THE MUSICAL MOMENT:
FOR STRING QUARTET

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DEDICATION

This piece is dedicated to my mother, my sisters, and my father, who is in heaven, without their support and encouragement, this accomplishment would not have been possible.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of Dr. Andrew Rindfleish, Dr. Greg D’Alessio, as well as the many members of Cleveland State University Department of Music. Without their great support, my understanding in music would not be as profoundly developed as it is today.
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ABSTRACT

This piece represents the fusion of my life experiences in America and of 

studying abroad. Albeit, I had accomplished in Korea, when in America, I had become 

overwhelmed, and felt somewhat discouraged by a lack of focus. However, once I 

listened the string quartets of Bela Bartok, both my focus and my enthusiasm for writing 

music came back. The desired musical moment led me to write this string quartet for my 

thesis; this string quartet piece is fully filled with and admiration to Bartok. The overall 

piece is intended to express my journey – the thoughts, feelings, experiences of studying 

in U.S. moving from confusions to the joy of the musical moment as I regained my focus. 
My journey will go on for endless musical moments.

The piece consists of one movement, in which there are an introduction (mm. 1 – 

27), an exposition (mm. 28 – 111), a development (mm. 112 – 168), a recapitulation (mm. 

169 – 186), and coda (mm. 187 – the end). The introduction opens with a tranquil mood. 

In the exposition, the first theme of piece, the second violin melody of measure 40, is 

appeared in various ways and the second theme, the second violin melody of measure 63, 
is intertwined with the first theme in various ways as well. In the development, the 
second theme appears in various ways and leads to the climax, measure 157 to 168 as
well. The recapitulation, which includes the first and second theme, is playing a role of bridge to the coda. In the coda, viola and cello play a role of accompaniment for the first and second violin which play the first theme for the ending.
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