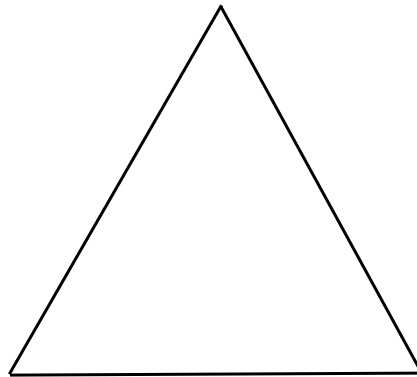


Alicia Castillo

Surface and Sky

for guitar quartet



Full Score

2023

PROGRAM NOTE

Surface and Sky is inspired by the space in between; the bottom of a mountain and its summit, or perhaps the space between one end of a guitar's fretboard and the other. With the guitar being my own instrument, I wanted to explore writing a piece based on techniques that are used more sparingly in the traditional repertoire while also challenging expectations of synchronicity.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Performers will need a stopwatch to coordinate events in the piece. One device set up on a stand that is visible to all performers would be easiest to coordinate, rather than individual stopwatches. Durations of all events are indicated with a timestamp notation relative to the stopwatch. These durations are approximate- there's a few seconds of wiggle room built into the piece so get to the next gesture when you are able to.

Only repeat a figure if there is a box surrounding it, extended with an arrow. Otherwise, play the gesture once and move on to the next event at the indicated time.

*Vary the speed of the glissandi and try not to match up in rhythms with other performers, (avoid an obvious pulse throughout the piece). Restrike the 2nd note of the gliss if needed for longer glissandi that span the entire neck.

The "fan strum" figure is meant to be performed with the fleshy part of the right hand fingers for a softer sound, rather than the nails. It's just a subtle, rapid gesture that appears and reappears throughout the piece.

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0:00 0:10 0:18

Gtr. 1 *mf* Moderate gliss. speed *p* *mp*

Gtr. 2 0:14 *mp* Moderate gliss. speed

Gtr. 3 0:04 0:24 *p* < *mf* > *p* *p* < *mf* > *p*

Gtr. 4

0:34 0:50

Gtr. 1 *mp* *mp*

Gtr. 2 0:28 0:42 *mp* *mp* 7th fret bar

Gtr. 3 0:55 1:00 Let ring *mp* *mf*

Gtr. 4 0:28 0:42 *mf* *mf* 12th fret harmonics; let ring for a few seconds each before plucking the next 7th fret harmonics; more quickly

1:05

1:10

1:20

1:22

1:28

7th fret bar; fan strings with finger (not nail) for around 6 seconds

Let ring

9th fret bar

1:05 *p* < *mf* *mf* *mf* 1:24 *p* < *mf*

7th fret bar; fan strings with finger (not nail) for around 6 seconds

Wait for Player 1 to start then follow

1:05 *p* < *mf* *mf* 1:22 *mp*

7th fret bar

1:05 *mf* *p* < *mf* 1:22 *mp*

7th fret bar; fan strings with finger (not nail) for around 6 seconds

1:05 *mf* *p* < *mf* 1:24 *mp*

1:36

1:45

2:00

2:05

10th fret bar

12th fret harmonics; let ring for a few seconds each before plucking the next

10th fret

9th fret bar

1:36 *p* < *mf* *mf* 1:42 *mf* < *f* 2:00 *f* < *p* 2:05 *p* < *mf*

1:40

gradually speed up

1:40 *mf* < *f* *f* < *p* *p* < *mf*

gradually speed up

1:40

gradually speed up

1:40 *mf* < *f* *f* < *p* *p* < *mf*

gradually speed up

2:03

2:15

2:25

All- gradually accelerrando through 2:40

2:03 2:15 2:25

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

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

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

Let ring Let ring Let ring

mp *mp* *mf*

2:31

2:46

2:51

3:01

All- rapidly gliss

Back to slower speed again

Gradually accelerando

2:31 2:46 2:51 3:01

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

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

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

Let ring Let ring Let ring

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

4

3:09 Gradually accelerando 3:16 Rapidly gliss 3:20 Rapid hammer ons 3:30 Rapidly fan

Staff 1: mp \rightarrow f (gliss.) \rightarrow f (gliss.) \rightarrow f (hammer ons) \rightarrow f \rightarrow p (fan)

Staff 2: mp \rightarrow f (gliss.) \rightarrow f (gliss.) \rightarrow f (hammer ons) \rightarrow f \rightarrow p (fan)

Staff 3: mp \rightarrow f (gliss.) \rightarrow f (gliss.) \rightarrow f (hammer ons) \rightarrow f \rightarrow p (fan)

Staff 4: mp \rightarrow mf \rightarrow f \rightarrow f (hammer ons) \rightarrow f \rightarrow p (fan)

3:35 All- mute strings with left hand- rapidly fan noisily and gradually slow

3:45 All- rapid gliss

3:50 All- rapid gliss

3:52 All- rapid gliss

3:54 All- rapid gliss

3:55 All- rapid gliss

Staff 1: f \rightarrow p (mute) \rightarrow p (gliss.)

Staff 2: f \rightarrow p (mute) \rightarrow p (gliss.)

Staff 3: f \rightarrow p (mute) \rightarrow p (gliss.)

Staff 4: f \rightarrow p (mute) \rightarrow p (gliss.)

Staff 5: f \rightarrow p (mute) \rightarrow p (gliss.)

4:05

All- gradually begin slowing down, ponticello

4:13

Continue to slow down, tasto

Musical score for guitar, measures 4:05 to 4:13. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves have notes on strings 1 and 2. The last two staves have notes on strings 2 and 3. Dynamics are marked 'p'. Arrows indicate the progression of the music from 4:05 to 4:13.

4:30

Continue to slow gliss even more, ponticello

4:45

Very slow gliss. speed, tasto

Musical score for guitar, measures 4:30 to 4:45. The score consists of four staves. The first two staves have notes on strings 1 and 2. The last two staves have notes on strings 2 and 3. Dynamics are marked 'p' and 'mp'. Includes a section for 12th fret harmonics. Arrows indicate the progression of the music from 4:30 to 4:45.

12th fret harmonics; let ring for a few seconds each before plucking the next

6

5:05

Gradually reduce speed of fan strumming

5:13

5:20

All- continue to slow, ponticello

The musical score consists of four staves. The first staff has a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 3/4 time signature. It features a series of chords with a glissando effect, marked with a circled 3 and a dynamic of *p*. A dynamic range is indicated as *p* < *mp* > *p*. The second staff continues this melodic line with a circled 3 and a dynamic of *p*. The third staff shows a transition to a 4th fret, with a 'slow fan' instruction and a dynamic range of *p* < *mp* > *p*. The fourth staff begins with a circled 2 and a dynamic of *p*, followed by a circled 3 and a dynamic of *p*. A circled 3 and a dynamic of *mp* are also present. Performance instructions include 'Let ring and then begin gliss. again'.

5:45 - 5:50

All- continue to slow and gradually fade out

Four empty musical staves, each with a treble clef, provided for the final section of the piece. The staves are empty, indicating a section where the music is to be played slowly and faded out.