

STEVEN M. CRINO

CATALYST

for Solo Violin
(2017)

Duration: ca. 5 minutes 45 seconds

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About The Work:

Catalyst is a single movement piece for solo violin. The composition was written for a master class with Peter Sheppard Skaerved at the Peabody Conservatory. A catalyst is something that causes or accelerates a reaction. It is this image that inspires the drama of the piece. It should feel as if it is always building in momentum until it finally reaches a tipping point and erupts into fast passagework. The material for this piece is derived from the opening two measures and is developed throughout the composition. As a composer who greatly values voice-leading and the independence of contrapuntal lines, I enjoyed the challenge of retaining these elements of my music with an instrument that typically plays one or two notes at a time. The passagework at the end of the piece was inspired by my upbringing as a drum set player. As a child, I used to enjoy playing drum solos in my band and when I decided that this piece needed a flashy ending, I essentially composed a drum solo for the violin. My experience as a drummer has rarely influenced my past compositions in a direct way, but I was happy to make an exception for this piece.

Performance Notes:

When using *sol ponticello*, please be sure to use it in a way that does not obscure the notated pitch, but rather adds color to that note.

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Tempo I (♩ = 100)

f con fuoco *p* *f* *mf*

4 *f* *mf* *f* *p* *f* sul pont. -----

8 *p* *cresc. poco a poco*

11 *fp* *f* *p* *ff* *a tempo*

15 *calando* *molto dim*

20 *poco rit.* *Lento* (♩ = 80) *pp* *serioso*

23 *poco accel.*
 Musical notation for measures 23-24. Measure 23 starts with a *V* (trill) and a *mf pp* dynamic. Measure 24 features a *mf* dynamic and a *poco accel.* marking. Both measures contain a five-fingered scale run.

25 *rit. a tempo*
 Musical notation for measures 25-26. Measure 25 includes a six-fingered scale run (*6*) and a triplet (*3*). Measure 26 features a *f* dynamic and a *p sub.* dynamic. A *V* (trill) is present in measure 26. The piece returns to *a tempo*.

28 *accel.*
 Musical notation for measures 28-29. Measure 28 starts with a *V* (trill) and a *mf p* dynamic. Measure 29 features a *mp* dynamic and an *accel.* marking. Both measures contain five-fingered scale runs.

30 *IV*
 Musical notation for measures 30-31. Measure 30 starts with a *mf poco marc.* dynamic and a *IV* fingering. Measure 31 features a *p* dynamic and a *mf* dynamic. Both measures contain five-fingered scale runs.

32 *IV*
 Musical notation for measures 32-33. Measure 32 starts with a *f* dynamic and a *IV* fingering. Measure 33 features a *p cresc. poco a poco* dynamic. Both measures contain five-fingered scale runs.

34 *Tempo I (♩ = 100)*
 Musical notation for measures 34-35. Measure 34 includes a six-fingered scale run (*6*) and a *ffp < f* dynamic. Measure 35 features a *V* (trill) and a *f* dynamic. The tempo is marked *Tempo I (♩ = 100)*.

36 *tenuto*
 Musical notation for measures 36-37. Measure 36 starts with a *mf* dynamic and a *tenuto* marking. Measure 37 features a *f* dynamic and a *pp* dynamic. Both measures contain five-fingered scale runs.

38

40 *poco accel.*

p *f*

a tempo

espressivo

43 *stringendo*

a tempo

fp < f p sub.

45 *molto accel.*
sul pont.

mf *pp*

48

50 *ord.*

cresc. poco a poco

52 *a tempo*

f espress.

57

61

molto espressivo

stringendo

p

64

mf

sub. p

molto rall.

a tempo

ffp < ff p

67

stringendo

Tempo I

f mp serio

70

poco accel.

mf mp

72

a tempo

sub. p

74

f apassionato

76 Più mosso

Musical notation for measures 76-77. Measure 76 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 4/4 time signature. The dynamic is *mf*. The melody features a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B-flat4. Measure 77 contains a five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4, moving up to B-flat4, then down to G4. The time signature changes to 5/4.

78 animato

Musical notation for measures 78-79. Measure 78 is in 4/4 time with a treble clef and one flat key signature. It features a five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4. Measure 79 is in 2/4 time, continuing the five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4. The dynamic is *cresc. poco a poco*.

Musical notation for measures 80-81. Measure 80 is in 4/4 time with a treble clef and one flat key signature. It features a five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4 with accents (>) over each note. Measure 81 is in 5/4 time, continuing the five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4.

Musical notation for measures 81-82. Measure 81 is in 5/8 time with a treble clef and one flat key signature. It features a six-fingered scale (6) starting on G4. Measure 82 is in 3/4 time, continuing the six-fingered scale (6) starting on G4. The dynamic is *f sub. p*.

a tempo

Musical notation for measures 83-84. Measure 83 is in 3/4 time with a treble clef and one flat key signature. It features a five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4. Measure 84 is in 3/8 time, continuing the five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4. The dynamic is *ff*.

85 molto accel..

Musical notation for measures 85-86. Measure 85 is in 3/8 time with a treble clef and one flat key signature. It features a five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4. Measure 86 is in 2/4 time, continuing the five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4.

Musical notation for measures 87-88. Measure 87 is in 2/4 time with a treble clef and one flat key signature. It features a five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4. Measure 88 is in 6/8 time, continuing the five-fingered scale (5) starting on G4. The dynamic is *f marc. p sub. cresc. poco a poco*.

90 *accel.*
6 *mp*

92 *Vivo* (♩ = 120)
6 *mf* 6 3

95 6 6 6 3 6 3

97 6 *f* 6 6

99 *stringendo*
mf *f* *mf* 6 3

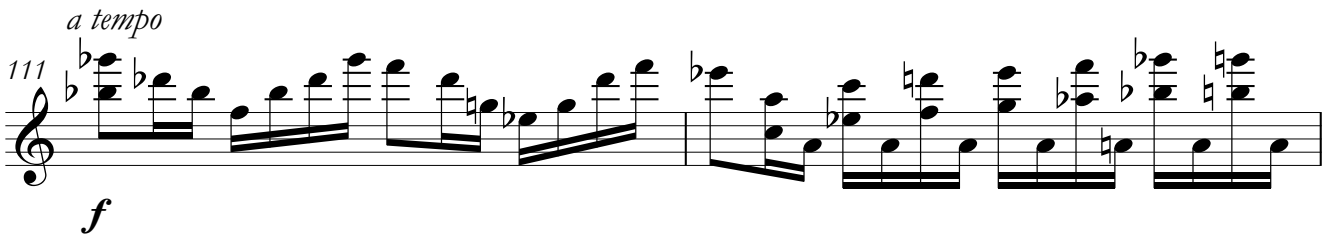
101 6 6 3 6 6

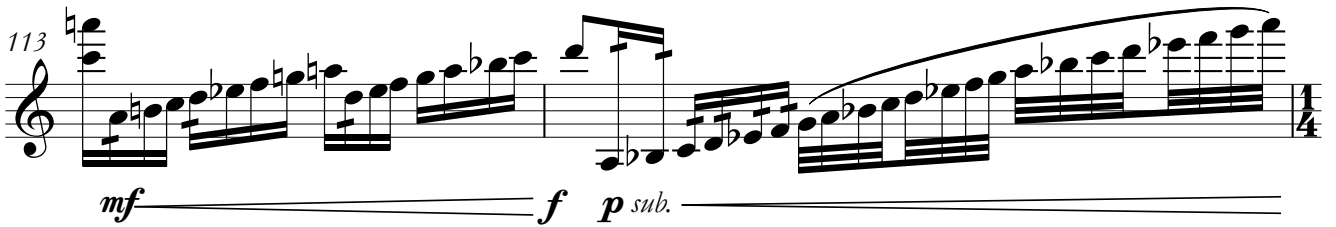
103 6 *ff* 6 6

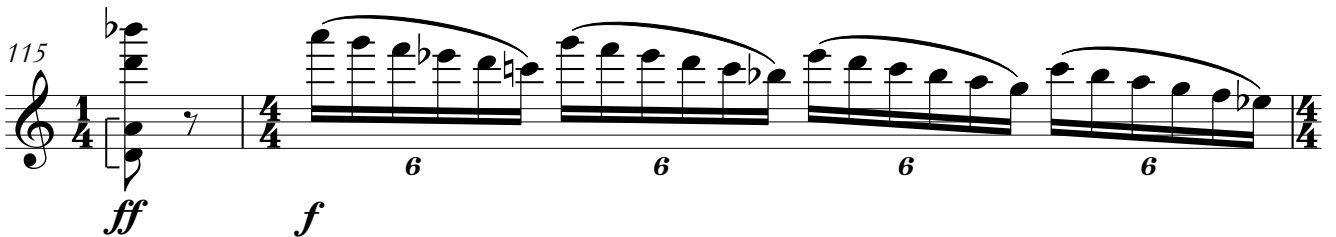
105 

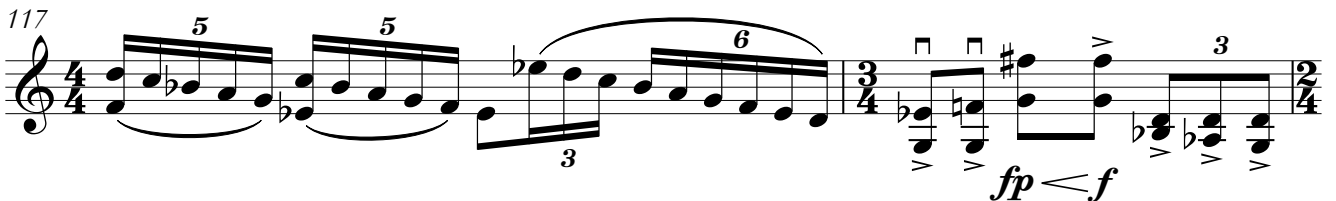
107 

109 

a tempo
111 

113 

115 

117 

Presto (♩ = 176)

sul pont. -----

119

Musical notation for measures 119-122. Measure 119 starts with a treble clef, a 2/4 time signature, and a key signature of one flat. It features a dynamic marking of **f** and an accent (>). Measure 120 changes to a 4/4 time signature and begins with a dynamic marking of **p sub.** followed by the instruction *cresc. poco a poco*. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

122

Musical notation for measure 122, continuing the 4/4 time signature. It features a dynamic marking of **mf** and the instruction *cresc. poco a poco*. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

124 ord.

Musical notation for measure 124, labeled "ord.". It features a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

126

Musical notation for measure 126. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation includes a dynamic marking of **f** followed by a slur and **sub. p**, then **sub. f**, and finally **sub. p**. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

128

Musical notation for measure 128. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. A dynamic marking of **mf** is present at the beginning.

130

Musical notation for measure 130. It features a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation includes a dynamic marking of **ff** and accents (>) over several notes. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Vivo (♩ = 126)

134

Musical notation for measure 134. It features a treble clef, a 2/4 time signature, and a key signature of one flat. The notation includes a dynamic marking of **f** and fingerings of 6, 6, 5, and 5. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes.

136

6 5 5 5 3 6

138

accel.

3

fff

140

pp *serioso*

145

Tempo I

6 6

p

146

ff *ffp* *ff*

Baltimore, 2017