



Points of Light

Kyle Snow

2015

for String Quartet

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Written during graduate studies
at the University of North Texas
for the UNT Composer's Quartet

Program Notes

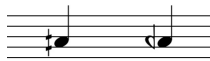
The idea for *Points of Light* came from a rather inauspicious source. While walking back from class, I noticed that someone had spilled glitter on the sidewalk. Even though they had tried to clean up the mess, it had left traces of glitter on the path which sprang to life in the Texas sun as I passed, like individual points of light. From there, I began to look into the various descriptions and manifestations of light (dim, coruscating, warm, refracted, blinding, etc.), upon which I based the various points.

Stylistically, *Points of Light* is strongly influenced the sound world and techniques of spectral (ironically, another way of describing light, meaning made by a range of colors of the spectrum) composers of the 70s and 80s, specifically Gérard Grisey and Tristan Murail.

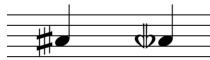
Instrumentation

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello

Performance Notes

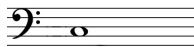


1/4 tone sharp 1/4 tone flat

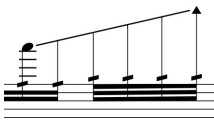


3/4 tone sharp 3/4 tone flat

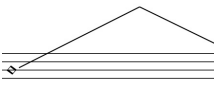
→ sul pont.



Gradually transition to indicated technique

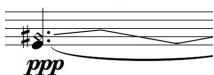


Glissando as high as possible over the given duration, rebowing with indicated tremolo along the way



Natural harmonic glissando - Begin with indicated natural harmonic. Lightly run fingers up and down string following the general contour while activating as many harmonics as possible.

harmonic gliss.



Artificial harmonic glissando - Begin with indicated artificial harmonic. Keep the fundamental note held while moving the second finger through the nearby nodes, following the general contour given

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$\text{♩} = 60$ 10"

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

let ring

sfz p ————— *ff*

3 6"

con sord.
sul pont.

pp

5

let ring

n ————— *mf*

7

7

con sord.
sul pont.

n *pp*

9

con sord.
sul pont.

n *p*

11

senza sord.

ord.
let ring

mp *n* *mp*

let ring

n *mf*

14

ord.
senza sord.

let ring

pp

mp

p

mf

n

f

let ring

pizz.

col legno
jeté

mp

n

16

let ring

n

mf

ord.

let ring

n

mf

senza sord.

let ring

n

mf

sul pont.

ppp

19

sul pont.

n < pp

n

mp

sul pont.

n

mf

9

22

ord.

let ring

6

p

mf

as high as possible

p

mf

f

n

6

6

6

6

ord. pizz.

ff

arco

let ring

n

mp

3/4

3/4

3/4

3/4

24

p *mf*

non-vibrato
con sord.

ppp

pp *mf*

ppp *mf*

[illegible]

30

arco

p — *mf* *p* — *mf*

n < *mp*

let ring

n — *mf*

33

p — *mf*

ord.
harmonic gliss.

ppp

pizz.

ff

36

let ring

n — *mf*

p — *mf*

n — *mp*

mp

p < *mf*

snap
pizz.

p *sfz* *mp*

38

mf

arco

col legno
jeté

p *mf* *n*

40

mp *pp*

pp *mp* *pp*

p *mp* *pp*

pp *mp* *pp*

43

mp *f*

mp *mf*

p *mp* *p*

p *mf* *p*

ppp

sul pont.
ppp

46

sul pont.
ppp

sul pont.
ppp

ord.
p *mf* *pp*

sul pont.

sul pont.

48

sul pont.
ppp

sul pont.
mp *ppp*

sul pont.
mp *ppp*

sul pont.
ord.

50

ord.
sul C
harmonic gliss.

sul pont.

ord.

52

mp

let ring

n

mf

54

ff

56

ord. 5

snap pizz. *ff*

arco. 5 *f* *ff* 3

ord. 6 snap pizz. 6 arco 6 *f* *ff*

sul pont. *ppp*

ord. *sffz* *ff*

col legno jeté

58

as high as possible

sul pont.

5 *mp* 6 3

mf

as high as possible

sul pont.

6 *ff* *f* 6 *mp*

pizz.

59

sul pont.

pp

as high as possible

ord.

3

6

3

p

ord.

6

mf

p

arco
senza vib.

mf

3/4

3/4

3/4

3/4

60

p

pp

ord.

p

6

sul pont.

3

mp

6

3

pp

arco
senza vib.

mf

3/4

3/4

3/4

3/4

61

6

n

ppp

molto vib.

ppp

63

increase vibrato with dynamic level

pp ————— *mp*

increase vibrato with dynamic level
sul pont.

mp

ord.

p ————— *mf*

increase vibrato with dynamic level

3 ord.

pp ————— *mp*

ord.

p ————— *mf*

p ————— *mp*

mp ————— *mf*

sul pont.

mf

66

ord.
 $\text{b}^{\flat} \text{2.}$

mp

mf

sul pont.

harmonic gliss.

continue glissandi ad libitum -----
increase glissando speed with dynamics

69

ord.

72

sul pont.

fff

10/4

3/4

sul pont.

fff

10/4

3/4

fff

10/4

3/4

fff

10/4

3/4

fff

10/4

3/4

74

normal vib.
ord.

mf

6

normal vib.

3

mf

6

7

normal vib.

6

mf

f

normal vib.

sul pont.

mf

3

6

75

f

sul pont.

ord.

ff

as high as possible

pizz.

arco

76

ff

p — *f* — *p*

sul pont.

ff

sul pont.

mf

pizz.

ff

77

ord.

f *mf*

ord. let ring *mp* *f*

let ring *mp* *f*

triplet tremolo

ord. let ring *mp*

arco *f*

3 6 5

78

let ring *mp* *mf*

f

sul pont. *p* *mf* *p*

col legno jeté

>mf *decresc.*

79

5

sul pont.

ppp *mp* *p*

5

ord.

pp *mp*

80

pp

sul pont.

ppp *pp*

pp *mp*

82

ord.

ppp

pizz.

ppp