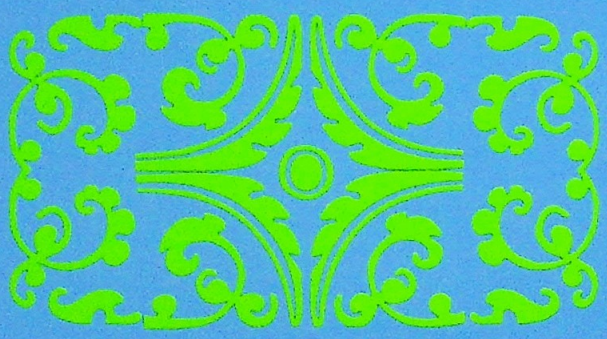
Benjamin Britten

Reveille

CONCERT STUDY FOR VIOLIN AND PIANO

(1937)



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BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Reveille

Concert study for violin
with piano accompaniment

(1937)

Faber Music Limited
London

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Britten composed *Reveille* in London in March 1937 for the Spanish violinist, Antonio Brosa, who had given the first performance of Britten's *Suite*, Op.6, at the ISCM Festival in Barcelona in 1936 and was to be the soloist in the first performance of the *Violin Concerto*, Op.15, in New York in 1940. *Reveille* was first heard at the Wigmore Hall, London, on 12 April 1937, when Brosa was accompanied by Franz Reizenstein. It was well-known among his friends that the violinist found waking up in the morning a difficult undertaking. Hence the title of this concert study (the composer was a notoriously early riser), and hence too the tempo indication *Andante-rubato e pigro* ('pigro' = 'sluggish, lazy').

Reveille was clearly intended as a virtuoso showpiece for the violin. The piano assumes a subsidiary role, providing a basic harmonic background against which the composer sets off a vivid display of technical fireworks. It provides for the violinist and the recital room what Britten was later to provide for the pianist (with string orchestra) and the concert hall in *Young Apollo* (1939).

Although the composition sketch for *Reveille* remained in the composer's possession (and is now in the Britten-Pears Library, at Aldeburgh), the whereabouts of his ink fair copies were not known. The discovery of these manuscripts in the BBC Music Library made possible this important addition to the current series of posthumous publications of Britten's early works.

The publishers are grateful to Hugh Maguire for his editing of the solo part.

JOHN EVANS

Britten komponierte *Reveille* im März 1937 in London für den spanischen Geiger Antonio Brosa, der im Jahre 1936 im Rahmen des ISCM Festivals in Barcelona Brittens *Suite* op. 6 uraufgeführt hatte, und der 1940 in New York der Solist bei der Erstaufführung des *Violin Concertos* op. 15 sein sollte. *Reveille* wurde erstmals am 12. April 1937 in der Wigmore Hall in London gehört, als Brosa von Franz Reizenstein begleitet wurde. Den Freunden Brosas war wohlbekannt, daß für diesen das Aufwachen am Morgen eine schwierige Sache darstellte. Daher stammt der Titel dieser Konzertstudie (der Komponist war ein notorischer Frühaufsteher), und auch die Tempobezeichnung *Andante-rubato e pigro* ('pigro' = 'träge, faul').

Reveille war eindeutig als ein virtuoses Schaustück für die Geige gedacht. Das Klavier spielt eine Nebenrolle, indem es den klaren harmonischen Hintergrund liefert, vor dem der Komponist Feuerwerke technischer Brillanz entfaltet. Das Werk bietet für den Geiger und den kleinen Konzertsaal das, was Britten später im *Young Apollo* (1939) für den Pianisten (mit Streichorchester) und die Konzerthalle komponieren sollte.

Obwohl der Kompositionsentwurf für *Reveille* im Besitz des Komponisten blieb (und sich jetzt in der Britten-Pears Bibliothek in Aldeburgh befindet), war der Verbleib seiner Reinschriften in Tinte nicht bekannt. Die Entdeckung dieser Manuskripte in der Musikbibliothek der BBC machte diese wichtige Hinzufügung zu der gegenwärtigen Serie von posthumen Veröffentlichungen früher Werke Brittens möglich.

Die Verleger danken Hugh Maguire für die Edition der Solostimme.

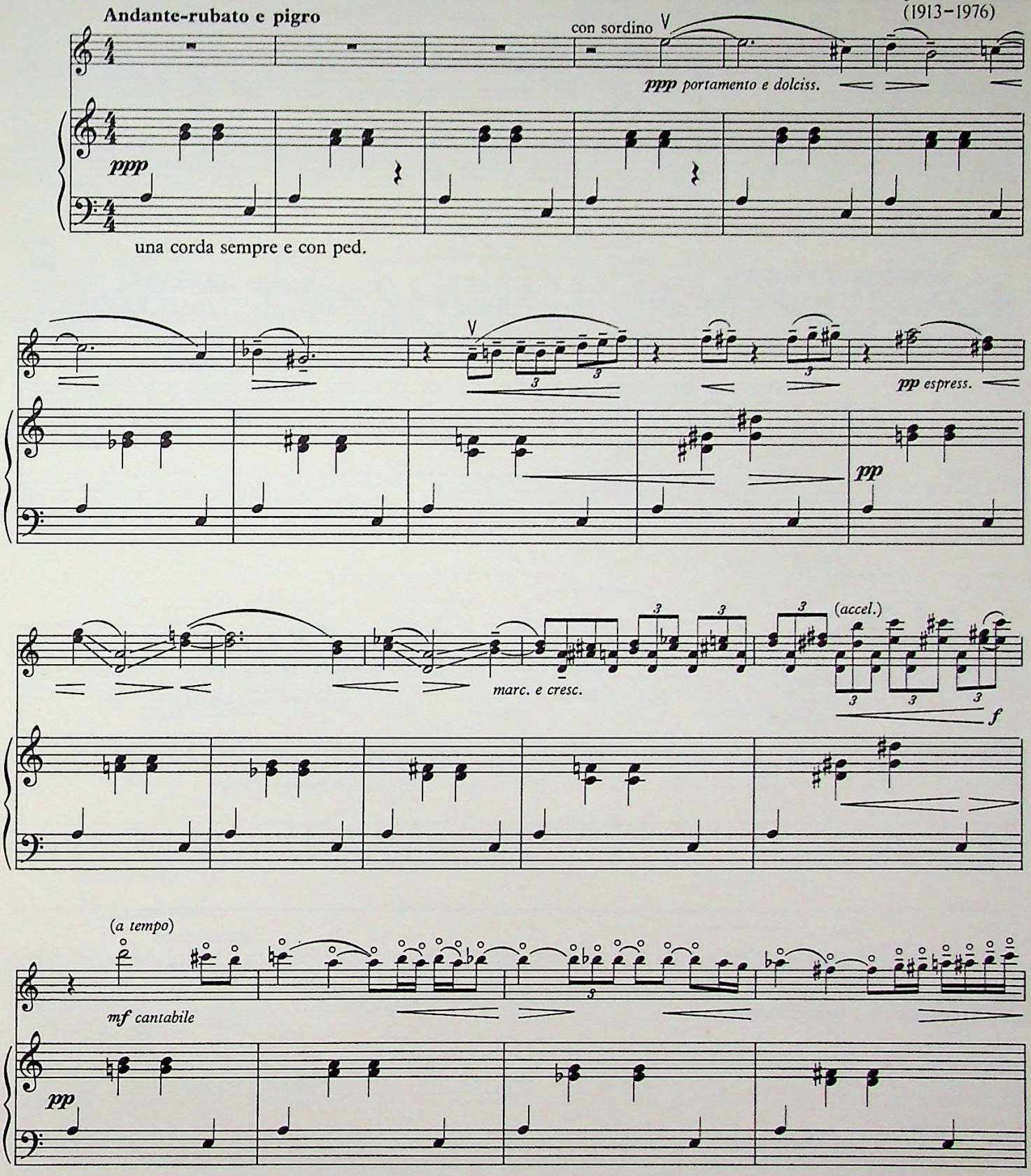
JOHN EVANS

Übersetzung: Dorothee Eberhardt

For Toni Brosa

REVEILLE

Benjamin Britten
(1913–1976)



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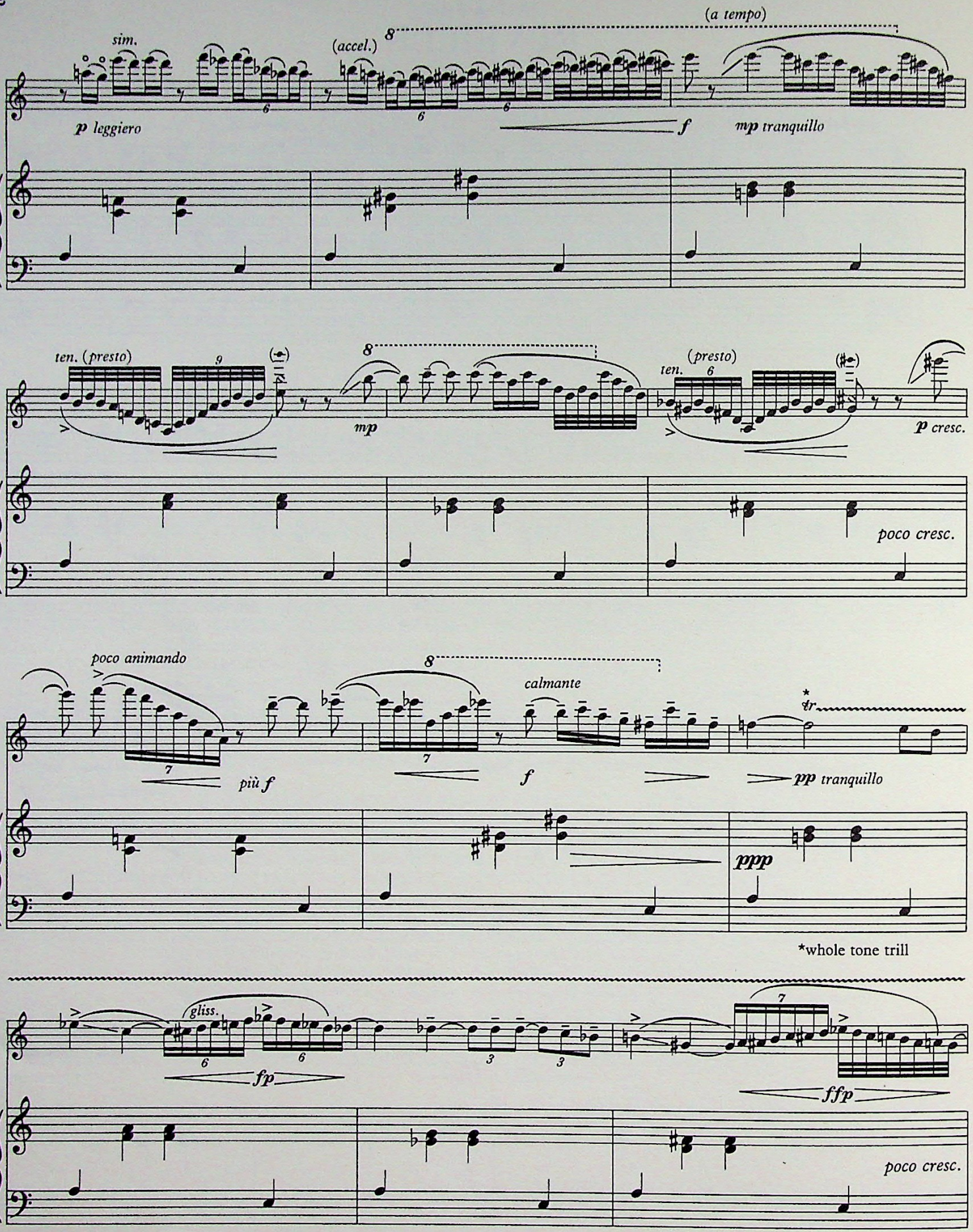
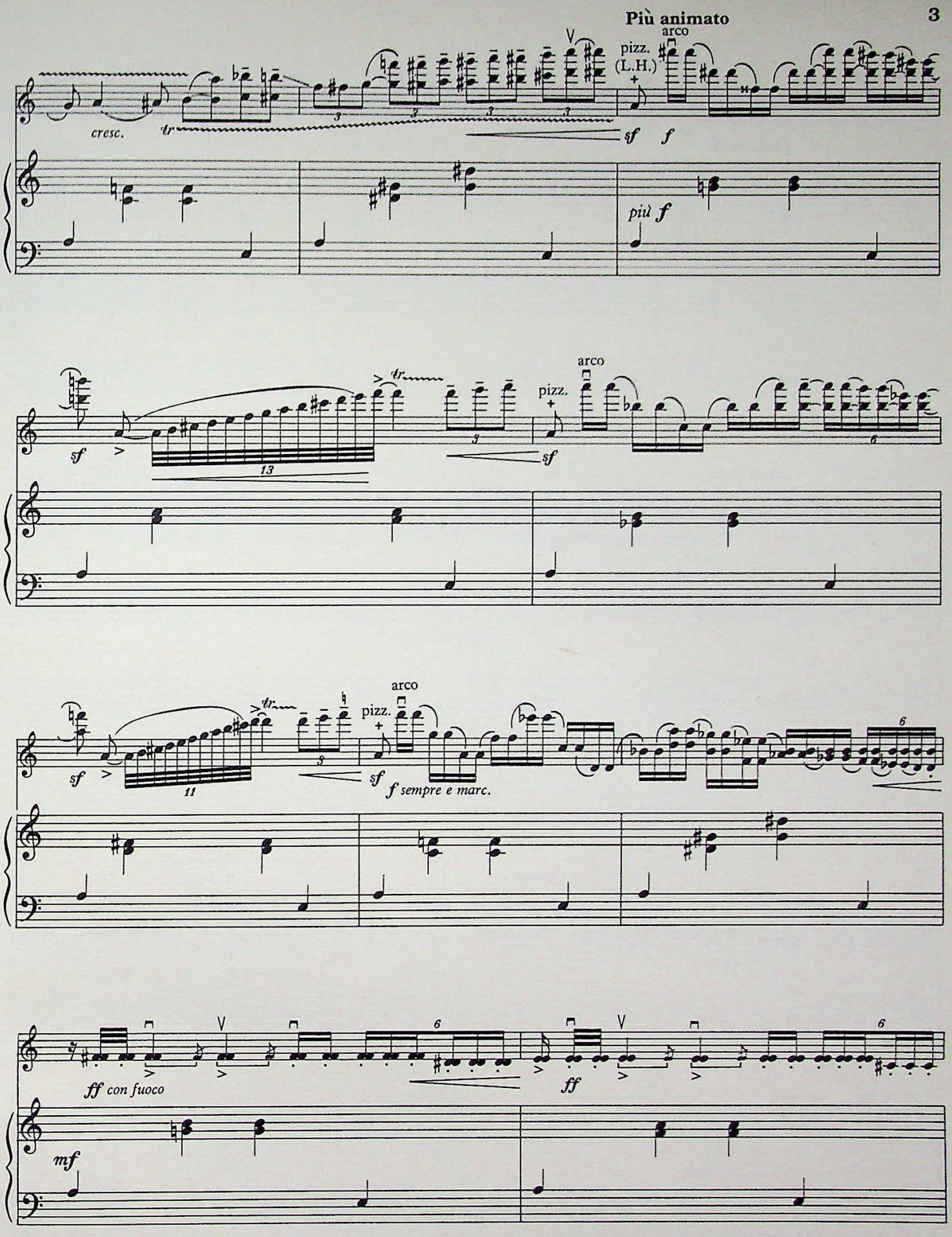
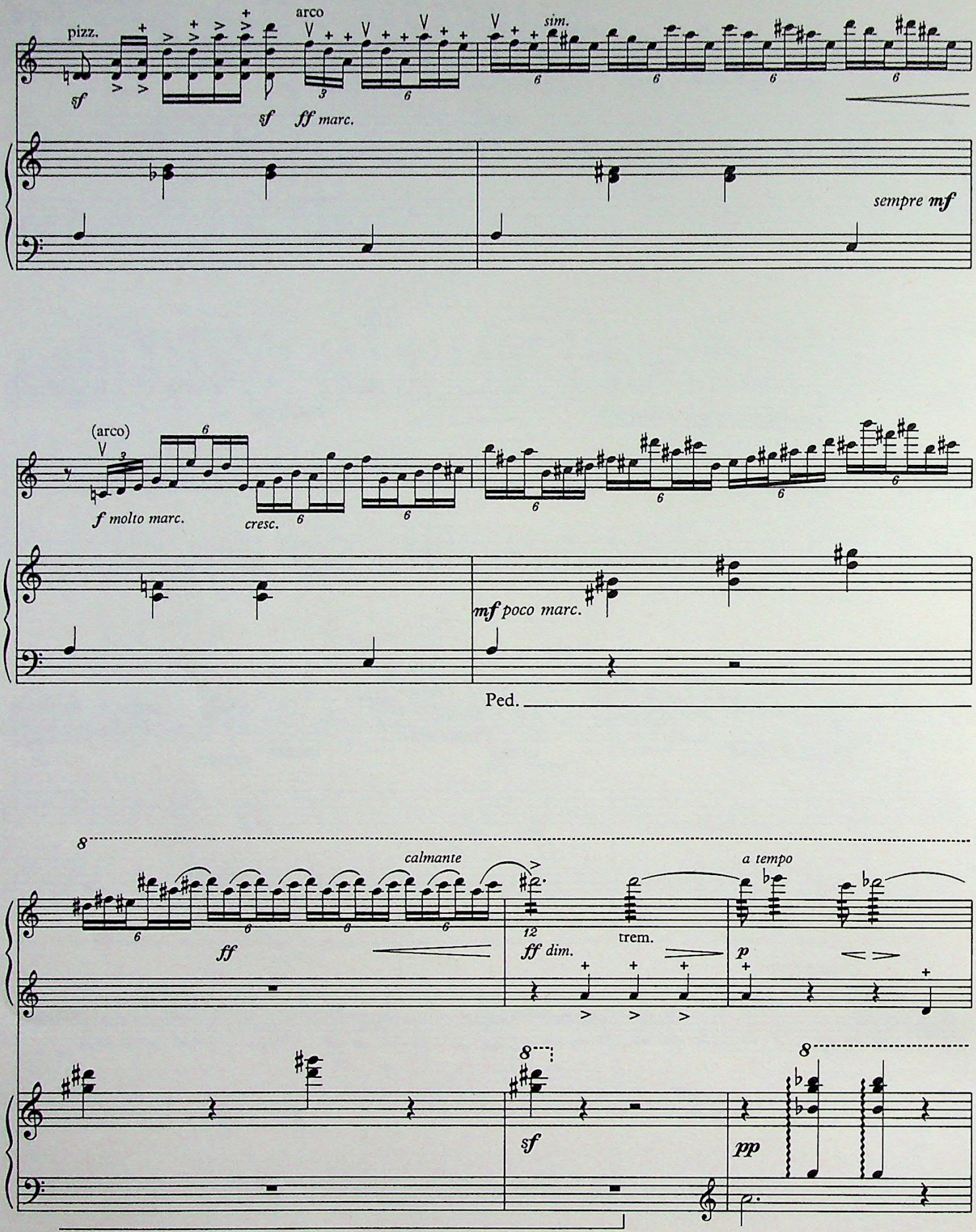
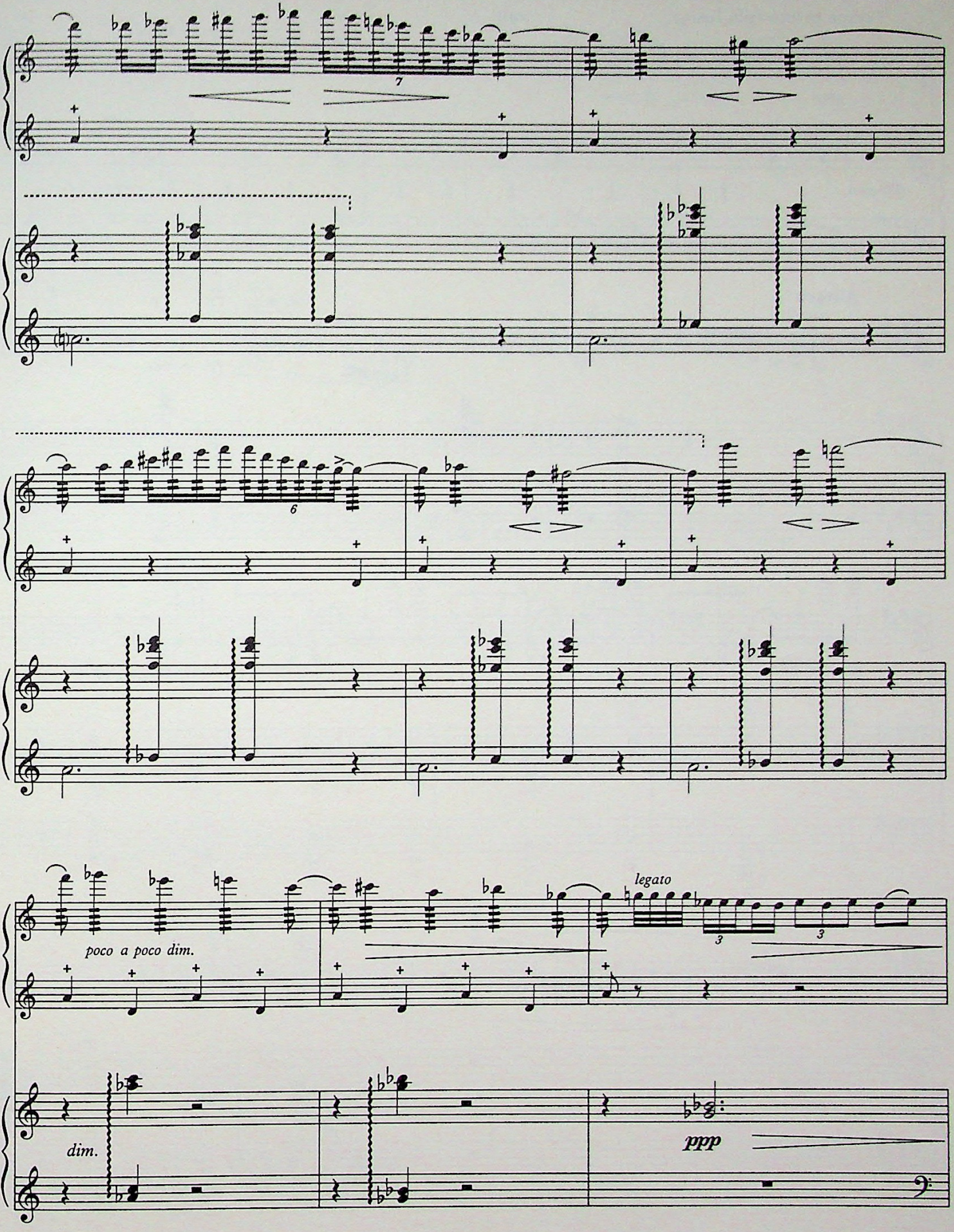
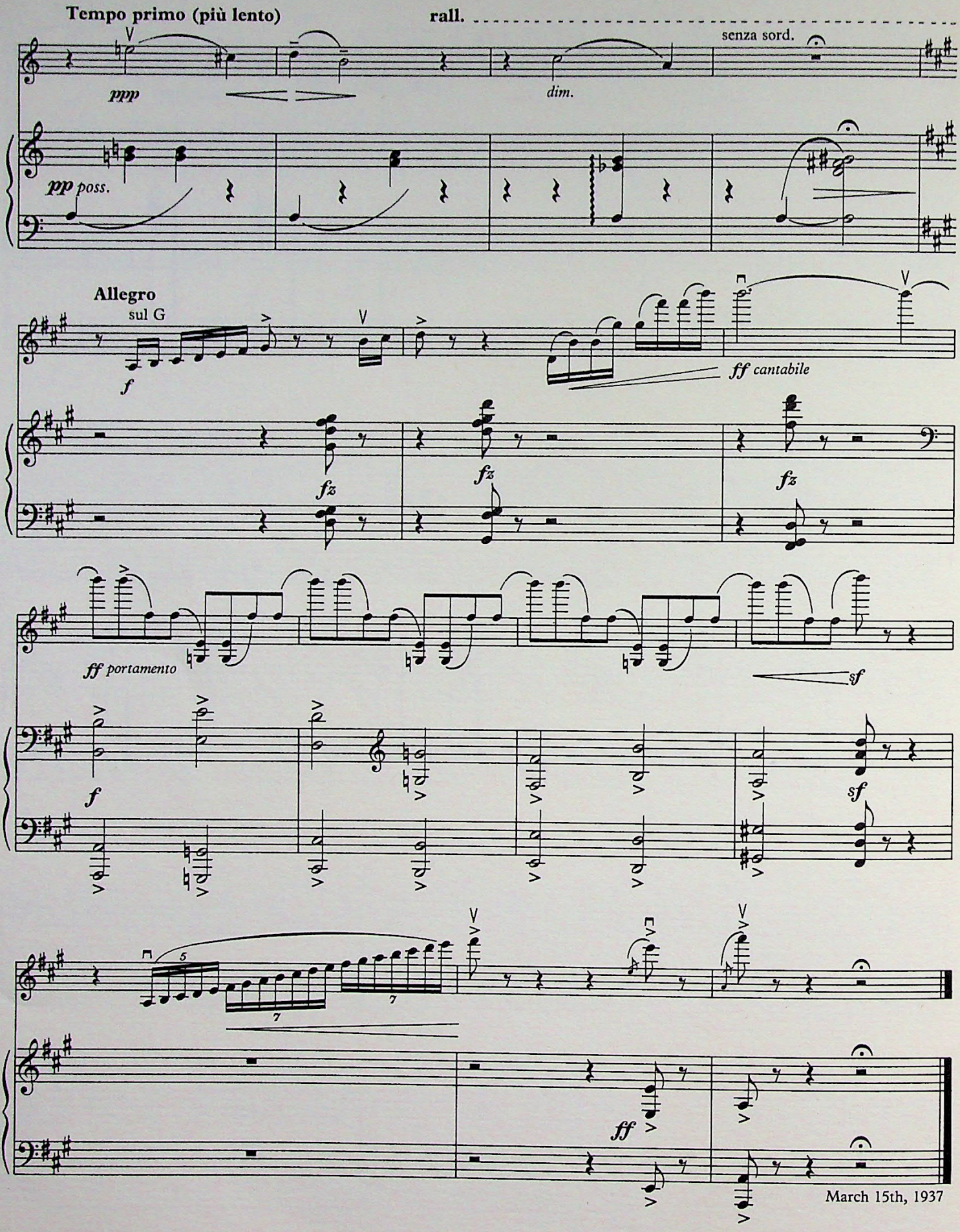

(a tempo)
sim.
(accel.)
p leggiero
f
mp tranquillo
ten. (presto)
mp
(presto)
ten.
p cresc.
poco cresc.
poco animando
più f
calmante
f
tr
pp tranquillo
ppp
*whole tone trill
gliss.
fp
ffp
poco cresc.


Più animato
cresc.
tr
pizz.
(L.H.)
arco
sf
f
più f
sf
tr
13
pizz.
arco
sf
11
pizz.
arco
sf
f sempre e marc.
ff con fuoco
mf
ff


pizz.
sf
arco
sf ff marc.
sim.
sempre mf
(arco)
f molto marc.
cresc.
mf poco marc.
Ped.
8
calmante
ff
ff dim.
trem.
a tempo
p
8
sf
8
pp


poco a poco dim.
legato
dim.
ppp

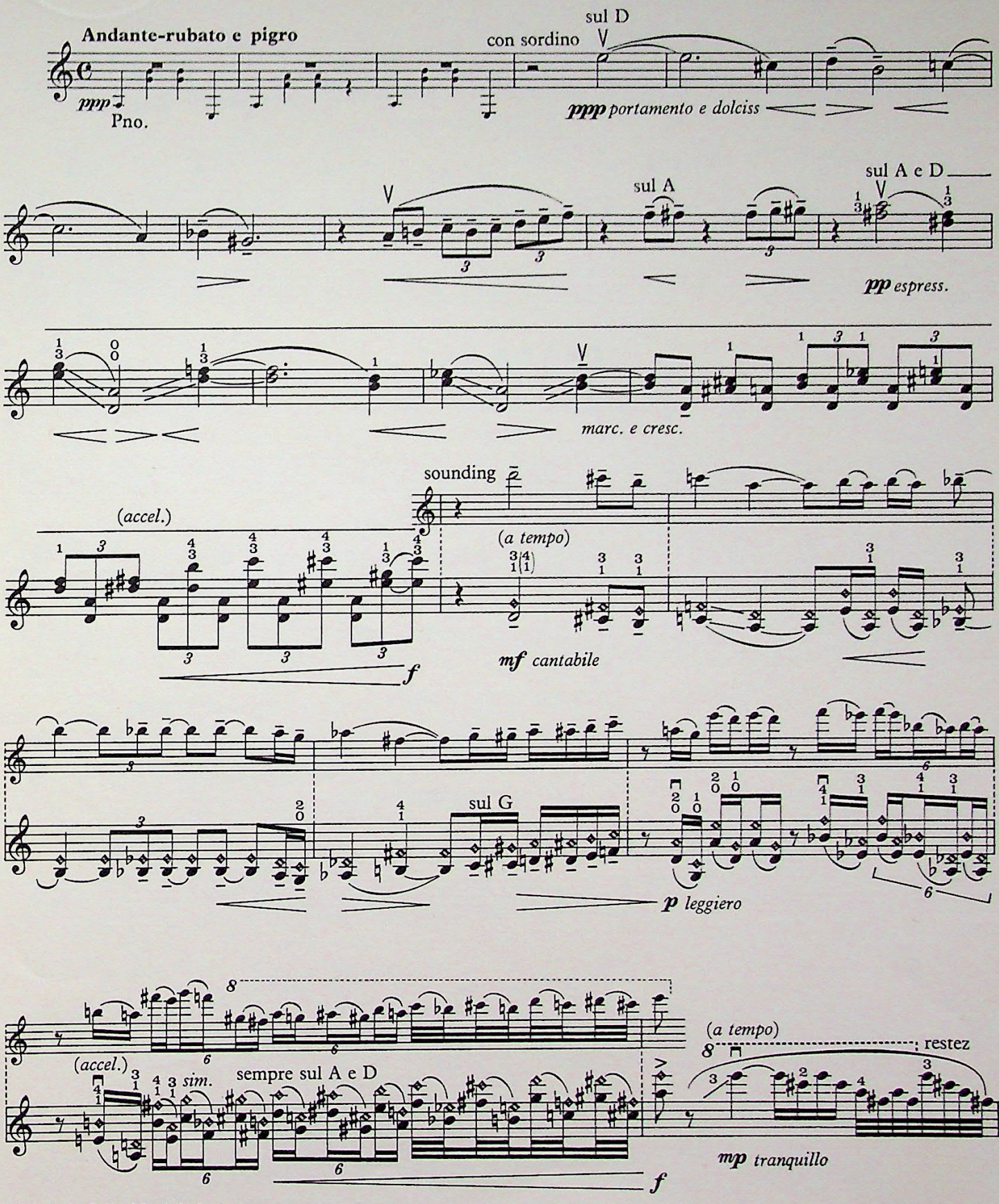

Tempo primo (più lento)
rall.
senza sord.
ppp
dim.
pp poss.
Allegro
sul G
f
ff cantabile
fz
fz
fz
ff portamento
sf
f
sf
ff
March 15th, 1937

For Toni Brosa

REVEILLE

VIOLIN
Edited by Hugh Maguire

Benjamin Britten
(1913–1976)



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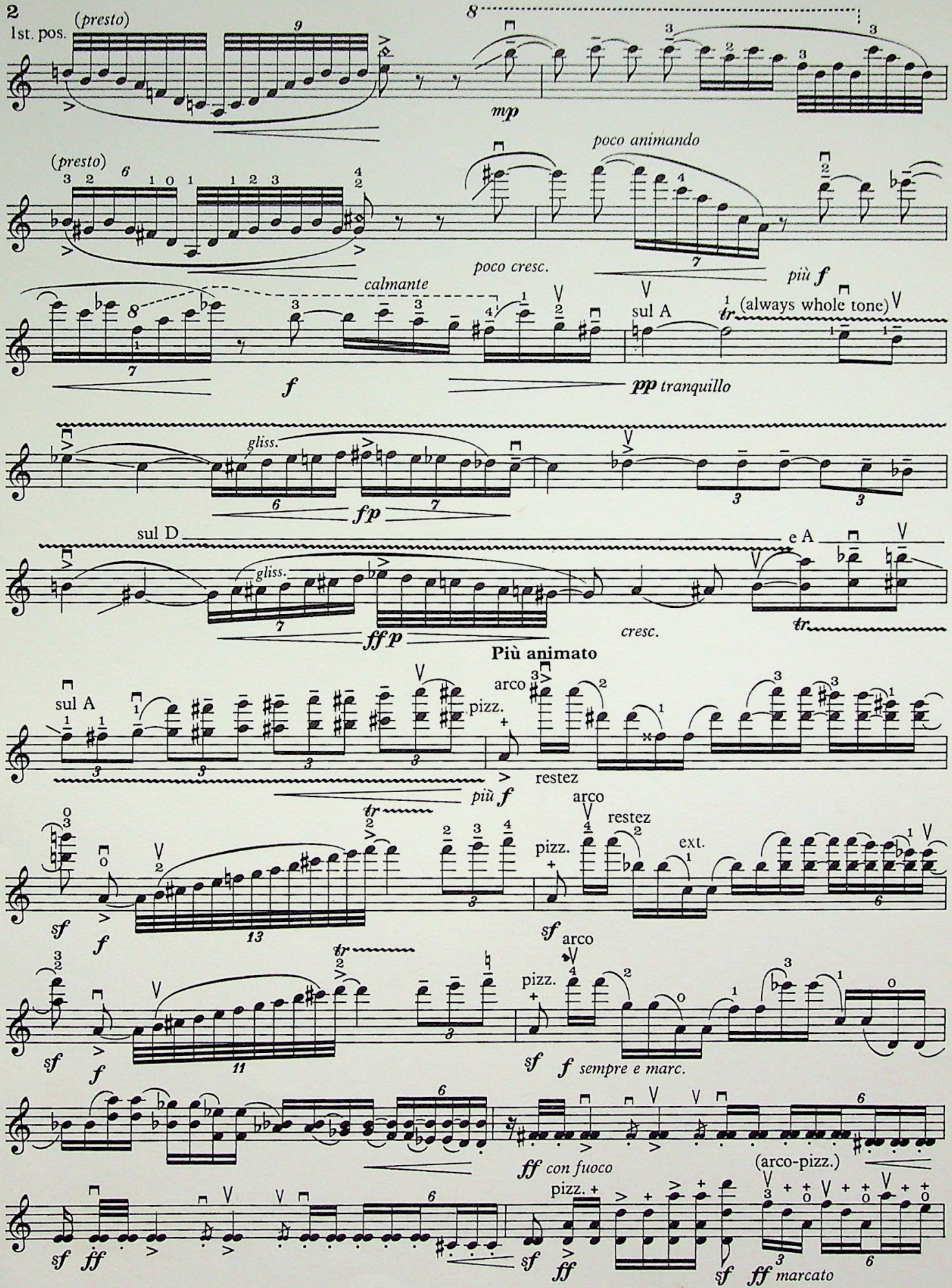
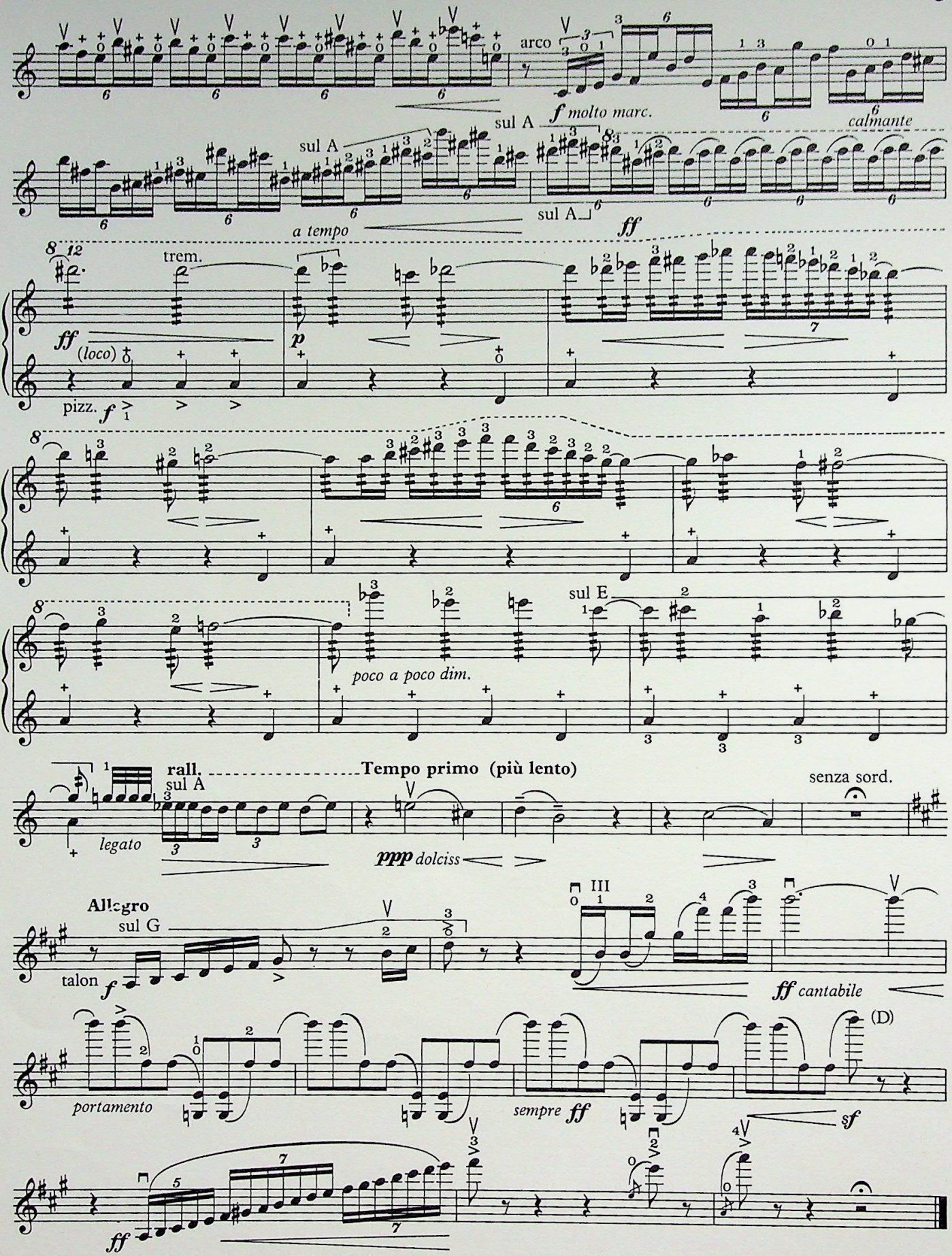

1st. pos.
(presto)
mp
(presto)
poco animando
poco cresc.
più f
calmante
f
sul A
tr (always whole tone)
pp tranquillo
gliss.
fp
sul D
e A
gliss.
ffp
cresc.
tr
Più animato
sul A
pizz.
arco
più f
restez
tr
sf
f
13
arco
restez
pizz.
ext.
sf
tr
sf
f
11
pizz.
arco
sf
f sempre e marc.
ff con fuoco
(arco-pizz.)
sf
ff
pizz.
sf
ff
sf
ff marcato


arco
sul A
f molto marc.
calmante
sul A
sul A
a tempo
ff
trem.
ff (loco)
p
pizz. f
poco a poco dim.
sul E
rall.
Tempo primo (più lento)
senza sord.
legato
ppp dolciss
Allegro
sul G
talon
f
ff cantabile
portamento
sempre ff
(D)
sf
ff

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Oboe Quartet *Op. 61 (1957)*
Concerto *for two violins Op. 77 (1962)*
Viola Concerto *Op. 108 (1971)*
String Quartet No. 2 *Op. 118 (1975)*

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String Quartet in D major *(1931)*
Phantasy for String Quartet *(1932)*
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