

Franz Schubert (1797-1828)

Sonata
in A Minor

"Per Arpeggione"
(1824)

arranged for Viola and piano

Piano Part

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Due to a number of technical problems, the Arpeggione never became popular, and suffered a rapid obsolescence. Its guitar-shaped body made it awkward to hold, and it was difficult to play loudly on a single string because of the low curvature imposed by its many strings. In fact, the sonata presented here is probably the only significant work written specifically for this unusual instrument.

Schubert wrote this piece in 1824, and the care taken to suit the music to the instrument is quite apparent. It can be noted that rarely are dynamics stronger than “p” indicated, especially in fast passages. He made good use of the instrument’s arpeggiating abilities, and wrote the music to show off the arpeggione’s extensive range.

The fact that the music has outlived the instrument by some two centuries is a tribute to Schubert’s genius for memorable melodies. It is sometimes used as a showpiece by exceptional ‘cello players, as only the most capable virtuosi can reach the impossibly high places. Even on viola the higher ranges are difficult, and the lower registers (below open C) are of course impossible.

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A note on the passage starting at bar 330, and similar passages later in the piece. The recommended way to play this is to double-stop the C and G strings, playing the A on the G-string as a “drone.” This gives an interesting “fiddle” effect and is easier than negotiating the shifts if the section is played on adjacent strings in 3rd position.

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Allegro moderato

Franz Schubert (1824)

Piano - right

Piano - left

(Adagio) legato *(accel. poco a poco)*

p *cresc.* *decresc.*

6 *cresc.* *decresc.* *cresc.* *decresc.* *(p)* *(Allegro moderato)*

11 *cresc.*

17 *decresc.* *pp* *cresc.* *fp* *decresc.* *cresc.*

23 *pp* *cresc.*

27 *(mf)* *pp* *A* *f*

32

32 33 34 35 36 37

fz *fz* *p* *cresc.* *decresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 32 through 37. Measure 32 features a forte-zwischen (*fz*) dynamic with a tremolo effect on the right hand. Measures 33 and 34 continue with *fz* dynamics. Measure 35 is marked *p*. Measures 36 and 37 show a crescendo (*cresc.*) followed by a decrescendo (*decresc.*).

38

38 39 40 41

decresc. *pp* *ritard.* (*a tempo*)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 38 through 41. Measure 38 is marked *decresc.*. Measure 39 is marked *pp*. Measure 40 is marked *ritard.*. Measure 41 is marked *(a tempo)*.

42

42 43 44 45

cresc. *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 42 through 45. Measure 42 is marked *cresc.*. Measure 43 is marked *p*. Measures 44 and 45 continue the piece.

46

46 47 48 49 50

cresc. *p* *cresc.* *f* *decresc.* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 46 through 50. Measure 46 is marked *cresc.*. Measure 47 is marked *p*. Measure 48 is marked *cresc.*. Measure 49 is marked *f*. Measure 50 is marked *decresc.* and *p*.

51

51 52 53 54

cresc. *decresc.* *pp* *decresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 51 through 54. Measure 51 is marked *cresc.*. Measure 52 is marked *decresc.*. Measure 53 is marked *pp*. Measure 54 is marked *decresc.*.

55

55 56 57 58

cresc. **B** *f* *decresc.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 55 through 58. Measure 55 is marked *cresc.*. Measure 56 contains a section marker **B**. Measure 57 is marked *f*. Measure 58 is marked *decresc.*.

59

59 60 61 62

p *cresc.* *f* *decresc.* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 59 through 62. Measure 59 is marked *p*. Measure 60 is marked *cresc.*. Measure 61 is marked *f*. Measure 62 is marked *decresc.* and *p*.

64 *cresc. decresc.*

69 *cresc. decresc.* *f fz p fz*

75 *(poco rit.)* *p cresc. f p*

82 *cresc.* 3 3 3 3

88 *(a tempo)* *pp* *D*

93 *(poco rit.)* *cresc. f cresc.*

97 *fz p pp cresc.*

103 *(a tempo)*

E *mf* *pp*

107

cresc. (poco a poco)

110

f *cresc.*

114

f *cresc.* *ff* *ffz*

119 *(ritard.)*

pp *fp*

126 *a tempo*

F *p*

132

cresc. *decresc.* *pp* *cresc.* *fp decresc.*

138

G *p*

142

pp

146

cresc. *f* *decresc.* *pp* (ritard.)

151

H *f* *decresc.* *cresc.* *decresc.* *p*

156

poco accel. *decresc.* *ritard.* *(a tempo)* *pp*

160

G

163

cresc. *p* *cresc.* *p*

167

cresc. *decresc.* *p*

172

p

175

p **J** *f*

179

p *cresc.* *f* *decresc.* *mf* *decresc.* *p*

184

cresc. *decresc.* *fp* *decresc.*

188

cresc. *decresc.* **K** *p* (rit.)

193

pp *dim.*

200

dim. *f* *p* *decresc.*

206

Adagio (mm=60)

ff *legato pp*

213

cresc. *decresc.*

220

cresc. *decresc.* *pp* *pp* *p* *cresc.*

227

mf *decresc.* *p* *p* *cresc.*

234

f *decresc.* *p* *p* *cresc.* *decresc.*

240

p *M* *p* *p* *cresc.* *fp*

245

decresc. cresc. decresc. p cresc.

251

decresc. fz p cresc. decresc.

256

N p decresc.

264

pp

271

279

Allegretto (mm=105)

p

288

cresc. pp O (2nd time louder)

296

cresc. *decresc.* *cresc.* *decresc.*

305

cresc. *decresc.* *p* *decresc.*

314

cresc. *decresc.* *p*

323

pp *cresc.* *fz* (Allargando)

331

p

339

decresc. *pp* *cresc.* *mf*

347

p *cresc.* *decresc.* *pp*

356

Q p

364

pp fz (poco rit) (Allegro) mf p

373

decresc.

380

pp p

388

pp

397

(molto rit mm=85) (poco accel.)

407

(poco rit.)

415 *(Allegretto)*
p

424
cresc. *pp* *cresc.*

433
decresc. *cresc.* *decresc.*

442
cresc. *decresc.* *p* *decresc.*

451
cresc. *decresc.* *p* *pp*

460 *meno mosso*
cresc. *fz* **S** *p*

469
pp *cresc. decresc.* *cresc. decresc.*

478

cresc. decresc. p

487

cresc. f decresc. p T

a tempo (allegro)

495

p (2)

502

cresc. f p cresc. decresc.

511

pp cresc. f decresc. pp

522

p cresc. decresc. p U
(poco rit.) (allargando)

530

cresc. decresc. cresc.

539

544

549 *(a tempo)*

557

565

573

581

589

X *ritard.*
mp

597

decresc. *pp* *p*

604

pp

613

(meno mosso)

623

a tempo

Y *a tempo*

631

cresc. *decresc.*

640

pp *cresc.* *decresc.* *p* *cresc.*

648

decresc. mf cresc. decresc.

This system contains measures 648 through 656. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth-note patterns, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of quarter notes. Dynamic markings include *decresc.*, *mf*, *cresc.*, and *decresc.*.

657

Z p cresc. decresc.

This system contains measures 657 through 664. The right hand has a more active melodic line with eighth-note patterns, and the left hand continues with quarter notes. A square box containing the letter 'Z' is placed above the first measure. Dynamic markings include *p*, *cresc.*, and *decresc.*.

665

p decresc. pp

This system contains measures 665 through 673. The right hand features a complex melodic line with sixteenth-note runs and slurs. The left hand has a simpler accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *p*, *decresc.*, and *pp*.

674

decresc. ff p

This system contains measures 674 through 681. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs, and the left hand has a steady accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *decresc.*, *ff*, and *p*. The system concludes with a double bar line.

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Viola Part

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Viola

mf

14 *decresc. p cresc. decresc. pp cresc.*

20 *fp decresc. cresc.*

24 *pp cresc.*

28 *mf decresc. pp f tr*

33 *p*

38 *decresc. (ritard.) 3 (a tempo) pp*

42 *cresc.*

45 *p cresc. p*

48 *cresc. f p tr cresc. decresc. 3*

52 *pp*

55 **B** *f* *decresc.* *f* *decresc.*

59 *p* *cresc.*

62 *f* *p* *tr* *cresc.* *decresc.*

67 *tr* *cresc.* *decresc.* (Pizz.)

72 1. 2. **C** (*poco rit.*) [Pizz.] *p* *cresc.*

78 *decresc.* *f* *Arco* *p*

83 *cresc.* *decresc.*

89 **D** (*a tempo*)

92 (*poco rit.*) *fp* *fp*

95 *cresc.* *f* *cresc.* *fz* *p*

99 *pp* *cresc.* *mf* *(a tempo)* **E**

104 *pp*

107 *cresc.* *mf*

113 *cresc.* *f* *ff* *cresc.* *ffz* *decresc.*

119 *p* *cresc.* *3* *3* *fp*

125 *(ritard.)* *decresc.* *mf* *(a tempo)* **F**

130 *cresc.* *decresc.* *pp*

135 *cresc.* *fp* *decresc.* *p* **G**

140 *pp*

146 *cresc.* *(Pizz.)* *(Arco)* *decresc.* *pp* *(ritard.)* *f*

151 **H** *tr* *cresc.* *decresc.*

155 *(poco accel.)* *ritard.*
p *decesc.*

159 *(a tempo)*
pp

162 *cresc.* *p*

165 *cresc.* *p*

167 *cresc.* *f* *dim.* *p* *tr* *cresc.* *decesc.* *3*

171 *p*

174 *f* *J*

177 *p*

180 *cresc.* *f* *decesc.* *p* *tr*

184 *cresc.* *decesc.* *3* *fp* *decesc.* *tr* *cresc.* *decesc.*

189 *(rit.)* *p* *cresc.* *decesc.* *K*

194 *pp* *cresc.* *decresc.*

199 *dim.* *f* *decresc.* *decresc.* *p*

205 *ff* *Adagio (mm=60)*

210 *p* *cresc.* *decresc.* *cresc.* *decresc.*

218 *cresc.* *decresc.* *pp*

225 *pp* *cresc.* *mf* *decresc.* *cresc.* *mf* *decresc.* *p*

232 *cresc.* *f* *decresc.* *p* *pp* *cresc.*

239 *decresc.* *p* *cresc.* *fp* *decresc.*

246 *cresc.* *decresc.* *p* *cresc.* *fp* *decresc.*

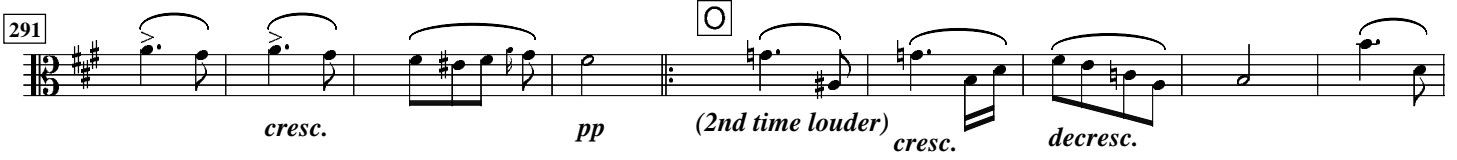
253 *p* *cresc.* *decresc.* *p*

260 *pp*

268 

275 *(accel.)* 

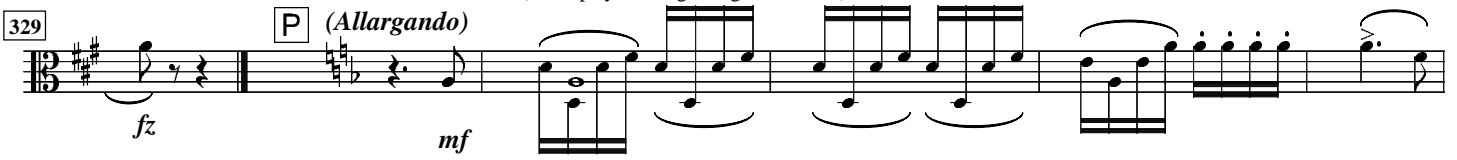
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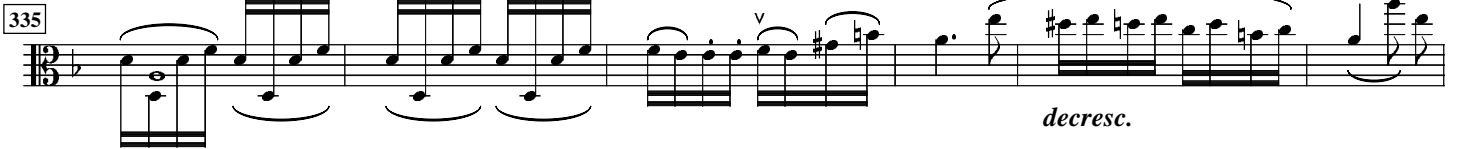
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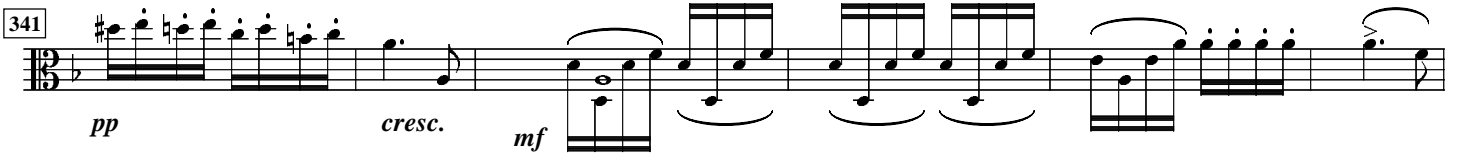
300 

310 

320 

329 

335 

341 

347 

354 Q

p

361

369 *(poco rit)* *(accel.)* *(Allegro)*

cresc. *mf*

374

decresc.

380

pp *p*

389

pp

398 *(molto rit)* *(poco accel.)*

(cresc.) *(decresc.)*

407 *(poco rit.)* *(poco rit.)* *(Allegretto)*

p

416

425

cresc. *pp* *cresc.* *decresc.*

435

cresc. *decresc.* *cresc.* *decr.*

445 *p* *decresc.* *cresc.* *decresc.*

455 *p* *pp* *cresc.*

464 *fz* *p* *pp* *p* *meno mosso* *S*

472 *pp* *cresc.* *decresc.* *cresc.* *decresc.*

478 *leggermente* *cresc.* *decresc.*

485 *p* *pp* *cresc.* *f* *decresc.* *rit.*

494 *p* *cresc.* *fp* *a tempo (allegro)* *T*

500 *cresc.* *f* *decr.*

506 *p* *f* *cresc.* *decresc.* *pp*

514 *cresc.* *f* *decresc.* *pp* *p* *cresc.*

523 *decresc.* *p* *(poco rit.)* *U* *(allargando)* *Pizz.*

531

539

547 *poco rit.* *mf* *(a tempo)*

553 *decresc.*

559 *pp* *mf*

566 *cresc.* *decresc.* *pp*

573 *p*

580 *pp* *sf P* *(rubato)*

589 *rit.* *cresc.* *mp* *a tempo*

594 *decresc.*

600 *pp* *p* *pp* *pp*

609 *(meno mosso)*

618 *poco rit. a tempo ritard. a tempo*

627

637 *cresc. decresc. pp cresc. decresc. p*

647 *cresc. decresc. mf cresc. f decr.*

657 *p cresc. decresc.*

666 *p pp*

674 *dim. ff p*