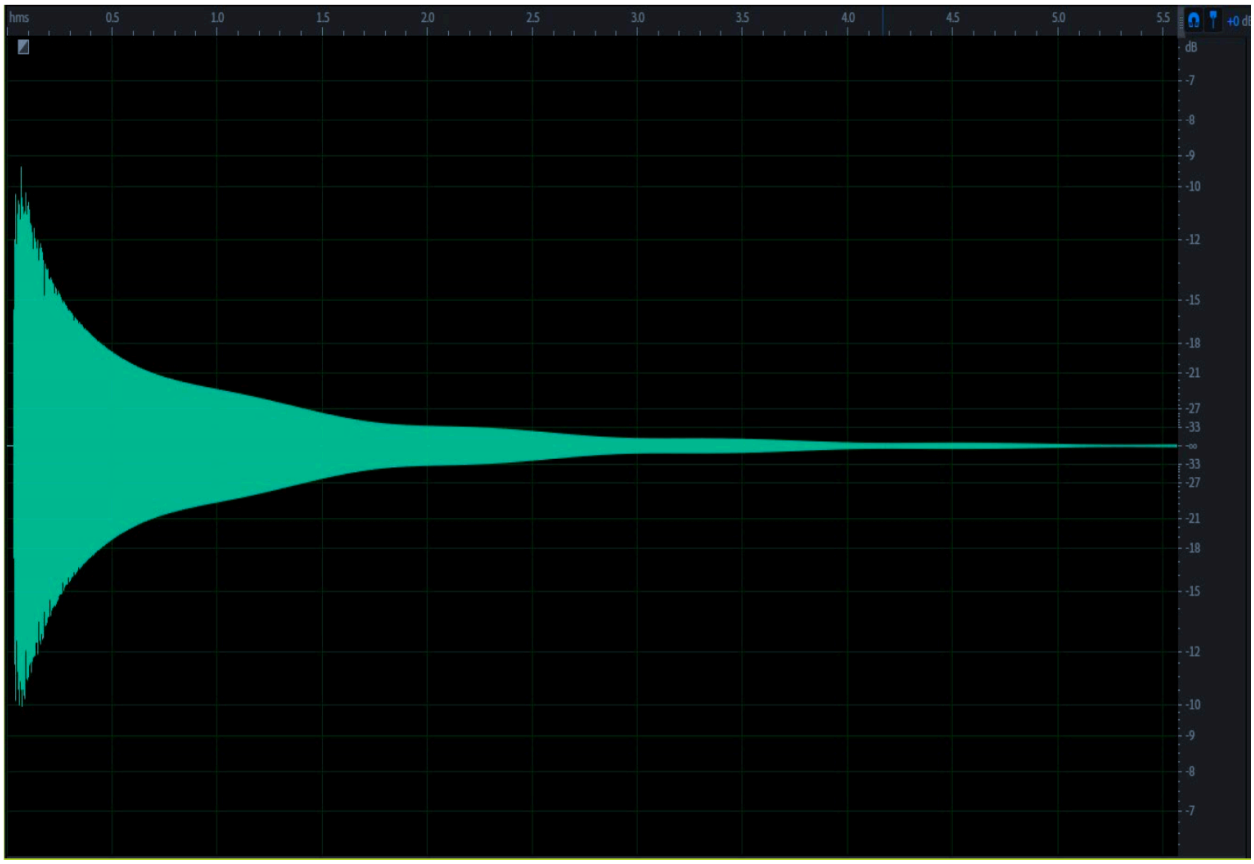
SA’AT SADAR

for American Gamelan (Old Granddad #4) Sextet

by Evan Ziporyn



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Approximate length: 5'30"

NOTES by the composer

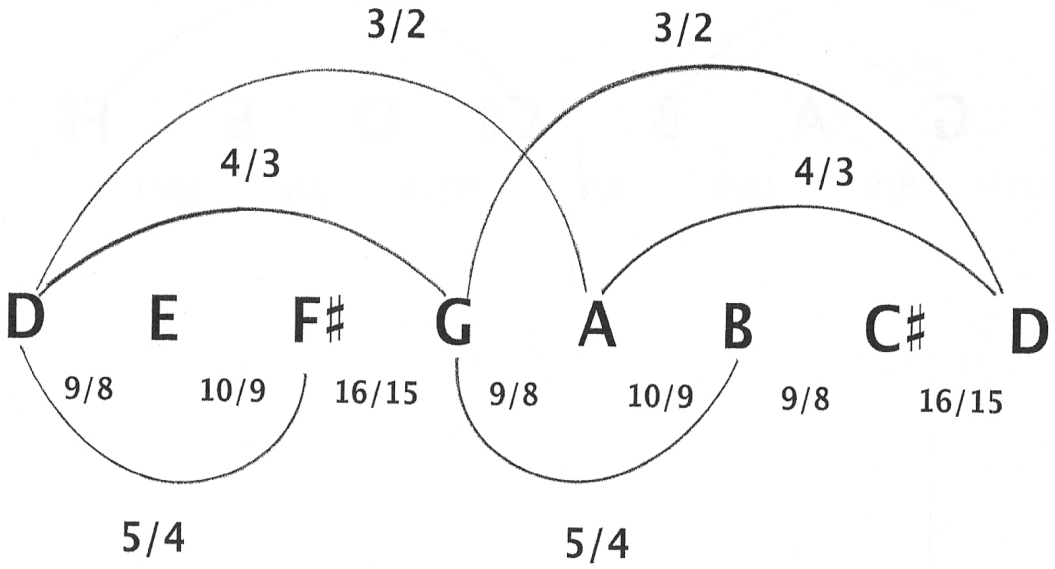
Sa'at Sadar is composed for Old Granddad #4 (OGD4), a set of 6 'American gamelan' instruments designed by Lou Harrison & William Colvig, for use in several of Harrison's later works. Made from steel and aluminum tubes, the instruments are tuned to the simple, elegant just intonation diatonic scale indicated in the chart below.

As the '#4' indicates, this particular set is a copy/improvement on 3 prior sets, all of similar design, purpose, and intonation. OGD4 was originally built for Boston Modern Orchestra Project's performance of Harrison's *Le Koro Sutro* in 2009, it was then bought by Harrison estate executor Jody Diamond, for the purpose of keeping the instruments in active use. During Harrison's centennial, in 2017, Jody loaned OGD4 to MIT's Gamelan Galak Tika, which I direct, to perform his *Suite for Violin and American Gamelan*. We all fell in love with the instruments and soon formed an informal composers collective to create new works for the instruments. As of this writing this has produced 5 complete new works - by Dewa Alit, Jody Diamond, Donovan Edelstein, Ryan Meyer, and myself – as well as several student works-in-progress.

Sa'at Sadar can be translated from Bahasa Indonesia in several ways: the two I prefer are 'Moment of Clarity' and 'When I Knew.'

It was premiered May 5, 2019 in MIT's Kresge Auditorium. The performers were Galak Tika members Djenet Bousbaine, Donovan Edelstein, Minjae Kim, Evan Lynch, Ryan Meyer, Sachi Sato, and Evan Ziporyn.

LOU HARRISON'S 'OLD GRANDDAD' TUNING RATIOS



Sa'at Sadar

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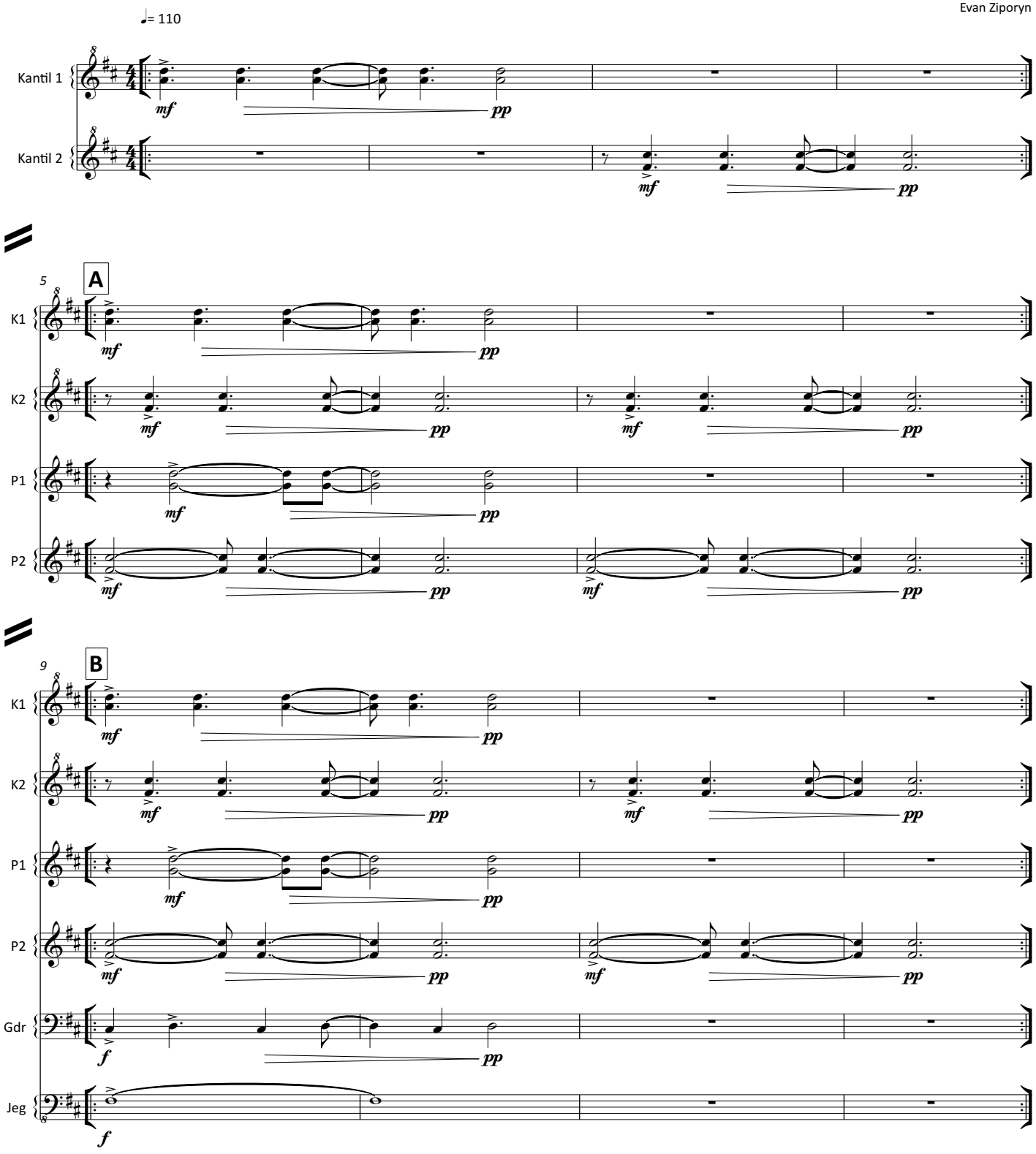
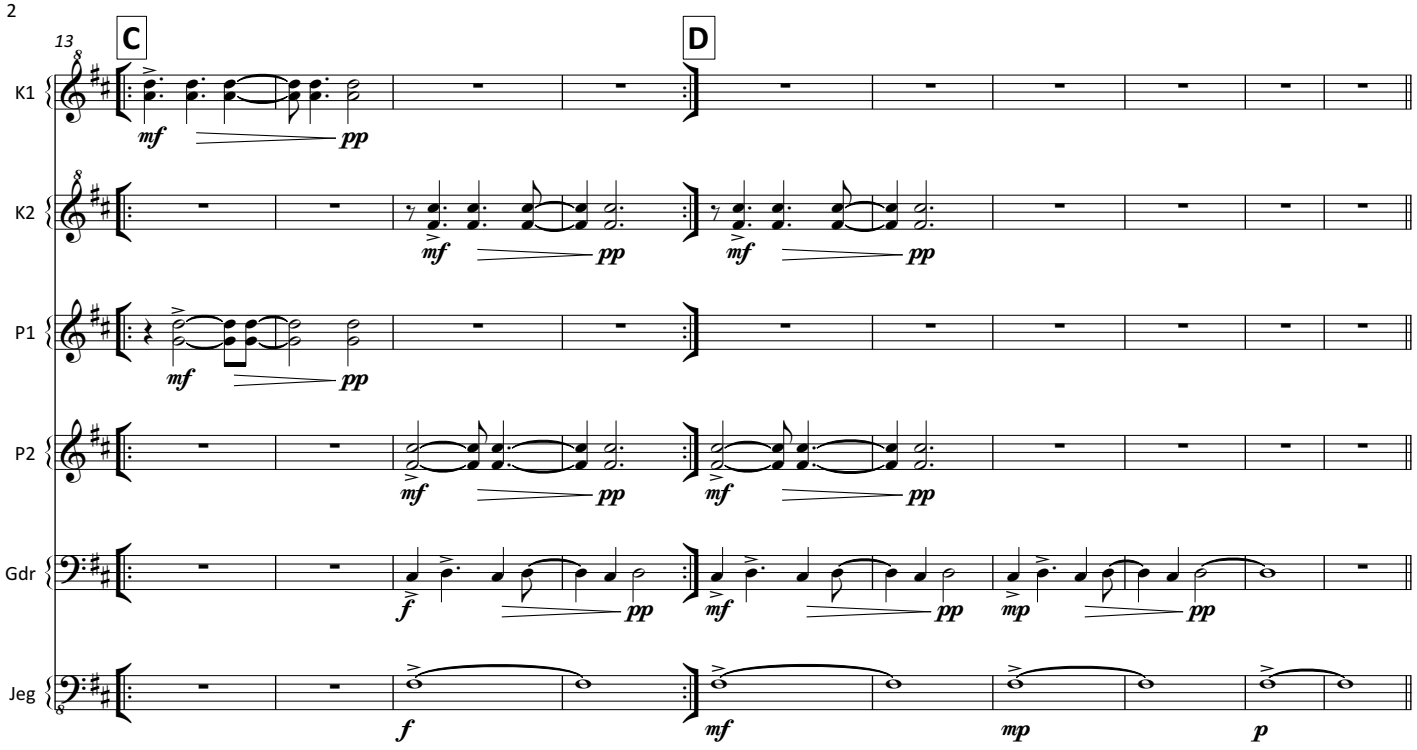
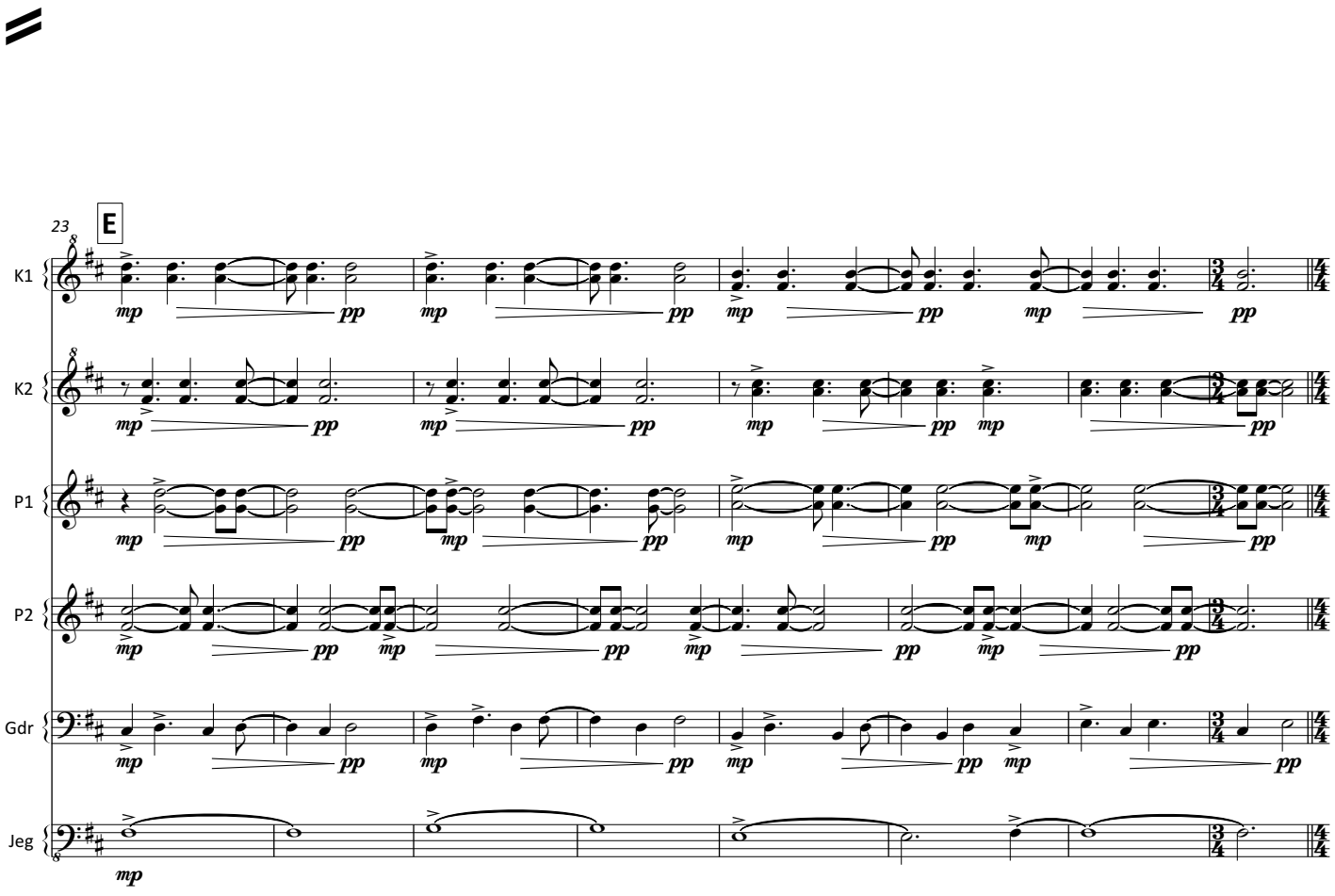



13
C
D
K1
K2
P1
P2
Gdr
Jeg


23
E
K1
K2
P1
P2
Gdr
Jeg