

Pulling Moods

for solo viola

Mara Schwerdtfeger

Pulling Moods is an experiment in interpretation and communication of changing duration. The piece undulates between tension and release, shifting between speeds and weights.

There is a push and pull of phrases that create fluctuating and abrupt moods. The extremities of the lilt relies on the performer's interpretation of the text-based expression and technique markings that allow the rhythmic notation to remain simplified.

pulling moods

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♩ = 77, fluctuating

Viola

strong
ff
> mf
< mf
mp
< mf
mp
< f

strong
slower
on D string vib.
calm
flat
strong, faster

Vla.

heavy
ff
> f
mf
< f
ff
> mf

slower, lighter but firm vib.
friction, faster
heavy
still, light

Vla.

becoming faster
faster, confused
mp
< mf
< f

Vla.

slowing, calming
mf
>
f
<
> mf
mp
>

open
strong, assertive
slowing vib.
push
still, open
on A string flat

Vla.

heavy
mf
f
mf

seperate, speeding
vib. hold, indulge
gentle, sure, seperate
unfocused

Vla.

firm, focused

on D string vib.

becoming faster

mf

Vla.

faster

slowing

Vla.

still, slowing, fading hold

faster

frantic, heavy

vib. push

mf \triangleright *mp*

f

ff

mf

Vla.

vib. push, slowing

calm, slow vib.

becoming faster

firm

strong vib.

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

Vla.

vib. push

vib. hold, indulge

fading

f *mf*