

# JOHN ADAMS

## SHAKER LOOPS

string septet

Score

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## PERFORMANCE NOTES

Performances of the modular version of *Shaker Loops* should be conducted. (A fully notated version in which all repeats are written out, designed for a string orchestra or for a septet without conductor, is also available from the publisher.)

**Duration** of the individual **modules** are, in this version, at the discretion of the conductor, but the overall length of the piece should not exceed 30 minutes. The conductor indicates the movement from one module to another by means of a large downbeat. When this signal for movement to a new module is given, most players will have to interrupt their present loops (submodules) in order to proceed directly to the new one. Players that have a repeat sign at the beginning of a new module can continue their previous material without interruption. If the ensemble deems it necessary, the conductor can indicate which module is operative by holding up fingers.

**Submodules** (those for the individual instruments indicated by small numbers in circles) are to be given by the conductor only to the player(s) involved and as subtly as possible. When a player receives a cue for a new submodule he or she should move more or less directly to the next submodule; however it is not necessary to make this change instantaneously. A beat or two rest before moving onto the next submodule is permissible. Generally it is not necessary to change submodules exactly on cue, unless it be a tutti cue as in submodule ① in module 14 (page 5 of the score). Here the submodule cue should be treated just like a module cue.

**Crescendos and decrescendos:** if a dynamic marking takes place within a repeat sign it should be observed with each repeat of the loop. If, however, a dynamic marking exceeds the boundary of the repeat sign it should be observed only once and over a more gradual time span.

For example:

||: **p** <**f**> **p**:|| would mean that the crescendo and decrescendo occur each time the loop is repeated.

Whereas:

||: **p** ————— **f** :|| would mean that the loop is begun **p** and, over the course of a number of repeats, gradually grows to **f**.

**Glissandos** in Part II should be played more toward the end of the beat. For instance a glissando written  $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$  should be executed more like  $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$ .

**Bass harmonics:** all natural harmonics in the treble clef for the bass are to sound where written. All other notation for the bass, including natural harmonics in the bass clef, is written an octave above where it will sound.

Hence  sounds , but  sounds 

Parts are available on rental from the publisher.

sjS

*For Jenny*

# SHAKER LOOPS

## PART I

### SHAKING AND TREMBLING

John Adams  
(1978)

**[1]**  $\text{♩} = 144$   
*sul tasto*

Violin 1      *p sul tasto*

Violin 2      *p*

Violin 3      -      ① *sul tasto*

Viola      -

Cello 1      -

Cello 2      -

Bass      -

**[2]**

Vn. 1

Vn. 2      ①

Vn. 3      *p* — *sul tasto*

Vla.      -

Vc. 1      ② *II sul tasto*

Vc. 2      ③ *II sul tasto*

**[3]** **Tutti: sempre sul tasto**

Vn. 1

Vn. 2      ②

Vn. 3      ①

Vla.      *p* — *p*

Vc. 1      *p* — *p*

Vc. 2      ③ *p* — *p* — *p*

Double stems call attention to a change of pattern; do not accent.

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**4** (very slight accents)

Vn. 1 *p*

Vn. 2 *p*

Vn. 3 *p* (1) *pp* (2)

Vla. (1) *p* (3) *p*

Vc. 1 *p* (4)

Vc. 2 *p*

a gradual cresc. to *p*

**5**

Tutti: throughout this module a gradual cresc. to forte  
(Vlns. & Vla. gradually change to normal bow)

Vn. 1 (2) gradually less accents (Vl. 1 & 2)

Vn. 2 *p* (1) a gradual cresc. to *mf* (4) *mf* a gradual cresc. to *f*

Vn. 3 *p* (3) *mf*

Vla. (1) *mf*

Vc. 1 Celli sempre sul tasto

Vc. 2

**6**

Tutti: dim. gradually - - - to - - - - - *p*

Vn. 1 *f* top 4 voices gradually change to sul tasto

Vn. 2 *f* (2) *o.*

Vn. 3 *f* (3) *o.*

Vla. *f*

Vc. 1 *f* (4) *o.*

Vc. 2 *f* (1) *o.*

**7** Tutti: sul tasto and gradually dim. to *pp*

Vn. 1      Vn. 2      Vn. 3      Vla.      Vc. 1      Vc. 2

**8**

Vn. 1      Vn. 2      Vn. 3      Vla.      Vc. 1      Vc. 2      Bass

**9**

Vn. 1      Vn. 2      Vn. 3      Vla.      Vc. 1      Vc. 2      Bass

10

top 4 voices: off the string

③

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

*p sempre staccato*

*p*

*Celli & Bass: a gradual cresc. to mf*

11

Tutti: a gradual cresc. to forte

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

12

① on the string

Tutti: a gradual dim. to *mf*

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

*on the string*

*on the string*

*on the string*

13

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

13

14

15

16

17

*mf*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*f*

*niente*

Cello 2 & Bass: gradually fade out

14 2 times only (8 beats)

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

(1) *sfp* *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

*sfp* *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

*sfp* *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

*sfp* *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

(4) Tutti: gradually dim. to *p*

(3)

(2)

(5)

Vns., Vla. & Cello 1: gradually decrease accents so that they are gone by (4)

15

Vn. 1      *p*      ① *spiccato*

Vn. 2      *p*      ① *ff*

Vn. 3      *p*      ① *ff*

Vla.      *p*      ① *spiccato*

Vc. 1      \* *p*      ① *ff spiccato*

Vc. 2      *mf*      *gliss.*      ② *fade out*

Bass      *mf*      *gliss.*

③ *spiccato*

④ *ff*

④ *spiccato*

③ *ff*

gradually fade out

\* Cello 2: first time only play D $\flat$  alone

**16**

Vn. 1      *ff*      ②

Vn. 2      *ff*

Vn. 3      ①  
① *ff*

Vla.

Vc. 1      *ff*

Vc. 2      ③

Bass      *ff*      spiccato      ④

**17**

Vn. 1      *ff*

Vn. 2      *ff*

Vn. 3      *ff*

Vla.      *ff*

Vc. 1      ①  
① *ff*      ②

Vc. 2      *ff*

Bass      *ff*      ③

**18**

Vn. 1      on the string      *ff*      *mp*      ①

Vn. 2      on the string      *ff*      *mp*      ①

Vn. 3      on the string      *ff*      *mp*      ①

Vla.      on the string      *ff*      *mp*      ③

Vc. 1      on the string      *ff*      *niente*      flautando      ②

Vc. 2      on the string      *ff*      *niente*      ②

Bass      *f* (each time)      *p*      *mp*      *pp*      *mp*

Celli and Vla. fade out      *niente*      ④      *senza cresc.*

**19**

Vn. 1      *f subito*      ①      *sempre forte*  
Vn. 2      *f subito*      ①      *sempre forte*  
Vn. 3      *f subito* >      ①  
Vla.      *f*      ②      *Vla.: quick fade out*  
Vc. 1      *f subito* >      ③  
Vc. 2      *f*      ④  
Bass      -      -

**20**

Vn. 1      *f*  
Vn. 2      *f*  
Vn. 3      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*  
Vla.      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*  
Vc. 1      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*  
Vc. 2      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*  
Bass      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *shake!*  
Vla.      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *fff shake!*  
Vc. 1      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *fff shake!*  
Vc. 2      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *fff shake!*  
Bass      *sffz*      *sffz*      *sffz*      *fff*  
AMP 7861-7

**21**

Vn. 1      *sul tasto*      *pp*

Vn. 2      *sul tasto*      *pp*

Vn. 3      *sul tasto*      *pp*

Vla.      *ppp*

Vc. 1      *①*

Vc. 2      *② sul tasto*      *pp*

Bass      *p*

**22**

Vn. 1      *pp*      *mp*      *pp*      *mp*      *pp*

Vn. 2      *z.*

Vn. 3      *ppp*      *mp*      *① ppp*      *mp*

Vla.      *pp*      *mp*      *pp*      *mp*      *pp*

Vc. 1      *z.*      *pp*

Vc. 2      *o*

Bass      *p*

**23**

Vn. 1      *pp*      *mp*      *pp*      *mp*

Vn. 2      *ppp*      *mp*

Vn. 3      *pp*      *mp*      *pp*      *mp*

Vla.      *① pp*      *pp*      *② mp*      *pp*      *mp*

Vc. 1      *pp*

Vc. 2      *p*

Bass      *p*

24

Vn. 1      *p*

Vn. 2      *p*      *mf*      *p*

Vn. 3      *p*      *o*      *mf*      *p*

Vla.      *p*      *o*      *mf*      *mf*

Vc. 1      *pp*

Vc. 2      *o.*      *mp*

Bass      *mp*      *<mf>*      *8*      *<mf>*      *8*      *<mf>*      *8*      *<mf>*

Bass: gradually fade out by [25]

25

Vn. 1      *p*      ③      *gradually accel.*      *ppp*

Vn. 2      *p*      ②      *gradually accel.*      *ppp*

Vn. 3      *p*      ①      *gradually accel.*      *ppp*

Vla.      *p*      pizz.      ④ arco      *gradually accel.*      *ppp*

Vc. 1      *p*      pizz.      *mp*      ⑤ arco      *gradually accel.*      *ppp*

Vc. 2      *mp*      pizz.      *mp*      ⑤ arco      *gradually accel.*      *ppp*

Bass      *mp*      o      o      Bass: continue steady tempo

26

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

Attacca  
Part 2

## Attacca

### Part 2

# PART II

## HYMNING SLEWS

*J = 63*

*Flautando, sempre senza vibrato*

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3  
Vla.  
Vc. 1  
Vc. 2  
Bass

\* Sounds as written

7

10

13

18

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3  
Vla.  
Vc. 1  
(pizz.)  
Vc. 2  
Bass

19

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3  
Vla.  
Vc. 1  
Vc. 2  
Bass

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3  
Vla.  
Vc. 1  
Vc. 2  
Bass

29

31

Vn. 1      p      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *pp*      *pp*      *p*

Vn. 2      p      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *mp*      *pp*      *p*

Vn. 3      p      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *pp*      *p*      *pp*

Vla.      *p*      *mf*      *pp*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *sul tasto*      *pp*

Vc. 1      *p*      *pp*      *pp*      *pp*      *pp*      *f*      *pp*      *p*

Vc. 2      *p*      *(pizz.)*      *mf*      *pp*      *mf*      *pp*      *pp*      *p*

Bass      *p*      *p*      *pp*      *pp*      *pp*      *pp*      *pp*      *mf*

A detailed musical score page featuring seven staves for string instruments. The instruments are labeled from top to bottom: Vn. 1, Vn. 2, Vn. 3, Vla. (Viola), Vc. 1 (Cello), Vc. 2 (Double Bass), and Bass. The score is set in common time and includes various dynamic markings: a crescendo (>), piano (p), mezzo-forte (mp), pianississimo (pp), sul tasto (on the bridge of the fingerboard), ordinario (ord.), and mute off. The notation consists of six measures of music, with each measure containing multiple notes and rests across the different staves.

37

Musical score for orchestra, page 37, measures 1-4. The score includes parts for Vn. 1, Vn. 2, Vn. 3, Vla., Vc. 1, Vc. 2, and Bass. The instrumentation consists of two violins, three cellos, one double bass, and one viola. The music features various dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, *mf*, and *tr*. Measures 1-4 show a rhythmic pattern of eighth-note pairs and sixteenth-note groups, with dynamic markings like *p* and *pp* appearing in the first three measures, followed by *mf* in measure 4.

42

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

43

Tutti: senza vibrato

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

47

48

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

# PART III

## LOOPS AND VERSES

*J = 63*

*at the point \* sim.* [10]

*p sul tasto (III)*

*\* Short, mechanical strokes  
but always on the string*

*at the point \* sim.*

*p sul tasto*

*mute off*

*arco* *p* *(sounds as written)*

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

20

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

begin gradual fade

dim.

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

<> p

p

p

niente

[29]

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

(*arco*) o o o o  
Vla. pp III sim.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1 pp mp pp

Vc. 2 pp mp pp

Bass pp mp pp

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1 mp on the string mf

Vc. 2 mp on the string <mf

Bass mp

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3  
Vla.  
Vc. 1  
Vc. 2  
Bass

A very gradual accel. begins here and continues throughout this section. Observe metronome markings in parentheses.

(♩ = 66) 43

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3  
Vla.  
Vc. 1  
Vc. 2  
Bass

Vn. 1  
Vn. 2  
Vn. 3  
Vla.  
Vc. 1  
Vc. 2  
Bass

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

50

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Violins : always on the string and at the point

61

Vn. 1      *poco f gradually*

Vn. 2      *poco f gradually*

Vn. 3      *poco f gradually*

Vla.

Vc. 1      *mf*

Vc. 2      *mf*

Bass

(♩ = 69)

*off the string*

*p*

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

*sim.*

71 (♩ = 72) *Poco più forte, poco a poco accel.*

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

gradually gaining in intensity

"brush strokes"

"brush strokes"

"brush strokes"

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

(cresc.)

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

mute off

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

f

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

f

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

f = 80

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

f

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

on the string

on the string

**2** Full bow, on the string

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

**3**  $\text{♩} = 84$

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

**4**  $\text{♩} = 92$  Tutti: gradual accel.  $\text{♩} = 144$

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

*Violins: on cues from the conductor vary the amplitude envelope.*

5  $\text{d} = 72 \text{ (in 2)}$  Tutti: gradual accelerando  $\text{d} = 72 \longrightarrow \text{d} = 144 / \text{o} = 72 \longrightarrow \text{o} - \text{d} (\text{d} = 160)$

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

*Tutti: gradually begin stressing first of every four notes*

The accelerando is executed in the following manner: conductor beats  $\text{d}'$ 's until accel. reaches  $\text{d} = 144$

The accelerando is executed in the following manner: conductor beats  $\text{d}^{\frac{1}{2}}$ 's until accel. reaches  $d = 144$  at which point conductor beats  $\text{o}^{\frac{1}{2}}$ 's (at  $\text{o} = 72$ ). Accel. continues until  $\text{o} = 160$  at which point  $\text{o} = \text{d}$  (where  $\text{d} = 160$ ). Duration of Module 5: approx. 20 seconds.

6 at which point conductor beats ♩'s (at  $\text{♩} = 72$ ). Accel. continues until  $\text{♩} = 160$  at which point  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$   
 (where  $\text{♩} = 160$ ). Duration of Module 5: approx. 20 seconds.

Vn. 1 (no repeat)

Vn. 2 (no repeat)

Vn. 3 (no repeat)

Vla. accelerando & fade out.

Vc. 1  $\text{♩} = \pm 108$  quasi trem.

Vc. 2 Accelerando & dim.

Bass

**Tutti : accelerando & crescendo**

7       $\text{d} = 76 \text{ (in 2)}$       ①  $(\text{d} = 138)$        $\text{d} = 176$

Vn. 1

Vn. 2

Vn. 3

Vla.

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

This musical score page shows a tutti section for the orchestra. The key signature is B-flat major. The tempo starts at d=76 (in 2), then accelerates to d=138 (marked ①), and finally reaches d=176. The dynamics transition from f to ff. The strings play sustained notes with grace marks. The bassoon and double bass provide harmonic support with sustained notes and tremolos. The woodwind section (Vla., Vc. 1, Vc. 2) also contributes with sustained notes and tremolos. The section ends with a fade out for each instrument.

**Sudden change of Tempo**

8  $\text{♩} = 96$  **accelerando**  $\text{♩} = 200$

Vn. 1 Vn. 2 Vn. 3 Vla. Vc. 1 Vc. 2

**9**  $\text{♩} = 96$  **Sudden change of Tempo** **accelerando**  $\text{♩} = 160$

Vn. 1 Vn. 2 Vn. 3 Vla. Vc. 1 Vc. 2

(2) *niente* (3) *niente* (4) *niente*

Tutti: gradually move to the point

**10** ( $\text{♩} = 160$ ) **Steady tempo**

Vn. 1 Vn. 2 Vn. 3 Vla. Vc. 1 Vc. 2

(3) quick fade out

(1) (4) quick fade out

quick fade out

**11**

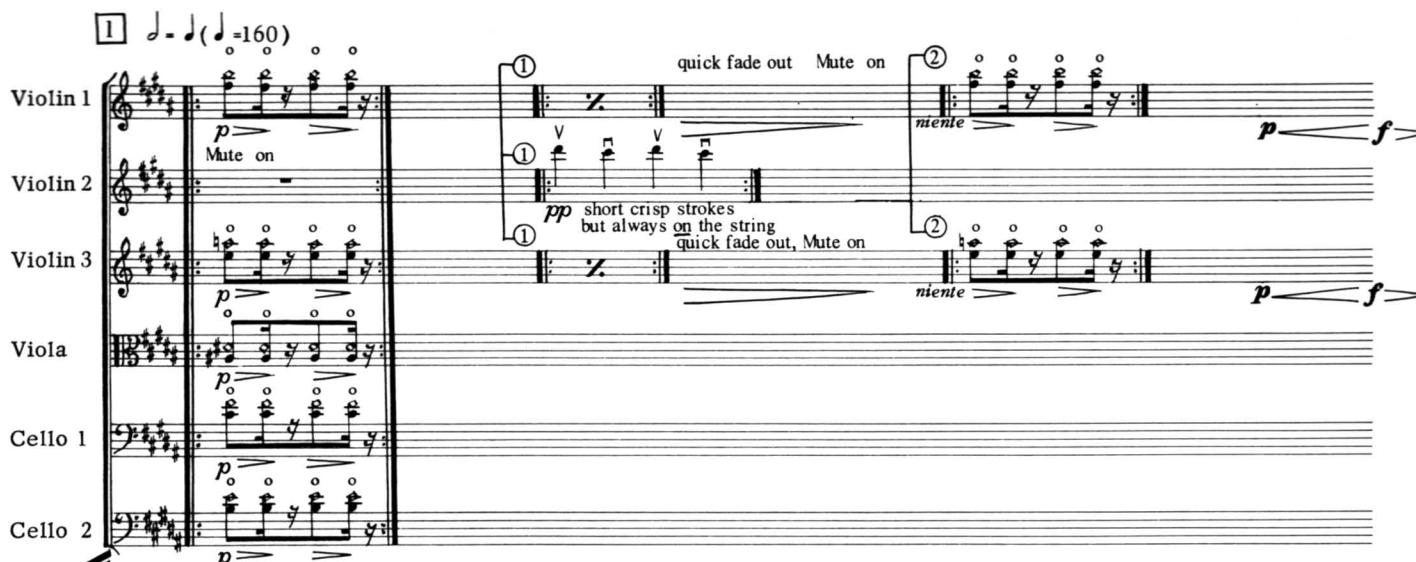
Vn. 1 Vn. 2 Vn. 3

(2) quick fade out (3) *niente* (4) quick fade out

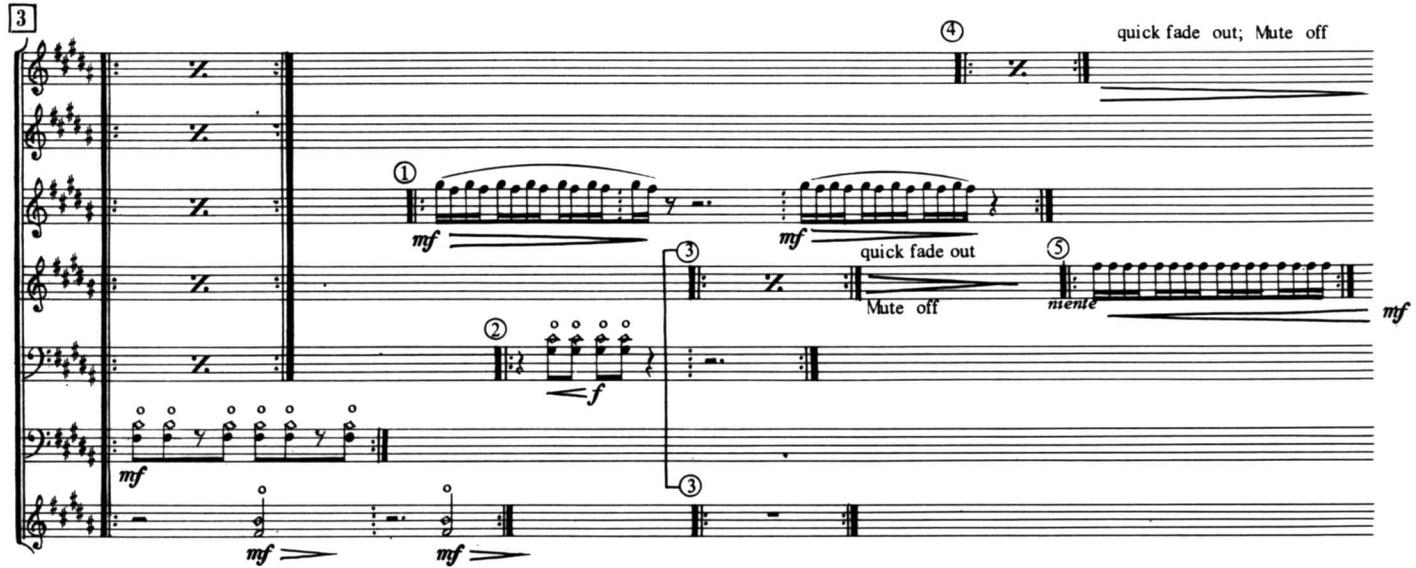
(1) *niente*  $\text{mf}$  (4)

# PART IV

## A FINAL SHAKING

**[1]** 

**[2]** 

**[3]** 

**4**

Vn. 1      *niente* — *mf*  
               quick fade out, Mute off

Vn. 2      *Z.*

Vn. 3      *Z.*

Vla.      *mf*      gradually cresc. to *f*  
               *niente* — *f*  
               quick fade out;  
               Mute off

Vc. 1      *Z.*      a gradual fade out (out by ②)

Vc. 2      *Z.*      a gradual fade out (out by ②)

Bass      —

**5**

Vn. 1      *f*      ① *mf* — *f*      ② *f*

Vn. 2      *mf* — *f*

Vn. 3      *f*      ③ *f*

**6**

Vn. 1      *ff* — *mf*      ④

Vn. 2      *ff*      ③

Vn. 3      *ff*      ① *f*      ② — *mf*      ⑤

Vla.      —      *niente* — *mf*

**7**

Vn. 1      *f* *subito*

Vn. 2      *f* *subito*

Vn. 3      *f* *subito*

Vla.      —

8

Vn. 1      *f*

Vn. 2      *f*

Vn. 3      *p* — *mf*

Vla.      —

(1)      *p* — *f*

(2)      *mf* — *f*

(3)      *f*

(4)      *f*

(5)      *f*

9

Vn. 1      *Z*

Vn. 2      *Z*

Vn. 3      *Z*

Vla.      *Z*

Tutti: *f* — *ff* — *p*

10

Vn. 1      *p*

Vn. 2      *p* IV

Vn. 3      *p* III

Vla.      *p*

Vc. 1      *p* II sul tasto III

Vc. 2      *p*

Bass      *p*

quick fade out

(1)      *p* > > >

(2)      *p*

(3)      *IV III* *p* — *mf*

(4)      *fade out*

sul tasto

quick fade out

11

Vn. 1 quick fade out; mute on

Vn. 2 ① niente III

Vn. 3

Vla. niente mf

Vc. 1 p Celli: very slight accents

Vc. 2 p

Bass p

12

Vn. 1 mf

Vn. 2 mf

Vn. 3 niente mf

Vla. quick fade out; mute on

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

13

Vn. 1 f p

Vn. 2 f p

Vn. 3 mute off

Vla. f p

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Bass

**14**

Vn. 1      gradual fade out; mute off      (3) niente *mp*      (5) quick fade

Vn. 2      quick fade out; mute off      (1) niente *mp*      (4) quick fade      (5) 8 niente *mp*

Vn. 2      *mp*      (2) quick fade out; niente *mp*

Vla.      fade out; mute off      (2) niente *mp*

Vc. 1      *mp*

Vc. 2      *mp*

Bass      *mp*

**15**

Vn. 1      (8) niente *mp*      (1)      (2) fade out

Vn. 2      (1)      (2) fade out

Vn. 3      (1)      (2) fade out

Vla.      (1) *p*      (2) fade out

Vc. 1      sul tasto      *p*      gradual dim.

Vc. 2      sul tasto      *p*      gradual dim.

Bass      *p*      gradual dim.