

**Jay C. Batzner**

**MERCURIAL**

**(2008)**

for flute and digital audio

**UNSAFE BULL MUSIC**

### **Mercurial: Program Notes**

*Mercurial* is a journey leading towards serenity. The plaintive tune at the beginning of the work is accompanied by ominous and unsettling flute moans. Suddenly a rhythmic groove erupts and pushes the soloist into a driving and forceful state of mind. The soloist strives for the contemplative music of the opening and after the flute takes control of the relentless beat, the work ends with a return to the beginning but this time the performer is alone and revels in the solitude.

Special thanks to the University of Iowa Music Instrument Sample Bank for the flute samples, Mike McFerron for the step sequencer, and Freesound users ashassin, skiptracer, nic-stage, and jobro for the all the wonderful noise. Please support the Freesound Project ([freesound.org](http://freesound.org)) to keep the sonic love alive.

# Mercurial

for flute and fixed media

Jay C. Batzner

♩=50

Flute

CD playback

rumble Low flute sounds High flute sounds Medium flute sounds

8

Fl.

*p* 3

CD

Low flute sounds

14

Fl.

*mp* *f*

CD

(low) Low flute sounds

♩=144

19

Fl.

*mp* *f* 7

CD

(low) noisy groove (basic rhythm notated)

2  
22

Fl. *f*

CD

26

Fl.

CD *reverbed scratch*

30

Fl. *ff*

CD *grrr...*

34

Fl. *mf* *f*

CD *change to static groove*

39

Fl. *f*

CD

44

Fl. *ff* *f*

CD

49

Fl. *mf*

CD

53

Fl. *ff* *mf* *f*

CD Erratic, noisy record scratching

$\text{♩} = 60$

58

Fl. *fp* *ff*

CD whrrr-rrr-rrr (scratching) Pop! Low flute sounds

61

Fl. *mp* breathy tone

CD honk and beeps (approximate) Static low whirr/buzz three pops flute moaning

(low) (scratching)

67

Fl. *mp* *p, subito* ord.

CD (static) (low) (scratching) fzzzzz! dimented organ descent

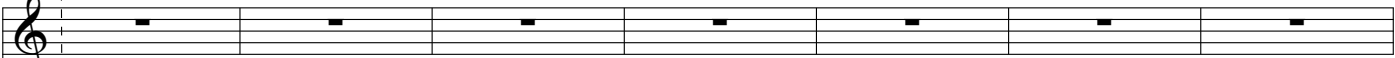
72

Fl. *mf* *f*

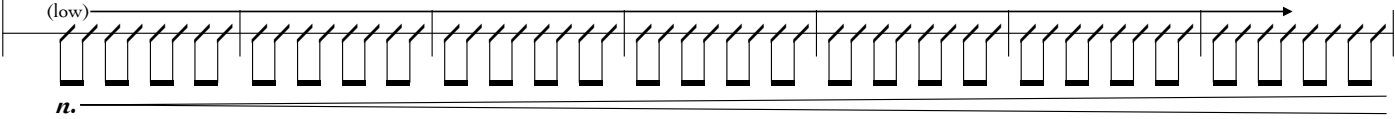
CD falling (low) (scratching) Irritating buzz

4  $\bullet = 132$


76

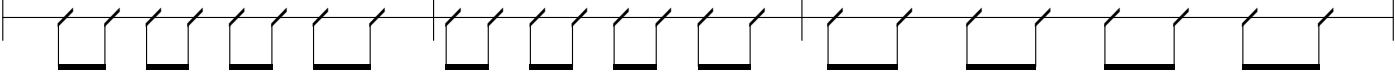
Fl. 

Noise burst


CD   
*n.*

83 Obsessed, demanding, taking control...  
*breathe ad lib.*

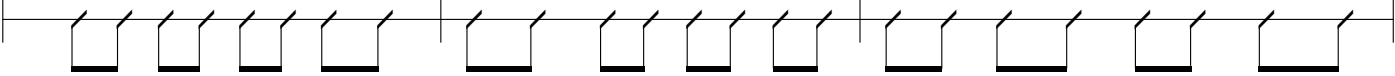
Fl.   
*mf*

CD 


86

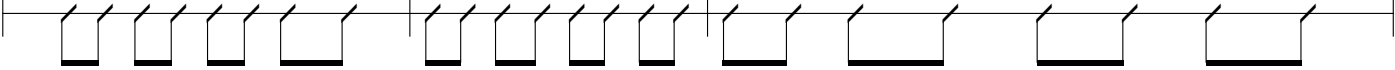
Fl.   
*f*

Noisier, poppy groove


CD 

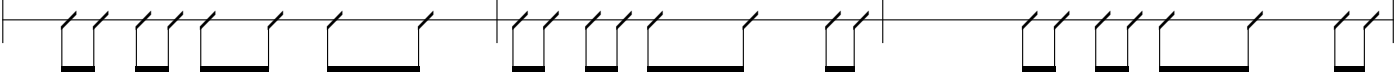
89

Fl.   
*f*

CD 

92

Fl.   
*f*

CD 

95

Fl. *ff*

CD

Noise burst

*p, subito*

97

Fl. *freely, ad lib.*

CD

Tape ends

*p*

Alone at last, ♩=50

101

Fl. *p* *mp*

105

Fl. *f* *mp*

109

Fl. *mf* *p*