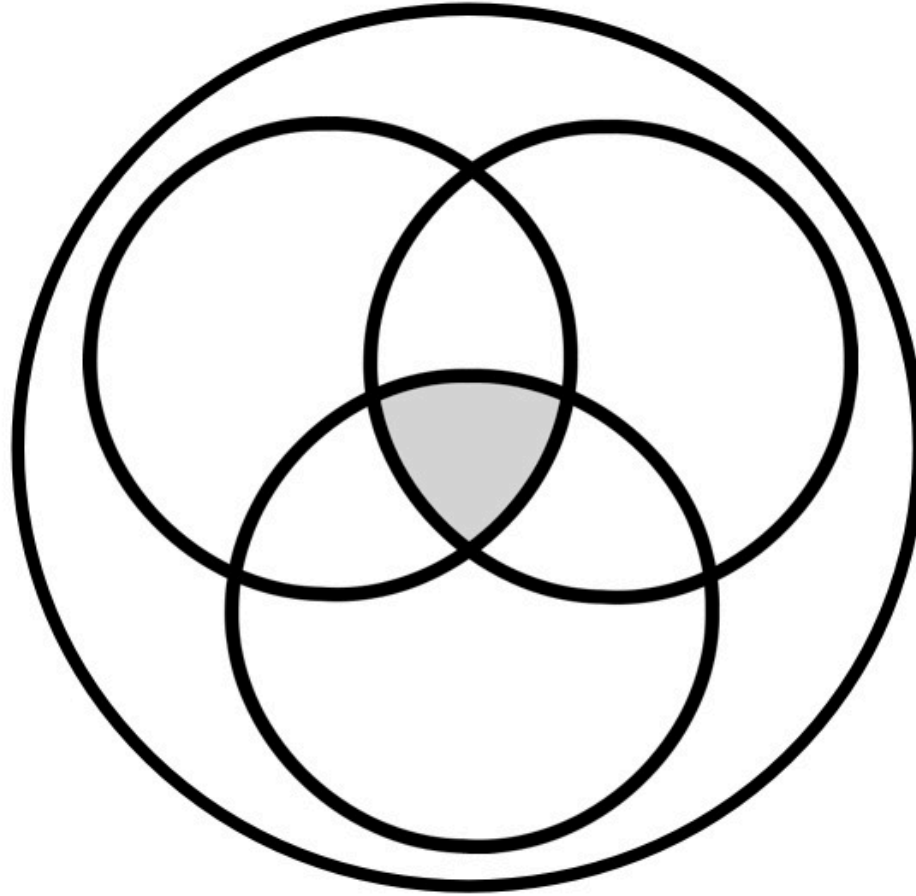


# Coalesce [4']

for piano and live electronics

Benjamin Van Esser

2015





**Coalesce [4']** was commissioned by **Hardscore vzw**

First performance by Gabi Sultana and Benjamin Van Esser  
at **Festival EAM 2016**

Duration  $\approx$  8'



# Setup & Performance Notes :

## SETUP

- 1 piano is to be placed in the middle of the stage.
- 3 microphones (2 -> mixing desk, 1-> electronics)
- 2 speakers are to be placed on both edges of the stage.
- 1 pair of in-ear monitors (click track/performance instructions) should be provided for the performer.


## Electronics

- the electronics are to be performed using a monome grid 256. A custom Max For Live patch (Coalesce4.axmd) is incorporated in the Live set.
- monome interface can be found in the accompanying pdf file 'Coalesce\_4\_monome\_setup'.
- a sound engineer should be present to optimise the mix of both acoustic and electronic output.
- all necessary files are available from the composer (see contact info below).
- Incorporated in the click track is a 'talk through' feature that helps the performers to keep track of the different sections throughout the piece.
- cross noteheads = samples; normal noteheads = instruments)

## SCORE

- **A** (bar 1 to 30) : Play the score with the right hand and use the left hand to create the harmonics. Initially, the left hand should be placed at the beginning of the string, directly behind the horizontal part of the frame (keyboard side). During this passage, use both middle and index finger to apply maximum pressure to the string. Slowly slide both fingers into the piano by stretching the left arm. Maximum stretch should be reached at the end of the passage.  
Bar 29-30 : slowly release fingers from the string and switch to normal playing position.

- **D** and [**I** to end] : Avoid playing arpeggiando. Use the other hand to help out where necessary.

- **G** to **I** :  → use the palm of hand to play the cluster type figures.  
perform fast figures as suggested in the ossia's.

- use pedal economically in passages that are marked *con Ped.*

## CONTACT INFO

- info@benjaminvanesser.be
- www.benjaminvanesser.be

# Coalesce [4']

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**Meccanico** ♩ = 130 A \*

Piano

click track count-in

*ff* *staccato e marcato*

\* apply maximum pressure to string.

*senza Ped.*

Electronics

sine beep

blinkenbeats \*

subsweep

The score is written for piano and live electronics. The piano part is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 130. It begins with a 'Meccanico' section marked with a box 'A' and an asterisk. The piano part includes a 'click track count-in' and a 'senza Ped.' instruction. The electronics part includes a 'sine beep' and 'blinkenbeats' (marked with an asterisk) and 'subsweep'.

8

The score continues with the piano and electronics parts. The piano part is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 130. It includes a 'Meccanico' section marked with a box 'A' and an asterisk. The piano part includes a 'click track count-in' and a 'senza Ped.' instruction. The electronics part includes a 'sine beep' and 'blinkenbeats' (marked with an asterisk) and 'subsweep'.

\* improvise within the 'blinkenbeats' row on the monome grid

15

8va

3 3

22

8va

27

8va

silently depress keys

instrument : pnores →

32

B

*staccato*

stop sine beep

subsweep

This system contains measures 32 through 38. Measure 32 features a large, sustained chord in the bass. Measures 33-38 show a sequence of notes in the bass and a 'stop sine beep' in the treble. A 'subsweep' is indicated in measure 35.

39

silently depress keys

This system contains measures 39 through 43. Measure 39 features a large, sustained chord in the bass. Measures 40-43 show a sequence of notes in the bass and a 'silently depress keys' instruction in the treble.

44

silently depress keys

*staccato*

subsweep

This system contains measures 44 through 48. Measure 44 features a large, sustained chord in the bass. Measures 45-48 show a sequence of notes in the bass and a 'staccato' instruction in the treble. A 'subsweep' is indicated in measure 47.



50

C

*f*

*staccato*

sine cresc

57

63

69

Musical score for measures 69-72. The score is written for piano (p) and includes a percussion part. The piano part features a complex melodic line in the right hand and a more rhythmic, chordal accompaniment in the left hand. The percussion part consists of a series of eighth notes and rests. The score is marked with a 'p' (piano) dynamic and includes a 'stop sine cresc' instruction.

stop sine cresc  
pno rev 1

73 D

Musical score for measures 73-79. The score is written for piano (mp) and includes a percussion part. The piano part features a complex melodic line in the right hand and a more rhythmic, chordal accompaniment in the left hand. The score is marked with a 'mp' (mezzo-piano) dynamic and includes a 'con Ped.' instruction. The percussion part consists of a series of eighth notes and rests.

mp  
con Ped.  
freezestills 1 →

80

Musical score for measures 80-86. The score is written for piano (mp) and includes a percussion part. The piano part features a complex melodic line in the right hand and a more rhythmic, chordal accompaniment in the left hand. The score is marked with a 'mp' (mezzo-piano) dynamic.

88

Measures 88-94 of a musical score. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef features a series of eighth and quarter notes, often beamed together, with some notes tied across measures. The bass clef accompaniment consists of sustained chords, primarily triads and dyads, with some movement in the lower register. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 94.

95

Measures 95-101 of a musical score. The system continues with the same grand staff and key signature. The melody in the treble clef shows more rhythmic variation, including some sixteenth notes. The bass clef accompaniment remains mostly sustained, with some changes in chord voicing. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 101.

102

Measures 102-108 of a musical score. The system continues with the same grand staff and key signature. The melody in the treble clef includes some half notes and quarter notes. The bass clef accompaniment continues with sustained chords. The system concludes with a final double bar line at the end of measure 108.

stop freezestills 1

110 E

*staccato e marcato*

***ff***  
*senza Ped.*

blinkenbeats \*

glitch, freeze action      glitch: slow cresc until G

gradual cresc freeze action; increase performance density with 'freeze position' and 'freeze width' until bar 196

117

122

\* improvise within the 'blinkenbeats' row on the monome grid

126

132

132

F

136

140

Measures 140-142 of a musical score. The system consists of three staves. The top two staves are a grand staff with a treble and bass clef, containing complex chordal textures with many sharps in the key signature. The bottom staff is a single-line staff with a double bar line at the beginning, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes.

143

Measures 143-145 of a musical score. The system consists of three staves. The top two staves are a grand staff with a treble and bass clef, containing complex chordal textures with many sharps in the key signature. The bottom staff is a single-line staff with a double bar line at the beginning, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes.

146

Measures 146-149 of a musical score. The system consists of three staves. The top two staves are a grand staff with a treble and bass clef, containing complex chordal textures with many sharps in the key signature. The bottom staff is a single-line staff with a double bar line at the beginning, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes.

150

(chromatic clusters)

5

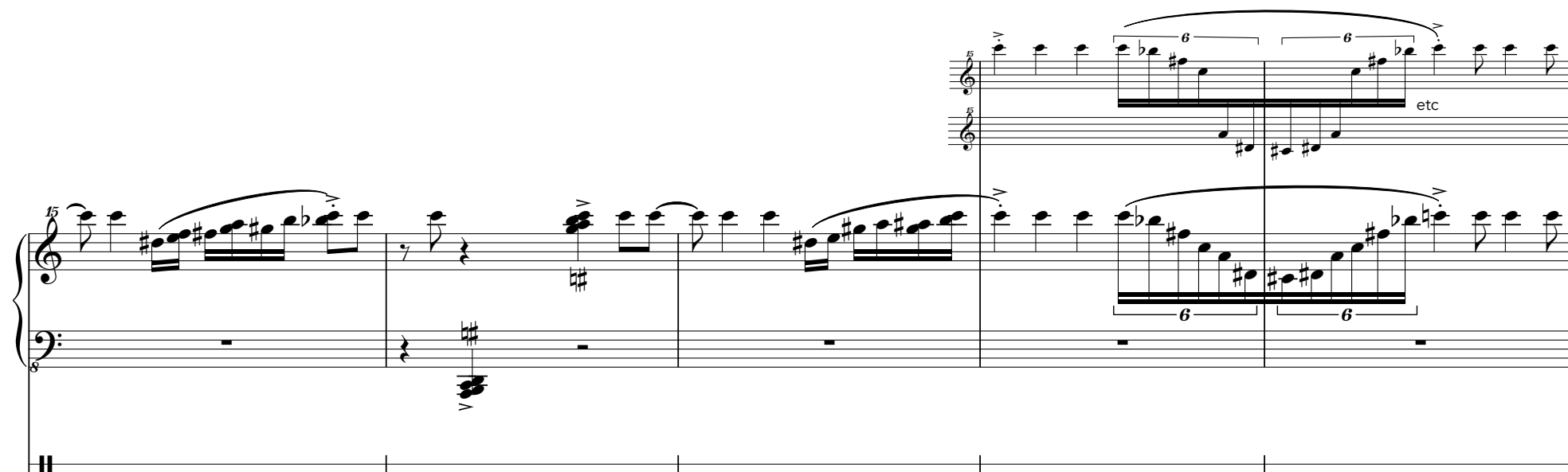
*fff*

*con Ped.*

G

etc

play exclusively with 'freeze position' and 'freeze width' until bar 196



System 1 of the musical score, measures 125-128. The system consists of two staves for the piano (treble and bass clef) and two staves for the vocal part (treble and bass clef). The piano part features a complex melodic line in the right hand with many accidentals and a sustained bass line in the left hand. The vocal part has a melody in the treble staff with sixteenth-note runs and a bass line in the bass staff. The system ends with a double bar line.



System 2 of the musical score, measures 164-167. The system consists of two staves for the piano (treble and bass clef) and two staves for the vocal part (treble and bass clef). The piano part continues with complex melodic lines and many accidentals. The vocal part features a melody in the treble staff with sixteenth-note runs and a bass line in the bass staff. The system ends with a double bar line.



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265</

Musical score for measures 15-18. The score is written for piano (p) and includes a vocal line (H) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked  $\text{♩} = 15$ . The piano part features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sextuplets, and is marked with a forte (f) dynamic. The vocal line (H) is marked with a forte (f) dynamic and includes a breath mark (H).

Musical score for measures 182-185. The score is written for piano (p) and includes a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked  $\text{♩} = 15$ . The piano part features complex rhythmic patterns, including sextuplets, and is marked with a forte (f) dynamic.

185 *15*

Measures 185 and 186 of a piano score. The right hand features a complex melodic line with triplets and sextuplets, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

187 *15*

Measures 187 through 190. The right hand continues with intricate patterns, including sextuplets and triplets. The left hand has a more active role with moving lines. The instruction "senza Ped." (without pedal) is written at the end of the system.

190 *15*

Measures 190 through 193. The right hand plays a series of chords and short melodic fragments. The left hand continues with a rhythmic accompaniment. The instruction "fff" (fortissimo) is written in the right hand part.

194  
45

*mp subito*

*cantabile*  
*mf*  
*con Ped.*

sine pitch down

stop glitch  
stop freezearction

piano double

201  
45

208  
45

J

pno rev 2

sine beep

Detailed description: This musical score is for a piano piece, spanning measures 194 to 208. It is written for a grand piano with a treble and bass staff. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 194-200) features a treble staff with a complex, rhythmic melody of eighth and sixteenth notes, many with accents. The bass staff provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *mp subito* appears in measure 197. A box labeled 'I' is placed above the treble staff in measure 199. The second system (measures 201-207) continues the treble melody, which becomes more melodic and includes some ties. The bass staff features long, sustained notes with a *cantabile* marking in measure 202. A dynamic marking of *mf* and the instruction *con Ped.* are present in measure 202. A box labeled 'J' is placed above the treble staff in measure 207. The third system (measures 208-214) shows the treble staff continuing its melodic line. The bass staff has long, sustained notes. A dynamic marking of *pno rev 2* is at the start of measure 208, and *sine beep* is at the end of measure 214. Various performance instructions are written below the staves: 'sine pitch down' and 'stop glitch stop freezearction' are between the first and second systems, and 'piano double' is between the first and second systems. The page number 15 is in the top left corner.

216  
15

freeze stills 2

225  
15

*sempre mp*

234  
15

245  
15

K

*p*

||

253  
15

*pp*

||

stop freezestills 2