A Ready-Made-Sonata
for violin and electronics

Matheus Souza
Notes

“A Ready-Made-Sonata” is a music composition in a cross-disciplinary dialogue with music and new technologies, such as electronic devices and music programming. The composicional planning of this piece is a result of a collaborative work between a composer-performer and a music composition researcher.

This piece was composed by Matheus Souza in Rio de Janeiro in 2021, based on the “Ready-Made-Sonata”, a Sonata Form instructions guide written by Marcel Castro-Lima. The instructions delimit that the structural form of the piece must be a Sonata Form, and the composer-performer shapes it according to their subjectivity and creates and perform their own original piece.

After the reference of “Ready-Made” in arts had captured by Matheus Souza, he intended to compose this piece creating an optional intertextuality by the allusion of the famous Sonata for violin and piano in E minor by W. A. Mozart, to the Principal Theme; in addition to creating another intertextuality by the allusion of the Concerto in G for four violins by G. P. Telemann, to the Subordinate Theme.

The Principal Theme was composed for solo violin and the composer distorted the original text by Mozart in terms of pitches, rhythms, introducing extended techniques and also indicating to the performer it must be played “Always freely” because “only gestures matter”. The Subordinate Theme was composed for violin and Max / MSP and it has the same indication of freedom. It is inspired on the vertical densification of the Concerto in G for four violins by Telemann imagined being played in a high reverberation place.

About the electronic devices: to start the Subordinate Theme the performer must trigger the Max / MSP Patch (programmed by Matheus Souza, to promote loop and reverb) to start the sample of the pitch A1; after, the performer must do a crescendo on it; after that, the performer must trigger the Patch to start the sample of G3; and then the performer must trigger the Patch to capture the violin sound. The electronic devices will also be used in some parts of both the Development and the Recapitulation.

Matheus Souza

(World premiered virtually by Matheus Souza on 18th August 2021)
(Recorded by Matheus Souza on 20th July 2021, in Rio de Janeiro, RJ – Brazil)
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Allegro
Always freely, only gestures matter.

Violin

Vln.

Vln.
Scordatura:
F# D A E

8x

Reverb on

pp cresc.
Reverb on -
Unmeasured
Freely

2x

IV
I
IV

mf

2x

Vln.

Electronics

(cresc.)

f

Vln.

Electronics

ca. 2x

dim.

ca. 2x

Reverb off

Vln.

Electronics

Reverb off

Reverb on

Speaking:

mnmh  I know it