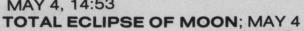
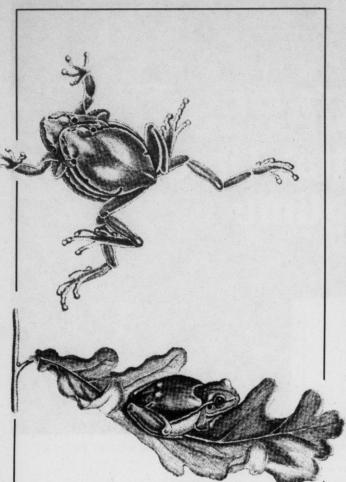
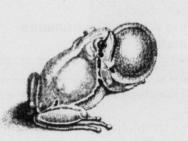
MAY 4, 14:53







(excerpt from)

FROGBOG AND **CRICKET CHORUS**

BY ANDREW TIMAR

Over the last ten Springs I have organized outings to various locations in Southern Ontario with the view to listen to and play with the resident frog populations. I have become increasingly aware of the seasonal and geographically-specific nature of the peak of frog chorus activity. Water and air temperature, winter weather conditions (i.e. amount of ice), water depth, altitude, latitude, daylight duration, and humidity all play determinate roles in triggering mating (therefore calling) activity — and all these factors are year and site variable.

Perhaps because of their numbers and the time of year when their mating takes place, in many ethnic traditions the frog is portrayed as a symbol of fecundity, always in a positive light. I have as yet not found negative references to frogs.

In my neighbourhood (north shore of Lake Ontario), the peak of frog chorus activity in most years takes place around the second week of May. This coincides with cropplanting and the establishment of native green plant growth after the long white winter of inanimate sounds — many hostile to human

Three months later, around the second week of August, particularly in long-grass fields during a hot dry spell, choruses of crickets, grasshoppers and leaf hoppers mark the growing season.

The manner in which these two sound-rich choruses frame the season of growth - one from water, the other from dry earth anchors my sound-life firmly in this place.



Earthspin

the 88 celestial constellations as represented by the 88 piano keys, the solar cycle as represented by the prerecorded cluster of the complete piano range;

to be performed by a pianist and an electronic sound system operator:

to be performed either as a SOLO or in conjunction with other TIMESCAPES, most particularly leading into and out of CELESTIAL CYCLES:

acoustical depiction of the imaginary gradual acceleration of the speed of the earth's rotations around its axis from its actual rate (once during 24 hours according to the earthlings' measuring) to a rate 1440 or more times faster (once during 60 seconds or less) and the subsequent deceleration in order to return to the actual speed:

each performance starts and ends at the point in the score which corresponds with the actual

month, day and hour of the performance (the appended TIMETABLE shows the correspondences between the startime or sidereal time as shown in the score and the local meridian or calendar/clocktime) (the fourth page of the score links up with the first);

at the start the pianist activates all the sounds representing the visible constellations of the performance time and reiterates them for any desired length of time (no. 1 on the TIMECHART);

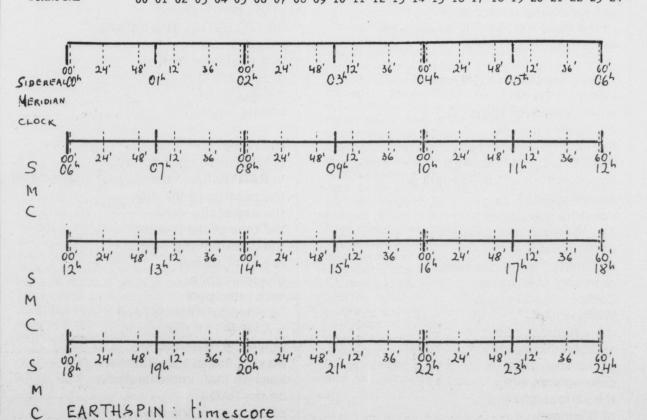
while continuing to reiterate the sounds representing the immediately visible constellations he/she then compresses his/her time-concept by considering an hour as of lasting 24' in constant clock-time (no. 2 on the TIMECHART);

EARTHSPIN: timetable

00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 STARTIME

STARTIME

00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24



planting moon (Dakota) month everything hatches (Tlingit) moon of the break up of ice / moon of the sea (Loucheux) frog moon (Cree) little finger (Modoc) moon of the black bear / moon of the carp (Carrier)

EAR

no. 9

no. 10

no. 11

MAY 19, 16:41 PARTIAL ECLIPSE OF SUN; MAY 19

THSPIN: timechart				when the performance is in conjuing CELESTIAL CYCLES the pianist so at the timepoint in the score representations, but his/her accelerations so that he/si reached no. 8 on the TIMECHART
	small bar	s large bars	cycle of 4 pages	which corresponds with the timeped for the start of the CELESTIAL zodiac constellations of both the the CELESTIAL CYCLES have to be this unison has been reached, the tinue for any desired number of cytually fade out; similarly, to reverse the process, the blends into the CELESTIAL CYCLE ranged time, in sync with the zodiations, and starts the acceleration CELESTIAL CYCLES playback has SOLO the performance ends with representing the immediate visible ("the spinning the earth into a blay").
10.1	24'	60'	24 hrs.	
10. 2	(9'36'')	24'	9h36'	
10.3	2'30"	(6'15")	2h30'	
10.4	60"	2'30"	60'	
10.5	24"	60"	24'	
0.6	(9.6")	24"	9'36"	
0.7	2.5"	(6.25")	2'30"	
0.8	1"	2.5"	60"	

24"

0"

two kinds of barlines - solid and broken - indicate time-units for further compressions of the time-scale;

starting a clock, the pianist reads time from the broken barline closest to the left of the event he/she is playing at the rate 2'30" per bar (no. 3 on the TIMECHART); once the clock catches up with the event in question, he/she continues to read the score at the given timerate;

he/she may change the timeframe at any solid or broken barline to the subsequent one on the TIMECHART until he/she reaches no. 8 or no. 9; after completing at least one full cycle at this speed he/she reverses the process and by expanding the time-scale step by step returns gradually to no. 1 on the TIMECHART, but paced so that he/she ends with the event with which he/she

as an alternative version the pianist may "spin the earth into a black hole" by moving on through no. 10 - 1" for the whole score - into no. 11 - complete silence; in such a case the next performance has "to suck the earth out of the black hole and gradually return it to its normal spinning", i.e. start with no. 10:

when the performance is in conjunction with starts as in SOLO esenting the imout arranges he will have by the time oint programm-CYCLES, i.e. the EARTHSPIN and be in sync; once pianist will conycles and even-

the pianist ES at a preariacal constellaprocess after the s ended; as in the sounds e constellations:

'the spinning the earth into a black hole" and sucking the earth out of a black hole" concepts may also be used to "stop the time" and "restart the time" at an overall TIMESCAPES performance, e.g., to lead into and out of a STATEMENT OF NOW or a RAGTIME performance, or to introduce and terminate an intermission, etc.)

notation:

note shapes indicate relative amplitudes in the framework set by the performer (e.g. the performer may choose to play only at the quiet end of the spectrum, or use the complete range, or change the scope from tempo to tempo, but whatever he/she does has to be of consistency within the chosen framework):

-loudest -medium -softer

O -softest

• white note of any of the 5 shapes: attack of a **new** sound at the given timepoint;

black note of any of the 5 shapes: continuation (by pedal and/or reiteration) of a sound to which it is tied (it should not be reattacked unless its rate of decay, a change in fingering or pedalling or other circumstances merit a new attack which in turn need not occur at the point where the note has

been printed but rather at any time during the given bar);

 small round black note: termination of the sound to which it has been tied.

prerecorded sounds:

the electronically reproduced sounds consist of an attackless cluster of all 88 pitches of the piano divided into groups of 44 or 22 or 11 and recorded on a 2 or 4 or 8 channel loop (ideally the recorded keyboard sounds ought to be produced by the same pianist who performs the live part); they are played back in sync with the pianist's reading of the score at varying time ratios so that the cluster sound properly represents, on the same scale, the appearing and disappearing of the sunlight in the skies of the northern and southern hemispheres; on playback the loudspeakers should be placed in the immediate vicinity of the piano, most preferably under it.

to coordinate their activities the pianist and the electronic systems' operator prepare their TIMESCORES by filling in

(a) the local meridian time of the performance from the TIMETABLE; (should the CELESTIAL CYCLES be scheduled to start or end on a day belonging to a different time-period than that of the performance, the meridian time of this day is also to be entered in the TIMESCORE); (b) the performance clocktime as related to the

(c) any additional pertinent information regarding amplitude ranges, starting and stopping of CELESTIAL CYCLES, etc.

the soundsystems' operator plays back the loop (by either blending or filtering in and out the channels or bands) according to the SUNSCORE as it relates to the time of the year represented by the performance (when CELESTIAL CYCLES start or end on a day belonging to a different time-period than that of the performance, the reading of the SUNSCORE will be smoothly shifted from one section to the other).

notation:

names of notes and lines refer to the range of the cluster to be made audible or inaudible between the timepoints (in meridian time) indicated by the score: the cluster is audible through the white portions of the score, inaudible through the lined portions of the score

on and around the vernal equinox in the year of the dog

