

# A Song for the Viola

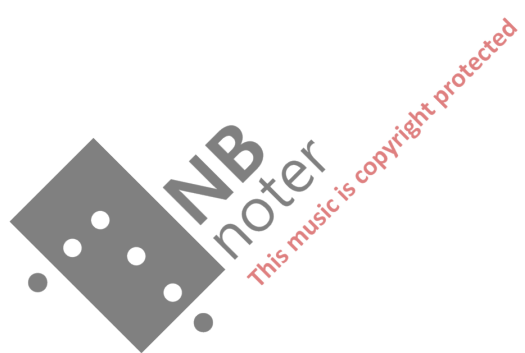
REBECKA SOFIA AHVENNIEMI

2011 (ed. 2018)



For viola or violin and electronics

Commissioned by Ny Musikks Komponistgruppe  
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## Program notes:

This three-minute work functions as a window to a musical world rather than a short, musical narrative. Its material could expand in multiple directions. The work arose from a project first initiated by Ny Musikks Komponistgruppe in collaboration with violinist Mira Benjamin from Montreal in Canada.

## About the performance:

*A Song for the Viola* can either be performed on the viola or the violin.

The instrument is amplified: a warm reverb is constructed around the sound. The nuances could be captured either with a contact microphone or a microphone on a stand, placed to point downwards on the instrument. Stereo speakers are used as the sources of the three-minute sound file and the amplified sounds. The viola is to mix with the other sounds.

The performer uses a timer.

## Instructions:

On the tail piece: The sound of the bow against the tail piece is rubbery and airy. The effect is partly visual.

XPT: 'Extreme sul pont.', extremely close to the bridge. A fragile and delicate sound with only a little tone. Slow movement of bow. The pitch is to stay focused and should not break or burst.

Sul pont.: Close to the bridge. The pitch is to stay focused and should not break or burst.

Normale: Normal placement of bow.

Harmonics: Sounding pitch is notated with a circle above.

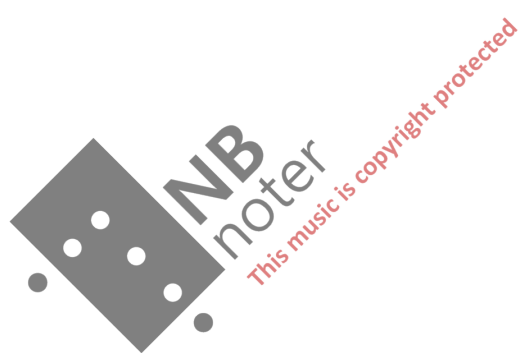
Vibrato: Lasts only through the specific note.

Tremolos: On one bow



Switching directions





# A Song for the Viola

Sognando,  $\text{♩} = 60$

Rebecka Sofia Ahvenniemi

On the tail piece 0:08

Vla. *p* *p*

Tape Tremolo

0:16 5 *p* XPT 0:24 *f* 0:28 *f* ricochet nat. molto vibr.

high pitch F#6

9 0:32 ricochet *f* sul pont. *pp* 0:40

high pitch F#6

12 0:48 normale *pp* 3 *mf* sul pont. normale ricochet *mp* 0:56 *sfz* molto vibr.

Tremolo

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16 1:04 1:12 On the tail piece

Musical score for measures 16-17. Measure 16 has a whole rest. Measure 17 has a half note G4 with a fermata. The bass line has a series of dotted lines with vertical strokes.

21 1:20 1:28 normale On the tail piece

XPT

*p*

high pitch

Musical score for measures 21-22. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a half note G4 with a fermata. The bass line has a series of dotted lines with vertical strokes. A watermark 'NB noter' is visible.

25 1:36 1:44 normale sul pont.

*mp* *p* *mp*

Musical score for measures 25-26. Measure 25 has a whole rest. Measure 26 has a half note G4 with a fermata. The bass line has a series of dotted lines with vertical strokes.

29 1:52 2:00 sul pont.

Musical score for measures 29-30. Measure 29 has a whole rest. Measure 30 has a half note G4 with a fermata. The bass line has a series of dotted lines with vertical strokes.

32 → normale 2:08 molto vibr.

*f* *p* *f*

2:16 nat. 3 sul pont. 2:24 8<sup>va</sup>

35 ricochet V mp

*f* *p* *f* *ff* *mp*

2:32 (8) 2:40 XPT

39 high pitch D7

*f* *p* *f* *ff*

2:48 8<sup>va</sup> 2:56 3:00

43 >

*f* *p* *f* *ff*