

# Ricercar in Green

for double bass, computer, and video

Brad Decker

video by Zlatko Cosic

2017

**Ricercar in Green**

For contrabass and computer, with video by Zlatko Cosic  
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## Program note:

A ricercar is traditionally a contrapuntal work that imitates one or more themes. My work is influenced by the performance style of contrabassist Bertram Turetzky, an innovator in modern extended techniques, who recorded "Ricercar a 3" by Robert Erickson in 1967. Like Erickson's work from 50 years ago, which uses tape recording techniques to simulate a three-voice canon, this work utilizes a computer application created in Max to record and playback two additional imitative layers. This ricercar imitates three points of imitation, based upon Turetzky's techniques - touch, wood, and bow...

## Technical notes:

This work is intended to be performed on double bass, with pickup. Pickup should send audio to a computer running Max 7 through an audio interface.

The Max 7 patch automates the recording and playback of the soloist. Once the piece is begun, there should be no need to continue to interact with the patch.

The computer output is stereo.

The Video output should be via HDMI from the computer on stage with the performer. Video playback will begin with the start of the piece, and the Max patch.s

The score indicates when to expect the patch to begin recording and playing back the imitative layers. The soloist should attempt to stay in time with the patch, which operates assuming that each measure is 5 seconds long

Note the scordatura: D A D G

For some of the extended col legno passages, I recommend using a drumstick

For more information or technical support, please contact me at b.decker75@gmail.com

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D A D G

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1 Record 1  
Video starts

♩ = 60

**Contrabass**

*pizz.* *LH hammer-on pizz*

*p* *on tailpiece w/ RH fingertips* *on bridge w/ RH fingertips* *on strings w/ RH fingertips*

Play 1

Record 2

**7**

*LH pizz l.v.*  
II

*RH tap on belly*  
*f*

Play 1

Play 2

Take Drum Stick *col legno (w/ drum stick)*

**13**

*RH / LH fingernail string glissando*

*p* *p*

Play 2

Record 1

**19**

*col legno battuto* *bounce stick on strings* *LH pizz*

*RH col legno tratto*  
*p* *f*

Play 1  
Record 2

25

*f* *f* *p* *ff* *ff*

col legno battuto c. l. tratto

Play 1  
Play 2

31

tap strings behind bridge ad lib

Take Bow arco.

*f* *sfz* *sfz* *p*

circular c.l.t. c.l. tratto sul pont. rapido! arco. sul pont.

Play 2  
Record 1

37

arco ord.

*ff* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *ff*

Play 1  
Record 2

43

arco ord. furioso, tasto / pont / etc.

*f* *ff* *fff*

Play 1  
Play 2

49

sub. pp

*p* *p* *p* *pp*

sul pont sul tasto on bridge sul tasto on bridge take stick

Play 2  
Record 1

55

col legno tratto II III  
col legno tratto

II III IV

col legno tratto  
sul tasto

LH pizz hammer-on

RH col legno  
vertical motion

Play 1  
Record 2

61

c.l.b. trem

no stick

RH fingernail tremolo

LH hammer-on pizz

on tailpiece w/ RH fingertips

pp p f p

Play 1  
Play 2

67

LH tap on sides

take bow

RH / LH fingernail string glissando

arco sul pont

3 5

p

Play 2

73

RH finger tremolo I, II

pizz

arco sul pont

IV II

on bridge

LH finger tremolo III, IV strings

pp