

RICHARD FESTINGER

# From the Beginning

String Quartet No. 2

*written for the 20th anniversary season of  
The Earplay Ensemble*

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All instruments in the score are written at concert pitch. Accidentals are applied in the traditional manner, modifying all notes on a given line or space until cancelled by another accidental or a barline.



# From the Beginning

## String Quartet No. 2

Richard Festinger

**Lento**  $\text{♩} = 72$  con sord.  $\text{V}$

Violin 1: *ppp* introspective, *pp*, (V)

Violin 2: con sord.  $\text{V}$ , *ppp* introspective, niente, (h) *ppp*, (V)

Viola: con sord., *ppp* introspective, (V), (h)

Violoncello: con sord.  $\text{V}$ , *ppp* introspective, (V)

11

Vln. 1: (h) *ppp*, *pp*, 5

Vln. 2: (h), #, 5

Vla.: (h), *pp*, 5, *ppp*

Vc.: (h), 5

19 **A**  $\text{♩} = \text{♩} \text{ } 6$  ( $\text{♩} = 60$ )

Vln. 1: (V)

Vln. 2: (V), *pp*, niente

Vla.: (V), *pp*, 5, 3, *p legato*, 3

Vc.: (V), *pp*, 3, *p legato*, 3

24

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*cresc. poco a poco*

3 3 3 6 6 6

26

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

3 6 3 6 6 6 3 6 6 6 3

28

**B**

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*ff*

3 3 3 3 3 3 3

31

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*pp* *ff* *p* *ppp*  
*sub.*  
*pp* *ff* *p* *ppp*  
*pp* *ff* *p* *ppp*  
*pp*  
*p* *ppp*  
*sub.*

31-35: Musical score for measures 31-35. It features four staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello. Measure 31 has a dynamic of *pp*. Measure 32 has *ff*. Measure 33 has *p* and *ppp*. Measure 34 has *pp* and *ppp*. Measure 35 has *pp*. There are various articulations and dynamics throughout, including *sub.* and *ppp*.

36

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*  
*niente*  
*pp*  
*pp*  
*pp*

36-40: Musical score for measures 36-40. It features four staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello. Measure 36 has a dynamic of *pp*. Measure 37 has *pp*. Measure 38 has *pp*. Measure 39 has *pp*. Measure 40 has *pp*. There are various articulations and dynamics throughout, including *niente* and *pp*.

41

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

41-45: Musical score for measures 41-45. It features four staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello. Measure 41 has a dynamic of *pp*. Measure 42 has *pp*. Measure 43 has *pp*. Measure 44 has *pp*. Measure 45 has *pp*. There are various articulations and dynamics throughout, including *pp* and *ppp*.

44

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*cresc.*

Measures 44-46: Violin 1 and Violin 2 play melodic lines with triplets and grace notes. Viola and Violoncello play accompaniment with triplets. A dynamic marking of *cresc.* is present. Performance instructions include *H<sub>3</sub><sup>V</sup>* and *V*.

47

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*mf* *cresc.* *ff*

Measures 47-49: Violin 1 and Violin 2 play melodic lines with slurs. Viola and Violoncello play accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *mf*, *cresc.*, and *ff*.

50

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

**D** Tempo I  $\text{♩} = 72$

*pp sub.* *ppp*

Measures 50-52: Violin 1 and Violin 2 play sustained notes. Viola and Violoncello play accompaniment with triplets. Dynamic markings include *pp sub.* and *ppp*. A box labeled **D** indicates **Tempo I** with a tempo of  $\text{♩} = 72$ . Performance instructions include *V*.

57

Vln. 1 *cantabile* 5 3 niente *ppp*

Vln. 2

Vla. *pp cantabile* 3 3 5

Vc.

65

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *pp cantabile* 3 5 *ppp*

Vla. *ppp*

Vc. *pp cantabile*

**E**

71

Vln. 1 3 3 5 *pp*

Vln. 2 3 3 *pp*

Vla. 3 *pp*

Vc. 5 5 3 3 3 3 *pp*

76 **F** Più lento  $\text{♩} = 56$

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*p pp sub. p niente*

*p pp sub. p niente*

*p pp sub. p niente*

*p pp sub. p niente ppp semplice*

85

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*ppp semplice pp*

*ppp semplice pp*

*ppp semplice pp*

90 (V)

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*p p p*



94 7

Vln. 1 *cresc. poco a poco*

Vln. 2 *cresc. poco a poco*

Vla. *cresc. poco a poco*

Vc. *cresc. poco a poco*

2/4

98

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

2/4

101

Vln. 1 *fff*

Vln. 2 *fff*

Vla. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

8 **G** Tempo I  $\text{♩} = 72$  Mosso  $\text{♩} = 80$

108

Vln. 1 *ppp* come sopra

Vln. 2 *ppp* come sopra

Vla. *ppp* come sopra

Vc. *ppp* come sopra *pp* *ppp*

118 **H** Presto  $\text{♩} = 100$

Vln. 1 *pp* *niente* *lunga* *p* electric *pp*

Vln. 2 *pp* *niente* *lunga* *p* electric *pp*

Vla. *pp* *niente* *lunga* pizz. *p* electric *pp* via sord.

Vc. *pp* *niente* *lunga* *p* electric *pp* via sord.

124

Vln. 1 *mf* *p* *pp*

Vln. 2 *mp* *pp* *mf* *p* *pp*

Vla. *pp* *mf* *pp*

Vc. *mp* *pp* *mf* *pizz.*

127

Vln. 1: Treble clef, sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth-note groupings (6), dynamic *mf*.

Vln. 2: Treble clef, sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth-note groupings (6), dynamic *f*.

Vla.: Bass clef, sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth-note groupings (6) and a triplet (3), dynamic *fpp*.

Vc.: Bass clef, sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth-note groupings (6), dynamic *mf*, includes *arco* marking.

129

Vln. 1: Treble clef, *pp*, *via sord.*, *ppp*, *via sord.*.

Vln. 2: Treble clef, *mf*, *via sord.*, *senza sord.*, *p*, *mf*, *pp*, *poco sul pont. at the tip*.

Vla.: Bass clef, sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth-note groupings (6), *pp sub.*, *pizz.*, *mf*.

Vc.: Bass clef, sixteenth-note runs with sixteenth-note groupings (6), *pp*.

131

Vln. 1: Treble clef, *pp*, *senza sord.*, *poco sul pont., at the tip*.

Vln. 2: Treble clef, *arco, at the tip*, *poco sul pont.*.

Vla.: Bass clef, *pp*, *poco sul pont., at the tip*.

Vc.: Bass clef, *pp*, *poco sul pont., at the tip*.

136

ord. V

V

at the tip poco sul pont.

Vln. 1

*f* *p* *mfp* *p* *fp* *fp*

ord. V

V

Vln. 2

*f* *pp* *mfp* *pp* *fp* *fp*

ord. pizz. arco V

V

Vla.

*f* *p* *mf* 5 5 *p* *f* *pizz.*

ord. V

V

Vc.

*f* 3 3 *p* *mfp* *p* *f* 6

140

I

$\text{♩} = \text{♩} = 144$

ord., off the string

Vln. 1

*pp* *p*

poco sul pont. at the tip

Vln. 2

*pp* *p sub.* *mf*

arco, at the tip poco sul pont.

Vla.

*p* *ord.* *niente* *mf*

at the tip poco sul pont.

Vc.

*p* *niente* *mf* *pizz.* *p*

146

Vln. 1

arco sul pont. *ppp* *mf*

Vln. 2

*ppp* *mf* *arco ord., off the string* *mf*

Vla.

arco sul pont. *ppp* *mf* *arco ord., off the string* *mf*

Vc.

*mf* *arco ord., off the string*

149

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

*mf*

*p*

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*cresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 149, 150, and 151. Vln. 1 plays a continuous eighth-note pattern. Vln. 2 starts with a pizzicato eighth-note pattern, then rests, then plays a half note, and finally a pizzicato eighth-note pattern. Vla. starts with a pizzicato half note, then rests, then plays an arco eighth-note pattern that crescendos to a forte half note. Vc. plays a pizzicato eighth-note pattern throughout.

152

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

*f*

*p*

*f*

*f*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 152, 153, and 154. Vln. 1 has rests in 152 and 153, then plays a forte eighth-note pattern in 154. Vln. 2 plays a continuous eighth-note pattern. Vla. plays a forte eighth-note pattern in 152, rests in 153, and plays a pizzicato eighth-note pattern in 154. Vc. plays a forte eighth-note pattern throughout.

155

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

arco, sul tasto

sul tasto

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*pp*

*f*

*mf*

*p*

*pp*

*mf*

**J**

Detailed description: This system contains measures 155, 156, and 157. Vln. 1 has a pizzicato half note in 155, rests in 156, and plays an arco, sul tasto eighth-note pattern in 157. Vln. 2 has a pizzicato half note in 155, rests in 156, and plays a sul tasto eighth-note pattern in 157. Vla. plays a ppp eighth-note pattern throughout. Vc. plays an arco eighth-note pattern in 155, rests in 156, and plays a pizzicato half note in 157. A section marker 'J' is placed above measure 156.

159

Vln. 1 *ord. v* *ppp* *f* *p* *sul tasto*

Vln. 2 *ord. v* *ppp* *f* *p sub.* *fp* *sul tasto*

Vla. *(tr)* *ord.* *p* *pizz.* *arco sul tasto* *fpp*

Vc. *p*

163

Vln. 1 *ord. v* *ppp* *f* *f*

Vln. 2 *ord. v* *ppp* *fp*

Vla. *(tr)* *f* *ord.* *f*

Vc. *arco* *f*

168

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

172

Vln. 1 *f* pizz. *f* sempre

Vln. 2 *mf* *mf* *f* sempre arco

Vla. *p* sub.

Vc. *f* *fp*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 172, 173, and 174. Vln. 1 starts with a forte (*f*) pizzicato passage in measure 172, then plays a forte (*f*) arco line from measure 173 onwards. Vln. 2 is silent in measure 172, then plays a mezzo-forte (*mf*) arco line in measure 173, and a forte (*f*) arco line in measure 174. Vla. plays a piano (*p*) suboctave line throughout. Vc. plays a forte (*f*) line in measure 172 and a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 174.

175

Vln. 1 *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vln. 2 *fp* *fp*

Vla. *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *f*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 175, 176, and 177. Vln. 1 plays a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 175, then a forte (*f*) line in measure 176, and a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 177. Vln. 2 plays a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 175, then a forte (*f*) line in measure 176, and a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 177. Vla. plays a forte-piano (*fp*) line in all three measures. Vc. plays a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 175, a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 176, and a forte (*f*) line in measure 177.

178

Vln. 1 *f* *f* sempre

Vln. 2 *f* *f* sempre

Vla. *f* *fp* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 178, 179, and 180. Vln. 1 plays a forte (*f*) line in measure 178, then a forte (*f*) line in measure 179, and a forte (*f*) line in measure 180. Vln. 2 plays a forte (*f*) line in measure 178, then a forte (*f*) line in measure 179, and a forte (*f*) line in measure 180. Vla. plays a forte (*f*) line in measure 178, then a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 179, and a forte-piano (*fp*) line in measure 180. Vc. plays a forte-piano (*fp*) line in all three measures.

181

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*fp*

*fp*

*fp*

*fp*

*fp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 181, 182, and 183. Vln. 1 plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and accents. Vln. 2 plays a similar pattern, with some chromatic alterations in measure 183. Vla. plays a melodic line with a flat and an accent, marked *fp*. Vc. plays a bass line with a flat and an accent, also marked *fp*.

184

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*fp*

*fp*

*f sempre*

*f sempre*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 184, 185, and 186. Vln. 1 has a melodic line with a flat and an accent, marked *fp*. Vln. 2 has a melodic line with a sharp and an accent, marked *fp*. Vla. plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked *f sempre*. Vc. plays a bass line with a sharp and an accent, marked *f sempre*.

187

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*fp*

*fp*

*f sempre*

*fp*

*fp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 187, 188, and 189. Vln. 1 has a melodic line with a sharp and an accent, marked *fp*. Vln. 2 has a melodic line with a flat and an accent, marked *fp*. Vla. plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked *f sempre*. Vc. plays a bass line with a sharp and an accent, marked *fp*.



190

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*fp* *f sempre* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

193

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*ff* *pp* *ppp* *barely audible* *niente* *pp*

**L**

196

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*mp* *pizz.* *ppp* *mp* *ppp* *mp*

201

arco s.p.  $\overset{\vee}{3}$

*ppp* < *mp*

sul tasto at the tip

*p*

*ppp*

*ppp*

ord.

*pp*

arco s.p.  $\overset{\vee}{3}$

*ppp* < *mp*

sul tasto at the tip

*ppp*

pizz.  $\overset{3}{\curvearrowright}$

*p*

arco sul tasto at the tip

*p*

*ppp*

pizz.

*pp*

arco ord.

at the tip

*p*

*pp*

pizz.

*pp*

arco ord.

sul D

**M**

206

at the tip

$\overset{\vee}{3}$

ord.

$\text{♩} = 108$

ord.

ord.  $\overset{\vee}{7}$

*pp*

at the tip

ord.

*p*

$\overset{5}{\curvearrowright}$

pizz.

$\text{♩} = 108$

$\text{♩} = 108$

212

*pp*

*p*

$\overset{5}{\curvearrowright}$

*pp*

arco

sul G

218

Vln. 1 *N* *mp*

Vln. 2 *p* *5* *p-pp*

Vla. *p* *5* *p-pp*

Vc. *p* *5* *p-pp*

220

Vln. 1 *pizz.* *mp* *pizz.* *pp cresc.* *arco*

Vln. 2 *mp* *5* *arco* *pp* *pizz.* *mp* *3* *arco* *pp cresc.*

Vla. *pizz.* *mp* *arco* *5*

Vc. *mp* *pp* *mp* *mf* *p* *5* *mf*

223

Vln. 1 *3* *mf* *p* *pizz.* *pp cresc.* *arco* *3* *mf*

Vln. 2 *3* *mf* *pp* *pp* *cresc.* *mf*

Vla. *pp* *mf* *pp* *pp* *cresc.* *mf*

Vc. *pp* *mf* *pizz. 3* *3* *arco* *p* *mf* *pp* *cresc.* *mf*

229

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*pizz.* *arco*  
*pp* *cresc.*  
*pp* *cresc.*  
*pp* *cresc.*  
*pp* *cresc.* *f*

236

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*f* *p* *p*  
*f* *mf* *ppp* *mf* *mf*  
*f* *ppp* *mf* *mf*  
*mf* *p*

239

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*arco*  
*ppp* *mf* *p*  
*ppp* *mf* *ppp* *mf* *ppp*  
*mf* *ppp* *mf* *ppp*  
*mf* *mf* *ppp*

242

Vln. 1: *p*, *mf sub.*  
Vln. 2: *mf sub.*, *ppp*, *mf*, *ppp*, *mf*, *p*  
Vla.: *mf*, *pizz.*, *arco*, *ppp*, *mf*  
Vc.: *mf*, *pizz.*, *arco*, *p sub.*, *mf*, *pizz.*

245

Vln. 1: *ppp*, *mf*, *ppp*, *mf*, *mf*, *pizz.*  
Vln. 2: *mf*  
Vla.: *ppp*, *mf*, *mf*, *mf cresc.*  
Vc.: *arco*, *mf*, *pizz.*, *arco*, *pp*

249

Vln. 1: *f*, *arco*, *fp*, *p*  
Vln. 2: *mf*, *fp*, *f*, *fp*, *sfz*  
Vla.: *f*, *mf*, *f*, *pizz.*, *arco*  
Vc.: *mf*, *mf*, *pizz.*, *mf*

**P**

252

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz.

arco

*p*

*p*

*f*

*p*

255

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

*f*

*f*

258

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

*mf*

*f* cresc.

pizz.

arco

*f*

*p*

*f*

*mf*

*p*

*f*

**Q**

262

Vln. 1 *ffpp* *sfz* *p* *p*

Vln. 2 *ffpp* *sfz* *p*

Vla. *p* *mf* *p*

Vc. *p* *sfz* *p*

Annotations: *pizz.*, *arco sul tasto*, *sul tasto*, *ord.*, *3*

267

Vln. 1 *sf in pp* *sf in pp*

Vln. 2 *pizz.* *arco* *pp*

Vla. *mp* *pp* *sf in pp*

Vc. *pp* *sf in pp*

Annotations: *tr*, *5*, *3*, *V*

272

Vln. 1 *sf in pp* *sf in p* *pp*

Vln. 2 *p* *pp* *sf in p* *pp*

Vla. *(tr)* *pizz.* *sf in p* *p*

Vc. *pizz.* *arco 7* *pizz.* *arco ord.* *p*

Annotations: *arco ord.*, *R*, *3*, *tr*, *V*

278

Vln. 1 arco *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *sf* in *mp* *mf*

Vln. 2 *sf* in *p* pizz. arco *mp*  $\#$  *cresc.* *mf*

Vla. *cresc.* *mp* *p*

Vc. *p* pizz. *mp*

281

Vln. 1 pizz. *p*

Vln. 2 *fp* *pp* *cresc.* *mf*

Vla. *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *mf* *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *mf*

Vc. *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *mf* *pp*  $\leftarrow$  *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

285

Vln. 1 arco *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f* *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f*

Vln. 2 *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f* *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f* pizz. arco *mf* *p* *cresc.* *f*

Vla. *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f* *f* *sfz*

Vc. *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f* *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f* pizz. arco *mf* *p*  $\leftarrow$  *mf* *p*



289

Vln. 1 *p* *mf* *p cresc.*

Vln. 2 *p* *mf* *fp* *f*

Vla. *f* *p* *mf* *f*

Vc. *arco* *f* *p cresc.*

292

Vln. 1 *sfz f cresc.* *ff* *sfz*

Vln. 2 *p cresc.* *ff*

Vla. *p cresc.* *ff* *sfz*

Vc. *sfz* *p cresc.* *ff* *pizz.* *arco*

295 **S**

Vln. 1 *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vln. 2 *f sempre*

Vla. *f sempre*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *fp*

298

Vln. 1 *fp* *fp* *fp* *mf sempre*

Vln. 2

Vla. *fp* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

301

Vln. 1

Vln. 2 *mf sempre*

Vla. *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *mf sempre*

304

Vln. 1 *fp* *mf*

Vln. 2

Vla. *fp* *fp* *mf sempre*

Vc.

307

Vln. 1 *fp*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla.

Vc.

311

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

314 **T**

Vln. 1 *cresc.* *f*

Vln. 2 *cresc.* *f*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f*

317

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*p* — *f*

*p* — *f*

*p* — *f*

*p* — *f*

320

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*p* — *f*

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

*p* — *f*

*p* — *f*

*ff*

*ff*

323

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*ff*

*sfz*

*ffp*

*sfz*

*ffp* — *sfz*

*ff*

*ffp* — *sfz*

*ffp* — *sfz*

*sfz*

*ffp* — *sfz*

*ffp* — *sfz*