Scenes From Here and There

for

Violoncello & Piano

John Newell

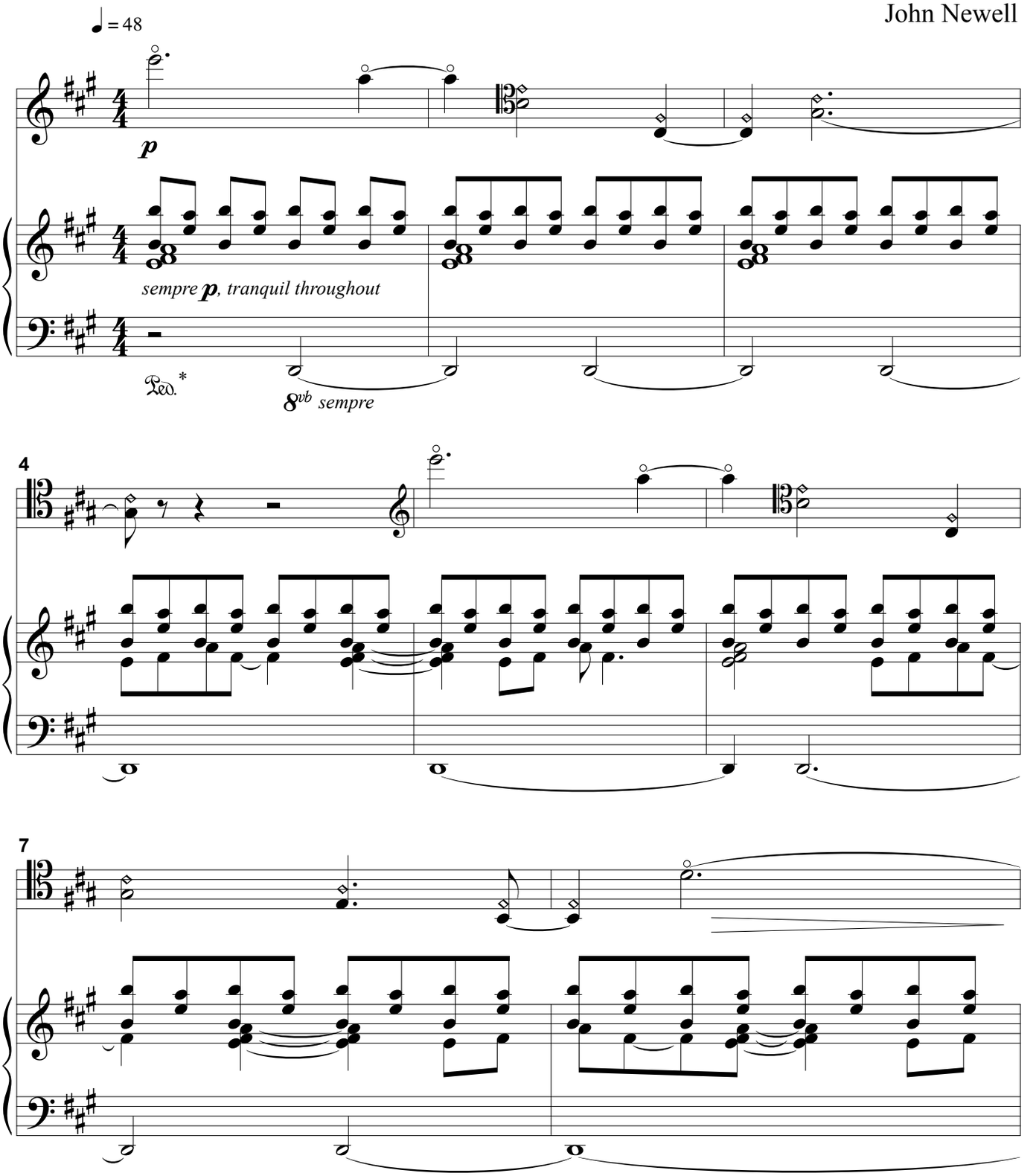
ABIERTO MUSIC

to Matthew Goeke

Scenes From Here and There

I. Komorebi

John Newell



*Hold down the pedal throughout this movement.

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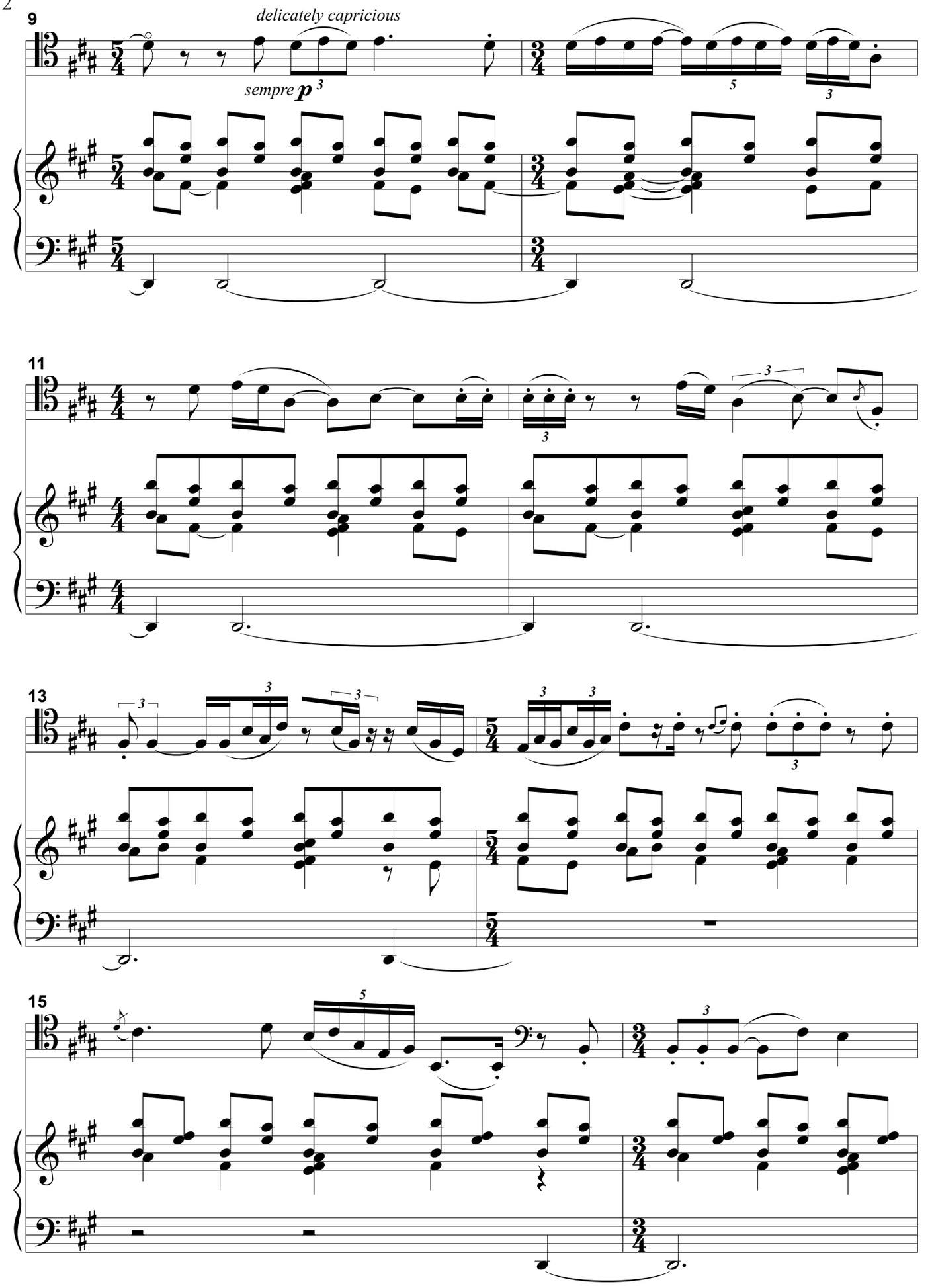
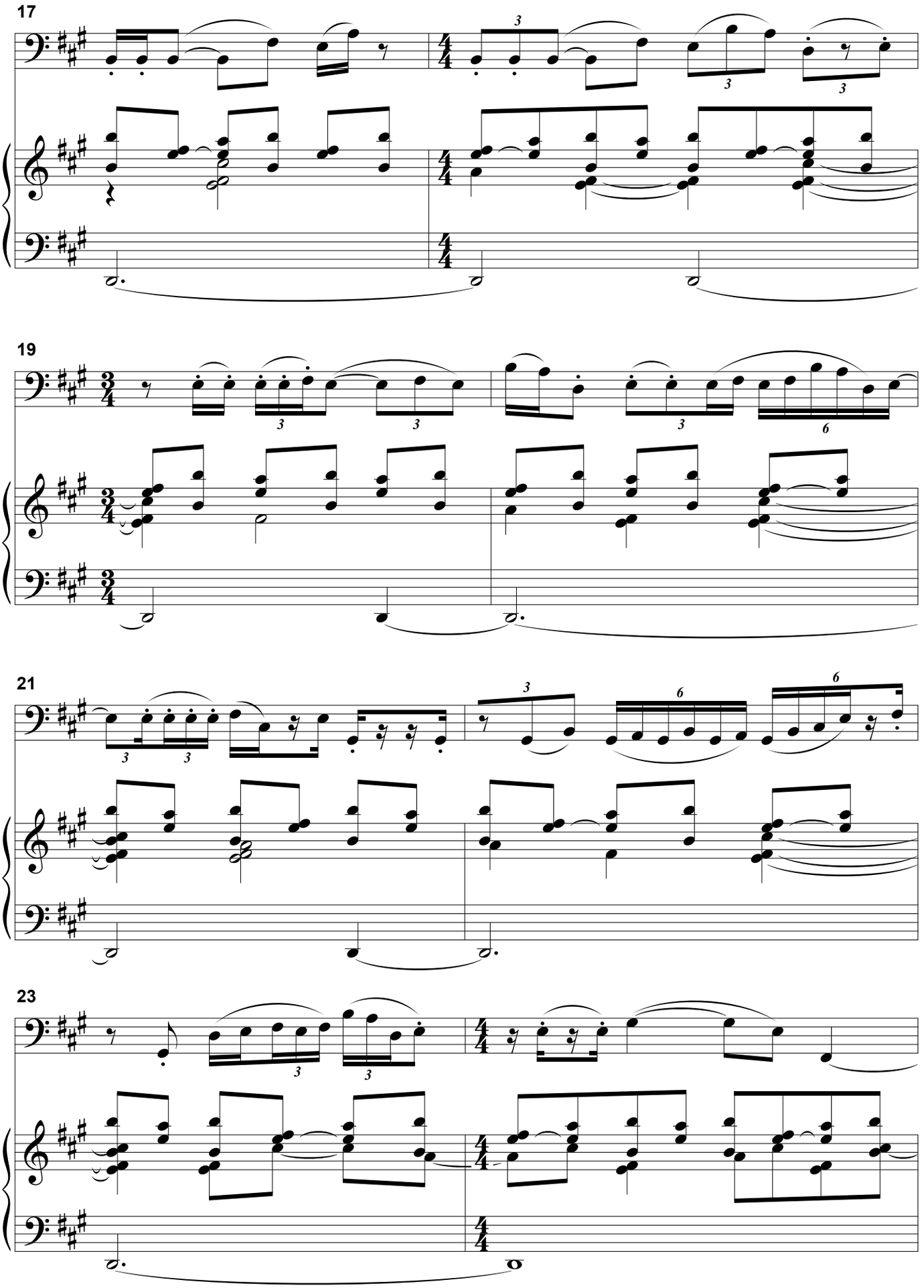
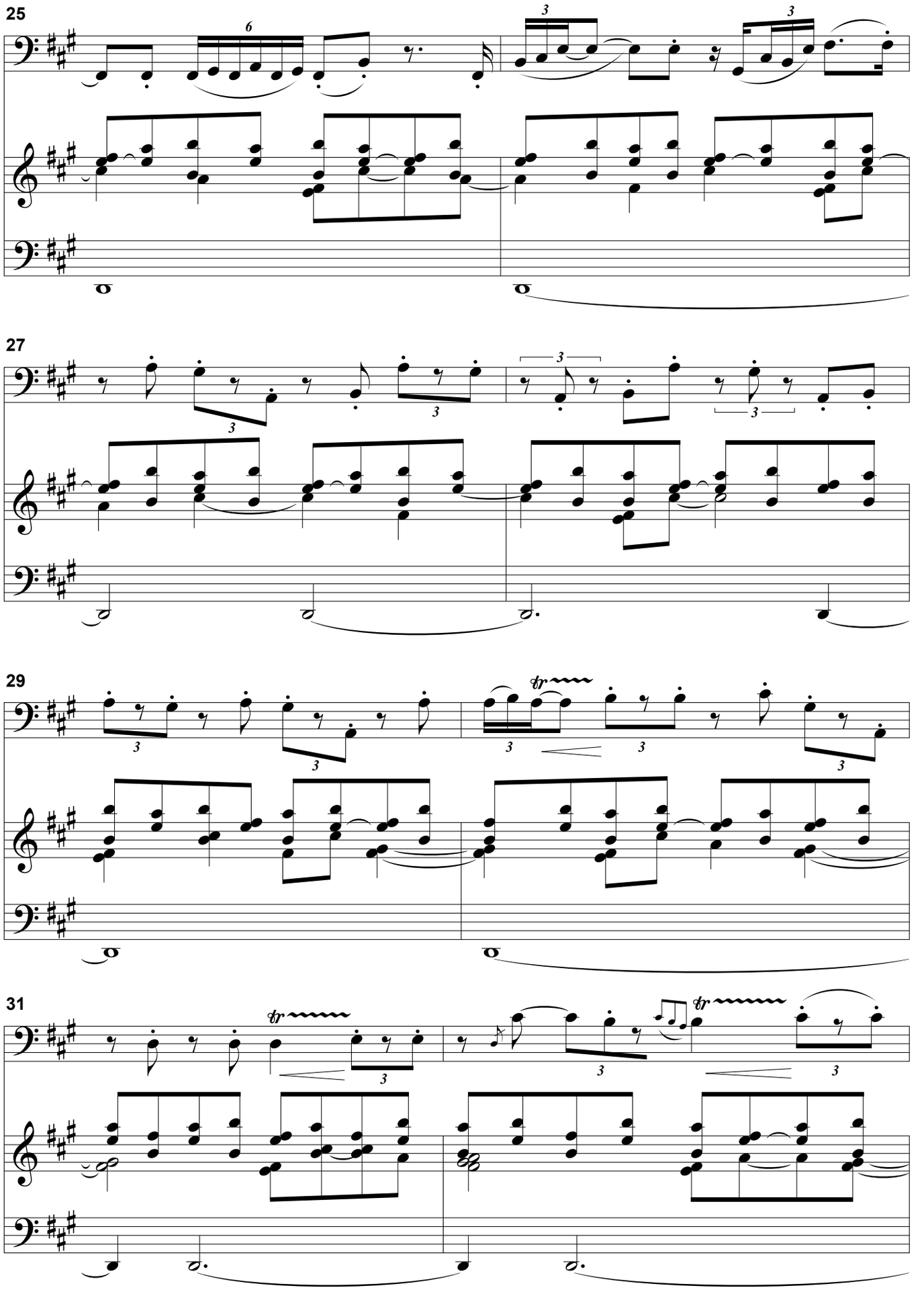
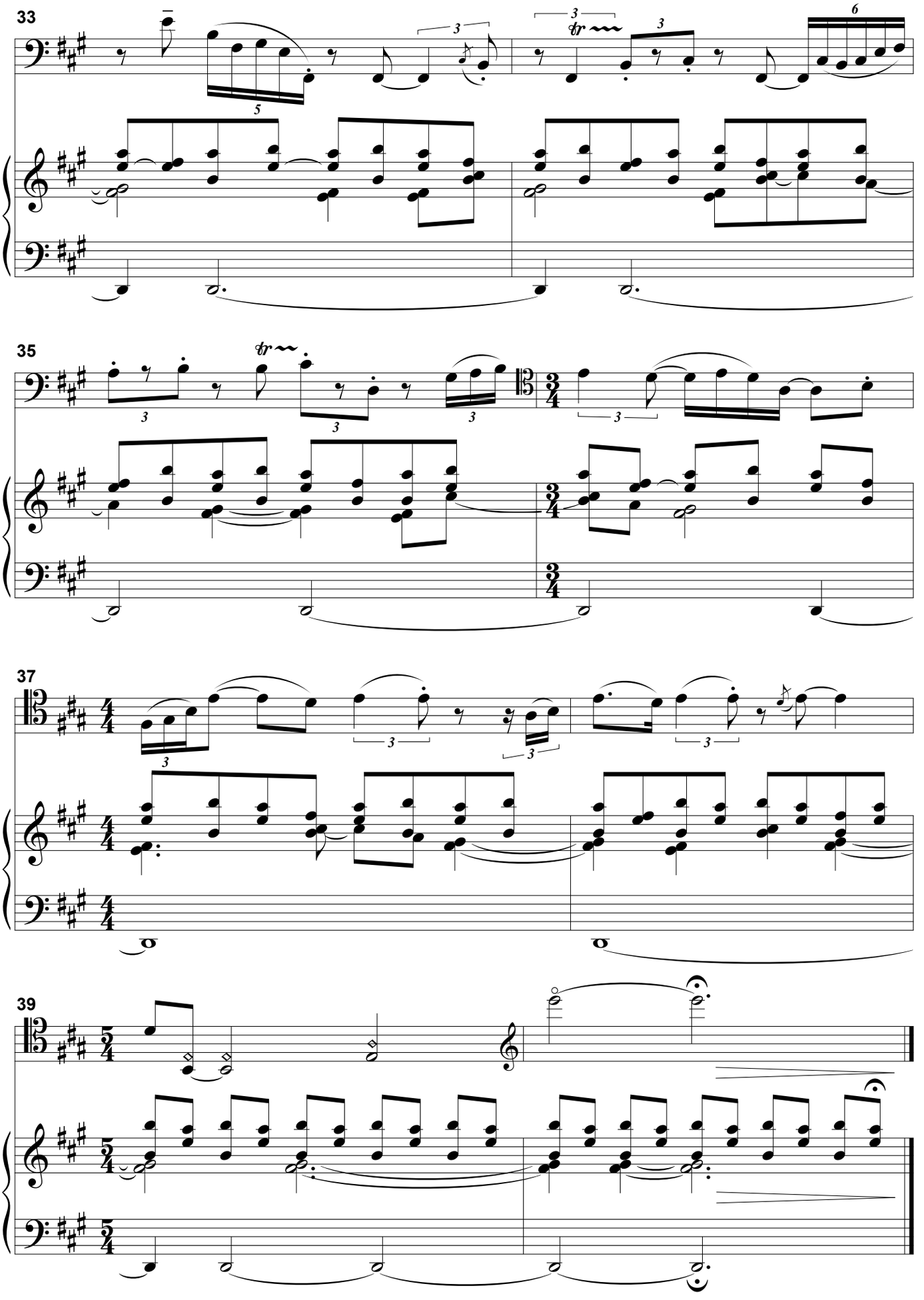
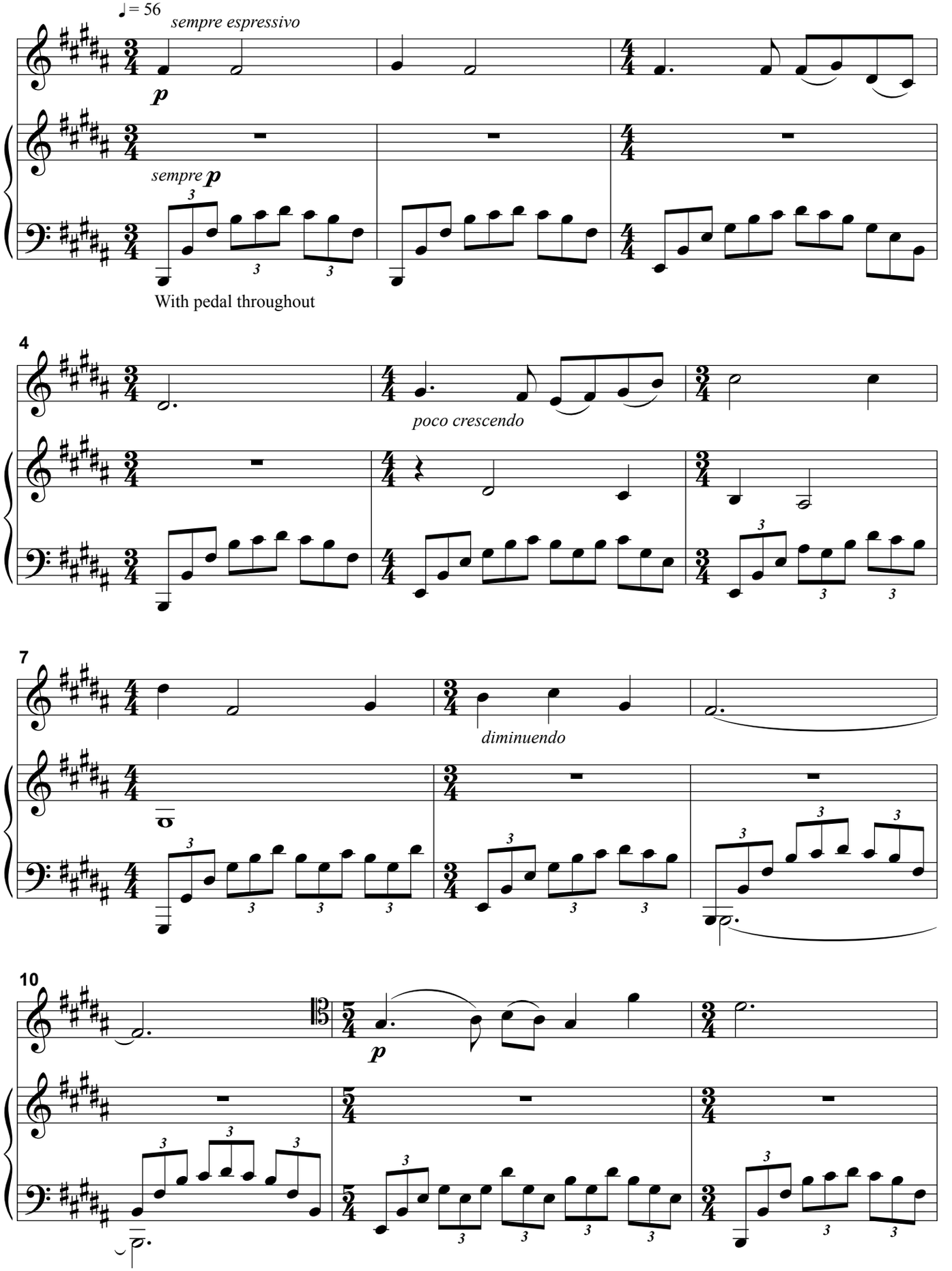

9
delicately capricious
sempre p
11
13
15

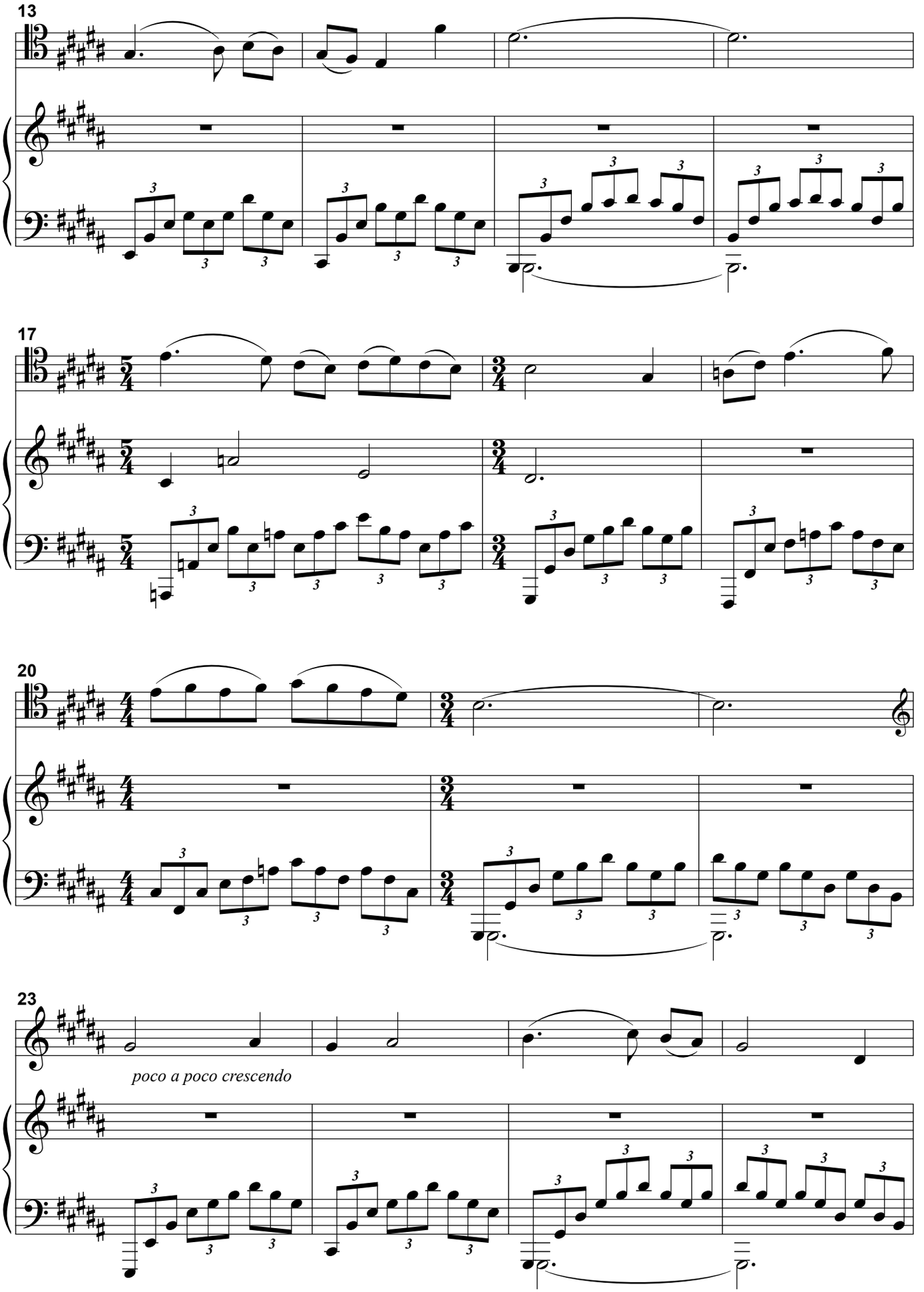

17
19
21
23

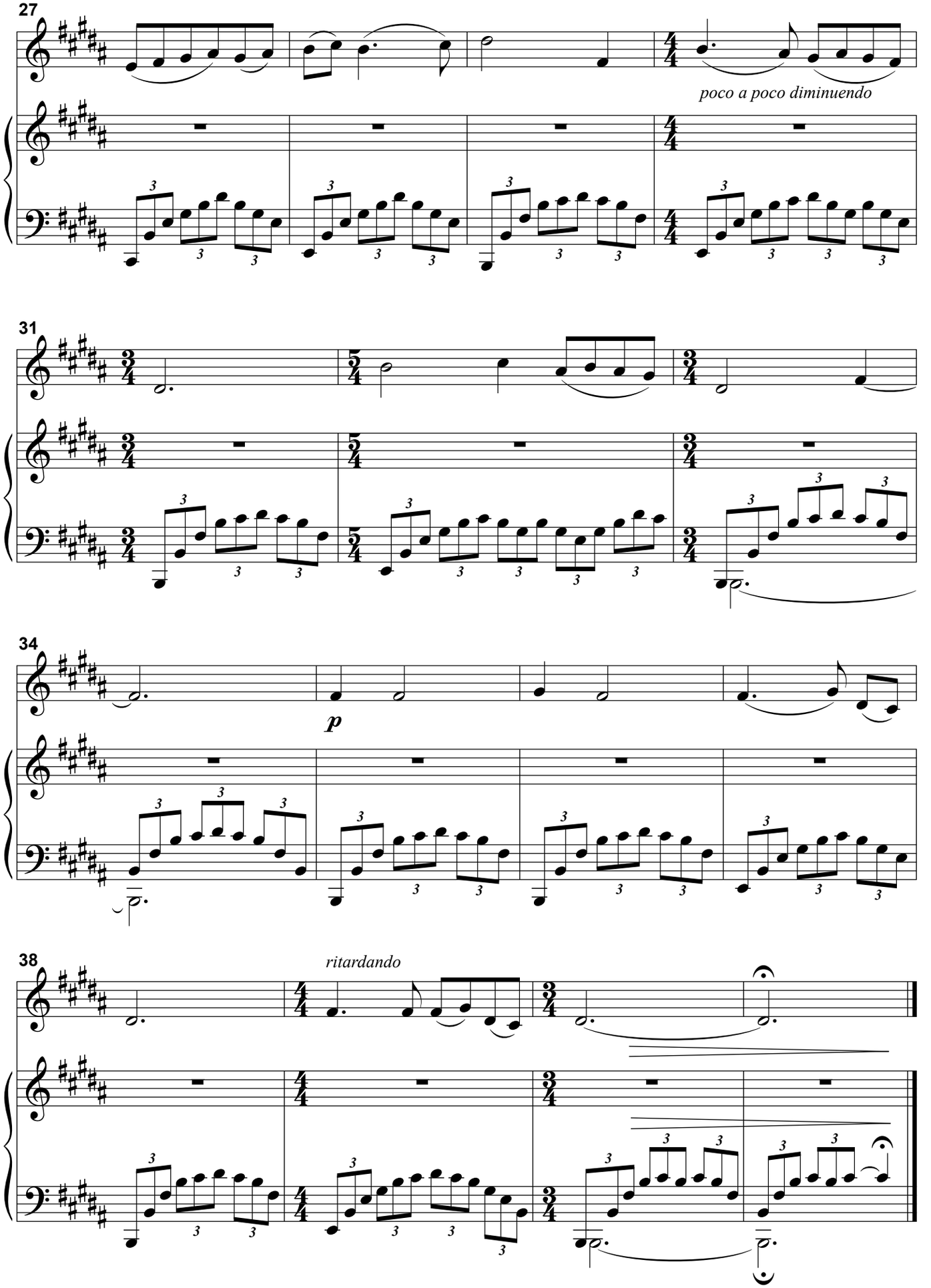

25
27
29
31


33
35
37
39

II. Arietta


♩= 56
sempre espressivo
p
sempre p
With pedal throughout
4
poco crescendo
7
diminuendo
10
p


13
17
20
23
poco a poco crescendo


27
poco a poco diminuendo
31
34
p
38
ritardando

III. Rascal

playfully, without concern for what anyone thinks

♩ = 100

p

4

crescendo

crescendo

7

f

f

10

p

p

p

13

16

crescendo poco a poco

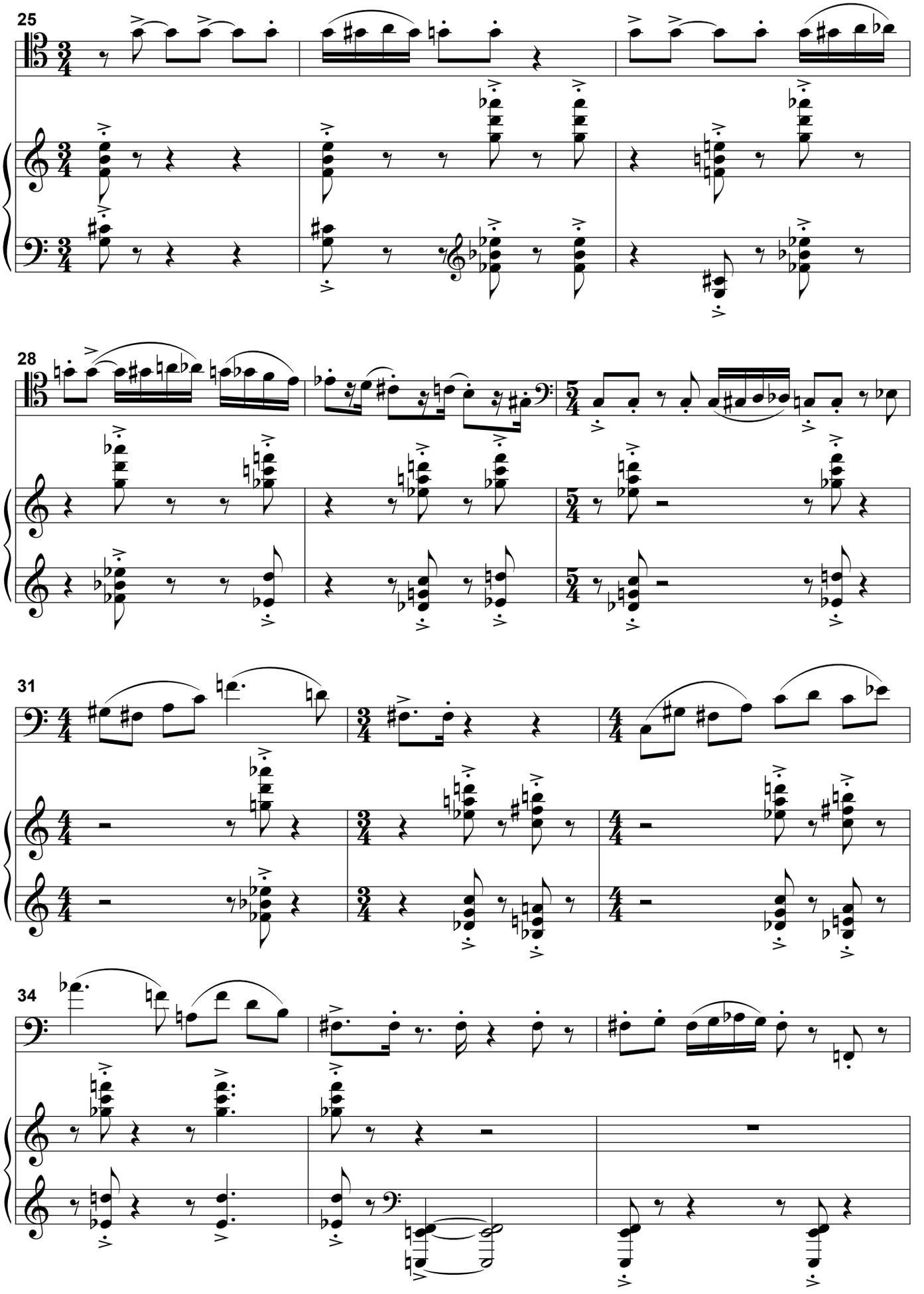
crescendo poco a poco

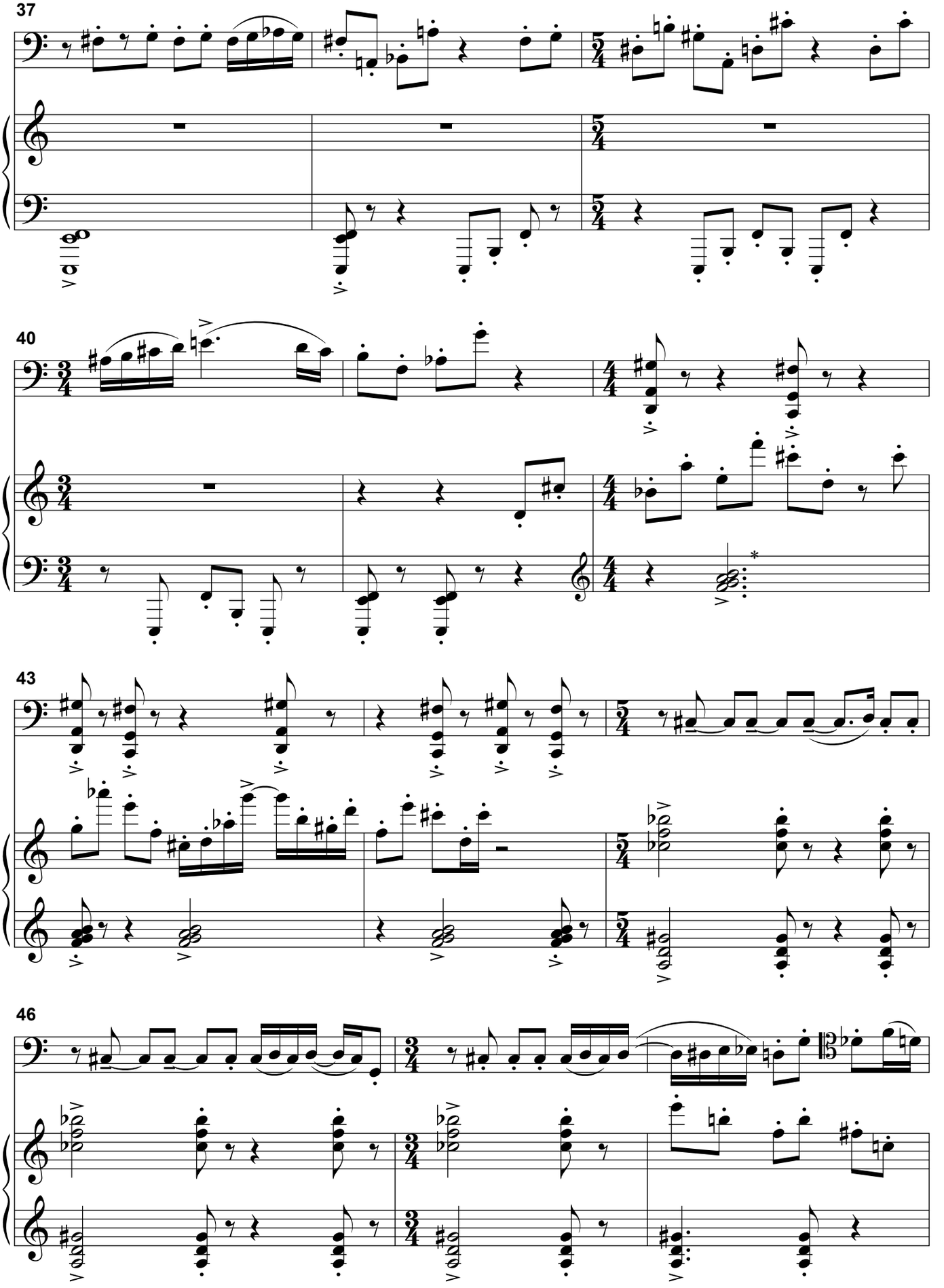
19

sempre ***f***

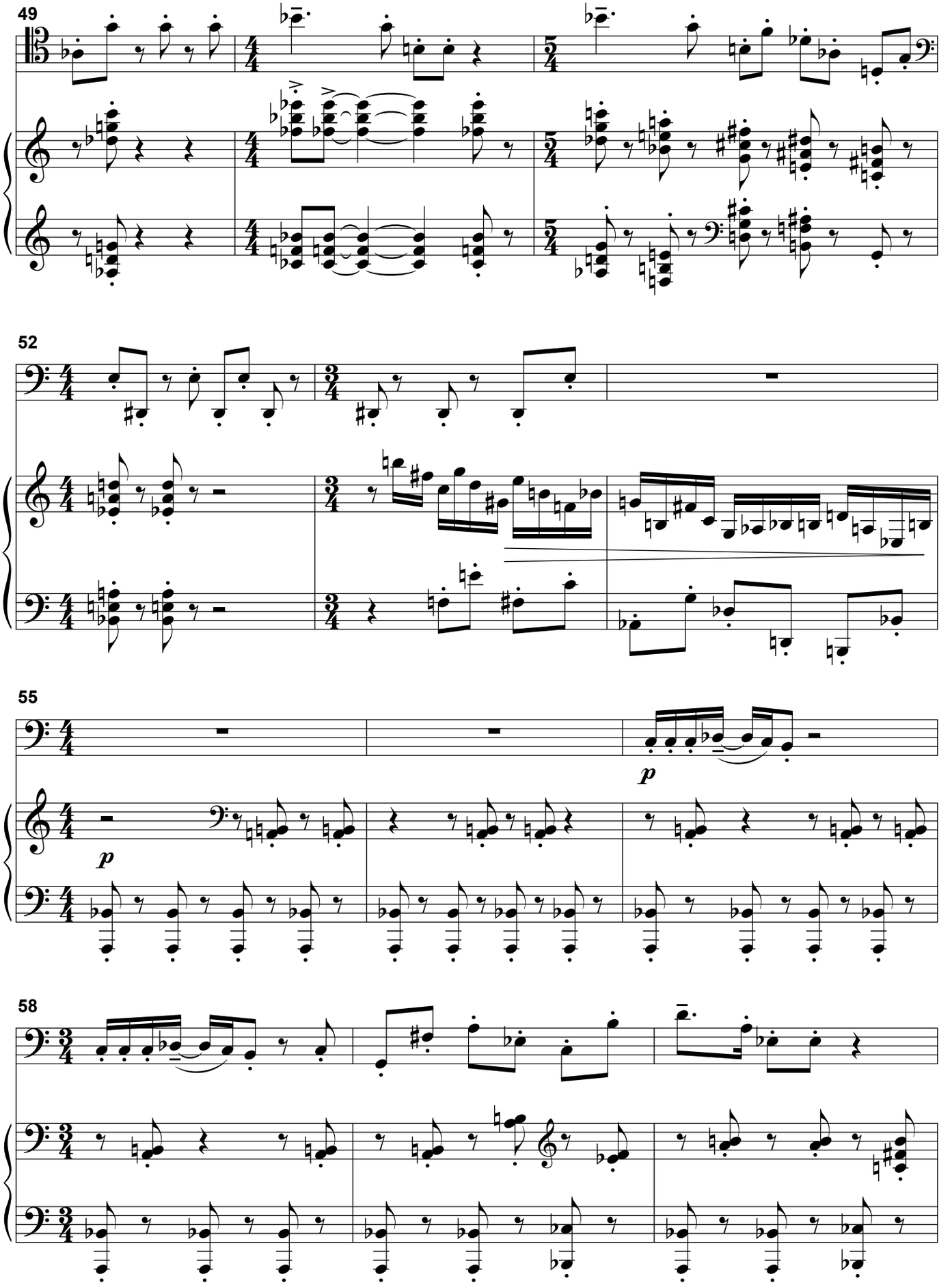
sempre ***f***

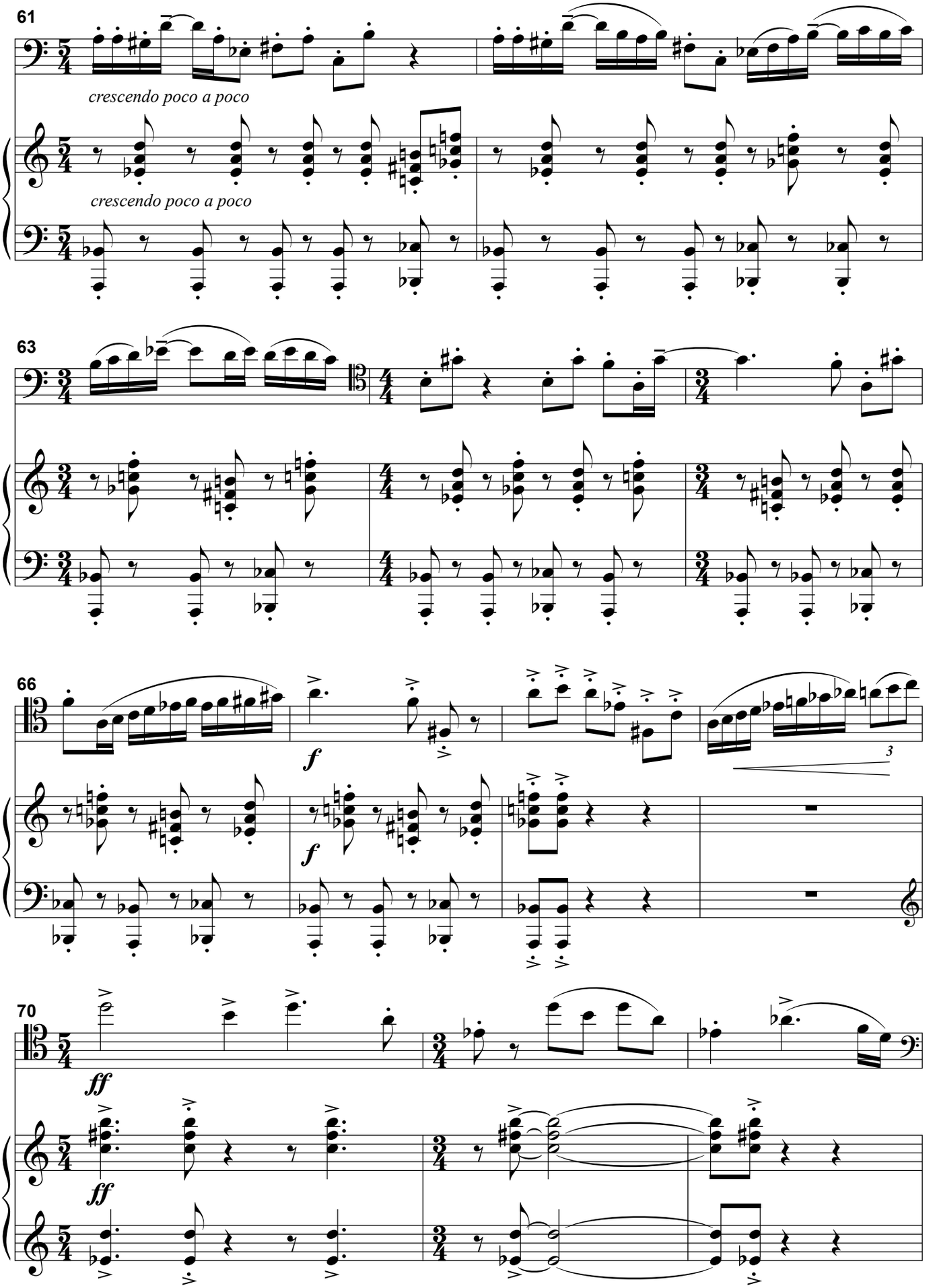
22

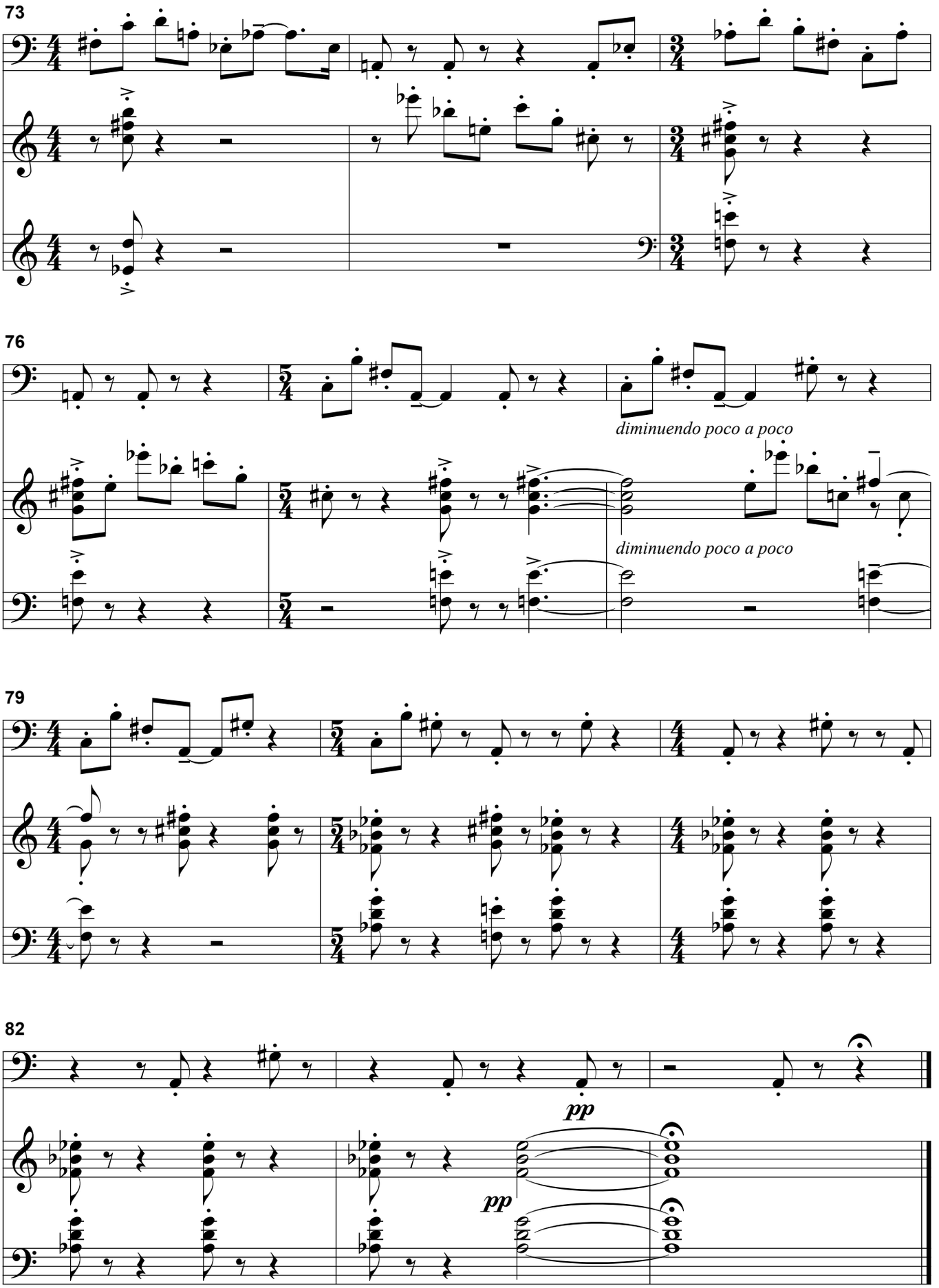

25
28
31
34



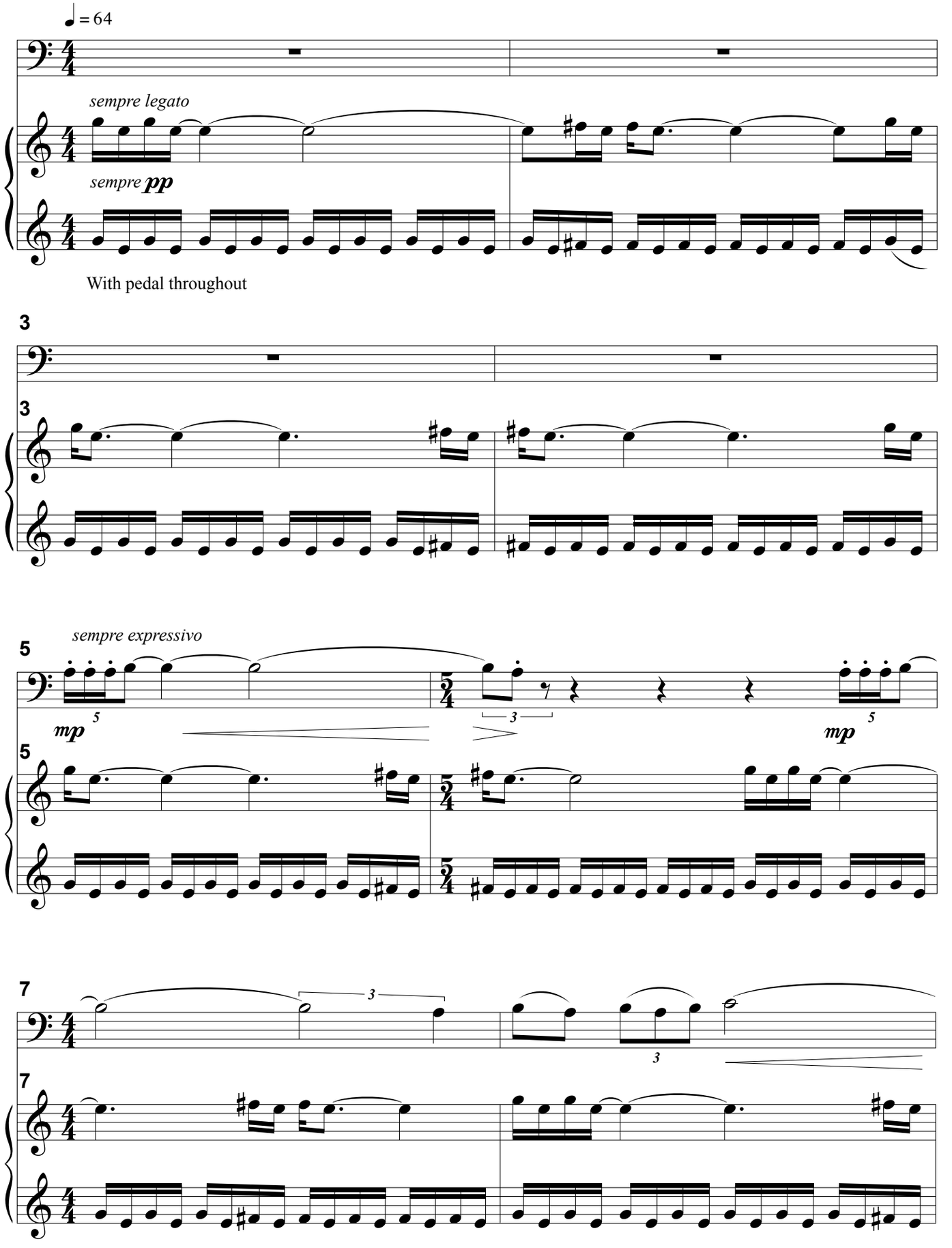
*in mss. 42-44 include g♭, a♭ and b♭, making this chord a chromatic cluster.

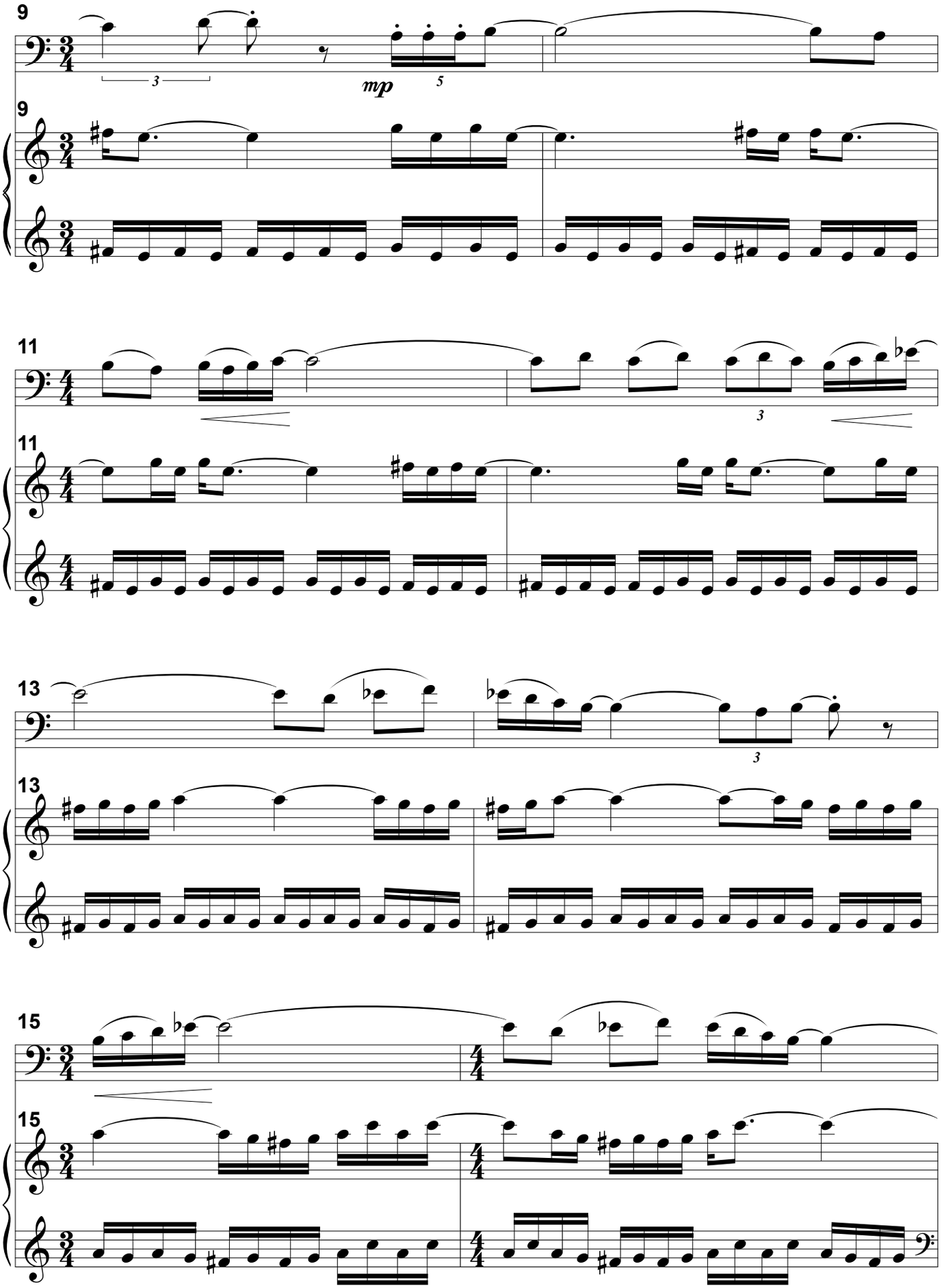

49
52
55
p
p
58

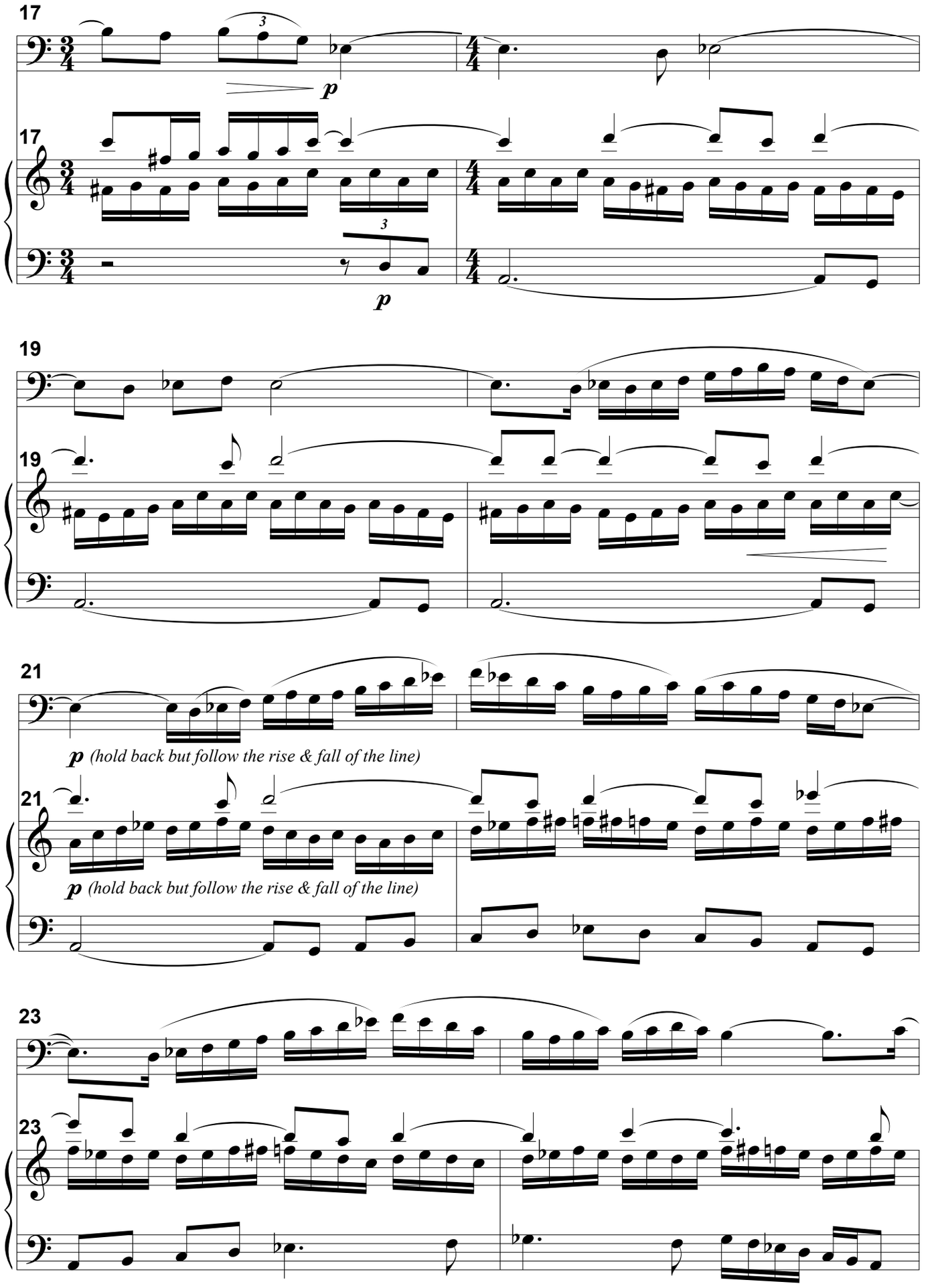

61
crescendo poco a poco
crescendo poco a poco
63
66
f
f
3
70
ff
ff

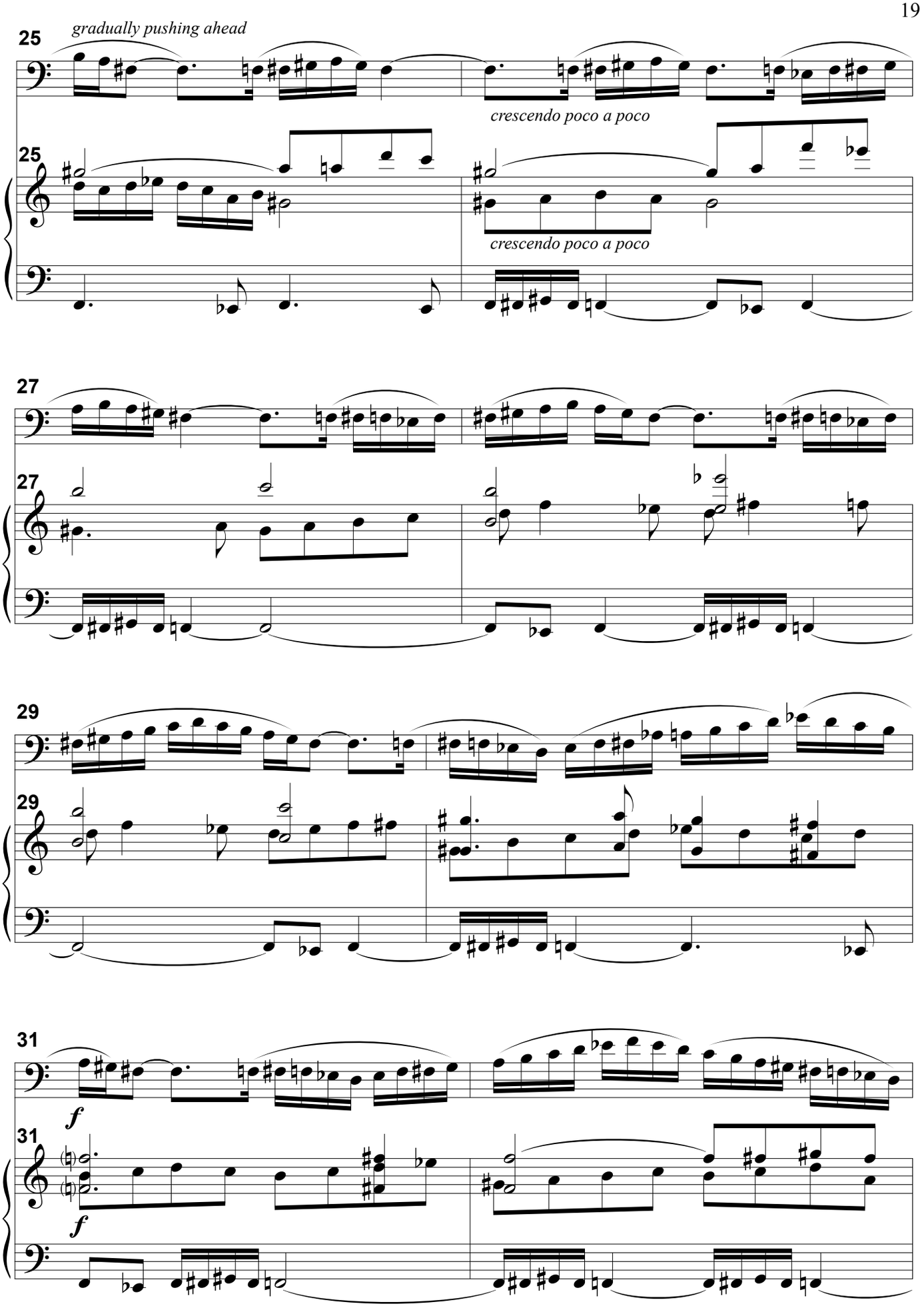

73
76
diminuendo poco a poco
diminuendo poco a poco
79
82
pp
pp

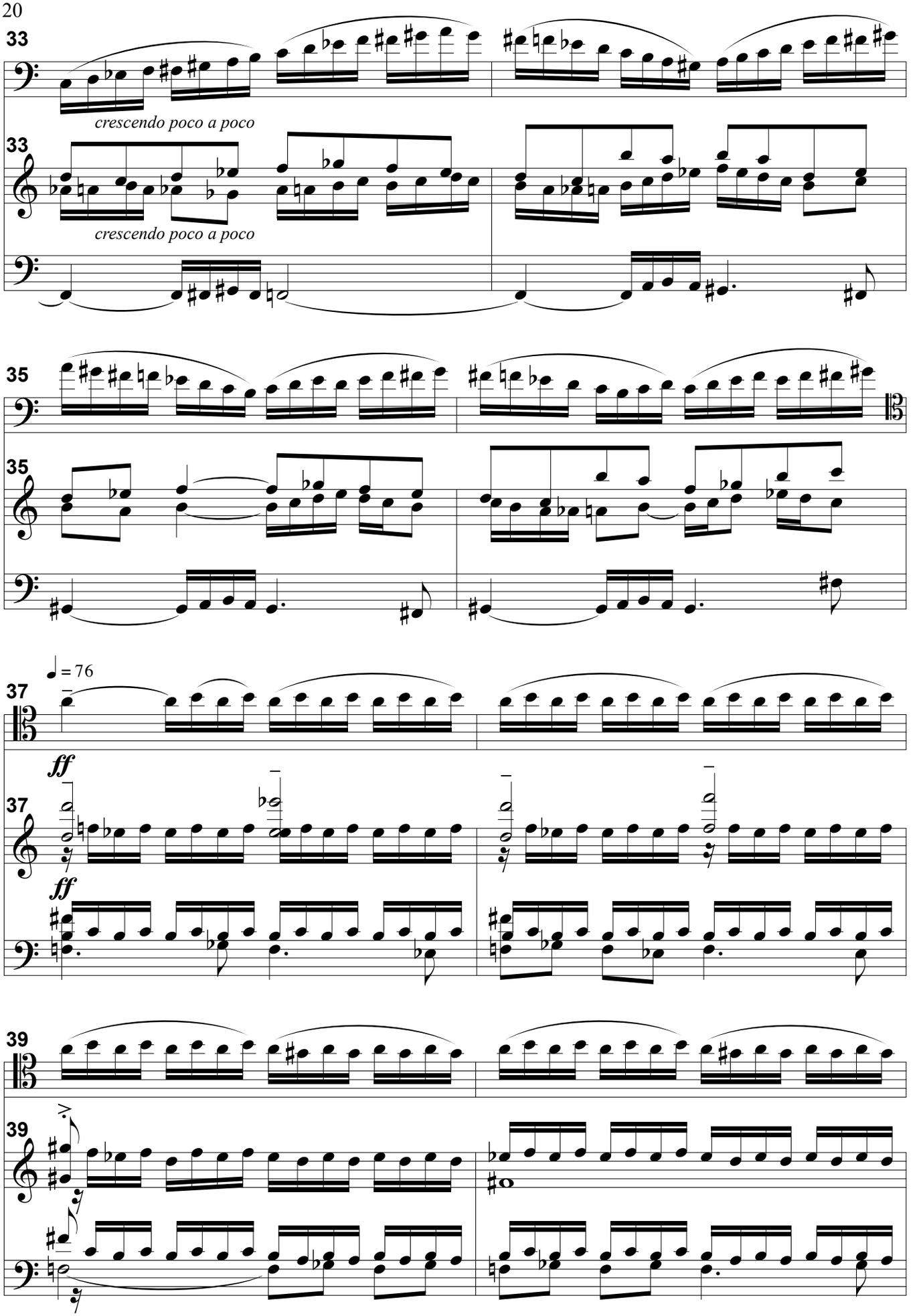
IV. Flowing

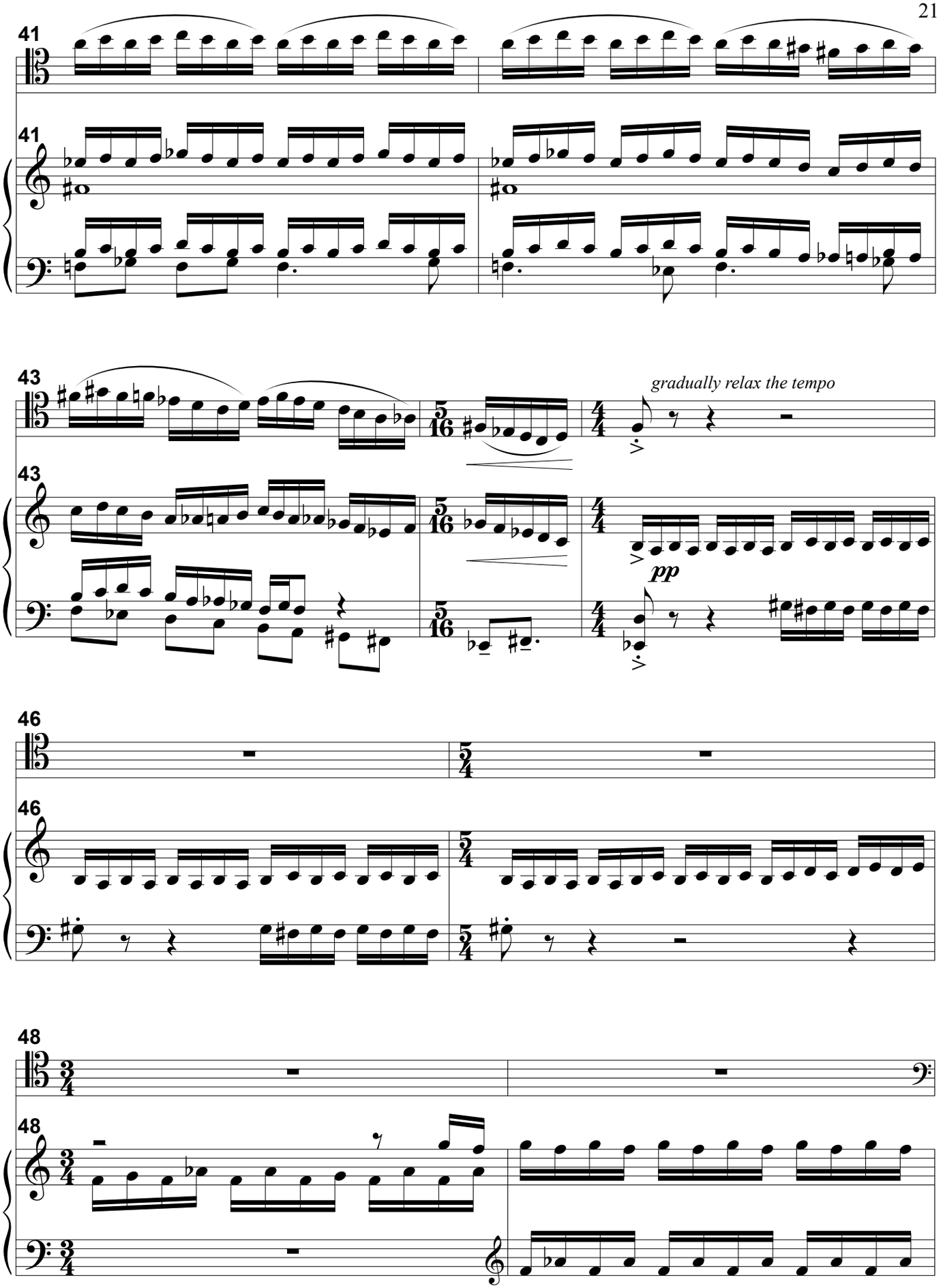

♩ = 64
sempre legato
sempre pp
With pedal throughout
3
3
sempre expressivo
5
mp
5
3
5
mp
7
3
3
7


9
3
mp
5
9
11
3
11
13
3
13
15
15


17
17
p
19
19
21
21
p (hold back but follow the rise & fall of the line)
p (hold back but follow the rise & fall of the line)
23
23


25
gradually pushing ahead
crescendo poco a poco
25
crescendo poco a poco
27
27
29
29
31
f
31
f


33
crescendo poco a poco
33
crescendo poco a poco
35
35
37
♩ = 76
ff
37
ff
39
39


41
41
43
43
gradually relax the tempo
pp
46
46
48
48

Tempo primo (♩ = 64)

50

mp espressivo

mp

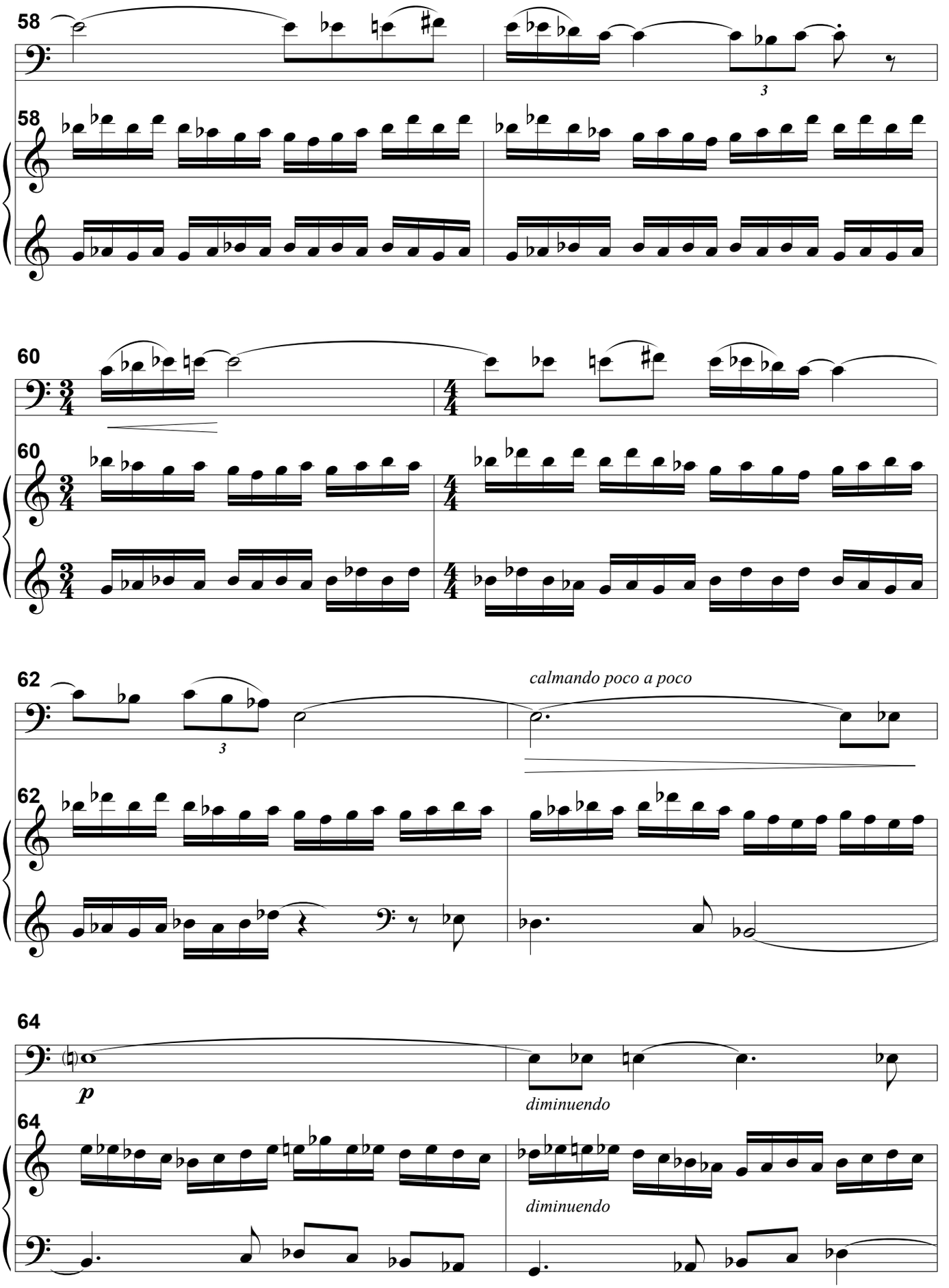
sempre pp

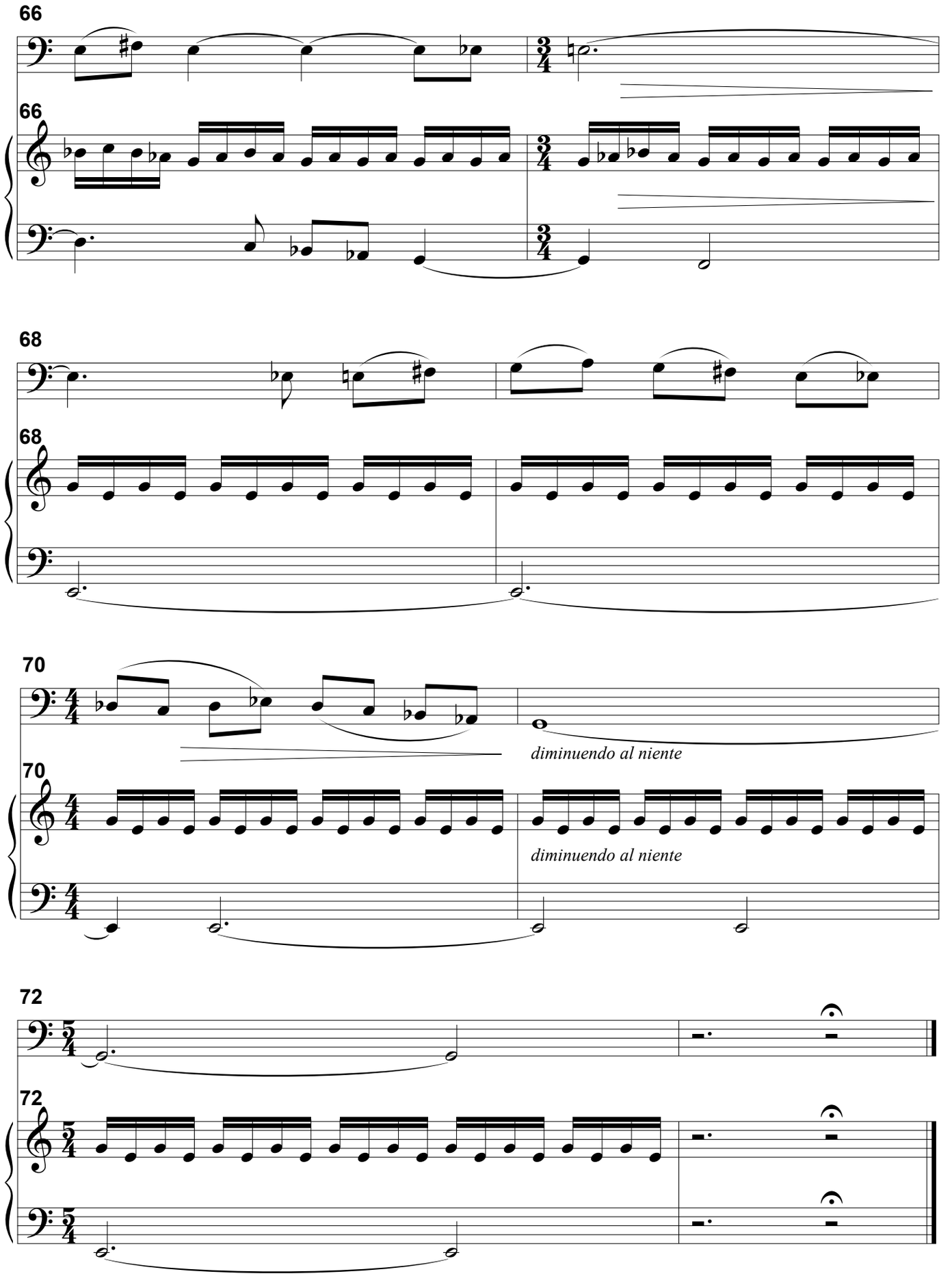
52

54

mp

56


58
58
3
60
60
62
calmando poco a poco
62
3
64
p
diminuendo
64
diminuendo


66
66
68
68
70
70
diminuendo al niente
diminuendo al niente
72
72

Scenes From Here and There

Completed in early 2025, this work for 'cello and piano is a set of four pieces that relate to past experiences in my life. The title of the first movement, *Komorebi*, is a Japanese word that means something like “sunlight filtering through trees.” It stives to capture a simple, yet profoundly beautiful and fleeting moment in nature that one may have the good fortune to experience. Think of walking in the woods and observing the light dancing through the leaves above, creating shimmering, delicate and fleeting patterns on the ground.

Arietta was inspired by my experience as an accompanist for many years. The movement features an expressive and somewhat understated melody for the cellist; I didn't want to go all-out with a full over-the-top operatic-style aria. The piano accompaniment stays out of the way (hopefully) and supports the soloist with lush harmonies.

And then, *Rascal* sounds just as I want it to sound. The instructions to the cellist: "playfully, without concern for what anyone thinks." I have hardly ever been a real rascal, but as a kid I watched every Saturday morning the TV series *The Little Rascals,* which grew from the *Our Gang* short comedy film series that began production back in the '20s (yes, the 1920s).

Flowing is an arrangement of portions of a movement in a work (Reflections) that I composed in 1993 for string sextet. The original title of the movement was *The Voice of the Stream*; in 2013 I arranged the complete three-movement piece for string orchestra.

- John Newell

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Born in Charlotte, North Carolina, composer John Newell graduated from Duke University, having pursued studies in composition, piano and conducting. He earned his M.F.A. from California Institute of the Arts, where his primary teacher was Mel Powell. John completed his formal training at SUNY Buffalo, working with Morton Feldman as recipient of the first Edgard Varèse Fellowship. Since earning his Ph.D. in 1979 he has pursued an independent creative path, composing works for orchestra, solo instruments, vocal ensembles and chamber groups.

Organizations that have commissioned works include Eight Strings & a Whistle, Bowery Ensemble and Atlantic Sinfonietta (New York), Monday Evening Concerts (Los Angeles), the Enid Symphony Orchestra (Oklahoma), Resinosa Ensemble, Passamaquoddy Bay Symphony Orchestra and Songs From Here (Maine). His work has received support from the American Music Center, the Massachusetts Cultural Council and Meet the Composer.

An accomplished pianist and conductor, John is experienced in collaborating with performers to create and present new works. He has participated in a number of premiere performances, including as soloist in his Concerto for Piano and Orchestra. John was the founding director of Quoddy Voices, a choral ensemble based in Eastport, Maine.

John currently maintains a private teaching studio and is on the faculty of the SummerKeys adult music program in Lubec, Maine. He and his wife Linda divide their time between down east Maine and the Pioneer Valley of Massachusetts. More information about his work is available at johnnewellmusic.com.

John Newell

Selected Solo and Chamber Works

On the Way violin, 'cello, piano

Pieces of Time viola solo

Of Time and Place clarinet solo

Trails piano (four hands)

Night Songs mezzo-soprano, ‘cello, piano

Summer Music flute, oboe, ‘cello

Fantasy viola, ‘cello, piano

In Autumn violin, piano

On Impermanence flute, viola, ‘cello

Three Preludes flute solo

Variations on Praise to the Lord organ solo

A Day’s Journey string quartet

The Signature of All Things baritone, oboe, piano

Variations on Amazing Grace piano solo

Sequoia Quintet flute/piccolo, clarinet, oboe, horn, bassoon

Sky Music flute, clarinet, harp

Companions I & II piano solo

Song of Compassion 2 violas, keyboard, percussion

Rhapsody horn, piano

Lavender Axis flute/picc, clarinet, oboe/eh, bassoon, percussion, piano

Knossos piano solo

Heterophony alto voices, violin, viola, english horn

Horizons piano solo

Text soprano, violin, flute, clarinet, guitar, percussion

Image, Song, Vision flute, clarinet, violin, ‘cello

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