

Duo

for viola and contrabass

Ruben Sverre Gjertsen 2007

NOTATION

PITCH

The score is written at sounding pitch.

MICROTONES

\natural = 1/4 tone sharp \sharp = 3/4 tones sharp

\flat = 1/4 tone flat $\flat\flat$ = 3/4 tones flat

\uparrow = 1/8 tone sharp \downarrow = 1/8 tone flat

Accidentals apply to repeated notes.

VIBRATO

The whole piece should be played strictly Non Vibrato (NV), expression is made by other means. Vibrato is notated graphically as ornamentations, usually in exaggerated forms (combinations of too large, too fast, too slow). Normal vibrato is in other words rare. Some examples:

Oscil lento = 0,5-1 vibratocycles per second

Vibrato lento = similar, slightly faster

Poco vibr. = almost a normal vibrato

Vibrato estremo = as fast as possible, range between a major second and a third.

Vibrato grottesco/Vibrato grande = range between a third and a fifth around the center pitch, very rapidly.

Vibrato irregolare = irregular speed and range.

GLISSANDI

All glissandi are continuous, and should never dwell on start or end notes (in parenthesis).



No new attacks should be made on passages without articulation signs. Attacks may be notated on a separate bowing staff.

DYNAMICS

p – **mf** – **f** – = static dynamics, subito / subito tacet.



=irregular dynamic fluctuations.

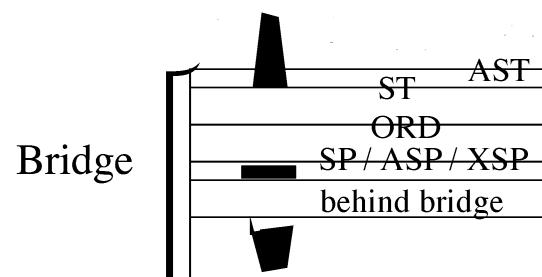
Avoid repeated patterns and create irregularity. This concerns all kinds of improvised flux.

SYSTEMS

Three systems are used for independent notation of bowing (position on string, string number) and fingering (pitch notation). These are used for precise notation of arpeggio, and are in some cases counterpoint of techniques. A forth system sometimes give sounding pitch of harmonics.

Bridge

This system has a bridge clef to show vertical bow positions or movement on the string.



Abbreviations are used in the score to indicate precise timbre:

AST = alto sul tasto, whenever possible at the middle of the sounding string.

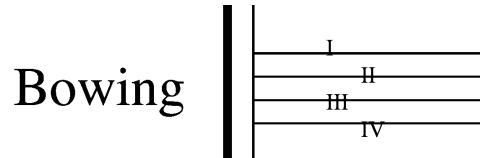
ST = sul tasto

SP = sul ponticello (metallic sound)

ASP = alto sul ponticello, fundamental is lost, rich sound of overtones.

XSP = extreme sul ponticello, almost at the bridge.

BOW



This system shows string number.

BOW USE

slow bow = reduce the bow speed to lose the fundamental pitch.

fast bow = play lightly with very fast bow by soft dynamics.

M.ph. = **multiphonics** : touch the position, play towards sul ponticello, slow bow speed, and light bow pressure, to split the pitch and produce a stable multiphonic sound.

crini +legno = 1/2 crini (hair), 1/2 legno

BOW PRESSURE



= extremely slow bowing, high bow pressure bowing and high friction. Strictly white noise, the pitch should never be perceived. Maintain same pressure and soft dynamics to produce irregular pops of noise.



= medium crush with audible pitch.

Transitions between normal, double and triple bow pressure are notated by arrows.

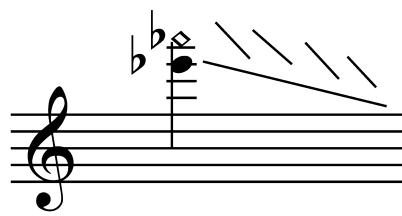
BOW DIRECTION

horizontal (ordinary direction)

vertical (along the strings)

FINGER USE

SEAGULL



= gliss with constant

distance between fingers.

FINGER PERCUSSION

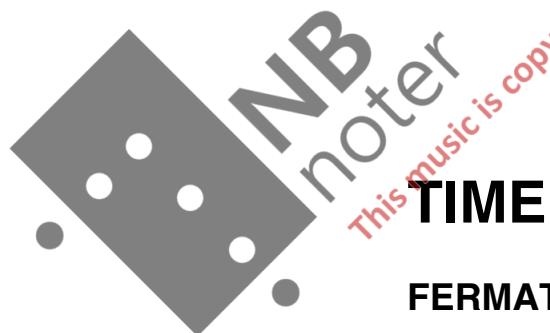
■ = Finger percussion, slap string with left hand. This may be a sustained attack or trill alternating with the open string.

May be independent of bow action.

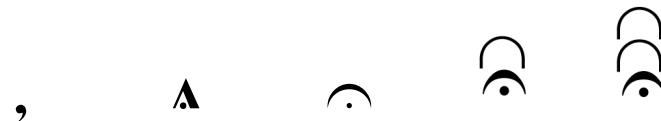
TRANSITION

Arrows show transitions between different kinds of techniques. Examples:

- Transitions between normal and harmonic pressure (fingered position).
- Transition between various tremolo speeds and no tremolo.
- Transitions between different kinds of bowing techniques. This may change the timbre or fade sounds between noise and pitch.



FERMATAS



shortest ←-----→ longest
(breath)

Duo

Ruben Sverre Gjertsen 2007

Duo

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1 **3** **4** tonewolf / metal sord.

Bridge

Bowing

Viola

Always continuos gliss. !

Bridge

Contrabass

5 **8** **5** **2** **4**

legatissimo

SP

legno battutto

arco

legatissimo

spicato leggiero

9:8

9:8

5:4

5:4

5:4

ASP

static

sfp

Always continuos gliss. !

Bridge

Bowing

Vla.

2 4

SP

legatissimo

5:4

5:4

FAST BOW

left hand pizz. *mp* arco

3 : 2

4
1
3
2

1
I
II
III
IV

legatissimo spiccato leggiero

3 8

pp

pp

pp

mfp

Bridge

Bow

Cb.

2 4

ASP

SLOW BOW

NORM.

arco

7:4

9:8

arco

7:4

9:8

static

sffz static

p

3:2

sffz static

3 8

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100

6 5 AST

Bridge

Bowing 3:2 esplosivo (d)

Vla. (b) II 3:2 6:4 5:4 gett. sfz sffz 3:4

6 5 p AST AST

Bridge XSP FAST BOW

Bow V partials 9-13

Cb. 8va 7:4 f mf pp sffz sub.

3 **4** **2** **4** **5**

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.

3 **4** **2** **4** **5**

Bridge
Bow
Cb.

subito silenzio

legno battuto

SLOW BOW
I M.ph.

ff *pp* *mp* *f-* *pp*
pesante *meditativo*

5 **8** **1** **8** **3** **8** **3** **4**

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.

5 **8** **1** **8** **3** **8** **3** **4**

Bridge
Bow
Cb.

crini+legno
gett.

crini+legno
gett.

ff static

SP

gloss. + decrease finger pressure

subito tacet

M.ph.

fff *p* *fff* *fff*

3 **4** **4** **9** **8**

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.

3 **4** **4** **9** **8**

Bridge
Bow
Cb.

XSP

gett.

p *III 2* *III 3* *III 3* *III 1*

mf < p > p *mf* *p* *fff* *fff* *fff*

press finger under string close to bridge
p release finger shortly

9 **16** **8**

AST XSP

Bridge
Bowing
Vla. 3:2 decrease fingerpressure +vibrato rapido II I
ppp sub. 5:4 ff pp sub. mf

9 **16** **8**

SP

Bridge
Bowing
C. 7:4
Cb. 5:4 ppp sub.

3 **17** **8** **7** **8** **2** **4**

gett. FAST BOW

Bridge
Bowing
Vla. 7:4 3:2 3:2 3:2
p 9:8 7:4 3:2 <mf> o <pp> ffz

3 **17** **8** **7** **8** **2** **4**

ST SP 5:4 3:2 3:2 3:2
Bridge
Bowing
Cb. NV II:8 IV 4:3 5:4 M.ph. M.ph.
fff static 10:8 3:2 ff ppp

2 **19** **4** **5** **8** **4**

tonewolf / metal sord. AST SP (refinger if necessary)

Bridge
Bowing
Vla. 3:2 3:2 3:2 sub. p
mf gradually decrease finger pressure
subito tacet

2 **19** **4** **5** **8** **4**

pizz. arco M.ph. left hand tap arco 3:2 crini+legno
M.ph. 7:4 3:2 3:2
Bow 5:4 3:2 3:2 > p
Cb. spz ppp mfp sub. static 3:2 secco
ppp transparent legatissimo

21 **4** **3** **8**

Bridge SP ASP 5:4

Bowing gett. SLOW BOW

Vla. 1 13 I II 2 II 1 II 2 III 4 III / 3:2 5:4 5:4 5:4

21 **4** **3** **8**

Bridge XSP 3:2

Bow legno battutto pizz. arco

Sounding Cb. 5:4 8:4 3:2 5:4 3:2

partials 13 (gliss. between partials)

mff **p** **pp** **elegant** **mf** **sub.** **meccanico**

=

22 **3** **8** **2** **4** **2** **7**

Bridge ASP

Bowing rapido poss.

Vla. <ff> pp

G.P.

22 **3** **8** **2** **4** **2** **7** **8**

Bridge ASP

Bow rapido poss.

Cb. <ff> pp

G.P.

gett. 5:4 3:2 5:4 7:4

mp > **p** **static** **indifferent**

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25

Bridge SP SP ASP

Bowing

Vla. TREMOLO ACCEL. RIT. NON TREMOLO 5:4 TREMOLO SUB.

mf murmurando

25

Bridge

Bow

Sounding nat. harm.

Cb. nat. harm. 5:4 9:8 *sfp* 9:8 *sfp*

26

Bridge AST SP ORD

Bowing 9:8

Vla. NON TREMOLO ACCEL. AL TREMOLO ACCEL. AL TREMOLO 9:8 9:8 3:2 TREMOLO IRREGOLARE

pp *p*

26

Bridge XSP

Bow I partials 12,13 II partials 11,10 III partials 10,9 shimmering sound

Cb. 8va *sfp* 8va *sfp* gliss. / oscil. lento not synchronized

27

Bridge

Bowing legatissimo 7:4 7:4 5:4

Vla. RITEN AL. NON TREMOLO 3:4 1:1 gett. *mf*

mf *p* *f* *p* *pp* 5:4 *pppp* secco

27

Bridge ASP SP ASP

Bow 8va nat. harm.

Cb. 8va 9:8 *p* 5:4 *mfp* ACCEL. AL TREMOLO NON TREMOLO SUB.

7 8 FAST BOW ST AST

Bridge SP SP

Bowing

Vla.

7 8 RITEN AL NON TREMOLO 7:4 3:2 5:4 9:8 7:4 spiccato brillante 5:4 3:2 subito tacet

mf p f p

7 8 ST ASP SP XSP

Bridge

Bow ACCEL AL TREMOLO 3:2

Cb. legno battuto NORM.

7 8 ff fff p ff fff p pp senza espr.

5 8 tonewolf / metal sord. oscil. lento (1/4-tone)

5 8 subito silenzio

3 4 7:4 8va 7:4 <mf> <mp>

3 4 AST SP

Bridge

Bowing

Vla. 3:2 oscil. lento (1/4-tone) 7:4 13:8 6:4 spiccato brillante 7:4 vertical bow 7:4 5:4 gett. lunga

3 4 AST

Bridge

Bow 5:4 7:4 6:4 5:4 pizz. arco

Cb. 5:4 7:4 6:4 5:4 static 3:2 7:4 mf static

35 **5** **8** **2** **4** **AST** **5** **8** **3** **8**
 Bridge Bowing Vla.
irregolare
35 **5** **8** **2** **4** **smfz mp p pp** **5** **8** **3** **8**
 Bridge Bow Cb.
subito tacet
38 **3** **8** **7''** **subito silenzio** **4** **4**
 Bridge Bow Sounding Cb.
smf ff p mf **SLOW BOW**
38 **3** **8** **7''** **static** **4** **4**
 Bridge Bow Sounding Cb.
pp 5:4 mf
40 **4** **7** **8** **2** **5**
 Bridge Vla.
finger pressure increase decrease
40 **4** **AST** **7** **8** **2** **5**
 Bridge Bow Sounding Cb.
batt. legno irregolare arco sub. lontano
7:4 finger pressure decrease/increase
subito tacet
p pppp mp p

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See Turetzky p. 110, sounding:
 B natural 1 1/2 octave higher,
 and low f octave higher.

42 **5** **8** **4** **5** **8**
 Bridge
 subito tacet
 Bowing
 Vla.
42 **5** **8** **4** **5** **8**
 arco AST batt. irregolare nervoso pizz. arco
 Bridge
 vibr. estremo (not synchronized) **3 : 2**
 Cb. **5** **8** **4** **5** **8**
 vibr. estremo (not synchronized) **3 : 2**
 M.ph.
 ASP
 static
44 **5** **8** **3** **4** **4**
 Bridge
 FAST BOW
 Bowing
 Vla.
44 **5** **8** **3** **4** **4**
 SP ASP legatissimo transparent M.ph. NV
 Bridge
 Bow
 Cb.
46 **4** **3** **8** **2** **4**
 AST
 Bridge
 Bowing
 Vla.
46 **4** **3** **8** **2** **4**
 WWW
 pizz. (one attack)
 Bow
 Cb.
 vibr. estr. l.v. gliss.
 vibr. grande

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48
2 **4** **4** **3** **4**
 Bridge like percussion arco norm. gett. arco spiccato spiccato brillante legatissimo
 Bowing accel: al tremolo 5:4 9:8 6:4 6:4 6:4 7:4
 Vla. p mf p < mp > pp leggiero
48
2 **4** **4** **3** **4**
 Bridge XSP ASP
 Bow gett. arco partials 12, 13, 16, 10, 7
 Cb. 5:4 7:4 (crossing fingers) 9:8 6:4 f "grosser ton"
 static
50
3 **4** **3** **8** **2** **4**
 Bridge like percussion SP
 Bow tremolo accel. / riten. (do not synchronize with fingers) sub. sub.
 Vla. gett. arco 7:4
 3:2 5:4 ppp f > mp static
50
3 **4** **3** **8** **2** **4**
 Bridge SP XSP
 Bow M.ph. 6:4 5:4 sfff z pesante subito
 Cb. jff

52
2 **4** **5** **5** **4**
 Bridge ORD ASP XSP
 Bow arco 9:8
 Vla. 5:4 vibr. estremo 9:8
 5:4 mff
52
2 **4** **5** **5** **4**
 Bridge XSP
 Bow finger perc. arco 6:4
 Cb. 7:4 11:8 ffff
 (keep bow without new attacks)

Bridge

Vla.

Cb.

54 | 5 : 4

TREMOLO
rapido estr. riten

II:8 **mf**

Bridge

Cb.

54 | 7 : 4

finger perc.

arco

p sub.

9:8 **fffz**

Bridge

Bowing

Vla.

55

5:4

5:4

poco vibr.

NV

6:4

7:6

5:4

subito tacet

56

Bridge

Bow

Cb.

55

5:4

6:4

5:4

gett.

p

pp

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Bridge

Bowing

Vla.

56 16 5 3 4 3 16 subito tacet 4 4

G.P.

SP

II:8

mp fragile > *pp p* fragile

G.P.

Bridge

Bow

Cb.

56 16 5 3 4 3 16 subito tacet 4 4

G.P.

crini+legno
batt. accel.

13:8

ffz

arco

p

mf

finger perc.

gett. secco

8va

brillante

G.P.

Bridge

59 **4** **2** **4**

POCO SP
FAST BOW
Vla.

Bowing
Vla.
C. B.

gett.
AST

Bridge
59 **4** **2** **4**

SP
FAST BOW
Bow
Sounding
Cb.

partials 9-13
pp
sffz static pesante

Bridge
60 **4** **2** **4**

AST
SP
SP
5:4
7:4 3:2
subito tacet
Vla.
finger pressure increase decrease
ACCEL. AL TREMOLO RITEN. AL....

Bridge
60 **4** **2** **4**

AST
ASP
finger perc. ACCEL. AL CRUSH-TREMOLO
partials 11
C. B.

Bridge
63 **4** **4**

brushing sound
SP
Bowing
Vla.
----NON TREMOLO
gett.
II:8
3:2
9:8
sffz

Bridge
63 **4** **4**

XSP SP ASP
8va
pizz. arco
III finger perc.
C. B.
mf
p
mf static

2 79 **4**

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.

SP
nails or plectrum
tremolo+
arpeggio improvisando
etc.
permutations

2 79 **4**

Bridge
Bow
Cb.

improvisando
legno battuto
left hand
7:4 3:2 5:4
4 4
legno gett.
accel. / riten.
irregolare
pppp
left hand pizz.
permutations
III / IV finger perc.
rapido poss.
pp
III / IV finger perc. perc. sim.
pppp

2 80 **4**

Bridge
Vla.

5:4 3:2

3 81 **4**

Bridge
Vla.

5:4 3:2

3 81 **4**

Bridge
Bow
Cb.

legno battuto
ff + left hand 9:8
ff mfp
tune IV down
sffz sfffz
This multiple trill means improvised patterns with these notes.
These are not fingered double stops, but a continuation with
the same finger percussion notes as used in measure 80,
alternating with open strings.
legno battuto ppp
legno gett. brillante 6:4
irregolare
III / IV finger perc.
ff sub. feroce
pppp sub.
p —
5:4

2 82 **4**

tune IV down

5 84 **8**

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.

brushing sounds
leggiero
mp
arco 5:4

3 84 **8**

Bridge
Bow
Sounding
Cb.

3:2 arco 7:4 ASP
finger perc.
3:2 III
accel. al tr
left hand
fingers: sffz bow: p
arco sffz M.ph.
ff — mf
subito tacet
5:4

2 85 **8**

87
3 **8** **4**
 Bridge
 Bowing
 Vla.
3 **8** **4** **4**
 Bridge
 Bow
 Cb.
3 **8** **4**
 Bridge
 Bow
 Cb.
3 **4**
89
3 **4**
 Bridge
 Vla.
3 **4**
 Bridge
 Bow
 Cb.
7 **8**
91
7 **8**
 Bridge
 Bowing
 Vla.
7 **8**
 Bridge
 Bow
 Cb.

vibr. grottesco
 XSP
 arco
 gett.
 AST
 SP
 9:8
 ORD
 ASP
 arco
 SP
 cold
 oscil. lento (1/4-tone)
 vibr.
 etc. irregolare
 static like a motor
 pp
 fffz
 sub.
 ACCEL: AL TREMOLO RITEN. AL
 left hand pizz.
 sfzp
 NON TREMOLO
 ACCEL. AL TREMOLO > TREMOLO RITEN. / ACCEL:
 tremolo irregolare
 finger perc.
 al tallone
 sffzpp
 pesante static
 alla punta
 pp
 legno battuto
 pizz.
 arco M.ph.
 alla punta legatissimo
 9:8
 3:2
 3
 8
 AST
 SP
 ASP
 9:8
 3:2
 3
 8

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.

NON TREMOLO ACCEL. AL → **TREMOLO** irregolare nervoso
 3 : 2

Vla.
Bow
Cb.

legno battuto
 + left hand:
 7:4

XSP
pp cold
 press finger under string close to bridge
 release finger shortly

Bridge
Bow
Cb.

ASP
 crini+legno batt.
 sim.
 sim.
 3:2
oscil. lento
fff < **fff** **fff** < **fff** **fff** < **fff**

Bridge
Vla.

NON TREMOLO ACCEL. AL → **CRUSH TREMOLO**

Vla.
Bow
Cb.

pp cold
 cold

Bridge
Bow
Cb.

IV accel. al tr
 finger perc.
 IV irregolare
fff < **fff** **fff** < **fff** **fff** < **fff** **fff** < **fff**
 arco

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3 subito silenzio

96 8 2 2 6 4

Bridge Vla. Cb.

3 subito silenzio

96 8 2 2 6 4

Bridge Cb.

legno battuto ST

SP damp ppp

+ left hand ♀ 7:4 arco

+ left hand ♀ 5:4 several attacks

99 6 4 6 4 6 4 6 4

Bridge Vla. Cb.

arco AST XSP SP SP

vibr. grottesco oscil. lento 3:2 3:2 3:2 3:2

mf <sfz> mfz sub. 5:4

etc. legno battutto irregular

etc. improvisando + left hand IV oscil. lento etc. left hand ff

7:4 9:8 9:8 9:8 9:8 9:8 9:8 sfz

100 5 8 1 8

Bridge Bowing Vla.

subito tacet I II mf

100 5 8 1 8

Bridge Bowing Sounding Cb.

subito tacet + left hand ♀

sffffz damp

presico estremo

101 8 = 46 3 16 7 16 2 4 3 8

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.
Vla.
101 8 3 16 7 16 2 4 3 8

Bridge
Bowing
Sounding
Cb.

senza sord.
mf
pesante détaché

This section of the musical score features four staves for string instruments: Bridge, Bowing, Vla. (Violin), and Cb. (Cello/Bass). The tempo is marked as 101 eighth notes per minute, with a dynamic of *mf* and a performance instruction *pesante détaché*. The key signature changes frequently, indicated by numbers above the staff (e.g., 8, 3, 16, 7, 16, 2, 4, 3, 8) and by various sharps and flats. The Vla. staff includes markings for *senza sord.* (without mute) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The Cb. staff includes a note value of 5:4 and a dynamic of *mf* (mezzo-forte).

3 105 8 3 16 2 4 2 4

Bridge
Bowing
Vla.
Vla.
3 105 8 3 16 2 4 2 4

Bridge
Bowing
Sounding
Cb.

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This section of the musical score continues with four staves for string instruments: Bridge, Bowing, Vla. (Violin), and Cb. (Cello/Bass). The tempo is marked as 105 eighth notes per minute. The key signature changes frequently, indicated by numbers above the staff (e.g., 3, 8, 3, 16, 2, 4, 2, 4) and by various sharps and flats. The Vla. staff includes a dynamic of *ffff* (four times forte) and a dynamic of *pp* (pianississimo). The Cb. staff includes a note value of 3:2 and a dynamic of *ffff* (four times forte), followed by a dynamic of *pp* (pianississimo).

subito silenzio

2

108 **4**

Bridge

Bowing

Vla.

108 **2**

mf

7:4

ff

5:4

6:4

8

pesante

f

11:8

5

subito silenzio

Bridge

Bow

Sounding

Cb.

