

Violin II

JAMES SELLARS

String Quartet

HOG RIVER MUSIC
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

PROGRAM NOTE

The String Quartet is cast in the conventional four movement sequence--fast, moderate, slow, fast--yet the formal aspect of each movement is somewhat unconventional, in what I call "excursion form." Excursion form incorporates a degree of randomness; imagine a butterfly in a garden landing on various flowers, occasionally returning to the same one.

The first movement consists of two main themes, beginning with a propulsive, frequently syncopated 16th-note figure, which gives way to a lyrical theme. Often the two are laced together.

Scherzo-like, the second movement features a texture of pizzicato against an intricate bowed part. A brief "trio" follows before the scherzo proper returns.

The third movement is a slow, expressive instrumental song. Excursion form is easily heard in this movement in that the primary and supportive motives are repeated in several guises. Nothing repeats: there is only a lonely discontinuity.

The finale, in contrast to the contemplative previous movement, brings the quartet to an exuberant close.

The Quartet was written during the summer of 2000, and is dedicated to my long-time friend, William S. Giorda.

James Sellars

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String Quartet

Allegro moderato (♩=ca.84)

I

James Sellars

The musical score for Violin II consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. It features a series of eighth-note patterns, starting with a *pp* dynamic and ending with a *ff* dynamic. The second staff starts at measure 6 and continues with eighth-note patterns, ending with a *non legato* marking. The third staff starts at measure 12 and includes a *mf* dynamic. The fourth staff starts at measure 18 and features a *f* dynamic. The fifth staff starts at measure 24 and includes a *mp* dynamic. The sixth staff starts at measure 30 and features a *ff* dynamic. The seventh staff starts at measure 35 and includes a *f* dynamic. The eighth staff starts at measure 40 and includes a *p* dynamic. The ninth staff starts at measure 46 and includes a *mf* dynamic. The tenth staff starts at measure 52 and includes a *pp* dynamic. The score concludes at measure 57.

65 Musical staff 65: Treble clef, 7/8 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *mf* (under G4), *p* (under C4).

71 Musical staff 71: Treble clef, 3/8 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*. *p* (under C4).

78 Musical staff 78: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*.

84 Musical staff 84: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*.

89 Musical staff 89: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*.

94 Musical staff 94: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *p*.

99 Musical staff 99: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*.

106 Musical staff 106: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*.

112 Musical staff 112: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *ff*.

119 Musical staff 119: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *non dim.*, *mp*.

127 Musical staff 127: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*.

132 Musical staff 132: Treble clef, 2/4 time signature. Notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. Dynamics: *f*.

138

143

pp

149

154

pp sempre

160

169

non cresc.

177

pp leggiero

182

186

189

192

197

202

209

f *non legato*

214

pp

220

228

237

pp

242

ff

249

f *p*

255

f subito

262

f *p* *ff*

268

274

f 5

II

Allegretto (♩=ca.108)
pizz. (vib. sempre)

1
8
17
25
33
42
51
59
65
71
80
87

pp *f*

p *p* *pp*

pizz. (sost.) *f* *f*

arco *mf* *pizz.* *ff*

mf *mf* *p* *p*

arco *f* *p*

pp *p*

sost. *ppp* *sul tasto* *ppp*

93 *mp*

Musical staff 93-100: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 93-100. Dynamics: *mp* (measures 93-99), *p subito* (measure 100).

100 *p subito* *p* *mf*

Musical staff 100-108: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 100-108. Dynamics: *p subito* (measure 100), *p* (measures 101-107), *mf* (measure 108).

108 *f* *ff*

Musical staff 108-114: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 108-114. Dynamics: *f* (measures 108-113), *ff* (measure 114).

114 *f* *mf* *p*

Musical staff 114-120: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 114-120. Dynamics: *f* (measures 114-119), *mf* (measure 120).

120 *ff*

Musical staff 120-128: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 120-128. Dynamics: *ff* (measures 120-128).

128 *p* *ff*

Musical staff 128-136: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 128-136. Dynamics: *p* (measures 128-135), *ff* (measure 136).

136 *pizz.* *pp*

Musical staff 136-144: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 136-144. Dynamics: *pizz.* (measures 136-144), *pp* (measures 136-144).

144 *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *non arpegg.* *arco*

Musical staff 144-150: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 144-150. Dynamics: *arco* (measures 144-145), *pizz.* (measures 146-147), *arco* (measures 148-149), *pizz.* (measures 150-151), *non arpegg.* (measures 152-153), *arco* (measures 154-155).

150 *mf* *f* *mp* *ff* *sfz* *martellato*

Musical staff 150-157: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 150-157. Dynamics: *mf* (measures 150-151), *f* (measures 152-153), *mp* (measures 154-155), *ff* (measures 156-157), *sfz* (measures 150-157), *martellato* (measures 150-157).

157 *p dolce*

Musical staff 157-163: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 157-163. Dynamics: *p dolce* (measures 157-163).

163 *ppp*

Musical staff 163-171: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 163-171. Dynamics: *ppp* (measures 163-171).

171 *cresc. poco a poco* *ff* *f*

Musical staff 171-178: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 171-178. Dynamics: *cresc. poco a poco* (measures 171-178), *ff* (measures 171-178), *f* (measures 171-178).

179

186

192

200

207

219

226

232

238 (quasi trio)

248

258

286

f

293

p dolce *pp*

300

ppp *molto* *ff* *f* *mp* *p* *(♩=♩)* *poco rit.*

305

(coda) *a tempo* *pizz.* *p* *molto*

316

ff brittle *mp* *p*

322

f *p* *2*

III

Lento espressivo (♩=ca.33; ♩=ca.66)
con sord.

12 *mp* *p* *in p*

21 *mp* *p* *pp subito* *mp*

30 *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mf*

40 *p* *f non troppo*

48

56 *p*

64 *p* *in p*

73 *ppp*

83

89 *rall.*

95 8 2 12

10

125

pp

132

f

140

p

148

morendo *pppp*

IV

Poco allegro (♩=ca.76)

f

7

14

poco f

20

27

2

p

36

42

47

ff

51

59

pp

67

ppp poco pp mp

Detailed description: This is a page of musical notation for Violin II, measures 1 through 70. The music is in 6/8 time and begins with a tempo marking of 'Poco allegro' and a metronome marking of quarter note = ca. 76. The score is written on a single staff in treble clef. It starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measures 7-14 show a melodic line with some slurs and accents. Measure 14 has a *poco f* marking. Measures 20-27 continue the melodic development. Measure 27 has a second ending bracket and a *p* dynamic. Measures 36-42 show a more rhythmic passage with slurs. Measure 47 has a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. Measures 51-59 show a melodic line with some chromaticism and slurs. Measure 59 has a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic. Measures 67-70 show a final melodic phrase with dynamics of *ppp*, *poco*, *pp*, and *mp*.

75

82

pp subito *p*

90

mp *mf*

95

f *ff*

100

p

106

p

112

118

125

p 2

134

143

151 *pizz. non arpegg.*

158 *arco*

164 *p subito*

169

175 *7*

187 *pp non cresc.* *in pp*

194

201 *3*

207 *2* *pp*

216 *p* *f* *p* *p*

224 *mp* *f* *ff*