

Michael Kimber

ELEGY

for victims of violence

Transcribed for Four (or more) Violas

This Elegy was composed in 2019 in response to a school shooting—a tragedy that should never occur, yet has been occurring in our nation at the rate of nearly one shooting a week. It was composed as an elegy for victims of gun violence—those who died, those who survived, those who mourn. We should all be mourning.

Prior to the work's premiere by the strings of the Coe College Orchestra, just three days after the shooting, the composer asked the audience:

“At the conclusion of the performance of this Elegy, please remain silent—as silent as the voices of those who are no longer with us. However, do not remain silent once you leave this hall. It is up to each and every one of us to speak for those who no longer can. Please make your voices heard, loud and clear, yet always in non-violent ways.”

Anyone interested in performing this work may obtain, free of charge, a PDF of the score by contacting the composer at mkimber@centurylink.net

*Hear the music at
https://members.tripod.com/m_kimber/elegy-vla4tet.mp3*

ELEGY

Viola Ensemble

Duration 2:50

for the victims of violence

Michael Kimber

14 November 2019

Solemnly ♩ = 48
con sord.

pp
con sord.

pp
con sord.

pp
con sord.

pp
con sord.

7

plaintive

espress.

13

save bow

echo

Elegy

19

Musical score for measures 19-24. The score consists of four staves. The top three staves are in bass clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bottom staff and melodic lines with slurs in the upper staves.

25

Musical score for measures 25-30. The score consists of four staves. The top staff is in treble clef, and the other three are in bass clef. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bottom staff and melodic lines with slurs in the upper staves. Performance instructions include "change bow as needed" and "dying away".

change bow as needed

change bow as needed dying away

change bow as needed dying away

change bow as needed dying away

pizz. p pp

31

Musical score for measures 31-34. The score consists of four staves. The top staff is in treble clef, and the other three are in bass clef. The music features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bottom staff and melodic lines with slurs in the upper staves. Performance instructions include "remain motionless" and "remove mutes quietly".

remain motionless remove mutes quietly

to nothingness remain motionless remove mutes quietly

to nothingness remain motionless remove mutes quietly

to nothingness remain motionless remove mutes quietly

ppp