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Going Home

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Cheng Jin Koh

Going Home

《返乡》

(2019)

for Bb Clarinet, Violin, Viola and Cello

Written for the 2019 Bowdoin International Music Festival Composers' Concert
at the Bowdoin College Museum of Art



NOTES:

Chinese contemporary artist Chen Yifei (1946 - 2005)'s oil painting "Going Home (Suzhou)" (1986) is a masterpiece combining elements of photographic realism and romanticism. It depicts a lone man on a boat gently cruising his way home against a backdrop of Suzhou's beautiful water town. The lyrical cinematography and warm colors captured in the painting serve as the greatest impetus for my work, where I hope to create a calm ambience of nature comforting one's desire for a long-awaited reunion. As a Yang Qin player, incorporating characteristics of Chinese music is a natural tendency for me when such a clear cultural stimulus is involved, and these elements are mainly melodic embellishment and horizontal motion of harmony. The lullaby-like section in the middle is a direct portrayal of the waters pulsating beneath the boat, lovingly ushering him along the way towards familiar faces and loves. Accompanying him are emotions of hope, sweet longing as well as desperation.

Going Home

《返乡》

Art by Chen Yifei "Going Home (Suzhou)", 1986

Freely

*in the style of
Dizi (Chinese flute)*

Cheng Jin Koh (2019)

Clarinet in B \flat

Clarinet in B \flat

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

free bow changes

pp

free bow changes

pp

2

Cl. *p*

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

accel.

keys flutter 5

mf

3

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Musical score for four instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (Vc.). The score consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. Measures 5 through 8 are shown, separated by a vertical dashed line.

Measure 5:

- Cl.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs, dynamic *mf*. Measure number 3 is above the staff, and 2 is below.
- Vln.**: Playing sixteenth-note patterns with slurs. Measure number 3 is above the staff, and 2 is below.
- Vla.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs. Measure number 3 is above the staff, and 2 is below.
- Vc.**: Resting.

Measure 6:

- Cl.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs, dynamic *mp*.
- Vln.**: Playing sixteenth-note patterns with slurs, dynamic *pp*. Measure number 3 is above the staff, and 2 is below.
- Vla.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs.
- Vc.**: Resting.

Measure 7:

- Cl.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs.
- Vln.**: Playing sixteenth-note patterns with slurs.
- Vla.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs, dynamic *p*.
- Vc.**: Resting.

Measure 8:

- Cl.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs.
- Vln.**: Playing sixteenth-note patterns with slurs.
- Vla.**: Playing eighth-note patterns with slurs.
- Vc.**: Resting.

Musical score for strings (Cl., Vln., Vla., Vc.) showing measures 6-7.

Measure 6:

- Cl.**: Dynamics *mf*, two eighth-note pairs connected by a curved line.
- Vln.**: Dynamics *ppp*, three eighth-note pairs connected by a curved line.
- Vla.**: Dynamics *p*, sustained notes with a wavy line under them.
- Vc.**: Dynamics *mf* followed by *p*, sustained notes.

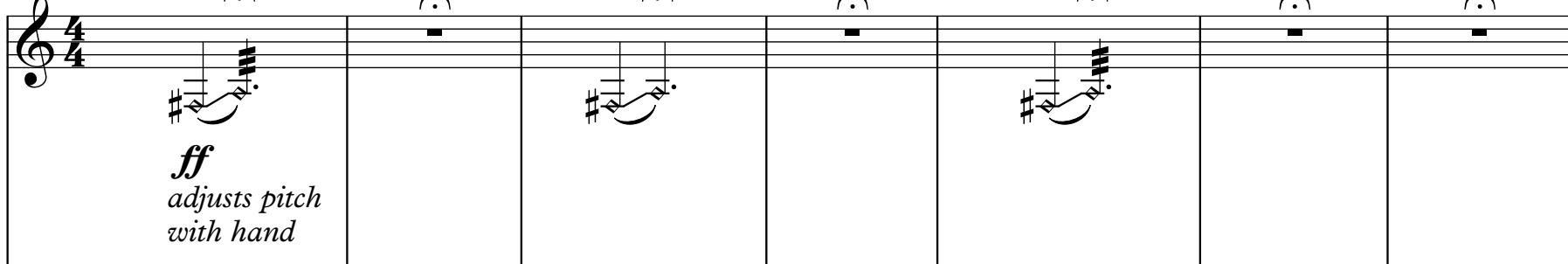
Measure 7:

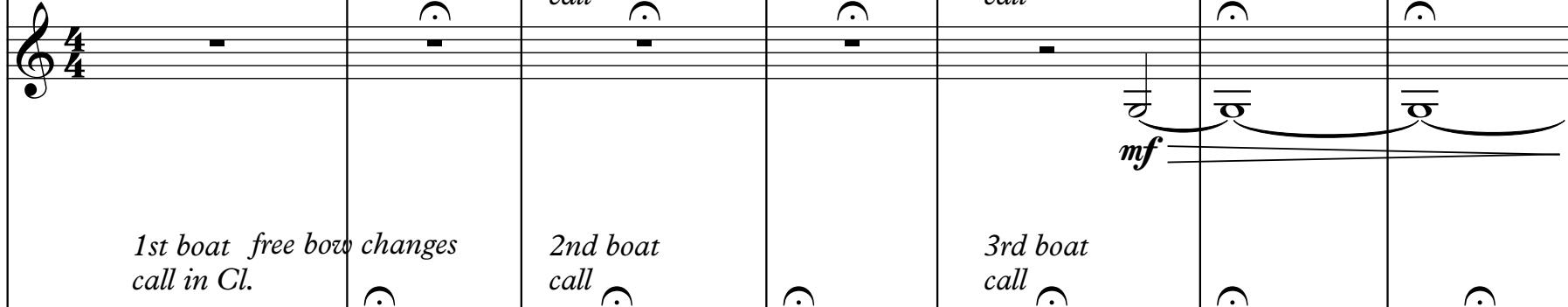
- Cl.**: Rests.
- Vln.**: Dynamics *p*, eighth-note pairs connected by a curved line.
- Vla.**: Dynamics *p*, sustained notes with a wavy line under them.
- Vc.**: Dynamics *p*, eighth-note pairs connected by a curved line.

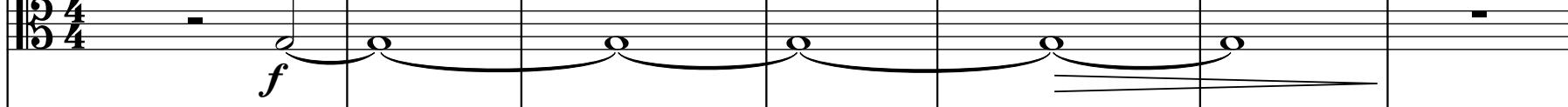
A**Wading through bird calls** $\text{♩} = 90$

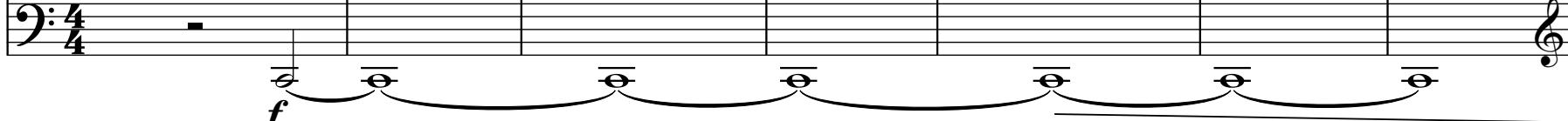
*blow air into lower joint,
sound akin to boat horn*

12

Cl. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

ff
*adjusts pitch
with hand*

1st boat call in Cl.

2nd boat call

3rd boat call

*ad lib.
enter*

*1st boat free bow changes
call in Cl.*

2nd boat call

3rd boat call

f

*1st boat free bow changes
call in Cl.*

2nd boat call

3rd boat call

(a tempo $\text{♩} = 90$)

19

Cl. *vla, cello enters*

Vln. (a tempo) *vla, cello enters*

Vla. *4th boat call*

Vc. *5th boat call*

like ripples on water

4th boat call

5th boat call

like ripples on water

mf

ppp

pp

4th boat call

5th boat call

pp

4th boat call

5th boat call

10

24

B *melody*

Cl.

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

violin cues
ord.

melody in Cl.

mf

melody in Cl.

p

mp

27

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

free bow changes

p

ord. 3 5

pp

V

pp

This musical score page contains four staves for string instruments. The top staff is for the Clarinet (Cl.), the second for the Violin (Vln.), the third for the Viola (Vla.), and the bottom for the Cello/Bass (Vc.). Measure 27 begins with a sustained note on the Clarinet. The Violin provides rhythmic support with a sixteenth-note pattern. The Viola and Cello play harmonic notes. Measures 28-29 feature the Violin with eighth-note patterns and dynamic instructions 'free bow changes' and 'pp'. The Viola and Cello maintain harmonic stability. Measures 30-31 show the Cello/Bass with eighth-note patterns and dynamic 'p'. The Viola and Cello continue to provide harmonic support. Measures 32-33 show the Cello/Bass with eighth-note patterns and dynamic 'V'. The Viola and Cello maintain harmonic support throughout.

12

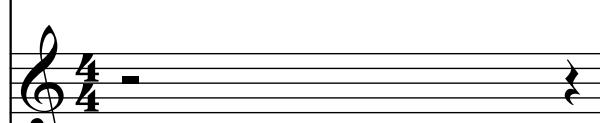
keys flutter

30

Cl.

*mf**mp*

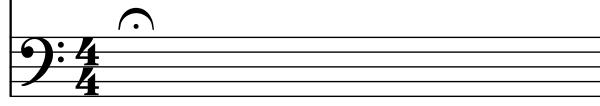
Vln.

*mf**near the bridge*

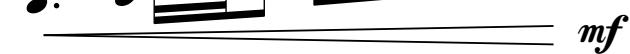
Vla.

*free bow changes*

Vc.



3

*mf*

33

Cl.

f

mf

Vln.

6

6

5

pizz.

Vla.

mf

Vc.

pizz.

mf

13

This musical score page contains four staves, each representing a different instrument: Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (Vc.).

- Clarinet (Cl.):** Starts with a dynamic *f*. The first measure ends with a fermata. The second measure begins with a dynamic *mf*.
- Violin (Vln.):** Features sixteenth-note patterns with up-down bowing indicated by arrows. Measure 6 ends with a fermata. Measure 5 begins with a dynamic *pizz.* (pizzicato).
- Viola (Vla.):** Shows eighth-note patterns with slurs. A dynamic *mf* is marked over the first two measures of this staff.
- Cello (Vc.):** Shows eighth-note patterns with slurs. Measures 8 and 9 begin with dynamic *pizz.* Measure 9 ends with a dynamic *mf* and a 3/8 time signature.

The page number 13 is located in the top right corner.

14

36 (tr) ~~~

Cl.

birds chirping

f

arco

tr ~~~

Vln.

birds chirping

f

Vla.

f

arco

Vc.

f

The musical score consists of four staves, each representing a different string instrument: Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello/Bass (Vc.). The score is numbered 14 at the top left. Measure 36 begins with a trill on the Clarinet staff, indicated by '(tr)' and three wavy lines above the notes. The Violin staff has 'arco' and a sharp sign (#) above it, with a trill indicated by 'tr' and three wavy lines. The Viola staff has a sharp sign (#) above it. The Cello/Bass staff has 'arco' above it. The tempo is marked '36'. The dynamic is 'f' (fortissimo). The Violin and Viola staves both have eighth-note patterns labeled 'birds chirping' with a bracket above them. The Viola staff also has a '3/4' time signature. The Cello/Bass staff has a '3' below it, indicating a triplet. The dynamic 'f' is also present under the Cello/Bass staff.

39

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

f

mf

This musical score page features four staves for string instruments. The first staff (Clarinet) has a treble clef and includes measure numbers 39 and 6 above the staff. The second staff (Violin) has a treble clef and includes dynamic markings *f* and *mf*. The third staff (Viola) has a bass clef. The fourth staff (Cello) has a bass clef. Measures 39 and 40 show various note patterns, including sixteenth-note figures and sustained notes with grace notes. Measure 40 concludes with a long sustained note on the Cello staff.

43

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mp

tr

mf

p

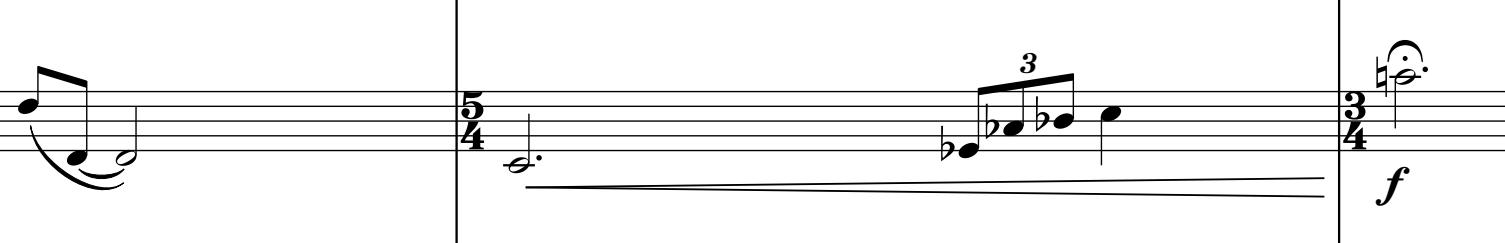
p

cue
everyone

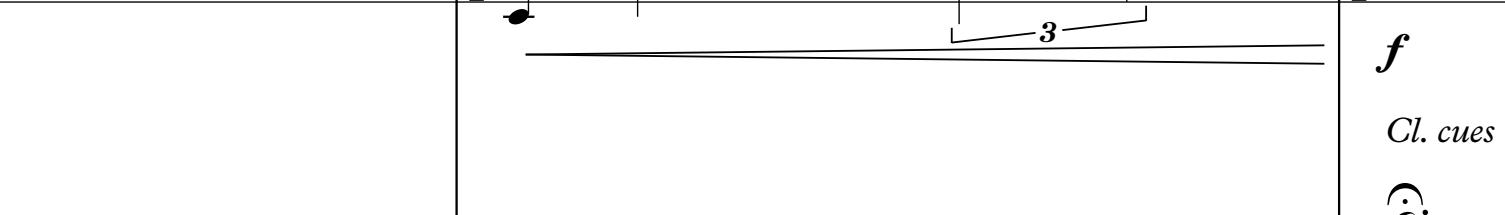
espressivo

48

C1. 

Vln. 

Vla. 

Vc. 

C Water Cradle
(a tempo ♩ = 90)

51 *retake*

Cl. *mf* — *p*

Vln. *mp*

Vla. *p* — 3 — *p*

Vc. *p*

lilting
retake

gentle

lilting
retake

lilting
retake

pp

56

Cl. *mf*

Vln. - *p* *6* *mf*

Vla. *p* (—) *6* *mf* *5*

Vc. *pizz.* *pp* — *mf*

3 ♯ *5* *4*

5 *4*

5 *4*

5 *4*

5 *4*

This musical score page shows four staves of music for orchestra. The top staff is for Clarinet (C1), the second for Violin (Vln.), the third for Viola (Vla.), and the bottom for Cello (Vc.). The measure number 56 is at the top left. The Clarinet has a sustained note with a dynamic *mf*. The Violin plays sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *p* and *mf*, and a tempo marking *6*. The Viola also has sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *p* and *mf*, and a tempo marking *6*. The Cello plays eighth-note patterns with dynamics *pp* and *mf*. The score includes time signature changes: 3, 5, and 4. Articulations include trills and slurs. Measure 56 ends with a melodic line from the Clarinet.

Musical score for Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (Vc.) at measure 60.

Cl. (Clarinet):
Measure 60: $\frac{5}{4}$, dynamic *mp*. Measures 61-62: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *mf*, trill over two notes.
Measure 63: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *f*, slurs over three groups of three notes each.

Vln. (Violin):
Measure 60: $\frac{5}{4}$, dynamic *#f*, sixteenth-note pattern.
Measure 61: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *p*, eighth-note pattern.
Measure 62: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *f*, eighth-note pattern.
Measure 63: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *f*, eighth-note pattern.

Vla. (Viola):
Measure 60: $\frac{5}{4}$, dynamic *#f*, sixteenth-note pattern.
Measure 61: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *p*, eighth-note pattern.
Measure 62: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *f*, eighth-note pattern.
Measure 63: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *f*, eighth-note pattern.

Vc. (Cello):
Measure 60: $\frac{5}{4}$, dynamic *arco*, eighth-note pattern.
Measure 61: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *p*, eighth-note pattern.
Measure 62: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *f*, eighth-note pattern.
Measure 63: $\frac{3}{4}$, dynamic *f*, eighth-note pattern.

65

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

poco cresc.

accompanying

5

mp

passionate

mf

passionate

mf

passionate

mf

This musical score page features four staves for string instruments: Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello/Bass (Vc.). The music is divided into four systems by vertical bar lines. The first system begins at measure 65 with the Clarinet playing eighth-note patterns. The second system starts with a dynamic instruction 'poco cresc.' followed by a melodic line. The third system begins with a dynamic 'accompanying' and includes a measure labeled '5' with a dynamic 'mp'. The fourth system starts with a dynamic 'passionate' and includes measures with dynamics 'mf' and 'passionate'. The score uses standard musical notation with stems, beams, and rests. Measure numbers 65, 5, and 7 are indicated above the staff lines. Articulation marks like dots and dashes are also present.

Musical score for strings (Cl., Vln., Vla., Vc.) showing measures 68 through 72.

Measure 68: Clarinet (Cl.) plays a sixteenth-note pattern in 7/4 time. Measures 68 and 69 are grouped by a brace under the first two measures. Measure 69 starts with a measure repeat sign.

Measure 70: Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) play eighth-note patterns in 7/4 time. Measures 70 and 71 are grouped by a brace under the first two measures. Measure 71 starts with a measure repeat sign.

Measure 72: Cello (Vc.) plays eighth-note patterns in 7/4 time. Measures 72 and 73 are grouped by a brace under the first two measures. Measure 73 starts with a measure repeat sign.

Performance Instructions:

- Measure 68:** Measure number 68 above the staff.
- Measure 69:** Measure number 69 above the staff.
- Measure 70:** Measure number 70 above the staff.
- Measure 71:** Measure number 71 above the staff.
- Measure 72:** Measure number 72 above the staff.
- Measure 73:** Measure number 73 above the staff.

Tempo and Dynamics:

- Measure 68:** Measure 68 above the staff.
- Measure 69:** Measure 69 above the staff.
- Measure 70:** Measure number 70 above the staff.
- Measure 71:** Measure number 71 above the staff.
- Measure 72:** Measure number 72 above the staff.
- Measure 73:** Measure number 73 above the staff.

Measure 70: *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic instruction.

Measure 71: Measure 71 above the staff.

Measure 72: Measure 72 above the staff.

Measure 73: Measure 73 above the staff.

71

Cl. (mf) 6 3 ff tr. 6g

Vln. (mf) ff 6g

Vla. (mf) ff 6g

Vc. (mf) ff 6g

This musical score page features four staves: Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello/Bass (Vc.). The music begins with a dynamic of (mf). The first measure shows the Clarinet playing eighth-note patterns. The Violin, Viola, and Cello provide harmonic support with sustained notes and eighth-note patterns. Measures 2 and 3 continue this pattern. Measure 4 introduces a melodic line for the Clarinet with sixteenth-note figures. Measures 5 and 6 show the Violin and Viola taking turns with eighth-note patterns. Measures 7 and 8 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 9 and 10 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 11 and 12 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 13 and 14 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 15 and 16 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 17 and 18 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 19 and 20 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 21 and 22 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 23 and 24 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 25 and 26 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 27 and 28 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 29 and 30 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 31 and 32 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 33 and 34 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 35 and 36 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 37 and 38 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 39 and 40 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 41 and 42 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 43 and 44 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 45 and 46 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 47 and 48 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 49 and 50 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 51 and 52 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 53 and 54 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 55 and 56 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 57 and 58 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 59 and 60 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 61 and 62 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 63 and 64 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 65 and 66 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 67 and 68 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 69 and 70 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 71 and 72 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 73 and 74 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 75 and 76 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 77 and 78 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 79 and 80 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 81 and 82 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 83 and 84 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 85 and 86 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 87 and 88 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 89 and 90 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 91 and 92 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 93 and 94 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet. Measures 95 and 96 show the Violin and Viola taking turns. Measures 97 and 98 feature the Cello and Bass providing harmonic support. Measures 99 and 100 continue the melodic line for the Clarinet.

77

D

C1. $\begin{smallmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}$ - *mf*

Vln. $\begin{smallmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}$ - *mf*

Vla. $\begin{smallmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}$ - *mf*

Vc. $\begin{smallmatrix} 6 \\ 8 \end{smallmatrix}$ - *mf*

leggiero

3

p

3

p

p

This musical score page shows a section for four string instruments: Clarinet (C1.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello/Bass (Vc.). The music is in 6/8 time. Measure 77 starts with a dynamic marking 'mf' for both C1. and Vln. The Vln. part consists of sixteenth-note patterns with grace notes. The Vla. part has eighth-note patterns. The Vc. part has eighth-note patterns. Measure 78 begins with a dynamic marking 'leggiero' for Vla. and Vc. The Vln. part continues with sixteenth-note patterns. The Vla. part has eighth-note patterns. The Vc. part has eighth-note patterns. Measures 79 and 80 show continuous sixteenth-note patterns for all four instruments, with dynamics 'p' indicated at the end of measure 79. Measure 81 concludes with sixteenth-note patterns for all instruments.

Musical score for Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello (Vc.) at measure 82.

The score consists of four staves:

- Clarinet (Cl.):** Playing sixteenth-note patterns. Dynamics: *tr*, *mf*, *mp*, *p*.
- Violin (Vln.):** Playing eighth-note patterns. Dynamics: *p*.
- Viola (Vla.):** Playing eighth-note patterns. Dynamics: *pp*.
- Cello (Vc.):** Playing eighth-note patterns. Dynamics: *pp*.

Measure 82 starts with a common time signature. It then changes to $\frac{5}{8}$ for the first half of the measure, followed by $\frac{3}{4}$ for the second half. The score concludes with a return to $\frac{6}{8}$ time.

87

Cl. *mp*

Vln.

Vla. *sforzando*

Vc. *mf*

3

5 8 3 5

mf

tr.

5 8 3 5

mf

5 8 3 5

mf

5 8 3 5

This musical score page contains four staves of musical notation for an orchestra. The instruments are Clarinet (Cl.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello/Bass (Vc.). The score is numbered 26 at the top left. Measure 87 begins with the Clarinet in treble clef, starting with a melodic line and grace notes, marked 'mp'. The Violin follows with a similar melodic line. The Viola part is marked with a strong 'sforzando' dynamic. The Cello/Bass part provides harmonic support. The music features changing time signatures: 3, 5, 8, 3, 5. Dynamics include 'mf', 'p', and 'tr.' (trill). The score concludes with a dynamic 'mf'.

93 *tender*

Cl. *p*

Vln. *tender*

Vla. *pulsating*

Vc. *pulsating*

This musical score extract shows four staves of music for orchestra. The top two staves are for Clarinet (Cl.) and Violin (Vln.), both in 5/8 time. The Clarinet part is labeled 'tender' and includes a dynamic marking 'p'. The bottom two staves are for Viola (Vla.) and Cello (Vc.), also in 5/8 time. The Viola part is labeled 'pulsating' and includes a dynamic marking 'p'. The Cello part is also labeled 'pulsating' and includes a dynamic marking 'p'. The music consists of several measures of rhythmic patterns, primarily eighth-note figures, with various slurs and grace notes.

28

espressivo

99

C1

mf

ff

Vln.

mf

mf

espressivo

Vla.

mf

espressivo

Vc.

mf

espressivo

▼

1

1

1

103

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

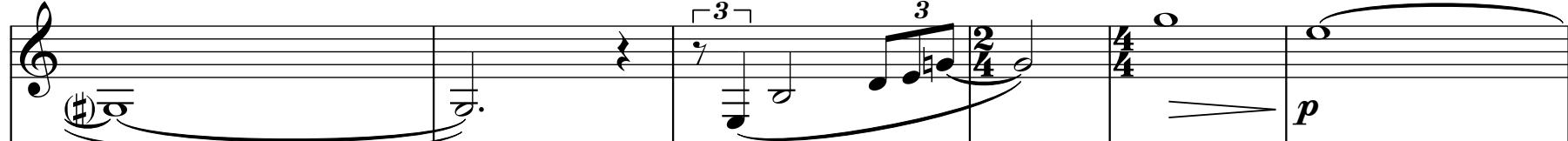
free bow changes

This musical score page contains four staves for string instruments. The top staff is for the Clarinet (Cl.), the second for the Violin (Vln.), the third for the Viola (Vla.), and the bottom for the Cello/Bass (Vc.). Measure 103 begins with a dynamic of 103. The Clarinet and Violin play eighth-note patterns with grace notes. The Viola and Cello provide harmonic support. Measure 104 begins with a dynamic of ff. The Violin continues its pattern, while the Viola and Cello play sustained notes. The Cello part includes a instruction for 'free bow changes'.

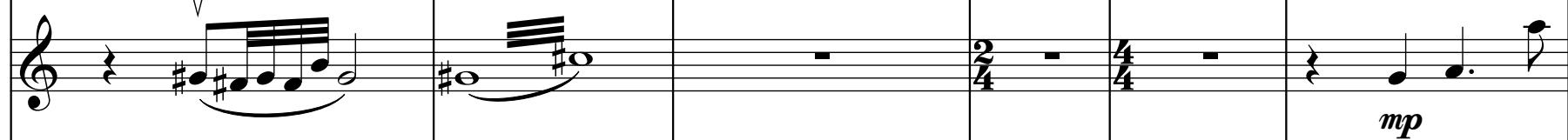
30

107

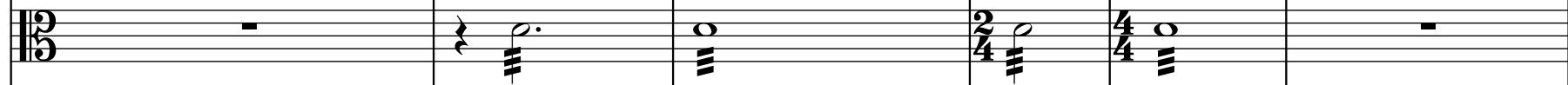
Cl.



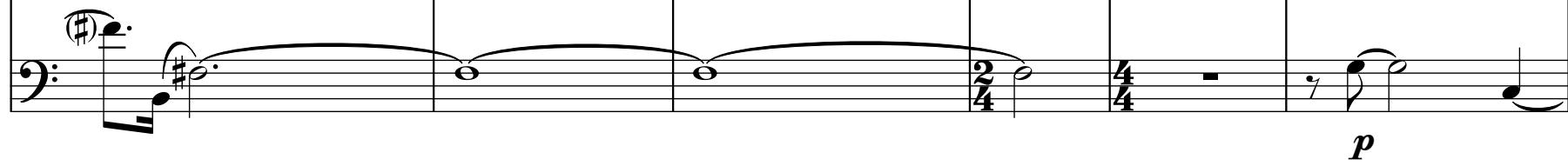
Vln.



Vla.



Vc.



113

C1.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

with cello

tr

mp

with violin

pp

free bow changes

mf

$\frac{6}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{6}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{6}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

This musical score page shows a section for strings starting at measure 113. The instrumentation includes Clarinet (C1.), Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), and Cello/Bassoon (Vc.). The Violin part has a dynamic of *mp* and includes a trill instruction. The Viola part has a dynamic of *mp*. The Cello/Bassoon part has a dynamic of *pp* and includes a 'with violin' instruction. The score features a mix of common time (4/4) and 6/4 time signatures. Measure 113 ends with a repeat sign and begins a new section starting at measure 114.

118

C1.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

*free bow changes
tender*

mf

mp

The musical score consists of four staves: Clarinet (C1.), Violin (Vln.), Double Bassoon (Vla.), and Cello (Vc.). The time signature is 4/4 throughout. Measure 118 begins with a rest followed by a measure of rests. The second measure starts with a fermata over a note, followed by a sixteenth-note pattern with grace notes and a dynamic marking of f° . The third measure contains a single note with a fermata and a dynamic marking of Ω . Measures 119 and 120 are entirely rests. Measure 121 begins with a fermata over a note, followed by a sixteenth-note pattern with grace notes and a dynamic marking of f° . The Vln. staff includes the instruction "free bow changes" and "tender". The Vln., Vla., and Vc. staves include dynamic markings: *mf*, *mp*, and Ω .

124

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

niente

keys flutter

niente

niente

niente

124

Cl.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

niente

keys flutter

niente

niente

niente