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20 934

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# Solo per viola da gamba

2008

TEOSTO

SUOMALAISEN MUUSIIKIN TIEDOTUSKESKUS  
FINNISH MUSIC INFORMATION CENTRE



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## Notation

This piece uses the American composer Ben Johnston's notation system for extended just intonation. Note that the notation never refers to equal-tempered intervals.

In Johnston's notation, + raises a pitch by 81/80, - lowers it by 80/81, # raises it by 25/24,

, lowers it by 24/25, 7 lowers it by 35/36, ↑ raises it by 33/32.

F-A-C, C-E-G, and G-B-D are all perfectly tuned 4:5:6 major triads. Thus, CG, EB, FC, GD, AE are perfect fifths but DA is not (wolf 40/27). D A+ or D- A would be perfect fifths. FBb- is a perfect fourth etc.

+ - syntonic comma up or down

# , just chromatic halfstep, the interval that separates the just major third 5:4 from the just minor third 6:5 (ca. 71 c)

7 the interval that separates the just minor seventh 9:5 from the "natural" seventh 7:4 (7th harmonic). Ca. 1/4 tone flat.

↑ the interval that separates the perfect fourth 4:3 from the half-augmented undecimal fourth 11:8 (11th harmonic) Ca. 1/4 tone sharp.

## Scordatura

Strings VI, V, IV, III, and I are tuned to the harmonic series of C:

C, G, C, E (just major third), D (perfect 5th of G).

String II is tuned to A, perfect 4th of E (III string). Thus, the fourth between the two highest strings is not perfect but wide by one comma (wolf, 40:27).

Pitches of the open strings expressed in ratios, starting from the lowest:  
1/1, 3/2, 2/1, 5/4, 5/3, 9/8

## Frets

Place the frets as follows. This is the tuning of each pitch on the C string (string IV). All the other pitches used in the piece (see fret table) follow automatically from these, except those requiring additional microtonal frets (see below).

(C) Db- D Eb E F Gb G

Find the positions of the frets in the following order.

E = just major third (of C)  
F = perfect fourth  
G = perfect fifth

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Db = just major third down from F

D = perfect fourth down from G (of perfect fifth of G, string V)

Eb = just major third down from G

G<sub>b</sub> = just minor third of Eb, or just minor sixth of B<sub>b</sub>, string V (but NOT perfect 4th of Db-)

Use additional short frets for the following pitches (see fret table):

B<sub>b</sub>7 = "natural seventh" of C

E<sub>b</sub>7 = perfect fourth or fifth from B<sub>b</sub>7

F↑ = 11th harmonic of C

The above pitches expressed in ratios:

Normal frets: (1/1), 16/15, 9/8, 6/5, 5/4, 4/3, 36/25, 3/2

Additional short frets: 7/4, 7/6, 11/8



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**Tempo I: Tranquillo**  $\text{♩} = 72$

(pizz.) +

(arco) **p**

5 *gliss.* (IV) 12 6

10 + + arco

pizz. (IV)

14 *gliss.* (V) 12 6 pizz.

17 arco 3 pizz. pizz.

21 arco pizz. arco **mf**

*cantabile*

27 pizz. 3 3

32 (III) **mf** (III) 3 (III)

The musical score consists of eight staves of music for cello. Staff 1 starts with a bass clef, 4/4 time, dynamic p, and a mix of pizzicato and arco strokes. Staff 2 begins with a treble clef, 3/4 time, and a glissando from 12 to 6. Staff 3 shows a change in time signature between 4/4 and 3/4. Staff 4 features a treble clef, 4/4 time, and a mix of arco and pizzicato. Staff 5 includes a glissando from 12 to 6. Staff 6 shows a mix of arco and pizzicato strokes. Staff 7 and 8 continue with arco and pizzicato patterns, with staff 8 concluding with a dynamic marking of mf.

36

(I) (III) (III) (III)

arco

*mf*

pizz.

(arco)

arco

pizz. *mp*

f

pizz. *mp*

*f* *mp*

*f*

ff

*f*

*ff*

*(mf)*

*(p)*

51

3 (II)

*ff*

*f*

*(I)*

*3 (I)*

*3*

*non arpeggiando*

*ff*

*(mf)*

*(p)*

60

*mp*

*p*

Tempo II: Più mosso  $\text{♩} = 96$

64

*pp*

arco

*mf*

69

arco

pizz.

*(IV)*

*(III)*

*(IV)*

*(IV)*

*(III)*

*(III)*

*(II)*

*(III)*

*(II)*

*(III)*

*(II)*

*f*

78 *espr.* (III) arco pizz. *Poco più mosso*  $\text{♩} = 104$

84

90

96

103

109 (III)

117 3

124 (I)

130

136

142

145

148

(IV)

150

152

154

156

158

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DYNAMIC

Poco meno mosso (Tempo II,  $\text{♩} = 96$ )

165

*ff*

173 (I)

178

*f*

184

*ff*

189

*ff*

193

*ff*

198

*ff*

202

Con moto  $\text{♩} = 112$

*ff*

(IV)

*mp*

207

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

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214

pizz.  
arco (IV)

220

arco  
(III)  
f  
arco

pizz.  
arco

226

ff

231

arco  
pizz.

235

**Meno mosso**

arco  
arco  
arco

pizz.  
mp  
pizz.  
pizz.  
pizz.

**Tempo I**

239

cantabile  
arco  
p  
pizz.

243

(III)  
(I)  
(I)

247

(VI)  
(II)  
(III)  
arco  
(I)

256 *pizz.* arco  
6 (III)  
261 (II) 3 (IV) *gliss.* (VI) 12  
263 12 (IV) 12 (VI)  
265 + - + - 3 4 - amabile  
non arp.