

Surface Tension

open score for chamber ensemble

Jordan Nobles

North Vancouver, November 2012

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About the Piece

Surface Tension was premiered by the Aventa Ensemble, directed by Bill Linwood, on December 4, 2012.

The original Performance included *Quickening*, *Surface Tension* and *Rogue Waves* all played attacca.

Performance Notes

Surface Tension involves a suspended harmony of long tones and slow glissandi

- play any long tone, or glissando, in any order
- all cells can be played in any octave as long as the dynamics are observed
- what cells to play, and when to play them, should be decided by each musician independently as long as they are responsive to the other players. A good rule is to stop after completing a cell and listen for a moment before joining in again. Musicians in smaller ensembles can play more often but in larger ensembles should play less often to give space throughout the performance.
- there is no pulse or synchronization required or desired

Instrument Specific Notes

Winds & Brass: only play glisses that work well on your instrument, if none work then just play the long tones

Strings: use sul ponticello throughout

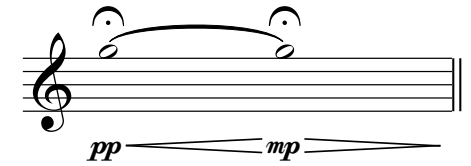
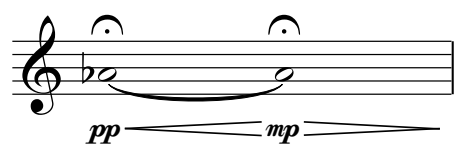
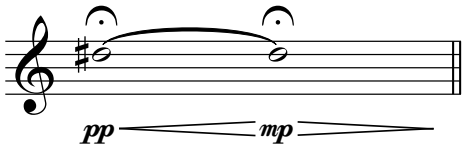
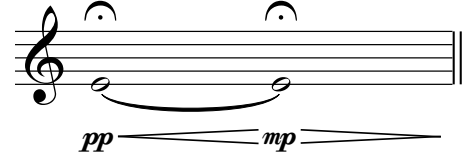
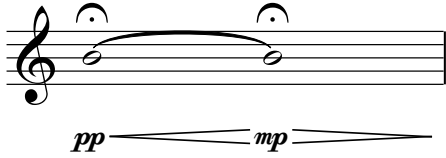
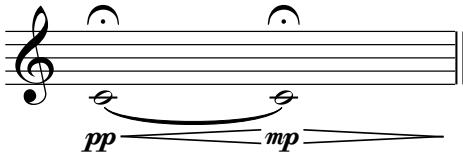
Percussion: do not worry about the glisses, just bow long tones on vibraphone, crotales and various cymbals

Guitar: use a volume pedal and an ebow for the swells, and bend strings or use a slide for the glisses

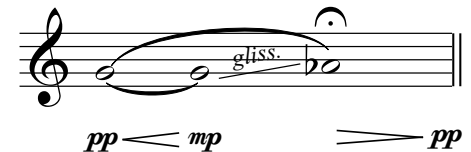
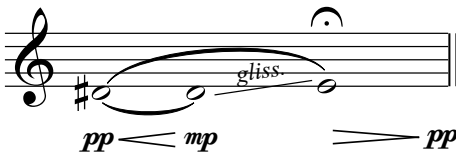
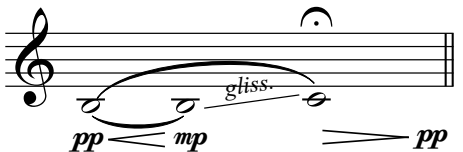
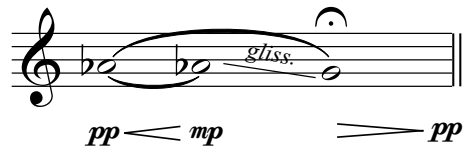
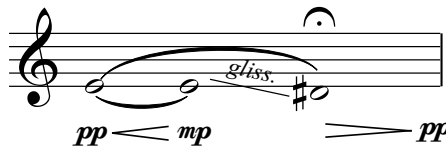
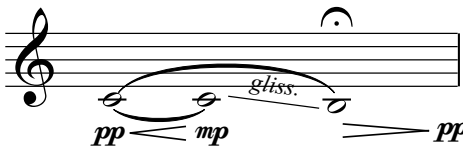
Surface Tension

Play any cells, in any order, in any octave

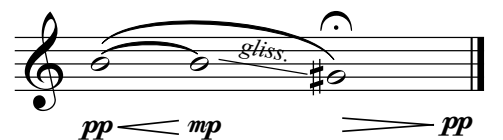
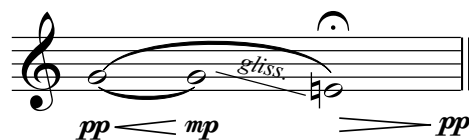
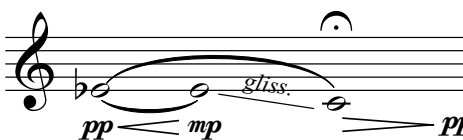
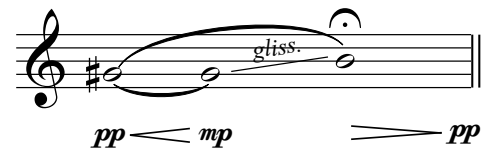
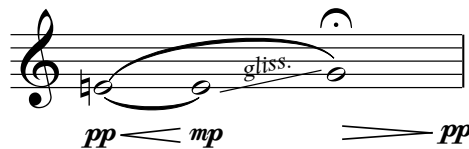
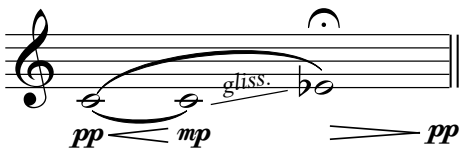
Long Tones - hold for 5-15 seconds or for the duration of a single breath or bow, no tremolo
 - (Percussion: bow vibes, crotales or cymbals; Strings: sul ponticello)



Glissandi - mostly play glisses slowly but vary the speed occasionally, only play glisses that work well on your instrument
 - minor seconds



- minor thirds



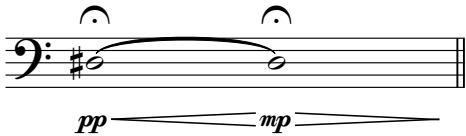
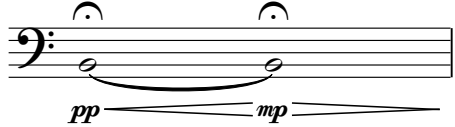
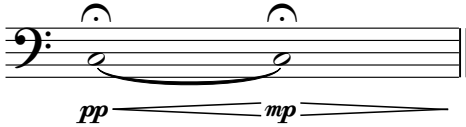
Surface Tension

Score in C - bass clef

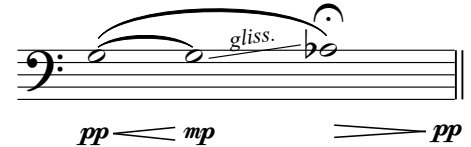
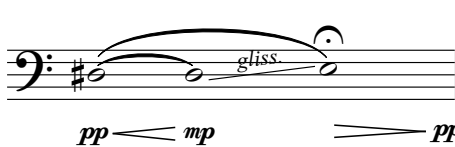
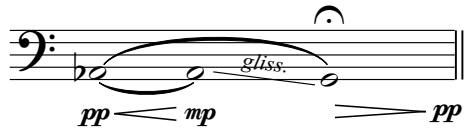
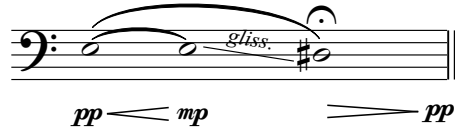
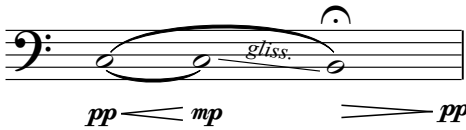
Jordan Nobles

Play any cells, in any order, in any octave

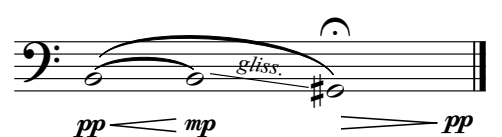
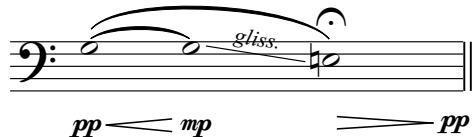
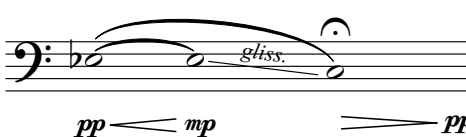
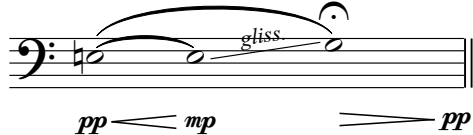
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- minor seconds



- minor thirds



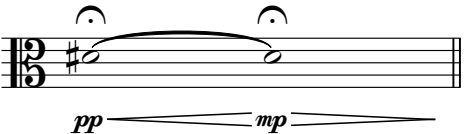
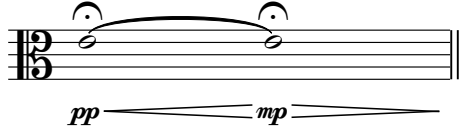
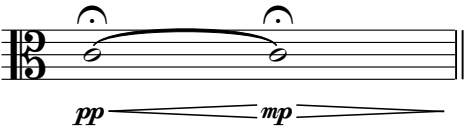
Surface Tension

Score in C - alto clef

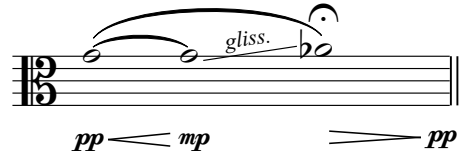
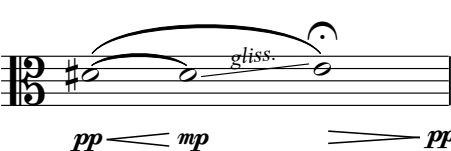
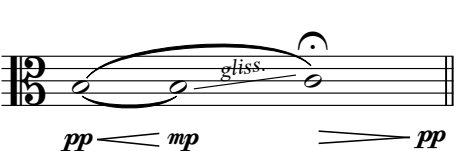
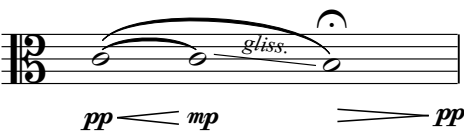
Jordan Nobles

Play any cells, in any order, in any octave

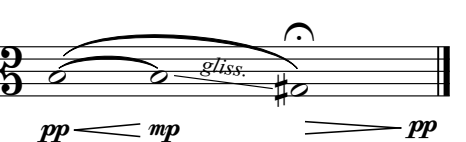
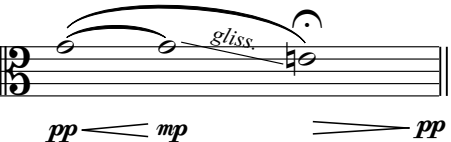
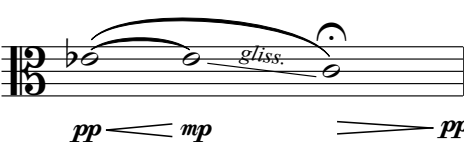
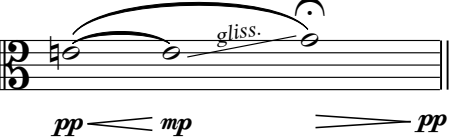
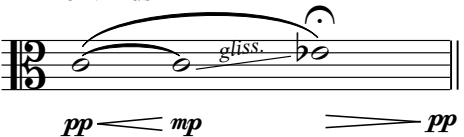
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- (Percussion: bow vibes, crotales or cymbals; Strings: sul ponticello)



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- minor seconds



- minor thirds



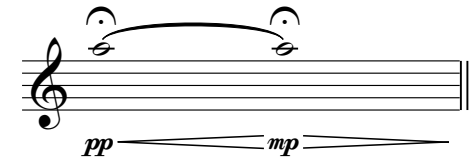
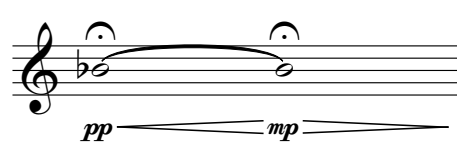
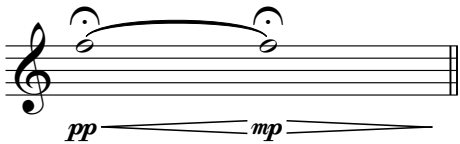
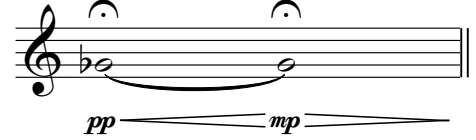
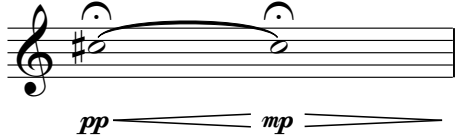
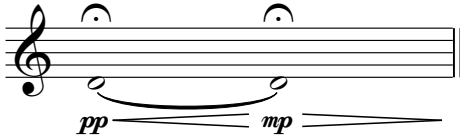
Surface Tension

Score in Bb

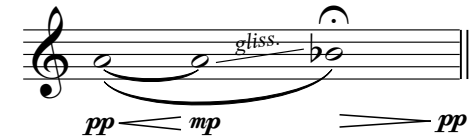
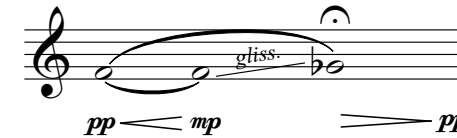
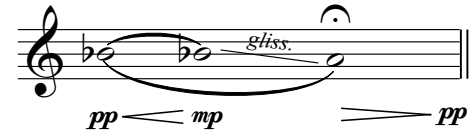
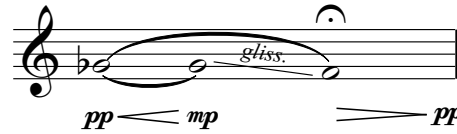
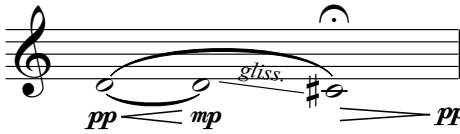
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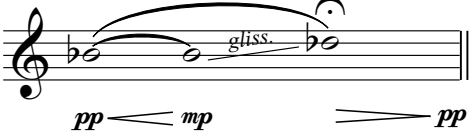
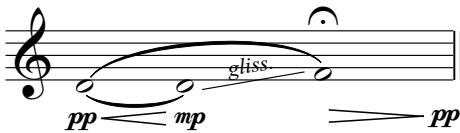
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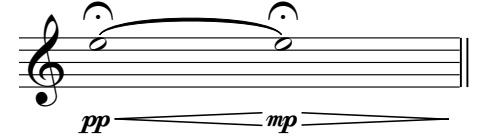
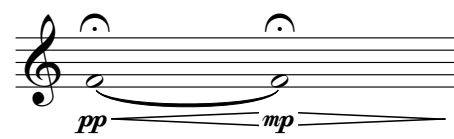
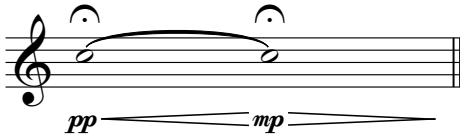
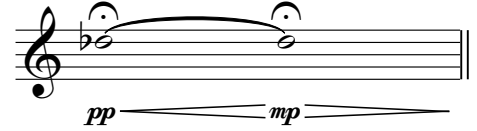
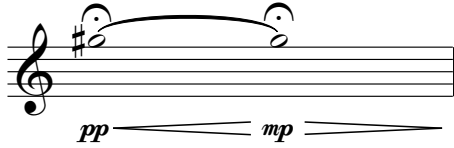
Surface Tension

Score in Eb

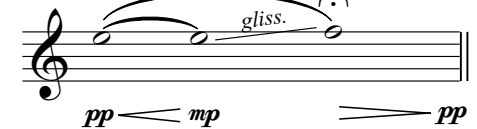
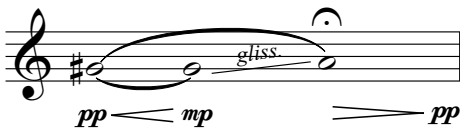
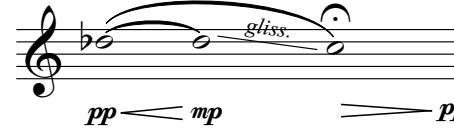
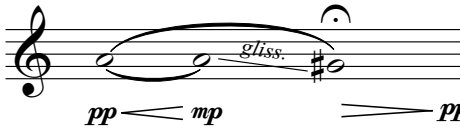
Jordan Nobles

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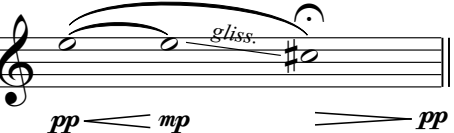
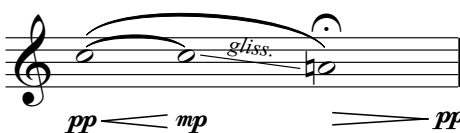
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- minor seconds



- minor thirds



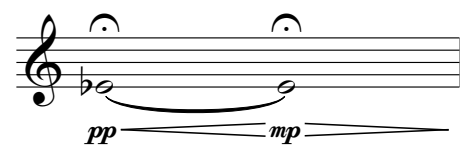
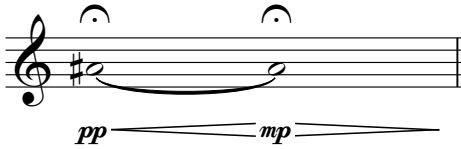
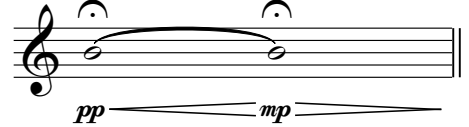
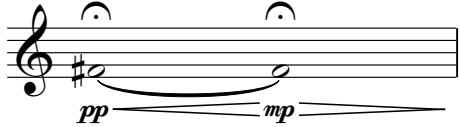
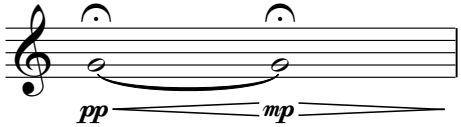
Surface Tension

Score in F

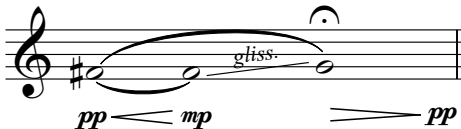
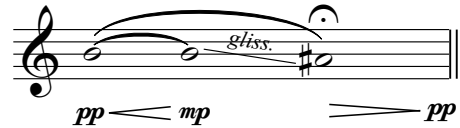
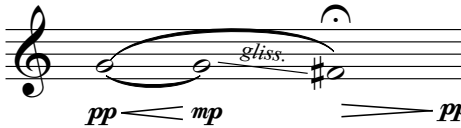
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