25 preludes

for piano

julian grant (2014)

25 preludes

julian grant (2014)

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duration - c. 65 minutes

* prelude ix. is part of a continuation of the 'variations for Judith' (Serota) collection to commemorate her leadership of the Spitalfields Festival, London, and organized by pianist Melvyn Tan, using the aria transcription by J.S.Bach from the Anna Magdalena Notebook, from a lost opera 'Diomedes' by Gottfried Heinrich Stölzel (1690-1749)

These piano pieces were written in the summer and autumn of 2014, to fill in time when a new opera commission was delayed. The catalyst was a commission from Melvyn Tan, who asked for a virtuoso addition to his ongoing 'Variations for Judith' project, which resulted in the ninth Prelude in A♭ - 'Bist du bei mir.... aber halte dich fest'. The other pieces followed swiftly. Though unusually abstract in the context of my work, the whole set shares thematic links, and material resurfaces and repeats throughout, resulting in a tight knit cycle of related pieces.

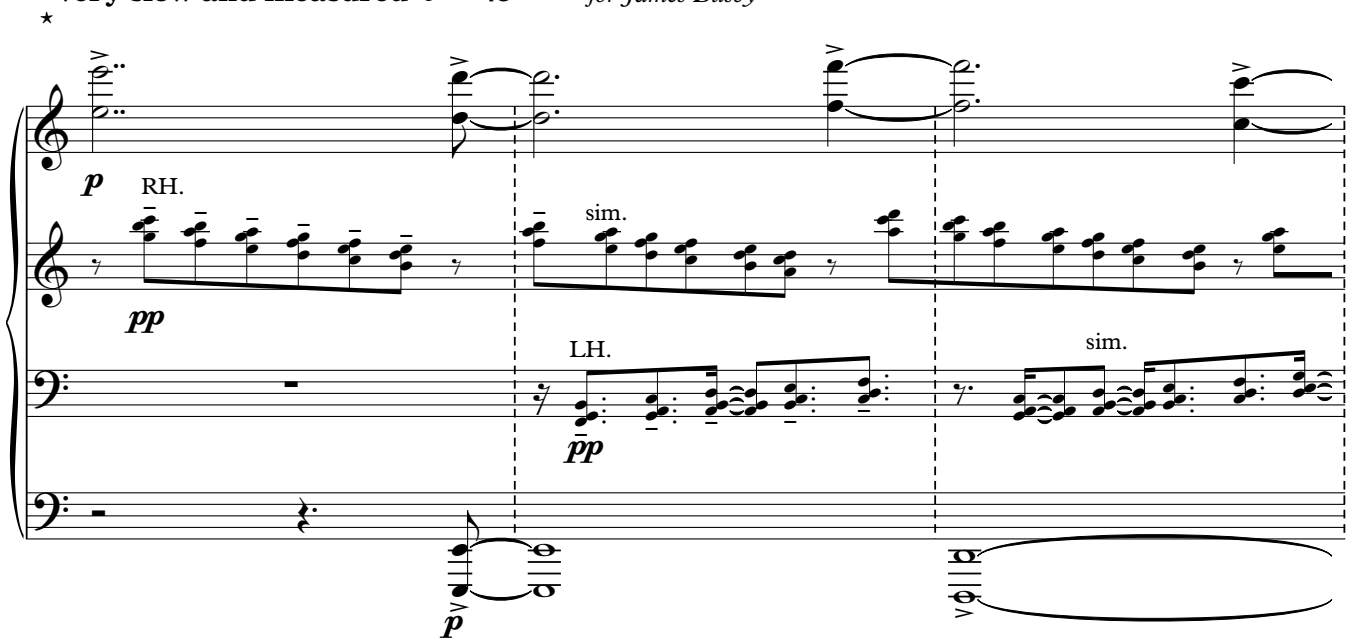
Julian Grant 2014

25 preludes

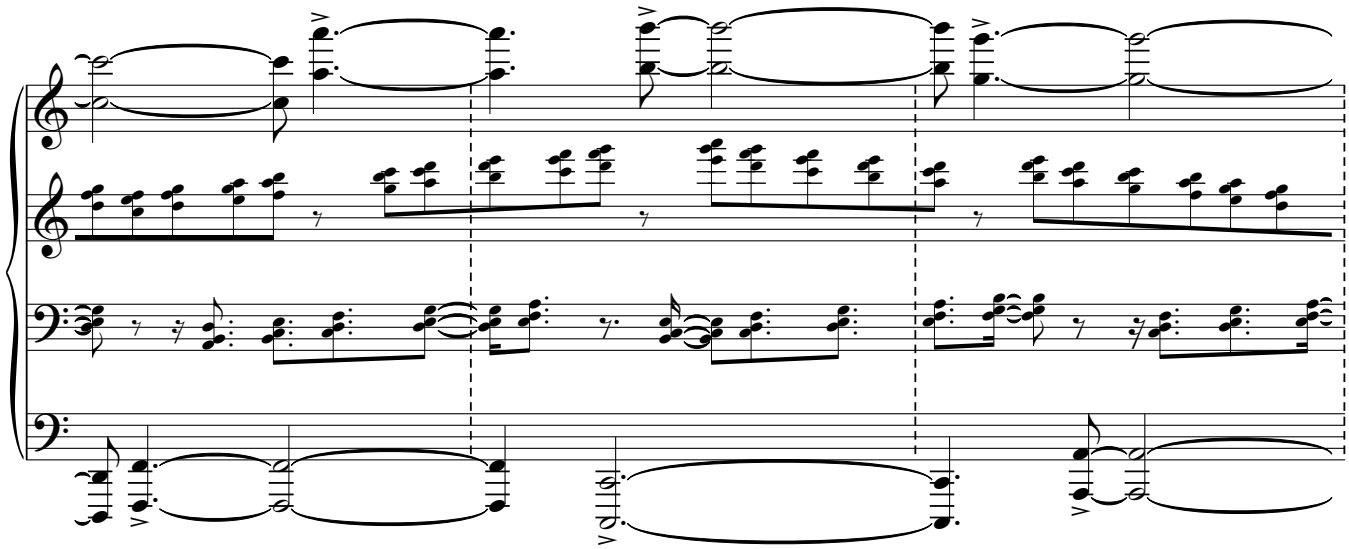
julian grant (2014)

I.

very slow and measured ♪ = 48 *for James Busby*



The barlines are to aid clarity - this whole prelude should feel as if the rhythms are floating without boundaries



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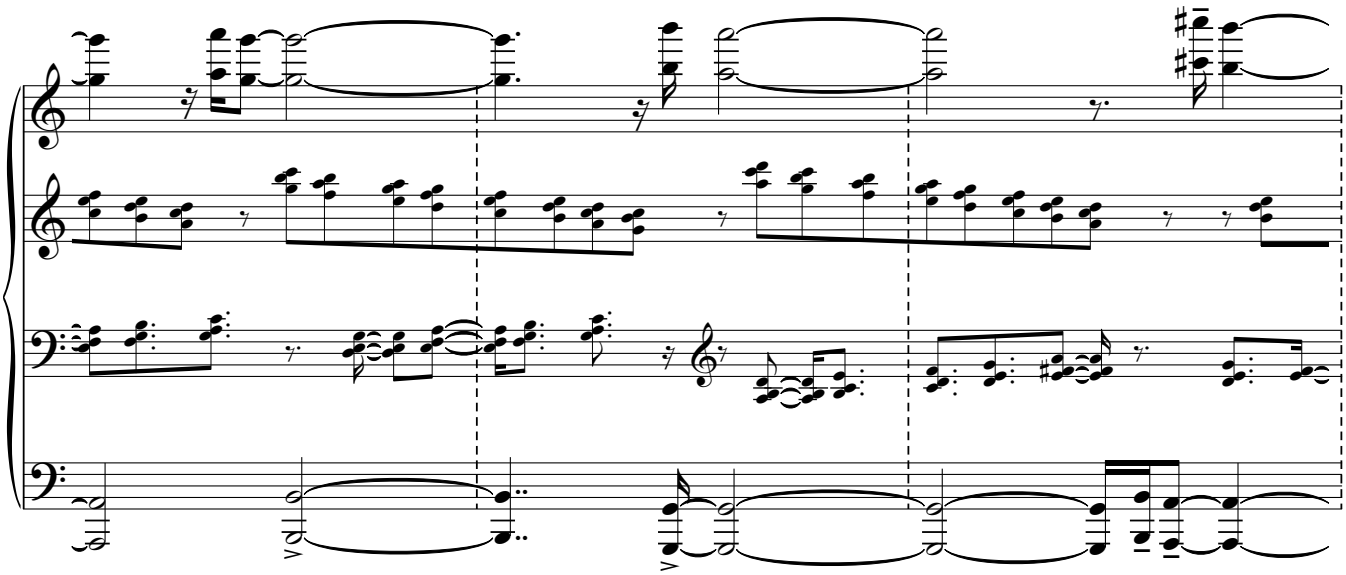
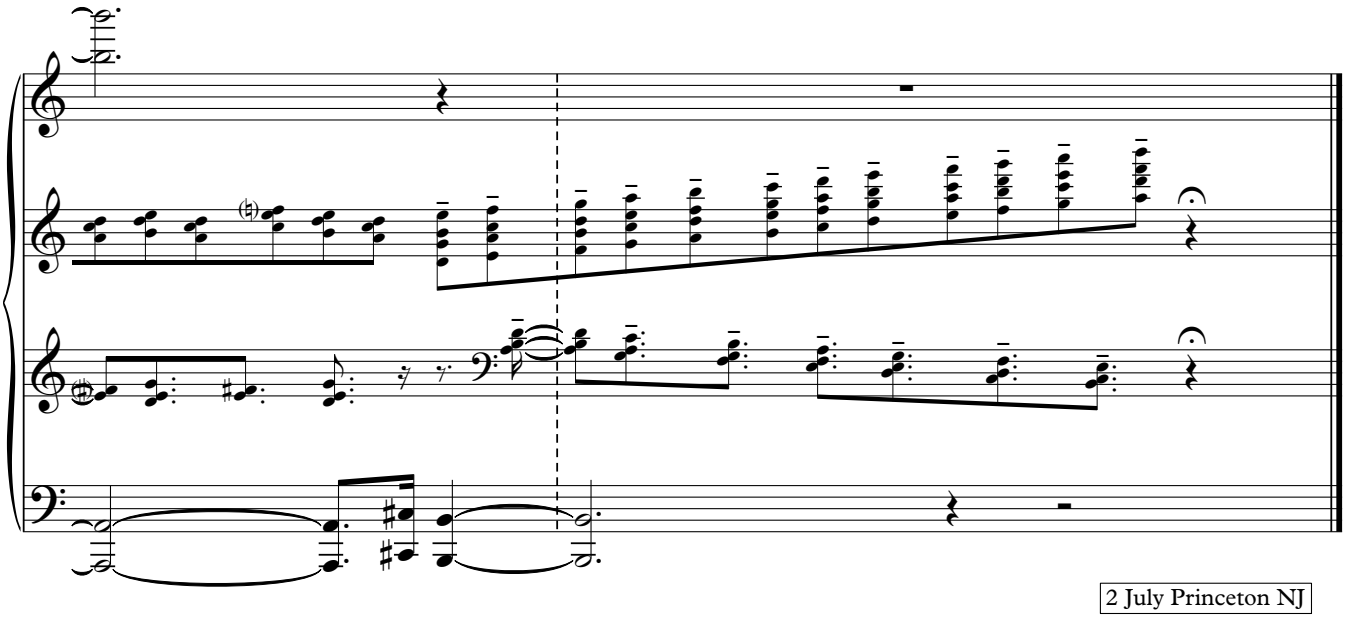
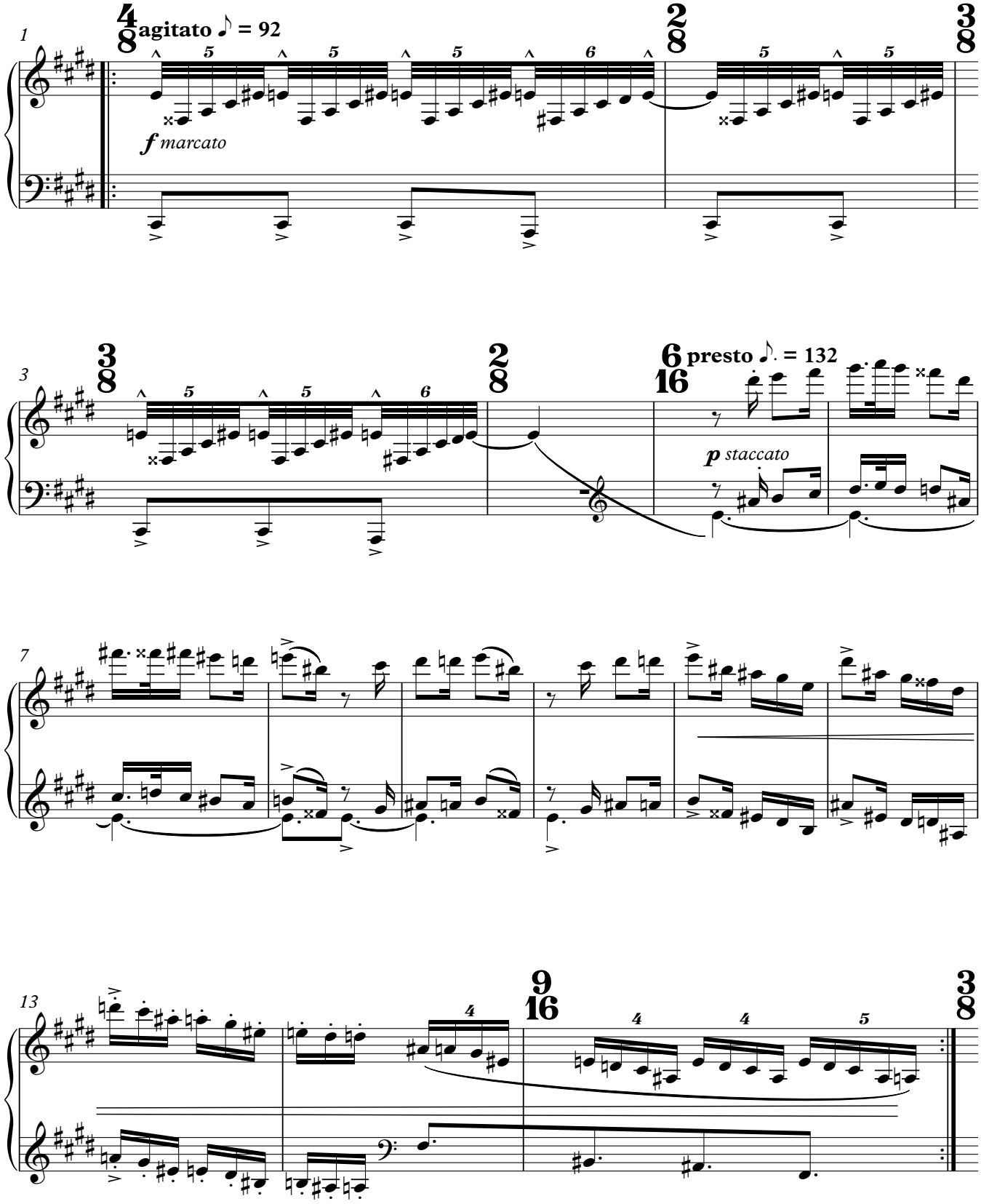




2 July Princeton NJ

II.

for Scott Wheeler



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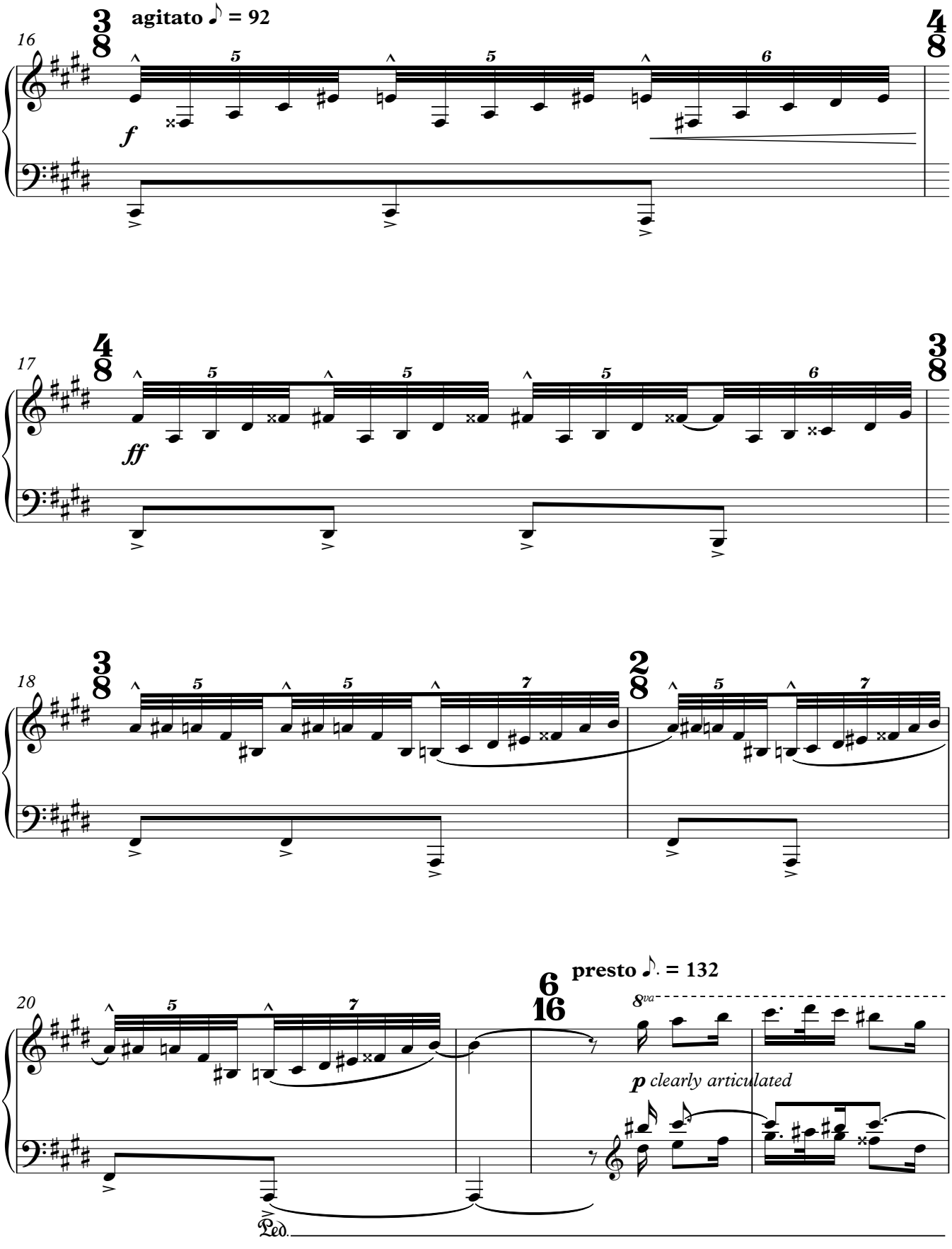
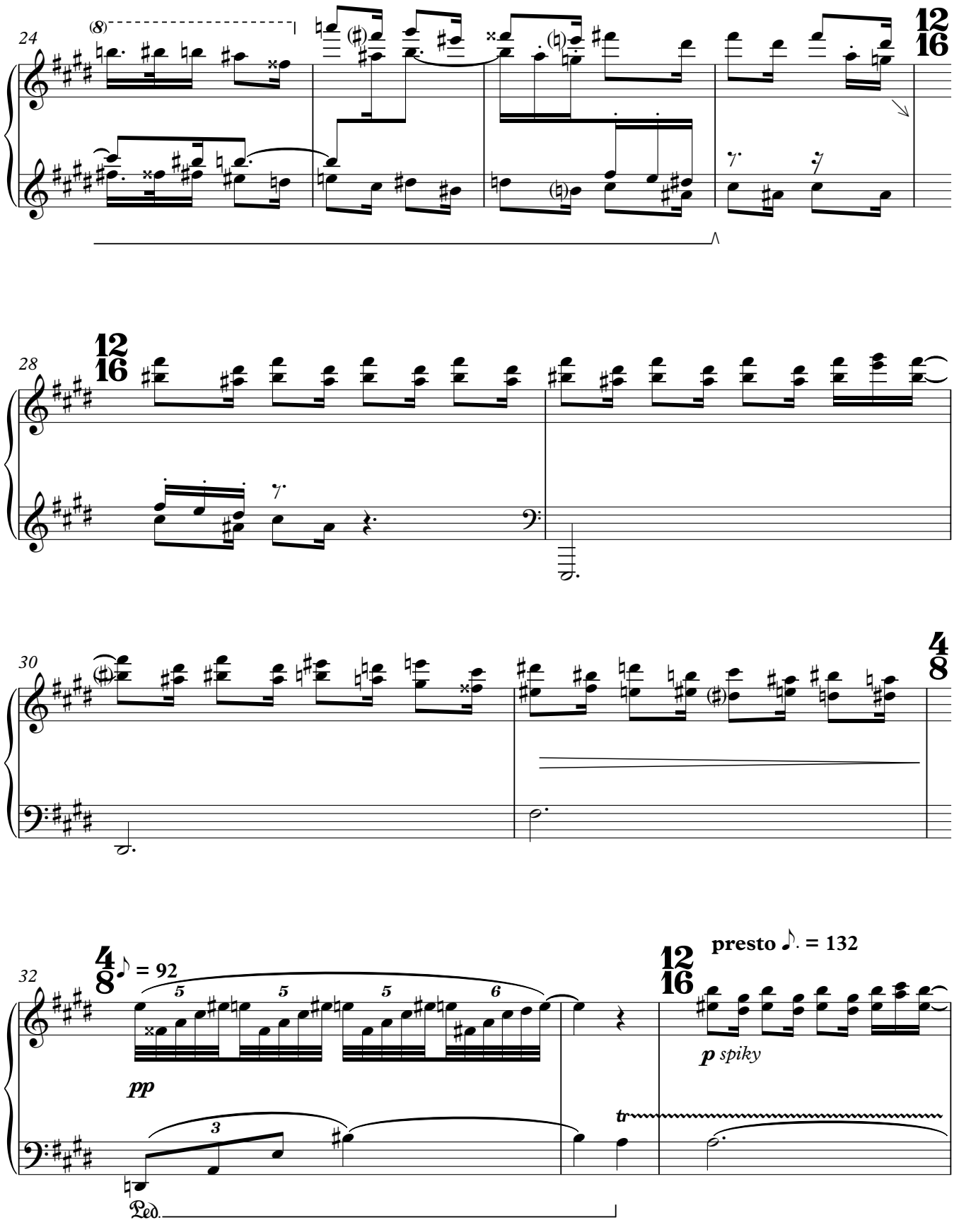
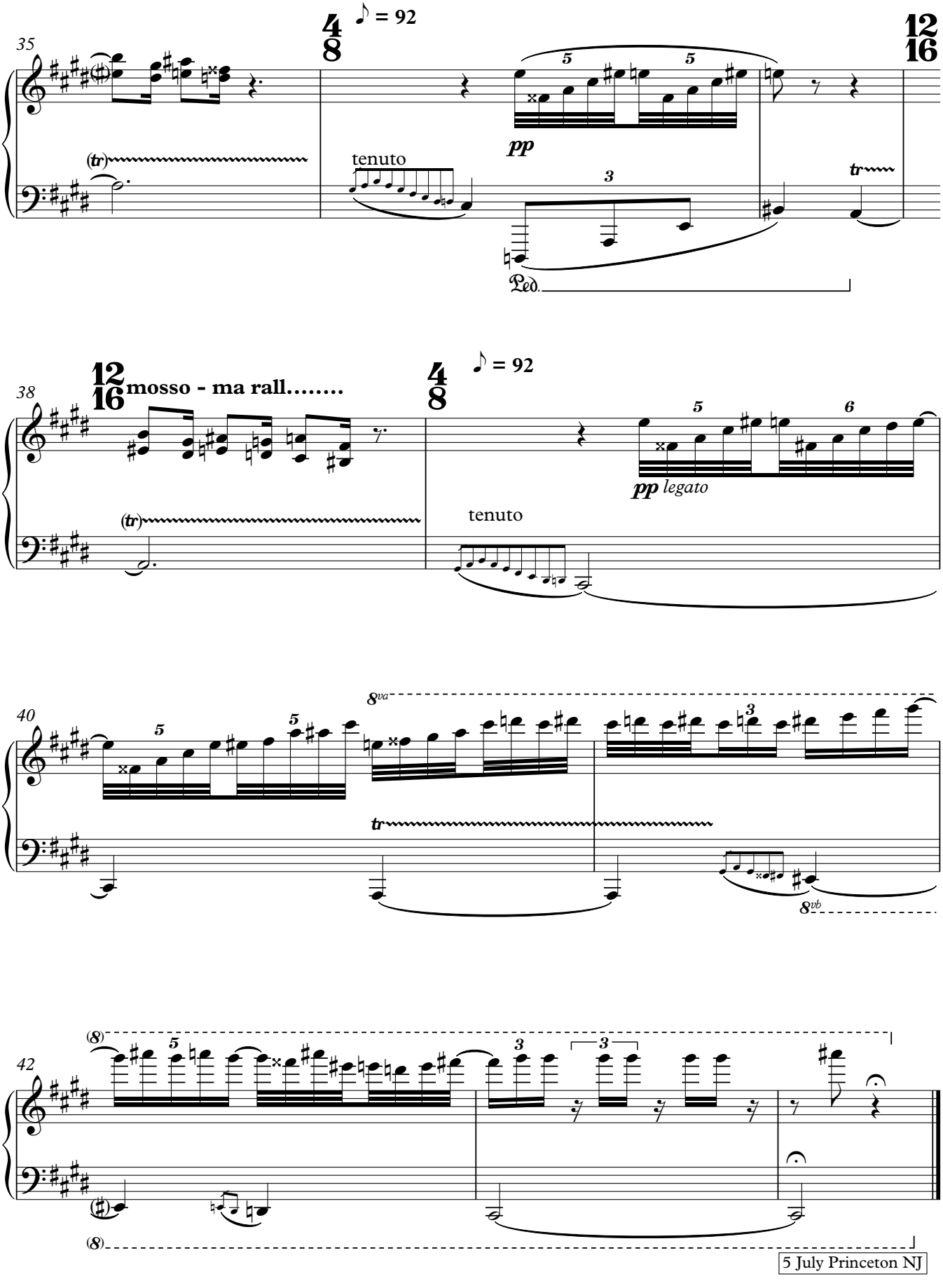

agitato ♪ = 92
16
f
17
ff
18
20
presto ♪. = 132
p clearly articulated
8va
Ped.

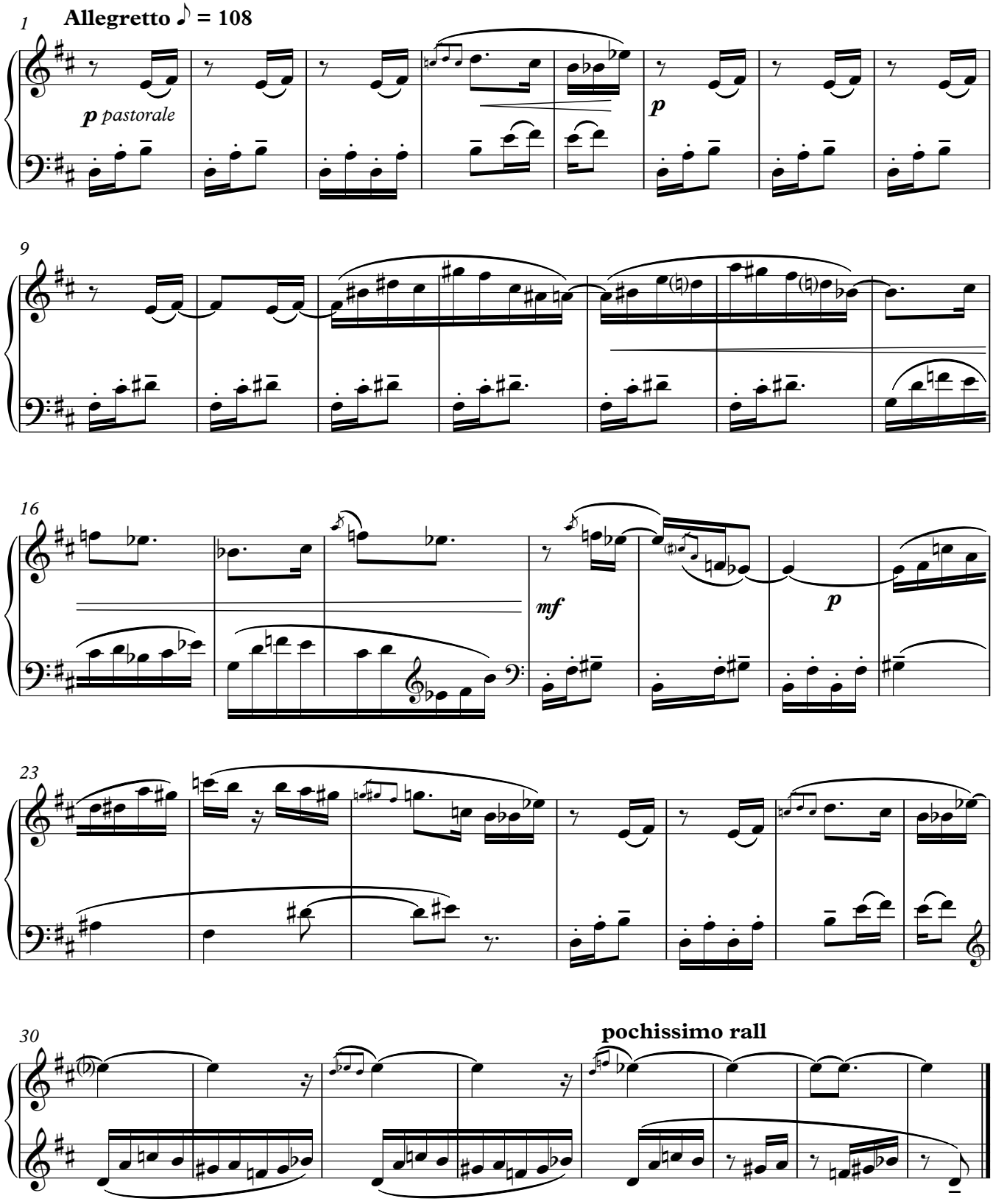

24
(8)
12
16
28
12
16
30
4
8
32
4
8
♪ = 92
pp
presto ♪. = 132
12
16
p spiky
tr
Ped.



5 July Princeton NJ

III.

for Melanie Clarke



6 July Princeton NJ

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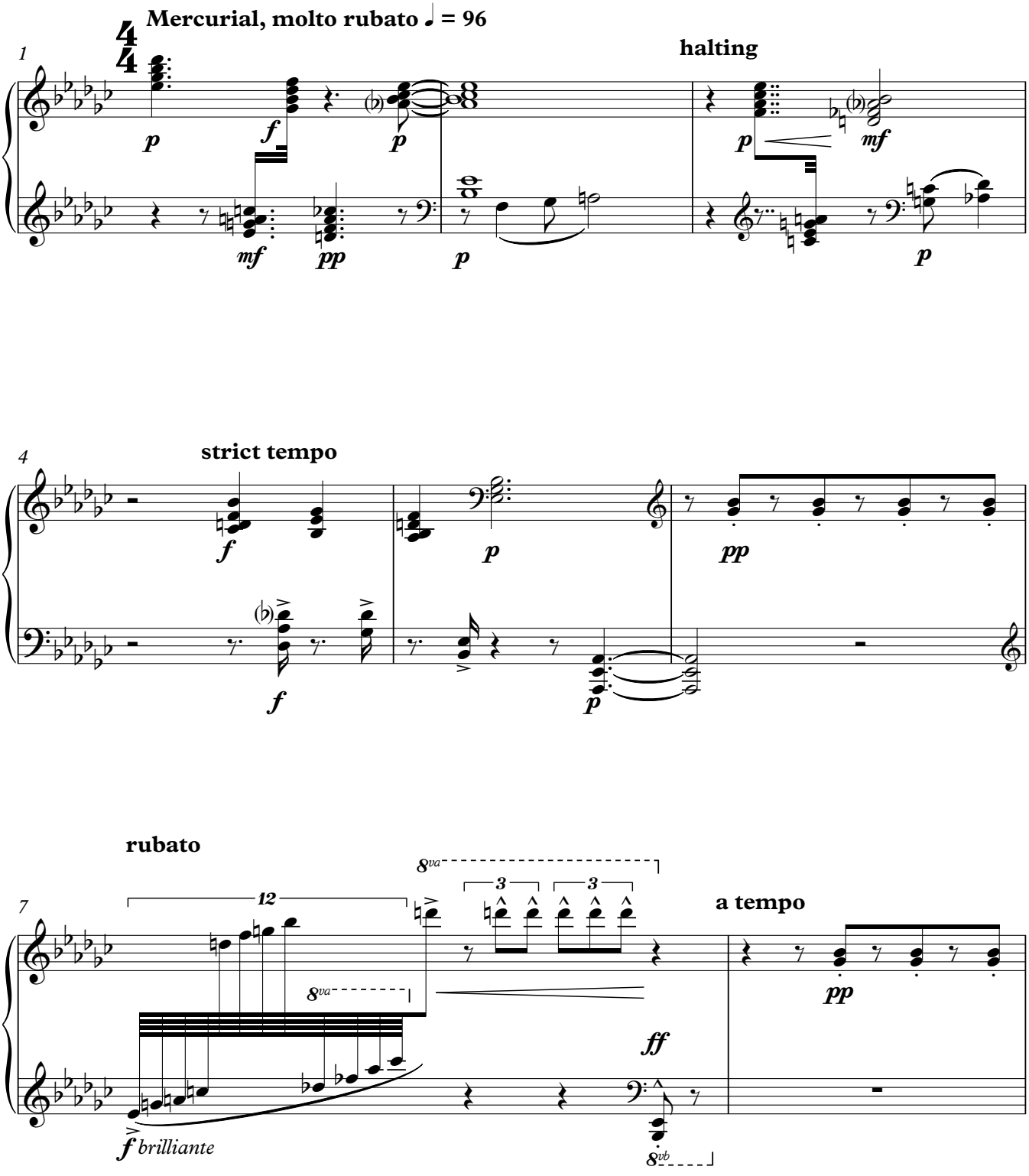
IV.

for Tillie Lighte



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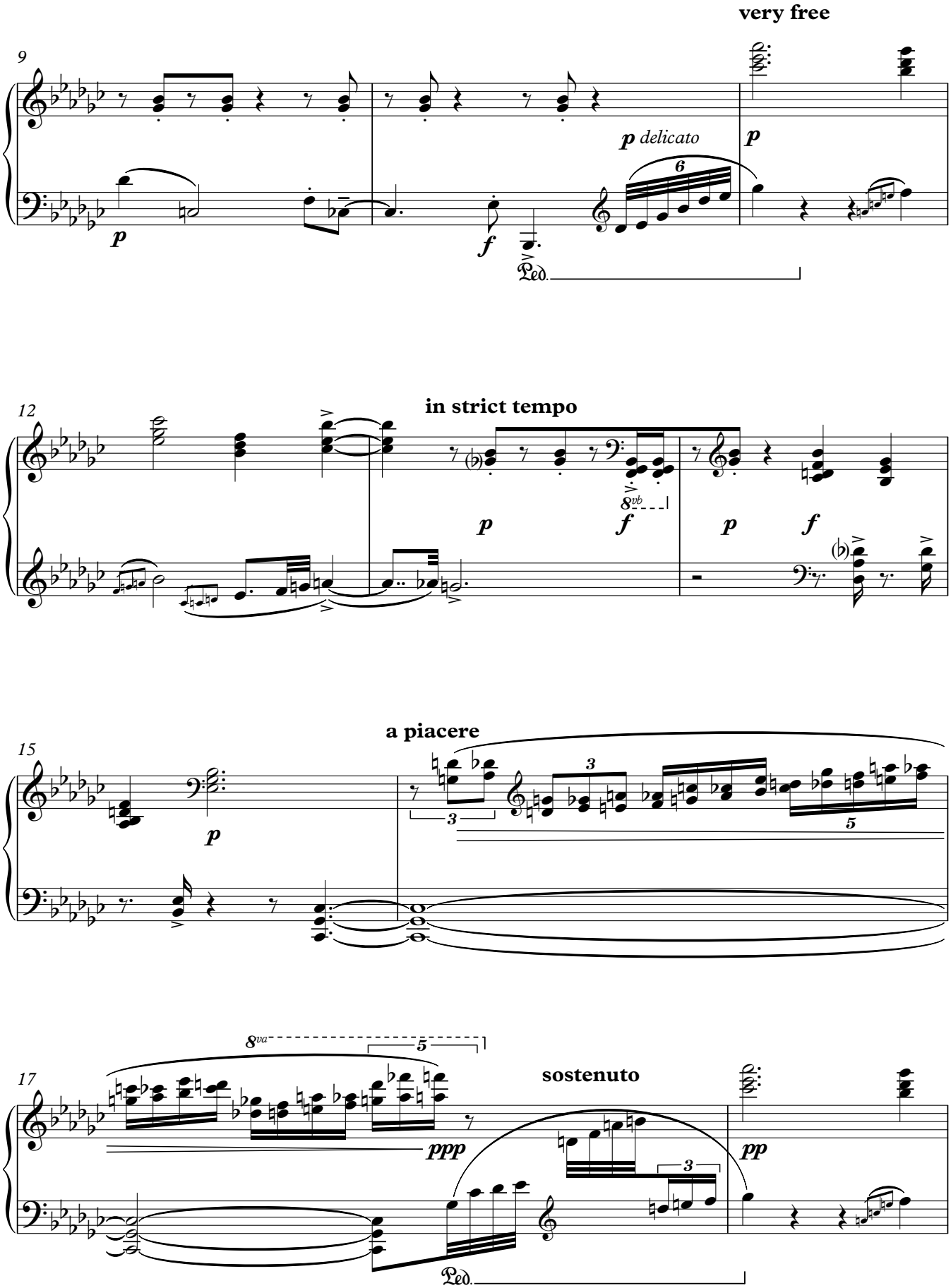
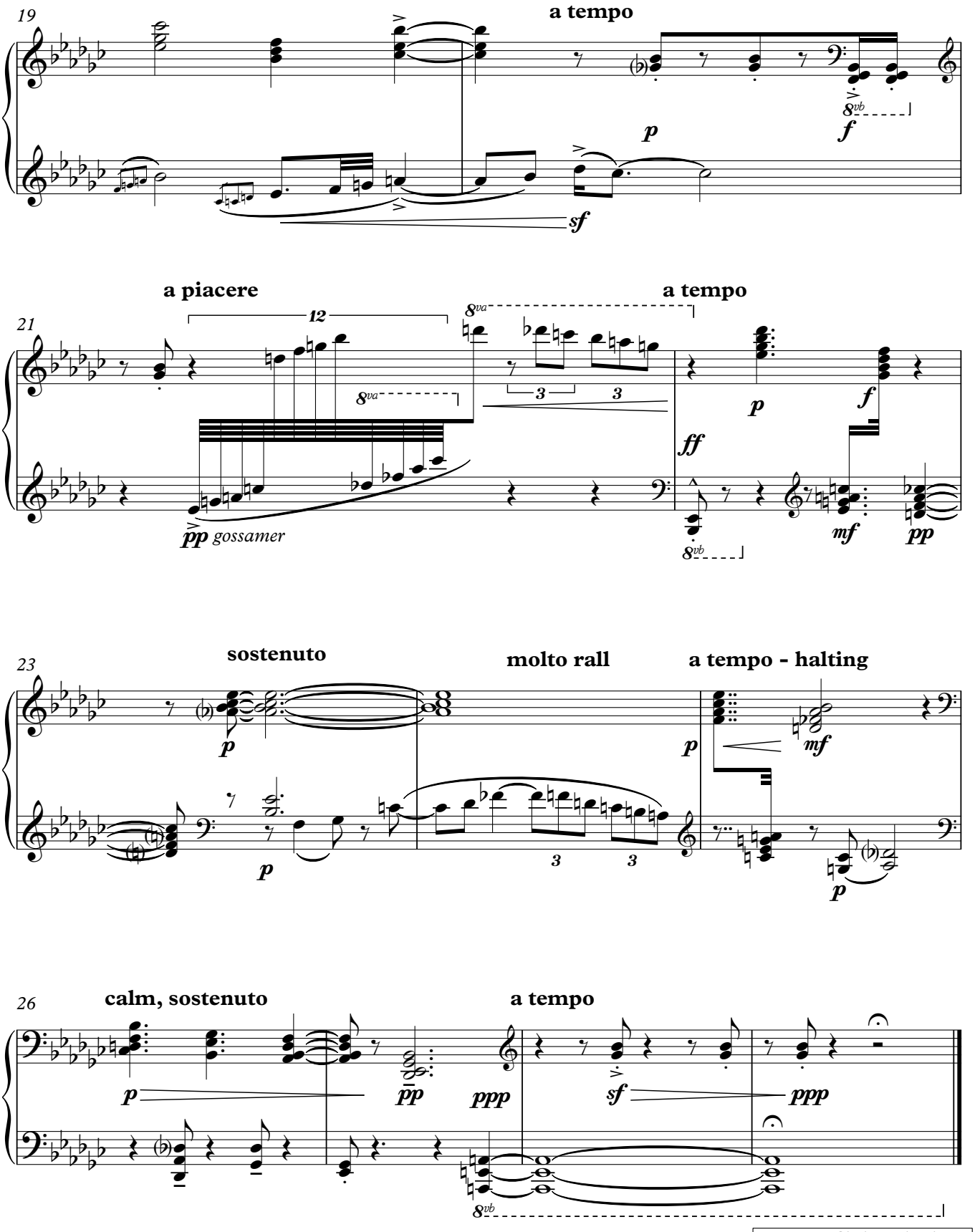

very free
p delicato
p
f
Ped.
in strict tempo
8vb
a piacere
8va
sostenuto
ppp
pp

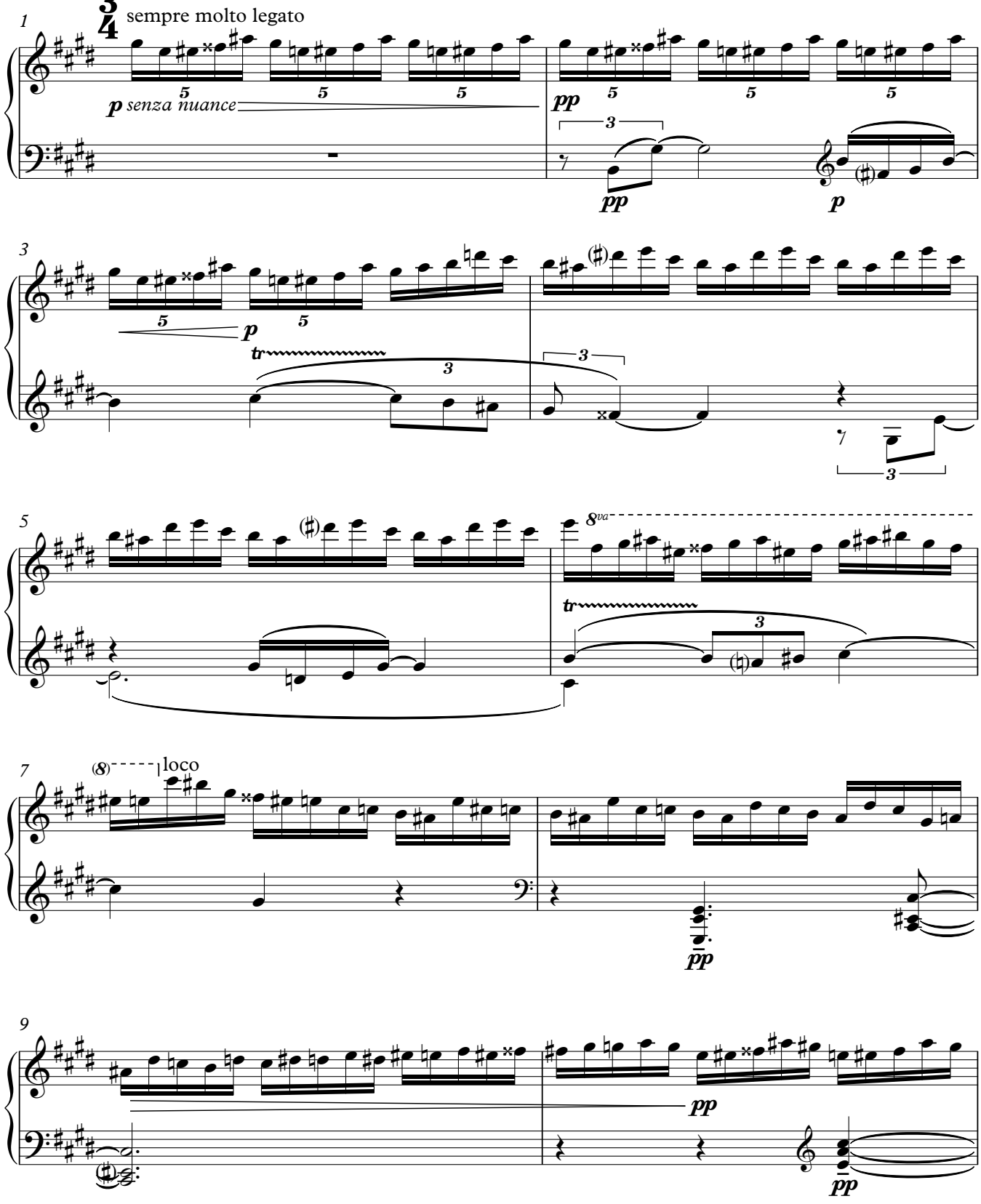


20 August Shelter Island NY

V.

for Nicola Schaefer

Tranquillo - flowing ♩ = 76



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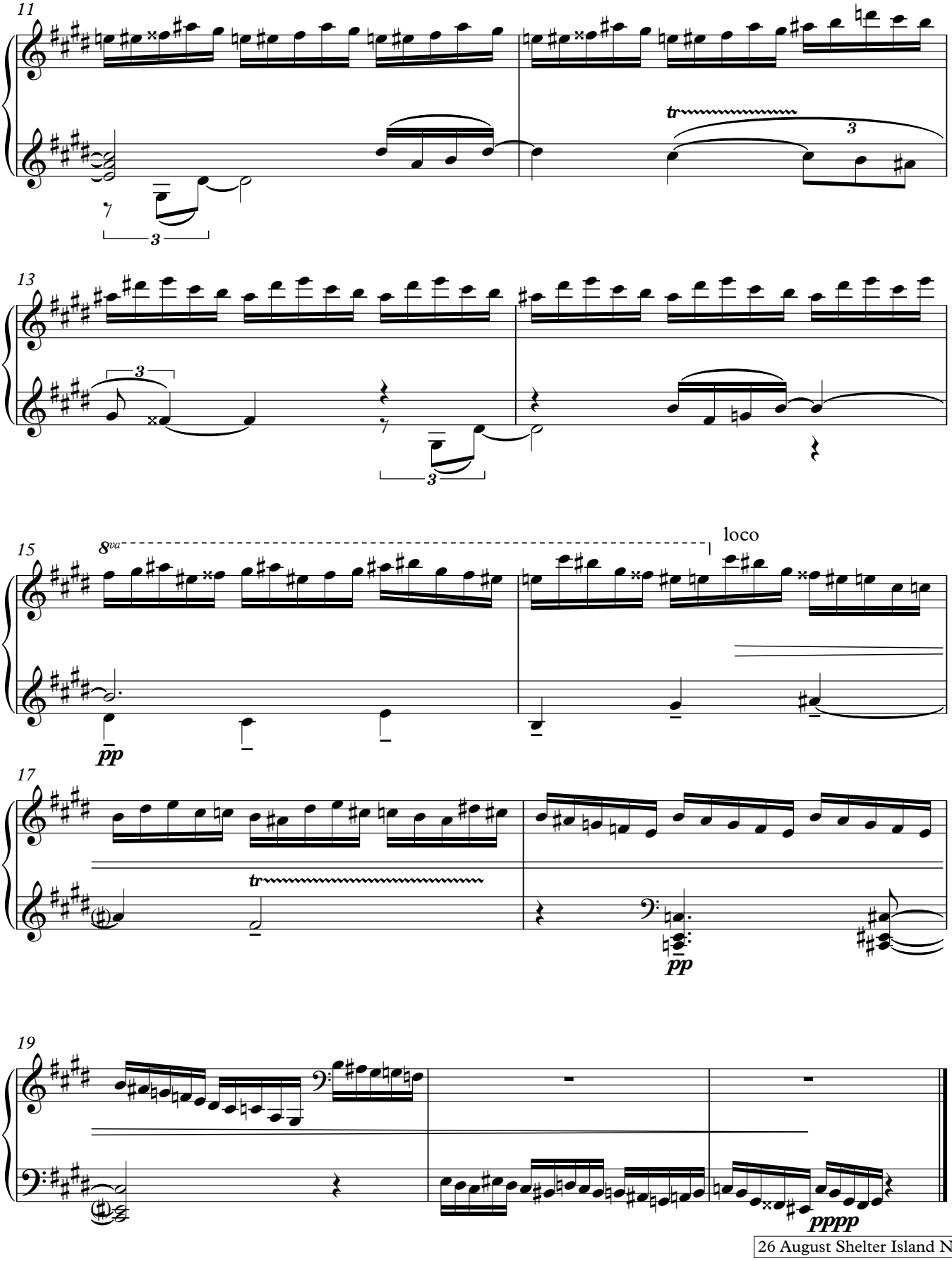
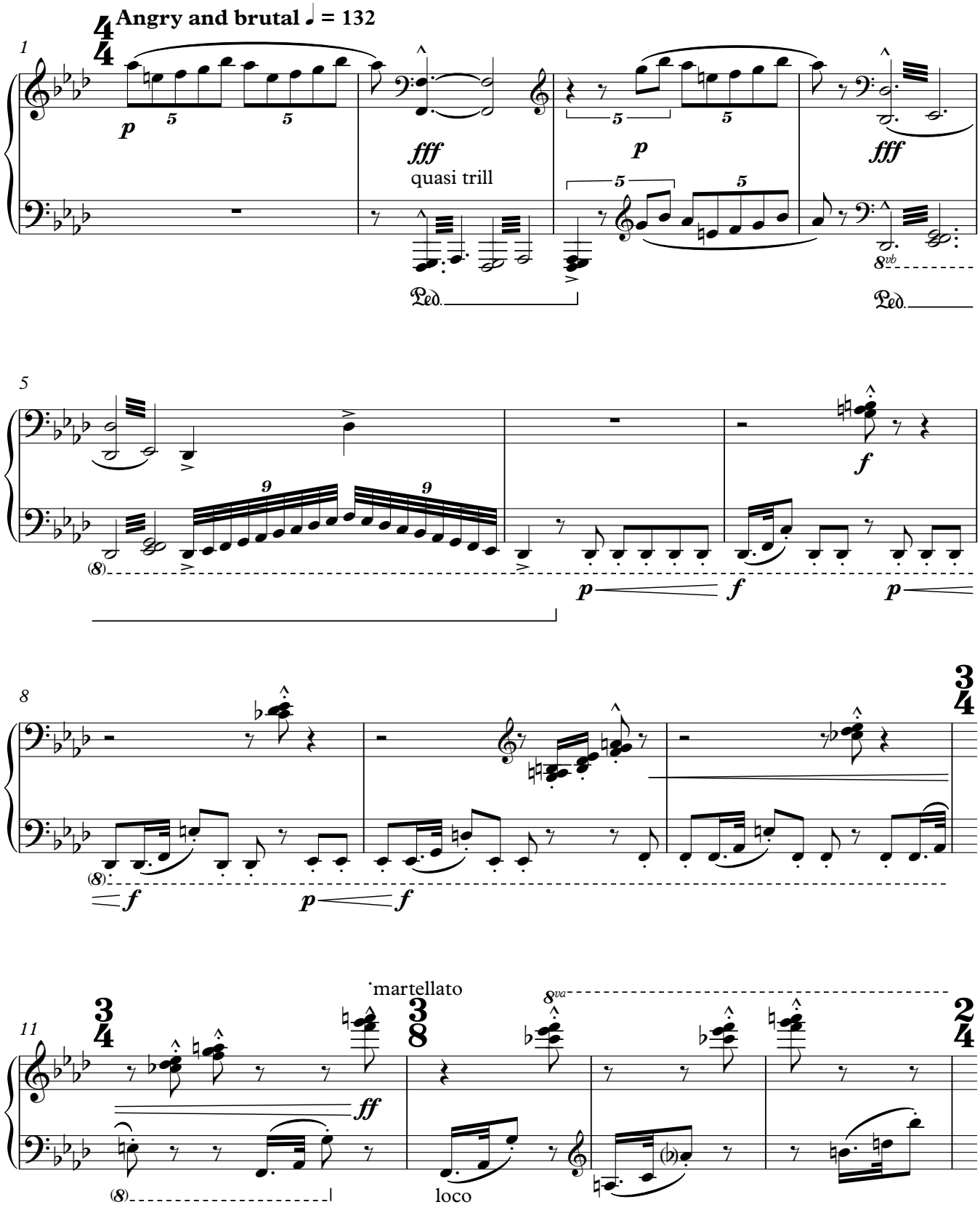


26 August Shelter Island NY

VI.

Buxton Orr in memoriam



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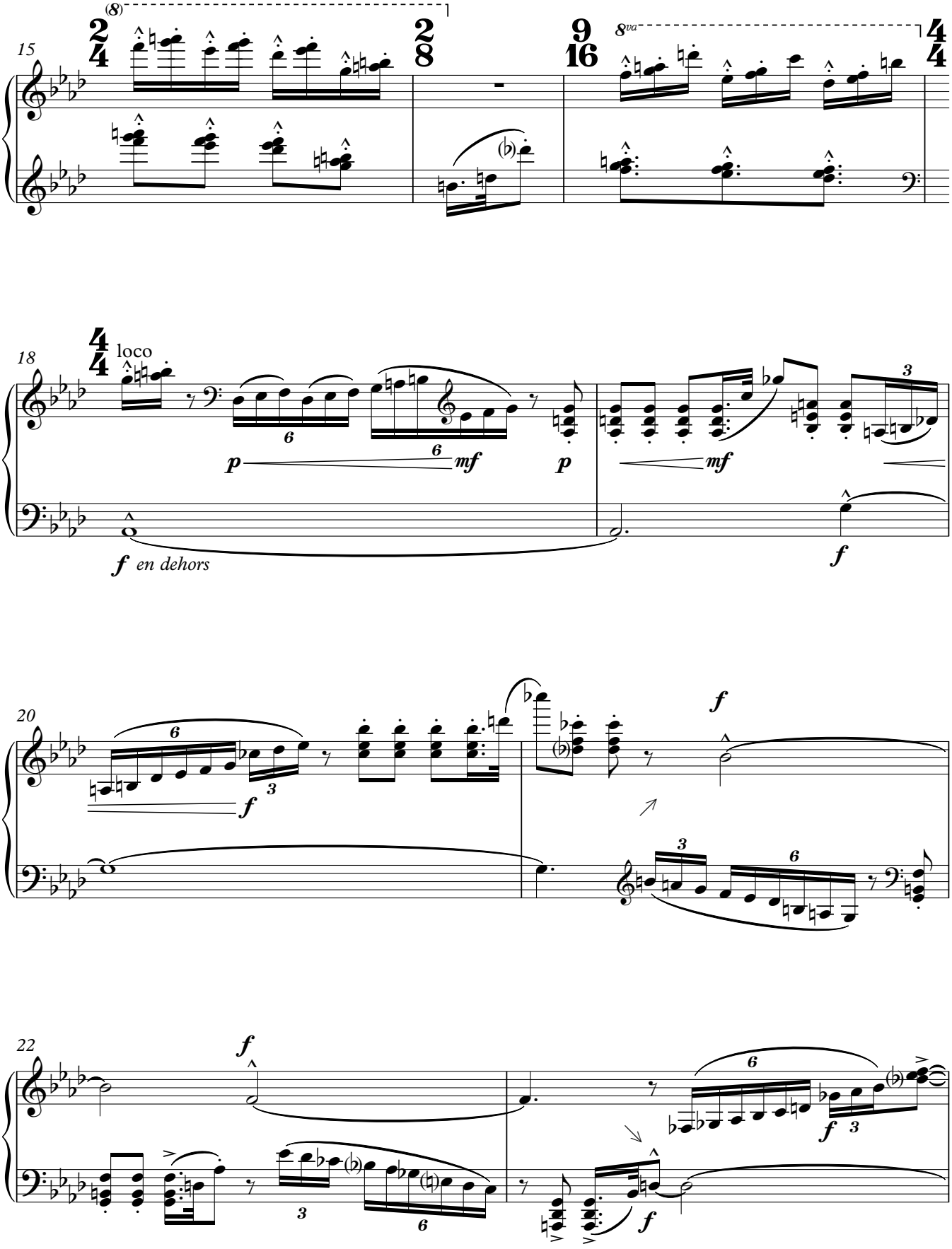
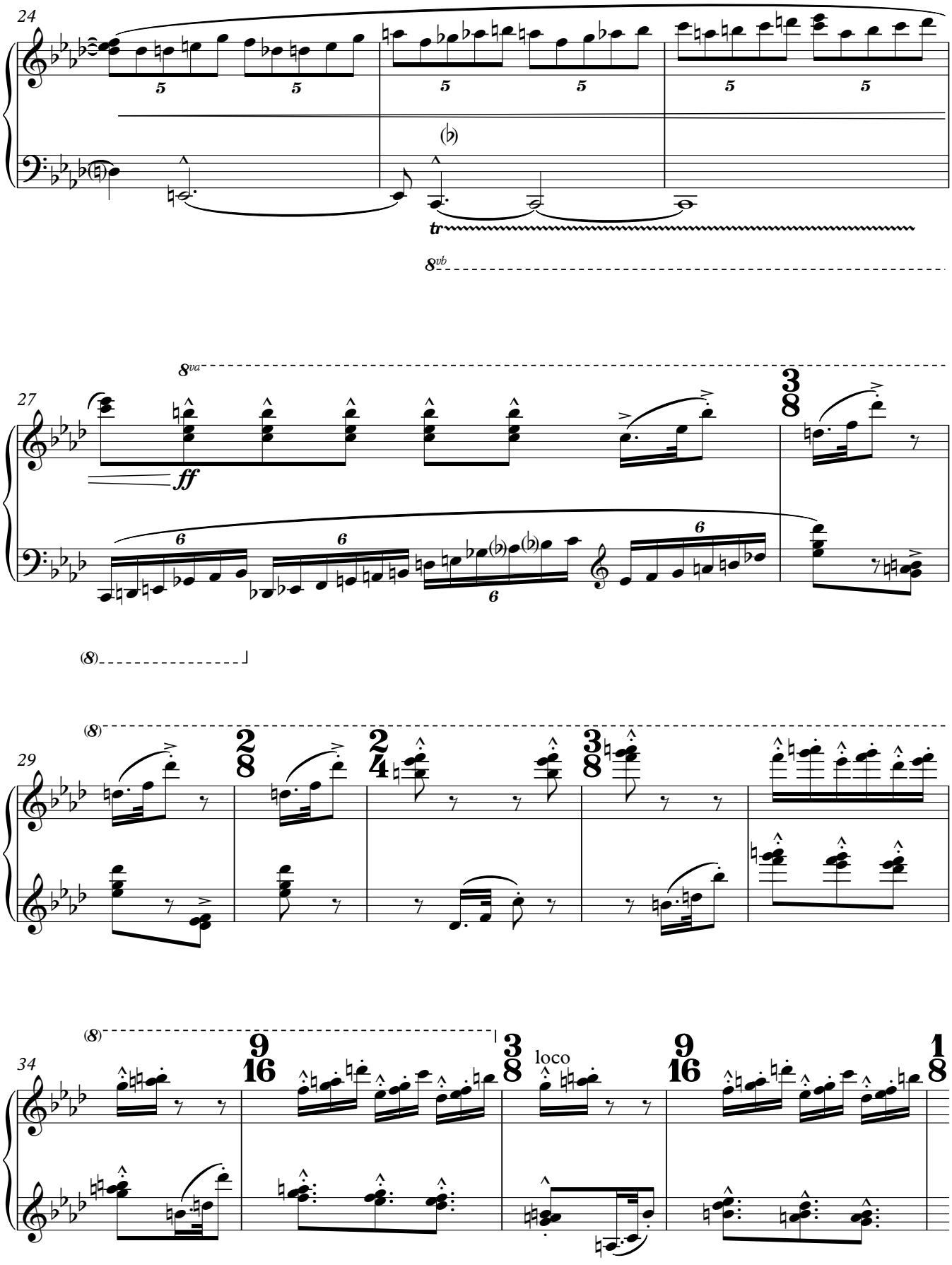
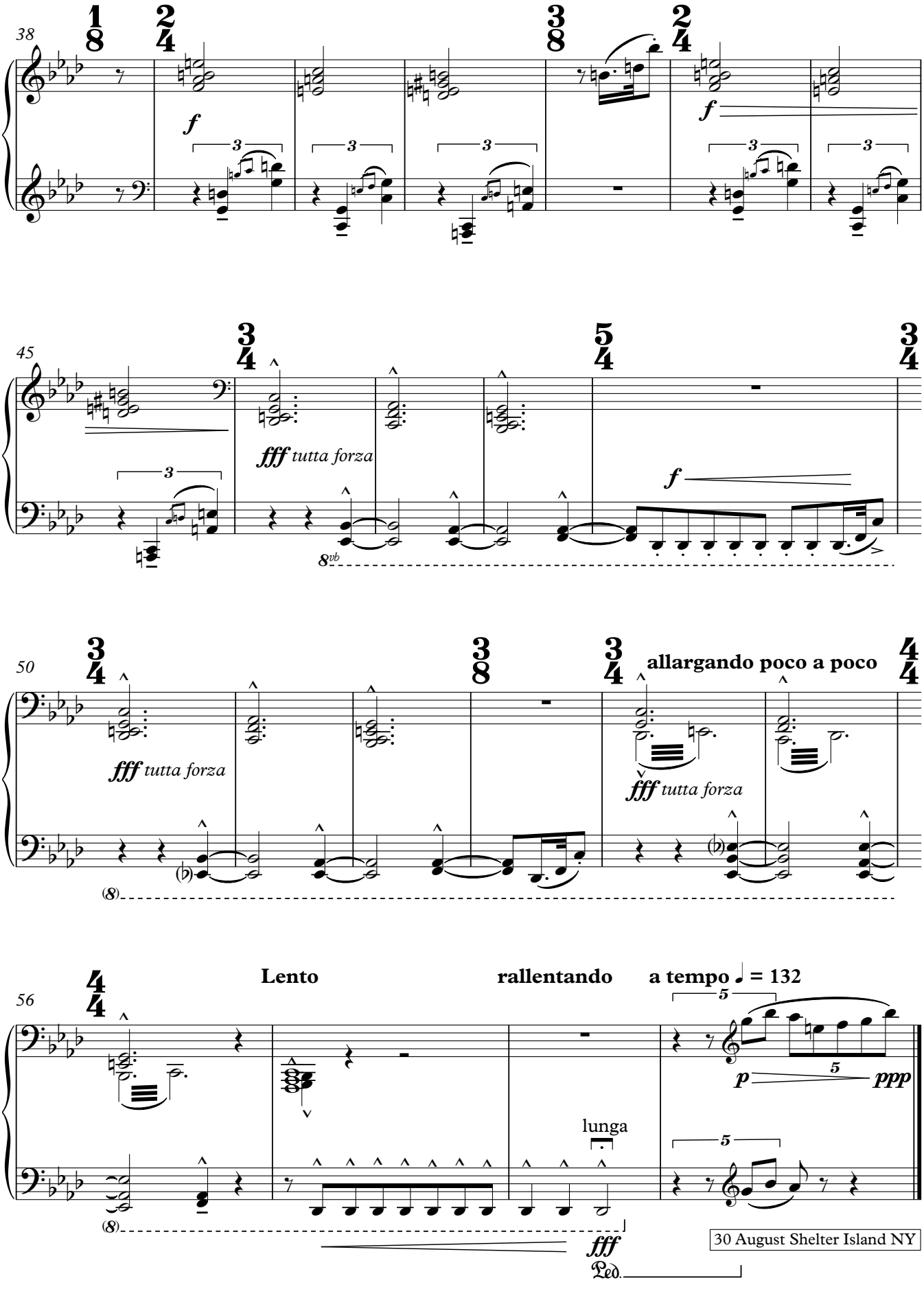
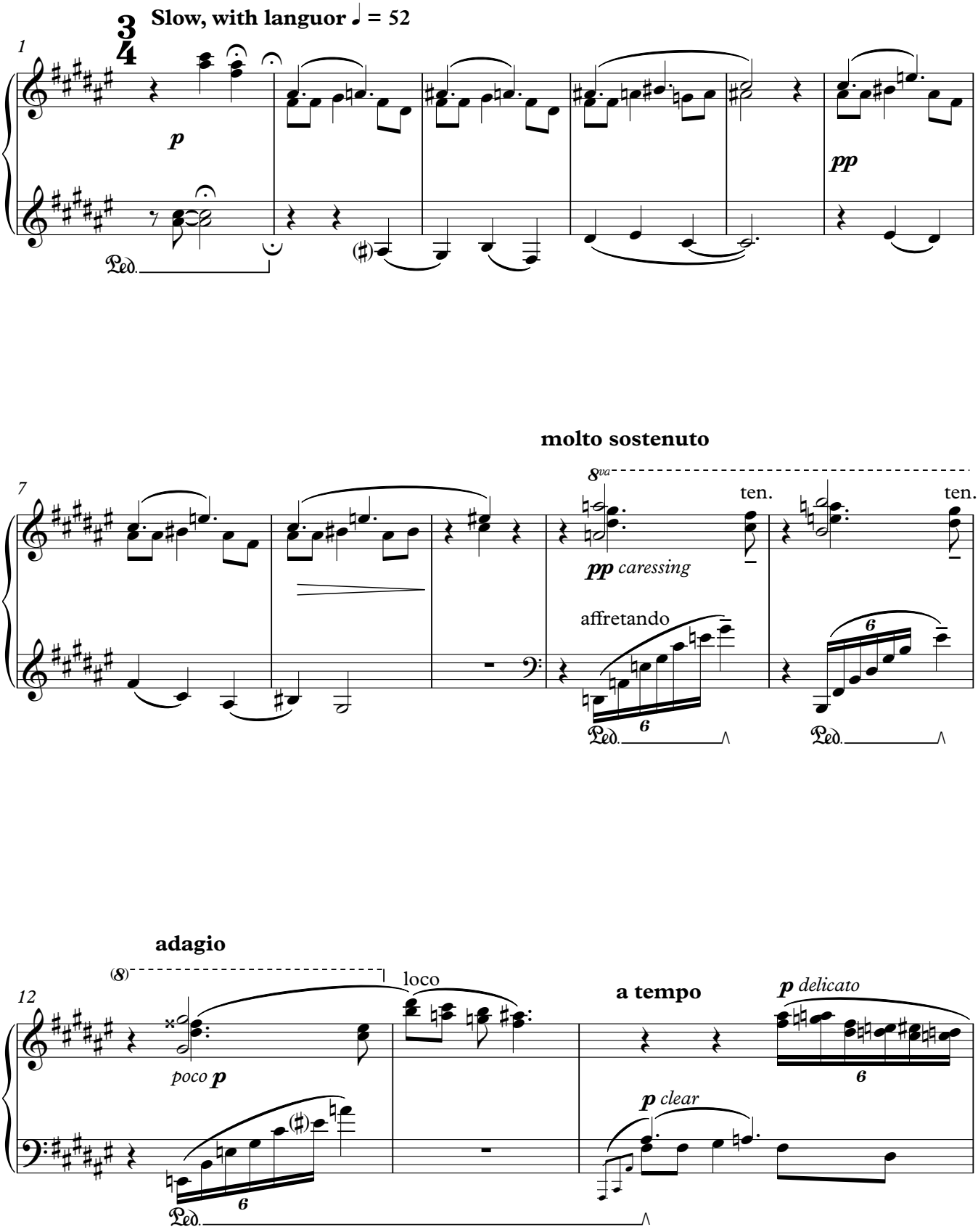

15
(8)
8va
18
loco
p
mf
p
mf
f en dehors
f
20
f
f
22
f
f
f


24
tr
8vb
8va
27
ff
(8)
29
(8)
34
loco


38
45
50
56
f
fff tutta forza
allargando poco a poco
Lento
rallentando
a tempo ♩ = 132
p
ppp
lunga
fff
Ped.
30 August Shelter Island NY

VII.

for Alison Cossor



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15

8va

6

6

mp sonore

18

pp delicato

pp

6

21

6

8va

6

molto sostenuto

p

6

Ped.

24

adagio

very freely

pp

6

Ped.

p

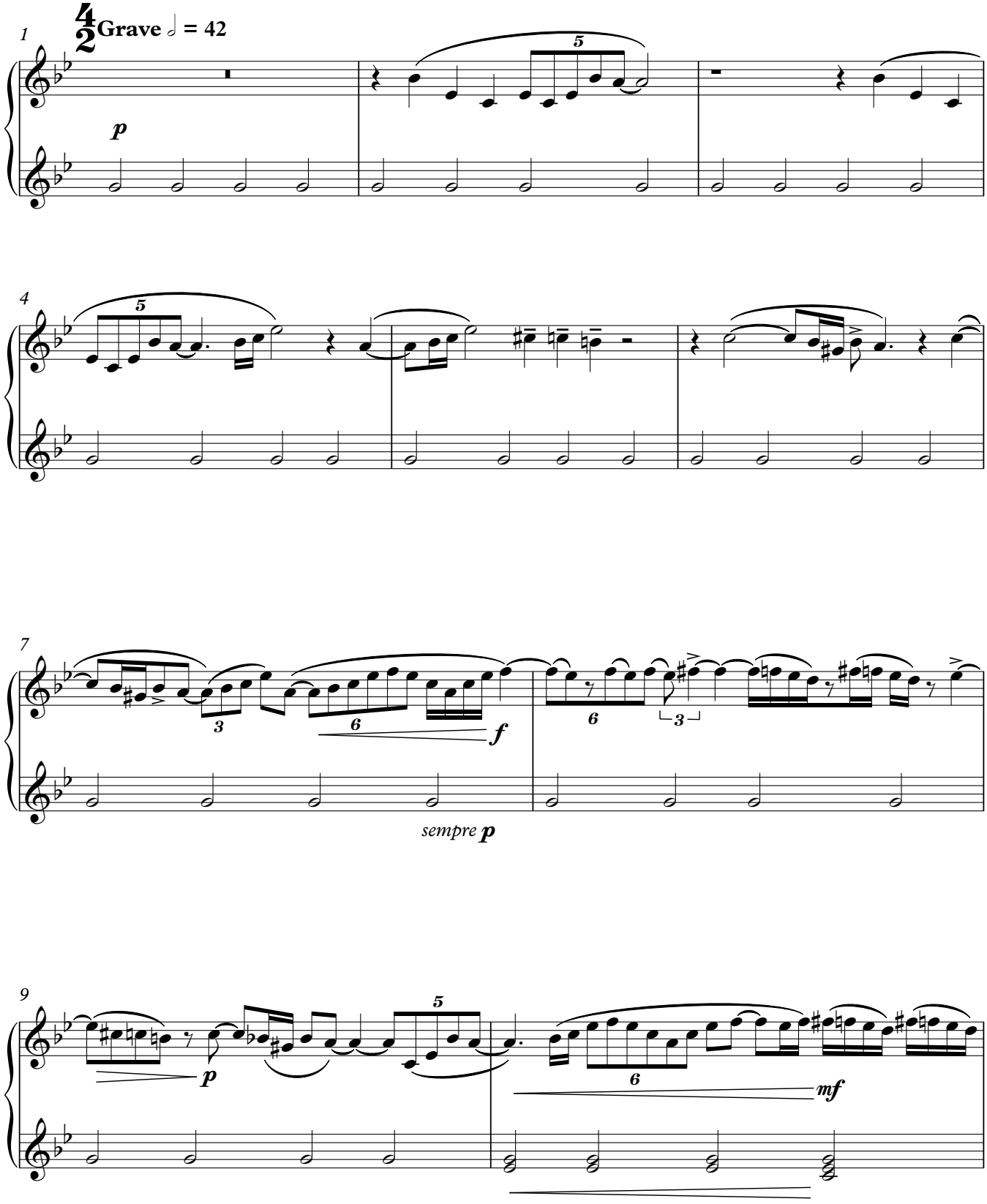
pp

Ped.

31 August Shelter Island NY

VIII.

for Rossen Milanov



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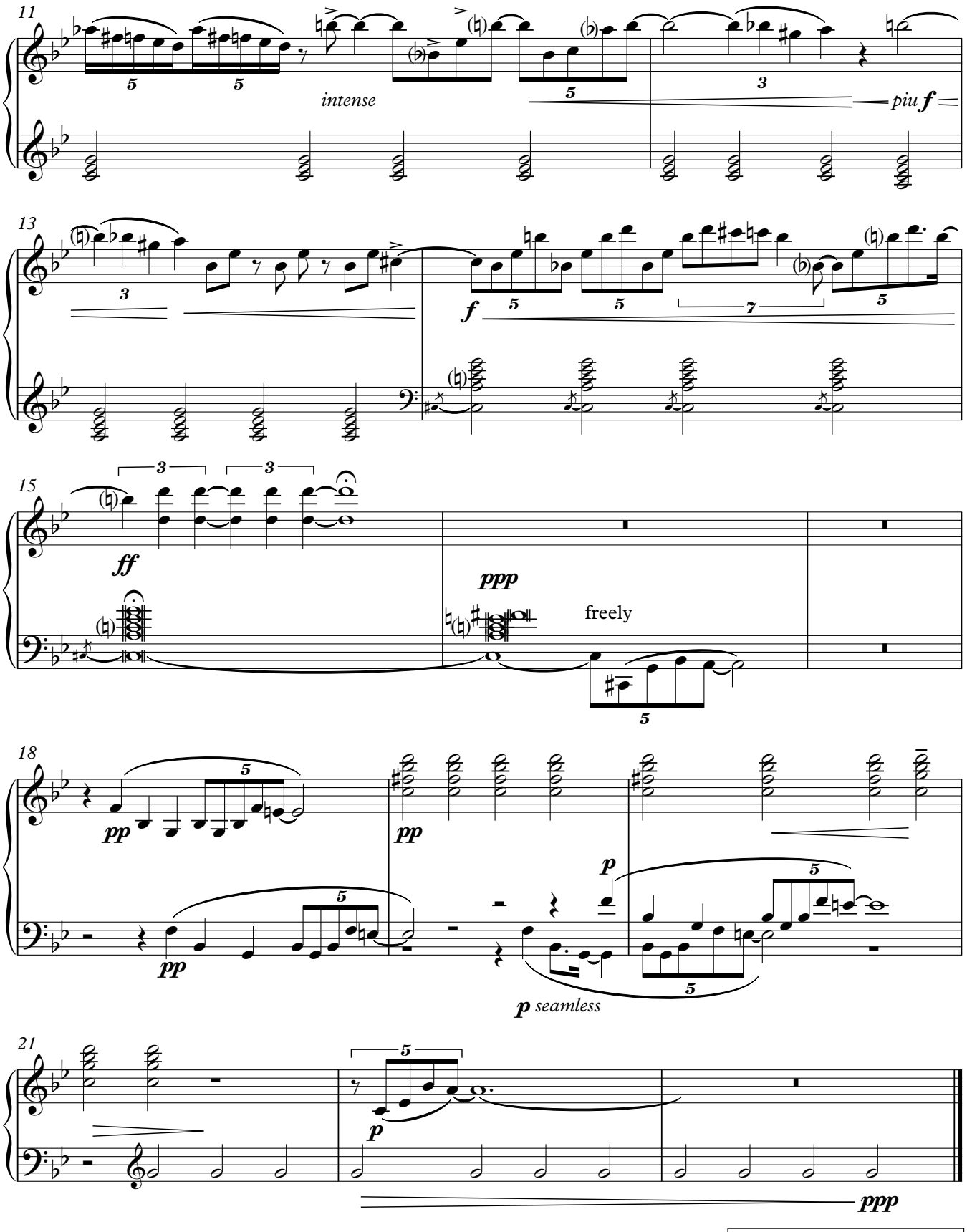
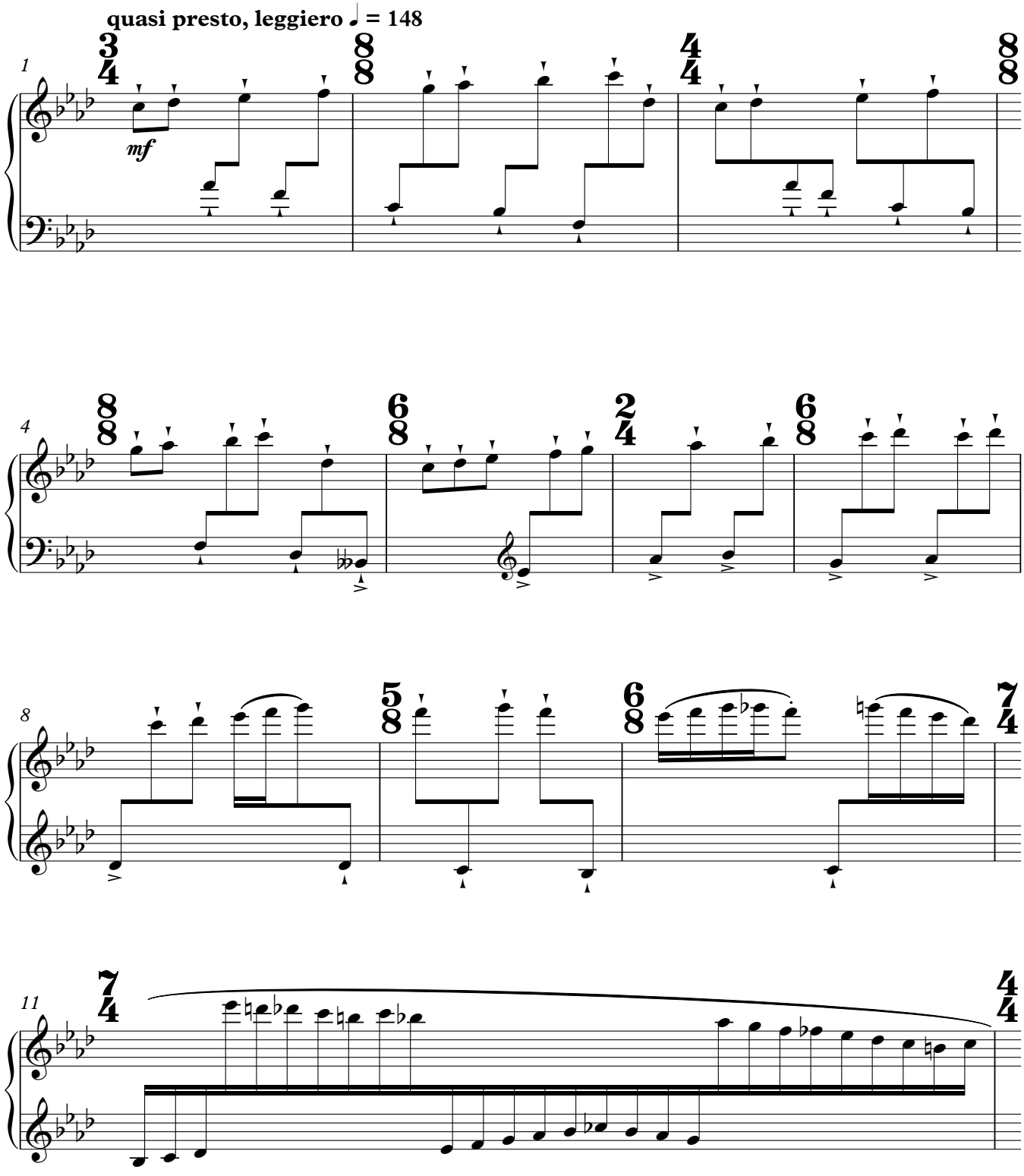


1 September Shelter Island NY

IX.
(bist du bei mir.....aber, halte dich fest)

for Melvyn Tan



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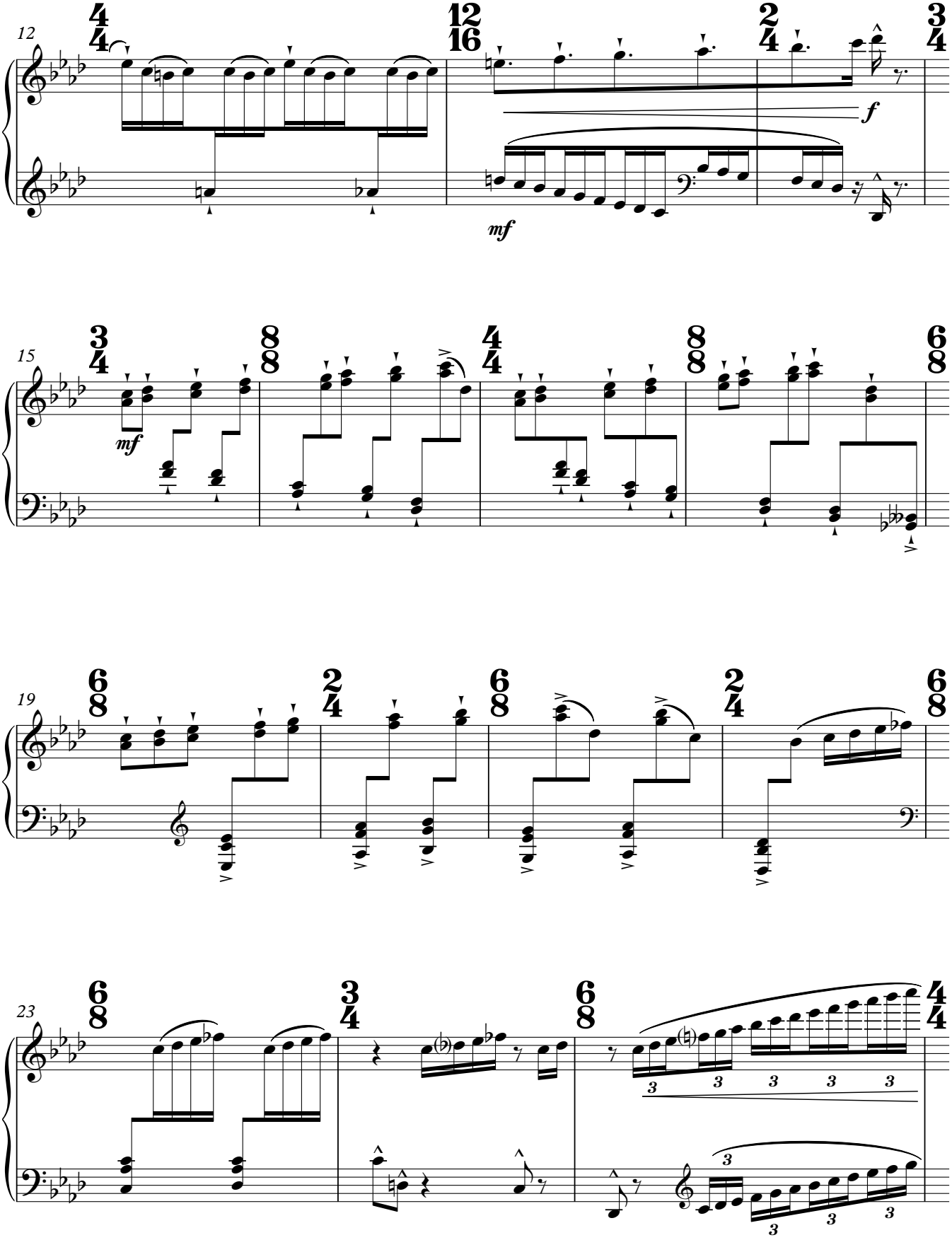
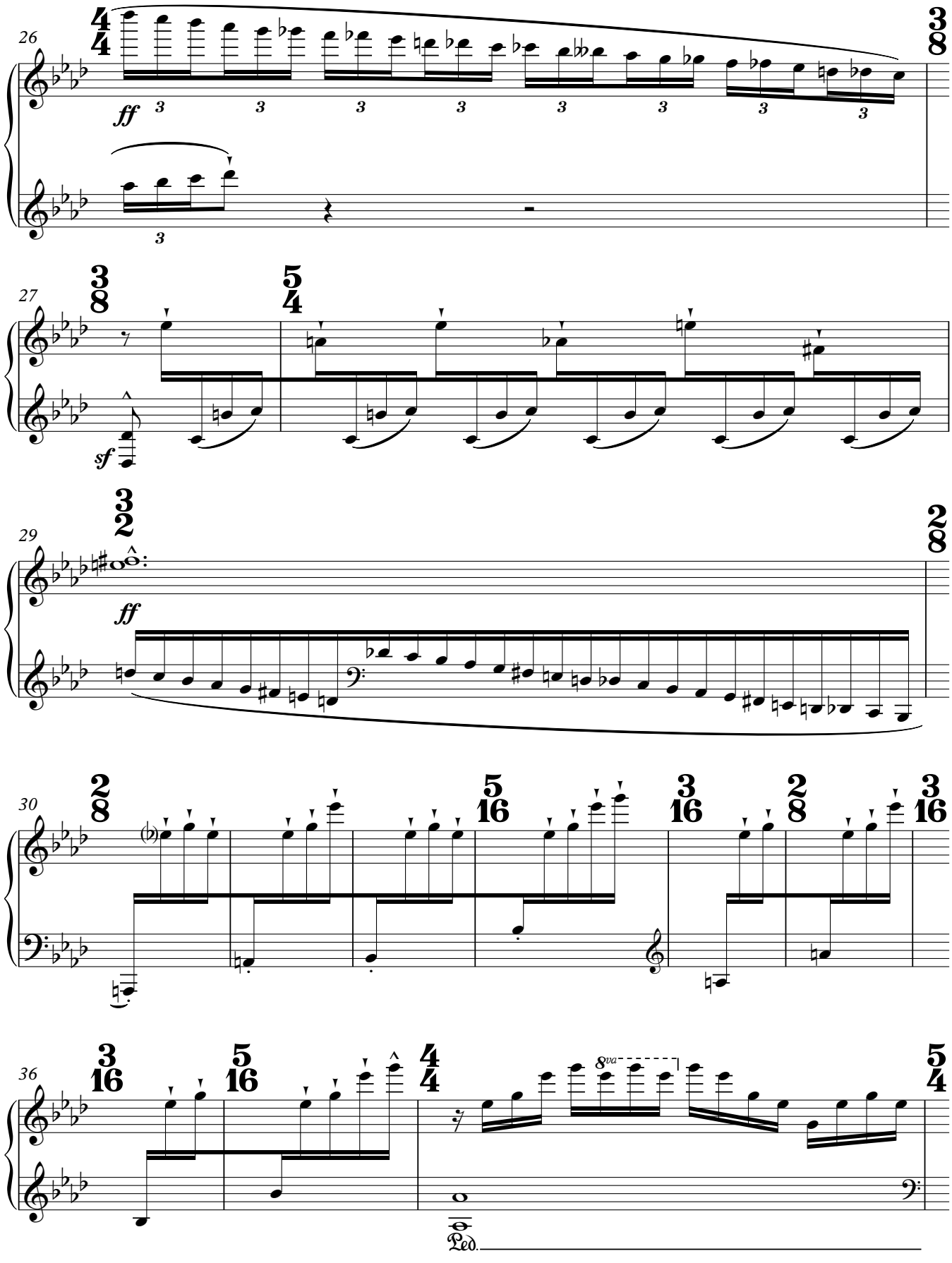
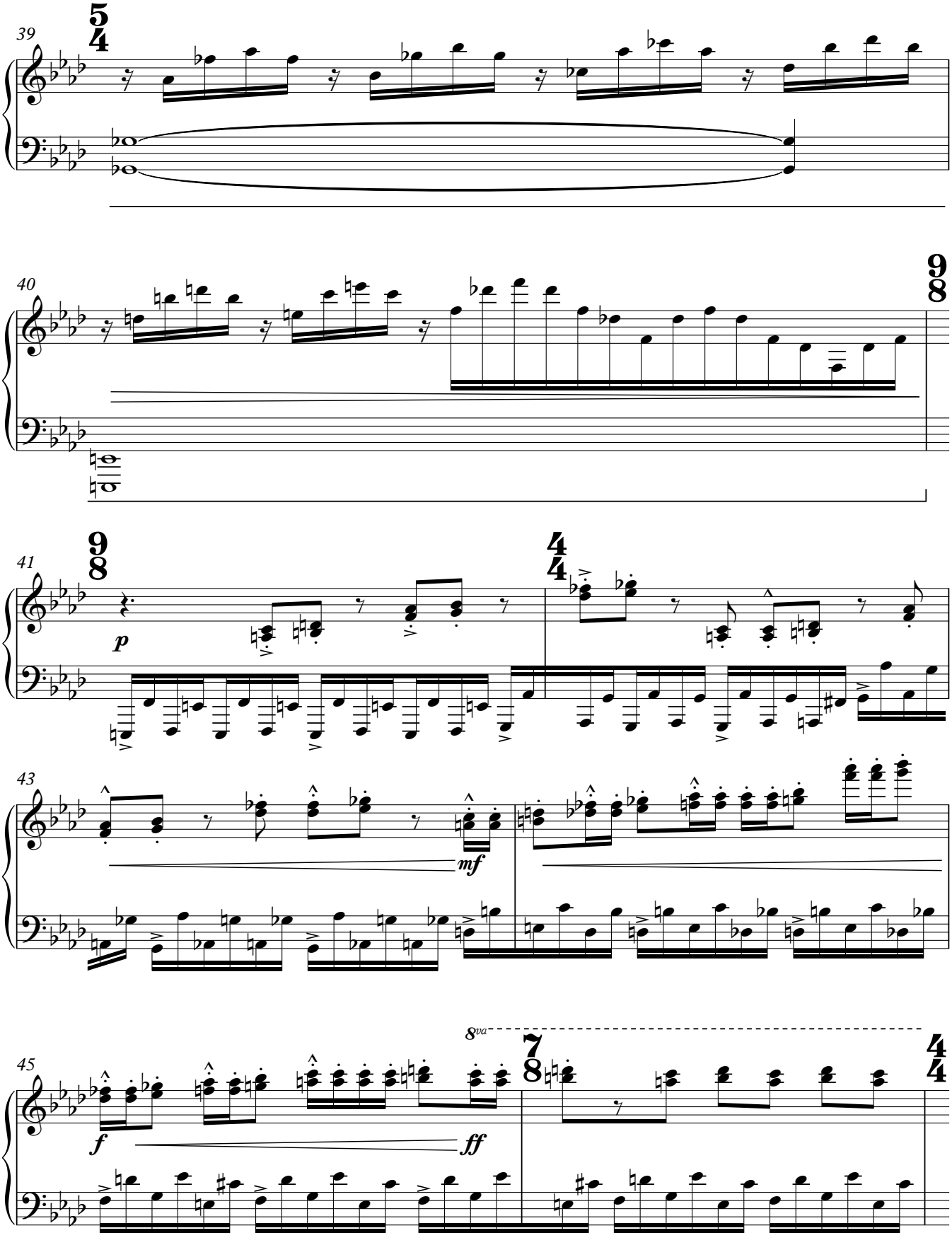
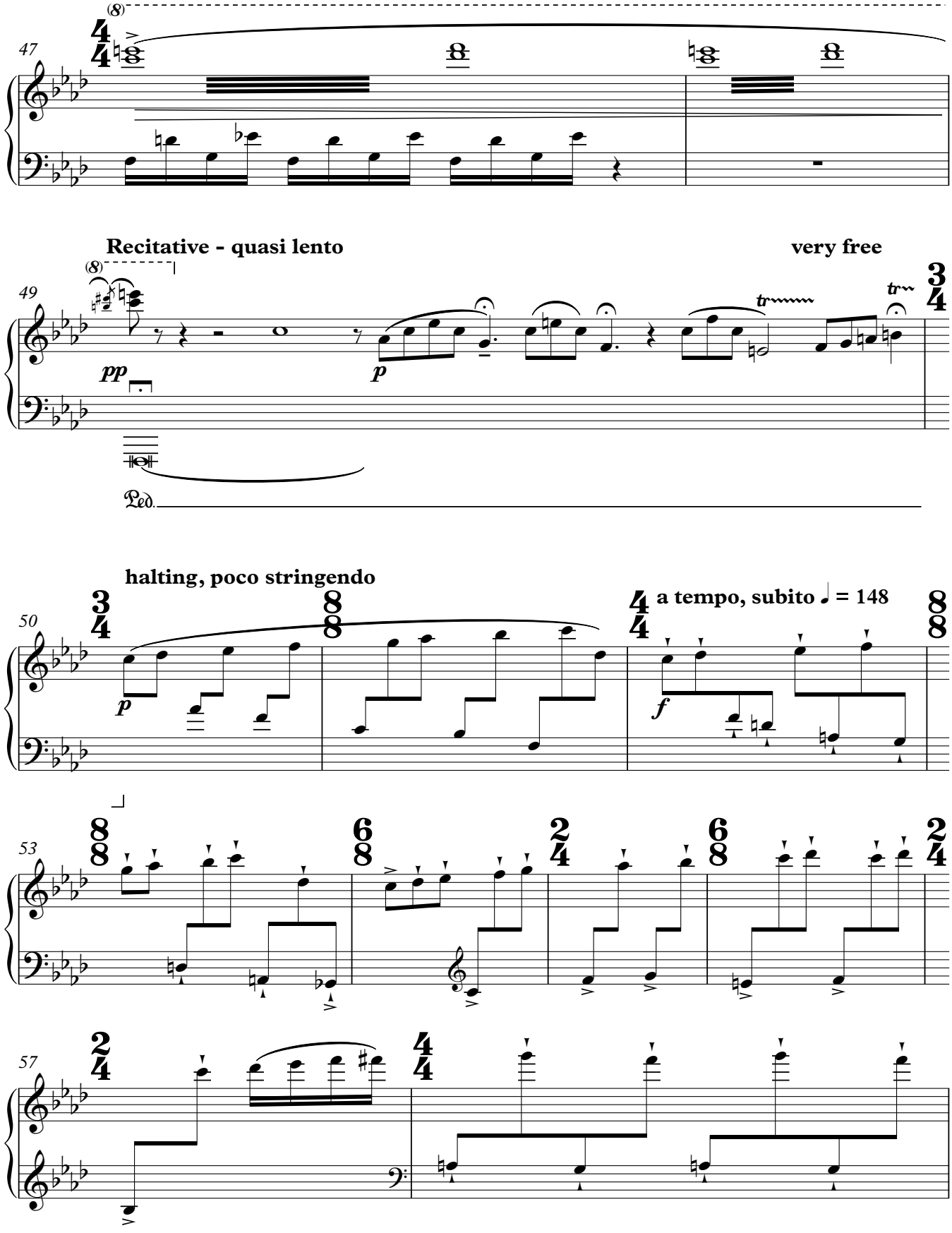
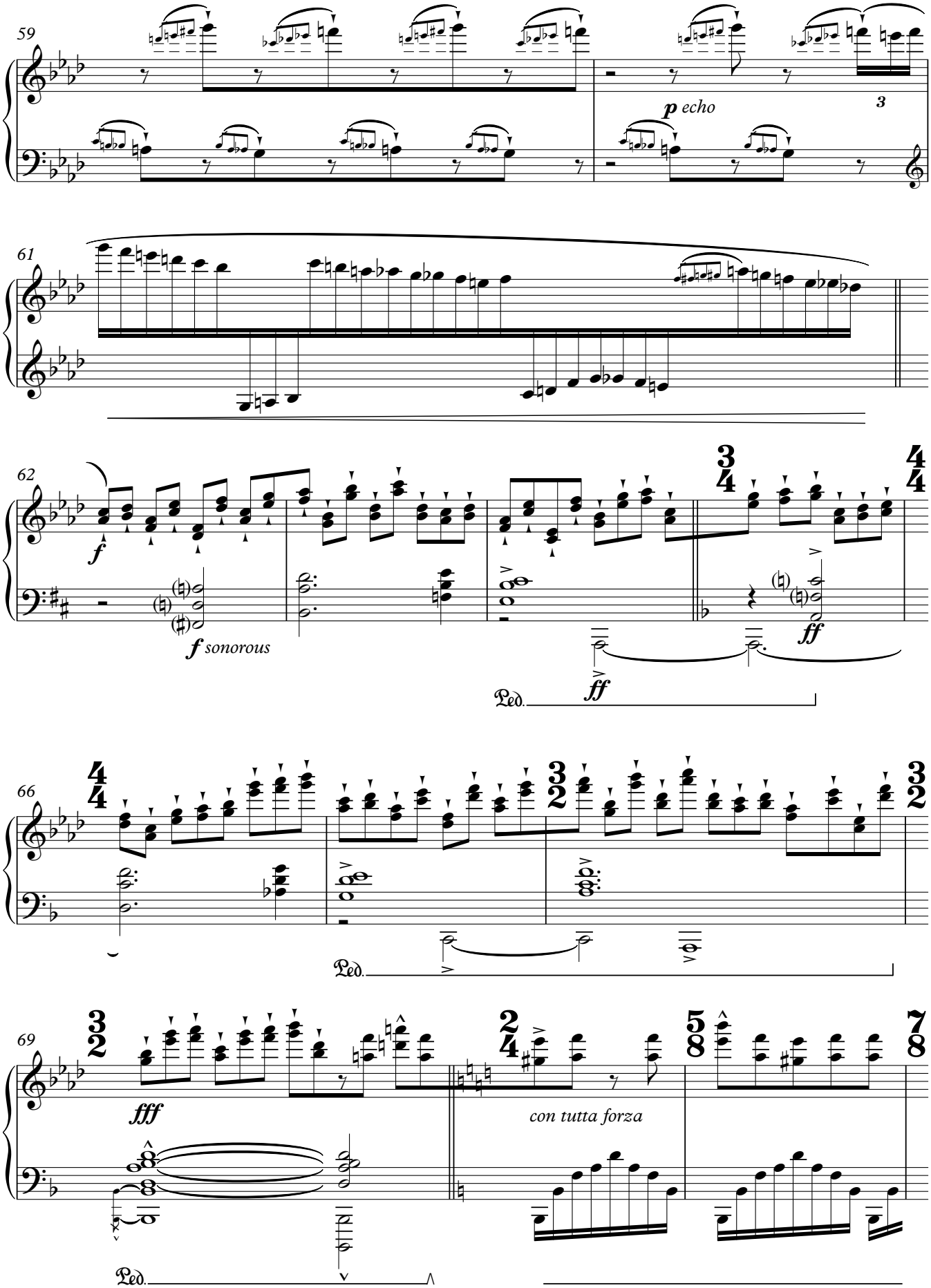
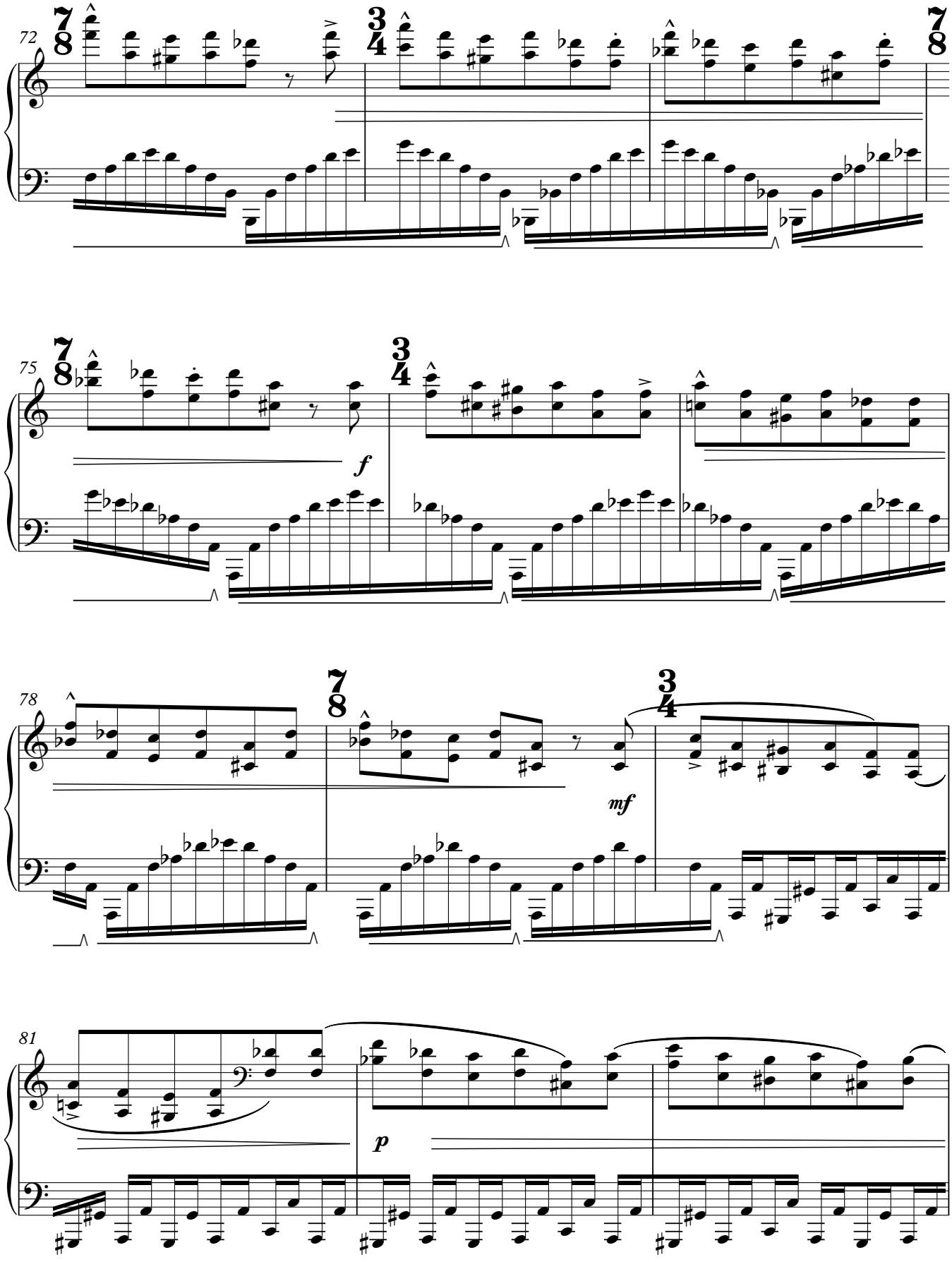

12
15
19
23
mf
f
mf

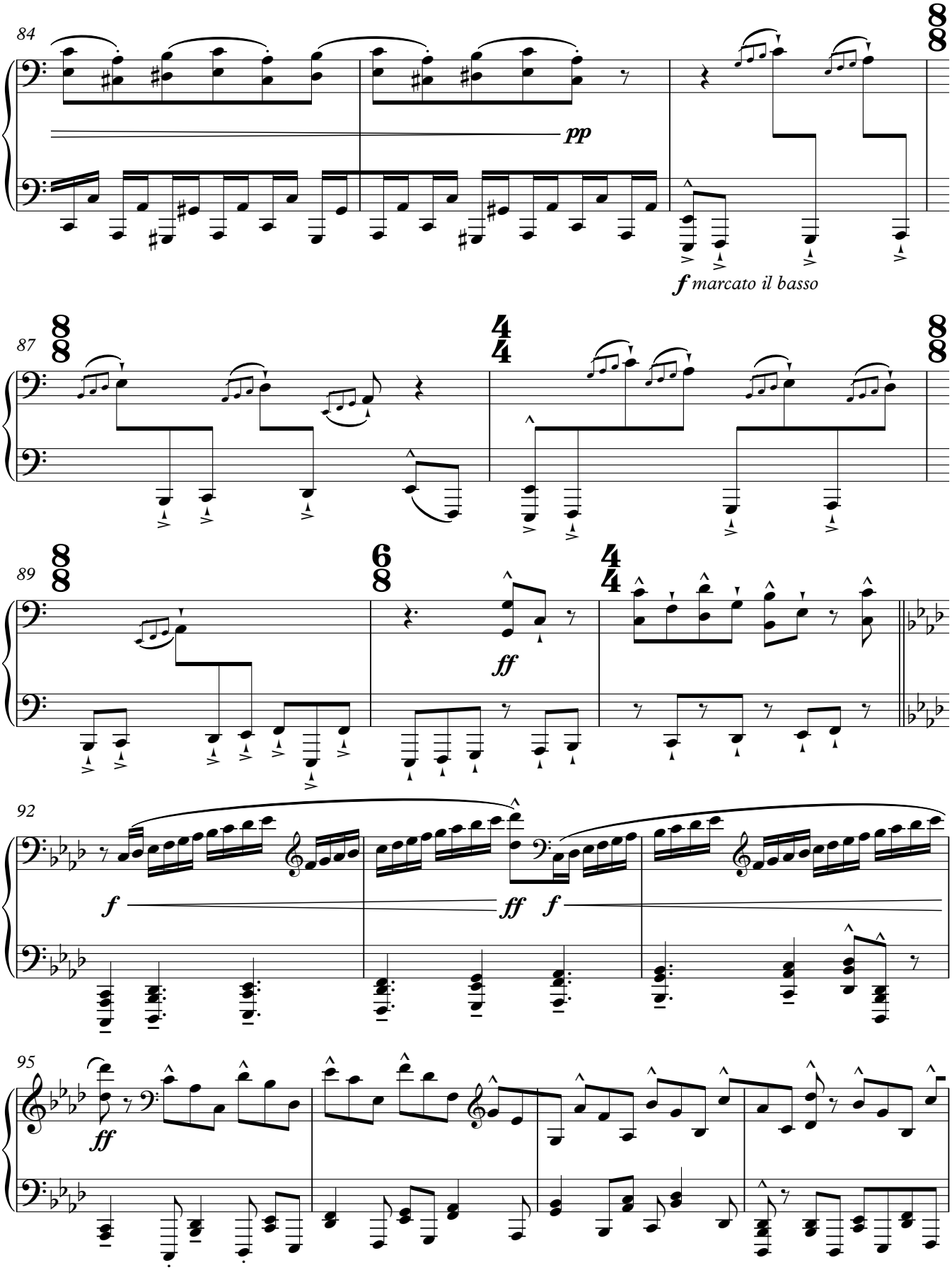

26
ff
27
sf
29
ff
30
36
8va
Ped.

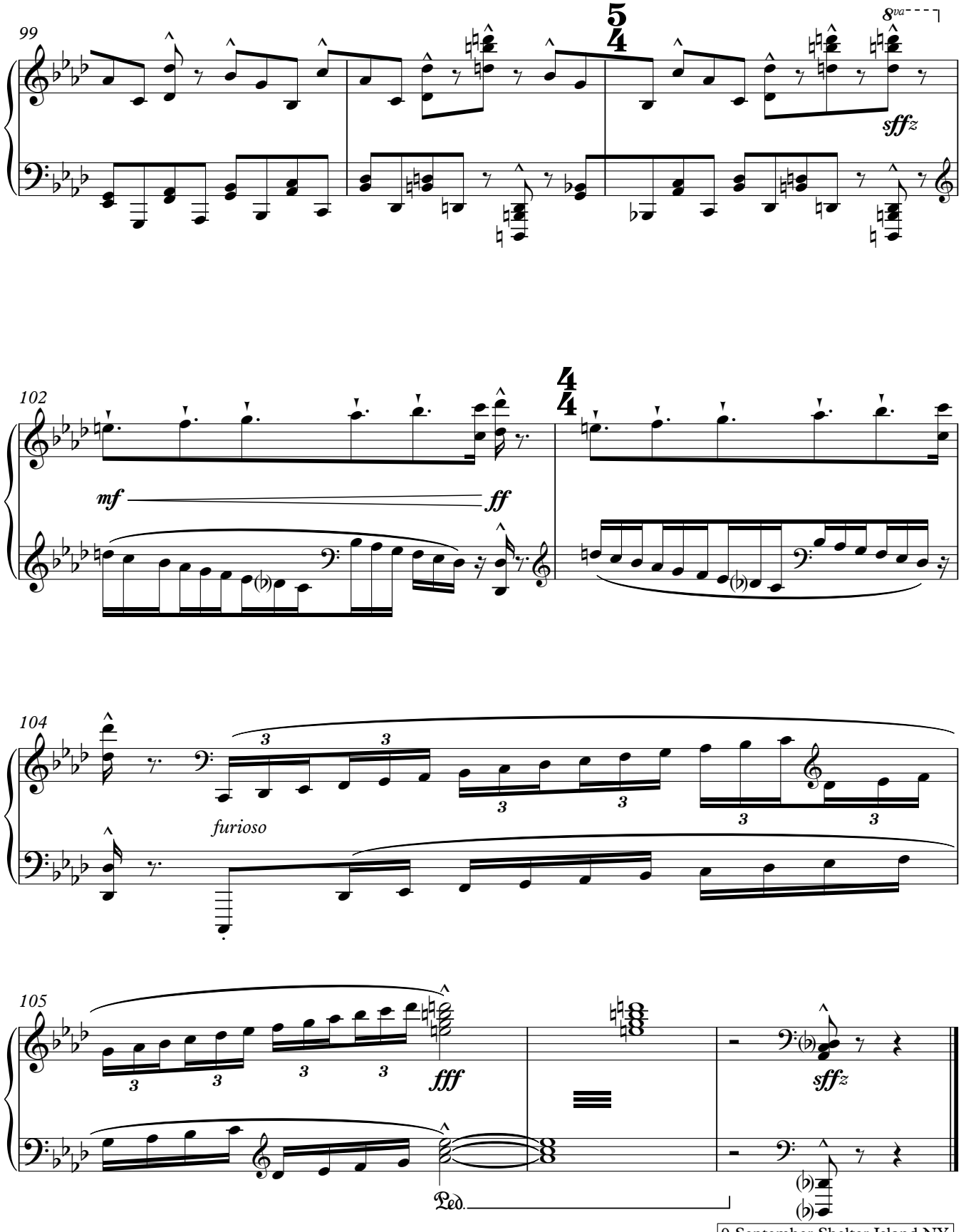

39
40
41
43
45
8va
p
mf
f
ff


47
Recitative - quasi lento
very free
49
pp
p
Ped.
halting, poco stringendo
50
p
a tempo, subito ♩ = 148
f
53
57


59
p echo
3
61
62
f
f sonorous
ff
ff
Ped.
66
Ped.
69
fff
con tutta forza
Ped.


72
7/8
3/4
7/8
75
7/8
3/4
f
78
7/8
3/4
mf
81
p


84
pp
f marcato il basso
87
89
ff
92
f
ff
f
95
ff



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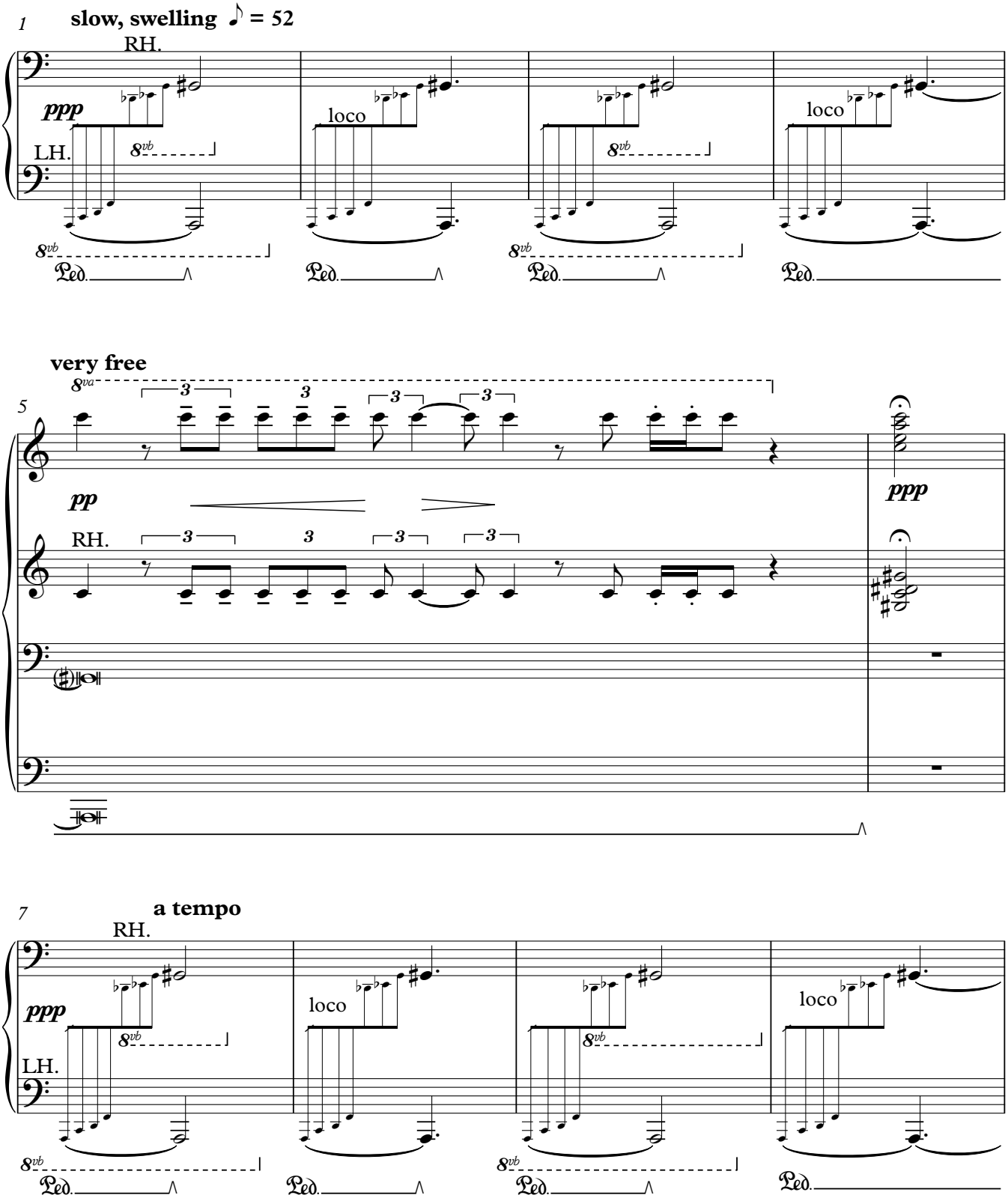
X.

for Susie Self



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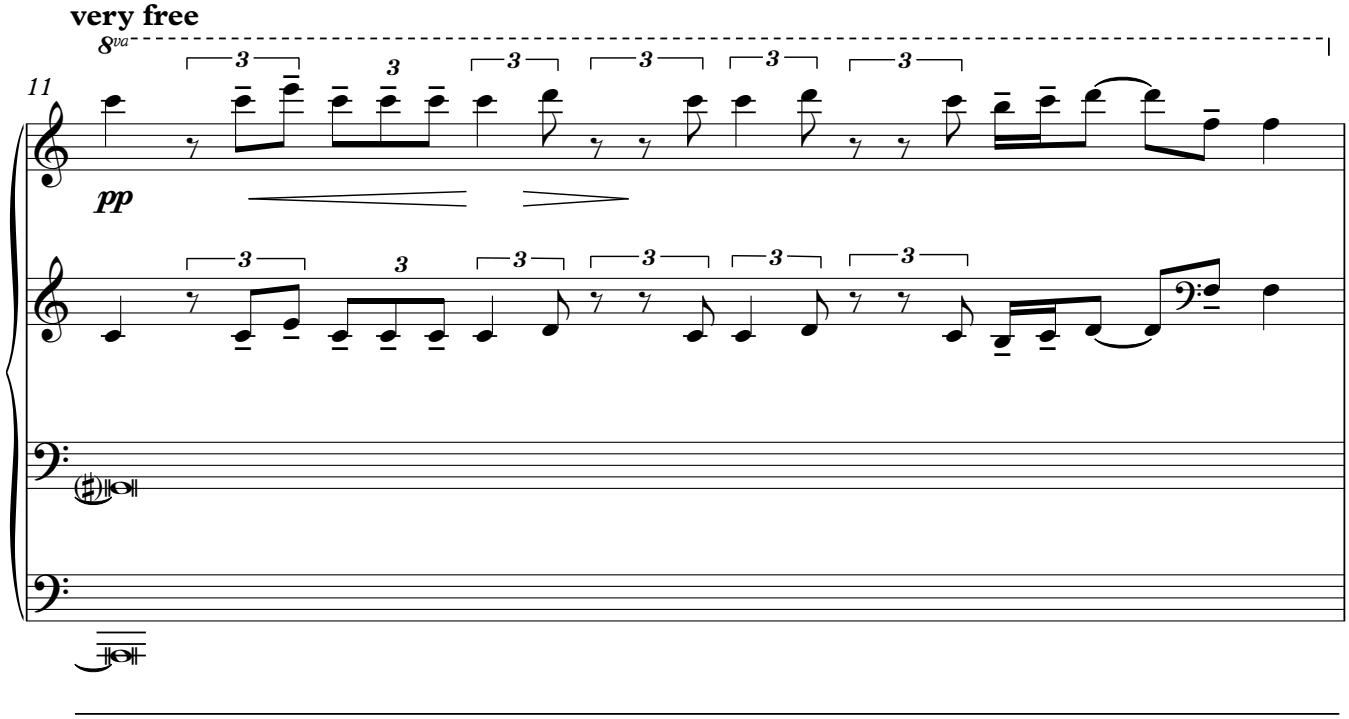
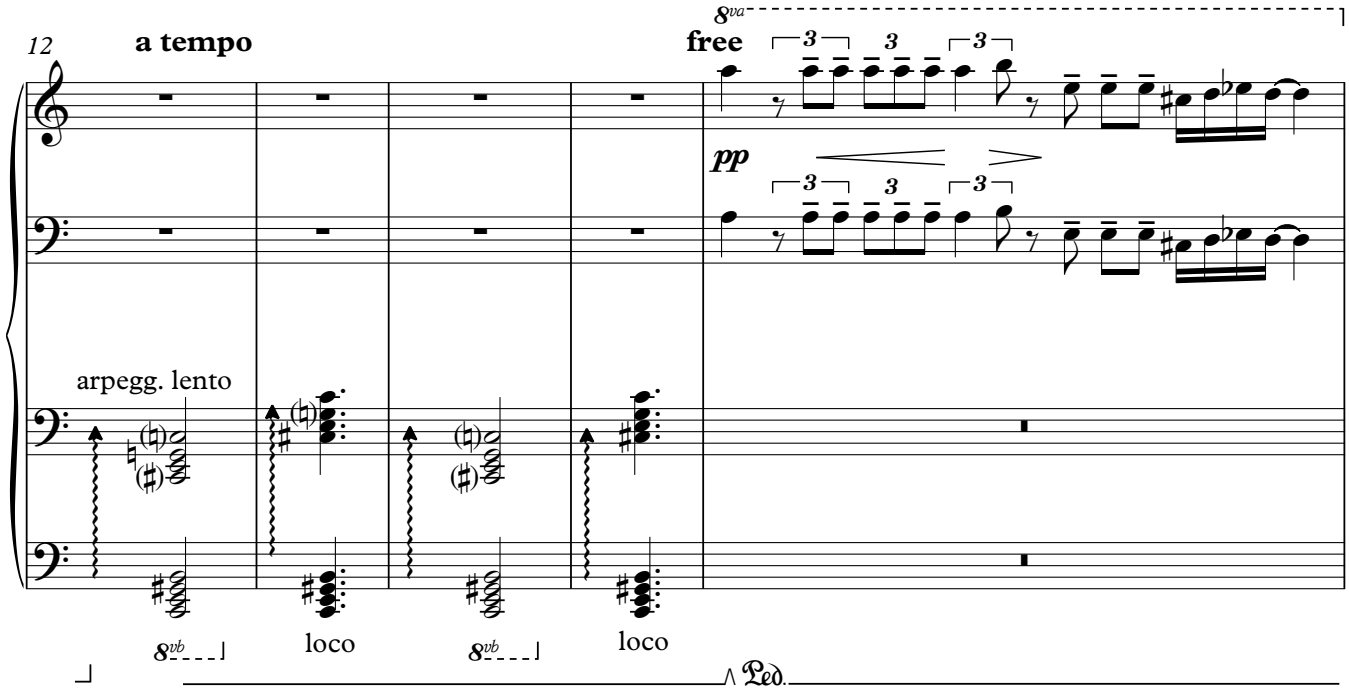
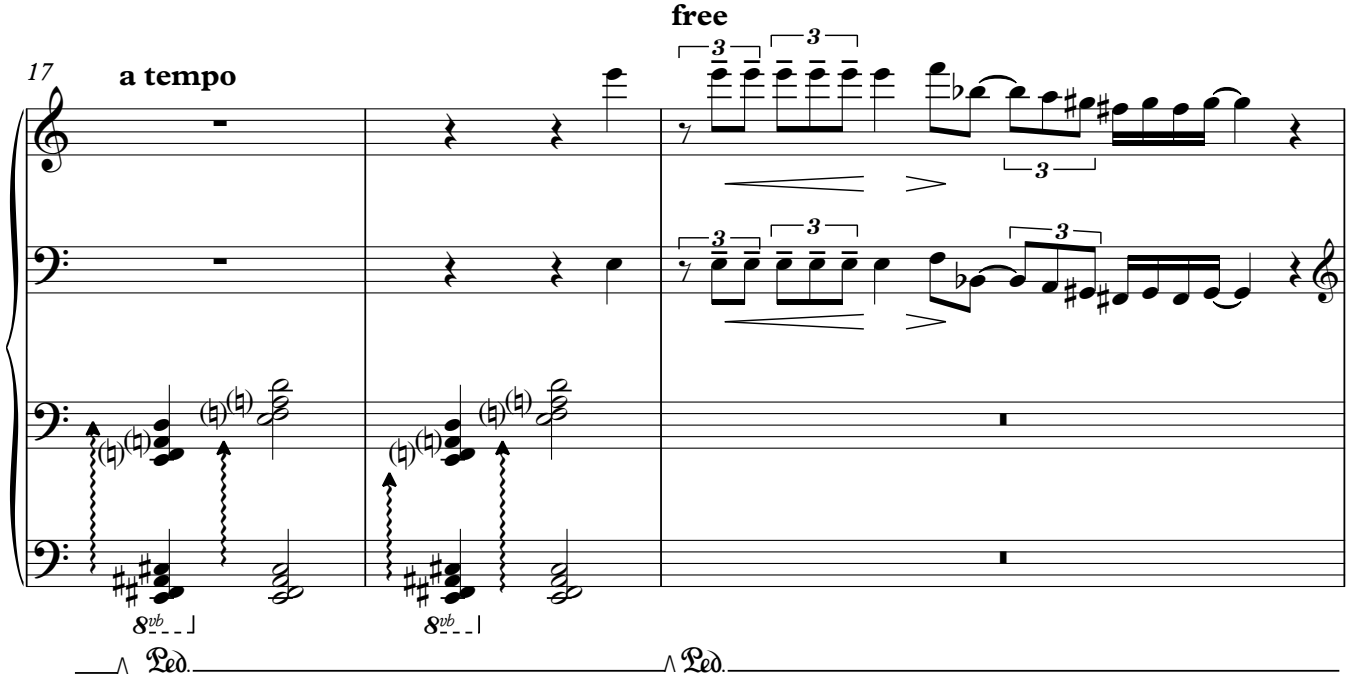
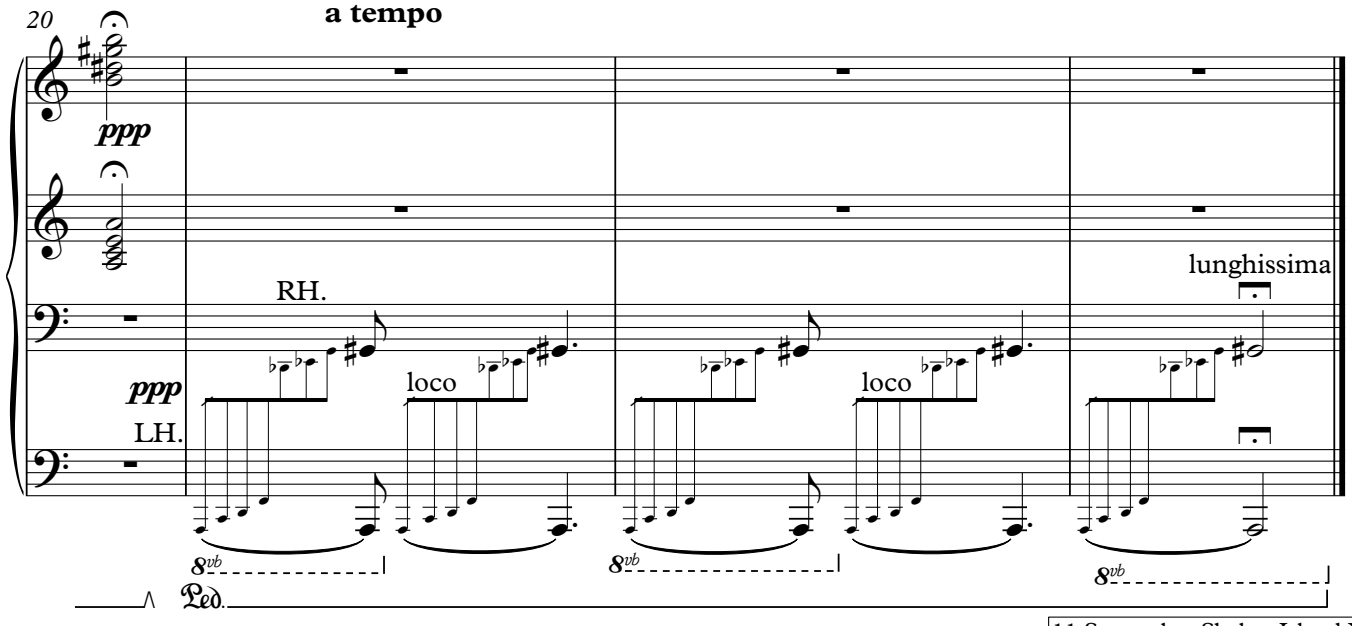

very free
8va
11
pp

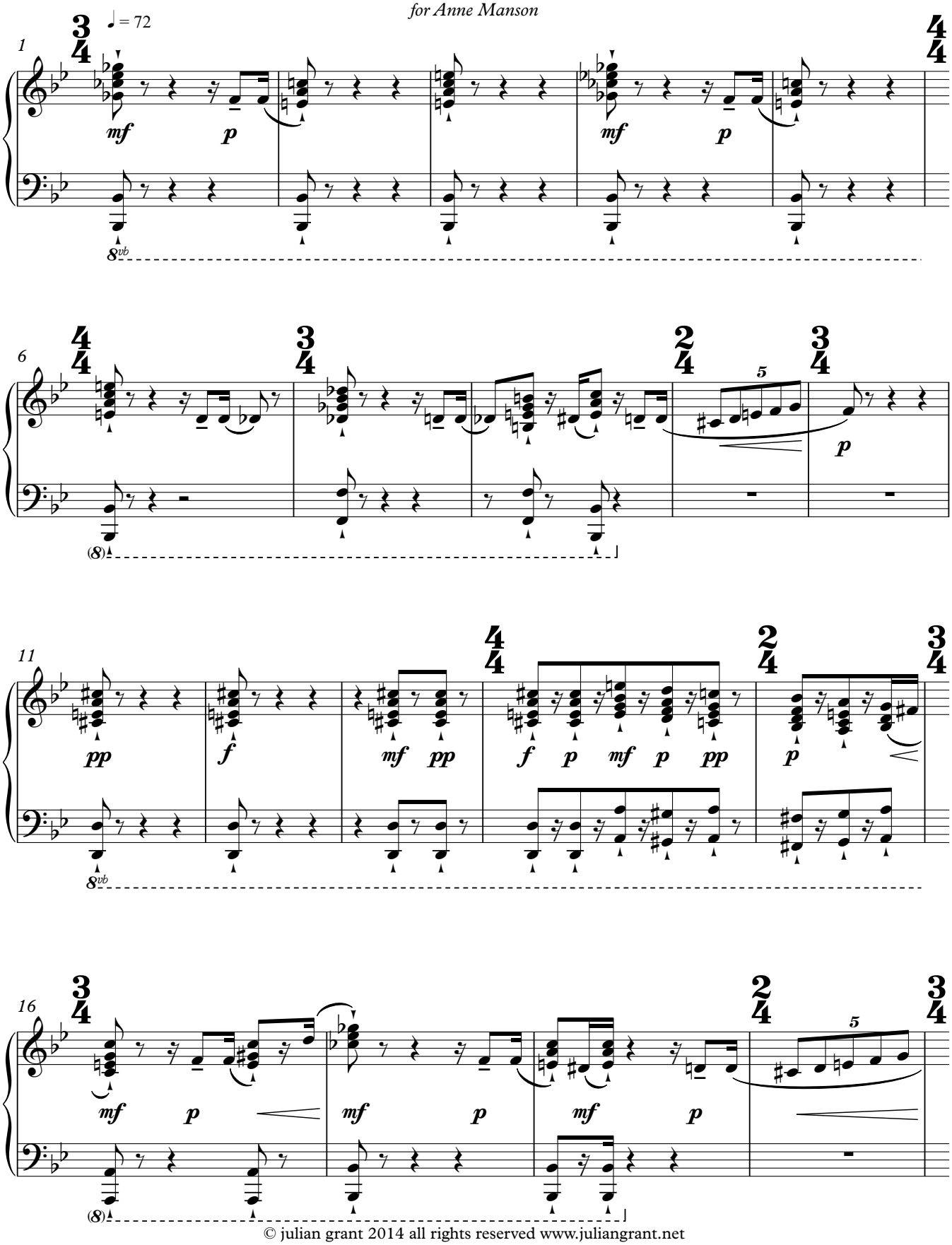

12
a tempo
free
8va
pp
arpegg. lento
8vb
loco
8vb
loco
Ped.


free
17
a tempo
3
8vb
Ped.


20
a tempo
ppp
RH.
loco
ppp
LH.
lunghissima
8vb
Ped.

XI.

for Anne Manson



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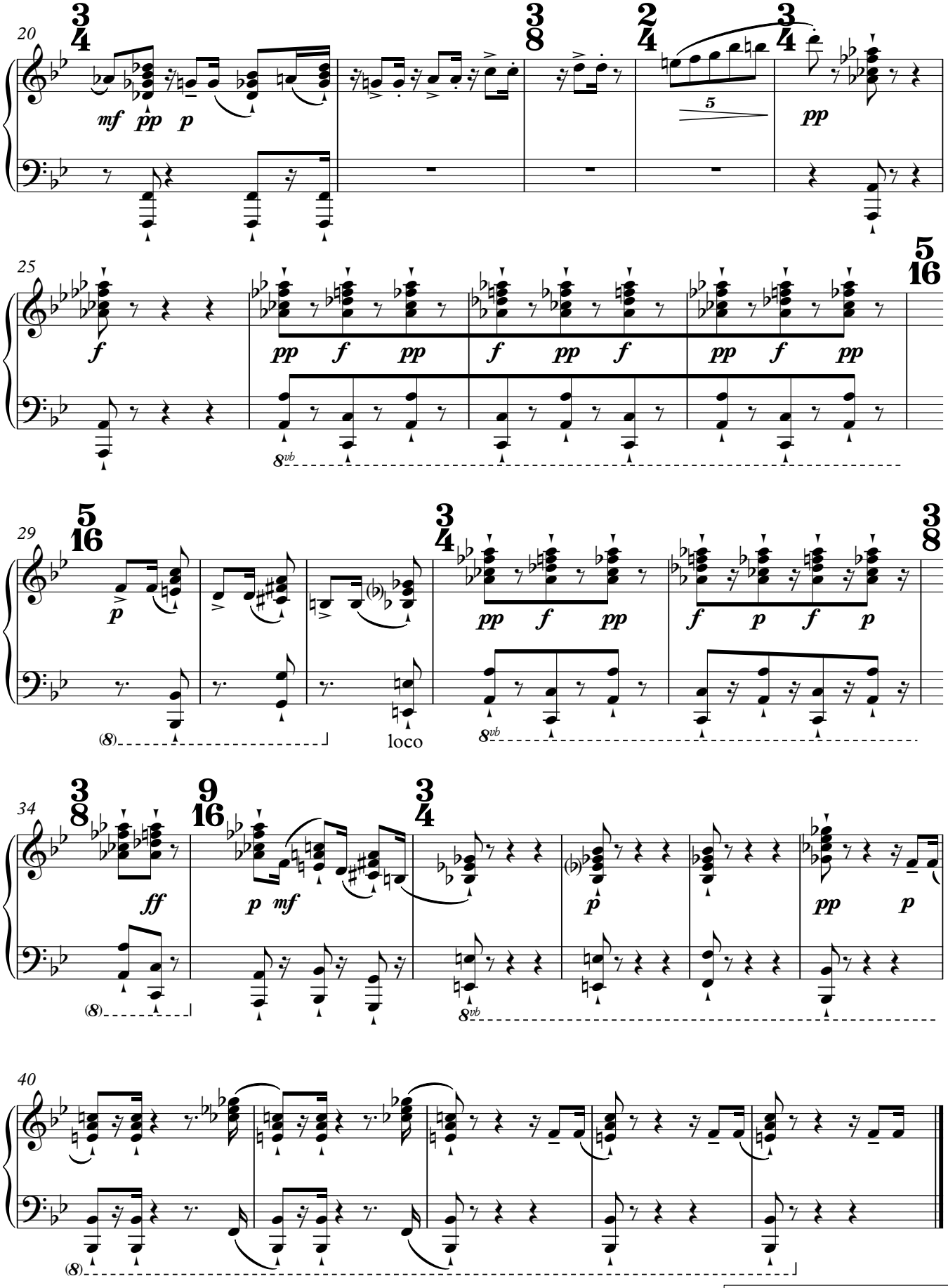
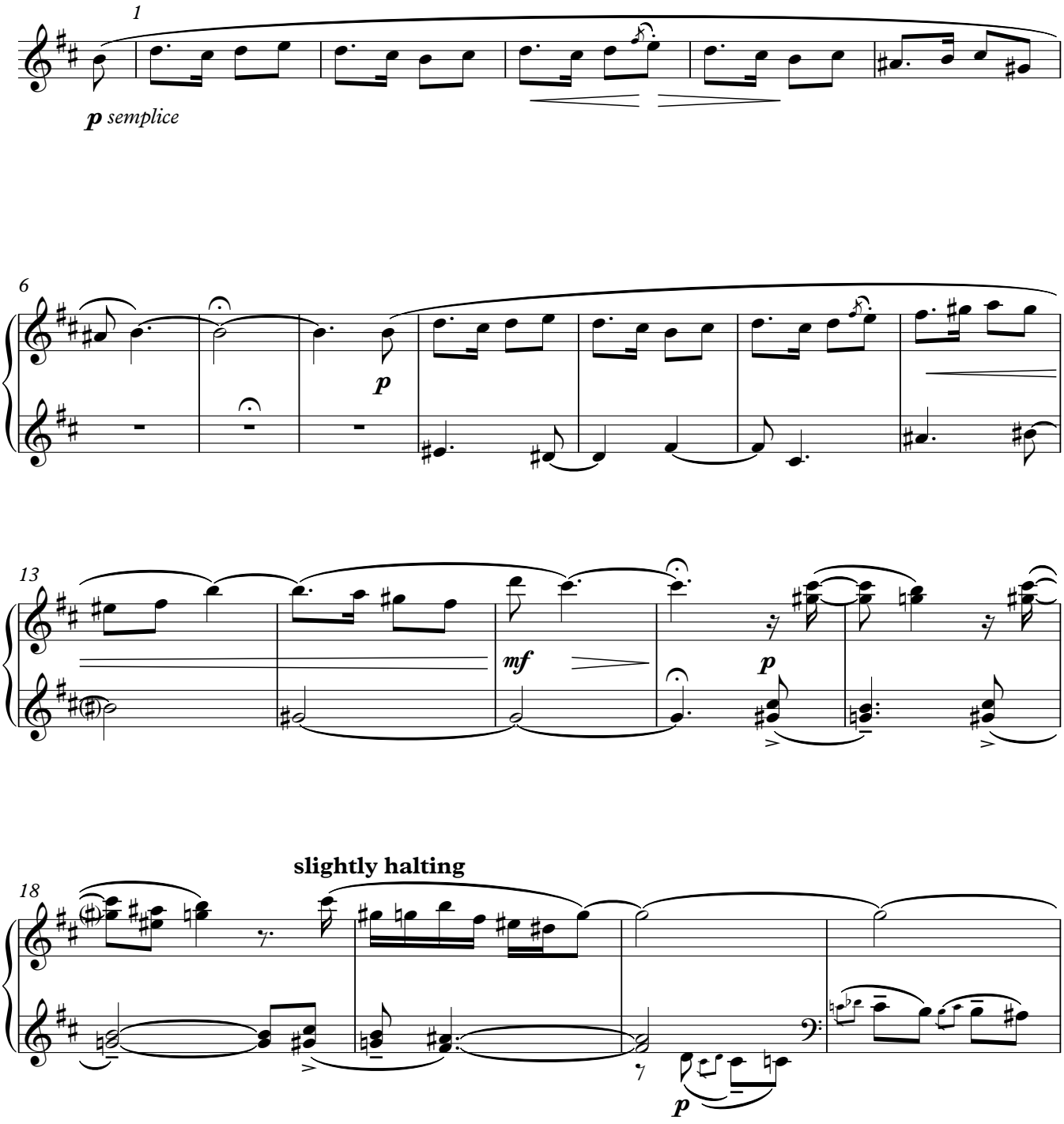
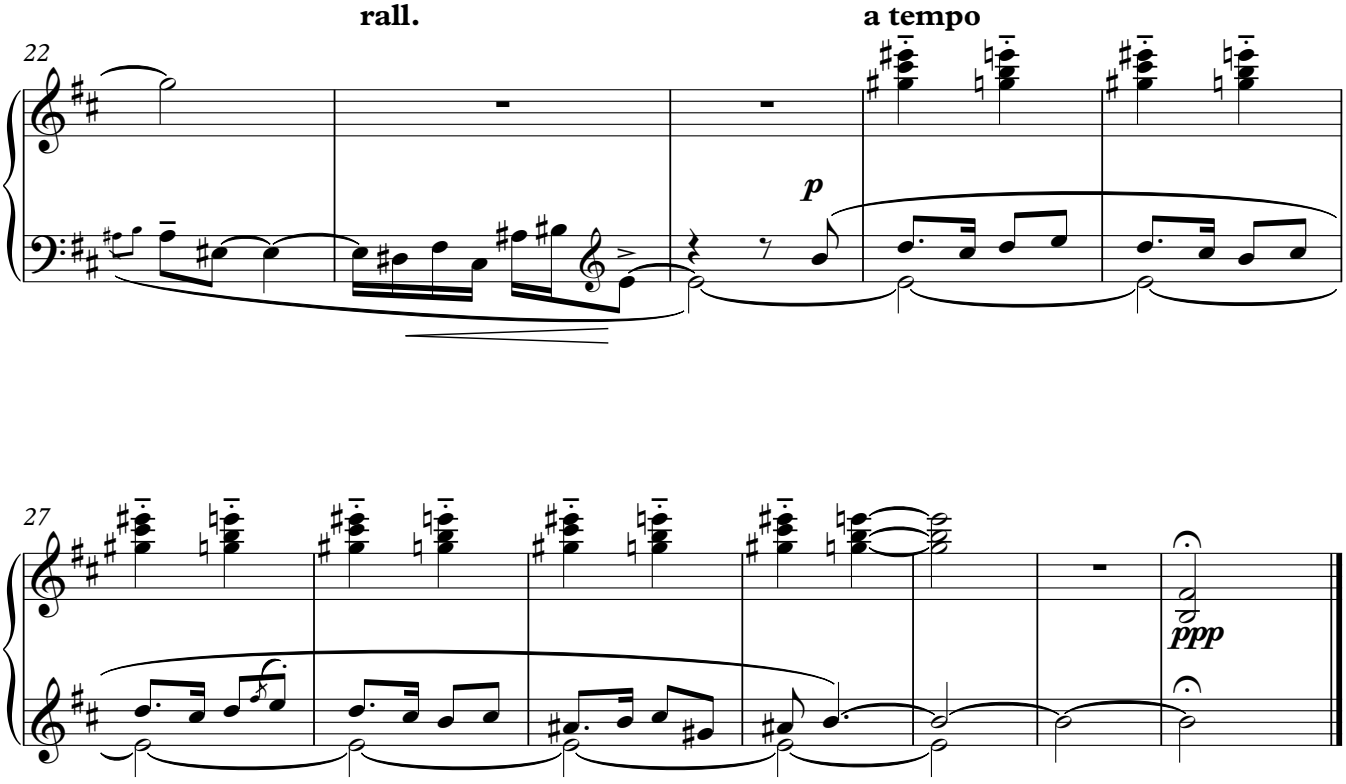

20
mf pp p
pp
25
f
pp f pp f pp f pp f pp
8vb
29
p
pp f pp
f p f p
(8)
loco
8vb
34
ff
p mf
p
pp p
(8)
8vb
40
(8)

XII.

for Ellen Cava-Haag

with motion, but flexible ♩ = 104





13 September Shelter Island NY

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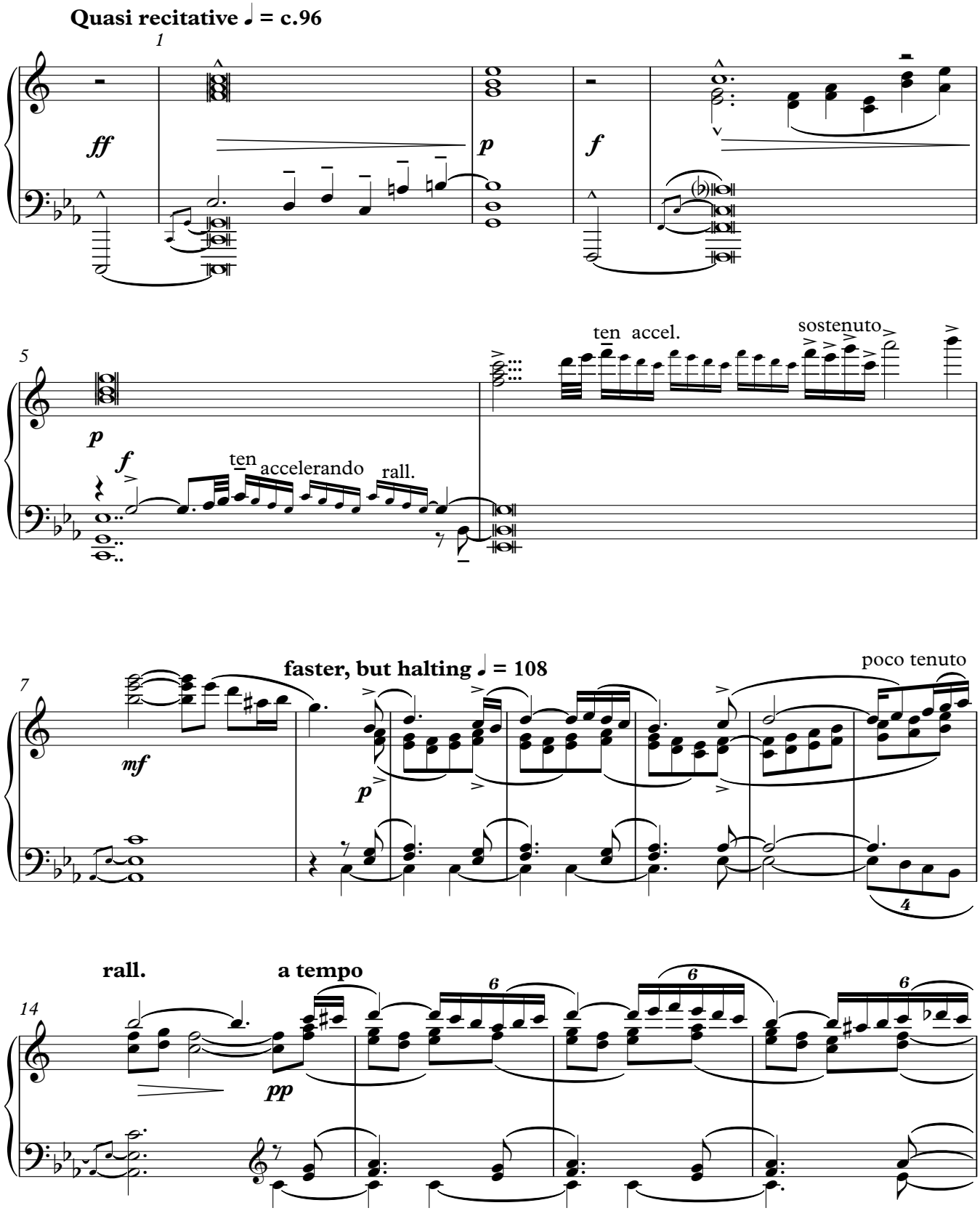
XIII.

for John Duffy



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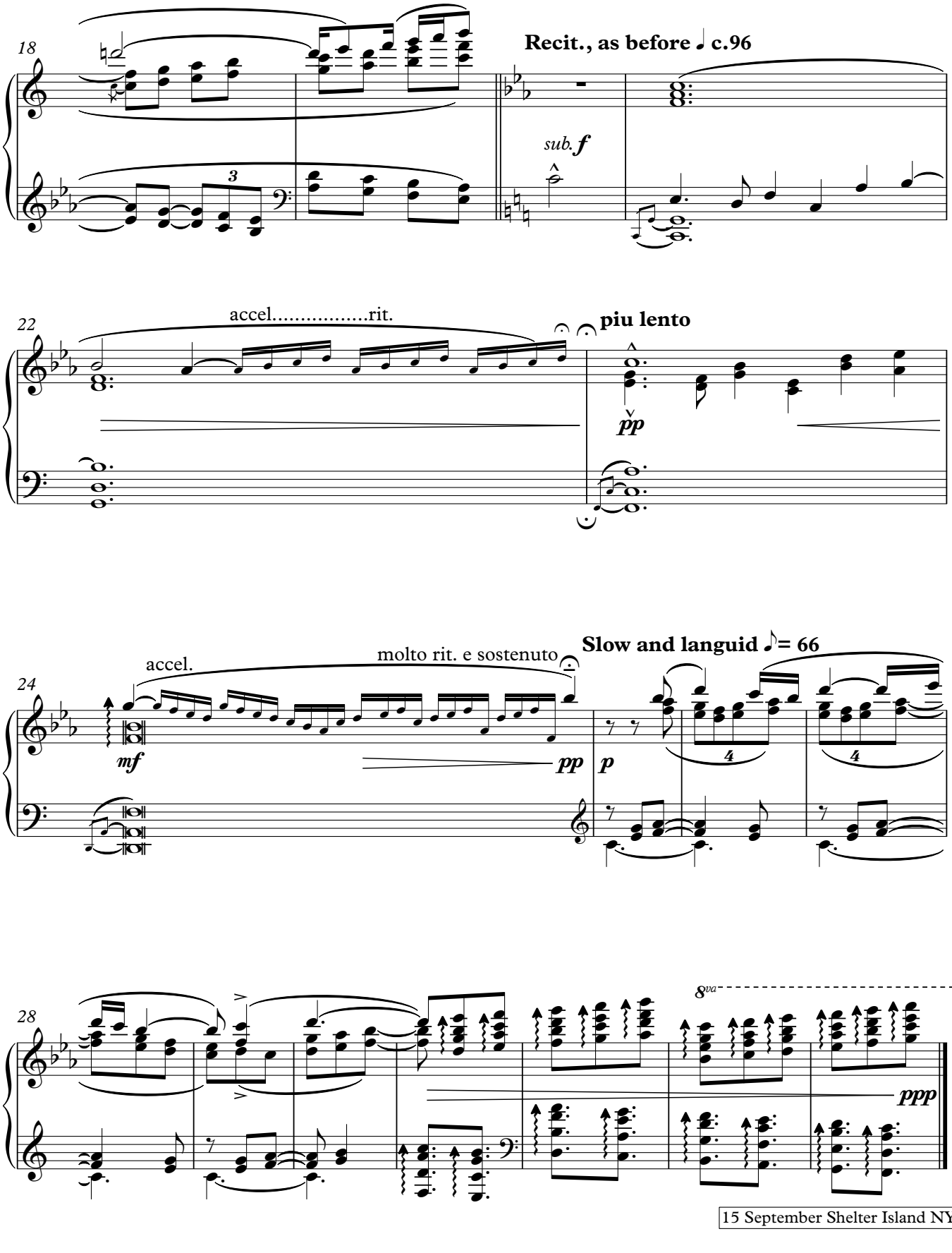

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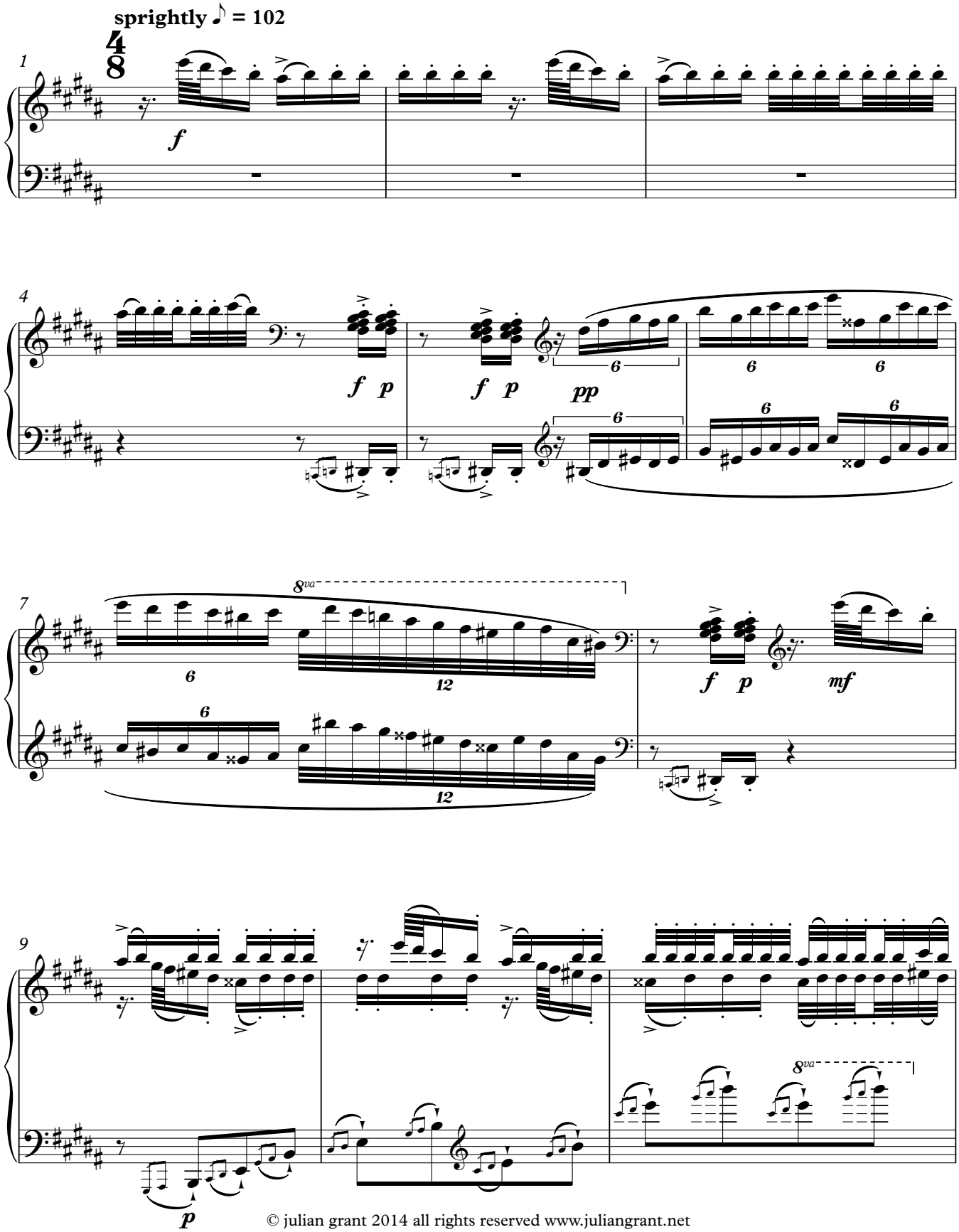
XIV.

for Hattie Lighte



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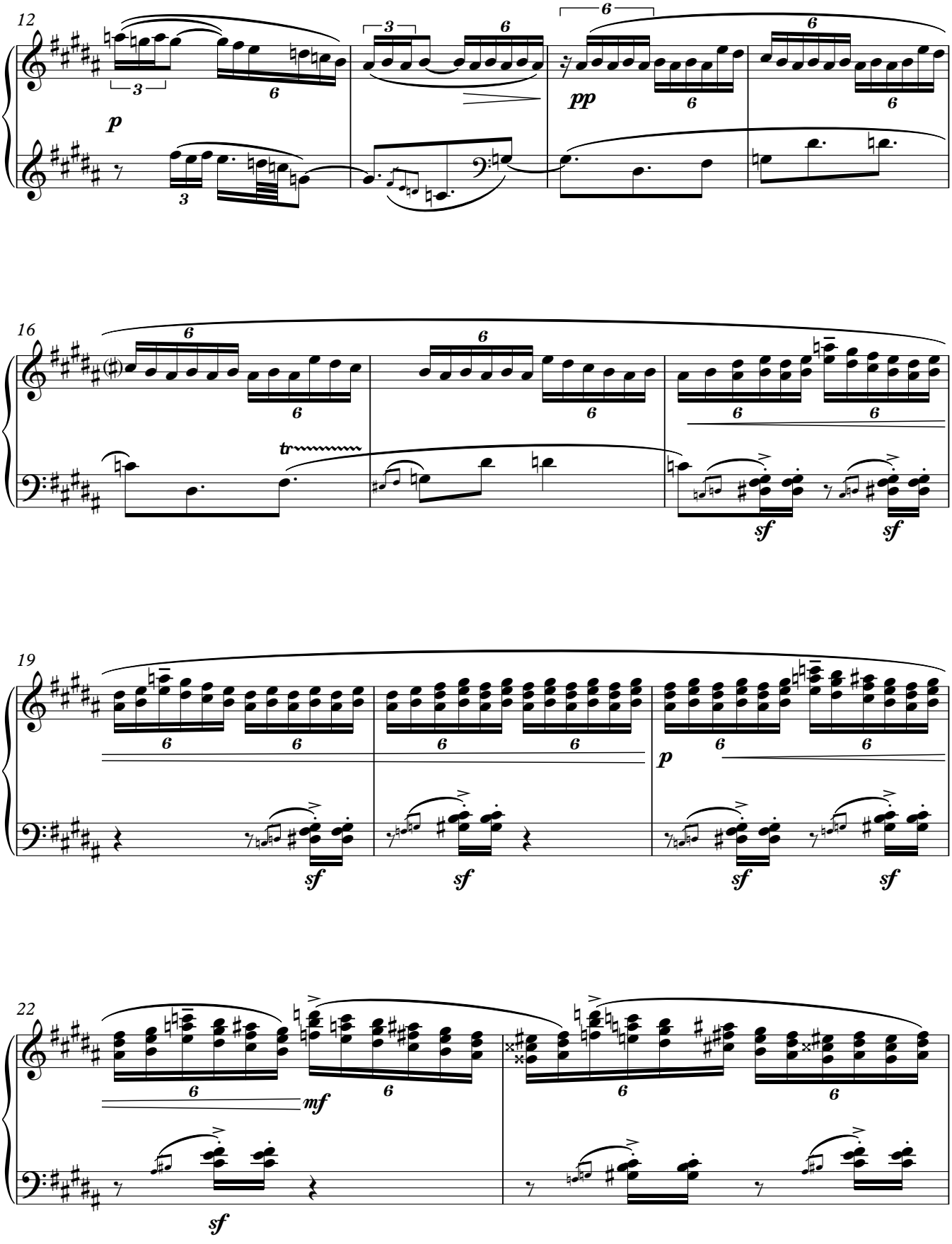
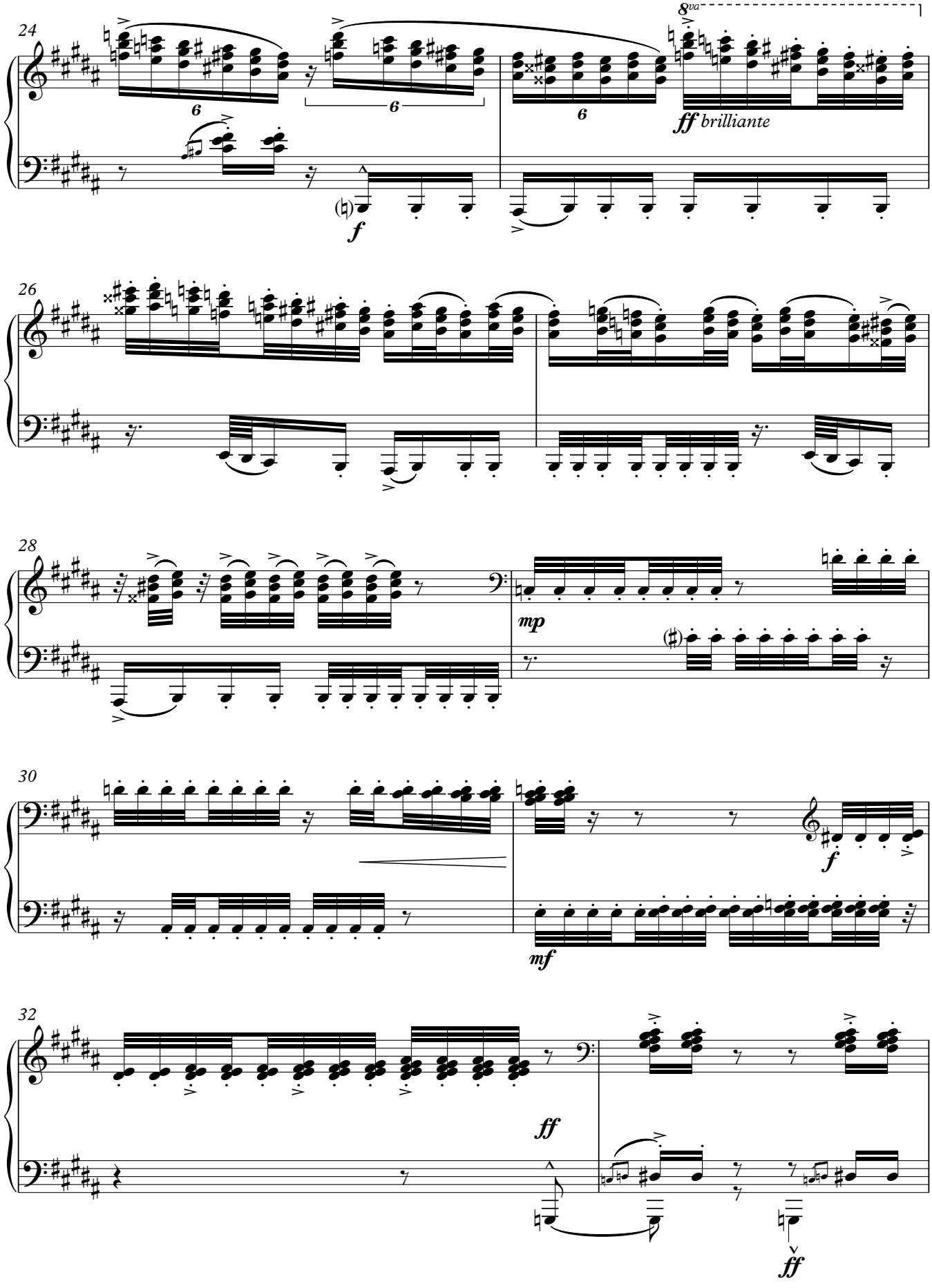
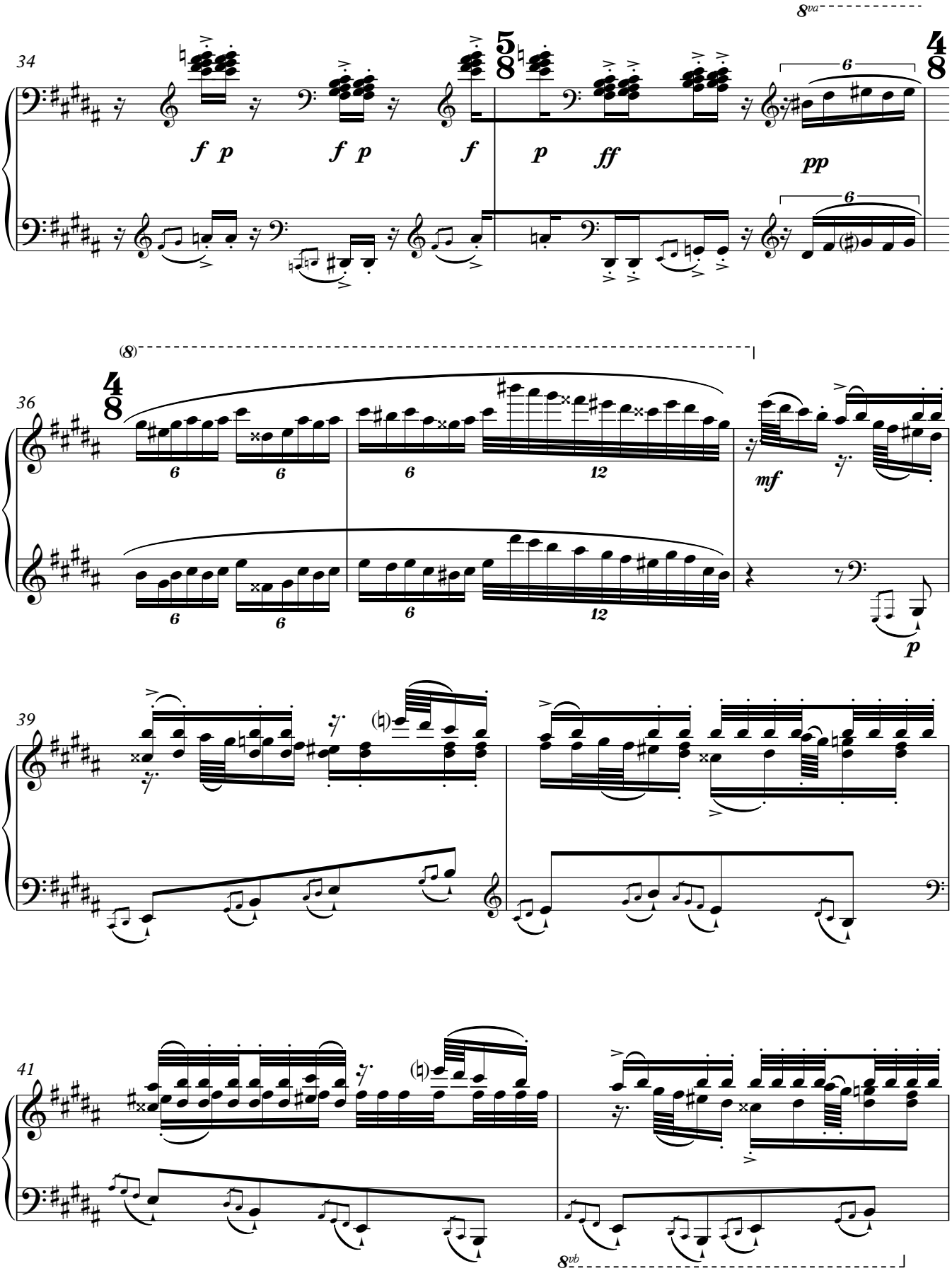
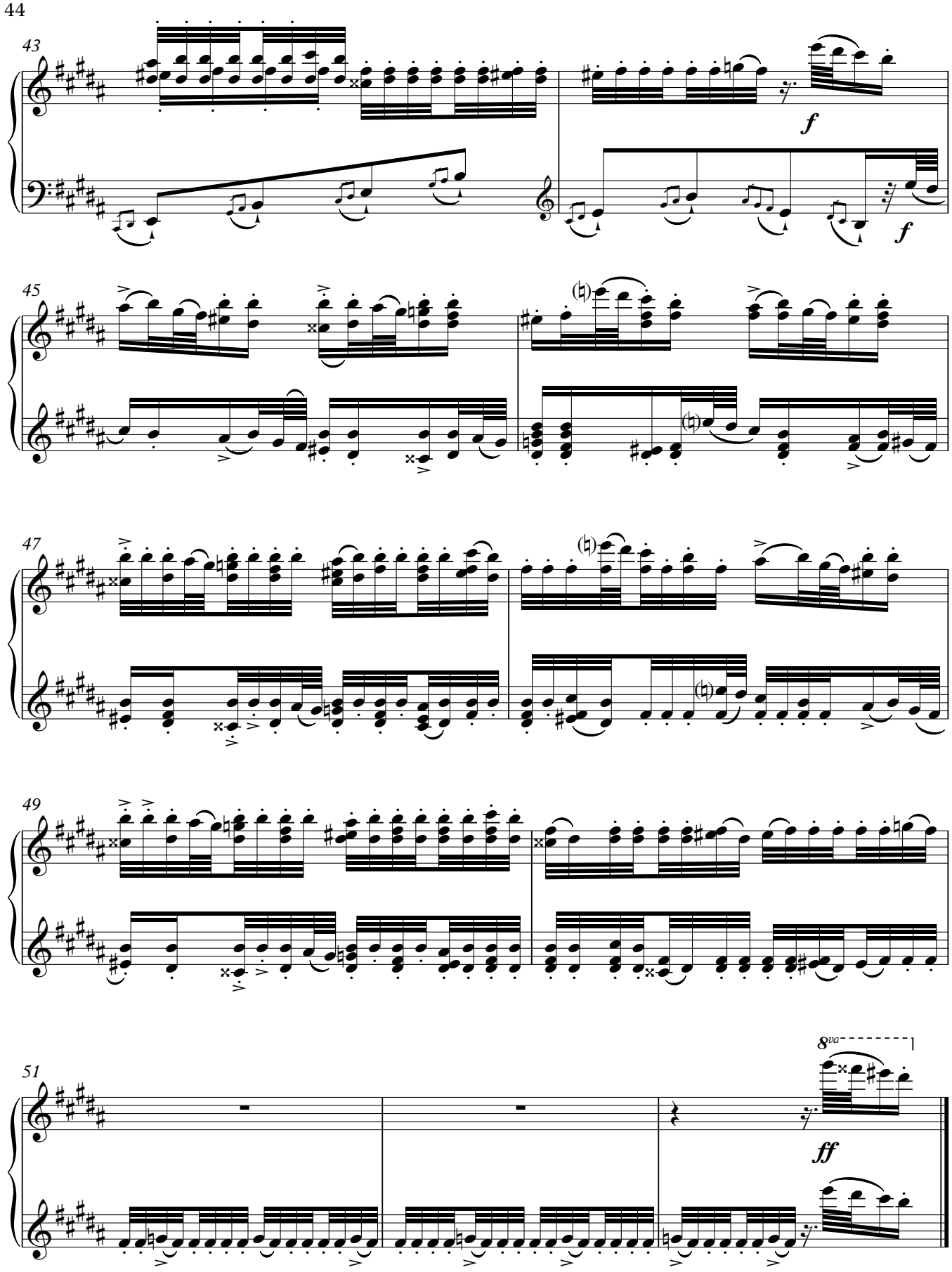

12
16
19
22


24
8va
ff brilliante
f
26
28
mp
30
f
mf
32
ff
ff

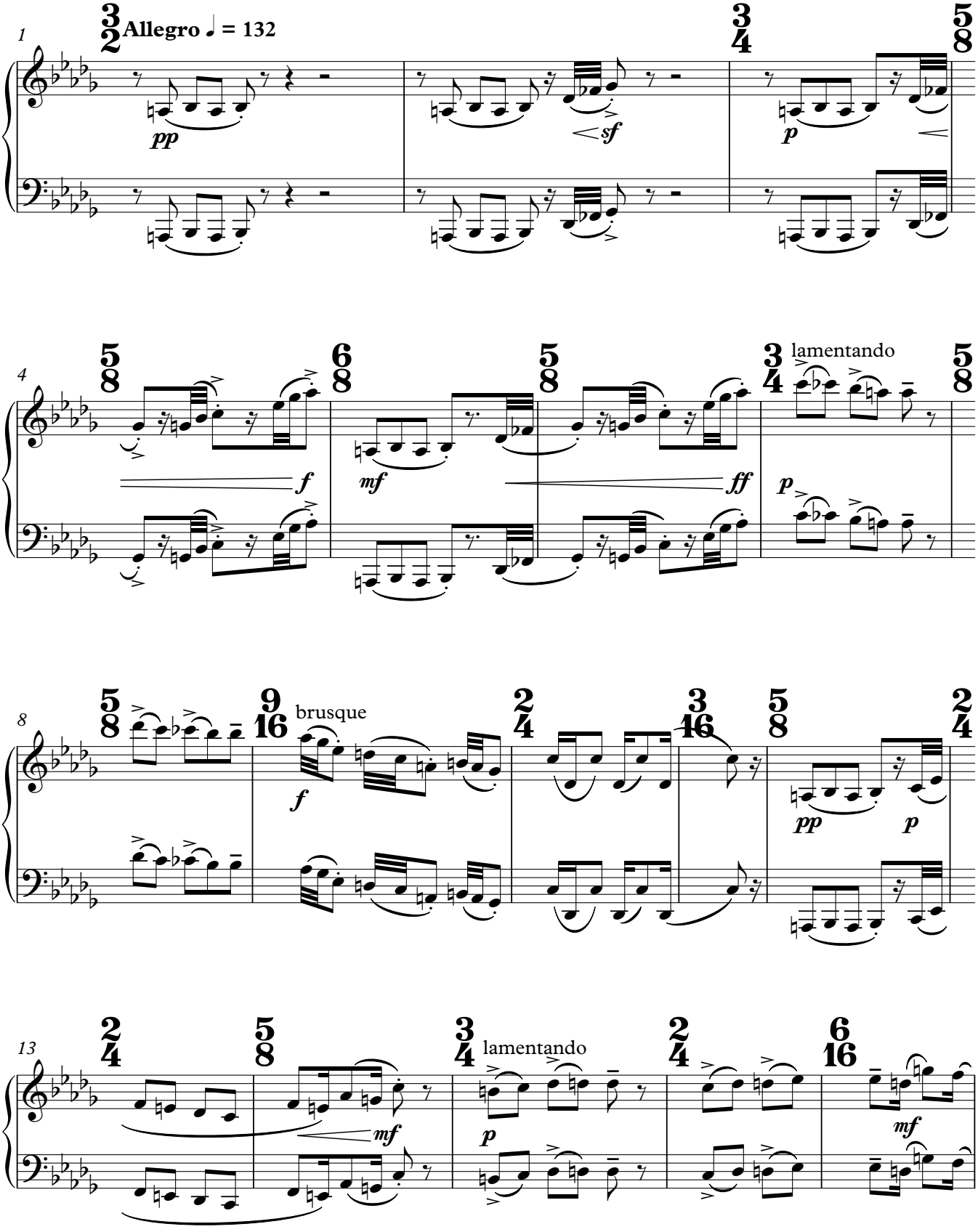

8va
34
f p
f p
f
5/8
p
ff
4/8
pp
6
(8)
36
4/8
6
12
mf
p
39
41
8vb



18 September Shelter Island NY

XV.

for Thea Musgrave



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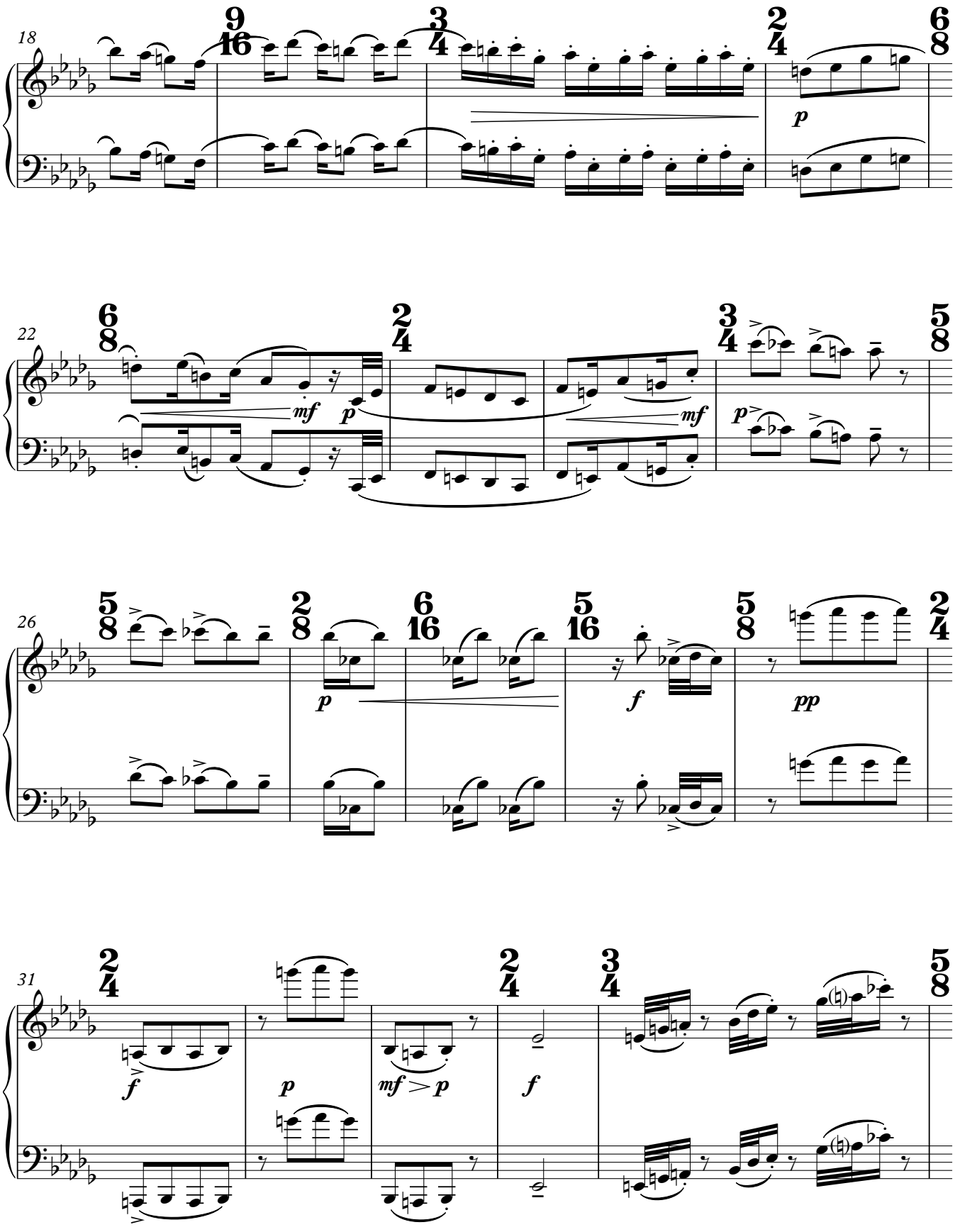
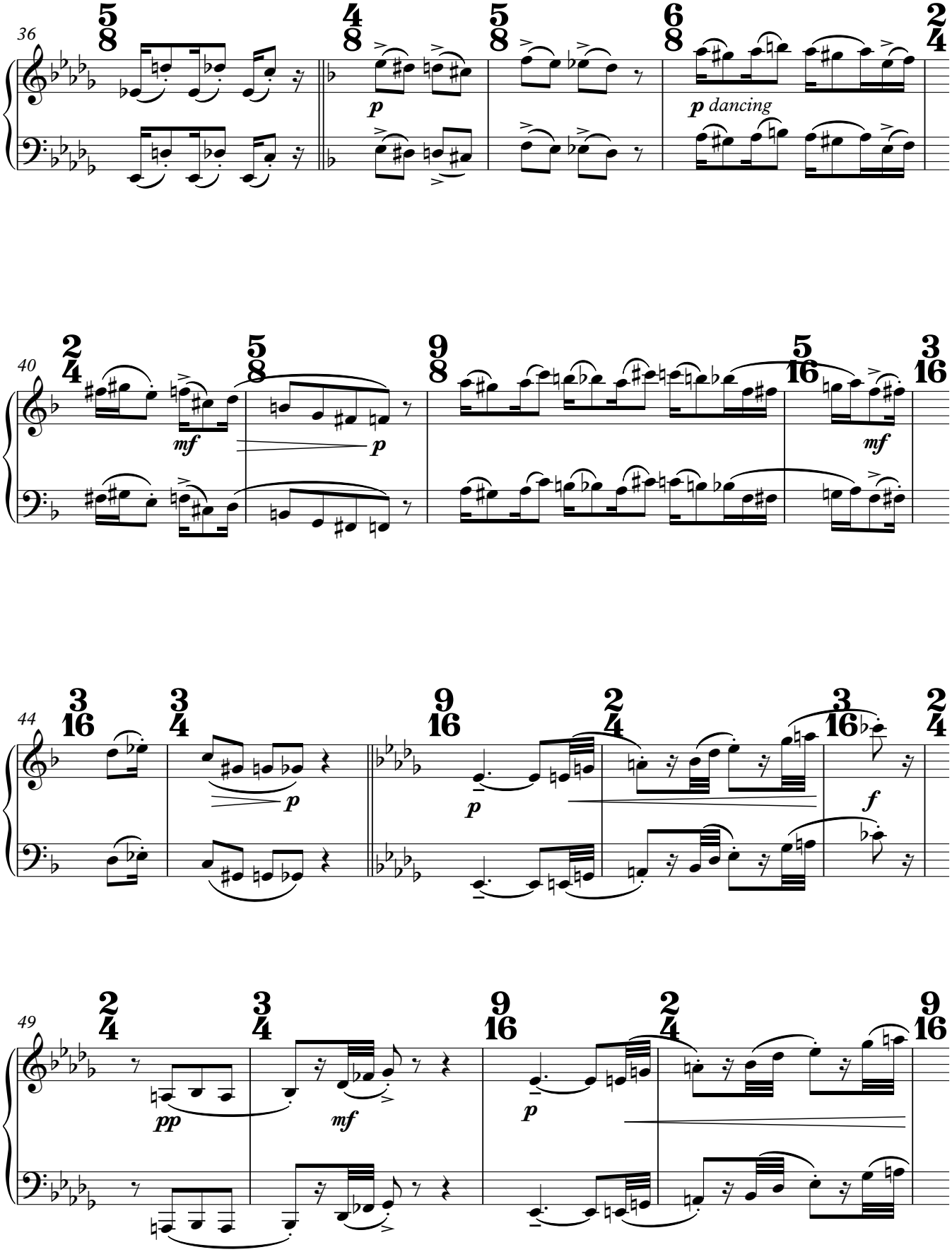
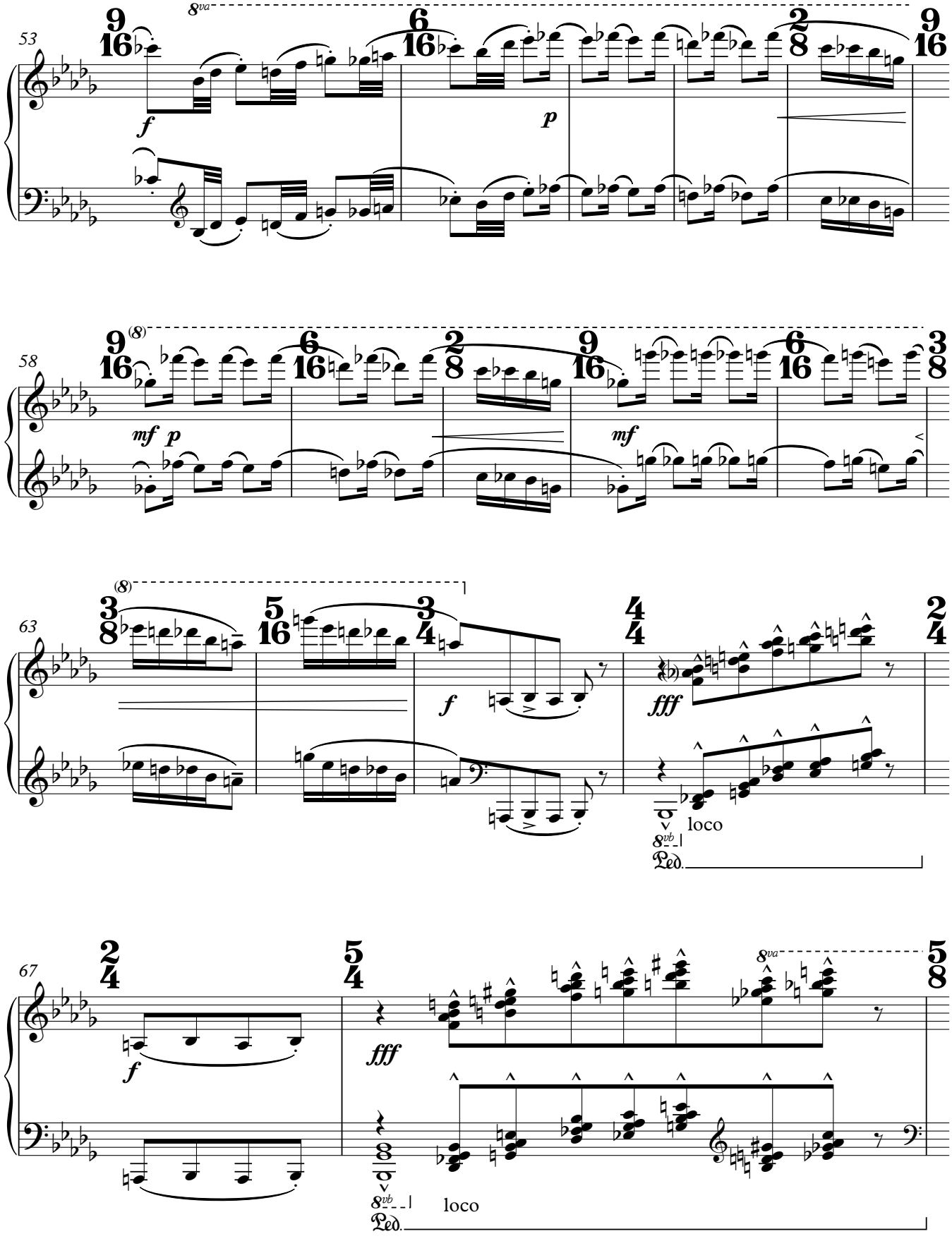
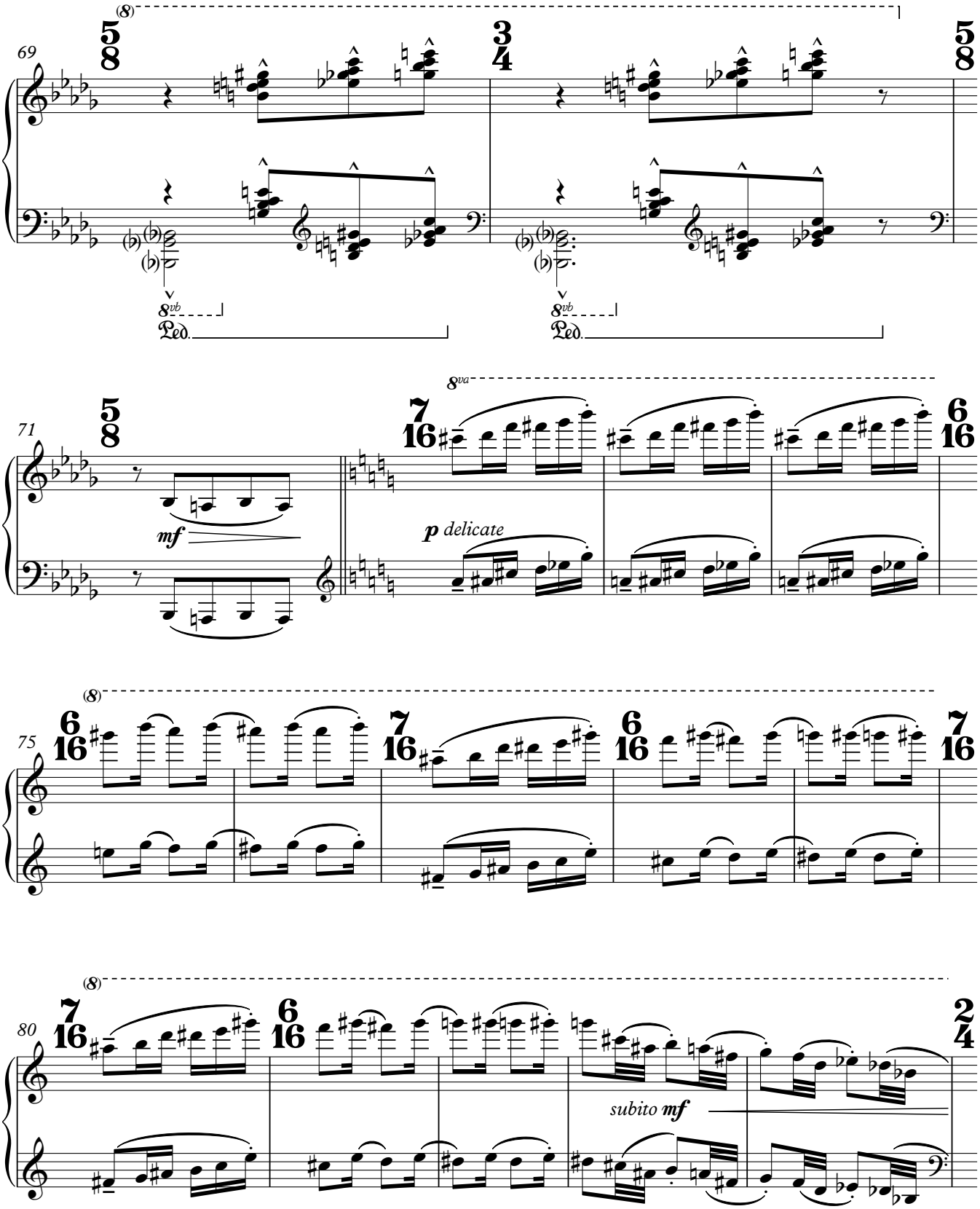
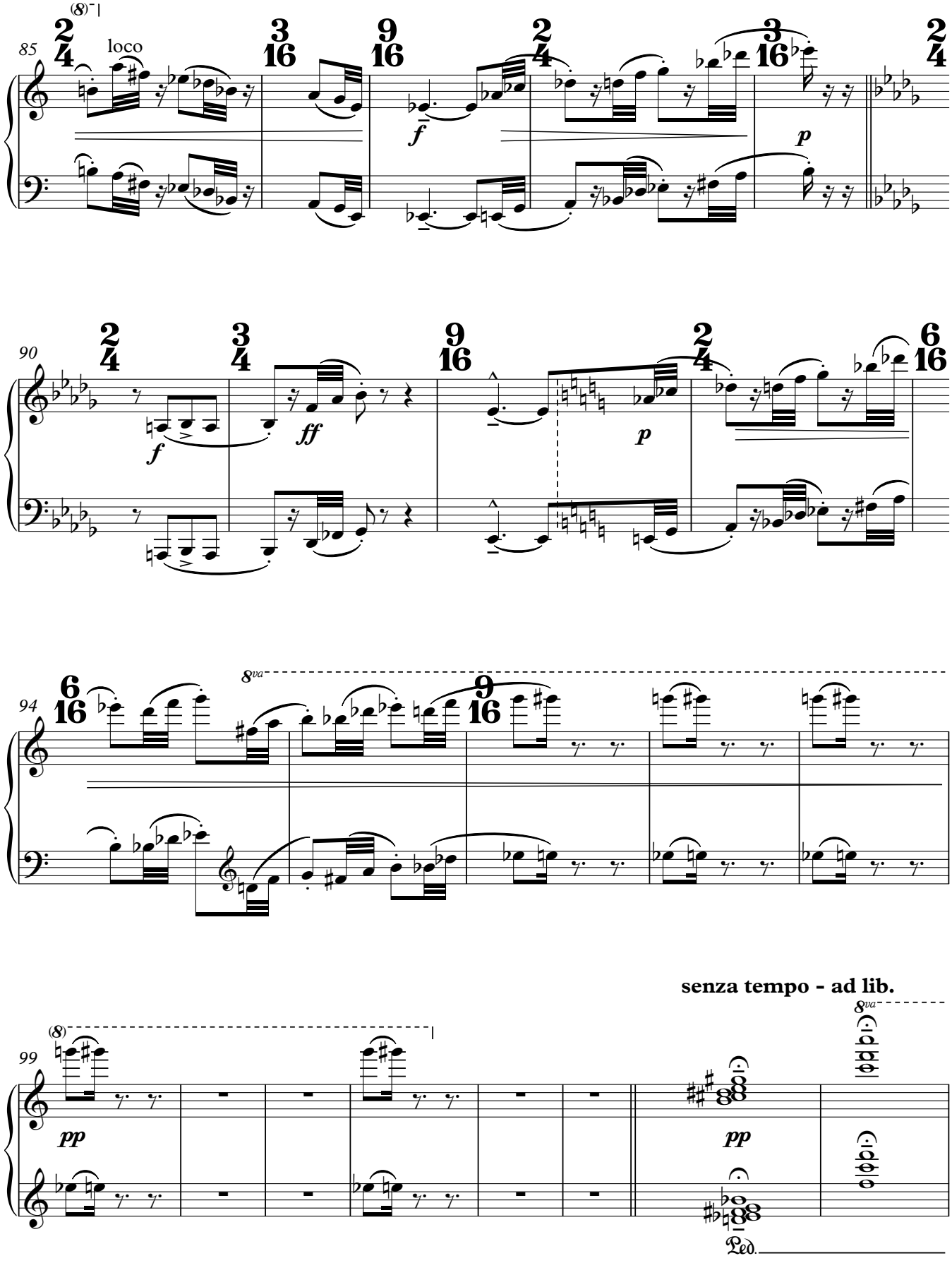
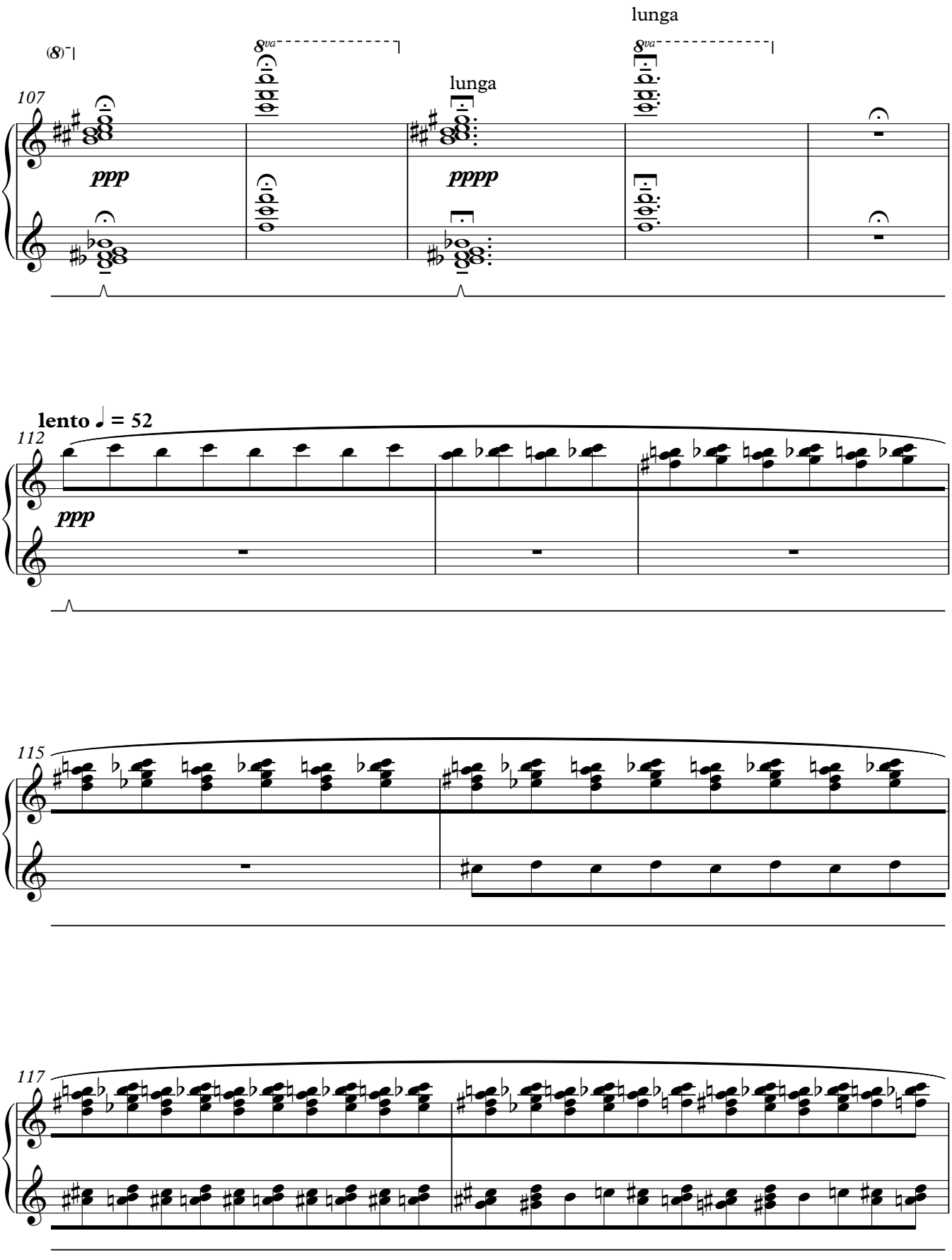

18
9/16
3/4
2/4
6/8
p
22
6/8
2/4
3/4
5/8
mf
p
mf
p
26
5/8
2/8
6/16
5/16
5/8
2/4
p
f
pp
31
2/4
2/4
3/4
5/8
f
p
mf > p
f

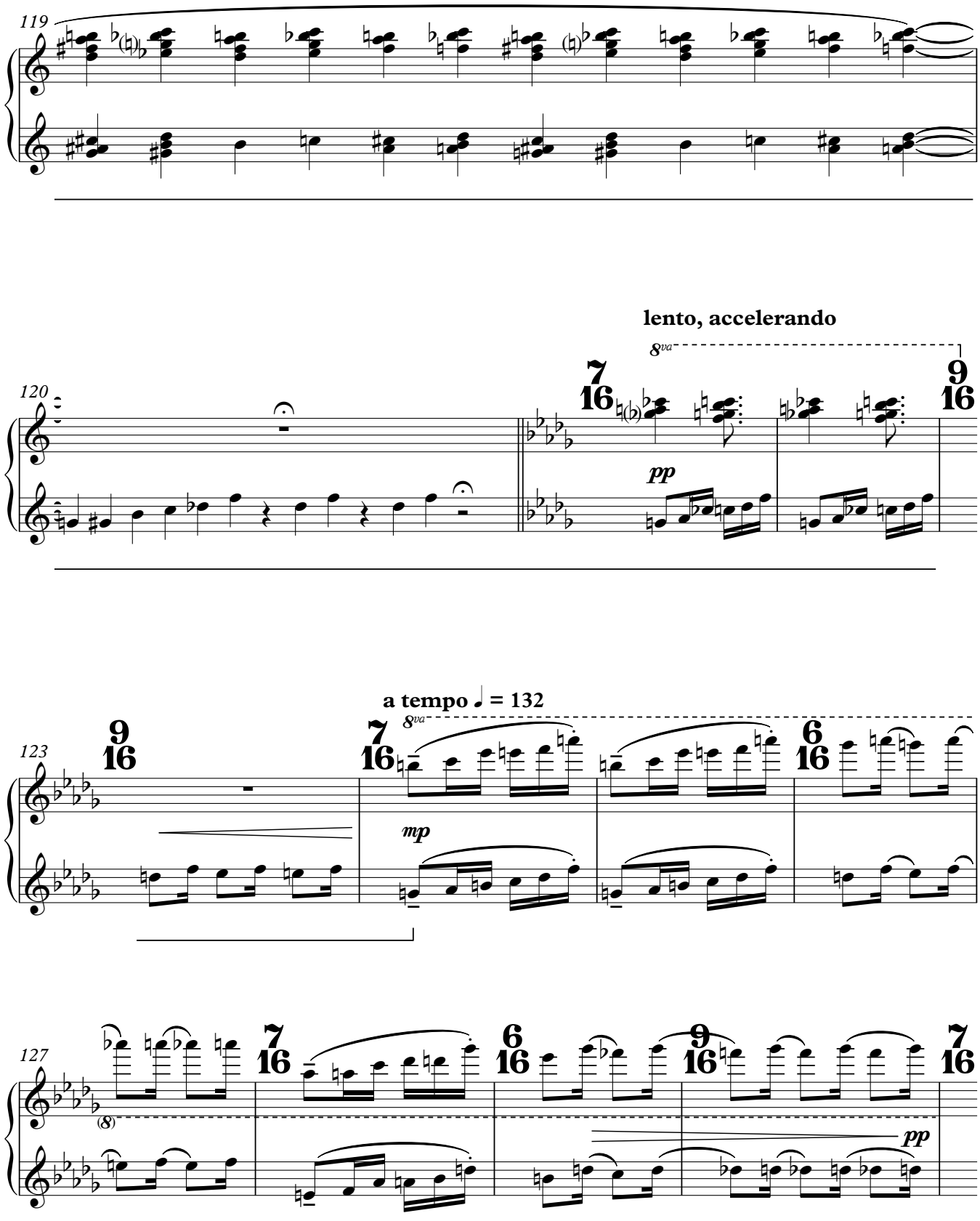

36
p
p dancing
40
mf
p
mf
44
p
p
f
49
pp
mf
p

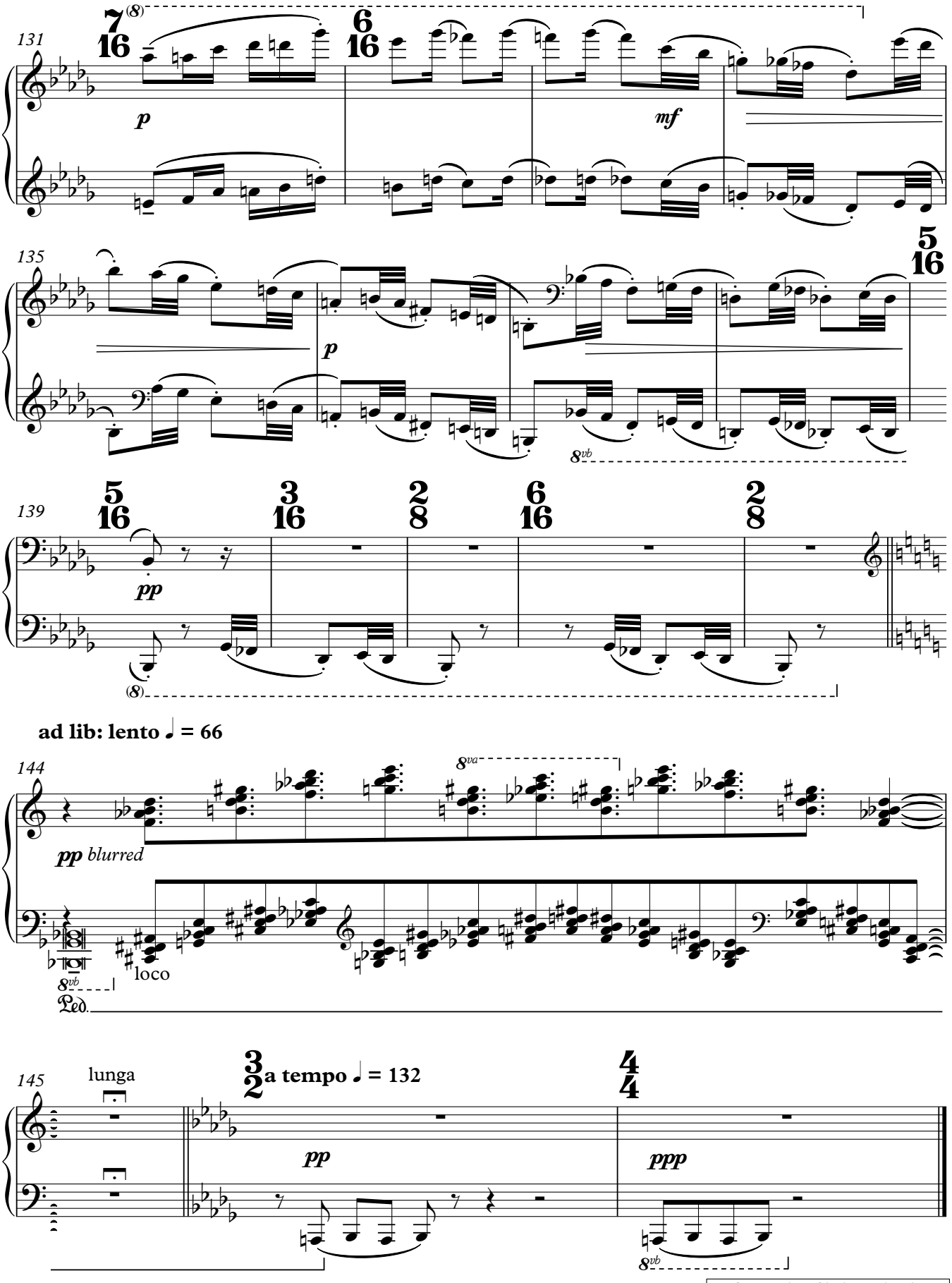

53
8va
f
p
58
(8)
mf
p
mf
63
(8)
f
fff
loco
8vb
Ped.
67
f
fff
8va
loco
8vb
Ped.


69
71
75
80
8va
8vb
Ped.
mf
p delicate
subito mf


85
loco
f
p
90
f
ff
p
94
8va
99
pp
pp
senza tempo - ad lib.
8va
Ped.


lunga
lunga
107
ppp
pppp
lento ♩ = 52
112
ppp
115
117

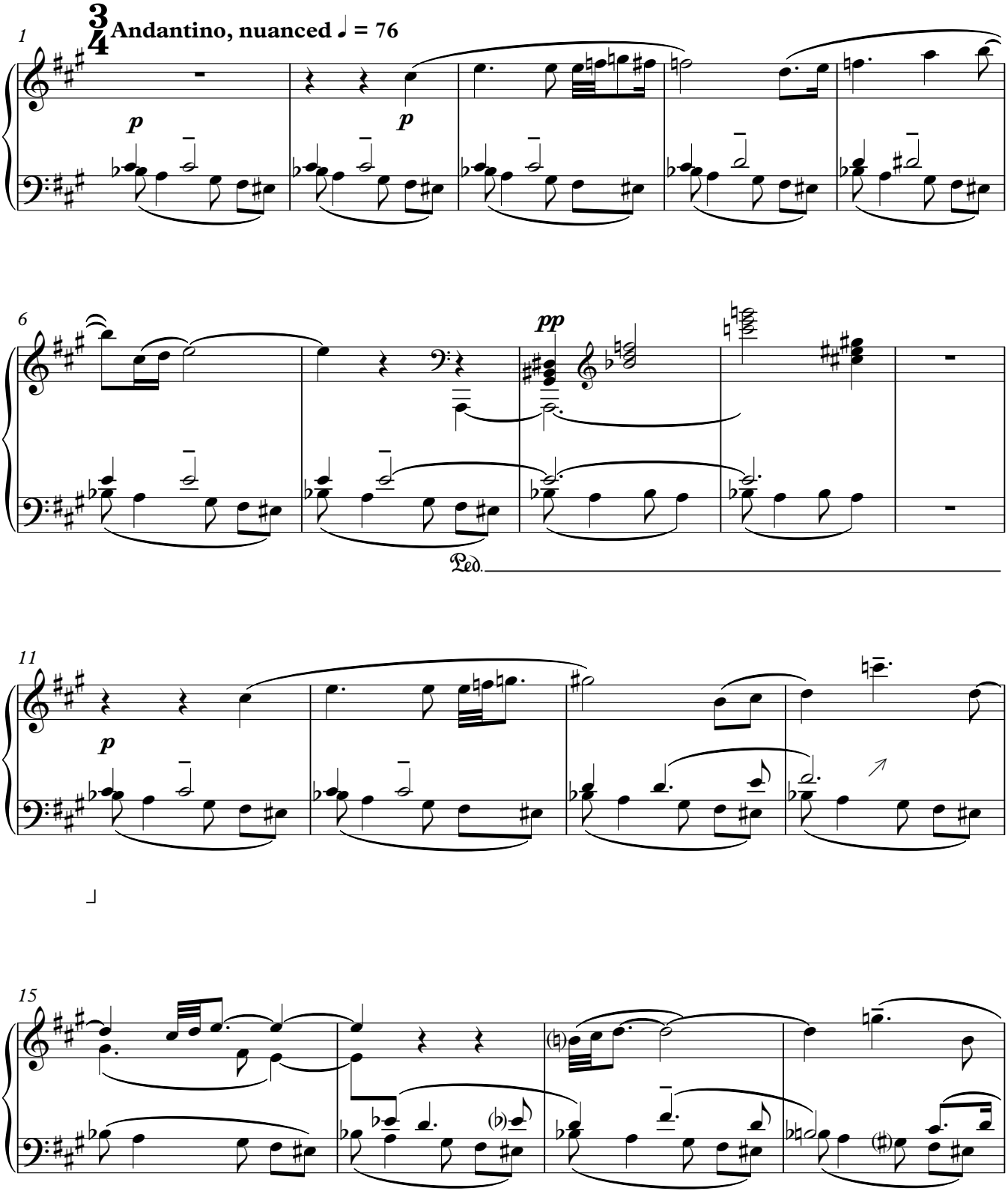

119
120
lento, accelerando
8va
pp
123
a tempo ♩ = 132
mp
127
pp



20 September Shelter Island NY

XVI.

for Maya Alexandri



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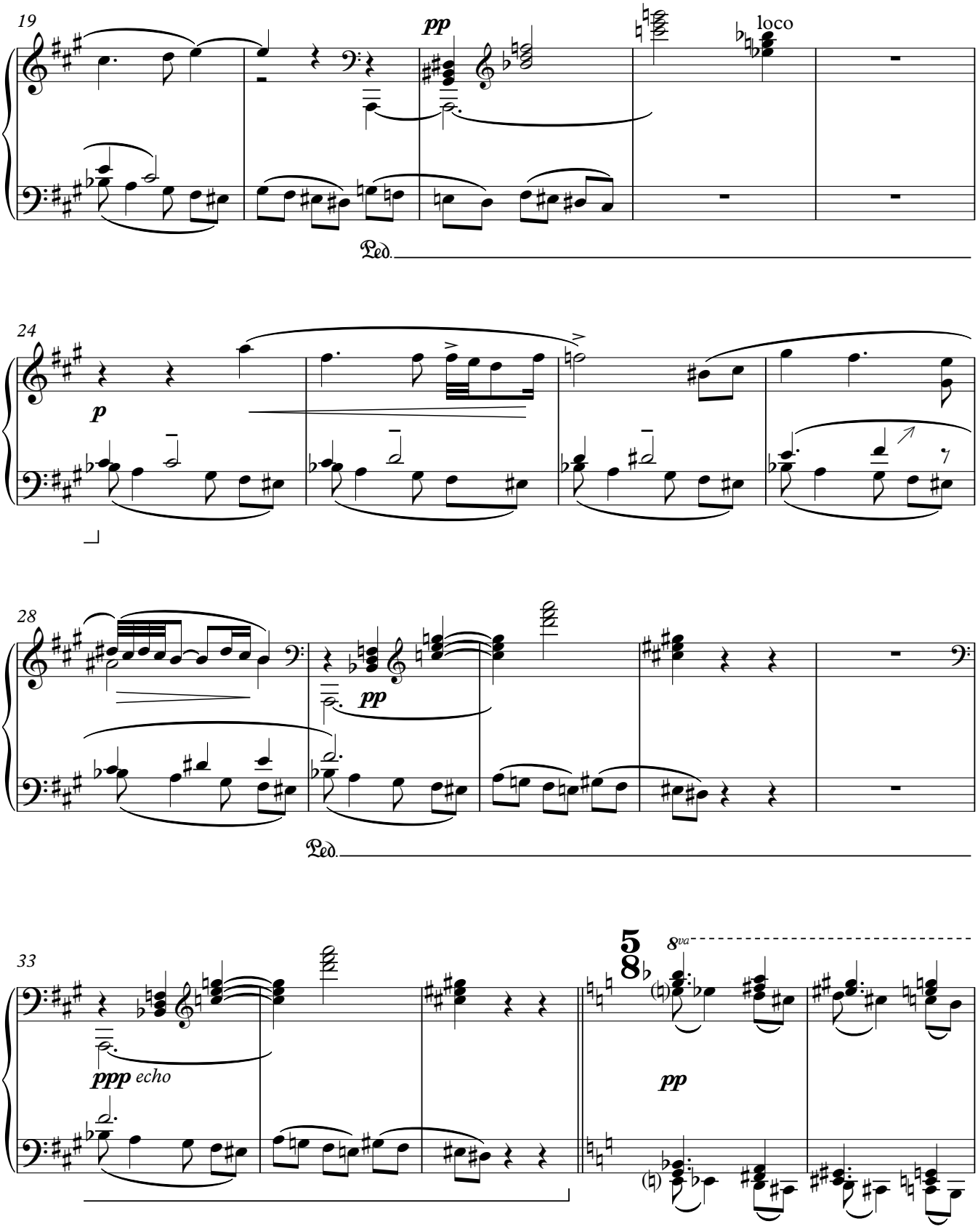
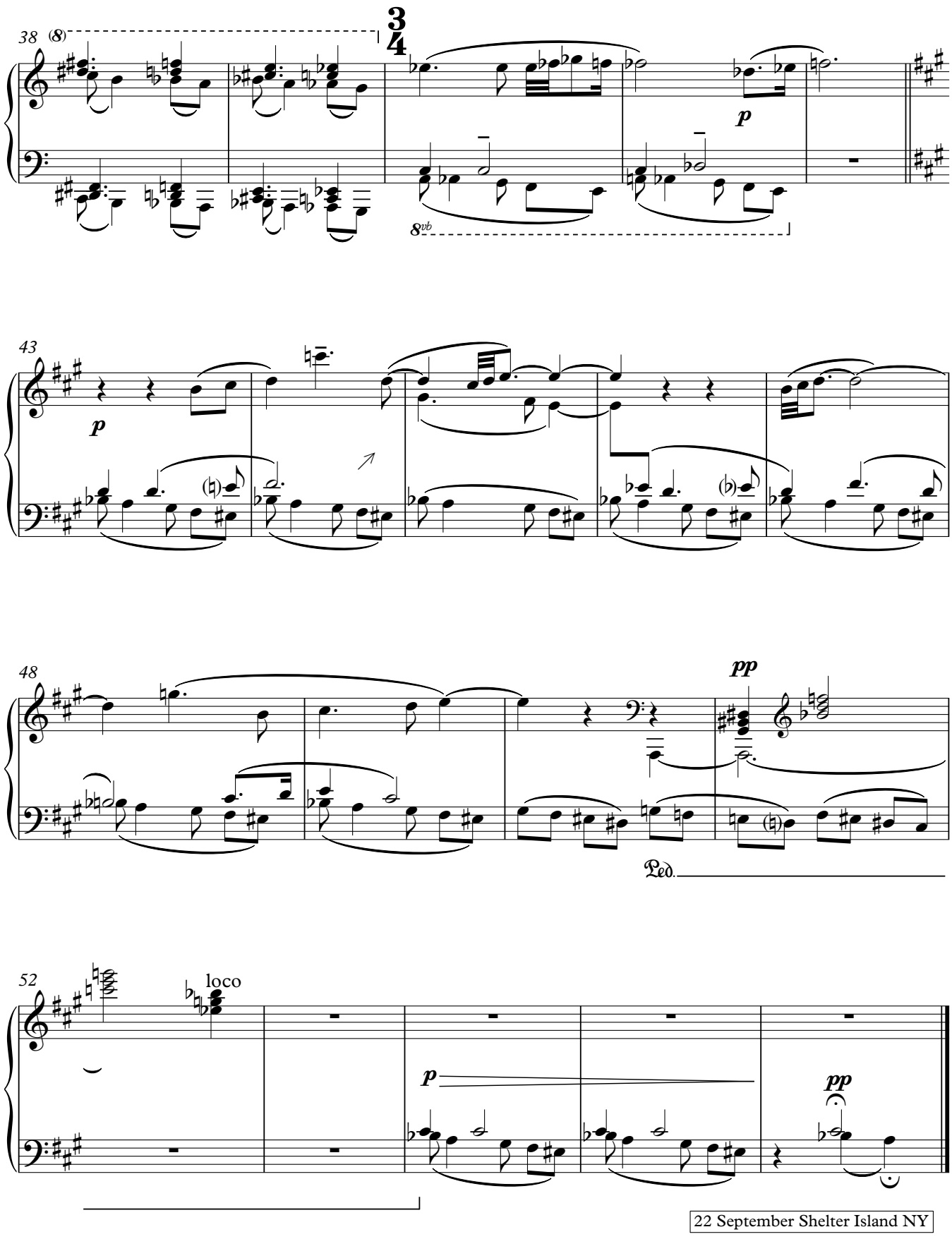
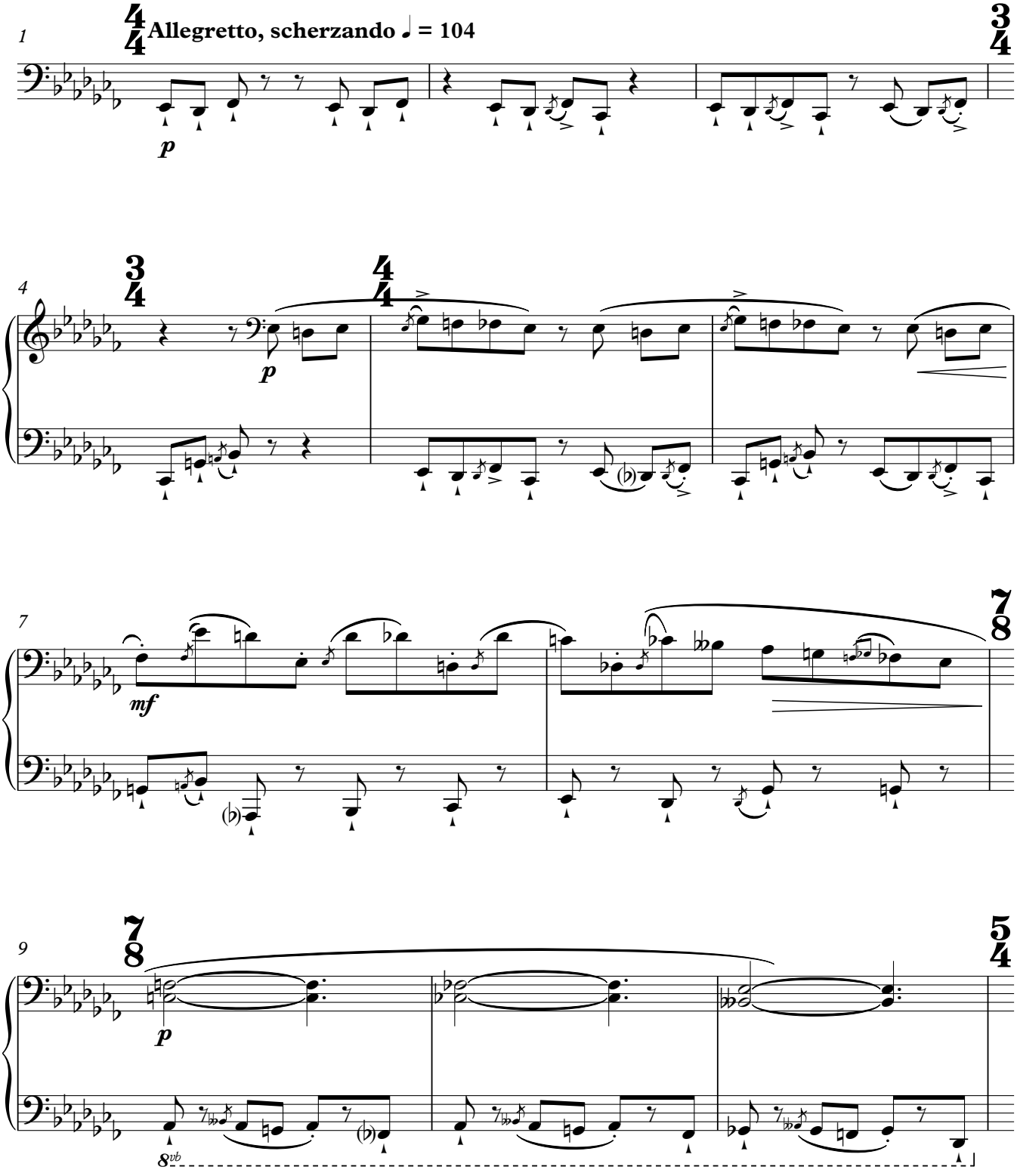

19
pp
loco
Ped.
24
p
28
pp
Ped.
33
ppp echo
5/8
8va
pp


38
(8)
3/4
p
8vb
43
p
48
pp
Ped.
52
loco
p
pp
22 September Shelter Island NY

XVII.

for Peter Lighte



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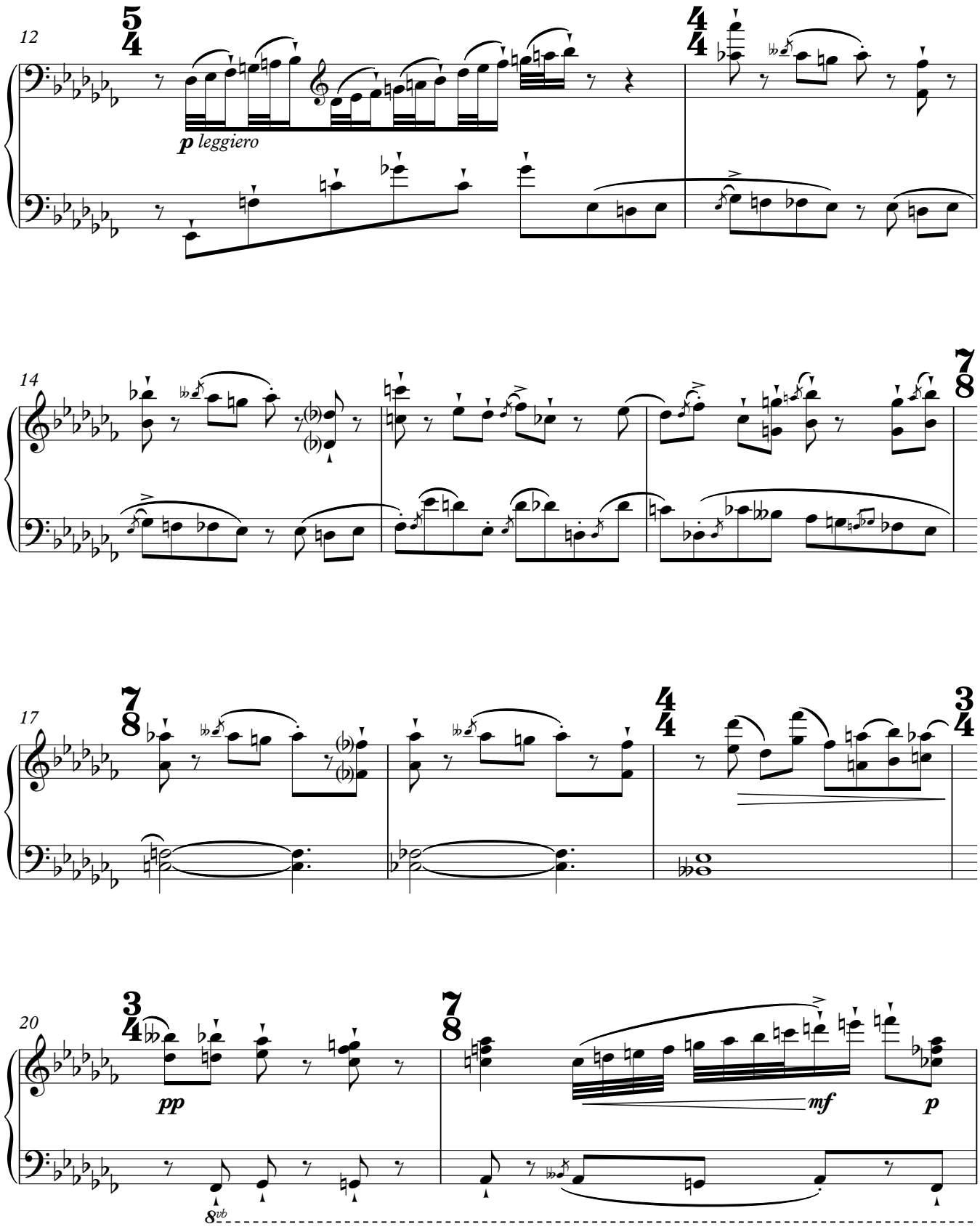
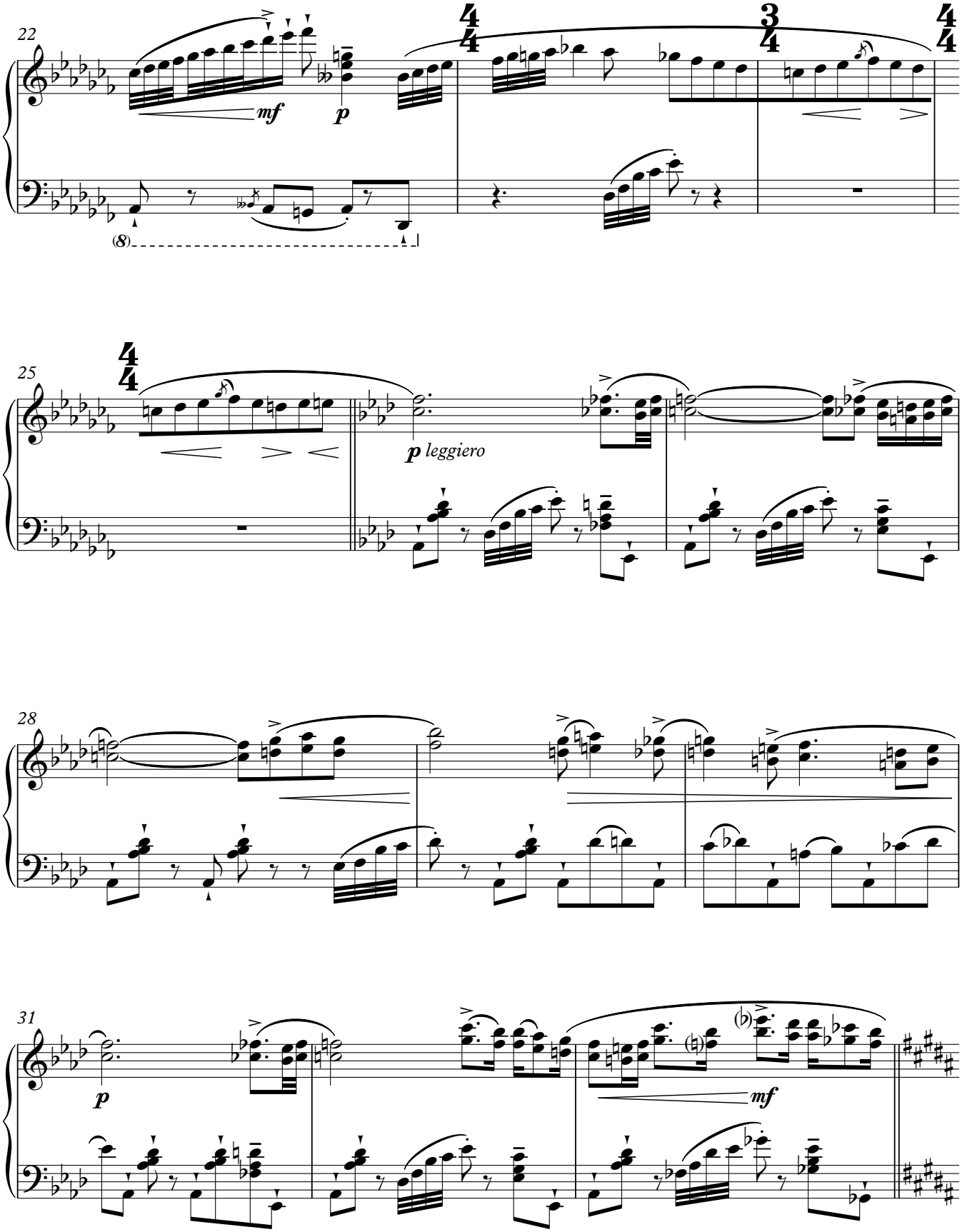
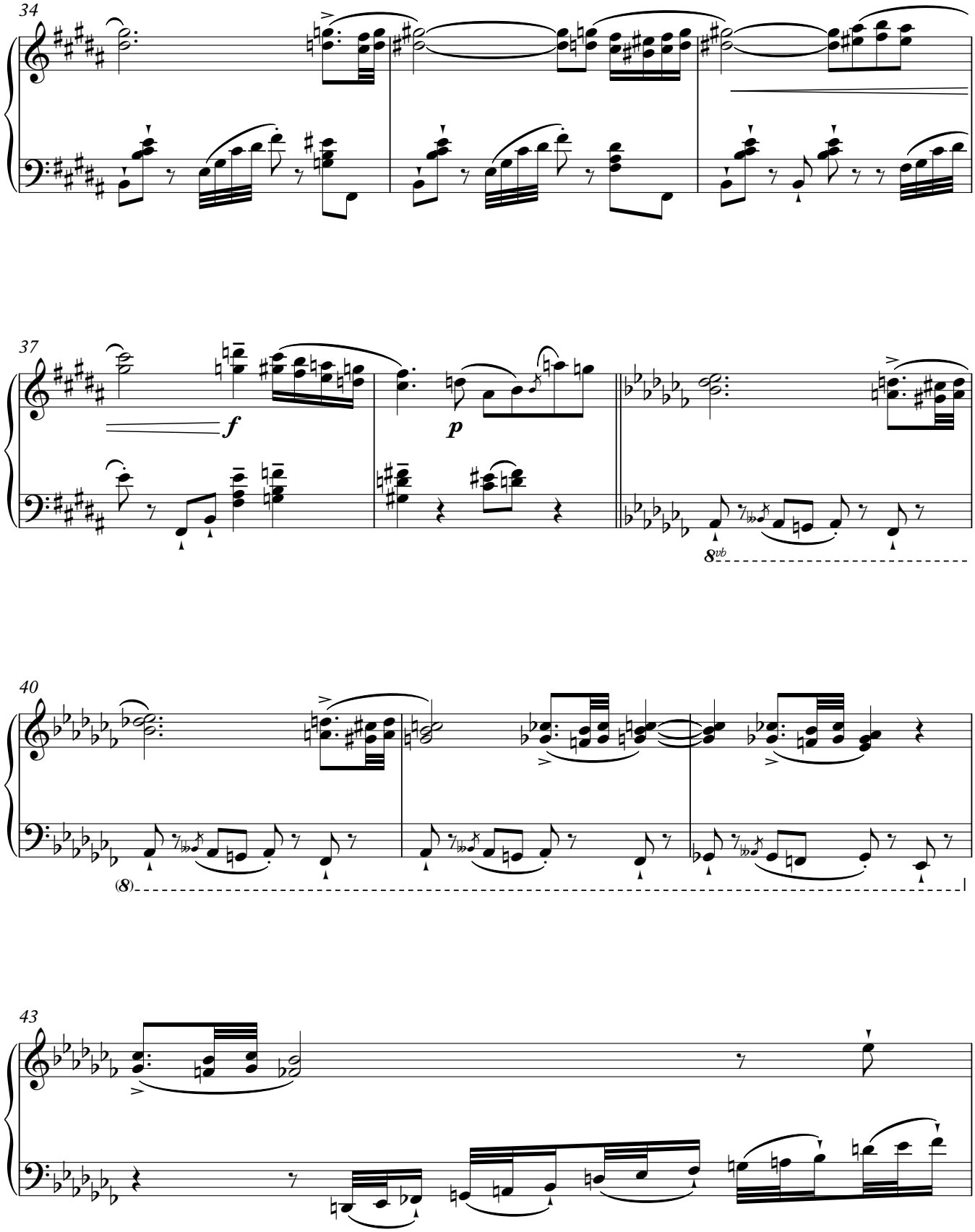
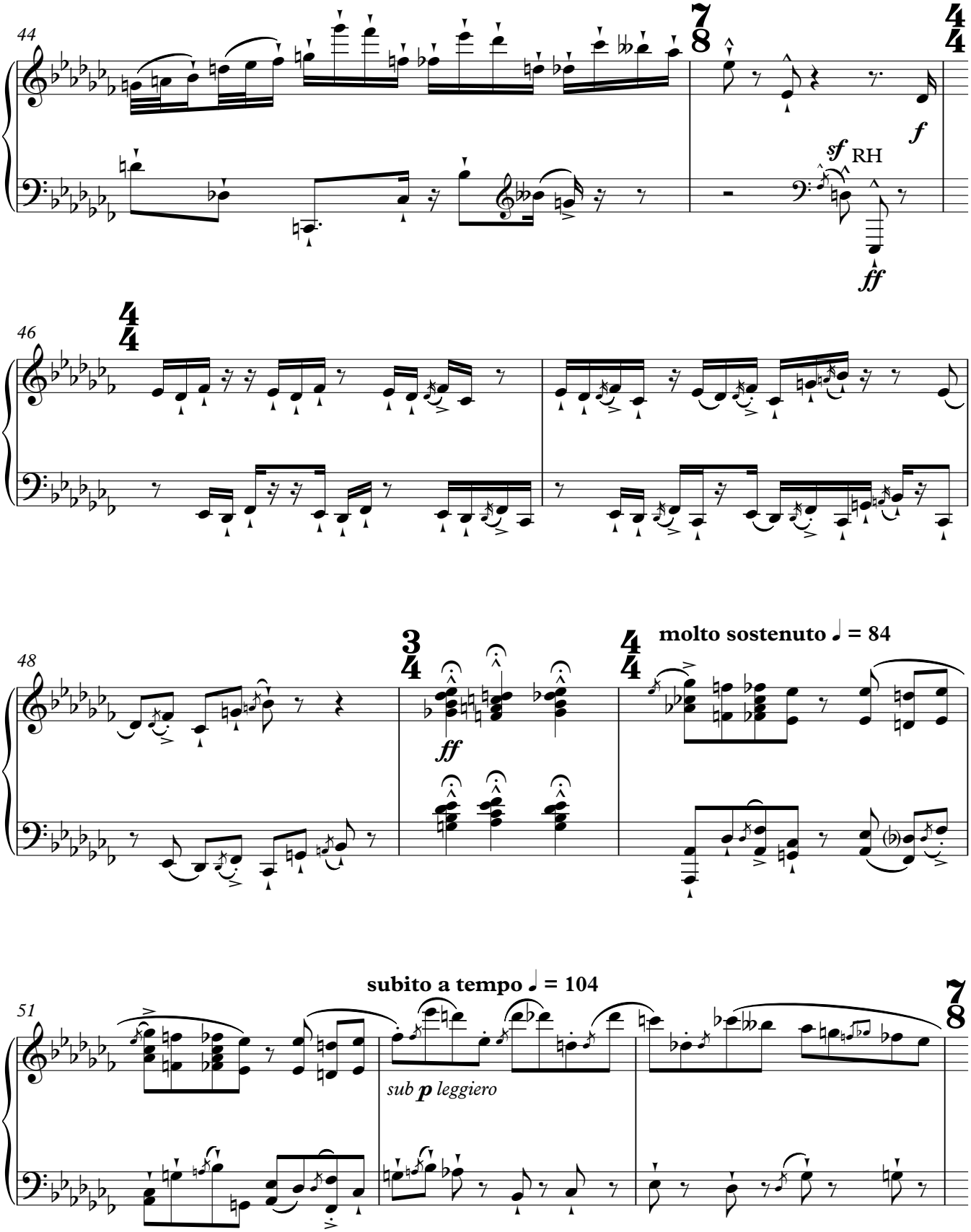
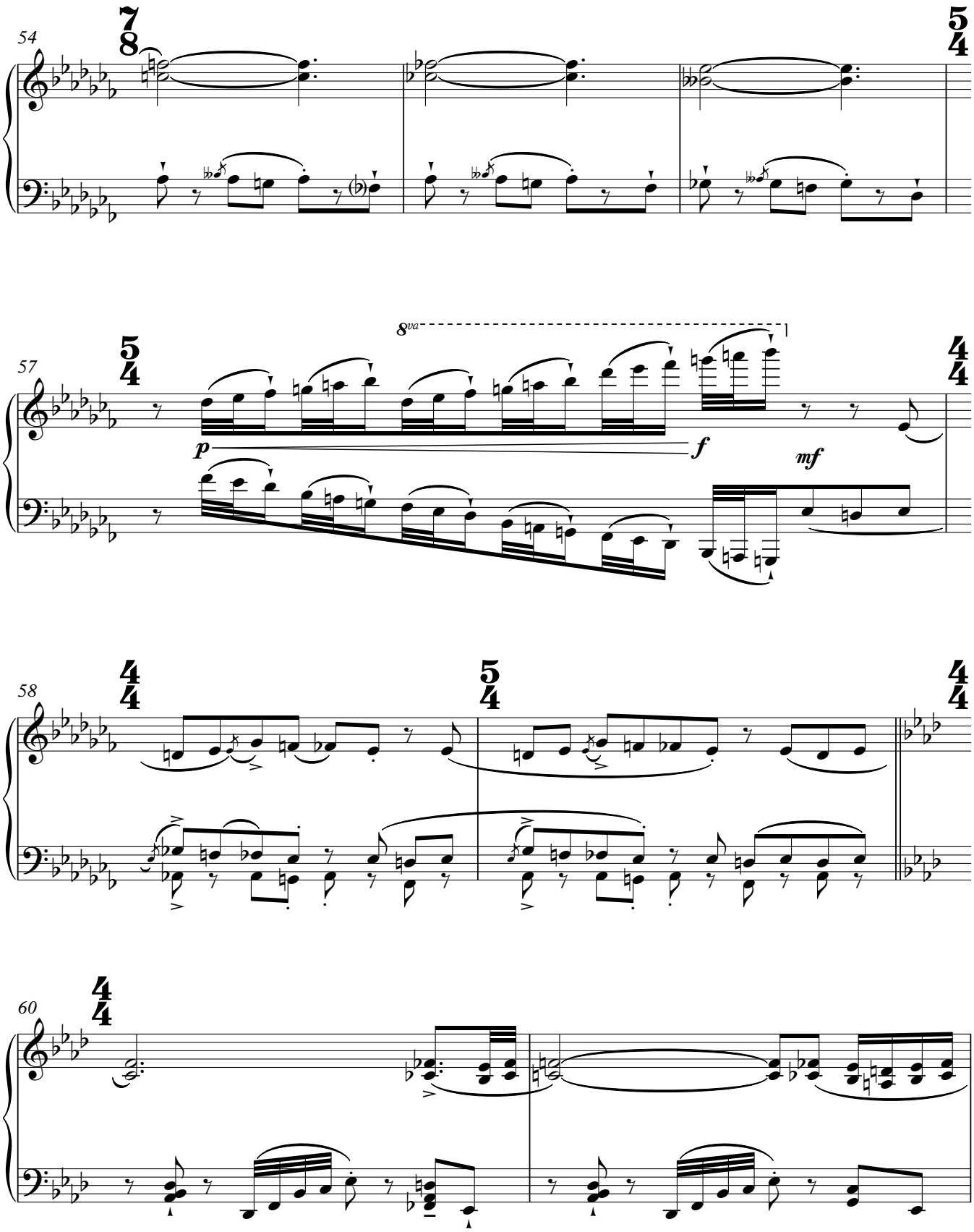
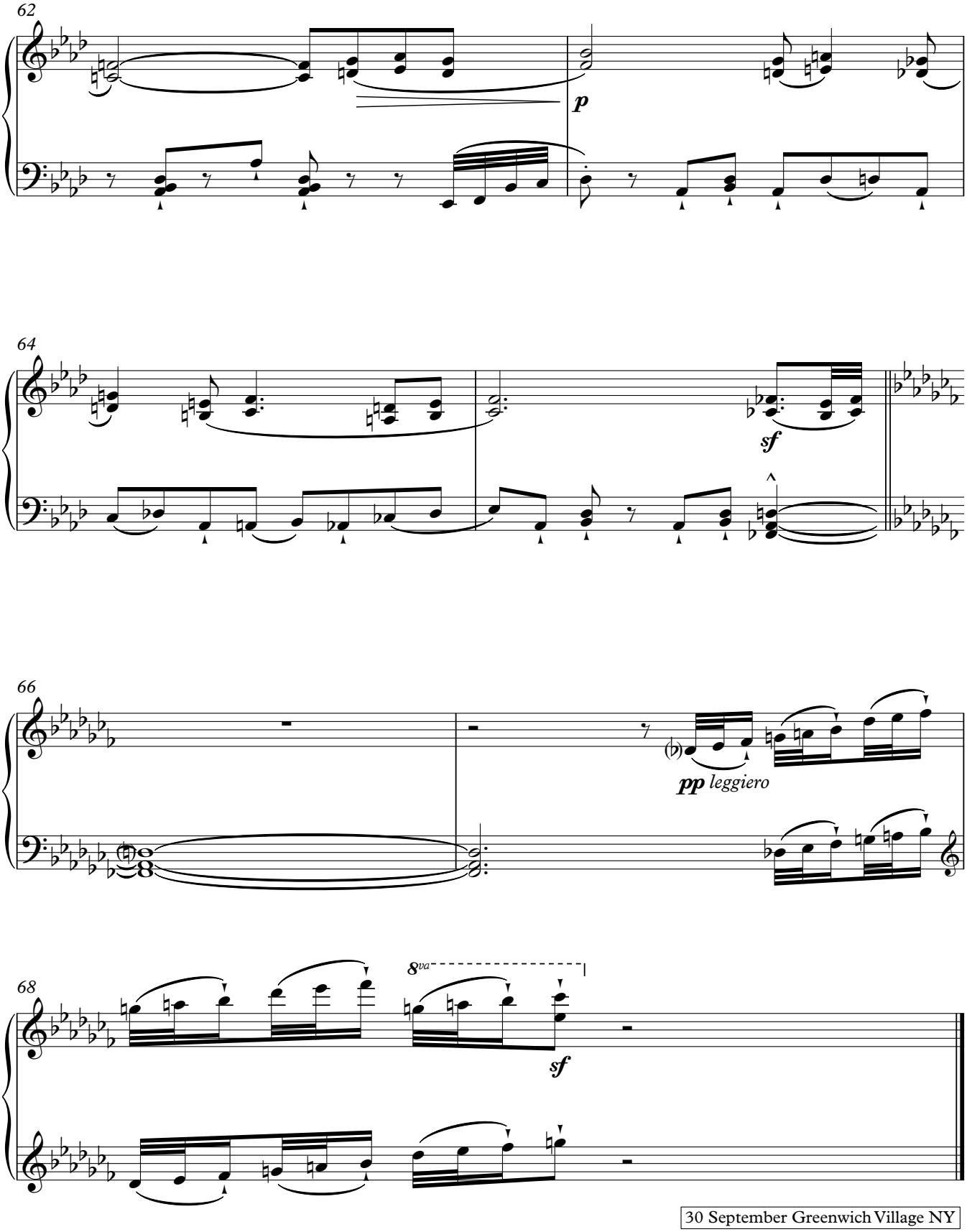

12
p leggiero
14
17
20
pp
mf
p
8vb


22
mf
p
25
p leggiero
28
31
p
mf


34
37
f
p
8vb
40
(8)
43


44
7/8
4/4
f
sf RH
ff
46
4/4
48
3/4
ff
4/4
molto sostenuto ♩ = 84
51
subito a tempo ♩ = 104
7/8
sub p leggiero

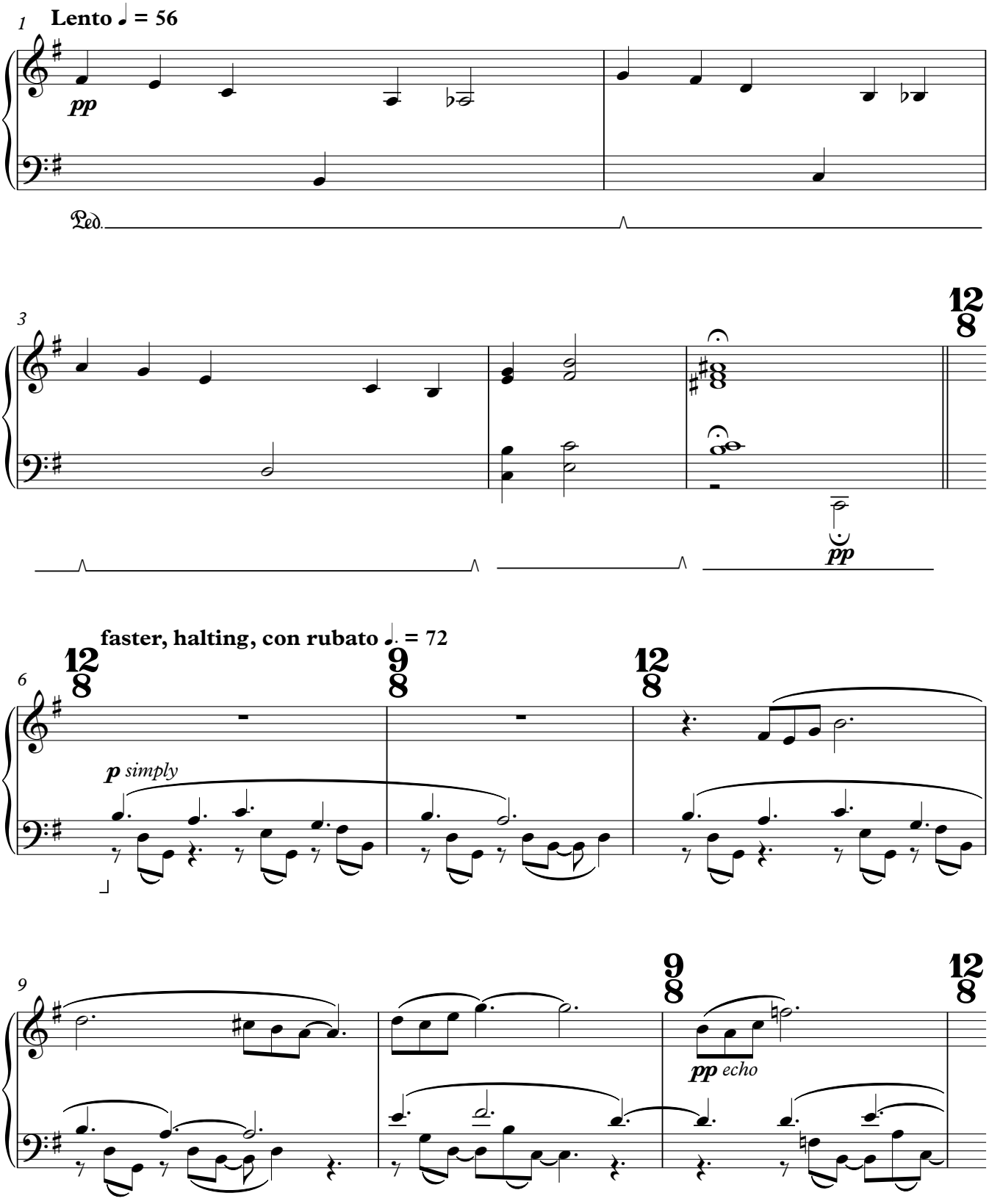

54
57
8va
p
f
mf
58
60



30 September Greenwich Village NY

XVIII.

Judith Layng in memoriam



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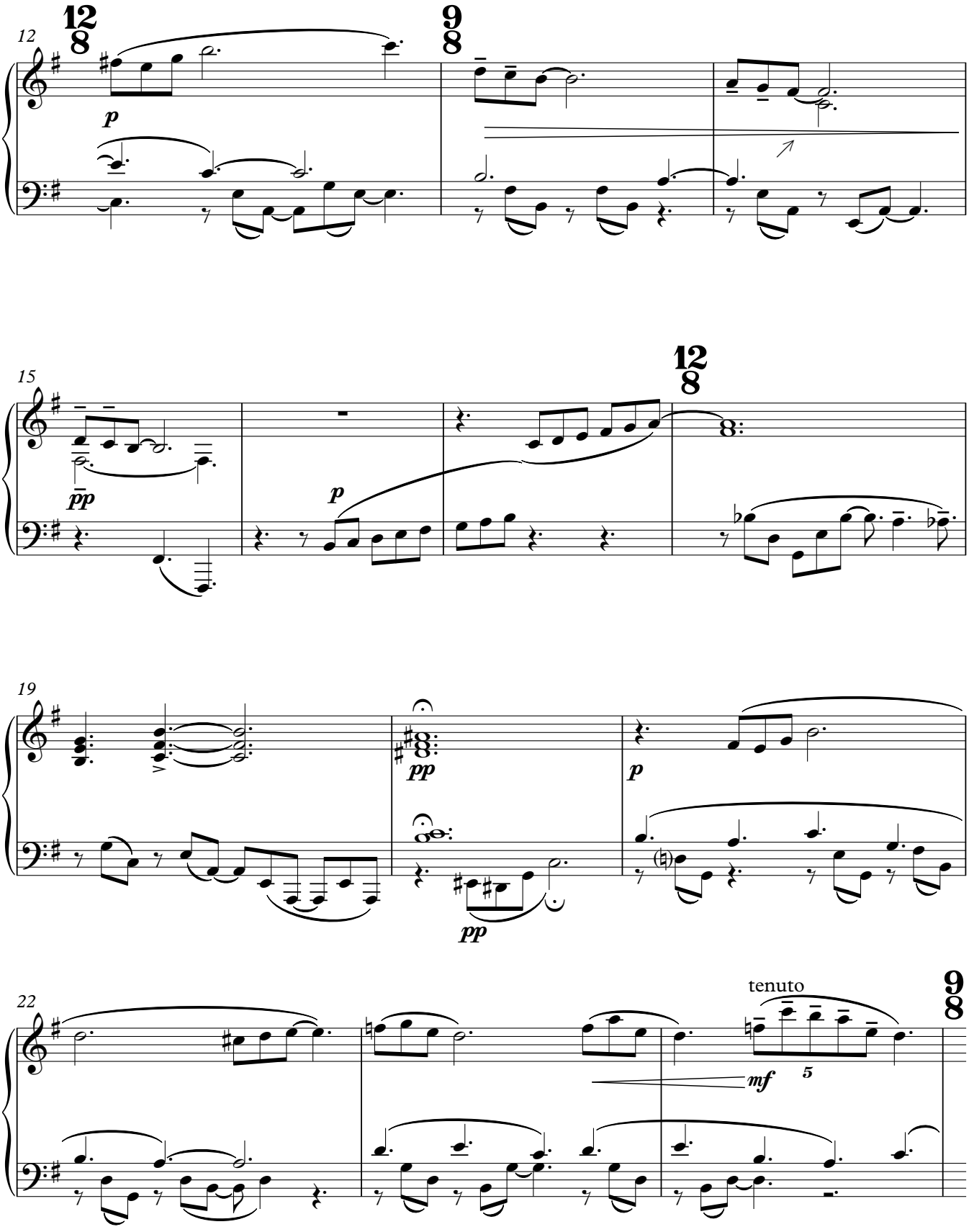
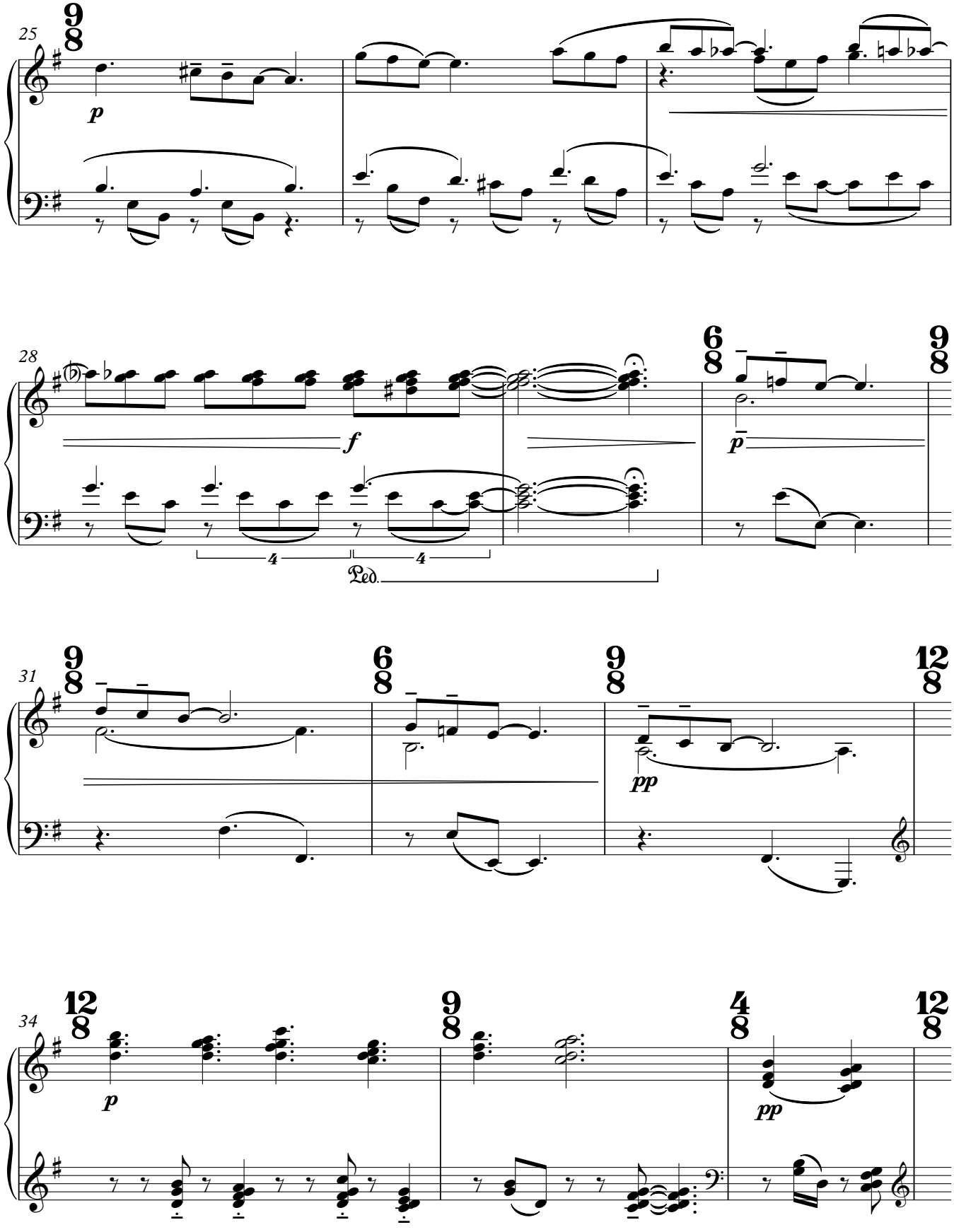
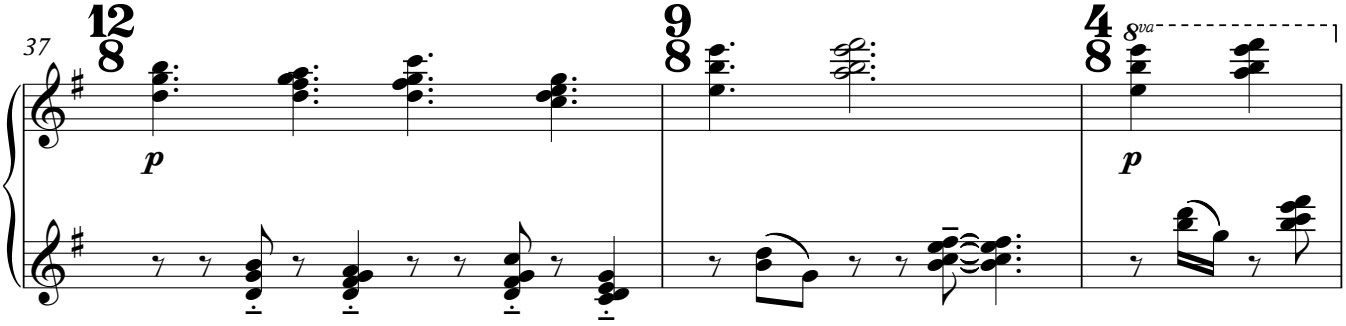
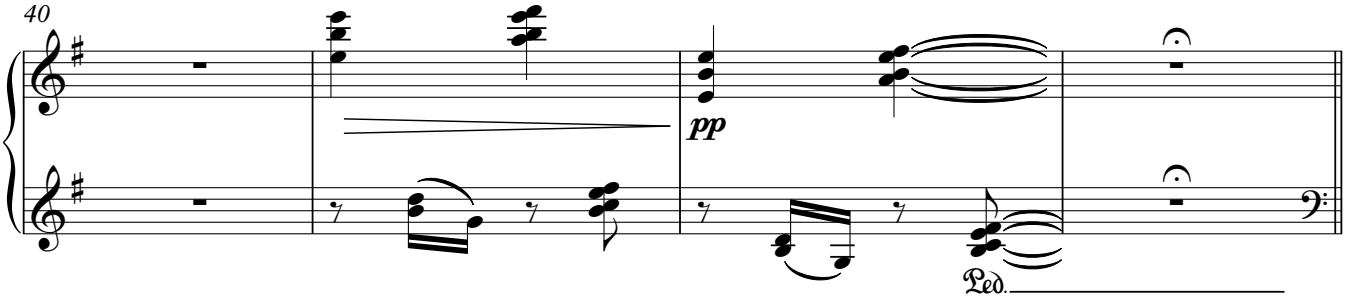
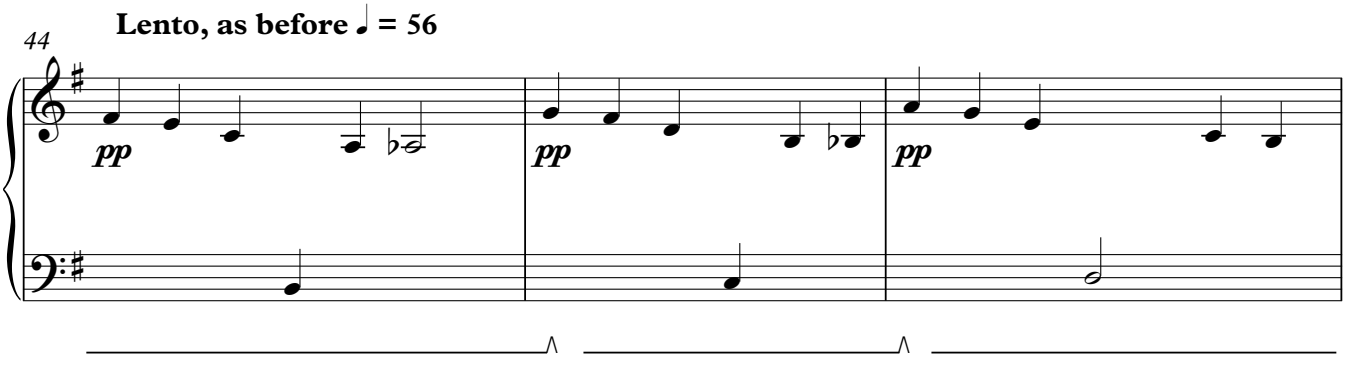
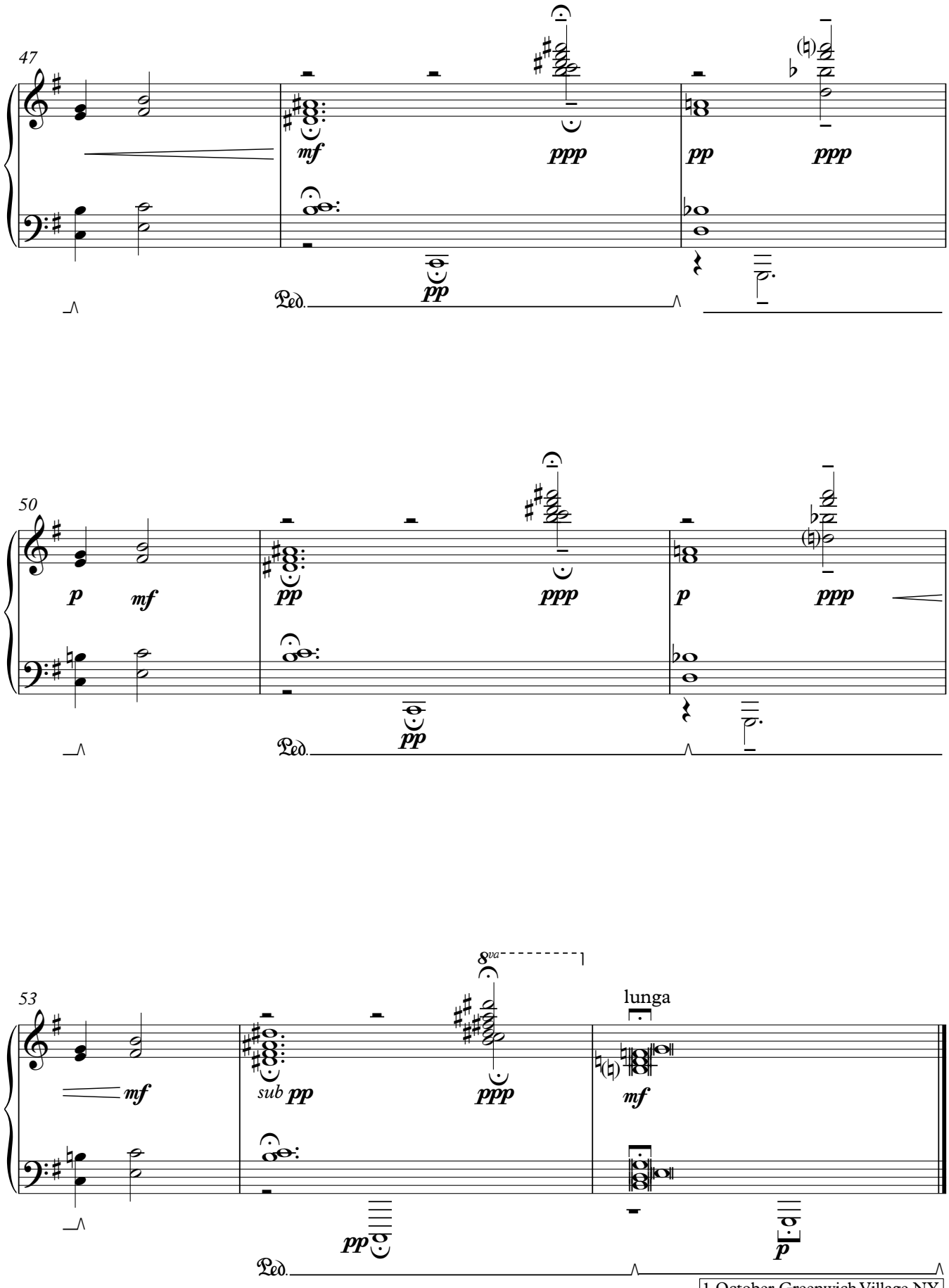

12
12/8
9/8
p
15
12/8
pp
p
19
pp
pp
p
22
tenuto
mf
5
9/8


25
p
28
f
4
4
Ped.
p
31
pp
34
p
pp


37
12/8
9/8
4/8
8va
p
p

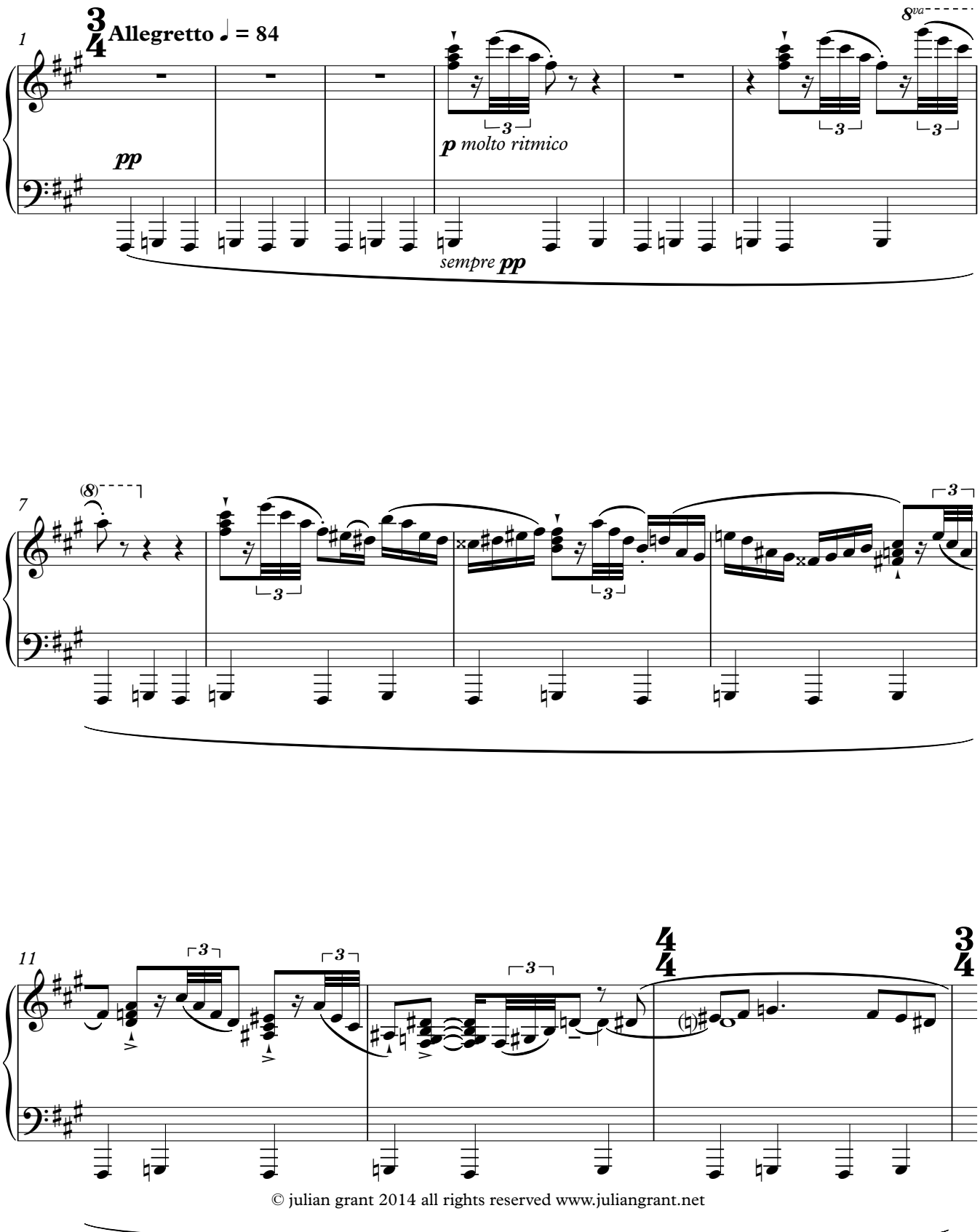

40
pp
Ped.


44
Lento, as before ♩ = 56
pp
pp
pp


47
mf
ppp
pp
ppp
pp
Ped.
50
p
mf
pp
ppp
p
ppp
pp
Ped.
53
8va
lunga
mf
sub pp
ppp
mf
pp
p
Ped.

XIX.

for Mark Campbell



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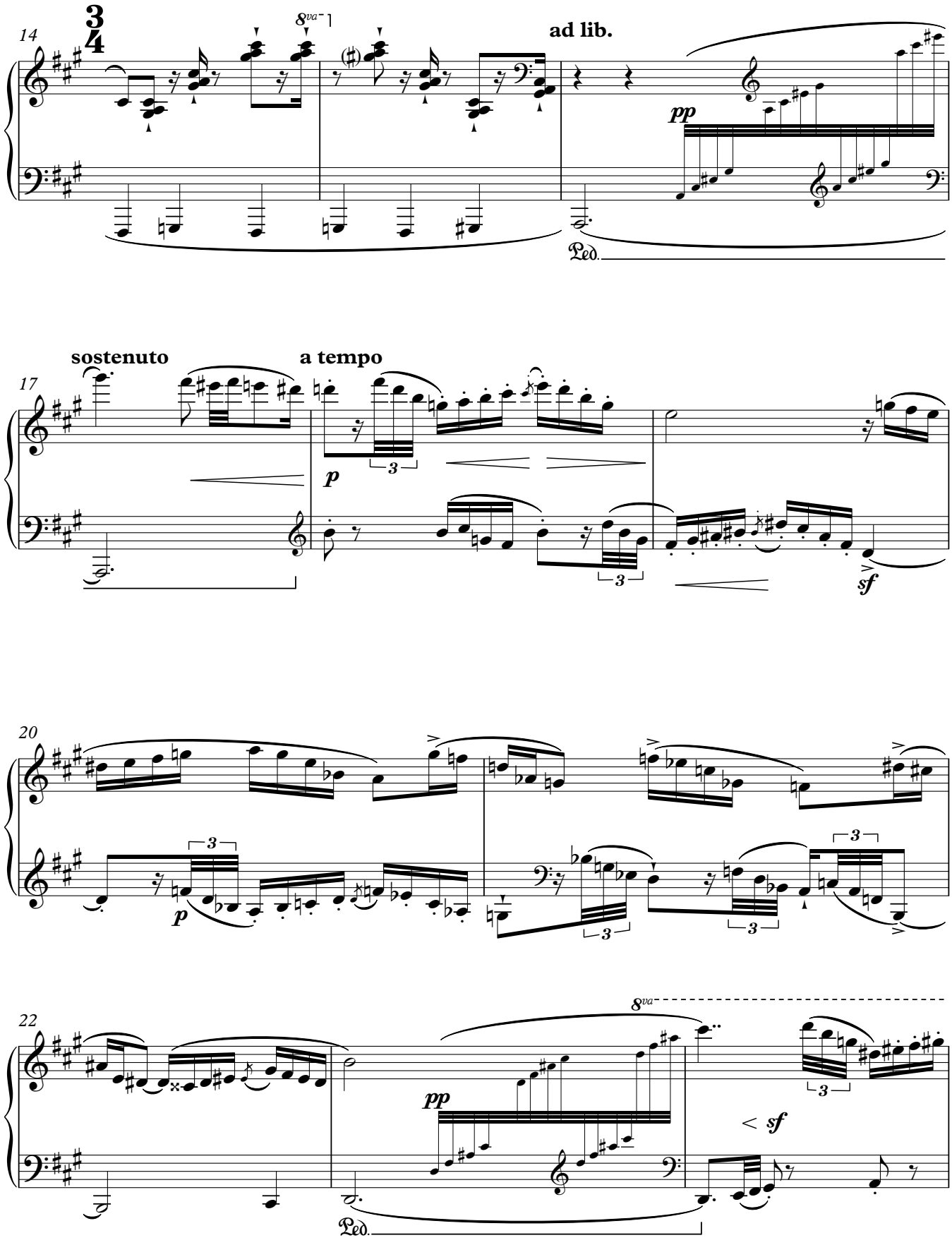
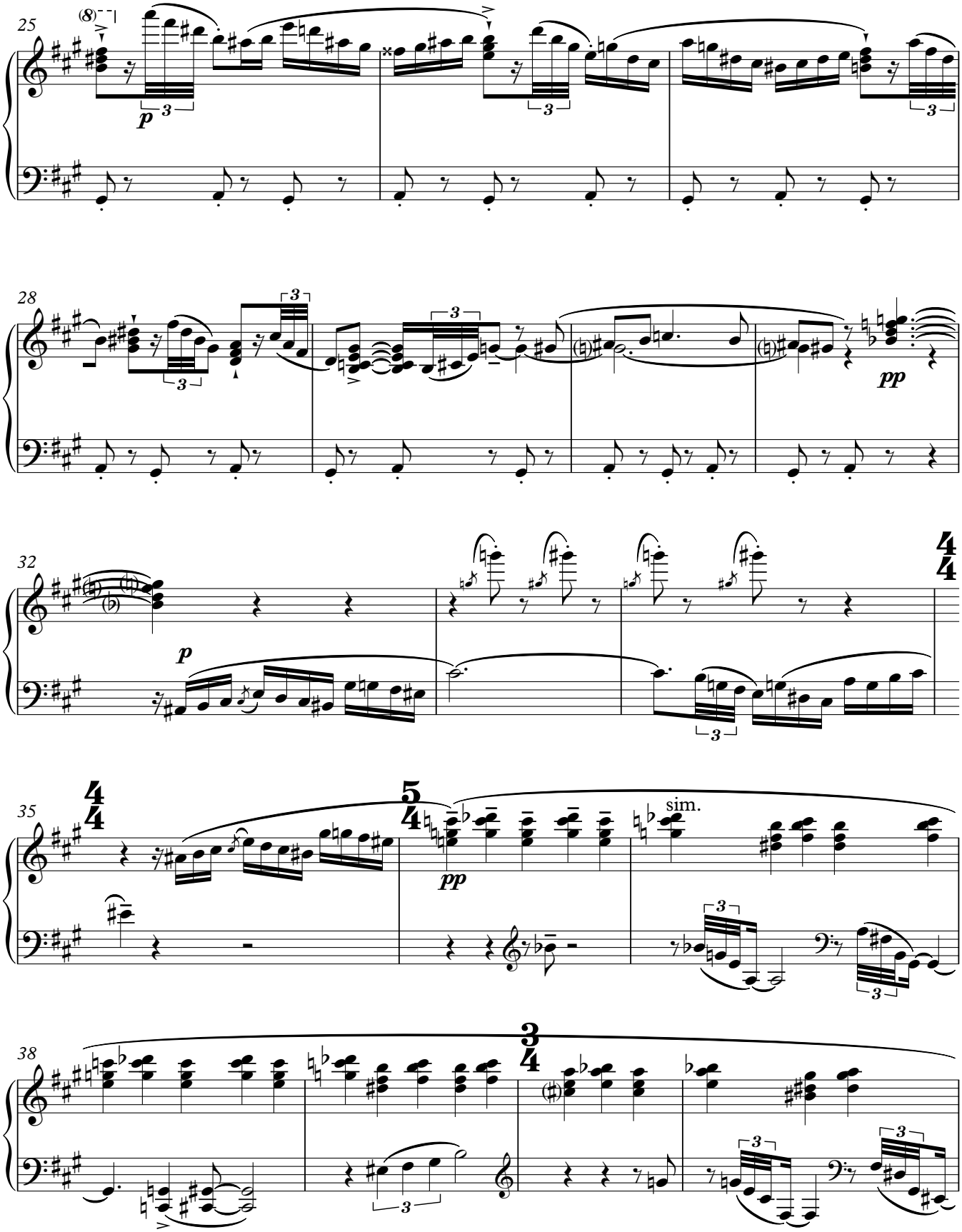
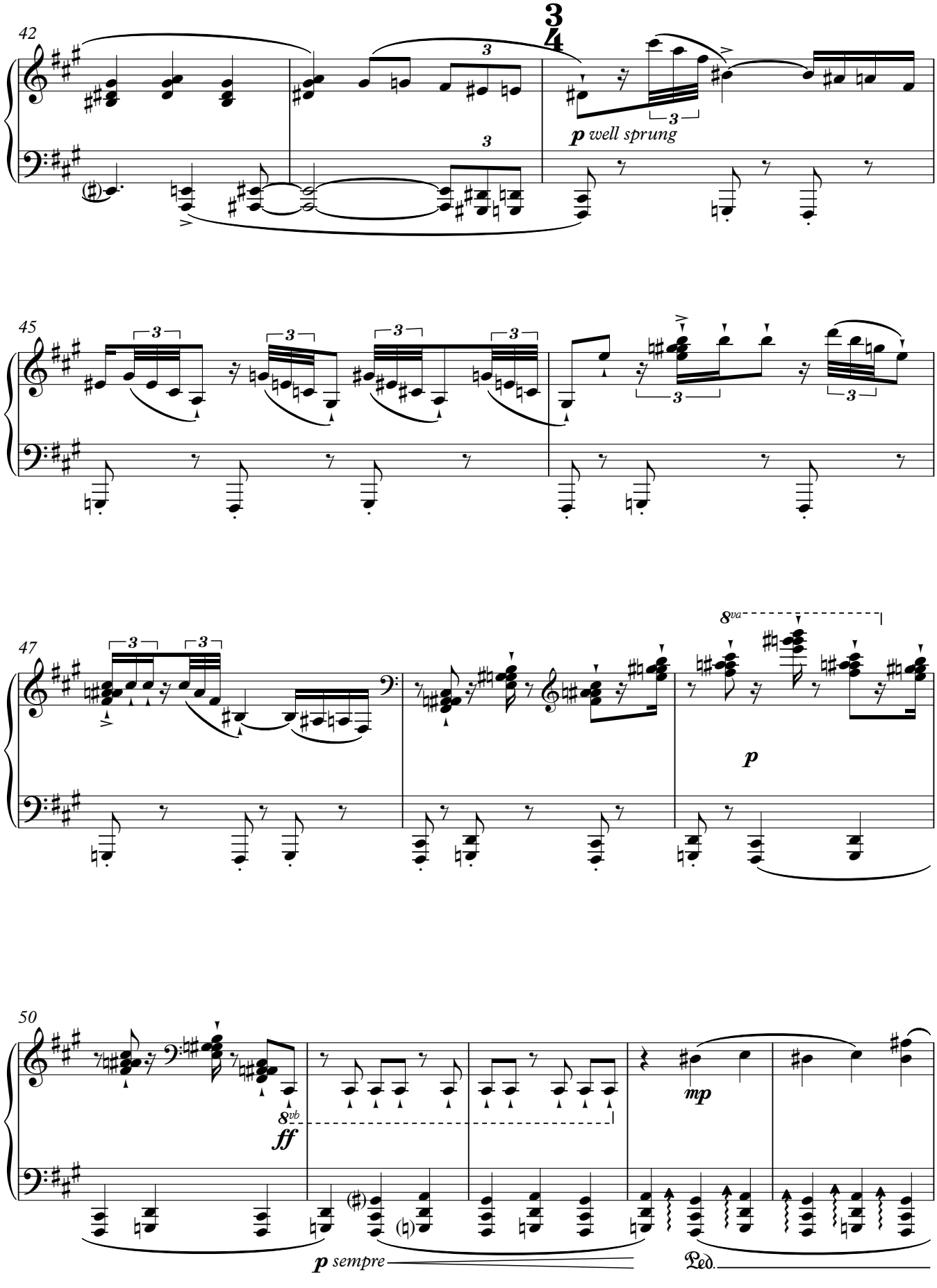
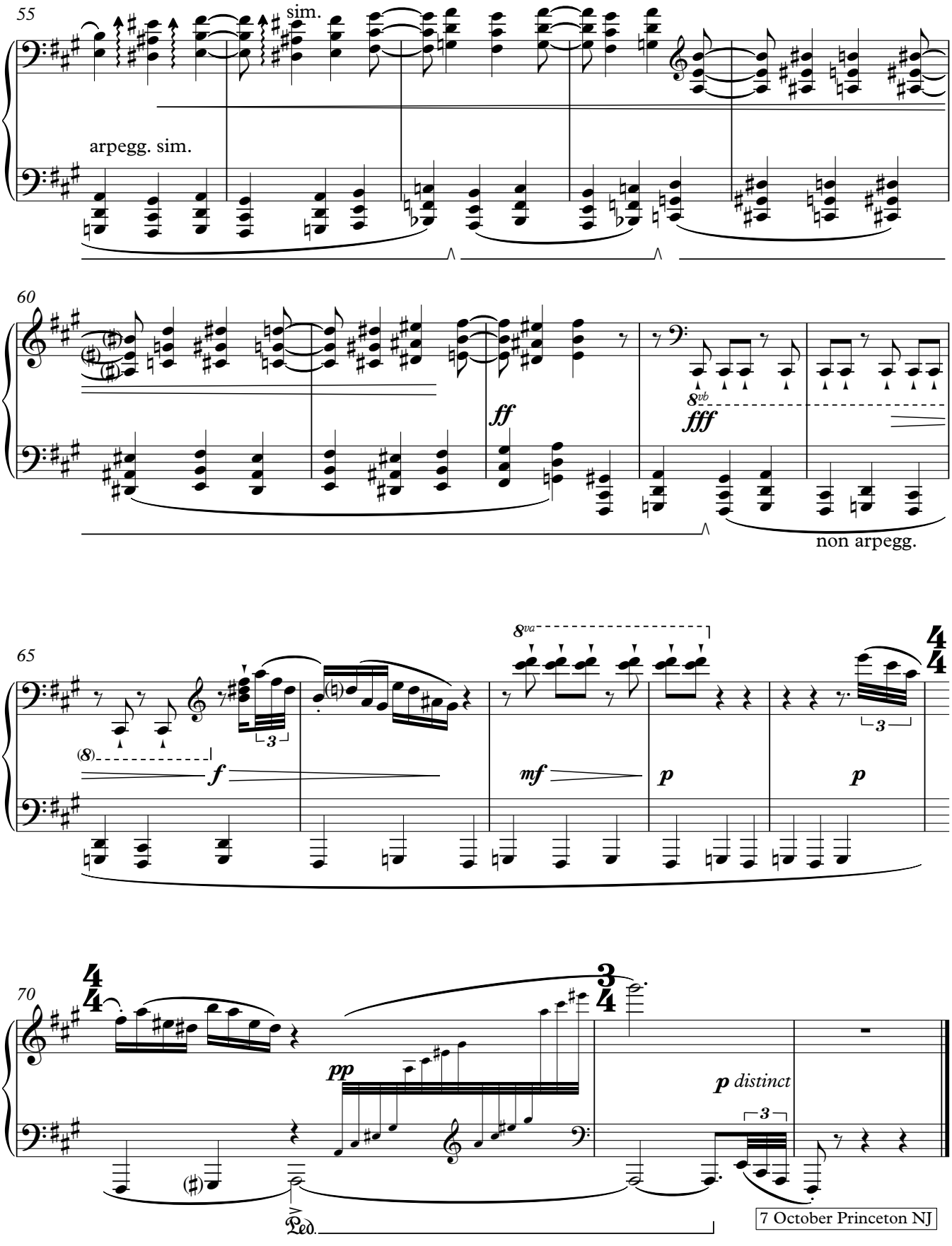

14
3/4
8va
ad lib.
pp
Ped.
17
sostenuto
a tempo
p
3
sf
20
p
3
3
3
3
22
8va
pp
< sf
3
Ped.

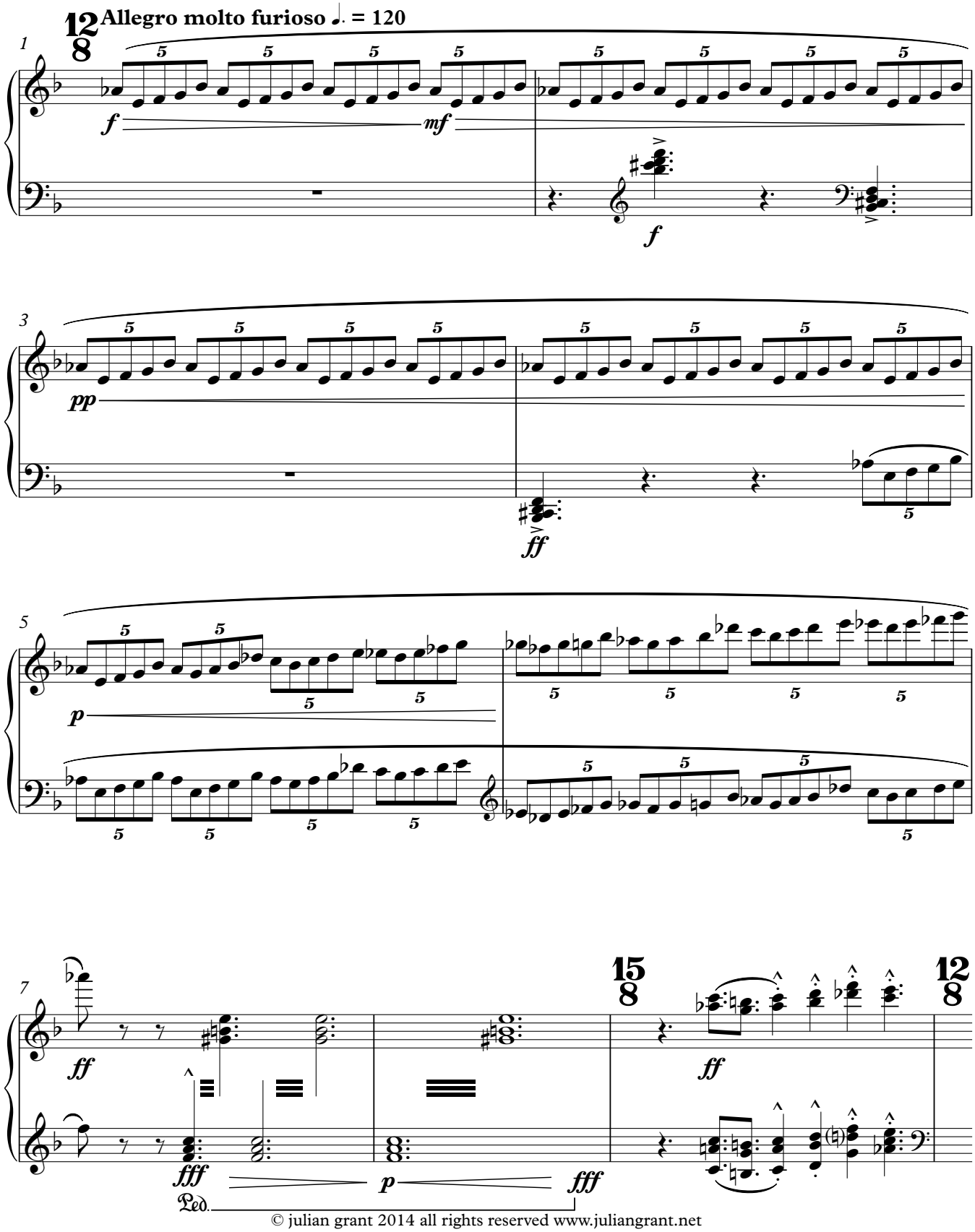

25
(8)
p
3
28
pp
32
p
4
4
35
4
4
5
4
pp
sim.
38
3
4


42
3
4
p well sprung
45
47
8va
p
50
8vb
ff
mp
p sempre
Ped.


55
sim.
arpegg. sim.
60
ff
8vb
fff
non arpegg.
65
8va
(8)
f
3
mf
p
p
4
4
70
4
4
3
4
pp
p distinct
3
Ped.
7 October Princeton NJ

XX.

for Diane Wondisford and Linda Golding



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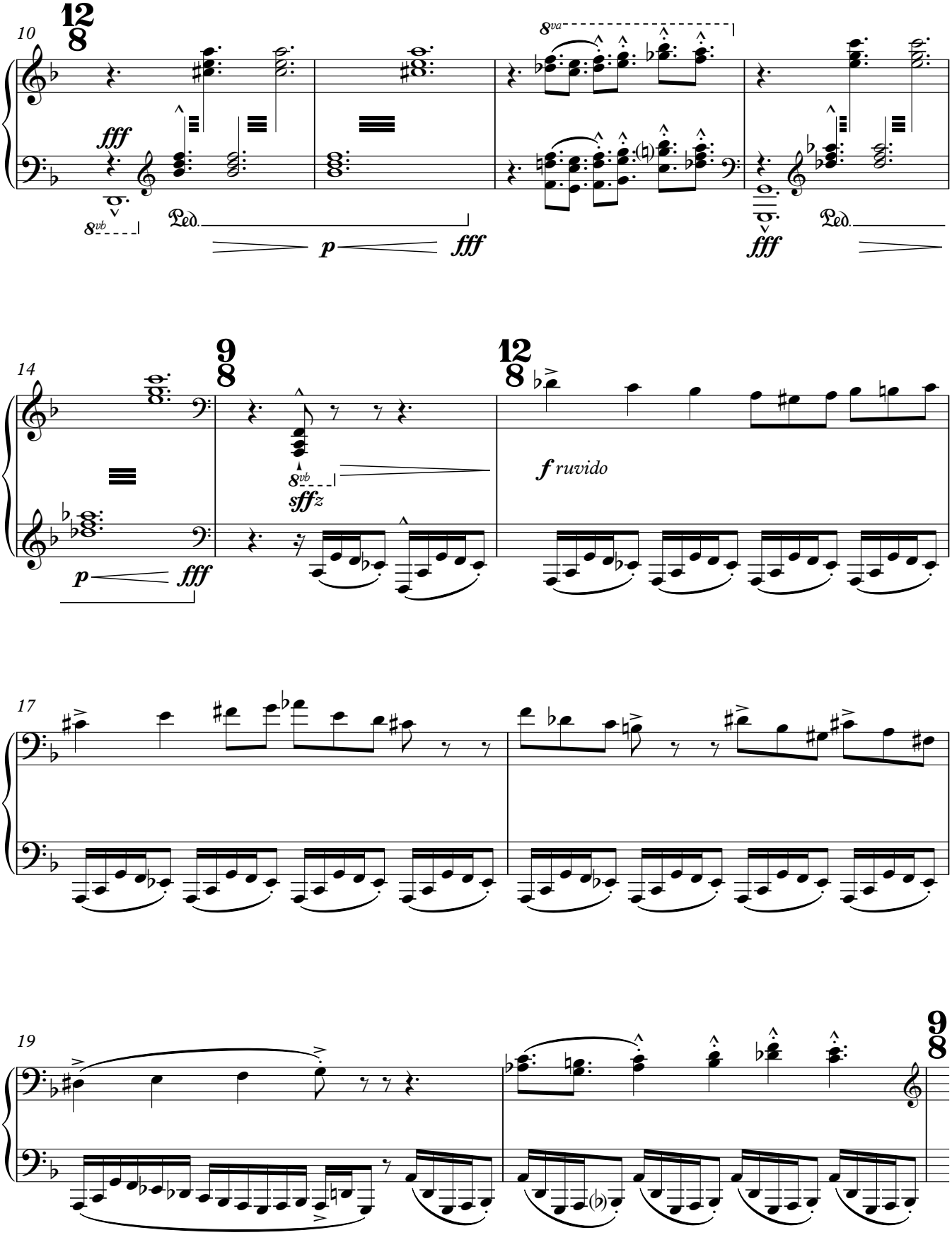
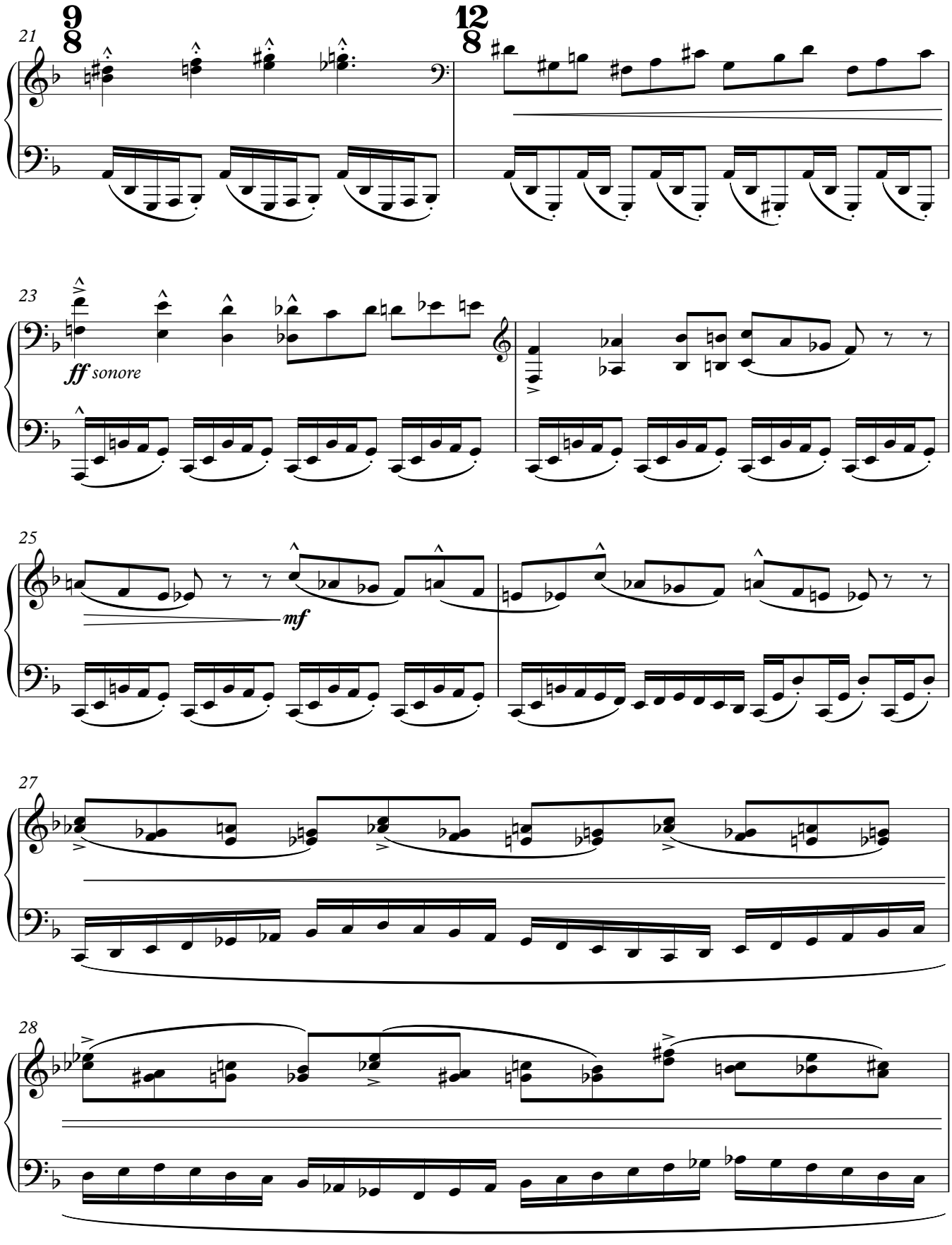
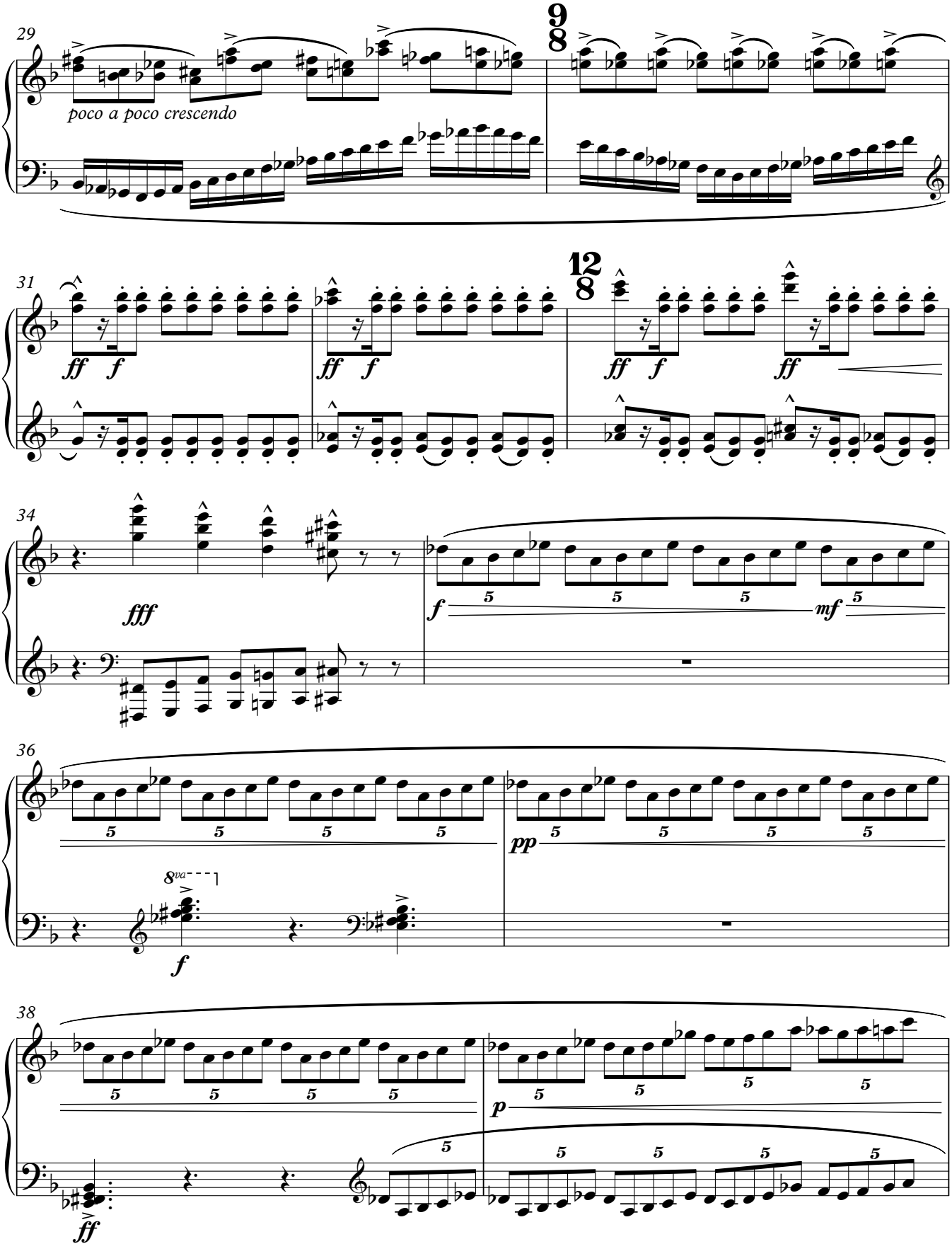
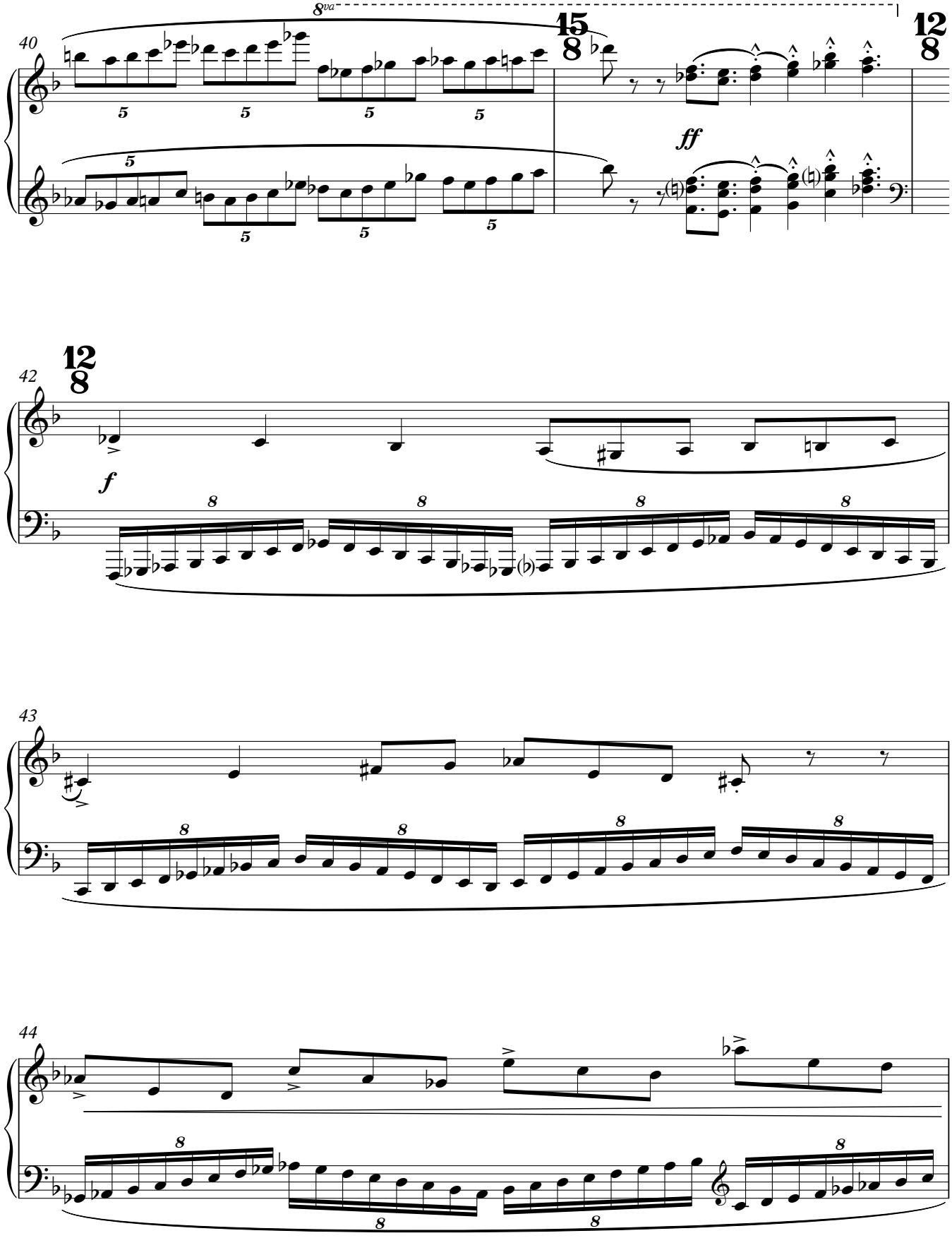
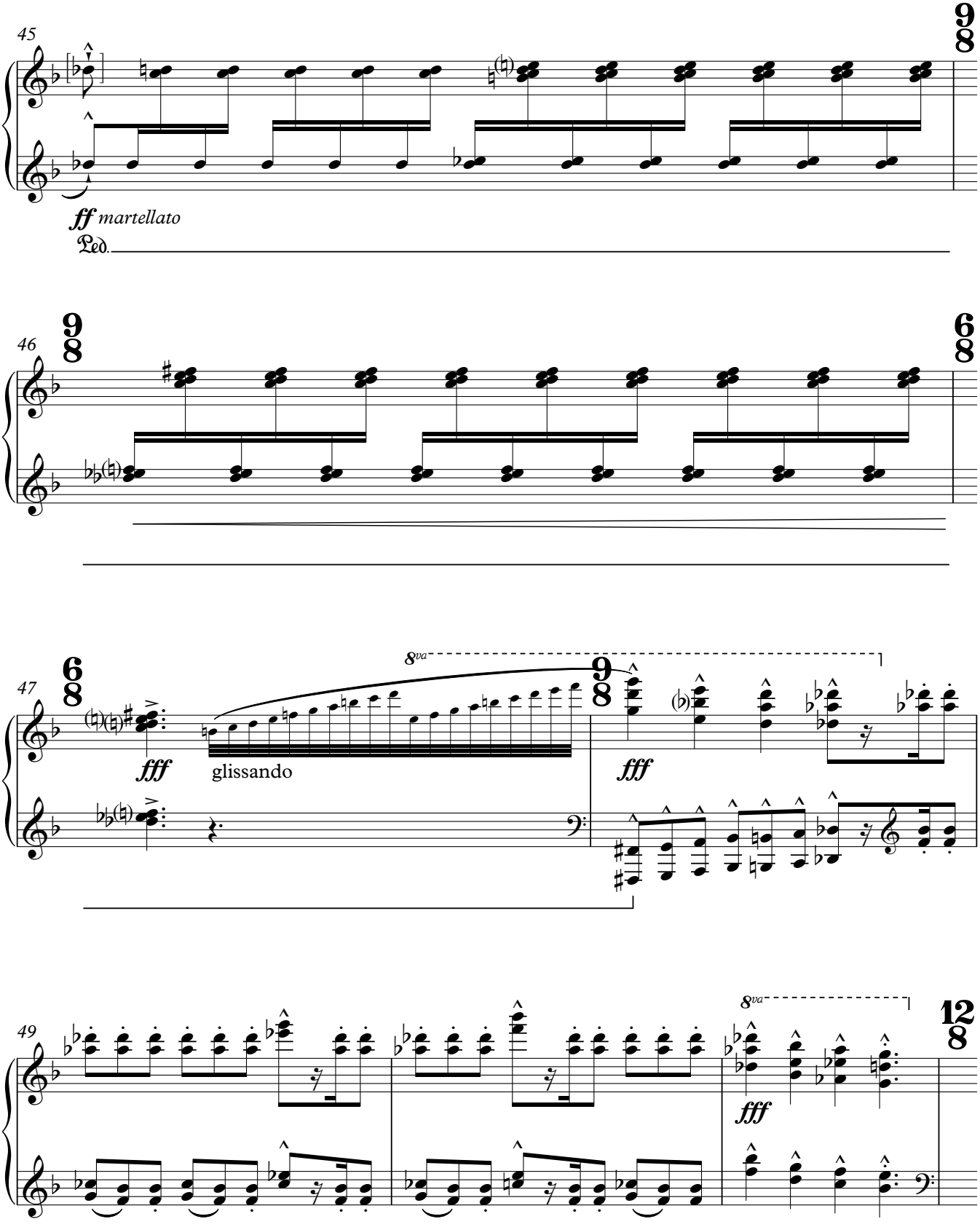
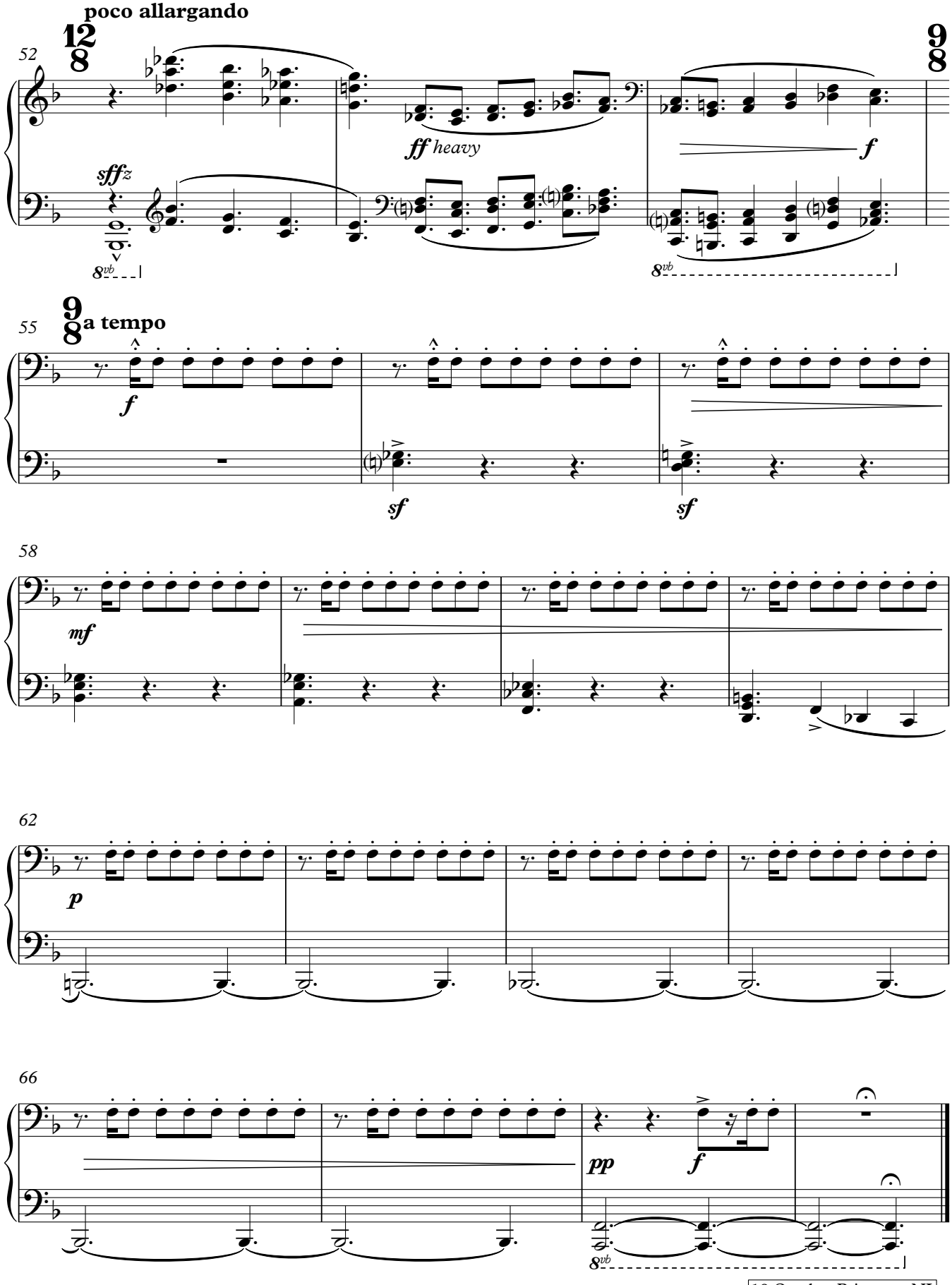

10
12/8
fff
8vb
Ped.
p
fff
8va
fff
Ped.
14
9/8
8vb
sffz
12/8
f ruvido
p
fff
17
19
9/8


21
9/8
12/8
23
ff sonore
25
mf
27
28


29
poco a poco crescendo
9/8
31
ff f
12/8
34
fff
f
mf
36
pp
8va
f
38
p
ff


40
8va
15/8
12/8
ff
42
12/8
f
43
44

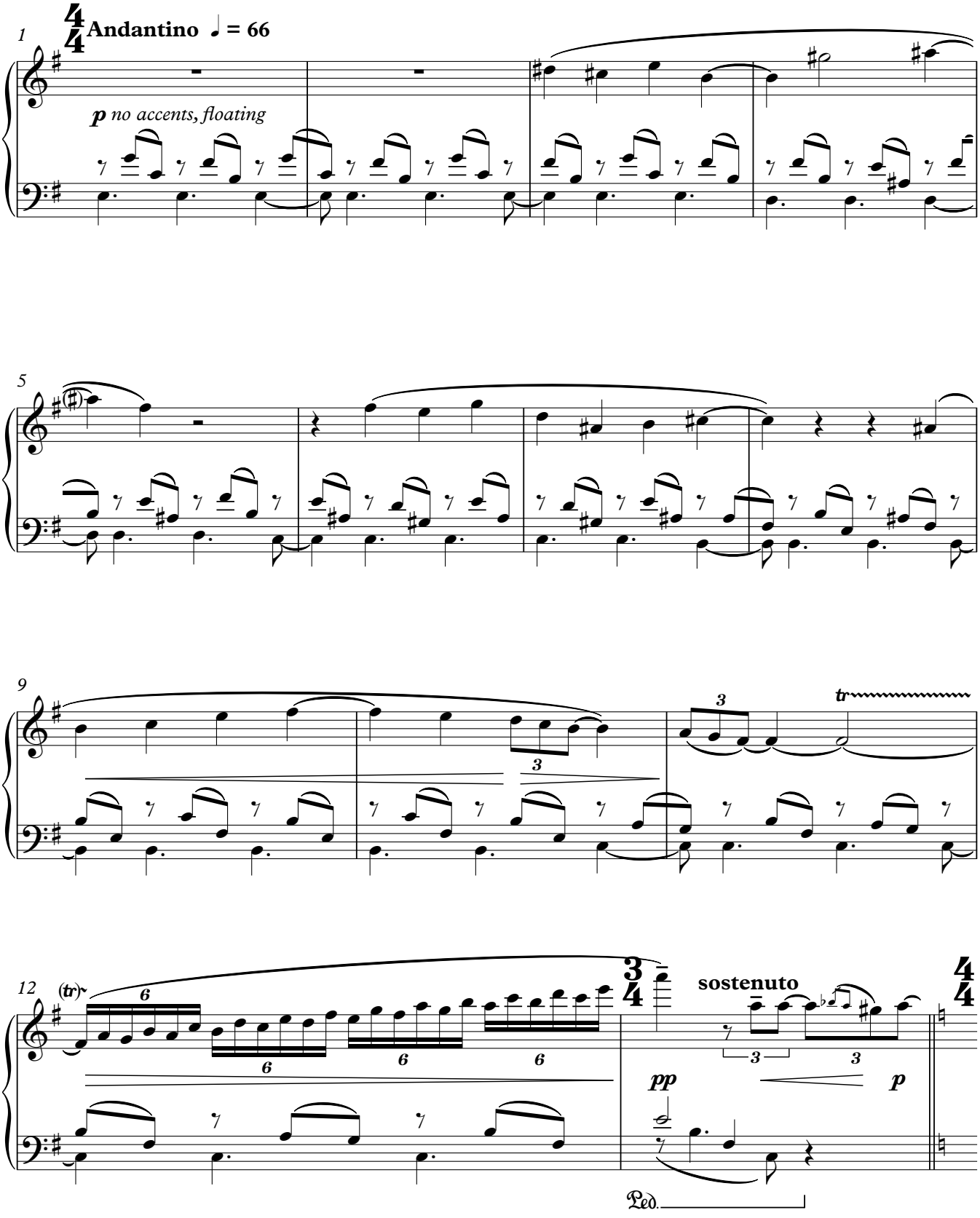

45
ff martellato
Ped.
46
47
8va
fff
glissando
fff
49
8va
fff



18 October Princeton NJ

XXI.

for Grace Andreacchi



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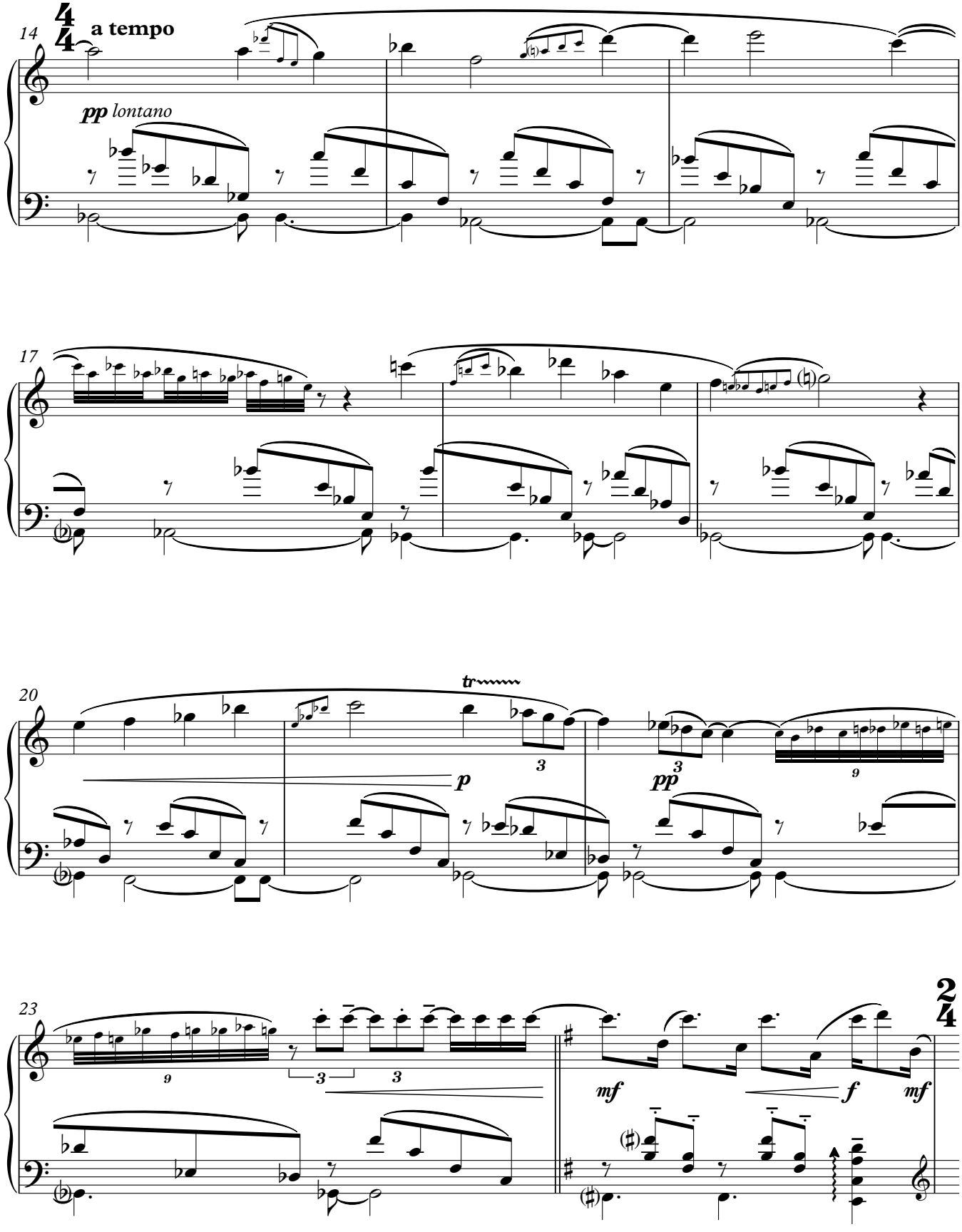
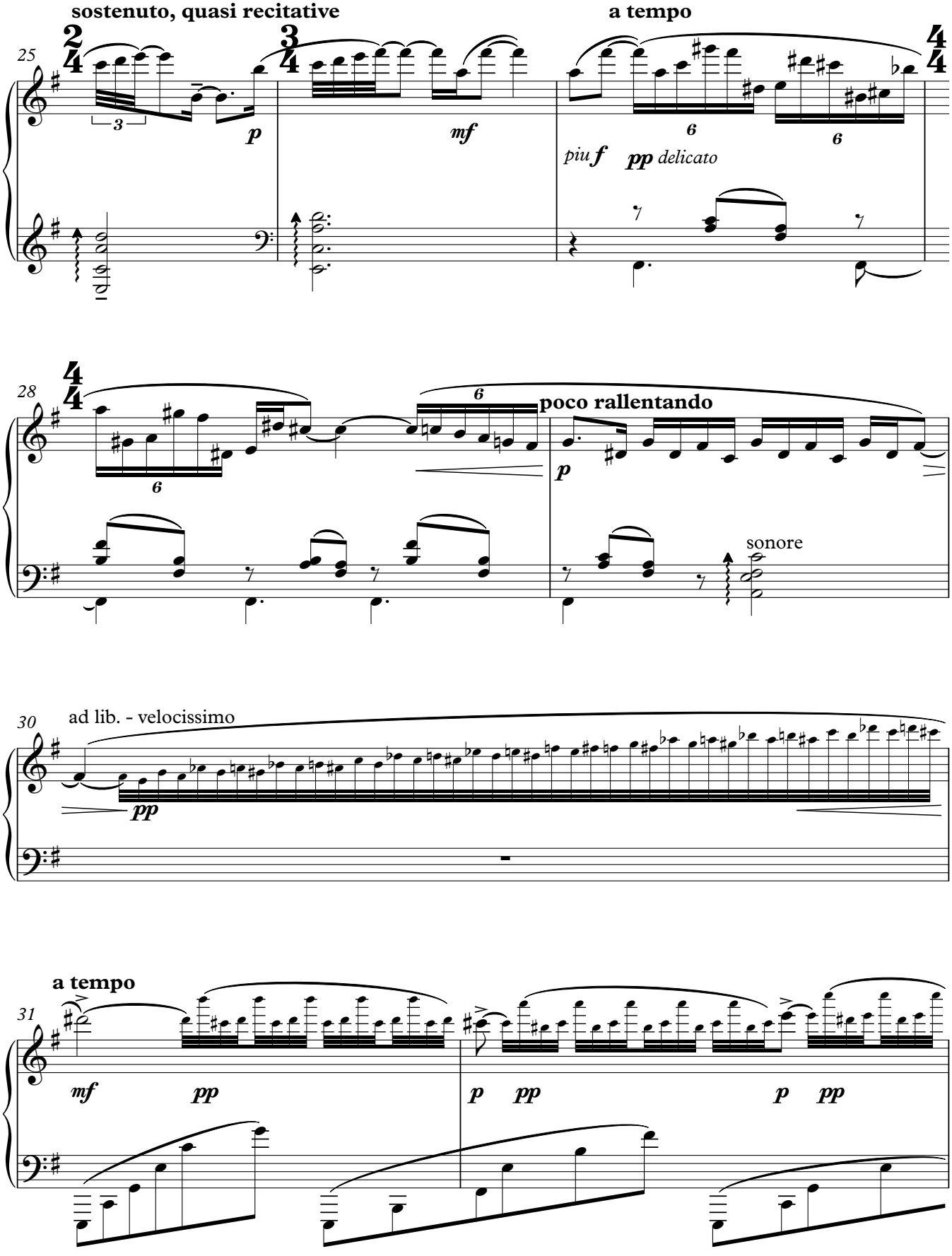
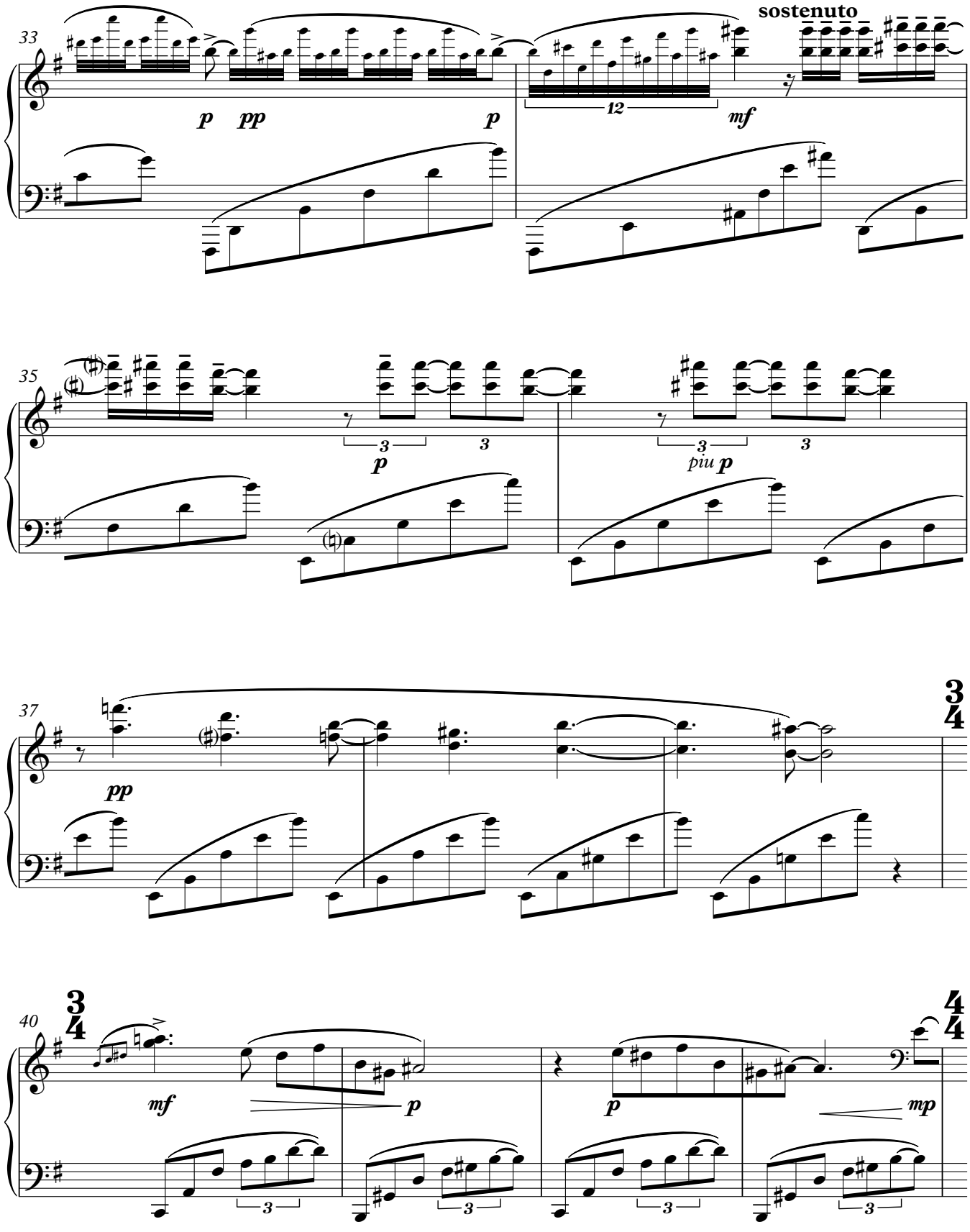
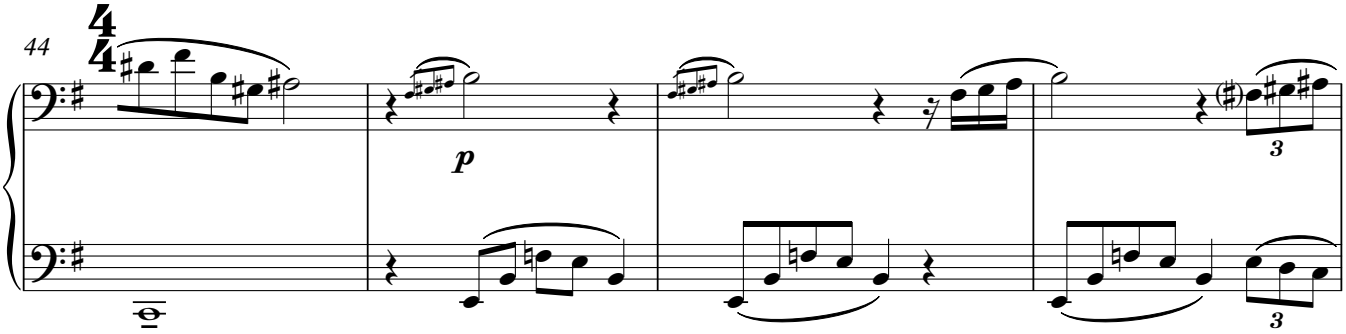
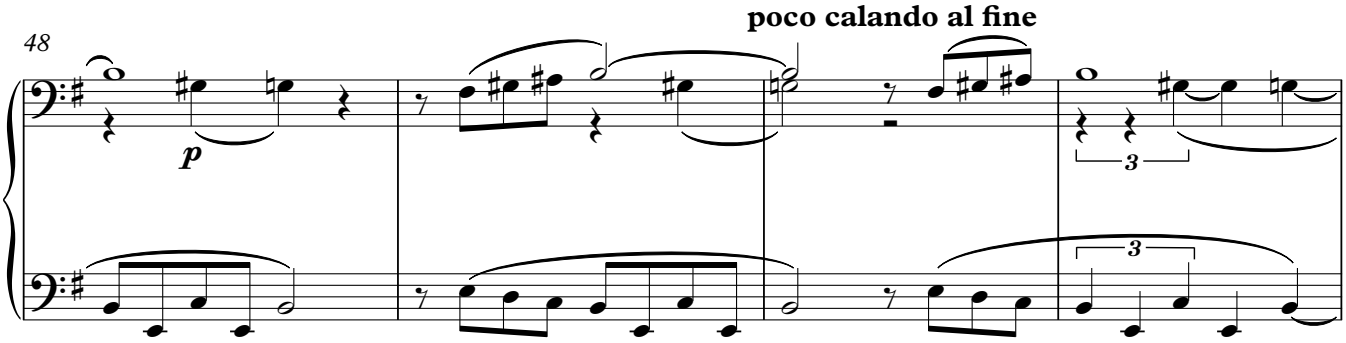
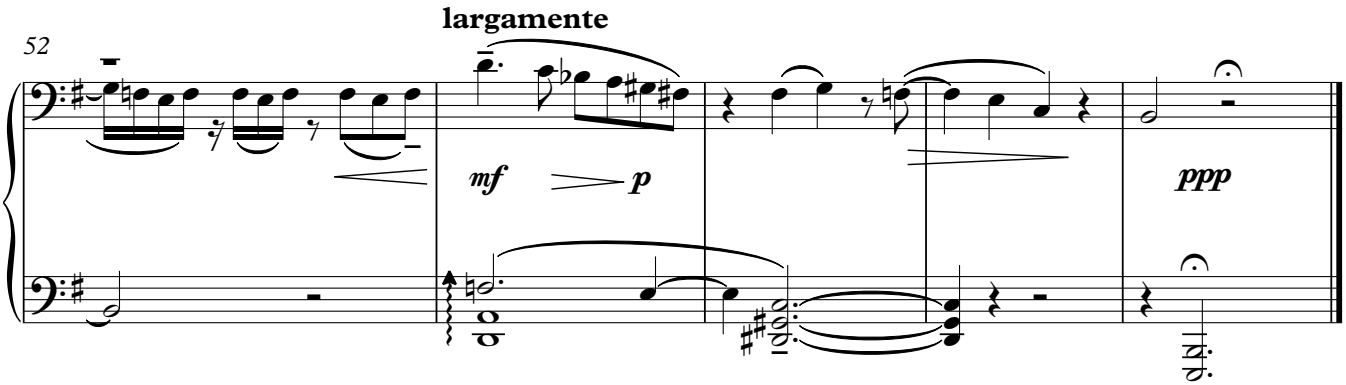

14
a tempo
pp lontano
17
20
tr
p
pp
23
mf
f
mf


sostenuto, quasi recitative
a tempo
25
p
mf
piu f
pp delicato
28
poco rallentando
p
sonore
30
ad lib. - velocissimo
pp
a tempo
31
mf
pp
p
pp
p
pp


33
sostenuto
p
pp
p
12
mf
35
3
3
p
3
3
piu p
37
pp
3
4
40
3
4
mf
p
p
mp
4
4



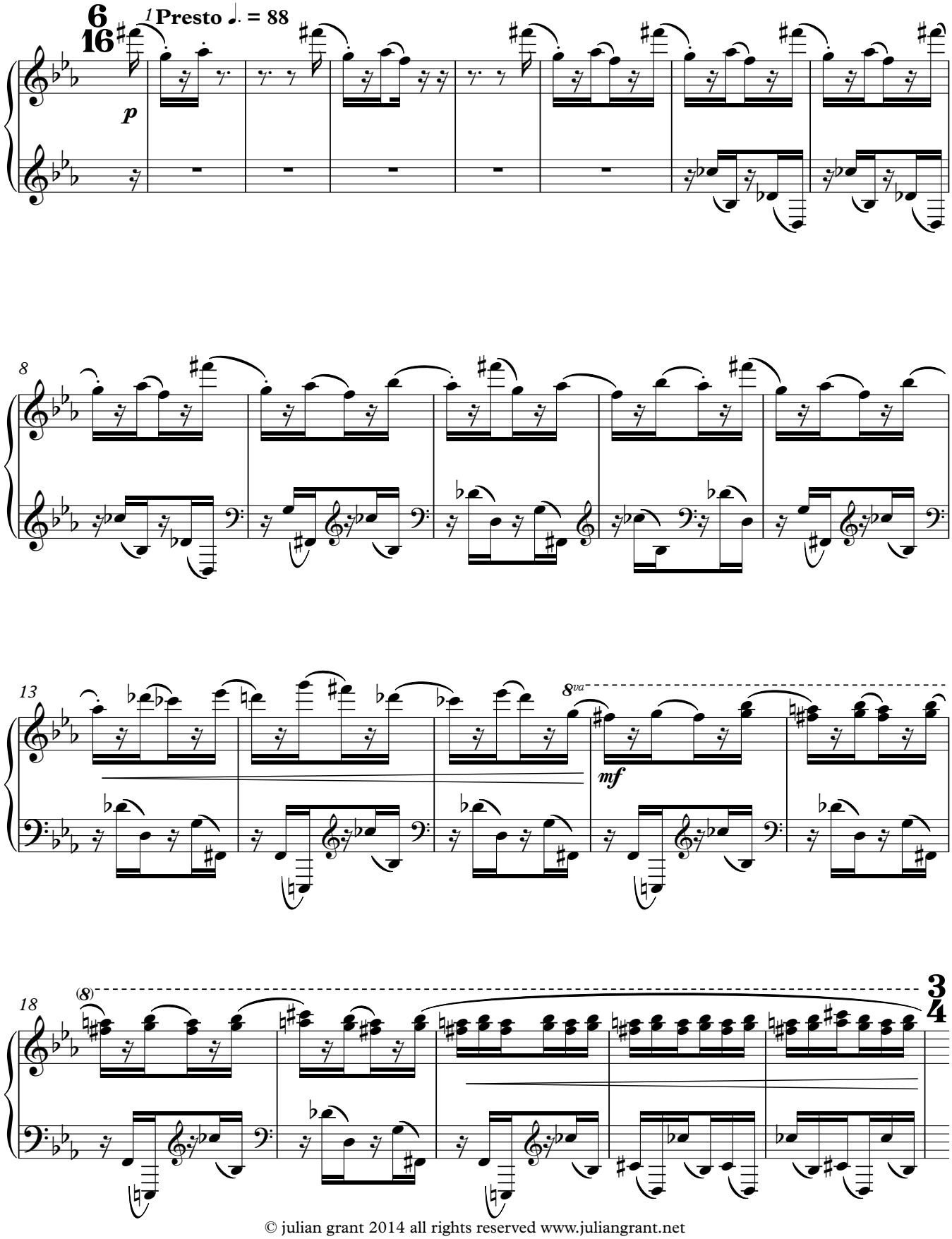




13 October Princeton NJ

XXII.

for Paul Boucher



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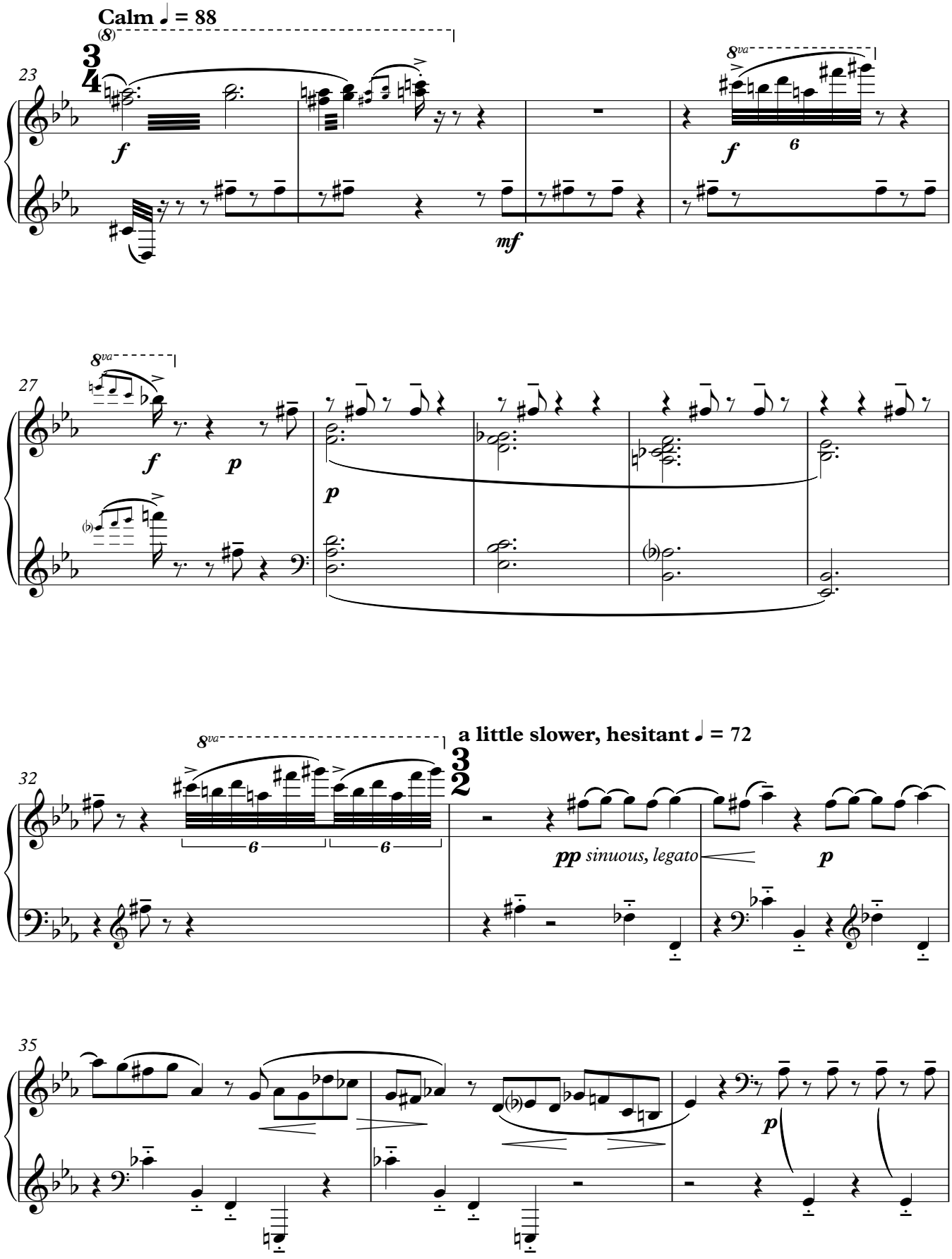
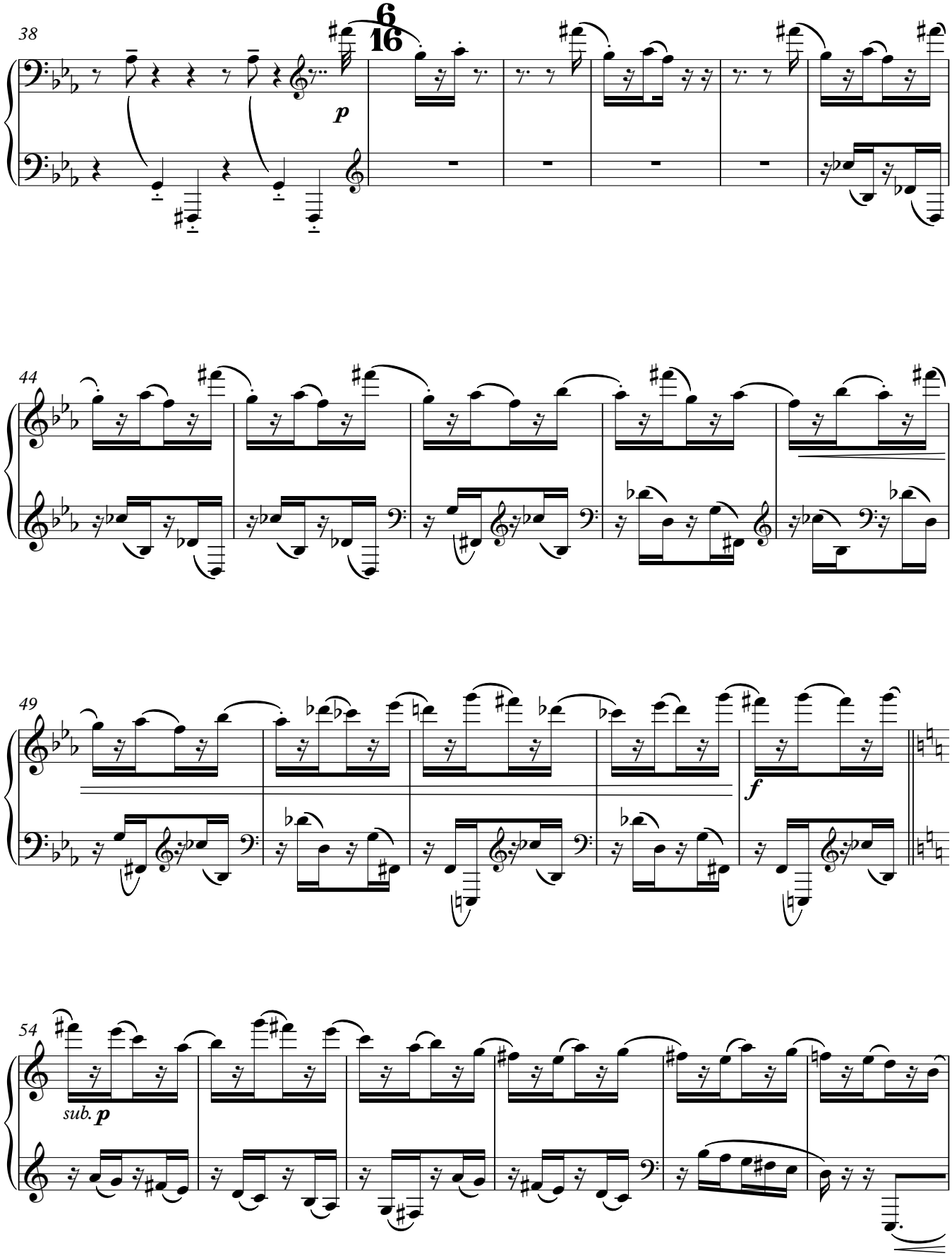
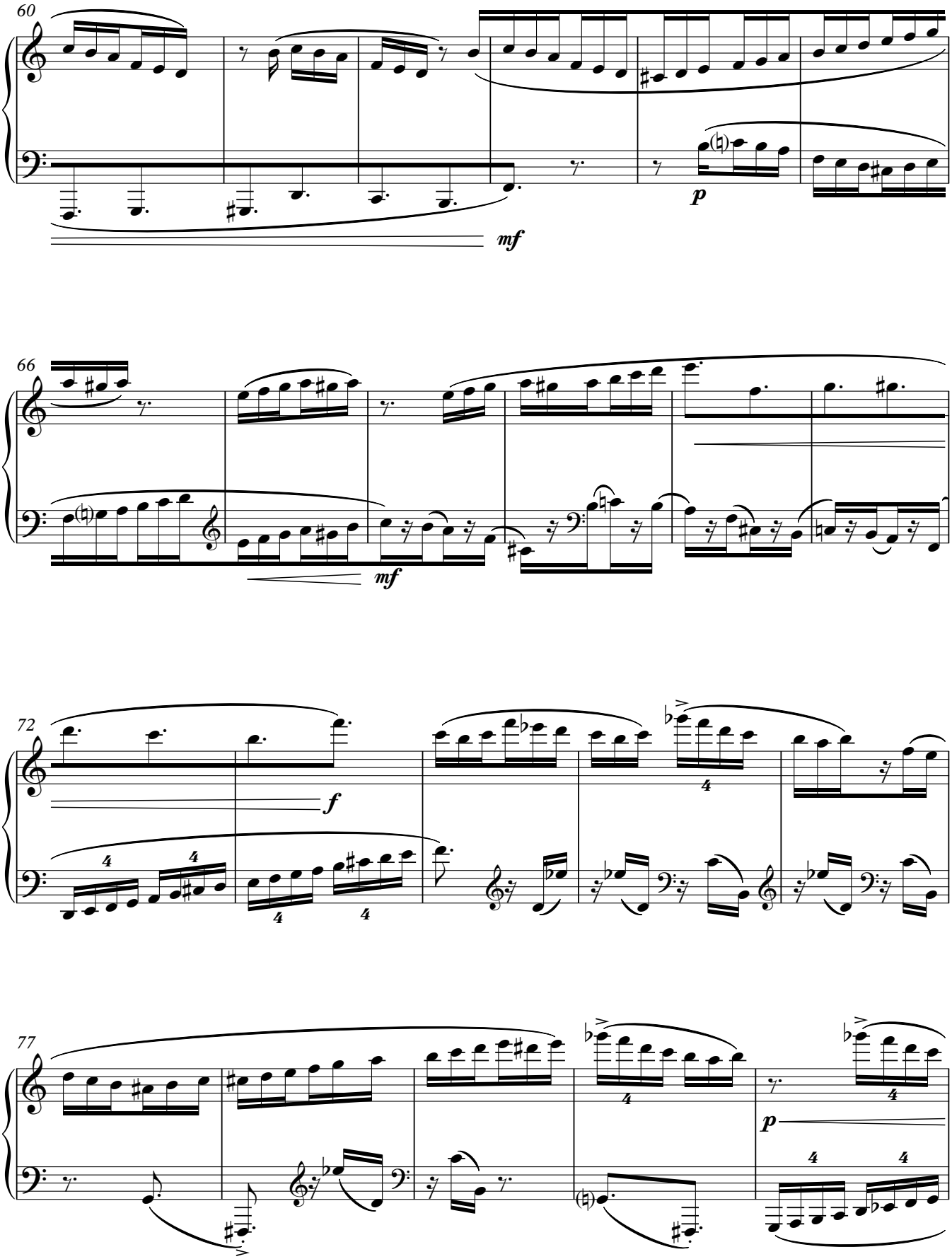
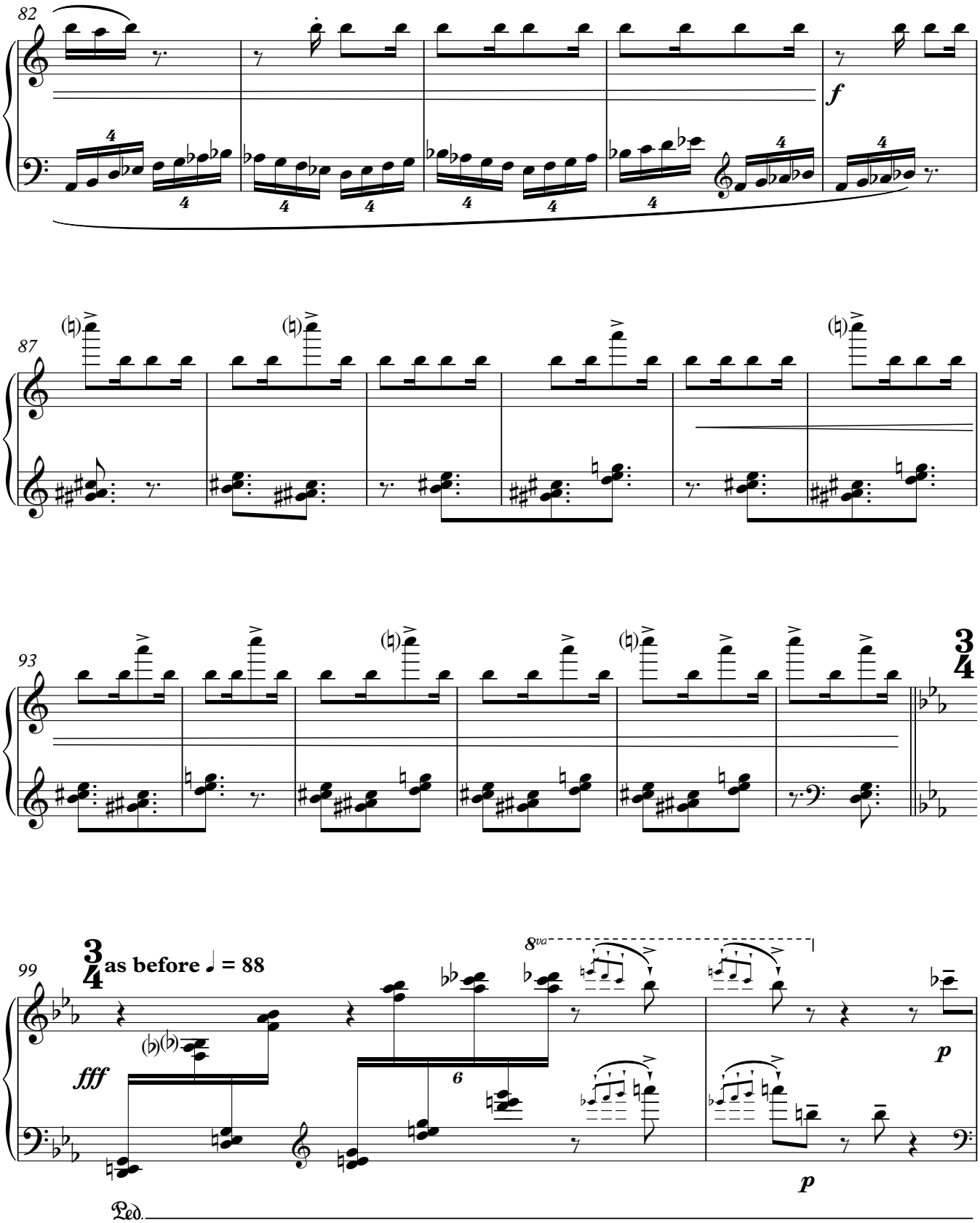
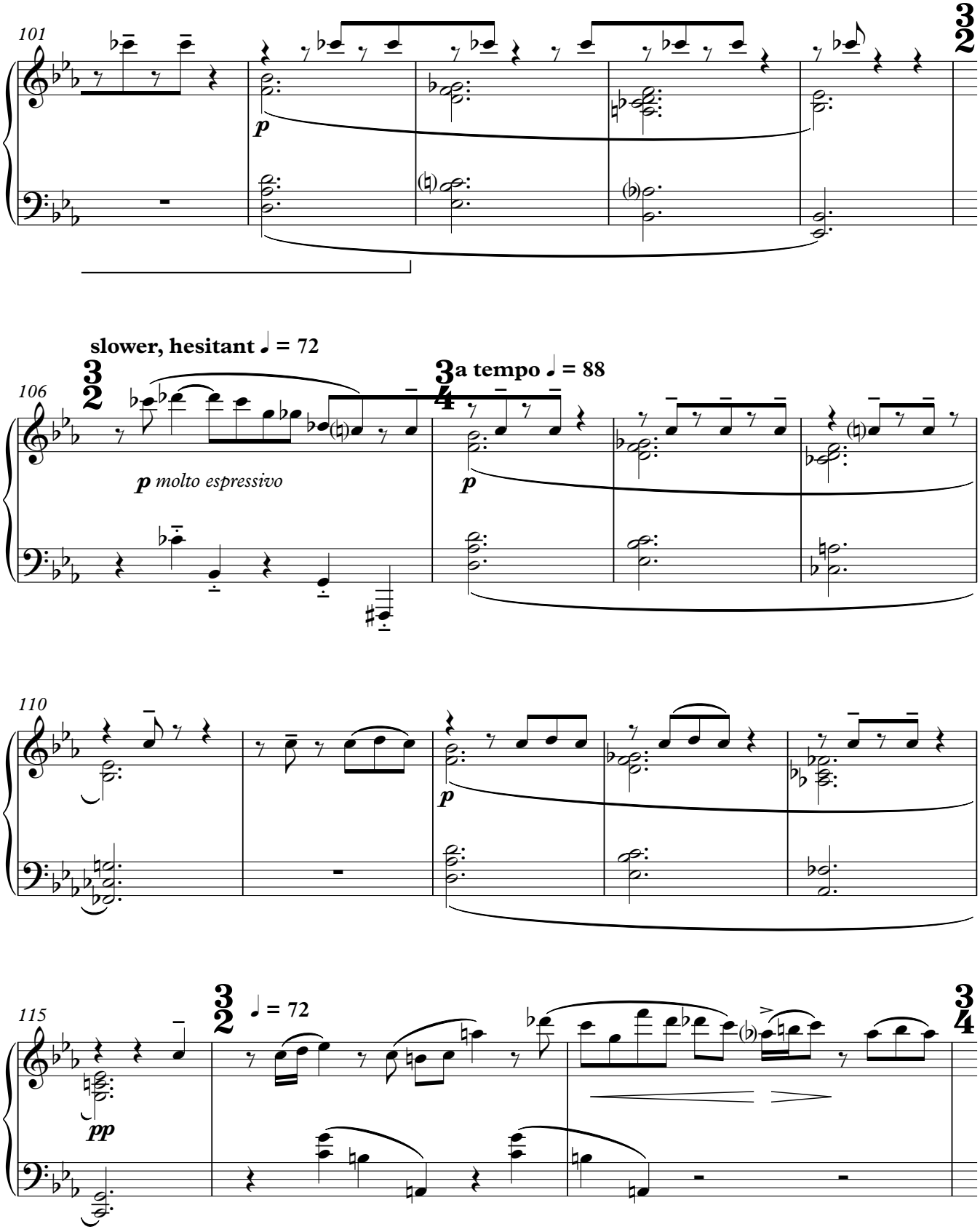

Calm ♩ = 88
(8)
8va
f
mf
6
p
a little slower, hesitant ♩ = 72
pp sinuous, legato

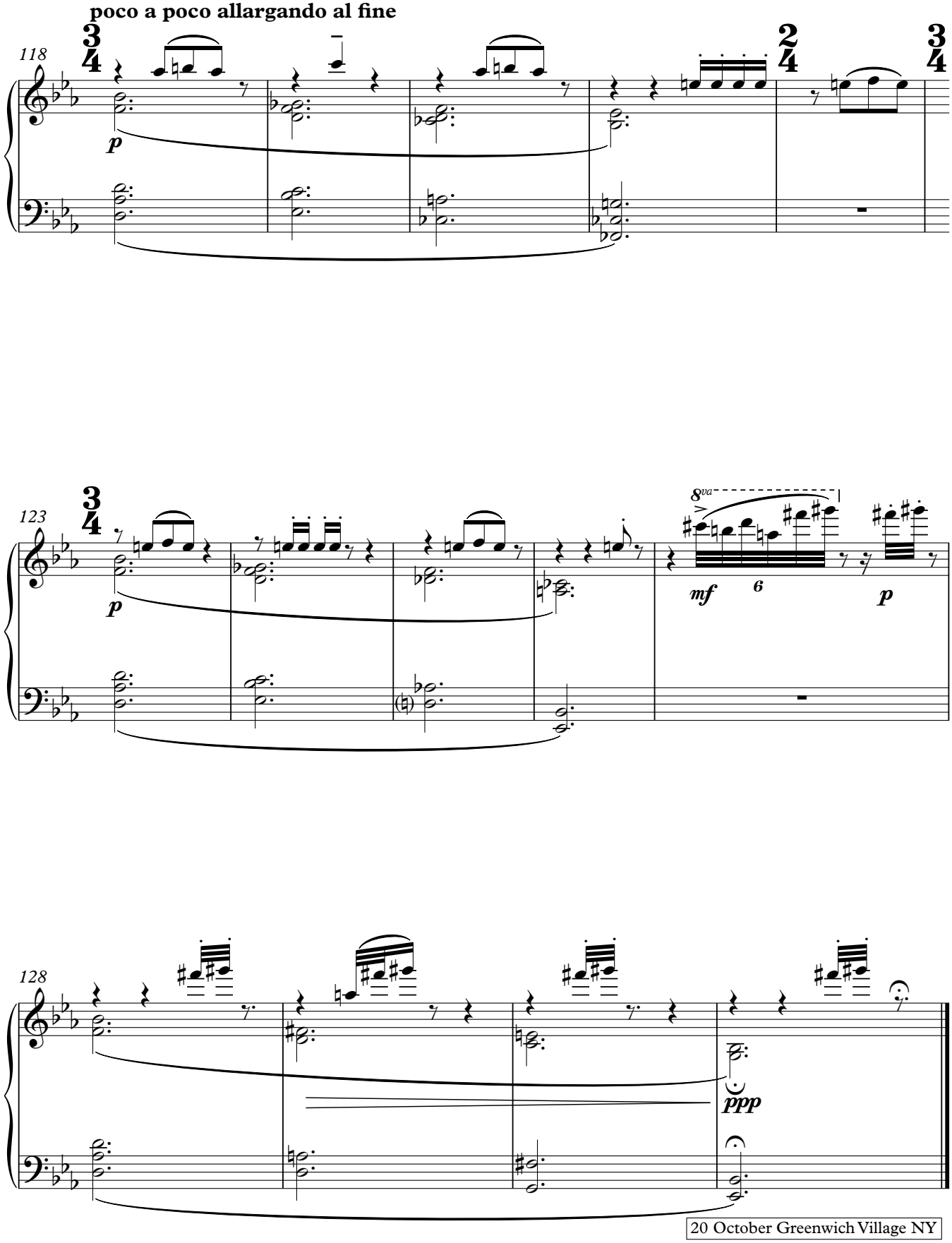
Presto ♩. = 88




60
mf
p
66
mf
72
f
4
77
p

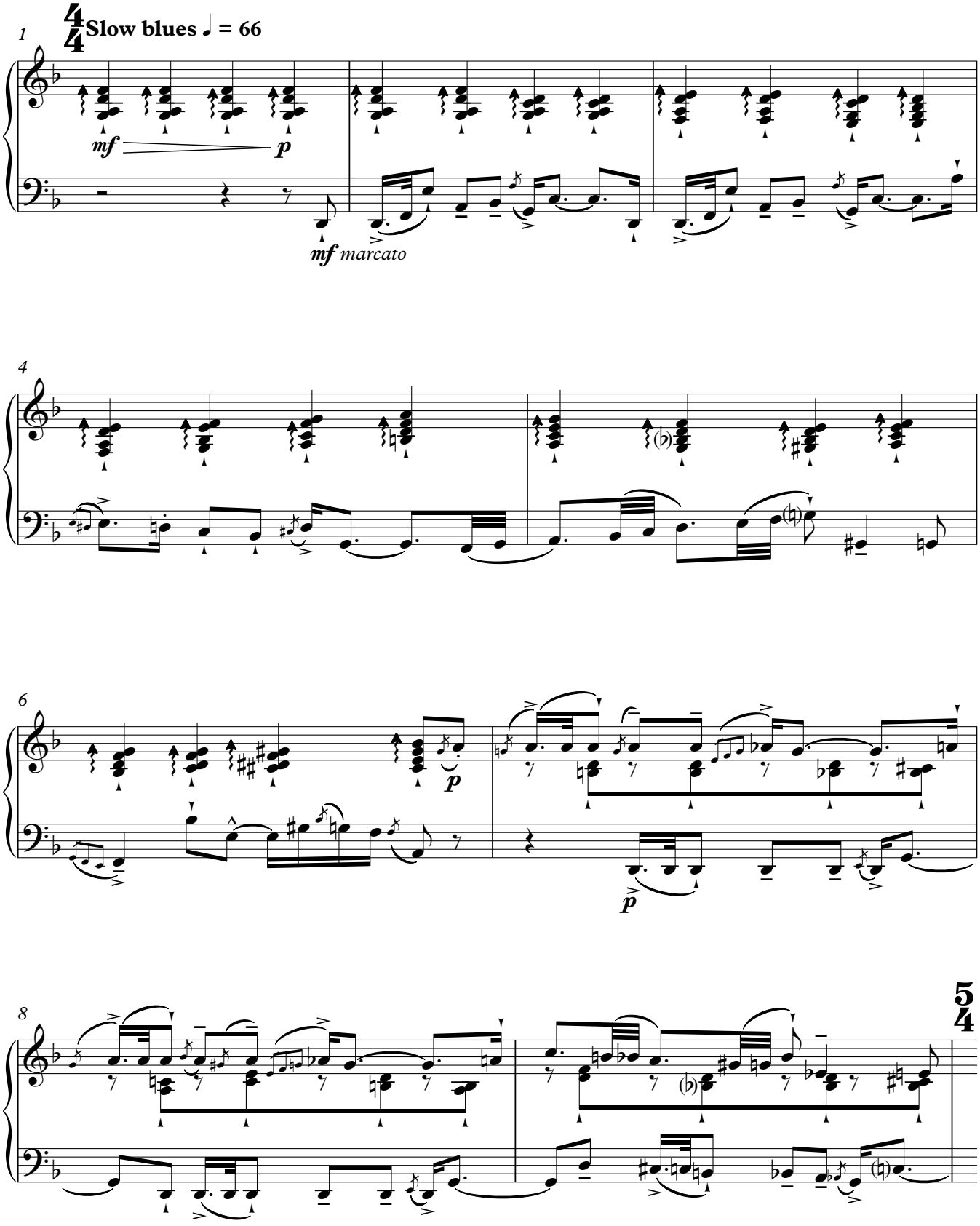

82
f
87
93
3
4
99
3
4
as before ♩ = 88
fff
8va
p
p
Ped.


101
106
slower, hesitant ♩ = 72
a tempo ♩ = 88
p molto espressivo
110
115
♩ = 72


poco a poco allargando al fine
118
123
128
8va
mf
6
p
ppp
20 October Greenwich Village NY

XXIII.

for Elizabeth Kinder



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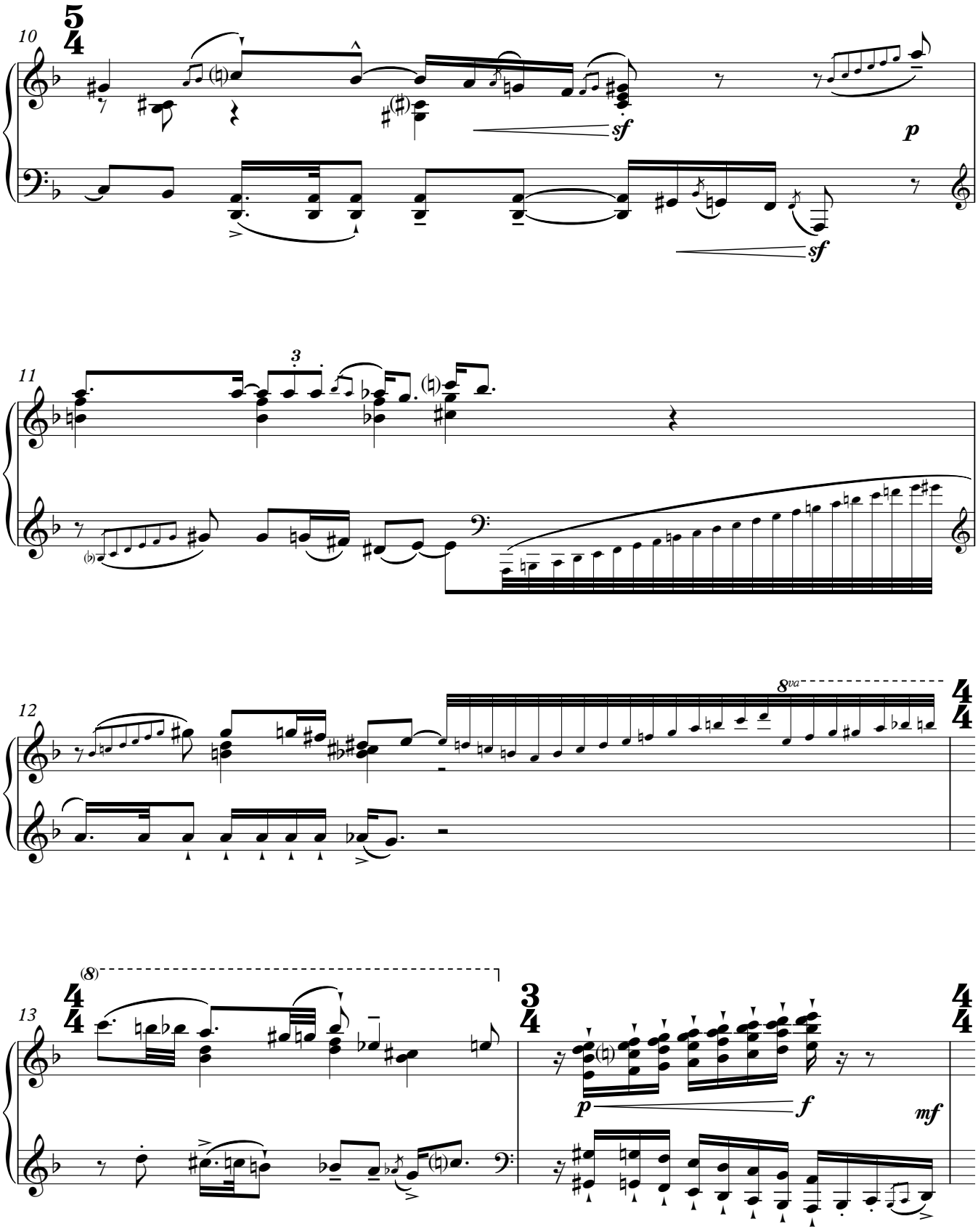
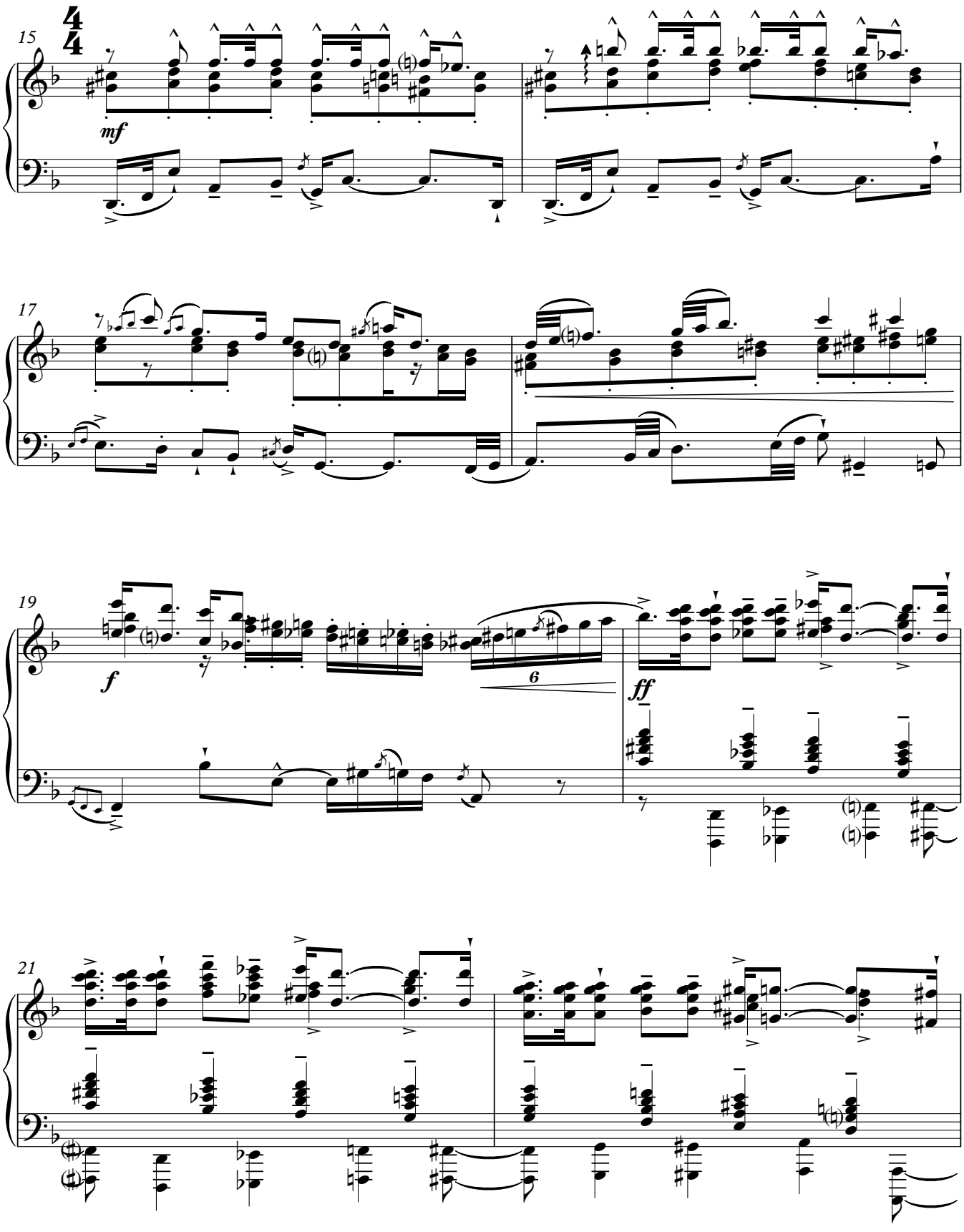
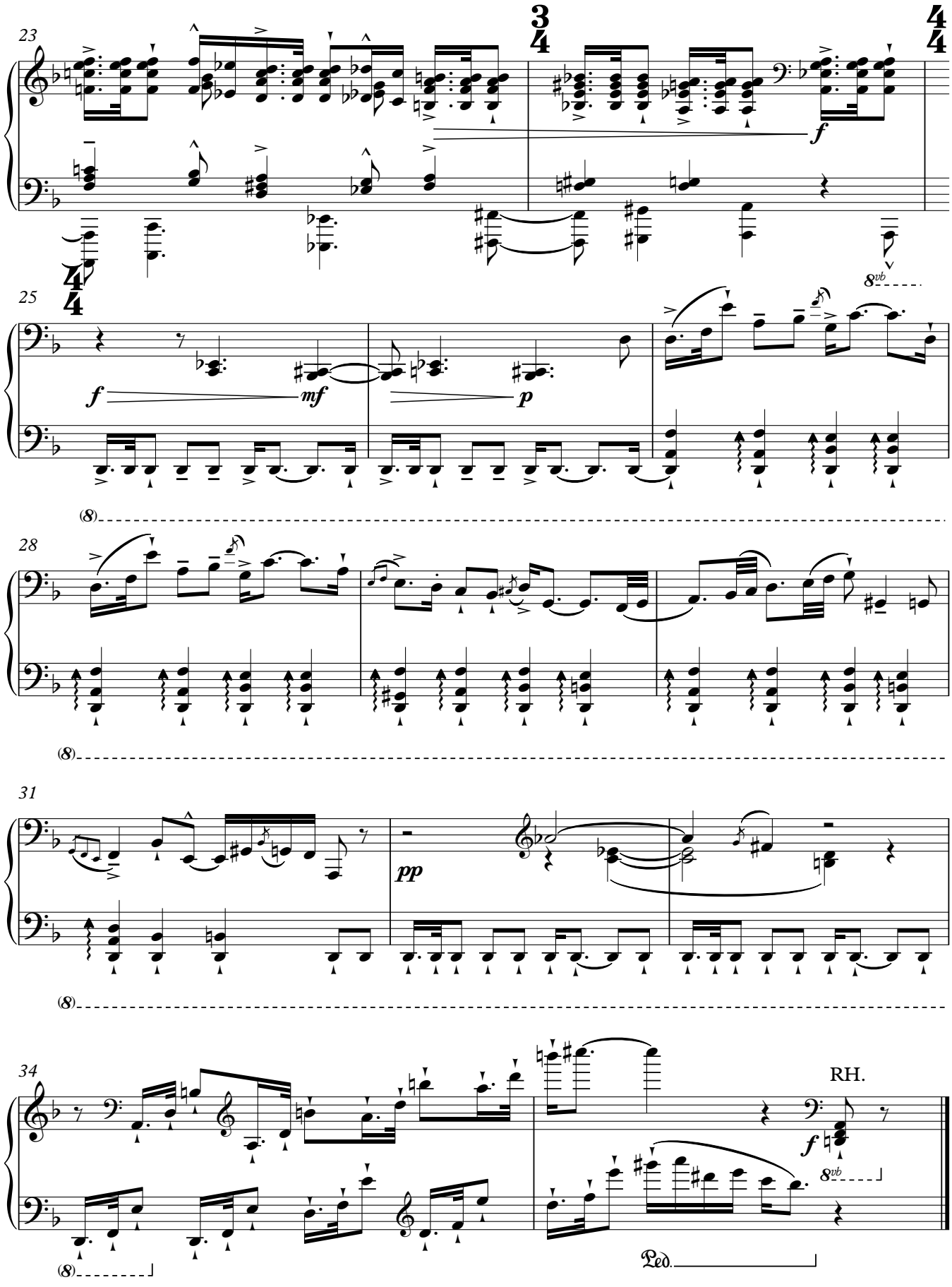

10
11
12
13
8va
(8)
sf
p
mf
f

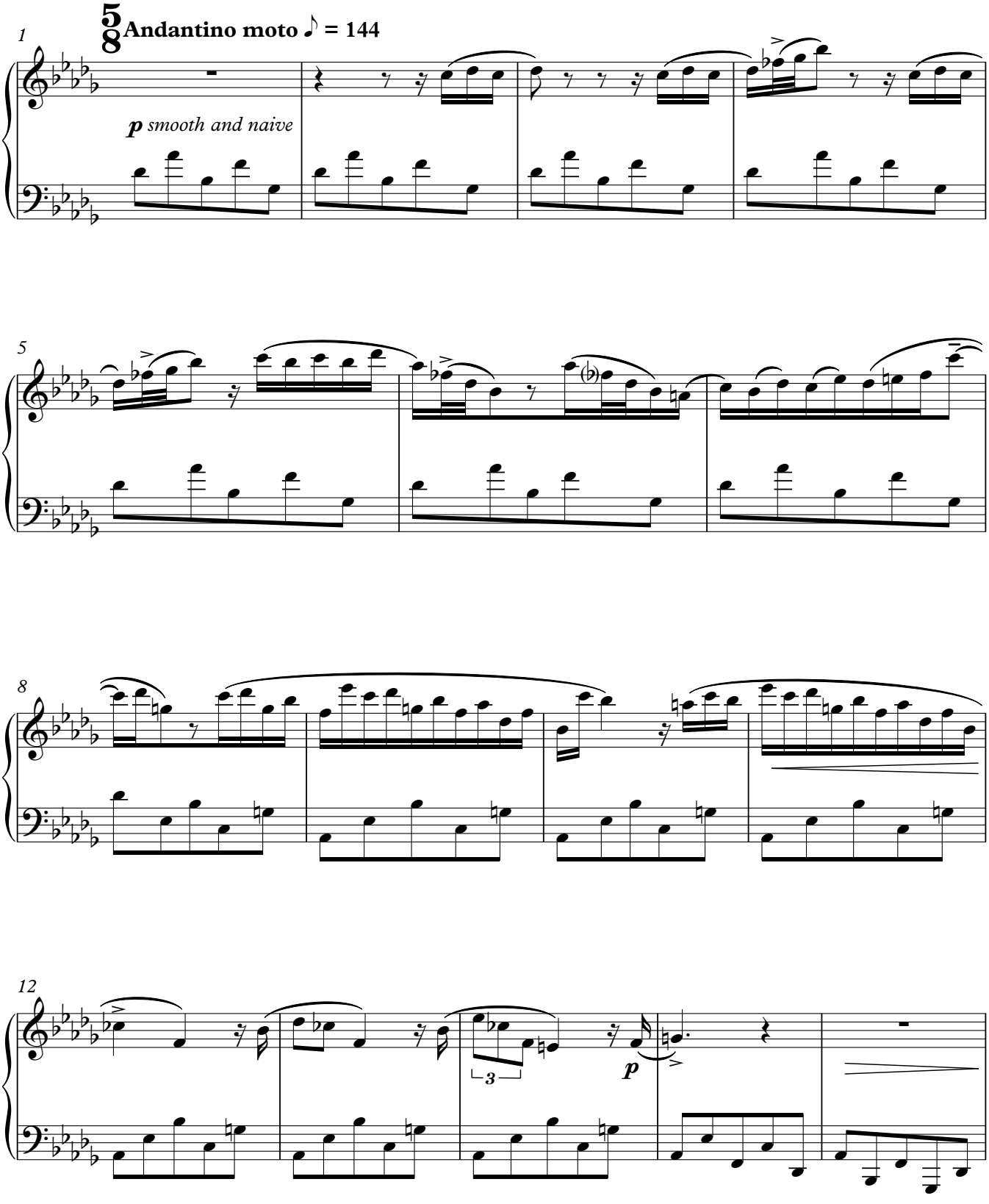

15
mf
17
19
f
6
ff
21



21 October Greenwich Village NY

XXIV.

for Raffaello and Chi-Mei Orlando



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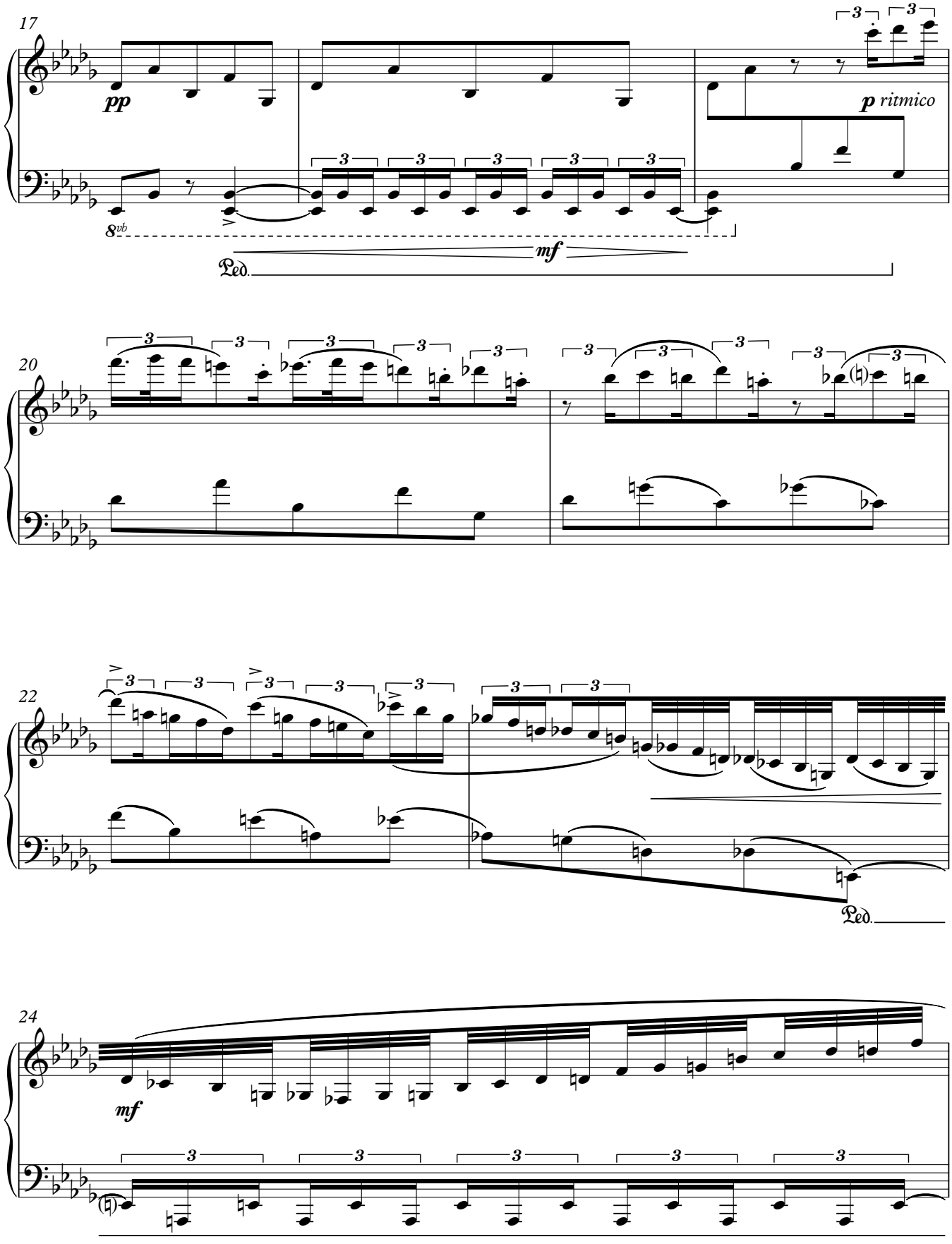
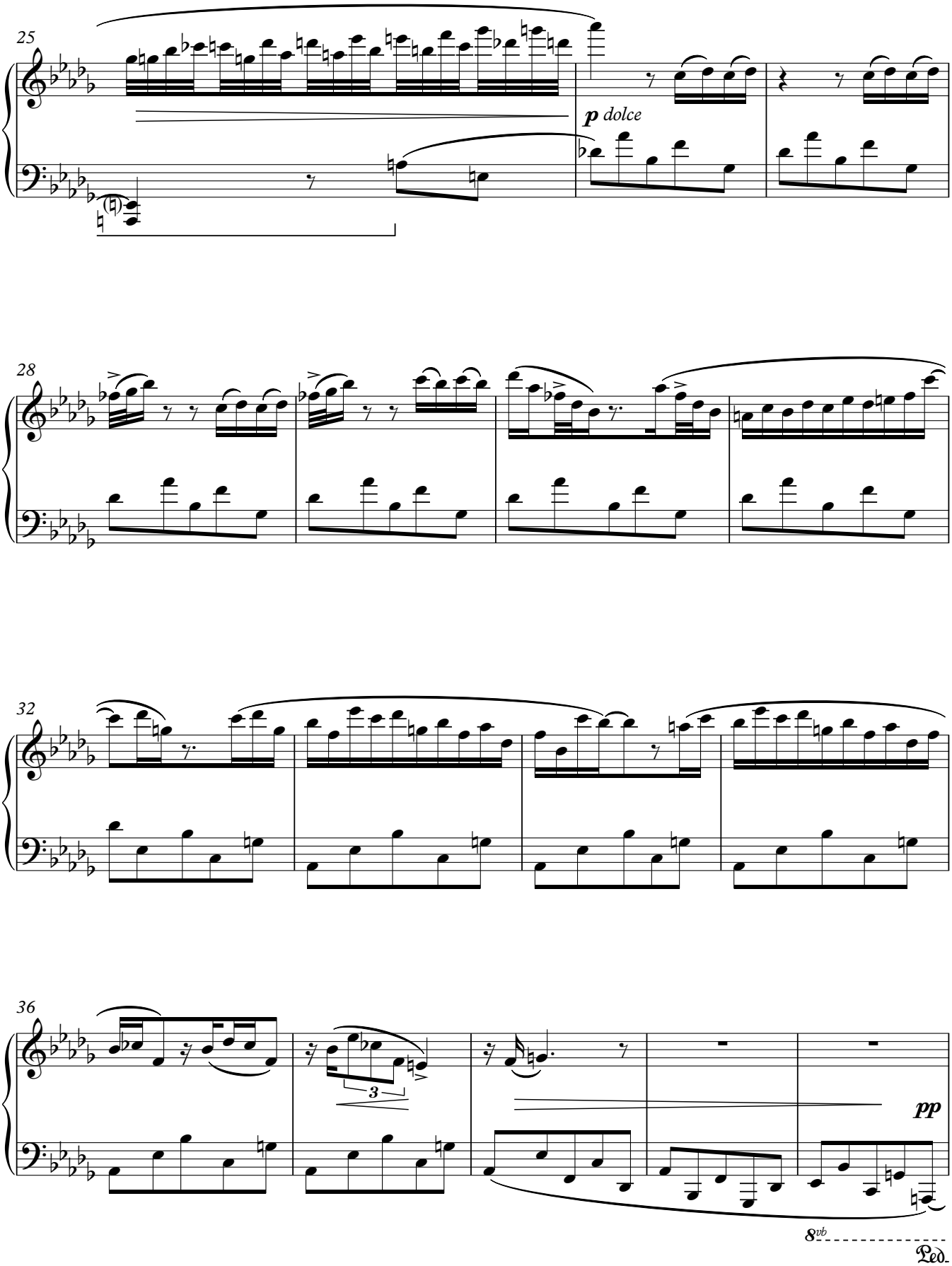
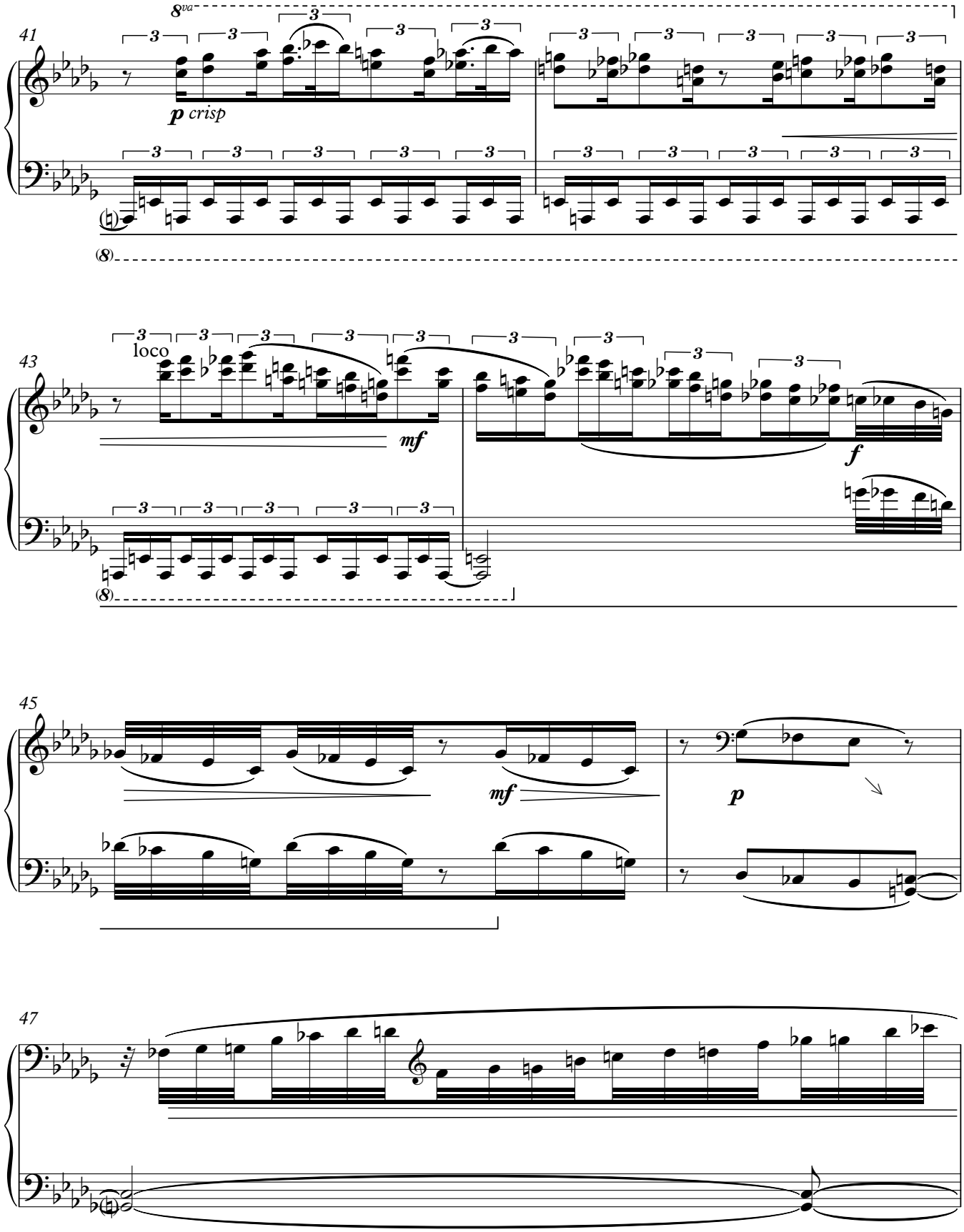
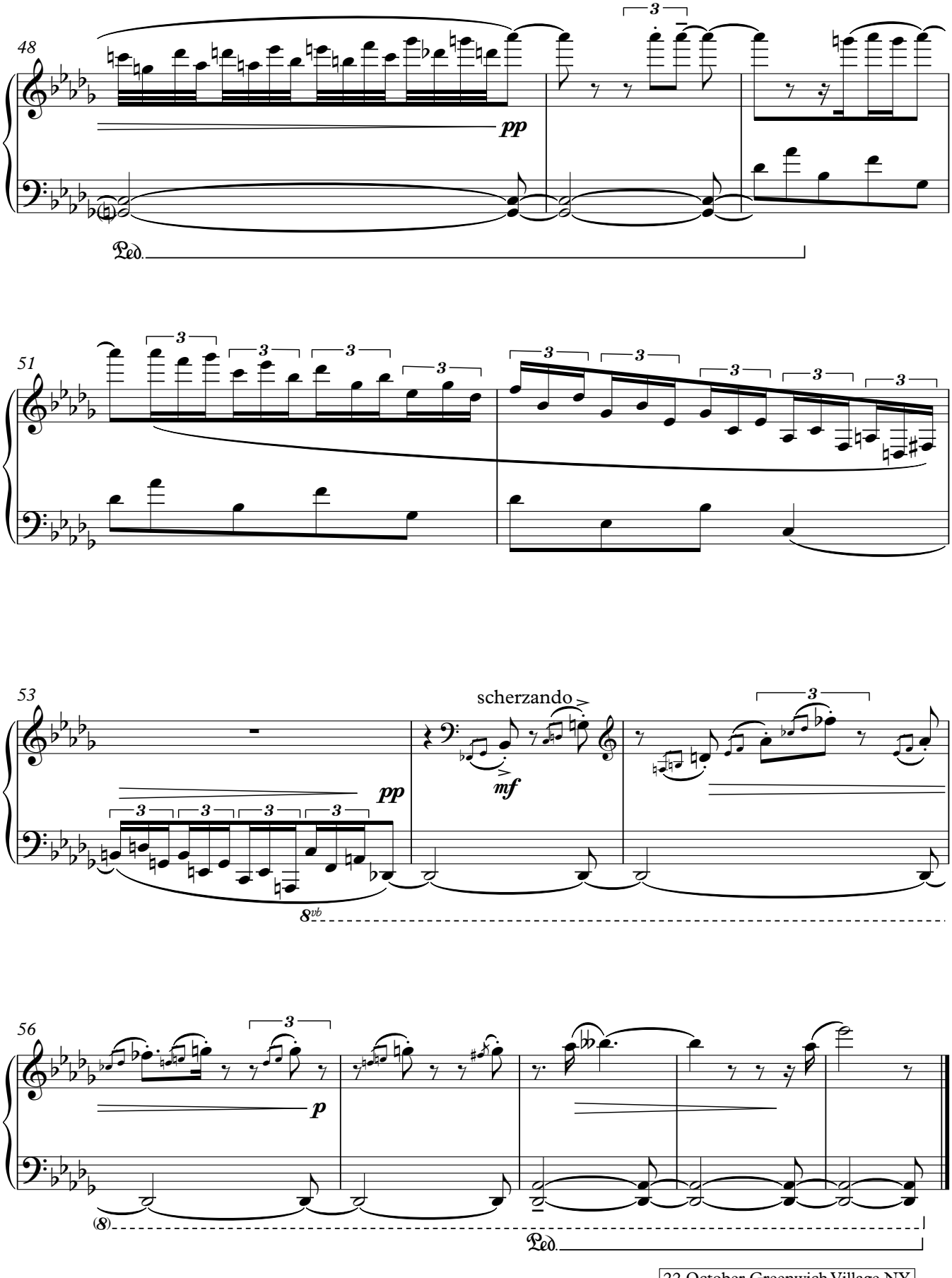

17
pp
p ritmico
8vb
mf
Ped.
20
22
Ped.
24
mf

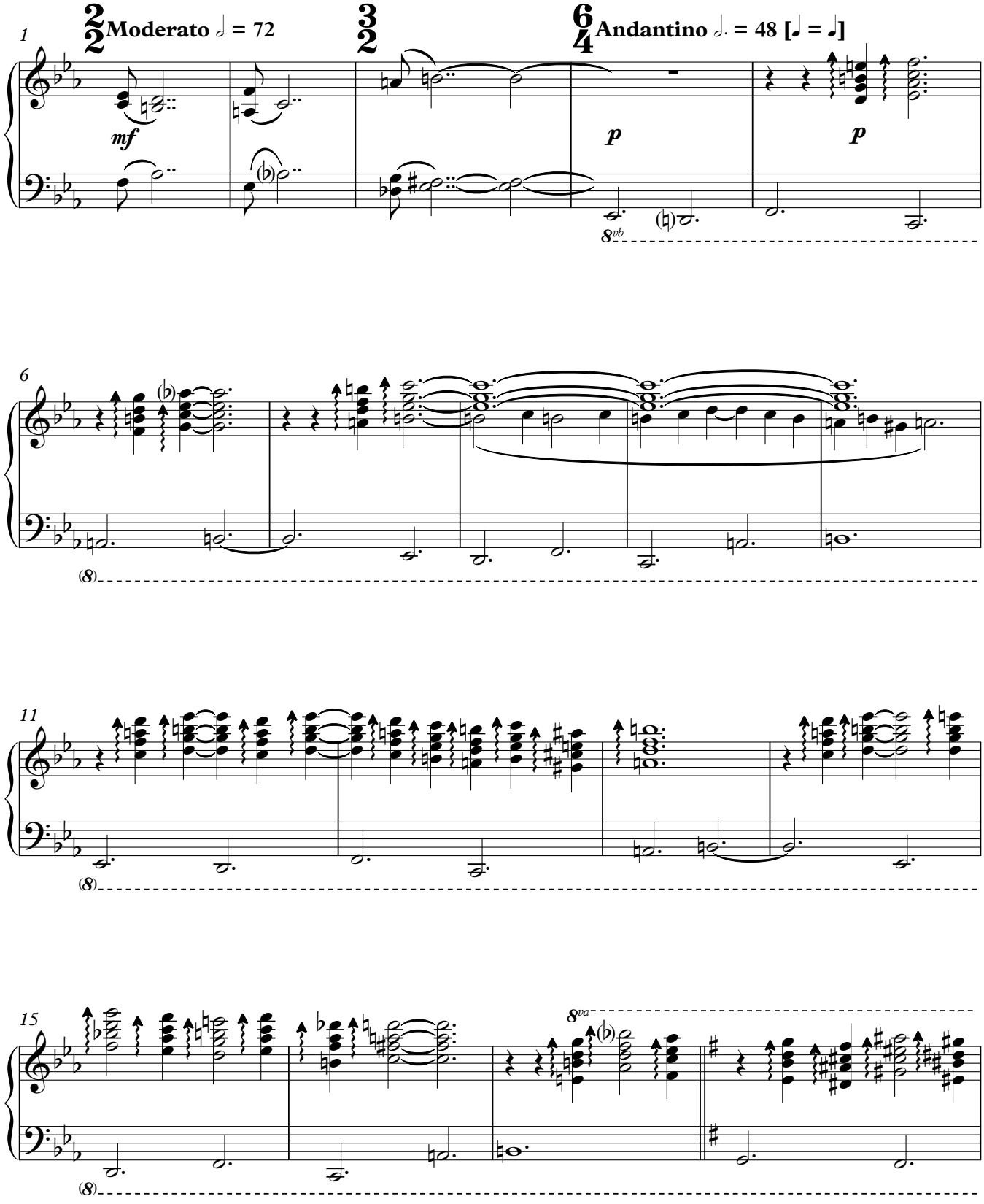

25
p dolce
28
32
36
3
pp
8vb
Ped.


8va
41
p crisp
43
loco
mf
f
45
mf
p
47


48
pp
Ped.
51
53
pp
scherzando
mf
8vb
56
p
(8)
Ped.

XXV.

for Simon Lebens



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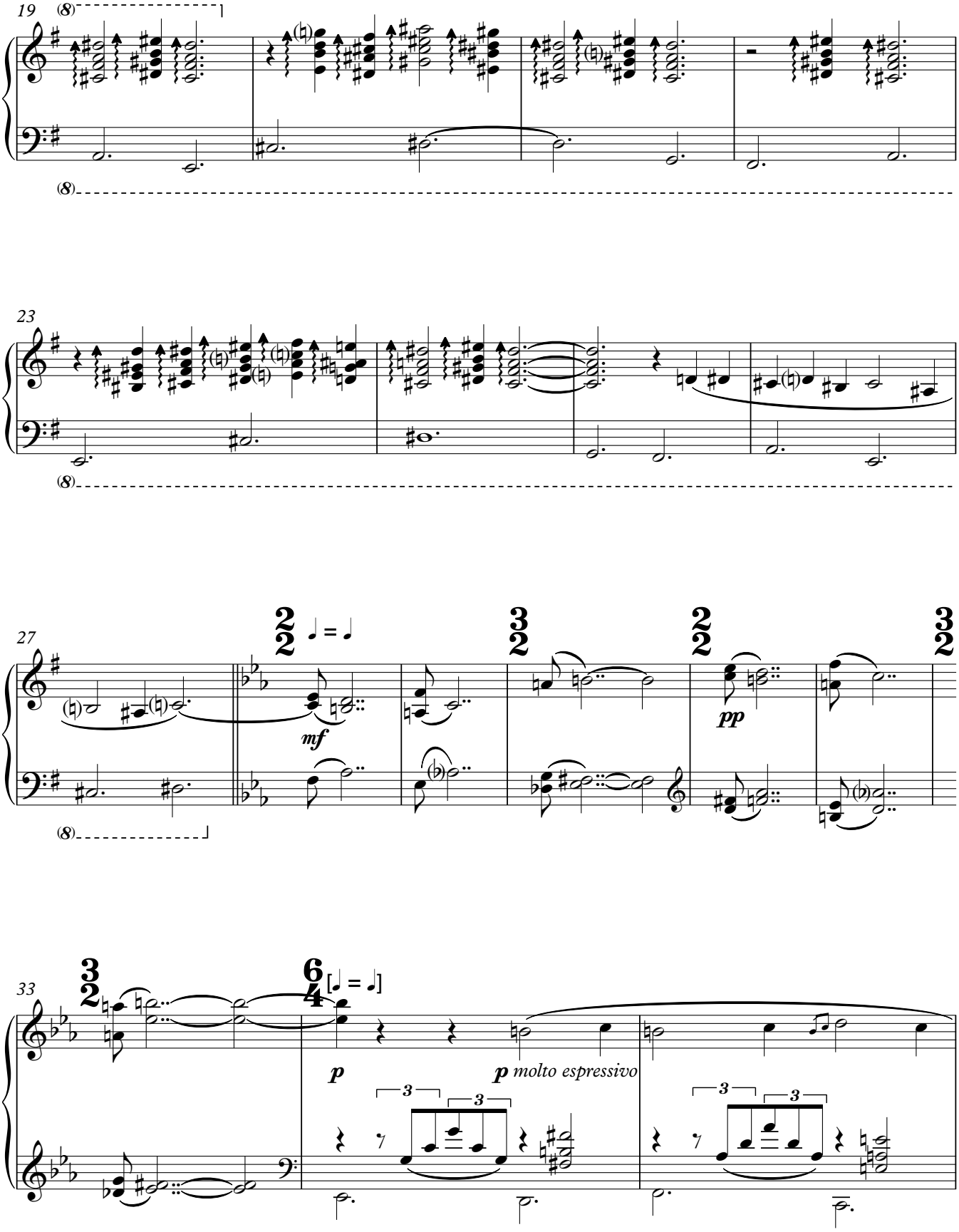
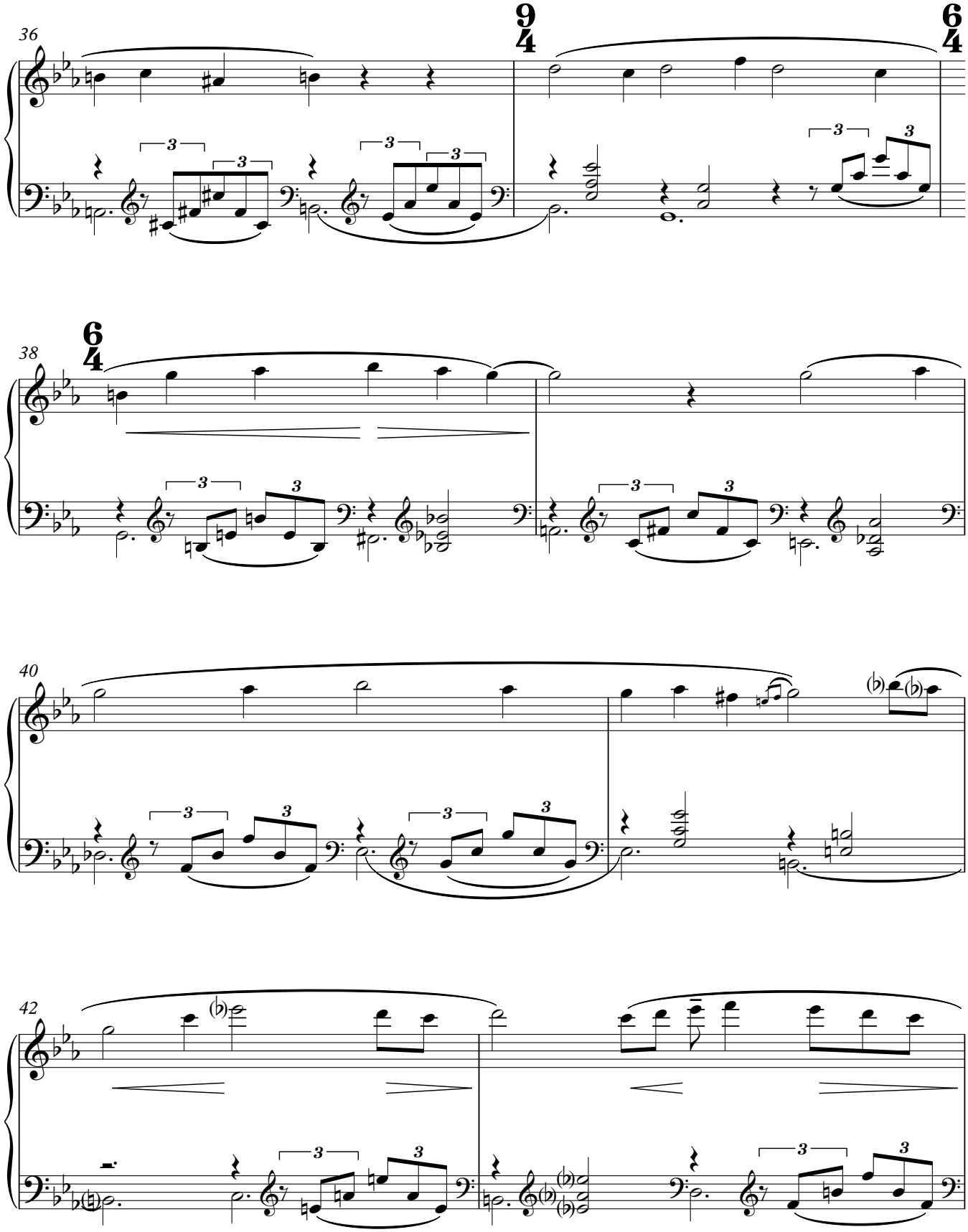
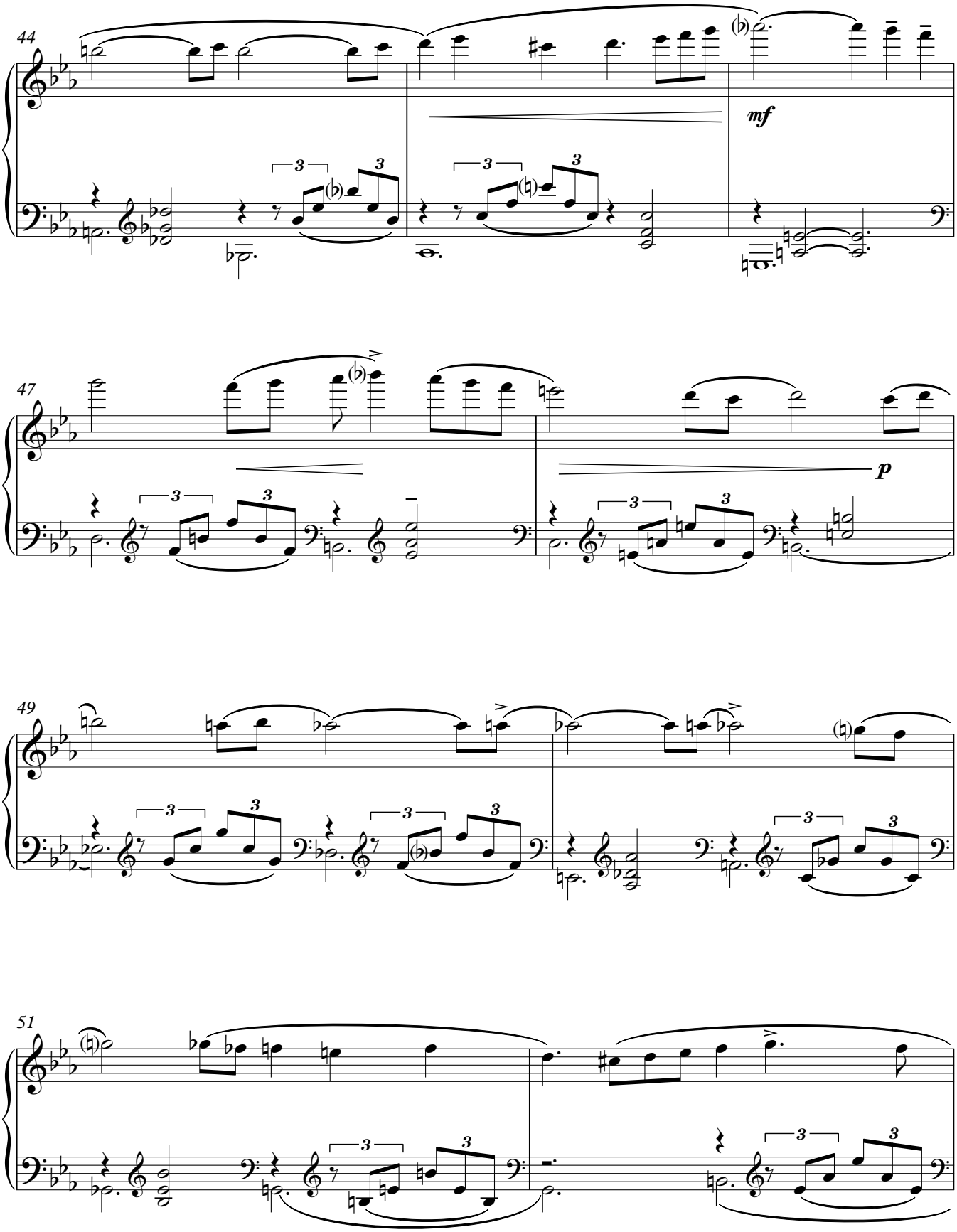
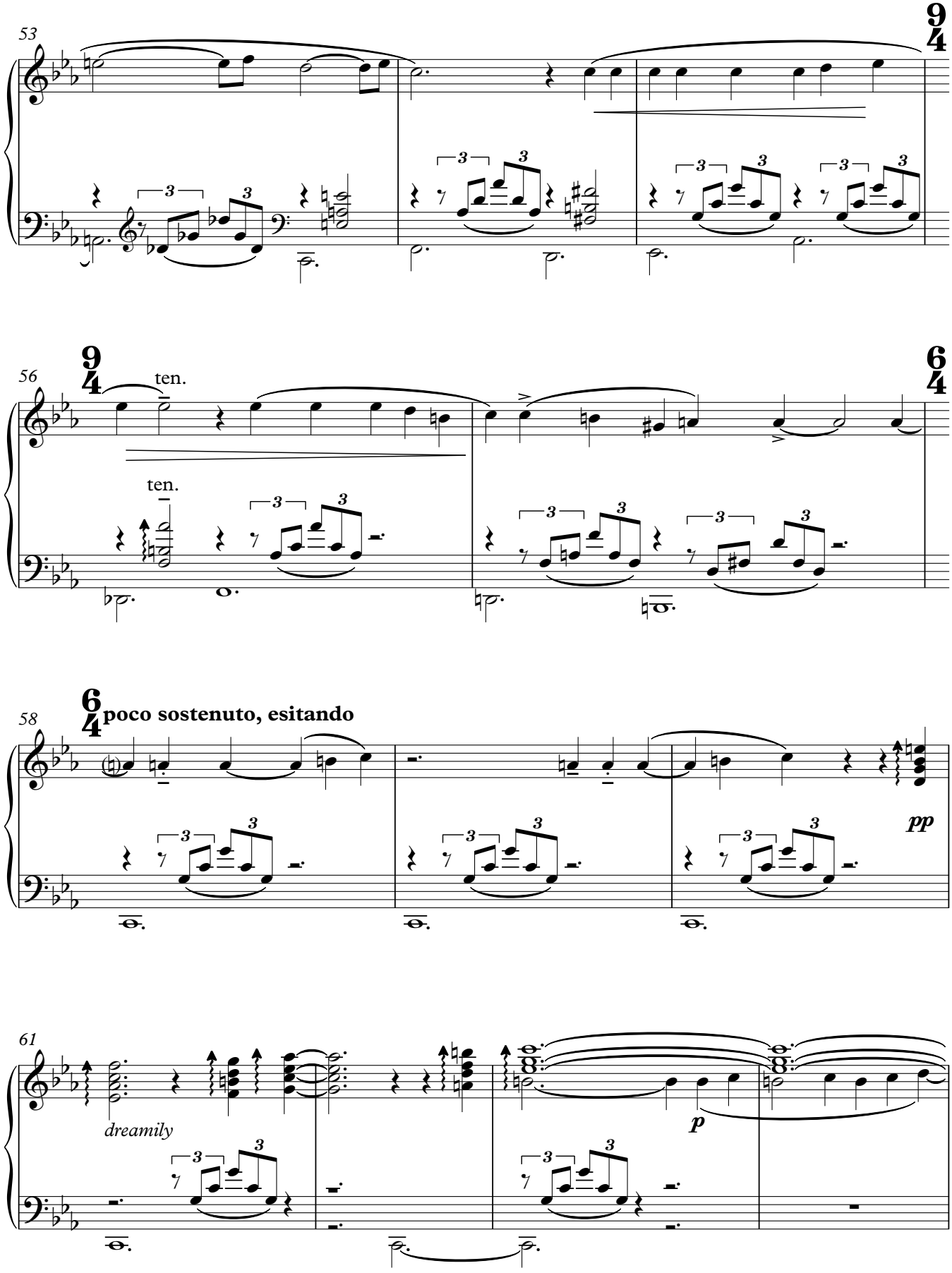
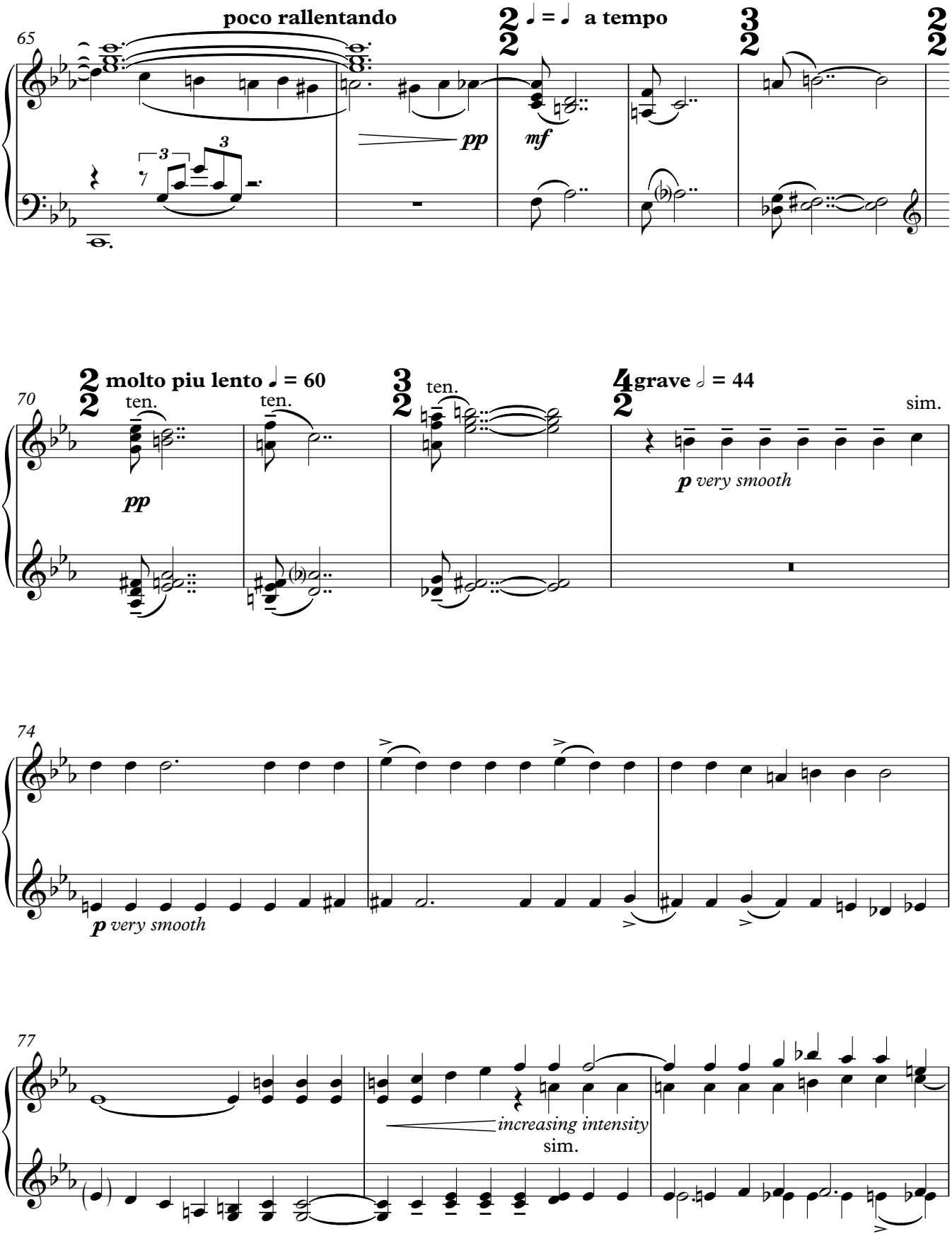
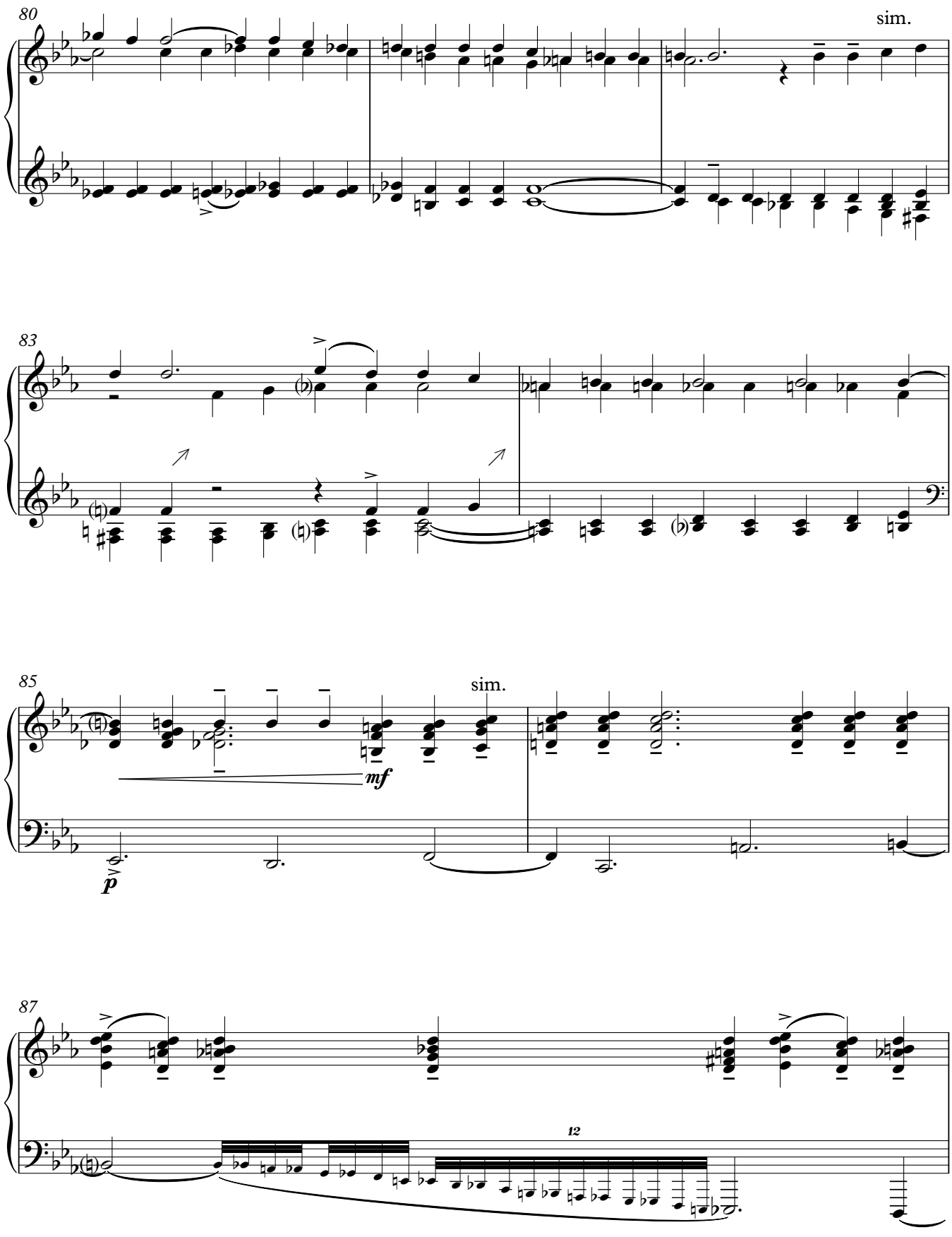

19
(8)
(8)
23
(8)
(8)
27
mf
pp
(8)
33
p
p molto espressivo
3
3
3
3

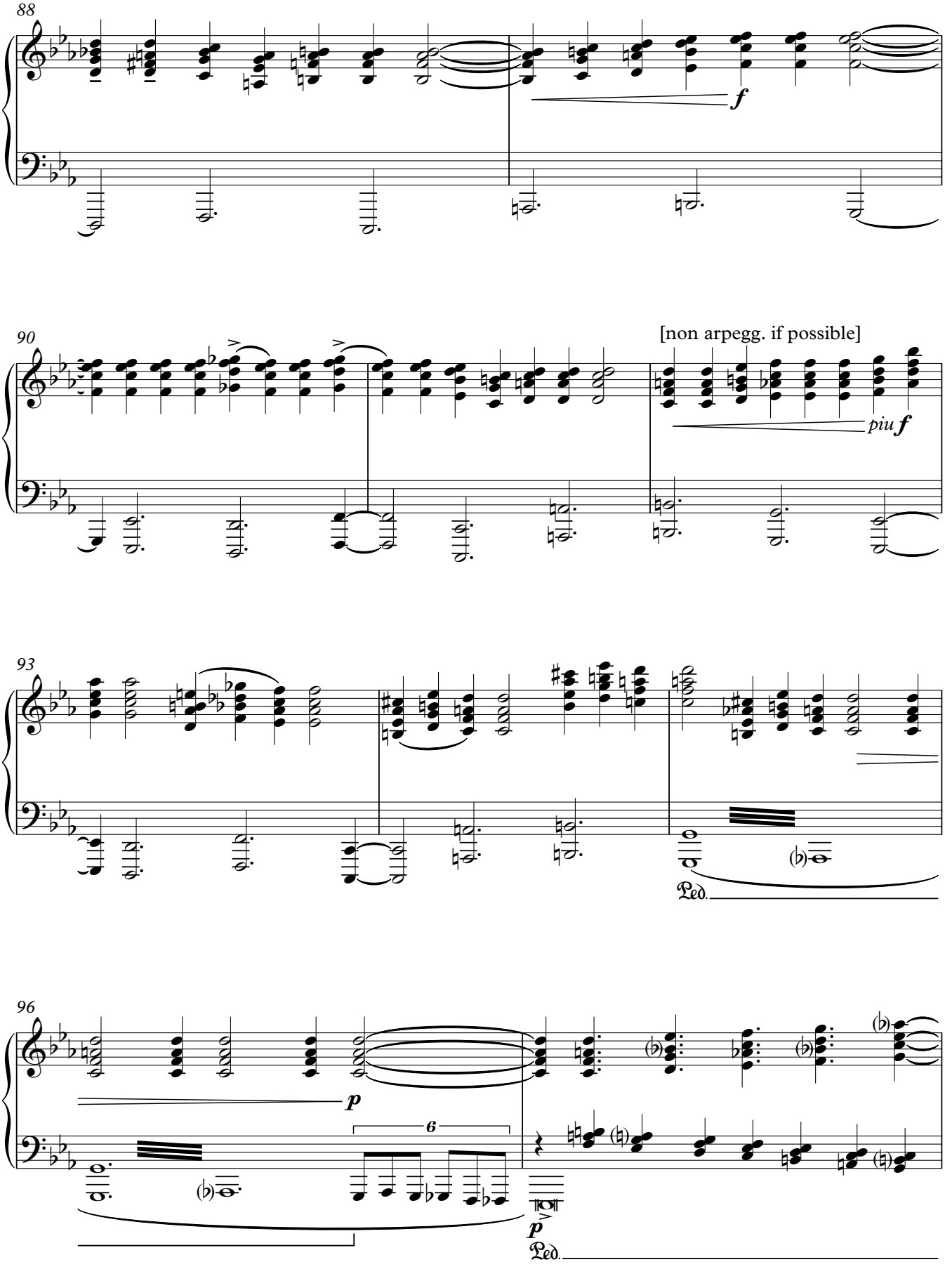

36
9/4
6/4
38
6/4
40
42

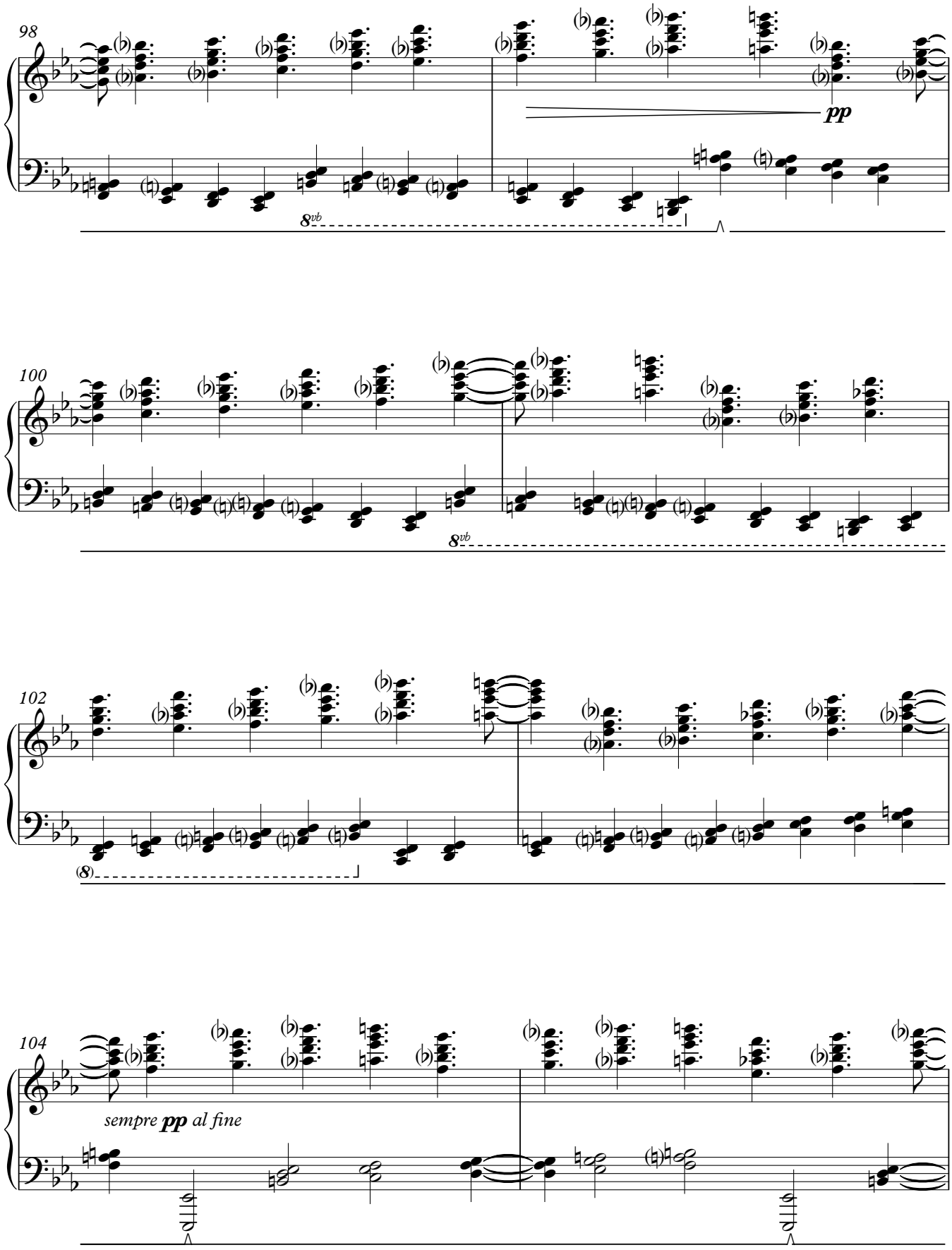

44
mf
47
p
49
51


53
9/4
56
ten.
ten.
6/4
58
poco sostenuto, esitando
pp
61
dreamily
p

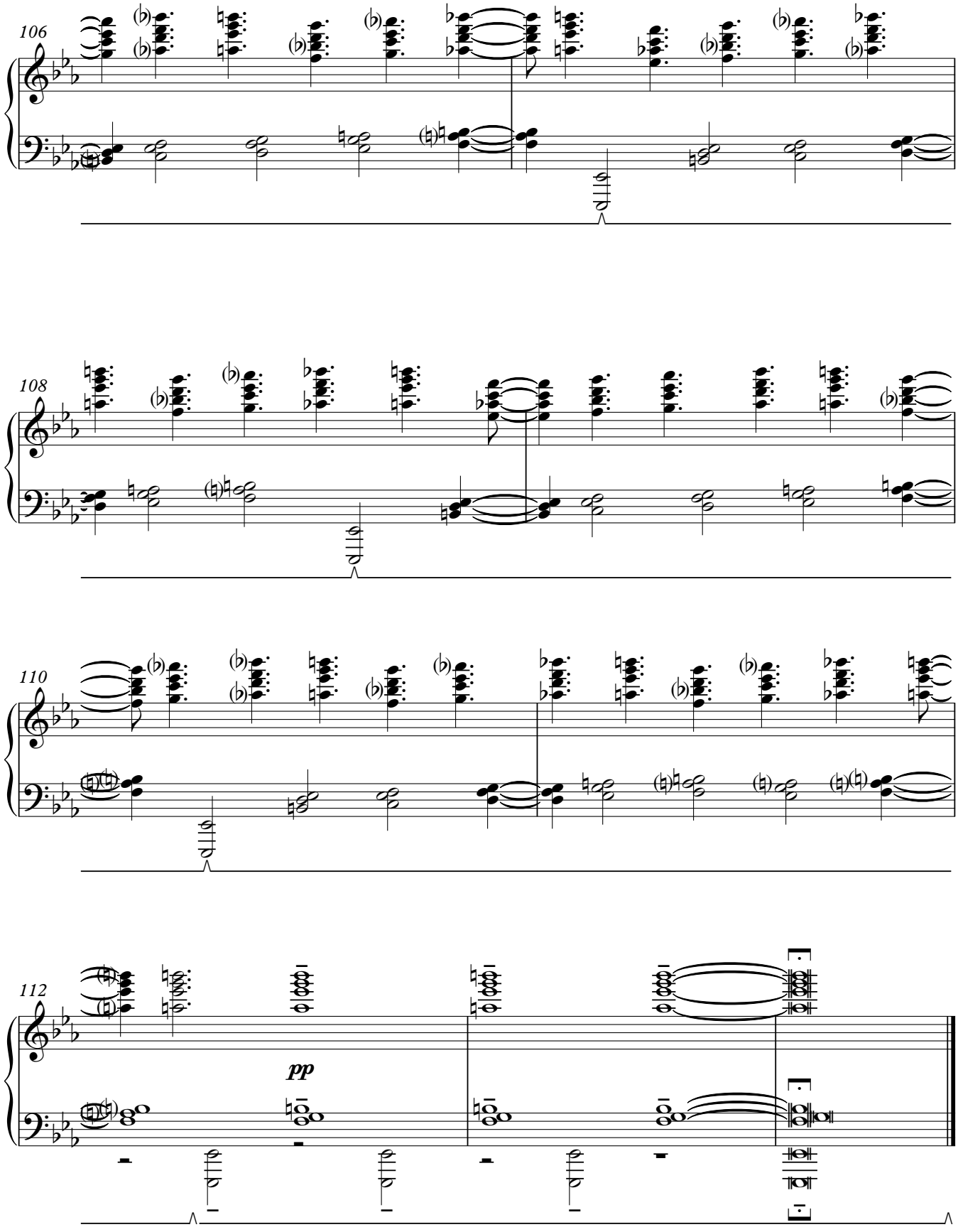

65
poco rallentando
pp
mf
♩ = ♩ a tempo
70
molto piu lento ♩ = 60
ten.
ten.
ten.
pp
grave 𝅗𝅥 = 44
sim.
p very smooth
74
p very smooth
77
increasing intensity
sim.


80
sim.
83
85
sim.
mf
p
87
12


88
f
90
[non arpegg. if possible]
piu f
93
Ped.
96
p
6
p
Ped.


98
pp
8vb
100
8vb
102
(8)
104
sempre pp al fine

poco a poco rallentando al fine



FINE. 30 October Greenwich Village NY