For the Love of Bees

for solo piano

by

Anna Rubin

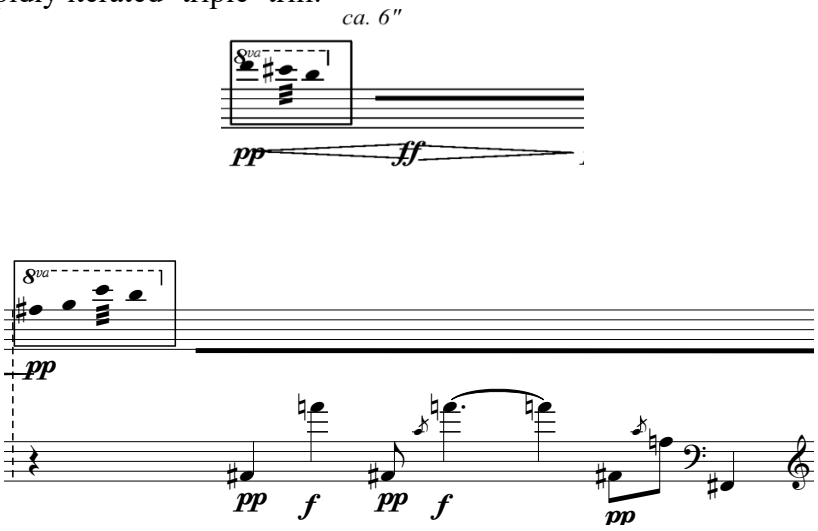
Notes on Performance of *For the Love of Bees* (2010, rev. 2019) for actor and solo piano

This suite includes six pieces– *Swarm, Sting, HoneyQueen, Myth of the Assassin Bee, Solitary Bee,* and *Ode to Bees* and *Their Keepers.* The pieces can be performed individually.

The pianist can approach tempi freely and should pedal liberally throughout. Where there is a certain resonant emphasis, I have indicated how to pedal. The harmonic blur of the frequent clusters and cluster-like effects should be emphasized.

Swarm

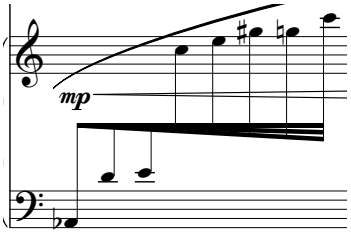
The boxed notes are played for the duration indicated. Play boxed figure below for the time indicated as a rapidly iterated 'triple' trill.



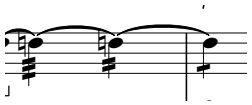
Rapidly repeat 4-note figure rapidly over left-hand notes

Sting

The basic beat for this piece is slow; rubato is encouraged along with high contrast between fast notes and long arrival/destination tones. Pedal liberally; pedaling indications are for specific effects.



Slow accelerating across beat.



Repeated note gradually slows.

HoneyQueen

The slow chords of this piece should be played rreely and langorously.

Myth of the Assassin Bees

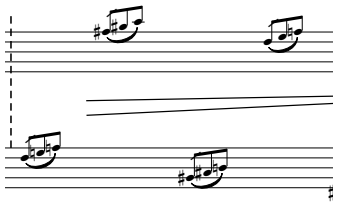
Myth of the Assassin Bees" is a fast-pulsed and syncopated exploration of virtuosic cross- hand technique with jazz-influenced chords. This piece is inspired by the jazz pianist, Chucho Valdes and refers to a widespread myth spread by the Brazilian military government of the 60s that a renowned scientist had created vidious'Frankenstein' bees that killed people. In face, Dr. Warwick Kerr, was a human rights activist as well as scientist and they spread this propaganda in order to discredit him.

Solitary Bee

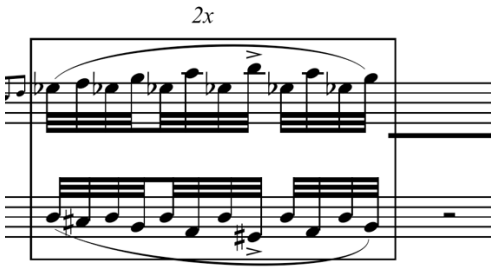
Ground bees live alone in shallow nests in the ground. While not as glamorous as honeybees, they are important pollinators.

Ode to Bees and Their Keepers

Roll grace note figures so they have a blurred effect – or *moué* (wetly) in French. When several of the grace note groups occur, they should be played one after the other in rapid succession. Boxed figures are generally repeated the number of times indicated above the box (e.g., 2x). In a few measures, the figure is repeated the length of the note indicated above (e.g., half note) as in *Swarms*.



Grace note figures.



Repeat boxed figure the designated number of times.

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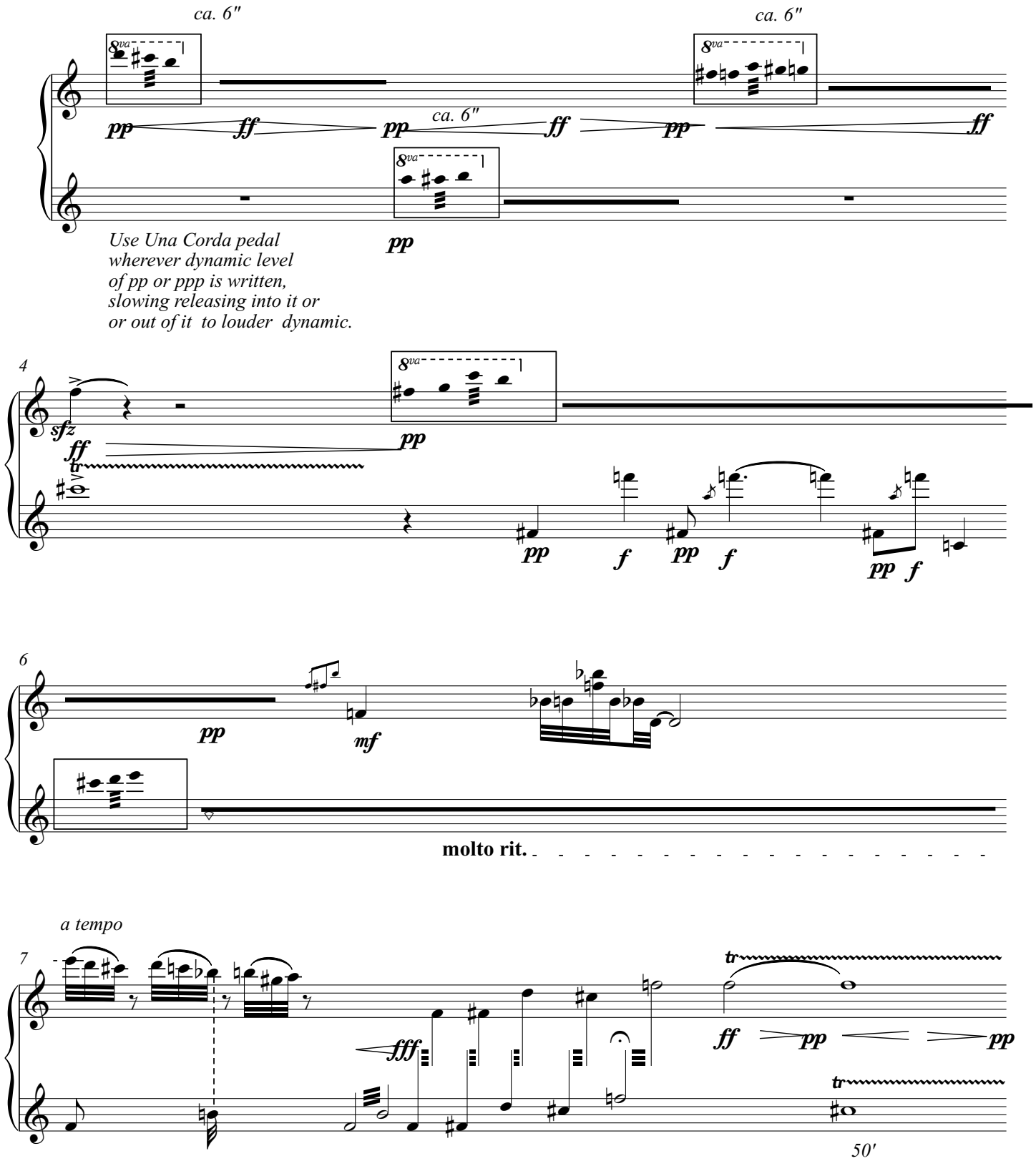
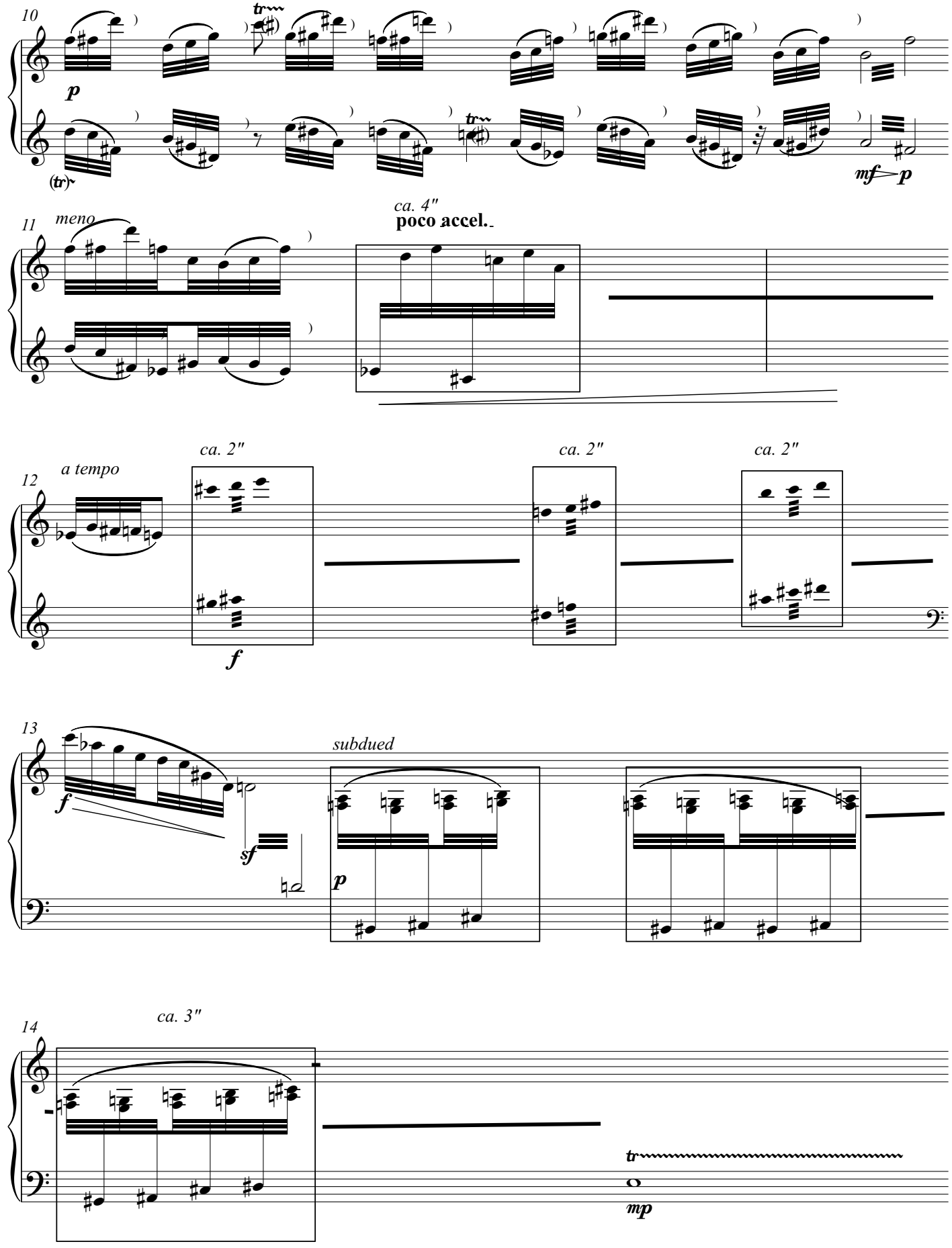
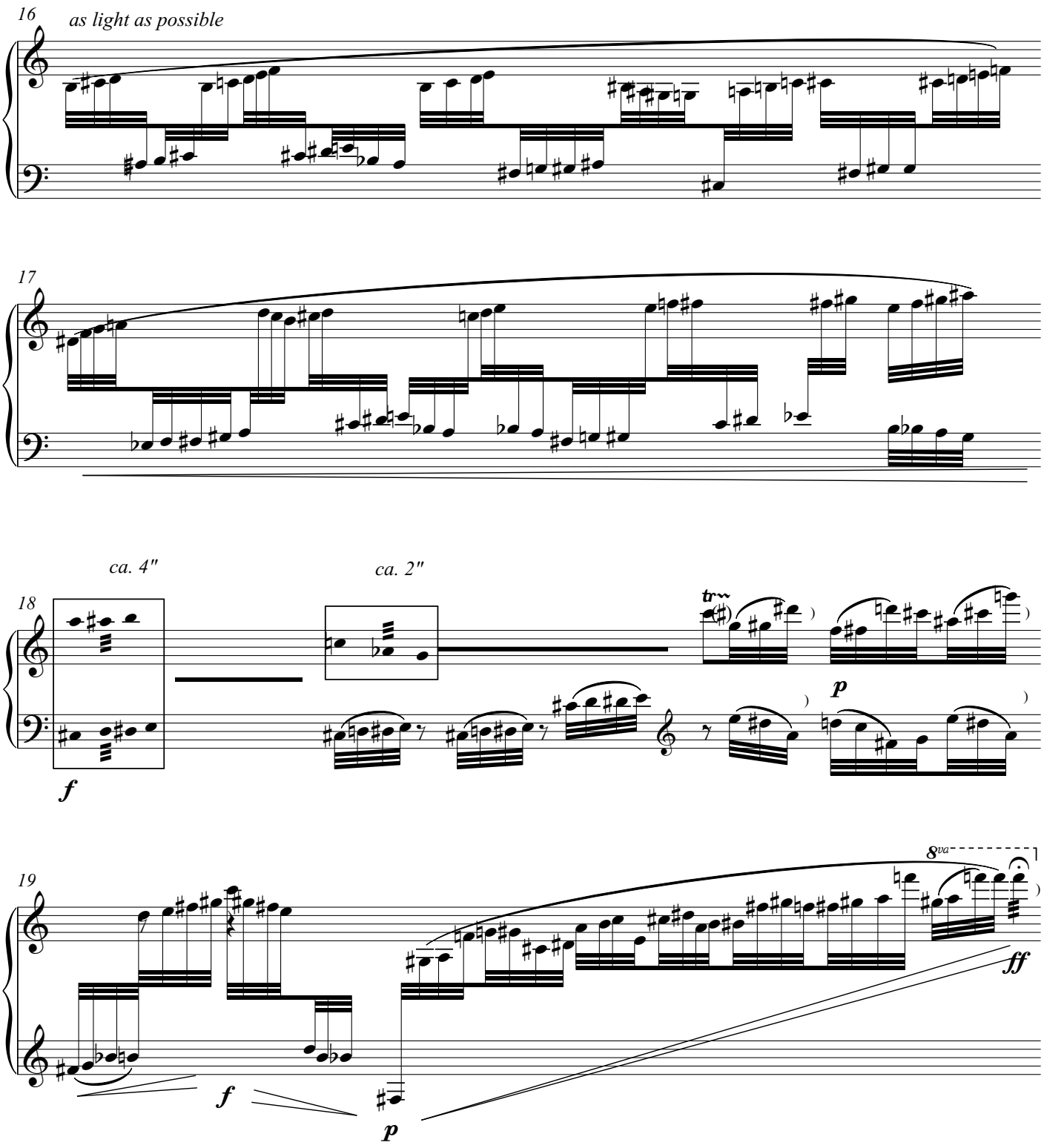
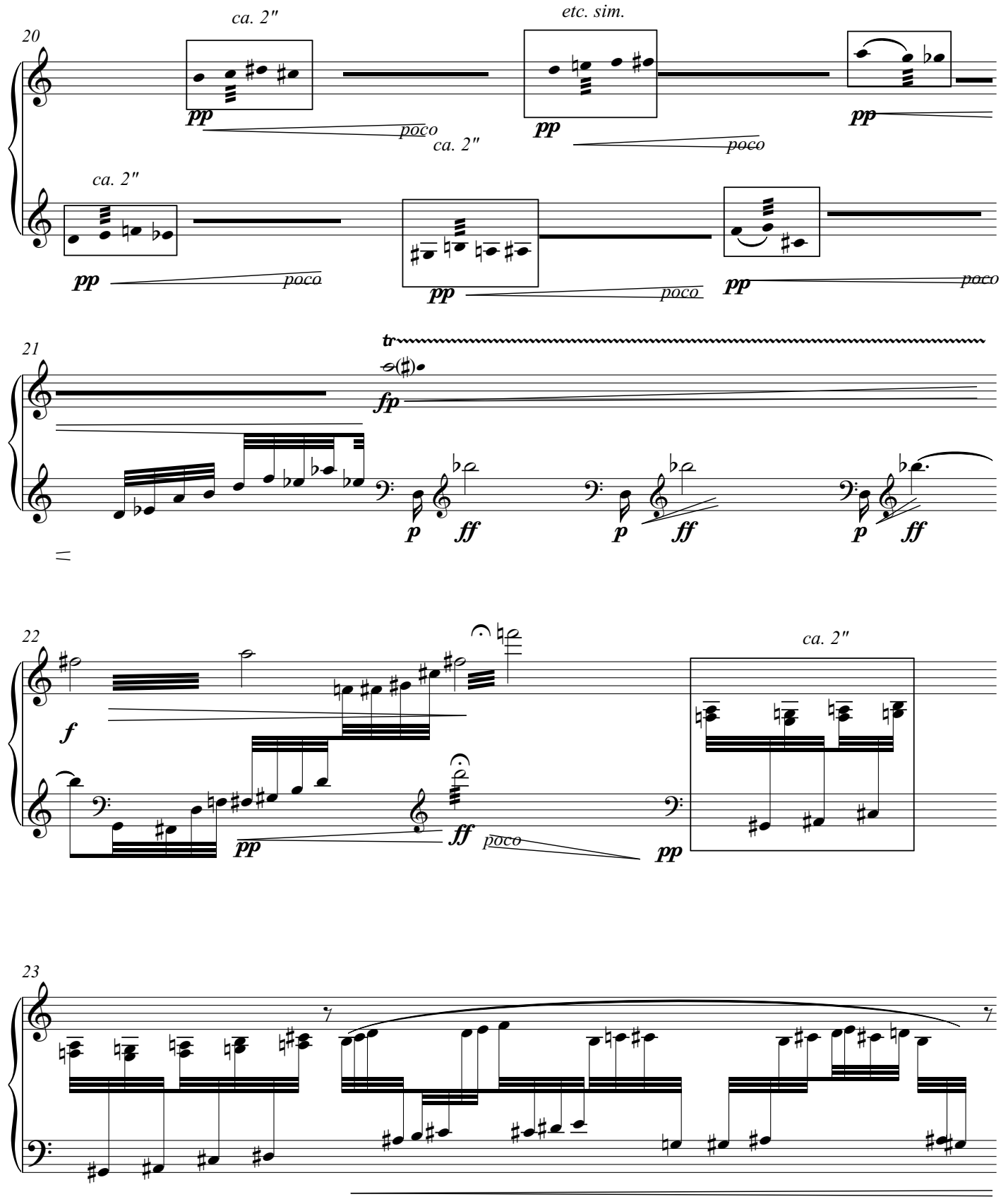
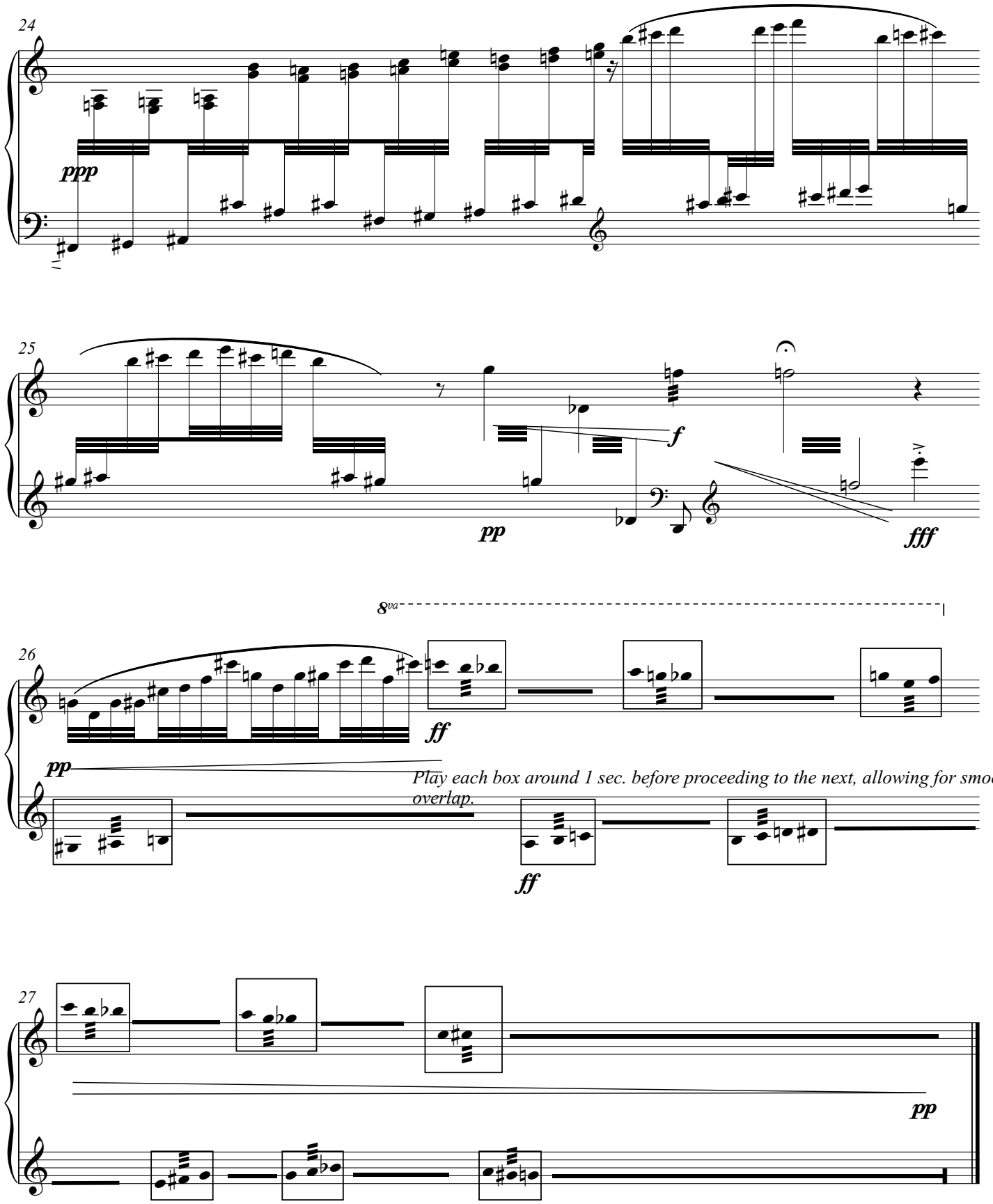
Swarm


ca. 6"
ca. 6"
ca. 6"
8va
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
Use Una Corda pedal
wherever dynamic level
of pp or ppp is written,
slowing releasing into it or
or out of it to louder dynamic.
4
sfz
ff
tr
pp
pp
f
pp
f
pp
f
6
pp
mf
molto rit.
a tempo
7
fff
ff
pp
pp
tr
tr
50'

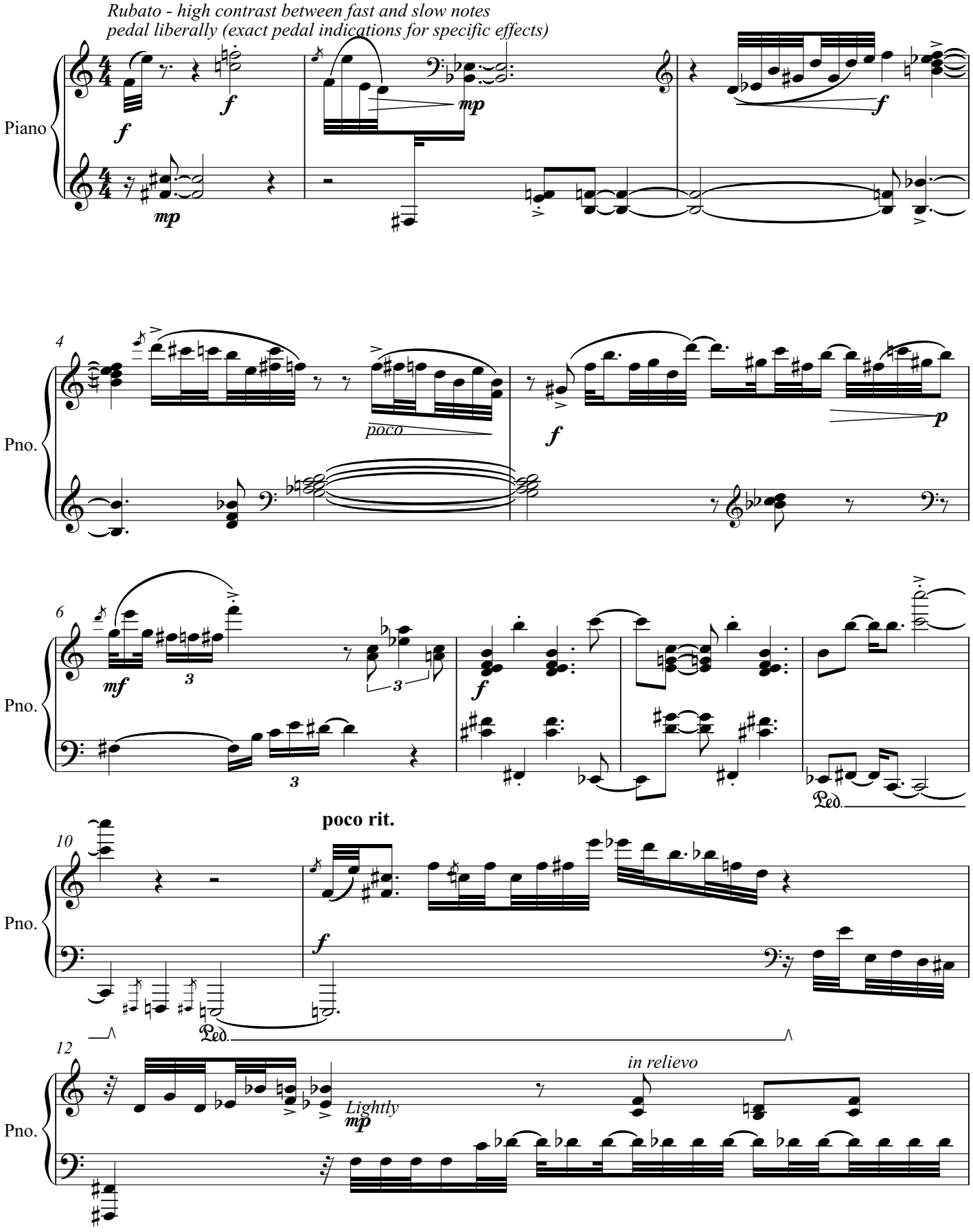

10
p
(tr)
mf
p
11
meno
ca. 4"
poco accel.
12
a tempo
ca. 2"
ca. 2"
ca. 2"
f
13
f
sf
subdued
p
14
ca. 3"
tr
mp

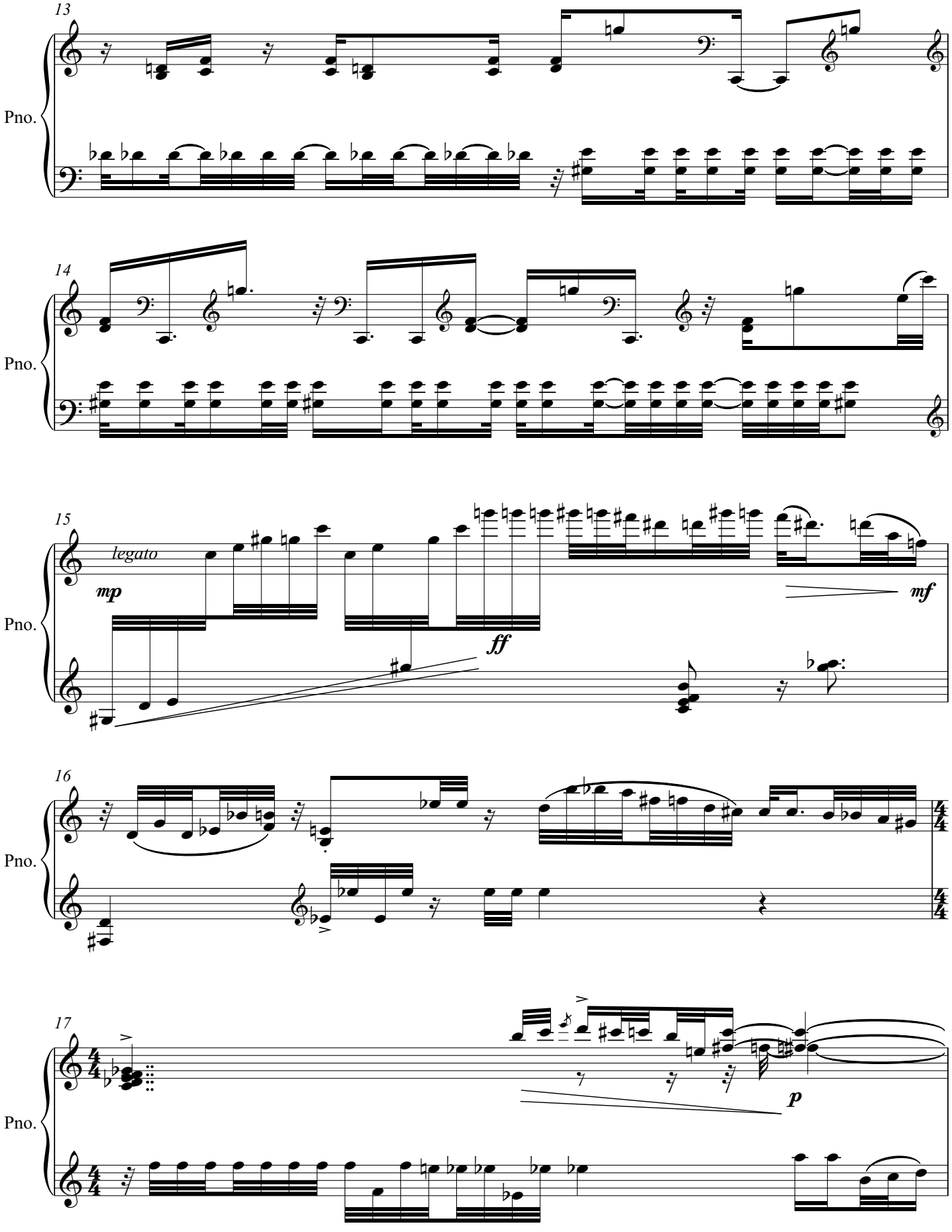

16
as light as possible
17
ca. 4"
ca. 2"
18
tr
f
p
19
8va
f
p
ff

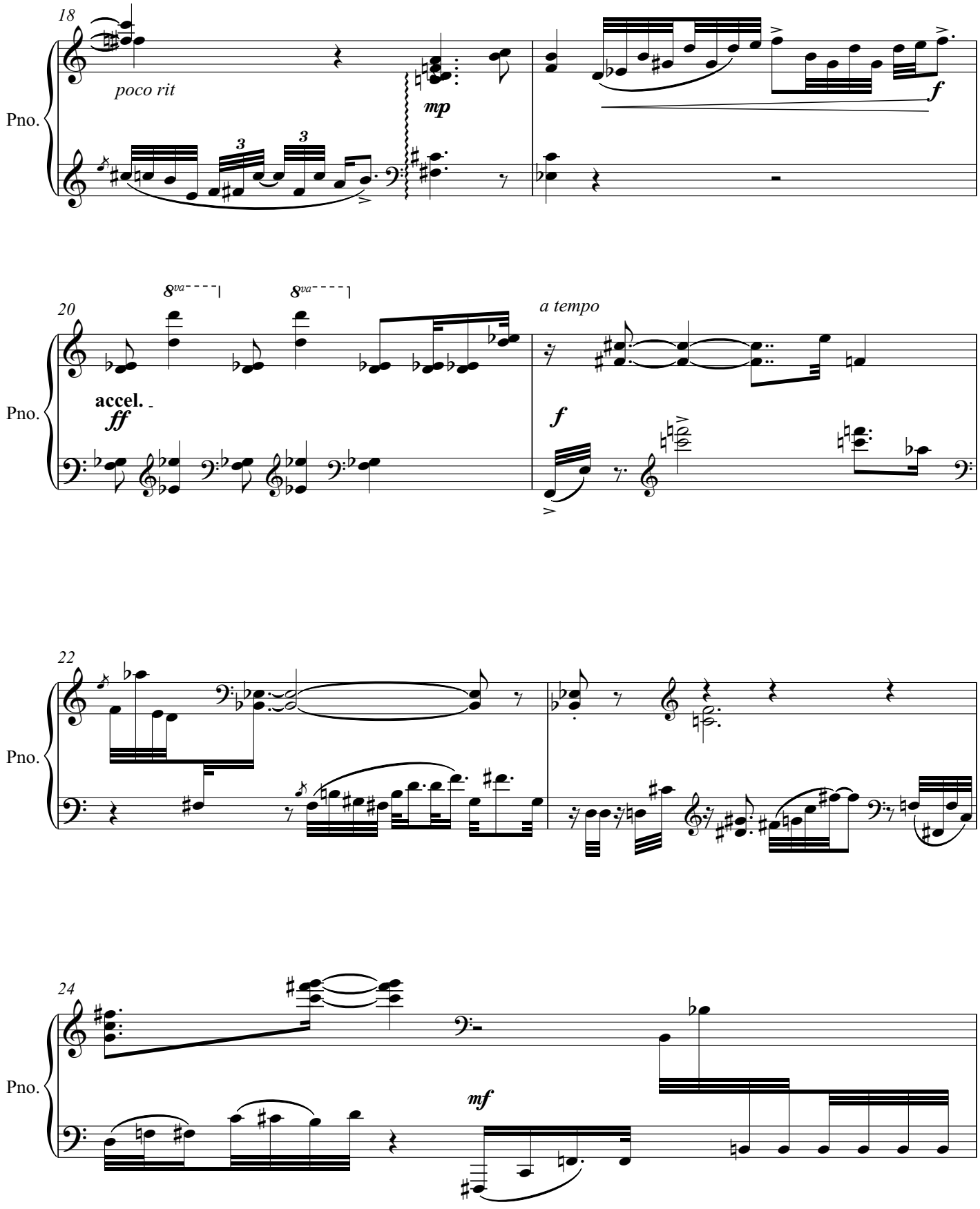

20
ca. 2"
etc. sim.
pp
poco
ca. 2"
pp
poco
pp
ca. 2"
pp
poco
pp
poco
pp
poco
21
tr
fp
p
ff
p
ff
p
ff
22
f
pp
ff
poco
ca. 2"
pp
23

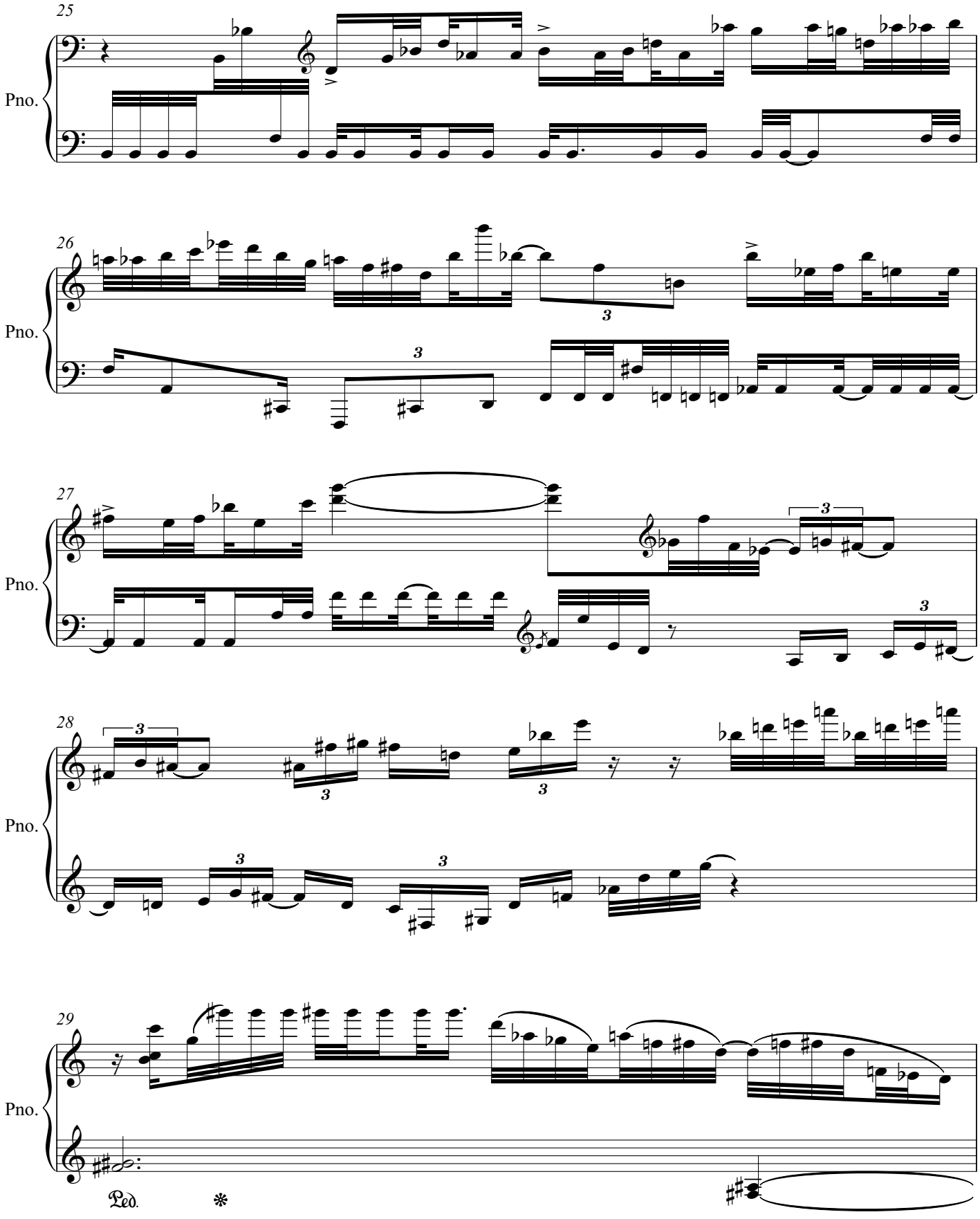

24
ppp
25
pp
f
fff
8va
26
ff
pp
Play each box around 1 sec. before proceeding to the next, allowing for smooth overlap.
ff
27
pp

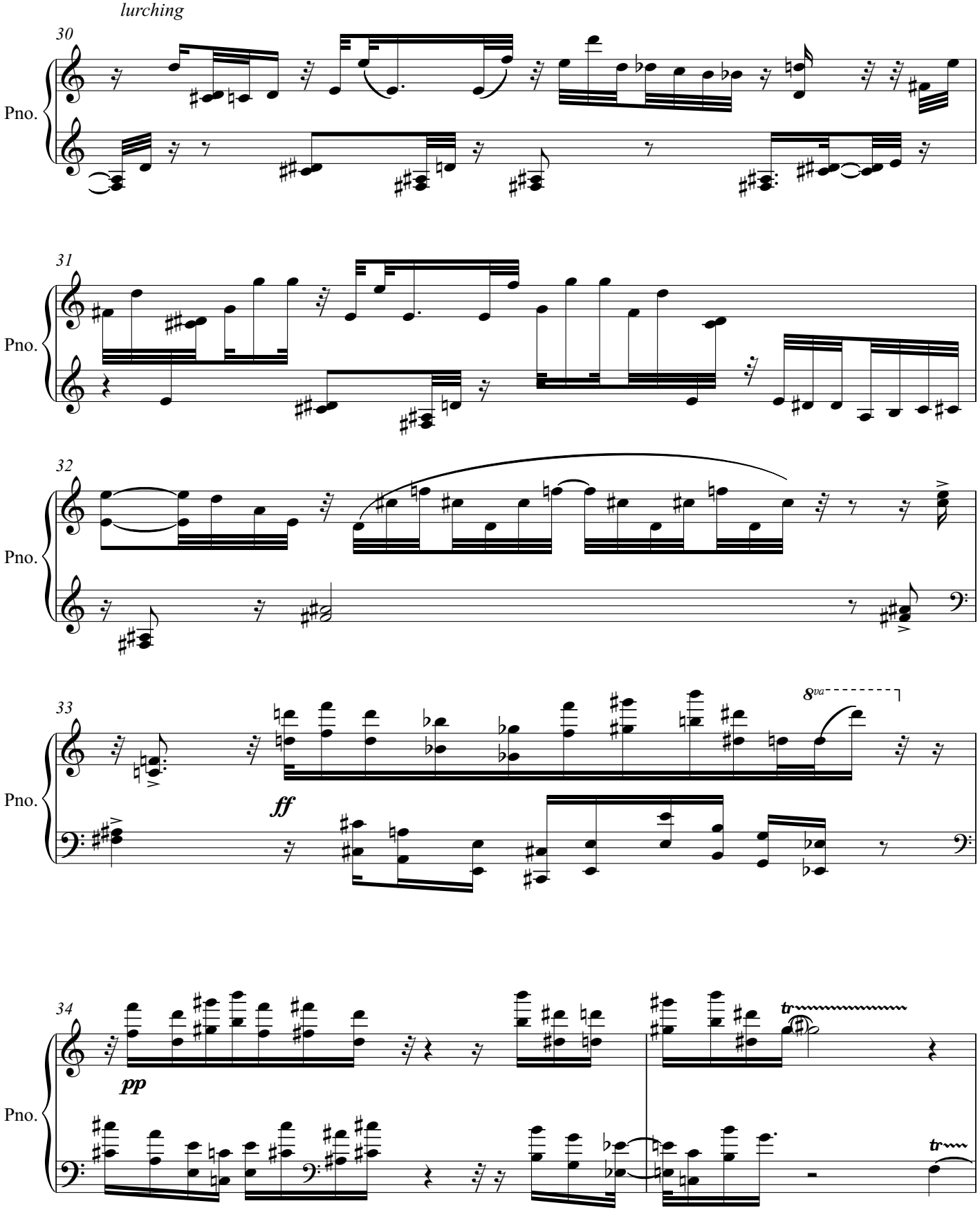
STING

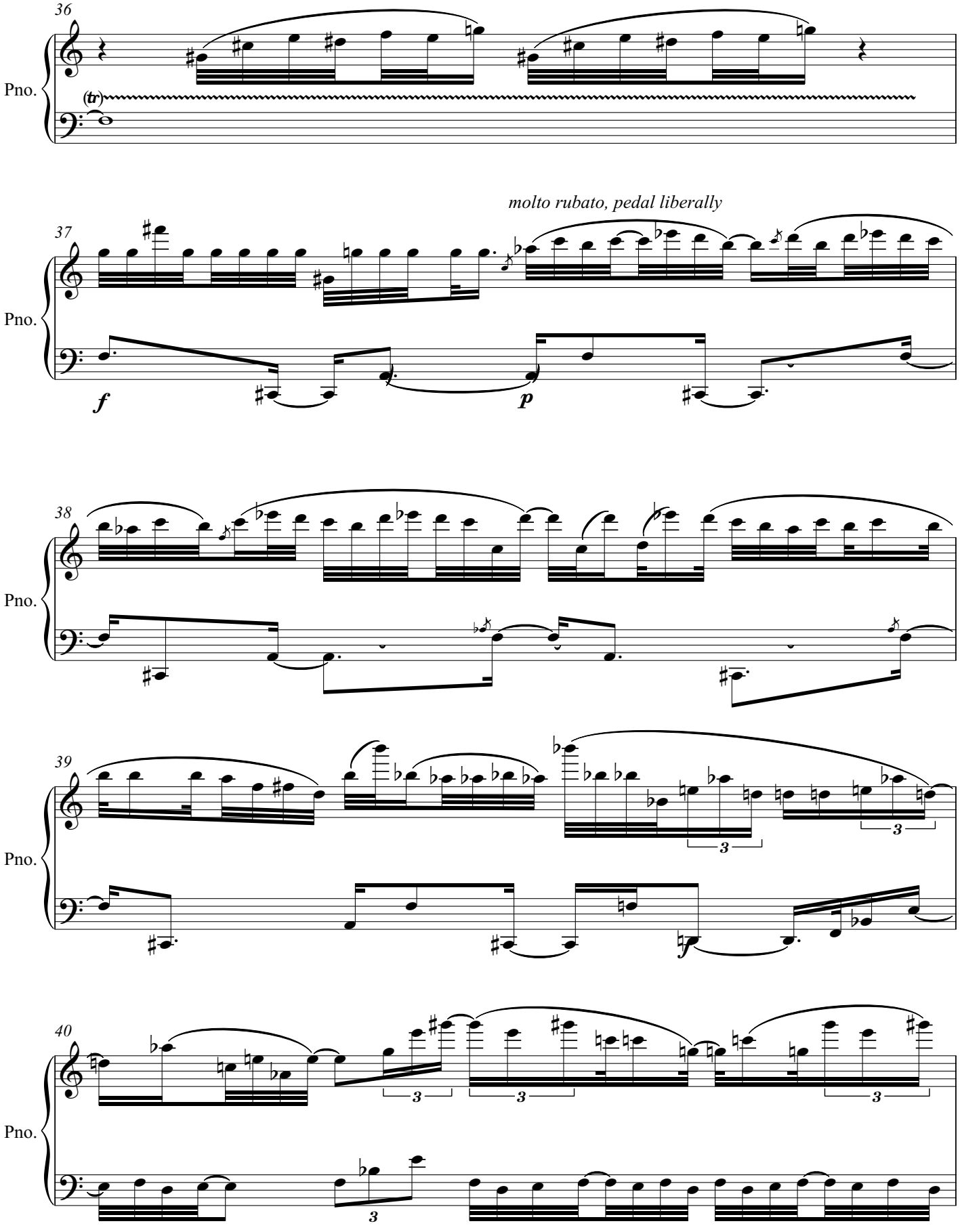

Rubato - high contrast between fast and slow notes
pedal liberally (exact pedal indications for specific effects)
Piano
Pno.
poco
poco rit.
Lightly
in relievo

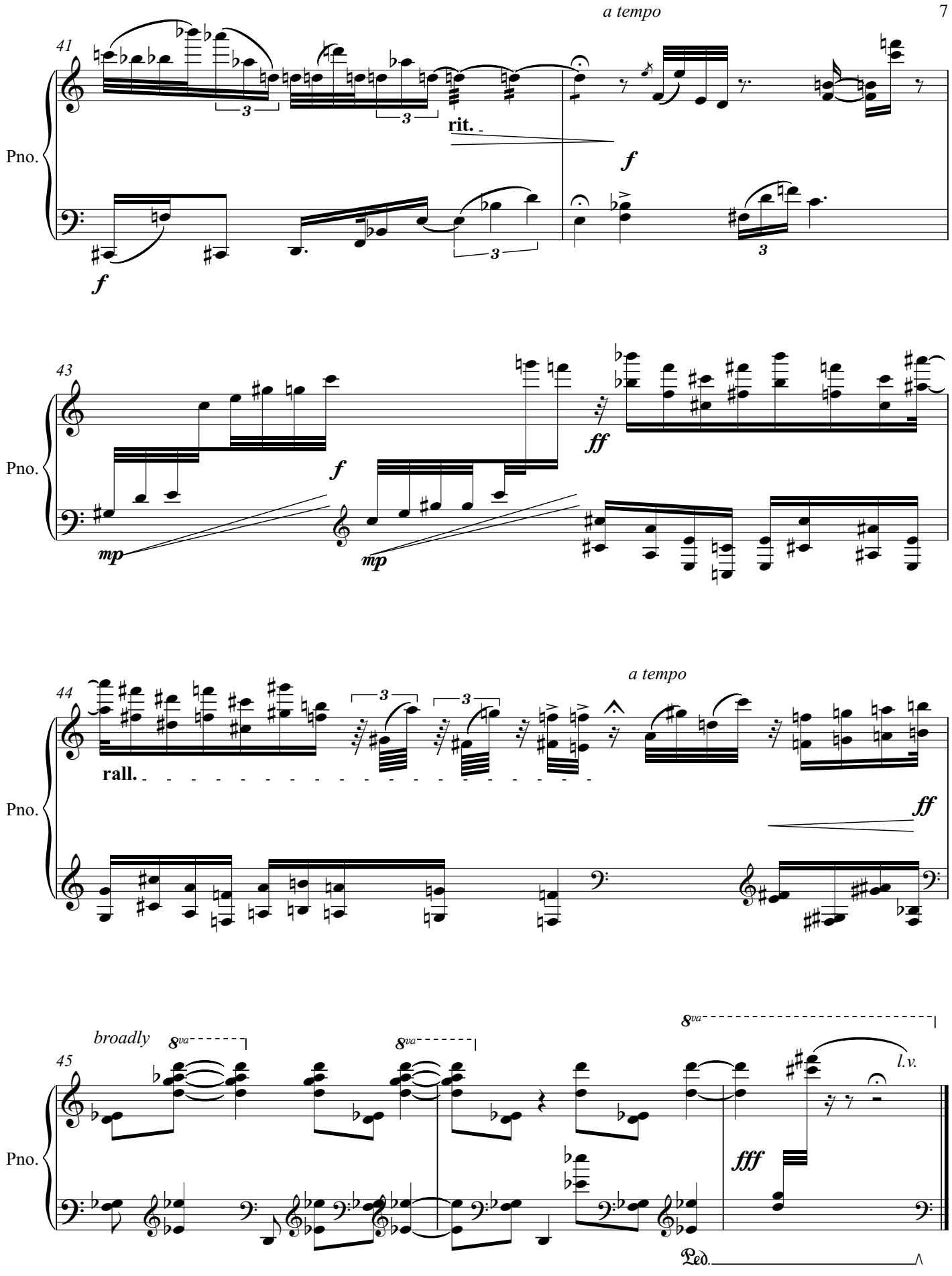

13
Pno.
14
Pno.
15
legato
mp
ff
mf
Pno.
16
Pno.
17
p
Pno.


18
poco rit
mp
f
Pno.
20
8va
8va
a tempo
accel.
ff
f
Pno.
22
Pno.
24
mf
Pno.

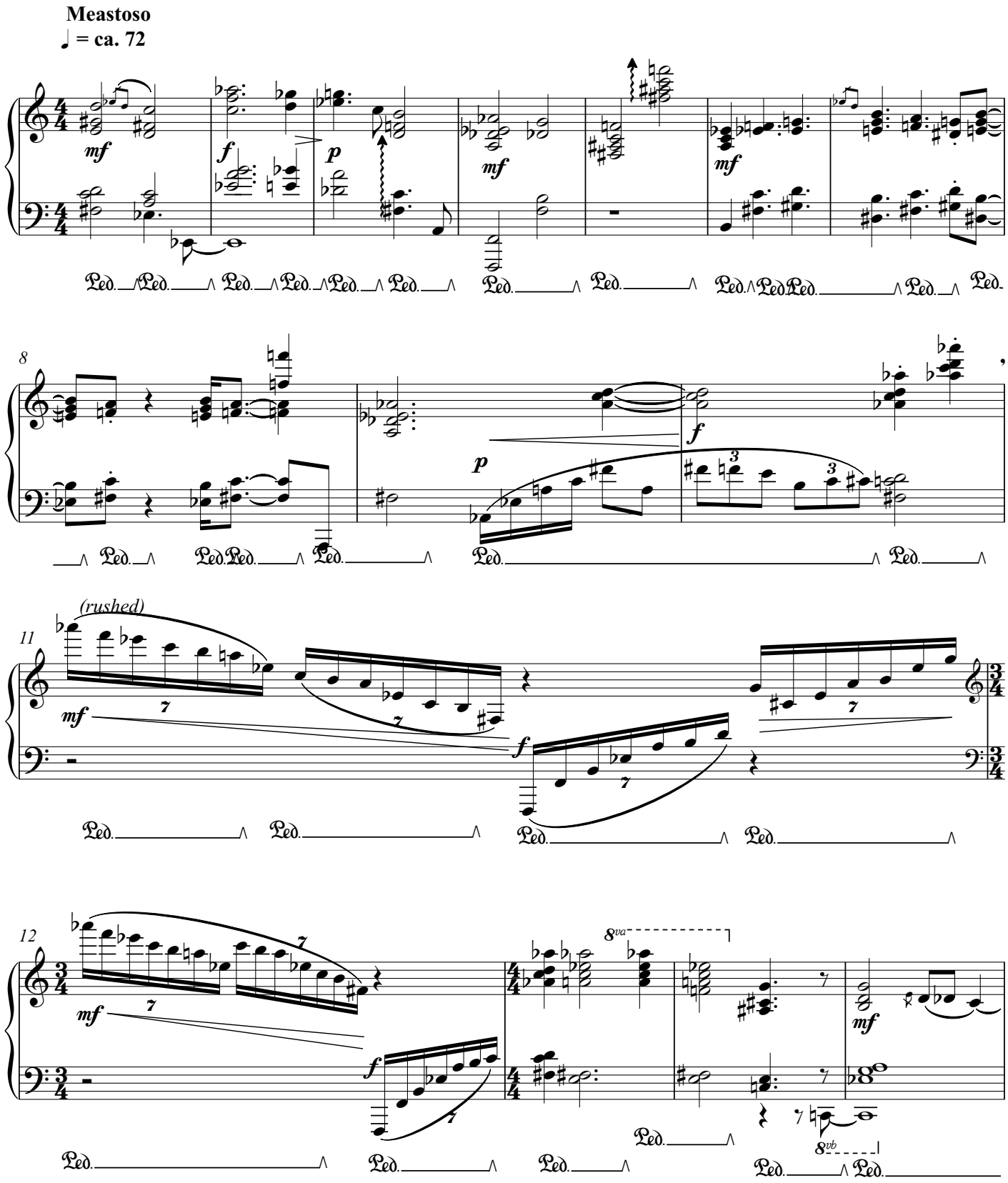

25
Pno.
26
Pno.
27
Pno.
28
Pno.
29
Pno.
Ped.

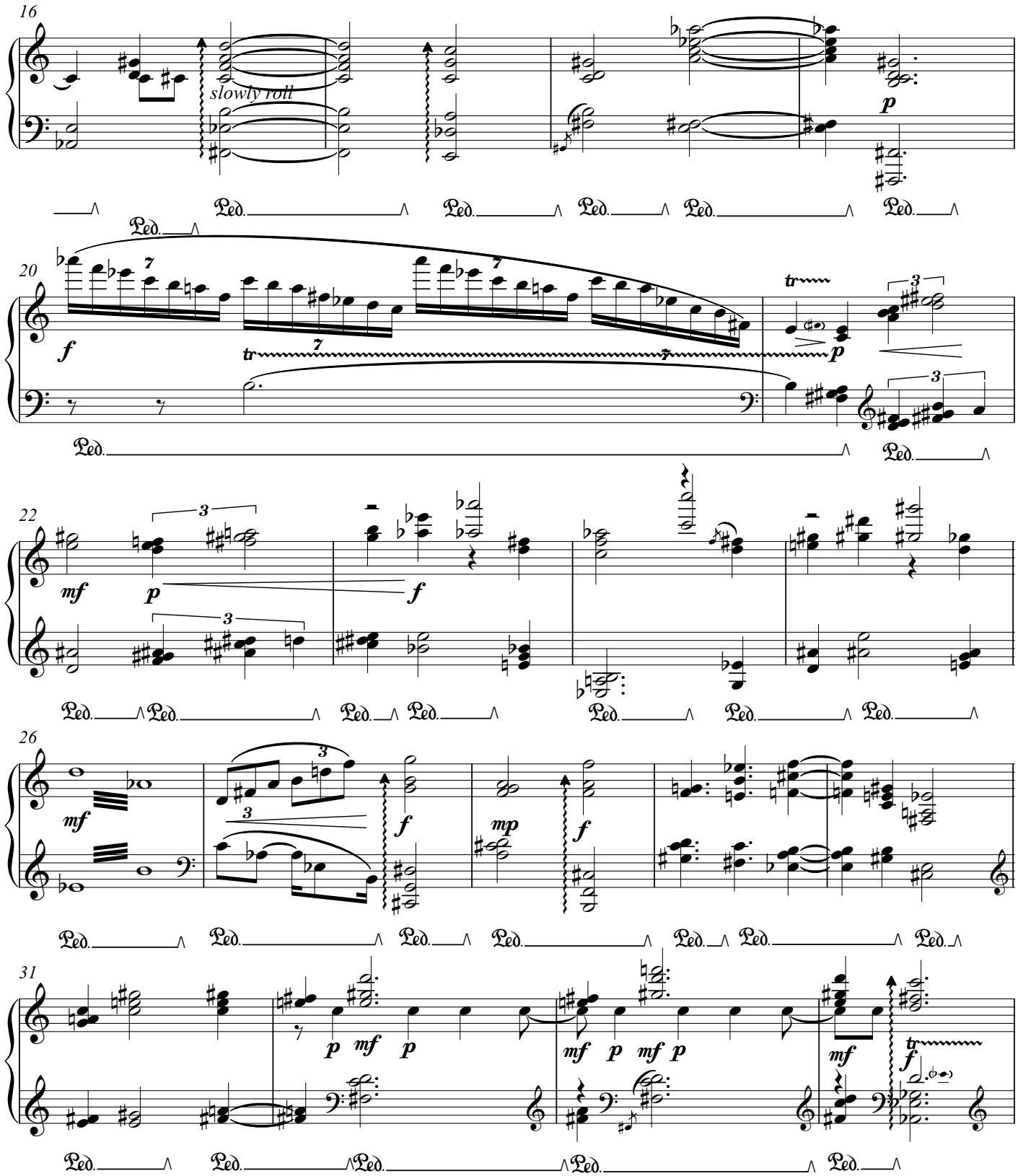

lurching
30
Pno.
31
Pno.
32
Pno.
33
Pno.
8va
ff
34
Pno.
pp
tr
tr

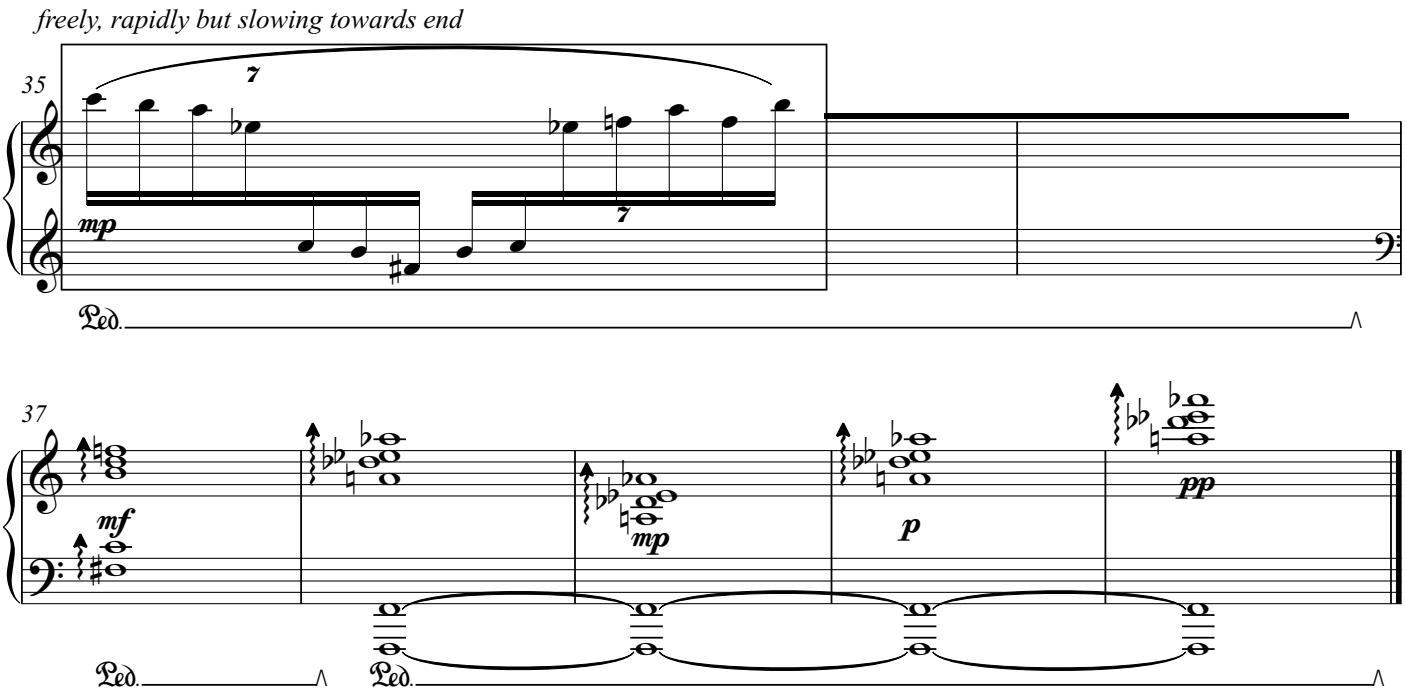

36
Pno.
(tr)
molto rubato, pedal liberally
37
Pno.
f
p
38
Pno.
39
Pno.
3
3
40
Pno.
3
3
3
3


a tempo
41
Pno.
rit.
f
f
3
3
3
43
Pno.
mp
f
mp
ff
44
a tempo
Pno.
rall.
ff
3
3
broadly
45
Pno.
8va
8va
8va
l.v.
fff
Ped.

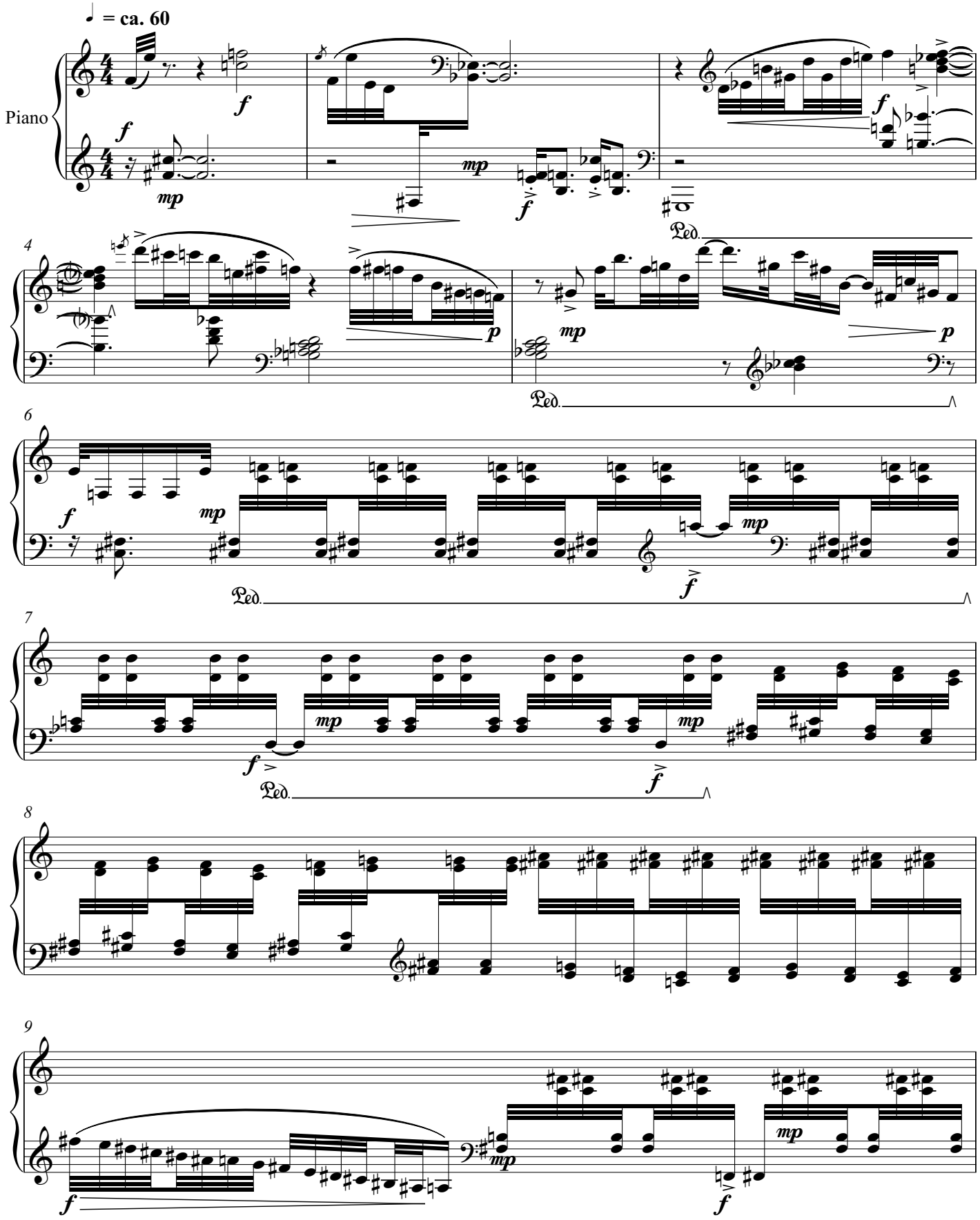
HoneyQueen

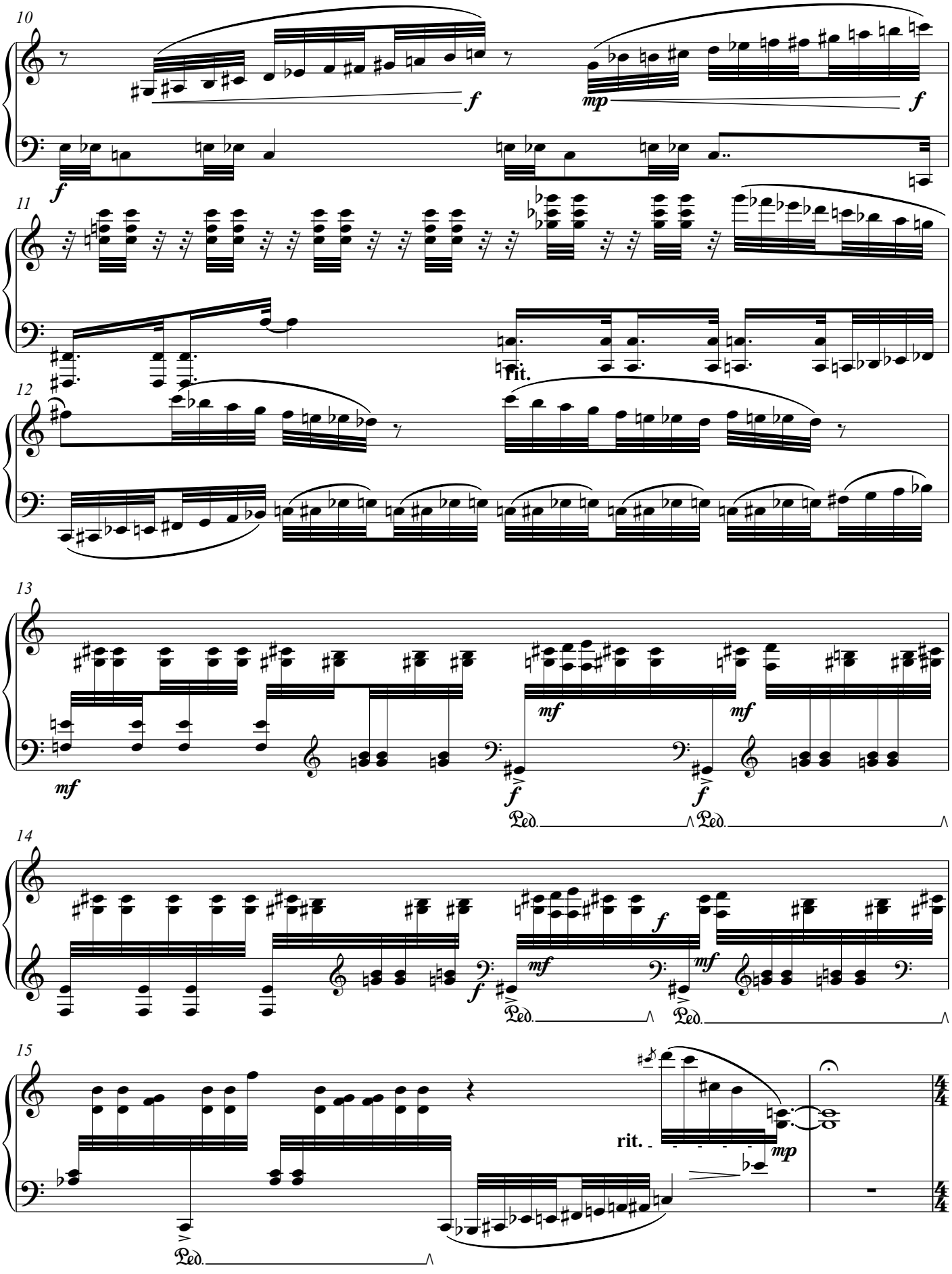


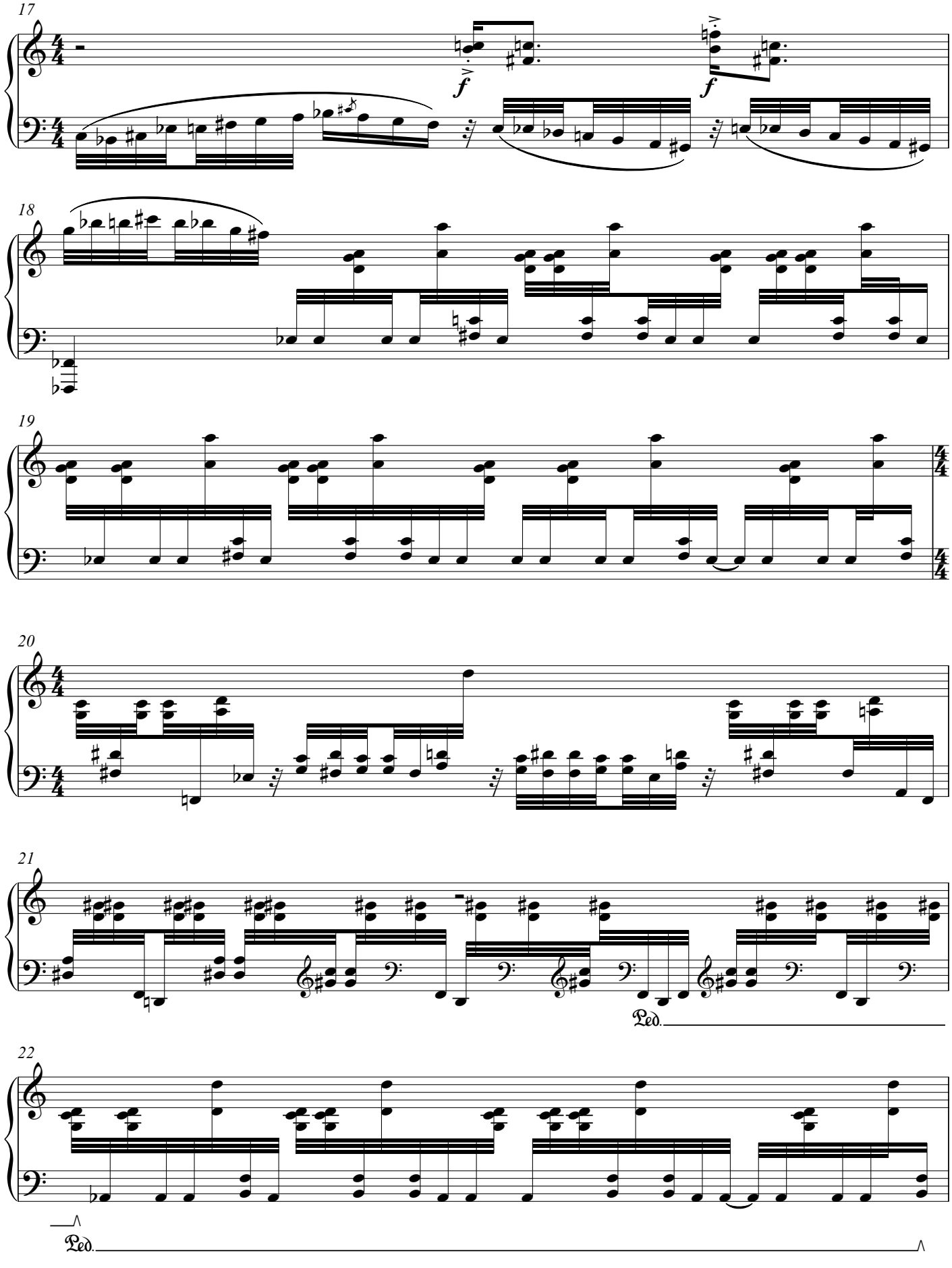

16
slowly roll
p
Ped.
20
f
tr
p
22
mf
p
f
26
mf
f
mp
f
31
p
mf
p
mf
p
mf
p
mf
f

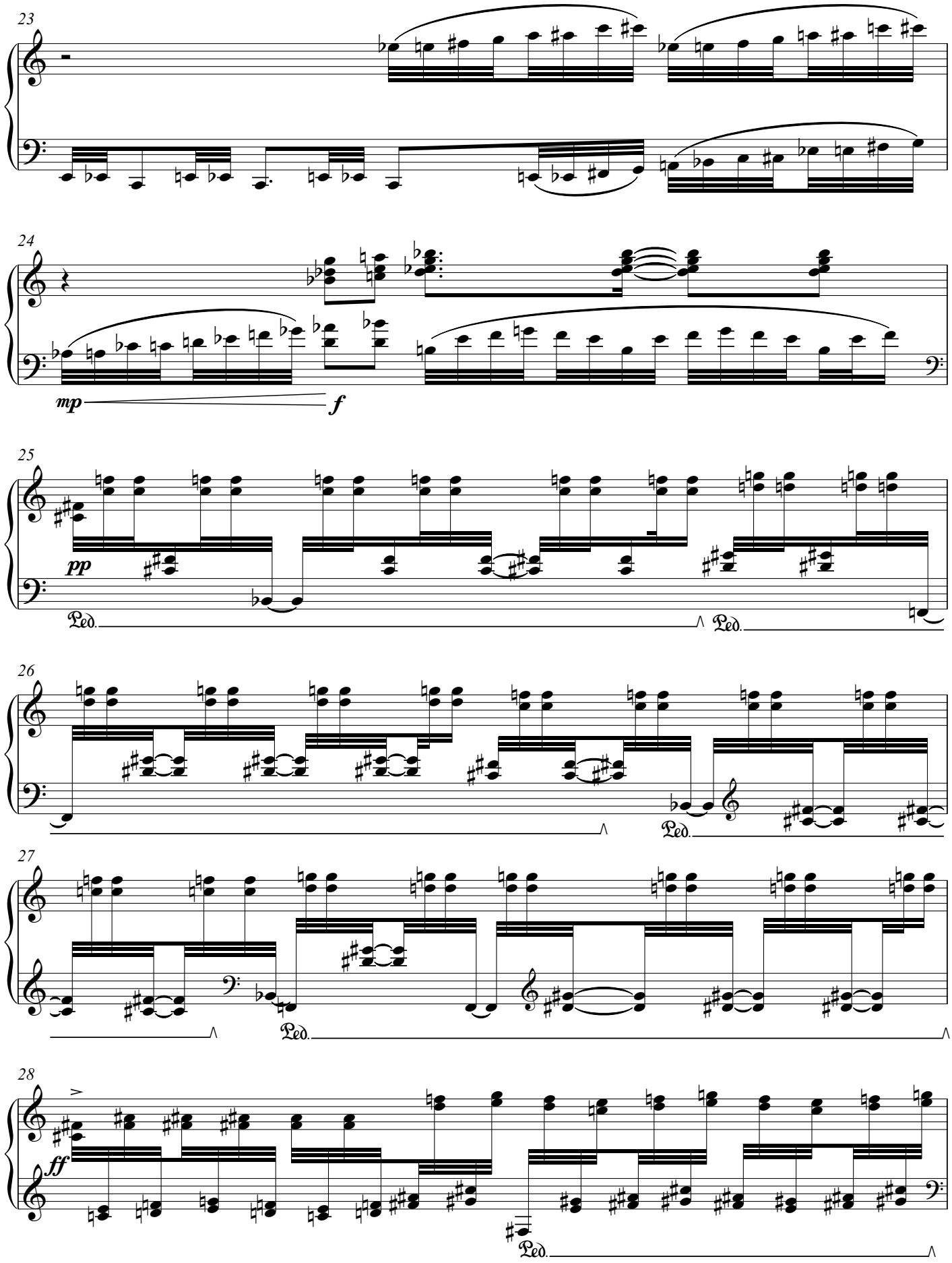

freely, rapidly but slowing towards end
35
7
mp
7
Ped.
37
mf
mp
p
pp
Ped.
Ped.

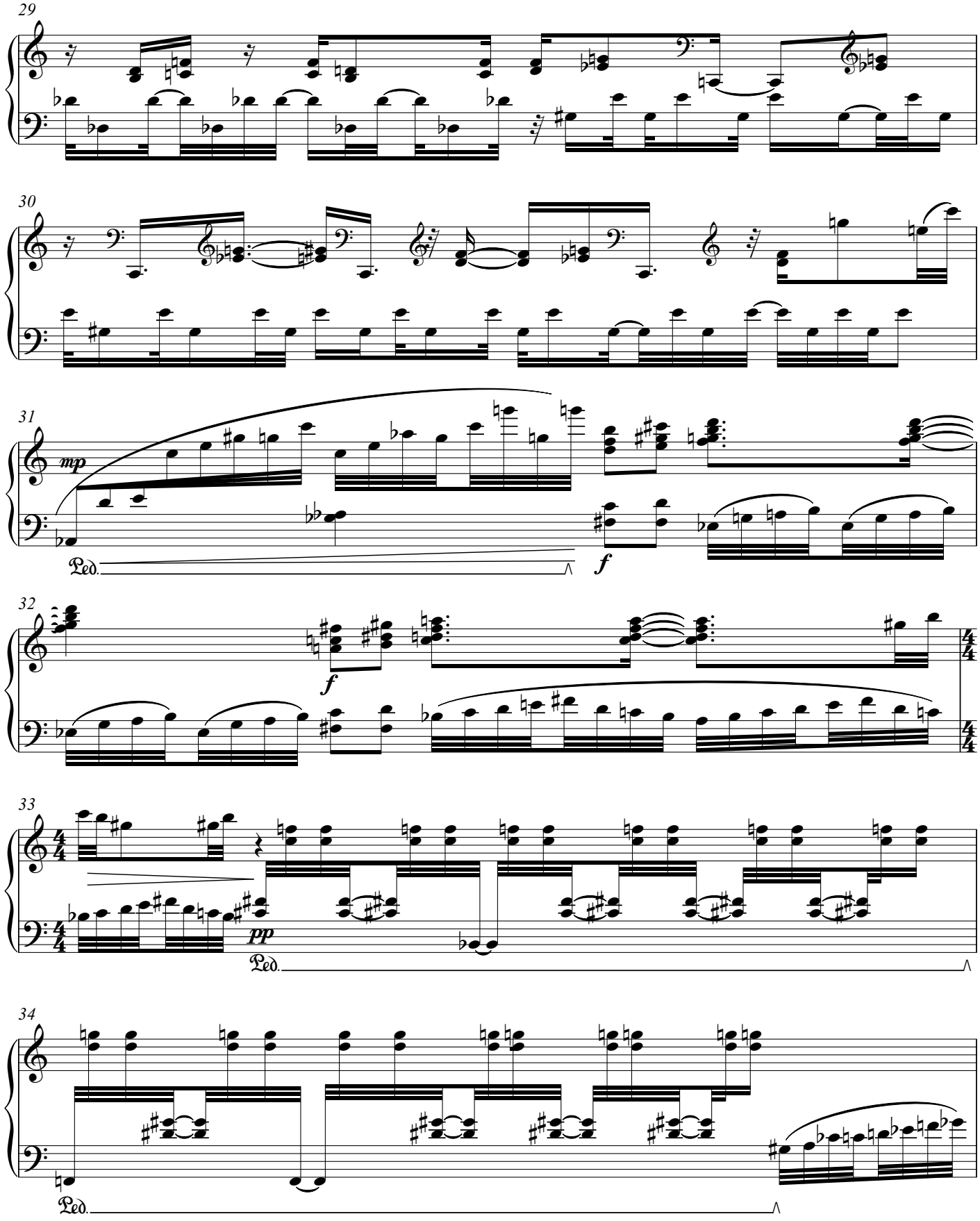
Myth of the Assassin Bees

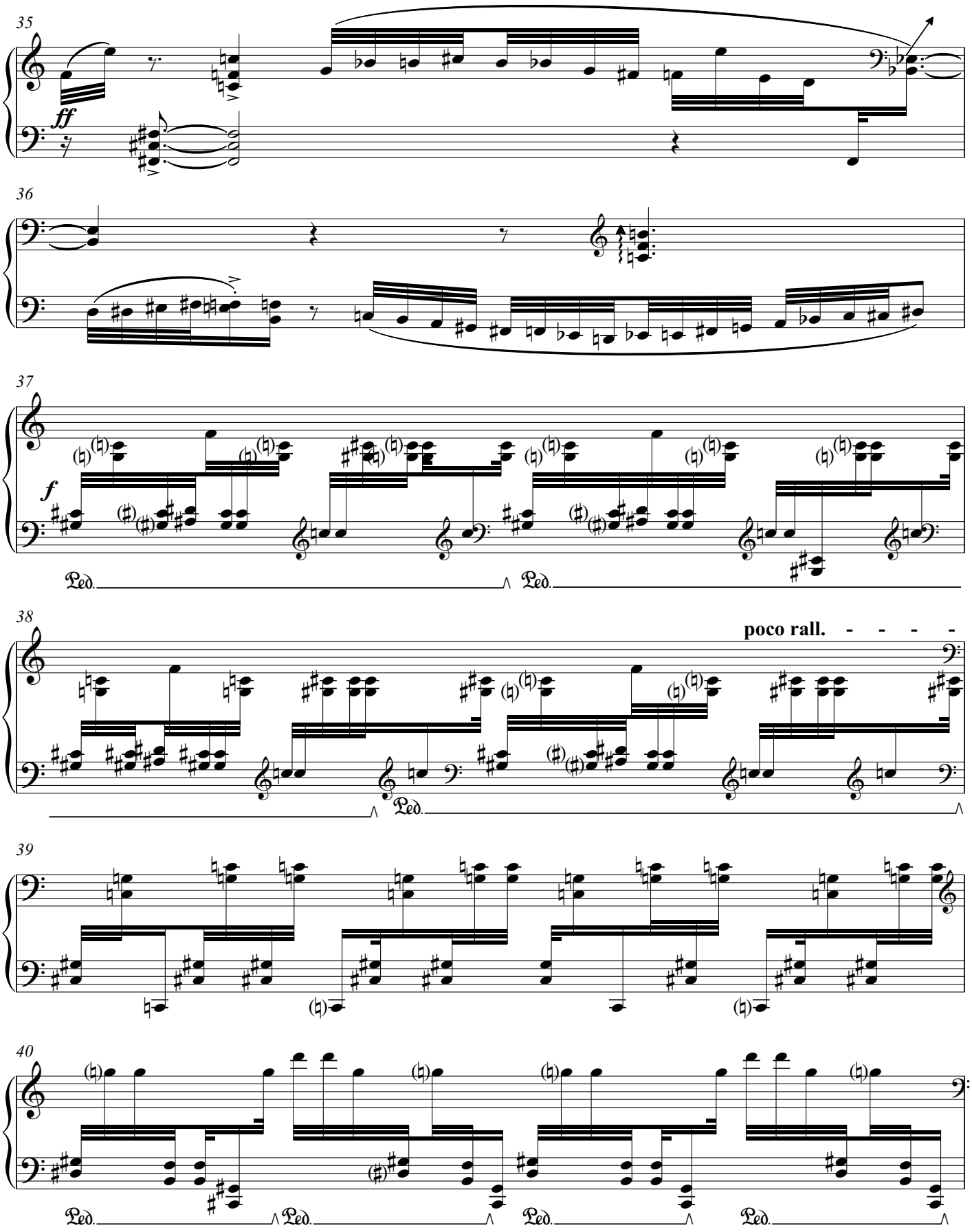


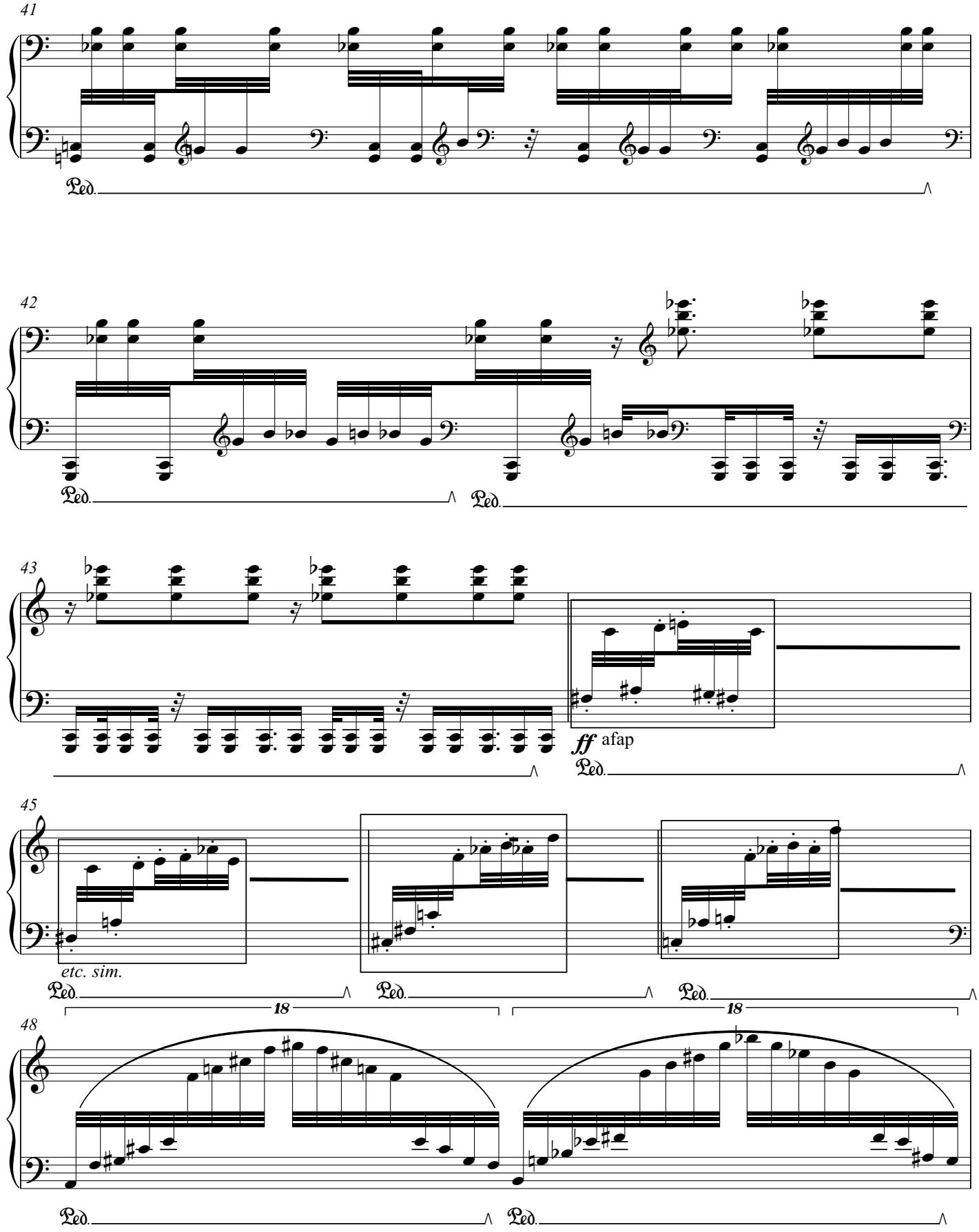

10
f
mp
f
f
11
rit.
12
13
mf
mf
mf
f
f
Ped.
Ped.
14
f
mf
mf
f
Ped.
Ped.
15
rit.
mp
Ped.

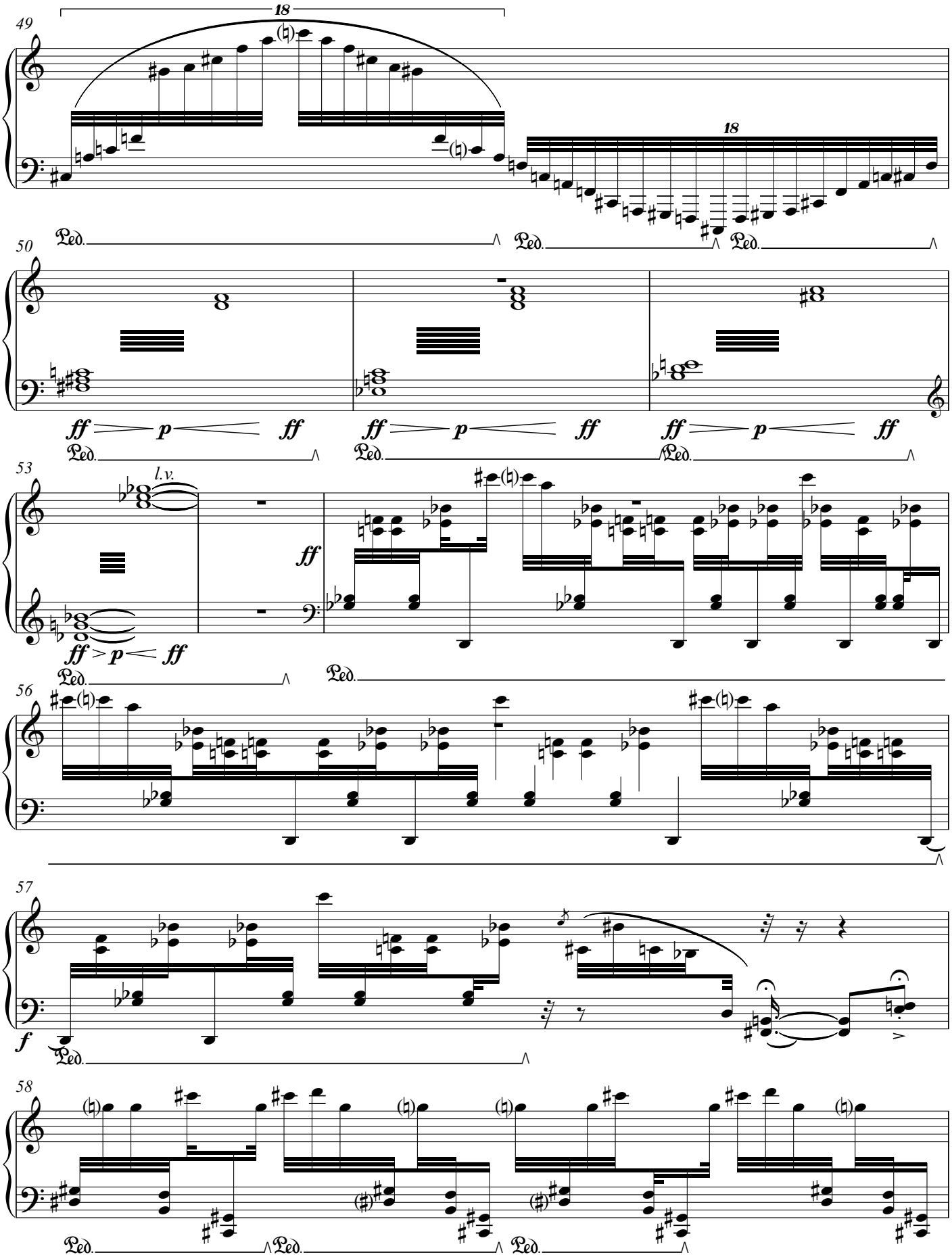

17
18
19
20
21
22
Ped.
Ped.

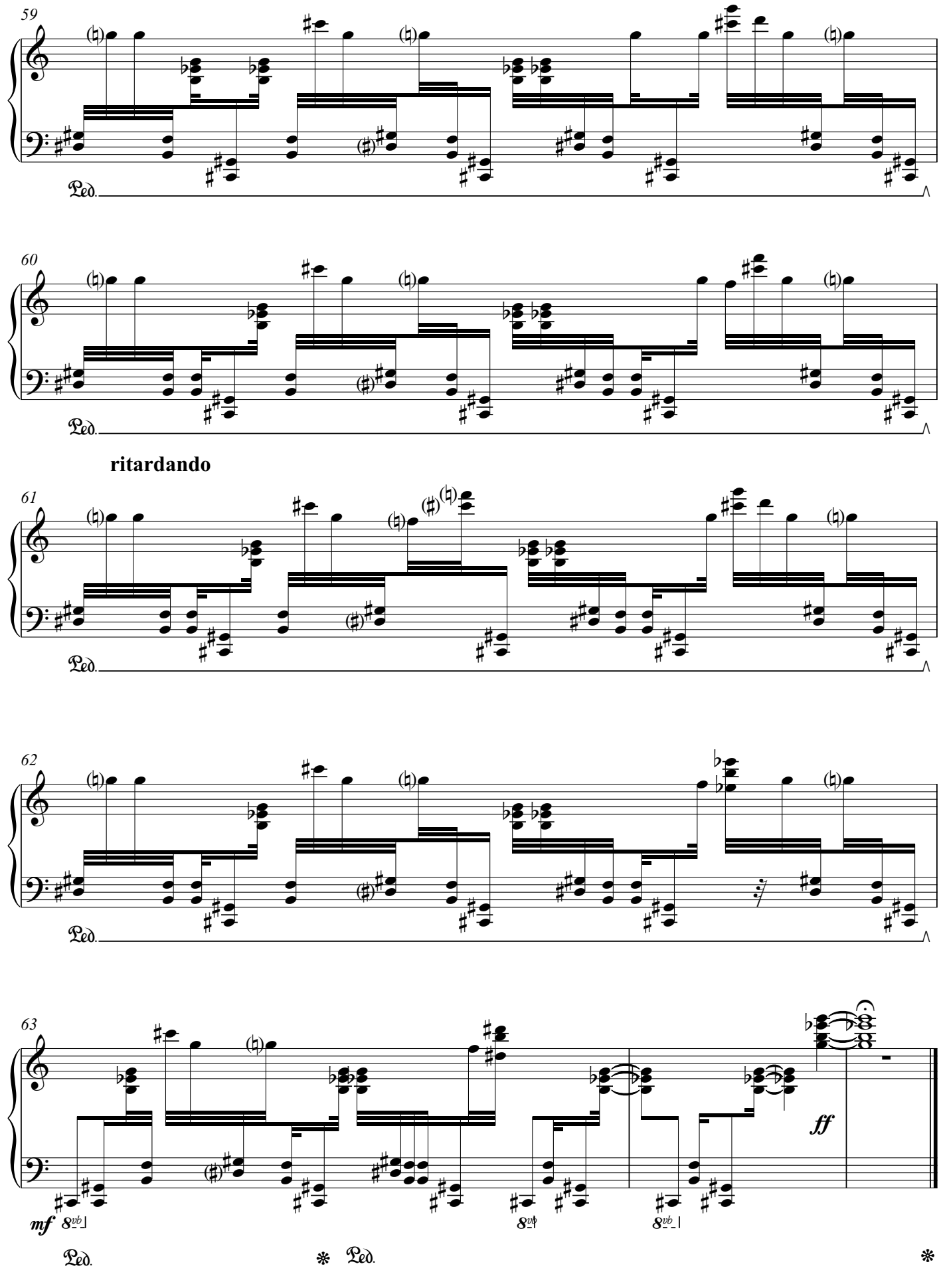

23
24
mp
f
25
pp
Ped.
Ped.
26
Ped.
27
Ped.
28
ff
Ped.


29
30
31
mp
Ped.
f
32
f
33
pp
Ped.
34
Ped.

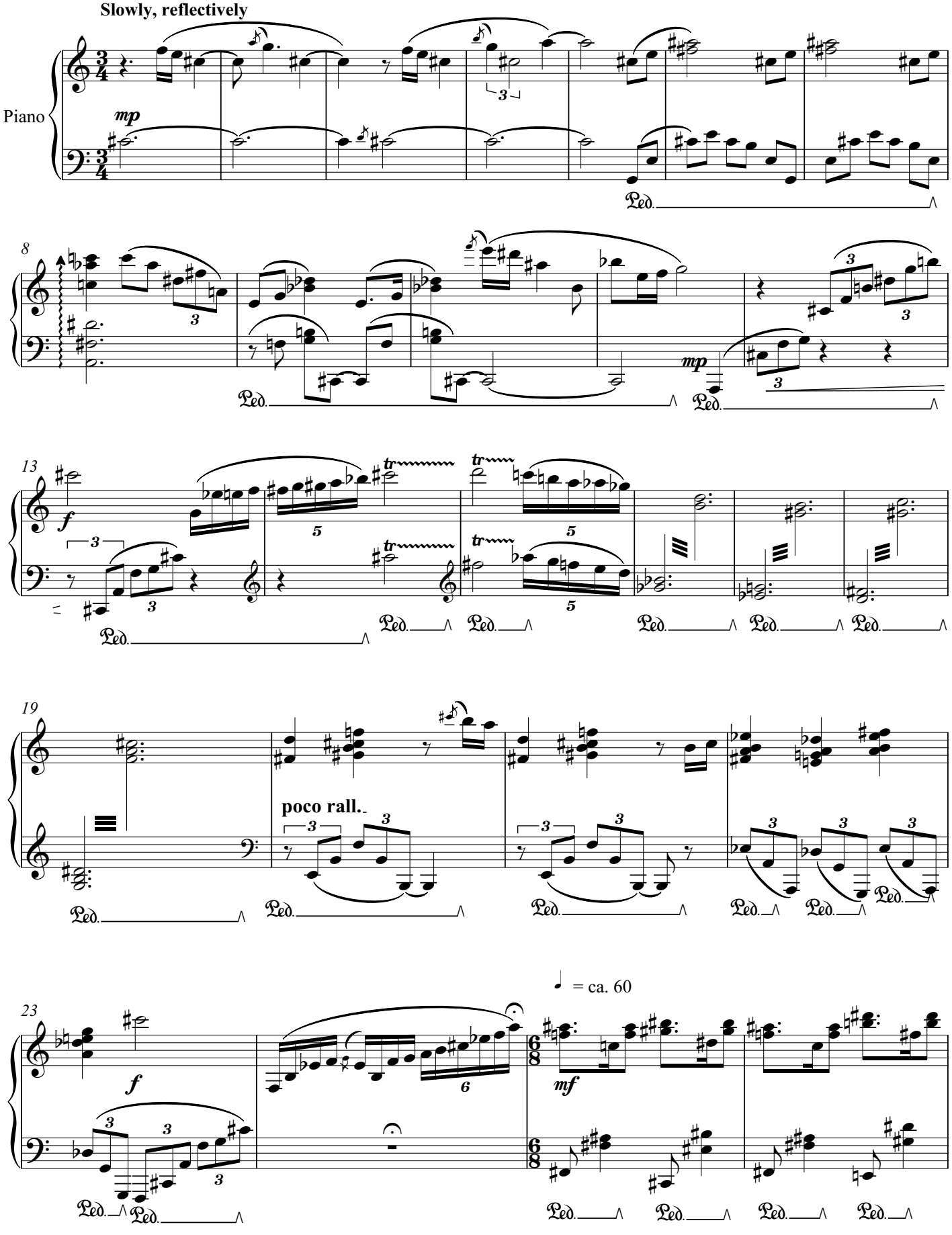

35
ff
36
37
f
Ped.
Ped.
38
poco rall. - - - - -
Ped.
39
40
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

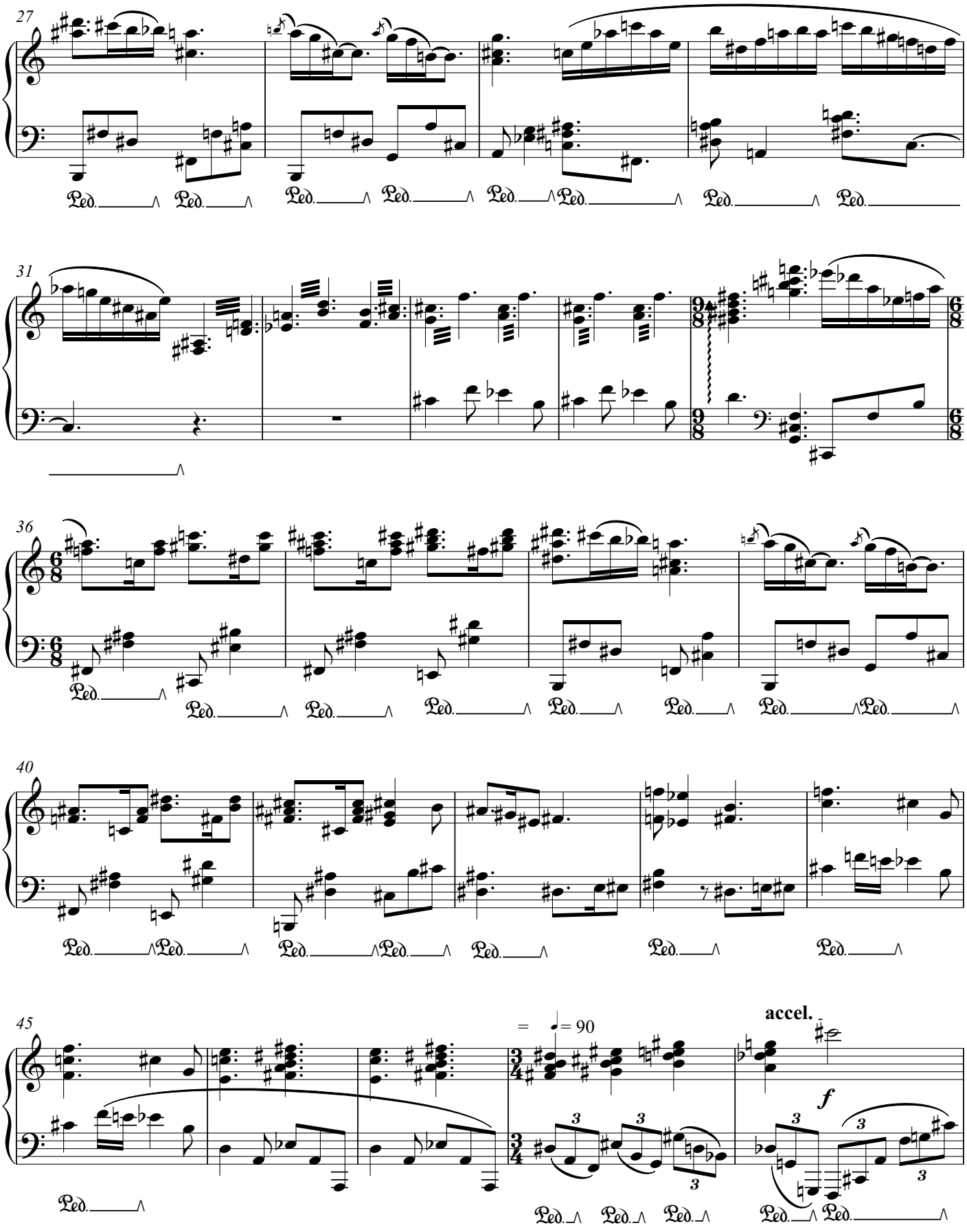

41
Ped.
42
Ped.
Ped.
43
ff afap
Ped.
45
etc. sim.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
18
18
48
Ped.
Ped.

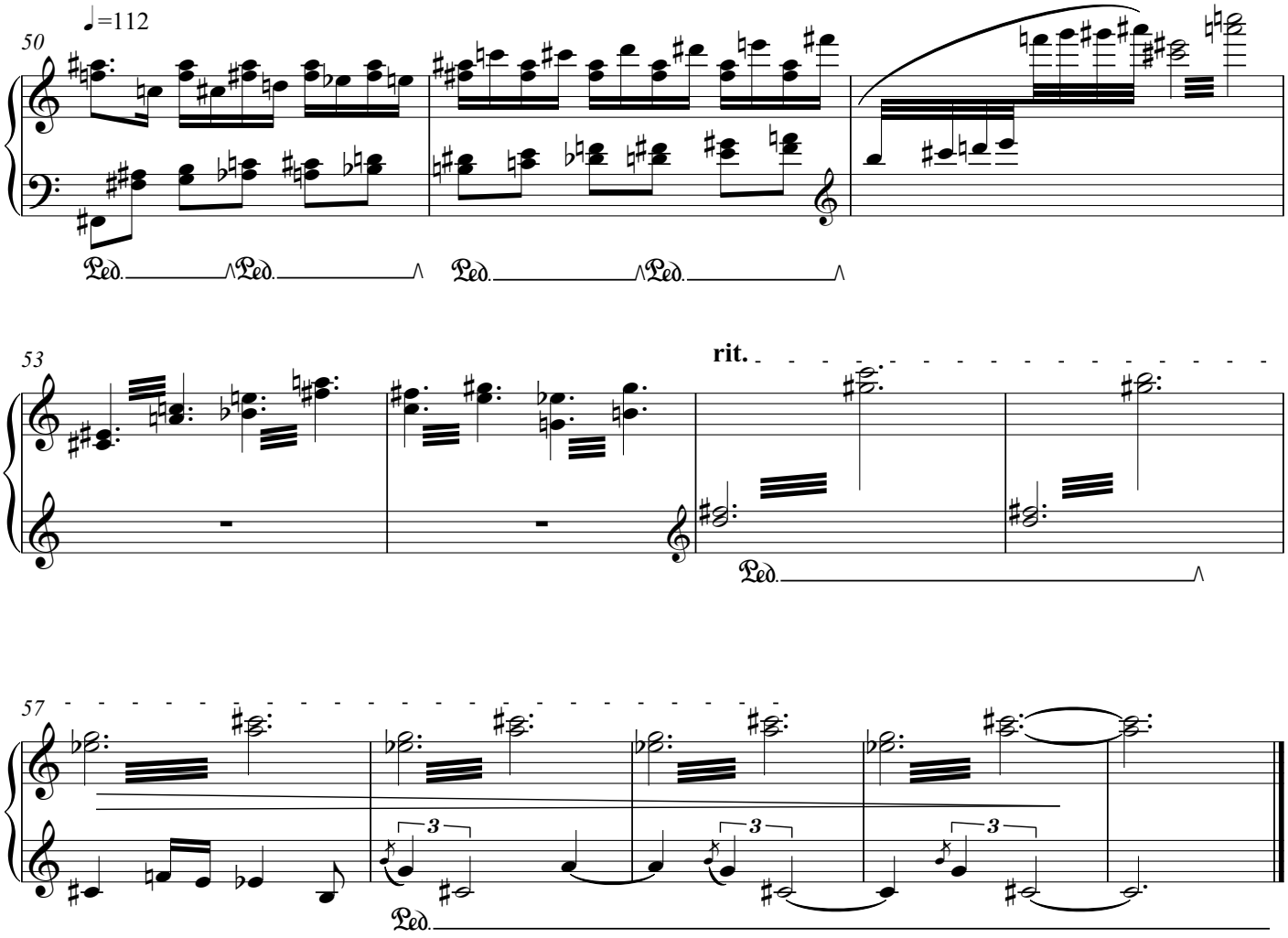

49
18
18
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
50
ff
p
ff
ff
p
ff
ff
p
ff
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
53
l.v.
ff
ff > p < ff
Ped.
Ped.
56
57
f
Ped.
58
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.


59
Ped.
60
Ped.
ritardando
61
Ped.
62
Ped.
63
mf
8vb
8vb
8vb
ff
Ped.
Ped.

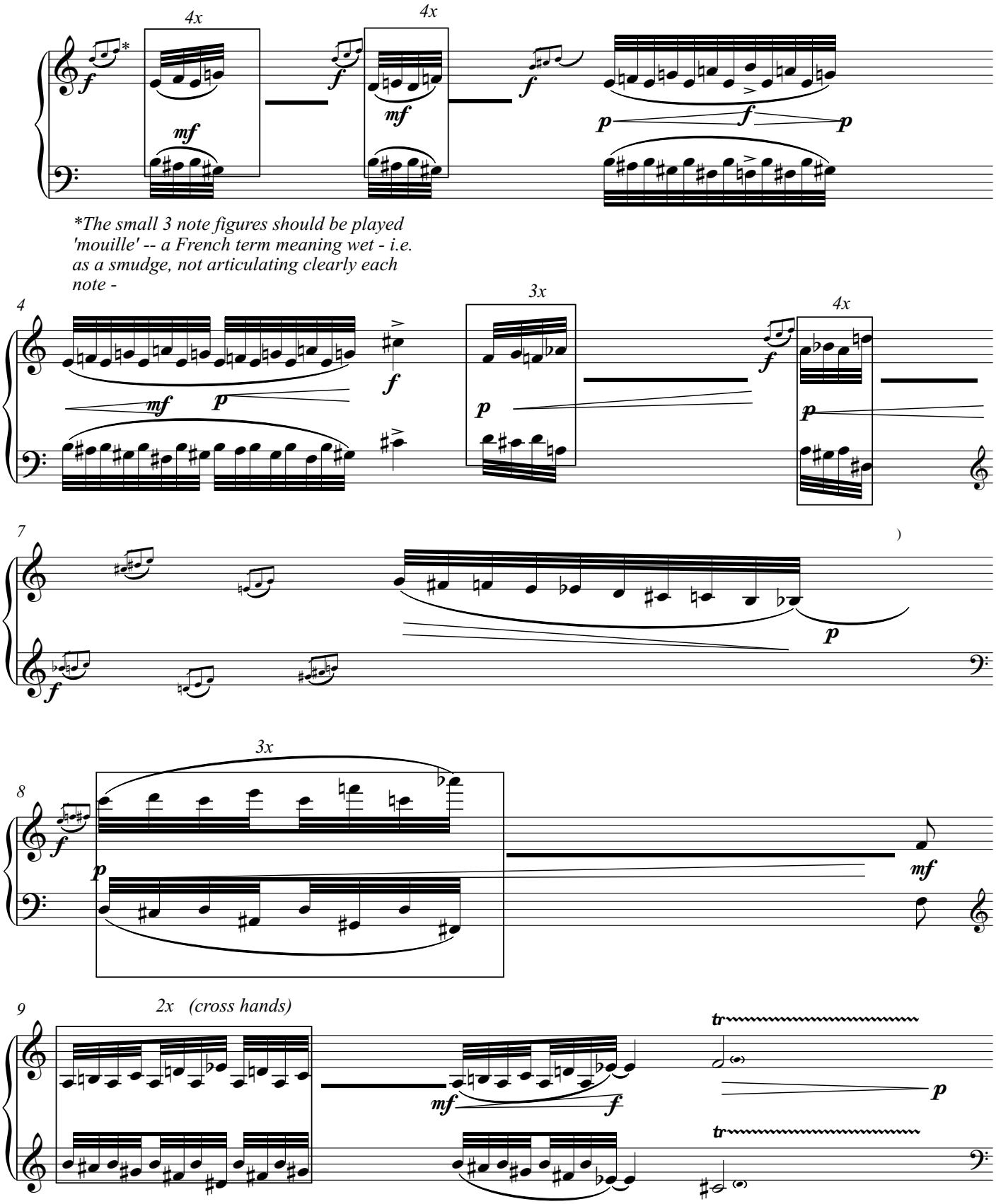
Solitary Bee

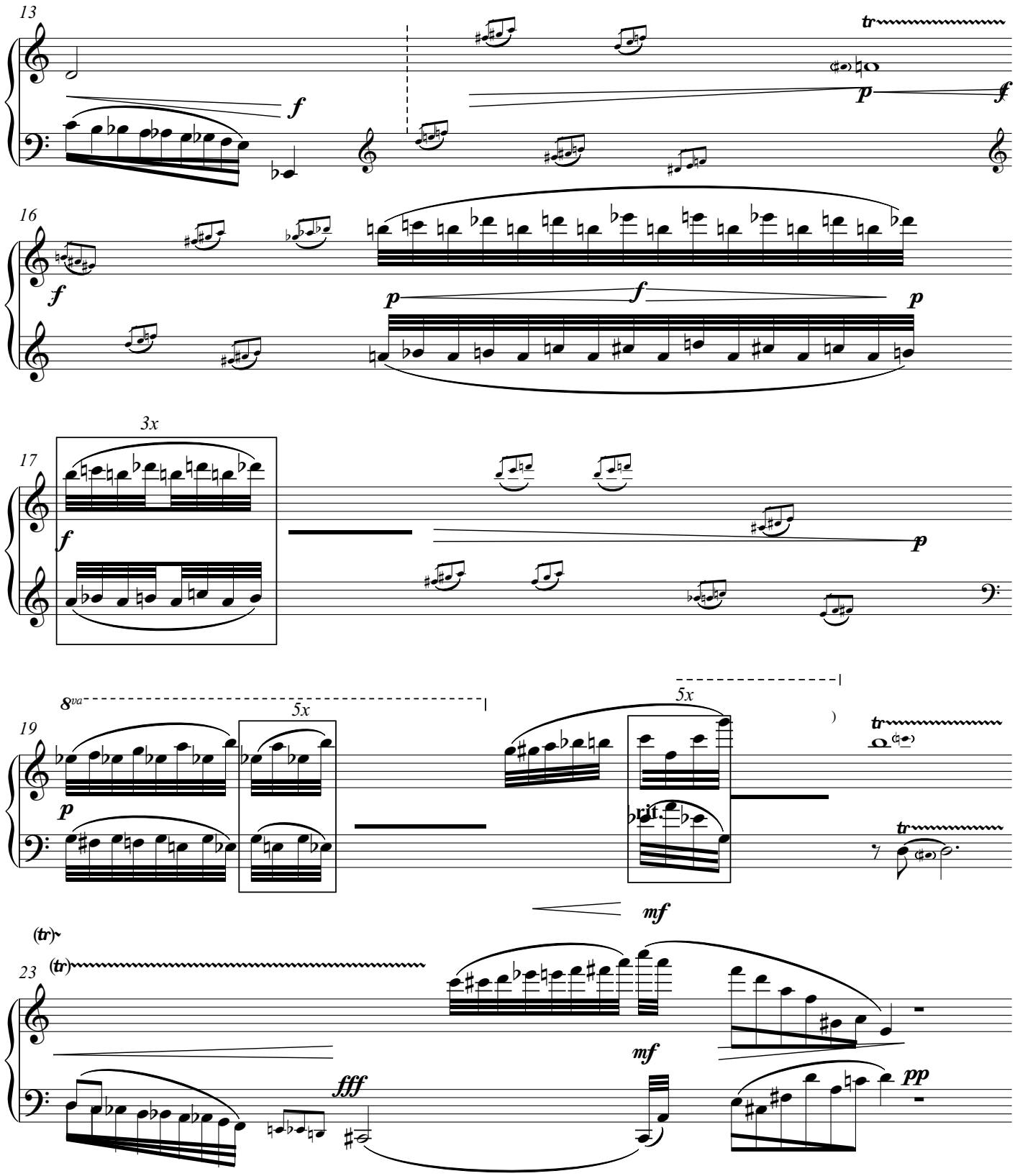



27
31
36
40
45
Ped.
= 90
accel.
f


♩=112
50
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
53
rit.
Ped.
57
3
3
3
Ped.

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers




13
f
tr
p
f
16
f
p
f
p
3x
17
f
p
8va
5x
19
p
5x
rit.
tr
tr
mf
(tr)
(tr)
23
fff
mf
pp

Ode To Bees and Their Keepers

a tempo

25

4x

4x

f

27

2x

3x

f

p *f* *p*

p *mf* *p*

29

mp

30

tr

subito ***f***

31

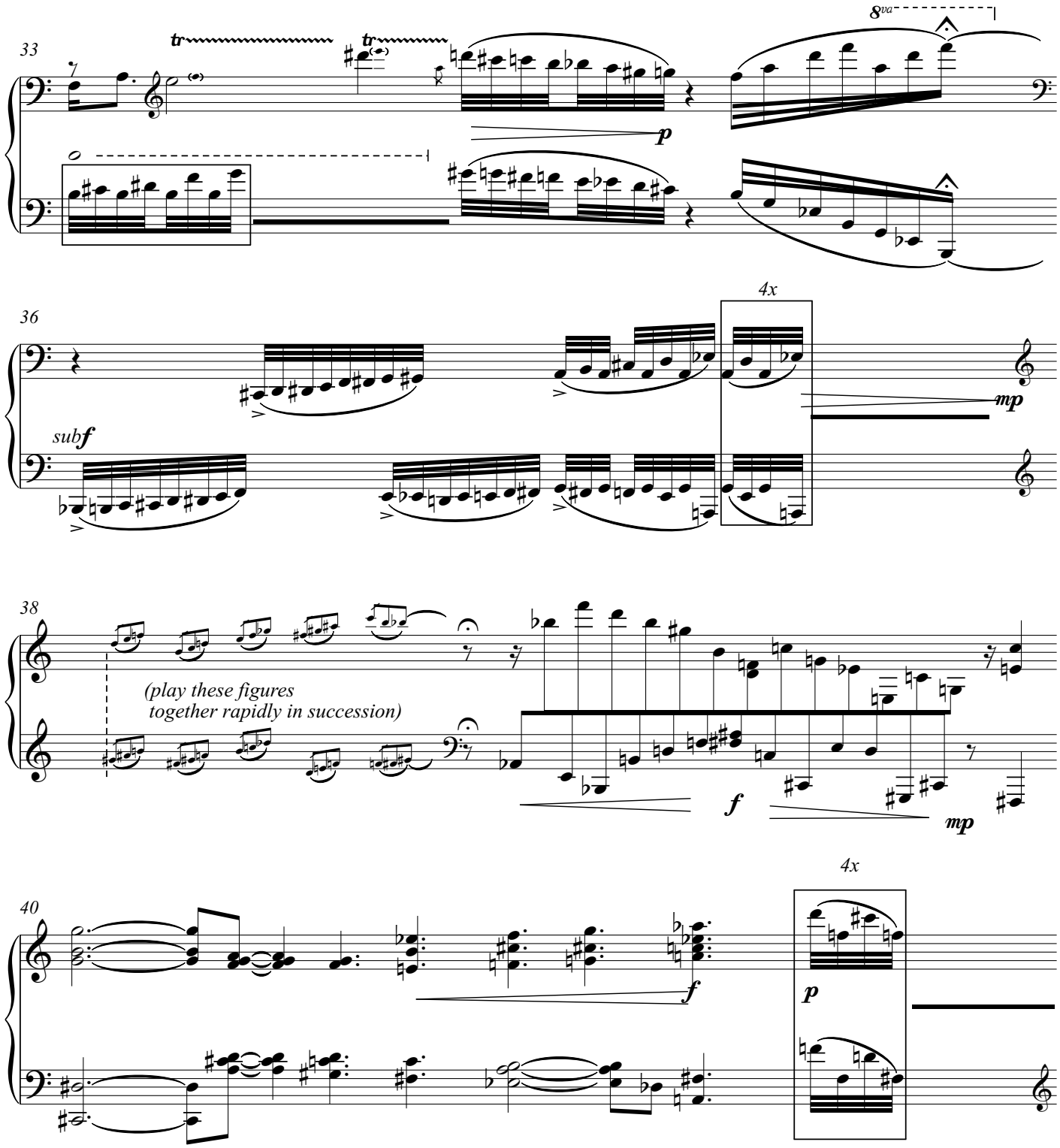
3x

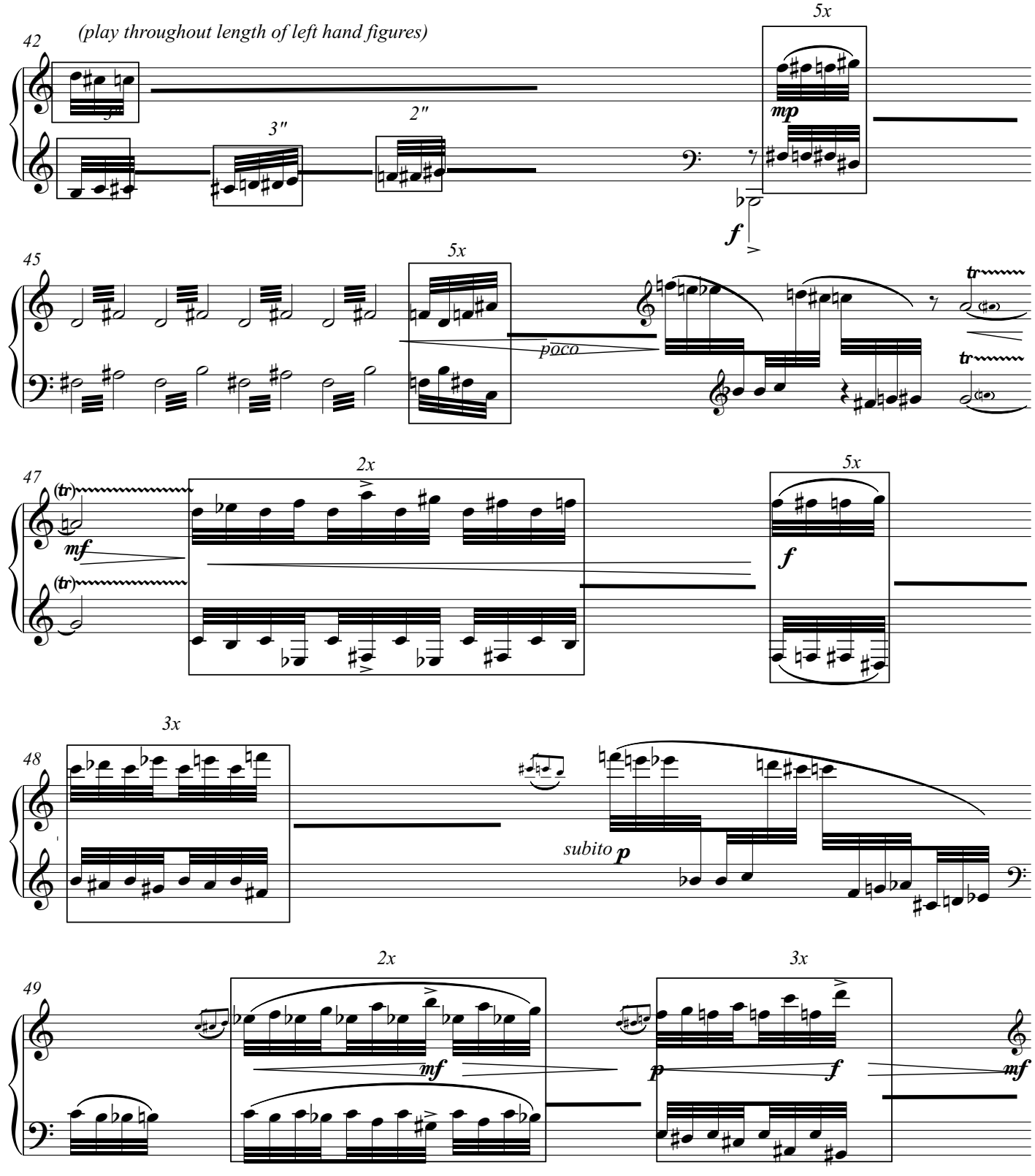
mp

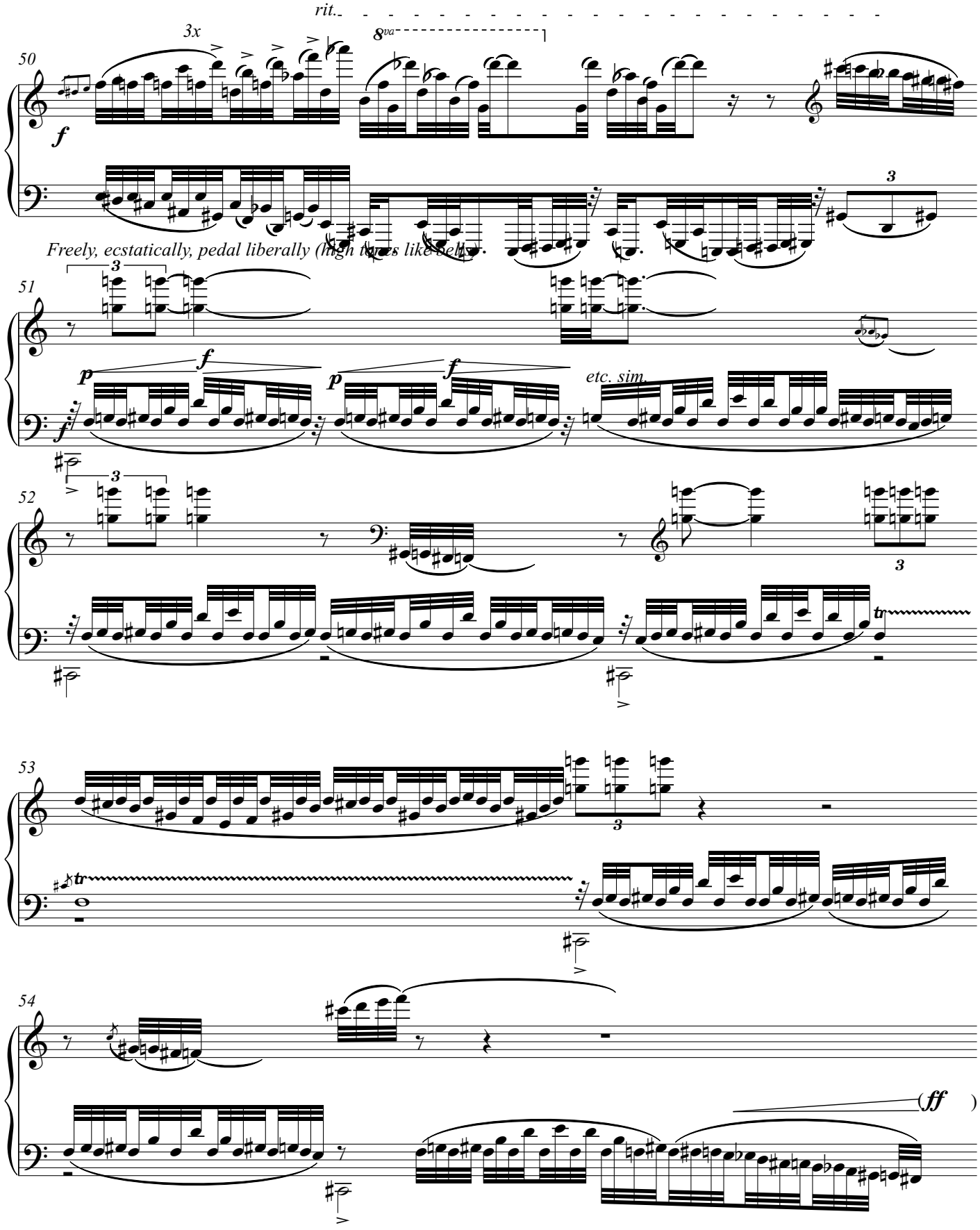
f

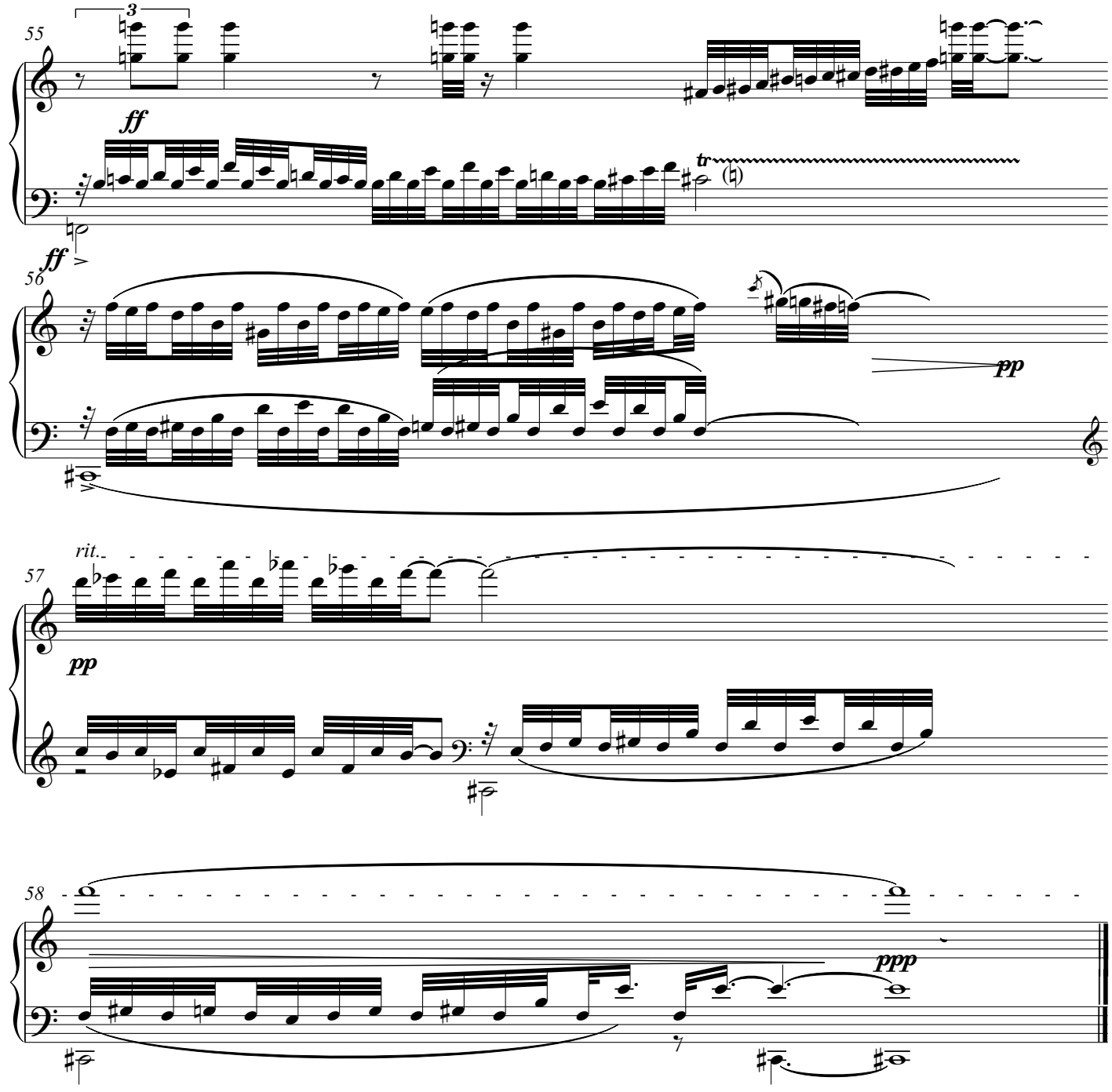
tr

f


33
tr
tr
8va
p
36
4x
subf
mp
38
(play these figures
together rapidly in succession)
f
mp
40
4x
f
p


42
(play throughout length of left hand figures)
3"
2"
5x
mp
f
45
5x
poco
tr
47
2x
(tr)
mf
5x
f
48
3x
subito p
49
2x
mf
3x
p
f
mf


rit.
3x
8va
50
f
Freely, ecstatically, pedal liberally (high tones like bells).
51
p
f
etc. sim.
52
53
54
(ff)


55
3
ff
tr
ff
56
pp
rit.
57
pp
58
ppp