

# Circular Reasoning

*(2021)*

*Duration: 11 minutes*

*for String Quartet*

*Cole Reyes (ASCAP)*

Orchestration:

2 Violin  
1 Viola  
1 Violoncello

Written for the Bergamot Quartet.

Instructions:

ST – sul tasto  
mST – molto sul tasto  
sul pont. – sul ponticello  
mSP – molto sul ponticello

All ping note-heads (i.e. measure 1) indicate tapping on the body of the instrument.  
All x note-heads (i.e. measure 10 in violin 2) indicate chop. For x note-heads with arrows, it indicates a scrape up the fingerboard. These are described in this video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3sqjFsi61Y8>.

Triangle note-heads indicate highest pitch on string.

In measure 50, the damp symbol indicates stopping the tone on string, a la “Grido” by Lachenmann.

In measure 224 in viola, the arrows and accidentals indicate a small gliss sharp.

Overall the character of the piece is a gritty fiddle-tune.

Program Note:

Circular Reasoning is a tribute to my time in high school – where I fell in love with music and composing. When I was in wind band, each day we did not have work to do, we would play the circle game. We would all sit down in a circle. A simple steady set of two eighth notes would pass the rhythm off to the next person and a deviation from the rhythm would reverse the direction of players. In the piece, the quartet begins by playing this game and having it develop into a rousing fiddle-like tune.

for the Bergamot Quartet  
Circular Reasoning

Cole Reyes

Like a game ♩=108  
tap on instrument

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score is for four instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The time signature is 4/4. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked as ♩=108. The instruction "tap on instrument" is written above the first three measures of each instrument's staff. In the fifth measure, the instruction "pick up bow" is written above the Violoncello staff.

Musical score for measures 6-10. The score is for four instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The time signature changes to 3/4 at measure 6. The instruction "pick up bow" is written above the Violin I staff at measure 6. The instruction "chop" is written above the Violoncello staff at measure 6. The instruction "ric." is written above the Violin I staff at measure 10. The instruction "chop" is written above the Violin II staff at measure 10. The instruction "pick up bow" is written above the Viola staff at measure 10.

Musical score for measures 11-15. The score is for four instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The time signature is 3/4. The instruction "gliss. up III" is written above the Violin I staff at measure 11. The instruction "ric." is written above the Violoncello staff at measure 11. The instruction "gliss. up III" is written above the Violin I staff at measure 15.

16

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

20

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz.

arco

*p*

23

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

arco

pizz.

*p*

*f*

26

Vln. I arco

Vln. II arco

Vla. arco

Vc. p

30

Vln. I pizz. arco

Vln. II pizz. arco

Vla. pizz. arco

Vc. p f

33

Vln. I f

Vln. II f

Vla. f

Vc.

36

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Violins I and II play a continuous sixteenth-note pattern. Viola plays a similar pattern. Violoncello plays a bass line with triplets and slurs.



39

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Violins I and II play a continuous sixteenth-note pattern. Viola plays a similar pattern. Violoncello plays a bass line with triplets and slurs.



42

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Violins I and II play a continuous sixteenth-note pattern. Viola plays a similar pattern. Violoncello plays a bass line with slurs and dynamic markings *p* and *f*.

46

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

51

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

switch to III → mSP

switch to III and IV → mSP

arco, chop

ord., ric.

*f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

*f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

*f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

*f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

56

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

scrape up fingerboard

ord.

*f*

60

Vln. I pizz arco ric.

Vln. II pizz arco

Vla. ← ←

Vc.



63

Vln. I pizz arco ← ←

Vln. II pizz arco

Vla. arco

Vc. arco



67

Vln. I pp f ← ←

Vln. II arco

Vla. mSP pp f mSP

Vc. pizz pp f



82

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mSP

ord.

*fp*

87

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

90

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*pp < f*

93

Vln. I *mf* *f* *pp* < *f* *pizz.* *arco*

Vln. II *mp* *f* *pp* < *f* *pizz. 3*

Vla. *f p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f*



97

Vln. I *pp* < *f* *arco* *mf* *f*

Vln. II *pp* < *f* *pizz.* *III, arco 3* *mp* *f*

Vla. *f p*

Vc. *p*



100

Vln. I *pp* < *f* *pizz.* *arco* *pp* < *f* *arco*

Vln. II *pp* < *f* *pizz. 3* *pp* < *f* *pizz.*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

103

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*pp* < *f*  
arco

*p*

*pp*



106

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

*f*

*f*

*p*

ric.



111

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

*f*

*f*

ric.

115

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p*

*f*

*p*

*f*



118

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*



121

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*pizz.*

*pizz.*

*pizz.* *arco*

*pizz.* *arco*

124

arco → mSP ord.

Vln. I *fp* *f* *fp* *f* *fp*

Vln. II *fp* *fp* *fp*

Vla. *fp* *f* *fp* *f* *fp*

Vc. *fp* *f* *fp* *f* *fp*

mSP ord.

131

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

134

arco

Vln. I

Vln. II arco

Vla. arco

Vc. arco

136

Vln. I *fp* *f* *fp*

Vln. II *fp* *f* *fp*

Vla. *fp* *f* *fp*

Vc. *fp*

140

Vln. I *f* mSP ord. mSP ord.

Vln. II *f* mSP ord. mSP ord.

Vla. *f* mSP ord.

Vc. *f* mSP ord. mSP ord.

143

Vln. I *sub.p* *f* ord. *sub.p* *f* mSP

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

146

ord. 3

pSP

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*fp* *f* *mSP* *pSP*

*fp* *f* *ord.* *mSP* *ord.*

150

ord.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

*ord.* 3 3 *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

*ord.* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

*f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

153

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*ff* *pp* *f*

*ff*

*ff*

*f*

156

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mSP



159

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ord.

mSP

ord.

*pp* *f* *p* *f* *pp* *f*

*pp* *f* *p* *f* *pp* *f*

*pp* *f* *p* *f* *pp* *f*

*pp* *f* *pp*



163

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mSP

ord.

*p* *f* *pp*

*p* *f* *pp*

*p* *f* *pp*

*f* *pp*

166

Vln. I *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

Vln. II *f* *pp* *f* *f* *pp* *f*

Vla. *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

Vc. *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

Annotations: mSP, ord.

171

Vln. I *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Annotations: 3, doesn't have to be exactly together

175

Vln. I *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

Vln. II *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

Vla. *pp* *sub.f* *pp*

Vc. *pp* *sub.f* *pp*

Annotations: mSP, ord.

178

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p* *f* *pp* *f* *p* *f* *pp* *f*

mSP ord. mSP ord. mSP ord.

*f* *pp* *fp* *f* *pp*

184

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p* *f* *pp* *f* *pp* *f*

mSP ord. mSP ord. mSP ord.

*fp* *f* *pp* *f* *pp*

189

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f<sub>poss.</sub>*

*f<sub>poss.</sub>*

*f*

*f*

18

195

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.



201

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.



206

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.



221

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*pp* *f* *pp* *f* *f* *p*

ord. *mSP* *mSP* *mSP*



225

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f* *f* *f* *f*



228

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

arco

231

Musical score for measures 231-233. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Measure 231:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a quarter note followed by a quarter rest. Vln. II has a *arco* marking. Vc. plays a quarter note.
- Measure 232:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a quarter note followed by a quarter rest. Vln. II has a *arco* marking. Vc. plays a quarter note.
- Measure 233:** All instruments play a sixteenth-note figure. Vln. I and Vln. II have a *f* dynamic marking. Vc. has a *f* dynamic marking.



234

Musical score for measures 234-237. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Measure 234:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.
- Measure 235:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.
- Measure 236:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.
- Measure 237:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.



238

Musical score for measures 238-241. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Measure 238:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.
- Measure 239:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.
- Measure 240:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.
- Measure 241:** Vln. I and Vln. II play a continuous sixteenth-note figure. Vc. plays a half note.

241

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.



244

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f* chop

*p*  $\leftarrow$  *f*



248

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f p*  $\leftarrow$  *f*  $\leftarrow$  *p*

*f p*  $\leftarrow$  *f*  $\leftarrow$  *p*

*f p*  $\leftarrow$  *f*  $\leftarrow$  *p*

*f p*  $\leftarrow$  *f*  $\leftarrow$  *p*

253

Musical score for measures 253-256. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The piece is in 6/16 time, which changes to 2/4, 3/4, 4/4, and 3/4 in the subsequent measures. The dynamics are marked with *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). The Vln. I and Vln. II parts feature slurs and dynamic markings. The Vla. part includes triplets and slurs. The Vc. part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with triplets and dynamic markings.



257

Musical score for measures 257-260. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The piece is in 3/4 time. The dynamics are marked with *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). The Vln. I and Vln. II parts feature slurs and dynamic markings. The Vla. part includes triplets and slurs. The Vc. part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with triplets and dynamic markings.



260

Musical score for measures 260-263. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The piece is in 3/4 time. The dynamics are marked with *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). The Vln. I and Vln. II parts feature slurs and dynamic markings. The Vla. part includes slurs and dynamic markings. The Vc. part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with slurs and dynamic markings.

263

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

266

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*fp*

*fp*

*fp*

*fp*

269

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

gliss in and out of tune on each string  
no more than a half step

*f* *p* *f* *fp*

gliss in and out of tune on each string  
no more than a half step

*f* *p* *f* *fp*

gliss in and out of tune on each string  
no more than a half step

*f* *p* *f* *fp*

gliss in and out of tune on each string  
no more than a half step

*f* *p* *f* *fp*



285

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Violin I and Violin II parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. The Viola part plays a similar pattern in the bass clef. The Violoncello part plays a pattern of eighth notes in the bass clef. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present in the second measure of the Violin I, Violin II, and Viola parts.



288

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Violin I and Violin II parts continue with the rhythmic pattern. The Viola part continues with its pattern. The Violoncello part continues with its pattern, featuring a slur over the final two notes of the second measure.



291

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Violin I and Violin II parts continue with the rhythmic pattern. The Viola part continues with its pattern. The Violoncello part continues with its pattern.

294

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. *f*



297

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.



300

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

303

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.



307

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f* *p* mSP ord.



311

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f* *p* *f* *p* mSP ord. mSP ord. mSP ord.

317

Violin I: *fp*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *mSP*, *ord.*  
Violin II: *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*  
Viola: *mSP*, *p*, *mSP*, *f*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *f*, *ord.*  
Violoncello: *mSP*, *ord.*, *p*, *f*, *ord.*, *p*, *f*, *ord.*

Dynamic markings: *fp*, *p*, *f*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*

Tempo/Performance markings: *mSP*, *ord.*

Violin I: *fp*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*  
Violin II: *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*  
Viola: *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*  
Violoncello: *p*, *3*, *p*, *f*, *ord.*, *p*, *f*, *ord.*

Dynamic markings: *fp*, *p*, *f*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*

Tempo/Performance markings: *mSP*, *ord.*

327

Violin I: *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*  
Violin II: *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*  
Viola: *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *p*, *mSP*, *ord.*, *f*  
Violoncello: *p*, *f*, *ord.*, *p*, *f*, *ord.*, *p*, *f*, *ord.*, *approximate*

Dynamic markings: *p*, *f*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*, *p*, *f*

Tempo/Performance markings: *mSP*, *ord.*