

Violoncello

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

A ♩ = 104

Charlie Barber

measured



9

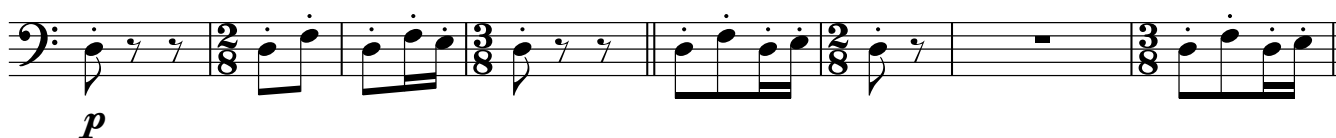


17



25

B

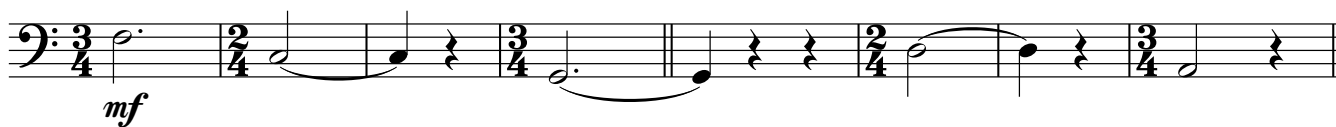


33



41

C



49



57 **D**

p

65

73 **E** *cantabile*

f

77

div.

83

f 3 *dim.* *mp* *unis.*

89 **F**

p

97

105

Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

113 **G**

p

121

p

129 **H** solo

p *mf* *mp* tutti

133

mf *p*

137

mf

141

mp sim. *f*

145 **I**

2 *2*

Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

153

*p*

161

J*p*

171



181

K*p*

189

*mf*

197

L*cantabile**f*

203

*mf*

207

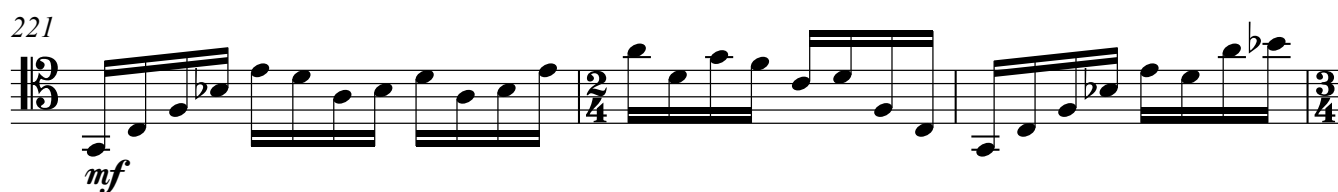


210



M

Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

213 *cantabile.***N**