

BRAINSTAVES

for string quartet and EEG

Cliff Kerr | May 2019

A As if you are a brain in a vat (sonoro, ♩ = 104)

Bring out the melody as you build up the chord

First system of musical notation for the string quartet (VI, VII, Va, Vc) and EEG. The score is in 4/4 time, with a tempo of ♩ = 104. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The VI and VII staves are in treble clef, Va is in alto clef, and Vc is in bass clef. The EEG part is represented by a series of horizontal lines with notes. The VI and VII staves have a melodic line starting in measure 6, with dynamics *p* and *mf*. The Va and Vc staves have a sustained chord starting in measure 3, with dynamics *ppp* and *mf*.

Second system of musical notation for the string quartet (VI, VII, Va, Vc) and EEG. The score is in 4/4 time, with a tempo of ♩ = 104. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The VI and VII staves are in treble clef, Va is in alto clef, and Vc is in bass clef. The EEG part is represented by a series of horizontal lines with notes. The VI and VII staves have a melodic line starting in measure 10, with dynamics *ff* and *ppp*. The Va and Vc staves have a sustained chord starting in measure 10, with dynamics *ff* and *ppp*.

19 **B** Evolving from sweet to insane (poco a poco crescendo e agitato, ♩ = ♩, ♩ = 104)

VI *pp*

VII *pp pizz.*

Va *pp pizz.*

Vc *pp pizz.*

26 VI: sweet and lyrical, like a fine stream of honey, but gradually getting louder too

VI *mp*

VII *p* *mp*

Va *p* *mp*

Vc *p* *mp*

30

VI *mf*

VII *mf*

Va *mf*

Vc *mf*

33

VI *f*

VII *f*

Va *f*

Vc *f*

36

VI *ff*

VII *ff*

Va *ff*

Vc *ff*

39

VI *pizz.*

VII

Va

Vc

$\text{♩} = 104$

pp

pp

pp

pp

CStrong, fat, angry, but gradually relaxing (*poco a poco diminuendo e sul pont.*)

42

VI *pp* arco *ff*

VII *pp* arco *ff*

Va *pp* arco *ff*

Vc *pp* arco *ff*

44

VI *pp* *ff*

VII *pp* *ff*

Va *pp* *ff*

Vc *pp* *ff*

46

VI *pp* *f*

VII *pp* *f*

Va *pp* *f*

Vc *pp* *f*

48

VI *pp* *f*

VII *pp* *f*

Va *pp* *f*

Vc *pp* *f*

50

VI *mf* *mp*

VII *mf* *mp*

Va *mf* *mp*

Vc *mf* *mp*

Gradually start doing more and more of a glissando in a random direction on each (separate) note

52

VI *p*

VII *p*

Va *p*

Vc *p*

Glissandi should be big by now

Short notes should be barely audible under VII

55

VI *pp*

VII *pp* *f*

Va *pp*

Vc *pp*

Make eye contact with each other throughout; play furtively (razor-sharp onset and offset, sul pont.)

61

VI *f*

VII *f*

Va *f*

Vc *f*

D

Drunk; sempre glissando; lean into the glissandi (and lean for real, as if drunk); poco a poco crescendo

63

VI *ppp* *simile*

VII *ppp* *simile*

Va *ppp* *simile*

Vc *ppp* *simile*

70

VI *pp* *p*

VII *pp* *p*

Va *pp* *p*

Vc *p*

75

VI *mp* *mf*

VII *mp* *mf*

Va *mp* *mf*

Vc *mp* *mf*

79

VI *f*

VII *f*

Va *f*

Vc *f*

E Like an echo in a busy train station, but the train is coming (sternly; poco a poco crescendo)

84

VI

VII

Va

Vc

f

94 Legatissimo

VI

VII

Va

Vc

ppp

pp

p

mp

Lift off the bow
in a theatrically
exaggerated gesture

Bow the air for a bit and gradually lower the bow
onto the string until there is a crazy arpeggiato

98

VI

VII

Va

Vc

mf

f

ff

ppp

fff

106

VI *pp*

VII *pp*

Va *pp*

Vc *mf*

108

VI

VII

Va

Vc

111

VI *mf*

VII

Va

Vc

simile

114

VI

VII

Va

Vc

117

VI

VII

Va

Vc

mf

120

VI

VII

Va

Vc

122

VI

VII

Va

Vc

p

G Still lyrical, but with the wide-eyed wonder of having just discovered the top of your head

125

VI *mp*

VII

Va *p*

Vc *f* pizz., gliss., articulate each note

129

VI

VII

Va

Vc

133

VI

VII

Va *p*

Vc

136

VI *f* pizz., gliss.

VII

Va *f* pizz., gliss.

Vc

139

VI

VII

Va

Vc

142

VI

VII

Va

Vc

146

Stare at each other

VI

VII

Va

Vc

*pizz.,
gliss.*

ff

p

ff

p

ff

p

ff

p

12/8

H

♩. = 104 Evolving from insane to sweet (poco a poco diminuendo e rallentando)

150

VI

152

VI

155

VI

158

VI

Gradually start doing more and more of a glissando in a random direction on each pizz.

164

VI *pp* *f*

VII *pp*

Va *pp*

Vc *pp*