

V I N D I E S E L = I E N D L I V E S
..... / / / .. / /

for solo percussionist

2010-11

Performance notes

Instruments

2 woodblocks (high and low)
hi-hat
snare
vibraphone
bass drum

Rhythms are all written in Morse code (. short, - long). Playing style is often rhetorical, freely soaking in time.

Technical requirements

video projector
laptop with pedal-operated PD patch
stereo out
lavalier microphone on performer to amplify speaking
microphone (can be the laptop microphone) to detect levels of snare drum rolls
stage light on performer

Projection onto two mesh screens in front of and behind the instrumental set-up – light falls both on and through the screens, which are placed at disparate angles, so that the projected image falls at a different angle on multiple surfaces: 1st (smaller) screen, the body of the performer, 2nd (larger) screen, and the wall behind the screen. Stage lighting (aside from a stand light) should be minimal. The performer should wear white for greater visibility. A sleeveless “wife-beater” undershirt might be thematically appropriate.

The PD patch triggers sound and video file playback, blacks out video image depending on the volume of rolling, with various letter-shaped filters, and amplifies the performer’s voice into a monster voice.

Program note

From Wikipedia:

Vin Diesel was born in New York City, the son of Delora, a psychiatrist and astrologer. He has a twin brother named Paul, a younger brother named Tim, and a sister named Samantha. Diesel is noted for his recognizable deep voice, which broke at around age 15. Diesel is the top celebrity on Facebook based on "likes". With frequent status updates, pictures and video clips, Diesel has drawn an online following of more than 14 million fans.

V I N D I E S E L = I E N D L I V E S
 ...- .. - / -... / -...- / .. / . . - . . / -

1. Rhetorical, dramatic, big pauses, milk the sustains emphatic – spacious, then accel., becoming phrase – 30"

hh - 6" 5" 10" 3" 2" 4" 4" 2" 5"
 wb p...
 video V I N
 ped 1 2 3 4
 light exponential ramp < chest double flare
 flicker on performer

2. fanfare variations, 9x (XXX XXXXXX), each hh hit a different color, modulated in imitation of vocal cavity in enunciating letters in VIN DIESEL – 30"

instrum (wb . / hh -) ||: ...- :|| (V)
 tape 11"
 ped ppp scream/tire squeal lump, reverby
 5

3. snare rolls, sound blacks out video of chests, amplitude envelope in shape of letter

snare 15" 5" 2" 4" 2" 2" 2" 5" 30" 15"
 video still chest slow chest color fade
 tape mix snare into white noise, mix back
 ped 6 7
 repeat with flashes of amplitude envelope as black-out shape
 5" 7" 4" 4" 4" 4"
 V I N N N N N
 intensify colors chest cadenza
 6" 5"
 8 9 10

4. accel 50 120
 1' + →
 hh ||: .. :|| (I) 6x, with pauses ||: -. :|| (N)
 p f
 start short, tight end drippy

5. vibr F: o< bow then soft roll, blended, then rit., hesitations, transform toward Morse 20"
 tape 37" reply same, quieter 15"
 vid chests flicker Morse, VD, everybody", scream quieter scream quieter bd roll ppl 20"
 ped 11 12 13 VD ev

6. from rhetorical to rhythmically even

hh	o + : -.. : _____ 30"	⊖	wb/vb ...- let ring	vb bleep 2 nd , 3 rd	hh roll →
tape			pp 40"	(B) B B	
video	30"		"He's the guy ... when *t gets really * - Morse - scream engines - : He's the guy :	:the:	when *** (sustain)
ped	14		15		

7. 15"

hh	roll – edges blur, vowels to jackhammer
tape	15" scream hang over All you people are so scared of me.
ped	16

8. reorchestration game

hh	3" - - wb1 - - 3" : -...- : (=)	10"	6"	4"
wb2	vb wb1 vb wb1 vb vb (no pause)	bd
tape		8"		15" (low) All you people are so scared of me.
vid		fade chest/car layers		
ped		17	18	
light				fade in

9.

voice	Vin Diesel's blood type .	is WD-40 .	Vin Diesel's diet ...- is bricks . steel . and the tears of small children.
instrum	hh +	bd	hh + o + +
tape		4" aerosol/car	8" wb raindrops (p) accel to roll
video		flash car	3" hh
ped		19	20

10.

voice	4" o roll	6" Vin Diesel's tears	.. cure cancer. . Too bad he has never cried.	serious	2"	2"	3"	2"	3"
hh		wb	wb wb	bd roll swell	Vin Diesel's orgasm ...	ppp wb	leaves	an exit wound.
tape		scream in resonance			fast	fast	bow vb, l.r.	wb	fast
video		flash crowds							8" engines rise
ped		21							
light		fade out							

11.
 voice Vin Diesel has the heart of a child. He keeps it in a small box. Vin Diesel has no hair because it is too afraid of him to grow.
 instrum claw sn side wb ric scrape hh (cymbal cry with stick)
 tape 8"
 screams
 ped 23

12. *flirty* *regular*
 voice There is no 'l' in team, but there are two 'l's in Vin Diesel, so fuck team. Why does Vin Diesel never go to the bathroom? What happens in Vin Diesel, stays in Vin Diesel.
 wb1/snare/wb2 -
 video 6" interview
 ped 24

13. (lower) 3.5" (lowerer)
 voice Vin Diesel can speak Braille. Vin Diesel can divide by zero. Vin Diesel shits diamonds.
 tape 2.5" engines rev 4" monster engines – "You guys are so afraid of me" slow
 ped 25 26 (monster) 27 off) + af13

14. 31"
 instrum ppp slow, calm, uneven as rain, slowly shifting instruments, dwelling on borders
 video "" silent film intertitle frames – intersperse with waterfalls, slomo raging rapids as legato line
 Vin Diesel is not lactose intolerant. / He just refuses to put up with lactose's shit. // When Vin Diesel donates blood, he doesn't need a syringe. / He takes a hand gun and a bucket. //
 When Vin Diesel drinks pee, / his asparagus smells funny. // Vin Diesel does not sleep. [roll cresc.] // He waits. [engines return]
 ped 28

15. Monster voice – **bold**
 voice Aliens have not contacted Earth because **they owe Vin Diesel \$5.** Crop circles are Vin Diesel telling the world that sometimes, **corn needs to lie the fuck down.**
 hh
 tape 8" distant emergency beeping - Pitch Black 6" spaceship + → o + o
 video 5" symbol subtitles \$5 fall corn, freeze frame
 ped 29 30 (monster 31 off) 32 33 (monster 34 off)

16.
 voice Vin Diesel beat a brick wall in a game of tennis. Vin Diesel beat Ray Charles in a staring contest **Vin Diesel ate the last unicorn.**
 tape 1" whoosh 6" whoosh2- what you say?
 video corn close-up corn/unicorn trill to chest
 ped 35 36 37 (monster 38 off)

17. voice 5" Dairy Queen used to be Dairy King before Vin Diesel made it his bitch.
 instrum Vin Diesel talked an Amish housewife into buying a toaster. tom hh wb triplets _-` (8")
 video chest-AMISH, M hang on 3" +
 ped 39 slow- accel to v. fast

18. *bd: pace of dinosaur in Jurassic Park*
 voice Vin Diesel walked down the street with a massive erection. There were no survivors.
 instrum bd [slow pulse] vb chord
 tape 6" slow motor
 video 1" MASSIVE 6" fade to chest
 ped 40 41

19. voice Vin Diesel is the true Lord of the Dance. Vin Diesel shot Bambi's Mother from 100 yards away with **MIND BULLETS**.
 instrum [bd slow] vb chord, ped chord2 wb..` bd .
 (V of authentic cadence) 4" 5x fast 1.5" 8" 19"
 tape screams into sine, Morse
 video MOTHER MIND redder, drip to M, verticals slide off → V
 ped 42 43 (m) 44 (off)

20. wb/hh 20" hh roll hills, shorten to single hits, accel to 132
 ..- 32" p-mf 40" f-fff
 tape dissect splash, multiply engine, squeal, scream - "so afraid of me"
 video flashes of cars/other
 ped 45 47

21. steady beat → free improv clear for tape entrance answer spaces on tape
 hh | | | | | ... (21")
 tape 1'07" spaceship filigree → foley fight sounds
 video (cue black) flicker V/I/N/ → V | I | N 2x, D | DI | DIE 3x → DIESEL | = | I | E | N | D | L | I | V | E | S
 ped 48

22. roll black-out car-chase 6" 6"
 bd rolls x x x roll < fff
 44" 4" 8"
 tape low "All you people are so afraid of me"
 video car chase/fight layering I | END | LIVES
 ped 49 50 51
 light fade in