



Trompe-L'oreille for
Alto Saxophone Trio

YENI MAKAM 5

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Edward J Hines

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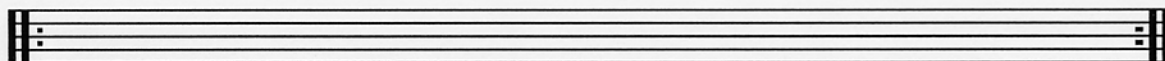
TROMPE-L'OREILLE

FOR

ALTO SAXOPHONE TRIO

To be read prior to each performance of Yeni Makam 5

The following works contains sounds which may not be suitable for all individuals. Listeners with sensitive hearing are advised to move to another location during this performance of Yeni Makam 5.



Yeni Makam 5: Trompe-L'oreille for Alto Saxophone Trio

The concept behind *Yeni Makam 5* is a simple one that I have thought about for a number of years: what happens when individual instruments in a group are assigned different tuning systems? What are the resulting sonorities? Is dissonance the only outcome or is consonance also a possibility? How will the performer and listener perceive what is *in tune* and what is *out of tune*? Can extreme dissonance be aesthetically appealing?

To explore these questions, I composed *Yeni Makam 5*, a work for three alto saxophones. Each performer is assigned a unique tuning system:

Alto Saxophone 1: Push mouthpiece in to raise pitches by one quarter-tone ($A + 50$ cents).

Alto Saxophone 2: Standard tuning (normal A).

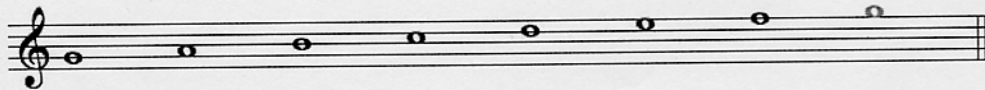
Alto Saxophone 3: Pull mouthpiece out to lower pitches by one quarter-tone ($A - 50$ cents).

For precise tuning, a digital tuner calibrated in cents should be used by all musicians. Alto Saxophone #2 should use altered fingerings for quarter-tone accidentals (http://www.wfg.woodwind.org/sax/sax_qt_1.html), however, embouchure adjustments can also be employed where required.

Although *Yeni Makam 5* juxtaposes independent sound fields for each musician, all players should follow common embouchure practice for correct intonation. This will be evident with individual practice sessions and will need to be retained when the group is together. Alto Saxophones 1 & 3 should first rehearse separately in order to become accustomed to the 'discrepancies' between what is written and what actually sounds. For example, the opening measures present written notes which are different in parts 1 & 3, but which sound as unisons and octaves when performed. The work progresses in this pattern with parts 1 & 3 performing fifths, fourths, thirds and seconds which may be unrecognizable as written in the score, but which should sound in tune if mouthpieces have been adjusted accurately. Once the trio is together and musicians are comfortable with their sonic environments, the group should be able to execute their individual and independent horizontal lines, resulting in the unique vertical harmonies of this work. As with any new musical work, this will get easier with each rehearsal.

The quarter-tone is an interval I have explored in previous works of the *Yeni Makam Series*, and which is a basic interval in Middle Eastern folk and classical music. One objective of *Yeni Makam 5* is to present unique sonorities that fluctuate between tension and rest.

The musical material for *Yeni Makam 5* is drawn from a basic Mixolydian mode:

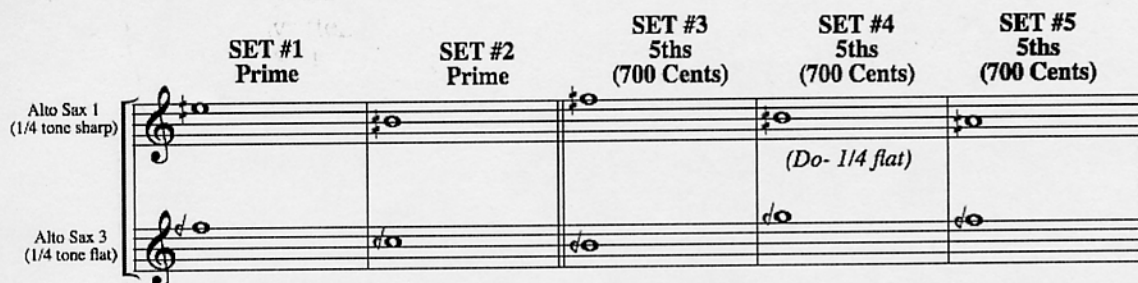


The mouthpiece adjustments on Alto Saxophones 1 and 3 result in the following tonal setup:



Thus, all the pitches for Alto Saxophone 1 are one quarter-tone sharp while those for Alto Saxophone 3 are one quarter-tone flat. In the score and parts for *Yeni Makam 5*, Alto Saxophones 1 & 3 do not require any quarter-tone accidentals, since all pitches have been physically adjusted.

The next step was to calculate if standard musical intervals still exist between Alto Saxophones 1 and 3 in the natural tones of the Mixolydian mode. Using the cents system (octave is 1200 cents) the following interval sets are possible:



SETS# 14 - 17
MINOR 3RDS (300 CENTS)

Alto Sax 1
(1/4 tone sharp)

Alto Sax 3
(1/4 tone flat)

This musical notation shows two staves, Alto Sax 1 and Alto Sax 3, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Alto Sax 1 staff has a 1/4 tone sharp, and the Alto Sax 3 staff has a 1/4 tone flat. The notation consists of four measures, each containing a half note. The notes are: G4 (Alto Sax 1), F#4 (Alto Sax 3), A4 (Alto Sax 1), G#4 (Alto Sax 3), B4 (Alto Sax 1), A#4 (Alto Sax 3), C5 (Alto Sax 1), B4 (Alto Sax 3), D5 (Alto Sax 1), C#5 (Alto Sax 3), E5 (Alto Sax 1), D#5 (Alto Sax 3), F5 (Alto Sax 1), E#5 (Alto Sax 3), G5 (Alto Sax 1), F#5 (Alto Sax 3).

SETS# 18 - 23
MAJOR 2NDS (200 CENTS)

Alto Sax 1
(1/4 tone sharp)

Alto Sax 3
(1/4 tone flat)

This musical notation shows two staves, Alto Sax 1 and Alto Sax 3, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Alto Sax 1 staff has a 1/4 tone sharp, and the Alto Sax 3 staff has a 1/4 tone flat. The notation consists of six measures, each containing a half note. The notes are: G4 (Alto Sax 1), A4 (Alto Sax 3), B4 (Alto Sax 1), C5 (Alto Sax 3), D5 (Alto Sax 1), E5 (Alto Sax 3), F5 (Alto Sax 1), G5 (Alto Sax 3), A5 (Alto Sax 1), B5 (Alto Sax 3), C6 (Alto Sax 1), D6 (Alto Sax 3), E6 (Alto Sax 1), F6 (Alto Sax 3), G6 (Alto Sax 1), A6 (Alto Sax 3).

SETS# 24- 30
MINOR 2NDS (100 CENTS)

Alto Sax 1
(1/4 tone sharp)

Alto Sax 3
(1/4 tone flat)

This musical notation shows two staves, Alto Sax 1 and Alto Sax 3, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Alto Sax 1 staff has a 1/4 tone sharp, and the Alto Sax 3 staff has a 1/4 tone flat. The notation consists of seven measures, each containing a half note. The notes are: G4 (Alto Sax 1), F#4 (Alto Sax 3), A4 (Alto Sax 1), G#4 (Alto Sax 3), B4 (Alto Sax 1), A#4 (Alto Sax 3), C5 (Alto Sax 1), B4 (Alto Sax 3), D5 (Alto Sax 1), C#5 (Alto Sax 3), E5 (Alto Sax 1), D#5 (Alto Sax 3), F5 (Alto Sax 1), E#5 (Alto Sax 3), G5 (Alto Sax 1), F#5 (Alto Sax 3).

The above sets form the overall outline of *Yeni Makam 5*. The result is a work that shifts between distant and playful moods, in world of quarter-tonality where strong dissonance resolves into familiar consonance. Alto Saxophone 2 is the only performer with any written accidentals, an occasional quarter-tone flat. The consequence of juxtaposing three instruments in different tuning systems, leads to interesting questions about who is or who is not in tune at certain points in the work.

-Edward J Hines, Wendell, MA, January, 2012

Yeni Makam 5

Trompe-l'oreille for 3 Alto Saxophones

Edward J Hines
(1951-)

Score

PRÉSENTATION

DA LONTANO ♩ = 66

Alto Sax 1
(1/4 tone sharp,
+ 50 cents)

mf

Alto Sax 2
(Normale)

Alto Sax 3
(1/4 tone flat,
-50 cents)

mf

8

p

p

p

NB:

Alto Sax 1- push mouthpiece in for 1/4 step sharp tuning (+50 cents)

Alto Sax 2- standard tuning

Alto Sax 3- pull mouthpiece out for 1/4 step flat tuning (-50 cents)

15

Measures 15-19 of a musical score in 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). There are also crescendo and decrescendo hairpins.

20

Measures 20-24 of a musical score in 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). There are also crescendo and decrescendo hairpins.

25

Measures 25-29 of a musical score in 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). There are also crescendo and decrescendo hairpins.

28

$\text{♩} = 40$ *rit.*

mp

pp

mp

mp

INVENTION

A

GIOCOSO
32 *a tempo*

p

p

p

34

p

p

p

36

Measures 36-37 of a musical score. The system consists of three staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains eighth notes with accents and a final sixteenth-note triplet. The middle staff has a treble clef and contains eighth notes with accents and a final sixteenth-note triplet. The bottom staff has a treble clef and contains a continuous sixteenth-note triplet pattern. The music is in 2/4 time.

38

Measures 38-39 of a musical score. The system consists of three staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains eighth notes with accents and a final sixteenth-note triplet. The middle staff has a treble clef and contains eighth notes with accents and a final sixteenth-note triplet. The bottom staff has a treble clef and contains a continuous sixteenth-note triplet pattern. The music is in 2/4 time.

40

ff

Measures 40-41 of a musical score. The system consists of three staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains eighth notes with accents and a final sixteenth-note triplet. The middle staff has a treble clef and contains eighth notes with accents and a final sixteenth-note triplet. The bottom staff has a treble clef and contains a continuous sixteenth-note triplet pattern. The music is in 2/4 time. The first measure of measure 40 is marked with a forte (ff) dynamic.