

specchi a la figura (Cinc, un, trese)

for
violin
&
viola cello

José Luis Torá

para Sarau

dous art de moy depart . toute colour . Quant iay lepart . de vo regart dame do
 nour . son dous espart 2c.

Dunc vn trefc huit mief damour fi
 ne mont espris sans defi
 ne ment.

En o2 o2 o2 o2
 uespous wet que damer ne fine . v . vij . trefc huit . nuef . damour fine . Si q
 plus que fins oes safine . mes cuers pour amer finement . Dunc . vij . trefc huit .
 nuef . damour fine . mont espris sans definement .

Both instruments should be lightly amplified.

specchi a la figura (Cinc, un, trese)

after the
two-voice rondeau (R6)
Cinc, un, trese, huit, neuf d'amour fine
by
Guillaume de Machaut

for prepared violin and prepared violoncello
(2015-16)

José Luis Torá

Cinc, un, trese, huit, neuf d'amour fine
M'ont espris sans desfinement,
Qu'Espoir vuet que d'amer ne fine, -
Cinc, un, trese, huit, neuf d'amour fine -

Si que plus que fins ors s'affine
Mes cuers pour amer finement.
Cinc, un, trese, huit, neuf d'amour fine
M'ont espris sans desfinement.

Guillaume de Machaut

General remarks

specchi a la figura (*Cinc, un, trese*) is a diptych for prepared violin and prepared violoncello; it comprises two pieces, which are translations of the first and second parts, respectively, of the above mentioned Machaut's rondeau; both pieces are to be played in the order I – II with exactly the same title at the same concert, but separated by other pieces. For the sake of convenience, they are named here as "I" and "II"; but these titles will under no circumstances appear at the concert program.

I

Different sizes of paper clips are required to be placed on two strings of both instruments as follows:

Violin:

- on the II string a 26mm paper clip (n.1.5).
- on the III string a 40mm paper clip (n.3).

Violoncello

- on the I string a 26mm paper clip (n.1.5).
- on the II string a 77mm paper clip (n.5).

All paper clips must be "gem" (oval shape) and made of steel wire.



To prevent the paperclips from springing/sliding off the string (and that's specially important for the violin part), just make several incisions/grooves with a knife:



On the II string of the violoncello, a round wavy paper clip is preferred.



They must be placed on the strings for the whole piece as follows:



Violin

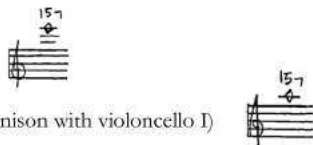


Violoncello

By playing lightly with the bow between the paper clip and the bridge on a muted string a very high and sometimes unstable pitch (quasi harmonic) will be produced. The resulting pitch determines the accurate position where each paper clip should be placed, according to the following indications:

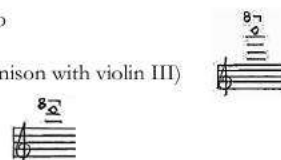
Resulting pitches: Violin

- on the II string: E8
- on the III string: A7 (unison with violoncello I)



Resulting pitches: Violoncello

- on the I string: A7 (unison with violin III)
- on the II string: D7



The prepared string will produce a wide range and variety of multiphonics. Their pitches are accurately written in the score. Nevertheless these pitches may vary from instrument to instrument in a microtonal range; if such a slight microintervallic variation happens, the fingering should not be changed in order to avoid it; on the contrary, this variation should be accepted as it is.

At least two Ebows are necessary for the performance of the piece. They are used in both possible positions, which are indicated as follows:

Ebow1 = use Ebow in position 1 (generating lower frequency harmonics)

Ebow2 = use Ebow in position 2 (generating higher frequency harmonics)

Notation

Both instruments are notated in three staves: the lower one for the actions of the left hand, the middle one for the right hand and the upper one for the resulting pitches.

---- Lower staff ----

It shows the actions of the left hand. All pitches are notated as usual pitches without preparation; the actual resulting sounds are on the upper staff.

- Ebow actions (violoncello)

The Ebow (1 or 2) will always be placed lengthwise on the II string, in order to let the I string vibrate.



the below indicated pitch refers to the contact point of the right edge (according to the photo above) of the Ebow on the II string. It shows the pitch that would be produced on that string under normal conditions, that is, with a finger of the left hand and without preparation.

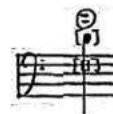
Above this one on the II string there will be three possibilities referring to the I one:



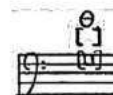
the same as before but on the I string; it prevents the I string from sounding.



let the I string resonate; two dynamic possibilities: maximal level.



equal level (same dynamic as the other string).



move the Ebow away from the I string; minimal level.



clattering noise by touching the I string with the Ebow.

- Other actions



from bar 1 to 14: touch lightly the paper clip with one or more fingers; the lowest sound will be damped (mute) and only the highest pitch will be produced; the lowest one will appear by releasing the paperclip (open).



open string.



muted open string.



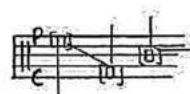
left hand pizz.



after a pizz. of the right hand, a subito release of the finger/s of the left hand; the open string will resound.

--- Middle staff ---

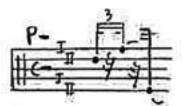
It shows the actions of the right hand.



contact point of the bow between the bridge (P) and the paper clip (C), showing the greater or lesser proximity to both of them.



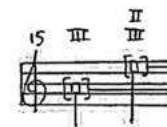
contact point of the bow between the bridge (P) and the paper clip (C), showing the strings on which to play and their alternation.



from bar 53 (Vc) and 56 (Vn) to bar 73: always pizz.; between the bridge (P) and the paper clip (C) or between the paper clip (C) and the nut.



muting one or two strings with one finger between the bridge (P) and the paper clip (C).



normal motion of the bow. The indicated pitch refers to the contact point of bow. It shows the pitch that would be produced on the string under normal conditions, that is, with a finger of the left hand and without preparation.



no motion of the bow.



the same but striking first the string.

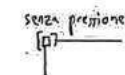
only for violoncello:



from bar 41 to 52: col legno tratto. Vertical shifts of the bow at an angle of 90° to the usual horizontal motion. NO upbow or downbow motion.



light pressure of the legno: clattering noise.



bars 51-52: extreme light (almost without) pressure of the legno; a very thick clattering noise will be produced.

- Voice actions.

They are always fragments of Machaut's poem; a medieval French pronunciation would be desirable.



normal speaking voice.

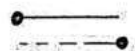


consonant: always unvoiced sound (no air at all); the superscripted vowel refers to the position of the oral cavity, according to the *International Phonetic Alphabet* (IPA).

[fⁱ _____ ifⁱ] hold the consonant/vowel; always unvoiced sound (whispering).

--- Upper staff ---

It shows the actual resulting sounds.



"normal" sounds.



pitches below the normal open string pitch.



pitches produced with the Ebow.



very high pitches by bowing between the bridge and the paper clip.

clip on Ebow

from bar 85 to bar 103: clip on Ebow. The Ebow must be placed during the piece upside down with the DriveChannel in a horizontal position; when indicated, put one clip (3 or 4) on the DriveChannel and let it resonate with an unpredictable high and very quietly pitch (Ebow2 will be always higher than Ebow1).



II

The preparation of the violin is exactly the same as in the piece I; the same cannot be said for the violoncello.

Violoncello:

- on the I string the paper clip remains the same and on the same place as in the piece I.
- on the II string the paper clip of the piece I must be removed.
- in addition an Ikea Allen key must be placed on the I, II and III strings as follows:



Ikea Allen key - Dimensions:

- 0.49 cm (L) x 0.38 cm (W) x 0.05 cm (D)
- 0.19 in (L) x 0.15 in (W) x 0.02 in (D)



One L-shaped end of the long arm must be placed on the I string with the short arm downwards and touching the string; the other L-shaped end on the III string with the short arm upwards; between both the II string will be on the middle (approx.) of the long arm and will become slightly raised.

The Allen key must be placed at an exact right angle; the contact point shall be such that the II and III strings will raise their tunings in one semitone: the resulting open strings are then D#3 and G#2.

Two Ebows are necessary for the performance of the piece. They are used in both possible positions, which are indicated as follows:

- Ebow1 = use Ebow in position 1 (generating lower frequency harmonics)
- Ebow2 = use Ebow in position 2 (generating higher frequency harmonics)

Notation

Together with some explanations of the piece I, there are a few new symbols (especially for the violoncello)

Violin

The violin part is notated in two staves: the lower one for the actions of the right and left hands; the upper one for the resulting pitches.

From bar 37 to bar 80 the resulting pitches are the same as those notated in the lower staff; and from bar 55 to bar 80 the upper one shows here the contact point of the bow between bridge and paper clip (see above, piece I, middle staff).



play with the same dynamic as the relative *forte* of the violoncello in the passage in question.



trill *accelerando*.

In the last section of the piece (from bar 81 onwards) the resulting pitches on the upper staff are always (with the exception of the open strings) tempered (no microintervals at all); the indicated fingerings on the lower one are then relative: the performer could modify them slightly (but keeping the notated string) in order to achieve the desired tuning.

Violoncello

The violoncello part is notated in three staves, as in the piece I: the lower one for the actions of the left hand, the middle one for the right hand and the upper one for the resulting pitches.

--- Lower staff ---

- Ebow actions

Some new possibilities in the position of the Ebow are indicated as follows:



“normal” position (see above, piece I) of the Ebow; playing with the bow on the II string, it will sound a semitone higher as written; playing with the bow on the I string it will sound a multiphonic (notated **[M]** on the upper staff).



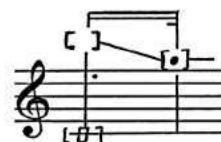
raising the front part (the closest one to the bridge) of the Ebow; the back part remains on the strings.



raising the back part of the Ebow; the front one remains on the strings.

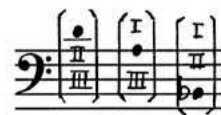


the Ebow remains only on the II string but close to the I one. By the first symbol [] the I string will not vibrate because of the Ebow but of the “normal” bowing; by the second one [•] the Ebow will cause the I string to vibrate.



the Ebow remains only on the II string but far from the I one. By a slow approach to it the I string will begin to vibrate (*cresc.*).

- Hand actions



fixed position of the left hand on the I, II and III strings. The indicated pitch shows the reference point; the other two fingers will be placed in a quasi-Fifth position (e.g.: if the reference point is the D4 on the I string, the other fingerings will be approximately G3 (a bit lower) on the II and C3 (even lower) on the III).



the same but with harmonic fingerings.

--- Middle staff ---

It shows the actions of the right hand.



contact point of the bow, showing the strings on which to play and their possible alternation.



placing the bow without motion and without pressure on the indicate string(s) to modify the tone quality and/or the pitch of the sound produced by the Ebow.



pizzicato with the fingernail.



the same but behind the Ebow (between Ebow and nut).



tapping with a single finger on the II string just at the contact point of the string with the Allen key.

From bar 82 onwards a 50mm paper clip (n.4) will be placed on the Allen key, hanging from the short arm and producing a gentle rattling; the paper clip will be in touch with the bridge and the IV string as follows:



From the same bar onwards the right hand will use a tuning fork; holding it lightly and touching slightly at different contact points (see below), an increasing process of rattling sound should be produced: the vibration of the open string produced with the Ebow must be, with every change of the contact point of the tuning fork, more and more distorted.

The tuning fork must have rounded tines and a length of approx. 12cm.



Contact points of the tuning fork:



the indicated pitch refers to the contact point of bow. It shows the pitch that would be produced on the I or II strings under normal conditions, that is, with a finger of the left hand and without preparation.



close to the Allen key (on the II string).





between the Allen key and the bridge.



on the Allen key between the II and the III strings.



both tines on the short arm.



*Ficca di retro a li occhi tuoi la mente,
e fa di quelli specchi a la figura
che'n questo specchio ti sarà parvente.
(Dante, Paradiso, XXI, 16-18)*

I

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc), measures 1-6. The score is in 4/8 time with a tempo of 60 ca. It features complex fingering and bowing instructions for both instruments.

Violin (vn) Part:

- Measures 1-2: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15, 15.
- Measure 3: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.
- Measure 4: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.
- Measure 5: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.
- Measure 6: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.

Viola (vc) Part:

- Measures 1-2: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15, 15.
- Measure 3: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.
- Measure 4: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.
- Measure 5: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.
- Measure 6: *ppp* <sf> (II I.v.) *ppp* senza pressione. Fingering: 15.

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 8-15. The score includes staves for both instruments, with various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'pp' and 'ppp'. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc), measures 14-16. The score includes dynamic markings like *pp*, *mf*, and *ppp*, and performance instructions such as "legatiss. sempre" and "prendere E bow 1".

Handwritten musical score for Violin I, Violin II, and Violoncello/Double Bass. The score is in 4/4 time and features complex rhythmic patterns, dynamic markings, and articulation. The Violin I part includes a second ending marked "II 15". The Violoncello part includes a first ending marked "I alla punta sempre" and a second ending marked "II". The score is numbered 19 at the beginning and 32 at the end.

Handwritten musical score for "The Great Wall" by John Adams. The score is written for Violin I (vn), Violin II (vn), Viola (vc), and Cello/Double Bass (vc). The music is in 4/4 time and features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes. Dynamics range from *ppp* (pianissimo) to *f* (forte). Performance instructions include *poco* (a little), *gliss.* (glissando), and *alla prima* (at first). The score includes a rehearsal mark 24 and a section marked "II" with a measure number 32. The bottom of the page shows the measure number 32 and a key signature change to one flat.

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 29-32. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (ppp, p, f, mp), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions (poco, 3 liss.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/3. The score is written on five staves: two for the violin (vn) and three for the viola (vc).

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 35-40. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (ppp, mp, f), articulations (poco, gliss.), and fingerings. Measure numbers 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, and 40 are indicated at the top. The bottom staff shows a bass line with notes and rests.

Handwritten musical score for Violin II (Vn II), Viola (Vc), and Violoncello (Vc). The score is for measures 15 through 20. It features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth notes, and dynamic markings such as pp, mf, and f. The Vn II part has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Vc part has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The Vc part includes a 'col legno' instruction and a 'poco sf' marking.

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 46-51. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (pp, mp, f), and articulation marks. The violin part features complex rhythmic patterns and slurs, while the viola part has a more melodic line with some glissando markings.

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 52-59. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and fingerings, along with performance instructions in Italian like "senza pressione", "lasciare arco", and "sempre laisser vibrer". The measures are numbered 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, and 59.

58

vn

vc

(P) *poco sf* *p* *huit* *[t']* *[t']* *pp*

[k'] *[k']* *que* *[k']* *pp*

6 9
16 16

63

vn

vc

[k'] *poco sf* *p* *que* *[t']* *[k']* *pp*

8 9
16 16

$\text{♩} = 71 \text{ a.}$
 $(6 = 4)$

VC

VI

VO

[illegible]

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 92-95. The score includes dynamic markings like ppp, p, and f, and performance instructions such as 'poco' and 'poco <>'. It also features a tempo change to 3/8 and a note about the tempo being approximately 30 beats per minute (ca. 30).

Handwritten musical score for Violin I (Vn) and Violoncello (Vc) parts, measures 100-104. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (ppp, pp, mf, f), articulation (pizz, pcca), and performance instructions (poco, poco). It also features tempo markings (♩ = 36 ca., ♩ = 54 ca.) and fingerings. The Violoncello part includes a large section of double bass notation in measures 103 and 104.

Handwritten musical score for three staves (violin, viola, and cello/bass). The score is marked with various dynamics (pp, mp, mf, f, sf, l.v.) and includes performance instructions such as "P < sf l.v." and "pp < f l.v.". The notation includes notes, rests, and articulation marks. The score is divided into measures, with some measures containing multiple staves for different instruments.

(113)

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 113-117. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (mf, pp, f, p, sf), and articulation marks. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/8. The score is written on five staves: two for the Violin (vn) and three for the Viola (vc).

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 117-122. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like pp, mf, f, p, and sf. It also features tempo markings like "senza tempo" and "Tempo", and performance instructions like "altezze ad lib. oscillare" and "quasi fermata".

Handwritten musical score for Violin I, Violin II, and Viola sections, measures 122-128. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like *p*, *sf*, *pp*, and *pp poco*. There are also performance instructions like *punta*, *sim.*, *legatiss.*, and *alla punta*. The score is written on three staves with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C).

137

Handwritten musical score for "The Swan" by Maurice Strakosky, measures 137-142. The score is for Violin I (vi), Violin II (vii), Viola (vc), and Cello/Double Bass (bc). It features complex rhythmic patterns, dynamic markings (pp, ppp, ppp<), and articulation marks. A tempo change to 4/8 is indicated at measure 140. The score is written on a single system with multiple staves.

Handwritten musical score for Violin (Vn), Voice (Vce), and Viola (Vc). The score is in 4/4 time and consists of three measures. The Violin part features a melody with a 'v n 5' marking and a '5' marking. The Voice part has a melody with a 'v n 5' marking and a '5' marking. The Viola part has a melody with a 'v n 5' marking and a '5' marking. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'pp' and 'ppp'.

14'30" ca.

$$-5-15/3-11-15$$

Madrid - Encinas - Madrid

II

Handwritten musical score for Violin (VN) and Viola (VC). The score is divided into two systems. The first system is for Violin (VN) and the second system is for Viola (VC). Both systems feature a vocal line (voice) and a piano accompaniment. The Violin part includes a 'clip and bridge' section and a 'poco marc.' section. The Viola part includes a 'contact point of the bow' section and a 'poco marc.' section. The score is marked with various dynamics (p, pp, mp, sf, pp sub) and includes a tempo marking of 43 ca. and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 4 through 8. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'poco sf', 'pp', 'mp', and 'ppp'. There are also performance instructions like 'sim.' and 'poco marc.'.

vn

vn

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 18-21. The score includes various musical notations such as gliss., 10va., (nv), (b), and dynamic markings like p, pp, mp, and sf. The time signature is 4/8. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

Handwritten musical score for Violin I (VI) and Violoncello (VC). The score is in G major and 4/8 time. It features complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes, and various dynamic markings such as pp, mp, and ppp. The Violoncello part includes a section marked "legatiss. con violino".

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc), measures 37-40. The score includes dynamic markings like *pp*, *sf*, *f*, and articulation like accents and slurs. It also features performance instructions such as *poco sf*, *legatissimo*, and *senza pressione*.

42

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc). The score is divided into two systems, each with two measures. The first system is marked with a 6/8 time signature, and the second system is marked with a 4/8 time signature. The Violin part (top staff) features a melody with a forte (f) dynamic and a bowing instruction: "place the bow under the strings between clip and bridge". The Viola part (bottom staff) features a melody with a piano (p) dynamic and a bowing instruction: "place the bow under the strings between clip and bridge". The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, dynamics (pp, p, mf, f), and articulation marks (accents, slurs, gliss.).

VC

VC

[illegible]

Handwritten musical score for Violin (vn) and Viola (vc) parts, measures 66-71. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. Handwritten annotations include 'f', 'pp', 'ppp', 'f''', 'pp sub.', 'non arp.', 'f poss.', 'f poss. p', 'gliss.', 'irregolare', 'Ebow 2', and 'mano'. A tempo marking '11 J = 81 ca.' and a rhythmic notation '8 (3 = 2)' are also present.

70

vn

gliss.

(n v)

gliss.

pppp

pp

f

pp

f ppsub.

7 8 $\dot{J} = 45 \text{ ca.}$

5 8 $\dot{J} = 34 \text{ ca.}$ (5 = 12)

vc

gliss.

(irregolare)

f pps

P

pp

F

f pps.

f pps. pp

gliss.

f pp

gliss.

pp

8

74

vn

gliss.

(n v)

gliss.

pp

f

pp

f

pppp rub.

7 8 $\dot{J} = 45 \text{ ca.}$ (4 = 3)

5 8 $\dot{J} = 30 \text{ ca.}$ (2 = 3)

con il cello

3x or 4x

4 8

vc

3

3

3

3

3

3

3

f

pp

f ppsub.

f

pp

f

sf

Elbow 2

poco accel. et cresc.

quasi improvisato

fermate : ad lib. sempre diverso

a Tempo

gliss.

gliss.

79

vn
sul Ponte (pppp)
bow over the strings between clip and bridge
PPP
2x

vc
pizz: non A
hang silently the clip 4 on the allen Key
tuning fork
Elbow 1
+ sempre

2
8

85

vn
(voce) pp
pp < poco > sf
P PP P PP mf
poco > PP
2 8 4 8 5 8 2 8 5 6 2 8 5 6
d = 45 ox.
(3 = 2)

vc
mano
I mano sinistra
tuning fork

2 8 5 6 2 8 5 6

103

vn II

poco sf > pp

$\text{♩} = 37 \text{ ca.}$
(4 = 3)

mf

2 5 2 5
8 6 8 6

(voice) pp

ne

sim.

(7)

on the allen Key
between II and III

sim.

(7)

(voice) pp - ne -

108

vn

pp

pp

2 2 2 2
8 8 8 8

(nv)

poco sf > pp

$\text{♩} = 25 \text{ ca.}$
(2 = 3)

sf

5 2
8 8

l.v.

both times
on the short arm

(7)

(voice) pp - ne -

ne -

113

vn

vc

2/8 5/8

pp < poco sf > pp

pp < poco sf > pp

sim.

118

vn

vc

pp mf pp

gliss.

oscillando: pressione ↔ poca pressione ad lib.

ad lib.

sim.

senza pressione: rimbalzando

l.v.

(voce) - ment

(voce) - ment

17'ca.

5-7-16/8-10-16

Encinas - Madrid