Three Concert Pieces

Ayden Kael McDonald

For Piano

I: Scintillate – Variations on a Theme by C. Daquin, 'Le Coucou'

This work was conceived in August 2015 whilst establishing a profound interest in orchestral writing and virtuosic piano music. Thus, it was originally composed for piano and orchestra, however after an unsuccessful revised version it was arranged into a solo piano work in early December 2016.

The solo version expands upon virtuosity, structure, harmony, and length. Scintillate reached its final product in early 2017, with slight changes mid-year.

Scintillate – to emit flashes of light; sparkle: be animated, witty, clever – this title has always been, no word best articulates the style and expression of this work.

II: Impromptu on D. Cimarosa Sonata B♭ Major, R23: III Allegro

Commencing notation in February 2017, Impromptu was completed before Scintillate as it had undergone minor changes since its first draft. Overall the structure is identical to the original Cimarosa Sonata – following the same thematic material. The harmonic structure is almost identical with minimal changes throughout.

After some months and now into mid-2017 both Scintillate and Impromptu would be part of a decided larger work titled Three Concert Pieces – an homage to Liszt.

III: Le Cygne – After Liszt on C. Saint-Saëns Carnival of the Animals, 'Le Cygne'

Following the same model as its predecessors the third piece would be inspired from a Baroque or Classical era work. Originally it was to be M. Clementi's Sonatina in C Major Op.36, No.1: II Andante, yet with many sketches and compositional ideas put forth, it ultimately did not succeed. It was the inspirational material and techniques of Liszt, and the beauty of Saint-Saens's famed melody which formed the creation of the final piece.

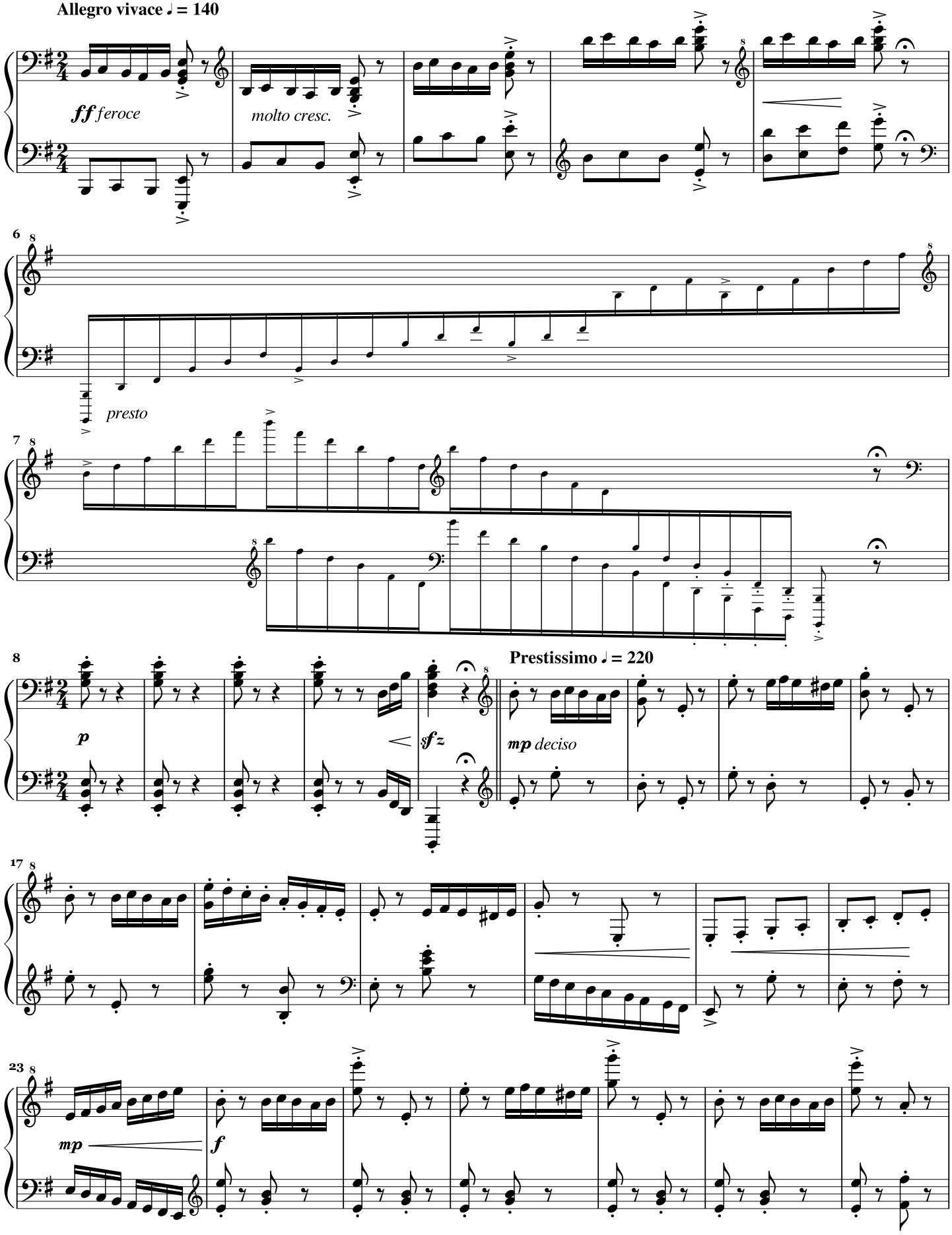
The first draft of Le Cygne was written within weeks in order to push the completion of the final work, initial notation began in late July – after improvisatory ideas for some days.

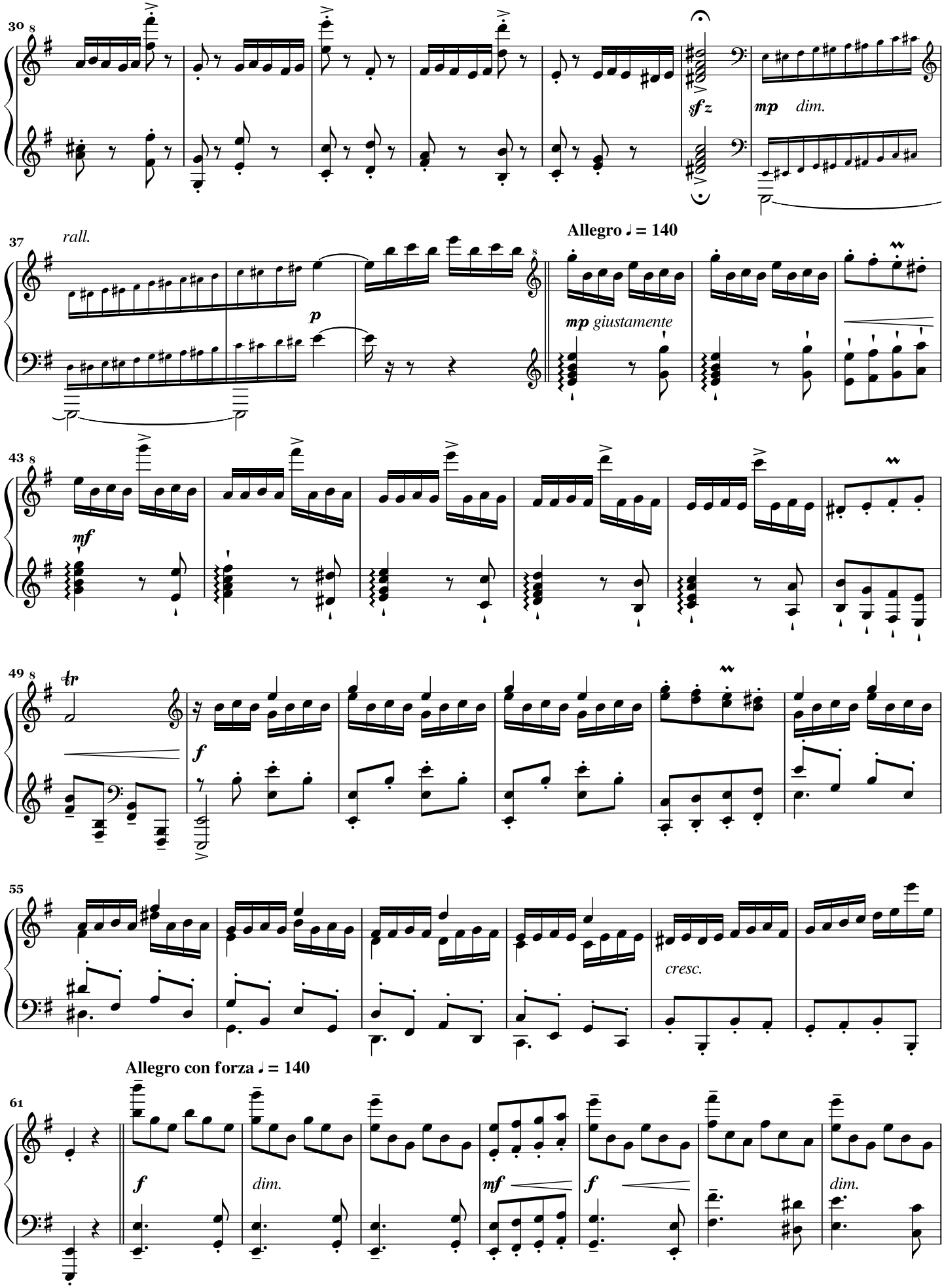
The Ossia section and b.19 – 53 were added in the final weeks before completion in late October 2017. In order to remain true to the homage objective – Le Cygne was written in the style of Liszt's 3rd concert etude S.144 'Un Sospiro'.

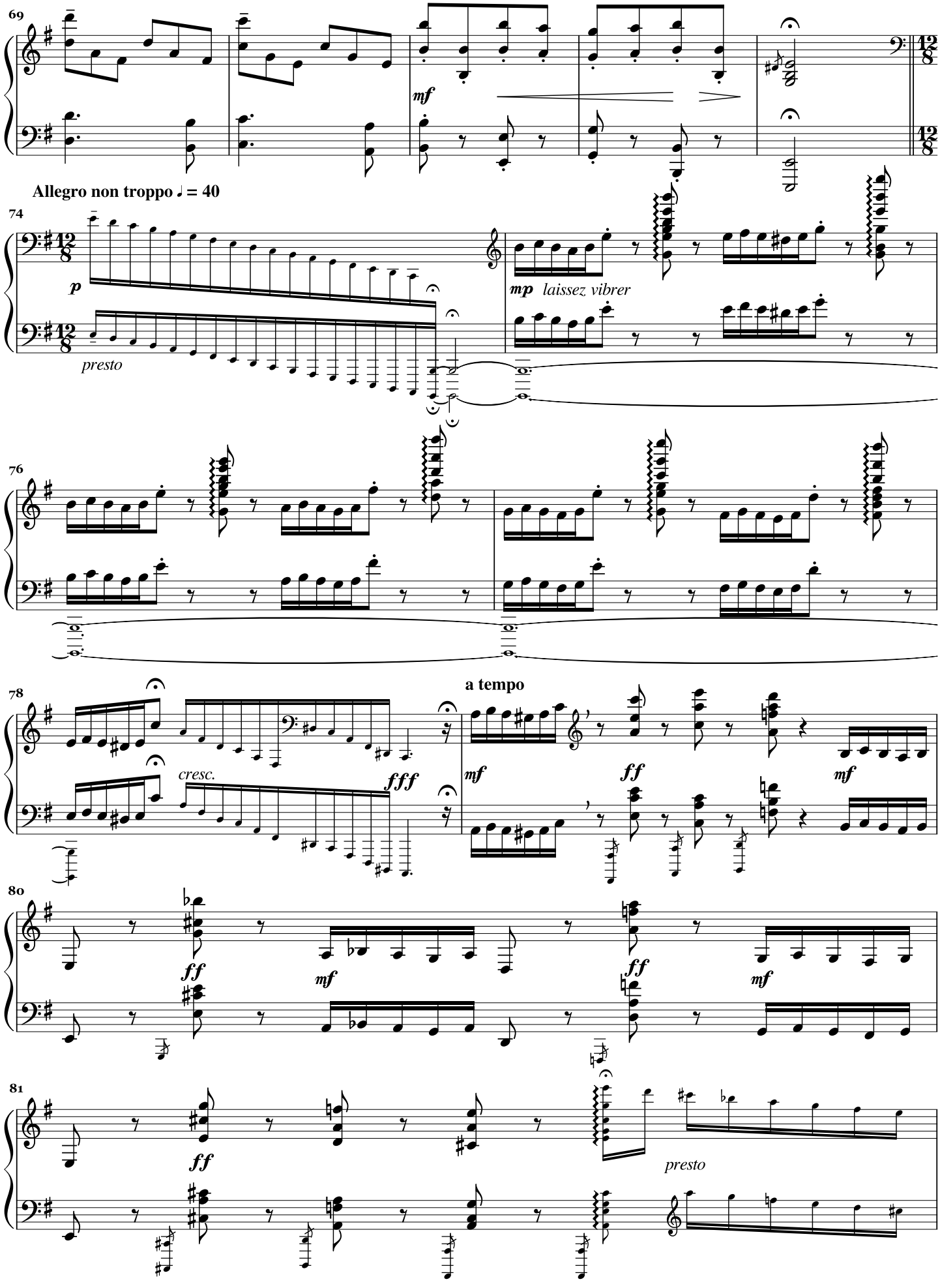
This set of concert pieces were edited and revised in October 2017. Dedicated to two friends and teachers – one near and afar; Irina Klamka and Pam Larkin.

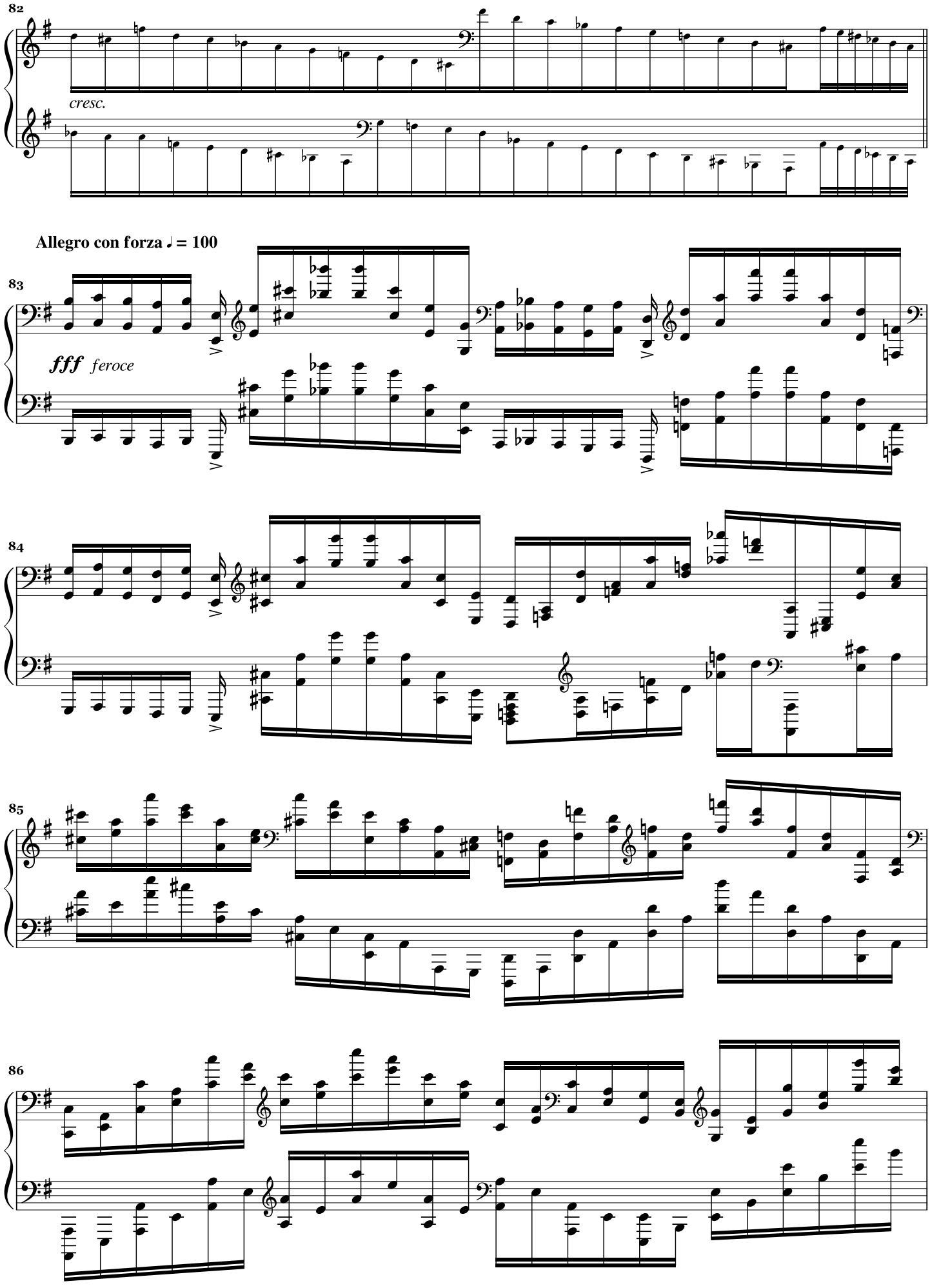
Ayden Kael McDonald
October 8, 2017

I


Allegro vivace ♩ = 140
ff feroce
molto cresc.
presto
Prestissimo ♩ = 220
p
sfz
mp deciso
mp
f


30
sfz
mp dim.
37
rall.
p
Allegro ♩ = 140
mp giustamente
43
mf
49
tr
f
55
cresc.
Allegro con forza ♩ = 140
61
f
dim.
mf
f
dim.


69
mf
Allegro non troppo ♩ = 40
74
p
presto
mp laissez vibrer
76
78
cresc.
fff
a tempo
mf
ff
mf
80
ff
mf
ff
mf
81
ff
presto


82
cresc.
Allegro con forza ♩ = 100
83
fff feroce
84
85
86

87

88

89

brillante con grazia

rit.

91

come prima con agitato

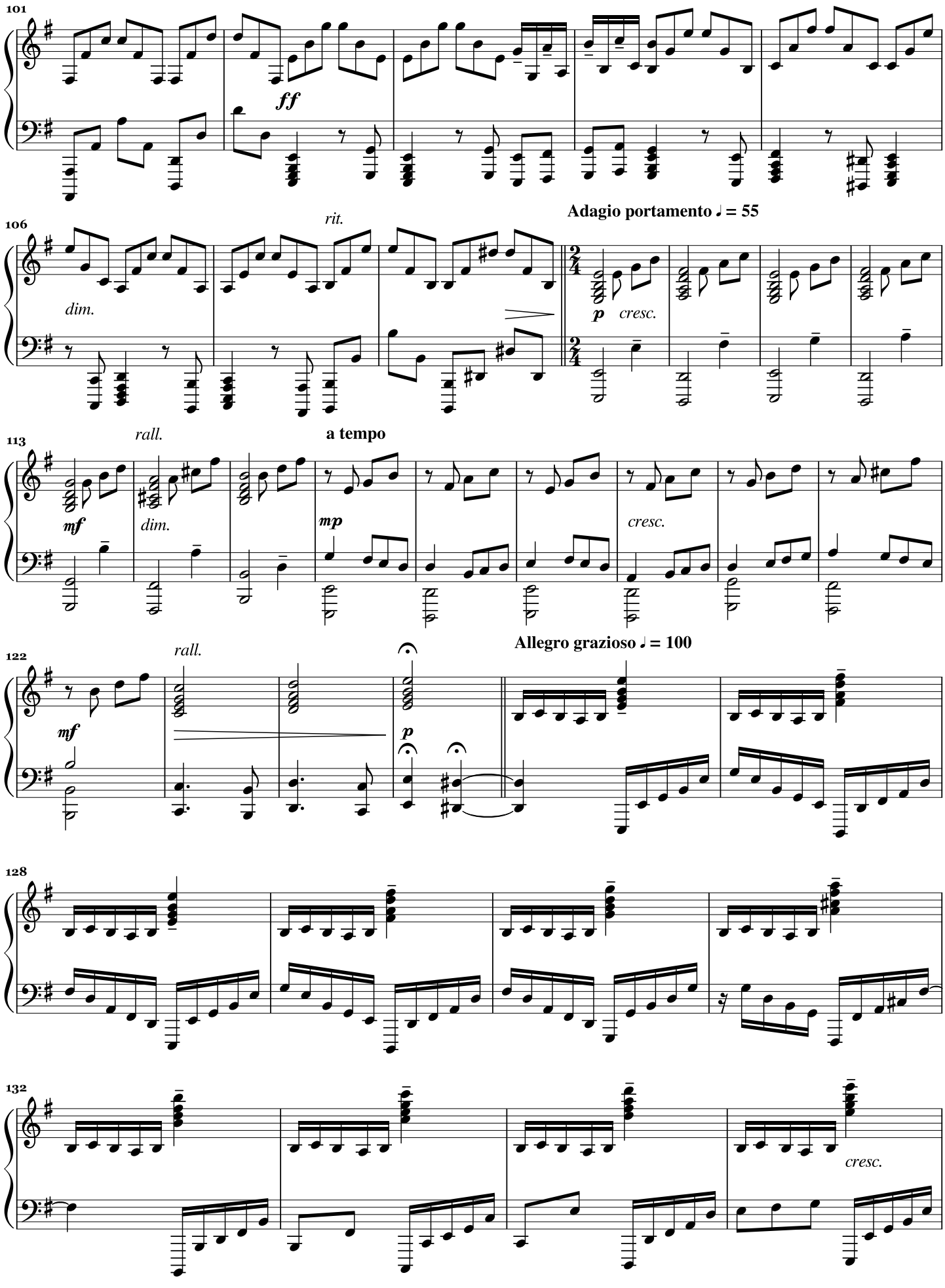
p *tranquillo*

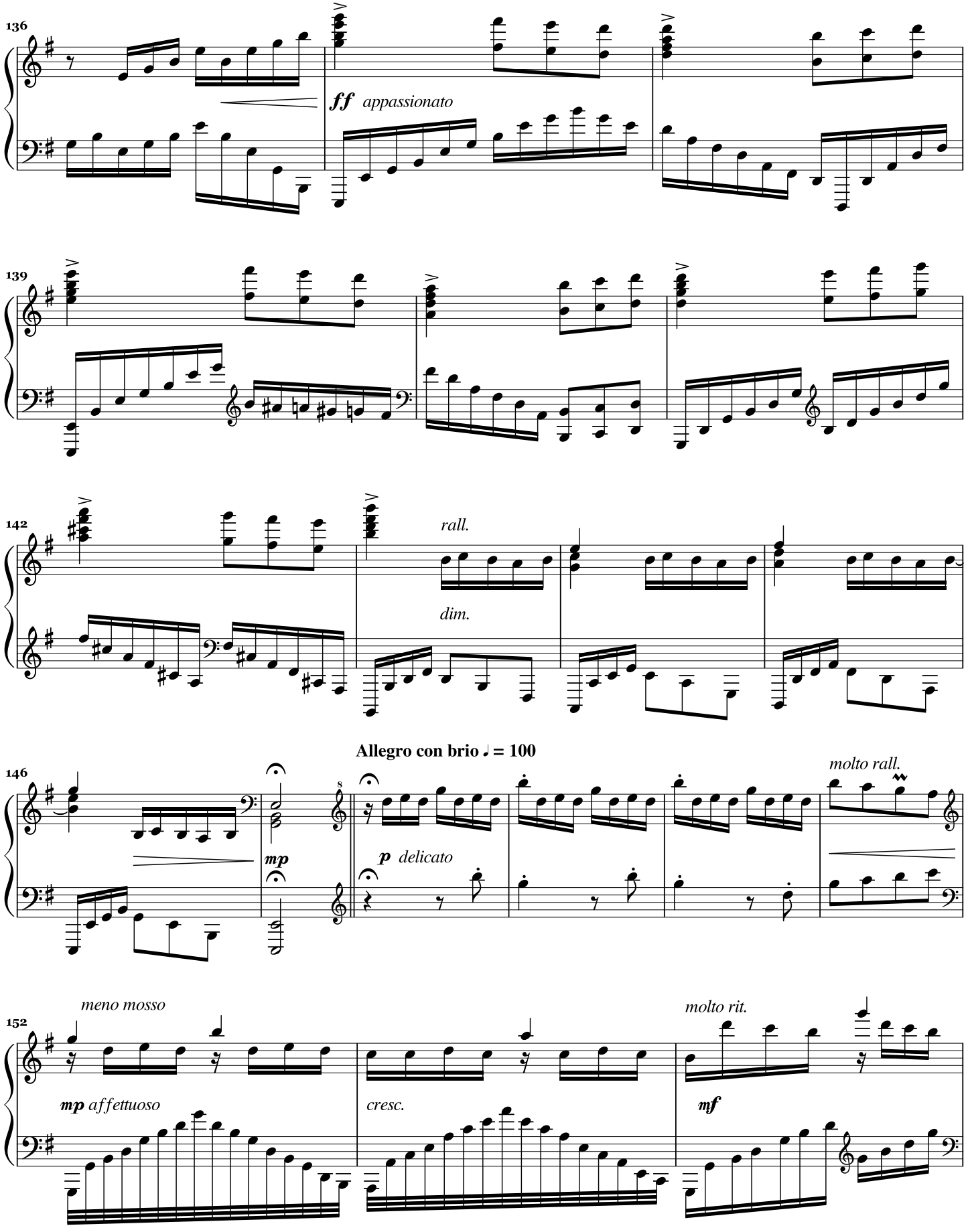
poco a poco cresc.

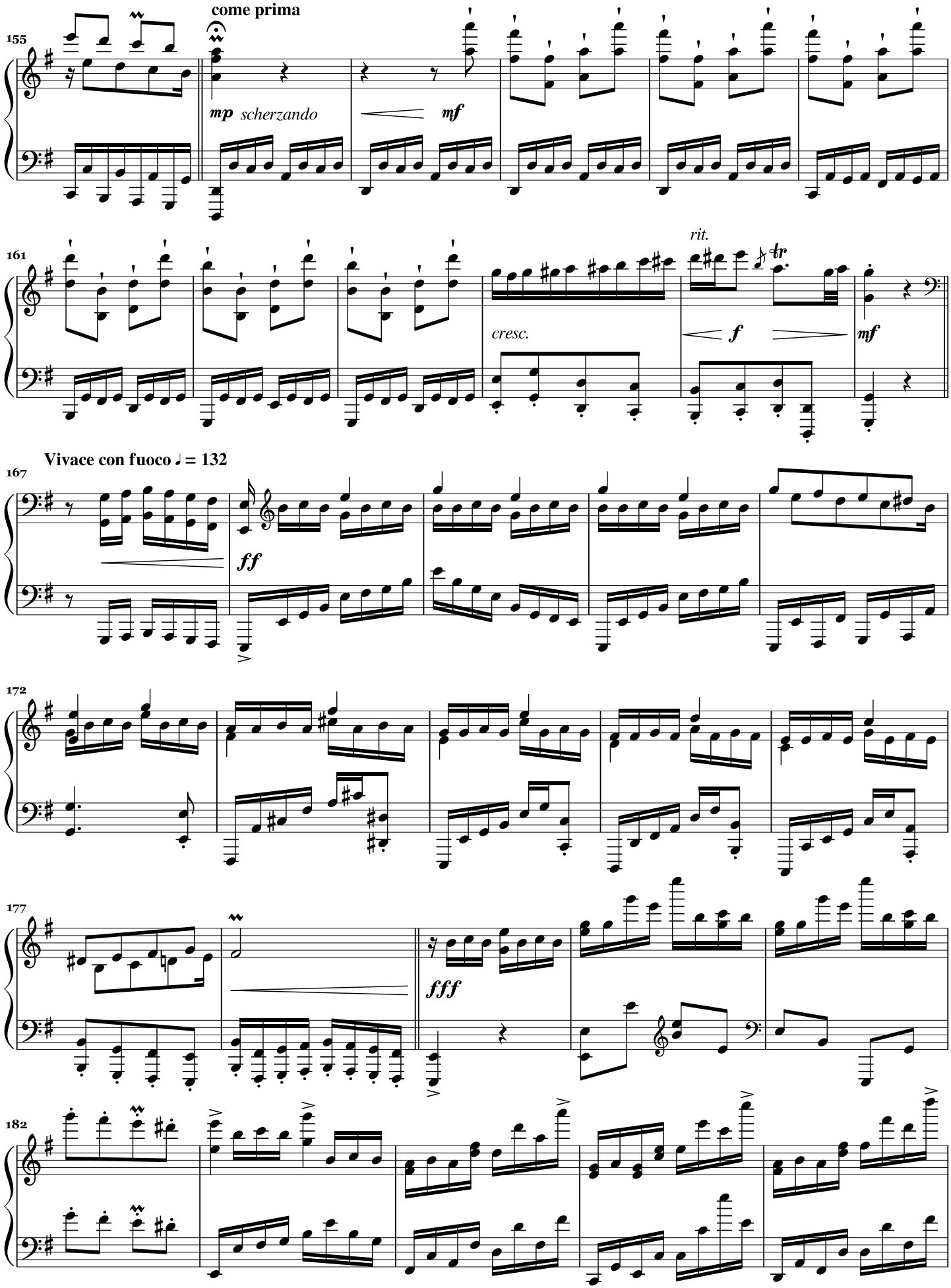
96

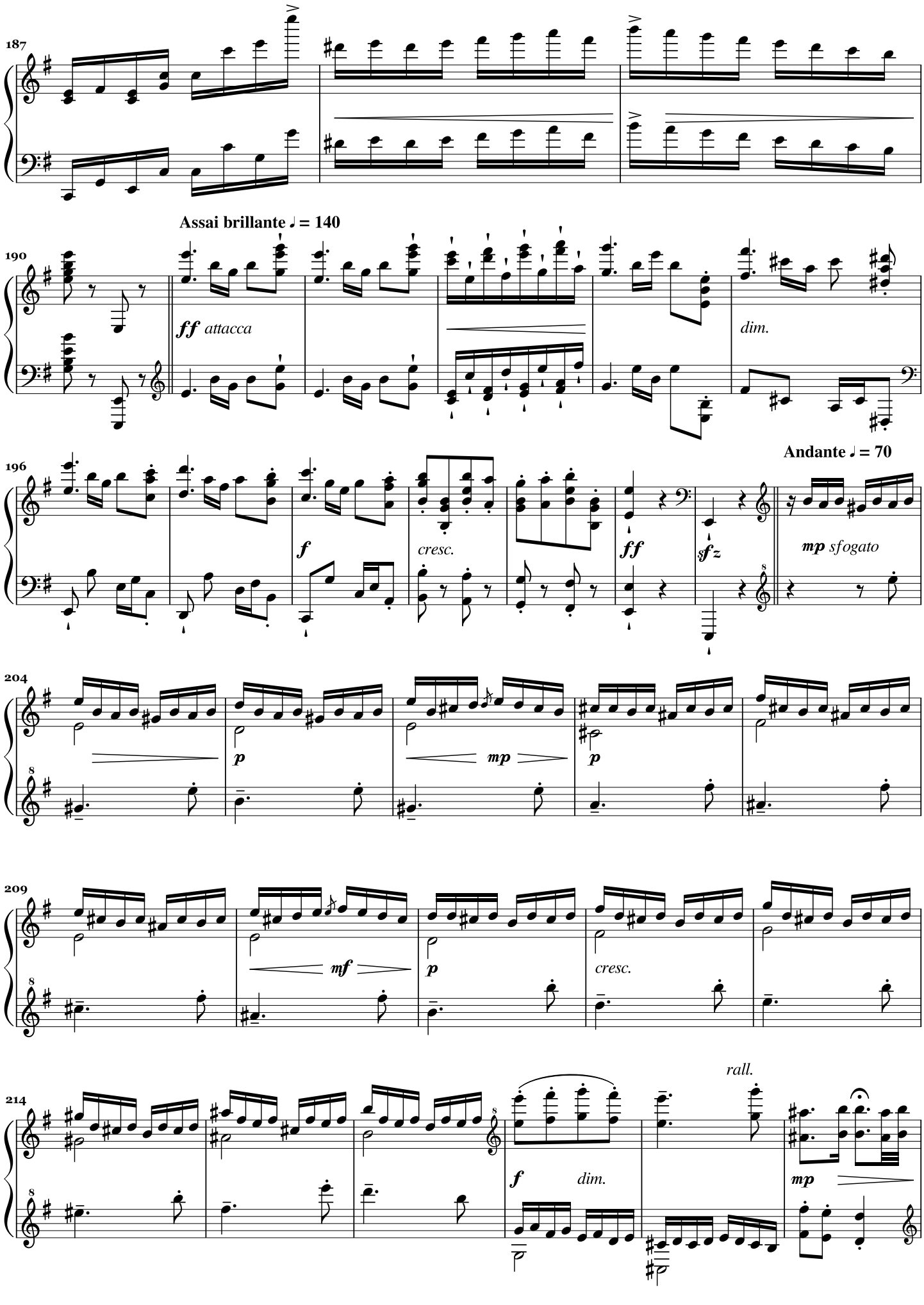
poco a poco agitato

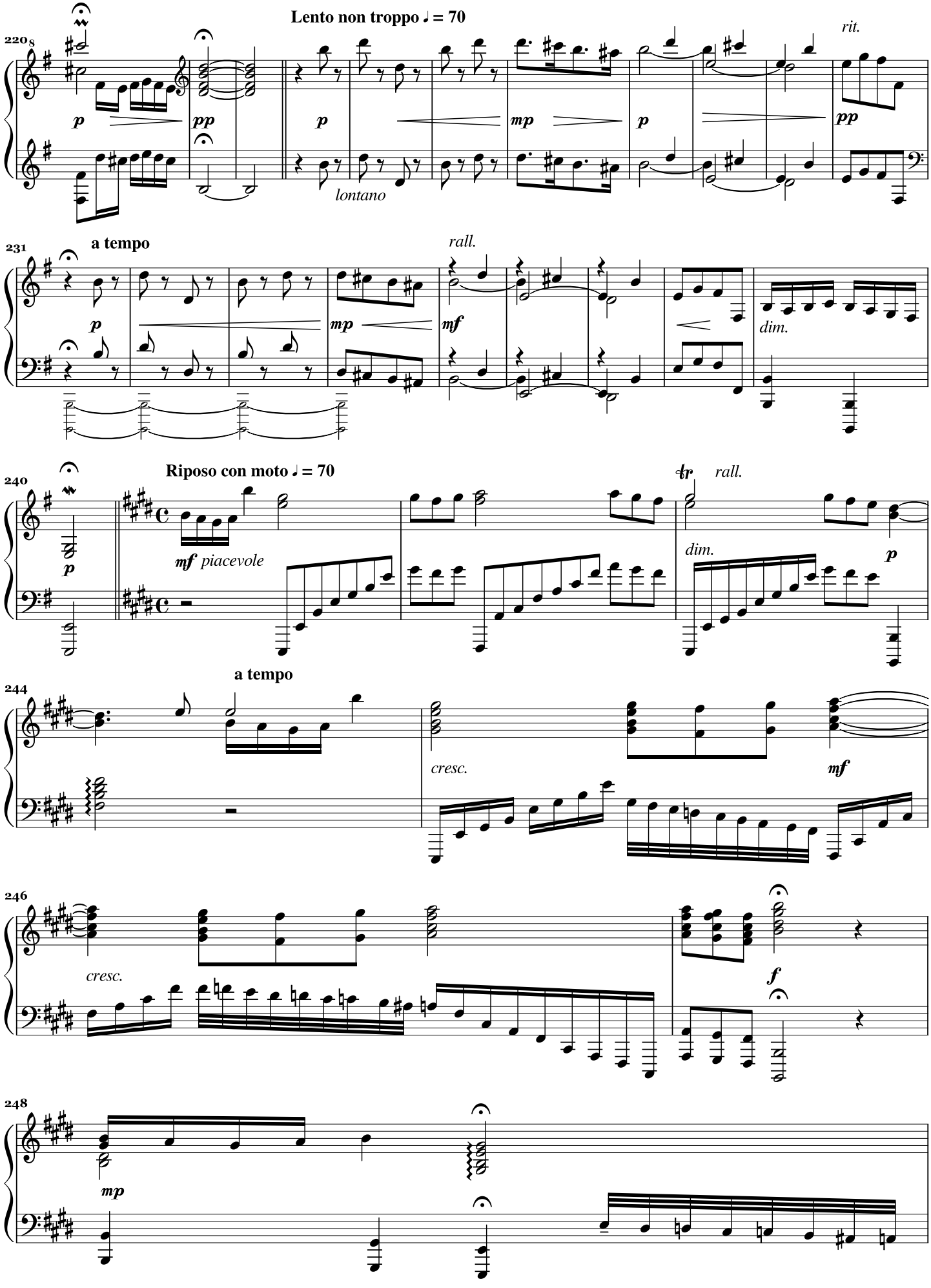
f *cresc.*

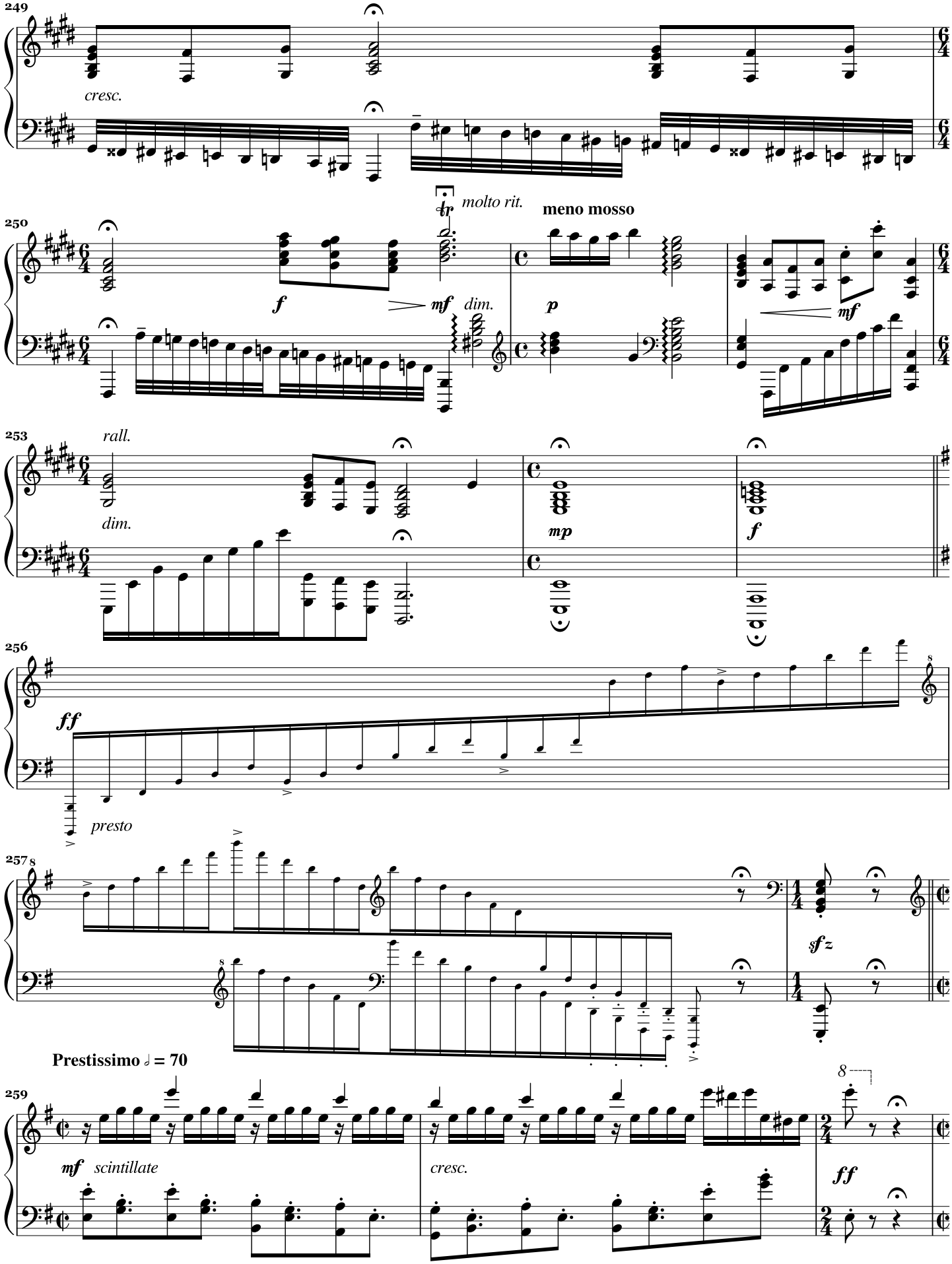

101
ff
106
rit.
dim.
Adagio portamento ♩ = 55
p
cresc.
113
rall.
a tempo
mf
dim.
mp
cresc.
122
rall.
Allegro grazioso ♩ = 100
mf
p
128
132
cresc.

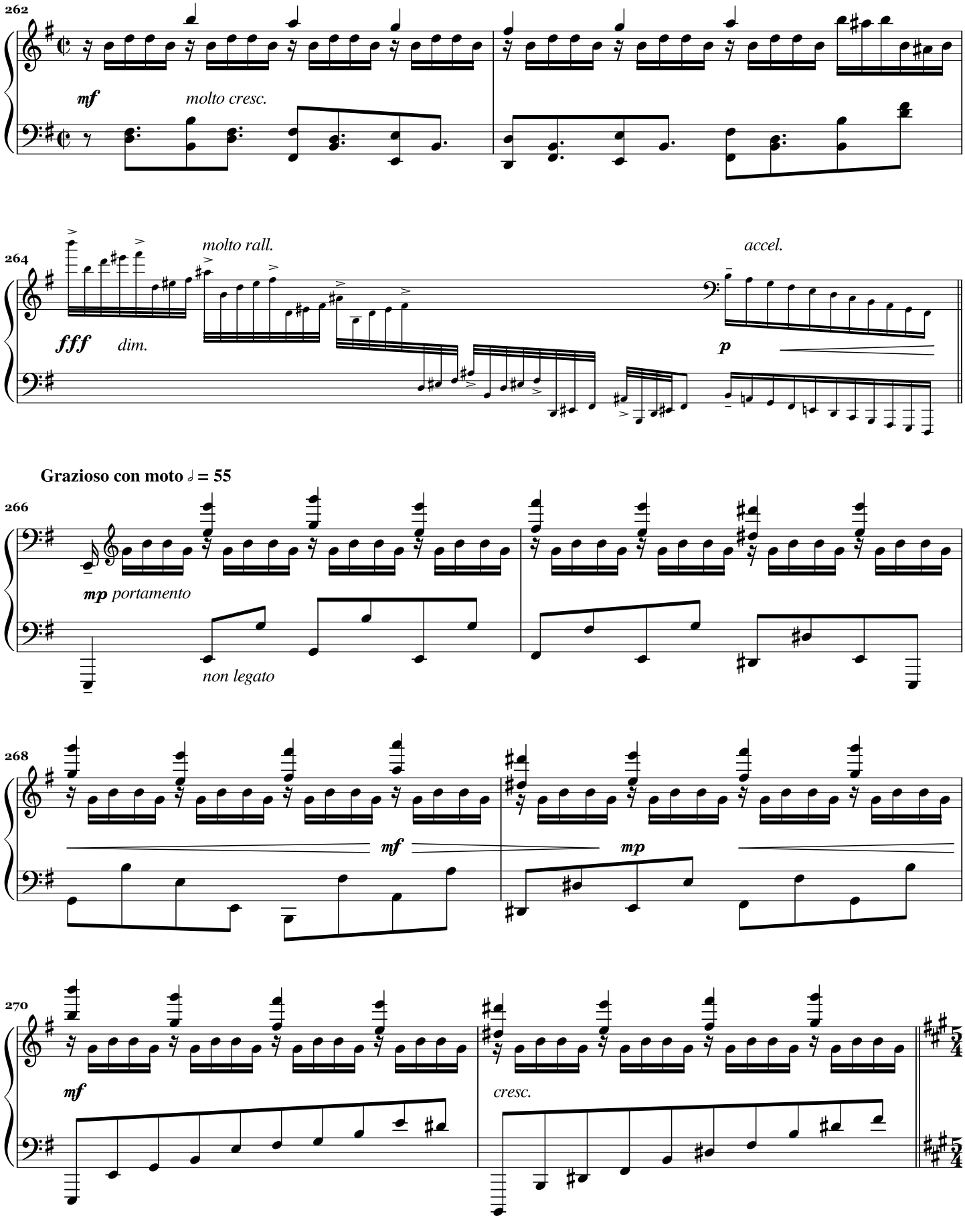

136
ff appassionato
139
142
rall.
dim.
Allegro con brio ♩ = 100
146
mp
p delicato
molto rall.
152
meno mosso
mp affettuoso
cresc.
molto rit.
mf

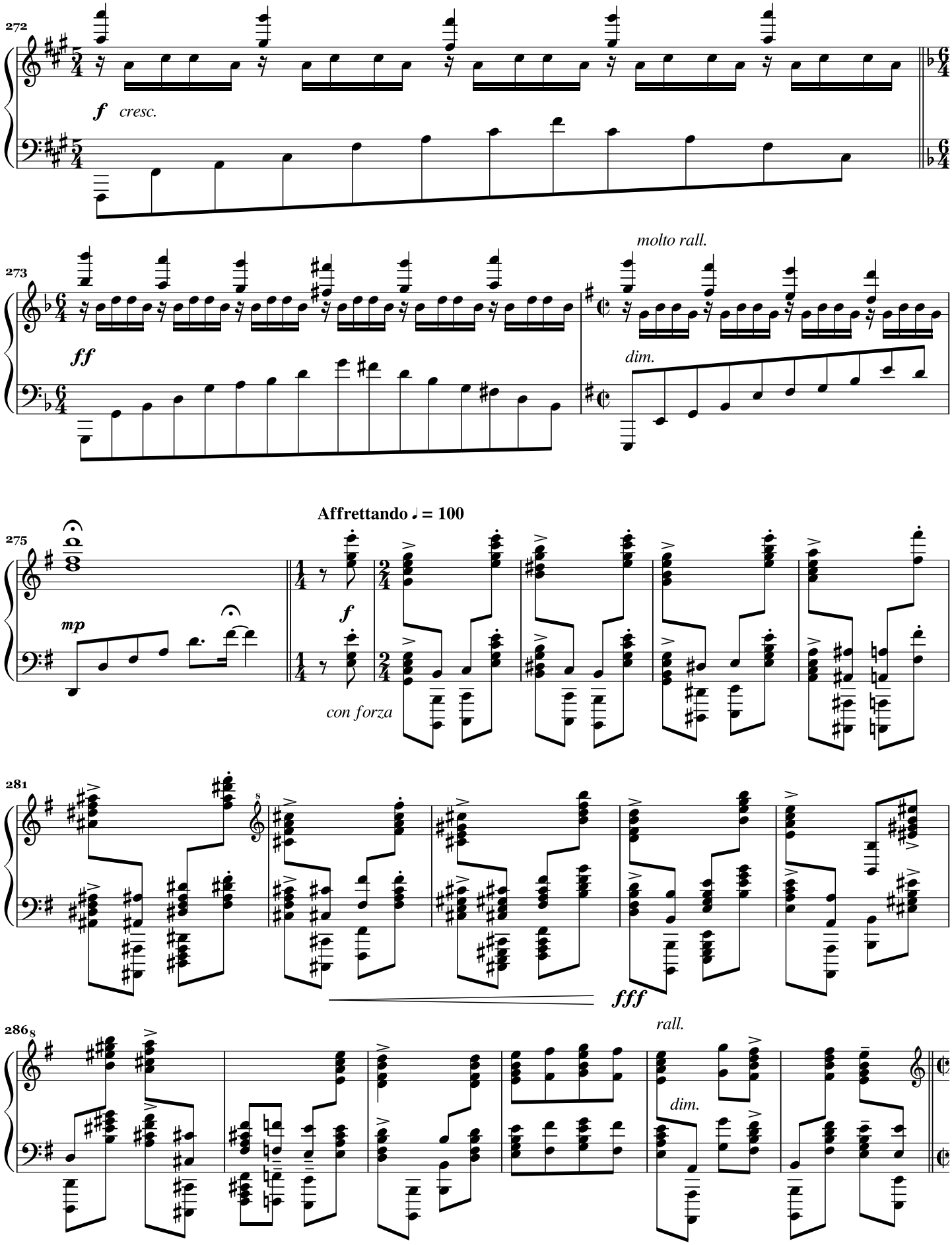

come prima
155
mp scherzando
mf
161
cresc.
rit.
f
mf
Vivace con fuoco ♩ = 132
167
ff
172
177
fff
182


187
Assai brillante ♩ = 140
190
ff attacca
dim.
196
Andante ♩ = 70
f
cresc.
ff
sfz
mp sfogato
204
p
mp
p
209
mf
p
cresc.
214
rall.
f
dim.
mp


Lento non troppo ♩ = 70
220
rit.
lontano
231
a tempo
rall.
dim.
240
Riposo con moto ♩ = 70
rall.
dim.
mf piacevole
244
a tempo
cresc.
246
cresc.
248


249
cresc.
molto rit.
meno mosso
250
f
mf
dim.
p
mf
253
rall.
dim.
mp
f
256
ff
presto
257
sfz
Prestissimo ♩ = 70
259
mf
scintillate
cresc.
ff


262
mf
molto cresc.
264
molto rall.
accel.
fff
dim.
p
Grazioso con moto ♩ = 55
266
mp portamento
non legato
268
mf
mp
270
mf
cresc.

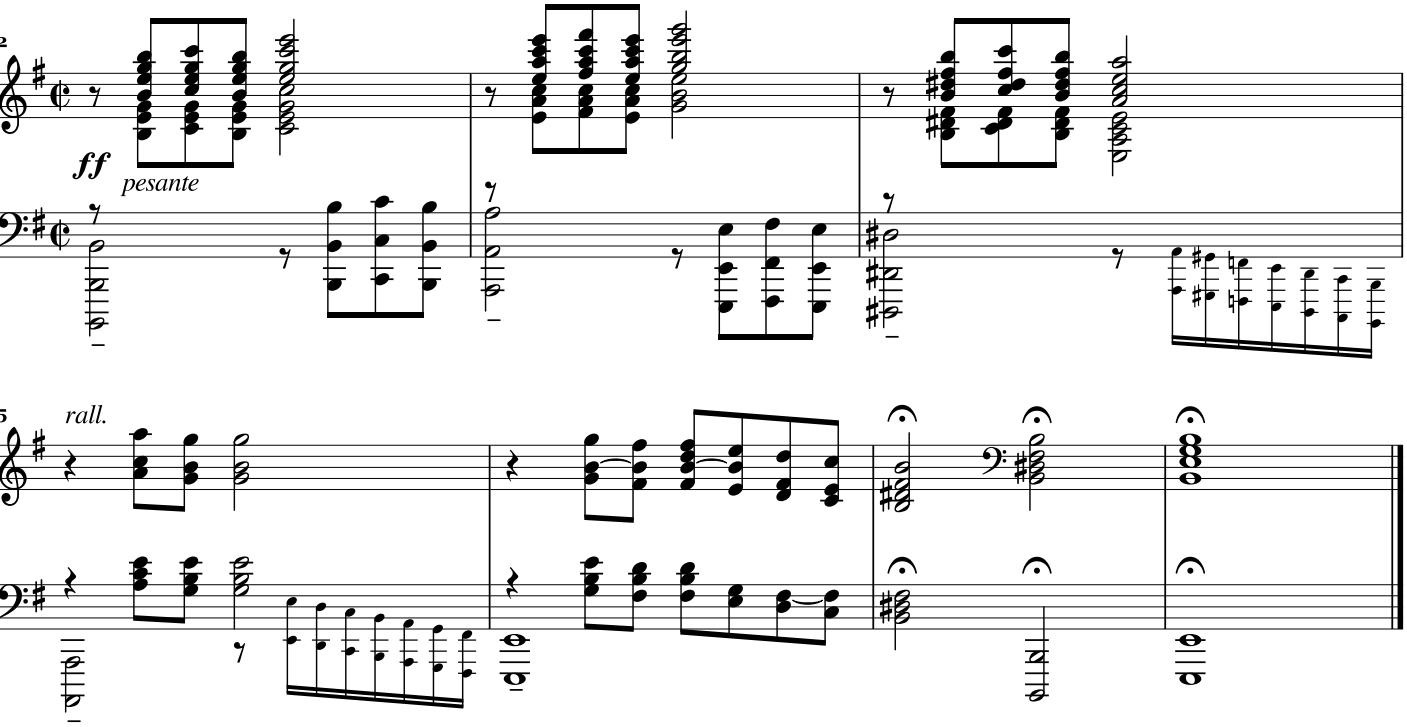

272
f
cresc.
273
ff
molto rall.
dim.
Affrettando ♩ = 100
275
mp
f
con forza
281
fff
286
rall.
dim.

Affettuoso poco agitato ♩ = 35

292

ff *pesante*

295 *rall.*



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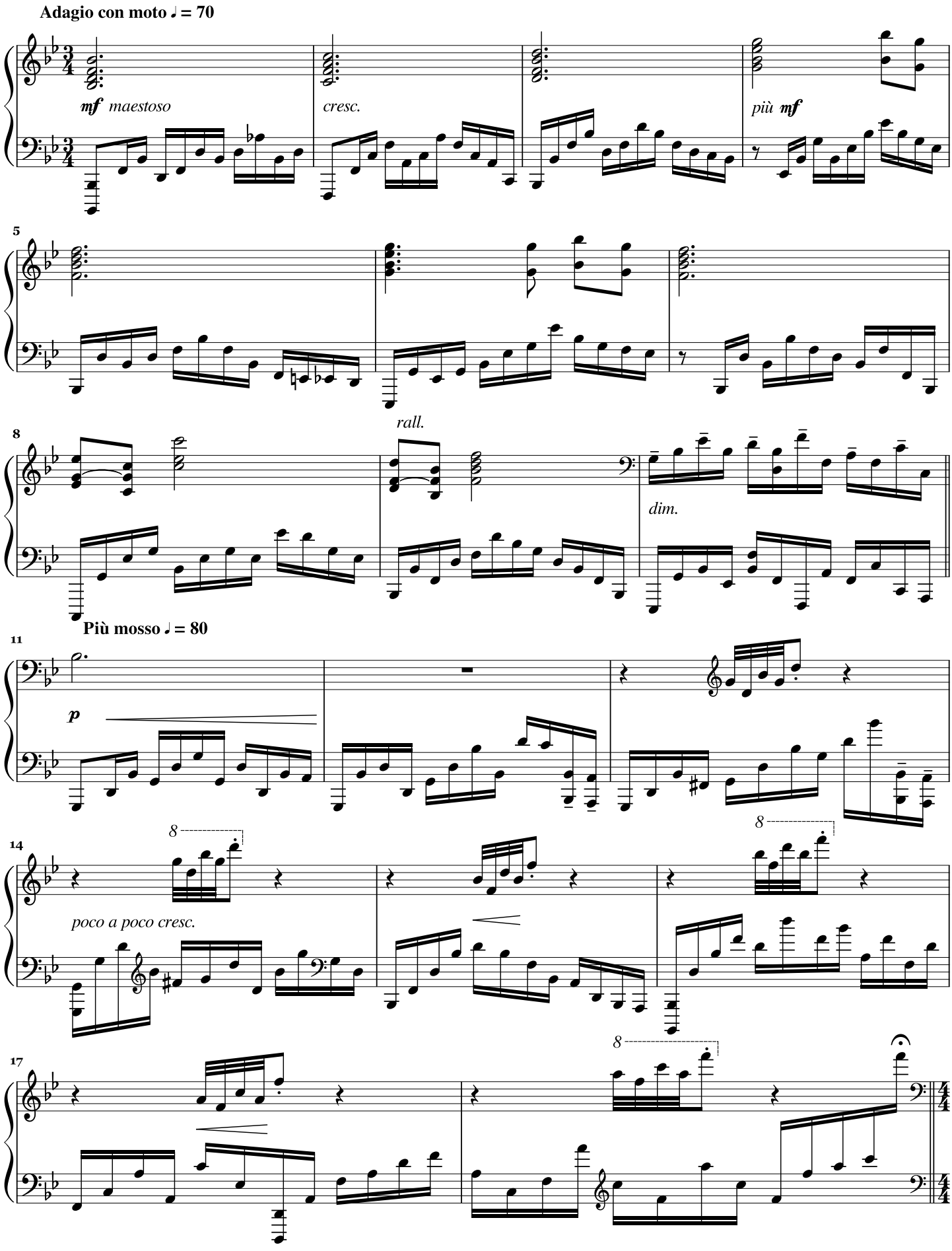
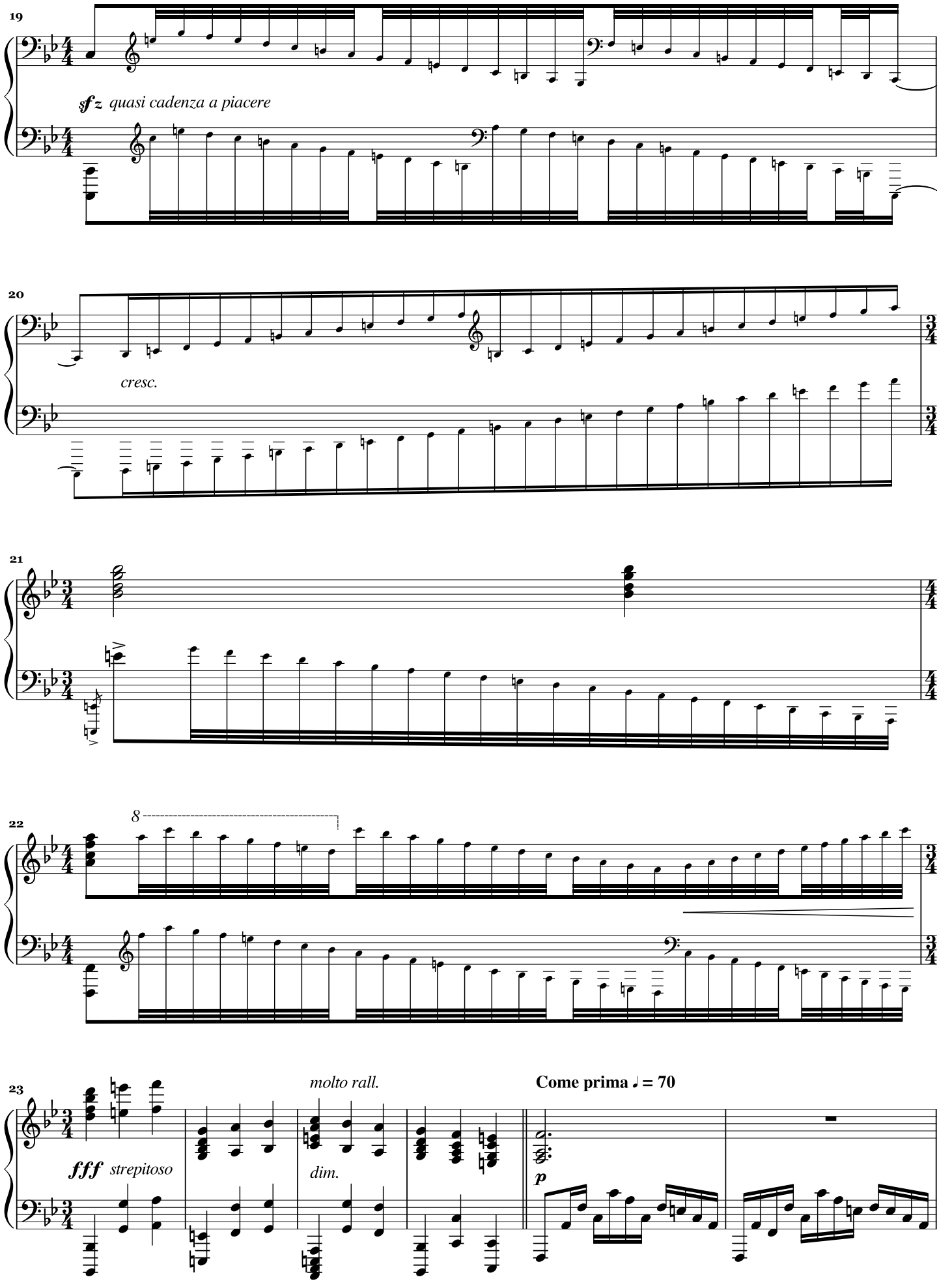
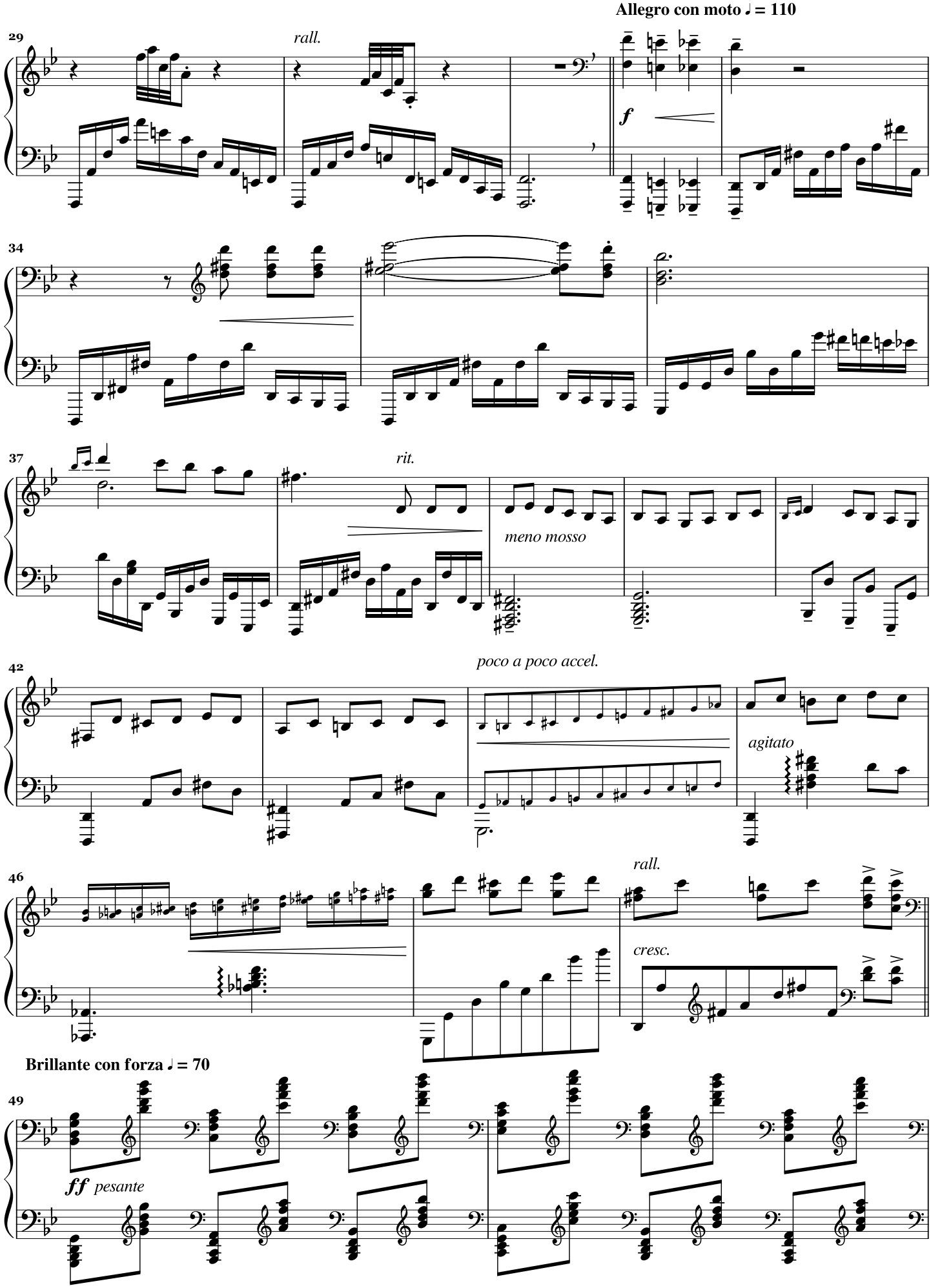
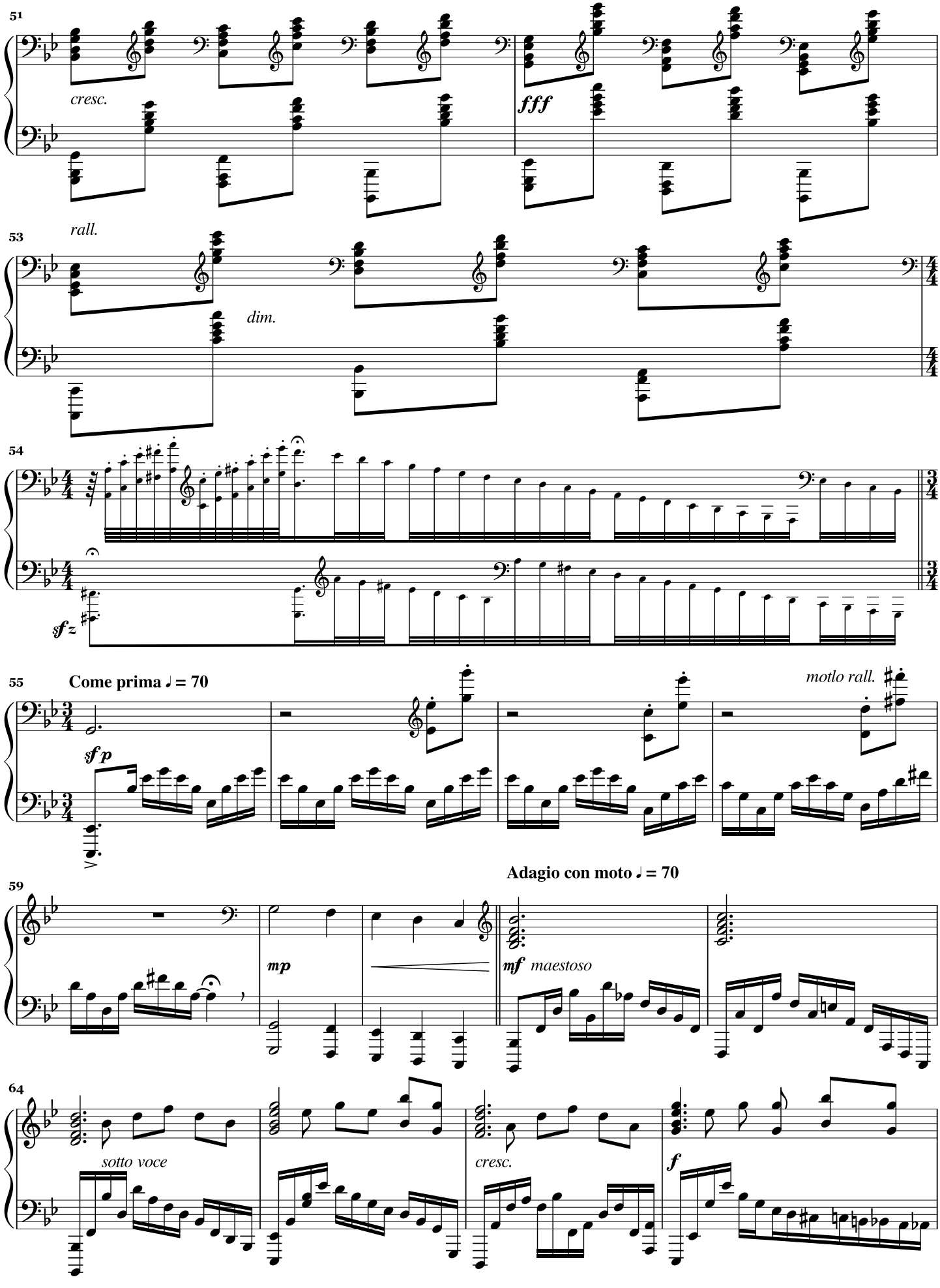
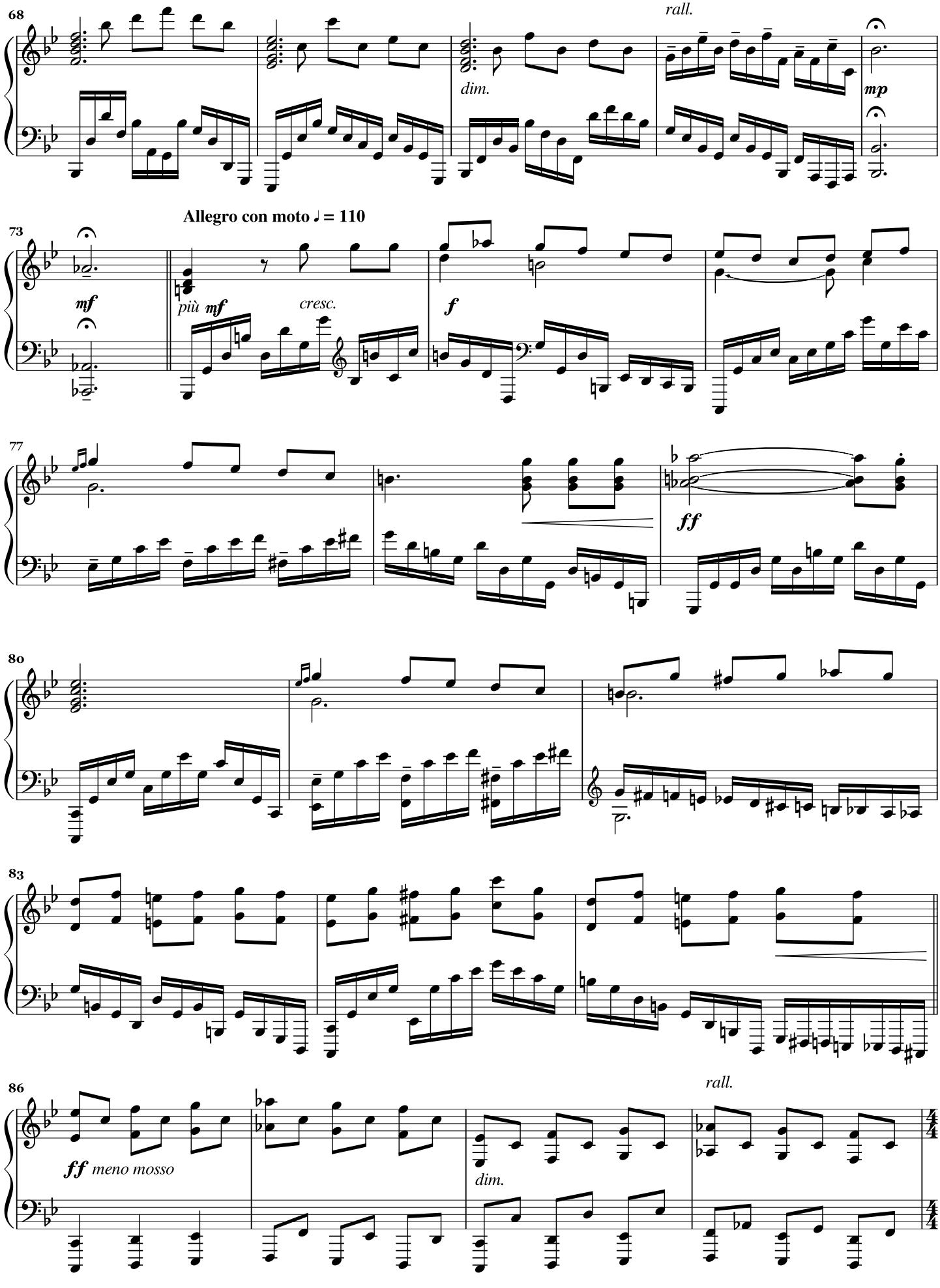
II

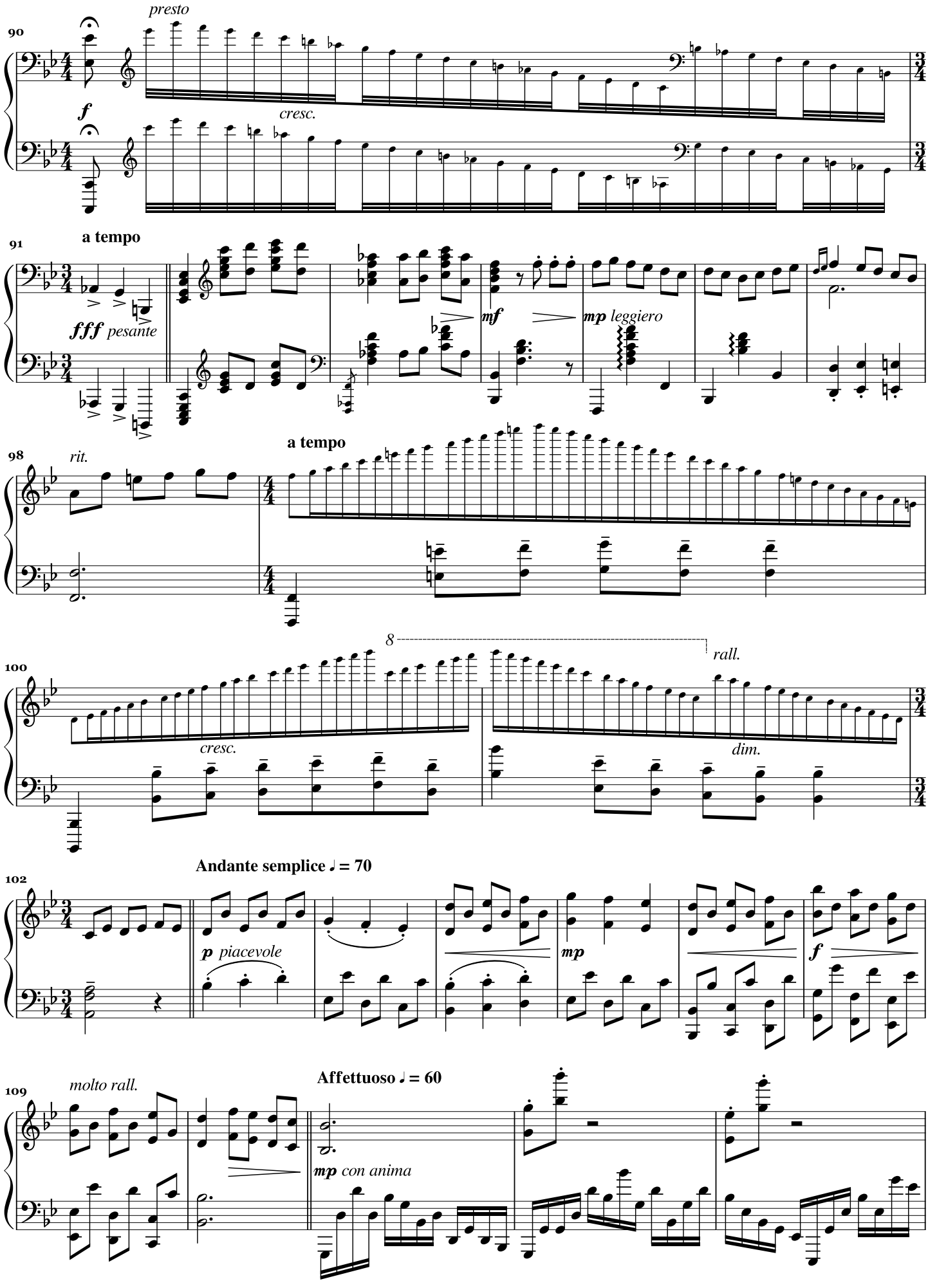

Adagio con moto ♩ = 70
mf maestoso
cresc.
più mf
5
rall.
8
dim.
Più mosso ♩ = 80
11
p
14
poco a poco cresc.
17

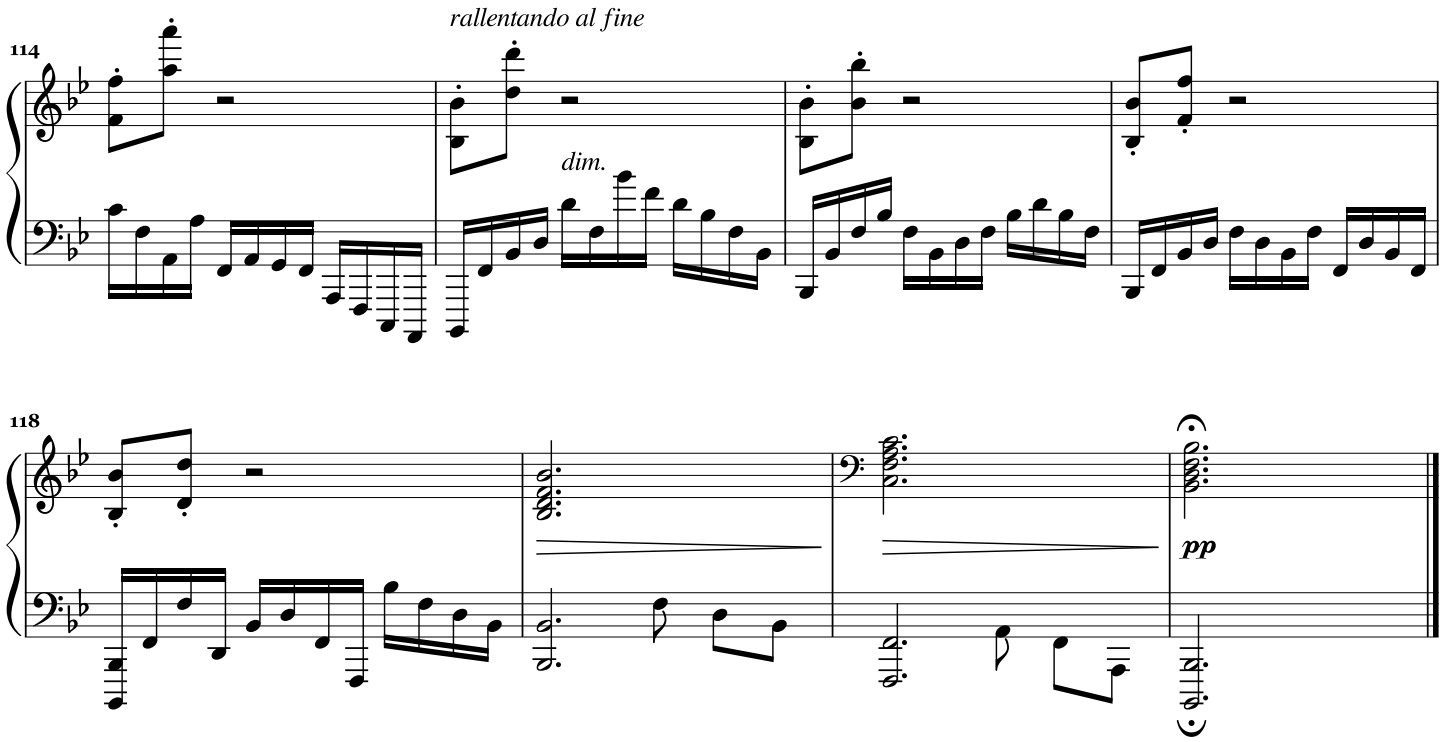

19
sfz quasi cadenza a piacere
20
cresc.
21
22
8
23
molto rall.
Come prima ♩ = 70
fff strepitoso
dim.
p


Allegro con moto ♩ = 110
29
rall.
f
34
37
rit.
meno mosso
42
poco a poco accel.
agitato
46
rall.
cresc.
Brillante con forza ♩ = 70
49
ff pesante


51
cresc.
fff
rall.
53
dim.
54
sfz
55
Come prima ♩ = 70
sfp
motlo rall.
Adagio con moto ♩ = 70
59
mp
mf maestoso
64
sotto voce
cresc.
f


68
rall.
dim.
mp
Allegro con moto ♩ = 110
73
mf
più mf
cresc.
f
77
ff
80
83
86
ff meno mosso
rall.
dim.


presto
90
f
cresc.
a tempo
91
fff pesante
mf
mp leggiero
a tempo
98
rit.
8
rall.
100
cresc.
dim.
Andante semplice ♩ = 70
102
p piacevole
mp
f
molto rall.
Affettuoso ♩ = 60
109
mp con anima



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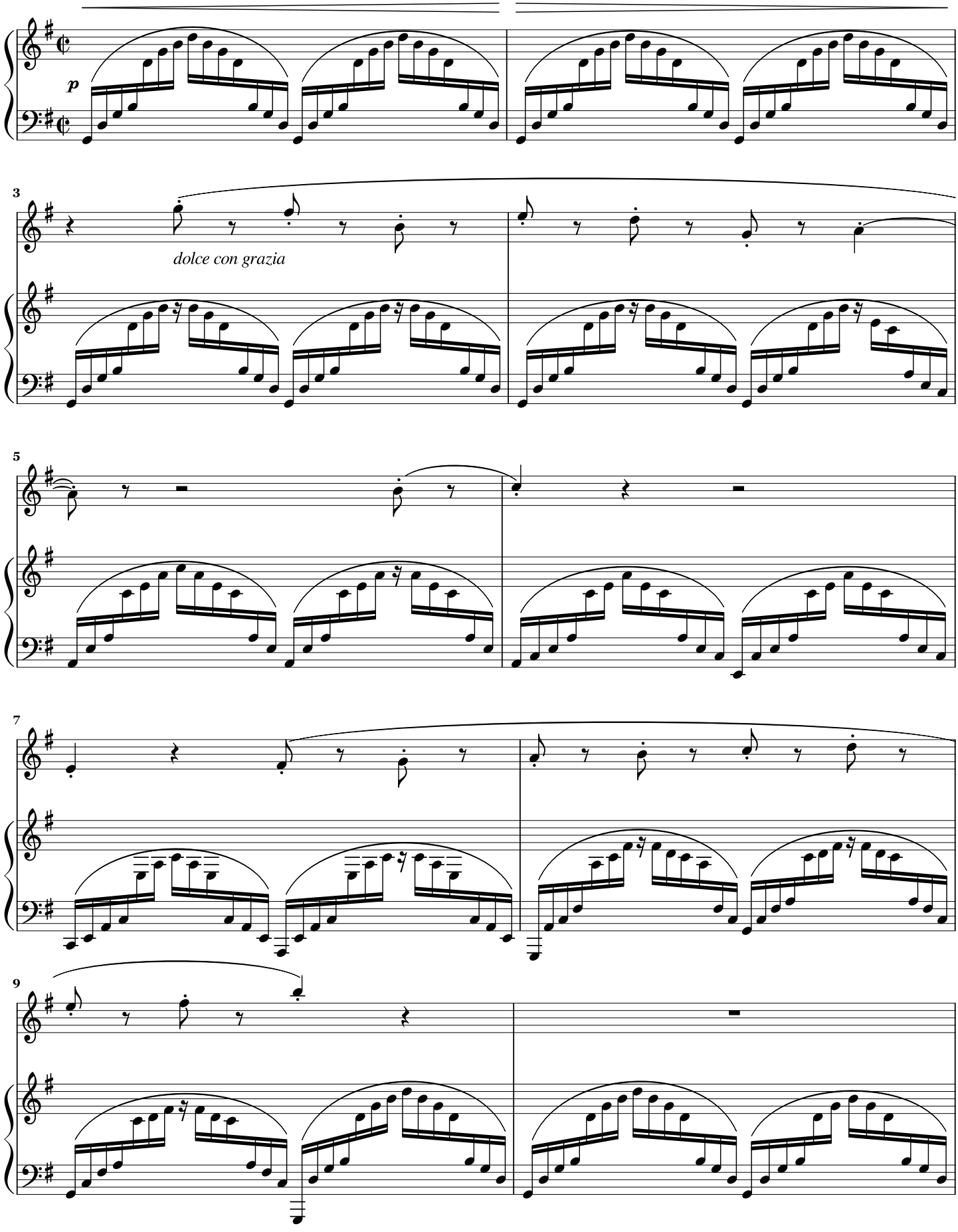
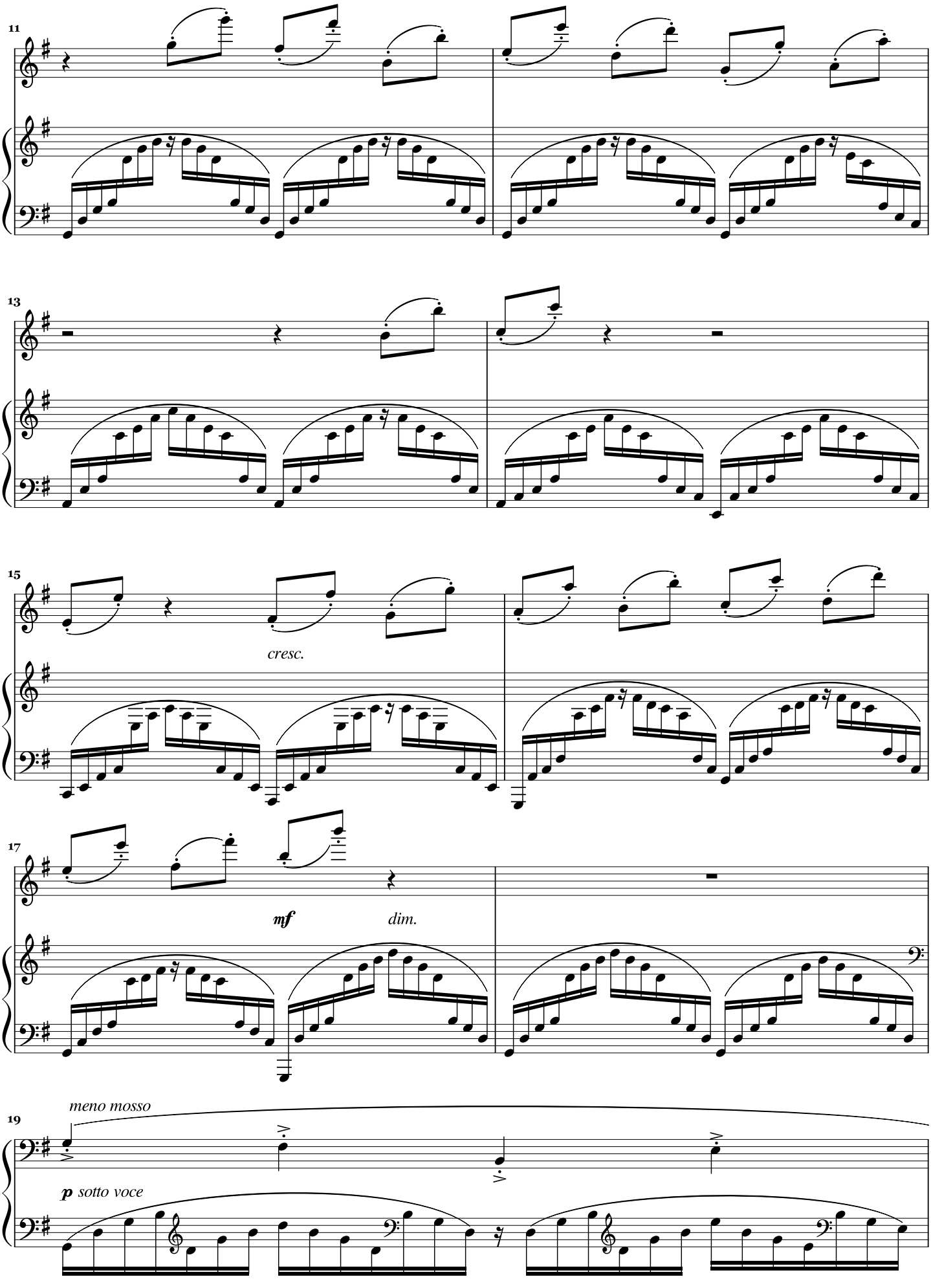
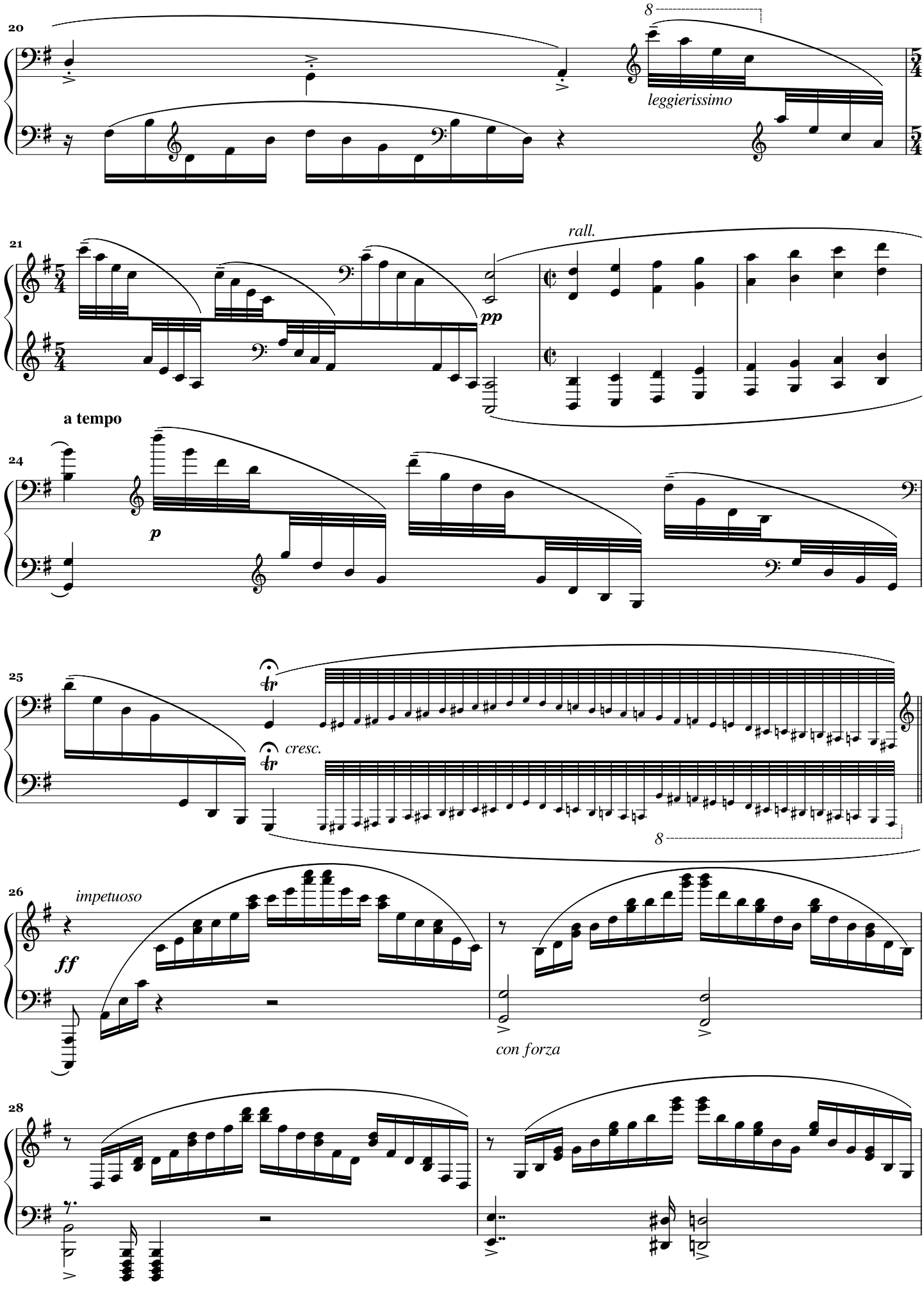
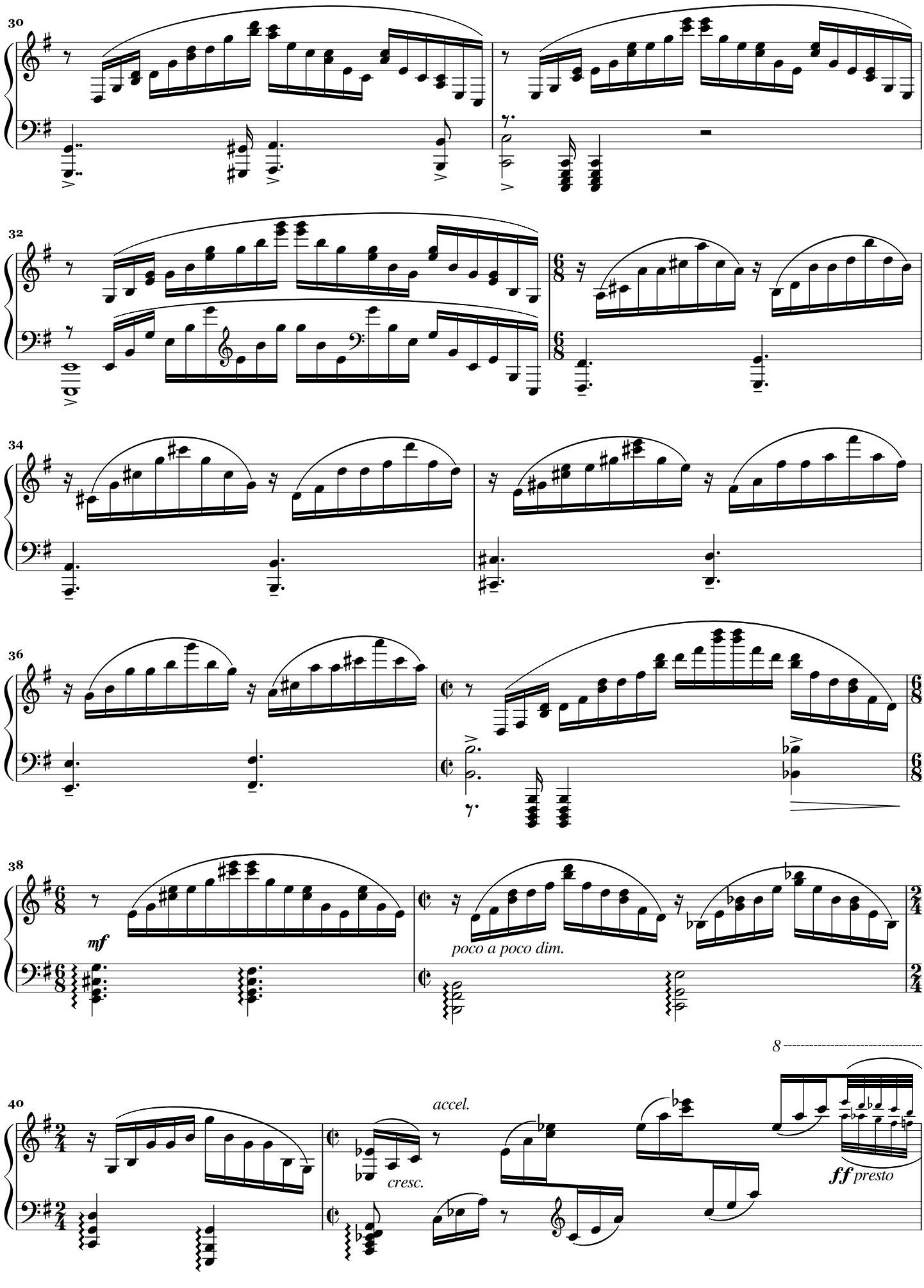
III

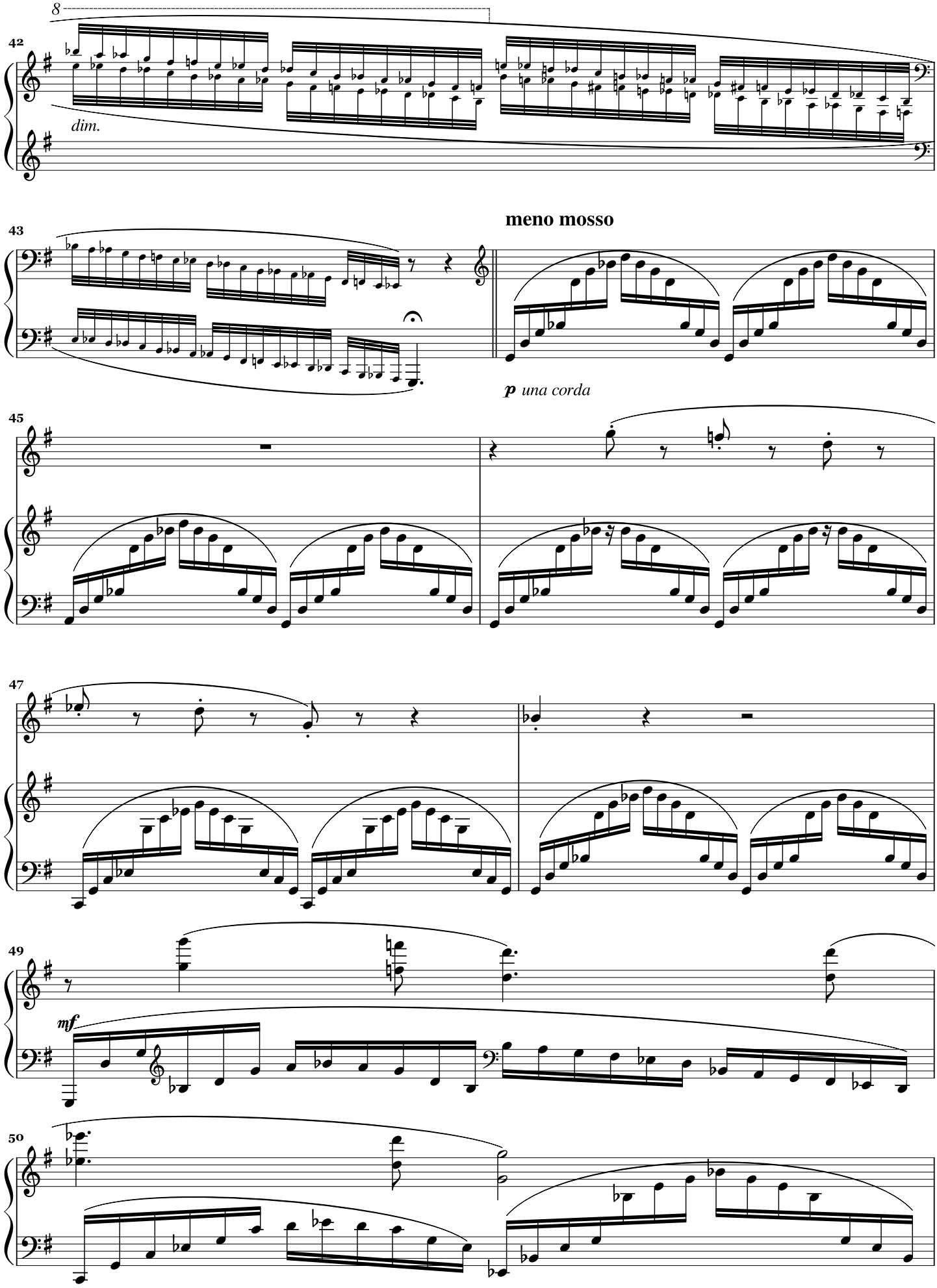
Riposo affetuoso

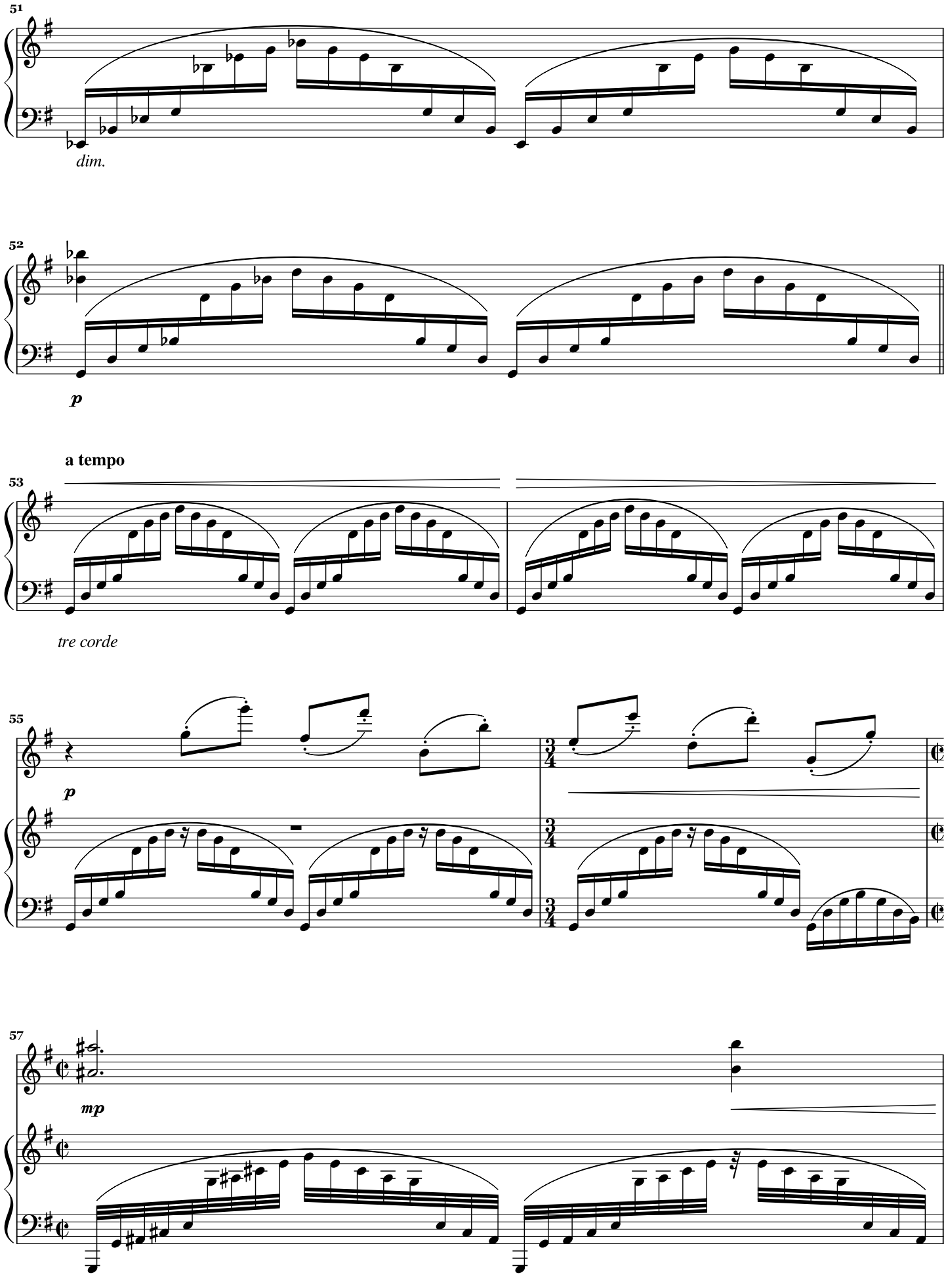


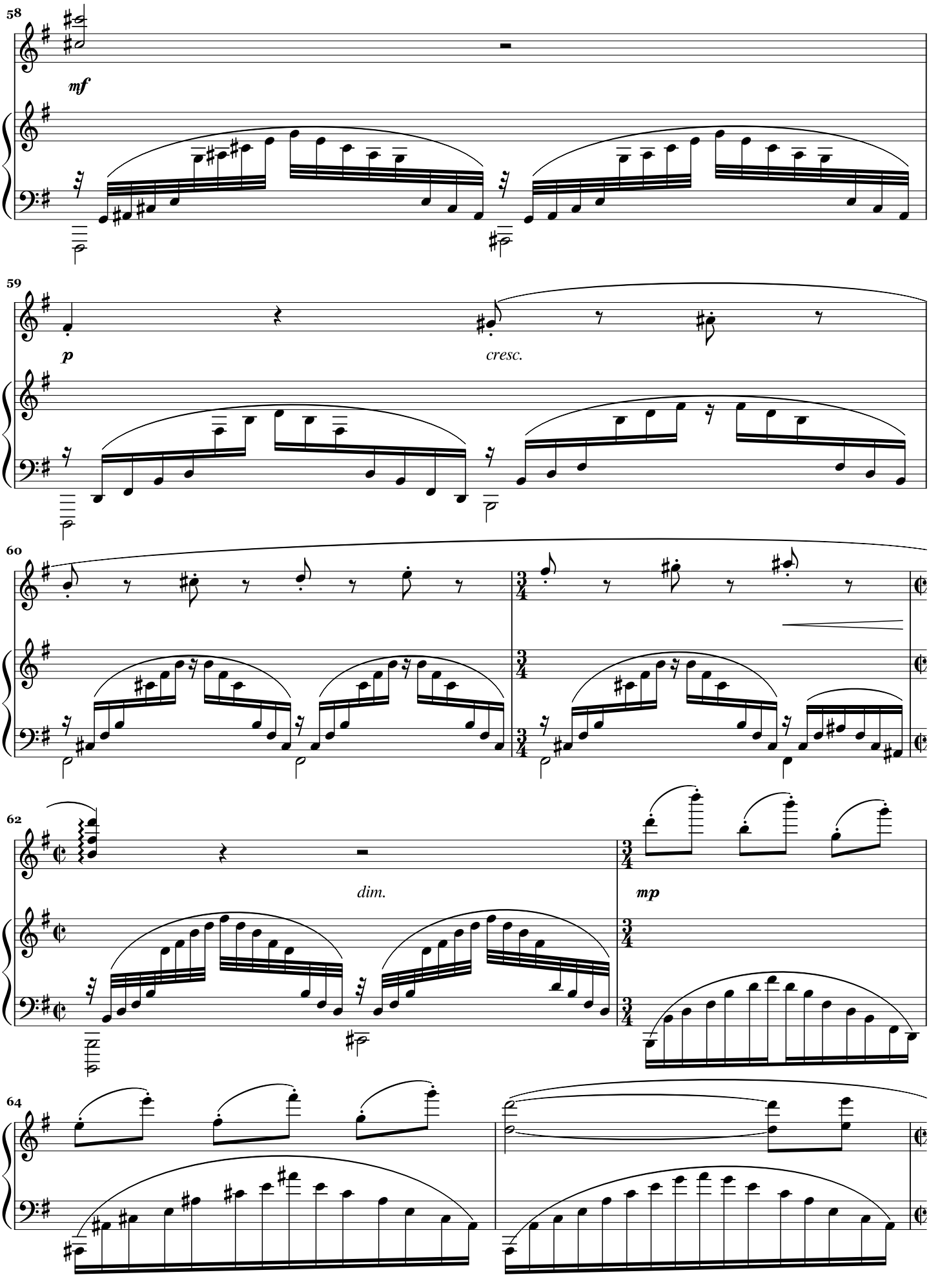

11
13
15
cresc.
17
mf
dim.
19
meno mosso
p sotto voce

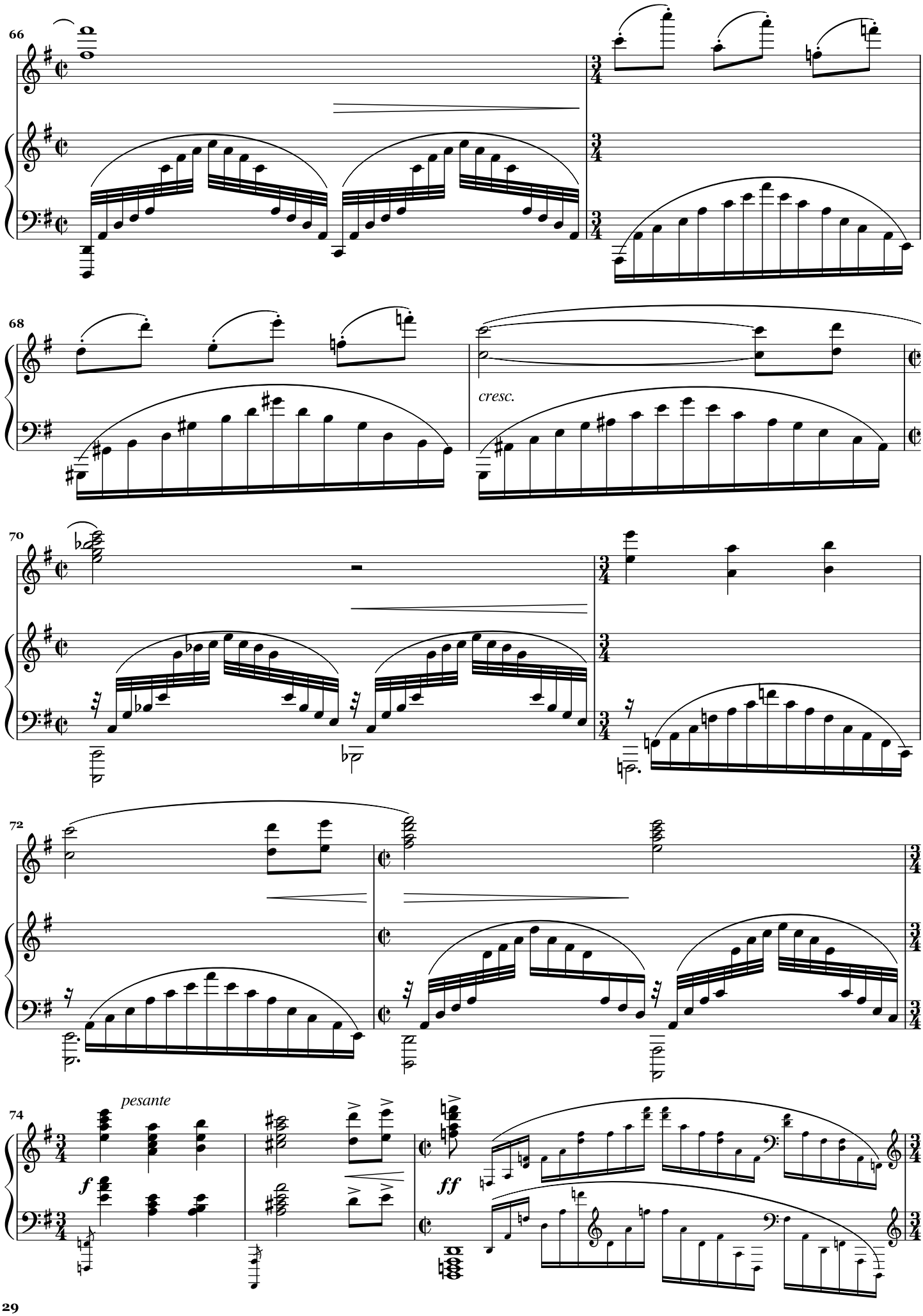

20
8
leggierissimo
21
rall.
pp
a tempo
24
p
25
cresc.
8
26
impetuoso
ff
con forza
28

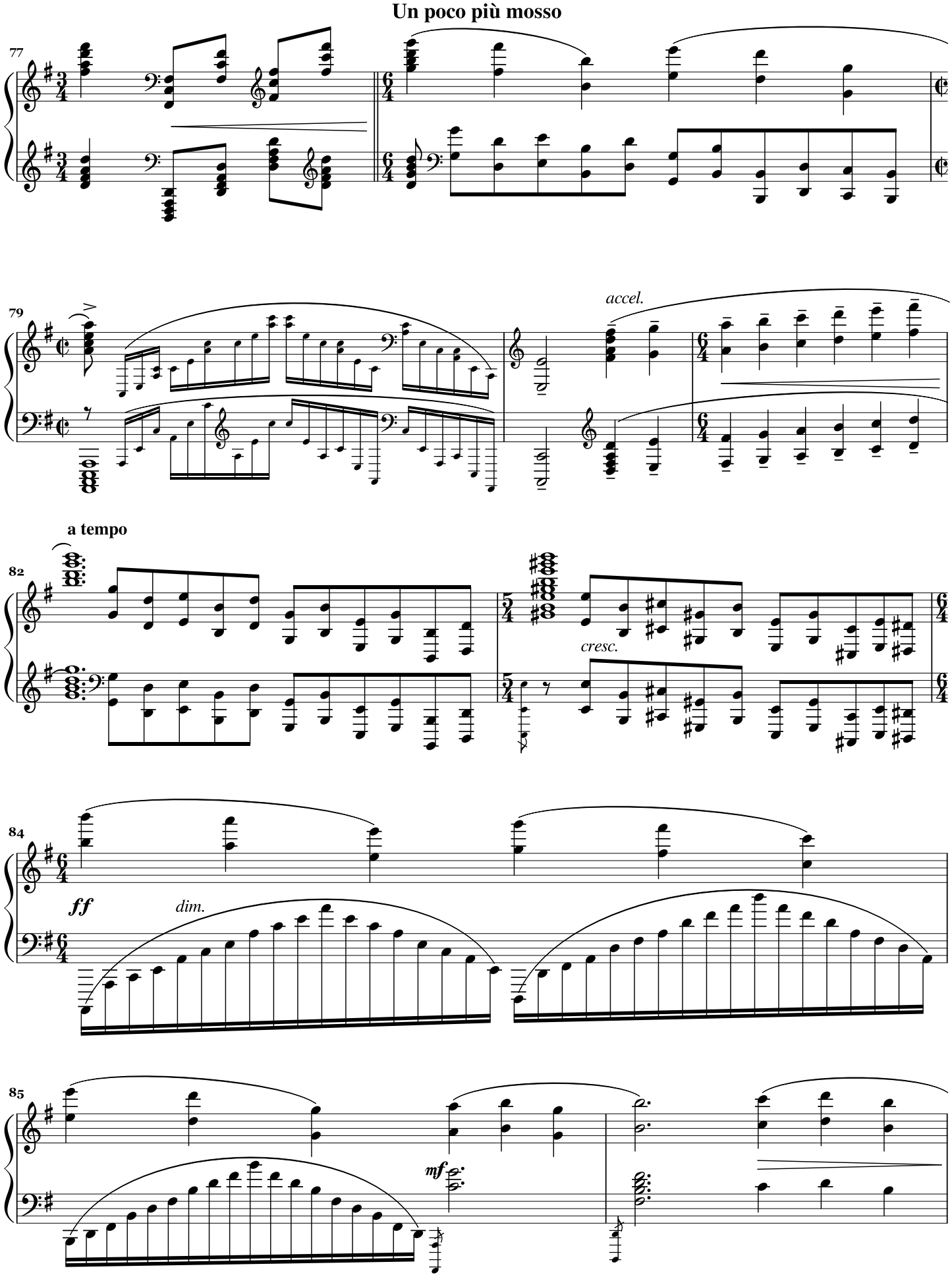

30
32
34
36
38
mf
poco a poco dim.
40
accel.
cresc.
8
ff presto

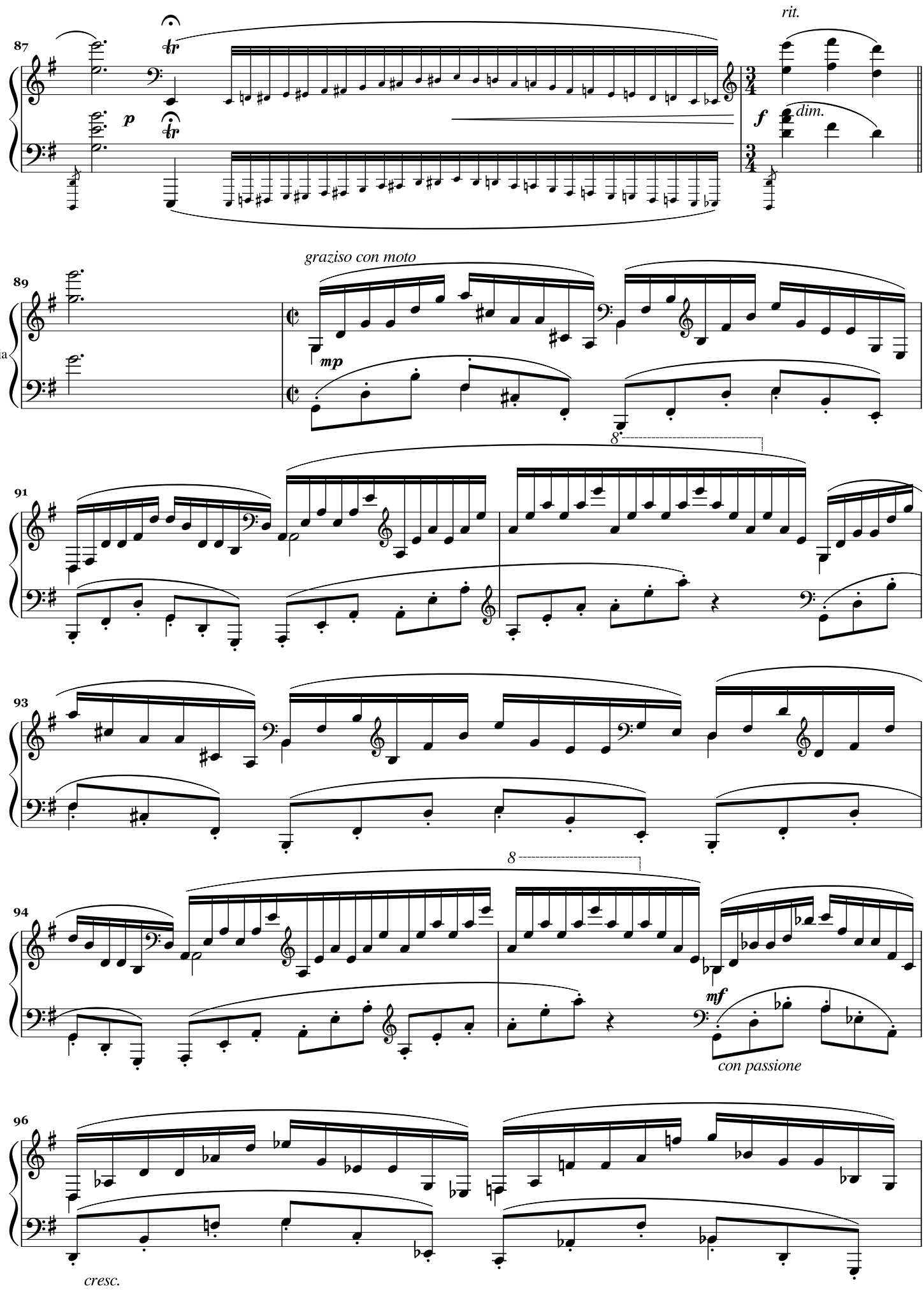

8
42
dim.
meno mosso
43
p una corda
45
47
49
mf
50

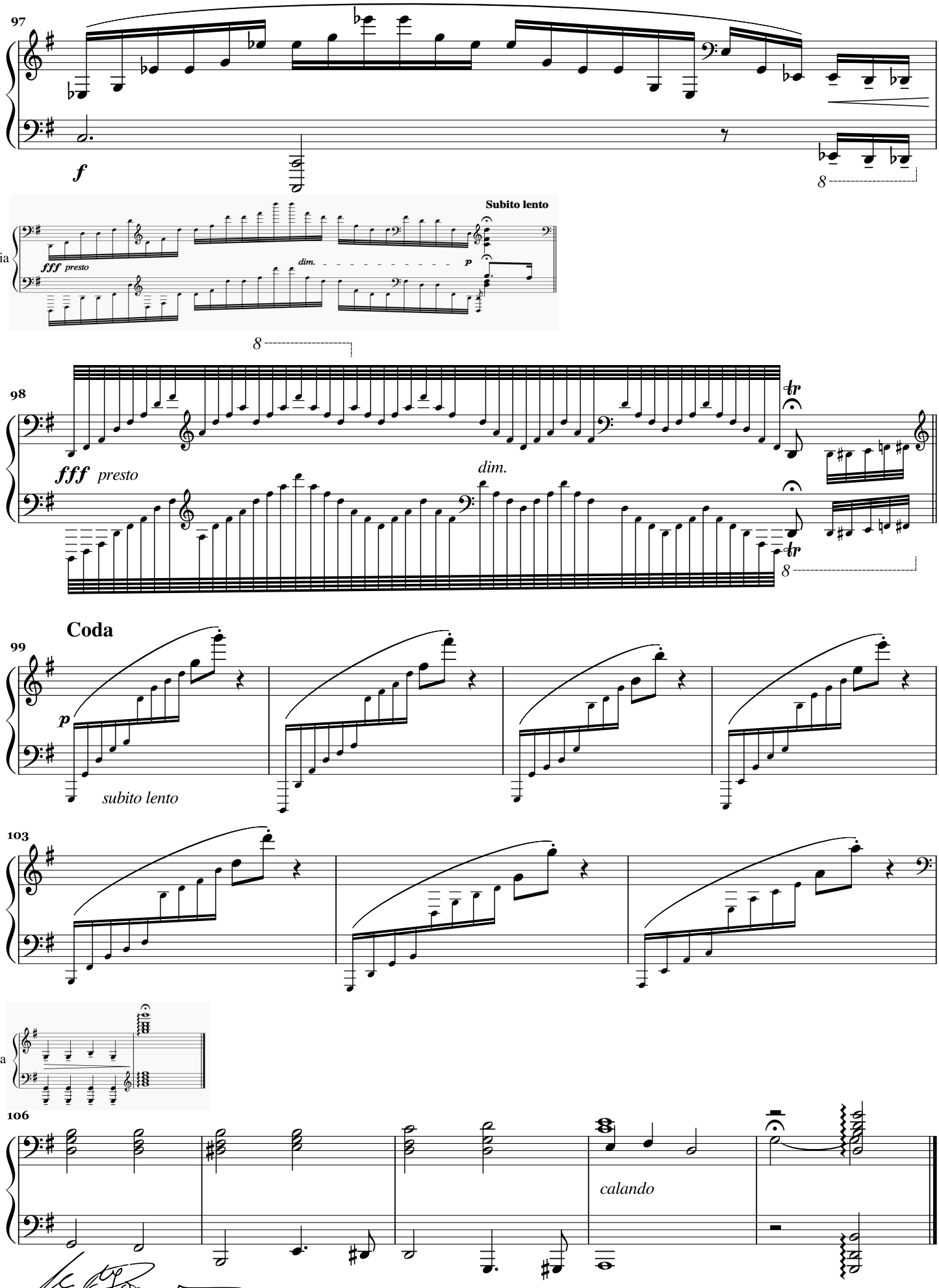

51
dim.
52
p
a tempo
53
tre corde
55
p
3/4
57
mp


58
mf
59
p
cresc.
60
62
dim.
mp
64


66
68
cresc.
70
72
74
pesante
f
ff


Un poco più mosso
77
79
accel.
a tempo
82
cresc.
84
ff
dim.
85
mf


87
rit.
p
f
dim.
graziso con moto
89
Ossia
mp
8
91
93
8
94
mf
con passione
96
cresc.



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