

# Parameters III: Canvas III: My <sup>Massive</sup> Pollocks

for 2 saxophonists

by  
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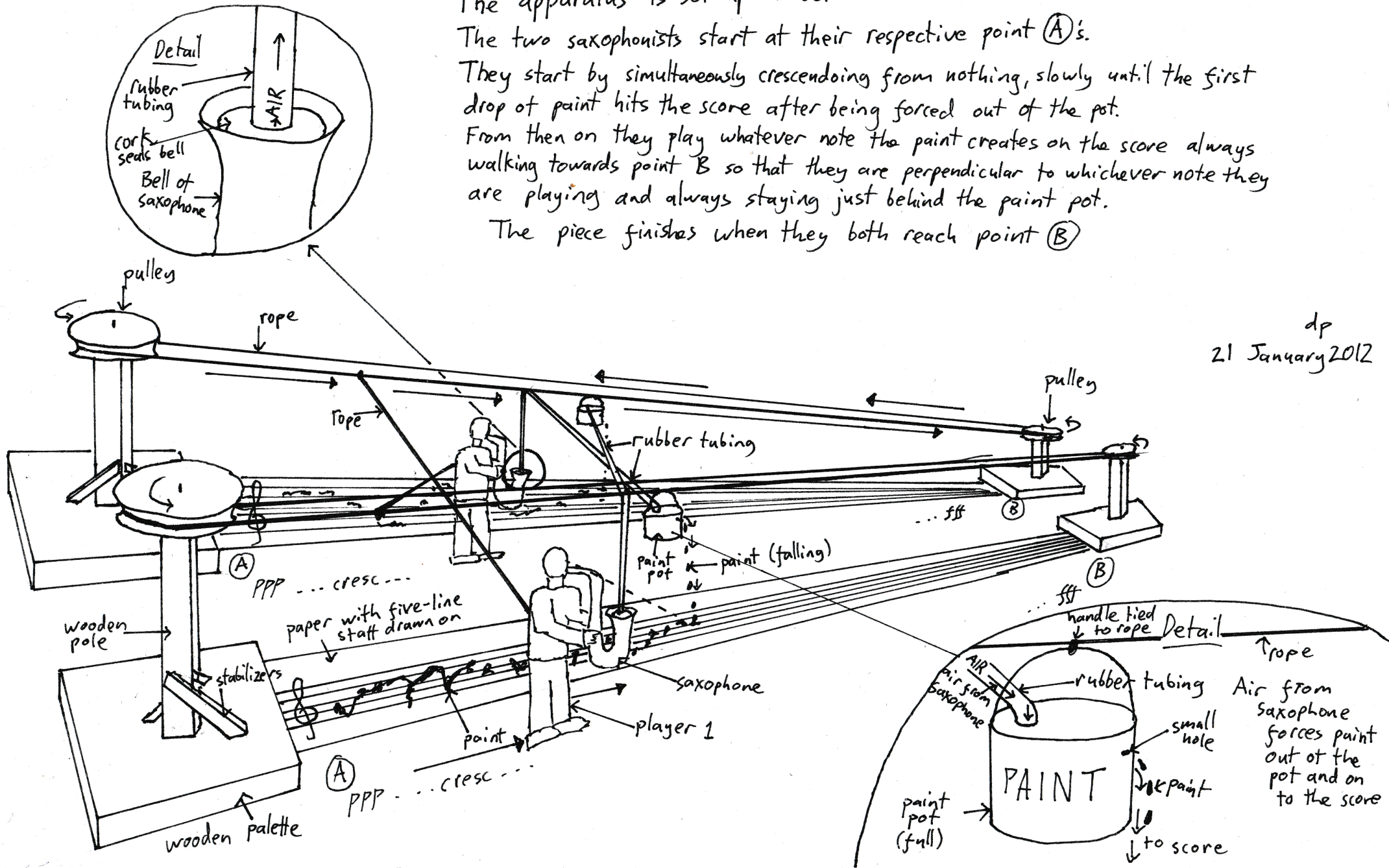
The apparatus is set up as below.

The two saxophonists start at their respective point (A)'s.

They start by simultaneously crescendoing from nothing, slowly until the first drop of paint hits the score after being forced out of the pot.

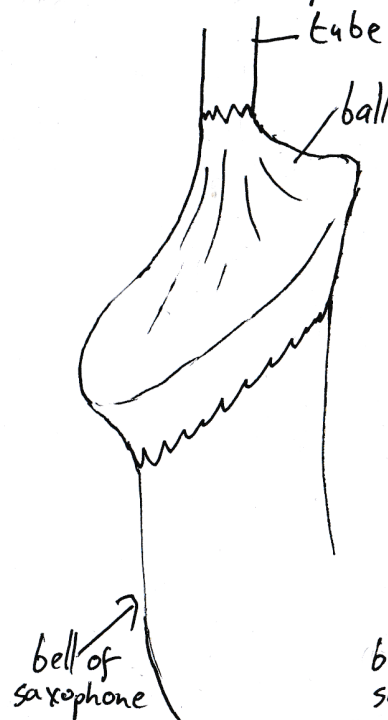
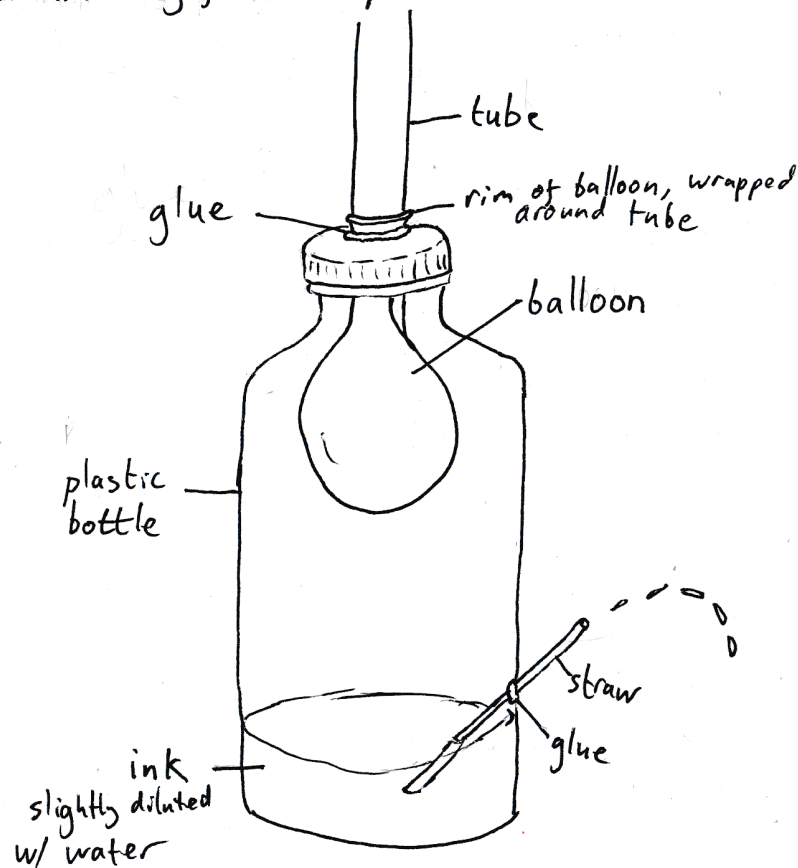
From then on they play whatever note the paint creates on the score always walking towards point B so that they are perpendicular to whichever note they are playing and always staying just behind the paint pot.

The piece finishes when they both reach point (B)



dp  
21 January 2012

The original score to this piece (seen on the previous page) has some differences with the finished work. While standalone structures can be used to house the pulleys, due to the large amount of pressure placed on them, I suggest, instead, to attach the pulleys to a pillar or wall in the venue. In the first performance, we drilled the pulleys into the ends of four long, lightweight pieces of aluminium, around 3m high. These poles were then secured to pillars in the venue using cable ties. Cheap insulating fabric was placed between the metal and cable ties and the pillar to avoid damaging the venue.



Some type of harness should be built to comfortably attach the two performers to the pulley system. We made a simple harness out of offcuts of leather or vinyl. The main thing that changed was the method of displacing the paint. We switched to coloured ink, as paint is too viscous to work in this piece. Also, we realized that the piece would work best using a system based on Archimedian displacement principles, so we designed the apparatus seen on the left, inspired by the type of bell jar and balloon demonstrations of how lungs work, seen in high schools.

Each saxophone has a flexible tube or hose inserted into its bell and sealed to be airtight using a balloon. Insert the tube into the opening of the balloon and secure with a cable tie or jubilee clip. Then make a small cut at the opposite side of the balloon and stretch this aperture over the entire bell.

The other end of the tube connects to the apparatus on the left. For this object to work it is important that it is air- and water-tight.

To make the apparatus above:

1. Take a plastic bottle (we used an Oasis 500ml bottle)
2. Remove stickers on bottle.
3. Drill a hole in the lid of the bottle just large enough to fit the tube in.
4. Attach a balloon to the end of the tube.
5. Insert balloon and end of the tube through the hole in the lid, such that the rim of the balloon just protrudes out the top.
6. Glue this in place with a strong glue to create an airtight seal.

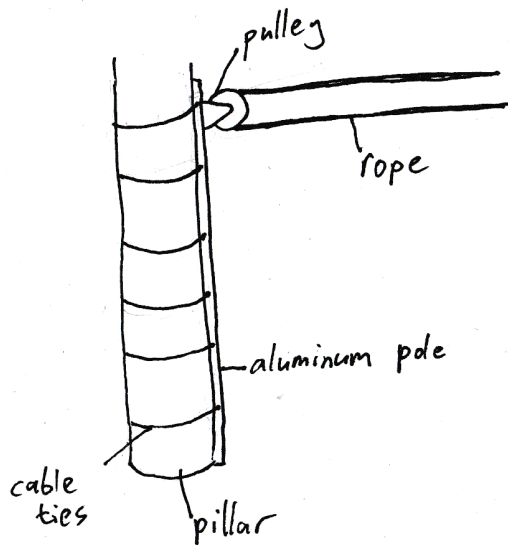
(continued overleaf)

7. Drill a hole just large enough for a thin straw in the side of the bottle.  
(It is important that you use a thin straw for this apparatus)
8. Insert straw into the bottle at an angle, such that the end outside the bottle is much higher than the end inside. The end inside should be very close to, but not touching, the bottom of the bottle.
9. Glue the straw in place with strong glue. It is very important that this seal is air-and-water-tight.
10. Fill the bottom of the bottle with ink. This can be mixed with water to save money, but should always give a vibrant colour when it hits the paper.
11. Screw the top back on and you're ready to go!

dp

October 2017

P.S. We used that beige-coloured, corrugated tubing that you can find in hardware stores.  
I think we used a glue gun for all the glueing, but I can't really remember.



← set-up of one of the pulleys as it was in the first performance.

The first performance of this work was on 18/5/2012 at Het Nutshuis in The Hague, as part of "Some Sadomasochistic Aspects of Musical Pleasure".  
I suggest contacting me or watching the documentation if you have further questions.