11 Orchestral Etudes for Bass Trombone
by Karl Hinterbichler

Introduction & Practice Notes

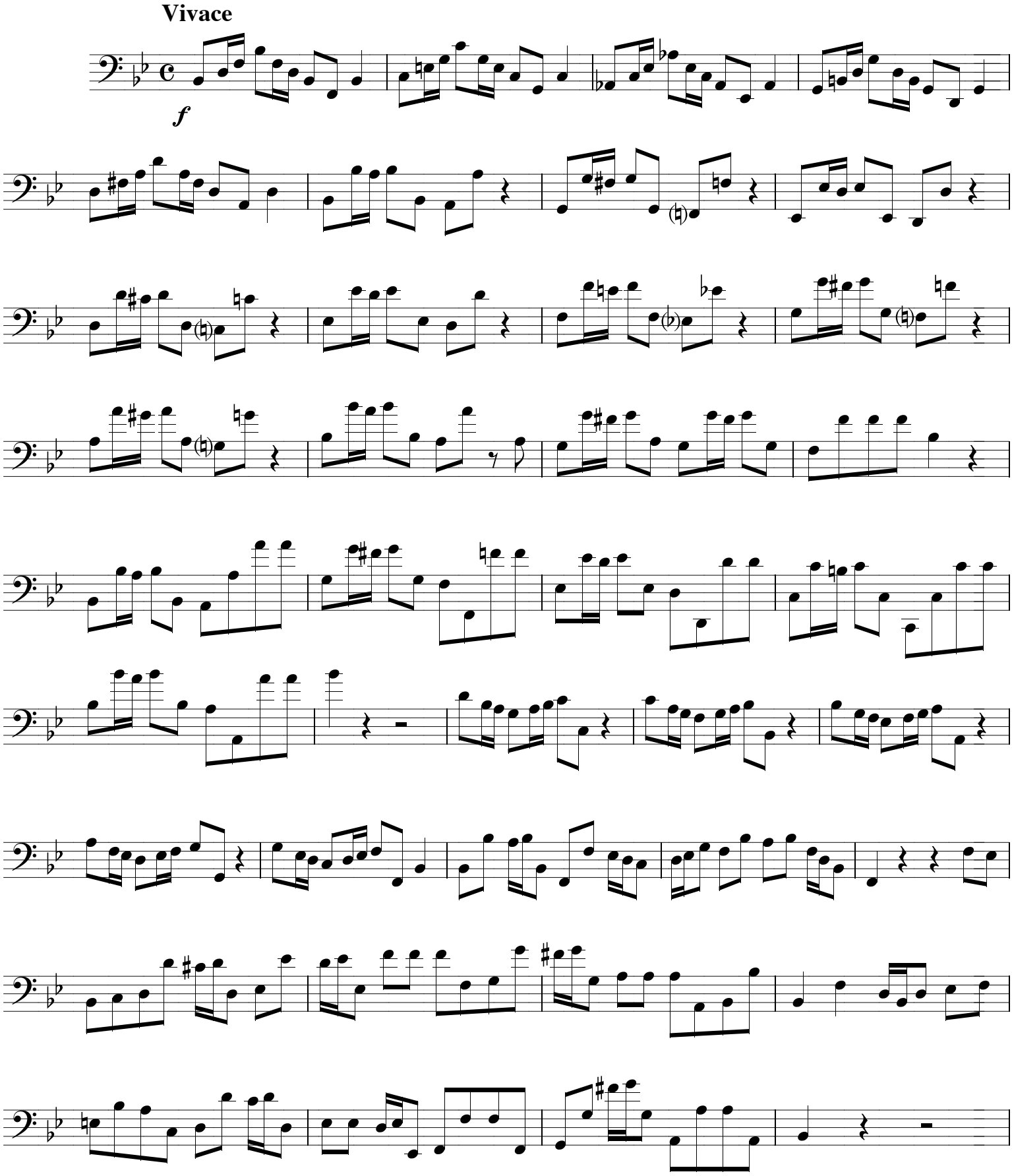
These etudes are based on some of the more challenging excerpts in the bass trombone orchestral repertoire. It is assumed that the player already has a basic familiarity with the original excerpts and the works they are drawn from. The etudes are for the most part more challenging than the excerpts. They offer different ways of approaching this music and adding variety to one's practice routine. It is hoped that by practicing and mastering these etudes, the excerpts themselves will become less daunting and easier to perform.

1) **Intelligent Design?** (*Creation* – Haydn) This is technically more difficult, requiring greater flexibility, breath control and range than the original. Practice this at a variety of tempi and dynamics, always in a light style.
2) **Show and Tell (***William Tell Overture* – Rossini) This etude offers different practice approaches to some of the technical and rhythmic challenges posed by Rossini. Subdivisions are written out and passages appear both backward, forward and in altered rhythms.
3) **Heldennotes (***Ein Heldenleben* – Richard Strauss) This etude offers practice material on several of the most difficult passages in this work. The range, dynamic contrasts and breath control exceed the requirements of the original.
4) **Berlirhythm** (*Hungarian March* – Berlioz) This etude expands the rhythmic ideas of syncopation found in the original. Great workout with your metronome and as a study in articulation.
5) **Drill Ride (***Ride of the Valkyries* –Wagner) This takes a systematic approach to drilling the rhythms and note values in Wagner. As an aid to ear training and intonation, it proceeds from an easy key to the original more difficult tonality. Love your metronome and recording equipment for this one!
6) **Golden Tones (***Das Rheingold* – Wagner) This covers some of the excerpts found in the first of Wagner's *Ring Cycle* operas. The etude takes the low register requirements to extremes. A great workout for breath and dynamic control.
7) **Rossini Riffs (**Overture to *La Gazza Ladra* – Rossini) Another etude that drills various aspects of the technical runs and arpeggios found in this overture. This is also an excellent intonation study in these keys.
8) **Lohendrill (***Prelude to Act III of Lohengrin* – Wagner). Another series of drills to help in rhythmic accuracy and clarity of articulation. Subdivision is a key element to the mastering of this etude.
9) **Franck Melodies (***Symphony in d* – Franck) You get to play some of the gorgeous melodies found in this work. Also covers some of the range and flexibility requirements that must be mastered.
10) **Hary Ruminations (***Hary Janos* – Kodaly) Always a favorite on auditions, this etude offers some approaches to ear training the upper register by going back and forth between an easy key and a difficult one. Also great for working the high range that this excerpt requires.
11) **Strauss Strikes Again (***Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* – Richard Strauss) Although not as difficult as some of the other excerpts, this puts the bass trombone in a chamber orchestra setting. This calls for quite a different approach than the other Strauss excerpt. Again the etude is much more difficult than the excerpt.

Karl Hinterbichler, Professor of Trombone
University of New Mexico

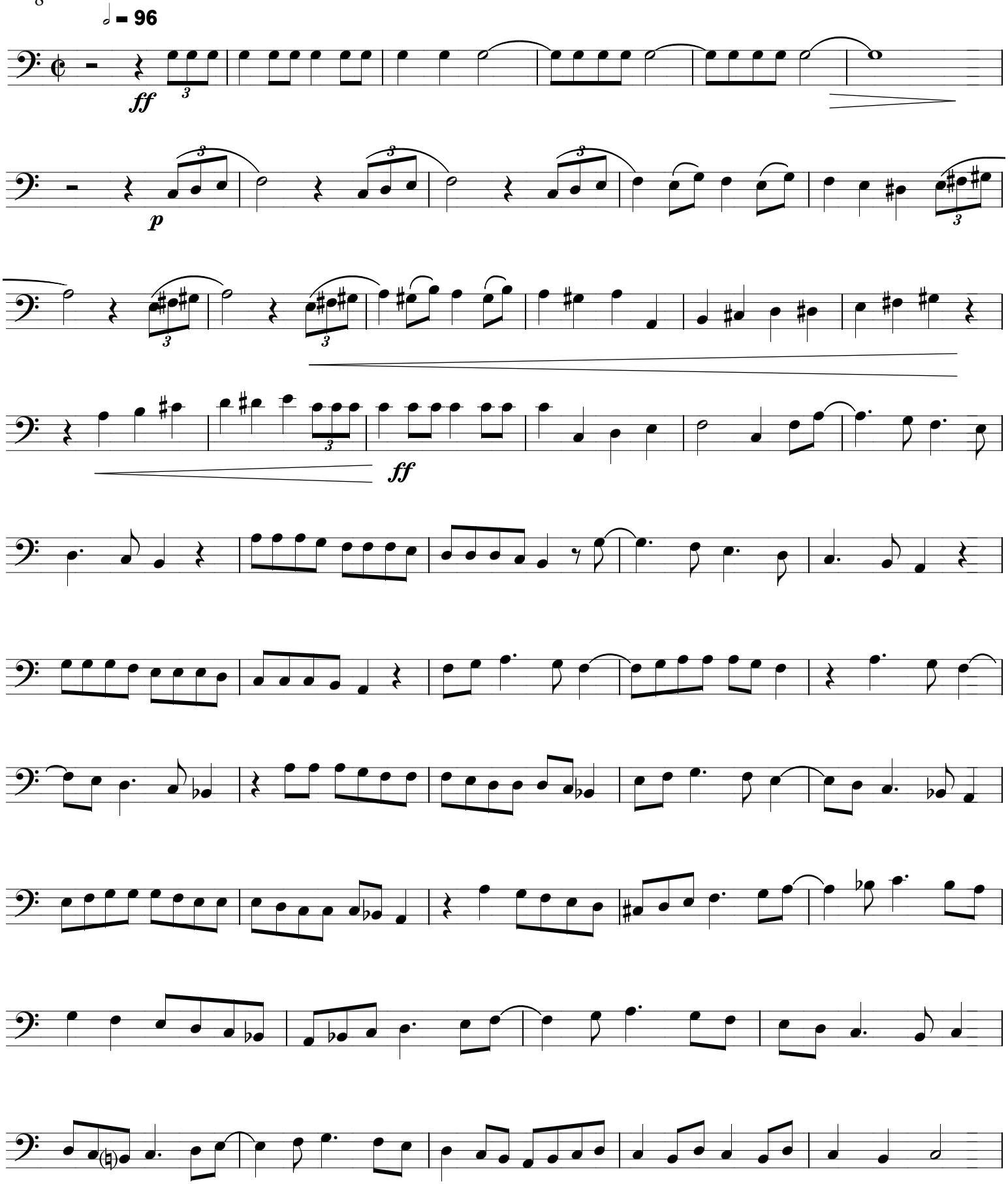
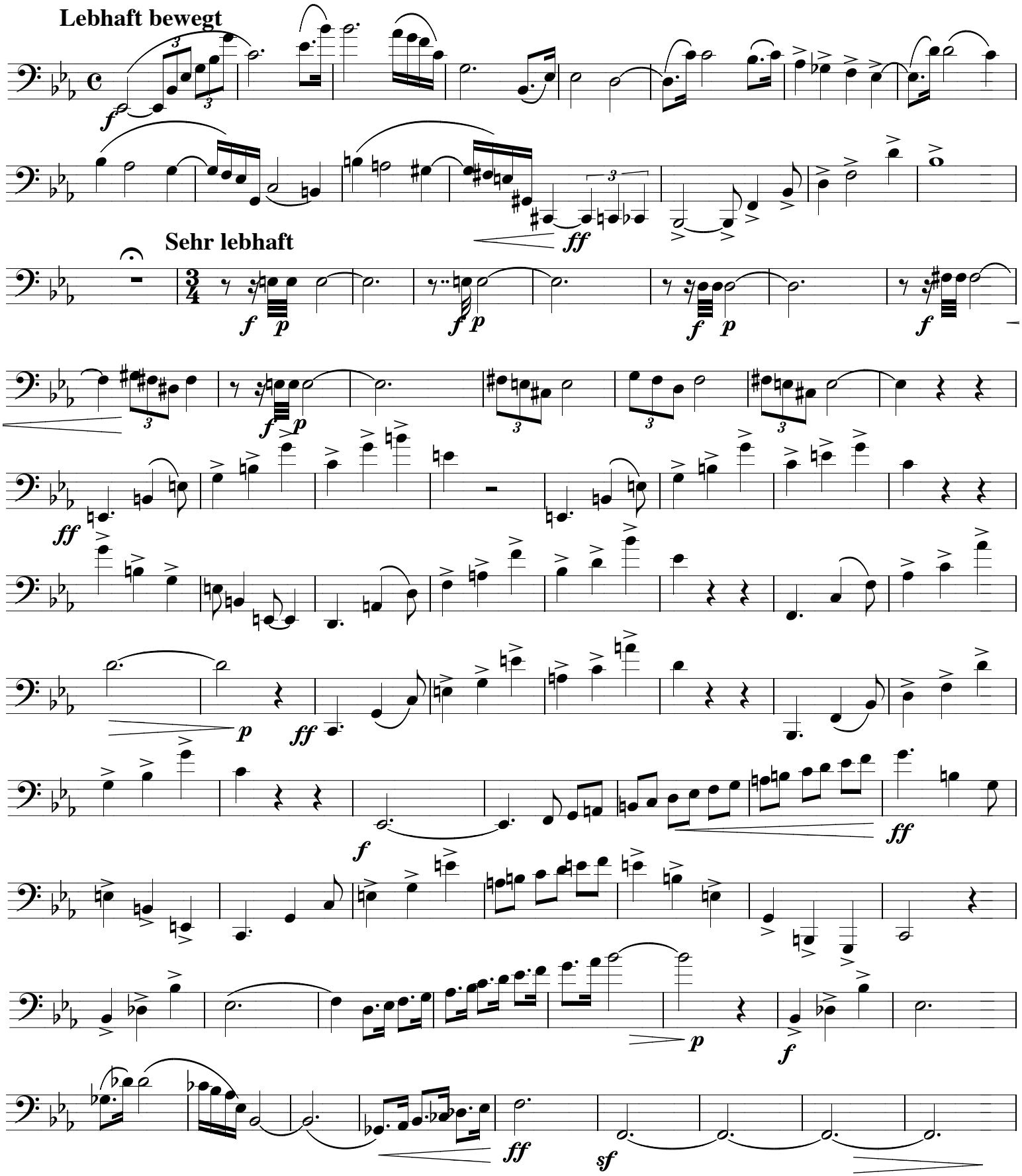
© 2006 Karl Hinterbichler
Distributed by Cherry Classics Music / www.Cherry-Classics.com

Intelligent Design?



© 2006 Karl Hinterbichler
Distributed by Cherry Classics Music / www.Cherry-Classics.com

Berlirhythm



Heldennotes