a short cry

for solo violin

c. 5'

by

Connor Simpson

For Perusal Only

Mere Fly Press

a short cry

for solo violin
2025
c. 5 minutes
Connor Simpson
Mere Fly Press (ASCAP)

Program Notes:

A short cry moves through restrained gestures and fading echoes, tracing fragments of half-remembered expression. Murmurs, brief intensities, and fragile lyricism drift without setting. A residue remains, of memory and loss. Sounds surface tentatively, like memories half-surfaced or voices softened by distance. What unfolds is quiet and porous, shaped by the erosion of presence.

Performance Notes:

The piece should be performed with a wooden mute and without vibrato throughout. If a wooden mute is unavailable, another mute may be used, though performers should prioritize a muted sound that is dry, and veiled.

Senza Misura (Free Time):

This section is not measured, and rhythmic values are not proportional to spacing. Each system should last approximately 15–20 seconds, with exact pacing determined by the performer. Notes and events should unfold with a sense of continuity and breath, avoiding strict pulses or synchronization. While the notation provides a general sequence, interpretive freedom is encouraged within the given temporal span.

Laissez Vibrer (l.v.):

On the fourth system of the fourth page where l.v. is marked, creescendo into the silence, allowing the strings to resonate into the space. The natural decay of the string is essential to the sound.

Gradual Technique Transitions:

Arrows indicate a gradual transition between techniques. Performers should smoothly shift from one technique to the next, allowing the change to evolve organically over the provided duration. For example the sul pont. in mm. 5 should gradually transition to the ord. in measure 16 and the harmonic pressure on the at the beginning of the fourth system on the first page, should gradually increase in pressure to a fully stopped note.

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a short cry
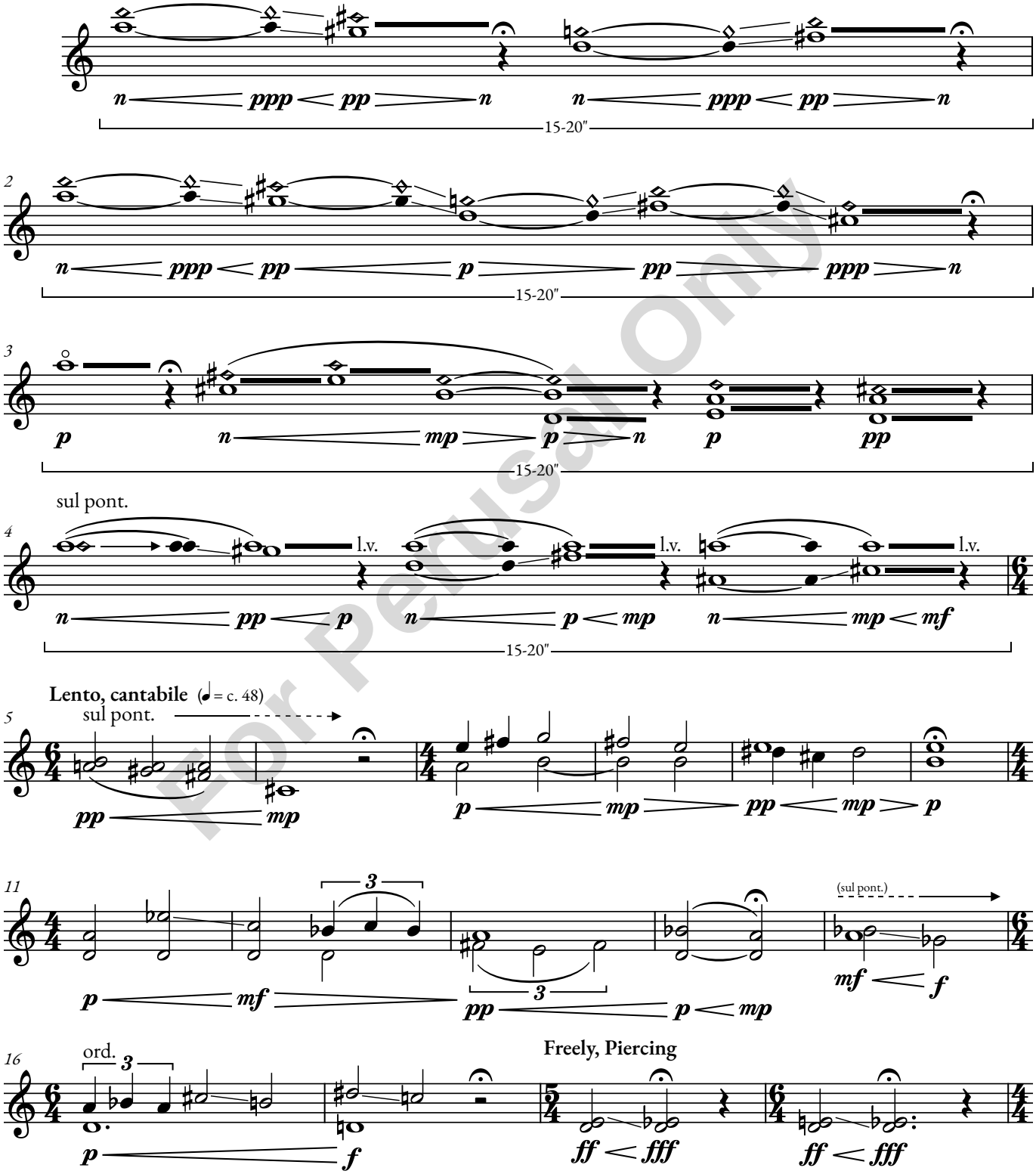
for Yan Yue

Solo Violin

Connor Simpson

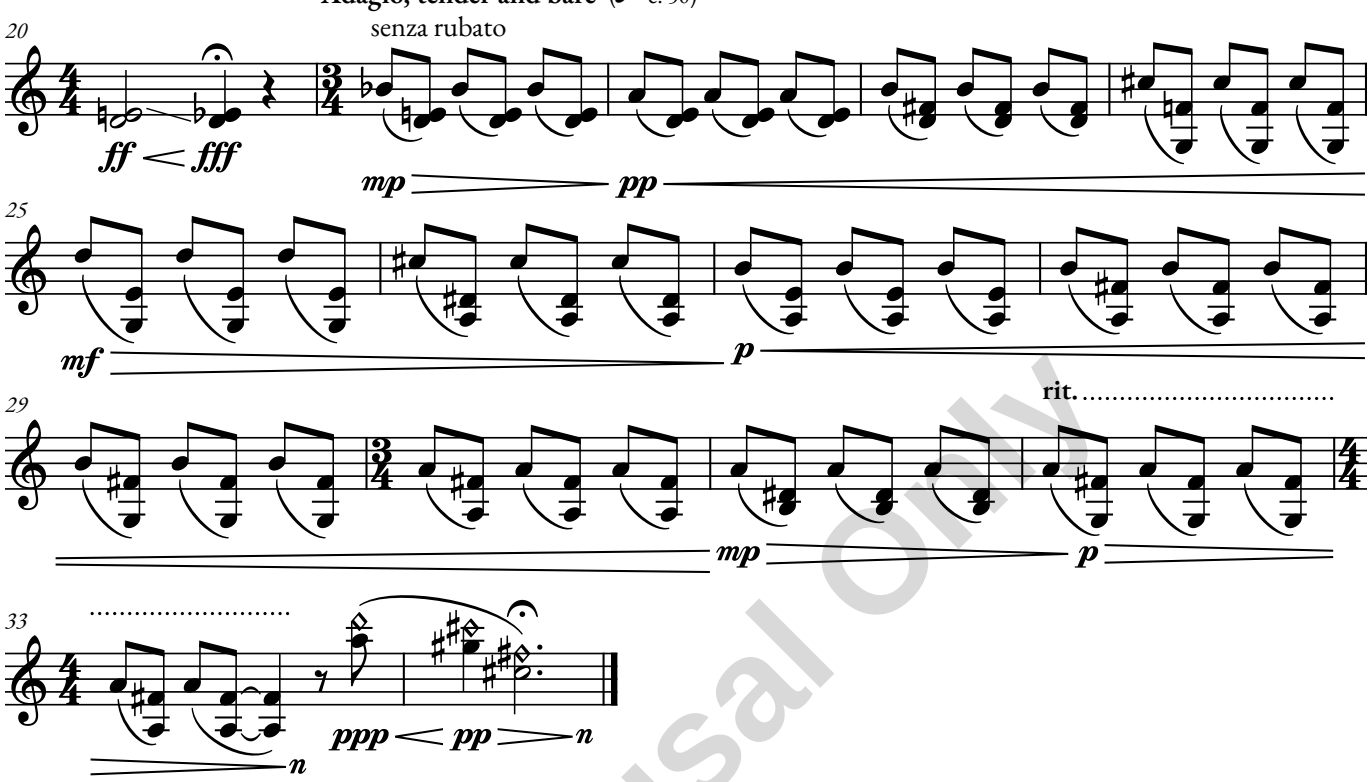
Senza Misura, whimpering lost in the wind

con sordino, senza vibrato, sul tasto



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