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String Quartet No.3

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# String Quartet No.3

Xitong Li

2019

duration: 10 minutes

*To the unhealed soul.....*

## Notes:

All microtones should be regarded as tempered intervals (exactly halfway between neighbouring semitones). They are notated as follows:

for example:

C            ♯C            ♯C            ♯C  
                 |                    |                    |  
                 ♭D                ♭D                ♭D                D

**poco s.p**: short term for “poco sul ponticello.”

**molto s.p**: short term for “molto sul ponticello.”

**poco s.t**: short term for “poco sul tast.”

**molto s.t**: short term for “molto sul tast.”

**ord**: short term for ordinary. The “ord” without box cancels the markings without box.

**poco col legno tratto**: turn the bow half way around. It is bowed with the half wood and half hair.

**molto col legno tratto**: turn the bow around. It is bowed with the wood.

**ord---poco col legno tratto**: very fast switching from ordinary to half wood and half hair with bow.

**a. ord**: short term for arco ordinary. The “a. ord” with box only cancels the markings with box.

**alla punta**: tip of the bow. Light bow pressure.

**flautando**: very soft sounding way of playing, with lots of bow movement and little bow pressure.

**tonlos**: soundless, without sound. Play on the left hand side of the bridge. To produce the almost inaudible air sound.

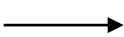
**sempr**: hold the dynamic until the next one.


**subito**: suddenly, surprisingly.


**F.**: short term of fast. the duration of the fermata is shorter than the rest. It's depends on the players.


**L.**: short term of long. the duration of the fermata is approximately three or four times longer than the rest. It's depends on the players.


**V.L.**: short term of very long. the duration of the fermata is approximately four to six times longer than the rest. It's depends on the players.

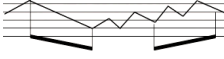
: it means the previous technique gradually changing to the next one.

: the symbol of over pressure with bow. Noise only.

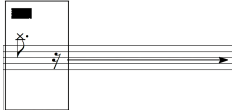
: the symbol of more pressure with bow. It produces the tone and noise.


: the notehead for the approximate last note of glissando.


: without sound, but still be played or as a soundless motion.

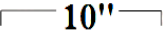
: the lines indicate the approximate pitches while glissing. follow the shape of the lines within the beats.


: harmonic glissando.


: repeat the note in the box until the arrow ends.


: the notehead for over pressure with bow.


: indicates the highest note of different strings.


 : indicates counting as 10 seconds instead of time signature.


 : bow travelling in a horizontal and vertical position over the strings.


 : Bartok pizzicato.


 : notehead for tonlos.


 : notehead for muffled sound by hand.

 : indicates muffling sound, the string is muffled by hand.

**Fast.** : indicate the bowing speed of this “” technique. It’s depends on the players.

**Very Fast.** : indicate the bowing speed of this “” technique. It’s depends on the players.

**Medium.** : indicate the bowing speed of this “” technique. It’s depends on the players.

**Slow.** : indicate the bowing speed of this “” technique. It’s depends on the players.

# String Quartet No.3

Xitong Li

**A**  
♩=60

Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Violoncello

arco  
poco col legno tratto  
ord.  
poco s.p.  
molto col legno tratto  
molto s.p.

*sfz* *pppp* *pp* *pppp* *sf pp* *p*

*sfz* *pppp* *pp* *pppp* *ppp*

*sfz* *pppp* *pp* *pppp* *ppp*

*sfz* *pppp* *pp* *pppp* *ppp*

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.

poco col legno tratto  
ord.  
a. ord.  
poco col legno tratto  
pizz. poco s.p.  
arco

*ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *pppp*

*ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *pppp*

*ppp* *mp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *pppp* *ppp*

*ppp* *mp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *pppp*

11

Vln. I *pppp* *pppp* < *pp* < *ff* *sfz* *pp* *mp*

Vln. II *pppp* *pppp* < *pp* < *ff* *pp* *mp* *pp*

Vla. *pppp* *pppp* < *pp* < *ff* *pp* *mp*

Vc. *pppp* *pppp* < *pp* *sfz* *mp* *pp*

*a. ord.* *ord.* *molto s.p.* *con sord.* *molto s.t.*

**B**

*molto col legno tratto* *molto s.t.* *a. ord.* *molto s.t.* *molto col legno tratto* *molto s.t.*

15

Vln. I *mp* *sfz* *p* *mf* *p*

Vln. II *pp* *mp* *mf sempre*

Vla. *pp* *mp* *sfz* *mp* *mf*

Vc. *pp* *mp sempre* *mf non decresc* *mf non decresc*

*molto s.p.* *molto s.t.* *ord. pizz.*

*a. ord.* *ord.* *a. ord.* *ord.*

*sliss*

arco

poco col legno tratto  
poco s.p. → molto s.p.

molto col legno tratto

Vln. I

*mf* *mf* *p* *pp* *ppp* *ppp* *pppp*

Vln. II

poco col legno tratto  
poco s.p. → molto s.p.

molto col legno tratto

*mf* *mf* *p* *pp* *ppp* *ppp* *pppp*

Vla.

arco

poco col legno tratto  
poco s.p. → molto s.p.

molto col legno tratto

*mf* *mf* *p* *pp* *ppp* *ppp* *pppp*

Vc.

poco col legno tratto  
poco s.p. → molto s.p.

molto col legno tratto

*mf* *p* *pp* *ppp* *pppp*

**C**

senza sord. ord.

poco col legno tratto

a. ord.

poco col legno tratto

a. ord.

a. ord.

poco col legno tratto

Vln. I

*pp* *p* *mp* *pp* *pppp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp*

Vln. II

senza sord. ord.

poco col legno tratto

a. ord.

3

7

poco col legno tratto

*pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp* *pp* *mf*

Vla.

senza sord. ord.

poco col legno tratto

a. ord.

a. ord.

poco col legno tratto

a. ord.

a. ord.

a. ord.

a. ord.

*pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp*

Vc.

senza sord. ord.

poco col legno tratto

a. ord.

a. ord.

poco col legno tratto

a. ord.

*pp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pppp*

5

30

Vln. I: *pppp* *mf* *pp* *mfpp* *mf* *pp* *mfpp* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Vln. II: *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *mf* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Vla.: *mppp* *mppp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *p*

Vc.: *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *pp* *mf* *p* *mf*

Performance instructions: *poco col legno tratto*, *a. ord.*, *3*, *5*, *6*

D

32

Vln. I: *pp* *f* *pp* *p* *mf* *f non decresc*

Vln. II: *pp* *f* *pp* *p* *mf* *f non decresc*

Vla.: *pp* *f* *pp* *p* *mf* *f non decresc*

Vc.: *pp* *sfz* *p* *sfz* *p* *sfz* *mf* *sfz* *mf* *sfz* *p*

Performance instructions: *a. ord.*, *molto s.t.*, *6*, *5*, *6*, *7*, *6*, *5*, *6*



**E**

34

Vln. I *f non decresc* *p < sf* *ppp* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *V.I. molto s.p.* **5**

Vln. II *f non decresc* *p < sf* *ppp* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *molto s.p.*

Vla. *f non decresc* *p < sf* *ppp* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *molto s.p.*

Vc. *sfz* *f* *f non decresc* *p < sf* *ppp* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *molto s.p.*

ord. 6 6 6

36

Vln. I *acc.* **♩=68**

Vln. II *poco col legno tratto* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *a. ord.* *poco col legno tratto* *ord.* *6* *6* *6* *6* *mf p* *mf p* *mf p* *mf mf p* *mp*

Vla. *pp* *p* *mp* *mp* *a. ord.* *ord.* *5* *5* *5* *5* *6* *7* *7*

Vc. *pp* *mf p* *gliss.* *mf p* *gliss.*

♩=72  
a. ord.  
ord.

♩=76

♩=80

rit.

38 <sup>8<sup>va</sup></sup>

Vln. I *mp* 7 7 7 7 *f* 5

Vln. II *f* 6 6 6 6

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f mp f mp ff mf ff mf fff f fff f* *gliss.*

♩=72

♩=60

rit.

40 <sup>8<sup>va</sup></sup>

Vln. I *mf mp mf mp mf* 3 3 *mf mp f mp mf f* 3

Vln. II *mp mf mp* 3 5 *mp mf mp mf f f mf mp* 3

Vla. *mp mf mp mf mp* *mf mp mf mp f p f*

Vc. *f* 5 6 *p f p ff p mp mp* 6 6 6 7

42

Vln. I *f mf f mf f mp mf*

Vln. II *f mf f mf f mf f*

Vla. *f mf f ff f mf p mf p mf p mf p*

Vc. *mf mf mp sf p f* *poco. s.p. → molto s.p.*

43

Vln. I *mf f f* *a. ord. Fast.*

Vln. II *f* *a. ord. Fast.*

Vla. *p mf p mf p mf p p mf p mf p mf p p mf p mf p mf p* *a. ord. Fast.*

Vc. *f ff ff f* *a. ord. Fast.*

**F**

45

Vln. I *mf* > *p* *f* *sfz* < *ff* *ff* > *ppp* a. ord. ord. → molto s.p.

Vln. II *f* *p* *f* *sfz* < *ff* *ff* > *ppp* a. ord. ord. → molto s.t.

Vla. *f* *mp* *f* *sfz* < *ff* *ff* > *ppp* a. ord. ord. → molto s.t.

Vc. *f* *p* *f* *sfz* < *ff* *ff* > *ppp* a. ord. ord. → molto s.p.

**G**

49

Vln. I ord. sul. G *sfz* *mf* *mp* *mf* *ff* *gliss* *f* *ff* *mf* *ff* > *p*

Vln. II ord. sul. G *sfz* *mp* *ff* *gliss* *f* *ff* > *p*

Vla. ord. sul. C *sfz* *mp* *mf* *f* > *p* *ff* *f*

Vc. ord. sul. C *sfz* *mp* *mf* *ff* *gliss* *f*

51

Vln. I *fff* *gliss* *mf* *sfz* *sfz* *p* *sfz* *p* *ff*

Vln. II *fff* *p* *f* *gliss* *p* *ff* *p* sempre

Vla. *ff* > *p* *fff* > *p* *f* *gliss* *mf* *f* *p* *ff*

Vc. *ff* > *p* *fff* > *p* *mf* *ff* *p* sempre

H

♩ ≈ 46

poco rit.

♩ = 60

sul. A

53

Vln. I *p sempre* *ff p sempre* *ff mp sempre* *ff* *fff* *mp sempre*

Vln. II *ff* *p sempre* *ff* *fff p* *ff* *p* *fff* *mp sempre*

Vla. *p ff p sempre* *ff mp sempre* *ff* *pf < fff* *mp sempre*

Vc. *ff* *p sempre* *ff* *p sempre* *ff* *p ff* *p* *fff* *mp sempre*

*gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss*

sul. A sul. D sul. A

55

Vln. I *p* *pp* *poco col legno tratto* *molto col legno tratto* V.L.

Vln. II *p* *pp* *poco col legno tratto* *molto col legno tratto* V.L.

Vla. *p* *pp* *poco col legno tratto* *molto col legno tratto* V.L.

Vc. *p* *pp* *poco col legno tratto* *molto col legno tratto* V.L.

*gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss* *gliss*

**I**  
♩=72  
a. ord.

60

Vln. I *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc*

Vln. II *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc*

Vla. *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc*

Vc. *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc* *fff fff* *fff non decresc*

V.L. L.

65

Vln. I *p* *ff* *fffz* *ff* *fffz* *ff* *fffz* *fff non decresc*

Vln. II *p* *ff* *fffz* *ff* *fffz* *ff* *fffz* *fff non decresc*

Vla. *p* *ff* *fffz* *ff* *fffz* *ff* *fffz* *fff non decresc*

Vc. *p* *ffz* *ff* *ffz* *ff* *ff* *fffz* *ff* *fffz* *fff non decresc*

ord. L. F. V.L.

68

molto s.t. ord. →

molto accel. 11

Vln. I

*fff* *p sempre* *fff* *fff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vln. II

*fff* *p sempre* *fff* *fff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vla.

*fff* *p sempre* *fff* *fff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

Vc.

*fff* *p sempre* *fff* *fff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff* *fff*

ord. →

molto s.t. ord. →

molto s.t. ord. →

molto s.t. ord. →

molto rit.

poco accel.

J

♩ = 72

72

ord. → L.

ord. → L.

ord. → L.

ord. → L.

Vln. I

*pp* < *ff* < *fffz* *fffz* *fffz* *fff* *ff*

Vln. II

*pp* < *ff* < *fffz* *fffz* *fffz* *ff* *ff*

Vla.

*pp* < *ff* < *fffz* *fffz* *fffz* *ff* *ff*

Vc.

*pp* < *ff* < *fffz* *fffz* *fffz* *ff* *ff*

molto s.t.

*ff* sempre

molto s.t.

*ff* sempre 3 3

76

Vln. I  
ord.  
*mf*  
*f* *fff non decresc*

Vln. II  
ord.  
*mf*  
*ff* *fff non decresc*

Vla.  
*mf*  
*ppp*  
*ff* *fff* *fff non decresc*

Vc.  
*mf*  
*ppp*  
*ff* *fff* *fff non decresc*

80

Vln. I  
sul. E  
*fff non decresc*  
*fff non decresc*  
*fff* *ff*

Vln. II  
sul. E  
*fff non decresc*  
*fff non decresc*  
*fff* *ff*

Vla.  
sul. A  
*fff non decresc*  
*fff* *fff* *ff*  
*ff* *ord.* *mf*

Vc.  
sul. A  
*fff non decresc*  
*fff* *fff*  
*ff* *ord.* *f* *mf*



Musical score for measures 83-85, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. parts. Measures 83 and 84 contain rests for the string parts. Measure 85 shows the beginning of a new musical phrase. The Viola part starts with a *mp* dynamic, followed by *p*, *pp*, and *pp*. A glissando (gliss.) is indicated in measure 85. The Violoncello part starts with a *pp* dynamic, followed by *p*, *ppp*, *pppp*, and *pppp*. A glissando (gliss.) is also indicated in measure 85. The dynamic markings *ppp* and *pppp* are written below the staff. The instruction *alla punta* is written above the staff in measure 85. The dynamic *fffz* is written below the staff in measure 85. The score is in 4/4 time.

Musical score for measures 86-88, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. parts. The score is in 4/4 time. Each instrument part has a series of notes with dynamic markings and performance instructions. The Violin I part starts with *f* and *ffff non decresc*. The Violin II part starts with *f* and *ffff non decresc*. The Viola part starts with *fff non decresc* and *fff*. The Violoncello part starts with *f* and *ffff non decresc*. The dynamic markings *fff* and *ffff non decresc* are written below the staff. Performance instructions include *sul. A ord.*, *sul. E*, *sul. A*, *sul. D*, *sul. G*, and *sul. C* written above the staff. The score is in 4/4 time.

89

Vln. I

ord. 6 3

*f* *pp* *ffff*

sul. E

gliss.

ord.

sul. A

Vln. II

*f* *pp* *mf* *mf* *f* *ff* *ff* *ff* *fff*

sul. D

Vla.

3 6 6 6

*f* *pp* *mf* *mf* *f* *ff* *ff* *ff* *fff*

sul. D

Vc.

*pp* *mf* *mf* *f* *ff* *ff* *ff* *fff*

sul. G

**K**

poco accel. →  $\text{♩} = 102$

93

Vln. I

ord.

*mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

sul. E

ord.

*fff* *fff* *fff* *pp* *ff* *ffffz* *pp* *ff*

Vln. II

ord.

*mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

sul. A

ord.

*fff* *fff* *fff* *pp* *ffffz* *ff* *pp*

Vla.

ord.

*mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

sul. D

ord.

*fff* *fff* *fff* *pp* *ff* *ffffz*

Vc.

ord.

*mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

sul. D

sul. A

ord.

*fff* *fff* *fff*

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

ord. 15

Vln. I *ffffz* *ff* *ff*<sup>3</sup> *ff* *pp* *ff* *ffffz*

Vln. II *ff* *ff* *ffffz* *pp* *ff* *ffffz*

Vla. *ffffz* *pp* *ffffz* *ffffz non decresc* *ff* *pp* *ffffz*

Vc. *gliss.* *ord.* *gliss.* *ord.* *gliss.* *ord.* *gliss.* *ord.*

**L**  $\text{♩} = 72$  *molto accel.* 10"  $\text{♩} \approx 220$

Vln. I *mp* *molto accel.* 10"  $\text{♩} \approx 186$

Vln. II *mp* *molto accel.* 10"  $\text{♩} \approx 186$

Vla. *mp* *poco accel.* 10"  $\text{♩} \approx 154$

Vc. *mp* *poco accel.* 10"  $\text{♩} \approx 142$

M

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

tonlos

*pppp*

*pppp*

*pppp* sempre

tonlos

*pppp* sempre

pizz.  
molto s.p.

*pppp*

molto col legno tratto  
molto s.p. → poco s.p. → ord.

N

a. ord.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*pp*

*pppp*<sup>2</sup>

*sfz*

pizz.

*sfz*

arco

poco col legno tratto

ord.

*pp*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*

pizz.

*mf*

*pppp*

*pppp* sempre

alla punta

a. ord.

ord.

a. ord.

*pp*

*pppp*

118 17

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sul. C

Medium.

Fast. ord.

Very Fast.

Slow.

*ppp*  $\leftarrow$  *mp*  $\leftarrow$  *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f*

124

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Medium.

Fast. ord.

Very Fast.

*> p* *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *ff*

129

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Medium. Fast. Very Fast. Medium. Very Fast. Fast. ord. ord. ord.

*pp* *mp* *f*  $\leftarrow$  *ff* *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *ff* *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *sfz* *pp* *sfz*

*mp*

pizz.

*mp*

*mp*