Ithaca College Summer Music Academy

2021 High School Division Orchestra Auditions:

Welcome to the 2021 Ithaca College Summer Music Academy! We are excited that you have elected to participate this summer and we look forward to seeing you on our beautiful campus. It is going to be another exciting and action-packed year.

All students will play an audition to help SMA faculty place students in an appropriate orchestra seating arrangement and chamber ensemble. The audition is a short 5-minute hearing that will occur on the first Sunday afternoon of SMA. Students will be assigned to an audition room where one or two faculty members will hear them play. Specific information concerning the audition room assignments and the format itself will be provided at the orientation meeting on the first Sunday afternoon of SMA immediately following check-in.

The audition performance will consist of two components:

1. Orchestra Music Excerpts
2. Sight-reading

The orchestral music excerpts are selected from a few pieces being performed this summer and can be found on the following pages (see the appropriate pages for your instrument.) Please spend time becoming familiar with the excerpts before coming to SMA. Do your best to follow the fingerings, bowings and tempi that are marked. Immediately after you have played through the excerpts for the faculty member(s), you will be asked to perform a brief sight-reading example as the second component of the audition. Overall, it is a very quick and easy process.

We look forward to meeting you at the start of our Summer Music Academy! If you have any questions, please feel free to direct them to Bradley Whittemore (bwhittel@ithaca.edu).

Jeffrey Abbott
Orchestra Division Coordinator

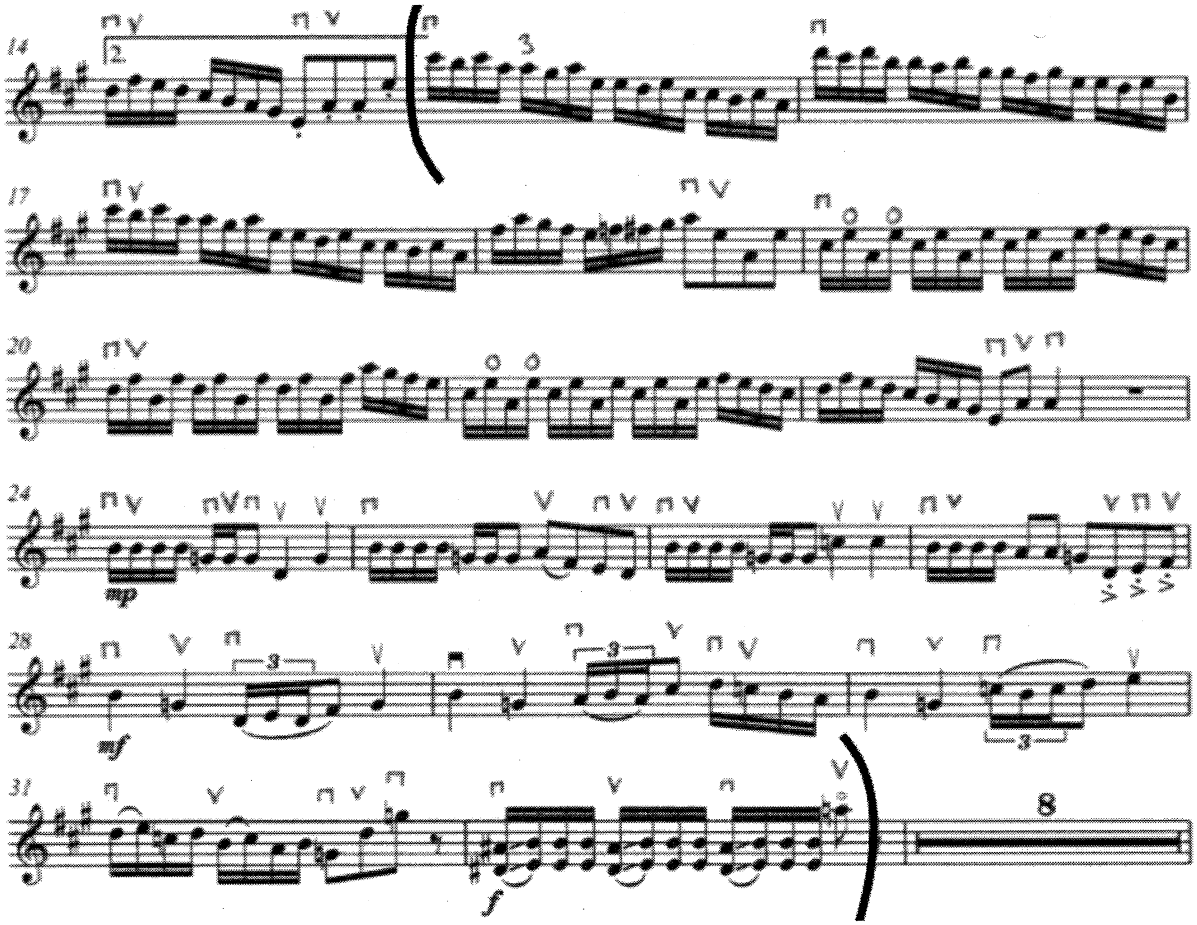
Week 1 Program – Dr. James Mick, Conductor
Price: Adoration
St. George: Symphony XI, No. 2
Biber: Battalia
Wharton: Hoedown

Week 2 Program – Dr. Edward Kawakami, Conductor
Zare: Starry Night
Piazzolla: Libertango
Hovaness: Psalm and Fugue
Stamitz: Sinfonia in D, mvt. 1

Violin (4 total)

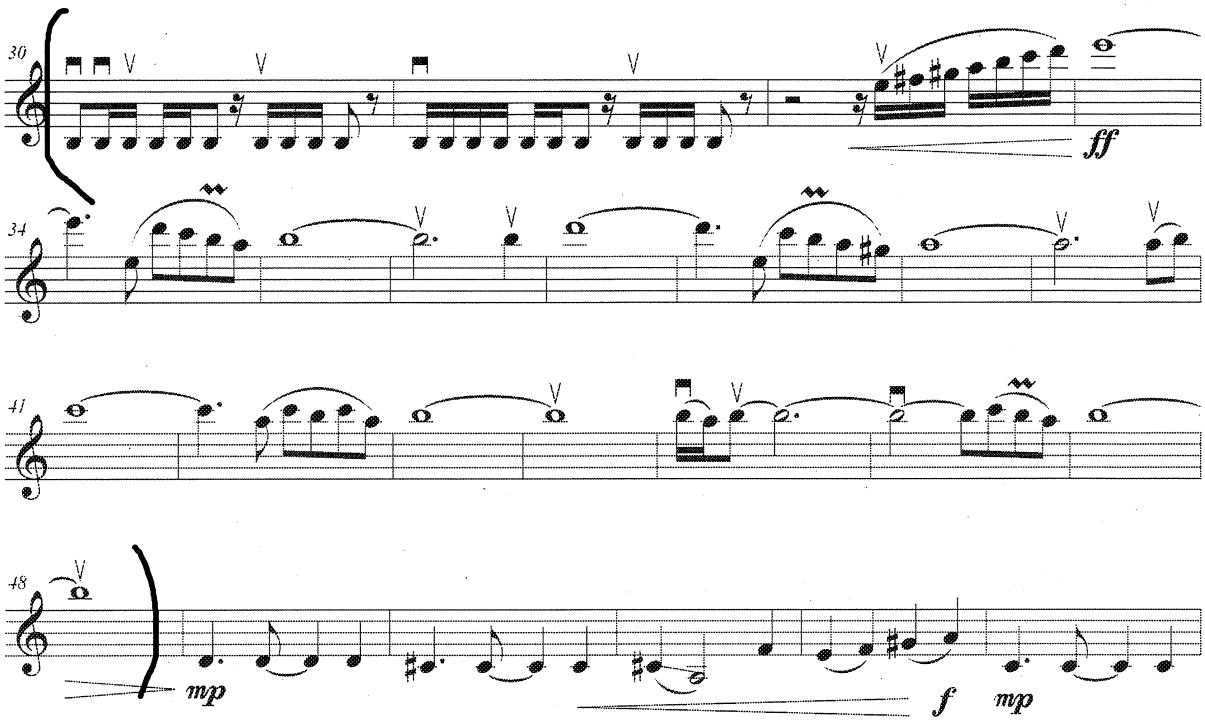
Excerpt 1

Hoedown by Geoffry Wharton
Tempo – Quarter note = 130
mm. 15-32

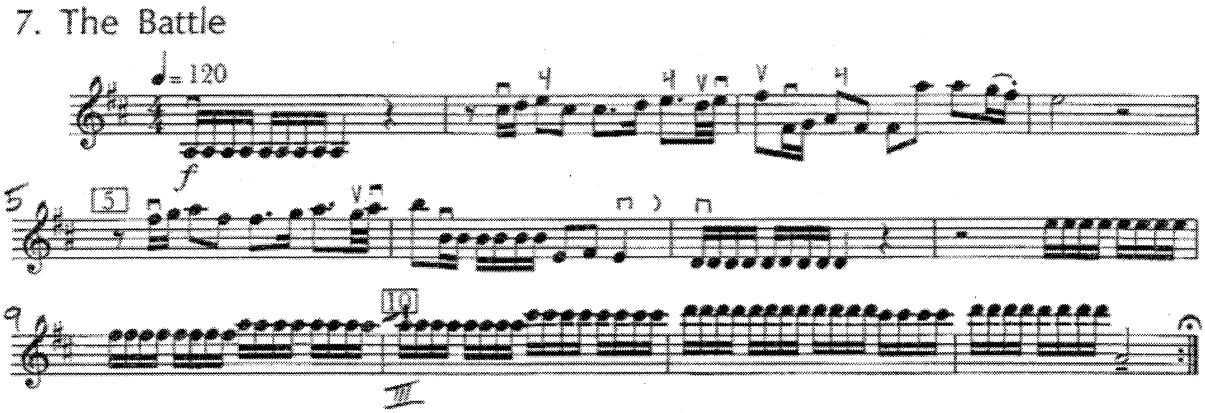


Excerpt 2

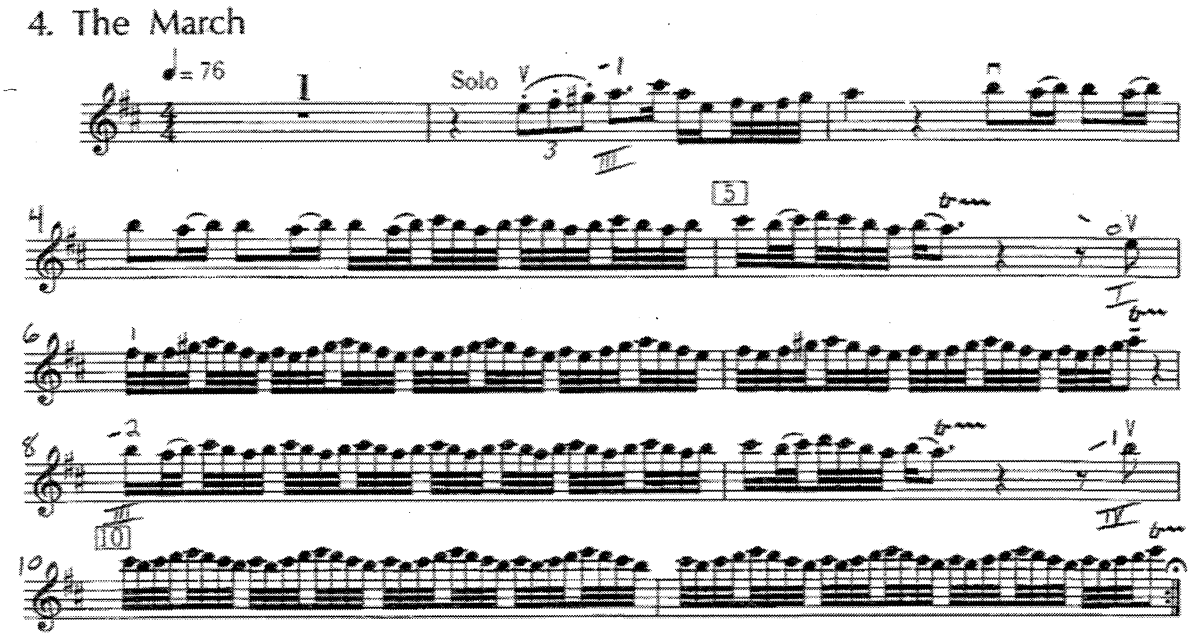
Libertango by Astor Piazzolla arr. Williams
Tempo – Quarter note = 144
mm. 30-48



Excerpt 3
Battalia by Heinrich Biber
Tempo – Quarter note = 120
Mvt. 7 “The Battle” (entire movement)

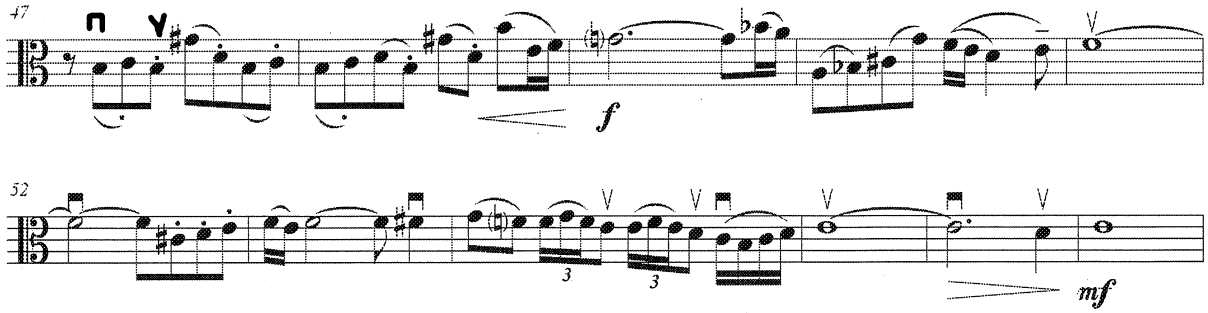


Excerpt 4 (Optional Violin Solo)
Battalia by Heinrich Biber
Tempo – Quarter note = 76
Mvt. 4 The March
Any student interested in performing the solo should prepare this excerpt. Students who do not wish to be considered for the solo are not required to play this excerpt.

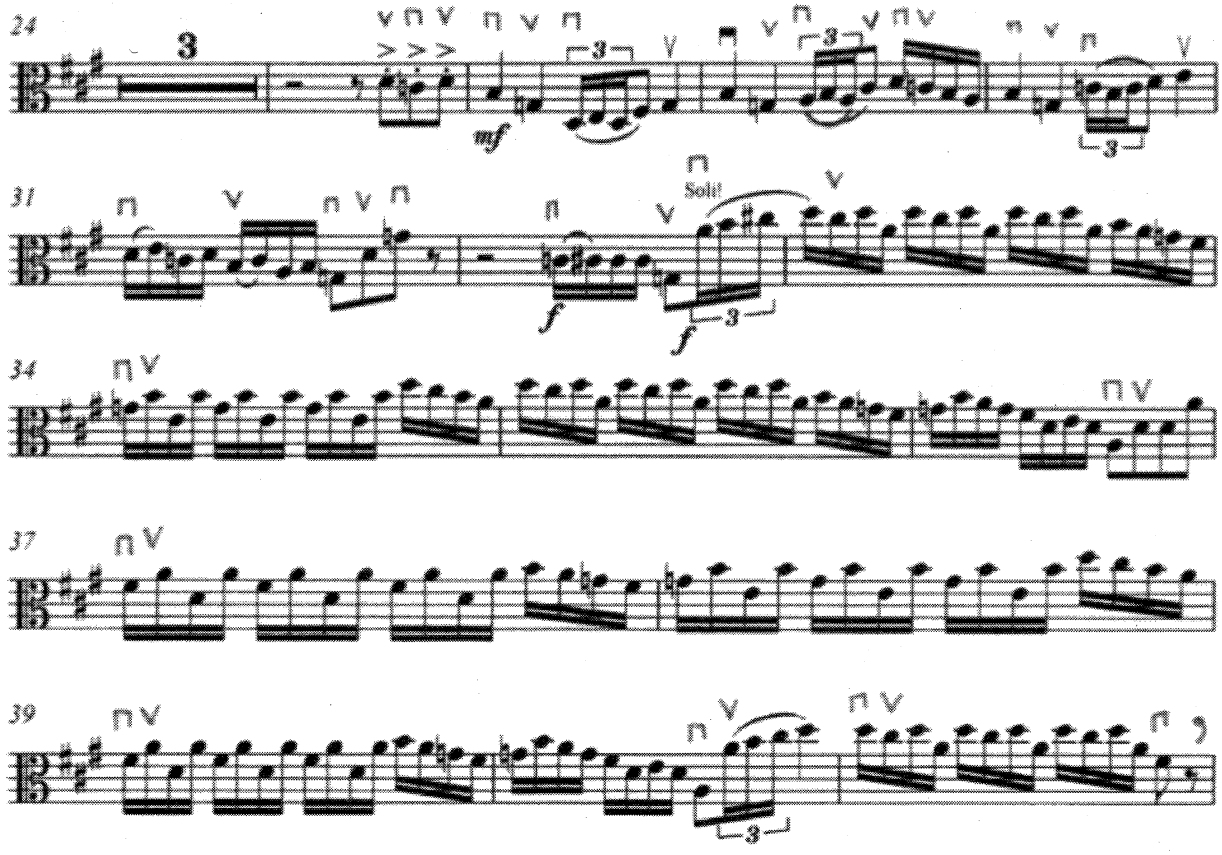


Viola Excerpts (3 total)

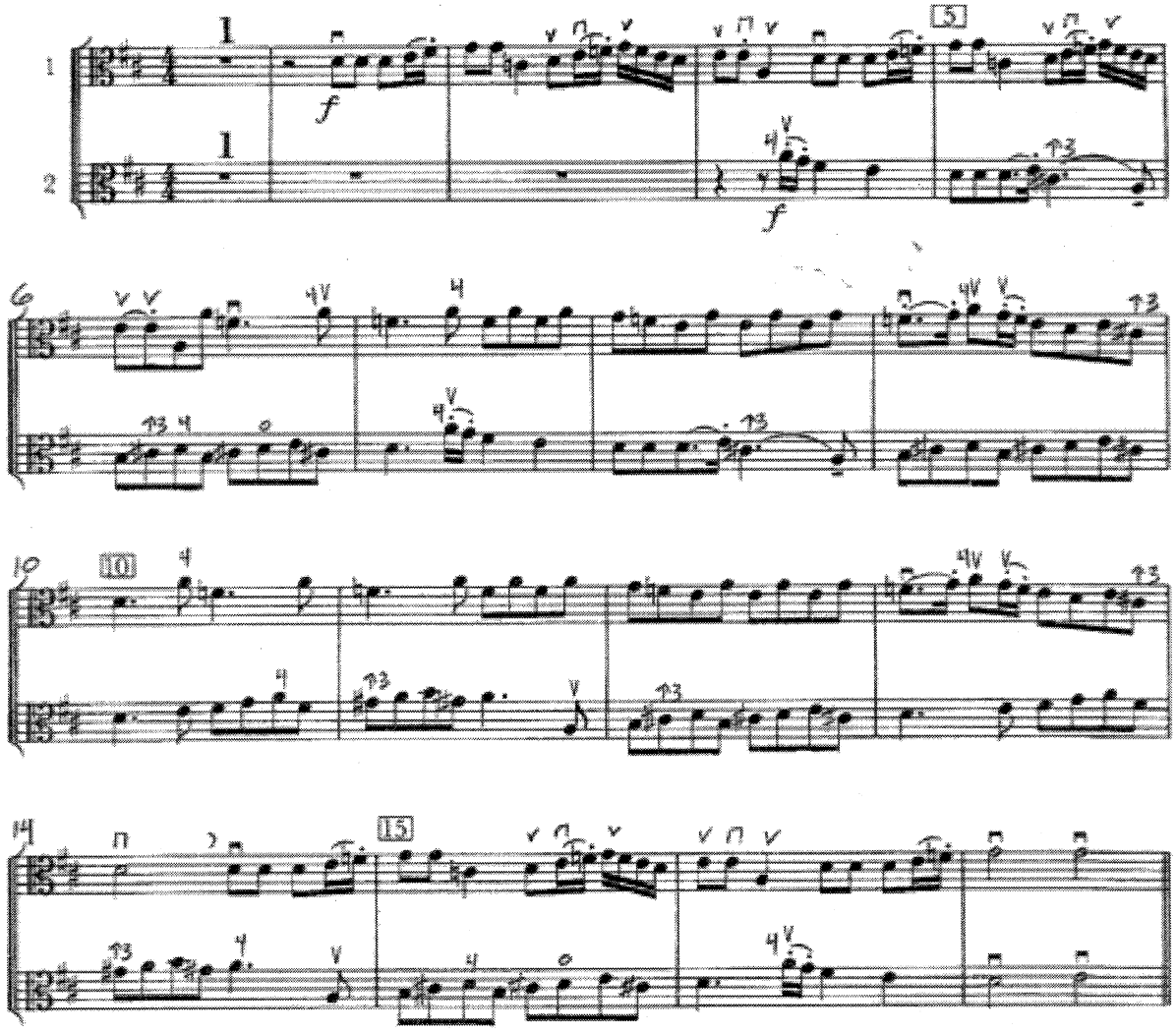
Excerpt 1
Libertango by Astor Piazzolla arr. Williams
mm. 47-55
Tempo – Quarter note = 144



Excerpt 2
Hoedown by Geoffry Wharton
mm. 27-41
Tempo – Quarter note = 130

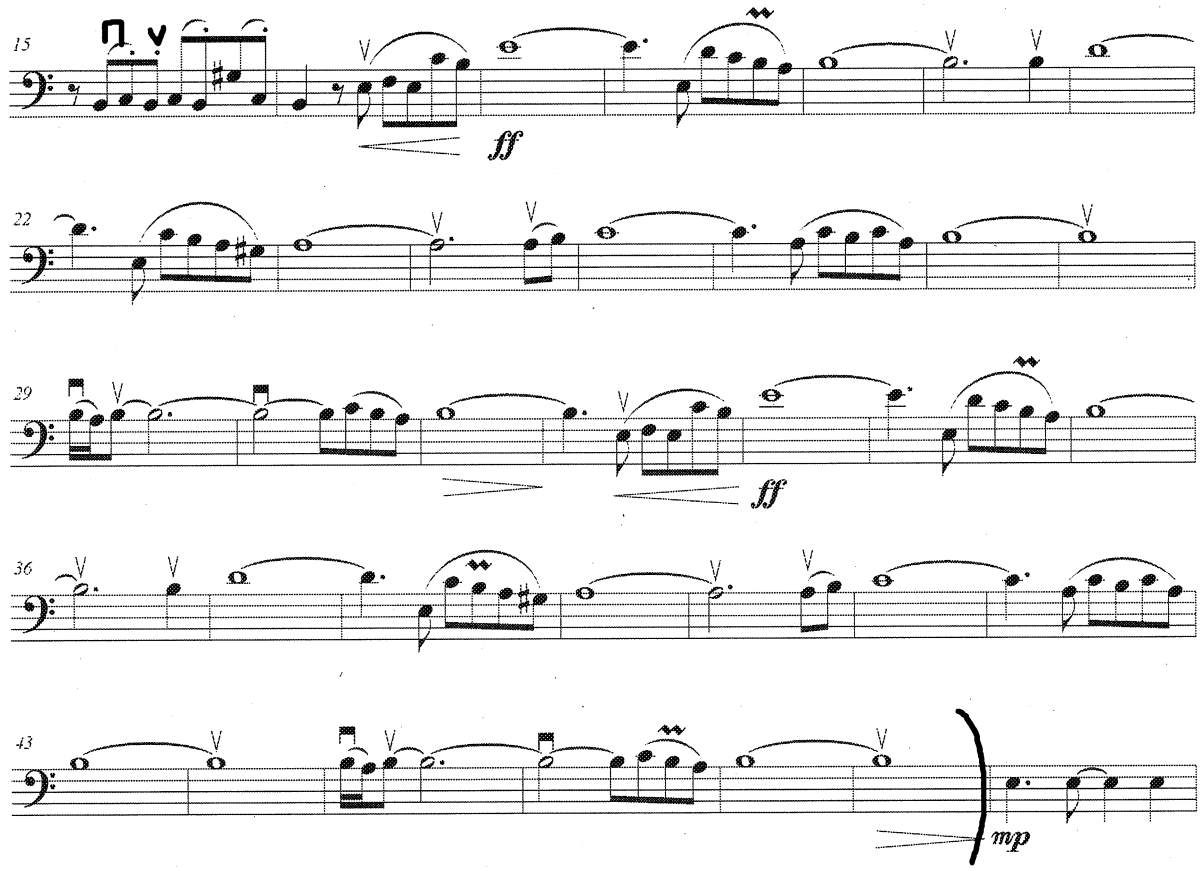


Excerpt 3
Battalia by Heinrich Biber
Mvt. 2, The Profligate Society of Common Humour
Entire movement Viola 1 part (top line)
Tempo – Quarter note = 96

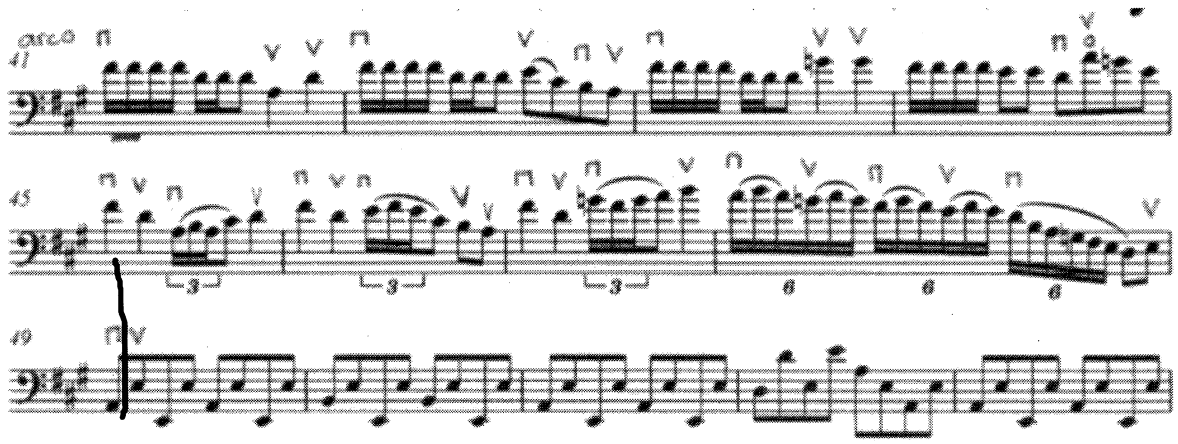
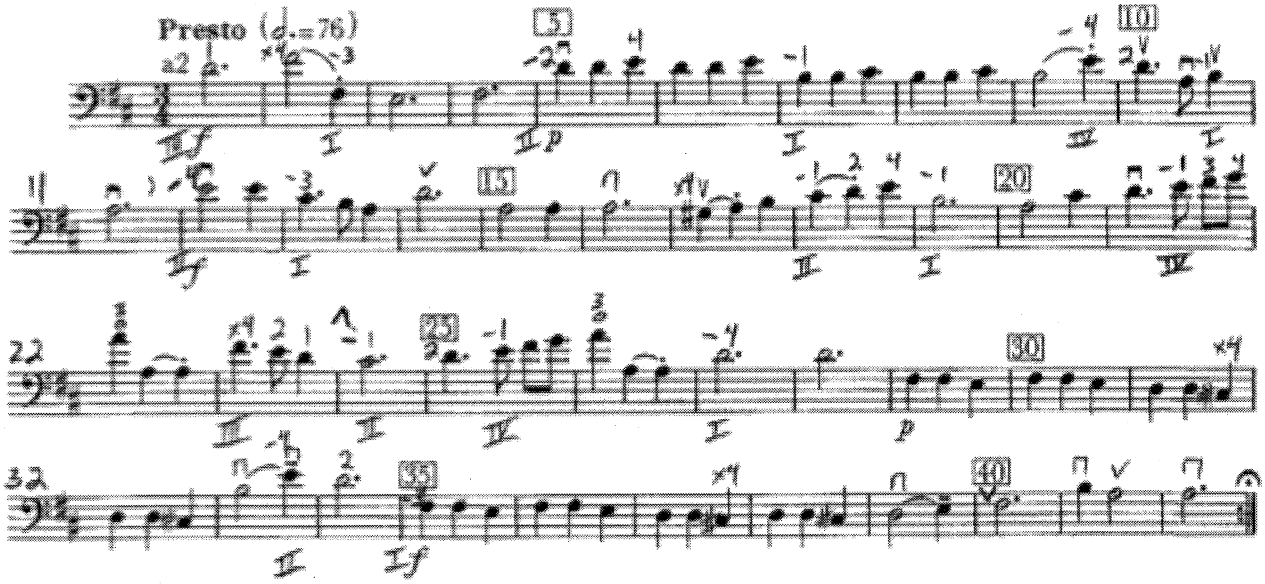


Cello Excerpts (3 total)

Excerpt 1
Libertango by Astor Piazzolla arr. Williams
mm. 15-48
Tempo – Quarter note = 144



Excerpt 2
Hoedown by Geoffry Wharton
mm. 41-49
Tempo – Quarter note = 130



Excerpt 3
Battalia by Heinrich Biber
Mvt. 5, Presto
Entire Movement
Tempo – Dotted Half Note = 76