

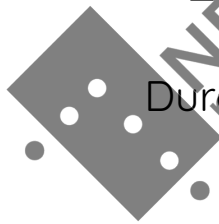
Craig Farr

# Life of coins

For guitar, string quartet, coins and tape

2022

Durata 6:14



NB  
meter  
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Originally commissioned by Ensemble Avgarde, this version was made possible with financial support from the Norwegian Composers Union

Explanation of fermata used. Applied to singular notes, gestures and phrases in senza misura - none metric passages, the duration of the various fermatas is determined individually in the moment creating an intertwining texture that differs each performance.

Varying note/rest value can sway to one end of the scale.

⤴ = 5 - 9 seconds

▣ = 2 - 5 seconds

^ = 1 - 2 seconds



A phrase, or sequence of phrases, continues as instructed as long as the broad wavy line continues, until the next phrase or next section. Double barlines signalise synchronisation with the rest of the ensemble and tape.

The coins (played by all the musicians) should be miked and given a touch of reverb, unless the room acoustics deem this unnecessary.

For the "tape" playback a PA is necessary. For an optimal sound experience the musicians should be miked and also present in the PA to get a decent balance between the live sound and the prerecorded material.

45"

Guitar

Gtr. *mf* *mp* *cresc. poco a poco*

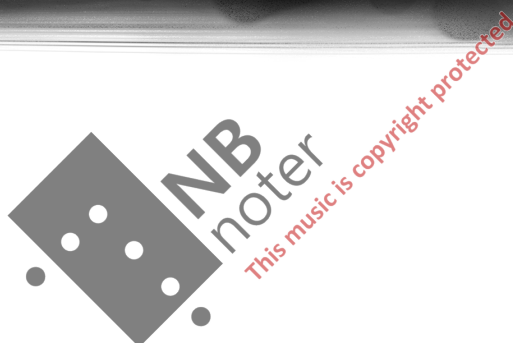
Violin *ppp* *cresc. poco a poco*

Violin 2 *ppp* *cresc. poco a poco*

Viola *cresc. poco a poco*

Violoncello *arco* *mp*

Tape II



Gtr.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla. *ppp* *cresc. poco a poco*

Vc. *sul ponticello*

120"

3" 3" 3" 3.5" 3.5"

As fast as possible

*ff*

As fast as possible

*ff*

As fast as possible

*ff*

(tune down)

*ff*

*gliss*

(tune up)

*ff*

*gliss*

Behind the bridge

*ff*

Tape II

140" (senza misura, individual tempi)

4"

As high as possible

*f*

*fp*

*mf*

Behind the bridge

*mf*

*col legno battuto*

*ff*

*jeté, ricochet ad lib.*

*gliss*

*arco sul ponticello*

*p* *ff* *p*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*arco*

*gliss. full length of string*

*gliss*

*pizz*

*p*

*pizz*

*col legno battuto*

*ff*

*f*

*p*

*ff*

Tape II

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

Vln. 1 *p* *ff* *p* *p* *ff* *p* *pizz* *ff*

Vln. 2 *pp* *f* *fff* *f*

Vla. *mf* *arco* *Behind the bridge* *ord* *f* *pp* *f*

Vc. *f* *arco* *Behind the bridge* *ord* *f* *pp*

Tape II



Gtr *p* *ff*

Vln. 1 *f* *arco* *gliss. full length of string* *gliss* *pizz* *arco* *Behind the bridge* *p* *ff* *p*

Vln. 2 *sfz* *wide vibrato* *Behind the bridge* *p* *ff* *p*

Vla. *sub\_ff* *sul ponticello* *p* *ff* *p*

Vc. *f* *sub\_ff* *mf* *Behind the bridge* *ff* *gliss* *Jeté, ricochet ad. lib.*

Tape II

219"

Gtr *mp* arco on side of bridge

Vln. 1 arco on side of bridge

Vln. 2 arco on side of bridge

Vla. arco on side of bridge

Vc. arco on side of bridge

PS- (pick scrape)

Tape II



Gtr PS- (pick scrape)

Vln. 1 *p* random drumming on fingerboard *p poss.* arco

Vln. 2 *p* random drumming on fingerboard

Vla. *mp* DIZZ *mp* arco crush tone

Vc. crush tone *mp*

Tape II

Musical score for measures 237-240. The score includes staves for Guitar (Gtr.), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Gtr.:** Measure 237 has a *ps* (pizzicato) marking. Measure 240 has a *p* (piano) marking.
- Vln. 1:** Measure 237 has an *arco* marking. Measure 240 has a *p* marking.
- Vln. 2:** Measure 237 has a *p* marking. Measure 240 has a *crush tone* marking.
- Vla.:** Measure 237 has a *p* marking. Measure 240 has a *p* marking.
- Vc.:** Measure 237 has a *p* marking. Measure 240 has a *p* marking.

**Tape II:** A hand-drawn sketch of a cat's face, showing whiskers and a dark eye.

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Musical score for measures 241-244. The score includes staves for Guitar (Gtr.), Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Gtr.:** Measure 241 has a *mf* (mezzo-forte) marking. Measure 244 has a *pp* (pianissimo) marking and a *Hermetics (ad lib.)* marking.
- Vln. 1:** Measure 241 has a *ppp* (pianississimo) marking. Measure 244 has a *p* marking.
- Vln. 2:** Measure 241 has a *ppp* marking. Measure 244 has a *p* marking.
- Vla.:** Measure 241 has a *ppp* marking. Measure 244 has a *p* marking.
- Vc.:** Measure 241 has a *mf* marking. Measure 244 has a *p* marking.

**Tape II:** A hand-drawn sketch of a cat's face, showing whiskers and a dark eye.

Gr. 

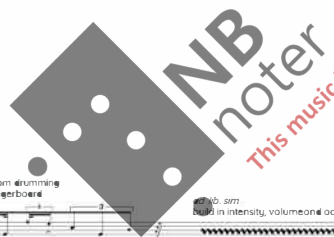
Vln. 1 

Vln. 2 


Vla. 


Violoncello 


mp  
crush tone  
mp  
crush tone  
mp  
crush tone  
mp  
crush tone  
mp





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Gr. 

Vln. 1 

Vln. 2 

Vla. 

Vc. 

arco on side of bridge  
mp  
pizz  
mp  
arco on side of bridge  
mp  
arco on side of bridge  
mp

random drumming on fingerboard  
ad lib. sm  
build in intensity, volume and activity  
cresc. poco a poco  
random drumming on fingerboard  
ad lib. sm  
build in intensity, volume and activity  
cresc. poco a poco  
random drumming on fingerboard  
ad lib. sm  
build in intensity, volume and activity  
cresc. poco a poco  
random drumming on fingerboard  
ad lib. sm  
build in intensity, volume and activity  
cresc. poco a poco





316"

Gtr.  $\text{♩} = 60$   
arco *p* improvise with similar material  
*cresc. poco a poco*

Vln. I  $\text{♩} = 60$   
arco *p* improvise with similar material  
*cresc. poco a poco*

Vln. II  $\text{♩} = 60$   
arco *ppp* *mf* *p* improvise with similar material  
*cresc. poco a poco*

Vla.  $\text{♩} = 60$   
arco *ppp* *mf* *p* improvise with similar material  
*cresc. poco a poco*

Vcl.  $\text{♩} = 60$   
arco *ppp* *mf* *p* improvise with similar material  
*cresc. poco a poco*

Tape II



342"

$\text{♩} = 120$  Synchronized

Gtr. *f* *fff* *mf* *molto vibrato*

Vln. I *f* *fff* *mf* *p* *mf* *molto vibrato*

Vln. II *f* *fff* *mf* *p* *mf* *molto vibrato*

Vla. *f* *fff* *mf* *p* *mf* *molto vibrato*

Vcl. *f* *fff* *mf* *p* *mf* *molto vibrato*

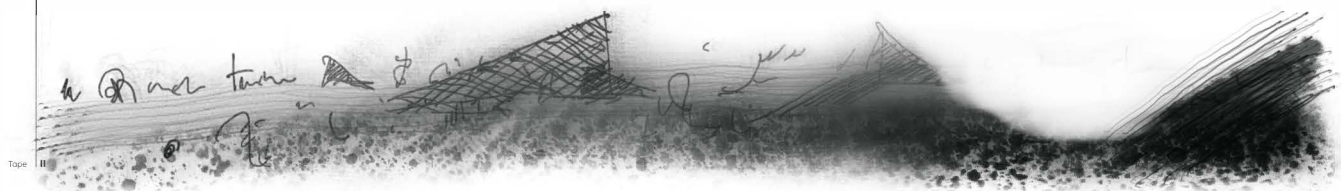
Tape II



Gtr  
Vln 1  
Vln 2  
Vla  
Vcl

*p* *ff* *mf* *sf* *ff* *sec.*

senza misura



4'40.5" 4'42.5" 5'15"

Gtr  
Vln 1  
Vln 2  
Vla  
Vcl

G.P. As fast as possible *ff*

G.P. As fast as possible *ff* *fp*

G.P. As fast as possible *ff* *fp*

G.P. As fast as possible *ff*

G.P. As fast as possible *ff* *fp*



Musical score for guitar, violin 1, violin 2, viola, and cello. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains musical notation for each instrument, including dynamics such as *mp* and *dim. poco a poco al niente*. The second system is a faded, ghosted version of the first system.



Empty musical staves for guitar, violin 1, violin 2, viola, and cello, corresponding to the instruments in the score above. The staves are blank, with a faded ghosted version of the score visible in the background.