

THE SOUND OF Amber

Zachery Litchfield

Violoncello



Notes:

The title of this work is intended to direct the listener to visualize fossilized sap; thinking of its color, texture, light transmission, and even its formation. Written on the cello, this work connects various techniques and gestures idiomatic to the instrument. It is free flowing, energetic and improvisatory. The work often speaks with more than one voice making the instrument sound like two. The Sound of Amber should be played freely and with expression.

The score transitions between proportional timelines and unmetered notation.

Timeline - Each gesture's duration should be relatively close to the indicated number of seconds. The performer approximates the temporal place of events with-in each timeline using proportional cues.

Unmetered notation - these sections have pulse but no meter. The score will indicate rubato when the pulse is secondary to performers interpretation.

Harmonics - both natural and artificial harmonics are notated with a diamond notehead with only one exception, page 5 line 19.

Jeté - notated with a right-triangle notehead. Can be played a single bounce or a series of bounces according to notation.

Sul Pont and Sul Stato - are notated as **S.P.** and **S.T.** Alto Sul Pont or Tasto are notated as **altoS.P.** and **altoS.T.** Gradual transition between bow positions are notated with small arrows and a dotted line.

cello

THE SOUND OF AMBER

1 *freely* 15s

2 *ff* 11s

2 *ff* 11s

3 *ff* 16s

4 *ff* 6s

5 *ff* 6s

Line 2 single violent bounce on the string.

Line 5 rectangle notehead indicates over-bow.

6 $J=60$ Tempo Rubato

7 19s

$J \approx 60$ Tempo Rubato

norm - S.P. - norm.

8 *'3/21/321/321

*Line 8 the dash above the finger number indicates the harmonic is to be played while lightly plucking the string. The finger should brush across the string only slightly activating the open tone.

9 Molto Rubato

marcato

10 22s

11

Rubato

ff

S.P. v

norm.

≈ 100
Bow Freely

A 6

A x 4

4/4

12 Sautillé 6 A x 4 Alto S.P. 6 norm [A] x 1

13 atto S.P. norm 19.5

9: 5 1

f > mp f > mp

9:

f > mp

14

marcato S.P.

8s

S.P. norm S.P. norm

Sautillé

5s

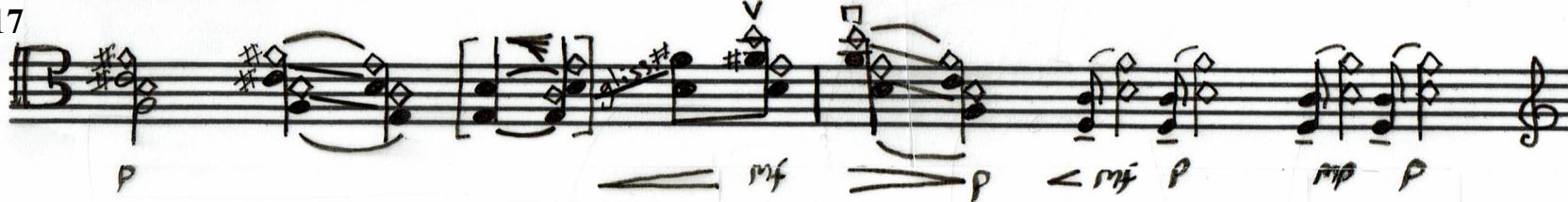
f

16



Line 17 the dot's in the time-line indicate the gesture is not proportionally to scale

17



15s

18



Tempo Rubato



20 expressivo Molto rubato



21

22

23

S.T. 8s

$\text{d}=60$ Rubato

Line 24 the triangle note indicate col legno. The performer rolls the bow towards their self to strike the string with the wood of the bow and instantly return to norm.

24

20s

25

12

S.P. $3\times$

Line 25 dashes above the notes indicate same technique from line 8.

15s

26

27

28

29

5s

16s

30