consolation (liederkreis)
for soprano, guitar, and 2 melodic instruments

Part I

Not quiet, not loud; in the space, not dominating the space.

Melodic instruments #1 and #2 quieter than guitar and voice.

No vibrato; simple, unadorned tones and phrases.

Use a stopwatch only for this piece.

melodic instrument #1

Play from memory a melody you remember from a long time ago. Very slowly, for 6 minutes.

If you come to the end of the melody before the end of 6 minutes, repeat from the beginning.

Don't coordinate with melodic instrument #2 the melodies to be played.

melodic instrument #2

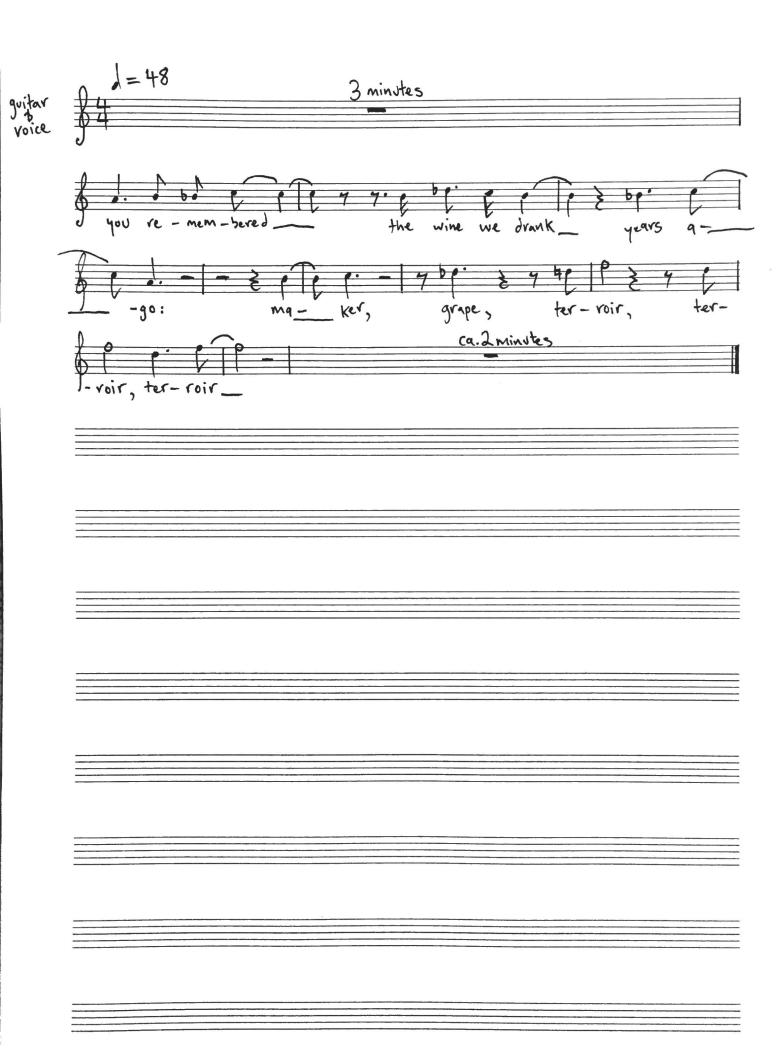
Play from memory a melody you remember from a long time ago. Very slowly, for 6 minutes.

If you come to the end of the melody before the end of 6 minutes, repeat from the beginning.

Don't coordinate with melodic instrument #1 the melodies to be played.

guitar and voice

Play as written, tutti (guitar one octave below the voice).



Part II

Dynamics:

Not quiet, not loud; in the space, not dominating the space.

No vibrato; simple, unadorned tones and phrases.

Duration:

Each bar is the duration of a breath, a complete inhalation and exhalation.

For the guitar, each bar is either an inhalation (I) or exhalation (E).

Breathe slowly, calmly, and deeply. Observe the movements of your body as you breath and allow this to shape each phrase. Do not be overly concerned with the number of beats per bar or the accuracy of the durations from bar to bar – your breathing should guide the music.

Advice for rehearsal and performance:

Spend some time in rehearsal just breathing together. Don't attempt to synchronise your breathing. Become aware of the rhythm of the others' breathing while maintaining your own. In performing this piece you are four autonomous voices together occupying the same space.

Begin the piece with a few breaths to get deep within your rhythm.

Material

For guitar, melodic instrument #1, and melodic instrument #2 the number in each bar is the number of tones to be played in that bar from the given mode. For melodic instruments #1 and #2, these tones should sound for the duration of an exhalation.

Tones can be in any octave, can be repeated within a bar, and in any rhythm.

For guitar, a dyad = 2 of the allotted tones, a triad = 3 of the allotted tones, etc.

An empty bar is a rest for an entire inhalation and exhalation; for guitar, an empty bar is a rest for an entire inhalation or exhalation.

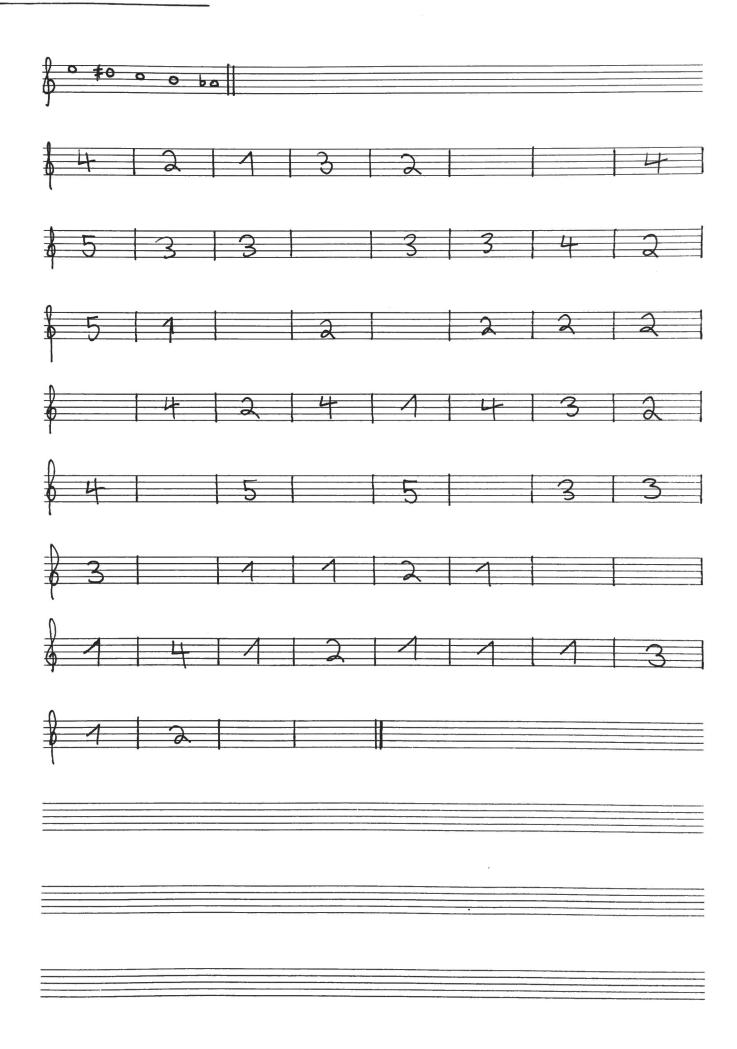
Ending the piece:

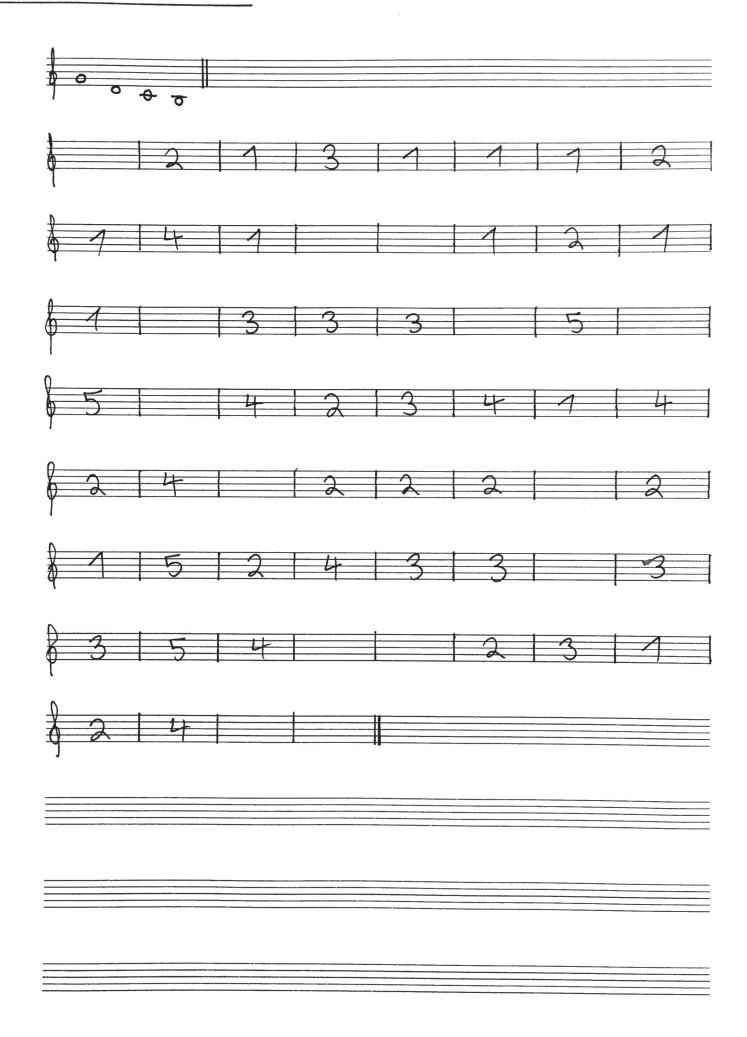
Almost certainly you will finish at different times. When you have finished your part, remain in the breathing/performing space until everyone has finished.











Part III

Not quiet, not loud; in the space, not dominating the space.

No vibrato; simple, unadorned tones and phrases.

Section A

One player per tone, entrances and order are free and not pre-determined. No player should play 2 tones in a row (except immediately before and after the paused minim rest).

No silences between tones; the overlapping of 2 or more tones is encouraged.

Duration of tones is free, as is the duration of the paused minim rest.

Any octave, any tuning - ie, A = any note between Ab and Bb.

Section B

Guitar, melody instrument #1, and melody instrument #2 play as written, slightly out of time with each other.

Voice: tacet.

Any octave, any tuning. Remain within the selected octave for the entire 4 bars.

Section C

Voice solo: following the paused minim rest – the duration of which is free – sing as written, in any tuning.

