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From Afar

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FROM AFAR

FOR CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

RODRIGO GONÇALVES



PROGRAM NOTES

FROM AFAR

From Afar is a reckoning with the space between what we hold and what is being taken.

In an era defined by the return of monolithic shadows, where the gears of power turn with a cold indifference to the individual, we often find ourselves standing in the wake of events we did not choose. This work is a meditation on modern paralysis: the moment we realize that “control” was a fragile ghost.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

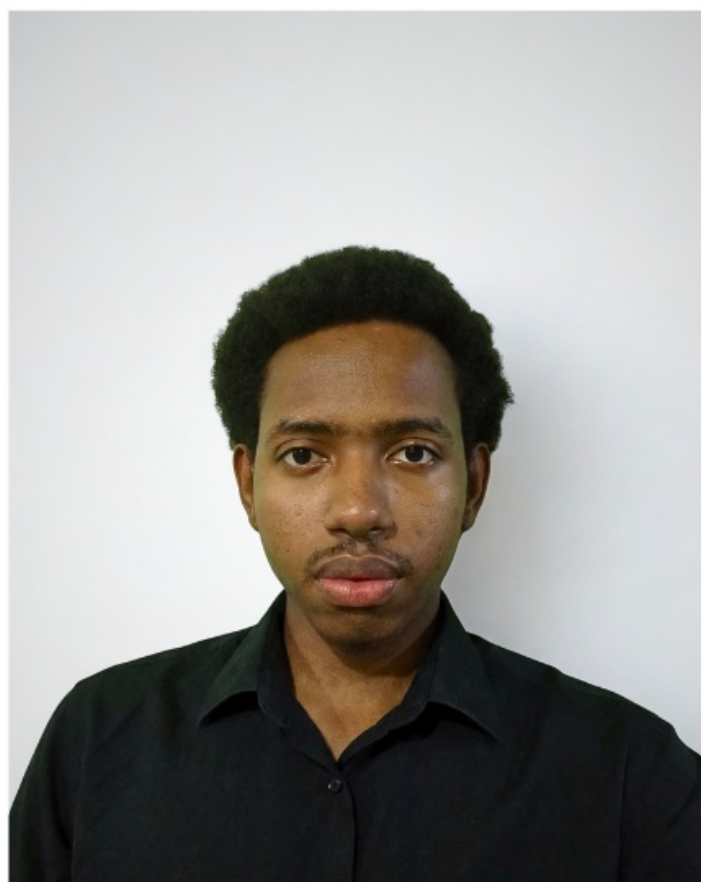
Rodrigo Gonçalves (b. 2002) is a Brazilian composer currently studying Music Composition at Escola de Música da UFRJ (UFRJ School of Music). His background blends formal academic training with independent study and practical experience, shaping a distinct creative and technical approach.

Gonçalves began his musical studies in 2016 under the guidance of the conductor Josué Campos, focusing on music theory — an essential foundation for his development as a composer. From 2017 to 2019, he was member of Banda Sinfônica do Colégio São Vicente de Paulo, an experience that deepened his understanding of ensemble performance and the practical application of compositional techniques.

Between 2018 and 2022, he pursued independent studies in composition, further refining his craft through self-directed learning.

Gonçalves has also participated in a conducting and wind ensemble composition workshop led by the esteemed conductor and composer Rubén Darío Gómez at UFRJ School of Music. This experience provided him with valuable insights into conducting and composing for wind ensembles, broadening his approach to instrumentation and ensemble writing.

As he continues his studies and creative work, Rodrigo Gonçalves remains dedicated to exploring new directions in composition and refining his musical voice.



INSTRUMENTATION

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in B-flat

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

Percussion (1 player):

- Snare Drum
- Vibraphone
- Bass Drum

Celesta

Harp

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Contrabass

for Chamber Orchestra

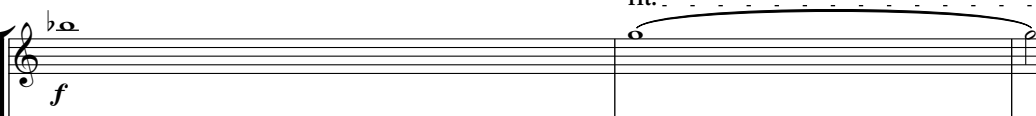
Rodrigo Gonçalves (b. 2002)

January 2026

Meditative ♩ = 68

2

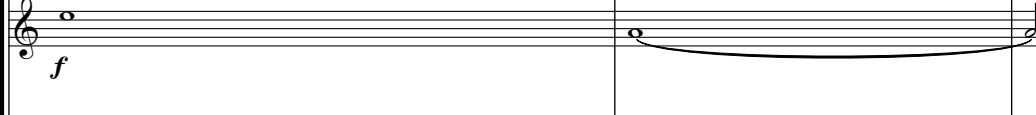
Fl.



Ob.



Cl.



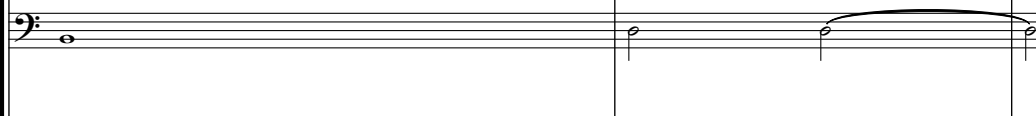
Bsn.



Hn.



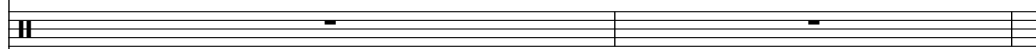
Tbn.



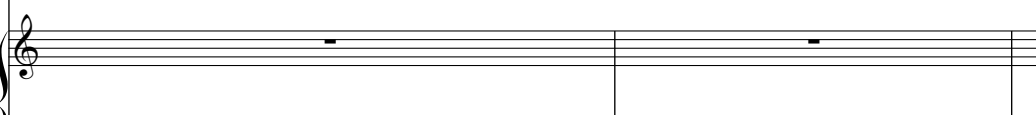
Tba.



Perc.



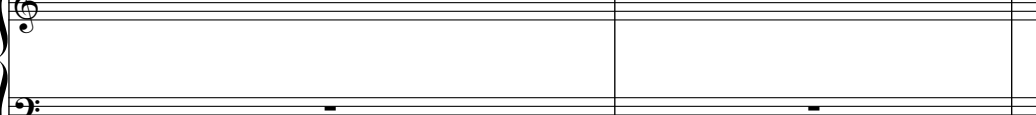
Cel.



Hp.



Vln. I



Vln. II



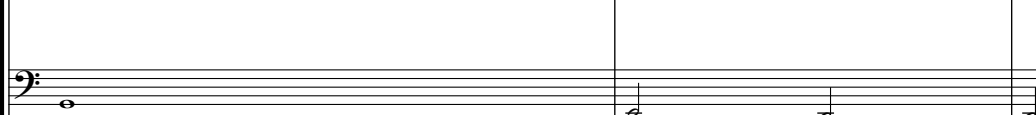
Vla.



Vc.



Cb.



5

6

7

8

[illegible]

[illegible]

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tba.

S. D.

Cel.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

23

24

25

26

Abruptly $\text{♩} = 90$

Fl.

mp f 6

Ob.

mp f 6

Cl.

mp f p f p f p f

Bsn.

mp f p f p f p f

Hn.

mp f p f p f p f

Tbn.

mp f p f p f p f

Tba.

mp f p f p f p f

S. D.

To Vibraphone

p f p f p f p f

Cel.

Abruptly $\text{♩} = 90$

Hp.

Vln. I

mp f 6

Vln. II

mp f

Vla.

mp f

Vc.

mp f

Cb.

mp f

27

28

29

30

31

32

Fl.

Musical staff for Flute (Fl.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a sixteenth-note ascending scale from G4 to D5, marked *f*, followed by a decrescendo hairpin to *p* by measure 35, where it ends with a whole rest. Measures 36-38 are whole rests.

Ob.

Musical staff for Oboe (Ob.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a sixteenth-note ascending scale from G4 to D5, marked *f*, followed by a decrescendo hairpin to *p* by measure 35, where it ends with a whole rest. Measures 36-38 are whole rests.

Cl.

Musical staff for Clarinet (Cl.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B3, marked *p*. Measures 35-38 are whole rests.

Bsn.

Musical staff for Bassoon (Bsn.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B2, marked *p*. Measures 35-38 are whole rests.

Hn.

Musical staff for Horn (Hn.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B2, marked *p*. In measure 35, it plays a sixteenth-note descending scale from B2 to G2, marked *mf* and *dolce*, followed by a decrescendo hairpin. Measures 36-38 continue the descending scale, ending on E2.

Tbn.

Musical staff for Trombone (Tbn.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B2, marked *p*. Measures 35-38 are whole rests.

Tba.

Musical staff for Tuba (Tba.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B2, marked *p*. Measures 35-38 are whole rests.

Vib.

Musical staff for Vibraphone (Vib.). It contains whole rests for measures 33 through 38.

Cel.

Musical staff for Cello (Cel.). It begins with a sixteenth-note descending scale from G4 to D4, marked *f*, followed by a decrescendo hairpin to *p* by measure 35, where it ends with a whole rest. Measures 36-38 are whole rests.

Hp.

Musical staff for Harp (Hp.). It begins with a sixteenth-note descending scale from G4 to D4, marked *f*, followed by a decrescendo hairpin to *p* by measure 35, where it ends with a whole rest. Measures 36-38 are whole rests.

Vln. I

Musical staff for Violin I (Vln. I). It begins with a sixteenth-note descending scale from G4 to D4, marked *f*, followed by a decrescendo hairpin to *p* by measure 35, where it ends with a whole rest. Measures 36-38 are whole rests.

Vln. II

senza sordina

Musical staff for Violin II (Vln. II). It begins with a sixteenth-note descending scale from G4 to D4, marked *f*, followed by a decrescendo hairpin to *p* by measure 35, where it ends with a whole rest. Measures 36-38 are whole rests.

Vla.

senza sordina

Musical staff for Viola (Vla.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B3, marked *f*. In measure 35, it plays a dotted quarter note B3, marked *p* and *pizz.*. Measures 36-38 continue the dotted quarter note B3.

Vc.

senza sordina

Musical staff for Violoncello (Vc.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B2, marked *f*. In measure 35, it plays a dotted quarter note B2, marked *p* and *pizz.*. Measures 36-38 continue the dotted quarter note B2.

Cb.

senza sordina

Musical staff for Contrabass (Cb.). It begins with a whole rest in measure 33. In measure 34, it plays a whole note B1, marked *f*. In measure 35, it plays a dotted quarter note B1, marked *p* and *pizz.*. Measures 36-38 continue the dotted quarter note B1.

Fl.

Ob.

dolce

mf

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

p

Tbn.

p

Tba.

p

Vib.

Vibraphone
motor on

mf

Cel.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

39

40

41

42

43

44

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tba.

Vib.

Cel.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

rit.

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

Tempo Primo

From Afar

Meditative ♩ = 60

Ft.

f

breathe as necessary

mp

pp

Ob.

f

breathe as necessary

mp

pp

Cl.

mp

breathe as necessary

pp

Bsn.

mp

breathe as necessary

pp

Hn.

f

p

pp

Tbn.

p

pp

Tba.

p

pp

Vib.

free glissando

mp

Cel.

mp

mp

Hp.

f

f

rit.

free glissando

mp

Vln. I

f

free bowing

mp

pp

Vln. II

mp

free bowing

pp

Vla.

arco

mp

free bowing

pp

Vc.

arco

mp

free bowing

pp

Cb.

arco

mp

free bowing

pp

[52] [53] [54] [55] [56] [57] [58]

Fl. *loose embouchure* *normal embouchure*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. *mf* 6 5 6 6

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn. take cup mute

Tba.

Vib. *mp*

Cel.

Hp. *mp* *mp*

Vln. I *mp* sul pont.

Vln. II *mp* sul pont.

Vla. *mp* sul pont.

Vc. *mp* sul pont.

Cb. *mp* sul pont.

59 60 61 62

Fl.



Ob.



Cl.



Bsn.

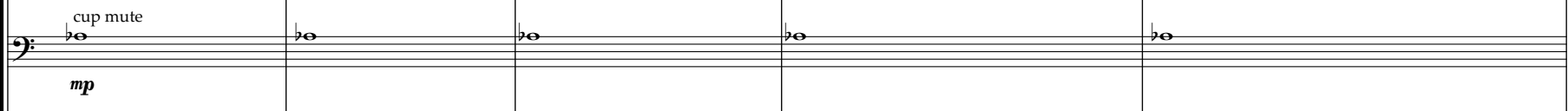


Hn.



Tbn.

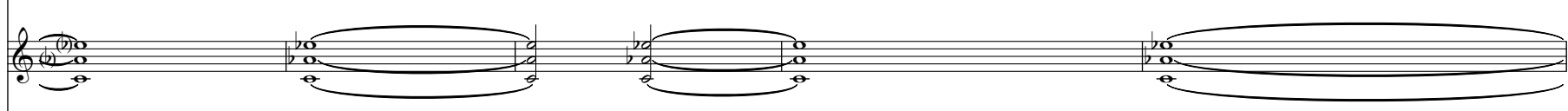
cup mute



Tba.



Vib.



Cel.



Hp.



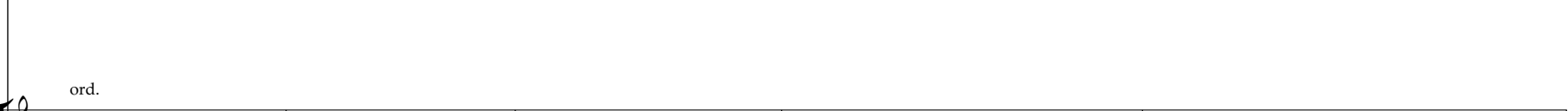
Vln. I

ord.



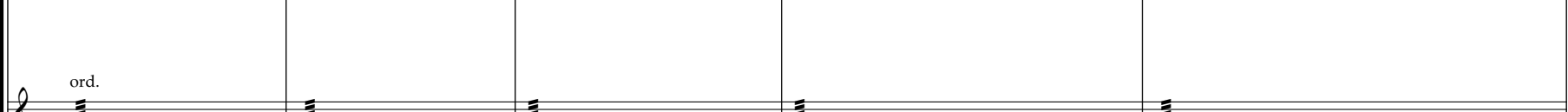
Vln. II

ord.



Vla.

ord.



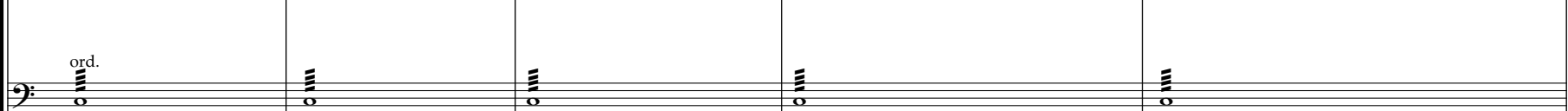
Vc.

ord.



Cb.

ord.



63

64

65

66

67

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tba.

Vib.

Cel.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

68

69

70

71

mf

p

E₄

A₄

A musical score for a symphony orchestra, spanning measures 68 to 71. The score is written for various instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Trombone (Tbn.), Tuba (Tba.), Vibraphone (Vib.), Cello (Cel.), Double Bass (Cb.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The score is divided into four systems, each containing four measures. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamics. The first system (measures 68-71) shows the beginning of a new section. The second system (measures 72-75) continues the section. The third system (measures 76-79) continues the section. The fourth system (measures 80-83) continues the section. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamics. The first system (measures 68-71) shows the beginning of a new section. The second system (measures 72-75) continues the section. The third system (measures 76-79) continues the section. The fourth system (measures 80-83) continues the section.

Fl.

Musical staff for Flute (Fl.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a triplet of eighth notes (F#4, G#4, A4) marked *mf*, followed by a whole note B4 in measure 74, and then whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 75, 76, and 77 respectively.

Ob.

Musical staff for Oboe (Ob.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a triplet of eighth notes (F#4, G#4, A4) marked *mf*, followed by a whole note B4 in measure 74, and then whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 75, 76, and 77 respectively.

Cl.

Musical staff for Clarinet (Cl.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a triplet of eighth notes (F#4, G#4, A4) marked *mf*, followed by a whole note B4 in measure 74, and then whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 75, 76, and 77 respectively.

Bsn.

Musical staff for Bassoon (Bsn.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 72 with a half note F#3 marked *f*, followed by a half note G#3 in measure 73, and then half notes A3, G#3, F#3, and E3 in measures 74, 75, 76, and 77 respectively.

Hn.

Musical staff for Horn (Hn.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 72 with a half note F#3 marked *f*, followed by a half note G#3 in measure 73, and then half notes A3, G#3, F#3, and E3 in measures 74, 75, 76, and 77 respectively.

Tbn.

Musical staff for Trombone (Tbn.). It is mostly silent, with a whole note C5 in measure 77.

Tba.

Musical staff for Tuba (Tba.). It is mostly silent, with a whole note C5 in measure 77.

Vib.

Musical staff for Vibraphone (Vib.). It is mostly silent, with a whole note C5 in measure 77.

Cel.

Musical staff for Cello (Cel.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a triplet of eighth notes (F#4, G#4, A4), followed by a whole note B4 in measure 74, and then a descending eighth-note scale (A4, G#4, F#4, E4, D4) in measure 77.

Hp.

Musical staff for Harp (Hp.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a triplet of eighth notes (F#4, G#4, A4), followed by a whole note B4 in measure 74, and then a descending eighth-note scale (A4, G#4, F#4, E4, D4) in measure 77.

Vln. I

Musical staff for Violin I (Vln. I). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a whole note B4, followed by whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 74, 75, and 76, and then a whole note G#4 in measure 77.

Vln. II

Musical staff for Violin II (Vln. II). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a whole note B4, followed by whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 74, 75, and 76, and then a whole note G#4 in measure 77.

Vla.

Musical staff for Viola (Vla.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a whole note B4, followed by whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 74, 75, and 76, and then a whole note G#4 in measure 77.

Vc.

Musical staff for Violoncello (Vc.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a whole note B4, followed by whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 74, 75, and 76, and then a whole note G#4 in measure 77.

Cb.

Musical staff for Contrabass (Cb.). It shows a melodic line starting in measure 73 with a whole note B4, followed by whole notes C5, B4, and A4 in measures 74, 75, and 76, and then a whole note G#4 in measure 77.

72

73

74

75

76

77

Più mosso

[illegible]

Fl.



Ob.



Cl.



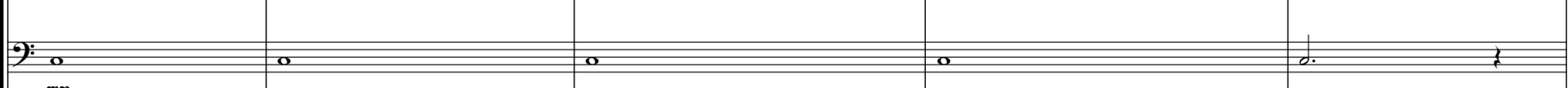
Bsn.



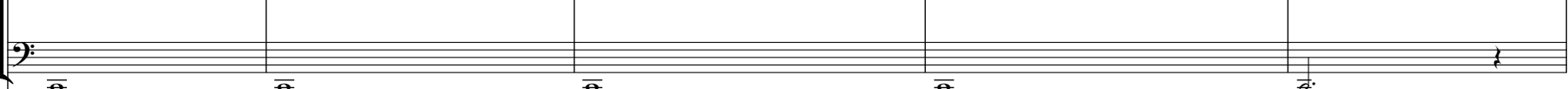
Hn.



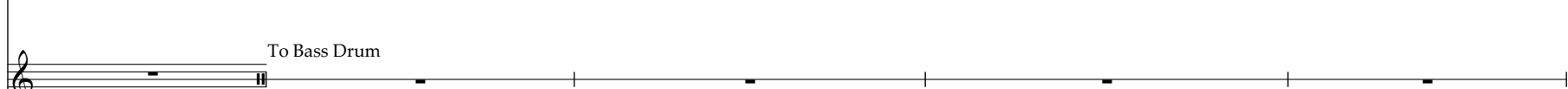
Tbn.



Tba.



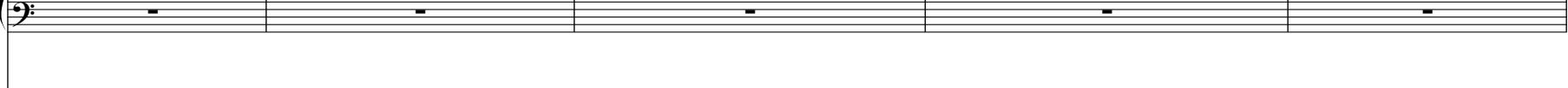
Vib.



Cel.



Hp.



Vln. I



Vln. II



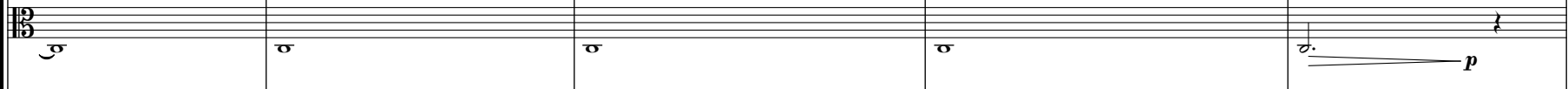
Vla.



Vc.



Cb.



86

87

88

89

90

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tba.

B. D.

Cel.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

91

92

93

94

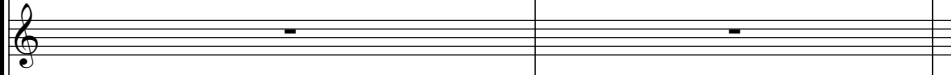
Fl.



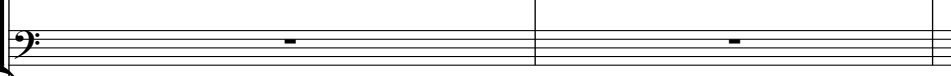
Ob.



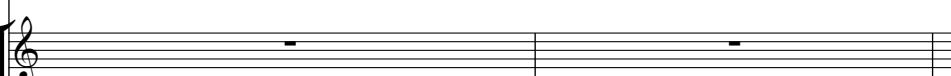
Cl.



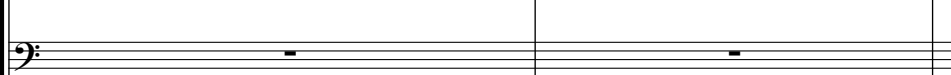
Bsn.



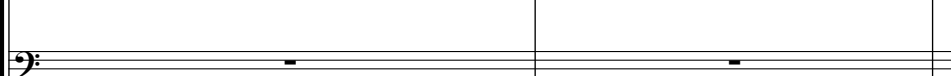
Hn.



Tbn.



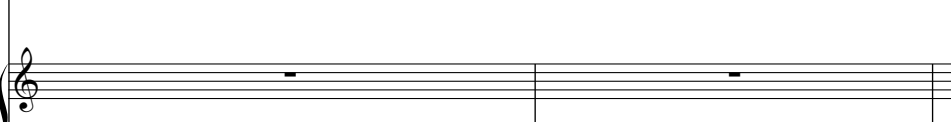
Tba.



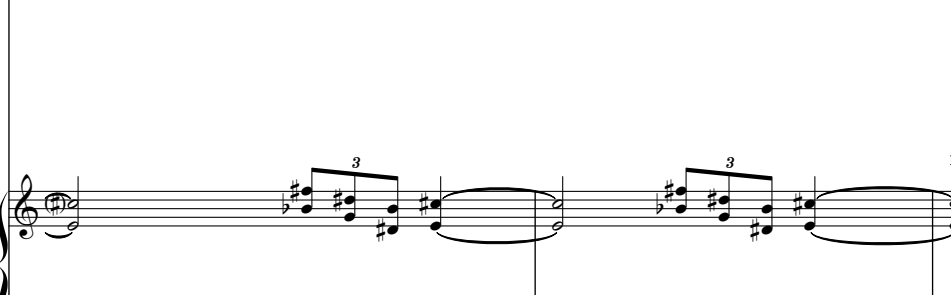
B. D.



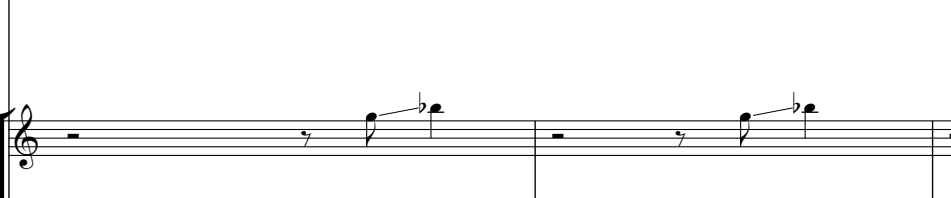
Cel.



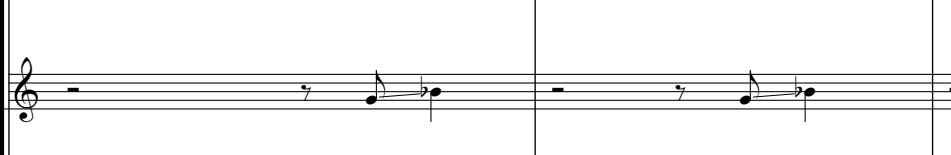
Hp.



Vln. I



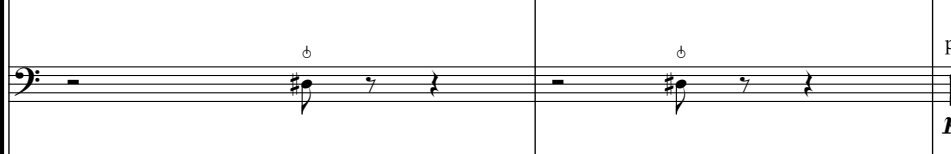
Vln. II



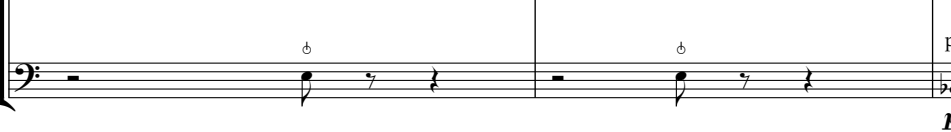
Vla.



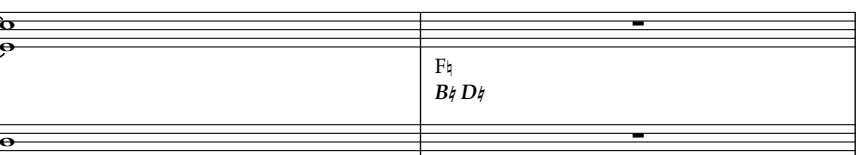
Vc.



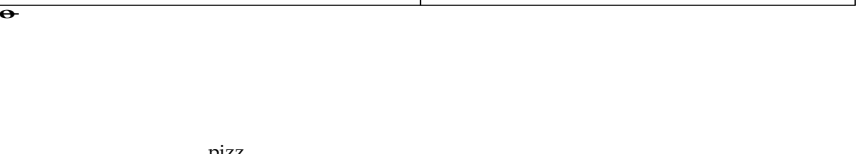
Cb.



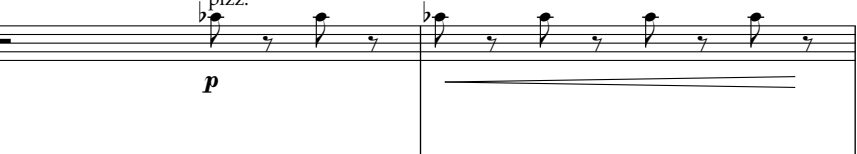
Ft



Bt



Dt



95

96

97

98

Tempo Primo

♩ = 90

From Afar

19

The musical score for measures 99-104 is as follows:

- Measure 99:** Flute (F), Clarinet (Cl), Bassoon (Bsn.), Trombone (Tbn.), and Bass Drum (B. D.) enter with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Flute and Clarinet play a half note G4. Bassoon plays a half note G2. Trombone plays a half note G2. Bass Drum plays a half note G2. Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.) enter with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. Violin I and II play a half note G4. Viola plays a half note G4. Violoncello and Contrabass play a half note G2.
- Measure 100:** Flute and Clarinet play a half note A4. Bassoon plays a half note A2. Trombone plays a half note A2. Bass Drum plays a half note A2. Violin I and II play a half note A4. Viola plays a half note A4. Violoncello and Contrabass play a half note A2.
- Measure 101:** Flute and Clarinet play a half note B4. Bassoon plays a half note B2. Trombone plays a half note B2. Bass Drum plays a half note B2. Violin I and II play a half note B4. Viola plays a half note B4. Violoncello and Contrabass play a half note B2.
- Measure 102:** Flute and Clarinet play a half note C5. Bassoon plays a half note C3. Trombone plays a half note C3. Bass Drum plays a half note C3. Violin I and II play a half note C5. Viola plays a half note C5. Violoncello and Contrabass play a half note C3.
- Measure 103:** Flute and Clarinet play a half note D5. Bassoon plays a half note D3. Trombone plays a half note D3. Bass Drum plays a half note D3. Violin I and II play a half note D5. Viola plays a half note D5. Violoncello and Contrabass play a half note D3.
- Measure 104:** Flute and Clarinet play a half note E5. Bassoon plays a half note E3. Trombone plays a half note E3. Bass Drum plays a half note E3. Violin I and II play a half note E5. Viola plays a half note E5. Violoncello and Contrabass play a half note E3.

poco rit.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tba.

B. D.

Cel.

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

105

106

107

108

109

110

a tempo

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tbn.

Tba.

B. D.

Cel.

a tempo

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

111 112 113 114 115 116

