

Efflorescence

for Violin Solo

By Christian
Mason
(2008)

Performance Notes:

Mst. = molto sul tasto

St. = sul tasto

Ord. = ordinary bow position

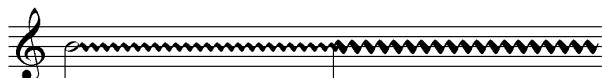
Sp. = sul ponticello

Msp. = molto sul ponticello

marcato = heavy bow pressure

flautando = light bow pressure with a fast bow stroke

Wide vibrato is indicated by a wavy line coming out of the note head and applies only to the note from which the line emerges:



There are two intensities: one slightly wider than normal (up to a quarter-tone deep), the other much wider (up to a semi-tone deep).

Lines connecting two notes indicate *glissandi*. These should be executed continuously and evenly over the duration of the starting note.

Duration: c. 6 min.

The poetic idea behind the piece is expressed by the title ‘Efflorescence’ which means a period or process of flowering. This is reflected especially in the harmonic and registral processes employed, through which various pitch constellations around a single note gradually unfold and expand, becoming a blossoming 12-note ‘kaleidoscopic flower’. Over its five minute duration the music conveys many states of being – from the intimate and intense to the ecstatic and exuberant – revealing, I hope, the emergence of beauty from something seemingly plain.

Efflorescence was written for Midori at the request of LSO/SPNM to be performed on April 5th and May 8th 2008 at LSO St. Lukes.

It is dedicated to my parents to mark the occasion of their 40th wedding anniversary on December 30th 2007.

Efflorescence

A process and period of flowering

A Intimate
♩ = c.48

Christian Mason (2007)

Sul tasto senza vib.
accents with bow pressure only, not new attack

4

5

swift, light bow strokes

poco accel.

7

Msp.

B Intense
♩ = c.54

10

ord.

Sp. (slow -> fast)

3

f pp f sfz p sfz sfz

poco rall. ♩ = c.48

12

3

Sp. ord.

5

III

II

p sfz sfz p 5 III 3 II pp

14

swift, light bow

f *pp*

f *pp*

16

accel. *d* = c.60

7 *mf* *p* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

p *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Sp. *3* ord.

18

sfz *sfz* *sfz* *p*

I II 5 *p*

Sp. ord. Sp. ord.

20

f *6* *p* *f*

5

Sp. ord. Sp.

21

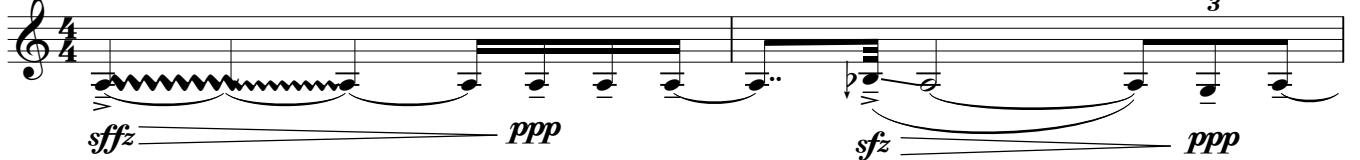
ord.

ff *p*

6 5 3

C Distant, Ethereal

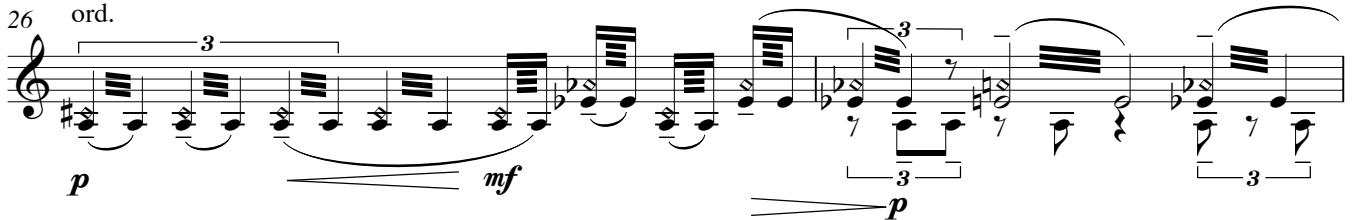
$\text{♩} = 54$ or less

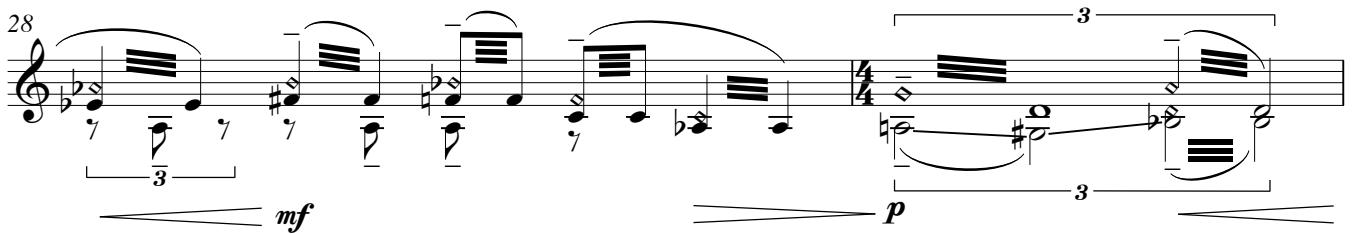
22 Msp. ----- → Mst. [swift, light bow] Sp. ----- → Mst. [swift, light bow]


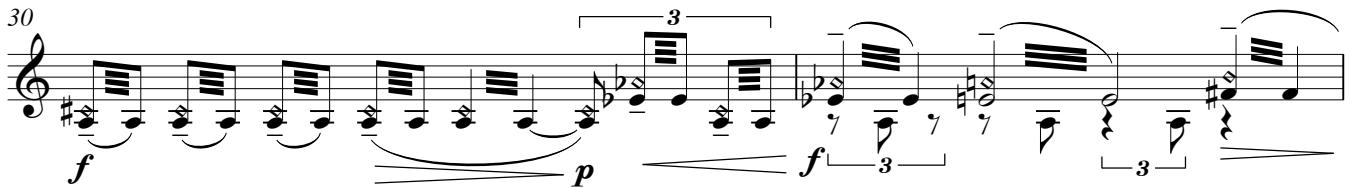
24 Sp. → Mst. [swift, light bow] Sp. → Mst. [swift, light bow]


The dominant sound should be
the harmonic, the fundamental
pitch murmuring beneath.

swift, light bow throughout this passage

26 ord.


28


30


32

34

36

38

D Capricious
 $\text{♩} = \text{c.}60$

39

41 ord. Sp. 5 ord. Sp. 5 ord.

43 Sp. 5 ord. 3 3 3 Sp. 5

ord. 3 Sp. 5 ord. 3 Sp. 5 ord. 6

ff 3 p 5 ff mf 3 pp

49 3 p ppp ff ppp 3 sfz sfz

E Ecstatic intensity
 $\text{♩} = \text{c.} 54$

II
I

51

sfz

I
II

53

ff *p* *ff* *p* *tr.* *f*

58

pp *sffz* *p* *f* *p*

61

sffz *p* *sffz* *p*

64

sffz *p* *sffz* *p*

66

sffz *p* *ff* *p*

Kaleidoscopic

68

ff → *p*

→ *pp*

3 5 6 7

Sp.

70

fff

71

ff

72

f

73

p