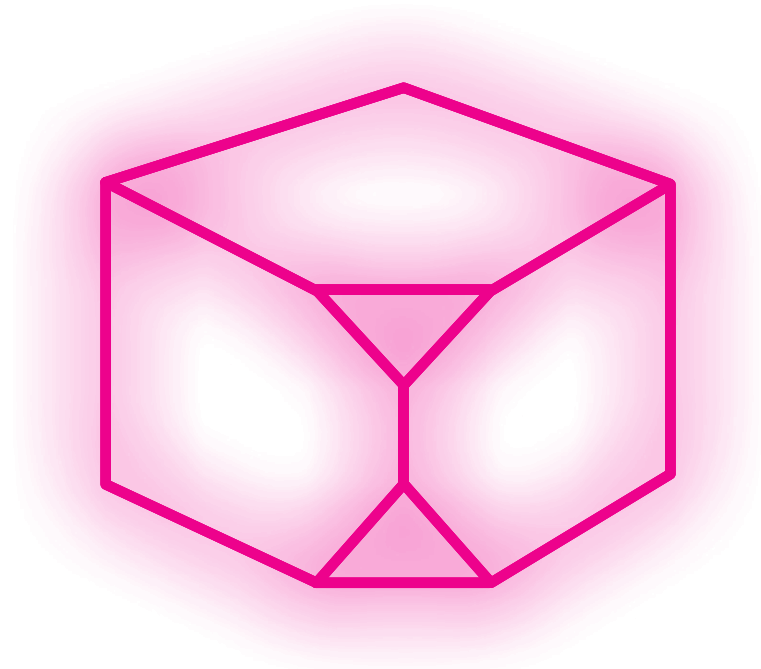


Martin Staeffler

Polly's Apartment



10 Polymetric Studies
for Guitar

Dear friends of Polly!

This method for polymetrical playing on the guitar has been on my mind for nearly 20 years. After all, I had to realize that it takes a ton of routine to compound a stringent school on this topic.

I have already adopted polymetrics in an earlier work, *ADJACENT MELODIES* (Vol. 1–5 For solo guitar, published in 2015), but that has a higher playing level than *Polly's Apartment* and is also less methodical.

Each of these ten etudes uses a specific polymetrical motive.

Generally starting out with a bare exposition (called ›Access‹, a simplification on empty strings), the problem then progresses within each etude through several levels (named ›Entrance‹; ›Room service‹; plus, on some occasions, the more advanced ›Comfort zone‹).

All the sections are circular, meaning they can be played endlessly in cyclical repetition. While doing so, make sure to (gradually) alternate the dynamics, thus detecting more facets within the musical content.

The compositional value of these pieces is pre-determined by a genuinely guitaristic approach, e. g. the frequent use of open strings. Also, namely for this kind of music, bitter concessions had to be made in light of the limitation in numbers of humanoid fingers (!).

Tempo-wise there are just no boundaries. The faster you perform, the more palpable the different strands /voices will become. Yet, be patient in the beginning and don't stab anybody!

Martin Staeffler, August 2021

PS: Practice sessions (video clips) performed by the author are available on common video platforms.

01 Foyer

Martin Staeffler 2021

Access:

Guitar

Entrance1:
Entrance2:
Room service:

02 The Dressing Room

Access:

Guitar

5

Entrance:

5

Room service:

9

13

03 The Library

Access:

Guitar

8

5

Entrance:

8

5

9

13

8

5

9

13

Room service:

The musical score is for a piece titled "Room service:". It is written for guitar and bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems, each containing four staves. The first system covers measures 1 through 13, and the second system covers measures 14 through 26. The guitar part (top staves) features a melodic line with various techniques including bends, slides, and triplets. The bass part (bottom staves) provides a steady accompaniment with eighth and quarter notes. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots in the final measure of the second system.

04 Room Full of Mirrors

Access:

Guitar

8 0 2 0 2 1 0 2 0 0 2 0 2

5 1 0 2 0 2 1 0 2 0

9 0 2 0 2 1 0 2

13

Entrance:

8 0 2 0 2 1 0 2 0 0 2 0 2

5 0 2 0 2 1 0 2 0 0 2 0 2

9 0 2 0 2 1 0 2 0 0 2 0 2

13

Room service:

8 0 2 2 1 0 2 0 0 2

5 1 0 2

9 0 2 2 1 0 2

13

VI

8 0 2 2 1 0 2 0

5 1 0 2

9 0 2 2 1 0 2

13

II

5

9

13

Comfort zone:

VII

5

9

13



Polly's Advice: Don't stab anybody!

First system (measures 1-4): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 1, 1, 0, 0. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

Second system (measures 5-8): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 1, 1, 0, 0. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

Third system (measures 9-12): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 0, 0, 1, 1. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

Fourth system (measures 13-16): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 1, 1, 0, 0. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

Comfort zone:

First system (measures 1-4): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 0, 3, 4, 0. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

Second system (measures 5-8): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 1, 1, 3, 4. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

Third system (measures 9-12): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 0, 1, 1, 0. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

Fourth system (measures 13-16): Treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings: 3, 4, 0, 1. Rhythmic values: quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter, quarter, eighth, eighth, quarter. Accents: first and third measures.

06 The Dangerous Kitchen

Access:

Guitar

Entrance:

Room service:

07 The Turquoise Room

with Pink Windows

Access:

Guitar

Entrance:

Room service:

5

9

13

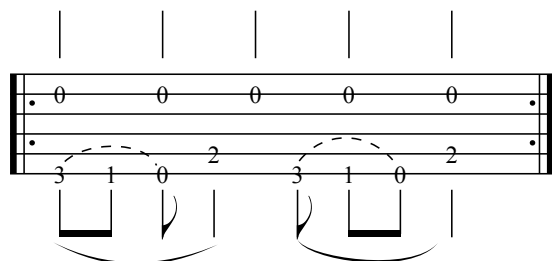
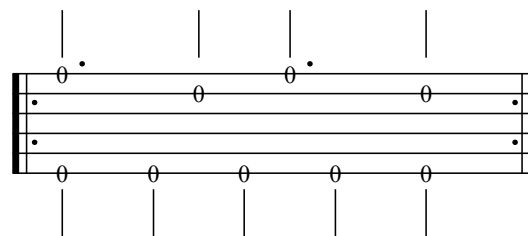
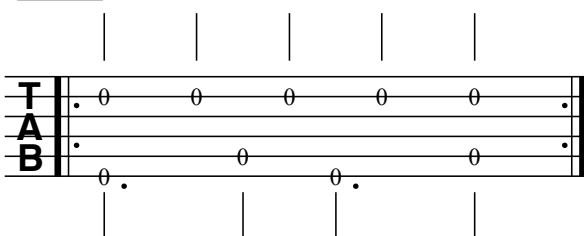
17

21

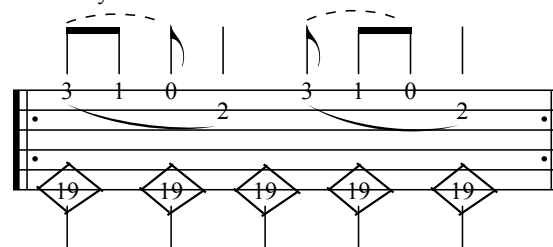
08 Kids' Room

Access:

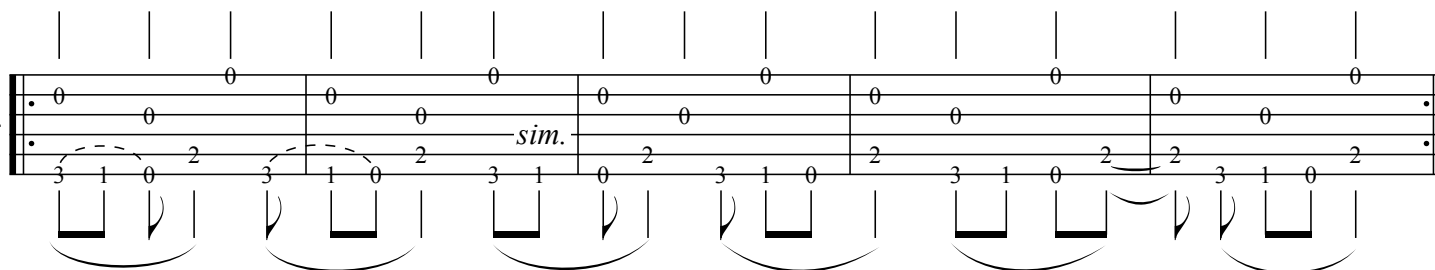
Guitar

5/4**TAB**

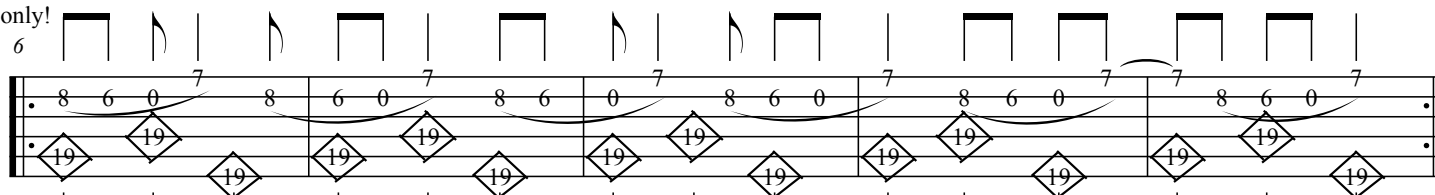
LH only!



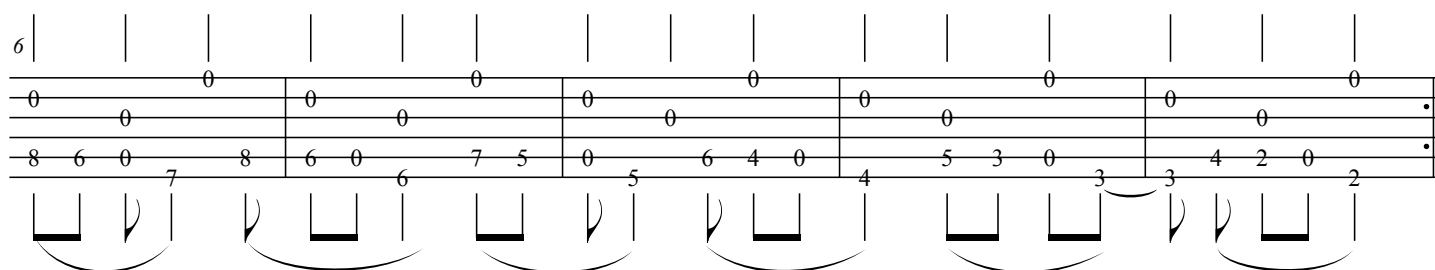
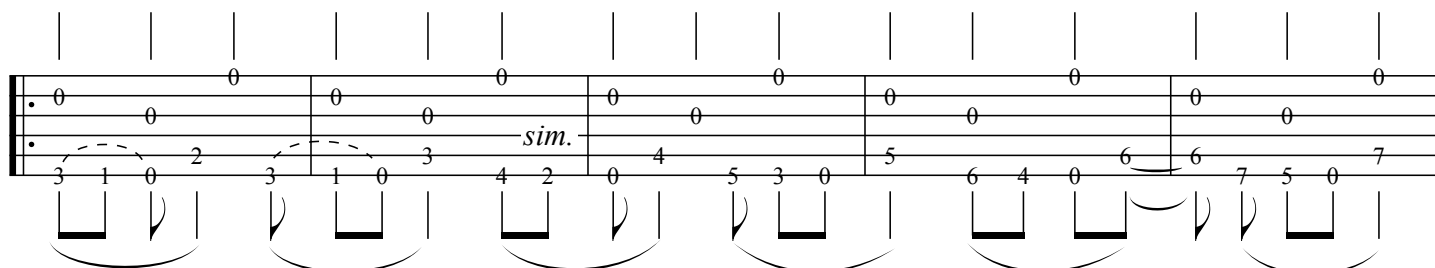
RH flag.

Entrance:**3/4**

LH only!



RH flag.

Room service:

LH only!

11

RH flag.

16

Comfort zone:

6

LH only!

11

16

09 Winter Garden

Entrance1:

Guitar

Measures 1-10 of Entrance 1. The notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a guitar part with a treble clef and a bass line with a bass clef. The guitar part has a 2-measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The bass line has a 2-measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The notation includes fingerings (1, 2, 4, 0) and a 'go up!' instruction at the end of the first system.

Entrance2:

Measures 11-26 of Entrance 2. The notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a guitar part with a treble clef and a bass line with a bass clef. The guitar part has a 2-measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The bass line has a 2-measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The notation includes fingerings (1, 2, 4, 0) and a 'go up!' instruction at the end of the first system.

VIII

VI

Room service:

8 2 0 4 2 0 4

6 2 0 4 2 4

11 0 4 4

16 0 4 go up!

VIII 21 2 0 4 2 0 4

VI 26 2 0 4 2 0 4

Polly's Apartment

10 Guest Room

Room service:

Guitar

Play notes in parentheses 1st time only!

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

Selected works by Martin Staeffler:

- ›Polly's Apartment‹ Polymetrical method for solo guitar [2021]
- ›Ein Dutzend Etüden‹ for solo guitar [2012-2016]
- ›Effortless Guitar Duos‹ №.1—5 [2014-2016]
- ›Prelude & Waltz in g-minor‹ for guitar orchestra [2015]
- ›Adjacent Melodies‹ Ch.1—5 for solo guitar [arr.: M.S.] [2015]
- ›My five cents' worth‹ for guitar & string quartet [2014]
 - ›Afar & Near - A fantastic journey with the piano‹ [6053]
 - ›Montenegro‹ for guitar [2013]
- ›Boy Girl Elephant \ Ballet for 3 guitars‹ [2013]
- ›Quatre Pièces Brèves pour Piano selon le Calendrier Julien‹ [2013]
- ›Five Songs of Love‹ for alto and guitar [2012]
- ›existenzminimum‹ for guitar orchestra [2012]
- ›Aus der Tiefe‹ for choir, harp, 2 celli [2012]
- ›Trittico Reciproco‹ for guitar [2012]
- ›out of nowhere - Another five compositions for guitar‹ [2012]
- ›Divertimento zur Gesundung‹ for piano [2011]
- ›Das Astloch‹ for flute, 2 clarinets [2011]
- ›Five Fatal Pieces‹ for guitar [2011]
- ›Quartetto Arrischiato‹ for string quartet [2010]
- ›Introspektion‹ for vibraphone‹ [2005]

ceterum:

- ›Still aware after all these years VOL. 2 & 3 /
My life outside the guitar 1989—2009‹ (2 AudioCDs)