PETER JAMES LEARN

THAMES SONGS

Piano and Vocalise

(Or soprano instrument)

NOTES

Each of these songs was composed on the banks of the Thames in August of 2017, inspired by the various locations and moods of the river and the city around it. They are impressionistic in nature, not in the musical sense necessarily, but in the sense that they are quick musical sketches of the subject, created very swiftly and in a flash of momentary interpretation. They are dedicated to Sarah Toth, Victoria Stevens, and the other members of the creative team behind "The Nero Monologues" opera production in London, and may perhaps also have been inspired by the many delightful experiences I had while rehearsing the work with all of these talented and passionate individuals.

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High voiced-vocalise may be employed, or a high solo instrument. If sung, *some* minor liberties may be taken with the tempo and rhythm at the discretion of the vocalist.

Judicious octave transposition is suggested if an instrument is used (a violin might take certain whole passages up an octave, e.g.)

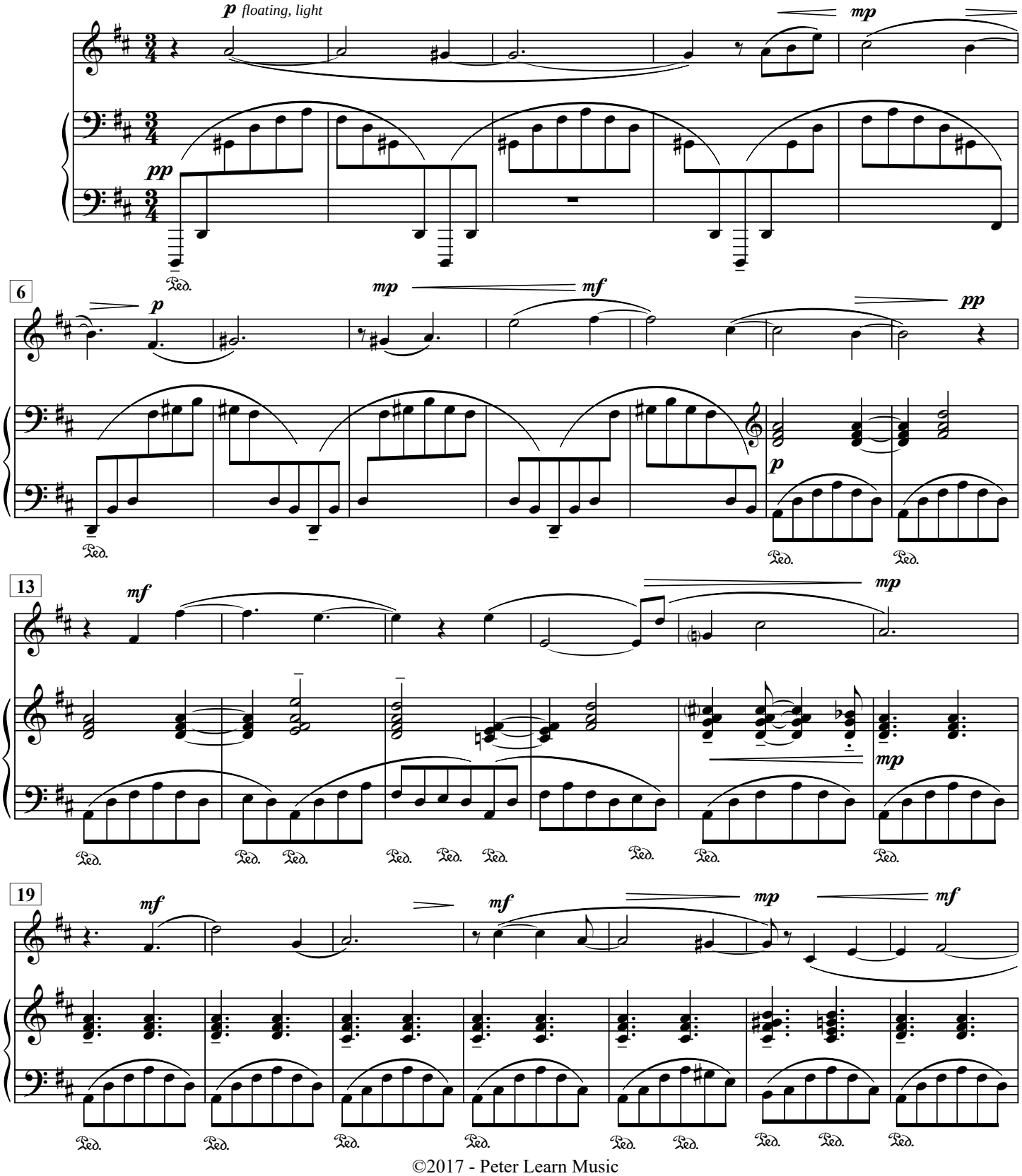
(In the case of an instrument being used, slurs are best treated as phrase markings. Bowing/breaths/articulation is then left up to the performer's interpretation)

THAMES SONGS

I. RIPPLED LIGHTS AT NIGHT IN HAMMERSMITH

PETER JAMES LEARN (b. 1982)
BMI

Scorrevole, tranq. etereo (♩ = c. 96)



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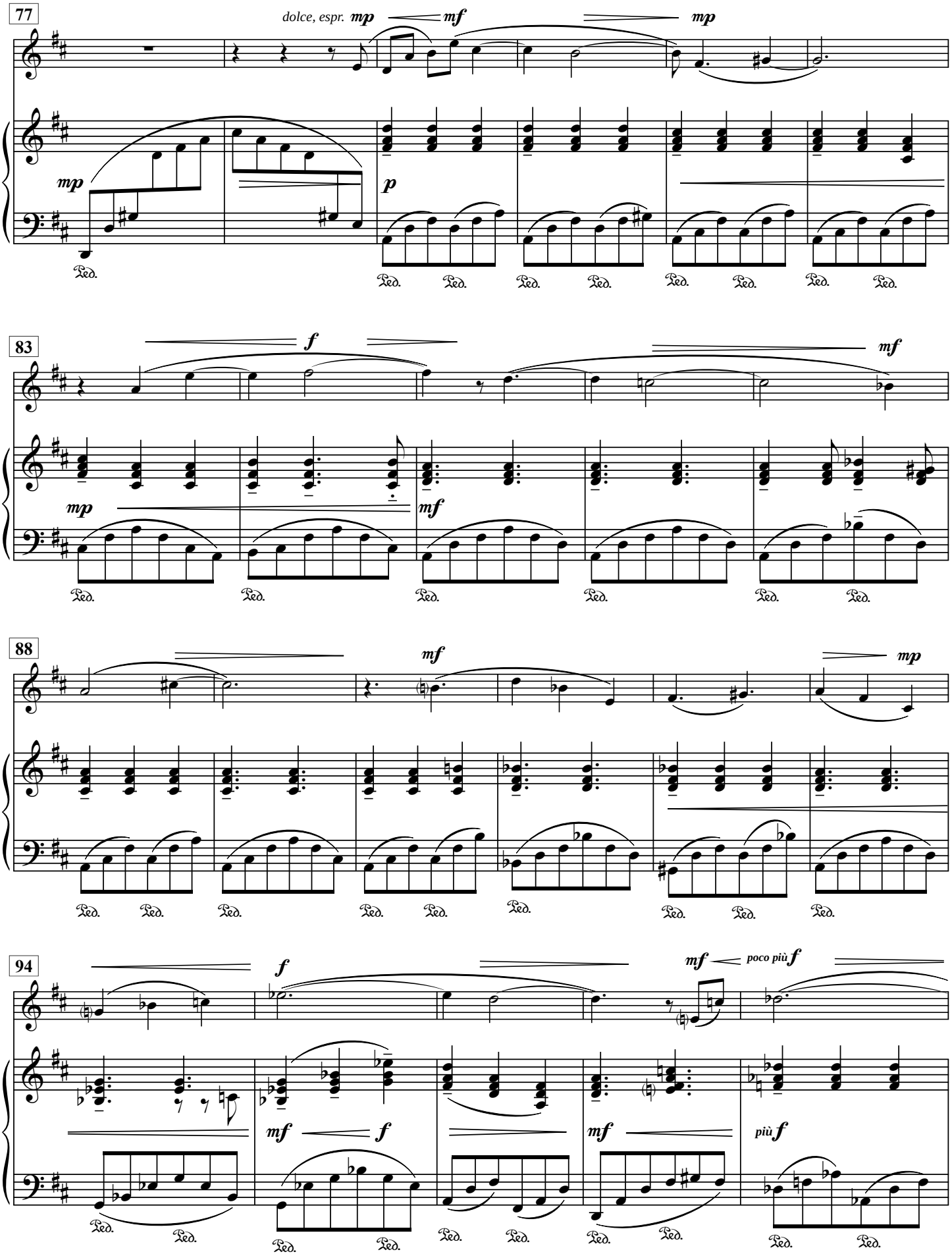
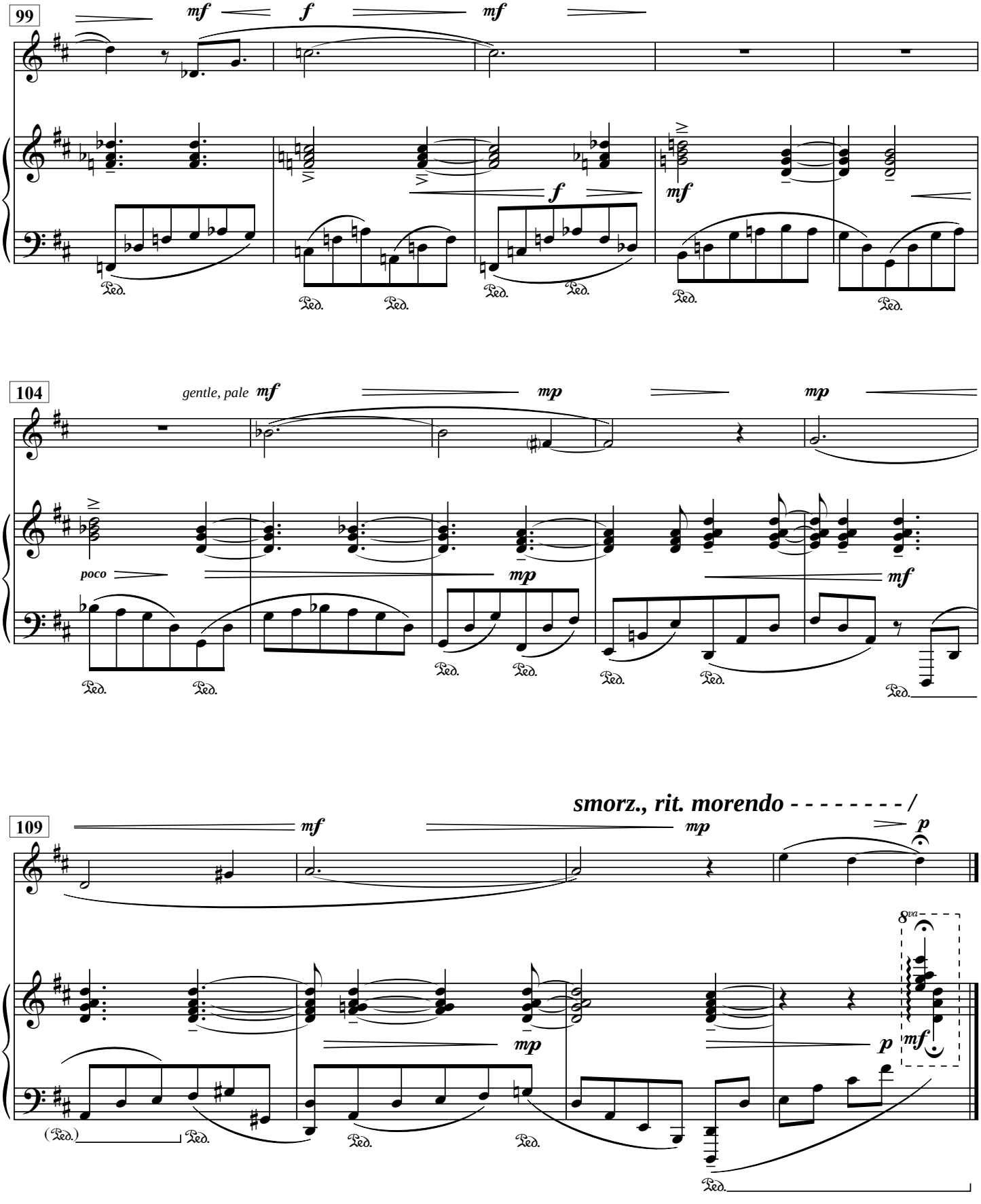
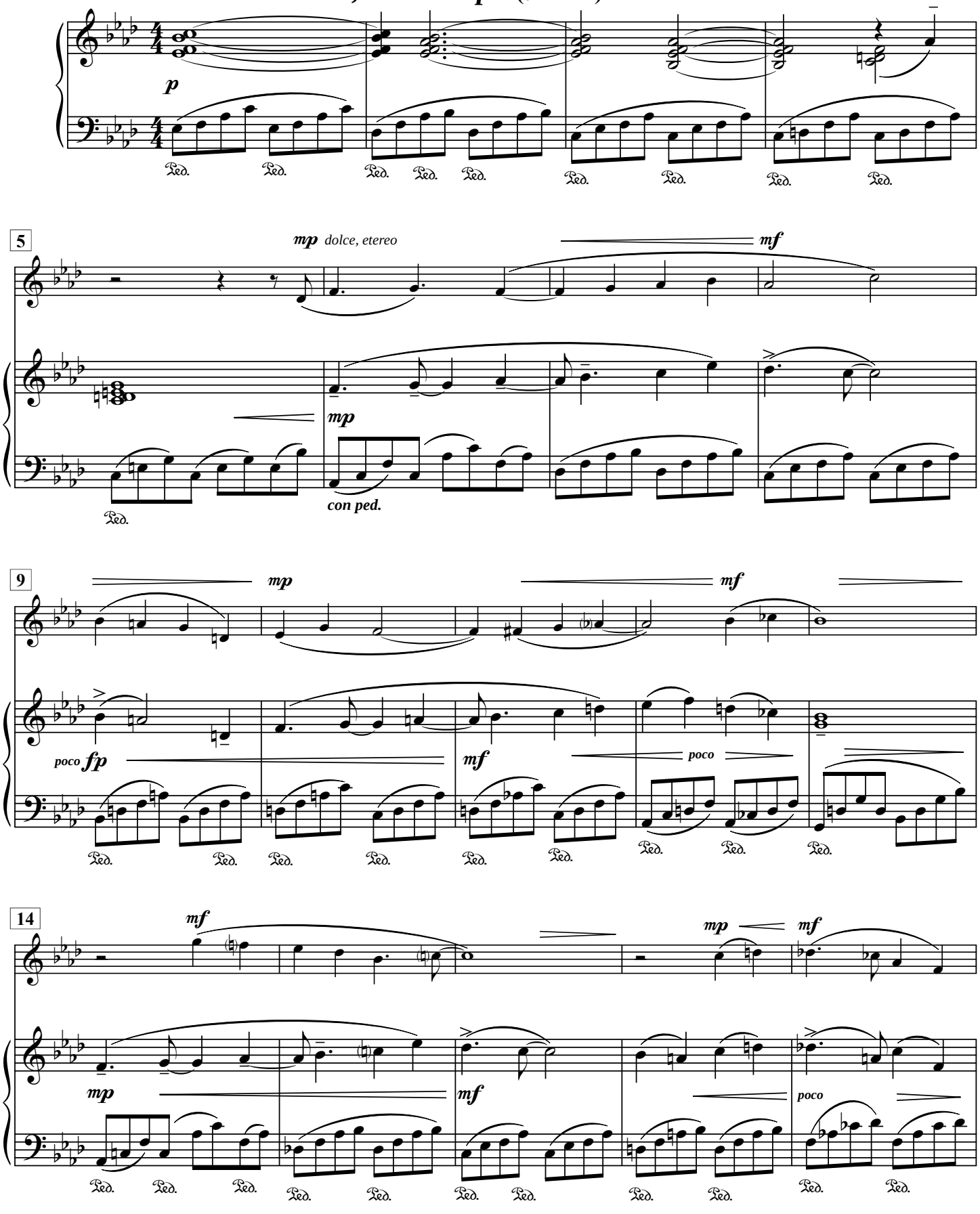
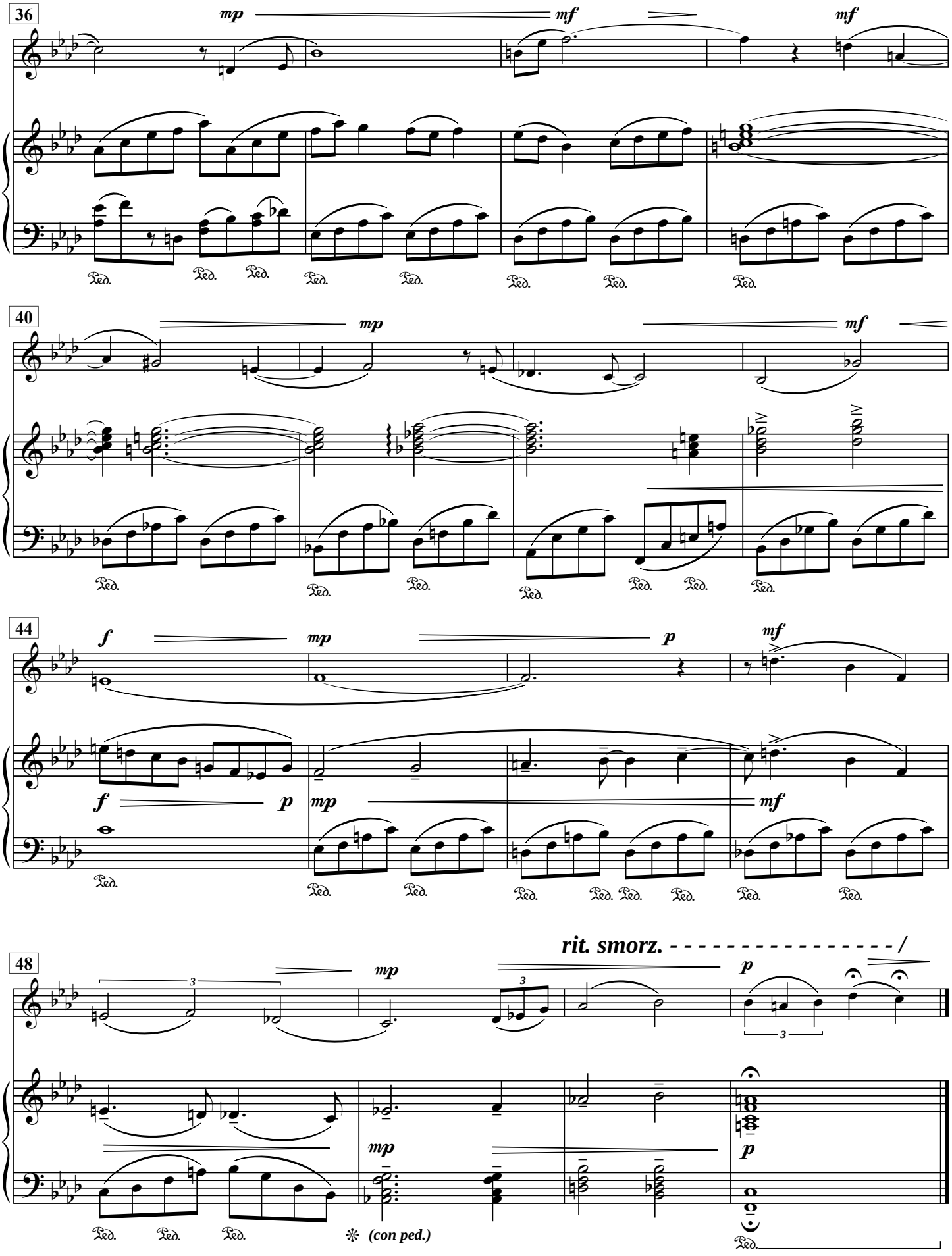

77
dolce, espr.
mp
mf
mp
p
83
f
mf
mp
mf
88
mf
mp
94
f
mf
poco più f
mf
f
mf
più f
Ped.


99
mf
f
mf
f
mf
104
gentle, pale
mf
mp
mp
poco
mp
mf
109
mf
mp
smorz., rit. morendo - - - - - - - - /
p
8va
mp
p
mf

II. MOON POOLS

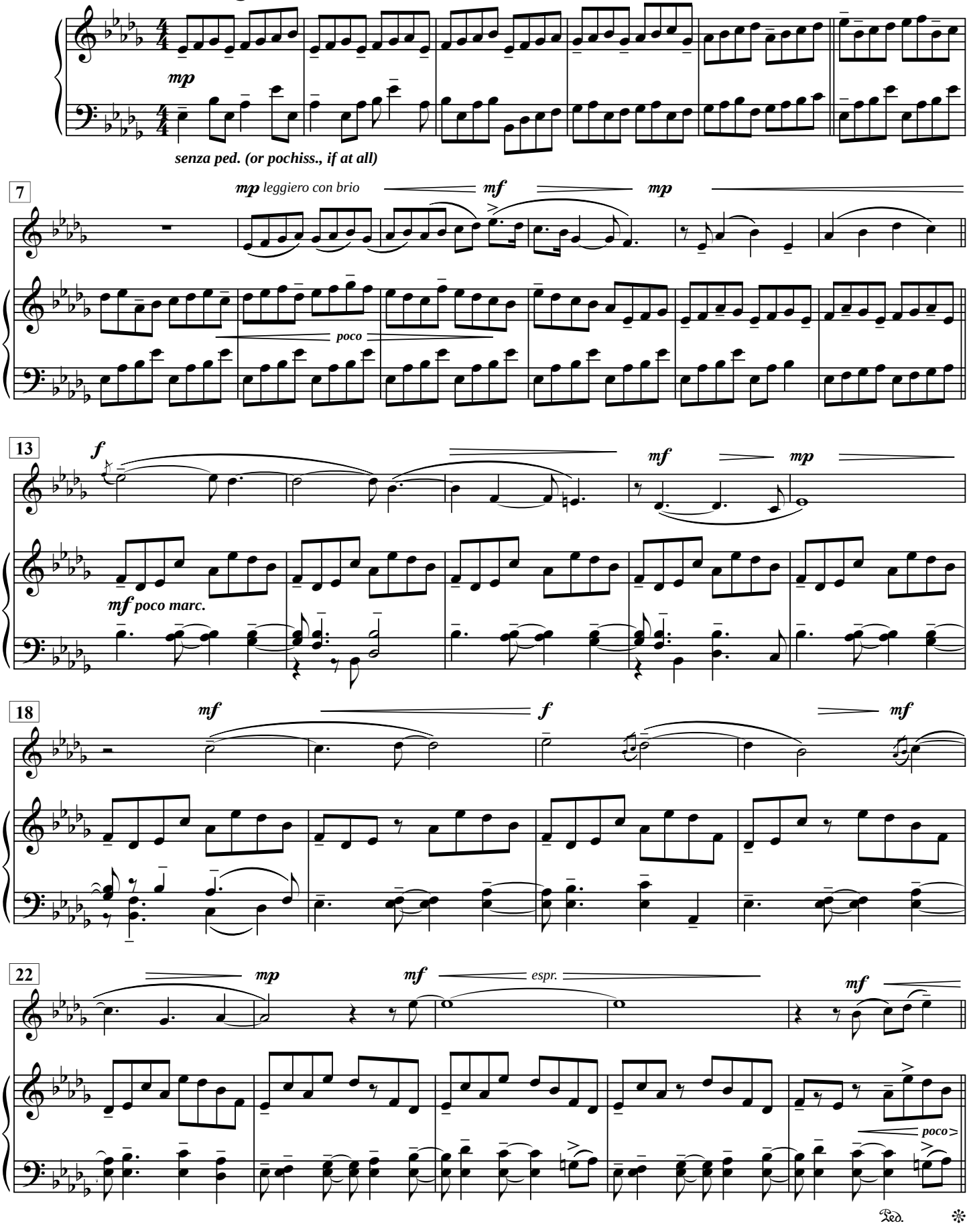
Scorrevole molto, rubato espr. **(♩ = c. 104)**

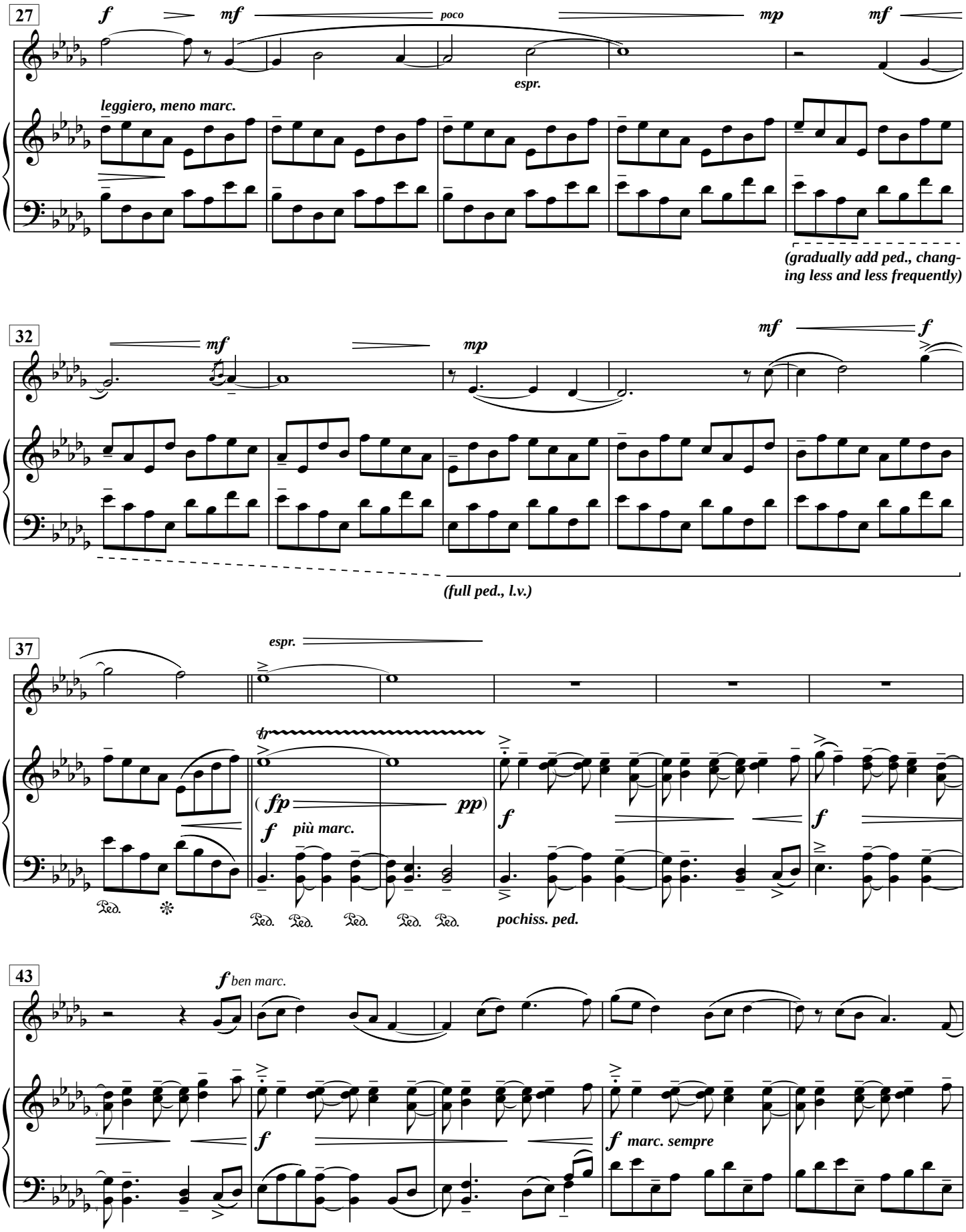


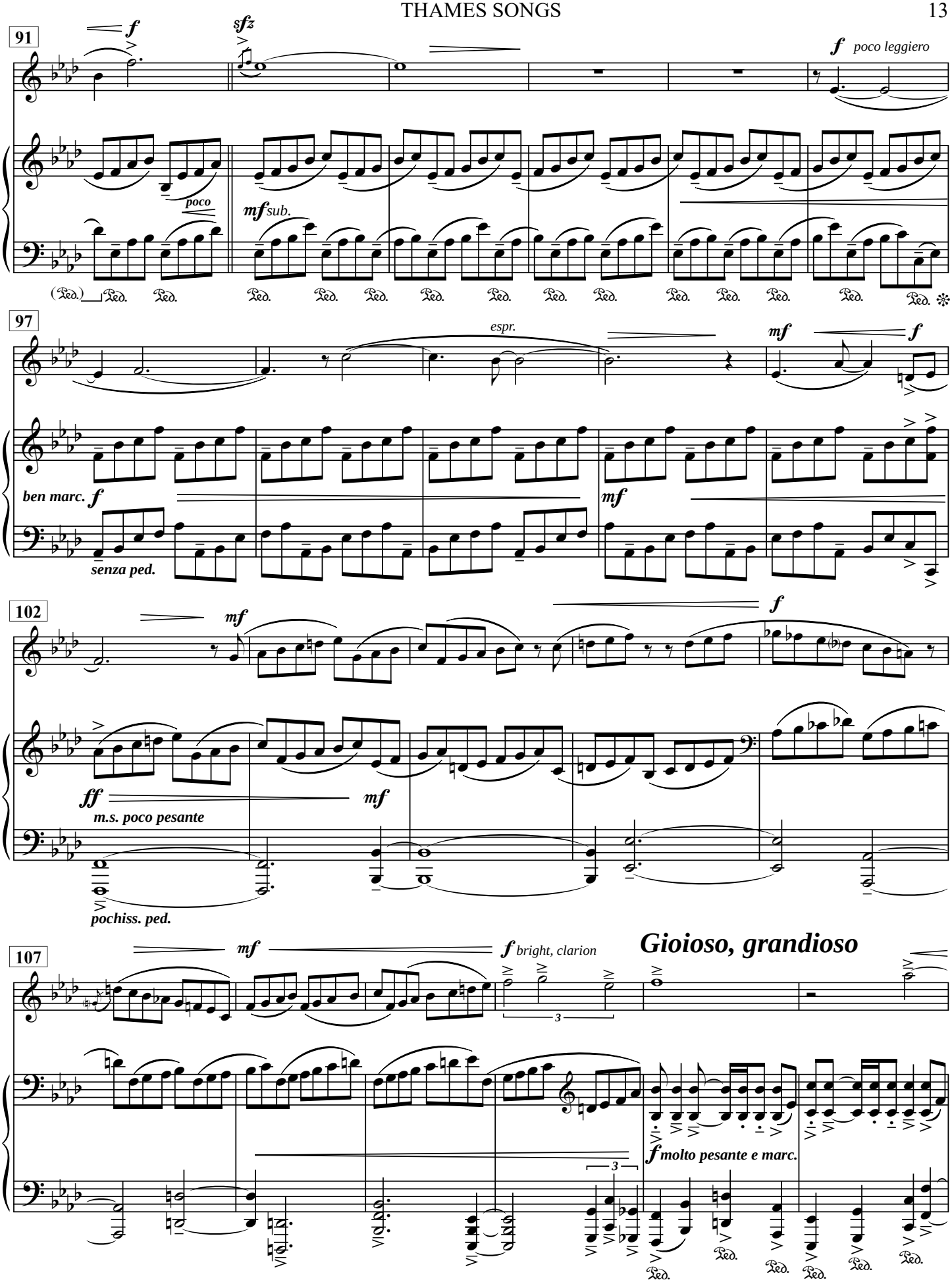

36
mp
mf
mf
40
mp
mf
44
f
mp
p
mf
f
p
mp
mf
48
mp
rit. smorz.
p
mp
p
(con ped.)

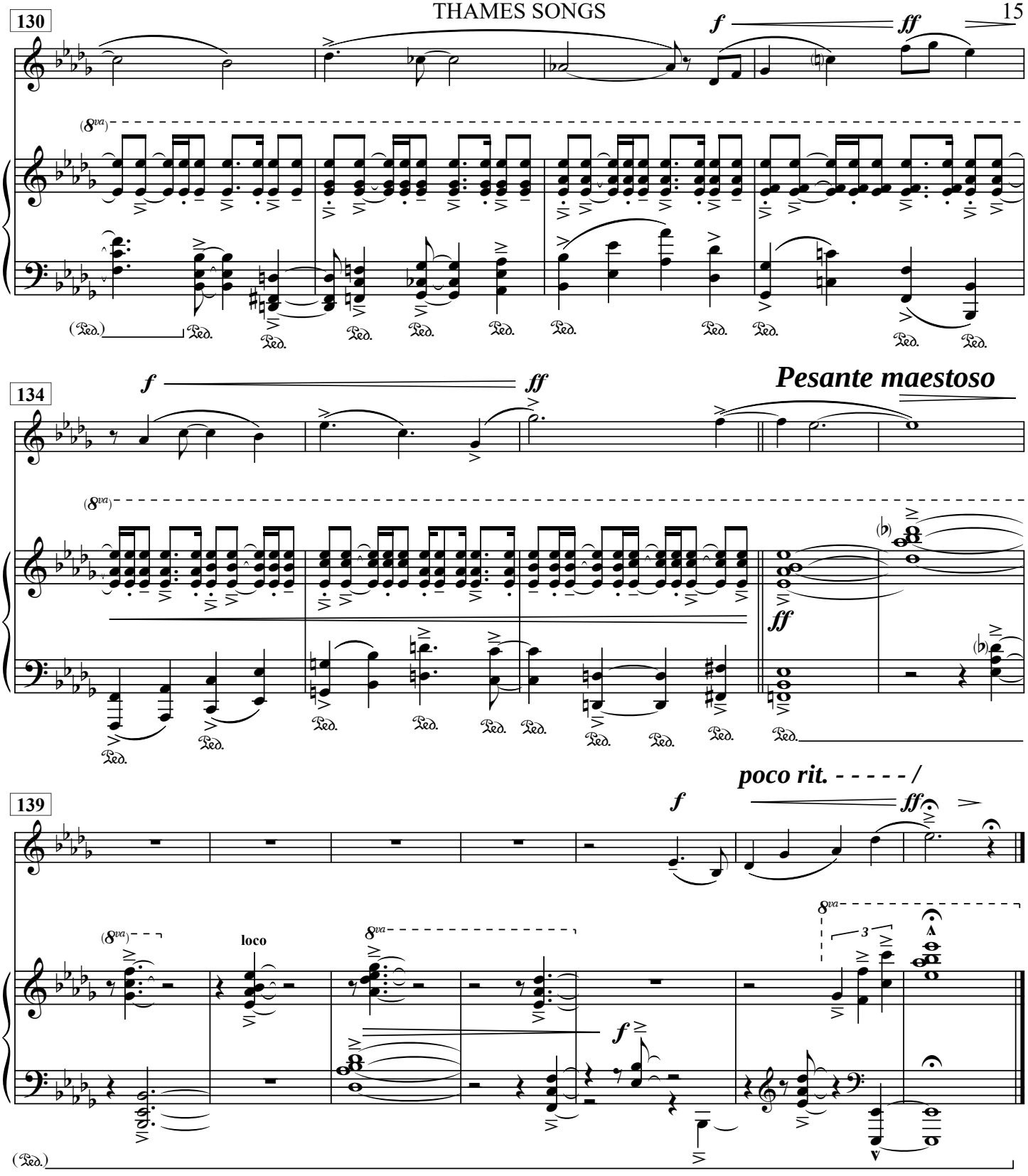
III. CITY BRIDGES, WESTMINSTER TO WHITECHAPEL

Striving, ritmico con brio (♩ = 136)

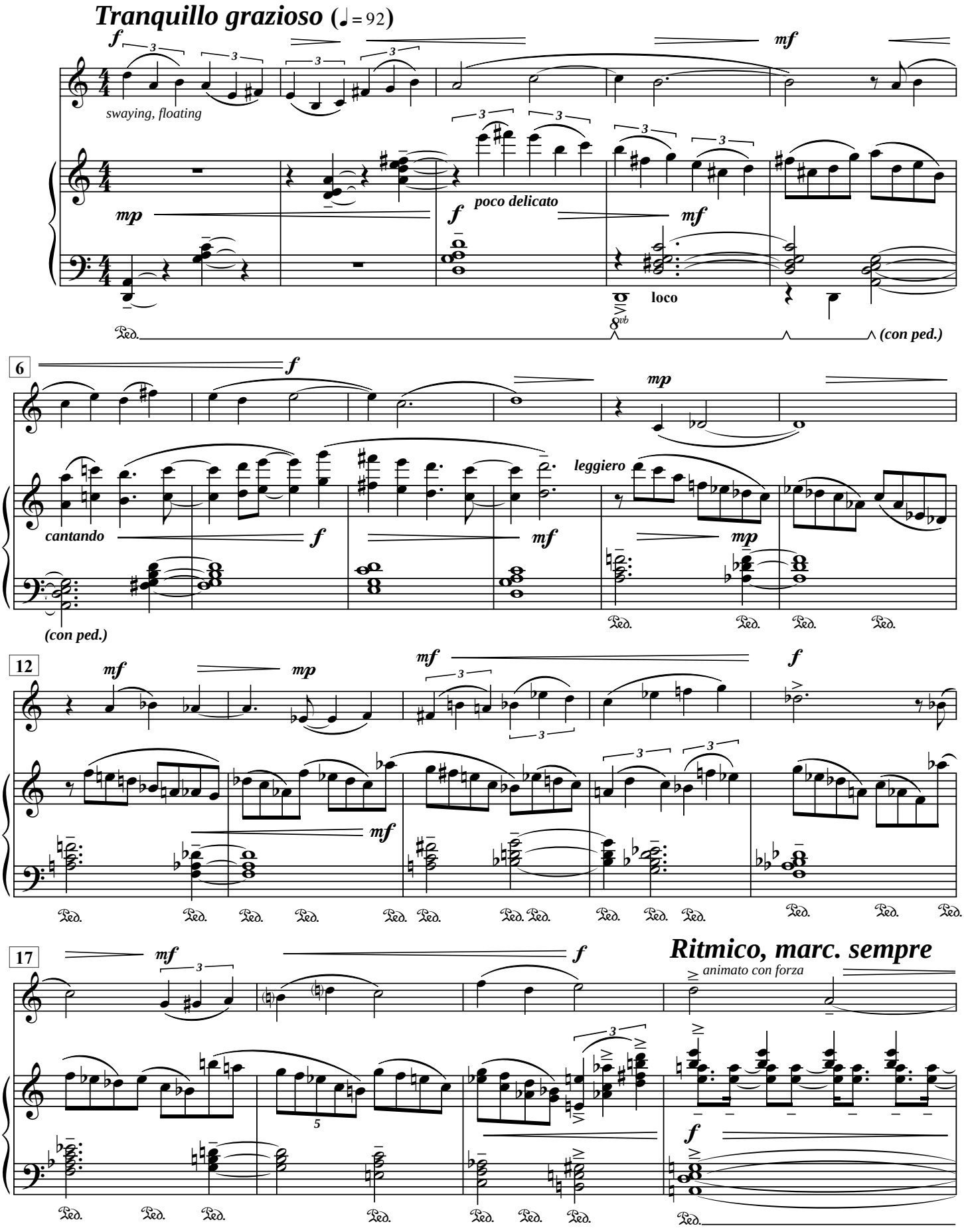


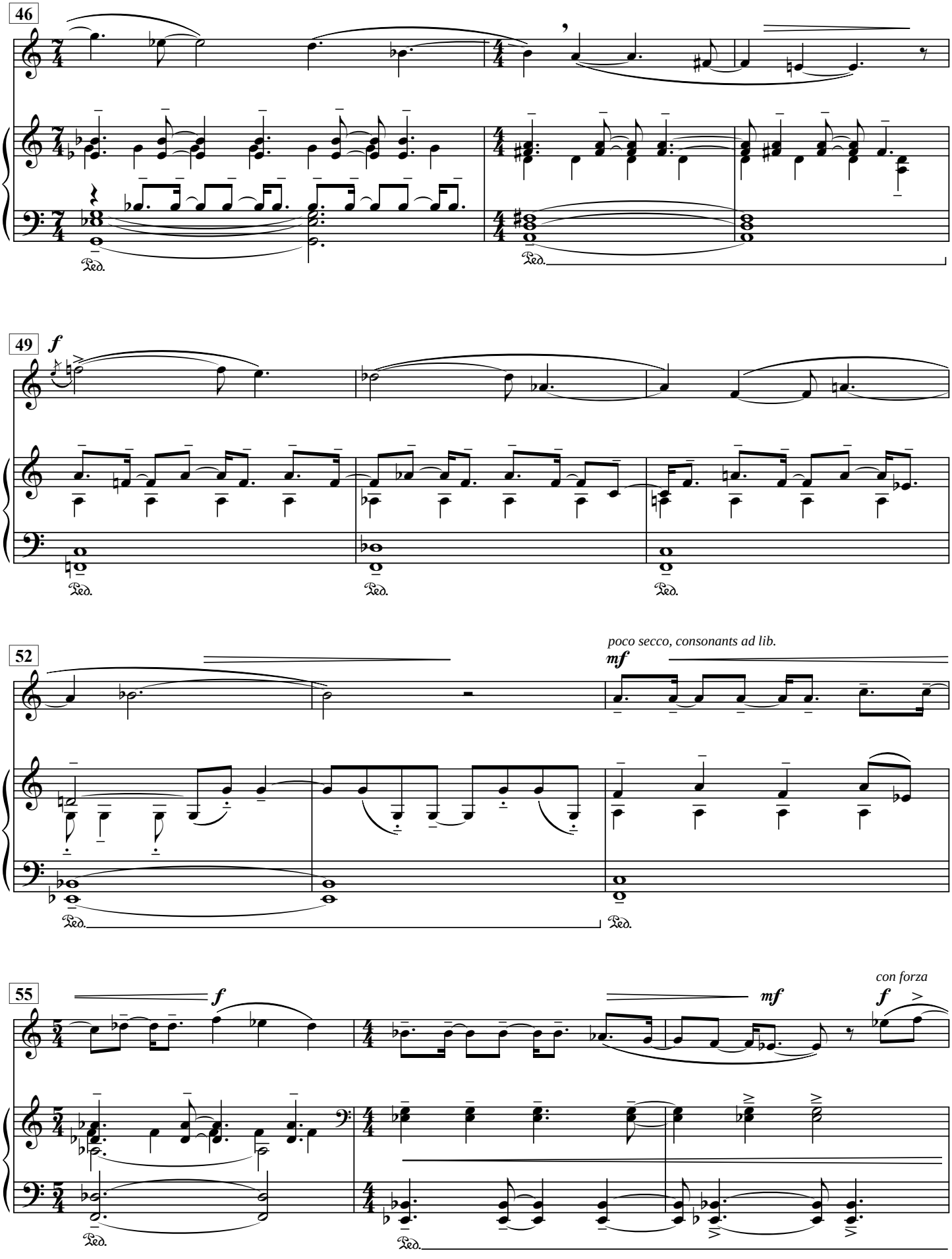

27
f
mf
poco
mp
mf
espr.
leggiero, meno marc.
(gradually add ped., changing less and less frequently)
32
mf
mp
mf
f
(full ped., l.v.)
37
espr.
tr
(fp
pp)
f
più marc.
f
f
Ped.
pochiss. ped.
43
f ben marc.
f
f marc. sempre

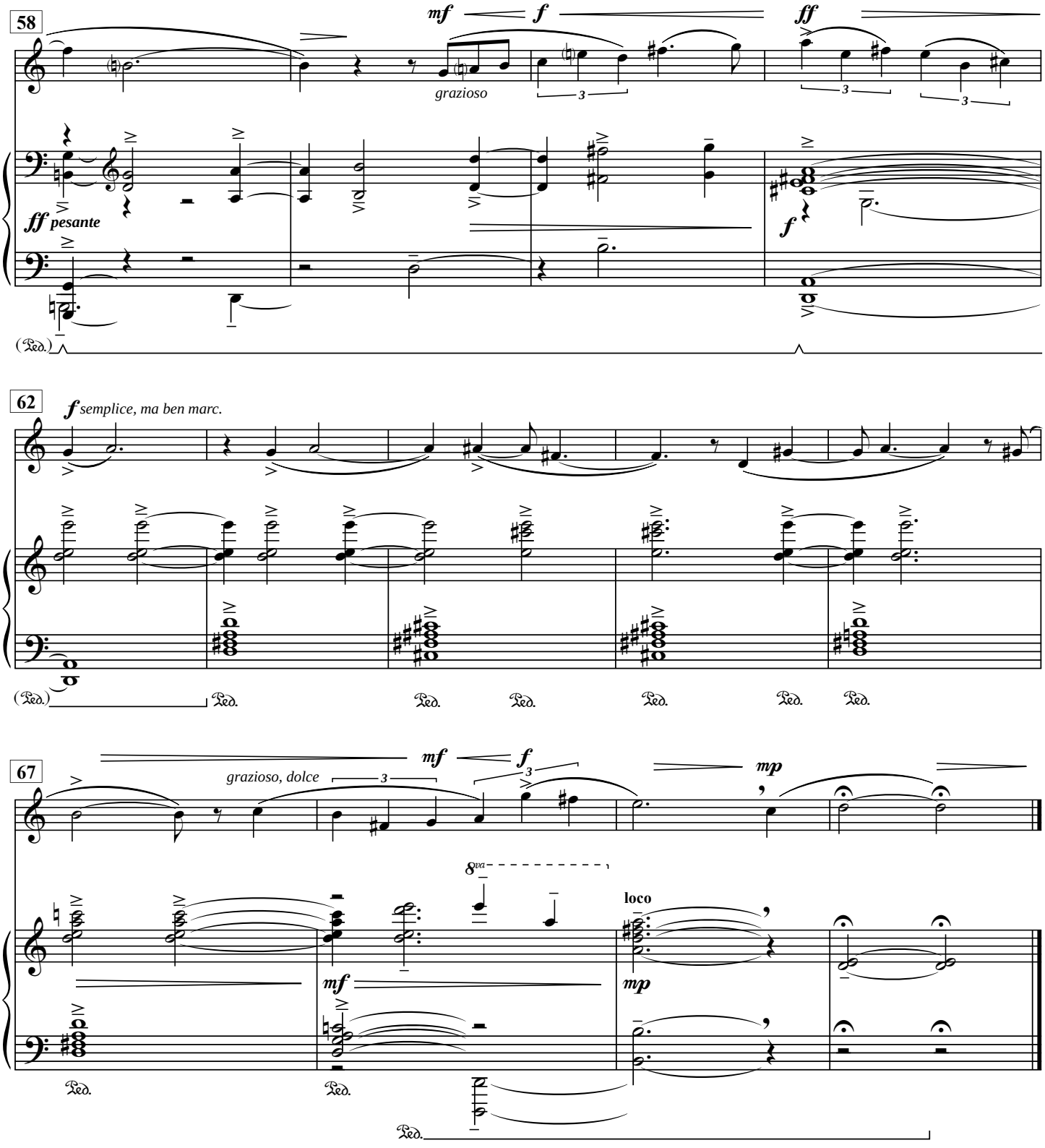

91
f
sfz
f poco leggiero
poco
mf sub.
97
espr.
mf
f
ben marc.
f
senza ped.
mf
102
mf
f
ff
m.s. poco pesante
mf
pochiss. ped.
107
mf
f bright, clarion
Gioioso, grandioso
3
f molto pesante e marc.
3


130
f
ff
(8va)
(Ped.)
Ped.
134
f
ff
Pesante maestoso
(8va)
(♭)
ff
(♭)
139
poco rit. - - - - - /
f
ff
(8va)
loco
8va
3
f
(Ped.)

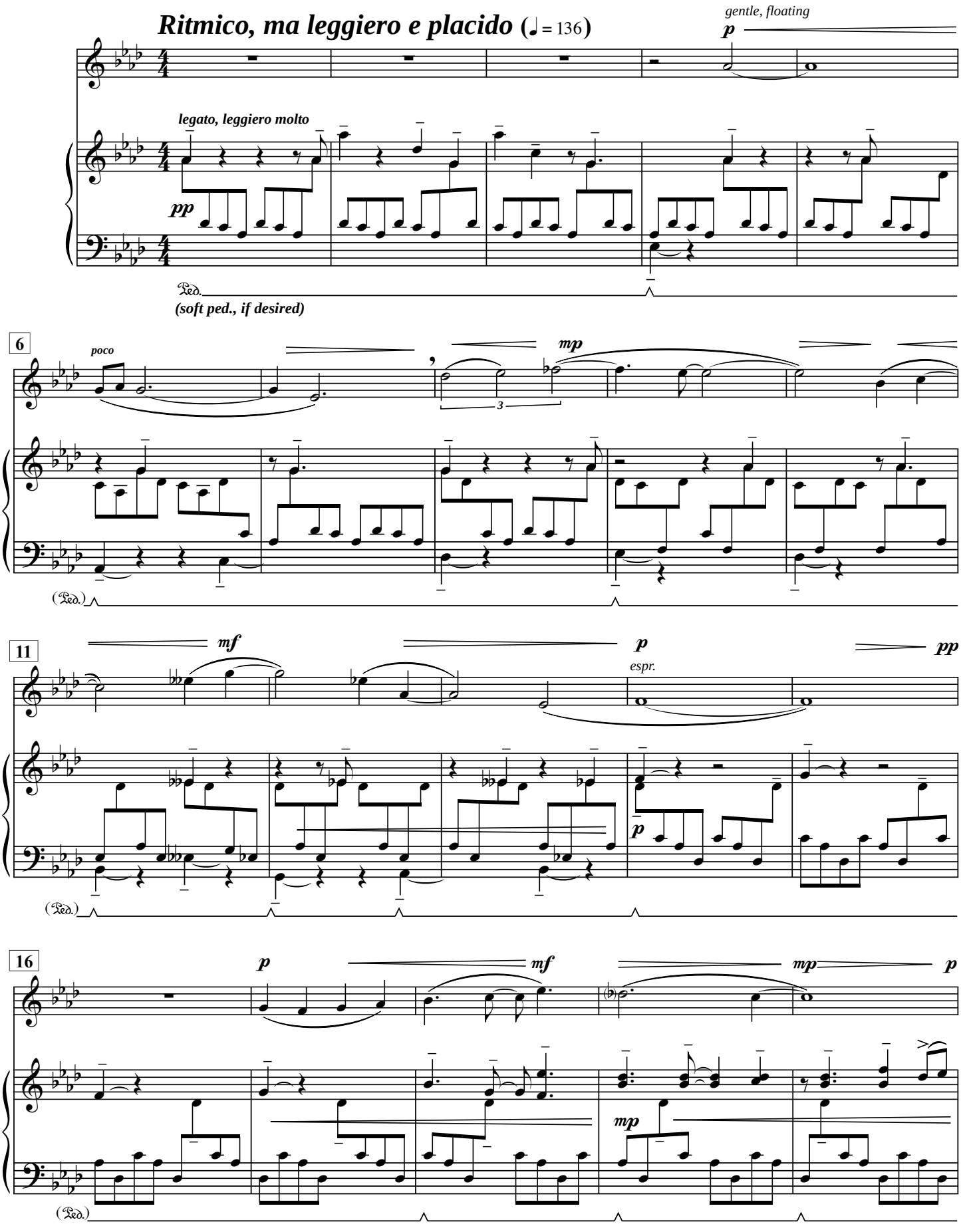
IV. CUTTER SAILS

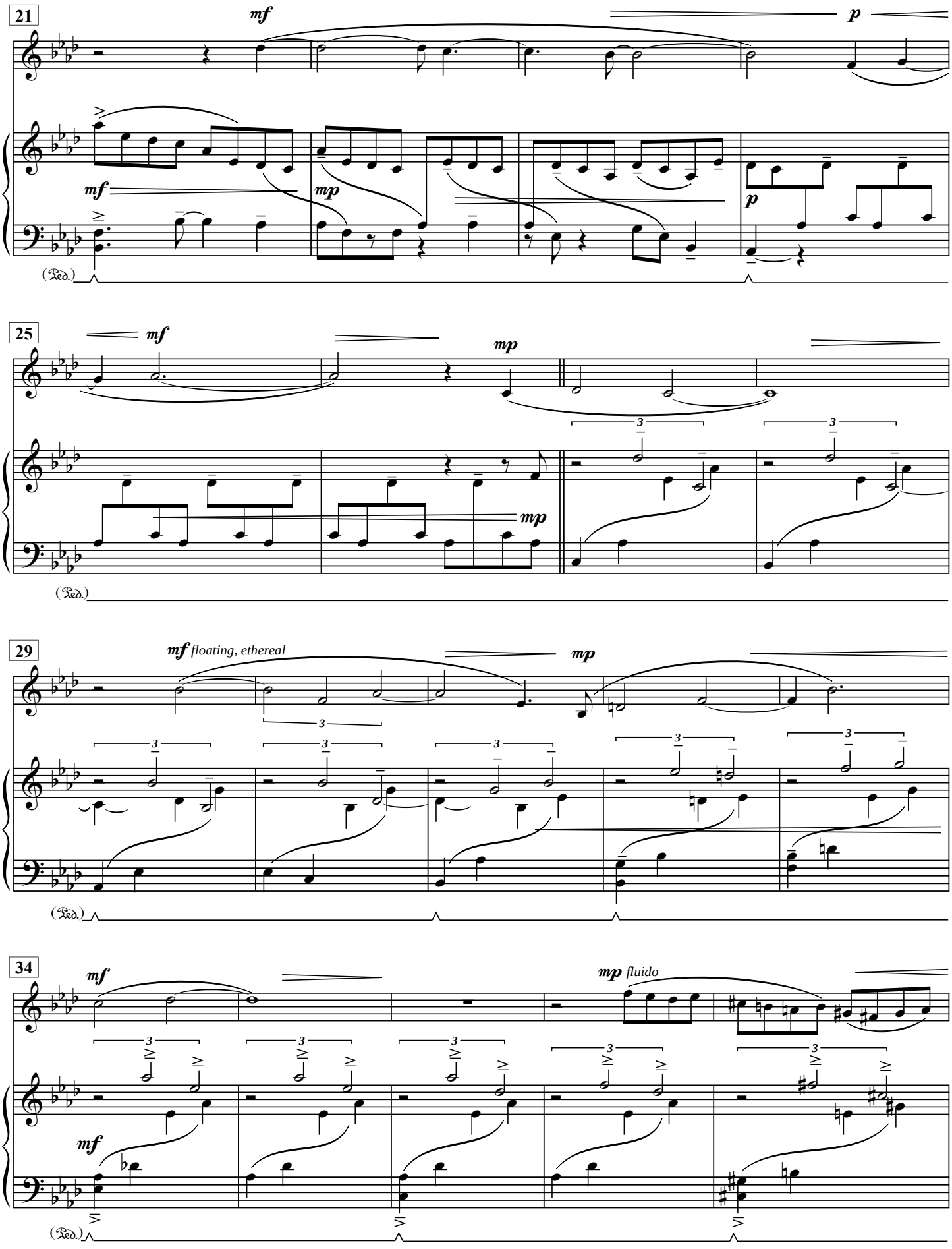


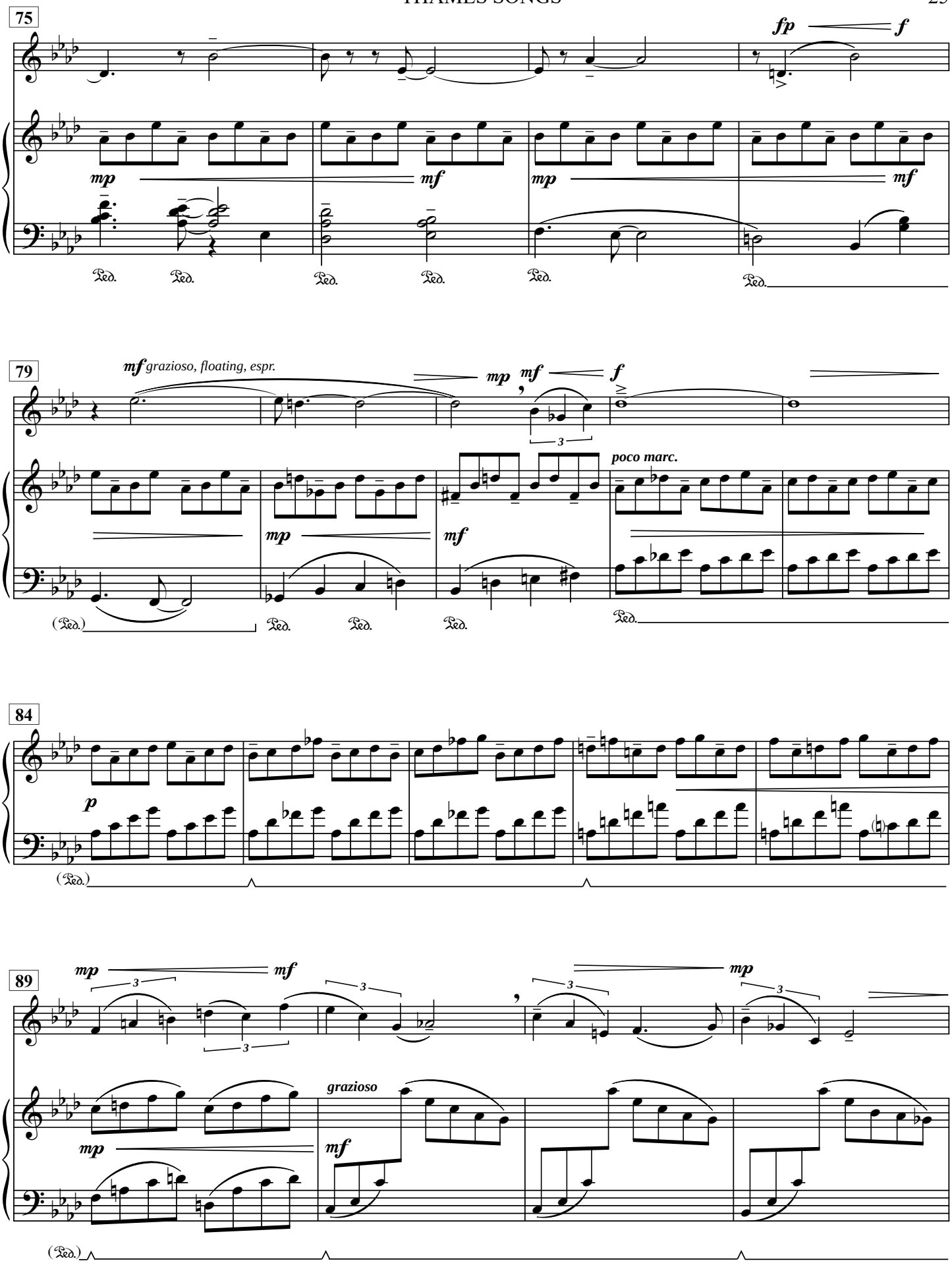

46
49
f
52
poco secco, consonants ad lib.
mf
55
f
mf
con forza
f
Ped.

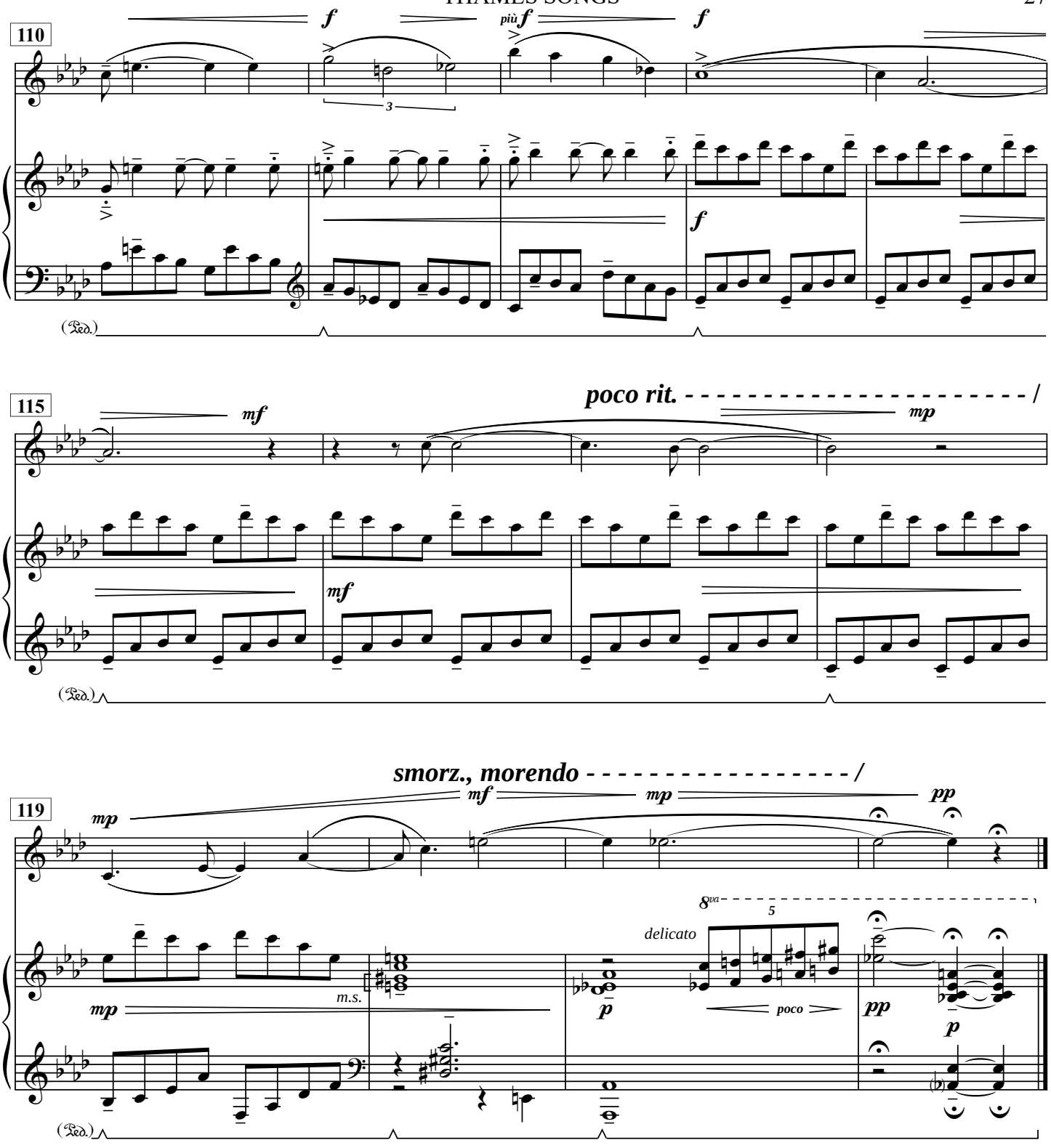

58
mf
f
ff
grazioso
ff pesante
f
62
f semplice, ma ben marc.
67
mf
f
grazioso, dolce
mp
8va
loco
mf
mp

V. RIVERBED PATHWAYS

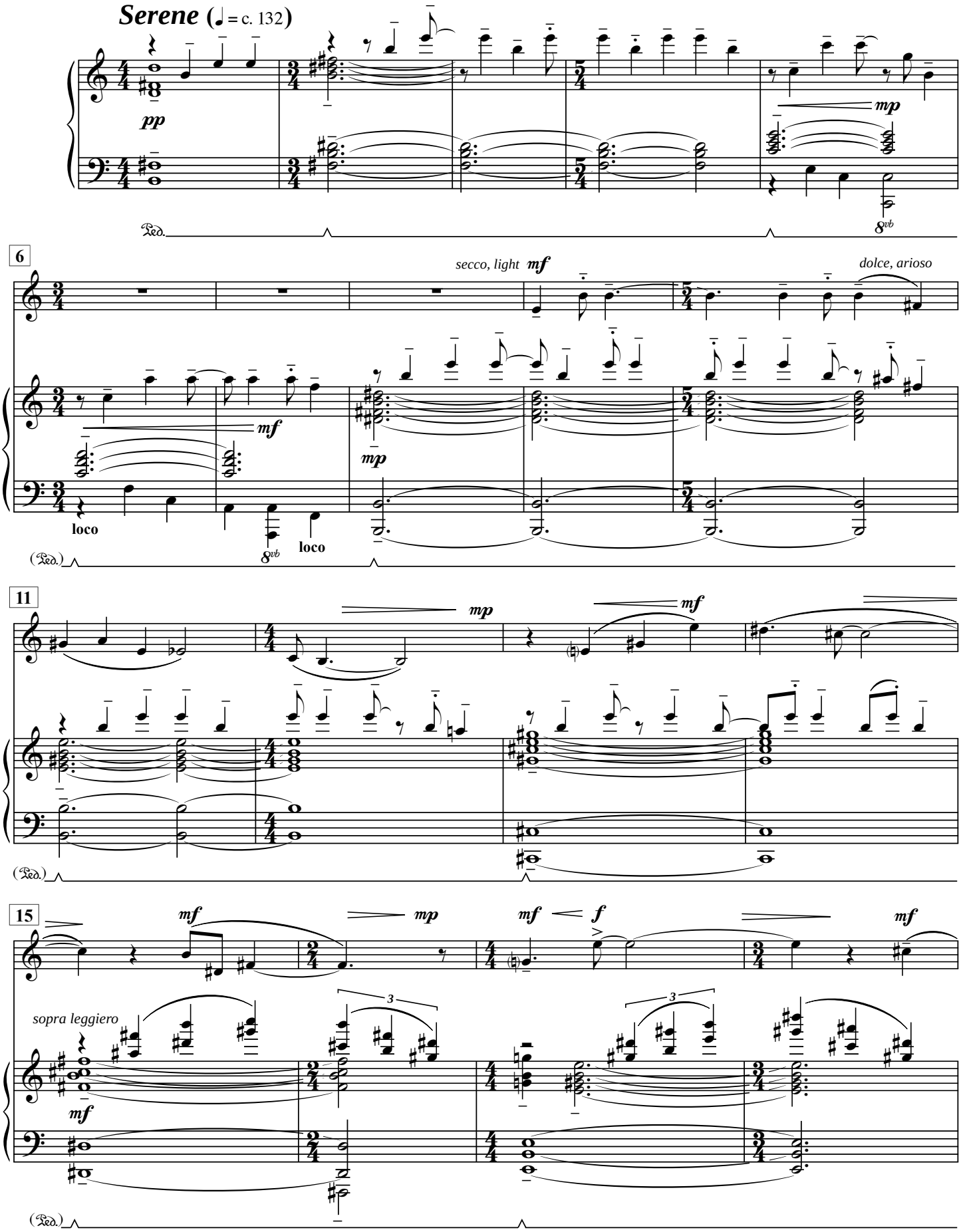


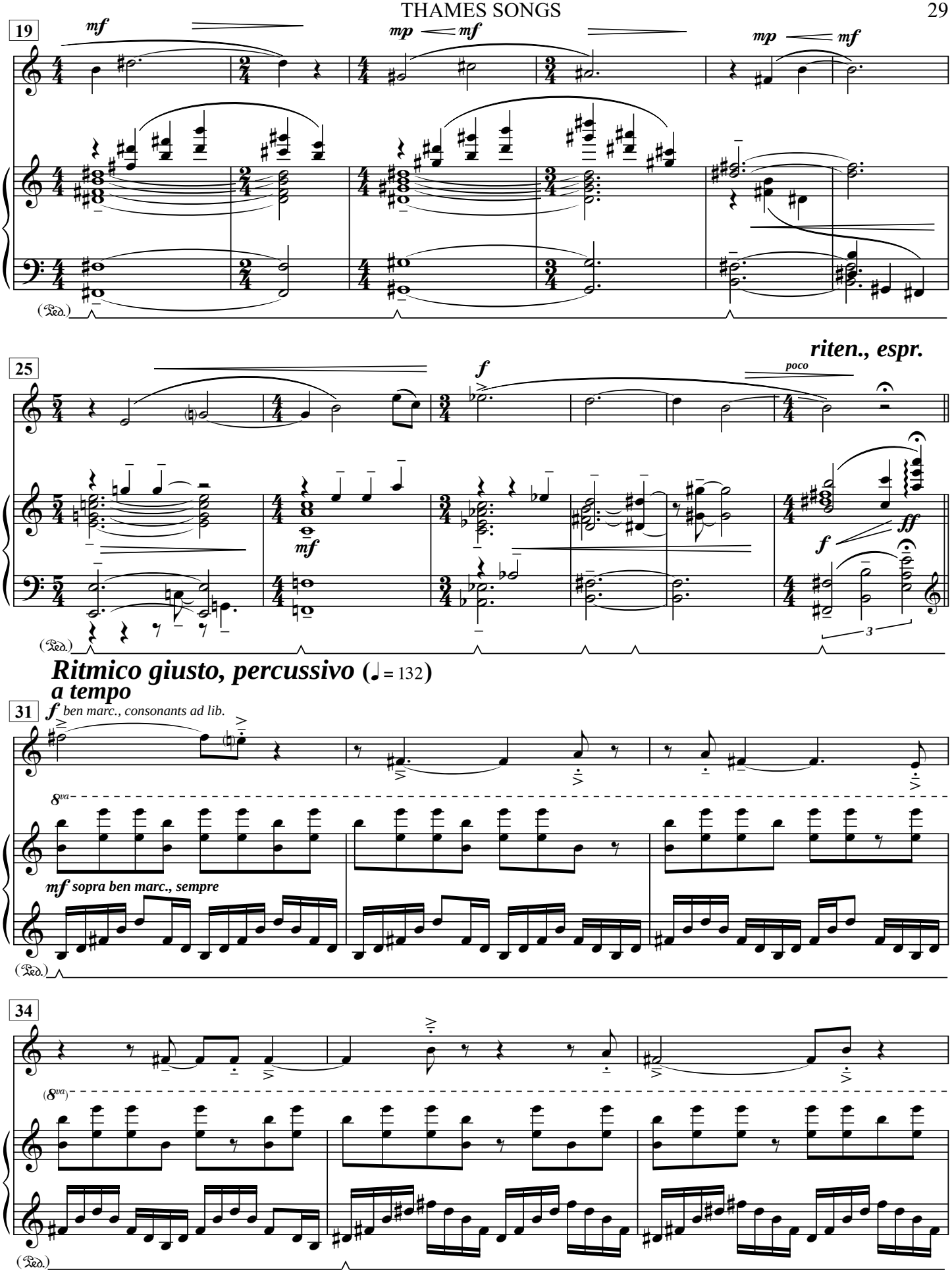

21
mf
p
mf
mp
p
(Ped.)
25
mf
mp
mp
(Ped.)
29
mf floating, ethereal
mp
(Ped.)
34
mf
mp fluido
mf
(Ped.)

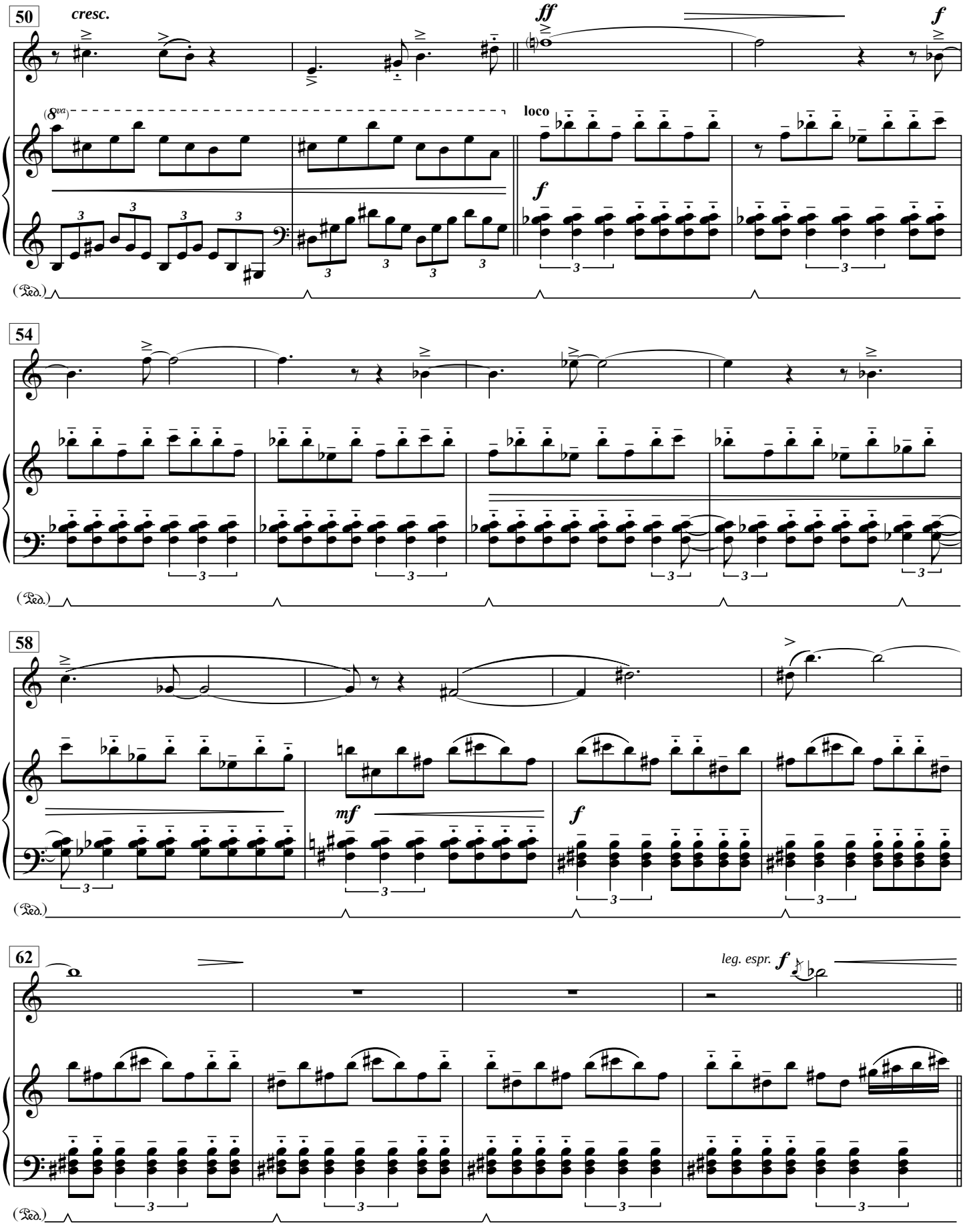

75
fp
f
mp
mf
mp
mf
Ped.
79
mf grazioso, floating, espr.
mp
mf
f
poco marc.
mp
mf
(Ped.)
Ped.
84
p
(Ped.)
89
mp
mf
mp
grazioso
mf
(Ped.)

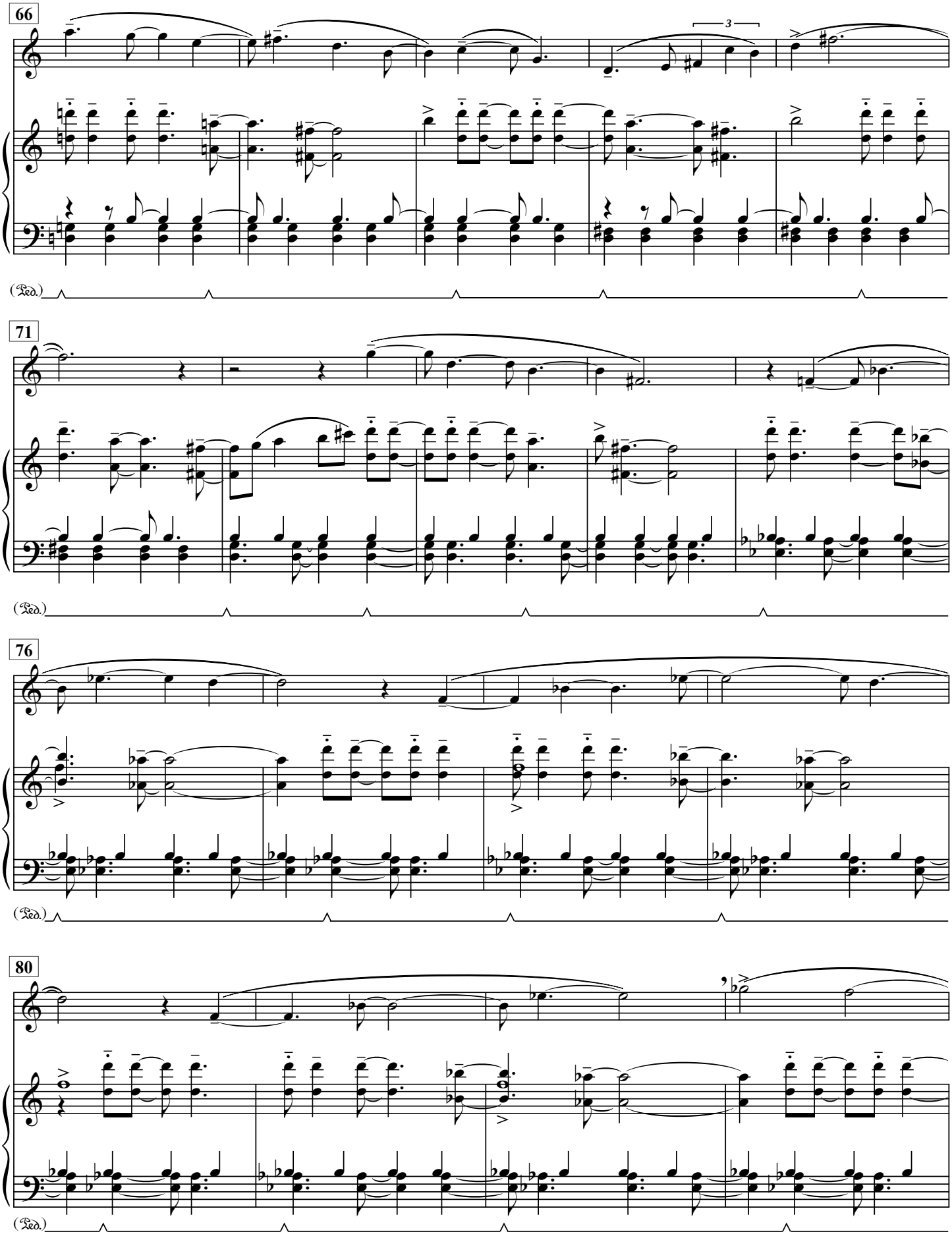

110
f
più f
f
f
(Ped.)
115
poco rit.
mf
mp
mf
(Ped.)
119
smorz., morendo
mp
mf
mp
pp
8va
5
delicato
m.s.
mp
p
poco
pp
p
(Ped.)

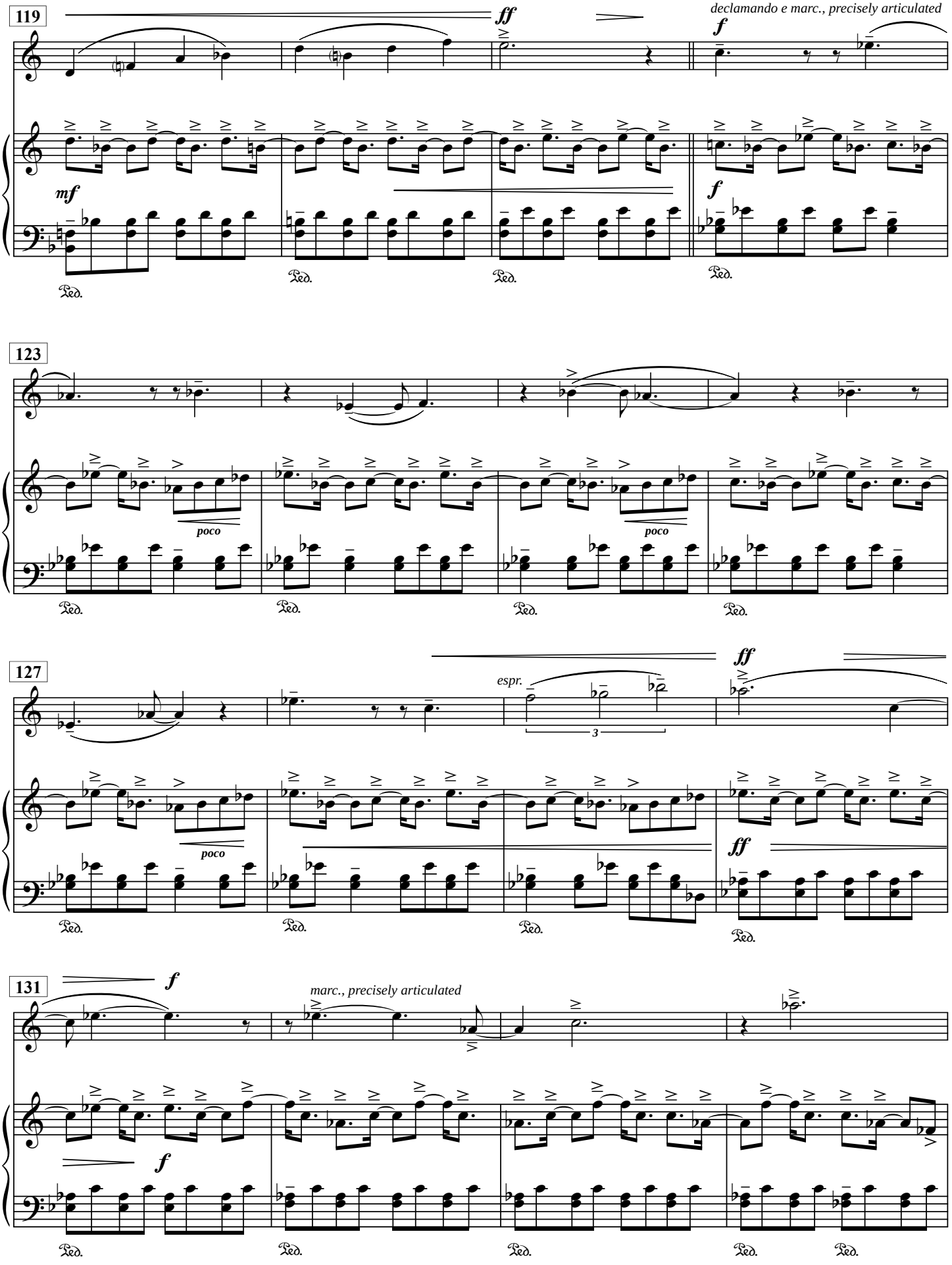
VI. "Twixt Night and Morn, Upon the Horizon's Verge" - Byron

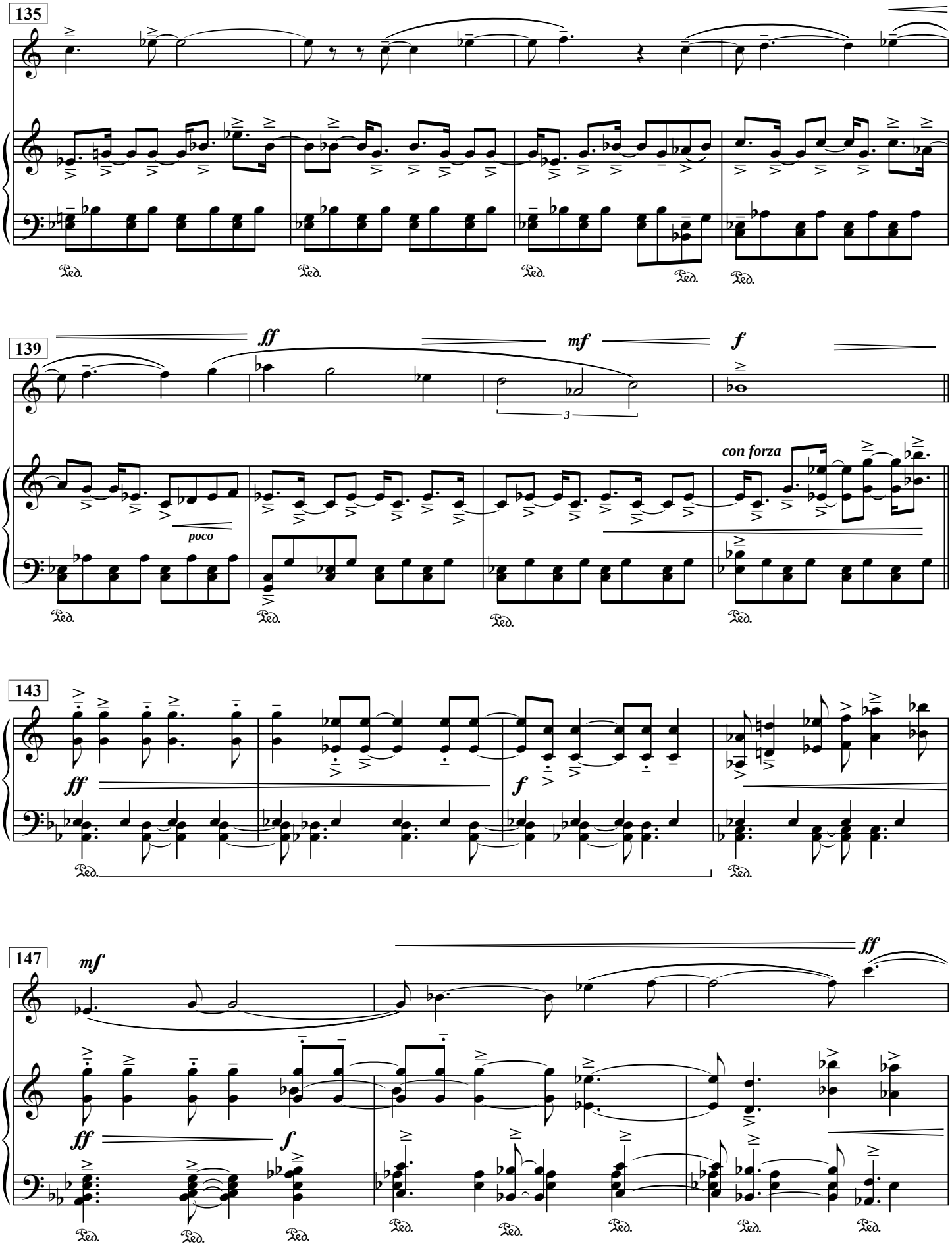


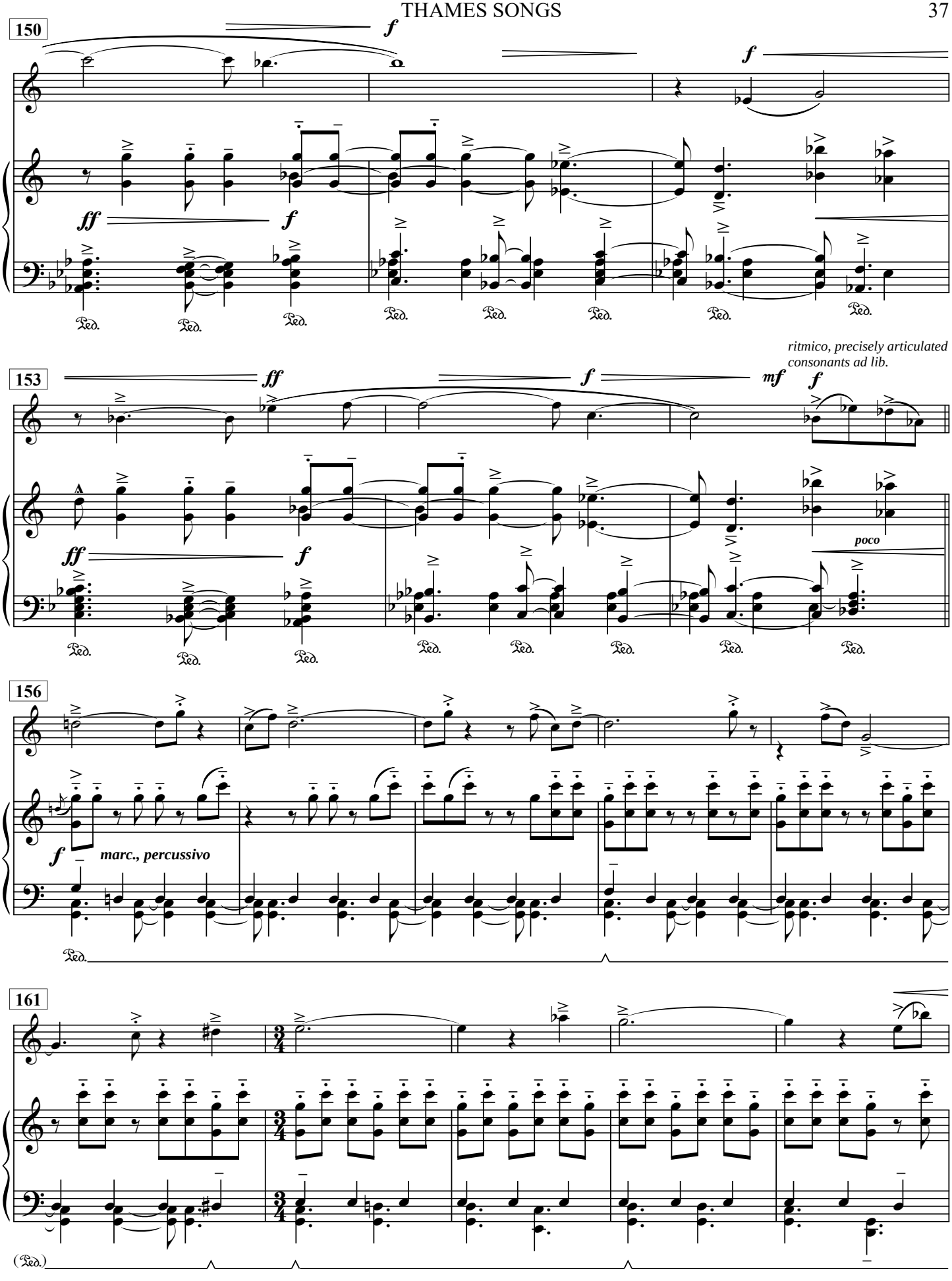

19
mf
mp
mf
mp
mf
(Ped.)
riten., espr.
25
f
poco
mf
f
ff
3
(Ped.)
Ritmico giusto, percussivo (♩ = 132)
a tempo
31
f ben marc., consonants ad lib.
8va
mf sopra ben marc., sempre
(Ped.)
34
(8va)
(Ped.)

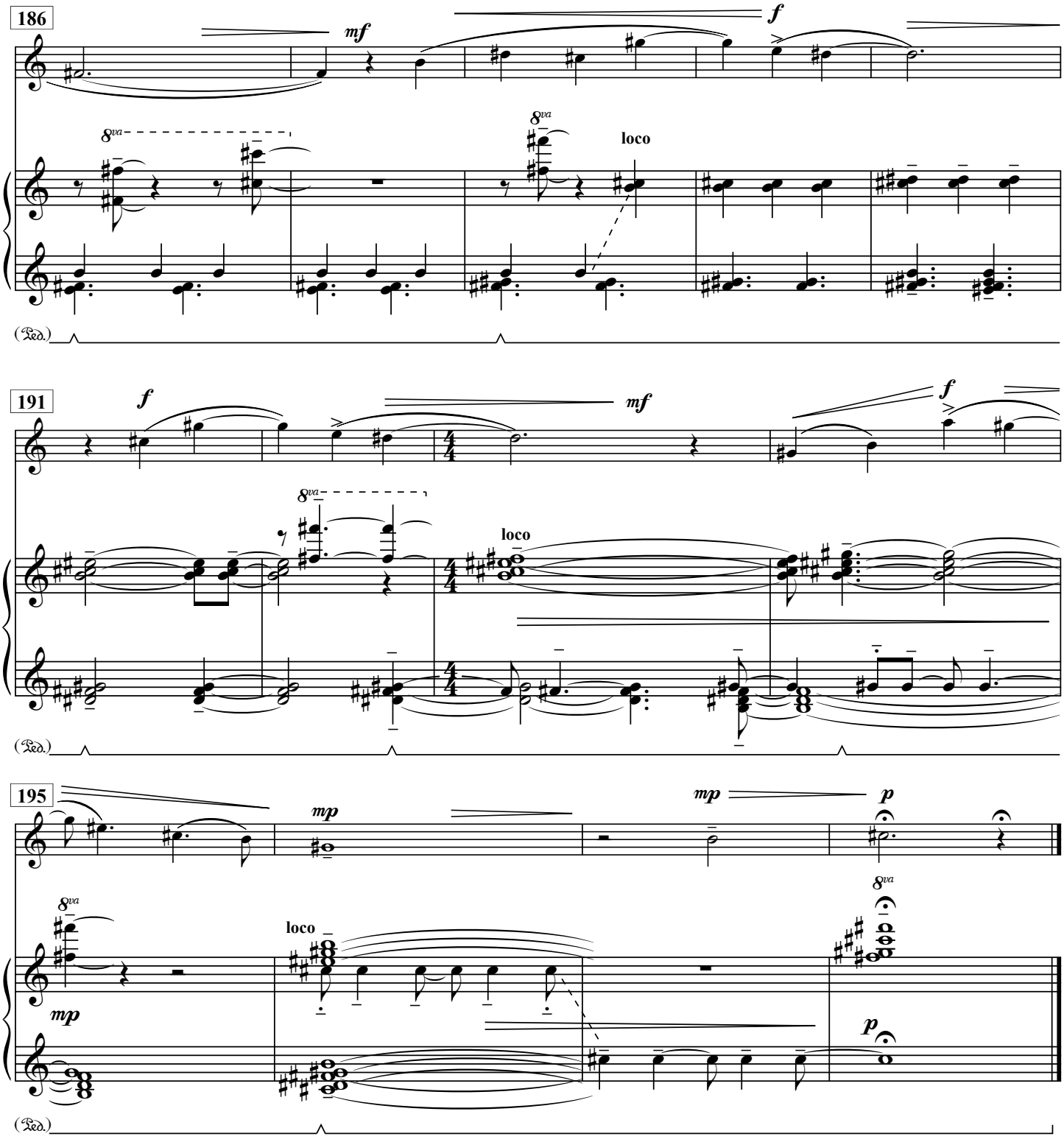

50
cresc.
ff
f
(8va)
loco
f
(Ped.)
54
(Ped.)
58
mf
f
(Ped.)
62
leg. espr.
f
(Ped.)


66
3
(Ped.)
71
(Ped.)
76
(Ped.)
80
(Ped.)


119
ff
declamando e marc., precisely articulated
f
mf
f
Ped.
123
poco
poco
127
espr.
3
ff
poco
ff
131
f
marc., precisely articulated
f


135
139
ff
mf
f
poco
con forza
143
ff
f
147
mf
ff
ff
f
Ped.


150
f
f
ff
f
153
ff
f
mf
f
ritmico, precisely articulated
consonants ad lib.
poco
156
f
marc., percussivo
161
3/4
3/4


186
mf
f
8va
loco
(Ped.)
191
f
mf
f
8va
loco
4/4
(Ped.)
195
mp
mp
p
8va
loco
mp
8va
p
(Ped.)