

Daniel Godsil



sans terre

for string quartet

"Some, however, would derive the word from *sans terre*, without land or a home, which, therefore, in the good sense, will mean, having no particular home, but equally at home everywhere." Henry David Thoreau, *Walking* (1861)

This piece was inspired by one of my "saunterings" along the Pacific Coast in California, on Ten Mile Beach at the edge of Point Reyes peninsula. It's a place where I feel simultaneously at home and at sea. -D.G.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

—————→ An arrow indicates a continuous change from one bowing position to another:

ST = sul tasto
ord = ordinario
SP = sul ponticello
mSP = molto sul ponticello



Box noteheads indicate "air" noise:
stop strings, but use very little pressure, creating an "airy" noise

Senza vibrato or *poco vibrato* throughout, except in passages marked *espressivo*, which should be played *vibrato normale*.

DURATA: ca. 8'

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a little faster ♩ = 60

18 → SP

ST → SP → ord ST → SP

p *pp* *p* *pp* *mp* *ppp* *p*

espress. *espress.*

→ SP ST → ord → SP → ST → SP

p *pp* *p* *ppp* *p*

espress.

ST → SP SP → ST ST → SP

pp *p* *mp* *ppp* *p*

espress.

ST → SP

pp *p* *p*

faster still ♩ = 72

26 ST → SP

SP → ST → SP

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

→ ST → SP SP → ST → SP

pp *mp* *pp* *mf*

→ ST → SP (SP) → ST → SP → ord SP

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

ST → SP (SP) → ST → SP → ord SP

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

rit. a tempo

49 → SP → ST → mSP → ord → mSP → ST

MP, PP, MP, PP, MP, PP

MP, PP, MP, PP, MP, PP

f, PP, MP, PP, MP, PP

MP, mf, PP, mf, PP

55 → SP → ord SP → ST

ST → SP

SP

MP, PP, MF, PP, PP, MF, MF

MP, PP, MP, MF, P

PP, MP, PP, MP, PP, P, MF

ord, P espress., MF

D Suddenly slower ♩ = 54

77

ST non vib.

ord → SP → ord → SP → ord

ord → SP → ord → SP → ord

ST

ST

ff *pp*

mf *p* *f* *pp*

mp *mf* *mp* *mf* *f* *pp*

f *ff* *mp*

slower still ♩ = 46 ♩ = 72 subito

84

SP → ord → SP

SP → ST

ST → SP SP → ST

(ST)

mf *p* *mf* *mp*

ppp *mp* *mf* *pp*

p *mf* *mf* *pp*

f *p* *f*

E Tempo I ♩ = 54

91

SP → ST

ord.

ST → SP SP

SP → ST → SP → ord SP → ord ST

mf > pp < mf < p mf < p pp

ST → SP

ST → SP SP

mf pp pp

mp mf > mp

98

ST ST → SP SP → ST

p

ST ST → SP SP → ST

ST → SP ST → SP

ST ST → SP SP → ST

ST → SP ST → SP

pp pp

non arm. ST → SP ST → SP

pp

106

ST → SP ST → SP

ppp

mp *pp*

ST → SP ST → SP → ST ord

mp *ppp*

ST → SP ST → SP → ord
(o)

mp *ppp*

114