

James Weeks

Capricho

**Violin
2003**

Capricho

for violin

To Sophie Appleton

Duration

8 minutes

Performance note

In Tempo I, all unstemmed noteheads (● and ◇) should be counted as demisemiquavers.

◇ = half-harmonic note, played *sul pont.* with light LH finger pressure, virtually toneless.

s.p. = *sul pont.*, cancelled by *nat[urale]*.

—→s.p. = move from *naturale* to *sul pont.*

■, p etc. = toneless bowing on the bridge.

⊖ = LH muting the strings

▭ = heavy bow pressure, *naturale*, but not extremely grating

⌋⌋⌋ = extremely heavy bow pressure, producing no (or very little) pitch and a very harsh grating sound.

Quartertunes: ♯ = ¼ sharp, $\sharp\sharp$ = ¾ sharp, ♭ = ¼ flat, $\flat\flat$ = ¾ flat.

Programme note

Capricho takes its title both from Paganini's celebrated exploration of virtuosity and from Goya's moralistic etchings, in which human caprice, or folly, is revealed in all its bestial unreason in a series of nightmarish satirical visions. In this work, Paganini's hyper-virtuosic violin style is stripped of its straightforward aspect of display, beginning hollowed-out and expressively detached and later becoming frenzied and out-of-control. This music is continually interrupted by a second type of material in which fleeting fragments of melody appear briefly out of a background of suffocating silence.

T^oI: as far as possible (♩ = 96⁺)
Absolutely detached and cool

pp sul pont.
sharp accents

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 7/8 time signature. The staff contains a melodic line with sharp accents and a dynamic marking of *pp sul pont.*

Musical staff 2: Treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *nat.* at the end.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *s.p.* in the middle.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamic markings of *poco sfz* at the beginning, *nat.* in the middle, and *s.p.* towards the end.

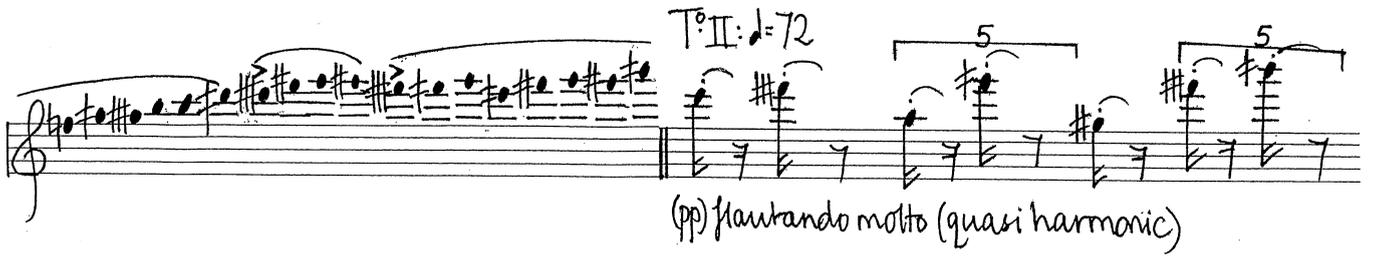
Musical staff 5: Treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamic markings of *nat.* at the beginning, *s.p.* in the middle, and *nat.* at the end.

Musical staff 6: Treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *s.p.* at the beginning.

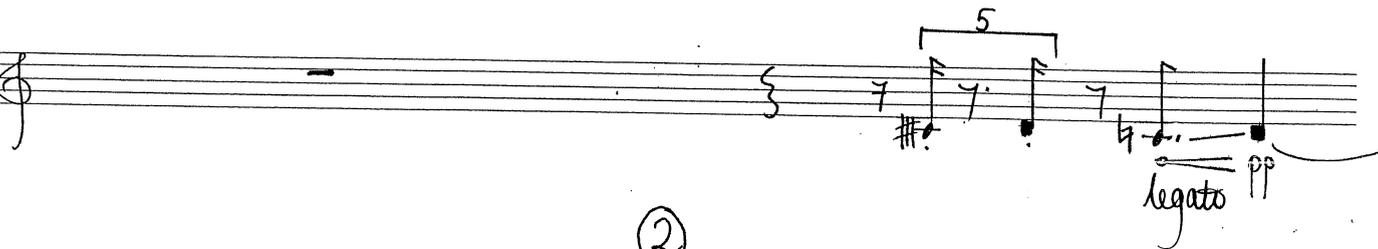
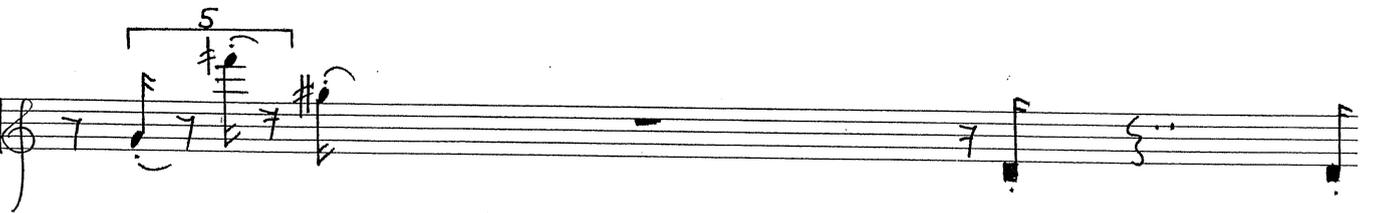
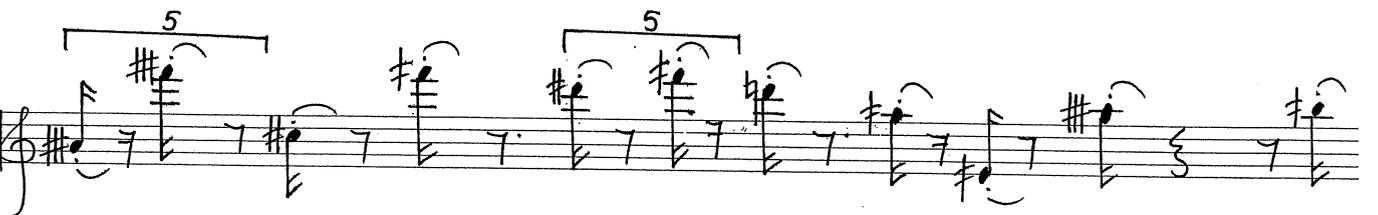
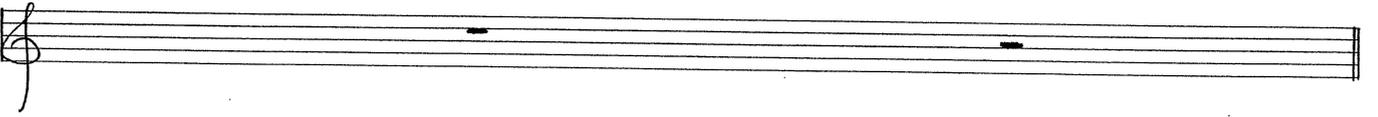
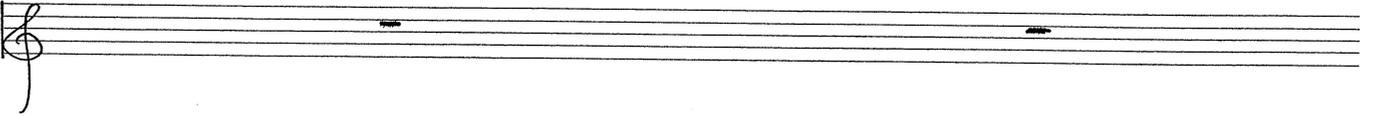
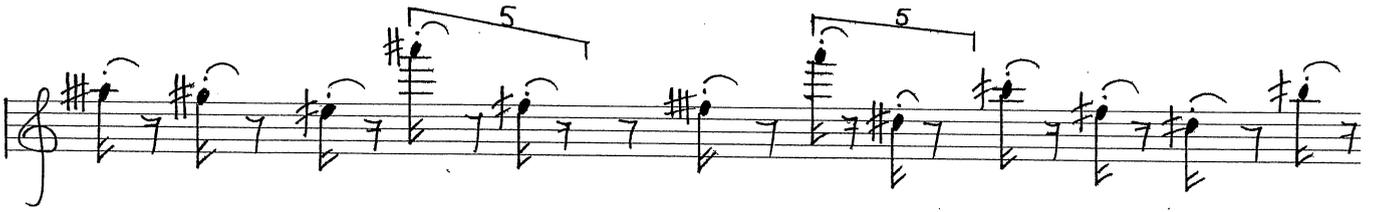
Musical staff 7: Treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with dynamic markings of *nat.* and *s.p.* at the beginning, and *poco sfz* in the middle.

Musical staff 8: Treble clef. The staff contains a melodic line with a dynamic marking of *nat.* at the beginning.

T^o II: ♩ = 72



(pp) flautando molto (quasi harmonic)



legato pp

T^o:I

(poco) pp (s.p.)

poco

poco p sfz nat. pp s.p.

nat.

poco sfz

legato separate bows s.p.

T^o:II

7° I

poco sfz

poco sfz

f sub.

Brillante e leggiero sub.

ff legato

f sub. separate bows nar. sub.

pp (normale)
s.p.

sfz poco

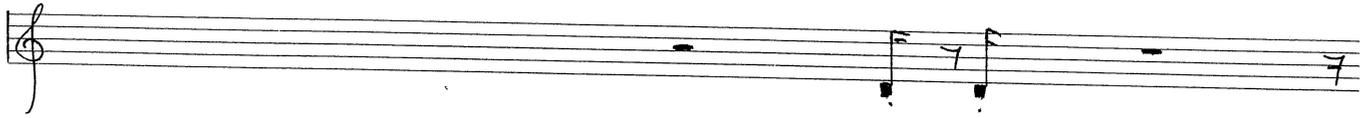
T^o II fierce
5
f

pp subito legato sempre
molto aumentando sul tasto

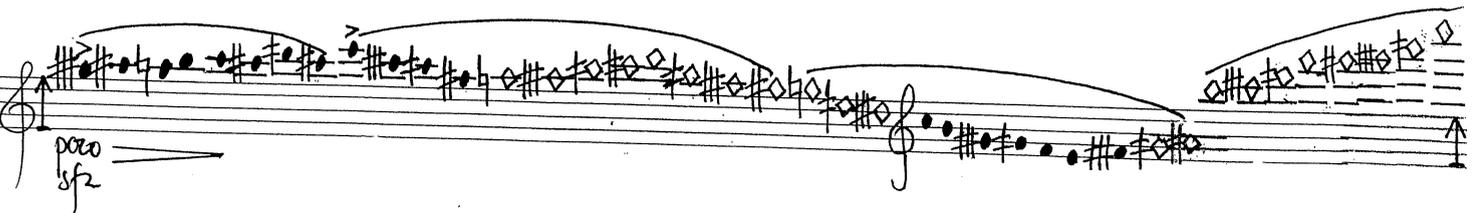
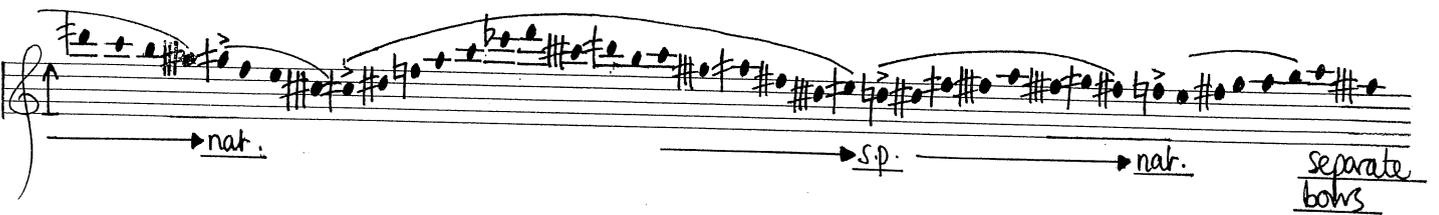
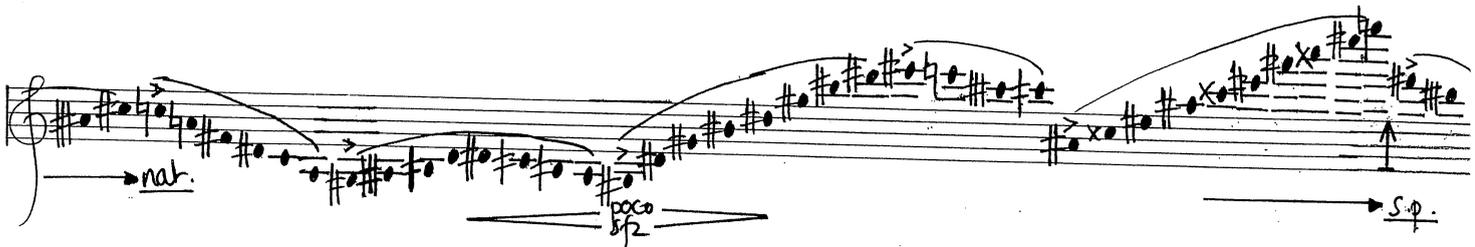
pp
5

Agitato
pp s.p.
poco
poco sfz
5

(pp)
7



T^o.I (Detached and cool)



nat. s.p. nat. s.p.

sf f sub.
separate bows
nat. sub.

choking
sf f sub.
s.p. sub. Bouncing bow
normale nar. sub.

choking
sf f sub.
pp sub
s.p. sub

pp p 7 7 pp

pp p 7 7 pp

pp p

poco sf poco sf

nat. fff pp sub s.p. sub.

T: II

T: I Wild ff separate bows nat. sub.

legato

pp s.p. ff nat. pp s.p. ff nat.

tear into string f legato

s.p. pp

ff pp f pp

f sub. pp fff nar. sub.

ff separate bows fff tear into string

fff

Brillante e leggiero sub. ff sfz

sfz fff

ff fff

sfz fff

Handwritten musical notation on a single staff. The notation includes a melodic line with slurs and dynamic markings such as *sfz* and *fff*.

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Handwritten musical notation on a single staff. The notation includes a melodic line with slurs and dynamic markings such as *fff* and *f*. A section marker *T: II* is present.

x pp' sub
sempre legato

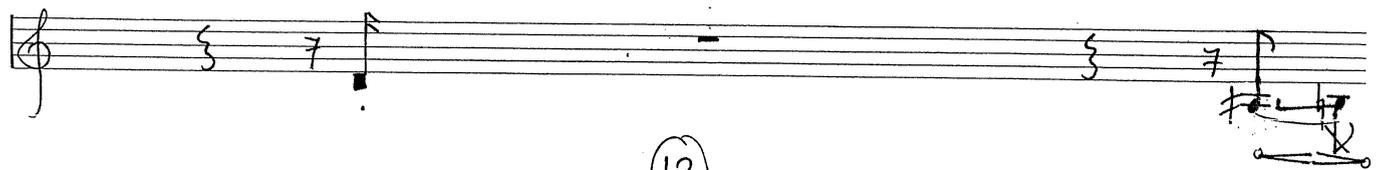
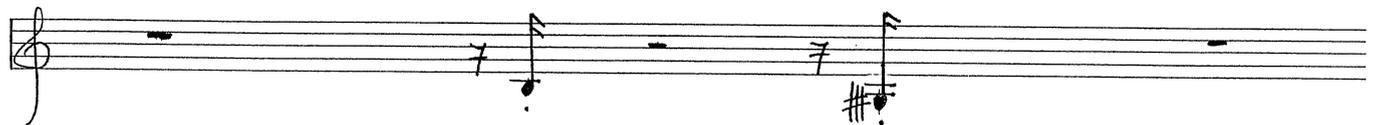
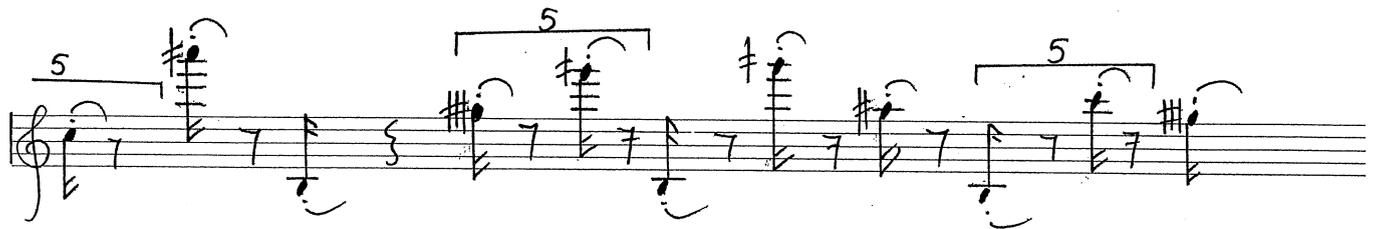
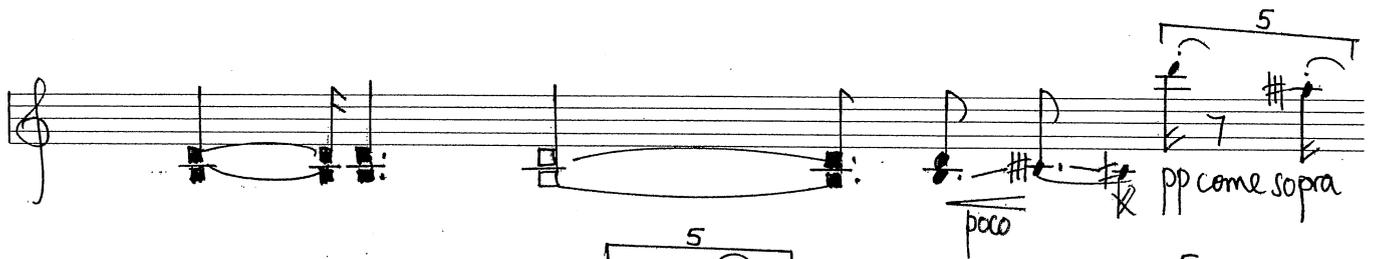
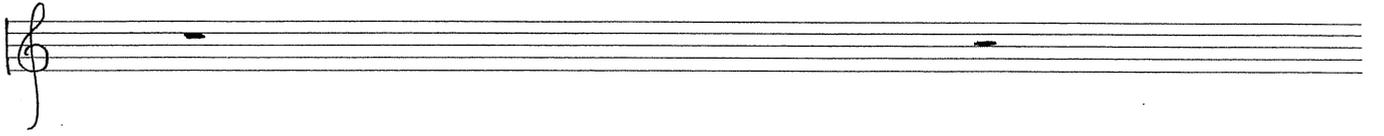
poco

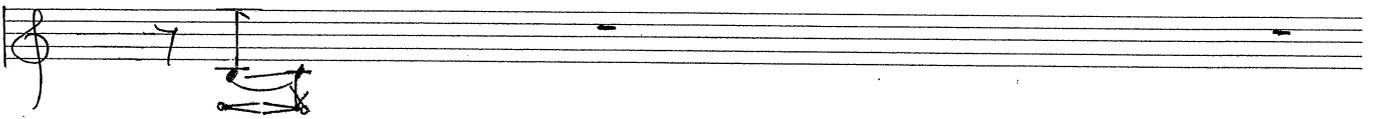
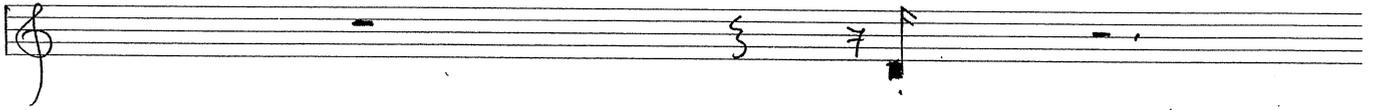
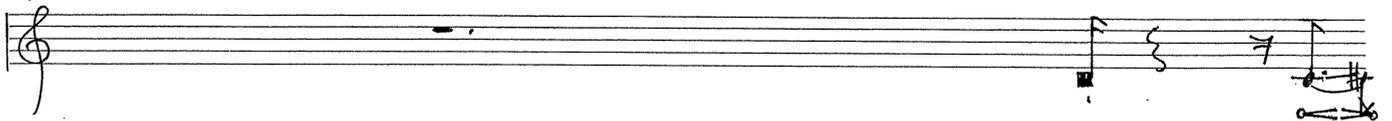
sfz poco

poco

poco

poco





1^o I
Agitato

pp molto spiccato
s.p. punto d'arco

molto

pp

molto

pp

molto

pp

