

John MacCallum

El Árbol de la noche triste

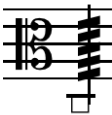
for Ellen Ruth Rose

Scordatura:

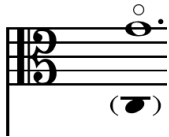
The strings of the viola are tuned to the 5th, 7th, 11th, and 16th partials of the low A of a piano (27.5 Hz). Relative to the normal tuning of the viola's strings, the C string is tuned almost a semitone sharp, the G is slightly flat, the D is almost exactly a quarter-tone sharp, and the A is normal.

- I: 440 Hz
- II: 302.5 Hz
- III: 192.5 Hz
- IV: 137.5 Hz

Notation:

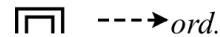


Pitchless noise: Mute the string with the left hand and bow at a roughly 45° angle *sul tasto* with the tip of the bow.



Natural harmonic: The black note indicated in parentheses is the string on which the harmonic should be played (remember that due to the *scordatura*, this sounding G will not be the same as the 2nd partial of the G string). The top note is the sounding pitch notated without any microtonal indications, i.e., this is the pitch that would sound if the C string were tuned normally.

Positions are not indicated—if a harmonic can be produced in more than one position on the indicated string, you may choose which position to use.



Overbowed: This should be a low, rich, growl—not entirely pitchless. If possible, bring the subtone out. Whatever bowing technique is used, give preference to one allows for a smooth transition from this overbowed sound to *ordinario*.

<p><i>"Trescientas rosas morenas lleva tu pechera blanca. Tu sangre rezuma y huele alrededor de tu faja. Pero yo ya no soy yo Ni mi casa es ya mi casa."</i></p> <p>--García Lorca, <i>Romance sonámbulo</i></p>	<p>"Three hundred dark roses cover your white shirt. Your blood oozes and reeks around your sash. But I am no longer I, nor is my house any longer my house."</p>
<p><i>Ahora todo está por el suelo, perdido, que no hay cosa.</i></p> <p>Now all is in the dust, lost, there is nothing left.</p> <p>--Bernal Díaz del Castillo</p>	