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for the Altius Quartet
through fog

jp merz (2016)

Murmuring ♩ = 90

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

occasionally flautaundo, getting a whispering, air sound rather than harmonic sounding
harmonic trill III

sfz ppp sub.

p ppp sub.

p ppp sub.

s.p.

4

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

m.s.t.

ord.

p

occasionally flautaundo, getting a whispering, air sound rather than harmonic sounding
harmonic trill I

pp

s.p.

ppp

pp

mp

n

8 senza vibrato
s.t.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

p

p

p

IV

f

p

f

sfz

sfz

n

through fog

12

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

n

mf harmonic trill

f

p

pp

f

pp

p

f

n

pp

Mute strings, producing a soft, pitchless airy sound.
It's ok if a harmonic squeaks through. IV III

15

IV ord.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p

n

III

n

mp

n

mp

pp

f

pp

f

brush stroke, driving

f

ppp

IV III

18

ord. vib.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

n

IV

n

f

pp

f

pp

f

ppp

through fog

21

IV

Violin I: *mp* *n* *ff* *pp* *f* *ppp*

Violin II: *pp* *f*

Viola: *mp* *pp* *mp*

Violoncello: *f* *ppp*

24

lyrical, folk-like

m.s.t.

Violin I: *ff* *n* *mp*

Violin II: *pp* *mp* *pp*

Viola: *pp* *mp* *pp*

Violoncello: *f*

27

Violin I: *n* *f* *pp* *mp*

Violin II: *mf* *pp* *mp*

Viola: *mf* *pp* *mp*

Violoncello: *ppp*

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30

Violin I: *n* *mp* *n* *ff*

Violin II: *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub*

Viola: *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub*

Violoncello: *f* *ppp*

33 s.p.

Violin I: *f* *n* *pp* *ff* *ord.*

Violin II: *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub*

Viola: *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub*

Violoncello: *f* *ppp*

36 II

Violin I: *n* *n* *mp* *n* *f*

Violin II: *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub*

Viola: *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub*

Violoncello: *f* *ppp*

through fog

39

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pp sub *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

pp sub *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

pp sub *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

f

n *mp* *n* *f*

42

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pp sub *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

pp sub *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

pp sub *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

p *f* *ppp*

n *mf*

m.s.t.

45

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

mf *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *pp sub* *mf*

f *ppp*

n *ff* *n*

ord.

m.s.t.

through fog

48

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f *mf* *pp sub* *mf* *ff* *fff*

s.p. s.p. s.p. s.p. IV III

51 Floating, drifting

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

n *mf* *n* *pp* *m.s.t.* *mf* *ord.* *n*

s.t. s.p. s.p. ord.

53

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

n *mf* *pp* *n* *mf* *n* *n* *II ord. III*

m.s.t. s.t. s.p. ord.

through fog

55

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf *n* *IV III ord.* *s.p.* *pp* *mf* *n* *III* *n*

57

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf *n* *m.s.t.* *s.t.* *mf* *pp* *m.s.t.* *n* *mf* *n*

59

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf *s.p.* *ord.* *II* *n* *n* *s.p.* *mf* *IV III ord.* *III II* *n* *mf*

through fog

61

Violin I: *mf* *n* II III

Violin II: *m.s.t.* *pp* *mf* *s.p.*

Viola: *mf* *n* *m.s.t.*

Violoncello: *n* *n*

63

Violin I: *mf* *n* *n*

Violin II: *s.t.* *pp* *mf* *s.p.*

Viola: *III II* *n* *mf*

Violoncello: *mf* *n*

65

Violin I: *mf* *n*

Violin II: *ord.* *pp*

Viola: *n* *III* *n*

Violoncello: *espress. ord.* *mf*

through fog

67

Violin I: *n* *mf*

Violin II: *mf* *pp*

Viola: *mf* *n*

Violoncello: *n*

69

Violin I: *n* *n*

Violin II: *mf* *pp*

Viola: *n* *mf*

Violoncello: *n*

71

Violin I: *mf* *n* *n*

Violin II: *mf* *ff* *f*

Viola: *n* *n* *f*

Violoncello: *n* *f* *f*

Annotations: s.p., ord., m.s.t.

through fog

73

Violin I: *mf* (first measure), *n* (second measure)

Violin II: *pp sub* (first measure)

Viola: *pp* (first measure), *sfz* (first measure), *pp* (second measure)

Violoncello: *pp* (first measure), *sfz* (first measure), *pp* (second measure)

75

Violin I: *p* (first measure), *f* (second measure)

Violin II: *f* (first measure)

Viola: *f* (first measure), *pp* (first measure), *f* (second measure)

Violoncello: *f* (first measure), *pp* (first measure), *f* (second measure)

m.s.p. (mezzo-soprano) line above Violin I

77 s.t.

ord.

Violin I: *p* (first measure), *sfz* (first measure), *p* (second measure), *f* (second measure)

Violin II: *ff* (first measure)

Viola: *pp* (first measure), *sfz* (first measure), *pp* (second measure)

Violoncello: *pp* (first measure), *sfz* (first measure), *pp* (second measure)

m.s.p. (mezzo-soprano) line above Violin I

through fog

79 ord.

79 ord.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

n

f

n

f

81

81

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

n

mf

n

IV III

n

n

83

83

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

m.s.p.

ord. II

f

p

sfz

pp sub

f

IV III

n

f

p

→ s.p.

Broad, Driving

wild and unstable

during this section (m. 87-105), vary the amount of L.H. pressure of the trill note, occasionally hitting harmonics.

89

- 12 -

through fog

91

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sfz

p

f

p

s.p. ₃ ord.

s.p. ₃ ord.

s.p. IV III ord.

s.p. ord.

sfz

sfz

93

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sfz

p

f

p

s.p. ₃ ord.

s.p. ₃ ord.

s.p. IV III ord.

s.p. ord.

sfz

sfz

95

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sfz

p

f

p

s.p. ₃ ord.

s.p. ₃ ord.

s.p. IV III ord.

s.p. ord.

sfz

sfz

sfz

through fog

97

Vln. I *sfz*

Vln. II *sfz* m.s.t. *mf* *f* m.s.p.

Vla. *sfz* *mf* *f*

Vc. s.p. IV III ord. *sfz* s.p. ord. *sfz*

99

Vln. I *sfz* ord. *sfz* s.p.

Vln. II *sfz* *pp* *sfz* s.p.

Vla. *sfz* s.p. III II ord. *sfz* s.p. ord.

Vc. *sfz* *sfz*

101

Vln. I *sfz* s.t. *sfz* s.p.

Vln. II *sfz* s.t. *sfz* s.p.

Vla. *sfz* s.p. II I ord. *sfz* s.p. ord.

Vc. *sfz* *sfz*

through fog

103

Vln. I

ord.

m.s.t.

Vln. II

p

Vla.

sfz

sfz

Vc.

sfz

sfz

[illegible]

107

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

through fog

109

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts are shown. The Violin I part has a long note with a slur and a crescendo line. The Violin II part has a long note with a slur and a crescendo line. The Viola (Vla.) part has a series of eighth notes with slurs. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has a series of eighth notes with slurs. The Viola part has a dynamic marking of *mf* and a phrasing instruction "phrasing ad. lib.". The Violoncello part has a dynamic marking of *p* and a note with a sharp sign and the instruction "(quarter tone sharp)".

111

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts are shown. The Viola (Vla.) part has a series of eighth notes with slurs. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has a long note with a slur and a crescendo line. The Viola part has a dynamic marking of *n* and the Violoncello part has a dynamic marking of *mp*.

113

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts are shown. The Viola (Vla.) part has a series of eighth notes with slurs. The Violoncello (Vc.) part has a long note with a slur and a crescendo line. The Viola part has a dynamic marking of *s.p.* and the Violoncello part has a dynamic marking of *ord.*

through fog

115 Glassy, Permeable

115 Glassy, Permeable

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. II

Vc.

pp

ppp

Mute strings, producing a soft, pitchless airy sound. It's ok if a harmonic squeaks through.

117

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p *f* *p*

mp

n

119

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p *f* *p* *f*

mp

f

n

through fog

121

Violin I: *mf* *f* (5)

Violin II: *mf* *f* (5)

Viola: II *pp sub* *f* *p* (II)

Violoncello: *f* *mp*

123

Violin I: 3 7 *p* *p*

Violin II: *p* *p*

Viola: III II *f*

Violoncello: *f* *p*

125

Violin I: *f* *p* (3)

Violin II: *mf* *f* (3 5 3)

Viola: II *pp sub* *f* *p* (III II)

Violoncello: *f* *p*

through fog

127

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f *p*

p *n* *n* *n* *mf*

pp *f* *pp*

f

129

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p *f* *p*

f *p* *mf* *f*

f *p*

pp *f*

131

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f *p* *p* *f* *ppp*

p *mf* *f* *s.p.* *ord.*

f *pp sub* *f* *p*

pp sub *f*

s.t. 0 messy, hazy

through fog

140

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp

mf

II

I

142

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

fff

fff

sawing s.p.

s.p. sawing

144

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

fff

fff

senza vibrato pesante

ord. senza vibrato pesante

through fog

146

First system of music (measures 146-147). The score includes staves for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). Measures 146 and 147 are shown. Vln. I and Vln. II play rapid sixteenth-note passages with triplets and slurs. Vla. and Vc. play sustained notes with a forte (*ff*) dynamic marking.

148

Second system of music (measures 148-149). The score includes staves for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). Measures 148 and 149 are shown. Vln. I and Vln. II play rapid sixteenth-note passages with triplets and slurs. Vla. and Vc. play sustained notes with a forte (*ff*) dynamic marking.

150

Third system of music (measures 150-151). The score includes staves for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). Measures 150 and 151 are shown. Vln. I and Vln. II play rapid sixteenth-note passages with triplets and slurs. Vla. and Vc. play sustained notes with a forte (*ff*) dynamic marking.

through fog

152

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts feature complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and quintuplets. The Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are marked *fff* and include dynamic markings *m.s.p.* and *ord.* with a crescendo leading to *ff*.

154

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts continue with complex rhythmic patterns. The Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are marked *fff* and include dynamic markings *m.s.p.* and *ord.* with a crescendo leading to *ff*.

156 ord.

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts continue with complex rhythmic patterns. The Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are marked *fff* and include dynamic markings *ord.* and *fff*.

through fog

158

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

ff

ff

adhere to the score more strictly

s.p.

ord.

160

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fff

fff

s.p.

162

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

ord.

s.p.

adhere to the score more strictly

through fog

164

Vln. I *pp sub*

Vln. II *pp sub*
ord.

Vla. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

mf

mf

3

166

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

ff

ff

3

3

Heavy, Thick ♩ = 68

168

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

fff

fff

fff

171

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

through fog

ff

ff

ff

ff

p

f

f

f

f

Violin I (Vln. I) and Violin II (Vln. II) parts are in treble clef. Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are in bass clef. The score shows measures 173 and 174. In measure 173, all instruments play a fortissimo (ff) chord. In measure 174, the Violin I part plays a piano (p) chord, while the Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello parts play a fortissimo (ff) chord. The Violoncello part has a 'III' marking above it in measure 174.

Violins I and II, Viola, and Cello, measures 175-180. The score shows a dynamic shift from *ff* to *mf* at measure 176, and back to *ff* at measure 178. The Violins I part includes a triplet in measure 179. The Viola and Cello parts have a triplet in measure 180.

through fog

177

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

s.p.

ord.

s.p.

179

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord.

s.p.

ord.

s.p.

181

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord.

II I

fff

ff

through fog

183

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

III II

s.p.

s.p.

s.p.

s.p.

185

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ffz

ffz

ffz

ffz

ffz

fff

fff

fff

fff

bow freely maintain intensity

bow freely maintain intensity

bow freely maintain intensity

bow freely maintain intensity

s.p.

s.p.

s.p.

s.p.