


Invisible Arc (for solo cello)


Raven Chacon

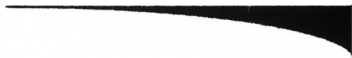
(written for Rhonda Rider 2016/17)

The duration of each bar is approximately 15 seconds . Note values can range in preference to the performer. They may fluctuate, but should maintain a value relative to each other. Spaces between gestures equate to a proportional silence. Barlines may imply downbeat.

SP = Sul Pont MSP = Molto Sul Pont
ST = Sul Tasto MST = Molto Sul Tasto

 Lightly touched

 Highest pitch possible (on indicated string)



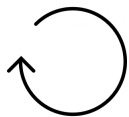
Pressured bow stroke -Light bow pressure to heavy bow pressure with sudden stop as bow runs out.



Pressured bow stroke -Sudden attack with heavy bow pressure, with less pressure as bow runs out.



Stutter Tremolo – an unmeasured, uneven, jagged, stuttered tremolo, using a small section of bow length. May require a tightening of the muscles in the forearm and wrist.



Circular bowings – clockwise or counter-clockwise bowing patterns per slurred passage. Bow position and speed of the cycle may also be indicated.

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System 2 m.1 – Perform similar to the double stop on the previous measure, now treating the notes on **I** string as a trill. Increase the speed of the trill throughout the gesture.

System 3 m.1 – Keeping the previous **II** string lightly-touched note, lightly touch the **I** string at A quarter-sharp. As the double-stop glissando increases pitch, use the thumb to also stop the M4 below the lightly touched note on **II** string.

System 3 m.3 – Perform the same pitch on all 4 strings in succession. Each transition should be as smooth as possible.

System 4 m.1 – Simultaneous highest note possible on **III** string and open **IV** string.

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System 1 m.2 – Pluck (outward) all 4 open strings with simultaneous heavy pressure down-bow stroke.

System 1 m.4 – Same lightly-touched pitch on both **I** and **II** strings, sliding up to highest note possible. Bariolage bow alternating between strings. Increase bow speed until highest notes are reached.

System 2 m.1 – A single down-bow ricochet articulating the grace note phrases.

System 3 m.1 – Bowing similar to System 1 m.4. L.H. span between thumb and 3rd or 4th finger expands and contracts, like massaging the fingerboard.

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System 2 m. 1 – *Double-stop “seagulls” turnaround*: Double-stop artificial harmonic sliding up and down “turning around” quickly at the top and bottom of the slides so that the partials “overlap” with the previous ones. Approximations of the gesture in the written range are suitable, as achieving the written notes may not be possible for all players.

System 4 m.2 – Strings are stopped as close as possible to bow. Bow moves between sul ponticello and molto sul tasto in circular motion and left hand adjusts accordingly, still playing the highest pitch possible.

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System 2 m.1 – Bariolage bowing alternating between **I** and **III** strings while continually bowing (“anchored” to) the open **II** string. Gradually slowing.

System 2 m.4 – An acknowledgement of pulse and silence.

System 3 m.1 - *Double Pizz*: Near the first harmonic node of the indicated string, the note is stopped with the left hand thumb. The string is plucked with the left hand ring finger (between the thumb and bridge) and simultaneously plucked by the right hand (above the left, between the scroll and the thumb). [Alt fingering: stop notes with 1st finger, pluck with pinky].

Each system = approx 15"

♩ = approx 36

Invisible Arc (for solo cello)

II (3) med. speed tight vib I (♭)

mp *mf* *mp* *mf*

*sim.

mp *mf*

*I II III IV

mp *mf*

*III IV

SP → ST
II/III vibrating/jagged slide

Fast
MST to MSP
spiral to Ord.

mf *mp*

* simultaneous pluck and sudden down-bow

*bariolage bowing / undulating tremolo (grad. increase bow speed)
Slow -----> Fast

Musical staff in bass clef. It begins with a tremolo marked *pp*. A vertical line with 'x' marks indicates a simultaneous pluck and sudden down-bow, marked *sfz*. This is followed by a long note marked *pp* with a hairpin crescendo leading to *p*. A second long note marked *p* has a hairpin crescendo leading to *mf*. Above the staff, a diagram shows a bow moving from left to right, labeled 'Slow' and 'Fast', with a 'V' and 'I' marking the start of the bow stroke.

*ricochet grace notes (II)

(III)

Ord.

Musical staff in bass clef showing three measures of grace notes. The first measure is marked (II), the second (III), and the third Ord. The final measure contains a tremolo.

*bariolage bowing / undulating tremolo

Musical staff in bass clef. The first measure is marked *p* and II. The rest of the staff is filled with a dense bariolage pattern. The final measure is marked *mf* and IV. A hairpin crescendo is shown below the staff.

II

Ord.

II

Musical staff in bass clef. It starts with a grace note marked *mf* and V. This is followed by another grace note marked *mf* and V. The final measure is marked *pp* and contains a tremolo. A hairpin crescendo is shown below the staff, leading to *ppp* and then *pp*.

heaviest bow pres. / slowest bow speed
as quiet as possible

pp *(pp)*

*III
IV

mf

Slow tight vib -----> fast tight vib -----> slow wide vib. -----> fast wide vib -----> no vib.

MST -----> ORD ST -----> SP ORD -----> SP ORD -----> MSP

mp

Slow bow SP -----> MST

Faster bow MSP -----> ST

Ord. SP

p *mp*

p *(pp)* *p*

mf *p* *pp* *(p)*

heaviest bow pres. /
slowest bow speed /
as quiet as possible

I

Detailed description: This system contains two staves. The top staff is a single bass clef staff with a dynamic of *p*. It features a melodic line with a glissando and a *(pp)* dynamic marking. The bottom staff is a double bass clef staff. The first part has a dynamic of *mf* and a *p* dynamic at the end. The second part has a *pp* dynamic and a *(p)* dynamic. It includes a large blacked-out section and a performance instruction: "heaviest bow pres. / slowest bow speed / as quiet as possible". A first ending bracket labeled "I" is positioned above the second part of the double staff.

*Dbl pizz then quick up/down gliss. Sound like a drum

mf

Detailed description: A single bass clef staff with a dynamic of *mf*. The instruction "*Dbl pizz then quick up/down gliss. Sound like a drum" is written above the staff. The notation shows a series of notes with accents and slurs, indicating a specific performance technique.

Detailed description: A single bass clef staff containing a sequence of notes with various rhythmic values and slurs, continuing the musical piece.

slower gliss

mf

Detailed description: A single bass clef staff with a dynamic of *mf*. The instruction "slower gliss" is written above the staff. The notation includes notes with slurs and a final double bar line.