Fog Nocturne

For Solo Piano

2022

Christopher Nguyen

Duration: 8 minutes

Program Notes

A foggy night drive was the source material that inspired *Fog Nocturne*. The piece aims to capture and emulate a drive through the murky night with night fog laying in the way.

Imagine dimmed streetlamps clouded by low-hanging fog on a road with no other automobile in sight. Or an empty highway lacking the usual night traffic you usually see on the way back from work. It's just you and the black asphalt with only the illumination of your car's high beams lighting the way. And it's a journey you may feel to be one that happens once in a blue moon.

Each section within the piece is meant to evoke the different emotions the composer experienced during his night drive. There are many moments of mystery and stillness, while there are other moments of warmth and wonder. Together, these sections seek to paint a scene in the listener's mind, conjuring up their own foggy night drive.

Performance Notes

The pianist should be reasonable with the amount of rubato used since the tempos in each section should be consistent with the metronome markings. Too much rubato can drag the deliberately spaced-out sections filled with *fermatas* and *ritardandos.*

Starting on measure 71, the *mezzo forte simile* refers to the notes interspersed in the left hand with the accents on top of them. This is the melody of the section and should not be buried underneath the surrounding musical gestures. The melody is still to be shown with accents in both hands later in the section and should continue to stand out.

The pedal markings are laid out in specific detail for the player to follow. They are required to achieve the specific blending of tones and colors meant for their respective sections.

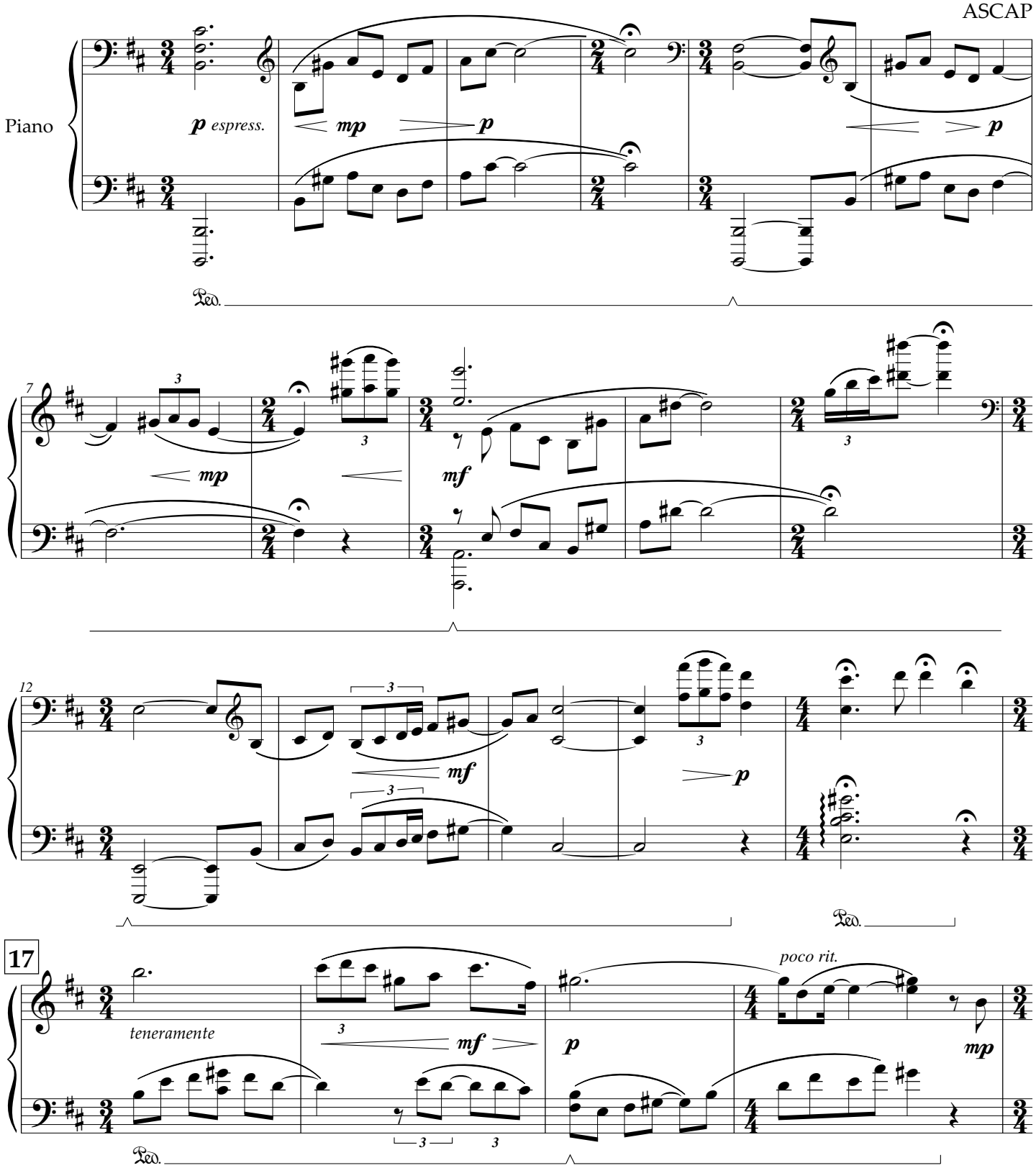
—*Christopher Nguyen*

Fog Nocturne

for solo piano

With Breath and Mystery, Rubato (♩ = ca. 62-64)

Christopher Nguyen (b. 2001)
ASCAP



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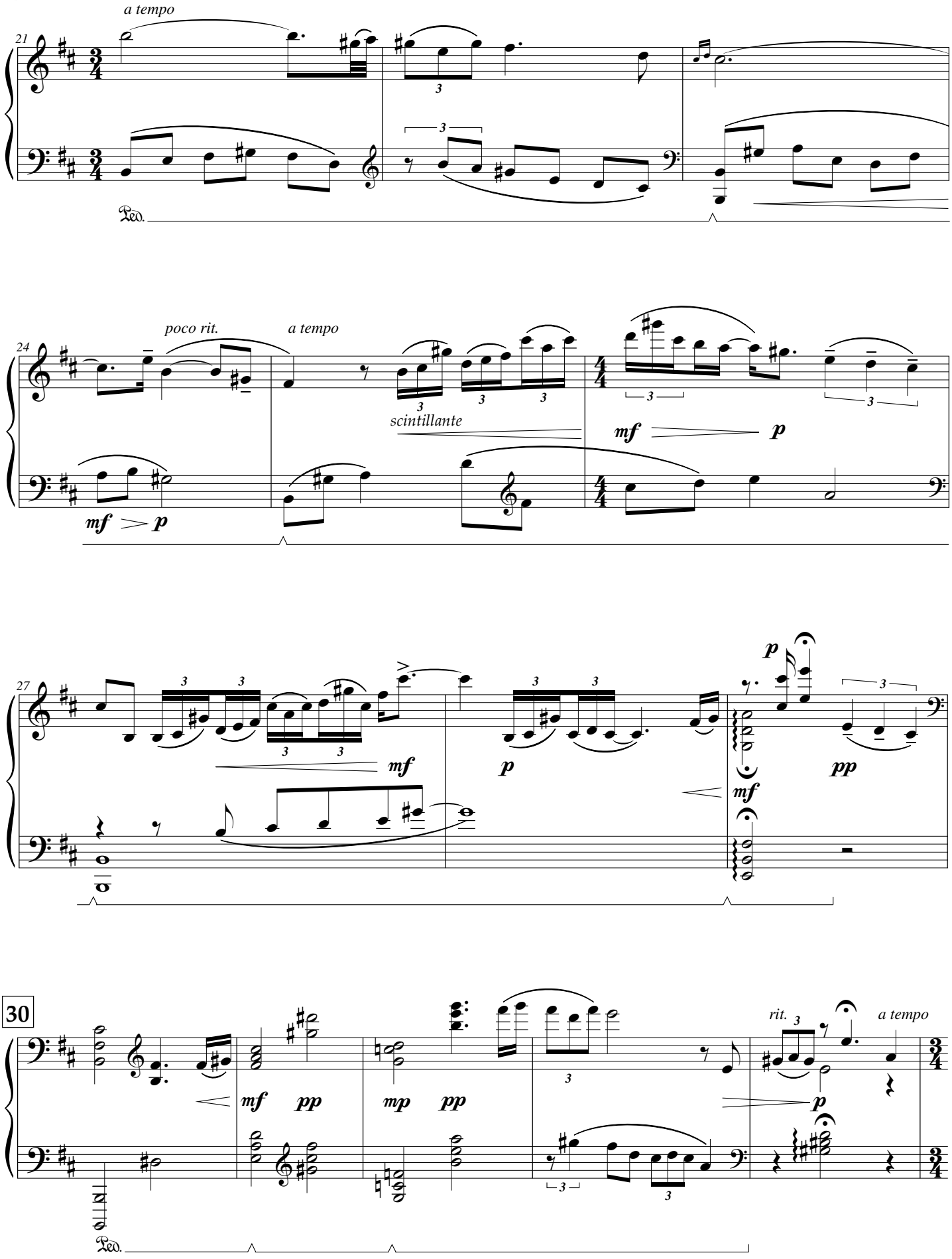
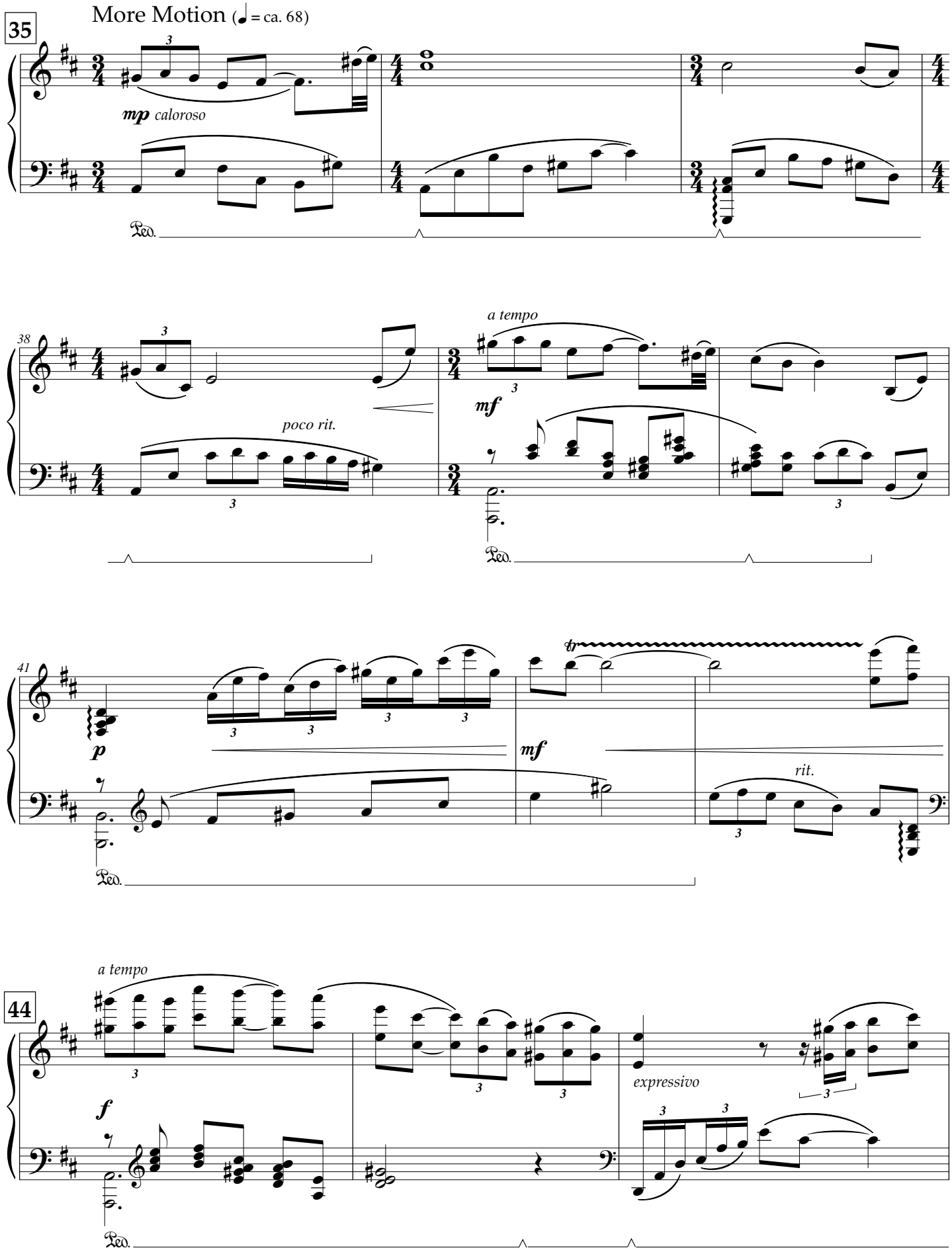
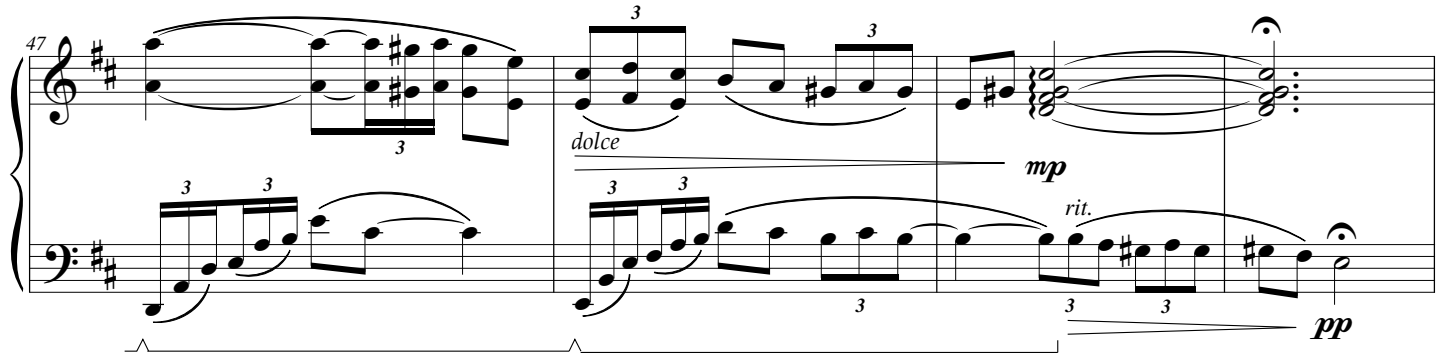
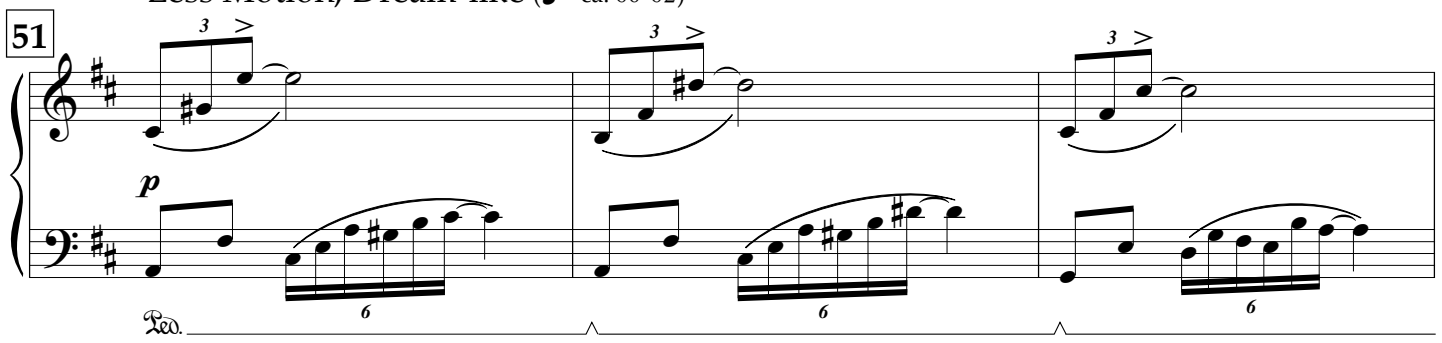
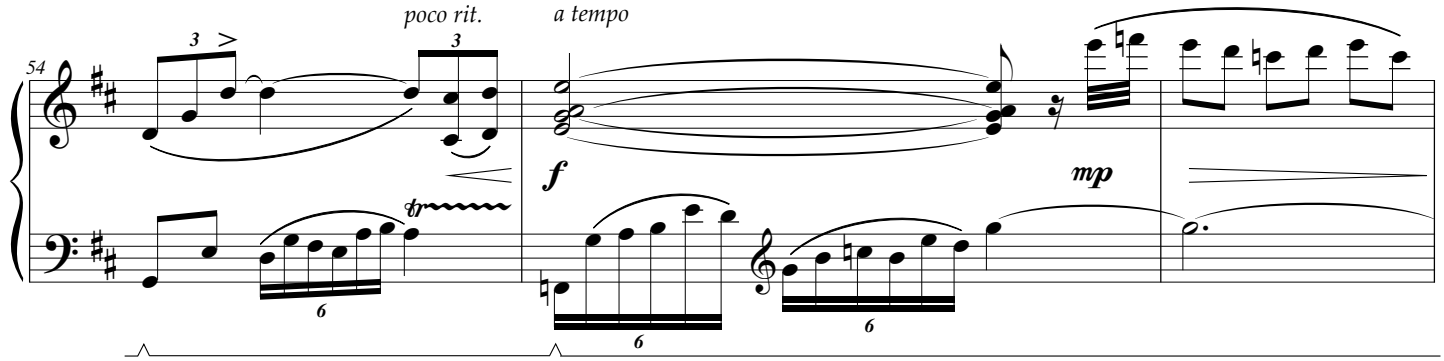

a tempo
21
Ped.
poco rit.
a tempo
24
scintillante
mf
p
27
mf
p
pp
30
mf
pp
mp
pp
rit.
a tempo
p
Ped.

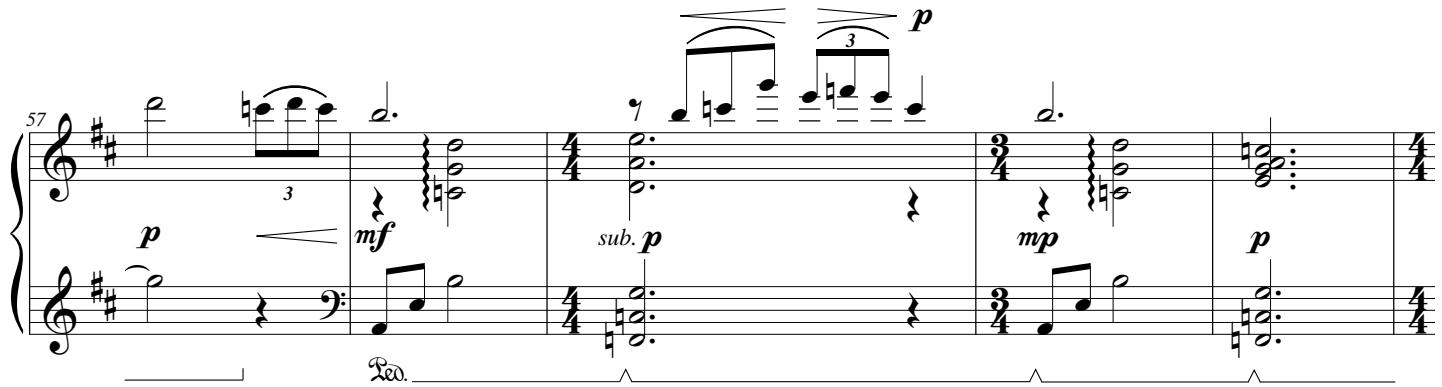

More Motion (♩ = ca. 68)
35
mp caloroso
Ped.
38
a tempo
poco rit.
mf
Ped.
41
p
mf
rit.
Ped.
44
a tempo
f
expressivo
Ped.

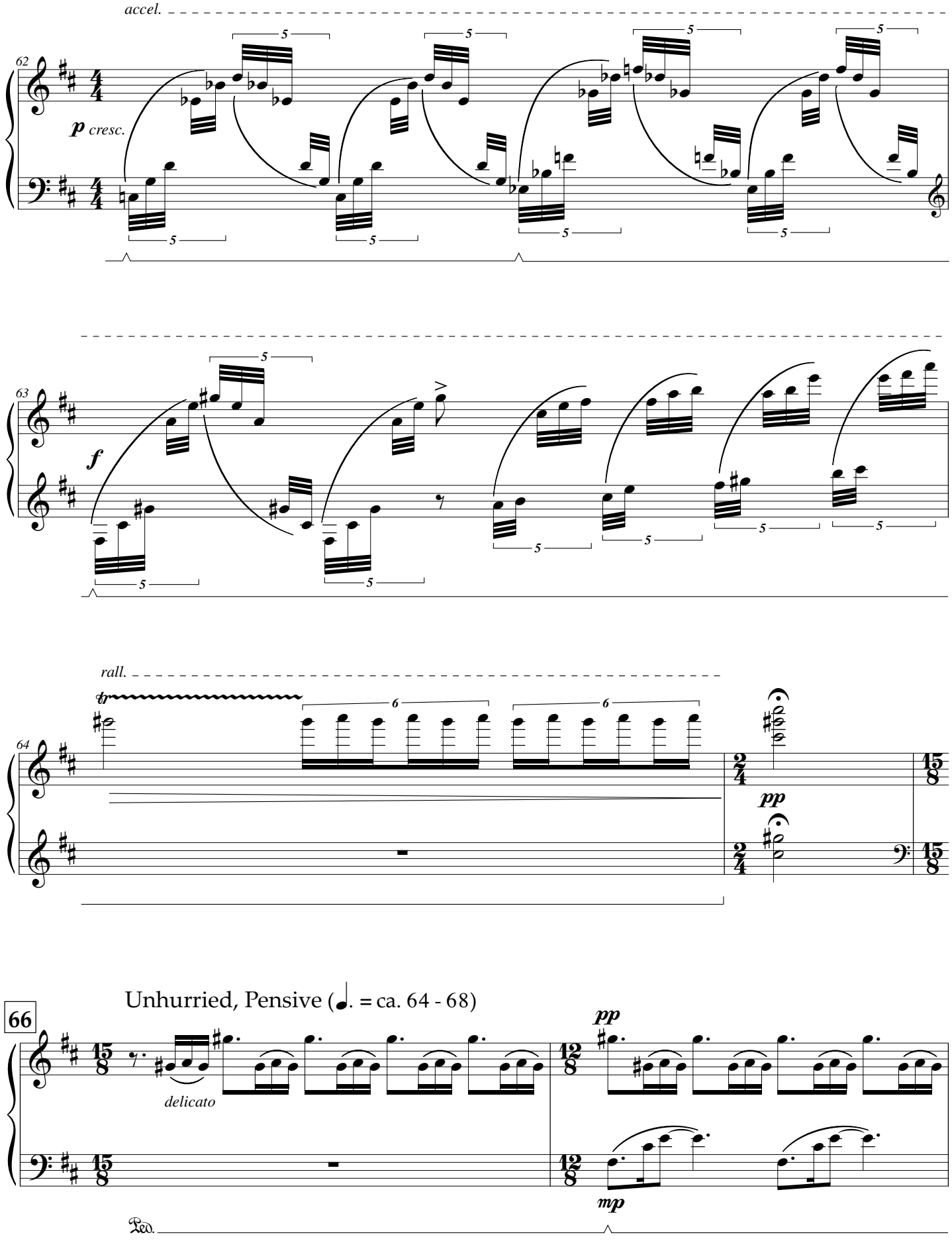


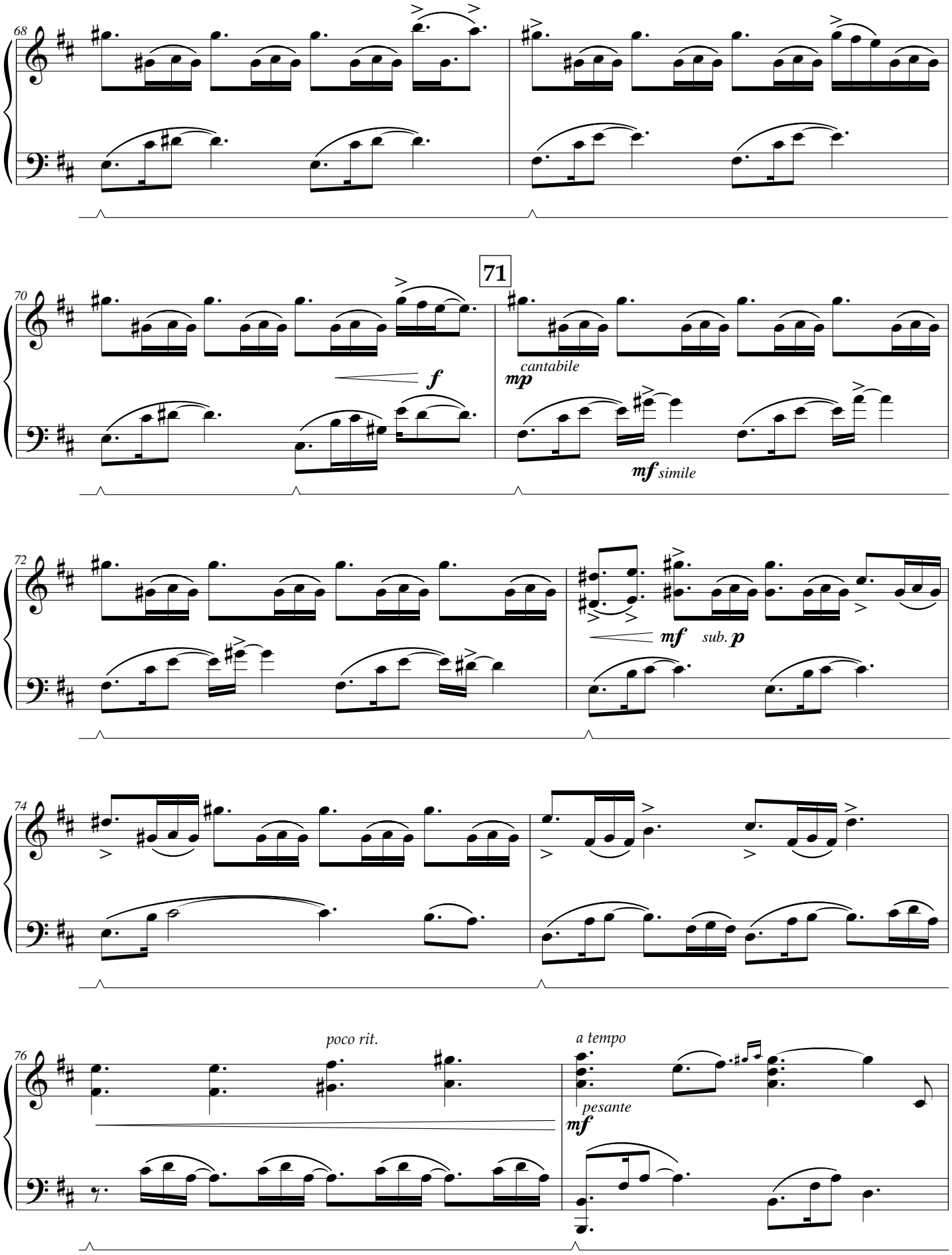
Less Motion, Dream-like (♩ = ca. 60-62)

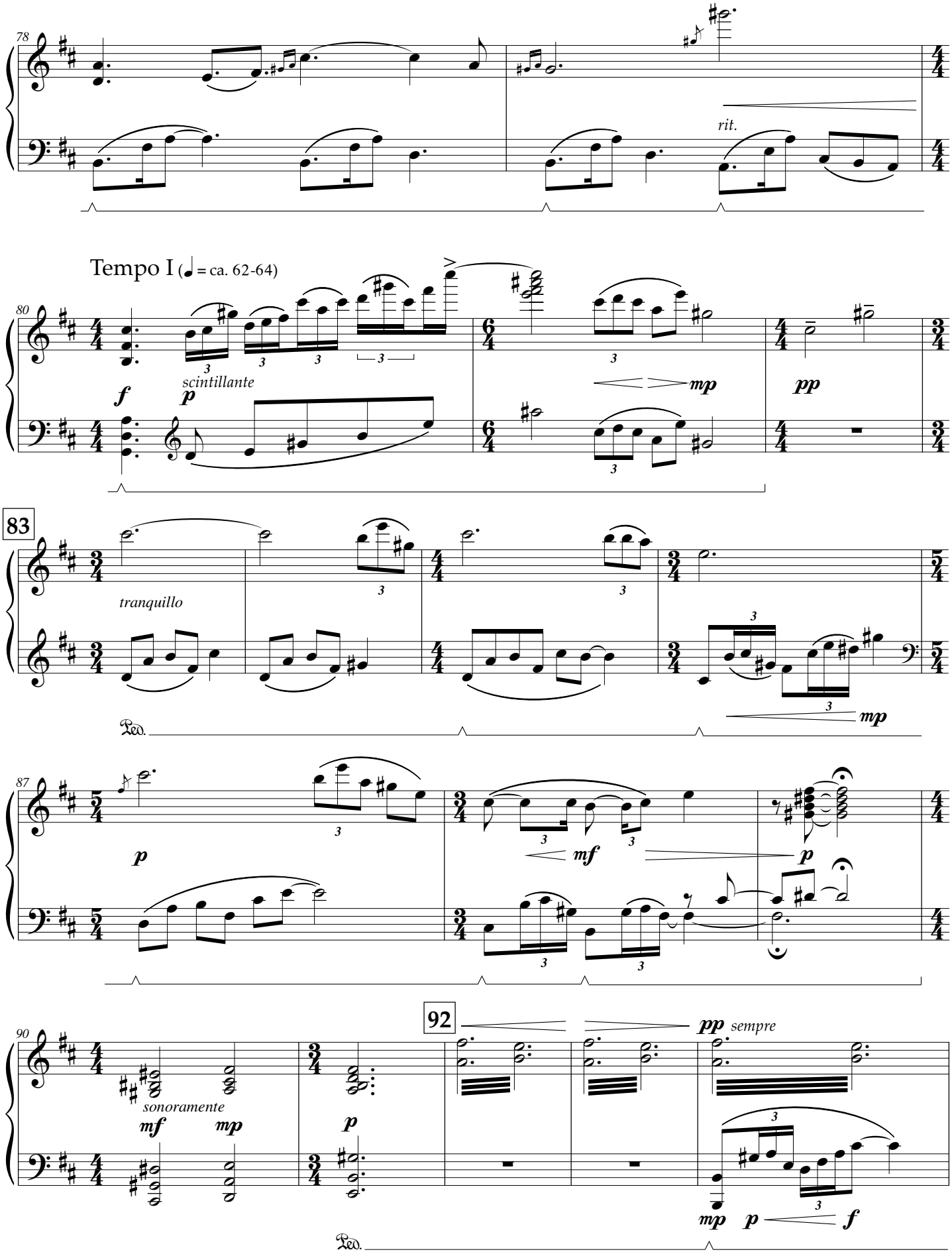


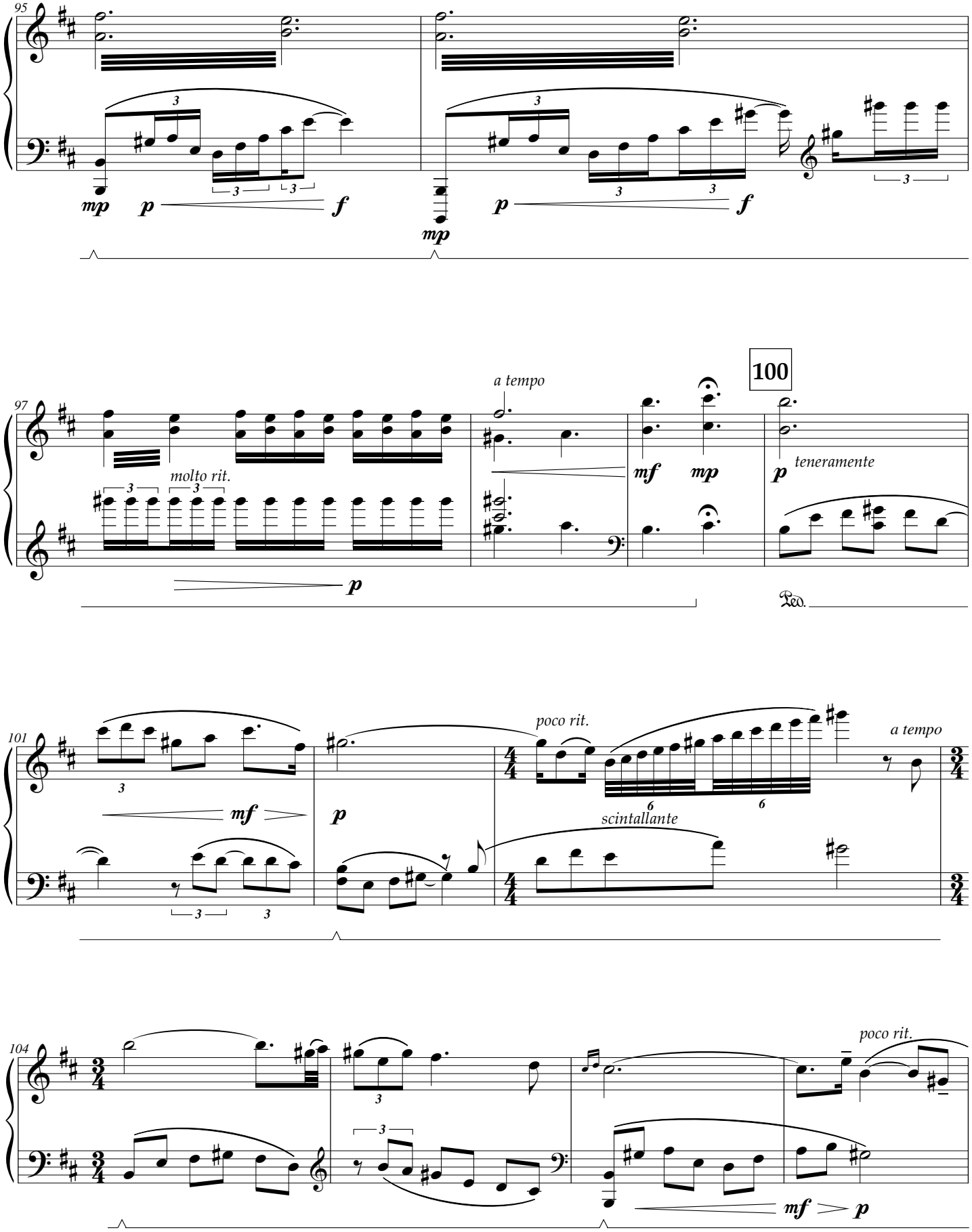


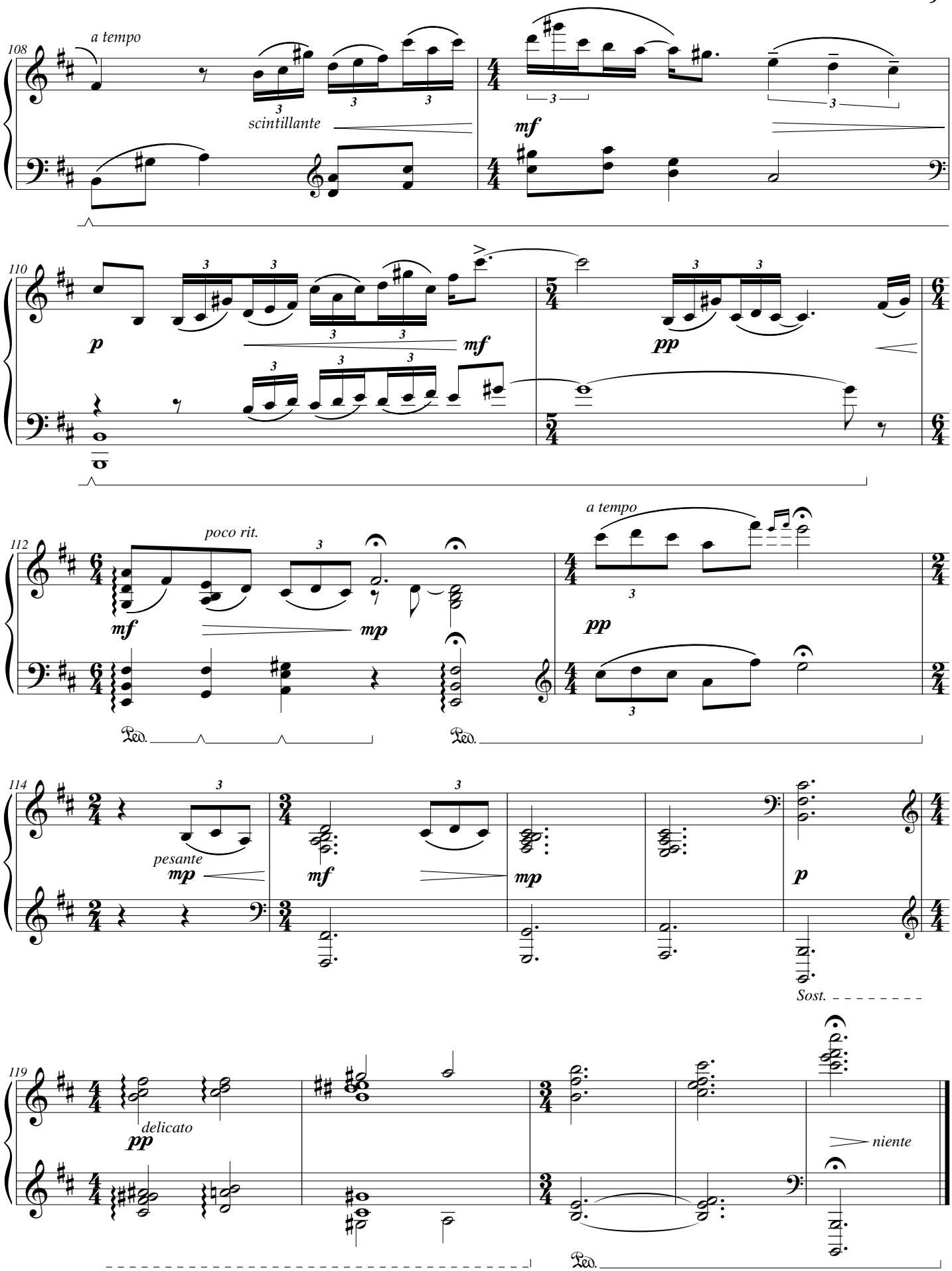



accel.
62
p cresc.
63
f
rall.
64
pp
Unhurried, Pensive (♩. = ca. 64 - 68)
66
delicato
pp
mp
Ped.


68
70
71
f
cantabile
mp
mf simile
72
mf
sub. p
74
76
poco rit.
a tempo
pesante
mf


78
rit.
Tempo I (♩ = ca. 62-64)
80
scintillante
f
p
mp
pp
83
tranquillo
Ped.
87
p
mf
p
90
92
sonoramente
mf
mp
p
pp sempre
mp
p
f
Ped.


95
mp
p
f
mp
p
f
97
molto rit.
p
a tempo
mf
mp
100
p
teneramente
Ped.
101
mf
p
poco rit.
scintallante
a tempo
104
poco rit.
mf
p


108
a tempo
scintillante
mf
110
p
mf
pp
112
poco rit.
mf
mp
a tempo
pp
Ped.
Ped.
114
pesante
mp
mf
mp
p
Sost.
119
pp
delicato
niente
Ped.