



The American Viola Society

VIOLA

FOR MEZZO-SOPRANO AND VIOLA

Gerald Busby
(b. 1935)

Text by Craig Lucas



Gerald Busby, best known for his film score for Robert Altman's 3WOMEN and his dance score to Paul Taylor's RUNES, has written extensively for the viola. At Circle Repertory Company Gerald premiered ORPHEUS IN LOVE, an opera with a libretto by Craig Lucas, in which Orpheus is a viola teacher in a community college, and Eurydice is his pupil. Gerald is a protégé of Virgil Thomson and a long-time resident of the Chelsea Hotel in New York. Wave Theory Records released in 2021 the film score for 3WOMEN.

for Rosalind Rees

VIOLA

for Mezzo-Soprano and Viola

Craig Lucas

$\text{♩} = 60$ *Voluptuous and seductive*

Gerald Busby

Soprano

Viola

mf *mp*

5

S.

Vla.

I hate the vi - o - la I do, I'm

mf

9

S.

Vla.

sor-ry Not you per-son-nal-ly You play beau-ti-ful- ly. I don't know what it

12

S.

Vla.

is, real- ly, may-be it's that aw-ful sound _____ nya nya nya nya

15

S.

Vla.

nya nya nya nya do do do do do do do do _____ It's so hid - e - ous

(doe)

VIOLA

18

S.
 Not you per-son-al-ly _____ You play beau-ti-ful- ly, _____ you do

Vla.

21

S.
 I sym-pa-thize with you What you must be go-ing through I'd

Vla.

23

S.
 kill my-self be-fore I'd play _____ the vi-o-la A-gain

Vla.

26

$\text{♩} = 110$

S.

A quiet urgency

Vla.

27

S.

Vla.

VIOLA

4

28 *mp*

S. I played the vi -

Vla. 5

29

S. o - - - - - la

Vla. 5

30

S. my - self for a -

Vla. 5

31

S. while

Vla. 5

32

S. -

Vla. 5

33 *mf*

S.

Vla.

Does that make you

34

S.

Vla.

mf

smile?

35

S.

Vla.

mf

Go a - head

36 $\text{♩} = 58$ *Tempo rubato*

S.

Vla.

mf

smile

Non rit.

(Really tune your viola.)

38

S.

Vla.

Yes, I played the vi-o - la my-self for awhile I e-ven re-mem-ber the fin-ger-ings

VIOLA

6

(The singer takes the viola from the violist, puts it under her chin, and speaks.)

41

S. *I dream them at night Here I won't be but ... All right ... Let's see ... I'll just be ...*

Vla.

47 *♩ = 60 (She plays and sings.) squawk on the viola* *(She returns the viola.) ♩ = 60*

S. *My dog has..... My dog has..... (Spoken) Well anyway*

Vla. *Tempo primo mp*

52

S.

Vla.

56

S. *No one's listen-ing to you You might as well go*

Vla.

59

S. *home now Eve-ry-one knows the vi - o-la is eas - y eve-ry - one*

Vla.

VIOLA

62

S. knows the vi - o - la's so slea - zy it's nei-ther

Vla.

65

S. fish nor fowl, It's not a cel - lo, It's not a vi - o - lin

Vla.

68

S. Neith-er out nor in just a vi-o - - - la

Vla.

71

S. just a vi-o - - - la vi - o - - - -

Vla.

74

S. - - la Ha ha ha ha ha ha! Ha ha ha ha ha

Vla.

mp *mf* *f* *mp* *mf* *Sempre f* *f* *mp* *mf* *Sempre f* *A tempo* *Pizz.* *A tempo*

VIOLA

8

77 $\text{♩} = 110$

S.

Vla. *Arco* 5

78 *mp*

S. *mp*

Vla. 5

I'll bet you

79 *mp*

S.

Vla. 5

can't name one

80 *mp*

S.

Vla. 5

famous vi-

81 *mp*

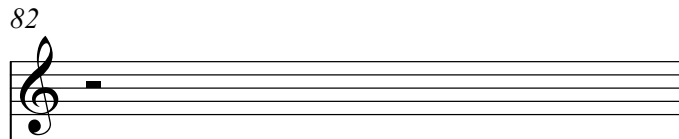
S.


Vla. 5

o - - la play - er

VIOLA

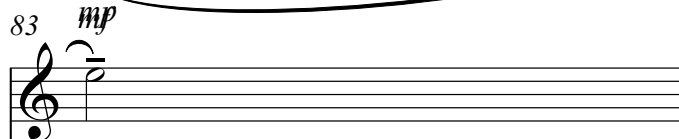
82


S. 

Vla. 

Not

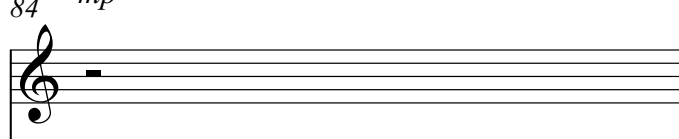
83 *mp*

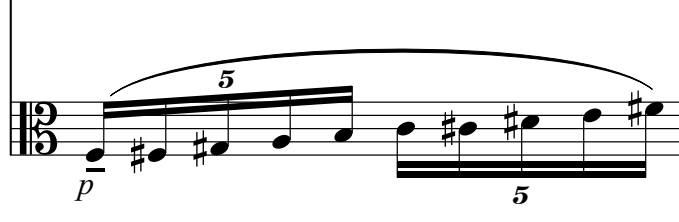
S. 

Vla. 

one

84 *mp*

S. 


Vla. 

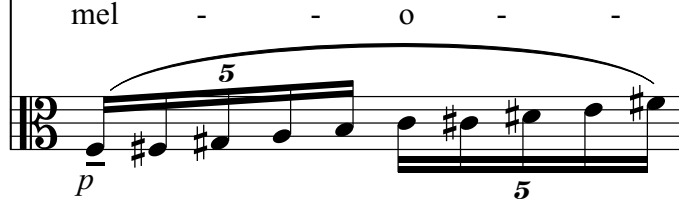
p

p 3

You nev - er play the

85

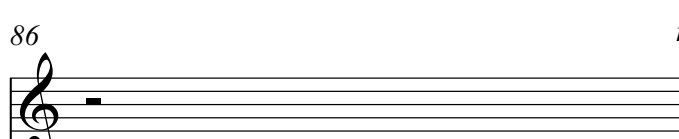
S. 

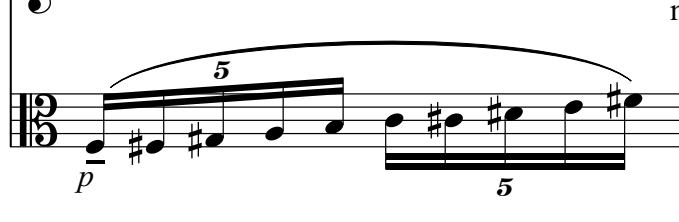
Vla. 

p

mel - - o - - dy

86 *mp*

S. 

Vla. 

p

nev - er a

VIOLA

10

87 *f*

S. *f*
so - - - - - lo

Vla. *p*
5 5 5

88 *p* *mp*

S. *p* *mp*
nev - er nev - er

Vla. *p*
5 5 5

89 *mf* *f* *ff* = 56 *Tempo rubato*

S. *mf* *f* *ff*
nev - er nev - er What am I say - ing?

Vla. *p* *Tempo rubato*
5 5

92 *f* *mf* *mp* *A tempo*

S. *f* *mf* *mp* *A tempo*
Please don't stop play-ing What am I say-ing?

Vla. *A tempo*
mp 3

95 *mp* *f* *a Tempo*

S. *mp* *f* *a Tempo*
I want - ed to make mu - sic

Vla. *f*

Molto espressivo *tempo rubato*
mp

97 *Tempo rubato* *mp* *3* *a Tempo* *mf*

S. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

99 *mp* *mf*

S. *mf*

Vla. *mp* *3* *mf*

103 *f* *ff*

S. *ff*

Vla. *f* *ff* *mf* *pp*

VIOLA

Gerald Busby

2 Craig Lucas

for Mezzo-Soprano and Viola

mf **6** *mf* **3** **3**

Voluptuous and seductive I hate the vi - o - la I do, I'm sor - ry Not you

10 **3** **3** **3**

per-son-nal-ly You play beau-ti-ful-ly. I don't know what it is, real - ly,

13

may-be it's that aw-ful sound____ nya nya nya nya nya nya nya do do do do

16 **3**

do do do do____ It's so hid - e-ous Not you per-son-al - ly____

19 **3**

____ You play beau-ti-ful-ly,____ you do I sym-pa-thize with you

22

What you must be go-ing through I'd kill my-self be-fore I'd play____ the vi - o -

24 *mp* **2** *mf*

- la A - gain *A quiet urgency* I played the vi - o - la____

30 *mf*

____ my-self for a - while____ Does that make you smile?____

35 *Tempo rubato* **3**

Go a - head smile Yes, I played the vi-o - la my - self for a while

40 **3** **3** **3** **3** **2** *

I e - ven re - mem - ber the fin - ger - ings I dream them at night Here I won't be but .
I'll just be . . .

VIOLA - Mezzo Soprano

45 *(She plays and sings.)* *squawk on the viola* *(She returns the viola.)* $\text{♩} = 60$ $\text{♩} = 60$

All right....Let's see.... My dog has..... My dog has..... (Spoken) Well anyway

57

No one's listen-ing to you_____ You might as well go home_ now

60

Eve-ry-one knows the vi - o - la is eas - y_ eve-ry-one knows_____

63

the_ vi - o - la's_ so_ slea - zy it's nei-ther fish nor fowl, It's not a

66

cel - lo, It's not a vi - o - lin Neith-er out nor in_ just a vi-o -

70

- la just a vi - o - la vi -

73 *Sempre f*

o - - - - - la Ha

75 *A tempo* $\text{♩} = 110$

ha ha ha ha ha! Ha ha ha ha ha

VIOLA - Mezzo Soprano

4

78 *mp* **3** **3** **3** **5** **5**
 I'll bet you can't name one fam-ous vi - play - la play - er Not

83 *mf* *p* **3** *mp* **3** *f*
 one You nev - er play the mel - o - dy nev - er a so - lo

88 *p* *mp* *mf* *f* $\text{♩} = 56$ (No *ff* use) *Tempo rubato*
 nev - er nev - er nev - er nev - er What am I say - ing?

92 *f* *mf* *mp* *A tempo*
 Please don't stop play - ing What am I say - ing?

95 *mp* *f* *a Tempo* *Tempo rubato* *mp* **3** *a Tempo*
 I want - ed to make mu - sic hid - ing in my room with de - li - ri - ous sad - ness I

98 *mf* **2** *mp* *mf*
 want to make mu - sic My dog has fleas My dog has fleas

103 *f* *ff*
 My dog has fleas

VIOLA

for Rosalind Rees

2

VIOLA

for Mezzo-Soprano and Viola

Craig Lucas

Gerald Busby

♩ = 60

1
mf 3 mp

5
mf 3

9

13
3

17
3

21

25
♩ = 110
mp 5

27
5

28
5

29

5

30

5

31

5

32

5

33

5

34

mf

5

35

mf

5

36

mf

5

Non rit.

♩ = 58

(Really tune your viola.)

38

6

4

♩ = 60

VIOLA - Viola

4

51 $\text{♩} = 60$
Tempo primo

Musical staff 51-55. The staff is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. It begins with a *mp* dynamic marking. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 52 and a half note in measure 53.

56

Musical staff 56-59. The melody continues with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 57 and a half note in measure 58.

60

Musical staff 60-63. The melody continues with a half note in measure 61 and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 62.

64

Musical staff 64-67. The melody continues with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 65 and a half note in measure 66. Dynamics include *f* and *mp*.

68

Musical staff 68-71. The melody continues with a half note in measure 69 and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 70. Dynamics include *mf*.

72

Musical staff 72-75. The melody continues with a half note in measure 73 and a half note in measure 74. Dynamics include *Sempre f*.

76 *Pizz. A tempo*

$\text{♩} = 110$

Musical staff 76-77. The staff changes to 4/4 time. It begins with a *Pizz.* marking and a *mp* dynamic. The melody consists of eighth notes with a '5' fingering above the first note in measure 76.

78

Musical staff 78-79. The melody continues with eighth notes and a '5' fingering above the first note in measure 78. Dynamics include *mp*.

79

Musical staff 79-80. The melody continues with eighth notes and a '5' fingering above the first note in measure 79. Dynamics include *mp*.

80

Musical staff 80-81. The melody continues with eighth notes and a '5' fingering above the first note in measure 80. Dynamics include *mp*.

81 *mp*

82 *mp*

83 *mp*

84 *p*

85 *p*

86 *p*

87 *p*

88 *p*

89 *p*

$\text{♩} = 56$
Tempo rubato

VIOLA - Viola

6

93 *A tempo* *mp* *3* *< f* *Molto espressivo* *tempo rubato* *mp*

98 *mf* *mp* *3* *mf*

102 *f*

105 *ff* *mf* *pp*