EDGE

Saxophone Quartet

Don Freund

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EDGE: Saxophone Quartet

Duration: ca. 20 minutes

Program notes:

Don Freund's EDGE: Saxophone Quartet was commissioned by Allen Rippe for the Memphis Saxphone Quartet. The "edge" idea is to be felt in all kinds of ways: for examples, the rough edge of torn paper, the gleaming edge of a blade, the piercing edge of a laser, the edge which separates countrapuntal voices, the perceptual edge between conflicting musical styles, the twilight between light and darkness, the thin edge between existence and nothingness.

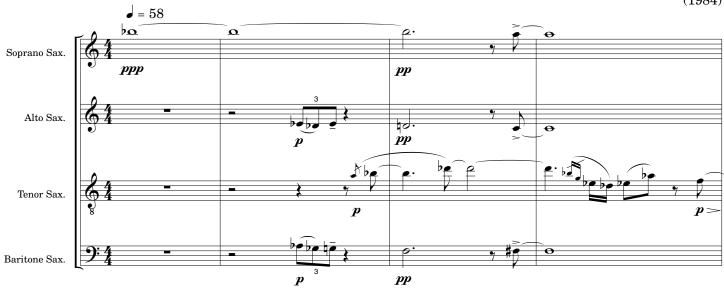
The form is sectional, exploiting various kinds of edges between sections. Here is a little sectional guided tour: schizo-intro; riveting repeating notes; clock-works; gigue-motet; four-voice style-canon stew; filigree chorale; blocks of contrasts; sixteenths city; blues; swing-tune; ghost melody.

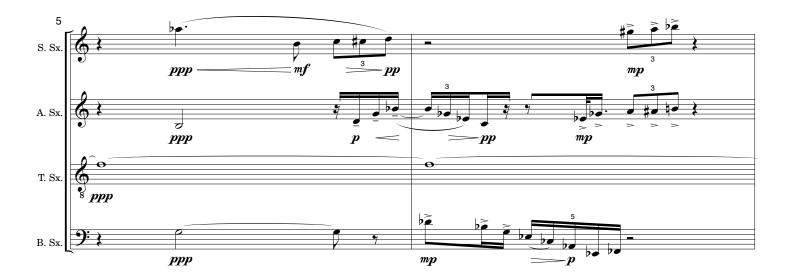
Concerning the Multiphonics:

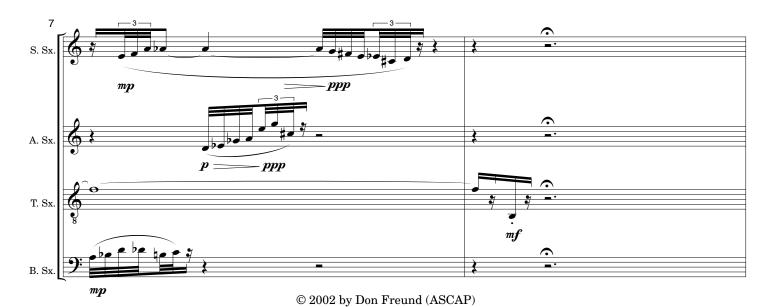
The notated pitches for the multiphonics in measures 44 - 53 and 313 - 316 are fanciful approximations. The fingerings given are also not to be considered more than suggestions. What is desired are multiphonics that are consistently loud, incisive, and raucous. Care should be taken to find multiphonics that do not duplicate the harmonic focus of multiphonics played by other members of the quartet at the same time.

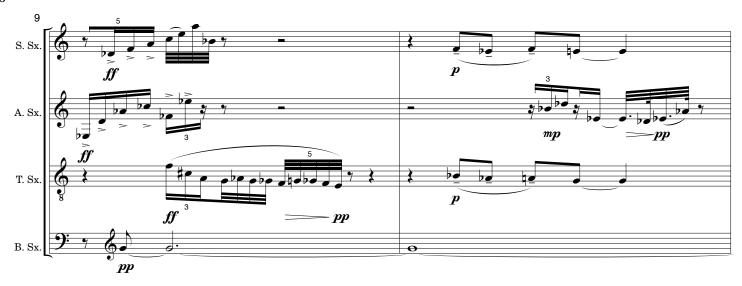
EDGE Saxophone Quartet

Don Freund (1984)





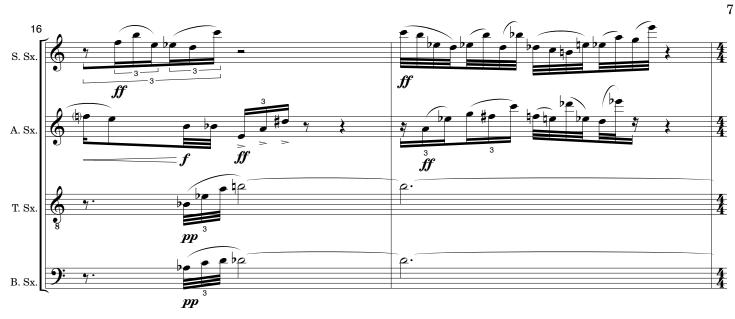






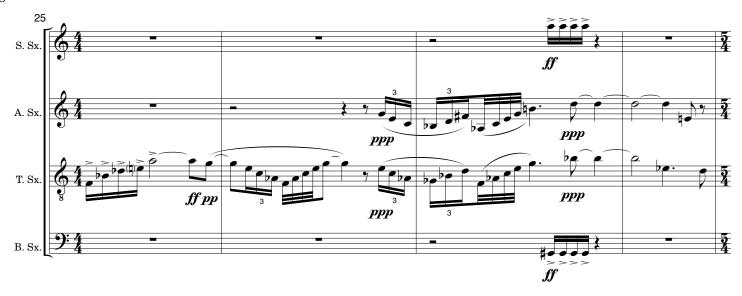








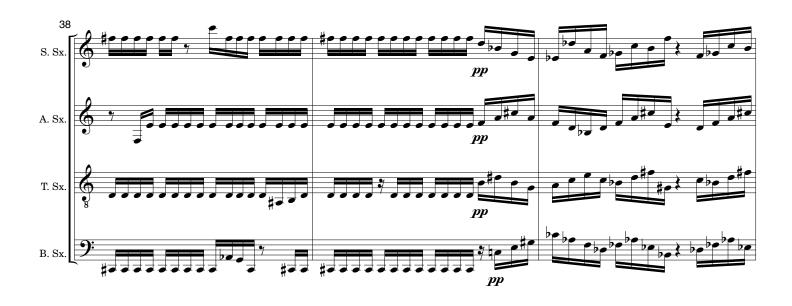








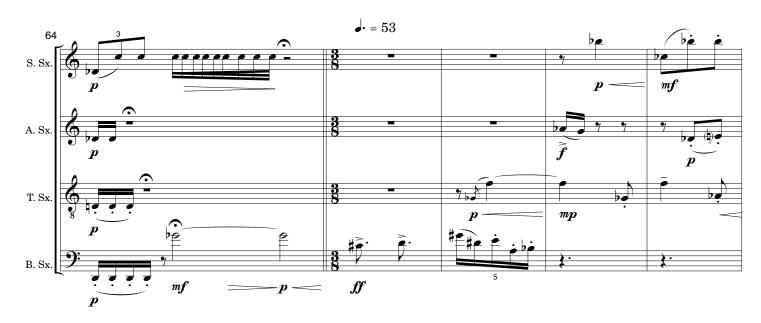


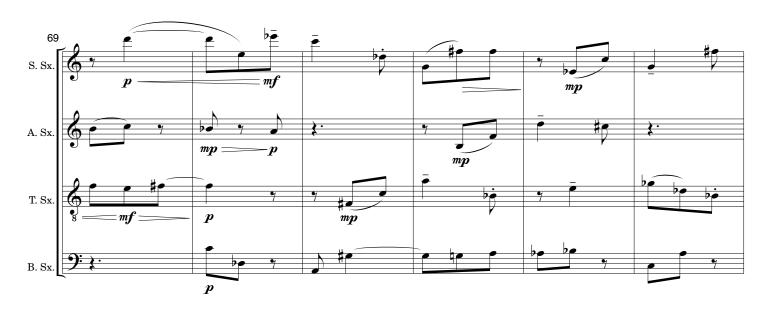


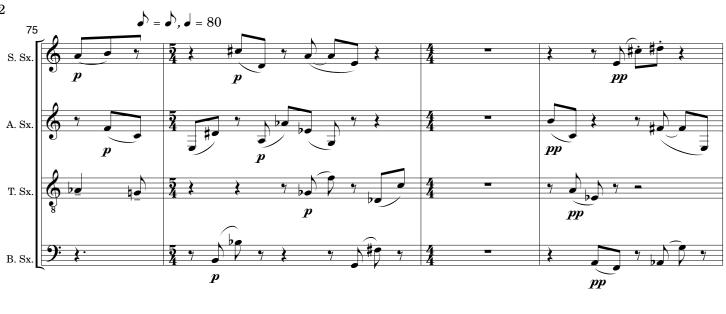






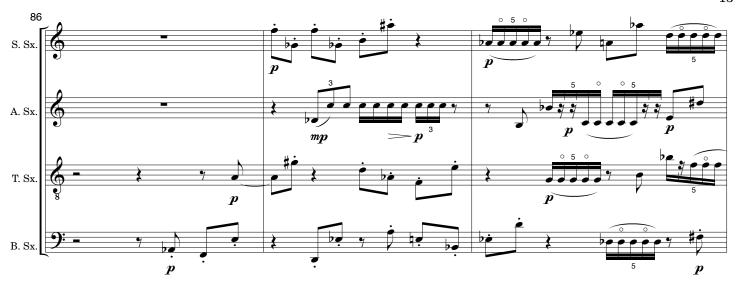




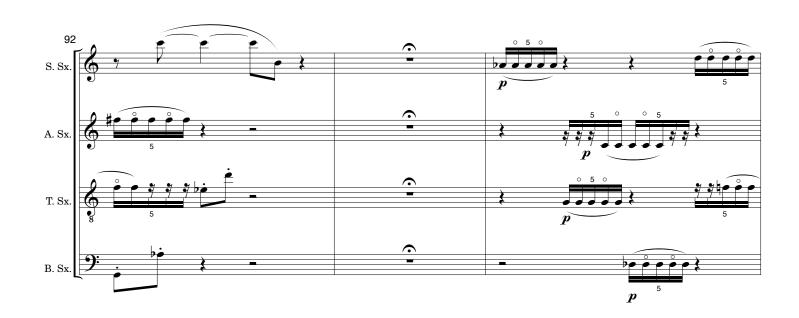






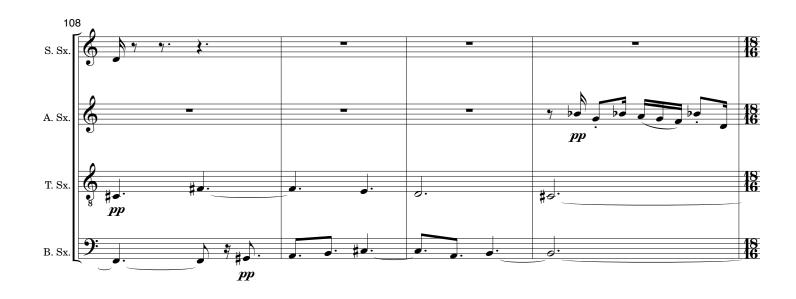


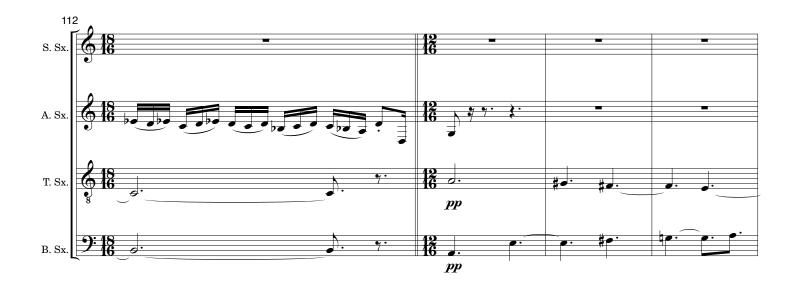


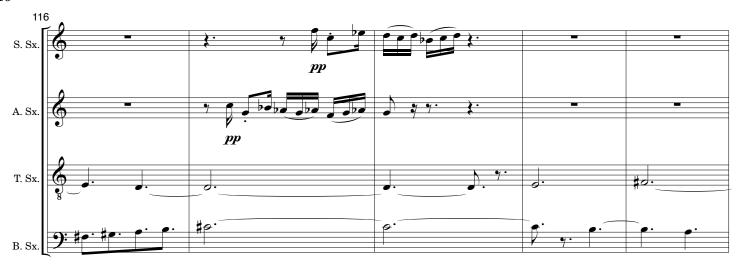






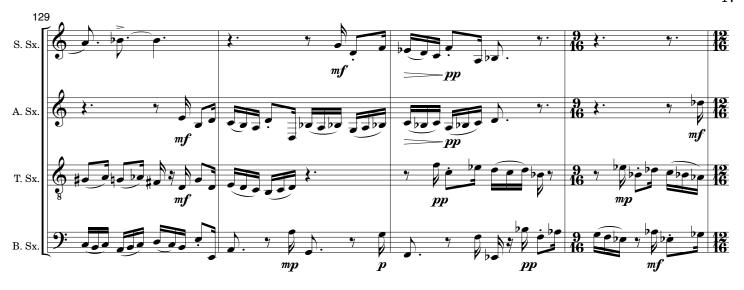












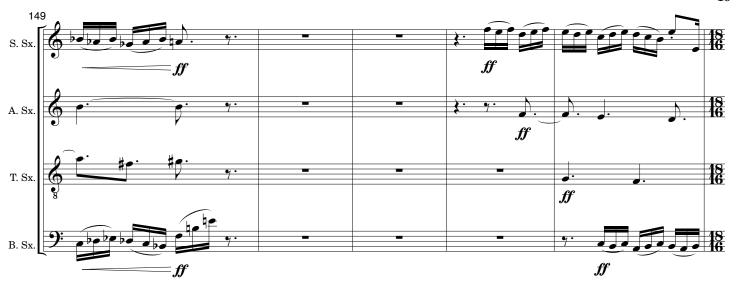










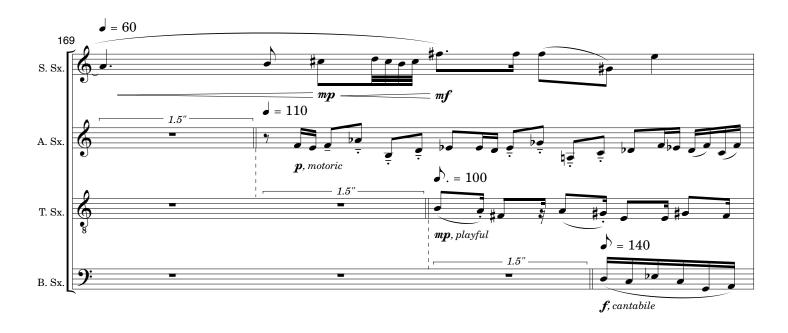












Measure 169-179: Each voice has 11 style samples, every one of which lasts six seconds when played at the tempo indicated. In each measure the voices begin a new sample in turn (S,A,T,B) one and a half seconds apart. Each sample must be played with as distinctive a stylistic personality as possible. The dynamics given are not necessarily related to the character of the sample being played; rather, the dynamics are independent and should give the impresssion of a post-production sound engineer playing with the volume controls on his four-channel mixer, somewhat randomly highlighting various components of this style-canon stew. (I call this a canon because all the voices are playing the same samples in the same order, only beginning at different points in the succession. For rehearsal, it is recommended that the players play the like segments together, soprano starting at m. 169, alto at 177, tenor at 174, and baritone at 171, all circling back to 169 after reaching 180. This will provide a unified sense of tempo, articulation, and style needed to create a real canon.)























