

Webern's Opus 6, no. 4 opens with a texture that comes into acoustic focus gradually.

See Example 1:

Example 1: Webern Opus 6, no. 4: opening measures of "feathered" percussion

Langsam, marcia funebre

The score is for three percussion instruments: Bass Drum, Tam Tam, and Low Bells. The tempo is 'Langsam, marcia funebre'. The notation shows a gradual build-up of sound over six measures, with the final measure in 4/4 time. The Bass Drum part consists of six measures of a single note, each marked with 'ppp' and 'kaum hörbar'. The Tam Tam part consists of six measures of a single note, each marked with 'ppp' and 'kaum hörbar'. The Low Bells part consists of six measures of a single note, each marked with 'ppp' and 'kaum hörbar'. The final measure is in 4/4 time.

Example 1 shows that not only does the texture “appear” slowly, but meter falls into place as well over the initial measures, landing in a clear 4/4 only in measure 6.