Giovanni Anastasio

Final Clay Composition Assignment

Fractured Familiar Tune Composer's Notes

Composition #4: Fractured Familiar Tune

Name of Composition: Minimalist Man

(1) The composition this piece was inspired and modeled after: Piano Man by Billy Joel

(2) Why I selected the piece to work from:

I selected this song because it is one of my favorite Billy Joel songs. This song also has a beautiful melody that I wanted to manipulate and turn into something new that was equally great. What I really like about this song is that most people know it well and all the words that go along with it. You could play it at anytime of the day and anyone around will feel inclined to sing along. Lastly, as great as this melody is it is also relatively simple and that also pushed me to want to work with this piece. I am someone still relatively new to composing music and did not want to work with anything that was overly complex.

(3) The process that I engaged in to create my variant of the piece:

The process I engaged in was I first recreated about a minute of the original Piano Man melody in MxM. Then once I was happy with how it sounded; I began to manipulate a few bars. I wanted to make my recreation of the original melody have a minimalist twist to it. Therefore, you will see that I have repeated a few bars to let the repetitive side of minimalist music show and I have also increased the tempo at which most of the piece is played at. By making these minimalist style changes to the original melody, I was still able to keep aspects of the original melody in my new recreation. But I was also able to put my own twist on it from what I have learned about minimalist music and the techniques used to create it.

(4) Clay Program:

Clay> MINIMALISTMAN

/ G1 / A1/4 \ G1/2 \ F1/2 \ E1/4 / F1/4 \ E2 \ C2 / E1/4 \ D1 / E1/2 / F1/2 / G2 / A1/4 \ G1/2 G2 / A1/2 \ G1 \ F1 \ E1/2 / F1/2 \ E4 \ C4 / E1/2 \ D2 / E1 / F1 / G4 / A1/2 \ G1 G1 / A1/4 \ G1/2 \ F1/2 \ E1/4 / F1/4 \ E2 \ C2 / E1/4 \ D1 / E1/2 / F1/2 / G2 / A1/4 \ G1/2 G1/2 G1/2 G1 G4 \ F1/2 \ E1/2 / F1 \ E1 \ C4 \ A1/2 A1/2 A2 / F1/2 F1/2 F1 \ E2 \ C1 C4 \ A1/2 A1/2 A2 / F1/2 F1/2 F1 \ E2 \ C1 C4 / A1 \ G2 G2 G4 G1/2 G1 \ F1 \ E1/2 / F1/2 / A1/2 \ G1 G1 G2 G1/4 G1/2 \ F1/2 \ E1/4 / F1/4 \ E1/4 \ C2 C1/4 C1/4 C1 / D1/4 D1/4 D1 / A1/2 \ G1 G1 G2 G1/4 G1/2 \ F1/2 \ E1/4 / F1/4 \ E1/4 \ C2 C1/4 C1/4 C1 / D1/4 D1/4 D1 / E1/2 \ C4 C1/2 C1/2 C2 / D1/2 D1/2 D2 / G1/2 G1/2 G1 G4 \ F1/2 \ E1/2 / F1 \ E1 \ C4 \ A1/2 A1/2 A2 / F1/2 F1/2 F1 \ E2 \ C1 C4 \ A1/2 A1/2 A2 / F1/2 F1/2 F1 \ E2 \ C1 C4

Meta> -S??

L1 >> 4RP X2 PLAY 2S2 RP PLAY X2 LP PLAY LP PLAY LP S2 PLAY RP PLAY LP 2X2 X2 PLAY 2S2 2LP

L2 >> 2X2 PLAY S2 S2 S2 2RP PLAY X2 X2 LP PLAY S2 RP PLAY RP PLAY RP 2X2 PLAY 3S2 RP PLAY X2 LP PLAY 4LP

L3 >> 3RP X2 PLAY S2 S2 LP PLAY RP PLAY X2 X2 X2 LP PLAY S2 2LP PLAY S2 S2 3RP PLAY LP X2 PLAY LP PLAY LP

L4 >> X2 X2 PLAY 3RP PLAY S2 RP PLAY S2 RP PLAY LP PLAY LP PLAY LP X2 PLAY RP PLAY RP PLAY S2 4LP

L5 >> 5RP PLAY LP X2 2PLAY X2 PLAY S2 S2 S2 PLAY X2 PLAY LP PLAY LP S2 PLAY RP PLAY X2 3LP

L6 >> S2 2RP PLAY X2 X2 X2 2LP PLAY S2 S2 S2 2PLAY X2 X2 PLAY S2 S2 RP 2PLAY X2 X2 PLAY S2 LP

L7 >> S2 4RP 2PLAY X2 PLAY X2 X2 PLAY S2 S2 S2 LP PLAY LP PLAY X2 RP PLAY LP PLAY 2LP X2 X2 PLAY S2 S2

L8 >> 2LP S2 2PLAY X2 X2 PLAY S2 S2 5RP 2PLAY X2 PLAY X2 LP PLAY S2 2LP PLAY X2 X2 PLAY S2 S2

MINIMALISTMAN >> P1 P4 P3 P4

P1 >> SL1 SL2 L1 L2 SL1 SL2

P2 >> SL3 SL3

P3 >> L5 SL5 SL6 SL5 SL6 L6

P4 >> L7 L8 L8

PIANOMAN >> L1 L2 L3 L4 L5 L6 L7 L8

SL1 >> S2 L1 X2

SL2 >> S2 L2 X2

SL3 >> S2 L3 X2

SL4 >> S2 L4 X2

SL5 >> S2 L5 X2

SL6 >> S2 L6 X2

SL7 >> S2 L7 X2

SL8 >> S2 L8 X2