Beauchamp-Feuillet No. 2

for solo cello

Vicente Hansen Atria

(2020)

SCORE

General

Beauchamp-Feuillet No. 2 is the second in a series of dense solo pieces. While they are all inspired by different musics, they share a rhythmic and corporeal vitality that is reminiscent of various ancient folk dance traditions. In this spirit, I named the series after a system of baroque dance notation, imagining that these sounds, too, can be a thought of as a guide for movement.

No. 2 is inspired by the Serbian tradition of gusle troubadours (guslar) and epic poetry. It tries to capture the lightning ornaments and broad phrasing of the gusle in the much heavier instrument that is the cello, which presents interesting challenges for the performer. Similarly, it reimagines the bold intonation of the guslar in various flavors of double stops, which all derive from an invented microtonal mode.

Performance Notes

- Accidentals carry through the measure and apply to all octaves
- Grace notes are usually to be performed *before* the adorned note, as fast as possible or faster.
- Duration: ca. 5'
- Where vibrato is not specified, performer may choose to use no vibrato or to interpret the gestures with moderate flavors of vibrato.

Scordatura

- The piece is to be performed by tuning the third string up to a Ab syntonic-up (10th 8th note in the mode below), the second string to a Eb septimal-down (5th 8th note below) and the 1st string to a A natural syntonic-down (11th 8th note below).
- Alternatively, the whole instrument can be tuned down as long as these intervallic relations remain the same.

Microtonal Notation and Just Intonation

This piece is notated in Helmholtz-Ellis notation. Almost the entirety of the piece exists within the following 12-note mode:

Interval ratios are given with respect to an equal tempered C.



Beating

• Measures 72 to the end feature a prominent beating interval between a low C and a septimal-comma-sharp C. The beating between these intervals should correspond to 32nd notes at the tempo of the music (quarter = ca. 35)

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