

Don't Cry Bird 2023-2024
For M
For flute and violin
(Or recorder and acoustic guitar)

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Program Note

Don't Cry Bird, 2024

Three years of pandemic was chaotic to both humans and animals. My mom died in China two years ago. I could not be there next to her. The inexorable emotional currents woven the music into my consciousness.

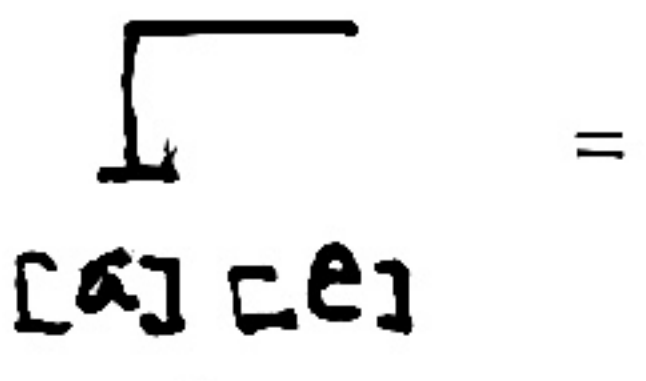
Every night I hear her moaning and crying in silence that she would not see her daughter the last time.

The words and the tone of voice are inscrutable and subtle. An acquired improvisation in the section of birds flux narrates the human infections were like the domino let down at the end of the line.

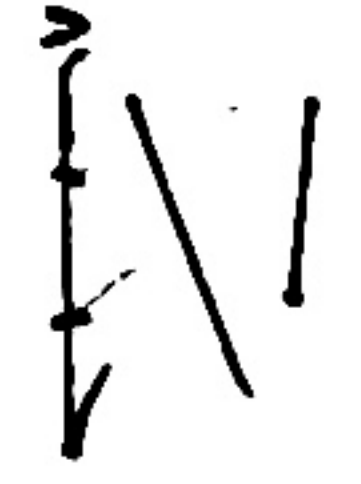
The yearning and longing continues.

The work is dedicated to my dear friends Marina Kifferstein and Laura Cocks with affection.

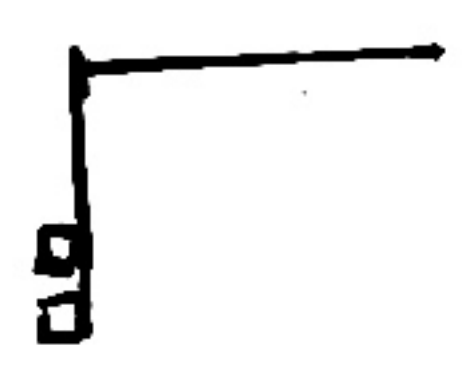
Violin



= vocal fry with specific vowels



= extremely fast and glassy upward ^{or} downward glissando from the highest pitch on a suitable string with a pinch of accidental harmonics



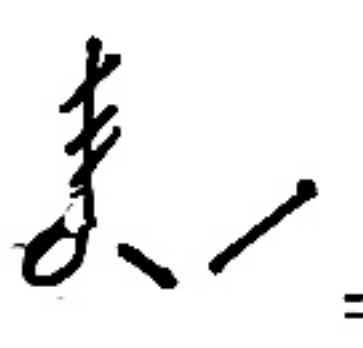
= flautando, heavy bow pressure in the lowest register on G string, double bow



= vocalize like the sound of beckoning the cat or clicking the tongue on the back of front teeth



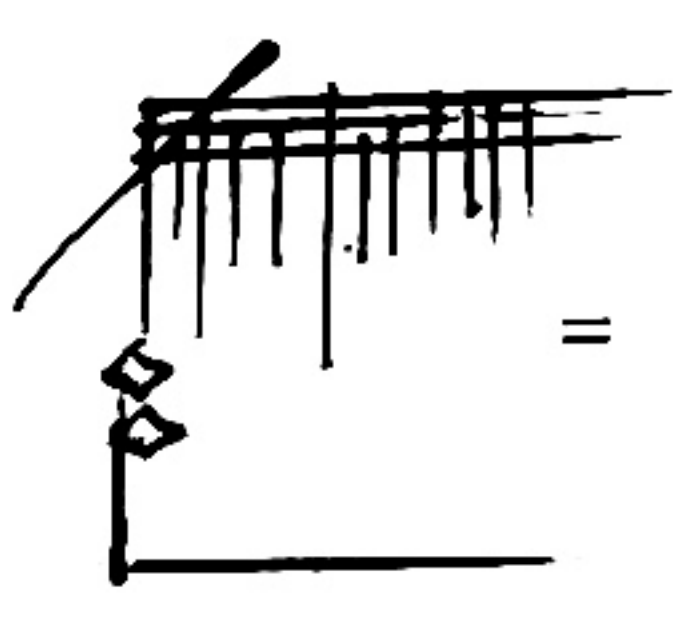
= speak the words



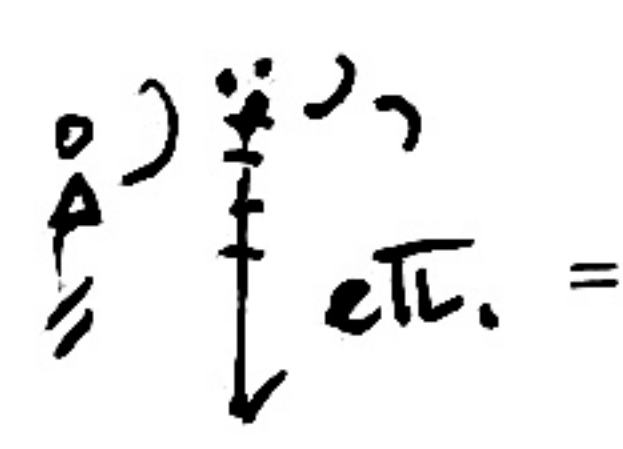
= very heavy bow pressure tremolo



= sing one pitch while playing another pitch



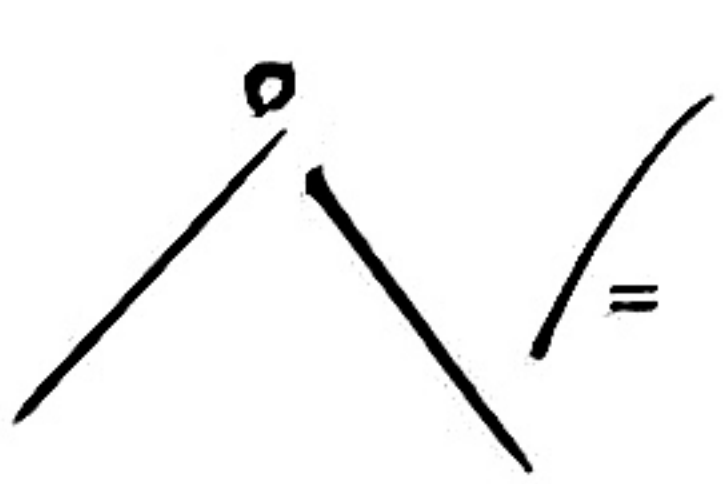
= extremely fast flutter of natural harmonics on the upper register



= mimic birds sound, high piercing no specific pitch is produced, spontaneously and simultaneously. Improvisation



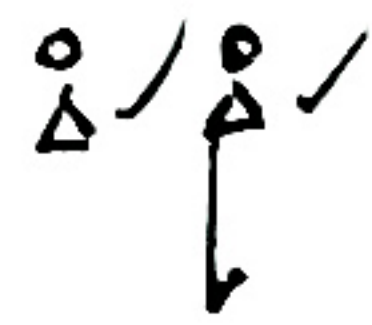
= combined open string with a touch of harmonic tremolo



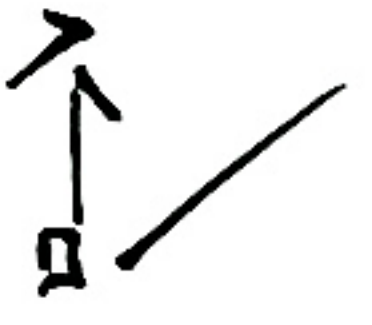
= extremely slow natural harmonics from the lowest to the highest without specific pitch sounding *switch between strings*

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Flute



= airy, some harmonics may speak



= airy jet whistle



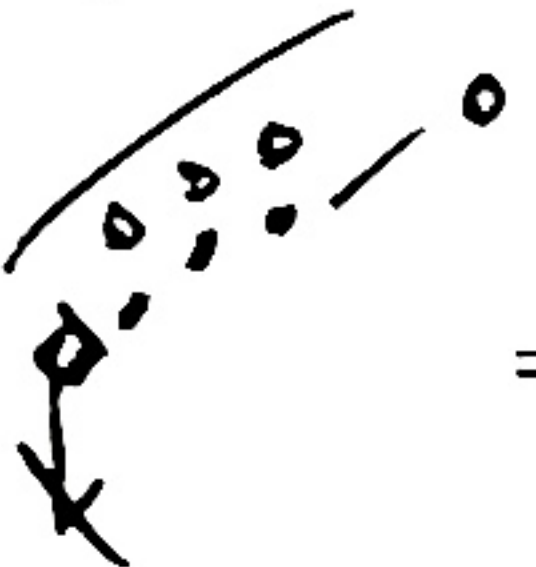
= tongue roll, air only, lowest pitch possible



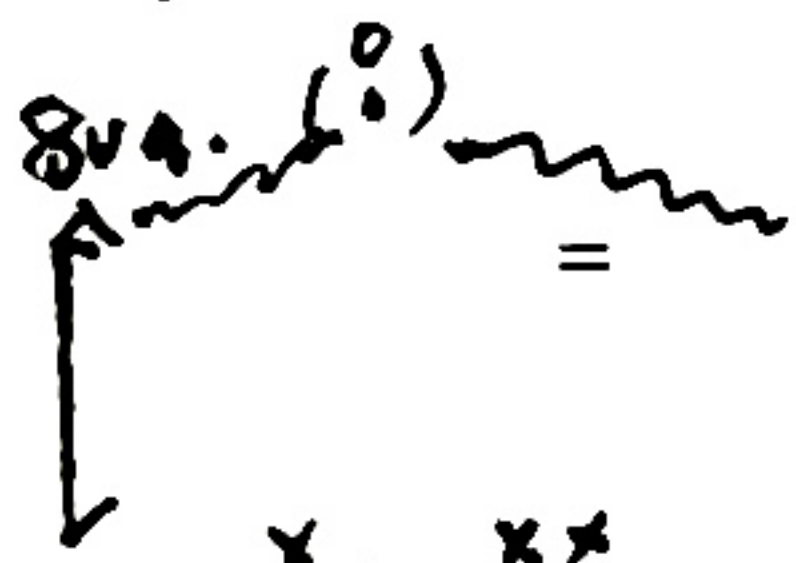
= tongue trill



= airy trill, Hollow sound



= flutter tongue, arpeggio up the harmonic series as fast, loud and high as possible to bring out the distortion



= extreme vibrato in the upper registers, let pitch fall through partials naturally and gradually



= vocalize like the sound of beckoning the cat or clicking the tongue on the back of front teeth



= tongue ram



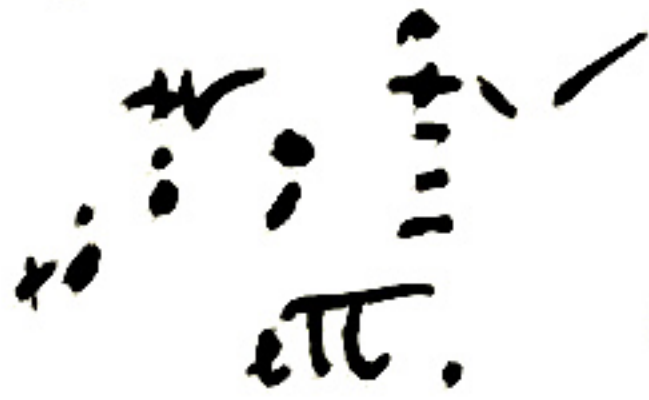
= key slap



= singing playing



= airy flutter tongue in the upper registers



= mimic birds sound, high piercing no specific pitch is produced, spontaneously and simultaneously. Improvisation

Flt.

Handwritten musical notation for Flute (Flt.). The staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The first measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *sfz* and an upward-pointing arrow above it. A bracket above the next two measures is labeled "5". The third measure contains a whole note chord with an upward-pointing arrow above it. A long horizontal line indicates a rest for the remainder of the staff. The final measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *f* and an upward-pointing arrow above it. A bracket above this measure is labeled "ca. 7".

Fl.

Handwritten musical notation for Flute (Fl.). The staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The first measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *sfz* and an upward-pointing arrow above it. The second measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *f* and an upward-pointing arrow above it. The third measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *sfz* and an upward-pointing arrow above it. The fourth measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *f* and an upward-pointing arrow above it. The fifth measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *f* and an upward-pointing arrow above it. A bracket above the next two measures is labeled "ca. 6". The final measure contains a whole note chord with a dynamic marking of *f* and an upward-pointing arrow above it.

Vln.

V.F.

Handwritten musical notation for Violin (Vln.) and Viola (V.F.). The Violin part consists of a single measure with a whole note chord, a dynamic marking of *f*, and an upward-pointing arrow above it. A bracket above this measure is labeled "6". The Viola part consists of a single measure with a whole note chord, a dynamic marking of *f*, and an upward-pointing arrow above it. A bracket above this measure is labeled "6".

[e]

* n. tonating

1.

Flt.

Handwritten musical notation for Flute (Flt.). The staff shows a melodic line with several notes. There are two 5-measure rests indicated by horizontal lines above the staff. Above the first rest, there are some scribbles and a circled 'o'. Above the second rest, there are three upward-pointing arrows with diagonal slashes, indicating accents or breath marks. The notation includes stems, beams, and slurs.

Vln.

Handwritten musical notation for Violin (Vln.). The staff shows a melodic line with a 5-measure rest indicated by a horizontal line above the staff. Below the staff, there is a bracket labeled 'V.f.' (Violoncello/Fagotto) with a note marked with the vowel sound [e].

Handwritten musical notation for a lower instrument, possibly Viola or Cello. The staff shows a melodic line with several notes. There are four upward-pointing arrows with diagonal slashes above the staff. There are two 4-measure rests indicated by horizontal lines above the staff. The notation includes stems, beams, and slurs.

Handwritten musical notation for a lower instrument, possibly Viola or Cello. The staff shows a melodic line with several notes. There are two 4-measure rests indicated by horizontal lines above the staff. Below the staff, there are three notes marked with the vowel sounds [u], [a], and [e].

2.

Handwritten musical score for a vocal and piano piece. The score consists of five staves. The top two staves are for the vocal line (V.), and the bottom three are for the piano accompaniment (P.).

The vocal line includes lyrics: [u] - [a] [e] [u] [e].

The piano part includes performance instructions like *poco accel.*, *sfz*, and *A tempo*. There are also dynamic markings like *mf* and *v.f.* and a final vocal line with lyrics [u] - [e] - [a].

bursting
Sudden freely.

The image shows a handwritten musical score for two staves. The top staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a series of notes with a dynamic marking of *sfz* and a duration of *ca. 6"*. A bracket above the notes is labeled *ca. 10"*. The bottom staff begins with a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a series of notes with a dynamic marking of *f* and a duration of *ca. 5"*. A bracket above the notes is labeled *ca. 10"*. The score includes various performance instructions and markings:

- freely* (written above the first staff)
- low and thick air tone allows glimpses of pitches* (written above the first staff)
- filantando* (written above the second staff)
- Heavy bow pressure in low register* (written above the second staff)
- (double bow)* (written below the second staff)
- f* (dynamic marking below the second staff)
- n. f* (dynamic marking below the second staff)
- 4.* (written below the second staff)
- ca. 6"* (duration marking above the first staff)
- ca. 5"* (duration marking above the second staff)
- ca. 10"* (duration marking above both staves)
- sfz* (dynamic marking above the first staff)
- f* (dynamic marking above the first staff)
- n.* (dynamic marking above the first staff)
- n. f* (dynamic marking above the second staff)

♩ = ca. 55

Handwritten musical score for guitar, consisting of two systems of staves. The top system features a treble clef staff with notes and a bass clef staff with chords and fingerings. The bottom system features a treble clef staff with notes and a bass clef staff with chords and fingerings. Annotations include dynamics (mf, f, p, acc.), articulation (trills, accents), and performance instructions (poco, accel., airy with a hollow sound).

Handwritten musical score for two staves. The score includes various annotations and performance instructions:

- Tempo:** $\text{♩} = \frac{52}{62}$ (indicated above the first staff).
- Staff 1 (Upper):**
 - Starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).
 - Contains notes with slurs and dynamic markings like *sfz*.
 - Includes a section marked *Rit.* (Ritardando) with a bracket labeled *ca. 4"*.
 - Ends with a section marked *(arco.)* (arco).
- Staff 2 (Lower):**
 - Starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).
 - Contains notes with slurs and dynamic markings like *sfz*.
 - Includes a section marked *Lei.* (Lento).
 - Ends with a section marked *(arco.)* (arco).
- Other Annotations:**
 - Handwritten scribbles and markings on the left side of the staves.
 - Additional markings like *(v.f.)* (vibrato) and *d.* (diminuendo).

Handwritten musical score for four staves. The first three staves contain rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes. The fourth staff includes the lyrics "Ma -" and a "(arco)" marking above a note.

62
= 72.

This is a handwritten musical score consisting of five staves. The notation includes notes, rests, and various performance markings. The markings include 'Ma' (likely *maestri* or *maestri*), '(play)', '(p.)', '(AVLO.)', '(a.)', '(p.)', 'sfz', and '9.'. The score is written in a style that suggests it is a working draft or a personal manuscript. The first staff has a tempo marking of 62 = 72. The notation is somewhat sketchy, with some notes and rests appearing to be written over or through other markings. The overall layout is dense and contains a lot of detail.

(♩ = 50)
5

Steady.

Ma

Ma

sing B

play both pitch

Ma

Ma

(Sim.)

(Sim.)

Ma

Ma

Ad lib.

Ma

Ma

Ad lib.

Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma Ma

Sudden
freely, loosely

$\downarrow = \frac{50}{62}$

airy flutter tone
in the upper register

ca. 15"

(5")

f

as long as you can

sfz

p

5"

$\downarrow = \frac{60}{62}$
extrem fast flutter
of natural harmonics
in the upper register

ca. 10"

Heavy bow pressure
double bow

ca. 10"

f

n.

f

n.

p

5"

The image shows a handwritten musical score on a page. It consists of two systems of staves. The top system begins with a treble clef on the left. Above the staff, there are four vertical stems, each topped with a small circle. From each stem, a wavy line extends to the right, resembling a decorative flourish or a specific musical notation. Below the staff, there are four rectangular boxes, each containing a horizontal line with an arrow pointing to the right. The bottom system begins with a bass clef on the left. Above the staff, there are four diamond-shaped symbols. Below the staff, there are four rectangular boxes, each containing a horizontal line with an arrow pointing to the right. The entire score is enclosed in a rectangular frame.

$\sqrt{ca. 62}$
102

Mimic spontaneously and
Birdy. Simultaneously.

High piercing, no pitch
specifically. Repeatedly

The musical score consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notation includes quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests. Above the notes are various markings, including circles with dots and triangles with dots, likely representing bird sounds or specific performance techniques. The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes the Flute (Flt.) and Violin (Vln.) parts. The second system includes the Flute (Flt.) and Violin (Vln.) parts. Performance instructions include 'A tempo above airy' for both Flute and Violin parts, and 'poco accel.' for the Violin part in the second system. The Flute part in the second system has a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

Birds Flux
 [Pointistically. Gradually getting chaotic improv. freely]

The musical score is written on four staves, each with a clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notation is highly improvisatory and includes various ornaments and dynamic markings.

- Staff 1 (Flt.):** Features a series of notes with trills (tr) and slurs. Dynamic markings include *p* and *f*.
- Staff 2 (Vln.):** Includes notes with trills and slurs. Dynamic markings include *f*, *p*, and *f*.
- Staff 3 (Flt.):** Shows notes with trills and slurs. Dynamic markings include *f*, *p*, and *f*.
- Staff 4 (Vln.):** Contains notes with trills and slurs. Dynamic markings include *p*, *f*, and *f*.

At the bottom of the page, there are performance instructions: *poco a poco accel. cresc. - - -*

Sudden freely

♩ = ⁴⁵50 Solace

Violin (Vln.) and Viola (Vla.) parts with performance instructions. The score includes dynamic markings like *sfz*, *ff*, and *p*, and performance directions such as "freely, as long as possible" and "heavy bow pressure in the lower strings double bow as long as possible". A specific instruction for the Viola reads: "* Combined open string and harmonic tremolo".

Handwritten musical score for Violin I and Violin II, featuring a Flute (Fl.) part above each violin staff.

Violin I (Vln. I):

- Staff 1 (top): Flute (Fl.) part with wavy lines and notes, including a circled note with a dot.
- Staff 2: Violin I part with notes, rests, and fingerings (4, 4, 3, 2, 1). Includes the instruction: ** open string with stopped note*.

Violin II (Vln. II):

- Staff 3 (top): Flute (Fl.) part with wavy lines and notes, including a circled note with a dot.
- Staff 4: Violin II part with notes, rests, and fingerings (4, 4, 3, 2, 1). Includes the instruction: *(Solace) molto vibrato* and the dynamic marking *mf*.

Additional markings include *mf* at the bottom right and a circled note in the top left.

The image shows a handwritten musical score for strings, consisting of four staves. The top two staves are labeled 'Vln.' (Violin I and II) and the bottom two are labeled 'Vla.' (Viola). The notation includes notes, rests, and various markings such as slurs, accents, and dynamic markings. There are several instances of the word 'rit.' (ritardando) written above the staves. The score is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

tongue roll
- (dribbling)
tremolo
d3.

The image shows a handwritten musical score on three staves. The top staff features a wavy line with several upward-pointing triangles and the number '804.' written above it. The middle staff contains a series of notes with stems pointing downwards, some grouped by a slur. The bottom staff shows notes with stems pointing upwards, also with some slurs. Annotations include 'n.' and 'mp' on the middle staff, and 'd3' above the bottom staff. A large handwritten note on the right side reads: 'extreme slow natural harmonics from the lowest to the highest without specific pitch sounding'. Other markings include a circled '0' and a '5ul4' with a circled '3' and a '0' below it. There are also some scribbled-out lines on the left side of the staves.

Handwritten musical notation for the first system. The top staff is in treble clef and contains several notes with stems. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a bracketed instruction: "switch to A string". There are two circled "0)" markings on the bottom staff, one pointing to the first measure and another pointing to the second measure.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. The top staff is in treble clef and contains notes with stems. The bottom staff is in bass clef and contains a circled "0)" marking. There is also a circled "0)" marking on the top staff in the second measure. A bracket with "d3" is written above the first measure of the top staff.

A handwritten musical score consisting of three staves. The top staff features a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains a melodic line with notes and rests, and a large slur above it. The middle staff is heavily scribbled over with black ink on the left side. The bottom staff contains a rhythmic accompaniment with notes and rests, grouped by brackets with the number '9' underneath. Annotations include the text "(Mute on)" in parentheses, "Airy and ethereally Microtonal" written across the staves, and "p" for piano. There are also some handwritten notes like "d3" and "d3" with arrows pointing to specific notes. The overall style is that of a composer's sketch.

Handwritten musical score for a string quartet, consisting of four staves. The notation includes various musical symbols and performance instructions.

Staff 1 (Violin I): Features a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *pp* and a performance instruction *Semi microtonal* above the first measure. The notation includes notes with microtonal alterations, indicated by a \flat_3 symbol. A *Reform* instruction is present above the final measure, with *norm. (sim.)* written below it.

Staff 2 (Violin II): Contains a melodic line with microtonal alterations and a *9* (ninth) interval marking under the first measure.

Staff 3 (Viola): Contains a melodic line with microtonal alterations and a *9* interval marking under the first measure.

Staff 4 (Cello/Double Bass): Contains a melodic line with microtonal alterations and a *9* interval marking under the first measure.

The score is characterized by extensive use of microtonal notation, including notes with sharp and flat symbols, and various interval markings such as *9* and \flat_3 .

Handwritten musical score for three staves. The top staff contains rhythmic notation with various time signatures (3/4, 2/4, 4/4, 3/4) and rests. The middle and bottom staves contain melodic lines with notes, accidentals (sharps, flats, naturals), and slurs. The bottom staff includes dynamic markings 'sfz' and a fermata. The notation is dense and appears to be a working draft.