

Love Scene

for string quartet

by Kyle Gann
2003

Love Scene (2003) is a fairly literal arrangement for string quartet of Act III of my chamber opera *The Watermelon Cargo*. The sung lines describe the scene:

Photographer: An art school in a box in the late afternoon. Lazy sunshine pouring through an old-style wooden glass window.
Woman: Still life of the watermelon in process.
Man: A teacher wanders.
W: Primping brushstrokes.
W+M: Motion and time pass until the two of them are alone.
W: The camera is an artificial presence.
M: We see details through the eye of the camera and then we disintegrate.
W: Why is the guy with the camera here?
M: Recording.
P: In the studio the sound of footsteps.
Rip Van Winkle: Seeing yourself so many years later.
RVW: Krapp... A Last Tape.
P: Hearing yourself talking.
RVW: And breathing.
M: So many years apart.
W: Time was yesterday.
M: What were you feeling?
W: In motion out of the past.
M: Much more profound than a picture.
W: An old movie snapshot.

The piece uses a just-intonation scale as detailed on the next page.

Duration: 6 minutes

Love Scene scale

Tune strings in pure perfect fifths, to cello/viola C, except for violin E strings, which should be 21 cents flatter than pure

ET = Equal-tempered, standard 20th-century tuning

Pitch	Ratio	Cents	Description
C	1/1	0	reference pitch, normal tuning
C^	33/32	53.3	(C with up-arrow), C 53 cents sharp
C#	25/24	70.7	29 cents flatter than ET
D7	35/32	155.1	45 cents flatter than ET D
D	9/8	203.9	4 cents sharper than ET, 9th harmonic of C, tuned with G
Eb^	77/64	320.1	20 cents sharper than ET Eb
E	5/4	386.3	14 cents flatter than ET, fifth harmonic of C
E+	81/64	407.8	8 cents sharper than ET E
F7+	21/16	470.8	29 cents flatter than ET F, 7th harmonic of G
F^	11/8	551.3	(F with up-arrow), halfway between ET F and F#
F#	45/32	590.2	F#+, 10 cents flatter than ET, 5th harmonic of D
G7	35/24	653.2	47 cents flatter than ET G
G	3/2	702	perfectly in tune with C, open string
G^	99/64	755.2	(G with up-arrow), 55 cents sharper than ET G
G#	25/16	772.6	27 cents flatter than ET, 5th harmonic of E
A+	27/16	905.9	6 cents sharper than ET, tuned with open string D
A^	55/32	937.6	(A with up-arrow), 37 cents sharper than ET A
B7b	7/4	968.8	31 cents flatter than ET, always, 7th harmonic of C
B	15/8	1088.3	12 cents flatter than ET
B#	121/64	1102.6	basically an ET B (m. 63)
C7+	63/32	1172.7	27 cents flatter than C

Love Scene

Breezily but with passion and undulating momentum

Kyle Gann
2003

$\text{♩} = 136$

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

mp

8

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

15

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

sf

sf

sf

sf

22

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

29

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

36

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Love Scene

43

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

50

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

56

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

Love Scene

61

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

66

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

72

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

Love Scene

78

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

85

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

92

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Love Scene

98

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

104

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

109

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

Love Scene

115

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mf

mf

122

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

128

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

f

Love Scene

134

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

141

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

147

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Love Scene

153

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

159

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

165

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Love Scene

170

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

175

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

181

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Love Scene

187

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

194

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

201

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Love Scene

208

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

crescendo

crescendo

215

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

crescendo

Vla.

Vc.

222

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

Love Scene

227

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

233

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

240

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

Love Scene

247

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

254

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

261

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.

Love Scene

267

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

p

< p

5:3

274

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

pp

pp

pp

pp

Feb. 2 - March 28, 2003
 Red Hook, NY
 Spruced up a bit Sept. 19, 2005
 Germantown, NY