

ANDERS DAHL, Detune (2008)

1. Choose a few or more objects or acoustic instruments to perform with. They should produce a pitched or slightly pitched sound can be detuned by acoustic or mechanical means. The detune range can be small or large. Electronic or digital detuning is not allowed.
2. Choose a duration for the piece.

For each instrumentalist:

3. Sound the instrument without any vibrato or expression. The sound can be soft or loud and long or short, but try to keep the same dynamic and duration for this instrument for the rest of the piece. Play as evenly as possible. Wait for the sound to die out.
4. Detune your object. Take care not to detune the object in any predefined scale. Just detune your object step by step without considering the resulting harmony.
5. Pause so that you can sound your instrument with an even distribution in time for the whole duration of the piece and your detuning range.
6. Repeat from step 3 until the piece has ended or you have reached the end of your detuning range.

Composer's note: There are many ways to detune instruments, from turning tuning pegs and adjusting a mouth piece to filling resonating bodies with water and so on. To me the change of timbre as, for example, a string gets looser and looser and eventually loses its tone is one aspect of the piece that interests me.