

Alex Stephenson

VEIL/FLAME

(2024)

for solo cello

Composed for Eric Moore

First performed by Eric Moore
Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois
October 22, 2024

DURATION: 12 minutes

PERFORMANCE NOTES

The C string should be tuned down one whole step to B-flat, with the other strings tuned normally. This tuning remains in effect for the entire piece:



The composition is notated at sounding pitch throughout.

The following abbreviations are used:

p.s.p. = poco sul pont.

m.s.p. = molto sul pont.

TO CONTACT THE COMPOSER

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N.B. Tune IV to B $\flat$ (other strings tuned normally)

for Eric Moore

Veil/Flame

Misterioso $\text{♩} = 52$

sul IV, arm. 11 & 12

(harmonics are understood to be unstable – some cracking is OK, even desirable)

Alex Stephenson (2024)

bowing:

①

⑤

grace notes always rather fast
(like a vocal melisma in a folk song)

⑧

⑪

Più mosso, always flexible and expressive $\text{♩} = 69$

⑬

16 *mf* *f* *pp* *f* *appass.*

19 *f* *f* *f* *pp*

22 *p* *scherzando* *f* *fp*

24 *ff* *p* *sub. dolce* *mf* *p* *f*

27 *p* *scherzando* *f* *appass.* *mf*

29 *f* *p* *mf* *p*

II

(II)

pizz. short arco

32

mf *pp*

35

f virtuosic *fp*

♩ = ♩ Brisk ♩ = 138

37

fp *fp* *fp* *f playful, non aggressivo*

see note *)

40

43

46

*) If more practical, please feel free to play any LH pizz. notes with RH, or vice versa, at your discretion.

49

52

55

58

61

65

p *f*

p *f*

p *f*

p sub. *f*

fp *f* *f non troppo, clear* *pizz.* *arco*

The image displays a musical score for a piece titled 'Veil/Flame'. It consists of six staves of music, each beginning with a circled measure number: 49, 52, 55, 58, 61, and 65. The notation is primarily in bass clef. The first staff (49) starts in 4/4 time, changes to 3/4, then 2/4, and ends in 4/4. The second staff (52) starts in 4/4, changes to 3/4, and ends in 4/4. The third staff (55) starts in 4/4, changes to 3/4, and ends in 4/4. The fourth staff (58) starts in 3/4, changes to 2/4, and ends in 4/4. The fifth staff (61) starts in 13/8, changes to 3/4, then 4/4, and ends in 13/8. The sixth staff (65) starts in 13/8, changes to 3/4, then 2/4, and ends in 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and accidentals. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano), *f* (forte), *fp* (fortissimo piano), *p sub.* (piano subito), and *f non troppo, clear*. Performance instructions include *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *arco* (arco). There are also slurs and accents throughout the piece.

(69) *arco* $(\text{♩} = \text{♩})$

(72) *p* calmer, graceful, dance-like *dim.*.....

(77) *pp*

(82)

(87) *sub. cresc.!* *ff* *aggressivo* *pizz.* *arco* *ff* *(ord.)* *fp*

(92) *p.s.p.* *ord.* *II* *f* *p* *espr., intimate* *mf*

97

mf *pp* *p*

101

mf *mf* *pp* *p*

105

f *p* *f*

109

f *p* *p poco a poco agitato* *f*

112

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

115

f appass. *f* *p*

119 

f *p* *f* *p* *f* like an exhale

124 

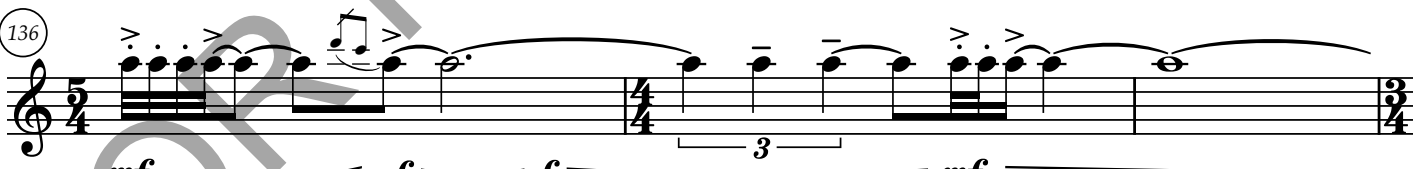
p *pp* very tender and intimate *mf* *ppp*

128 

p *pp* *mf* *ppp*

132 

pp dolciss., tender and vulnerable *mf* *p*

136 

mf *p* *mf* *f* *p* *mf*

139 

pp sub. cresc.! *f* playful *p* *f*

142 *p* *f* *dim.* *p sempre* pizz.

146 arco *ff sub.* pizz. *f non troppo* arco

150 pizz. *p sub.* arco

153 *f* *p sub.* *f vigorous but dance-like*

156

159 *p sub. cresc.*

161

f intense

164

167

p sub. cresc.

169

f intense

172

ff sempre, aggressivo

176

179

183

187

190

193

$\text{♩} = 69$
lots of bow!
(change freely and rapidly)

ff sempre, molto espr., ecstatic!

ffp *ff*

mf *f* *p* *p*

mf *pp*

ff like an exhale

(gliss. arm.; a fleeting gesture;
pitches and rhythms are approximate)

IV

196

p *dolciss., tender and vulnerable*

199

3

202

205

più p *ppp*

208

pp

212

ff espr. *pp* *very long* m.s.p.