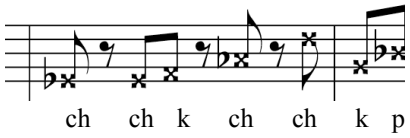
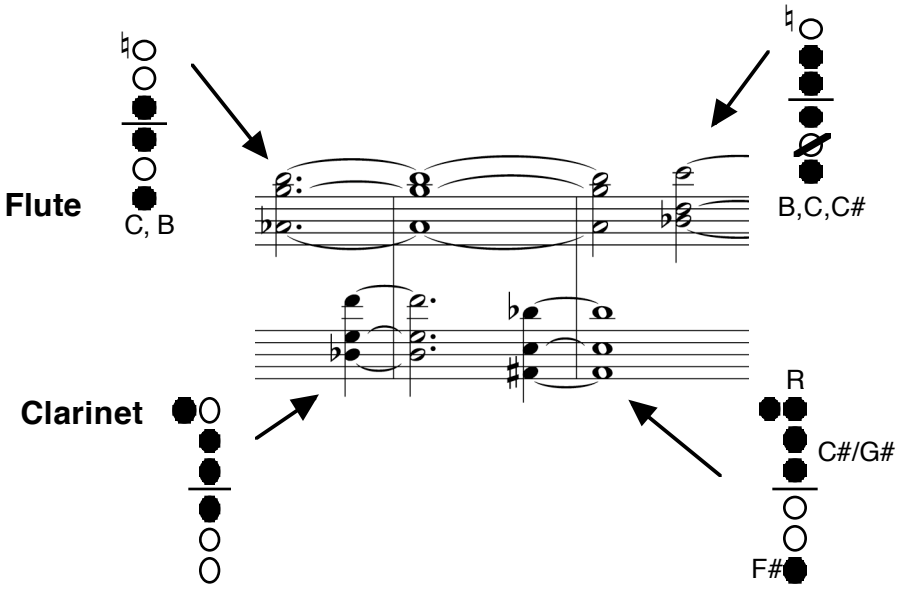
Crotalus

Performance Notes

Crotalus is the genus for the Americas' contribution to snake taxonomy, the *rattlers.* The work is based on a bass guitar style typical of funk, in which there is a fluid connection between notes that are clear tone and notes that muffled percussive sounds. One can hardly think of rattlesnakes without thinking of snakeskin boots, and snakeskin boots are undeniably funky. No snakes were harmed in composing this piece.

The "x" noteheads in the flute part indicate a note fingered and articulated with an explosive "K", "CH", or "P" sound. This produces a sound similar to a pan flute or colliope, with more terse than tone. The pitch should be conspicuous. Below are suggestions on how to use the attacks. The performer should pick attacks that feel the most natural.



Each performer is given two multiphonics to perform. Below are suggested fingerings, though the performer can use his or her own. If these exact sonorities are difficult to produce, the performers may substitute ones that are similar but more easily facilitated. The *texture* of a multiphonic is desired more than any certain pitches.