

Twitch

for solo 'cello

by

Brendan Colbert

Performance Notes.

Accidentals:

- All notes have accidentals: ties carry the accidental.

Abbreviations:

ord. = ordinario
s.p = sul ponticello
m.s.p = molto sul pont

c.l.b = col legno battuto

Programme Note.

***twitch* :**

- to move or cause to move in a spasmodic way.
- to pull or draw something with a quick jerky movement.
- to move (a part of the body) with a sudden motion.
- to move convulsively.

Twitch was originally written in 2011, and later underwent a series of refinements until the final revision was completed in 2024. It is approximately 5'15" long.

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Twitch.

♩ = 132 *nervous, uncertain, urgent.*

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1 c.l.b. arco 3:2 3:2 s.p. ord 5:4 s.p. ord 3:2

pp *p* *mp* *f* *p* *mp* *ff*

4 pizz arco s.p. ord 3:2 tr 3:2 c.l.b. arco 5:4 s.p. 5:4

pp *mp* *f* *p* *mf* *f* *fff* *p* *mp* *fff*

7 pizz arco tr 3:2 s.p. ord 3:2 s.p.

p *mp* *f* *fff* *sfz* *p* *mf*

10 ord 3:2 3:2 s.p. m.s.p. ord s.p. 5:4 c.l.b. ord

pp *fff* *f* *fff* *f* *fff* *mp*

13 arco 5:4 s.p. pizz ord 5:4 arco c.l.b. 5:4 arco

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

16 c.l.b. arco s.p. m.s.p. ord 5:4 s.p. pizz arco tr

mp *f* *ff* *fff* *pp* *mp*

19 s.p. ord 3:2 c.l.b. arco 5:4 s.p. ord 5:4

f *pp* *mf* *f* *pp* *mp* *f* *pp*

22 *mf* *p* *mp* *f*

5:4 5:4 *s.p* *ord* 3:2 3:2

24 *fff* *mf* *fff* *f* *p* *mp* *f* *mp*

c.l.b *ord* 5:4 *s.p* *arco* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *pizz*

27 *pp* *p* *mp* *f* *fff* *sfz* *pp*

arco 3:2 *s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* 5:4 *s.p* *arco* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* 3:2 3:2

30 *mp* *f* *pp* *mf* *mf* *fff* *f* *ff* *pp* *p*

s.p *m.s.p* 3:2 *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* 5:4 *s.p*

33 *mp* *pp* *p* *mf* *fff* *mp*

ord 3:2 *c.l.b* *arco* 5:4 *s.p* *ord* 3:2 *s.p* *ord* 5:4 *pizz* *ord*

36 *pp* *p* *mf* *ff* *pp* *p* *mp* *f* *fff* *mf* *ff*

arco 3:2 *s.p* *ord* 3:2 3:2 *s.p* *m.s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* 5:4 *s.p* *m.s.p* *s.p* *ord*

40 *fff* *sfz* *mp* *pp* *mp* *f* *ff* *f* *fff*

m.s.p *c.l.b* *ord* 5:4 *s.p* *5:4* *pizz* *ord* *arco* 3:2 3:2 *tr*

64 *s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* *arco* *3:2* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *3:2*

fff *mp* *pp* *mf* *f* *fff* *p*

67 *c.l.b* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *3:2* *s.p* *ord*

mp *f* *ff* *fff* *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*

70 *3:2* *c.l.b* *arco* *3:2* *c.l.b* *s.p* *m.s.p* *pizz* *ord* *arco* *3:2*

ff *mp* *f* *mf* *p* *mf* *fff* *mp* *p* *mp*

73 *3:2* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *c.l.b*

f *pp* *p* *f* *ff* *mf* *fff* *fff* *mf*

76 *arco* *3:2* *s.p* *ord* *s.p* *m.s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* *s.p* *m.s.p*

pp *p* *mf* *ff* *fff* *mp* *f* *ff* *fff*

79 *ord* *s.p* *ord* *3:2* *c.l.b* *5:4* *arco* *c.l.b* *arco* *3:2*

p *mf* *f* *fff* *f* *p*

82 *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* *5:4* *arco* *s.p* *c.l.b* *ord*

f *fff* *p* *ff* *mp* *f* *p* *ff* *f*

85 arco *s.p.* → *m.s.p.* c.l.b. ord arco *s.p.* → *m.s.p.* ord → *s.p.* ord 3:2 c.l.b. arco 3:2

fff *f* *mp* *f* *fff* *p* *mf* *f* *pp*

88 *s.p.* 5:4 *s.p.* → *m.s.p.* pizz ord arco 5:4 *s.p.* c.l.b. ord arco 5:4

p *fff* *mp* *f* *p* *mp* *f* *p*

91 *s.p.* 5:4 ord 3:2 *s.p.* ord 5:4 *s.p.* ord 5:4 *s.p.* ord

mf *pp* *p* *f* *ff* *fff*

94 *s.p.* 5:4 *m.s.p.* c.l.b. ord pizz 3:2 *m.s.p.* 5:4 ord 5:4

mp *f* *fff* *f* *mp* *f* *ff* *mf*

98 *s.p.* 5:4 *s.p.* 5:4 c.l.b. ord arco 5:4 *s.p.* ord 5:4 *s.p.* ord 5:4

fff *mf* *f* *mp* *f*

101 *s.p.* 5:4 3:2 ord *s.p.* c.l.b. arco 5:4 *s.p.* 5:4

ff *mp* *fff* *mp* *f* *mf* *f* *ff*

104 pizz ord arco *s.p.* c.l.b. ord arco 5:4 *s.p.* ord 3:2 *s.p.* 5:4

mp *fff* *mp* *p* *mp* *f* *ff* *p* *mf*

107 *m.s.p* *ord* 3:2 *pizz* 5:4 *arco* 5:4 *s.p*

f *fff* *sfz* *mp* *fff* *ff*

110 *pizz* *ord* 5:4 *arco* 5:4 *s.p* *ord* 3:2 *c.l.b* 5:4 *tr* 5:4 *tr* 5:4

mp *fff* *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *fff* *p*

113 *5:4* *s.p* *ord* 5:4 *s.p* *ord* 3:2 *pizz* 5:4 *arco* 5:4

mp *f* *mp* *fff* *sfz* *mp* *p*

116 *s.p* *ord* *c.l.b* 5:4 *arco* 5:4 *s.p* *ord* 3:2 *c.l.b* 5:4

mf *ff* *mp* *f* *p* *f* *ff* *f*

119 *pizz* 5:4 *c.l.b* *arco* 3:2 *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* 5:4 *s.p* *ord* 3:2 *tr* 3:2

p *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *fff* *mp* *fff* *f* *ff* *mp*

122 *5:4* *tr* 3:2 *s.p* *ord* 5:4 *3:2* *c.l.b* *s.p* *arco* 5:4

fff *p* *f* *f* *fff* *f*

125 *m.s.p* *ord* 5:4 *s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* 5:4 *arco* 5:4 *s.p*

fff *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

128 *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p* *pizz* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$

p $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* *mp* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *fff* *p* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *fff* *mp* *f* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* *p*

131 $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p* *pizz* *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *s.p* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *m.s.p* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *c.l.b*

fff *mp* *p* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *f* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *fff* *mp* *f*

134 *arco* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *s.p* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *m.s.p* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p* *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{5:4}$

mf $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *f* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* *p* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *f*

137 *s.p* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *c.l.b* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *s.p* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *m.s.p* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *pizz* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p*

ff *f* *mp* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* *f* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* *p* *mp*

140 *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *c.l.b* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *pizz* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *s.p*

f $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *fff* *p* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *p* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *f*

143 $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *m.s.p* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p* *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *c.l.b* *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *m.s.p* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p*

ff *p* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *f* *p* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *fff* *f* *mp* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *f* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *ff* *mp*

146 *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *c.l.b* *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *c.l.b* *pizz* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p* *ord*

f *mf* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *fff* *f* *mp* *p* $\xrightarrow{\text{trill}}$ *f* *mp*

150 *s.p.* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *m.s.p.* *c.l.b.* *ord* *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* $\xrightarrow{m.s.p.}$

fff *f* $\leftarrow$ *fff* *f* *p* $\leftarrow$ *f* *ff* $\leftarrow$ *fff*

153 *ord* *tr* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.*

p $\leftarrow$ *mp* $\leftarrow$ *f* *mf* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\leftarrow$ *ff* *f* $\leftarrow$ *fff*

156 *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *s.p.*

p $\leftarrow$ *ff* *mp* $\leftarrow$ *fff* *p* $\leftarrow$ *mf* $\leftarrow$ *ff*

159 *ord* *tr* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* *c.l.b.* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.*

mp $\leftarrow$ *fff* *f* $\leftarrow$ *fff* *mf* *p* $\leftarrow$ *mf* $\leftarrow$ *fff*

162 *pizz* *ord* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* *ord* *tr* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* *ord* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$

f $\leftarrow$ *fff* *mp* $\leftarrow$ *f* $\leftarrow$ *ff* *p* $\leftarrow$ *mf* *f*

165 *c.l.b.* *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *c.l.b.* *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ *s.p.* $\xrightarrow{m.s.p.}$ *ord* *tr* $\xrightarrow{3:2}$

$\leftarrow$ *fff* *f* *mp* $\leftarrow$ *fff* *sfz* *p* $\leftarrow$ *f*

168 $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ *c.l.b.* *arco* $\xrightarrow{5:4}$ $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{3:2}$ $\xrightarrow{3:2}$

$\leftarrow$ *fff* *sfz* *mf* $\leftarrow$ *fff* *p* $\leftarrow$ *mp* *f*

171 *ff* *mf* *ff* *fff* *p* *mp* *ff* *fff* *s.p* *ord* *3:2*

174 *m.s.p* *ord* *s.p* *ord* *3:2* *c.l.b* *arco* *3:2* *3:2* *3:2* *sfz* *ff* *fff* *mf* *fff* *mp* *f* *fff*

177 *c.l.b* *f* *arco* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *tr* *fff* *mf* *ff* *f* *fff* *sfz* *s.p* *ord* *3:2*

180 *pizz* *arco* *3:2* *3:2* *5:4* *s.p* *ord* *tr* *s.p* *m.s.p* *3:2* *ord* *f* *mf* *f* *p* *mp* *f* *ff* *f* *ff* *fff* *mf*

183 *ff* *fff* *mf* *ff* *fff* *s.p* *ord* *5:4* *s.p*

186 *ord* *3:2* *c.l.b* *arco* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *3:2* *3:2* *tr* *f* *fff* *sfz* *f* *mp* *f* *mf* *f* *ff*

189 *s.p* *ord* *3:2* *arco* *s.p* *ord* *3:2* *3:2* *pizz* *5:4* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mp* *f* *ff*

192 *ff* *p* *f* *mp* *f* *fff*

s.p *pizz* *ord* *c.l.b* *arco*

3:2 5:4 3:2 3:2

195 *f* *fff* *f* *mf* *f* *ff*

s.p *m.s.p* *c.l.b* *ord* *arco* *s.p* *ord*

5:4 3:2 5:4 3:2

197 *fff* *f* *ff* *f* *mf* *ff* *fff* *mf*

pizz *arco* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord*

3:2 3:2 3:2

200 *ff* *mf* *f* *fff* *mp* *fff* *f* *fff* *f* *fff*

s.p *m.s.p* *ord* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord* *s.p*

3:2 3:2 3:2

203 *mf* *f* *ff* *mf* *fff*

ord *tr* *3:2* *tr* *3:2* *5:4* *ord*

3:2 5:4 3:2

206 *sfz* *f* *ff* *fff*

ord *tr* *s.p* *ord* *s.p* *m.s.p* *ord*

5:4 3:2 5:4 3:2

208 *sfz* *fff* *sfz* *fff* *sfz* *fff* *fffz*

s.p *ord* *s.p* *ord* *s.p* *ord* *s.p*

5:4 5:4 5:4 5:4