

GEORGE LEWIS

String Quartet 4.5 “Partial Truth”

Score

Commissioned by and written for the JACK Quartet

Dedicated to Harry Vogt

*First performance on April 21, 2022 at Merkin Hall,
Kaufman Music Center, New York, by the JACK Quartet*

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EDITION PETERS

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Instrumentation

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello

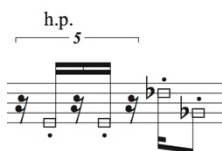
Symbols

s.t.: sul tasto (arco)	m.s.t., a.s.t.: molto sul tasto (arco)
s.p.: sul ponticello (arco), normal pressure	m.s.p., a.s.p.: molto sul ponticello (arco)
c.l.b.: col legno battuto	m.v., m.m.v.: molto (molto) vibrato
m.p.: moderate bow pressure	h.p.: heavy bow pressure
♭ = quarter-tone flat	♭ = three-quarter-tone flat
♯ = quarter-tone sharp	♯ = three-quarter-tone sharp

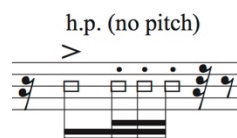
Square or open noteheads indicates air sound, growls, or other production of indefinite pitch



h.p.: heavy pressure (with some pitch, using approximate indicated pitches)



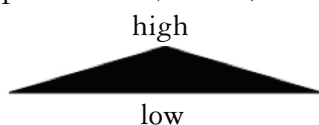
h.p. (no pitch): heaviest, pure noise (staff position not indicative of pitch level)



Indefinite pitches in indicated register

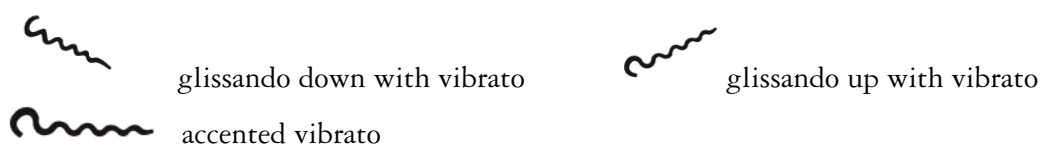


Bow pressure specification (relative):



Vibrato: Should match the duration of the first note to which they are attached. Speed is similar to normal vibrato, but pitch range is much wider, similar to Korean *sigimsae*.

	very wide		narrow		accented
	fading		growing		“jeonseong” (quick rise and fall in pitch)



glissandi:

Short, leading toward an attack: Treated like sliding grace notes.

Short, trailing a note: Analogous to a short verbal shout.

Long, trailing a note: Should not exceed the total duration of the note. Follow approximate pitch curve.

Between notes: Follow approximate pitch curve.

Glissando notation

Execution: Single, continuous slide between noteheads and across headless stems.

Note: there are no slurs between notes or across headless stems



smear: play with rough texture

irregular speed: Used with trills, bisbigliando and vibrato to produce non-uniform textures.

Specifications as to instruments, bowings, mutes, articulations, etc., are maintained until superseded by a subsequent specification, or by the “ord.” instruction. Accidentals carry through the measure. Trills are always half-step, and are executed with irregular speed, as with tremolos. Specified vibrato is always irregular, unstable, and non-synchronized.

Duration: 20 minutes

String Quartet 4.5: Partial Truth

George Lewis (2022)

1

$\text{♩} = 92$

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

2

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

118

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

p sub.

fp

ff

f

p sub.

fp

ff

arco
m.s.p.

p

arco
m.s.p.

p

♩ = 116

121

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord.

p

cresc.

ord.

p

cresc.

ord.

ffp

ff

ffp

ffp

ord.

ffp

ff

ffp

261

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Measures 261-262. Vln. I and II play a melodic line with slurs and ties. Vla. plays a rhythmic pattern. Vc. has a whole rest in measure 261 and enters in measure 262 with a low, sustained note.

14 ♩ = 56

263

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

pizz.

arco

Measures 263-266. Measures 263-264 are marked *ff* and feature a 5-measure rest for all instruments. Measures 265-266 show a pizzicato-to-arco transition for all instruments, with a wavy line indicating a tremolo or sustained note.

403

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord. ----- h.p.

f

6

3

5

f

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 403 and 404. Vln. I and Vln. II are in the upper staves. Vln. I starts with a sixteenth-note scale-like pattern, marked with an accent and a slur, with a dynamic of <f. Vln. II has a similar pattern, also with an accent and slur, and a dynamic of <f. Vla. has a tremolo on a single note, marked with a dynamic of f. Vc. is silent. The score includes performance instructions 'ord.' and 'h.p.' with a dashed line. Measure numbers 403 and 404 are indicated at the beginning of the staves. Fingering numbers 6, 3, and 5 are present.

404

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord. ----- h.p.

s.p.

f

3

5

Detailed description: This block contains the continuation of the musical notation for measures 404 and 405. Vln. I is silent. Vln. II has a sixteenth-note pattern, marked with an accent and a slur, with a dynamic of f. Vla. has a sixteenth-note pattern. Vc. has a sixteenth-note pattern, marked with a dynamic of f. The score includes performance instructions 'ord.' and 'h.p.' with a dashed line, and 's.p.' with a dynamic of f. Measure numbers 404 and 405 are indicated at the beginning of the staves. Fingering numbers 3 and 5 are present.