Belgrade/Paris, 2012

Aleksandar Simić

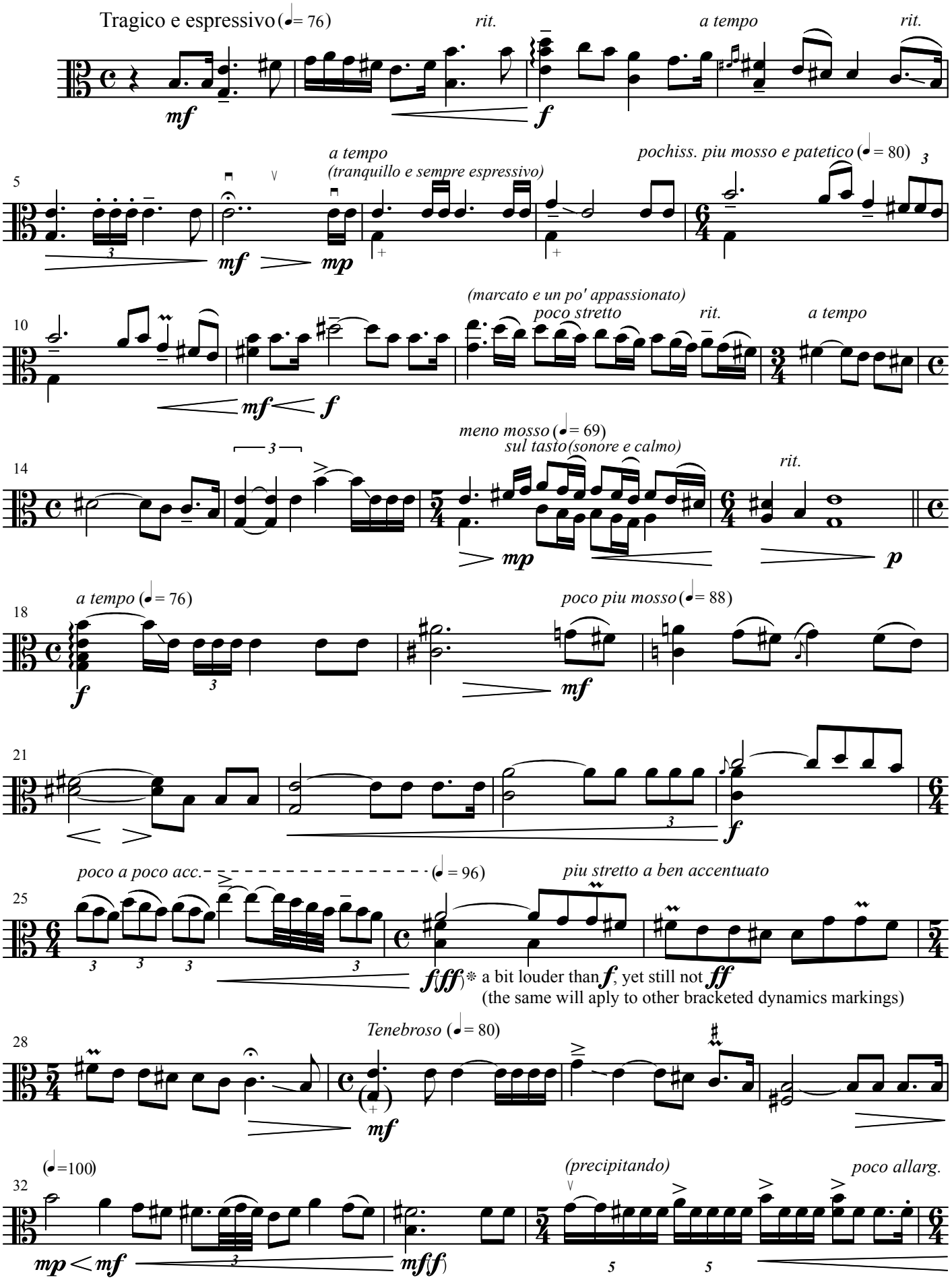
Kaddish

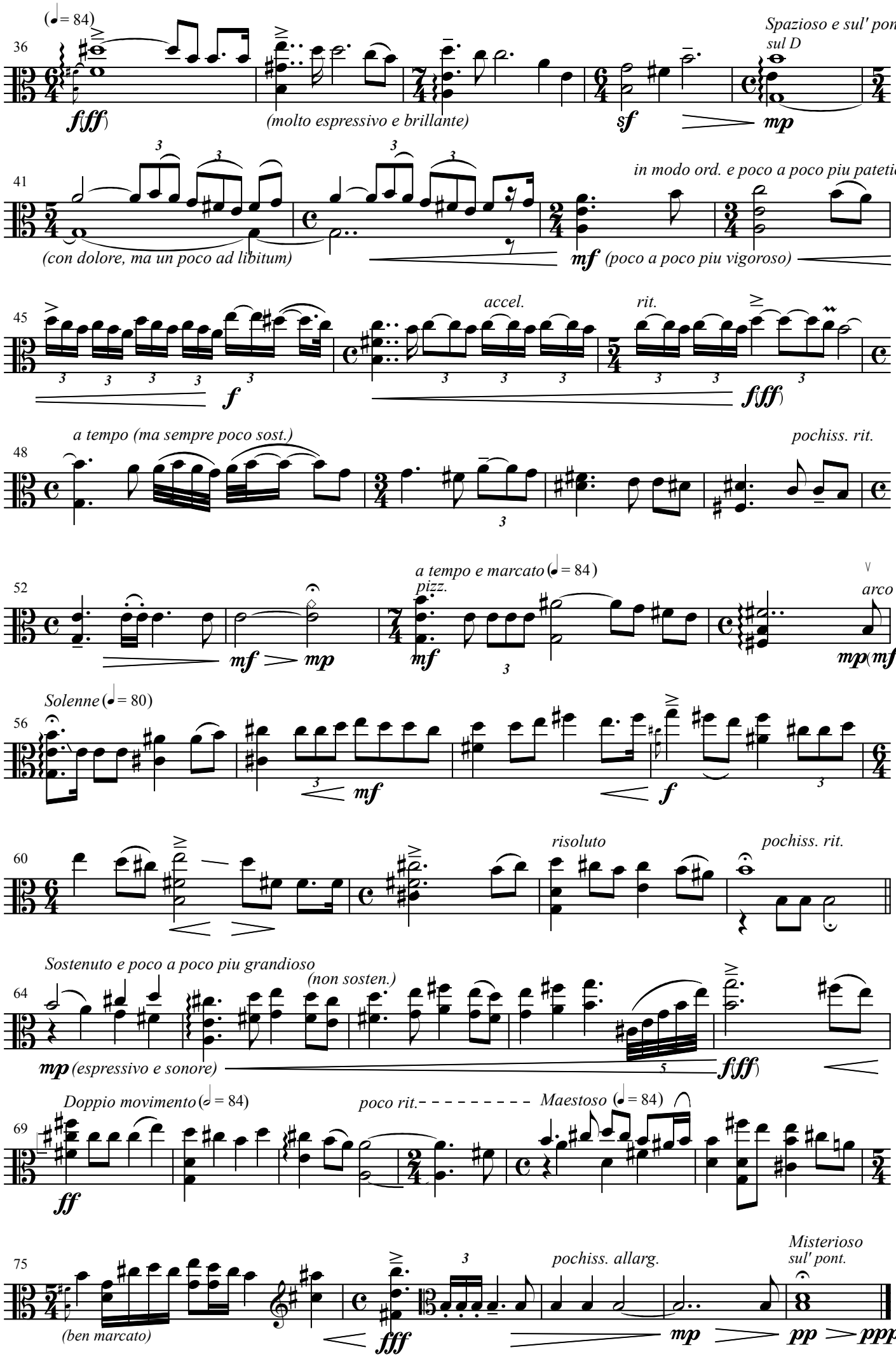
for solo viola

Edicija M

Kaddish

Aleksandar Simić




(♩= 84)
36
f(ff)
(molto espressivo e brillante)
sf
Spazioso e sul' pont.
sul D
mp
41
(con dolore, ma un poco ad libitum)
in modo ord. e poco a poco piu patetico
mf (poco a poco piu vigoroso)
45
f
accel.
rit.
f(ff)
48
a tempo (ma sempre poco sost.)
pochiss. rit.
52
mf
mp
a tempo e marcato (♩= 84)
pizz.
mf
arco
mp(mf)
Solenne (♩= 80)
56
mf
f
60
risoluto
pochiss. rit.
Sostenuto e poco a poco piu grandioso
64
(non sosten.)
mp (espressivo e sonore)
f(ff)
Doppio movimento (𝅗𝅥= 84)
poco rit.
Maestoso (♩= 84)
69
ff
75
(ben marcato)
fff
pochiss. allarg.
Misterioso
sul' pont.
mp
pp
ppp

This Kaddish was initially written as a piece for a cantor and a small accompanying group of male voices.

It was this, vocal version, that I played to the great Maxim Vengerov, who told me that it is "his opinion that the music does not require a hazzan with a beard and a prayer shawl, but rather a one with a bow and a fiddle". Since we met to talk about a possible performance of one of my previous works, I realized it was his way of saying that he would rather play something as a premiere than a composition which other violinists have performed before him, and so I sat down - gladly, and made a version for the solo violin. As agreed, I shipped the score by DHL to an address in France, and never heard back from him again. Not that I called later to see if he got it, or liked it. I thought I did the best job I could, and was sincerely grateful to him for making me do it.

Now, years later, thanks to Jeunesses Musicale Serbia Competition, where I also sat on the board for a long time, and to my dear friend Dejan Mladjenovic, whose idea it was to propose this as a compulsory composition, this piece is before you, in its new, unaccompanied viola rendering, together with my best wishes, and hopes that it will give all of you a genuine pleasure and inspire you to create a powerful personal story and an impressive, persuasive sound of your own.

Yours truly,

Aleksandar