

Les Moutons de Panurge

for any number of musicians playing melody instruments
+ any number of nonmusicians playing anything

Begin ca. ♪ = 150, accelerate to ca. ♪ = 300

Frederic Rzewski

Musicians

sempre *ff* (use amplification)

↑ for all A's after this point

last note only

Instructions: Read from the left to the right, playing the notes as follows: 1, 1-2, 1-2-3, 1-2-3-4, etc. When you have reached note 65, play the whole melody once again and then begin subtracting notes from the beginning: 2-...-65, 3-...-65, 4-...-65, ..., 62-63-64-65, 63-64-65, 64-65, 65. Hold the last note until everybody has reached it, then begin an improvisation; using any instruments.

All in strict unison; octave doubling allowed if at least 2 instruments in each octave

Musicians: always play loud, never stop or falter, stay together as long as you can, but if you get lost, stay lost. Do not try to find your way back into the fold. Continue to follow the rules strictly.

Nonmusicians: are invited to make sound, any sound, preferable very loud, and if possible are provided with percussive or other instruments.

The nonmusicians have a leader, whom they may follow or not, and who begins the music thus:

(♪ = 150) *f* ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ... etc.

As soon as this pulse has been established any variations are possible.

Suggested theme for nonmusicians: "The left hand doesn't know what the right is doing".

For Frans Brüggen

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