

Etude in *Gehmyonjo*

**Soo Yeon Lyuh
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Geh Myon Jo is a traditional Korean pentatonic scale, originating from the *Jeolla* Province in South Korea. It is a minor mode and each degree of the scale retains a different function and articulation as specified in the following instruction:

Note E - to be played with a wide and fast vibrato

Note A - to be played with a subtle vibrato

Note B - a breaking note and always follows after a grace note C

This etude is written for the Contemporary Performance Ensemble at Mills College in Spring semester 2017. The aim is to introduce the Korean traditional mode (*Geh Myon Jo*) and rhythmic patterns (*Gootguri*, *Utmori* and *Jajinmori*) to those without a Korean cultural and musical background. The composition is for open instrumentation in order to invite all musicians and instruments.



- C (symbol): Very quick upward slide into the target note, abruptly with a release at the top.

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GehMyonJo (Scale)

Musical notation for the GehMyonJo scale on a treble clef staff. The scale consists of the notes G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G. The notes G, A, and B are marked with a wavy line and labeled "(heavy vibrato)". The notes C, D, E, and F are marked with a smaller wavy line and labeled "(subtle vibrato)". A note on the line (B) is marked with a grace note C and labeled "(B always includes grace note C)".

rubato

Haegeum Solo

Musical notation for the Haegeum Solo section, consisting of a single treble clef staff with a whole rest and a double bar line followed by the time signature 12/8.

A Gootguri ♩. = 50

Janggu solo

Musical notation for the Janggu solo section, consisting of a treble clef staff with a 12/8 time signature. The notation shows a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Tutti improvise with Gehmyonjo pitch set
(over Gootguri rhythm)

Musical notation for the Tutti improvise section, consisting of a treble clef staff with four measures, each containing a whole rest.

Duo Improv (with Janggu)

Instr. 1 & 2

Instr. 3 & 4

Musical notation for the Duo Improv section, consisting of two treble clef staves. The first staff is labeled "Instr. 1 & 2" and the second staff is labeled "Instr. 3 & 4". Both staves contain four measures of whole rests.

Instr. 5 & 6

Instr. 7 & 8

Musical notation for the Duo Improv section, consisting of two treble clef staves. The first staff is labeled "Instr. 5 & 6" and the second staff is labeled "Instr. 7 & 8". Both staves contain four measures of whole rests.

Instr. 9 & 10

Ensemble Tutti

Musical notation for the Ensemble Tutti section, consisting of a treble clef staff with ten measures. The first four measures contain whole rests, followed by a repeat sign, and the last four measures contain whole rests. The section ends with a double bar line and the time signature 10/8.

B Utmori ♩ = 160

Janggu solo



Ensemble: Enter at any measure of performer's choice within the given notation.

Soloist: free improv

**C Tutti Improvisation** (no rhythmic pattern)
Independent free tempo**D Jainmori** ♩ = 100