

# PREFACE

## 1

Whether Armilla is like this because it is unfinished or because it has been demolished, whether the cause is some enchantment or only a whim, I do not know. The fact remains that it has no walls, no ceilings, no floors: it has nothing that makes it seem a city except the water pipes that rise vertically where the houses should be and spread out horizontally where the floors should be: a forest of pipes that end in taps, shouwers, spouts, overflows. Against the sky a lavabo’s white stands out, or a bathtub, or some other porcelain, like late fruit still hanging from the boughs. You would think that the plumbers had finished their job and gone away before the bricklayers arrived; or else their hydraulic systems, indestructable, had survived a catastrophe, an earthquake, or the corrosion of termites.

Abandoned before or after it was inhabited, Armilla cannot be called deserted. At any hour, raising your eyes among the pipes, you are likely to glimpse a young woman, or many young women, slender, not tall of stature, luxuriating in the bathtubs or arching their backs under the showers suspended in the void, washing or drying or perfuming themselves, or combing their long hair at a mirror. In the sun, the threads of water fanning from the showers glisten, the jets of the taps, the spurts, the splases, the sponges’ suds.

I have come to this explanation: the streams of water channeled in the pipes of Armilla have remained in th posession of nymphs and naiads. Accustomed to traveling along underground veins, they found it easy to enter the new aquatic realm, to burst from multiple fountains, to find new mirrors, new games, new ways of enjoying the water. Their invasion may have driven out the human beings, or Armilla may have been built by humans as a votive offering to win the favor of the nymphs, offended at the misuse of the waters. In any case, now they seem content, these maidens: in the morning you hear them singing.

- Italo Calvino, *Invisible Cities*

## 2

The dunes ran inland, low and grassy, for half a mile or so, and then there were lagoons, thick with sedge and saltreeds, and beyond those, low hills lay yellow-brown and empty out of sight. Beautiful and desolate was Selidor. Nowhere on it was there any mark of man, his work or habitation. There were no beasts to be seen, and the reed-filled lakes bore no flocks of gulls or wild geese or any bird.

- Ursula Le Guin, *The Farthest Shore*

## 3 Bow contact points

The current position along the bow as it contacts the strings is indicated with fractions, where 0/1 indicates the frog, and 1/1 indicates the tip of the bow. Continuous bowing is shown by lines connecting bow contact fractions.

## 4 Dynamics

Dynamics are always in terms of effort, not effect. When bowing very quickly and with strong dynanic, the effect should be a traditional *forte*. Likewise, when bowing slowly and with a light dynamic, the effect should be a traditional *piano*. Slow bowing with strong dynamic should result in various colors of scratch, while fast bowing with light pressure should give various qualities of flautando (depending of course on where on the string the bow is contacting).

## 5 String contact points

**D.P.** Dietro ponticello: behind the bridge.

**M.S.P.** Molto sul ponticello

**S.P.** Sul ponticello

**Ord.** Ordinario

**S.T.** Sul tasto

**M.S.T.** Molto sul tasto

When bowing behind the bridge, the fingering staff switches to percussion clef. The behind-the-bridge string to bow on are given by the four spaces of the five-line-staff, with string *IV* being the lowest space and *I* the highest.

## 6 Other techniques

**Across-the-string tremoli**  
Indicated by traditional tremolo hashes on the bow tablature’s rhythm staff

**Along-the-string tremoli**  
Indicated by zigzag bow tablature glissandi.

**Thrown bow**  
Indicated by dashed bow tablature glissandi

**Pizzicati**  
Indicated with a cross notehead in the tablature staff.

**Accents**  
Accents in the bow tablature staff indicate a sudden staccato increase in bow pressure.

Tremoli, both across- and along-the-string, should be very tight. When the two techniques appear simultaneously, the resulting motion is tightly circular bowing.

*Invisible Cities (i):*

# ARMILLA

*(a botanical survey of the uninhabited southern isles)*

*for Elizabeth Weisser and John Pickford Richards*

Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer (1984)

♩ = 36

**5** **A** Far Sorr

**3**  
**4**

Viola 1

ORD. -----> S.T.

Viola 2

ORD. -----> S.T.

D.P.

0 1 1 8 1 4 3 8 1 2 5 8 3 4 7 8

4:5 4:5 3:2

*p* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

**5** **3** **5** **3** **3** **2**  
**8** **8** **8** **4**

Va. 1

ORD. -----> S.T.

Va. 2

ORD. -----> S.T.

M.S.T.

V

0 1 1 8 1 4 3 8 1 2 5 8 3 4 7 8

6:5 4:3 5:4 6:5

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

**10** **3** **3** **2** **3**  
**8** **8** **4** **8**

Va. 1

M.S.T.

V

0 1 1 8 1 4 3 8 1 2 5 8 3 4 7 8

4:3 5:4 6:5

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

Va. 2

M.S.T.

V

0 1 1 8 1 4 3 8 1 2 5 8 3 4 7 8

3:2 4:3 5:4 6:5

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

15

19

24

**2**

29

5 8 3 2 4 C Wellogy 3 8

♩ = 108

Va. 1

(M.S.P.)

V 4/5 0 1 1 4/5 4/5

3:2

ppp p

ORD.

V 4/5 3 5 3 5

mf

S.T. -----> ORD.

V 3 5 4 5 3 5 4 5

mp

M.S.P

V 4/5 3 5

mf

Va. 2

M.S.P -----> ORD.

V 4 0 1 1 4/5

ppp < p ppp

S.P. -----> M.S.P

V 3 5 4 5 3 5

mp

ORD. -----> S.P.

V 4 5 3 5 4 5 3 5

mf

S.T.

V 3 5 4 5

mp

[illegible]

The musical score is for two violas, Va. 1 and Va. 2, and consists of six measures. The time signatures are 2/4, 3/8, and 6/8. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (p, ppp, mf, mp). The first measure is in 2/4 time, and the second measure is in 3/8 time. The third measure is in 6/8 time, and the fourth measure is in 3/8 time. The fifth measure is in 3/8 time, and the sixth measure is in 3/8 time. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings (p, ppp, mf, mp). The first measure is in 2/4 time, and the second measure is in 3/8 time. The third measure is in 6/8 time, and the fourth measure is in 3/8 time. The fifth measure is in 3/8 time, and the sixth measure is in 3/8 time.

♩ = 36

44

**D** The Long Dune (i)

3/8 3/4

D.P.

Va. 1

Va. 2

0 1 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8

4:5 4:5 3:2

*p* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

D.P.

V

7/8 1/1 0 1 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8

4:5 6:5 4:5

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

48

3/8 3/8 2/4 3/8

(D.P.)

V

Va. 1

Va. 2

1/1 0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8

4:5 3:2

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

V

1/1 0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8

6:5 4:5 3:2

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

54

3/8 6/8 3/4

(D.P.)

V

Va. 1

Va. 2

1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8 1/1 0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8

3:2 4:5

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

(D.P.)

V

3/4 7/8 1/1 0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8 1/1 0

6:5 4:5 4:3

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

58

2/4 3/8 6/8 3/4

(D.P.)

V

Va. 1

Va. 2

1/8 0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8 1/1

4:5

*p* *mf* *p*

ORD. S.T. M.S.T.

V

1/8 0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8 1/1

3:2

*ppp* *p* *p* *ppp*



76

$\bullet = 108$

81

$$\textcircled{85} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{5} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{3} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{6} \qquad \qquad \qquad \mathbf{2}$$

85

(90) 5 6 5

90

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2034	2035	2036	2037	2038	2039	2040	2041	2042	2043	2044	2045	2046	2047	2048	2049	2050	2051	2052	2053	2054	2055	2056	2057	2058	2059	2060	2061	2062	2063	2064	2065	2066	2067	2068	2069	2070	2071	2072	2073	2074	2075	2076	2077	2078	2079	2080	2081	2082	2083	2084	2085	2086	2087	2088	2089	2090	2091	2092	2093	2094	2095	2096	2097	2098	2099	2100																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Population	7.9	8.1	8.3	8.5	8.7	8.9	9.1	9.3	9.5	9.7	9.9	10.1	10.3	10.5	10.7	10.9	11.1	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.9	12.1	12.3	12.5	12.7	12.9	13.1	13.3	13.5	13.7	13.9	14.1	14.3	14.5	14.7	14.9	15.1	15.3	15.5	15.7	15.9	16.1	16.3	16.5	16.7	16.9	17.1	17.3	17.5	17.7	17.9	18.1	18.3	18.5	18.7	18.9	19.1	19.3	19.5	19.7	19.9	20.1	20.3	20.5	20.7	20.9	21.1	21.3	21.5	21.7	21.9	22.1	22.3	22.5	22.7	22.9	23.1	23.3	23.5	23.7	23.9	24.1	24.3	24.5	24.7	24.9	25.1	25.3	25.5	25.7	25.9	26.1	26.3	26.5	26.7	26.9	27.1	27.3	27.5	27.7	27.9	28.1	28.3	28.5	28.7	28.9	29.1	29.3	29.5	29.7	29.9	30.1	30.3	30.5	30.7	30.9	31.1	31.3	31.5	31.7	31.9	32.1	32.3	32.5	32.7	32.9	33.1	33.3	33.5	33.7	33.9	34.1	34.3	34.5	34.7	34.9	35.1	35.3	35.5	35.7	35.9	36.1	36.3	36.5	36.7	36.9	37.1	37.3	37.5	37.7	37.9	38.1	38.3	38.5	38.7	38.9	39.1	39.3	39.5	39.7	39.9	40.1	40.3	40.5	40.7	40.9	41.1	41.3	41.5	41.7	41.9	42.1	42.3	42.5	42.7	42.9	43.1	43.3	43.5	43.7	43.9	44.1	44.3	44.5	44.7	44.9	45.1	45.3	45.5	45.7	45.9	46.1	46.3	46.5	46.7	46.9	47.1	47.3	47.5	47.7	47.9	48.1	48.3	48.5	48.7	48.9	49.1	49.3	49.5	49.7	49.9	50.1	50.3	50.5	50.7	50.9	51.1	51.3	51.5	51.7	51.9	52.1	52.3	52.5	52.7	52.9	53.1	53.3	53.5	53.7	53.9	54.1	54.3	54.5	54.7	54.9	55.1	55.3	55.5	55.7	55.9	56.1	56.3	56.5	56.7	56.9	57.1	57.3	57.5	57.7	57.9	58.1	58.3	58.5	58.7	58.9	59.1	59.3	59.5	59.7	59.9	60.1	60.3	60.5	60.7	60.9	61.1	61.3	61.5	61.7	61.9	62.1	62.3	62.5	62.7	62.9	63.1	63.3	63.5	63.7	63.9	64.1	64.3	64.5	64.7	64.9	65.1	65.3	65.5	65.7	65.9	66.1	66.3	66.5	66.7	66.9	67.1	67.3	67.5	67.7	67.9	68.1	68.3	68.5	68.7	68.9	69.1	69.3	69.5	69.7	69.9	70.1	70.3	70.5	70.7	70.9</

§ § G Selidor (iii)

The musical score is for two violas, Va. 1 and Va. 2, in 3/4 time. The score is divided into two systems, each with two staves. The first system (Va. 1 and Va. 2) starts with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second system (Va. 1 and Va. 2) starts with a 3/4 time signature and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score includes complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes, and dynamic markings such as *ppp* (pianissimo) and *p* (piano). The score also includes various musical notations, including accidentals, slurs, and articulation marks.



♩ = 36

§ H The Long Dune (ii)

8

121

3/8 5/8 3/8 2/4

ORD. -----> S.T.

Va. 1

Va. 2

M.S.T. S.T. ORD. ----->

*fff* *f* *mf* *p* *ppp* *f* *p*

7 0 1 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8

7 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 7 0 1 1/8 1/4

4:5

126

6/8 2/4 6/8 3/8

M.S.T. S.T. -----> M.S.T.

Va. 1

Va. 2

M.S.T. S.T. D.P. PIZZ.

*ff* *p* *mf* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *p* *mf*

7 V 1 1/8 0 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 7 1/8 1/4 3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8 V 1 0

3/8 1/2 5/8 3/4 7/8 V 1 0

3:2

131

2/4

V

Va. 1

Va. 2

( PIZZ. ) ( PIZZ. )

*ppp* *f* *mf* *mf*

7 0 1/8 7

Portland, OR  
Fresh Meadows, NY  
September 2014 - January 2015