

## **UC Irvine**

### **UC Irvine Previously Published Works**

**Title**

Forget the Pixel

**Permalink**

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/24b296c3>

**Author**

Dessen, Michael

**Publication Date**

2011

Peer reviewed

# forget the pixel

composed by Michael Dessen, 2008-2010

CD released by Clean Feed Records, May 2011

Michael Dessen, trombone/computer

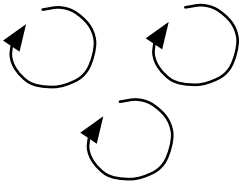
Christopher Tordini, bass

Dan Weiss, drums

# forget the pixel

## part 1

1. fossils and flows

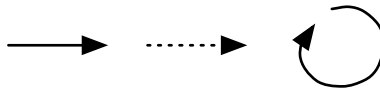


17/34

trio

tbn processing  
+ sampling

2. three sepals



28/56

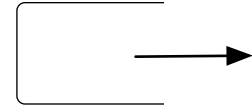
tbn/bass

tbn/dr

trio



3. steal from the silkworm



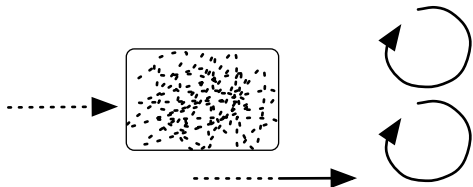
drums

trio

drum processing  
+ sampling

## part 2

4. forget the pixel



16.5/33

tbn

bass/dr

trio

algorithmic  
bones

5. licensed unoperators (for lse)



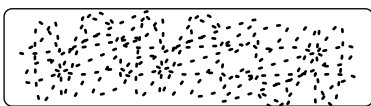
bass

trio



## part 3

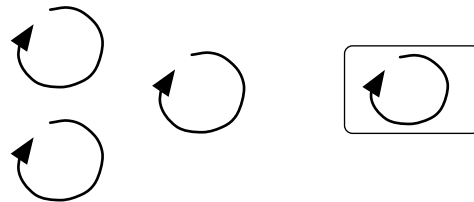
6. herdiphany



bass/dr

tbn processing  
+ sampling

7. the utopian tense of green (for msd)



27  
18

trio

36/72

drums

9/18

trio

algorithmic  
bones



**B1** OPEN  
♩ = 120

Tbn.  
Bs.  
Dr.  
Ride  
Snare  
Bass  
Hi hat

Open  
1x, speeding up, drums solo (elect. bknd)  
2x slowing down

**B2** Several times:

Bs.

♩ = 144

**C1** OPEN  
1x, speeding up into A, drums continue solo  
2x slowing, broadening

Tbn.  
Bs.

2x, end together:

2x: brief pause then Bass begins #2

# #2 three sepals

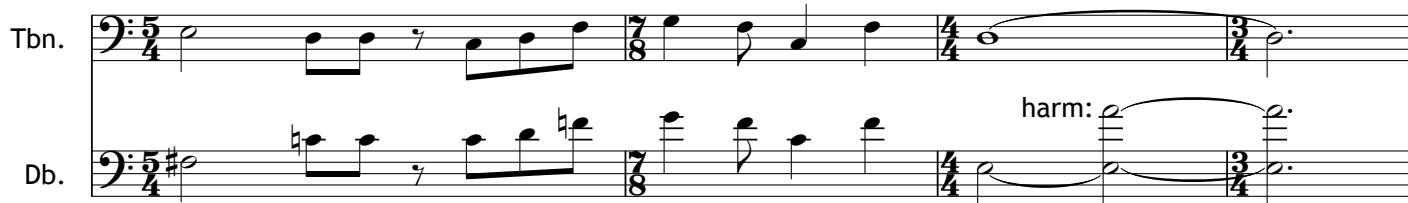
Bass begins alone: Loose diad resonances




**A**


Bass/Tbn start, drums enter gradually, colors not time

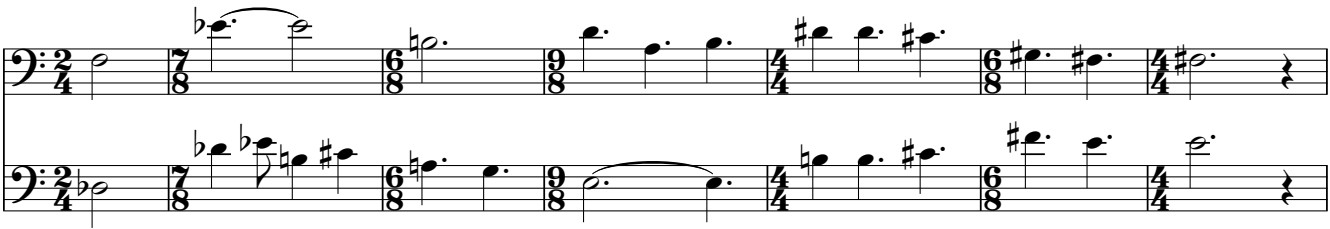
$\text{♩} = 96$

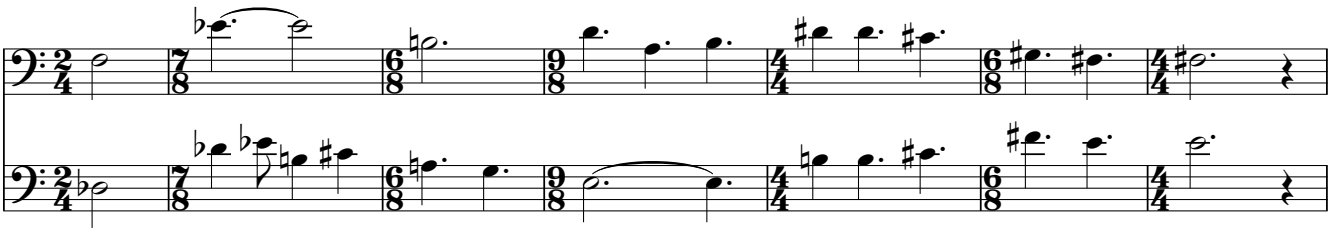


#2 three sepals, Full Score, p. 2

Tbn. 

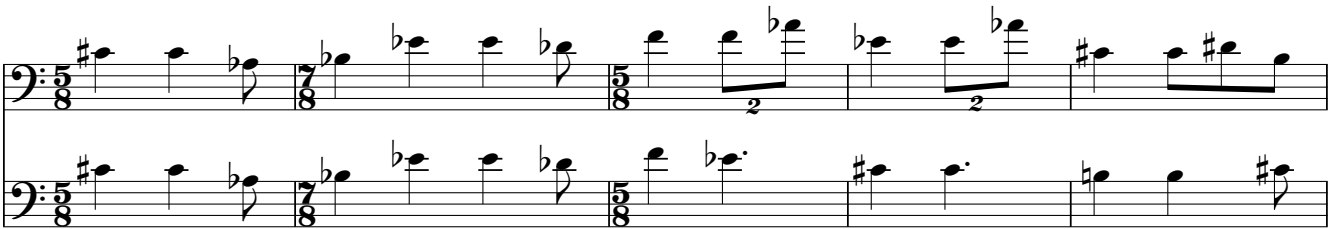
Db. 

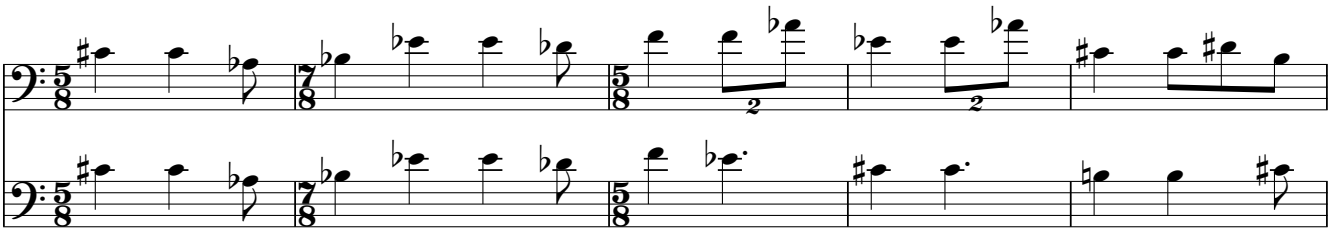
Tbn. 

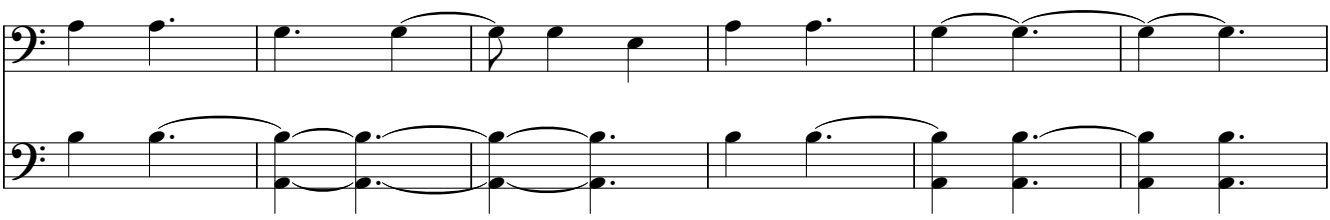
Db. 

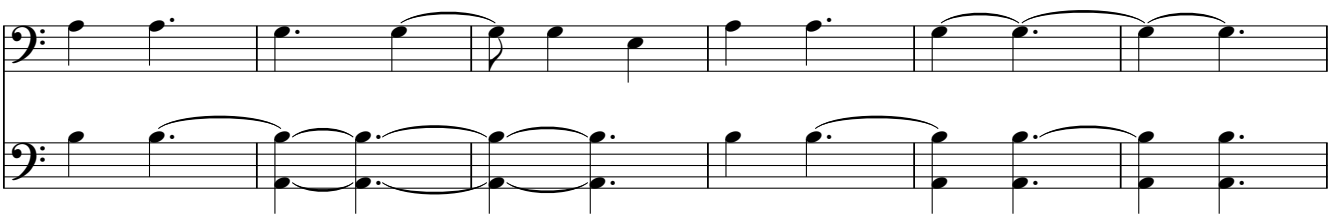
Tbn. 

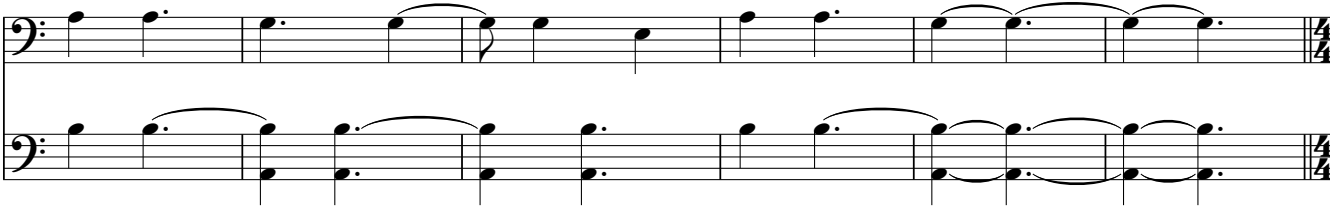
Db. 

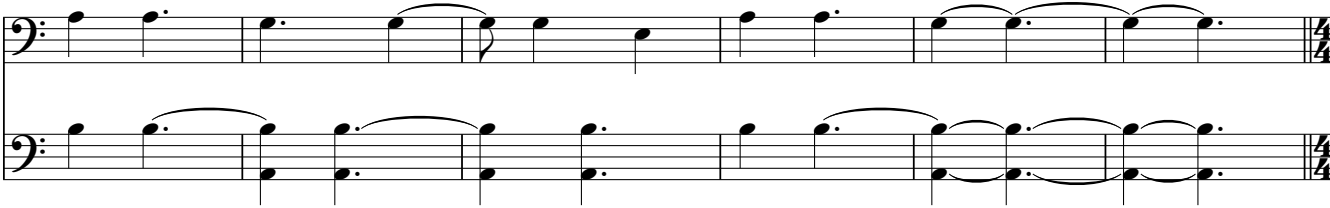
Tbn. 

Db. 

Tbn. 

Db. 

Tbn. 

Db. 

**B**

1x - Bass solo, open time feel, percussion colors  
2x - Add tbn, loose time

Tbn.

Db.

Tbn.

Db.

Tbn.

Db.

Tbn.

Db.

Tbn.

Db.


Trombone/drums duo,  
transition to C





#2 three sepals, Full Score, p. 4


**C**  
OPEN


Eventually reach ♩ = 124  
Then widening, slowing into D


Db. 

Dr. 


Db. 


Dr. 

Db. 

Dr. 

**D**  
OPEN: Slower, fading

Db. 

Db. 

To Drum solo  
and  
#3 Silkworm

# #3 and we steal from the silkworm

Michael Dessen

Drum solo, quiet, spacious  
Add processing/sampling  
Drums set up 2nd time:

1x Bass only, bknd (loose)  
2x All (in time)

First system of music for Tbn, Bs, and Dr. The Tbn and Bs parts are in 5/8 time, while the Dr part is in 2/4 time. The Tbn part includes a 'pizz.' marking. The Dr part includes a 'cymbals, delicate:' marking.

Second system of music for Tbn, Bs, and Dr. The Tbn and Bs parts are in 6/8 time, while the Dr part is in 2/4 time.

Third system of music for Tbn, Bs, and Dr. The Tbn and Bs parts are in 2/4 time, while the Dr part is in 2/4 time.

Fourth system of music for Tbn, Bs, and Dr. The Tbn and Bs parts are in 2/4 time, while the Dr part is in 2/4 time.

Tbn

Bs

Dr

Tbn

Bs

Dr

Tbn

Bs

Dr

Tbn

Bs

Dr

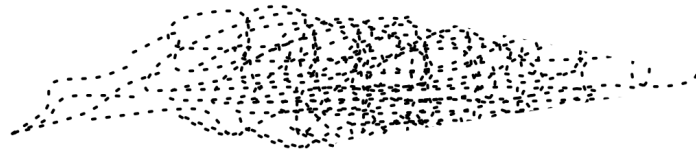
To Tbn solo  
into #4

Rit....

# #4 forget the pixel

Michael Dessen

Elect :



Tbn : Solo

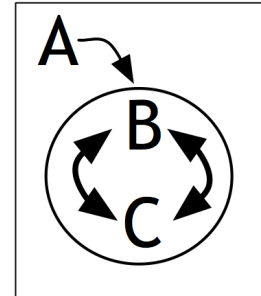
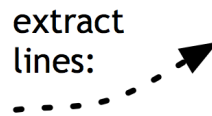
trio:

Bass/Dr :

Rest

sneak in  
blanket of  
micro-gestures

extract  
lines:



//  
to Bass  
solo

Core:

Dr

**A**

Bs.

**B**

Bs.

Bs.

**C**

Bs.





Bs.


To Bass alone  
solo into #5

# #5 licensed unoperators


(for lisle)

Michael Dessen

Tbn	Rest 	soft, sustained, pedal/whisper fluctuations w/plunger	<b>high, soft microtonal morphs w/ bass</b>	Rest 
Bass	 solo	solo	arco: soft harmonics microtonal morphs w/ tbn	<b>pizz: loud, low diads, curling</b>
Drums	Rest 	<b>loud, short phrases each followed by long silences</b>	solo	solo

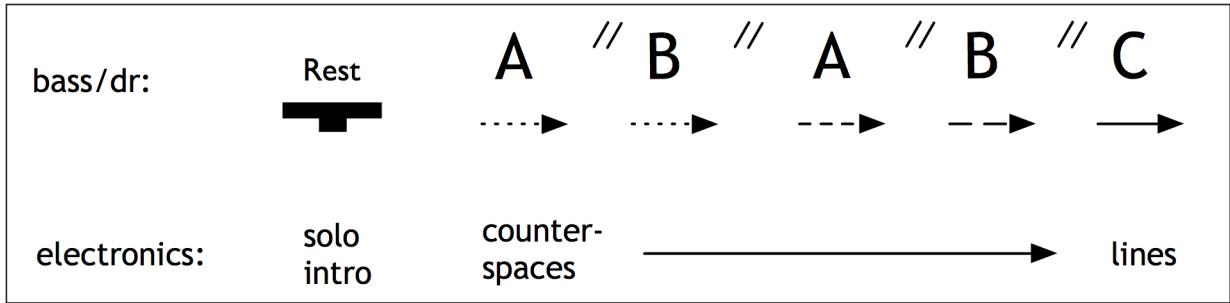
Tbn	<b>solo</b>	continue, fading into A with bass →
Bass	Rest 	work with <b>A</b> gently
Drums	cymbals, gong-ish, breath-length phrasing	continue, fading into A with bass →

**A**



\* Bold outline box cues that section. Technique stolen from Lisle Ellis.

# #6 herdiphany



## A medium fast

Bass/Dr

## B light, faster

## C medium

# #7 the utopian tense of green

(for mariangeles)

Michael Dessen

CYCLE A and B (open), building  
Use C as exit, slowing slightly into D (lighter)

## A OPEN

Bass

## B OPEN

## C Transition, 1x only: Slowing slightly...

## D OPEN

Fade to DRUM SOLO. Drums set up E  
Trombone solo, long trio fade (w/ electronics)

## E OPEN

3                      4                      2                      3                      6

same cycle written 2 other ways:

\* Trombone lines are not notated