

# Four Bagatelles

for free bass accordion and  
String trio

by  
John  
Webb

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Instrumentation

Free bass accordion  
Two violins  
Cello

Duration: c.15'

Commissioned by the Junior Academy of Music and first performed in July 1994

## **Four bagatelles**

for free bass accordion, two violins and cello

**John Webb**

One of my aims in this piece was to create several highly contrasting movements, full of character and wit. Each is built upon a repeated ostinato figure, which creates musical continuity and gives the listener an aural reference point at the outset. In the first bagatelle the accordion plays a high pitched swirling figure. Against this the strings develop an expressive melody which becomes increasingly passionate. At the climax, the swirling idea (now played by the violins as well as the accordion) cascades down until, after a cello solo, it fades away.

The second movement uses an insistent, repeated pizzicato A throughout. The accordion and strings punctuate this with fast runs and short, stabbing chords. The third movement is a much more sombre affair - it is a slow fugue over a repeated ground bass played by the accordion. The finale is a lively romp.

‘Four bagatelles’ was commissioned by the Junior Academy of Music, and first performed in July 1994.

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# Bagatelles.

John Webb

I

$\text{J} = 52$

Pizz.

Violin 1

Violin 2

Cello

Accordion

cresc... f

mf

mp

p

Acco Pizz

pp

pp

pp

16ve

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Aco Pizz

Aco

3 cresc.

3

(ff)

f

\* As fast as possible

A handwritten musical score page featuring five staves of music. The first staff uses a soprano clef and includes dynamic markings *f*, *p*, and *mp*. The second staff uses a bass clef and includes a tempo marking  $> 16\text{m}$ . The third staff uses a soprano clef and includes a dynamic *pp* and a tempo marking *legato*. The fourth staff uses a bass clef and includes a dynamic *p*. The fifth staff uses a soprano clef and includes a dynamic *p*. Various performance instructions are written in ink, such as *acciante*, *espr.*, and *Arco espr. p*.

This image shows two staves of handwritten musical notation. The top staff uses a treble clef and consists of six measures. The first measure starts with a whole note followed by a dotted half note. Subsequent measures feature various rhythmic patterns including eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamic markings like *cresc*, *f*, and *decresc*. The bottom staff uses a bass clef and contains six measures of eighth-note patterns. Handwritten lyrics are present in the first three measures of the bass staff. The score is written on five-line staves with horizontal bar lines indicating measures.

Handwritten musical score for two staves. The top staff consists of two systems of five-line staves. Measure 119 starts with a dynamic *ff*, followed by a series of sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 120 begins with a dynamic *p*. The bottom staff has two systems of five-line staves. Measure 119 ends with a dynamic *f* and a tempo marking *largo*. Measure 120 begins with a dynamic *p* and a tempo marking *mp*.

A handwritten musical score for orchestra and harp. The score consists of five staves. The top three staves are for the orchestra, featuring various instruments like strings, woodwinds, and brass. The fourth staff is for the harp, with distinct slurs and dynamics. The fifth staff is for the piano harp. The score includes several rehearsal marks (e.g., 1-1, 1-2, 1-3) and dynamic markings such as forte (f), piano (p), and crescendo (cresc.). There are also specific instructions like "use c" and "use e". The handwriting is in black ink on white paper.



A musical score for three staves, likely for a woodwind quintet, consisting of three systems of music.

**System 1:**

- Staff 1: Wavy line dynamic (dim) followed by a piano dynamic (p).
- Staff 2: Diminuendo (dim) leading into **Tempo Primo**. Dynamics: (pp), poco crescendo (cresc.), and mezzo-forte (mf).
- Staff 3: Diminuendo (dim) followed by a piano dynamic (pp).

**System 2:**

- Staff 1: Wavy line dynamic (dim) followed by another wavy line dynamic (dim).
- Staff 2: Diminuendo (dim) followed by piano dynamic (p) and piano simple (p semplice).
- Staff 3: Wavy line dynamic (dim) followed by a piano dynamic (p).

**System 3:**

- Staff 1: Wavy line dynamic (dim) followed by a piano dynamic (p).
- Staff 2: Wavy line dynamic (dim) followed by a piano dynamic (p).
- Staff 3: Diminuendo (dim) followed by a piano dynamic (pp). This staff concludes with a **long pause** indicated by a vertical bar with a double slash and the instruction "long pause".

**Text Overlay:** A large blue watermark-like text "Preview File Only" is diagonally positioned across the middle section of the score.

**Final Instruction:** *Attacca*

## II

Quicke.

Pizz.

Musical score for string quartet (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello) in 2/4 time. The score consists of four staves. Measure 1 starts with a dynamic of  $\frac{f}{16}$ . Measures 2-4 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 5 begins with a dynamic of  $\frac{f}{16}$ , followed by eighth-note patterns. Measure 6 ends with a dynamic of  $\frac{sff}{16}$ .

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Musical score for string quartet (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello) in 2/4 time. The score consists of four staves. Measure 1 starts with a dynamic of  $\frac{f}{16}$ . Measures 2-4 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 5 begins with a dynamic of  $\frac{f}{16}$ , followed by eighth-note patterns. Measure 6 ends with a dynamic of  $\frac{sff}{16}$ .

Musical score for string quartet (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello) in 2/4 time. The score consists of four staves. Measure 1 starts with a dynamic of  $\frac{f}{16}$ . Measures 2-4 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 5 begins with a dynamic of  $\frac{f}{16}$ , followed by eighth-note patterns. Measure 6 ends with a dynamic of  $\frac{sff}{16}$ .

A musical score for orchestra and piano, consisting of three systems of music. The score includes multiple staves for woodwind instruments (flute, oboe, bassoon), brass instruments (trumpet, tuba), strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass), and piano. The music is written in various time signatures, including common time, 6/8, and 3/4. The piano part features dynamic markings such as *f*, *p*, and *legg.* The score is annotated with a large blue watermark reading "Preview File Only".

WEEKES 20 stave

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a string quartet. The top staff uses a bass clef, the middle staff an alto clef, and the bottom staff a treble clef. The music consists of six measures per staff. Measure 1: Bass staff has eighth-note pairs. Middle staff has eighth-note pairs. Treble staff has eighth-note pairs. Measure 2: Bass staff has eighth-note pairs. Middle staff has eighth-note pairs. Treble staff has eighth-note pairs. Measure 3: Bass staff has eighth-note pairs. Middle staff has eighth-note pairs. Treble staff has eighth-note pairs. Measure 4: Bass staff has eighth-note pairs. Middle staff has eighth-note pairs. Treble staff has eighth-note pairs. Measure 5: Bass staff has eighth-note pairs. Middle staff has eighth-note pairs. Treble staff has eighth-note pairs. Measure 6: Bass staff has eighth-note pairs. Middle staff has eighth-note pairs. Treble staff has eighth-note pairs.

Preview File Only

Handwritten musical score page 1. The score consists of five staves. Measures 1-5 are shown. Measure 1 starts with a dynamic  $\text{f}$ . Measures 2-3 show various dynamics including  $\text{sff}$ ,  $\text{f}$ , and  $\text{ff}$ . Measure 4 starts with  $\text{ff}$  and ends with  $\text{sff}$ . Measure 5 starts with  $\text{sff}$  and ends with  $\text{ff}$ .

Handwritten musical score page 2. The score continues from the previous page. Measures 6-10 are shown. Measures 6-7 show dynamics  $\text{sff}$  and  $\text{ff}$ . Measures 8-9 show dynamics  $\text{sff}$  and  $\text{ff}$ . Measure 10 starts with  $\text{ff}$  and ends with  $\text{sff}$ . A blue watermark "Preview File Only" is overlaid across these measures.

Handwritten musical score page 3. The score continues from the previous page. Measures 11-15 are shown. Measures 11-12 show dynamics  $\text{sff}$  and  $\text{ff}$ . Measures 13-14 show dynamics  $\text{sff}$  and  $\text{ff}$ . Measure 15 starts with  $\text{ff}$  and ends with  $\text{sff}$ . Measures 11-12 are labeled  $(2+3)$ , measures 13-14 are labeled  $(2+2+3)$ , and measure 15 is labeled  $(2+3)$ .

A page of musical notation for orchestra, featuring two staves of music. The top staff begins with a dynamic of  $(2+3)$ , followed by a series of eighth-note patterns with various dynamics like  $\text{sf}$  and  $\text{ff}$ . The bottom staff begins with a dynamic of  $(2+3)$ , followed by a series of eighth-note patterns with dynamics like  $\text{sf}$  and  $\text{ff}$ .

PICK UP BOW

PICK UP BOW

ff more.

A page of musical notation for a string quartet, featuring three staves of music. The notation includes various dynamics such as *p*, *f*, and *mp*, as well as performance instructions like "slur" and "staccato". The music consists of measures of sixteenth-note patterns, with some measures containing rests or specific rhythmic figures. The overall style is complex and technical, typical of advanced classical or contemporary chamber music.

cresc.

A

cresc.

A

dim

dim

dim

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Handwritten musical score for orchestra. The score consists of five staves. The first three staves are for woodwind instruments (Flute, Clarinet, Bassoon) and include dynamics like crescendo (cresc.) and fortissimo (ff). The fourth staff is for strings (Violin) and includes dynamics like piano (p) and forte (f). The fifth staff is for double bass. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines.

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H

Handwritten musical score for orchestra. The score consists of five staves. The first three staves are for woodwind instruments (Flute, Clarinet, Bassoon) and include dynamics like piano (p). The fourth staff is for strings (Violin) and includes dynamics like forte (f). The fifth staff is for double bass. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines.

Preview File Only

Handwritten musical score for string quartet (Violin 1, Violin 2, Cello, Bass). The score consists of ten staves, each with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The music features various note heads (solid, hollow, and cross-hatched), stems, and beams. Dynamic markings include *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *mf >*. Performance instructions like *Pizz* (pizzicato) and *Arco* (arco) are also present. The score is written on five-line staff paper.

Arioso

p

Arioso

mf

stacc.

poco a poco crescendo

(cresc.)

cresc.

(cresc.)

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Three staves of musical notation:

- Staff 1:** Crescendo (cresc.) followed by dynamic ff. Measures show sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes. A dynamic cresc. is indicated above the staff.
- Staff 2:** Measures show eighth-note patterns. Dynamics include Pianissimo (pp), Pianississimo (p.p.), and Legato. A dynamic cresc. is indicated above the staff.
- Staff 3:** Measures show eighth-note patterns. Dynamics include Diminuendo (dim) and Mezzo-forte (mf). A dynamic dim is indicated above the staff.

A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is diagonally across the middle section of the page.



*f = 132*      IV

73      v  
 f

74      v  
 f

75      f semi-stacc.  
 SB

76      v

77      f

78      f

79      f

80      f

81      f

82      f

83      f

84      f

85      f

86      f

87      f

88      f

89      f

90      f

91      f

92      f

93      f

94      f

95      f

96      f

97      f

98      f

99      f

100      f

101      f

102      f

103      f

104      f

105      f

106      f

107      f

108      f

109      f

110      f

111      f

112      f

113      f

114      f

115      f

116      f

117      f

118      f

119      f

120      f

121      f

122      f

123      f

124      f

125      f

126      f

127      f

128      f

129      f

130      f

131      f

132      f

133      f

134      f

135      f

136      f

137      f

138      f

139      f

140      f

141      f

142      f

143      f

144      f

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146      f

147      f

148      f

149      f

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164      f

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166      f

167      f

168      f

169      f

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171      f

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175      f

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812      f

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819      f

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821      f

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894      f

895      f

Handwritten musical score for four voices. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system starts with a dynamic of  $p$ , followed by  $f$ . The vocal parts are labeled "cresc." above the notes. The second system begins with a dynamic of  $p$ , followed by  $f$ .

Handwritten musical score for four voices. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system starts with a dynamic of  $p$ , followed by  $mf$ . The second system begins with a dynamic of  $p$ , followed by  $mf$ . A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is diagonally across the page.

Handwritten musical score for four voices. The score consists of two systems of music. The first system starts with a dynamic of  $p$ , followed by  $poco cresc$ . The second system begins with a dynamic of  $p$ , followed by  $poco cresc$ . The third system begins with a dynamic of  $p$ , followed by  $poco cresc$ . The bass line ends with a dynamic of  $p$  and a key signature of  $Bb + D$ .

A handwritten musical score for orchestra, page 21. The score consists of six staves of music. The first three staves feature dynamic markings such as crescendo (cresc), decrescendo (decresc), and forte (f). The fourth staff includes a marking for "BD + D + F#". The fifth staff contains the word "Pianissimo" and the sixth staff contains "Volumen". The score is written on five-line staves with various clefs and key signatures. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is diagonally across the page.

Handwritten musical score for three voices (Soprano, Alto, Bass) on five-line staves. The key signature is F major (one sharp). The time signature is common time. The vocal parts are mostly empty, with some rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings like *ccccc*, *pppp*, and *ff*. The bass part includes a section with eighth-note patterns and dynamic markings like *p*, *f*, and *ff*.

Handwritten musical score for three voices (Soprano, Alto, Bass) on five-line staves. The key signature changes to B major (two sharps). The time signature is common time. The vocal parts are mostly empty, with some rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings like *p*, *f*, and *ff*. The bass part includes a section with eighth-note patterns and dynamic markings like *p*, *f*, and *ff*.

Handwritten musical score for three voices (Soprano, Alto, Bass) on five-line staves. The key signature changes to B major (two sharps). The time signature is common time. The vocal parts are mostly empty, with some rhythmic patterns and dynamic markings like *p*, *f*, and *ff*. The bass part includes a section with eighth-note patterns and dynamic markings like *p*, *f*, and *ff*.

Handwritten musical score for three staves (Treble, Bass, Alto) across three pages. The score consists of three systems of music.

**System 1:** Treble staff has a 'ba' marking. Bass staff has a 'bo' marking. Alto staff has a 'bp' marking. Measures end with a fermata over a 'F#'. The key signature changes from G major to A major.

**System 2:** Treble staff has a 'ba' marking. Bass staff has a 'bo' marking. Alto staff has a 'bp' marking. Measures end with a fermata over a 'F#'. The key signature changes from A major to B major.

**System 3:** Treble staff has a 'ba' marking. Bass staff has a 'bo' marking. Alto staff has a 'bp' marking. Measures end with a fermata over a 'F#'. The key signature changes from B major to C major.

**Watermark:** A blue diagonal watermark 'Preview File Only' is present across the middle system.

**Bottom Staff:** The staff begins with a 'bp' marking. Measures end with a fermata over a 'F#'. The staff concludes with '(S8) F#' and 'F+A'.

Handwritten musical score for four staves. The first three staves have dynamics "cresc." and "ff" with grace notes. The fourth staff has a dynamic "ff" and a fermata. Measure numbers 1-4 are above the staves. The bass staff has a key signature of F# major and a time signature of A. Measures 5-8 show a repeating pattern of eighth-note pairs with a dynamic "ff" and grace notes.

A handwritten musical score for two staves. The top staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a common time signature. The bottom staff has a bass clef and a common time signature. Both staves have ten measures. Measure 1: Both staves are blank. Measure 2: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 3: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 4: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 5: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 6: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 7: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 8: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 9: Both staves have a single vertical bar. Measure 10: Both staves have a single vertical bar. There are several handwritten markings: 'subp' and 'comes' under the first measure of the bottom staff; 'ppp' under the second measure of the bottom staff; 'fff' under the third measure of the bottom staff; 'p' under the fourth measure of the bottom staff; and 'fff' under the fifth measure of the bottom staff. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots at the end of the tenth measure.

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