# Jérôme Combier

# *Stèles d'air*

# 2007

Steles d'Air - Revision2014
2014

The setup and the execution of the electroacoustic part
of this work requires a Computer Music Designer (Max expert).

# Table of Contents

# Work related information

## Performance details

- Oct. 26, 2007, Paris, Centre Georges Pompidou, Festival d'Automne

Publisher : Lemoine

## Detailed staff

- flute (also piccolo, alto flute, bass flute [ad lib.] ), oboe (also English horn), clarinet (also bass clarinet), bassoon, horn, trumpet, trombone, 2 percussionists, guitar, harp, piano [préparé] , violin, second violin, 2 violas, 2 cellos, double bass

## Realisation

- Benoît Meudic

## Useful links on Brahms

- ***Stèles d'air*** **for ensemble and electronics (2007), 20mn**
- **Jérôme Combier**

# Version related information

First performance
Performance date: Feb. 23, 2014
Documentation date: March 10, 2014
Version state: valid, validation date : May 3, 2018, update : Jan. 15, 2024, 4:46 p.m.

## Documentalist

Robin Meier (Robin.Meier@ircam.fr)

You noticed a mistake in this documentation or you were really happy to use it? Send us feedback!

## Realisation

- Robin Meier (Computer Music Designer)
- Sébastien Naves (Sound engineer)
- Jérôme Combier (Composer)
- Benoit Meudic (Computer Music Designer)

Version length: 20 mn
Default work length: 20 mn

## Upgrade Motivation

new version of Stèles d'Air - new score, new patch, new sounds... jérôme combier and robin meier

## Other version(s)

- Jérôme Combier - Stèles d'air - transfert_mustica_ftp (April 14, 2010)
- Jérôme Combier - Stèles d'air - Stele d'air (creation) (Oct. 26, 2007)

# Electronic equipment list

### Computer Music Equipment

- 1 MacBook Pro - *Apple Laptops* (Apple)
  2.4 Ghz
- 1 iPad - *Tablets* (Apple)
  use Lemur app
- 1 Mac OS - *OS* (Apple)
  10.6
- 1 Live - *Music Software* (Ableton)
  version 9 (only for the simulation)
- 1 Max 6 - *Max* (Cycling74)
- 1 Ircam Spat - *Library* (Ircam)
  version 4.6
- 1 ejies - *Library* (e--j)
- 1 lemur - *Controller* (liine)
- 1 Fireface 800 - *Sound Board* (RME)
  14 ins, 6 outs
- 1 BCF 2000 - *MIDI Mixer* (Behringer)
  or ipad
- 1 Footswitch / Sustain Pedal - *Footswitch / Sustain Pedal*
  to trigger the events

### Audio Equipment

- 6 Loudspeaker - *Loudspeakers*
- 1 DM2000 - *Digital Mixers* (Yamaha)
  or equivalent
- 1 Reverberation Processor - *Reverberation*
  of high quality

## Files

| File | Type | Author(s) | Comment |
|---|---|---|---|
| CombierStelesDAir.dmg | Patch | Robin Meier | contains all the elements (patch, sounds, sessions, ...) required to perform the piece in an uncompressed image |
| dm2000 setup | Setup | Sebastien Naves | pdf showing inputs and outputs for dm2000 console. also constains list of all microphones used |
| ejies library | Other | Emmanuel Jourdan | |
| tech rider sound engineer | Technical rider | Sebastien Naves | technical rider for sound engineer only. not including materials for electronics. |
| ircam Spat | Other | Thibaut Carpentier | v 4.6.9 |
| jerome steles dair.zip | Patch | Robin Meier | contains all the elements (patch, sounds, sessions, ...) required to perform the piece in a zip file |
| screenshots of cuelists.zip | Document | Robin Meier | cuelist screenshots (for the curious) |
| steles-d'air-simulation-generaleRF Project.zip | Simulation files | Robin Meier | mutlitrack recording (Ableton Live session) of the instruments, done during th dress rehearsal (Radio France 2014/2/23) |
| pedal strokes | Document | | location of the pedal strokes in the score |

# Instructions

## Description of the piece:

"Stèle d'air" is a piece composed by Jérôme Combier for 20 instruments and live electronics. It was premiered in Centre George Pompidou in October 2007 (ensemble intercontemporain, direction Susanna Malki, computer music design Benoit Meudic).

In 2013/14, Jerome Combier wrote a new version of the same piece, premiered during Presences Festival at Radio France in February 2014. The "computer music" was "designed" by Robin Meier.

It is divided in seven parts.

## Elements needed to play the piece:

- 1 computer with max 6 and Live 9 (we have used an intel MacBookPro 2.4Ghz),
- 14 ins/ 6 outs audio interface (we have used a fireface 800)
- microphones for each instrument
- mixing console (we have used a DM2000)
- 6 points full band diffusion system.
- 1 reverb
- usb midi mixer or iPad (Lemur app).
- 1 midi pedal for triggering electronic events

## Loudspeaker setup

1 2
3 4
5 6

## Audio inputs

ADC are respectively :

1. flute
2. oboe
3. clarinette
4. brass mix
5. perc1
6. perc2
7. cymbal
8. guitar
9. harp
10. piano
11. violin
12. viola
13. cello
14. bass

## max dsp settings

- iovs 128
- vs 128
- overdrive ON
- scheduler in audio interrupt OFF
- Sampling Rate 44.1 kHz

## computer keyboard shortcuts

esc: reset

x: matrix
e: events (lists)
r: mixeR
p: pedale
s: bonus

## software installation

install the ejies library

set Max File preferences to point to the "PATCHE_Robin" folder

## checklist:

- - open _events-pedal.maxpat
- - open _mainpatch-Steles-dair-pedale.maxpat
  - besides a few warnings you should have no errors in the max window
- - choose midi-input in patcher midi-in (pedal, midi-mixer)
- - turn on dac
- - activate pedale
- - reset / init
- - choose "1-event" in the event menu of the ro.events subpatch

The midi channel assignation for midi-mixer is set in the bpatchers arguments of the "mixer" subpatch. The first argument corresponds to the midi channel receiving the external controller canal midi, the second argument is the midi channel to send the audio level in db (0-127 range).

Footswitch pedal assignation is set in the patcher "pedal"

## simulation

A mulit track recording of the piece is in the folder "steles-d'air-simulation project". It can be use to test the patch before reharsals.

## more ...

see enclosed documents and patch for further instructions!

# Program note

*Stèles d'air* sera le prolongement de *Vies silencieuses* à plusieurs égards. Dans la mesure où elle empruntera semblables matières (les harmonies, les échelles de hauteurs, les tempi, les proportions…) et où elle en sera l'extension orchestrale autant que l'érosion. Le titre de « stèles d'air » vient d'un texte que Philippe Jaccottet a écrit sur l'œuvre de Giorgio Morandi et plus précisément sur ses dernières aquarelles qui datent des années 1963-1964. A propos de ces peintures qui ne sont plus, semble-t-il, que l'ébauche du visible – là, une tâche qui rappelle une bouteille, là un seul trait qui dessine, dans le vide qui l'entoure une forme par omission – l'écrivain parle « d'assomption des choses qui culminerait dans leur presque disparition (…), des stèles d'air qu'un roi sans royaume aurait fait dresser à des confins sans nom, à l'ultime bord du monde visible… ».

L'électronique aura cette fonction là : elle érodera le sonore porté par les instruments, diluera harmonies et échelles dans des saturations douces, des sons chargés de bruit — elle aura avant tout fonction orchestrale.

Jérôme Combier

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