

Samantha Jellett

Dawn at Radwell

Sonata for Cello and Piano

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Dawn at Radwell: a Sonata in Three Movements

Samantha Jellett

Dawn at Radwell was written for cellist Catherine Wilmers and pianist Ilga Pitkevica. The work portrays Catherine's garden in the Hertfordshire hamlet of Radwell during the metamorphosis from night to day. Inspiration was gained from a Christmas card featuring the garden bathed in early morning sunlight, and from three quotations which are detailed below.

The work in general is an exploration of darkness and light, stasis and movement, and presents the cello and piano as two very equal, close-knit partners. The inter-movement references are intended to unify the work and to fashion the movements as akin to chapters in a story. *Dawn at Radwell* was premiered at City University, London, on 24 February 2009 and received its second performance in Knebworth, Hertfordshire on 12 June 2009.

- I *Andante appassionato*. 'The darkest hour is just before the dawn' (proverb). The piano chords which open the movement, featuring the intervals of a diminished fifth and perfect fourth, are the basis of much development to come, as is the descending minor third interval created between the two statements of these chords. Chromatic movement intensifies the tension already created and the use of the whole compass of each instrument reflects the complexity of the night world. There is light even in darkness, however, and the triumphant C major of the third movement is foretold at bars 62 and 87. At bar 76, a tranquil section outlining a significant chord from the second movement portrays the promise of dawn, and the transformation of the descending minor 3rd to an ascending major 3rd in the closing cello harmonics reveals an optimism that this promise is about to be fulfilled.
- II *Andante espressivo*. The second movement is slow to fulfil that promise, for this is a truly English dawn, cloudy and restrained: 'But tomorrow, dawn will come the way I picture her, barefoot and dishevelled, standing outside my window in one of the fragile cotton dresses of the poor. She will look in at me with her thin arms extended, offering a handful of birdsong and a small cup of light.' (William Collins) In this movement the cello has a very limited melodic range in contrast with that of the first movement. Hints of cello melody float over a very still piano accompaniment, and an ascending minor third figure (rather than the hoped-for major third) is a direct quote of a birdcall heard at Radwell early one morning; this is used as a cell for development throughout the movement. There is slightly more movement in the middle section, where pizzicato glissandi represent the world slowly coming to light and life. The tremolo and trills portraying light and birdsong only come to something resembling fruition at the close of the movement.

III *Vivace*. 'Night's darkness is the bag that bursts with the gold of the dawn' (Tagore). The sun suddenly breaks through the clouds and everything is transformed. This movement is particularly concerned with rhythm and timbre and provides a complete contrast to that which has gone before. Staccato polychords and energetic rhythms in compound time lead to a hint of a rustic dance in which the cello accompanies the piano melody with quickly alternating saltando and left hand pizzicato. The precise rhythms are contrasted with an improvisational section in which triplets and open-sounding chords are repeated at the chosen frequency of the players. The dance-like theme comes to fruition on the cello as the close of the work approaches, the piano playing the accompanying role this time yet stating a harmonically fuller version of its own opening theme in between cello phrases.

Dawn at Radwell

A Sonata in Three Movements

For Catherine Wilmers and Ilga Pitkevica

Samantha Jellett

I

'The Darkest Hour is Just before the Dawn'

Più mosso

Andante appassionato, ♩=c90

Violoncello

Piano

The first system of the musical score for 'Dawn at Radwell' features a Cello (Violoncello) and Piano. The Cello part begins with a rest in 4/4 time, followed by a melodic line in 2/4 and 4/4 time, marked with dynamics *mp*, *mf*, and *mp*. The Piano part consists of two staves. The right hand plays chords and single notes, while the left hand plays a bass line with octaves marked *8vb*. Dynamics include *mp*, *p*, and *colla parte*. Pedal points are indicated with *Ped.* markings.

The second system continues the musical score. It begins with a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. The Cello part has a melodic line with a *Più mosso* tempo change and another *rit.* marking. The Piano part features a *p legato* (piano, legato) section. The system concludes with a *Ped.* marking.

The third system of the musical score starts at measure 14. It features a *rit.* marking. The Cello part has a melodic line with dynamics *f* and *mp*. The Piano part has a more complex texture with multiple staves, including octaves and chords, with dynamics *f* and *p*. The system ends with a *Ped.* marking.

18 *A tempo* *Animato, ♩=145*

mf risoluto *f* *mp* *con ped. ad lib.*

22

mp *mf* *leggiero* *8va*

25

mp *mf* *leggiero*

28

f *mp* sotto voce *mp* cantabile *8va* *tr*

31

34

34

sempre cresc.

sempre cresc.

senza ped.

37

40

Lento, ♩=70

pizz. *arco* *pizz.* *arco*

ff *f* *mf* *mp* *mp freely*

f *mf* *mp* *p*

p *ped.* *ped. sim.*

molto rall.

45

Adagio rubato, ♩=60

50

*con ped.***Con moto, ♩=130**

55

senza ped.

60

con ped.

63 **rall.** **Meno mosso**

67 **Meno mosso**

75 **molto rall.** **Andante con moto, ♩=88**

pp **tranquillo**

Red.

77

Measures 77-78. The bass clef staff has a whole rest in measure 77 and a half note G# in measure 78, tied to the next system. The treble clef staff has a continuous eighth-note arpeggiated pattern in both measures, with fingerings 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The dynamic is *p* *dolciss.* in measure 78.

79

Measures 79-80. The bass clef staff has a whole rest in measure 79 and a half note G in measure 80, tied to the next system. The treble clef staff has a continuous eighth-note arpeggiated pattern in both measures, with fingerings 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The dynamic is *mp* in measure 80.

81

Measures 81-82. The bass clef staff has a whole rest in measure 81 and a half note G in measure 82, tied to the next system. The treble clef staff has a continuous eighth-note arpeggiated pattern in both measures, with fingerings 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The dynamic is *mf* *sempre cresc.* in measure 82.

83

Measures 83-84. The bass clef staff has a whole rest in measure 83 and a half note G in measure 84, tied to the next system. The treble clef staff has a continuous eighth-note arpeggiated pattern in both measures, with fingerings 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The dynamic is *mf* *sempre cresc.* in measure 84.

85 *poco rit.* **Con moto, ♩=120**

f

88 *mf* *subito mp*

92 *sempre cresc.* *molto rall.* **Tempo primo (♩=100)** *ff*

sempre cresc. *ff*

8va

Ped.

96 *molto rall. A tempo* *mf* *p sotto voce*

mp *mf* *p* *pp* *p*

8va

102

accel.

cresc.

cresc.

Red.

Measures 102-105. The bass staff features a melodic line with a crescendo and a triplet. The grand staff provides a complex accompaniment, also marked with a crescendo. A 'Red.' line is present at the bottom.

106

Più mosso

ff *mf* *ff* *f*

Red.

Measures 106-109. The tempo is marked 'Più mosso'. Dynamics range from *ff* to *f*. A 'Red.' line is present at the bottom.

110

mf *ff* *f*

Measures 110-113. Dynamics range from *mf* to *f*.

114

dim.

dim.

Measures 114-117. Dynamics range from *mf* to *f*. A 'dim.' line is present at the bottom.

Meno mosso

118

mp

mp

3

3

122

rall. $\sqrt[3]{}$ 3 A tempo

p *mp* *mf*

Ped.

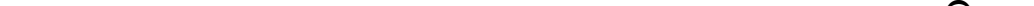
128

pp

p

l.v. (release pedal when sound has completely disappeared)

133



II

'..a handful of birdsong and a small cup of light'

Andante espressivo, ♩ = 80

sul tasto, flautando

p tranquillo *mp* *p* *pp*

pp *p* *ppp*

mp *p*

p *ord.* *p* *p delicato*

Ped.

26

3/4

4/4

30

3/4

4/4

36

3/4

4/4

41

pizz.

mp l.v. l.v. sim.

p leggiero⁵ *mf* *mp* *p* 5

3/4

4/4

45

Measures 45-47 of a musical score. The bass staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The music features a variety of dynamics including *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *sec*. There are also articulation marks like accents and slurs.

48

Measures 48-51 of a musical score. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The music includes dynamics such as *p*, *pp*, and *leggiere*. There are also articulation marks like accents and slurs. The text "una corda" is written below the treble staff.

52

Measures 52-56 of a musical score. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The music includes dynamics such as *p*, *mf*, and *mp*. There are also articulation marks like accents and slurs. The text "tre corda" is written below the treble staff.

57

Measures 57-60 of a musical score. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The treble staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The music includes dynamics such as *mf*, *mp*, *pp*, and *p*. There are also articulation marks like accents and slurs. The text "tr" is written above the treble staff.

63

p mp p

tr

p pp mp mf mp

69

pp pp

76

sul tasto, flautando

p

82

mp p

Ped.

87

pp — *ppp*

pp — *ppp*

tr

una corda *

III

'..the bag that bursts with the gold of the dawn'

Vivace, ♩=as fast as possible!

Violin (Vn.) part: *f*, *sim.*, *cresc.*

Piano (P) part: *mf*, *mp*, *molto cresc.*, *f*

5

mf

f

mp

mf

9

cross-headed notes: l.h.pizz, slashed notes saltando at tip

f cresc.

ff

14

Ped. *

(sim.)

19

arco

mf

f

mf risoluto

mp

pizz.

mf

f

mf risoluto

mp leggiero

L.H. sim.

Red. *

25

arco

mf

mp

mf

mp

subito *mf*

30

pizz. (Bartok)

mf

34

f

arco

ff sempre

f

ff sempre

39

43

Largo, $\text{♩} = 45$

p tranquillo

49

mf

54

p

molto rall.

♩=72

ad. lib.; quasi cadenza; exact no. of repetitions in each octave determined by player

59

accel.

mp cresc. poco a poco

Ped. l.v.; keep ped. down and repeat chord ad. lib.,
following cello accel and cresc and stopping before b.68

♩=c.110

65

68

Repeat chord ad. lib., following piano accel. and cresc. and stopping by end of b.71

cresc. poco a poco

ad. lib.; quasi cadenza; exact no. of repetitions in each octave determined by player

*cresc. e accel. poco a poco**Ped.*

*

70

71

mp *dim.*

73

molto rall.

pp

Largo, ♩=60

p

arco

mp *flautando*

p

leggero

79

(sim.)

accel.

molto cresc.

f

molto cresc.

f

♩=80

85

spiccato

f

f

90

Ped. * Ped. *

94

spiccato

mf

legato

mp

p

spiccato

mf

100

pizz.

arco, legato

mp

p

molto cresc.

104

f

3

108

ff

Red. * Red. *

113

Red. * Red. *

118

Red. * Red. *

cross-headed notes: l.h. pizz.,
slashed notes saltando at tip

123

mf

mf

128

arco

mp

p

p

ff

mp

mf

ff

Dawn at Radwell

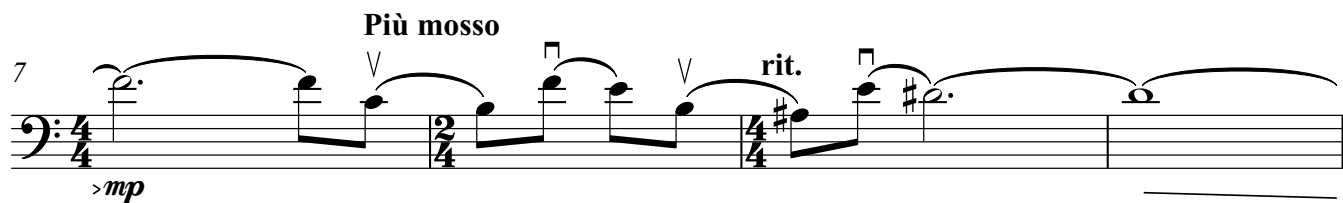
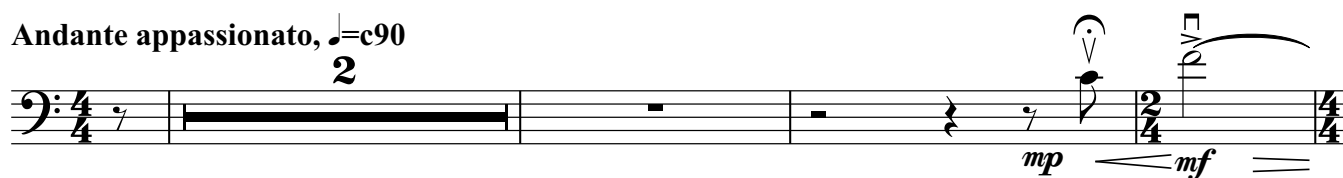
A Sonata in Three Movements

I

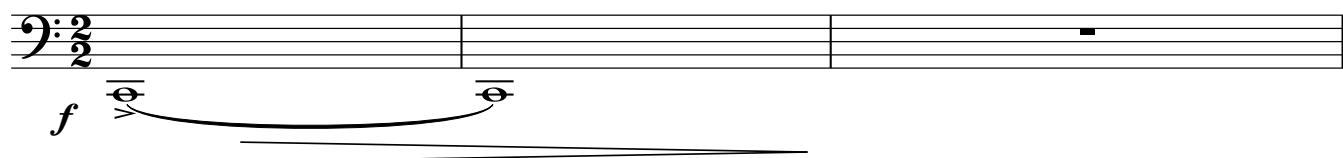
Samantha Jellett

'The Darkest Hour is Just before the Dawn'

Andante appassionato, ♩=c90
2



20 Animato, ♩=145



23 *mp* *mf* *mp*

27 *mf* *f* *mp* sotto voce

32 *sempre cresc.*

36

38 *pizz.* *ff* *f*

41 *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *mp* freely

45

49 *molto rall.* *Adagio rubato, ♩=60* *p* teneramente *mf*

53 *f* *f* *dim.* *mp*

58 **Con moto, ♩=130** 3 arco

p *pizz.* *mf*

62

f

65 **rall. Meno mosso**

mp

70 **Meno mosso**

p

75 **molto rall. Andante con moto, ♩=88**

p *dolciss.* *mp*

morendo

81

mf *sempre cresc.*

86 **poco rit. Con moto, ♩=120**

f *mf* *subito mp*

92 **molto rall.**

sempre cresc.

5

V.S.

4 **Tempo primo** (♩=100) **molto rall.** **A tempo**

95

ff

mf

p sotto voce

5

2

ff *mf* *p sotto voce*

[illegible]

107 **Più mosso**

The first system of the musical score is in bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It begins with a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. The first measure contains a half note F# and a whole note G. The second measure is a whole rest. The third measure is a triplet of eighth notes: F#, G, and A. The fourth measure is another triplet of eighth notes: B, C, and D. The fifth measure is a dotted half note F#. The sixth measure is a whole rest. The seventh measure is a quarter note F# with an accent (V) above it. The eighth measure is a quarter note G. The ninth measure is a quarter note A. The tenth measure is a quarter note B. The eleventh measure is a quarter note C. The twelfth measure is a quarter note D. The thirteenth measure is a quarter note E. The fourteenth measure is a quarter note F#. The fifteenth measure is a whole note G. The system concludes with a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. Dynamics include ff, mf, and f.

112

mf *ff* *f* *f* *f*

116

dim. *mp*

Meno mosso 120

rall.

123 **A tempo**

p *pp*

131

Example 131

II

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'..a handful of birdsong and a small cup of light'

Andante espressivo, ♩ = 80 sul tasto, flautando

5 *p* *pp* *p*

13 *ppp* *mp* *p*

21 *p* *ord.* *pizz.*

29 *3* *3*

36 *3* *pizz.*

42 *mp* *l.v.* *l.v.* *sim.*

46

2
arco 50 pizz. arco

p *pizz.* *arco* *p* *5* *mf*

56

mp *3* *mf* *mp* *pp* *p* *3* *mf*

63

p *mp* *p* *p* *p* *3*

69

3 *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *p* sul tasto, flautando

78

3 *3* *3* *3*

84

pp *ppp*

III

'..the bag that bursts with the gold of the dawn'

Vivace, ♩=as fast as possible!

6 *f* *cresc.*

11 cross-headed notes: l.h.pizz, slashed notes saltando at tip *f*

16 *mf* *f*

21 *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

28 *pizz. (Bartok)* *mf*

33 *f* *ff sempre*

39

44 *Largo, ♩=45* *p tranquillo*

250

50

mf

54

p

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

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510

♩.=72

58

molto rall.

ad. lib.; quasi cadenza; exact no. of repetitions in each octave determined by player

accel.

58

acc.

The musical score for the bass line of 'The Rose Tree' is shown. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody starts on a whole note G4, followed by a half note F#4, and then a half note E4. The tempo marking 'acc.' (accelerando) is placed above the staff. The melody continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, ending on a whole note G4.

63

mp cresc. poco a poco

Musical notation for the bass line of 'The Rose Tree'. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of four measures, each containing a quarter note, an eighth note, and a quarter note, all beamed together. The notes are: G2, A2, B-flat2; G2, A2, B-flat2; G2, A2, B-flat2; G2, A2, B-flat2.

67

♩=c.110

67

Repeat chord ad. lib., following piano accel. and cresc. and stopping by end of b.71

69

69

cresc. poco a poco *mp* *dim.*

molto rall.

Largo, ♩=60

73 **Largo, ♩=60**

pp *p*

77

$$\overline{\text{arc}}$$

mp flautando

♩=80

(*sim.*)

77 arco
mp flautando ♩ = 80 (sim.)

83

accel.

spiccato

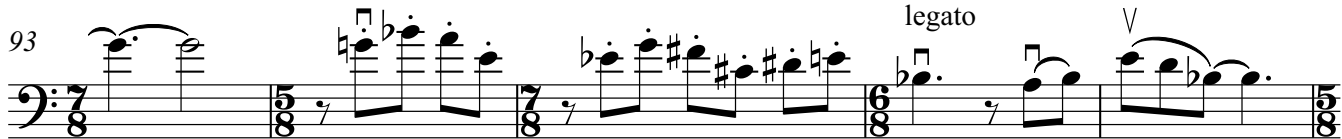
molto cresc.

83 **accel.** *molto cresc.* **f** **spiccato** **f**

88



spiccato

*mf*

legato

mp

98 spiccato

*mf*

pizz.

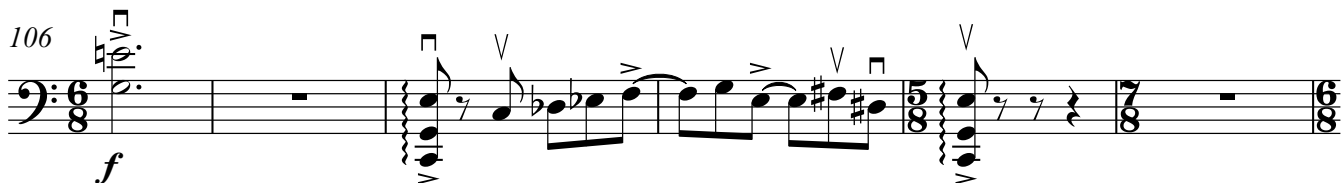
arco, legato

mp

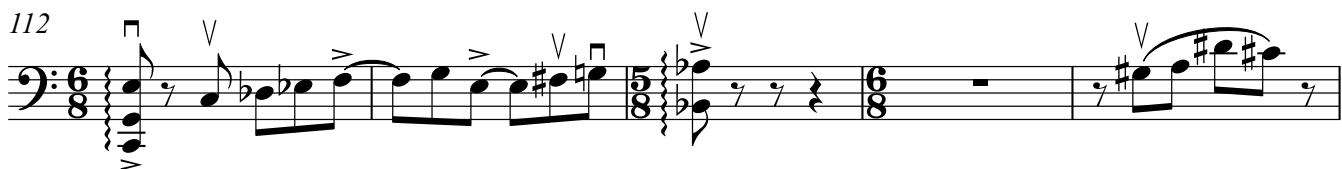
102

*molto cresc.*

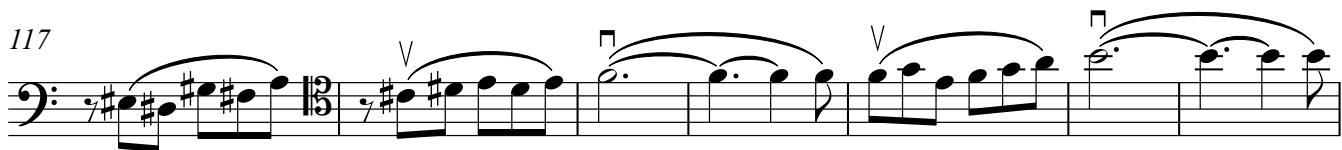
106

*f*

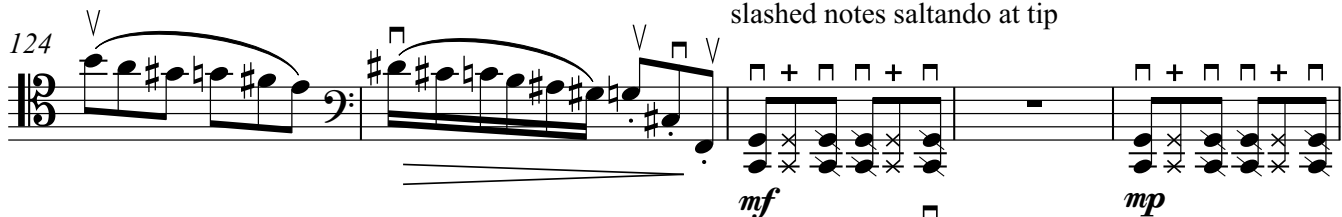
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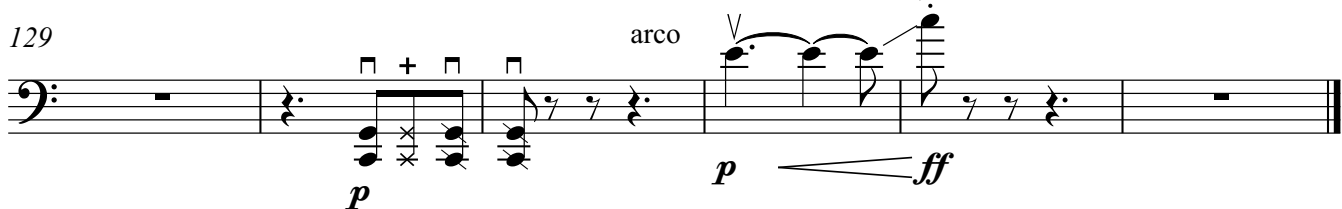
117



124

cross-headed notes: l.h.pizz,
slashed notes saltando at tip*mf**mp*

129



arco

*p**p**ff*