

# Invisible Sound

For chamber ensemble

Melissa Rankin

Full Score

## *Invisible Sound*

For chamber ensemble

The structure and temporal unfolding of this piece is directed by the length of resonance afforded by the piano and acoustic environment.

Each gesture begins with a piano motif and is shadowed by the remaining voices to create a sonorous blend of tone and texture.

The piano acts as an indication to the other instrumentalists that the subsequent gesture has begun. Pianist should allow for the resonance to decay to almost silence before continuing to the next gesture.

Instrumentalists should make informed decisions in relation to the piano resonance when lingering on each motif. The score is a guide only and natural acoustics should take priority.

As well as being self-aware, players should be conscious of others and the sound that is being produced at all times.

The use of beams to depict time and undefined rhythm means this piece does not require an external conductor to follow the metre.

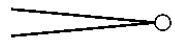
Gaps in the score mean no instrumentalists should be playing.

*Written for Red Note Ensemble*

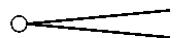
## Performance Instructions



sustain method of playing



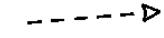
diminuendo al niente



crescendo al niente



gradually change from one method of playing to another



cue line

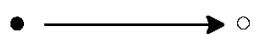


coordinated entry or exit

### Flute:



breath tone



change from normal method of playing to breath tone



Multiphonic fingering - E  $\flat$  5 / C6

Clarinet:

- ◊ breath tone without pitch
- gradually change from one method of playing to another
- → ○ normal to breath tone

Violin and Violoncello:

ST	sul tasto
N	normal
SP	sul ponticello
	circular bowing, alternate bowing position freely between ST, N, SP in a circular motion
+	left hand pizzicato
○	natural harmonic at sounding pitch
◊	natural harmonic at fingered pitch
◆	artificial harmonic / sounding two octaves above
	overpressure

For Red Note Ensemble  
**Invisible Sound**  
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Flute: *delicate* (pitch bend, freely *whimsical*)

Clarinet in B<sub>b</sub>: *pp* (pitch bend, freely *whimsical*)

Piano: Sustain pedal should remain down for entire duration of the piece. It should not be lifted at all.  
♩ = 80

Violin: *ff* (pedal down), *fff* (pedal up), *tr.*

Violoncello: *mp* (♩ = 60, *flautando, airy*)

8

Fl.      *very still*      →○

Cl.      *pp*      ○

Pno.      *fff*      *mp*      *f*

Vln.      *pp*      *semper vib.*      → *molto vib.*      *pp*      *pp*      *abrupt ending*

Vc.      *f*      *molto vib.*  
continue vibrato through resonance      *pp*      *abrupt ending*      *pizz.*      *fff*

Fl.      *p*      *ffff*

Cl.      *p*      *ffff*

Pno.      *pppp*      *pppp*      *f*

Vln.      *SP*      → *ST*

18

Fl. *ppp* pitch bend ↗

Cl. *p* ↗

Pno. *fff* ↗ *fff* ↗ *fff* *f* <sup>3</sup>

Vln. *fp* *sim.* *rall.* ..... *ppp* ↗ *mf* *<fff>*

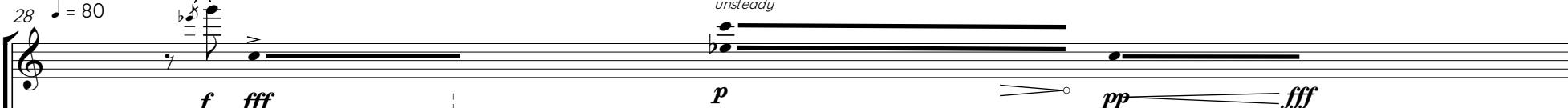
Vc. *arco* *f* *pp* ↗ *p* *40* *ST flaut.*

ST gliss. freely between notes, slow bow

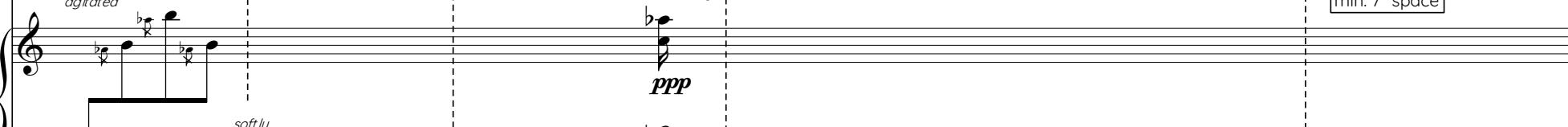
gliss. freely between notes, slow bow

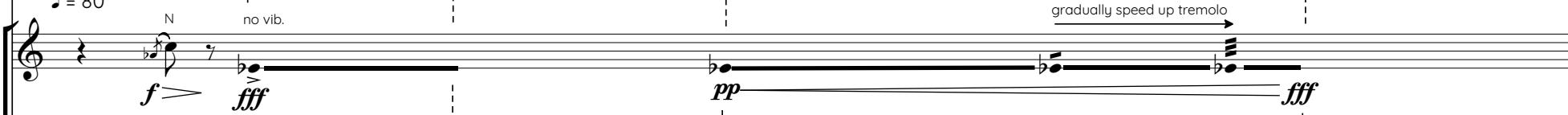
**Fleeting**

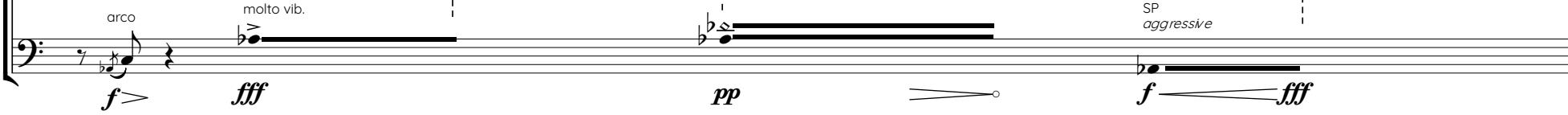
28  $\downarrow = 80$

**Fl.** 

**Cl.** 

**Pno.** 

**Vln.** 

**Vc.** 

**unsteady** 

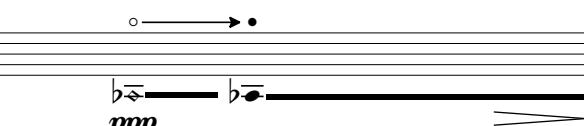
**min. 7" space**

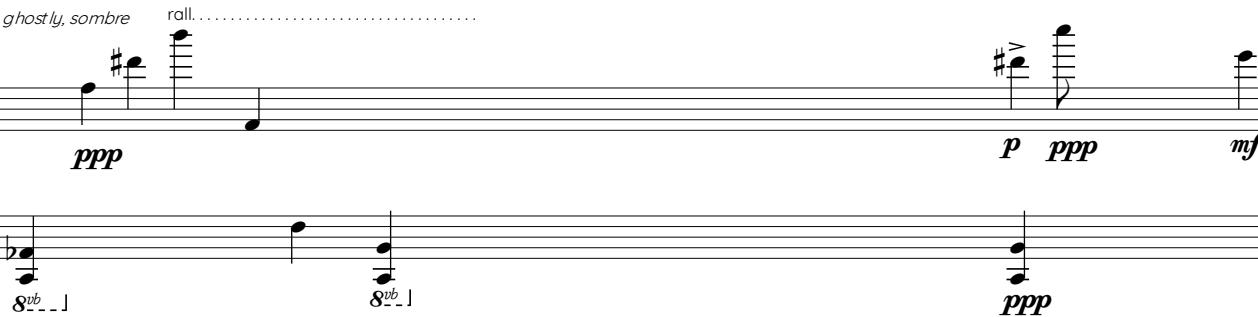
**gradually speed up tremolo** 

**SP aggressive**

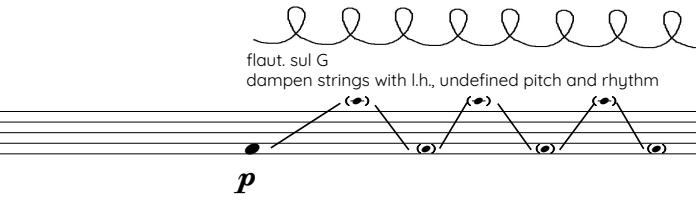
34

Fl. 

Cl. 

Pno. 

Vln. 

Vc. 

*ghostly, sombre* *rall.*.....

*ST*  
no vib., single bow

*flaut. sul G*  
dampen strings with l.h., undefined pitch and rhythm

*p*

*p*

*p* *p* *f* *p* *p* *f* *p* *p* *f* *p* *p* *f*

*p* *pp* *mf*

*p* *pp* *mf*

*p* *pp*

*p* *pp* *p* *sub. ppp*

*ST*

*whoosh*

*p = 40*  
*pulsing*

43

Fl. *whoosh* ***ppp*** ***<f***

Cl. *motionless, static* ***pp***

Pno. ***p***

Vln. *N*  $\downarrow = 70$   
*flaut., mystical* ***p***

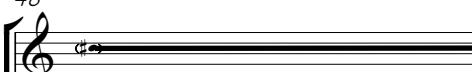
Vc. ***p***

*very still, peaceful* ***pp***

***p***

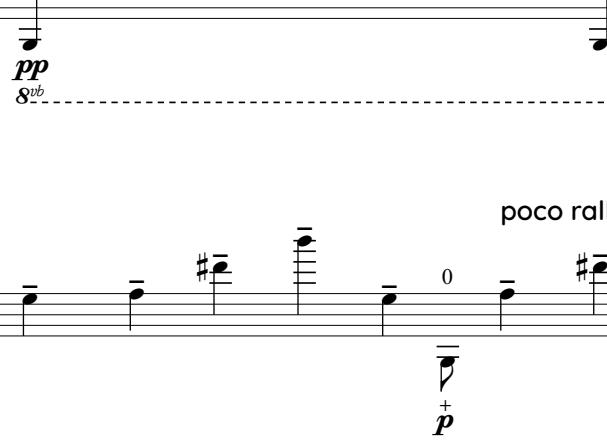
This musical score page contains five staves. The top staff is for Flute (Fl.), the second for Clarinet (Cl.), the third for Piano (Pno.), the fourth for Violin (Vln.), and the bottom for Cello (Vc.). Measure 43 begins with a dynamic of ***ppp*** for the Flute and ***<f*** for the Clarinet, with a performance instruction *whoosh*. The Piano (Pno.) starts with a dynamic of ***p***. The Violin (Vln.) and Cello (Vc.) play eighth-note patterns with a dynamic of ***p***. Measure 6 begins with a dynamic of ***pp*** for the Clarinet, with a performance instruction *motionless, static*. The section ends with a dynamic of ***pp*** and the instruction *very still, peaceful*. Measure numbers 43 and 6 are present in the top left and top right corners respectively.

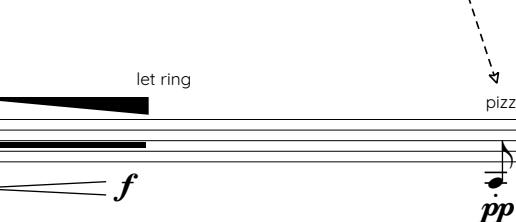
48

Fl. 

Cl. 

Pno. 

Vln. 

Vc. 

whistle tone 

**pp**

**8va-1**

**pp**

**poco rall.**

**p**

**let ring**

**f**

**pizz.**

**pp**

7

*static, extremely still in all voices*

53

Fl.

Cl.

Pno.

Vln.

Vc.

*(8)*

*atempo  
molto vib*

*f*

*pp*

*fragile, unsteady  
allow scratches to come through*

SP

*arco  
single bow, extremely slow*

SP

*ppp*

*ppp*