stanley grill

Dust Song

(Richard Leach)

soprano & piano

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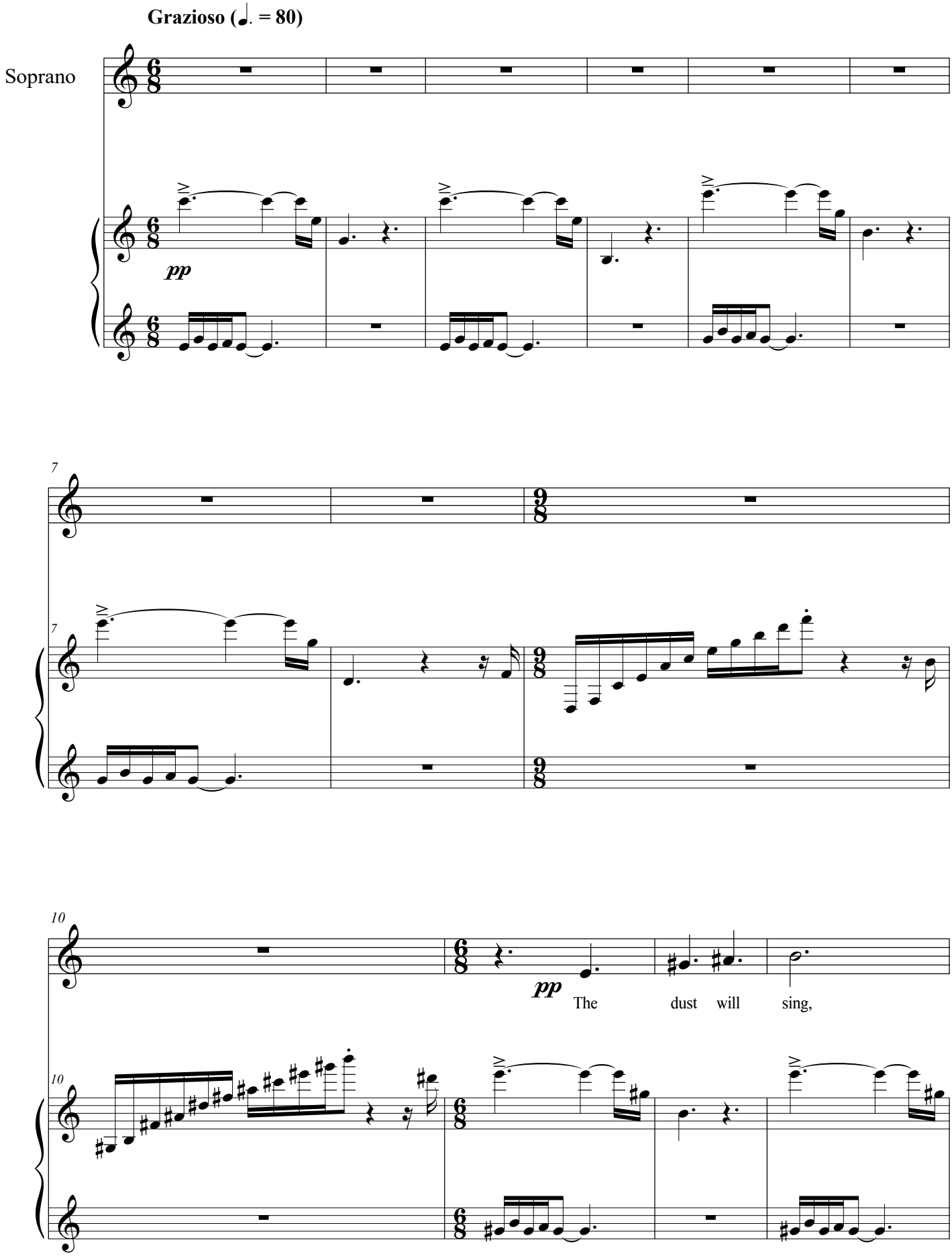
Dust Song

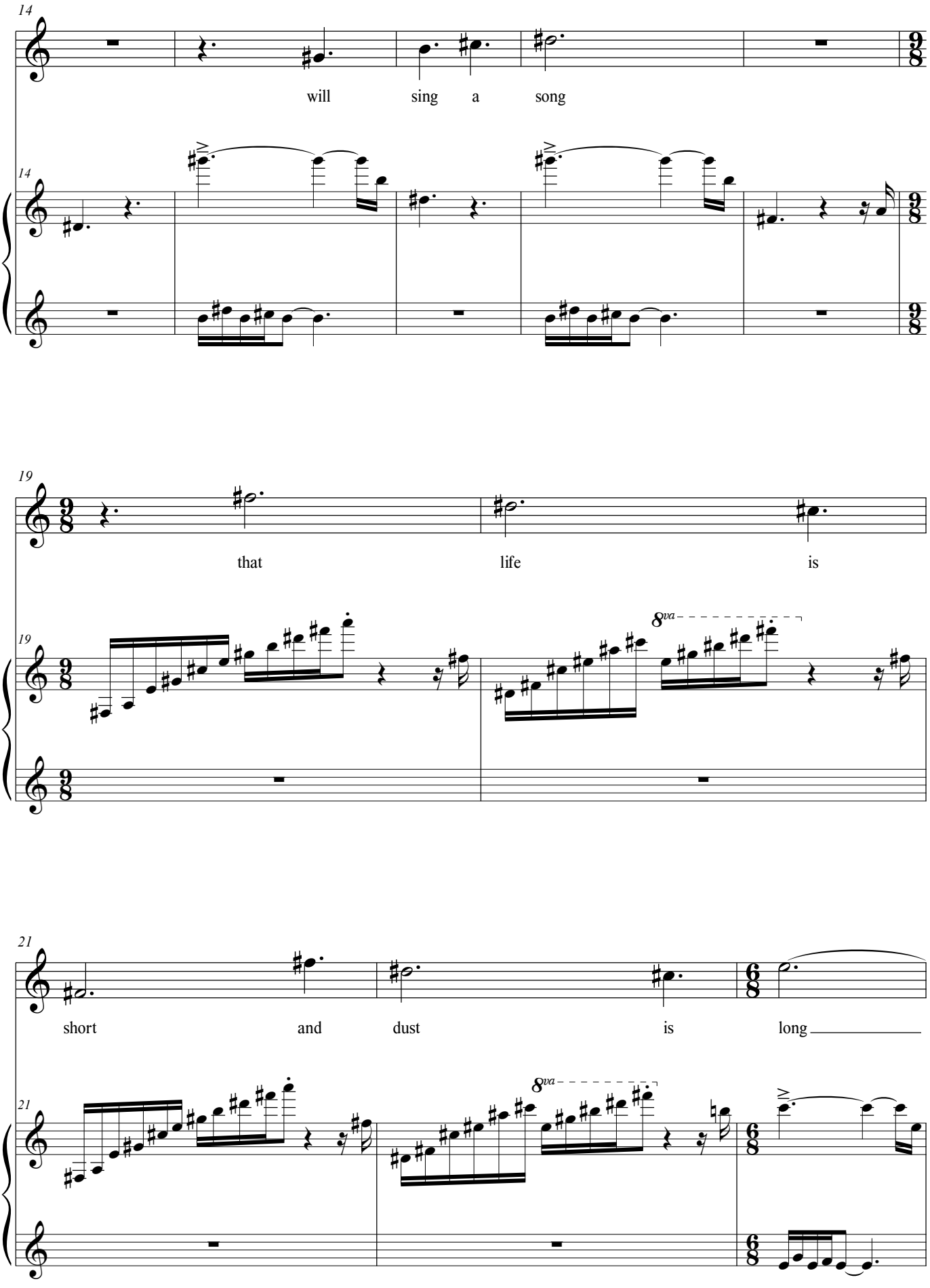
a poem by Richard Leach

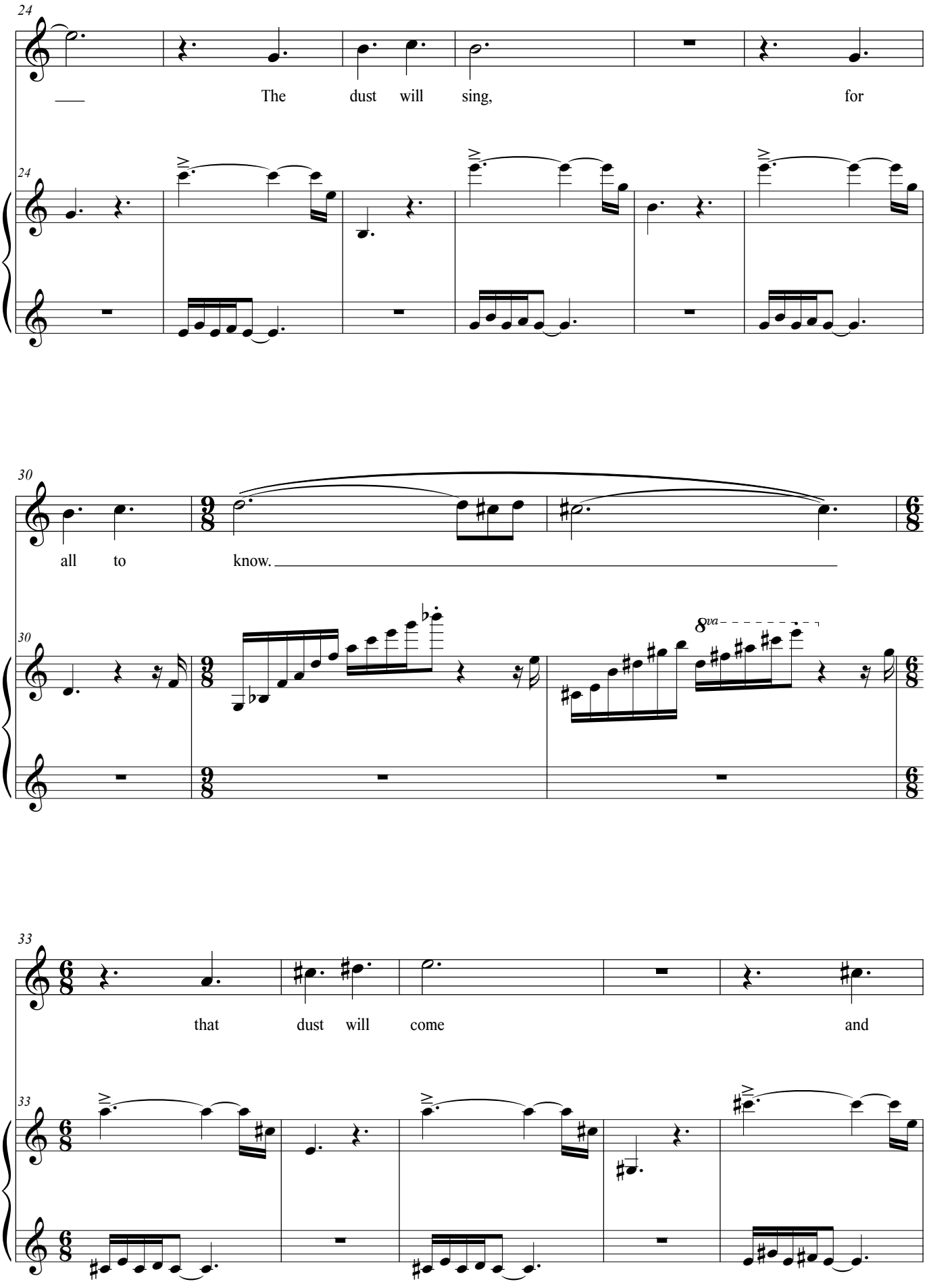
The dust will sing,
will sing a song
that life is short
and dust is long

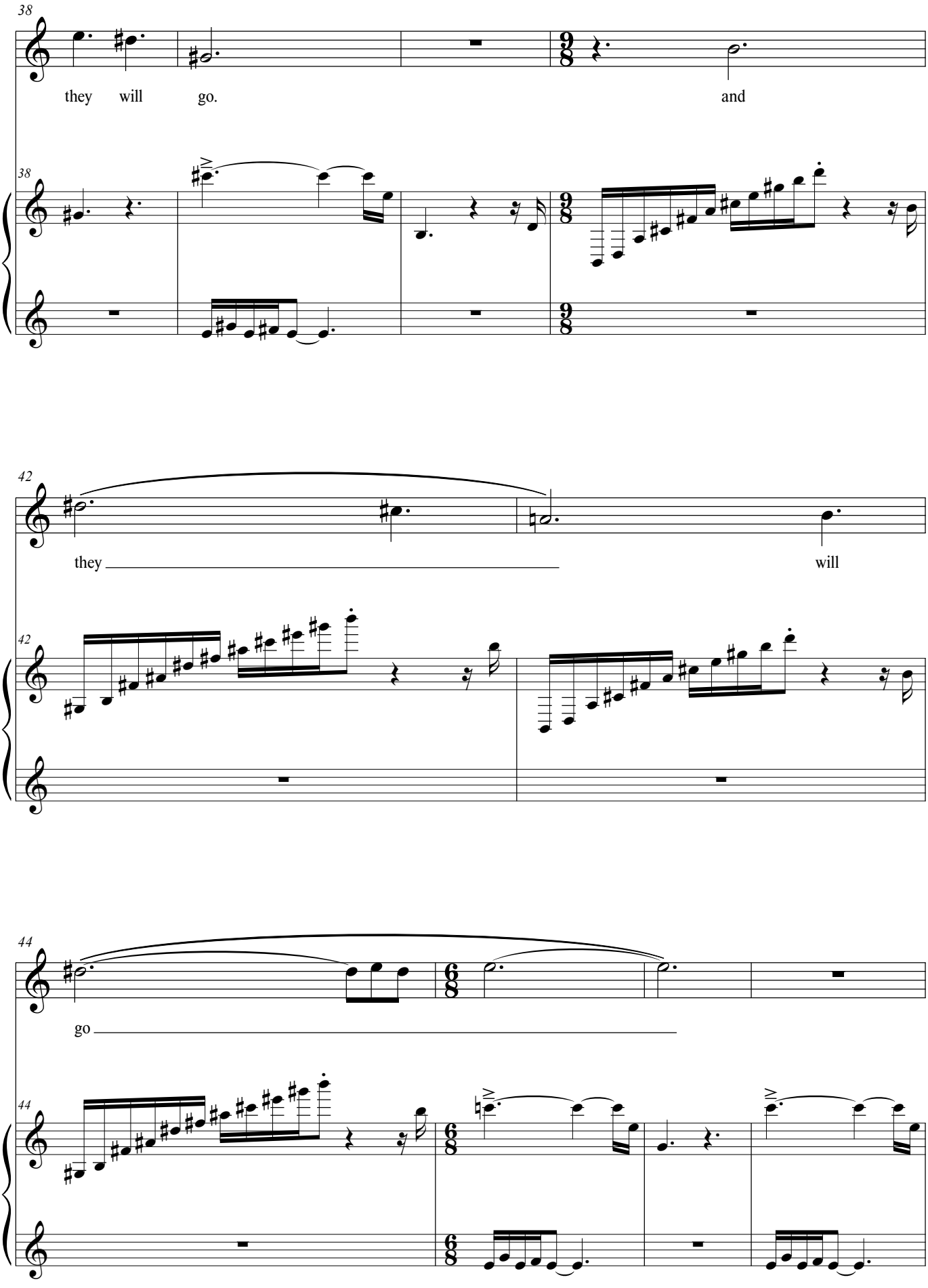
The dust will sing
for all to know
that dust will come
and they will go

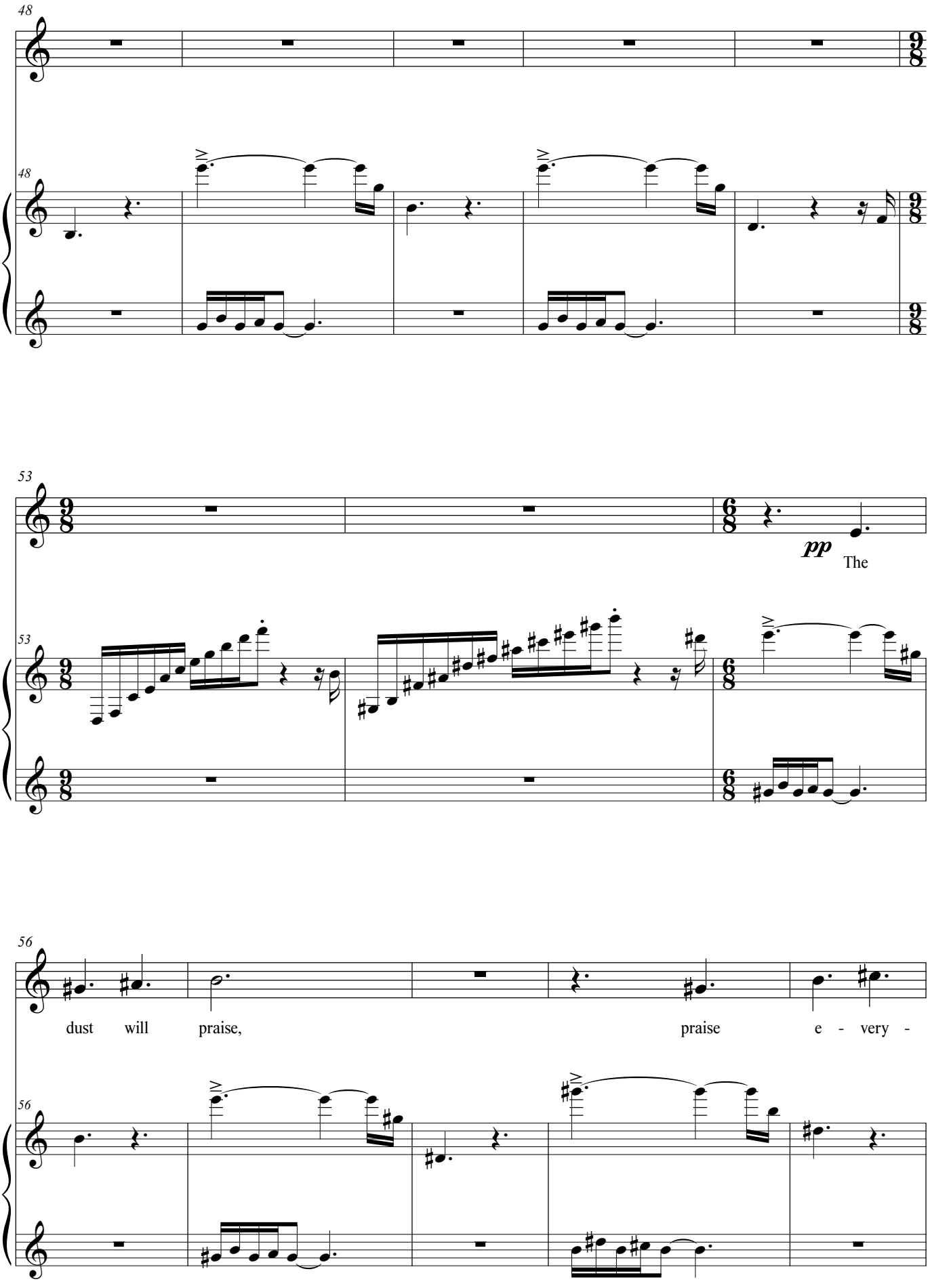
The dust will praise,
praise everything
that turns to dust
Oh, hear it sing!

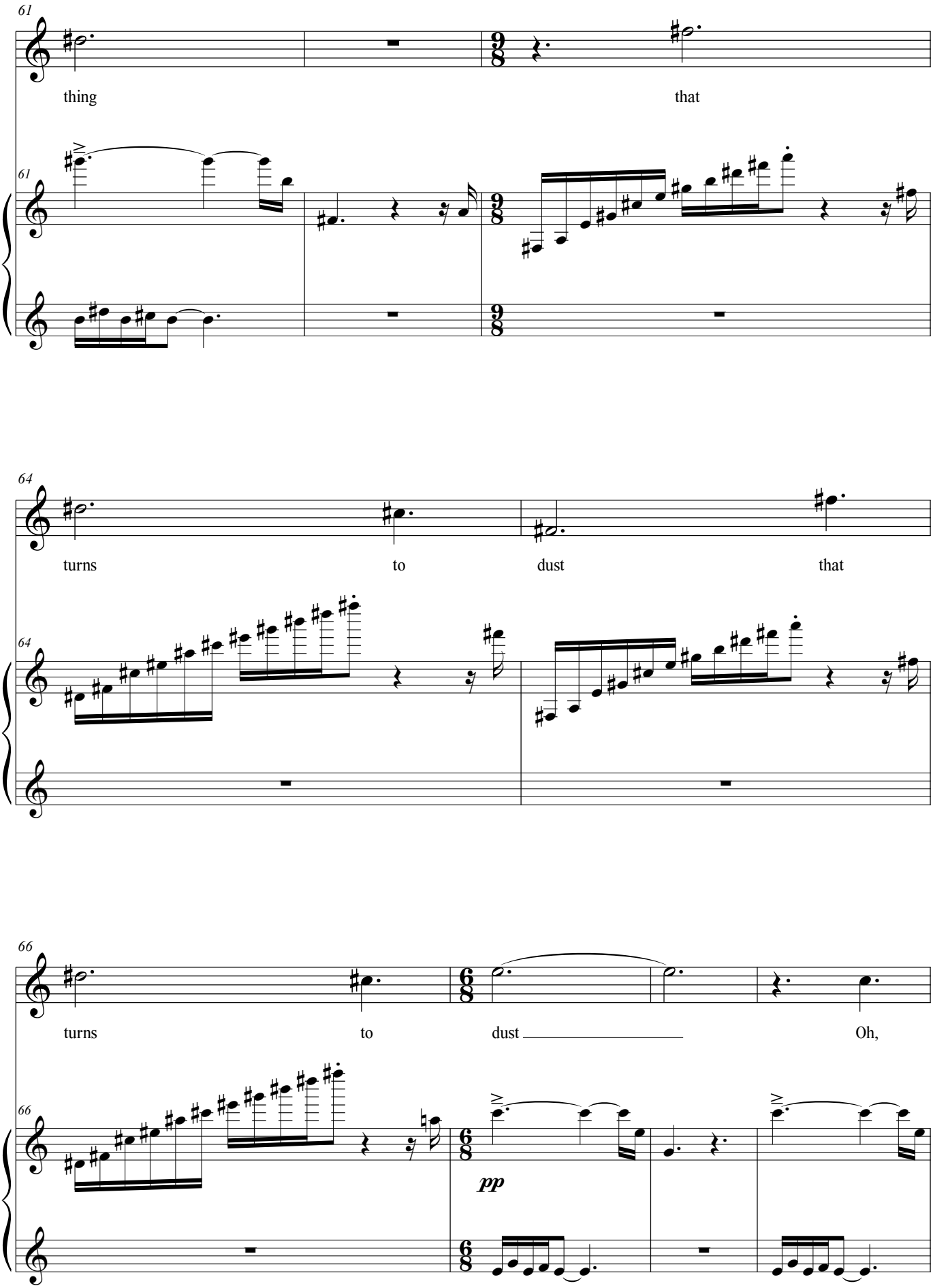

Grazioso (♩. = 80)
Soprano
pp
7
pp
The dust will sing,

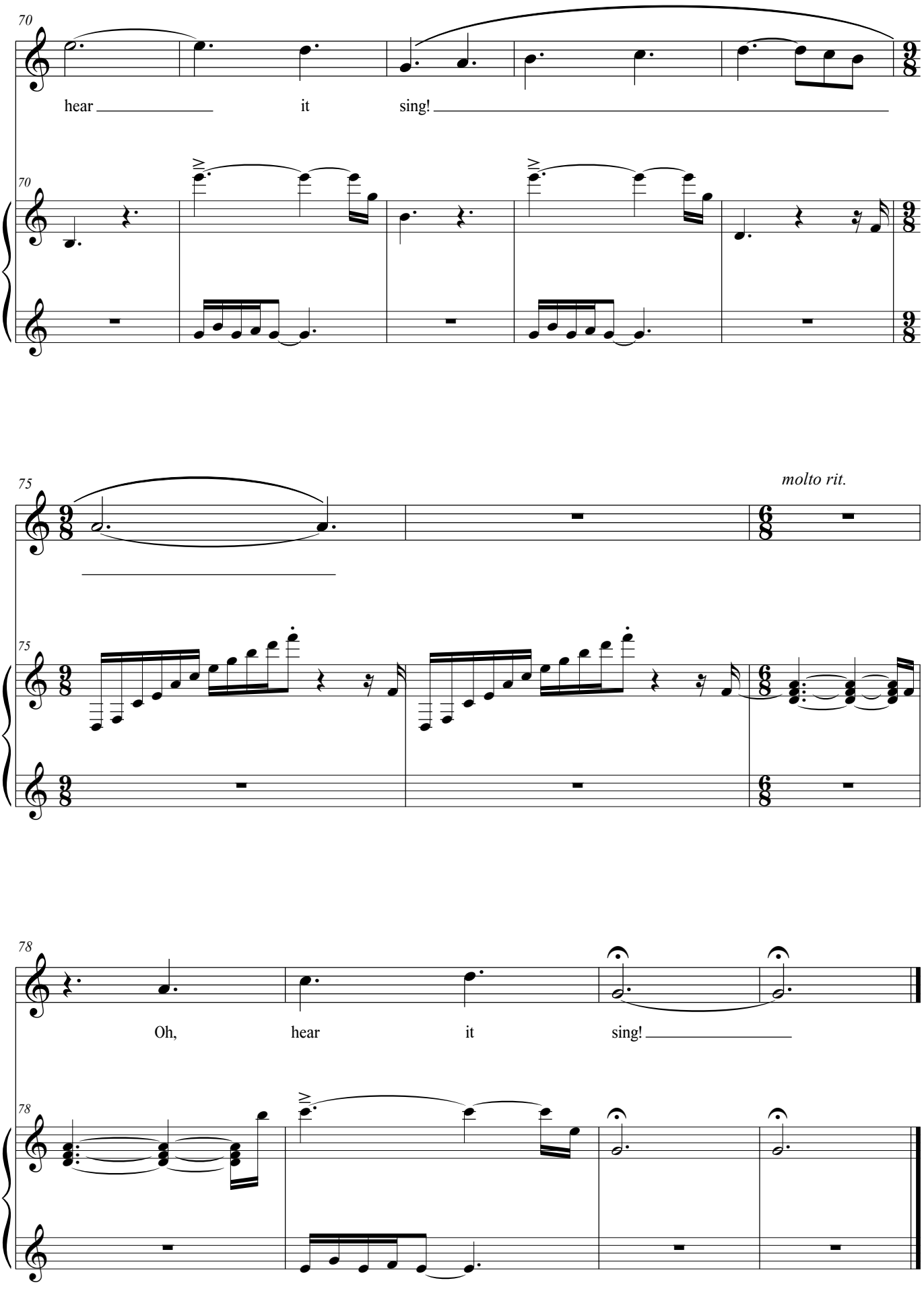

14
will sing a song
14
19
that life is
19
8va
21
short and dust is long
21
8va


24
The dust will sing, for
24
30
all to know.
30
8va
33
that dust will come and
33


38
they will go.
and
38
42
they
will
42
44
go
44


48
48
53
53
pp
The
56
56
dust will praise,
praise e - very -


61
thing
that
61
64
turns
to
dust
that
64
66
turns
to
dust
Oh,
66
pp


70
hear
it
sing!
70
75
molto rit.
75
78
Oh,
hear
it
sing!
78

A few words about (and by) the composer

Stan Grill was raised in the Bronx, studied at the Bronx House School of Music, and later graduated from the Manhattan School of Music with undergrad and graduate degrees in music theory. He studied piano with Robert Helps and Leon Kushner and composition with Ursula Mamlok and Joseph Prostakoff. Major works include music for symphony, chamber and string orchestra, a viola concerto, a cello concerto, ten string quartets, a nonet for winds and strings, and numerous song cycles for mixed voices and chamber ensemble. Performances have been produced by the composer, as well as presented by the Composers Guild of New Jersey, the St. Paul's Church Festival of the Arts, the Leonia Chamber Players, the New York Composers Circle, the Northern New Jersey Camerata, One World Symphony, the Bronx Arts Ensemble, the Tokyo based Duo + Ensemble, the Pandolfis Consort, the Aliquot Duo, Eight Strings and a Whistle, the Diderot Quartet and Camerata Philadelphia.

Stan's discography includes "Rustling Flights of Wings" with soprano Nancy Allen Lundy, pianist Stephen Gosling and violinist Ralph Farris and "At the Center of All Things" with music performed by the Diderot String Quartet.

"As I see it, as much as we strive to find reason and purpose in our having been born into this amazing, mysterious and awe-inspiring universe, that attempt is largely futile. It is however, the best part of our nature that obliges us to make the attempt, though the most we can hope for is to gain some small degree of understanding of the world around us, and, more importantly, of ourselves. To achieve this, we each approach the problem in our own way, uniquely shaped by our cultural background, innate talents and abilities, education and so on. For some, science may be the window through which they best perceive and interpret the world, for others, religion. For those to whom the world seems to express itself most clearly and beautifully through sound, music is the voice that speaks to us and through which we, in turn, best express ourselves. Now, I can write notes that will make pretty music because I've been trained to do so – but the best of my music has arrived, rather inexplicably, as part of a personal effort to understand the world and myself. It is, in a way, an act of translation. The world says something, I try to understand it, and then translate it into musical language. The particular musical language which I speak, is, of course, a product of my conservatory training and personal musical tastes, but hopefully, the outcome, imperfect a translation as it may be, will convey to others something of its original intent."

Stan's music is melodic, modal, contrapuntal, characterized by extended, interweaving lines. His musical influences span the centuries, and include Machaut, Josquin, Palestrina, Monteverdi, Lassus, Britten, Ives, Vaughn Williams and Shostakovich. Two main themes permeate many of the pieces - music intended to influence the minds and hearts of those who hear it in such a way as to encourage thoughts about the possibility of world peace - and music composed in an attempt to translate something about the nature of the physical world.

Complete scores are available at **www.stangrillcomposer.com**. Stan Grill is a member of ASCAP.

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