HOMEWORK EXERCISES

Assignment 66—Minimalism 1: Additive Process

Section 1. Given examples of Philip Glass’s early minimalist music, create an additive or subtractive minimalist “process piece” based on the pattern below.

To write a piece that gradually adds patterns (additive), start in 7/8 with pattern A repeated four times, then proceed to 7/8 + 6/8 (pattern A+B four times), then 7/8 + 6/8 + 5/8 (pattern A+B+C repeated four times), and continue until you finally reach 7/8 + 6/8 + 5/8 + 4/8 + 3/8 + 2/8 (A+B+C+D+E+F), repeating this entire pattern four times. Always repeat each combination of patterns four times.

Your other option is to write a subtractive piece, starting with the conglomerate pattern A+B+C+D+E+F repeated four times, then subtract the final pattern (F) for A+B+C+D+E (7/8 + 6/8 + 5/8 + 4/8 + 3/8) repeated four times, and continually subtract the final pattern from each conglomerate of the pattern until you end up with four repetitions of pattern A.

Notate this assignment using notation software. Submit a printed copy and an electronic version for playback.