

Evolution
by Scott Pfitzinger
for 2 soloists and any number of people

Preparation: None.

Directions: The two soloists sit facing each other in front of the other musicians. One soloist plays a note, then the second soloist plays a similar note followed by another note. The first soloist plays those two notes, then a third note. They go back and forth increasing the number of notes as the melody evolves. The notes do not have to match exactly as the soloists take turns, but the notes should be roughly the same intervals in the same directions. Lengths of notes may vary, and eventually both players may choose to play at the same time, improvising on the evolving melody that they have created, though not necessarily beginning that melody at the same time.

Meanwhile, after the two soloists get started, the other musicians VERY QUIETLY begin playing long tones, harmonizing with the two soloists. Constant sound from the "battery" is not required, nor must every musician play all the time. They are purely for very light additional color and harmony. At no time should the soloists be covered up by the battery.

The piece is over when the two soloists agree to wind down their improvisation and end the piece. Preferably in about 3 minutes before the audience tires.

Suggestions:

- The two soloists should keep their dynamics *mf* or louder while the battery stays *pp*.
- The melody should grow no bigger than one long phrase. At this point the soloists can begin playing at the same time, gradually improvising on the melody. The soloists should never wait more than one phrase before joining in again.
- As the soloists think harmonically while improvising on their melody, the battery's harmonizations should be considered secondary. The battery should be listening and harmonizing based on what the soloists are playing, rather than the other way around.

Duration: Approximately 3-4 minutes