

The Moldau

Melody

Bedřich Smetana (1824–1884)

Arr. R. Meyer

Allegro

Measures 1-36 of the Allegro section. The music is in 6/8 time and D major. It features a variety of dynamics including *p*, *cantabile*, *sfz*, *mf*, and *f*. The melody is characterized by flowing eighth and sixteenth notes, often with slurs and accents. Measure numbers 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36 are indicated. The section concludes with a *dim.* (diminuendo) and a *to Coda* instruction.

Allegretto

Measures 37-56 of the Allegretto section. The music changes to 4/4 time. Dynamics include *pp*, *mp leggiero*, *dim.*, and *ff*. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some triplets and slurs. Measure numbers 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, and 56 are indicated. The section ends with a *D.C. al Coda with repeats* instruction. A *Coda* section follows, marked with a *Θ* symbol, containing measures 52-56.

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Many composers of the Romantic era enjoyed writing a form of music known as the *tone poem*. Tone poems are compositions that musically represent a story or specific impressions of the composer. Bedřich Smetana, a Czech composer, wrote a tone poem titled *Ma Vlast (My Country)* in which he musically describes his homeland. One section of this piece, "The Moldau," is named for a great river that flows through the Czech countryside. Listen carefully to how Smetana uses flowing rhythms and melodies to create a musical picture of the magnificent, surging, rushing river.

Accompaniment

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Allegro

1. 2. 12

13 14 15 16 V 17 18 3 3

19 20 21 22 23 24 V

25 26 27 28 29 30

31 V 32 33 34 35 36 to Coda

37 **Allegretto** 38 39 40 41

42 43 44 45 46

47 48 49 50 51 D.C. al Coda with repeats

52 53 54 55 56

Coda

pp ff