stanley grill

# Simple Sketches

for piano

## VOCAL MUSIC

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The Snow Begins (W.C. Williams) | 1975 | soprano, piano | 3 min |
| Earth and Sea (Eskimo texts) | 1975 | soprano, piano | 3 min |
| Preludes (T.S. Eliot) | 1978 | soprano, violin, cello | 10 min |
| 6 Songs (W.B. Yeats) | 1983 | soprano, piano | 15 min |
| To a Child (W.B. Yeats) | 1987 | soprano, string quartet | 20 min |
| Crazy Jane Sings (W.B. Yeats) | 1999 | soprano, fl, vn, va, vc, pn | 25 min |
| Vignettes/Flowers (W.C. Williams) | 2002 | SATB, cello | 18 min |
| Love Poems (W.C. Williams) | 2003 | SSAA | 10 min |
| Vignettes/Trees (W.C. Williams) | 2004 | 2 voices, 2 cellos | 15 min |
| Thinking of You (John MacKenzie) | 2005 | soprano, vc, harp | 7 min |
| Arietta s without words | 2005 | soprano, vc, harp | 9 min |
| Scetate (Ferdinando Russo) | 2005 | SSATTBB | 6 min |
| In Their Flight (Mark Doty) | 2006 | sop, mezzo, vn, vc | 6 min |
| 5 Rilke Songs | 2009 | soprano, va d'amore, vc | 15 min |
| 4 Songs to Poems by Hart Crane | 2010 | tenor, piano | 12 min |
| Seasons (W.C. Williams) | 2010 | SATB | 11 min |
| Der Nachbar | 2012 | sop, vn | 3 min |
| Sonnets to Orpheus (Rilke) | 2012 | tenor, piano | 35 min |
| Songs of Loss and Remembrance | 2012 | sop, va d'amore, va, vc | 12 min |
| Rozmowa z kamieniem (Szymborska) | 2013 | sop, 2 va, vc | 15 min |

## MUSIC FOR STRINGS ALONE

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 6 Contrapuntal Pieces | 1986 | string quartet | 20 min |
| For Laura | 1987 | string quartet | 25 min |
| The Beckoning Stars | 2001 | string quartet | 13 min |
| Imaginary Dances | 2001 | violin solo | 18 min |
| Short Stories | 2003 | vn, va, vc, db | 18 min |
| Passion (a love duet) | 2003 | va, vc | 9 min |
| Pavanne (for a world without war) | 2005 | string orchestra | 8 min |
| Meditations for String Orchestra | 2006 | string orchestra | 8 min |
| American Landscapes | 2007 | string quartet | 24 min |
| Motet for String Orchestra | 2008 | string orchestra | 7 min |
| Ecstasy | 2009 | viola solo | 9 min |
| Transformations | 2009 | viola da gamba solo | 12 min |
| Sonatine | 2010 | 3 violins | 9 min |
| Lieder ohne Worte | 2011 | 2 va, vc, theorbo | 12 min |
| Middle Ground | 2012 | vn, 2va, vc | 25 min |
| O mystery! | 2012 | cello solo | 5 min |
| Music for viol consort | 2013 | 6 viols | 20 min |
| Afterwards, there were no more wars | 2013 | string quartet | 21 min |
| At the Center of All Things | 2013 | string quartet | 17 min |
| 4 Nocturnes | 2013 | vn, va | 19 min |
| Lonely Voices | 2013 | string quartet | 26 min |
| Trance Music | 2014 | string orchestra | 22 min |

## CHAMBER MUSIC

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Three for Three | 1992 | vn, vc, pn | 16 min |
| Civil War Songs | 1992 | va, pn | 18 min |
| Take Five | 1993 | 2 vns, va, vc, pn | 25 min |
| Serenade | 1999 | fl, vn, va, vc | 11 min |
| Distant Music | 2000 | cl, vn/va, vc, pn | 20 min |
| Driven by the Wind | 2001 | fl, vc, pn | 25 min |
| Nonet (for New York) | 2002 | fl, ob, cl, hn, bn, 2vns, va, vc | 35 min |
| A Little Sweet | 2003 | fl, vc | 10 min |
| On the edge of sleep & dreaming | 2003 | hn, vc, harp | 31 min |
| 5 Pastoral Scenes | 2004 | ob, bn, vn, va, vc | 30 min |
| I was dreaming of the sea… | 2004 | vn (or fl), vc, pn | 7 min |
| Little Tales of Mirth & Woe | 2004 | vn (or fl), vc, pn | 6 min |
| An Ode to the Possibility of Peace | 2005 | cl, vn, vc | 15 min |
| Elements | 2006 | fl, ob, cl, hn, bn | 11 min |
| Motet for Brass Instruments | 2006 | 2 trp, hn, trb, tu | 7 min |
| 4 Caprices for Violin & Piano | 2014 | vn, pn | 14 min |
| Simple Sketches | 2015 | pn | 12 min |

## ORCHESTRAL MUSIC

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Morning Music | 2001 | cl, string orchestra | 22 min |
| Two Sad Songs (W.B. Yeats) | 2002 | sop, string orchestra | 15 min |
| Invisible Ballet | 2003 | strings & diverse instruments | 33 min |
| Pluto | 2005 | orchestra | 15 min |
| Ophelia Songs (Shakespeare) | 2005 | sop, hp, string orchestra | 12 min |
| Love's Little Pleasures (various poets) | 2008 | sop, string orchestra | 15 min |
| The Four Elements | 2009 | va, string orchestra | 22 min |
| Mystical Songs | 2009 | sop, va, string orchestra | 18 min |
| In Praise of Reason | 2012 | vc, 2 hn, string orchestra | 13 min |

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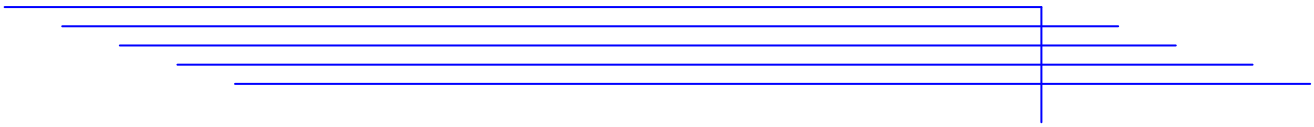

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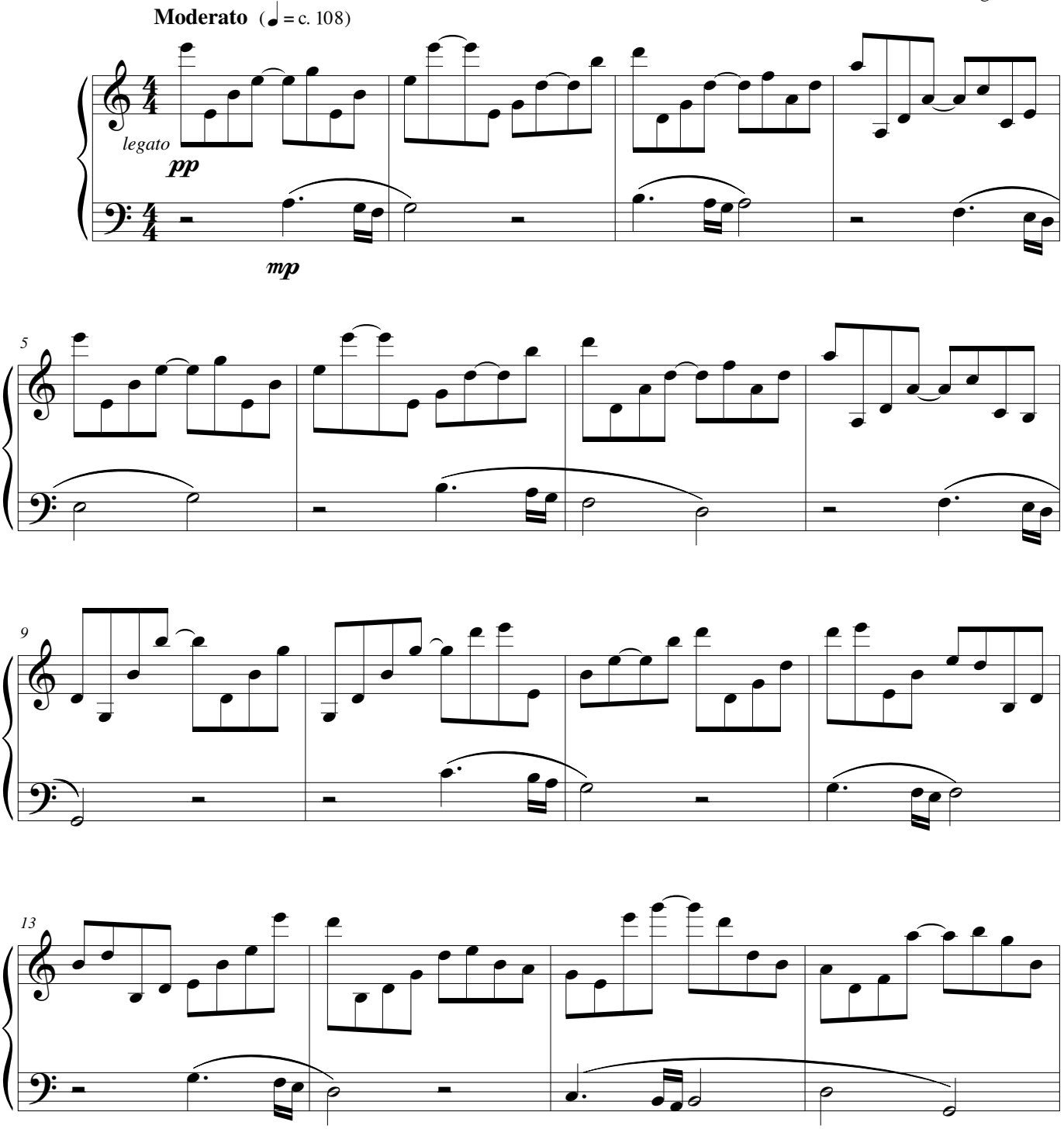


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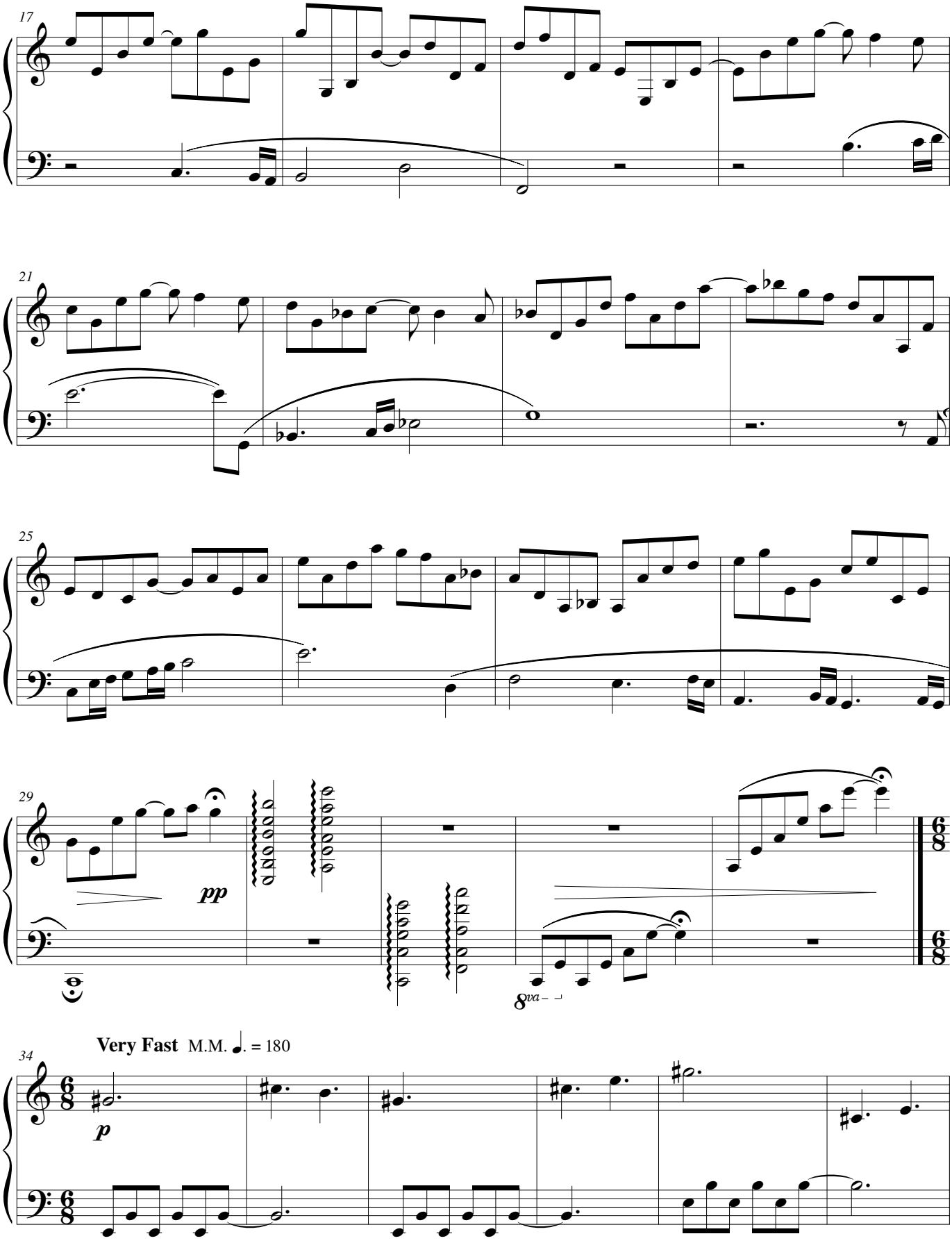
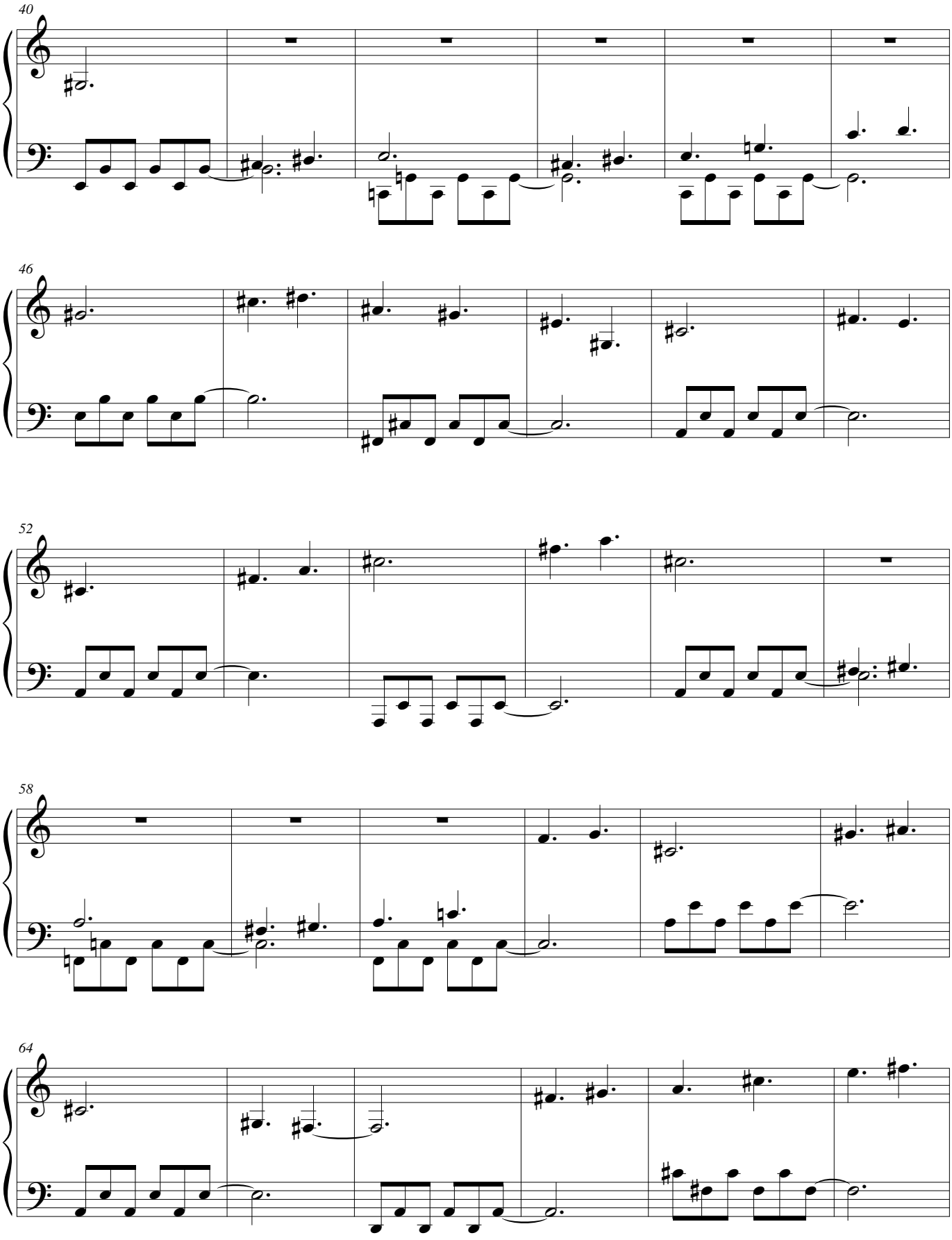
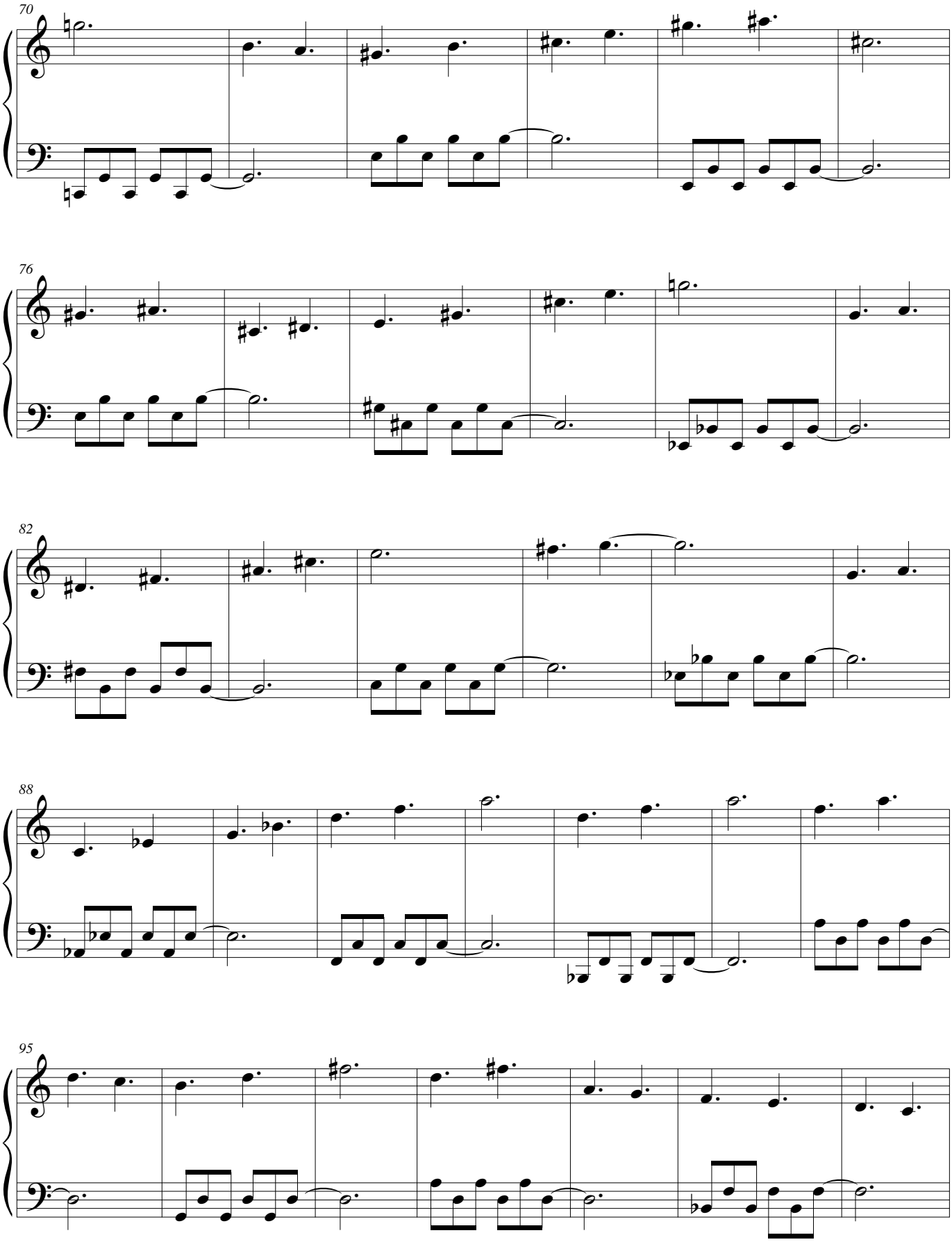
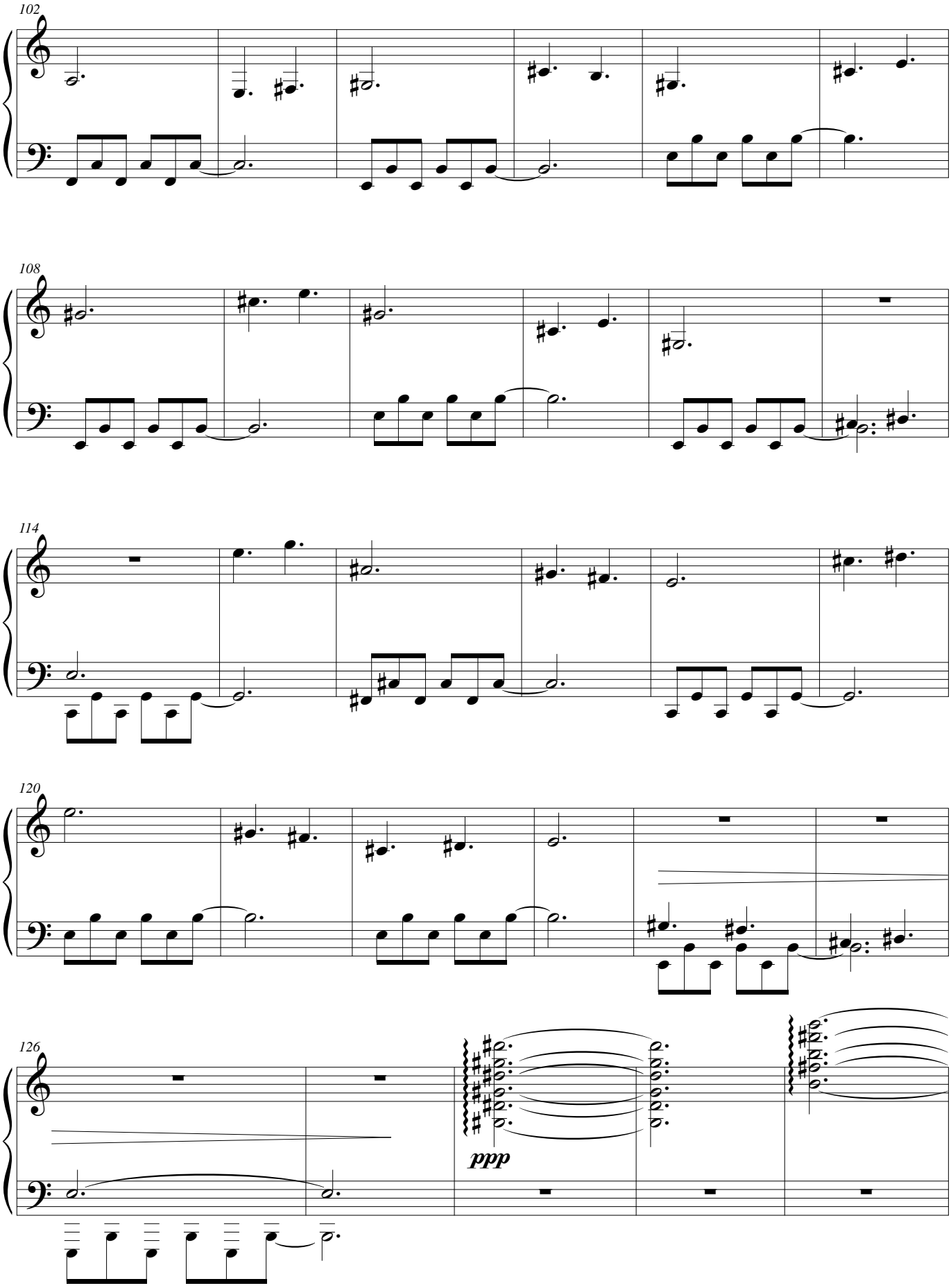
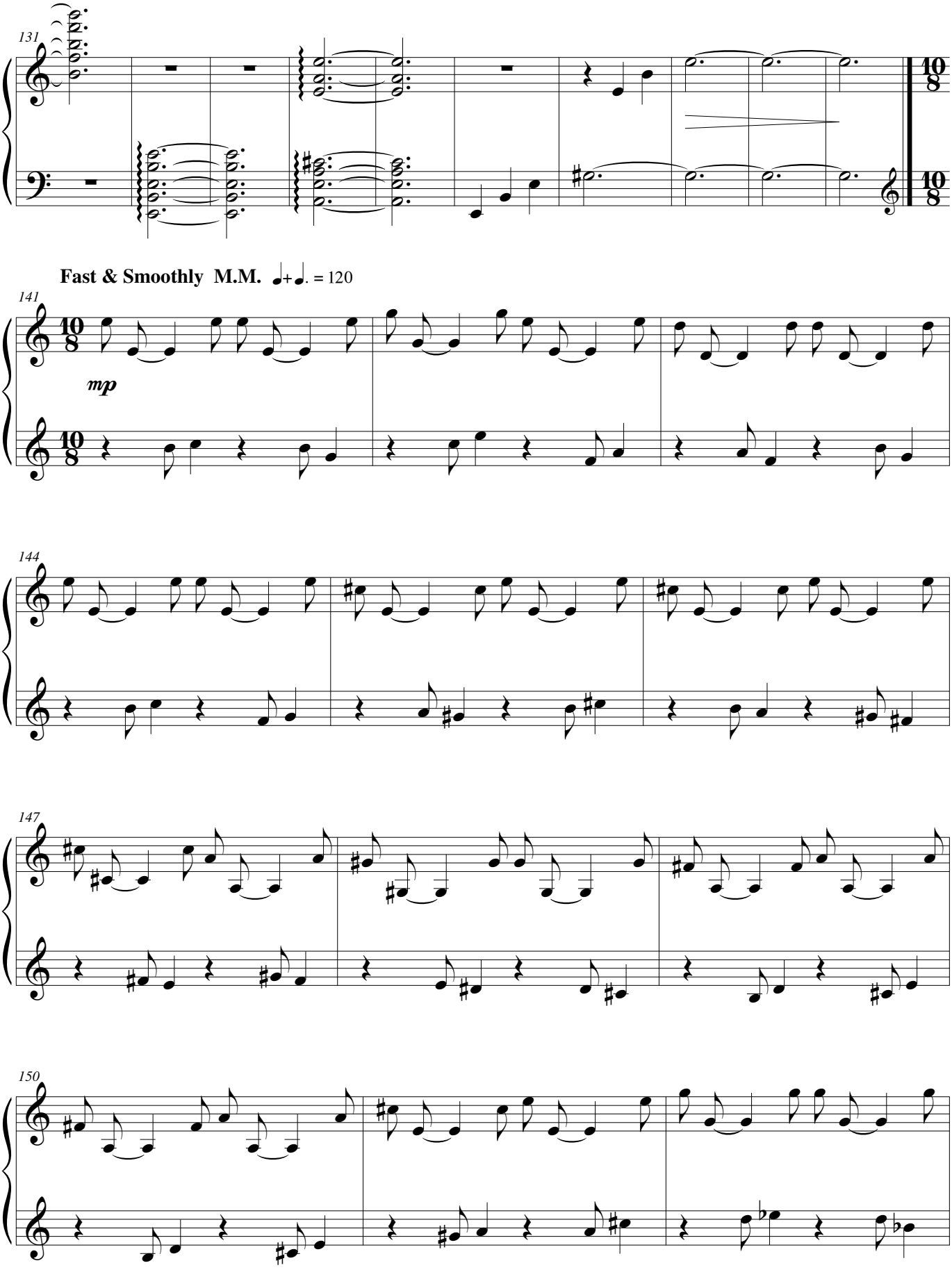
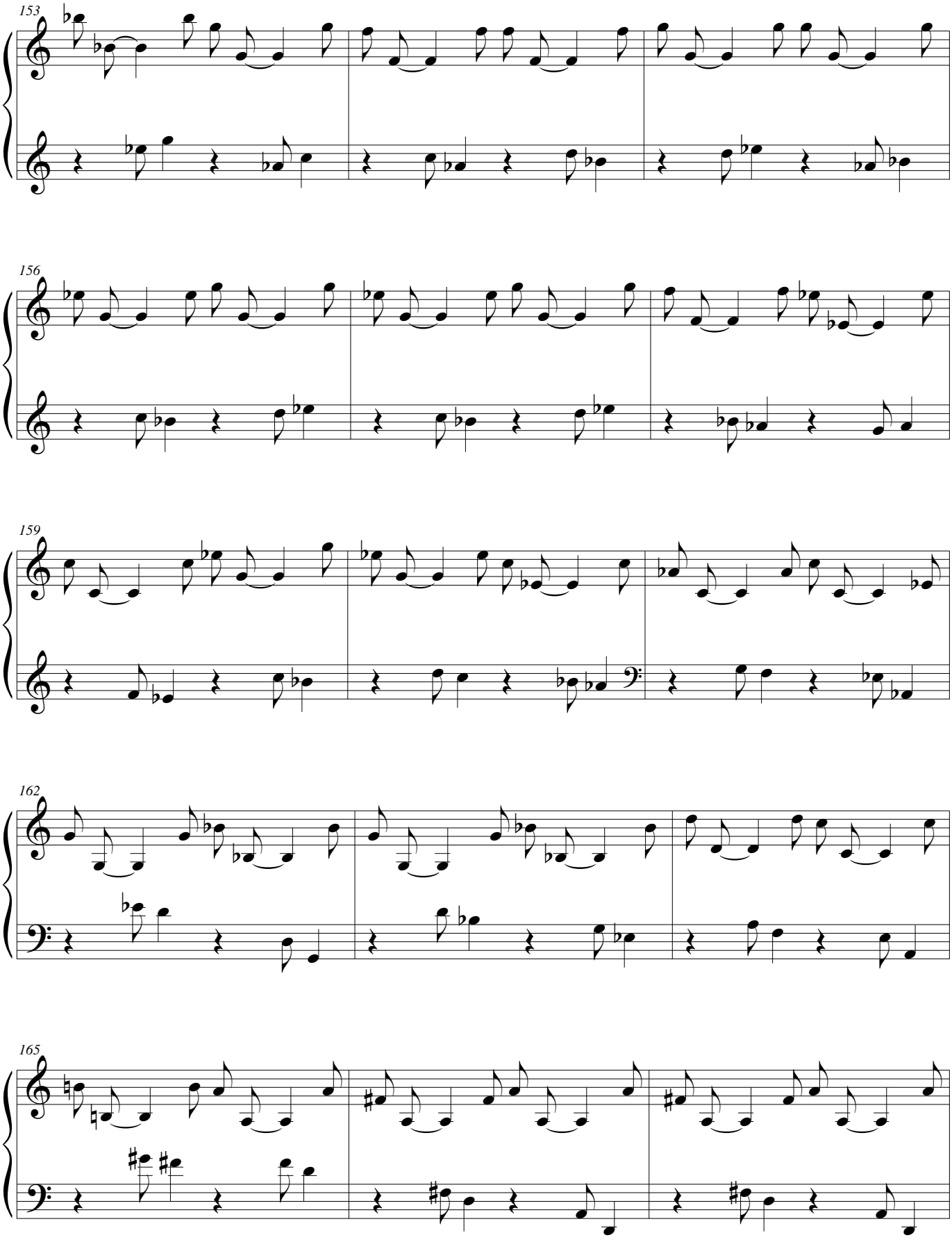

17
21
25
29
pp
8va
34
Very Fast M.M. ♩. = 180
p

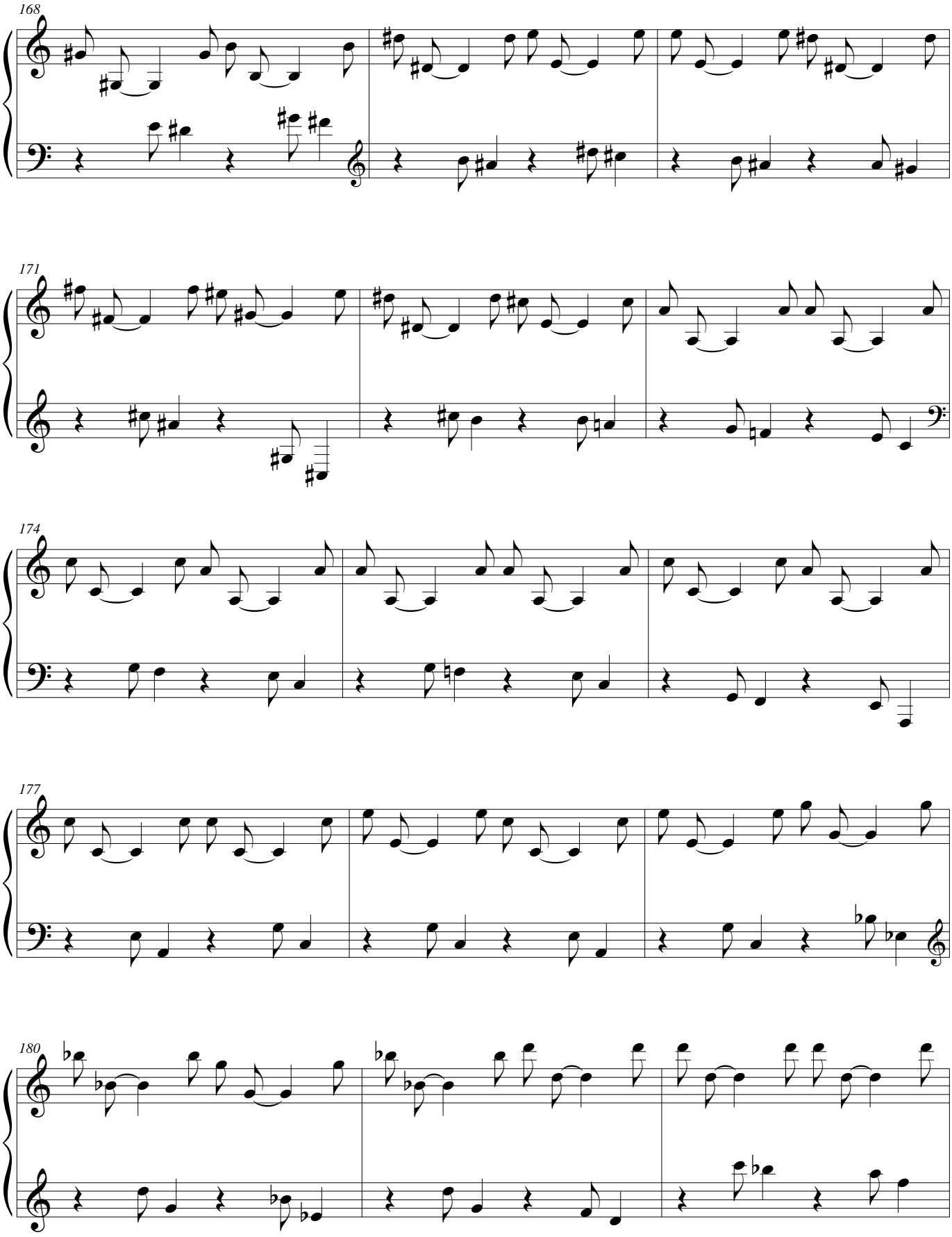

40
46
52
58
64

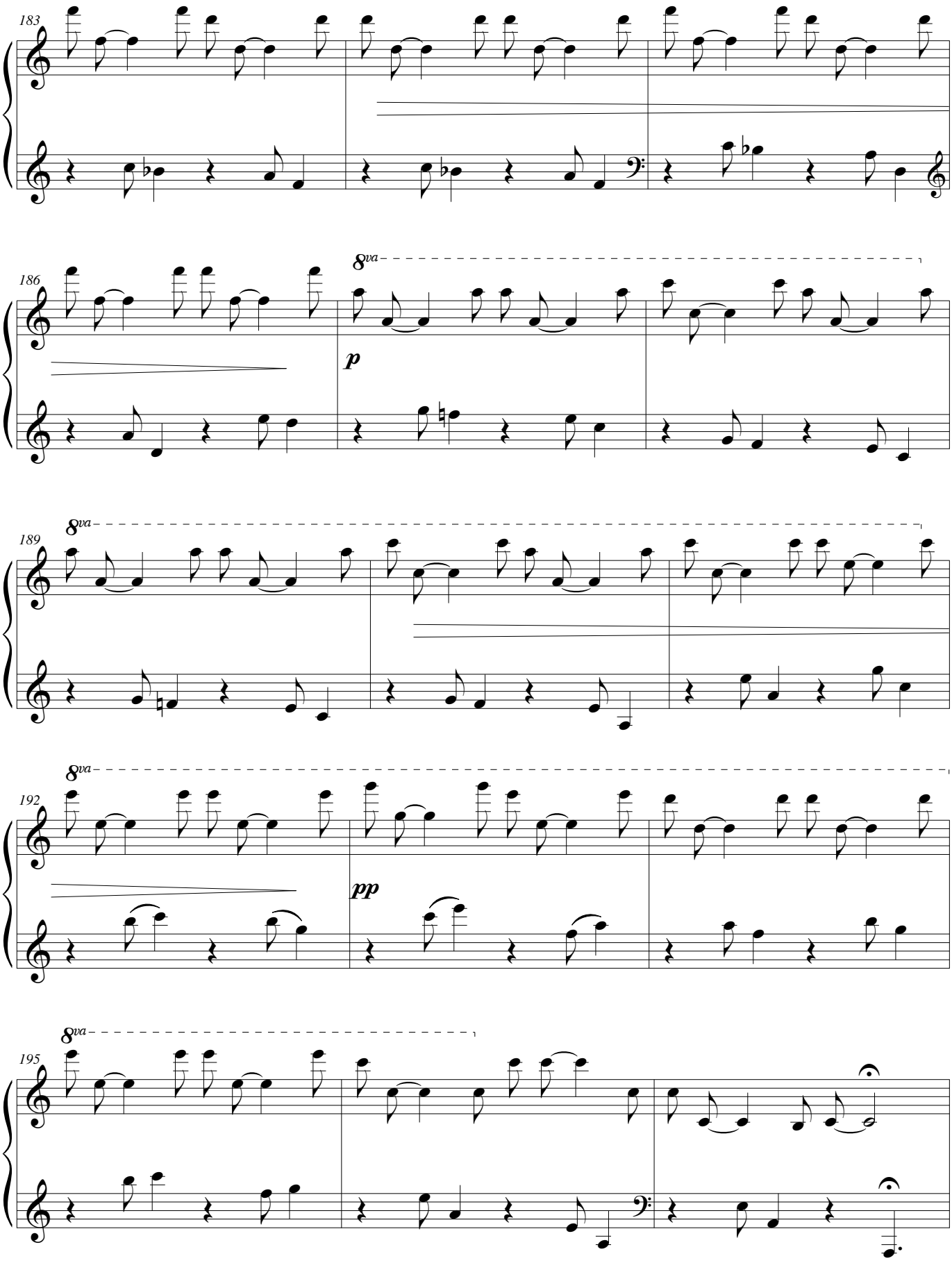

70
76
82
88
95

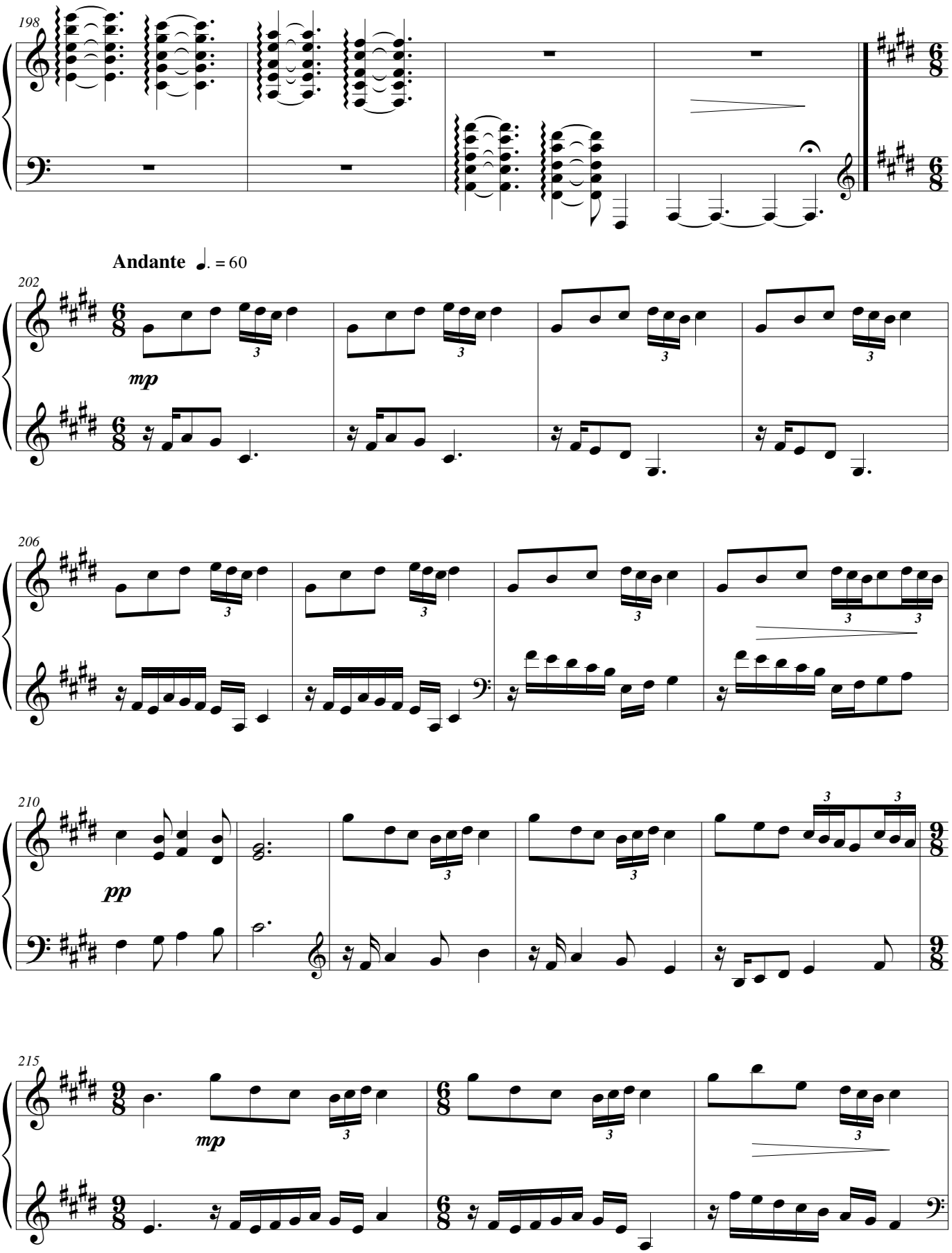

102
108
114
120
126
ppp

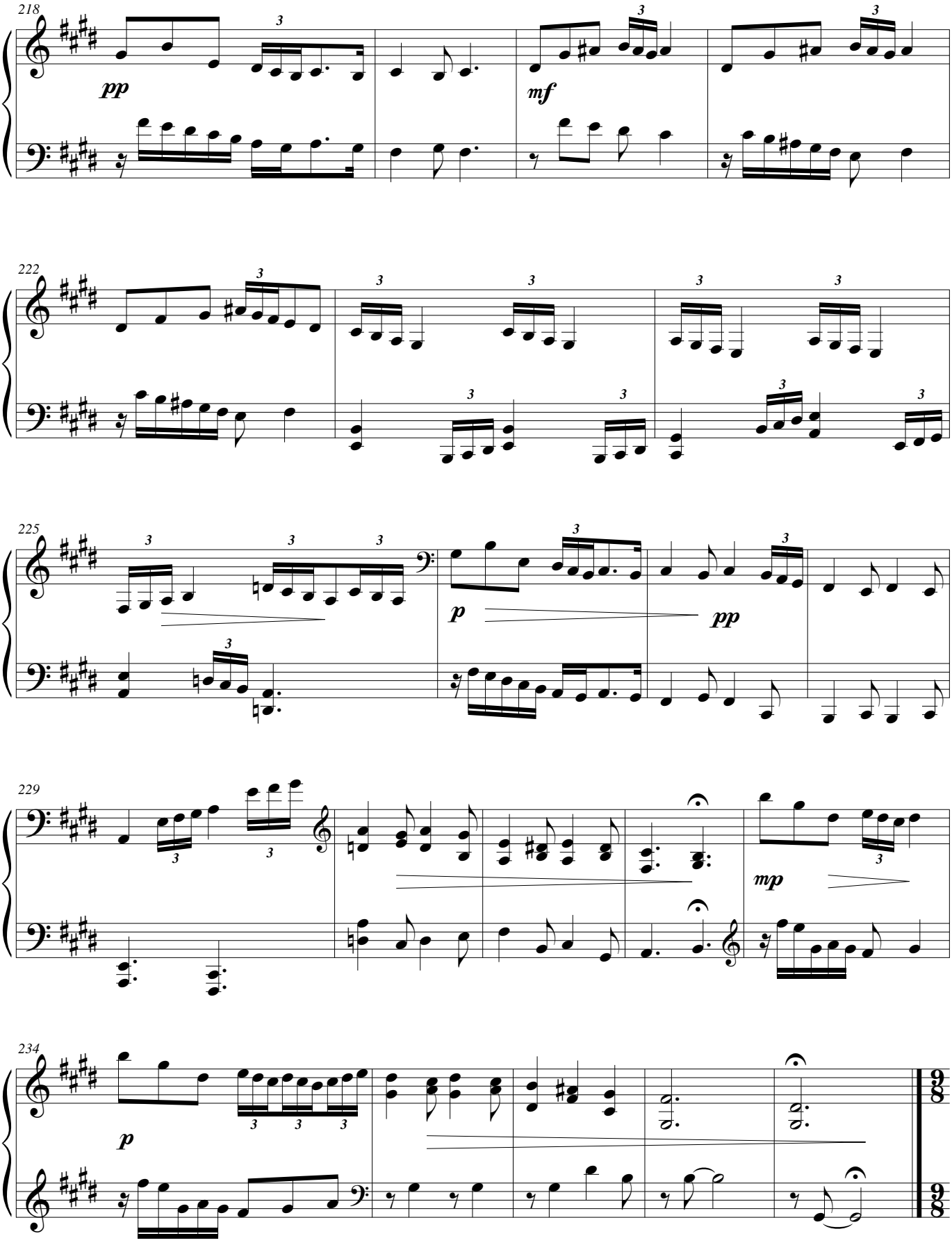

131
Fast & Smoothly M.M. ♩+♩. = 120
141
mp
144
147
150

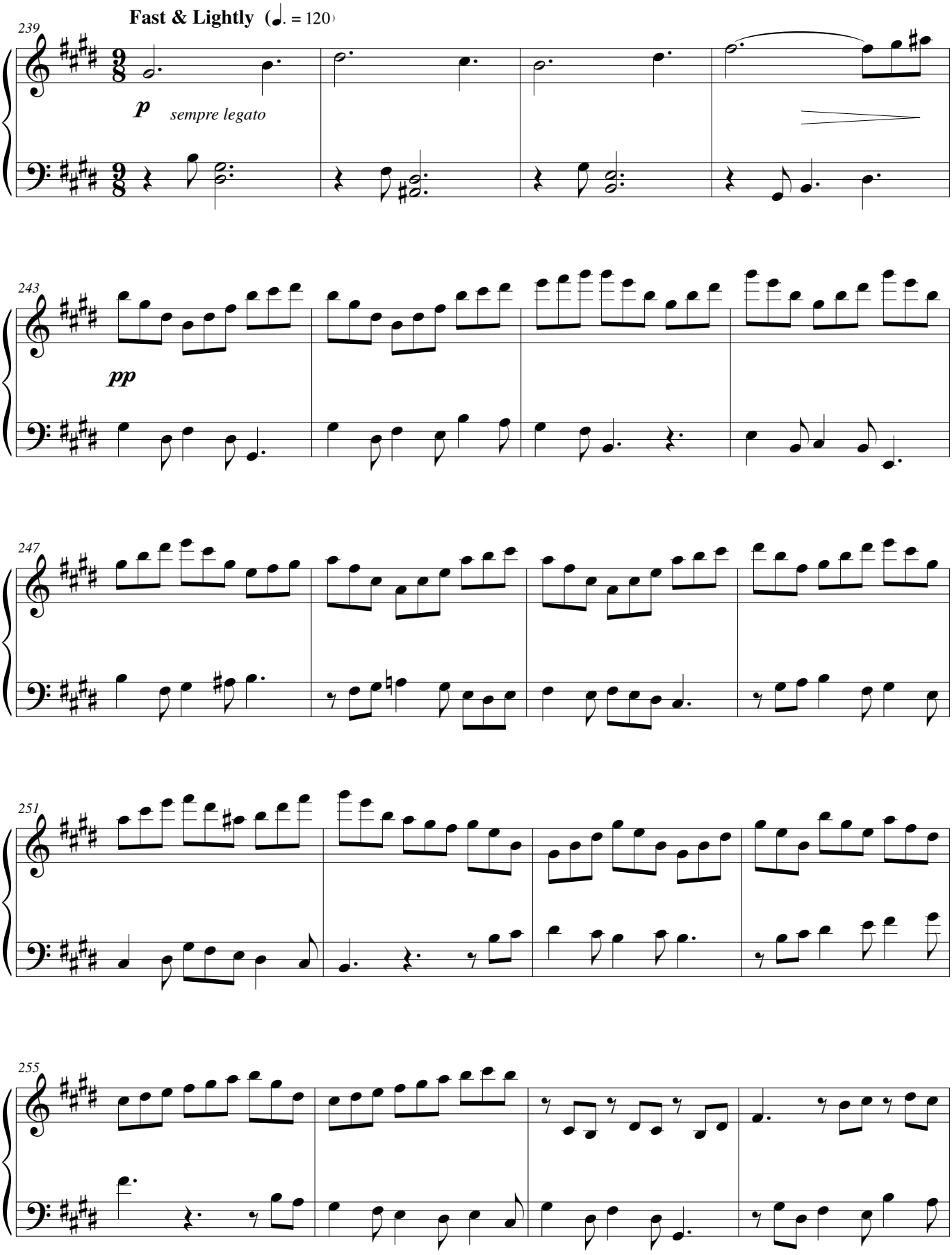

153
156
159
162
165

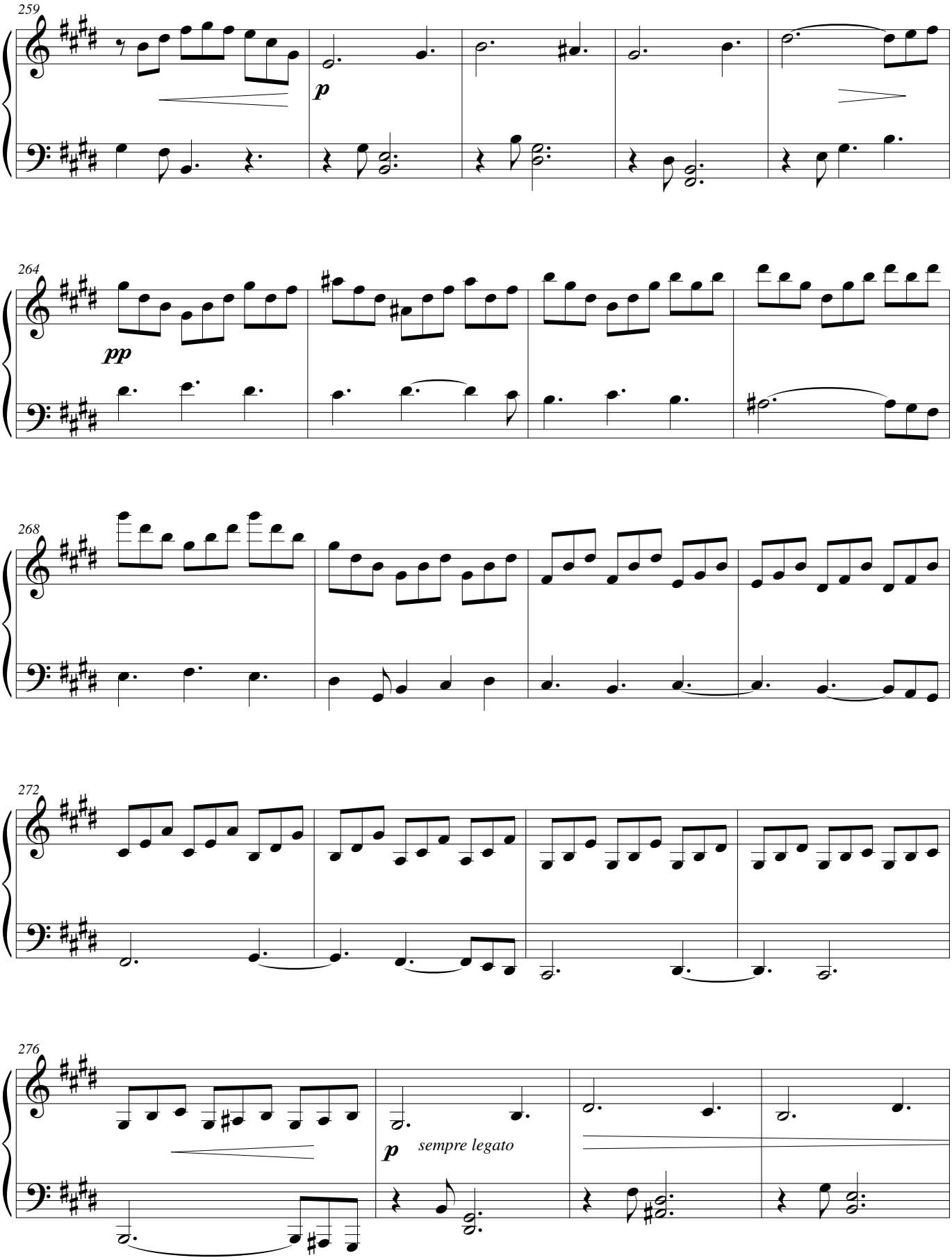

168
171
174
177
180

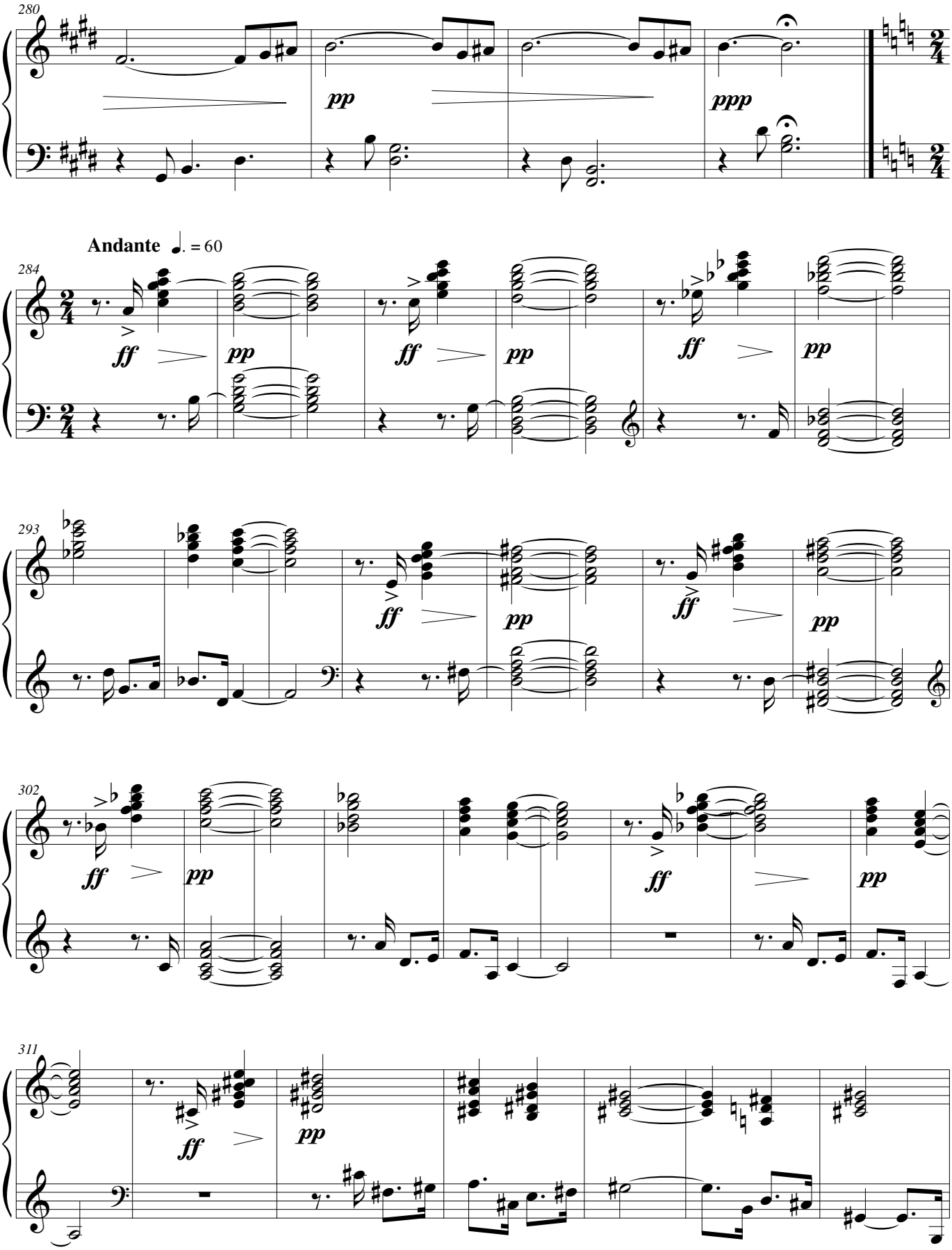

183
186
8va
p
189
8va
192
8va
pp
195
8va

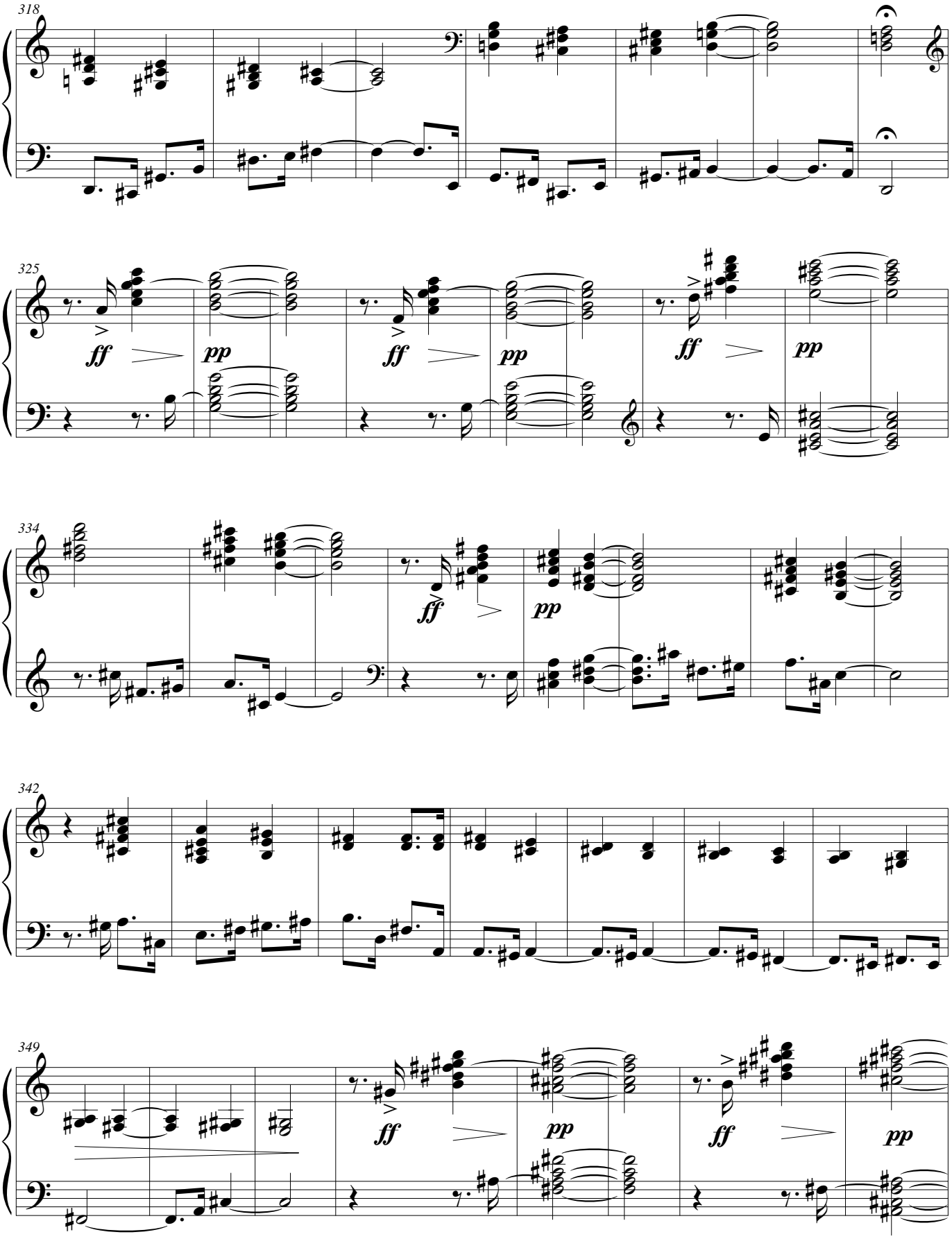

198
Andante ♩. = 60
202
mp
206
210
pp
215
mp

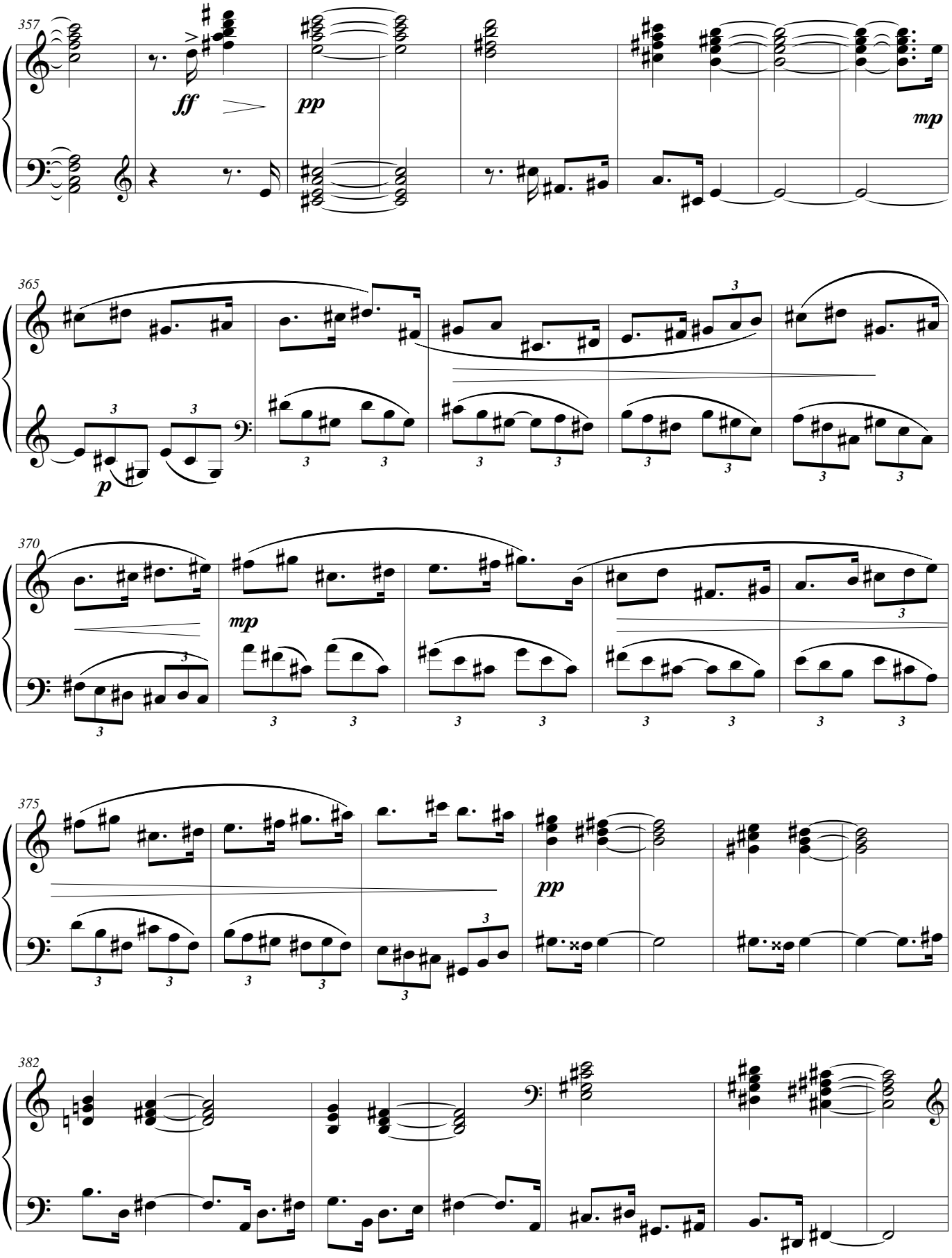

218
pp
mf
222
225
p
pp
229
mp
234
p

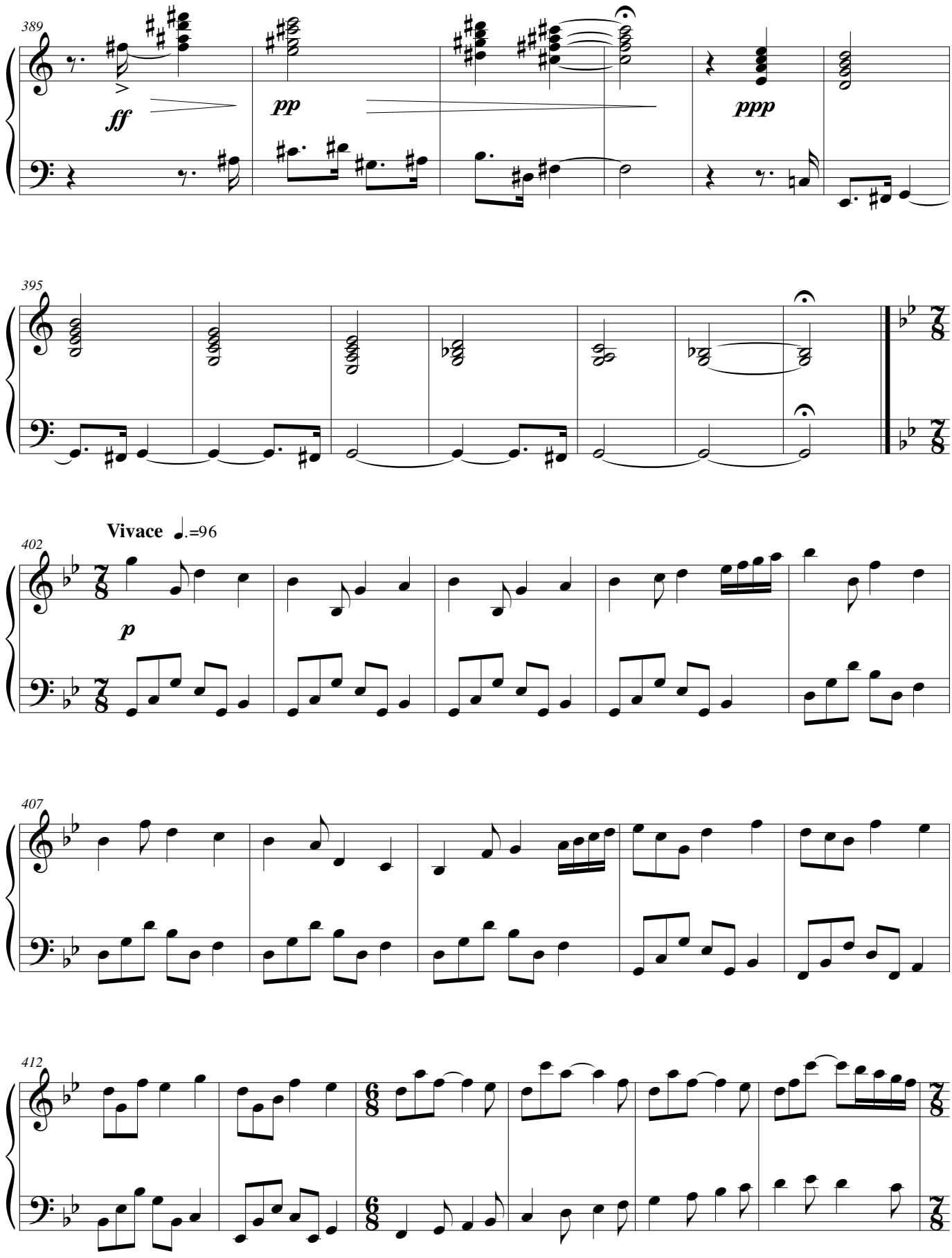

Fast & Lightly (♩. = 120)
239
p
sempre legato
243
pp
247
251
255

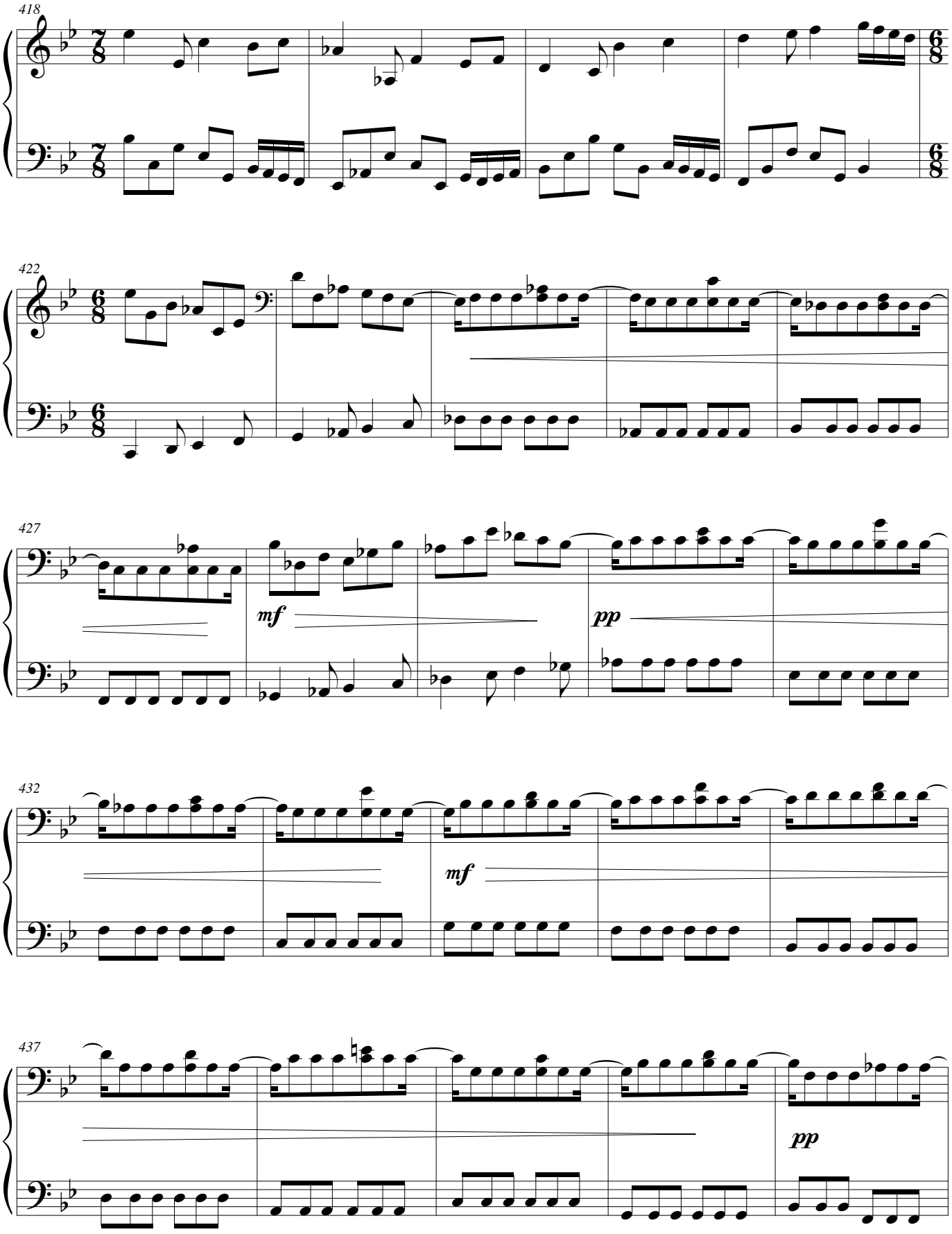

259
p
264
pp
268
272
276
p
sempre legato

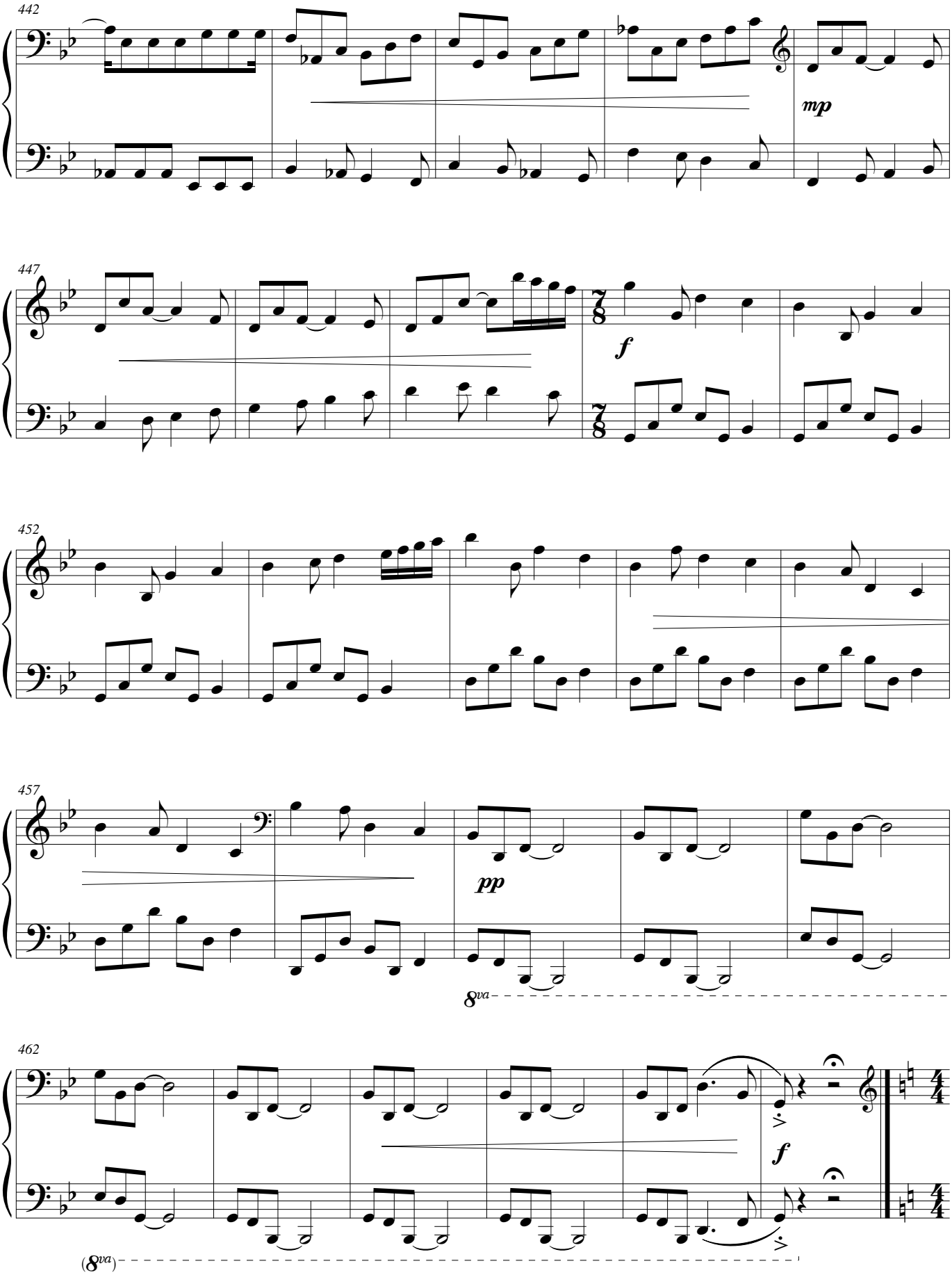

280
pp
ppp
Andante ♩. = 60
284
ff
pp
293
302
311

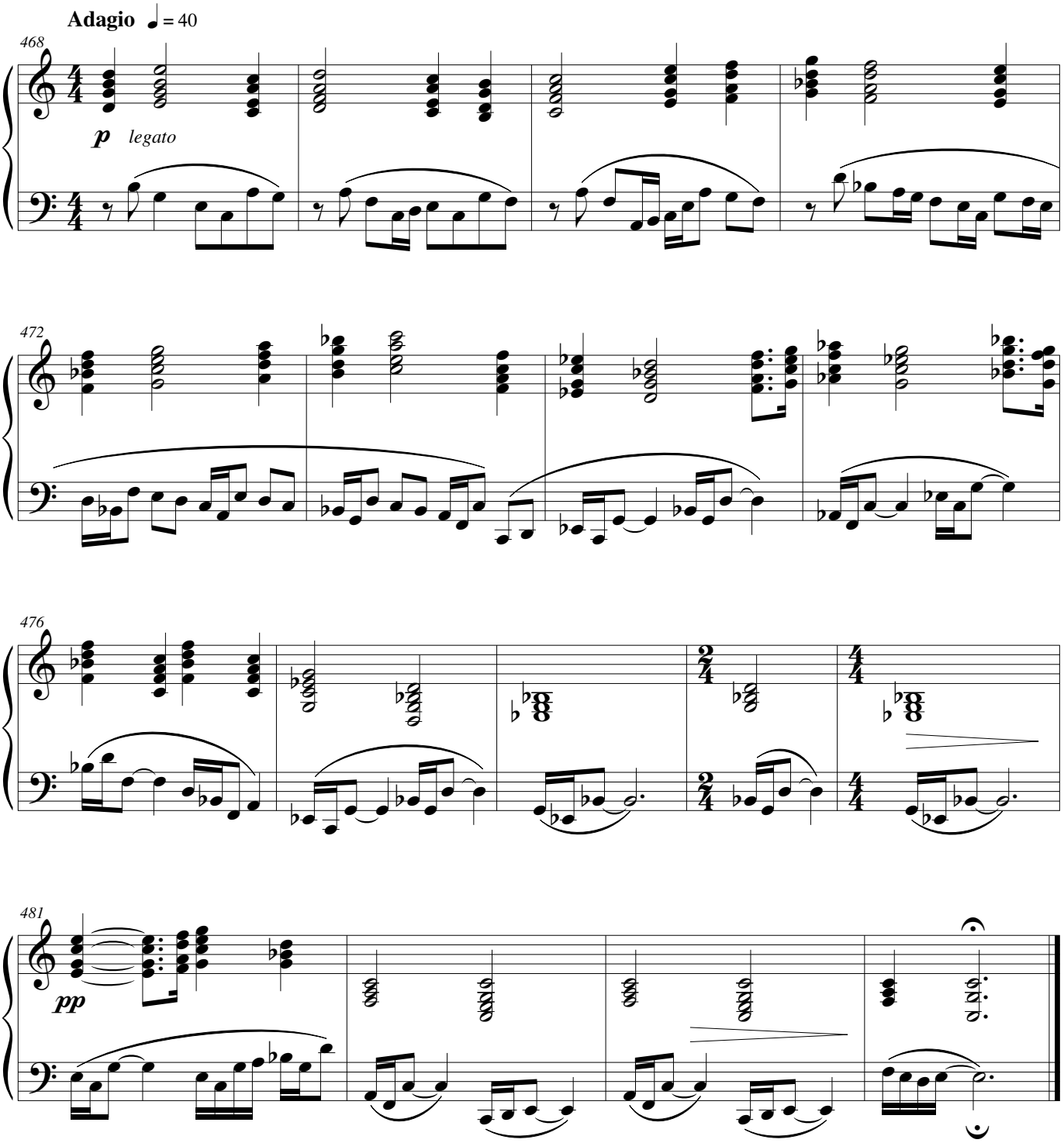

318
325
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
334
ff
pp
342
349
ff
pp
ff
pp


357
ff
pp
mp
365
p
370
mp
375
pp
382


389
ff
pp
ppp
395
Vivace ♩.=96
402
p
407
412


418
422
427
mf
pp
432
mf
437
pp


442
mp
447
f
452
457
pp
8va
462
f
(8va)


Adagio ♩ = 40
468
p legato
472
476
481
pp

# 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 string orchestra and various solo instruments, 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 and the Camerata Philadelphia.

*"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 in the American Music Center's on-line library. Please go to Stan's web page at **American Music Center**.

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