Walter Mertens

Song of the Open Road

for Maxim

Vibraphone & Orchestra

duration 10'

based on a poem of Walt Whitman (1819 -1892)

Song of the Open Road

Afoot and light-hearted I take to the open road,
Healthy, free, the world before me,
The long brown path before me leading wherever I choose.
.....

I. floating on the way to .....
II. Circling around .....
III. The way to ...

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Score

Vibraphone solo
Flute I, II
Oboe
English Horn
Clarinet Bb I,II
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet Bb
Trombone

Timpani
Mallets
(Tubular Bells, Xylophone, Glockenspiel)
Percussion I
(Susp. Cymbals, Snaredrum, Surdo or small Bsdr., Tamtam)
Percussion II
(Barchimes, Triangle, 2 woodblocs)
Harpa
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violincello
Double Bass

Walter Mertens 30 april 1965, België.

Hij begon zijn muziekstudies aan de Gemeentelijke academie voor muziek en woord te Mol. Walter behaalde een eerste prijs slaginstrumenten aan het Vlaams muziekconservatorium te Antwerpen bij de heer Louis Cauberghs en het Hoger diploma aan het Lemmensinstituut te Leuven bij de heer Leo Ouderits. Het Meestergraadsdiploma behaalde hij eveneens bij de heer Leo Ouderits aan het Vlaams muziekconservatorium te Antwerpen.
Momenteel doceert hij slagwerk, samenspel, instrumentaal ensemble en is hij coördinator aan de Gemeentelijke academie voor muziek en woord te Schoten.
Naast het lesgeven in het DKO fungeert hij regelmatig als lesgever voor workshops, artistieke ondersteuning en als jurylid bij wedstrijden voor solisten en ensembles in binnen- en buitenland o.a. Vlamo; Belgian Percussion Days 2011, 2012; Perculliria (Spanje); Bumfest (Slovenië); Waubonsie Valley High School (Chicago US).
Samen met drie andere professionele percussionisten vormt Walter `4**P**k `. Dit gerenommeerde kwartet groeide uit het Mol Percussion Orchestra en verzorgt concerten in binnen- en buitenland met eigen composities.
Ook het componeren staat steeds op de agenda. Het grootste deel hiervan zijn werken voor pedagogische doeleinden, maar tevens ook voor slagwerk solo, duo, percussie ensemble, symfonische bezettingen, musical, blaasinstrumenten, jazzcombo, piano, kamermuziek en koor.
Meerdere composities behaalden prijzen in wedstrijden of waren opdrachten voor nationale en internationale wedstrijden/manifestaties o.a. voor WMC in Kerkrade (NL); Temsig-Slovenian Music Competition for Youth (SLO); EMJ Neerpelt (B); Vlamo (B).
Zijn composities zijn door de jaren ver buiten onze landsgrenzen bekend geraakt en kan je terugvinden in gans Europa, Amerika en Azië.

Walter Mertens, born 30 April 1965, began his musical studies at the Academy for Music in Mol
He won a First Prize Percussion at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp. Mr. Louis Caubergs was his teacher.
He obtained the Higher Degree at the Lemmens Institute in Leuven with Mr. Leo Ouderits as his tutor and mentor.
To complete his musical studies, Walter Mertens obtained a Master Degree at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp, also guided by Mr. Leo Ouderits.
Nowadays Walter Mertens teaches percussion, ensemble and instrumental ensemble. He is also coordinator at the Academy for Music in Schoten.
Besides his teaching Walter often participates in workshops, he offers artistic support and is frequently asked as a member of the jury for contests for soloists and ensembles in Belgium and abroad e.g. Vlamo, Belgian Percussion Days 2011, 2012, Perculliria (Spain), Bumfest (Slovenia), Waubonsie Valley High School (Chicago US).
Together with three other professional percussionists, Walter Mertens forms the group '4Pk'.
This renowned quartet arose from the former Mol Percussion Orchestra and plays its own creations at home and abroad.
As a composer, Walter Mertens focuses on teaching methods as well as compositions for percussion solo, duo, ensemble, symphonic orchestra, musical, wind instruments, jazz combo, piano, chamber music and choir.
Several compositions won prizes in different competitions or were assignments in national and international contests or manifestations such as WVMC in Kerkrade (NI), Temsig-Slovenian Music Competition for youth (SLO), EMJ Neerpelt (B), Vlamo (B).
The oeuvre of Walter Mertens is well-known far beyond our boundaries and one can find it in Europe, America and Asia.

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dur. ca. 10'

Song of the Open Road

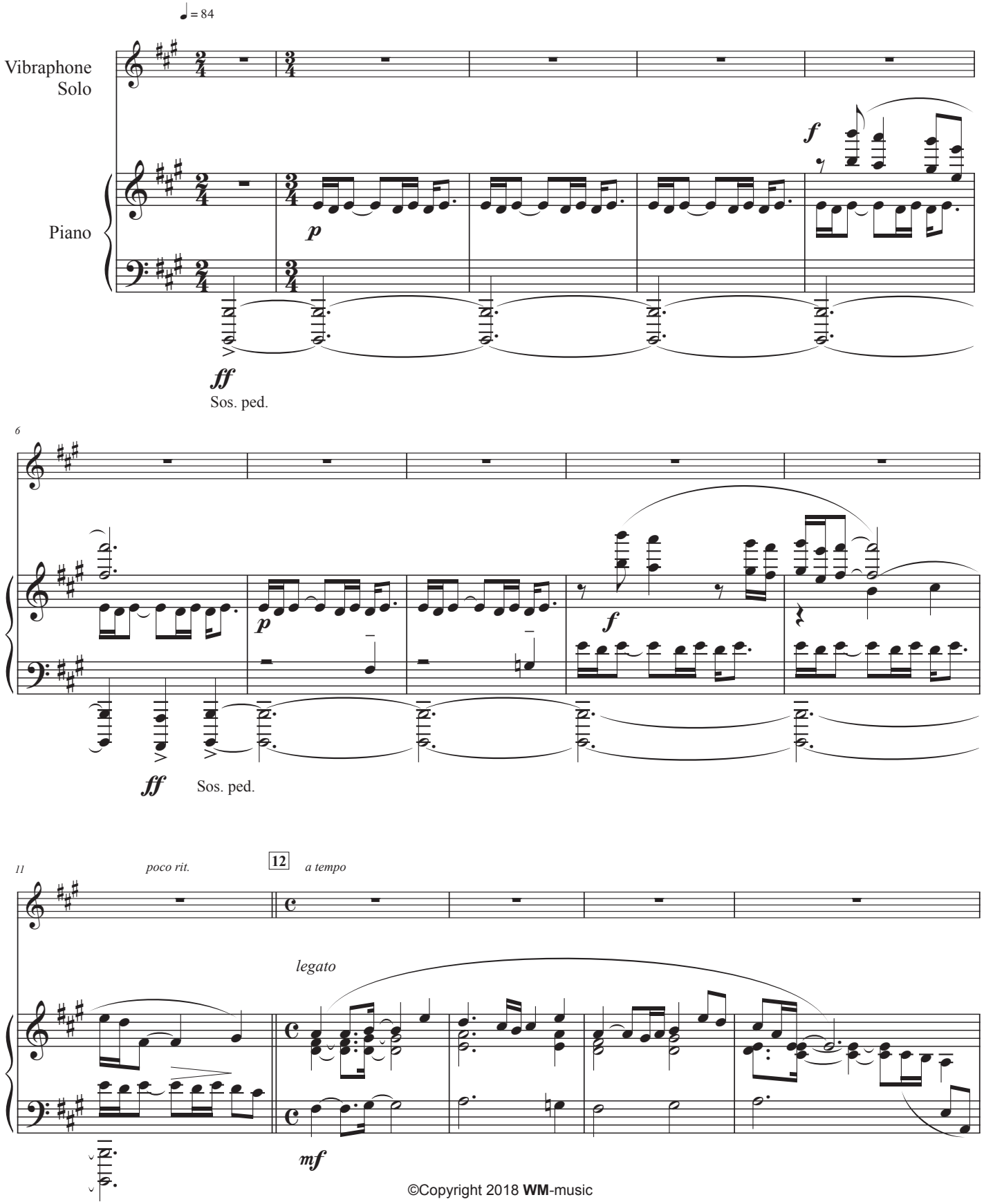
Vibraphone & Orchestra

for Maxim

Walter Mertens

1965

I. floating on the way to .....



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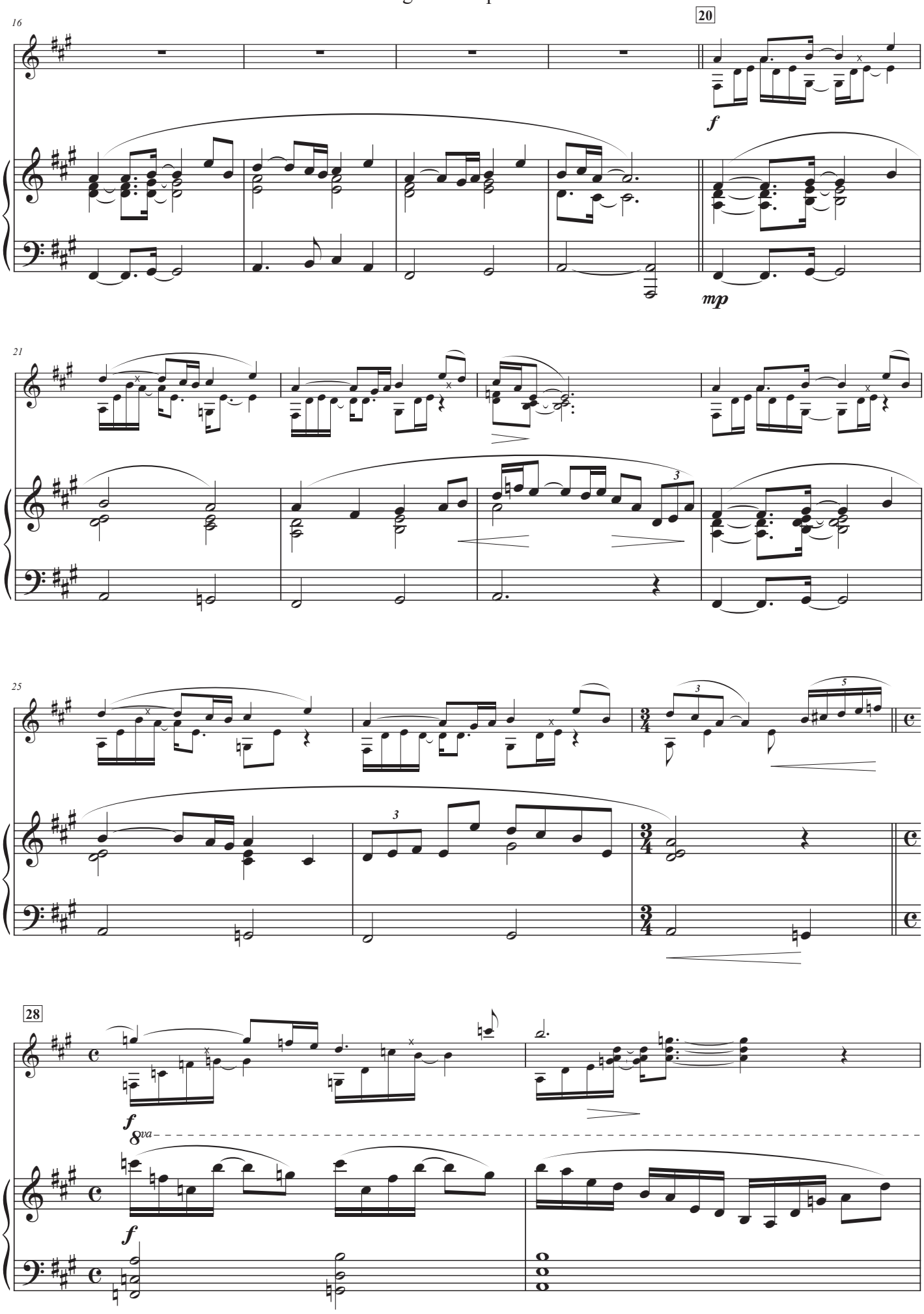
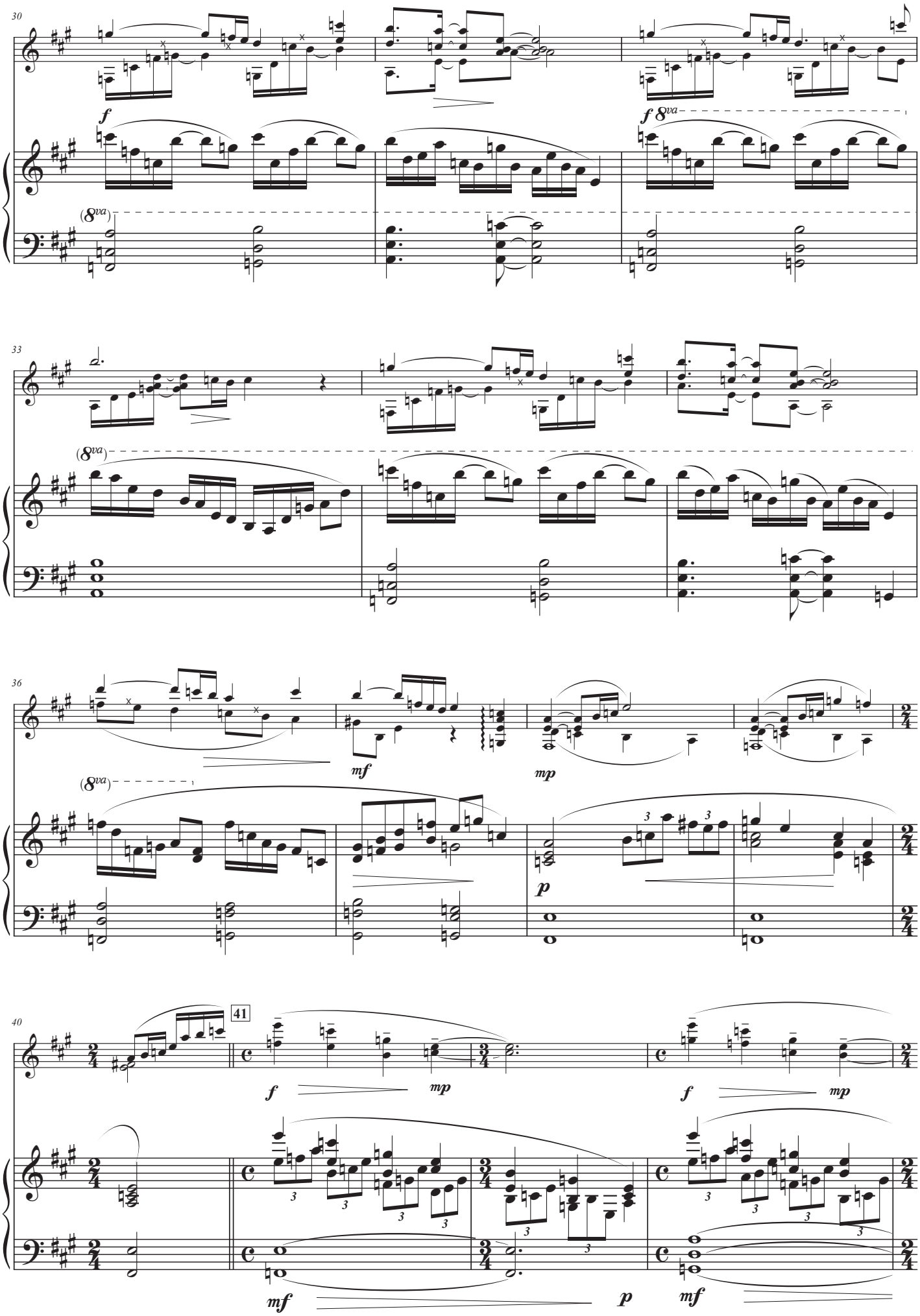
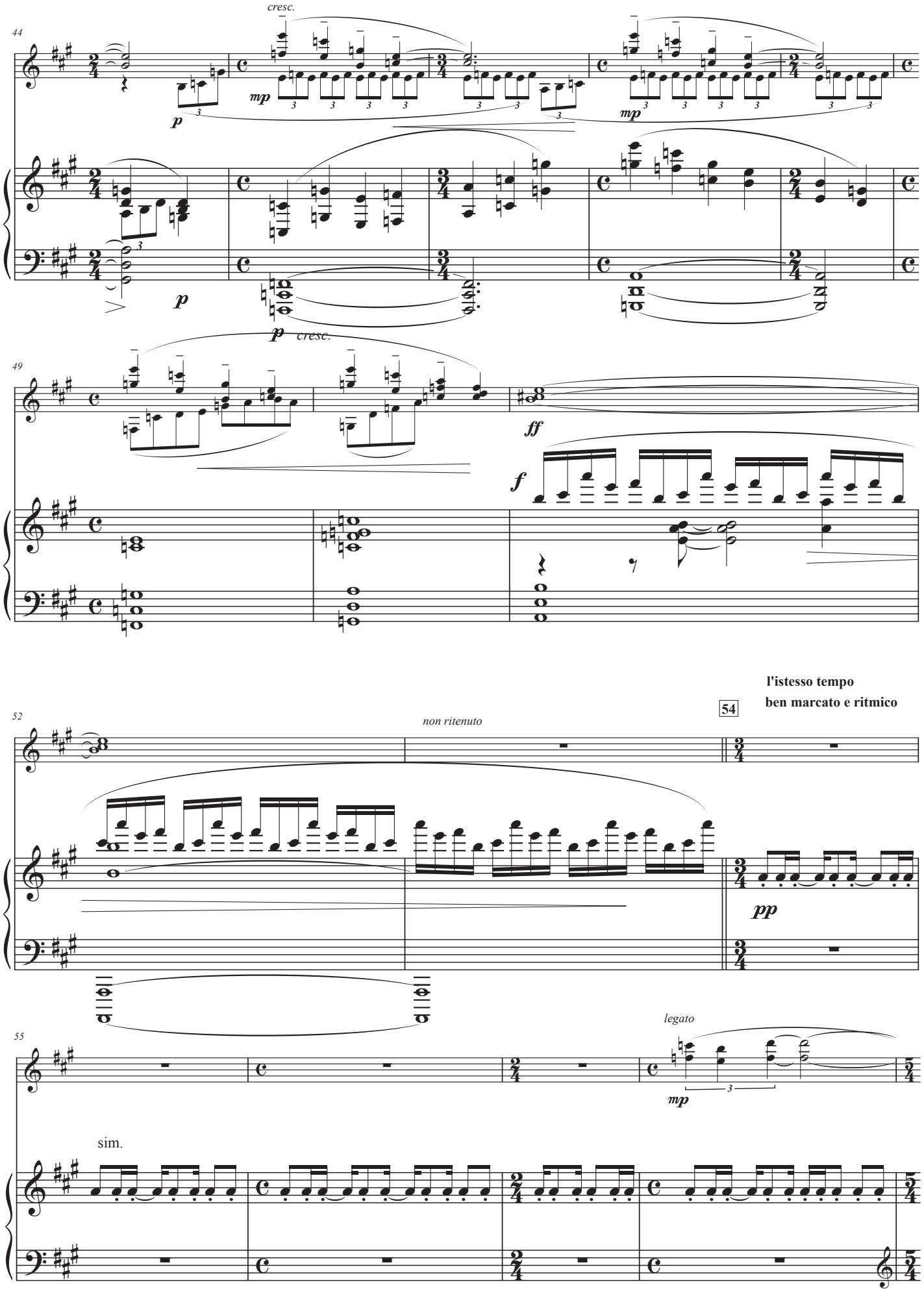
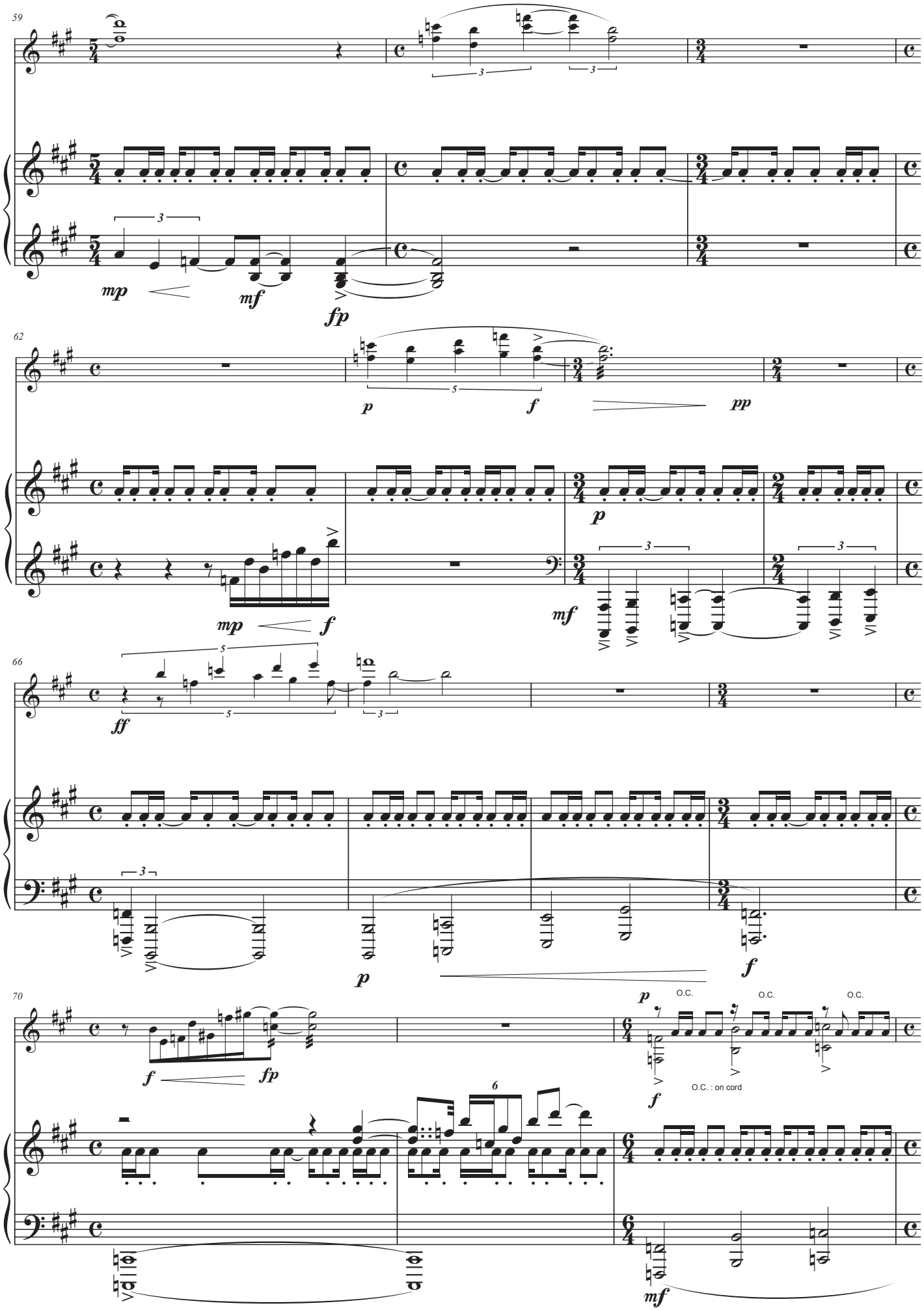
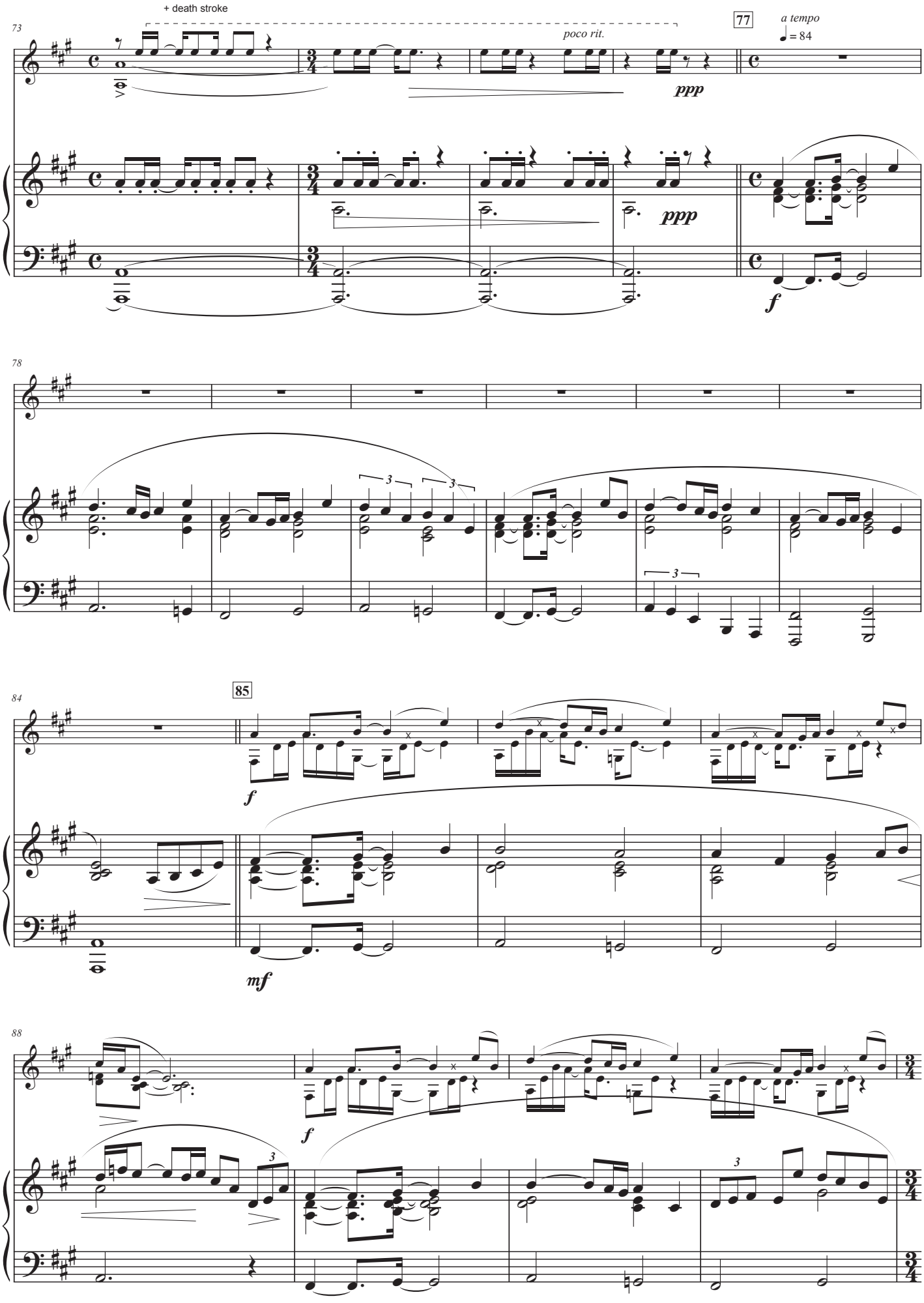
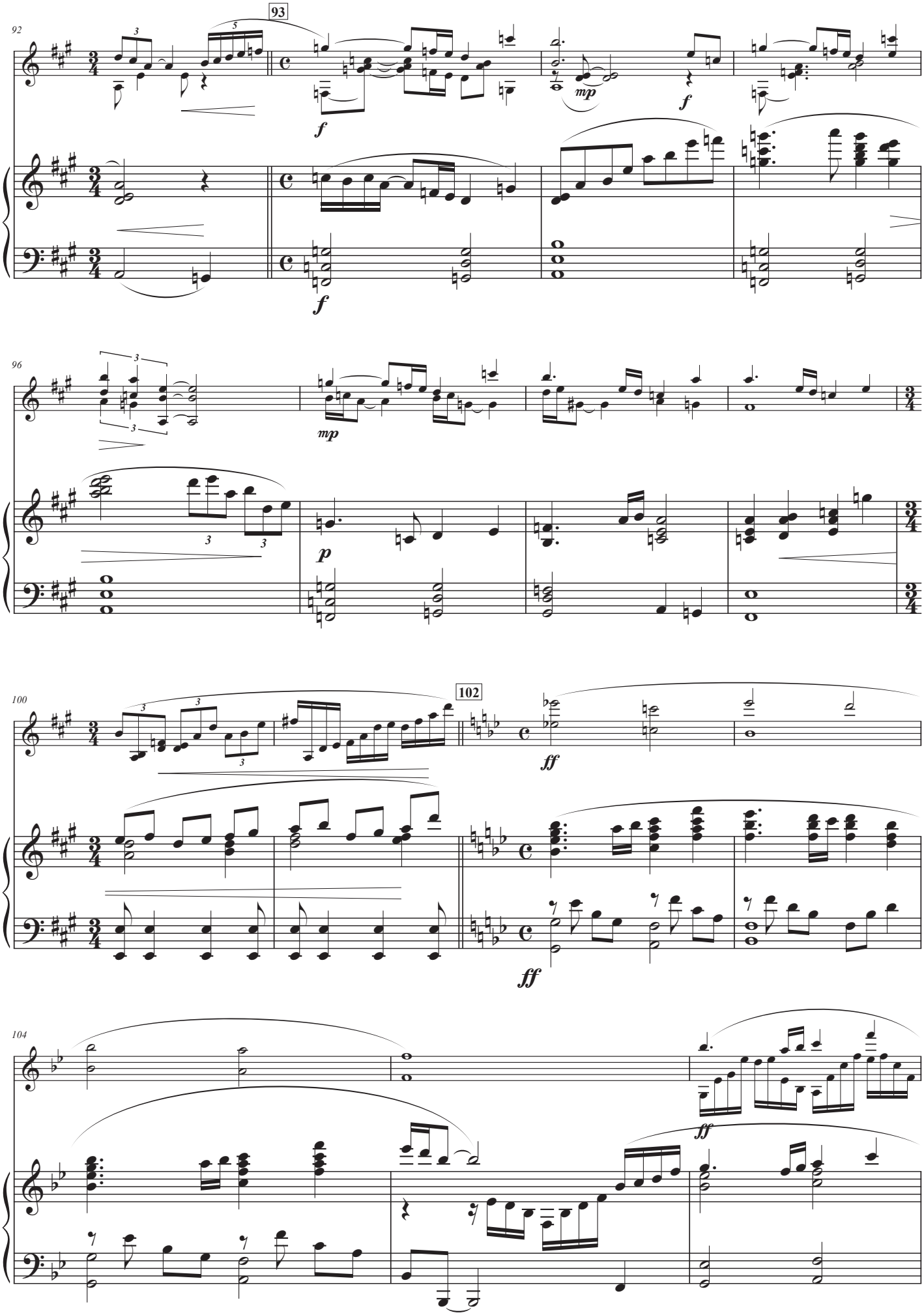

16
20
f
mp
21
3
25
3
5
28
f
8va
f

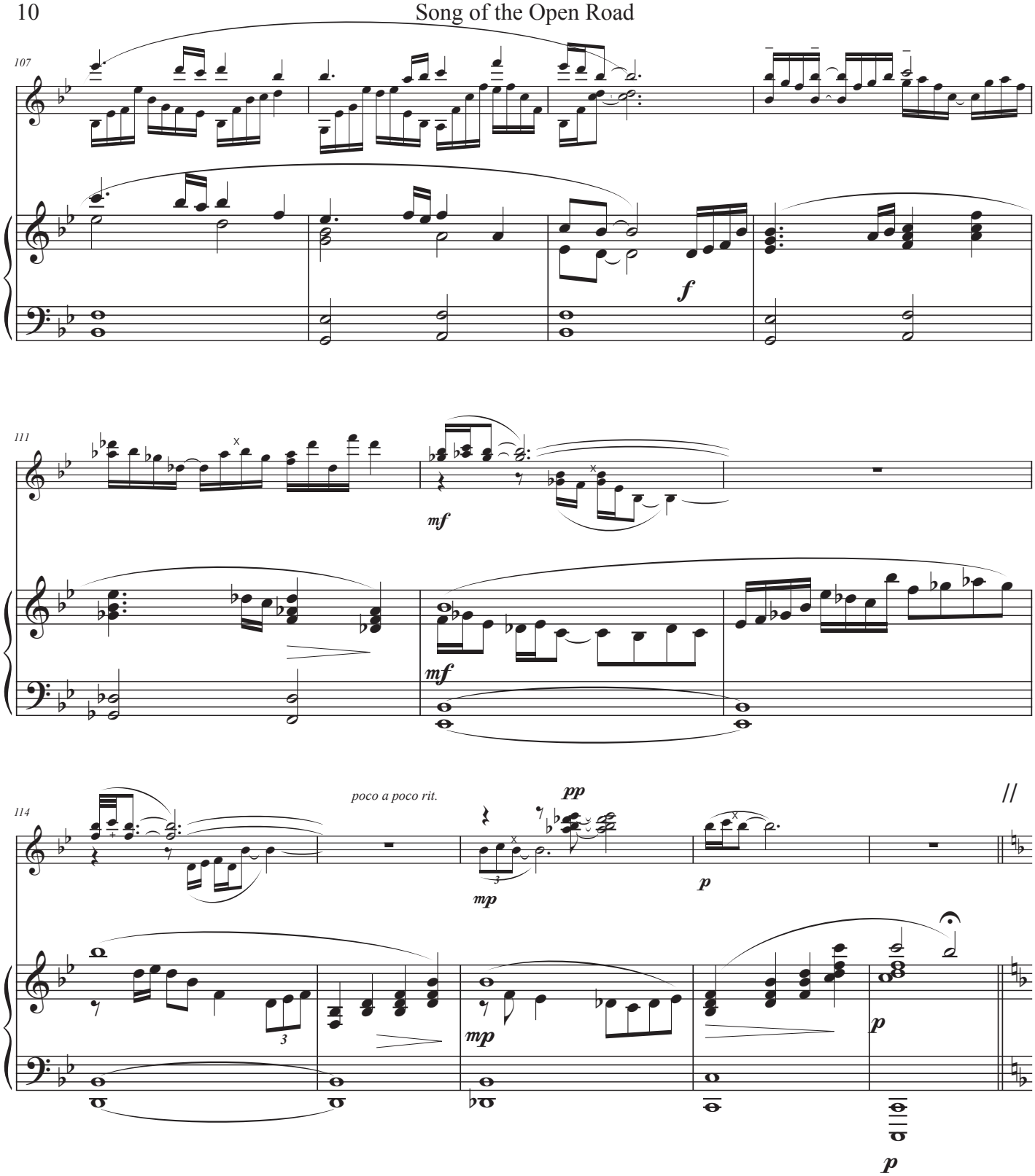

30
f
f 8va
(8va)
33
(8va)
36
mf
mp
(8va)
p
40
41
f
mp
f
mp
mf
p
mf


44
cresc.
mp
p
mp
p
p
cresc.
49
ff
f
52
non ritenuto
54
l'istesso tempo
ben marcato e ritmico
pp
55
legato
mp
sim.

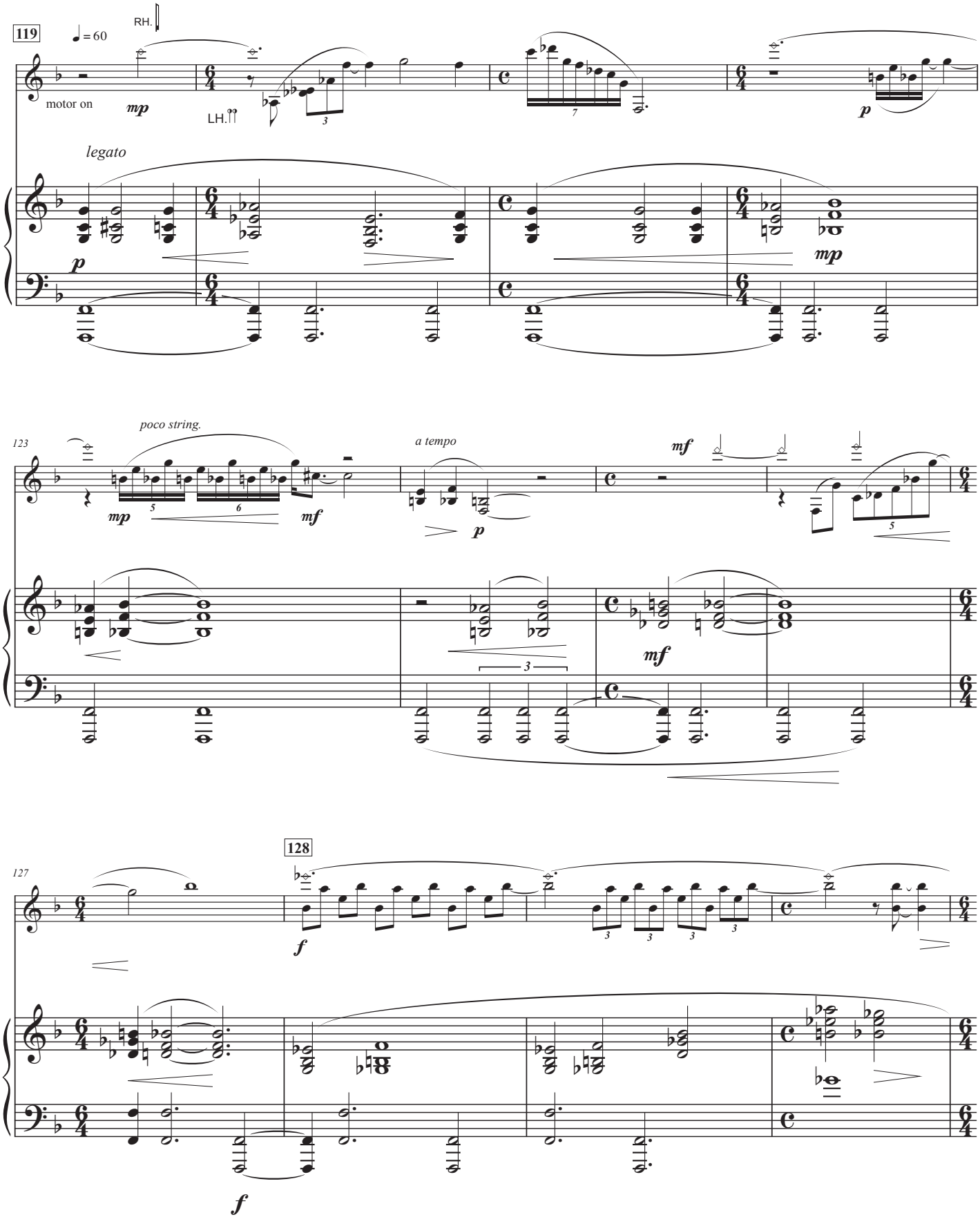

59
mp
mf
fp
62
p
f
pp
mp
f
mf
66
ff
p
f
70
f
fp
p
O.C.
O.C.
O.C.
O.C. : on cord
f
mf

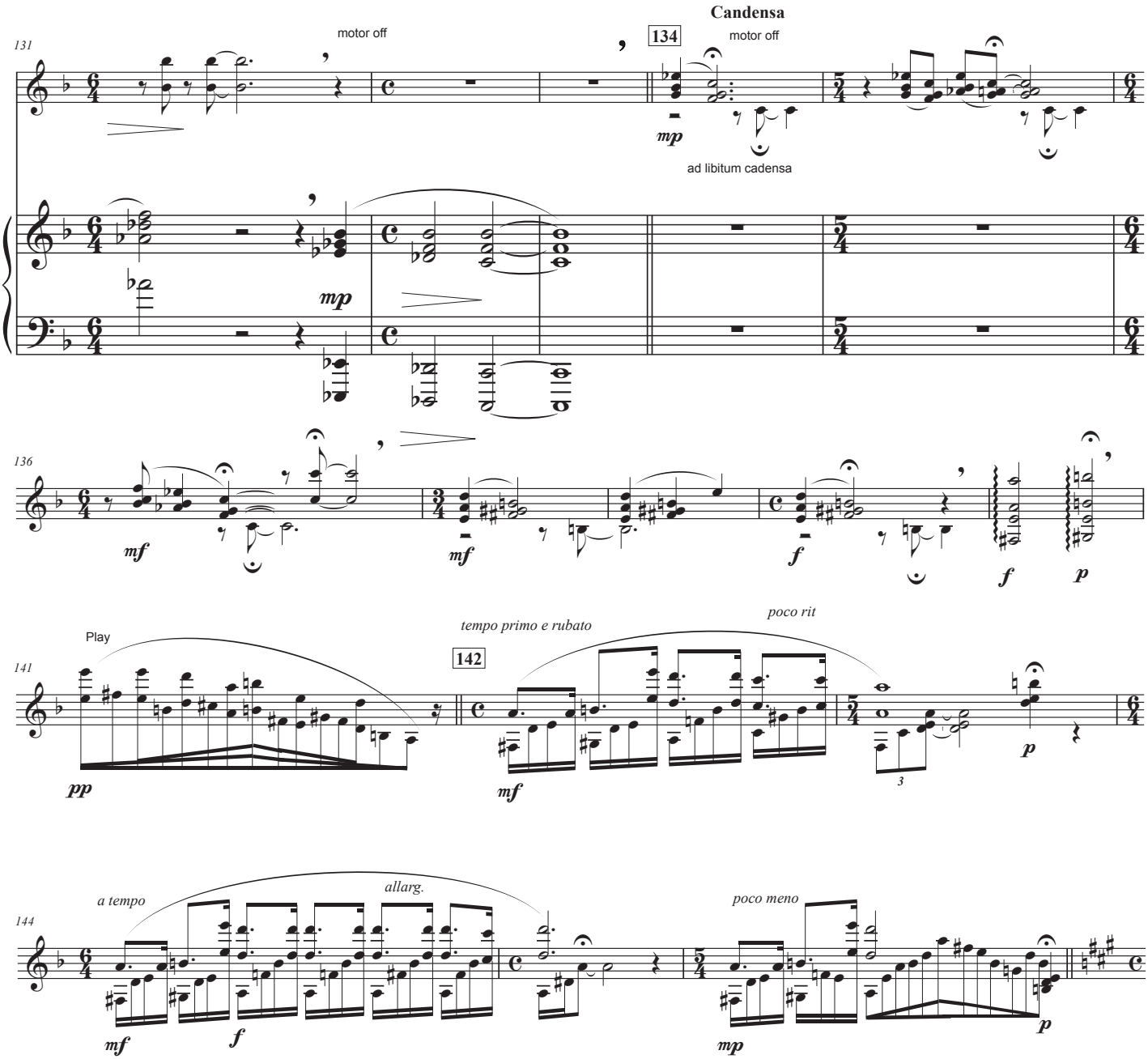

+ death stroke
73
poco rit.
77
a tempo
♩ = 84
ppp
ppp
f
78
3
3
3
84
85
f
mf
88
f
3
3


92
93
f
mp
f
f
96
mp
p
100
102
ff
ff
104
ff

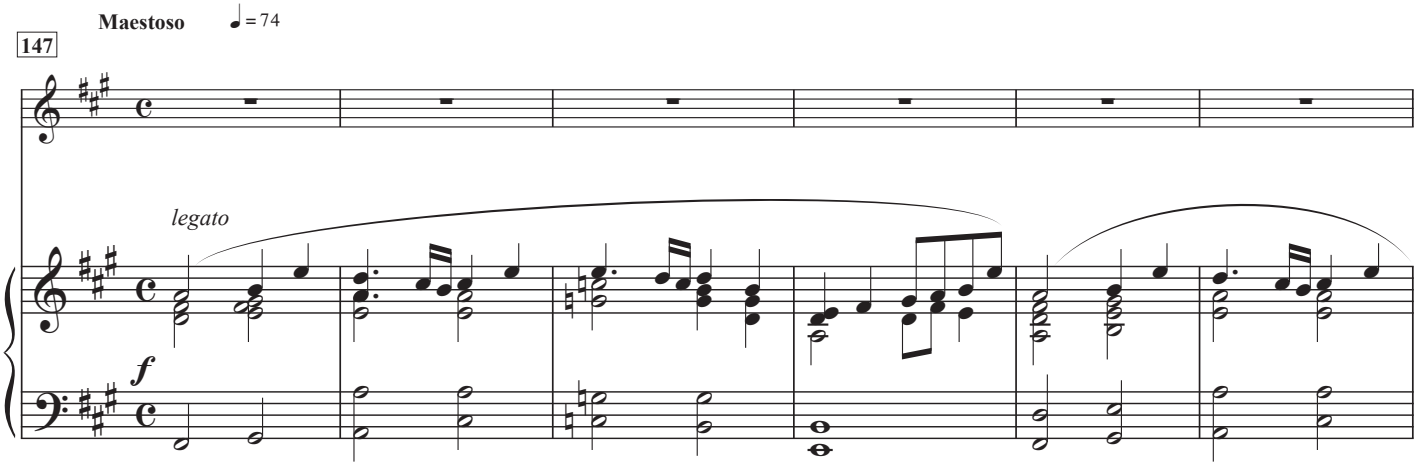

107
f
111
mf
mf
114
poco a poco rit.
pp
mp
p
mp
p
p

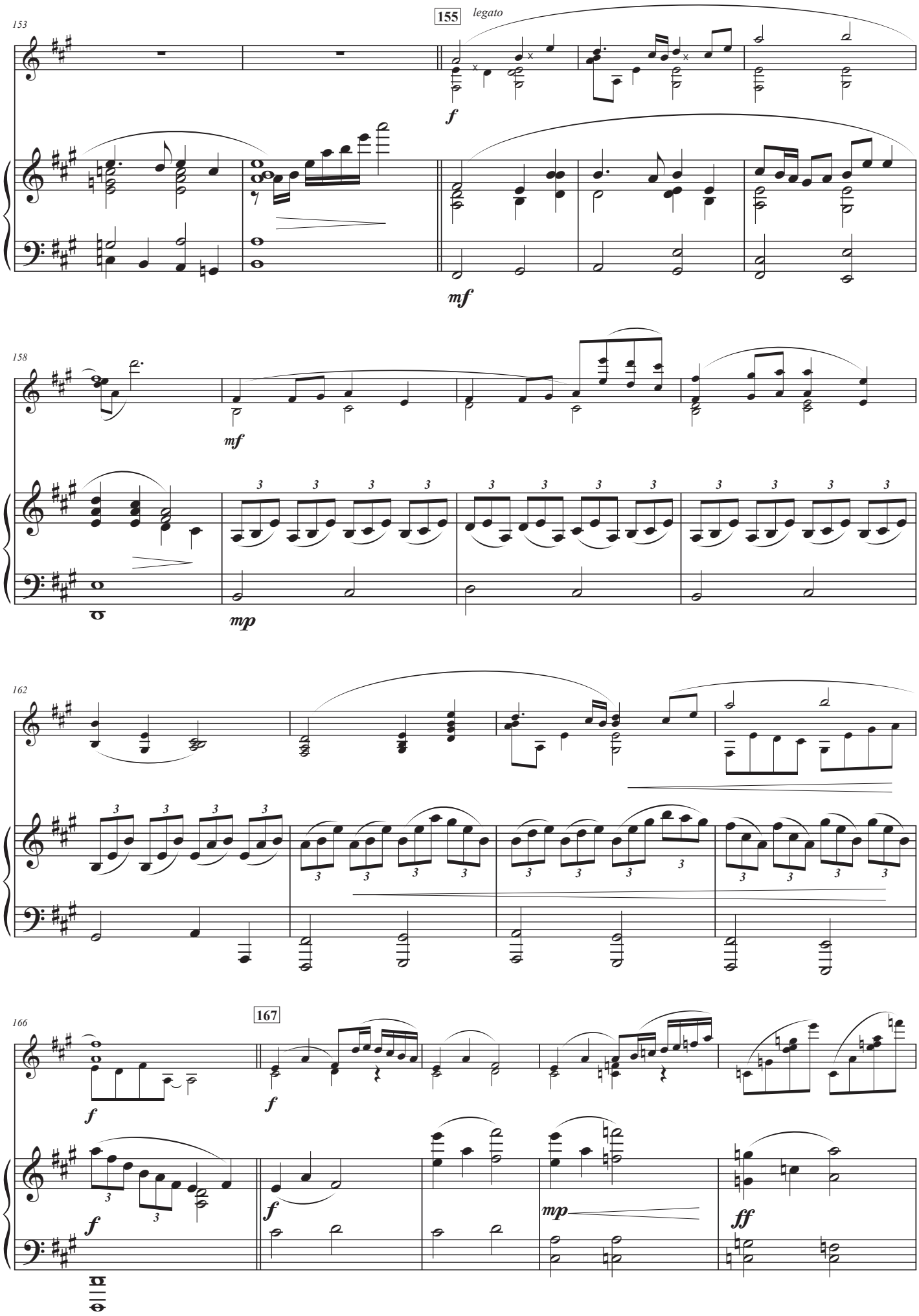
II. Circling around .....
Misterioso e cadensa

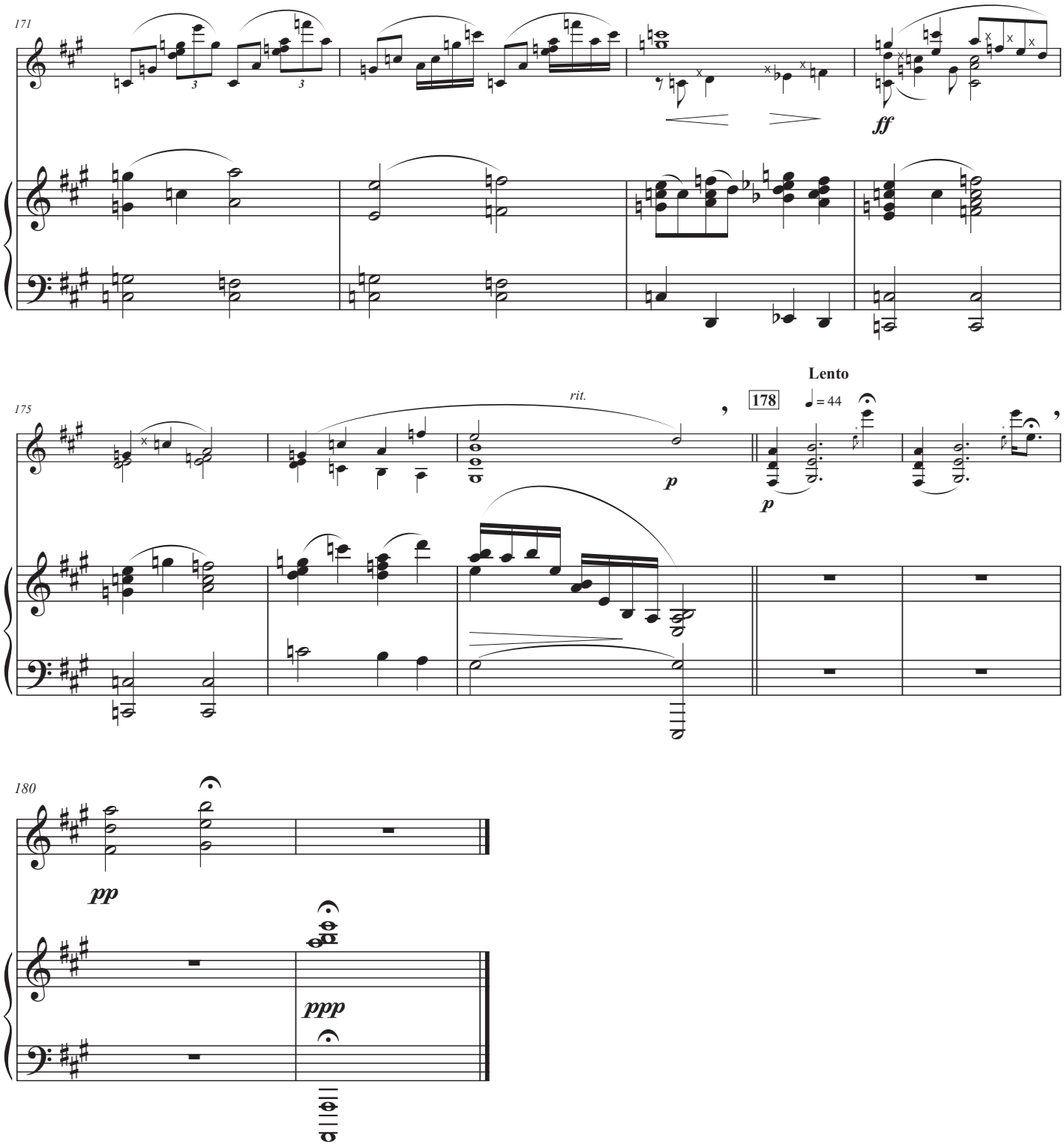




III. The way to ...




153
155
legato
f
mf
158
mf
mp
162
166
167
f
f
f
f
mp
ff


171
ff
175
rit.
p
178
Lento
= 44
p
180
pp
ppp