

MOTHERTONGUE

for mixed chorus

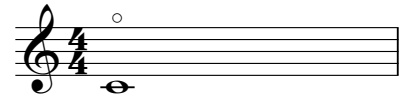
Co-commissioned by:

Ensemble Kô, Montréal, Canada
&
Schola Cantorum, Oslo, Norway

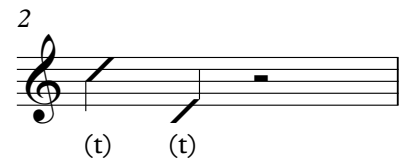
Kristin Norderval
(©2019)

MOTHERTONGUE - NOTATION CHART

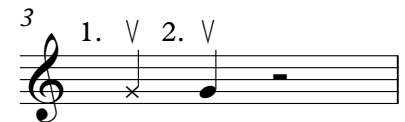
Harmonics
(slowly change tongue position)



Tongue smack
("t" with a flat tongue)



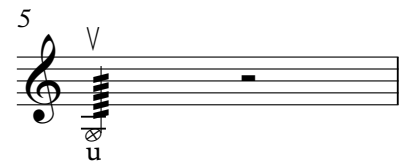
Sound on inhale
1. audible unvoiced inhale
2. voiced or sung inhale



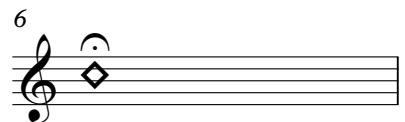
Sound on inhale
1. audible unvoiced inhale
2. voiced or sung inhale



Vocal fry on inhale



Hold breath with a glottal stop



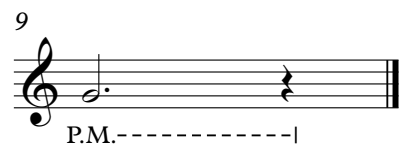
Falling or rising pitch



Tongue trill (rrr)
Glottal trill (grr)



Palm mute over open mouth



The app: ROOMS! Audio recorder for iPhone or iPad (only available on iOS App Store)

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/rooms-audio-recorder/id572894725>



Settings in Parameters:

Dry/Wet Mix = 80.000

Gain = 12.000

Min. Delay Time = 0.45 - 0.5

Max Delay Time = 0.010

Decay Time at 0 Hz = 1.000

Decay Time at Nyquist = 1.000

Randomize Reflections = 400.600



The app: MobMuPlat (free open source app available on iOS App Store and Android Play Store)
Touch Arpeggiator

Settings:

Articulation – move marker all the way to the right

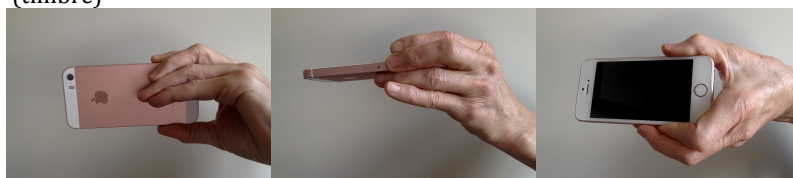
Delay – move marker to the middle



MOVEMENTS: Point of view = what the conductor sees

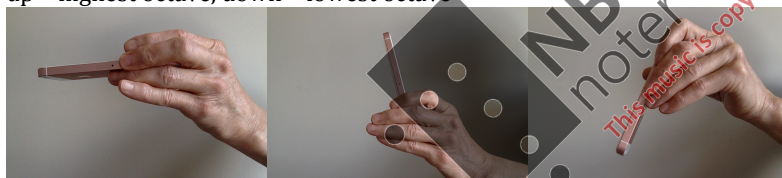
A. Horizontal

Rotate screen on horizontal axis from position facing you to facing outwards, & back (timbre)



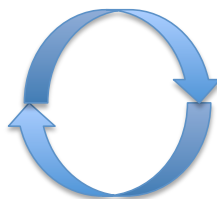
B. Vertical

Rotate screen on vertical axis (octaves)
up = highest octave, down = lowest octave



C. – Full ROTATION – (A+B)

Rotate wrist in circular clockwise motion:



D. – PIVOT

In vertical position, pivot on horizontal axis.
(high octave with filters)



Listening

Walk quietly into the performance space and surround the audience (circle)
Cup your left hand over your ear, and listen
With your RH fingers under R jawbone at neck, take your pulse.
In the rhythm of your own pulse make 22 soft tongue clicks

SATB $5x$ tempo = pulse
 p

4 f V $3x$ tempo = pulse
audible inhale & hold (glottal stop) audible exhale & hold audible sigh audible inhale & hold
 p (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t)

5

6 (cluster: start on a high note in your own range) (Cluster: low note) unvoiced, audible exhale
 pp mf (silent inhale) V
u.....a..... o..... u... Hhu... ah... i..u..
 pp mf (silent inhale) V
u.....a..... o..... u... Hhu... ah... i..u..
 pp mf (silent inhale) V
u.....a..... o..... u... Hhu... ah... i..u..
 pp mf (silent inhale) V
u.....a..... o..... u... Hhu... ah... i..u..

Na

f *mf*

Na Na da (t) Na da (t) Na da

[illegible]

58

V (inhale) Ḥ (exhale)

ssh ssh

Rra ssh ssh

ssh ssh

f heavy

ne dm_ ne dm ne dm_ ne dm ne dm ne dm

heavy

ssh ssh

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

76

mf

ne dm ne ne dm mf ne dm ne dm ne dm

f

Ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya –

mp

na dm na dm na dm na dm

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

na dm na dm na dm na dm

p

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

This music is copyright protected.

[illegible]

82

The musical score is written for a vocal part and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The vocal part is written on a single staff, and the piano part is written on two staves (treble and bass clef). The lyrics are in Russian, with phonetic transcription provided below each line. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *mp*, *f*, and *pp*, and articulation marks like accents and slurs. The piano part features a prominent melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

na dm ne dm na dm ne dm ya, ya, ya, ya,

ne dm ne dm ne dm na dm ne dm na dm ne dm na dm mm, m, m, m,

na dm na dm Mm ne dm na dm ne dm

na dm ne dm na dm ne dm

89

ya, ya, ya, ya

mm, ja, m, ja, m, ja, m, ja, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm,

mm, m, m, m, ja, ja, ja, ja, ja, ja, mm, ja, m, ja, m, ja, m, ja, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm,

m, m, m, m, m, m, mm, ja, m, ja, m, ja, m, ja, na, dm, na, dm, na, dm, na, dm,

m, m, m, m, m, m, mm, ja, m, ja, m, ja, m, ja, na, dm, na, dm, na, dm, na, dm,

97

freely
mf

Solo

ne, dm, ne, dm, na, na, na, na, na, na, na, na, na, na, na, na

Solo

5 3

ne, dm, ne, dm, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya, ya!

na, dm, na, dm

na, dm, na, dm

Copyrighted

101

The musical score consists of four staves. The first staff has lyrics: "na, na, na, na, na, na_ na_ na_ na_ na_ na_ na!". It includes triplets of eighth notes and a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. The second staff has lyrics: "ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm,". The third staff has lyrics: "na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm". The fourth staff has lyrics: "na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm". A large diagonal watermark reading "Copyright © All Rights Reserved by www.Scribd.com" is overlaid across the center of the page.

na, na, na, na, na, na_ na_ na_ na_ na_ na_ na!

ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm, ne, dm,

na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm

na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm na, dm, na, dm

[illegible]

110 Solo rit. $\text{♩} = 60$

dm, dm, ne, dm, na, dm A ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

ne, ne, ne, dm, na, dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

na, na, ne, dm, na, dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

dm, dm ne, dm, na, dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm

117 rit. $\text{♩} = 50$ mf

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne, dm, ne, dm,

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm Na, Na, ne, dm, ne, dm,

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm Na, Na, na, dm na, dm

ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm ne dm Na, Na, na, dm na, dm

125 Palm Mute, random finger openings glottal trill, p ff p mp f

ne, dm, ne, dm, o P.M. random f.o. rrr Nn, m_meh

ne, dm, ne, dm, o P.M. random f.o. rrr Nn, m_meh

na, dm na, dm o P.M. random f.o. rrr Nn, m_meh

na, dm na, dm o P.M. random f.o. rrr Nn, m_meh

Lullaby

♩=56 *p* (hum)

SOPRANO

ALTO

mm *p* (hum) *mm*

13 *(hum)* *mp* *(hum)*

S. *mm* *na, nn* *na, nn* *mm* *A m* *A m*

A. *mm* *mm* *nn* *na, nn* *mm*

24 *Solo: mf* *pp*

S. *O* *O* *U*

S. *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m*

A. *(glottal trill)* *(glottal trill)*

Ooooooooooooo - *mm* *Ooooooooooooooooooooo* *O*

33

S. *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m*

A. *mm* *mm* *a mm* *O* *O*

42

S. *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m*

A. *mm* *di dt* *di dt* *di dt* *di dt* *di dt* *di dt* *di dt* *mm*

49

S. *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m*

A. *7* *3*
yum yum ym ym ym ym ya ya ya ya ya ya ya di dt di dt di dt di dt mm

54

S. *A m* *A m* *A m* *A m*

A. *7* *7*
yum yum ym ym ym ym ya ya ya ya ya ya ya ya mm yum ym ym ym ym ya ya ya ya ya ya

58

S. *f* *A* *A* *A* *mf* *A* *A*

A. *3*
ya di dt di dt di dt di dt sssh sssh yum

66

S. (hum) *p* *mm*

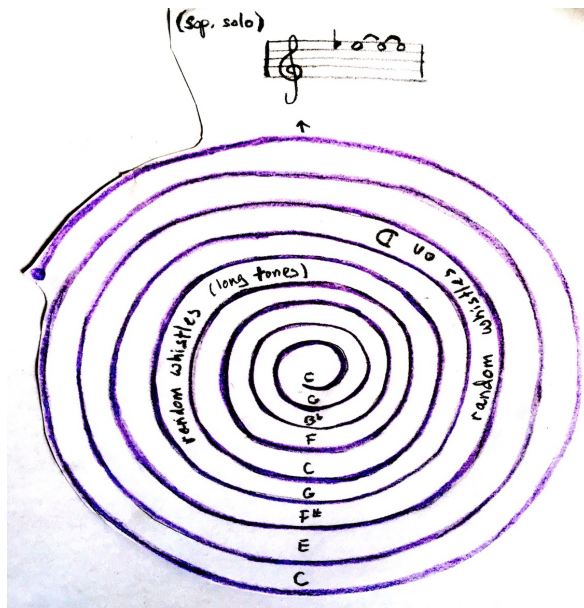
A. *60*
yum yum ym ym yum mm A

72

S. *mm*

A. *3* *mp* *3*
mm yum yum yum yum yum yum yum yum di dt di dt di dt

PASSING TONES



Singers form a circle
Soprano = West, Alto = South, Tenor = East, Bass = North
Solo Alto begins. Singers enter individually, one by one, cued by the singer on their left.
Singers continue to hold the tone that has been cued until they receive another tone from the singer on their left.
Slow gradual crescendo from piano to forte

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

intermittent whistles - long tones, any pitch,
but only one tone per whistle. long pauses in between

2

whistles on repeated D - long tones

soloist

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled 'Whistles on D'. It consists of four staves. The first three staves are for a vocal soloist, and the fourth is for a bass line. The music is written in treble clef for the soloist and bass clef for the bass line. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs. The text 'whistles on repeated D - long tones' is written above the third staff, and 'soloist' is written above the first staff.

Whispers

Tutti:

Begin very quietly with the drones
Disperse to different parts of the room
Alternate randomly between drones, questions and designated pitches

Soloists: (3-4)

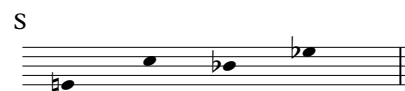
Listen in your mind to the earliest song you remember
When the moment is right, sing a short fragment from that song
followed by one sound you remember of your mother's voice.

Phone soloists: (3-5)

Record 2 questions in the app "Rooms"
(either live or pre-recorded)
Play each question once, when the moment is right.
Questions may be played in their entirety, or scrubbed in order to repeat certain words

The piece ends when all the recorded questions have been played.

Designated pitches:



Phone soloists:

tutti

Play a recorded question

pp

Whisper a question

Sing 2-3 notes from designated pitches, any order, any rhythm

Random Solos (no more than 2 at a time)

Sing a brief fragment from the
earliest song you remember

& voice one sound you remember
of your mother's voice



Attacca: Five Questions

* Theme of questions to be recorded and/or whispered:

If your mother is alive: What would you like to ask your mother before she dies?

If your mother is not alive: Is there anything you wish you had asked before she died?

Five Questions

with MobMuPlat's Touch Arpeggiator

A = Rotate 180 degrees on the horizontal axis

B = Rotate 180 degrees on the vertical axis

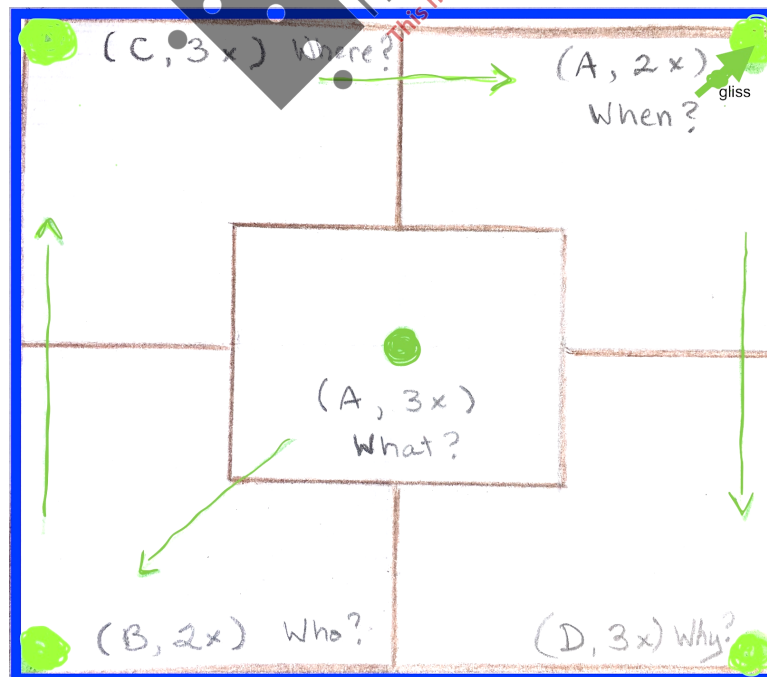
C = Full wrist rotation

D = Pivot 90 degrees in vertical position

Order: start in the center box, and move according to the arrows. The center box and each quadrant represents the phone screen, finger position and movement for that section.

Phone movements and questions should be in unison. Questions can be loud. Questions and phone sound can overlap, or not. (Vary) The 5 questions should be asked (translated) in the main language of the choir.

1. Hold phone with screen parallel to your face, place finger in the middle of screen, slowly rotate until you hear a drone sound. Continuing rotating slowly 180 degrees until the screen is facing away, slowly rotate back. Repeat 3x, then ask "What?"
2. Hold phone with screen up parallel to ground, place finger in lower left corner, rotate slowly upwards 90 degrees and downwards 180 degrees 2x. Ask "Who?"
3. With finger in upper left corner of the screen, slowly rotate the phone in a full circular motion 3x. Ask "Where?"
4. Sliding finger in a short glissando to the upper right corner, slowly rotate on horizontal axis 180 degrees and back 2x. Ask "When?"
5. With screen in a vertical position, finger on lower right corner, rotate phone 90 degrees back and forth, towards and away from your face, maintaining vertical position. 3x. Ask "Why?"



Dona Nobis

Andante ♩ = 86

Andante ♩ = 86

SOPRANO

Chant like

ALTO

pp (very soft d's)

TENOR

pp

BASS

pp

Ndo, do, do, do, do, do, do, do Ndo, do, do, do, do, do, do, do Ndo, do, do, do, do, do, do, do Ndo, do, do, do, do, do, do, do

[illegible][illegible]

22

A

mf

do, do, do, do, **do Ndo,** do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, **do** na dm na dm

mf

do, do, do, do, do, Ndo, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, na dm na dm

do, do, do, do, do Ndo, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do, do

30

na dm na dm na dm na dm na dm

(t) (t) (t) (t) (t) (t)

36

na dm na dm na dm na dm na dm na dm

(t) (t) (t) (t) ...

3 5 5

(t) (t) (t) (t) ...

A₂ A₂

42

p *mf*

mm ma A A

na dm Ndo Ndo Ndo

na dm Ndo Ndo

p mm ma Ndo

51

A A A A

Ndo Ndo Ndo Ndo

Ndo Ndo Ndo Ndo

Ndo Ndo Ndo Ndo

59

A A A A A A

Ndo

Ndo

Ndo

68

A A A A

SSSSSS

SSSSSS

SSSSSS

75

inhalé & hold

exhalé & hold

audible sigh