cruel and usual
for string quartet and four bass amplifiers
Cat Hope [2011]
MaxMSP programming by Sam Gillies. Score player by Lindsay Vickery.

Instructions
To be read using the score player, at a speed chosen by the performers no faster than mm=60. Each line represents a single, ongoing sound. Each dip is a pitch intervention with that line, in a direction and shape suggested by the score. The score is proportional, that is, each line has a relationship to the other lines in terms of pitch and time. The grey line is intended as a guide to show where the original pitch lies. Horizontal lines that start at different points in relation to the grey central line indicate a new string. Dotted lines mean apply bow pressure to achieve a distorted sound on the open string. The computer parts are indicated by attachments to these lines. Pitch range in Hz.

Sample the string instrument at that point. A solid colour indicates a clean pure sample playback, a hashed / filled indicates a distorted playback. Each number box represents the transposition range. Play the transposed sound (each string to its own bass amplifier) for the length and dynamic shape as indicated by the '/f_flag' from the box as it passes in the player. There should be no original string sound in the output sound.