Ithaca College Summer Music Academy

2025 High School Division Orchestra Auditions:

Welcome to the 2025 Ithaca College Summer Music Academy! We are excited that you are joining us this summer and look forward to seeing you on our beautiful campus. It is going to be another exciting and action-packed summer!

All students will play an audition to help SMA faculty seat them in orchestra and place them in a chamber ensemble. The audition is a short 5-minute hearing that will occur on the first Sunday afternoon of SMA. Students will be assigned to an audition room where one or two faculty members will hear them play. Specific information concerning the audition room assignments and the format itself will be provided at the orientation meeting on the first Sunday afternoon of SMA.

The audition performance will consist of two components:

1. Orchestral Excerpts
2. Sight-reading

The orchestral excerpts are selected from pieces that will be performed this summer and can be found on the pages below (see the appropriate pages for your instrument). Please spend time preparing the excerpts before coming to SMA. You can find recordings of all the pieces by searching the title on J.W. Pepper (www.jwpepper.com).Do your best to follow the fingerings, bowings, and tempi that are marked. Immediately after you have played through the excerpts for the faculty member(s), you will be asked to perform a brief sight-reading example as the second component of the audition.

We look forward to meeting you at the start of our Summer Music Academy! If you have any questions, please direct them to Academy Director Julie Carr (sma@ithaca.edu).

Cassie Sulbarán
Orchestra Division Coordinator

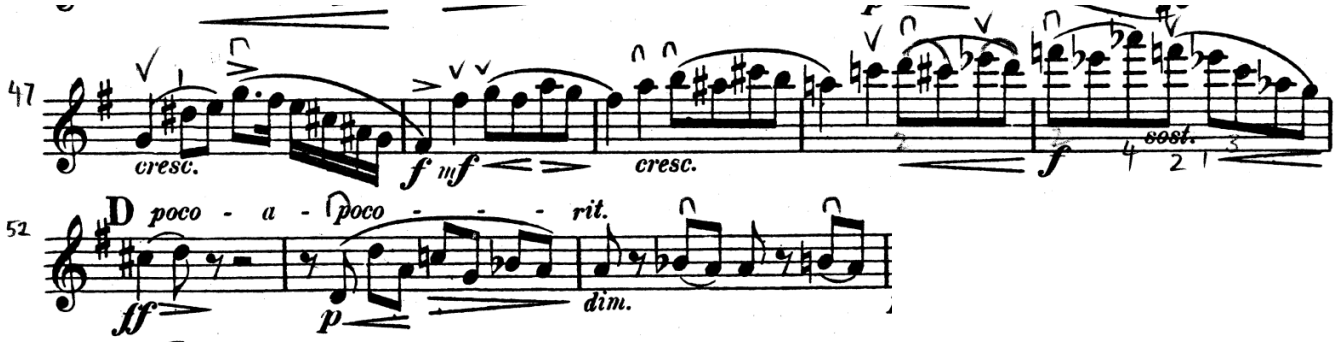
Week 1 Program – Dr. James Mick, Conductor
Edward Elgar- Serenade for Strings
Astor Piazzolla/arr. Palmer: Milonga del Ángel
Emilie Mayer/arr. Taylor: Symphony No. 2, Finale

Week 2 Program –Mr. Jonathan Lam, Conductor
Josef Suk- Serenade for Strings op. 6, mvt. 1
Edvard Grieg- Peer Gynt Suite 1, mvt. 2- Åses Tod
Eric Ewazen- Sinfonia for Strings, mvt. 3

Violin (4 total)

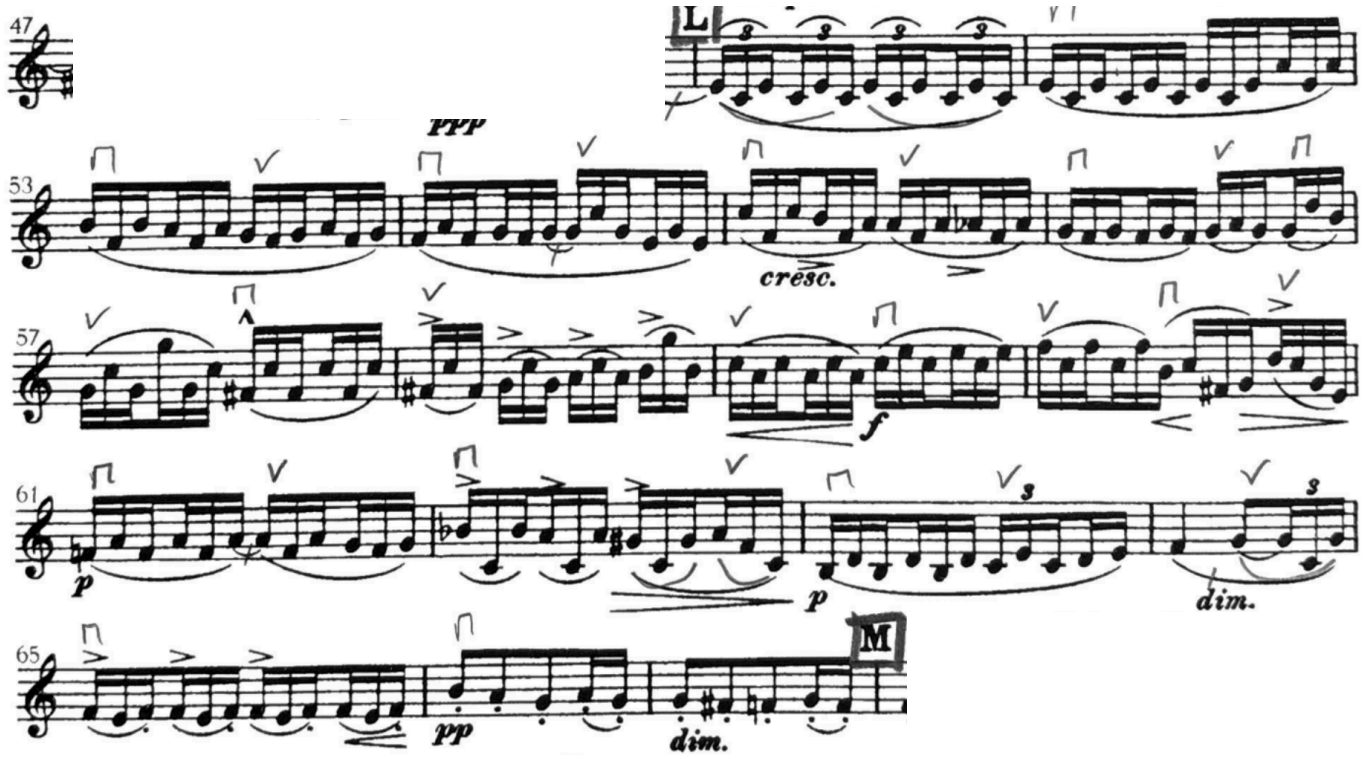
Excerpt 1
Suk Serenade, mvt. 1. mm. 47-55 (in 4/4 time)

♩ = 120

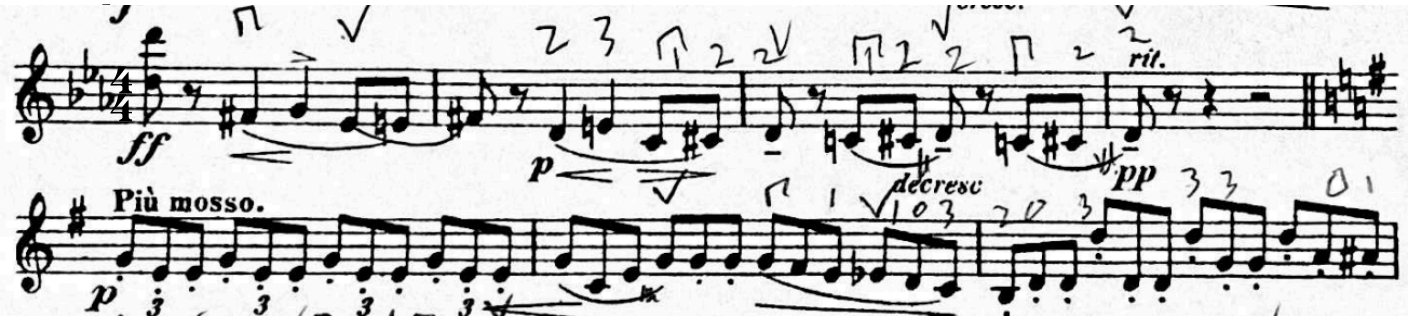


Excerpt 2
Elgar Serenade for Strings, mvt. 2. reh. L-M (in 2/4 time)

♪ = 80

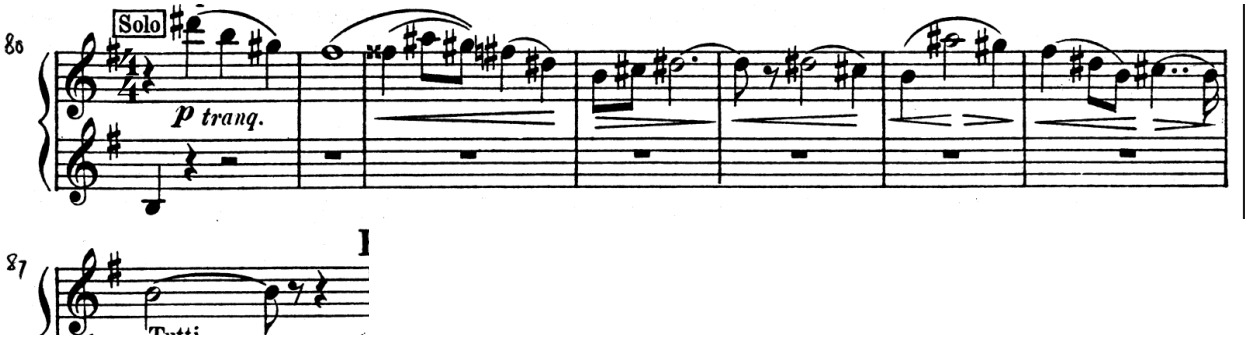


Excerpt 3
Suk Serenade, mvt. 1. mm. 32-38 (in 4/4 time, be mindful of the key change)
♩= 120



Excerpt 4

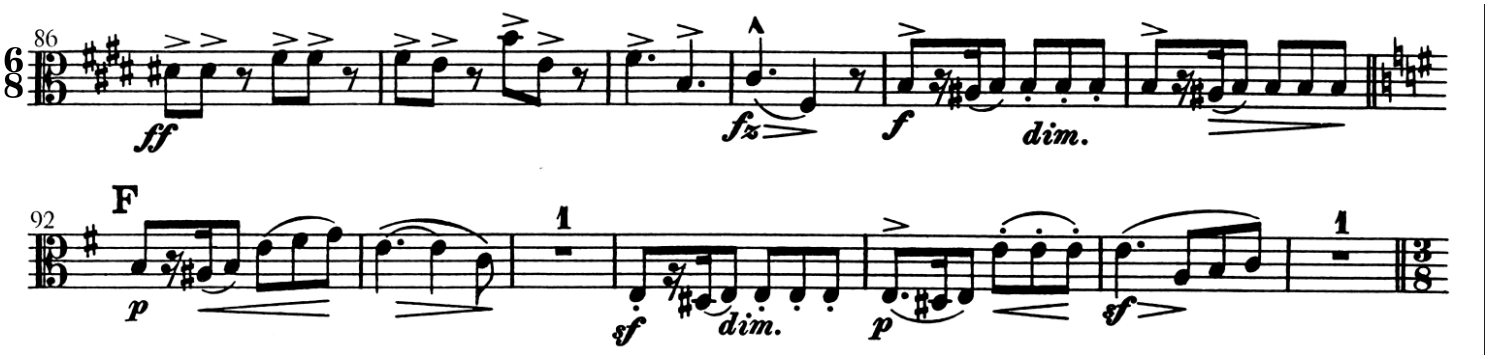
Suk- Serenade mvt. 1. mm. 80-87
Please prepare this excerpt if you are interested in auditioning for the 1st violin section.
♩= 120



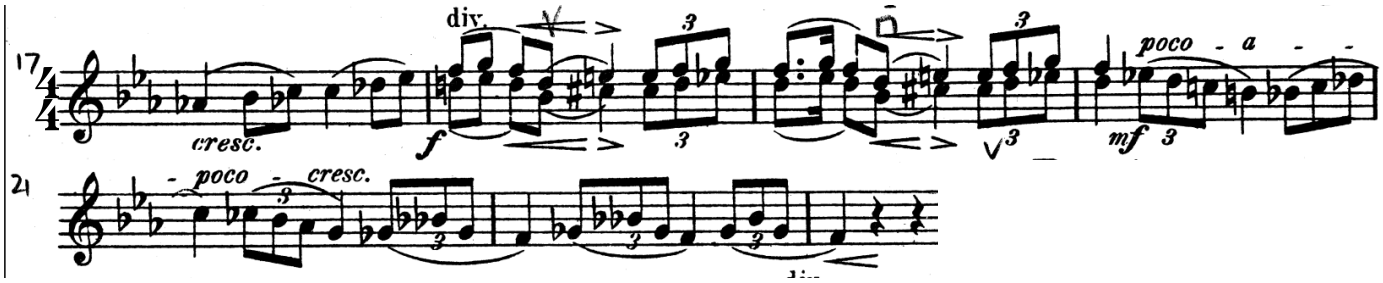
Viola (3 Excerpts)

Excerpt 1
Elgar- Serenade for Strings, mvt. 1. mm. 86-98 (in 6/8 time)

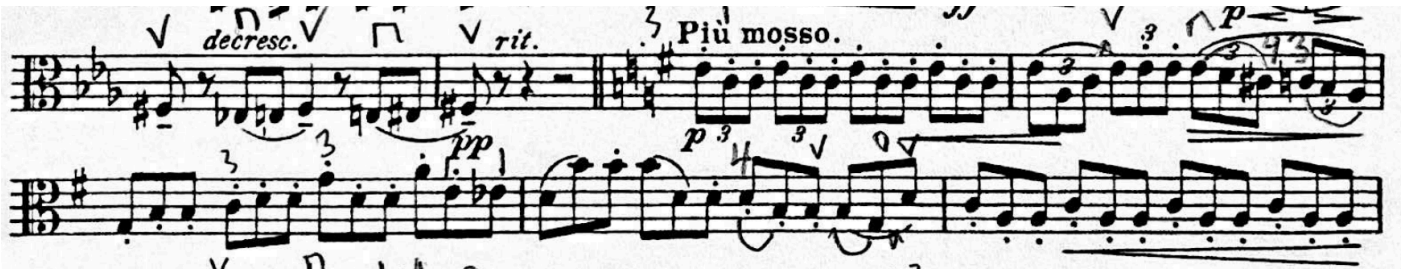
♩. = 100



Excerpt 2
Suk- Serenade, mvt. 1. mm.17-23
take note of the clef, play the top of the divisi line
♩ = 120



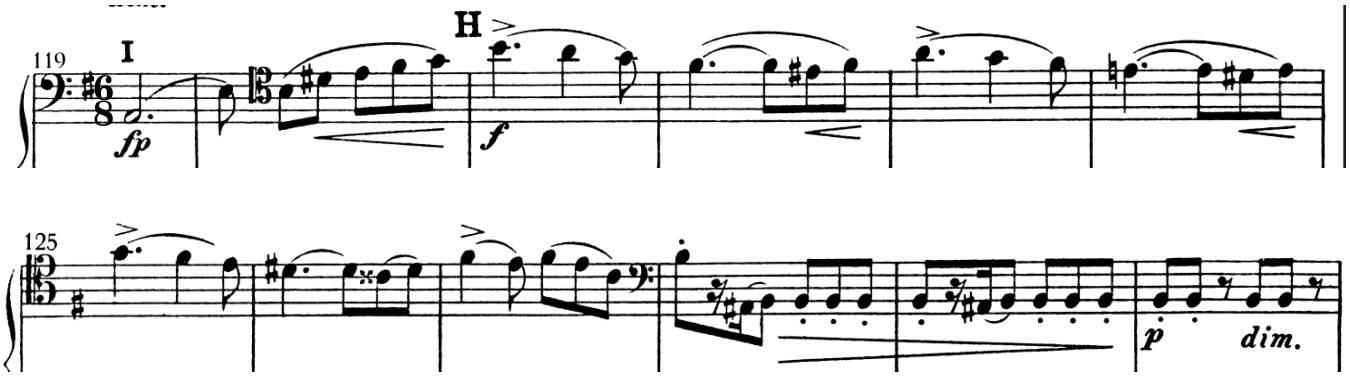
Excerpt 3
Suk- Serenade, mvt. 1. mm. 34-40 (in 4/4 time, take note of the key change)
♩= 120



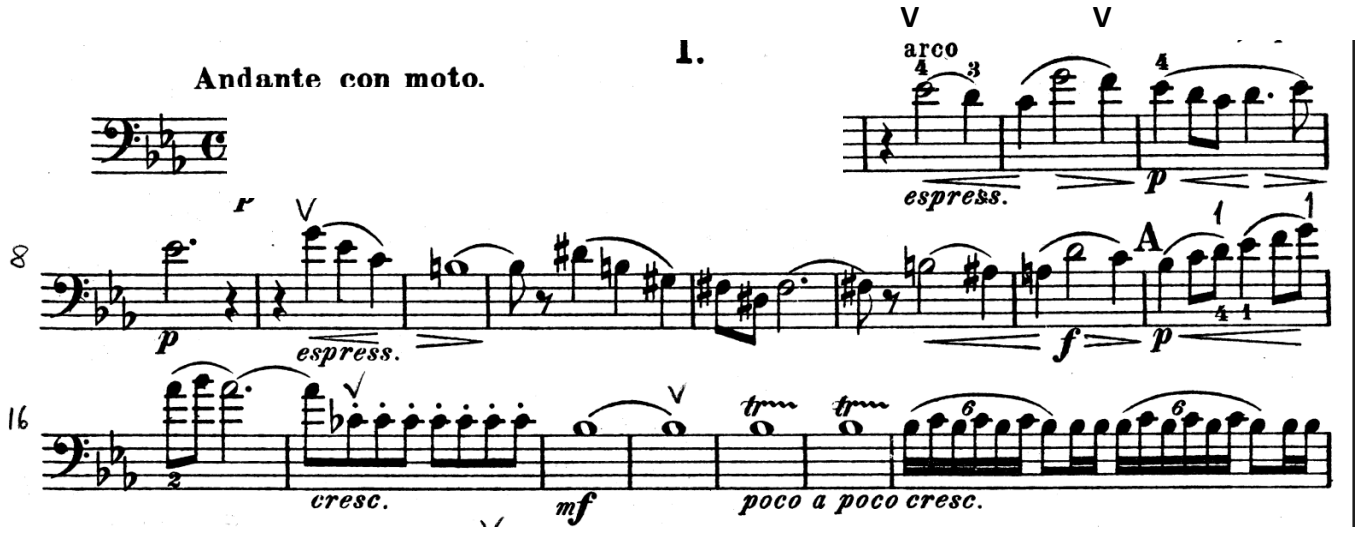
Cello (3 Excerpts)

Excerpt 1
Elgar Serenade for Strings, mvt. 1 mm. 119-130 (*take note of the clef changes*)

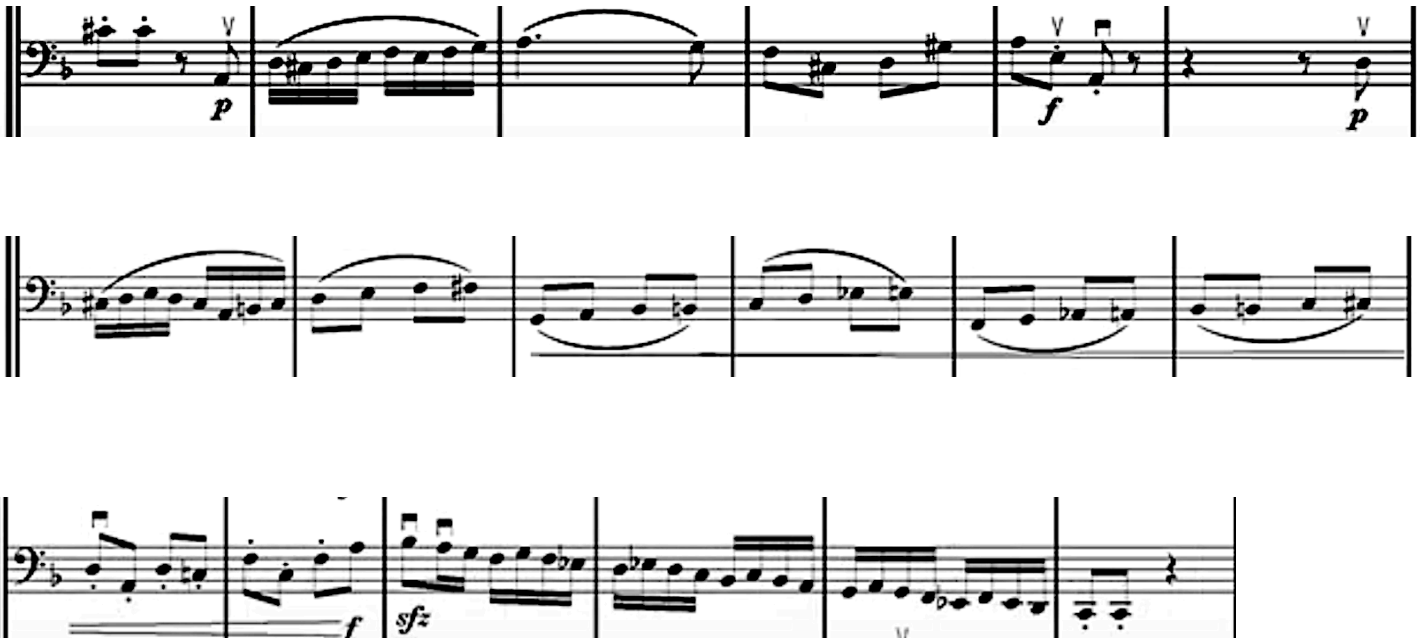
♩. = 100



Excerpt 2
Suk- Serenade, mvt. 1. mm. 5-18
♩= 120



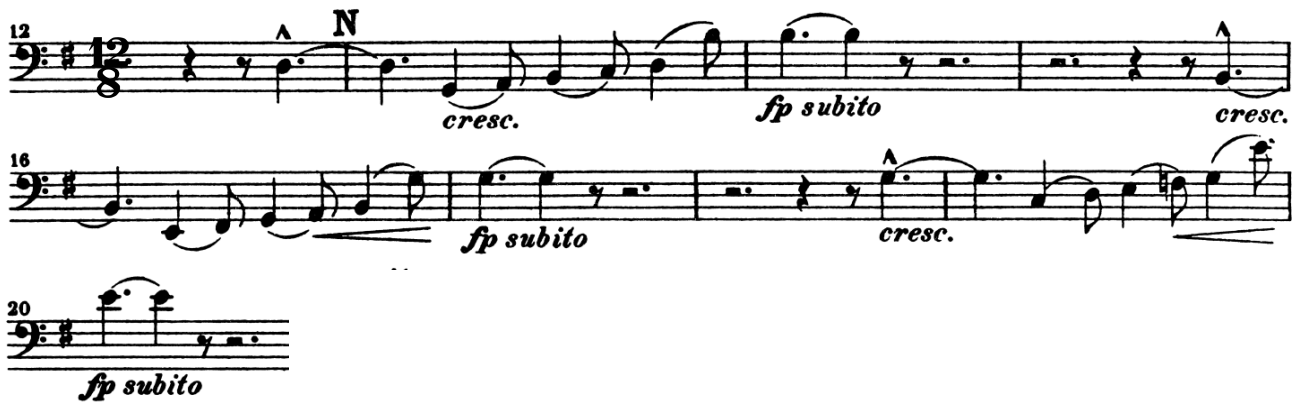
Excerpt 3
Emilie Mayer Symphony 2, Finale. mm. 8-25 (in 2/4 time)
♩= 100



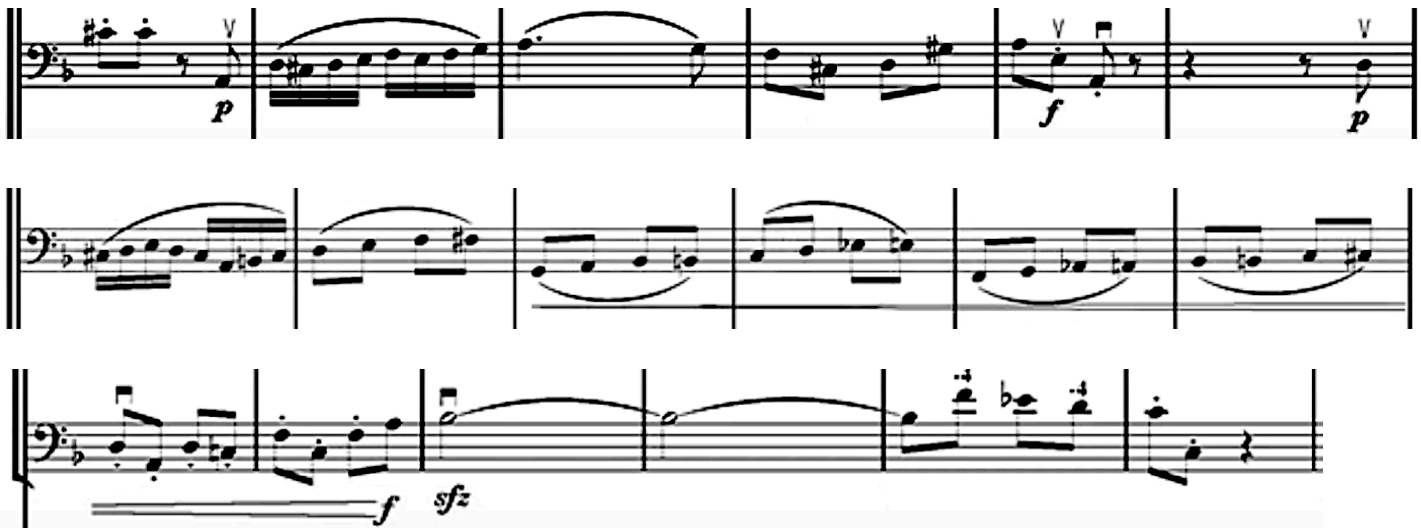
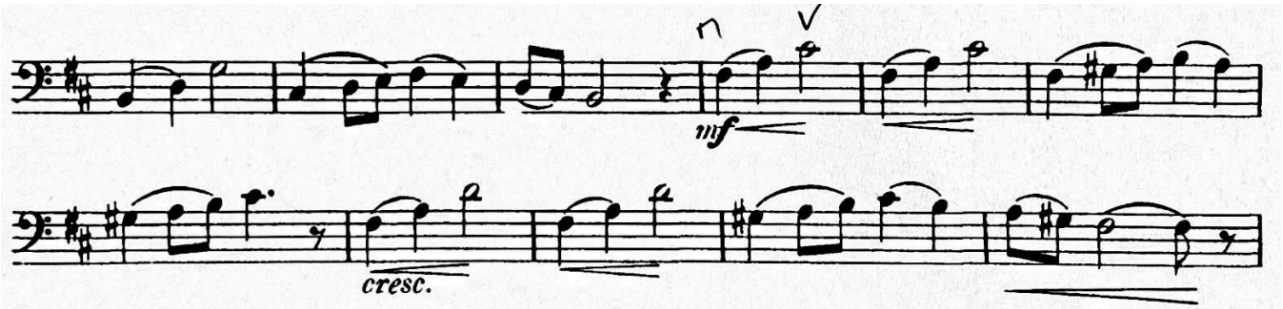
Bass (3 Excerpts)

Excerpt 1
Elgar Serenade for Strings, mvt. 3. mm. 12-20

♩.= 100



Excerpt 2
Emilie Mayer Symphony 2, Finale. mm. 8-25 (in 2/4 time)
♩= 100



Excerpt 3
Grieg- Åses Tod, mm. 6-16 (in 4/4 time)
♩= 55