

ED HUGHES

***Chroma***  
for eleven solo strings

(1997)

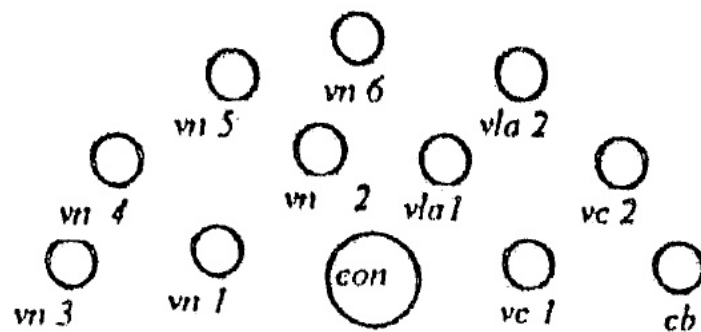
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*Chroma* (1997) is a single movement work for eleven strings, lasting approximately twelve minutes. The music is mainly meditative in character, although the mood is constantly shifting and changing, like effects of light and weather. Four principal players (a string quartet) act as the centre of the sound, while the other eleven elaborate and comment. This was my second piece for the eleven solo strings of Opus 20, following *The Storyteller* (1995).

Suggested layout:



# Chroma (1997)

for Liz

ED HUGHES

Meditative but not too slow

violin 1 *pp* hardly any vibrato

violin 2 *pp* hardly any vibrato

viola 1 *pp* hardly any vibrato

cello 1 *pp* hardly any vibrato

violin 3 *pp* hardly any vibrato

violin 4 *pp* hardly any vibrato

violin 5 *pp* hardly any vibrato

violin 6 *pp* hardly any vibrato

viola 2 *pp* hardly any vibrato

cello 2 *pp* hardly any vibrato

Contrabass *pp* hardly any vibrato

vn 1 *f* *p* *f*

vn 2 *f* *p* *f*

vla 1 *f* *p*

vc 1 *f* *ff* *p*

vn 3 *f* *p*

vn 4 *f* *p*

vn 5 *f* *p*

vn 6 *f* *p*

vla 2 *f* *p*

vc 2 *f* *p*

Cb. *f* *p*

Musical score for measures 14-20. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (vn 1), Violin 2 (vn 2), Viola 1 (vla 1), Violoncello 1 (vc 1), Violin 3 (vn 3), Violin 4 (vn 4), Violin 5 (vn 5), Violin 6 (vn 6), Viola 2 (vla 2), Violoncello 2 (vc 2), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music features various dynamics such as *p*, *f*, *mf*, and *mp*, and includes triplets and 5:4 polyrhythms. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 4/4.

Musical score for measures 21-24, starting with a double bar line and a section marker **B**. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (vn 1), Violin 2 (vn 2), Viola 1 (vla 1), Violoncello 1 (vc 1), Violin 3 (vn 3), Violin 4 (vn 4), Violin 5 (vn 5), Violin 6 (vn 6), Viola 2 (vla 2), Violoncello 2 (vc 2), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music features dynamics such as *f*, *pp*, and *p*, and includes triplets and 5:4 polyrhythms. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 4/4.

28

vn 1  
vn 2  
vla 1  
vc 1  
vn 3  
vn 4  
vn 5  
vn 6  
vla 2  
vc 2  
Cb.

35 **C**

vn 1  
vn 2  
vla 1  
vc 1  
vn 3  
vn 4  
vn 5  
vn 6  
vla 2  
vc 2  
Cb.

D

Musical score for measures 42-48. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (vn 1), Violin 2 (vn 2), Viola 1 (vla 1), Violoncello 1 (vc 1), Violin 3 (vn 3), Violin 4 (vn 4), Violin 5 (vn 5), Violin 6 (vn 6), Viola 2 (vla 2), Violoncello 2 (vc 2), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs. Dynamic markings include *sub. pp* and *ff*. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 48.

Musical score for measures 49-54. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (vn 1), Violin 2 (vn 2), Viola 1 (vla 1), Violoncello 1 (vc 1), Violin 3 (vn 3), Violin 4 (vn 4), Violin 5 (vn 5), Violin 6 (vn 6), Viola 2 (vla 2), Violoncello 2 (vc 2), and Contrabass (Cb.). The music features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs. Dynamic markings include *ff*, *f*, and *mf*. A double bar line is present at the end of measure 54.

56 **E**

vn 1 *mp*

vn 2 *mp*

vla 1 *mp*

vc 1 *mp*

vn 3 *mp*

vn 4 *mp*

vn 5 *mp*

vn 6 *mp*

vla 2 *f* *mp*

vc 2 *f* *mp*

Cb. *f* *mp*

61

vn 1 *f*

vn 2 *mf* *f*

vla 1 *f*

vc 1 *f*

vn 3 *f*

vn 4 *f*

vn 5 *mf* *f*

vn 6 *mf* *f*

vla 2 *f*

vc 2 *f*

Cb. *f*

66 **F**

vn 1 *mp*

vn 2 *mp*

vla 1 *f* *pizz* *arco*

vc 1 *mp*

vn 3 *p*

vn 4 *p*

vn 5 *p*

vn 6 *p*

vla 2 *f* *pizz* *arco*

vc 2 *p* *pizz*

Cb. *p*

73

vn 1 *f*

vn 2 *f*

vla 1 *f*

vc 1 *p* *f*

vn 3 *f*

vn 4 *f*

vn 5 *f*

vn 6 *f*

vla 2 *f*

vc 2 *p* *f*

Cb. *p* *f*





94

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

101

**H** light, fast bows

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

107

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

115

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

*p* *f* *p* *mp* *mf*

*arco* *p* *mp* *mf*

*arco* *p* *mp* *mf*

*arco* *p* *mp* *mf*

122

vn 1 *fff* *ppp*

vn 2 *fff* *ppp*

vla 1 *fff*

vc 1 *fff*

vn 3 *f* *ppp*

vn 4 *f* *ppp*

vn 5 *f* *ppp*

vn 6 *f* *ppp*

vla 2 *f*

vc 2 *f*

Cb. *f*

128

**J**

vn 1 *ff* *p* *ppp*

vn 2 *f* *p* *ppp*

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3 *ff* *p* *ppp* *p*

vn 4 *ff* *p* *ppp* *p*

vn 5 *f* *p* *ppp* *p*

vn 6 *f* *p* *ppp* *p*

vla 2 *p*

vc 2 *p* *pizz*

Cb. *p*

135

vn 1 *p*

vn 2 *p*

vla 1 *p*

vc 1 *p*

vn 3 *p*

vn 4 *p*

vn 5 *mf p p*

vn 6 *mf p p*

vla 2 *p*

vc 2 *p*

Cb. *p arco p*

142

**K**

vn 1 *p cresc.*

vn 2 *mf mp f p cresc.*

vla 1 *p cresc.*

vc 1 *p cresc.*

vn 3 *p cresc.*

vn 4 *p cresc.*

vn 5 *mf mp f p cresc.*

vn 6 *mf mp f p cresc.*

vla 2 *p cresc.*

vc 2 *p cresc.*

Cb. *p cresc.*

149

vn 1 *f*

vn 2 *f*

vla 1 *f*

vc 1 *f*

vn 3 *f*

vn 4 *f*

vn 5 *f*

vn 6 *f*

vla 2 *f*

vc 2 *f*

Cb. *f*

156

vn 1 *p* *f* *mf*

vn 2 *p* *f* *mf*

vla 1 *p* *f* *mf*

vc 1 *p* *f* *mf*

vn 3 *p* *f* *mf*

vn 4 *p* *f* *mf*

vn 5 *p* *f* *mf*

vn 6 *p* *f* *mf*

vla 2 *p* *f* *mf*

vc 2 *p* *f* *mf*

Cb. *p* *f* *mf*

163

vn 1 *p* *cresc.* *f* **L**

vn 2 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vla 1 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vc 1 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vn 3 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vn 4 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vn 5 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vn 6 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vla 2 *p* *cresc.* *f*

vc 2 *p* *cresc.* *f*

Cb. *p* *cresc.* *f*

170

vn 1 *f*

vn 2 *f*

vla 1 *ff*

vc 1 *ff*

vn 3 *f*

vn 4 *f*

vn 5 *f*

vn 6 *f*

vla 2 *ff*

vc 2 *ff*

Cb. *ff*

177

M

vn 1 *mp*

vn 2 *mp* *f p*

vla 1 *mp* 5:6

vc 1 *mp* 5:6

vn 3 *mp*

vn 4 *mp*

vn 5 *mp* *f p*

vn 6 *mp* *f p*

vla 2 *mp* 5:6

vc 2 *mp* 5:6

Cb.

184

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1 5:4 5:3

vc 1 5:4 5:3 *f* *mf*

vn 3 *mf*

vn 4 *mf*

vn 5 *mf*

vn 6 *mf*

vla 2 5:4 5:3 *mf*

vc 2 *f* *mf*

Cb. *f* *mf*



191 **N** normale

vn 1 *f*

vn 2 *f*

vla 1 *f*

vc 1 *f*

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2 *f*

Cb. *f*

5-6, 5-4, 5-3

198

vn 1 *ff*

vn 2 *ff*

vla 1 *ff*

vc 1 *ff*

vn 3 *ff*

vn 4 *ff*

vn 5 *ff*

vn 6 *ff*

vla 2 *ff*

vc 2 *ff*

Cb. *ff* *pizz*

5-6

205 O

vn 1 *f*

vn 2 *f*

vla 1 *p* *f* *p* *f*

vc 1 *f*

vn 3 *p* *p* *mp*

vn 4 *p* *p* *mp*

vn 5 *p* *p* *mp*

vn 6 *p* *p* *mp*

vla 2 *p* *f* *p* *mp*

vc 2 *p* *f* *p* *mp*

Cb. *arco* *p* *f* *p* *mp*

*p* *f* *p* *mp*

212

vn 1 *p* *ff* *p* *f*

vn 2 *p* *ff* *p* *f*

vla 1 *mf*

vc 1 *p* *f* *p*

vn 3 *f* *p* *mf*

vn 4 *mf* *f* *p* *mf* *f*

vn 5 *mf* *f* *p* *mf*

vn 6 *mf* *f* *p* *mf*

vla 2 *mf*

vc 2 *mf*

Cb. *mf*

219 **P**

vn 1 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 2 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vla 1 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vc 1 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 3 *f* *p* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 4 *mf* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 5 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 6 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vla 2

vc 2 *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

Cb. *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p*

226

vn 1 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 2 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vla 1 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vc 1 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 3 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 4 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 5 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vn 6 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vla 2 *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

vc 2 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

Cb. *f* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

233

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 233 to 238. It features ten staves: vn 1, vn 2, vla 1, vc 1, vn 3, vn 4, vn 5, vn 6, vla 2, and vc 2. The Cb. staff is present but contains no notes. The music is in 3/4 time and consists of eighth-note patterns. Measures 233-234 feature triplets of eighth notes. Measures 235-236 feature eighth-note pairs with slurs and fingering numbers 5:4 and 5:6. Measures 237-238 feature eighth-note pairs with slurs and fingering number 5:4. The key signature has one flat (Bb).

240

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

*mp*

*cresc.*

Detailed description: This system of musical notation covers measures 240 to 245. It features ten staves: vn 1, vn 2, vla 1, vc 1, vn 3, vn 4, vn 5, vn 6, vla 2, and vc 2. The Cb. staff is present but contains no notes. The music is in 3/4 time and consists of eighth-note patterns. Measures 240-241 feature eighth-note pairs with slurs and fingering numbers 5:6 and 5:4. Measures 242-243 feature eighth-note pairs with slurs and fingering number 5:4. Measures 244-245 feature eighth-note pairs with slurs and fingering number 5:3. The key signature has one flat (Bb). Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *cresc.* (crescendo).

247 **Q**

vn 1 *mf* *f* *p*

vn 2 *mf* *f* *p*

vla 1 *mf* *p*

vc 1 *mf* *p*

vn 3 *mp* *p* *con sordini.*

vn 4 *mp* *p* *con sordini.*

vn 5 *mp* *p* *con sordini.*

vn 6 *mp* *p* *con sordini.*

vla 2 *mp* *p* *con sordini.*

vc 2 *mp* *p* *con sordini.*

Cb. *mp* *p* *pizz con sordini.*

254 **R**

vn 1 *mp*

vn 2 *mp*

vla 1 *mp*

vc 1 *mp*

vn 3 *p*

vn 4 *p*

vn 5 *p*

vn 6 *p*

vla 2 *p*

vc 2 *p*

Cb. *p* *arco*

261

Musical score for measures 261-265. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (vn 1), Violin 2 (vn 2), Viola 1 (vla 1), Violoncello 1 (vc 1), Violin 3 (vn 3), Violin 4 (vn 4), Violin 5 (vn 5), Violin 6 (vn 6), Viola 2 (vla 2), Violoncello 2 (vc 2), and Contrabass (Cb.). Measures 261-264 feature a *mf* dynamic, while measure 265 is marked *f*. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a 7:8 ratio. The woodwinds have melodic lines with triplets and slurs.

Musical score for measures 266-270. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (vn 1), Violin 2 (vn 2), Viola 1 (vla 1), Violoncello 1 (vc 1), Violin 3 (vn 3), Violin 4 (vn 4), Violin 5 (vn 5), Violin 6 (vn 6), Viola 2 (vla 2), Violoncello 2 (vc 2), and Contrabass (Cb.). Measures 266-267 feature a *ff* dynamic, measures 268-269 are marked *f*, and measure 270 is marked *mp*. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a 5:4 ratio. The woodwinds have melodic lines with triplets and slurs.

275

S

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

*mf*

*f*

282

vn 1

vn 2

vla 1

vc 1

vn 3

vn 4

vn 5

vn 6

vla 2

vc 2

Cb.

*p*

*f*

5:4

289

vn 1  
vn 2  
vla 1  
vc 1  
vn 3  
vn 4  
vn 5  
vn 6  
vla 2  
vc 2  
Cb.

*mp*

296

vn 1  
vn 2  
vla 1  
vc 1  
vn 3  
vn 4  
vn 5  
vn 6  
vla 2  
vc 2  
Cb.

*f* *mf* *mp* *f* *p*