

DAVID  
AVSHALOMOV

*Elegy*

Violin with Piano  
(1990/1998)

SCORE

© 1998 David Avshalomov/Raven Music

This work grew out of its soulful opening melody, arching up, gently falling down. It has five sections. The first (in A minor) spins out the tune, gradually adding accompaniment, cadencing on a “farewell” harmony, then repeating. The second is a solemn chorale turning to A major. The third is a high sweet melody (memories and hope), becoming more impassioned in a second section, under a pulsing accompaniment. The fourth is an unexpected slow blues-y “stomp,” hitting deliberate “sour” notes and adding mildly jazzy harmonies in the “stride piano” accompaniment, building, climaxing, relaxing. (This shift has been described by listeners as “Mahler meets Cab Callaway.”) The fifth re-works the opening, now more bitterly harmonized, reaching a “death” chord, then repeating the “farewell” cadence. It closes with several plangent phrases echoing the opening motif of the piece. The violin is left hanging high above a deep bass note, then the inner parts complete a sweet harmony of acceptance, fading away.

The original version of this work (1990) was for string orchestra. This arrangement for solo violin and piano was created for Russian violinist Rodion Zamurouev, who recorded my grandfather’s violin concerto with me in Moscow for Naxos.

Elegy is dedicated to the memory of Leonard Bernstein, whose career was a beacon for young American conductors and composers. It has on specific occasions been performed in memory of others, including the composer’s paternal grandfather, Aaron Avshalomoff.

*(Note by the composer)*

# Elegy

David Avshalomov

*Lento* ♩ = 46

Violin

Piano

*pp* *espr.* *espr.*

*pp legato* *pp*

pedal often

*ppp*

*poco riten.* **A** *a tempo*

*ppp*

*pp poco cresc.* *p* *pp* *ppp*

*tornando* *Tempo, poco mosso*

*riten.* **B** *al -* ♩ = 53

*p* *espr.*

*p sost.*

♩ = *rit.* - - - - **C** (♩ = 46)

*dim.* *pp* *niente*

*dim.* *pp sost.*

24

*poco mp* *ppp* *pochiss.* *pp < p >*

30 **D** *Andante* ♩ = 60 - 72

*pp dolce, legato* *pp*

37 *poco accel. - - -* (♩ = 76)

*pp* *cresc. - - -* *etc.* *mp*

43 *rit.*

*mf* *dim. - - -* *p > pp sfp* *dim. - - -* *p > pp*

Slow  
Stomp ♩ = 72 +

(E)

49 *mp* swing a little  
*p* stacc. (senza pedal)  
 etc.

(F)

*poco a poco accel.* - - - -

54 *mp* straight 8ths  
*mf* in tune again (open string)  
 swing  
 etc.  
*mp* cresc.  
 etc.

- - - *piu accel.* - - - -

(♩ = 92)

59 *cresc.* - - - *mf* *f*  
 etc.  
*mf* *cresc.* *ff*  
 etc.

(G)

*poco meno mosso* (♩ = 80)

64 *gliss.* *8va* *rit.*  
*pp*  
*mf* #2  
*pp* stacc. (senza ped.)  
*mf* *p*



# DAVID AVSHALOMOV

## Works for/with Strings

*Elegy* - string orchestra [9]

*Pangs of Love* - string orchestra [32]

(Romantic variations on a Rachmaninoff Love Theme)

*Diamond Variations* on an original theme,  
string orchestra with opt. harp [12]

*Concerto con Timpani* (baroque) - timp., strings, harpsichord [12]

*Arietta* - flute and strings (opt. 2nd flute) [2]

*String Quartet* [23]

*Trotsky's Train*, piano sextet (string quartet with double bass) [32]

**Also:** version for string orchestra and piano

*The Last Poet's Farewell* - solo violin [22]

*Elegy* arranged for solo violin with piano [9]

*Dance* - violin (intermediate) and (student) piano [3]

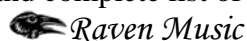
*Diversion* - violin and timpani [5]

*Torn Curtain* suite - viola with piano [32]

*Sonata for Violoncello* with piano [28]

*Variations on a Beethoven Theme* - solo violoncello [12]

Performance materials and complete list of works available through



[davshalomov@earthlink.net](mailto:davshalomov@earthlink.net) • [www.davshalomov.com](http://www.davshalomov.com)

(310) 392-2641