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# String Quartet No.3

Andrew Downes

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LYNWOOD MUSIC

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## **Andrew Downes - Quartet No. 3**

This single movement work, lasting about twenty-five minutes, was composed at the request of the Almira String Quartet during 1993 and 1994. It is dedicated to the composer John Mayer.

The Quartet contains three strongly contrasting musical ideas, each of which evolves and develops organically throughout the work. It is this organic growth whereby ideas, however contrasting, evolve from each other, which allows such a long movement to remain whole and logical in structure, whilst at the same time giving full vent to the development of passion and feeling.

The first of the three main ideas out of which the Quartet grows is slow, melancholic and plainsong-like. This is later accompanied by a thematically linked harmonised arpeggio figure which evolves into an important thematic idea in its own right.

The second main idea is violent, rhythmically and harmonically ragged, contrasting radically with the even flow of the first idea, despite the fact that it can be heard to derive from it. The violence of this section develops into triumph, but is then replaced by a reflective transformation more suggestive of the opening idea.

The final main idea in the work, again organically derived from the others, is obviously and strongly influenced by Indian Classical Music, and was conceived immediately after the composer visited Bengal in February 1994. The drone of the tambura is suggested by the lower instruments, and the sitar-like flourish of the opening of the raga is played by the violins. Later, the pizzicato viola suggests tabla rhythms. The section concludes with a passage of furious, multi-tempo music, suggestive of the final improvisatory section of the Indian Rag. This material is transformed into a triumphant coda at the end of the work.

As always, this composer finds it impossible to convey through words the heartfelt passion, tragedy and joy which can only be experienced through the sound of the music, but he fervently hopes that these few words, inadequate though they may be, help his audience to enjoy this new work.

This work was first performed by the Almira Quartet at the Birmingham and Midland Institute on 16th March 1995. The Almira Quartet have since performed the work at numerous venues throughout the UK.

Duration of the quartet: 25 minutes

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# String Quartet No. 3

For John Mayer

Andrew Downes

Andante ( $\text{♩} = 70$ )

Musical score for the first section of the String Quartet No. 3. The score includes four staves: 1st Violin, 2nd Violin, Viola, and Cello. The tempo is Andante ( $\text{♩} = 70$ ). Dynamics include  $p$ , *dolce*, and  $mp$ . Measure 1 shows the strings playing eighth-note patterns. Measures 2-3 show the 1st Violin and 2nd Violin playing eighth-note patterns, while the Viola and Cello provide harmonic support. Measures 4-5 show the 1st Violin and 2nd Violin continuing their eighth-note patterns. Measures 6-7 show the 1st Violin and 2nd Violin playing eighth-note patterns, while the Viola and Cello provide harmonic support.

A

Close-up of the musical score showing section A. The 1st Violin and 2nd Violin play eighth-note patterns with dynamic markings  $p$ , *dolce*, and  $p$ . The Viola and Cello provide harmonic support. The section ends with a dynamic of  $pp$ .

B

Close-up of the musical score showing section B. The 1st Violin and 2nd Violin play eighth-note patterns with dynamic markings  $p$ , *mf*,  $f$ , and  $ff$ . The Viola and Cello provide harmonic support. The section ends with a dynamic of  $ff$ .

C Tenderly

Close-up of the musical score showing section C. The 1st Violin and 2nd Violin play eighth-note patterns with dynamic markings  $ff$ , *f*, *mf*,  $mp$ ,  $p$ ,  $pp$ , and  $p$ . The Viola and Cello provide harmonic support. The section ends with a dynamic of  $ff$ .

Allegro Vivace (♩ = 100)  
with great aggression

**D**

sub. pp      pp      pp

sub. pp      pp      pp

sub. pp      pp      pp

sub. p      p      p      pp

**E**

ff      ff      ff

pizz.      pizz.

**F**

fff      arco.      fff

fff      fff      fff      fff

**Preview File Only**

**fff**

**fff**

**fff**

**fff**

**fff**

**fff**

**G**

with exuberance

Musical score page G. It consists of five staves of music for strings. The dynamics are primarily ff (fortissimo). Measure 1 starts with ff. Measures 2-4 show ff. Measure 5 begins with ff, followed by legato (leg.) and a dynamic 2. Measures 6-10 continue with ff. Measure 11 begins with ff, followed by legato (leg.). Measures 12-14 end with ff.

leg.

ff

**H**

Musical score page H. It consists of five staves of music for strings. Measures 1-3 begin with f (forte), followed by crescendo (cresc.), poco (little by little), a (and), poco (little by little), ff (fortissimo), crescendo (cresc.), poco a poco (little by little by little). Measures 4-6 begin with f (forte), followed by crescendo (cresc.), poco (little by little), a (and), poco (little by little), ff (fortissimo), crescendo (cresc.), poco a poco (little by little by little). Measures 7-9 begin with appass. (appassionato), followed by crescendo (cresc.), poco (little by little), a (and), poco (little by little), ff (fortissimo), crescendo (cresc.), poco a poco (little by little by little). Measures 10-12 end with ff (fortissimo), crescendo (cresc.), poco a poco (little by little by little).

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**J** Molto appassionato

Musical score page I. It consists of five staves of music for strings. Measures 1-3 begin with ff (fortissimo), followed by ff (fortissimo). Measures 4-6 begin with ff (fortissimo), followed by pizz. (pizzicato), dynamic 2. Measures 7-9 end with ff (fortissimo). Measures 10-12 begin with ff (fortissimo), followed by arco (bow), dynamic 2.

fff

rall molto poco a poco

(♩ = 70)

*ff*      *p*      *pp*  
*ff*      *mf*      *mp*      *p*      *pp*  
*ff*      *mf*      *mp*      *p*      *pp*  
*ff*      *mf*      *mp*      *p*      *pp*

K ♩ = ♩ (♩ = 70) leg.

*p*      *leg.*      *p*      *leg.*      *p*

L

M appass.

N

*f*      *f*      *p*      *pizz.*      *mf*      *cresc.*      *mf*      *mp*      *cresc.*      *f*      *f*      *mf*      *cresc.*      *ff*

*f*      *f*      *p*      *pizz.*      *mf*      *cresc.*      *mf*      *mp*      *cresc.*      *f*      *f*      *mf*      *cresc.*      *ff*

*f*      *f*      *p*      *pizz.*      *mf*      *cresc.*      *mf*      *mp*      *cresc.*      *f*      *f*      *mf*      *cresc.*      *ff*

appass.  
(lower octave optional)

Q

appass. molto

Musical score for strings (two violins, viola, cello) in common time. Measure 1: Appassionato dynamic, lower octave optional. Measures 2-3: Crescendo to ff. Measures 4-5: appass. dynamic. Measures 6-7: appass. dynamic. Measures 8-10: Crescendo to fff.

appass. molto

P Very tenderly

ff

Q Allegro Vivace  
with great aggression ( $\text{d} = 110$ )

Continuation of the musical score for strings. Measures 11-13: Dynamics pp, mf, mp, p. Measures 14-15: Dynamics pp, p, molto legato. Measures 16-18: Dynamics pp, molto legato. Measures 19-20: Dynamics pp, molto legato. Measures 21-22: Dynamics pp, molto legato.

pp

Final section of the musical score for strings. Measures 23-24: Pizzicato dynamic fff. Measures 25-26: Pizzicato dynamic fff. Measures 27-28: Pizzicato dynamic fff. Measures 29-30: Pizzicato dynamic fff. Measures 31-32: Pizzicato dynamic fff. Measures 33-34: Pizzicato dynamic fff.

Musical score for orchestra and choir, measures 11-13. The score consists of four staves:

- Measures 11 (Top Staff):** Violins play eighth-note patterns. Dynamics:  $\text{ff}$ ,  $\text{ff}$ ,  $\text{ff}$ . A dynamic  $\text{ff}$  is placed above the first measure. The letter **R** is enclosed in a square above the second measure.
- Measures 12 (Second Staff):** Violas play eighth-note patterns. Dynamics:  $\text{ff}$ ,  $\text{ff}$ .
- Measures 13 (Third Staff):** Cellos play eighth-note patterns. Dynamics:  $\text{ff}$ ,  $\text{ff}$ .
- Measures 14 (Bottom Staff):** Bassoon (B.C.) and Double Bass play eighth-note patterns. Dynamics:  $\text{ff}$ ,  $\text{ff}$ ,  $\text{ff}$ . The bassoon part includes the instruction "arco".

The letter **S** is enclosed in a square above the fourth measure of the second staff. The letter **T** is enclosed in a square above the first measure of the third staff. The letter **U** is enclosed in a square above the second measure of the bottom staff. A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is diagonally across the page.


 A page from a musical score featuring three staves of handwritten musical notation. 
   
**V:** The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of four sharps, and a common time signature. It includes dynamic markings like **leg.**, **ff**, and **fff**. The second staff starts with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The third staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. The notation consists of various note heads, stems, and beams, with some notes having the number **2** written below them.
   
**W:** The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of four sharps. Dynamic markings include **mp**, **p**, **leg.**, and **ff**. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It features sixteenth-note patterns with the number **3** written above each group of three notes. The third staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp, with sixteenth-note patterns similar to the second staff.
   
**X:** The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of four sharps. Dynamic markings include **ff**. The second staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp. It shows sixteenth-note patterns with the number **3** above each group of three notes. The third staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp, also showing sixteenth-note patterns with the number **3** above each group of three notes.

appass. molto

**Y** (♩ = ♩)

No vib.  
Gently

Gently

mp No vib.

**Z**

leg.

leg.

mf

ff

mf

ff

mf

f

f

appass.

appass.

pizz.

mf

**BB**

Musical score for section BB. The score consists of four staves. The first staff uses a treble clef, the second a bass clef, and the third and fourth staves use a bass clef. The music features various dynamics and performance instructions: 'pizz.' (pizzicato) with 'mf' (mezzo-forte) dynamic, 'arco.' (bowing) with 'f' (forte) dynamic, and 'pizz.' with 'mf' dynamic. The score concludes with a vertical bar line.

**CC**

Musical score for section CC. The score consists of four staves. The first staff uses a treble clef, the second a bass clef, and the third and fourth staves use a bass clef. The music features dynamics and performance instructions: 'leggiero' (leggiero), 'ff' (fortissimo), 'legato', 'ff', 'ff', and 'ff'. The score concludes with a vertical bar line.

Musical score for section CC continued. The score consists of four staves. The first staff uses a treble clef, the second a bass clef, and the third and fourth staves use a bass clef. The music features dynamics and performance instructions: 'appass.', 'ff', 'appass.', 'ff', 'leg.', 'ff', 'appass.', 'ff', 'appass.', and 'ff'. The score concludes with a vertical bar line.

**DD**

**EE**

**FF**

Preview File Only

This image shows three sections of a musical score, labeled DD, EE, and FF, each consisting of four staves. The music is written in a treble clef, with various time signatures and key changes indicated by symbols like G, A, B, C, D, E, F, and 13/8. The notation includes a variety of note values and rests, with some notes connected by horizontal lines. The score is presented on a white background with black ink.

**GG**

**HH Andante  
molto leg. (♩ = 70)**

Gently  
pp Gently  
pp  
p

**espress.**  
**eppess.**  
**pizz.**  
**mp pizz.**  
**mp**  
**delicate**

**II**

**JJ appass.**  
**ff**  
**arco.**  
**ff**  
**arco.**  
**ff**

**cresc. poco a poco**  
**mf**  
**3 3**  
**mf**  
**3 3**  
**mf**  
**cresc. poco a poco**  
**3 3**  
**mf**  
**cresc. poco a poco**

**KK**

ff

ff

ff

ff

fff

ff

fff

fff

pizz.

ff

fff

fff

f

mp

f

mp

f

mp

ff

f

mf

**LL**

**MM**

**NN**

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Con Sord - Arco

**OO** Molto Legato

Con Sord - Arco

Con Sord - Arco

Con Sord - Arco

ff 3 3 fff

p

pp

pp

pp

pp

**PP** Allegro Vivace (♩ = 110)  
with great aggression

senza sord.

senza sord.

ff senza sord.

ff senza sord.

ff senza sord.

ff

ff

ff

ff

pizz.

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ff

ff

ff

ff

**OO** ♩=♪ arco.

fff

fff

fff

fff

**RR**

Musical score for the RR section. It consists of four staves of music. The first three staves are in common time, while the fourth staff begins in common time and ends in 6/8 time. The music features various note heads and stems, with some stems pointing upwards and others downwards. The key signature changes frequently, including major and minor keys.

**SS**

Musical score for the SS section. It consists of four staves of music. The first three staves are in common time, while the fourth staff begins in common time and ends in 6/8 time. The music features various note heads and stems, with some stems pointing upwards and others downwards. The key signature changes frequently, including major and minor keys. Dynamic markings include *f*, *mf*, and *dim poco a poco*.

**TT**

Musical score for the TT section. It consists of four staves of music. The first three staves are in common time, while the fourth staff begins in common time and ends in 6/8 time. The music features various note heads and stems, with some stems pointing upwards and others downwards. The key signature changes frequently, including major and minor keys. Dynamic markings include *dim poco a poco*, *mp*, *sub. fff*, *fff*, and *ff*.



*appass. molto*  
*with utmost intensity*

appass. molto  
 with utmost intensity

**XX** (♩ = ♪)

*f*      *mf*      *f*      *leg.*  
*mf*      *f*      *leg.*  
*mf*      *leg.*  
*No vib.. gently*  
*mp*

**YY**

*f*      *ff*      *mf*      *f*      *f*      *ff*      *ff*  
*mf*      *f*      *ff*      *mf*      *f*      *ff*      *ff*  
*f*      *ff*      *mf*      *f*      *f*      *ff*      *ff*  
*f*      *ff*      *f*      *f*      *f*      *ff*      *ff*  
*f*      *ff*      *f*      *f*      *f*      *ff*      *ff*  
*f*      *ff*      *f*      *f*      *f*      *ff*      *ff*

*appass. molto*  
*leg.*

**zz** pizz.  
senza vib.  
*mp*  
pizz.  
*mp*  
pizz.  
*mp*  
**AAA**  
arco.  
*f*  
arco.  
*mf*  
**BBB**  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
*ff*  
**CCC**  
leg.  
*ff*  
leg.  
*ff*  
appass.  
appass.  
appass.  
appass.  
appass.

Preview File Only

Musical score for three staves (Violin, Viola, Cello) in common time. The score consists of six systems of music.

**System 1:** Violin staff starts with a grace note followed by eighth-note pairs. Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs. Dynamic: **fff**.

**System 2:** Violin staff has eighth-note pairs. Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs. Dynamic: **ff**.

**System 3:** Violin staff has eighth-note pairs. Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs. Dynamic: **ff**.

**System 4:** Violin staff starts with a grace note followed by eighth-note pairs. Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs. Dynamic: **fffff**.

**System 5:** Violin staff has eighth-note pairs. Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs. Dynamic: **ff**.

**System 6:** Violin staff has eighth-note pairs. Viola and Cello play eighth-note pairs. Dynamic: **ff**.

**Text Overlay:** A large blue watermark "Preview File Only" is diagonally across the page.

**FFF**

Three staves of musical notation. The top staff uses a treble clef, the middle staff a treble clef, and the bottom staff a bass clef. All staves are in common time. The first two staves feature sixteenth-note patterns with various slurs and grace notes. The third staff features eighth-note patterns with slurs.

**GGG**

Three staves of musical notation. The top staff uses a treble clef, the middle staff a treble clef, and the bottom staff a bass clef. All staves are in common time. The notation consists of eighth-note patterns with slurs, similar to the FFF section but with different specific note heads and rhythms.

**HHH**

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**Andante con passione**  
shimmer ( $\text{j} = 80$ )

Three staves of musical notation. The top staff uses a treble clef, the middle staff a treble clef, and the bottom staff a bass clef. All staves are in common time. The score includes dynamic markings such as **ff**, **f**, **mp**, and **sforz.**. Performance instructions include "shimmer" and "eppess.". Measure numbers 13 and 14 are indicated at the end of the staff.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

mf cresc.

mf cresc.

mf cresc.  
molto appass.

ff

JJJ

ff

ff

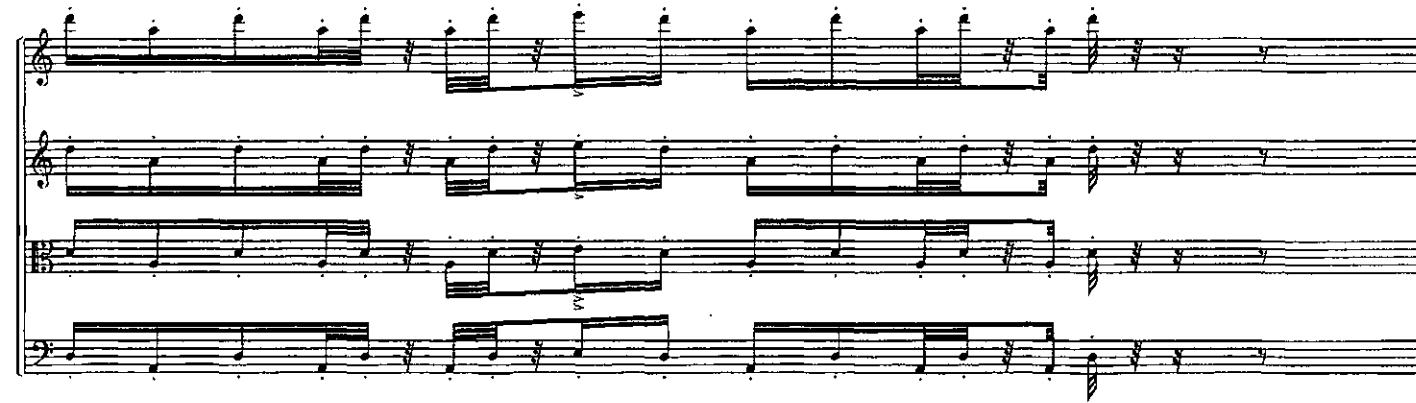
ff

ff

Musical score for string quartet, consisting of three staves per part (Violin 1, Violin 2, Cello/Bass). The score is divided into three sections:

- Section 1:** Three staves per part, each with six measures. The dynamics are marked **KKK** at the beginning of the first staff.
- Section 2:** Three staves per part, each with six measures. The dynamics include **ff**, **f**, and **pizz.**
- Section 3:** Three staves per part, each with six measures. The dynamics include **fff**, **cresc. poco a poco**, and **fff**.

The score also includes performance instructions such as **arco.** and **mf**.



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