

Wandering Worlds

*A piece for String Quartet
in 3 movements*

Aidan Gold

Notation

 = niente

 = the sharpened note lowered by a quarter tone.

 = the natural note lowered by a quarter tone.

 = the flat note lowered by a quarter tone.

 = the flat note raised by a quarter tone.

 = the natural note raised by a quarter tone.

 = the sharpened note raised by a quarter tone.

 = Bartok pizz.

sul tasto – ord. position – sul pont: these indicate bow position.

flautando – ord. pressure – scratch: these indicate bow pressure.

Score

Wandering Worlds

Movement I

Aidan Gold

Distant, as if floating aimlessly in space. $\text{♩} = 40$

Con sord. (for the entire movement)
molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Violin I ***pppp nearly inaudible***

Con sord. (for the entire movement)
molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Violin II ***pppp nearly inaudible***

Con sord. (for the entire movement)
molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Viola ***pppp nearly inaudible***

Con sord. (for the entire movement)
molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Cello ***pppp nearly inaudible***

Desolate. $\text{♩} = 50$.

(8^{va}) gradually change to $-$ $-\text{sul pont}$

Vln. I ***mp***

Vln. II ***mf***

Vla. ***p***

Vc. ***p*** bow on bridge

(gliss only harmonic) ***ord. position***

Vln. I ***sul pont***

Vln. II ***mp***

Vla. ***p***

Vc. ***pppp***

(gliss only harmonic)

Wandering Worlds

Distant, as if floating aimlessly in space. $\text{♩} = 40$

20 *trem. rit.*

Vln. I molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Vln. II **pppp**
molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Vla. **pppp**

Vc. molto sul tasto
tip of bow

pppp

Ominously. $\text{♩} = 75.$

25

Vln. I

Vln. II molto sul pont
sul G-----
(maintain interval)

Vla. ord. position

Vc. ord. position

pppp **p**

ppp **pp**

f > **ppp**

30

Vln. I molto sul pont
(maintain interval)

Vln. II **mp**

Vla. **pppp**

Vc. **ppp**

cresc. poco a poco

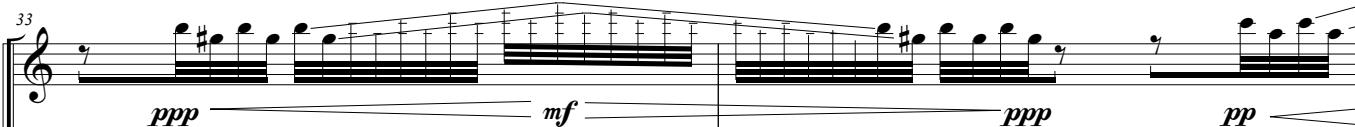
ppp **sul A-**

cresc. poco a poco

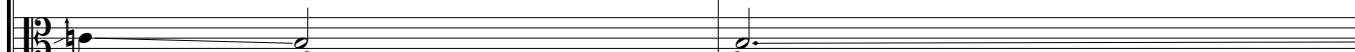
Wandering Worlds

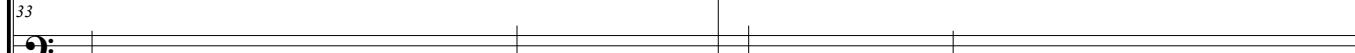
4

33

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

35

Vln. I 

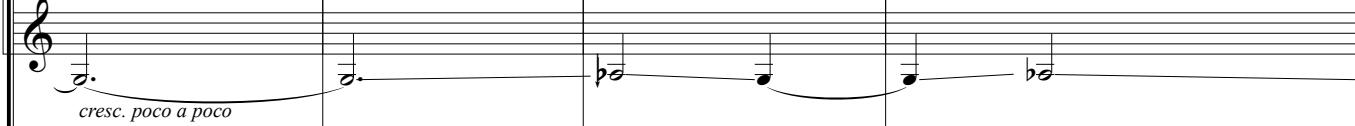
Vln. II 

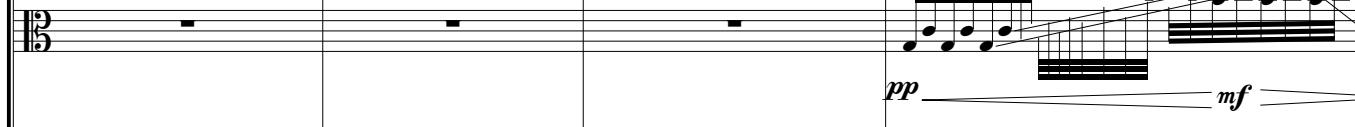
Vla. 

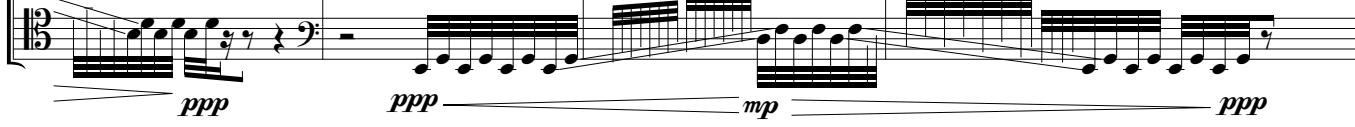
Vc. 

38

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Wandering Worlds

42

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

42

molto sul pont
move to... ord. position

45

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

move to...
sul A- molto sul pont
ord. position

45

48

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

move to...
sul A-
move to...
move to...
move to...

51

Vln. I molto sul pont

Vln. II move to - ord. position

Vla. move to - ord. position

Vc. molto sul pont

rit. Distant, as if floating aimlessly in space. $\text{♩} = 40$

55

Vln. I sul G- | molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Vln. II move to | tip of bow
molto sul tasto

Vla. move to | tip of bow
molto sul tasto

Vc. ord. position | move to | tip of bow
molto sul tasto

Wandering Worlds

FREE TIME (approx. 45 sec)

With otherworldly calm.

Vln. I 64 sul pont - - - - the bridge (just noise)  play at random intervals until end of line

Vln I Voi. 64 sing, using syllable 'ah',
in this octave if possible, otherwise in any octave

Vln. II 64 slow circular bowing
flautando continue until end of line

Vln II Voi. 64 repeat over and over, changing tempos randomly
and differently from the other players.

Vla. 64 sing, using syllable 'ah',
in this octave if possible, otherwise in any octave

Vla Voi. 64 gliss. around randomly, sempre tremolo

Vc. 64 repeat over and over, changing tempos randomly
and differently from the other players.

Vc Voi. 64 sing, using syllable 'ah',
in this octave if possible, otherwise in any octave

Distant, as if floating aimlessly in space. $\text{♩} = 40$

Vln. I 65 molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Vln. II 65 molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Vla. 65 pppp

Vc. 65 molto sul tasto
tip of bow

Stately, yet distant. $\text{♩} = 60.$ ord. position

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Wandering Worlds

9

rit.

Distant, as if floating aimlessly in space. = 40
tip of bow
molto sul tasto

Vln. I

Vln. II

VII

Vc

With shimmering lightness. ♩ = 80.

flautando
ord. position

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla

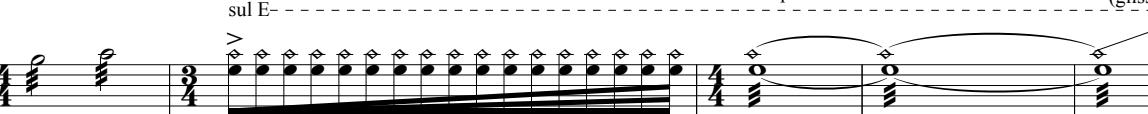
ppp ————— **f** $\emptyset \langle \text{ppp} \rangle \emptyset$

Poco più mosso. $\text{♩} = 60.$

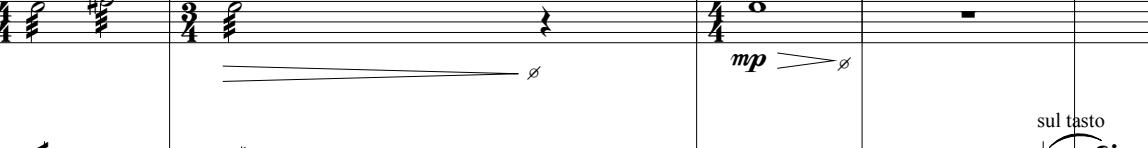
gradually change to

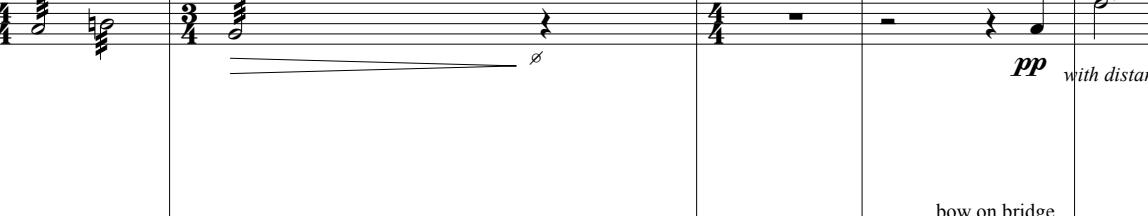
sul E - - - - - sul pont

(gloss only harmonic)

Vln. I 123 3 *mp* *ppp*


Vln. II 123 3 *ord. position*
 sul E - - - - - "pull" harmonic


Vla. 123 3 *mp* *sul tasto*
 pp with distant warmth


Vc. 123 3 *bow on bridge*
 p


Wandering Worlds

(gloss only harmonic)

Vln. I

128

sul pont
sul A-

(gloss both fingers)

Vln. II

128

ord. position
sul A- - - - "pull" harmonic

Vla.

128

Vc.

128



rit.

a tempo

flautando
sul tasto

8va

Vln. I

133

Vln. II

133

Vla.

133

Vc.

133

Score

Movement II

Aidan Gold

(harmonic gliss)

Senza sord.

sul D-----

Vivace ♩ = 148

Violin I Senza sord. pizz. *pp*

Violin II *mp* Senza sord. sul pont. *mf*

Viola *fp* cresc. *mf* *pp* Senza sord.

Cello *pp* driving

Vln. I 6 pizz. < *mp* > *pp* *mf* arco sul pont. *f*

Vln. II *fp* cresc. poco a poco cresc. poco a poco

Vla. *pp* cresc. poco a poco

Vc. *mf* *pp* cresc. poco a poco arco sul G-----

Vln. I II strummed very fast (harmonic gliss) sul D----- *mp* *p*

Vln. II *fp* ord. pos. *p* *mf* *p* ord. pos.

Vla. *fp* *pp* *mp* sul pont.

Vc. *f* *mf* dim. *pp* *mp* *ppp*

Wandering Worlds

28

Vln. I pizz. *fff* arco

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *f*

Vc. scratch tone *fff*

32

Vln. I *pizz.* *ff*

Vln. II *pizz.*

Vla. *fff*

Vc. normal pressure *ff* *mp* *ff*

36

Vln. I *pizz.* *ff*

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

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *sul C* *fp* *pp*

Wandering Worlds

40

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff *pp*

44 arco

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp *ff* *ff* *ff*

mf

bartok pizz *fff*

48

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

52

Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc.

pizz.
fff

56

Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc.

mf

mf 3 sul C -

mf sul C -

f

61

Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc.

ff 3 3 3 3

mf cresc. sul G -

ff 3 3 3 3

mf cresc. sul G -

ff 3 3 3 3

f cresc.

15

15

15

15

Wandering Worlds

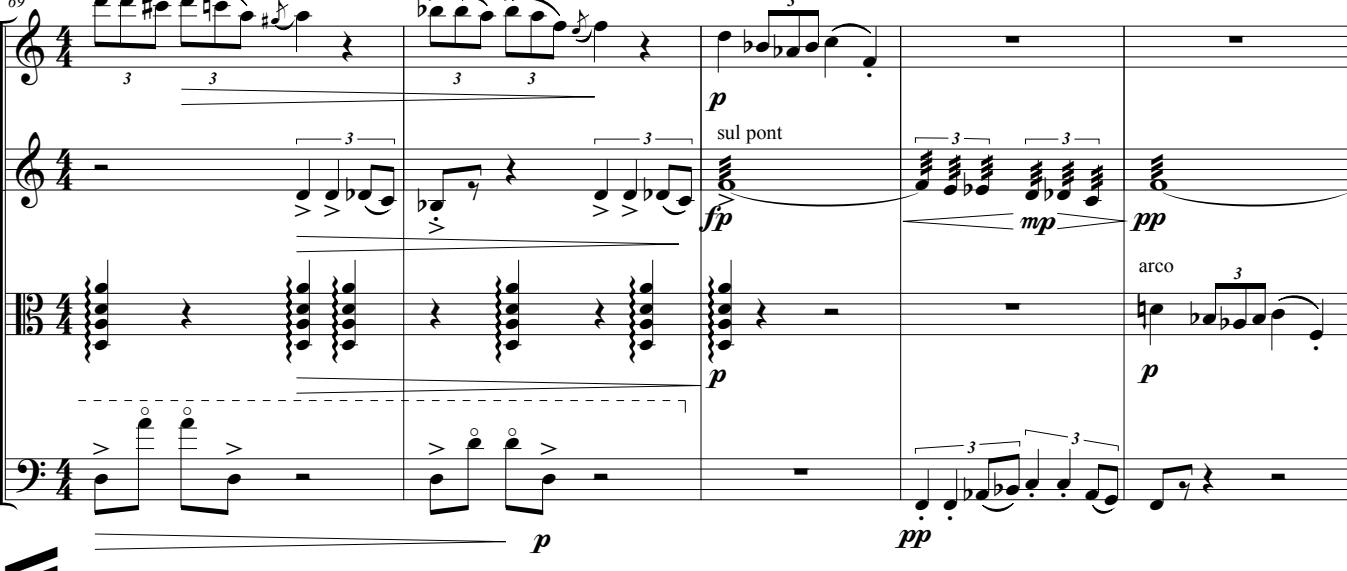
arco

65 Vln. I 

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

69 Vln. I 

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

74 Vln. I 

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Wandering Worlds

18

78

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ord. pos.

ff

ff

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(strummed up and down)

bartok pizz

ff

arco

ff

sul pont

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

strum down for accents, up for non-accents

stomp

stomp pizz.

strum down for accents, up for non-accents

sul G-----

fff*

stomp bartok pizz

fff*

stomp

Wandering Worlds

19

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

103

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p

extremely aggressive

106

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco extremely aggressive

fff

arco extremely aggressive

fff

extremely aggressive

scratch tone

Wandering Worlds

accel.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

normal pressure

scratch tone

normal pressure

scratch tone

move gradually to normal pressure

mf cresc. poco a poco

(♩ = 200) ♩ = 100. (♩ = ♩.) accel. ♩ = 215.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

molto sul pont

molto sul pont

molto sul pont

molto sul pont

Wandering Worlds

22

approx. 3 sec
repeat figure in box as fast as possible until end of line

Moderato. $\text{♩} = 96$.
bow strings beyond the bridge.
top note = highest string,
lowest note = lowest string, etc.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

129

**sul pont
arco**

fff
repeat figure in box as fast as possible until end of line

fff
repeat figure in box as fast as possible until end of line

fff
repeat figure in box as fast as possible until end of line

fff
repeat figure in box as fast as possible until end of line

132

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

pp

cresc. poco a poco

p

cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

col legno battuto
(always on open strings)
mute strings w/l.h.

f

138

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p

strummed very fast

7 **8** **3** **8**

7 **8** **3** **8**

7 **8** **3** **8**

7 **8** **3** **8**

Wandering Worlds

143

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ricochet (use whole bow)
...

ff

146

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf ff

mf f

149

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

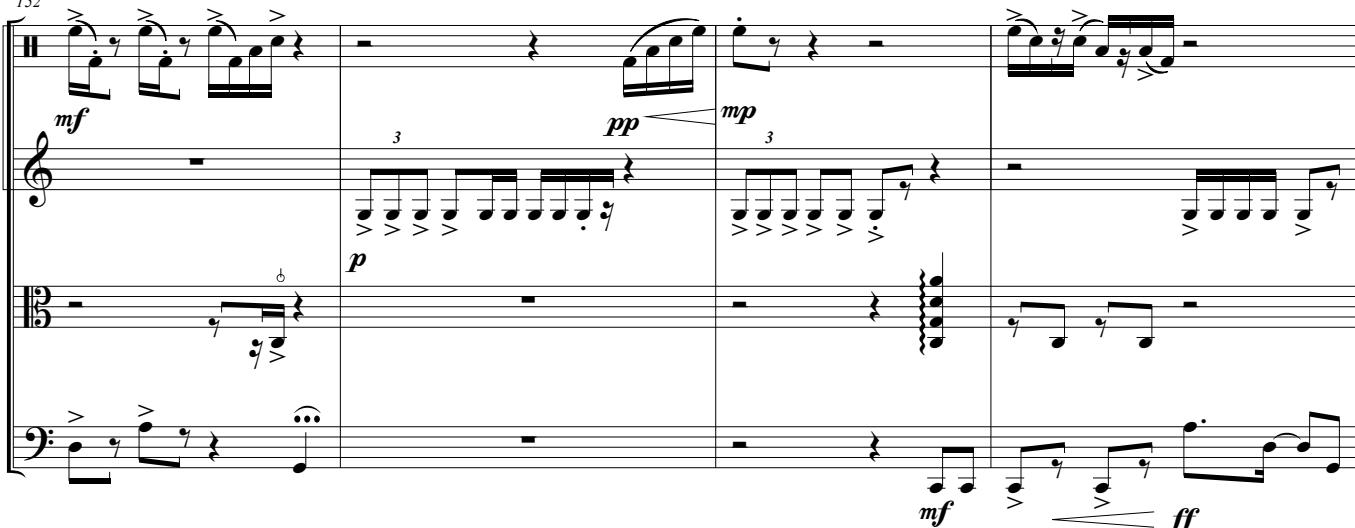
p

mf p cresc.

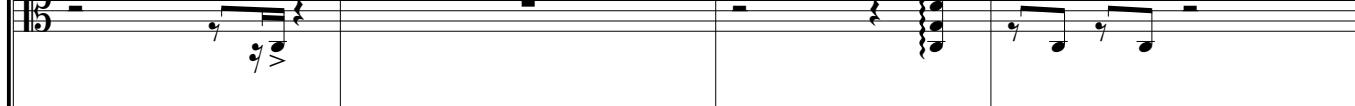
mp pp

ff mp f

152

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

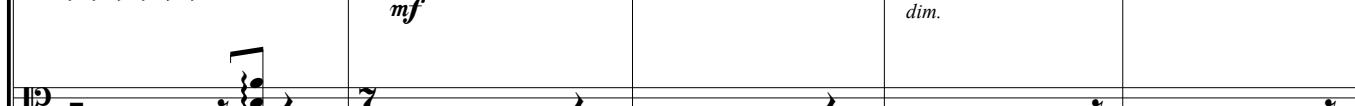
Vla. 

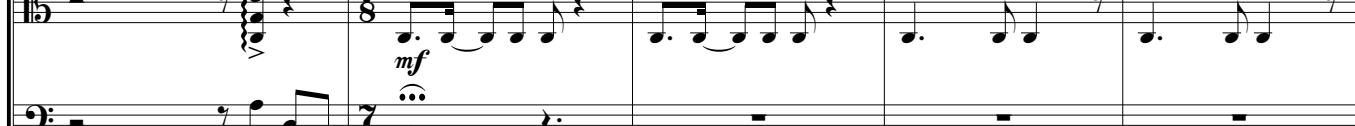
Vc. 

156

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

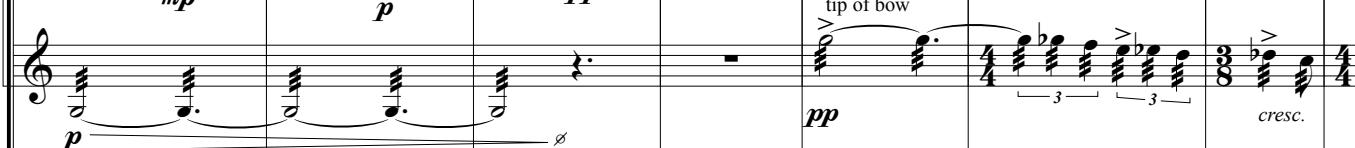
Vla. 

Vc. 

accel. - Vivace $\text{♩} = 148$

161

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

sul pont
tip of bow

cresc.

$\text{♩} = 148$

cresc. poco a poco

Wandering Worlds

168

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

173

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

play on normal strings

179

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Wandering Worlds

26

183

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sul A-----
sfz
8va-----
sfz
bartok pizz
sfz

186

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.
fff
f
arco
f

188

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff
f
ff
ff
ff

Wandering Worlds

191

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz.

ff

194

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

198

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

espress.

mf ff

f

rit.

202

Vln. I *dim. poco a poco*

Vln. II *f* *dim. poco a poco*

Vla.

Vc.

p *mf* *pp*

mf *pp* *mp*

a tempo

rit.

Largo. $\text{♩} = 45.$

arco

206

Vln. I *p* *pp* gradually reduce pressure

Vln. II *p* *dim. poco a poco*

Vla.

Vc.

ppp *flautando*

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

Adagio. ♩ = 60.

extravagant, forceful

accel

212

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

pizz.

f pizz.

f

pizz. molto vib.

f

mf

mf

mf

f

- (♩ = 160)

231

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

accel. - - -

fff

fff

fff

fff

234

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fff

237

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Wandering Worlds

(♩ = 180) or as fast as possible

240

8va

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sfs

rit.

play random notes incredibly fast in highest register
(*8va*)

243

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sfz

sfs

arco

ff

248

mp in the background

accel

poco

a

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

Wandering Worlds

32

poco

252

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. sul G- arco >

3

3

ff

3 *3* *3*

(♩ = 120)

256

Vln. I f

(strummed up and down)

Vln. II

Vla. *3* *3*

Vc. *3*

accel

poco

a

5

ff

poco

260

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *3*

Vc. *3*

poco

3

3 *3* *3*

Wandering Worlds

(♩ = 160)

263

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fff
arco

fff

fff

fff

265

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

accel.

poco

267

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

a

poco

269

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

271

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(♩ = 180) or as fast as possible

273

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Detailed description: The musical score consists of four staves representing a string quartet. The top two staves are for Violin I and Violin II, both in treble clef. The bottom two staves are for Cello and Double Bass, both in bass clef. The score is divided into three sections by vertical bar lines. The first section (measures 269-270) shows Violin I and Violin II playing eighth-note patterns. The second section (measures 271-272) shows Violin I and Violin II continuing their eighth-note patterns, while Cello and Double Bass enter with eighth-note patterns. The third section (measure 273) continues the eighth-note patterns for all four instruments. Measure numbers 269, 271, and 273 are indicated above the staves. A tempo marking '(♩ = 180) or as fast as possible' is placed between measures 271 and 273. Measures 269 and 271 begin with double bar lines.

Wandering Worlds

Moderato. $\text{♩} = 96.$

rit.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Adagio. $\text{♩} = 60.$

ord. pos.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Vivace $\text{♩} = 148$

violently

sempre *fff*

pizz.

arco

arco

sempre *fff*

rit.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

289

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p subito

accel.

293

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

cresc. poco a poco

p

cresc. poco a poco

arco

p cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

Presto. ♩ = 168.

298

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fff

fff

fff

fff

Repeat over and over, gradually accel. until
the material becomes unplayable, then play approximations
of the material and keep accelerating, until everything
disappears into an indecipherable blur of notes.

Then it should be possible to move smoothly without any
change in texture to the bar after the repeat.

move gradually to

gradually increase pressure

301

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.



304

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

**After playing the last note, freeze.
Do not move AT ALL until the first note
of the 3rd movement begins. Hold the silence
for about 20 seconds.**

play random notes as fast as possible
in high register until end of line
molto sul pont
scratch tone

approx. 5 sec

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

play random notes as fast as possible
in high register until end of line
molto sul pont
scratch tone

play random notes as fast as possible
in high register until end of line
molto sul pont
scratch tone

play random notes as fast as possible
in high register until end of line
molto sul pont
scratch tone

play random notes as fast as possible
in high register until end of line
molto sul pont
scratch tone

fff

ord. pos. normal pressure ▲

stomp

Score

Movement III

Aidan Gold

Molto Adagio. Deeply Felt. $\text{♩} = 25$

Violin I **pp** *molto express.* *cresc.*

Violin II **pp** *molto express.* *cresc.*

Viola **pp** *molto express.* *cresc.*

Cello

Vln. I **pp** *molto express.* *cresc.*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

poco port.

f

Poco piu mosso. $\text{♩} = 30$.

Vln. I **p** *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

Vln. II **p** *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

Vla. **p** *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

Vc. **p** *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

Wandering Worlds

(cue vla +vcl to change note on mf)

Vln. II Vla. Vc.

Vln. II Vla. Vc.

Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc.

(as fast as possible) move to - - - - -

pp with tip of bow sul pont

fff *sffz* -- *pp*

Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc.

poco a poco accel.

23

gradually begin pulsating

(♩ = 60)

accel.

Wandering Worlds

Vln. I

p cresc. poco a poco

mf cresc. ord. pos

Vln. II

ord. pos

Vla.

p cresc. poco a poco

mf cresc.

Vc.

p > **p** > **p** > **p** > **mp** > **mp** > **mp** > **mf** > **mf** > **mf** > **mf**



Moderato. ♩ = 95.

accel.

Vln. I

fp

mf growing steadily more aggressive

Vln. II

fp

f

Vla.

fp

f

Vc.

mf > **mf** > **f** cresc. **ff**



gradually move to

Vln. I

cresc.

Vln. II

∅

Vla.

∅

Vc.

∅

Wandering Worlds

43

Prestissimo. $\text{♩} = 208.$ Subito Tempo I. $\text{♩} = 25.$

molto sul pont

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

poco a poco accel.

Poco piu mosso. $\text{♩} = 30.$

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

lamentoso

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(gliss down E string to an unspecified point,
and then jump to the low Db as seamlessly as possible)

fff **ff sostenuto**

fff **ff sostenuto**

fff **ff sostenuto**

fff **ff sostenuto**

Wandering Worlds

rit.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

a tempo

subito **p** cresc. poco a poco

sul G- -----

subito **p** cresc. poco a poco

accel. -----

With increasing yearning and determination ♩ = 40.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

poco port. **ff** cresc. poco a poco

somewhat freely from the rest of the ensemble

3

poco port. **ff** cresc. poco a poco

3

poco port. **f** cresc. poco a poco

3

poco port. **f** cresc. poco a poco

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

3

3

3

3

rit.

73

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

74

Poco più mosso. $\text{♩} = 30$.

75

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

76

fff

77

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

NO gap at end of measure!

ff

78

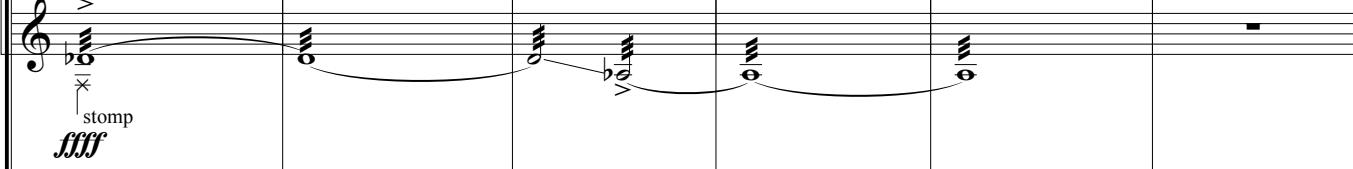
46 With tragic grandeur. $\text{♩} = 30.$

Wandering Worlds

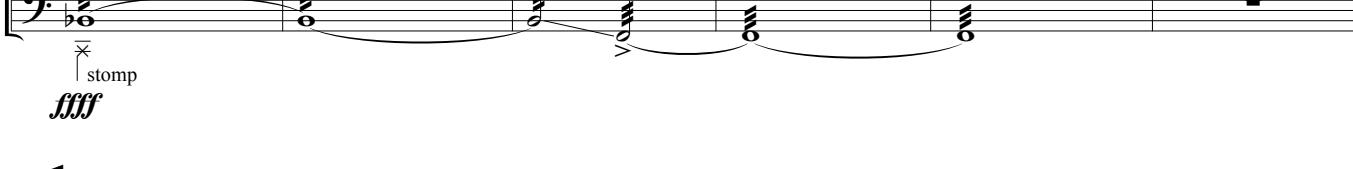
Piu mosso. $\text{♩} = 45.$

79 sul G- - - - - 1

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

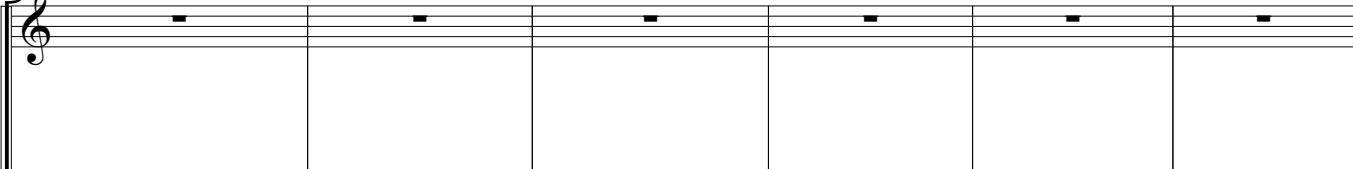
Vla. 

Vc. 



poco a poco rit.

85

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Tempo I. ♩ = 25.

91
 Vln. I ord. pos.
 Vln. II **pp** molto express.
 Vla. **pp** molto express.
 Vc. **pp** molto express.
 Con sord.
 ord. pos.

poco port.

94
 rit. a tempo
 Vln. I **pp** normal bow pressure
 Vln. II poco flautando
 Vla. dim. poco a poco
 Vc. **pp**

98
 rit. a tempo
 flautando normal bow pressure
 Vln. I move to. - - - - - sul tasto
 Vln. II dim. poco a poco **ppp**
 Vla. **pp** > **ppp**
 Vc. **pp** > **ppp**

a tempo
 molto flautando
 bow on bridge (no tone)
 bow on bridge (no tone)

molto flautando
 sul tasto

Wandering Worlds

Distant, as if floating aimlessly in space. $\text{♩} = 40.$ Con sord.
molto sul tasto

104

Vln. I

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

8va

ppp nearly inaudible
Con sord.
molto sul tasto

ppp nearly inaudible
Con sord.
molto sul tasto

pppp nearly inaudible
molto sul tasto

pppp nearly inaudible

III

rit.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Mysterious. $\text{♩} = 50.$

119

ord. pos

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord. pos

ppp molto espress.

ord. pos

ppp molto espress.

ord. pos

ppp

Slowly disappearing into the air...

gradually reduce bow pressure

dim poco a poco al fine

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

gradually reduce bow pressure

dim poco a poco al fine

(gradually harmonics stop speaking)
molto flautando

gradually reduce bow pressure

dim poco a poco al fine

gradually reduce bow pressure

dim poco a poco al fine



(gradually harmonics stop speaking)
molto flautando
continue reducing bow pressure until all sound is gone

pppp dim.

gva-

(no tone, just air)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

continue reducing bow pressure until all sound is gone

pppp dim.

gva-

(no tone, just air)

molto flautando

pppp dim.