

# Birthday Music

*for four performers, musical instruments, and dinner-party objects*

Pablo Martinez, Courtney Cousins and Martha-Maria Mitu

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Birthday Music is a semi-improvised piece combining fixed pitch materials, tactile sound objects, and performer-led cues. The work lasts approximately six minutes and is structured as a sequence of evolving textures, instrumental transitions, and spatial interactions. Although no written score was used in performance, the following notes and the accompanying graphic reconstruction clarify the conceptual and practical framework underpinning the piece.

## Performers & Sound Sources

The piece involves three performers situated around a central table and one at the piano:

### Wine Glass player:

Sustain pitches on the wine glasses using finger-rubbing technique, alternating between glasses ad libitum.

### Wine Glasses tuning:



### Bottles (played by flutist and violinist):

8 bottles should be tuned and played in the first half of the piece using silver wear and other kitchen utensils.

### Bottles tuning:



### Violinist:

Begins on bottles, then switches to violin, improvising with the following melodic cells:

### Violin melodic cells:



### Flutist

Begins on bottles, then switches to flute, improvising with the following melodic cell:

### Flute melodic cell:



### Pianist:

Plays the opening gesture and continues with improvisations derived from Materials A and B, following their placement and function as outlined in the graphic score.

### Piano material A:



### Material B:



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