A Kalmus Classic Edition

Ludwig van

BEETHOVEN

RONDO A CAPRICCIO

Opus 129

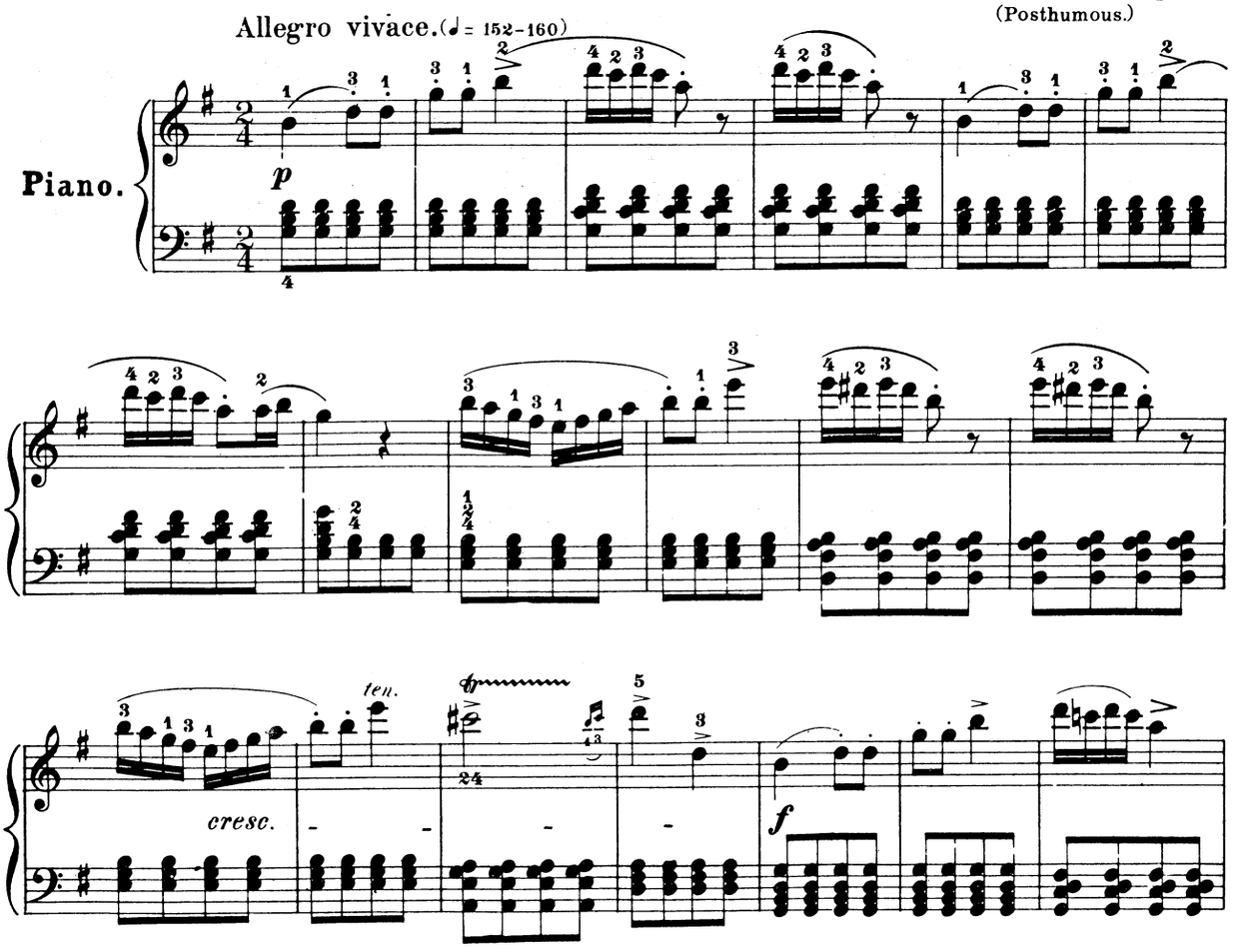
FOR PIANO

K 03198

Kalmus

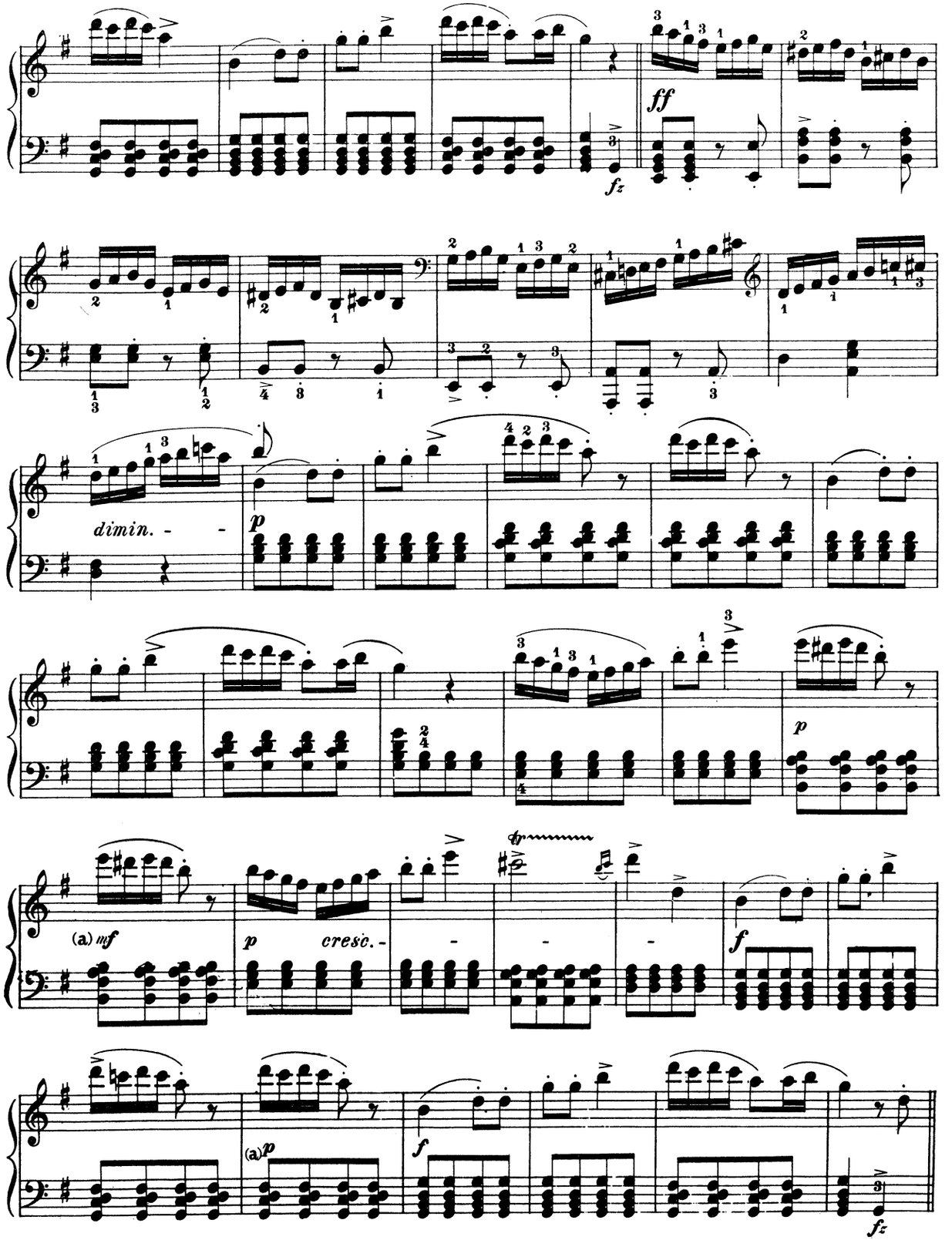
Rondo a Capriccio.

L. van BEETHOVEN. Op. **129.**
(Posthumous.)



(a) We owe the opus-number (op. 129) to the publisher, not to the author, of this work, which was found among the latter's literary remains, having hitherto lain in comparative, though unmerited, obscurity. In so numbering the piece, however, the publisher committed no such anachronistic blunder as the Beethoven glossarists, including (strange to say!) even Herr von Lenz with his "Critical Catalogue", written with such genial acumen and minuteness, would have us believe. This Catalogue, which we so often cite and recommend to the player, and which, despite all imperfections, is still the best, most acute, fullest and (to a certain extent) the most objective work, in any language, on the greatest of tone-poets, says, in a more than laconico-draconic style: "449 measures, from the earliest period, and without interest"; — a blasphemy worthy of the Calmuck Oulibischeff, and to be excused, at best, by the supposition, that Herr von Lenz either never took pains to read this really classical humoresque of Beethoven's, or was unable to play it or to hear it played. To be sure, the piece makes far greater demands on the technical ability, and the rhythmical and other training, of the player, than appears on cursory examination. Not merely for this extrinsic reason, however, but on account of many characteristic features to which we shall call the player's attention in due course, we are moved to consider this Rondo as a *parergon* of the latest creative period, and have, therefore, included it in our instructive edition.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.



(a) The modifications which we have suggested in the touch, at the repetition of a phrase, may be inverted by the player, should he consider such inversion more tasteful. Our intention in such cases is only to suggest a change in the shading, in order to avoid dry uniformity.