

# Paul Hindemith:

## Viola Sonata Op. 11 No. 4



Based on the Schott Edition of Paul Hindemith's Viola Sonata Op. 11 No. 4, here is a list of the German performance markings and terms, along with their English translations and musical contexts.

### I. Movement Titles and Structural Markings

These terms define the overall form and flow of the piece.

German Term	English Translation	Performance Meaning
Bratsche	Viola	Specifies the instrument for this part.
Sonate	Sonata	The musical form of the work.
Fantasie	Fantasy	The title of the first movement; implies a free, improvisational style.
Thema mit Variationen	Theme with Variations	The title of the second movement; a central theme followed by altered versions.
Finale (mit Variationen)	Finale (with variations)	The title of the third movement.
Dasselbe Zeitmaß	The same tempo	Indicates that the speed should remain consistent with the previous section.
Im alten Zeitmaß	In the old tempo	Return to the original speed of the section or movement.
Im Hauptzeitmaß	In the main tempo	Return to the primary tempo of the movement.
Ohne Taktart	Without time signature	Play freely without a fixed beat structure.
Attacca subito	Attack immediately	Though Italian, used here to instruct the player to begin the next section without any pause.

## II. Character and Tempo Directions

These terms describe the "feel" and speed of specific sections.

German Term	English Translation	Performance Meaning
<b>Breit</b>	Broad	Expansive and sustained, often implying a slight slowing or weightiness.
<b>Ein wenig kapriziös</b>	A little capricious	Play with a playful, whimsical, or unpredictable character.
<b>Gemächliches Zeitmaß</b>	Leisurely tempo	A comfortable, unhurried pace.
<b>Im Zeitmaß</b>	In tempo	Return to the established speed after a deviation.
<b>Immer mehr beruhigen</b>	Calming down more and more	Gradually become slower and more tranquil.
<b>In wechselnder Taktart</b>	In changing time signatures	Indicates that the time signature varies frequently throughout the section.
<b>Lebhafter und sehr fließend</b>	Livelier and very flowing	Increase the speed and maintain a smooth, continuous motion.
<b>Leicht fließend</b>	Lightly flowing	Play with a sense of ease, grace, and forward motion.
<b>Mit aller Kraft</b>	With all (one's) strength	Play with maximum power and volume.
<b>Mit bizarrer Plumpheit vorzutragen</b>	To be performed with bizarre clumsiness	Play with a strange, heavy, or intentionally awkward character.
<b>Noch immer treiben</b>	Still pushing/driving	Continue to increase or maintain a high level of forward intensity.
<b>Noch lebhafter</b>	Even livelier	A further increase in tempo and energy.
<b>Ruhig</b>	Quiet	Establish a dream-like atmosphere.
<b>Ruhig fließend</b>	Quietly flowing	Maintain a calm but steady, moving pace.
<b>Ruhig und einfach wie ein Volkslied</b>	Quiet and simple like a folk song	Play with a gentle, unpretentious, and lyrical character.
<b>Sehr breit</b>	Very broad	Play with a very slow, expansive, and heavy feel.
<b>Sehr lebhaft (Alla breve)</b>	Very lively (in cut time)	High energy and fast tempo, felt in two beats per bar.
<b>Sehr lebhaft und erregt</b>	Very lively and excited	Fast and played with a sense of agitation or urgency.
<b>Sehr zart</b>	Very delicate/tender	Play with extreme softness and sensitivity.
<b>Stets zunehmen und vorangehen</b>	Constantly increasing and pushing forward	Continuously get louder and faster.
<b>Wie vorhin</b>	As before	Repeat the style or tempo used in a previous section.
<b>Wild</b>	Wild!	Play in an untamed manner, high energy and raucous.

### III. Technical Annotations

Specific instructions regarding notation or technique.

German Term	English Translation	Performance Meaning
Anmerkung	Note	Similar marking to NB (Note well)
Die Kreuze stehen hier vor F und G	The sharps are here before F and G	A notation note clarifying the key signature/accidental placement for that section.
Ein wenig ausladend	A little expansive	Play with a sense of broadening or reaching out.
Einleitend	Introductory	An opening or lead-in passage.
Klavier	Piano	Indicates the entry or presence of the piano accompaniment.

**Notes:**

