

*Music for Violin and Cello*, in four short movements, follows tradition in that its first and fourth movements share some motivic material and a formal plan; the second movement has the character of a scherzo; and the third movement, really the expressive high point of the piece, bears some resemblance to a classical slow movement. The relationship between the outer movements involves certain deliberate contrasts, the reprise in the first being a tranquil recollection of its opening while that in the last intensifies and extends its material to a climactic point. The third movement is the most systematic: the two parts are in canon at the fifth although the violin gets so far ahead that the cello must resort to a solo cadenza in order to catch up.

The piece was written for two colleagues at Vassar, Robert Rudié and Luis Garcia-Renart, who gave its first performances at Bard College and Vassar in April, 1969.

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