

Z A C H A R Y   W A D S W O R T H

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# THREE BIOGRAPHIES

for solo violin

*to Ari Streisfeld*

## Performance and Score Notes

- Completed: between 2001 and 2002.
- Duration: approximately 13'.
- Premiered in Rochester New York (Eastman School of Music) by Ari Streisfeld on November 14, 2002.

## Program Note

Three Biographies is a collection of three medium-length solo violin pieces written to commemorate certain days that are important to each piece's dedicatee. The first piece, *May 31, 2000*, is dedicated to Alexander Lee. It is an elegy for his father, focusing on the emotion of the mourning process. The second piece, *July 25, 1965*, is dedicated to Jack Wadsworth, who fell victim to a random act of hatred. The piece outlines several important moments in his life, all leading to the moment of his death. The third piece, *October 27, 2001*, is dedicated to my parents. It is a perpetual motion piece which introduces notes one at a time until a loud, virtuosic climax. This cycle is dedicated to Ari Streisfeld, whose talent and advice helped immeasurably in the composition process.

A native of Richmond, Virginia, Zachary Wadsworth (b. 1983) is an active young composer. His works have been performed by the Long Leaf Opera, the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, the Atlanta Philharmonic Orchestra, the Boston Choral Ensemble, the Pacific Chorale, the Young New Yorkers' Chorus, the Yale Philharmonia and Schola Cantorum, and the Eastman Chorale, among others. Recordings of his choral works *O Saving Victim* and *Beati Quorum Remissae* are now available on the Gothic record label, and the latter has been published by Alliance Publishing.

He has received several composition awards, including first place in the ASCAP / Lotte Lehmann Art Song Composition Competition, the Long Leaf Opera One Act Opera Competition, the Boston Choral Ensemble Composition Competition, and the Pacific Chorale Young Composer Competition. Other awards include a Charles Ives Scholarship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, three Morton Gould Young Composers Awards from ASCAP, the Howard Hanson Large Ensemble Prize and the Simon Rose Memorial Scholarship from the Eastman School of Music, and the Frances E. Osborne Kellogg Memorial Prize from the Yale School of Music.

Zachary has studied at the Eastman School of Music (BM, 2005) and Yale University (MM, 2007), and he is currently pursuing a DMA in music composition at Cornell University. His composition teachers have included Syd Hodkinson, David Liptak, Robert Morris, Ezra Laderman, Martin Bresnick, Roberto Sierra, and Steven Stucky. He has also studied at the Boston University Tanglewood Institute and the Aspen Music Festival and School.

# Three Biographies for Solo Violin

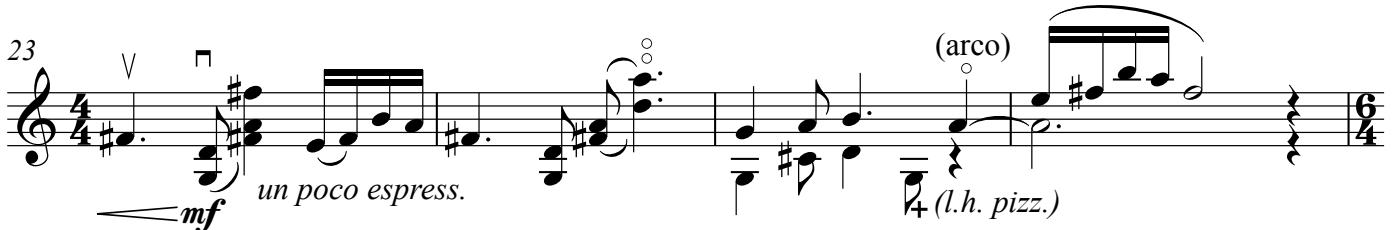
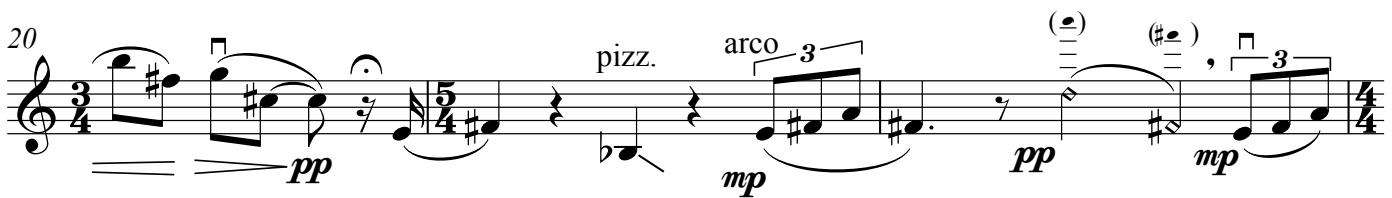
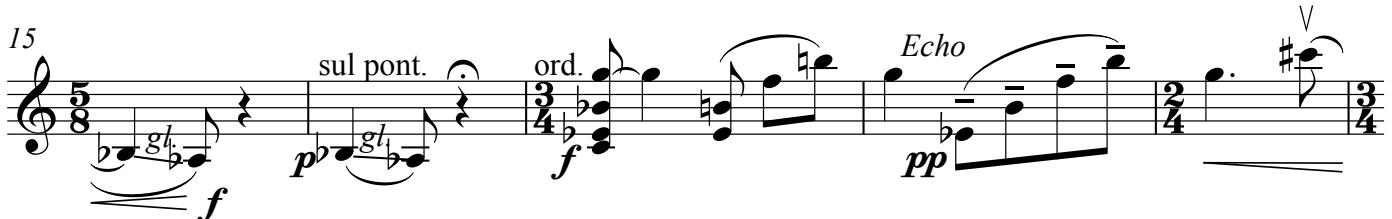
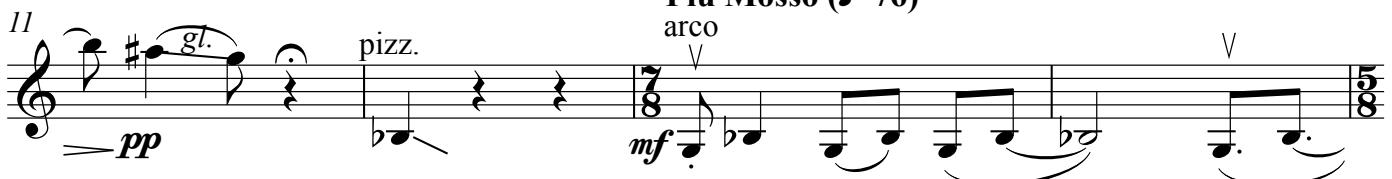
1. May 31, 2000  
*for Alexander Lee*

Zachary R. Wadsworth

Elegaic, Andante ( $\text{♩} = 66$ )



Più Mosso ( $\text{♩} = 76$ )



2

27

*rit.*

(I)

*a tempo*

30

poco a poco rit.

*mf*

34

*(sul D)*

*pp*

*mp*

*p*

37

Tempo Primo ( $\text{♩} = 66$ )

*mp*

*mf*

41

*Echo*

*p*

*mp*

44

*mp*

48

*sul D*

*tr*

*(#)*

51 Much Faster ( $\text{♩}=112$ )

Musical score for measures 51-54. The key signature is A major (no sharps or flats). Measure 51 starts with a forte dynamic (f) and consists of eighth-note pairs. Measure 52 shows sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 53 and 54 continue with sixteenth-note patterns, with measure 54 ending with a ritardando (rit.).

55 Slower ( $\text{♩}=84$ )

Musical score for measures 55-58. The key signature changes to E major (one sharp). Measure 55 starts with a forte dynamic (f) and includes a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ . Measures 56 and 57 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 58 ends with a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ .

57 Slower ( $\text{♩}=60$ ) *accel.* sim.

Musical score for measures 57-60. The key signature changes to A major (no sharps or flats). Measure 57 starts with a forte dynamic (ff) and includes a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ . Measures 58 and 59 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 60 ends with a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ .

Più Mosso ( $\text{♩}=80$ )

Musical score for measures 60-63. The key signature changes to E major (one sharp). Measure 60 starts with a dynamic marking  $\text{fff sempre}$ . Measures 61 and 62 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 63 ends with a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ .

Musical score for measures 64-67. The key signature changes to A major (no sharps or flats). Measure 64 starts with a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ . Measures 65 and 66 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 67 ends with a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ .

Musical score for measures 68-71. The key signature changes to E major (one sharp). Measure 68 starts with a forte dynamic (f). Measures 69 and 70 show sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 71 ends with a dynamic marking  $\text{fff}$ .

6/11/2001  
Richmond, VA

\*gently touch the G string at the notated point while still playing the open G with the bow.

# 2. July 25, 1965

*dedicated to Jack Wadsworth  
for Ari Streisfeld*

**Distant ( $\text{♩}=82$ )**

molto sul pont. shift to meno sul pont. shift to

(III) *mf* *f*

**Faster ( $\text{♩}=108$ )**

rit. ord. long (II) (I) Echo

*p*  $\geq$  *ppp*  $\geq$  *mp*  $\geq$  *f*  $\geq$  *mp*  $\geq$  *f* *p* *pp*

8 (II) (III) *mf*

12 accel. rit.

**Tempo Primo ( $\text{♩}=82$ )**

15 *espress.* *f* *mf* *mp* *mf* *ff*

*bluesy (poco rubato)*

17 *tempo giusto* *mp* *p* *espress.* *mf*

20

*off the string*

23

25

27

28 rit.

Distant,  $\text{♩} = 76$

30 sul tasto

ord.

shift to

molto sul pont.

shift to

35 (III)

39 *ord.*

43

46

**Jazzy, relaxed ( $\text{♩}=100$ )**

51

53

56

**Slower ( $\text{♩}=86$ )**

58

61

**Tempo Primo (♩=82)**

65

*pp* ————— *mf*

*f*

*mp* ————— *f*

69

poco accel. ----- tempo poco accel. ----- tempo

71

sim.

With growing frenzy

73

rit.

*ff*

75

Slower (♩=76)

*appass.*

———— *f* ————— *mf* ————— *f* —————

79

*violently*

*ff*

———— *fff* ————— *mf* ————— *fff* ————— *pp sub.* ————— *N*

short

(II) [—————] long

(III) [—————]

2/12/02  
Rochester, NY

## 3. October 27, 2001

*to my parents***With frustration ( $\text{♩}=120$ )**

The musical score consists of six staves of music for a string instrument. Staff 1 (measures 1-5) starts in 3/4 time with dynamic ***f***, followed by ***ff***. It includes markings for **pizz.** and **arco**. Staff 2 (measures 6-7) starts in 4/4 time with dynamic ***mp***, followed by **arco**. Staff 3 (measures 8-11) starts in 4/4 time with dynamic ***f***. Staff 4 (measures 12-13) starts in 3/4 time. Staff 5 (measures 14-15) starts in 4/4 time with dynamic ***mf***, followed by ***f***. It ends in 9/16 time. Staff 6 (measures 16-17) starts in 9/16 time with dynamic ***ff***, followed by **au talon**.

\* open strings are to be used wherever possible.

\*\*  $\text{♩}=\text{♪}$  always, unless another tempo is indicated.

19 punta d'arco (Echo) 

37

39

41

44

46

48

50

54

56 *tr*

83

86

88

91

94

97

99

*slower*

*quasi gliss.*

*a tempo*

*slower*

*snap pizz.*

*fff*

4/30/2002  
Rochester, NY