

Katharina S. G. Mueller (2025)

Do You Know

Solo for five string violin/viola and fixed electronics

Notes on the Piece

"Do You Know" was inspired by the poem "Snowdrops" by the American poet and essayist Louise Glück:

Snowdrops

*Do you know what I was, how I lived? You know
what despair is; then
winter should have meaning for you.*

*I did not expect to survive,
earth suppressing me. I didn't expect
to waken again, to feel
in damp earth my body
able to respond again, remembering
after so long how to open again
in the cold light
of earliest spring--*

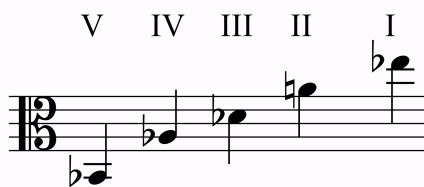
*afraid, yes, but among you again
crying yes risk joy*

in the raw wind of the new world.

- Louise Glück, published in *The Wild Iris* (1983)

Performance Notes

Scordatura:



Sul Tasto (s.t.) - bow halfway across the string

Molto Sul Tasto (molto s.t.) - bow as far down the string as possible before running into fingers

Ordinario (ord.) - normal contact point descretion between bridge and finger board

Arrows indicate a gradual change in lateral bow placement. Where a change has no arrow, quickly replace the lateral bow position between an upbow and the following down

Bow placement should always parallel dynamics

The tempo throughout the piece should be malleable to push and pull.

In rolled chord sections, burst of **sfz** or subito **f** can be accompanied by a local increase in tempo. The first of these is indicated. Subsequent instances are at the performer's descretion.

On rests between sections feel free to take additional time as seems fitting for the moment and the setting

All triple-, quadruple-, and quintuple-stop chords are broken placing lower notes before the beat

Let all harmonics ring out after release

Do You Know

3

Solo for five-string violin/viola and fixed electronics

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♩ = 72 Do you know what I was, how I lived?

1 3

Pitch

Written

4

Pitch

Written

8

Pitch

Written

The musical score is divided into three systems, each with a 'Pitch' staff (treble clef, 3/4 time) and a 'Written' staff (bass clef, 3/4 time). The 'Written' staff includes fingerings (0-4) and articulations (accents, slurs, triplets). Measure numbers 1, 3, 4, and 8 are indicated in boxes above the staves. The score concludes with a 4/4 time signature.

You know what despair is; then winter should have meaning for you

Pitch

Written

8- 11 11- 14

$p \prec (mf) p \text{ sub.}$ f $p \text{ sub.}$ mp

Pitch

Written

14-

sfz $(ff) p \text{ sub.}$ p silence

Pitch

Written

21 21/ 21-

f p

26 26/

Pitch

Written

ff *mf* *p*

This musical system covers measures 26 and 26/. The 'Pitch' staff shows a melodic line with various intervals and a triplet in measure 26/. The 'Written' staff shows the corresponding fingering: measure 26 has three triplets (3-2-1, 3-2-1, 3-2-1) and measure 26/ has a triplet (3-2-1). Dynamics are marked as *ff* at the start, *mf* in the middle, and *p* towards the end. A fermata is placed over the final notes.

26- ♩ = 60 I didn't expect to survive

Pitch

Written

f *mf*

This musical system covers measures 26-31. The 'Pitch' staff shows a melodic line with triplets and a fermata. The 'Written' staff shows the corresponding fingering: measure 26- has a triplet (2-1), measure 27- has a triplet (2-1), measure 28- has a triplet (2-1), measure 29- has a triplet (4-2-1-), measure 30- has a triplet (3-), measure 31- has a triplet (3-). Dynamics are marked as *f* at the start and *mf* towards the end. A fermata is placed over the final notes.

42

Pitch

Written

p *f* *pp*

This musical system covers measures 37-42. The 'Pitch' staff shows a melodic line with triplets and a fermata. The 'Written' staff shows the corresponding fingering: measure 37- has a triplet (3-), measure 38- has a triplet (3-), measure 39- has a triplet (3-), measure 40- has a triplet (3-), measure 41- has a triplet (3-), measure 42- has a triplet (3-). Dynamics are marked as *p* at the start, *f* in the middle, and *pp* towards the end. A fermata is placed over the final notes.

♩ = 72 Earth Suppressing me

Dm

Pitch

Written

42

1 2 3 3

1 2 3 3

1 2 3 4

1 2- 4

f

Pitch

Written

46

1 2 3

1- 4

1 2 3 4

mp

ff

Pitch

Written

50

1 2- 0

0 2-

1 2 3

mf

♩ = 50-60 I didn't expect to wake again

Pitch

Written

mf

mp

4/4 pizz.

Sul II

Pitch

Written

f

Pitch

Written

(ff) *p*

To feel in damp earth my body able to respond again

Pitch

Written

p

Remembering, after so long

Vln. 1

Written

p

How to open again

Vln. 1

Written

mp *mf* *f*

in the cold light of earliest spring

83

Pitch

Written

ff *p* *f* *p sub.*

♩ = 72 Afraid, yes, but among you again, crying yes risk

Pitch

Written

f

83-

Pitch

Written

molto rall.

♩ = 72 joy

Pitch

Written

pp

94 ♩ = 50-60 Calm, Molto Sostenuto Espressivo

Vln. 1

Written

mp

Pitch

Written

mf

in the raw wind of the new world

94-

104

106

Pitch

Written

pp *p*

108

110

113

113-

Pitch

Written

p