
Umbra

for string quartet

Andrew Martin

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Umbra is a Latin word that describes the darkest part of a shadow. In this piece, I attempted to take advantage of the variety of timbres and colors that a string quartet is able to provide in order to paint an aural picture of the unsettling notion of complete darkness.

Umbra

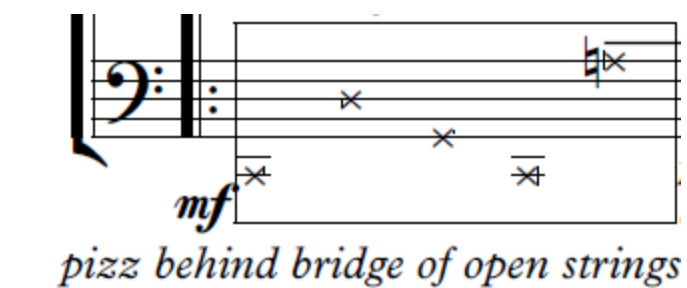
Performance Instructions



Slow glissandi. Each line that is not a barline indicates the quarter note beat.



X noteheads with beams indicate a heavy bow stroke with extra pressure, producing a scraping sound.



X noteheads without beams indicate a pizzicato behind the bridge.
Notes inside a box are to be played in a repetitive unmeasured fashion until the end of the arrow.



Quarter tone flat is indicated with a backwards flat marking



Quarter tone sharp is indicated with a halved sharp marking.

Umbra

Moderato $\text{♩} = 90$

Andrew Lee Martin

Senza misura

N. Vib. *poco vibrato*

1. **A** 2. *ord.*

Violin I *ppp* *con tutta la forza fff* *fff misterioso* *ppp* *punta d'arco frenzied whispers*

Violin II *ppp* *poco vibrato* *fff* *ord. punta d'arco* *ppp misterioso* *frenzied whispers*

Viola *ppp* *N. Vib.* *poco vibrato* *con tutta la forza fff* *ord.* *misterioso* *ppp* *frenzied whispers punta d'arco*

Violoncello *ppp* *poco vibrato* *con tutta la forza fff* *ord.* *misterioso* *ppp* *frenzied whispers punta d'arco*

8

12

B

ord 3 *pp*

ord 3 *pp*

poco a poco sul pont 5 6 7

poco a poco sul pont 3 5 6

5 3 3 5 3 3

16

sul pont 7 *mf* *pp*

sul pont 6 7 6 *pp*

ord 6 7 6 *fff* 7

ord. 5 6 7 *fff* 6

pizz 3 *p*

pizz 3 *p*

N.V. *p* *f* *p*

N.V. *p* *mf* *p*

18 *sul pont* *molto ritard*

ppp 6 5 3

sul pont *molto ritard*

ppp 7 6 5 3

molto ritard

3 3 3

molto ritard

3

C

pizz behind bridge of open strings
play in random order;
do not synchronize with others

20 *ord* 7

fff *mf*

ord. 6

fff *p* *do not synchronize with others* *pizz*

pizz
do not synchronize with others

mf *play in random order;*
do not synchronize with others

N.V. *niente ppp* *f*

N.V. *niente ppp* *f*

mf

D

Senza misura
ord N.V. *poco vib.*

ppp *fff* *ppp* *fff*

ord. N.V. *poco vib.* *N.V.* *poco vib.*

ppp *fff* *ppp* *fff*

ord. N.V. *poco vib.* *N.V.* *poco vib.*

ppp *fff* *ppp* *fff*

ord. N.V. *poco vib.* *N.V.* *poco vib.*

ppp *fff* *ppp* *fff*

pizz behind bridge of open strings

32 *delicato*

ppp legatissimo sempre

ppp legatissimo sempre

ppp legatissimo sempre

ppp legatissimo sempre

34 *sul pont*

accelerando *poco a poco ord*

accelerando *poco a poco ord*

accelerando *poco a poco ord*

accelerando *poco a poco ord*

6 52

vib *N.V.* *vib* *N.V.* *vib* *N.V.*

mf *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

N.V. *vib* *N.V.* *sul pont* *sf* *N.V.* *vib* *N.V.*

p *mf* *p* *sf* *8va* *p* *mf* *p*

N.V. *vib* *N.V.* *sul pont* *sf* *8va* *N.V.* *vib* *N.V.*

p *mf* *p* *sf* *8va* *p* *mf* *p*

mf *p* *sf*

I

60 (8)

vib *N.V.* *vib* *N.V.*

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

N.V. *vib* *N.V.* *vib* *ff* *punta d'arco* *p* *5*

ff *mf* *p* *sf*

ff *ff* *p* *3* *sf*

J

Moderato ♩=90

67

K

7

p

sf *p* *sf*

p *5*

sf *p* *5*

p *pizz*

p *pizz*

p *pizz*

p *pizz*

72

p

sf *p* *sf*

p *5*

sf *p* *5*

p *pizz*

p *pizz*

p *pizz*

p *pizz*

75

5 5 5 7

f *p* niente

6 6 5

f *p* niente

6 5

f *p* niente

6 5

f *p* niente