

String Quartet
No. 1

by

Alvez T. Barkoskie IV

String Quartet No. 1

The Prélude of String Quartet No. 1 was conceived from a single cello solo. Since string ensembles have such a homogeneous sound and texture, I have rescored the cello solo into a conversation between all the string instruments in the opening movement. The movements, more appropriately called bagatelles, are all based on this Prélude. Each character piece focuses on some element of the Prélude and expands upon it from a rhythmic opening to a sonorous canon to a familiar ragtime setting.

Movements

Prélude	Prelude
Chorale	Chorale
Sérénade	Serenade
Divertissement	Amusement
Rêverie	Day Dream
Virage	Turn
Nocturne	Night Song
Sirop d'érable	Maple Syrup
Dramatique	Dramatic

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String Quartet No. 1

1. Prélude

Dur. ca. 0:30

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Rhythmically ♩ = 138

Violin I [3+2]

Violin II

Viola *p* *mp*

Cello *p* *mp* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains the first four staves of the score. Violin I and Violin II have rests in the first three measures and a fermata in the fourth. Viola and Cello play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the first measure, followed by rests in the second and third, and a final eighth-note pattern in the fourth. Dynamics range from piano (p) to mezzo-piano (mp).

♩ = 92
[♩ = ♩] *sempre* [3+4]

Vln. I

Vln. II *esp.* *pp*

Vla. *mp* *p*

Vc. *mp* *mf* *pp sub mf* *mp*

Detailed description: This system contains the next four staves. Violin I has a fermata in the first three measures and a [3+4] bracket in the fourth. Violin II has rests in the first three measures and a melodic phrase in the fourth, marked *esp.* and *pp*. Viola plays a melodic line in the first measure, rests in the second and third, and a final eighth-note pattern in the fourth. Cello plays a melodic line in the first measure, rests in the second, and melodic lines in the third and fourth. Dynamics range from mezzo-piano (mp) to pianissimo (pp).

2. Chorale

Dur. ca. 0:30

Sustained ♩ = 56

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system includes Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The second system includes Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The score is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked as *Sustained* with a quarter note equal to 56 beats per minute. The first system consists of three measures. The first measure is in 4/4 time, the second in 5/4 time, and the third in 4/4 time. The second system consists of four measures, all in 4/4 time. Dynamics range from *pp* to *mf*. Performance markings include *pizz.* and *arco* for the Cello, and various articulation marks like accents and slurs.

Violin I
mp *p* *mf*

Violin II
p *mp* *esp.*

Viola
p *mp*

Cello
p

Vln. I
p *mp* *pp*

Vln. II
mf *pp*

Vla.
pp

Vc.
pizz. *arco* *mp* *pp*

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3. Sérénade

Dur. ca. 3:30

Freely ♩ = 56

pizz. l.v. sempre slow arp. with thumb

p

Violin I G.P.

Violin II *f* *ff* *subito pp* *mp* V G.P. 3

Viola G.P.

Cello G.P. *pizz. l.v. sempre slow arp. with thumb* *p*

8 [3+2]

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *mf*

Vc.

3. Sérénade

13 [3+2+2]

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

f

Waltz ♩ = ca. 40

18

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

mf

rit.

molto rit.

f

p

rit.

molto rit.

warmly

mp

mp

rit.

molto rit.

mp

p

mp

24

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp

mf

4. Divertissement

Dur. ca. 0:30

Playfully ♩ = 152

♩ = ca. 100
[♩ = ♩] *sempre*

Violin I [3+2]

Violin II

Viola

Cello *pizz.* *f*

5 Vln. I *pizz.* *p* G.P.

Vln. II *pizz.* *mf* G.P. *pp*

Vla. G.P. *pizz.* *p*

Vc. *p* G.P. *pp*

5. Rêverie

Dur. ca. 2:30

Rocking ♩ = 76

con sord n.v. (thru m 57)

Violin I

pp
con sord

Violin II

con sord

pp
n.v. sempre

Viola

con sord

n.v. sempre

pp

Cello

pp

Vln. I

ppp

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

14

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp

22

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

poco accel.

mp

poco accel.

pizz.

mf

l.v.

poco accel.

mp

6. Virage

Dur. ca. 1:00

Spiraling ♩ = 152

Violin I *senza sord.* G.P. $p < f$

Violin II *senza sord.* G.P. $mf < ff > p$ $p < f$

Viola *senza sord.* G.P. $p < mf$ $mf < ff > p$ $p < f$

Cello *senza sord.* G.P. pp $p < mf$ $mf < ff > p$ $p < f$

Vln. I pp pp mp *sub.* *sul tasto*

Vln. II pp mp *sub.* *sul tasto*

Vla. pp pp mp *sub.* *sul tasto*

Vc. pp mp *sub.* *sul tasto*

12

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

f

ord.

f

f

f

17

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

ff

7. Nocturne

Dur. ca. 2:00

Mysteriously, Sustained ♩ = 40

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 6, and the second system contains measures 7 through 11. The score is for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Mysteriously, Sustained' with a quarter note equal to 40 beats. The first system shows the Viola and Cello parts with dynamics of *pp* and *p*. The second system shows all four parts with dynamics ranging from *mf* to *ff* and *pp*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

7

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

8. Sirop d'érable

Dur. ca. 2:00

March-like ♩ = 84

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system includes Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The second system includes Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The score is in 2/4 time and features a variety of dynamics and articulations.

Violin I: Starts with a *p* dynamic, playing a melodic line with slurs and accents. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*.

Violin II: Starts with a *p* dynamic, playing a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics range from *p* to *f*.

Viola: Starts with a *mp* dynamic, playing a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics range from *mp* to *f*.

Cello: Starts with a *mp* dynamic, playing a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics range from *mp* to *f*.

Violin I (System 2): Starts at measure 6, playing a melodic line with slurs and accents. Dynamics range from *f* to *f*.

Violin II (System 2): Starts at measure 6, playing a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics range from *f* to *f*.

Viola (System 2): Starts at measure 6, playing a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics range from *f* to *f*.

Cello (System 2): Starts at measure 6, playing a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics range from *f* to *f*.

11

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

p < *f*

p

p < *f*

p < *f*

p < *f*

17

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

p

pp

pp

22

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz.

f < *pp sub.*

f < *pp sub.*

9. Dramatique

Dur. ca. 2:00

With Fervour ♩ = 132

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

(arco)

f

sim.

f

f

sim.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

6

Detailed description: This page contains two systems of musical notation for a string ensemble. The first system includes Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The second system includes Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The music is in 6/8 time and features a driving eighth-note pattern in the lower strings. The upper strings have more melodic and rhythmic patterns. Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *sim.* (sforzando). The first system starts with a measure of rest for the violins and a measure of rest for the viola. The second system starts with a measure of rest for the violins and a measure of rest for the viola. The first system ends with a measure of rest for the violins and a measure of rest for the viola. The second system ends with a measure of rest for the violins and a measure of rest for the viola.

11

Vln. I G.P. *ff*

Vln. II G.P. *ff*

Vla. G.P. *ff*

Vc. G.P. *ff*

17

Vln. I G.P. *p*

Vln. II G.P. *p*

Vla. G.P.

Vc. G.P.

23

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff pp sub. f f f

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 23 to 27. It features four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). Measures 23 and 24 show the Violin parts with a forte (ff) dynamic and a piano (pp) section marked 'sub.'. The Viola and Cello parts enter in measure 24 with a forte (f) dynamic. Measures 25, 26, and 27 continue the patterns, with the Violin parts playing a forte (f) dynamic. The Viola and Cello parts maintain a consistent rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs.

28

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff ff ff 2 2 2 2 2

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 28 to 32. It features the same four staves as the previous system. Measures 28 and 29 show the Violin parts with a forte (ff) dynamic. Measures 30, 31, and 32 continue the patterns, with the Violin parts playing a forte (ff) dynamic. The Viola and Cello parts maintain a consistent rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs. The Violin parts have accents (>) and some doublets (2) in measures 30, 31, and 32.

Vigorously ♩ = 112

33

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

G.P.

mp

p

p

p

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 33 to 37. It features four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 2/4. Measures 33 and 34 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents (>) and slurs. Measures 35 and 36 are marked 'G.P.' (Grave) and contain a single note. Measure 37 is marked 'Vigorously' with a tempo of 112 beats per minute and contains eighth notes. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) for Vln. I, and *p* (piano) for Vln. II, Vla., and Vc.

38

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 38 to 41. It features the same four staves as the previous system. Measure 38 starts with a new rhythmic pattern for Vln. I, featuring eighth notes with accents and slurs. Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. continue with their respective parts. Measure 41 features a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) for the Viola part.

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for a complete score