

# Scherzo, String Quartet 14

D810, “Der Tod und das Mädchen”

*Franz Schubert*

*arranged by Paul De Bra for  
accordion quintet (1, 2, 3, 4, bass)*

Schubert’s string quartet D810 is called “Der Tod und das Mädchen” because the second movement contains a variation on Schubert’s song, based on a poem by Matthias Claudius.

This arrangement is of the third movement: Scherzo (and Trio). The Scherzo itself is in D minor (like most of the whole composition) and it is very rhythmic and has lines that go down by half-tones, typical to express sorrow. The Trio is in D major and sounds much more cheerful. The sorrow returns in the Da Capo.

As is often the case this string quartet could not be simply copied into an accordion quartet, mainly because of the range of notes played by the cello. A bass part was added to give this arrangement more depth (the bass playing one octave lower than the cello) and to help out the fourth voice where the notes go too low for “small” accordions. (The bass cannot simply replace the cello in the original octave setting as the cello goes too high for a bass accordion.) The second violin part is also improved by taking advantage of the low F on 41-key accordions (whereas a violin only goes down to G).

In this arrangement the first voice is much more difficult than the other voices, because of fast runs and large jumps.

A recording by Professor P is available on YouTube.

This arrangement is provided under the Creative Commons Attribution license (and so is the recording).

# Scherzo, String Quartet no. 14

Scherzo  
Allegro molto  $\text{♩} = 250-290$

D810, "Der Tod und das Mädchen"

Franz Schubert  
arr. Paul De Bra

non-staccato notes leggiero

Acc. 1  
Acc. 2  
Acc. 3  
Acc. 4  
Bass

9 *mf*

I  
II  
III  
IV  
B

17 *pp*

I  
II  
III  
IV  
B

Musical score for measures 26-33. The score is for a string quartet with five staves: I (Violin I), II (Violin II), III (Viola), IV (Violin III), and B (Cello/Double Bass). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) and *pp* (pianissimo). There are several accents (*v*) and slurs throughout the passage.

Musical score for measures 34-43. The score continues with the same five staves. The dynamics are more varied, including *p*, *f* (forte), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The texture becomes more complex with more frequent sixteenth-note patterns and some triplets. There are many accents and slurs.

Musical score for measures 44-51. The score continues with the same five staves. The dynamics include *p* and *pp*. The music features a lot of sixteenth-note patterns and some slurs. There are also some fermatas or long notes in the later measures.

Musical score for measures 53-61. The score is for a string quartet with five staves: I (Violin I), II (Violin II), III (Viola), IV (Violin III), and B (Cello/Double Bass). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The dynamics are marked *pp* (pianissimo) and *p* (piano). The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations like accents and slurs.

Musical score for measures 62-68. The score continues with the same five staves. The dynamics are marked *ff* (fortissimo). The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations like accents and slurs. The section ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine" with a double slash.

Musical score for measures 69-74, labeled "Trio". The score continues with the same five staves. The key signature changes to two sharps (D major). The dynamics are marked *pp* (pianissimo). The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with various articulations like accents and slurs.

Scherzo, String Quartet no. 14

79

rit. a tempo *leggiero*

I

II

III

IV

B

*p*

*p*

*p*

*pp*

87

I

II

III

IV

B

*mp*

94

rit.

I

II

III

IV

B

100

107

117

Scherzo, String Quartet no. 14

decresc. *p* *p* *p* *pp*

*fp* *fp* *fp* *fp* *mfp*

*pp* (use  $\text{\textcircled{8}}$  loco on small accordions) *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

Scherzo, String Quartet no. 14

146

I  
II  
III  
IV  
B

152

I  
II  
III  
IV  
B

158

I  
II  
III  
IV  
B