

# *STRING TRIO*

for violin, viola and cello

by

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***Program Notes:***

***String Trio***, by Joe L. Alexander, was started in 1983 while the composer was working on his master's degree at James Madison University. The first two movements were composed for friends and premiered in Harrisonburg, Virginia on April 13, 1984. The last two movements were completed in the Spring of 1988 while the composer was a Doctoral student at the University of North Texas. The full version was premiered on April 27, 1988 in Denton, Texas. The trio has been played at SCI regional conference meetings hosted in San Antonio, Texas and Lexington, Virginia.

***Timings:***

I. Adagio	1:45
II. Allegretto	2:05
III. Andante	2:22
IV. Giocoso	2:25

# String Trio

## I. Adagio

Joe L. Alexander

$\text{♩} = 80$

Violin

Viola

Cello

*pp*

*pp*

4

*p* *mp* *pp*

*pp* *p*

*p* *pp*

3

6

3

7

*mf*

A Tempo

3

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a string trio (Violin, Viola, and Cello) in 3/4 time, marked Adagio. The tempo is indicated as 80 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-3) features the Violin and Cello parts, both starting with a piano-piano (*pp*) dynamic. The Violin part has a fermata over the first measure. The second system (measures 4-6) shows the Violin, Viola, and Cello parts. The Violin part has dynamics of *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. The Viola part has dynamics of *pp* and *p*. The Cello part has dynamics of *p* and *pp*. There are triplets in measures 5 and 6. The third system (measures 7-9) is marked 'A Tempo' and starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Violin part has a triplet in measure 8. The Viola part has a triplet in measure 9. The Cello part has a triplet in measure 9.

11

Musical score for measures 11-13. The score is written for three staves: Treble, Alto, and Bass. Measure 11 features a melodic line in the Treble staff and a bass line in the Bass staff. Measure 12 continues the melodic development. Measure 13 shows a change in texture with a sustained chord in the Treble staff and a moving bass line. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

14

Musical score for measures 14-17. The score is written for three staves: Treble, Alto, and Bass. Measure 14 begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in the Treble staff. Measure 15 has a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) in the Alto staff. Measure 16 features a dynamic marking of *f* (forte) in the Alto staff and a triplet of eighth notes in the Bass staff. Measure 17 concludes with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in the Treble staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

## II Allegretto

$\text{♩} = 168-240$

Violin

Viola

Cello

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

5

gliss

*f*

gliss

*f*

*pizz.*

*subito p* *mf*

9

*pizz.*

*arco* *pizz. arco*

13 *arco*

13 *arco*

17

17

21 *pizz.*  
*f*

A 0  
D 4  
gliss

21 *pizz.*  
*f*

A 0  
D 4  
gliss

25

*pizz.* *arco* *mf*  
*f* *pizz.*

25

*pizz.* *arco* *mf*  
*f* *pizz.*

29

29

*p*

*pizz.*

*mp*

*arco*

*pizz.*

*p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 29, 30, and 31. Measure 29 features a treble clef with a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, and a bass clef with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Measure 30 shows a continuation of the treble part and a change in the bass line. Measure 31 includes a *pizz.* instruction in the treble and a *p* dynamic marking in the bass.

32

32

*arco*

*pizz.*

*arco*

*pp*

*rit.*

*pp*

*pp*

*rit.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 32, 33, and 34. Measure 32 has a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a rhythmic accompaniment. Measure 33 continues the melodic development in the treble. Measure 34 features a *pp* dynamic and a *rit.* (ritardando) marking in all staves.

35

A Tempo

35

*p*

*f*

A Tempo

*pizz.*

*arco*

*mp*

A Tempo

*pizz.*

*arco*

*mp*

*mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 35, 36, 37, and 38. Measure 35 starts with a *p* dynamic in the treble and a *mp* dynamic in the bass. Measure 36 features a *f* dynamic in the treble. Measure 37 includes a *mf* dynamic in the bass. Measure 38 shows a *mf* dynamic in the bass and a *pizz.* instruction in the treble.

39

39

*f*

*mp*

*mf*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 39, 40, and 41. Measure 39 has a *f* dynamic in the bass. Measure 40 features a *mp* dynamic in the bass. Measure 41 includes a *mf* dynamic in the bass.

42

3 3 *f*

Musical score for measures 42-45. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and a lower Bass staff. Measure 42 features a triplet of eighth notes in the Treble staff and a triplet of eighth notes in the Bass staff. Measure 43 continues the triplet in the Treble staff. Measure 44 has a forte (*f*) dynamic and accents (>) on the eighth notes in the Treble and Bass staves. Measure 45 has a forte (*f*) dynamic and accents (>) on the eighth notes in the Bass staff.

46

Musical score for measures 46-49. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and a lower Bass staff. Measure 46 has a forte (*f*) dynamic and accents (>) on the eighth notes in the Treble and Bass staves. Measure 47 has a forte (*f*) dynamic and accents (>) on the eighth notes in the Treble and Bass staves. Measure 48 has a forte (*f*) dynamic and accents (>) on the eighth notes in the Treble and Bass staves. Measure 49 has a forte (*f*) dynamic and accents (>) on the eighth notes in the Treble and Bass staves.

51

*p* *f* *p* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *mf* *f* *mf*

Musical score for measures 51-54. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and a lower Bass staff. Measure 51 has a piano (*p*) dynamic in the Treble staff. Measure 52 has a piano (*p*) dynamic in the Treble staff and a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic in the Bass staff. Measure 53 has a forte (*f*) dynamic in the Treble staff and a forte (*f*) dynamic in the Bass staff. Measure 54 has a forte (*f*) dynamic in the Treble staff and a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic in the Bass staff. The Bass staff includes markings for *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *arco* (arco).

55

*f* *ff* *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *arco* *f* *ff*

Musical score for measures 55-58. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and a lower Bass staff. Measure 55 has a forte (*f*) dynamic in the Treble staff. Measure 56 has a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic in the Treble staff. Measure 57 has a forte (*f*) dynamic in the Treble staff. Measure 58 has a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic in the Treble staff. The Bass staff includes a marking for *arco* (arco).



59

*sfz* *f* *sfz*

63

*f* *mf* *p* *mp*

67

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

70

*rit. and decresc. al fine*

*ppp* *ppp* *ppp*

# III Andante

$\bullet = 48$

Violin *f*

Viola *f*

Cello *f*

3

*mf*

3

3

*mf*

7

*mp*

*mf*

3

3

*mp*

*f*

10

Musical score for measures 10-13. The system consists of three staves: Treble, Bass, and a lower Bass staff. Measure 10 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The treble staff has a melodic line with a trill in measure 11. The bass staff has a bass line with a trill in measure 11. The lower bass staff has a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets. Dynamics include *f* and *mp*.

14

Musical score for measures 14-17. The system consists of three staves. Measure 14 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The treble staff has a melodic line with a trill in measure 15. The bass staff has a bass line with a trill in measure 15. The lower bass staff has a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*.

18

Musical score for measures 18-20. The system consists of three staves. Measure 18 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The treble staff has a melodic line with a trill in measure 19. The bass staff has a bass line with a trill in measure 19. The lower bass staff has a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets. Dynamics include *f*.

21

*rit. al fine*

Musical score for measures 21-24. The system consists of three staves. Measure 21 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The treble staff has a melodic line with a trill in measure 22. The bass staff has a bass line with a trill in measure 22. The lower bass staff has a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, and *mf*.

# IV. Giocosu

*♩ = 240*

Violin *mf*

Viola *mf*

Cello *f*

9

*pizz.* *f* *arco.*

*pizz.* *f* *arco.*

17

*pizz.* *f* *arco.*

24

*ff* pizz. arco. pizz.

31

arco. *mf* pizz. *f*

37

arco. arco.

45

*f*

51

pizz. arco.

pizz. arco.

58

pizz.

pizz. arco.

pizz. arco.

64

pizz. arco.

*mp* pizz. arco.

*mp* *f*

*mf*

72

*f* rit. A Tempo

pizz. arco.

*mf* *mf*

80

*ff*

87

*mf*

*mf*

*f*

94

*f*

*f*

102

decresc. to pp al fine

*f*

*f*

*mp*

*p*

*pp*

*mp*

*p*

*pp*

The composer welcomes any questions concerning *String Trio* and would greatly appreciate hearing about performances. Inquire and programs should be sent to:

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Cello

String Trio

I. Adagio

Joe L. Alexander

♩ = 80

6 *pp* 3 A Tempo *p*

11 *p*

16 *f* *p*

# Cello

## II Allegretto

 = 168-240

mf mp p

4

subito p mf

8 pizz. arco pizz. arco

12

17

22 A 0 D 4 gliss

27 pizz. arco pizz.

31 arco p

II Allegretto Cello p.2

34 *rit.* *pp* *mp* *mf* *A Tempo* *pizz.* *arco*

39 *mf* *f*

44

50 *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *mf* *f* *mf*

55 *arco* *f* *ff* *sfz*

60 *sfz* *sfz* *sfz* *f* *mf*

65 *p* *mf*

70 *rit. and decresc. al fine* *ppp*

# Cello

## III Andante

♩ = 48

1 *f* 3

4 *mf*

8 *mp* *f* 3 3

12 3

16 *mp* *f*

19

22 *mf* rit. al fine

24 *pp*

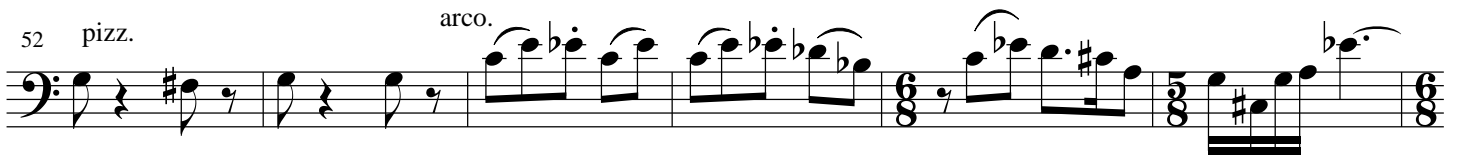
# Cello

## IV. Giocoso

Musical score for Cello, IV. Giocoso, measures 1-46. The score is written in bass clef and consists of eight staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 5/8 to 2/4, then 3/4, 2/4, 5/8, 2/4, 3/4, 2/4, 7/8, and finally 2/4. The score includes various dynamics such as *f*, *mf*, *ff*, *f*, and *ff*, and articulations like *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *arco.* (arco). The piece features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, with some measures containing rests. A double bar line with a '2' above it indicates a second ending at measure 11. The score concludes with a final cadence in measure 46.

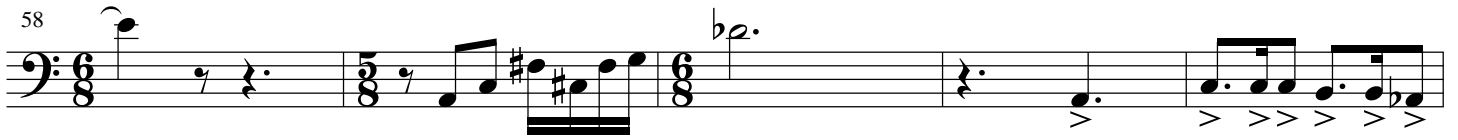
IV. Giocosso Cello p.2

52 pizz. arco.



Musical staff 52-57: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Starts with a pizzicato (pizz.) instruction. At measure 54, it switches to arco. The music features eighth-note patterns with various accidentals (flats and naturals).

58



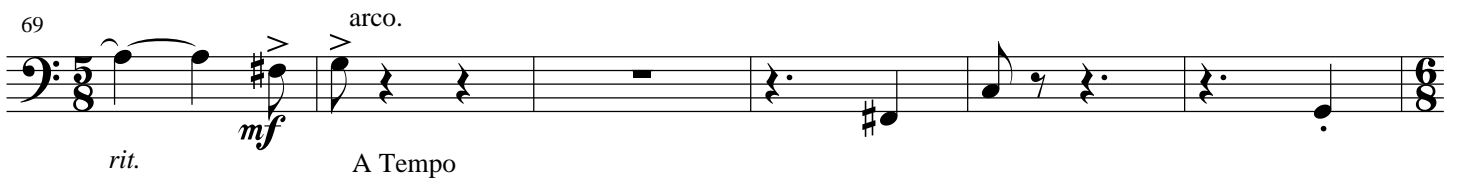
Musical staff 58-62: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measure 58 starts with a half note. Measures 59-62 contain eighth-note patterns with accents and a dynamic marking of *mp*.

63



Musical staff 63-68: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measure 63 starts with a half note. Measures 64-68 contain eighth-note patterns with accents and a dynamic marking of *mp*. The word "pizz." appears above the staff at the end.

69



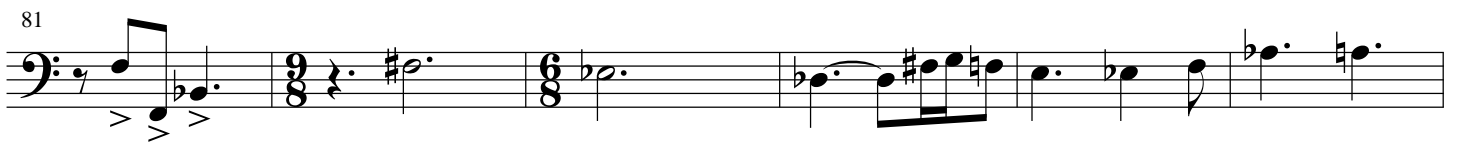
Musical staff 69-74: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measure 69 starts with a half note. Measures 70-74 contain eighth-note patterns with accents and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The word "arco." is above the staff. Performance instructions "rit." and "A Tempo" are below the staff.

75



Musical staff 75-80: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 75-80 contain eighth-note patterns with a dynamic marking of *mf*.

81



Musical staff 81-86: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 81-86 contain eighth-note patterns with accents.

87



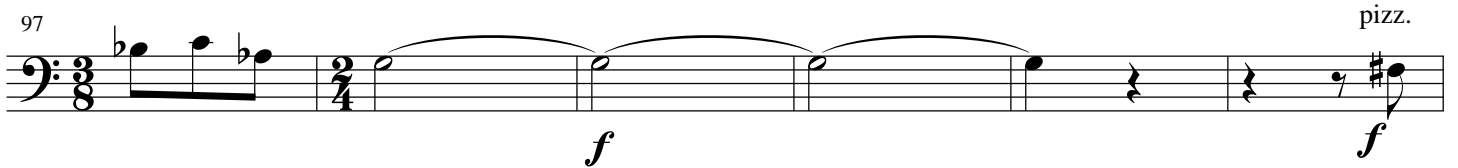
Musical staff 87-91: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 87-91 contain eighth-note patterns with accents.

92



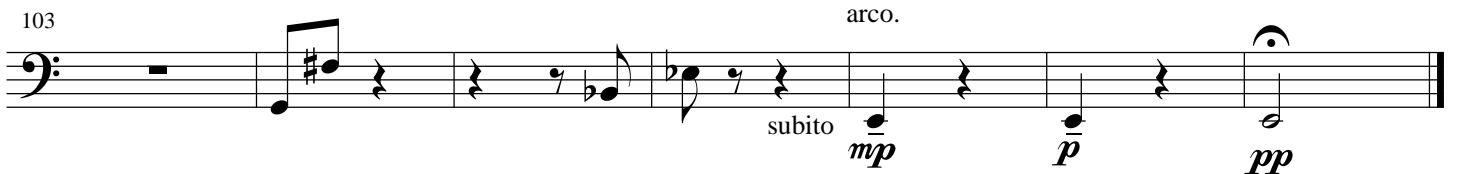
Musical staff 92-96: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 92-96 contain eighth-note patterns with accents and a dynamic marking of *mf*.

97



Musical staff 97-102: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 97-102 contain eighth-note patterns with accents and a dynamic marking of *f*. The word "pizz." is above the staff at the end.

103



Musical staff 103-108: Bass clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 103-108 contain eighth-note patterns with accents and a dynamic marking of *pp*. The word "arco." is above the staff. Performance instructions "subito", *mp*, *p*, and *pp* are below the staff.

Viola

String Trio

Joe L. Alexander

I. Adagio

$\text{♩} = 80$

3

*pp* *p*

A Tempo

7

*>*

13

*mp*

17

*f* *p*

# Viola

## II Allegretto

$\text{♩} = 168-240$   
2

*mp*

6

*gliss* 2 *pizz.*  
*f*

11

*arco*

15

*arco*

19

*arco*

23

*pizz.* *arco*

27

*f* 2 *mp*

32

*pizz.* *arco* *rit.* *pp* *A Tempo* *pizz.* *arco*  
*mp*



II Allegretto Viola p.2

36

Musical staff 36-39: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measures 36-39 contain a series of chords and eighth notes. A dynamic marking of *f* is present at the end of the staff.

40

Musical staff 40-43: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 40 starts with a dynamic marking of *mp*. Measure 41 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 42 is a whole rest. Measure 43 has a *f* dynamic marking and a fermata.

44

Musical staff 44-47: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 44 is a whole rest. Measure 45 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 46 is a whole rest. Measure 47 has a *f* dynamic marking and a fermata.

48

Musical staff 48-51: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 48 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 49 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 50 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 51 has a *f* dynamic marking and a fermata.

52

Musical staff 52-55: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 52 has a *p* dynamic marking. Measure 53 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 54 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 55 has a *f* dynamic marking and a fermata.

56

Musical staff 56-59: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 56 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 57 has a *ff* dynamic marking. Measure 58 has a *f* dynamic marking. Measure 59 has a *sfz* dynamic marking and a fermata.

60

Musical staff 60-64: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 60 has a *sfz* dynamic marking. Measure 61 has a *sfz* dynamic marking. Measure 62 has a *sfz* dynamic marking. Measure 63 has a *sfz* dynamic marking. Measure 64 has a *sfz* dynamic marking and a fermata.

65

Musical staff 65-68: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 65 has a *mp* dynamic marking. Measure 66 has a *p* dynamic marking. Measure 67 has a *p* dynamic marking. Measure 68 has a *mf* dynamic marking.

69

Musical staff 69-72: Treble clef, 3/4 time signature. Measure 69 has a *mp* dynamic marking. Measure 70 has a *p* dynamic marking. Measure 71 has a *p* dynamic marking. Measure 72 has a *ppp* dynamic marking and a fermata.

rit. and decresc. al fine

# Viola

## III Andante

$f = 48$

*f*

4

3 3

7

3 3 *mp*

10

*mf* 3 *f* *mp*

14

*f* *mp*

17

*f*

20

23

*rit. al fine*

*p* *pp*

# Viola

## IV. Giocoso

*mf*

6

*f*

12 *pizz.* *f* *arco.*

17 *f*

22 *pizz.*

28 *arco.*

33

39 2

45 3 *pizz.*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a Viola part in a piece titled 'IV. Giocoso'. It consists of eight staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic marking of *mf* and contains five measures. The second staff begins at measure 6 with a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a fermata over the final measure. The third staff starts at measure 12, featuring a *pizz.* (pizzicato) marking at the beginning, a dynamic of *f*, and an *arco.* (arco) marking later in the staff. The fourth staff begins at measure 17 with a dynamic of *f*. The fifth staff starts at measure 22 with a *pizz.* marking. The sixth staff begins at measure 28 with an *arco.* marking. The seventh staff starts at measure 33. The eighth staff begins at measure 39 with a fermata over the second measure and a dynamic of *pizz.* at the end. The score includes various time signatures such as 3/8, 2/4, and 3/4, and uses articulations like accents (>) and slurs.

IV. Giocoso Viola p.2

52

arco.

Musical staff 52-57. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 3/8 time signature. It contains six measures of music. The first four measures are eighth notes with stems up, and the last two are quarter notes. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

58

Musical staff 58-62. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure is a dotted quarter note, followed by eighth notes. The last measure has sixteenth notes with accents (>).

63

Musical staff 63-69. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. It contains six measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The second measure has eighth notes. The third measure has a double bar line with a '2' above it. The fourth measure has a quarter note. The fifth measure has a quarter note with an accent (>). The sixth measure has a quarter note with an accent (>). The dynamic is *mp* and the instruction is *pizz.* (pizzicato). The word *rit.* (ritardando) is written below the staff.

70

arco.

pizz.

Musical staff 70-75. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The second measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The third measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The fourth measure has a quarter note with an accent (>). The fifth measure has a quarter note with an accent (>). The dynamic is *f* and the instruction is *A Tempo*.

76

arco.

Musical staff 76-80. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note. The second measure has a dotted quarter note. The third measure has a dotted quarter note. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note. The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note. The dynamic is *mf*.

81

Musical staff 81-86. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The second measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The third measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note with an accent (>). The dynamic is *ff*.

87

Musical staff 87-92. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note. The second measure has a dotted quarter note. The third measure has a dotted quarter note. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note. The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note. The dynamic is *mf*.

93

Musical staff 93-97. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 6/8 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note. The second measure has a dotted quarter note. The third measure has a dotted quarter note. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note. The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note. The dynamic is *mf*.

98

pizz.

Musical staff 98-103. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note. The second measure has a dotted quarter note. The third measure has a dotted quarter note. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note. The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note. The dynamic is *f*.

104

arco.

Musical staff 104-108. The staff begins with a treble clef and a 2/4 time signature. It contains five measures of music. The first measure has a dotted quarter note. The second measure has a dotted quarter note. The third measure has a dotted quarter note. The fourth measure has a dotted quarter note. The fifth measure has a dotted quarter note. The dynamic is *mp*. The instruction *subito* is written below the staff. The dynamic *p* is written below the staff. The dynamic *pp* is written below the staff.

# Violin

## String Trio

### I. Adagio

Joe L. Alexander

♩ = 80

*pp* *p*

5 *mp* *pp* *mf* 3

10 A Tempo

14 *p* *f* *p* 3

# Violin

## II Allegretto

$\text{♩} = 168-240$

3

*p*

*f*

gliss

7

11 *pizz.*

*arco*

15

19 *pizz.*

*f*

23

27 *mf*

*p*

31 *pizz.*

*arco*

*pp*

rit.

Detailed description: This is a page of a violin score for the second movement, 'II Allegretto'. The music is written on a single staff in treble clef with a 3/8 time signature. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Allegretto' with a metronome range of 168-240. The score consists of 32 measures. Measure 1 begins with a triplet of eighth notes. Measures 2-4 feature a melody starting on a half note, with dynamics ranging from piano (*p*) to forte (*f*). A glissando is indicated in measure 4. Measures 5-10 are filled with a dense texture of sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 11 starts with a pizzicato (*pizz.*) section. Measures 12-14 continue with sixteenth-note patterns, transitioning to arco in measure 14. Measure 15 has a whole rest. Measures 16-18 have quarter notes. Measure 19 returns to pizzicato with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measures 20-22 have quarter notes. Measure 23 has a whole rest. Measures 24-26 have quarter notes. Measure 27 begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and features sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 28 has a whole rest. Measures 29-30 have sixteenth-note patterns, ending with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 31 starts with pizzicato. Measures 32-34 have sixteenth-note patterns, ending with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic and a ritardando (*rit.*) marking.

II Allegretto Violin p.2

A Tempo

35 *p* *f*

39 3 3

43 *f*

47

51 *p* *f*

55 *f* *ff*

59 *sfz* *f* *sfz*

63 3 *mp* *p* *mf*

69 *rit. and decresc. al fine* *ppp*

# Violin

## III Andante

♩ = 48

Violin score for 'III Andante'. The piece is in 5/4 time and begins with a tempo marking of ♩ = 48. The score consists of eight staves of music. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff begins with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The third staff starts with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *mp*. The fourth staff begins with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *f*, followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The fifth staff starts with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *mp*. The sixth staff begins with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *f*. The seventh staff starts with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *p*. The eighth staff begins with a measure rest and a dynamic marking of *pp*, and concludes with a double bar line. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings.



# Violin

## IV. Giocoso

$\bullet = 240$

6 *mf*

11 *f*

17

23 *pizz.*

29 *arco.* *mf*

34 *pizz.*

40 *arco.* *f*

46

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IV. Giocosu Violin p.2

51

51

57

57

62

62

pizz.

2

*mp*

69

69

arco.

rit.

*f*

75

75

A Tempo

81

81

87

87

92

92

*mf*

97

97

*f*

103

103

decresc. to pp al fine