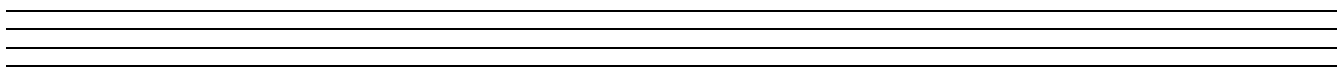


# Quickening

open score for chamber ensemble

*Dedicated to Jocelyn Morlock*

Jordan Nobles



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## About the Piece

*Quickening* was premiered by the Aventa Ensemble, directed by Bill Linwood, on December 4, 2012.

The premiere included *Quickening*, *Surface Tension* and *Rogue Waves* all played attacca.

## Performance Notes

- *Quickening* involves swells of very fast tremolos that gradually decelerate to slow pulses and finally a C drone.
- each system has a set of pitches to choose from to tremolo and a dynamic which one can rise to
- each dynamic swell should proceed from as quiet as possible to the given dynamic at the head of each system
- systems have to be played in order, each lasting approx. 20 seconds or so; musicians proceed independently, playing 1, 2, or 3 notes per system and then moving down to the next system
- pitches can be played in any octave as long as the dynamics are observed
- there is no pulse or synchronization required or desired

For example:

**System 1** could sound like this:

approx. 20 sec.

Musical notation for System 1, showing a tremolo that decelerates into a pulse. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef. It starts with a series of rapid notes (tremolo) that gradually slow down into a series of slower notes (pulse). The dynamics are marked as *ppp* (pianississimo) and *f* (forte). The notation is divided into two sections by a vertical line with a '7' below it, indicating a change in the number of notes per system.

**System 4** could sound like this:

approx. 20 sec.

Musical notation for System 4, showing a tremolo that decelerates into a pulse. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef. It starts with a series of rapid notes (tremolo) that gradually slow down into a series of slower notes (pulse). The dynamics are marked as *ppp* (pianississimo) and *p* (piano). The notation is divided into two sections by a vertical line with a '5' above it, indicating a change in the number of notes per system.

And **system 7** could sound like this:

approx. 20 sec.

Musical notation for System 7, showing a tremolo that decelerates into a pulse. The notation is on a single staff with a treble clef. It starts with a series of rapid notes (tremolo) that gradually slow down into a series of slower notes (pulse). The dynamics are marked as *ppp* (pianississimo) and *p* (piano). The notation is divided into two sections by a vertical line with a '3' below it, indicating a change in the number of notes per system.

## Instrument Specific Notes

Winds & Brass: play fluttertongue at the beginning and then triple, double or single tonguing as the pulse slows

Strings: use sul ponticello throughout

Percussion: play on mallet instruments, possibly starting on harder mallets at first and softer near the end

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Play notes from each system, in any order, in any octave.  
Play each system for approx. 20 sec., then move on to the next system

- tremolo as fast as possible (winds and brass fluttertongue), fast, multiple dynamic swells, tremolo any notes in any octave

1 

- tremolo very quickly (winds and brass fluttertongue), multiple dynamic swells, any notes in any octave

2 

- tremolo quickly (winds and brass double or triple tongue), slower dynamic swells

3 

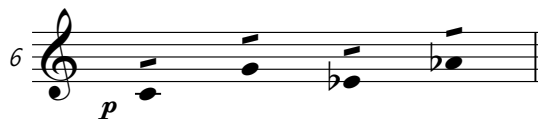
- tremolo slower (winds and brass double or single tongue), slower dynamic swells

4 

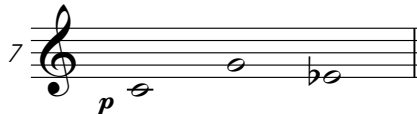
- fast pulses (winds and brass single tonguing)

5 

- medium pulses, slow, longer swells

6 

- slow pulses, slow swells

7 

- very slow pulse, slow swells

8 

- very slow pulse

9 

- repeat 9 very slowly until everyone arrives on 9  
- very slow dynamic swells, repeat in any octave



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- tremolo quickly (winds and brass double or triple tongue), slower dynamic swells

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- tremolo slower (winds and brass double or single tongue), slower dynamic swells

4 

- fast pulses (winds and brass single tonguing)

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- medium pulses, slow, longer swells

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7 

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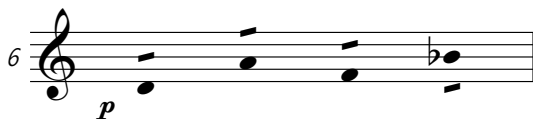
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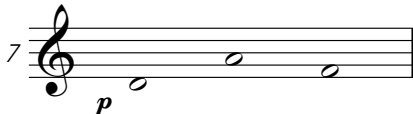
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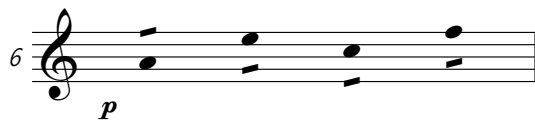
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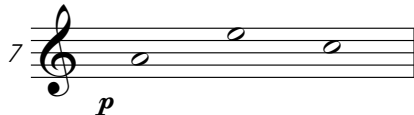
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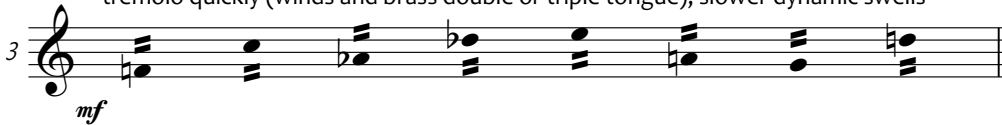
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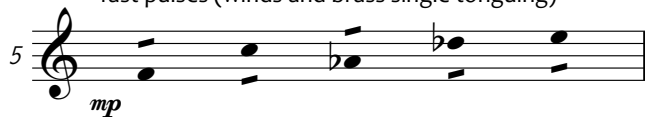
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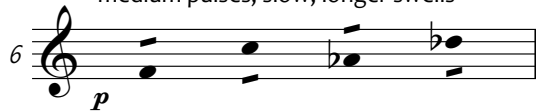
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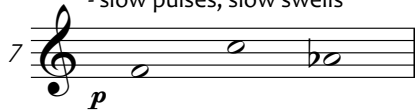
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