

The Delicate Texture of Time  
John MacCallum

*Scordatura*

The cello should tune to the 5th, 7th, 11th, and 16th partials an A one octave below the low A of the piano (13.75 Hz). Relative to the normal tuning of the cello’s strings, the C string is tuned almost a semitone sharp, the G is slightly flat, the D is almost exactly a quarter tone sharp, and the A is normal.

The viola should be tuned one octave higher than the cello.

The bottom two strings of the violin are the same as the middle two of the viola, while the A and E are tuned normally.

Unless otherwise indicated, notes represent the pitches to be fingered as if the strings were tuned normally.

*Mutes*

The piece calls for two different leather mutes, one with 3 prongs and one with 5:

⌵ 3 prong mute on

⌴ 3 prong mute off

⌶ 5 prong mute on

⌵⌵ 5 prong mute off

The mutes are available on loan from the composer or can be purchased from Marcel Saint-Cyr at <http://leathermutes.com>

*Accidentals*

- |    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|
| ♯  | Quarter-tone sharp             |
| ♭  | Quarter-tone flat              |
| ♯♯ | Three-quarters of a tone sharp |
| ♭♭ | Three-quarters of a tone flat  |

# Violoncello

## John MacCallum

**1**  $\text{♩} = 91.86$  (*decel.*)

*f* *sempre*

**4**

**8**

**12**

**15**

**17**  $\text{♩} = 89.52$   
**A** (*accel.*)  
arco

knock on body

*f*

*ff*

**21** **2** **3**

*p*

**27**  $\text{♩} = 118.02$  (*decel.*)  
**B**

sul pont.

ord.

*fmp*

*fmp*

**34** **I** pizz. arco

*mp*

*mf*

*mp*

**39** **II** **III** **III** **IV**

*mp*

*mf*

## Violoncello

47 pizz  
mf ppp

53 I II III (open) IV (harmonic)  
5 <mp> <mp> mf mf

59 col legno bat.  
sul pont.  
mute strings with left hand  
C ♩=69.12 (accel.)  
mute strings with left hand  
f

64 II  
f

69 D ♩=96.3 (decel.)  
3 pp ppp

76 mp mf f

84 5 ff mf mp p sub. mp

92 E ♩=57.42 (accel.)  
3 5 5 5 5 5 f fff

97 F ♩=84 (accel.)  
IV 3 III II (IV)  
fff ppp 3 3 3 3 3 3

102 II II (equal-tempered) poco sul pont. III IV

**G** ♩=105.9 (decel.)

110 I sul pont. II ord. sul pont.

*ff pp mf < poco > ppp*

**H** ♩=54.54 (accel.)

117 3 ord. II pizz. III arco sul pont.

*mf p f ppp mp*

125 IV ord.

129 III arco

*p f*

132 **I** ♩=105.48 (decel.) III IV

*mf ff pp*

139 **K** ♩=87.96 (accel.) **L** IV ♩=90 (decel.)

145

150 **M** ♩=66.66 (decel.)

155

*> > >*

161 **N** ♩=63.06 (accel.)

*ppp*

**11**

176

*f* *p*

180

(*p*)

184

5

col legno bat.  
mute strings with left hand

*mp*

193

*mf*

198

201

*ff* *mp*

210

*ppp*

214

**O** ♩=117 (*decel.*)

*fff* *ppp*

220

**P** ♩=87.12 (*accel.*)

225

*p*

I II IV I III

229

I II III III III

*poco*

Violoncello

233 *dim. poco a poco*  
III (7°) II IV sul pont.

239 ord.  
(7°)  
*ppp*

243 *cresc. poco a poco*  
III III (7°) III II III

247 I IV II

251 IV I III *dim. poco a poco* II III  
*mf*

255 **Q** ♩=110.22 (*decel.*)  
IV col legno bat.  
mute strings with left hand  
*pp f sub. p*

261 *p*

265

269

273 sul pont.  
*pppp p*

279

Musical staff with notes marked with 'x'.

283

Musical staff with notes marked with 'x'.

287

Musical staff with notes marked with 'x'.

291

**R** ♩=76.68 (*decel.*)

Musical staff with notes marked with 'x'.

294

**S** ♩=42 (*decel.*)

Musical staff with notes marked with 'mf'.