

Etude in *Sujecheon*

**Soo Yeon Lyuh
(2018)**

Sujecheon is one of the most representative pieces of Korean traditional court music. The melody has slow and erratic rhythms. Performers interact via different tempos according to cues given by the *piri* (a small double reed instrument) and the rhythmic patterns of the *janggu* (hourglass shaped drum). In the 19th century, it was performed when the king left his palace, but today it accompanies traditional dance and is also performed in instrumental ensembles. In this context, this etude is composed for the Contemporary Performance Ensemble at Mills College in Spring semester 2018. The aim is to introduce gestures, embellishments, and variations that characterize Korean traditional music. In particular, the piece samples 26 gestures from *Sujecheon*. Due to its resemblance to the repetitive and heterophonic nature of Korean traditional court music, I borrowed the sampling format of Terry Riley's "In C." My composition is for open instrumentation in order to invite all musicians and their instruments. Any type of soloist may replace haegeum by improvising freely over ensemble playing written score. The sampled pattern may be performed even without a soloist.

Performance Note

1. Tempo 8th note = ~60
2. Repeat each pattern 2 to 6 times before moving to the next pattern.

Etude on Sujecheon

Written for Mills College Contemporary Performance Ensemble 2018

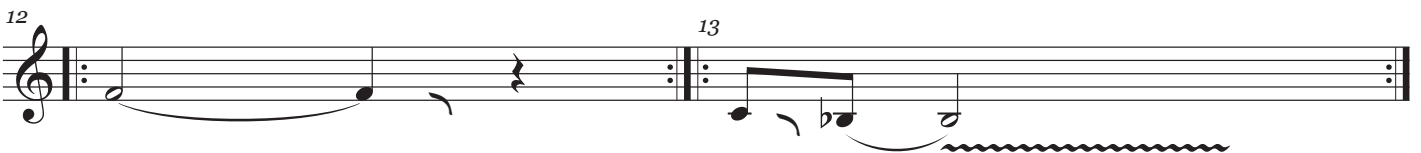
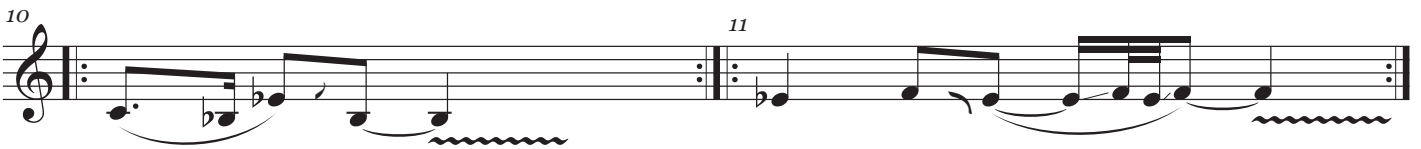
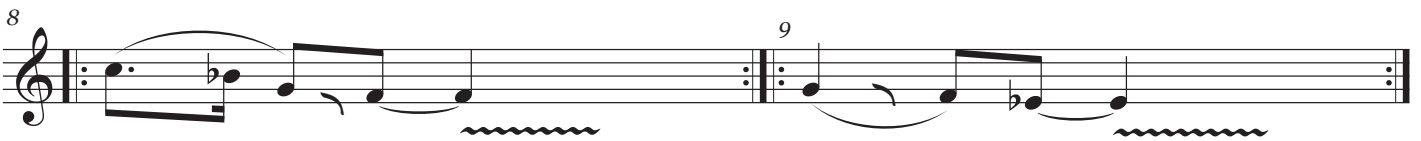
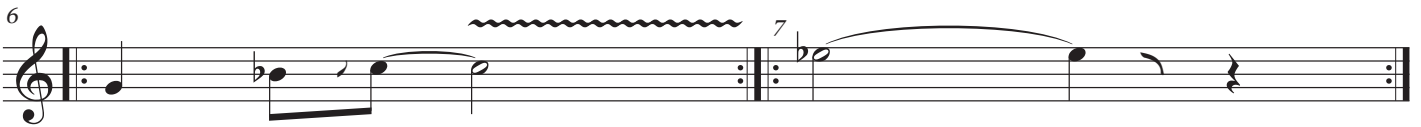
Soo Yeon Lyuh

♩ = ca. 60 - 100

1 One percussionist begins



Rest of ensemble enters freely once tempo is set



14 15

Musical staff 14-15: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 14 contains a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a dotted quarter note E4. Measure 15 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a dotted quarter note B3. Both measures end with a wavy line indicating a tremolo.

16 17

Musical staff 16-17: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 16 contains a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a dotted quarter note E4. Measure 17 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a dotted quarter note B3. Both measures end with a wavy line indicating a tremolo.

18 19

Musical staff 18-19: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 18 contains a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a dotted quarter note E4. Measure 19 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a dotted quarter note B3. Both measures end with a wavy line indicating a tremolo.

20 21

Musical staff 20-21: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 20 contains a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a dotted quarter note E4. Measure 21 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a dotted quarter note B3. Both measures end with a wavy line indicating a tremolo.

22 23

Musical staff 22-23: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 22 contains a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a dotted quarter note E4. Measure 23 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a dotted quarter note B3. Both measures end with a wavy line indicating a tremolo.

24 25

Musical staff 24-25: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 24 contains a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a dotted quarter note E4. Measure 25 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a dotted quarter note B3. Both measures end with a wavy line indicating a tremolo.

26 27

Musical staff 26-27: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measure 26 contains a half note G4, a quarter note F4, and a dotted quarter note E4. Measure 27 contains a quarter note D4, a quarter note C4, and a dotted quarter note B3. Both measures end with a wavy line indicating a tremolo.