

Five Pieces for Orchestra Op 16 by Arnold Schoenberg
Compositional Response by David Mitchell

The piece that I wrote in response to *Five Pieces for Orchestra* by Arnold Schoenberg uses subsets that occur throughout the first movement of Schoenberg's piece. Subsets [014] and [013] occur frequently in the *hauptstimme* throughout movement I. These subsets are also found in the vertical sonorities. For example, the cello in measures 1-3 begins with a half step followed by a major third, followed by a half step. The set class for the cello *hauptstimme* in measures 1-3 is [01458]. This set class has an <202420> interval vector. From the interval vector it is clear that there are four major thirds plus half steps, minor thirds, and perfect fourth/fifths in this set class. Subsets [014] and [013] from set class [01458] are the primary material that make up the vertical sonorities in the first movement of Schoenberg's piece. Most of the sonorities are essentially major thirds separated by half steps. Some of the *hauptstimme* expand the interval class content to include perfect fourths.

My piece begins the same motive from the cello *hauptstimme* in measures 1-3. My piece also has sonorities built from subsets [014] and [013]. I develop this interval content by expanding the intervals to include fourths and minor sixth which are inversions of the major third interval class.