VERKLÄRTE NACHT (Transfigured Night)

Poem by Richard Dehmel
from *Weib und Welt (Woman and World)*

English translation by Stanley Appelbaum

Zwei Menschen gehn durch kahlen, kalten Hain;
der Mond läuft mit, sie schaun hinein.
Der Mond läuft über hohe Eichen,
kein Wölkchen trübt das Himmelslicht,
in das die schwarzen Zacken reichen.
Die Stimme eines Weibes spricht:

Ich trag ein Kind, und nit von Dir,
ich geh in Sünde neben Dir.
Ich hab mich schwer an mir vergangen.
Ich glaubte nicht mehr an ein Glück
und hatte doch ein schwer Verlangen
nach Lebensinhalt, nach Mutterglück

und Pflicht; da hab ich mich erfrecht,
da liess ich schaudernd mein Geschlecht
von einem fremden Mann umfangen,
und hab mich noch dafür gesegnet.
Nun hat das leben sich gerächt:
nun bin ich Dir, o Dir begegnet.

Sie geht mit ungelenkem Schritt.
Sie schaut empor; der Mond läuft mit.
Ihr dunkler Blick ertrinkt in Licht.
Die Stimme eines Mannes spricht:

Das Kind, das Du empfangen hast,
sei Deiner Seele keine Last,
o sieh, wie klar das Weltall schimmert!
Es ist ein Glanz um Alles her,
Du treibst mit mir auf kaltem Meer,
doch eine eigne Wärme flimmert
von Dir in mich, von mir in Dich.
Die wird das fremde Kind verklären,
Du wirst es mir, von mir gebären;
Du hast den Glanz in mich gebracht,
Du hast mich selbst zum Kind gemacht.

Er fasst sie um die starken Hüften.
Ihr Atem küsst sich in den Lüften.
Zwei Menschen gehn durch hohe, helle Nacht.

Two people walk through a bare, cold grove;
The moon races along with them, they look into it.
The moon races over tall oaks,
No cloud obscures the light from the sky,
Into which the black points of the boughs reach.
A woman's voice speaks:

I'm carrying a child, and not yours,
I walk in sin beside you.
I have committed a great offense against myself.
I no longer believed I could be happy
And yet I had a strong yearning
For something to fill my life, for the joys of motherhood
And for duty; so I committed an effrontery,
So, shuddering, I allowed my sex
To be embraced by a strange man,
And, on top of that, I blessed myself for it.
Now life has taken its revenge:
Now I have met *you,* oh, you.

She walks with a clumsy gait,
She looks up; the moon is racing along.
Her dark gaze is drowned in light.
A man's voice speaks:

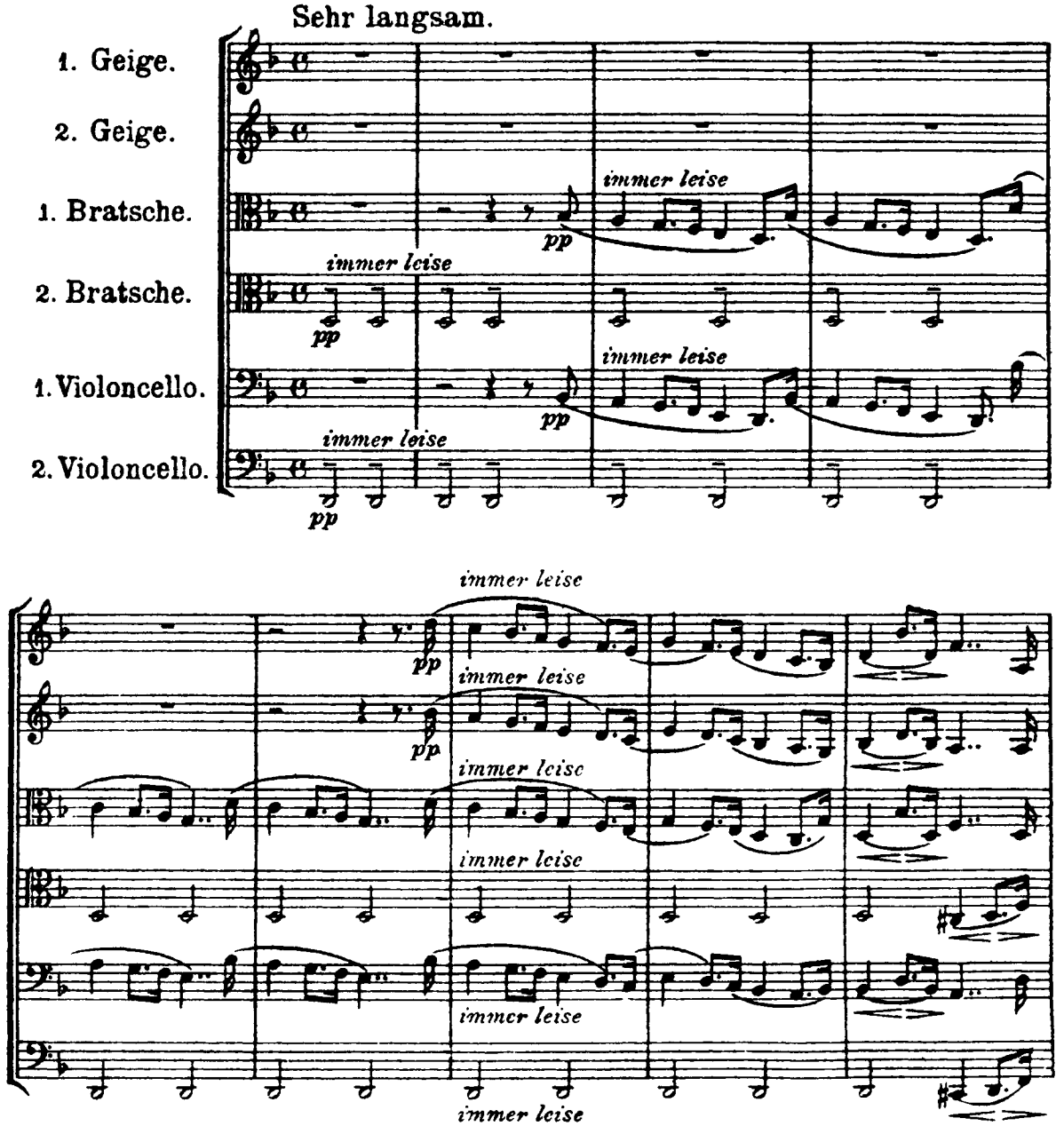
May the child you conceived
Be no burden to your soul;
Just see how brightly the universe is gleaming!
There's a glow around everything;
You are floating with me on a cold ocean,
But a special warmth flickers
From you into me, from me into you.
It will transfigure the strange man's child.
You will bear the child for me, as if it were mine;
You have brought the glow into me,
You have made me like a child myself.

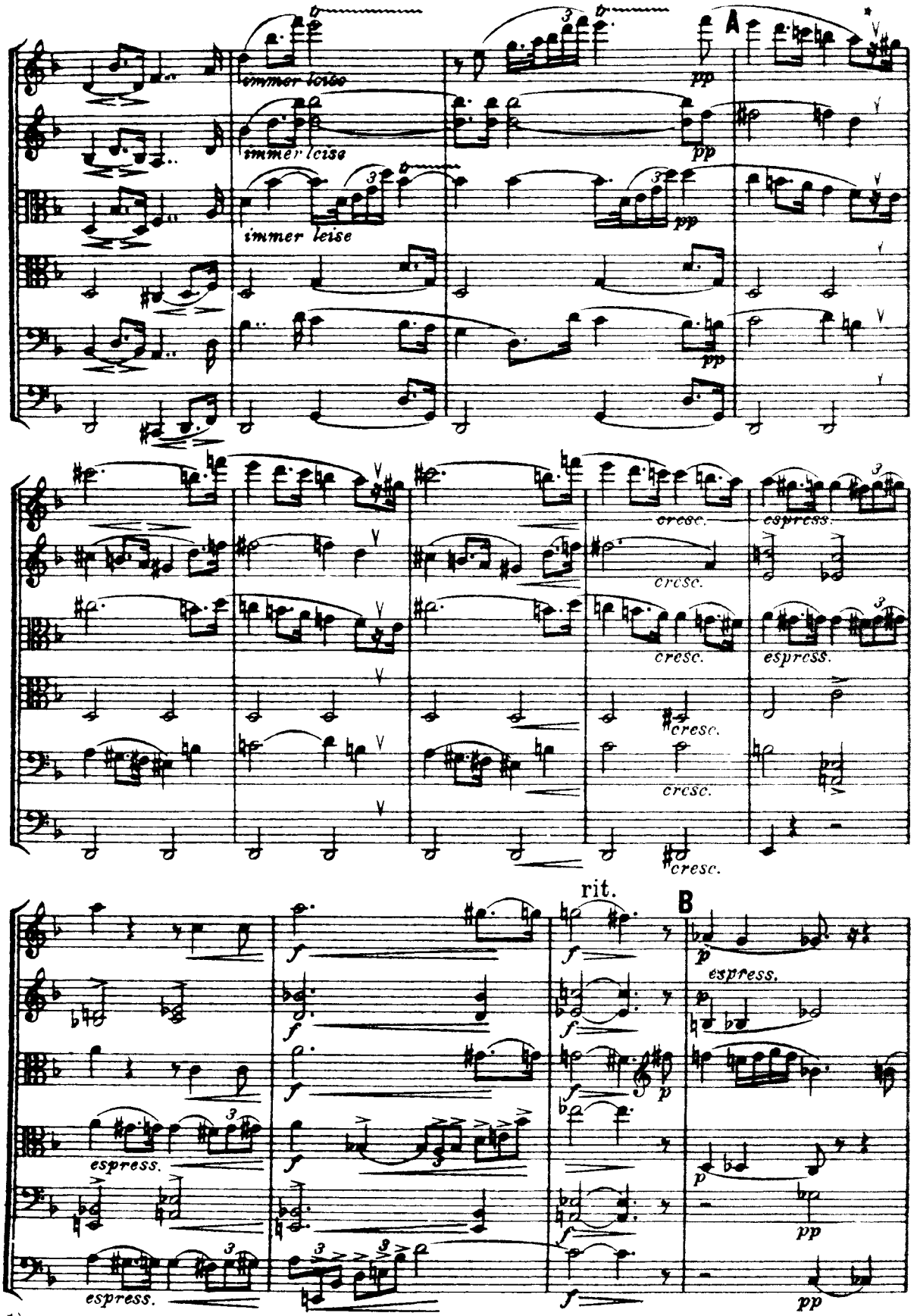
He grasps her around her ample hips.
Their breath kisses in the breeze.
Two people walk through the lofty, bright night.

VERKLÄRTE NACHT
(Transfigured Night)
OP. 4 (1899)

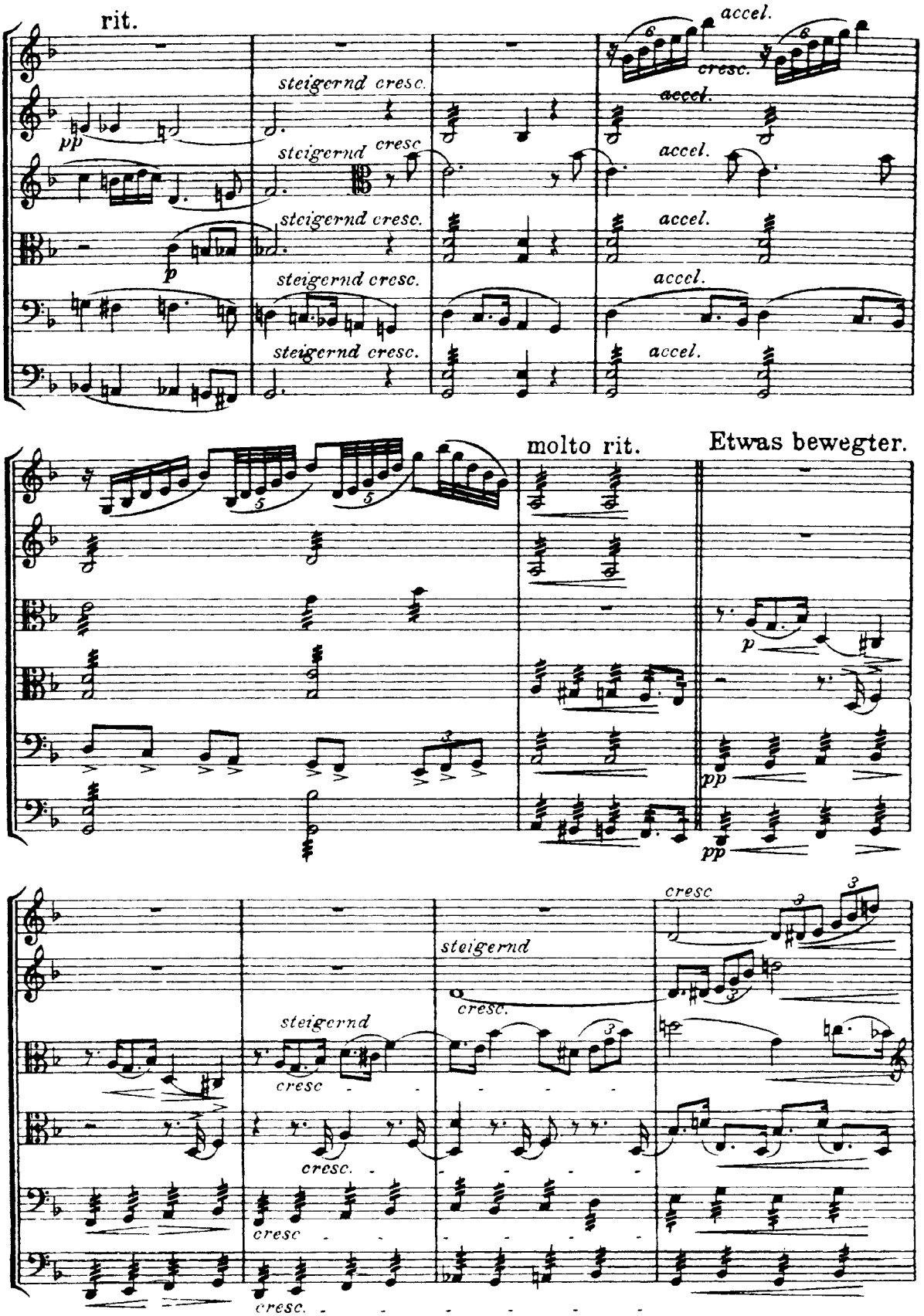
After Richard Dehmel's poem "Verklärte Nacht"
from *Weib und Welt* (*Woman and World*)

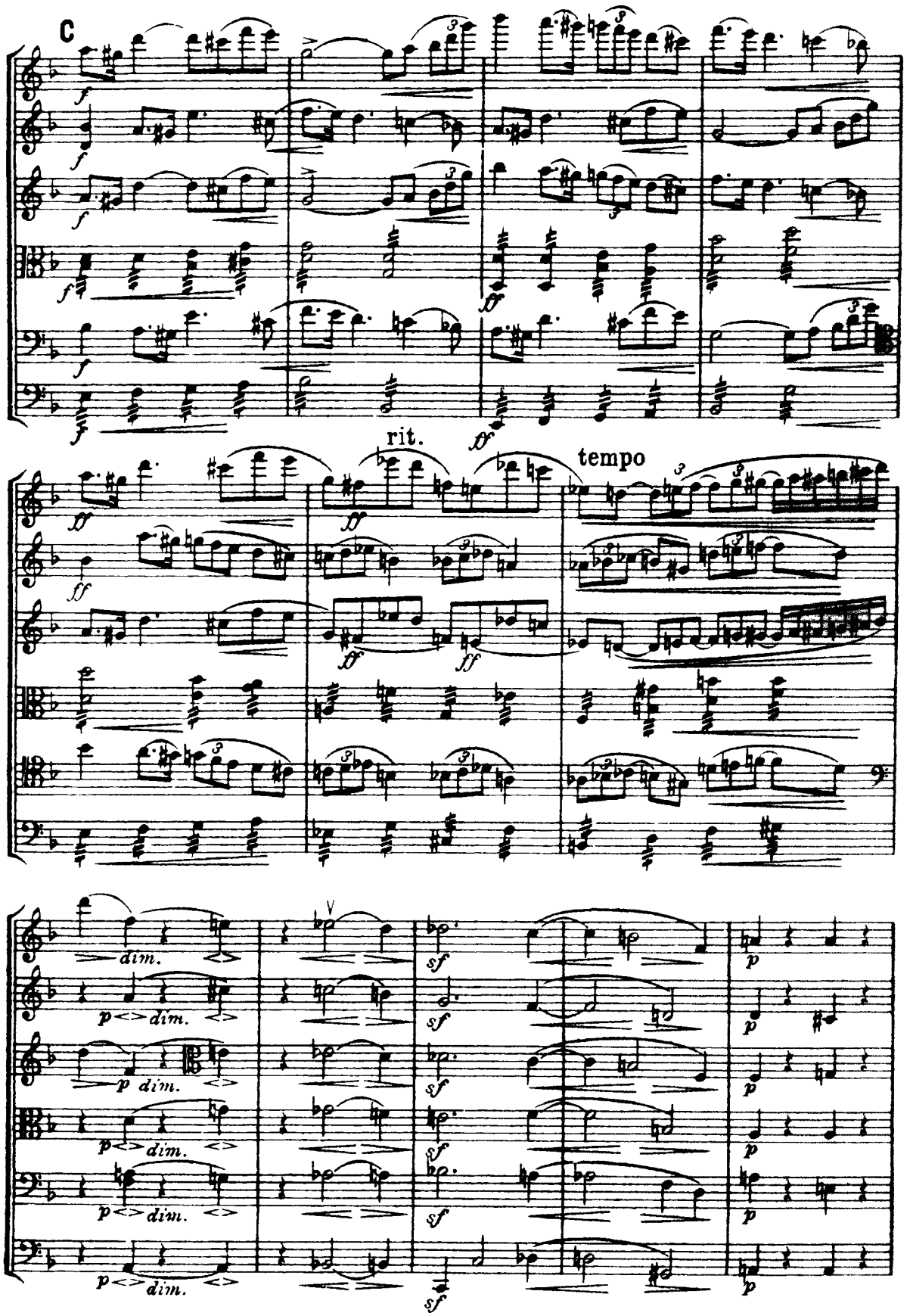
For Two Violins, Two Violas and Two Cellos

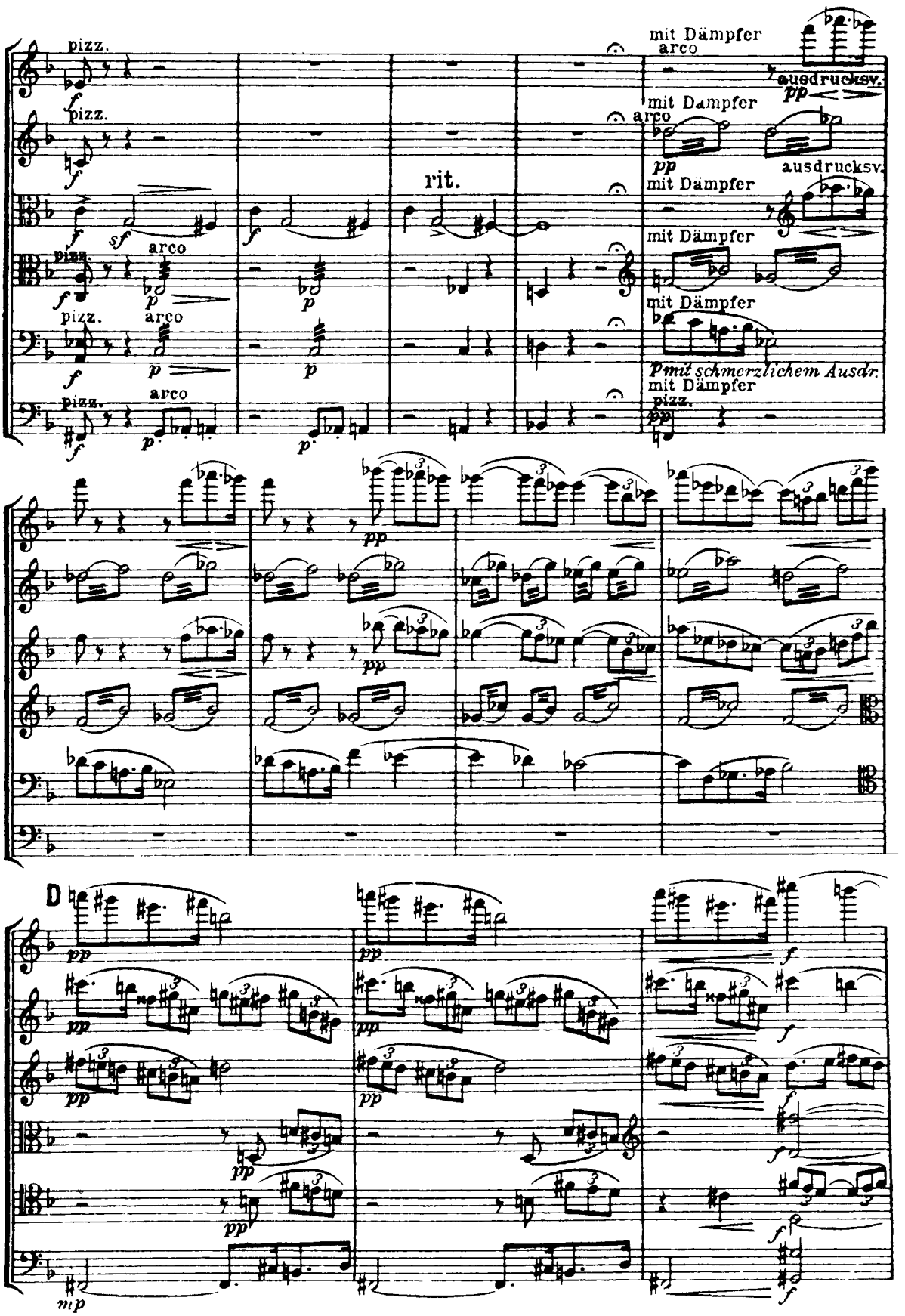


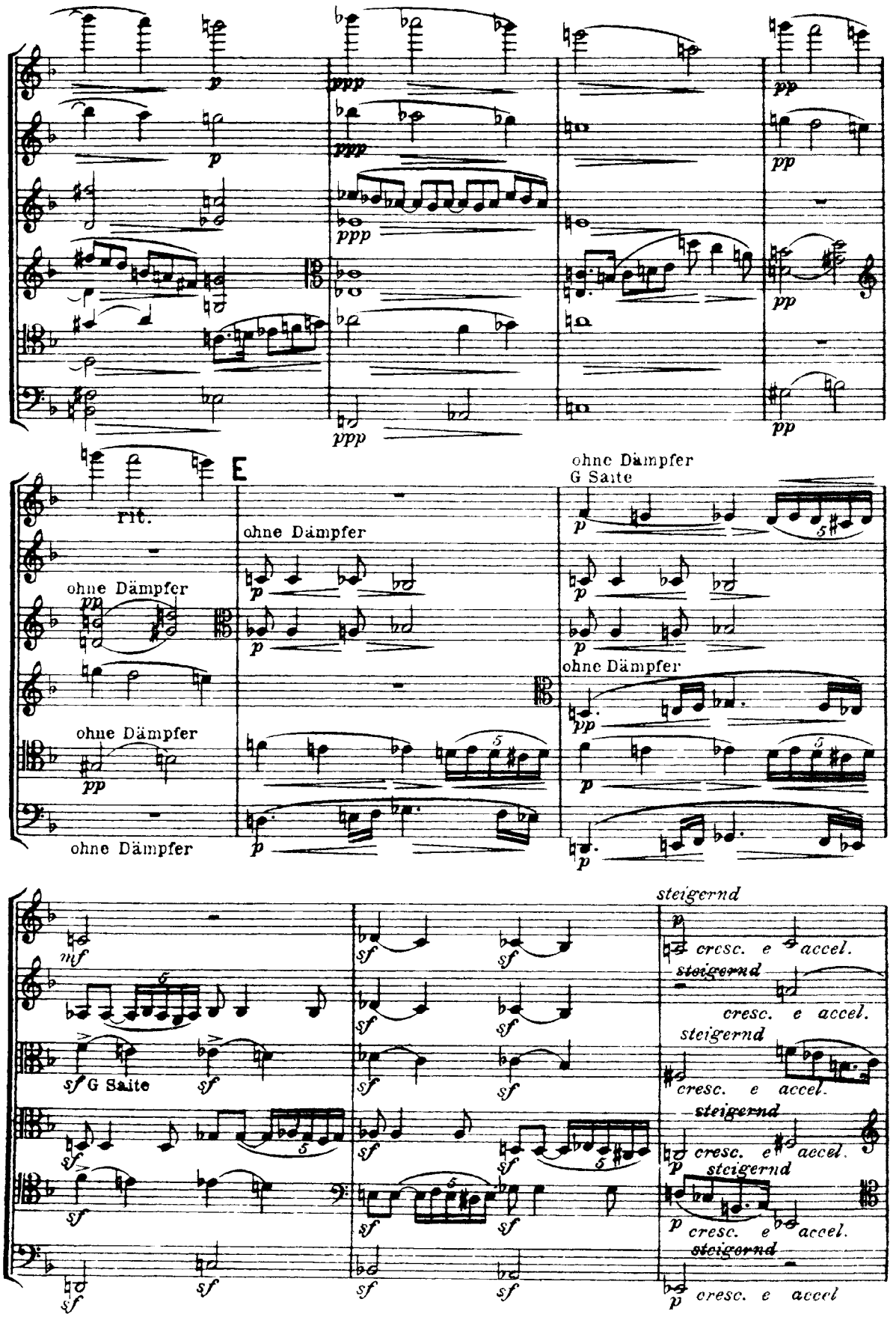


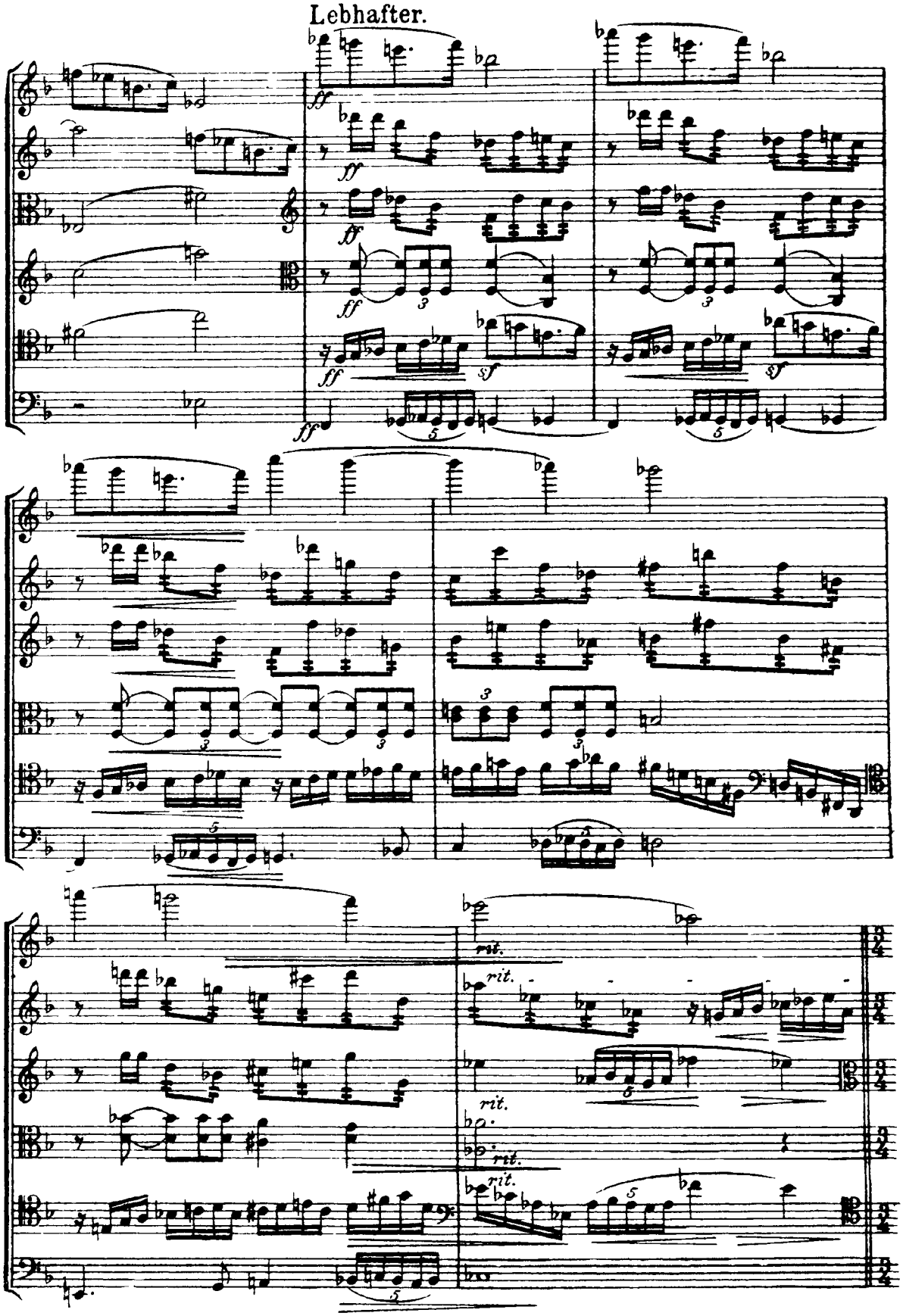
*) Dieses Zeichen bedeutet eine kleine Luftpause.

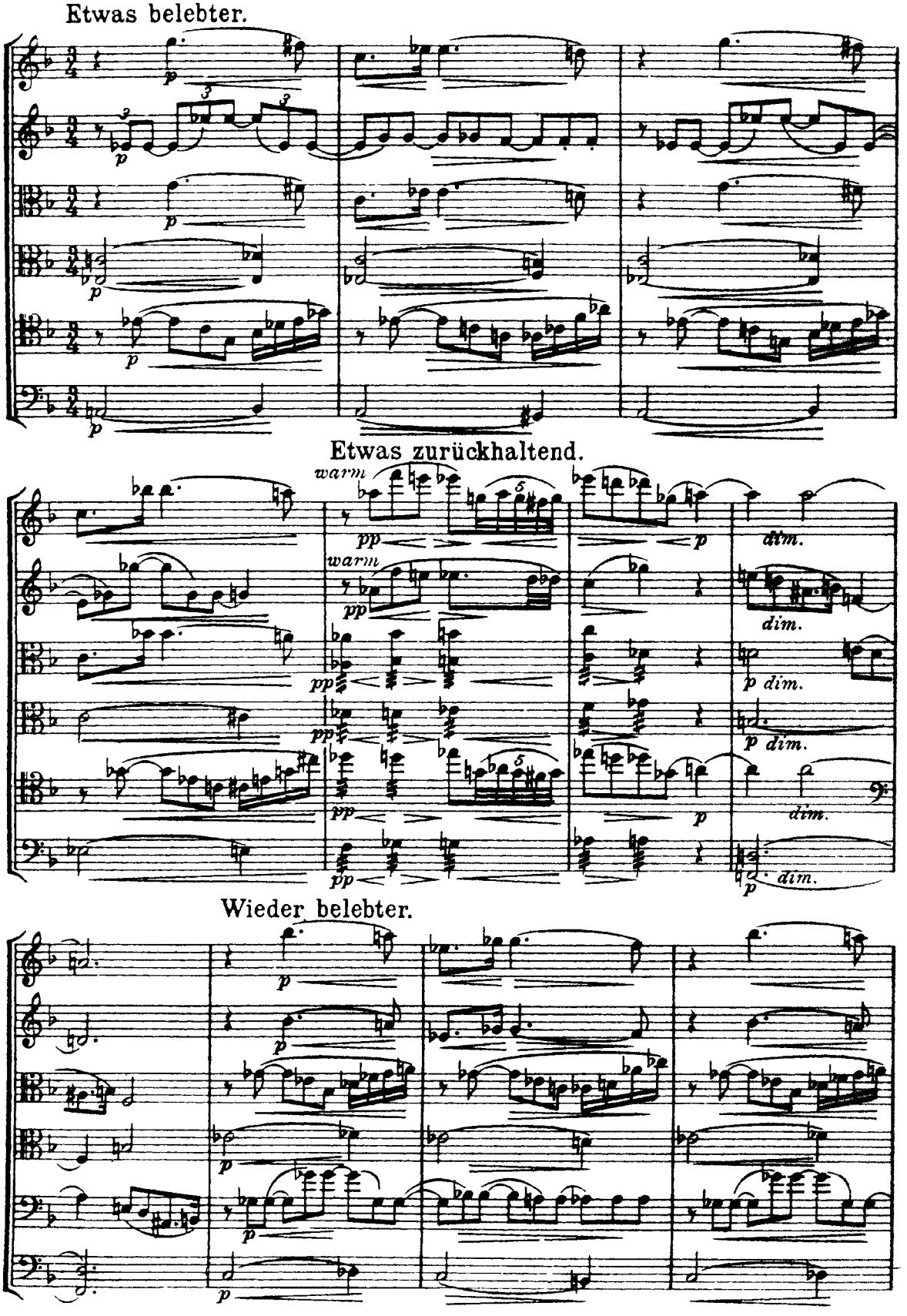

rit.
steigernd cresc.
steigernd cresc.
steigernd cresc.
steigernd cresc.
steigernd cresc.
accel.
cresc.
accel.
accel.
accel.
accel.
accel.
molto rit.
Etwas bewegter.
pp
p
pp
pp
steigernd
cresc.
steigernd
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.

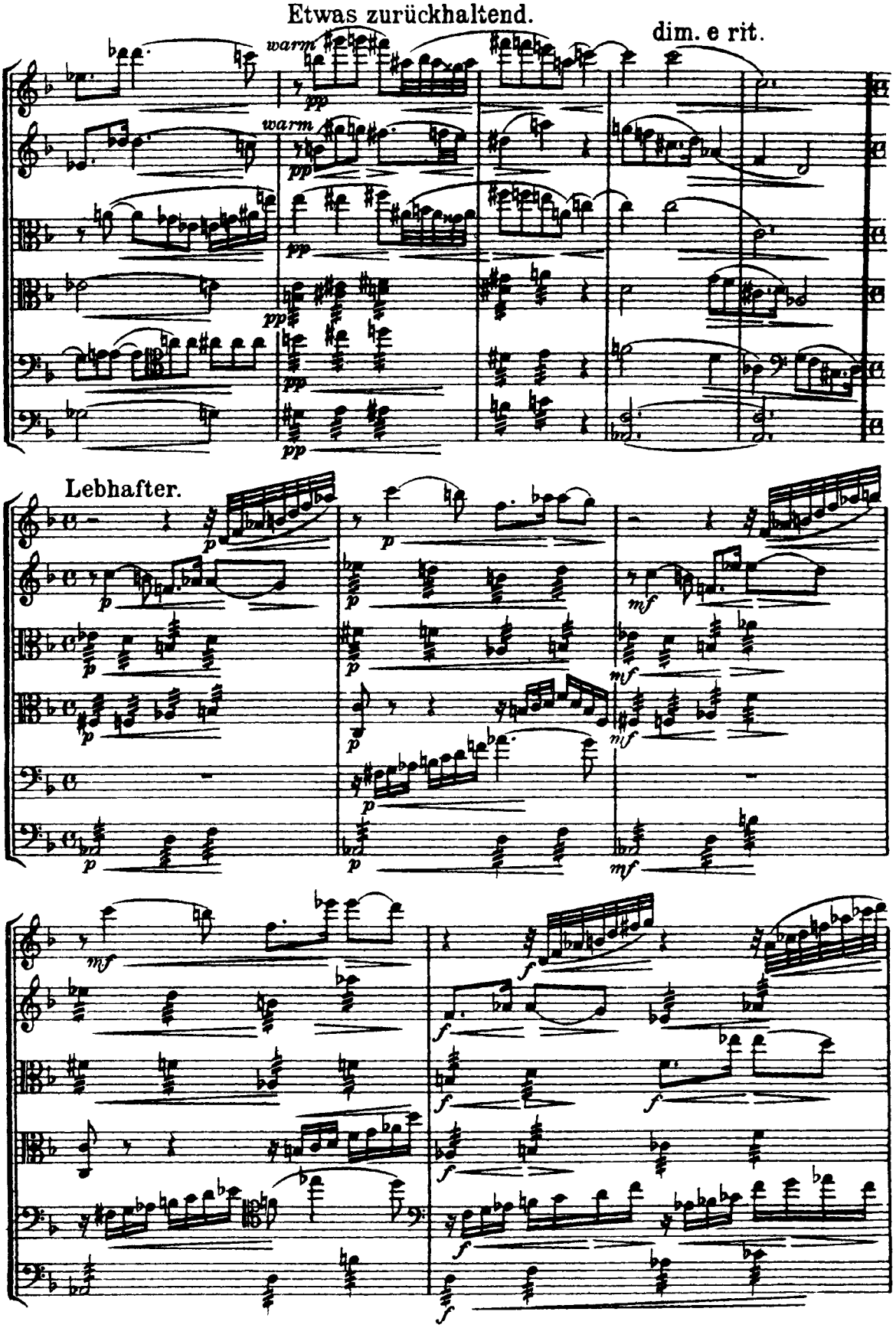

C
rit.
tempo
dim.
sf
p

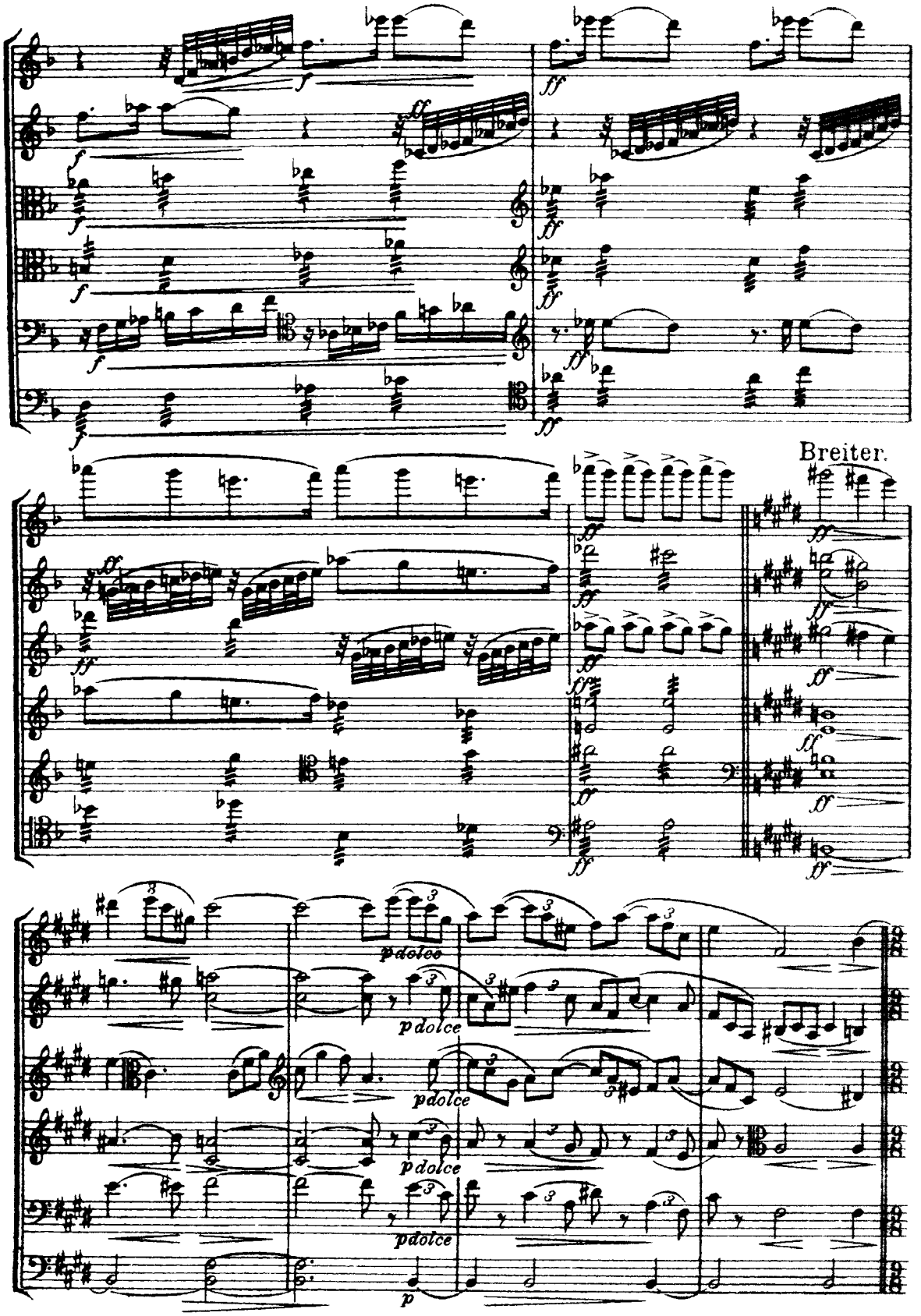

pizz.
arco
rit.
mit Dämpfer
ausdrucksv.
mit Dämpfer
ausdrucksv.
mit Dämpfer
mit Dämpfer
mit Dämpfer
p mit schmerzlichem Ausdr.
mit Dämpfer
pizz.
D

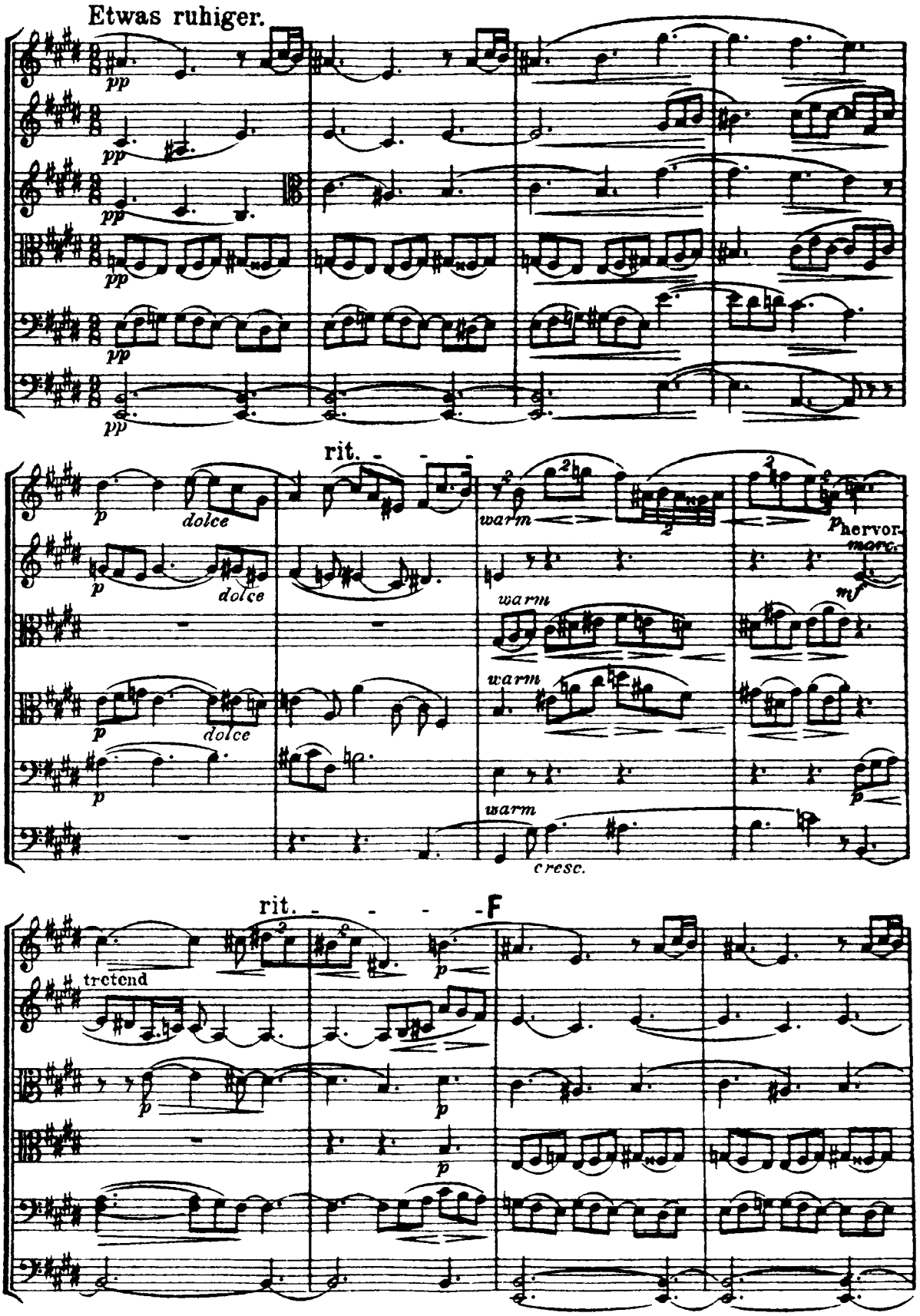

ppp
pp
rit.
E
ohne Dämpfer
G Saite
mf
sf
steigernd
cresc. e accel.

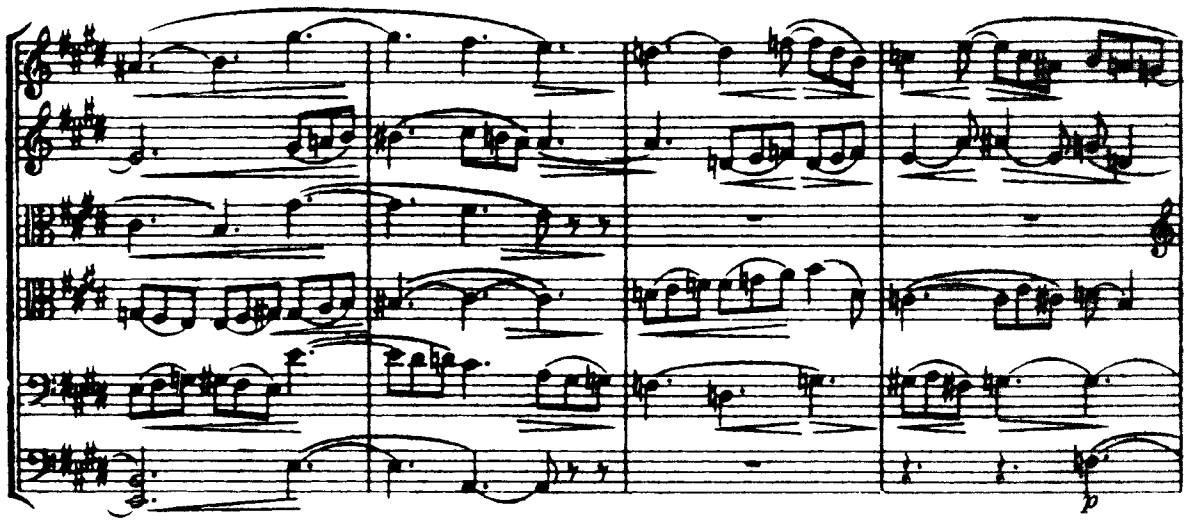

Lebhafter.
ff
sf
rit.

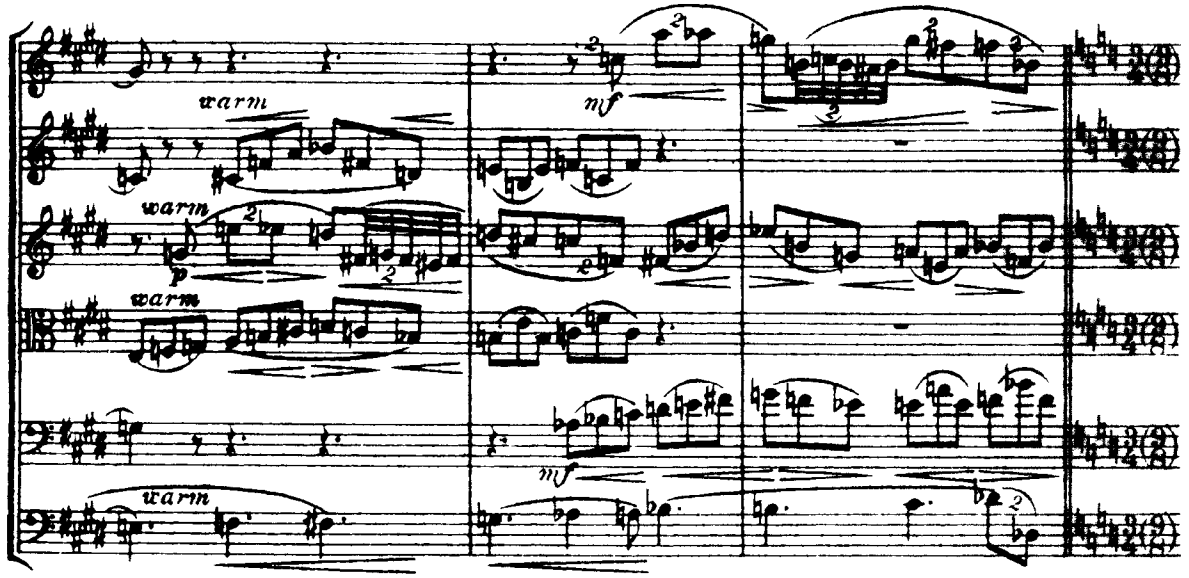

Etwas belebter.
Etwas zurückhaltend.
warm
Wieder belebter.

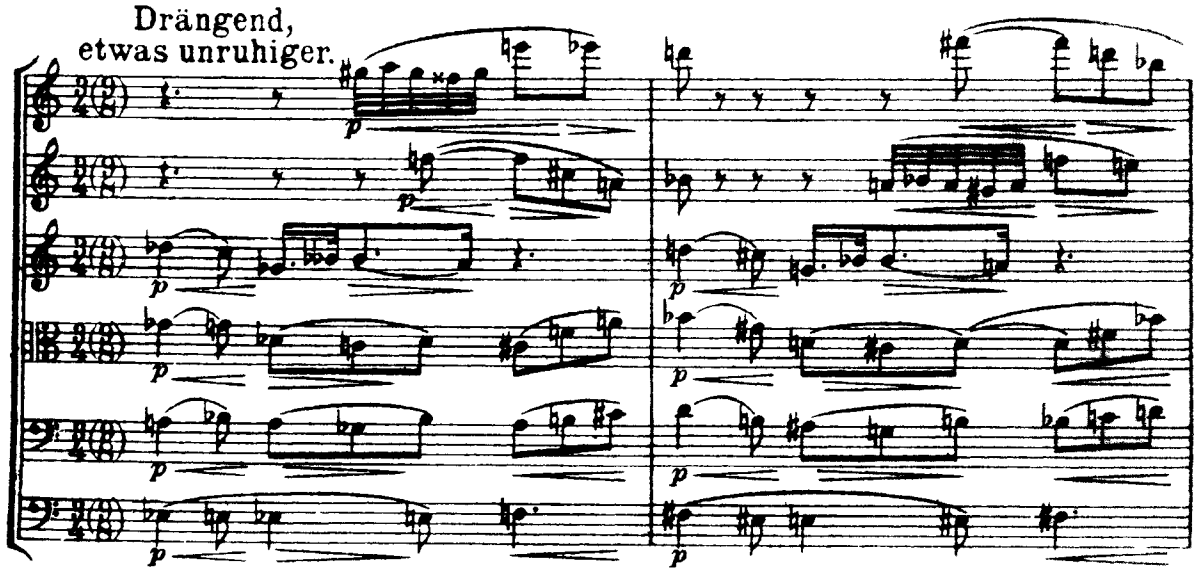

Etwas zurückhaltend.
dim. e rit.
warm
warm
Lebhafter.

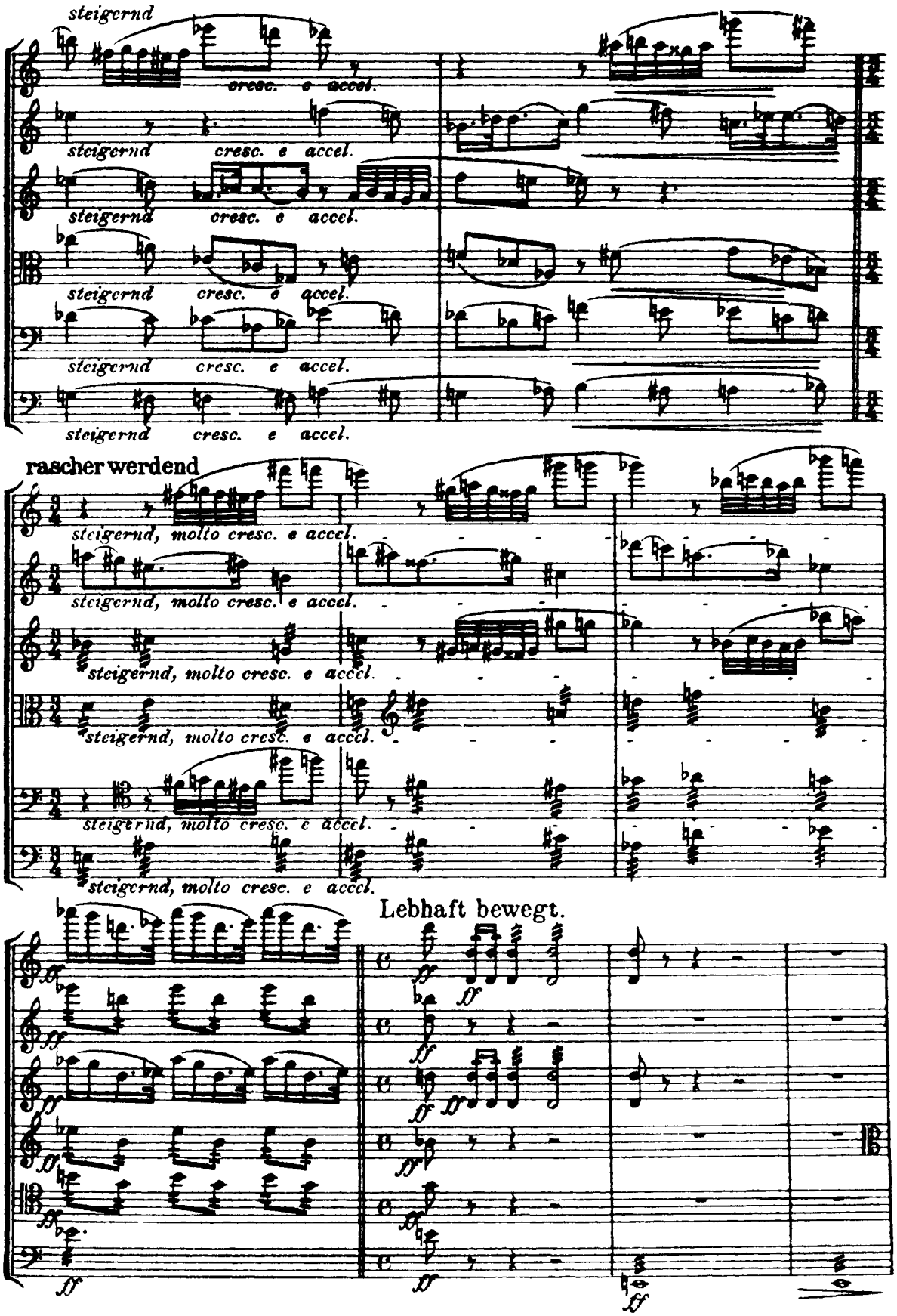

Breiter.
pdolce
pdolce
pdolce
pdolce
p

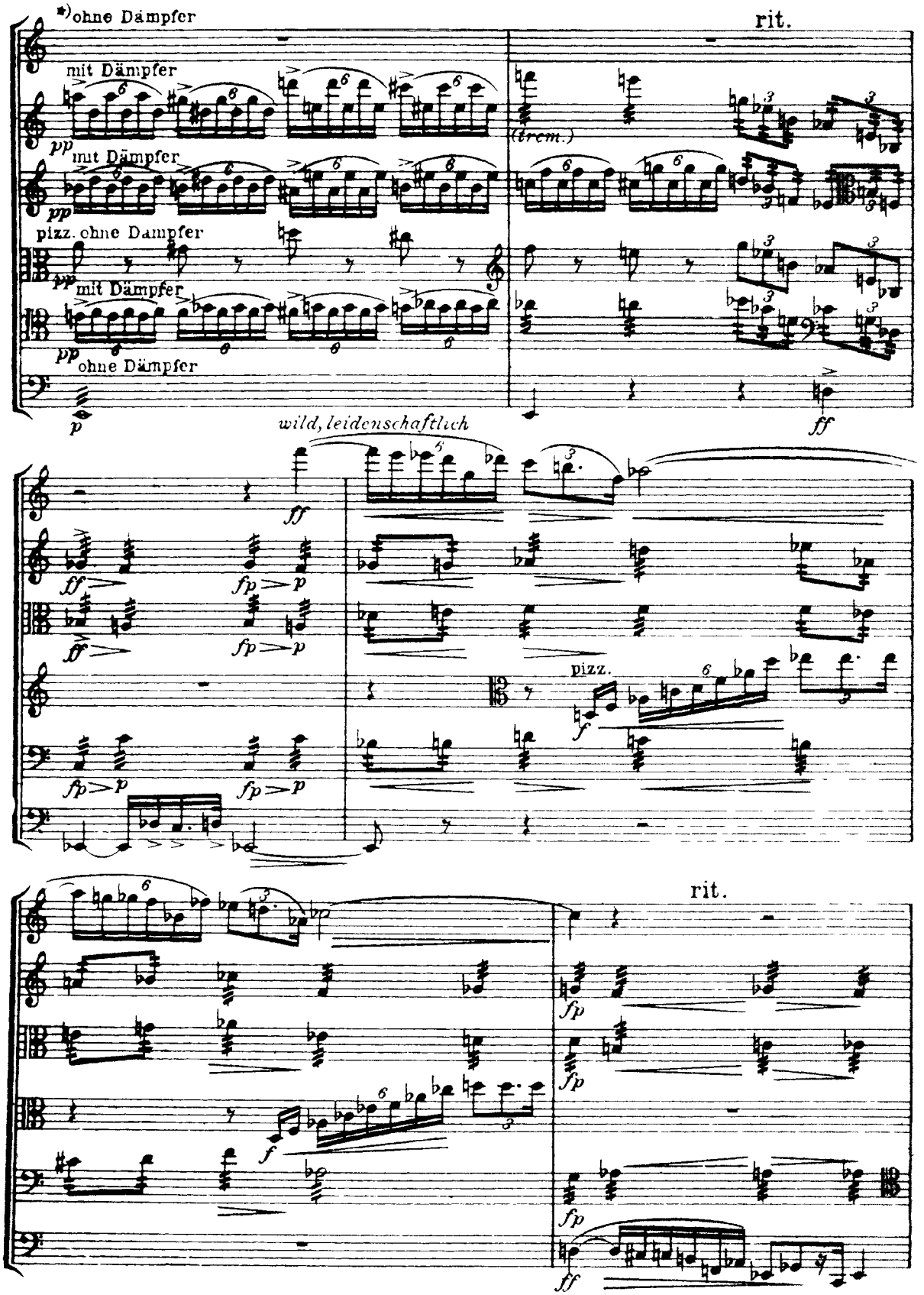

Etwas ruhiger.
pp
rit.
p
dolce
warm
hervor-
mf
cresc.
rit.
F
tretend



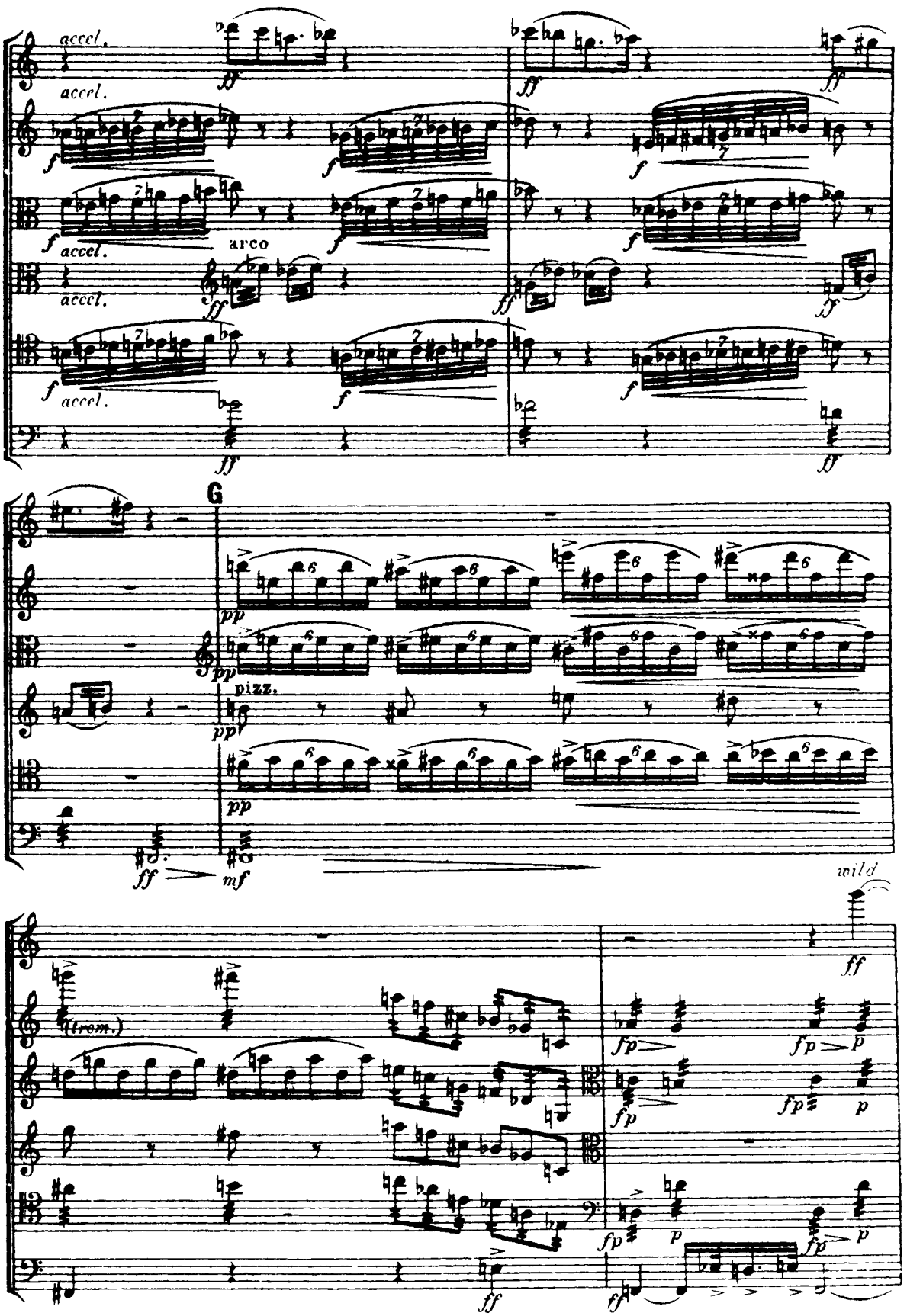

warm
warm
warm
mf
mf

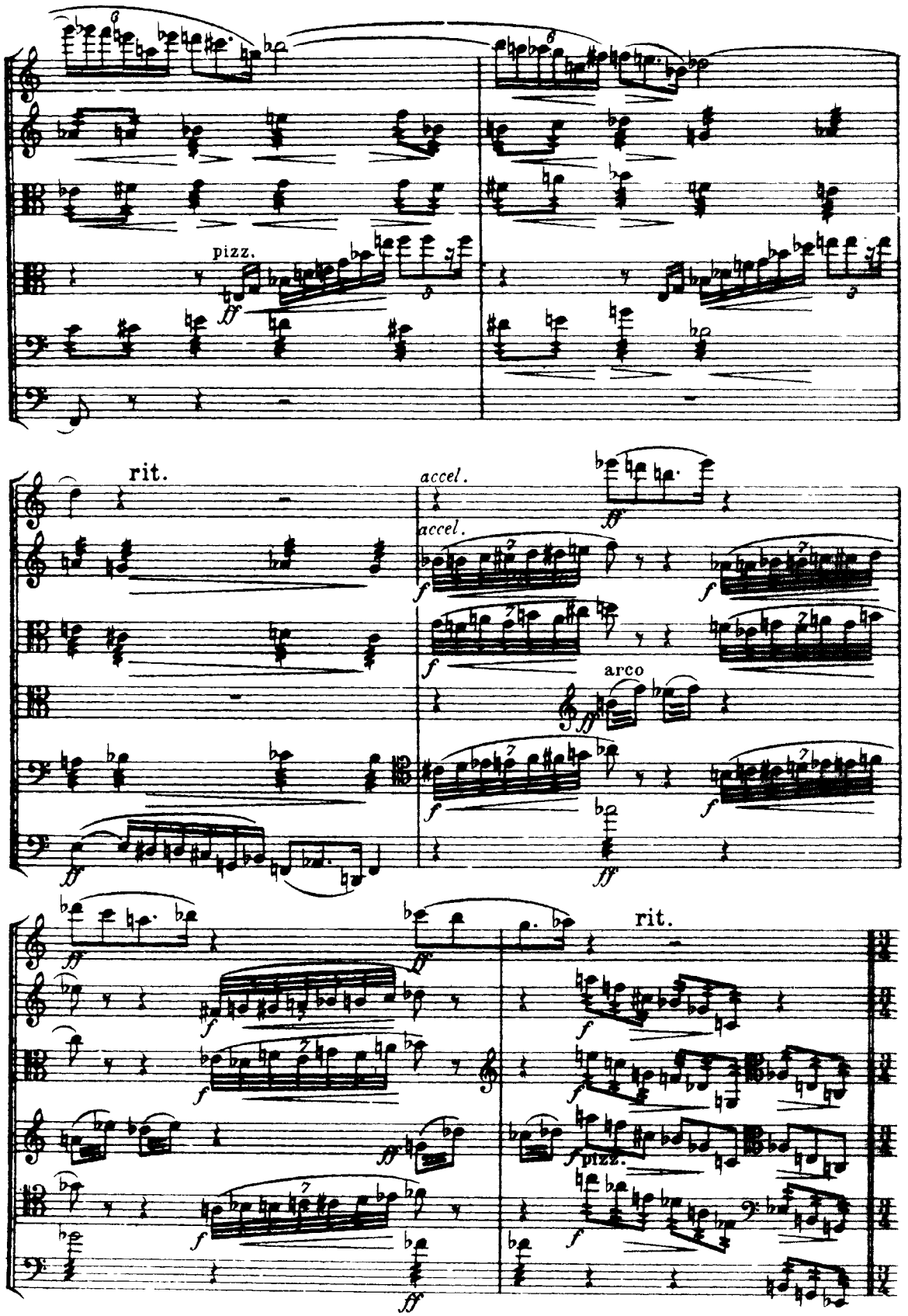

Drängend,
etwas unruhiger.

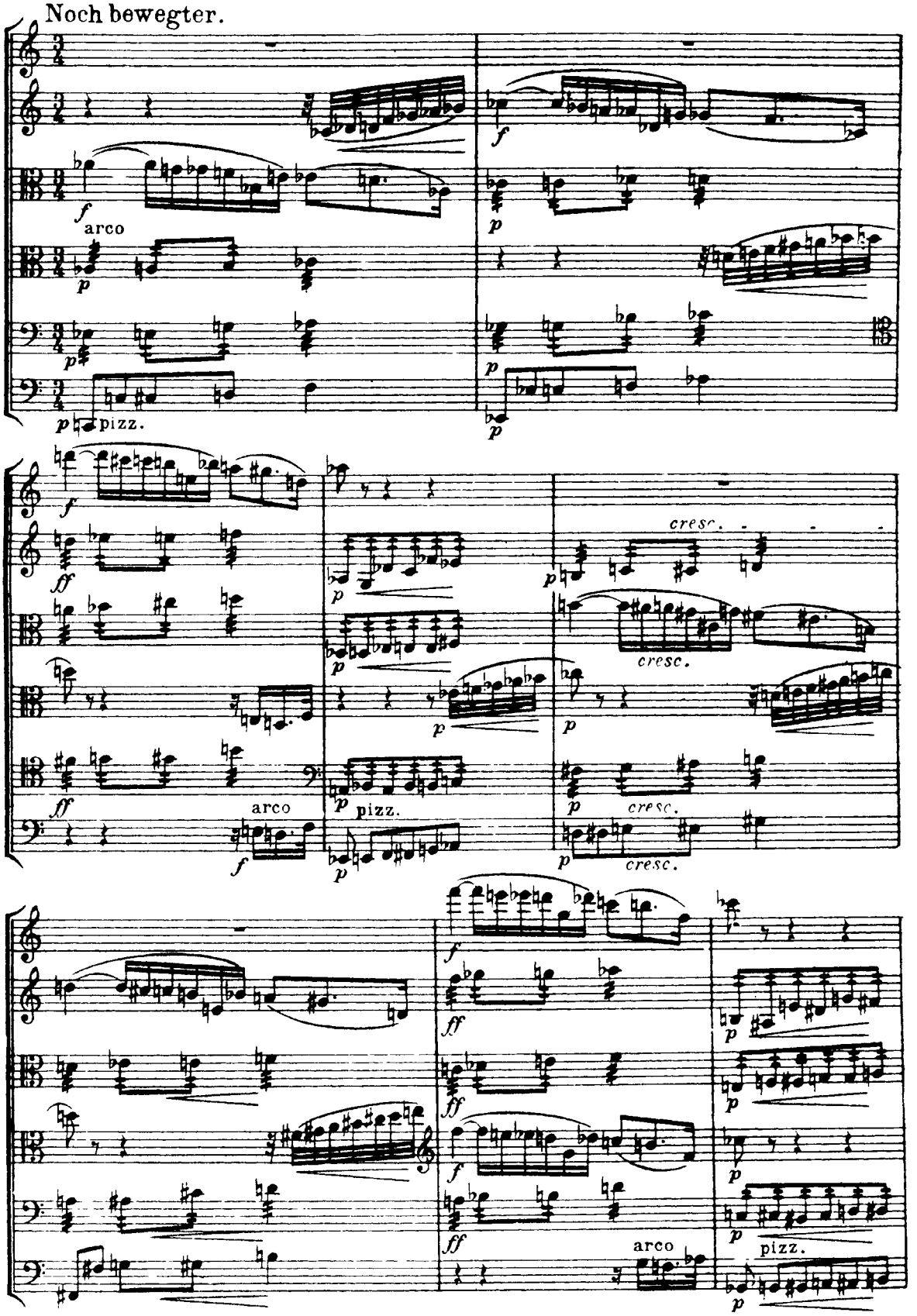

steigernd
cresc. e accel.
steigernd cresc. e accel.
steigernd cresc. e accel.
steigernd cresc. e accel.
steigernd cresc. e accel.
steigernd cresc. e accel.
rascher werdend
steigernd, molto cresc. e accel.
steigernd, molto cresc. e accel.
steigernd, molto cresc. e accel.
steigernd, molto cresc. e accel.
steigernd, molto cresc. e accel.
steigernd, molto cresc. e accel.
Lebhaft bewegt.
ff

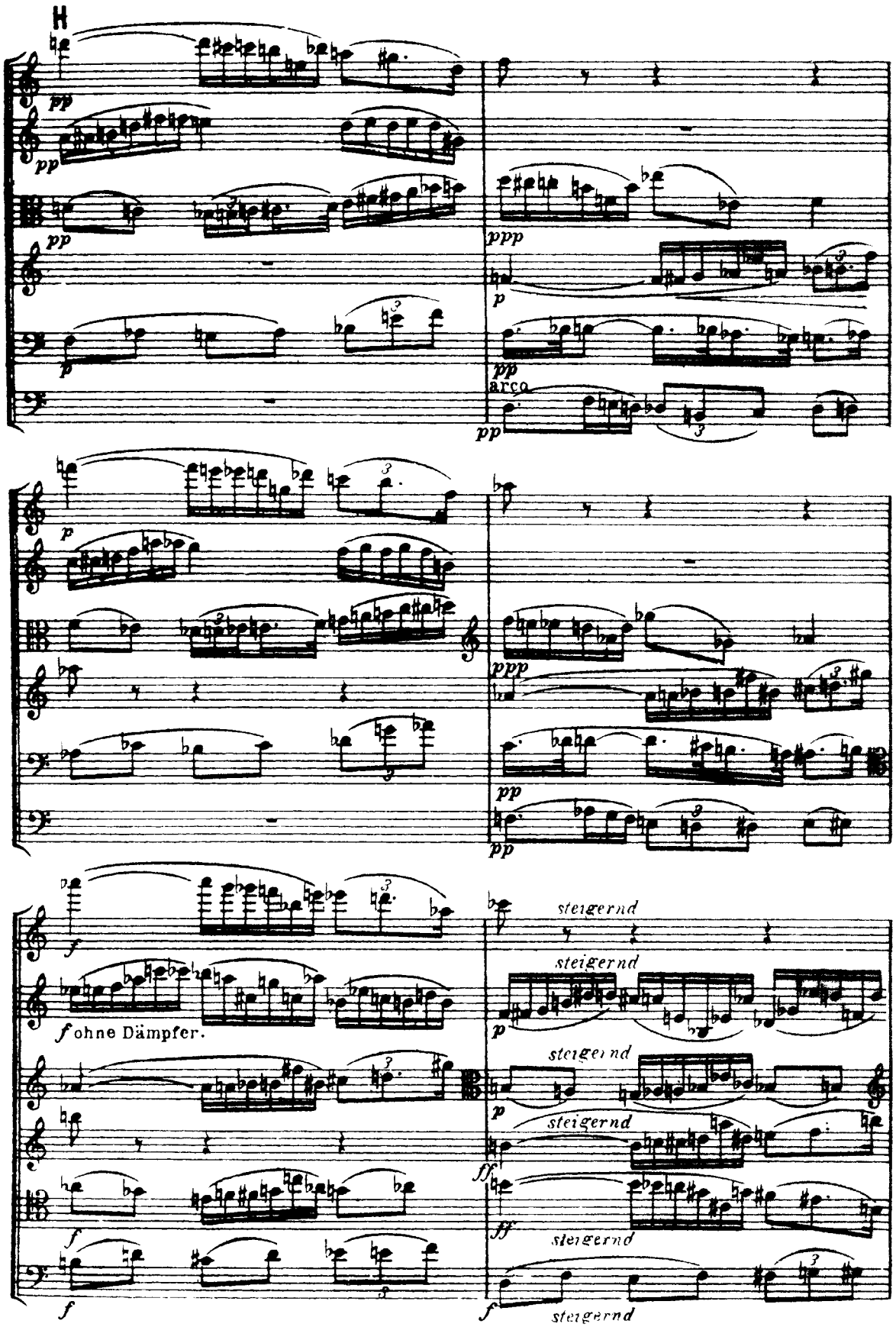


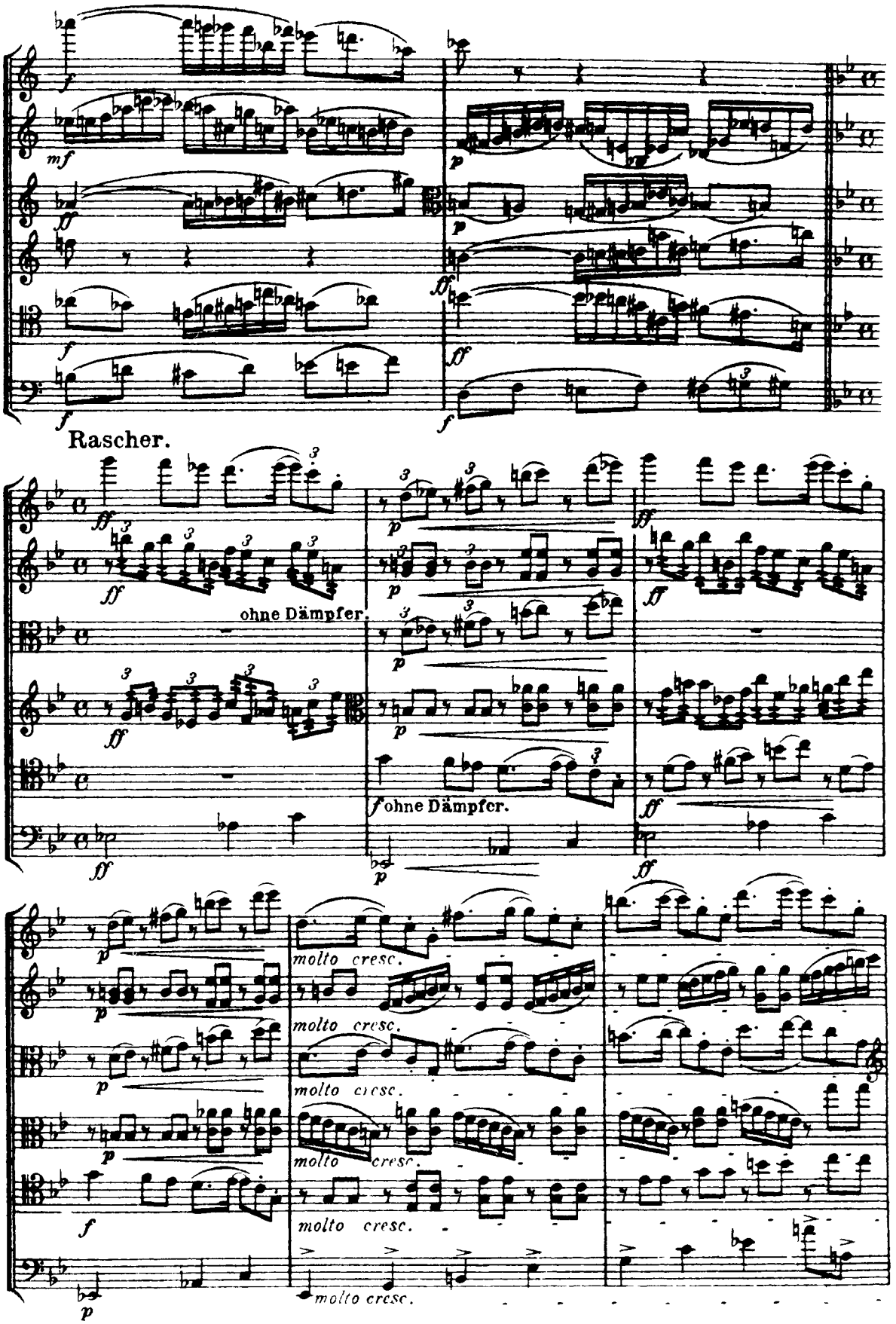
*) 1. Geige, 2. Bratsche u. 2 Cello spielen ohne Dämpfer; 2. Geige, 1. Bratsche u 1 Cello mit Dämpfer

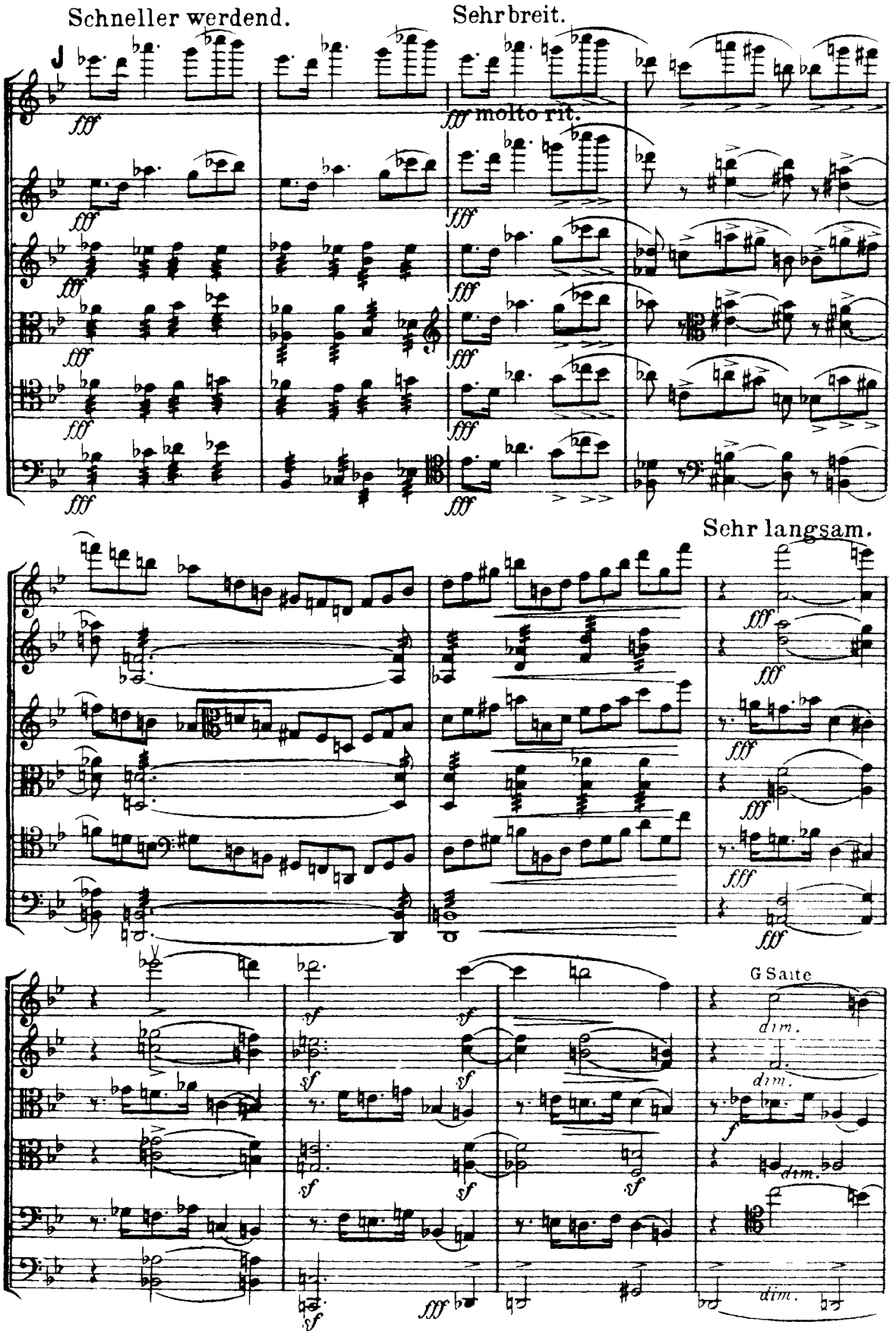

accel.
accel.
arco
accel.
accel.
accel.
G
pizz.
(trem.)
wild

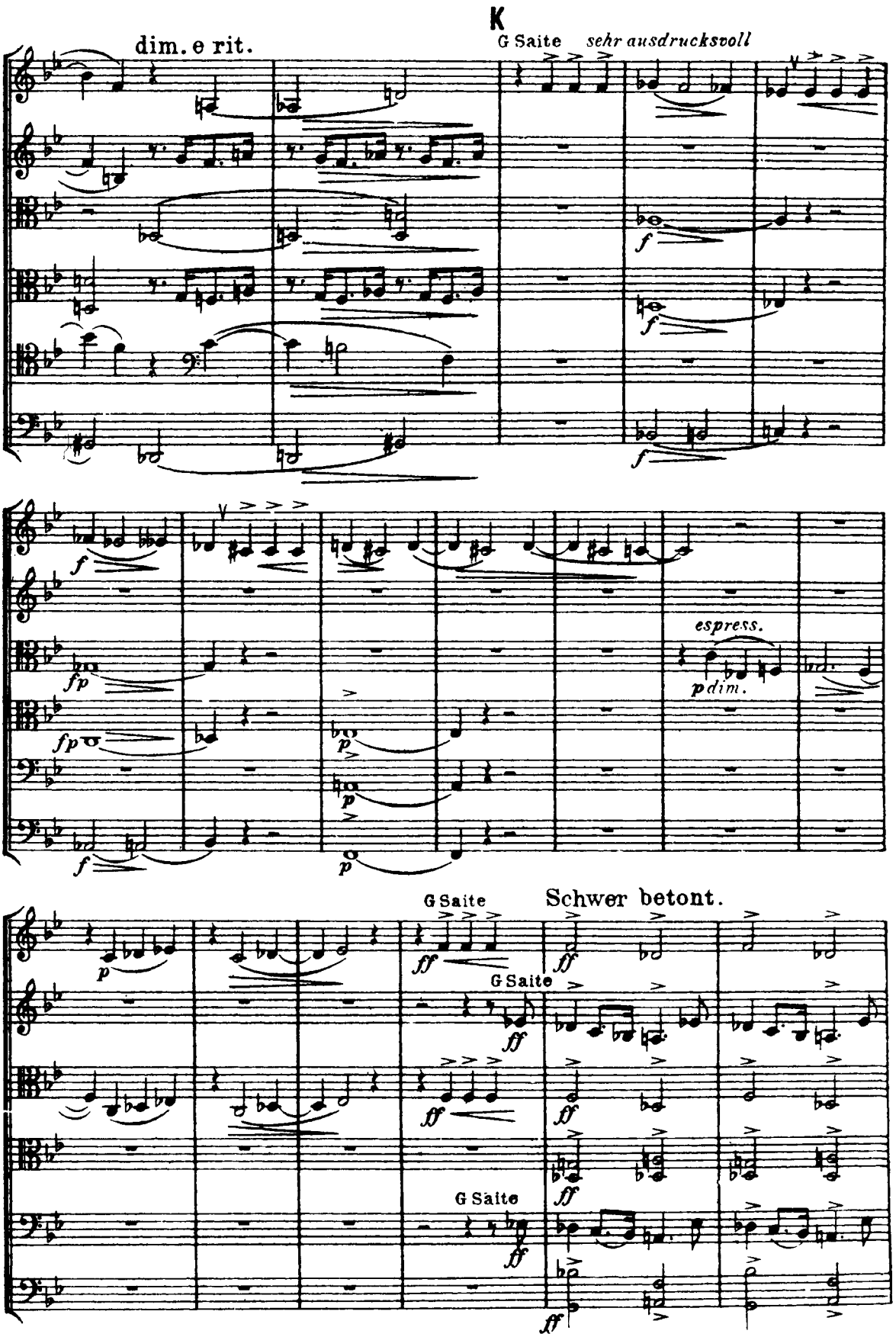

pizz.
rit.
accel.
accel.
arco
rit.
pizz.

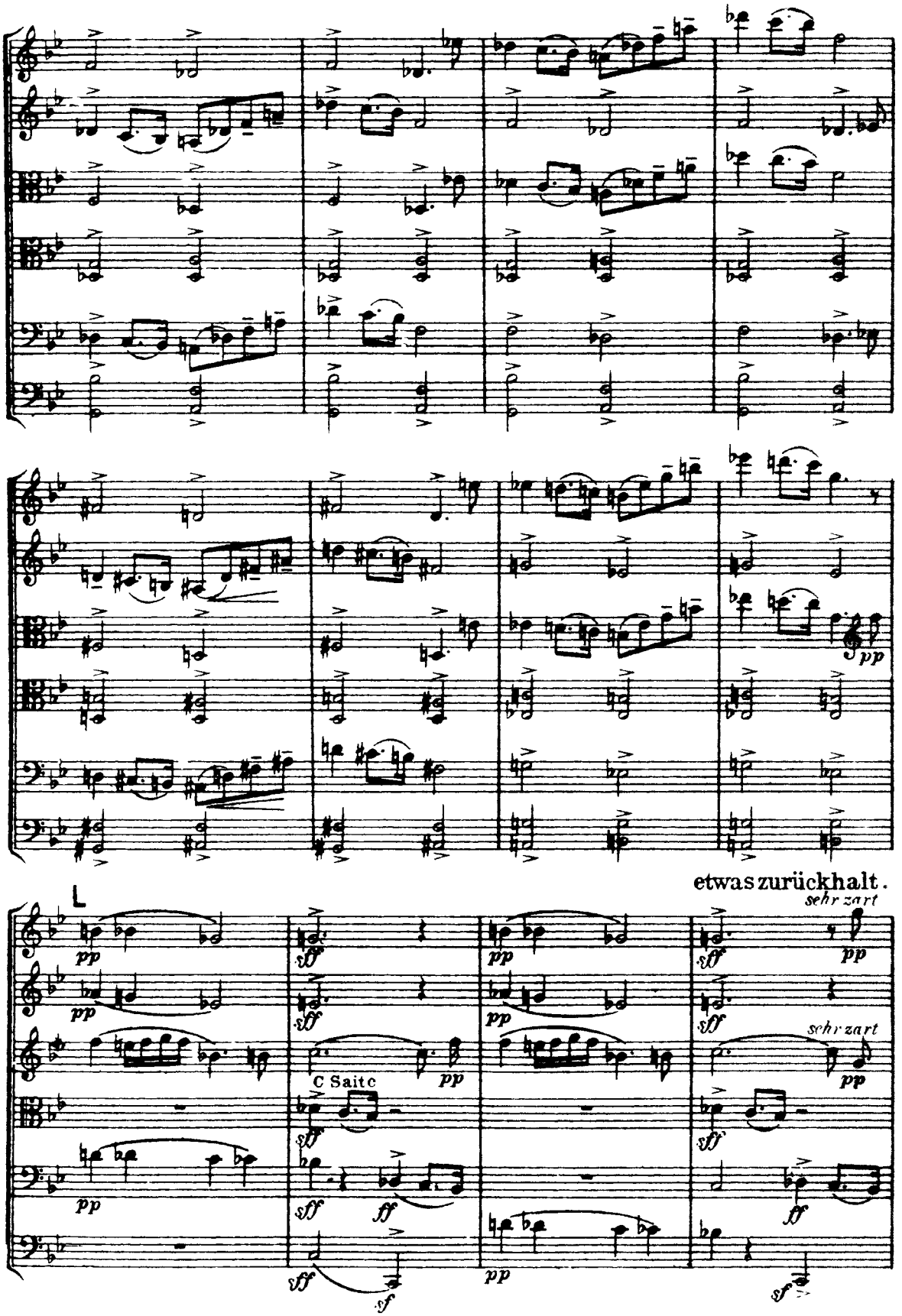

Noch bewegter.
arco
pizz.
cresc.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.

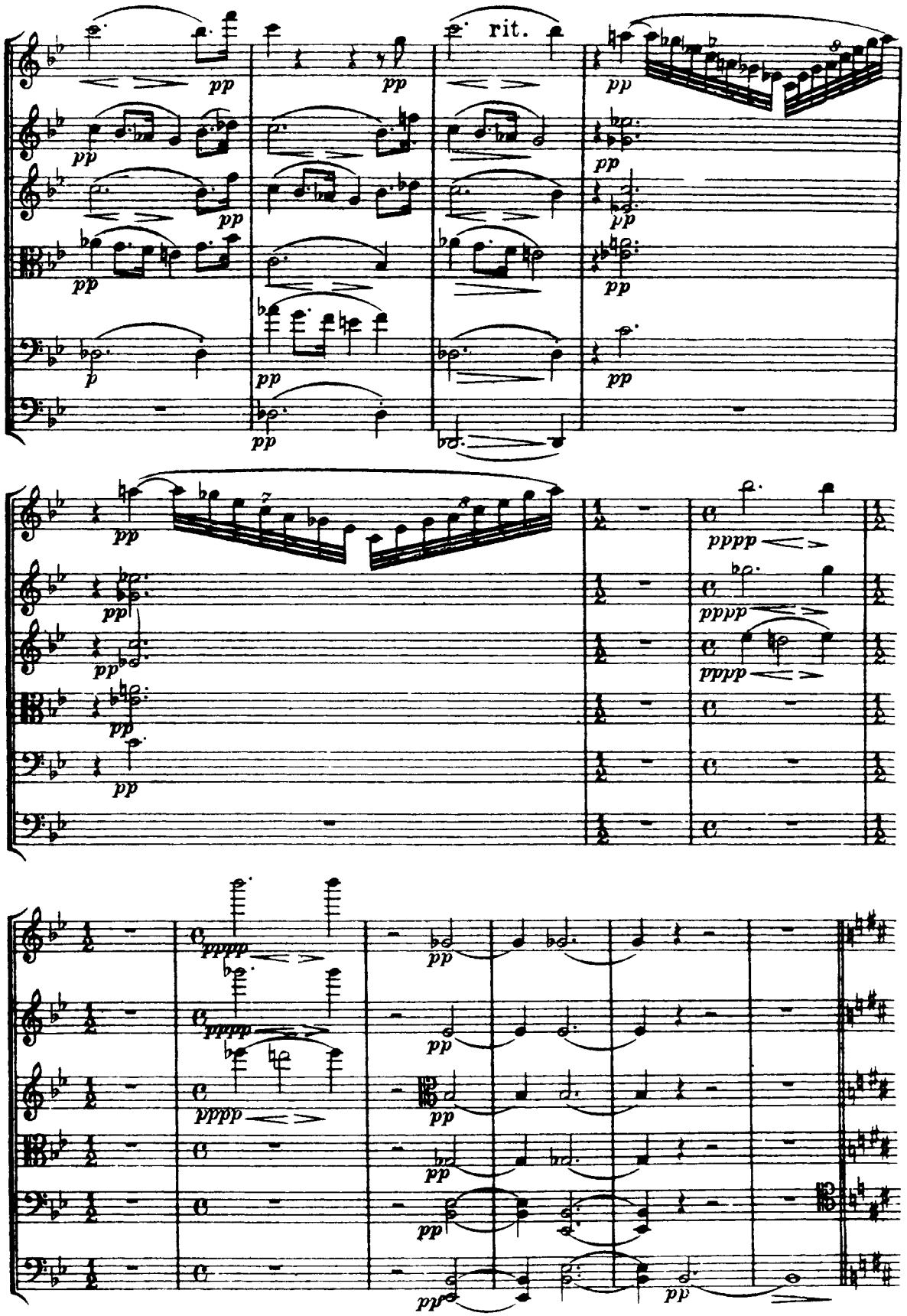

H
pp
pp
pp
p
ppp
p
pp
arco
pp
p
ppp
pp
pp
f
f ohne Dämpfer.
f
f
steigernd
steigernd
p
steigernd
p
steigernd
ff
ff
steigernd
f
steigernd

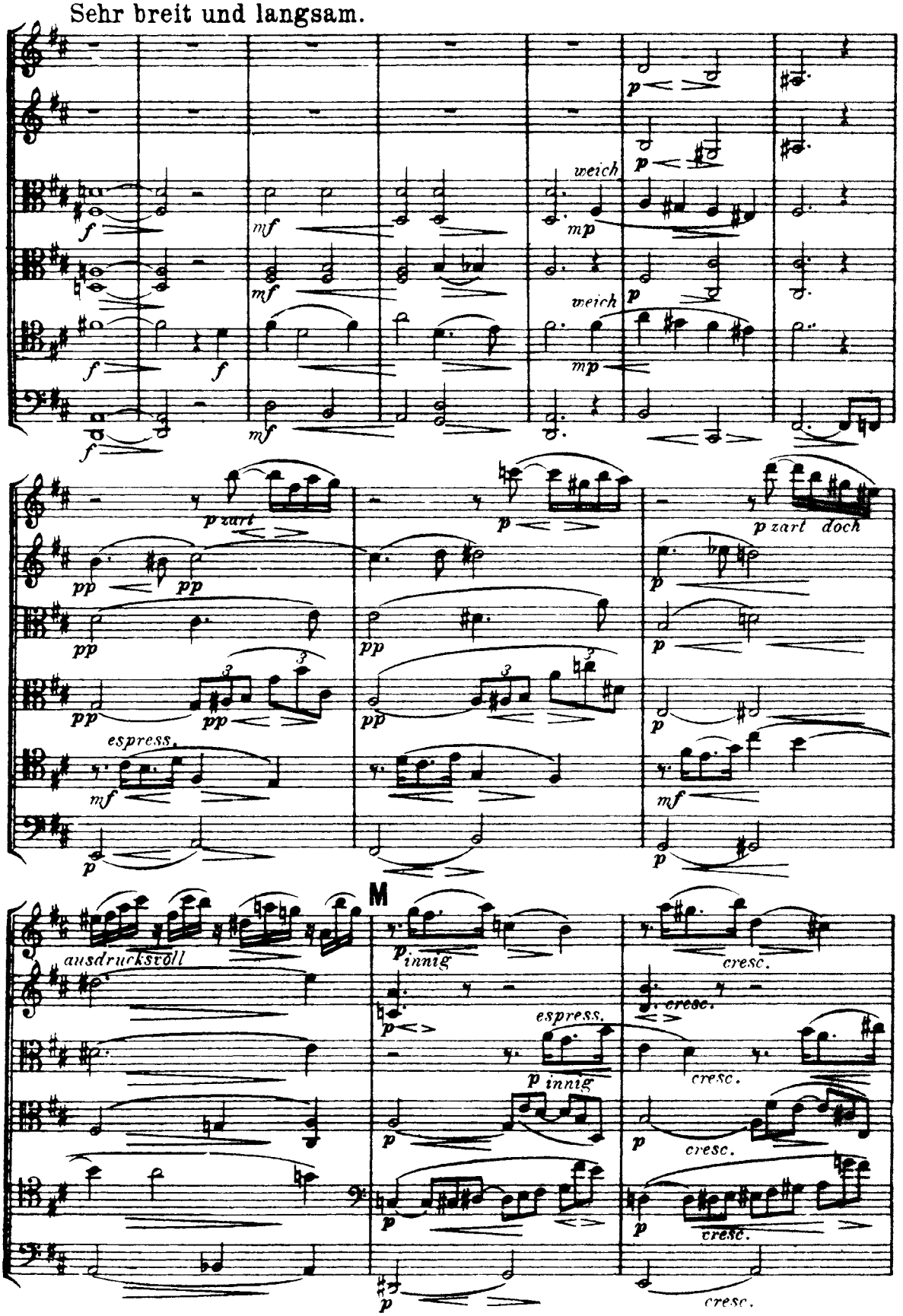

Rascher.
ohne Dämpfer.
ohne Dämpfer.
molto cresc.
molto cresc.
molto cresc.
molto cresc.
molto cresc.

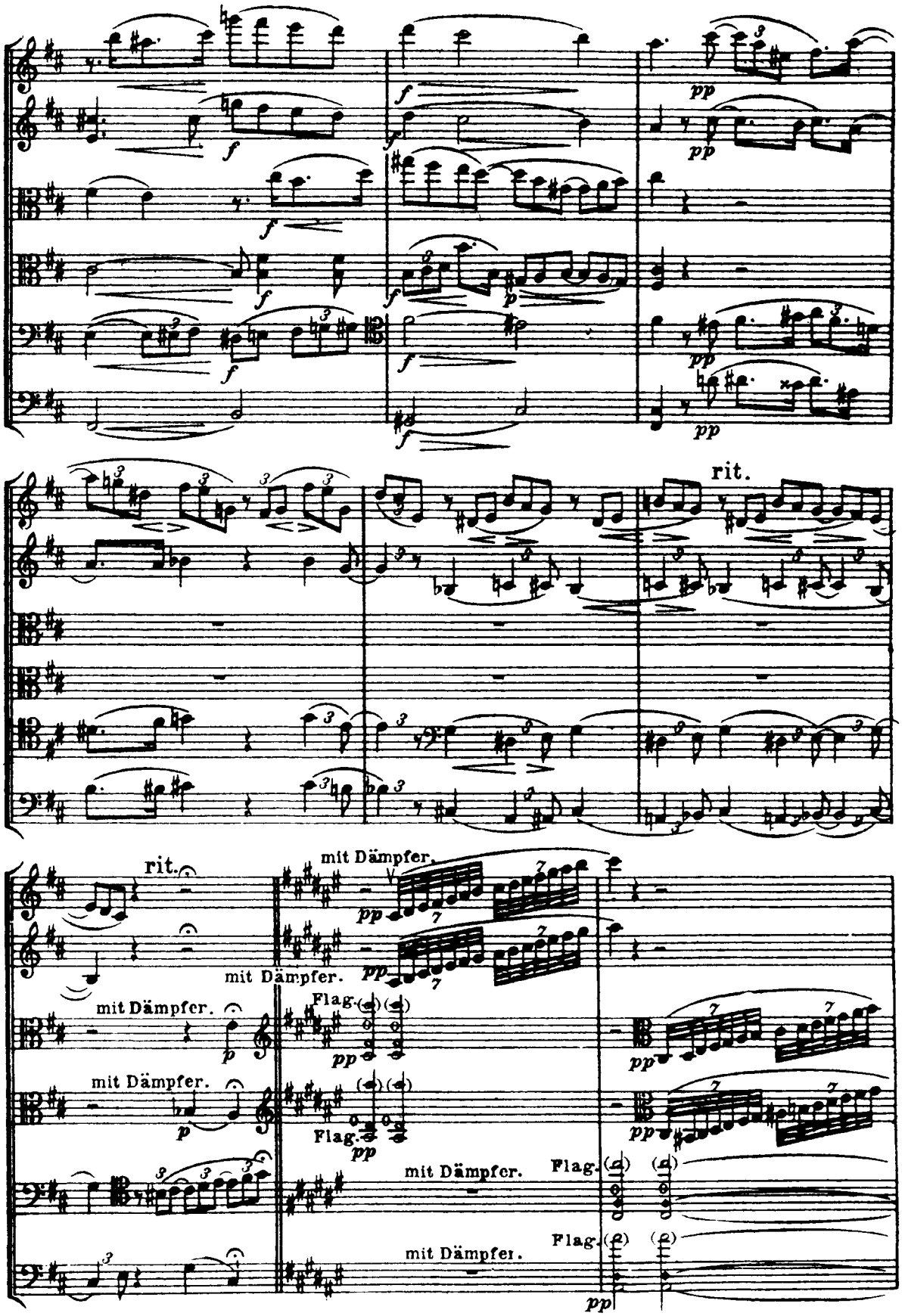

Schneller werdend.
Sehr breit.
molto rit.
Sehr langsam.
G Saite
dim.

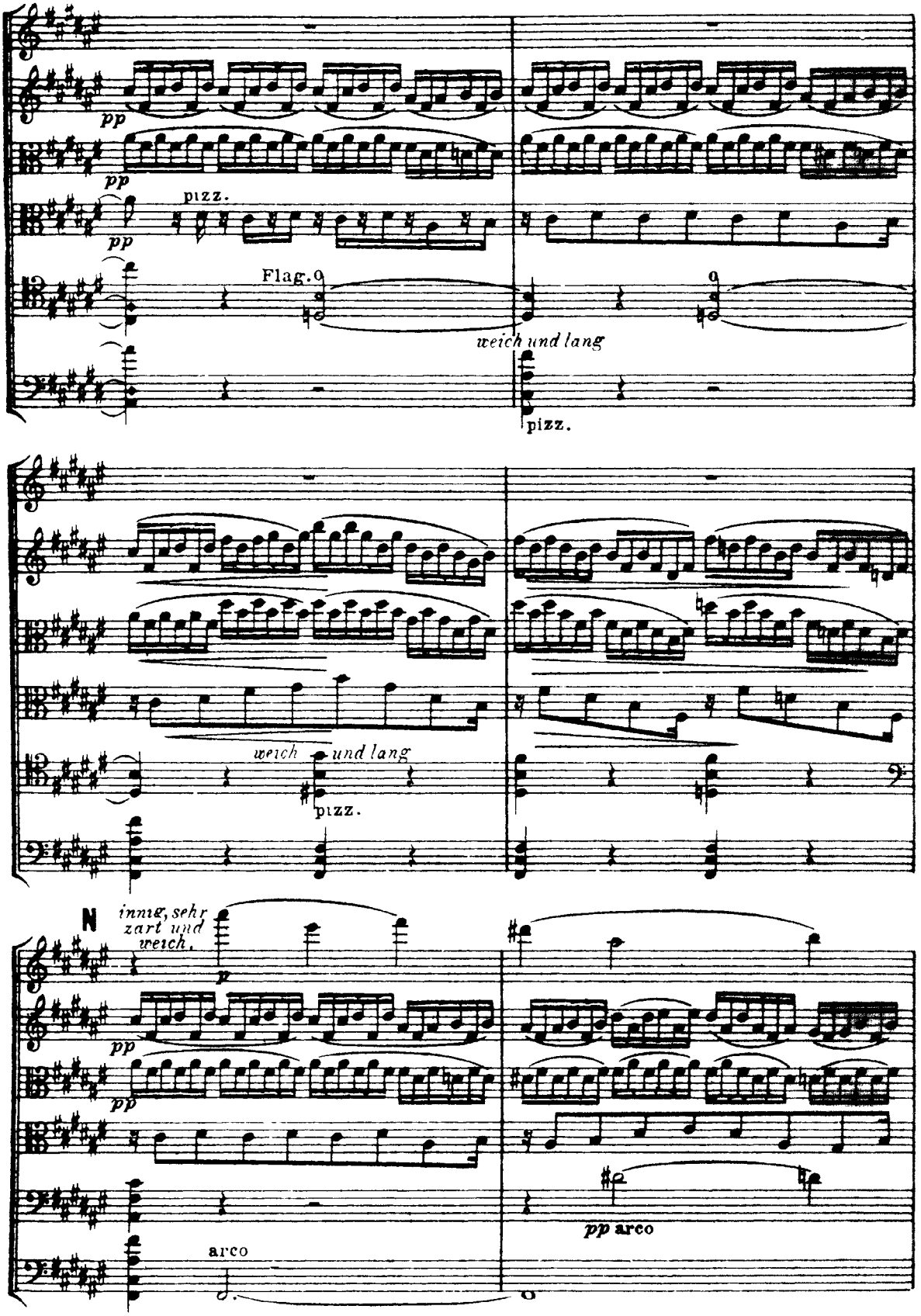

K
dim. e rit.
G Saite
sehr ausdrucksvoll
espress.
pdim.
G Saite
Schwer betont.
G Saite
G Saite

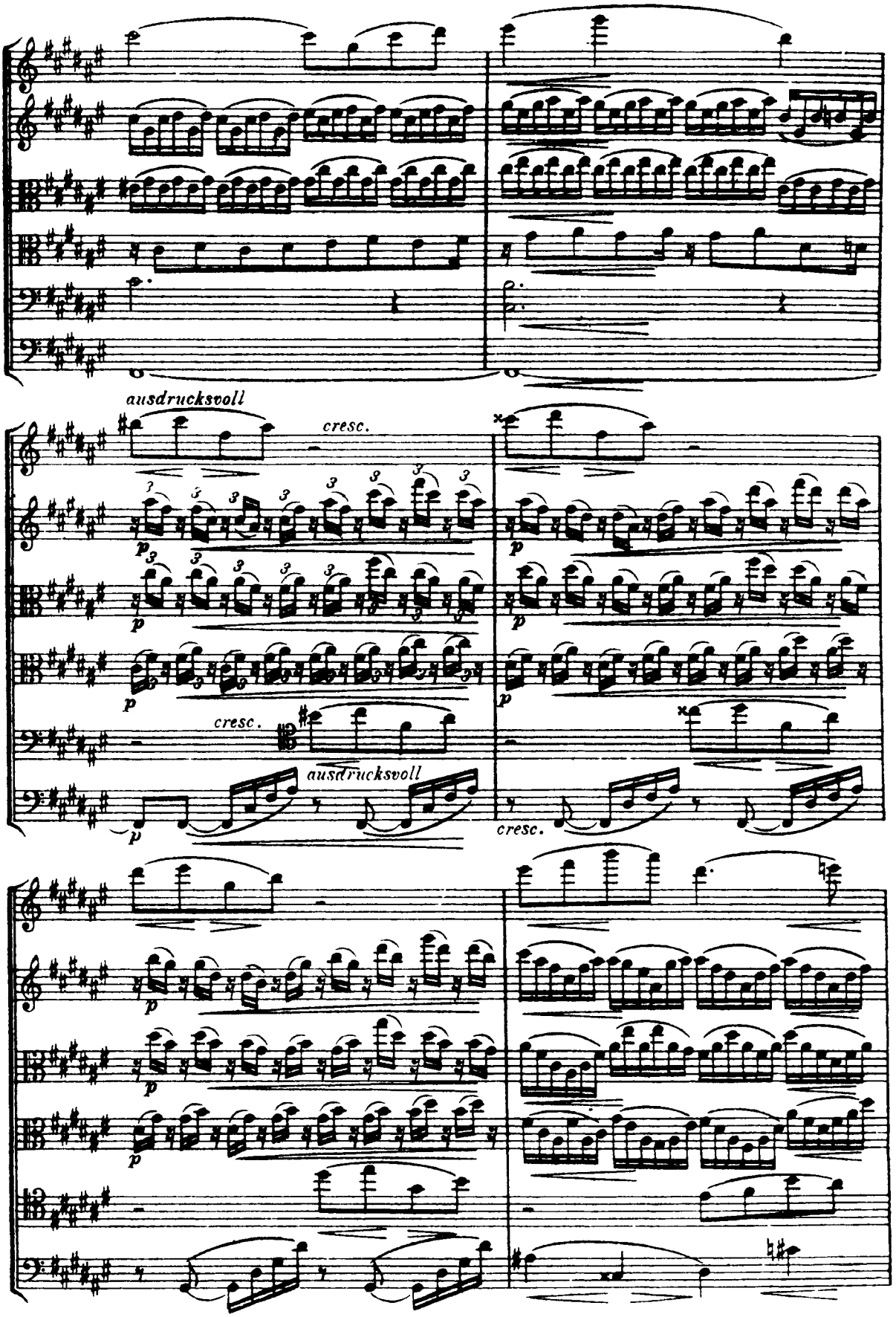

pp
etwas zurückhalt.
sehr zart
L
sff
C Saite
ff
sf

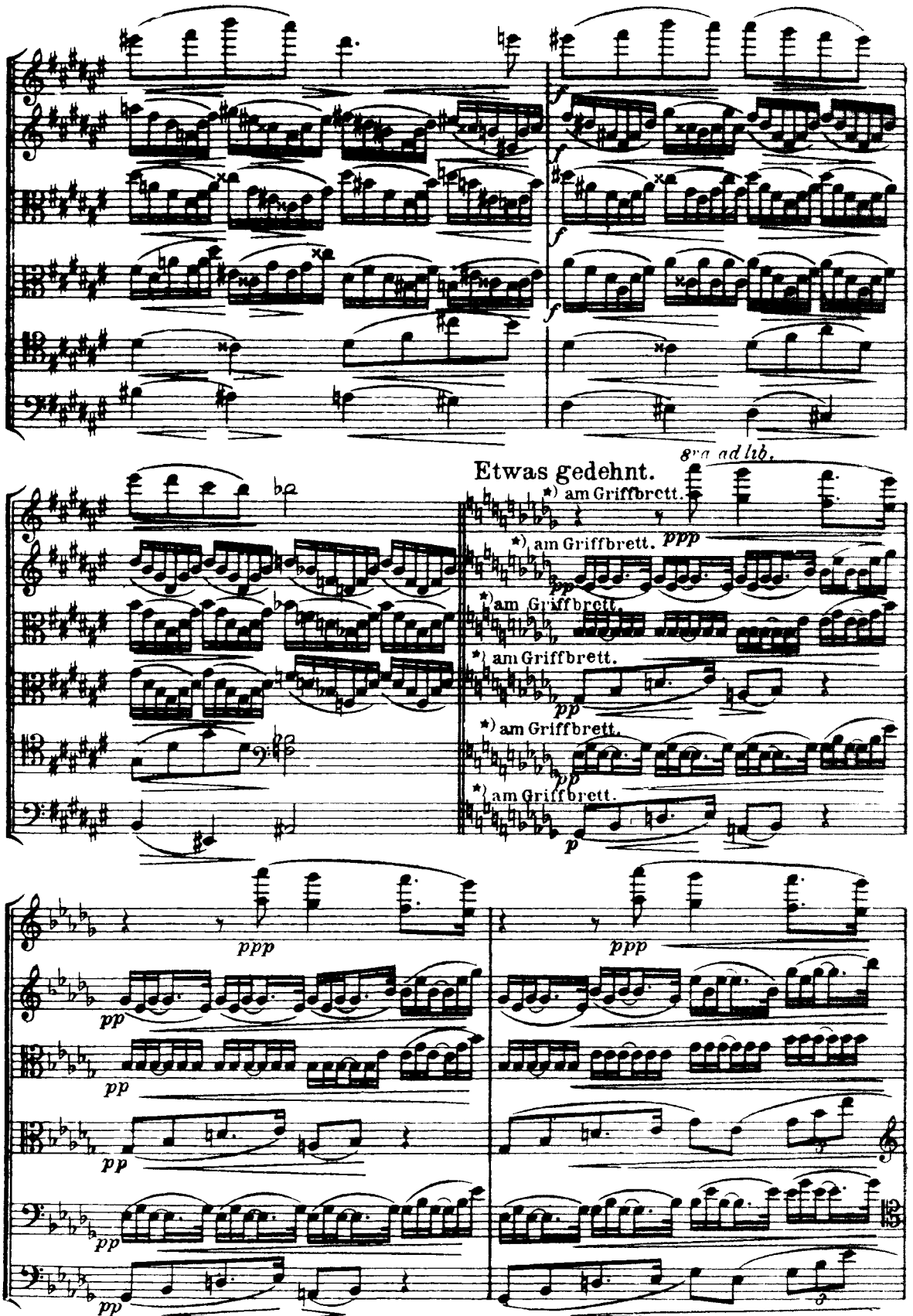

rit.
pp
p
pppp
ppppp


Sehr breit und langsam.
weich
p zart
p zart doch
espress.
ausdrucksvoll
M
innig
cresc.

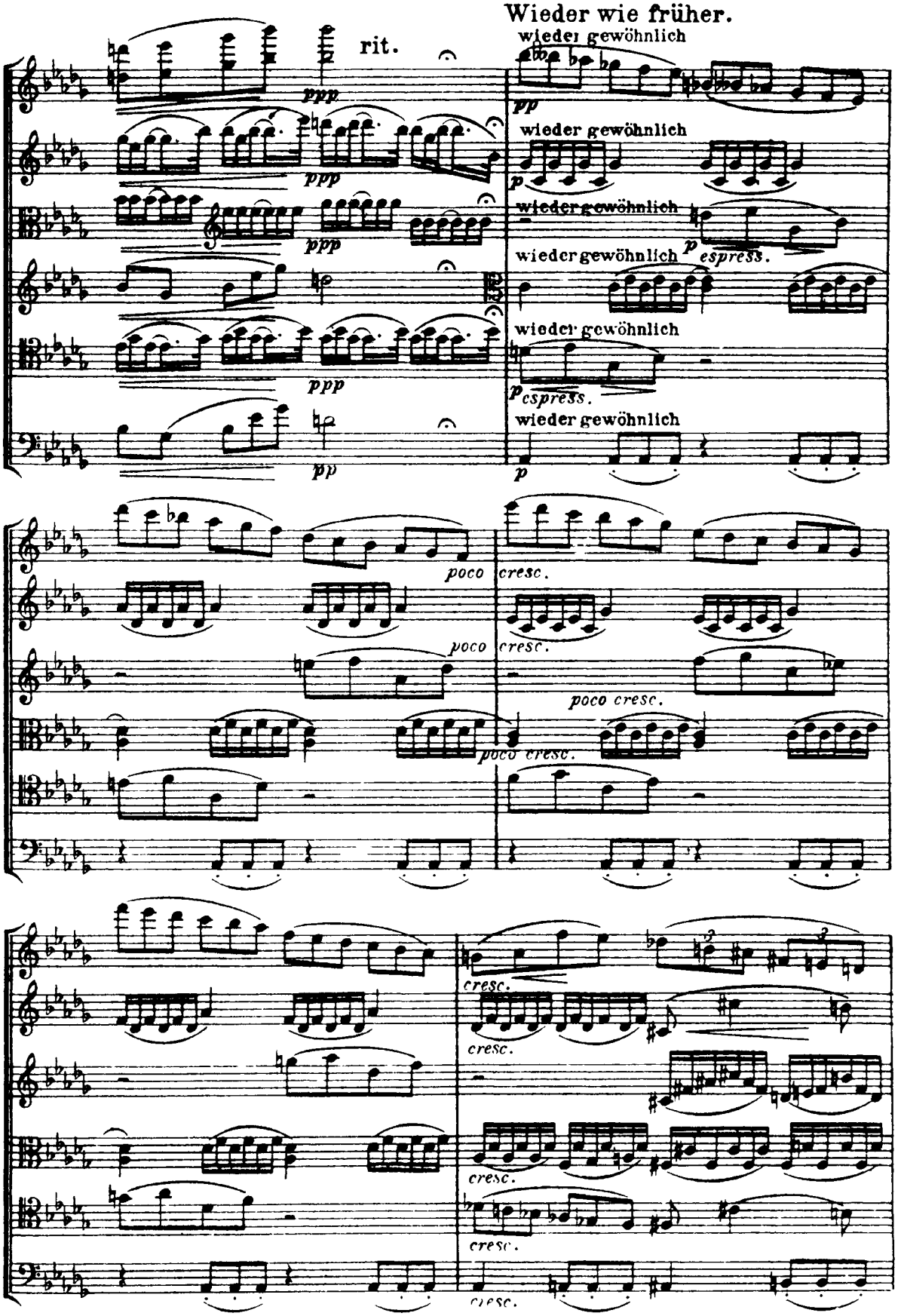

rit.
rit.
mit Dämpfer.
mit Dämpfer.
mit Dämpfer.
mit Dämpfer.
mit Dämpfer.
mit Dämpfer.
Flag.
Flag.
Flag.
Flag.

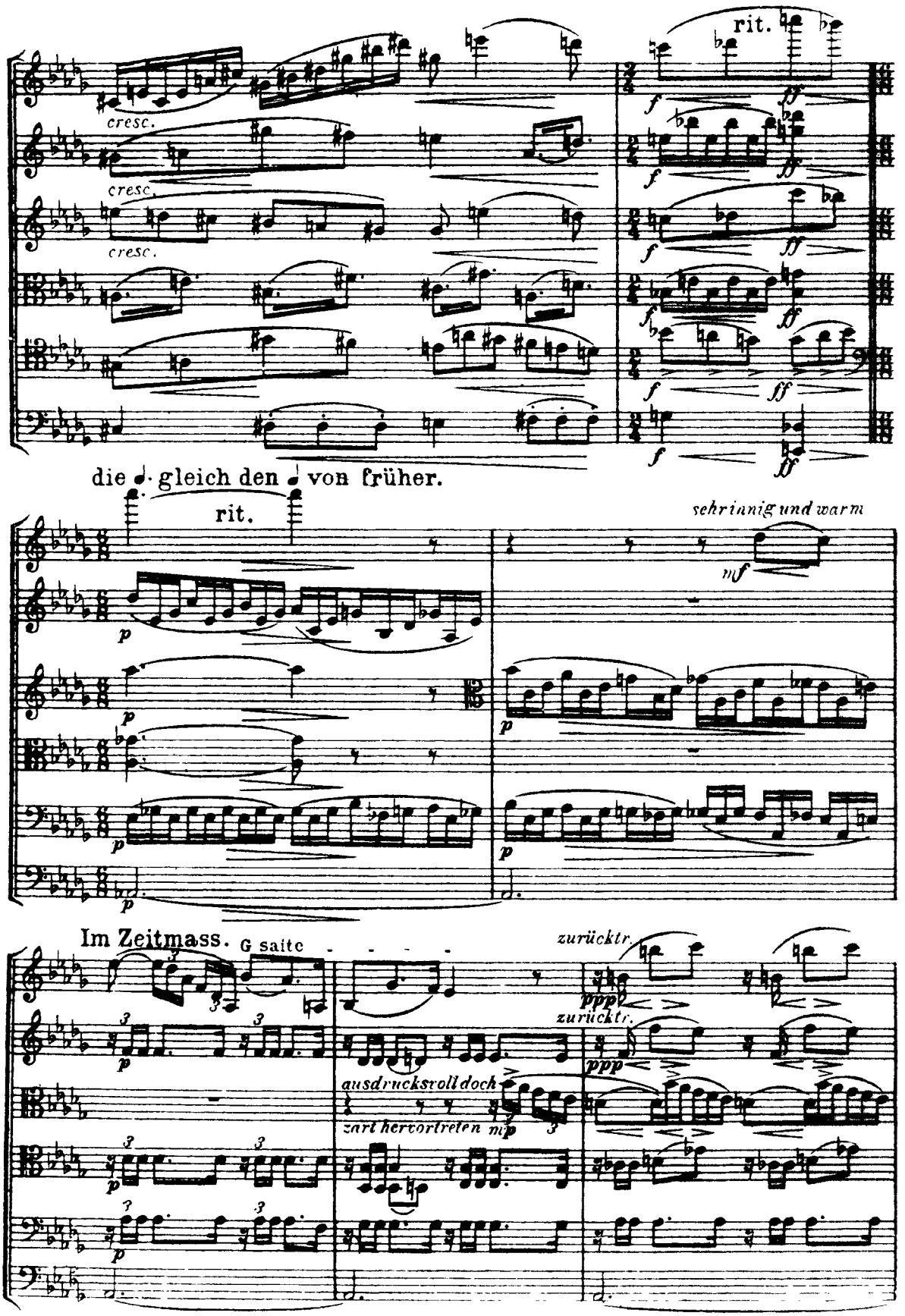

pp
pp
pizz.
pp
Flag.
weich und lang
pizz.
weich und lang
pizz.
N
innig, sehr zart und weich.
p
pp
pp
arco
pp arco

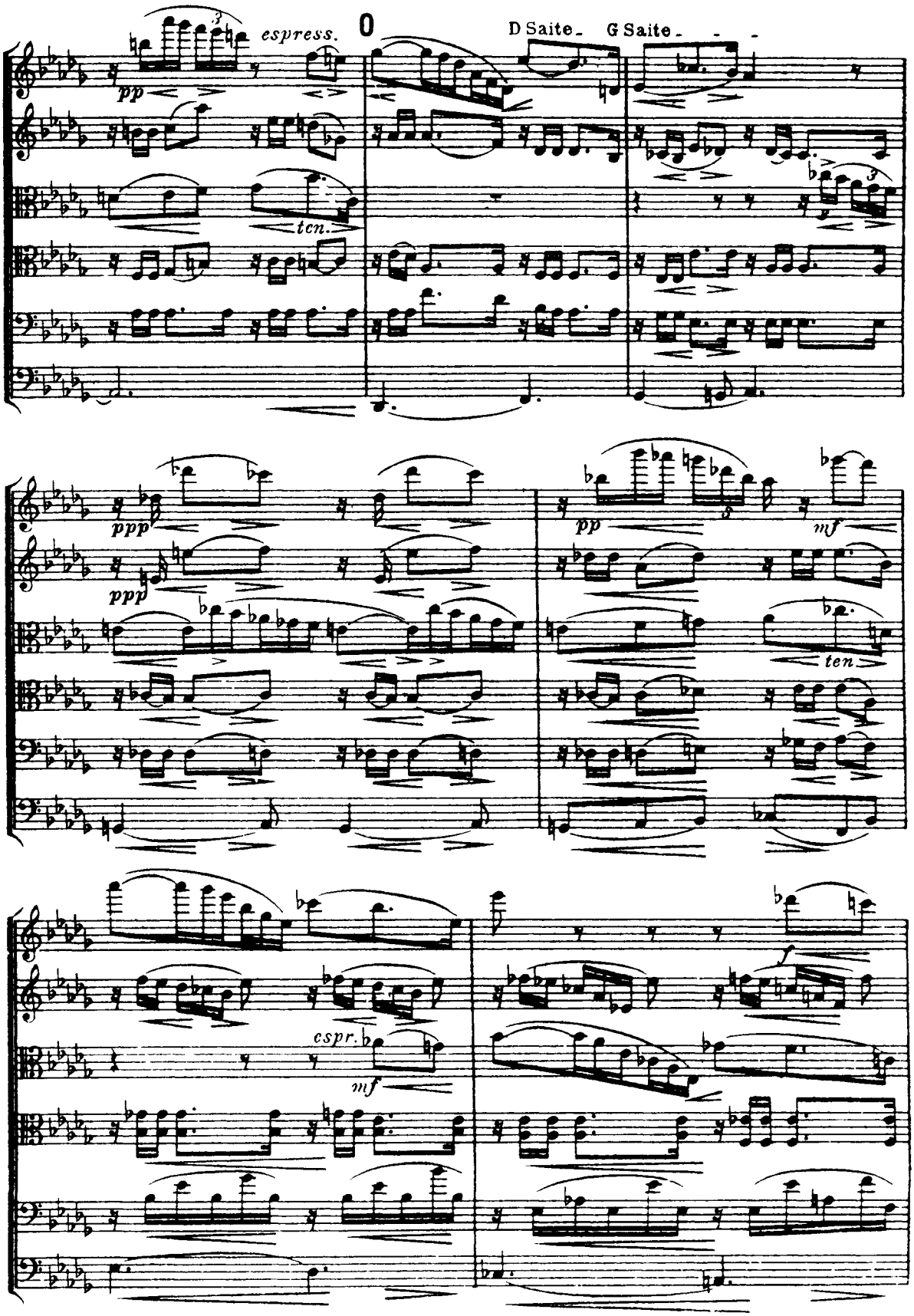

ausdrucksvoll
cresc.
p
cresc.
ausdrucksvoll
cresc.

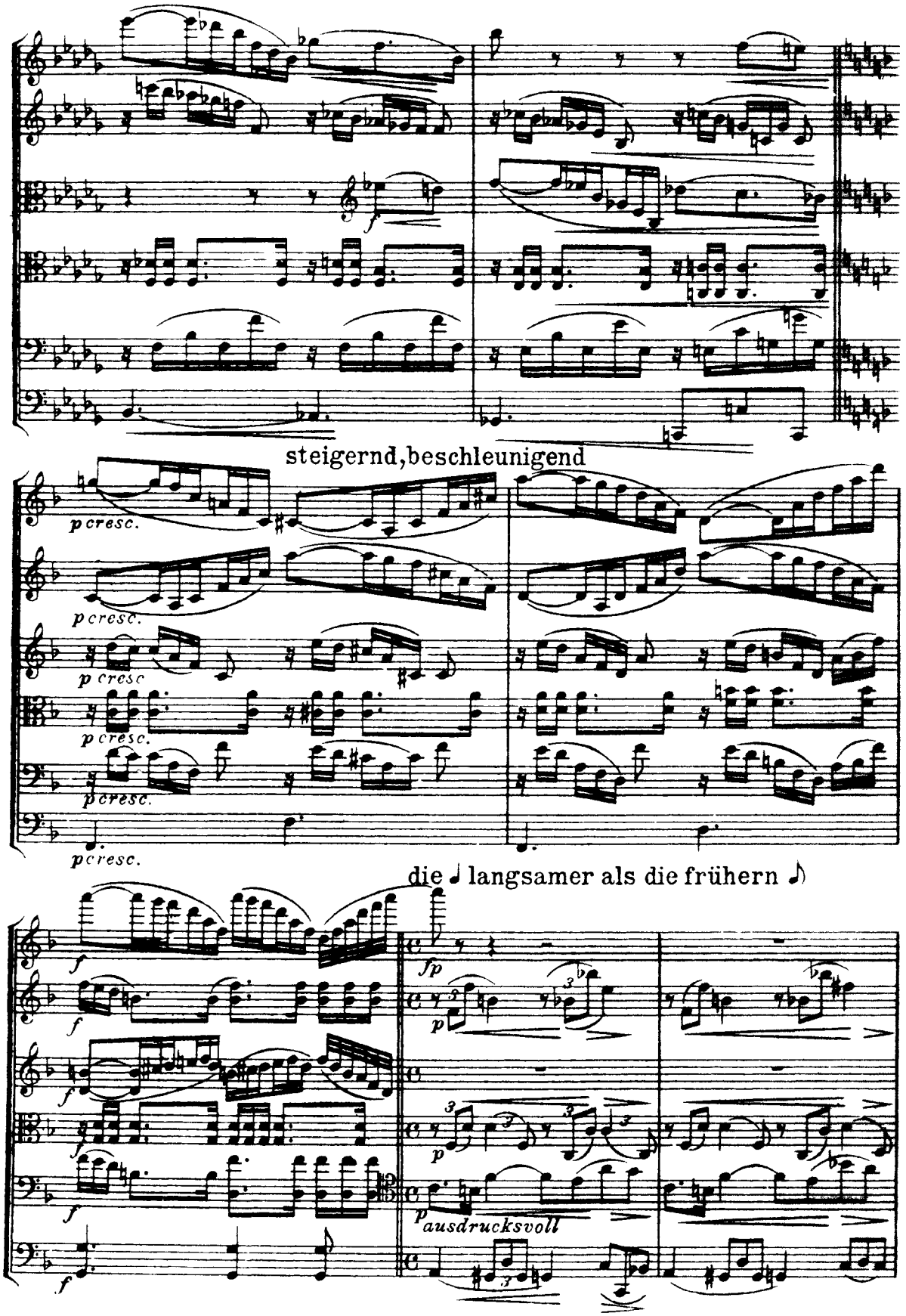


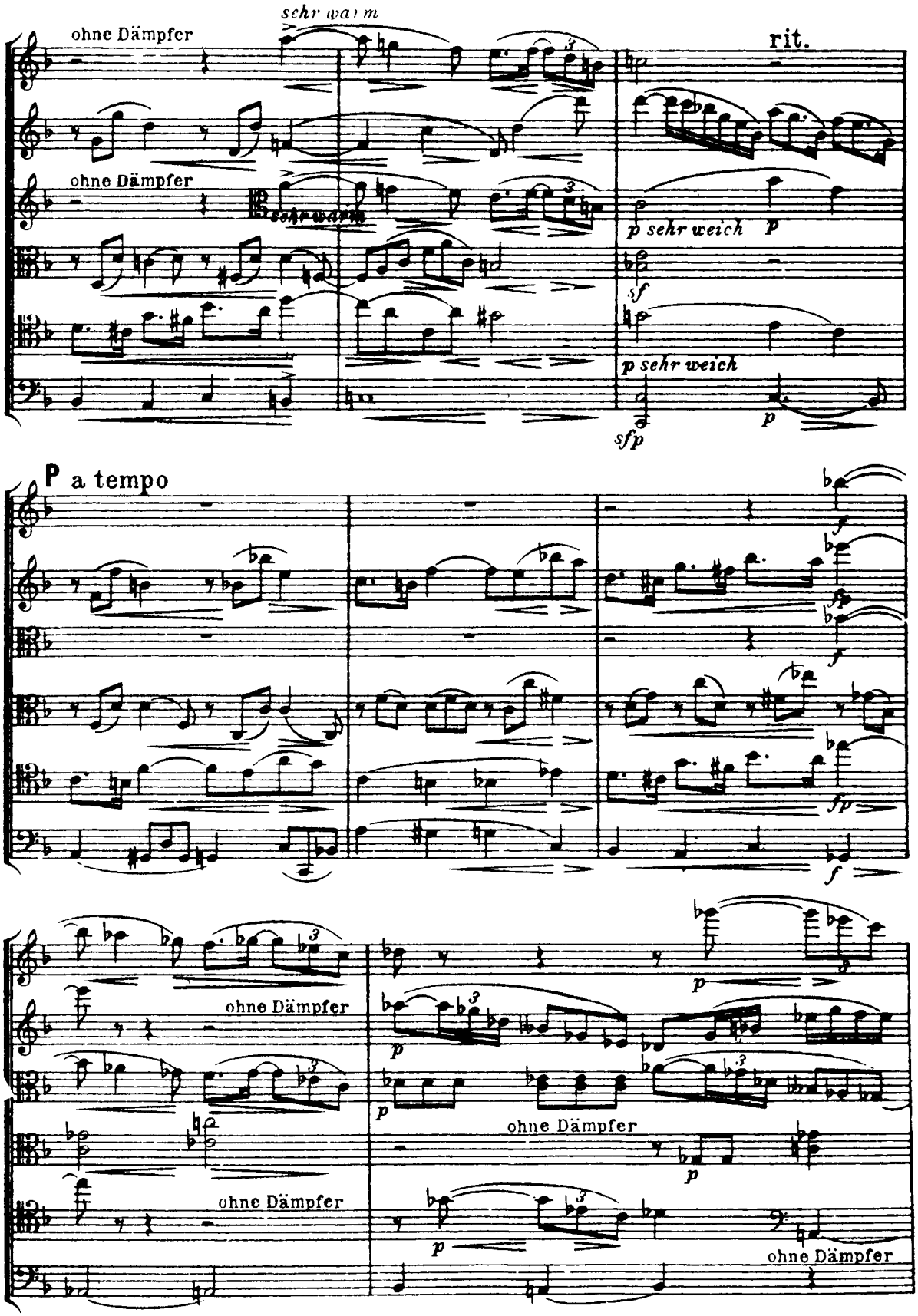
*) Von hier an die nächsten vier Takte sind „am Griffbrett" zu spielen (alle 6 Instrumente) der 5. Takt wieder gewöhnlich.

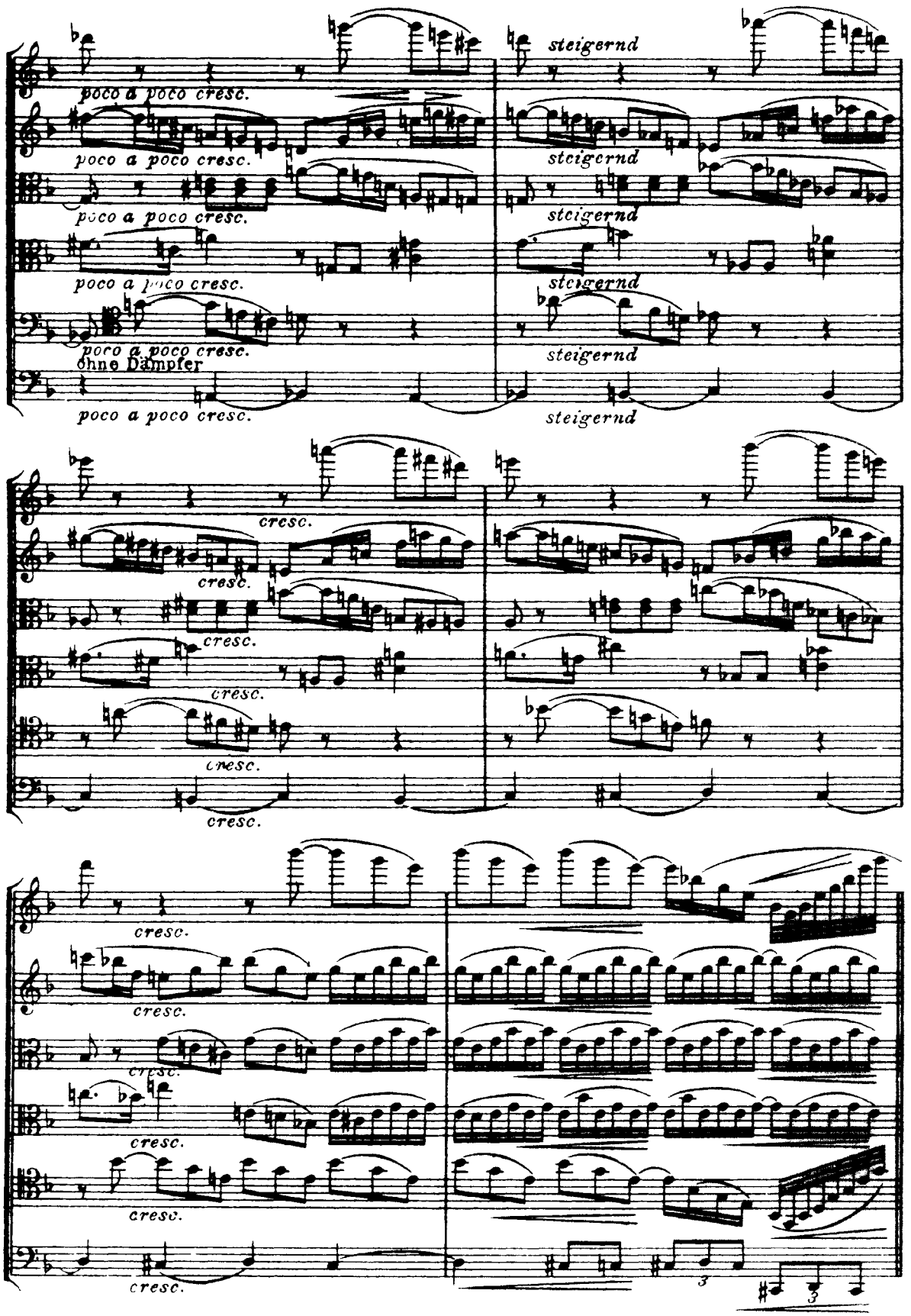

Wieder wie früher.
rit.
wieder gewöhnlich
wieder gewöhnlich
wieder gewöhnlich
wieder gewöhnlich
wieder gewöhnlich
wieder gewöhnlich
espress.
espress.
ppp
ppp
ppp
pp
pp
p
p
p
poco
poco
cresc.
cresc.
poco cresc.
poco cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.

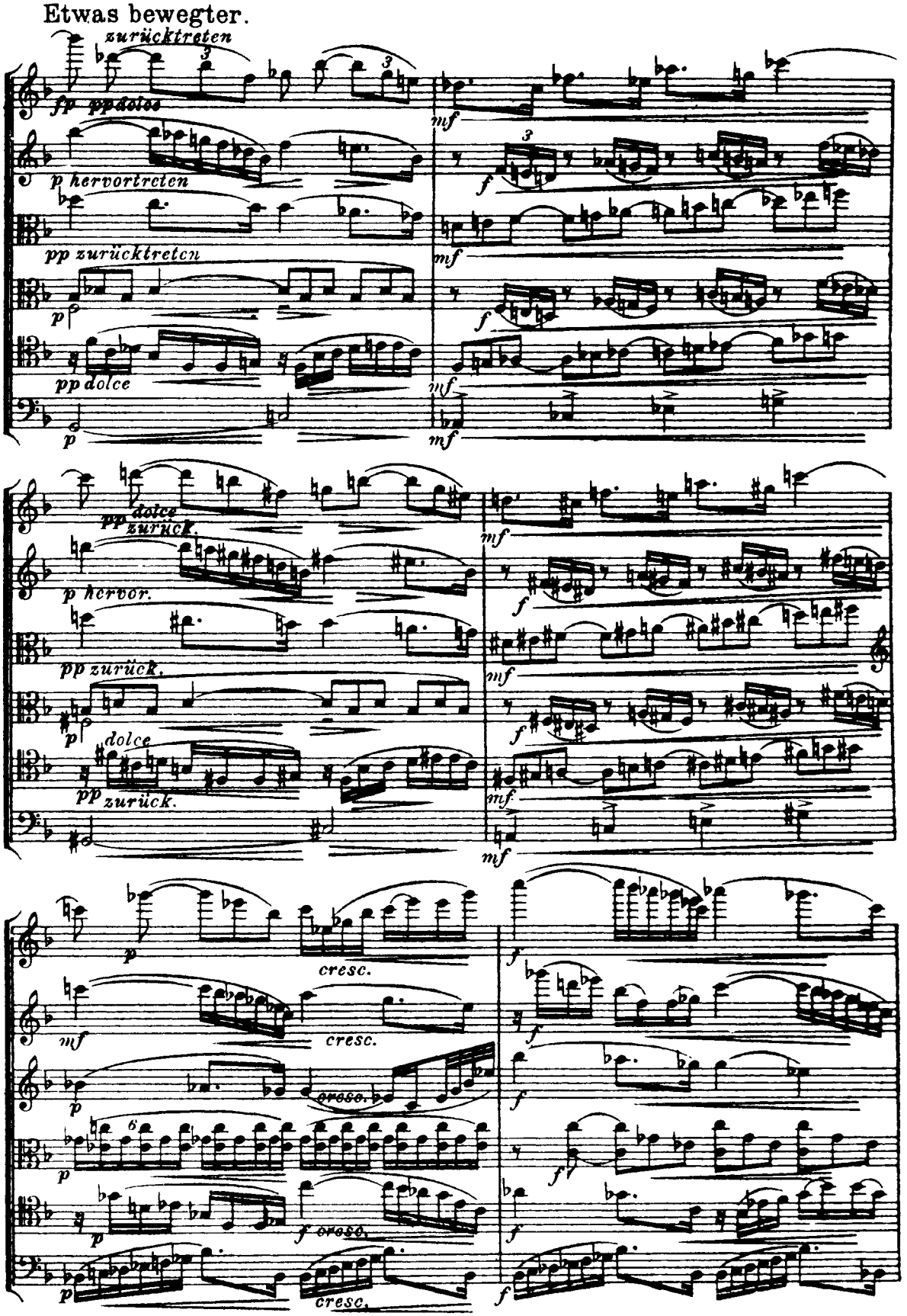

rit.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
die gleich den von früher.
rit.
sehr innig und warm
Im Zeitmass.
G saite
zurücktr.
zurücktr.
ausdrucksvoll doch
zart hervortreten

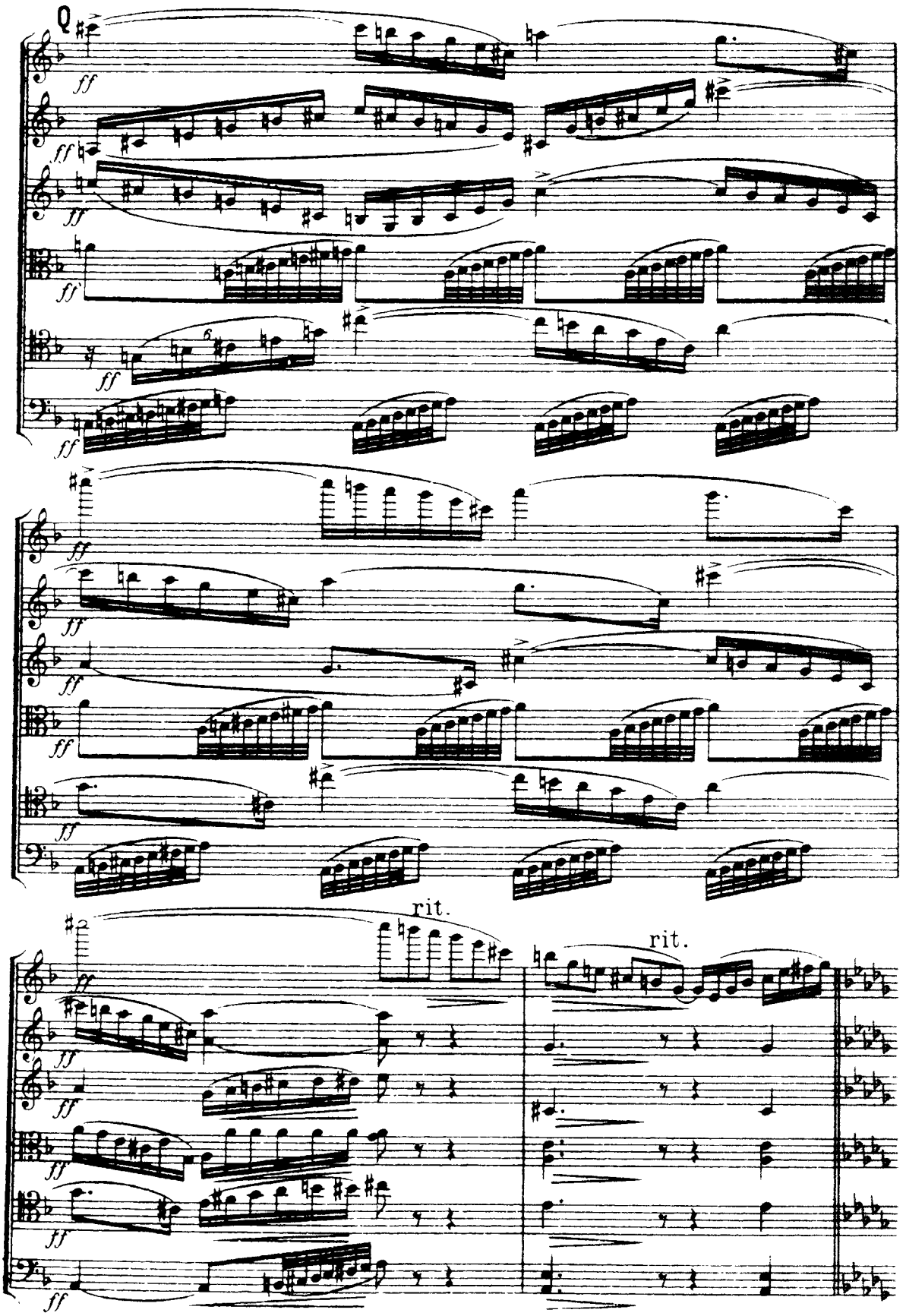

espress.
0
D Saite
G Saite
ten.
ppp
pp
mf
ten
espr.
f

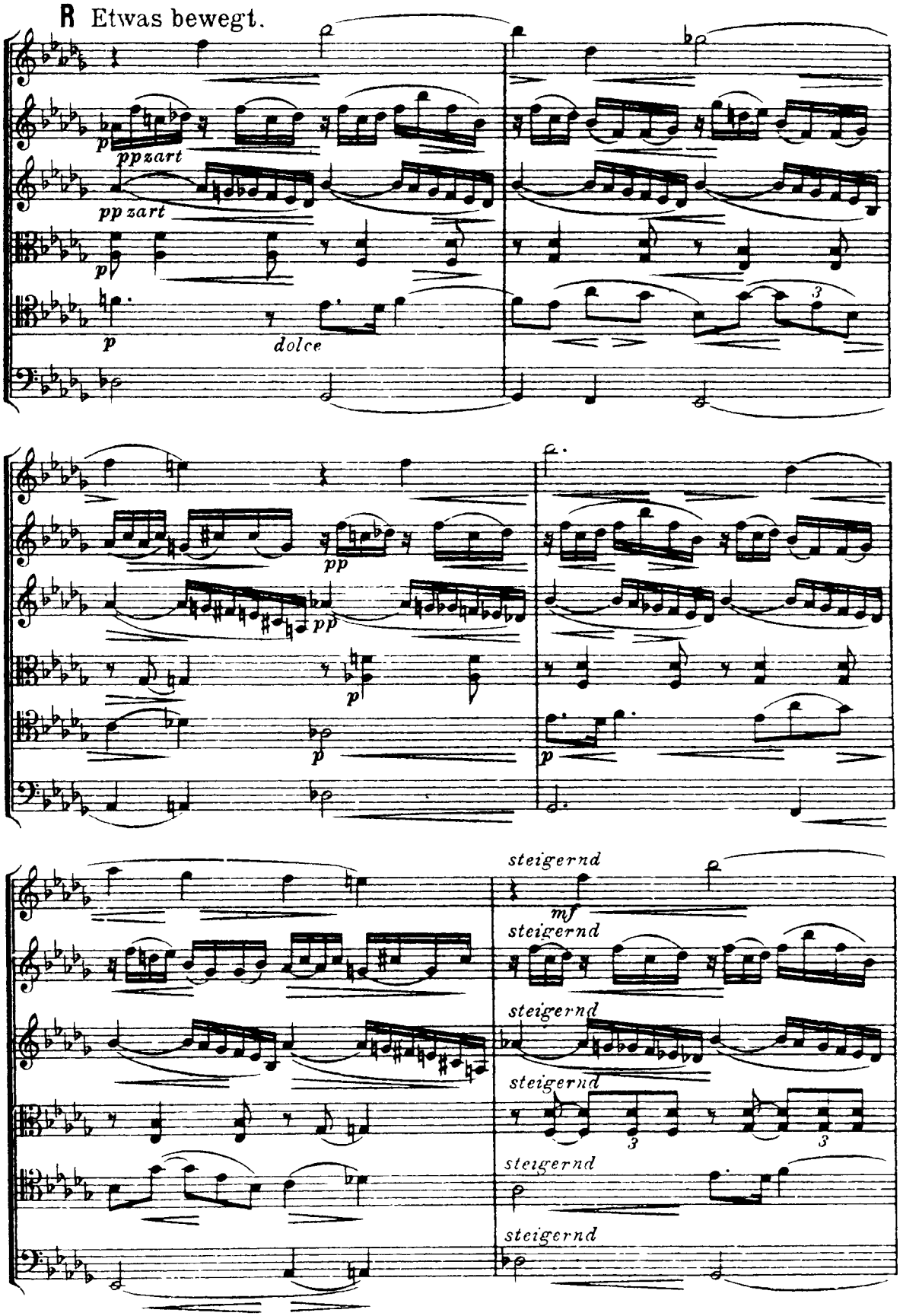

steigernd,beschleunigend
die ♩ langsamer als die frühern ♪
ausdrucksvoll

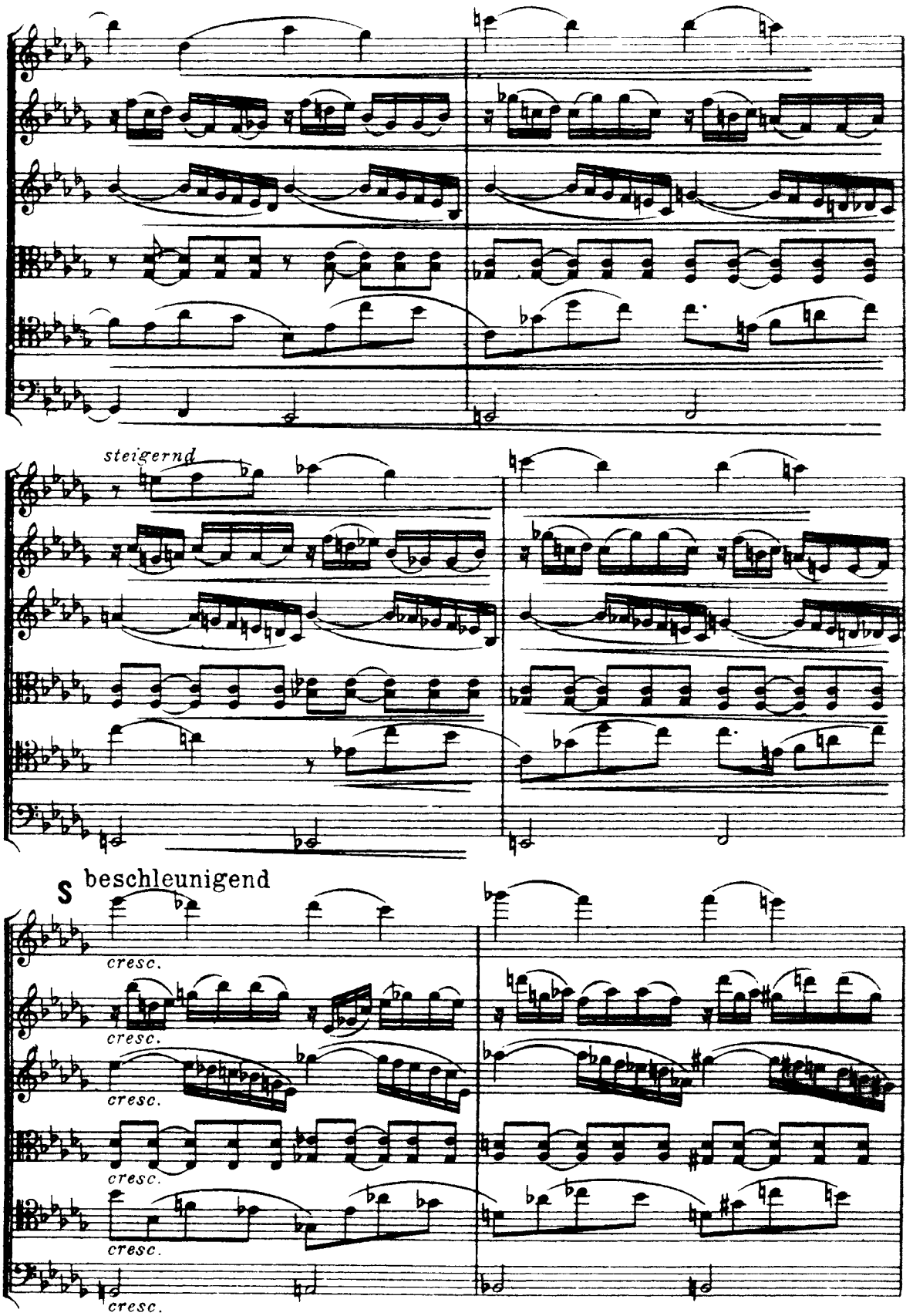

sehr warm
ohne Dämpfer
rit.
ohne Dämpfer
sehr warm
p sehr weich p
sf
p sehr weich
sfp
p
P a tempo
f
f
fp
f
ohne Dämpfer
p
p
ohne Dämpfer
p
ohne Dämpfer
p
ohne Dämpfer

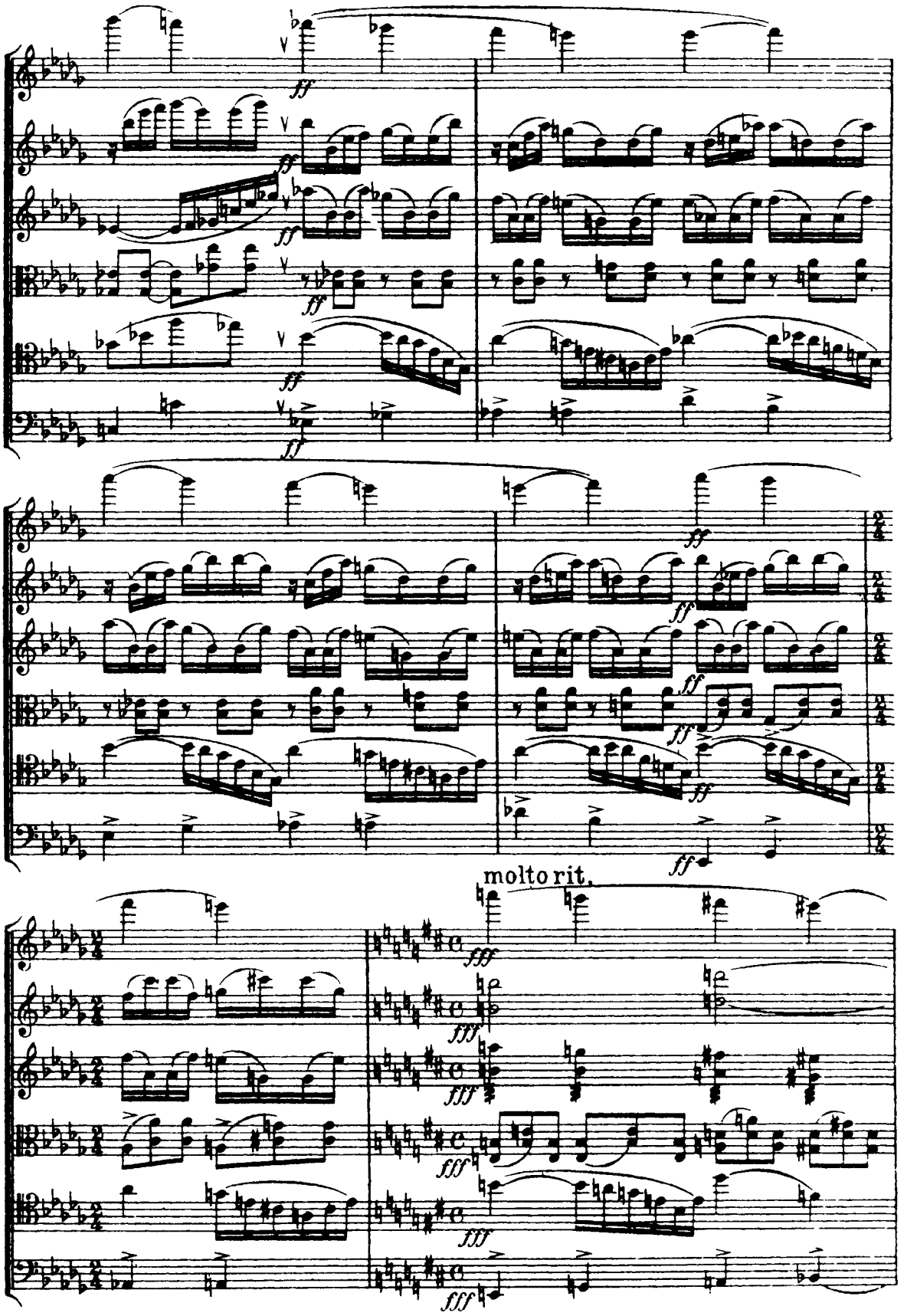

poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
poco a poco cresc.
ohne Dämpfer
poco a poco cresc.
steigernd
steigernd
steigernd
steigernd
steigernd
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
3
3

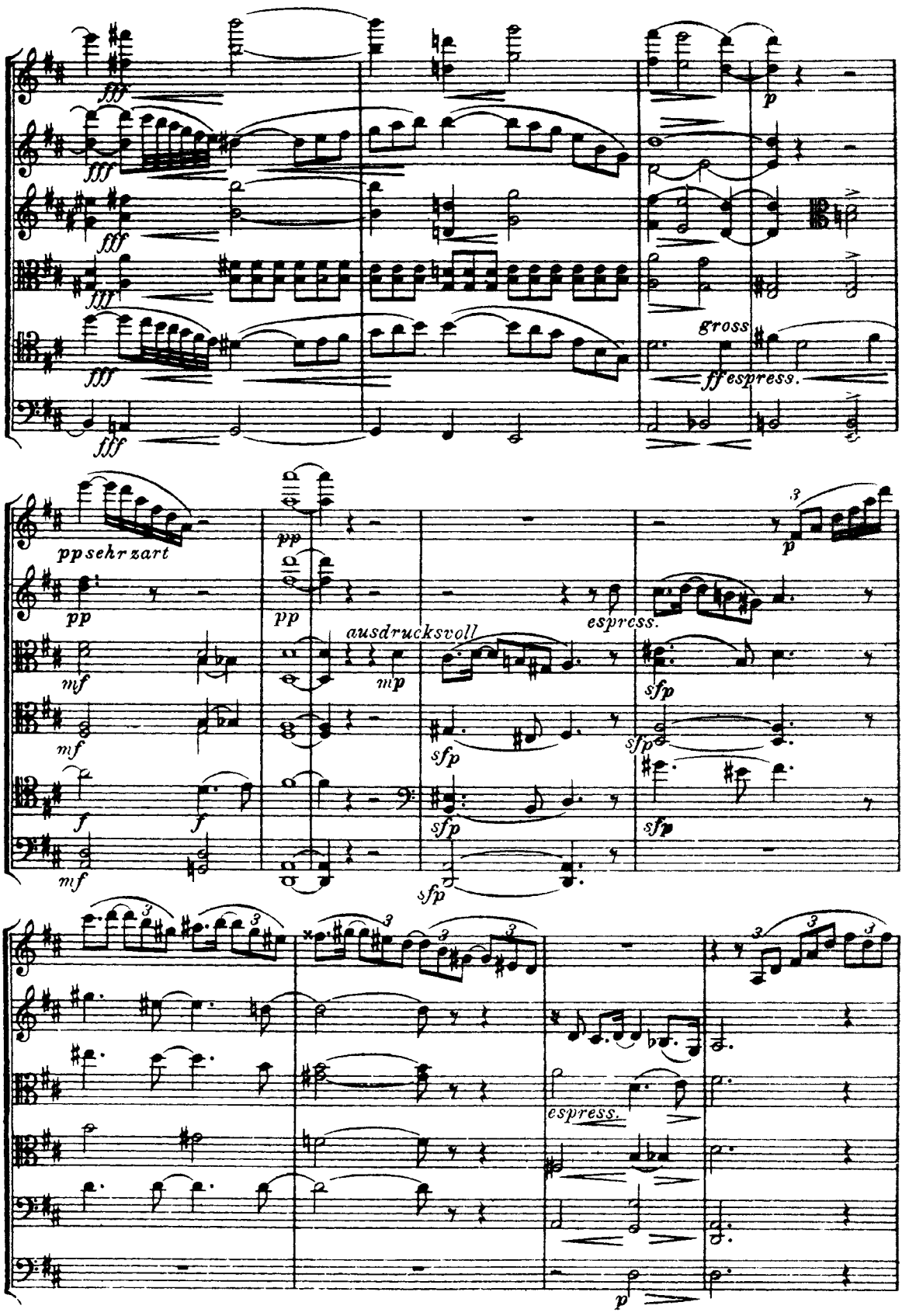

Etwas bewegter.
zurücktreten
fp pp dolce
p hervortreten
pp zurücktreten
p
pp dolce
p
mf
f
mf
f
mf
mf
pp dolce zurück.
p hervor.
pp zurück.
p
dolce
pp zurück.
mf
f
mf
f
mf
p
cresc.
mf
cresc.
p
cresc.
p
p
f cresc.
p
cresc.
f
f
f
f
f
f

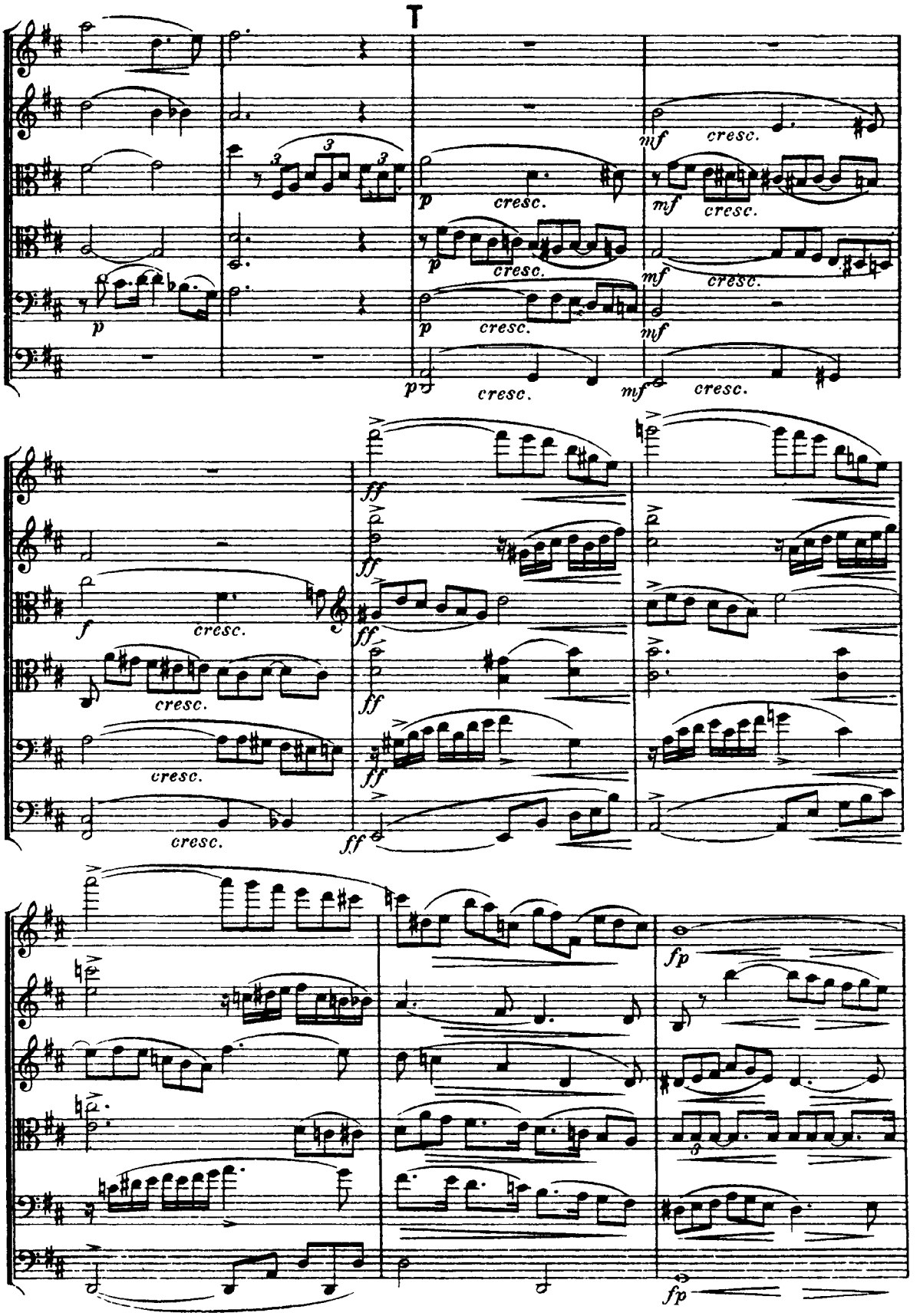

Q
ff
rit.
rit.

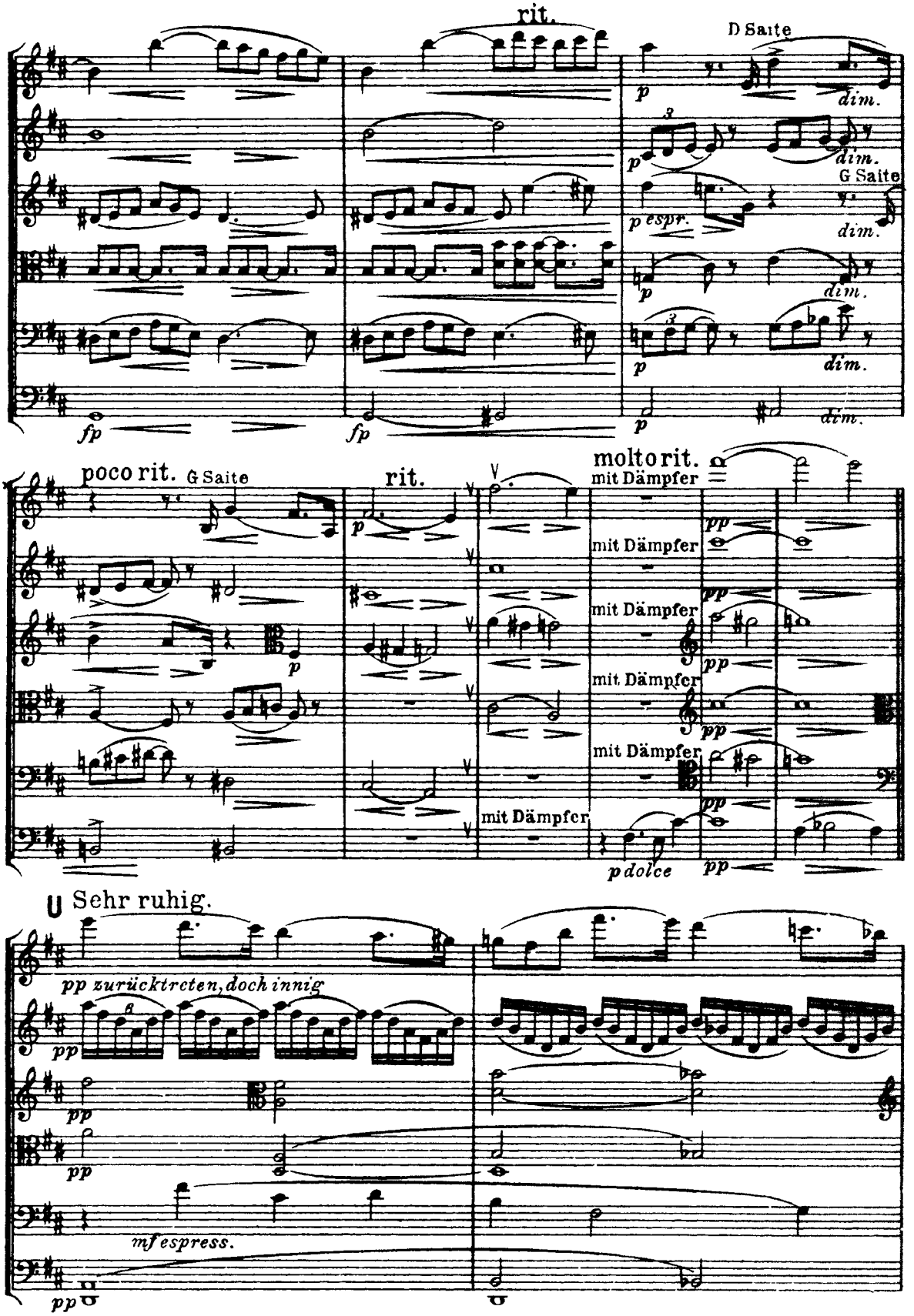

R Etwas bewegt.
p
ppzart
pp zart
p
p
dolce
3
pp
pp
p
p
p
steigernd
mf
steigernd
steigernd
steigernd
3
3
steigernd
steigernd

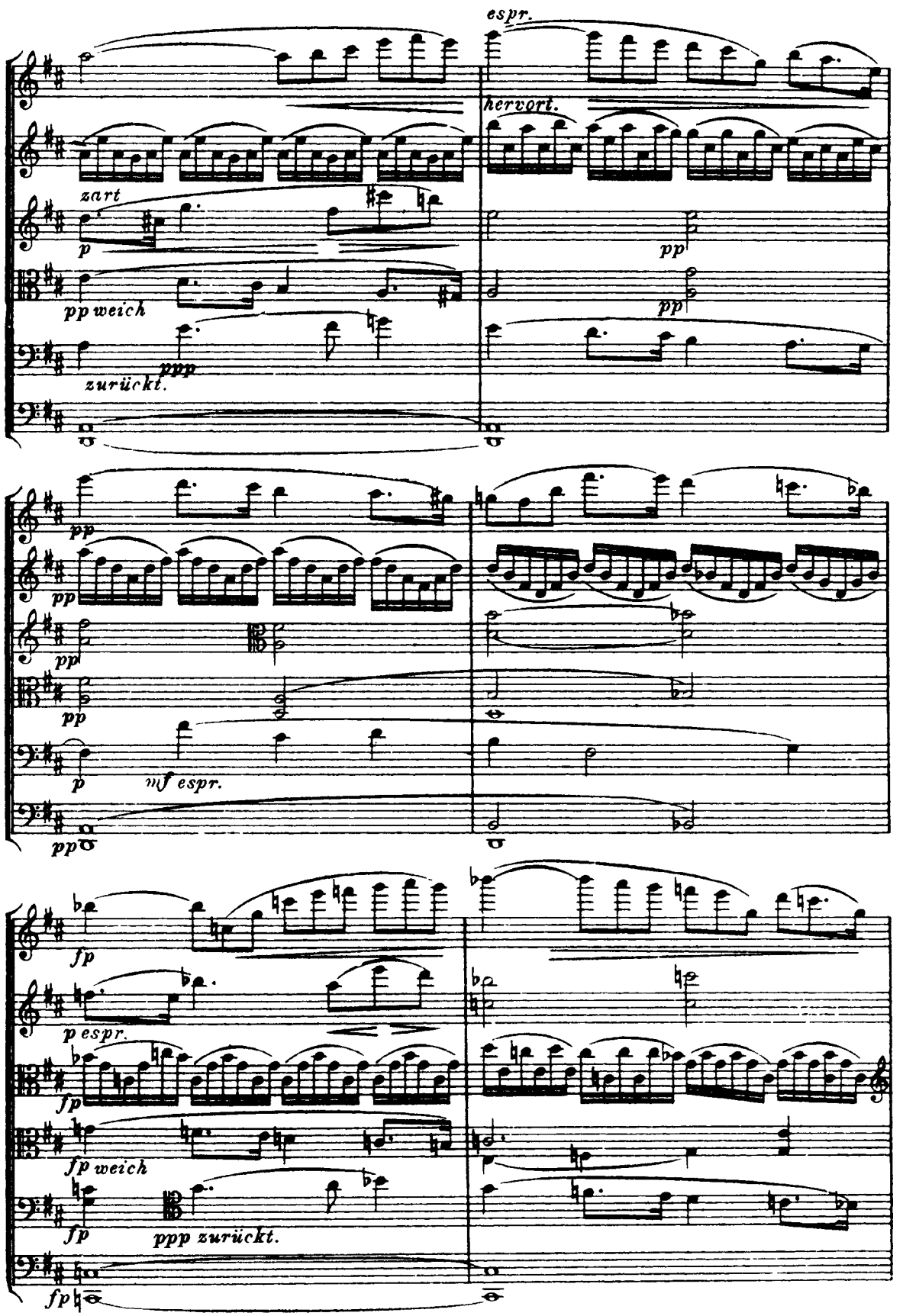

steigernd
S beschleunigend
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.

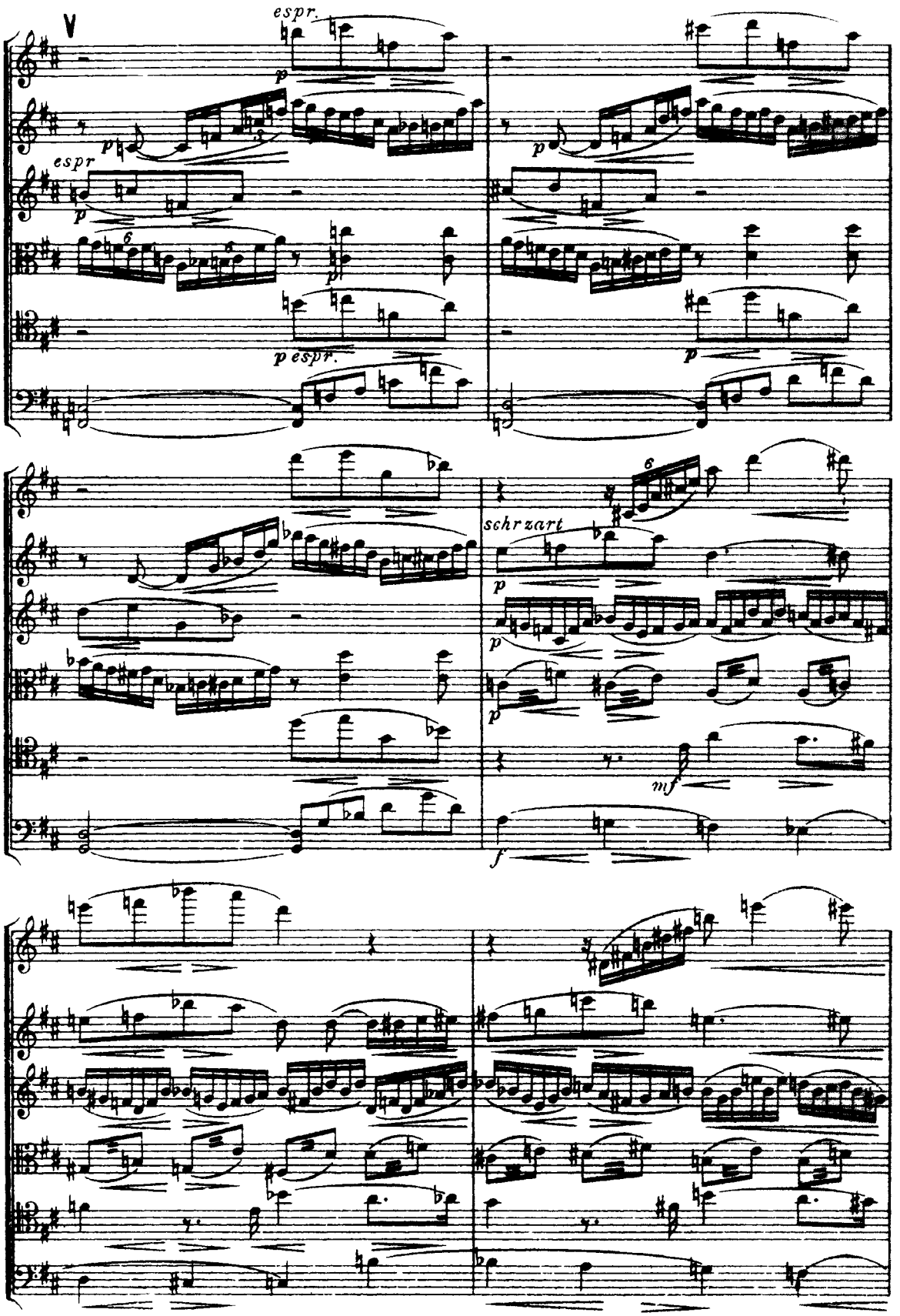

molto rit.

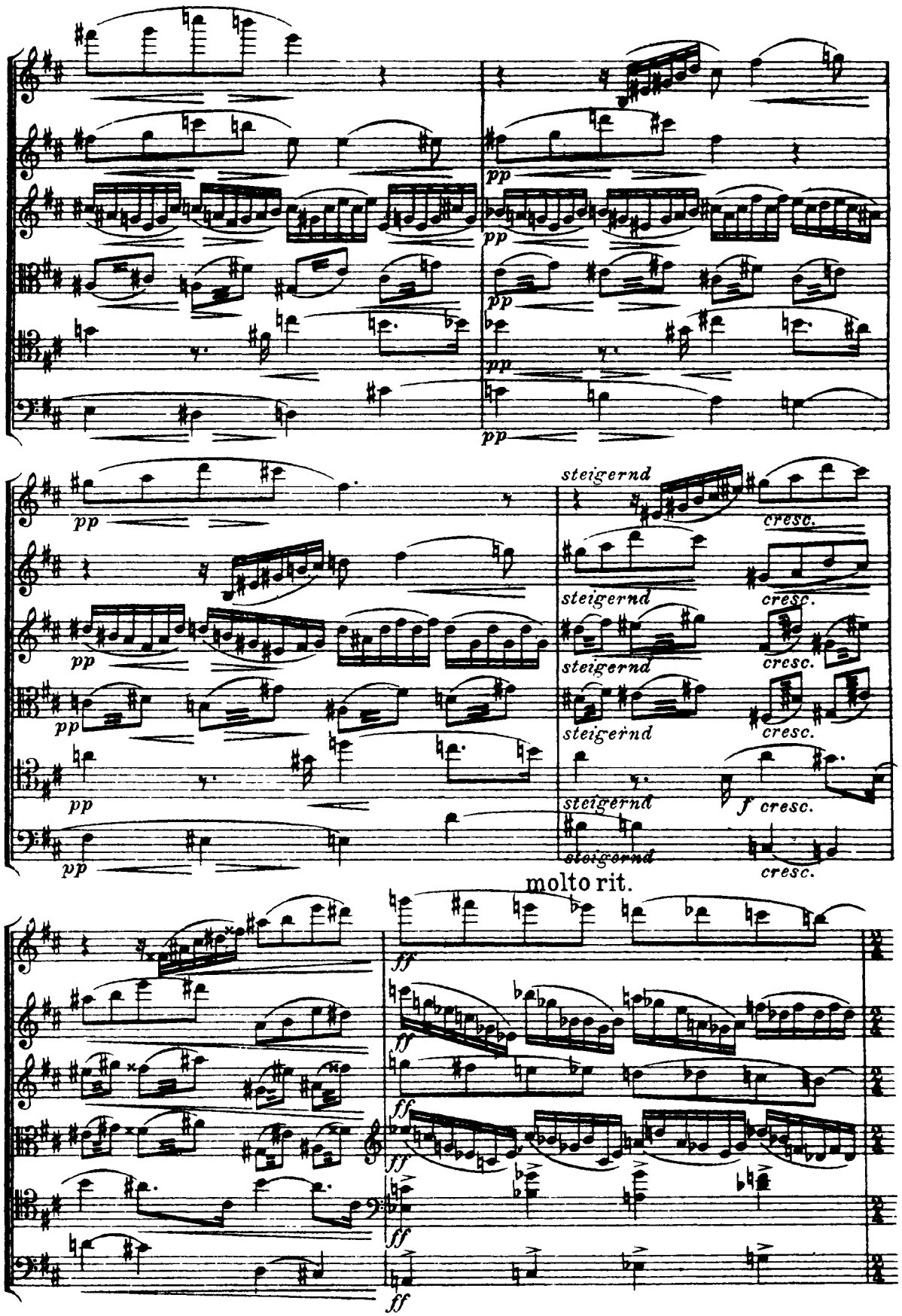

fff
p
gross
ff espress.
pp sehr zart
pp
mf
ausdrucksvoll
mp
espress.
sfp
f

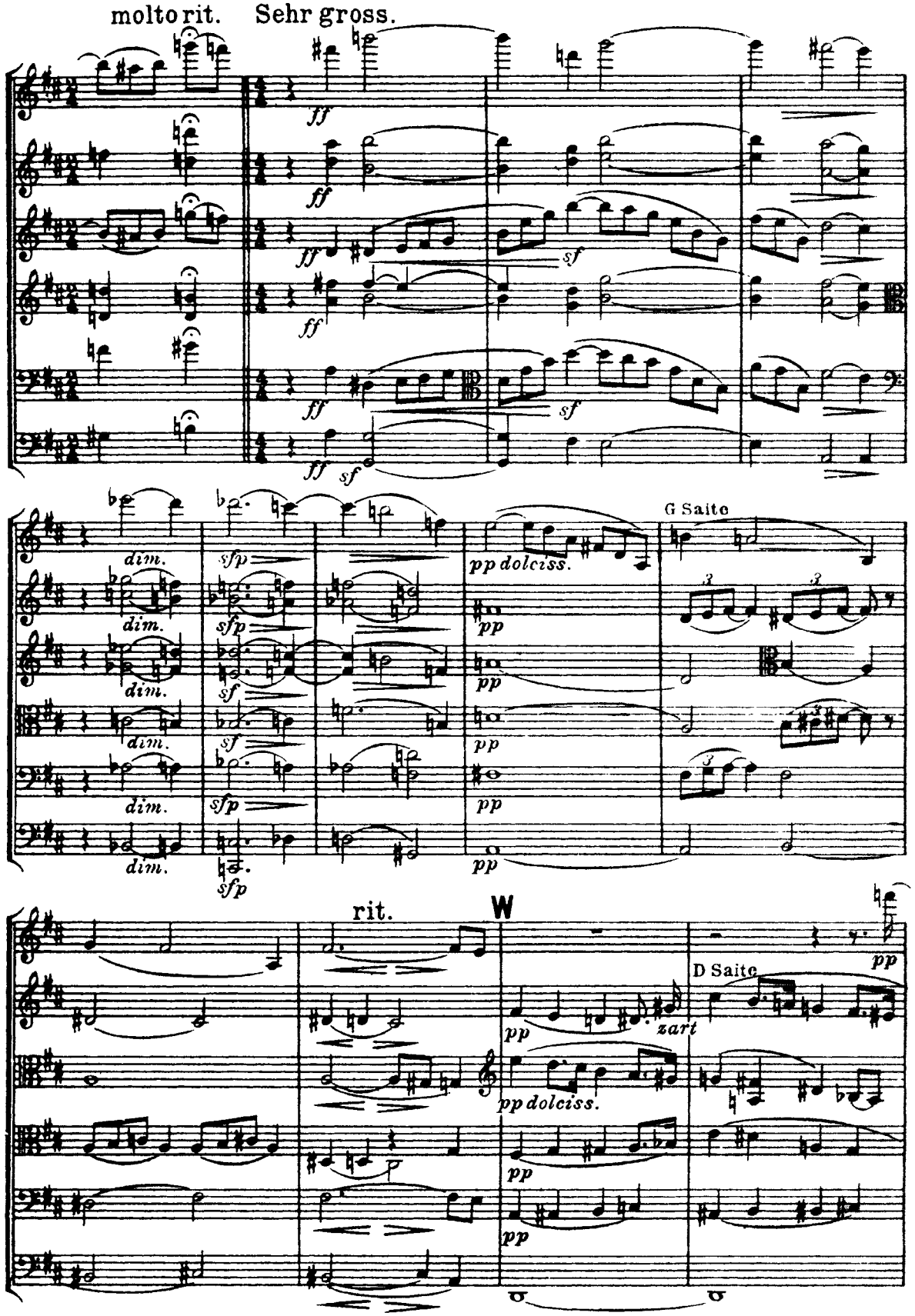

T
p
cresc.
mf
f
ff
fp

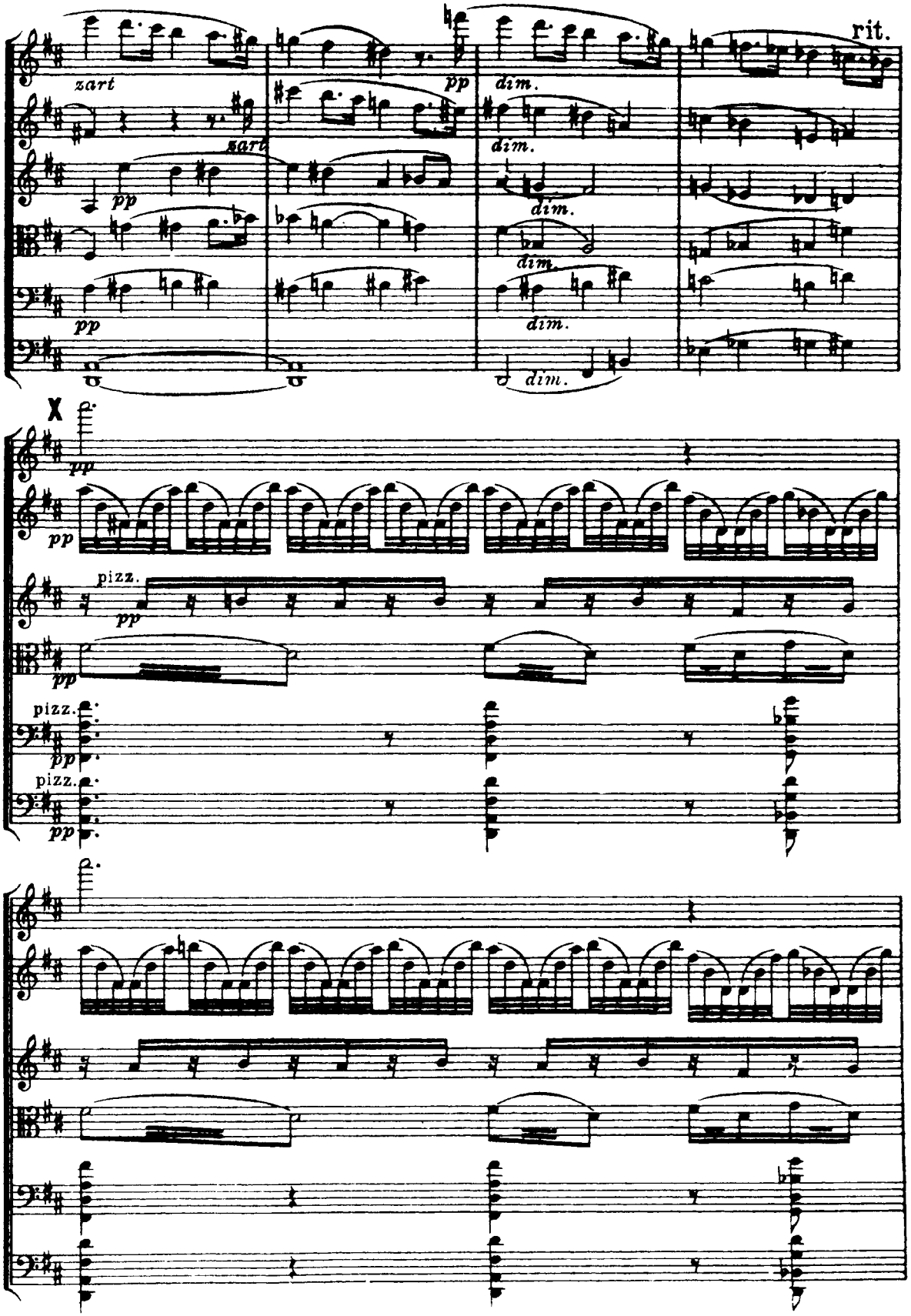

rit.
D Saite
G Saite
poco rit.
G Saite
rit.
molto rit.
mit Dämpfer
U Sehr ruhig.
pp zurücktreten, doch innig
mf espress.

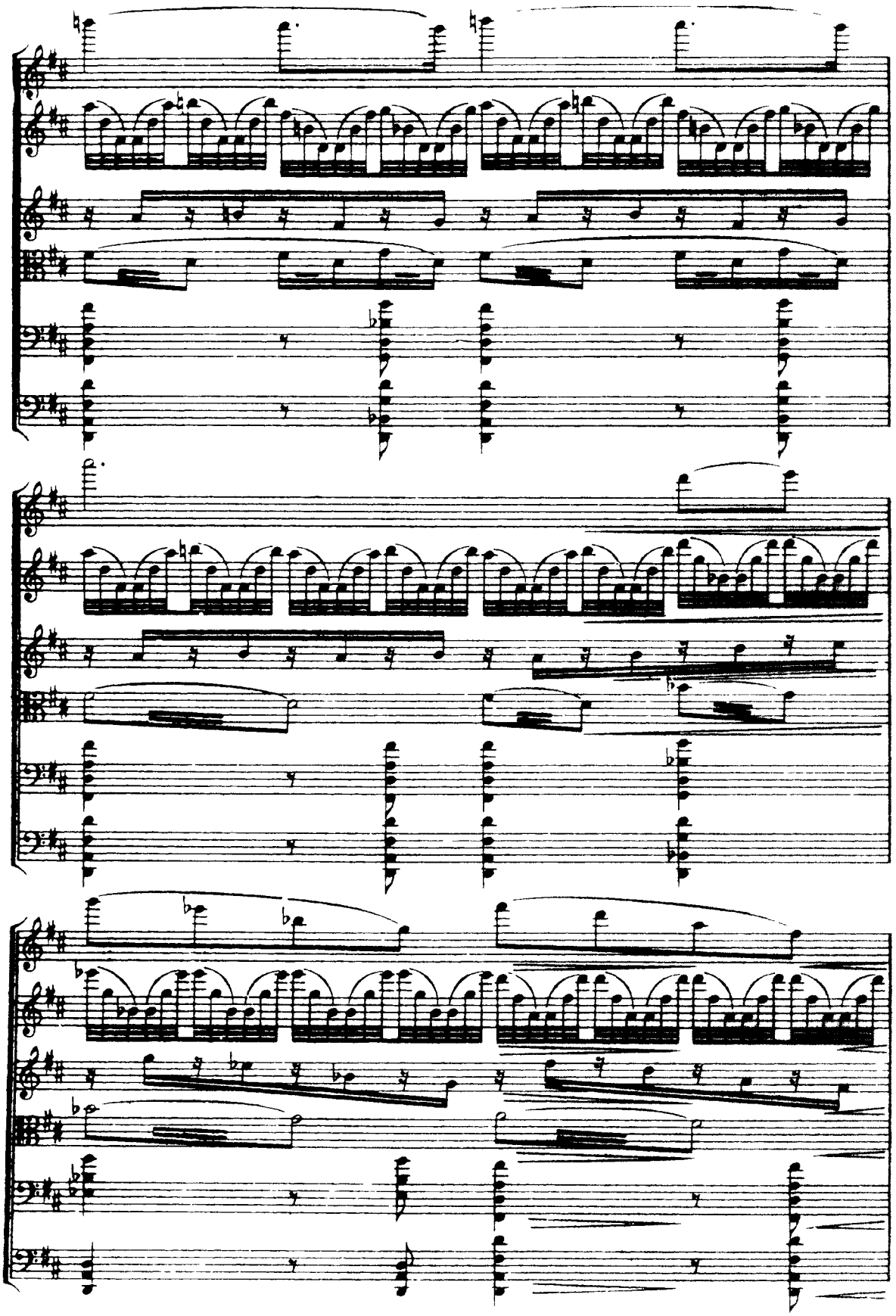

espr.
hervort.
zart
p
pp
pp weich
pp
ppp
zurückt.
pp
pp
pp
pp
p
mf espr.
pp
fp
p espr.
fp
fp weich
fp
ppp zurückt.
fp

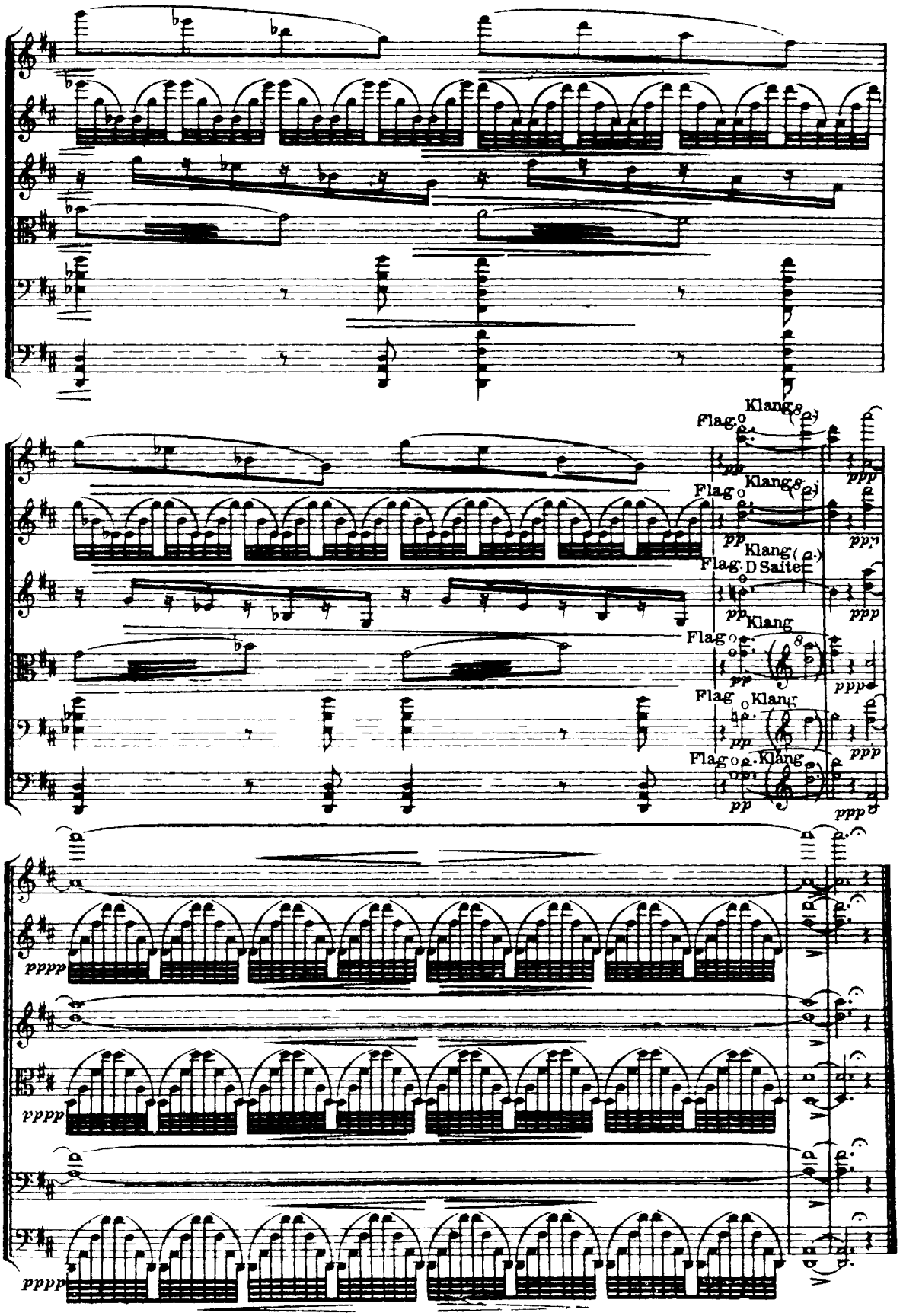

V
espr.
espr
p espr.
schr zart
mf


pp
steigernd
cresc.
f cresc.
molto rit.
ff


molto rit.
Sehr gross.
ff
sf
dim.
sfp
pp dolciss.
G Saite
rit.
W
D Saite
zart
pp


zart
zart
pp
pp
pp
pp
dim.
dim.
dim.
dim.
dim.
rit.
X
pp
pp
pizz.
pp
pp
pizz.
pp
pizz.
pp




Flag.
Klang
pp
ppp
Flag. D Saite
pppp