

Eternal Canons

for

three violins and portative organ

by

Justin Henry Rubin

HARVEY MUSIC EDITIONS

Eternal Canons

Justin Henry Rubin
(2016)

$\text{♩} = 60$

I: C minor

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3

$\text{♩} = 60$

Portative Organ

(harpichord or piano can be used alternatively)

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Molto rit.

II: A minor

$\text{♩} = 50$

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3

Portative Organ

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

21

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

21

28

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

28

35

Rit.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

35

Rit.

III: G minor

$\text{♩} = 42$

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3

Portative Organ

Musical score for measures 1-7. The score is in G minor, 3/4 time, with a tempo of quarter note = 42. Violin 1 and Portative Organ play the main melody. Violin 2 and Violin 3 are silent.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

8

Musical score for measures 8-14. Violin 1 and Violin 2 play the main melody. Violin 3 and Portative Organ provide accompaniment.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

15

Musical score for measures 15-21. Violin 1, Violin 2, and Violin 3 play the main melody. Portative Organ provides accompaniment.

22

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Musical score for measures 22-28. The top system contains three violin staves (Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with various phrasings and dynamics.

29

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Musical score for measures 29-35. The top system contains three violin staves (Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The music continues with similar rhythmic patterns and includes repeat signs in measures 32-33.

36

Molto rit.

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Musical score for measures 36-42. The top system contains three violin staves (Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vln. 3) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The tempo marking *Molto rit.* is present. The music is characterized by slower, more sustained notes and includes repeat signs in measures 40-41.

IV: Eb major

♩. = 63

Portative Organ

Musical notation for Portative Organ, measures 1-6. The score is in Eb major and 6/8 time. The upper staff (treble clef) contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes. The lower staff (bass clef) contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical notation for Portative Organ, measures 7-12. The upper staff continues the melodic line, and the lower staff continues the bass line. Measure 7 is marked with a '7' above the staff.

Musical notation for Violins 1, 2, and 3, measures 13-18. Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 are marked with rests. Vln. 3 plays a sustained chord in the lower register, with notes tied across measures.

Musical notation for Portative Organ, measures 13-18. The upper staff continues the melodic line, and the lower staff continues the bass line. Measure 13 is marked with a '13' above the staff.

Musical notation for Violins 1, 2, and 3, measures 19-24. Vln. 1 and Vln. 2 are marked with rests. Vln. 3 plays a sustained chord in the lower register, with notes tied across measures.

Musical notation for Portative Organ, measures 19-24. The upper staff continues the melodic line, and the lower staff continues the bass line. Measure 19 is marked with a '19' above the staff.

25

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

25

31

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

31

Molto rit.

37

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

37

Molto rit.

37

37

V: F major

♩ = 96

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3

Portative Organ

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

8^{va}

[loco]

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

13

19

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

8^{va}

[loco]

19

Poco rit.

24

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

Poco rit.

24

Poco rit.

VI: D minor

$\text{♩} = 32$

Violin 1

Violin 2

Violin 3

Portative Organ

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

4

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

7

10

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

10

This system contains measures 10, 11, and 12. It features three violin staves (Vln. 1, 2, 3) and a grand piano staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 10 starts with a treble clef and a key signature change to one flat. The violin parts are highly melodic with many slurs and ties. The piano part has a bass clef and a key signature change to one flat, with a melodic line in the right hand and a more rhythmic line in the left hand.

13

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

13

This system contains measures 13, 14, and 15. It features three violin staves (Vln. 1, 2, 3) and a grand piano staff. The key signature has one flat. Measure 13 starts with a treble clef. The violin parts continue with complex melodic lines. The piano part continues with its two-staff structure, showing a steady melodic progression.

16

(Non-rit.)

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vln. 3

16

(Non-rit.)

This system contains measures 16, 17, and 18. It features three violin staves (Vln. 1, 2, 3) and a grand piano staff. The key signature has one flat. Measure 16 starts with a treble clef. The instruction "(Non-rit.)" is written above the first violin staff and below the piano staff. The violin parts show a change in texture, with some long notes and slurs. The piano part continues with its characteristic two-staff structure.

The image shows a musical score for three violins (Vln. 1, 2, 3) and piano. The score is written in a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature (C). The first measure is marked with the number 19. The violin parts feature long, flowing lines with various ornaments and slurs. The piano part consists of a single melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with some chords and slurs. The score is presented in a clean, black-and-white format.

These 'eternal' canons were first conceived when my father, Jerome Harvey Rubin (1937–2015), was taken to his final room on this Earth under the care of a hospice facility.

During the days that preceded his death on the thirteenth of November I thought a great deal about the past, the infinite, eternity, the desperate wanting of something to never end.

All through his final journey I continued to write music – songs, short piano pieces, everything left incomplete when he died; perhaps the thought that if something was left unfinished he would have to stay with us.

All the music eventually was completed within weeks but the concept of these canons came back to me. About two months after his passing I felt I could begin making these short pieces whose duration, like our own, is unknown, indeterminate, and ultimately finite.

The most difficult part of writing now is that he will not hear what I have made for him.

Eternal Canons

Violin 1

I: C minor

Justin Henry Rubin
(2016)

$\text{♩} = 60$

9

14

22

Molto rit.

Violin 1

II: A minor

$\text{♩} = 50$

5

8

13

19

25

31

37 *Rit.*

The image shows a musical score for Violin 1, titled "II: A minor". The score is written on seven staves. The first staff starts with a tempo marking of quarter note = 50 and a fingering "5" above a long horizontal line. The second staff begins at measure 8. The third staff begins at measure 13. The fourth staff begins at measure 19. The fifth staff begins at measure 25. The sixth staff begins at measure 31. The seventh staff begins at measure 37 and is marked "Rit." (ritardando). The music consists of various note values, slurs, and articulation marks.

Violin 1

III: G minor

$\text{♩} = 42$

6

13

19

26

33

Molto rit.

Detailed description: The musical score is written for Violin 1 in G minor, 3/4 time. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 42. The piece is divided into six staves. The first staff contains measures 1-5. The second staff starts at measure 6 and includes a repeat sign at measure 10. The third staff starts at measure 13. The fourth staff starts at measure 19. The fifth staff starts at measure 26. The sixth staff starts at measure 33 and concludes with the instruction 'Molto rit.' and a double bar line.

Violin 1

IV: Eb major

$\text{♩} = 63$

8 8 4

23

29

35 *Molto rit.*

40

The image shows a page of a violin score for the fourth movement in E-flat major. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 63. The score consists of five staves of music. The first staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a 6/8 time signature. It begins with a double bar line and a common time signature 'C'. Above the staff, there are three measures with a thick black line, labeled with the numbers 8, 8, and 4. The music then continues with a series of notes, including a half note and a quarter note. The second staff starts at measure 23 and features a series of notes with slurs. The third staff starts at measure 29 and continues the melodic line. The fourth staff starts at measure 35 and is marked 'Molto rit.' (Molto ritardando). The fifth staff starts at measure 40 and concludes the passage with a double bar line.

Violin 1

V: F major

$\text{♩} = 96$

5

9

13

17

Poco rit.

22

27

Violin 1

VI: D minor

$\text{♩} = 32$

2

5

7

9

11

13

15

17 (Non-rit.)

Detailed description: This is a musical score for Violin 1, titled 'VI: D minor'. The score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 32. The piece begins with a two-measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs. Measure numbers 2, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 17 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. The final measure (17) is marked '(Non-rit.)' and ends with a double bar line.

Eternal Canons

Violin 2

I: C minor

Justin Henry Rubin
(2016)

$\text{♩} = 60$

10

17 *Molto rit.*

24

Violin 2

II: A minor

$\text{♩} = 50$

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 1-6. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes with slurs and ties.

Musical staff 2: Treble clef. Measures 7-12. The melody continues with eighth and sixteenth notes, including a repeat sign at the end.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef. Measures 13-17. The melody continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef. Measures 18-23. The melody continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical staff 5: Treble clef. Measures 24-29. The melody continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical staff 6: Treble clef. Measures 30-36. The melody continues with eighth and sixteenth notes.

Musical staff 7: Treble clef. Measure 37. Starts with *Rit.* and contains a whole note chord with a sharp sign, followed by a half note and a quarter note.

Violin 2

III: G minor

$\text{♩} = 42$

4

9

15

21

28

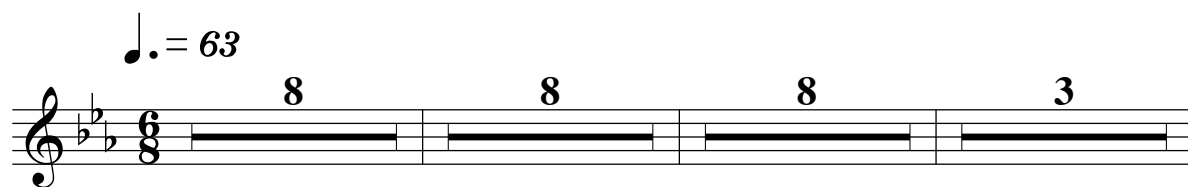
33

Molto rit.

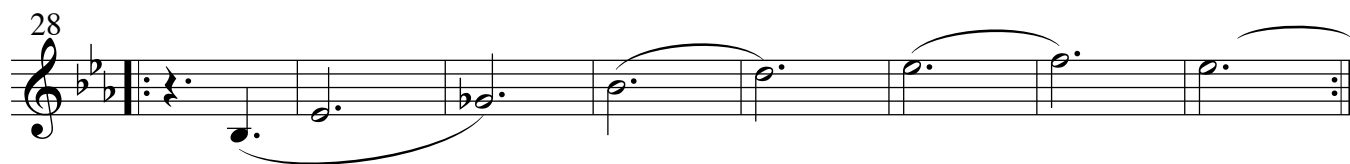
Violin 2

IV: Eb major

$\text{♩} = 63$



28



36

Molto rit.



42



Violin 2

V: F major

$\text{♩} = 96$

2

6

10

16

21 *Poco rit.*

26

Detailed description: This is a musical score for Violin 2 in F major. The piece is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 96 beats per minute. The score consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (Bb), and a 4/4 time signature. A tempo marking of a quarter note equals 96 is placed above the first measure. A first ending bracket labeled '2' spans the first two measures. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and includes slurs and ties. The second staff starts at measure 6. The third staff starts at measure 10 and includes a repeat sign with first and second endings. The fourth staff starts at measure 16. The fifth staff starts at measure 21 and includes the instruction 'Poco rit.' above the staff. The sixth staff starts at measure 26 and ends with a double bar line.

Violin 2

VI: D minor

$\text{♩} = 32$

Musical score for Violin 2, VI: D minor, measures 1-19. The score is written in treble clef, 4/4 time, and D minor. The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 32$. The score consists of nine staves of music. The first staff (measures 1-2) begins with a quarter rest followed by a series of eighth notes. The second staff (measures 3-4) contains a triplet of eighth notes. The third staff (measures 5-6) continues the eighth-note pattern. The fourth staff (measures 7-8) features a sixteenth-note triplet. The fifth staff (measures 9-10) shows a sixteenth-note triplet. The sixth staff (measures 11-12) contains a sixteenth-note triplet. The seventh staff (measures 13-14) features a sixteenth-note triplet. The eighth staff (measures 15-16) is marked "(Non-rit.)" and contains a sixteenth-note triplet. The ninth staff (measures 17-19) concludes the piece with a final cadence.

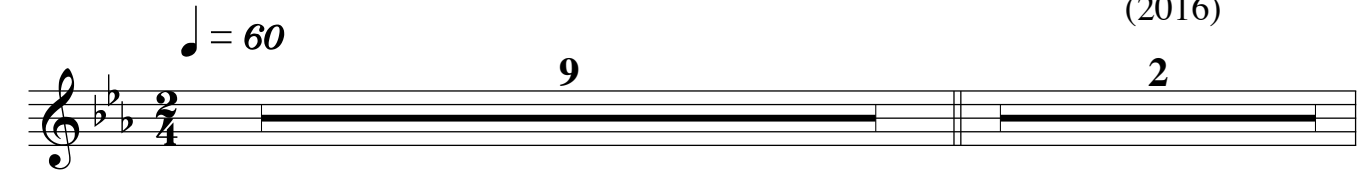
Eternal Canons

Violin 3

I: C minor

Justin Henry Rubin
(2016)

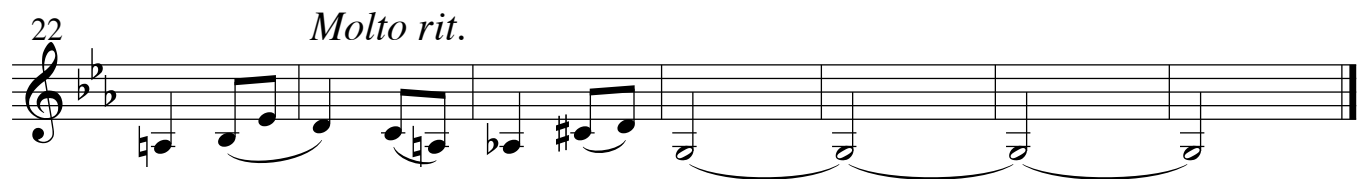
$\text{♩} = 60$



12



22 *Molto rit.*



Violin 3

III: G minor

$\text{♩} = 42$

8

13

20

26

33

Molto rit.

Violin 3

IV: Eb major

♩. = 63

12

19

25

31

36

Molto rit.

Violin 3

V: F major

$\text{♩} = 96$

6

10

16

20

25 *Poco rit.*

Violin 3

VI: D minor

$\text{♩} = 32$

3

6

8

10

12

14

16 (Non-rit.)

19