

PREFACE

This edition of Bottesini's Double Bass Concerto No.2 is based on the C minor manuscript version for bass and strings. While two manuscript versions for bass and piano and the full orchestra arrangement of the 1st movement are now publicly available this edition does not take into consideration slurring and articulation changes made in those later versions. Bottesini's various changes to the solo part appear to depend on the style of accompaniment. The versions for piano utilizes longer slurs when the bassist would not have to fight to be heard, whereas the full orchestra arrangement will segment the bowing in the same passage for better projection. I would encourage the performer to compare this edition to the other manuscript versions available on IMSLP (imslp.org) for bowing ideas and inspiration based on the subtle differences in Bottesini's various solo bass parts.

In a few instances it is not clear where one slur marking begins or ends. Consulting the other manuscripts for consensus solves some passages, but here is one excerpt from the 3rd movement to illustrate the difficulty in interpreting Bottesini's intent.

Example: Mvt III, mm. 184-191:

The musical score excerpt shows the following measures:

- M. 184: Slurs over groups of notes.
- M. 185: Accent on beat 2 and three slurred quarters.
- M. 186: First slur going to the fifth note.
- M. 187: Continuation of slurs.
- M. 188: Slur hooking the end of the second slur, followed by a 'crash' dynamic.
- M. 189: Slur carrying over to the first 8th note.
- M. 190: Continuation of slurs.
- M. 191: Final measure of the excerpt.

(The extra dots in m.184 are ink bleed marks from the opposite facing page.)

M.184 looks clearly notated with a dot over an 8th and three slurred 8ths. M.185 has an accent on beat 2 and three slurred quarters (Bottesini typically writes the accent in front of the slur marking when the note is both accented and under a slur). M.186 clearly shows the first slur going to the fifth note in the measure, but the next slur does not look like it goes all the way to m.187. The most confusing of all is m.188 where Bottesini hooks the end of the second slur but then in m.189 clearly shows the slur carrying over to the first 8th note.

Some published editions show all the slurs covering three notes while others carry them over four notes. In this edition, and in Bottesini's piano version, the slurs continue into the next 8th note from m.186 onward. In practice I find either way technically and musically satisfying. This is to say that some amount of editorial decision-making is inevitable and I encourage the performer to consult the manuscript when they find a particular articulation or slur length surprising or questionable.

Thank you to the individual(s) who originally scanned and uploaded these manuscript to IMSLP for all of us to view and study. Without that initial generous contribution of time and energy for public benefit, this free edition would not have been possible.

Isaac Trapkus - Nov 22, 2019.

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Double Bass Concerto No.2

Ed. Isaac Trapkus
(b.1984)
version: 2021/1/7

From the C minor manuscript for bass and strings

Giovanni Bottesini
(1821-1889)

Moderato $\frac{4}{4}$

Bassoon 1: p *espressivo* (measures 1-16)

Bassoon 2: f *dim.* (measure 12)

Bassoon 1: p *cresc.* (measure 12)

Bassoon 2: *cresc.* (measure 17)

Bassoon 1: *cresc.* (measure 22)

Bassoon 2: *sf* *dim.* (measure 22)

Bassoon 1: *sf* *dim.* (measure 26)

Bassoon 2: *cresc.* (measure 26)

Bassoon 1: *cresc.* (measure 29)

Bassoon 2: *f* (measure 29)

Bassoon 1: p (measure 33)

Bassoon 2: *cresc.* (measure 33)

Bassoon 1: *f* (measure 36)

40

44

46

50

53

57

62

65

69

74

79

82

84

86

91

Cadenza

97

99

101

103

107

110

113

118

122

125

Andante

A musical score for piano, featuring eight staves of music. The score begins with a dynamic of **f** and a tempo of **Andante**, with a key signature of one flat. Measure 8 starts with a forte dynamic (**f**) and a bass note, followed by a series of eighth-note patterns. Measure 13 shows a transition with a crescendo (**cresc.**) and a forte dynamic (**f**). Measure 18 features a dynamic of **f**. Measure 20 includes a dynamic of **p** and a marking of ***(accel.)**. Measure 23 has dynamics of **p** and **cresc.**. Measure 26 includes a dynamic of **p** and a crescendo (**cresc.**). Measure 29 shows a dynamic of **p**. Measure 32 includes a dynamic of **cresc.** and a forte dynamic (**f**). Measure 35 ends with a dynamic of **dim.** and a crescendo (**cresc.**).

* Marked in pencil

38

41

44

48

52

55

59

63

66

* Marked in pencil

Double Bass Concerto No.2

Arr/Ed. Isaac Trapkus

In A minor for bass in orchestra tuning (E-A-d-g)
Transposed from the B minor manuscript for bass and piano

Giovanni Bottesini (1821-1889)

I

Allegro Moderato

Contra bass

Piano

Cb.

Solo espressivo

Pno.

Cb.

Pno.

Cb.

Pno.

14

Cb.

Pno.

17

Cb.

Pno.

20

Cb.

Pno.

23

Cb.

Pno.

26

Cb. Pno.

29

Cb. Pno.

32

Cb. Pno.

35

Cb. Pno.

38

Cb.

Pno.

mf

p

41

Cb.

Pno.

cresc.

f

mf

44

Cb.

Pno.

p

cresc.

p

p

47

Cb.

Pno.

sf

p

50 Cb.

 Pno.

53 Cb.

 Pno.

56 Cb.

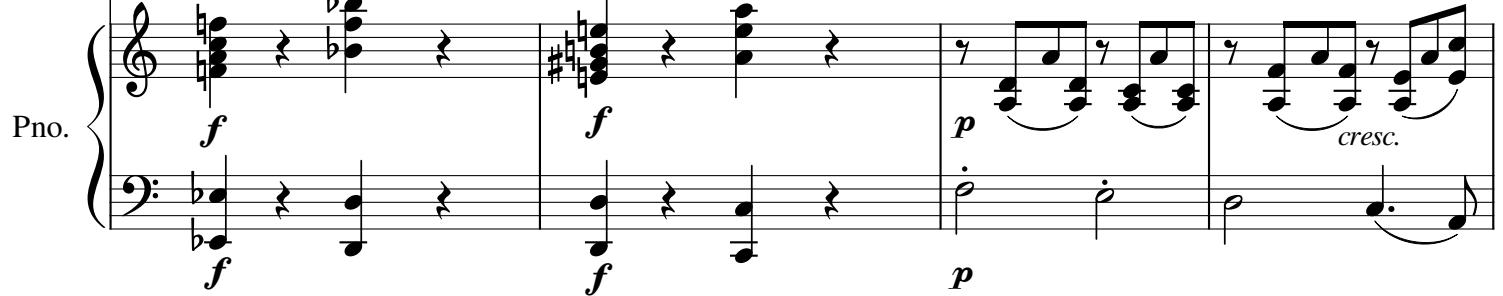
 Pno.

59 Cb.

 Pno.

62

Cb. 

Pno. 

66

Cb. 

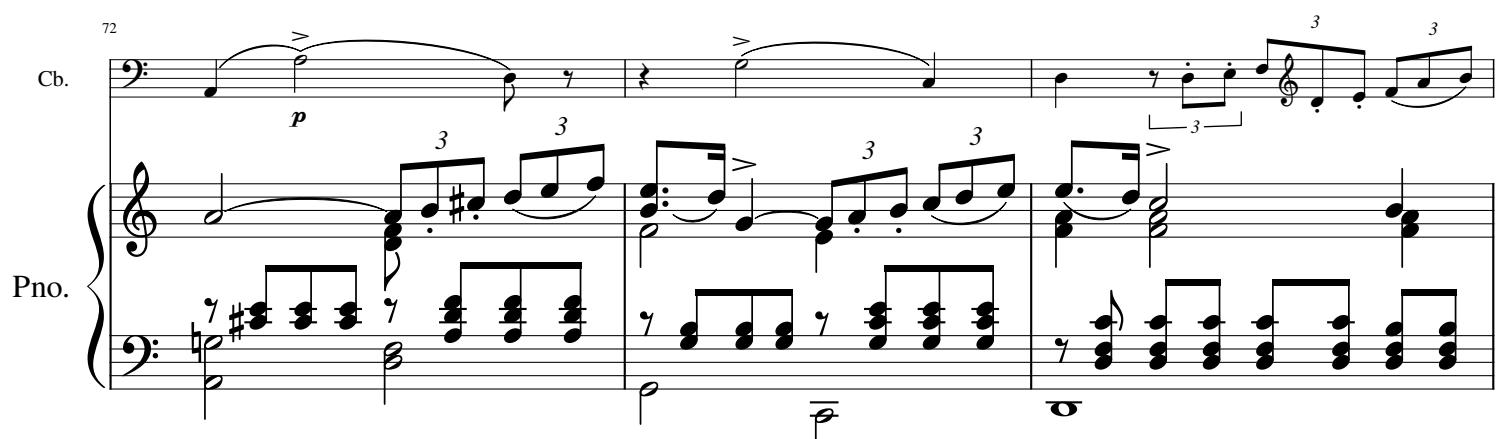
Pno. 

69

Cb. 

Pno. 

72

Cb. 

Pno. 

75

Cb.

Pno.

79

Cb.

Pno.

82

Cb.

Pno.

85

Cb.

Pno.

89

Cb.

Pno.

f f

f f f

f

94

Cb.

Pno.

Cadenza

sf

98

Cb.

101

Cb.

103

Cb.

108

Cb.

111

Cb.

116

Cb. *a tempo* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Pno. *s^f* *3* *s^f* *3* *s^f* *3* *s^f* *3* *p*

121

Cb.

Pno. *p*

124

Cb. *(stretto)* *cresc.*

Pno. *cresc.* *ff*

ff

127

Cb.

Pno.

*) Measures 118 and 119 of the solo line differ in Bottesini's other transcriptions of this concerto. Some bassists may prefer to play m. 118 an octave higher and then m. 119 an octave lower with varying pickups into m. 120.

II

Andante

Contrabass

Piano

Cb.

Pno.

11

Cb.

Pno.

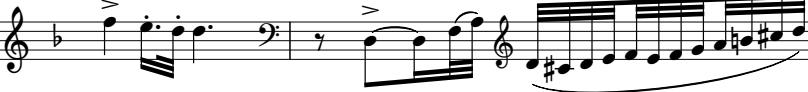
15

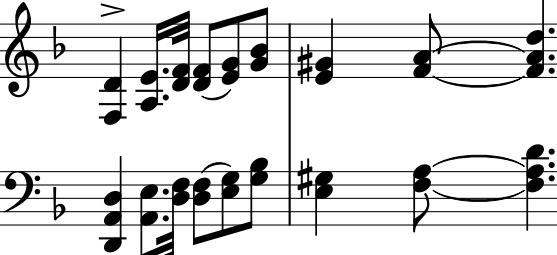
Cb.

Pno.

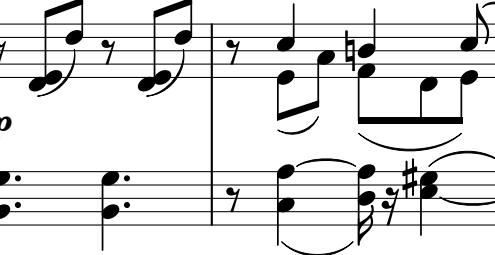
This musical score consists of three systems of music for piano and cello. The first system (measures 1-5) features the piano in the upper and middle staves, and the cello in the bass staff. The piano parts are marked with dynamic changes: *sf*, *p*, *sf*, *p*, and *f*. The second system (measures 6-10) continues with the piano parts marked *p* and *cresc.* The third system (measures 11-15) shows the piano playing eighth-note patterns, with the cello providing harmonic support. The piano parts are marked *f*, *f*, *f*, and *f*.

19

Cb. 

Pno. 

p



p

23

Cb. 

Pno. 

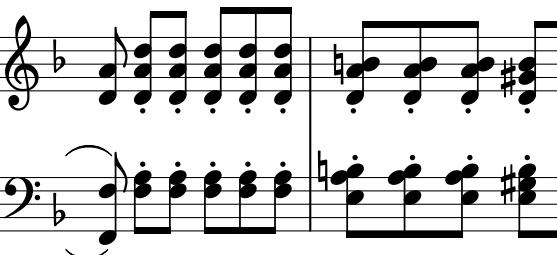
cresc.



cresc.

27

Cb. 

Pno. 

p



cresc.

31

Cb. 

Pno. 

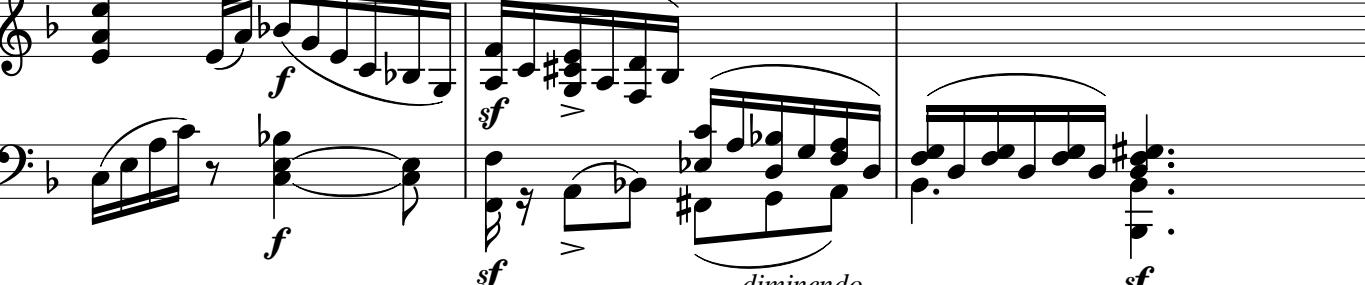
cresc.



cresc.

34

Cb. 

Pno. 

dim.

diminendo

sf

37

Cb. 

Pno. 

40

Cb. 

Pno. 

dim.

42

Cb. 

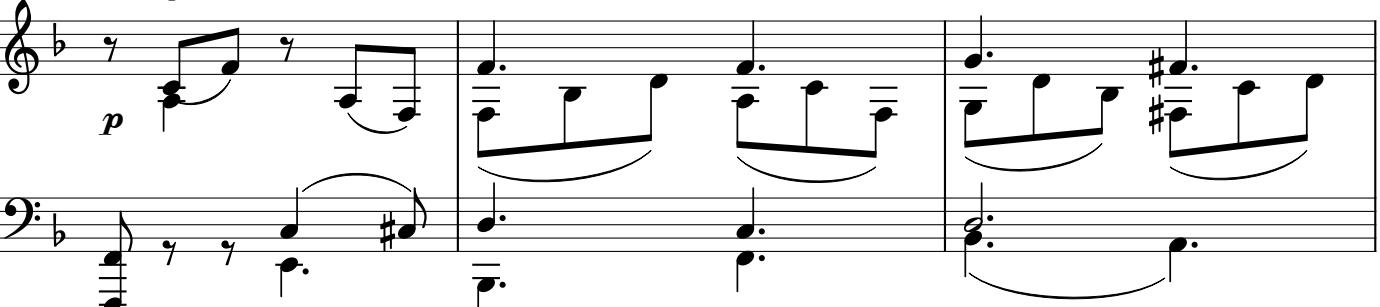
Pno. 

poco rall.

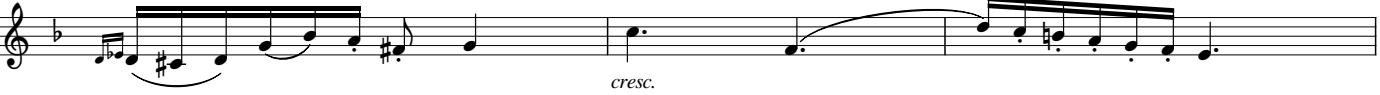
p

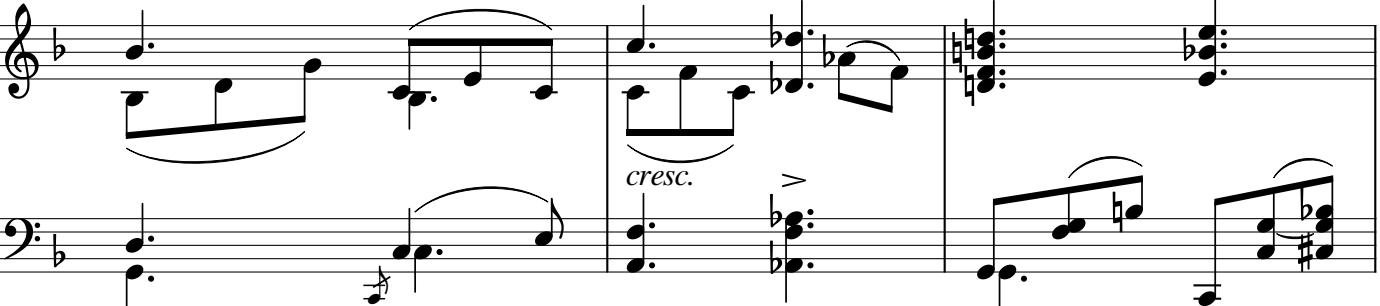
45 *a tempo*

Cb. 

Pno. 

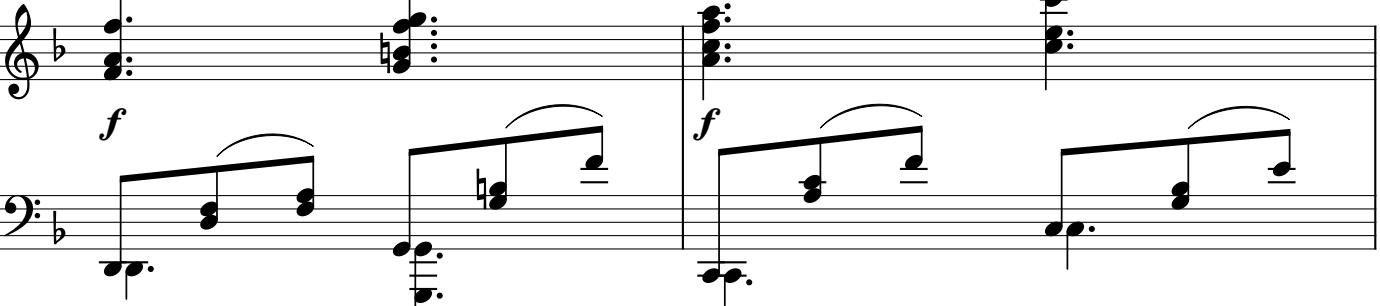
48

Cb. 

Pno. 

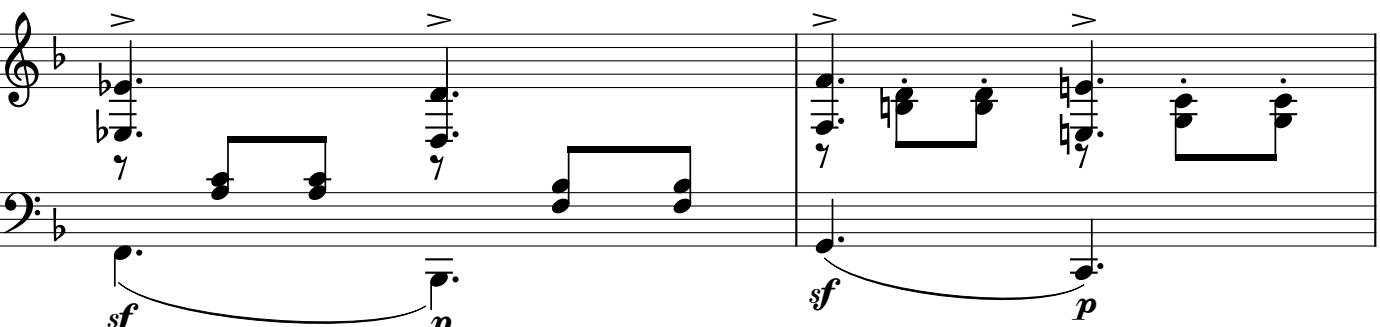
51

Cb. 

Pno. 

53

Cb. 

Pno. 

55

Cb. Pno.

f *cresc.* *sf dim.* *p*

f *sf* *p* *sf*

58

Cb. Pno.

sf *p*

sf *sf*

61

Cb. Pno.

rall. *dim.*

rall.... *dim.*

63

Cb. Pno.

p

66

Cb.

Pno.

colla parte

p

rall.

p

III

Allegro

Contrabass

Piano

f

f

Pno.

13

Cb.

Pno.

p

p