

This score is for perusal purposes only.

TO MY MOTHER, DORIS B. FORSYTH
(December 15, 1900 - February 12, 1986)

Malcolm Forsyth
SERENADE
for Strings
1985-6

COMMISSIONED by CBC RADIO

for the "AMADEUS" ENSEMBLE of TORONTO

Premièred by them on May 18, 1986

SERENADE for STRINGS

Malcolm Forsyth

1. Serenely , poised; light and singing
2. Ethereal, rapturous
3. Delicate, but with verve and strongly marked

The work was commissioned by the CBC for the Amadeus Ensemble of Toronto (Moshe Hammer, leader), and is scored for twelve string players, each with an individual part. It was written between June 1985 and February 1986.

The first movement was written after hearing Dvorák's twelve "Cypresses" for strings and endeavours to capture their mood of quiet and peace.

On the theme of stylistic echoes, the second movement is a deliberate evocation of the idiom of the Frenchman Olivier Messiaen. The solo violin begins with a sinuous theme, accompanied by an undulating chordal texture. Embedded in the form is a fugal exposition featuring four soloists, in order, principal violin, principal second, viola and finally cello.

The finale harkens to Forsyth's energetic, rhythmic style. A humorous contest emerges about midway through, as the solo violin and solo viola embark on a pyrotechnic display which takes them to the limit of their agility in harmonics, double-stops and even the rarely used double-stopped unisons, which exploit a savagely dissonant effect.

The Serenade lasts about thirteen minutes. It bears a dedication to the composer's mother, who died a few days after its completion.

1985-6

I

C

Violins

Violas (2)

V'celli (2)

C'bass (1)



1

28

div.

mp

unis.

pp

mp

pp

div.

pp

[illegible]

42

div. *p*

mp *mf* *pp*

pizz. *pp*

unis.

49

mp *p* *mf* *f*

unis. *mp* *div.* *mf* *f*

mf *arco* *pizz.*

mf

D

56

f *mf* *mp* *mf* *unis.* *mf*

p *mf* *p* *mf*

f *p*

[illegible]

70

mp

mf

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

mp

pizz

p

mf

p

77

p

mp

mp alla corda

mf

p

mp alla corda

mf

p

mf

84

8

f *sim.* *mf*

This system contains measures 84 through 90. It features a piano accompaniment with a complex texture of chords and moving lines in both hands. The right hand has a melodic line with some grace notes. Dynamics include *f* (forte), *sim.* (sostenuto), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). A crescendo hairpin is visible in the right hand.

91

8

mf *pp* *p*

This system contains measures 91 through 97. The piano part continues with sustained chords and moving bass lines. The right hand has a more active melodic line. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte), *pp* (pianissimo), and *p* (piano). A crescendo hairpin is in the right hand, and a decrescendo hairpin is in the left hand.

98

2 Soli

p *mf* *pizz.* *p*

This system contains measures 98 through 104. It begins with a section marked "2 Soli" for the right hand. The piano part has a more active bass line. Dynamics include *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *pizz.* (pizzicato), and *p* (piano). A crescendo hairpin is in the right hand, and a decrescendo hairpin is in the left hand.

105

pp

mf

p

pizz.

mp

pp

Solo

f

à3

p

119
p o c o . . . (♩ = 60)

This block contains measures 119 through 124 of the musical score. Measure 119 is marked 'Solo' and 'p' (piano). The tempo is indicated as 'p o c o . . . (♩ = 60)'. The music features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with various musical notations including slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

(126) (Solo) *Stentato* *tutti* 1.2. *div.* *accel.* **H** Tempo I *div.* VI

dim. *pp* 3.4. *mp* *div. à 3* *p* *pp*

dim. *pp* *tutti* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *pp*

dim. *pp* *tutti* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *pp*

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

(133) *mp* *unis.* *div.*

pp *mp* *pp* *p*

(140) *pp* *mp* *unis.* *pp* *p*

mp *pp* *div.* *mp* *p*

pp

(147) *div. à 4* *pp* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

pp *mf* *mf* *p* *mf*

162

mp

div.

p

mp

p

p

arco

mp

Musical score for "Rhapsody in Blue" by George Gershwin, featuring piano and violin parts. The score includes dynamic markings like *pp*, *p*, *mp*, and *pizz.*, and performance instructions like "Solo" and "arco".

Edmonton.
Sketch started 18 vi 85
Completed 15 i 86

4'15"

II

4
4 Ethereal, rapturous (♩ = 50, but not strict)

1. *espressivo*

Violins

I
2.3. div. con sord. *mp* *mf* *pp*

4. con sord. *mp* *mf* *pp*

1. con sord. *mp* *mf* *pp*

Violas

II
2.3. div. con sord. *mp* *mf* *pp*

con sord. *mp* *mf* *pp*

con sord. *mp* *mf* *pp*

V'celli

C'bass

Violins

I
dim. *mf* *mp* *pp* *f* *p*

cresc. *mf* *mp* *pp* *f* *p*

Violas

II
cresc. *mf* *mp* *pp* *f* *p*

cresc. *mf* *mp* *pp* *f* *p*

Va

cresc. *mf* *mp* *pp* *f* *p*

cresc. *mf* *mp* *pp* *f* *p*

10

I

II

Va

pp *mf* *p*

mp *pp* *senza sord.* *Solo* *f espress.* *dim.*

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

pizz. *mp* *mp* *p* *mp*

mp

15

Rit. *Tempo*

I

II

Va

dim. *mp* *mf* *f*

dim. *mp* *mf* *f*

dim. *div.* *mp* *mf*

mf *p* *pp* *mp*

mp *p* *pp* *mp*

19

I

II

Va

cresc.

f

senza sord.

mf

Solo

f espress.

mf

mf

mf

23

poco stringendo

I

II

Va

pizz.

arco

f

f

f

f

27

B

Tempo

I

II

Va

Vc

pesante

dolce

mp

sost.

Solo pesante

f espress.

pizz.

ff

pizz.

ff

31

I

II

Va

Vc

p

pp senza vibrato

con sord.

mp con vibrato

con sord.

pp

con vibrato

pp

con sord.

pp senza vibrato

div. pizz.

mp

unis.

con sord.

con sord.

pp senza vibrato

con sord.

mp con vibrato

pp

pp senza vibrato

arco

p

pizz.

mp

con sord.

con sord.

arco

mp

pizz.

mp

con sord.

[illegible][illegible]

Sketched
 18 vi 85
Completed
 22 i 86

3'50"

III

4 Delicate, but with verve and strongly marked (♩ = 112)

4

Violins I *f strong*

Violins II *f strong*

Violas *pizz.* *Div. f strong* *pizz.*

V'cellos *pizz.* *f strong*

Dbl Bass *pizz.*

stacc.sec.

sim.

sim.

sim.

6

Violins I

Violins II

Va *sempre non div.*

Vc *sempre non div.*

Db *sempre non div.*

arco *pizz.*

arco *pizz.*

arco *pizz.*

11

Violins I *mp*

Violins II *mp*

Va *mp*

Vc *mp*

Db *mp*

arco *pizz.*

arco *pizz.*

arco *pizz.*

[illegible][illegible]A musical score for five instruments: Violin I (I), Violin II (II), Viola (Va), Violoncello (Vc), and Double Bass (Db). The score is written in treble clef for Violins and Viola, and bass clef for Cello and Double Bass. It features various musical notations including notes, rests, accidentals, and dynamic markings such as *p*, *mf*, *f*, *ff*. Performance instructions like *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *arco* (arco) are present for the lower strings. A large diagonal watermark reading "this" is overlaid across the entire page.

31 *unis. (>) poco marc.*

I *mp lyrical*

II *arco p*

Va *unis. mp*

Vc *pizz. arco p*

Db *pizz. arco p*

36 *mp*

II *div. p*

Va *p*

Vc *mp*

Db *mp*

41 *mp*

II *div. p*

Va *p*

Vc *p*

Db *p*

46

I *mf* *div.* *unis.* *f* *mf* *div.*

II *mf* *div.* *mf* *f* *mf*

Va *div.* *mf* *f* *mf* *unis.* *mf*

Vc *pizz.* *arco* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco*

Db *pizz.* *arco* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco*

51

I *unis.* **B** *ff* *pizz., non div.*

II *ff* *pizz., non div.*

Va *ff* *pizz., non div.*

Vc *pizz.* *arco* *div.* *ff* *pizz.* *arco*

Db *pizz.* *arco* *ff* *pizz.* *arco*

56 (div.)

solo

mf

gli altri

div., pizz.

mf

arco

Solo

div., pizz.

mf

arco

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

Db

p

60

solo

I

g. a.

arco

ff

pizz., div.

div.

p

II

g. a.

pizz.

ff

unis.

tutti, pizz.

ff

div.

p

Va

arco

ff

pizz.

p

Vc

arco

ff

pizz.

p

Db

arco

ff

pizz.

p

64

solo

I

g.a.

unis: arco

II

unis

Va

unis

arco

Vc

arco

Db

arco

ff

mf

p

mf

p

mp

pizz.

p

pizz.

pizz.

III— II— III—

68

I

II

Va

Vc

Db

unis.

mp

f

mp

tutti

div.

mp

mf

mf

mf

unis. arco (> poco marc.

mp lyrical

(pizz.)

72

I

II

Va

Vc

Db

f

mp

f

mp

mf

f

mp

mf

f

mp

mf

f

mp

[illegible]

87 D (>) poco marc.

unis. arco *mp* lyrical

II unis. arco *p* leggero

Va arco *p* leggero

Vc

Db *p*

91

I

II *p*

Va *p*

Vc

Db

95

I

II *p*

Va *p*

Vc *p*

Db

A musical score for the song 'The Rose Tree'. The score is written on five staves. The first staff is for the vocal melody, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The second staff is for the piano accompaniment, starting with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *p* (piano). A large, semi-transparent watermark reading 'Sample Only' is overlaid diagonally across the entire page.

A musical score for the song 'The Rose Tree'. The score is written for a piano and voice. The piano part is in the lower staves, and the voice part is in the upper staves. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *p* (piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The lyrics 'The Rose Tree' are written below the piano part.

107

I
solo

II

[illegible]

123

I

II

Va
solo

Vc

Db

pizz. arco pizz. arco

mp

arco

mp

f

f

ff

ff

127

I

II

Va
tutti

Vc

Db

p

div.

mp

p

div.

mp

mp lyrical

poco marc.

mp

pizz.

div.

pizz.

mp

139

I

II

Va

Vc

Db

f

ff

unis.

[illegible]

Allargando e Pesante

Edmonton
Feb 3, '86

4'45"

Total 12'50"