

Piano quintet in A flat major

<https://youtube.com/@WielandHandke>

The piano quintet captures the **sounds of spring** in Berlin:

On the one hand, the **noise of the big city**, embodied by a **historic city rail train** with its characteristic sounds: the slam of the doors closing and the typical hiss as compressed air escapes.

On the other hand, the **tranquility** of a stroll through an **allotment garden community**, where **nightingales** give their evening concert.



Spring in Berlin

Photos: Andre_de, Christoph Moning, Cryonic07, August Geyler, Andreas Lippold



City Rail and Nightingale

bonus

Wieland Handke

14 (of 24) *Preludes* and

15 (of 24) *Fugues*

Work in Progress

through all major and minor keys

City Rail and Nightingale (Piano quintet in A flat major)

Wieland Handke
April, May 2026

Presto (♩ = 160)

Violin

Viola

Cello

Passengers leaving and entering the train.

Piano 1

Red. * Red. * Red. *

Noise on the platform.

Piano 2

Red. * Red. *

Vlc. *mf* *p* *mp* *mf* *p*

Musical notation for Violin (Vlc.) in bass clef, 3/4 time. It features a melodic line with dynamic markings *mf*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *p*. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it. A slur covers the final two measures.

Pno. 1 *ppp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

Musical notation for Piano 1 (Pno. 1) in bass clef, 3/4 time. It features a melodic line with dynamic markings *ppp*, *p*, and *pp*. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it. A slur covers the final two measures. Fingerings (1, 5, 1, 1, 2, 1, 3, 1) are indicated below the notes.

Red. * *Red.* *

Pno. 2 *p* *p* *pp* *p* *p* *pp*

Musical notation for Piano 2 (Pno. 2) in bass clef, 3/4 time. It features a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *p*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *p*, and *pp*. A '2' is written below the first two notes of the second measure.

Red. * *Red.* *

Vla. *p* *p* *pp* *p* *p* *pp*

Musical notation for Viola (Vla.) in alto clef, 3/4 time. It features a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *p*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *p*, and *pp*.

Pno. 1 *p* *p* *pp* *p* *p* *pp*

Musical notation for Piano 1 (Pno. 1) in bass clef, 3/4 time. It features a rhythmic accompaniment with dynamic markings *p*, *p*, *pp*, *p*, *p*, and *pp*. A '3' is written below the first note of the second measure.

Red. * *Red.*

Pno. 2 *ppp* *p* *pp* *p*

Musical notation for Piano 2 (Pno. 2) in bass clef, 3/4 time. It features a melodic line with dynamic markings *ppp*, *p*, and *pp*. A slur covers the final two measures. Fingerings (4, 1, 5, 1) are indicated below the notes.

The departure signal sounds.

Red.

Vln. *pp* *mf*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vlc. *ff* *fff*

Pno. 1 *ppp* *mp* *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*

* Red. * Red. * Red. * Red. * Red. *

The heavy doors slam shut with a loud crash.

Pno. 2 *pp* *p* *ff* *fff* *ff*

* Red. * Red. *

Moderato (♩ = 80)

9

Vln. 

Vla.  *p* *mf* *mp*

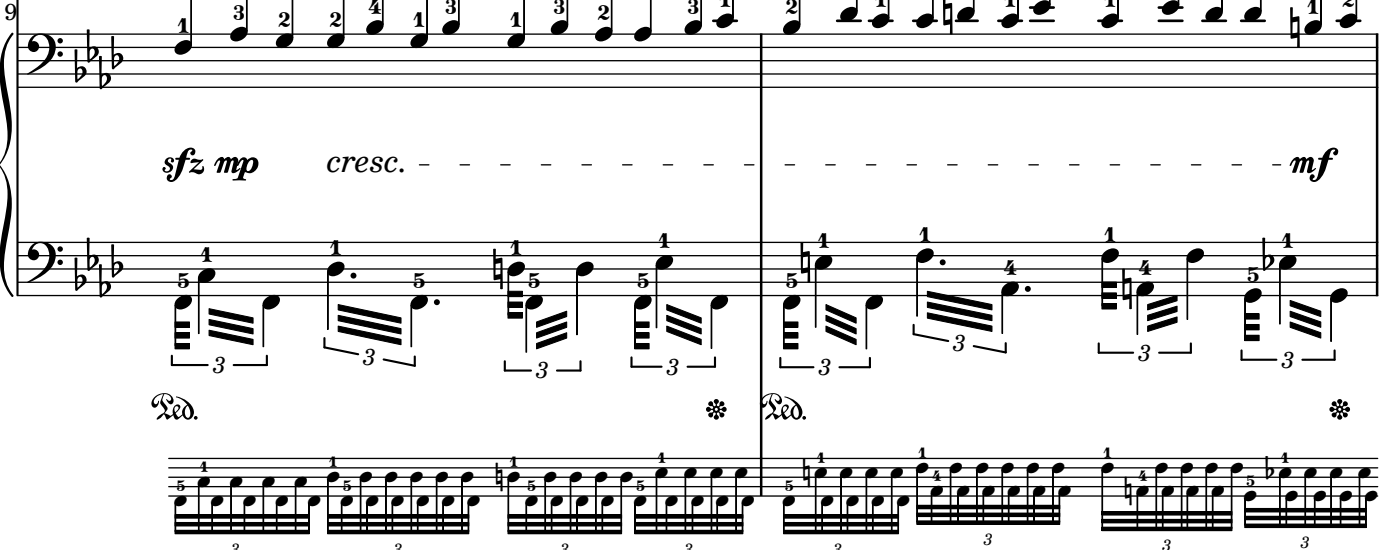
Vlc. *sfz* *pp* *mp* *p*

With a jolt, the train starts moving.

9

Pno. 2 *sfz mp* *cresc.* *mf*

Red. * * * * *



Vln. *sfz* *sfz*

Vla. *mf* *mp*

Vlc. *mf* *sfz* *pp* *p*

più mosso

Passing over a switch.

Pno. 1 *sfz sfz* *sfz sfz* *p cresc.*

Red. * *Red.* *

Pno. 2 *dim.* *p*

Red. * *Red.* *

(12)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

mp *mf* *mp*

The train is now leaving the station.

(12)

Pno. 1

mp

Red.

(12)

Pno. 2

p cresc. *mp*

Red.

Vln. *sfz sfz mf mp*

Vla. *mf p*

Vlc. *mf mp*

Pno. 1 *dim. - - - - - p*

*Red. Red. * Red. Red. **

Additional switches in the station's approach tracks.

Pno. 2 *sfz sfz sfz sfz p*

*Red. Red. * Red. Red. * Red. **

poco a poco accelerando

(15)

Vln. *pp* *mp* *mf* *p* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *p*

Vla. *mp* *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

Vlc. *p* *mp*

The train is now picking up speed.

(15)

Pno. 1 *p* *mf* *p*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

(15)

Pno. 2 *cresc.* *mf* *p*

Red. * *Red.* *

Vln. *p* > *ppp* < *pp* *p*

Vla. *p*

Vlc. *mp* > *pp* < *p* *p*

The train is approaching a railroad crossing ...

Pno. 1 *pp* *cresc.* *p* *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

Red. **Red.* **Red.* **Red.*

Pno. 2 *pp* *cresc.* *mp dim.*

Red. **Red.* **Red.* **Red.*

(18)

Vln. *mp* *pp*

Vla. *mp* *pp*

Vlc. *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

(18)

Pno. 1 *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*

dim. ... and passes the barrier. *ppp*

*Led. *Led. *Led.

(18)

Pno. 2 *ppp*

*Led. *Led. *Led.

(21)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

mp *cresc.* *f* *ff* *mf*

f *ff* *mf*

f

(21)

Pno. 1

f

**led.*

**led.*

*

(21)

Pno. 2

cresc. *f*

**led.*

**led.*

*

Vln. *f* < *fff* *ff*

Vla. *fff* *ff*

Vlc. *ff* *f*

The train whistles loudly before entering a tunnel

In the tunnel.

Pno. 1 *mp* *ff* *fff* *mp* *pp*

Pno. 2 *ff* *fff* *mp*

(24)

Vln. *f* *ff* *mf*

Vla. *f* *ff* *mf*

Vlc. *f* *ff* *mf*

(24)

Pno. 1 *ff*

Red.

Out of the tunnel

(24)

Pno. 2 *fff*

Red.

Vln. *sfz sfz mf mp*

Vla. *mf p*

Vlc. *mf mp*

Again, jolts when passing over a switch.

Pno. 1 *sfz sfz sfz sfz*

*Red. Red. * Red. Red. **

Pno. 2 *sfz sfz sfz sfz p*

*Red. Red. * Red. Red. **

(27)

Pno. 2

mf *p* *mp* *f*

Ped.



29 *poco a poco rallentando*

Vla.

pp

Pno. 1

p *dim.*

Ped. **Ped.* **Ped.*

The train is pulling into the platform

Pno. 2

mf *dim.*

Ped. **Ped.* **Ped.*

The brakes are squeaking.

Vln. *mp* *f* *p*

Vla. *f* *p*

Vlc. *p* *mp* *p*

Pno. 1 *pp*

*Led.

Pno. 2 *pp* *mf*

And stop!

*Led.

ritenuto

(31)

Vln. *mf* ————— *p*

Vla. *f* ————— *p*

Vlc. *mf* ————— *p*

The typical hissing sound made when compressed air escapes.

(31)

Pno. 1 *pp* ————— *ff* > *mf*

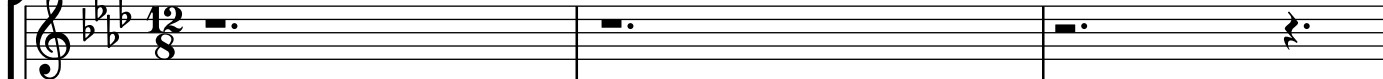
(31)

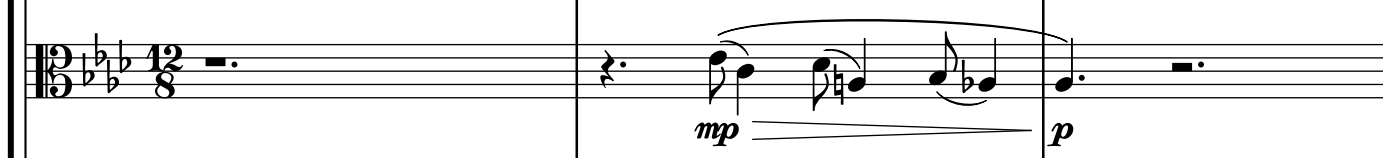
Pno. 2 *pp* ————— *f* *mf*

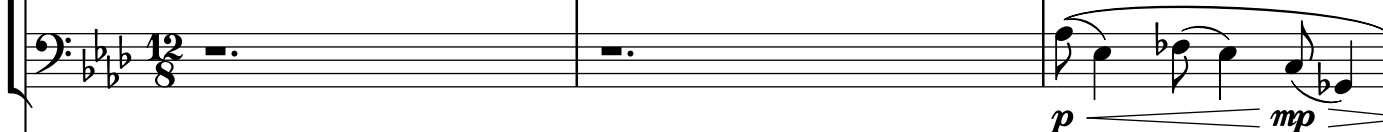
Doors are opened by hand.

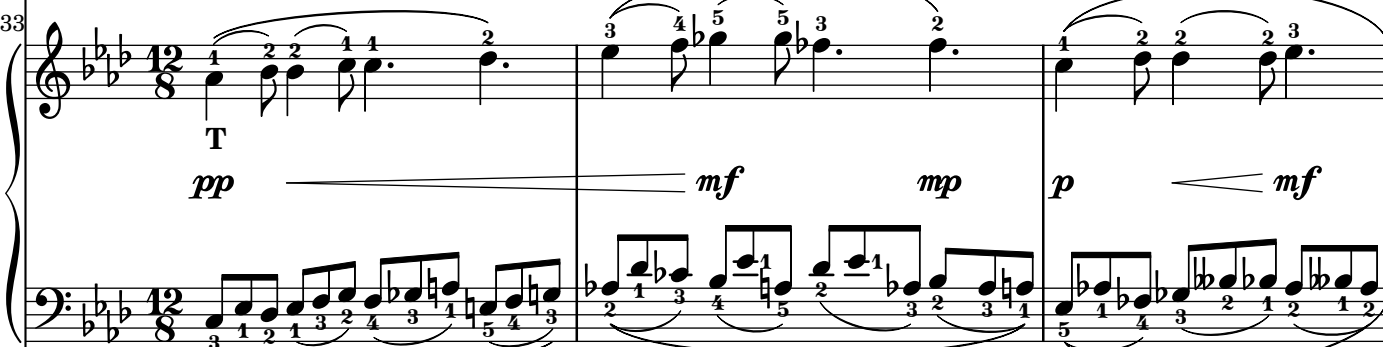
* * *

33 Andantino (♩. = 76)

Vln. 

Vla.  Slowly going ...

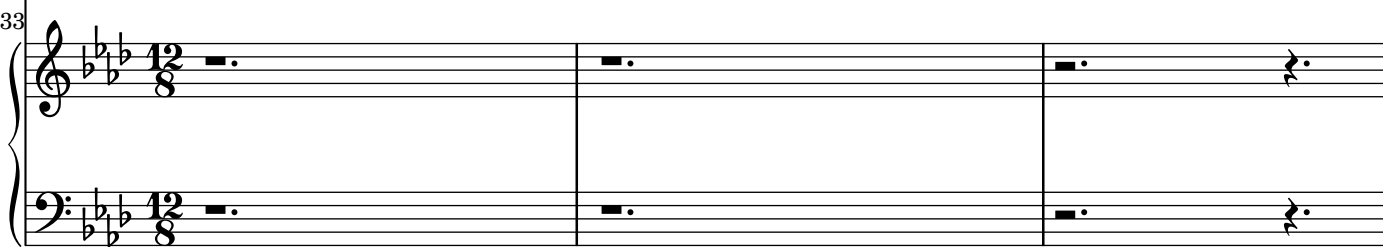
Vlc.  ... down the steps ...

Pno. 1  T

pp *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

Fugato

*ced. *ced. *ced. *ced. *ced. *ced. *ced. *ced. *ced. *ced. *ced.*

Pno. 2 

(35)

Vln. *pp* *mf*

Vla. *p* T

Vlc. *p* *pp*

... and walking through the pedestrian tunnel.

(35)

Pno. 1 *mp* *p*

* * * * *

Head over to the allotment garden community behind the station.

(35)

Pno. 2 *pp* *mf*

T

* * * * *

Vln. (38) *mp* *p*

Vla. *mf* *p*

Vlc. —

8va

8va

Pno. 1 (38) *ppp* *mf* *mf* *ff* *mf* *ff*

Birds are twittering.

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

Pno. 2 (38) *mp* *p*

* *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* *

(39)

Vln. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Vlc.

8va

8va

(39)

Pno. 1

Surely we're not ...

mf *fff* *mf* *fff* *fff* *fff*

Red. *Red. * Red. * Red. *

(39)

Pno. 2

mf

*Red. *Red. *Red. *Red.

Vln. (40) *mp* *p*

Vla. *mp* *p*

Vlc. *p*

8va- *mf*

8va- *mf*

Pno. 1 (40) *sfz* *mf* *fff* *pp* *cresc.*

... oh, it must be a nightingale.

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.*

Pno. 2 (40) *mp* *p*

* *Red.* * *Red.*

(42)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

(42)

Pno. 1

(42)

Pno. 2

Bees and bumblebees ...

(43)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

(43)

Pno. 1

8va

8va

fff

Red. *

(43)

Pno. 2

T

pp

mf

mp

p

Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. *Red. Red. *Red. *Red. *

... are buzzing around the lavender in the gardens.

(45)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

mp

(45)

Pno. 1

8va

8va

ppp

f

pp

Red.

*

(45)

Pno. 2

mf

Red.

*

Red.

**Red.*

**Red.*

(46)

Vln. *p* *pp*

Vla.

Vlc.

8va

8va

(46)

Pno. 1

The nightingales are really loud!

ppp *f* *pp* *fff*

Red. * *Red.* *

(46)

Pno. 2

mp *p*

* *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* *

più mosso

(47)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

(47)

Pno. 1

cresc. ----- *f*

T

Red. **Red.* **Red.*

(47)

Pno. 2

ppp \triangleleft *p* \triangleleft *pp* \triangleleft *p* \triangleleft *pp*

You can hear a train passing by in the distance.

* *Red.* **Red.*

13

(48)

Pno. 1

mp *cresc.*

*Led.

(48)

Pno. 2

ppp *p* *pp* *p* *ppp*

*Led.

13 13



(48)

Pno. 1

ff *dim.*

*Led.

(48)

Pno. 2

ppp *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

*Led.

13 13

(49)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

mp *mf*

p *mf*

(49)

Pno. 1

mp *p* *mf*

*Led. *Led. *Led. *Led. *Led.

(49)

Pno. 2

ppp *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *p*

*Led. *Led. *Led.

1 5 1 5 2 5

13

(50) *rallentando* , *Andantino* (♩. = 76)

Vln. *mp* *p*

Vla. *p*

Vlc.

(50) *p*

Pno. 1

*red. *red. *red. *red. *

8va-
8va-
(50) *pp* *p* *ppp*

Pno. 2

* red. * red. *red. *red. *red.

Vln. 53

Vla. *mf* *p*

Vlc. *mf* *p*

Pno. 1 53

ppp *p* *pp* *pp*

**Led.* **Led.*

Pno. 2 53

f *dim.*

**Led.* **Led.*

(53)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

mf *p*

mf *pp*

(53)

Pno. 1

ppp *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

**ced.* **ced.*

(53)

Pno. 2

mp

**ced.* **ced.*

54

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

8va

8va

Pno. 1

pp

cresc.

pp

cresc.

fr

ppp

f

pp

* Red. *

54

Pno. 2

pp

cresc.

1

1

2

4

3

5

3

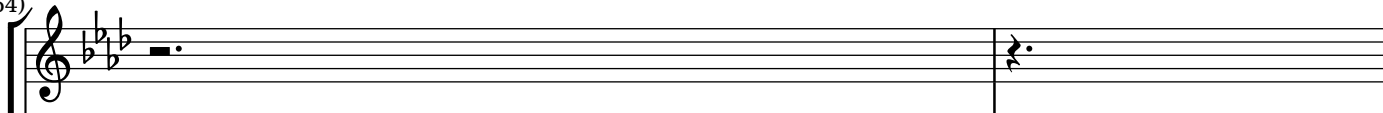
1

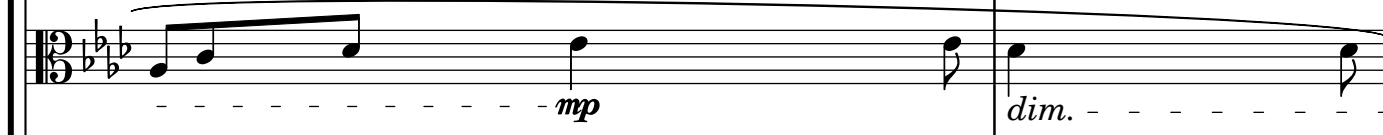
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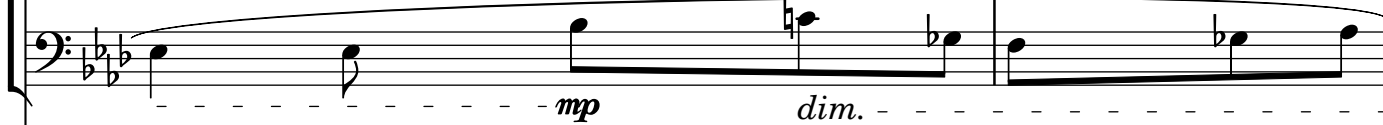
2


* Red. *


(54)

Vln. 

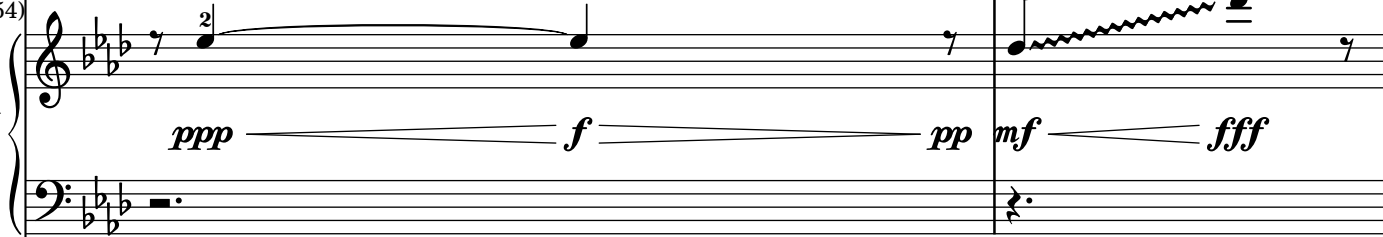
Vla. 

Vlc. 

8va 


8va 

(54)

Pno. 1 

Red. * *Red.* *

(54)

Pno. 2 

* *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* *

Vln. (55)

Vla.

Vlc.

8va

3 2 1

5

3

The departure signal sounds.

Pno. 1 (55)

mf *fff* *sfz* *sfz* *sfz*

Red. * Red.

Pno. 2 (55)

pp *p*

Noise on the platform.

Pno. 2

11 10

5 1 2 1 5 1 2 1 5 1 2 1 5 1 2 1 5

* Red. * Red.

11 10

5 1 2 1 5 1 2 1 5 1 2 1 5 1 2 1 5

Vln. *pp* *mf*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vlc. *ff* *fff*

Pno. 1

The doors slam shut again.

p *ff* *fff* *ff*

Red.

Pno. 2

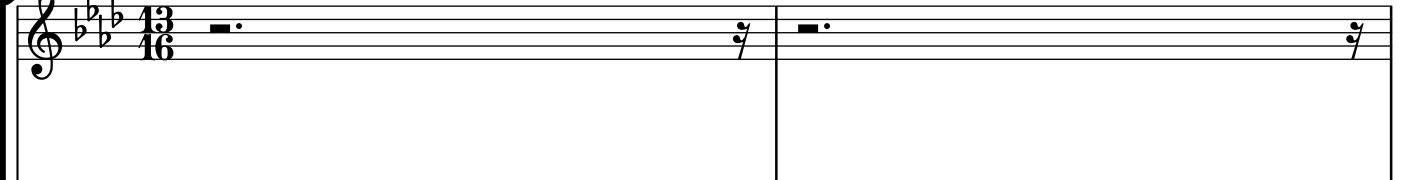
I did it!


p *mp* *mf* *f* *ff* *fff* *ff*


Red.

Red. *Red.* *Red.* *Red.* *Red.*

57 **Moderato** (♩ = 80)

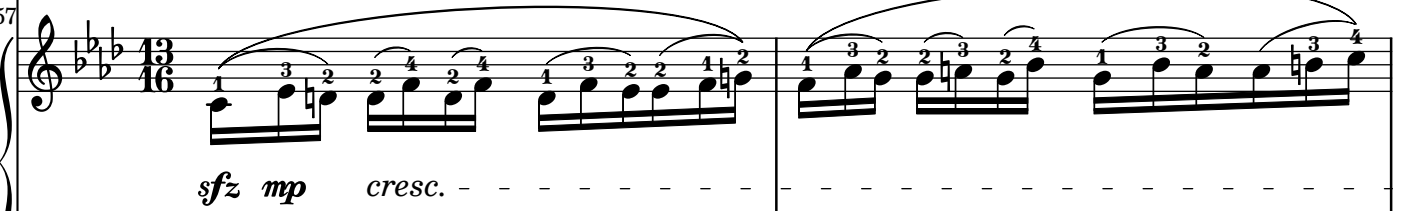
Vln. 

Vla. 

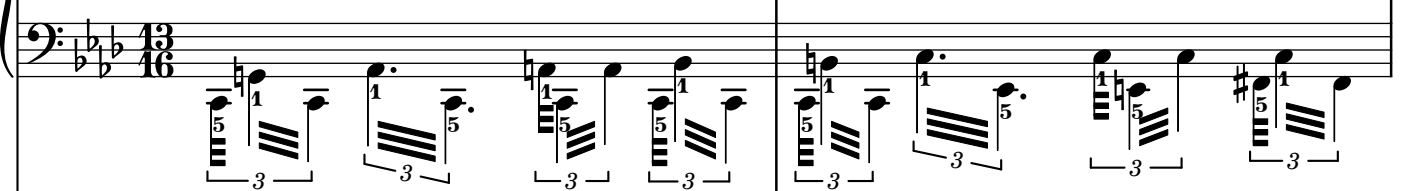
Vlc. 

sfz pp mp p

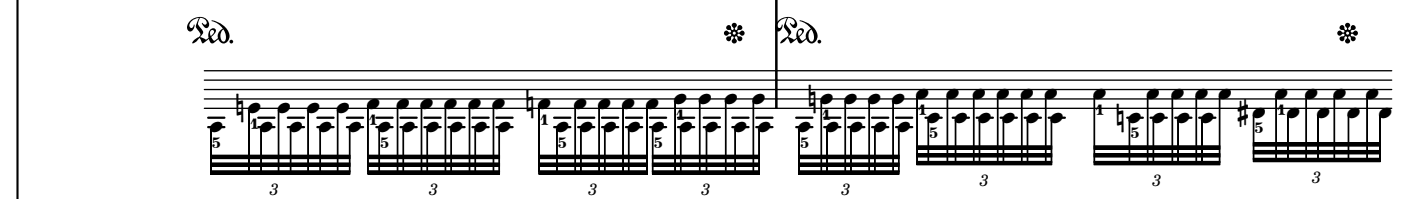
The train slowly begins to move.


Pno. 1 

sfz mp cresc.



*Red. **



Pno. 2 

59

Vln. *p* *mf* *mp*

Vla. *p* *mp*

Vlc. *mp* *mf* *p*

59

Pno. 1 *mf* *p* *pp* *cresc.*

Red. * *Red.*

59

Pno. 2 *pp* *cresc.*

Red. * *Red.*

(60)

Vln. *p*

Vla. *p*

Vlc. *p*

(60)

Pno. 1

p *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*

The train is approaching a railroad crossing again ...

**sed.* **sed.* **sed.*

(60)

Pno. 2

mp dim.

**sed.* **sed.* **sed.*

Vln. (61) *mp* *pp*

Vla. *mp* *pp*

Vlc. *mp* *p* *pp* *ppp*

Pno. 1 (61) *mf* *pp* *p* *pp*

... and passes the barrier.

dim. *ppp*

*Red.

Pno. 2 (61) *ppp*

*Red.

(63) **Andantino** (♩. = 76)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

8va

Pno. 1

* Ped.

*

Pno. 2

* Ped.

* Ped.

(64)

Vln.

Vla.

Vlc.

mp *dim.*

mp *dim.*

8va

8va

(64)

Pno. 1

ppp *f* *pp* *mf* *fff*

Red. * *Red.* *

(64)

Pno. 2

* *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* *

65

Vln. *pp* *ritenuto*

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vlc. *p* *pp*

8va

5

3

8va

8va

5

3

8va

65

Pno. 1 *mf* *fff* *mf* *fff*

What a wonderful evening!

Red. * *Red.* *

65

Pno. 2 *pp*

* *Red.* * *Red.* *