

N. A. Esmen

A River

A polytonal study  
for a String Quartet  
Opus 65

(2012)



# A River

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**Adagio espressivo** ♩ = 66

Violin

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

*ppp* < *p* > *pp*

*p*

*ppp* < *p*

*pp*

Trills and dynamic markings are present throughout the staves.

5

Violin

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

*pp* *ppp* < *p* > *pp* *ppp* < *p* > *ppp*

Trills and dynamic markings are present throughout the staves.

9

Violin

Violin

Viola

Violoncello

*pp* < *p* > *pp* *ppp* < *p* > *pp*

Trills and dynamic markings are present throughout the staves.



22

jete

*mp* *p* *poco dim.* *mf*

jete

*mp* *p* *poco dim.*

jete

*mp* *p* *poco dim.* *mp*

*poco dim.* *mp*

26

**B** *Poco meno mosso*  $\text{♩} = 20$

*mf* *f* *mp*

*mf* *f* *mp*

*mf* *f* *mp*

*mf* *mp*

29

31

34

*crescendo* *mf*

*crescendo* *mf*

*crescendo* *mf*

*crescendo* *mf*

36

**C**  
Tempo primo ♩ = 66

*dim.* *mp*

*dim.* *mp*

*dim.* *mp*

*dim.* *mp*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

40

Musical score for measures 40-45. The score is written for four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music features complex rhythmic patterns with many sixteenth and thirty-second notes. Dynamic markings include accents (>) and hairpins (<). Measure numbers 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, and 45 are indicated at the top of the staves.

46

Musical score for measures 46-50. The score continues with four staves. The key signature remains one flat. The music continues with intricate rhythmic figures. Dynamic markings include accents (>) and hairpins (<). Measure numbers 46, 47, 48, 49, and 50 are indicated at the top of the staves.

51

Musical score for measures 51-55. The score continues with four staves. The key signature remains one flat. The music features complex rhythmic patterns. Dynamic markings include accents (>), hairpins (<), and the instruction *mp* (mezzo-piano). Specific performance instructions include *sul pont.* (sul ponticello) and *punta d'arco* (punta d'arco). Measure numbers 51, 52, 53, 54, and 55 are indicated at the top of the staves.





78 E

*mf* *mp* *p*

*mf* *mp* *p*

*mf* *mp* *ppp* *p* *pp*

tremolo tremolo

85

*ppp* *p* *pp* *ppp* *p*

*pp*

89

*pp* *ppp* *p* *ppp* *ppp*

*pp*

92

The musical score consists of four staves. The first two staves are in treble clef, and the last two are in bass clef. The music is written in a 3/4 time signature. The first two staves feature melodic lines with slurs and dynamic markings of *ppp* and *p*. The third staff provides harmonic support with chords and dynamics of *p* and *ppp*. The fourth staff features a bass line with a long slur across measures 92 and 93, and dynamics of *p* and *ppp*. The piece concludes with a tempo change to *alarg.* and a final chord in the first two staves.