

An impressionistic oil painting of a bouquet of flowers in a glass vase. The flowers are rendered with thick, visible brushstrokes in shades of yellow, orange, white, and green. The background is dark and moody, with hints of a window or light source in the lower left. The overall style is expressive and textured.

Micangelo Ferrante

Pondering Beings

for violin, viola, cello
FULL SCORE

cover art by Mina H. Ferrante

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Written for the Nancy and Barry Sanders Composer Fellowship Program.
Premiered by the Lyris Quartet in the Walt Disney Choral Hall
on December 7, 2019.

DURATION

ca. 6.5 minutes

INSTRUMENTATION

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

PERFORMANCE NOTES



quarter tone lower



quarter tone higher

s.p. sul ponticello - play bow near bridge

sul tasto play bow on fingerboard

ord. ordinario - return to original technique

c.l. tratto col legno tratto - bow with stick of the bow

flaut. flautando - play bow lightly near fingerboard

spiccato bounce bow lightly on string

gliss. glissando

pizz. pizzicato

Graphic Notation

bow screw gliss pluck string with left hand and simultaneously drag
screw of the bow up/down the string

c.l. batt. col legno battuto - strike string with stick of bow

nail pizz. use tip of fingernail to pluck string

pizz. trem. rapidly pluck strings



bartok pizz. - "snap" the string away from the fingerboard



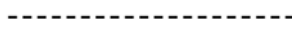
overpressure strings to create raspy sound



play highest pitch on instrument - exact pitch does not matter



play pitches but note durations do not matter



continue most previous material



gradually change from one technique to the next



lightly attack designated part of the instrument

PROGRAM NOTES

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

Nothing Gold Can Stay by Robert Frost

Robert Frost's *Nothing Gold Can Stay* explores the illusory nature of life, in its pendulum from innocence to sin. The notion of the "felix culpa," or "happy fault" refutes this fall from innocence; rather, the endurance and exploration through adversity allows for the exposure of the true beauties of life, inspiring *Pondering Beings* as well as my appreciation for the world and community we live in today.

Pondering Beings

Written for the Nancy and Barry Sanders Composer Fellowship Program
Premiered by the Lyris Quartet on December 7, 2019

Micangelo Ferrante
(b. 2002)

Light and Positively ♩ = 120

Violin

s.p.
con poco vibrato
glassy

pp

pp $\swarrow$ $\searrow$ p

pp

pizz.

mp

3 3 3 3

Viola

s.p.
con poco vibrato
glassy

pp

pp $\swarrow$ $\searrow$ p

pp

pizz.

mp

3 3 3 3

Violoncello

6

ord.

p

mf

pp

pizz.

mp

3 3 3 3

ord.

p

mf

pp

pizz.

mp

3 3 3 3

Note: establish chord before glissing in unison

wait for
all to arrive
cue after tritone has
been established

6

42

arco s.p.

gliss.

p

c.l. tratto

gliss.

pp

gliss.

pp

gliss.

pp

47

(fall)

5

gliss.

5

gliss.

sul tasto
(gradually into complete distortion)
s.p.

f

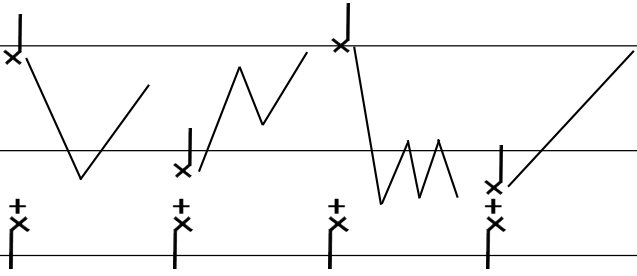
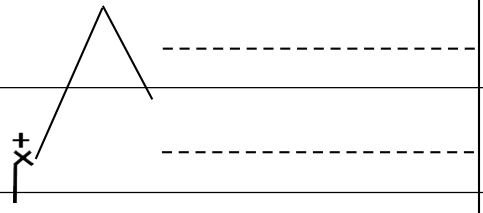
n

gliss.

ppp

pizz. trem.

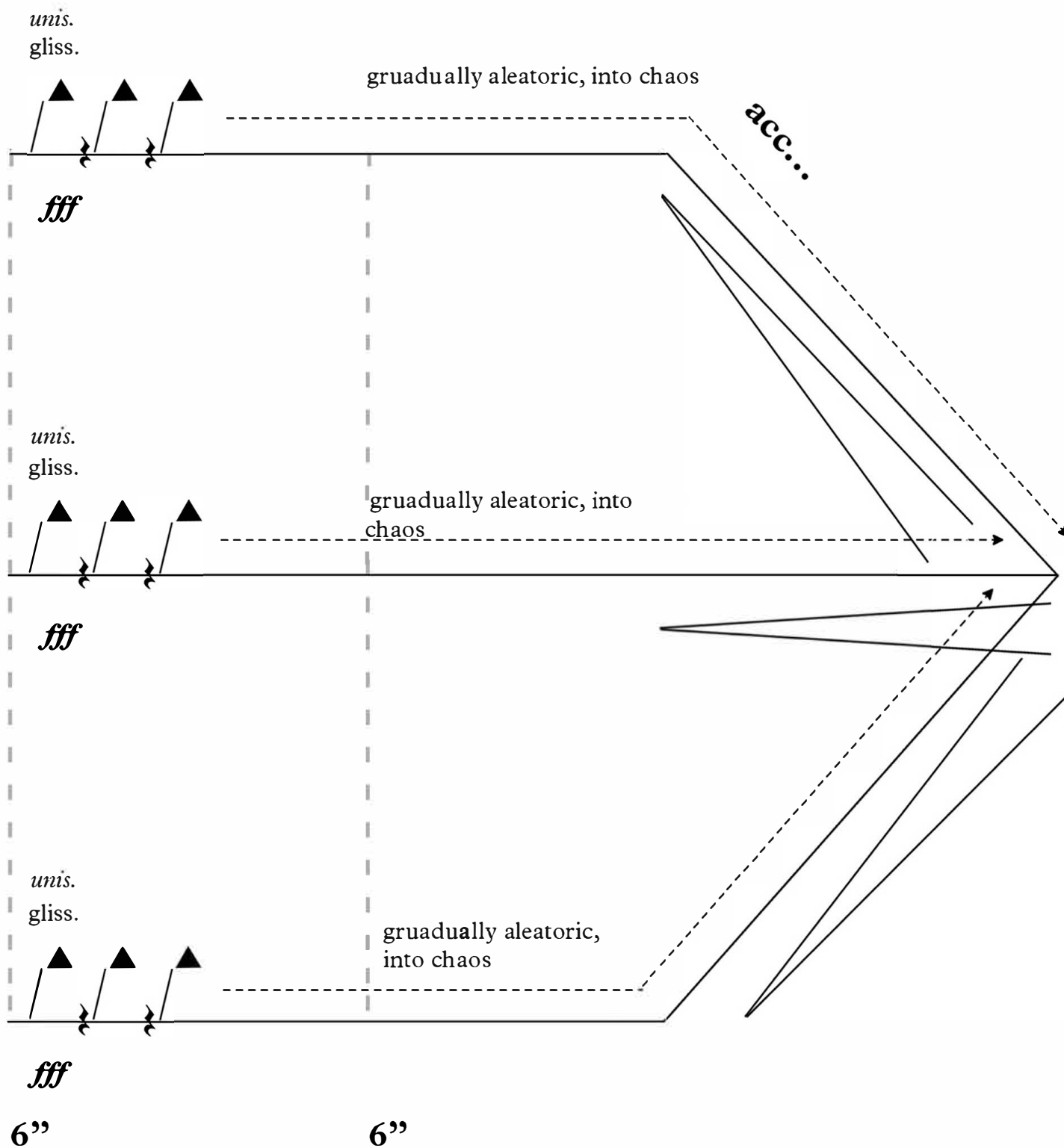
sratch note (overpressure)
grow increasingly violent

rapidly	
G x 	
	<i>f</i> ————— <i>ff</i>
bow screw gliss. l.h. pizz. (bottom notes)	grow increasingly violent
A	D
	
	<i>ff</i>
pizz. trem.	sratch note (overpressure) grow increasingly violent
	D D G
rapidly	
C x 	
	<i>f</i> ————— <i>ff</i>

5"

4"

Note: highest note - pitch does not matter



gradually "cycle" into silence

diminuendo into silence -----19--

93

Musical score for measures 93-95. The score is written for three staves. Measure 93 features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and quintuplets. Measure 94 is a whole rest. Measure 95 continues the pattern with triplets and quintuplets. The middle staff has a long, sustained note with a fermata. The bottom staff has a complex rhythmic pattern with quintuplets and triplets. The dynamic marking *pp* is present in measures 94 and 95.

96

Musical score for measures 96-98. The score is written for three staves. Measure 96 features a complex rhythmic pattern with quintuplets and triplets. Measure 97 continues the pattern with quintuplets and triplets. Measure 98 continues the pattern with quintuplets and triplets. The dynamic marking *ppp* is present in measures 96, 97, and 98. The middle staff has a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and quintuplets. The bottom staff has a complex rhythmic pattern with quintuplets and triplets. The dynamic marking *ppp* is present in measures 96, 97, and 98.