

*for the audaciously talented Rothko Quartet  
on the occasion of their European tour 2013*

refrain  
for string quartet

alex taylor

electric ♩ = 72

refrain

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Violin I *ffz pp ff pp ff pp ffp*

Violin II *pp ffz pp < ffz pp ff pp ff pp 3:2 ff 3 p*

Viola *mf ff 4:3 ric. 3 m.s.p. to ord. 5 ord. ric. to s.p. s.p. p*

Violoncello *ff pizz. arco 5 ric. 3 pizz. f*

Vln. I *ffp to m.s.p. pizz. 3:2*

Vln. II *ric. e rit. 5 crunch (soft) s.t. pp f p sub. pp*

Vla. *to m.s.p. sempre gliss. 5 m.s.p. arco s.t. ric. pp*

Vc. *pp non espress.*

**calm (lo stesso tempo)**

7

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

vc.

vc.

pizz.

*mp*

*p*

*p poco espress.*

*p*

vln. 2

13

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

arco qt vib.

*mp*

*p cresc. mollo*

*pp cresc.*

*mf*

15 **molto meno mosso** ♩=48

Vln. I *f* *ff* *pp*

Vln. II *ff* *pp*

Vla. *ff* *pp*

Vc. *ff* *p espress. quasi cadenza*

18 *sul D*

Vln. I *sul D*

Vln. II *pizz.* *f* *arco* *pp*

Vla. *pizz.* *f* *arco* *pp*

Vc. *vln. 1* *vln. 2* *cresc.*

20

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f ff*

*f* *p* *f* *pp* *f*

*f* *p* *f* *pp* *f*

*f espress. cresc.*

pizz. arco molto sul pont.

pizz. arco molto sul pont.

pizz. arco molto sul pont.

3 3 4:3 5 3

♩=96

22

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*fff manic*

*fff manic*

*fff manic*

*fff manic*

ord.

ord.

ord.

129

senza sord.  
sul tasto

3

Vln. I

senza sord.  
sul tasto

*pp shadow*

senza sord.

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

134

ord.

*cresc.*

3

*accel.* . . . . .

Vln. I

to sul pont.

*cresc.*

to ord.

Vln. II

Vla.

*cresc.*

pizz.  
senza sord.

3

3

*pp cresc.*

Vc.

138 -  $\text{♩} = 108$

Vln. I  
*f* *espress. cresc.*

Vln. II  
*ff*

Vla.  
*f* *ff*

Vc.  
*f* *ff* arco

142

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.  
pizz. arco  
pizz. arco

Vc.  
pizz. arco  
pizz. arco

145

Vln. I arco pizz. arco pizz. arco

Vln. II pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. *mf warm*

Vla. pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. *mf warm*

Vc. pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz. *mf warm*

*p*

very slow ♩=40

150

Vln. I *ppp shadow* 3 *p espress.* 3 3

Vln. II arco *pp espress.* 3 3 *pp shadow* 3

Vla. arco *p* arco poco gliss. slow gliss.

Vc. *p*



153

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

to molto sul pont.

*pp*

159

accel. . . . . rit. . . . . con sord.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord.

*p*

con sord.

*p* poco espress.

*p* disembodied

*ffpp*

162

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

3

*espress.*

*poco f*

con sord.

*pp*

*poco*

*pp*

*f*

to molto sul pont.

7

Detailed description: This musical score covers measures 162 to 166. It features four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). Measure 162 begins with a triplet of eighth notes in Vln. I, marked '3'. Vln. I has an 'espress.' marking. Vln. II has a 'poco' marking. Vla. has a 'pp' marking. Vc. has a 'to molto sul pont.' marking. Measure 163 continues the Vln. I line with 'espress.'. Measure 164 shows Vln. I with a 'poco f' marking and Vln. II with a 'pp' marking. Measure 165 features Vln. II with 'con sord.' and 'poco' markings, and Vla. with a 'f' marking. Measure 166 concludes the section with a fermata over the final notes of Vln. I and Vln. II.

**refrain III**  
**tempo sospeso**  
♩=60

167

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*ppp*

*p*

*pp*

con sord.

*pp*

(more on bottom)

*pp*

Detailed description: This musical score covers measures 167 to 171, titled 'refrain III tempo sospeso' with a tempo of quarter note = 60. It features four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). Measure 167 starts with Vln. I at 'ppp', Vln. II at 'p', Vla. at 'pp', and Vc. at 'pp'. Measure 168 has Vln. II with '(more on bottom)'. Measure 169 has Vln. I with 'con sord.'. Measure 170 has Vln. I with 'ppp'. Measure 171 concludes the section with Vln. I at 'ppp', Vln. II at 'p', Vla. at 'pp', and Vc. at 'pp'.

not just as a breath  
but as a syncopation

173

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p* *morendo*

*pp* *morendo*

*pp* *morendo*

*pp* *morendo*