

HANNAH SELIN

S A G E

for solo viola and electronics

Full Score

Second Edition

2016

© 2016 Hannah Selin, ASCAP  
[www.hannahselin.net](http://www.hannahselin.net)  
Pyxidata Publishing  
Brooklyn, NY



## Program Notes

*Sage* is part of an open-ended suite titled *Olfactory Bulbs*. Synaesthetic in nature, each piece explores the imaginary sound-world of a particular smell. *Sage* traces the vast, crystalline spaces conjured by the smell of fresh Rocky Mountain sage. A descending scale unfolds slowly, each note layering upon the last to create a shimmering soundscape. Other movements include *Tar* and *Snow on Pines*.

## Performance Notes

A USB pedalboard with three pedals is used to control the electronics in this piece. The use of these pedals is indicated using the following symbols:

①

Press left pedal to trigger electronics. Pedal 1 (P1) controls (in chronological order over the course of the piece):

- 1) Recording Iterations 1 & 2 (start & stop recording)
- 2) Playback Low B# (tap once to initiate, once more to trigger Low B#)

②

Press center pedal to trigger electronics. Pedal 2 (P2) controls:

- 1) Playback for Iteration 1

③

Press right pedal to trigger electronics. Pedal 3 (P3) controls (in chronological order over the course of the piece):

- 1) Set Iteration 2 for recording
- 2) Playback for Loops



This line, found directly after one of the three pedal notations above, indicates that the viola is being recorded. At the point in the score at which the line ends, the same pedal must be pressed again to stop recording. DO NOT hold the pedal down for the duration of the line.

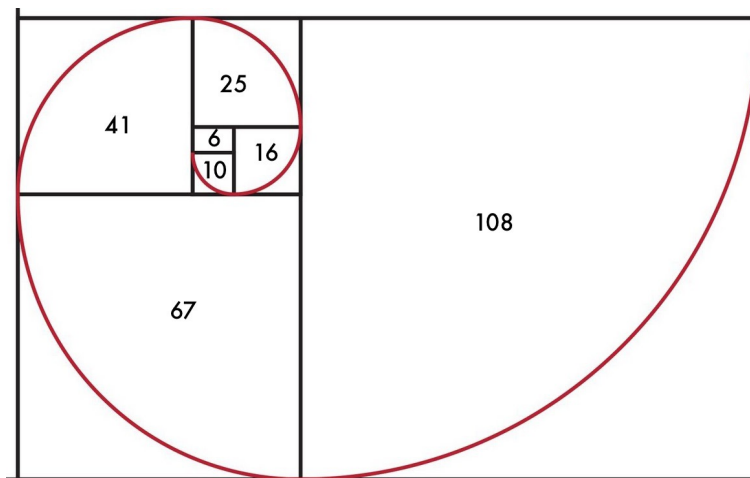
## Tempo in "Sage"

From the beginning through measure 15, the tempo of each measure is constantly variable in accordance with a curve generated using the Golden Ratio (  $\varphi = \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$  ). In this section, the final three beats of each measure constitute a space of undetermined duration, to be determined by the violist in performance.

From measures 16 through 20 and 28 to the end, the tempo is steady and fixed.

The first seven beats of each measure correspond to the following tempo-points on the Golden Ratio curve:

- Beat 1: ♩ = 6
- Beat 2: ♩ = 10
- Beat 3: ♩ = 16
- Beat 4: ♩ = 25
- Beat 5: ♩ = 41
- Beat 6: ♩ = 67
- Beat 7: ♩ = 108



## Technical Setup

The violist controls the electronics via a USB foot pedal attached to a computer running the "Sage" Max/MSP software patch.

Necessary equipment:

- "Sage" Max/MSP patch
- clip-on condenser mic for viola
- necessary 1/4" and XLR cables
- USB audio interface with stereo output
- two speakers to amplify stereo output from interface
- computer with two USB inputs and either Max/MSP or Max Runtime (free) software

# Sage

## Cyclic

Hannah Selin

The musical score is divided into three systems, each with a measure number (4, 7, 9) at the beginning. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 10/4. The instruments are Viola, Electronics 1, Electronics 2, Vla., and E1/E2. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (pp, ppp), and articulation marks. A box labeled 'Iteration 1' is placed above the first measure of the first system. A box labeled 'Iteration 2' is placed above the first measure of the second system. The score is written for Viola, Electronics 1, and Electronics 2 in the first system; Vla. and E1 in the second system; and Vla., E1, and E2 in the third system. Dynamics include *pp* *sempre* and *ppp* *sempre*. Articulation marks include accents and slurs. The score is written in a cyclic form, with measures 4, 7, and 9 indicating the start of new sections.