

Dance of the Unicorn (#1)

Dance of the Unicorn is music in a traditional Celtic style using the included Ethno 2 *Skisn i* tuning. I have enjoyed Celtic music for many years and often attend Irish folk festivals. Ethno 2 gave me the opportunity to compose in the Celtic style with authentic sounds.

The Instruments used (all from the Celtic instrument group) are:

Bodhran Hits
Bodhran Licks
Hand Clap
clogs
Pipe Snare Drum
Penny Whistle Sus
Tenor Drum
Fiddle KS
Guitar in E
Twelve Strings hard
Guitar in D
Celtic Harp 1
GH pipes wild

Filename vaisvil-motu-celtic-5-skisni.mp3

The Unicorn Foal (#2)

The Unicorn Foal is an improvisation using a guitar to midi converter to control three Ethno2 Celtic instruments, the Guitar in E, Twelve Strings hard guitar and Fiddle sus and recorded live in serial fashion. All of the instruments used are tuned in the included Ethno 2 *werckmeister3_eb* tuning .

Filename vaisvil-ethno-improv-revised.mp3

The Dream of Aengus (#3)

The Dream of Aengus is free-form neo-classical piece using the several variants of the penny whistle and guitars (listed below) in the included Ethno 2 *appalachian* tuning .The idea behind the piece was to write something lyrical using some 20th century melodic and harmonic techniques such as blues inflection and parallel chords.

the instruments used are:

Guitar in E
Twelve Strings
Penny Whistle Sus
Low Whistle
Penny Whistle Rolls
Penny Whistle Grace

Filename vaisvil-motu-flute-guitar-appalachian.mp3

Kandahar Poppies (#4)

This piece is a quasi-middle eastern band using the included Ethno 2 Zurna tuning. The composition was created by a bottom up technique where the percussion was composed and then the acoustic bass improvised, then the guitars, and then the Electric Bouzouki lead improvised last. All improvisations used a guitar to midi convertor.

The specific instruments used:

Twelve Strings
Guitar in E
Guitar in D
Acoustic Bass 2 hard
Acoustic Bass 2
El. Bouzouki KS
Timbales 1
Luo - Gong
Bendir 1
Bendir 2
Daires
Darbuka
Oriental Tambourin
Sistres

Filename vaisvil-MOTU-try-4a1-Kandahar-Poppies.mp3

Searching for the Unicorn (#5)

Since the full length version goes over the 3 minute limit I have a "demo length" version.

Searching for the Unicorn uses mostly African instrumentation with the bamboo saxophone taking center stage with guitars in the Almak tuning included in Ethno 2. The composition started as a chord progression with a feeling I liked in the Almak tuning and I added layers of percussion, Dobro slides and then the Bambou Saxophones. My wife Debbie does the voice over.

Instruments used:

Twelve Strings (guitar)

Djembe Modern Skin

Talking Drums

Cruche

Fedounoum

Tamborine 2

Guinean Baga Drum-Close

Cha

Bass Tabla

Bambou Sax F sus

Bambou Sax C sus

Bambou Sax A# sus

Afro Steel Guitar

Sweep Moon

Dobro slides

Full length:

Filename vaisvil-MOTU-try-5c7full.mp3

Socotra Island (#6)

This is a little piece dedicated to the lost world island of Socotra that grabs a lot of instrumentation from across Asia with little discrimination - the pitched instruments use the included Afshari tuning with the exception of the Jaw harps which use 12-tET (due to an oversight). The composition was an experiment in layering Ethno 2 percussion. Because so many instruments were used two simultaneous instances of Ethno 2 VST instrument were used to realize the piece.

Instruments in instance 1:

Ban Gu

cha

Gu 1 Bass

Gu 2 High

Luo - Gong

Guinean Baga Drum-Close

All Burmese Gongs

All Cambodian Gongs

All Chinese Gongs

All Indochinese Gongs

All Japanese Gongs

All Kelantan Gongs

All Vietnamese Gongs

Taiko Reverb mic 1

Kendhang Ageng -big

Japanese Gong Energy E1

Instruments in instance 2:

Jaw Harp C#

Jaw Harp D

West Indies Bass

Lira 1 Sustain

Filename vaisvil-motu-6-socotra-island.mp3

Bending the Rules(#7)

This piece is a composition for 12 string guitar and various percussion in Bohlen-Pierce 13 notes per tritave tuning. The percussion in the piece is triggered by the midi part for guitar which was recorded by a guitar to midi convertor. This technique relies on the ranges each percussion instrument covers to provide variety - thus a low note may trigger a Baya and a high note a bell but not both at the same time.

Instruments used

Aboriginal Perc Bass

Twelve Strings

Baya

Misc Percussion

Congolese Sanza 5 plates

Filename Vaisvil-MOTU-8a-bending-the-rules-in-bohlen-pierce.mp3