

UNWINDING II

FOR STRING QUARTET

Urrula Kwong-Brown
April 2017

UNWINDING

Duration: 8'50"

In 2013, I had a bike accident that left me with nearly constant headaches for over a year and persistent short-term memory problems. Unwinding refers to a process in craniosacral therapy in which a physical therapist helps a patient to unravel tensions in the muscles and nervous system. After the trauma and pain is released, you are left feeling light and free. It is an amazing sensation. Without craniosacral therapy, I do not think I could be composing at all today. This is the second work that I have written inspired by this process. The first work, *Unwinding* for string trio, was performed by the Earplay ensemble in 2016.

Unwinding II was commissioned by Composer's, Inc. with support from the Matthew Paul Finnegan Commissioning Award and was premiered by the Amaranth Quartet on May 13, 2017 at the First Congregational Church in Berkeley, CA.

Please contact the composer with any questions!

Email: ursulakb@berkeley.edu

Phone: (617) 461-9474

Website: www.ursulakwongrowns.com

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Accidentals follow conventional rules: they apply throughout the bar to notes in the same octave and the same stave.

All *tremolo* markings are unmeasured and fast as possible.

Start all *glissandi* immediately at the beginning of the note value.

S.P. *sul ponticello*

M.S.P. *molto sul ponticello*

N. *normale* – used with S.P. and M.S.P.



Gradual and continuous transition
(e.g. from N. to M.S.P.)



Natural harmonic (octave) OR open string

G. P.



Grand Pause



Feather-beamed passages are unmeasured



Touch Major 3rd harmonics sound 2 octaves above
(sounding pitch is not always shown)



Touch minor 3rd harmonics sound 2 octaves above
(sounding pitch is not always shown)

Unwinding II

Foreboding

♩ = c 60

Score for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. in 3/4 time. The score is marked with dynamics and articulations.

Vln. I: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*.

Vln. II: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*.

Vla.: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *mp*, *poco*, *p*, *mf*, *poco*, *p*, *poco*.

Vc.: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *mf*.

Score for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. in 3/4 time. The score is marked with dynamics and articulations.

Vln. I: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *mp*, *gliss.*, *p*, *mf*, *gliss.*, *mp*, *gliss.*.

Vln. II: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *mp*, *sfz*, *f*, *poco*, *mp*, *sfz*.

Vla.: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *mp*, *sfz*, *f*, *poco*, *mp*, *sfz*.

Vc.: N. (Nasale) trills, S.P. (Sordid/Piercing) trills, N. (Nasale) trills. Dynamics: *p*, *mf*, *p*, *poco*.

A Furious (♩ = c 60)

Score for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. in 4/4 time. The score is marked with dynamics and articulations.

Vln. I: *f* sempre. Dynamics: *f* sempre.

Vln. II: *f* sempre. Dynamics: *f* sempre.

Vla.: *p*. Dynamics: *p*.

Vc.: *pp*. Dynamics: *pp*.

Pizzicato: *pizz.*, *f*. Dynamics: *f*.

17

ff

19

ff

arco II

f sempre

21

ff

ff

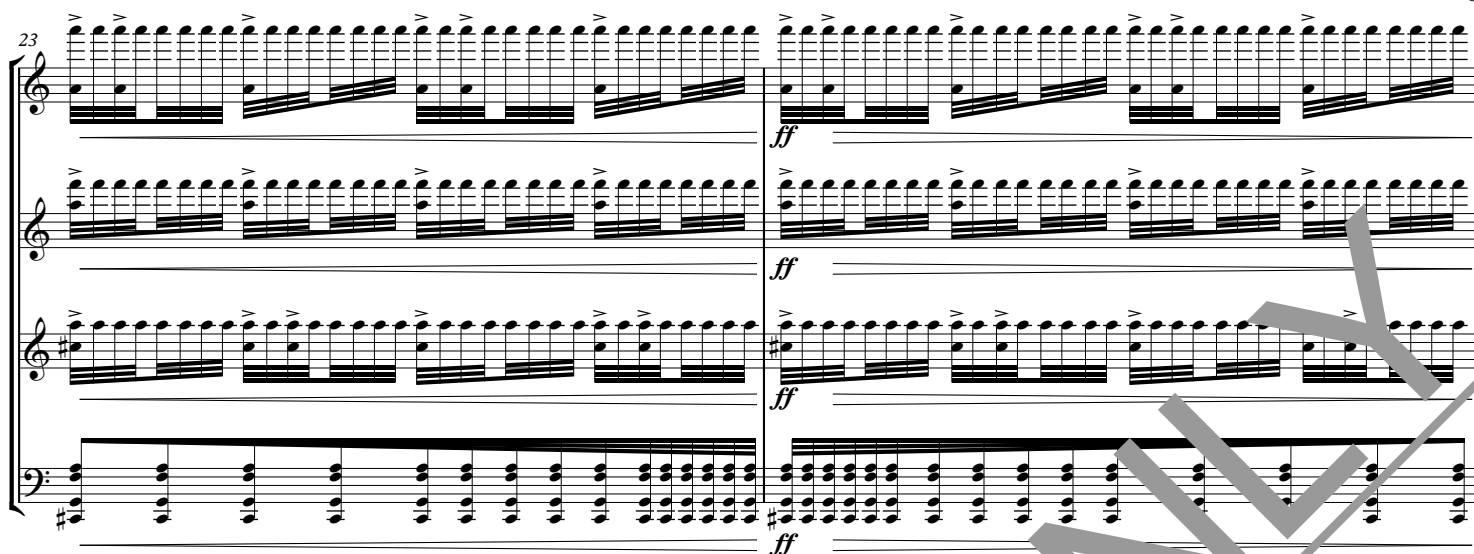
ff

pizz.

f

ff

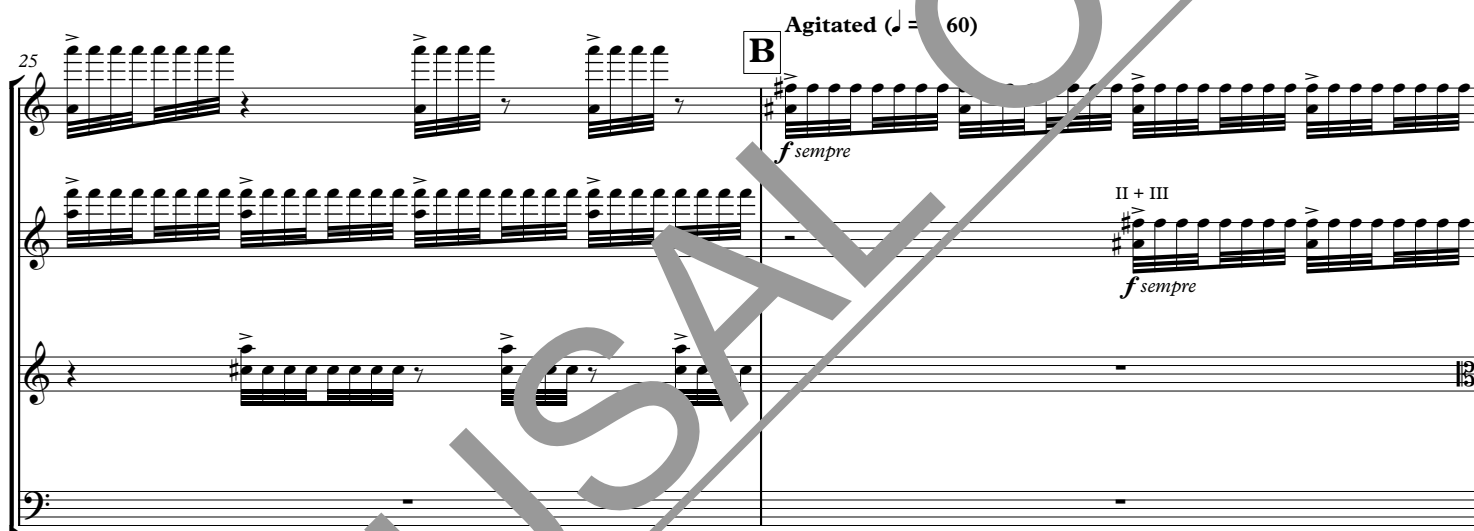
23



ff

25

B Agitated ($\text{♩} = 60$)



f sempre

II + III

f sempre

27



f sempre

(pizz.)

ff sempre

29

Musical score for measures 29-30. The score is for a four-part ensemble (two staves for the upper part, two for the lower part). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The upper part features rapid sixteenth-note passages in the right hand and rests in the left hand. The lower part has rests in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. A large 'PERUSAL ONLY' watermark is diagonally across the page.

C Suddenly Questioning
(♩ = c 60)

31

Musical score for measures 31-32. The score is for a four-part ensemble. Measures 31-32 are marked *p* (piano). The upper part has rapid sixteenth-note passages. The lower part has a melodic line in the left hand. A large 'PERUSAL ONLY' watermark is diagonally across the page.

33

Musical score for measures 33-34. The score is for a four-part ensemble. Measures 33-34 are marked *poco* (poco). The upper part has rapid sixteenth-note passages. The lower part has a melodic line in the left hand. A large 'PERUSAL ONLY' watermark is diagonally across the page.

35

Measure 35: Treble clef has a whole rest. Bass clef has a piano (*mp*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Middle staff (N.) has a piano (*mf*) accompaniment of eighth notes, marked *espressivo*. Measure 36: Treble clef has a whole rest. Bass clef has a piano (*poco*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Middle staff (N.) has a piano (*poco*) accompaniment of eighth notes.

37

Measure 37: Treble clef has a piano (*p*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Bass clef has a piano (*p*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Middle staff (N.) has a piano (*p*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Measure 38: Treble clef has a piano (*poco*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Bass clef has a piano (*p*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Middle staff (N.) has a piano (*poco*) accompaniment of eighth notes, marked *S.P.*

39

Measure 39: Treble clef has a piano (*p*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Bass clef has a piano (*p*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Middle staff (N.) has a piano (*poco*) accompaniment of eighth notes, marked *S.P.*. Measure 40: Treble clef has a piano (*mf*) accompaniment of eighth notes, marked *espressivo*. Bass clef has a piano (*mf*) accompaniment of eighth notes. Middle staff (N.) has a piano (*mf*) accompaniment of eighth notes, marked *espressivo*.

D Searching for a tempo
♩ = c 60

43 rit.

pp

pp

poco sfz

pp

mp *espressivo*

p

pp

mp

pp

mp

poco

gliss.

49

E Meditative (♩ = c 60)

Measures 49-53 of the musical score for 'E Meditative'. The score is written for four staves. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Meditative' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *f* (forte). The notation includes various note values, rests, and articulation marks. A large 'PREVIEW' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

F Distant - Slower
♩ = c 40

57

M.S.P. → N. → M.S.P. S.T. S.P.

sfz *poco sfz* *pp* *p* *poco* *pp*

M.S.P. → N. → M.S.P. S.T. S.P.

sfz *poco sfz* *pp* *pp* *poco*

N. → M.S.P. M.S.P. → N. → M.S.P. S.T. S.P.

sfz *poco sfz* *pp* *poco*

N. → M.S.P. M.S.P. → N. → M.S.P. S.P. → N. → S.P. → N. → S.P. → N. → S.P. → N. → S.P. → N. → S.P.

sfz *poco sfz* *pp* *p* *p* *mp* *p*

G Flowing - A tempo
♩ = c 60

65

N.

p

IV III II
N. *p* 6 6 6

S.P. N. III II 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 *poco*

pp *p*

69

N. → S.P.

S.P. → N. → S.P.

pp *p*

mp 6 6 6 *p* 6 *mp* 6 6 *mf* 3 3

p *mp*

73

N. II III

accel.

pp

6

6

6

p

6

6

6

N.

mp

S.P.

p

3

3

6

pp

3

3

3

mf

6

3

3

3

H Flowing Façer
♩ = c 72

76

6

6

6

mp

6

6

6

mp

p

6

6

6

p

6

6

6

mp

6

6

6

p

6

6

6

78

p

6

6

mf

3

3

3

6

mp

p

mf

3

3

3

6

S.P.

p

N.

mp

80

6 *p* 3 6 *mf* 3 6

p *mf*

S.P. N.

I Ethereal
(♩ = c 72)

82

N. S.P. *poco*

N. S.P. *poco*

83

N. S.P. *poco*

N. S.P. *poco*

N. N.

84

N.

N.

N.

S.P.

poco

S.P.

tr

85

N.

N.

S.P.

poco

N.

N.

86

N.

S.P.

poco

N.

S.P.

poco

PERUSAL

87 N. S.P. poco

88 N. S.P. poco

89 N. S.P. poco

PERUSAL ONLY

J Beginning to break apart (♩ = c 72)

90

N.

N.

N.

M.S.P.

p *sfz* *sfz*

pp 6 6 6 6

91

IV III II (♩) (♩)

p 6 6 6 6 *sfz*

N.

poco sfz 6 6 6 3

92

N.

mp 6 6 *p* S.P.

6 3 3 3 3

93

N.

mp

poco sfz

6

6

6

6

S.P.

94

N.

p

sfz

sfz

sfz

p

sfz

95

p

sfz

sfz

sfz

sfz

sfz

p

poco sfz

6

6

6

6

6

6

6

6

K Flowing again (♩ = c 72)

97

p *poco*

99

p *mp* *mf*

N.
3 *mp*

101

f *sfz*

S.P.
6 6 6 6

f *sfz*

[illegible]

L Joyous - A tempo
♩ = c 60

♩ = c 60

105 ♩ = c 60

105 106 107

p *p* *mp*

[illegible]

[illegible][illegible]

115

121 **M**

sub *pp*

pp

12

12

12

12

12

12

sub *pp*

123

This musical score is for the song 'The Rose Tree'. It is written for four staves: Treble Clef (Vocal), Treble Clef (Piano Right Hand), Bass Clef (Piano Left Hand), and Bass Clef (Bass). The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 121, 122, and 123. The second system contains measures 124, 125, and 126. The vocal line begins in measure 121 with a whole note G4, followed by a half note A4 in measure 122, and a half note Bb4 in measure 123. The piano accompaniment features a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a similar pattern in the left hand. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PREVIEW' is overlaid across the entire score.

131

133

N Triumphant, winding down
(♩ = c 60)

135

137

12 12 12 12 12 12

9 9 9 9 9 9

139

f 12 12 12 12 12 12

f 9 9 9 9 9 9

141

mf 12 12 12 12 12 12

mf 9 9 9 9 9 9

mp 12 12 12 12 12 12

mp 9 9 9 9 9 9

(N.)

143

p

tr

p

pp

ppp

12

9

O Peacefully fading away
(♩ = c 60)

145

tr

ppp

mp

p

mp

p

9

N.

148

pp

ppp

pp

ppp

9

S.P.