

*for Austin*  
**contained exuberance**

Two phrases separated by a period of absolute stillness.

The motion of technical execution is of an intensity barely above quietude.

The sounding artifacts are extremely fragile; the slightest fluctuation in technical parameters can cause them to fray or fracture, but such corruptions are not to be avoided.

The notation describes subtle motions of the hand on the instrument and subtle modulations of intensity; no shapes should be jagged or extreme.

There is no prescribed time scale. The relative bow speed and pressure should be such that the fingered harmonics are right at the threshold of speaking; it is ok for variations in contact point and bow pressure to push the sounding result one way or the other from that threshold.

Be open to those serendipitous moments when the combination of technical parameters yields an unexpected result; relish and dwell in such moments.

Repeat both phrases ad lib.

**Happy birthday, dear friend.**

# 2

CP

i

ii

iii

iv

Pr

approx. 75"

# 1

CP

i  
ii  
iii  
iv

Pr

completely still

approx. 75"

Detailed description: This page contains a musical score for a string quartet, labeled '1'. It features five staves: a top staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#), and four lower staves labeled 'i', 'ii', 'iii', and 'iv' with treble clefs. The 'Pr' staff at the bottom is a purple line with a dashed arc underneath. A red wavy line labeled 'CP' is positioned between the top staff and the lower staves. A green shaded area covers the lower staves, with a larger green area under the 'Pr' staff. Performance instructions include 'completely still' with a crescent moon icon on the right, and 'approx. 75"' at the bottom. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and slurs.