

WEBERNERA

Paul Robinson

April 2000

Flute doubling Piccolo

Clarinet doubling Bass Clarinet

Piano

Violin

Violincello

Programme Note – 'Webernera'

This piece was requested by (and dedicated to) the ensemble 'Squaring the Circle' and was intended to provide a link in a programme that contained Webern's arrangement of Schoenberg's first Chamber Symphony and my own arrangement of Astor Piazzolla's 'Fuga Y Misterio'. In this instance, Webern formed the link in my mind. I remember hearing an eminent pianist remark that she thought she could detect a waltz tempo behind Anton Webern's Op 27 *Piano Variations*. The idea that such an austere music might have failed to disguise its national origin stayed with me and I was reminded of it by reading the following passage from Claude Levi Strauss.

'In the case of serial music, however, such rootedness in nature is uncertain and perhaps non-existent. Only ideologically can the system be compared to a language, since unlike articulate speech, which is inseparable from its physiological or even physical foundation, it is a system adrift, after cutting the cables by which it was attached. It is like a sailless ship, driven out to sea by its Captain, who has grown tired of its being used as a pontoon, and who is privately convinced that by subjecting life aboard to the rules of navigation, he will prevent the crew from thinking nostalgically either of their home port or their ultimate destination'

The theatrical and cinematic quality of the images portrayed here was too tempting to ignore, so I decided to search for more potential vernacular reverberations, real, or more often imagined, in another Webern work – the Op 22 *Quartet*. Thus the piece developed as a series of nostalgic deviations from the 'rules of navigation' via a Cuban Cha Cha Cha, a Viennese Walzer and an Argentinian Milonga. The only quotation from Webern is to be heard in the last two bars of the piece.

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WEBERNÊRA



Clarinet in B \flat

pp

♩ = 110 tentatively

Rit.....

Tempo

Violin

pp

♩ = 110 tentatively con sord

pizz arco

Rit.....

Tempo

sul pont ord

Violoncello

pp

♩ = 110 tentatively con sord

Rit.....

Tempo

pizz

pizz

5

Cl.

Rit.....

flz

Vln

Rit.....

Vc.

arco

Rit.....

Cl. ⁹ Little faster and gradually more assertive ♩ = 115

mf Rit... Tempo

Vln Little faster and gradually more assertive ♩ = 115 Rit... Tempo

mf pizz arco pizz *sul pont* pizz arco pizz arco/*sul pont* norm

Vc. Little faster and gradually more assertive ♩ = 115 Rit... Tempo

mf pizz arco



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Faster still -becoming mechanistic ♩ = 120

Cl. ¹³

Vln Faster still -becoming mechanistic ♩ = 120

senza sord pizz

Vc. Faster still -becoming mechanistic ♩ = 120

senza sord

Cl. *17*

Vln *arco pizz arco sul pont norm pizz*

Vc.

flute *21* **piccolo**

Cl. *mf* **ff** *Accel- becoming aggressive*

Pno *mf*

Vln *arco pizz arco sul pont pizz* **ff** *Accel- becoming aggressive*

Vc. *pizz arco pizz* **ff** *Accel- becoming aggressive*

25

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

f

mf

f

mf

pizz

arco

mf

Tempo di 'cha cha cha' ♩ = 126

Tempo di 'cha cha cha' ♩ = 126

Tempo di 'cha cha cha' ♩ = 126

Tempo di 'cha cha cha' ♩ = 126

Tempo di 'cha cha cha' ♩ = 126

29

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

mf

mf

mf

mf

pizz arco

pizz

arco

33

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

mf

mf

pizz

arco

pizz

arco

8va

8va

37

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

mf

mf

pizz

arco

pizz

arco

pizz

8va

8va

41

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

mf

sul pont ord

pizz

arco

45

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

pizz arco pizz

sul pont

pizz arco/sul pont norm

pizz

arco

49

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

pizz arco pizz

53

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

arco pizz arco

57

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

pizz

arco

pizz

61

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

sw

sw

solo

pizz

64

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

arco

66

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

loco

loco

loco

gliss. sul G

pizz

arco

69

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

pizz

72

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

arco

pizz

arco

solo

end solo

pizz

75

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

musical notation for measures 75-77, including flute, Cl., Pno, Vln, and Vc. parts. Includes performance markings like *arco* and *pizz*.

78

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

musical notation for measures 78-80, including flute, Cl., Pno, Vln, and Vc. parts. Includes performance markings like *pizz* and *arco*.

81

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

pizz *arco* *pizz* *arco*

84

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

end solo *rall* *flz*

to Flute

sul pont pizz arco *sul pont norm* *trem sul pont*

pizz *trem sul pont*

Walzer ♩ = 100 -solo- cantabile

flute 88 *mf rubato*

Pno *rubato* *mf*

flute 93

Pno

flute 101

Cl. *ppp* virtually inaudible, rebreath if necessary

Pno

Vln *ppp* virtually inaudible, rebow at will

109

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

117

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

pizz

feel rhythm as Viennese Waltz

quiet counter melody

feel rhythm as Viennese Waltz

123

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

This system contains measures 123 through 128. The flute part features a melodic line with slurs and accents. The clarinet part has triplet eighth notes. The piano part has a complex texture with slurs and accents. The violin part has triplet eighth notes. The viola part has a simple bass line.

129

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

This system contains measures 129 through 134. The flute part continues with slurs and accents. The clarinet part has triplet eighth notes. The piano part includes a circled '8' above a measure. The violin part has triplet eighth notes. The viola part has a simple bass line.

135

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

141 *Toccata Milonga* ♩ = 168

Pno

Vc.

Toccata Milonga ♩ = 168 solo

146

Pno

Vc.

150

Piano (Pno) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts for measures 150-153. The Pno part features a complex bass line with many accidentals and rests. The Vc. part has a melodic line with slurs and some accidentals.

154

Piano (Pno), Violin (Vln), and Violoncello (Vc.) parts for measures 154-157. The Vln part is labeled "accompanying line" and features a melodic line with slurs. The Pno and Vc. parts continue with their respective bass lines.

158

Piano (Pno), Violin (Vln), and Violoncello (Vc.) parts for measures 158-161. The Vln part includes a "pizz/arco" instruction. The Pno and Vc. parts continue with their respective bass lines.

162

Pno

Vln

Vc.

pizz

Detailed description: This system contains three staves. The top staff is for Piano (Pno), the middle for Violin (Vln), and the bottom for Violoncello (Vc.). The Pno part features a diagonal line across the first two measures, indicating a change in texture or a specific performance instruction. The Vln part includes a 'pizz' (pizzicato) marking in the first measure. The Vc. part consists of a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes and some slurs.

165

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

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Detailed description: This system contains five staves. From top to bottom: flute, Clarinet (Cl.), Piano (Pno), Violin (Vln), and Violoncello (Vc.). The flute and Cl. parts have melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Pno part has a diagonal line in the first two measures. The Vln and Vc. parts provide harmonic support with various note values and slurs. A large blue watermark 'Preview File Only' is oriented diagonally across the center of the page.

169

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

173

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

ff

176

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

179

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

to bass clarinet

flute 182 *mf* A little slower - gently flowing ♩ = 150

Pno *mf* A little slower - gently flowing ♩ = 150
pedal at will

flute 187

Pno

flute 191

Cl. *p* bass clarinet

Pno *p*

Vln *p*

Vc. *p*

195

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

199

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

Intensify and poco accel

Intensify and poco accel

Intensify and poco accel

Intensify and poco accel

203

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

cresc

cresc

cresc

cresc

207

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

p

5

3

210

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

ff

214

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

sub mf

sub mf

sub mf

sub mf

sub mf

$\text{♩} = 168$

$\text{♩} = 168$

$\text{♩} = 168$

$\text{♩} = 168$

218

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

This block contains the musical score for measures 218 through 222. It features five staves: flute (treble clef), clarinet (bass clef), piano (grand staff), violin (treble clef), and viola (treble clef). The music is in a key with one flat and a 2/4 time signature. The flute part has a melodic line with some grace notes. The clarinet part provides a harmonic accompaniment. The piano part has a steady bass line. The violin and viola parts play chords and moving lines.

223

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

This block contains the musical score for measures 223 through 227. It features the same five staves as the previous block. The music continues in the same key and time signature. The flute part has a melodic line with some grace notes. The clarinet part provides a harmonic accompaniment. The piano part has a steady bass line. The violin and viola parts play chords and moving lines.



Preview File Only

227

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

231

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

235

flute
Cl.
Pno
Vln
Vc.

239

flute
Cl.
Pno
Vln
Vc.

prepare

solo mp

sub p

IV III III

sub p

pizz

arco

244

flute

Vln

Vc.

pizz arco

249

flute

Vln

Vc.

arco pizz arco

253

flute

Vln

Vc.

accompanying line

|| pizz arco

258

flute

Vln

Vc.

pizz arco

261

flute

fz *norm*

Vln

Vc.

II *II* *II* *pizz* *arco*

264

flute

Vln

Vc.

267

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

f

271

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.



275

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

ff

277

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

This system contains measures 277 through 280. It features five staves: flute, clarinet (Cl.), piano (Pno), violin (Vln), and viola (Vc.). The flute and clarinet parts are marked with a slur over measures 277-280. The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands. The violin and viola parts have various articulation marks like 'v' and 'vz'.

279

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

This system contains measures 279 through 282. It features five staves: flute, clarinet (Cl.), piano (Pno), violin (Vln), and viola (Vc.). The flute and clarinet parts are marked with a slur over measures 279-282. The piano part continues with chords and moving lines. The violin and viola parts have various articulation marks like 'v' and 'vz'.

281

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.



283

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

arco

snap-pizz

285

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

gliss.

gliss.

287

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

to piccolo

rubato

gliss.

gliss.

289 $\text{♩} = 126$

Cl. *pp*

Vln $\text{♩} = 126$
con sord
pp
pizz arco
sul pont ord

Vc. $\text{♩} = 126$
con sord
pp
pizz
pizz arco



293 $\text{♩} = 126$

flute *mf*

Cl.

Pno *mf*

Vln *pizz arco* *pizz*

Vc. *mf*

297

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

mf

arco/sul pont

pizz

pizz

arco

pizz

300

flute

Cl.

Pno

Vln

Vc.

mf

pizz