



The Unique Perspective of Drummers in the Art of Composition

The Culminating Experience of Connor Kent

Berklee Global Jazz Institute 2019



Introduction



Performers:

Aaron Dutton: Alto/Soprano Saxophone

Luke Norris: Tenor Saxophone

Alonzo Demetrius: Trumpet

Noe Zagroun: Piano

Ben Jephtha: Double Bass

Connor Kent: Drums and Percussion



20 Digits

Inspired by John Hollenbeck and Paul Motian

- ◆ Composition based on numbers (non-judgement)

4 6 9 6 3 0 5 2 5 3

7 1 4 6 5 3 3 6 7 7

8^{vb}

The image shows two staves of musical notation. The top staff has ten notes with stems pointing up, corresponding to the numbers 4, 6, 9, 6, 3, 0, 5, 2, 5, 3. The bottom staff has ten notes with stems pointing up, corresponding to the numbers 7, 1, 4, 6, 5, 3, 3, 6, 7, 7. A dashed line with '8^{vb}' is positioned below the bottom staff.





20 Digits

Inspired by John Hollenbeck and Paul Motian

- ◆ Pulse change, “rhythmic reharmonization”

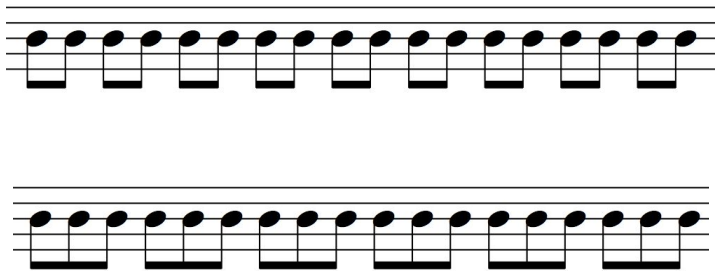


Fig. 1

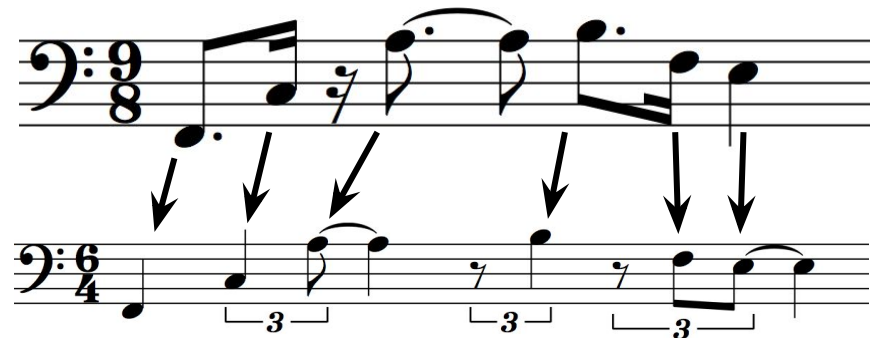


Fig. 2





20 Digits

Inspired by John Hollenbeck and Paul Motian

- ◆ Use of rubato, free interpretation of melody

Musical score for "20 Digits" in 4/4 time. The score consists of three staves:

- Melody (Top Staff):** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes are: G4 (fingered 4), A4 (fingered 6), B4 (fingered 9), G4 (fingered 6), F4 (fingered 3), E4 (fingered 0), D4 (fingered 5), C4 (fingered 2), B3 (fingered 5), A3 (fingered 3).
- Bass Line (Middle Staff):** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes are: G4 (fingered 7), F4 (fingered 1), E4 (fingered 4), D4 (fingered 6), C4 (fingered 5), B3 (fingered 3), A3 (fingered 3), G4 (fingered 6), F4 (fingered 7), E4 (fingered 7).
- Chord/Bass (Bottom Staff):** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Chord symbols are: Fmaj7(#11) and F#m11. Diamond markers are placed on the staff.



Crunch

Inspired by Bill Stewart and Eric Harland

- ◆ Familiar harmony, simple melody
- ◆ Odd phrasing
- ◆ “Zero Gravity”-inspired approach



5
A7(add4)

mp
p

9

13
Bb7(#11)

mf
mp

17
A7(add4)

mp
p

21
E7(9) D7(9)

fp cresc. *fp cresc.*

23
G7(#11)

mp
p



Untitled

Inspired by Ari Hoenig, Ralph Peterson Jr. and Jeff “Tain” Watts

- ◆ Afro-Cuban styles mixed with swing

Em Fm

4/4

“Descarga Cachao” vamp





Untitled

Inspired by Ari Hoenig, Ralph Peterson Jr. and Jeff "Tain" Watts

◆ Odd phrasing and metric modulation

The musical score is written for four parts: Trumpet, Alto, Tenor, and Rhythm. The key signature is F#m (one sharp). The score is divided into two systems. The first system consists of two measures in 4/4 time, followed by a double bar line, then two measures in 7/8 time, another double bar line, and finally two measures in 4/4 time. The second system consists of two measures in 4/4 time. The Rhythm part includes a bass line with eighth notes and a treble line with eighth notes. The Trumpet, Alto, and Tenor parts feature melodic lines with various phrasings and articulations. Chord changes are indicated above the staves: F#m, Gm (8x), C#m, Dm (8x), F#m, Gm (8x), Em, Fm (8x), and Em. A box labeled 'A' with a double bar line and a repeat sign is placed above the final two measures of the second system.



Untitled

Inspired by Ari Hoenig, Ralph Peterson Jr. and Jeff “Tain” Watts

- ◆ Melody came from voice memo recording

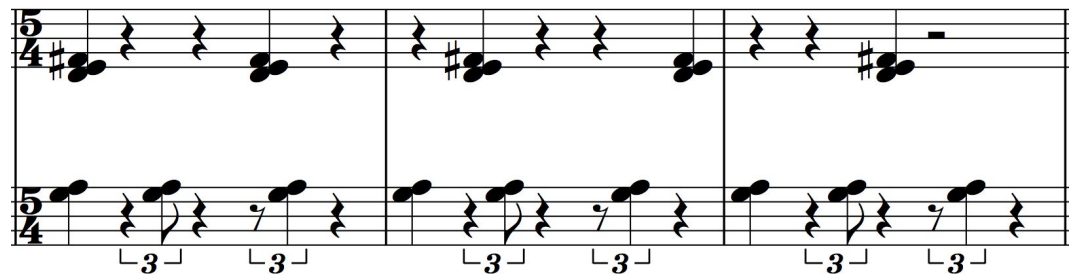
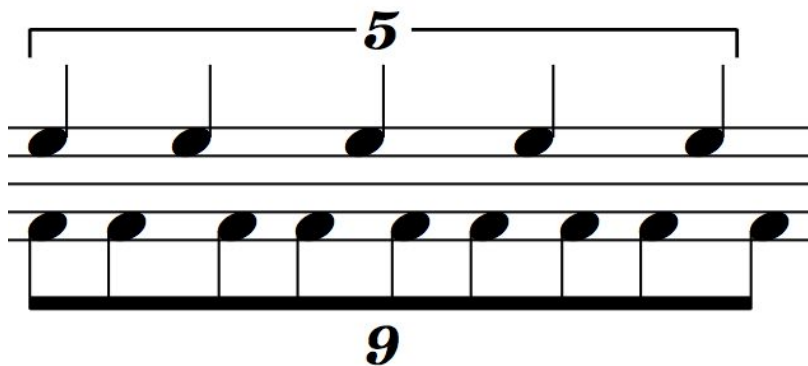




5 Over 9

Inspired by John Hollenbeck

◆ Piece inspired by 5:9 polyrhythm





5 Over 9

Inspired by John Hollenbeck

- ◆ Applied new harmonic concepts
 - ◆ (add2) and (add4) harmony
- ◆ Focused on orchestration (roles and registers)





*Future
Goals*

Thank you

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*Aaron Dutton: Alto/Soprano
Saxophone*

Luke Norris: Tenor Saxophone

Alonzo Demetrius: Trumpet

Noe Zagroun: Piano

Ben Jephtha: Double Bass

Production:

Liz Teutsch: Engineer

Nerya Zidon: Producer

Berklee Global Jazz:

Danilo Perez: Artistic Director

*Marco Pignataro: Managing
Director*

Chase Morrin: Advisor

*Terri Lyne Carrington:
Committee member*

*Bruno Raberg: Composition
Professor*

*Thanks to my family, friends,
classmates, and teachers for your
continued support and encouragement*