



Claudius Jacob

The Fall

A Short Musical Novel for
Strings Orchestra



Late November.

Drops slip, endlessly, steadily,
from some unseen hand in the heavens.

On the ground, they gather - rivulets and streams, wandering, weaving,
swelling - growing by the minute, their quiet voices merging in the dusk,
making music as they go.

The air hovers just shy of freezing. It feels as if snow waits at the
threshold - but no. It doesn't. Instead, the cold deepens, and from above comes not
snow, but something stranger. Water and crystal, neither rain nor sleet, but both.
Sharp fragments, delicate as breath, clinging together into cold, heavier clusters.

You hear the brittle sound of their landing, on ground, on branch, on skin. It is
everything now. The rain has stilled. It has turned to glass - each drop a fragile shell,
whispering its own song as it falls.

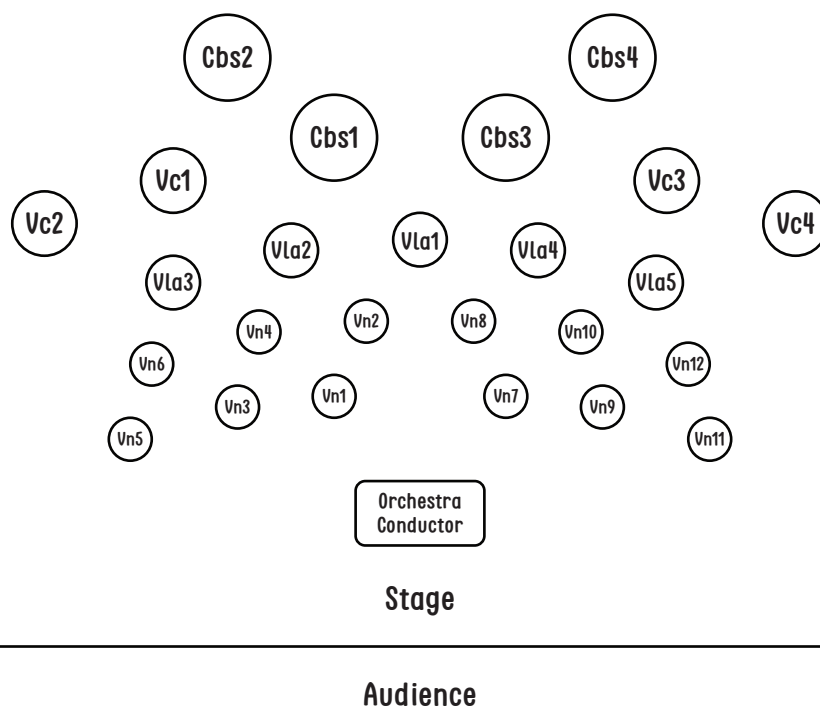
Silence follows, gathering like mist, embracing all, choking everything. Only the tiny
voice of ice survives. A sheet of glitter sweeps across the land. Thin, fragile, it takes
hold of every surface - ground, branch, the still-clinging leaves - wrapping them
in a veil of glass, bluish, transparent, too fine to touch, too sharp to hold.

The silence grows tighter, sharper, as the wind begins to stir. A low hum at first, it then
rises. Strange chords now twist beneath the darkening sky. Winter has come.

And with it, the Great Sadness, and a sheer longing for spring.

You might almost hear it now. The low, mournful strains of a distant song. Some slow
lament, played on muted strings, deep and dissonant, slipping like water beneath the icing,
only to eventually freeze.





Orchestra Composition:

12 Violins

5 Violas

4 Cellos

4 Double Basses

Notes:

Except for the double basses, all other instruments have individual parts. The double basses are grouped in pairs (1-2/3-4).

The double bass is notated where it sounds (using the bass clef with *8va bassa*).

The dynamics noted in the score should be followed as precisely as possible; otherwise, the intricate polychordal harmony will be compromised.

The placement of the musicians in the above sketch should be implemented as faithfully as possible, in order to reproduce the intended stereophonic effects, as notated in the sheet music.

Copyright:

The Fall is a study for a string orchestra consisting of 25 musicians. The piece is an original work composed by Claudiu Iacob, based on his own literary text, and was completed in Bucharest, in October 2024.

A
Grave
♩ = 64

Violin 1
Violin 2
Violin 3
Violin 4
Violin 5
Violin 6
Violin 7
Violin 8
Violin 9
Violin 10
Violin 11
Violin 12
Viola 1
Viola 2
Viola 3
Viola 4
Viola 5
Violoncello 1
Violoncello 2
Violoncello 3
Violoncello 4
Contrabass 1-2
Contrabass 3-4

3 5 3
mf *f*

5 3
p *mf*

5 6 V 5
mp *ff* *p*

B

4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 4

Vln. 5

Vln. 6

Vln. 7

Vln. 8

Vln. 9

Vln. 10

Vln. 11

Vln. 12

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Vla. 4

Vla. 5

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Vc. 3

Vc. 4

Cb. 1-2

Cb. 3-4

mf

p

f

mp

f

p

mf

p

C

6

This musical score page contains measures 6 and 7 for a string and woodwind ensemble. The instruments are listed on the left: Vln. 1-12, Vla. 1-5, Vc. 1-4, and Cb. 1-2, 3-4. The score is divided into two systems by a double bar line.
Measure 6: Vln. 3 plays a triplet of eighth notes with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Vln. 5 plays a triplet of eighth notes, starting with *mf* and ending with *f*. Vln. 6 has a rest, then a half note with *p* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *mf* dynamic. Vln. 7 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mp* dynamic, followed by a sixteenth-note triplet with *mf* dynamic. Vla. 2 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mp* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic. Vla. 3 plays a triplet of eighth notes with *mp* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic, and ends with *mf*. Vla. 4 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mp* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic. Vla. 5 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic, followed by a half note with *mp* dynamic. Vc. 3 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *p* dynamic.
Measure 7: Vln. 3 has a rest. Vln. 5 has a rest. Vln. 6 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mf* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *p* dynamic. Vln. 7 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mf* dynamic, followed by a sixteenth-note triplet with *mf* dynamic. Vla. 2 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mp* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic. Vla. 3 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mp* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic, and ends with *mf*. Vla. 4 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *mp* dynamic, followed by a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic. Vla. 5 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *f* dynamic, followed by a half note with *mp* dynamic. Vc. 3 has a rest, then a triplet of eighth notes with *p* dynamic.
Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, *p*, *mp*, and *ff*. Performance markings include accents (>), slurs, and fingerings (5, 3, 6).

This page of a musical score, numbered 4, contains measures 8 through 11. The score is arranged in a system with 18 staves. The instruments are: Violins 1-12, Violas 1-5, Violoncellos 1-4, and Contrabass 1-2 and 3-4. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score features a variety of musical textures and dynamics. Violin 8 has a melodic line starting in measure 8 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 10. Violin 9 has a melodic line starting in measure 9 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 11. Violin 10 has a melodic line starting in measure 10 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 11. Violin 12 has a melodic line starting in measure 10 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 11. Viola 2 has a melodic line starting in measure 8 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 10. Viola 3 has a melodic line starting in measure 8 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 10. Viola 4 has a melodic line starting in measure 8 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 10. Viola 5 has a melodic line starting in measure 8 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 10. Violoncello 3 has a melodic line starting in measure 8 with a *f* dynamic, moving to *mp* by measure 10. Violoncello 4 has a melodic line starting in measure 10 with a *p* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 11. Contrabass 3-4 has a melodic line starting in measure 10 with a *mp* dynamic, moving to *f* by measure 11. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings (*p*, *f*, *mp*). There are also some numerical markings (5, 3, 6) above notes, possibly indicating fingerings or articulation points.

This page of a musical score contains measures 10 and 11 for a string and woodwind ensemble. The instruments are arranged as follows:

- Vln. 1-7:** Violins 1 through 7, all of which are silent in these measures.
- Vln. 8:** Violin 8, playing a short melodic phrase in measure 10, marked *ff*.
- Vln. 9-12:** Violins 9 through 12, playing complex rhythmic patterns with triplets and sextuplets. Dynamics range from *p* to *ff*.
- Vla. 1-4:** Violas 1 through 4, all of which are silent.
- Vla. 5:** Viola 5, playing a melodic line with triplets and sextuplets, marked *mp* to *f*.
- Vc. 1-2:** Violoncellos 1 and 2, both silent.
- Vc. 3:** Violoncello 3, playing a melodic line with sextuplets, marked *p*.
- Vc. 4:** Violoncello 4, playing a melodic line with sextuplets, marked *f*.
- Cb. 1-2:** Contrabasses 1 and 2, both silent.
- Cb. 3-4:** Contrabasses 3 and 4, playing a melodic line with sextuplets, marked *mf* to *p*.

The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings (*ff*, *p*, *f*, *mp*, *mf*) to guide the performers.

12 **D**

Violin 1: *mp* (measures 12-13), *ff* (measure 14), *mp* (end of measure 14)

Violin 2-4: Rest

Violin 5: *f* (measure 14), *pizz.* (measure 14)

Violin 6: *f* (measure 13), *pp* (measure 14)

Violin 7-9: Rest

Violin 10: *p* (measure 12)

Violin 11: *p* (measure 12)

Violin 12: *p* (measure 12)

Viola 1: *pizz.* (measure 13), *mf* (measure 13), *f* (measure 13), *mf* (measure 14), *ff* (measure 14)

Viola 2: *pizz.* (measure 13), *f* (measure 13), *ff* (measure 13)

Viola 3: *pizz.* (measure 12), *f* (measure 12), *arco* (measure 12), *mp* (measure 12), *pizz.* (measure 13), *f* (measure 13)

Viola 4: *f* (measure 13), *arco* (measure 13), *mp* (measure 14)

Viola 5: *mp* (measure 14), *pizz.* (measure 14), *f* (measure 14), *arco* (measure 14), *mp* (measure 14), *f* (measure 14)

Violoncello 1: *pizz. bartok* (measure 13), *mf* (measure 13), *arco* (measure 13), *mf* (measure 14), *p* (measure 14)

Violoncello 2: *pizz.* (measure 13), *f* (measure 13), *mf* (measure 13), *arco* (measure 13), *mf* (measure 14), *p* (measure 14)

Violoncello 3: *f* (measure 14), *mf* (measure 14), *arco* (measure 14)

Violoncello 4: Rest

Contra Bass 1-2: *f* (measure 12), *mf* (measure 12), *mp* (measure 12), *pizz. bartok* (measure 13), *arco* (measure 13), *mp* (measure 14)

Contra Bass 3-4: *f* (measure 13), *p* (measure 13), *f* (measure 13), *mp* (measure 14)

15 **E**

Vln. 1
f *mp* *f* *p*

Vln. 2
f *mp* *f* *p* *mf* *pp*

Vln. 3
f *mp*

Vln. 4
f *ff* *p* *f* *pp*

Vln. 5
p *mp* *pp*

Vln. 6

Vln. 7

Vln. 8
f

Vln. 9
f *p* *f*

Vln. 10

Vln. 11
f

Vln. 12

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Vla. 4

Vla. 5
mp *mf* *f* *mp*

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Vc. 3
mp

Vc. 4
mf *f* *p* *f*

Cb. 1-2

Cb. 3-4

J

col legno
p *ff*

mf *ff*

mf *ff*

f

arco
p *ff* *p*

arco ord.
mf *ff* *mp*

mf *pp* *mf* *pp*

sul ponticello
pp *mf*

mp *pp* *pp*

arco
mf *ff* *p*

p *f* *p*

nonvib
mf *pp*

pizz.
mf *ff* *mf* *mf*

f *ff*

ff

pizz.
mf *f* *mf*

pizz.
mf *f* *mf*

Measures 28-30 of a musical score for strings and woodwinds. The score includes parts for Violins 1-12, Violas 1-5, Cellos 1-2, and Cellos 3-4. It features various performance instructions such as 'col legno', 'arco', 'arco ord.', 'sul ponticello', 'nonvib', and 'pizz.'. Dynamics range from *pp* to *ff*. Fingerings and accents are indicated throughout the score.

32

Vln. 1 *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff* *ff*

Vln. 2

Vln. 3 *ff* *mf* *ff* *sfz* *mf* *ff* *mf* *f*

Vln. 4

Vln. 5

Vln. 6 *mf* *ff* *p* *ff* *p* *ff*

Vln. 7 *mf* *ff* *mp* *arco* *mf* *arco*

Vln. 8

Vln. 9 *mf* *pp* *sul ponticello* *p*

Vln. 10

Vln. 11 (ord.) *pp* *mf*

Vln. 12 nonvib *pp* *mf*

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Vla. 4 *mf* *pp*

Vla. 5

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Vc. 3

Vc. 4

Cb. 1-2

Cb. 3-4

This page contains a musical score for measures 34, 35, and 36. The instruments are arranged as follows:

- Vln. 1:** Starts with a half note *mf* and a quarter note *f*.
- Vln. 2:** Rests in measure 34. In measure 35, plays an *arco* triplet of eighth notes *mf*. In measure 36, plays a sixteenth-note figure with a five-measure slur, *ff* in the first half and *p* in the second.
- Vln. 3:** Triplet of eighth notes *ff*, followed by a quarter note *mf* and a quarter note *f*.
- Vln. 4:** Rests.
- Vln. 5:** Rests.
- Vln. 6:** Triplet of eighth notes *p*.
- Vln. 7:** Triplet of eighth notes *ff*. In measure 36, plays an *arco* sixteenth-note figure with a five-measure slur, *mf* in the first half and *ff* in the second.
- Vln. 8:** Rests.
- Vln. 9:** *mf* in measure 34. *pp* in measure 35. *mp* in measure 36.
- Vln. 10:** Rests. In measure 36, plays an *arco* triplet of eighth notes *mf*.
- Vln. 11:** *pp* in measure 34. *mp* in measure 35. *mf* in measure 36.
- Vln. 12:** Rests. *pp* in measure 35. *mp* in measure 36.
- Vla. 1:** Rests.
- Vla. 2:** *arco* quarter notes *f* and *ff*.
- Vla. 3:** *col legno* quarter notes *f* and *ff*.
- Vla. 4:** *mf* in measure 34. *p* in measure 35. *f* in measure 36.
- Vla. 5:** Rests.
- Vc. 1:** Rests.
- Vc. 2:** Rests.
- Vc. 3:** *arco* quarter notes *p* and *ff*. *pizz.* quarter notes *mf* and *f*.
- Vc. 4:** *mf* in measure 34. *ff* in measure 35. *mf* and *f* in measure 36.
- Cb. 1-2:** *mf* in measure 34. *ff* in measure 35. *mf* and *f* in measure 36.
- Cb. 3-4:** *mf* in measure 34. *ff* in measure 35. *mf* and *f* in measure 36.

37

Vln. 1 *ff* *pizz.* *mf* *f* *pizz. bartok*

Vln. 2 *p* *mf* *pizz.* *p* *f*

Vln. 3 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Vln. 4

Vln. 5 *ff* *pizz.* *p* *f* *ff*

Vln. 6 *mf* *ff* *mf*

Vln. 7

Vln. 8 *pp*

Vln. 9 *pp* *mf*

Vln. 10 *ff* *mf* *ff*

Vln. 11 *pp*

Vln. 12 *mf* *pp*

Vla. 1

Vla. 2

Vla. 3

Vla. 4 *mp* *f* *p* *sul ponticello*

Vla. 5

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Vc. 3

Vc. 4

Cb. 1-2

Cb. 3-4

39

Vln. 1 *ff* *pizz. (ord.)* *p* *f* *mf*

Vln. 2

Vln. 3 *ff* *pizz. mf* *ff*

Vln. 4 *mf* *ff* *p*

Vln. 5 *mf* *ff* *p*

Vln. 6 *ff* *pizz. con l'unghia* *mp*

Vln. 7

Vln. 8

Vln. 9 *p*

Vln. 10

Vln. 11

Vln. 12 *mp*

Vla. 1

Vla. 2 *f* *ff*

Vla. 3

Vla. 4 *ff* *mf*

Vla. 5

Vc. 1

Vc. 2

Vc. 3

Vc. 4

Cb. 1-2

Cb. 3-4

40 [L]

pizz. con l'unghia

rall. - - - - -

Vln. 1 *f* *ff*
 Vln. 2 *f* *mp* *p*
 Vln. 3 *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*
 Vln. 4 *ff* *mf* *f* *mf*
 Vln. 5 *p* *ff* *col legno* *ff*
 Vln. 6 *ff* *col legno* *ff*
 Vln. 7 *p* *f* *mf* *f*
 Vln. 8
 Vln. 9 *mf* *f* *mf*
 Vln. 10
 Vln. 11
 Vln. 12 *mf* *f* *mf* *arco pp*
 Vla. 1
 Vla. 2 *p* *f* *p* *f*
 Vla. 3 *p* *f* *ff* *p* *f*
 Vla. 4 *mf* *ff* *mp* *f*
 Vla. 5
 Vc. 1 *ff* *mf*
 Vc. 2 *ff* *mf*
 Vc. 3 *pp*
 Cb. 1-2 *ff* *mf*
 Cb. 3-4 *ff* *mf*

sul ponticello
 nonvib
 pizz.
 pizz.
 pizz.
 pizz.

44 **M** sul tasto (arco) **rall.** **N**

Violins 1-12: Violins 1-6 and 8-12 play melodic lines with dynamics ranging from *pp* to *ff*. Violins 7 and 9 play sustained chords. Violins 10-12 play rhythmic patterns. Performance instructions include *sul tasto (arco)*, *ord.*, and *nonvib*.

Violas 1-5: Violas 1-3 play melodic lines with dynamics from *mp* to *ff*. Viola 4 plays a non-vibrating line (*nonvib*). Viola 5 plays a melodic line with dynamics from *ff* to *ff*.

Cellos 1-4: Cellos 1-2 play melodic lines with dynamics from *mp* to *f*. Cellos 3-4 play sustained chords with dynamics from *p* to *pp*. Performance instructions include *arco*, *sul tasto*, and *ord.*

Woodwinds: Clarinets 1-2 and 3-4 play melodic lines with dynamics from *mp* to *f*. Performance instructions include *sul tasto* and *ord.*

This musical score page, numbered 53, features a rehearsal mark 'O' at the top. It contains 12 violin staves (Vln. 1-12), five viola staves (Vla. 1-5), and four woodwind staves (Vc. 1-4, Cb. 1-2, Cb. 3-4). The woodwinds include two flutes (Vc. 1, 2), two clarinets (Vc. 3, 4), and two bassoons (Cb. 1-2, 3-4). The score is written in 3/4 time and includes various dynamics such as *pp*, *ppp*, *mf*, *f*, and *ff*, along with performance instructions like *nonvib* and *ppp*. The music is characterized by long, sustained notes and complex rhythmic patterns, particularly in the woodwind and lower string sections.