

STRING QUARTET

"From My Life"

This Quartet, written in 1876, has an autobiographical significance as explained by the composer in his letter dated April 12, 1878.

THE FIRST MOVEMENT depicts Smetana's love of Art in his youth, his search for the imaginary, and the premonition of his approaching illness.

THE SECOND MOVEMENT, "*Quasi Polka*", refers to the carefree days of his youth and his passionate love for dancing at the period when he composed many dances.

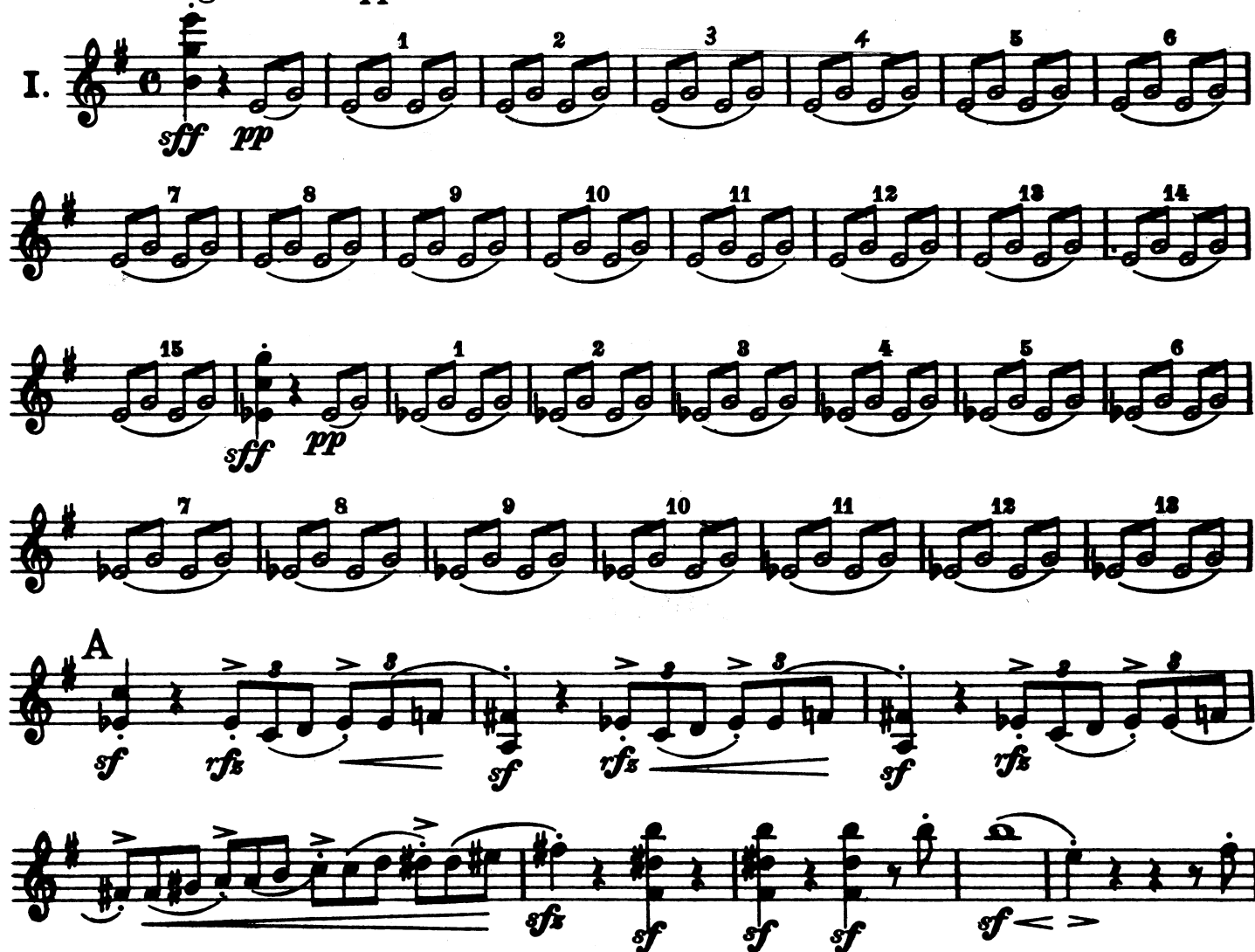
THE THIRD MOVEMENT, "*Largo Sostenuto*", portrays his idyllic love for a young girl who later became his spouse.

THE FOURTH MOVEMENT pictures the composer rejoicing over the recognition attained by Bohemian National Music and its achieved success. A sudden sustained high E indicates the noise in the composer's ears prior to his deafness. Then follows a painful recollection of his youthful days, a ray of hope against hope which gives way to resignation before the inevitable destiny.

VIOLIN I

Allegro vivo appassionato.

B. SMETANA

I. 

VIOLIN I

3

Violin I musical score page 3. The score is written for a violin in G major (one sharp). It consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a forte (*sf*) dynamic and features a series of eighth notes. The second staff includes a triplet of eighth notes and a fortissimo (*sf*) section. The third staff starts with a piano (*p*) and diminuendo (*dim.*) marking, followed by a piano (*p*) and fortissimo (*sf*) section, and ends with a piano (*pp*) and dolce marking. The fourth staff contains a diminuendo (*dim.*) and a crescendo (*cresc.*) section. The fifth staff begins with a marcato (*espress.*) marking and a first ending bracket labeled '1'. The sixth staff continues with a piano (*p*) and fortissimo (*sf*) section. The seventh staff features a crescendo (*cresc.*) and a piano (*pp*) section. The eighth staff includes a fortissimo (*ff*) and a fortissimo (*sf*) section. The ninth staff begins with a ritardando (*rit.*) and a meno Allegro marking, followed by a piano (*p*) section. The tenth staff includes a rallentando (*rall.*) and a tempo marking, followed by a piano (*pp*) section and a second ending bracket labeled '2'.

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VIOLIN I

5

espress. *p*

p *tranquillo*

f *cresc.* *ff* *cresc.*

meno Allegro *dim.*

rall. *a tempo* *più p* *f* *sf*

f *sf* *sf* *sf* *p* *espress.*

L *rall.* *p* *p* *sf*

sf *p* *più p*

pizz. *1*

VIOLIN I

Allegro moderato à la Polka.

II.

Violin I musical score for 'Allegro moderato à la Polka.' The score is written in 2/4 time and consists of 12 staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music features a variety of dynamic markings and articulations. The first staff begins with a *sf* (sforzando) marking. The second staff includes *sf*, *rfz* (rassordito), and *p* (piano) markings. The third staff has *sf*, *rfz*, *p*, and *f* markings. The fourth staff includes *f*, *sf*, and *p* markings. The fifth staff has *f*, *sf*, and *p* markings. The sixth staff includes *cresc.* (crescendo) and *sf* markings. The seventh staff has *sf* and *p* markings. The eighth staff includes *N leggiero* (Niente, leggiero) and *p* markings. The ninth staff has *p* and *leggiero* markings. The tenth staff includes *O* (Ossia) and *f* markings. The eleventh staff has *f* and *sf* markings. The twelfth staff includes *sf* and *p* markings. The score is marked with various articulations such as accents, slurs, and staccato marks.

The musical score for Violin I consists of ten staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 2/4 time signature. It features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with dynamics ranging from *sf* (sforzando) to *ff* (fortissimo). A 'P' (piano) marking is present. The second staff continues the melodic line with triplets and slurs. The third staff shows a transition to a new section. The fourth staff begins a new section marked 'Q Meno vivo.' (Quasi Meno vivo), with a key signature change to two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a 2/4 time signature. This section includes a Viola part (labeled 'Viola') and various dynamics like *p dolce* (piano dolce), *sf* (sforzando), and *simile*. The fifth staff continues the Viola part. The sixth staff introduces a new section marked 'R' (Ritardando), with dynamics like *cresc.* (crescendo) and *dim.* (diminuendo). The seventh staff continues the 'R' section. The eighth staff begins a new section marked 'S' (Sforzando), with dynamics like *cresc.* and *espressivo*. The ninth staff continues the 'S' section. The tenth staff concludes the piece with a 'Piu' (Piu mosso) marking and a key signature change to one flat (B-flat), with dynamics like *sf*, *poco rall.* (poco rallentando), *dim.*, and *pp* (pianissimo).

VIOLIN I

Allegro.

A musical score for Violin I, marked 'Allegro.' The score consists of ten staves of music. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. Dynamic markings include *rfz* (ritardando, forzando), *f* (forte), *p* (piano), and *leggiere* (light). There are also crescendo and decrescendo hairpins. Performance instructions like 'T' (trill) and 'U' (up-bow) are present. The score ends with a final double bar line and a fermata.

VIOLIN I

9

cresc.
Meno mosso
p dolce
V simile
poco cresc.
breit
f risoluto ed animato
cresc.
ff
X 1 rallent.
pp
Più mosso.
sf con forza

The musical score for Violin I consists of ten staves. The first staff begins with a melodic line in G major, marked *cresc.*. The second staff features a series of chords and a melodic fragment, marked **Meno mosso** and *p dolce*. The third staff continues with chords, marked *V simile*. The fourth staff has a melodic line with a wide interval, marked *poco cresc.* and *breit*. The fifth staff is a fast, rhythmic passage marked *f risoluto ed animato*. The sixth staff continues the fast passage, marked *cresc.*. The seventh staff features a fast, rhythmic passage marked *ff*. The eighth staff has a melodic line marked *X 1 rallent.* and *pp*. The ninth staff is a fast, rhythmic passage marked **Più mosso.** and *sf con forza*. The tenth staff continues the fast passage.

VIOLIN I

Largo sostenuto. *dolce espressivo*

III. 

Viello *p*

cresc.

sf p *cresc.*

dim. sf

dolce *p* *cresc.*

f *sf* *sf* *3*

Più moto. *ff* *C* *rf*

sf *sf* *sf*

sf *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

sf *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf* *sf*

D *pp* *v* *3*

Tempo I. *p* *espressivo e dolce* *sf* *cresc.*

E

VIOLIN I

11

Violin I musical score page 11. The score is written for a single violin in G major, 4/4 time. It features a variety of musical notations including slurs, ties, and dynamic markings. The piece is divided into several sections: a first section with a crescendo, a second section marked '4 G tranquillo' with a 'Vcello' (viola) entry, a third section marked 'H dolce cantando', a fourth section marked 'rall.' and 'I tranquillo', and a final section marked 'dolce'. The score includes dynamic markings such as *sf*, *ff*, *cresc.*, *p*, *pp*, and *ppp*. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4.

VIOLIN I[illegible]

This page contains the Violin I part of a musical score, spanning 13 measures. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is written on ten staves. The music features a variety of dynamics including *fz*, *p*, *ff*, *sf*, *pp*, *cresc. molto*, *rfz*, *f*, *sf*, and *p*. There are also articulation marks such as accents, slurs, and breath marks. The score includes several first endings marked with '1' and a section labeled 'R 2' with a '3' above it. The piece concludes with a final measure marked 'U'.

VIOLIN I

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

cresc. *Più mosso.* *sf* *sf* *ff* *cresc.*

ff *sf* *sf sempre ff* *sf*

Meno presto. *sf ff* *ffz*

f *rfz* *dim.* *ff*

Y Moderato. dolciss. *dim.* *sf* *2 più p*

Allegro. *pp* *Z Meno.* *p dolce*

molto cresc. *ffz* *G.P.* *p* *espr.*

1 *più p* *pp* *pizz.*