

Rare (Earth) Elements [score]¹

Camilo Méndez²

Royal College of Music, England.

Rare (Earth) Elements is a cycle of works for solo piano. The cycle was inspired by James Dillon's Book of Elements (Vol. I-V). The complete cycle will consist of 14 pieces; one for each selected rare (earth) element. The chosen elements are Neodymium, Erbium, Tellurium, Hafnium, Tantalum, Technetium, Indium, Dysprosium, Lanthanium, Cerium, Europium, Terbium, Yttrium and Darmstadtium. These elements were selected due to their special atomic properties that in many cases make them extremely valuable for the development of new technologies, and also because of their scarcity. To date, only 4 works have been completed Yttrium, Technetium, Indium and Tellurium.

The aim of the cycle is to translate certain atomic properties of the elements into musical elements.

1. Atomic number determines tempo of pieces
2. Spectral analysis of elements (frequency at which they emit light) determines the register in the piano
3. The group they belong determines the gestures and textures to be used in the piece (gas, metal, magnetic, superconductor, crystalline and so on)
4. Complete independence of each hand of the pianist.

These characteristics give the cycle its accumulative structure; the pieces increase in length and speed (according to the atomic number), and the independence of each hand of the pianist increase as well after each piece. Rare (Earth) Elements is still a work in progress that I wish to complete within the next few years.

¹ Selected piece for the *SiMN 2014 + matrix14 on tour* (Curitiba, Brazil). Submitted on: 04/30/2014. Accepted on: 05/16/2014.

² Email: camendezmusic@gmail.com

CAMILO MENDEZ
RARE (EARTH) ELEMENTS
2014

YTTRIUM

YTRIUM

♩ = 60

C A MENDEZ SAN JUAN

Piano

pp

Red. (Ad lib.)

4

7:6

8va

7

(8va)

loco

9

12

Musical score for measures 12-13. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff (treble clef) contains a melodic line with a quintuplet of eighth notes (labeled '5') in measure 12, followed by a sextuplet of eighth notes (labeled '6') in measure 13. The lower staff (bass clef) contains a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes (labeled '3') in measure 12, followed by a sextuplet of eighth notes (labeled '6') in measure 13. Vertical strokes with 'v' below them are present in measures 12 and 13.

14

Musical score for measures 14-15. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff (treble clef) contains a melodic line with a quintuplet of eighth notes (labeled '5') in measure 14, followed by a triplet of eighth notes (labeled '3') in measure 15. The lower staff (bass clef) contains a bass line with a quintuplet of eighth notes (labeled '5') in measure 14, followed by a sextuplet of eighth notes (labeled '6') in measure 15. A 7:6 ratio is indicated above the bass line in measure 15. Vertical strokes with 'v' below them are present in measures 14 and 15.

16

8va- loco

Musical score for measures 16-17. The system consists of two staves. The upper staff (treble clef) contains a melodic line with a quintuplet of eighth notes (labeled '5') in measure 16, followed by a sextuplet of eighth notes (labeled '6') in measure 17. The lower staff (bass clef) contains a bass line with a quintuplet of eighth notes (labeled '5') in measure 16, followed by a sextuplet of eighth notes (labeled '6') in measure 17. A 7:6 ratio is indicated above the bass line in measure 17. Vertical strokes with 'v' below them are present in measures 16 and 17.

TECHNETIUM

TECHNETIUM

C A MENDEZ SAN JUAN

Piano

$\text{♩} = 84$

ff
senza ped.

p

rall.

f *ff* *p*

$\text{♩} = 66$

f *pp*

ped. (Ad lib.)

gva *loco*

accel.

pp

2 ♩=84

Musical score for measures 9 and 10. The piece is in 4/4 time with a tempo of ♩=84. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 9 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a 4:3 ratio. Measure 10 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a 5:4 ratio. The dynamic marking is *pp*.

Musical score for measures 11 and 12. The tempo is marked *rall.*. Measure 11 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a 4:3 ratio. Measure 12 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a 5:4 ratio. The dynamic marking is *pp*.

Musical score for measures 13 and 14. The tempo is marked ♩=66. Measure 13 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a 4:3 ratio. Measure 14 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a 3:2 ratio. The dynamic marking is *mp* in measure 13 and *p* in measure 14.

Musical score for measures 15 and 16. Measure 15 features a bass clef with a melodic line and a treble clef with a melodic line. Measure 16 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a 4:3 ratio. The dynamic marking is *pp*. An *8va* marking is present above the treble clef in measure 16.

Musical score for measures 17 and 18. Measure 17 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a melodic line. Measure 18 features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a melodic line. The dynamic marking is *pp*. An *8va* marking is present above the treble clef in measure 17.

INDIUM

INDIUM

♩=76

C A MENDEZ SAN JUAN

Piano

pp

15^{ma}-----

16:12

3

(15^{ma})-----

16:12

5

(15^{ma})-----

20:16

7:6

rall.

loco

♩=54

15^{ma}-----

20:16

mp

4:3

9 (15^{ma})

p

6:4

4:3

loco

7:4

11

pp

5:4

4:3

13

6:5

5:4

15

7:4

4:3

mp

TELLURIUM

TELLURIUM

C A MENDEZ SAN JUAN

$\text{♩} = 92$

Piano

f

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

Ad. (Ad lib.)

3

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

5

pp

8va

Subito

$\text{♩} = 60$

7

mf

loco

5:4

4:3

2 Subito

$\text{♩} = 92$

9 *f*

11 *8va* *loco* 4:3

Subito

$\text{♩} = 60$

13 *p*

15 *8va* 3:2 4:3

17 *loco* 3:2 *8va* *f* 4:3