Solo A Clarinet

Max

BRUCH

(1838 - 1920)

Concerto for Clarinet, Viola and Orchestra Opus 88

Concerto for Clarinet, Viola and Orchestra, Opus 88

by Max Bruch

Opus 88 offers both player and listener a lovely intimate conversation between two alto instruments. Bruch's clarinetist son Max Felix must have been enchanted to receive this tunefully rich and lusciously romantic composition from his father, replete with folk structures drawn from earlier suites. From the opening arpeggios of the first movement to the final allegro molto triplets, one is awestruck by the breathtaking beauty of the work and a sense of wonder that it is not performed more often. The composer was 73 when it was first performed in 1911 to, some say, a hostile audience more sympathetic with the experiments of Stravinsky and Scriabin than with the romanticism of Mendelssohn. That Bruch's style may not have changed much from his works composed forty years before ought not to matter a whit to the lover of soulfully intense musical companionship at its best. The composer's instrumentation progresses from fourteen to twenty-one accompanying voices through the three movements, finally boasting a full complement of woodwinds, four French horns and two trumpets plus strings and percussion. The parts available for this offering are listed below.

Instrument	Movement		
	1	2	3
Flute	1	1,2	1,2
Oboe	1	1,2	1,2
English Horn	x	1	1
A Clarinet*	1,2	1,2	1,2
Bassoon	1,2	1,2	1,2
E Horn†	1,2	1,2	1,2,3,4
E Trumpet‡	x	1,2	1,2
Timpani	1	1	1
Violin	1,2	1,2	1,2
Viola	1	1	1
Cello	1	1	1
Contrabass	1	1	1
Solo A Clarinet	1	1	1
Solo Viola	1	1	1

Max Bruch.

*Optional Bb Clarinet parts
†Optional F Horn parts
‡Optional Bb Trumpet parts

I thank the Universitäts-und Stadbibliothek Köln for having prepared a microfiche of the autograph of this work from which my first transcription was prepared. I am indebted to Ms. Monica Cuneo of Oxford, UK, for having devoted a significant amount of time proofreading the result so as to correct corruptions which occurred in deciphering the composer's one-hundred-year-old autograph. Ms. Cuneo found more than four hundred errors in notes of accompanying instruments, the result of near invisible staff lines which had faded during the last century. This second edition is much improved over the first attempt. At this writing the music notation and MIDI files are available for downloading and your playing pleasure at

http://www.csudh.edu/oliver/clarmusi/clarmusi.htm

Happy playing, all!

Oliver Seely
Lakewood, California
January 31, 2011

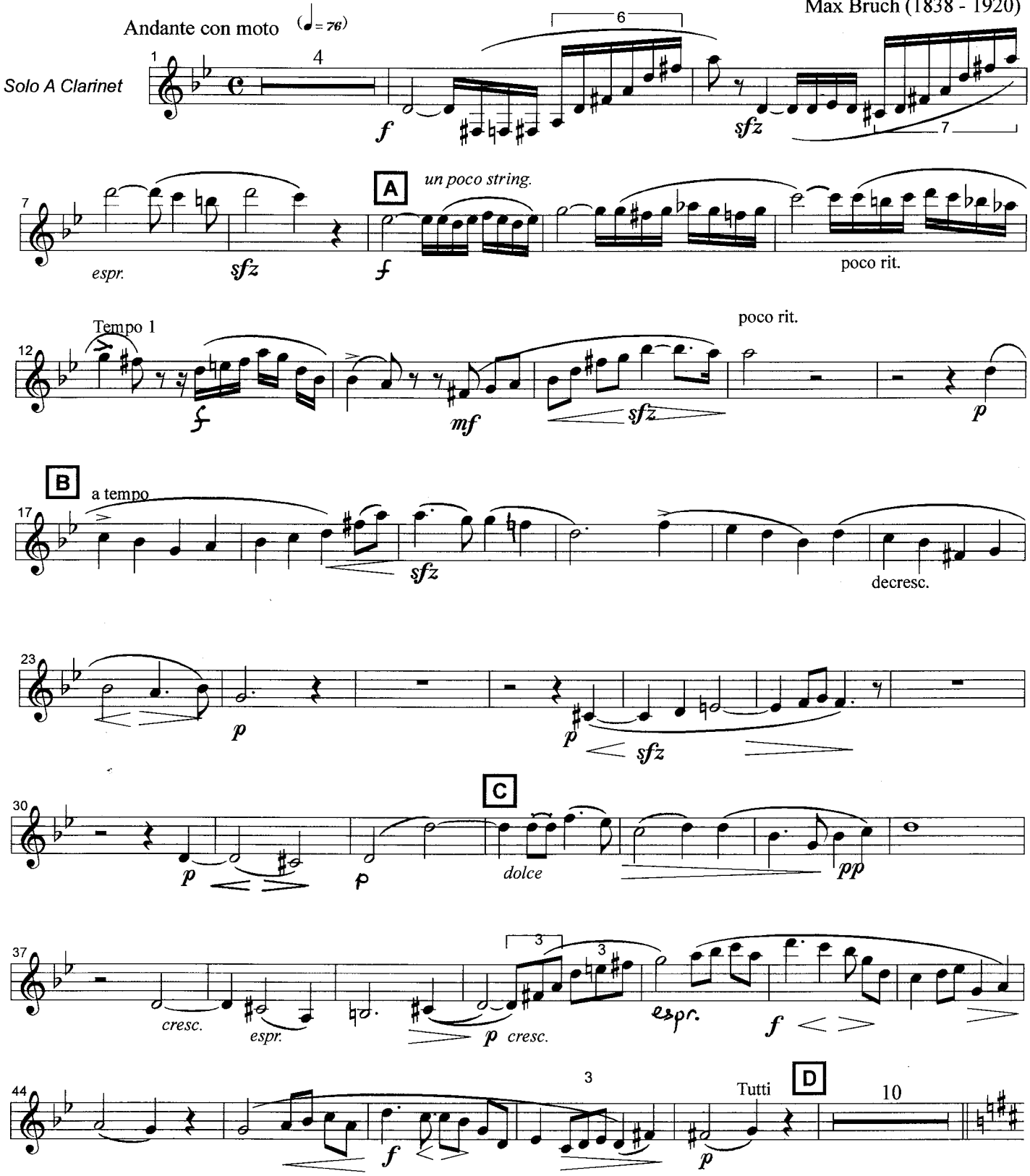
Concerto for Clarinet, Viola and Orchestra, Opus 88

I

Max Bruch (1838 - 1920)

Andante con moto (♩= 76)

Solo A Clarinet



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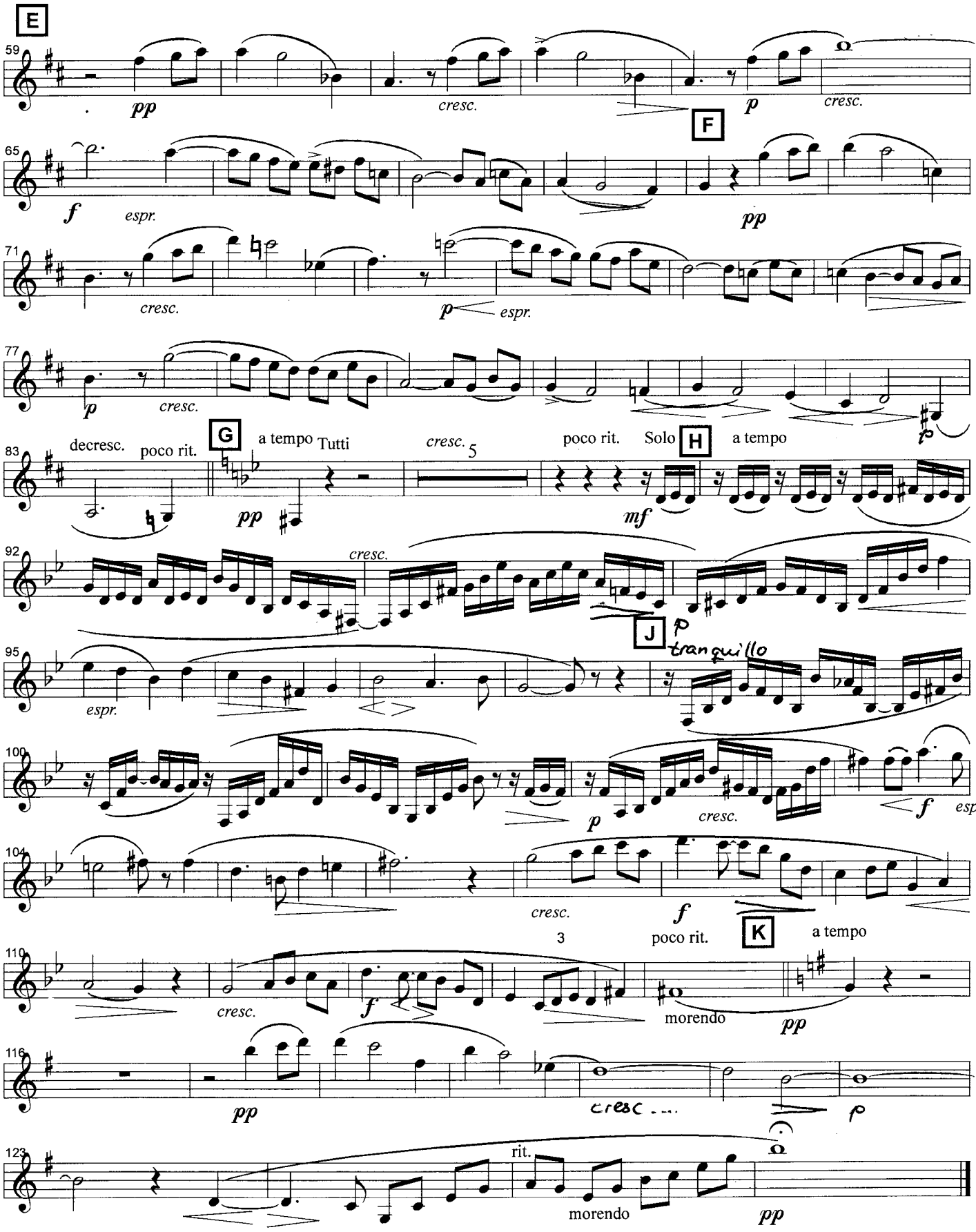
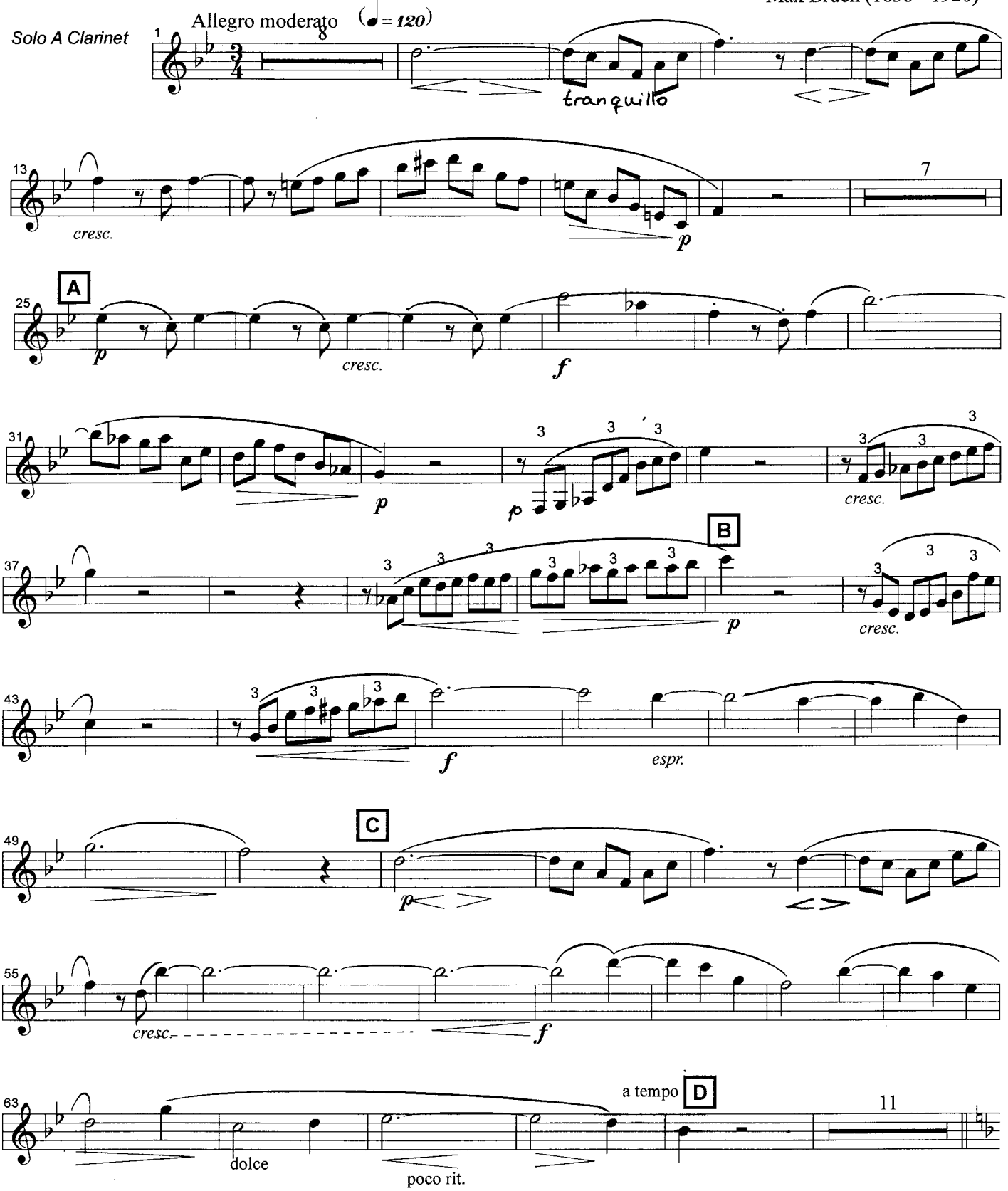

E
59
pp
cresc.
p
cresc.
F
65
f
espr.
pp
71
cresc.
p
espr.
77
p
cresc.
decresc.
poco rit.
G
a tempo
Tutti
83
pp
cresc.
5
poco rit.
Solo
H
a tempo
mf
92
cresc.
J
p
tranquillo
95
espr.
100
p
cresc.
f
espr.
104
cresc.
f
3
poco rit.
K
a tempo
110
cresc.
f
morendo
pp
116
pp
cresc ...
p
123
rit.
morendo
pp

Concerto for Clarinet, Viola and Orchestra, Opus 88

II

Max Bruch (1838 - 1920)



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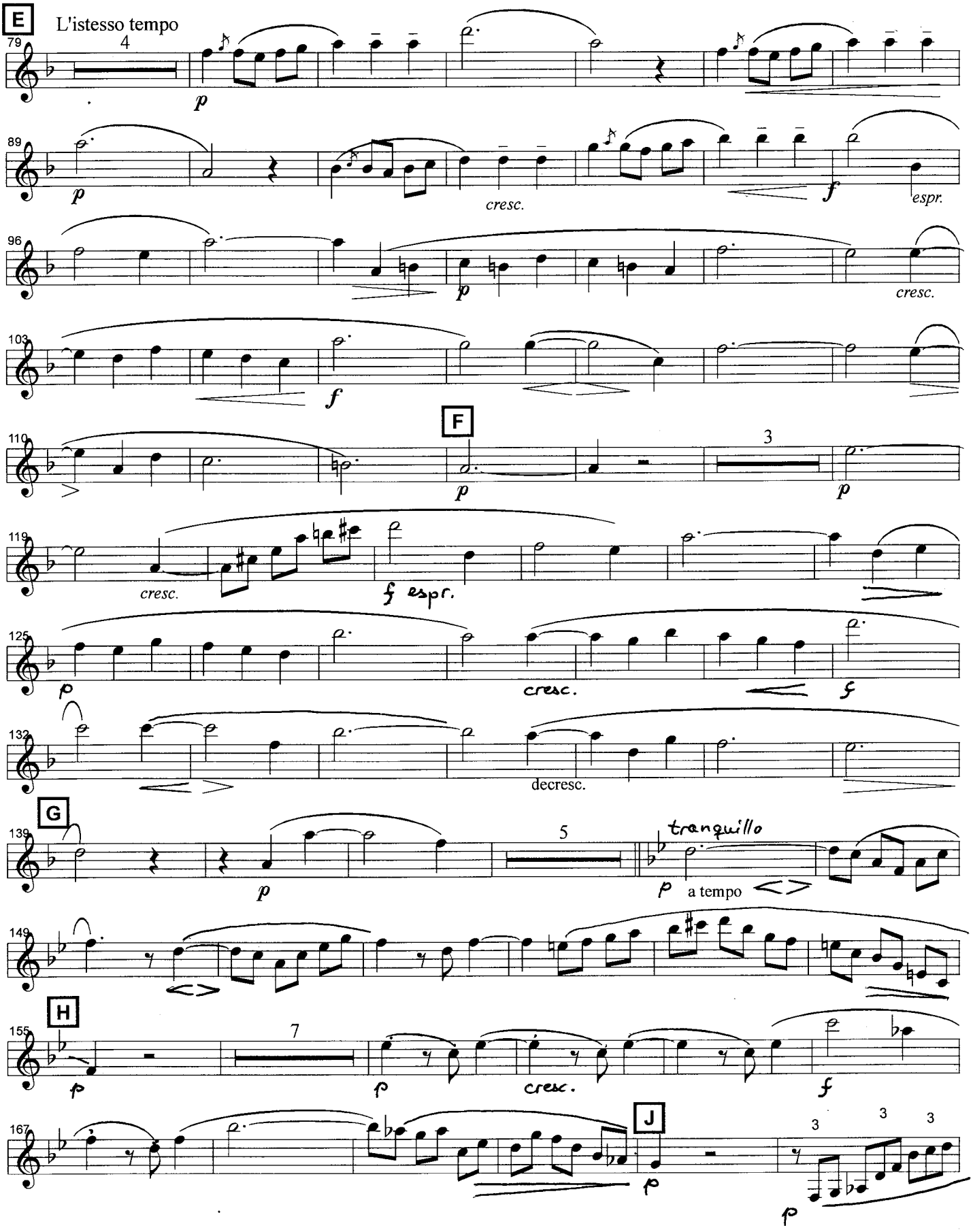
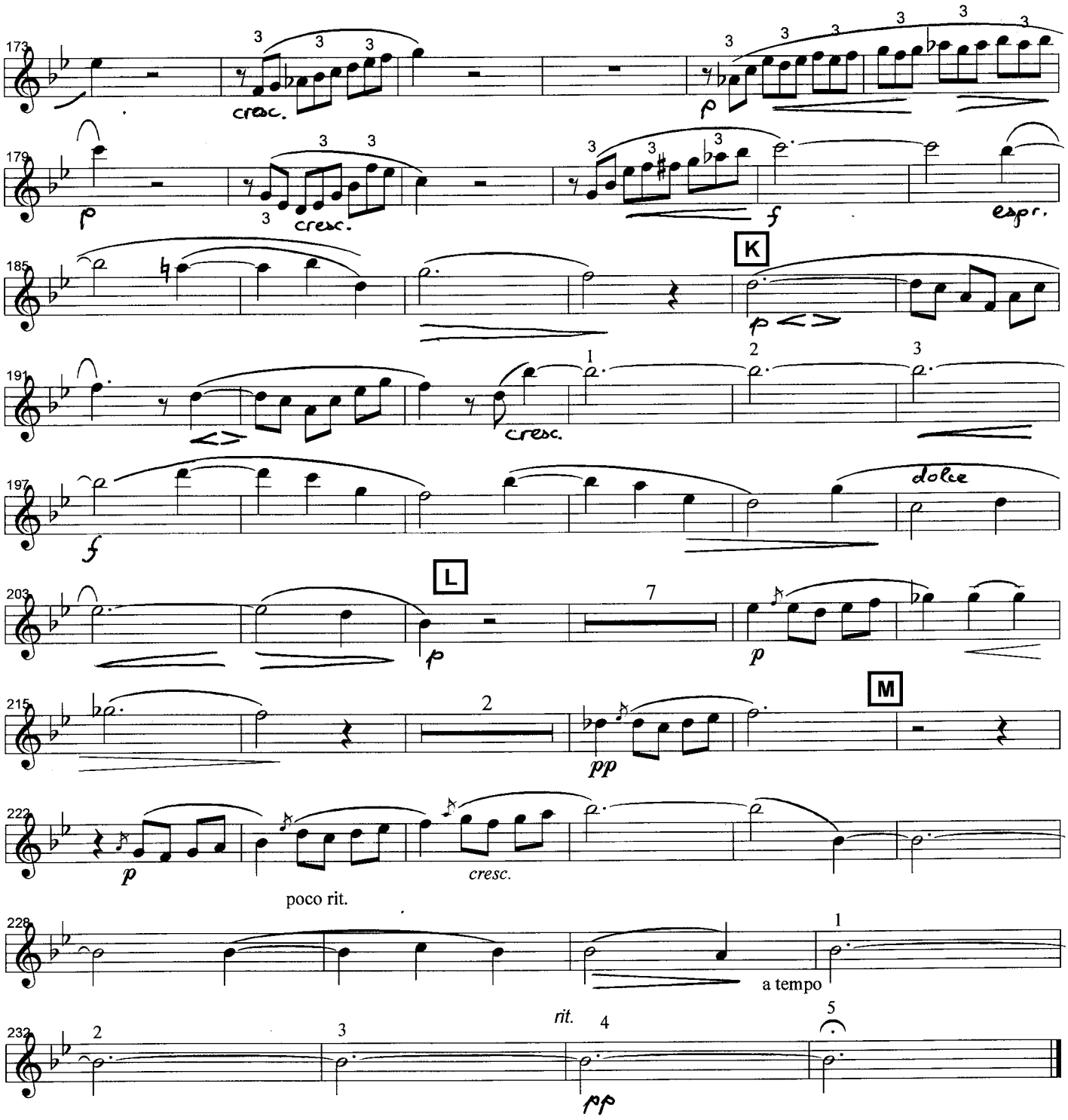

E
L'istesso tempo
4
p
89
p
cresc.
f
espr.
96
p
cresc.
103
f
F
110
p
3
p
119
cresc.
f espr.
125
p
cresc.
f
132
decresc.
G
139
p
5
tranquillo
p a tempo
149
H
155
7
p
p
cresc.
f
J
167
p
3
3
3
p

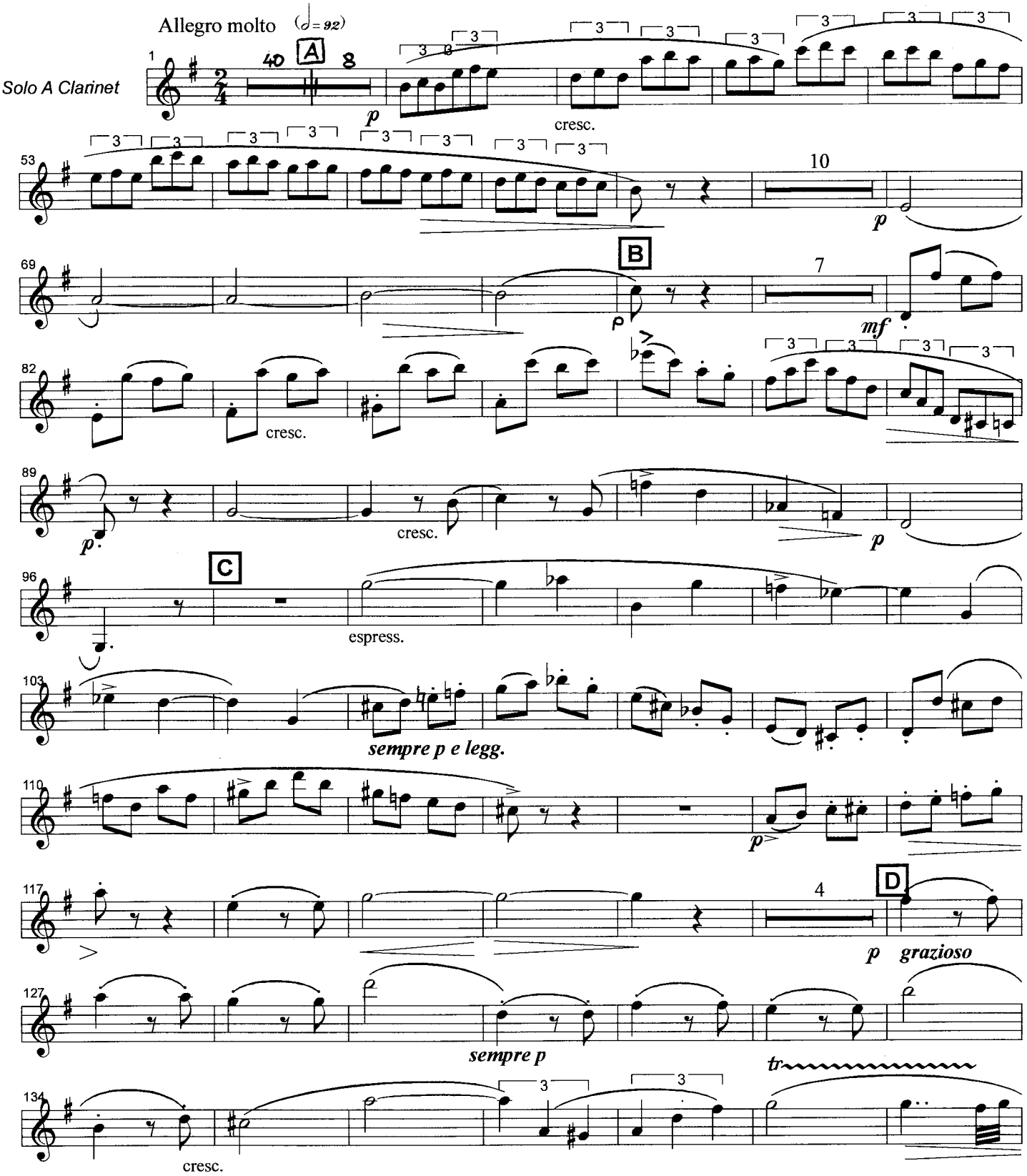

173
cresc.
179
cresc.
espr.
185
K
191
cresc.
197
dolce
203
L
7
215
2
M
222
cresc.
poco rit.
228
a tempo
232
rit.
4
5

Solo A Clarinet

Concerto for Clarinet, Viola and Orchestra, Opus 88

III

Max Bruch (1838 - 1920)



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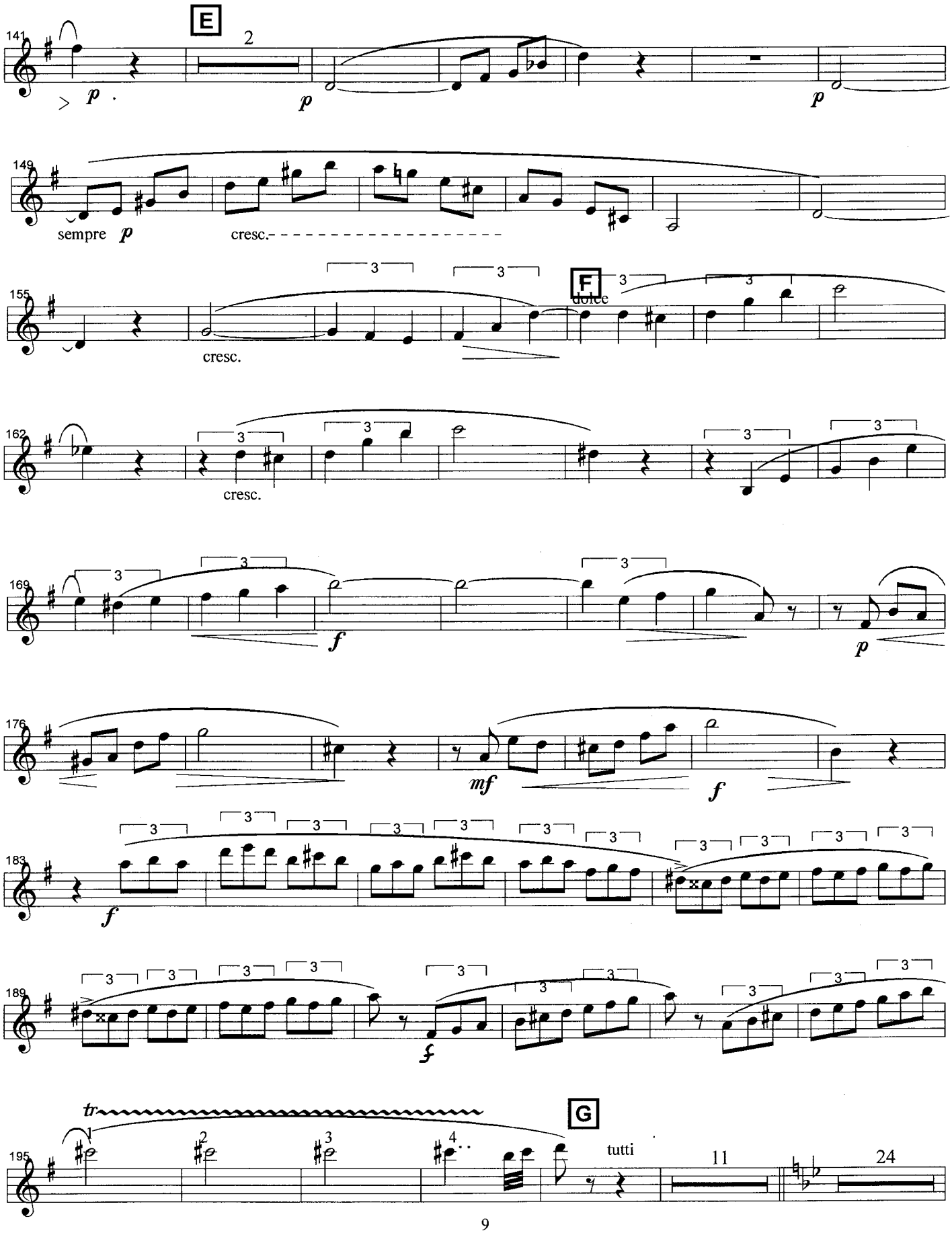
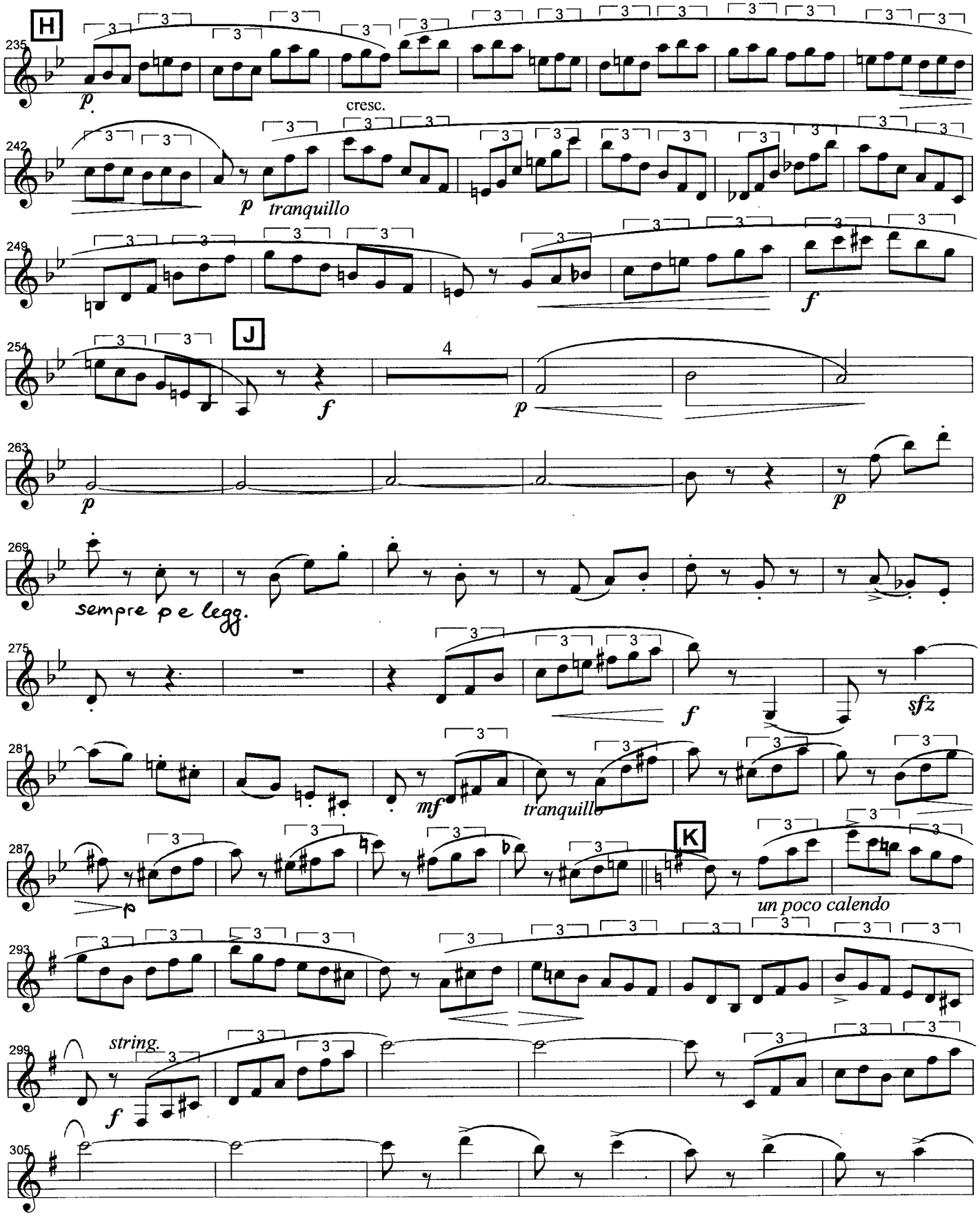
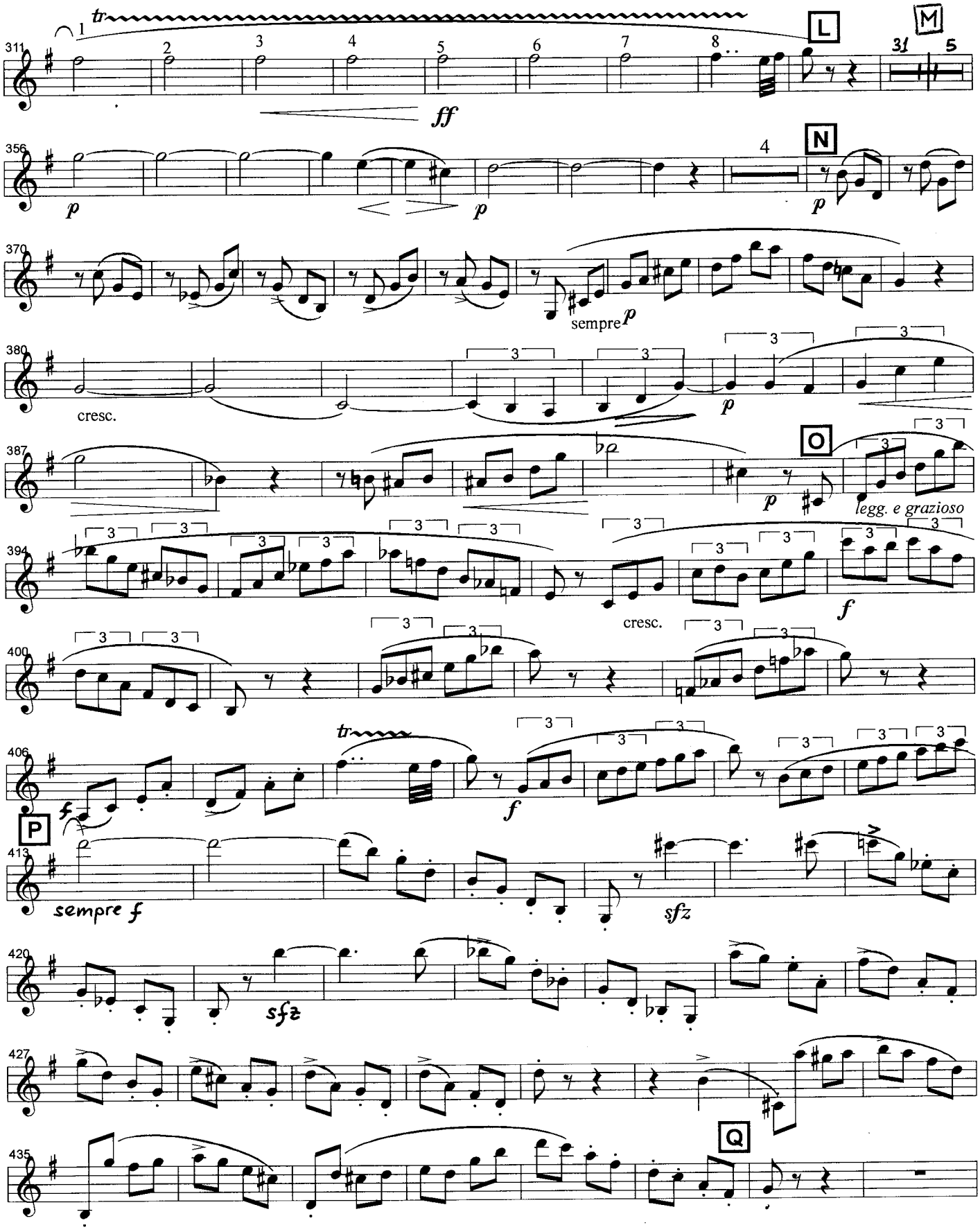
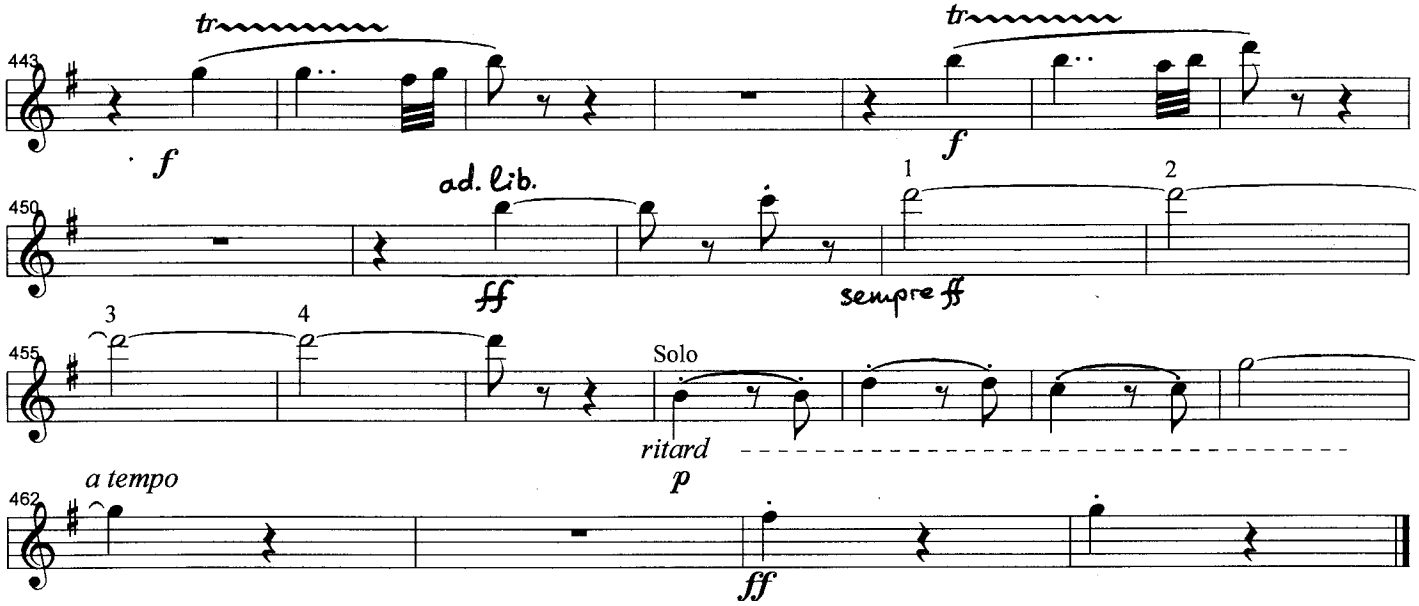

141
E
2
p
p
p
149
sempre p
cresc.
155
F
dolce
cresc.
162
cresc.
169
f
p
176
mf
f
183
f
189
f
195
tr
G
tutti
11
24


H
235
p
cresc.
242
p
tranquillo
249
f
J
254
4
f
p
263
p
p
269
sempre p e legg.
275
f
sfz
281
mf
tranquillo
287
p
K
un poco calendo
293
299
string.
f
305


311
tr
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
L
M
31
5
ff
356
p
p
4
N
p
370
sempre p
380
cresc.
3
p
387
O
p
legg. e grazioso
394
cresc.
f
400
406
tr
f
f
P
413
sempre f
sfz
420
sfz
427
435
Q


443
tr
f
tr
f
450
ad. lib.
ff
1
2
sempre ff
455
3
4
Solo
ritard
p
462
a tempo
ff