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OpenLearn Course: Understanding musical scores  
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## Chopin – Prelude no.4

Vingt-quatre  
**PRELUDES**  
pour le Piano  
dédiés à son ami  
**J. C. KESSLER**  
par  
**FRÉD. CHOPIN.**

Oeuvre 28.

Propriété des Editeurs.

Pr. 2 Rthlr.

*Seussel, chez Breitkopf & Härtel.*

*Paris, chez Pleyel & Co  
6088.*

*Enregistré dans l'Archive de l'Union.*

*leggiero.*

First system of musical notation. The treble staff begins with a melodic line, and the bass staff features a rhythmic accompaniment. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *cres.* (crescendo). The system concludes with a *loco.* (loco) section and a *Fine.* marking.

No 4.

*Largo.*

*espress.*

Second system of musical notation, marked *Largo.* and *espress.* (espressivo). The treble staff has a slow, expressive melody, while the bass staff provides a dense harmonic accompaniment with many chords.

*stretto*

Third system of musical notation, marked *stretto* (ritardando). The tempo slows down, and the melodic lines in both staves become more spacious.

Ped.

Fourth system of musical notation, ending with *Fine.* Dynamics include *dim.* (diminuendo), *p* (piano), *smorz.* (smorzando), and *pp* (pianissimo). Pedal markings (Ped.) are present at the beginning and end of the system.