The N pianists line up in one spot ready to perform. They will set off one (or more) at a time on a route amongst the X pianos. The order of travel around the pianos is up to an individual, but they must attempt to reach all pianos in one circuit, and to repeat the same route each time round. A walking pace is sufficient and safest.

The pitch material is allocated to performers on the basis of one of the following options:

- 1) One specified note per person
- 2) One for each piano
- 3) One pitch for each time round the X pianos
- 4) Some function of person, piano, round

For the Durham performance, to minimise set-up and memory strain, we'll go with option 1, each performer to be allocated one pitch, which they use on all pianos. Whenever they reach a piano they play their own allocated pitch in one single note. Choice of dynamic and articulation is up to the individual; typically loud and staccato, but soft is also possible, or sustained with sustain pedal. Note that holding a note for a long time may cause a queue of performers behind you, so don't overuse this.

Players set off in batches, from one to N per group (but normally a fraction of N per group, perhaps alternating a single player and a small group of 2-3). A conductor may allocate the batches dynamically as the piece runs, indicating when to set off, or an agreement can be made in advance (e.g. "2 at a time, next group sets off when previous group is nearly halfway around"). The piece begins when the first players set off.

The piece finishes once all players have circulated around all X pianos R times (R to be determined based on duration of a round and available time for performance). So the last entering performers still complete R rounds just like the first would have, and will be playing after the earlier performers have already finished. The greatest density of sound will occur in the middle of the piece, assuming the N players enter quickly enough (e.g. groups should certainly all have started up before R is completed by the first players).

Example pitch series for allocation across 12 players, for N>12 looping around, or for N<12 taking a subset spread out as evenly as possible between the first and last:



A free choice can also be given, though some attention should be given to preserving a certain number of notes per octave, with more allocated to high notes than low (for psychoacoustic clarity of the eventual aggregate).