

Practice

by Laure M. Hiendl (Nov. 2020)

for Karlheinz Stockhausen's *Musik für ein Haus*

Instructions

1. Find a short, difficult phrase to practice from your instrument's repertoire.
2. Visualize yourself in one of the scenarios described below.
3. Practice for a set amount of time, rest for half of that time, and repeat (e.g. 12s practice – 6s rest).
4. Stop after 4 iterations.

Always use the same musical phrase. Perform as many scenarios as you wish.

Choose a different timing for each new scenario.

Not all of the scenarios require you actually playing your instrument.

Scenarios

- practice while the **orchestra is warming up** around you
- practice **at home after 10pm**; you don't want to disturb your neighbors
- practice **during a rehearsal break**, while the conductor is talking about something that doesn't concern you
- practice at 4am **while your partner/friend is sleeping next to you**; you don't want to wake them up
- practice in a warm-up room, **before you go on stage**
- practice **during your lesson**, while your mentor is listening attentively
- practice **while the orchestra is playing another part** of the piece; you don't want to get noticed
- practice in **public transport**, before you go to your next lesson
- practice to **impress your lover** who is half asleep after having sex with you; it's late, but you're still feeling somewhat showy

Invent your own scenarios.

Express and visualize them clearly, before you start practicing.