

DAVID DZUBAY

# **Threnody**

1987/1993

for String Quartet

**PRO NOVA MUSIC**  

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49

52

vib.

*p dolce* *mf > p* *mf > p*

vib.

*p dolce* *mf > p* *mf > p*

IV (harmonic gliss.) *pp*

con sord. *tr<sup>b</sup>* *con sord.* *tr<sup>b</sup>* *senza sord.* *tr<sup>b</sup>*

*n* *n < p > n* *n* *n < p > n* *n* *mf > n*

*con sord.* *tr<sup>b</sup>* *tr<sup>b</sup>* *tr<sup>b</sup>* *senza sord.*

*n < p > n* *n < p > n* *n < mf > n*

56

59

*ritard . . . a tempo*

*molto* *f* *ppp*

*molto* *f* *ppp*

*gliss.* *con sord.*

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

*pp* *mf* *f* *p* *f* *mf* *p* *pp*

*gliss.* *non vib.* *con sord.*

*con sord.* *non vib.* *con sord.*

*non vib.* *con sord.* *con sord.* *(non vib.)*

61

67

*non vib.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *n.v.* *senza sord.*

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

*non vib.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *senza sord.*

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

*(non vib.)* *vib.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *n.v.* *vib.* *senza sord.*

*pp* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mf* *pp* *f* *ord.* *gliss.*

*vib. n.v.* *vib. n.v.* *vib. n.v.* *vib. n.v.* *vib.* *senza sord.*

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

68 ord. gliss. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* 74 *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

ord. gliss. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

*mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

ord. gliss. *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *n*

*accelerando poco a poco...*

75 *f* *espressivo* *mf* *f* 79 gliss. *f*

*f* *espressivo* *f* *f* *f*

*p* *mf* *f* *espressivo* *f* *f* *f*

*f* *espressivo* *mf* *f* *f* *f* *f*

*f* *mf* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f*

*(accel.)*

82 *ff* *ff* *p* *non vib.*

*ff* *ff* *non vib.*

*ff* *ff* *non vib.*

*ff* *ff* *non vib.*

85 *molto vibrato* poco meno mosso tempo I

91 *ord.*

92 *ritard ...*

97 *morendo ...*

*gliss. "seagulls"*

# Threnody

(after Josquin's Mille Regretz)

for String Quartet

Duration: 6 minutes

*Threnody* is a parody, in the respectful sense of a composition based on an earlier composition, of Mille Regretz, a hauntingly beautiful chanson by Josquin des Prés (1440-1521). Josquin's chanson provides the framework for this short lament. Around, in between, above and below this frame, I have created my own musical statement using interjection, layering, contrast, repetition and imagination. Though composed in the summer of 1987, in May of 1993 I made a few slight revisions to the work and also wrote a version for string orchestra. *Threnody* has been recorded by the Alexander String Quartet (Innova 111) and by Voices of Change (Innova 588).

The text of the chanson is as follows:

<i>Mille regretz de vous habandonner</i>	A thousand regrets at deserting you
<i>Et d'eslonger vostre fache amoureuse,</i>	and leaving behind your loving face,
<i>Jay si grand dueil et paine douloureuse,</i>	I feel so much sadness and such painful
<i>distress,</i>	
<i>Quon me verra brief mes jours definer.</i>	that it seems to me my days will soon
<i>dwindle away.</i>	

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