

UCLA
Contemporary Music Score Collection

Title

Quartet for Strings and Piano

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/29q30312>

Author

Mansour, Alexander

Publication Date

2020



composed by Alexander Mansour

QUARTET

FOR STRINGS AND PIANO

for the Garth Newel Piano Quartet

QUARTET_{for STRINGS and PIANO}

composed by Alexander Mansour

PERFORMANCE NOTE

instrumentation:

violin
viola
cello
piano

movments:

I. Green
II. Red
III. Blue
IV. Yellow

Quartet for Strings and Piano was written over the course of 2019 for the Garth Newel Piano Quartet composition competition. I have had much affection for the piano quartet as an instrumentation ever since I very young. Some of my earliest musical memories include chamber music for such an ensemble. In particular, I seriously studied and performed the quartets of Mozart, Brahms, Faure and Bridge. I certainly owe a great deal of my compositional language to that formative time of absorbing music. This piece is very much a response and love letter to those great, romantic works.

My quartet is one that began with color, four colors specifically (green, red, blue, and yellow) as an impetus for inspiration. Some of this association is programatic ('Blue' using the language of a moody jazz club for example, or 'Green' using harmonics imitating birds chirping). Other times, my process was entirely subjective (synesthesia as a means for choosing key, pursuing an abstract energy) or instinctual. These colors absolutely have their unique identities in each movement, but such clarity begins to blur at times (movements frequently borrow eachothers material). In this way, the piece is more about color as a collective spectrum as opposed to four distinct sections, and it is my hope the music communicates a significant amount of joy, brilliance, laughter, and celebration.

Accidentals apply for the entire bar in which they appear.
Work Duration: *Approximately 25 minutes.*

- *Alexander Mansour*

Please note:

The audio file submitted was created through a combination of live readings amongst friends, midi samples, and my own cello overdubbing. The result is hopefully an impression of what the piece could be, but hardly a musical or complete representation. Thank you for your understanding, and for any consideration!

QUARTET

for STRINGS and PIANO

composed by ALEXANDER MANSOUR

Score

I. Green

Curiously $\text{♩} = 112$
II.

The score is written for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Piano. It is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 112 beats per minute. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

Violin I: Starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic, then piano (*p*). Features a *pont.* (pizzicato) section. Dynamics include *f*, *p*, and *pp*.

Violin II: Starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, and *p*.

Viola: Starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Dynamics include *pp*, *p*, *mf*, and *p*.

Cello: Starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, and *p*.

Piano: Starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Dynamics include *f*, *p*, *pp*, and *fz*. Includes a *8va* (octave) marking.

Measures 1-13 are shown. Measure numbers 6 and 13 are indicated at the start of their respective systems.

19

Vln. *p* *p* *mp*

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

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

Pno. *p* *mf* *pp*

8va

pont.

3

6

25

Vln. *f* *pp*

Vla. *f* *pp*

Vc. *f* *pp*

Pno. *f* *p*

3

8va

rit.

6/4

A Optimistic

a tempo

Vln. *n*

Vla. *n*

Vc. *n*

Pno. *p* *mp*

31

6/4

35

Vln. *p* *pp* pizz. *p* arco *p cantabile*

Vla. *p* *pp* pizz. *p* arco *pp*

Vc. *p* *pp* pizz. *pp* arco

Pno. *pp* *ppp*

39

Vln. *mp*

Vla. *mp* *p*

Vc. *mp* *p*

45

Vln. *mp* dolce

Vla. *p* dolce

Vc. *mp* dolce

Pno. *pp*

52

Vln. *mp* *f*

Vla. *mp* *f*

Vc. *mp* *f*

B

flautando

p

flautando

p

p

mp

pizz.

p

arco

mf

p

mf

p

mf

pp

mf

f

p espress.

p espress.

p

p espress.

p

mp

mf

I. Green

75

Vln. *sf*

Vla. *sf*

Vc. *sf*

Pno. *f*

81

Vln. *f p pp*

Vla. *f p*

Vc. *f p pp*

Pno. *f pp*

ord.

pont. *gliss.*

87

Vln. *pp p pp*

Vla. *pp p*

Vc. *pp p*

Pno. *p mf subito p sf*

pizz. arco

96

Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) parts: Vln. starts with *sf*, then *f* and *p*, ending with *pp* and *arco*. Vla. starts with *pp* and *pizz.*, then *p* and *pp* with *arco*.
Violoncello (Vc.) part: Starts with *mp* and triplets, then *p* and sextuplets, ending with *p* and *pp*.
Piano (Pno.) part: Starts with *sf*, then *p* and *pp*, ending with *pp* and *p*.
A *8va* marking is present above the Pno. staff.

104

Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) parts: Vln. starts with *p* and *pp*, then *mf*, *mp dolce*, and *mp*. Vla. starts with *mp* and *mp dolce*, then *pizz.*.
Violoncello (Vc.) part: Starts with *mp* and *mp dolce*, then *mp* and triplets.
Piano (Pno.) part: Starts with *pp* and *f*, then *p*.
A *8va* marking is present above the Pno. staff.

110

Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) parts: Vln. starts with *f* and *fp*, then *f*. Vla. starts with *arco* and *f*, then *fp* and *f*.
Violoncello (Vc.) part: Starts with *f* and *fp*, then *f*.
Piano (Pno.) part: Starts with *mp* and *f*, then *f*.
A *8va* marking is present above the Pno. staff.

D Determined

Vln. *p detache*

Vla. *p detache*

Vc. *p detache*

Vln. 117

Vla.

Vc.

Vln. *mf cantabile*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

p

Pno. *mp*

f

Vln. *subito p*

Vla.

Vc. *subito p*

Pno. *mf*

129

Vln. *f* *p* *f* no vib.

Vla. *f* *fp* *f* no vib.

Vc. *f* *p* *f* no vib.

Pno. *f* *ff*

135

Vln. *mf espress.*

Vla. *p agitato*

Vc. *mp*

Pno. *ff* *p* *mf*

139

Vln. *pp* gliss.

Vla. *pp* gliss.

Vc. *pp* gliss.

Pno. *f* *subito pp*

E

142

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *f*

145

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc.

Pno.

150

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

molto rit.

12 **F**

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

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

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

Pno. *p* *ff* *p* *ff*

157

Vln. *ff* *mp* *f* *f*

Vla. *ff* *mp* *f* *f*

Vc. *ff* *mp* *f* *f*

Pno. *ff* *mp* *f* *mp*

161

Vln. *mf*

Vla.

Vc.

Pno. *f*

I. Green

G Slower, glassy $\text{♩} = 60$

Musical score for measures 164-174. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is two sharps (D major). The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Slower, glassy' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The dynamics range from *mp* to *p* *espress.*. The music features a slow, expressive melody in the strings and piano, with a 6/4 time signature change in measure 174.

Musical score for measures 169-174. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is two sharps (D major). The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Joyously' with a quarter note equal to 112 beats per minute. The dynamics range from *sf* to *pp*. The music features a more rhythmic and joyful melody in the strings and piano, with a 3/4 time signature change in measure 174.

Musical score for measures 175-184. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is two sharps (D major). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics range from *pp* to *p*. The music features a rhythmic melody in the strings and piano, with a 3/4 time signature change in measure 175. The violin part includes a 'pont. 5' marking and a 'flautando' marking. The viola part includes a 'pont.' marking and a 'pizz.' marking. The piano part includes a 'p' marking.

180

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

pp 3 3 *pp*

mp

185

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

mp *mp* *mf* *mf* *f*

pizz.

190

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

I Proudly *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

arco

I. Green

195

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Pno. 

200

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Pno. 

rubato

205

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Pno. 

f, *mf*, *mp*

Vln. *pont.*
p

Vla. *p*
pont.

Vc. *p*

Pno. *pp sempre*

8va

Vln. *pp*
no vib.

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *pp*

Vln. *pp*
ppp
pp

Vla. *p*
n

Vc. *n*

Pno. *ppp*

II. Red

Scherzo, ♩ = 84

Violin

Viola

Cello

Piano

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

12

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

15

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

19

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

24

Vln. arco

Vla. pizz. *pp* finger snaps

Vc.

Pno.

28

Vln. arco *mf* > *p* fall to nothing

Vla. arco *p* accel. -----

Vc. arco *mf* > *p* *sfz* *sfz*

Pno. *pp* *pp* *f* *p* *sfz* *p* *sfz*

A ♩ = 92

32

Vln. *sfz*

Vla. *sfz* *p* *mp* *mf*

Vc. *sfz* *mp* *mf*

Pno. *sfz* subito *p* *mf* *sfz*

a tempo

Vln. *mf espress.*

Vla. *mf espress.*

Vc. *pizz. mp*

Pno. *mp*

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *arco mf*

Pno. *mf*

Vln. *mf pizz.*

Vla. *mf pizz.*

Vc. *pp gliss. p f*

Pno. *f pp mf*

41

Vln. arco *f* *mp espress.*

Vla. arco *mf*

Vc. *p* *mp espress.*

Pno. *f* *p* *mf*

44

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

Vla. *f* *p* *f* *mp* pizz.

Vc. *f* *p* *f* *mp* pizz.

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

47

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

Vla. arco *f* *mp* *p* pizz.

Vc. arco *f* *mp* *p* pizz.

Pno. *f* *mp* *p*

50

Vln. arco *f*

Vla. arco *f*

Vc. arco *f*

Pno. *f*

52

Vln. *ff* pizz. *pp*

Vla. *ff* pizz. *pp*

Vc. *ff* pizz. *pp*

Pno. *ff*

D A tempo, ♩ = 84

55

Vln. pizz.

Vla. pizz.

Vc. pizz.

Pno. *pp* *p* *8va*

60

Vln. arco *f*

Vla. arco *f*

Vc. arco *f* pizz.

Pno. *p* *f*

63

Vln. arco *ff* 3

Vla. arco *ff* 3

Vc. arco *ff* 3

64

Vln. gliss between fifths arco *f* *rit.* *n*

Vla. arco *f* *n*

Vc. *f* *n*

Pno. *p* *8va*

E Manic!

8

II

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Vln. *ff* pizz. *p* scratch string/chop *f*

Vla. *ff* pizz. *p* scratch string/chop *f*

Vc. *p* scratch string/chop *f*

Pno. *ff* *p* *pp* finger snaps *f*

III. Blue

Meditative, ♩ = 56

Violin

Viola

Cello

Piano

pp

p

Measures 1-4: The score begins with a 4/4 time signature. The Violin, Viola, and Cello parts are mostly rests, with some notes appearing in measure 3. The Piano part features a series of chords in the left hand and a melodic line in the right hand. Dynamics include *pp* and *p*.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

p

n

p

mf

subito p

pp

Measures 5-8: The score continues with a 4/4 time signature. The Violin part has a melodic line starting in measure 5. The Viola and Cello parts have notes in measure 5. The Piano part has a complex texture with chords and a melodic line. Dynamics include *p*, *n*, *mf*, *subito p*, and *pp*. There are also markings for *3* and *5* fingerings.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

p

mp

pp

p

mp

pp

Measures 9-12: The score continues with a 4/4 time signature. The Violin part has a melodic line starting in measure 9. The Viola and Cello parts have notes in measure 9. The Piano part has a complex texture with chords and a melodic line. Dynamics include *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. There are also markings for *3* and *5* fingerings.

15

Vln. *p* 3/4

Vla. 3/4

Vc. 3/4

Pno. *pp* like bells 3/4

accel, falling forward -----

A With feeling, ♩ = 72

Vc. *p* *espress.* *mp*

Pno. *pp*

25

Vln. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Pno. *mp*

31

Vln.

Vc.

Pno.

mf

II.

37

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

molto accel

mf

mf

mf

stop tremolo as needed to catch left hand octaves

42

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

f

f

f

B Meditative, ♩ = 56

Vln. *pp*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *f* *p* *pp* like bells

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

Vla. *mf*

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

Pno. *pp* *mf* *pp*

II.

Vln. *mf* *mp* *pp*

Vla. *mf* *mp* *pp*

Vc. *mf* *mp* *pp*

Pno. *mp* *mf* *p* *pp* molto rit

III. II.

C With feeling, ♩ = 72

Vln. *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

8^{va} -----

Pno. *mp cantabile*

Vln. *mp* *mf*

Vla. *p*

Vc.

Pno. *subito p*

accel. -----

Vln. *mp* *f*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mf espress.*

Pno. *mf*

Musical score for measures 78-81. The score is arranged in four staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).

- Violin (Vln.):** Treble clef, starting at measure 78. Dynamics: *f*. Features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 79 and a triplet of quarter notes in measure 80.
- Viola (Vla.):** Bass clef, starting at measure 78. Dynamics: *f*. Mirrors the Violin part with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 79 and a triplet of quarter notes in measure 80.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Bass clef, starting at measure 78. Dynamics: *f*. Features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 79 and a triplet of quarter notes in measure 80.
- Piano (Pno.):** Grand staff (treble and bass clefs), starting at measure 78. Dynamics: *mf* in the right hand and *pp* in the left hand. Features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 79 and a triplet of quarter notes in the left hand in measure 80.

Measures 78-81 are in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major/D minor).

Musical score for measures 82-85. The score is arranged in four staves: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).

- Violin (Vln.):** Treble clef, starting at measure 82. Dynamics: *f* in measures 82-83, *pp* in measures 84-85. Features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 83.
- Viola (Vla.):** Bass clef, starting at measure 82. Dynamics: *f* in measures 82-83, *pp* in measures 84-85. Features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 83.
- Violoncello (Vc.):** Bass clef, starting at measure 82. Dynamics: *f* in measures 82-83, *pp* in measures 84-85. Features triplets of eighth notes in measures 82, 83, and 84.
- Piano (Pno.):** Grand staff (treble and bass clefs), starting at measure 82. Dynamics: *f* in the right hand and *pp* in the left hand. Features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand in measure 83 and a triplet of quarter notes in the left hand in measure 83.

Measures 82-85 are in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major/D minor).

86 *rit.*

Vln. *ff* *fp*

Vla. *ff* *fp*

Vc. *ff* *fp*

Pno. *ff* *f* *p*

89 *molto rit.* **D** Meditative, ♩ = 56

Vln. *fp* *p*

Vla. *fp* *p*

Vc. *fp* *p*

Pno. *mf* *pp* *p*

93 *n* *n* *n* *pp* *p* *ppp*

Vln. *n*

Vla. *n*

Vc. *n*

Pno. *pp* *p* *ppp*

Leave pedal down until end of movement. Allow strings to activate the piano's innate resonance.

Using one finger only, gliss between every pitch. As dynamic increases, so can the viscosity of the slides.

Lazy and free

99

Vln. *n* *p* *mp* *mf*

IV. ----- II.

Vla. *n* *pp* *n*

IV.

Vc. *n* *pp* *n*

100

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

ord. → sul pont. → ord.

IV. II. I.

harsh

101

Vln. *pp* *alien, distant* *ppp* *attacca*

3 3

IV. Yellow

Brilliantly, ♩ = 132

Musical score for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Piano. The score is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Violin part begins with a dynamic of *ppp* and includes an *8va* marking. The Viola part also starts with *ppp*. The Cello part features triplets and a dynamic of *p*. The Piano part includes *pp*, *mp*, and *pp* dynamics.

Musical score for Violin I, Viola, Cello, and Piano. The Violin I part starts at measure 6 with a dynamic of *pp*. The Viola part also starts at measure 6 with a dynamic of *pp*. The Cello part features triplets and a dynamic of *p*. The Piano part includes a dynamic of *p* and an *8va* marking.

Musical score for Violin I, Viola, Cello, and Piano. The Violin I part starts at measure 10 with a dynamic of *mf* and includes a *detaché* marking. The Viola part features triplets and a dynamic of *f*. The Cello part includes a dynamic of *p*. The Piano part features a dynamic of *p*.

14

Vln. *pp* *mp*

Vla. *pp* *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Pno. *mf*

18

Vln. *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc.

Pno.

21

Vln. *f* *mf*

Vla. *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf* *fp*

Pno. *mf* *p*

A

24

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

f

3

28

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

f

p

dolce

playful

mp

pizz.

arco

dolce

f

p

pp

3

33

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

pizz.

pp

pp

pp

3

B

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f* *p*

≡

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

arco

≡

C

Vln. *p* pizz.

Vla. *p* pizz.

Vc. *pp* *p* pont.

Pno. *pp*

49

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

playful

52

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

pizz.

mp

56

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

arco

pp

f

arco

f

mp

p

3

3

D

60

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f* *pp*

arco



64

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

Vla. *f* *p cantabile* *mp*

Vc. *mp warm*

Pno. *sim.*

pizz. arco



68

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc.

Pno.

E

72

Vln. *p* *3* *3*

Vla. *p* *3* *3*

Vc. *p* *3* *3*

Pno. *p* *3* *3*

76

Vln. III. II. *p* < *f*

Vla. *pp* *p*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *pp* *8va*

82

Vln. *p* *mp* like a fiddle tune

Vla.

Vc.

Pno. *8va*

87

Vln. *3*

Vla. *p cantabile*

Vc.

Pno. *8^{va}*

91

Vln.

Vla. *3*

Vc.

Pno. *8^{va}*

95

Vln. *detaché*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *mp*

Pno. *mf warm*

98

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mf*

Pno.

103

F Peasante

Vln. *f* pizz.

Vla. *f* pizz.

Vc. *f*

107

Vln. *mf* arco

Vla. *mf* arco

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *f* *p* *mf*

110

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

Vla. *f* *subito p*

Vc. *f* *subito p*

Pno. *mf* *subito p*

114

Vln. *f*

Vla. *pp < p >* *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

119

Vln. *p*

Vla. *f* *p*

Vc. *f* *p*

Pno. *mp*

G

123

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

p

mp

ff subito *p*

pp

127

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

p

mp

130

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

p

mf

134

Vln. *f* *passionato*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f* *passionato*

Pno. *ff*

H

139

Vln. *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc.

Pno. *f*

143

Vln. *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

147

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

gliss

IV.

152

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

pp

ff

155

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

gliss

Tranquilo, in tempo

p

ff

pp

p

subito p

159

Vln. *ff* 5

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff* 3 3 3 3

Pno. *ff* *pp* 3 3

160

Pno. *ff* *ff* *pp* 8va

163

Vln. pont. *pp*

Vla. pont. *pp*

Vc. pont. *pp*

Pno. 8va *p*

I

Pno.

170 (8va) *pp* *ppp*

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

176 ord, no vib *pp* ord, no vib *pp* ord, no vib *pp*

Pno.

176 (8va)

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

182

Pno.

182 (8va)

187

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

(8va)

192

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

196

J Cautious ♩ = 54

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Pno.

K Ecstatic, ♩ = 132

Musical score for measures 202-204. The score includes parts for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).

- Vln.:** Starts at measure 202 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *fp* to *mf*. An 8va line is indicated above the staff.
- Vla.:** Starts at measure 203 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *pp* to *mf*.
- Vc.:** Starts at measure 202 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *pp* to *mf*.
- Pno.:** Starts at measure 202 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *f* to *fp*.

Musical score for measures 205-206. The score includes parts for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Piano (Pno.).

- Vln.:** Starts at measure 205 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *ff* to *ff*. An 8va line is indicated above the staff.
- Vla.:** Starts at measure 205 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *ff* to *ff*.
- Vc.:** Starts at measure 205 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *ff* to *ff*.
- Pno.:** Starts at measure 205 with a fermata. Dynamics range from *ff* to *ff*.