

Mihkel Kerem

# LAMENT

*for Per Nyström*

for violoncello (or violin / viola)  
and string orchestra

(2008–09)

SCORE



FENNICA GEHRMAN

## Mihkel Kerem

### Lament for violoncello (or viola / violin) and string orchestra (2008–2009)

*Lament* for violoncello and strings was written as a commission from Camerata Nordica and its principal cello, Per Nyström, in 2008. It was premiered at the 'Barockt' festival on the Swedish island of Öland on 9 August 2009 and has been in the regular repertoire of the orchestra ever since. At Per's request the solo part in this piece was composed to represent a lone human voice in a world of disappointment. I used the violins and violas as an operatic choir: they support and comment on the lament of the lone human being. The bass line is one long drone throughout the piece, representing destiny or unwanted reality. It disappears only when the solo voice with the chorus of violins and violas intensifies in their disagreement with life. At the climax of the piece the solo voice is momentarily swallowed by the chorus, only to return with an angry statement of the opening phrase. Thereafter the chorus calms down in acceptance that the world won't change. The bass drone returns to haunt the dying lament of the lone voice. The very last phrase is the only one in a major key and echoes as a prayer for hope.

The version for viola and strings was arranged for Mikk Murdvee at his request in May 2009 and was also premiered by him with the Tallinn Chamber Orchestra in the White Hall of the House of Blackheads, Tallinn, on 14 January 2010.

Mihkel Kerem

Duration: c. 9'

Lament for violoncello and string orchestra	3
Lament for viola and string orchestra	9
Lament for violin and string orchestra	15

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# Lament

for Per Nyström

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Grave ♩ = 52

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score is in 4/4 time and includes parts for Solo cello, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The Solo cello part begins with a *p* dynamic and features a melodic line with accents. The Violin I and II parts are silent until measure 6, where they enter with a *pp* dynamic. The Viola part enters in measure 5 with a *pp* dynamic, marked "solo", and continues through measure 6. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts enter in measure 4 with a *p* dynamic, playing a sustained bass line.

Musical score for measures 7-12. The Solo cello part continues with a melodic line. The Violin I and II parts continue with their *pp* melodic lines. The Viola part continues with its *pp* melodic line. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts continue with their sustained bass line.

# Lament

for Per Nyström

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Grave ♩ = 52

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score is in 4/4 time and features the following parts:

- Solo viola:** Measures 1-6. Starts with a *p* dynamic and includes accents. The melody is: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter).
- Violin I:** Measures 1-6. Rests in measures 1-5, then plays a *pp* melody in measure 6: G4-A4-B4 (quarter), C5-B4-A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter).
- Violin II:** Measures 1-6. Rests in measures 1-5, then plays a *pp* melody in measure 6: G4-A4-B4 (quarter), C5-B4-A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter).
- Viola:** Measures 1-6. Rests in measures 1-5, then plays a *pp* melody in measure 6: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter). The word "solo" is written above the staff in measure 5, and "tutti" is written above the staff in measure 6.
- Violoncello:** Measures 1-6. Rests in measures 1-5, then plays a *p* melody in measure 6: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter).
- Contrabass:** Measures 1-6. Rests in measures 1-5, then plays a *p* melody in measure 6: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter).

Musical score for measures 7-12. The score is in 4/4 time and features the following parts:

- Solo viola:** Measures 7-12. Continues the melody from measure 6: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter).
- Violin I:** Measures 7-12. Continues the melody from measure 6: G4-A4-B4 (quarter), C5-B4-A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter).
- Violin II:** Measures 7-12. Continues the melody from measure 6: G4-A4-B4 (quarter), C5-B4-A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F3 (quarter), E3 (quarter), D3 (quarter), C3 (quarter), B2 (quarter), A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter).
- Viola:** Measures 7-12. Continues the melody from measure 6: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter).
- Violoncello:** Measures 7-12. Continues the melody from measure 6: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter).
- Contrabass:** Measures 7-12. Continues the melody from measure 6: G2-A2-B2 (quarter), C3-B2-A2 (quarter), G2 (quarter), F2 (quarter), E2 (quarter), D2 (quarter), C2 (quarter), B1 (quarter), A1 (quarter), G1 (quarter), F1 (quarter), E1 (quarter), D1 (quarter), C1 (quarter), B0 (quarter), A0 (quarter), G0 (quarter).

# Lament

for Per Nyström

Mihkel Kerem

Grave ♩ = 52

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score is in 4/4 time and marked 'Grave' with a tempo of ♩ = 52. The instruments are Solo Violin, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The Solo Violin part begins with a *p* dynamic and features a melodic line with some rests. The Violin I and II parts are silent until measure 6, where they enter with a *pp* dynamic. The Viola part enters in measure 5 with a *pp* dynamic, marked 'solo', and continues through measure 6. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts enter in measure 5 with a *p* dynamic, playing a sustained bass line.

*sul D*-----

Musical score for measures 7-12. The Solo Violin part continues its melodic line. The Violin I and II parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Viola part continues its melodic line. The Violoncello and Contrabass parts continue their sustained bass line. The score is marked *sul D* with a dashed line above the staff.