

Allegro piacevole

(from *First String Quartette in D minor*, uncompleted)

Edward Joseph Collins, composer

Notes by Erik Eriksson (1940-2008), the composer's biographer

The only complete movement of Collins's projected First String Quartet (twenty-six bars of a slow movement also exist), this composition was dated 1935 but likely was revised in 1949.

During his studies in Germany, Collins told of writing songs as early as 1907. While a 25 April 1909 letter to his family revealed that he was composing a string quartet, Collins's style had evolved significantly by the 1930s, so the *Allegro piacevole* was likely either significantly revised or newly composed.

Its flowing but harmonically complex polyphony demands that players pay close attention to their intonation.

Update by Jon Becker, Collins project editor

It's possible that by the time Collins revised this work, he had settled on it being a standalone movement, i.e., a *quartettsatz*.