

TRANSPARENT FABRIC

for string quartet and electronics

Jonas Lie Skaarud
2023

Revised version (2026)

SCORE

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DURATA: ca. 25'

Written for Oslo String Quartet.
Written between December 2022 and February 2023.
Written with support from The Norwegian Arts Council.



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PERFORMANCE NOTES

ELECTRONICS

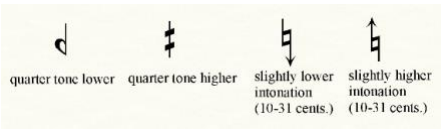
- The audio is made for a 5 channel setup, originally written for two studio speakers and 3 homemade speakers. The homemade speakers consists of speaker drivers placed inside steel or aluminium tubes – two of exact sizes and one smaller (see picture). They might however be replaced by small normal speakers.
- A click-track is needed for the musicians
- The piece consists of 4 audio files, one for each movement. They can be found here: jonasskaarud.no/resources
- The setup should be as follows:



PLAYING TECHNIQUES/NOTATION

GENERAL

- All accidentals apply only to the note the directly preceed (except for repeated notes)
- All arrows over notes indicate a transition (e.g. from a playing position to another)
- Dynamics:
 - 0 - Niente / as quiet as possible
- Quarter tones:



STRINGS:

- **Bow positions etc.:**
 - *nut*: as close to the nut as possible
 - *u.b.*: position on the upper bout (the place of the fingerboard where the instrument body starts)
 - *m.s.t.*: molto sul tasto
 - *s.t.*: sul tasto
 - *ord.*: ordinary position
 - *s.p.*: sul pont
 - *m.s.p.*: molto sul pont
 - Other signs etc. are explained in score
- **Preparations**

When indicated in the score, prepare the strings with paperclips. Use paperclips in steel (the ones with oblong shape with straight sides – not spirals). They should be rather small (for the cello slightly bigger ones might be needed). Place them as shown in the pictures below



- **Notes on paperclips:**
 - When paperclips are applied, place the bow on the fingerboard-side (i.e.not between the bridge and the paperclips)
 - The sound result should be a rather whispering, noisy and overtone rich sound.
 - Be extremely cautious of dynamics/bow pressure, as the paperclips might fall of easily if too much dynamics/bow pressure is applied.
 - When paperclips arerepositioned or removed, it should be done as silently as possible.

TRANSPARENT FABRIC

for string quartet and electronics

(revised version)

I.

Jonas Lie Skaarud

$\text{♩} = 60$

$\frac{4}{4}$

WITH CLICK-TRACK.
CLICK START 2 BARS (8 QUARTER BEATS) BEFORE MUSIC.

Violin I

ff(sempre)

Violin II

ff(sempre)

Viola

ff(sempre)

Cello

ff(sempre)

A

Vln. 1

13

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

$\frac{2}{4}$

$\frac{4}{4}$

B

Vln. 1

24

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

$\frac{4}{4}$

C

34

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

ff

D

 $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

45

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

f

f

f

p

p

p

f

p

E

CLICK TRACK STOPS

 $\frac{4}{4}$

57

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pppp

ppp

pppp

pppp

pppp

bow on bridge,
dampen strings,
noise only

m.s.p. → bow on bridge

bow on bridge,
dampen strings,
noise only

bow on bridge,
dampen strings,
noise only

pppp

II.

WITH CLICK-TRACK.
CLICK START 2 BARS (8 QUARTER BEATS) BEFORE MUSIC.

69

Vln. I $\frac{4}{4}$ (♩ = 60) $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp *pppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

IV

II

II nut

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

norm. bow pres. / speed

ord.

bow on bridge,
dampen strings,
noise only

77

Vln. I $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp *pppp* *pppp* *pppp* *pppp*

bow on bridge,
dampen strings,
noise only

(poco)

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

s.p.

IV

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

s.p.

I

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

s.p.

83

Vln. I $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

spz ppp *pppp* *pppp* *pppp* *pppp*

norm. bow pres. / speed

(poco)

norm. bow pres. / speed

(poco)

norm. bow pres. / speed

(poco)

norm. bow pres. / speed

(poco)

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

II
nut

norm. bow pres. / speed
ord.

G

115

4/4

2/4

4/4

Vln. 1

pppp *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

Vln. II

pppp *pp* 0 *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

Vla.

pppp *pp* 0 *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

Vc.

s.p. 7 7 7 ord. 3 *pppp* *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

120

4/4

3/4

Vln. 1

pppp *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

Vln. II

pppp *pp* 0 *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

Vla.

pppp *pp* 0 *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

Vc.

s.p. 7 7 7 ord. 7 *pppp* *pp* 0 *pp* *pppp* *p*

H

124

2/4

5/4

3/4

ord.

2/4

5/4

2/4

4/4

3/4

Vln. 1

ppp *ppp* 0 *ppp* 0 *ppp*

Vln. II

0 *ppp* 0 *ppp* 0 *ppp* 0

Vla.

0 *ppp* 0 *ppp* 0 *ppp* 0 *ppp*

Vc.

0 *ppp* 0 *ppp* 0

154

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

2/4, 6/4, 3/4, 4/4, 2/4, 3/4

I, II, IV (7), I, II, IV (7)

J 161

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

2/4, 4/4, 3/4, 2/4, 3/4, 2/4, 3/4

ppp

169

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

3/4, 4/4, 2/4, 3/4, 2/4, 3/4, 4/4

ppp

175

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

4/4 2/4 3/4 4/4 3/4

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

181

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

K 2/4 5/4 3/4 2/4 5/4 2/4 4/4 3/4

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

III

II

s.p.

190

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

3/4 4/4 2/4 4/4 3/4 2/4

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

197

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

2/4 4/4 2/4 4/4 2/4

ppp

204

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

4/4 2/4 4/4 2/4

ppp

211

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

2/4 3/4 4/4

ppp

-35c.

M

ord.

217

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

-35c.

ppp

All accidentals with arrow down: ca. 35 cents lower (thoroughout the rest of the movement)

223

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp

229

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp

235

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *pppp*

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *pppp*

ppp *ppp* *ppp* *ppp* *pppp*

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

s.p.

ord.
IV (7)

3/4 2/4

III.

Musical score for Violins I and II, Viola, and Violoncello. The score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 60 beats per minute. It features a series of eighth notes across four staves, with dynamic markings of *ff* and *fff*, and performance instructions like "norm. bow pres. / speed" and "half crush".

257

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

crush tone → norm. pressure

crush tone → norm. pressure

crush tone → norm. pressure

crush tone → norm. pressure

pppp ff pppp fff

pppp ff pppp fff

pppp ff pppp fff

pppp ff pppp fff

P $\frac{4}{4}$

(open strings)

283

ppp

pppp

pppp

pppp

non dim.

(open strings)

II
I
s.t.

m.s.p.

IV (10th)

I (7th)

pppp

poco

pppp

poco

pppp

poco

o

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure
nut

WITH CLICK-TRACK.
CLICK START 2 BARS (8 QUARTER BEATS) BEFORE MUSIC.

IV.

(♩ = 60)

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Violins I and II, Viola, and Violoncello score. The score is divided into two systems. The first system is in 4/4 time, marked 'Q' (Quasi) and '332'. The second system is in 6/4 time, marked 'R' (Ritardando). The first system contains measures 1-6, and the second system contains measures 7-12. The Violins I and II parts have dynamic markings 'pppp' and 'pp'. The Viola and Violoncello parts have dynamic markings 'pp' and 'ppp'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and articulation marks.

Violins I and II, Viola, and Violoncello (Vc.)

Rehearsal mark: 342

Violins I and II: Treble clef, 4/4 time.

Viola: Alto clef, 4/4 time.

Violoncello (Vc.): Bass clef, 4/4 time.

The score consists of four staves. The Violins I and II parts are in treble clef, the Viola is in alto clef, and the Violoncello is in bass clef. The score includes a rehearsal mark 342 and various fingering and bowing indications.

361

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

373

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

16

$\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ **T** $\frac{6}{4}$

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

384

pppp *pp*

pppp *pp*

pppp *ppp*

pppp *pp*

U $\frac{6}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

394

pp

pp

pp

V $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{1}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$ $\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

405

pppp

pppp

pppp

pppp

CLICK-TRACK
STOPS

PAPERCLIPS ON II / III / IV

ca. 30"

416

Vln. I

u.b.

IV ord.

pppp

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

II nut

m.s.p.

Remove practice mute

u.b.

Remove practice mute

PAPERCLIPS ON I / II / III / IV

ca. 30"

Vln. II

pppp

IV

s.p.

Remove practice mute

o

PAPERCLIPS ON I / II / III / IV

ca. 30"

Vla.

s.p.

Remove practice mute

o

PAPERCLIPS ON I / II / III / IV

ca. 30"

Vc.

ppp

o

(♩ = 60)

CLICK-TRACK
STARTS

START PLAYING
AFTER 4 BEATS

W

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

425

Vln. I

pppp

II u.b.

nut

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

I u.b.

pppp

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

II nut

pppp

very slow bowing
very little bow pressure

II nut

pppp

Vln. II

pppp

III

II

Vla.

pppp

I

II u.b.

Vc.

pppp

II nut

I

433

Vln. I

III

u.b.

III

nut

IV

Vln. II

III

u.b.

II (always open strings)

nut

Vla.

nut

III

IV (always open strings)

slight bow pressure

Vc.

II

Slight bow pressure

III

II

440

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

II

slight bow pressure

(always open strings unless otherwise specified)

IV

(use normal bow pressure and bow speed on all flageolets)

slight bow pressure

u.b.

(I)

nut

450

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

IV

2/4

4/4

3/4

2/4

3/4

2/4

u.b.

3/4

4/4

nut

IV

2/4

u.b.

nut

slight bow pressure

Slight bow pressure

459

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

2/4

3/4

2/4

3/4

4/4

2/4

3/4

u.b.

4/4

nut

IV

3/4

u.b.

nut

slight bow pressure

Slight bow pressure

(IV)

u.b.

X

3/4

4/4

3/4

4/4

2/4

4/4

3/4

IV

2/4

468

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

468

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Slight bow pressure

nut

u.b.

IV

2/4

4/4

2/4

4/4

2/4

4/4

2/4

4/4

477

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

477

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Slight bow pressure

nut

u.b.

IV

4/4

2/4

4/4

2/4

4/4

3/4

485

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

485

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Slight bow pressure

nut

u.b.

IV

20

Y

3/4 4/4

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

493

IV

IV

nut

Z

CLICK-TRACK STOPS

501

IV

IV

Vln. 1

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

u.b.

nut

Slight bow pressure

ca. 10" → u.b.

ca. 10" → u.b.

ca. 10" → u.b.

ca. 10" → u.b.