JUDITH SHATIN

Kassia

Instrumental Septet

Instrumentation

Bb Clarinet
Harp
Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

Program Note

Kassia was a 9th-century Byzantine abbess, poet and hymnographer. She is the only woman whose hymns are represented in the Eastern Orthodox liturgy and is likely the first named woman whose music has survived until now. The Kassia Ensemble, with support from the Spark Foundation and Opportunity Fund of Pittsburgh, commissioned this piece as the first for their complete ensemble, and asked that it reflect their namesake in some way. The ensemble consists of clarinet, harp and string quintet offering a unique timbral world. In responding to their desire for reference to Kassia, I decided to reach back across time, drawing on a few melodic fragments from Kassia's major chants *The Fallen Woman* and *Augustus the Monarch*, translated into contemporary notation thanks to the meticulous research of musicologist Diane Touliatos-Banke. I also arranged for classical scholar Christina Boltsi to record some of Kassia's poetry in the original Greek to get a sense of their sound and rhythmic flow. My music moves from a gentle opening and meditation to cries of regret, and from pensive yearnings to dreams of a world beyond. During the 2020 pandemic, my virtual sessions with the members of the Kassia Ensemble provided inspiring connections in dark times. Imagining across the centuries in composing this piece reminded me how music is of time yet enables us to feel outside of it. For more information, visit www.judithshatin.com. –JS

World Premiere
Kassia Ensemble
August Wilson Center
Pittsburgh, PA
05/21/2022

Duration: 12:30

Notation

General

Accidentals apply to the note within register throughout the measure

’	Denotes a brief pause, a breath
10”	A number like this in brackets indicates seconds. Return to the prevailing tempo at the end of this symbol.
n.v.	non vibrato

Strings

	Increase bow pressure, with increasing noise content
X	x notehead and indication ‘chop’ indicate a quick, strong attack with heavy bow pressure. The sound is mainly noise with a small amount of pitch.
sp.	sul ponticello
msp.	molto sul ponticello

Harp

	Fingernail
	Mute
p.d.l.t.	Prés de la table
	Pedal Buzz
	Thunder

Clarinet

T. Tr.	Timbral Trill
t.s.	Tongue slap

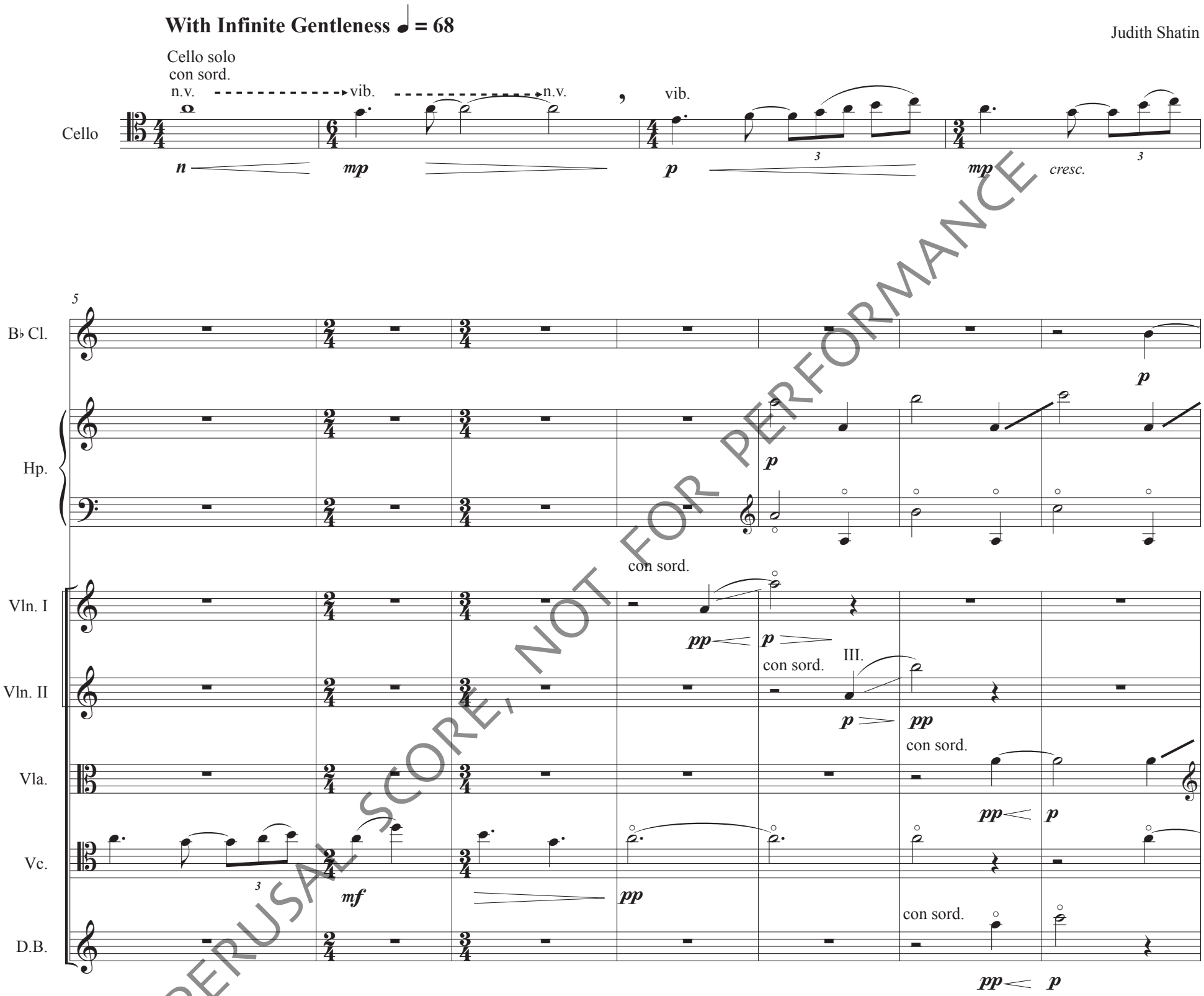
Tranposed Score

To the Kassia Ensemble

Kassia

In Tempore Plaga

Judith Shatin



PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

© 2020 Wendigo Music (BMI) All Rights Reserved

12

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

senza sord.

17

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

21

T. tr.

A **Animated**

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

24

bis.

gliss.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

28

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

33

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

37

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

pp

40

f

p

mp

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

43

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

ff

Aeolian rustle

Vln. I

f

Vln. II

f

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

45

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

bis.

ff

l.v.

Vln. I

mf

Vln. II

mf

Vla.

f

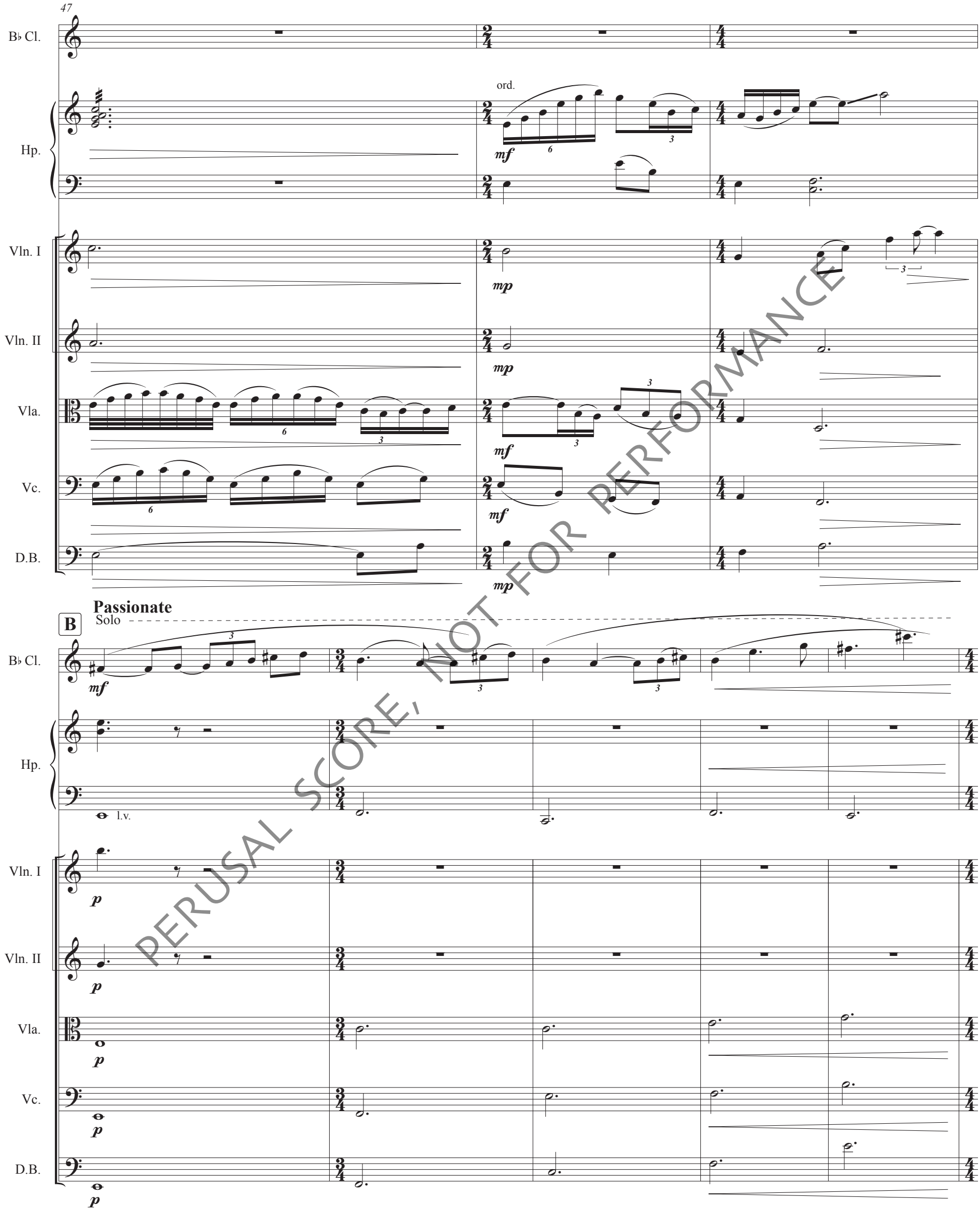
Vc.

f

D.B.

f

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE



PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

55

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

57

P.d.l.t.

ord.

PERUSAL SCORE: NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

62

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

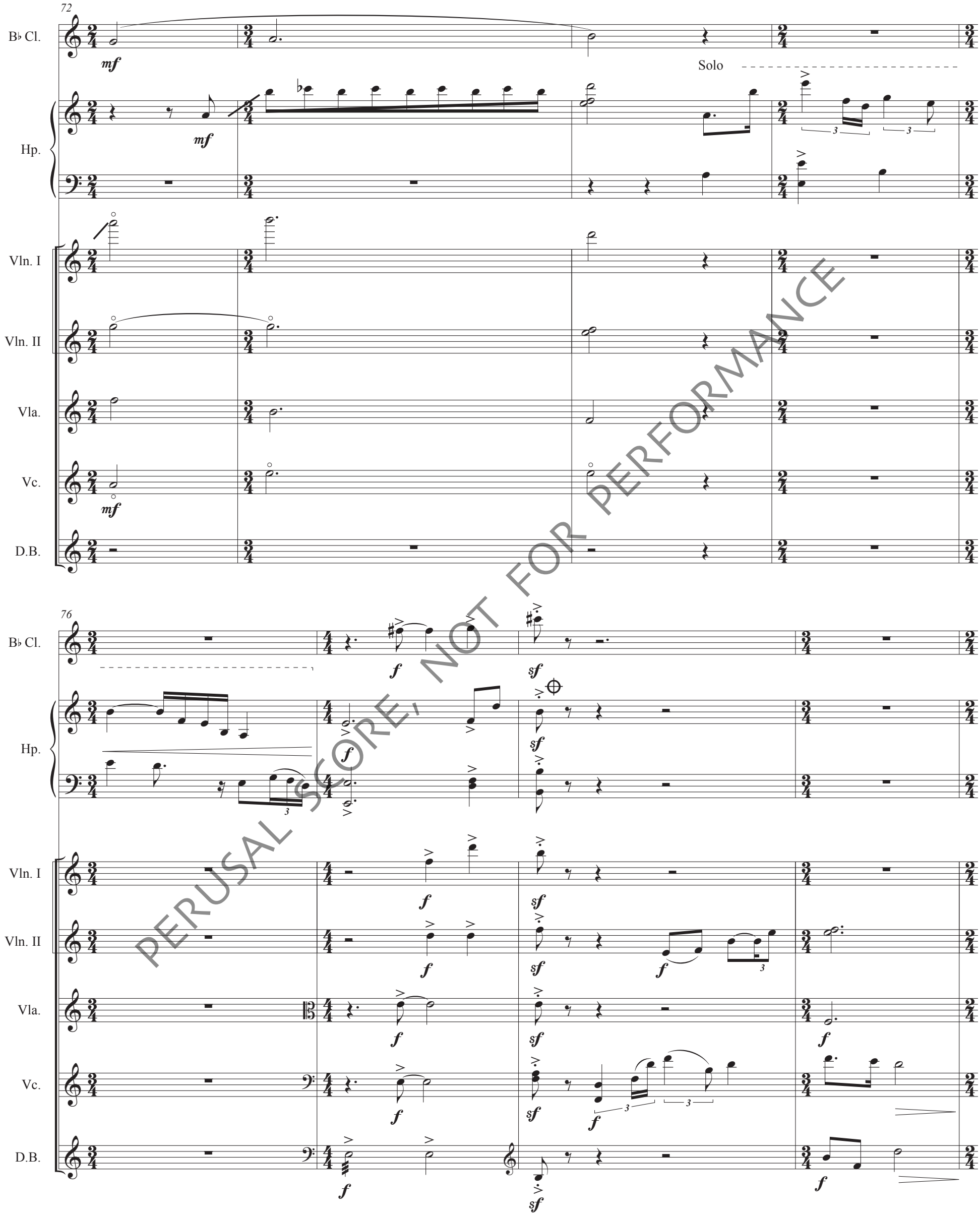
67

sf– mf

f

Solo

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE



PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

80

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

P.d.l.t.

86

ord.

con sord.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

C Yearning, Poco più mosso

B♭ Cl. *mp*

Hp. *p* ord.

Vln. I con sord. *p*

Vln. II con sord. *p*

Vla. con sord.

Vc. con sord. *p*

D.B. con sord. pizz. *p* arco

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

B♭ Cl. *mf*

Hp.

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

D.B. *mp* *mf*

poco rit. **Darkening** ♩ = 72

102

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

senza sord.

106

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

D **Ominous and Rough**

B♭ Cl.
Hp.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.

f *ff* to sp. sp. ord.

112

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

114

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

(between ♭ & ♮)

(between ♭ & ♮)

ord. sp.

119

pizz.

arco

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

123

B♭ Cl.

Hp. L.V. ord.

Vln. I

Vln. II arco

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

pizz. pizz.

128

B♭ Cl.

Hp. l.v. P.d.l.t.

Vln. I

Vln. II arco

Vla. arco

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

E **Cri de Coeur**

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

ff

P.d.l.t.

ord.

135

T. tr.

sf *f*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

140

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

P.d.l.t.

growl

TS.

fng. nail buzz

chop

ord.

ff

143

sfp

dead slap

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

Ferocious

145

B♭ Cl.

P.d.l.t.

Hp.

ff

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

146

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

147

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

148

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

149

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

150

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

151

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

152

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

153

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

6"

154

B♭ Cl. *sfp* *ff*

Hp. *ff* hit metal strings

Vln. I *sfp* ord. *ff* sp.

Vln. II *sfp* ord. *ff* sp.

Vla. *sfp* ord. *ff* sp.

Vc. *sfp* ord. *ff*

D.B. *sfp* *ff*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

Kassia

F **Wild**

5"

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Start with sharp accent, hold for ca. 1", then separate, becoming more and more dense and out of control

Draw on these pitch classes & techniques; Strong accents, multiphonics, tongue slaps, rough sounds, dense, wild, jagged rhythms & registers.

Draw on these pitch classes & techniques; Thunder, pedal buzz,wood sounds, pizz, gliss, fingernails, chords and individual notes; wild, jagged rhythms & registers.

Draw on these pitch classes; Distorting sounds, changing bow pressure, MSP, sp, ord, scrapes, pizz, double-stops tremolo gliss, rough dense, wild, jagged rhythms & registers

Increasingly sparse, Still intense

fff

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

159

Still Struggling (♩ = 68)

P.d.l.t.

ff *sf*

162

B♭ Cl.

T. tr.

f

Hp.

ord.

f

f

Vln. I

sfp

pizz.

arco

f

sfp

Vln. II

sfp

f

Vla.

sfp

pizz.

f

f

Vc.

sfp

f

D.B.

165

B♭ Cl.

5

T. tr.

sf

ff

sfp

f

Hp.

sf

bis.

ff

Vln. I

ff

pizz.

sfp

f

Vln. II

ff

pizz.

arco

sfp

f

Vla.

arco

ff

pizz.

sfp

f

Vc.

pizz.

arco

ff

f

D.B.

ff

ff

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

169

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

P.d.l.t. ord. pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. pizz.

f

6 7 3

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

173

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

arco pizz. arco

f

178

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

f

182

pizz.

arco

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

186

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

f

mp

G **Pensive, poco più mosso**
(cl. & hrp. duet)

mf

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

Intensifying ♩ = 68

194

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

198

cresc.

f *mp* *p*

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

203

Imploring

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Solo

pizz.

Solo
arco

207

H Brightening

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

212

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

arco

arco

pizz.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

222

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

D.B.

227

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

232

I **Luminous** ♩ = 80

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

239

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

solo

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

246

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

251

255

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

mf

mp

259

f

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

261

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Floating

265

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE

269

B♭ Cl.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

con sord.

con sord.

275

PERUSAL SCORE, NOT FOR PERFORMANCE