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The Usual, Unusually

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Publication Date

2020

The Usual, Unusually
for piano quartet
(2019)

Jean Ahn

Program Note

"The Usual, Unusually" is inspired by Ensemble ARI's recent performance of Haydn Piano Trio. This piece exaggerates the ornamentations used in the Classical era, such as mordents (rapid alteration above and below the principle note), turns, trills and appoggiaturas. By repeating a very usual harmonic structure, the composer wants the listener to hear the effect of the unusual disposition of the ornamentations.

Performance Note

Grace notes are before the beat.
Accidentals carry throughout the bar.
Pedal is left to the pianist unless specified.

sul tasto play near the fingerboard
sul pont. play near the bridge
+ left hand pizzicato

Duration: 9 minutes

The Usual, Unusually

for Piano Quartet

written for Ensemble ARL, funded by InterMusic SF's Musical Grant Program

Jean Ahn
(2019)

Leggiero (♩=96)

Musical score for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Piano, measures 1-4. The score is in 2/4 time with a tempo of ♩=96. The Violin part starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a sixteenth-note pattern, transitioning to a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic with a sixteenth-note run in measure 4. The Viola part follows a similar pattern, with a *mf* dynamic in measure 3 and a *p* dynamic in measure 4. The Cello part has a *p* dynamic in measure 1, a *mf* dynamic in measure 2, and a *p* dynamic in measure 3. The Piano part consists of a steady sixteenth-note accompaniment in both hands, starting with a *p* dynamic.

Musical score for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Piano, measures 5-6. The Violin part has a *p* dynamic in measure 5 and a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic in measure 6. The Viola part has a *mp* dynamic in measure 6. The Cello part has a *mp* dynamic in measure 6. The Piano part features a forte (*f*) dynamic in measure 5 with a sixteenth-note run, and a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic in measure 6. The score includes fingerings (5, 6) and a slur over the sixteenth-note run in measure 5.

Musical score for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Piano, measures 7-9. The Violin part starts with a pizzicato (*pizz.*) dynamic in measure 7, moving to mezzo-piano (*mp*) and mezzo-forte (*mf*) in measure 8, and then to piano (*p*) and fortissimo (*fp*) in measure 9. The Viola part follows a similar dynamic progression. The Cello part has a *pp* dynamic in measure 7, moving to *mp* and *mf* in measure 8, and then to *p* and *fp* in measure 9. The Piano part has a *pp* dynamic in measure 7, moving to *mp* and *mf* in measure 8, and then to *p* in measure 9. The score includes a section titled "Acute" starting in measure 8, with a five-fingered (*5*) arpeggiated figure in the strings. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 in measure 8 and back to 2/4 in measure 9. The score includes fingerings (5) and accents (>) in measures 8 and 9.

A *Leggiero*

10

Vln. *mf* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p*

Vc. *p* *mf* 6

Pno. *mf* *p* 5

15

Vln. *mf* *p* *mf*

Vla. *p* *mf* 3 5 *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *p* 5

20

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p* 3

Vc. *p*

Pno. *mf* 6

B Acute

24

Vln. *pp* pizz. *mf* arco *fp*

Vla. *pp* pizz. *mf* arco *fp*

Vc. *pp* pizz. *mf* arco *fp*

Pno. *pp* *mf* *f*

27

Vln. *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *pp*

Vla. *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *pp*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *pp*

Pno. *f*

31

Vln. *mp* *p* *pp*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *p* *pp*

35 **Solemn** **Leggiero**

Vln. *pp* < > *p* < > *pp* *mp* *mp* *p*

Vla. *pp* < > *p* < > *pp* *mf* *p*

Vc. *pp* < > *p* < > *pp* *mp* *p*

Pno. *pp* < > *p* < > *pp* *mp* *p*

39 **Strict**

Vln. *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

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

Vc. *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

Pno. *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

45

Vln. *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Vc. *mp* *f*

Pno. *f* *p* *mf* *f*

49

Vln. *p* *f* *p*

Vla. *p* *f* *p*

Vc. *f* *p*

Pno. *p* *f* *p* *p* *mp*

54

Vln. *f* *mp* *mf* *p*

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

Vc. *f* *p* *mf* *p*

Pno. *f* *p* *mf* *p*

57

Vln. *pp*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *mf* *pp* *mp* *pp* *ff*

Solemn

60

Vln. *pp* < > *mp* < *mf* > *mp* *p* *mf*

Vla. *pp* < > *mp* < *mf* > *mp* *p* *mf*

Vc. *pp* < > *mp* < *mf* > *mp* *p* *mf*

Pno. *pp* < > *mp* *mf* *mp* *p* *f*

D Meditative (♩=60)

65

Vln. *mf* > *mp* *p* < > *mf* *mf* > *mp* *p* *mf*

Vla. *mf* > *mp* *p* < > *mf* *p* < > *mf* *p* *mf*

Vc. *mf* > *mp* *p* < > *mf* *p* < > *mf* *p* *mf*

70

Vln. *pp* *sul tasto* *ord.* *mp* < > *mf*

Vla. *pp* *sul tasto* *ord.* *mp* < > *mf*

Vc. *pp* *sul tasto* *ord.* *mp* < > *mf*

73

Vln. *mf* *f* 5

Vla. *mp* *f* 5

Vc. *p* *f* 5

Pno. *p* *f* 5

E Leggiero (♩=96)

77

Vln. *p* *mf* 3 *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *p* *mf* 3

81

Vln. *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *f*

Vc. *mf* *f*

Pno. *p* *mf* *f*

84

Vln. *mp* *p* *mf* *pp* pizz.

Vla. *mp* *p* *pp* pizz.

Vc. *mp* *p* *pp*

Pno. *mp* *p* *mp* *mf* *pp* *mp*

88

Vln. *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Pno. *mf* *f* *mp*

F Acute

91

Vln. *arco* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vla. *arco* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vc. *arco* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

Pno. *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

94

Vln. *mf-p* *mf-p*⁵ *mp*

Vla. *mf-p* *mf-p*⁵ *mp*

Vc. *mf-p* *mf* *mp*

Pno. *mp* *mf* *mp*

8va

Lea. Lea. Lea.

98

Vln. *f* *mp*

Vla. *f* *mp* *p*

Vc. *f* *mp* *p*

Pno. *f* *mp*

Lea. Lea. Lea. Lea.

101

Pno. *mf*

5 *7*

Lea.

10 **G Agitato**

Vln. *p*

Vla. *mf* *p* *pp*

Vc. *mf* *p*

Pno. *f* *mf* 5

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *mp* *p* 5

scd

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *f*

8va *8vb* *scd*

Piú Mosso (♩=108)

111

Vln. *pp*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *f* *pp*

H Acute (♩=96)

115

Vln. *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vla. *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *fp*

Pno. *mp* *sfz* *mp* *sfz* *mp* *sfz*

I Strict

119

Vln. *p* *fp* *mf* *p* *pp* *f* at the frog

Vla. *p* *fp* *mf* *p* *pp* *f* at the frog

Vc. *p* *fp* *mf* *p* *pp* *f* at the frog

Pno. *mp* *sfz* *mf* *mf* *f*

12

124

Vln. pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f* pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f*

Vla. pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f* pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f*

Vc. pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f* pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f*

Pno. *p* *f* 3 *p* *f* 3

128

Vln. pizz. *p* arco *mf* *mp*

Vla. pizz. *p* arco *mf* *mp*

Vc. pizz. *p* arco *mf* *mp*

Pno. *f* 3 *mp*

132

Vln. arco at the frog *f* ord. pizz. *mp* at the frog arco *f* ord.

Vla. arco at the frog *f* pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f*

Vc. arco at the frog *f* pizz. *mp* arco at the frog *f*

Pno. *f* 3 *mp* *f* 3 *p* *f* 3

136

Vln. *p* *pizz.* *f* *ord.* *f* *p*

Vla. *mp* *f* *p*

Vc. *mp* *f* *mf*

Pno. *p* *f* *p*

140

Vln. *p* *pp* *f* *arco at the frog* *pizz.* *mp*

Vla. *p* *pp* *f* *arco at the frog* *pizz.* *mp*

Vc. *p* *mp* *f* *arco at the frog* *pizz.* *mp*

Pno. *mp* *pp* *f* *p*

J

144

Vln. *f* *arco at the frog* *ord.* *mp* *f* *arco at the frog* *pizz.* *mp*

Vla. *f* *arco at the frog* *pizz.* *mp* *f* *arco at the frog* *pizz.* *mp*

Vc. *f* *arco at the frog* *mp* *f* *arco at the frog* *pizz.* *mp*

Pno. *f* *p* *f*

149 arco at the frog *f* ord. *p*

Vln. *f* ord. *p*

Vla. *f* ord. *p*

Vc. *f* ord. *p*

Pno. *f* 3

154 *mp* *mf* > *p* *f*

Vln. *mp* *mf* > *p* *f*

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

Vc. *mp* *mf* > *p* *f*

Pno. *p* *mp* *f*

Lea. * Lea. * Lea.

rit.

157 *p* *pp* *ppp* flautando

Vln. *p* *pp* *ppp* flautando

Vla. *p* *pp* *ppp* flautando

Vc. *p* *pp* *ppp* flautando

Pno. *p* *mf* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Lea. * Lea. Lea. * u.c. Lea. *

K Meditative (♩=72)

162

Vln. *mf* *p* *mf* *mp* *mf* *f*

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

Vc. *mp* *mf* *f*

166

Vln. *p* *mp* *f* *p*

Vla. *p* *f* *p*

Vc. *p* *f* *p*

169

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

169

Pno. *mf*

171

Vln. *f* pizz. arco

Vla. *f* p arco

Vc. pizz. arco

Pno. *f* *mp* *f* *f* *p* *mf*

176

Vln. *p* *f* pizz. arco

Vla. *p* *f* *p* arco

Vc. *p* *f* *p* arco

Pno. *p* *f* 8va

179

Vln. arco *p* *f* pizz. *f*

Vla. *f* pizz. *f*

Vc. *f* pizz. *f*

Pno. *f* *mp* *f*

Vln. *f* *p* *arco* 6 6 6 6

Vla. *f* *p* 6 6 6 6

Pno. *f* *p* *mp* 3 *p* 3

Vln. *mf* *pp* *p*

Vla. *mf* pizz. *p*

Vc.

Pno. *mp* *mf* 3 *p*

Vln. *mp* *mf* *fp*

Vla. *mf* *fp*

Vc. arco *p* *mp* *mf* *fp* 6

Pno. *mp* *mf* *fp*

191

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p* 3

Vc. *p* 3

Pno. *p*

193

[M] Grave (♩=69)

Vln. *f* *p* *mf*

Vla. *f* *p* *mf*

Vc. *f* *p* *mf*

Pno. *f* *p* *mp* *mp* *mf*

195

Vln. *mf* *f* *f* *p*

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

Vc. *mf* *p* *f* *p*

Pno. *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *p*

199

Vln. *f p*

Vla. *f p*

Vc. *f p*

Pno. *f p*

202

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

Solemn (♩=60)

207

Vln. *p mp*

Vla. *p mp*

Vc. *p mp*

Pno. *p mp*

Giacoso

Solemn

Giacoso

Solemn

Giocoso

Solemn

ord.

212

Vln. *pp* *pp* *mp* *p mp p* *mp*³

Vla. *pp* *pp* *mp* *p mp p*

Vc. *pp* *pp* *mp* *p mp p*

Pno. *pp* *pp* *mp* *p mp p* *mp*³

217

Vln. *mf mp p mf mp* *p mf mp* *p f*

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

Vc. *mp mf mp* *p mf mp* *p f*

Pno. *mf mp* *p mf mp* *p mf mp* *p f*

221

Vln. *pp mf p mf p* *mf p mf p* *f* *ff*

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

Vc. *pp mf p mf p* *mf p mf p* *f* *ff*

Pno. *pp mf p mf p* *mf p mf p* *f* *ff*

O Agitato (♩=88)

225

Vln. *mf* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p* *mf*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *p* *mp* *p*

228

Vln. *mf* *p* *mp*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *mf* *p* *mp*

Pno. *mf* *p* *mf*

231

Vln. *p* *f* *p* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *p* *mp*

Vc. *mf* *p* *mp*

Pno. *p* *mp* *mf*

234 *accel.*

Vln. *p*

Vla. *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *p* *mp*

Pno. *p* *mf* 5

Detailed description: This system covers measures 234 to 236. The Violin part starts with a sixteenth-note pattern, then a wavy line indicating a tremolo, and ends with a sixteenth-note run. The Viola part has a similar sixteenth-note pattern, with dynamics *mf*, *p*, *mf*, and *p*. The Violoncello part has a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *p* and *mp*. The Piano part features a steady sixteenth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand, with dynamics *p* and *mf*, and a fingering '5' in the right hand.

237

Vln. *mf* *p* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *p* *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Pno. 5 *f*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 237 to 239. The Violin part has a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. The Viola part has a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. The Violoncello part has a sixteenth-note pattern with a tremolo and dynamics *mf*. The Piano part features a steady sixteenth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand, with dynamics *f* and a fingering '5' in the right hand.

240

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 240 to 242. The Violin part has a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *f*. The Viola part has a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *f*. The Violoncello part has a sixteenth-note pattern with dynamics *f*. The Piano part features a steady sixteenth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand with dynamics *f*.

242

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

244

Vln. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vla. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Pno. *p* *f* *p* *f*

246

Vln. *p* *f* *mp* *pp*

Vla. *p* *f* *mp* *pp*

Vc. *p* *f* *mp* *pp*

Pno. *p* *f* *mp* *pp*

Leggiero