

Andante Cantabile

From String Quartet opus 11, mov. 2

Pyotr Iljitsj Tchaikovsky

*arranged by Paul De Bra for
accordion quartet or quintet (1, 2, 3, 4, bass)*

Tchaikovsky is best known for “up tempo” music but he did much more than that. From the String Quartet opus 11 the second movement is a very melodious Andante Cantabile. Arranging this for an accordion quartet wasn't very difficult. An optional additional bass part gives this work a nice bit of extra depth. The quartet version is for four accordions (no bass accordion). The lowest note used (in the fourth voice is E). Technically this piece is very easy. The difficulty is in the interpretation and the synchronization between the voices.

A recording by Professor P is available on YouTube.

This arrangement is provided under the Creative Commons Attribution license (and so is the recording).

Andante Cantabile

from String Quartet opus 11, mov. 2

Pyotr Tchaikovsky

arr. Paul De Bra

Andante cantabile ♩ = 50-55

Musical score for Accordion 1 (Acc. 1), Accordion 2 (Acc. 2), Accordion 3 (Acc. 3), Accordion 4 (Acc. 4), and Bass. The score is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Andante cantabile' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 50-55. The dynamics range from *p* (piano) to *pp* (pianissimo). The score consists of 10 measures. Each part begins with a circled 'C' symbol. The first four parts (Acc. 1-4) start with a *p* dynamic, while the Bass part starts with a *p* dynamic. The dynamics change to *pp* in the final measures of the first system.

Musical score for Violin I (I), Violin II (II), Violin III (III), Violin IV (IV), and Bass (B). The score is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The dynamics range from *p* (piano) to *p espress.* (piano, expressive). The score consists of 10 measures. The Violin I part starts with a circled 'C' symbol. The Violin I and III parts have *p espress.* markings in the final measures. The Violin II, IV, and Bass parts have *p* markings in the final measures.

2 20 Andante Cantabile

I *pp* *mf*

II *pp* *mf*

III *pp* *mf* *espress.*

IV *mf*

B *pp* *mf*

pp \curvearrowright *mf*

27

I *pp* *p* *pp*

II *pp* *p* *pp*

III *pp* *p* *pp*

IV *pp* *p* *pp*

B *pp* *p* *pp*

pp *p* *pp*

33

I *p*

II *p*

III *p*

IV *p*

B *p*

p

Andante Cantabile

42

I *mp*

II *mp*

III *mp*

IV *mp*

B *mp*

50

poco più mosso

I *p molto espressivo*

II *pp espressivo mf sempre ben tenuto*

III *pp sempre ben tenuto*

IV *pp pizz.*

B *pp*

58

I

II

III

IV

B

4 65 *Andante Cantabile*

I *pp*

II *pp*

III *pp*

IV *pp*

B *pp*

72

I *mf*

II *mp*

III *mp*

IV *mp*

B *mp*

79 *pochissimo agitato*

I *mf* *cresc.*

II *mf* *cresc.*

III *mf* *cresc.*

IV *mf* *cresc.*

B *mf* *cresc.*

Musical score for measures 86-93. The score is for five parts: I, II, III, IV, and B. It features a key signature of two flats and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo is 'Andante Cantabile'. Dynamics include 'mp dim.' and 'p'. The music consists of melodic lines with some rests and a steady bass accompaniment.

Musical score for measures 94-100. The score is for five parts: I, II, III, IV, and B. It features a key signature of two flats and a 2/4 time signature. The tempo changes from 'poco a poco rit.' to 'tempo primo'. Dynamics include 'pp' and 'pp espress.'. The music features more complex rhythmic patterns and some changes in meter to 3/4 and 2/4.

Musical score for measures 101-108. The score is for five parts: I, II, III, IV, and B. It features a key signature of two flats and a 2/4 time signature. Dynamics include 'pp' and 'poco a poco'. The music features complex rhythmic patterns and some changes in meter to 3/4 and 2/4.

Andante Cantabile

110

I *cresc.* *f*

II *cresc.* *f*

III *cresc.* *f*

IV *cresc.* *f*

B *cresc.* *f*

119

I *mf* *f* G.P. G.P.

II *mf* *f*

III *mf* *f*

IV *mf* *f*

B *mf* *f*

128

I *pp dolceiss.* *pp* *pizz.*

II *pp dolceiss.* *pp* *pp pizz.*

III *pp dolceiss.* *sensible* *pp* *pp pizz.*

IV *pp dolceiss.* *pp* *pp pizz.*

B *pp dolceiss.* *pp* *pp*

Andante Cantabile

138 (register to create a different timbre)

I *p* *molto espressivo*

II

III

IV

B

148

I *p* *poco cresc.* *pp*

II

III

IV

B

158

I *sf* *p* *dim.*

II *arco*

III *arco*

IV *arco*

B

167 G.P.

Musical score for measures 167-176. The score is for five parts: I, II, III, IV, and B. Part I has a melodic line starting with a *pp* dynamic, followed by a *p pizz.* section and ending with *pp*. Parts II, III, and IV have a similar pattern, with *pp* dynamics and *p pizz.* sections. Part B starts with an *arco* marking and a *p pizz.* section, ending with *pp*. The overall dynamic range is from *pp* to *p*.

177

Musical score for measures 177-186. The score is for five parts: I, II, III, IV, and B. Part I has a melodic line starting with a *morendosi* marking, followed by a *ppp* section and ending with a *rit.* marking. Parts II, III, and IV have a similar pattern, with *ppp* dynamics and *arco* markings. Part B has a *ppp* dynamic. The overall dynamic range is from *ppp* to *p*.