

SCENE FROM EURIPIDES' *MEDEA*

AARON GERVAIS

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Approximate Duration: 12'00

INSTRUMENTATION

- Flute, doubling on piccolo
- Oboe
- Clarinet in B $\flat$
- Bassoon
- Horn in F
- Freebass accordion
- Violin
- Violoncello
- Medea: soprano (C4 – C#6)
- Jason: baritone (B $\flat$ 2 – G4)

Text based on the translation by Philip Vellacott.

SCENE BACKGROUND

This scene starts just before Medea and Jason's first meeting. She has learned that Jason is to marry Creon's daughter and has just had her conversation with Creon, in which she is banished from Corinth. Jason arrives after Medea's initial statement and each tries to blame the other for their complicated situation. Jason claims that the marriage is purely political and aimed at ensuring a better future for Medea and their children. Medea sees Jason as a self-serving liar who has abandoned her for money and a younger woman. They argue without result and then both storm off.

NOTATION

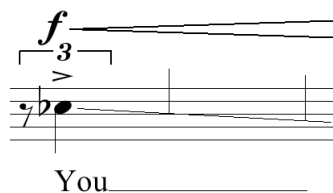
All instruments play *senza vibrato* unless otherwise marked.

Quartertones are notated in the score as follows. Fingerings are not provided for woodwind quartertones because they vary between individual instruments. The titles of several resources for quartertone woodwind fingerings are listed below.

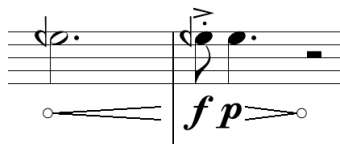


New Sounds for Woodwinds – Bruno Bartolozzi, trans. Reginald Smith Brindle
The Woodwinds: Performance and Instructional Techniques – Everett L. Timm
The Other Flute: a Performance Manual of Contemporary Techniques – Robert Dick
The Avant-Garde Flute – Thomas Howell
Metodo per Oboe – Lawrence Singer, trans. Reginald Smith Brindle
New Directions for Clarinet – Phillip Rehfeldt
The Twentieth Century Clarinetist – Allen Sigel
Il fagotto: altre tecniche: nuove fonti di espressione musicale – Sergio Penazzi

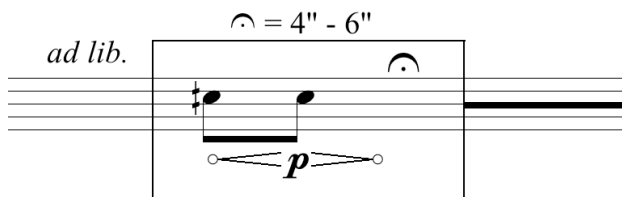
General Notation



Placeholder stems, used to mark duration for a glissando.



Crescendo from silence, diminuendo to silence.

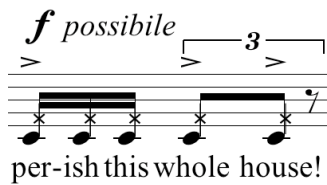


The figure is repeated at irregular intervals ranging between 4 and 6 seconds apart, for the duration of the line.

Vocal Notation



Lowest pitch.



Sprechgesang, partially between singing and speaking.

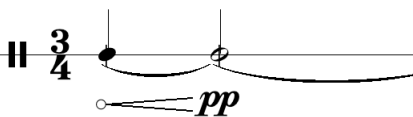


Sung in a free flowing rhythm, at the performer's discretion.

Woodwind Notation



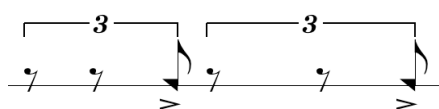
Airy almost-pitchless sound using the fingering for the given note.



Air blown through the instrument without producing a definite pitch.



Breathe as needed or circular breathing.



Forceful kissing of the reed(s) or mouthpiece in such a manner as to produce a sharp percussive “smack”.

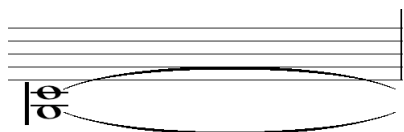


Flute: airy sound moving from silence to a tongue ram and then quickly moving back to silence.

Accordion Notation



Cluster of all chromatic pitches between the two noteheads.

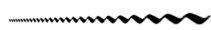


Same as above but used when the physical space between notes on the staff is narrow.



Approximate pitch cluster: all chromatic notes in the general area of the square notehead.

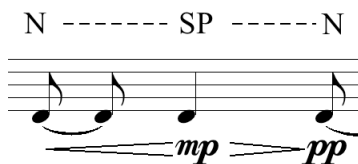
String Notation



Gradually moving from no vibrato to a full vibrato.



A full vibrato for the duration of the wavy line.



Gradually moving from normal playing position to *sul ponticello* and back again.

Scene from Euripides' *Medea*

Distant ♩ = 76 **accel.** **Faster** ♩ = 84

Flute
pp *ff* *p* *mf* *mp*

Oboe
sf *ff* *p* *pp* *mp*

Clarinet in Bb
ff *mp* *p*

Bassoon
fpp *mf* *fpp* *mf* *fpp* *p* *ff* *mp* *p* *f*

Horn in F
ff *mf* *p*

Medea

Jason

Accordion
ff *ppp*

Violin
pizz. *pp* *ff* *p* *mf*

Violoncello
ff *f* *f* *mp*

5

Fl. *fff*

Ob. *fff*

Cl. *fff*

Bsn. *fff*

Hn. *f*

Accord. *fff*

Vln. *fff*

Vc. *fff*

Scene from *Medea*

poco rit.

3

7

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

p

p

p

p

p

fp

solo, freely

Scene from *Medea*

A Slightly faster, aggressive ♩ = 92

pure gliss.; no articulation of attacks unless marked

Vln. 9

ff

Vln. 12

ff

14

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Mda.

Vln.

poco rit.

solo

ppp

p

Do

ff

mf

fff

B Slower, delicate ♩ = 60

17

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Mda.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

pp

mp > *pp*

mp > *pp*

p < *mp* > *pp*

pp

p

pp non-dim.

mp

p < *mp*

p

mp

p < *mp* > *pp*

pp

pp

mp > *pp*

p

pp

I not suf-fer?_ Am I not_ wronged? I am hat-ed and my

[illegible]

25 (3+4+4+4) C Slower, wandering ♩ = 56

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Mda.

f possibile 3

per-ish this whole house!

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

pure gliss.; no articulation of attacks unless marked
solo, freely

III 3

mf 3 3 3

Scene from *Medea*

28

Vc.

fp *fff* *mf*

31

Jsn.

angry mf

I have of-ten no-ticed; this is not the first oc-

Vc.

N--SP-----N N--5-----SP-----N

ff *f > mp* *mf* *mp*

33

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Jsn.

f

cas-sion; what fa-tal re-sults fol-low from un-gov-erned rage.

Vln.

Vc.

II N-----SP-----N

mf *mp* *mf*

Suddenly faster, agitated ♩ = 84

35 **D** a tempo ♩ = 56

Fl. *f* *p*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

Bsn. *p*

Hn.

Jsn. *mp* *mf*

Accord. *f* *mf*

Vln. *f*

Vc. *f* *f/mf* *f* *mp* *mp*

N *SP* *N*

You could have stayed in Cor-inth, but

38 (4+3+4+4)

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

af-ter your ab-use of the king, count your-self luck-y to be left off with

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

mf *f* *ff*

p *pp* *fp* *f* *ff*

p *mp*

f

pp *f*

3 *5* *3* *(non-gliss.)*

E Faster, distant but growing ♩ = 76

40

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

mf *mp* *pp*

mf *p* *pp*

mf *p* *pp*

mp

p *pp*

ff

ban-ish - ment!_

p

mf *p* *mp* *pp*

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

43

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

pp

fp

f

mf

mp
expressive

f

f

mf

pp

mf

f

mf

mp < *f*

I have tried _____ to

senza sord.

senza sord.

47

Fl.

fp $\leftarrow$ *mf* $\rightarrow$ *f* $\leftarrow$ *mp* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\leftarrow$ *mp* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$

Ob.

fp $\leftarrow$ *mf* $\rightarrow$ *p* $\leftarrow$ *mf* $\rightarrow$ *mf* $\leftarrow$ *p* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *f*

Cl.

mf $\leftarrow$ *p* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *f*

Bsn.

mf $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *f*

Hn.

mf $\rightarrow$ *f*

Jsn.

calm him down, but you would not give up your ri-di-cu-lous

Accord.

f $\leftarrow$ *p* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *mp* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *mp* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$

Vln.

f $\leftarrow$ *p* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *p* $\leftarrow$ *mf* $\rightarrow$

Vc.

f $\rightarrow$ *f* $\rightarrow$ *ff*

51

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

ti - rades a - gainst the king. How -

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

p

p

p

p non-dim.

pp

cautiously pp

mp

mp

mp

p non-dim.

pp

mp

57

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

ev-er, I will not de-sert a friend; I come now_ to see_ that you and the child-ren are

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

Detailed description: This musical score page contains measures 57 through 60. The vocal line (Jsn.) is the primary focus, with lyrics: "ev-er, I will not de-sert a friend; I come now_ to see_ that you and the child-ren are". The vocal melody is written in the bass clef. Measures 57 and 58 contain eighth-note triplets and sixteenth-note patterns. Measures 59 and 60 continue the melody with eighth-note triplets. The instrumental parts include Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Accordion (Accord.), Violin (Vln.), and Viola (Vc.). The Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, and Accordion parts are mostly rests, with a 4/4 time signature change at measure 59. The Horn part has a melodic line in the bass clef, starting with a dotted half note in measure 57 and continuing with a half note in measure 58, then a whole note in measure 59 and a half note in measure 60. The Violin part has a melodic line in the treble clef, starting with a dotted half note in measure 57 and continuing with a half note in measure 58, then a whole note in measure 59 and a half note in measure 60. The Viola part is mostly rests. The time signature is 4/4, with a change to 4/4 at measure 59.

H

[illegible]

64

Fl. *pp* 3 3 3

Ob. *pp* 3 3 5 3

Cl. *pp* 5 3 *mf*

Bsn. kiss/smack *f* 3 3

Hn.

Mda. *f* 3 3
If I knew an - y worse name for such un - man-li- ness, I'd

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

I Slightly faster, quasi-romantic ♩ = 76

[illegible]

Scene from *Medea*

19

70

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Mda.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

sent to mas - ter the fi - re breath-ing bulls, and

mp *p* *mf* *pp* *f* *mf* *f* *fp*

tr

arco

to picc.

73

Picc. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Ob. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Cl. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Bsn. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Hn. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Mda. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Accord. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Vln. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

Vc. $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{5}{4}$ $\frac{3}{4}$

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

sow the dead - ly fur - row, I saved your life. I will-ing-ly de-

Scene from *Medea*

21

rubato colla voce

J Slower, delicate ♩ = 60

77

Picc. *f* *mp* *tr*

Ob. *f* *mp* *tr*

Cl. *p* *f* *mp* *tr*

Bsn. *p* *f* *mp* *tr*

Hn. *p* *p*

Mda. *f* *sub. p*
ceived my fa - ther, left my home, show - ing much love and

Accord. *f* *pp* *p*

Vln. *f* *pp*

Vc. *f* *pp*

80 **poco rit.** to flute **Slightly slower, tense** ♩ = 56

Picc. *pp* *mf* *p* *mp*

Ob.

Cl. *pp*

Bsn. *pp*

Hn.

Mda. lit - tle wis - dom.

Accord. *pp* *pp*

Vln. *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *pp*

Vc. *mf* *mf* *pp* *pp*

84 **K**

Fl. *p* *mf* *pp* *mf* *molto accel.* *pp* *mp* *pp* *p* *mp*

Ob. *pp*

Cl. *p* *mf* *pp* *mf* *mp* *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *mf* *mp* *mp*

Hn. *mf* *smack/kiss*

Mda. *mf* *passionate* And in re - turn for this, you have the wick - ed - ness to turn me

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

Scene from *Medea*

L Faster ♩ = 92
to picc.

87

Fl. *pp* *pp* *mf*

Ob. *pp*

Cl. *p* *pp* *mf*

Bsn. *p* *pp* *mf*

Hn. *mf* *pp*

Mda. *f* *ff*
out, ev-en af-ter I had borne you sons!_

Accord. *mp* *mf* *p*

Vln. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

90

Ob.

Hn.

Accord.

pp 3 *mp* *pp* 3 *p* 5 *pp*

93

Picc.

Ob.

Hn.

Accord.

M

mp *sempre legato* *pp* *p*

mp *mf* *f* *mp sempre legato* *p*

pp 3

97

Picc. *mf* *p* *pp* *pp*

Ob. *mf* *p* *pp* *sempre legato*

Cl. *mf* *mp*

Bsn.

Hn. *pp* *pp*

Accord. *mf* *p* *pp* *mp*

Vln.

Vc.

100

Picc. *mf* *p*

Ob. *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Cl. *mp* *mf* *f*

Bsn. *p* *mp* *mf* *f*

Hn.

Accord. *mp* *mf* *f*

Vln. *mf* sul tasto

Vc.

[illegible]

105

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

mf

mp

p

pp

p

mf

p

mp

107

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

mp

mp

mp

pp

mf

mp

mf

solo

O Free tempo ♩ = ca. 60

[illegible]

in tempo ♩ = 60

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

to Aph-ro - di - te; no one else, di-vine or hu-man.

Accord.

Vln.

cued

mf

Vc.

P Free tempo ♩ = ca. 60

112

Picc. *mf* *ad lib.* *mp* $\text{♩} = 2'' - 4''$

Ob. *mf* *ad lib.* *mp*

Cl. *mf* *ad lib.* *mp*

Bsn. *ad lib.* $\text{♩} = 3'' - 5''$ *p*

Hn.

Jsn. *mf* Fur-ther- more, it was not, as you re-sent-ful-ly as-sume,

Accord. *mf* *ad lib.* $\text{♩} = 1.5'' - 2.5''$ *p*

Vln.

Vc. *pp*

in tempo ♩ = 60

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

that I found your at-trac-tions wea-ri- some, and was smit-ten with de-sire for a new wife.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

115 **accel.** **Faster, quasi-romantic** ♩ = 84 **Q** **rubato colla voce** **a tempo**

Picc.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn. *solo*
p *mp* *mf*

Hn.
mp *mf*

Jsn.
mf *f*
expressive
I want-ed to en - sure, _____

Accord.
mf

Vln.
p *mp*

Vc.

119 rit.

Picc. 3/4

Ob. 3/4

Cl. 3/4

Bsn. 3/4

Hn. 3/4

Jsn. 3/4

Accord. 3/4

Vln. 3/4

Vc. 3/4

mp *p* *mp* *mp non-dim.*

mf *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

first, and the most im - port - ant, that we should live

rubato colla voce

R Slower $\text{♩} = 63$

122

Picc. *mp* *f* *p* to flute

Ob. *f* *p*

Cl. *p*

Bsn. *mf* *mf* *mp*

Hn. *p*

Jsn. *f*, *sub. p* *port.* *defeated* *mf*
well and not be poor! I

Accord. *mf* *f* *sub. p* *mp*

Vln. *p* *mp*

Vc. *p* *mp*

S accel.

125

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Jsn.

know how a poor man is shunned by all his friends.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

pp

p

mp

accel.

128 **Building** ♩ = 72 a tempo ♩ = 60 accel.

Bsn. *mp* *mf* *mp*

Hn. *mp* *mf* *mp*

Accord. *mf* *mf*

130 T **Faster** ♩ = 84 rit.

Fl. *mf* *f* *mp*

Ob. *mf* *f* *p*

Cl. *mf* *f* *mp*

Bsn. *f*

Hn. *f*

Accord. *f* *mp*

133 **a tempo** ♩ = 60 **accel.**

Fl. **f**

Ob. **mp** **f**

Cl. **f**

Accord.

Faster ♩ = 84 **molto rit.** **U** **Still** ♩ = 45

135

Fl. **mp** **mf**

Ob. **mp** **mf**

Cl. **mp**

Mda. **sadly p**
I loathe your

Accord. **p**

138

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Mda.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

138

139

140

141

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579

molto rit. **V** Slightly faster, brooding ♩ = 56

solo **poco rit.** **a tempo**

141

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

The musical score is for a scene from *Medea*, starting at measure 141. The tempo begins as *molto rit.* and changes to *a tempo* at measure 145. The key signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 at measure 142 and to 5/4 at measure 145. The instrumentation includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Horn (Hn.), Accordions (Accord.), Violin (Vln.), and Viola (Vc.). The Flute part begins with a *solo* in measure 141, marked *mp*. The other instruments enter in measure 142. The score features a variety of dynamics, including *pp* (pianissimo) and *p* (piano), with hairpins indicating crescendos and decrescendos. The Flute part includes a triplet in measure 141. The Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, and Horn parts all play a similar melodic line, while the Accordions, Violin, and Viola parts provide harmonic support with chords and sustained notes.

Scene from *Medea*

43

rit. // a tempo **W** Faster, tense ♩ = 80 (2+3+2+2) accel. colla voce

148

Fl. *p* *p* *pp* *mp*

Ob. *p* *p* *pp* non-cresc.

Cl. *p* *p* *mp* *pp* non-cresc.

Bsn. *p* *p* *pp* non-cresc.

Hn. *p* *p* *pp* non-cresc.

Mda. *mf*
The mar-riage is your own choice; blame no one but your-self.

Jsn. *mf*
Then ex-ile is your own choice; blame no one but your-self.

Accord. (add quint) *p* *p* *pp* non-cresc.

Vln. *p* *p* *pp* non-cresc.

Vc. *p* *p* *pp* non-cresc.

N----

Scene from *Medea*

(♩ = ca.100) accel.

152

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Mda.

Jsn.

Accord.

Vln.

Vc.

mf

f

f

My choice? What did I do?

My choice? What did I do? You called downwick-ed curs-es on the

-SP-----N N-----SP-----N

Scene from *Medea*

45

(2+3+2+2+2) Fast ♩ = 120 molto rit. to picc.

155

Fl. *pp*

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Mda. *ff*

You made me your wife, and then a - ban-doned me!

Jsn. *ff*

king! _____

Accord.

N-----SP

Vln.

Vc.

X Free tempo

157

Cl.

Mda.

Jsn.

p

freely
mp

I'll not pur-sue this fur-ther. If there's an-y-thing else I can prov-ide to meet the child-ren's needs, tell me.



158

Mda.

Jsn.

freely
mp

No - thing would in - duce me to take an - y gift of yours, so of - fer none.



in tempo, menacing ♩ = 60

Mda.

Jsn.

ff

The gifts of a ly - ing trai-tor car - ry no luck!

Ve - ry

160 **Y**

Picc. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Ob. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Cl. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Bsn. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Hn. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Jsn. well. I call ³ on the gods ³ to wit - ness that I have done my
(senza quint)

Accord. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Vln. ord. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Vc. *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp*

Scene from *Medea*

162

Picc. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* non-dim.

Ob. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* non-dim.

Cl. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* non-dim.

Bsn. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* $\longrightarrow$ *pp*

Hn. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* non-dim.

Jsn. best to help you and the child - ren.

Accord. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* non-dim.

Vln. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* non-dim.

Vc. *f* $\longrightarrow$ *p* *fff* non-dim.

Z Meandering*solo, freely*

165

Picc.

Bsn.

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

ppp

169

Picc.

Vln.

Vc.

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

rit. *Slower* ♩ = 56

174

Picc.

Vln.

Vc.

ppp *pizz.* *p* *pp* *ppp*

rit. *l.v.*