

しき そく

Shiki Soku

for

singing koto player

by

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Music (ASCAP)

しき そく (“Shiki Soku”) is for singing koto player. It can be played without singing, but please sing if possible, using open vowel sounds of your choosing. Repeats are open, and the pauses can vary in length, so performance time could vary from between 5-8 minutes.

The title comes from the Heart Sutra:
“shiki soku zeku ku soku zeshiki”
(form is emptiness, emptiness is form)

Shiki Soku was commissioned by Alex Rigopoulos and composed for Sumie Kaneko. The world premiere was at World Music Day, MIT Kresge Auditorium, December 3, 2016

しきそく

for Sumie Kaneko
singing koto player

all repeats open
(no fixed amount)

start with 'normal' harmonics - gradually
add 'random' harmonics, getting progressively
richer and more otherworldly

$\text{♩} = 110$ fragile but steady

move to other side of
bridge, same strings,
same technique

new pattern, same
technique (on other
side of bridge)

'correct' side of bridge,
very rich random harmonics

slowly normalize
harmonics

normal harmonics

no harmonics

random harmonics

optional: gradually move to other
side of bridge, end there