

Bernard Rands

*String Quartet No. 2*

*Commissioned by the Philadelphia Chamber Music Society  
with funding from The Pew Charitable Trust*

*First Performance:*  
The Mendelssohn String Quartet  
The Pennsylvania Convention Center Chamber Music Hall  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
November 28, 1994

Duration ca. 13 minutes

# String Quartet #2

## I

Bernard Rands

♩=72

5

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

*Maestoso*

*f legato*

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

*ff*

*mf < f*

♩=96

più mosso

10

*fff (ff) senza dim.*

*fff (ff) senza dim.*

*mp*

*ff*

*p*

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

3:2

*fff (ff) senza dim.*

*fff (ff) senza dim.*

15

*fff (ff) senza dim*

*fff*

*pp*

*fff (ff) senza dim*

*fff (ff)*

3:2

3:2

3:2

*fff (ff)*

*fff (ff) senza dim*

*fff (ff)*

*fff (ff) senza dim*

*fff*

*pp*

20

Musical score for measures 20-24. The score is written for four staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and 3:2 ratios. Dynamics include *p*, *mp*, *f*, *ff*, and *sfz*. A crescendo and decrescendo hairpin is shown at the end of the system.

25  $\text{♩} = 84$   
poco meno

Musical score for measures 25-29. The score is written for four staves. The key signature changes to two flats (Bb, Eb) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked *poco meno*. The music continues with complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and 5:4 ratios. Dynamics include *ff*, *p*, and *sfz*. A crescendo and decrescendo hairpin is shown at the end of the system.

30

Musical score for measures 30-34. The score is written for four staves. The key signature changes to one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and 5:4 ratios. Dynamics include *p*, *f*, and *sfz (ff) senza dim.*. A crescendo and decrescendo hairpin is shown at the end of the system.

3:2 cantabile

pp f sempre

pp f pp

pp f pp

pp f sempre cantabile

pp f sempre

Detailed description: This system contains four staves of music. The first staff is in treble clef, the second in alto clef, the third in bass clef, and the fourth in bass clef. The music features various dynamics including *pp* and *f sempre*. There are several 3:2 ratio markings above the staves. The word *cantabile* is written above the first and fourth staves. The piece is in 3/4 time.

35

pizz. arco 3 3 3 3

f p mp mf f 5

f p mp mf f 5

poco p f 5

Detailed description: This system contains four staves of music. The first staff is in treble clef, the second in alto clef, the third in bass clef, and the fourth in bass clef. The music includes dynamics such as *f*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *f*. There are 3:2 ratio markings and triplet markings (3) and quintuplet markings (5). The word *poco* is written below the fourth staff. The piece is in 3/4 time.

♩ = 96 40

più mosso

sfs > p f pp p ff ff

sul IV... 3 3:2 3:2 3:2

sfs > p f f ff p

sfs > p f pp p ff ff

pizz. arco 3:2 3:2 3:2

sfs > p f pp f ff cantabile 3:2

Detailed description: This system contains four staves of music. The first staff is in treble clef, the second in alto clef, the third in bass clef, and the fourth in bass clef. The music includes dynamics such as *sfs*, *p*, *f*, *pp*, *p*, *ff*, and *ff*. There are 3:2 ratio markings and a *pizz.* marking. The word *cantabile* is written below the fourth staff. The piece is in 3/4 time.

45

arco 3 3 3 sul IV.....  
cantabile

*pp* *p* *mp* *f sempre*

*pp* (*pp*) *p* *mp* *f* pizz.

arco 3 3 3

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

pizz. *pp* *mf* *f*

50

3:2 3:2 3:2

*pp* *mf*

(pizz.) *f* arco 3 3 3 3 5 3:2

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

*p* *f* *pp* 3 3 3 5 3:2

(pizz.) *f* arco 3 3 3 5 3:2

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

♩=84  
meno mosso

55

accel. -----

(a) *ff* *ppp* *pp* *p*

pizz. arco 3 3 3 3 3

*ff* cantabile *p* *mf* *pp* *pp* *p*

pizz. arco 3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2

*ff* *f* *pp* *pp* *p*

pizz. arco 3 3 3 3 3

*ff* *p* *f* *pp* *p*

----- molto ----- a tempo

sul IV... molto intenso

sul IV... molto intenso

sul IV... molto intenso

sul II... molto intenso

60

♩=96  
più mosso

65

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

gliss.

fff senza dim.

fff senza dim.

fff senza dim.

fff senza dim.

f

mp

mf

mp

mf

mp

mf

mp

mf

mf

mf

Violin I: *pv*, *f* > *p* < *ff*, *p*, *mp*

Violin II: *arco*, *pizz.*, *f*, *p*

Viola: *arco*, *pizz.*, *f*, *(f)*, *mf*

Cello/Double Bass: *arco*, *pizz.*, *f*, *p*, *mp*

Violin I: *ppp*, *p*, *f*

Violin II: *ppp*, *p*, *f*

Viola: *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *pp*, *f*

Cello/Double Bass: *mf*, *pp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*

♩ = 108  
 ancora più mosso

Violin I: *pp* < *f* > *pp*, *ppp*, *delicatiss.*, *p* > *ppp* sub., *p* > *ppp* sub.

Violin II: *pp* < *f* > *pp*, *ppp*, *delicatiss.*, *p* > *ppp* sub., *p* > *ppp* sub.

Viola: *pp* < *f* > *pp*, *ppp*, *delicatiss.*, *p* > *ppp* sub., *p* > *ppp* sub.

Cello/Double Bass: *pp* < *f* > *pp*, *ppp*, *delicatiss.*, *p* > *ppp* sub., *p* > *ppp* sub.

80

Musical score for measures 80-84, featuring four staves. The notation includes various dynamic markings and articulation symbols:

- Staff 1: *p* *ppp* *p sub.* *mp* *mf* *ff*
- Staff 2: *p* *ppp* *p sub.* *mp* *mf* *ff*
- Staff 3: *p* *ppp* *p sub.* *mp* *mf* *ff*
- Staff 4: *p* *ppp* *p sub.* *mp* *mf* *ff*

Articulation includes accents (>) and slurs. Fingerings (3, 5) are indicated throughout.

85

Musical score for measures 85-89, featuring four staves. The notation includes various dynamic markings and articulation symbols:

- Staff 1: *ff* *mp* *f* *ff*
- Staff 2: *ff* *p* *f* *ff*
- Staff 3: *ff* *p* *f* *ff*
- Staff 4: *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *f* *ff*

Articulation includes accents (>) and slurs. Fingerings (3, 5) are indicated throughout.

Musical score for measures 90-94, featuring four staves. The notation includes various dynamic markings and articulation symbols:

- Staff 1: *(ff)*
- Staff 2: *f*
- Staff 3: *f* *ff*
- Staff 4: *f* *ff*

Articulation includes accents (>) and slurs. Fingerings (3, 5) are indicated throughout.

90

Musical score for measures 90-94. The score consists of four staves. The top two staves are in treble clef, and the bottom two are in bass clef. The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and quintuplets. Dynamics include *sfz*, *f*, and *mf*. A  $3:2$  ratio is indicated above the staves.

95

Musical score for measures 95-99. The score consists of four staves. The music is marked *delicatiss.* and features dynamics ranging from *mp* to *pppp*. It includes triplets and quintuplets. The bottom staff has a *pizz.* marking.

$\text{♩} = 96$

100

Musical score for measures 100-104. The score consists of four staves. Dynamics include *ff*, *pp*, *mp*, and *f*. Markings include *pizz.*, *arco*, *pont.*, and *cantabile*. A  $3:2$  ratio is indicated above the staves.



Musical score for measures 115-119. The score is written for four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and slurs. Dynamic markings include *mf*, *f*, *norm.*, and *ff*. Performance instructions include *sul III*, *sul IV*, and *sul II*. A *3:2 pont.* marking is present in the second measure of the first two staves.

Musical score for measures 119-120. The score is written for four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and slurs. Dynamic markings include *ffz*. Performance instructions include *gl.* and *5*.

Musical score for measures 120-124. The score is written for four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The music features complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and slurs. Dynamic markings include *ppp*, *p*, and *sub.*. Performance instructions include *5*.

♩ = 72      125

gliss. *mp* *ff (senza dim.)* *p dolce espr.* *pp*

gliss. *mp* *ff (senza dim.)* *pizz\** *p*

gliss. *mp* *ff (senza dim.)* *pizz\** *p*

gliss. *mp* *ff (senza dim.)* *pizz\** *p*

130      Rall. . . molto

arco *pp* *mp* *pizz.* *arco* *pp* *morendo*

arco *pp* *mp* *(mp)* *p* *pp* *morendo*

arco *pp* *mp* *(mp)* *p* *pp* *morendo*

arco *pp* *mp* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *pp* *morendo*

\*the pizzicati should be played slowly and deliberately.

♩ = 48

5

*sord. senza vibrato* *vibrato normale*

*\* sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sord. senza vibrato* *vibrato normale*

*\* sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sord. senza vibrato* *vibrato normale*

*\* sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sord. senza vibrato* *vibrato normale*

*\* sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp*

\*the sfz indications are to be interpreted more as an articulation than as an extreme dynamic.

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sempre cantabile e molto espressivo*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz* *ppp* *p* *ppp*

10

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *3:2* *3*

*sfz ppp* *sfz ppp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

15

Musical score for measures 15-19. The score consists of four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The bass line features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and 3:2 ratios. Dynamic markings include *mp*, *pp*, *f*, and *ppp*. The upper staves have *sfs ppp* markings. A *ppp sempre* marking is present in the third measure of the bass line.

20

Musical score for measures 20-24. The score consists of four staves. The bass line continues with rhythmic patterns, including triplets and 3:2 ratios. Dynamic markings include *ppp* and *f*. The upper staves have *sfs ppp* markings.

25

Musical score for measures 25-29. The score consists of four staves. The upper staves feature a series of *sfs ppp* markings with *poco* dynamics. The bass line includes triplets and 3:2 ratios. Dynamic markings include *sfs ppp*, *poco*, *mf*, *sfs*, *pp*, and *f*.

Musical score for measures 28-32. The score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music features dynamic markings such as *p*, *sfz* (*f*), *ppp*, *sfz ppp*, *sfz f*, and *sfz ppp*. The bottom staff includes a triplet of eighth notes, a *pizz.* marking, and dynamic markings *mp*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *sfz p*, and *f*.

30

Musical score for measures 30-34. The score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music features dynamic markings such as *poco*, *f p*, *mf*, *p*, *sfz p*, *mf*, *pp*, and *sfz p*. The bottom staff includes a triplet of eighth notes, a *3:2* ratio, an *arco* marking, and an *(echo)* marking.

35

Musical score for measures 35-39. The score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music features dynamic markings such as *sfz ppp*, *mp*, *sfz f*, *ppp*, *sfz f*, *f*, *pp*, *pp*, and *ff*. The bottom staff includes a triplet of eighth notes, a *legatiss.* marking, and a *port.* marking.

40

Musical score for measures 40-44. It consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music features dynamic markings such as *p*, *sforzando* (*sfz*), *f*, and *ppp*. The bottom staff includes a *sfz ppp* marking and a crescendo leading to *mp*, *mf*, and *pp*.

45

Musical score for measures 45-49. It consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music features dynamic markings such as *poco*, *via sord.*, *mf*, *p*, *pp*, and *ppp*. A *3:2* ratio is indicated in the bass staff. The bottom staff includes a *ppp* marking and a crescendo leading to *pp*.

50

Musical score for measures 50-54. It consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music features dynamic markings such as *sfz ppp*, *sfz pp*, *sfz p*, *f*, *p*, and *ppp*. The bottom staff includes a *ppp* marking and a crescendo leading to *ppp*.



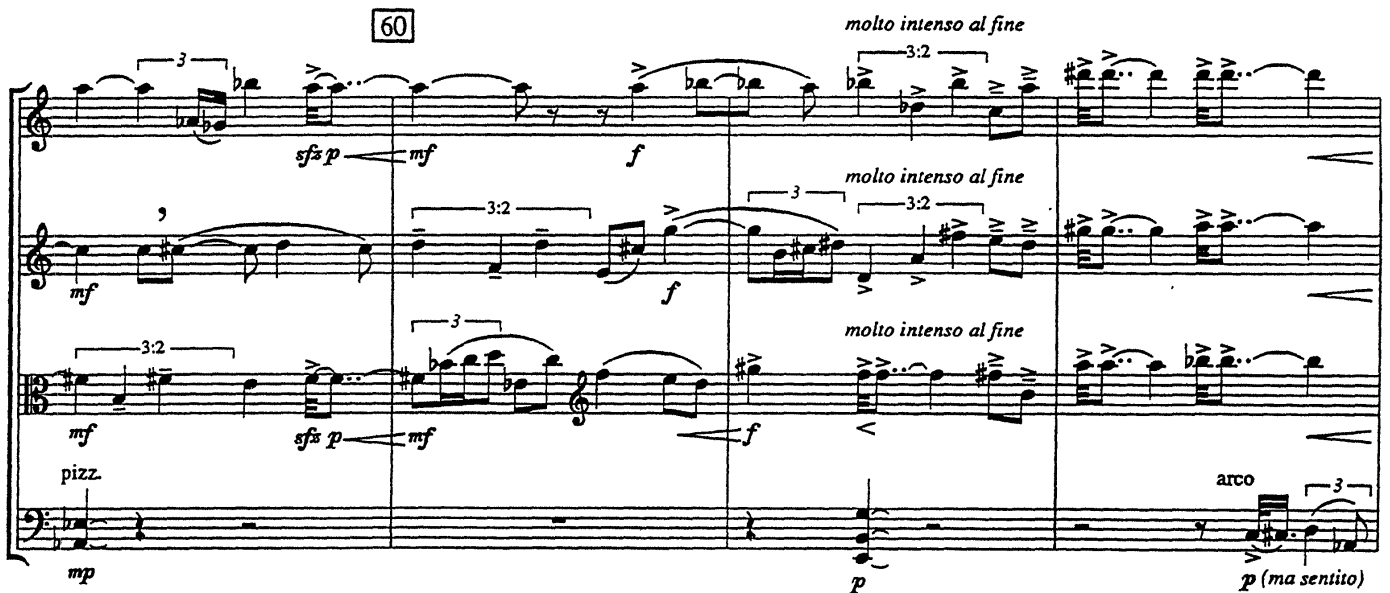
Musical score system 1, measures 48-51. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The music includes various dynamics such as *p*, *sfz ppp*, *f*, and *ppp*. There are also performance markings like *pizz.* and *f*. The system contains several triplet and 3:2 ratio markings.

55



Musical score system 2, measures 52-55. It features four staves. Dynamics include *p*, *sfz ppp*, *mp*, and *mf*. Performance markings include *arco* and *ppp*. The system contains several triplet and 3:2 ratio markings.

60



Musical score system 3, measures 56-59. It features four staves. Dynamics include *sfz p*, *mf*, and *f*. Performance markings include *pizz.*, *arco*, and *p (ma sentito)*. The system contains several triplet and 3:2 ratio markings. The instruction *molto intenso al fine* is repeated three times above the staves.

65

The musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in treble clef and feature a series of chords and melodic lines. The first staff has a dynamic marking of *fff*. The second and third staves have a dynamic marking of *sfz*. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a melodic line with various dynamics: *ppp*, *sfz ppp*, *p*, *ppp*, *p*, and *p*. A *pizz.* instruction is placed above the bass staff in the fifth measure. A *3:2* ratio marking is placed above the bass staff in the third measure. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines.

