

Three Pieces
for Violin and Piano

Violin Part



Bill Robinson

Three Pieces for Violin and Piano

early June—August 23, 2014 Duration: about 22 minutes
for Eric Pritchard

Over the last decade I have preferred to write pieces from about 15 to 25 minutes long; this is most suited to the kind of music that I write. In our fast-paced era of minute attention spans, what people want is music of much shorter duration. I have frequently urged performers to consider playing single movements, but this happens infrequently. As a result, I decided to write some short pieces for violin and piano that could be played together for the same effect as a single piece, but which would each stand alone.

All three pieces have orchestral versions.

The first piece in this collection was the last to be written. I like waltzes and have written several over the years.

The second piece was inspired by the radio. On July 6, 2014, WNYC broadcast “The World’s Most-Used Musical Sequence”, which was an hour-long compilation of musical excerpts demonstrating the use of the Diatonic Phrygian Tetrachord. This series of four notes, with many modifications, has been used for centuries by musicians all over the world.

The basic sequence is four descending notes with the pattern whole step, whole step, half step. On a piano keyboard, one example would be the four white notes going down starting from E. This composition uses the Diatonic Phrygian Tetrachord both unmodified and highly modified in pretty much every way I could think of, frequently with several modifications simultaneously, in a reasonably contemporary idiom. I will leave it to musicologists yet unborn to deal with the analytical details, as I have some pride in not having opened a music theory book since 1975, and I don’t want to have to look things up.

The finale (the first to be written) is a modern take on the most dissonant music written by Mozart; the last half of the final movement of his 40th Symphony. This section starts with what is very nearly a twelve-tone row. What I have done here, as I have done several times in the past, is to see what I would do with the key ideas of this piece written in my own style and form. This is by no means an arrangement of the original, but instead is an entirely new work. (Never fear—as I have never written in the twelve-tone style, which I find obnoxious in the extreme, I have not done so here either.)

These three pieces were first performed at Duke University on January 11, 2015, by Eric Pritchard, violin, and Greg McCallum, piano.

Accidentals hold through the measure and not beyond, and do not refer to other octaves. Eric Pritchard edited the violin parts, which are available in two versions; letter-size, and one specifically for electronic music readers in letter-size format including reduced piano staves.

Bill Robinson

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billrobinsonmusic.com

edited by Eric Pritchard

Waltz For Our Time

[7:20]

Moderato (♩. = 80)

Bill Robinson

Violin

8

14

22

31

38

46

56

63

mp *mf* *f* *mf* *p* *f* *ff* *cresc.* *rit.*

Waltz For Our Time

2 68

74

81

88

93

98

103

109

114

119

ff *mf*

p *cresc.*

fp *cresc.*

f *dim.* *mp* *cresc.* *ff*

mp *pp*

p

pp

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

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef. It begins in 6/8 time and features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 68, 74, 81, 88, 93, 98, 103, 109, 114, and 119 marked at the start of their respective lines. Dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), *fp* (fortissimo piano), *f* (forte), *dim.* (diminuendo), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *cresc.* (crescendo), *pp* (pianissimo), and *f* (forte) are used to indicate changes in volume. Performance instructions like *cresc. p. a p.* (crescendo piano a piano) and *(mf)* are also present. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and fingerings (e.g., 1, 2, 3, 4) to guide the performer.

Waltz For Our Time

127 *ff*

133

140

145

151

157 *ff* *p*

165 *cresc.* (*mf*) *f*

172 *mf cresc.* *ff*

179 GP *p*

186 *mp cresc.* *mf*

This musical score is for a piece titled "Waltz For Our Time". It consists of ten staves of music, each beginning with a measure number. The notation is in treble clef and includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The first staff (127) starts with a forte (ff) dynamic. The second staff (133) features triplets and a fourth-note group. The third staff (140) includes a first-measure rest and a fourth-note group. The fourth staff (145) has a first-measure rest and a first-note group. The fifth staff (151) features a first-measure rest and a first-note group. The sixth staff (157) has a first-measure rest and a first-note group, with a dynamic change from ff to p. The seventh staff (165) includes a crescendo (cresc.) marking and a dynamic change from mf to f. The eighth staff (172) has a first-measure rest and a first-note group, with a dynamic change from mf to ff. The ninth staff (179) includes a first-measure rest and a first-note group, with a dynamic change from p to mf. The tenth staff (186) has a first-measure rest and a first-note group, with a dynamic change from mp to mf. The score is written in a standard musical notation style, with notes, rests, and dynamic markings clearly visible.

Waltz For Our Time

4

194

201

209

216

220

225

230

234

241

248

mp

mf

f

ff

ff

mf

mp

p

pp

rit.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. It begins at measure 194 and ends at measure 248. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4 at measure 234 and back to 4/4 at measure 241. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above notes. The piece concludes with a series of half notes in 4/4 time, marked with a 'rit.' (ritardando) and ending with a double bar line.

DIATONIC PHRYGIAN TETRACHORD

for Violin and Piano

Violin Part



Bill Robinson

Adagio andalusia (♩ = 74)

Bill Robinson

Violin

p

cresc. *f* *p*

f *mp*

pp

mp

p *pp*

mf *mp* *p*

pp *p*

pp

2

62 *mf* > *mp* *p* DPT

70 *p cresc.* (*mp*)

76 *mf*

80 *f* *ff*

86 *dolce* *p* *f* *ff*

92 *mf* *pp* *p*

99

105 *f*

112 *p*

118

123 *pp*

Mozart's Twelve-Tone Row *for Violin and Piano* **Violin Part**



Bill Robinson

Allegro assai (♩ = 116)

Bill Robinson

Violin

f

6

p *cresc.*

13

(mf) *f*

18

24

29

f

36

non stacc.

41

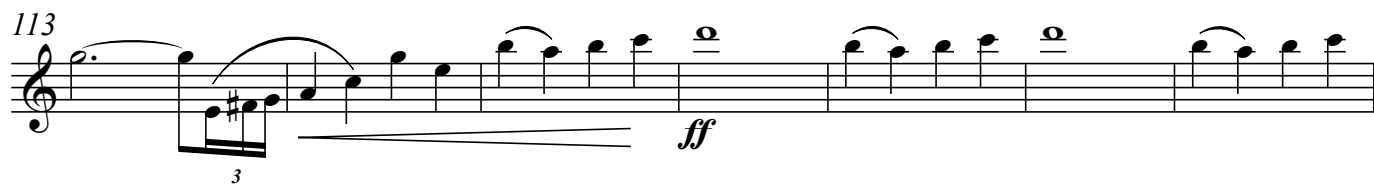
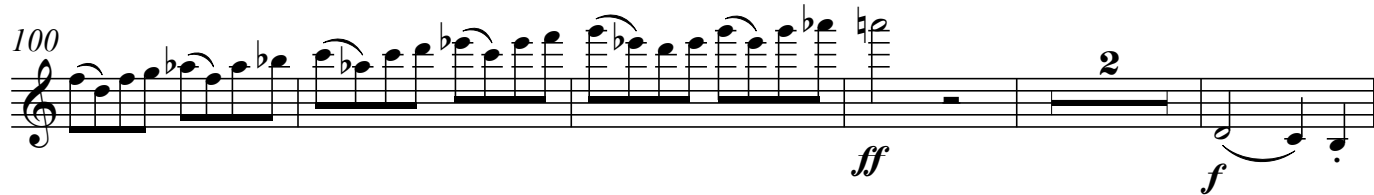
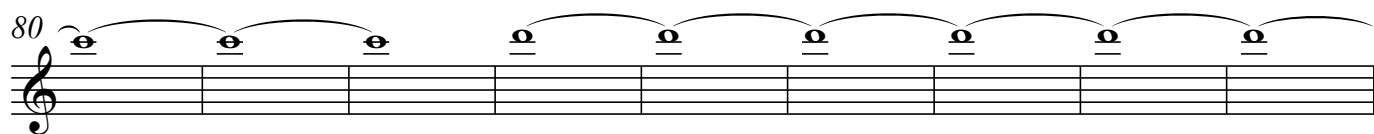
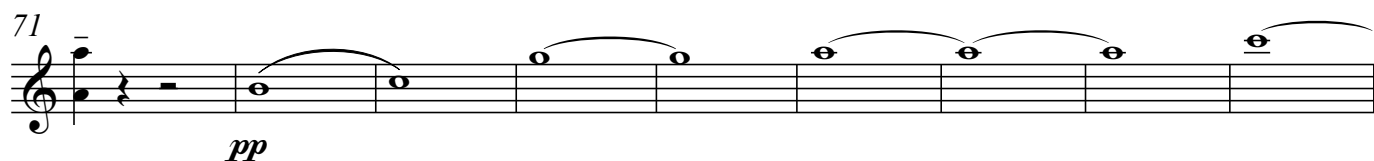
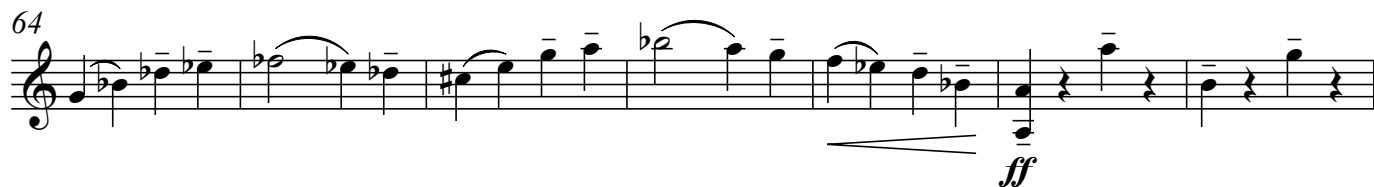
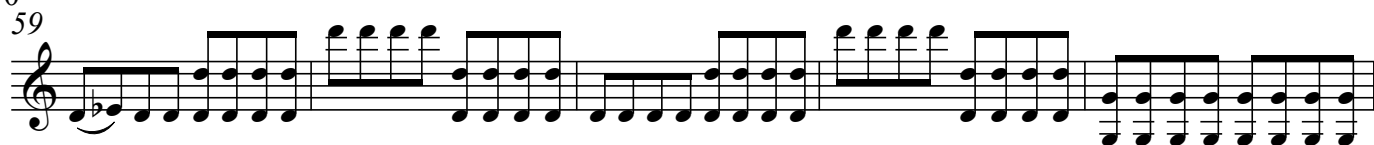
47

54

The musical score is written for a violin in 4/4 time. It begins with a forte (f) dynamic and a tempo marking of Allegro assai (♩ = 116). The score is divided into measures, with measure numbers 6, 13, 18, 24, 29, 36, 41, 47, and 54 indicated. The notation includes various rhythmic values, accidentals, and articulation marks. Dynamics such as piano (p), crescendo (cresc.), mezzo-forte (mf), and fortissimo (f) are used throughout. The score concludes with a non staccato (non stacc.) marking at measure 36.

Mozart's 12 Tone Row

10



125

ff *f* *mf* *p* *pp*

131

f

138

p

144

p

152

Half fast ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}$)

p *cresc. p. a p.* (*mp*)

157

(*mf*) *f* *mp*

163

p

170

Tempo I ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}$)

pp *ff* ($\text{♩} = 116$)

177

p

183

non stacc.

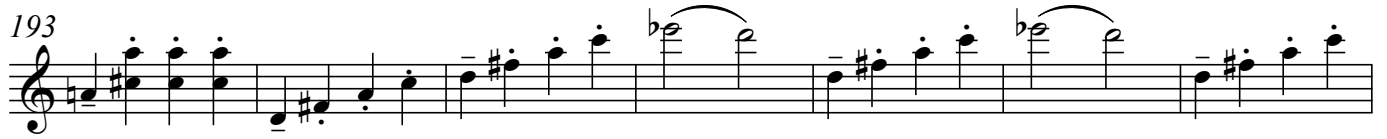
p

Mozart's 12 Tone Row

12₈₈



193



200



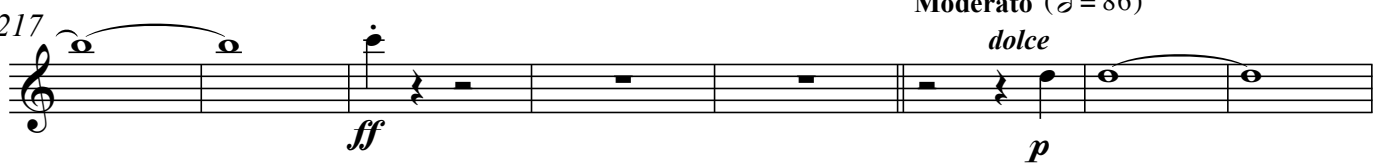
205



210



217



Moderato (♩ = 86)

dolce

ff

p

225



rit.

232 *a tempo*



239



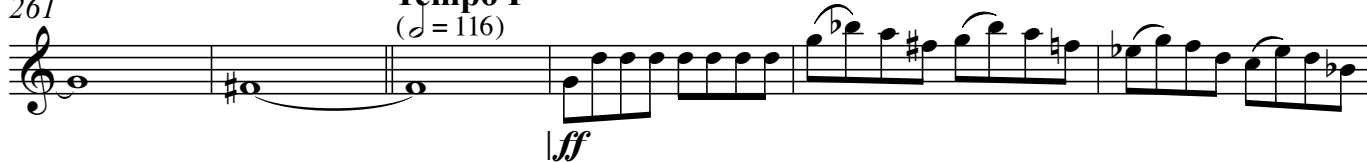
246



253



261

Tempo I
(♩ = 116)

267



273



278



285



291



296



301



306

