

# String Quartet in C

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## Philip Seaton

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*String Quartet in C* was completed during the coronavirus pandemic in 2021, but rather than being a ‘pandemic piece’ per se, *String Quartet in C* is about a perennial theme that dominated our lives in 2020-2021: ‘home’.

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# I. Moderato

Philip Seaton

**Moderato** ♩ = 90  
con sord.

Violin I  
*mp sostenuto*  
con sord.

Violin II  
*mp sostenuto*  
con sord.

Viola  
con sord. *mp sostenuto*

Violoncello  
*mp sostenuto*

7

14

20

*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*  
*mf*

*p*  
*p*  
*p*  
*p*

*pp*  
*pp*  
*mf*  
*mf*

24

27

4

4

30

33

senza sord.

senza sord.

36

senza sord. *mf* sostenuto

senza sord. *mf* sostenuto

pizz. arco

*mp* *mf* sostenuto

pizz. arco

*mp* *mf* sostenuto

42

*f* *p* *mp*

*f* *p* *mp*

*f* *p* *mp*

*f* *p* *mp*

47

*V*

50

*mf*

*mp*

*mp* pizz.

*mf*

4

54

59

pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz.

*p*

12

solo

*mf*

65

arco

16

*mp sostenuto*

*mp sostenuto*

*mp sostenuto*

arco

*mp sostenuto*

70

rallentando

rallentando

rallentando

rallentando

pizz.



# II. Allegro

Allegro ♩ = 120

Violin I: *f* 3 3 3 3

Violin II: *f* 3 3 3 *p* *leggiero*

Viola: *f* 3 3 3 *p* *leggiero*

Violoncello: *f* 3 3 *p* *leggiero*

5

Violin II: *p* *leggiero*

9

Violin I: *f*

Violin II: *f*

Viola: *f*

Violoncello: *f*

12

Violin I: *p*

Violin II: *p*

Viola: *p*

Violoncello: *p*



27 *rall.* **Meno mosso** ♩ = 100

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

32

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

37

*p*

42

*pp* *p*

47

*f marcato*  
*f marcato*  
*f*  
*f marcato*

51

4

55

8

60

*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff con forza*  
*ff con forza*

64

4 8

71

74

Meno mosso ♩ = 100

*p dolce*  
*pp*  
*pp pizz.*  
*p*

82

*cresc. molto*  
*cresc. molto*  
*cresc. molto*  
*cresc. molto*

*f appassionato*  
*f appassionato*  
*f appassionato*  
*f appassionato*

arco

88

System 1 (measures 88-91): This system features a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature. The melody in the treble staff consists of quarter notes and half notes, with some notes beamed together. The piano accompaniment in the bass staff is a steady eighth-note pattern. Measure 88 starts with a piano (p) dynamic. Measure 91 ends with a fermata over a whole note.

92

System 2 (measures 92-95): This system continues the piece. The treble staff melody includes some beamed eighth notes. The piano accompaniment remains a consistent eighth-note pattern. Measure 92 starts with a piano (p) dynamic. Measure 95 ends with a fermata over a whole note.

96

System 3 (measures 96-99): This system shows the continuation of the musical theme. The treble staff melody is primarily quarter notes. The piano accompaniment is a steady eighth-note pattern. Measure 96 starts with a piano (p) dynamic. Measure 99 ends with a fermata over a whole note.

100

System 4 (measures 100-103): This system concludes the page. The treble staff melody features some half notes and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern. Measure 100 starts with a piano (p) dynamic. Measure 103 ends with a fermata over a whole note.

103

*più f*

*più f*

*più f*

*più f*

Musical score for measures 103-104. The system consists of four staves. The top two staves are treble clefs, and the bottom two are bass clefs. The music features a melody in the upper staves and a complex accompaniment in the lower staves. The accompaniment includes a prominent triplet pattern in the middle voice. The dynamic marking *più f* is present in all four staves.

105

Musical score for measures 105-106. The system consists of four staves. The top two staves are treble clefs, and the bottom two are bass clefs. The music continues with the same melodic and accompanimental patterns as the previous system. The triplet accompaniment remains a central feature.

107

Musical score for measures 107-108. The system consists of four staves. The top two staves are treble clefs, and the bottom two are bass clefs. The music continues with the same melodic and accompanimental patterns. The triplet accompaniment remains a central feature.

109

Musical score for measures 109-110. The system consists of four staves. The top two staves are treble clefs, and the bottom two are bass clefs. The music continues with the same melodic and accompanimental patterns. The triplet accompaniment remains a central feature.

111

*p*

113

*p*  
*pizz.*  
*p*

117

*pp*  
*p*  
*pp*  
*pp*  
*arco*  
*pp*

125



Allegro ♩ = 120

132

Musical score for measures 132-136. The score is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. Measures 132-133 have 'V' markings above the first two staves. Measures 134-136 feature a complex texture with rapid sixteenth-note passages in the right-hand staves and a more rhythmic bass line. Dynamic markings include 'p' (piano) in measures 134, 135, and 136. A 'V' marking is present above the final staff in measure 136.

137

Musical score for measures 137-139. The score continues with four staves. Measures 137-139 show a continuation of the rapid sixteenth-note patterns in the right-hand staves, with the left-hand staves providing a steady accompaniment. The texture is dense and rhythmic.

140

Musical score for measures 140-142. The score continues with four staves. Measures 140-142 feature a continuation of the rapid sixteenth-note patterns in the right-hand staves, with the left-hand staves providing a steady accompaniment. Dynamic markings include 'p' (piano) in measures 140, 141, and 142.

143

Musical score for measures 143-145. The score continues with four staves. Measures 143-145 feature a continuation of the rapid sixteenth-note patterns in the right-hand staves, with the left-hand staves providing a steady accompaniment. The texture is dense and rhythmic.

146

The musical score consists of four staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature. It features a continuous eighth-note pattern. The second staff is an alto clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature, containing dotted quarter notes. The third staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature, containing quarter notes and eighth notes with slurs. The bottom staff is a double bass clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature, containing a whole note with a '4' below it and a double bar line with a slash, followed by eighth-note patterns.

# III. Lento e mesto

Lento ♩ = 48

Violin I *mp* *mf* *p*

Violin II *mf* *f con forza* *mp*

Viola *mf* *f con forza*

Violoncello *mf* *p*

6 G.P. *f con forza*

G.P. *f con forza*

G.P. *f con forza*

G.P. *f con forza*

*p* *f con forza*

10 *p*

*p* *p* *p*

16

21

3 3 3 V V V V

*mf* *mf* *mf*

26

3

*pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

32

*mp* *mf* pizz.

38

*ff con forza* *ff con forza* *ff con forza* *ff con forza*

arco

44

*sul G* *pizz.* *p* *pizz.* *Recit.*

50

*arco* *p* *arco* *p* *arco* *p*

55

*pp* *pp*

58

*p* *p*

# IV. Allegro giocoso

**Allegro giocoso** ♩ = 112

Violin I *pizz.*

Violin II *pizz. (strummed)* *pp*

Viola *pizz. (strummed)* *pp*

Violoncello

8

16

*mf*

*p*

*p*

*pizz.*

*p*

23

*arco*

*mp*

30

38

G.P. *mf*

G.P. *mf*

G.P. *mf*

G.P. arco *mf*

47

arco *mp dolce*

*mp dolce*

55

arco *mp dolce*

63

*mp dolce*

This system contains measures 63 through 70. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has two flats. The first two staves have a melodic line with slurs and accents. The third staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The fourth staff has a bass line with slurs. The dynamic marking *mp dolce* is placed above the first staff in measure 64.

71

This system contains measures 71 through 78. It features four staves. The key signature has two flats. The first two staves have a melodic line with slurs and accents. The third staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The fourth staff has a bass line with slurs. A *V* marking is present above the first staff in measure 74.

79

*mf*  
*arco*  
*mf*  
*mf*

This system contains measures 79 through 85. It features four staves. The key signature changes to three sharps starting in measure 80. The first two staves have a melodic line with slurs and accents. The third staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The fourth staff has a bass line with slurs. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed above the first staff in measure 80. The word *arco* is placed above the first staff in measure 81. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed above the second staff in measure 81. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed above the fourth staff in measure 81.

86

*mf*

This system contains measures 86 through 93. It features four staves. The key signature has three sharps. The first two staves have a melodic line with slurs and accents. The third staff has a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The fourth staff has a bass line with slurs. A *V* marking is present above the first staff in measure 89. The dynamic marking *mf* is placed below the fourth staff in measure 93.



94

Musical score for measures 94-101. The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The top staff (treble clef) contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The middle staff (alto clef) provides a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth notes. The bottom staff (bass clef) features a bass line with quarter and eighth notes, including some slurs and ties.

102

Musical score for measures 102-109. This system continues the piece, with a 'V' marking above the first measure of the top staff. The notation remains consistent with the previous system, showing the melodic and harmonic development in the treble, alto, and bass staves.

110

Musical score for measures 110-117. The notation continues across the three staves, maintaining the established melodic and harmonic patterns. The bass line shows some rests in later measures, while the other parts continue to move.

118

Musical score for measures 118-125. This system introduces dynamic markings: 'p' (piano) is used in the top and middle staves. The middle and bottom staves feature 'pizz.' (pizzicato) markings, indicating a change in the bass line's texture to a more percussive, chordal accompaniment. The key signature and time signature remain the same.

126

134

pizz. arco

mp

pizz. arco

mp

142

mf

p arco

p arco

mf

148

mf

155 pizz.

163 arco

169

176

183

188

191

198

A tempo

203

Musical score for measures 203-205. The score is in 3/4 time and features a complex texture with multiple voices. The upper staves contain rapid sixteenth-note passages, while the lower staves provide a more rhythmic accompaniment. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat).

206

Musical score for measures 206-210. Measures 206-209 feature dense sixteenth-note patterns in the upper staves. At measure 210, the texture changes significantly, with the upper staves playing a simple melody and the lower staves providing a sustained accompaniment. The dynamic marking *p* (piano) is present in measures 210-211. The key signature remains three flats.

211

Musical score for measures 211-216. This section features a more sparse texture with long, sustained notes and rests in the upper staves, and a more active accompaniment in the lower staves. The key signature changes to two flats (B-flat, E-flat) at measure 214. The dynamic marking *p* is maintained.

217

Musical score for measures 217-221. This section continues the sparse texture with long, sustained notes and rests in the upper staves, and a more active accompaniment in the lower staves. The key signature remains two flats. The dynamic marking *p* is maintained.

Allegro doloroso ♩ = 112

222

pizz.  
mf  
pp

229

237

244

f  
mp

251

259

*mp*  
arco

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

267

275

*rallentando*

*rallentando*

*rallentando*

*rallentando*

Allargando ♩ = 90

282 arco

*mp*

*p*

4

*p*

290

8

12

16

*p*

299

20

V

*p*

307

pizz.

arco

24

28

*p*



314

4

pizz.

arco

321

$\text{♩} = 90$

*mp sostenuto*

*mp sostenuto*

*mp sostenuto*

*mp sostenuto*

329

**Allegro giocoso**  $\text{♩} = 112$

*rallentando*

*rallentando*

*rallentando*

*rallentando*

pizz.

arco

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*pp*

336

*mf*

arco

*mf*

arco

*mp*

*mp*

341

*f* *ff* *f* *ff*



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