Richard Cumming

# ALLELUIA

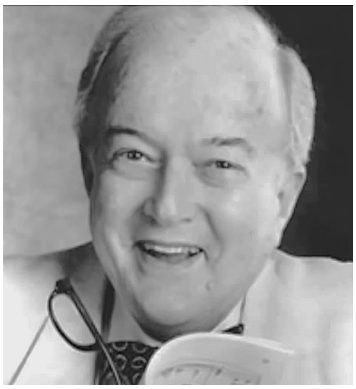
# FOR A

# JOYOUS OCCAISON

**(April 8, 1955)**

**for**

**Solo Piano**



Richard Cumming (9 June 1928 – 25 November 2009), composer of more than sixty theater scores, studied with Ernest Bloch, Arnold Schoenberg, and Roger Sessions. The catalog of his music includes works for chamber groups, chorus and vocal ensembles, opera, orchestra, solo piano, strings, voice, film, radio, and television. Born in Shanghai in 1928 he was raised in Manila and went to school on the US west coast. A student at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music he studied piano with Lili Kraus and Rudolf Firkusny and toured much of the US, Canada, Europe and the Far East as soloist, Assistant Conductor of the Santa Fe Opera and accompanist for numerous instrumentalists and singers. He wrote music for New York's Phoenix Theater, the Milwaukee Repertory Theater, the Loretto-Hilton in St. Louis, California's Marin Shakespeare Festival, Esso Repertory Theater (nationwide TV), and the Trinity Square Repertory Company, Providence, RI where he was composer-in-residence from 1966. In 1968 that company was the first professional American regional theater to be invited to the Edinburgh Festival, where Cumming received worldwide acclaim with his score for their premier production of Norman Holland's "Years of the Locust." His compositions earned awards from ASCAP, the Ford Foundation, Meet the Composer, the National Endowment for the Arts, National Federation of Music Clubs, Rhode Island State Council on the Arts, Rubin Opera, and Wurlitzer Foundation, among others.

John Browning (May 23, 1933 – January 26, 2003) was an American pianist known for his reserved, elegant style and sophisticated interpretations of Bach and Scarlatti and for his collaboration with composer Samuel Barber. Browning was born to musical parents in Denver, Colorado, in 1933. He studied piano from age 3 with his mother and, at the age of 10, was accepted as a student by Rosina Lhévinne. He appeared as a soloist with the Denver Symphony Orchestra later that same year. In 1945 his family moved to Los Angeles, California. He began his studies at the Juilliard School in New York with Rosina Lhévinne in 1950. He won the Leventritt Competition in 1955 and made his professional orchestral debut with the New York Philharmonic in 1956. At this point his career came under the management of well known talent manager Herbert Barrett, later signing with Columbia Artists Management Inc. in the early 1990s. In 1962 he gave the premiere of Samuel Barber's Pulitzer Prize-winning Piano Concerto, which was written for him, in connection with the opening of Lincoln Center. He subsequently made a commercial recording of the work for Columbia with George Szell conducting the Cleveland Orchestra. His second recording of the work, with Leonard Slatkin and the Saint Louis Symphony Orchestra in 1991 for RCA Victor, won a Grammy Award for best instrumental soloist with orchestra. In 1993 Browning won a second Grammy Award for best instrumental soloist without orchestra for a disc of Barber's solo works on MusicMasters. Browning developed a busy career, giving some 100 concerts a season. He eased his schedule in the 1970s, explaining later that he had grown ragged from overwork. In the 1990s, his career had something of a renaissance. His last public appearance was at the National Gallery of Art in Washington in April 2002. His last performance of all was to an invited audience at the United States Supreme Court in May 2002. He died (from heart failure) at the age of 69 some eight months later in Sister Bay, Wisconsin.

CONCERT SCORE

to John Browning

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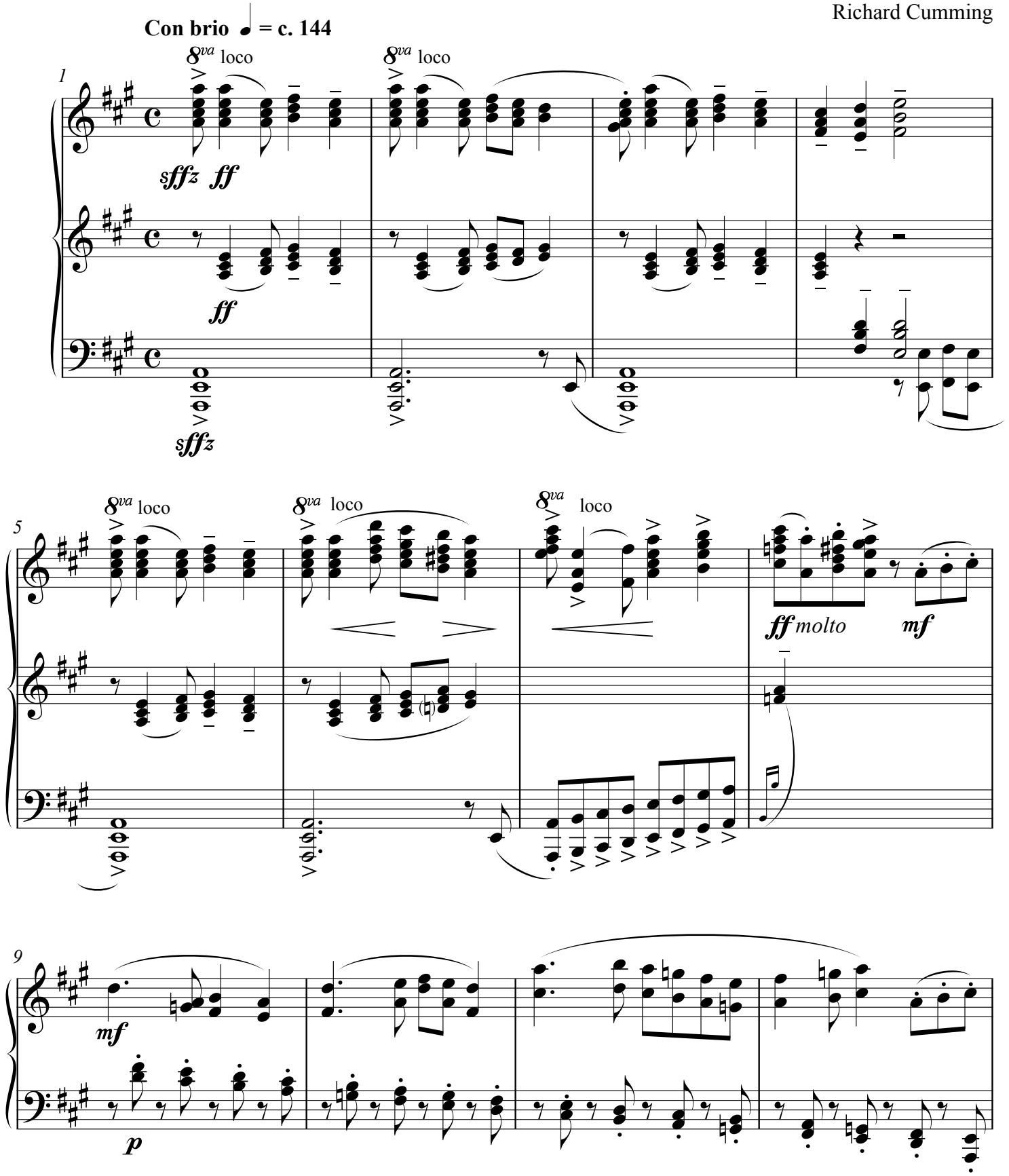


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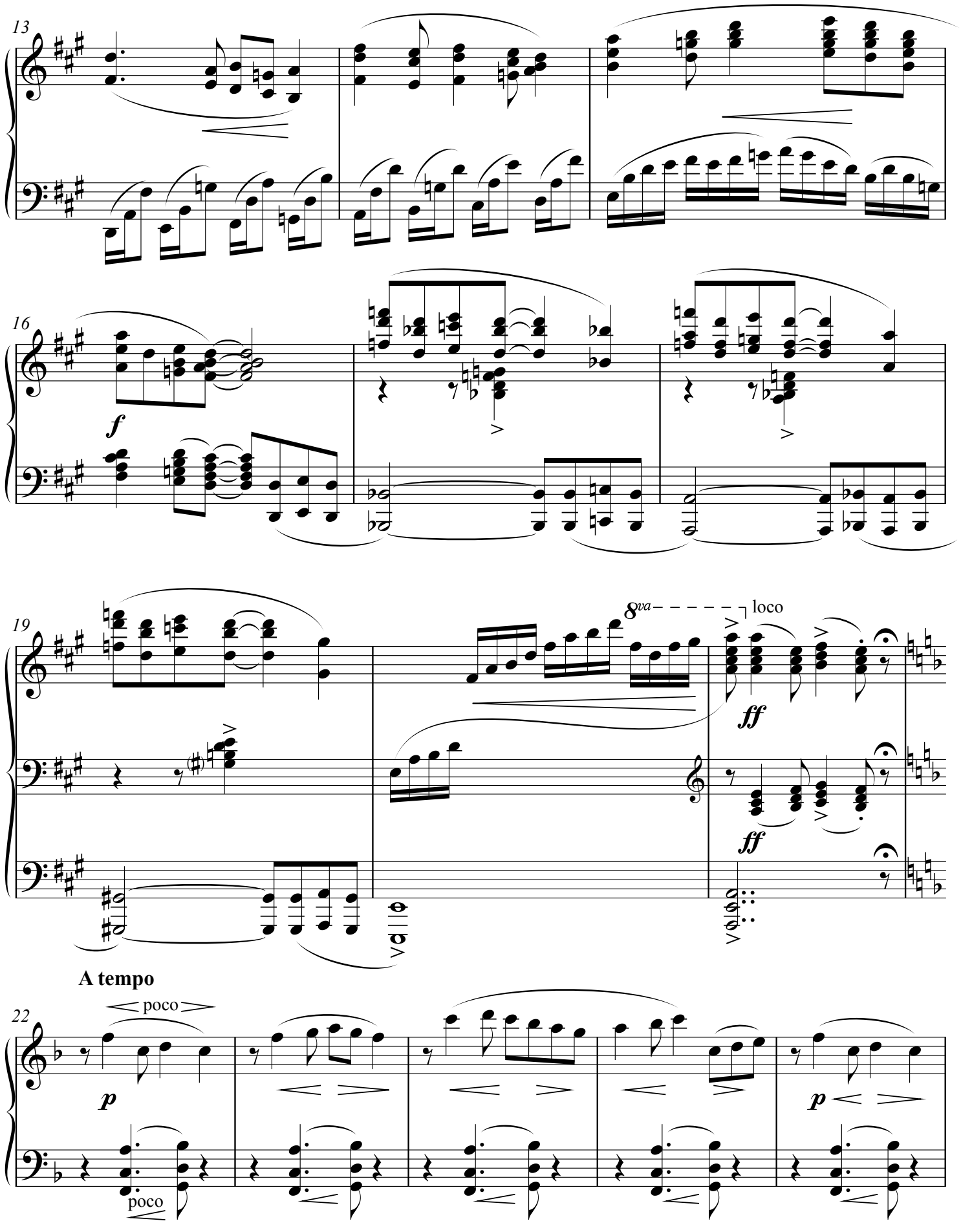
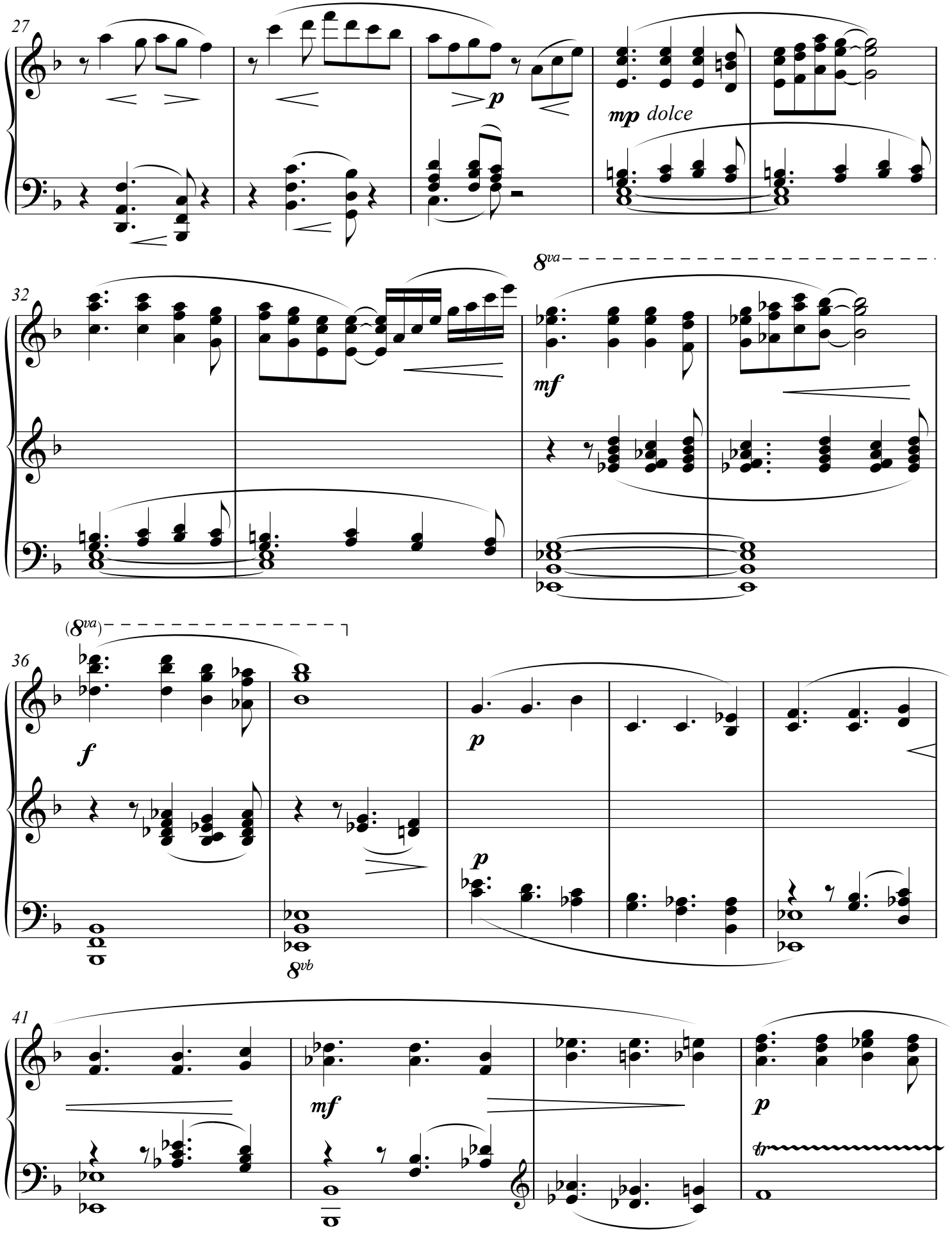
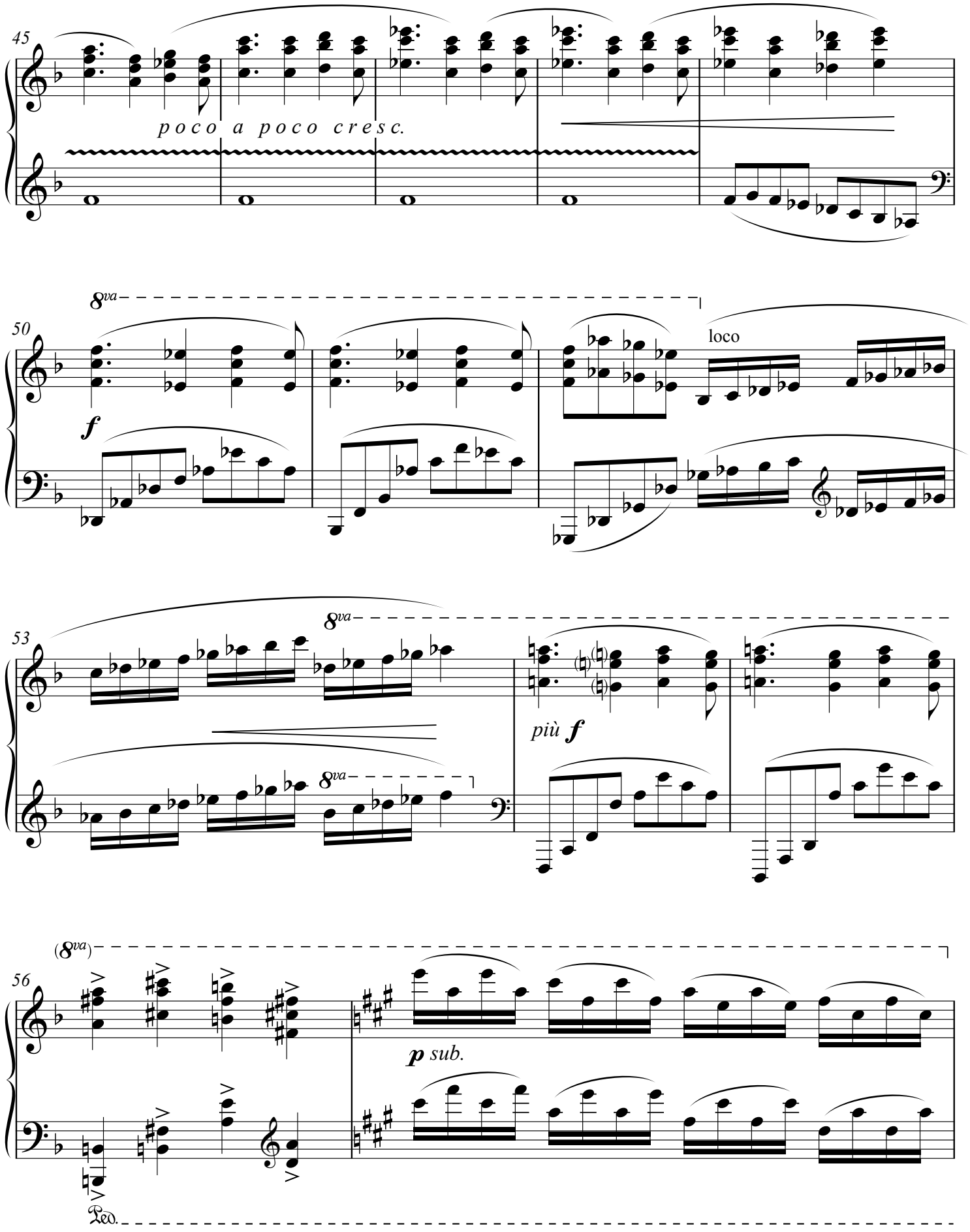
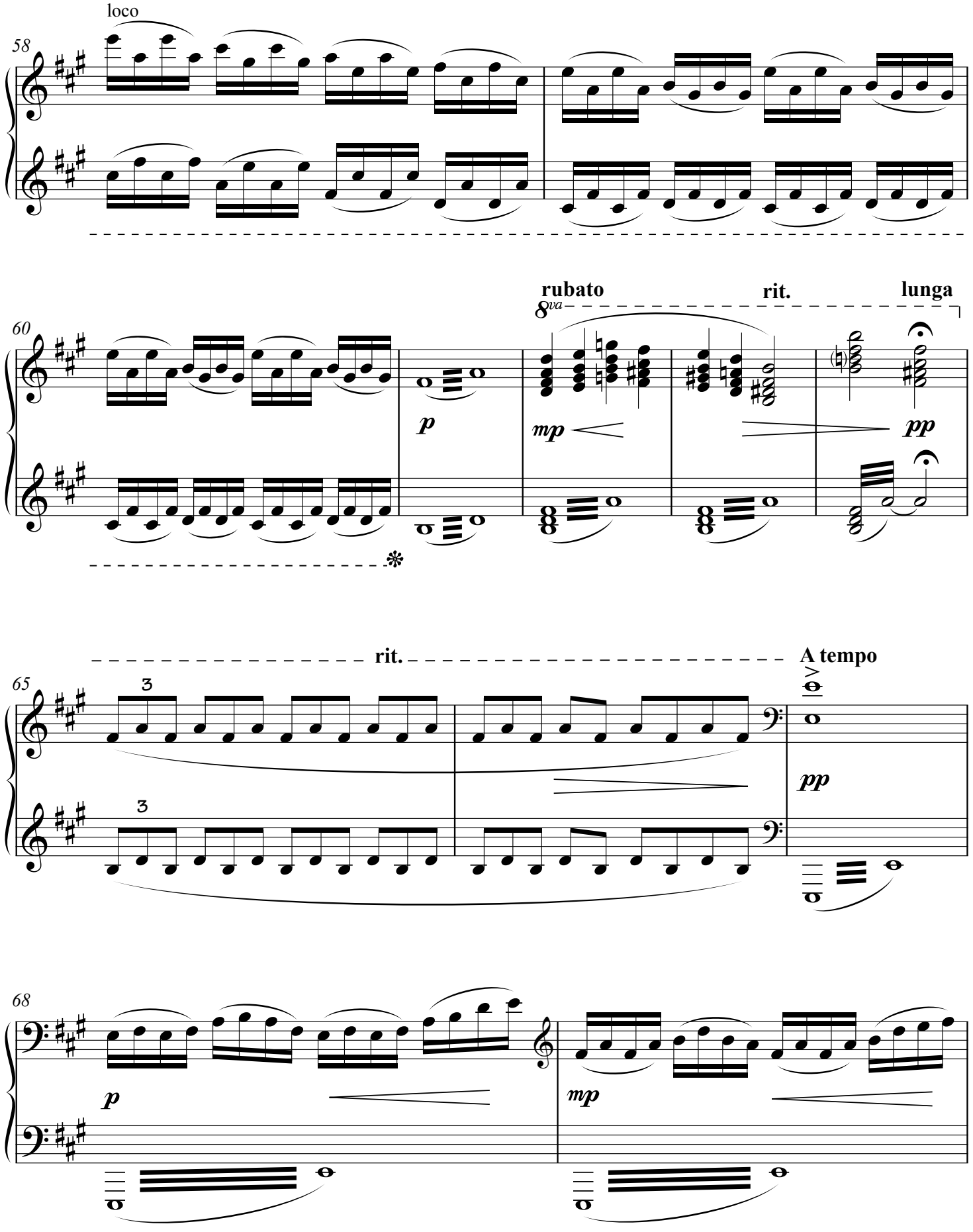
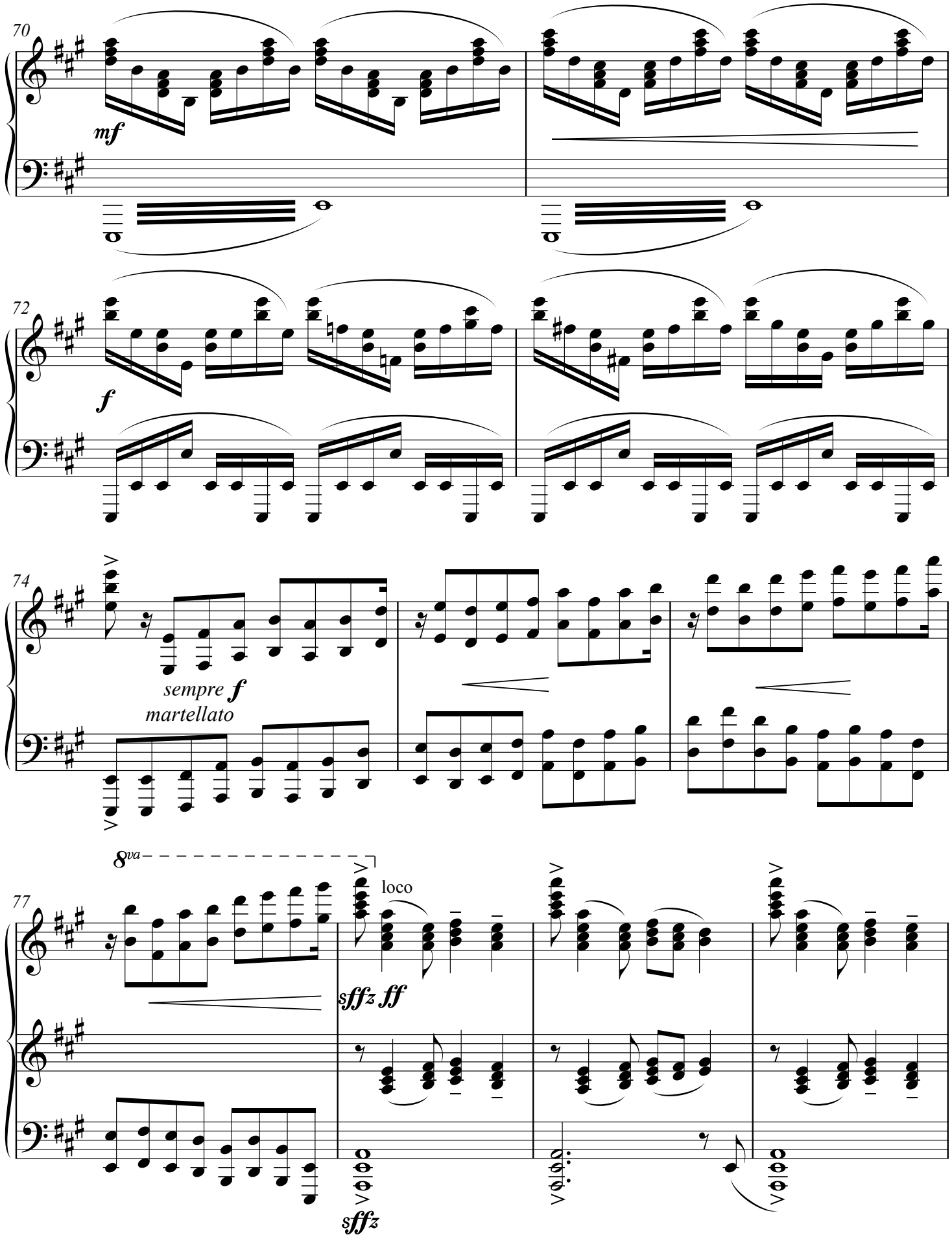
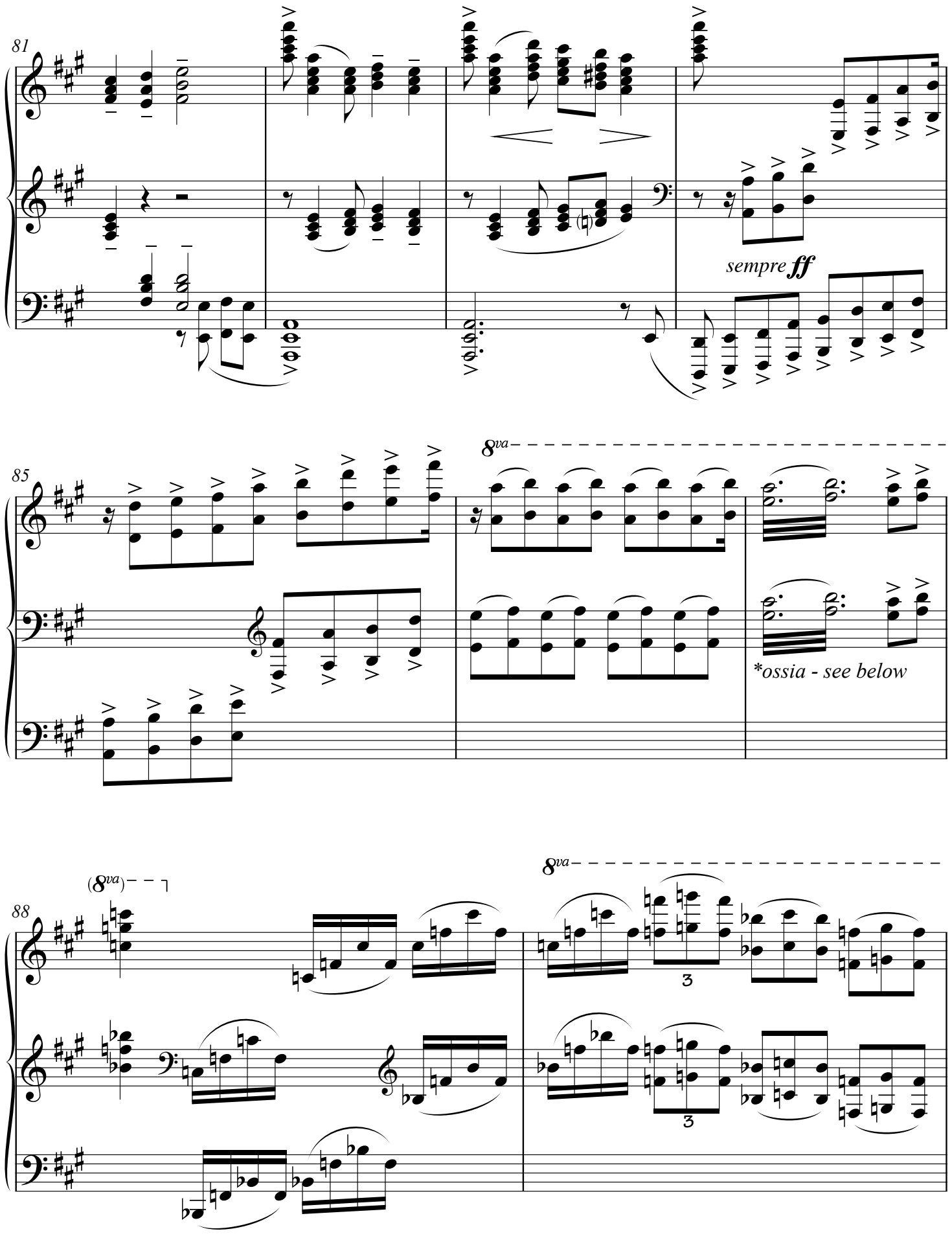

13
16
f
19
8va
loco
ff
ff
A tempo
22
poco
p
poco
p

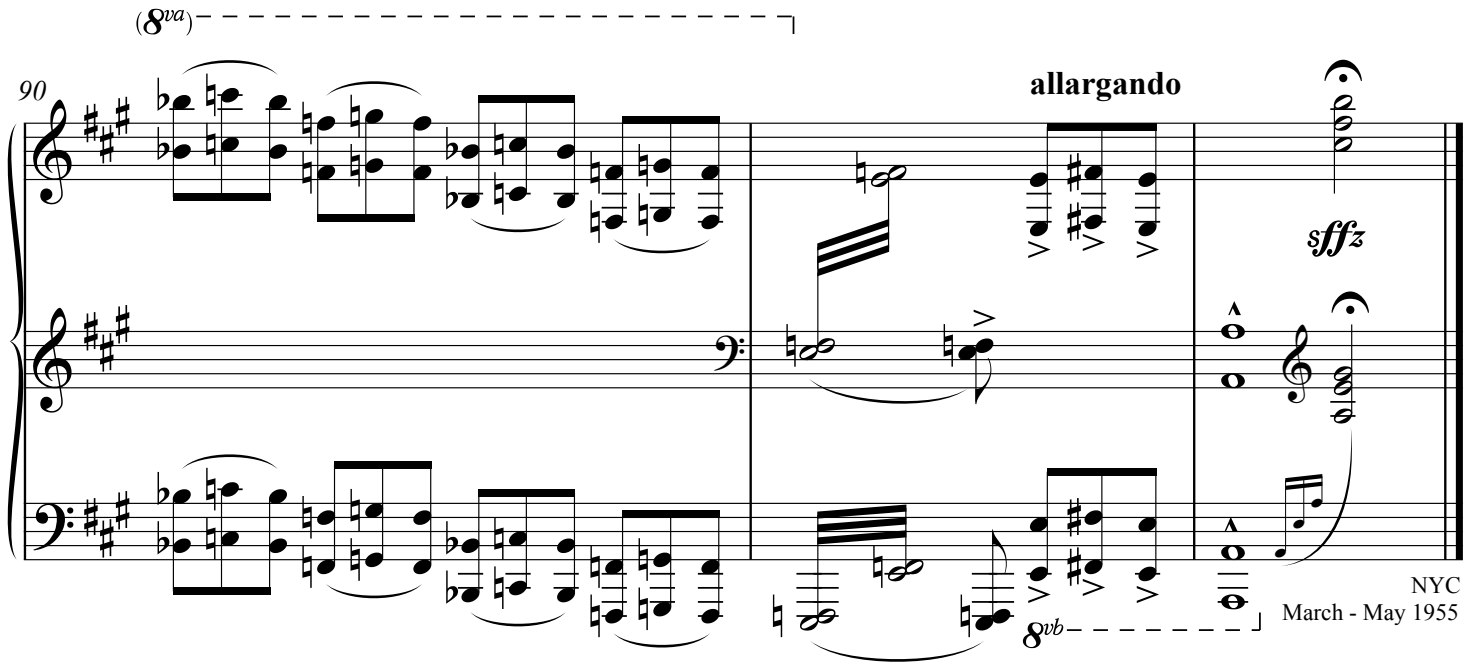

27
p
mp dolce
32
8va
mf
(8va)
36
f
8vb
p
p
41
mf
p
tr

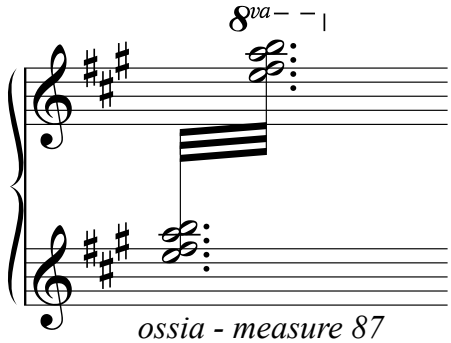

45
poco a poco cresc.
8va
50
f
loco
8va
53
più f
8va
(8va)
56
p sub.
Ped.


loco
58
60
rubato
rit.
lunga
8va
p
mp
pp
65
rit.
A tempo
3
3
pp
68
p
mp


70
mf
72
f
74
sempre f
martellato
77
8va
loco
sfffz ff
sfffz


81
sempre ff
85
8va
*ossia - see below
88
(8va)
8va
3
3


(8va)
90
allargando
sffz
8vb
NYC
March - May 1955


8va
ossia - measure 87