

JONATHAN WOOLGAR

MESSAGE-FRAGMENTS
IN HONOUR OF GILES SWAYNE

for solo violin

Message-Fragments in Honour of Giles Swayne was written for the RAM 200 Pieces project to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Royal Academy of Music.

The first performance was given by José Cabrita Matias in the Angela Burgess Recital Hall at the Royal Academy of Music on 1st February 2022.

Duration: c. 10 minutes

PROGRAMME NOTE

This piece, written for a project celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Royal Academy of Music, honours one of its alumni: the brilliant composer Giles Swayne, who studied there in the late 1960s. Giles, my former composition teacher and current friend, has shown me extraordinary kindness and generosity over many years. I have written this piece by small way of thanks.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Breaks between movements are at the performer's discretion, but the piece should maintain a sense of momentum throughout, without too much relaxation between movements.

The combination of a tenuto and an elongated accent ($\equiv$) indicates a longer, more expressive stress than a regular tenuto-accent combination, exhalation-like and not at all harsh. It should be played more or less within the given dynamic.

Regular accents are always relative to the given dynamic. Hairpins without a new dynamic indicate slight fluctuations within the given dynamic.

Glissandi should last as long as the note length to which they are attached (continuous sliding motion). Portamenti should be more delicate and expressive, and are at the performer's discretion.

Open strings with *l.v.* ties should be left to ring *al niente* where possible.

Grace notes are always fast and before the beat.

Movement IV can be performed as a standalone piece.

written to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Royal Academy of Music

MESSAGE-FRAGMENTS IN HONOUR OF GILES SWAYNE

I. motto

JONATHAN WOOLGAR

Con moto (♩ = c. 120)

p *ff* *sff* *dolciss. sempre* *mp* *mf* *p* *vib.* *poco rit.* *IV*

II. adagio

Adagio (♩ = c. 54) **Più mosso** (♩ = c. 80)

ff *espress.* *ppp sub.* *sul tasto senza vib.* *legg. (ppp sempre)* *3* *7*

* The E string should be held as an unwavering "drone" throughout bars 2 and 4, with bow changes as infrequent and imperceptible as possible.

[2]

ad lib., molto accel. *a tempo giusto* *3* *ff*

[2]

(s.t.) vib. *ord.* *(non l.v.)* *ff*

Tempo I (♩ = c. 54) **Tempo II** (♩ = c. 80)

(ord.) → sul tasto
senza vib.

3 **ff** *espress.* **fp** **ppp** *sempre, legg.* 3 3 *molto accel.* - - - - -

[4] *a tempo giusto*

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[4] *a tempo giusto*

(s.t.) → ord.
vib.

Tempo I (♩ = c. 54)

ff *espress.* **pp** *sub.*

Tempo II (♩ = c. 80)
sul pont., punta

Tempo I (♩ = c. 54)
sul tasto, tallone
sul G-----

pp *sempre, legg.* *quasi f* *molto espress, lirico*

Tempo II (♩ = c. 80)
sul pont., punta

Tempo I (♩ = c. 54)
sul tasto, tallone
sul G-----

pp *legg.* **pp** *legg.*

quasi **f** *come sopra*

* The rests between phrases from here to the end of the movement should be played precisely, *senza caesura* and with no loss of momentum.

Tempo I (♩ = c. 54)
sul tasto, tallone
sul G-----

Tempo II (♩ = c. 80)
sul pont., punta

[10]

mf espress.

pp legg.

Tempo I (♩ = c. 54)
sul tasto, tallone
sul G-----

Tempo II (♩ = c. 80)
sul pont., punta

Tempo I (♩ = c. 54)
sul tasto, tallone

Tempo II (♩ = c. 80)
sul pont., punta

13

mp espress.

pp legg.

p espress.

pp legg.

Tempo I
sul tasto
sul G-----

molto sul pont.

sul tasto
sul G-----

molto sul pont.

molto sul tasto

IV

17

morendo al fine, poco a poco senza espress.

(*pppp*)

III. scherzetto

Tempo giusto (♩ = c. 108)
sul pont., senza vib.

ord.

ppp

f pesante e espress.

6

poco più legg.

(3 3 3)

9

7

tr molto pressato freeze! lunga

fff

11 (tempo giusto)

ff *p* *ff* *f*

(pesante e espress. sempre)

16

poco più legg. *mf sub.* *dim.*

20

Prestissimo possibile

$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{3}{4}$ ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 144$)

mp legg. e brillante

22

25

f

27

mf *mp*

30 *molto rall.* *accel.* *a tempo*

32 *f* 3 3 3

35 *sul pont.* *mp* 5 3 3

39 *ord.* *f* *mp sub.* 16 7 4 8 4

43 *f* *mp sub.* *dim.* 3 3

45 *pp* *dolciss.* *port.* 3

(in tempo sempre, senza rit.)
49 *senza vib.* *p* *mf* *p*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is written on a single staff in treble clef. It begins at measure 30 with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo markings are 'molto rall.' (measures 30-32), 'accel.' (measure 33), and 'a tempo' (measures 34-49). The time signature changes from 3/8 to 2/4 at measure 34, to 3/8 at measure 35, to 7/16 at measure 39, to 4/4 at measure 43, and to 3/4 at measure 45. Dynamic markings include 'f' (forte) at measures 32, 39, and 43; 'mp' (mezzo-piano) at measures 35 and 39; 'mp sub.' (mezzo-piano subito) at measures 39 and 43; 'pp' (pianissimo) at measure 45; and 'p' (piano) at measures 49 and 50. Articulation includes accents (>) at measures 30, 32, 35, 39, and 43. Slurs are used extensively throughout. A 'sul pont.' (sul ponticello) instruction is at measure 35. A 'port.' (portamento) instruction is at measure 45. A 'senza vib.' (senza vibrato) instruction is at measure 49. A large, light gray watermark 'PRESTO' is oriented diagonally across the page.

Tempo primo

55 *pizz.*
marcato e meccanico
f

* In this passage, always bring out the highest note of each chord.

58 (3 3 3 3 3) (senza rit.)
dim.

61 *p* *mf* *f* *ff*
p **p** **f** **ff**

Prestissimo possibile

$\frac{3}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$ ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 144$)

(con moto sempre)

64 *arco*
mf *dolciss. sempre*

68

74 *mp* *mf*

IV. aria

Adagio, sostenuto - ma con moto, non strascinato ($\text{♩} = \text{c. } 58$)

0 *p* *espress. e sonore sempre*

IV *più* *mp*

6 *port.* *p* *dolciss.* *port.*

11 *poco sf* *p* *mf* *p* *pp* *p* *ord.* *sul tasto senza vib.* *(l.v. al niente)*

17 *mp* *p* *mp*

21 *3* *5* *p* *3*

25

sul tasto

ord.
senza port.-----

8^{va}

ppp lontano

29

loco

mp

5

p

pp

32

pizz.

arco

ppp lontano

36

sul tasto

ord.

pp cresc.

f

mp

p

40

* senza port. al fine

lunga

ppp lontano

attacca subito

* If this movement is being performed as a standalone piece, the last phrase should be *meno mosso*.

V. hoedown

Vivo, ma poco a poco più agitato e furioso - stringendo sempre (♩ = c. 132)

f *molto ritmico sempre* *sf* *f (sempre)* *sf* *sf* *sf (sempre sim.)*

5

9 *blues style*

13

(stringendo)

17 *cresc., pesante* *p sub. —molto—*

21 *ff acuto* *(molto ritmico sempre)*

25 *sul G* *molto accel.*

29

13

a tempo
35 *sul G*

Presstissimo poss. subito
38 *punta*

a tempo
43 *ord.*

Presstissimo poss. subito
45 *punta*

a tempo
47 *ord.*

Presstissimo poss. subito
51 *punta*

accel.
56 *ord.*

a tempo
59 *ord.*

con bravura
pressato
fff disperato