

BRAINSTAVES

for string quartet and EEG

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A

As if you are a brain in a vat (sonoro, $\text{♩} = 104$)

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. 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 single line with a series of notes. The dynamics range from *pppp* to *mf*. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 104$.

Second system of musical notation for the string quartet (VI, VII, Va, Vc) and EEG. The score is in 4/4 time. 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 single line with a series of notes. The dynamics range from *ppp* to *fff*. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 104$.

Ossia: invert the dynamics

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

36

VI *ff*

VII *ff*

Va *ff*

Vc *ff*

39

VI *pizz.*

VII

Va

Vc

$\text{♩} = 104$

ff

ff

ff

ff

Ossia: *pp*

42 **C**

VI *arco* **ff**

VII *arco* **ff**

Va *arco* **ff**

Vc *arco* **ff**

Ossia: still *pp* **ff** *arco*

Ossia: *ff*

44

VI

VII

Va

Vc

Ossia: *subito pp*

Ossia: *subito ff*

46

VI **f**

VII **f**

Va **f**

Vc **f**

48

VI

VII

Va

Vc

50

VI *mf* *mp*

VII *mf* *mp*

Va *mf* *mp*

Vc *mf* *mp*

52

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

VI *p*

VII *p*

Va *p*

Vc *p*

55

Glissandi should be big by now

Short notes should be barely audible under VII

VI *pp*

VII *pp* *f*

Va *pp*

Vc *pp*

61

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

VI *ppp*

VII *ppp*

Va *ppp*

Vc *ppp*

Ossia: *ff* *ppp*

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

VI *ppp*

VII *ppp*

Va *ppp*

Vc *ppp*

70

VI *pp*

VII *pp*

Va *pp*

Vc *pp*

p

75

VI *mp*

VII *mp*

Va *mp*

Vc *mp*

mf

79

VI *f*

VII *f*

Va *f*

Vc *f*

E

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

84

VI *ppp*

VII *ppp*

Va *ppp*

Vc *ppp*

Ossia: *ff* *ppp*

94 Legatissimo

VI *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

VII *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

Va *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

Vc *ppp* *pp* *p* *mp*

Ossia: still *ppp*

98

VI *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *ppp*

VII *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *ppp*

Va *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *ppp*

Vc *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *ppp*

Ossia: *ppp*

Lift off the bow in a theatrically exaggerated gesture

Everyone arpeggiato like crazy; maintain speed but gradually lift the bow until it no longer touches the strings, and then bow the air for a bit

106

F

Focused, lyrical; light, whimsical background accompaniment; impassioned solos

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

mf

120

VI

VII

Va

Vc

122

VI

VII

Va

Vc

p

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

VI *mp*

VII *mp*

Va *p*

Vc *f pizz., gliss.*

129

VI

VII

Va

Vc

133

VI

VII *p*

Va

Vc

136

VI *f pizz., gliss.*

VII

Va *f pizz., gliss.*

Vc

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

150

VI *ff*

VII *ff*

Va *ff*

Vc *ff*

Ossia: *pp*, poco a poco cresc.

152

VI *ff arco*

VII *f*

Va *f*

Vc *f*

Ossia: *ff*, then continue as written

155

VI *mf*

VII *mf*

Va *mf*

Vc *mf*

158

VI *mp*

VII *mp*

Va *mp*

Vc *mp*

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

VI *p*

VII *p*

Va *p*

Vc *p*

164 *pp* *f*

VI *pp* *f*

VII *pp*

Va *pp*

Vc *pp*

168 Chord should enter inaudibly under VI Smile broadly :D *ff* *mp* pizz. *ppp* *ff* *ppp* *ff* *ppp* *ff*

VI *ff* *mp* pizz.

VII *ppp* *ff*

Va *ppp* *ff*

Vc *ppp* *ff*

Ossia: start *subito ff* and tutti dim. to *ppp*