

CANTILENA

for solo cello

Robert Hasegawa
2004

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Cantilena is composed for *scordatura* cello using the double bow technique developed by Frances-Marie Uitti. The two bows are held in the right hand, one in the normal position and the other upside-down, between the cello's strings and the body of the instrument. This technique allows the performance of up to four simultaneous notes, on nearly any combination of the four strings (for further details, consult <http://uitti.org/twobows.html>). At the end of the first system of the score, the lower bow can be silently set down to allow greater freedom of movement for the remainder of the piece, which requires only a single bow.

The G, D, and A strings are retuned to F, E-flat (minus 31 cents, or hundredths of a semitone), and B (minus 50 cents). With this retuning, all of the open strings belong to the overtone series of a low F: from low to high, the third, fourth, seventh and eleventh overtones. Pitches are notated with respect to normal string tunings, so the written pitches are different than the sounding result. String III sounds a whole tone lower than notated, String II sounds 69 cents higher than notated, and String I sounds 150 cents higher than notated. A rehearsal tape with the exact tunings of each pitch is available from the composer.

Cantilena is dedicated to Frances-Marie Uitti.

Adagissimo ♩ = 50-54