

# From the "Vorspiel" to "Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg."

In this Prelude Wagner gives an epitome of the contents of the opera. The selections which he has chosen for his purpose are the broad and stately melody descriptive of the master-singers, the pompous harmonies accompanying their procession, the tender and glowing strains expressive of the love of Eva and Walther, and the rollicking, boisterous measures of the apprentice's antics. These constituent elements are not marshalled one after the other with conventional connecting modulations, but are presented singly and in various combinations with such consummate skill that perfect unity results, while the comical as well as the serious situations in the opera are distinctly foreshadowed.

Sehr mässig bewegt.

(In very moderately animated Tempo.)

sehr kräftig. (very decided.)

1st Violin. *f*

*constantly f* *rinforz.*

*dolce* *più P* *pp* *a tempo* *cresc.*

ein wenig rallent. (slight rallent.)

2nd Viol. Unisono. *f* *stacc. e più f*

1st Violins. 2nd Violins. *f* *f* *f*

*tr* *tr* *tr* *f*



*piu cresc.* *molto cresc.*

Im mässigen Hauptzeitmaass.  
(In moderate Tempo.)

*ff* *p cresc.*

*f* *cresc.*

2nd Violins.

*molto cresc.* *f* *dim.* *p* *sf tr*

*stacc.* *p sempre un poco cresc.* *sf*

sehr ausdrucksvoll. (very expressive.)

*f e piu f*

*ff*

sehr ausdrucksvoll.  
(very expressively.)

*p*  
*p* *3* *schierzando* *3* *stacc.* *3*

immer gleichmässig leicht.  
(continue with light bowing.)

immer bewegter im Vortrag.  
(poco a poco animato)

*p* *cresc.*  
*cresc. poco a poco*

sehr feurig.  
(con fuoco)

*f* *pizz.* *f* *arco* *f*

*f* *3* *f* *f* *f*

*ff* *püf* *püf*

First system of musical notation. The upper staff features a complex melodic line with many beamed notes and slurs. The lower staff contains a bass line with sixteenth-note patterns and slurs. Dynamic markings include *ff* and *f*. A finger number '6' is visible in the lower staff.

Second system of musical notation. The upper staff begins with the marking *dim.* and ends with *p*. The lower staff continues with sixteenth-note patterns and slurs, including a finger number '6'.

Third system of musical notation. The upper staff has a melodic line starting with *f*. The lower staff features sixteenth-note patterns and slurs, with a finger number '6'.

Fourth system of musical notation. The upper staff includes a trill marked *tr* and a dynamic marking *f*. The lower staff continues with sixteenth-note patterns and slurs, including a finger number '6'.

Fifth system of musical notation. The upper staff has a melodic line with a dynamic marking *sehr gewichtig. (very heavy.)*. The lower staff includes a dynamic marking *constantly ff* and *sehr gewichtig. (very heavy.)*. A *stacc.* marking is present at the end of the system. Finger numbers '6' and '3' are visible.

Sixth system of musical notation. The upper staff features a melodic line with many beamed notes and slurs, including a finger number '6'. The lower staff contains a bass line with sixteenth-note patterns and slurs.

Seventh system of musical notation. The upper staff features a melodic line with many beamed notes and slurs, including a finger number '6'. The lower staff contains a bass line with sixteenth-note patterns and slurs.

First system of a musical score, consisting of two staves. The upper staff features a complex melodic line with many sixteenth notes, some beamed together, and slurs. The lower staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with a steady eighth-note pattern.

Second system of the musical score. The upper staff continues with intricate sixteenth-note passages, marked with a dynamic of *piu f*. A first ending bracket labeled '8' spans the final two measures of this system. The lower staff continues with its accompaniment.

Third system of the musical score. Both the upper and lower staves feature a melodic line with dotted rhythms and slurs. The dynamic marking *ff* is present at the beginning of the system.

Fourth system of the musical score. The upper staff is characterized by frequent trills, indicated by 'tr' above the notes. A first ending bracket labeled '8' is present. The dynamic marking *ff* appears at the end of the system.

Fifth system of the musical score. The upper staff has a melodic line with slurs and a dynamic of *ff*. The lower staff features a dense accompaniment of sixteenth notes, also marked with *ff*.

Sixth system of the musical score. The upper staff continues with a melodic line of sixteenth notes and slurs. The lower staff provides a consistent accompaniment.

Seventh system of the musical score, the final system on the page. It concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs. The upper staff has a melodic line with slurs, and the lower staff has an accompaniment.