

Michael Zev Gordon

...by the edge of the forest of desires

for flute, clarinet, violin, viola, cello,

vibraphone, piano and celeste

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This work was commissioned by the Department of Music, University of Birmingham, with funds provided by the Barber Trust. The first performance was given by the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group conducted by Anthony Pay at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, Birmingham, on 10 May 2000.

performance notes

Accidentals refer to the notes they directly precede or within a beamed group.

Tempi should be adhered to as carefully as possible, but most important is the observance of their relative speeds.

In the final movement, the subsidiary tempi (and the accompanying materials) come from the preceding movements. When they appear the relevant instruments should simply move away from the main tempo, but note well that the tempo differentials are very subtle. The conductor should cue the subsequent return to the main tempo. When the flute and clarinet, and later the clarinet and vibraphone, play together in a subsidiary tempo, one of players should discretely signal the beat.

The instruments should be set up as follows:

pf/cel
 vib vc
 cl va
fl vn

...by the edge of the forest of desires

Michael Zev Gordon

no.1

always simple

$\text{♩} = 60$

(flute, clarinet, vibraphone tacet)

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

Piano

8^{va}

15^{va}

ringing

pp legato, floating, as delicate as possible but always expressive

Ped. → keep depressed until end of movement

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Pno

3

8^{va}

15^{va}

Pno

5

8^{va}

15^{va}

take time

7

Vln *pp* as still as possible

Vla *pp* as still as possible

Vc. *pp* as still as possible

Pno

(5^{ma})

(3^{ra})

(take time)

9

Vln

Vla

Vc.

Pno

l.v. al niente

quasi attacca

very still, fragile

♩ = 56

(violin, viola, cello, piano tacet)

Flute

Clarinet in B♭

Vibraphone

ppp mp ppp

ppp mp ppp

(bowed) 3 p (l.v.) p

8

Fl.

Cl.

Vib.

ppp mf ppp

ppp mf ppp

p

11

Fl.

Cl.

Vib.

mp ppp

mp ppp

p

l.v. al niente

quasi attacca

rapt, concentrated
♩ = 52

(flute, clarinet, vibraphone, piano tacet)

Violin *pp* sempre sul tasto ma con vibrato

Viola *pp* sempre sul tasto ma con vibrato

Violoncello *pp* *poco* *pp*

Celesta *p* l.v. al niente *ca 3"*

Vln *mp* *p* *mp* *mp*

Vla *p* *p* *mp*

Vc. *pp* *p* *p* *p* *mp*

Cel.

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11 5

Vln *mp* *p cant.* *p*

Vla *mp* *p cant.*

Vc. *p* *p* *p cant.*

Cel. *mp* (i.v.) *ca 3"*

16

Vln *mp* *mp*

Vla *mp* *mp*

Vc. *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

Cel.

Musical score for measures 20-24. The score is divided into four systems. The first system contains the Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), and Violoncello (Vc.) parts. The second system contains the Cello (Cel.) part. The Violin and Viola parts feature long, sweeping melodic lines with dynamic markings of *p* and *sub mp*. The Violoncello part has dynamic markings of *p* and *sub mp*, with the instruction "(always smooth)". The Cello part features a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings of *mp* and *sim.*. A "Ped." marking is present under the Cello part. A "ca 4''" marking is placed above the Violin and Viola parts in the second system.

Musical score for measures 25-29. The score is divided into four systems. The first system contains the Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), and Violoncello (Vc.) parts. The second system contains the Cello (Cel.) part. The Violin and Viola parts feature intricate melodic lines with many triplets and dynamic markings of *mp* and *mf*. The Violoncello part has dynamic markings of *mp* and *mf*. The Cello part features a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings of *mf* and *sim.*. A "Ped." marking is present under the Cello part. A "ca 4''" marking is placed above the Violin and Viola parts in the second system.

no.4

intensely quiet

$\text{♩} = 42$

(flute, clarinet, violin, viola, cello, vibraphone tacet)

Celesta

fragile, clear, cantabile

pp sempre

resonant

Ped.

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Cel.

pp al niente

Ped.

al niente quasi attacca

Ped.

very flexible, as if improvised

$\text{♩} = 48$

(piano tacet)

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The instruments are Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Violin, Viola, Violoncello, and Vibraphone. The Flute part is silent. The Clarinet in Bb part features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (7:4, 5:4, 7:4, 7:4) and dynamics *p* *delicatiss.* and *poco*. The Violin, Viola, and Violoncello parts are silent. The Vibraphone part features a rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and fingerings (7:4, 7, 7) and dynamics *p* *delicatiss.* and *ped.*

Musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), Clarinet in Bb (Cl.), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Vibraphone (Vib.). The Flute part features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (5, 7) and dynamics *p* *delicatiss.*, *poco*, and *mp*. The Clarinet in Bb part features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (7:4, 5:4, 7, 5, 5) and dynamics *mp*. The Violin part features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (5, 5, 5, 7) and dynamics *p* *delicatiss.*, *poco*, and *mp*. The Viola and Violoncello parts are silent. The Vibraphone part features a rhythmic accompaniment with slurs and fingerings (7:4, 5, 7, 5, 5) and dynamics *mp*.

10

Musical score for measures 10-11, featuring six staves: Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Vibraphone (Vib.).

- Flute (Fl.):** Measures 10-11. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*, *mp*. Fingerings: 5, 5, 5, 7.
- Clarinet (Cl.):** Measures 10-11. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*, *mp*. Fingerings: 7, 5, 7, 5.
- Violin (Vln.):** Measures 10-11. Dynamics: *mf*, *p*, *mp*. Fingerings: 5, 5, 5, 7.
- Viola (Vla.):** Measures 10-11. Dynamics: *mp*, *delicatiss.*. Techniques: *pizz*, *arco*. Fingerings: 5.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Measures 10-11. Dynamics: *mp*, *delicatiss.*. Techniques: *pizz*, *arco*. Fingerings: 5.
- Vibraphone (Vib.):** Measures 10-11. Dynamics: *mp*, *mf*, *mp*. Fingerings: 7, 5, 5.

Musical score for measures 12-13, featuring six staves: Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Vibraphone (Vib.).

- Flute (Fl.):** Measures 12-13. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *mf cant.*. Fingerings: 5, 5, 5, 5.
- Clarinet (Cl.):** Measures 12-13. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *mf cant.*. Fingerings: 7, 5.
- Violin (Vln.):** Measures 12-13. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *cant.*. Fingerings: 5, 7.
- Viola (Vla.):** Measures 12-13. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *cant.*. Techniques: *pizz*, *arco*. Fingerings: 5.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Measures 12-13. Dynamics: *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *cant.*. Fingerings: 5, 5, 5.
- Vibraphone (Vib.):** Measures 12-13. Dynamics: *mf*. Fingering: 5.

Musical score for measures 16-18, featuring six staves: Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Vibraphone (Vib.).

- Fl.:** *mf non piu*, *p*
- Cl.:** *mf non piu*, *p*, (double mordant)
- Vln.:** *mf non piu*, *sempre p*
- Vla.:** *mf non piu*, pizz, arco
- Vc.:** *mf non piu*, *sempre p*
- Vib.:** *mf non piu*

Measures 16-18 contain complex rhythmic patterns with various articulations and dynamics.

Musical score for measures 19-21, featuring six staves: Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Vibraphone (Vib.).

- Fl.:** *poco f*
- Cl.:** *poco f*, (double inverted mordant)
- Vln.:** *poco f*, (sulla corda) never rushed, *f*
- Vla.:** *poco f*, (poco f)
- Vc.:** *poco f*, (poco f), pizz, arco
- Vib.:** *poco f*

Measures 19-21 continue the complex rhythmic patterns with various articulations and dynamics.

Musical score for measures 21-23. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Vibraphone (Vib.). The Flute and Clarinet parts are marked with a forte *f* dynamic and include the instruction *sempre f rich*. The Violin, Viola, and Violoncello parts also feature *f* dynamics and *sempre f rich* markings. The Violoncello part includes *pizz* and *arco* markings. The Vibraphone part is marked with *f* and *sempre f*. The score contains various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and fingering numbers (5, 7, 3, 9).

Musical score for measures 24-26. The score includes parts for Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), and Vibraphone (Vib.). The Flute and Clarinet parts are marked with a forte *f* dynamic and include the instruction *sempre f rich*. The Violin, Viola, and Violoncello parts also feature *f* dynamics and *sempre f rich* markings. The Violoncello part includes *pizz* and *arco* markings. The Vibraphone part is marked with *f* and *sempre f*. The score contains various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and fingering numbers (5, 7, 3, 9).

26

Fl. *sempre f* *f* *f dim. molto*

Cl. *sempre f* *f* *f dim. molto*

Vln *sempre f* *f dim. molto*

Vla *sempre f* *f* *pizz arco dim. molto*

Vc. *sempre f* *f dim. molto*

Vib. *sempre f* *f* *mf*

30

Fl. *mf* *p* *mp dim.* *p* *pp* *< p*

Cl. *mf* *p* *mp dim.* *p* *pp* *< p*

Vln *mf* *p* *mp dim.* *p* *pp* *< p*

Vla *mp* *dim.* *mp dim.* *p* *pp* *< p*

Vc. *mp* *dim.* *(no bow changes at pitch change)* *p* *pp* *< p*

Vib. *mf* *mp* *pp* *l.v. al niente*

quasi attacca

spacious, lyrical

♩ = 52

Flute

Clarinet in B♭

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

p *delicatiss. ma con vib.* *poco*

Vibraphone

p always *v.* until the next chord

Celesta

spacious, lyrical

♩ = 52

Piano

g^m

(like clear high bells)

sempre pp (but always resonant)

(pp)

(deep bells)

ped. → keep pedal depressed until indicated

6

Fl. *pp* *mp* 5 3

Cl. *mp*

Vln. 3

Vla. 3

Vc. 3

Vib. *p*

Cel. *p clear* *(b)*

Cel.

Pno. 3 *(pp)* 3

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Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a chamber ensemble. It features seven staves: Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Vibraphone (Vib.), and Piano (Pno.). The score is in 3/4 time and begins at measure 6. The Flute part starts with a *pp* dynamic and includes a five-measure phrase marked with a '5' and a three-measure phrase marked with a '3'. The Clarinet part has a *mp* dynamic and a three-measure phrase marked with a '3'. The Violin and Viola parts have a three-measure phrase marked with a '3'. The Violoncello part has a three-measure phrase marked with a '3'. The Vibraphone part has a *p* dynamic and a three-measure phrase marked with a '3'. The Piano part has a *(pp)* dynamic and includes a three-measure phrase marked with a '3' in both the right and left hands. A large blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is oriented diagonally across the center of the page. The page number '15' is in the top right corner.

10

Fl.

Cl.

Vln

Vla

Vc.

Vib.

Pno

pp

mp *poco* *sub pp* *mp* *mf*

mp *poco* *sub pp* *mp* *mf*

mp *poco* *sub pp* *mp* *mf*

mp *mp* *mp*

sempre p (*p*)

♩ = 60
8va

14

Fl. $\text{♩} = 56$
pp — *mp* — *pp*

Cl.
mp — *pp* — *pp*

Vln
pp — *mp*

Vla
pp — *mp*

Vc.
pp — *mp*

Vib.
p (bowed) *mp* *Red.*

$\text{♩} = 60$ *8ve*
p

Pno

Preview File Only

Fl. *pp*

Cl. *(mp) pp mp* *b2*

20

Vln *mf*

Vla *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Vib. *pp* *mf*

1=60 *8ve* *p*

1=60 *8ve* *p*

Pno *mp*

The musical score is arranged in a system with seven staves. The Flute (Fl.) and Clarinet (Cl.) parts are at the top. The Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are in the middle. The Vibraphone (Vib.) part is below the strings. The Piano (Pno) part is at the bottom. The score includes various musical notations such as dynamics (*pp*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*), articulation (*b2*), and performance instructions (*1=60*, *8ve*). There are also some handwritten annotations and a large blue watermark reading 'preview file only' across the center of the page.

23 $\text{♩} = 56$

Fl. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Cl. *p* *mf* *mf* *mf* *p*

Vln. *poco f* *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

(sulla corda)

Vib. *p* *f*

bowed *p* *f*

norm

$\text{♩} = 60$

p *(p)*

mf *(mf)* *(mf)*

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Fl. *p* *mf* *p*

Cl. *mf* *mf* *p*

26

Vln *f*

Vla *f*

Vc *f*

Vib.

Pno *(poco f)* *f (non piu)*

29

Fl. *pp* *mp*

Cl. *mp* *pp* *molto*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Vib. *f* *p* *ped. → sempre l.v.*

Cel. *p* *l.v. al niente* *ped.*

Cel.

Pno. *f* *mp* *pp* *loco* *mf heavy* *pp*

33

Fl. *sub ff marcatis.* *sempre ff*

Cl. *ff* *(sempre ff)* *sempre ff*

Vln. *sub ff marcatis.* *ff* *sempre ff*

Vla. *sub ff marcatis.* *ff* *sempre ff*

Vc. *sub ff marcatis.* *ff* *sempre ff*

Vib. *ff* *sempre ff*
→ (keep pedal depressed) →

Cel.

Pno. *sub ff* *(sempre ff)* *8va loco*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for a concert band or orchestra. It features seven staves: Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Vibraphone (Vib.), and Piano (Pno.). The Flute, Violin, Viola, and Violoncello parts begin with a measure marked '33'. The Flute part starts with a triplet of eighth notes, followed by a five-measure phrase, and then continues with a triplet. The Clarinet part has a five-measure phrase. The Violin, Viola, and Violoncello parts have triplet markings. The Vibraphone part has a five-measure phrase and a triplet. The Piano part has a triplet and an 8va loco marking. The score is divided into two systems by a double bar line. Dynamics include *sub ff marcatis.*, *ff*, and *sempre ff*. A 'keep pedal depressed' instruction is present for the Vibraphone. A large blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is overlaid on the score.

35

Fl. *take time*
sub ppp

Cl. *sub ppp* *p*

Vln. *take time*
sul tasto
sub ppp *pos. norm*
p *poco*

Vla. *sul tasto*
sub ppp *pos. norm*
p *poco*

Vc. *sul tasto*
sub ppp *pos. norm*
p *poco*

Vib. *take time*
(lift pedal just after start of bar)
sempre p *(poco)* *(sempre l.v.)*

Cel. *take time*
p (l.v.)

Cel.

Pno *take time*
pp resonant
pp *sempre p very delicate* *(poco)*
(retake pedal) *(keep pedal depressed until indicated)*

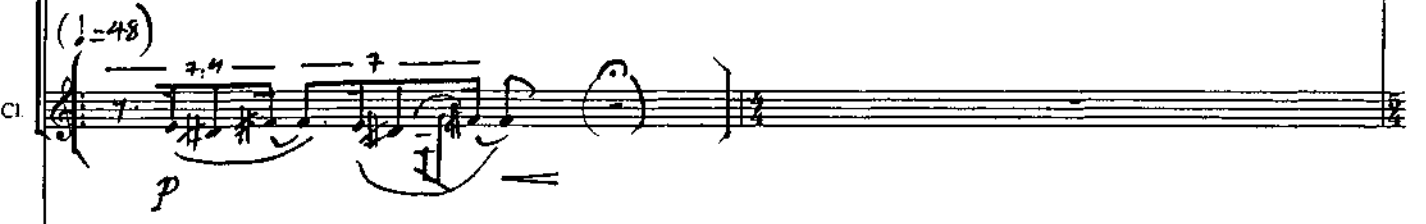
This musical score page, numbered 25, features seven staves for different instruments. The Flute (Fl.) staff begins at measure 39 and includes dynamics *p*, *mp cant*, *p*, and *mp*, with articulation marks for triplets and a sextuplet. The Clarinet (Cl.) staff includes dynamics *poco*, *p*, and *p*, with triplet markings. The Violin (Vln) staff includes dynamics *p* and *sim.* with triplet markings. The Viola (Vla) staff includes dynamics *sim.* and features triplet and quintuplet markings. The Violoncello (Vc.) staff includes dynamics *sim.* and features triplet markings. The Vibraphone (Vib.) staff has a few notes with accents. The Piano (Pno) staff includes dynamics *p* and *mp*, with triplet and septuplet markings. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is oriented diagonally across the center of the page.

This musical score page, numbered 26, features seven staves for different instruments. The Flute (Fl.) staff begins at measure 42 with a melodic line containing several slurs and fingerings (5, 3, 3, 5, 5). The Clarinet (Cl.) staff starts with a tempo marking of quarter note = 98 and includes a 7.4-measure rest. The Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) staves play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and fingerings (3, 3, 3, 3). The Violoncello (Vc.) staff follows a similar eighth-note pattern. The Vibraphone (Vib.) staff has a tempo marking of quarter note = 98 and a 7.4-measure rest. The Piano (Pno) staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and bass lines, including slurs and fingerings (3, 7). A large blue watermark reading "Preview File Only" is oriented diagonally across the center of the page. The page concludes with a right-pointing arrow.

Fl. *mp*



Cl. *p* ($\text{♩} = 48$)



Vln *mp*



Vla *mp*



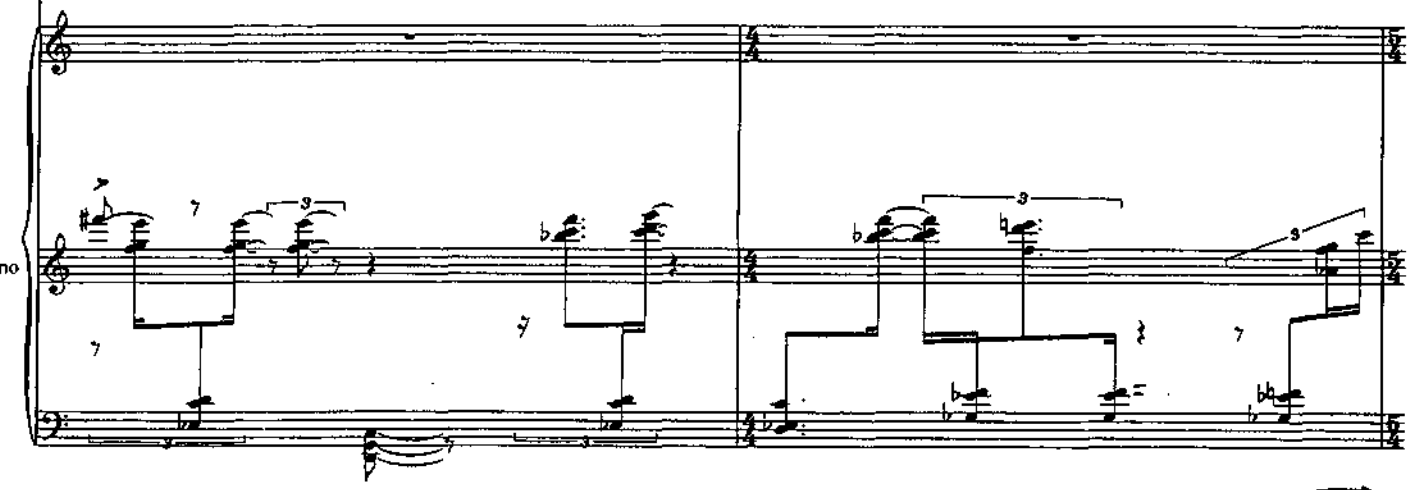
Vc. *mp*



Vib. $\text{♩} = 48$



Pno



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This musical score page contains seven staves for measures 28 and 29. The instruments are Flute (Fl.), Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln), Viola (Vla), Violoncello (Vc.), Vibraphone (Vib.), and Piano (Pno). The music is in 3/4 time and features a variety of articulations and dynamics. The Flute part begins with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *mp*. The Clarinet part also starts with a measure rest and *mp*. The Violin, Viola, and Violoncello parts have *mp* dynamics and include triplet markings. The Vibraphone part has a measure rest. The Piano part features complex chordal textures with dynamic markings of *mp* and *f*. A large blue watermark reading "Preview File Only" is oriented diagonally across the center of the page.

This musical score page, numbered 30, features seven staves for different instruments. The Flute (Fl.) staff at the top begins with a measure marked '50' and contains a five-note melodic line with dynamics *mp* and *pp*. The Clarinet (Cl.) staff has a tempo marking of $\text{♩} = 48$ and a dynamic of *mp*. The Violin (Vln.) staff is filled with sixteenth-note triplets, starting at *mp* and ending at *p*. The Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) staves also feature triplet patterns, with dynamics ranging from *mp* to *p*. The Vibraphone (Vib.) staff includes a tempo marking of $\text{♩} = 48$ and a dynamic of *mp*. The Piano (Pno) staff at the bottom shows a bass line with octaves and chords, with a dynamic of *p*. A large blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is oriented diagonally across the center of the page.

Fl. $\text{♩} = 86$
pp *pp* *pp*

Cl. $\text{♩} = 98$
p *p*

Vln. *mp* *p* *mp* *p* very gentle

Vla. *mp* *p* *mp* *p* very gentle

Vc. *mp* *p* *mp* *p* very gentle

Vib. $\text{♩} = 98$
p

Pno.

Handwritten annotations include $\text{♩} = 86$ for the Flute part, $\text{♩} = 98$ for the Clarinet and Vibraphone parts, and various dynamic markings such as *pp*, *p*, *mp*, and *very gentle*. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs, and includes a large blue watermark reading "Preview File Only" across the center.

wait until all are collected

Fl. ⁵⁴
mp ————— *pp*
pp as still as possible

Cl.
 wait until all are collected (breathe if necessary)
dim al niente
pp as still as possible

wait until all are collected

Vln
mp ————— *p*
pp as still as possible

Vla
p
pp as still as possible

Vc.
p
pp as still as possible

wait until all are collected

Vib.
pp as still as possible

wait until all are collected

Pno
p ————— *lv. al niente*
pp as still as possible
 (retake pedal)

67

Fl. *pp* *lunga*

Cl. *pp* *pp* *lunga*

Vln *pp* *pp* *lunga*

Vla *pp* *pp* *lunga*

Vc. *pp* *pp* *lunga*

Vib. *norm* *pp* *pp* *l.v. al niente* *lunga*

Cel. *pp* *pp* *l.v. al niente* *lunga*

Pno *pp* *pp* *l.v. al niente* *lunga*

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Cornet Hill, London, 12 April 2000