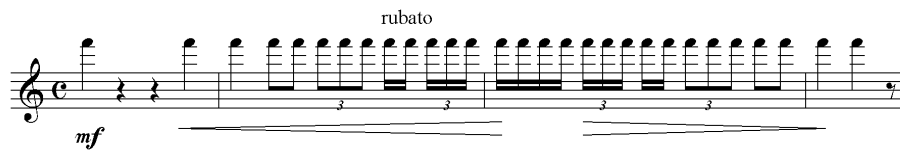


Béla Bartók

Music for Strings, Percussion, and Celesta (1936), third movement (Adagio)

## Prologue

Xylophone rhythm a four-measure palindrome



## A

Viola introduces a melody in the style of a Serbo-Croatian folksong over a drone in the lower strings



## B

Rhythm of the melody groups eighth-notes into alternating patterns of two and three, imitating a Bulgarian dance rhythm; drone continues, but high in the third and fourth violins



## C

Polytonal section with string tremolos and glissandos in the piano, celesta, and harp; timpani and double basses play the drone

## D

Increasingly complex canons between various instruments; texture thins out near the transition to the next section

**C/B**

Upper strings play the Bulgarian dance rhythm of **B** while the piano, celesta, and harp play the glissandos and arpeggios of **C**

**A**

Violins, then viola, return with a variant of the folksong melody

**Epilogue**

Xylophone returns to close the movement, but in a non-palindromic rhythm