

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--*

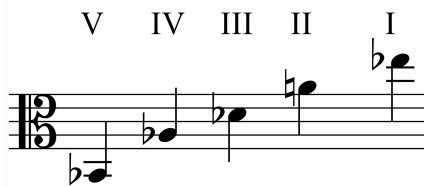
*afraid, yes, but among you again  
crying yes risk joy*

*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

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

2

Pitch

Written

Detailed description: This system contains measures 1 through 3. The Pitch staff (top) is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat. It features eighth-note triplets and slurs. The Written staff (bottom) shows fingerings: 1 4<sub>3</sub> 0 for the first triplet, 0 2 0 0 for the second measure, and 1 0 1 2 for the third measure. A box with the number '2' is positioned above the second measure.

Pitch

Written

Detailed description: This system contains measures 4 through 6. The Pitch staff continues with eighth-note triplets and slurs. The Written staff shows fingerings: 0 1 1 2 for the first measure, 0 2 0 1 for the second, and 1 0 1 2 for the third.

7

Pitch

Written

Detailed description: This system contains measures 7 through 9. The Pitch staff features eighth-note triplets and slurs. The Written staff shows fingerings: 0 1 1 2 for the first measure, 0 2<sub>3</sub> 0 for the second, and 0 2<sub>3</sub> 0 for the third. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a 4/4 time signature.

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

10 7- 11 14

Pitch

Written

*p* < (*mf*) *p sub.* *f* *p sub.* *mp*

14-

Pitch

Written

*sfz* *(ff)* *p sub.* *p*

21 26!

Pitch

Written

*f* *p*

Pitch

Written

*ff* *mf* *p*

**26-** ♩ = 60 I didn't expect to survive

Pitch

Written

*f* *mf*

**42** **Reverb**

Pitch

Written

*p* *< f* *pp*

♩ = 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*

53

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

Pitch

Written

53

*mf*

Sul II

4/4 pizz. *mp*

Pitch

Written

56

*f*

Pitch

Written

59

64

*ff* *p*

To feel in damp earth my body able to respond again

Pitch

Written

*p*

Remembering, after so long

64-

Vln. 1

Written

*p*

How to open again

Vln. 1

Written

*mp* *mf* *f*

in the cold light of earliest spring

83

Dist.

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.*

91

Reverb

♩ = 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

113

113-

Pitch

Written

*p*