Caput Medusa
for string quartet

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PERFORMANCE NOTES:

ABBREVIATIONS:

s.p. - sul ponticello  
s.t. - sul tasto  
c.l.t. - col legno tratto  
c.l.b. - col legno batutto  
c.l.j. - col legno jete  
f.n. - fingernails  
f.t. - fingertips

NOTEHEADS:

Square: c.l.t., c.l.b., c.l.j.  
Diamond: tap on wood (f.t.), tap on wood (f.n.)  
Triangle: rub bow  
X: pizz. behind nut, pizz. behind bridge

EXPLANATIONS OF EXTENDED TECHNIQUES:

COL LEGNO JETE: Bounce the wood of the bow on the string. An upwards arrow below the note means start bouncing the bow s.p. and move it up to or beyond (depending on available duration) s.t. as it is bouncing. A downwards arrow means start bouncing at or beyond s.t. and move to s.p.

RUB BOW: While applying the appropriate amount of pressure for the dynamic marking, drag the bow lengthwise along the notated open string. An upwards arrow below the note means rub the bow from s.p. to s.t. and a downwards arrow means rub the bow from s.t. to s.p.

TAP ON WOOD (F.T.): Notes refer to the finger used to tap on the wood.

index finger: bottom space on the staff  
middle finger: 2nd space from the bottom  
ring finger: 2nd space from the top  
little finger: top space

The exact place on the instrument to tap is left up to the performer (whatever is most convenient). However, each of the four fingers should tap in a sufficiently different place so as to achieve at least a subtle timbral differentiation between notes.

TAP ON WOOD (F.N.): As above but with fingernails instead of fingertips.

PIZZ. BEHIND BRIDGE: Pluck the notated open string between the bridge and the tailpiece.

PIZZ. BEHIND NUT: Pluck the notated open string between the peg and the nut.