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OpenLearn Course: Understanding musical scores
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Mahler 1-3 annotated

Understanding musical scores

Keeping track - Mahler symphony no 1, 3rd movement

1 *Feierlich und gemessen, ohne zu schleppen *)*

Timpani keep steady beat throughout

Contrabass *pp* mit Dämpfer

SOLO *p*

1 Main melody in canon

2

1. Fag. *pp*

Bass-tuba

Pauke

Cello mit Dämpfer

Bass *pp*

3 Counter-melody played by oboe

17 18.

Fl.

1. Ob. *p* etwas hervortretend

1. Clar. in B *pp*

1. Fag.

1. Horn in F *pp*

Tuba

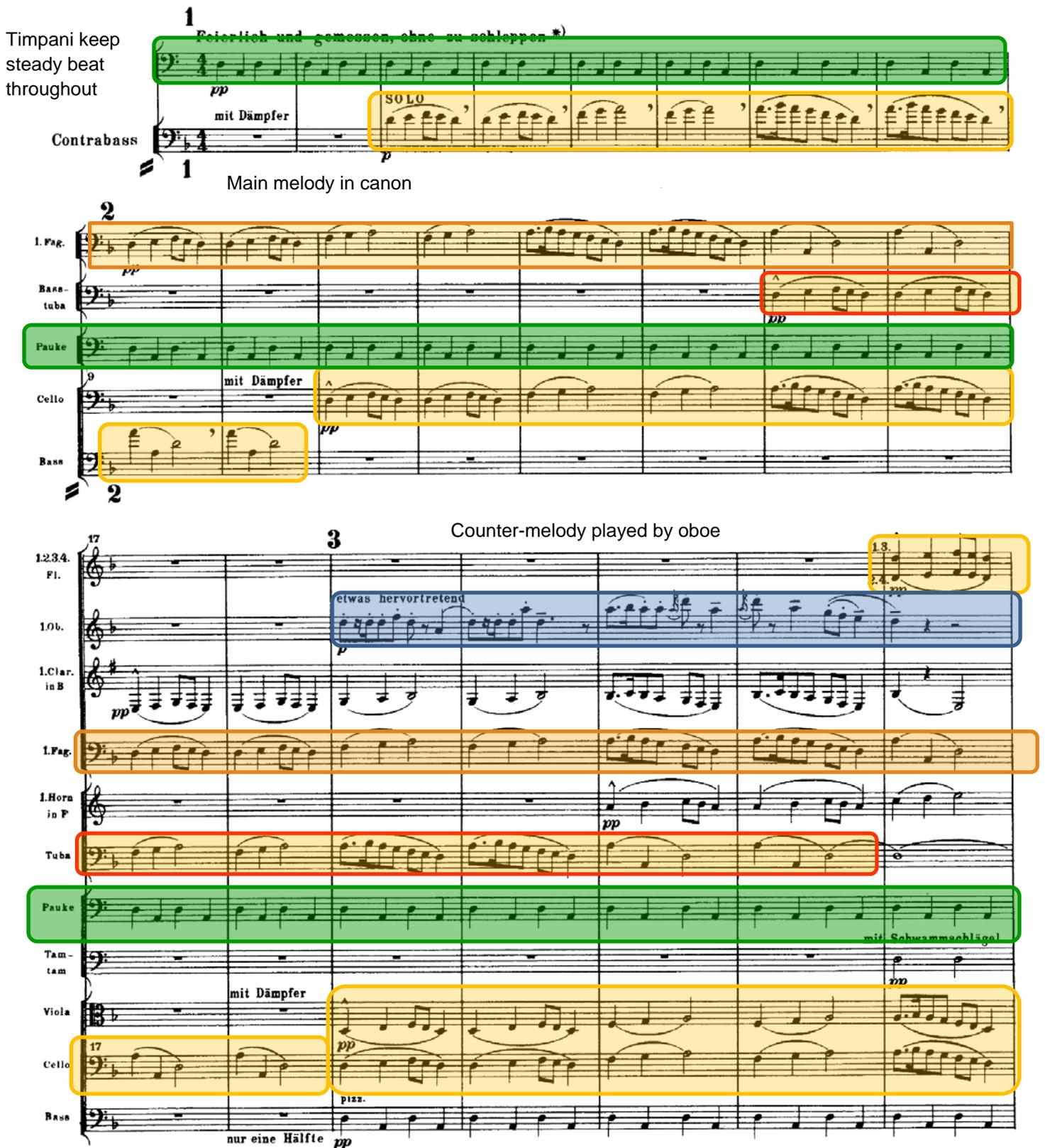
Pauke

Tam-tam mit Schwammschlägel *pp*

Viola mit Dämpfer

Cello *pp*

Bass *pp* nur eine Hälfte *pizz.*



Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for the third movement of Mahler's Symphony No. 1. It is in 3/4 time and marked 'Feierlich und gemessen, ohne zu schleppen' (solemn and measured, without dragging). The score is divided into three systems. System 1 (measures 1-16) features the Timpani with a steady beat, the Contrabass with a 'SOLO' part marked 'p', and the Cello with a 'Main melody in canon' marked 'pp' and 'mit Dämpfer'. System 2 (measures 17-34) features the 1st Flute, 1st Oboe (with a counter-melody marked 'p' and 'etwas hervortretend'), 1st Clarinet in B, 1st Bassoon, 1st Horn in F, Tuba, Tam-tam (with 'Schwammschlägel'), Viola, Cello, and Bass. System 3 (measures 35-48) continues the orchestration with similar instruments. Various parts are highlighted with colored boxes: green for Timpani and Cello, yellow for Contrabass, Bassoon, Cello, and Bass, orange for 1st Flute and 1st Bassoon, blue for 1st Oboe, and red for Tuba. Dynamics include 'pp' (pianissimo) and 'p' (piano).

1.3. Fl. zu 2

2.4. Fl. zu 2

1.0.b. Engl. Horn

Engl. Horn (3. Oboe)

1.2. Cl. in B

4. Cl. in Es

Basscl. in B (3. Clar.)

pp

Basscl. etwas hervortretend

1. Fag.

2. Fag.

1. Horn in F

3.5. Horn in F

4.6. Horn in F

mit Dämpfer

mit Dämpfer

pp

zu 2

pp

zu 2

1. Tuba

Dämpfer ab

Tam-tam

sempre pp

Harfe

p

1. Viol.

2. Viol.

nicht sordinirt

pizz.

pp

Viola

pp

geth.

geth.

Cello

pp

Allo.

geth.

Bass

pp

pizz.

geth.

