

To the Memory of Joe Brainard

1942-1994

... unbroken even as the soul
learns once again the body it loves and hates is
made of earth, and will betray it.

—Frank Bidart, *In Memory of Joe Brainard*

OLD POSTCARD OF
42ND STREET AT NIGHT

Charles Simic

♩ = 132-138 ca. *Light and brittle*

Violin *pizz.* *f* (sim.)

Viola *pizz.* *f* (sim.)

Cello *pizz.* *f* (sim.)

Voice

Piano *f* *mf* *p* *f* *mf* *p* *f*

6

6

mf *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

9 13

arco
arco *fp* senza vibrato (like a harmonic)
fp
sfz
f 3
I'm look-ing — for the me-

9 13

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

14

pizz. arco pizz. (sim.)
f *fp* come sopra *f* pizz. (sim.)
pizz. arco *fp* *f* pizz. norm. (sim.)
pizz. norm. *f* *sfz* *mf* *f* *mf*
chan-i-cal chess play-er with a red tur-ban. I hear

14

mf *f* *mf* *mp*

19

arco *mf* arco *f* pizz. (sim.)

arco *mf* arco *f* pizz. (sim.)

arco *mf* *f* pizz. (sim.)

Py - tha - - - go - ras is there queu-ing up,

19

f *mp* *mf* *mp*

23

arco *mp* arco *mp*

arco *mp* arco *come sopra* (III)

mp *mf* *f* *f*

and Mon - sieur Pas - cal, who hears the

23

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

27 *pizz.* *f* *arco* *p* 29 *(on the string)* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *sfz* *pp*

pizz. *f* *arco* *p* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *sfz* *pp*

arco *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *sfz* *pp*

mp

si - lence, the si - lence in - side God's ear.

27 *f* *mf* *p* 29 *p* Sharply accented, but in piano

31 *mp* *(sim.)* *sfz* *sfz* *pizz.* *arco* *f* *sfz* *pp* *mp* *pp* *f*

mp *(sim.)* *sfz* *sfz* *pizz.* *arco* *f* *sfz* *pp* *mp* *pp* *f*

mp *(sim.)* *sfz* *sfz* *pizz.* *arco* *f* *sfz* *pp* *mp* *pp* *f*

31 *p* *f*

36

sfz pp < mp
sfz
sfz
sfz

mf

E - ter - ni - ty and time are the coins it re - quires, ev -

36

p
mp
mf
p
mp
mf

40

sfz
sfz
sfz
sfz
sfz
sfz

pizz. *arco*
pizz. *arco*
pizz. *arco*
pizz. *arco*
pizz. *arco*
pizz. *arco*

(sim.)

- ery - bod - y's por - tion of it, for a quick — glimpse of that ev - ery - thing

40

p
mp
p
mp

45 49

p *pp* *mp* *pp* *f* *pizz.*

which is no-thing.

45 49

(bring out the top voice)

mp *p* *pp* *pp* *mp* *p*

52 56

mp *p* *mp* *p*

56

p *espressivo molto* *mp*

Night of the home-less,

52

p *mp* *p* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*