tonebase

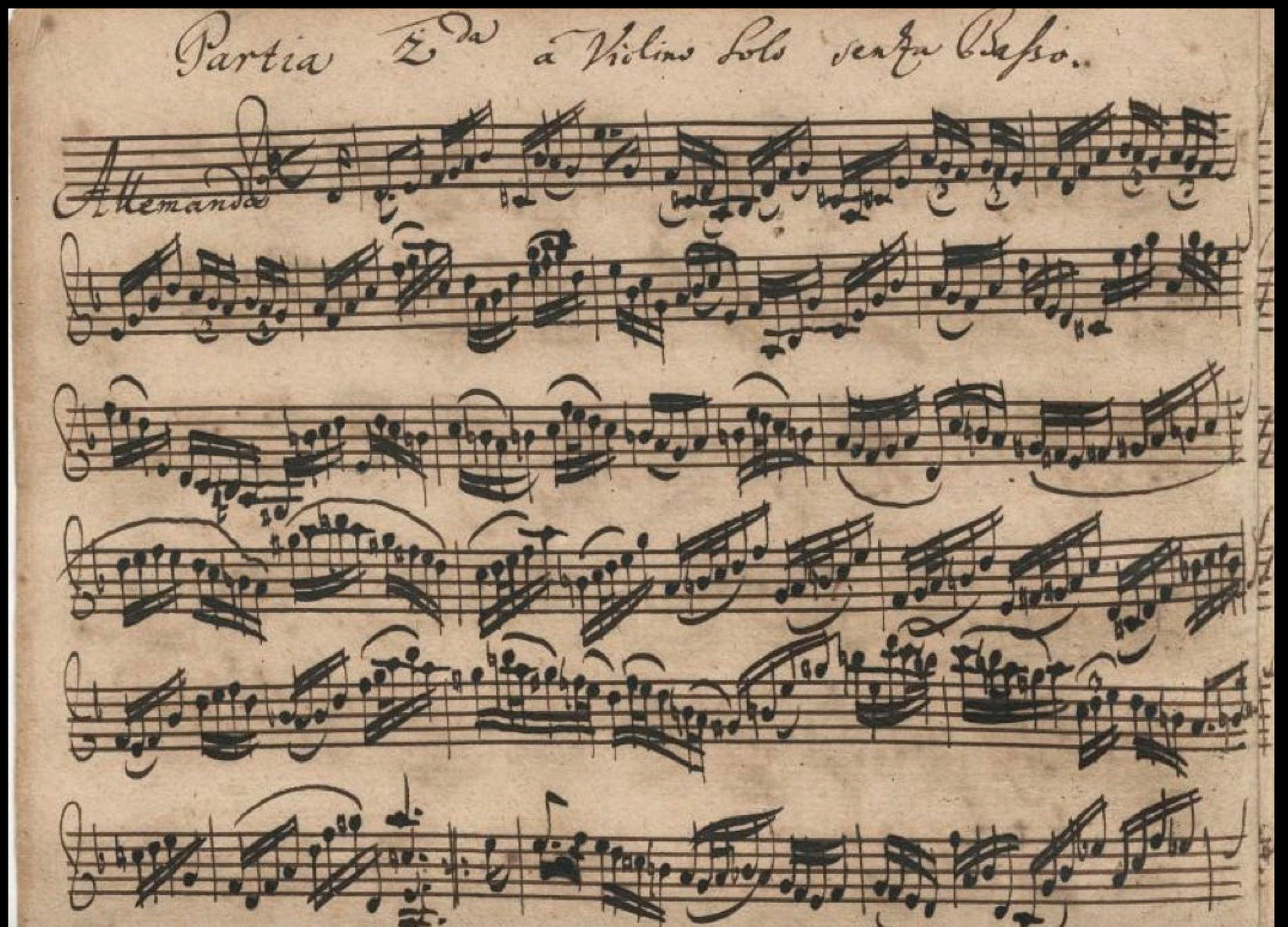
Making the invisible visible
Hidden meanings in Bach’s Ciaccona

Pieter Claesz (1597-1661): Vanitas (1628)

Sei Solo.

a
Violino
senza
Basso
accompagnato.

Libro Primo.



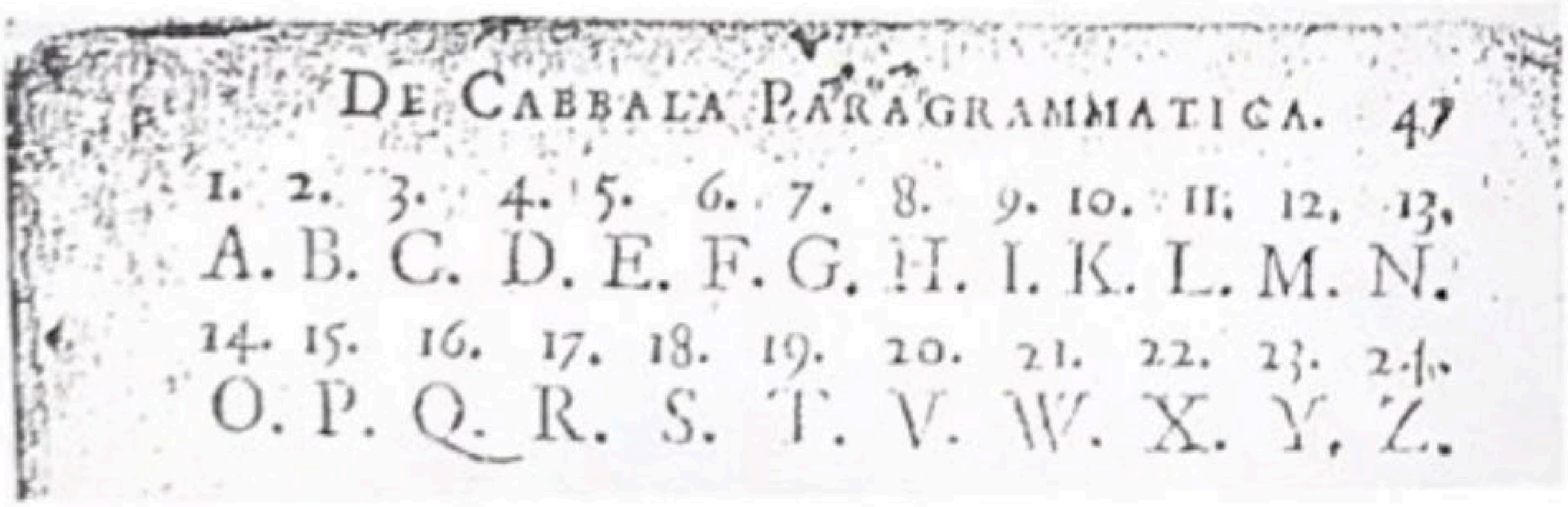
ARITHMETICA

Tradit Arithmetice numeros, ſparſimq; vagantes
Colligit, & certa in ſummas ratione coercet.

MUSICA

Muſica multiplici mentes modulamine mulcet
Cui præbent operam vox, fiſtula, tibia, chordæ.

„Arithmetica“ and „Musica“ from
Artes Liberales by Joannes Sadeler (1550-1610)

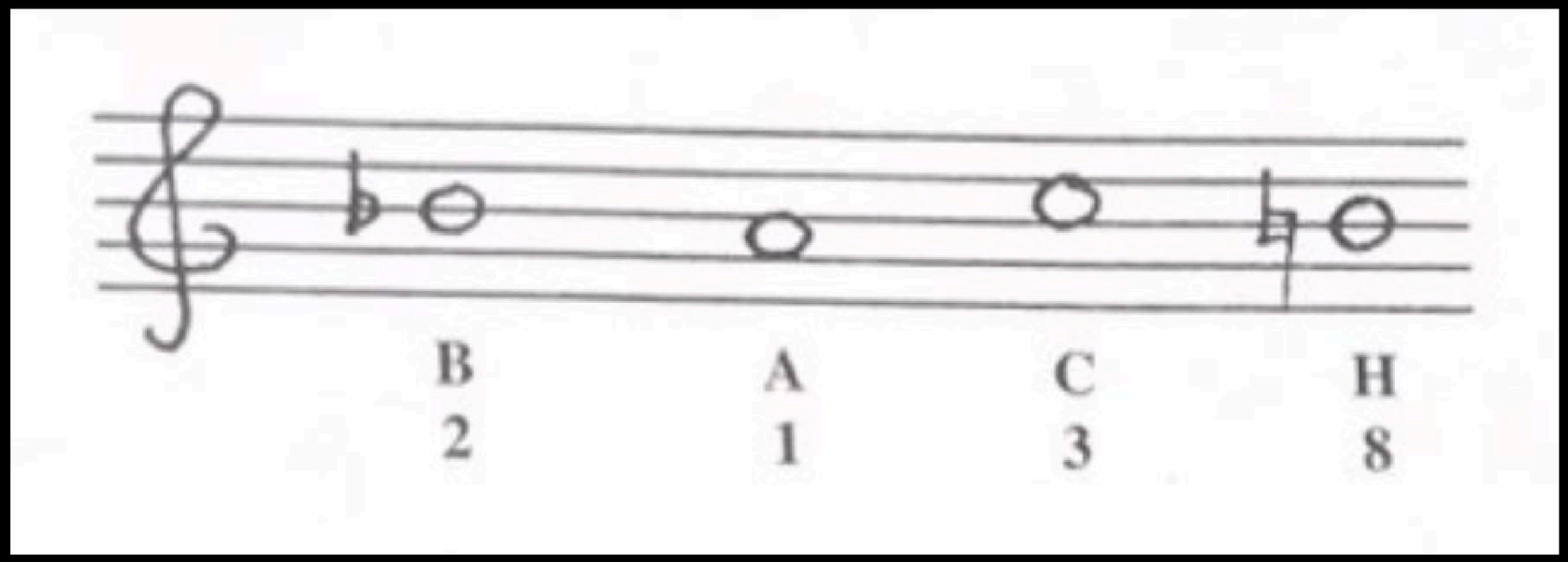


Johannes Henningius: *Caballalogia*, Leipzig, 1683

G L O R I A	I N	E X C E L S I S	D E O	
7 11 14 17 9 1	9 13	5 22 3 5 11 18 9 18	4 5 14	
59	22	91	23	= 195

F# in German: Fis

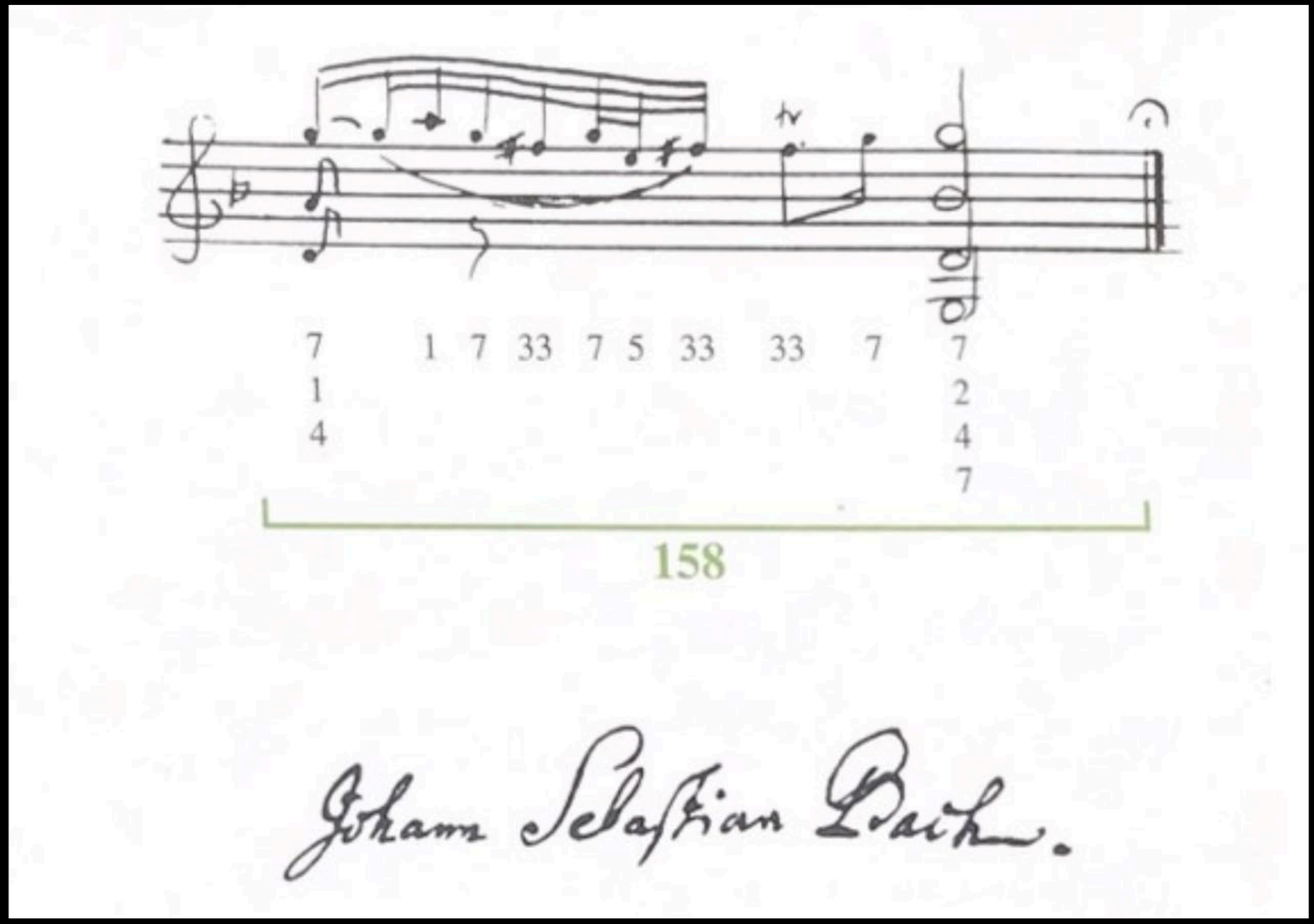
FIS = 33 (F=6, I=9, S=18)



J O H A N N S E B A S T I A N BACH

9 14 8 1 13 13 | 18 5 2 1 18 19 9 1 13 | 2 1 3 8

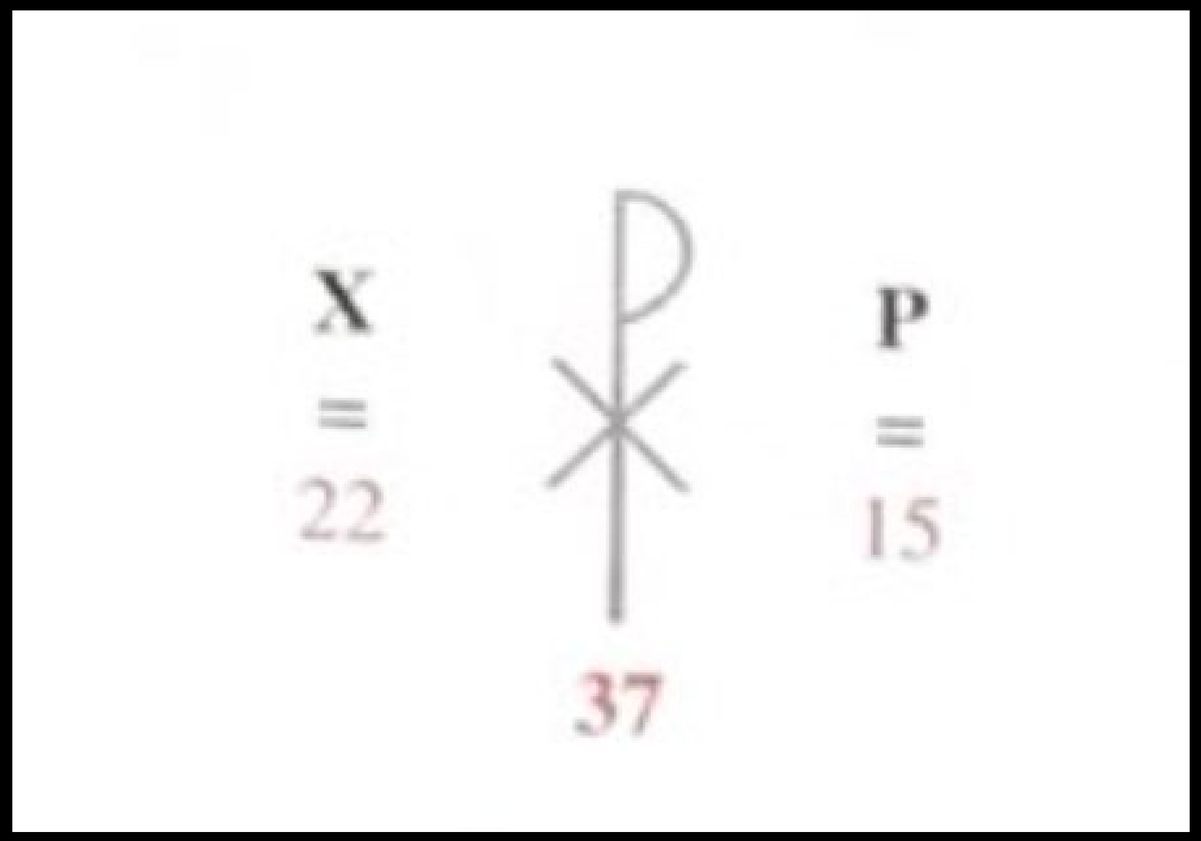
58 | 86 | 14 = 158

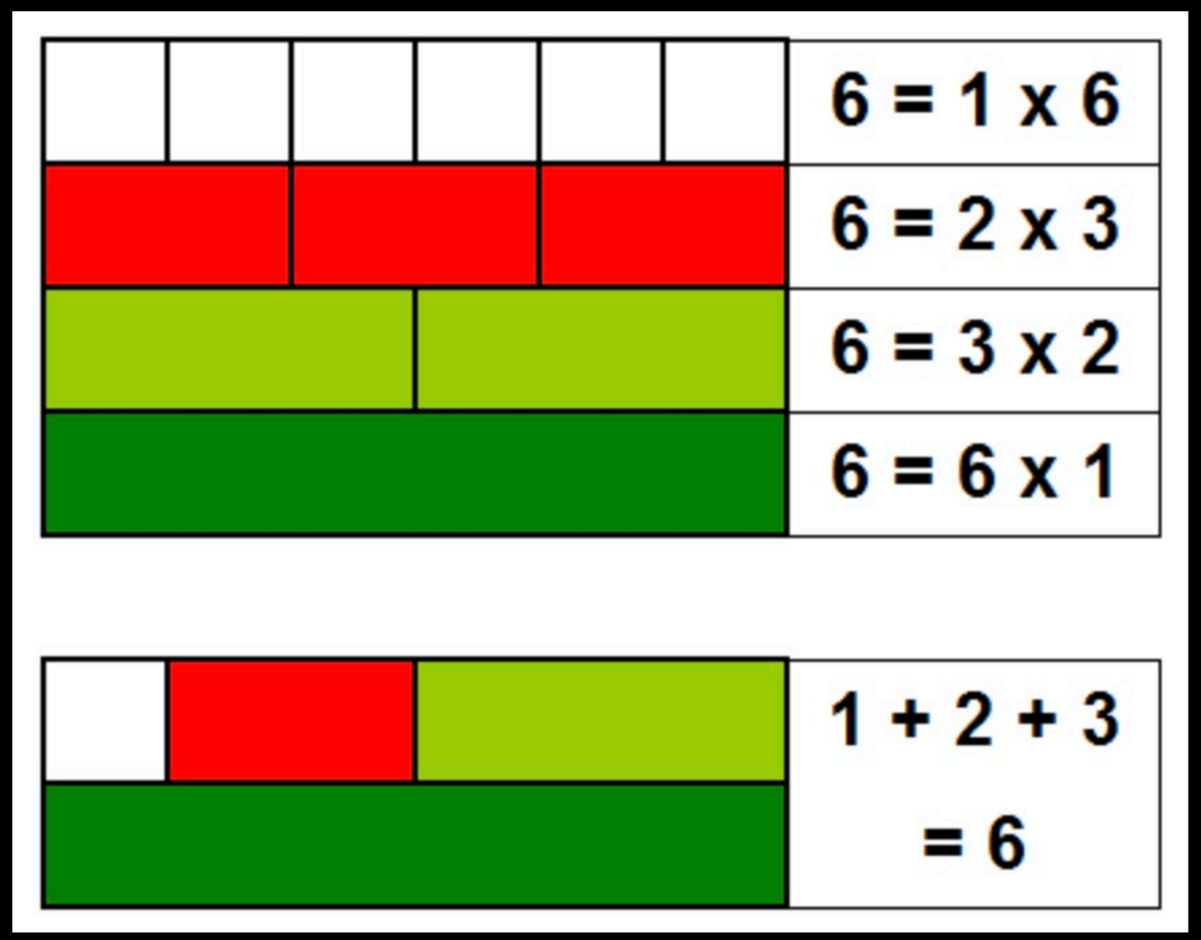


J.S.Bach

1746 portrait of Bach by Elias Hausmann

J-S-B-A-C-H = 41

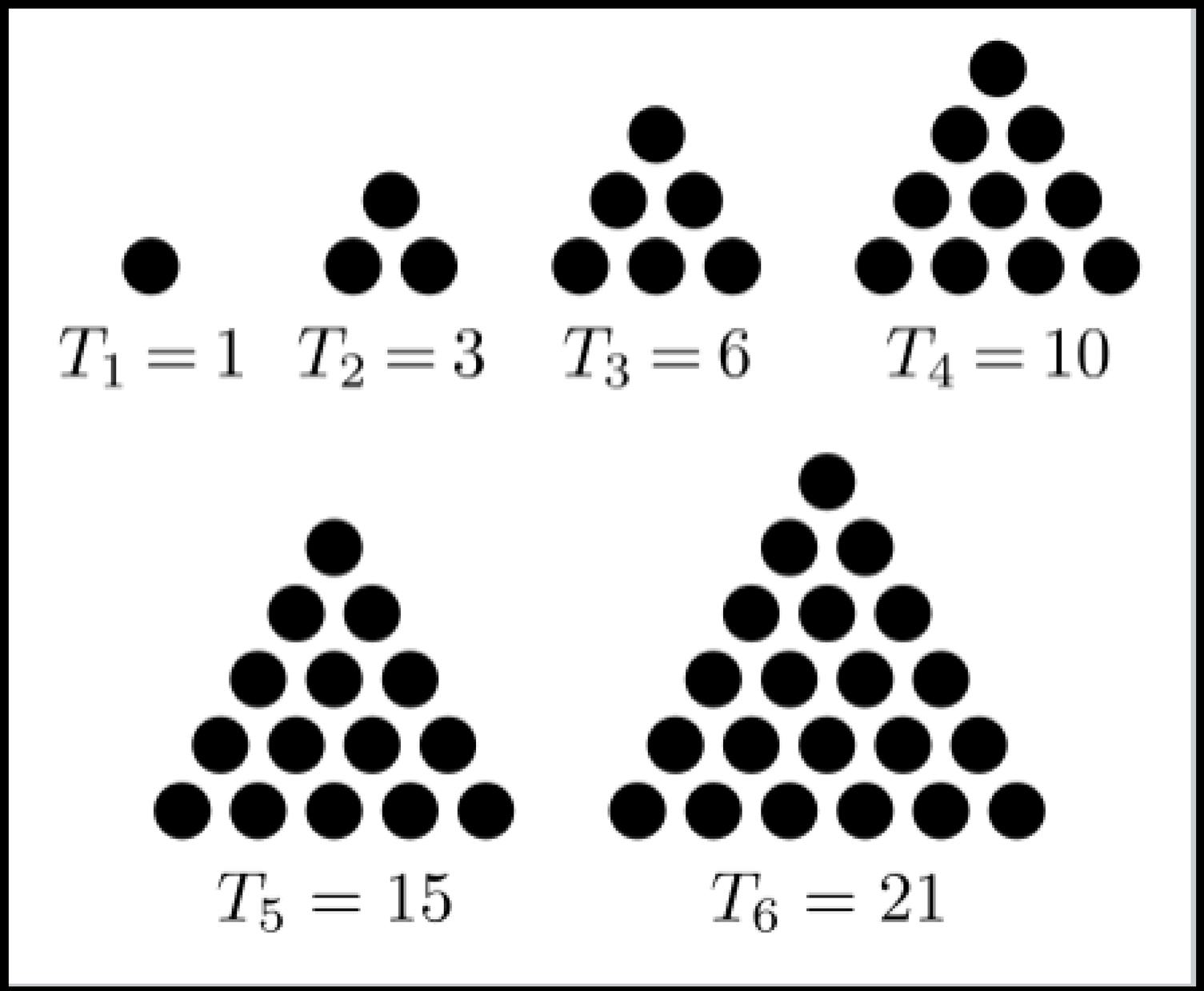




Numeri Perfecti

$$6 = 1 + 2 + 3 = 6$$
$$28 = 1 + 2 + 4 + 7 + 14 = 28$$
$$496 = 1 + 2 + 4 + 8 + 16 + 31 + 62 + 124 + 248 = 496$$

$111 = 3 \times 37$	$444 = 12 \times 37$	$777 = 21 \times 37$
$222 = 6 \times 37$	$555 = 15 \times 37$	$888 = 24 \times 37$
$333 = 9 \times 37$	$666 = 18 \times 37$	$999 = 27 \times 37$

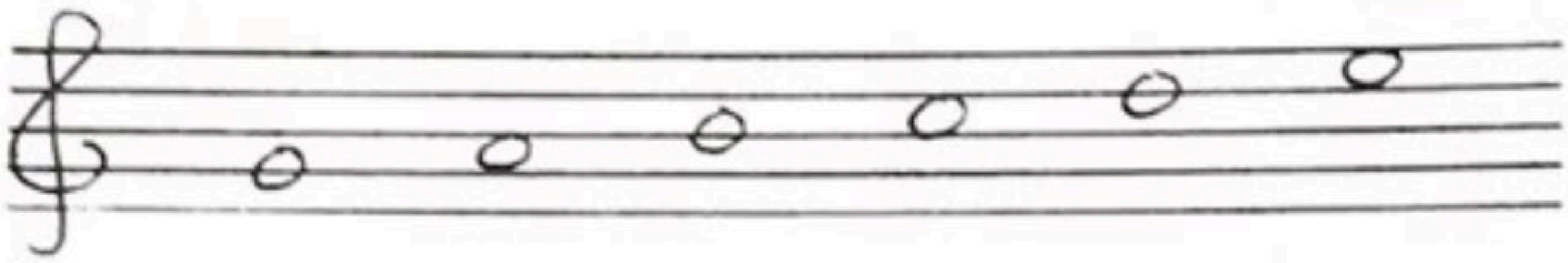


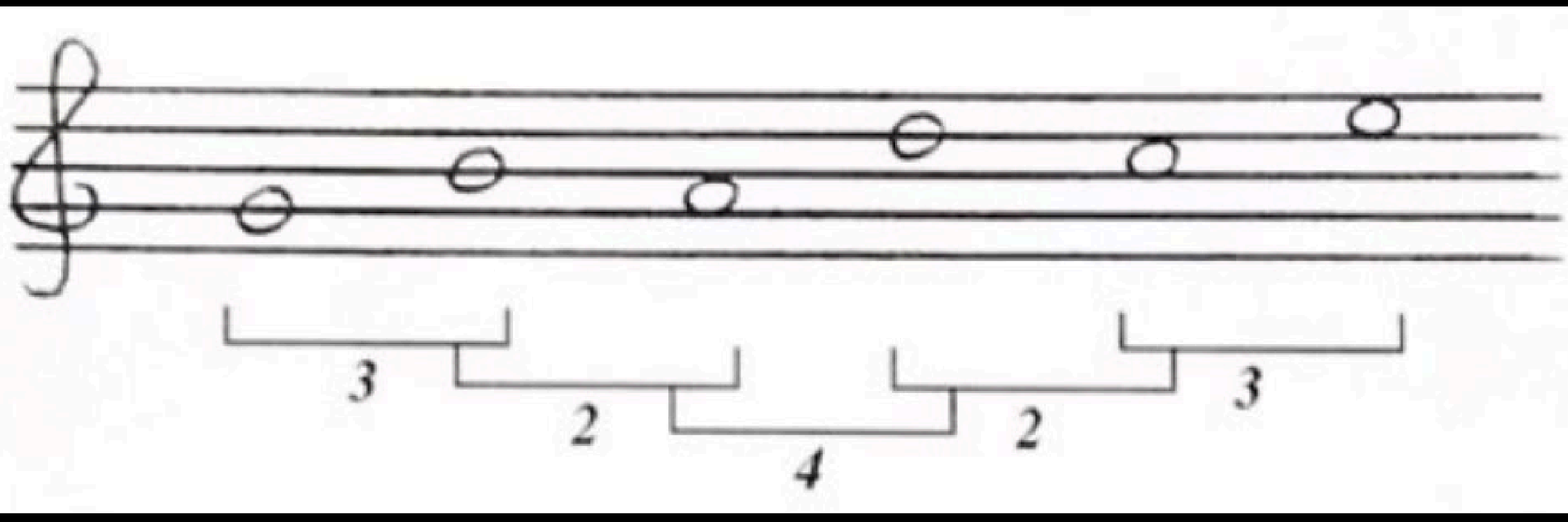
Triangular numbers

T(37)=703

SONATA G-Moll	**-**	**PARTIA H-Moll**
SONATA A-Moll	**-**	**PARTIA D-Moll**
SONATA C-Dur	**-**	**PARTIA E-Dur**

HEXACHORDUM DURUM **G A H C D E**



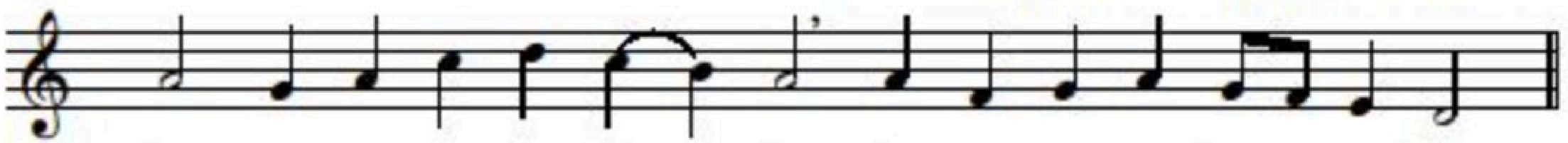


Number of pages: 41

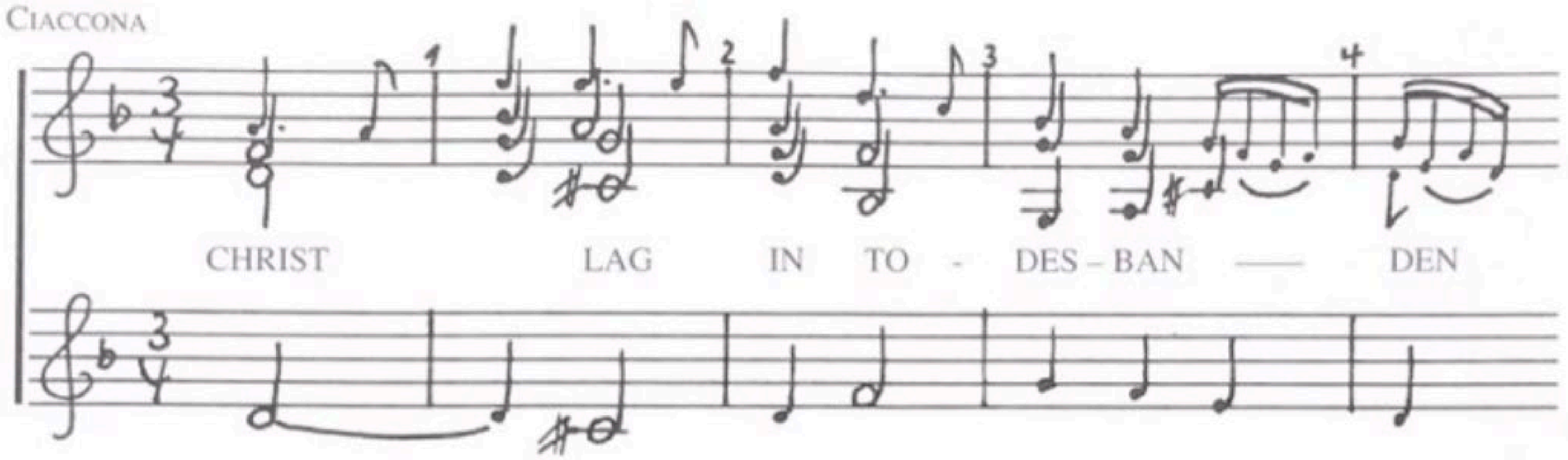
Gematrical value of J.S.Bach: 41 (9+18+14)

1	**Christ lag in Todesbanden**	*Christ lay in death's bonds*
	Für unsre Sünd gegeben„	*handed over for our sins,*
	Er ist wieder erstanden	*he is risen again*
	Und hat uns bracht das Leben;	*and has brought us life*
	Des wir sollen fröhlich sein„	*For this we should be joyful,*
	Gott loben und ihm dankbar sein	*praise God and be thankful to him*
	Und singen halleluja„	*and sing allelluia,*
	Halleluja!	*Alleluia*
2	**Den Tod niemand zwingen kunnt**	*Nobody could overcome death*
	Bei allen Menschenkindern,.	*among all the children of mankind.*
	Das macht' alles unsre Sünd,	*Our sin was the cause of all this,*
	Kein Unschuld war zu finden..	*no innocence was to be found.*
	Davon kam der Tod so bald	*Therefore death came so quickly*
	Und nahm über uns Gewalt,	*and seized power over us,.*
	Hielt uns in seinem Reich gefangen..	*held us captive in his kingdom.*
	Halleluja!	*Alleluia* **!**

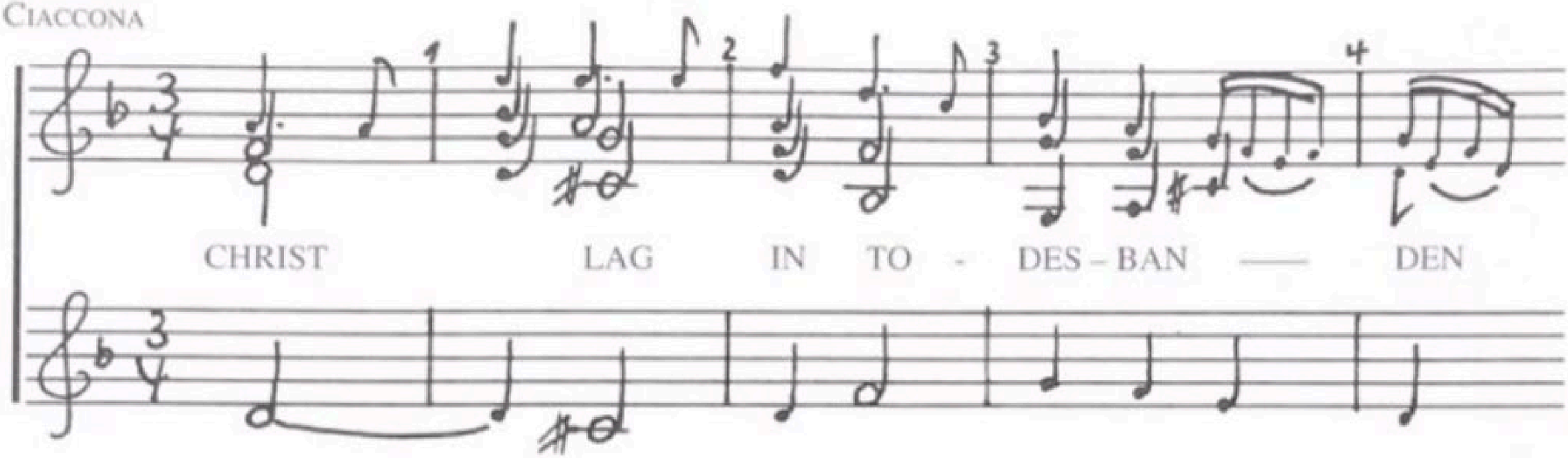
Text und Melodie Martin Luther 1524

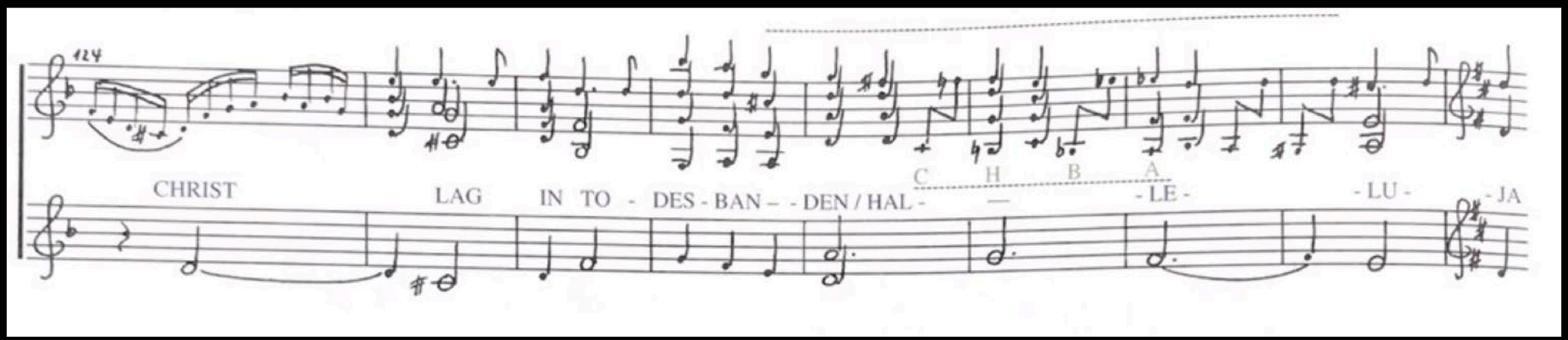


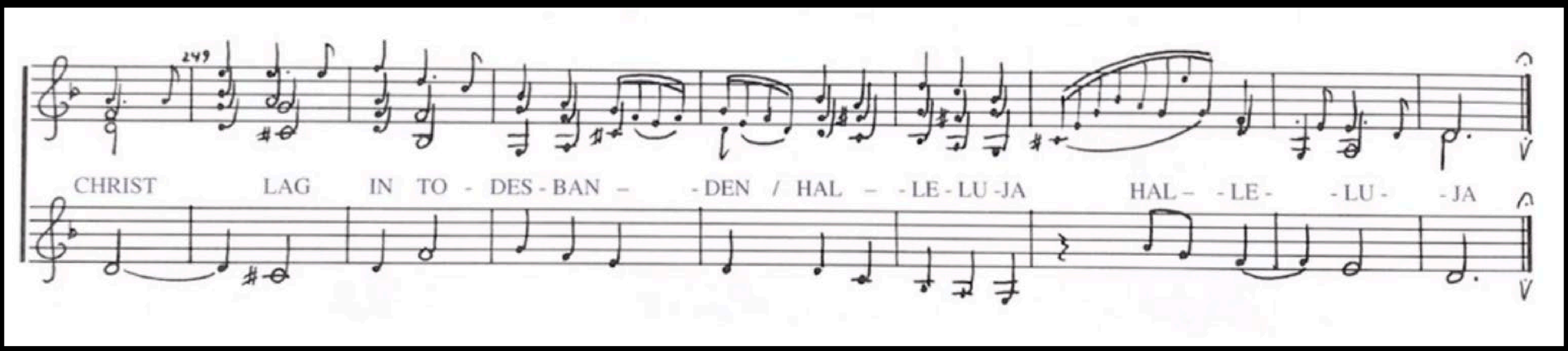
Christ lag in To-des-ban- den, für uns-re Sünd ge- ge-ben.

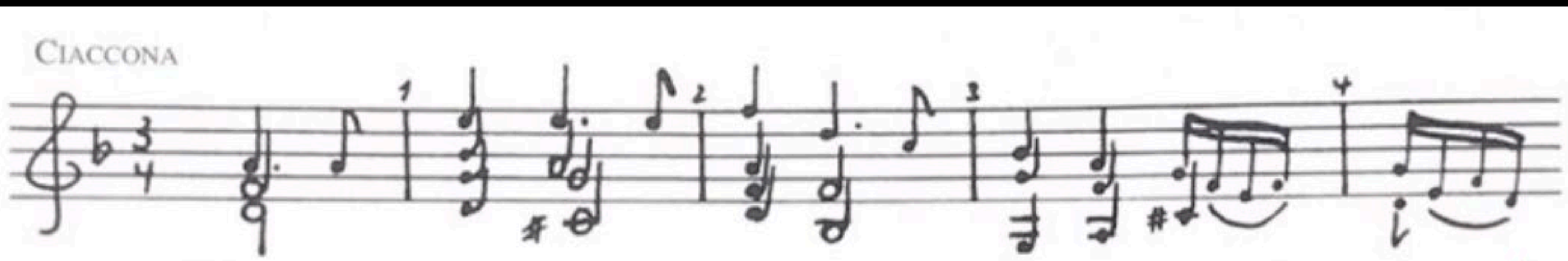


CIACCONA




124
CHRIST LAG IN TO - DES - BAN – - DEN / HAL -
C H B A
- LE - - LU - - JA


249
CHRIST LAG IN TO - DES - BAN – - DEN / HAL – - LE - LU - JA HAL – - LE - - LU - - JA


Ciaccona

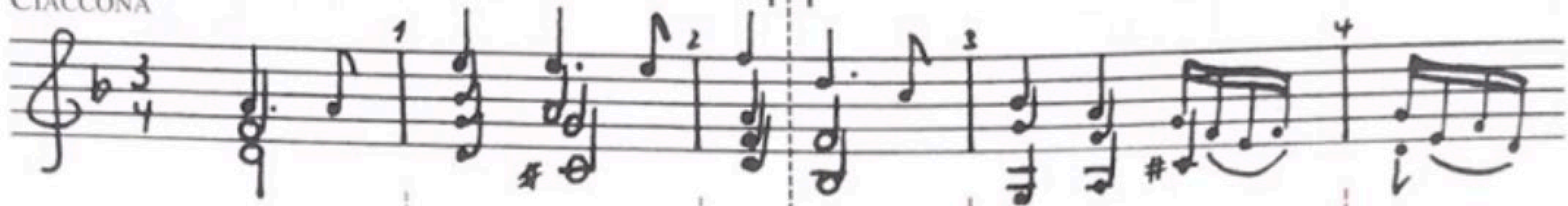
Maria Barbara Bach

20. 10. 1684 geboren	MARIA	BARBARA	BACH	7. 7. 1720 begraben
	12 1 17 9 1	2 1 17 2 1 17 1	2 1 3 8	
	40	41	14	

95

17 | 20

Ciaccona



37

		E	E	E	F
A	A	B	A		A
F		G	G		F
D		D	CIS		D

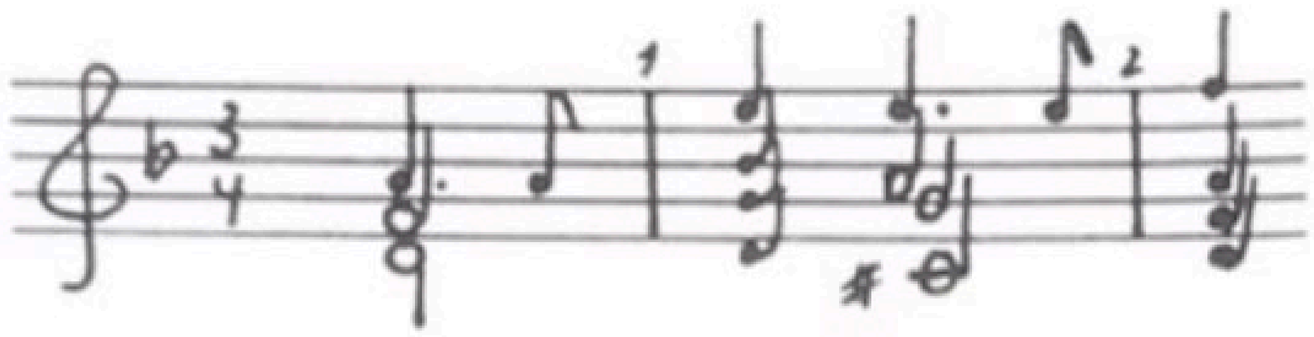
		5	5	5	6
1	1	2	1		1
6		7	7		6
4		4	30		4

95

D	C	B	A								
F		G	F	G	F	E	F	G	E	F	D
B		G	A	CIS				D			

4	3	2	1								
6		7	6	7	6	5	6	7	5	6	4
2		7	1	30				4			

119



		5	9 13	14
1	4	6	10	15
2		7	11	16
3		8	12	17

153

— 41

— 40

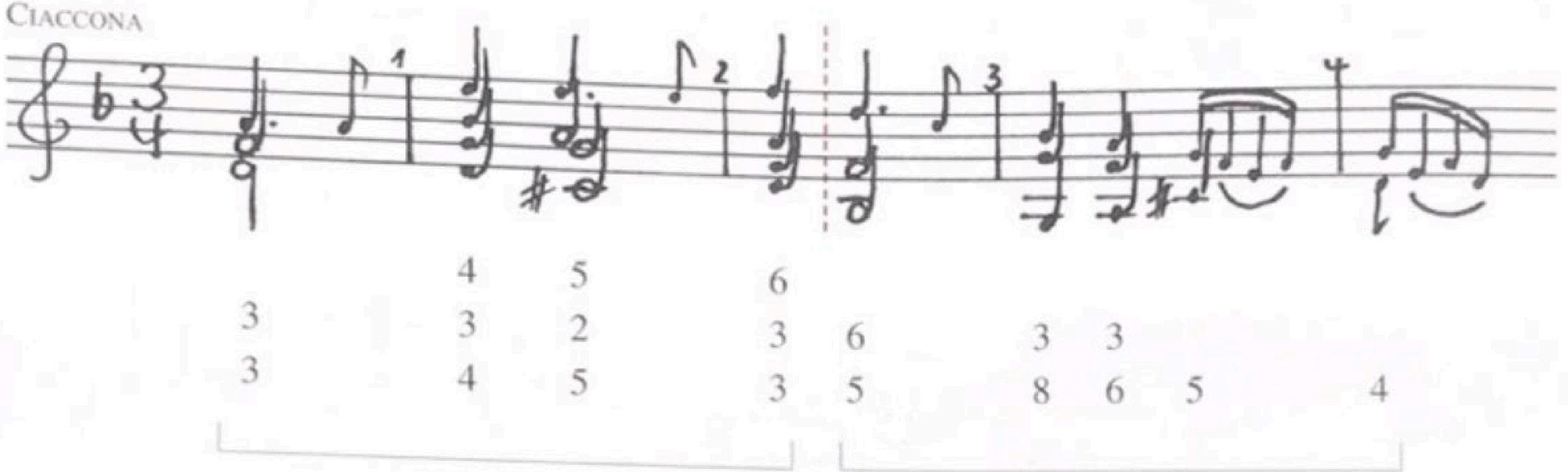
→ 81

↓

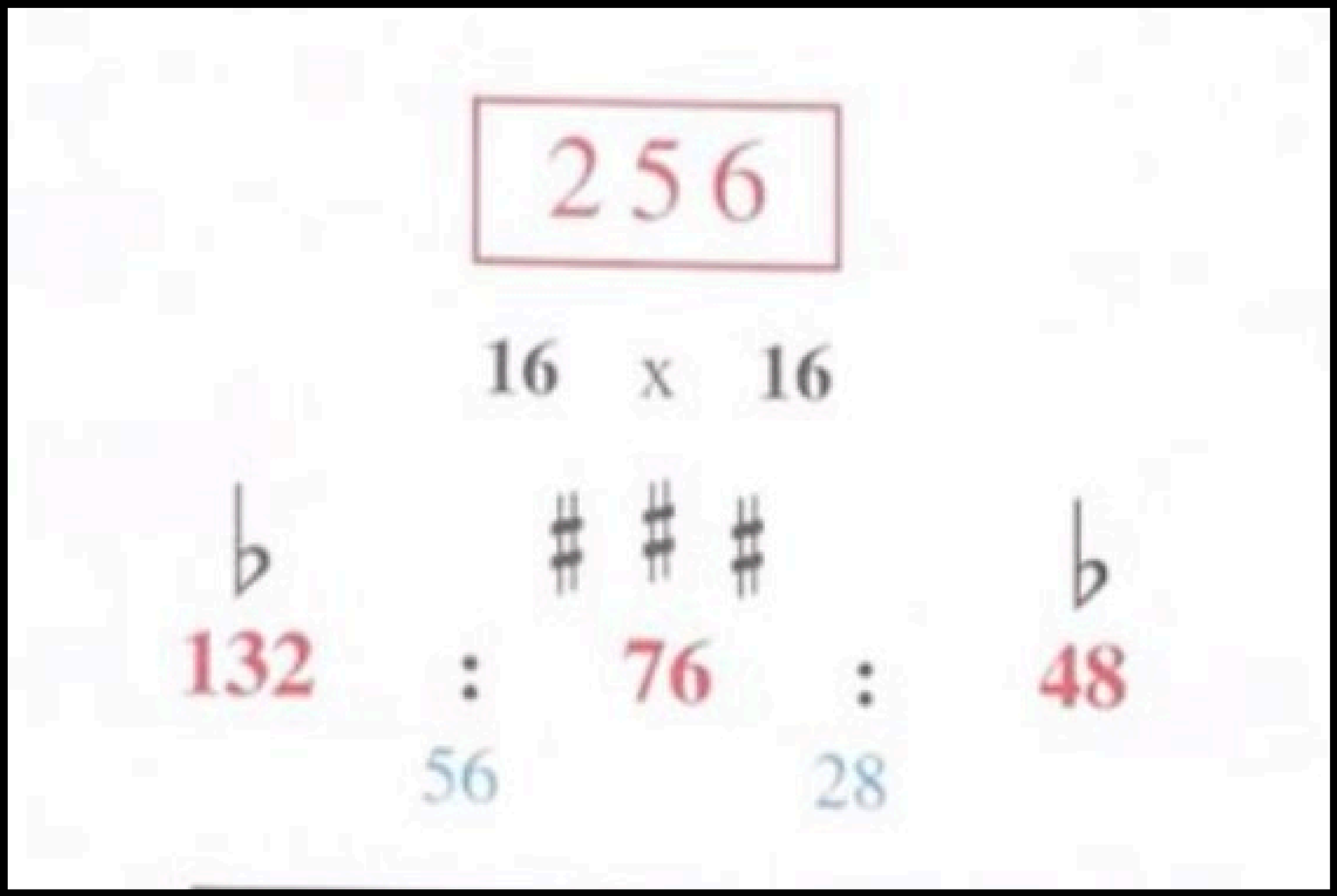
81

MARIA = 40
BARBARA = 41

CIACCONA



41 40 = 81



Number of bars: 256 (16x16)
132-76 = 56
76-48 = 28

56:28 = 2:1

Number of bars in all movements and their proportions:

Allemanda + Ciaccona = 320 (20x16)

Corrente + Sarabanda + Giga = 240 (15x16)

560 (35x16)

1:1 ratio

Number of bars in 6 Solos for Violin: **2400**
(BWV 1001-1006)

Number of bars in 6 Sonatas for violin and harpsichord (BW
1014-1019): **2400**

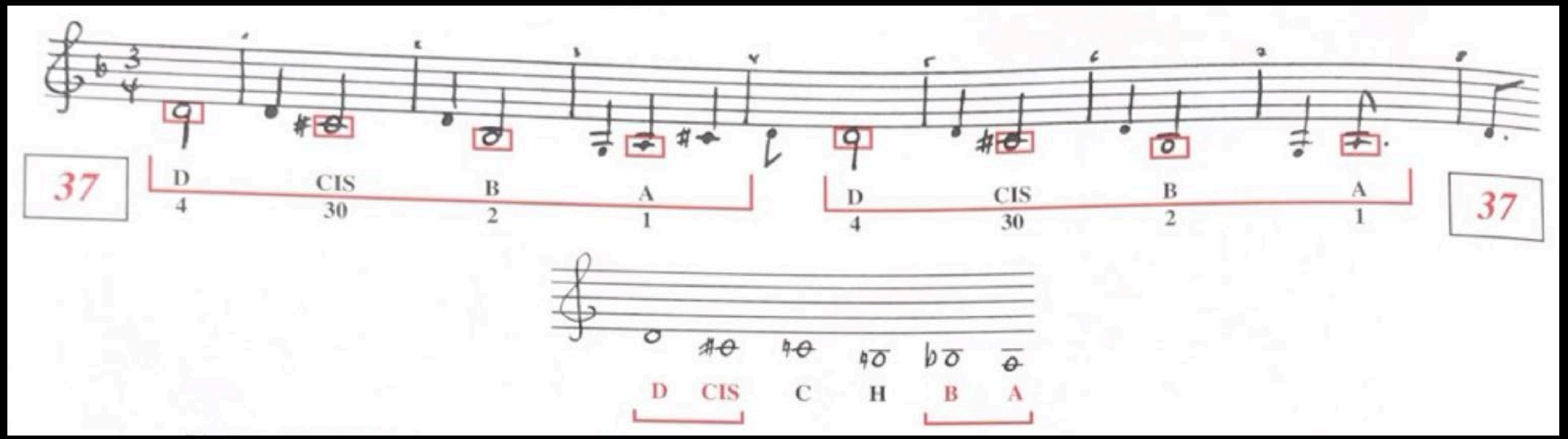
2:1 ratio

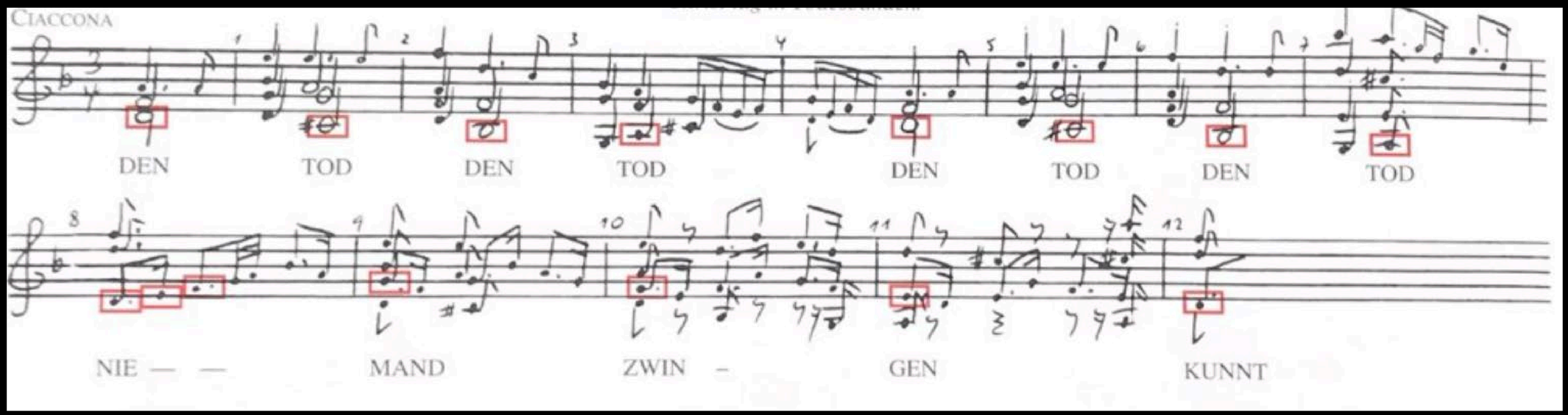
1600 and 800 bars in 4 and 2 solos in BWV 1001-1006

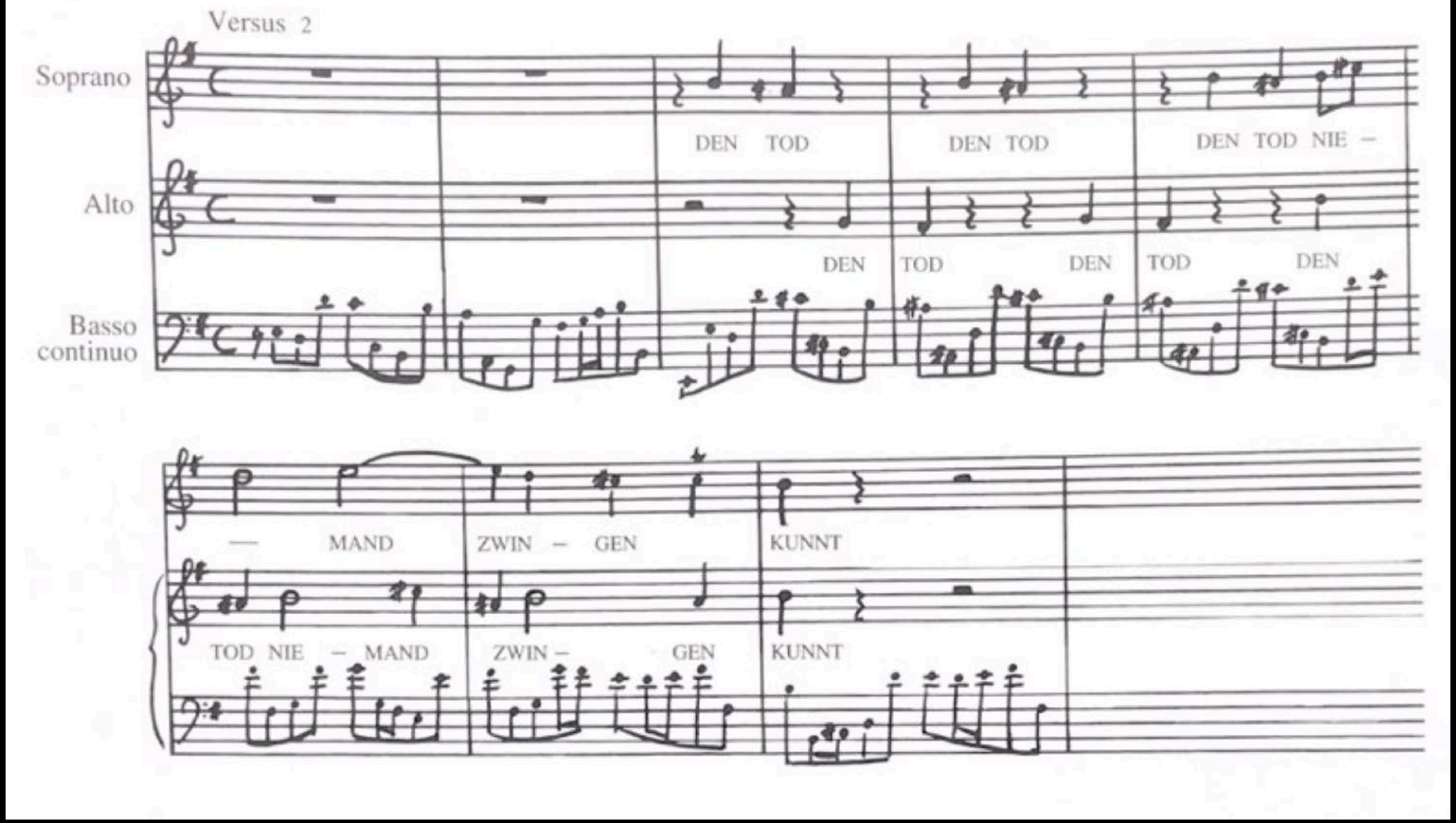
1600 and 800 bars in 4 and 2 solos in BWV 1014-1019

Ruth Tatlow (2006)

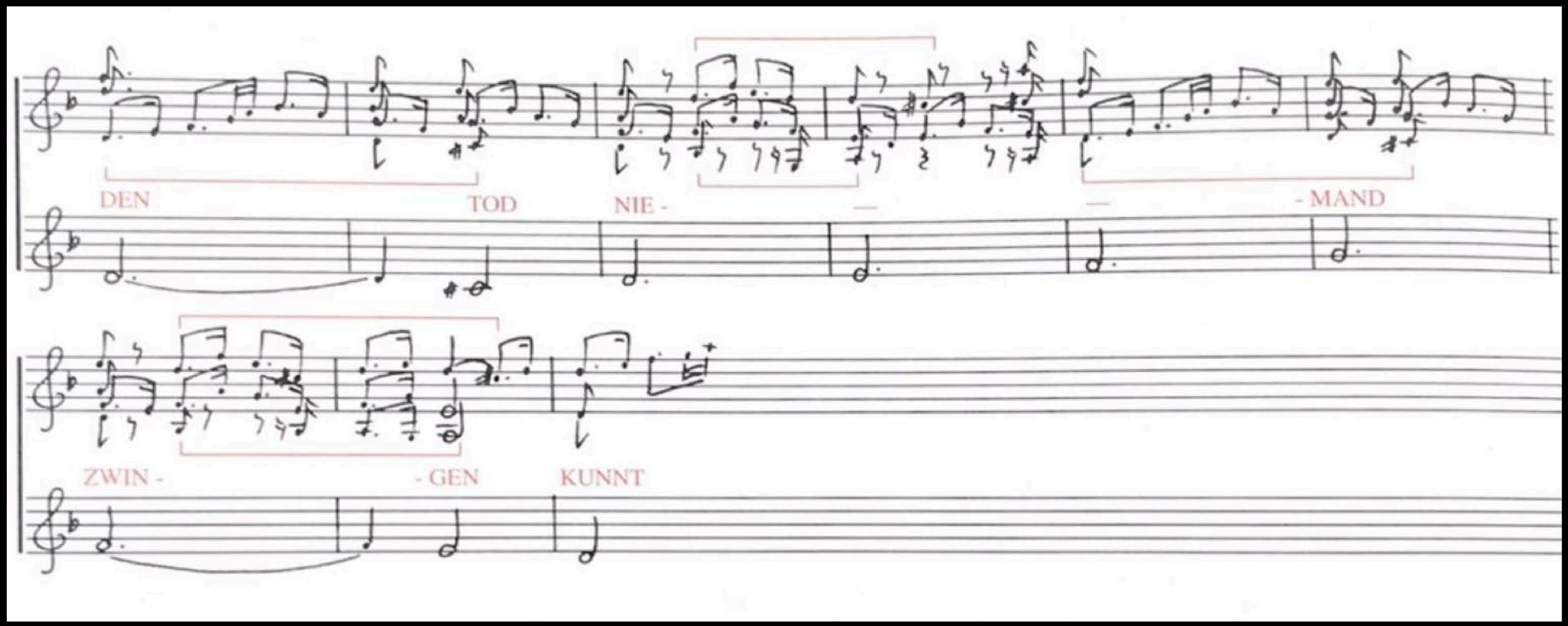
The bass foundation







BWV 4, Cantata *„Christ lay in death's bonds“*



1	**Christ lag in Todesbanden**	*Christ lay in death's bonds*
	Für unsre Sünd gegeben„	*handed over for our sins,*
	Er ist wieder erstanden	*he is risen again*
	Und hat uns bracht das Leben;	*and has brought us life*
	Des wir sollen fröhlich sein„	*For this we should be joyful,*
	Gott loben und ihm dankbar sein	*praise God and be thankful to him*
	Und singen halleluja„	*and sing allelluia,*
	Halleluja!	*Alleluia*
2	**Den Tod niemand zwingen kunnt**	*Nobody could overcome death*
	Bei allen Menschenkindern,.	*among all the children of mankind.*
	Das macht' alles unsre Sünd,	*Our sin was the cause of all this,*
	Kein Unschuld war zu finden..	*no innocence was to be found.*
	Davon kam der Tod so bald	*Therefore death came so quickly*
	Und nahm über uns Gewalt,	*and seized power over us,.*
	Hielt uns in seinem Reich gefangen..	*held us captive in his kingdom.*
	Halleluja!	*Alleluia* **!**

16 17 18 19

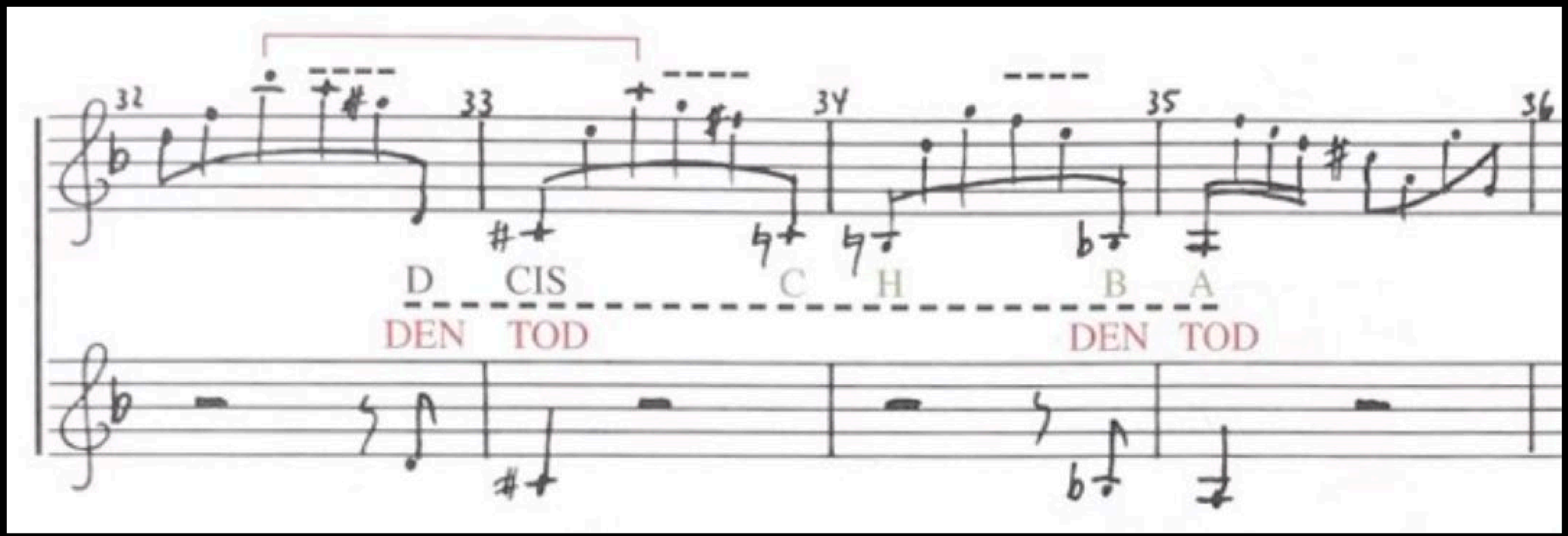
D CIS C H B A

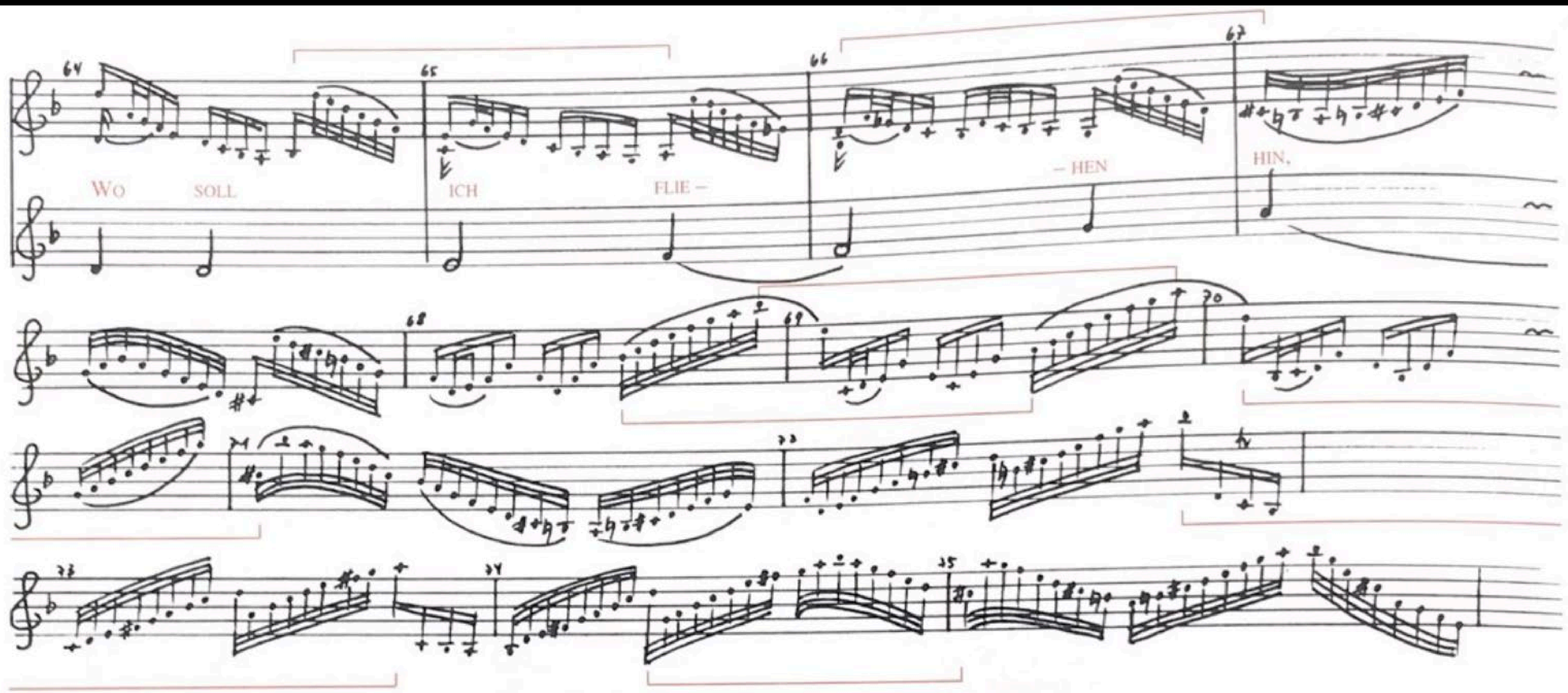
DEN TOD DEN TOD

20 21 22 23 24

D CIS C H B A

DEN TOD DEN TOD


32
33
34
35
36
D
CIS
C
H
B
A
DEN
TOD
DEN
TOD



Wo soll ich fliehen hin,
Weil ich beschweret bin
Mit vielen großen Sünden,
Wo kann ich Rettung finden?
Wann alle Welt herkäme,
Mein' Angst sie nicht wegnähme.

Where should I fly from here
since I am burdened
with many great sins?
Where can I find rescue?
If everybody in the world came to help,
they would not take away my anguish.

133 134 135 136 137

VOM HIM – MEL HOCH, WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMP-FAN – GEN

DA

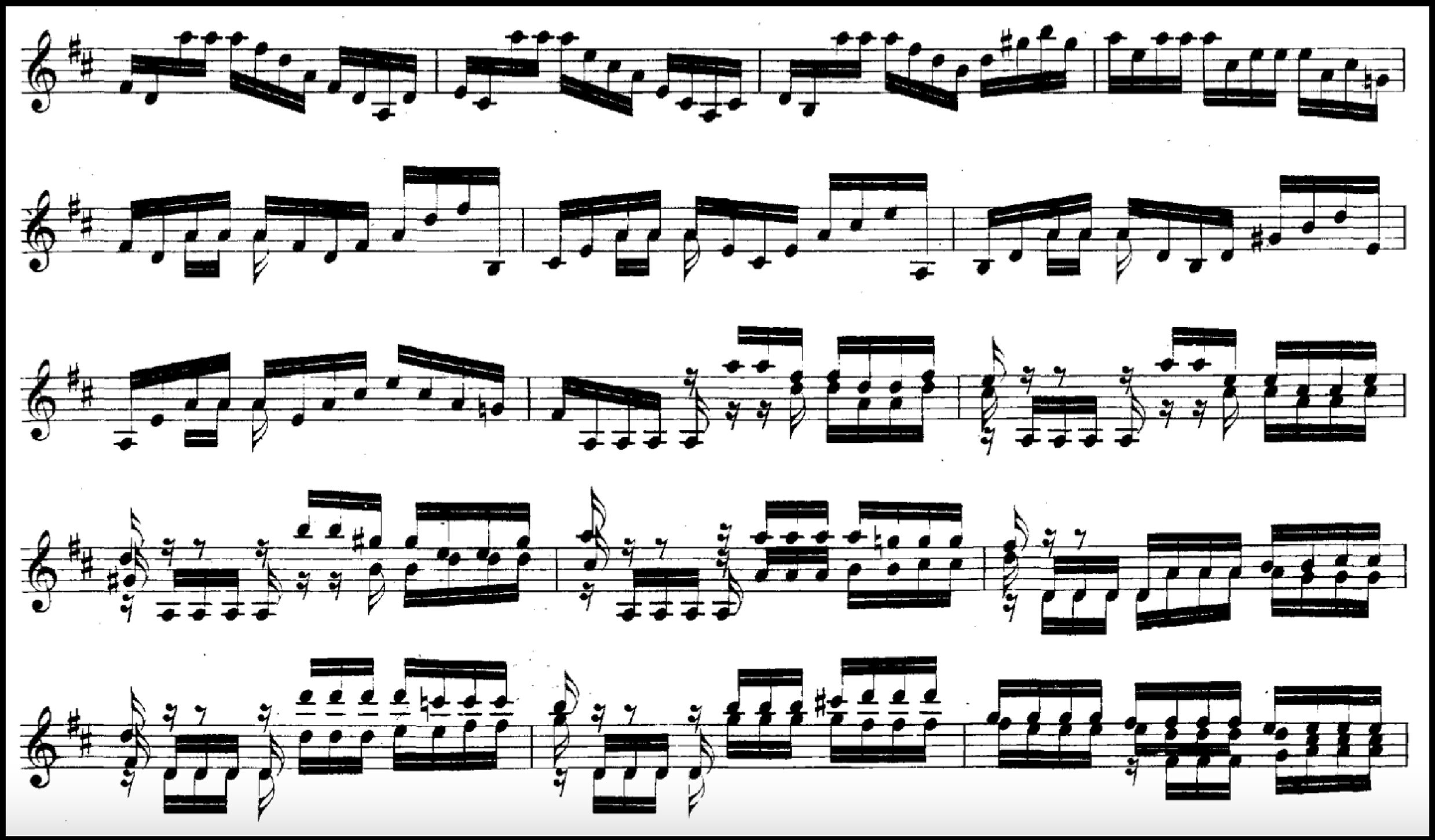
138 139 140 141 142 143

KOMM' ICH HER

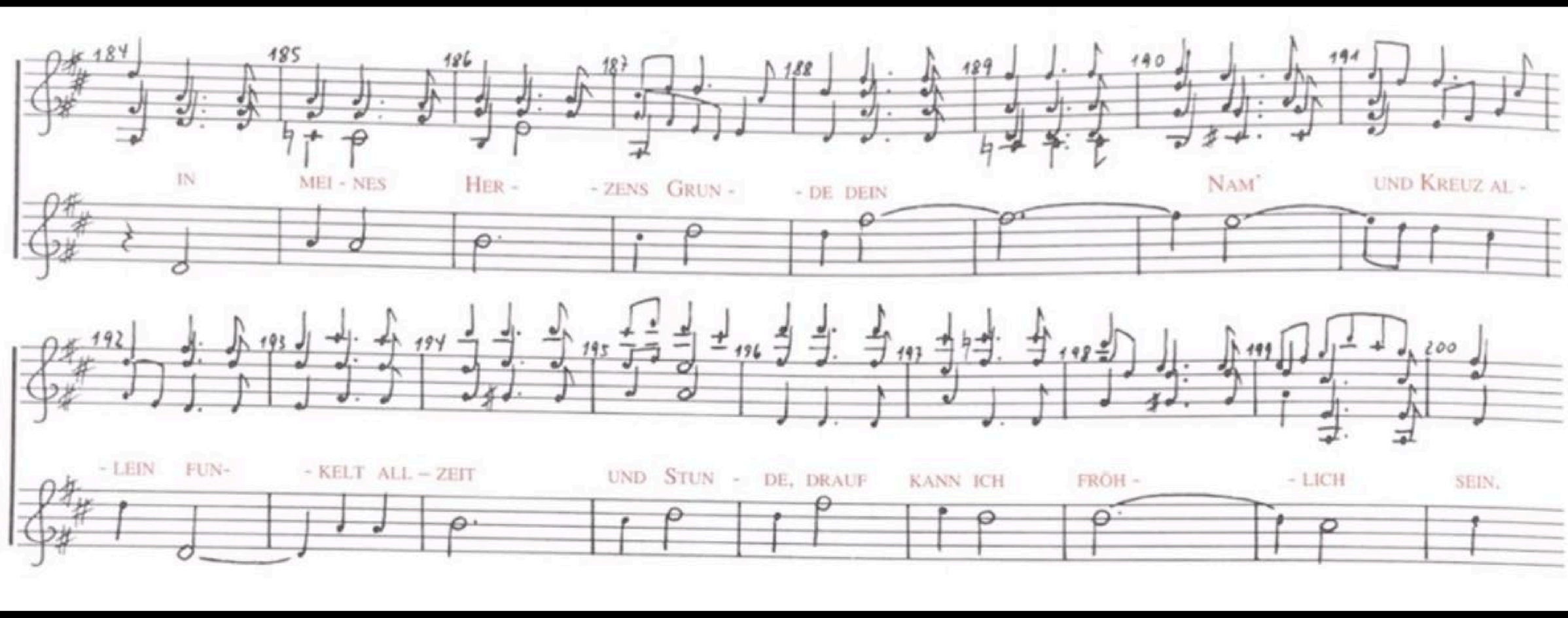
144 145 146 147 148

JE - SU, DEI-NE PAS - SI – ON WILL ICH JETZT BE – DEN – KEN

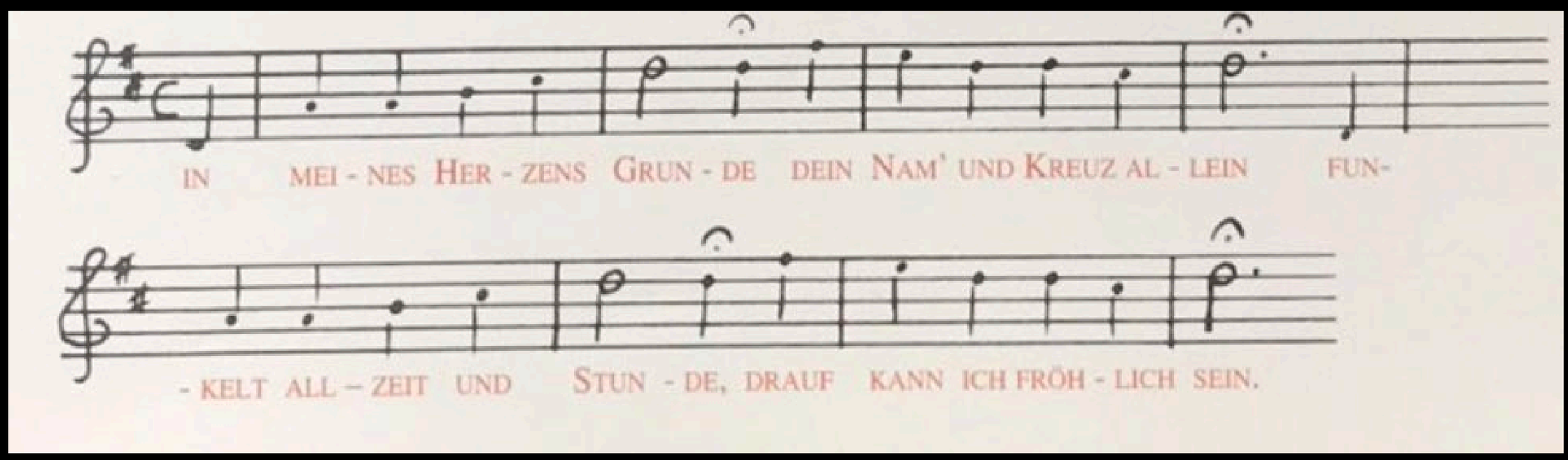
8va

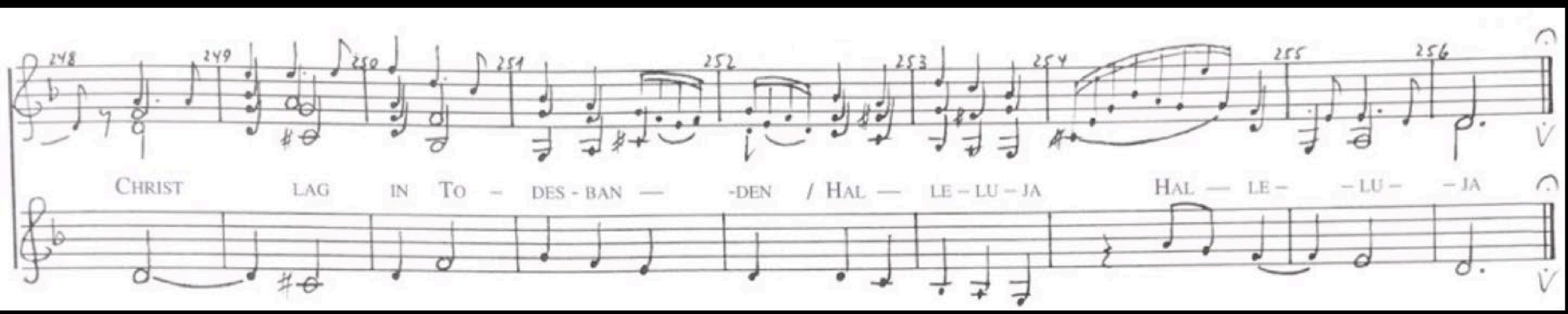


116f, Climax, trumpets



My inmost heart now raises,
In this fair morning hour,
A song of thankful praises
To Thine Almighty pow'r;
And so I have begun
This day, my God, my life shall be
Begun and closed with praise to Thee,
Through Christ Thy only Son.




248
249
250
251
252
253
254
255
256
CHRIST LAG IN TO - DES - BAN — -DEN / HAL — LE - LU - JA
HAL — LE - - LU - - JA

CIACCONA

CHRIST LAG IN TO – DES – BAN — DEN / HAL - — – LE – – LU –

– JA/ DEN TOD NIE — — — - MAND

ZWIN - - GEN KUNNT / DEN TOD DEN TOD

D CIS C H B A

DEN TOD DEN TOD DEN TOD

D CIS C H B A

26 27 28 29 30

DEN TOD NIE — — — - MAND

31 32 33 34 35 36

D Cis C H B A

ZWIN — GEN KUNNT DEN TOD DEN TOD DEN

37 38 39 40 41

TOD NIE — — — - MAND ZWIN — GEN

42 43 44 45

KUNNT DEN TOD NIE —

46 47 48 49

DEIN WILL' — GE —

– – MAND ZWIN – GEN KUNNT

50 51 52 53 54

– SCHEH , HERR — GOTT ,

55 56 57 58 59

ZU – AUF ER – DEN WIE IM HIM – MEL – REICH

– GLEICH

60 61 62 63

AUF ER – DEN WIE IM HIM – MEL – REICH / BE –

64 65 66 67

– FIEHL DU DEI – – NE WE – GE

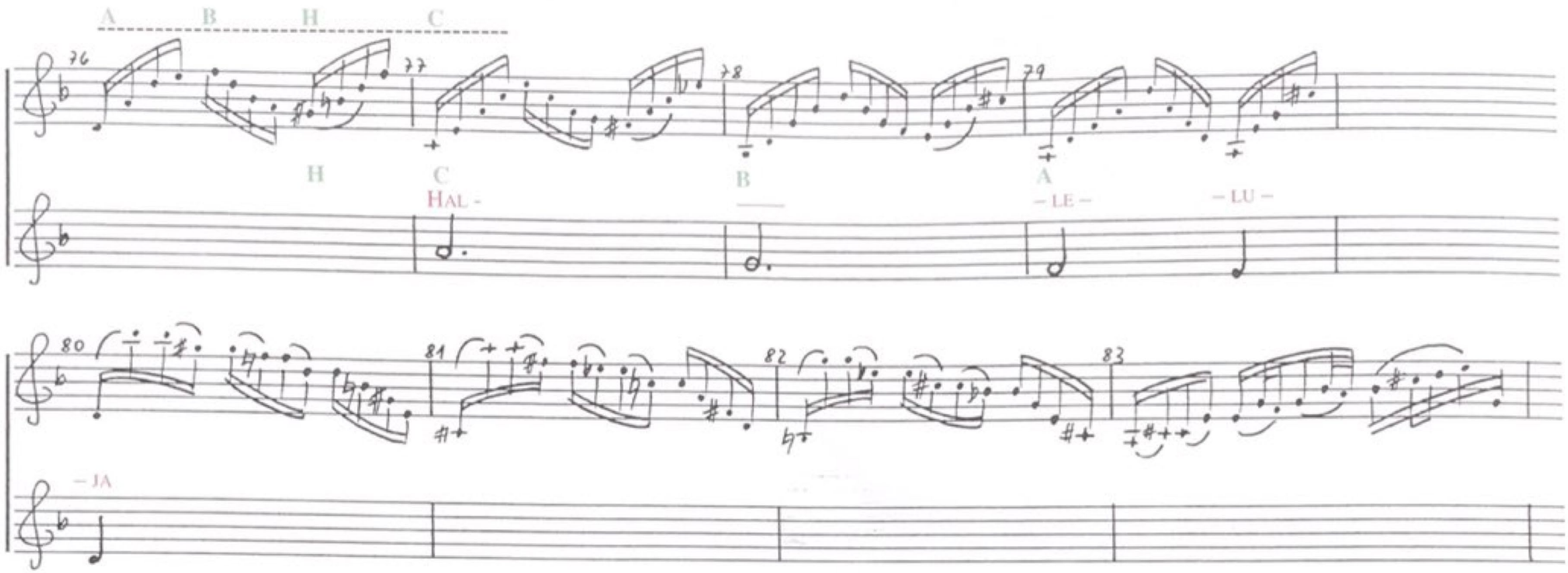
68 69 70

WO SOLL ICH FLIE –

71 72

– HEN HIN

73 74 75


A B H C
76
77
78
79
H C B A
HAL - – LE – – LU –
80
81
82
83
– JA
84
85
86
87

espressio

JE – SU, MEI – NE FREU – DE

BE – FIEHL DU DEI - NE WE – GE

AUF MEI-NEN LIE – BEN GOTT

TRAU ICH IN ANGST UND

DEN TOD NIE — — - MAND ZWIN – GEN

A B H C

D Cis C H B A H

NOT GIB – — UNS GE — DULD IN LEI – DENS - ZEIT

KUNNT

DES WILL ICH ALL- ZEIT —

C B A

BE – FIEHL DU

HAR – — – REN

DEI - — NE WE — GE CHRIST LAG

IN TO — DES — BAN — DEN/HAL - — LE — LU — JA

C H B A

VOM HIM - — MEL HOCH

WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMP-FAN-GEN

DA KOMM ICH HER

JE-SU, DEI-NE PAS-SI- ON

JE-SU, DEI-NE PAS-SI-ON

WILL ICH JETZT BE-DEN-

148 149 150 151 152

VOM

– KEN

153 154 155 156 157

HIM – – MEL HOCH DA

158 159 160 161 162

KOMM ICH HER

163 164 165 166 167

DA KOMM ICH

HER

DA KOMM ICH

HER DA KOMM ICH HER DA KOMM ICH HER

WIE SOLL ICH DICH

EMP - FAN - GEN / IN MEI - NES HER - ZENS GRUN - DE DEIN NAM'

UND KREUZ AL – LEIN FUN – KELT ALL – ZEIT UND STUN – DE, DRAUF KANN ICH FRÖH –

– LICH SEIN, DRAUF KANN ICH FRÖH - LICH SEIN, DRAUF KANN

DEM HÖCH – – STEN

ICH FRÖH-LICH SEIN, / NUN LOB, MEIN SEEL,

SEI LOB, EHR UND PREIS

DEN HER – – REN DEIN WILL'

217 218 219 220

— GE – – SCHEH, HERR —

221 222 223 224 225

GOTT, ZU – GLEICH – AUF ER – DEN WIE

226 227

IM HIM – MEL – REICH

228 229 230 231

232 233 234 235

236 237 238 239

240 241 242

243 244 245

246 247 248

249 250 251 252

CHRIST LAG IN TO – DES – BAN —— – DEN

253 254 255 256

HAL- —— - LE – LU – JA HAL - —— - LE – – LU – – JA