

Nostra Culpa

for dramatic voice and string orchestra

Eugene Birman

on a libretto by Scott Diel

january-february 2013

Nostra Culpa.

to my family, and all those whom I hold dear.

“Though I die and die again a hundred times,
That my bones turn to dust, whether my soul remains or not,
Ever loyal to my Lord, how can this red heart ever fade away?”
JEONG MONGJU (PO EUN)

I am not an Estonian. Nor am I a politician, and despite studying, researching, and even teaching economics, I am not truly an economist either. Whether I like it or not, and since childhood I have questioned it every day, I am a composer. My words are musical phrases; my language is sound; my grammar is harmony. I cannot give answers to the questions a piece like this raises, due to its inherent nature, other than those answers which are manifested as music. They are still answers and yet they do not pick a side or crown a winner. I hope that they reach the heart instead, and that the winner, should there ever be one, is each and every individual who faces the question of having enough food to feed his or her family as a result of the financial crisis. For this individual, the rhetoric of austerity and stimulus is equally as absurd as it is for me – the composer.

What is this piece and what should it be? I answer only these questions and I do so briefly. I wanted to create a piece that would transcend its time and its moment – something that was more than a commentary on a specific Twitter dispute but a statement on disputes themselves. It is shameful when music is used for political purposes but similarly disappointing when music seeks to exist in a vacuum, self-contained without the context of a world around it, and the personalities therein. Here, I sought to find a place of relevance for a new piece, one that was not only a musical setting of the financial crisis and two personalities who, for many, define it, but a product of this current event, as well. This piece comes out of our crisis and its musical language – or should I say, mine – has been indelibly affected as a result of what has happened in the last five years. It is scarred, it is at times absurd, otherwordly, primal, beautiful, and, in some way and surely by the end: it is hopeful as well.

1 March 2013 – Oxford, UK

Libretto – “Nostra Culpa” by Scott Diel

I.

Economic triumph?
A natural experiment
Wonders of austerity
Economic triumph?

Poster child?
Incomplete recovery

Stimulate!
Estonian rhapsody
Austerians
Stimulate!

Fiscal stimulus trumps
Increased public debt
Devalue!

II.

Austerity in the wasteland
Dumb & silly East Europeans
Unenlightened
Nostra culpa

Frozen pensions
Lowered salaries
Internal devaluation
Nostra culpa

Gray apartments
Just wogs
Someday will understand
Nostra culpa

smug, overbearing & patronizing
Sh*t on East Europeans
Chill
Nostra culpa

Performance notes

- The two movements should not be played attacca. Instead, a moment of rest or breath should be observed in between the two movements.
- The singer’s part is distinctly printed as *not quite* within the pacing and time signatures of the rest of the piece. The singer should feel a degree of freedom to perform the given sections, without neglecting those entrances, sections, etc. in which her part has a direct relationship with the orchestra. In general, the singer must enjoy autonomy from the ensemble and yet become timbrally a part of the group in sections, as indicated.
- A variety of bowing techniques are used, including: SOPRA PONT, MOLTO SUL PONT, QUASI SUL PONT, NORM, QUASI NORM, SUL TASTO, SOPRA TASTO as well as other possible specific indications. Musicians should assume that NORM and QUASI NORM are more or less identical, though QUASI NORM should be played in a slightly different color. The indications are listed above in a sort of geographical gradient from bridge to fingerboard, whereas SOPRA PONT should be played almost directly over the bridge and is fairly pitchless (though by no means intruding past the bridge to the other side of the strings), MOLTO SUL PONT and QUASI SUL PONT corresponding degrees toward the middle of the bowed area. SUL TASTO and SOPRA TASTO are played toward the fingerboard, and in the case of the latter, a considerable extent over the fingerboard.
- If unmarked, musicians should assume that a given passage is to be played NORM and with minimal vibrato.
- Notes with square noteheads are indicated in the score and parts as “crunch.” Unless otherwise stated, this effect should be approached with a gradual increase in bow tension.
- Notes with “x” noteheads indicate an unpitched effect in the strings, such as bowing on the side of the instrument in the first movement, or completely unpitched col legno in the second movement. In any case, the technique will always be indicated and marked. Notes with “x” noteheads in the singer’s part indicate unpitched (whispered, spoken, yelled) or half-pitched notes with specific indications given.
- Notes with no noteheads are generally a continuation of a glissando, as a duration given.
- In some cases, an arrow may be used to represent the duration of a note, like in bar 43 of the first movement. The note is played until the end of the arrow.
- Crescendi, decrescendi, glissandi, and tremoli should always start gradually when going towards a note and end gradually when coming away from a note.
- Dynamics are given as absolutes and should be done precisely to create the correct balance of timbre and harmony in any given place. However, balance must also be kept between orchestra and singer. The singer is not always necessarily heard above the orchestra but commonly *through* the orchestra. In several cases, the voice is simply a color of the orchestra. Generally, the orchestra is meant to support the singer and not necessarily make way for her.
- Unless specifically indicated, bowings should not be coordinated and all musicians should maintain independence from each other in their interpretation unless indicated otherwise, for example: “WITH VLN.”

Commission: Estonian Composers Union for Estonian Music Days 2013, written for Iris Oja and the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra.

Instrumentation: Dramatic voice and string orchestra (9 violins, 3 violas, 2 ‘cellos, 1 contrabass)

Duration: approx. 15 minutes

Nostra Culpa

on a libretto by Scott Diel

string orchestra and dramatic voice

F. A. Birman (b)

E. A. Birman (b. 1987)

Fractured • = 56

I.

allarg. poco a poco

Voice

Vln I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

molto sul pont.
muffled-sounding: 3
ppp 7:4 0

quasi sul pont.
ppp 3

let ring...
mf

quasi sul pont.
ppp 3

molto sul pont.
muffled-sounding: 3
ppp 7:4 *mp*

quasi sul pont.
ppp 3

quasi sul pont.
arco 3 3 change ad lib., but still unobtrusively
ppp 3

change bow unobtrusively here, if needed
ppp

change ad lib., but still unobtrusively

(allarg. poco a poco)

Voice

Vln I

Vln II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

quasi sul pont. 3
#ppp

molto sul pont. → sopra tasto
#ppp

molto sul pont. → norm.
#ppp f

sopra tasto → molto sul pont.
#ppp mp

quasi sul pont. 3
#ppp mp

(pizz.) 3 3
p 3 3

quasi sul pont. 5
f pizz. strum pizz.
#ppp

norm. → quasi sul pont.
3
ppp 3
f fppp 3
mfppp

norm. → quasi sul pont.
3
fppp 3 5:4
norm. → quasi sul pont.
3
p 3 3
p 3 3

(quasi sul pont.) change ad lib., but still unobtrusively
ppp sost.

(quasi sul pont.) → quasi norm.
ppp sost.

8 (ppp)

(allarg. poco a poco) -

Voice

This musical score page contains six staves of music for various instruments. The top staff is for the Voice, which has a single melodic line. Below it are two staves for Violin I (Vln I), featuring complex rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings like *mf*, *f*, *ppp*, and *molto sul pont.*. The third staff is for Violin II (Vln. II), also with intricate rhythms and dynamics including *sffz*, *fff*, and *ppp*. The fourth staff is for Viola (Vla.), which includes markings like *arco*, *sfz*, and *ppp*. The fifth staff is for Cello (Vc.), and the bottom staff is for Double Bass (Cb.). The music is set in common time and includes various performance instructions such as *quasi sul pont.*, *norm.*, *7:4*, *3*, *ppp*, *molto sul pont.*, *ppp*, *subito ppp*, *pizz.*, and *molto sul pont.*.

8 (allarg. poco a poco) - - - - - Heroic and incisive $\bullet = 60$

Voice

f sost.

E - co-no-mic tri - - - - - umph -

Vln I

f sost.

f sost.

f sost.

f sost.

Vln. II

Sul E

f sost.

Sul E

Sul E

f sost.

(norm.)
Sul E

f sost.

Vla.

(quasi sul pont.) 3
ppp 0

(molto sul pont.) *p* *ppp* *p* norm.
mfppp 3 *ppp* like a short rustling

(quasi sul pont.) *p* *ppp* *sost.* norm.
ppp *sost.* *quasi sul pont.* *sopra pont.* *ppp*

Vc.

ff

Cb.

ff

ff

out of breath and almost as an exhale

II **ff**

hummed: **p**

Sul G
molto vib. e pesante

Voice

or as fast as possible

cue with singer: **#**

Sul A 5:4

Sul G (over A and D strings) molto vib. e pesante Sul A

Vln I

or as fast as possible

cue with singer: **#**

con vib. so that the quarter-tone above is very present: norm.

Sul G molto vib. e pesante

Vln I

or as fast as possible

cue with singer: **#**

Sul A

Vln II

rhythms can be approximated as a general accel.

3 3 7 5:4

Sul A 5:4

Vln. II

rhythms can be approximated as a general accel.

3 3 7 5:4

Sul A 5:4

Vla.

rhythms can be approximated as a general accel.

3 3 7 5:4

3 3 7 5:4

norm. → molto sul pont.

quasi sul pont. → molto sul pont.

quasi sul pont. → molto sul pont.

quasi sul pont. → crunch

quasi sul pont. → crunch

molto sul pont. → crunch

Vc.

un po di vib.

Cb.

20 → out-of-control vib. *fff*

spoken dramatically, somewhat sarcastically and bitingly, as if in reply to a foolish question: 3

Voice

pesante: *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

Sul G → *pesante:* *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

pesante: *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

pesante: *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

(Sul G) → *pesante:* *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

con molto vib. → *pesante:* *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

con molto vib. → *pesante:* *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

con molto vib. → *pesante:* *fff* → *quasi sul pont.* 7:4 3

Vla.

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched 3 → *pp*

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched 3 → *pp*

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched 3 → *pp*

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched 3 → *p*

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched 3 → *p*

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched 3 → *p*

Vc.

arco → *crunch close to pitchless* → *molto sul pont.* → *crunch molto sul pont.* → *pp*

arco → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *pp*

arco → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *pp*

arco → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *pp*

Cb.

arco → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *crunch* → *molto sul pont.* → *(nontrem.)* → *ppp* *sost.*

subdued but still somehow unstable:
 23 ***mp*** ***sost.*** *con molto vib.* ——————
Voice E-co-no-mic tri - - - - - umph - - - - ?
Vln I
Vln II
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

con sord. *(norm.)* *Sul G* ——————
pp *sf* *mf* *p*
con sord. *(norm.)* *7 3 3* *6*
pp *mf* *p*
con sord. *(norm.)* *o o o o* *6*
pp *p* *mf* *p*
con sord. *(norm.)* *3* *6*
pp *subito mf* *p*
con sord. *(norm.)* *3 3* *6*
pp *p* *mf* *p*
con sord. *(norm.)* *7* *6*
pp *mf* *p*
con sord. *(norm.)* *3* *6*
pp *p* *mf* *p*
(molto sul pont.) → *crunch molto sul pont.* → *crunch quasi sul pont.* → *norm.* *3 3* *6*
p *sfz* *subito mf* *p*
(molto sul pont.) → *crunch molto sul pont.* → *crunch quasi sul pont.* → *norm.* *3* *6*
p *mf* *p*
(molto sul pont.) → *norm.* *3* *6*
ppp *mf*

26

expansive: **ff**

con vib., almost touching the "E"

*hummed: subito **mf** as loud as possible*

bleak, strong: **ff**

child - - - ?

(norm.) → *quasi sul pont.* → *crunch quasi sul pont.*

(norm.) → *quasi sul pont.* → *crunch quasi sul pont.*

(norm.) → *quasi sul pont.* → *crunch quasi sul pont.*

(norm.) → *quasi sul pont.* → *crunch quasi sul pont.*

un po di vib.

sempre Sul G

ricochet

quasi sul pont. → *molto sul pont.*

(can be approximated)

quasi sul pont. → *molto sul pont.* → *crunch sopra pont.* → *molto sul pont.*

quasi sul pont. → *molto sul pont.* → *crunch molto sul pont.*

sopra tasto

developing intense bow pressure:

developing intense bow pressure:

developing intense bow pressure:

pure tone:

up/down harmonic series:

pure tone:

pure tone:

pure tone:

intense and brooding:

con vib.

Voice

(quasi sul pont.) → molto sul pont. 3

(quasi sul pont.) 3 un po di vib. → sopra pont. [can stop note earlier to put mute on instrument] 0

(quasi sul pont.) → molto sul pont. 3

(quasi sul pont.) 0

(quasi sul pont.) 0

(molto sul pont.) → crunch → norm. 3

(molto sul pont.) 3 → norm. subito **p**

(molto sul pont.) 0

(molto sul pont.) → norm. **p**

→ quasi sul pont., almost a crunch **ff**

→ quasi sul pont., almost a crunch **ff**

→ quasi sul pont., almost a crunch 3 **ff**

→ quasi sul pont. **ff**

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched **p**

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched **p**

strong bow motion across body of instrument - unpitched **p**

con sord. 3

con sord. >

con sord. **p**

Voice

(quasi sul pont.)

p

mf — *ppp*

p

(quasi sul pont.)

ppp

mp

p

molto sul pont.

Vln I

(quasi sul pont.)

p

molto sul pont.

p

Vln. II

(quasi sul pont.)

pp

subito mp

sf

p

molto sul pont.

p

mf

p

(norm.)

senza sord.

ppp

Vla.

(quasi sul pont.)

pp

mf

pp

molto sul pont.

Vc.

(quasi sul pont.)

p

sfz

p

Cb.

Voice

(molto sul pont.) 3 pesante (pesante) sopra pont. norm.

(molto sul pont.) pesante sopra pont. norm.

(norm.) developing intense bow pressure: con molto vib. (almost like a trill) sopra pont. sopra tasto

(norm.) developing intense bow pressure: sopra pont. sopra tasto

(molto sul pont.) (exaggerated bow motions) sopra tasto quasi sul pont.

(molto sul pont.) pesante senza sord. sopra tasto

(molto sul pont.) con molto vib. 3 pesante sopra tasto molto sul pont. senza sord.

(norm.) senza sord. developing intense bow pressure: sopra pont.

(norm.) senza sord. sopra pont. norm.

(molto sul pont.) pesante senza sord. sopra pont.

(molto sul pont.) 3 pesante sopra pont. sopra tasto

(norm.) developing intense bow pressure: molto sul pont. sopra tasto

(norm.) soprano pont. norm. soprano pont. soprano pont.

(quasi sul pont.) soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

surreal, with exaggerated bow motions: soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

molto sul pont. soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

norm. soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

arrive early: soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

up/down harmonic series: soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

crunch quasi sul pont. soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

3 soprano pont. soprano pont. soprano pont.

Vln I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

molto rubato - rhythms given can be treated with approximation, but overall gesture should be preserved! - -

- ↗ unrefined, almost shrill, then disintegrating:
[5.5]

43

Voice

exasperated, covered with breath:
rhap - sody *Sti - ³mu-late!*

[draw bow swiftly across instrument]

Vln I

[draw bow swiftly across instrument]

Vln II

[draw bow swiftly across instrument]

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:
 $\overbrace{3 \quad 3 \quad 7}$
fff *sim.* *mf*

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:
 $\overbrace{7 \quad 3}$
fff *as loud as possible*

(molto sul pont.) —> norm. —> quasi sul pont.
ff —> *p* 0

(molto sul pont.) —> norm. —> quasi sul pont. senza sord.
ff —> *p* 0

(molto sul pont.) —> norm. —> quasi sul pont.
ff —> *p* 0

(molto sul pont.) —> norm. —> quasi sul pont. —> surreal, with exaggerated bow motions: developing intense bow pressure:
ff —> *p* 0

(molto sul pont.) —> norm. —> quasi sul pont. —> surreal, with exaggerated bow motions: developing intense bow pressure:
ff —> *p* 0

(molto sul pont.) —> norm. —> quasi sul pont. —> surreal, with exaggerated bow motions: developing intense bow pressure:
ff —> *p* 0

Vc.

(nontrem.)

Cb.

Voice

subito fff (or as loud as possible)

subito fff (or as loud as possible)

senza sord.

subito fff (or as loud as possible)

senza sord.

(arco)
pizz.
fff

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

fff *mf*

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

fff

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

fff *ff*

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

fff *sim.*

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

fff

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

fff *ff*

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

fff *sim.*

fff

pizz. *mp*

7

9.8

(norm.)

0

(norm.)

0

(norm.)

developing intense bow pressure:

very heavy bow pressure

0

(quasi sul pont.)

fff

(quasi sul pont.)

fff

(quasi sul pont.)

(vary bow placement ad lib. becoming wilder...)

fff

crunch

52

Voice

rapid strokes of the bow across side of the instrument:

quasi sul pont.
(play near the tip)

molto sul pont.

Vln I

quasi sul pont.
(play near the tip)

quasi sul pont.
(play near the tip)

quasi sul pont.
(play near the tip)

Vln. II

sopra tasto

subito pppp

sul tasto, like gentle brush strokes:
aimless and disoriented:

subito pppp

Vc.

Cb.

sopra tasto
aimless and disoriented:

subito pppp

56

gentle and almost physically beautiful:

Voice

(quasi sul pont.) Fis cal sti

molto sul pont.
begin pitchless and very very light:
un po di vib.

molto sul pont.
begin pitchless and very very light:
un po di vib.

norm. *molto sul pont.* → *quasi sul pont.*

Vln I

(norm.) → *molto sul pont.* → *quasi sul pont.*

molto sul pont. → *norm.* → *sul*
begin pitchless and very very light: *pont.*
un po di vib.

molto sul pont. → *norm.* → *sul*
begin pitchless and very very light: *pont.*
un po di vib.

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

61

almost like a squeak: pitch need not be precise

mf

trembling vibrato, like a trill trending upwards:

mu - - - lus

(quasi sul pont.)

trumps

developing intense bow pressure:

subito pp

molto sul pont.

norm.

con vib. 3

molto sul pont.

almost microtonal, with swift changes in bow, played very lightly:

subito p

(quasi sul pont.)

con molto vib.

developing intense bow pressure:

subito pp

molto sul pont.

norm.

nonvib.

0

ppp

subito p

(quasi sul pont.) → molto sul pont. norm.

developing intense bow pressure:

subito pp

mf

molto sul pont.

norm.

l.h. pizz. arco

p < mf > p

(quasi sul pont.) → molto sul pont.

developing intense bow pressure:

subito pp

mf

pp

mp

molto sul pont.

(abruptly)

(molto sul pont.) norm.

developing intense bow pressure:

subito pp

mf

molto sul pont.

norm.

(norm.)

developing intense bow pressure:

pp

molto

mf

molto sul pont.

sul tasto

almost microtonal, with swift changes in bow, played very lightly:

p

molto sul pont.

quasi sul pont. → molto sul pont.

developing intense bow pressure:

un po di vib.

norm.

nonvib.

(with singer)

3

molto sul pont.

ppp

Vln. II

molto sul pont.

developing intense bow pressure:

un po di vib.

con molto vib.

mf

molto sul pont.

norm.

Sul D

molto sul pont.

developing intense bow pressure:

mf

molto sul pont.

like a short rustling

3

3

molto sul pont.

close to pitchless

7

Vla.

molto sul pont.

close to pitchless

subito ppp

3

3

molto sul pont.

close to pitchless

7

Vc.

molto sul pont.

close to pitchless

ppp

7

Cb.

molto sul pont.

close to pitchless

ppp

8

molto sul pont.

close to pitchless

ppp

yelled,
"condescendingly,"
with disapproval:

67 *f*

Voice

ff sost. In - creased pub - lic debt De -

nervous and unstable vibrato:

Vln I

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (norm.) → *molto sul pont.* *pp*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (norm.) → *molto sul pont.* *pp*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 7 0 8 (quasi sul pont.) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (quasi sul pont.) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (con molto vib. Sul G) → *molto sul pont.* 5:4 *fp* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 3 3 0 8 → *molto sul pont.* *fff* *sf*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 3 3 0 8 → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

Vln. II

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (nonharm.) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (nonharm.) developing intense bow pressure: → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (nonharm.) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (nonharm.) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

Vla.

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (Sul G) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (Sul G) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (Sul G) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

norm. → *quasi sul pont.* 0 8 (Sul G) → *molto sul pont.* 3 3 3 3 *f*

Vc.

norm. 3 → *quasi sul pont.* 3 3 0 8 (quasi sul pont.) → *molto sul pont.* *fff* *sf*

norm. 3 → *quasi sul pont.* 3 3 0 8 (quasi sul pont.) → *molto sul pont.* *fff* *sf*

norm. 3 → *quasi sul pont.* 3 3 0 8 (quasi sul pont.) → *molto sul pont.* *fff* *sf*

Cb.

norm. 3 → *quasi sul pont.* 3 3 0 8 (quasi sul pont.) → *molto sul pont.* *fff* *sf*

Voice

Voice

loud and quick changes in stroke:
fff *sost.*

(like an accel.)
as loud as possible

Vln I

loud and quick changes in stroke:
fff *sost.*

(like an accel.)
as loud as possible

loud and quick changes in stroke:
fff *sost.*

(like an accel.)
as loud as possible

loud and quick changes in stroke:
fff *sost.*

(like an accel.)
as loud as possible

Vln. II

molto sul pont.
crunch norm.

molto sul pont.
crunch norm.

molto sul pont.
crunch norm.

sopra tasto → *sopra pont.*
surreal, with exaggerated bow motions:

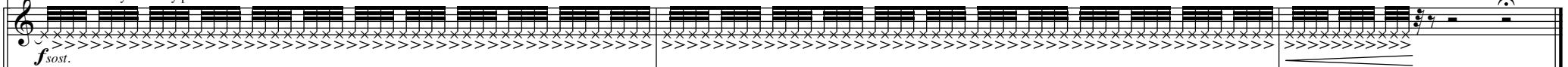
molto sul pont.
crunch norm.

(sopra tasto) → *sopra pont.*
surreal, with exaggerated bow motions:

molto sul pont.
crunch norm.

Voice

intense and rhythmically precise:



intense and rhythmically precise:



Vln I

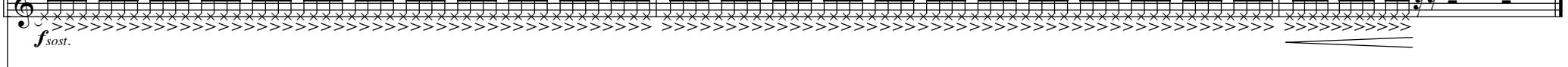
intense and rhythmically precise:



intense and rhythmically precise:



intense and rhythmically precise:



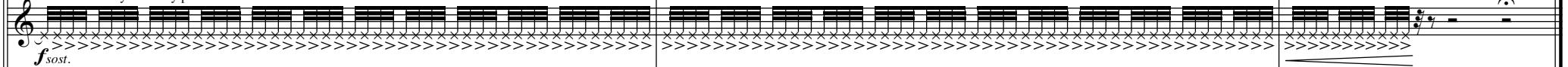
intense and rhythmically precise:



intense and rhythmically precise:



intense and rhythmically precise:



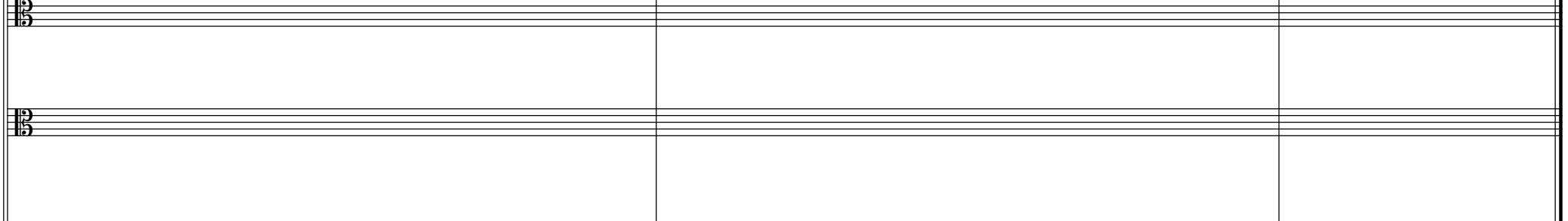
intense and rhythmically precise:



intense and rhythmically precise:



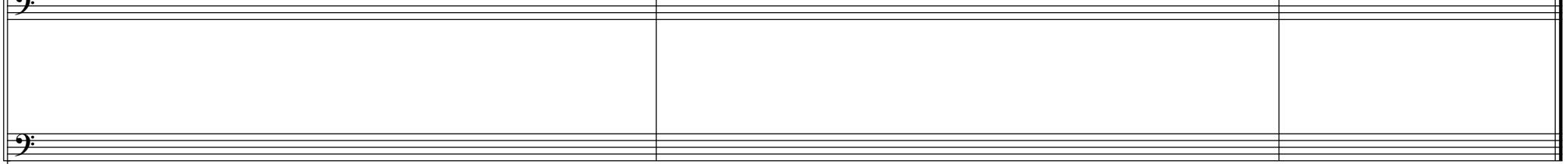
Vln. II



Vla.



Vc.



Cb.



*otherworldly and distant:
hummed:*

7 **pp** *molto* **mp** *unnatural
vibrato,
as a gliss.*

Voice

(*sopra tasto*) well-delineated: → *norm.*

(*pp*) *subito ppp*

(*sopra tasto*)

(*pp*) (*sopra tasto*) → *quasi sul pont.* *molto sul pont.* → *con molto vib.* *f pp sost.*

Vln I

(*sopra tasto*) → *norm.*

(*pp*) (*sopra tasto*) → *crunch norm.* → *norm.*

(*pp*) (*sopra tasto*) → *ff pp* → *norm. molto quasi sul pont. norm.* (*hold finger above string like a harmonic but not generating the pure tone*) → *norm.*

(*pp*) (*sopra tasto*) → *0 ff pp sost.* (*nonharm.*) → *pp pp sost.*

(*sopra tasto*) → *developing intense bow pressure: (do not cresc.)* → *lighter and freer bowing*

(*pp*) (*sopra tasto*) → *developing intense bow pressure: (do not cresc.)* → *lighter and freer bowing*

Vln. II

(*sopra tasto*) → *developing intense bow pressure: (do not cresc.)* → *lighter and freer bowing*

(*pp*) (*sopra tasto*) → *developing intense bow pressure: (do not cresc.)* → *lighter and freer bowing*

(*pp*) (*sopra tasto*) → *developing intense bow pressure: (do not cresc.)* → *lighter and freer bowing*

Vla.

→ *molto sul pont.* → *norm.* → *(norm.) Sul A gentle and pure:*

→ *molto sul pont.* → *norm.* → *0 (norm.) Sul A gentle and pure:*

→ *molto sul pont.* → *norm.* → *0 (norm.) Sul A gentle and pure:*

→ *molto sul pont.* → *norm.* → *0 (norm.) Sul A gentle and pure:*

Vc.

→ *(molto sul pont.)* → *norm.* → *(norm.)*

→ *(molto sul pont.)* → *norm.* → *0 (norm.)* → *con molto vib.* → *mf*

Cb.

→ *molto sul pont.* → *norm.* → *quasi sul pont.*

→ *subito p*

→ *3*

→ *ppp sost.*

15

with ringing clarity:

Voice: *Dumb &* *sil-ly*

Vln I: *(norm.)* → *sopra tasto* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *pizz.* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.*

Vln. II: *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *pizz.* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *pizz.* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.*

Vla.: *(p)* *mf* → *quasi sul pont.* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *(con vib.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *pp* → *quasi sul pont.*

Vc.: *(norm.)* → *sopra tasto* *(norm.)* → *quasi sul pont.* *pp* → *sopra tasto* *pp* → *sopra tasto* *pp* → *sopra tasto*

Cb.: *(quasi sul pont.)* *pp* → *quasi sul pont.* *pp* → *quasi sul pont.* *pp* → *quasi sul pont.* *pp* → *quasi sul pont.*

half-whispered, in a lower voice:

pp → *sil-ly*

accel. gently ----- *Free and improvised* $\text{d} = 56-72$
 19 *half-whispered, with resignation...* *...and sharp bitterness:* *from half-whispered to faintly sung, like an articulated hum:* *sarcastic and slightly theatrical, as if in jest:* *f*
 Voice *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*
 Eas - tern pizz. delicate: Eu-ro-pe-ans Un - en-light-en-ed Nos - tra cul - pa
 Vln I pizz. delicate: with Vla. pizz. delicate:
 Vln II (pizz.) delicate: (pizz.) delicate:
 Vla. pizz. delicate: with Vln. -
 Vc. (sopra tasto) quasi sul pont.
 Cb. (quasi sul pont.) (quasi sul pont.) pp ppp pp

31

a thin vibrato → mostly a whisper,
with just a hint of the pitch: *sung, with an air of improvisation:*

Voice

pizz. delicate: *p* → *mf* → *p*

Vln I

pizz. delicate: *p* → *ppp*

(pizz.) delicate: *p* → *ppp*

pizz. delicate: *p* → *ppp*

Vln. II

pizz. delicate: *p* → *ppp* → *ff* → *ff* → *ff* → *ff*

(pizz.) delicate: *p* → *ppp* → *ff* → *ff* → *ff* → *ff*

(pizz.) delicate: *p* → *ppp* → *ff* → *ff* → *ff* → *ff*

(quasi sul pont.) → norm.
col legno bruto → pesante:

Vla.

molto sul pont. → norm.
with gently swaying vibrato, becoming wider and more pronounced:

(quasi sul pont.) → norm.
pesante:

(quasi sul pont.) → norm.
pesante:

(quasi sul pont.) → norm.
pesante:

Vc.

molto sul pont. → norm.
crunch norm. → soprano tasto
close to pitchless

Cb.

molto sul pont. → soprano tasto
close to pitchless

ff → *fff* → *ppp*

ff → *fff* → *ppp*

ff → *fff* → *ppp*

- return bow to normal state -

ff → *fff* → *ppp*

40

Voice

between note and whisper; a prolonged, gentle exhale: *mp* — *pp* with contained, wild energy: *mp* — *ppp* — *p* more towards the note, unnatural: *ff* *sost.* start with a "Shh..." and continue until the timbre of the orchestra is filled with the sound: *ppp* — *mf* — *ppp*

(sopra tasto) — Nos -

Vln I

pp — becoming dull and wooden: (sopra tasto) — becoming dull and wooden: (norm.) — becoming dull and wooden: (sopra tasto) — norm. sopra tasto — start trem. very slowly and then accelerate, playing at the tip: becoming dull and wooden: (sopra tasto) — sempre Sul G (or as close to the harmonic as possible) — becoming dull and wooden: *pppp* *sost.* — *subito ppp* — *pp* — 0

Vln. II

pp — (norm.) — quasi sul pont. — soprano tasto — close to pitchless (sopra tasto) — close to pitchless — 0

Vla.

(norm.) — 0 (sopra tasto) — (with artificial harmonic ad lib.) — 0 (norm.) — 0 (pp) — 0

Vc.

(norm.) — (rising above the texture) — *f* — 0

Cb.

(norm.) — 0 (sopra tasto) — un po di vib. — *p* — 0

Free and improvised, with pitched instruments following the singer's tempo, and "vibraphone" effect instruments in regular "60" $\text{♩} = 56-72$

evocative and somehow sung non-classically:

cover mouth with hand

gentle and smooth relaxation of the pitch:

subito **pp**

hummed:

ppp sost.

46

tra

Vln I

unpitched col legno, at first inaudible, but then becoming omnipresent:
(imitating a broken vibraphone motor)

Vln. II

unpitched col legno, at first inaudible, but then becoming omnipresent:
(imitating a broken vibraphone motor)

Vla.

unpitched col legno, at first inaudible, but then becoming omnipresent:
(imitating a broken vibraphone motor)

Vc.

unpitched col legno, at first inaudible, but then becoming omnipresent:
(imitating a broken vibraphone motor)

Cb.

a tremendous build-up of energy and pathos:

a thin vibrato

f —————— **ff** ——————

51

pp ——————

p

cul -

(sopra tasto)

pa

norm.

(l.h. pizz)

(with singer)

(sopra tasto)

(lose energy) 3

(with singer)

0

ppp

subito **p**

(sopra tasto)

(lose energy) 3

(with singer)

0

ppp

subito **p**

(norm.)

(with singer)

Sul D

3

(norm.)

(with singer)

Sul D

3

(norm.)

(with singer)

Sul D

3

(unpitched col legno)

0

sopra tasto —————— norm.
Sul G

0

ff

(unpitched col legno)

0

sopra tasto —————— norm.
Sul G

0

ff

(unpitched col legno)

0

sopra tasto —————— norm.
Sul G

0

ff

(unpitched col legno)

0

sopra tasto —————— norm.
Sul G

0

ff

(unpitched col legno)

0

sopra tasto —————— norm.

begin pitchless and very very light:

0

pp

ff

sopra tasto —————— norm.

begin pitchless and very very light:

0

ppp

subito **pp**

ff

sopra tasto —————— norm.

begin pitchless and very very light:

0

ppp

subito **pp**

ff

(unpitched col legno)

0

(norm.)

Solo, with singer:

con molto vib

sul tasto —————— norm.

brutal and theatrical:

f —————— **pp** —————— **ff**

(unpitched col legno)

0

fp —————— **ffp** ——————

molto

f —————— **pp** —————— **ff**

(sopra tasto)

—3

ppp

sopra tasto

0

mf

norm.

(sopra tasto)

—3

ppp

subito **mf**

norm.

(sopra tasto)

—3

ppp

subito **pp**

norm.

(sopra tasto)

—3

ppp

subito **pp**

ff

Sparse, monumental ♩ = 60

losing power to breath:



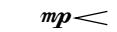
fragile and poorly formed:



falling apart with regularity:



as if resolving:



Just

Gray

a - part - ments

Just

quasi sul pont.

molto sul pont.
close to pitchless

sopra tasto

molto sul pont.
close to pitchless

sopra tasto

Vln I

quasi sul pont.
(Sul D)

(†) (unfingered - only with vibrato)

quasi sul pont.
(Sul D)

sopra tasto

quasi sul pont.
(Sul D)

pppp sost.

quasi sul pont.
(Sul D)

sopra tasto

(norm.)
(Sul G)

(trem. less and less in intensity)

pppp sost.

(norm.)
(Sul G)

→

(norm.)
(Sul G)

→

(norm.)
(Sul G)

→

(norm.)
(Sul G)

→

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

(quasi sul pont.)

→ norm.

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

(quasi sul pont.)

→ norm. → quasi sul pont.

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

(quasi sul pont.)

→ norm.

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

(quasi sul pont.)

→ norm.

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

→ norm.

→ sopra tasto

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

→ norm.

→ sopra tasto

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

→ norm.

→ crunch → norm.

(norm.) → quasi sul pont.

→ norm.

→ molto sul pont.

Voice

Vln I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

acerbic, then fading out:

60 *mf* *wogs* *f > p* *0*

losing the pitch wildly before an assertive resolution:

f *p* *day*

crackly and mostly unpitched:

pizz. *(pizz.)* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

(sopra tasto) *(almost like a trill)* *molto sul pont.*

Vln I

(sopra tasto) *molto sul pont.* *ff* *(pizz.)* *ff*

(sopra tasto) *molto sul pont.* *ff*

molto sul pont. *sopra tasto* *pizz.* *(pizz.)* *ff* *ff*

molto sul pont. *sopra tasto* *pizz.* *(pizz.)* *ff* *ff*

Vln. II

molto sul pont. *sopra tasto* *pizz.* *(pizz.)* *ff* *ff*

molto sul pont. *sopra tasto* *ff*

sopra tasto *arco* *3* *7* *pizz.* *arco* *5:4* *sopra tasto* *quasi sul pont.* *(pizz.)* *arco* *sopra tasto*

Vla. *pizz.* *ppp* *sopra tasto* *arco* *pizz.* *ppp* *sopra tasto* *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *sopra tasto*

pizz. *arco* *3* *3* *pizz.* *arco* *3* *3* *pizz.* *arco* *3* *3* *pizz.* *arco* *sopra tasto*

norm. *quasi sul pont.* *7* *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* *7* *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* *7* *norm.*

Vc. *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* *norm.* *molto sul pont.* *3* *3* *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* *norm.* *molto sul pont.* *3* *3*

large, energetic strokes:

Cb. *pp* *ff* *p* *p* *ff* *p* *p* *ppp* *sopra tasto*

hummed:
65 ***ffpp*** <>

energetic and conscious: (a gradual and very stylized glissando)

Voice

(norm.) will un - - - der - stand
molto sul pont.

pizz. ***f*** ***ff*** ***p*** ***fff*** arco (Sul D)
sopra tasto *quasi sul pont.*

Vln I
molto sul pont. *arco Sul D*

Vln II
molto sul pont. *arco Sul D*

Vla.
molto sul pont. *arco Sul D*

Vc.
molto sul pont. *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* *molto sul pont.* *norm.*

Cb.
molto sul pont. *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* *highly rhythmic and emerging from the texture:* *molto sul pont.* *norm.*

developing intense bow pressure: *sfz* *3* *3* *p* *f*

developing intense bow pressure: *start a gradual trem.* *3* *ff* *fp* *fff* *ppp* *ff* *norm.*

ff subito p *mf* *f* *p* *f* *sf* *5:4* *> b>* *> > >* *V* *V* *pp* *subito pp*

gliss. accelerates towards the next note:

Disintegrating and empty, with only the singer as a reference ♩ = 56-72
gradually becoming more and more subdued and wooden, mimicking the effect of sul ponticello, but with the voice:

Esoteric

69

0 ♩ = 60 G.P.

Nos - - - tra cul - - - - - pa

Voice

(quasi sul pont.)

→ molto sul pont.

G.P.

(quasi sul pont.)

→ molto sul pont.

G.P.

Vln I

(quasi sul pont.)

→ molto sul pont.

G.P.

sopra tasto
arco

→ molto sul pont.

G.P.

sopra tasto
arco

→ molto sul pont.

G.P.

Vln. II

G.P.

G.P.

G.P.

G.P.

Vla.

sopra tasto
arco

G.P.

p quasi sul pont. → sopra tasto

G.P.

arco 0 p

G.P.

sopra tasto
arco

G.P.

p

G.P.

Vc.

(norm.) → molto sul pont.

G.P.

mf 0

(quasi sul pont.) 3 → molto sul pont.

G.P.

Cb.

(norm.) → molto sul pont.

G.P.

(pp) 0

sopra pont.
loosen hair on bow so that the stick touches the bowhair under faint pressure:

sfz 5:4 0

G.P.

(whistle tone - preferably tuned to an Ab)
as loud as possible

overly
dramatized
and almost
"spit" out:

79

Voice

(molto sul pont.) * sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) subito *fff* (like flipping on a switch)

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

Vln I

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

Vln. II

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(molto sul pont.) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

Vla.

molto sul pont. norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

molto sul pont. subito *fff* norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

molto sul pont. subito *fff* norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

molto sul pont. sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

molto sul pont. sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

Vc.

(light and full of air) crunch norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(light and full of air) crunch norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(light and full of air) crunch norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

(light and full of air) sopr tasto norm. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

Cb.

(still with loosened bow) sopr tasto norm. subito *fff* pizz. (like flipping on a switch) *b>* *b>*

ppp subito *fff*

Like a lullaby ♩ = 56-72

87 *fff* let ring... *disparagingly earnest:* *mf* *f*

norm. (trem. less and less in intensity) *gliss by using a wide vibrato: nonvib.* *f > p* *< f*

Nos-tra *cul - - - - pa*

Voice

Vln I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

somewhat sotto voce:
p —————

*operative,
mannerist,
con molto
vib: nonvib.*
f —————

somewhat sotto voce:
subito p —————

*gaining momentum, becoming almost entirely airy sound, and back to pitch:
subito mf* —————

end promptly:

sopra tasto —————

subito ppp sost.

quasi sul pont. —————

un po di vib. —————

sopra tasto —————

subito ppp

quasi sul pont. —————

un po di vib. —————

sopra tasto —————

subito ppp

quasi sul pont. —————

un po di vib. —————

sopra tasto —————

subito ppp

sopra tasto —————

(nontrem.)

sopra tasto —————

subito ppp

sul tasto —————

light and graceful:
pp

(sopra tasto) —————

emerging beautifully, rather electronically, from nothing:

*molto sul pont.) —> sopra tasto
(still with loosened bow)*

sfz > ppp < ff

Wagnerian.
 100 ***ff*** *sost.*

as if scared, giving way to breath:
subito mf *>*

aware, increasingly paranoid:
p sost.

repentant:
pp *<*

Nos - tra
 (or as close to the harmonic as possible) *sopra tasto*
fppp *p*

cul - pa
(norm.) *sopra pont.*
fppp *3 3 3*

Nos -
sopra tasto

norm. *3* *sopra tasto* *norm.*
mfpsss *sost.* *p* *ppp*

norm. *3* *sopra tasto* *norm.*
mfpsss *sost.* *ppp*

norm. *3* *quasi sul pont.* *sopra tasto con vib.*
mfpsss *sost.* *p* *0*

(sopra tasto) *norm.*
mfpsss *sost.* *ppp*

norm. *developing intense bow pressure:* *molto sul pont.* *norm.*
ff *0* *p*

norm. *developing intense bow pressure:* *molto sul pont.* *norm.*
ff *0* *mf* *0*

norm. *developing intense bow pressure:* *molto sul pont.* *norm.* (trem. less and less in intensity)
ff *0*

norm. *sopra tasto un po di vib.*
p *pp* *ppp*

norm. *sopra tasto* *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* (or as close to the harmonic as possible) *norm.* *quasi sul pont.* *sopra tasto norm.*
 one long bow stroke: *V* *pp* *mp* *sopra tasto* *norm.* one long bow stroke: *V*
molto sul pont. *pp* *f* *pp* *mp*

(still with loosened bow) *V* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*
 one long bow stroke: *V*

- return bow to normal state -

gliss by using a wide vibrato:

f **fff** *nonvib., powerful:*

final, in desperation:

fff *sost.*

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Voice - tra cul - - - pa Nos - tra cul - - pa

(sopra tasto) breaking out of the texture: norm.

Vln I (norm.) with Cb. with Vc. norm. with Vc.

Vln. II (norm.) f ff

Vla. (norm.) f ff

Vc. (norm.) f ff

Cb. (sopra tasto) p ff ffz ff

quasi sul pont. sopra tasto molto sul pont. with Vln. norm. (make sure to end on a down bow) (retake)

with Vc. norm. ffz ff