

Let Last Note
Played Vibrate
at 1:15

at 1:20

at 1:35

The score consists of four staves. The first staff has a measure number '8' at the beginning. The first two staves have fretting diagrams with fingerings in circles: (5) XII, (6) VII, (6) IX, and (5) V. The third staff has fretting diagrams with fingerings in circles: (4) XII, (3) VII, (4) IX, and (3) V. The fourth staff has fretting diagrams with fingerings in circles: (2) XII, (1) VII, (2) IX, and (1) V. The diagram for the second measure of the fourth staff includes an '8va-' marking. There are two time points marked 'at 1:20' and 'at 1:35' with arrows pointing to the second and third measures respectively. Each measure ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Let Last Note Played Vibrate
at 1:50

Let Last Note Played
Vibrate at 1:55

Let Last Note Played
Vibrate at 2:00

Let Last Note
Played Vibrate
at 2:05

The score consists of four staves. Each staff begins with a measure number '12'. Each staff has a single horizontal line with an arrow pointing to the right, indicating a vibrato instruction. The instructions are placed at different time points: 'at 1:50' for the first staff, 'at 1:55' for the second staff, 'at 2:00' for the third staff, and 'at 2:05' for the fourth staff. Each staff ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

II - "So..."

L.V.

17 $\text{♩} = 100$

ff *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *mp* *f*

To Nyl. Gtr.
Nylon String Guitar

8^{va} VII ① VII ① VII ①

20 **A**

ff *f* *mp*

23

m i p *m i p* simile L.V. *mp*

f

mf

Sustain cluster through rest

B

f 3 Sustain harmonics like a chord

mf *f*

mf 3 3 *f*

sul tasto

III - "One More Drink..."

29 $\text{♩} = 152$

mf *ff*

mf *ff*

Steel-String Guitar

p *mf*

mp *f*

31

fff *subito p*

fff *subito p*

p

ff *subito p*

34

Musical score for measures 34-36. The score consists of four staves. The first staff has dynamics *f* and *ff*. The second staff has dynamics *mf* and *ff*. The third staff has a dynamic of *mp*. The fourth staff has dynamics *mf*, *f*, and *ff*. The time signature changes from 5/8 to 6/8 to 5/8 to 3/4.

37

C

Musical score for measures 37-40. The score consists of four staves. A section marker 'C' is present above the first staff. The first staff has dynamics *fff* and *f*. The second staff has dynamics *fff* and *mf*. The third staff has dynamics *mf*, *ff*, and *p*. The fourth staff has dynamics *fff* and *f*. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 7/8 to 3/4.

40

ff *mf*

subito ff *mf* L.V.

f *mp*

ff *mf*

44

f

ff

f

f