

Violin II

Charlie Barber

# Taqsim

a fantasia for orchestra

## **Taqsim** a fantasia for orchestra

Duration: c. 4 minutes

### *Notes:*

Throughout the score, double barlines are used to articulate the 10/8 or 10/4 rhythmic structure.

String 'divisi' sections are divided between the two players reading from the same desk

### *Programme note:*

**Taqsim** – a fantasia for orchestra

A *taqsim* is a traditional form of improvised solo music that typically precedes a classical Arabic, Kurdish, Greek, or Turkish composition. Usually performed by a single instrumentalist - sometimes accompanied by a percussionist or another supporting player - it serves as a free, expressive exploration of a mode or *maqam*.

While this work draws inspiration from this centuries-old practice and retains a sense of improvisatory freedom, it is a fully composed work conceived for a modern symphony orchestra. The main melodic theme is rooted in an instrumental form of Ottoman classical music, characterized by its rhythmic structure, using a specific 10/8 rhythmic pattern.

By expanding the intimate, spontaneous character of a solo *taqsim* into the rich palette of the orchestra, the piece transforms a personal act of ornamentation and discovery into a collective sonic journey - where individual instrumental voices intertwine, echo, and respond within a tapestry of rhythm and melody.

Charlie Barber, September 2025

## Taqsim

a fantasia for orchestra

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**A**  $\text{♩} = 104$   
measured

*p*

11

*mf* *p*

**B**

21 *mf* *p*

29 2 2

**C** *cantabile*

37 *mf*

44

50 *mf*

**D**

55 2

61 2

65

*mp*

73 **E**

*cantabile*

*f* *mf*

78

*cresc.* *f* *mp*

83

div.

*f* *dim.* *mp*

unis.

89 **F**

*p*

97

*mf*

105

*p* *mf*

## Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

113 **G**

*pp*

121

129 **H**

solo

*p* *mf*

tutti

*mp* *mf*

136

*p* *mf*

138

*mf* *f* *mf*

141

*mp sim.* *f* *f* *f*

145 **I**

*p*

153

*2* *2*

## Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

161 **J**

*mf* > *p* *mf* > *p* *mf* > *p* *mf* > *p*

170

*mf* > *p* *mf* > *p* *mf* > *p* *mf* > *p* *mf*

179 **K**

*p* *p* *mf*

189

*mf*

197 **L** *cantabile*

*f*

203

*mf*

207

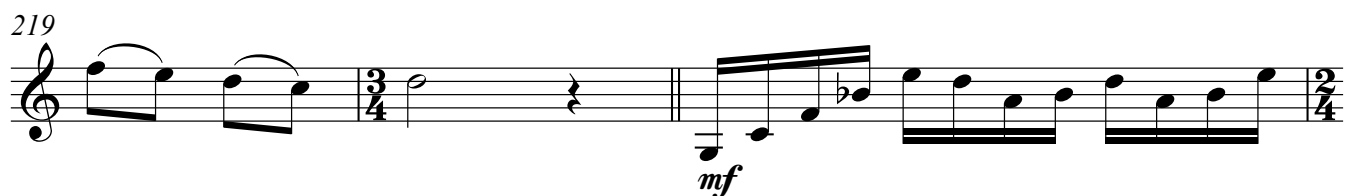
*mf*

210

*mf*

**M**

## Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

**N**