

Program Notes

And time stood still...

This piece for string orchestra is in D minor, with the opening theme presented by the 1st violins. The beautiful melody is timeless, creating a still, calm scene for the fugal unfolding of the theme. The melody next comes in the 2nd violins, accompanied by an eighth-note obligato in the first violins.

This piece first started out in concept as a set of variations, and this is reflected in the counter-melody next being set in triplets against the theme when it comes in the violas. After some development, the theme finally arrives in the unison cellos and double basses, accompanied by quaver figuration in the 2nd violins and violas, and triplet patterns in the 1st violins.

Halfway through the piece, the theme is introduced in retrograde in the 1st violins and violas. The retrograde melody then travels through other doublings and variations, with the return of the opening theme coming in the violins, in unison, and echoed in canon by the cello and double bass lines. **And time stood still...** draws to a close with an extended cadence of elongated thematic tones.