

53rd String Quartet  
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An open-ended piece for string quartet, consisting of a systematic series of 8-note chords.  
Each performance begins where the last performance ended, with no overlap.  
(If one performance consists of chords 58-92, the next performance will begin on chord 93.)

The sequence of chords is derived by:

-numbering each pitch on the staff: G#3=0, A3=1, A#3=2, etc.  
(G#3 is the lowest possible pitch of this piece.)

-putting 8 pitches in ascending order  
(no two pitches may be identical, but identical pitch classes can and will occur.)

-deriving an index number for the 8-note chord with the product:  
 $2^{\text{(lowest pitch)}} * 3^{\text{(second pitch)}} * 5^{\text{(pitch three)}} * 7^{\text{(P4)}} * 11^{\text{(P5)}} * 13^{\text{(P6)}} * 17^{\text{(P7)}} * 19^{\text{(highest pitch)}}$

-finding the lowest-index-numbered chord that has not already been played (in any performance) and that is playable by the instruments in a string quartet (each instrument playing two notes).  
This is the next chord in the sequence.

Each chord should be sustained for 3 beats at a very slow tempo, followed by 1 beat of rest.

Play for as long as desired, with a gentle tone.

A log will be maintained of previous performances and which chords have been played, so that anyone wishing to perform the piece will know what chords to perform.  
Please contact me in advance if you would like to perform this piece.  
I can provide a score if requested.