

Xavier Beteta

SILUETAS

para cuarteto de cuerdas

Program Notes

Siluetas (silhouettes) is my first string quartet. Its name means "shapes" in Spanish. This piece is made up of different basic shapes that follow the following row: D-D#-F#-G-A-Bb-C#-E-F-G#-B-C. The row, of course, is not followed strictly and only fragments of it are used to derive motives. The first two movements were written in 2016 and the last movement was written in 2020 as a Guatemalan son. The son is the quintessential Guatemalan dance in 6/8 and thus, in this last movement I use that characteristic rhythm and quote a famous Guatemalan tune. At the same time, this movement is also based on the same tone row. The quartet is dedicated to Cecilia Skinner-Klee, a family friend, who introduced me to composer Rodrigo Asturias back in 2001.

Performance Notes

- Accidentals carry through the measure, however, to facilitate reading in very chromatic passages the accidentals are restated.

51

Vln. I *mp* *arco* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp*

Vln. II *mp* *arco* *ppp* *pp* *pizz.* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *arco* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *pizz.* *p* *mf*

Vc. *arco* *pp* *ppp* *pp* *pizz.* *arco* *mf*

67

Vln. I *mf* *pizz.* *mp* *p* *f*

Vln. II *mf* *mp* *mf* *p* *f* *arco* *ppp* *pizz.* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *p* *f* *arco sul ponte* *pp* *p* *ppp* *pp* *pizz.* *p*

Vc. *pizz.* *pp* *mp* *mf* *p* *f* *arco sul ponte* *pp* *mf*

C

79 pizz.

Vln. I *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *f* *p*

Vln. II *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *f*

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

Vc. *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *p* *mf* *p* *mp* *mf*

D

86

Vln. I *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Vln. II *p* *f* *mp* *mf* *f* *mf* *p*

Vla. *p* *f* *ff* *mf* *f* *mp* *p*

Vc. *mf* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf* *p*

112

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp *f* *p* *f* *ff* *f* *p* *f* *mp* *ff*

p *f* *p* *f* *ff* *f* *p* *f* *mp* *ff*

pp *ord. pizz.* *f* *p* *f* *mp* *ff*

mp *f* *mp* *ff*

pizz. arco **F** arco

121

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

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

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

mf *mp* *p* *mf* *mp* *p*

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

pizz. arco

137

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

p

3

3

3

pp

sul ponte → ord.

arcœul ponte → ord.

ppp *f* *p* *ff* *p* *fff*

II

Lento ♩ = 50

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello, measures 1-16. The score is in 3/4 time and includes dynamic markings such as *pp*, *p*, *mf*, *ppp*, *mp*, and *ppp*. Performance instructions include *sul ponte*, *ord.*, *pizz.*, and *arco*. Fingerings 5 and 3 are indicated for the Violin I part.

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello, measures 17-24. The score includes dynamic markings such as *p*, *mf*, *pp*, *mp*, and *ppp*. Performance instructions include *arco*, *pizz.*, *sul ponte*, and *ord.*. Fingerings 6, 3, and 5 are indicated for the Violin I part.

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

Musical score for measures 27-36. The score is for four instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The key signature has one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various dynamics such as *f*, *mp*, *p*, *pp*, and *ppp*. It also features performance instructions like *arco*, *pizz.*, and *pp*. There are several slurs and accents throughout the piece. Measure 27 starts with a sixteenth-note triplet in the Violin I part. Measure 30 has a *f* dynamic in the Violin II part. Measure 33 has a *pp* dynamic in the Violoncello part. Measure 36 ends with a *ppp* dynamic in the Violoncello part.

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

Musical score for measures 37-46. The score is for four instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The key signature has one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various dynamics such as *p*, *mp*, *pp*, *mf*, and *ppp*. It also features performance instructions like *sul ponte*, *ord.*, *pizz.*, and *arco*. There are several slurs and accents throughout the piece. Measure 37 starts with a *p* dynamic in the Violin I part. Measure 40 has a *pp* dynamic in the Violoncello part. Measure 43 has a *ppp* dynamic in the Violoncello part. Measure 46 ends with a *ppp* dynamic in the Violoncello part.

III

Son Guatemalteco

Allegro ♩ = 90

Violin I *f* *mp* *mf*

Violin II *mf* *p* *pp* *mf*

Viola *mf* *p* *pp* *mf*

Cello *mf* *p* *pp* *mf*

Vln. I ¹² *f* *mf*

Vln. II *f* *p* *f* *p* *mf*

Vla. *f* *p* *f* *p* *mf*

Vc. *f* *p* *f* *p* *mf*

pizz. *arco* *pizz.* *arco*

24

Vln. I *ff* *f* *mf* pizz. *gva-*

Vln. II *ff* *mp* pizz. *f* arco *mf* pizz.

Vla. *ff* *mp* pizz. *f* arco *mf* pizz.

Vc. *ff* *mp* *f* *mf*

37

Vln. I *p* *mf* *cantabile*

Vln. II arco *mf* *cantabile*

Vla. arco *mp* *mf* *cantabile*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

49

Vln. I *f* *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *mp* arco *mf* *p* pizz.

Vc. *mp* *mf* *p* pizz.

62

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *mf* *sempre pizz.*

Vc. arco *mf* *pizz.*

74

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco cantabile

mp

mf

f

mf

f

p

86

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

p

f

mf

f

mf

f

mf

pizz.

f

p

f

p

f

mf

95

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

p

f

mp

f

p

mp

mf

arco

102

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

mf

f

mf

ff

mf

pizz.

arco

p

5

pizz.

pizz.

113

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp *mf* *ff* *mf*

arco

125

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff *ff* *ff* *ff*

138

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

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

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

mf *p*

mf *p*

148

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz. *p* *pizz.* *p* *pizz.* *p*

mp *mf*

184

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mf

mf

mf

mp

mp

mp

195

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp

mf

f

mp

mf

f

mf

f

mp

mp

mf

f

mf

mp

p

p

p

207

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

pp *mp* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *f* *arco* *p* *f* *p*

pp *mp* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *mf* *arco* *p* *f* *p*

pp *mp* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *mf* *arco* *p* *f* *p*

pp *mp* *mf* *f* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *mf* *arco* *p* *f* *p*

220

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

mf *f* *ff*

mf *f* *ff*

mf *f* *ff*

mf *f* *ff*