

Alex Stephenson

VEIL/FLAME

(2024)

for solo cello

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

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♭ (other strings tuned normally)

for Eric Moore  
Veil/Flame

Misterioso ♩ = 52

sul IV, arm. 11 & 12

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

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bowing:

5

8

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

11

Più mosso, always flexible and expressive ♩ = 69

13

arco

16

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

19

*f* *f* *f* *pp*

22

*p* *scherzando* *f* *fp* <

24

*ff* *p* *mf* *p* < *f*

*pizz.* *short arco* *sub. dolce*

27

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

29

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

32

*mf* *pp*

35

*f* virtuosic *fp*

♩ = ♩ Brisk ♩ = 138

37

see note \*)  
*fp* *fp* *fp* *f* playful, non aggressivo

40

43

46

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

49

Musical notation for measure 49, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The measure contains a series of eighth notes with accents and dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The key signature changes from one flat to one sharp.

52

Musical notation for measure 52, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The measure contains a series of eighth notes with accents and dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The key signature changes from one sharp to one flat.

55

Musical notation for measure 55, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The measure contains a series of eighth notes with accents and dynamic markings *p* and *f*. The key signature changes from one flat to one sharp.

58

Musical notation for measure 58, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The measure contains a series of eighth notes with accents and dynamic markings *p sub.* and *f*. The key signature changes from one sharp to one flat.

61

Musical notation for measure 61, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The measure contains a series of eighth notes with accents and dynamic markings *fp*, *f*, and *f non troppo, clear*. The key signature changes from one flat to one sharp. The instruction *arco* is present at the end of the measure.

65

Musical notation for measure 65, bass clef, 4/4 time signature. The measure contains a series of eighth notes with accents and dynamic markings *pizz.*. The key signature changes from one sharp to one flat.

69 arco

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

77 *pp*

82

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

92 *f* *p* espr., intimate *mf*

II Veil/Flame

97

*mf* *pp* *p*

101

*mf* *mf* *pp* *p* arco

105

*f* *p* *f* pizz. arco

109

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

112

*f* *p* *p* III molto vib. II o sim.

115

*f appass.* *f* *p*



119 (ord.) → m.s.p.  
*f* ————— *p* ————— *f* ————— *p* ————— *f* like an exhale

124 ord. non arm. II  
 ◦ < *p* > *pp* very tender and intimate ————— *mf* ————— *ppp*

128 non arm.  
 ◦ < *p* > *pp* ————— *mf* ————— *ppp*

132 gliss.  
 ◦ ————— *pp* dolciss., tender and vulnerable ————— *mf* > *p* <

136 *mf* > *p* < *mf* > < *f* ————— *p* ————— *mf* —————

139 ♩ = ♩ = 138  
 > *pp* sub. cresc.! > *f* playful *p* ————— *f*

142

*p*  $\longleftarrow$  *f* *dim.*..... *p* sempre

pizz.

146

*ff* sub. *f* non troppo

arco pizz. arco

150

*p* sub.

arco pizz.

153

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

156

159

*p* sub. cresc.....

161

*f* intense

Detailed description: This system contains measures 161, 162, and 163. Measure 161 is in 13/8 time and features a bass line with eighth-note patterns and accents. Measure 162 is in 2/4 time. Measure 163 is in 4/4 time. The dynamic marking *f* intense is placed below the staff.

164

Detailed description: This system contains measures 164 and 165. Measure 164 is in 13/8 time. Measure 165 is in 2/4 time. The music continues with eighth-note patterns and accents.

167

*p* sub. cresc.....

Detailed description: This system contains measures 167, 168, 169, and 170. Measure 167 is in 13/8 time. Measure 168 is in 2/4 time. Measure 169 is in 4/4 time. Measure 170 is in 13/8 time. The dynamic marking *p* sub. cresc..... is placed below the staff.

169

*f* intense

Detailed description: This system contains measures 169, 170, and 171. Measure 169 is in 13/8 time. Measure 170 is in 2/4 time. Measure 171 is in 2/4 time. The dynamic marking *f* intense is placed below the staff.

172

*cresc.*.....

*ff* sempre, aggressivo

Detailed description: This system contains measures 172, 173, 174, and 175. Measure 172 is in 13/8 time. Measure 173 is in 4/4 time. Measure 174 is in 3/4 time. Measure 175 is in 3/4 time. The dynamic marking *cresc.*..... is placed below the staff. The music features a complex texture with multiple voices and a *ff* sempre, aggressivo dynamic.

176

Detailed description: This system contains measures 176, 177, 178, and 179. Measure 176 is in 2/4 time. Measure 177 is in 2/4 time. Measure 178 is in 3/4 time. Measure 179 is in 3/4 time. The music continues with complex textures and dynamic markings.

180

$\text{♩} = \text{♩} = 69$

lots of bow!  
(change freely and rapidly)

183

*ff* sempre, molto espr., ecstatic!

186

*ffp* ————— *ff*

189

*mf* ————— *f* ————— *p* ————— *p*

192

*mf* ————— *pp*

o ————— *ff* like an exhale

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

195

IV

I

*p*

*p dolciss., tender and vulnerable*

198

3

201

204

*più p*

*ppp*

207

♩ = 52

*pp*

211

(ord.)

6

5

*ff espr.*

*pp*

very long

m.s.p.