

COMPOSER'S NOTE

It was 2017 and I was traveling to Berlin to hear the Berlin Philharmonic perform. As usual, it was a spectacular event. While there, I met Knut Weber, their principal cellist. He was the one who suggested the possibility of writing a piano quartet for his ensemble, the Berlin Philharmonic Piano Quartet. I was once again faced with something to explore that I knew absolutely nothing about, so of course I immediately agreed. Having only recently finished the Violin Concerto, I was much more relaxed with diving into what was, for me, more uncharted territory. The idea of writing a string quartet was intimidating, as I'm so infatuated by the string quartets of Shostakovich – but the presence of a piano gave me a bit more confidence, and I love the freedom that the genre provides. For some strange reason, my first thematic thought going into it was doing variations on the familiar children's schoolyard taunt: 'Nya, nya, nya, nya nya...' – I had no idea why but wasn't aware of anyone doing that before and thought it would be fun. It was. You can hear it in the second movement of the quartet, 'Kinderspott'. It was a great pleasure writing my first quartet for such wonderful musicians.

Danny Elfman, 2022

III. Duett für Vier

Stretto allegretto ♩ = 125

Musical score for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Piano. The score is in 4/4 time and consists of four measures. The dynamics are *f* (forte) and *più f* (più forte).

Musical score for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Piano, measures 5-8. The score is in 2/4 time and consists of four measures. The dynamics are *ff* (fortissimo) and *p subito* (piano subito). The piano part includes a trill in measure 7.

Musical score for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Piano, measures 9-12. The score is in 2/4 time and consists of four measures. The dynamics are *f* (forte), *strong*, and *sfp* (sforzando piano). The piano part includes an 8va (octave) marking in measure 9 and a *loco* marking in measure 11.

V. Die Wolfsjungen

Rondo vivace ♩ = 110

sul D

VIOLIN *mf*

VIOLA

CELLO

PIANO *mf*

4

f

8^{va}

7

FF

f *mp* pizz.

f *mp* pizz.

f *mp* pizz.

f legato *mp sub.*