

Contrabassoon

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.

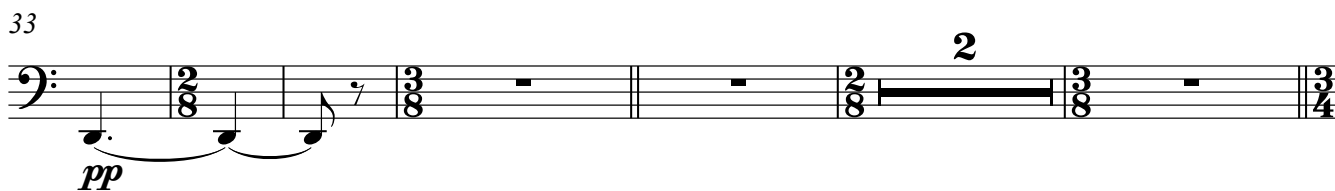
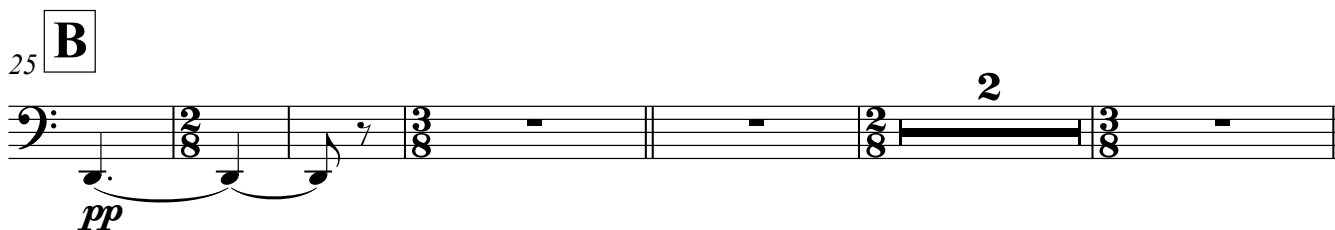
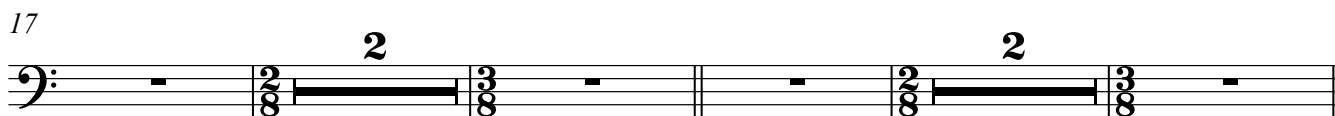
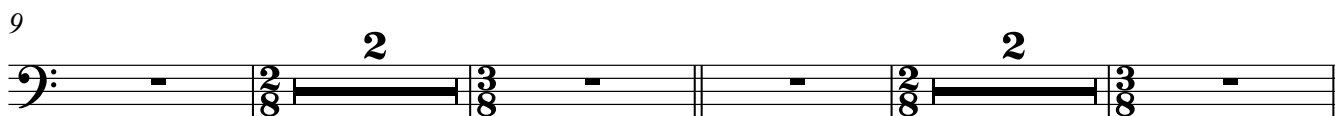
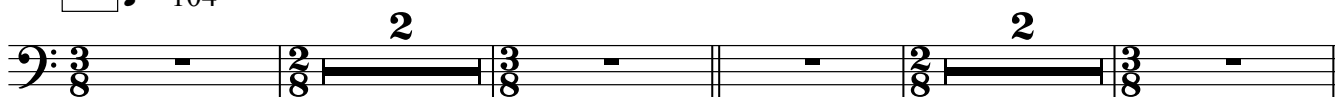
Charlie Barber, September 2025

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A ♩ = 104



41 **C**

50 **D**

58 **E**

66 **F**

73 **E**

81 **F**

89 **F**

98 **F**

106 **F**

Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

113 **G**

121

129 **H**

137

144 **I**

153 **J**

162

172

181 **K**

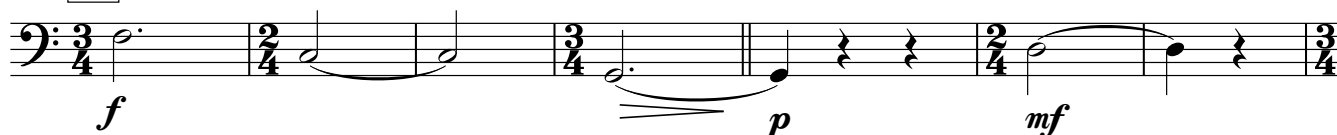
Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra

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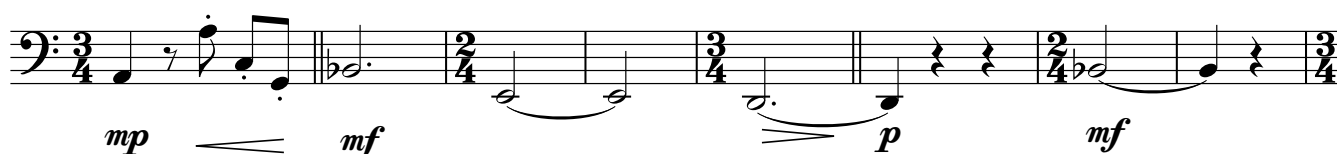


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L

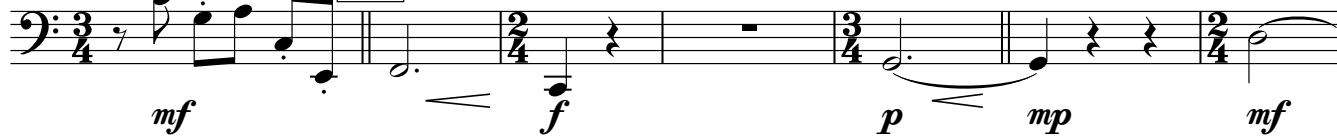


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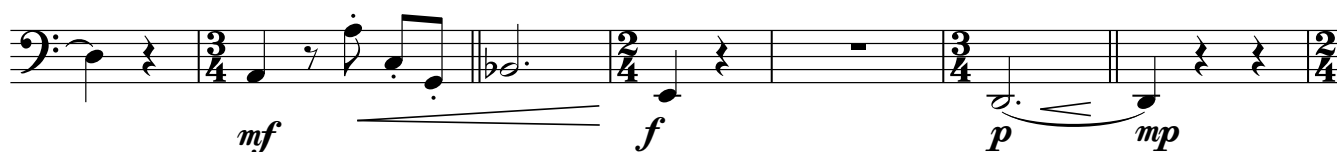


212

M

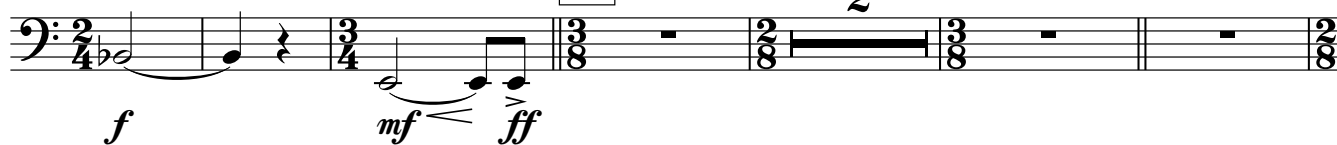


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226

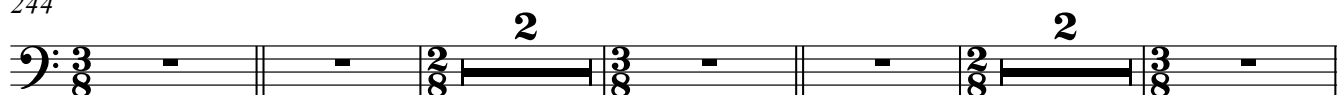
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234



244



253

Rit.

