

Serialism

Twelve-Tone Technique (Tone Rows)

A A#/Bb B C C#/Db D D#/Eb E F F#/Gb G G#/Ab (Chromatic Scale)

Mix them up, using each note only once. This produces your Prime Order (P_0).

P = Prime This is your tone row. P_1 Means move the whole tone row up 1 semitone. P_2 means move it up 2 semitones.

R = Retrograde This means you play your Prime Tone Row in reverse. R_1 means play P_1 in reverse.

I = Inversion Play your Prime tone row upside down. If the P_0 interval is 3 semitone up, the I_0 interval is 3 semitones down.

RI = Retrograde Inv. This means you play your Prime tone row inverted, and reversed.

You are only concerned with the pitches of the notes – the rhythm can change each time.

If you are being strict:

You can repeat same pitched notes one after the other, as well as in octaves.

You must finish each row before starting a new one.

Useful Links

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_LIPTP6cig - Part 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40dUwUZaj4I> - Part 2

<http://www.classical-music.com/article/what-isserialism>

<http://academic.udayton.edu/phillipmagnuson/soundpatterns/microcosms/serialism.html>

<https://fdleone.com/2014/03/25/serialism-indeterminacy-musique-concrete-and-minimalism/>

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/6L5r0Dapop0UDxN5ple8pT> - Spotify Playlist