

**KARIN HELLQVIST
HENRIK STRINDBERG
GRADIENTS**

Gradients was commissioned by Karin Hellqvist as a part of her PhD in artistic research at the Norwegian Academy of Music in Oslo, with the kind support of Helge Ax:son Johnsons Stiftelse.

Premiered by Karin Hellqvist, Klangspuren, Austria, 2023.

Duration: c.a 10'

The three parts are performed attacca.

Symbols

	Détaché
	Oval bowing, counterclockwise
	Circular bowing, counterclockwise
	Vertical bowing

Use of several staves

In *Circular Bowing* and in *Gradients* the extra staves are used when different strings have different dynamics.

In *Gestures*, the lower staff is used for left hand pizz.

Program Note

A color gradient illustrates the smooth progression between two colors. Subtly, one shade of color transforms into a new one. In *Gradients*, transitions between colors of sound or performance techniques are at play, shifting our perception between the different nuances of the violin's palette. The metaphor of the gradient further represents the flowing, collaborative process that the work is created through. Over the course of more than four years, composer Henrik Strindberg and violinist Karin Hellqvist have explored a wide range of performance techniques and musical ideas together. As a result, their practices as performer and composer have frequently overlapped and impacted each other in a flowing manner, unified in a gradient of shared creativity.

Karin Hellqvist, November 2023

Gradients

Karin Hellqvist, Henrik Strindberg

1. Circular bowing

$\text{♩} = 84$

1

12

2

21

3

25

4

32

37

5

44

54

6

56

7

pp, *p*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *pp*, *pp*, *sim.*, *mf*^{sub.}, *ppp*, *mp*, *pp*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *pp*, *c.i. tratto*, *crini*, *mf*, *pp*, *mp*, *c.i. tratto*, *crini*, *echoes*, *f*, *mp*, *ppp*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *ff*, *pp*, *mp*, *f*, *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*

echoes, *echoes*, *echoes*, *echoes*

crini, *crini*

c.i. tratto, *c.i. tratto*

ppp, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*

ff, *p*, *ff*, *ff*, *pp*, *mp*

f, *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *p*, *ff*, *pp*, *mp*

pp, *p*, *pp*, *mp*, *pp*, *mp*

63 *ritardando* (♩ = c. 42)

pp *mp* *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *sim.*

2. Gestures

8 *Freely* (♩ = c. 84)

mp *balanced* < *mf* *pizz.* *arco* *mp*

9 *mf* *pizz.* *arco*

10 *pizz.* *arco*

12 *tapping* *tr* *ff* *fp* < *mf*

11 *mp* *f* *p*

13 *pizz.* *arco* *ppp* *f* *sf* *p* *sf* *sf* *f* *p* < *f* *p* < *f* *p* < *ff*

21

3. Gradients

$\leftarrow \text{♩}^{\text{3}} \rightarrow (\text{♩} = 132)$

Musical score for measures 1-12. The piece is in 3/4 time. The right hand features a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, starting with a triplet of eighth notes. The left hand plays a series of chords, primarily triads, with a dynamic marking of *fff* (fortississimo) in measure 4. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

13

Musical score for measures 13-24. The right hand continues with rhythmic patterns, including a triplet of eighth notes in measure 13. The left hand plays chords, with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) in measure 13. The key signature changes to two sharps (F# and C#).

25

Musical score for measures 25-36. The right hand has a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in measure 25. The left hand plays chords, with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) in measure 25. The key signature changes to one sharp (F#).

37

22

Musical score for measures 37-46. The right hand has a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in measure 37. The left hand plays chords, with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measure 37. The key signature changes to two sharps (F# and C#).

47

Musical score for measures 47-54. The right hand has a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) in measure 47. The left hand plays chords, with a dynamic marking of *ff* (fortissimo) in measure 47. The key signature changes to one sharp (F#).

55

Musical score for measures 55-64. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle in alto clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *ff* and *ff*. A circled number 23 is above the middle staff at measure 63.

65

Musical score for measures 65-72. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle in alto clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *ff*, *ff*, and *mf*. A circled number 23 is above the middle staff at measure 65.

73

Musical score for measures 73-78. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle in alto clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *ppp* and *mf*.

79

Musical score for measures 79-85. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle in alto clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *f*, *fff*, and *(fff)*. A circled number 24 is above the middle staff at measure 79.

86

Musical score for measures 86-92. The system consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef, the middle in alto clef, and the bottom in bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *ff* and *ff*.

94

pp *ff* *ff*

100

Repeat ad lib. times

25

ff

106

ff

112

fff *ppp* *fff* *ppp* *ppp* *fff*

121

26

fff *ppp* *fff*

126

1. 2.

sf *sf* *sf* *sf*

27

Musical score for measures 133-142. The score is written for piano with four staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. Measure 133 starts with a *ff* dynamic. The first two staves have a series of chords with dynamics *ppp*, *fff*, and *ppp*. The third staff has a *fff* dynamic. The fourth staff has a *fff* dynamic. The score ends with a *f* dynamic and a first ending bracket.

Musical score for measures 143-156. The score is written for piano with two staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The score consists of a continuous melodic line in the upper staff and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staff. The dynamics are *f* and *mf*.

28

Musical score for measures 147-156. The score is written for piano with four staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. Measure 147 starts with a *rit.* marking. The first two staves have a series of chords with dynamics *p*, *fpp*, and *mf*. The third staff has a *mf* dynamic. The fourth staff has a *mf* dynamic. The score ends with a *mf* dynamic.

Musical score for measures 157-166. The score is written for piano with four staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 3/4. The score consists of a continuous melodic line in the upper staff and a rhythmic accompaniment in the lower staff. The dynamics are *mf*, *pp*, and *f*.

