

Incidental Music to *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Scherzo

FELIX MENDELSSOHN, Op. 61
(1809-1847)

Accurate rhythm and clarity of articulation are the technical requirements of this excerpt. It is equally important to play expressively by playing long, well-shaped phrases, avoiding an accent on the first note of each bar. Maintain a steady tempo by practicing with a metronome to make sure you don't rush the notes before a breath, or take too much time for the breath. If you have difficulty with the breathing, play with a lighter sound until you feel more comfortable with the long phrases.

In an audition, you should breathe in the 9th and 20th bars after P just after the first eighth note. In an orchestral setting, with a greater need for projection, you can take a quick breath three bars after Q in place of the G, if necessary. Be sure to practice this excerpt in different tempi in preparation for an audition.

Allegro vivace.

p

sempre stacc.

P

5

Q

cresc.

dim.

pp

He Geist! Wo geht die Reise hin?
allaveu