**performance notes**

*Four Seasons* explores the long-term musical potential in simple algorithmic processes, within the context of various overlapping, self-similar ascents and descents.

prime-temps and *fall* are performed by all ten players synchronised in the usual way. In both cases, use of legato and vibrato should adhere carefully to the instructions given. No rests are indicated: breathing is ad libitum, but breaths are to be avoided immediately before a change of pitch.

*Samā* and *vindo* are asynchronous. In *samā*, the players enter at intervals of roughly 48 seconds—entry points are marked in the preceding parts, and should be co-ordinated visually—but thereafter play independently. The players reunite at the end, repeating their final bar until, at a signal, everyone stops together. In *vindo*, all players begin together and again play independently, finishing one after the other until only one player remains. Vibrato may be used as desired in both these movements.

%= flutter-tongue

Unless indicated otherwise with an accidental above or below, trills are executed using an auxiliary note that is extremely close to (above or below) the principal note, while also preserving the audible sense of a trill. To this end, although the result will inevitably incur some timbral change, these should not be regarded as ‘timbral trills’, as the amount or type of timbral change is unimportant. Mordents (八大) are always executed with an auxiliary note a tone above the principal note.

**movement titles**

*Prime-temps*: a 15th century English term for spring, derived from the Old French *prin tans*.  
*Samā*: the Sanskrit word for summer (समा), literally ‘half year’, with connotations of the words *same* and *equal*.  
*Fall*: a well-known alternate word for autumn.  
*Vindo*: the Gaulish word for ‘white’, and a possible early source for the word ‘winter’.

**duration**: c. 28 minutes
with a gradual, growing sense of awakening

**Four Seasons**

I. prime-temps

Simon Cummings
Flute 1

II. samā

with unstoppable, mounting excitement
Flute 2

with unstoppable, mounting excitement

\[ \text{Flute 2} \]

\[ \text{pp} \quad \text{mp} \quad \text{pp} \quad \text{p} \quad \text{mp} \quad \text{q} = 60 \]

II. samā
II. samā

with unstoppable, mounting excitement

Player 4 starts here
Flute 4

with unstoppable, mounting excitement

II. samā

Player 5 starts here
with unstoppable, mounting excitement

\[ \frac{b}{4} \cdot \frac{4}{7} \]
increasingly sad and internalised

con vibr., legato

III. fall
Flute 1 (Score in C)

=60 with melancholic detachment

IV. vindo
Flute 2 (Score in C)

\( \text{with melancholic detachment} \)

\[ \text{Coda} \]

To Alto

Player 1 finishes

approximately here

\( \text{Coda} \)

\( \text{Coda} \)

\( \text{Coda} \)
Flute 3 (Score in C)

\( \text{\textit{with melancholic detachment}} \)

\( \text{\textit{with melancholic detachment}} \)
Player 2 finishes approximately here

Flute 3 (Score in C)
Flute 4 (Score in C)

\( \text{\textit{with melancholic detachment}} \)

\( \text{\textit{Piccolo}} \)

\( \text{\textit{circa mp}} \)

\( \text{\textit{Player 1 finishes approximately here}} \)

IV. vindo
Player 2 finishes approximately here

5:4

Player 3 finishes

3:2

circa

Flute 4 (Score in C)
IV. vindo

Flute 5 (Score in C)

\[\text{with melancholic detachment}\]

\[\text{< 60 \text{ p.p.m.}}\]

Player 1 finishes approximately here

Player 2 finishes approximately here