

Chris Fenger

Loop Life (2019)

Loop Lyfe is the first piece I composed at Emory. It is a piece for a recorded string quartet and drum machine. The idea was to recreate the type of melodic phrases found in hip-hop samples. These melodies are cyclical; they end with a gesture that leads back into the beginning of the melody. Beat making was my introduction to music composition, so I thought it would be appropriate to pay homage to that artform in my first “classical” composition, while also remaining connected to aspects of hip-hop music.

♩=70  
**Serene**

Violin 1  
*mp*

Violin 2  
*mp*

Viola

Violoncello  
*mp*

This system contains the first two measures of the piece. It features four staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 70. The first measure shows the Violin 1 and Violoncello parts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second measure continues the melodic lines in Violin 1 and Violoncello, with Violin 2 and Viola providing accompaniment.

3

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 3 and 4. It features four staves: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., and Vc. The key signature and time signature remain the same. Measure 3 shows the continuation of the melodic lines. Measure 4 concludes the system with a double bar line. Dynamics include *mp* for the lower strings and *mf* for the Violin 1 part.

5

**Joyful, Regal**

Vln. 1  
*mf*

Vln. 2  
*mp*

Vla.  
*mp*

Vc.  
*mp*

This system contains measures 5 through 8. It features four staves: Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., and Vc. The key signature and time signature remain the same. Measure 5 is marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic for the Violin 1 part. The piece transitions to a more lively and regal character. The system concludes with a double bar line.

9

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

12 **Passionate**

Vln. 1

*mf*

Vln. 2

*p*

Vla.

*p*

Vc.

*mp*

14

Vln. 1

*f*

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

16

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

17 Intense, Wistful

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

*mp*

*mp*

*mf*

21 Soulful

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

*mf*

Creepy yet Funky

25

Vln. 1 *mp*

Vln. 2 *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *pizz.* *mf* 3

27

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf* 3

Angered

29

Vln. 1 *mf*

Vln. 2 *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *arco* *mp*



35

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

37

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*

*p*

*mp*  
*pizz.*

*mf*

39

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

41 *pizz.* *pp* *accel.*

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*pp* *pizz.* *pp* *pizz.* *pp*

This system contains measures 41, 42, and 43. It features four staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello. All instruments play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The first measure (41) is marked *pizz.* and *pp*. The second measure (42) is marked *accel.* and *pp*. The third measure (43) continues the pattern. A tempo marking of quarter note = 98 is located below the first staff.

43 *Livid* *arco* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

*f* *arco* *mf* *arco* *f* *arco* *mf*

This system contains measures 43, 44, and 45. It features four staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello. All instruments play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The first measure (43) is marked *arco* and *f*. The second measure (44) is marked *mf* and *arco*. The third measure (45) is marked *f* and *arco*. A tempo marking of quarter note = 98 is located below the first staff.

46

Vln. 1  
Vln. 2  
Vla.  
Vc.

This system contains measures 46, 47, and 48. It features four staves: Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello. The first and third staves (Vln. 1 and Vla.) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with triplet markings (3) above the notes. The second and fourth staves (Vln. 2 and Vc.) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with triplet markings (3) below the notes. The first measure (46) is marked with a flat (b). The second measure (47) is marked with a flat (b). The third measure (48) is marked with a flat (b).

48 **molto rit.** ♩=70

Vln. 1  
3 3 3 3  
*mp*

Vln. 2  
*mp*

Vla.  
3 3 3 3  
*mp*

Vc.  
**Serene**  
*mp*

51

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

53

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Violin 1

Chris Fenger

♩=70  
Serene  
*mp*

5 Joyful, Regal  
*mf*

9 Passionate  
*mf*

13  
*f*

16 Intense, Wistful  
*f*

20 Soulful  
*mf*

25 Creepy yet Funky Angered  
*mp* *mf*

30  
*f*

32

33 **Focused, Sharp**  
*mp*

35  
*mf*

38

41 *pp* *pizz.* *mf* *f*

accel. ♩=98 *Livid*  
*arco*

44

47 *molto rit.*

49 *mp* ♩=70

52

Violin 2

Chris Fenger

$\text{♩} = 70$

*mp*

4

*mp*

9

*p*

13

*mp*

16

*mp*

20

*mp*

25

*mp*

28

*mf* *mp* *mf*

32

*mp*



Viola

Chris Fenger

♩=70

4

*mp*

9

*p*

13

16

*mp*

20

*mp*

25

*mp*

29

*mp* *mf* *mp*

35

Musical notation for measures 35-38. The piece is in 3/8 time. Measures 35-38 feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with slurs and accents. A dynamic marking of *mp* is placed below the staff at the beginning of measure 37.

39

Musical notation for measures 39-41. Measures 39-41 show a sequence of eighth notes. Measure 40 includes a *pizz* (pizzicato) marking. Measure 41 features a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking with a long horizontal line underneath the staff.

42

Musical notation for measures 42-44. Measure 42 begins with an *accel.* (accelerando) marking. Measures 42-44 consist of eighth notes. A tempo marking of  $\text{♩} = 98$  *arco* is placed above the staff. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is placed below the staff.

45

Musical notation for measures 45-46. Measures 45-46 feature eighth notes with slurs and accents. Measure 46 includes a *b* (flat) marking and three triplet markings (indicated by the number 3) under the notes.

47

Musical notation for measures 47-48. Measures 47-48 consist of eighth notes with slurs and accents. Measure 48 includes a *molto rit.* (molto ritardando) marking. There are nine triplet markings (indicated by the number 3) under the notes in measure 47.

49

Musical notation for measures 49-51. Measure 49 has a tempo marking of  $\text{♩} = 70$ . Measures 49-51 feature eighth notes with slurs and accents. A dynamic marking of *mp* is placed below the staff.

52

Musical notation for measures 52-54. Measures 52-54 feature eighth notes with slurs and accents. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Violoncello

Chris Fenger

$\text{♩} = 70$

4/4 *mp*

4 *mp*

9 *mp*

13

16 *mf*

20 *mf*

25 *mf* pizz. 3

27 *mp* arco 3

31 *mf* *mp*

35

pizz.  
mf

38

41

accel. . . . .

pp

43

arco  
mf

♩=98

47

molto rit.

♩=70

Serene

51