STANKO
HORVAT

NOTTURNO

za gudače

for strings

PARTITURA — SCORE

HDS
ars croatica
CANTUS

Stanko Horvat

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Istaknuto mjesto u opusu Stanka Horvata zauzima ***Notturno*, za gudače**, skladan 1980. godine. Nastalo u plodnome skladateljskom razdoblju, nakon niza zborskih, klavirskih i vokalno-instrumentalnih skladbi te skladano za gudački ansambl (13 gudača), djelo predstavlja svojevrsno utočište u gudačkom zvuku, koji se uz klavirski, proteže kroz cjelokupni Horvatov opus.

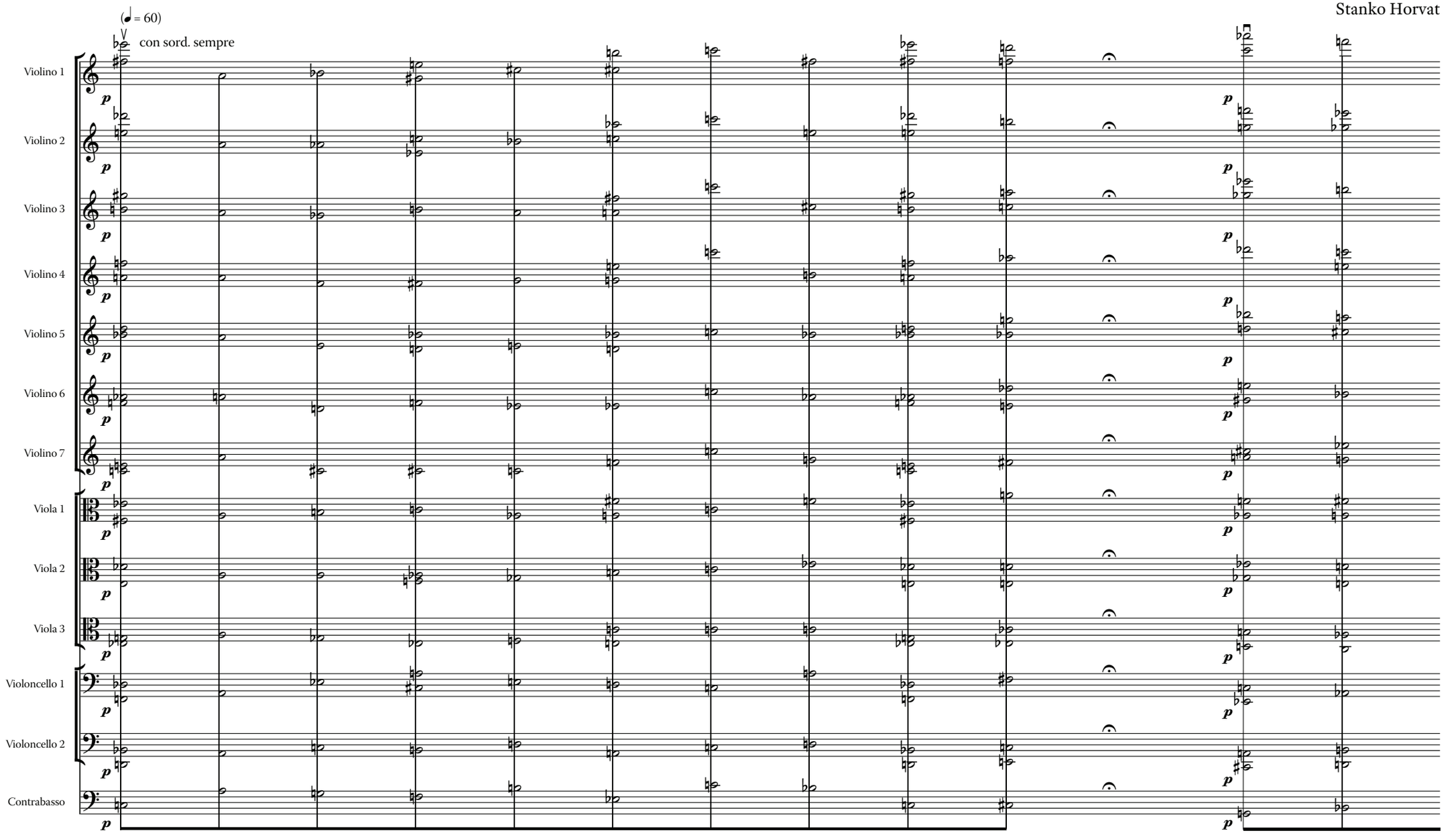
Unatoč naslovu koji na prvu priziva romantičarsku skladbu lirskoga karaktera, skladateljev nokturno smješten je u ekspresionističke okvire, uza sofisticirano oblikovana dinamička zbivanja i introspektivno ozračje. Tama pritom donosi i nemir, koji potom vodi smirenju, a pročišćeni izričaj ispreplići se sa snažnim unutarnjim previranjima koja sežu od tišine do dramatičnih uzvika. Ansambl pritom nije osmišljen kao homogeni izvođački korpus, već stavlja težište na svakog pojedinog člana, što rezultira bogatim polifonim zbivanjima i gustom, višeslojnom teksturom. Suprotstavljajući linearnost i klastere, Horvat je stvorio istodobno precizno strukturirano i izražajno, potresno ostvarenje. Energičnost, boje, dramatičnost, ljepota i dirljivost, kao odrednice Horvatova promišljanja o stvaralačkome procesu, prelivene su u *Notturno*, koji – zahvaljujući skladateljevom umijeću oblikovanja dramatičnih raspoloženja, koja sežu od tjeskobe do katarze te vrsnome poznavanju gudačkog izvođačkog tijela – čini jedan od vrhunaca hrvatske komorne glazbe druge polovine 20. stoljeća. Skladbu su 18. prosinca 1980. u Hrvatskome glazbenom zavodu, u okviru *Dana hrvatske glazbe*, praizveli Zagrebački solisti.

A prominent place within the oeuvre of Stanko Horvat is occupied by ***Notturno* for Strings**, composed in 1980. Created during a prolific period of composition – after a series of choral, piano and vocal-instrumental pieces, and written for a string ensemble (13 players) – *Notturno* represents a kind of refuge in the string sound, which, along with the piano, extends throughout Horvat's entire oeuvre.

Despite a title that initially evokes the Romantic tradition of the lyrical nocturne, Horvat's rendition is firmly situated within an Expressionist aesthetic, distinguished by sophisticated dynamic processes and a deeply introspective atmosphere. The nightly darkness also brings unrest, which then leads to calm, and the purified expression is intertwined with strong inner turmoil that ranges from silence to dramatic exclamations. The ensemble is not conceived as a homogeneous performing body; rather, emphasis is placed on the individuality of each player. This approach generates rich polyphonic activity and a dense, multilayered texture. By contrasting linearity and clusters, Horvat has created a precisely structured and expressive, poignant piece. The qualities that Horvat himself regarded as fundamental to the creative process – energy, colour, dramatic intensity, beauty, and emotional immediacy – are fully embodied in *Notturno*. Owing to the composer's mastery in shaping dramatic states that move from anxiety to catharsis, as well as his exceptional understanding of the expressive and technical possibilities of the string ensemble, this piece stands as one of the finest achievements of Croatian chamber music in the second half of the 20th century. Horvat's *Notturno* was premiered on December 18, 1980, at the Croatian Music Institute, as part of the Days of Croatian Music, by the Zagreb Soloists.

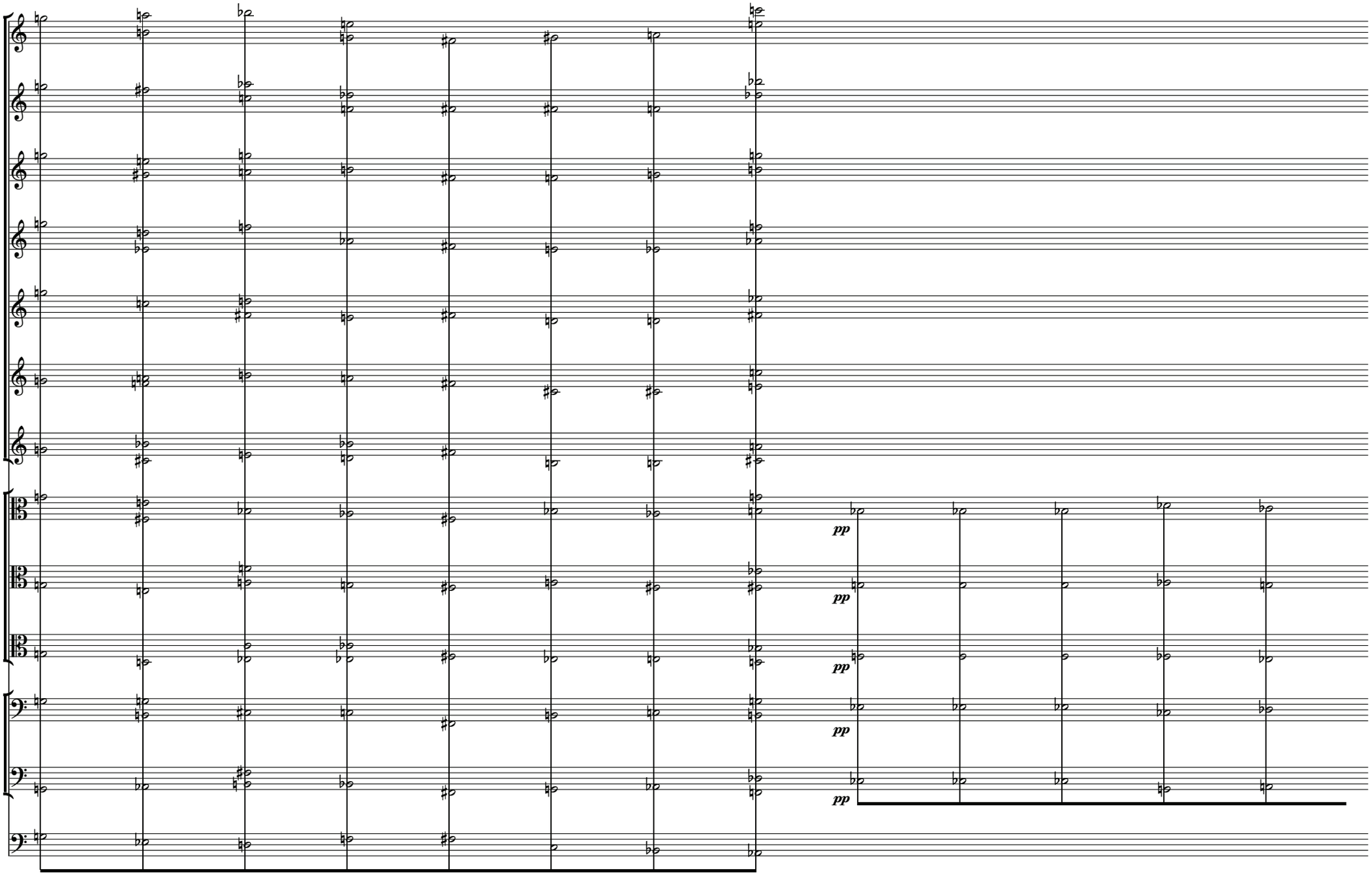
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