

Jason V. Barabba

What I Mean Is -

for Soprano and String Trio

(2009)

texts by David Bartone

What I Mean Is -

Movements:

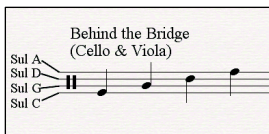
1. Haiku I
2. What I Mean Is -
3. Cadenza
4. Haiku II
5. Coda

Performance Notes:

Duration: Approximately 12 minutes



This notation indicates an abrupt end to the note as soon as the harmonic sounds. The actual harmonic sound is not the point as much as the sound of the transition from the fundamental to the artificial harmonic.



The 4-line staves for "Behind the Bridge" playing indicate which string is to be played, not a specific pitch.



In this pizzicato notation, the first note (in this case, grace note) is plucked normally, but the second square note is produced by releasing the string without re-plucking the note.

Fingernail pizzicati in the final movement can be played with a pick if that is the preference of the performer.

Texts

1. Haiku I

Complacency:

the driftwood snapped free.

Yes in plain sight.

2. What I Mean Is -

Your old walls made to shiver. The car that drives by in the rain, how when it streaks the long slow puddle out front it is ripping a sheet of paper. How long ought I let you by yourself, knowing the tears mean we grieve too slow and we grieve too fast?

There are nooks of the situation—"What awful work preening must be!"

There is so much loss in the waves when they land. There is an arc in every thing. The time of year is always excruciating — we can't stop now. What I mean is — if you ask the answer is yes. You know that.

4. Haiku II

In anger

the ivy lassoes itself.

I prove myself to no one.

What I Mean Is - is dedicated to Ann Noriel a soprano who has put up with way too much from me. Special Thanks to David for working with me on this project.

What I Mean Is - is registered with ASCAP.

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www.jasonbarabba.com

barabba@mindspring.com

(323) 668-0662

What I Mean Is - for soprano and string trio

I. Haiku I

Approx. ♩=100

Soprano

Violin

Viola

Com-pla - cen - cy

the drift wood snapped free

yes in plain sight

p *mp* *< mf >* *pp*

p *ppp* *f* *ppp* *mf* *pizz.* *arco* *ppp*

p *ppp* *f* *ppp* *mf* *f*

10

mf *< ff* *f* *mp*

f *ppp* *< ff* *ppp* *mp* *ppp*

l.v. *arco* *ppp* *f* *ppp* *< ff* *ppp* *mp* *>* *ppp* *<* *mf*

18

mp *mf* *p* *mp*

ppp *ff* *p* *mp*

mp *f* *p* *mp*

2. What I Mean Is -

Andante (Approx $\text{♩}=80$) *p*

Soprano
Your old walls made to shiver

Violin
arco con sord.
ppp < ff ppp *p < mf > p*

Viola
arco con sord.
ppp < ff ppp *p < mf* *f*

Violoncello
con sord.
ppp < ff ppp *p < mf > p mp*

31

S.

Vln.
mf *mp* *f*

Vla.
mp *mf* *mp*

Vc.
f

36

S.
The car that drives by in the rain, how when it streaks

Vln.
senza sord.
pp *< f*

Vla.
f *p* *mp* *mf* *pp* *< f*

Vc.
senza sord.
mp < mf > p *p < mf > pp* *< f*

42 *mf* *p mp* *mf*

S. The long slow pud - dle out front it is

Vln. *senza sord.*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

46 *f* *mp*

S. rip - ping a sheet of pa - per.

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

50 *pp* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

S. How long ought I let you by your self,

Vln. *f ff* *p*

Vla. *f ff* *p*

Vc. *ff* *p*

57 *mp* *mf* *mp*

S. know-ing the tears _____ mean_ we_ grieve to_ slow _____ and we grieve_ too_ fast?_

Vln. *mp* *p* *mf* *f*

Vla. *mp* *p* *mf* *f*

Vc. *mp* *p* *mf* *f*

63 *pp* *mf* *mp* *mp*

S. There are nooks of the sit-u - a - ion

Vln. *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

Vla. *p* *mf* *p* *pp* *p* *gliss.*

Vc. *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

Behind the bridge. fingernail pizz.

70 *mp* *f*

S. *mp* *f*

"what aw-ful work pree-ning__ must__ be!"

Vln. *f* *p subito* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vla. *f* *p subito* *mf* *mp* *p*

Vc. *f* *p subito* *mf* *mp* *p*

ord. arco

77 *mp* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

S. *mp* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

there is so much__ loss__ in the waves__ in the waves

Vln. *mp* *mf* *p*

Vla. *mp* *mf* *p*

Vc. *mp* *mf* *p*