

Violin Concerto No. 2 Solo Violin



Bill Robinson

Violin Concerto No. 2

Arranged for Violin and Piano

January 2014; May 9–July, 2016; October 13, 2017–May 15, 2018
Arranged for violin and piano March 10–25, 2022 Duration: about 26–28 minutes

for Eric Pritchard
in memoriam; Fred Robinson, Jane Hawkins Raimi, and Anshel Brusilow

I have had the pleasure of making music with violinist Eric Pritchard since 2006. In 2009, Eric performed the first edition of Violin Concerto No. 1, *Ananda Concerto*, with the Raleigh Civic Chamber Orchestra. That concerto has since been extensively revised. I started a second violin concerto for Eric after finishing my Cello Concerto for Bonnie Thron. Spring and summer 2016 was a difficult and depressing time for me, as I was losing my job teaching physics at NCSU, and had to scramble to find a place to live after spring 2017. As a result, I wrote no music for about six months. After retiring and moving to the small town of Cleveland, NC, I was able to start back into the violin concerto in the fall of 2017. This is a companion piece to the Cello Concerto, with the same instrumentation, four movements, about the same length, and a third movement with origins in my sonatas for solo violin. Both concertos have chamber versions for soloist and two pianos, as well as for soloist and one piano (such as this score). A few passages would be best with the soloist amplified.

The concerto is in four movements:

I. Country Fiddling	Playful	[7']	
II. Between Earth and Space	With awareness	[8']	
III. Scherzo	Vivace		[4']
IV. Sufinale	Dervishistical	[7']	

In the first movement, measures 108 (clue; look that up in Hindu symbology) through 115, and again measure 144 to the end, I use a melody introduced by Ram Dass in his 1969 Sculpture Garden lectures in NYC. These lectures formed the basis for the book *Be Here Now*. The tune was used to chant “Rama”.

The short third movement started life in 2002 as the second movement of my *Ninth Sonata for Solo Violin*. (There are ten such sonatas.)

The fourth movement is titled *Sufinale*, as both Eric and I are interested in Sufi mysticism and spiritual practices.

Three people noted above died during the composition of this work. Fred Robinson (no relation) was a composer, arranger, and saxophonist I met in 1974 when I first attended NTSU in Denton, Texas. I heard of his death while writing measure 208 in the fourth movement, as I think you can tell. Jane Hawkins was a phenomenal pianist and educator who was a very significant figure in the Duke University musical scene for many years. Anshel Brusilow had a long career, first as a violinist and then as a conductor. I played under his baton at NTSU, and studied conducting with him.

Cover photo; Eric Pritchard and Bill Robinson, April 2018.

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[When performed with orchestra,
the solo violin should be amplified.]

Violin Concerto No. 2

I. Country Fiddling [7']

Bill Robinson

Playful (♩ = 80)

Solo Violin

p

cresc. *(mp)* *(mf)* *f*

ff

ff *mp* *p* *pp*

ff

f

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Violin Concerto No. 2 score, measures 47-95. The score is written for a single violin in 4/4 time. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings.

Measures 47-51: *mp* (mezzo-piano). Measure 49 is marked with a box containing the number 49. Measure 51 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 52-57: *mp cresc.* (mezzo-piano crescendo) leading to *(mf)* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). Measure 57 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 58-62: *ff* (fortissimo) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Measure 58 is marked with a box containing the number 58. Measure 62 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 63-68: *mp* (mezzo-piano). Measure 68 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 69-73: *ff* (fortissimo). Measure 69 is marked with a box containing the number 70. Measure 73 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 74-80: *mp* (mezzo-piano). Measure 80 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 81-86: *mp* (mezzo-piano). Measure 86 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 87-94: *pp* (pianissimo). Measure 87 is marked with a box containing the number 90. Measure 94 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 95-99: *cresc.* (crescendo) leading to *(mp)* (mezzo-piano) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). Measure 99 ends with a double bar line.

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3

103 *mp* $(\text{♩}=\text{♩})$

108 *dolce*
p

112 *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

116 *ff*

125 *ff* *dim.* *rit.* *a tempo* *p*

130 *mf* *f*

135 *ff*

139 *p*

146 *mf*

149 *mp* *p*

152 *rit.* *pp*

With awareness (♩ = 100)

With awareness (♩ = 100)

8

p

9

mf *p* *pp* 14 3

17

f

21

ff 8^{va}---

25

dim. --- (*mf*) --- (*mp*) ---

30

(*p*) --- *pp* *p*

36

mf *dim.* --- (*mp*) ---

41

44

2 2

(*p*) --- *pp* *p* *mp* *mf*

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a single melodic line in treble clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 8, 9, 17, 21, 25, 30, 36, 41, and 44 marked at the beginning of their respective lines. The tempo is marked 'With awareness' and the tempo indicator is '(♩ = 100)'. The score includes various dynamic markings: *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *pp* (pianissimo), *f* (forte), and *ff* (fortissimo). There are also crescendo and decrescendo hairpins. The score features a variety of note values, including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as rests. Some measures contain triplets, indicated by a '3' over a bracket. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

50 *p* *pp* *p* *mp* *f*

56 *p* *pp*

62 *p* *mf* *f*

67 *mp*

72 *pp* *cresc.* *(mp)*

75

79 *(mf)* *f*

82 *ff* *pp*

85

88 *p* *cresc.*

93 *(mf)* *f* *ff*

97

3 3

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6

98 *p* *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.*

104 *a tempo* *mf* *f* 106

107 *ff*

110

112 Moderato (♩ = 54) *ff* *p* *cresc.* *(mf)* *f* *ff*

(♩ = 100)

119 6 Tempo I Violin II *pp* *rit.*

Meno mosso (♩ = 92) *p*

132

136 *pp*

141 *rit.* *8va*

III. Scherzo

[3:50]

7

Vivace (♩. = 112)

The musical score for III. Scherzo, page 7, is written in 12/16 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Vivace' with a metronome indication of 112 quarter notes per minute. The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 6, 11, 15, 21, 25, 28, and 31 indicated at the start of their respective lines. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo), *p* (piano), and *cresc.* (crescendo) are used to indicate changes in volume. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it. A slur covers a group of notes in measure 13. A crescendo hairpin is shown between measures 15 and 16. A dashed line indicates a continuation of the melody from measure 25 to measure 27. The score ends with a final measure in measure 31.

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8

Violin I

36 **2** *p*

43 *p* *cresc.* (*mf*) *f*

47 **48** *ff*

50

54

58

61

65 *tr* **68** *ff* *p*

70 *2* *cresc.* 79

76 *ff*

80 *Poco meno mosso* ($\text{♩} = 90$)

86 *pp legato*

92

96 *p* *pp* *ff* *Tempo I* ($\text{♩} = 112$)

100

105 *rit.* *Poco meno mosso* ($\text{♩} = 90$)

109 *pp*

Dervishistical (♩ = 80)

The musical score for Violin I consists of nine staves of music. The first staff shows measures 9 through 17, featuring various time signatures (4/4, 5/16, 4/4, 6/16, 2/4, 4/4) and rests. The second staff begins at measure 18 with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It contains sixteenth-note patterns, triplets, and dynamic markings such as *ff*. Measure numbers 20, 22, 27, 34, 36, 41, 44, 47, and 51 are indicated above their respective measures. The notation includes many accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals) and complex rhythmic figures. The final measure shown is measure 51, which ends with a triplet and a forte (*fff*) marking.

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11

57 *dolce*
p

63

67

68

p cresc. ----- *f* -----

72 *ff*

75 77 *ff* > *mf* > *mp* > *p*

82 *pp* *f* > *mp* > *p* > *pp*

90 91 *f* > *mf dim.* ----- *mp* ----- *p*

98 *rit.* ----- *a tempo* 103 *pp* 8 2 5 4 5 16

107 2 2 2 2 2 16 4 16 4 16 4 16

Violin Concerto No. 2

12

Violin I

116

ff

120

123

126

ff dim.

131

f *(mf)* *mp*

134

136

mp *mf* *f*

139

ff

142

mp *cresc.* *(mf)*

145 *f* *ff*

150 153

155

158 *ff*

161 G.P. 163 *p*

166

171 174 2 2

179 186 Trumpet 1 >>>>

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14

187 *ff* 199 200 206 208 *ff* 212 *p cresc. (mf) f* 215 216 227 Violin I 232 (tutti) *ff* 235 239 *fff*