

Continuity Paradox

for string trio

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Slower tempi may be taken even slower, faster tempi should be exact or a little faster. Dynamic indications are approximations and suggestions: given the mostly homogenous texture of the music, the contrapuntal lines should be given some life by continuous variation of dynamics. One possible approach is illustrated in bars 5–11; similar solutions can be used for the rest of the piece. Alternatively, devise your own, or simply play as written, with mostly flat dynamics throughout.

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Jashiin
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The musical score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-7) features a 2/2 time signature with a tempo of $\text{♩} = 40$. The Violin part begins with a *mp* dynamic and includes triplets and a 7-measure rest. The Viola part has a *mp* dynamic and includes a 7-measure rest. The Cello part starts with a *mp* dynamic and a *pizz.* marking, followed by a 7-measure rest and then an *arco* section. The second system (measures 8-12) features a 4/2 time signature with a tempo of $\text{♩} = 40$. The Violin part includes a *p* dynamic and a 3-measure rest. The Viola part includes a *p* dynamic and a 5-measure rest. The Cello part includes a *p* dynamic and a 3-measure rest. The third system (measures 13-17) features a 4/2 time signature with a tempo of $\text{♩} = 70$. The Violin part includes a *mf* dynamic and triplets. The Viola part includes a *mf* dynamic and triplets. The Cello part includes a *mf* dynamic and triplets.

2

16

molto rit.

Musical score for measures 16-25. The score is in 3/2 time. The upper staves contain complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and quintuplets. The bass line consists of a steady triplet pattern. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. The tempo marking *molto rit.* is indicated above the first measure.

19

$\text{♩} = 40$

mp *p* *mp*

pizz.

Musical score for measures 19-25. The score is in 3/2 time. The upper staves contain complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and quintuplets. The bass line consists of a steady triplet pattern. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. The tempo marking $\text{♩} = 40$ is indicated above the first measure. The instruction *pizz.* is used for the upper staves.

26

molto rit. $\text{♩} = 40$

arco

mp

arco

Musical score for measures 26-35. The score is in 3/2 time. The upper staves contain complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and quintuplets. The bass line consists of a steady triplet pattern. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. The tempo marking $\text{♩} = 40$ is indicated above the first measure. The instruction *arco* is used for the upper staves.

32

pizz.

mf

3

38

rit.

$\text{♩} = 60$
arco

p

pizz.

p

43

molto rit.

rit.

pizz.

mf