

## **As if these clouds:**

Inspired by Salman Tarik Kureishi's poem, *As If These Clouds* (2009) is a study for six percussionists that exploit all rhythmic organizational possibilities of six patterns, each with different time values. The rhythms are layered, creating polyrhythmic textures and crossed rhythms.

Despite its being highly economized in terms of instrumentation of only one Temple Bowl and One Wood Block per player, the piece manages to provoke big, resonant and full sound by the use of soft mallets. The score designed in accordance with the organization of the players location to create a sense of sound travel across the stage from left to right and vice versa throughout the piece.

From "subtle fog" and "inconsistent rain" to "bright and clear rays," the relationship between the displacement of dynamics and the treatment of pitch creates different sections, each distinct in color and shape.

From *As If These Clouds* by Salman Tarik Kureishi

"As if these clouds  
that hang so low and heavy  
could, in a moment's space, frost over...  
crystallize, frozen in the sky. And the sun,  
glimmering through their sudden translucence,  
become iridescent -  
broken into a million hues and sparkles, reflected  
from facet to intricate facet  
and down to me.  
As if these leaves were no longer green,  
but a crystal aspect of brittle and refracted colours:  
so that one brilliant leaf,  
could splinter into shards and fall before me."