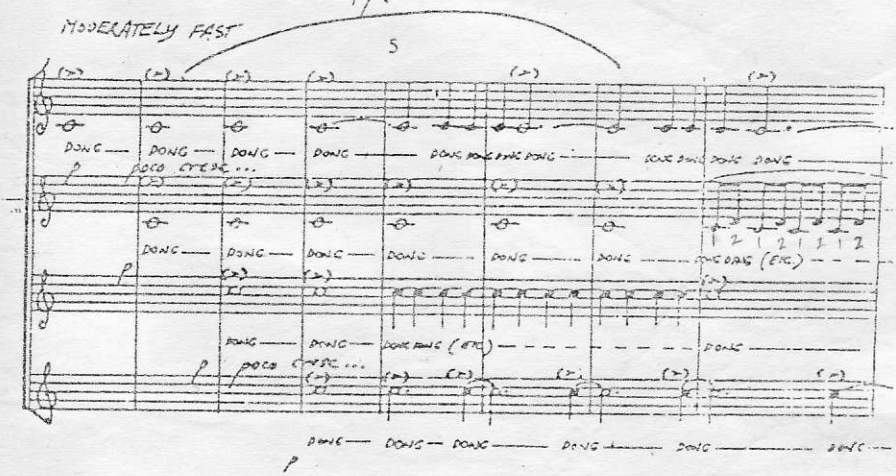
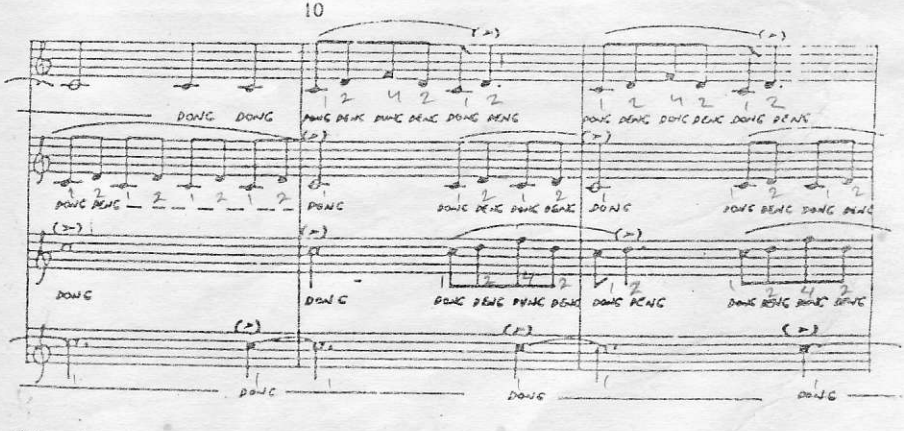
GAMELAN

R. MURRAY SCHAFER





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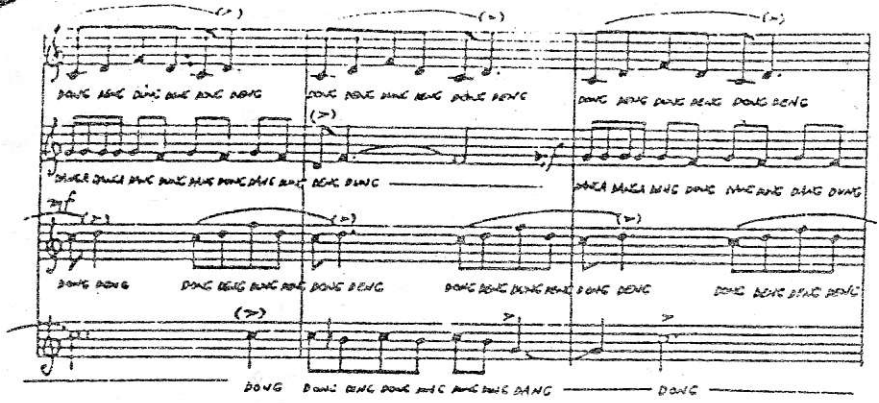

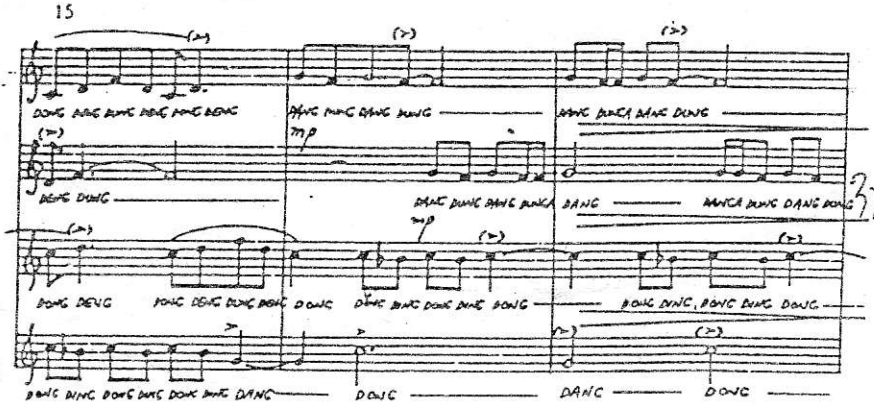
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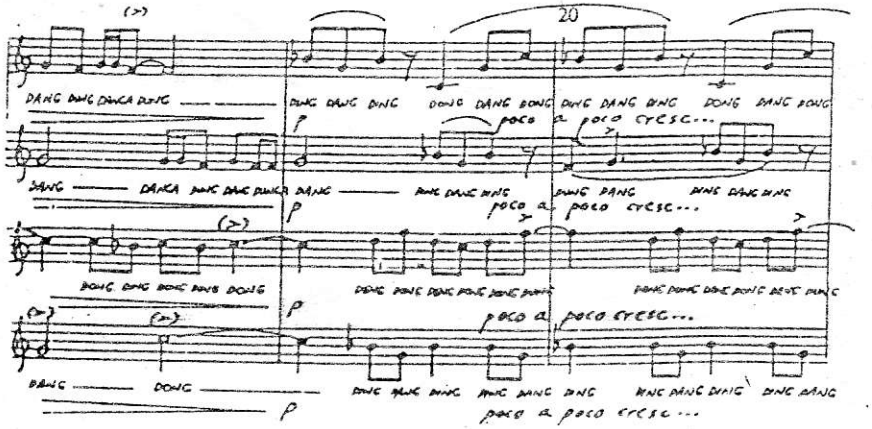
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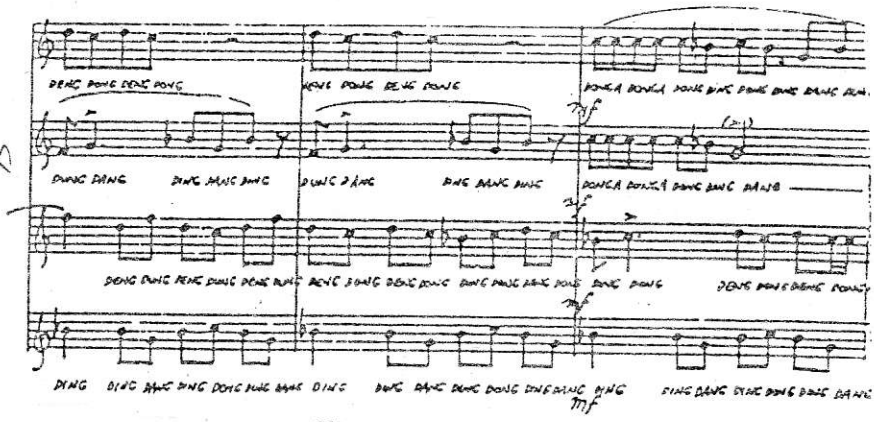
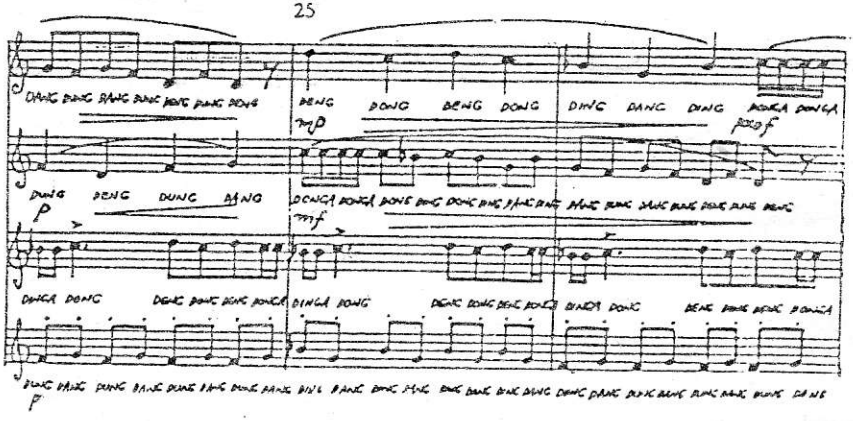
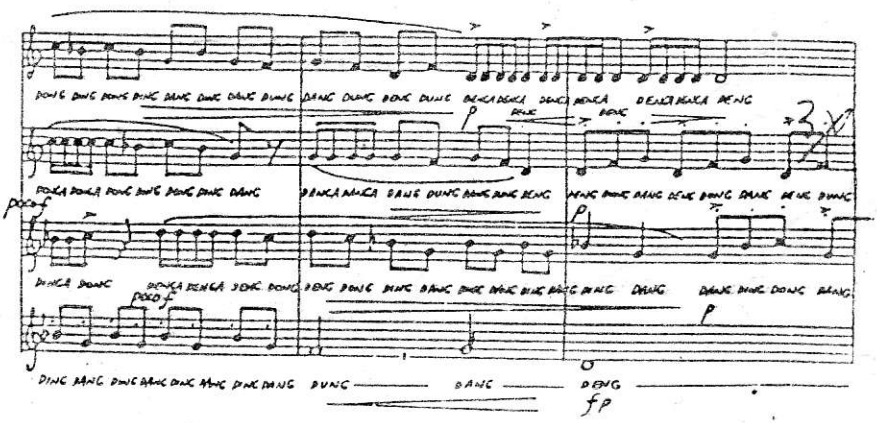
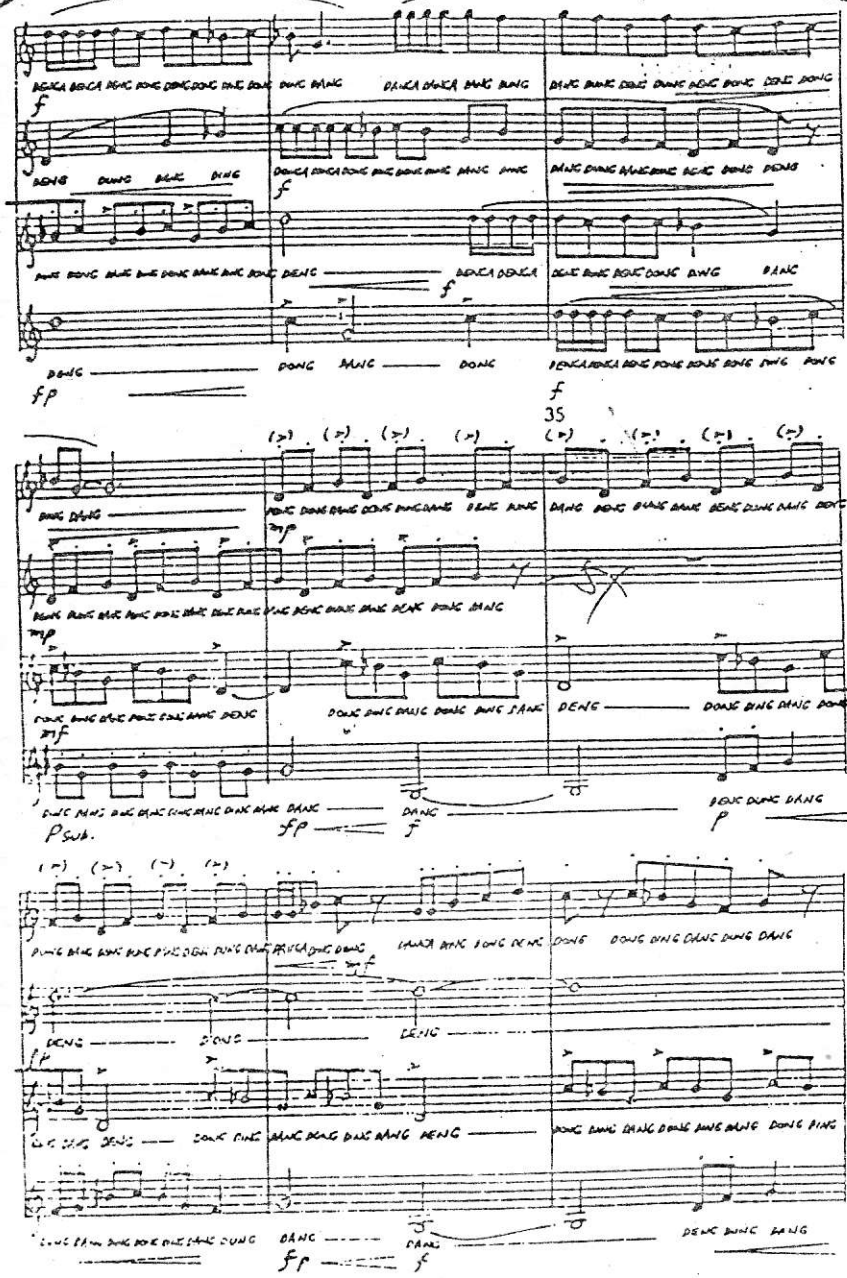
poco a poco cresc...





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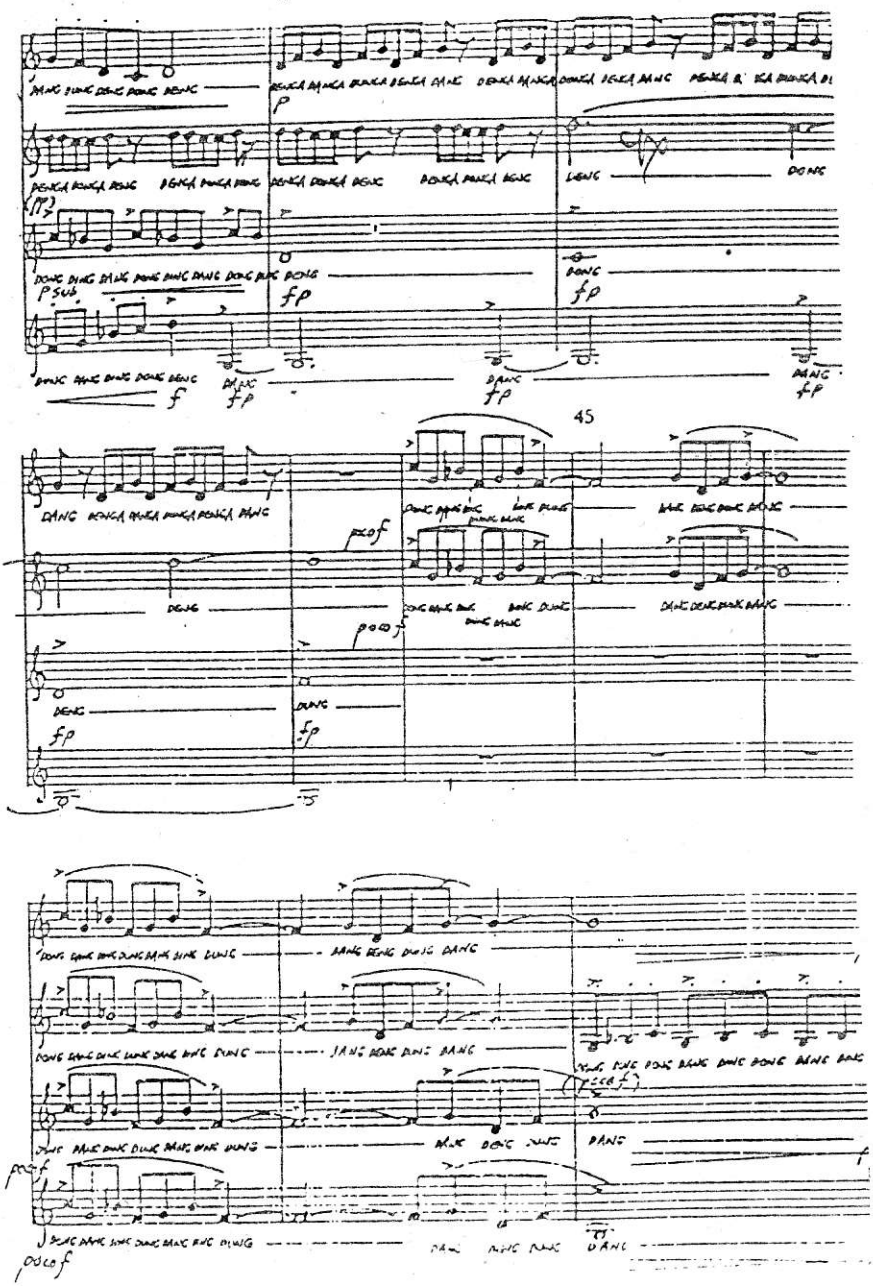
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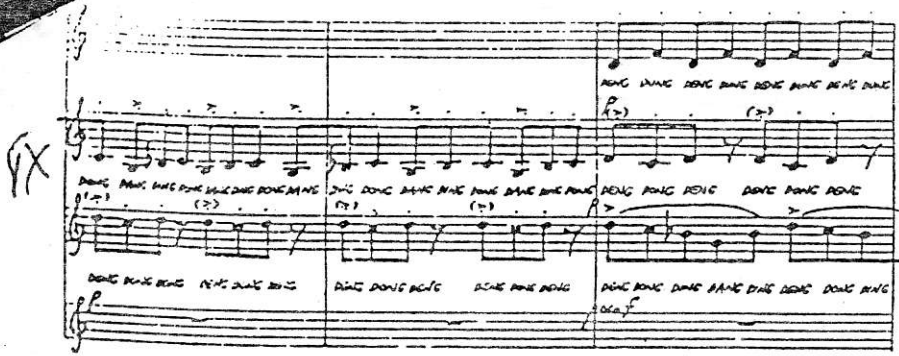
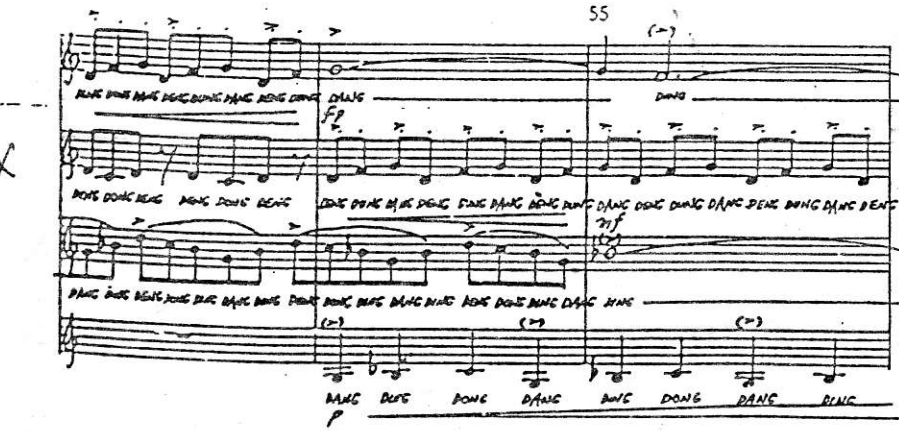
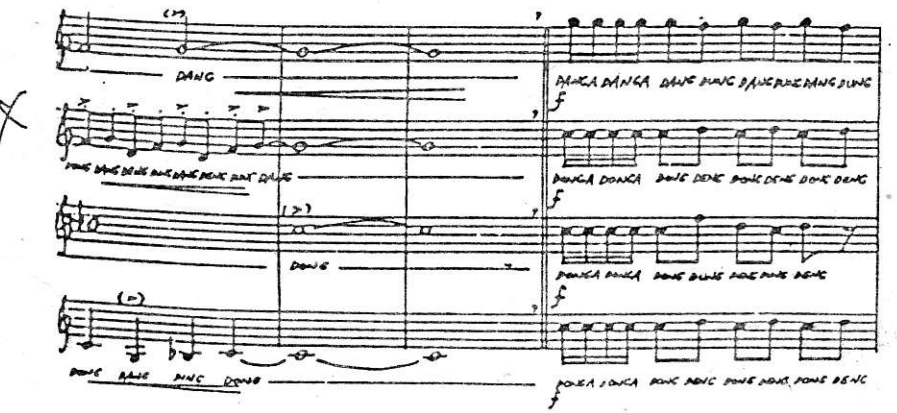




VERY FAST



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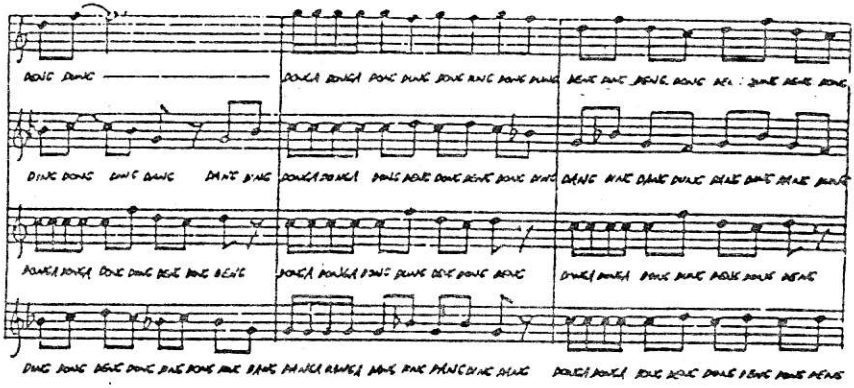

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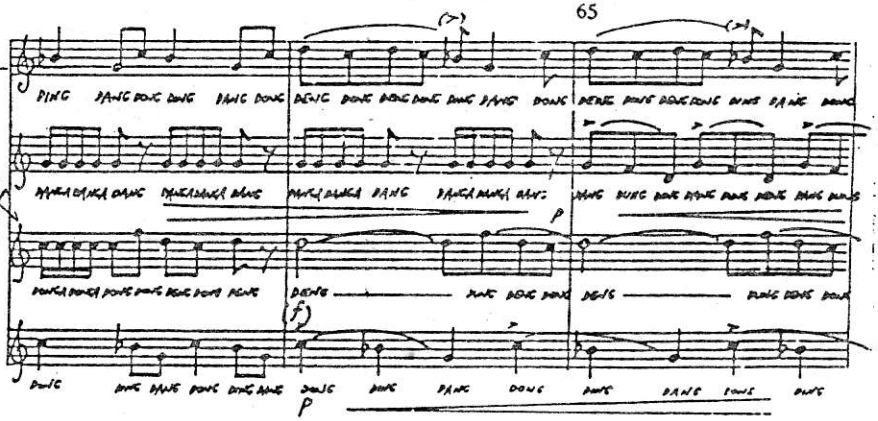

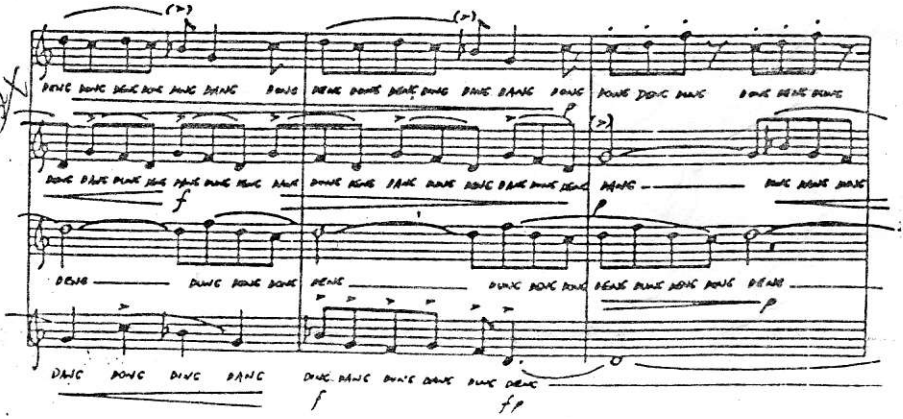

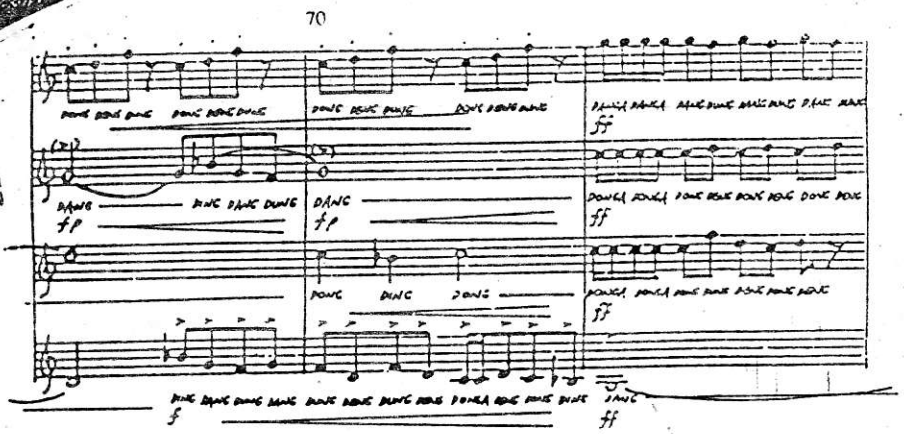

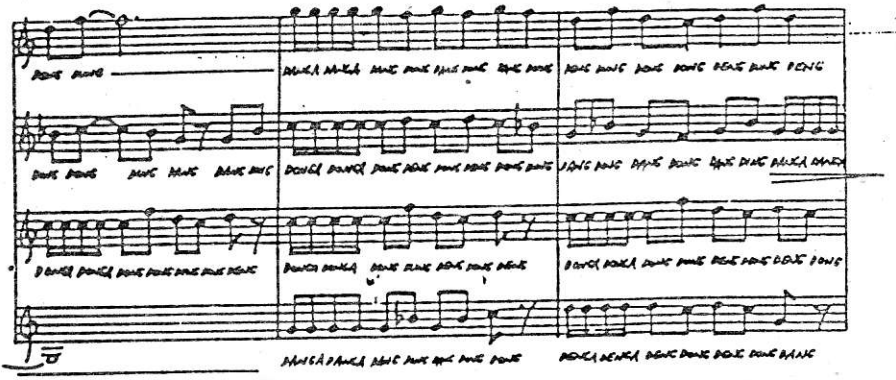

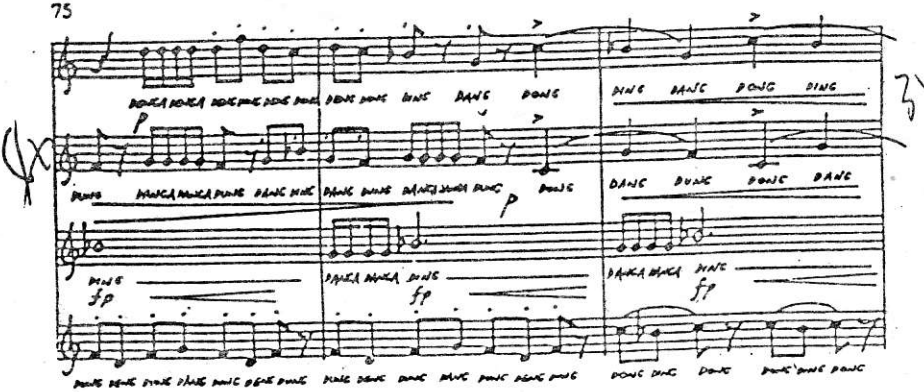

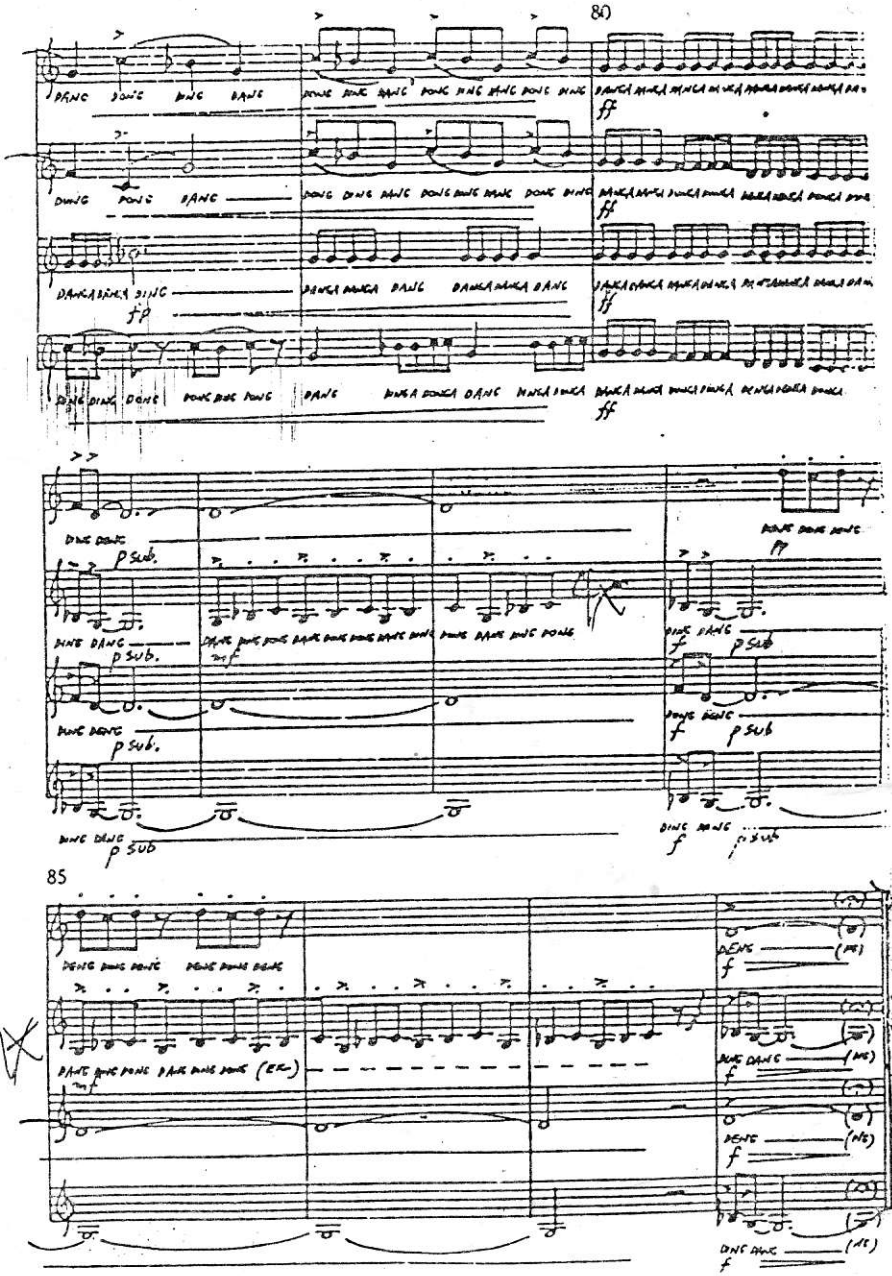
80
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GAMELAN

Note by the Composer

ıe gamelan music of Bali and Java uses an unusual pentatonic scale (C D F G B♭) ıich is different from that employed in the pentatonic music of the Chinese D E G A). The Balanese call these five tones *dong, deng, dung, dang, ding*. The ›rds have an onomatopoeic suggestiveness, for the initial "d" reminds us of nething struck while the "ng" recalls the ringing of a gong or idiophone. The anging colours of the vowels from dark to light suggest the rising notes of the ıle.

ave set this little piece for four voices: these could be SATB, SASA, TBTB or ne other mixed combination. The work could be sung by chorus or soloists. The ›rt staccato notes should be sung with a dry, wooden quality and in the long tained notes the nasal quality of the "ng" should be emphasized. It would be a ›d idea for the singers to practice the scale until the words have become fixed to notes since *Gamelan* requires a quick momentum for its effectiveness in formance.

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