The American Viola Society

SONATA NO. 2
FOR VIOLA AND PIANO

Fidelis Zitterbart Jr.
(1845-1915)

AVS Publications 041

Preface

Born into a musical family in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1845, Fidelis Zitterbart Jr. trained there as a violinist before heading to Dresden at age sixteen for further studies.[1] Upon his return to the United States, he performed as a violinist and violist with organizations in New York; he is listed as a member of the viola section during the 1869–70 season of the New York Philharmonic as well as violist during the second season of the Onslow Quintette Club.[2] Zitterbart returned to Pittsburgh in 1873 to teach at the American Conservatory of Music, and he remained there as an active part of Pittsburgh's musical life until his death in 1915.

In addition to his work as a performer and teacher, Zitterbart was a prolific composer. He left nearly fifteen hundred compositions, the manuscripts of which now reside in the Special Collections Department, Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh. The collection contains a remarkable number of compositions for viola: nearly fifty works for viola and piano as well as small-ensemble pieces that include the viola. Among these are thirteen sonatas for viola and piano, the first dating from 1875—the earliest known American viola sonata—which is dedicated to George Matzka, the former principal violist of the New York Philharmonic.

The Sonata No. 2 in G Minor, dated August 31, 1897, is the second of Zitterbart's four-movement viola sonatas (an earlier two-movement sonata dated May 24, 1886, is also labeled as No. 2 on the manuscript, though this work is not included in Zitterbart's numbering system for his other viola sonatas). Zitterbart's viola sonatas tend to be grand in scope, perhaps best exemplified by the present work. The first and fourth movements are each in sonata form with repeated expositions, the lyrical second movement is evocative of American parlour music, and the third movement is a brisk scherzo. The viola carries the bulk of the thematic material throughout the sonata with technically demanding writing that displays great bravura, going as high as g''' at the end—very high for any nineteenth-century viola repertoire. The sonata is dedicated to Zitterbart's son-in-law, the violinist Carl J. Braun Jr.

A Note on the Sources

This edition is based on the manuscript piano score and the manuscript viola part housed in the Fidelis Zitterbart Collection, Special Collections Department, Hillman Library, University of Pittsburgh. Both sources are heavily marked, containing extensive dynamic and phrasing markings, articulations, bowings, and fingerings. There are numerous discrepancies between the two sources, and both have multiple alterations, including portions that have been erased, overwritten, or pasted over. This edition represents the editor's best attempt to reconcile these discrepancies; all editorial changes have been made without comment. The editor is grateful to Jeanann Croft Haas and the staff at the Hillman Library's Special Collections Department for their assistance in preparing this edition.

David M. Bynog, editor
May 2015

Notes

1. For additional information on Zitterbart, see Robert F. Schmalz, "The Zitterbart Collection—A Legacy Unevaluated," *College Music Symposium* 19, no. 2 (Fall 1979): 77–88.

2. "Miscellaneous Concerts," *Aldine* 6, no. 4 (April 1873): 87.

VIOLA

Sonata No. 2 in G Minor

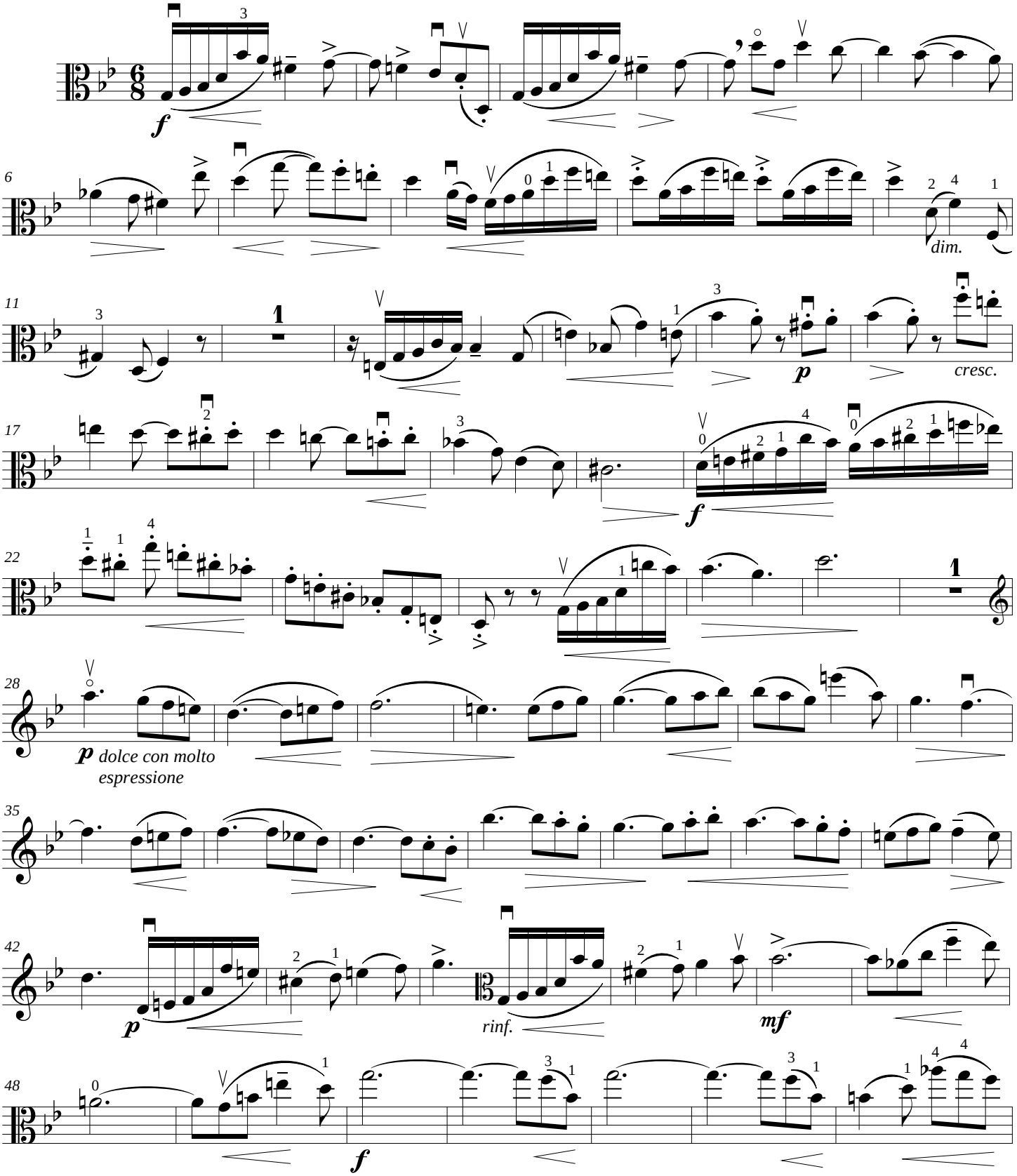
To Carl J. Braun Jr.

Fidelis Zitterbart Jr.

Edited by David M. Bynog

I

Allegro appassionato



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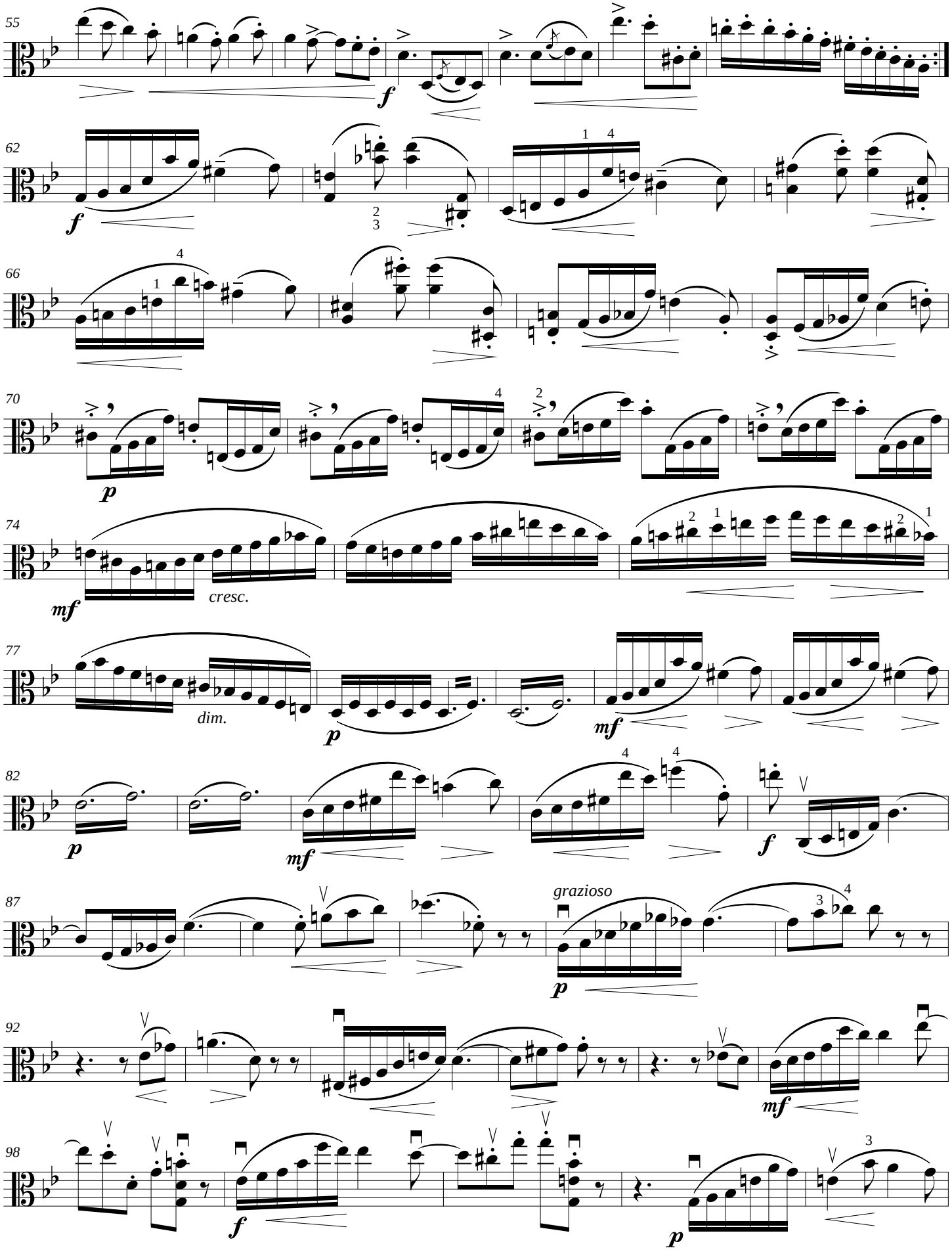
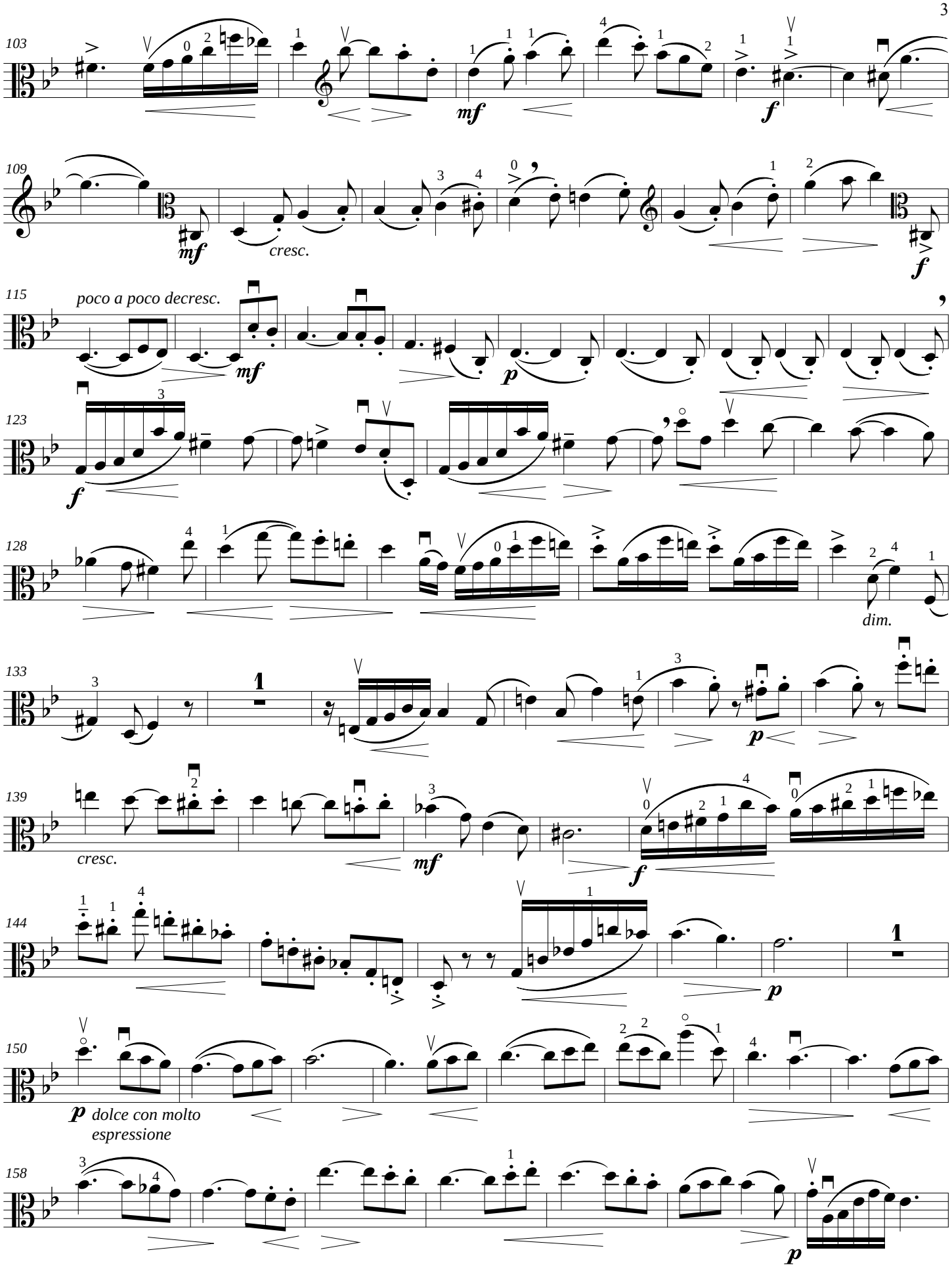
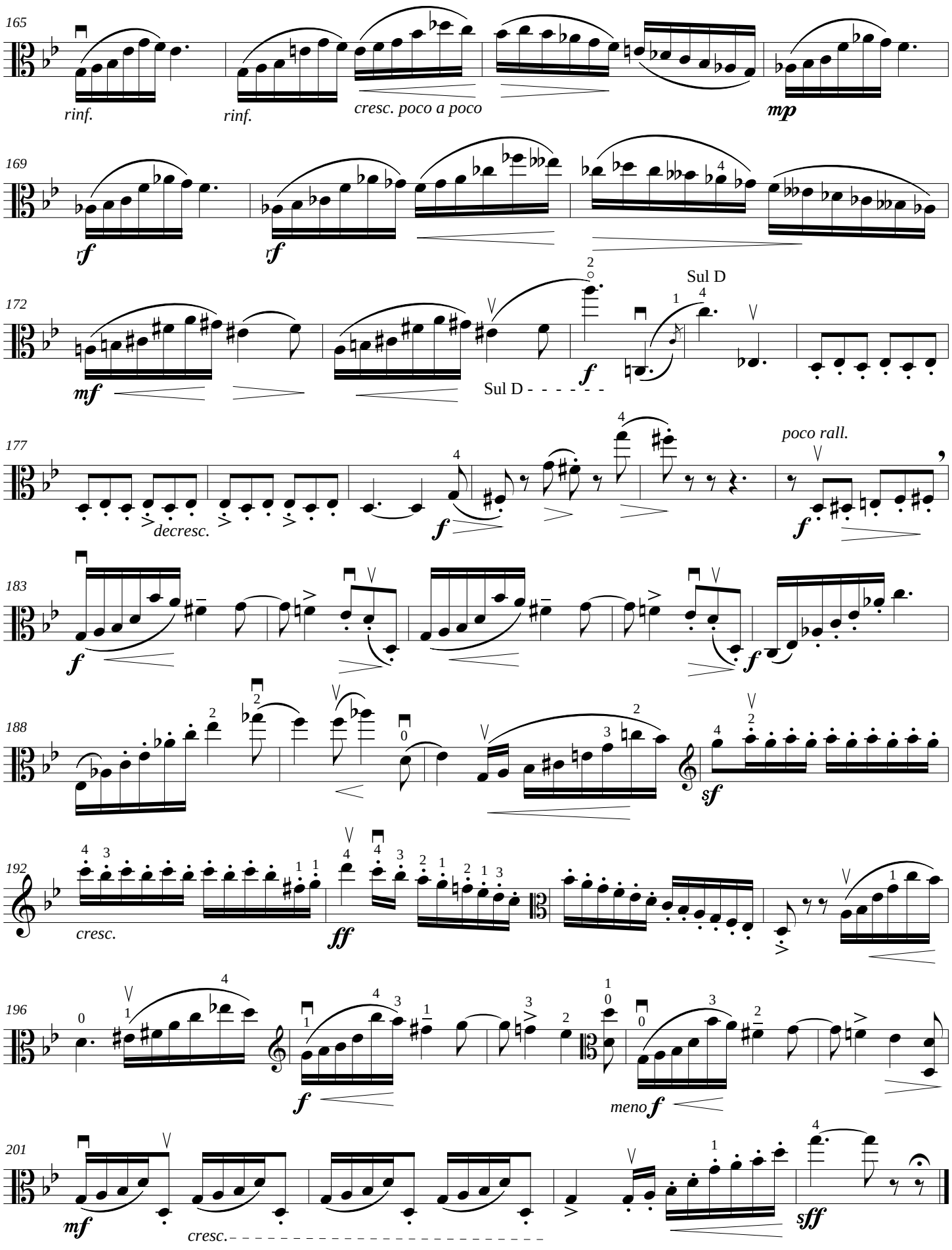
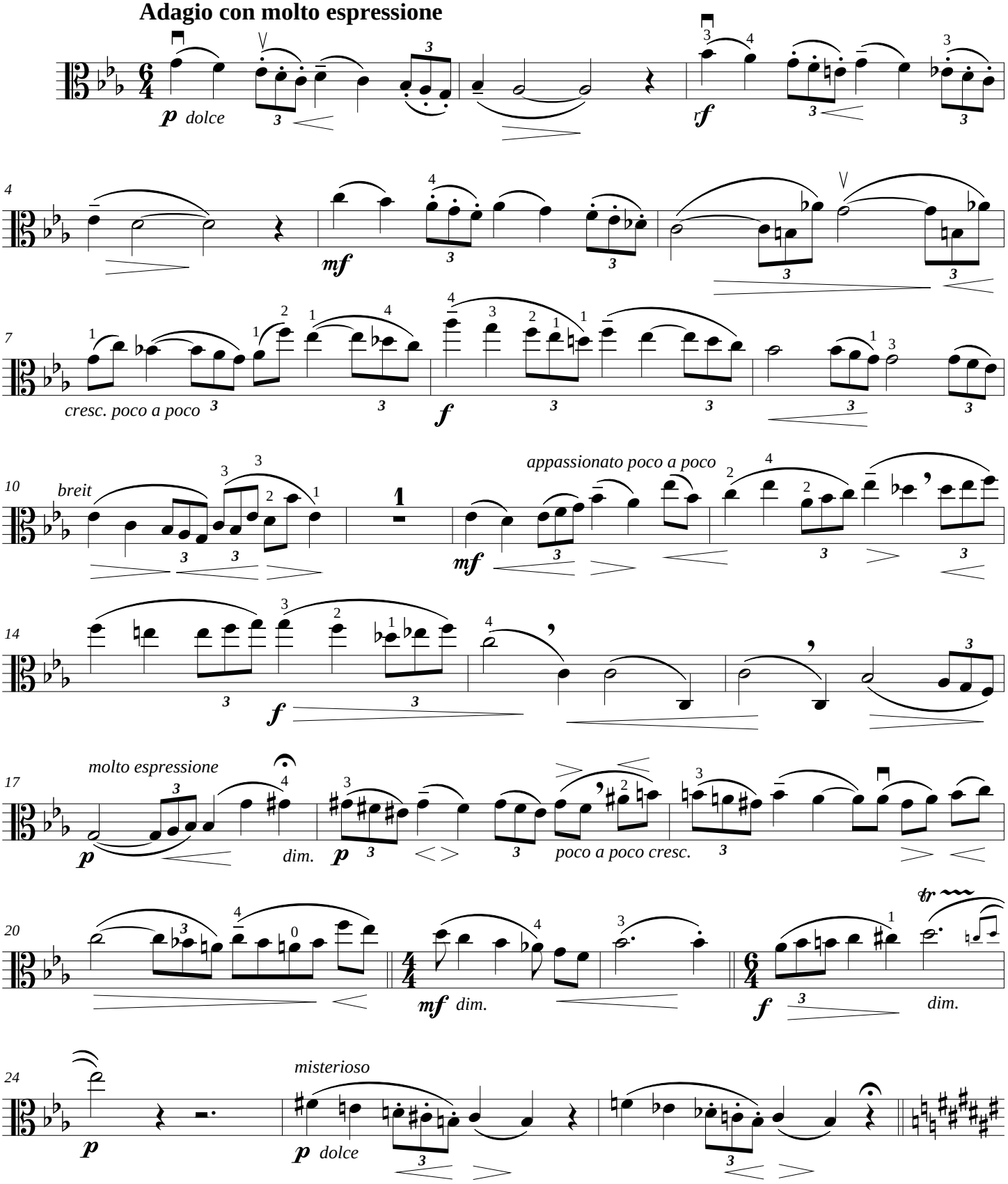

55
f
62
f
66
70
p
74
mf
cresc.
77
dim.
p
mf
82
p
mf
f
87
grazioso
p
92
mf
98
f
p

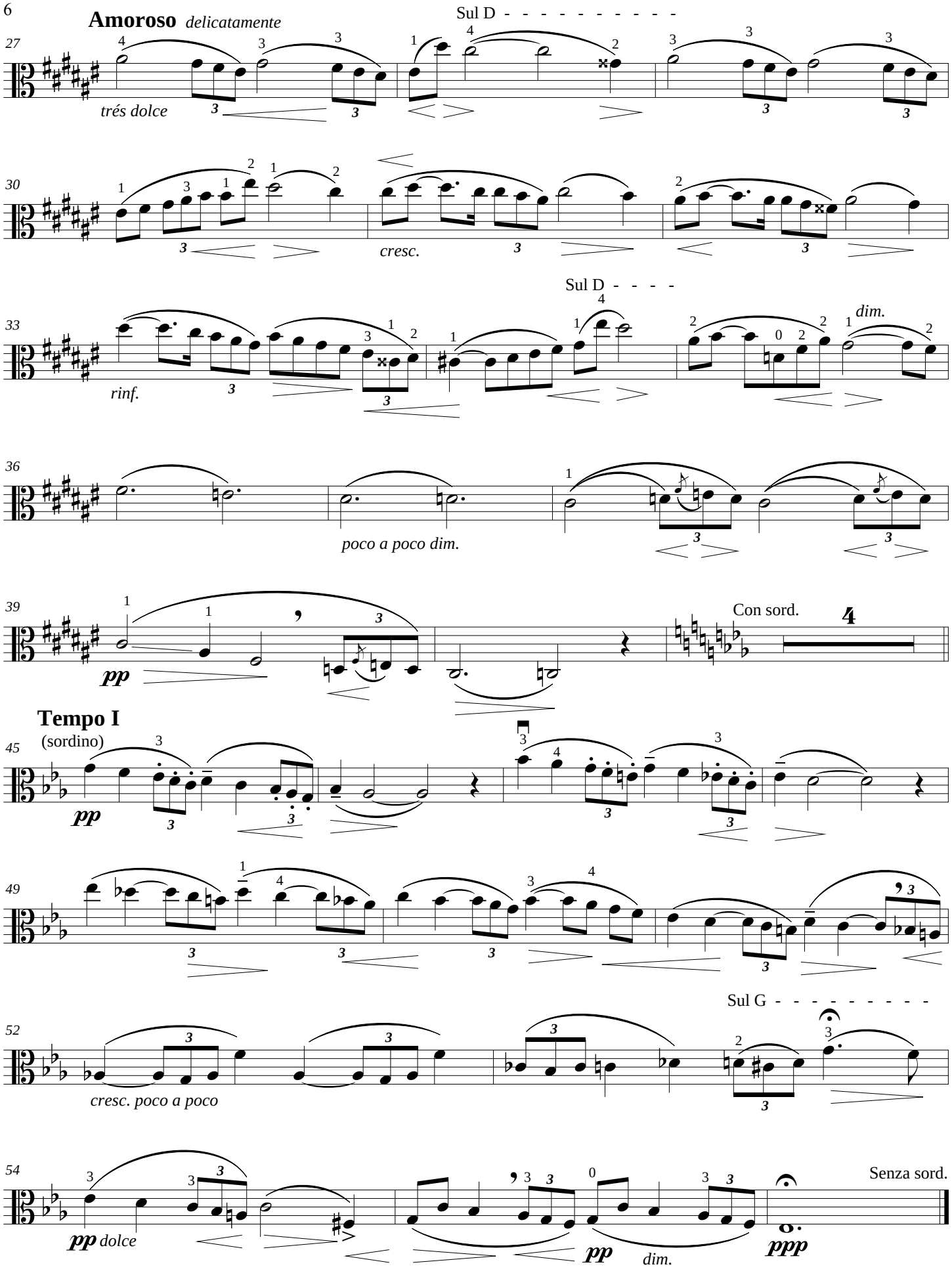

103
mf
f
109
mf
cresc.
f
115
poco a poco decresc.
mf
p
123
f
128
dim.
133
p
139
cresc.
mf
f
144
p
150
p dolce con molto espressione
158
p


165
rinf.
rinf.
cresc. poco a poco
mp
169
rf
rf
172
mf
f
Sul D
Sul D - - - - - -
177
decresc.
f
f
poco rall.
183
f
f
188
sf
192
cresc.
ff
196
f
meno f
201
mf
cresc.
sff

II

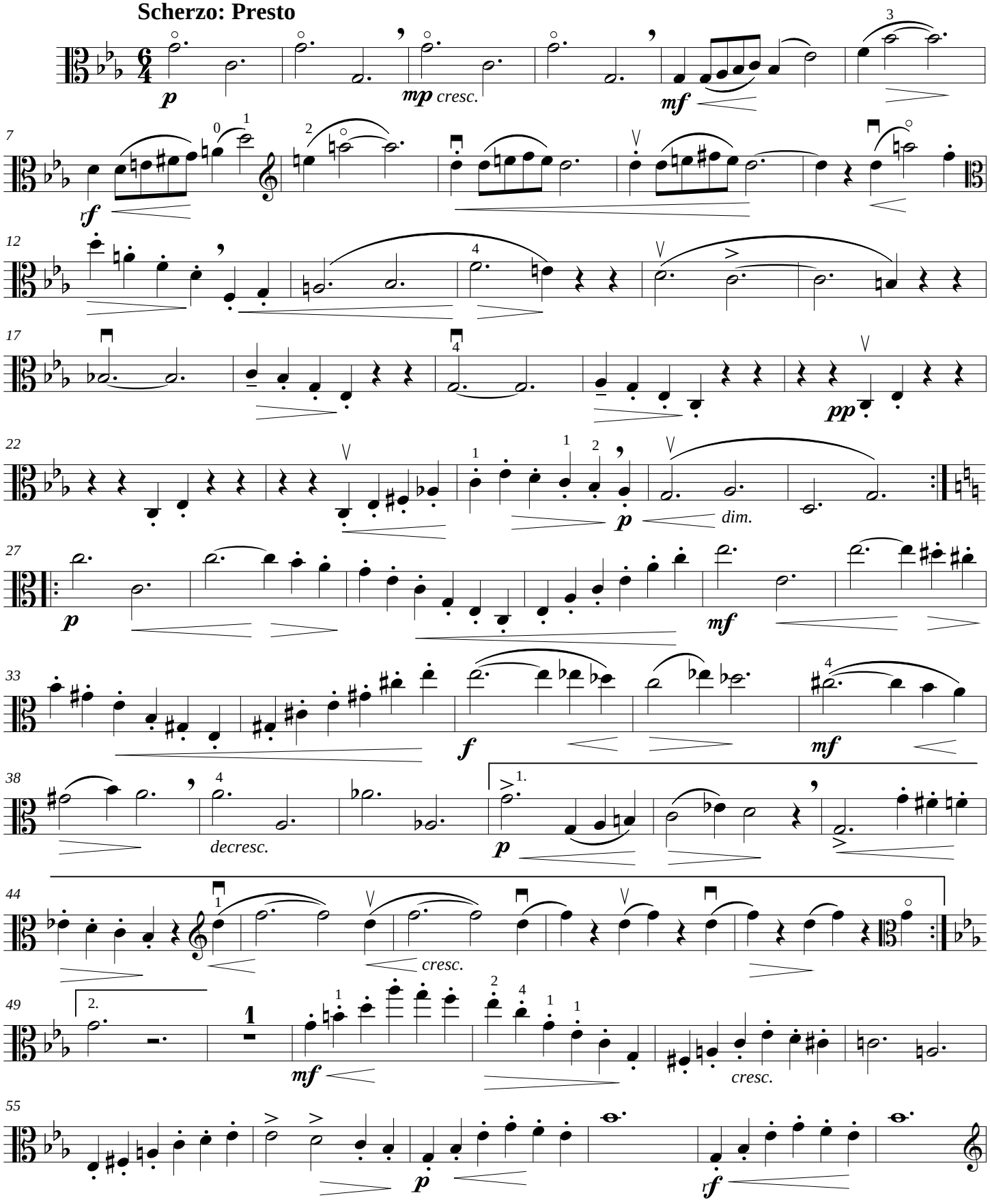
Adagio con molto espressione

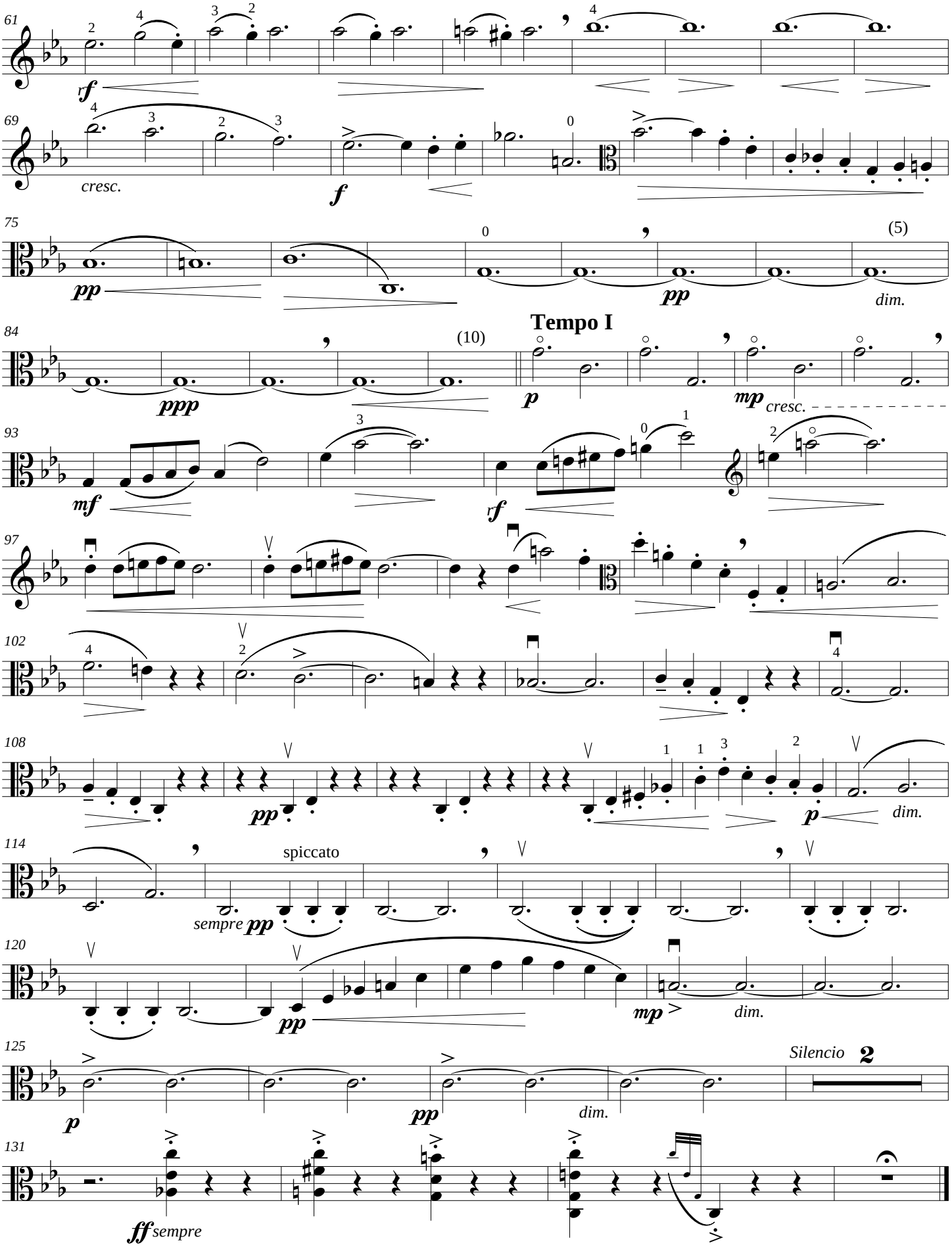



Amoroso delicatamente
Sul D
trés dolce
cresc.
Sul D
rinf.
dim.
poco a poco dim.
Con sord.
Tempo I
(sordino)
Sul G
cresc. poco a poco
Senza sord.
pp dolce
pp
dim.
ppp

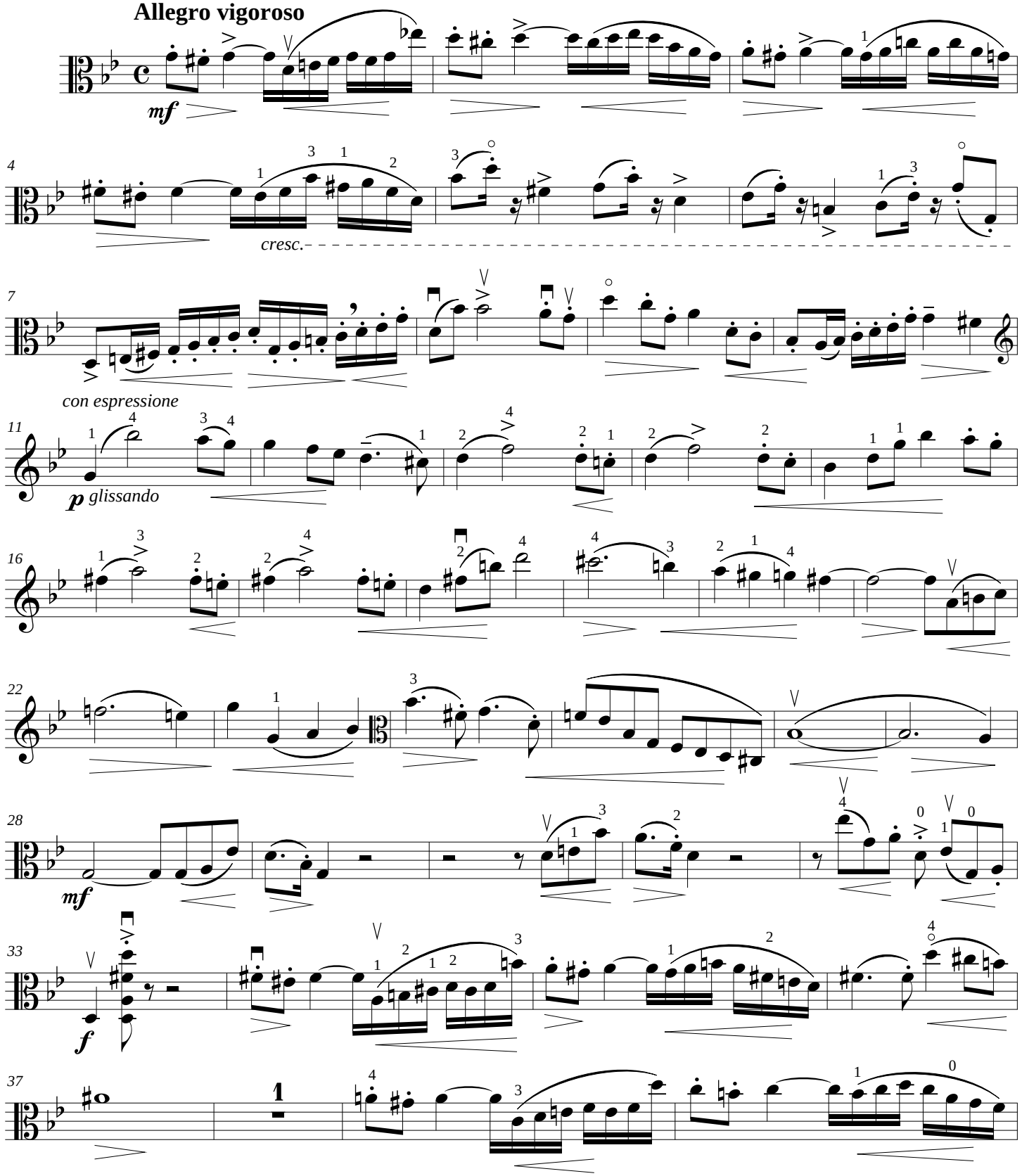
III

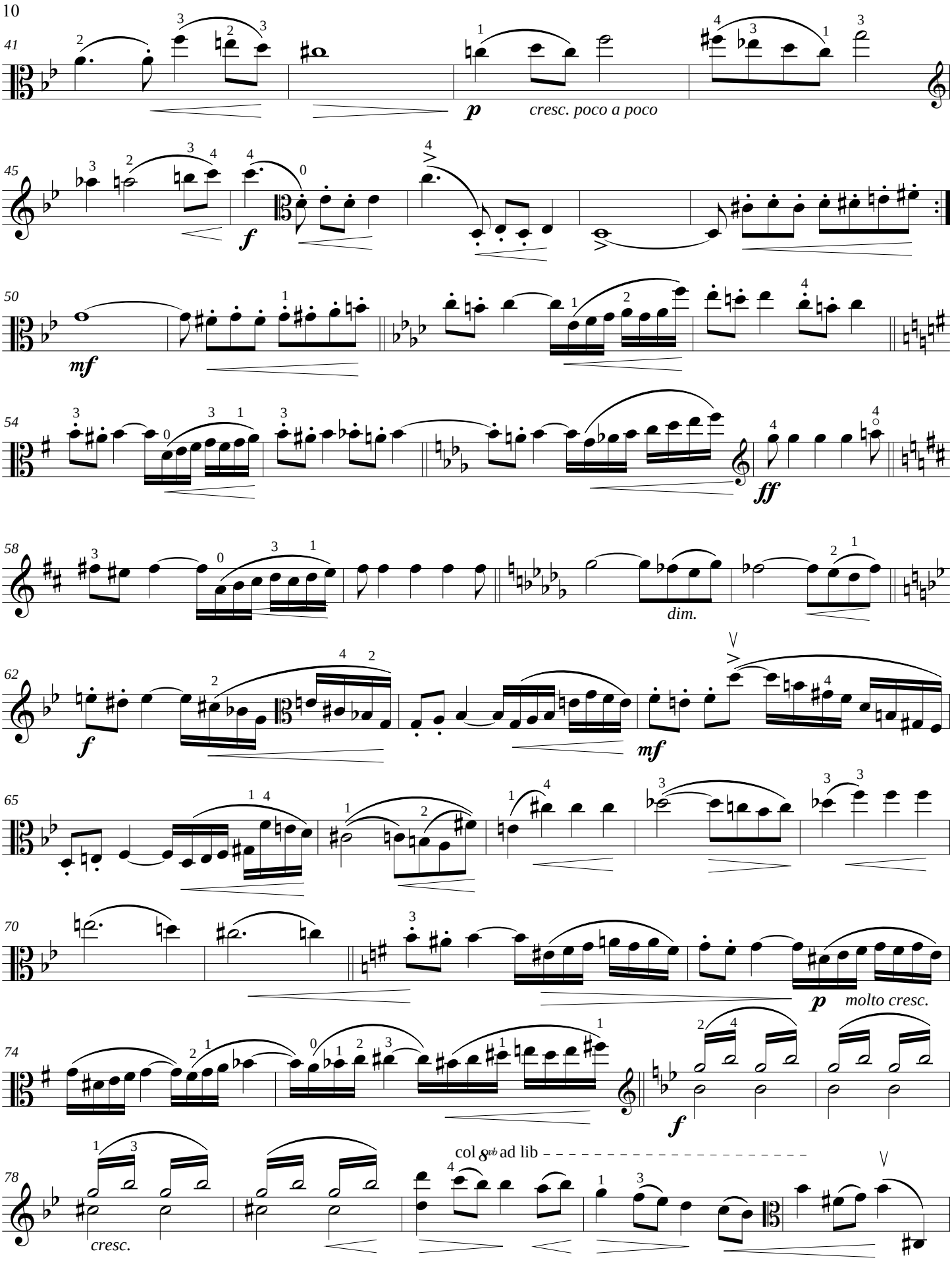
Scherzo: Presto

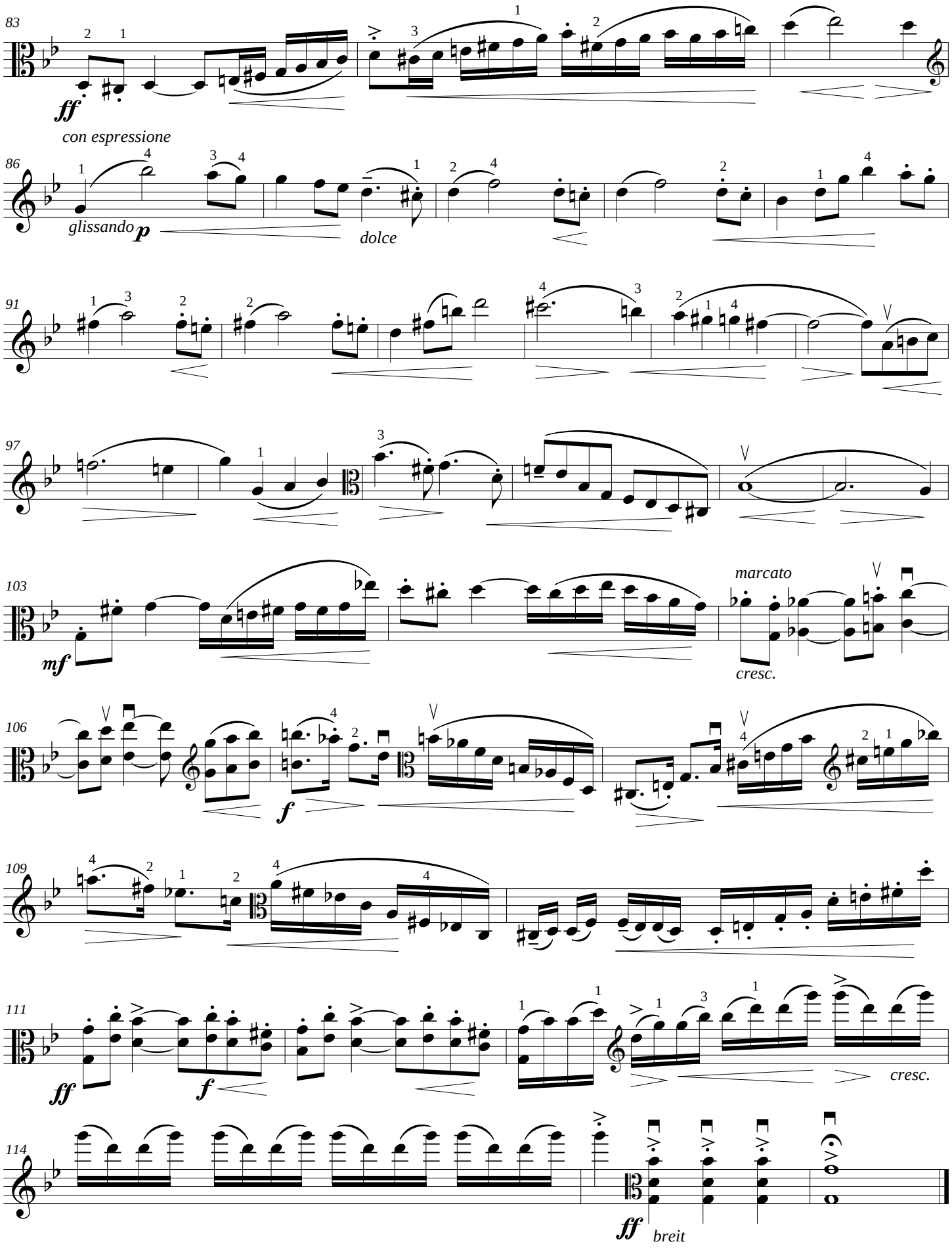



61
rf
69
cresc.
f
75
pp
pp
(5)
dim.
84
(10)
Tempo I
ppp
p
mp
cresc.
93
mf
rf
97
102
108
pp
p
dim.
114
spiccato
sempre pp
120
pp
mp
dim.
125
p
pp
dim.
Silencio 2
131
ff sempre

IV




41
p
cresc. poco a poco
45
f
50
mf
54
ff
58
dim.
62
f
mf
65
70
p
molto cresc.
74
f
78
col 8vb ad lib
cresc.


83
ff
con espressione
86
glissando
p
dolce
91
97
103
mf
marcato
cresc.
106
f
109
111
ff
f
cresc.
114
ff
breit

Sonata No. 2 in G Minor

To Carl J. Braun Jr.

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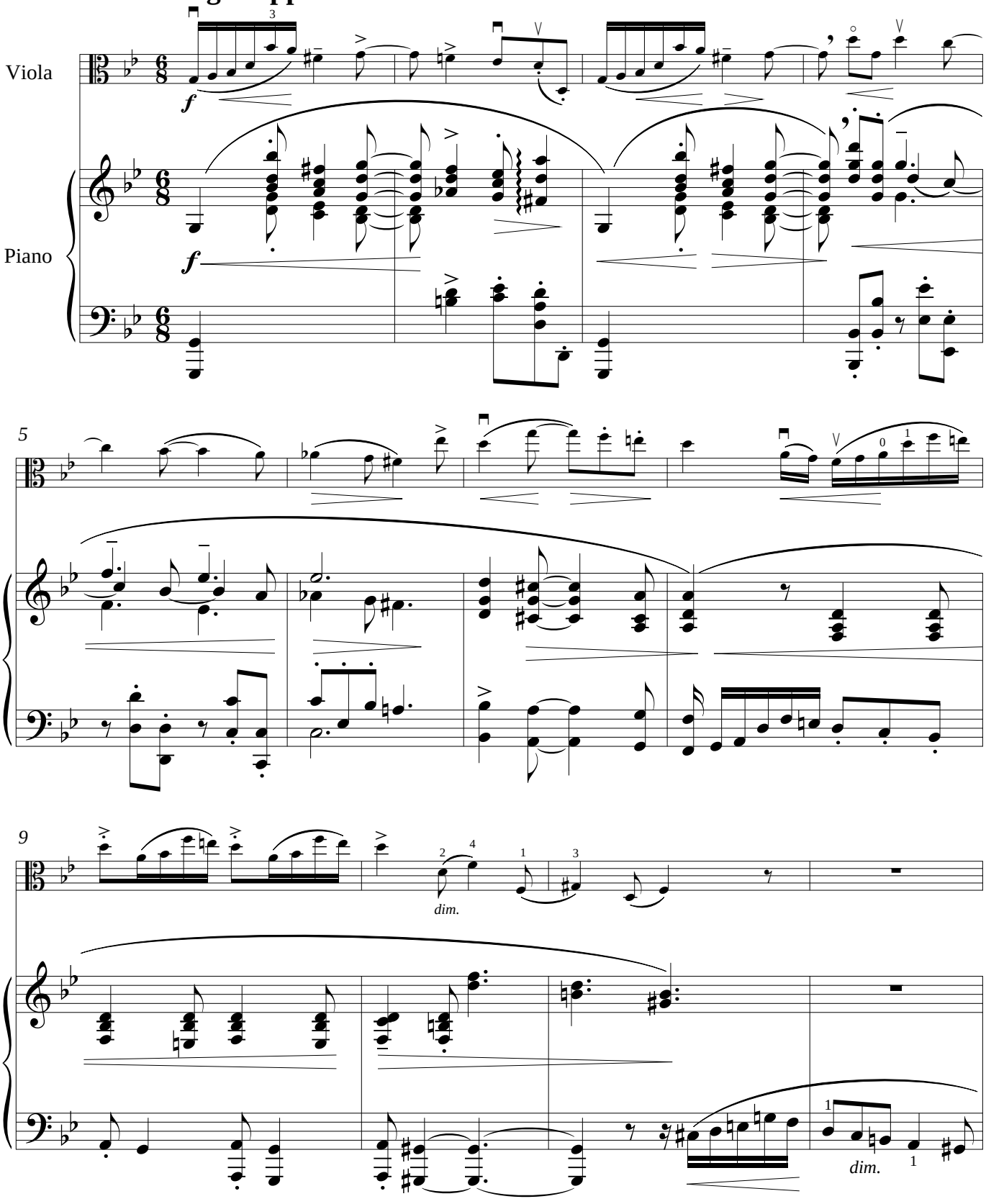
Edited by David M. Bynog

I

Allegro appassionato



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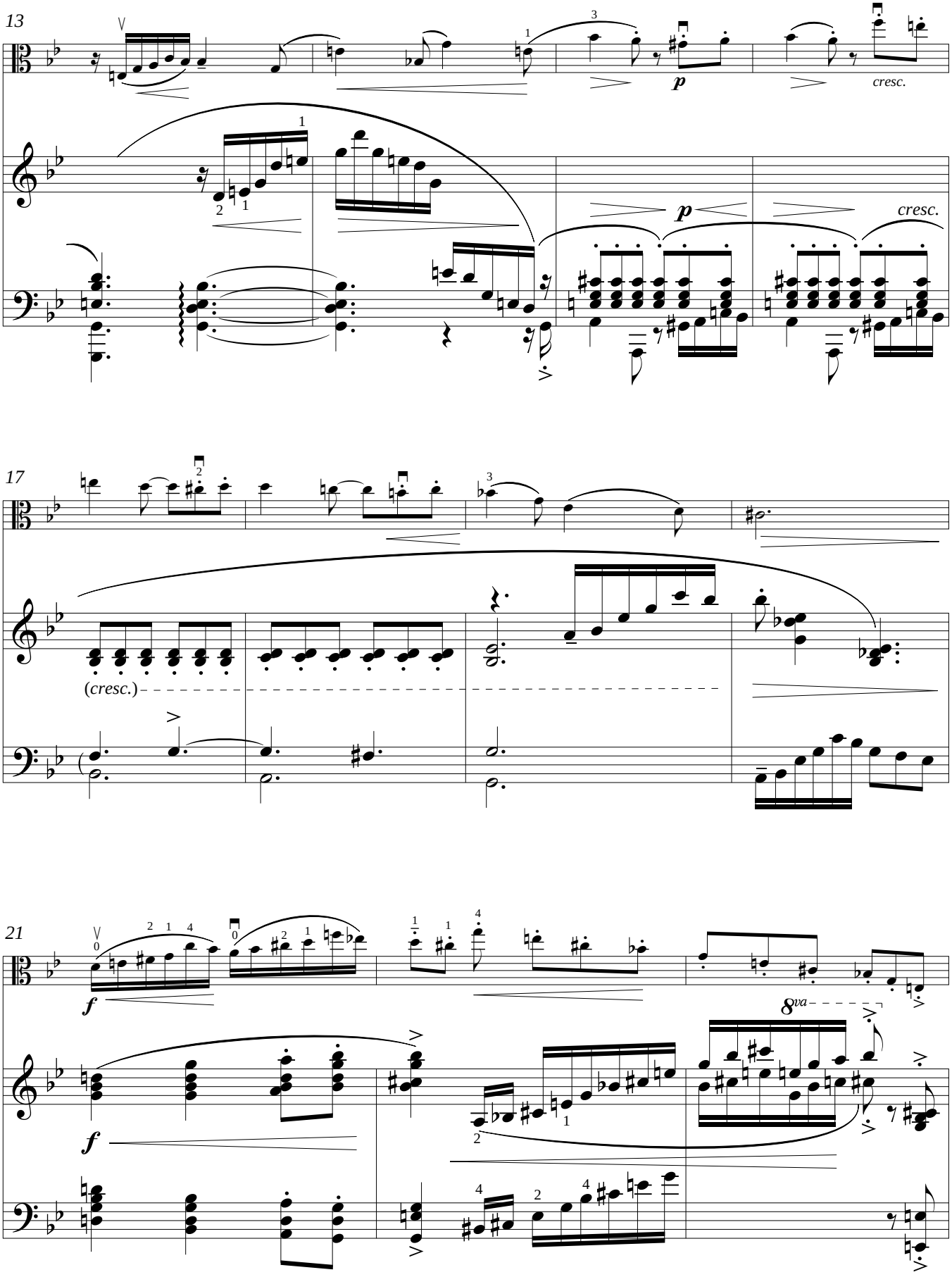
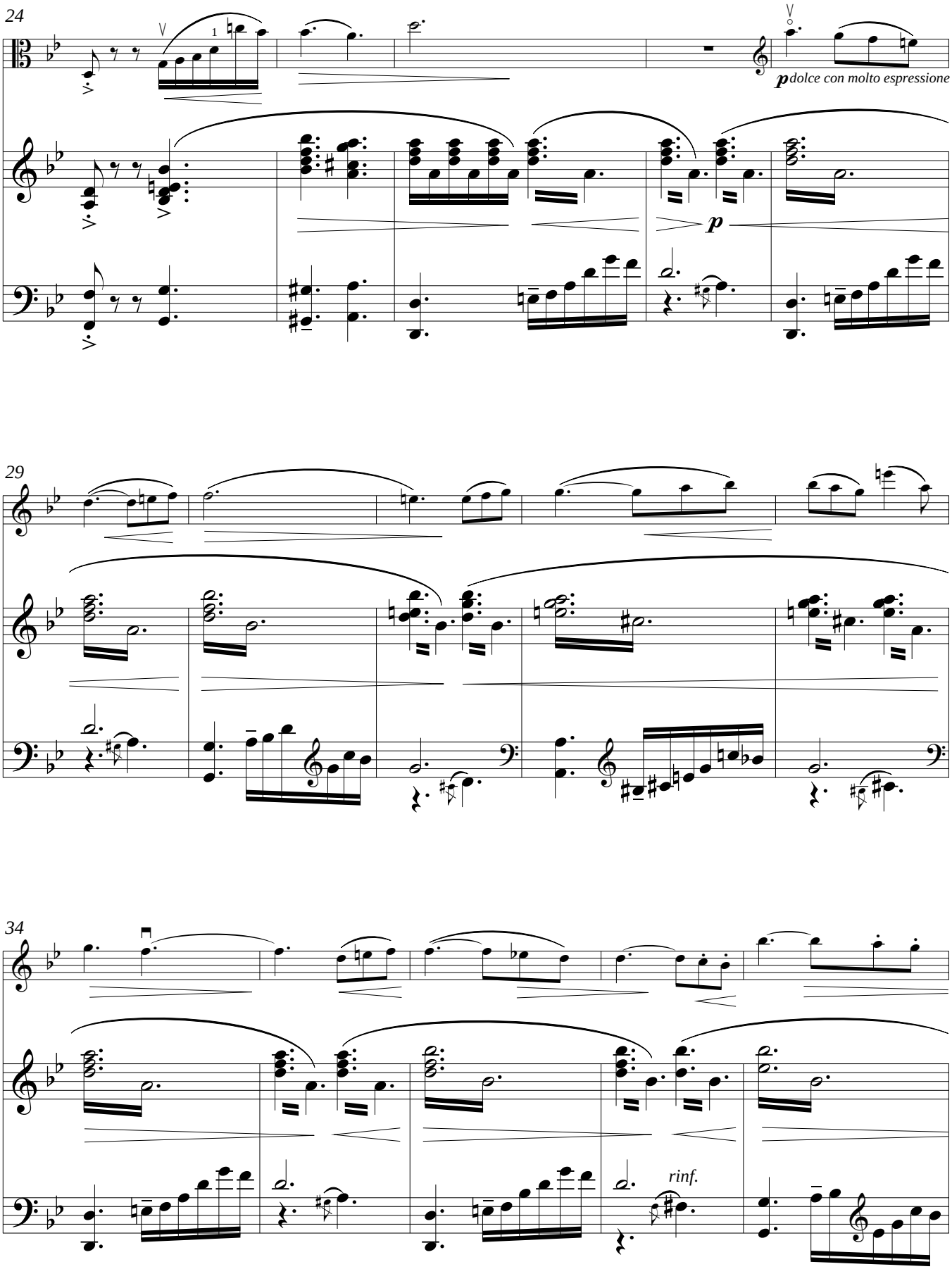
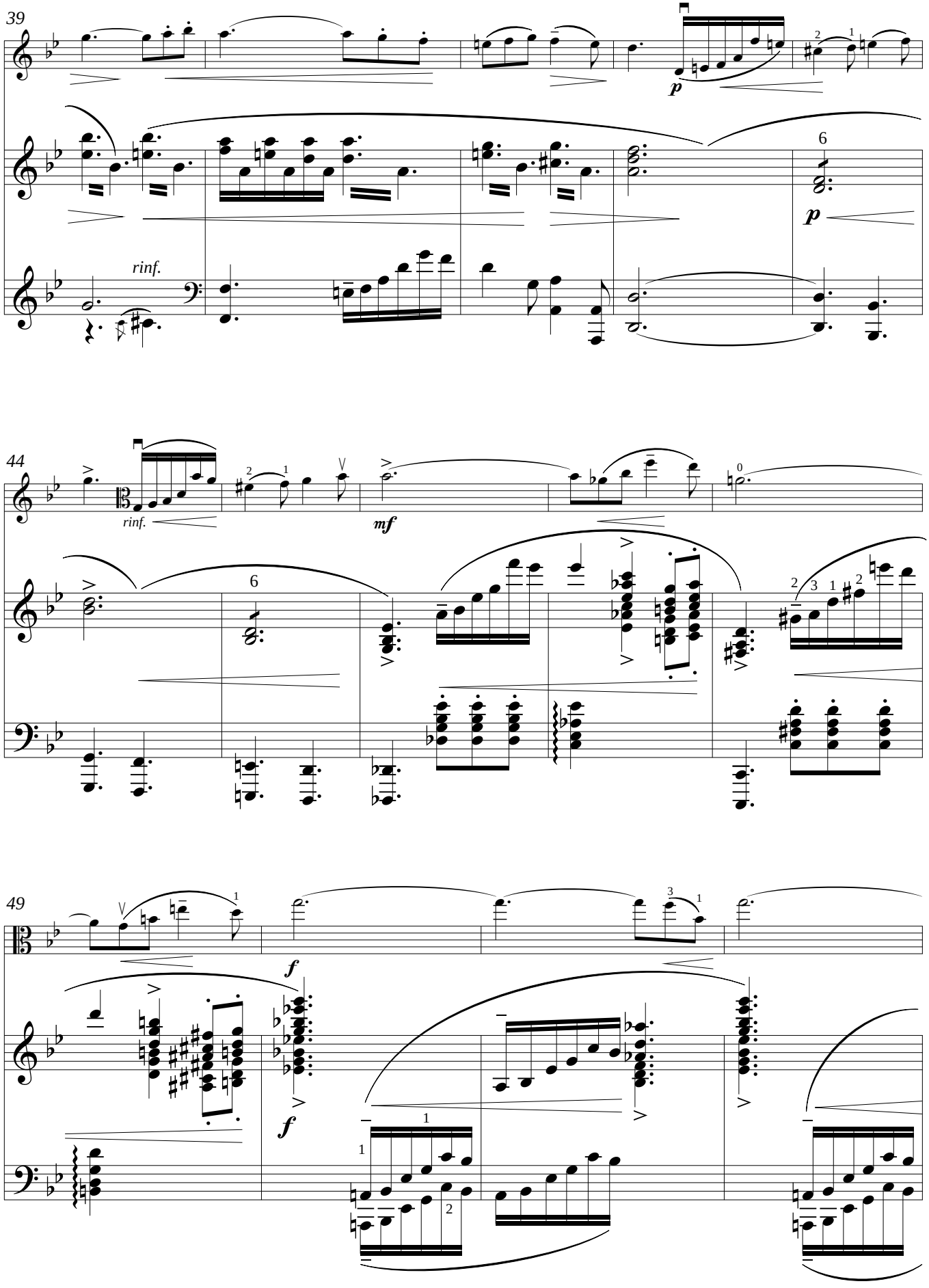
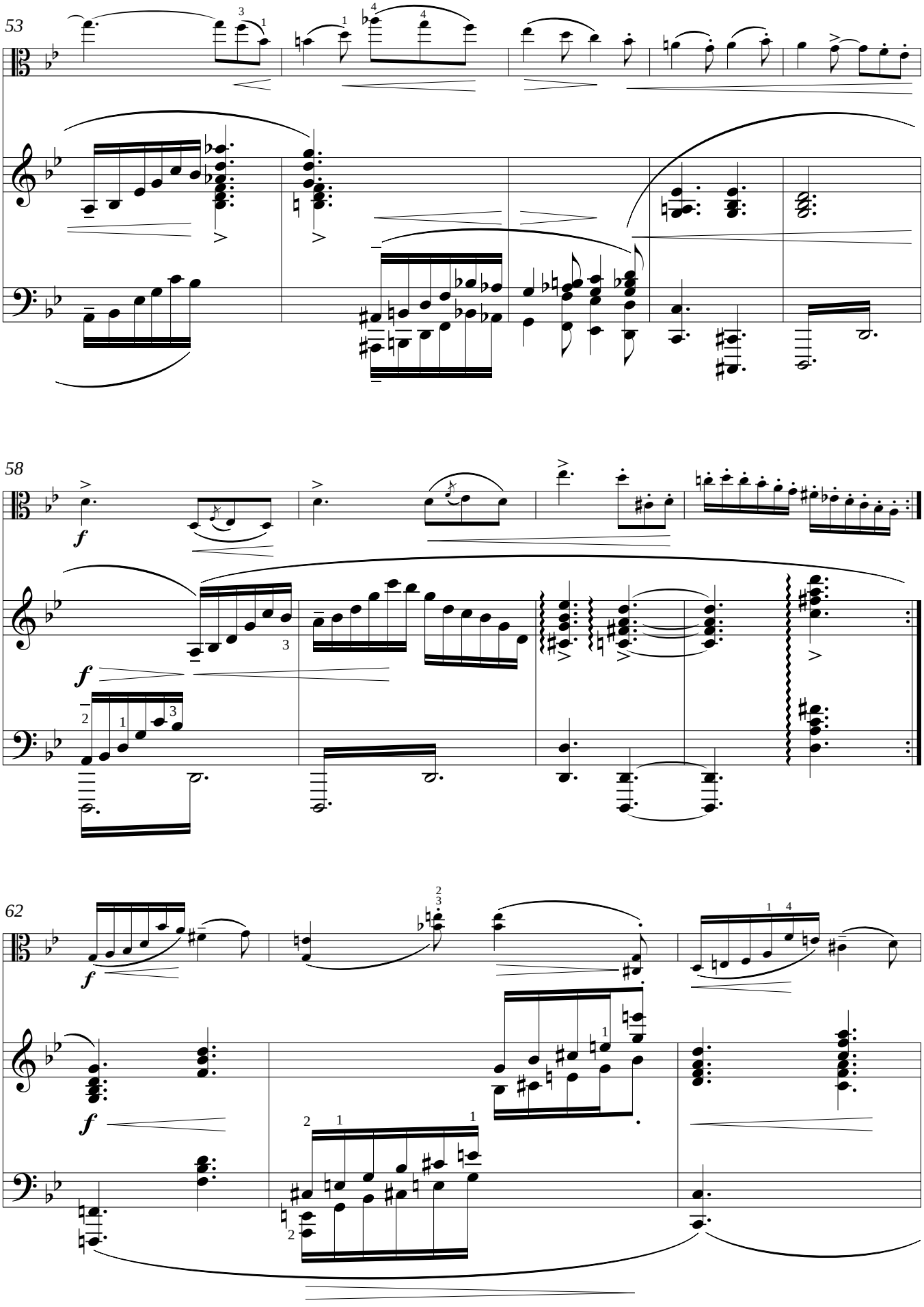
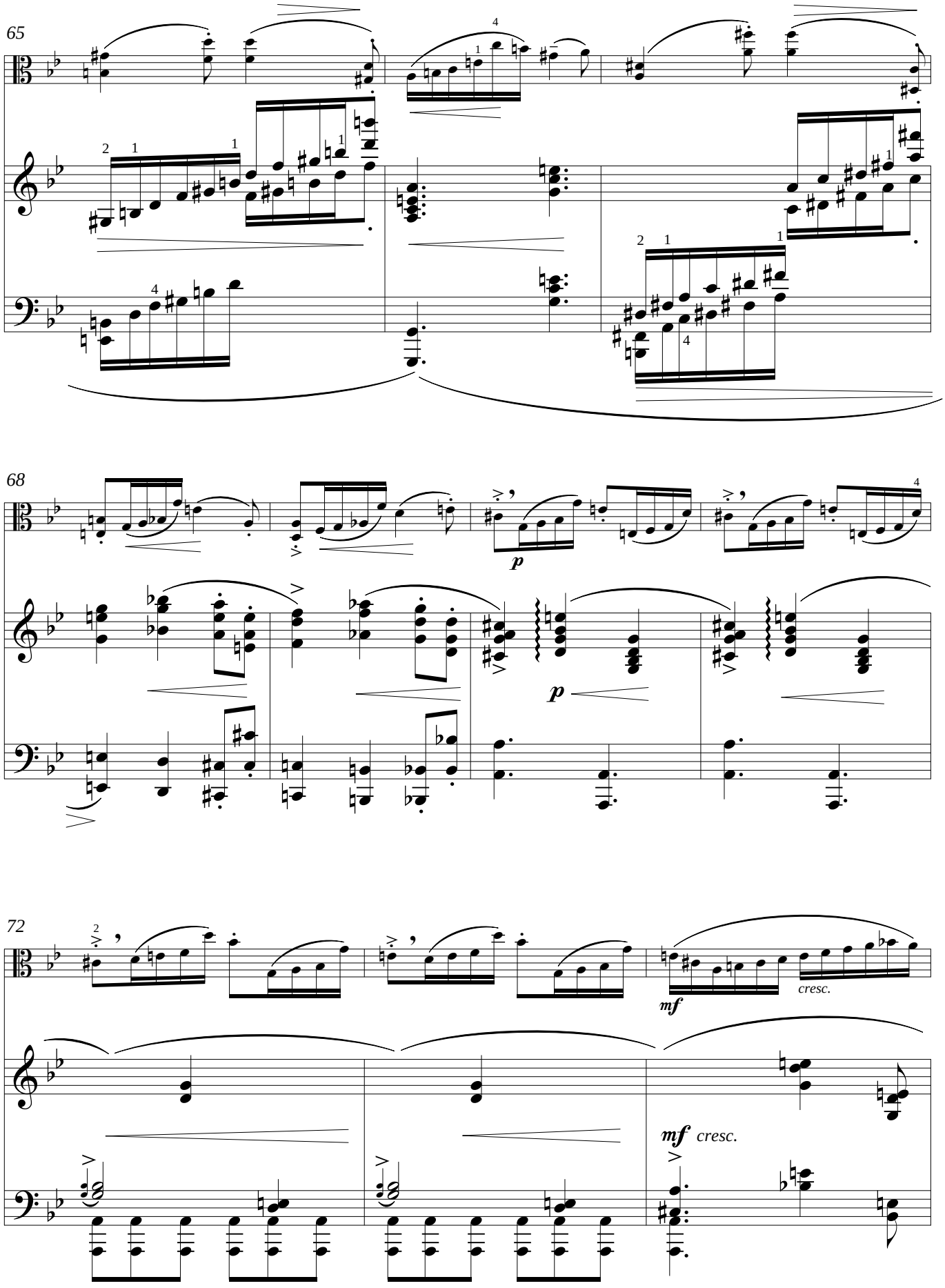
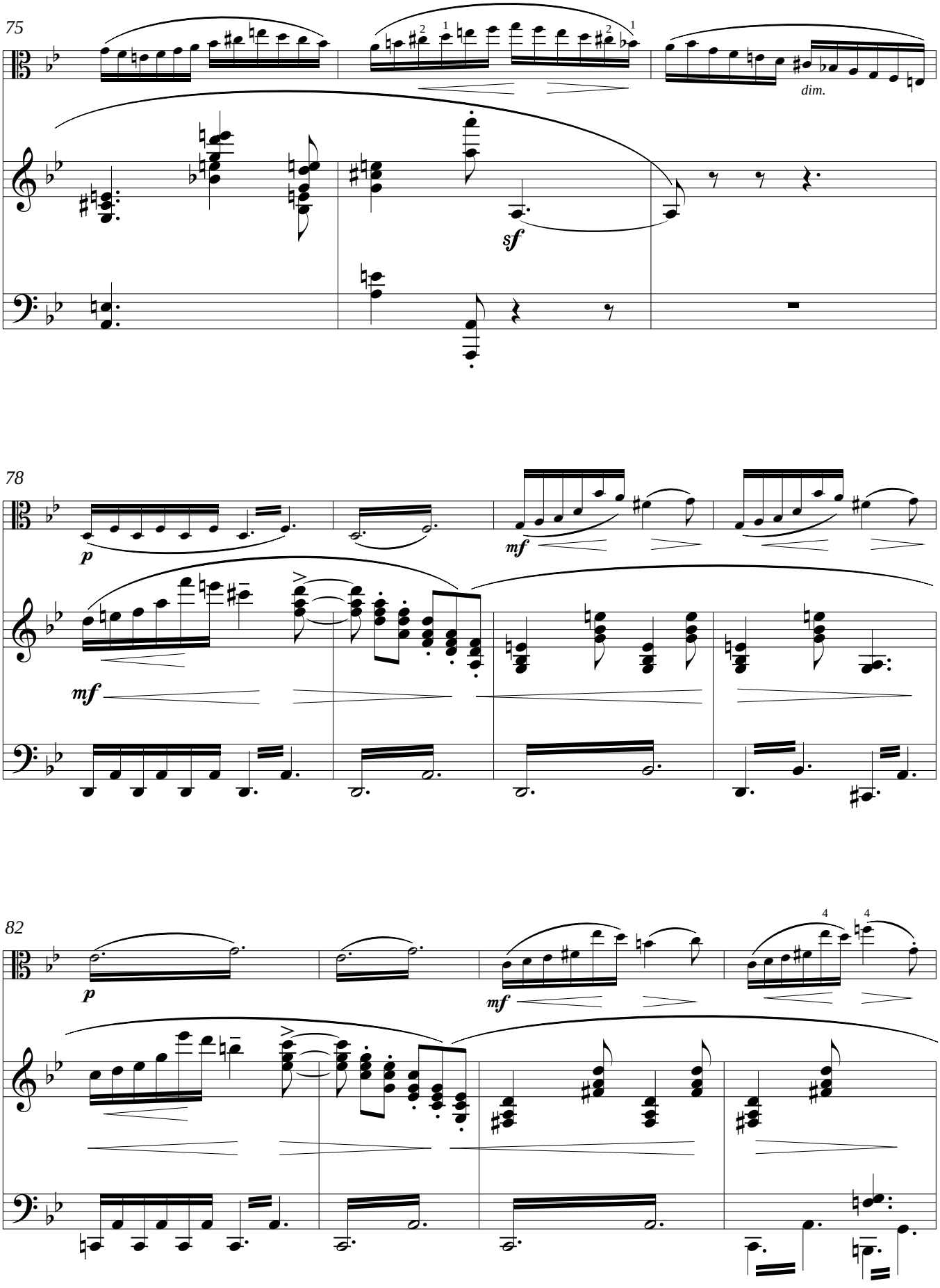

13
p
cresc.
p
cresc.
17
(cresc.)
21
f
f
8va

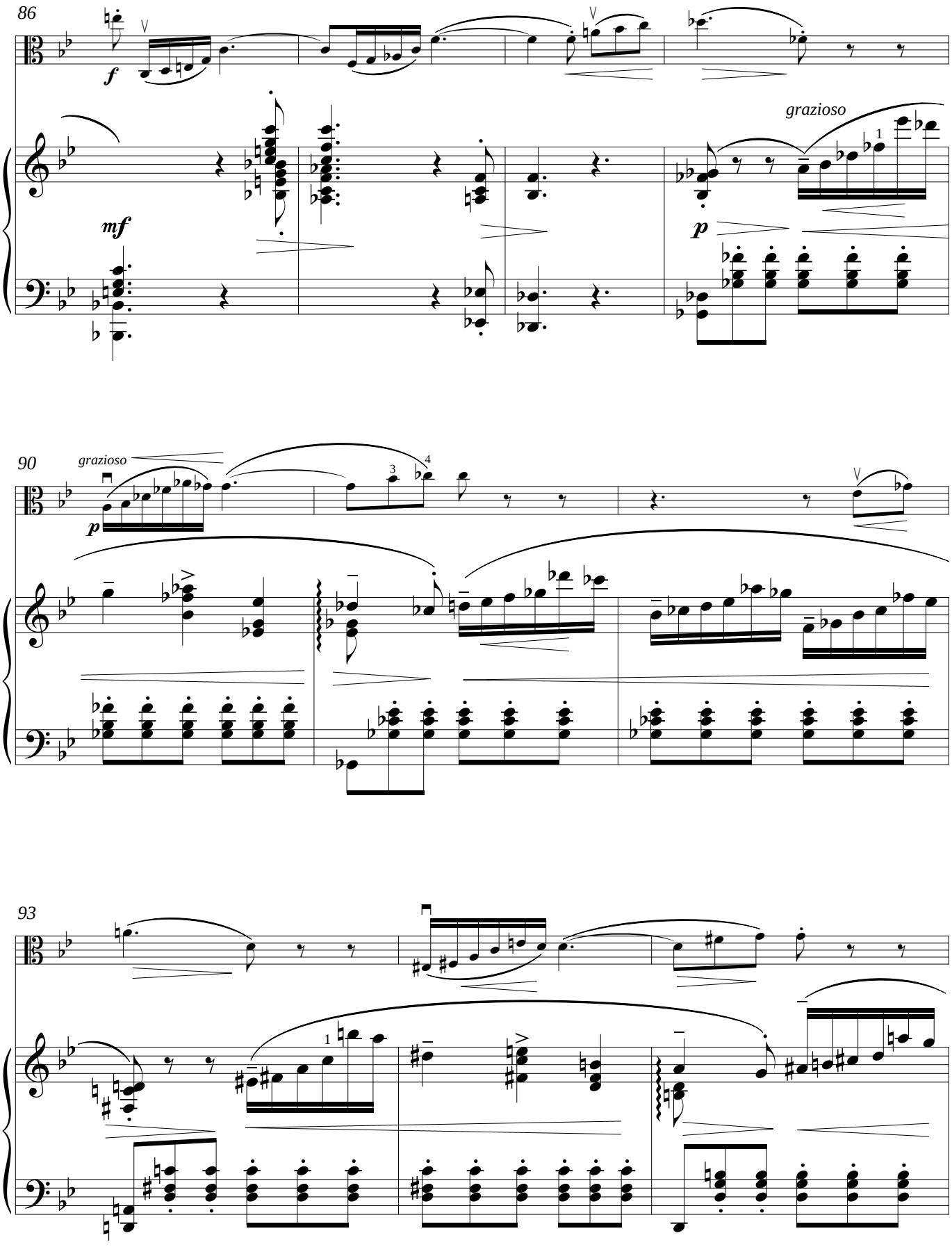

24
p dolce con molto espressione
p
29
34
rinf.

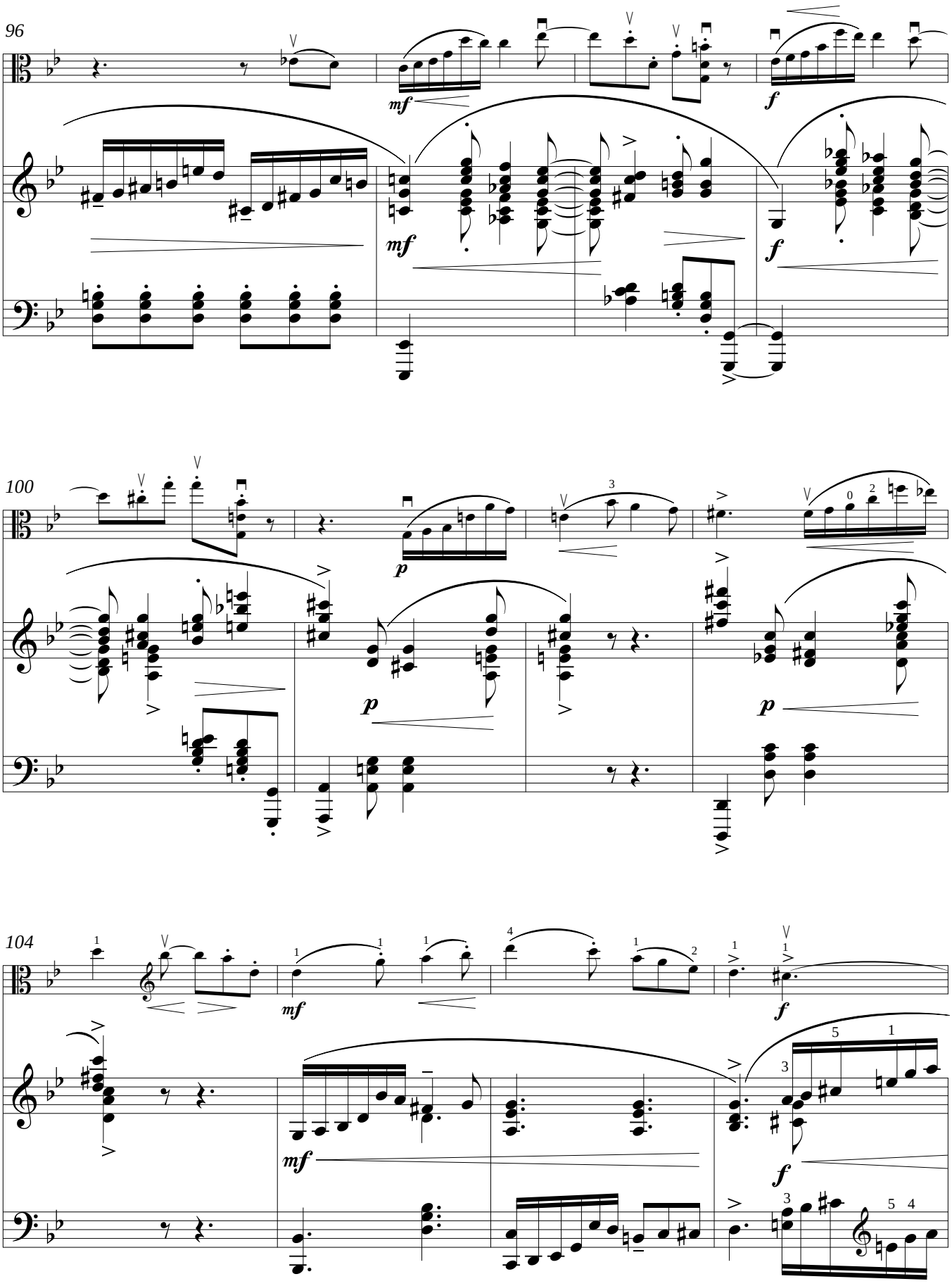

39
rinf.
p
6
p
44
rinf.
mf
6
49
f
f

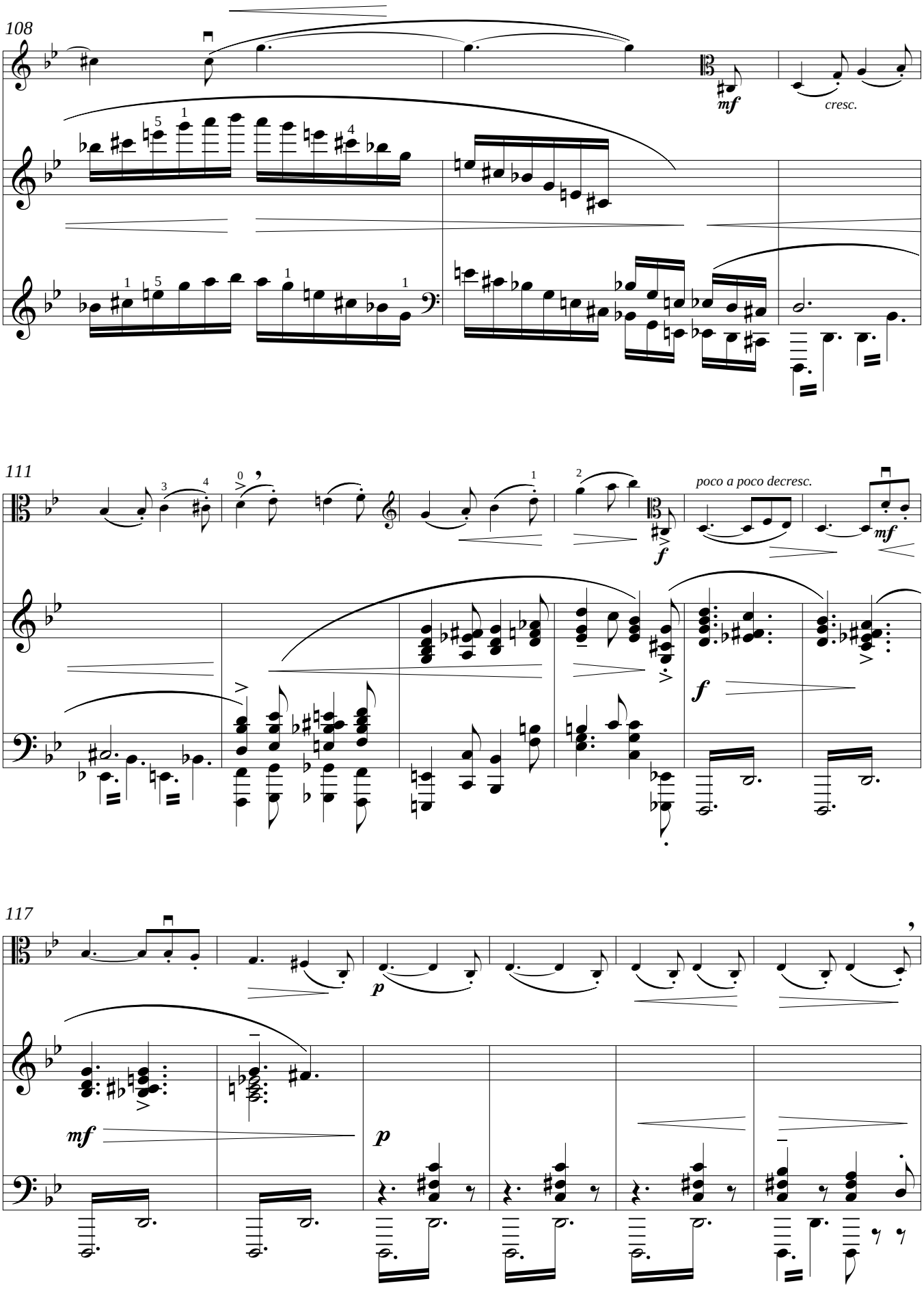

53
58
f
62
f

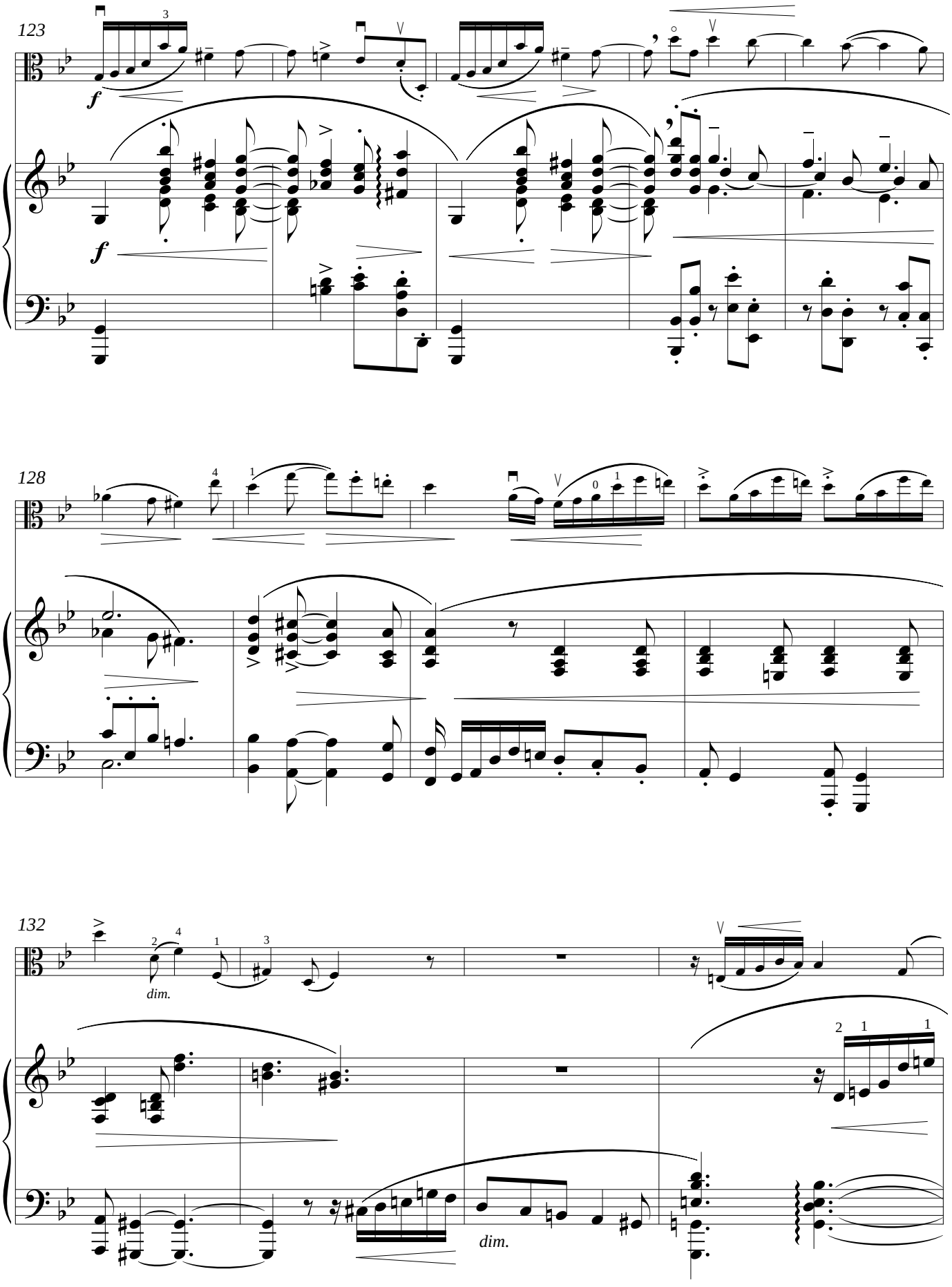

65
68
p
p
72
mf
cresc.
mf cresc.

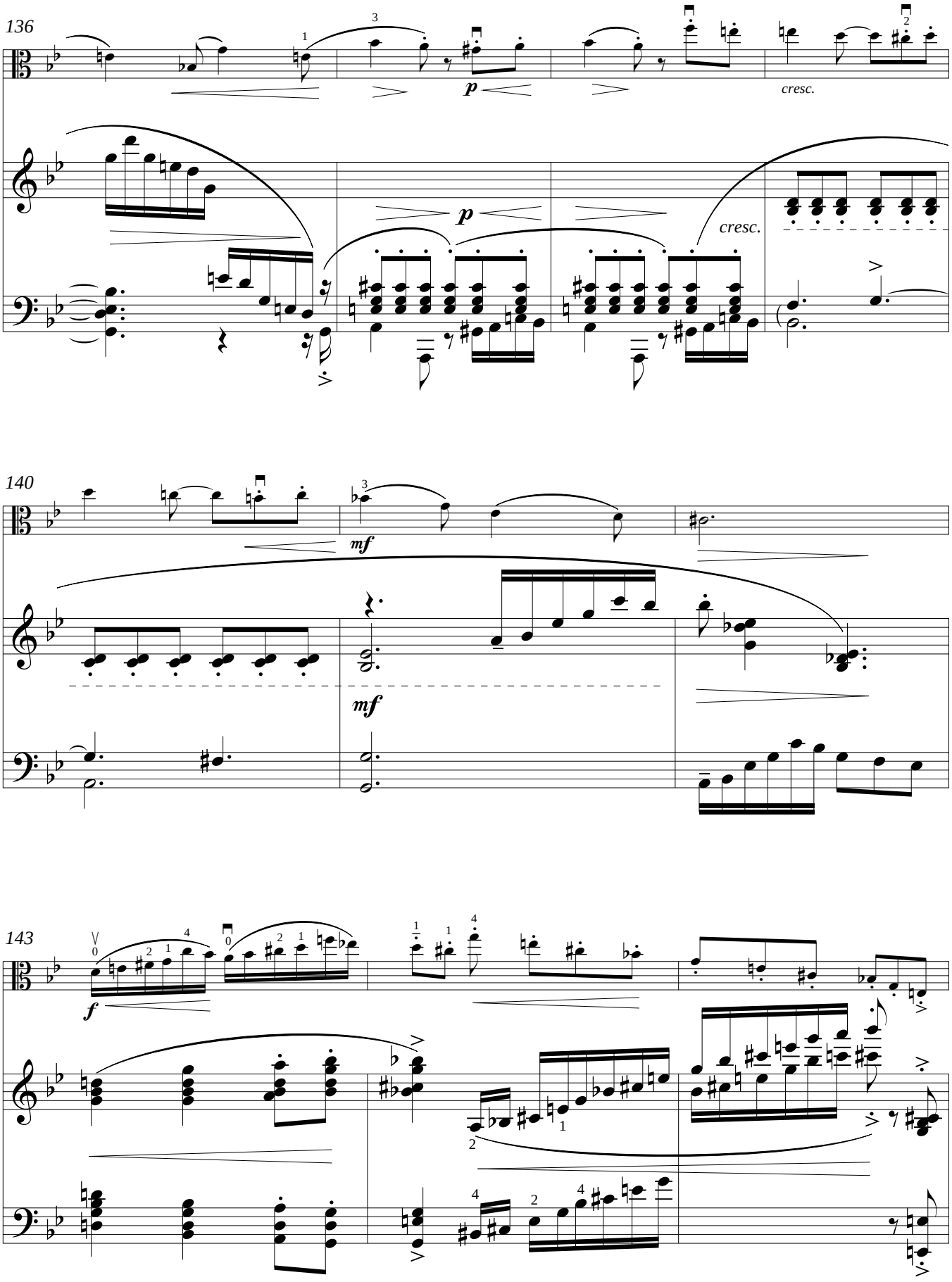

75
dim.
sf
78
p
mf
mf
82
p
mf

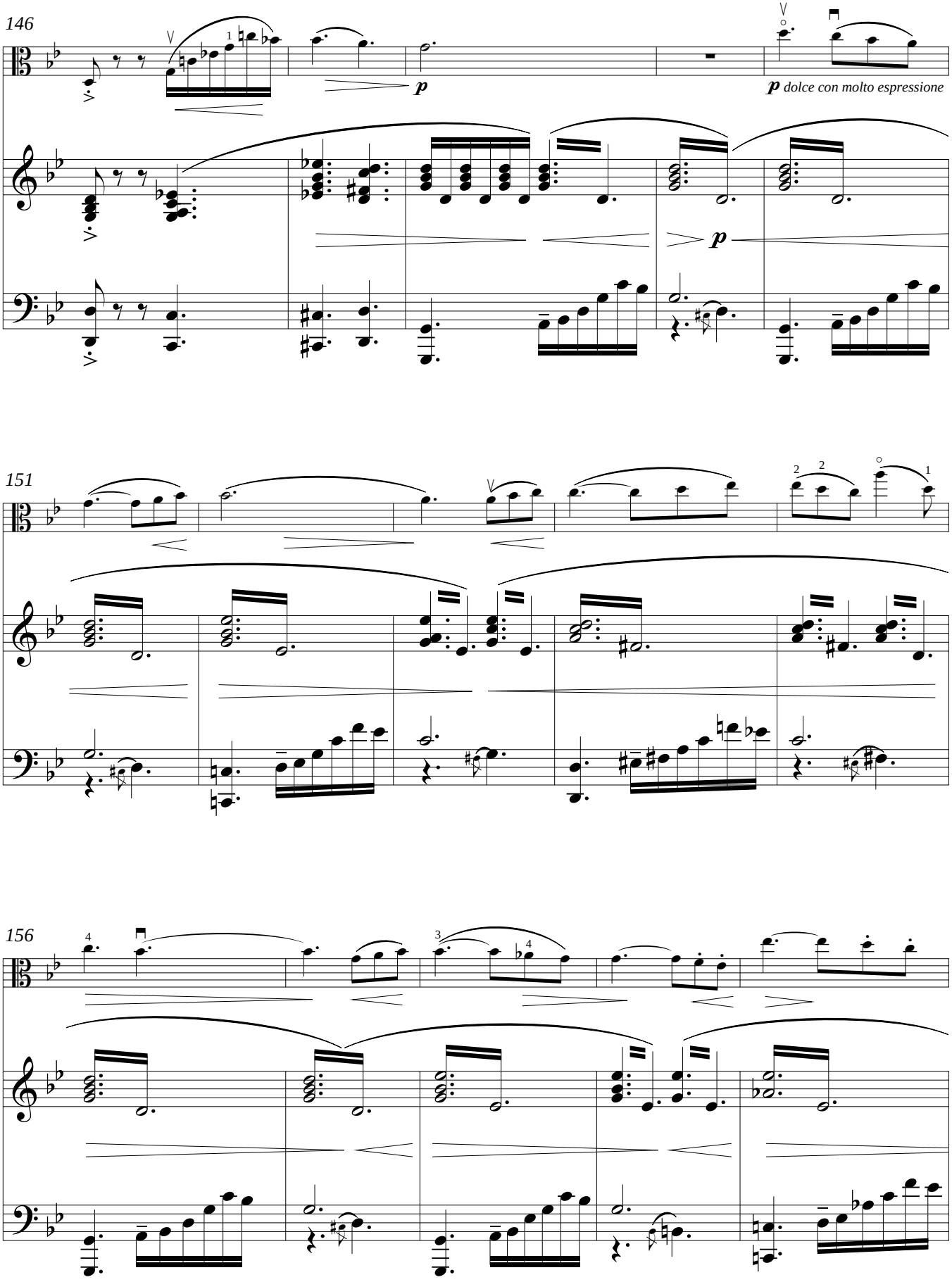

86
f
mf
grazioso
p
90
grazioso
p
93

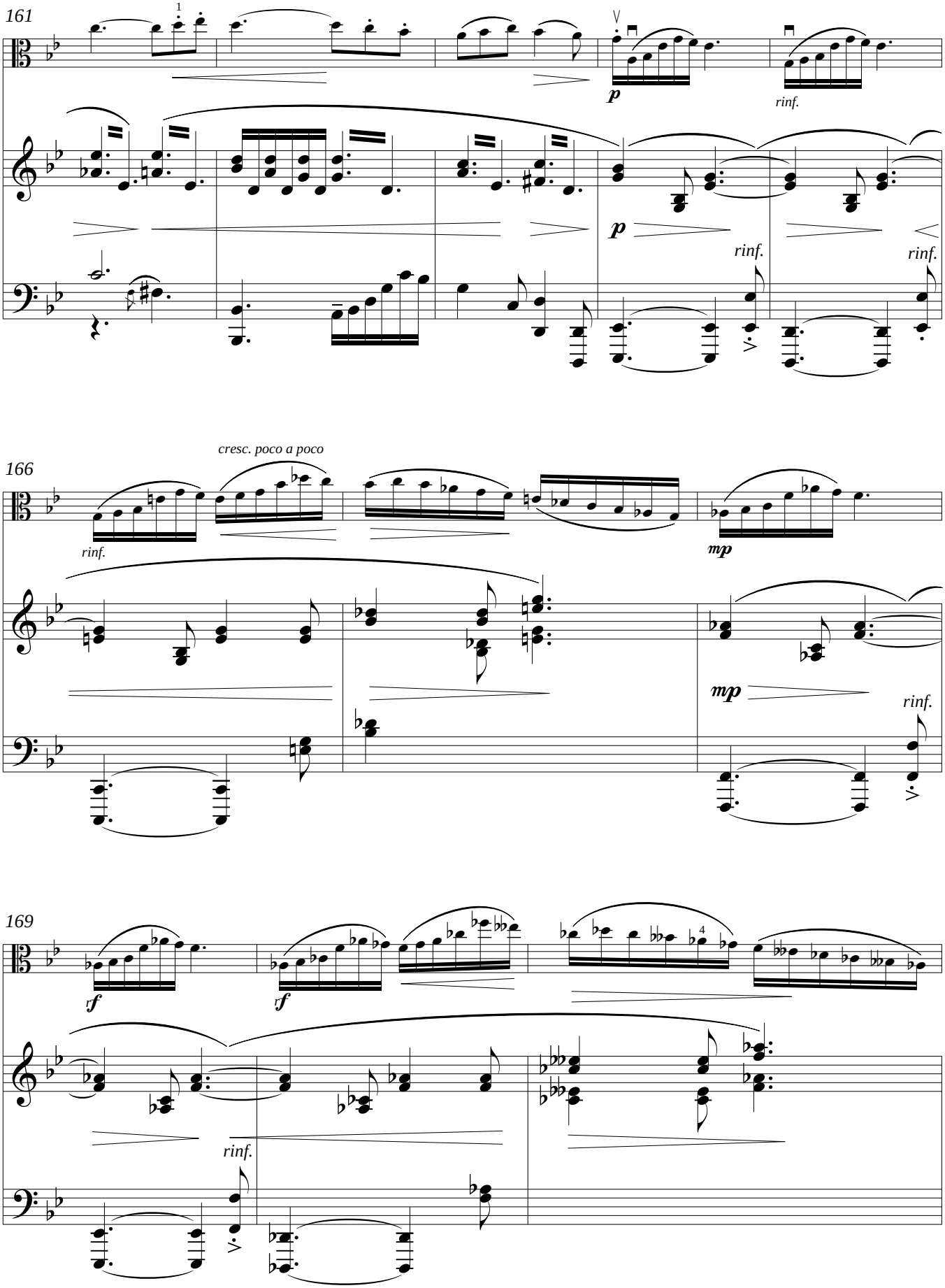

96
mf
mf
f
f
100
p
p
p
104
mf
f
mf
f

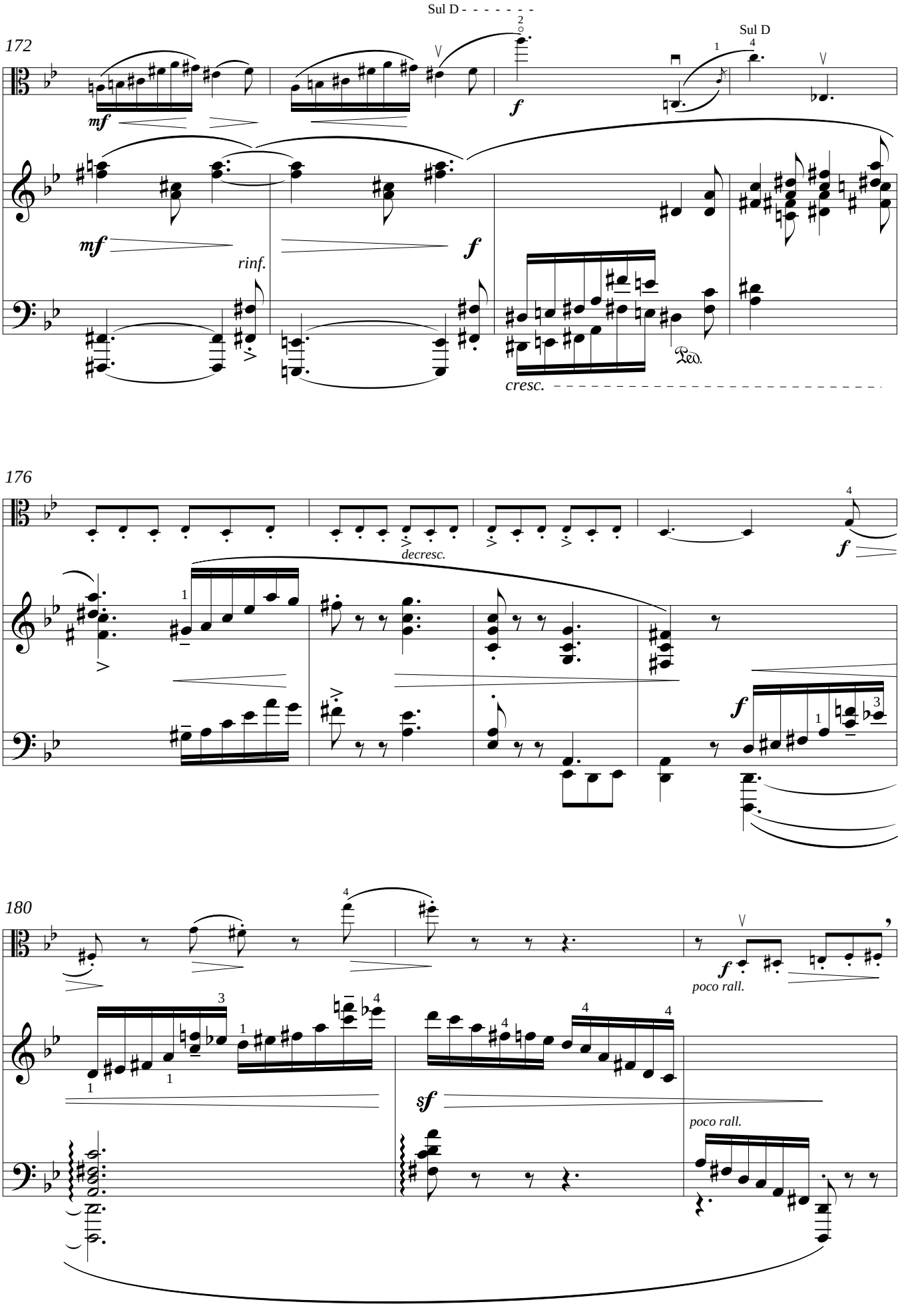

108
mf
cresc.
111
poco a poco decresc.
f
mf
117
p
mf
p

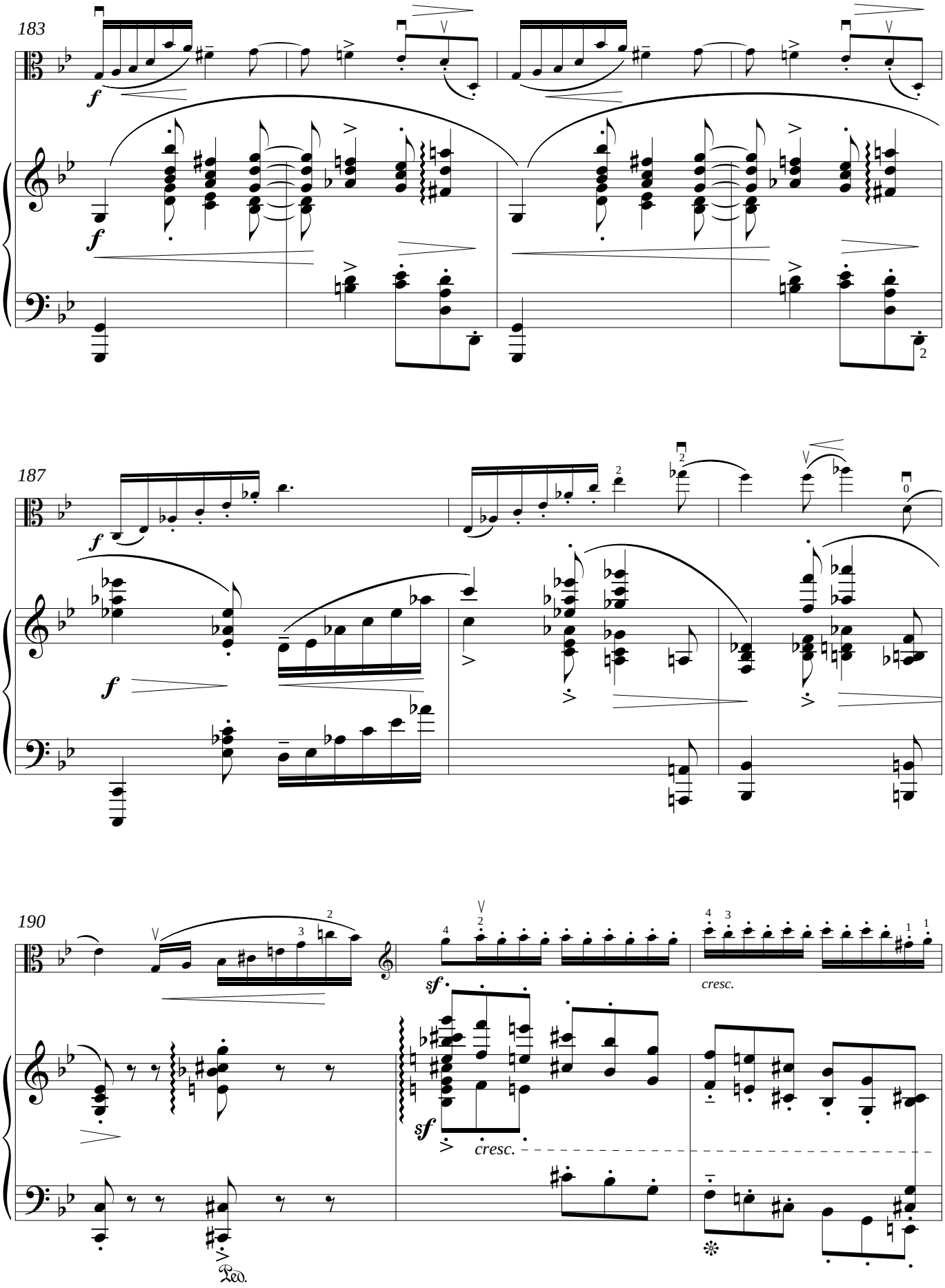

123
f
f
128
132
dim.
dim.

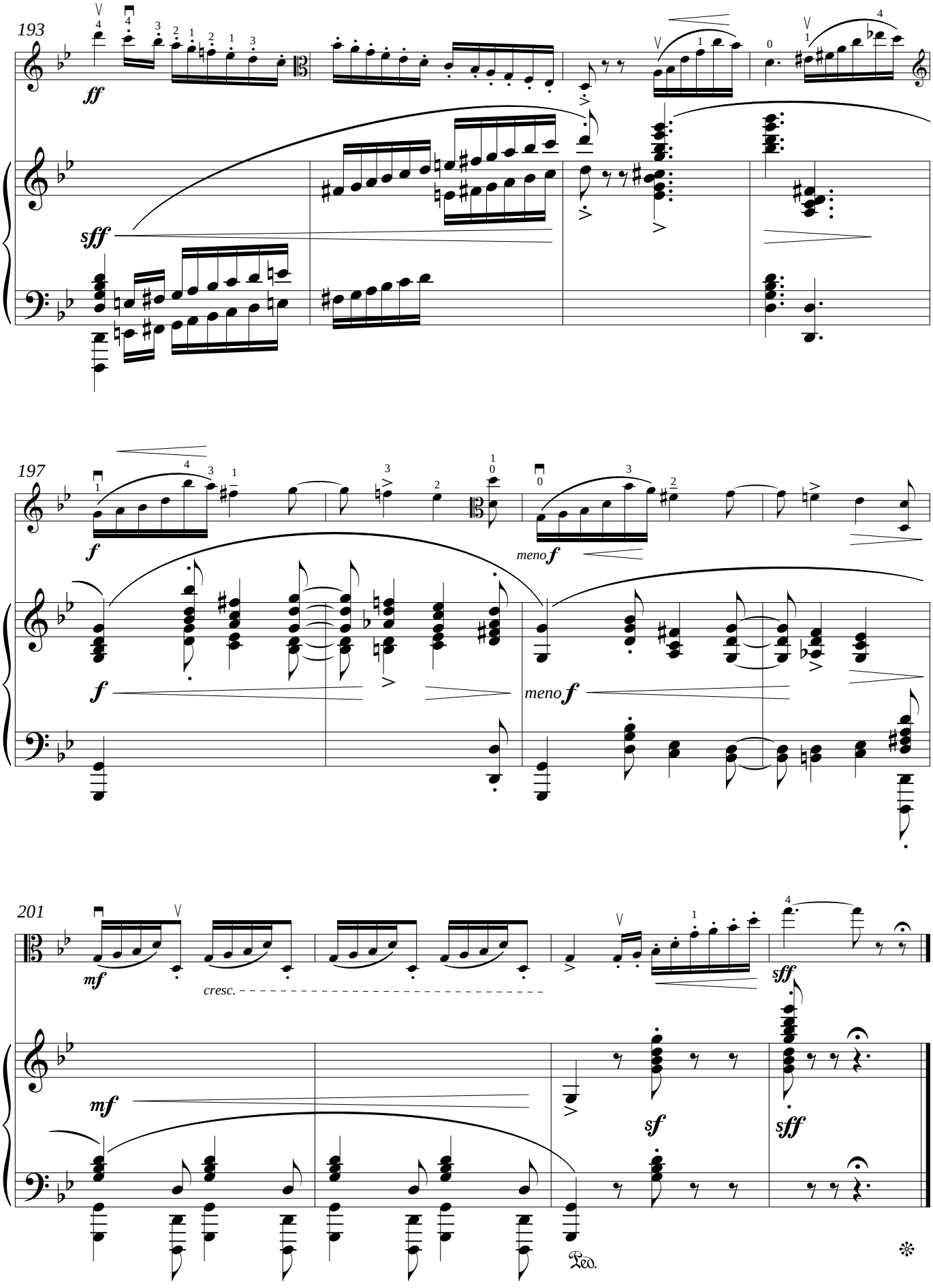

136
p
cresc.
p
cresc.
140
mf
mf
143
f


146
p
p dolce con molto espressione
151
156


161
1
p
rinf.
p
rinf.
rinf.
166
cresc. poco a poco
rinf.
mp
mp
rinf.
169
4
f
f
rinf.

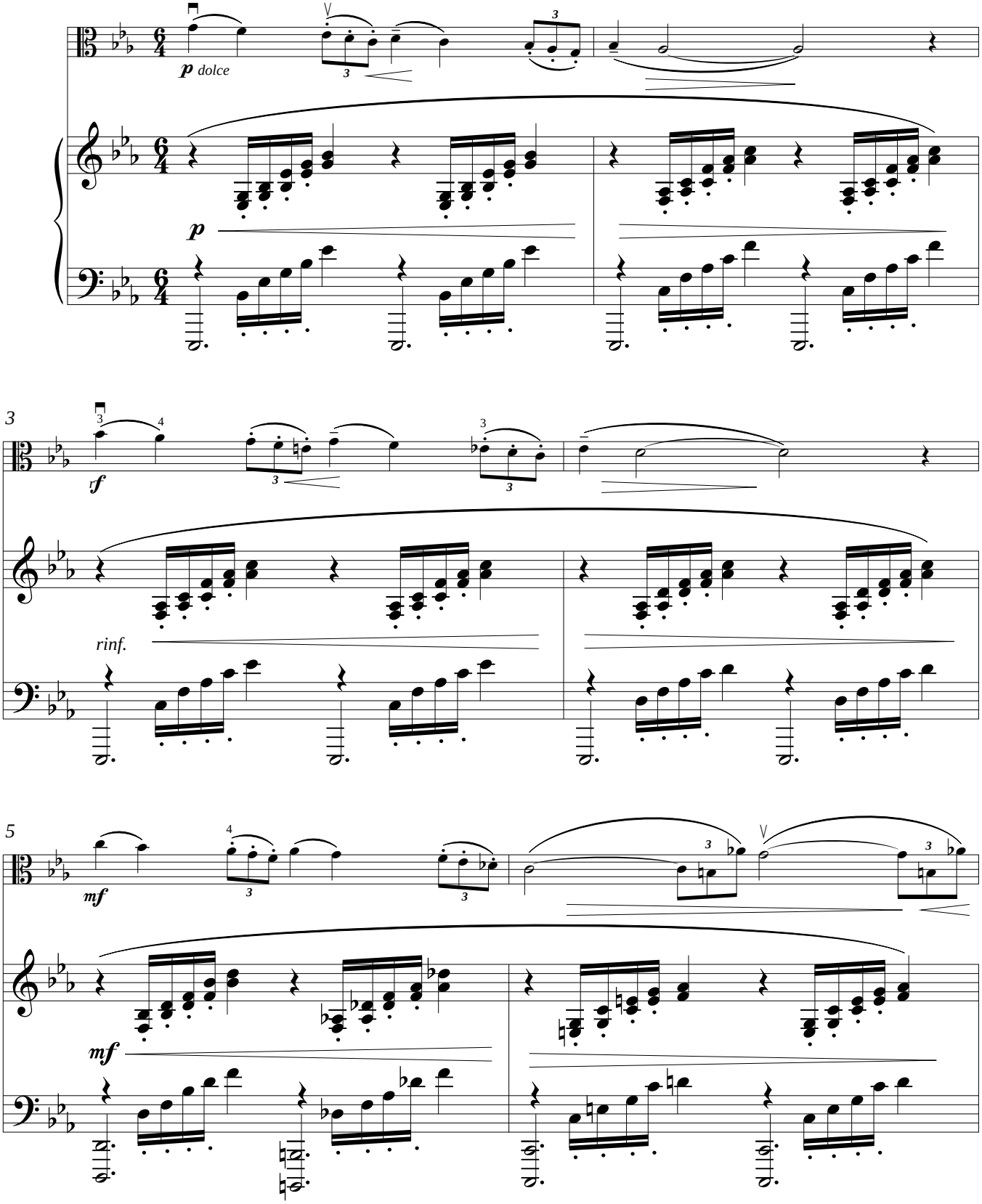

172
Sul D
Sul D
mf
f
mf
f
rinf.
Ped.
cresc.
176
decresc.
f
f
180
f
poco rall.
sf
poco rall.

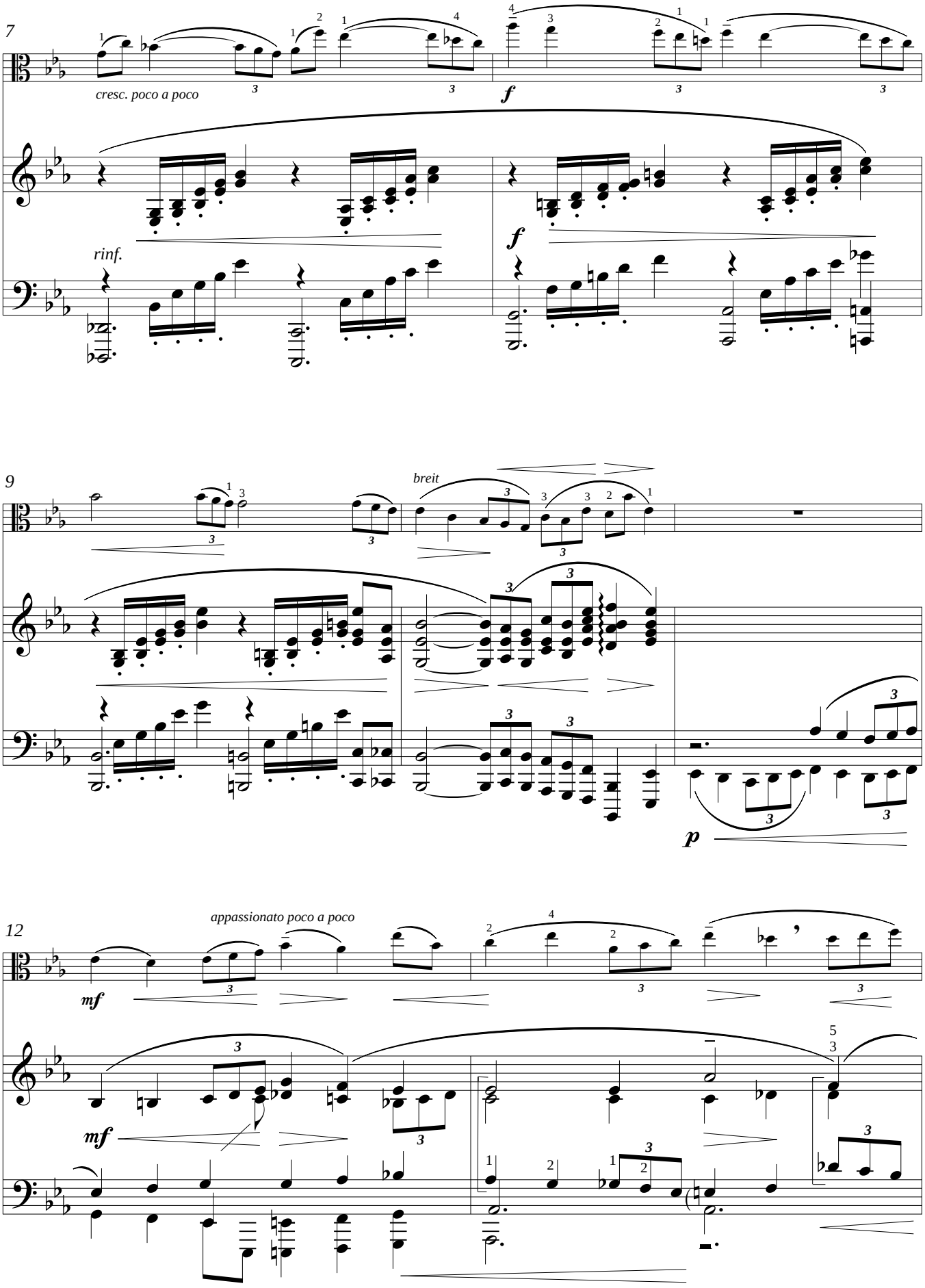

183
f
187
f
190
sf
cresc.
Ped.

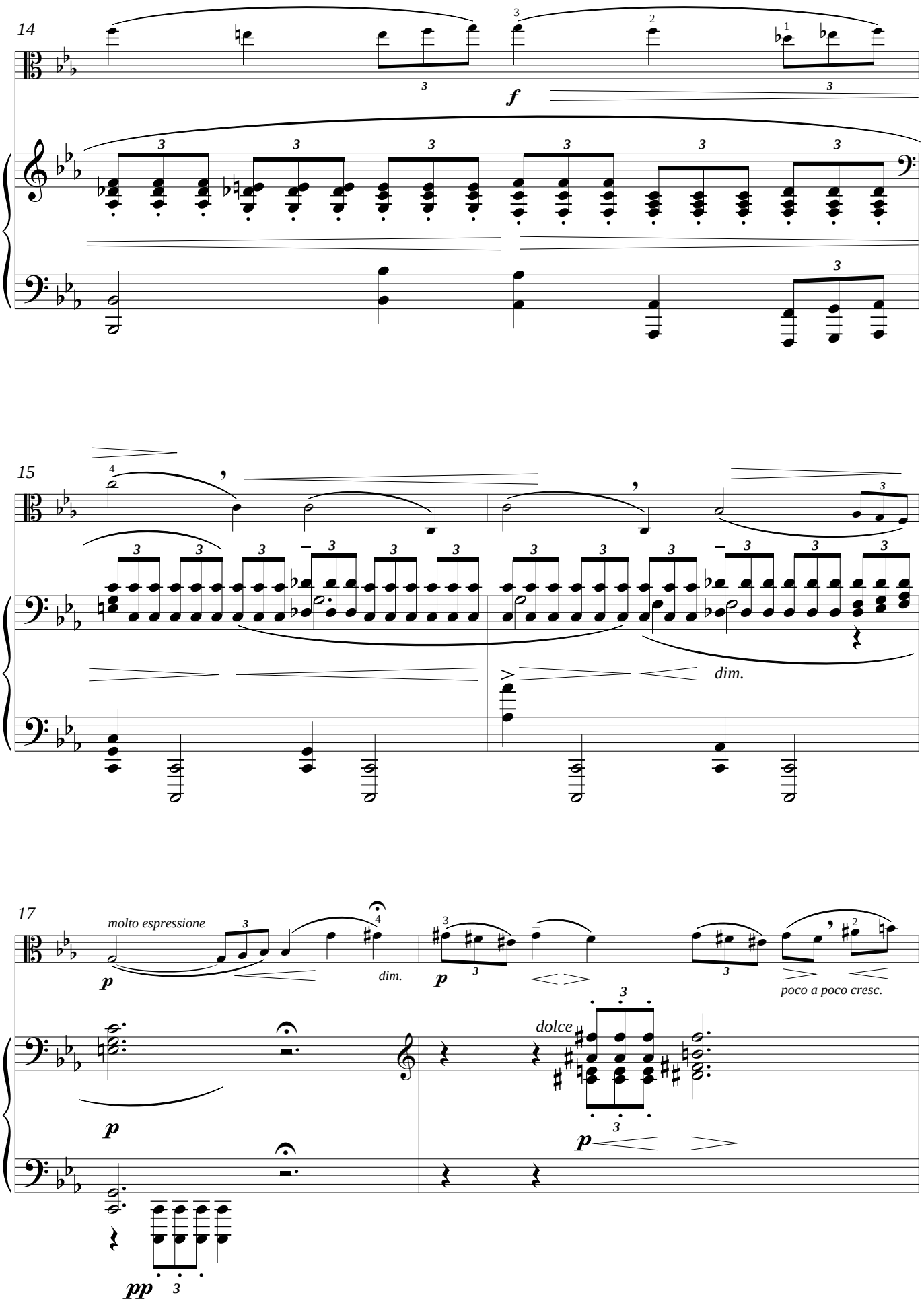

193
ff
sff
197
f
meno f
201
mf
cresc.
sf
sff
Ped.

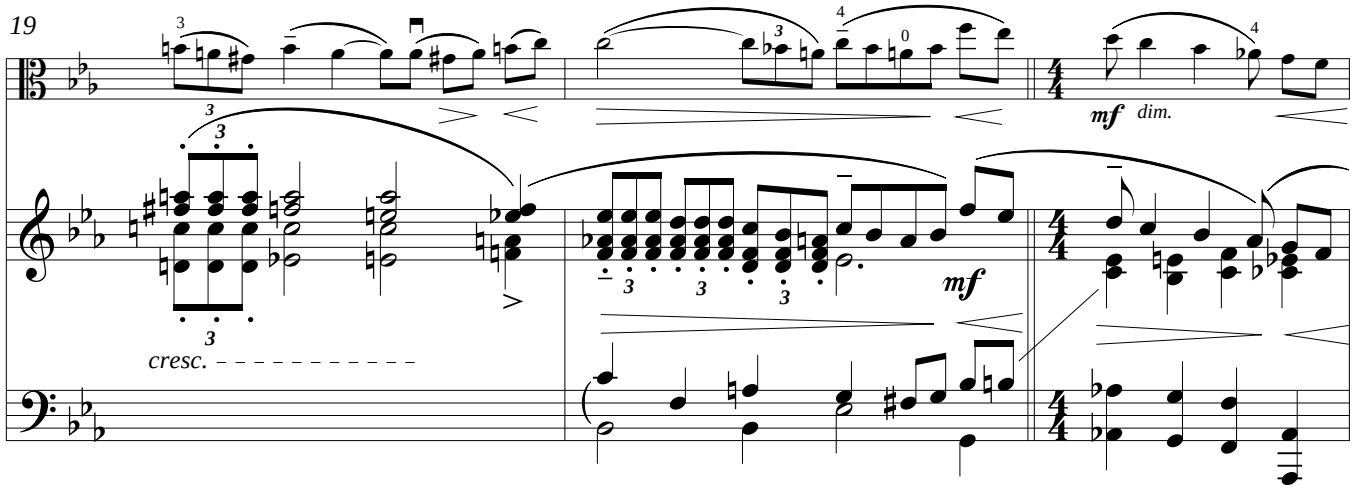
II

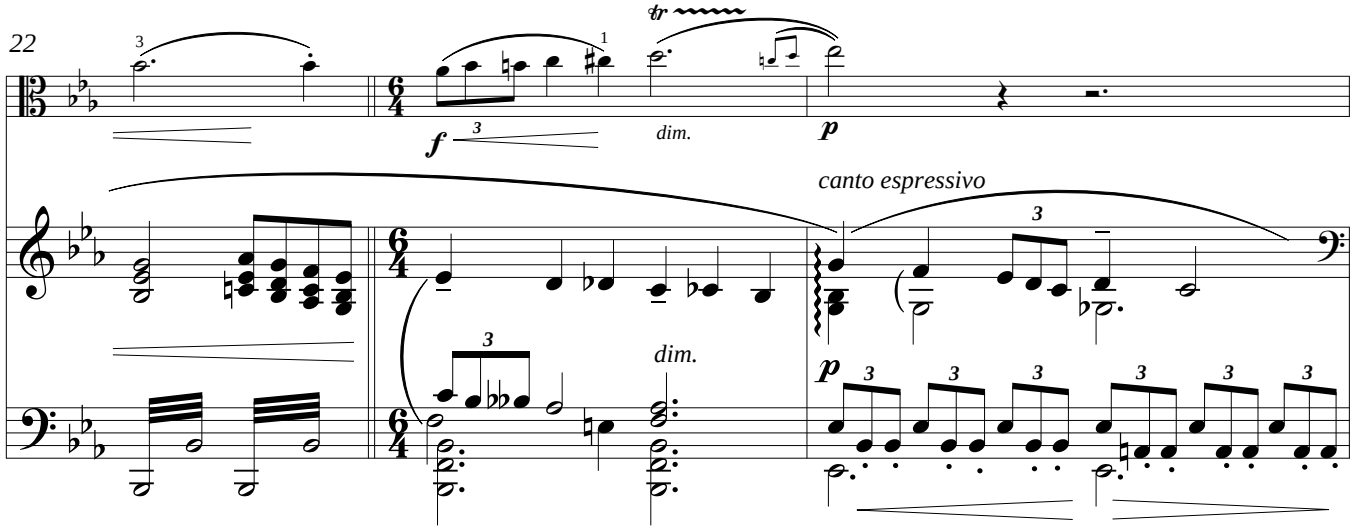
Adagio con molto espressione

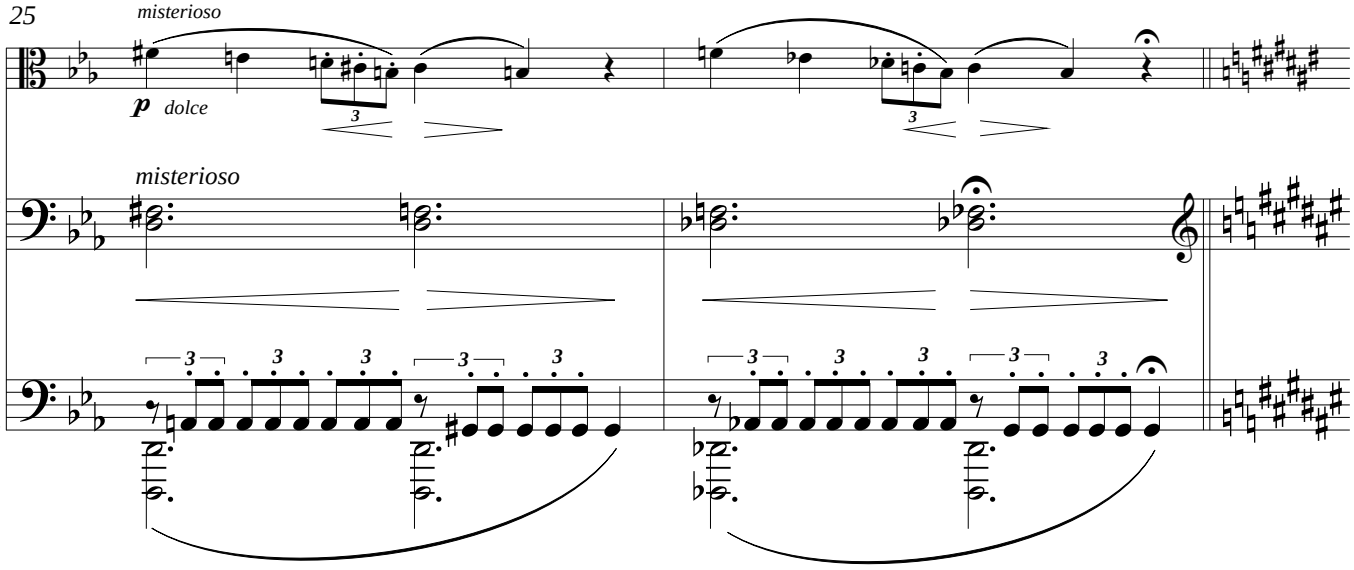


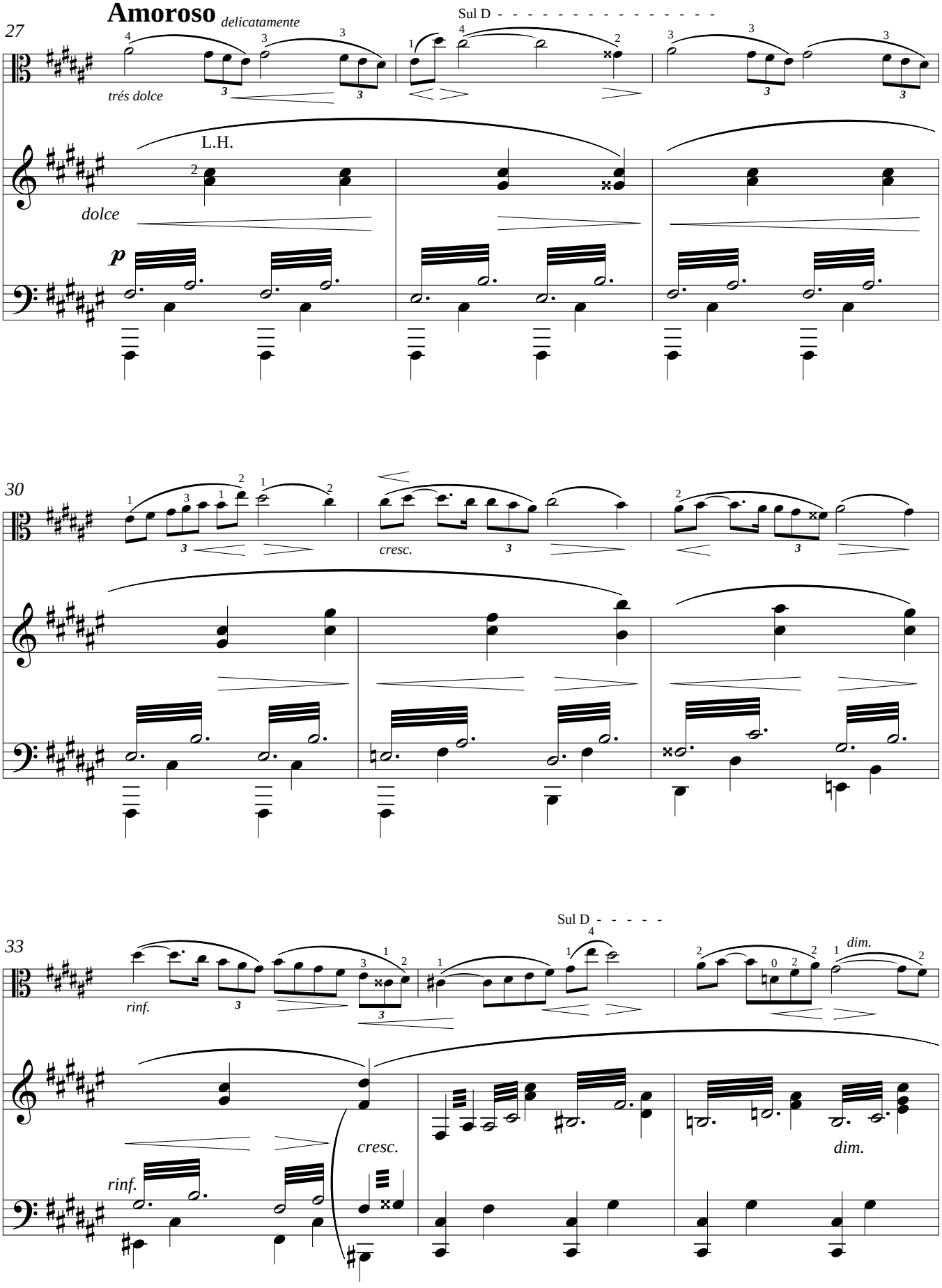

7
cresc. poco a poco
f
f
rinf.
9
breit
p
12
appassionato poco a poco
mf
mf

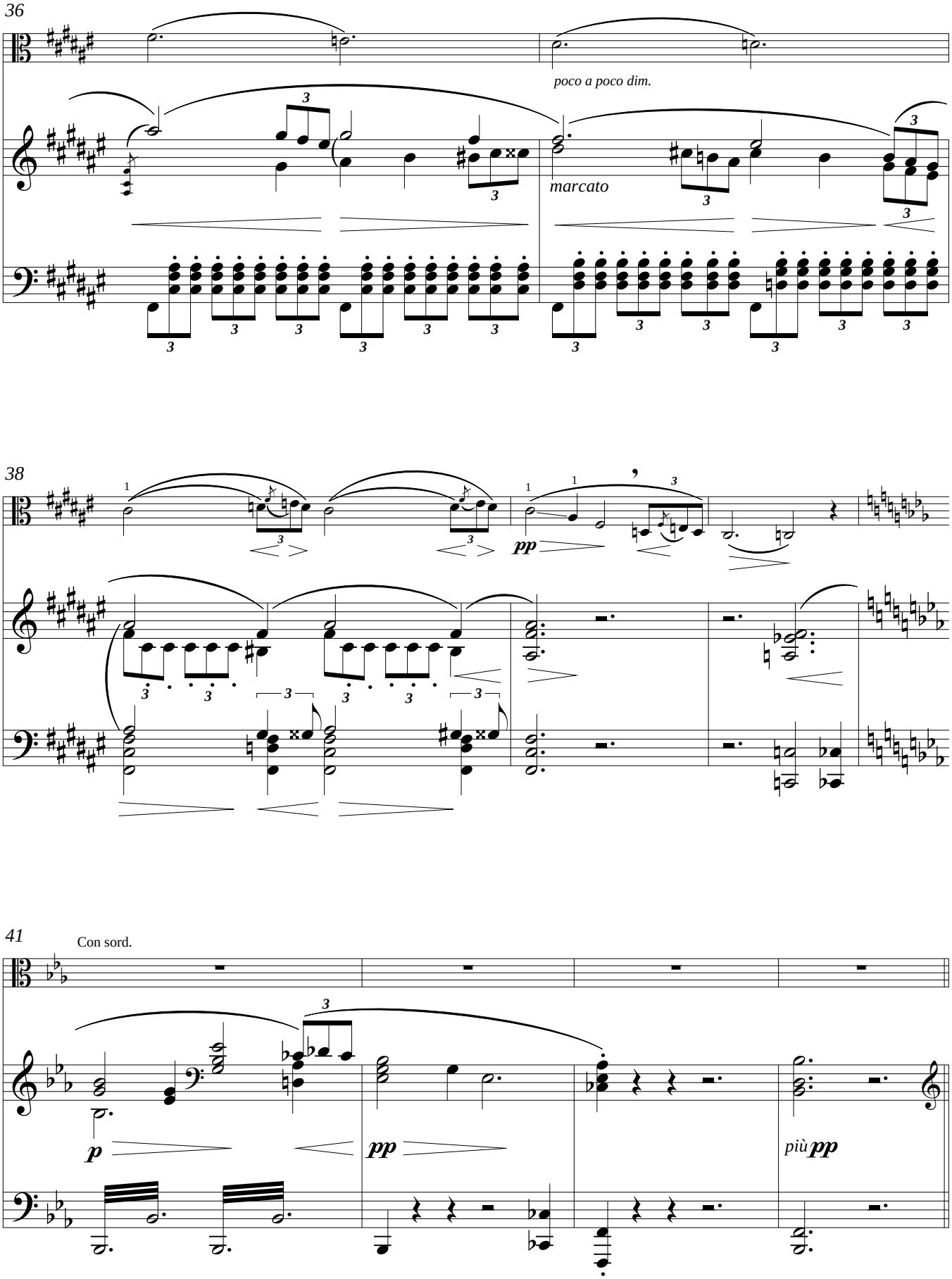

14
f
15
dim.
17
molto espressione
p
dim.
p
poco a poco cresc.
dolce
p
p
pp

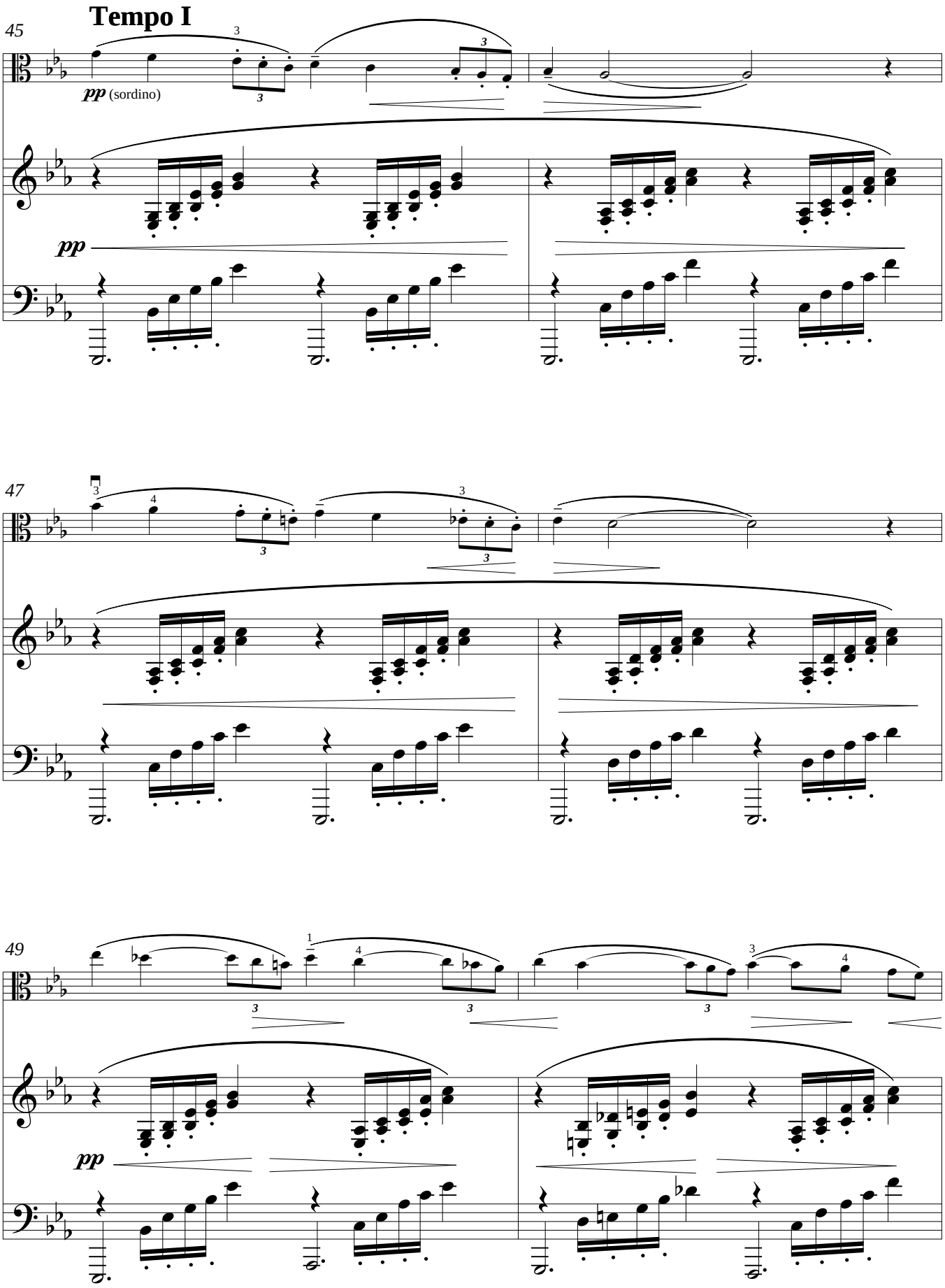

19
mf dim.
cresc.
mf

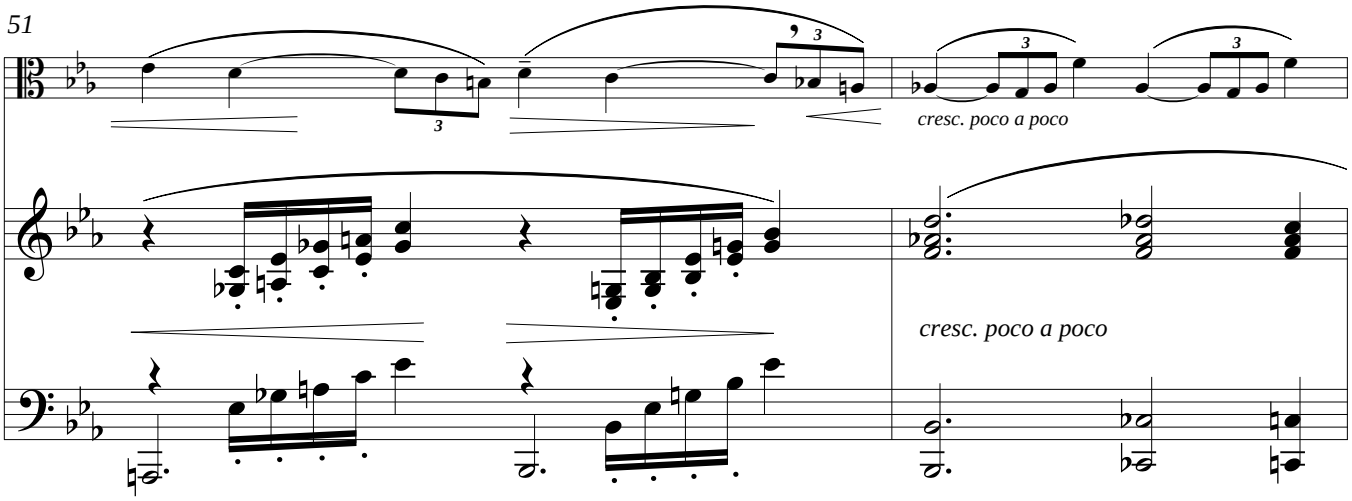

22
tr
f
dim.
p
canto espressivo
dim.
p

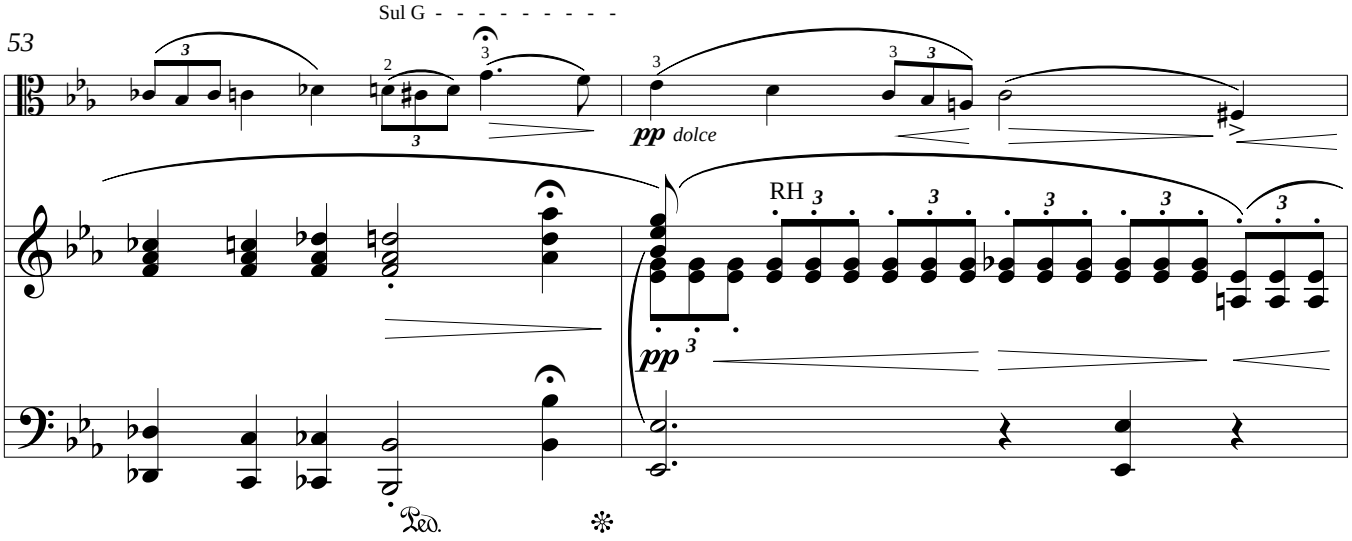

25
misterioso
p dolce
misterioso

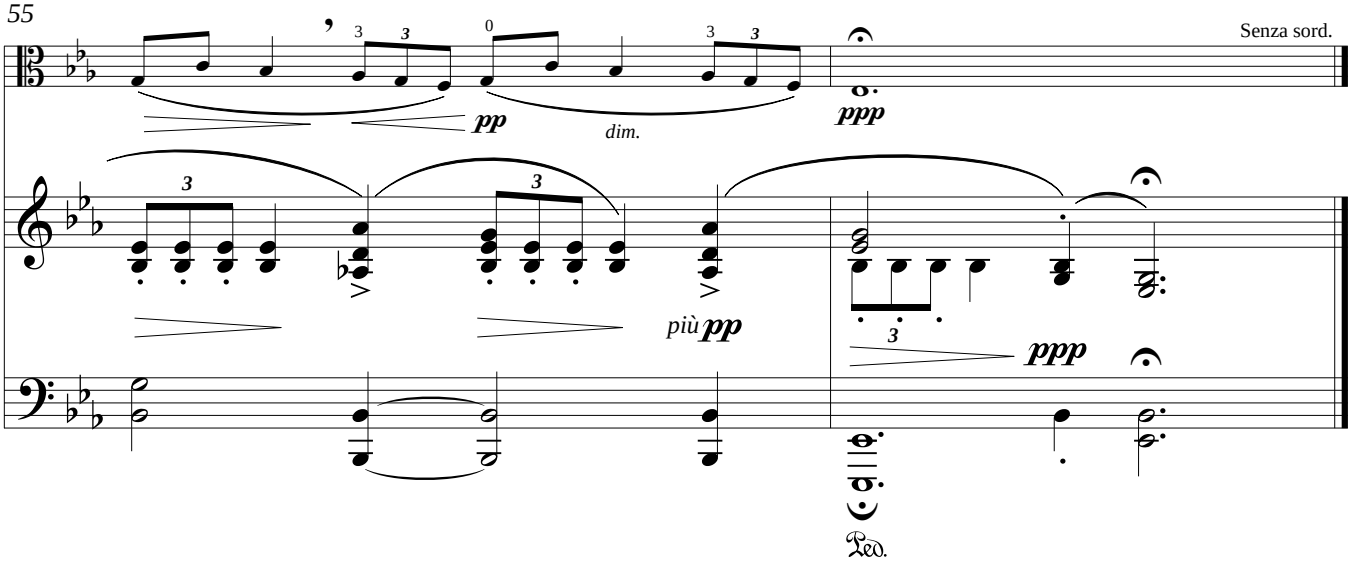

27
Amoroso delicatamente
Sul D
trés dolce
L.H.
dolce
p
30
cresc.
33
Sul D
rinf.
dim.
cresc.
rinf.
dim.


36
poco a poco dim.
marcato
38
pp
41
Con sord.
p
pp
più pp


Tempo I
45
pp (sordino)
pp
47
49
pp

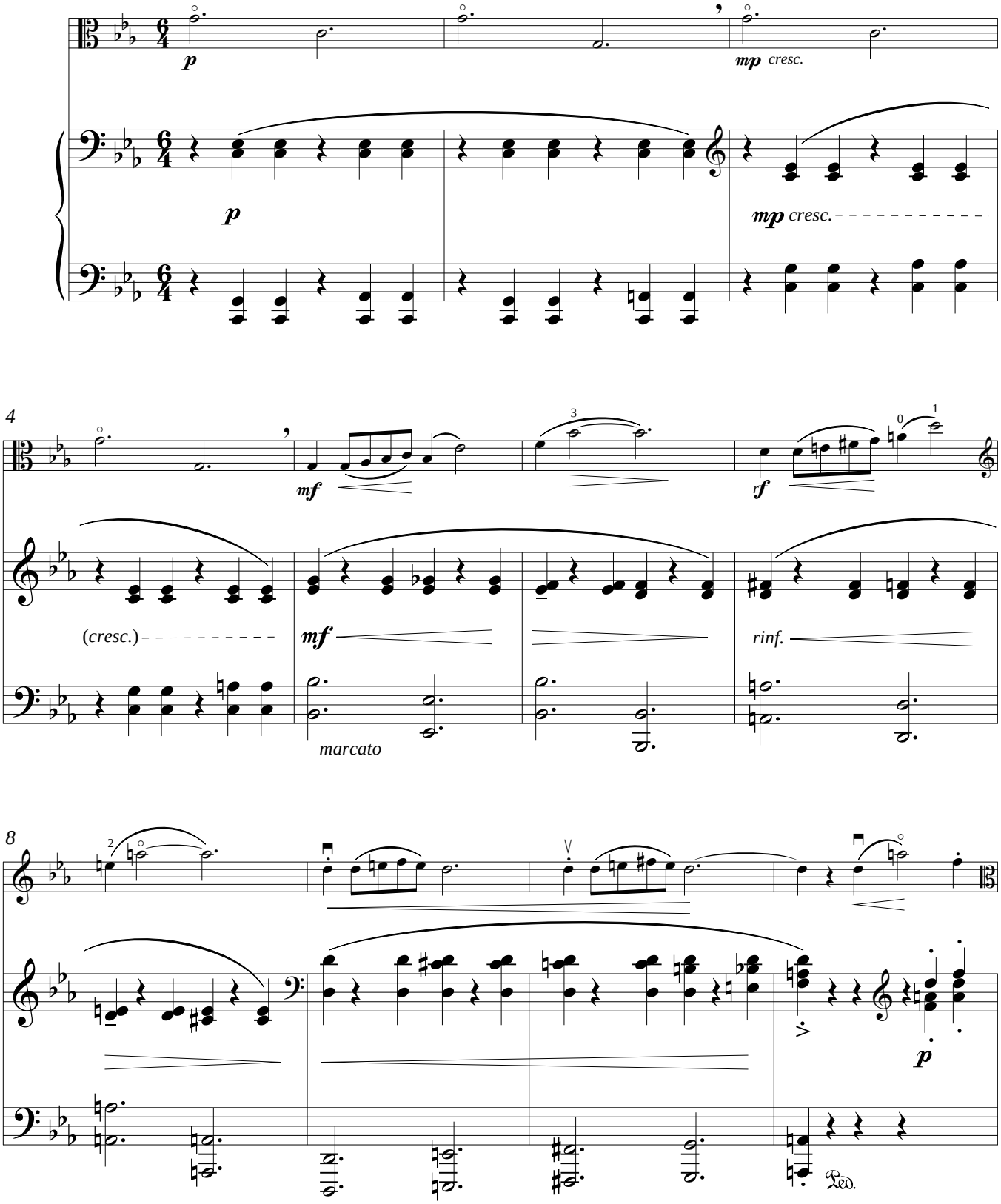

51
cresc. poco a poco
cresc. poco a poco

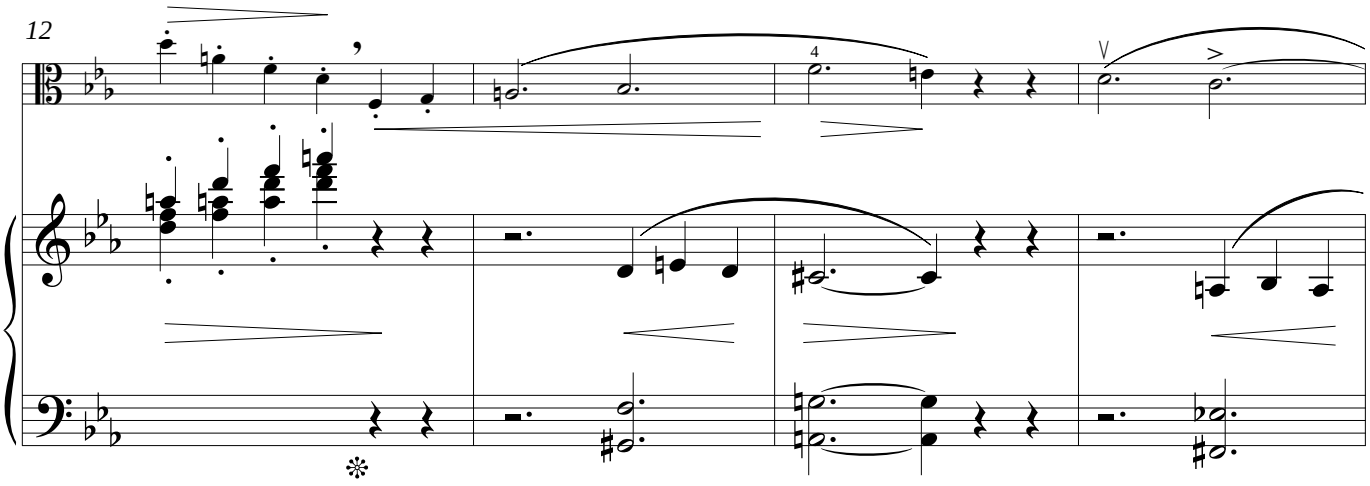

Sul G - - - - - - - - -
53
pp dolce
RH
pp
Ped.

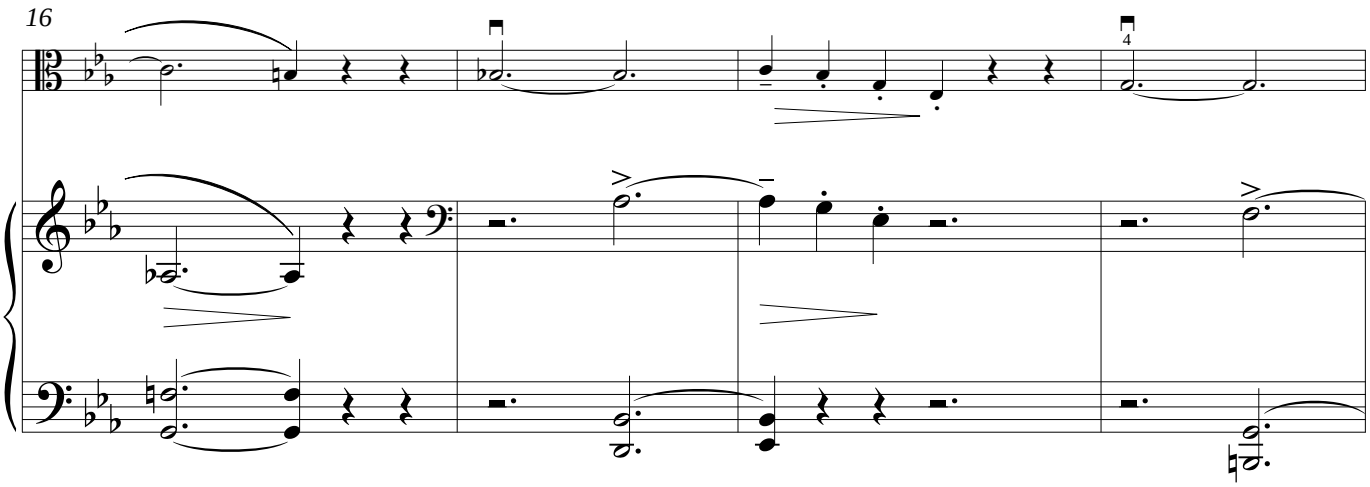

55
pp
dim.
ppp
Senza sord.
più pp
ppp
Ped.

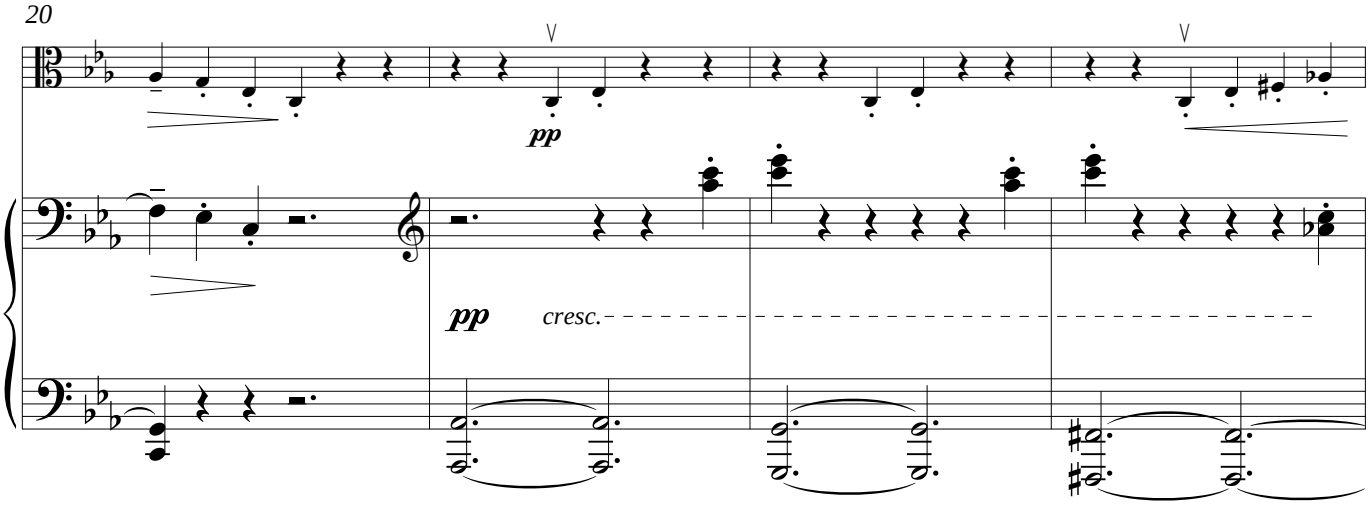
III

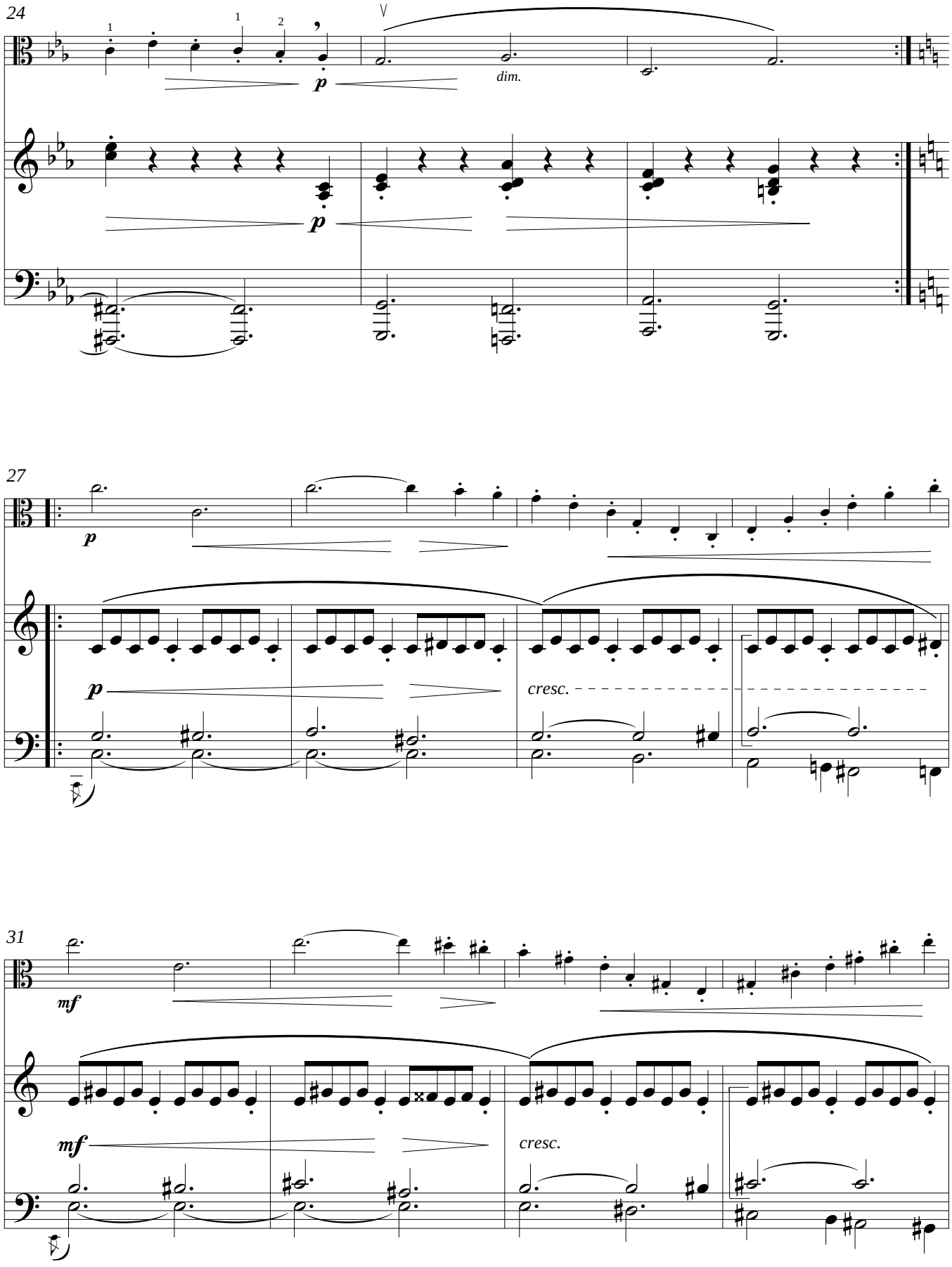
Scherzo: Presto

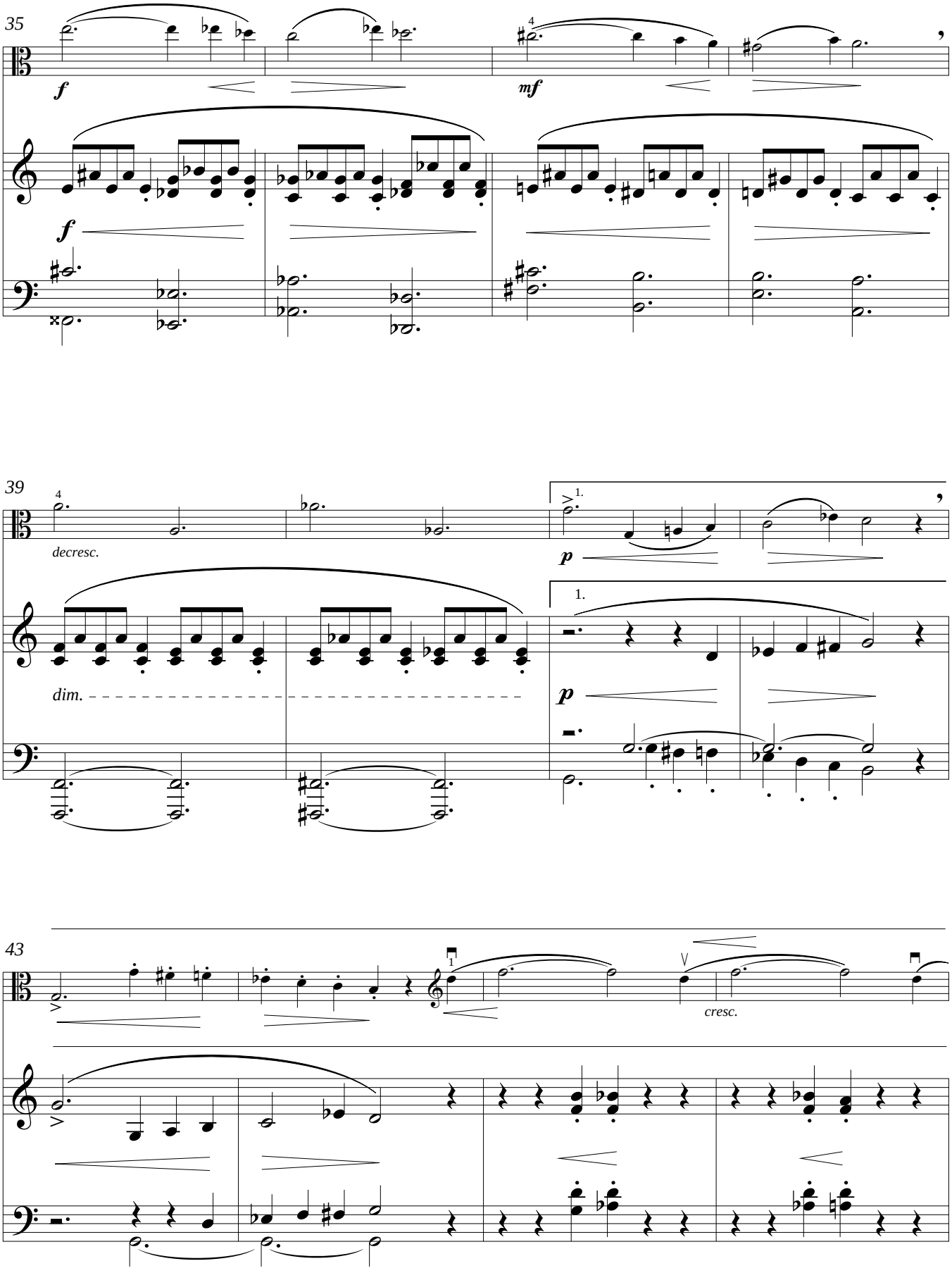


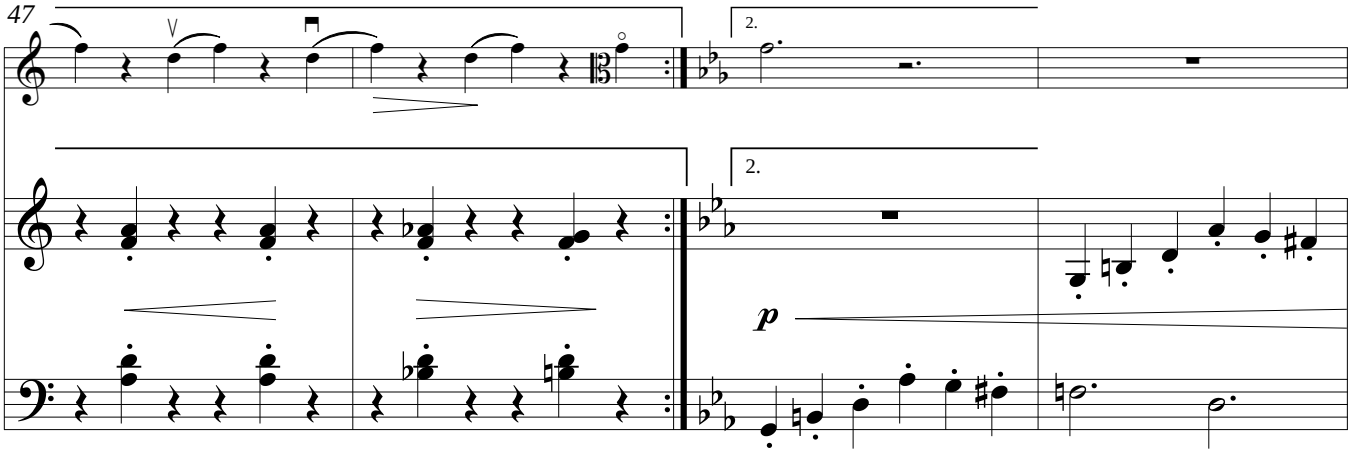

12
4

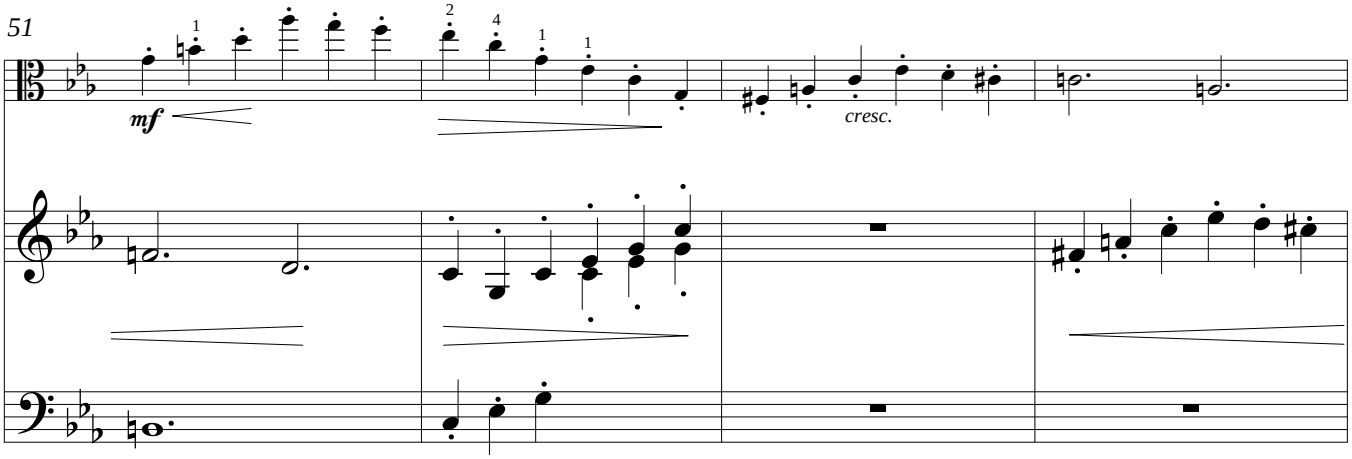

16
4

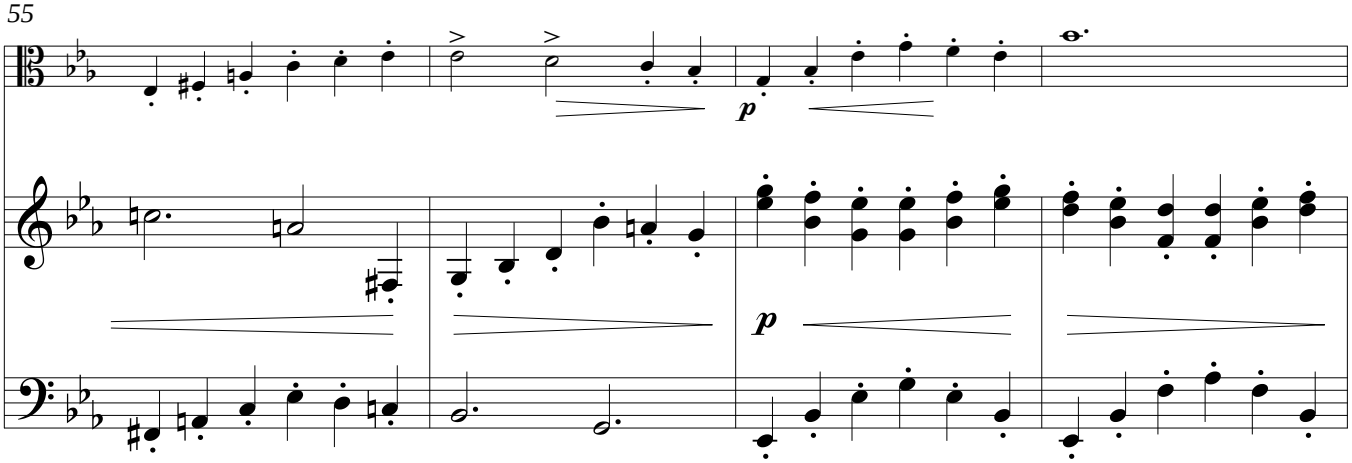

20
pp
pp
cresc.

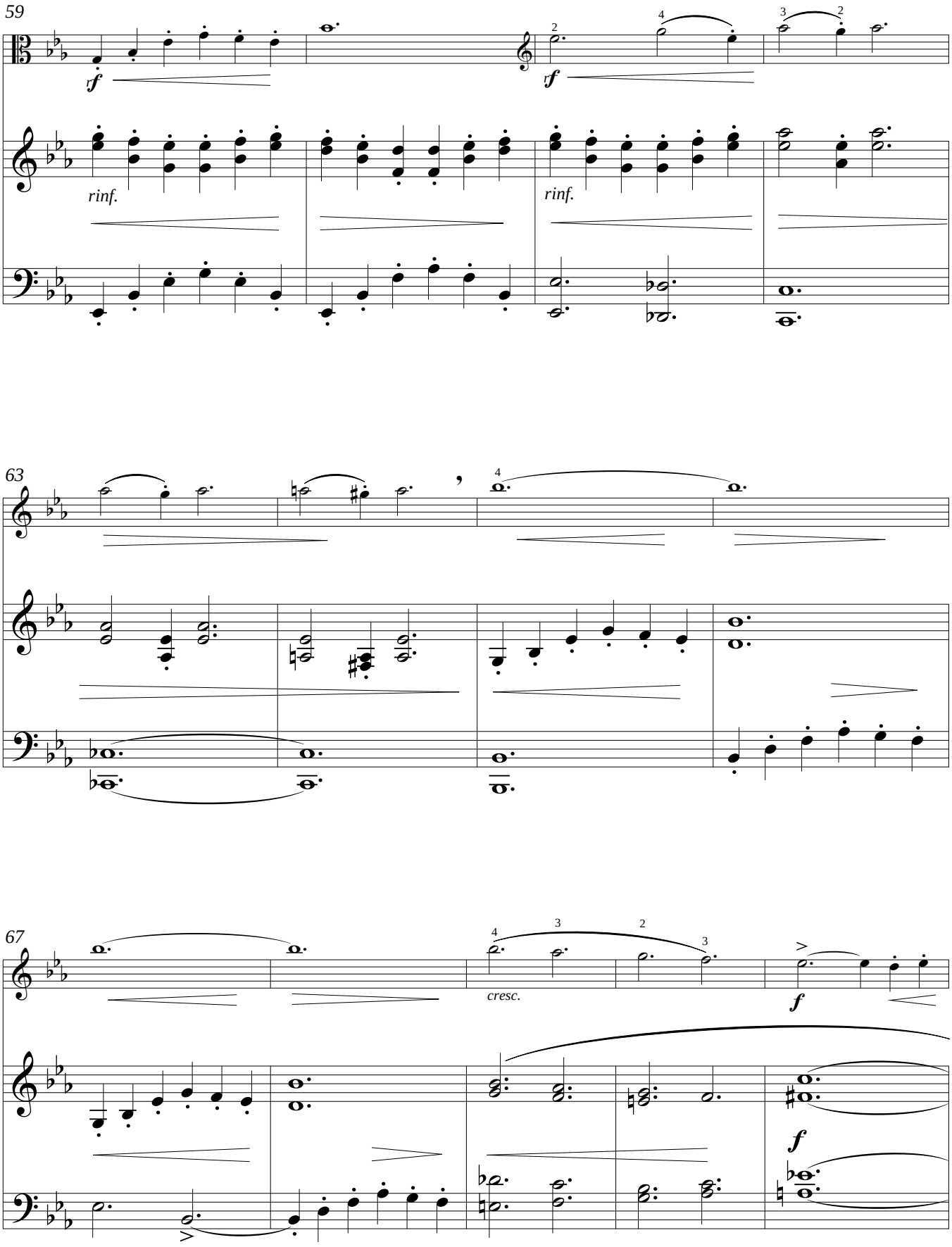

24
p
dim.
p
27
p
cresc.
31
mf
mf
cresc.

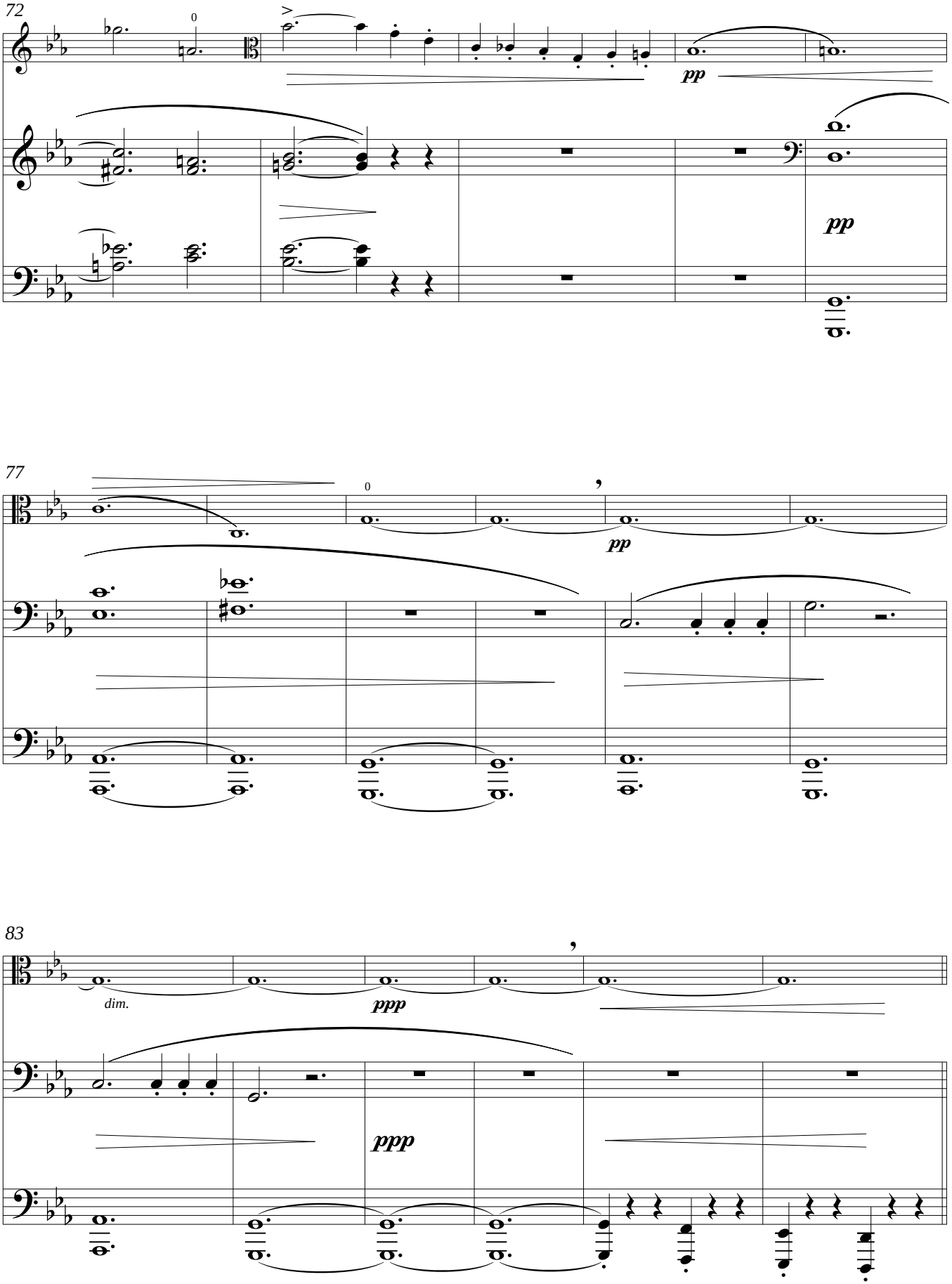

35
f
mf
f
39
decresc.
1.
p
dim.
1.
p
43
cresc.

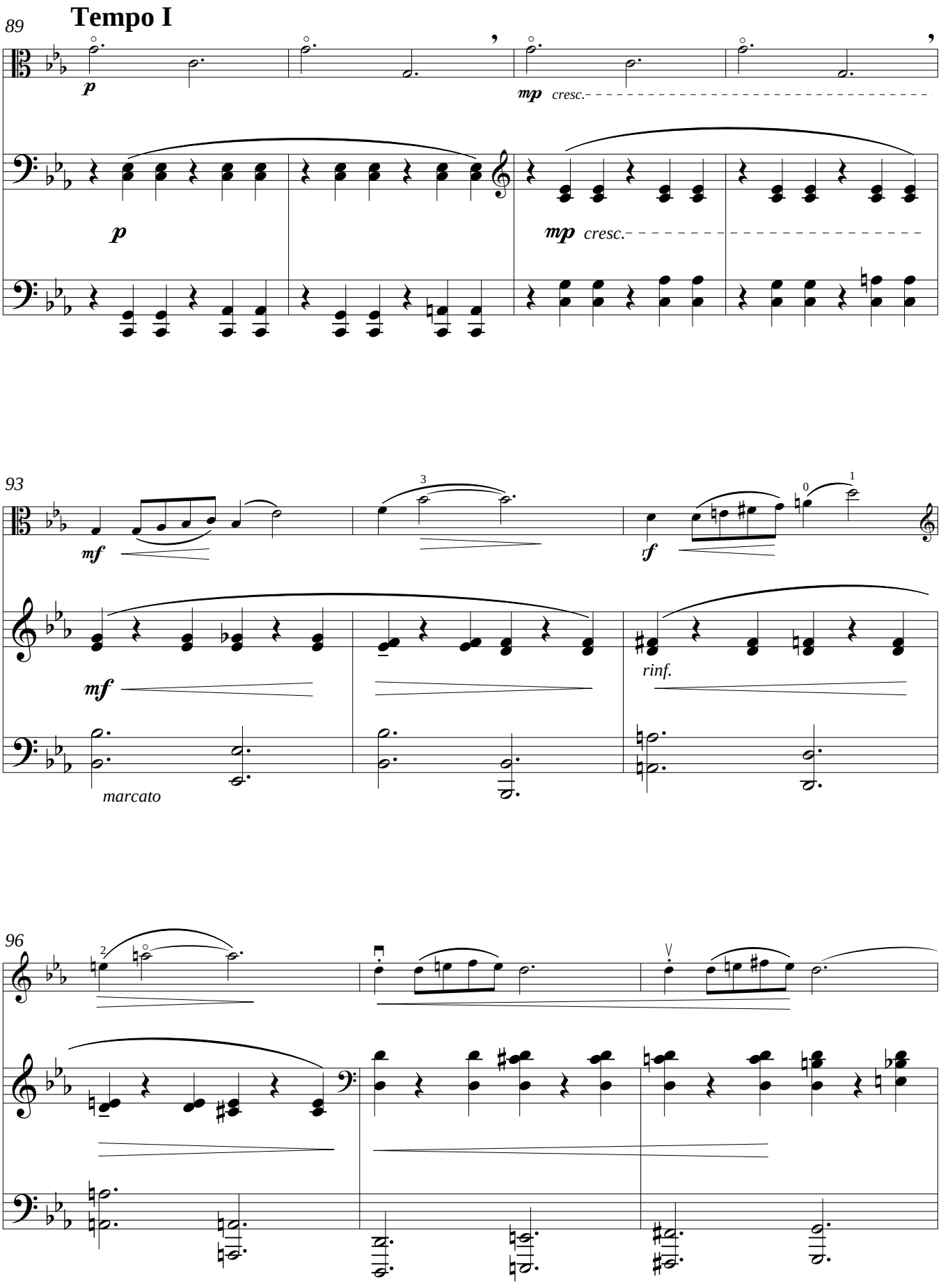

47
2.
2.
p

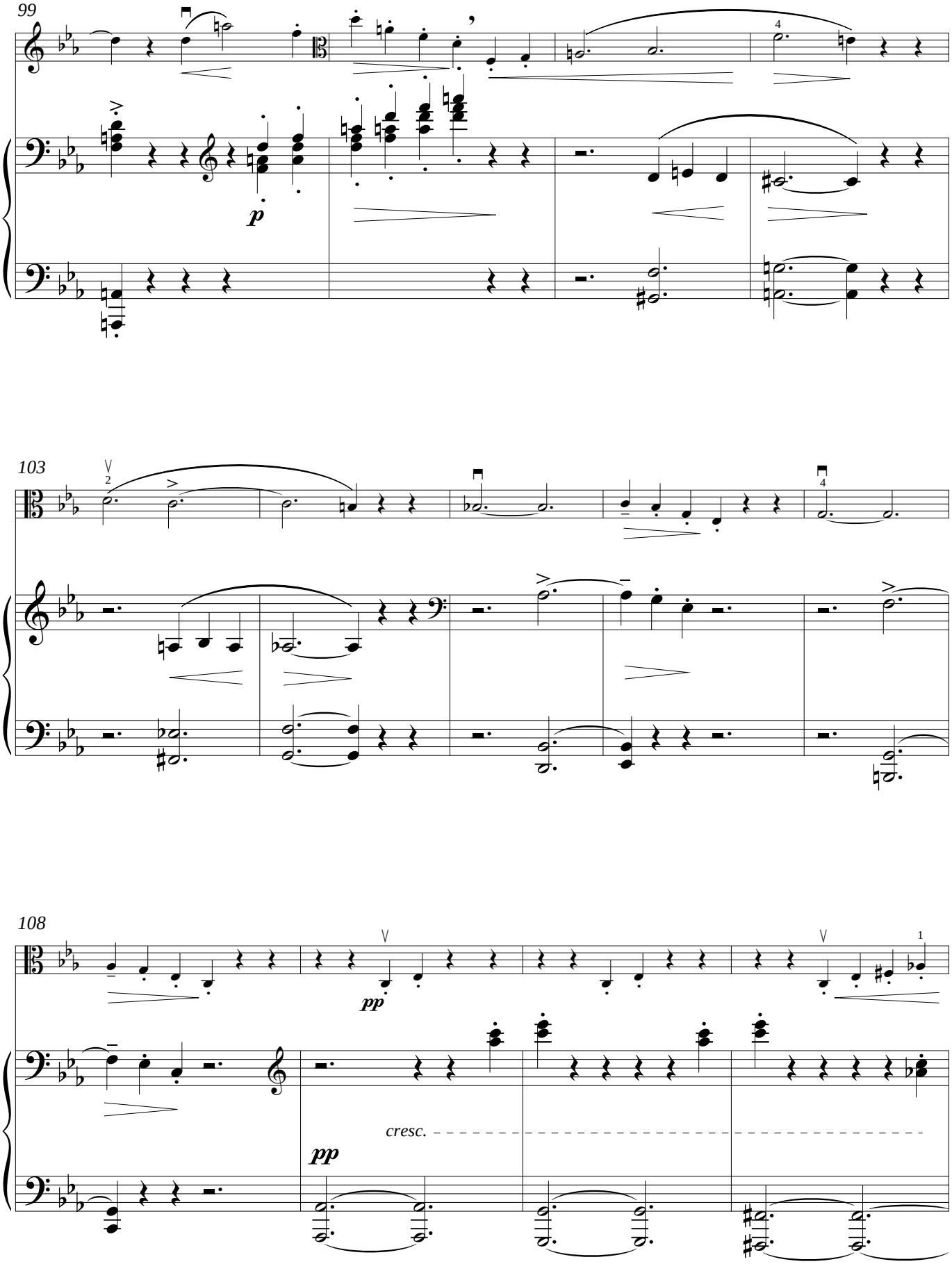

51
mf
cresc.

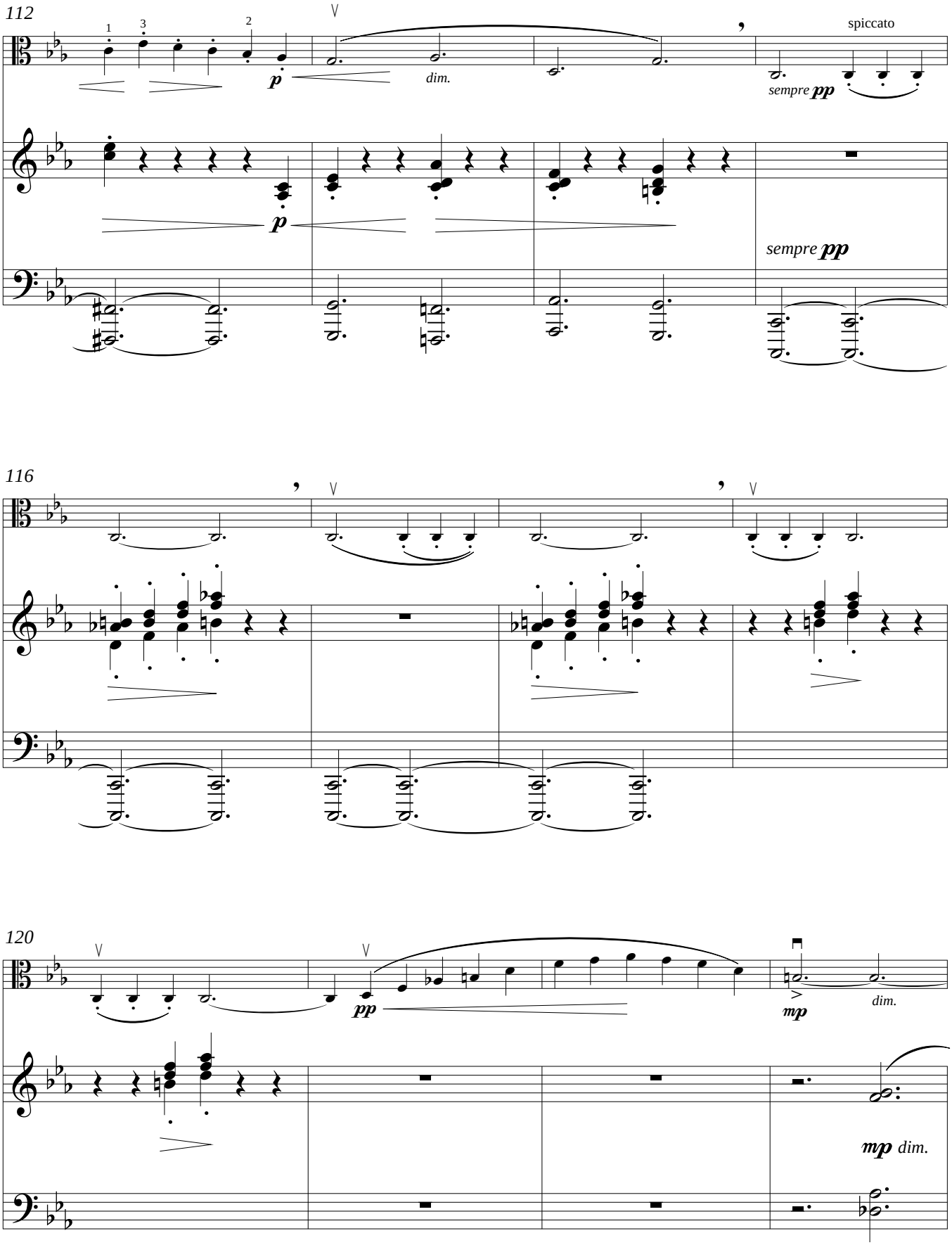

55
p
p

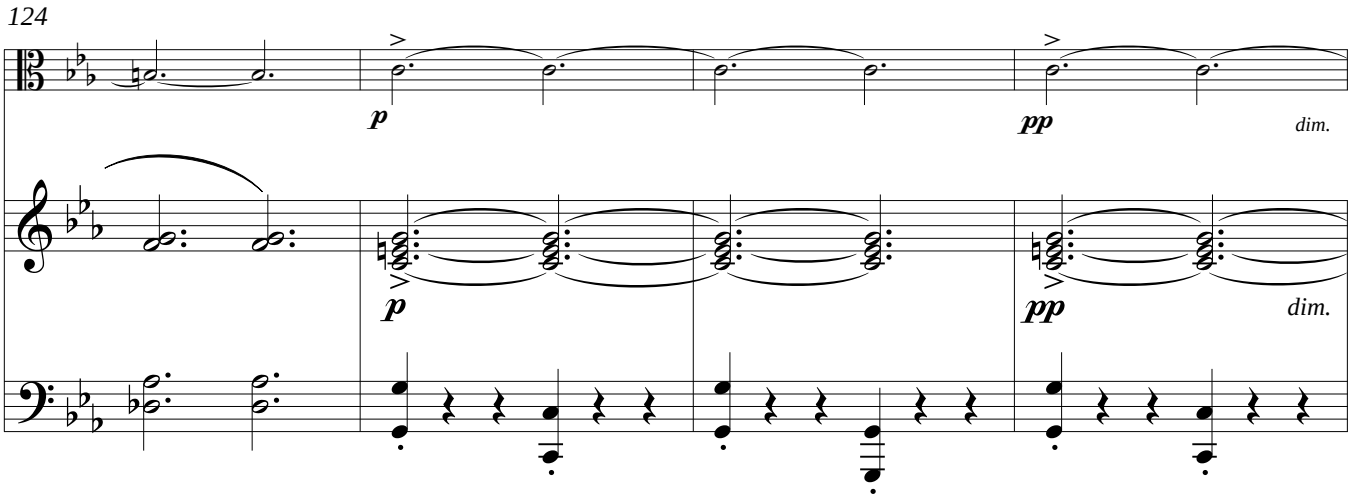

59
rf
rf
rinf.
rinf.
63
67
cresc.
f
f

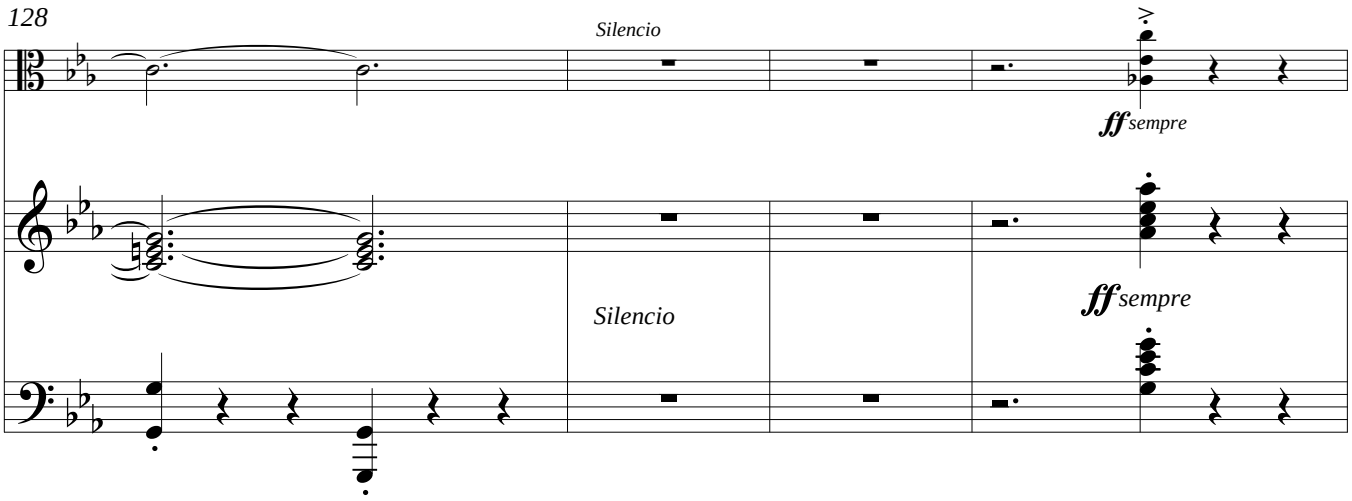

72
pp
pp
77
pp
83
dim.
ppp
ppp

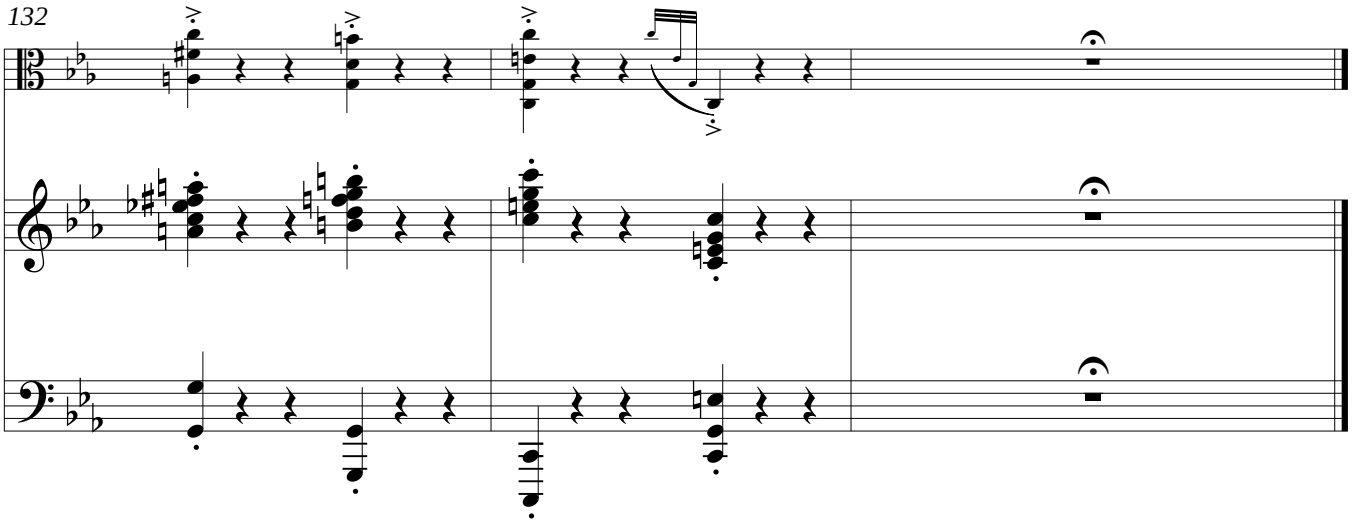

89
Tempo I
p
mp cresc.
93
mf
marcato
rinf.
96


99
p
103
108
pp
cresc.
pp

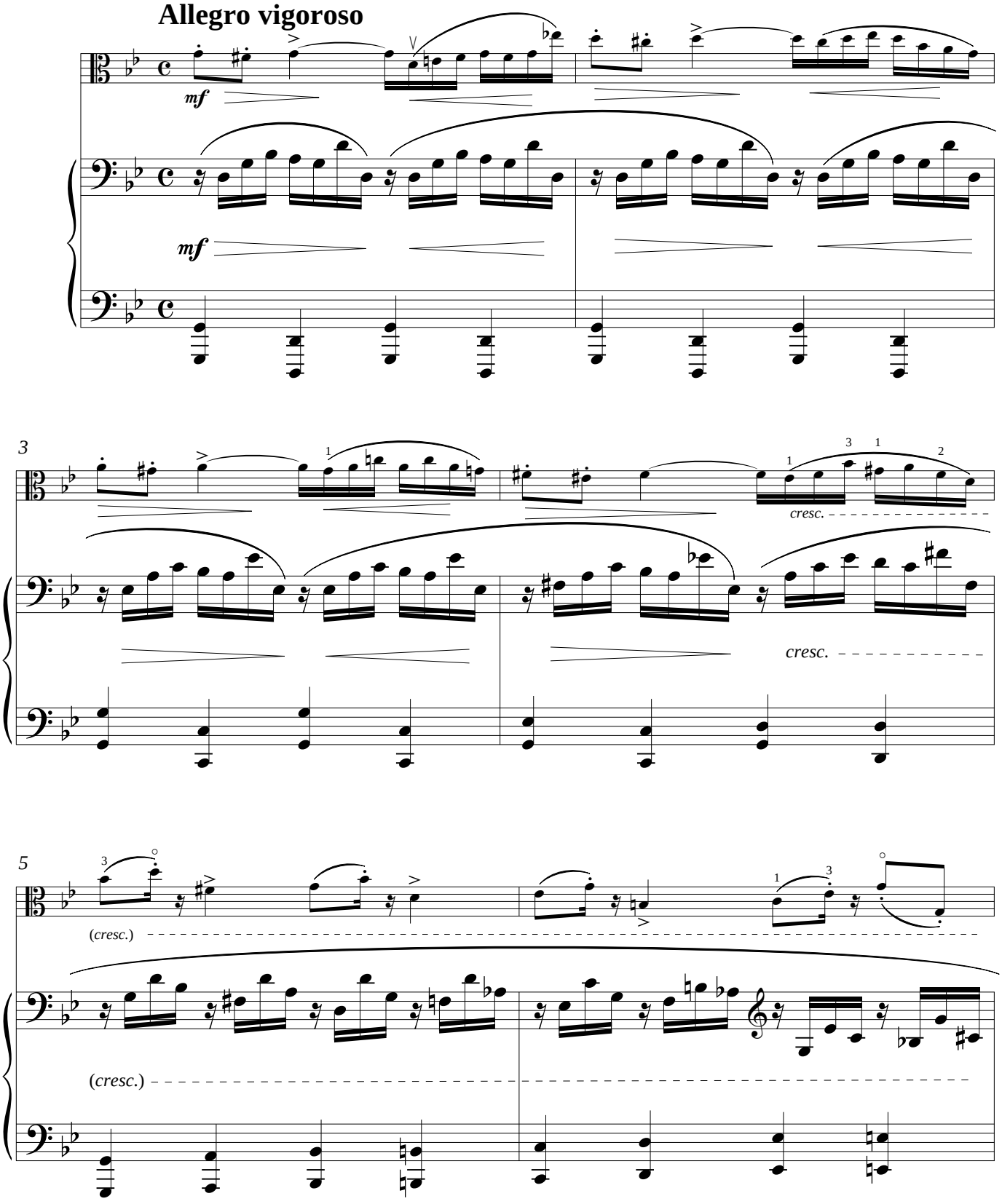

112
1
3
2
p
dim.
spiccato
sempre pp
p
sempre pp
116
120
pp
mp
dim.
mp dim.

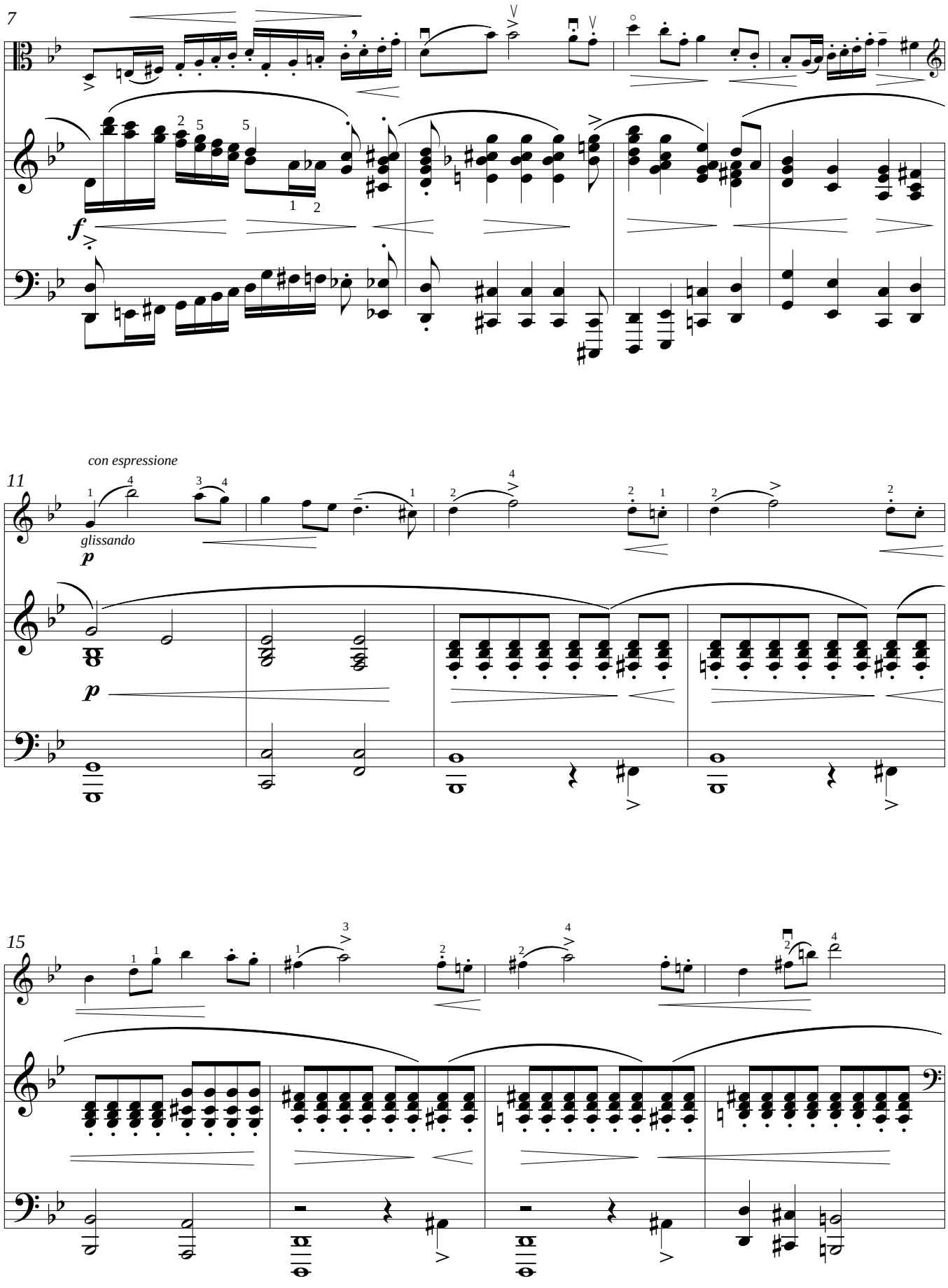

124
p
pp
dim.
p
pp
dim.

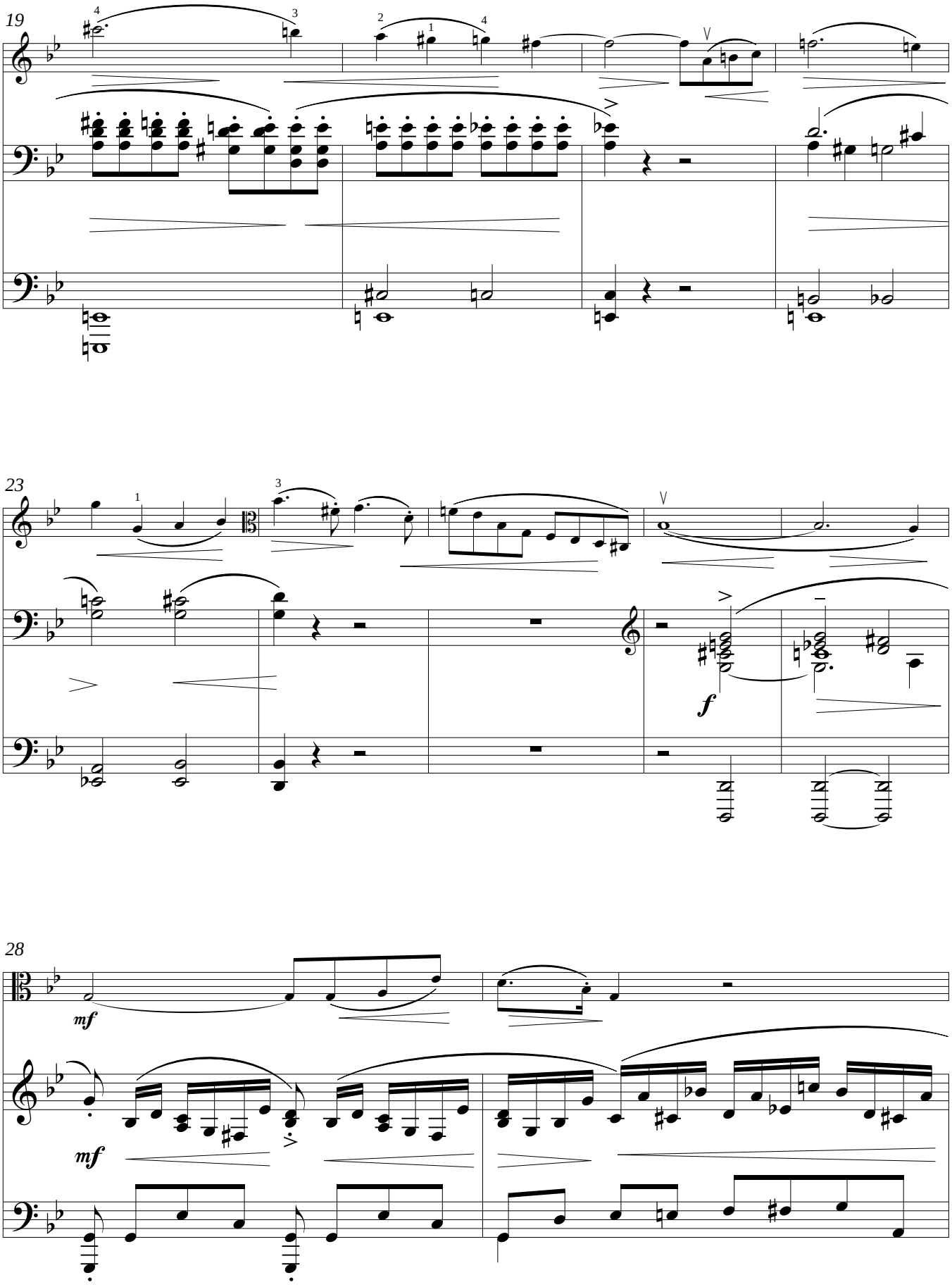

128
Silencio
ff sempre
Silencio
ff sempre

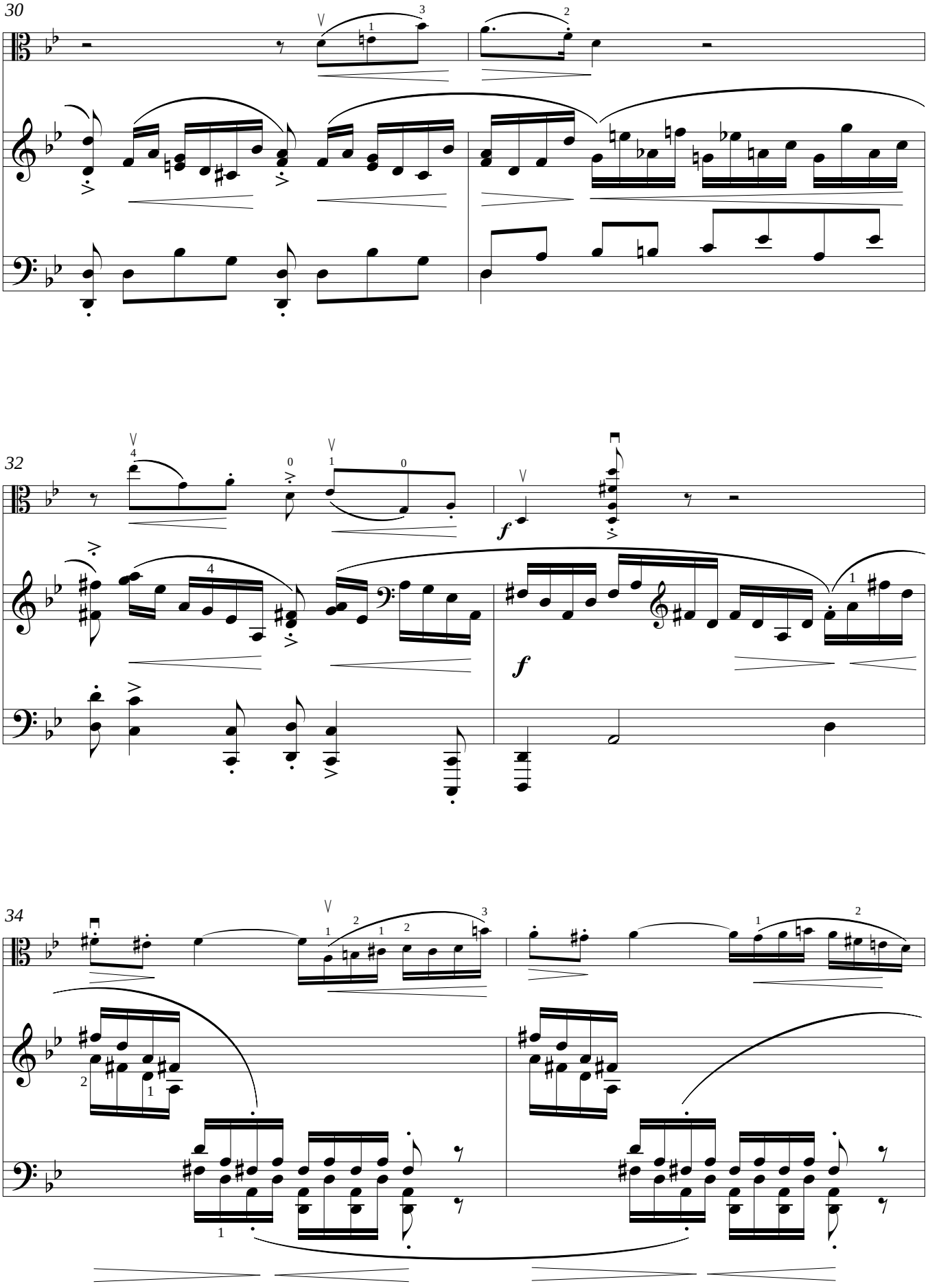

132

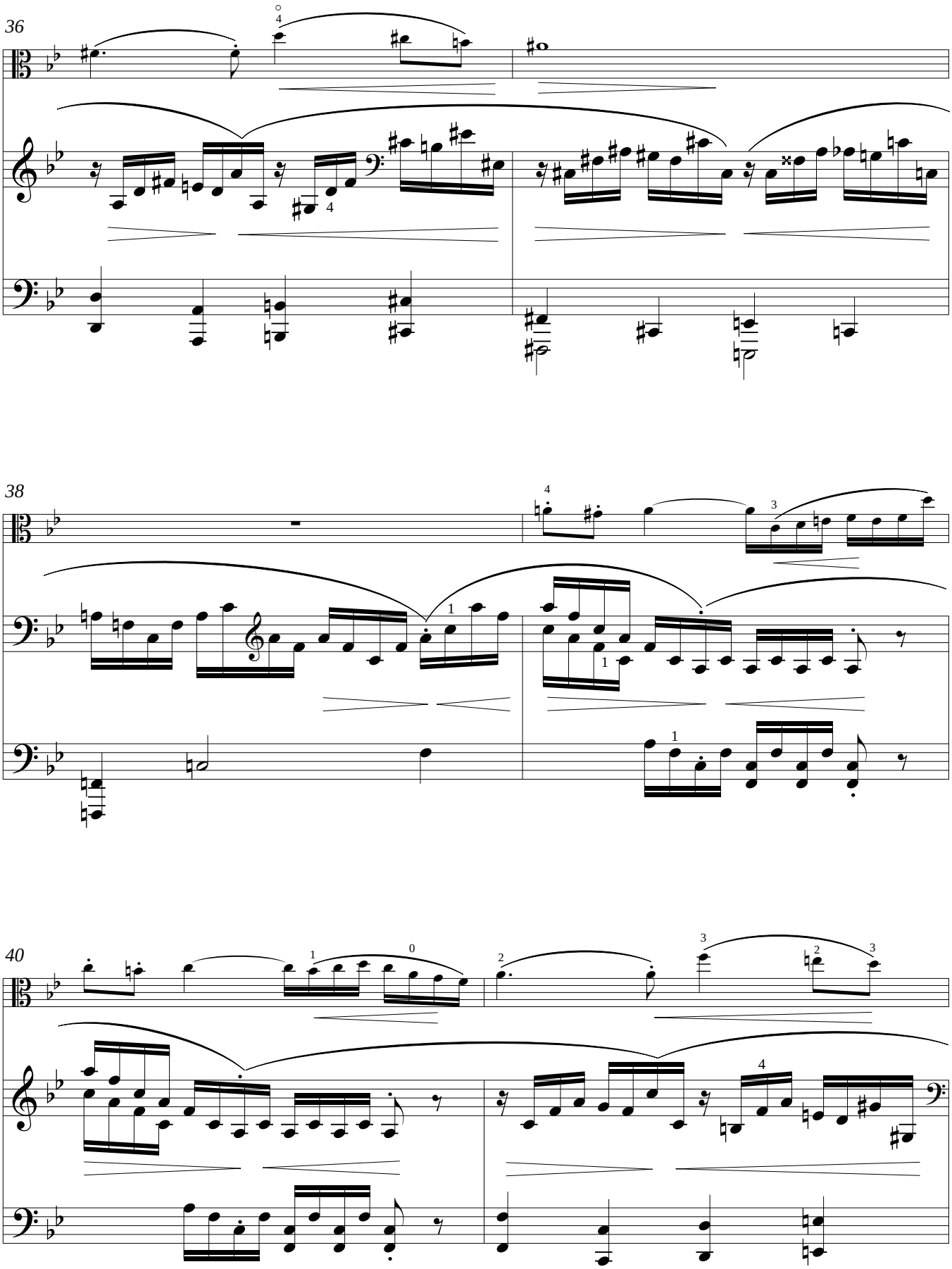
IV

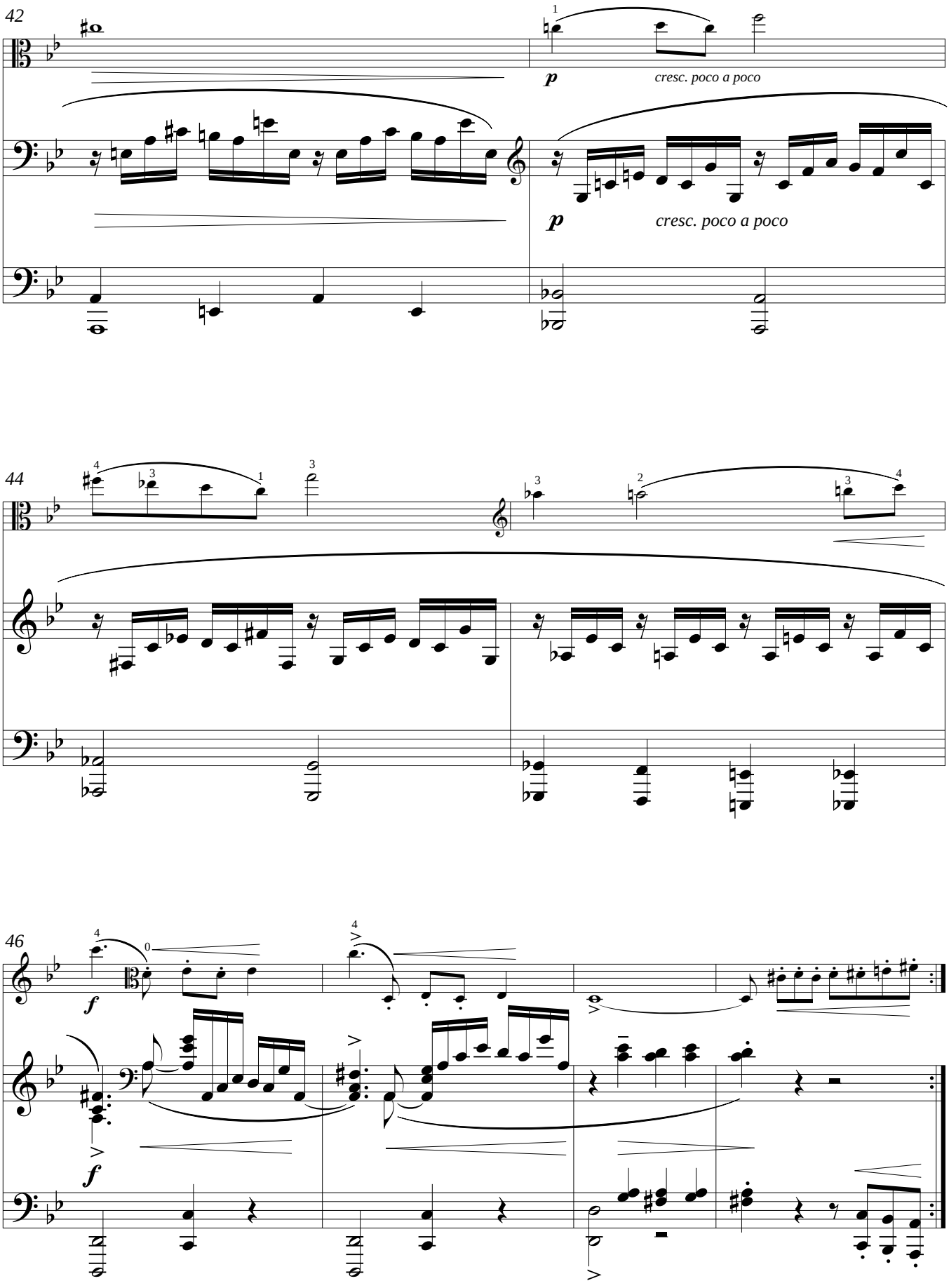


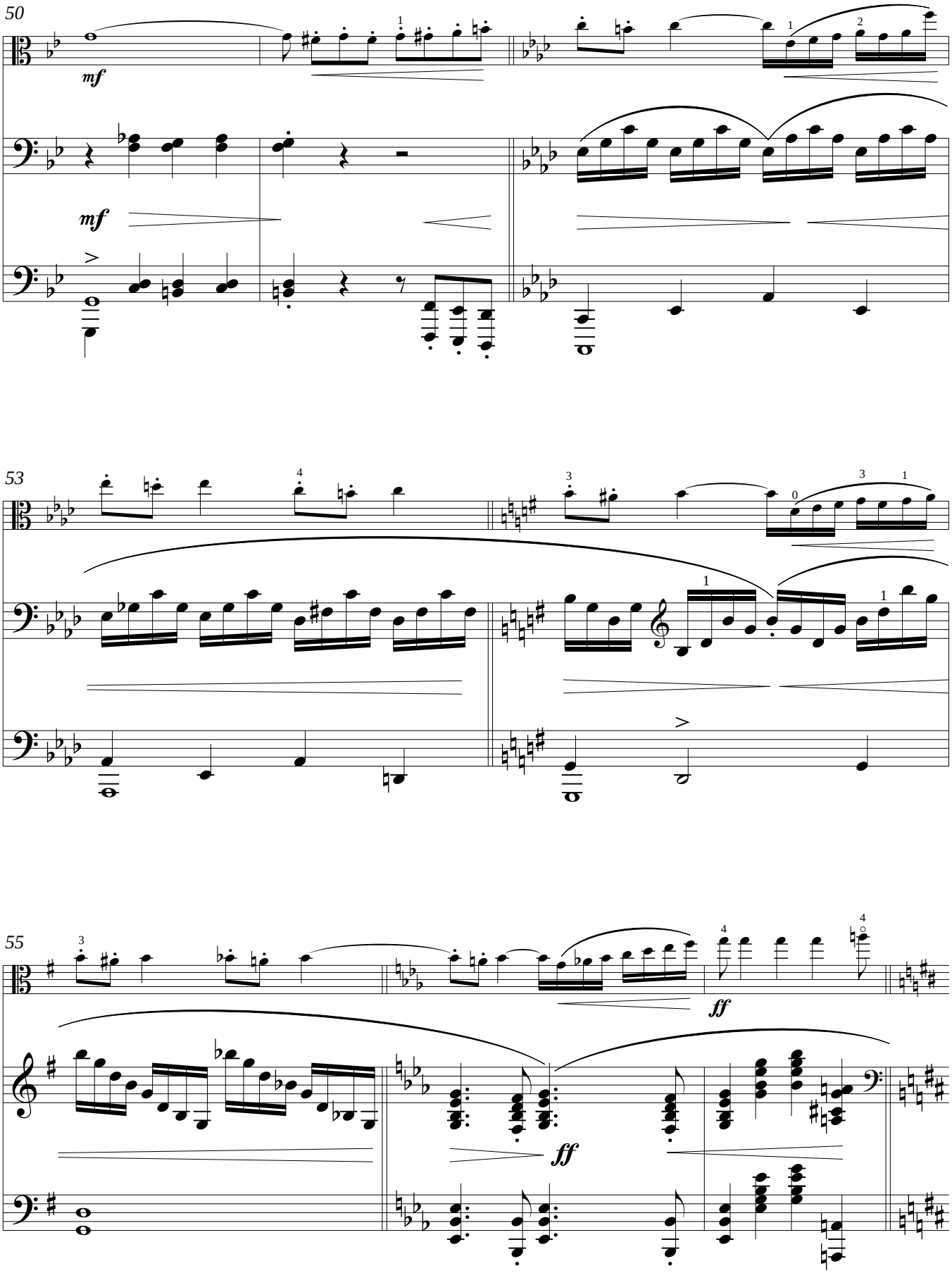

7
f
con espressione
11
glissando
p
p
15

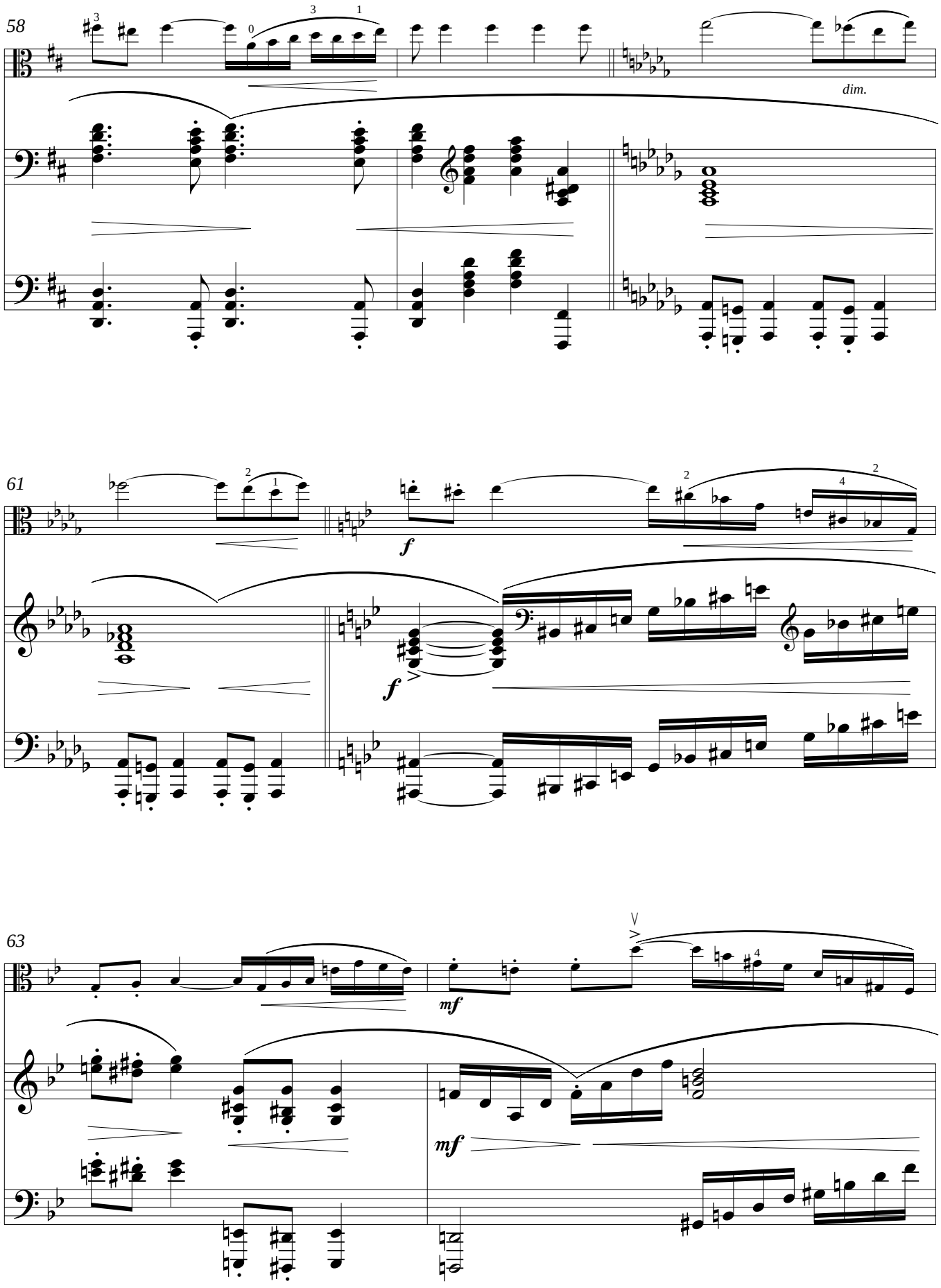

19
23
28
mf
mf
f

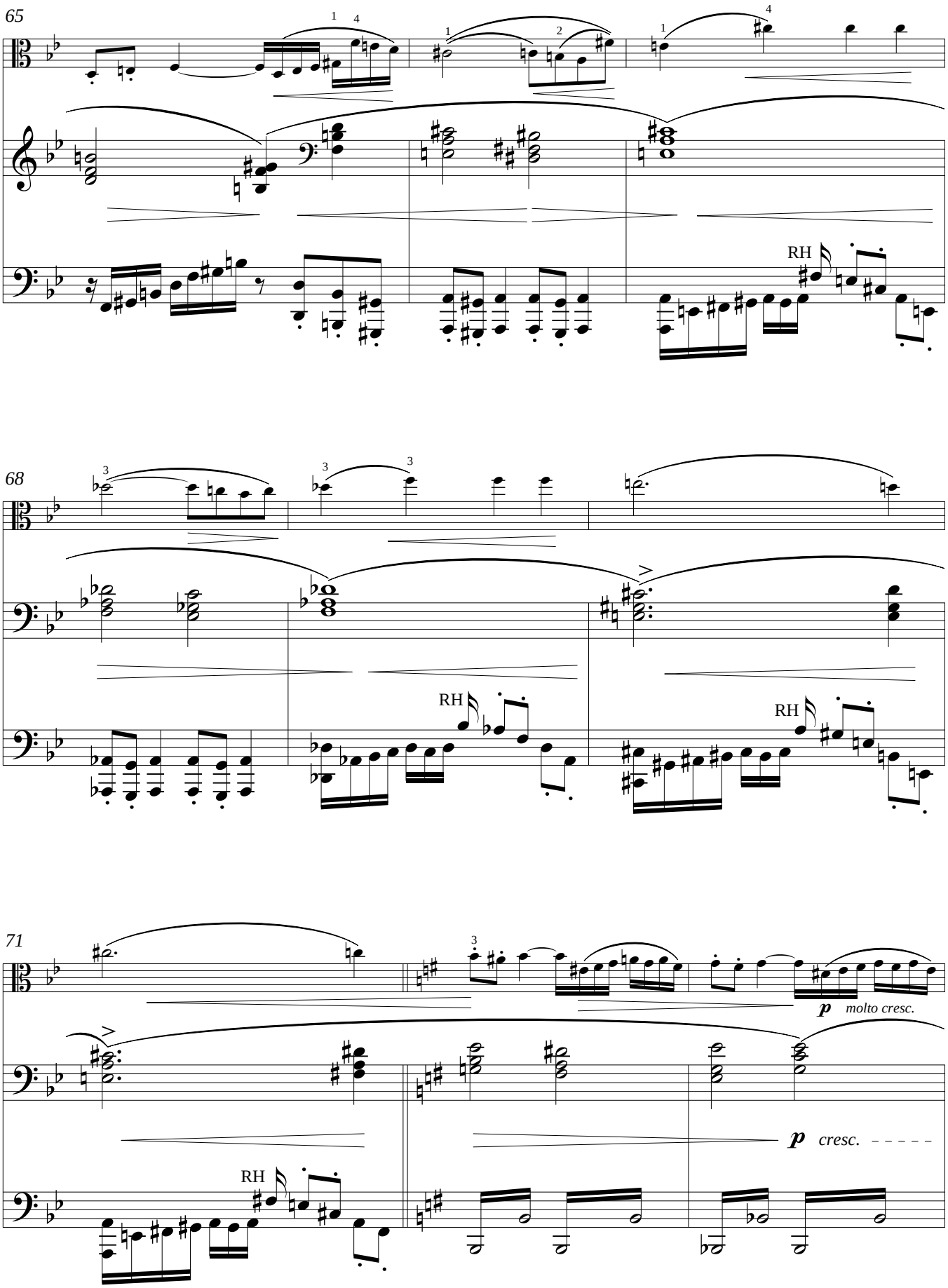

30
32
34
f
f

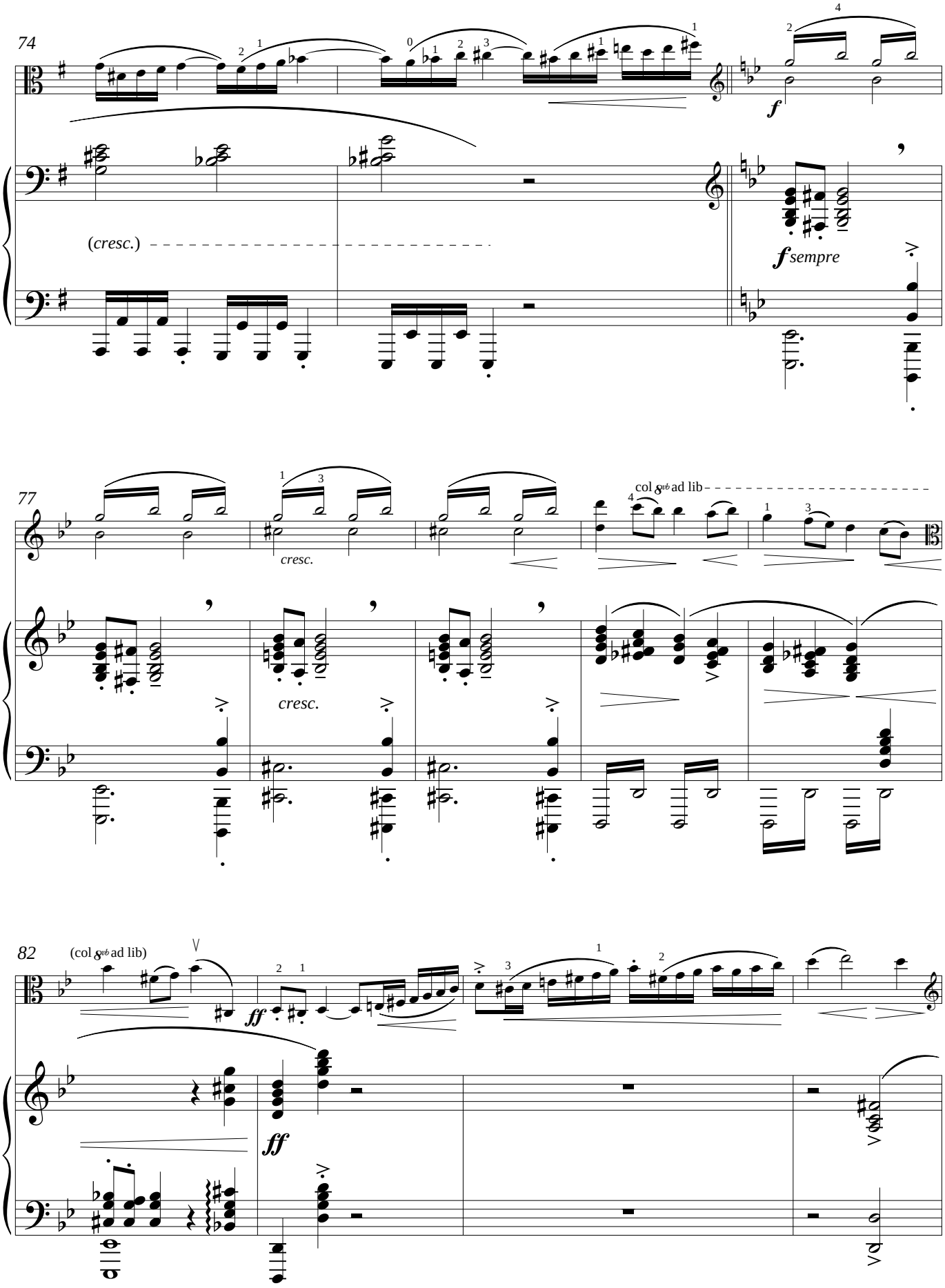

36
38
40

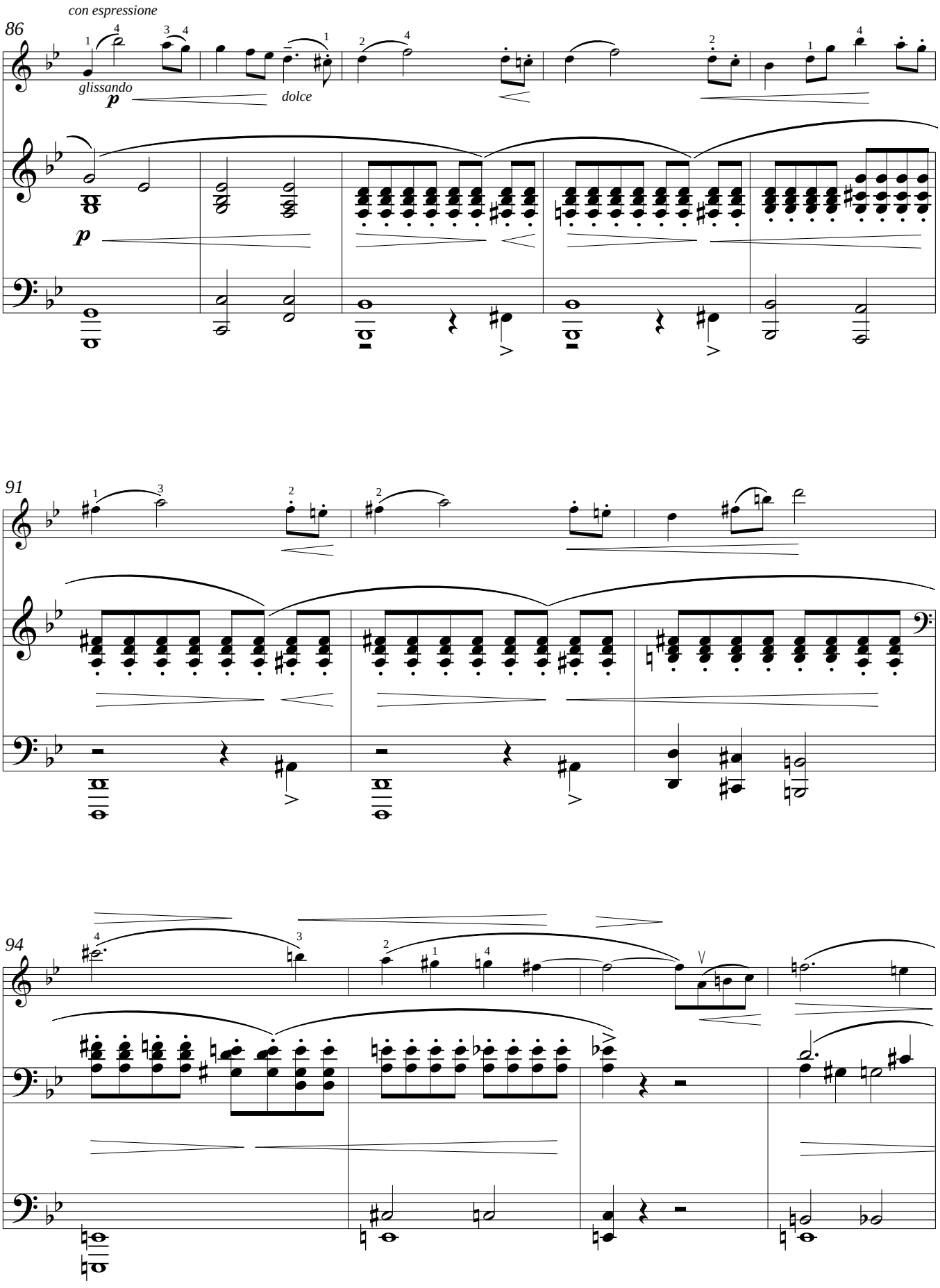

42
p
cresc. poco a poco
p
cresc. poco a poco
44
46
f
f

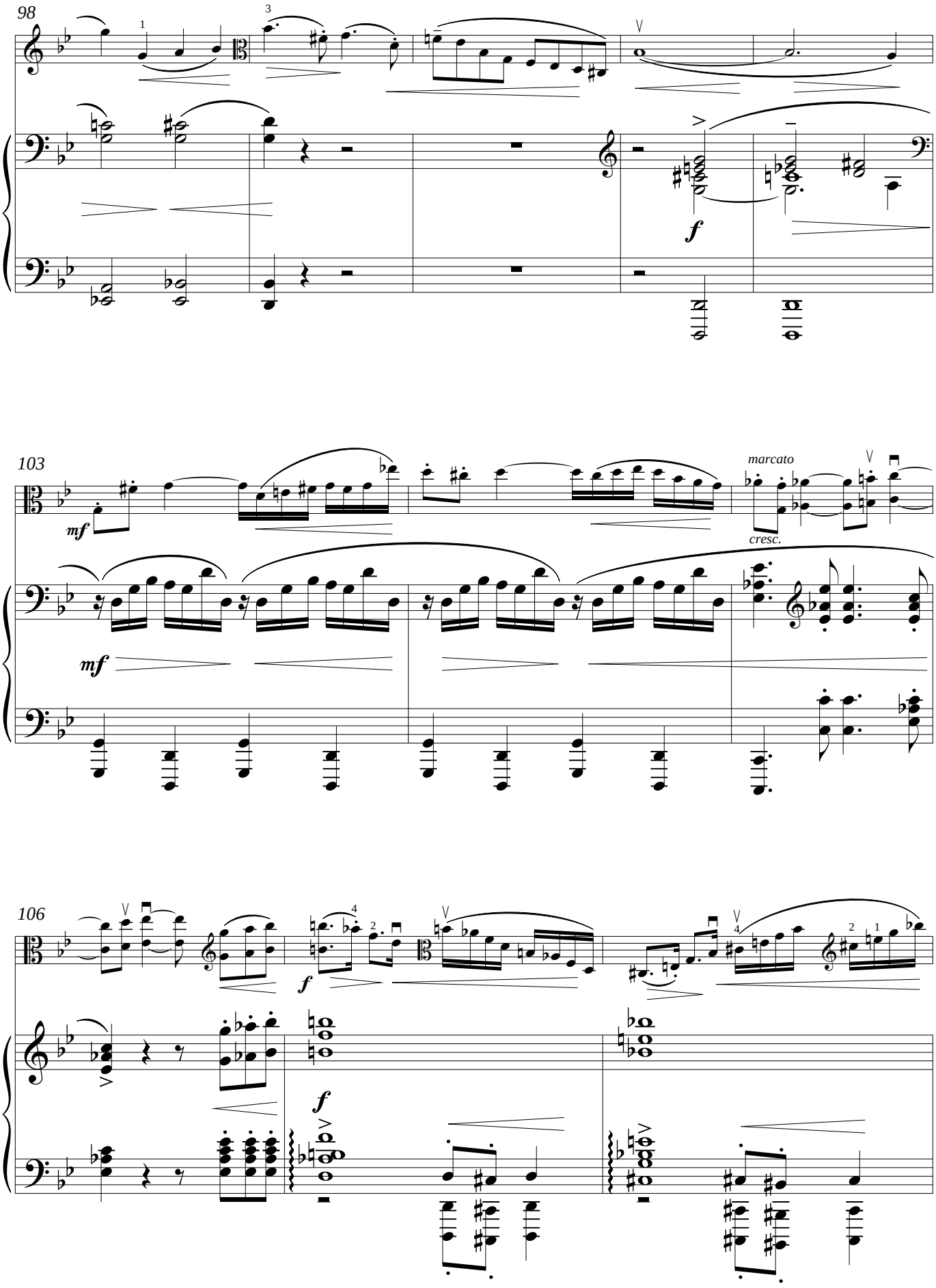

50
mf
mf
53
55
ff
ff

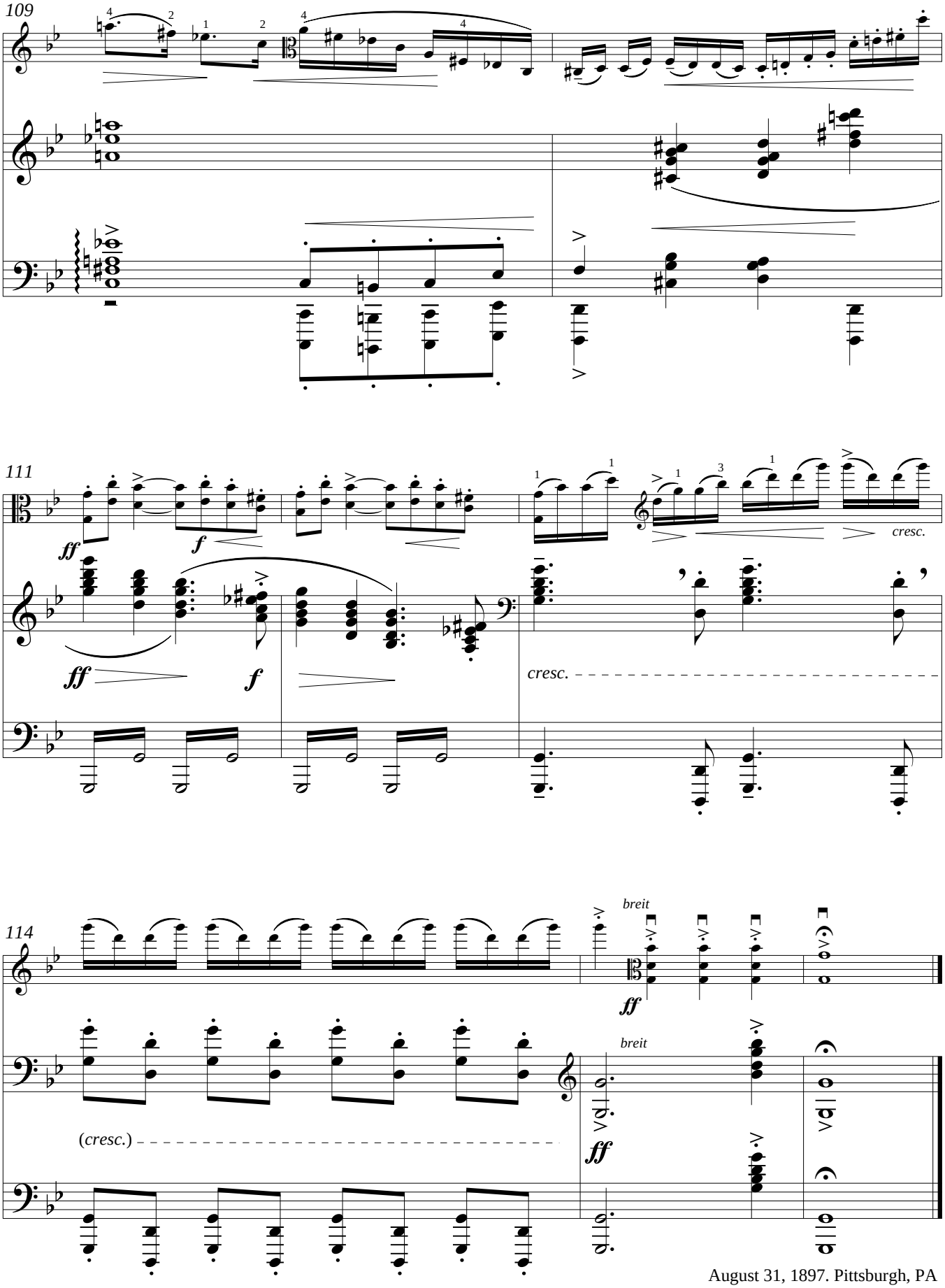

58
dim.
61
f
f
63
mf
mf


65
RH
68
RH
RH
71
RH
p molto cresc.
p cresc.


74
(cresc.)
f
f sempre
77
cresc.
cresc.
col 8vb ad lib
82
(col 8vb ad lib)
ff
ff


con espressione
86
glissando
p
dolce
p
91
94


98
f
103
mf
mf
marcato
cresc.
106
f
f



August 31, 1897. Pittsburgh, PA

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