

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.)

The musical score consists of six staves of music for orchestra. The first four staves are for strings, and the last two are for woodwind instruments. The first staff (1st Violin) starts with a dynamic of *f*. The second staff (2nd Violin) has a dynamic of *constantly f*. The third staff (1st Violin) has a dynamic of *ff*. The fourth staff (2nd Violin) has dynamics of *dolce*, *più p*, *pp*, and *cresc.*. The fifth staff (1st Violins) has dynamics of *stacc. e più f*, *1*, *2*, *3*, and *f*. The sixth staff (2nd Violins) has dynamics of *tr*, *1*, *2*, and *f*. The score includes various performance instructions like *rinförz.*, *a tempo*, and *ein wenig rallent.* (slight rallent.). Measure numbers 5 and 10 are also indicated.

3

f

constantly ff

espressivo

constantly ff

Bewegt, doch immer noch etwas breit.

(*Animated, but still in broad style.*)
sehr ausdrucksvoll. (*very expressive.*)

ff

p

ff

f poco rall.

noch bewegter. (*still more animated.*)

più cresc.

Im mässigen Hauptzeitmaass.
(*In moderate Tempo.*)

ff

p cresc.

f

cresc.

cresc.

2nd Violins.

molto cresc.

f dim.

p

div.

sf tr

sf tr

stacc.

p sempre un poco cresc.

sf

cresc.

tr

tr

tr

tr

fe più f

ff

ff

sehr ausdrucksvoll.
(very expressively.)

Musical score page 1. The first two staves show a melodic line with various dynamics and performance instructions: *p*, *scherzando*, *3*, *stacc.*, and *3*. The music consists of six measures.

Musical score page 1. The next two staves continue the melodic line. The first staff has the instruction *immer gleichmässig leicht.* (*continue with light bowing.*) The second staff has the instruction *immer bewegter im Vortrag.* (*poco a poco animato*).

Musical score page 1. The final two staves of the page show a melodic line with dynamics *p*, *cresc.*, *cresc. poco a poco*, and *poco a poco*.

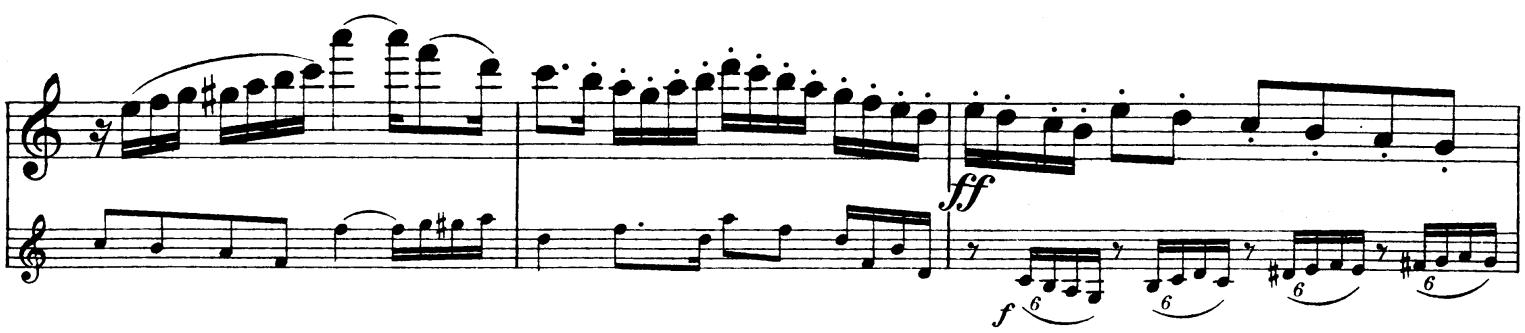
Musical score page 1. The first two staves of the next section show a melodic line with dynamic *f*.

sehr feurig.
(*con fuoco*)

Musical score page 1. The next two staves show a melodic line with dynamics *f*, *pizz.*, *f*, *arco*, and *f*.

Musical score page 1. The first two staves of the final section show a melodic line with dynamics *f* and *f*.

Musical score page 1. The final two staves show a melodic line with dynamics *ff*, *più f*, and *più f*.



Musical score page 2. The first staff starts with a dynamic ***dim.*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The second staff begins with a dynamic ***p*** and a sixteenth-note pattern.

Musical score page 3. The first staff starts with a dynamic ***f*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The second staff begins with a dynamic ***p*** and a sixteenth-note pattern.

Musical score page 4. The first staff starts with a dynamic ***f*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The second staff begins with a dynamic ***tr.*** and a sixteenth-note pattern.

sehr gewichtig.
(very heavy.)

Musical score page 5. The first staff starts with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The second staff begins with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The third staff begins with a dynamic ***sehr gewichtig. (very heavy.)*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The fourth staff begins with a dynamic ***stacc.*** and a sixteenth-note pattern.

Musical score page 6. The first staff starts with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The second staff begins with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The third staff begins with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The fourth staff begins with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern.

Musical score page 7. The first staff starts with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The second staff begins with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The third staff begins with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern. The fourth staff begins with a dynamic ***constantly ff*** and a sixteenth-note pattern.

1

8.

più f

8.

ff

ff

ff