

a bath of vibrations

For 5 or more bowed cymbals and obligato flute player

Pre-performance

Choose your cymbal.

Choose your bow (bass bows only)

Get rosin

Get to know your cymbal (1 hour per week for two weeks is recommended as a starting point)

In performance

Scatter the placement of cymbals within the performance space and encourage the mobility of the audience within the space.

Starting one at a time, bow the cymbals for a long time (minimum 10 minutes)

Become aware of what your cymbal can do.

Become aware of how your cymbal interacts with the other cymbals.

Try to let your cymbal sing.

Bow like a violinist, with indiscernible changes of direction.

Your goal – explore the pitch density and pitch singularity in your cymbal

Always listen.

End one at a time.

The role of the obligato flute player is to walk between the cymbalists, highlighting their pitch world through long tones, picking out details of interest and connecting them together.

Vanessa Tomlinson
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