CANZONI D'AMORE

(In Memoriam John Cage and Lejaren Hiller)



I. The Joy of Cooking

for solo contrabass

II. The Joy of Sex

for heavy metal tuba and karaoke system

David Snow

I have never been a devotee of the music of John Cage, but I readily acknowledge the wonderfully energizing influence of his work and writings. His rejection of boundaries between life and art, his delight in raw creativity and his subversive sense of humor have been as valuable to composers in this century as the development of any compositional school or technique. And whatever we may make of his "Zen" appropriations, he remains a uniquely American icon, a musical idealist who is important for demonstrating that a universe of possibility exists as much as for realizing some of that possibility in his own work.

In 1967, Cage and Lejaren Hiller began collaborating upon a groundbreaking project which seems especially remarkable today, given the state of then-current technology. Having recognized in Cage an affinity for computer-mediated compositional processes, Hiller invited him to make use of the facilities of the University of Illinois at Urbana for the purpose of creating a new work. On the surface, theirs must have seemed an odd partnership: the mystic, radically intuitive avant-gardist working alongside a mainframe-era technogeek. But the pairing does not seem so strange in retrospect. That very dichotomy is what characterizes the contemporary hacker ethic: a kickass disregard for social convention coupled to consuming fascination with technology. Whatever their differences in style, Cage and Hiller were pioneers together in what has become a significant component of the cultural landscape: the result of their collaboration, entitled HPSCHD, is a progenitor of the current generation of computer-assisted composition tools.

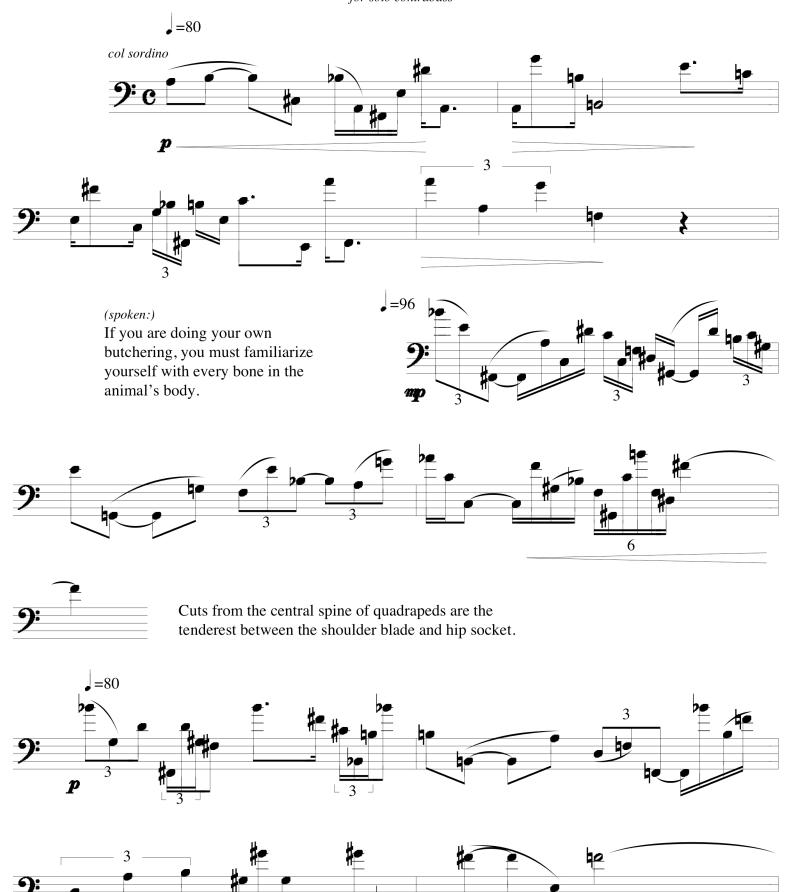
The Joy of Sex for Heavy Metal Tuba and Karaoke System, along with its companion piece The Joy of Cooking for solo contrabass, comprise Canzoni D'Amore, commissioned in 1994 by tubist Jay Rozen in honor of the birthday of his wife, bassist Michele Zwiersky. Performers are given considerable latitude in their interpretation of the work. The two movements may be performed separately or simultaneously, and with or without theatrical embellishment. But whatever the players choose to do, one rule must remain inviolate: play the work like you mean it.

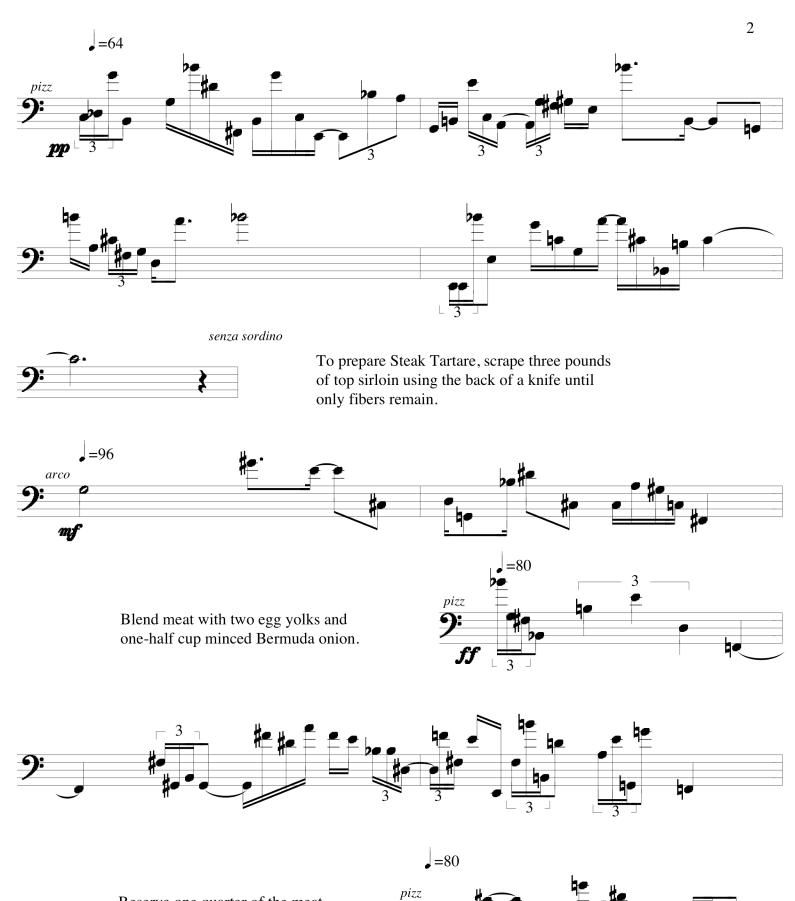
The karaoke system required for *The Joy of Sex* can be anything from separate components (cassette deck, microphone with preamp, mixer, power amp and speakers) to a single integrated unit. The Heavy Metal Tuba setup can also be as simple or elaborate as desired, utilizing amplification, effects, pedals, and all manner of sonic manipulation. In the swiftly flowing currents of modern music, the era of the Guitar God is already ancient history. Long live the Age of the Tuba God!

CANZONI D'AMORE (In Memoriam John Cage and Lejaren Hiller)

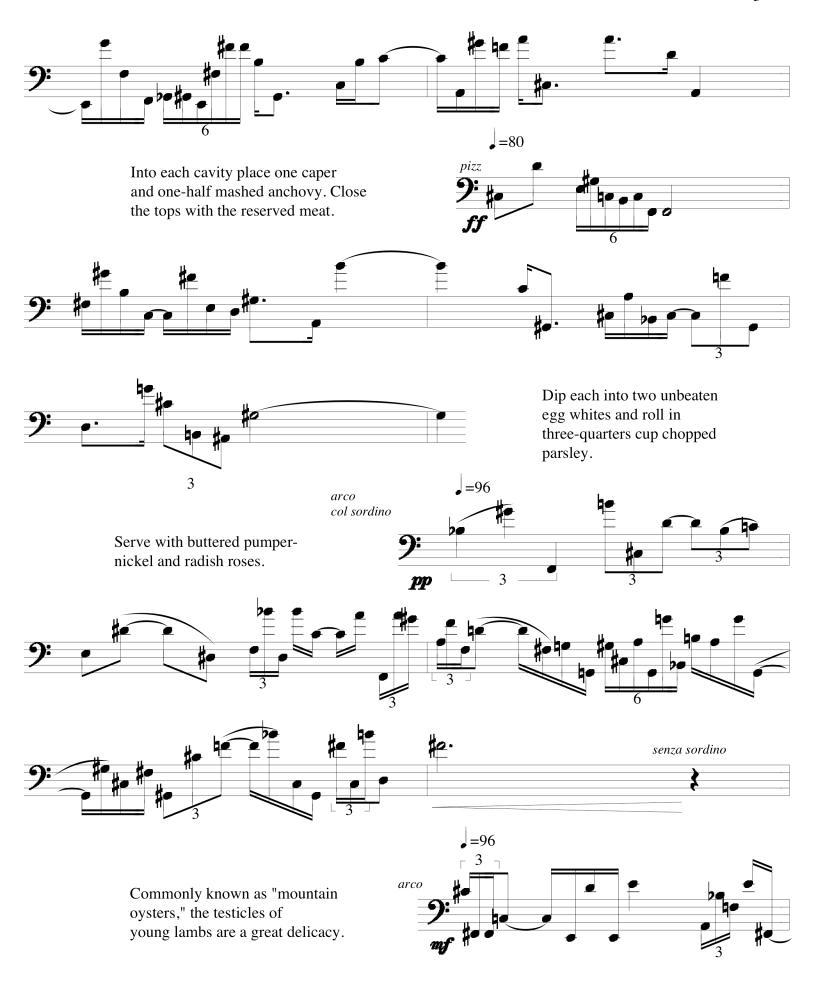
I. The Joy of Cooking

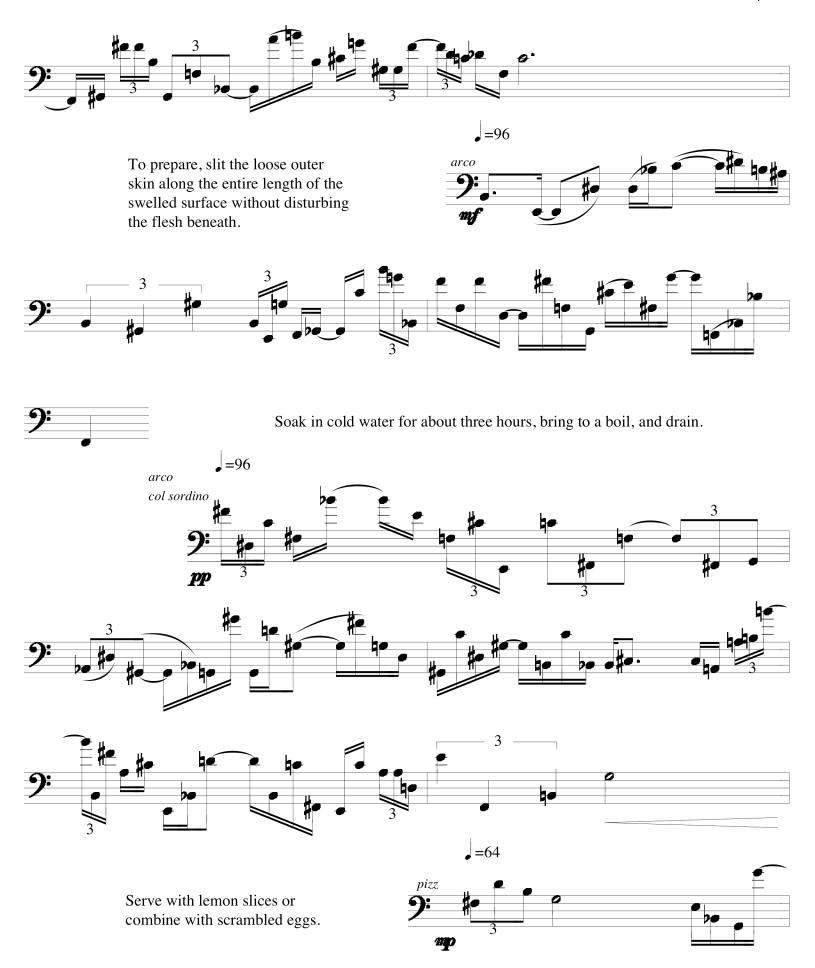
for solo contrabass

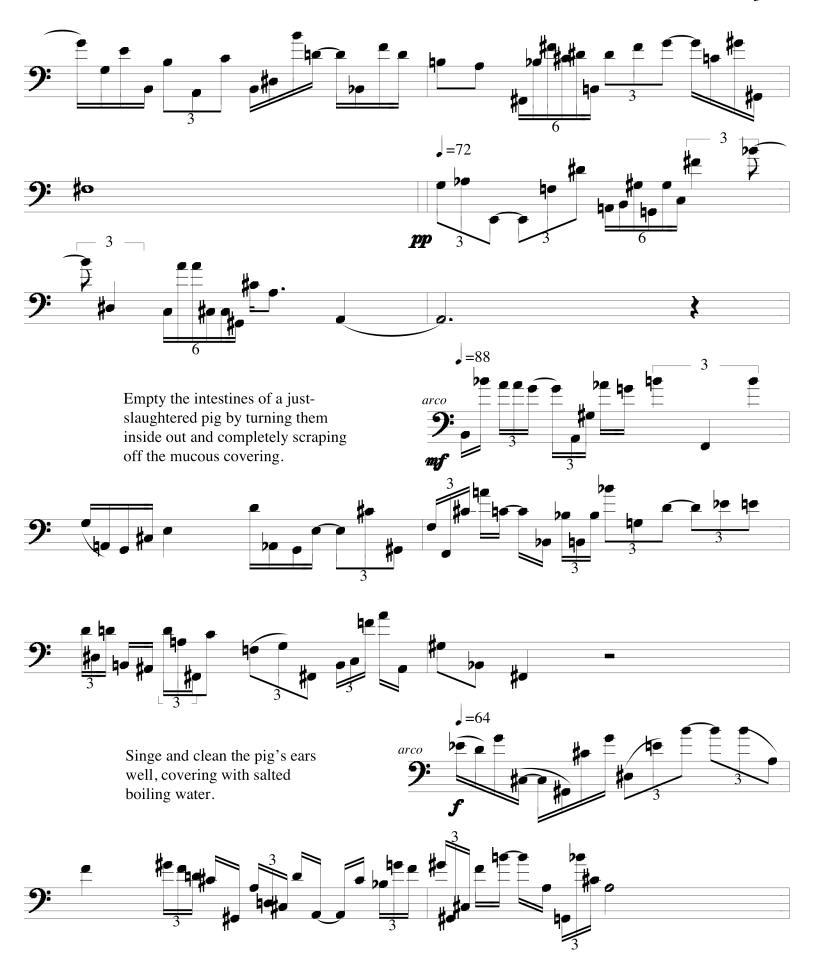


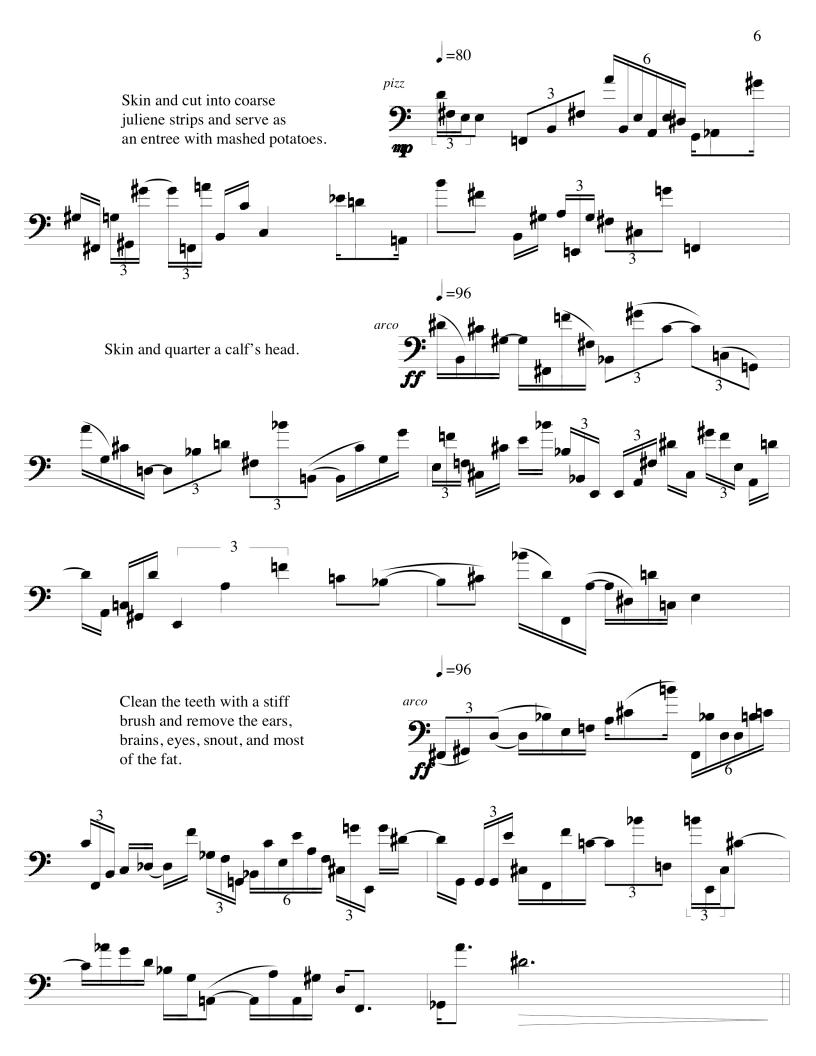


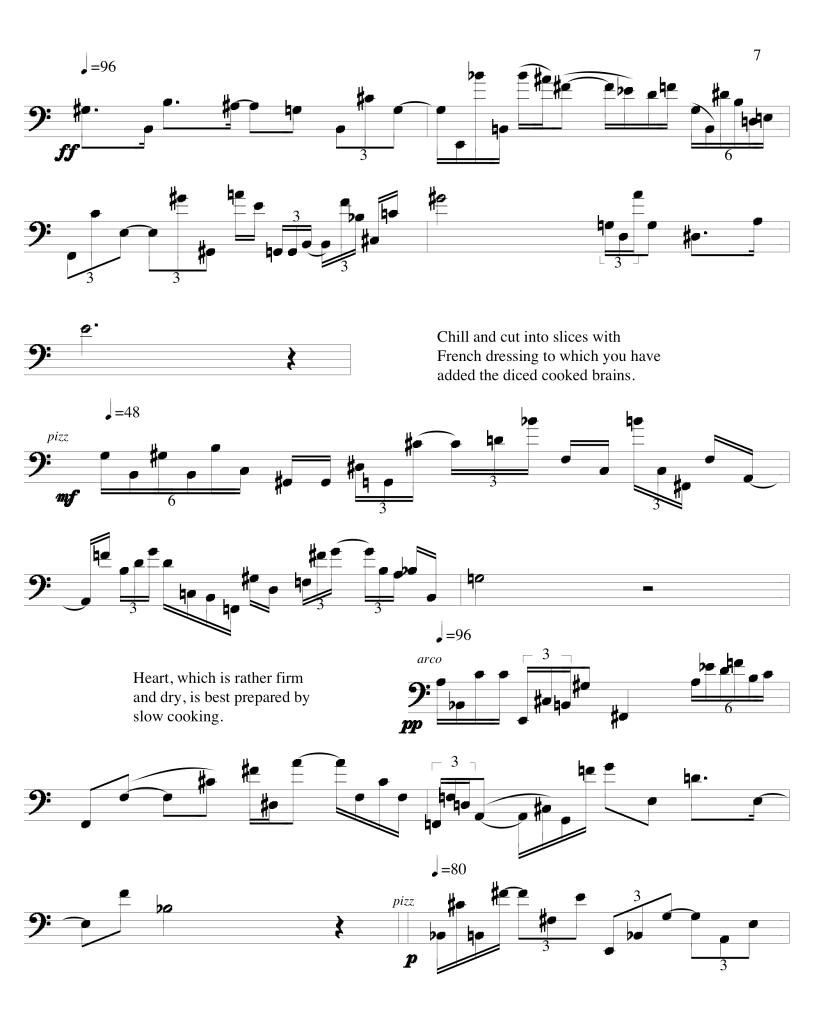
Reserve one quarter of the meat and shape the rest into small balls with a depression in the top.

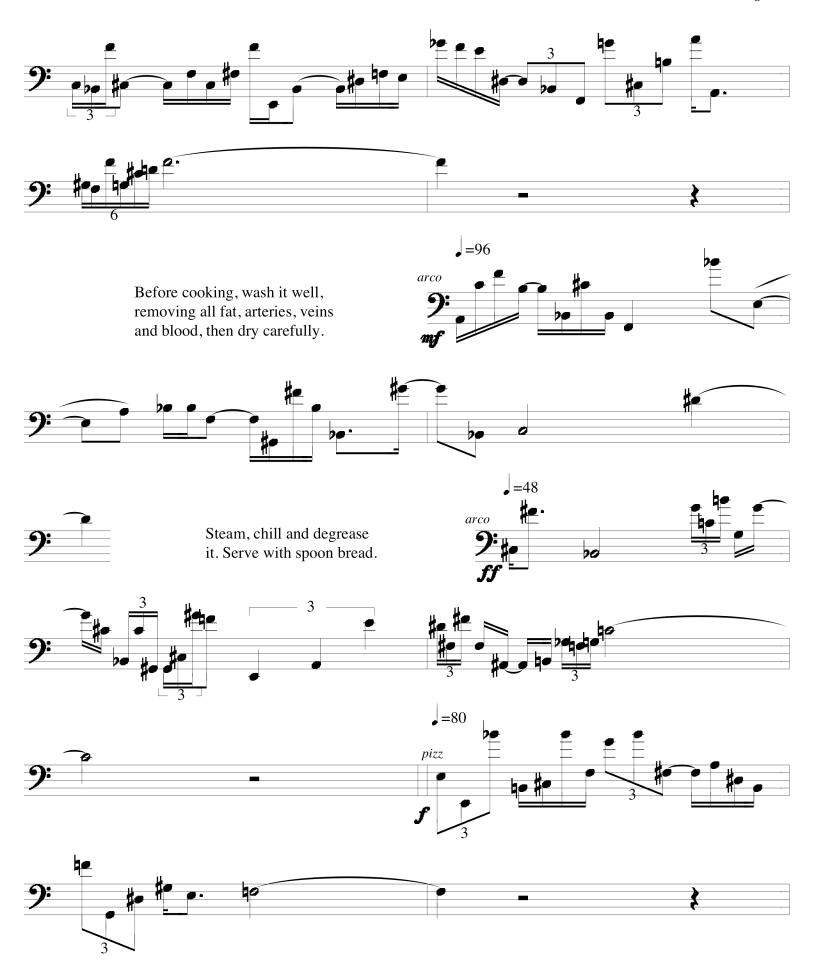


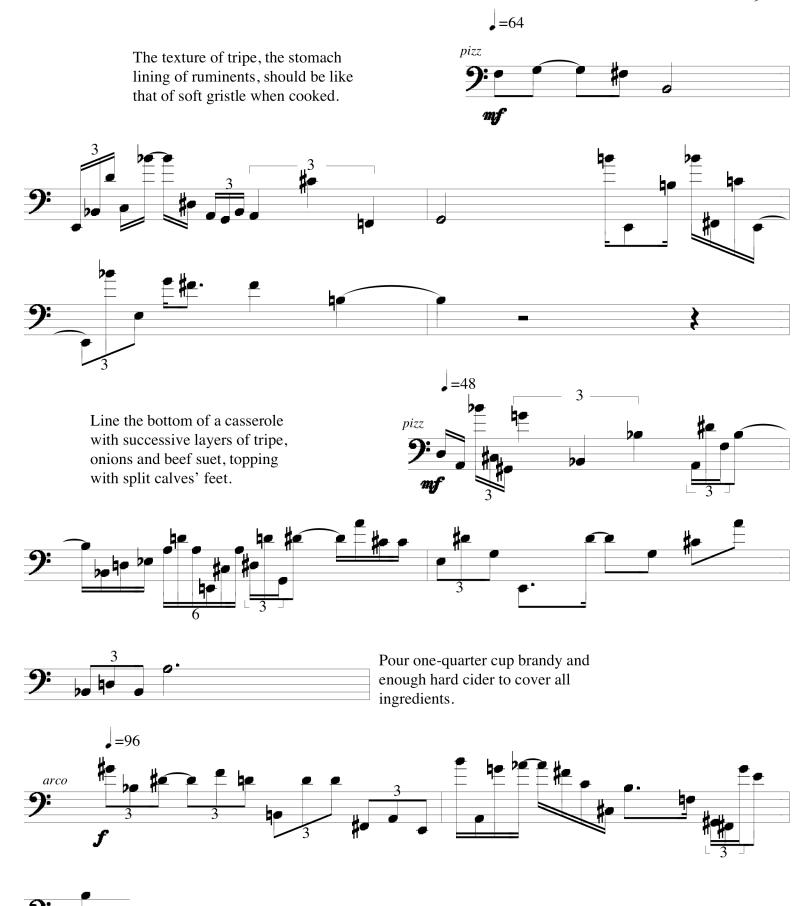




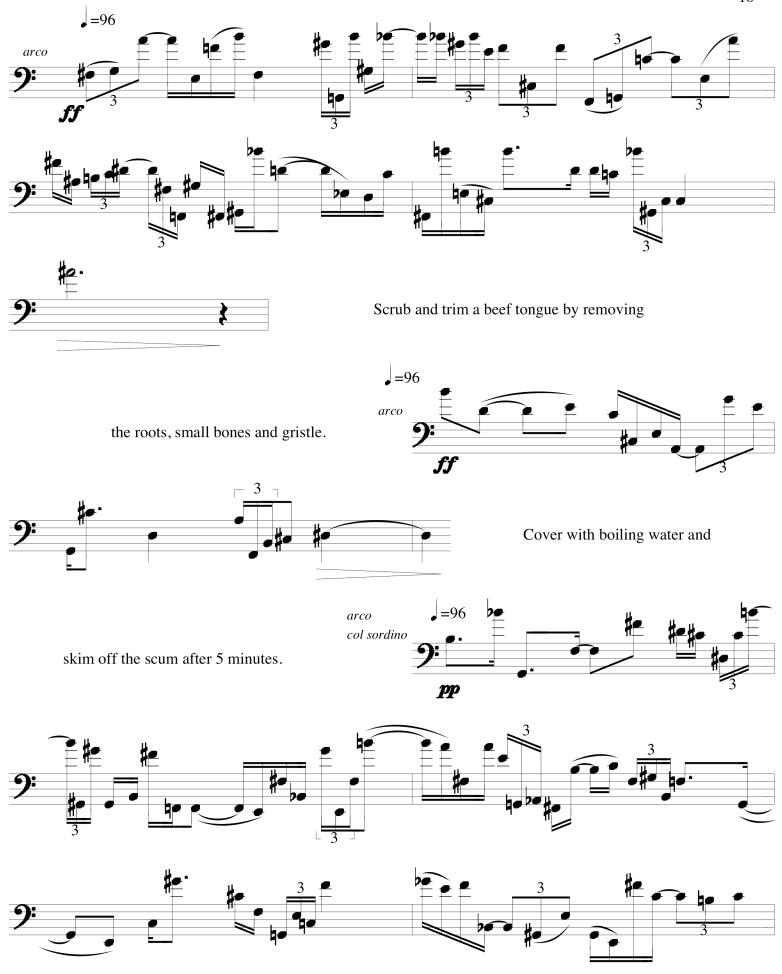




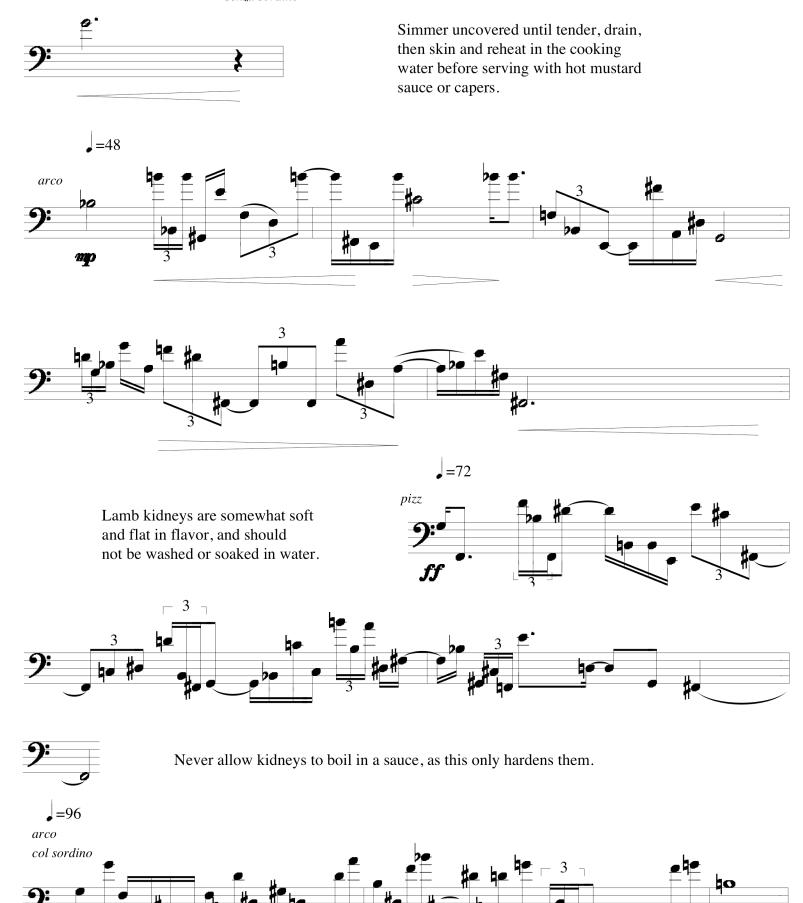


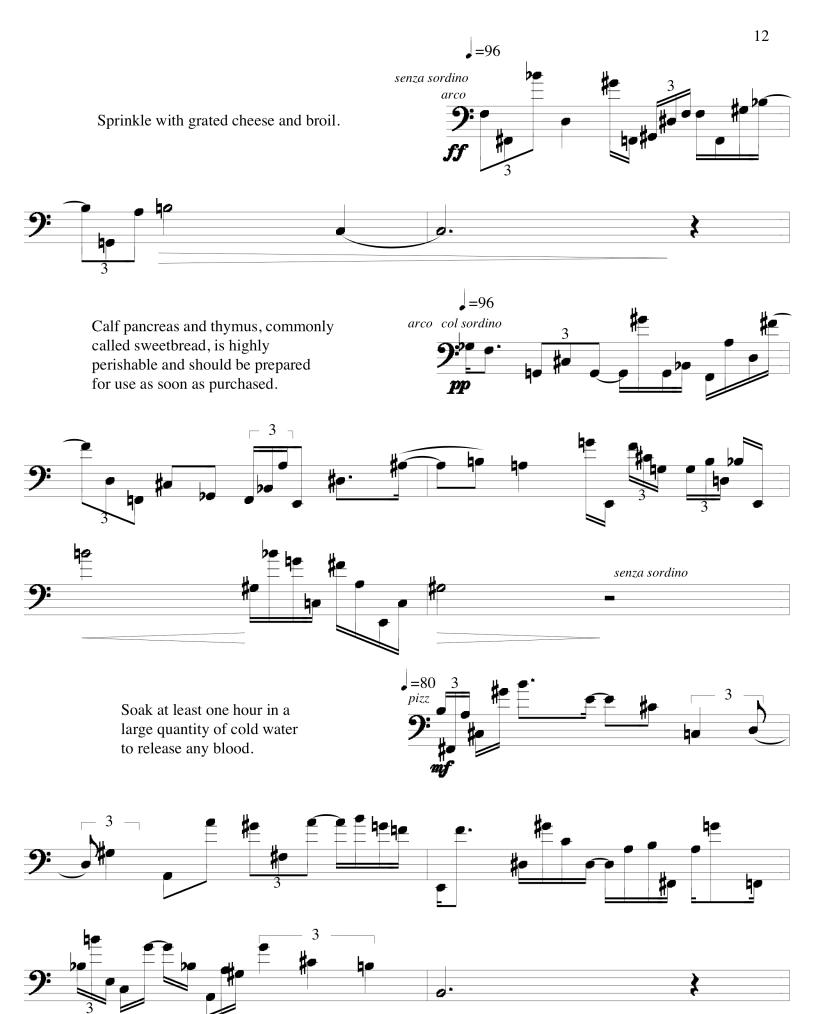


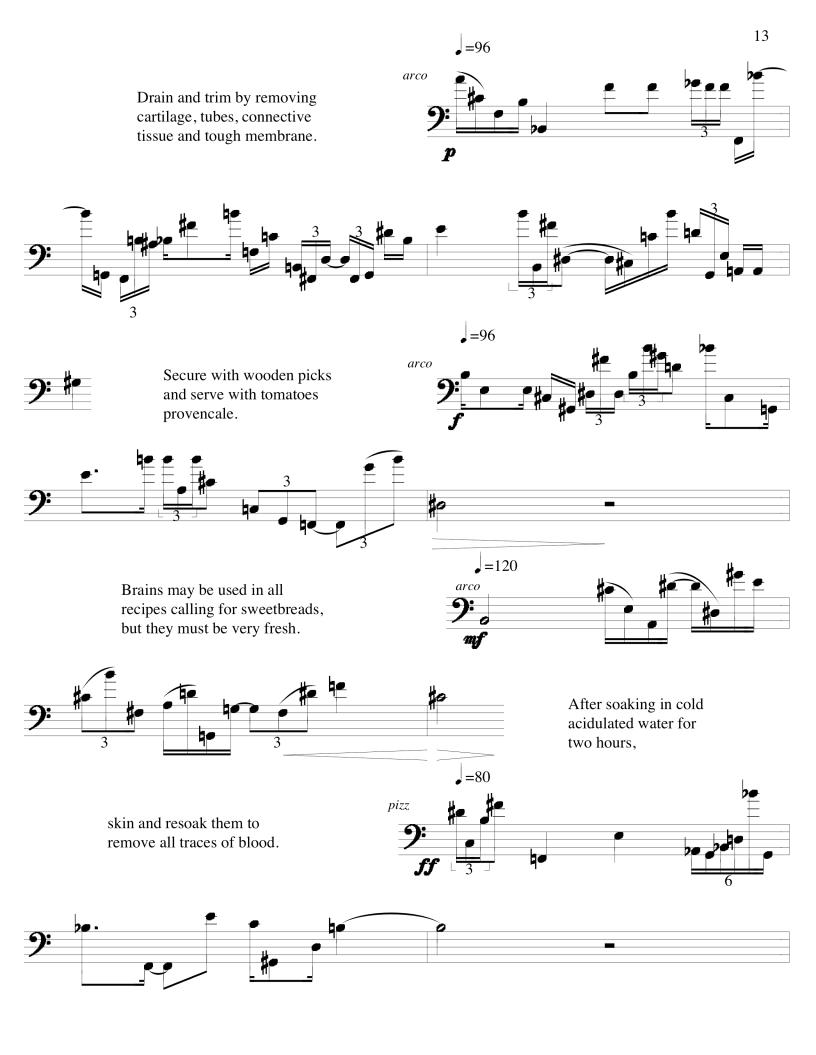
Bake at least twelve hours and serve with boiled potatoes.



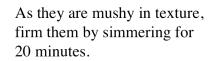
senza sordino



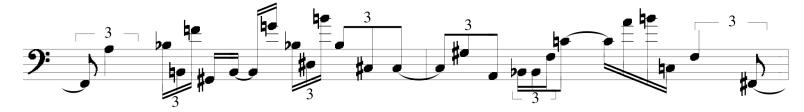
















Allow one pound of brains for 4 servings.

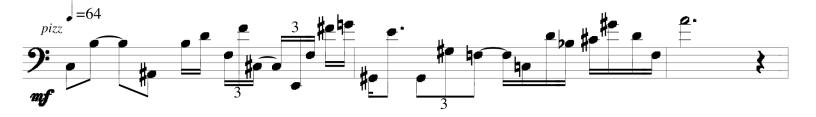


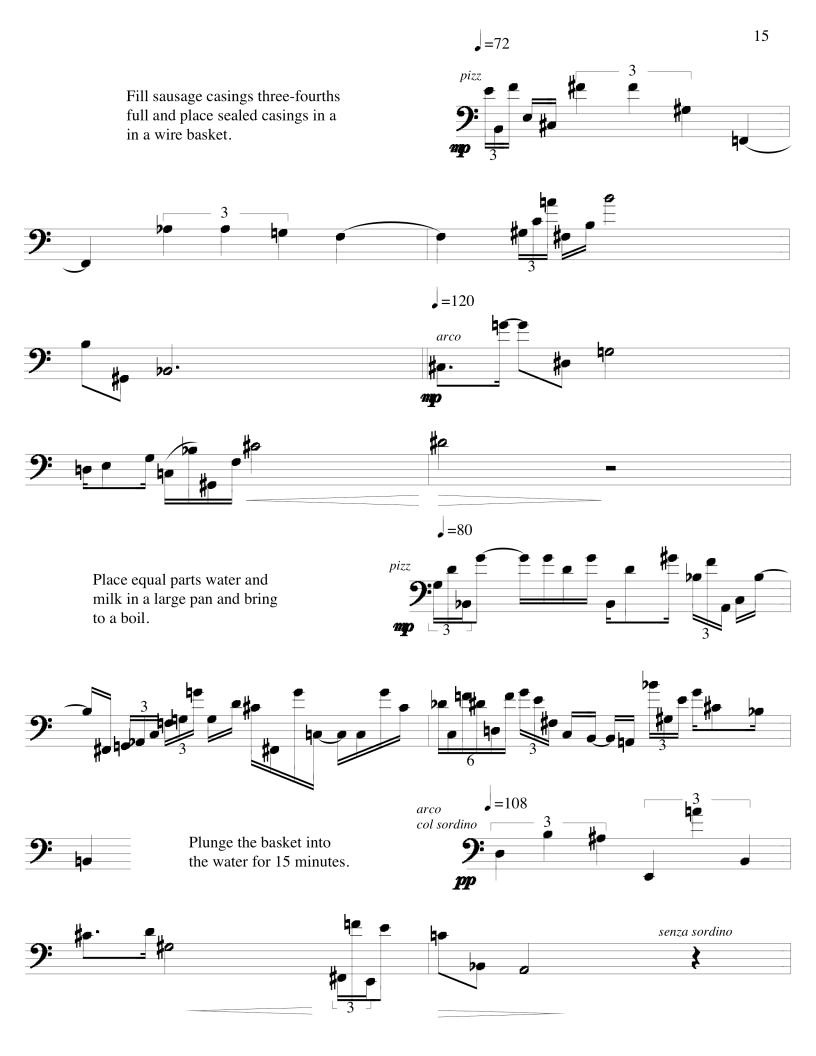


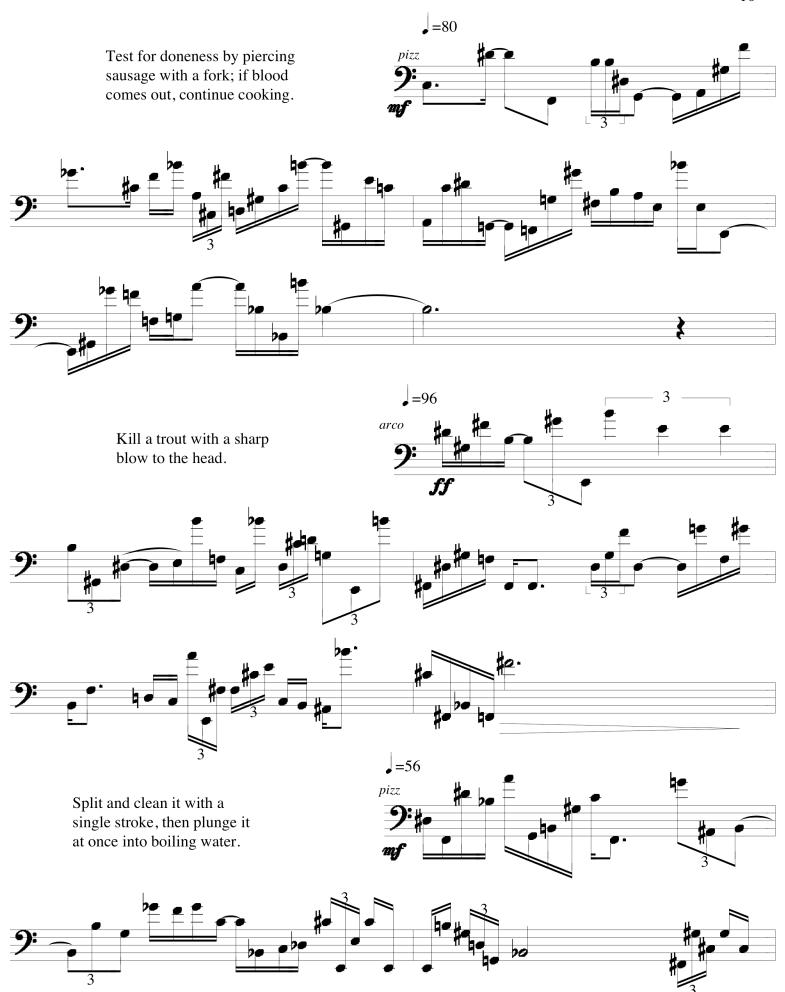


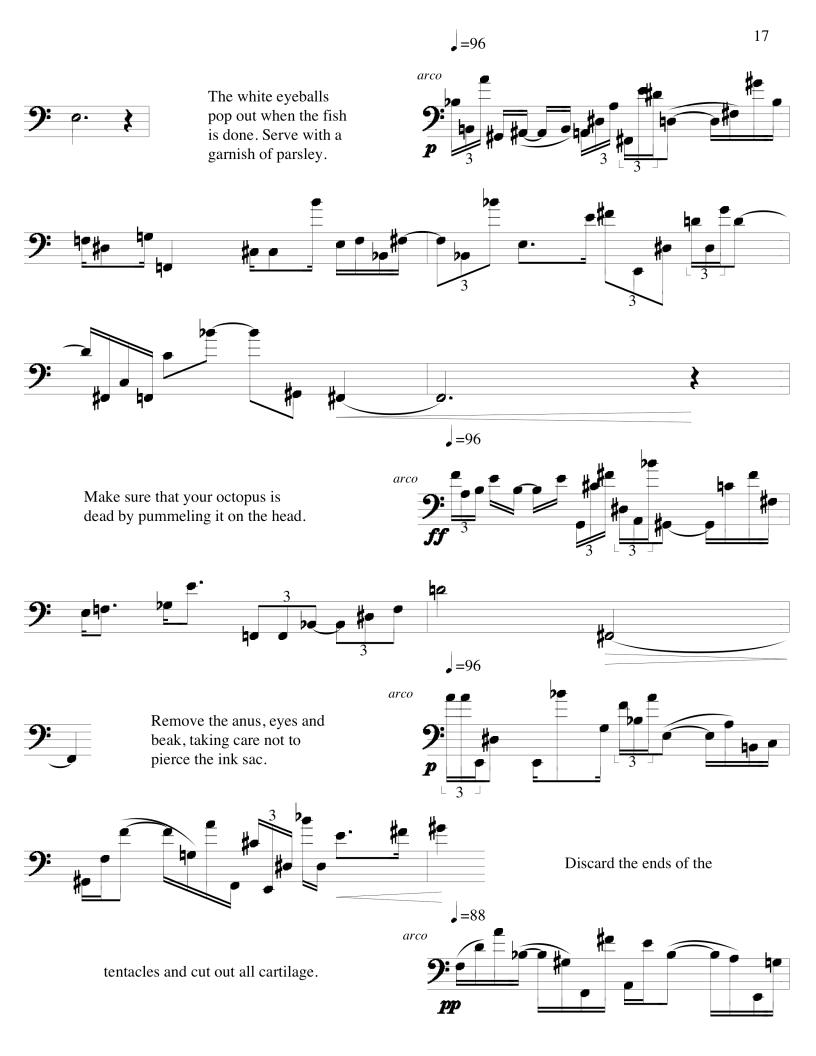


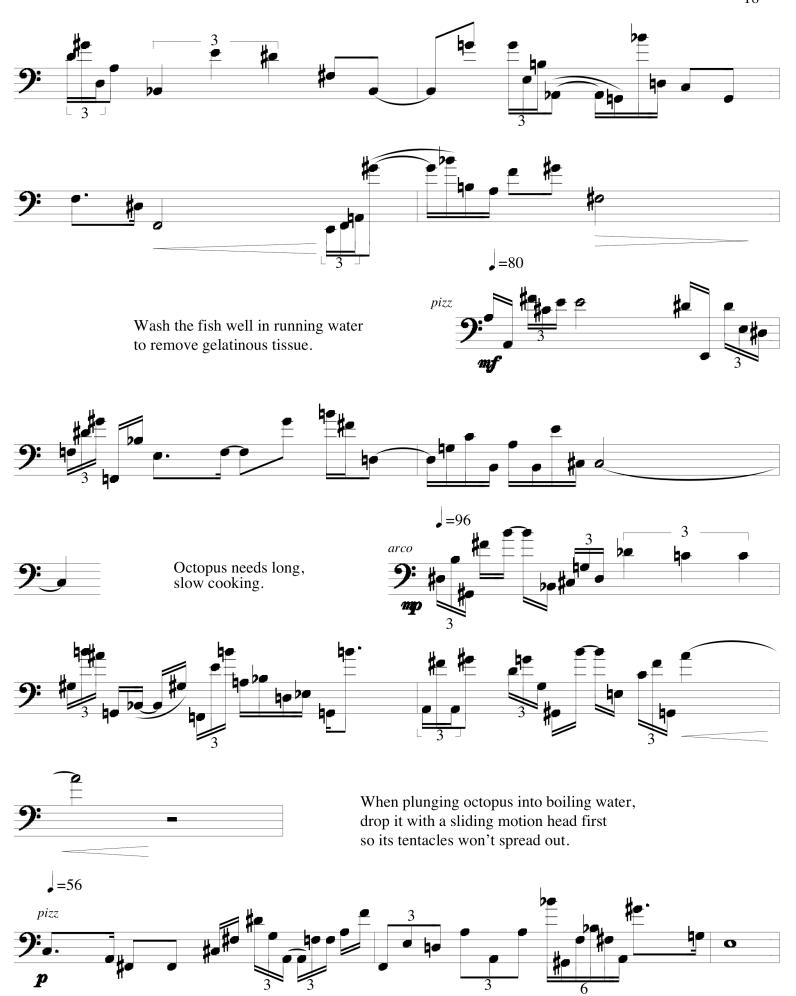
Mix in a bowl one-third cup whipping cream, two beaten eggs, one-half pound lard diced into one-half inch cubes, and two cups fresh pork blood.

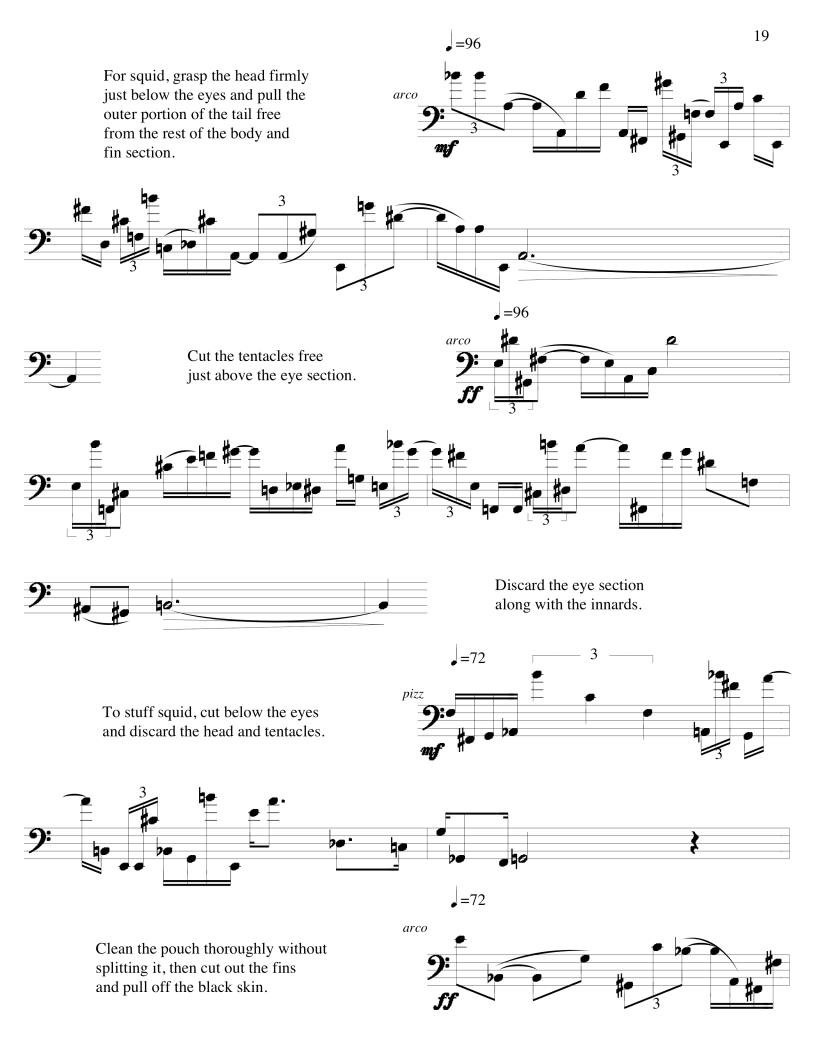


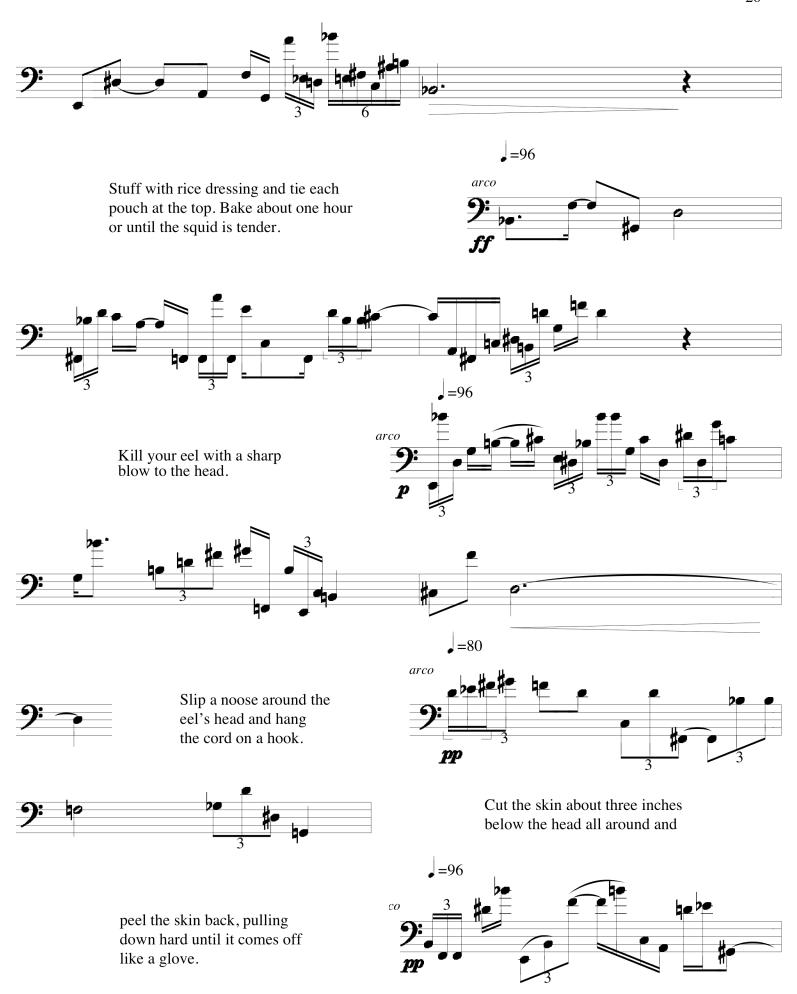


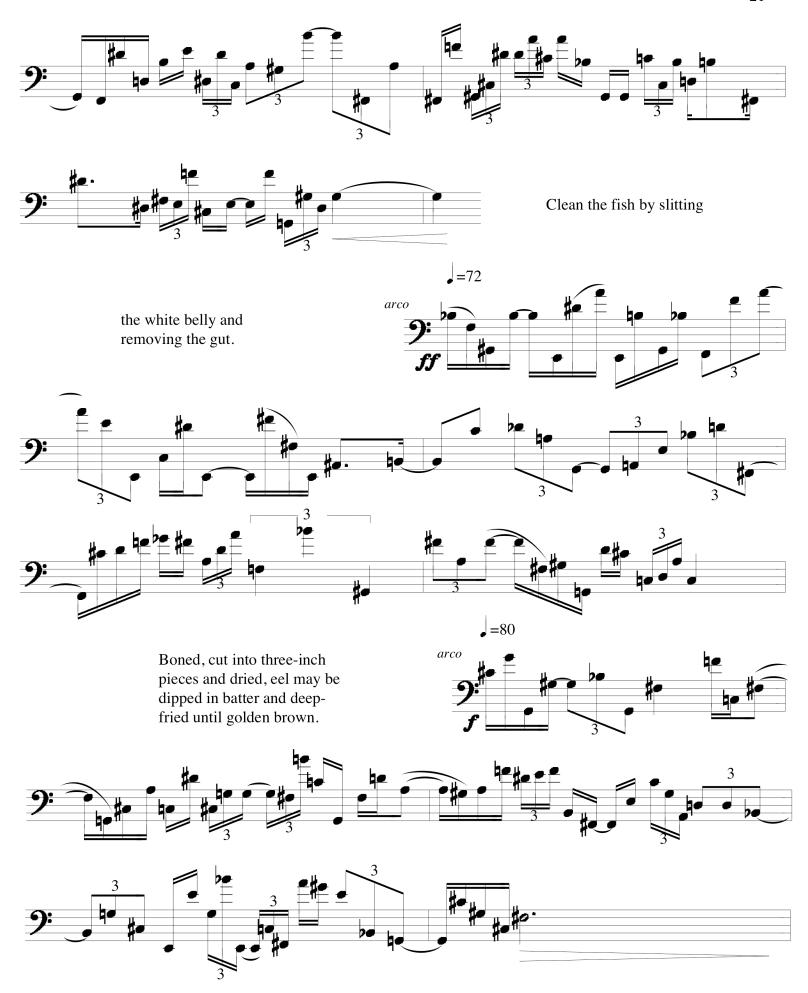


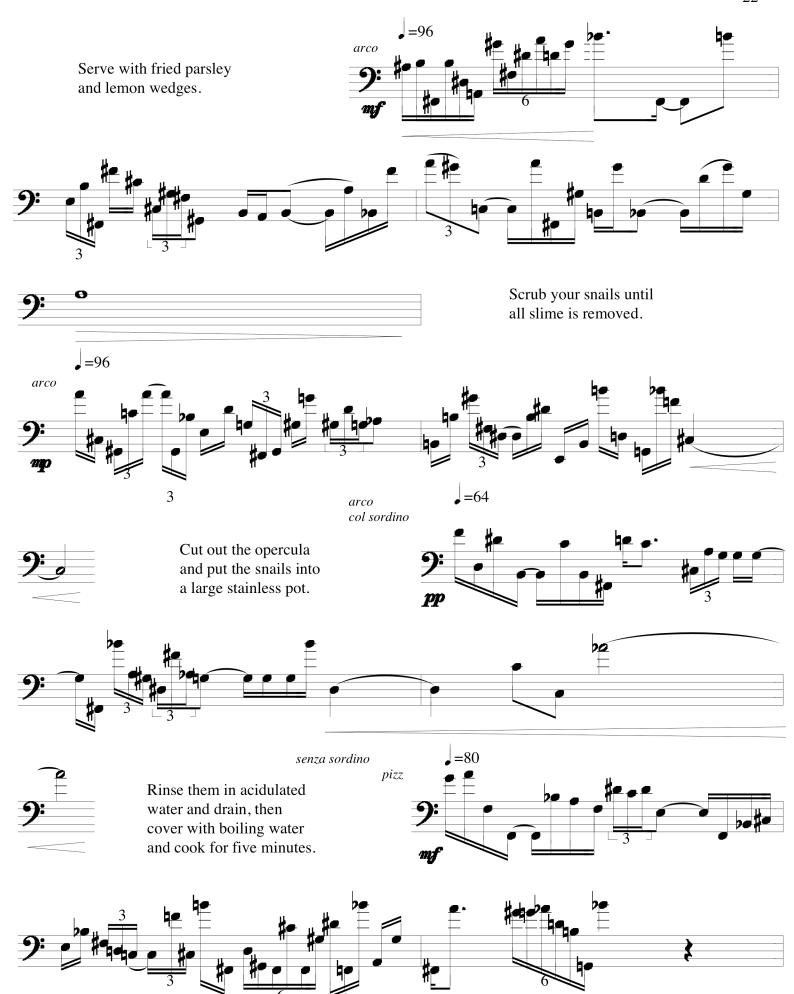


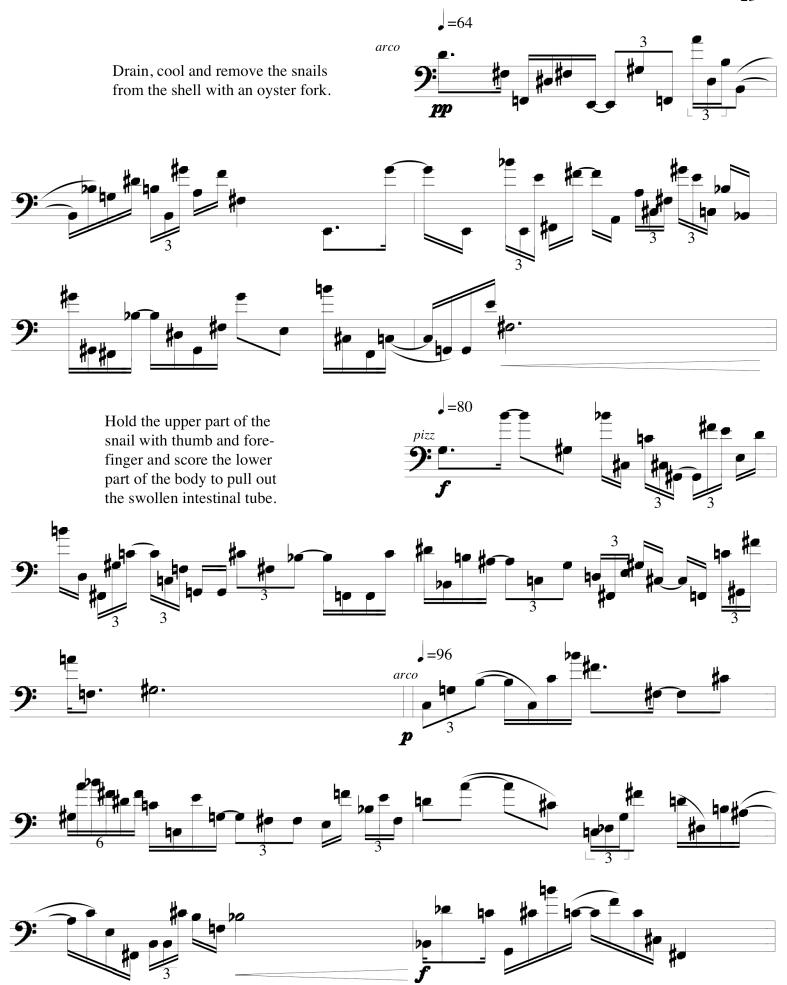


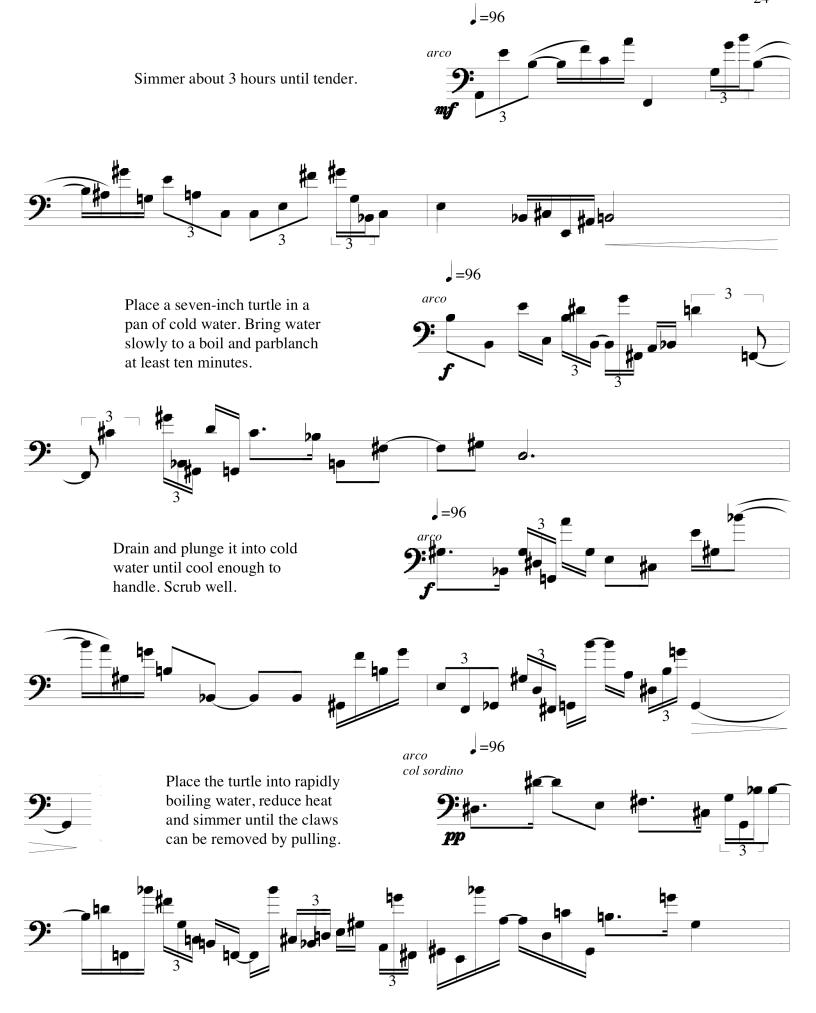


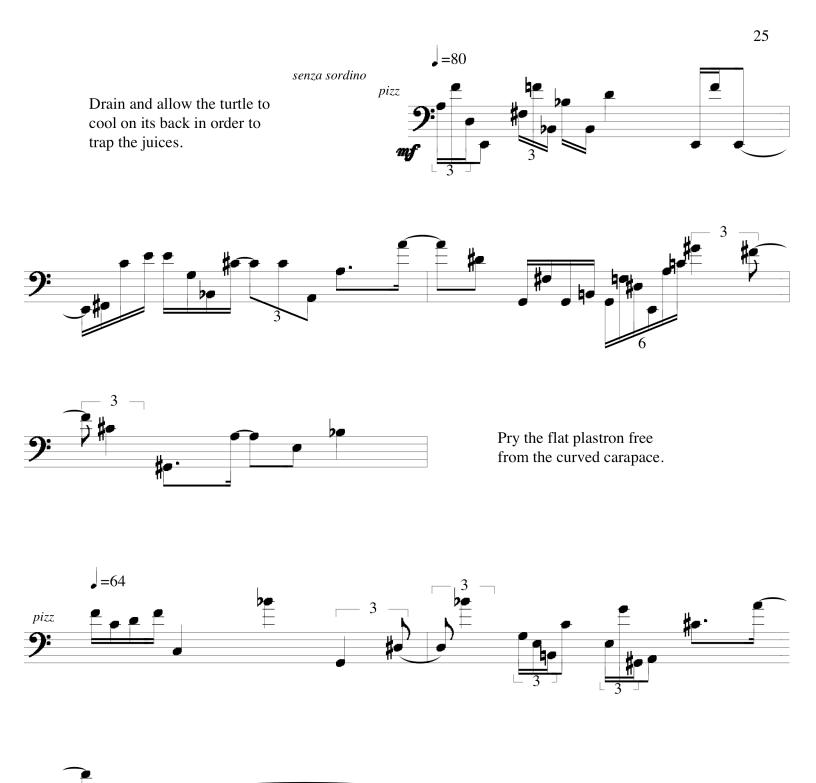








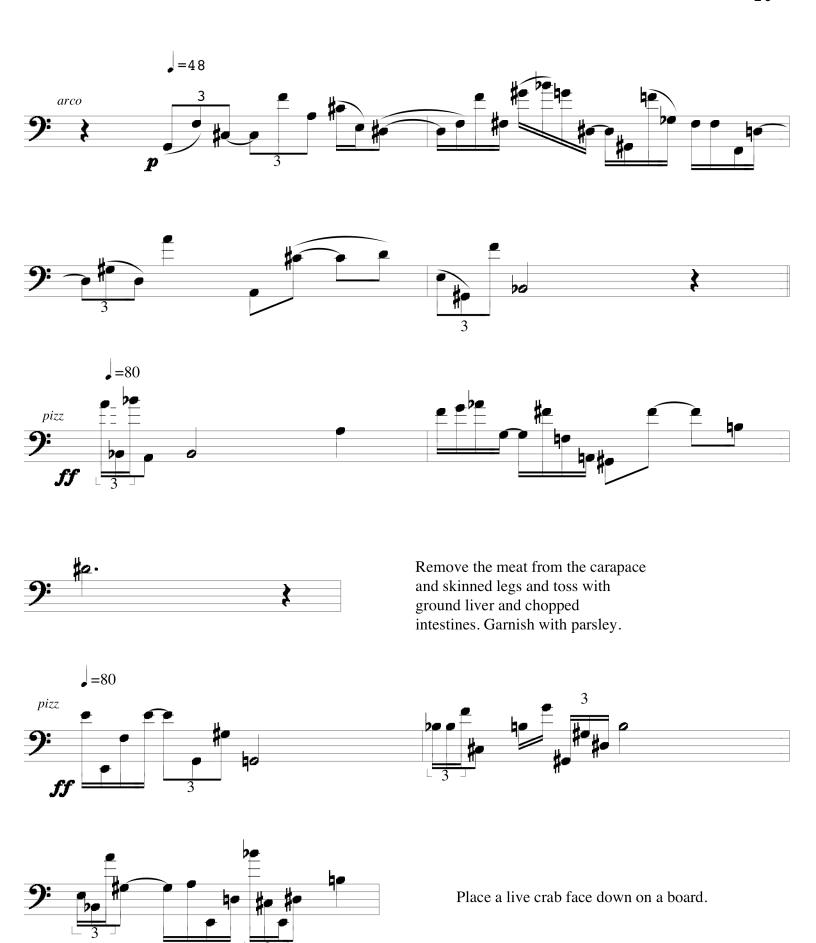


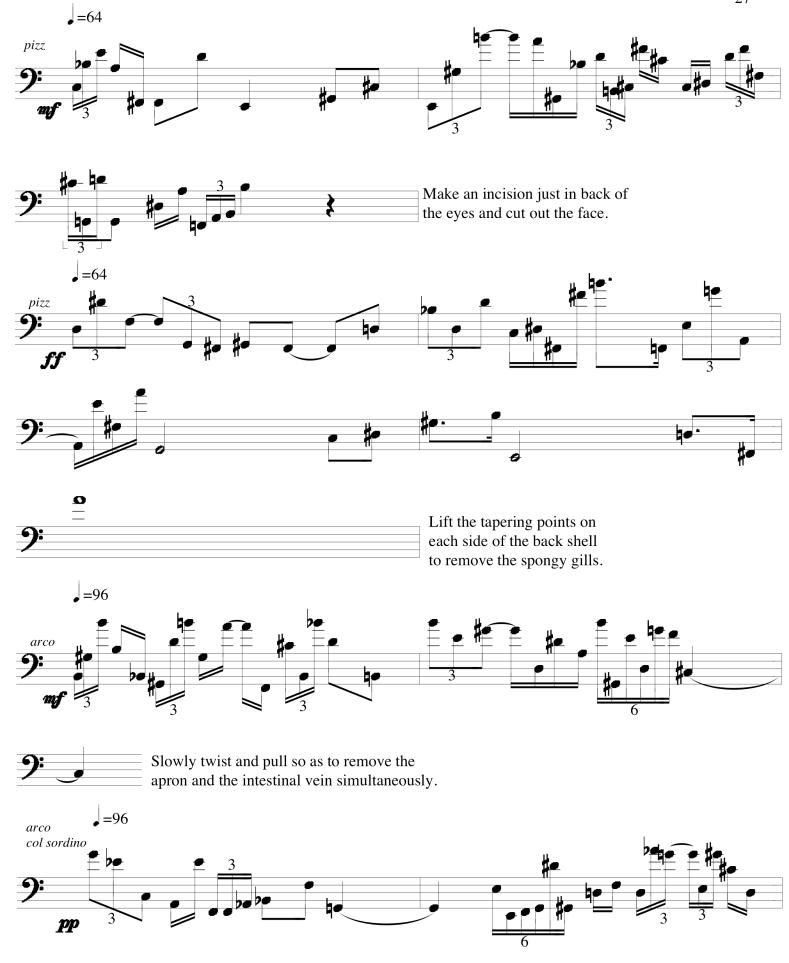


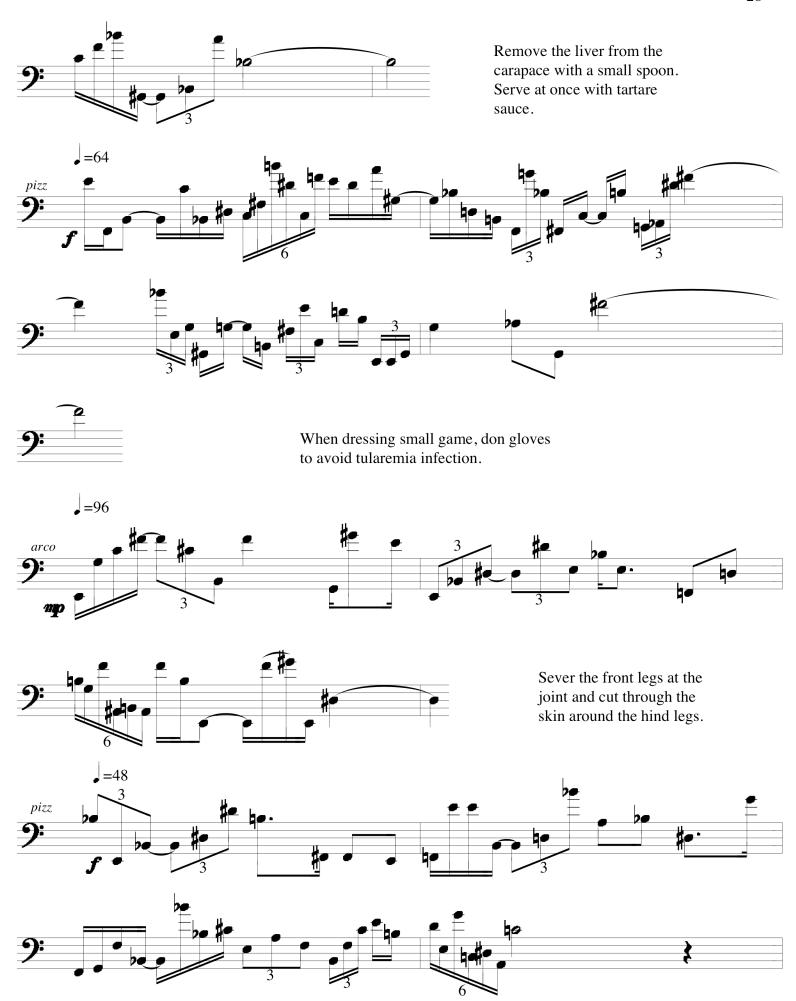
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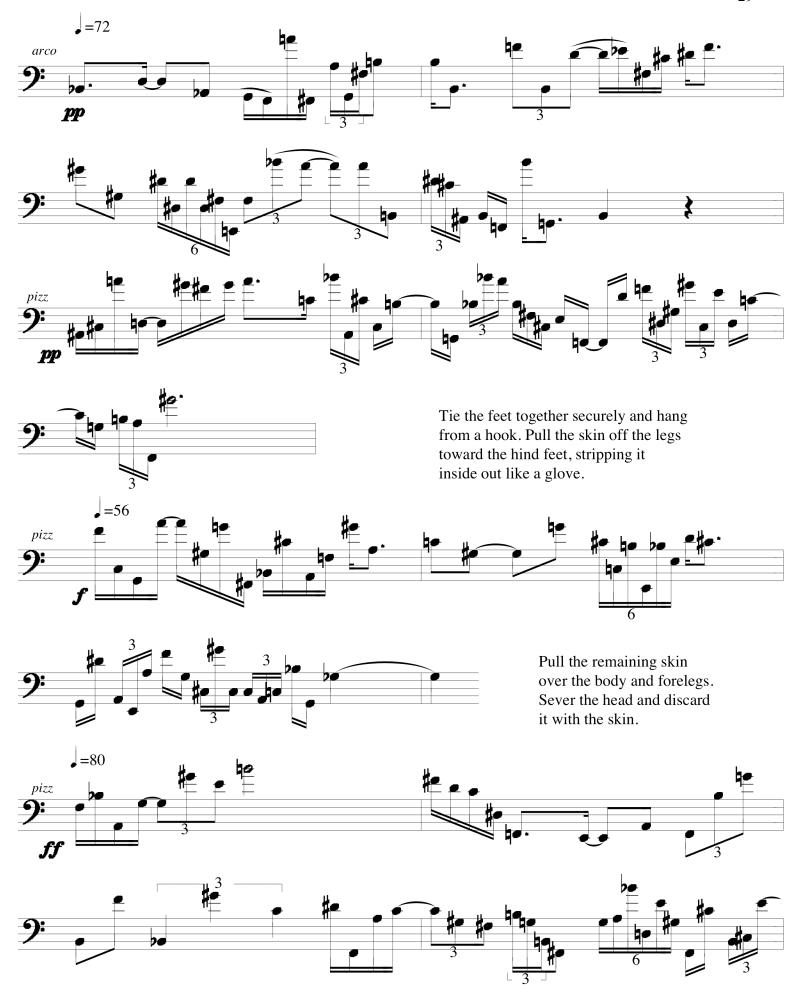
Near the head you will find

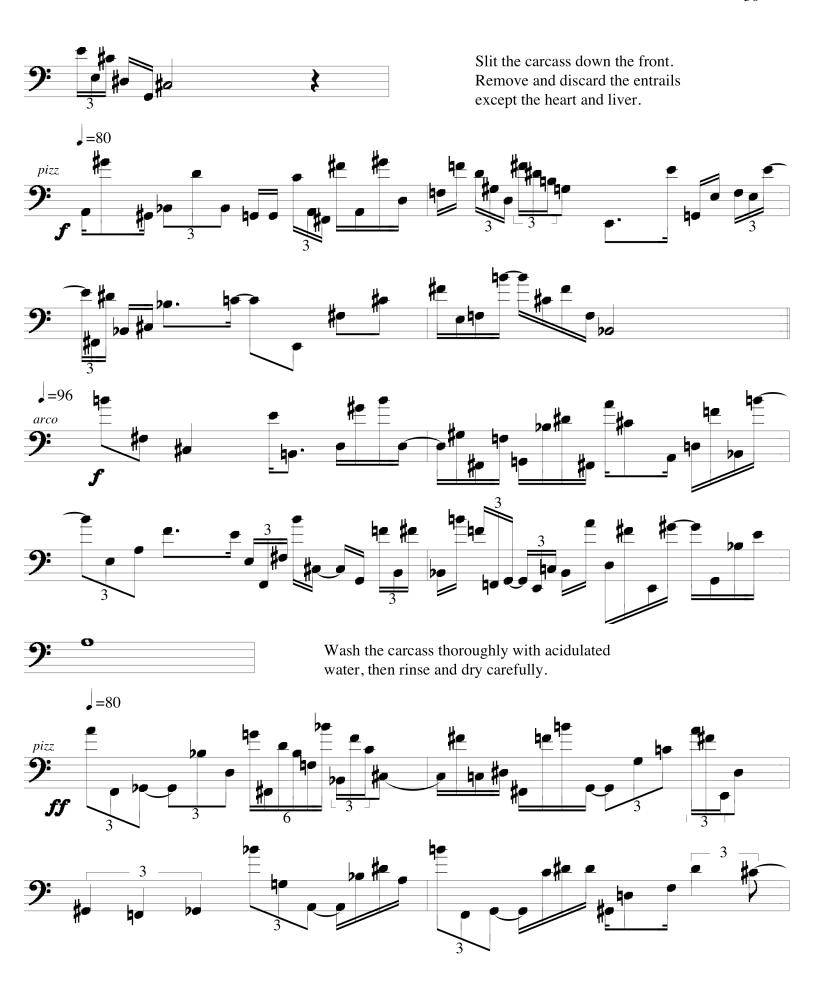
the liver. Free it from the gall and discard the gall.

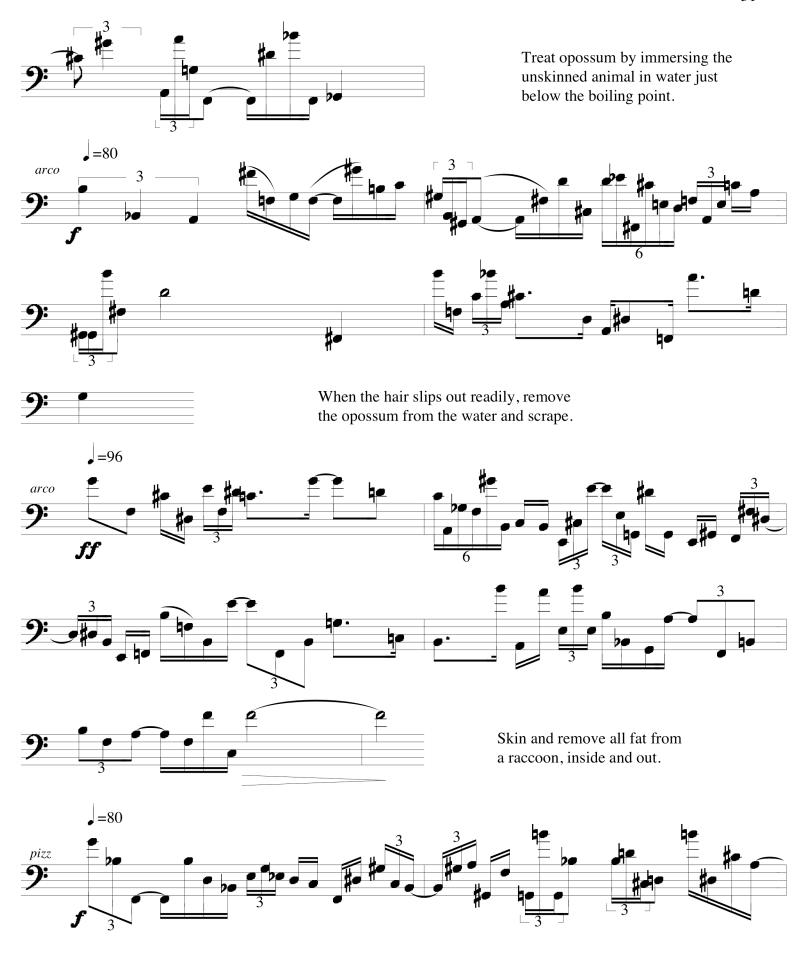


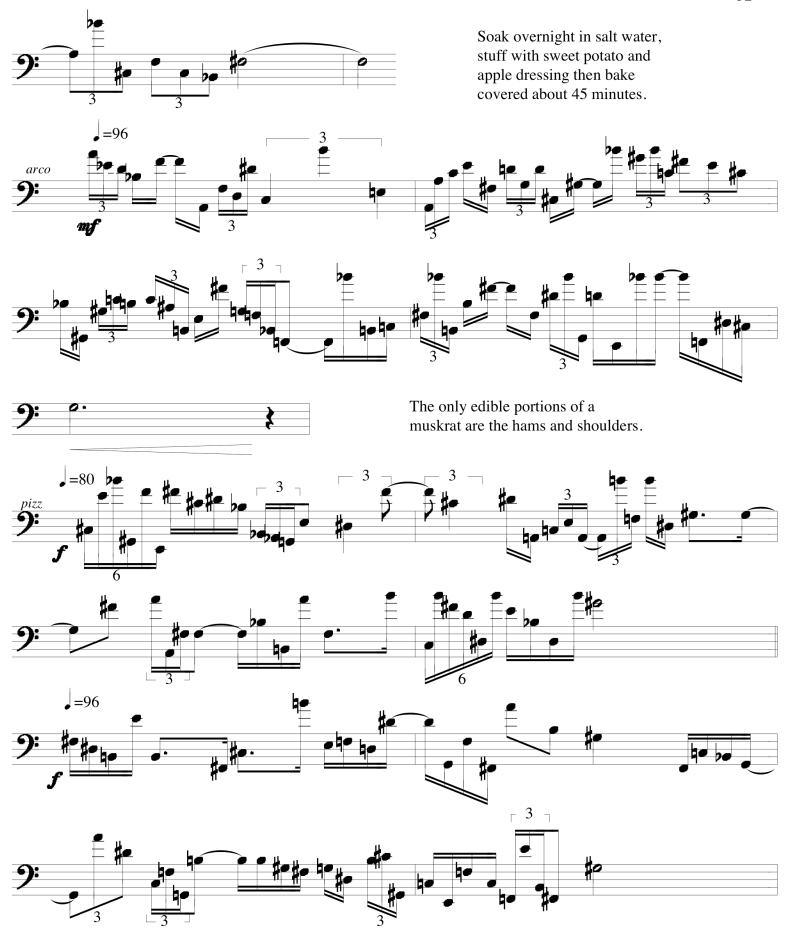


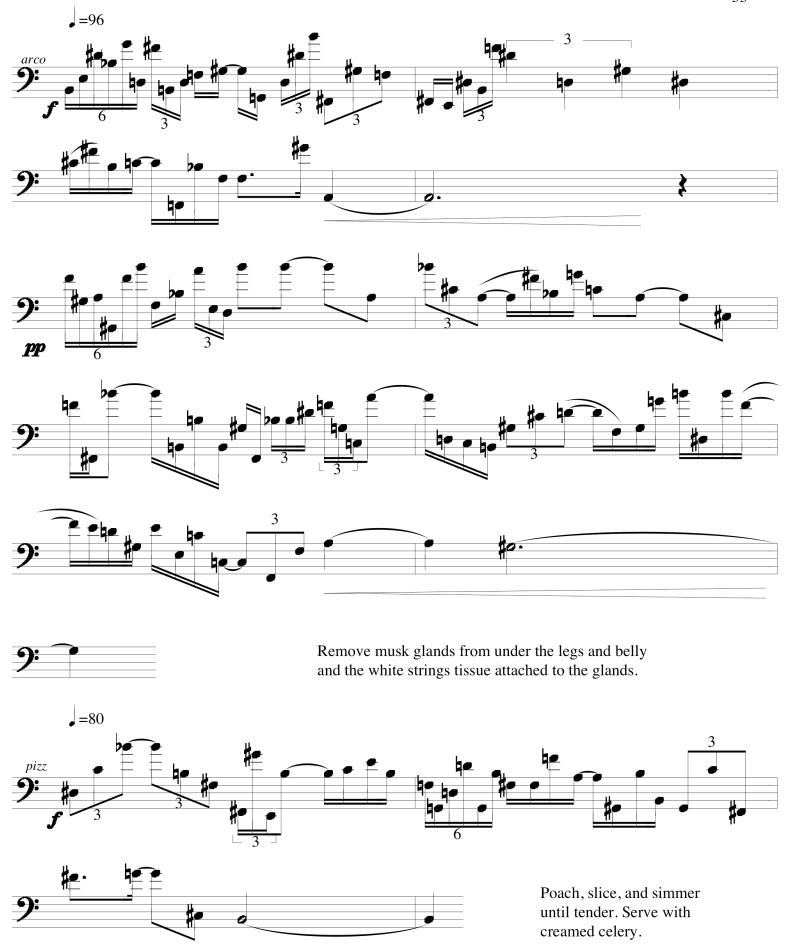


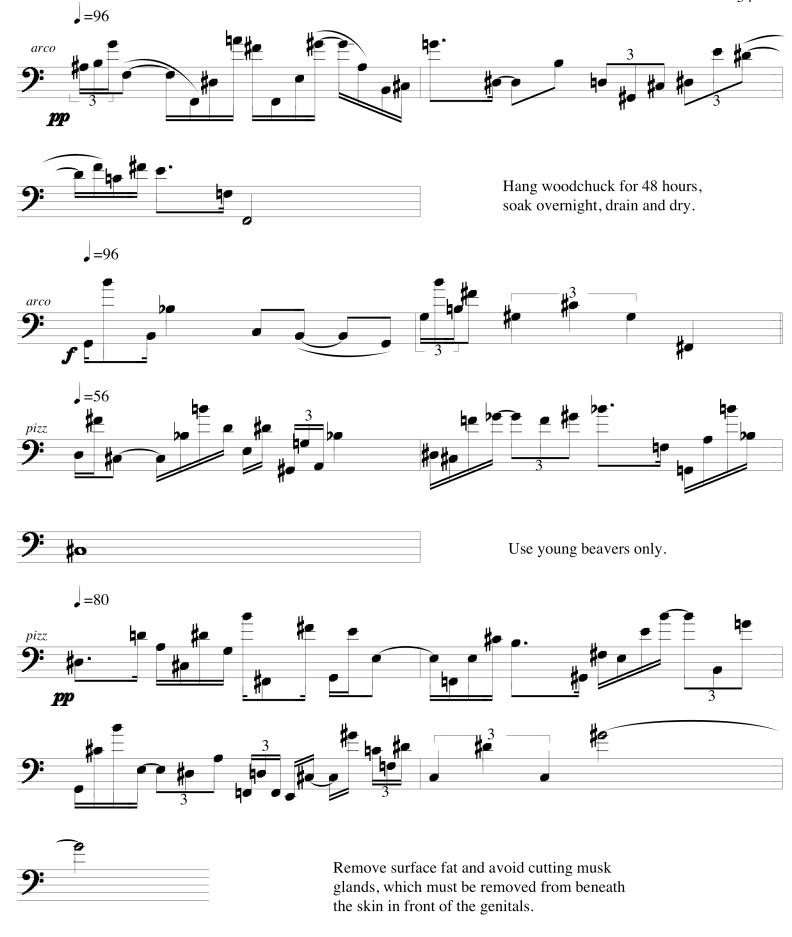


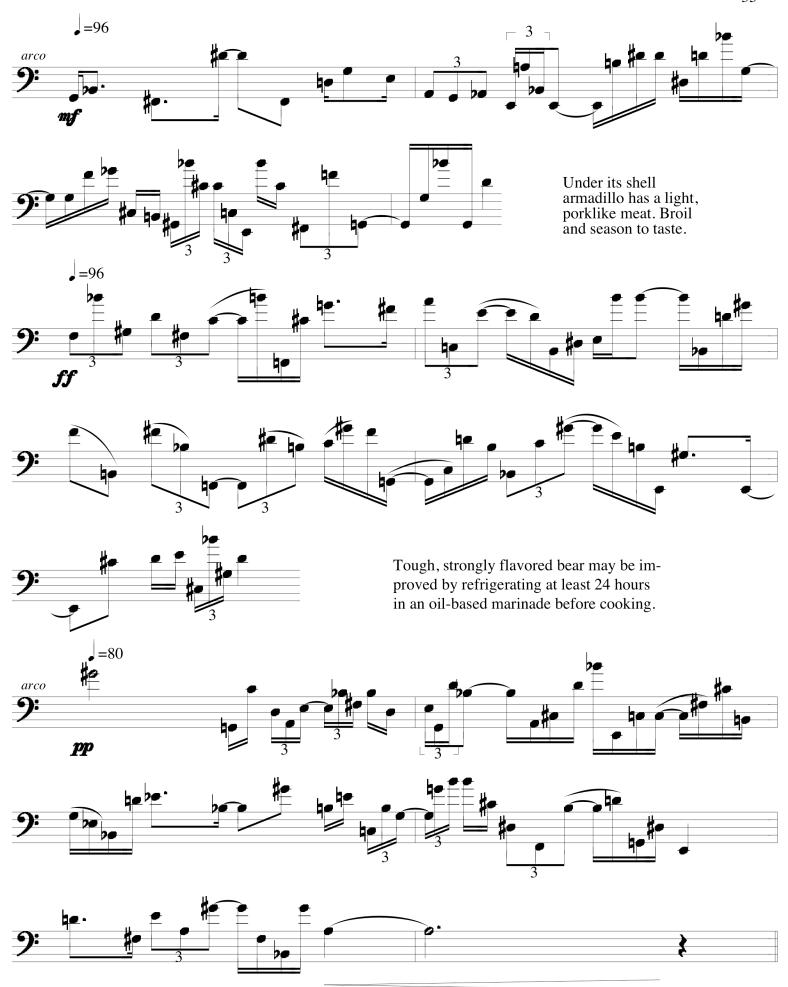


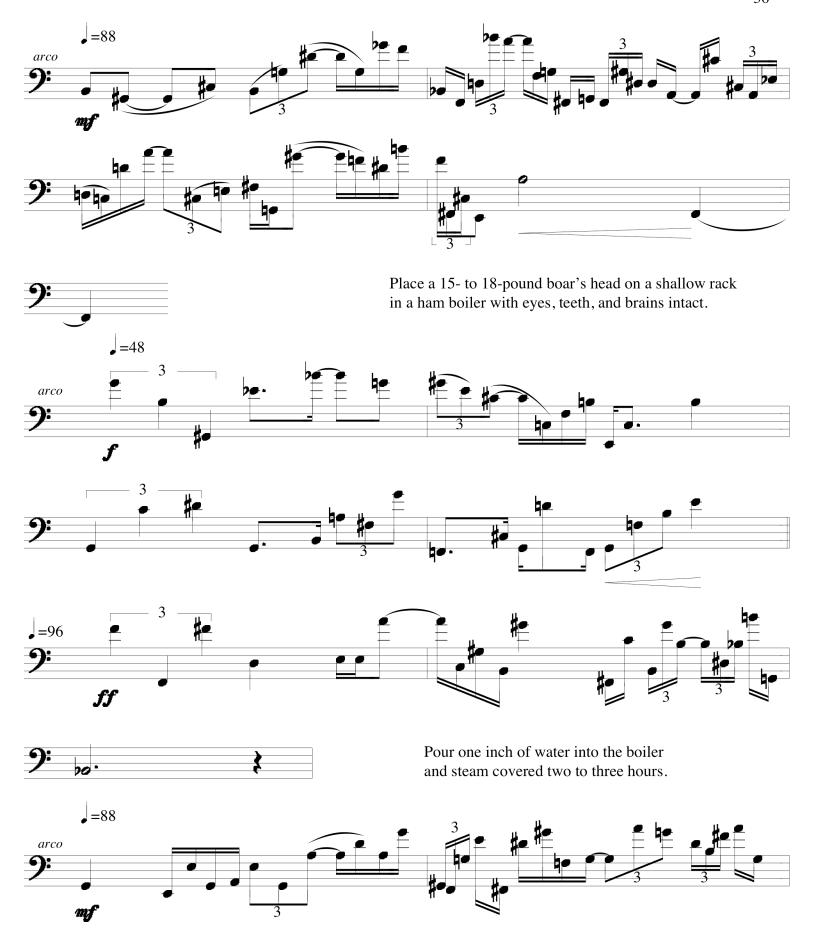


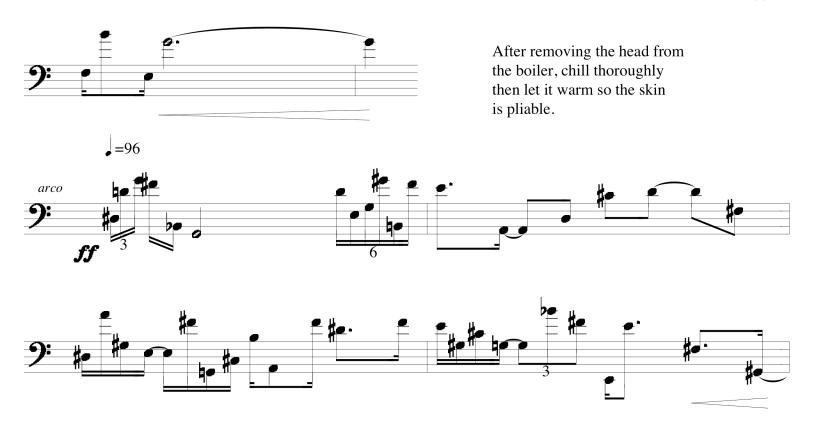






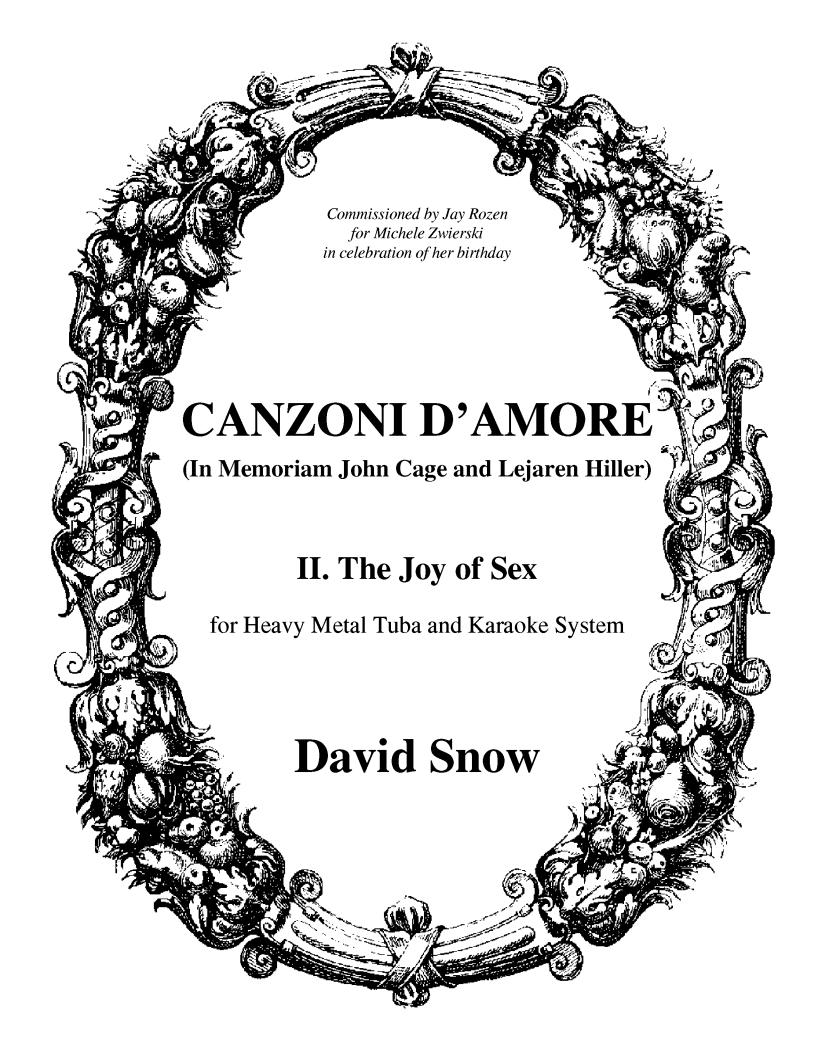








With a short knife, make a lengthwise incision incision from the base of the snout to the base of the neck. Carefully loosen the skin, being careful not to puncture it, especially around the eyes. Remove the head meat, discarding the skull, eyes, overcooked brains, and as much fat as possible. And if that doesn't do the trick, hog-tie him, drag him to an abandoned coal pit and smash in his fucking face.



CANZONI D'AMORE (In Memoriam John Cage and Lejaren Hiller)

II. The Joy of Sex

for heavy metal tuba and karaoke system **David Snow** START TAPE: =108 (drums) (tambourine) (bass and applause) speak into microphone: "Hey good lookin', what's cookin'? Wanna get lucky?" "Wanna get lucky?" "Wanna get lucky?" "Your place or mine? How about a quickie?" "You wanna exchange gum?" "Wanna get lucky?" "How about a quickie?" "You wanna get lucky? Your place or mine?" "How about a quickie?" "How about a quickie?" "Hey good lookin', what's cookin'?"

"Wanna get lucky?"

"Wanna get lucky?"

"Wanna get lucky?"

(music stops on tape; crowd sounds on tape)

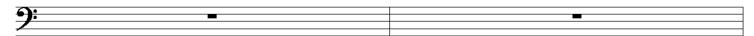


PLAY 18-SECOND HEAD-BANGING ELECTRIC SOLO.

(music on tape resumes)



"What's a nice girl like you doing in a place like this, anyway?"

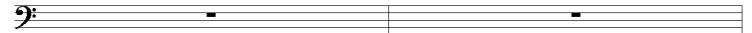


"Can I buy you a drink?"

"Can I buy you a drink?"



"I know how to please a woman."



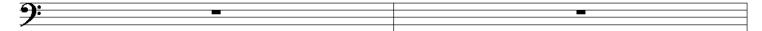
"Nobody can give you what I can." "Can I buy you a drink?"



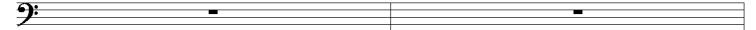
"C'mon, let's get horizontal." "You want it as much as I do, trust me."



"When was the last time you saw a body like this?"



"What's a nice girl like you doing in a place like this, anyway?"



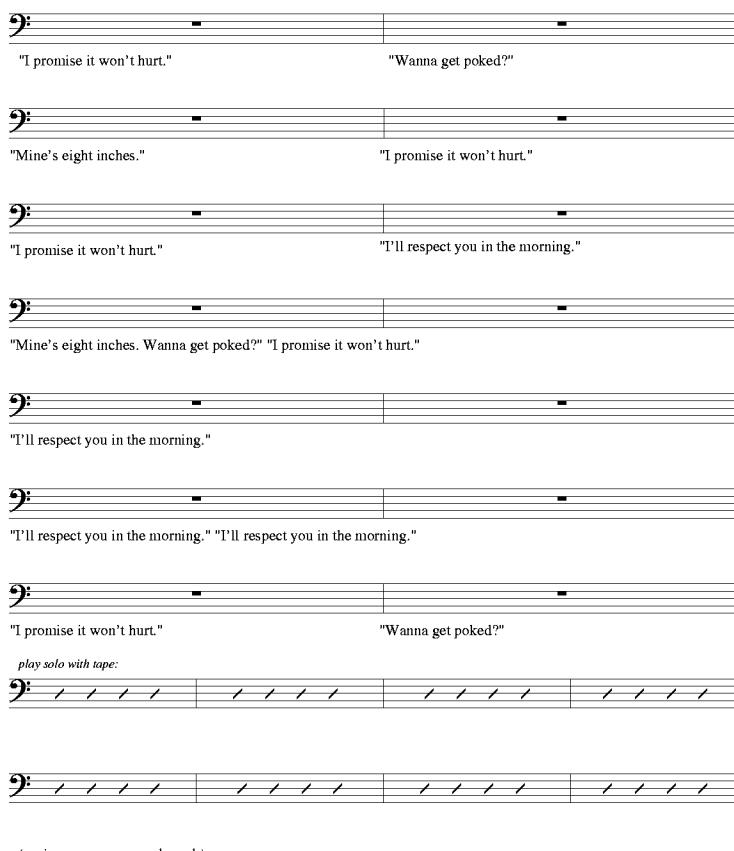
"Can I buy you a drink? Can I buy you a drink?" "Nobody can give you what I can."

(music stops on tape; crowd sounds on tape)

PLAY 18-SECOND PAINT-PEELING ELECTRIC SOLO.

"Wanna get poked?"

"I promise it won't hurt."



(music stops on tape; crowd sounds)

PLAY 18-SECOND SKIN-BLISTERING ELECTRIC SOLO.

5 (music resumes on tape) "Whatsa matter, don't you like men?" "When was the last time you saw a body like this? Mine's nine inches." "I know how to please a woman." "Whatsa matter, don't you like men?" "I'm not good enough for you?" "I'm not good enough for you?" "Whatsa matter, don't you like men?" "I'm not good enough for you?" "My wife doesn't understand me." "If I go on to someone else, don't blame me." "Mine's ten inches." "When was the last time you saw a body like this?" "Wanna get lucky?"

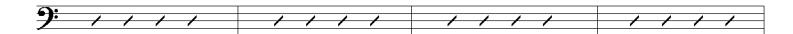
(applause on tape)

play along with tape:

9: /// /// /// /// ///

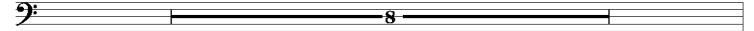
continue playing, gradually petering out to sputtering incoherence:

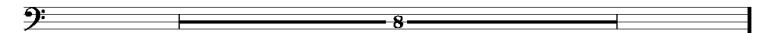




(tape continues)

Leave the stage while you still have your dignity...





Fine

Montgomery Village, Maryland 7/7/94