

Forever Got Shorter (*from a t-shirt of the same name*)

For solo trap kit

Dedicated to Michael Lenzi

A drummer on a small platform plays a slow, heavy trap kit beat. Each time the drummer presses down on the kick drum pedal, he or she is also pressing down on a car jack. The jack gradually lifts the drummer's end of the platform until the drums and cymbals begin to tumble away. The drummer's seat is secured, ensuring that he or she will not similarly tumble. The piece is finished when the drummer can no longer reach any drums or cymbals.

Notes:

1. The specific arrangement of the car jack will depend on the model of jack employed. I consider solving this puzzle to be part of the performance of the piece. (Good luck.)
2. It goes without saying that the duration of Forever Got Shorter is a product of the frequency (or infrequency) of kick drum beats. (This parallels the correlation of heart rate to life expectancy in animals.) This equation should be considered in advance.
3. The choice of beat is left entirely to the performer. However, if the performer would like my input for a given performance, I am happy to collaborate. Email me at seth@kim.cohen.com, and I will send an mp3 of a suitable beat.