

Curved Form (No. 23)  
for String Quartet

Alex Groves



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## Instrumentation

Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Cello

## Duration

5'

## Notes

*Curved Form (No. 23)* is a single, shimmering mass of interwoven lines. The four instruments of the quartet seamlessly weaving in and out of the texture creating subtly shifting waves of sound that ripple upwards across the instruments. Imagine a time-lapse view of the night sky - the stars' motion suddenly visible to us as they pass over our heads. Imagine a rolling ocean wave whose motion began long before we saw it and will end long after it's passed us by. Each note emerges seamlessly from the one before and quietly slips away under the next. It should feel like you're playing one resonant instrument capable of an infinite range of timbres.

*Curved Form (No. 23)* was premièred in a version for two violins and two cellos by members of the London Symphony Orchestra as part of an LSO Soundhub Showcase at LSO St Luke's on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2021.



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Like a single, shimmering mass of sound (c. ♩ = 80)

with mute  
no vib.  
sul pont. -----> nat.

**A**

with mute  
no vib.  
sul pont. -----> nat.

with mute  
no vib.  
nat. -----> sul pont. -----> nat.

with mute  
no vib.  
nat. -----> sul pont. -----> nat.

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

nat. -----> sul pont.

**B**

nat. -----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont.

remove mute

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*



49

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

55

I

Vln. I *ff* sul pont. ----> nat.

Vln. II *ff* sul pont. ----> nat.

Vla. *ff* sul pont. ----> nat.

Vc. *ff* sul pont. ----> nat.

61

J

Vln. I *ff* becoming cooler, slight vib. nat. ----> sul pont. ----> nat.

Vln. II *ff* becoming cooler, slight vib. nat. ----> sul pont. ----> nat.

Vla. *ff* becoming cooler, slight vib. nat. ----> sul pont. ----> nat.

Vc. *f* becoming cooler, slight vib. nat. ----> sul pont. ----> nat.

85

sul pont. ---> nat.

add mute

**N**

with mute no vib. nat. -----> sul pont.

Vln. I

sul pont. -----> nat.

add mute

with mute no vib. nat. -----> sul pont.

Vln. II

-----> nat.

sul pont. -----> nat.

add mute

Vla.

-----> sul pont.

sul pont. -----> nat.

add mute

Vc.

*mf*

*mf*

with mute no vib. nat.

**O**

91

nat.

nat. -----> sul pont.

**P**

Vln. I

nat.

nat. -----> sul pont.

sul pont.

Vln. II

with mute no vib. nat.

nat.

-----> sul pont.

nat.

nat. -----> sul pont.

Vla.

-----> sul pont.

nat.

-----> sul pont.

nat.

-----> sul pont.

Vc.

*mp*

*mp*

97

sul pont. ---> nat.

*p*

nat. -----> sul pont. -----> nat.

Vln. I

-----> nat.

*p*

-----> sul pont. -----> nat.

Vln. II

-----> sul pont.

nat. -----> sul pont. -----> nat.

Vla.

-----> sul pont. -----> nat.

*p*

sul pont. ---> nat.

Vc.

*p*