

Ya Layl

يا ليل

For Viola Alone

(2021)

Sami Seif

سامي سيف

Duration: 3 minutes

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Sami SEIF

سامي سيف

Ya Layl

يا ليل

Duration: 3 minutes

Performance notes:

Accidentals apply for the entire measure. Nevertheless, sometimes accidentals are repeated for extra clarification.

Harmonics with a circle above/below the notehead sound at pitch.

Indications of time in seconds are approximate.

X senza misura, cancels time signature

♭ half-flat

♯ half-sharp

Indications of time in seconds are approximate.

5" indicates that what is within the bracket should last 5 seconds


All left hand pizzicati should be allowed to resonate maximally.

Harp harmonics are played by muting a string and plucking a harmonic.


In m. 7 where the interpreter is to improvise freely, the material in the boxes is meant to serve as a potential source of inspiration. The material in the boxes may be executed in any order and repeated as desired. The number of notes in the boxes does not necessarily have to be strictly observed. The interpreter is encouraged to cycle freely between materials inspired by the various boxes.

The singing throughout the piece should be only on the verge of audibility to the audience. It should merely vibrate the sound. Optional: instead of humming, the performer may slowly modulate vowels on the indicated drones.

Passages marked with "optional trem." may be played either as tremolo or as ordinary (non-tremolo).

 gradual increase in speed. The absolute note values do not necessarily need to be strictly observed.



 gradual decrease in speed. The absolute note values do not necessarily need to be strictly observed.



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Dreamy and Hypnotic (♩=48)

Viola

grace notes before the beat

f molto espressivo

pp hum drone on D (or an octave higher)

Vla.

2

Vla.

3

5:4

p *sfzpp* *molto* *ff* *mp sub.* *pp*

sul I

trem. rall.

pont.

Vla.

4

stop humming

f *mf* *f* *p* *mp*

very slow, measured finger gliss.

5:4

Vla.

5

5-6"

repeat *ad lib*, random order, omit notes *ad lib*.

fast gliss.

f *pp sub.* *molto*

trem. rall.

pont.

*gliss.

2

6 ord.

Vla.

f *fffz* *p* molto espressivo

fffpp *p* *pp sub.*

optional trem.

optional trem.

optional trem. free bowing

Improvise ad lib. 20-30" May use any of the below gestures for inspiration. Maintain LH pizz. drone on the open D string, with occasional LH pizz. on the open A string.

7

Vla.

a) very free rhythm	b) random left hand partials	c) pizz. harp harmonics, (any number)	d) tremolando on any two harmonics
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8

Vla.

repeat ad lib. e senza rall.

5" minimum

very slowly color drone *sempre* (pont ↔ tasto)

fffzpp

ppp

put bow down

Mmm

Voce

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