A reading score
for the electronic music composition

Sonal atoms (part I of Half-life) by Curtis Roads

Transcription by James Ingram

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Legend

Points (pitchless)

1  2  3  4  5  6  7
“leather”  “wood”  “metal”  “electric”  “animal” (usually a “bird”)

Lines (pitched)

9  6  3  8  5  2  7  4  1
thick  →  thin

fast  →  slow

Clouds (pitchless)

| 10r | 10i | 3r | 3i | 4 | 11 | 6 | 8 |
| 5r  | 5i  | 7r | 7i |   |    |   |   |
| 1r  | 1i  | 9r | 9i |   |    |   |   |
| reg | irr | reg | irr |   |    |   |   |
| hard particles | soft particles | hiss | wind |

thick  →  thin

Other symbols

continuation

When used in conjunction with a timbre icon, this means that the sound is the same for each event. Successive timbres may however sound different even though they have the same timbre class. This is would be notated with a separate timbre icon for each event.

operator

x

Used to describe a combination of two Cloud timbres. The operation itself is not further specified, it could be some form of modulation or filtering. The clouds between 165 and 170 look as if they have been created by smudging the sonogram by hand...

cautenary

()

Cautionary Point timbres are used to qualify Cloud timbres.

dynamics

These have been allocated purely subjectively. The equivalent mechanical process would involve a 2- or 3-dimensional trammet having decibel, frequency and timbre-class as its parameters.