

Jarosław Kapuściński

## LINKED VERSE

for Cello, Shô, 8-channel Audio and 3D Video

Collaboration, OpenEndedGroup

2013

## PREFACE

*Linked Verse* is a work that traverses Japanese and Western ways of being through a counterpoint of images and sounds from both origins. 3D projections that conjure up scenes of Tokyo and Kyoto in Japan and their rough equivalent places in America: New York City and San Francisco, interweave with music written for the Western cello and the ancient Japanese mouth organ shô. The work's title and its structure comes from the Japanese poetic practice of renga: an ancient form involving two or more poets taking turns in adding interlocking links in a long chain of unexpected associations. The process of creating *Linked Verse* was similarly collaborative between the composer and visual artists from the OpenEndedGroup as images and sounds were developed simultaneously through a sequence of joint residencies. To allow this, cellist Maya Beiser and shô player Ko Ishikawa recorded a large collection of solo and duo sketches at an early stage of production.

*Linked Verse* was commissioned by Stanford University to help inaugurate Bing Concert Hall. It was co-produced and co-funded by Experimental Media and Performing Arts Center (EMPAC), Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY; Creative Media Center, Hong Kong City University, Center for Arts and Media (ZKM), Karlsruhe, Germany, Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Japan Foundation in New York, and the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies. The premiere took place on 7 December 2013 with cellist Maya Beiser and shô player Ko Ishikawa.

Jarosław Kapuściński

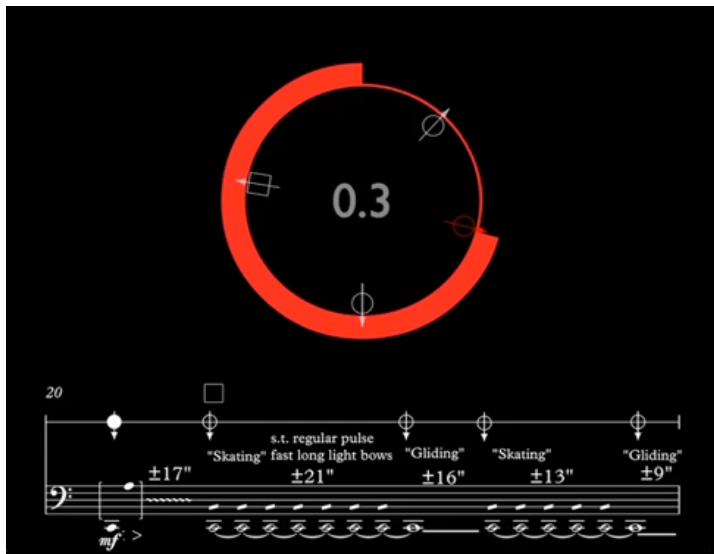
## PERFORMANCE NOTES

The work is to be performed using two iPads, one for each musician. The iPads show individual parts with pre-programmed page turns and animated visual cues. In concert, the cues sent wirelessly from the software running 3D projection and multichannel sound allow for synchronization of all audio and visual elements. No aural click-track is needed. For rehearsing purposes practice movies are available at the following internet links:

Cello: <http://vimeo.com/user6201294/review/98983513/d5bebef4fd>

Shô: <http://vimeo.com/user6201294/review/98983512/3c2f9e9900>

Example below shows iPad screen of measure 20 of the cello score.



The thin inner circle represents the time span of a the measure. The number in the center counts down seconds till next cue. At the beginning of each page an outer band begins to draw at the top of the thin circle and continues in a counter clockwise direction arround it. The band is grey but 2 seconds before it approaches a cue/arrow it gradually turns red. When it hits the cue it reaches the peak of its color saaturation and drops back to grey. The cues are shown in the music score using the following symbols:



beginning of a new time span



cue point for aproximate synchronization (within 1-2 seconds)



cue point for an exact synchronization

When the band completes the circle a next time span appears. The musical staff for the next fragment appears 4 seconds earlier to allow performers to preview the upcoming music.

The cello part utilizes the following techniques marked with key words:

- "Gliding" – a slow circular bowing between s.t. and s.p. with slowly changing pressure to bring out varying harmonics and noise
- "Skating" – evenly repeated, light, fast, full bows that generate a resonant pulse within the body of the instrument
- "Siren" – an alternating of open C and a given upper note, which is to be played sul G half pressed with fast expressive vibrato

The vocal humming in parts of both musicians are to be performed without vibrato. In section starting at measure 44 the cellist's voice needs to fuse within the harmonic structure to the point of not being perceptible as a separate part.

Duration: ca 53 minutes

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# Linked Verse

Jaroslav Kapuscinski

iPad Sho

Sho

iPad Vc.

Violoncello

Audio

Video

Timecode

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Biwa

Video

Time

6

iPad-S 0:30 0:00 0:06 0:13 0:19

Sho ±6" ±7" ±6" ±18" mp

iPad-V 0:30 0:00 0:19 ±18"

Vc. mp

Sho Sho Biwa

Video Snake 2

Time 5:01 5:04 5:07 5:14 5:20 5:25.5

7

iPad-S 0:37 0:00 0:16 0:25 0:34 0:43 0:52 1:00

Sho ±16" ±9" ±9" ±9" ±9" ±8" ±11"

iPad-V 0:37 0:00 0:16 0:42 1:00 ±16" ±26" ±18" ±11"

Vc. non vibrato with distinct but subtle slow vibrato events (1-3 bends long) p

Audio

Video Bar front 1 Bar front 2

Time 5:38 5:54 6:20 6:38

8

iPad-S 1:11 0:00 0:17 1:08 1:31 1:51 0:00 0:28 0:00

Sho ±17" ±51" ±23" ±20" ±28" ±1'17" mf

iPad-V 1:11 0:00 0:28 0:49 1:08 1:20 s.p. 1:51 0:00 0:28 0:00 0:49

Vc. s.p. non vibr. ±28" ±21" ±19" ±12" ±31" ±28" s.p. with occasional slow wide vibrato

Audio Biwa Cello

Video Temple 1 Temple 2 Bamboo stairs 1 Bamboo stairs 2 Rock Poster 1 Rock poster 2 Bird 1

Time 6:49 7:06 7:17 7:38 7:57 8:09 8:17 8:40 9:08 9:42 9:57 10:14

11

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

12

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

14

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

15

iPad-S

Sho

Voice

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

16

iPad-S

Voice

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

17

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time



18

iPad-S 0:38 0:00 0:16 0:33 0:45 0:53

Sho *slow* ±16" ±17" ±12" ±8" ±37"

iPad-V 0:38 0:00 0:16 0:53

Vc. *fast light s.p., irregular accents of pressure, dynamic fluctuations* "Siren" occasionally add to the standing C a leaping motive sul G half pressed with fast vibrato *improvis freely slow glissandi roughly in the given range*

Audio City ambiance with ambulance siren Sho long notes

Video Kyoto bookstore 1 Kyoto bookstore 2

Time 17:27 17:43 18:00 18:12 18:20 18:31

19

iPad-S 1:30 0:00 0:24 0:44

Sho *faster* ±12" ±12" ±8" ±12" ±8"

iPad-V 1:30 0:00 0:24 0:28

Vc. "Siren" occasionally stay on C simile

Audio dynamic fluctuations up to *mf* Sho short notes dynamic fluctuations up to *f*

Video NY private bookshelf 1

Time 18:57 19:00 19:21

20

iPad-S 0:52 0:00 0:17 0:30 0:51

Sho *slower* ±12" ±5" ±13" ±21" *frullato* ±3" ±4" (±50")

iPad-V 0:52 0:00 0:17 0:38 0:54 1:07

Vc. "Skating" s.t. regular pulse fast long light bows ±17" ±21" "Gliding" ±16" "Skating" ±13" "Gliding" ±9"

Audio

Video NY private bookshelf 2 Kyoto train 1

Time 19:49 20:03 20:24 20:37 20:40 20:53

21

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

22

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Vc.

Video

Time

23

iPad-S

Sho

iPad-V

Vc.

Audio

Video

Time

24

iPad-S 1:24 0:00 0:23 0:49 0:58

Sho ±23" ±2" ±24" ±9" ±23"

iPad-V 1:24 0:00 0:17 0:27 1:05

Vc. ±3" pizz. arco "Skating" ±38" ±16"

Audio Hichiriki

Video Brooklyn skyscape 1

Time 25:01 25:15 25:18 25:24 25:28 25:50 25:59 26:06

25

iPad-S 1:21 0:00 0:28 0:36 1:06

Sho 8 ±3" ±25" ±8" ±30" ±33"

iPad-V 1:21 0:00 0:08 0:46 0:57 1:08 1:16 1:23

Vc. ±8" pizz. arco "Skating" ±38" ±11" dolce ±11" ±8" ±7" ±6" ±5" ±5"

Audio

Video Brooklyn skyscape 2 Bushwick mural 1

Time 26:22 26:25 26:30 26:50 26:58 27:08 27:19 27:30 27:38 27:45 27:51 27:56

26

iPad-S 1:39 0:00 0:31 0:47 0:51

Sho ±31" ±16" ±4" ±16"

iPad-V 1:39 0:00 0:10 0:19 0:31 0:49

Vc. ±5" ±5" ±9" ±12" ±2" S.D. ±16" ±5" ±13"

Audio Violoncello p.p. pizz.

Video Bushwick mural 2 Cat in Golden Gai alley 1

Time 28:01 28:06 28:11 28:20 28:32 28:34 28:52 28:54

27

iPad-S 1:07 0:00 0:12 0:24 0:44 1:00

Sho ±12" ±12" ±18" ±16" ±16"

iPad-V 1:07 0:00 0:12 0:29 0:43 1:00

Vc. ±12" ±17" ±14" ±17" ±6" ±10"

Vc. To Vc. Audio

Video Cat in Golden Gai alley 2

Time 29:08 29:20 29:24 29:32 29:37 30:51 30:08 30:14

28

iPad-S 1:16 0:00 0:17 0:23 0:39 0:47

Sho 8 p ±17" ±5" ±17" ±8" ±23"

iPad-V 1:16 0:00 0:13 0:25 0:39 0:52

Vc. ±13" very slowly (every ±2 seconds) pizz. ±12" ±14" ±13" arco ±18" pp p

Audio Wind in a city

Video NY fire stairs 1 NY fire stairs 2 NY garden Buddha 1

Time 30:24 30:37 30:41 30:46 31:03 31:11 31:16

29

iPad-S 1:10 0:00 0:13 0:33 0:58

Sho 11" ±9" 11" ±6" ±8" ±11" ±7" ±6" ±12" mf

iPad-V 1:10 0:00 0:13 0:19 0:58

Vc. ±13" quasi improvised pitches with growing dynamic swelling in loose harmonic coordination with sho ±8" ±8" ±5" ±8" ±11" ±9" ±5" ±8" pizz. arco mf simile

Audio

Video NY garden Buddha 2 NY fatades 1

Time 31:34 31:36 31:47 32:52 32:56 32:07 32:13 32:21 32:32 32:39 32:45

The score is divided into three sections, each with its own iPad-S, Sho, iPad-V, Vc., Audio, Video, and Time tracks.

**Section 30:**

- iPad-S:** Time markers at 1:19 (0:00) and 0:26. Sho notes with durations: ±7", ±7", ±11(9)", ±8", ±6", ±12", ±3".
- iPad-V:** Time marker at 1:19 (0:00). Instruction: "continue previous material but accelerate the occurrences of different fifths". Sho notes with durations: ±26".
- Vc.:** Time marker at 1:19 (0:00). Instruction: "gradually start fast arpeggios with changing colors (s.t./s.p.) and dynamics". Sho notes with durations: ±8", ±6", ±18". Dynamics: *f*, *f*, *pp*.
- Video:** "NY fasades 2" and "NY from train 1".
- Time:** 32:48, 32:53, 33:00, 33:07, 33:16, 33:19, 33:27, 33:33, 33:45.

**Section 31:**

- iPad-S:** Time markers at 0:55 (0:00), 0:09, 0:14, 0:23, 0:30, 0:39, 0:48. Sho notes with durations: ±9", ±5", ±9", ±7", ±9", ±9", ±9".
- iPad-V:** Time markers at 0:55 (0:00) and 0:06. Sho notes with durations: ±13", ±11", ±10", ±37".
- Vc.:** Time markers at 0:55 (0:00) and 0:19. Dynamics: *f*, *f*, *sub p*, *fp*.
- Video:** "NY from train 2".
- Time:** 33:48, 33:54, 33:57, 34:02, 34:07, 34:11, 34:18, 34:28, 34:36.

**Section 32:**

- iPad-S:** Time markers at 1:17 (0:00) and 0:28. Sho notes with durations: ±10", ±10", ±9", ±10", ±7", ±8", ±5", ±2", ±8", ±10".
- iPad-V:** Time markers at 1:17 (0:00) and 0:19. Instruction: "ritardando". Sho notes with durations: ±19" (almost only noise), ±1'33".
- Vc.:** Time markers at 1:17 (0:00) and 0:19. Dynamics: *pp*, *pp*, *p*.
- Video:** "Chess 1", "Chess 2", "NY stairs to street 1".
- Time:** 34:46, 35:05, 35:12, 35:15, 35:25, 35:33, 35:40, 35:48, 36:56.

33

iPad-S 1:01 0:00 0:13 0:30 0:45

Sho ±6" ±5" ±2" ±7" ±10" ±7" ±8" ±7"

iPad-V 1:01 0:00

Vc. (±1'33")

Audio

Video NY stairs to street 2 birds on stairs Jewish cemetery 1 Jewish cemetery 2

Time 36:06 36:12 36:19 36:26 36:36 36:43 36:51

34

iPad-S 0:52 0:00

Sho ±10" ±3" ±6" ±4" ±18" improvisation using non-pitched frullato and breathing through instrument

iPad-V 0:52 0:00

Vc. s.t. fast very light bows slightly irregular rhythm ±12" improvisation changing partials ±24"

Audio

Video Gliders 1 Gliders 2

Time 36:58 37:00 37:10 37:13 37:23

35

iPad-S 0:34 0:00

Sho ±9" ±13" ±9" *ppp* *mf*

iPad-V 0:34 0:00

Vc. ±11" ±11" ±9" *mf*

Audio

Video

Time 37:32 37:41 37:43 37:50 37:54 37:59

36 0:31  
0:00

iPad-S

Sho  $\pm 50^\circ$

iPad-V 0:31  
0:00

Vc. gliss. leading to and away from a unison  $\pm 50^\circ$

Audio Sports crowd

Video Baseball on Japanese TV 1 Baseball on Japanese TV 2

Time 38:03 38:22 38:37

37 0:50  
0:00

iPad-S

Sho  $\pm 52^\circ$

iPad-V 0:50  
0:00

Vc. non trem.  $\pm 52^\circ$   
sub dimin. mp mf

Audio Hichiriki glissandi

Video Tokyo store window 1 Tokyo store window 2

Time 38:53 39:11 39:31

38 0:52  
0:00

iPad-S

Sho  $\pm 51^\circ$

iPad-V 0:52  
0:00

Vc.  $\pm 51^\circ$   
f poco poco crescendo

Audio Cars passing by

Video Haight store window 1 Haight store window 2

Time 39:45 40:17

39

iPad-S 0:51 0:00

slow continuous improvised glissando

Sho  $\pm 20''$   $\pm 4''$   $\pm 25''$   $\pm 2''$   $\pm 20''$   $\pm 3''$   $\pm 15''$   $\pm 1''$   $\pm 24''$

*pp*

iPad-V 0:51 0:00

Vc.  $\pm 1'54''$

Audio

Video Crane 1 Crane 2 Kamo river crossing 1

Time 40:36 41:00 41:27 41:32 41:50 42:06

40

iPad-S 1:54 0:00 0:09 0:36 0:56 1:06

Sho  $\pm 9''$   $\pm 22''$   $\pm 4''$   $\pm 20''$   $\pm 10''$   $\pm 28''$

iPad-V 1:54 0:00

Vc.  $\pm 1'34''$

Audio Sho short notes Sho glissandi

Video Kamo river crossing 2 From a Tokyo train 1 From a Tokyo train 2

Time 42:30 42:39 43:06 43:26 43:36 43:41

41

iPad-S 1:34 0:00 1:30 1:41

Sho  $\pm 1'30''$   $\pm 5''$   $\pm 6''$   $\pm 5''$   $\pm 2''$

Voice blend with cello *mp* *mm*  $\triangleright$  *mm*  $\triangleright$

iPad-V 1:34 0:00 1:02

Vc. arco norm. Voice to fuse with cello *mf*  $\triangleleft$   $\pm 1'02''$   $\pm 46''$

Audio

Video Tokyo department store stairs 1 Tokyo department store stairs 2 Little souls 1

Time 44:04 45:06 45:34 45:45



42

iPad-S 1:48 0:00 0:12 0:27 0:37

Voice  $\pm 12''$   $\pm 9''$   $\pm 6''$   $\pm 6''$   $\pm 4''$  Sho

*p* mm mm *p*

iPad-V 1:48 0:00

Vc.  $\pm 40''$

Audio

Video

Time 45:52 46:04 46:13 46:19 46:29

43

iPad-S 0:40 0:00 0:20 0:28 0:36

Sho 8  $\pm 20''$   $\pm 8$   $\pm 8$   $\pm 9$  *mf*

iPad-V 0:40 0:00

Vc.  $\pm 45''$

Audio Koto glissandi Hichiriki trills

Video Little souls 2 Akihabara 1

Time 46:32 46:52 47:00

44

iPad-S 0:45 0:00 0:08 0:16 0:24 0:32 0:40

Sho 8  $\pm 8$   $\pm 8$   $\pm 8$   $\pm 8$   $\pm 8$   $\pm 8$   $\pm 8$  *poco a poco crescendo*

iPad-V 0:45 0:00 0:08 "Skating" S.I.  $\pm 1'20''$

Vc. Cello ricochets *poco a poco cresc.*

Audio

Video Akihabara 2 NY subway 1

Time 47:17 47:25

45

iPad-S 0:48 0:00 0:08 0:16 0:24 0:32 0:40 0:48

Sho ±8 ±8 ±8 ±8 ±8 ±8 ±8 ±10 *ff*

iPad-V 0:48 0:00 0:40

Vc. ritardando ±18 *ff*

Audio On a train

Video NY subway 2 California road 1 California road 2

Time 48:05 48:21 48:46

46

iPad-S 0:58 0:00 1:01 0:00 0:09 0:27 0:40

Sho ±1'01" ±9" ±18" ±13" ±20" *pp*

iPad-V 0:58 0:00 1:01 0:00 0:40

Vc. ±1'01" ±40" 21" *pp*

Audio Hichiriki tremolo pp City park Cars passing by

Video SF hill 1 SF hill 2 War game poster 1 War game poster 2 Plane 1 Plane 2 Ocean 1

Time 49:03 49:20 49:39 50:04 50:13 50:31 50:44

47

iPad-S 1:01 0:00 0:20 0:35 0:52 1:19

Sho ±20" ±15" ±17" ±27" *ppp*

iPad-V 1:01 0:00 0:20 0:35 0:52 1:27

Vc. ±20" ±15" ±17" ±35" *ppp*

Audio Violoncello s.p. *ppp*

Video Ocean 2

Time 50:59 51:05 51:25 51:40 51:57 52:24 52:32