

NNYY is an imaginary musical dialogue between a student with Western music training (piano + strings) and a Chinese poet/mentor (*xiao* + alto saxophone), with the nature as the background (percussion).

Using the *xiao* and alto saxophone duo as an archetype, two related concepts are explored — after-tones and intercommunications, in which the after-tones can be an unfinished phrase. The piano resonance, complemented by saxophone multi-phonics, is a deep breath morphed into sizzle cymbals being softly rolled. The cues such as the exchange of glances and sync-up of gestures, play an integral part in enhancing communication among musicians. The two protagonists' thought assimilates into each other's familiar and unfamiliar territories.

The pitches and textures of the motive are based on a decachord derived from the *xiao* scale and a hexachord subset of alto saxophone multi-phonics.

In the climax, the hexachord is transformed into two stacked major sevenths, forming a rhythmic figure with the interweaving of the melodies and tremolos. The composition ends with a short looped section with unsynchronised pulses among the instruments, signifying the continuation of the dialogue where the thoughts of the two linger in multiple dimensions.