

CYCLICAL GRATITUDE

Niccolo Seligmann, composer
for The New Consort

Choose one option per phase. Switch to an option in the next phase when you hear someone else do any option from the next phase. Of course, someone will have to move first, but waiting for each other in this way will force the singers to remain in one option for a satisfying amount of time. Except for stretched-out words, intelligibility of text is paramount.

	Options				
Prologue	All on unison pitch, entering one at a time, each with different vowel. This pitch is hereafter “1”				
Phase 1	Il: “Science” :ll 1-↘3-4-2-1 Vowel/consonant timing as if declaimed at normal speed and digitally slowed down.	Il: “millions, billions, trillions” :ll 1-2-↘3	Dark “ooh” super-slow gliss from 1 to a different scale degree in a different octave		
Phase 2	NOT VIEWABLE IN PREVIEW VERSION		Il: “My body, your body, our bodies” :ll Each two-word pair on different scale degree of your choosing.	Drone Il: “we are hungry” :ll One person stays on 1, while others choose different drone pitch each repetition. Move through the vowels quickly and spend most of the time on η.	
Phase 3	Sharp alternations between “p (th)” and “f” at varying speeds		NOT VIEWABLE IN PREVIEW VERSION		
Phase 4	Slide gradually between “sh” and “s”. When someone next to you on either side finishes their grave growth text, switch to that option.	NOT VIEWABLE IN PREVIEW VERSION		<i>What do you want growing on your grave?</i> Spoken one time, then move to other option.	mid-range drone, gradually shifting Il: “ee-ü-u-ooh-oh-aw-a-ae-eh-ey” :ll Continue this through Phase 5
Phase 5	NOT VIEWABLE IN PREVIEW VERSION		Il: “human humus” :ll 8-↘6, 8-5, 8-4, or 8-↘3 in low range vowel/consonant timing as if digitally slowed down (linger between the “h” and the “yu”), as long notes as possible.	Il: “I, you, me” :ll Each word on different scale degree of your choosing. Diverse durations.	
Phase 6	Il: “Ground water to the creek to the gully to the falls to the river to the delta to the bay to the sound to the ocean to the air to the clouds and drops to the” :ll Spoken as fast as intelligible, end on “ground” but don’t say the “nd”, morph the “ou” into the twangy “a”		Bright, twangy “a” vowel (like how Appalachians say “apple”)super-slow gliss from 1 to a different scale degree in a different octave.		
Epilogue	Gliss your way to a unison on 1, twangy “a” vowel. Hold on this unison at least 20 seconds.				