

Viola

Charlie Barber

# Taqsim

a fantasia for orchestra

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## **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

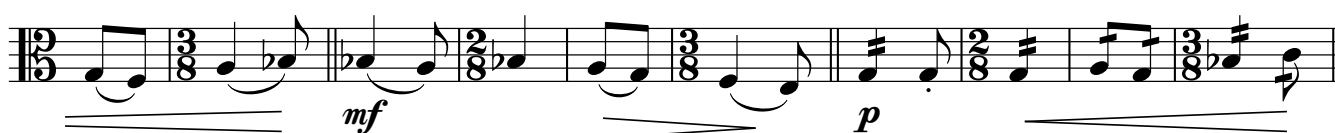
a fantasia for orchestra

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**A** ♩ = 104  
measured



11



21

**B**



30



38

**C**

*cantabile*



44

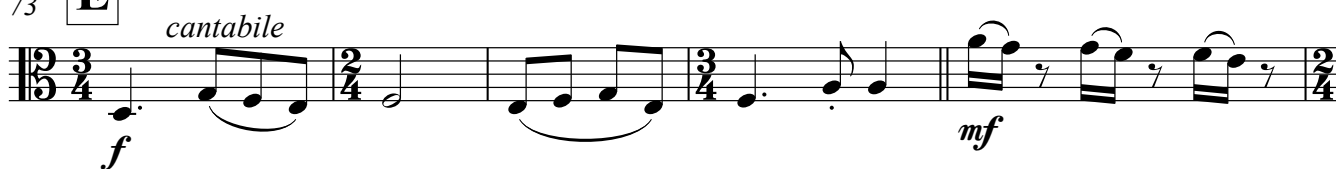


49

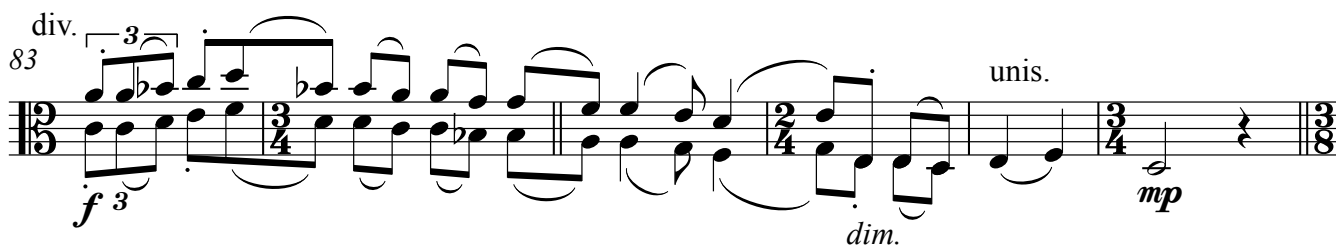


57 **D**

65

73 **E**

78

89 **F**

100



107



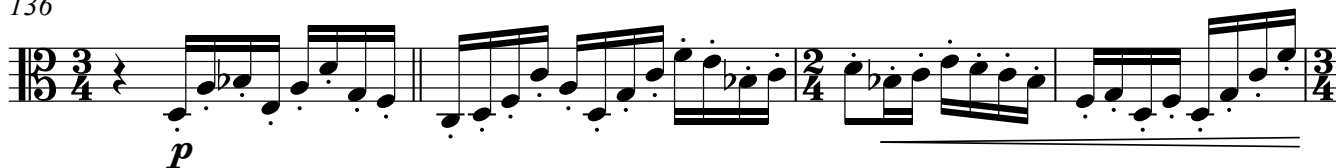
## Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

113 **G**

121

129 **H** solo

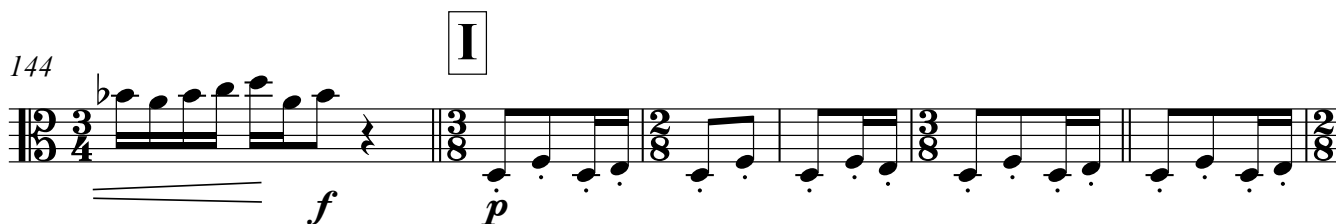
136



140



144



150



157



## Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

161 **J**

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

171

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

180 **K**

*p*

189

*mf*

197 **L**

*mf*

200

203

205 *cantabile*

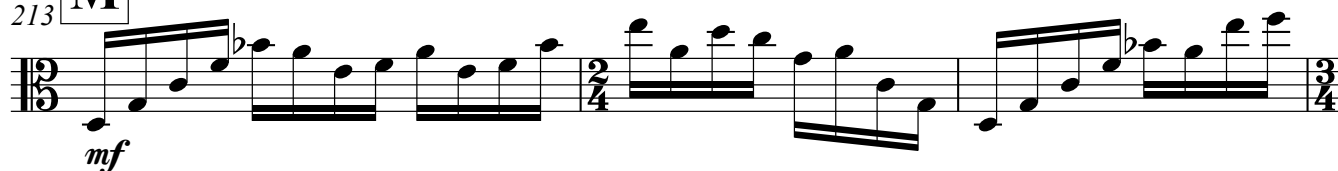
*f*

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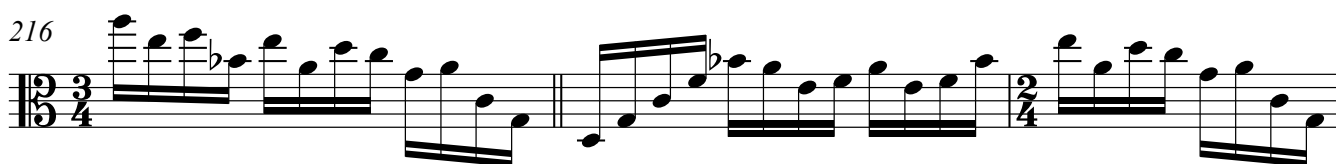
209



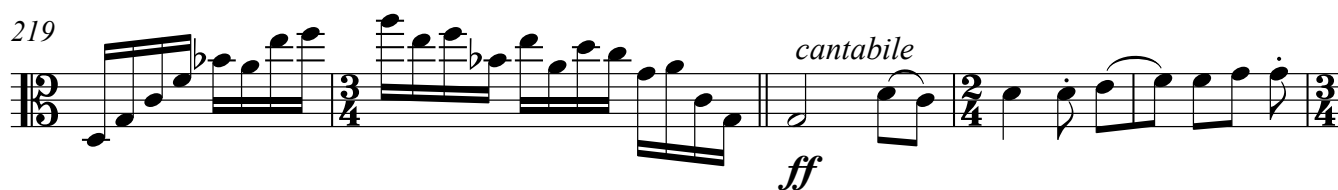
213

**M**

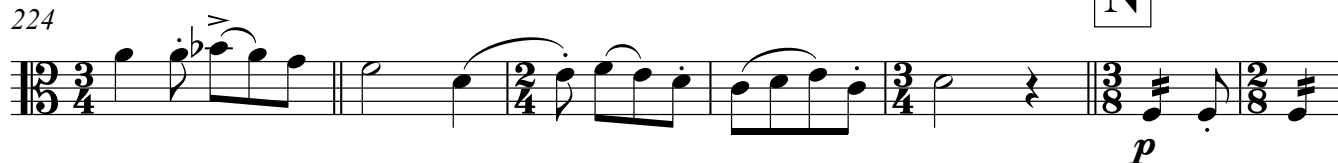
216



219



224

**N**

231



241



252

Rit.

div.

