Preface

During his life three volumes of etudes written by Marinus Komst were published ("12 Etudes characteristiques", "Dix études brillantes" and "15 études pour Trompette"). A fourth volume, the present "12 Exercises" composed by Marinus Komst in 1930, has never been published before. A folder with manuscripts of these exercises (as Komst himself called them) was found by his biographer Ralph Henssen in a pile of sheet music from his estate. When Komst composed these virtuoso pieces he was only 22 years old. As far as we know he had no students yet, so it can be assumed that he composed these demanding exercises for himself.

The year 1930 was characterised by Komst's transition from the orchestra of the Tushinski theatre in Amsterdam to the orchestra of the VARA radio in Hilversum. In Amsterdam the young Komst was already a virtuoso and celebrated trumpet player. His time with the VARA orchestra was characterized by a great national fame because of the many solo radio performances he gave.

These exercises give an impression of the virtuosity he already possessed at that time. They also show the qualities of Komst as a composer.

Although Komst later (probably in the 1980s) made changes to these exercises, it was decided to follow the original versions. The reason for this is that the changes he made are often very unclear and incomplete.

The 13th bonus etude was written by Marinus Komst for the final exams of students of Klaas Kos at the Arnhem conservatory in the late 1970's or early 1980's. Kos was a former student of Komst and later his colleague and successor in the Concertgebouw Orchestra.

Biography

Marinus Johannes Komst (1908 - 1997) was born in Amsterdam. At the age of four he received his first cornet lessons from his father, who was conductor of various wind orchestras in and around Amsterdam. From 1922 to 1925 Komst studied with Emil Kresse (1856 - 1935) - solo trumpet player of the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra - at the orchestra school of the Amsterdam Conservatory. Immediately after graduation he began his career as trumpet player at the Tuschinski Theatre in Amsterdam, after which he switched to the orchestra of the VARA radio in 1930. In 1934 Komst was asked by conductor Eduard van Beinum to succeed Dirk Speets as principal trumpet of the Concertgebouw Orchestra. In the same year he was also appointed professor at the Amsterdam Conservatory.

Komst enjoyed worldwide fame for his characteristic sound and style of playing. He finished his career as principal trumpet in 1972. Due to the large number of students, who later held important positions in the Dutch orchestras, he left his mark on the Dutch trumpet school. Marinus Komst passed away in Amsterdam in 1997.

Ralph Henssen

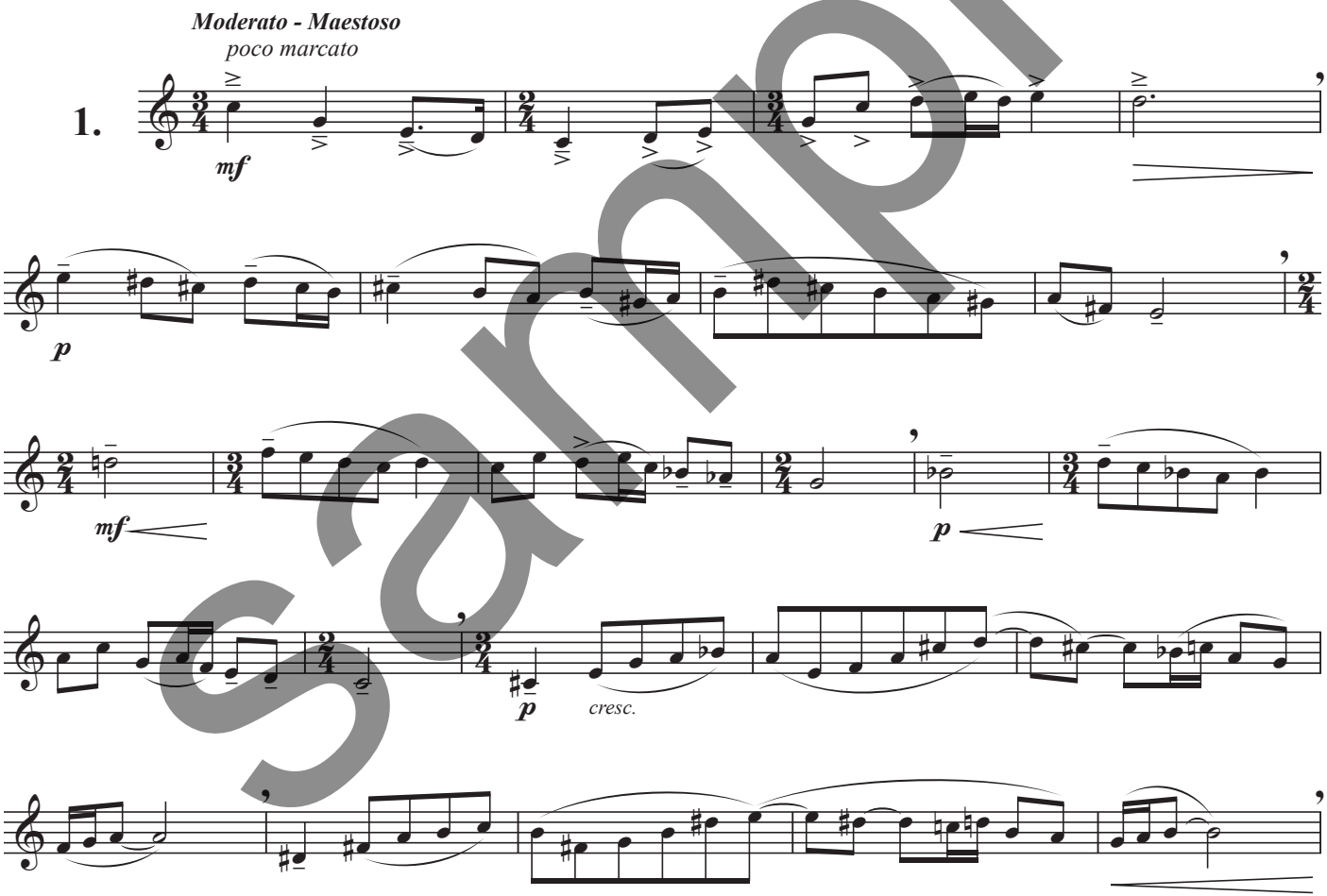
sample

12 exercises (1930)

for Trumpet or Cornet

Marinus Komst

Prelude



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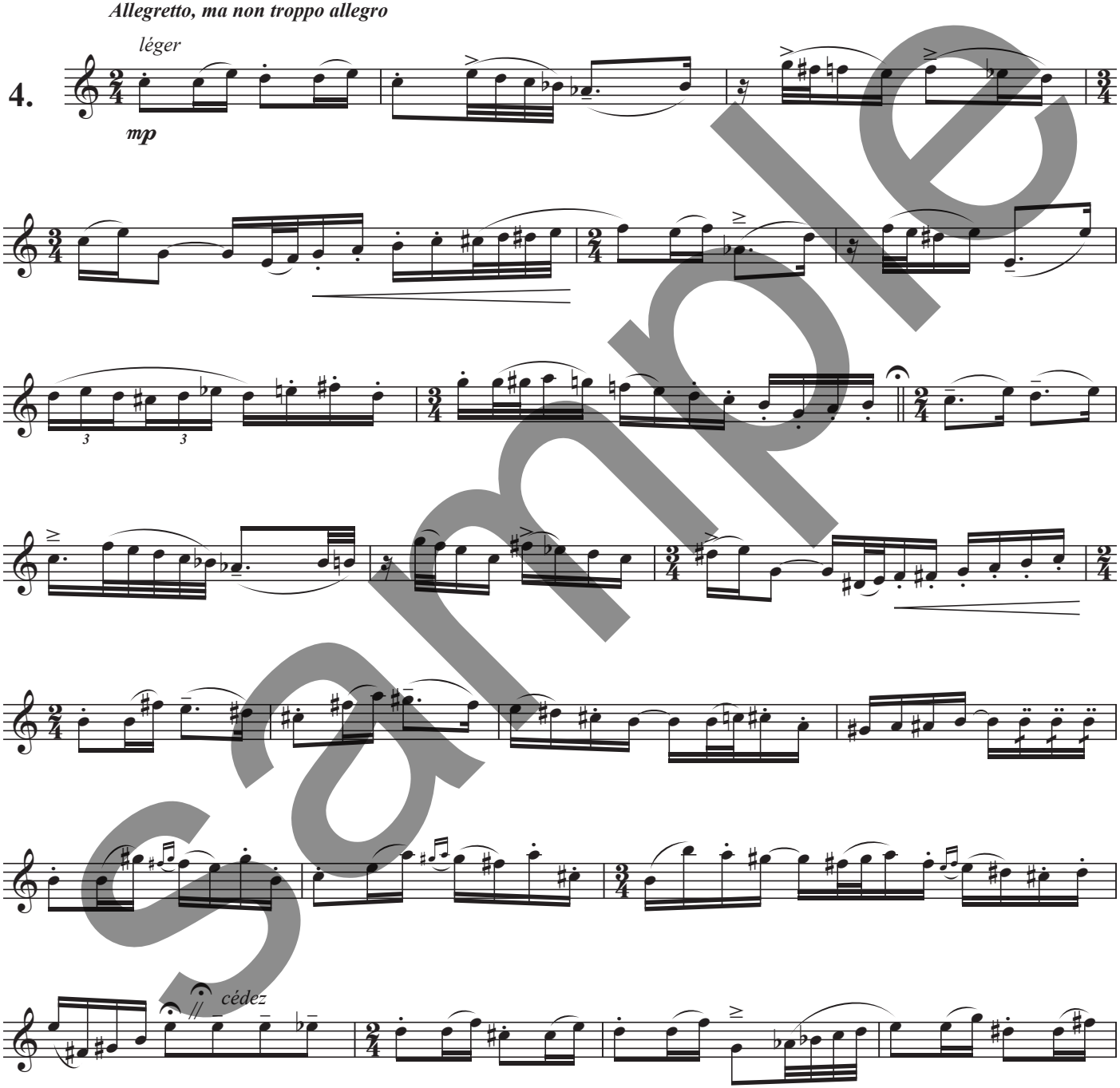

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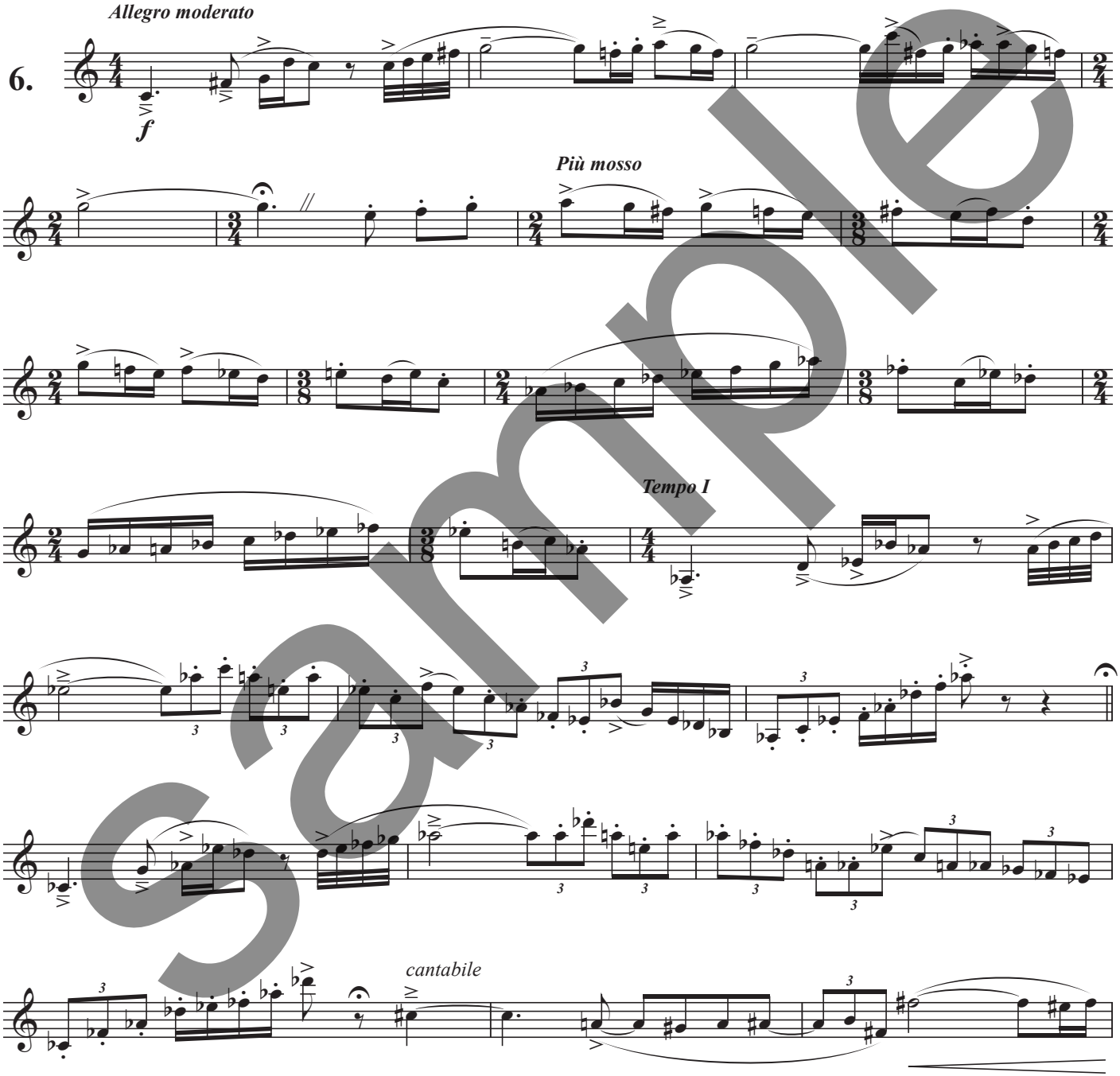

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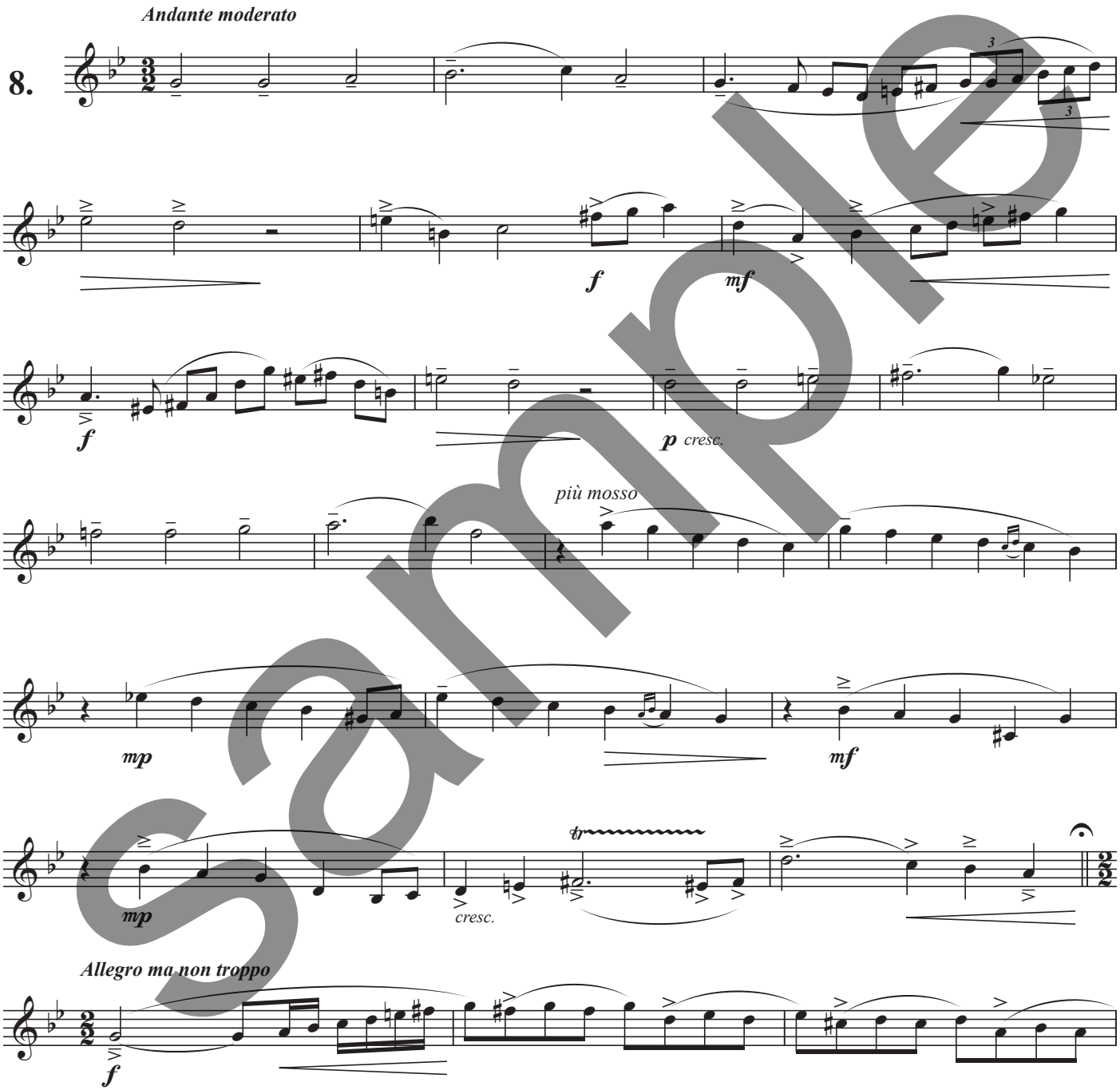
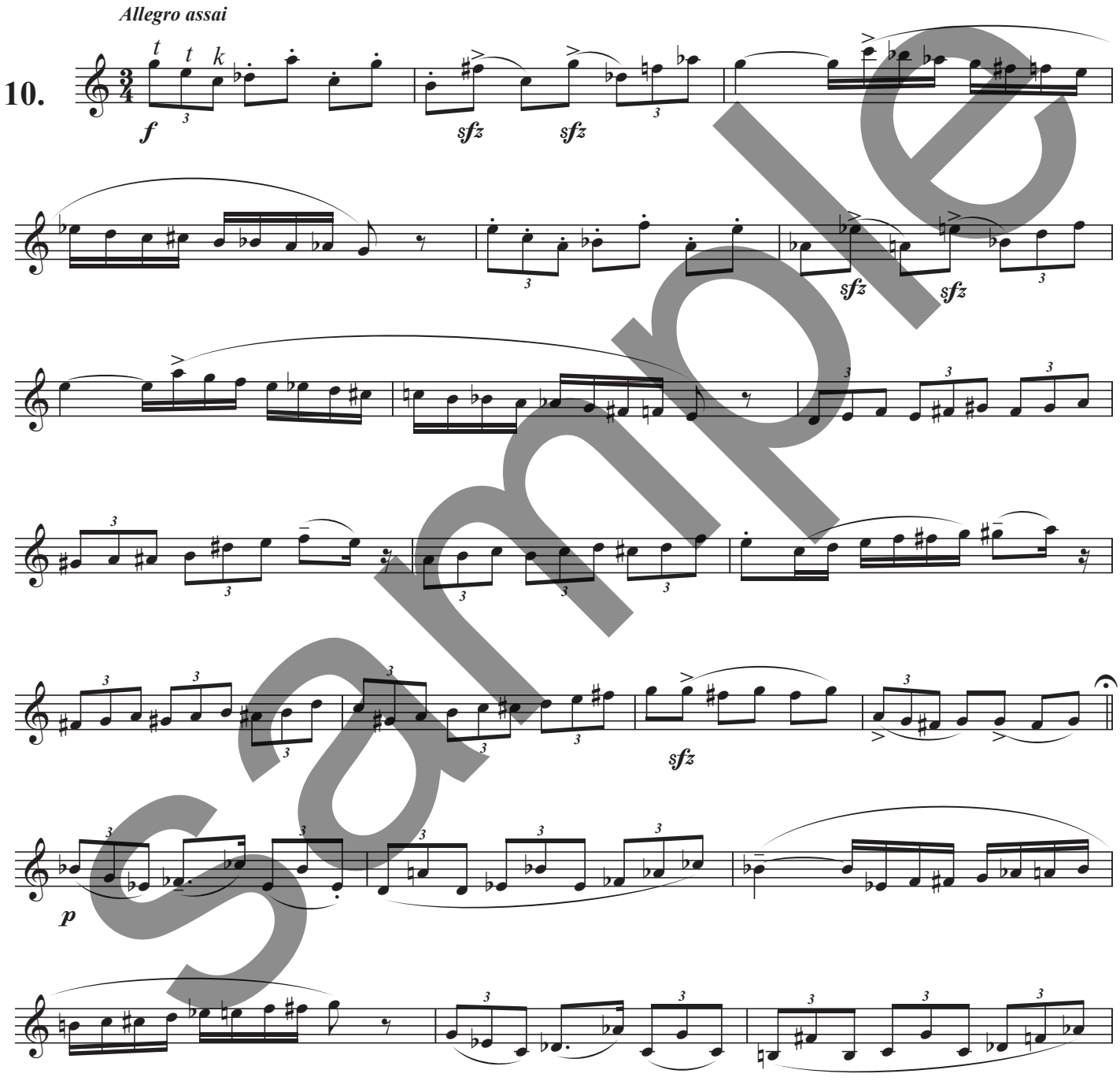
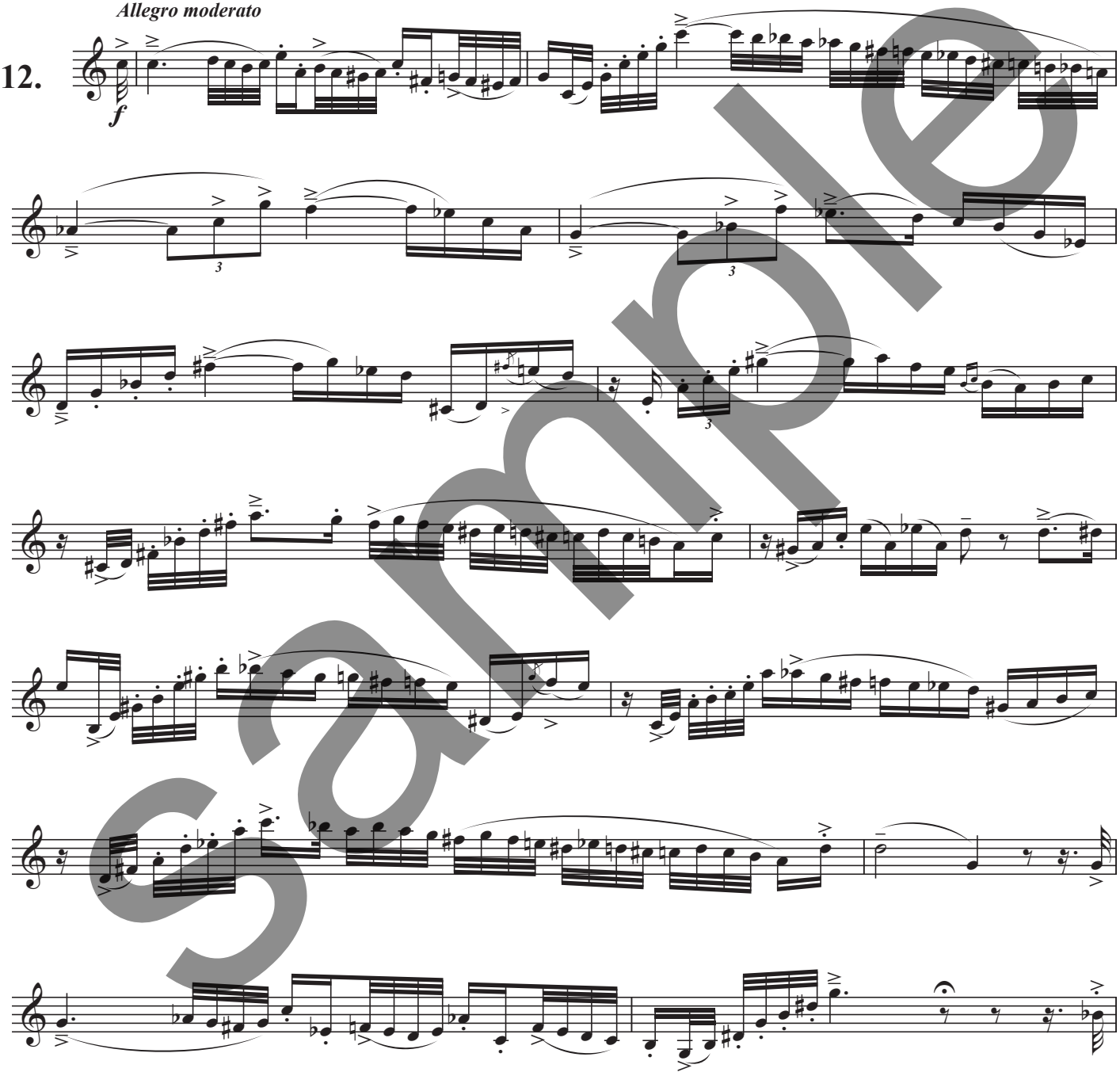

Andante moderato
8.
f
mf
f
p cresc.
più mosso
mp
mf
mp
cresc.
Allegro ma non troppo
f

sample



sample

12. *Allegro moderato*



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