

Federico Pozzer, 2021

*Sffz in C*  
for string quartet

## Instructions

Each performer plays the same score (p. 2). The score consists of a table of 56 boxes. The performers should read the score from top left to bottom right, row by row.

Each performer should play C4 and two sounds of their own choice throughout the piece. The two sounds ('Sound 1' and 'Sound 2' in the score) should be decided in advance by each performer. Two dynamic markings are indicated in the score (*p* and *sfffz*); 'Sound 1' and 'Sound 2' should be played at the same dynamic level (*p*) and C4 should always be played with a sudden, loud, and strong accent (*sfffz*). The performers are provided with a digital metronome and two, three, or four pairs of earphones before starting the piece (see below).

The score should be performed two times without breaks in between:

1<sup>st</sup> time: connect the metronome to two, three, or four pairs of earphones using one, two, or three stereo splitter cables (two performers may use the same pair of earphones). The performers put on their earphone(s) and perform the score following the same metronome. Tempo is 60 bpm and each box of the table is one 60 bpm beat long.

When C4, Sound 1, and Sound 2 are specified in the boxes, the performers should play the sounds on the beat of the box. In the empty boxes the performers should not play. The audience should not be able to hear the metronome during the performance.

2<sup>nd</sup> time: once the players finish performing the score, they should quickly remove their earphones; each performer should start playing the score from the beginning using the length of their own breathing as a time regulator; each box is either one inhalation or one exhalation long (i.e., 1<sup>st</sup> box= inhalation, 2<sup>nd</sup> box= exhalation, 3<sup>rd</sup> box= inhalation, 4<sup>th</sup> box= exhalation, etc.). Each performer independently follows the length of their own breathing to determine the sounds onset. The duration of each performer's sounds is determined by the duration of their own inhalation and exhalation. The piece ends when the last performer plays 'Sound 1' in the last box of the table.

When C4, Sound 1, and Sound 2 are specified in the boxes, the performers should play the sounds in the beginning of their inhalation or exhalation. In the empty boxes the performers should not play.

C4 is always played in one down-bow.

<b>C4</b> <i>sffz</i>			
		<b>Sound 1</b> <i>p</i>	
<b>C4</b> <i>sffz</i>		<b>Sound 2</b> <i>p</i>	
<b>C4</b> <i>sffz</i>		<b>Sound 1</b> <i>p</i>	
<b>C4</b> <i>sffz</i>	<b>Sound 2</b> <i>p</i>		
<b>C4</b> <i>sffz</i>			<b>Sound 1</b> <i>p</i>
<b>C4</b> <i>sffz</i>			
	<b>Sound 2</b> <i>p</i>		
<b>C4</b> <i>sffz</i>			
			<b>Sound 1</b> <i>p</i>