

# Untitled Improvisation from *Imagine the Sound*

Cecil Taylor

transcribed by Mark Micchelli

**A** Loose approach to note durations;  
gradually speed up until letter B

Ped. predominantly secco for remainder of piece\*

0'29"\*\*

0'51"

\* Taylor most often introduces pedal during long notes at the end of phrases, while he's setting up his hands before starting his next gesture.

\*\* The timestamps in this transcription refer to the YouTube video excerpting this improvisation, not the timestamps of the *Imagine the Sound* documentary itself (link here: <https://youtu.be/cP5L8tjnB6w>).

2

30 B 1'07" C 1'26" D 1'52"

**B:**  $\text{♩} = \text{♪}$ ; given note durations are more exact

see footnote\*

34

38

42

46

50

54

see footnote\*\*

\* Notes in parentheses are "ghosted"; Taylor appears to play them in the video, but they are either imperceptible or barely perceptible in the audio.

\*\* X-shaped noteheads indicate pitches I was not able to confidently identify (usually because they are too low).

58

2'05"

63

68

2'19"

73

2'25"

89

D 2'34"

89

2'42"

95

E 2'48"

100 2'53"

103 F 2'57" 3'00"

108 G 3'02"

111 (F is held) 3'12"

115

H As fast as possible 3'17"

119

more exact timestamps: 3'17"396ms 3'19"052ms 13.81 notes/sec

121

3'20"709ms

3'23"407ms  
11.86 notes/sec

122

*8va*

125

As fast as possible

3'27"085ms

3'29"538ms  
13.86 notes/sec

126 *a tempo*

3'30"

white keys

white keys

128

130

3'40"167ms

3'42"521ms  
14.01 notes/sec

131 a tempo

I 3'44"

136

3'56"

141

J 4'04"

146 4'08"

K 4'13"

152 4'16"

L 4'20"

4'22"

**M** As fast as possible

156

7

8va-----|

8va-----|

157 4'32"  
a tempo**N** 4'35"

162

164

O 4'44"

P 4'51" As fast as possible

Q 4'58" a tempo

R 5'02" Suddenly slower

S 5'07"

T 5'13"

U 5'18"

184

T 5'25"

8vb

8vb

189

As fast as possible

5'41"

8vb

192

193

8va

194

white keys \*

196

A musical score for piano, featuring six staves of music. The score consists of two systems of three staves each. The top system starts at measure 10 and ends at measure 197. The bottom system starts at measure 198 and ends at measure 200. The score includes various musical markings such as dynamic signs, articulation marks, and performance instructions like "palm!".

**Measure 10:** Treble clef, common time. The piano part consists of two staves: treble and bass. The treble staff has a single melodic line with eighth-note patterns. The bass staff has a harmonic base with sustained notes and occasional eighth-note chords.

**Measure 197:** Treble clef, common time. The piano part consists of two staves: treble and bass. The treble staff features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns and grace notes. The bass staff provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords. A performance instruction "palm!" is placed above the treble staff.

**Measure 198:** Treble clef, common time. The piano part consists of two staves: treble and bass. The treble staff has a melodic line with eighth-note patterns. The bass staff provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords.

**Measure 199:** Treble clef, common time. The piano part consists of two staves: treble and bass. The treble staff has a melodic line with eighth-note patterns. The bass staff provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords.

**Measure 200:** Treble clef, common time. The piano part consists of two staves: treble and bass. The treble staff has a melodic line with eighth-note patterns. The bass staff provides harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note chords.

# of notes approximate \_\_\_\_\_

**V** 200 6'09" **a tempo**

201 **W** 6'12"

206 **X** 6'16"

8<sup>vib</sup> 8<sup>vib</sup>

208 **Y** 6'20" **Z** 6'25"

210