Marc Sabat
Backyard Summer Patio

PLAIN SOUND MUSIC EDITION
BACKYARD SUMMER PATIO

bass clarinet in Bb

percussion:
5 timpani tuned to highest register, pitches ascending C# D# F# G# A# from middle of bass clef
7 low almglocken tuned F G A B C D E ascending from middle of bass clef

piano

Marc Sabat
1999
Notes:

To be played with a casual, nuanced precision, alternately joyous, sentimental, and serious, as a kind of odd entertainment music (preferably without conductor). The three sections should be performed as one continuous movement, observing the measured silences precisely.

For the clarinetist:

In the final section, consecutive notes of the melody to be connected in the following manner. Having determined the adjacent fingering positions, proceed from one finger-pattern to the next by lifting and lowering the various fingers one-by-one. This sequence can be chosen by the performer (in advance) so as to pass through as many unusual (i.e. forked, etc.) positions as desired. With the embouchure, explore a gradual transition between the two pitches. The idea is to make a series of discrete steps in between the two tones, including various unexpected possibilities, possibly microtonal, multiphonic, split tones, etc. These 'connective embellishments' can be attempted in various ways, i.e. as timbral 'scales' evenly distributed in the allotted time for a pitch; fast 'grace-note' figures leading to a sustained sound, etc.

For the percussionist:

Three letter-indications occur in the timpani part, referring to the playing position. The same position is maintained until a change is indicated. C is the center of the head, with a low, resonant sound. N is normal playing position. E is at the edge of the head, with a thinner, higher tone. Tremolos marked E to be played at opposite edges of the head. Unless indicated as l.v. by a tie, observe written durations when practical.

For the pianist:

In the first two sections, a kind of classical espressivo as noted above, first section to be played una corda. Last section, a sostenuto pedal applied to low C to generate various resonances and harmonics, sustained until the end of the piece.
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bass clarinet (score in C)

almglocken

high timpani

piano

cl

perc

pf

cl

perc

pf

mp

f

mf

mp

cl

perc

pf

mp

cl

perc

pf

mp
to bass drum mallets
depress silently
hold with sostenuto ped. to end