

Karen Keyhani

"... and His Cuff was Damped with Tears"

(for String Quartet)

Tehran - 2013

General Abbreviations and Symbols

= Slightly lower or higher the intonation, which is a not precisely determined size, and may reach a maximum of a maximum of a quarter-tone.

= Lowest note possible , Highest note possible.

= Quick crescendo at the very end or vice versa.

= Crescendo dal niente; Diminuendo al niente.

= Change gradually from one sound or way of playing to another.

= Behind the bridge.

s.p , s.t

= sul Pont , sul tasto.

l.v

= Let vibrate.

* All other instructions are written in the score.

Duration: Approximately 10 minutes

Note:

“... And His Cuff Was Damped with Tears ”**for String Quartet** (in one movement), is composed in the Summer of 2012 inspired by Ahmad Shamloo from his poem “*Said the Canary*”. The original motivation for writing the piece came to me during the first live performance of *Chahargan Ensemble* (a Persian string quartet consists of: *kamancheh I & II, alto gheichak, bass gheichak*) in Tehran, where I was an audience to. Apart from the stunning sonic quality of the Persian string quartet in terms of timbre and microtonal abilities, what attracted my attention most was the true potentials of experimentation in the realm of contemporary music, both in its style and in techniques for writing specifically for Persian instruments. After recording the piece I recomposed the piece for western string quartet. The melodic and rhythmic elements of this piece are derived from the Persian traditional *Radif* system.

“The hollow, sad look in her eyes, few seconds before they burst into tears, never left my sight throughout the movement” . . .

"... and His cuff was damp with Tears . . ."

(for string quartet)

Karen Keyhani

Tempo rubato $\text{♩} = \text{ca.}80$

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

s.t. ca.40" → s.p.

(change bowing imperceptibly)

pizz.
sf (l.v.)
pizz.
sf (l.v.)
s.p.
sfp
sfp

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

III
III
III
III
mf
mf
mf
mf
p
sfp
mf
f
ord.
s.t.
s.t.
pizz.
arco
(l.v.)
f

(lunga)
(lunga)
(lunga)
(lunga)
ca.5"
ca.5"
ca.5"
ca.5"
ca.5"

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vc.

13 $\text{♩} = \text{ca.}60$ pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
arco, s.p.
arco, s.p.
arco, s.p.
arco, s.p.
sfp
sfp
sfp
sfp
(change bowing imperceptibly)

mp
mp
mp
mp
sfmp
sfmp
sfmp
sfmp
p
p
p
p
p
p
p
p

17 pizz.

Vln.I f pizz. rf

Vln.II f pizz. rf

Vla. f pizz. rf

Vc. f pizz. rf

arco
mp

arco
mp

21

Vln.I

Vln.II mf p

Vla. mf p

Vc. mf p

s.t. -----> ord.

p espr.

24

Vln.I p mf

Vln.II p

Vla. p

Vc. p

-----> s.p. -----> ord.

mp

mp

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla. mp mf p

Vc. sfp mf p

30

Vln.I Vln.II Vla. Vlc.

sfp mp pp pizz. (l.v.) f (l.v.) mf IV ca.4"

sfp mp pp pizz. (l.v.) f (l.v.) mf ca.4"

sfp mp pp pizz. (l.v.) f (l.v.) mf ca.4"

sfp mp pp f (l.v.) mf ca.4"



33

Vln.I Vln.II Vla. Vlc.

arco ord. ca.3" ord. ca.2" p mf sub.p f rfz

arco ord. ca.3" fp sf ord. ca.2" p mf sub.p f rfz

arco ord. ca.3" fp sf ord. ca.2" p mf sub.p f rfz

arco ord. ca.3" fp sf ord. ca.2" p mf sub.p f rfz



36

Vln.I Vln.II Vla. Vlc.

p pp p pp p pp p pp mp espress.

39 l'istesso, non rubato

This section starts with a dynamic of *mp*. The *Vln.II* part has a melodic line with grace notes and dynamics *sfp*, *mf*, *sfmp*, *f*, and *mp*. The *Vla.* part features eighth-note patterns with dynamics *mp*, *sfp*, *mf*, *sfmp*, *f*, and *mp*. The *Vlc.* part has eighth-note patterns with dynamics *mp*, *mf*, *p*, *mf*, *sf*, *rfp*, and *mf*.



43

This section starts with a dynamic of *sfp*. The *Vln.II* part has dynamics *mf*, *mp*, *sfp*, *mf*, and *pp*. The *Vla.* part has dynamics *sfp*, *mf*, *p*, *sfmp*, *mf*, and *pp*. The *Vlc.* part has dynamics *sfp*, *mf*, *p*, *mf*, *sfmp*, *f*, *mf*, and *mp*.



46

This section starts with a dynamic of *sfp*. The *Vln.I* part has dynamics *mf*, *p*, *sfp*, *sfz*, *mf*, and *p*. The *Vln.II* part has dynamics *sf*, *sfp*, *mf*, *p*, *mf*, and *r fz*. The *Vla.* part has dynamics *sfp*, *pp*, *mf*, *p*, *mp*, and *r fz*. The *Vlc.* part has dynamics *f*, *sfz*, and *r fz*.

Senza Misura
ca.4" **Tempo Rubato** ♩ = 60

Vln.I Vln.II Vla. Vlc.

pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
ca.4"
ca.4"
ca.4"
ca.4"

p pp f mp
p pp f mp
p pp f mp
p pp f mp

sul pont.
arco
mf
sul pont.
arco
mf



ord. -----> s.t.
mp **mp** lagrimando

Vln.I Vln.II Vla. Vlc.

(sul pont.) ord.
p sfz sp pp
(sul pont.)
p sfz
(sul pont.)
p sfz

ord. -----> s.t.
mp **mp** lagrimando
ord. -----> s.t.
mp **mp**
ord. -----> s.t.
mp **mp**
ord. -----> s.t.
mp **mp**



pizz.
f
pizz.
mp lagrimando
arco s.p. -----> s.t.
mp arco s.p.
mp arco s.p.
mp arco s.p.

Vln.I Vln.II Vla. Vlc.

pizz.
f
pizz.
mp **sfmp** **mf**
mp **sfmp** **mf**
mp **sfmp** **mf**

arco s.p. -----> s.t.
mp arco s.p.
mp arco s.p.
mp arco s.p.

61

Vln.I ord. 3 pizz. s.t. arco ord.

f sfz mf p p

Vln.II ord. s.t. ord.

mp f p sf p

Vla. ord. s.t. ord.

mp f p sf p

Vlc. ord. s.t. ord.

mp f p sf p

==

64

Vln.I pizz. arco

mf sfz rfp arco

Vln.II sfmp p sfz rfp

arco mf melanconico

Vla. sfmp p sfz arco

Vlc. sfmp p sfz rfp

==

67

Vln.I ord. ca.3"

mf p rfpp mp rfpp mp

Vln.II ord. ca.3"

mf p rfpp mp rfpp mp

Vla. ord. ca.3"

mf p rfpp mp rfpp mp

Vlc. mf melanconico arco

ord. ca.3"

mf p

71

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.

pizz.
sfz
arco
rfmp

pizz.
sfz
arco
rfmp

74

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.

mf — mp mf — mp p — (mp)

mf — mp mf — mp mp —

p rfmfp molto cresc.

p rfmfp p molto cresc.

77

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.

I II III IV

sffz ca.3"

I II III IV

sffz ca.3"

sffz ca.3"

ca.3"

mf

pp

p — mf

p — mf

80

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.



83

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.



86

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.

pizz.

f (l.v.)

pizz.

f (l.v.)

pizz.

f (l.v.)

pizz.

f

ca.7"

ca.7"

ca.7"

ca.7"

89

Vln.I arco (pp)

Vln.II arco **p** **pp** **p**

Vla. **mp** **p** **mp**

Vlc. arco (III) (IV) (II) (III)



93

Vln.I **p** 3 **mp** **pp** **p** **pp** **p**

Vln.II **pp** **p** **pp** **p**

Vla. **pp** **mp** **p** **mp**

Vlc. **mp** **p** **mp** **p**



97

Vln.I **p** **mp** 3 3 **mf**

Vln.II **p** **p** **p** **p** **mp**

Vla. **p** **mp** **p** **p** **mf**

Vlc. **mp** **p** **mp** **p** **mp**

100

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.

p

3

mf

p

p

mp

mf

p

mf

p

mp

p

mf



104

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.

p

3

3

3

3

mp

f

mp

ad lib.

ca. x'

(behind the Bridge)

ad lib.

mp

(behind the Bridge)

ad lib.

mp



111

Vln.I

Vln.II

Vla.

Vlc.

x

x

x

x

Duration : ± 10'

o

o

o

o