Seven Found Clouds
Jordan Dykstra
for plucked grand piano (in any tuning[1]) and EBow

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I.   Place the EBow on the strings of any note that contains a trichord[2].

II. As you press down the sustain pedal gently pluck[3] the middle string of that trichord, this activates the EBow[4] and is the first note of your *cloud scale sequence*.

    A. Your 5-minute *cloud scale sequence* may be chosen from one of the following suggestions (listed below in intervalic semitones and performed in either ascending or descending motion) **or** you may sequence your own non-one-octave-recurring pattern:

      1.   2-3-3 (*repeat*)
      2.   3-2-3 (*repeat*)
      3.   3-1-3 (*repeat*)
      4.   3-3-1 (*repeat*)
      5.   3-3-2 (*repeat*)
      6.   5 (*repeat*)
      7.   3-4-1 (*repeat*)
      8.   7 (*repeat*)
      9.   3-4 (*repeat*)
      10. 4-3 (*repeat*)
      11. 2-2-3 (*repeat*)
      12. 3-2-3-2 (*repeat*)
      13. 3-3-2-2 (*repeat*)
      14. 9 (*repeat*)
      15. 10 (*repeat*)
      16. 4-3-2-1 (*repeat*)
      17. 5-3 (*repeat*)
      18. 3-2-4-1 (*repeat*)
      19. 4-2-3-1 (*repeat*)
      20. 4-1-1-3 (*repeat*)
      21. 4-1-3-1 (*repeat*)
      22. 4-3-1-1 (*repeat*)
      23. 11 (*repeat*)
      24. 5-6 (*repeat*)
      25. 6-5 (*repeat*)

III. Continuing your chosen scale, pluck the notes *very slowly* (around 4 notes per minute).

IV. Toward the end of your 5-minute *cloud scale sequence* silently lift the EBow from the string as you pluck a note.

V.   As you finish your chosen scale, gently pluck the last few notes, keeping the same steady pace. Let the last note ring and then fade. Finally, release the sustain pedal.

VI. Repeat steps I-V seven times.

[1]Any tuning is fine. For instance, the one I found (and used for the recording) was *loosely* based on the harmonic series of C1. Perhaps incorrectly, the piano was tuned using the following cent deviations:

C	±0
C#	+4.955
D	+3.91
Eb	-2.49
E	-13.68
F (*natural seventh of G*)	-29.22
F (*quarter sharp*)	-48
G	+1.955
Ab	+40.52
A	+5.87
Bb (*natural seventh*)	-31.18
B	-11
C	±0

Listed below in ratios and cent equivalence, another tuning example could be:

1/1	0
567/512	177
9/8	204
147/128	240
21/16	471
1323/1024	444
189/128	675
3/2	702
49/32	738
7/4	969
441/256	942
63/32	1173
2/1	1200

[2]The EBow will rest nicely on the neighboring strings, allowing the middle trichord string to vibrate. The EBow won't work on a note containing only a bichord (upper range) or single piano string (lower range) as the EBow sled has nowhere to rest.

[3]It is best to use your finger but a guitar pick (or similar tool) may also be used to pluck the middle string of the trichord as long as an unusually sharp attack is avoided.

[4]Although a fresh 9V battery will encourage engagement of the EBow on the string, if there is no immediate activation continue on, often sympathetic resonances will trigger the needed vibration.

A solo performance of *Seven Found Clouds* is fine, but more ideal is a performance with multiple performers, each with their own grand piano set spatially throughout a resonant hall.

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