

Daniel Godsil

de rerum natura I “el leñador”

for string quartet + video projection



But it always happens that we hear the sound of the thunder some time after we perceive it lighten, because objects, which affect the hearing, always come more slowly to the ears, than those, which affect the sight, arrive at the eye. This you may easily understand from the following instance. If you observe a man at a distance cutting down the trunk of a tree with an axe, you will see the stroke itself before the noise of the stroke makes any sound in the air.

Lucretius, De Rerum Natura e. vi. 160-184

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- use very little to no vibrato throughout, except in passages marked "molto vibrato"
- free bowing throughout; use as much bow as required to achieve notated dynamic levels
- all glissandi refer to *sempre glissandi*, indicated with a solid line
- in gliss. passages interspersed with rests, left hand maintains a continuous gliss:



- air noise (suppression of pitch with left hand) is indicated with X noteheads
- abbreviations used for bowing positions:
 - ST = sul tasto
 - SP = sul ponticello
 - pSP = poco sul ponticello

*continuous change between bowing positions indicated with arrows

- gradation in bow pressure is indicated with wedges:



- whip crescendo (slow-to-fast crescendo with sudden stop at end):
[the mute symbol over rest indicates sudden stop]



- quarter tone alterations are indicated with arrow accidentals
- ALL tremolos in the piece are unmeasured

ELECTRONIC REQUIREMENTS

- this piece was written to accompany a video (provided by composer)
- exact coordination with video (i.e. specific "hit points") is NOT required, EXCEPT for the opening 18" silence
- all instruments should be amplified

DURATION 10 minutes

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de rerum natura I ("el leñador")

Daniel Godsil (2019)

for amplified string quartet + video projection

Expansive ♩ = 72

START video

18"

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

mf *pp*

f *pp* *ff*

SP — ord. SP

l.v. sempre

ff as harsh as possible

4

mf *p* *f* *pp*

SP — ord.

mf *mf* *p* *f*

(SP) — ord.

ff *p sub.* *ff*

SP — ord.

ff *p sub.* *ff* *f* *possib.* *p sub.* *l.v.*

A

10

Musical score for measures 10-14. The score is written for four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello/Double Bass. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 10 starts with a *mf* dynamic in the Violin I staff. The Violin II staff begins with a *p* dynamic. The Viola staff starts with a *pp* dynamic. The Cello/Double Bass staff begins with a *ff* dynamic. Performance markings include *SP* (Sustained Pedal) in the Violin II and Cello/Double Bass staves, and *ord. SP* (ordered Sustained Pedal) in the Violin II staff. A box labeled 'A' is positioned above the first staff.

15

Musical score for measures 15-17. The score continues from the previous system. Measure 15 features a *ff* dynamic in the Violin I staff. The Violin II staff has a *ff* dynamic. The Viola staff starts with a *ff* dynamic. The Cello/Double Bass staff begins with a *sfz* dynamic. Performance markings include *SP* (Sustained Pedal) in the Violin I and Viola staves. The Cello/Double Bass staff includes triplets in measures 16 and 17.

18

SP
mf
pp
mf
ord.
pp
mf
ord. SP
sfz pp
feroce
mf > p
trem. non trem.
SP
non trem.
pp
ff

22

B

pp
mf
p
pp
mf
p
trem.
mf
pp
ff
pp
ff
p

Musical score for measures 27-31. The score consists of four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. Measure 27 starts with a **fff** dynamic and a **>** accent. Measure 28 features a **sffz** dynamic, a **^** accent, and a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 29 has a **pp** dynamic. Measure 30 includes dynamics **fpp**, **ff**, and **pp sub.**, along with a triplet of eighth notes and a circled cross symbol. Measure 31 continues with **pp** dynamics. The bottom staff has a **pp** dynamic line.

C

Musical score for measures 32-35. The score consists of four staves. Measure 32 starts with a **fff** dynamic and a **>** accent. Measure 33 has a **pp** dynamic. Measure 34 includes dynamics **ff**, **pp**, **ff**, and **pp**, along with a **ff** dynamic. Measure 35 features dynamics **pp**, **f** *possib.*, and **SP**. The bottom staff has a **pp** dynamic line and **SP** markings.

37

Musical score for measures 37-40. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4. The music features dynamic markings of *pp* (pianissimo) and *ff* (fortissimo), with crescendos and decrescendos. Performance instructions include "air noise" and "l.v." (lento vivace). Triplet markings (3) are present over several notes. The notation includes slurs, accents, and various note values.

41

col legno tratto

ord.

Musical score for measures 41-43. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 5/4 and then to 4/4. The music features dynamic markings of *pp* (pianissimo) and *ff* (fortissimo), with crescendos and decrescendos. Performance instructions include "col legno tratto" (col legno tratto), "f possib." (forzando possibile), "trem. 6" (tremolo 6), and "ord." (ordinario). Triplet markings (3) are present over several notes. The notation includes slurs, accents, and various note values.

44

SP
mf

ord. → SP ord.
pp ff pp

pp ff pp

SP → ord.
pp ff

trem. 6 6 6 3 6
pp ff ff

46

ord.
p f p sffz feroce

ord.
p f p pp

pSP SP
p f p pp

6
pp f p pp

D

50

Musical score for measures 50-54. The score consists of four staves. The first staff (treble clef) has a whole rest in measure 50, followed by a half note G4 in measure 51, and a half note G4 in measure 52. The second staff (treble clef) has a whole rest in measure 50, followed by a half note G4 in measure 51, and a half note G4 in measure 52. The third staff (bass clef) has a whole rest in measure 50, followed by a half note G4 in measure 51, and a half note G4 in measure 52. The fourth staff (bass clef) has a whole rest in measure 50, followed by a half note G4 in measure 51, and a half note G4 in measure 52. Dynamics include *pp*, *p*, *f* *possib.*, and *pp*. Performance instructions include *SP*, *ord.*, and *pp*.

55

Musical score for measures 55-59. The score consists of four staves. The first staff (treble clef) has a half note G4 in measure 55, followed by a half note G4 in measure 56, a half note G4 in measure 57, and a half note G4 in measure 58. The second staff (treble clef) has a half note G4 in measure 55, followed by a half note G4 in measure 56, a half note G4 in measure 57, and a half note G4 in measure 58. The third staff (bass clef) has a half note G4 in measure 55, followed by a half note G4 in measure 56, a half note G4 in measure 57, and a half note G4 in measure 58. The fourth staff (bass clef) has a half note G4 in measure 55, followed by a half note G4 in measure 56, a half note G4 in measure 57, and a half note G4 in measure 58. Dynamics include *pp*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. Performance instructions include *SP*, *ord.*, *ST*, and *p nervously*.

E Mumbled; as if hearing speech through glass

59

59

con sord.

mp *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

con sord.

mp *pp* *mp* *pp* *p mp*

64

64

con sord.

pp *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *p*

con sord.

p legato

p *pp* *p* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf*

67

Musical score for measures 67-69. The score is written for four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The music features dynamic markings such as *p*, *pp*, *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. Slurs and hairpins indicate phrasing and dynamics. The first staff has dynamics *p*, *pp*, *mf*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. The second staff has dynamics *mf*, *p*, *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *p*. The third staff has dynamics *pp* and *mp*. The fourth staff has dynamics *mf* and *pp*.

70

Musical score for measures 70-73. The score is written for four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The music features dynamic markings such as *mp*, *mf*, *pp*, and *p*. Slurs and hairpins indicate phrasing and dynamics. The first staff has dynamics *mp*, *mf*, and *pp*. The second staff has dynamics *pp*, *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. The third staff has dynamics *mf* and *pp*. The fourth staff has a dynamic marking *p* and the instruction *legato*. At the end of the system, there is a *poco* marking with a hairpin.

Fast, faint, very high register pattering;
Indeterminate pitch and rhythm, with periodic silences;
Sempre tremolo; add open E string 2-3 times

75

mp-mf

senza sord.

pp mp pp mp pp < mp pp mp p

senza sord.

mp pp < mp pp mp pp p > pp

ord.

mp > pp p

79

mp <

pp < mf pp sub. < mf pp

p pp < mf >

p < mp > pp mp pp mp ppp p < mf >

mf mp

SP

82

mf \rightrightarrows *pp* \leftarrow *mf* \rightrightarrows *pp* \leftarrow *f* \rightrightarrows *p* \leftarrow *f* sub. \rightrightarrows *p* \leftarrow *f* sub. \rightrightarrows *p*

pp \leftarrow *mf* \rightrightarrows *pp* \leftarrow *f* \rightrightarrows *pp* \leftarrow *mf* \rightrightarrows *pp* \leftarrow *f* \rightrightarrows

pp \leftarrow *mf* \rightrightarrows *pp* \leftarrow *pp* \leftarrow *f* \rightrightarrows *p*

like morse code...

85

mp *cresc. poco a poco* \rightrightarrows *f*

p *mf* \rightrightarrows *p* *cresc. poco a poco* \rightrightarrows *f*

p *cresc. poco a poco* \rightrightarrows *f*

p *cresc.*

F Sudden outburst; intense

88

pp sub. *ff* *p* *f* *ff*

vib. *p sub.* *ff* *p* *f* *p*

p sub. *ff* *p* *p*

f *p sub.* *ff* *p*

92

p *f* *p* *ff*

ff *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

f *p* *ff* *p* *f*

f *p* *ff* *p* *f*

G Bellicose

96

sfz feroce

pp *ff* non trem. trem.

ff *p* *pp* *ff* non trem. trem.

p *f* *p* *ff* non trem. trem.

(II) non trem. trem.

pp *f* *p* *ff* *pp* *ff* non trem. *fff feroce*

H Vertiginous

100

f *ff* *p* *ff*

f *ff* *p* *ff*

f *ff* *pp*

pp sub. *ff* *p*

105

Musical score for measures 105-109. The score consists of four staves. The first staff has dynamics *p*, *p*, *ff*, *p*, and *ff*. The second staff has dynamics *p*, *ff*, and *ff*. The third staff has dynamics *ff*, *p*, and *ff*. The fourth staff has dynamics *ff* and *p*. The notation includes various note values, rests, and slurs. The word "non trem." appears at the end of the second and third staves.

110

Musical score for measures 110-114. The score consists of four staves. A box containing the number "1" is positioned above the second staff. The first staff has dynamics *ff*. The second staff has dynamics *ff*, *mf*, and *f*. The third staff has dynamics *f*, *ff*, and *mf*. The fourth staff has dynamics *p*, *ff*, *sffz*, and *sffz*. The notation includes various note values, rests, slurs, and accents. The word "trem." appears above the second and third staves. The word "pSP non trem." appears at the top right of the system.

115

Musical score for measures 115-120. The score consists of four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 115 starts with a treble clef staff containing a tremolo (trem.) and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *p cresc. poco a poco*. Measure 116 features a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *ff* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *p cresc. poco a poco*. Measure 117 has a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *p* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *ff*. Measure 118 includes a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *ff* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *ff*. Measure 119 has a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pSP non trem.* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *ff*. Measure 120 ends with a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *ff* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *ff*.

J

121

Musical score for measures 121-125. The score consists of four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has one sharp (F#). Measure 121 starts with a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp*. Measure 122 has a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp*. Measure 123 includes a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp sub.*. Measure 124 has a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp*. Measure 125 ends with a treble clef staff with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a bass clef staff with a dynamic marking of *fff*.

VUOTA

K Machine-like ♩ = 144

give each tremolo quarter note in this section a distinct attack, holding notes for full value; the result should be an articulated stream of tremolo sound

♩ →
137

Musical score for measures 137-141. The score is written for four staves: two treble clefs (top two) and two bass clefs (bottom two). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 216. The dynamic marking *pp sub.* is present in the first three measures of each staff. The notation includes chords, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes with accents.

♩ = 144

ord. →
non trem.

142

Musical score for measures 142-146. The score is written for four staves: two treble clefs (top two) and two bass clefs (bottom two). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The tempo is marked as ♩ = 144. The dynamic marking *p* is present in the first measure of the top staff. The notation includes chords, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes with accents. A dashed line with an arrow indicates a performance instruction: "ord. non trem." (order, non-tremolo).

♩ = 216

ord.

147 (ord.) → SP

Musical score for measures 147-151. The score is written for four staves. The first staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f* in measure 147 and *p* in measure 148. Above the first staff, there are two curved arrows: a solid one labeled "ord." and a dashed one labeled "SP". The second and third staves contain rhythmic accompaniment with various note values and rests. The fourth staff contains a bass line with notes and rests.

L ♩ = 144

152 (ord.) → SP

non vib.

Musical score for measures 152-156. The score is written for four staves. The first staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *f* in measure 152 and *sfz* in measure 153. Above the first staff, there are two curved arrows: a solid one labeled "ord." and a dashed one labeled "SP". In measure 153, there is a box containing the letter "L" and a tempo marking of "♩ = 144". The second and third staves contain rhythmic accompaniment. The fourth staff contains a bass line with notes and rests. Dynamic markings include *p cresc.* in measures 153 and 154, *ff* and *mp* in measure 155, and *mp* at the bottom right of the page.

157

vib. —————> molto vib.

trem.

ff *fff*

ff *fff*

ff *fff*

ff *mp* *ff* *fff*

162

M

ord. —————>

non trem. trem.

fp *fff* *p*

non trem. trem. non trem. molto vib.

fp *fff* *p* *ff p sub.*

non trem. trem. non trem. molto vib.

fp *fff* *ff* *ff p sub.*

non trem. trem. non trem. molto vib.

fp *fff* *ff* *p*

167 (ord.) → SP

ord. non trem. →

ff

molto

sfz sfz

ord.

p

non trem. molto vib.

ff p sub.

molto

sfz sfz

ff

non trem. molto vib.

ff p sub.

ff sub.

sfz sfz

ff

172 (ord.) → SP

ord. → SP

ff

molto

fff

ord.

non trem. molto vib.

p

molto

fff

fff

ff sub.

fff

176 ord. —————> SP
non trem.

fp *ff*

non trem.
molto vib. >

p *ff* *p sub.*

molto *ff*

non trem.
molto vib. >

ff *p sub.*

molto *ff*

non trem.
molto vib.

ff *p* *ff sub.*

N ♩ = 72

182 ord. —————> SP

mf *p*

ff *p sub.*

p *ff* *p sub.*

SP —————> ST

mf *pp*

mf *ff* *p*

187



Musical score for measures 187-190. The score consists of four staves. The first staff begins with a circled 'O' and a 'pSP' dynamic. It contains notes with dynamics *mf*, *sfz*, and *pSP*. The second staff has dynamics *sfz*, *mf*, and *mp*. The third staff includes dynamics *mf*, *pp*, *sfz*, and *mf*, along with performance instructions 'SP' and 'ST'. The fourth staff features dynamics *ff sub.*, *sfz*, and *mf*. The piece concludes with the instruction 'Dead ♩ = 36'.

191

Musical score for measures 191-194. The score consists of four staves. The first staff has dynamics *mp*, *p*, and *SP*. The second staff has dynamics *mp* and *pSP*. The third staff has dynamics *mp* and 'air noise'. The fourth staff has dynamics *mSP*, 'air noise', and *SP*. The piece concludes with the instruction 'Dead ♩ = 36'.

195 ST

mp

ST

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