

Alex Temple

B|L.WRRRW ||L.|||N|E

(2022)

for four or more pitched instruments

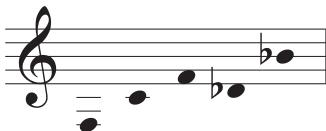
Performance Instructions

Blurry Line is an exercise in heterophony. Each performer plays the same melodic line from the same score, but with rhythms of their choosing. (Rhythms do not have to be regular!) Phrases are marked by barlines; each phrase should begin in a staggered fashion, with all performers entering within a couple of seconds of each other. As the phrase continues, they can diverge further if they so choose. (You may want to make decisions as an ensemble about how much divergence you want to allow.)

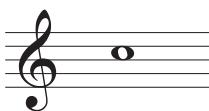
Tempo markings ("slow," "moderate" and "fast") are deliberately vague; don't try to coordinate a single tempo for all performers!

The piece can be played by any group of four or more pitched instruments. The score includes versions written in treble clef and bass/tenor clef; these are identical except for their range, and performers are welcome to use whichever one they prefer. If the range of the line moves outside the practical range of your instrument, feel free to switch octaves as necessary. The score also includes treble-clef versions in two common transpositions.

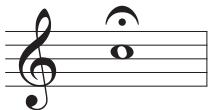
Expressive effects such as portamento, vibrato, fluttertongue, etc. are encouraged!



Play with any rhythm of your choice.
Don't synchronize with the other players.



Hold until every performer has arrived at this note, then all release together. When there are multiple whole notes in a row, begin each one with performers entering in a staggered fashion rather than simultaneously.



Hold until every performer has arrived at this note;
then all continue holding *ad lib* before releasing together.



Play consistent note values in regular rhythm.
Don't synchronize your tempo with the other performers.

- „ all performers pause together briefly
- „ all performers pause together for a bit longer
- „ all performers pause together for long enough to convey a break between major sections

Treble Clef Version – Concert Pitch

BLURRY LINE

Alex Temple

Slow

fff melancholy, like a neo-noir **ff**
f

mf

mp **p**

(A) Moderate

pp **p** **mp** **ppp delicate**

Moderate

pp **mp** **pp**

Fast

ppp

(B) Moderate

pp **f** **p** sensual and lyrical

blurry line

(C)

Fast

Musical score for section C. The first two measures show a melodic line with dynamics *mp* and *mf*. The third measure starts with *f*, followed by a dynamic change to *ff*, then back to *f*. The fourth measure consists of a fast sixteenth-note run. The score continues with a melodic line and a dynamic *Accel.* (Accelerando) indicated by a right-pointing arrow. A bracketed box labeled "repeat ad lib." covers the next two measures, which are identical to the ones before it. The final measure ends with a dynamic *n*.

Accel.



repeat ad lib.

"

n

(D)

Fast

Slow

Musical score for section D. The first measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *ff*. The second measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *pp*. The text "vast and overwhelming" is written below the first measure.

Fast

Slow

Musical score for section D. The first measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *ff*. The second measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *pp*.

(E)

Fast

Musical score for section E. The first measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *ffff*. The second measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *pp*.

Slow

Moderate

Musical score for section E. The first measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *ffff*. The second measure shows a melodic line with dynamic *pppp* followed by the text "like an afterthought". The third measure ends with a dynamic *n*.

Bass/Tenor Clef Version – Concert Pitch

BILWRRRY LINE

Alex Temple

Slow

ffff melancholy, like a neo-noir film score (think Chinatown or Taxi Driver) **ff** **f**

mf **mp** **p**

(A) **Moderate**

pp **p** **pp** **mp** **ppp** delicate

Moderate

pp **mp** **pp** **mp**

Fast

ppp

(B) **Moderate**

pp **f** **p** sensuous and lyrical

Blurry Line

(C) Fast

Accel. →

repeat ad lib.

n

(D) Fast → Slow

ff → **pp**
vast and overwhelming

Fast → Slow

ff → **pp**

(E) Fast

fff → **pp**

→ Slow Moderate

fff **ppp** like and afterthought n

Treble Clef Version

Transposed for instruments in B,

BILWRRRY LINE

Alex Temple

Slow

ffff melancholy, like a neo-noir **ff**
film score (think Chinatown
or Taxi Driver)

f

mf

mp ————— **p**

(A) Moderate

Fast

pp ————— **p** ————— **pp**

mp

ppp delicate

Moderate

pp ————— **mp** ————— **pp**

mp

Fast

ppp

(B) Moderate

pp ————— **f**

p sensuous and lyrical

blurry line

C Fast

Accel.

repeat ad lib.

D Fast → Slow ,
vast and overwhelming

E Fast → Slow , Moderate

ffff → ppp like an afterthought n

Treble Clef Version

Transposed for instruments in E_b

BILLY LINE

Alex Temple

Slow

fff melancholy, like a neo-noir film score (think Chinatown or Taxi Driver) ff f

This section starts with a slow tempo, indicated by a box labeled "Slow". The dynamic is "fff" followed by "ff" and then "f". The lyrics "melancholy, like a neo-noir film score (think Chinatown or Taxi Driver)" are written below the notes. The music consists of a single melodic line on a treble clef staff.

mf mp p

This section continues the melodic line from the previous section, maintaining the same tempo and dynamic markings. The music remains on a single staff.

A Moderate

Fast

pp p pp mp ppp delicate

This section is labeled "A" and "Moderate". It transitions to a faster tempo, indicated by a box labeled "Fast". The dynamics are "pp", "p", "pp", "mp", and "ppp delicate". The music features a more complex melodic line with various note heads and stems.

Moderate

pp mp pp mp

This section continues the "Moderate" tempo from the previous part. The dynamics are "pp", "mp", "pp", and "mp". The music continues on a single staff.

Fast

ppp

This section continues the "Fast" tempo from the previous part. The dynamic is "ppp". The music features a rapid, repetitive melodic pattern.

B Moderate

pp f p sensuous and lyrical

This section is labeled "B" and "Moderate". The dynamic is "pp" followed by "f". The final dynamic is "p" with the instruction "sensuous and lyrical". The music concludes with a melodic line ending on a sharp note.

blurry line

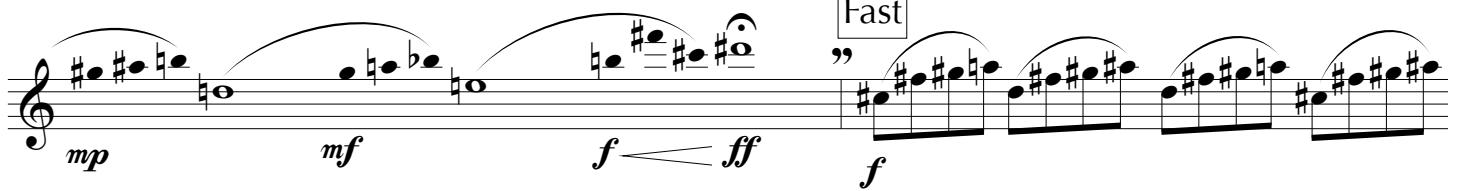
(C)

Fast

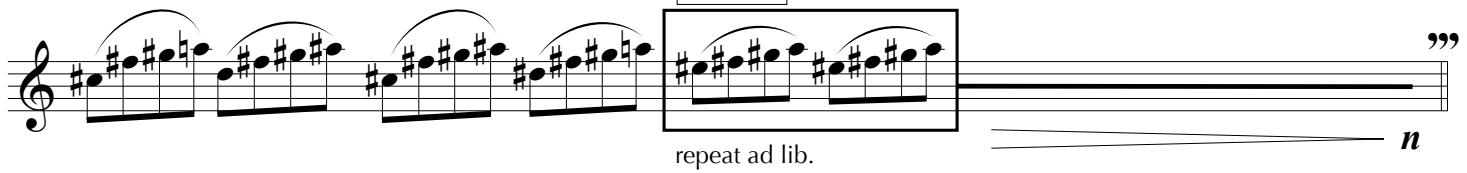
"

ff

f



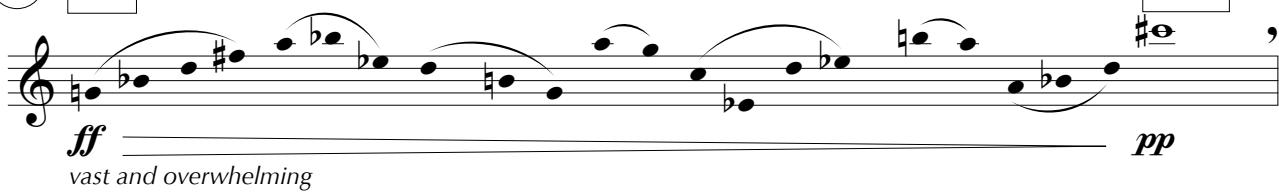
Accel.



(D)

Fast

Slow



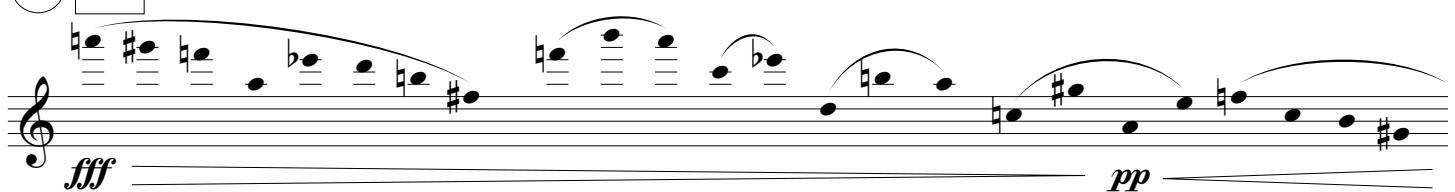
Fast

Slow



(E)

Fast



Slow

Moderate

