Edvard Grieg

(1843-1907)

Piano Sonata Op. 7 (1865/1887)

arranged by Toby Miller (2015-6) as

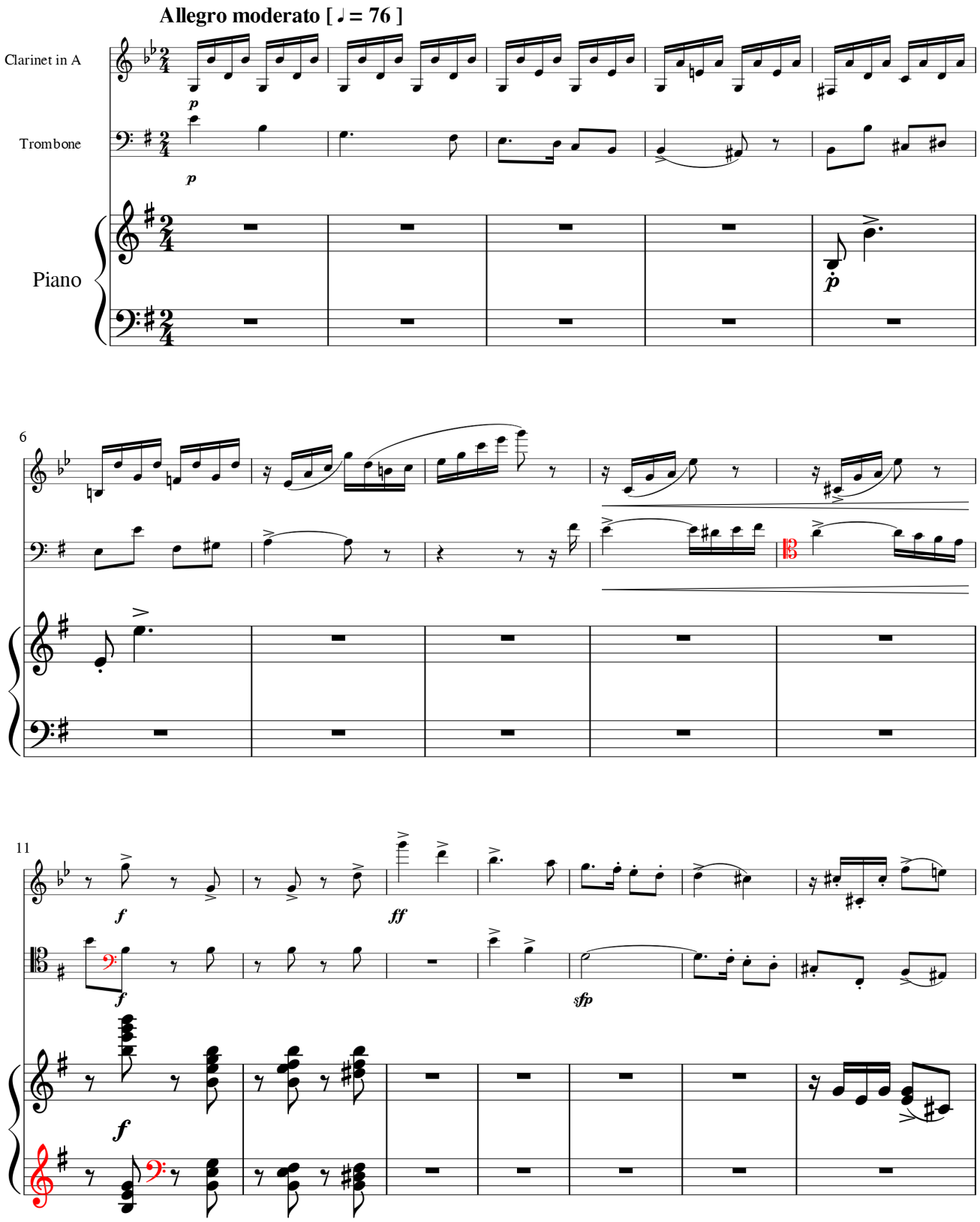
Trio Sonata for Clarinet (A or B♭), Trombone & Piano

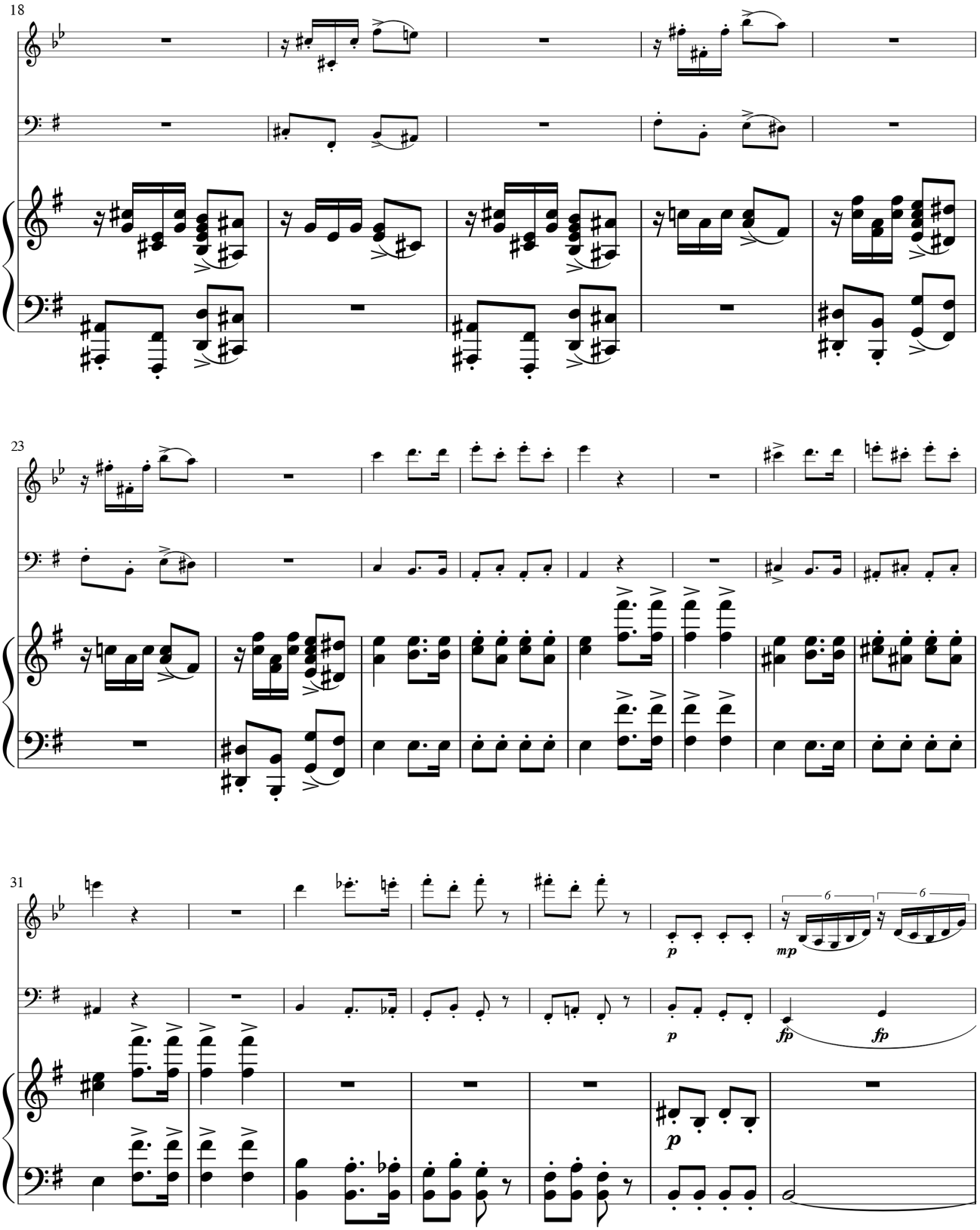
for Hannah, Peter and Pippa Gobbett

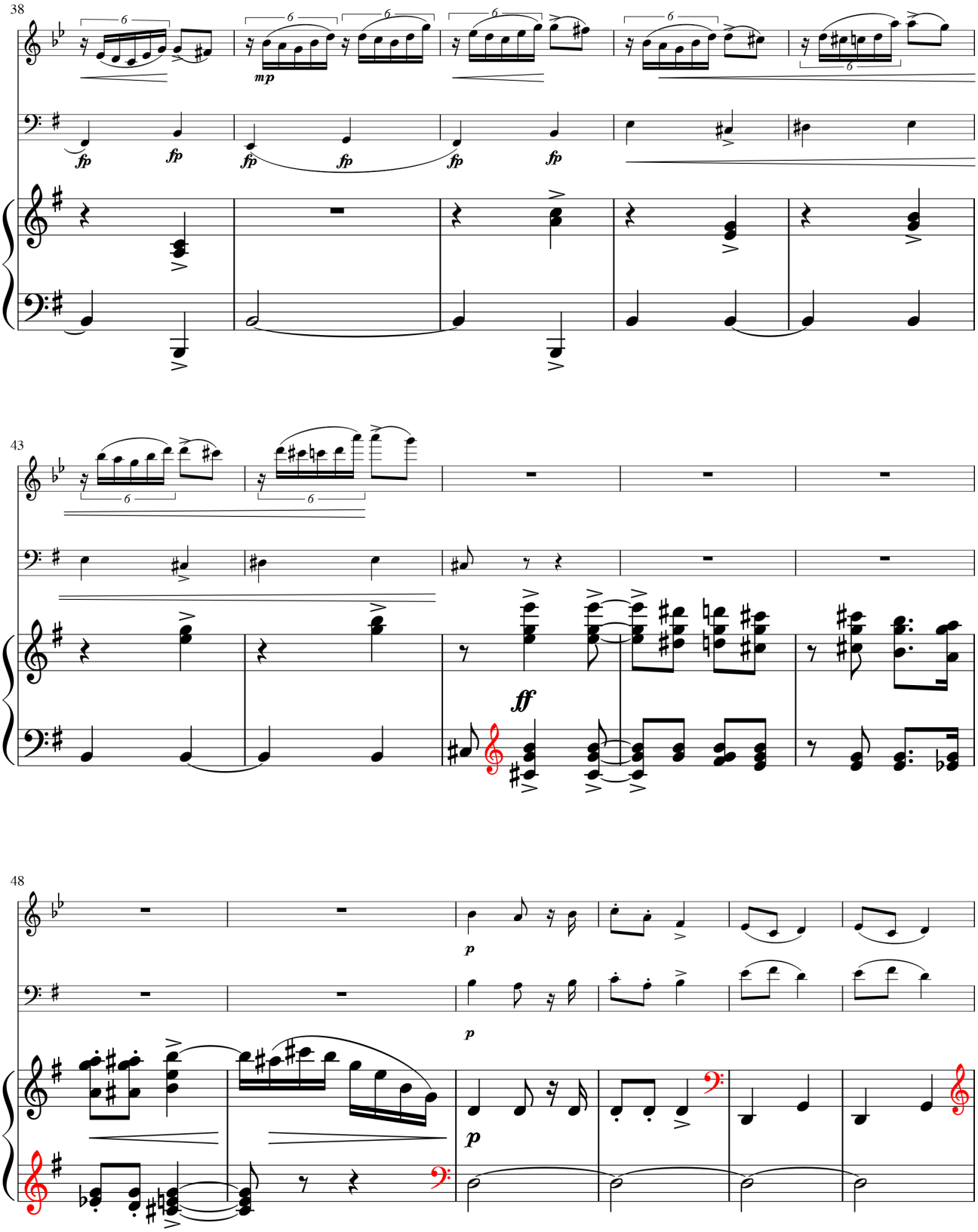
Grieg in 1866 [Bergen Public Library]

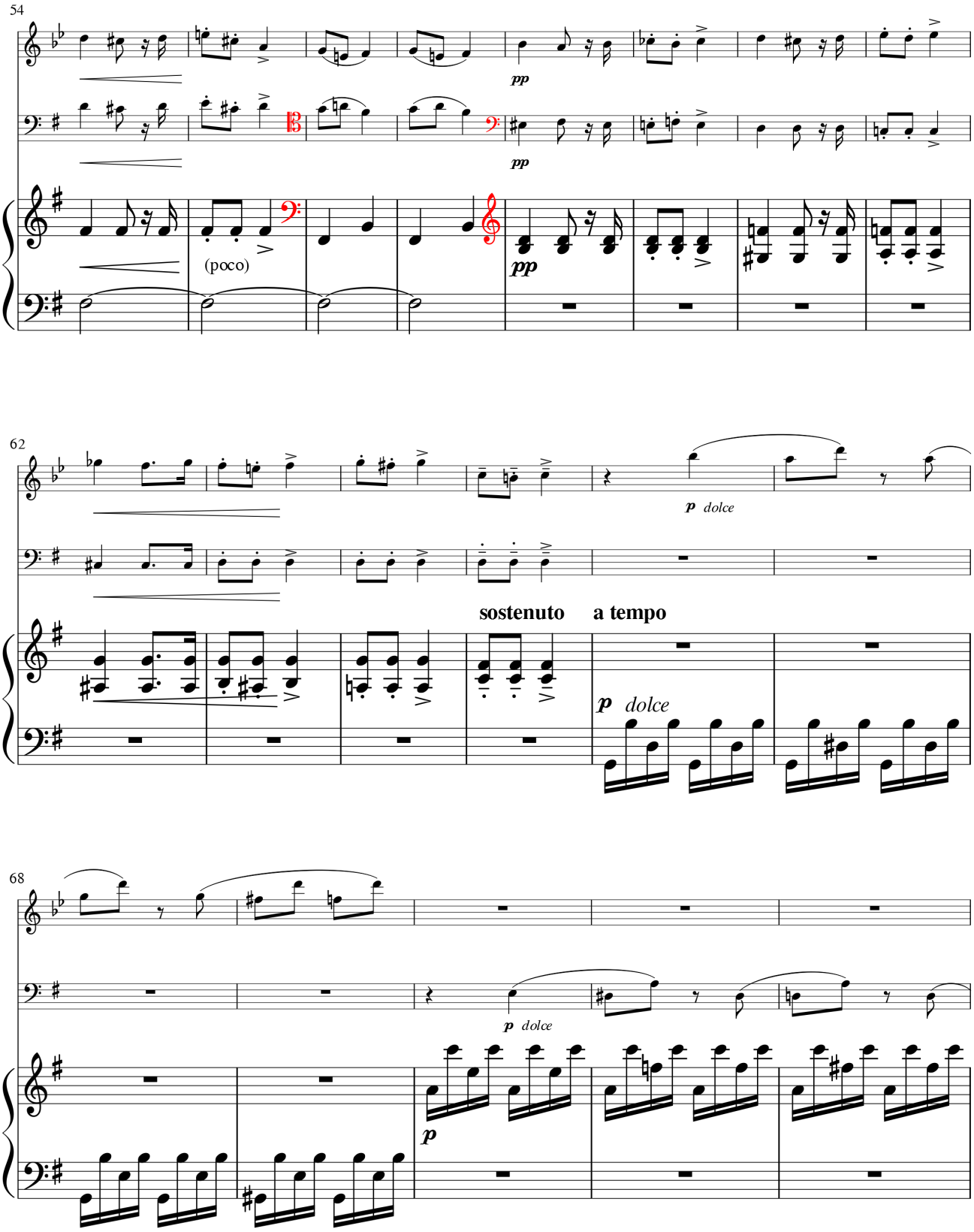
TrioSonata for Clarinet, Trombone and Piano

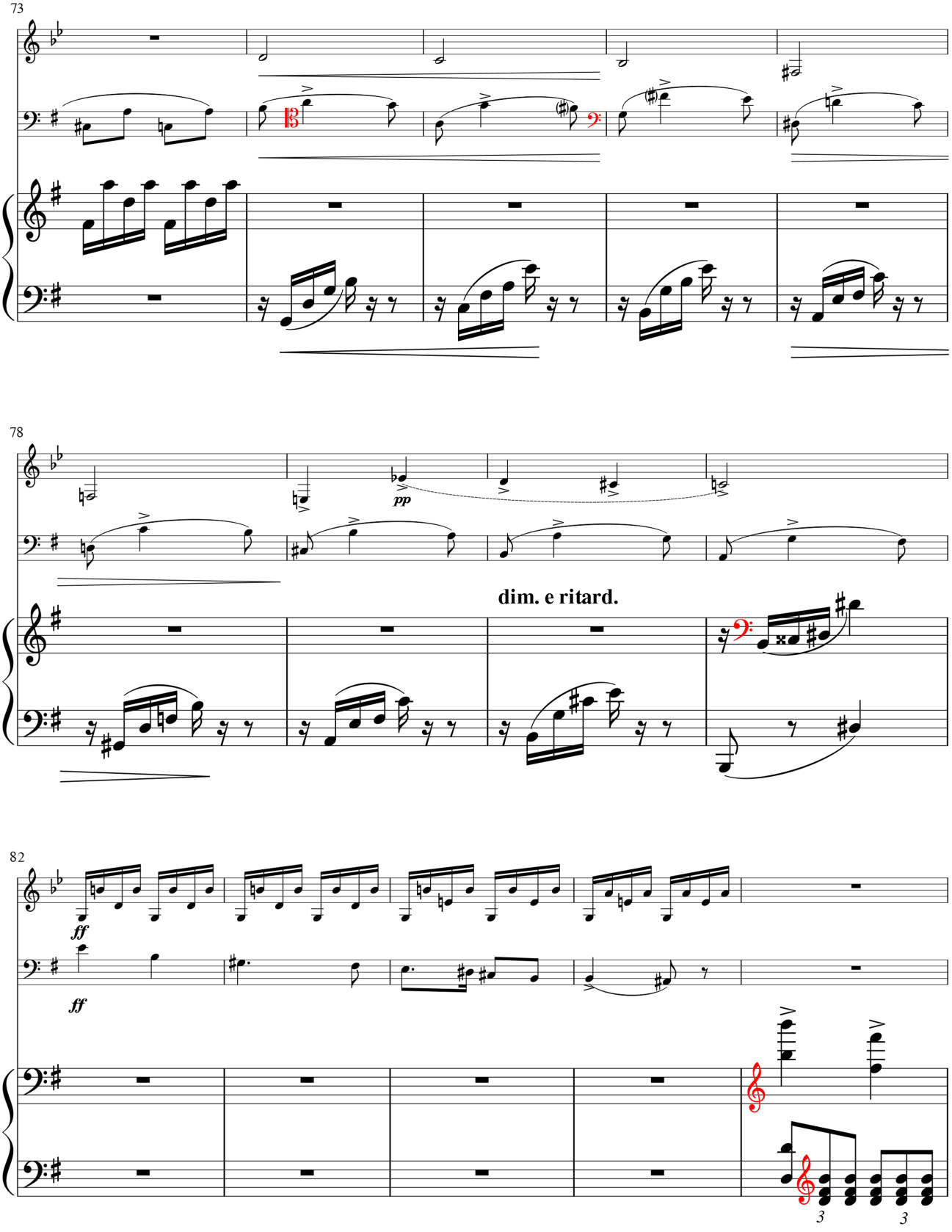
Piano and score — arranged from the Piano Sonata Op 7 - **I Allegro moderato** — Grieg

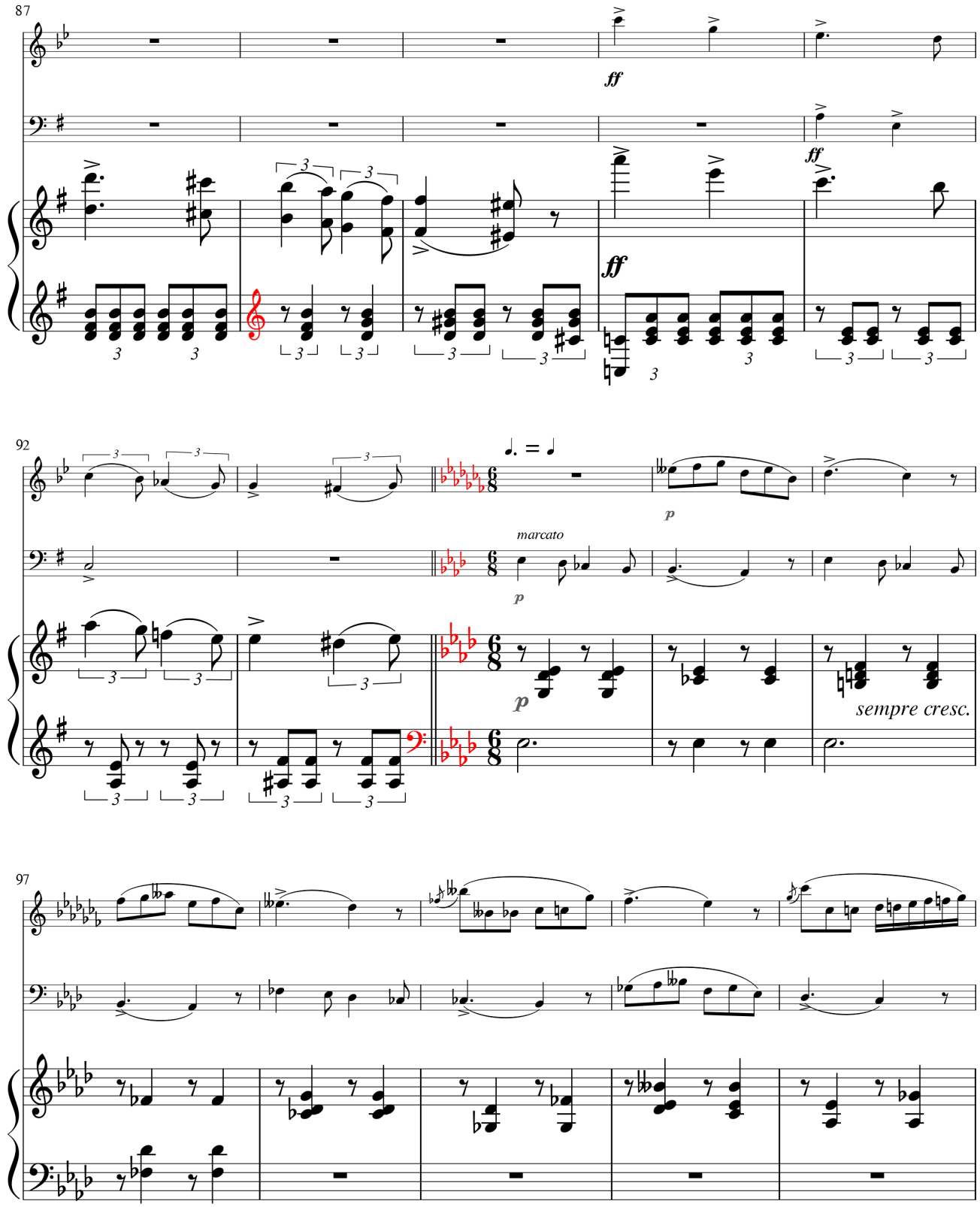


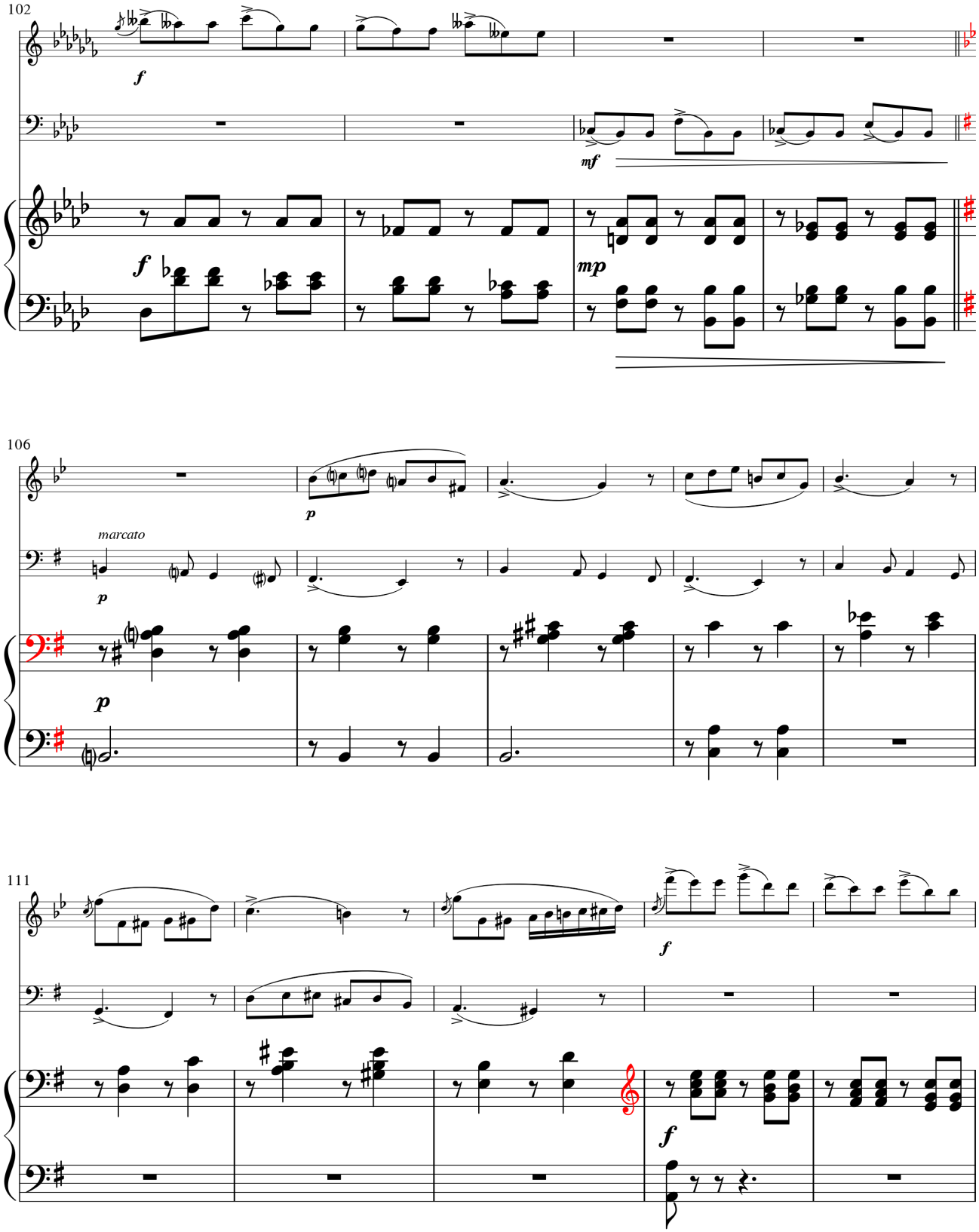

18
23
31
p
mp
fp
fp
p
p
6
6

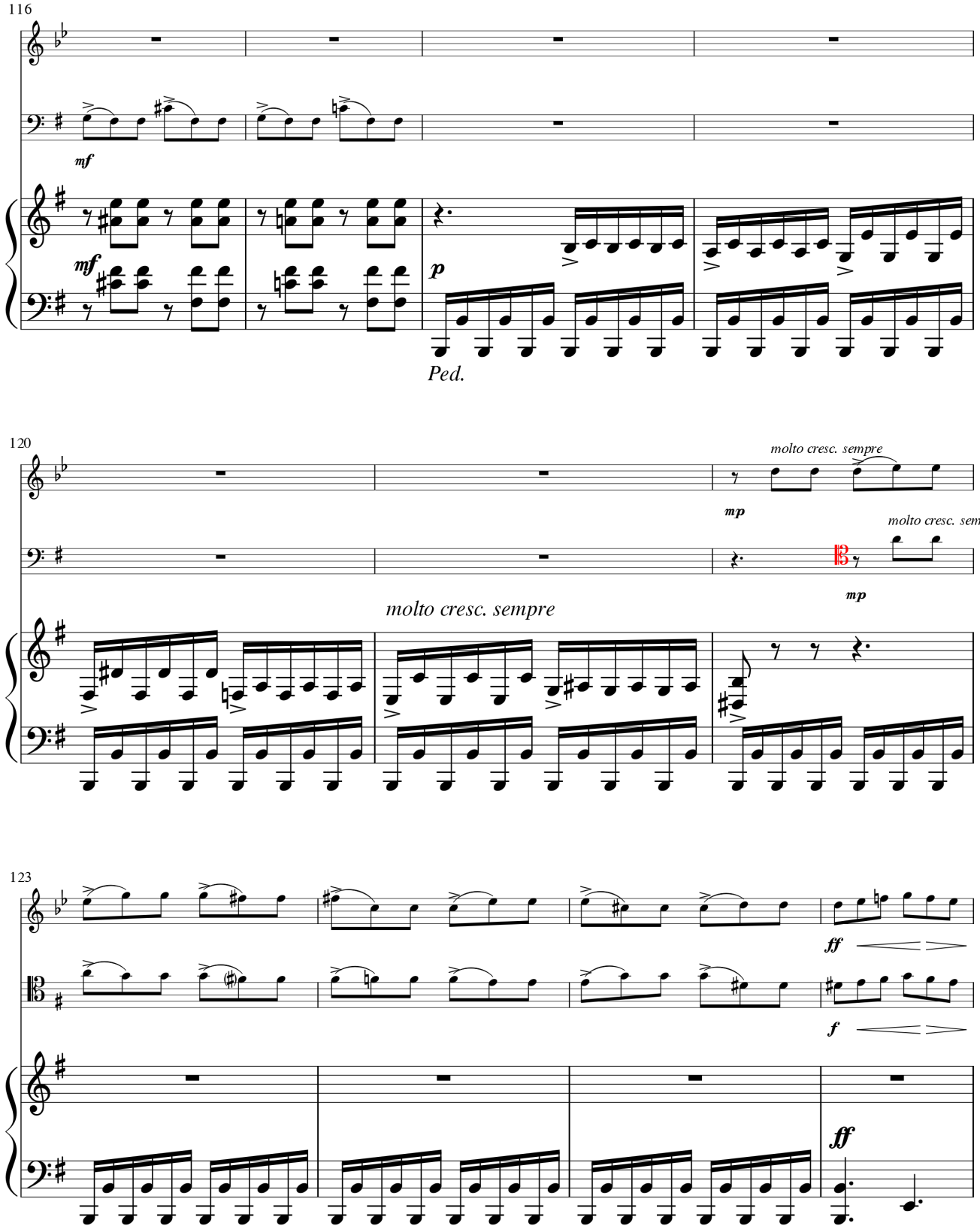

38
mp
fp
43
ff
48
p

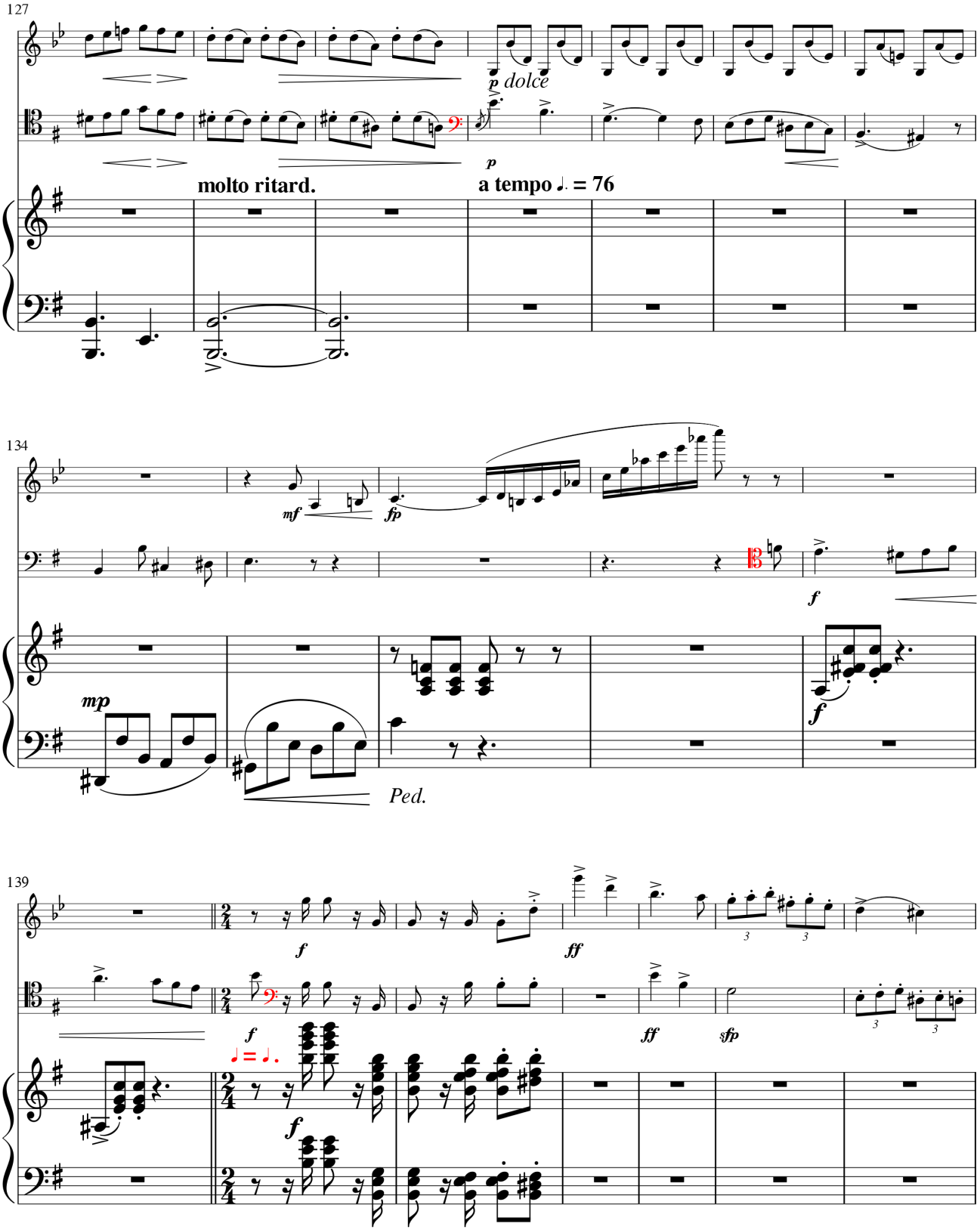

54
pp
pp
(poco)
pp
62
p dolce
sostenuto a tempo
p dolce
68
p dolce
p

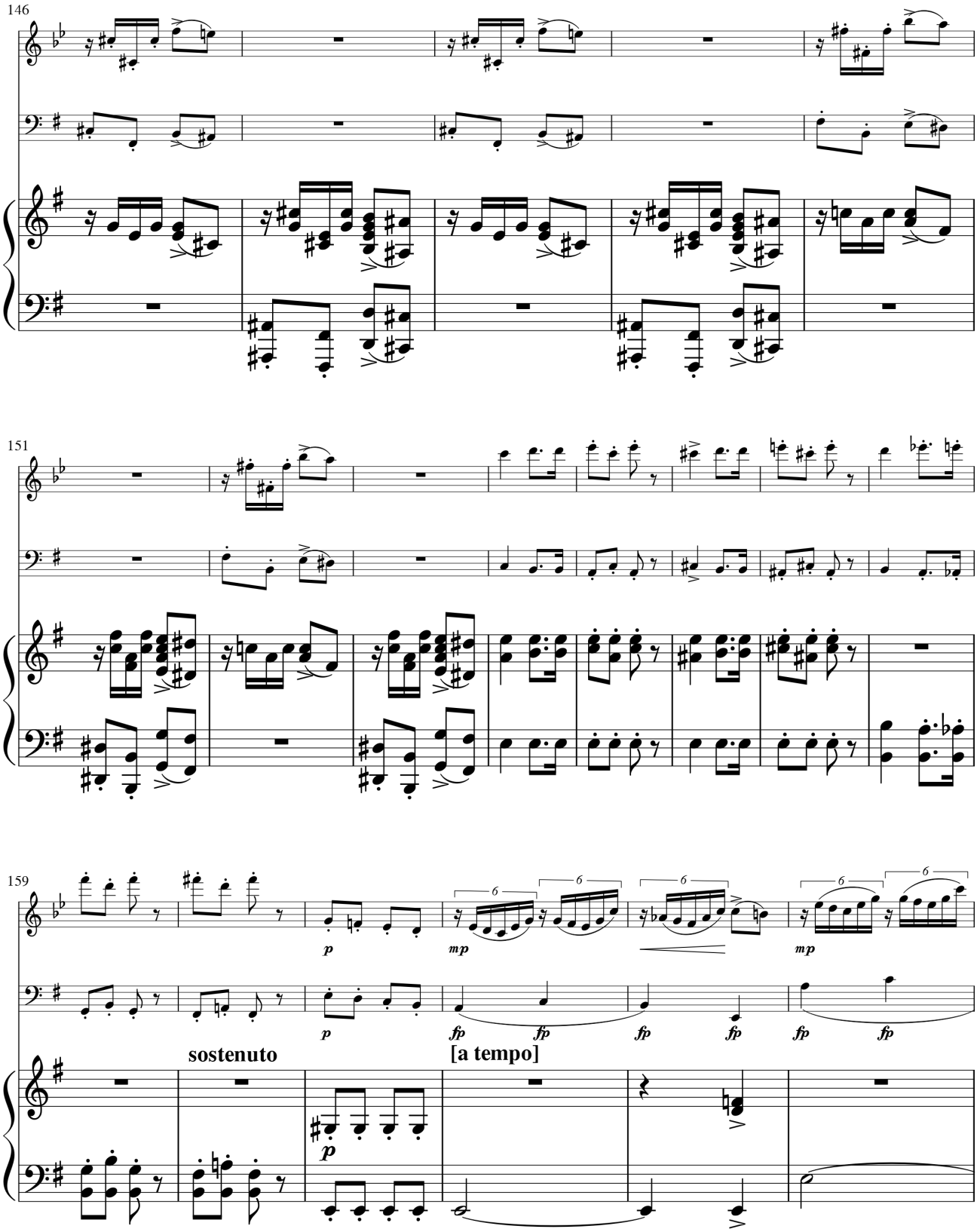

73
78
pp
dim. e ritard.
82
ff
ff
3
3

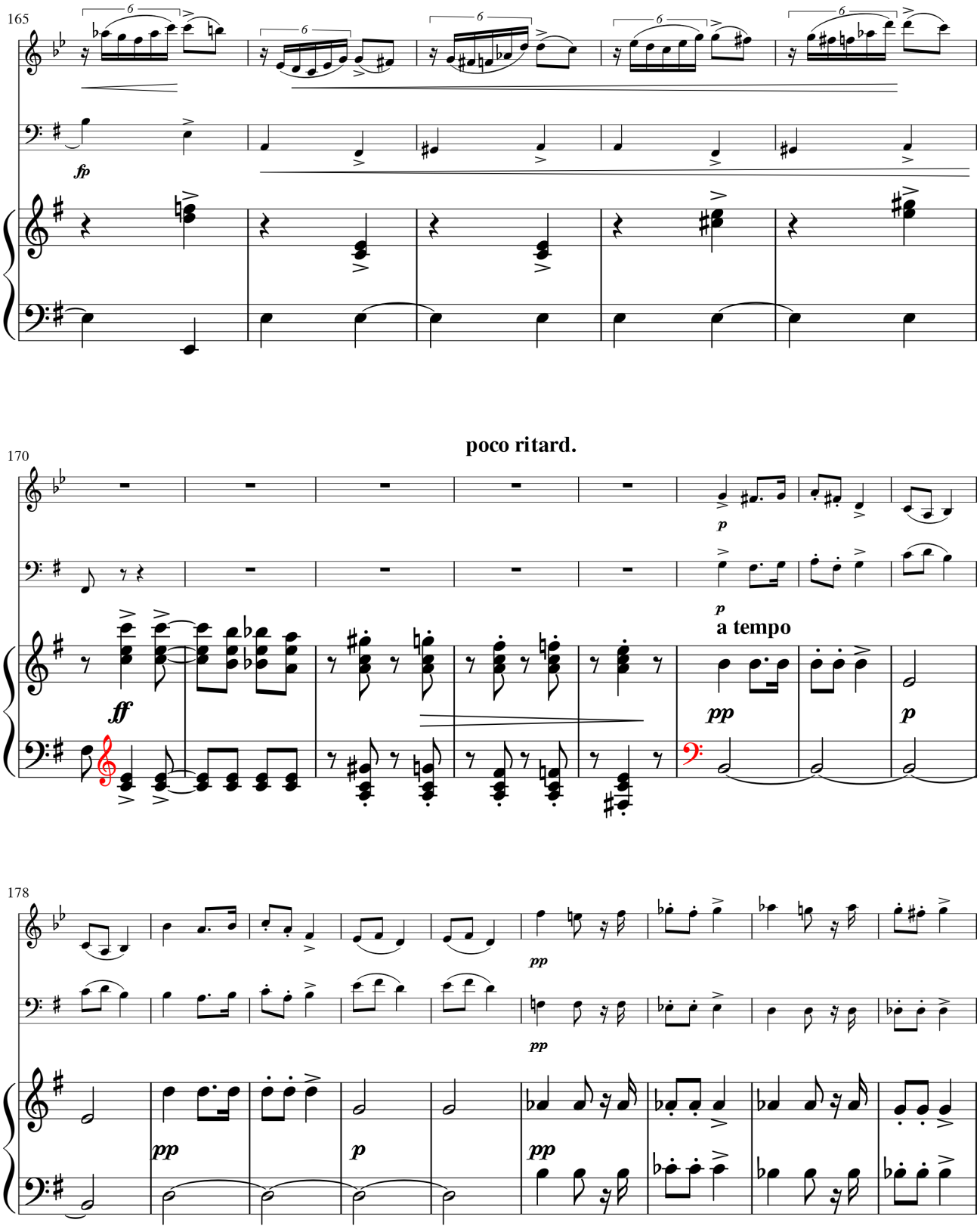

87
ff
ff
ff
92
marcato
p
p
p
sempre cresc.
97

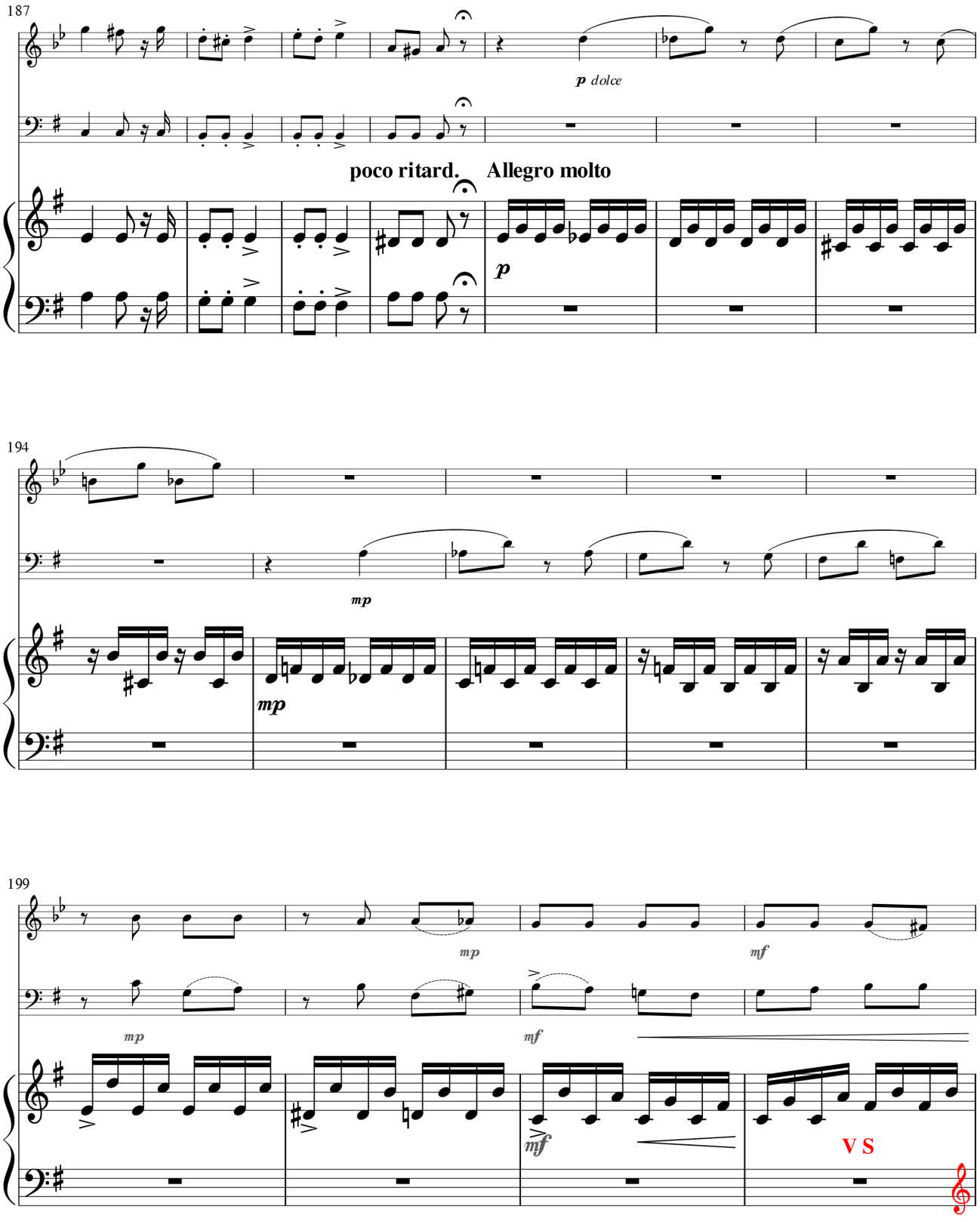

102
f
mf
f
mp
106
marcato
p
p
p
111
f
f

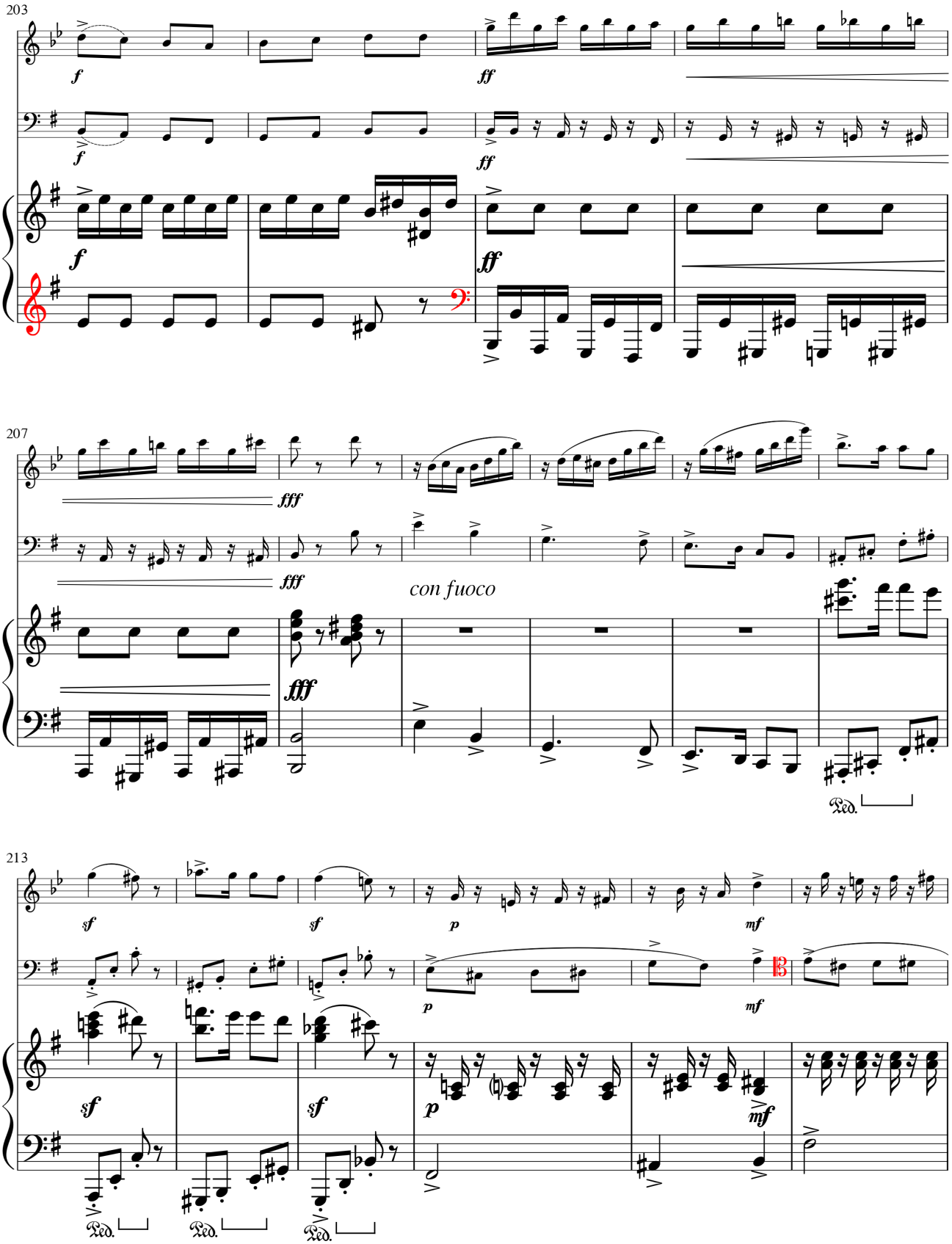

116
mf
mf
p
Ped.
120
molto cresc. sempre
mp
molto cresc. sempre
mp
molto cresc. sempre
123
ff
f
ff

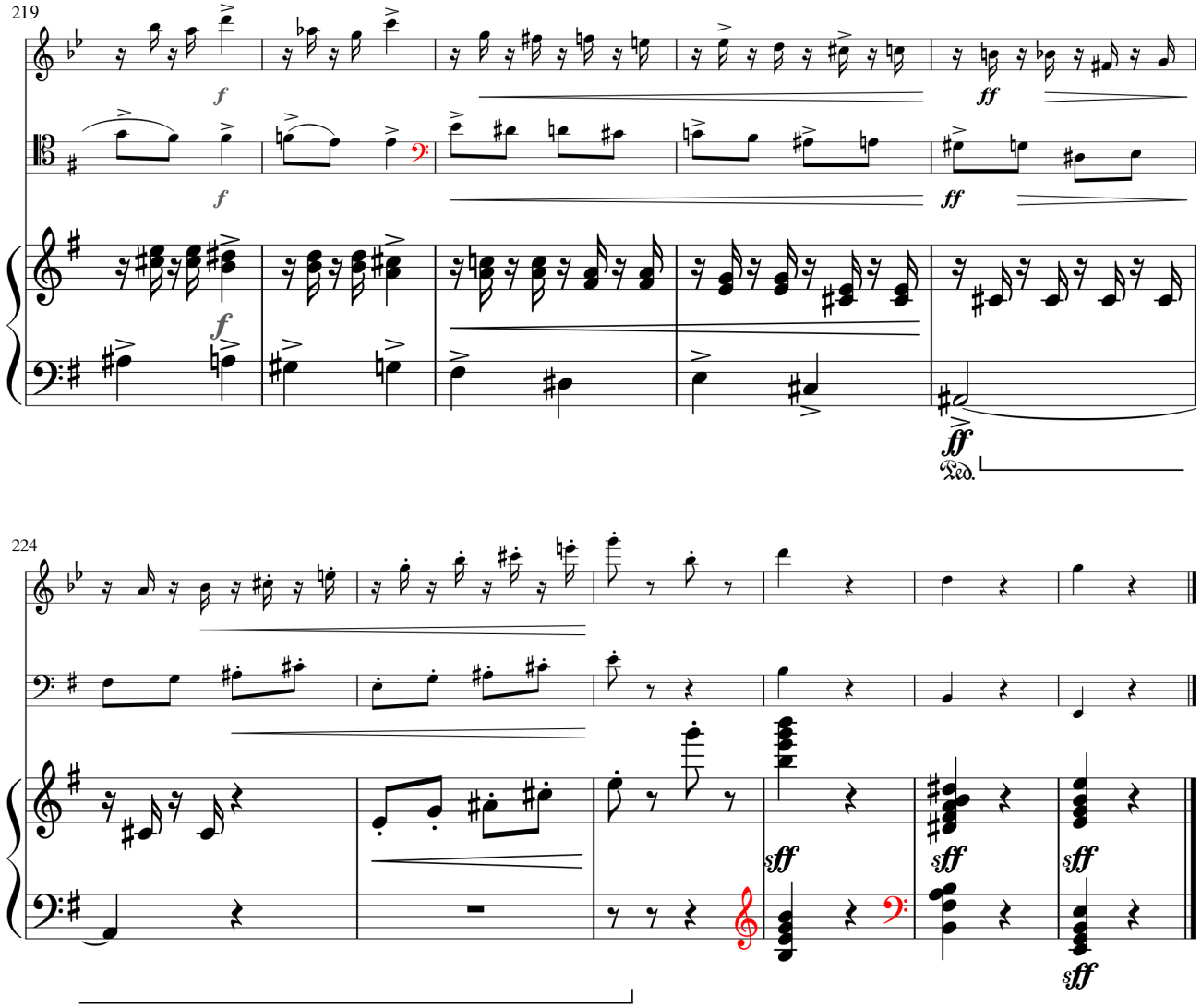

127
p dolce
p
molto ritard.
a tempo ♩. = 76
134
mf
fp
f
mp
f
Ped.
139
f
ff
3
3
f
ff
sfp
3
3
♩ = ♩.
f


146
151
159
p
mp
fp
sostenuto
[a tempo]


165
fp
poco ritard.
170
ff
p
p
a tempo
pp
p
178
pp
pp
pp
p
pp


187
p dolce
poco ritard.
Allegro molto
p
194
mp
mp
199
mp
mf
mp
mf
mf
V S

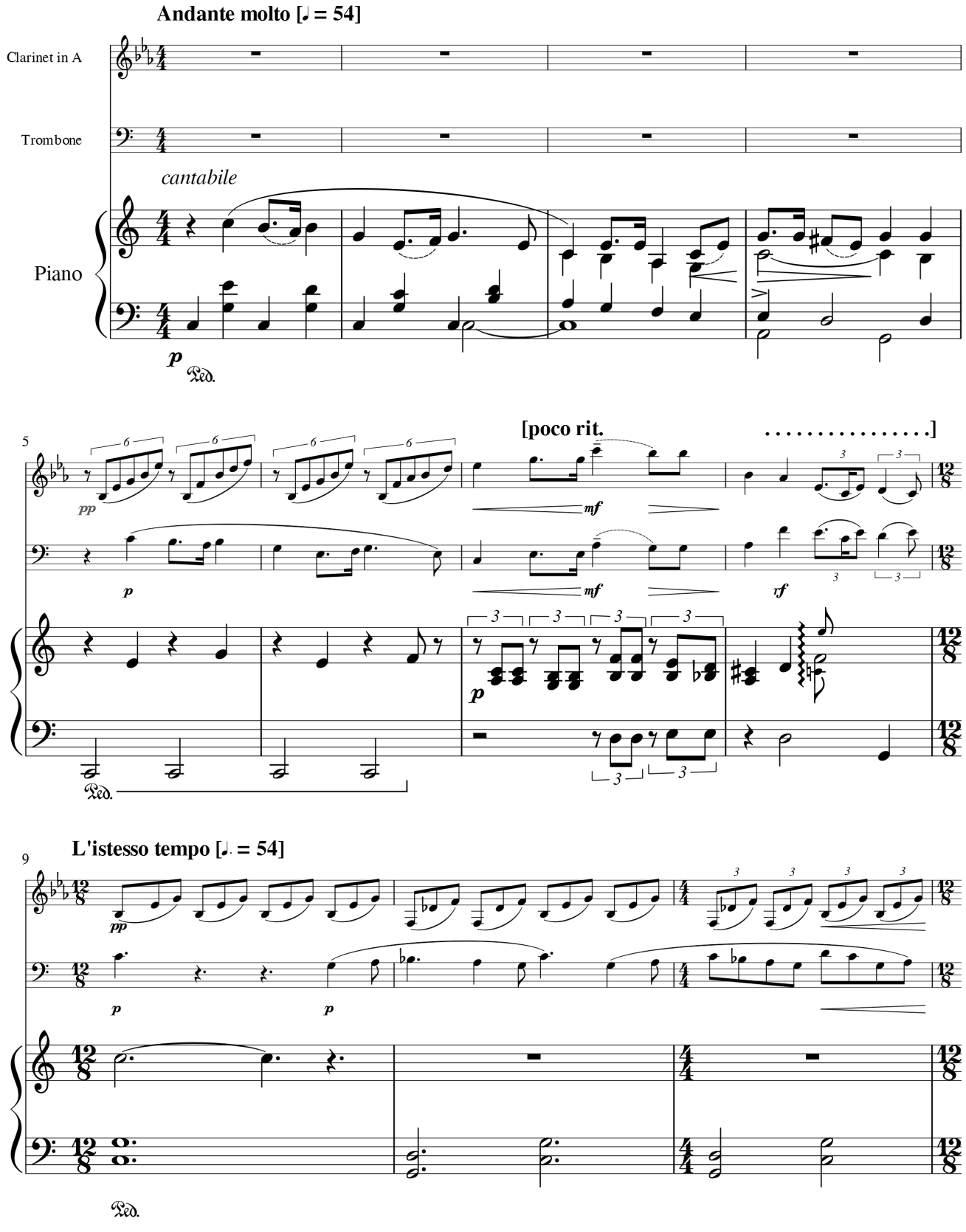

203
f
ff
207
fff
con fuoco
213
sf
p
mf
Ped.

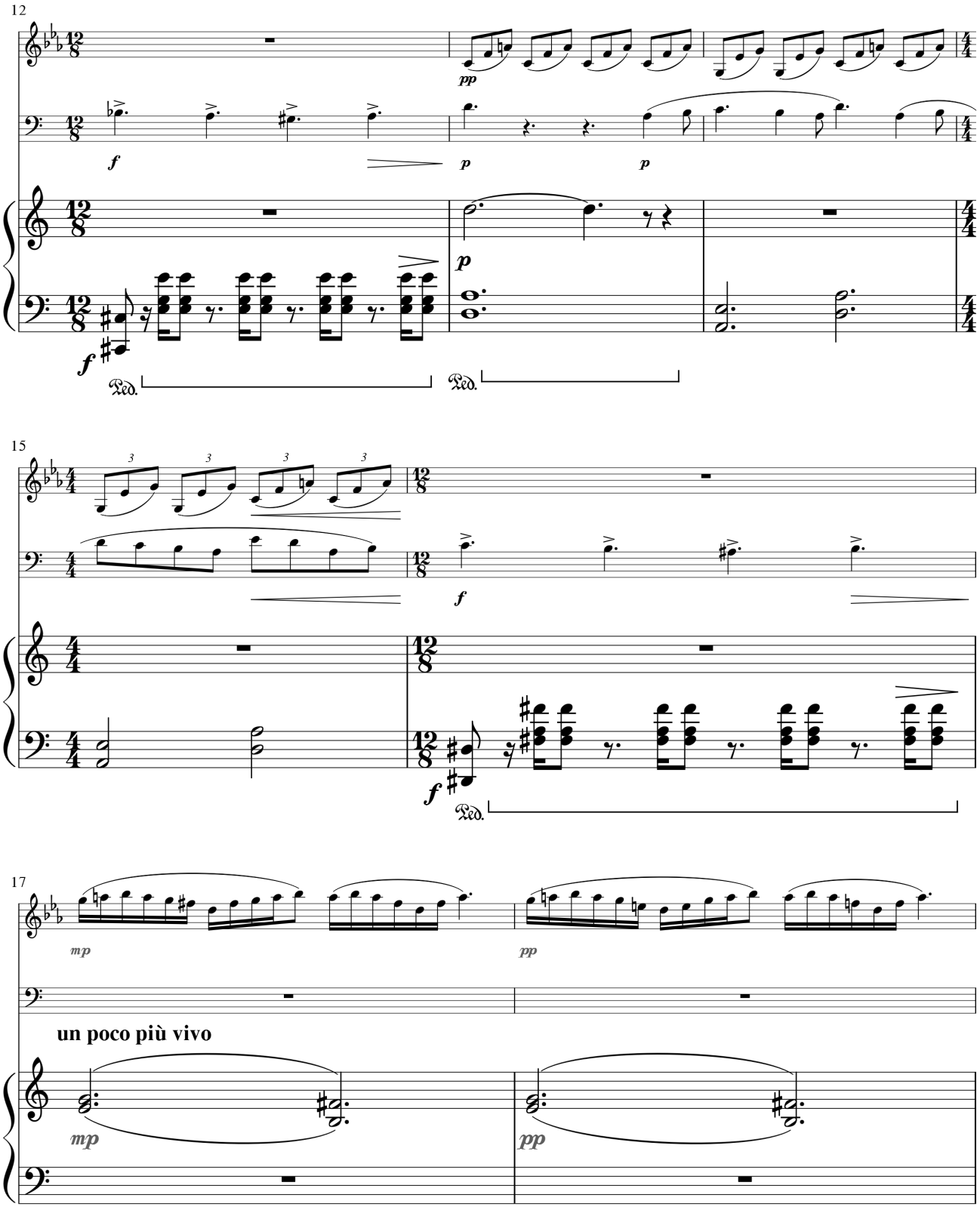

219
f
f
f
ff
ff
ff
Ped.

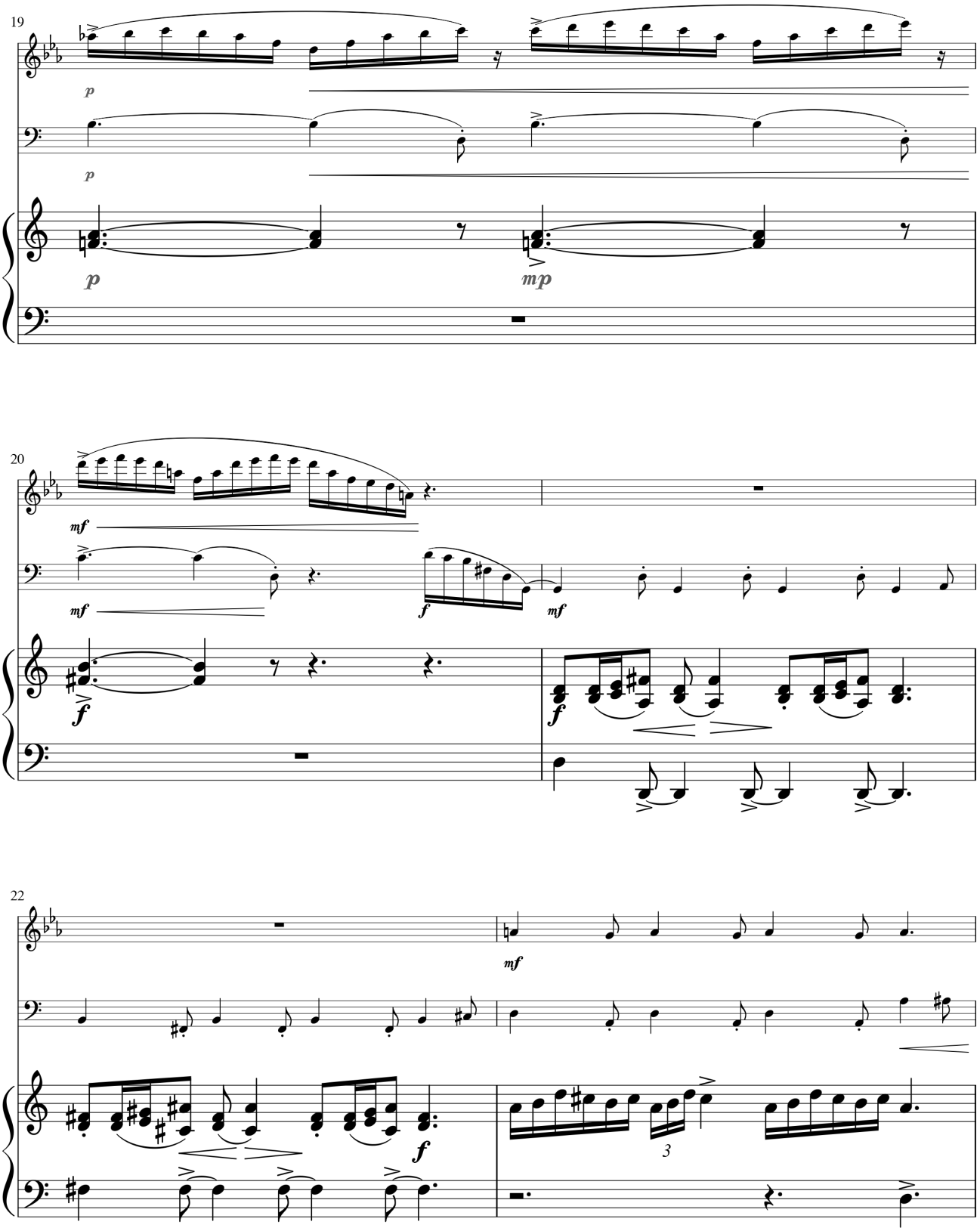
224
sff
sff
sff
sff

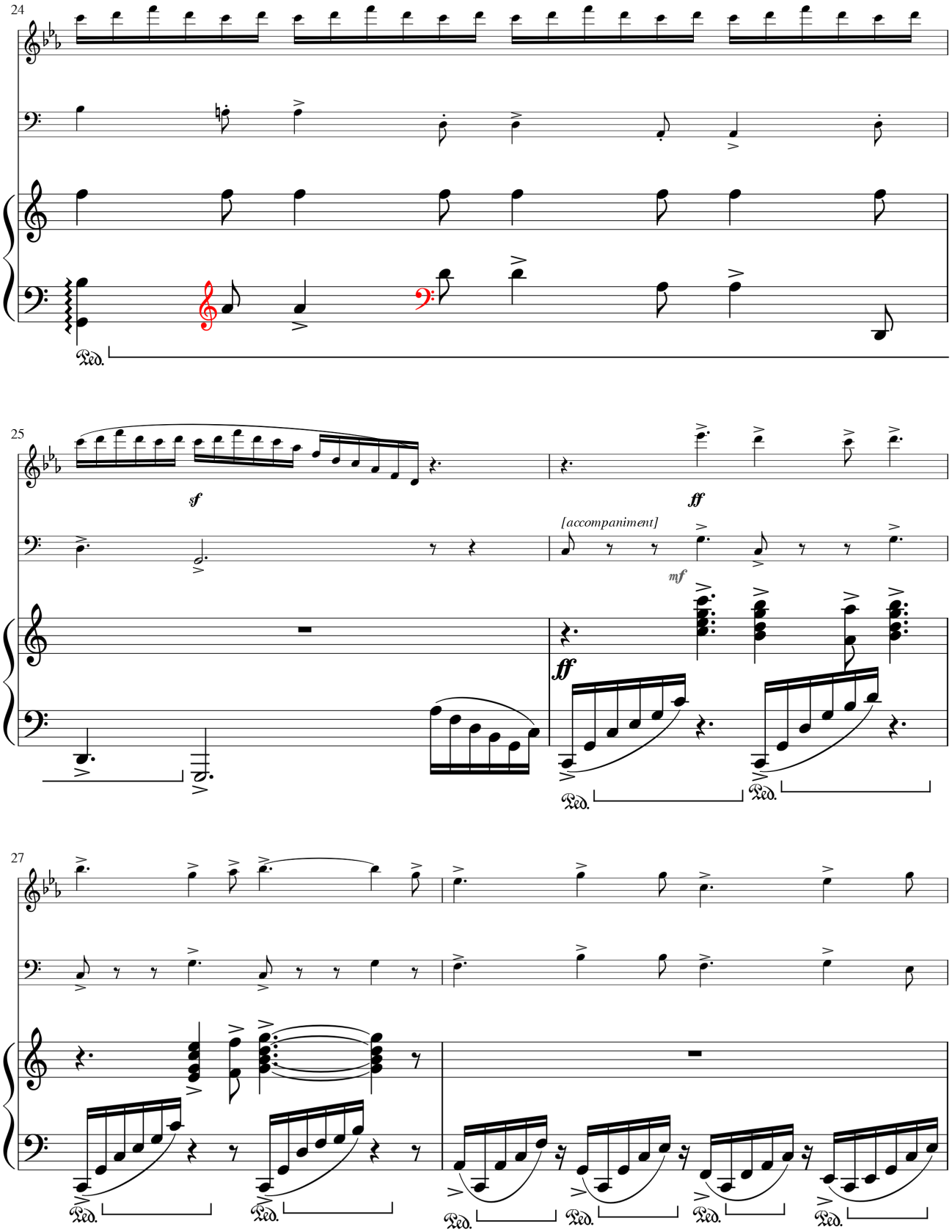
TrioSonata for Clarinet, Trombone and Piano

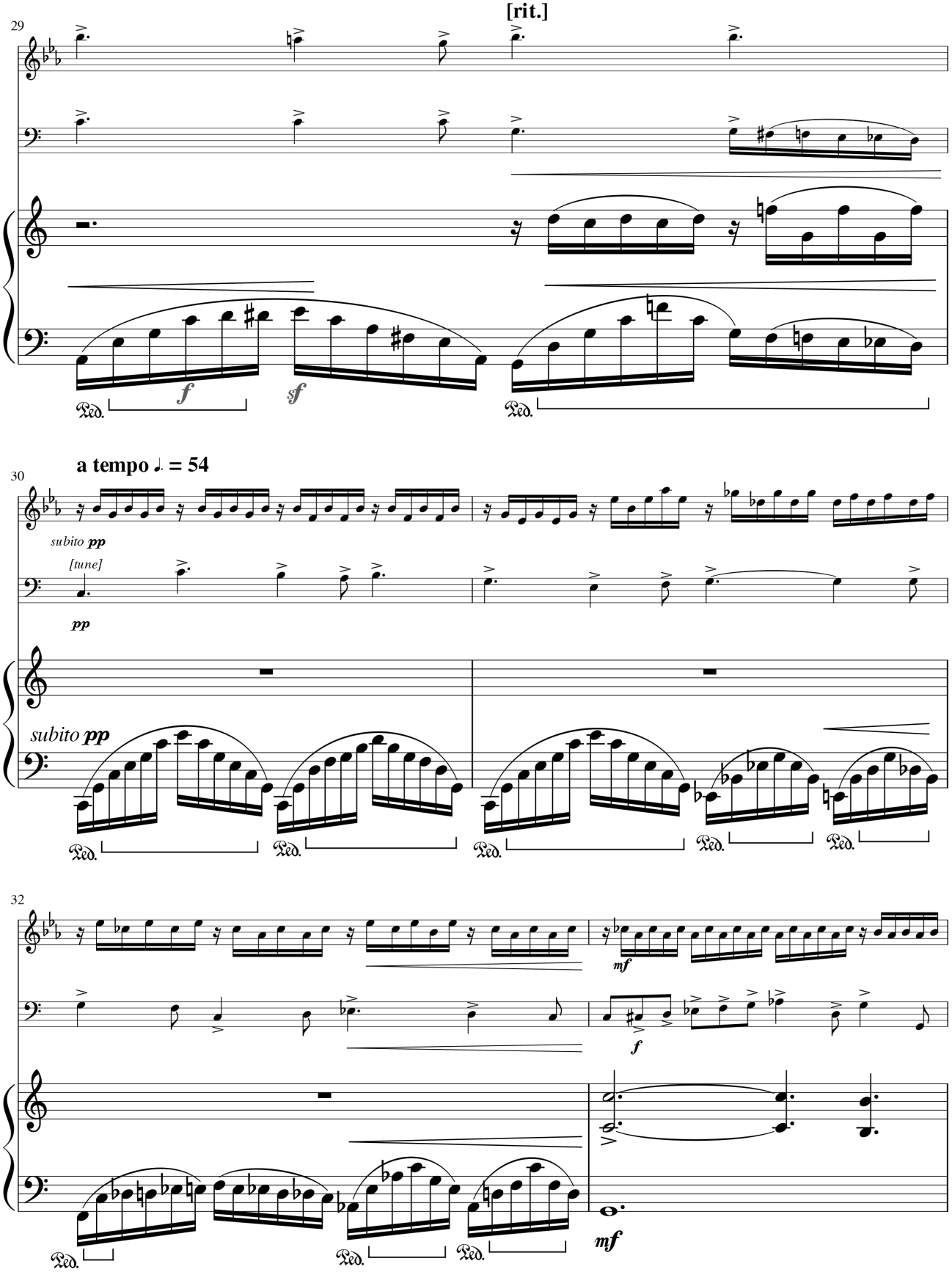
Piano and score arranged from the Piano Sonata Op 7 - **II - Andante molto** Grieg

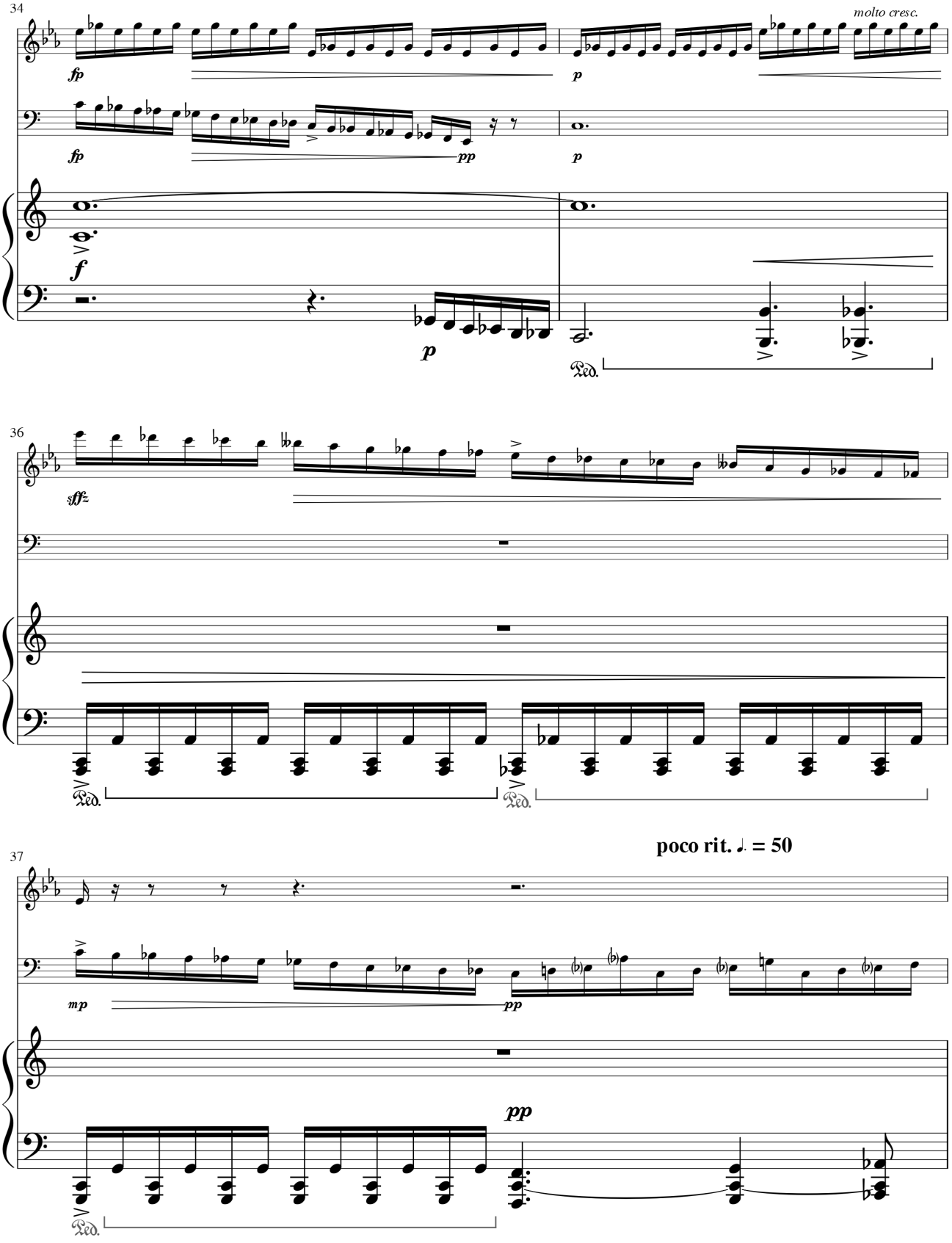


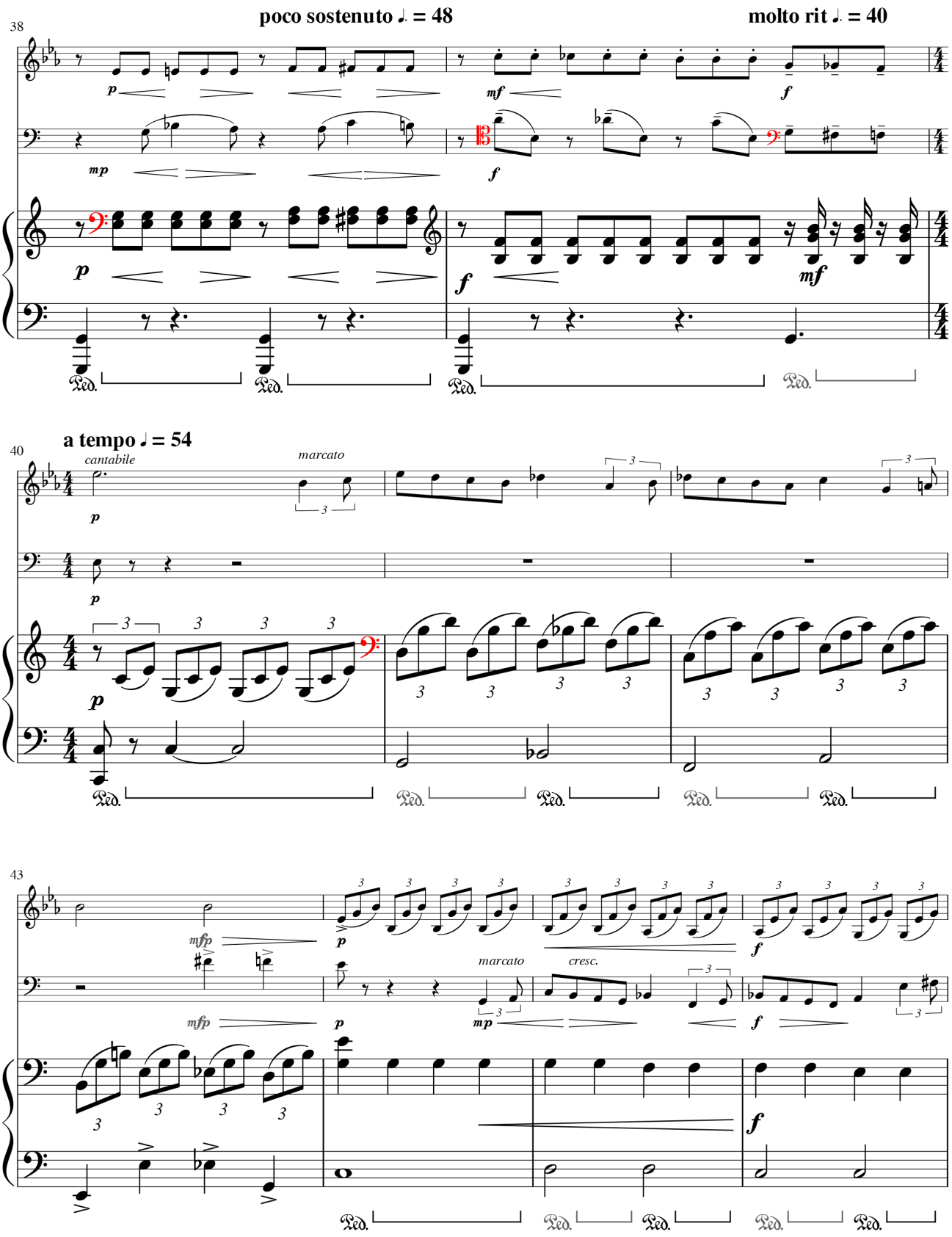

12
pp
f
p
p
p
f
Ped.
Ped.
15
f
f
Ped.
17
mp
pp
un poco più vivo
mp
pp

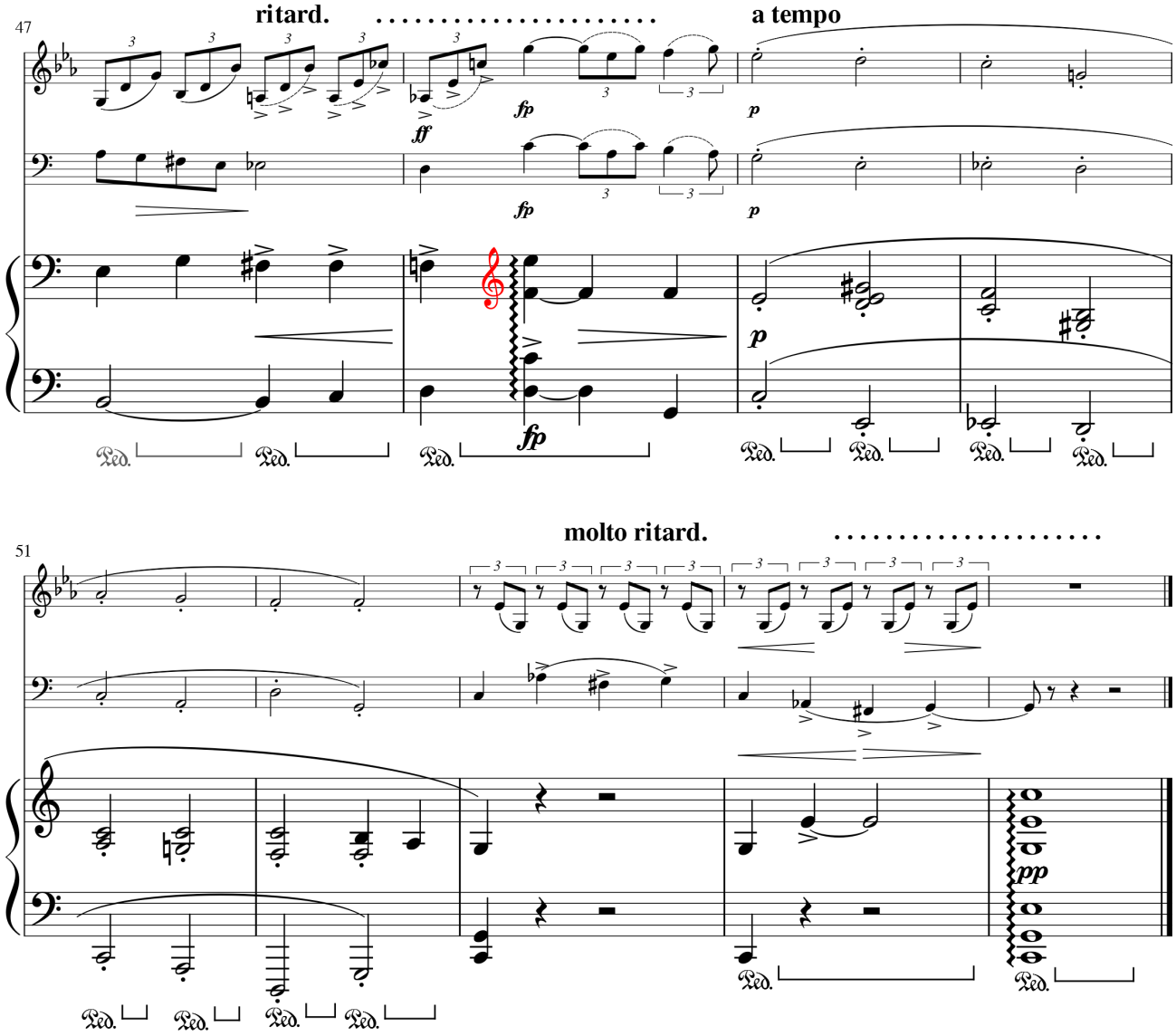

19
p
p
p
mp
20
mf
mf
f
mf
f
f
22
mf
f
3


24
Ped.
25
sf
ff
[accompaniment]
mf
ff
Ped.
Ped.
27
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.


[rit.]
29
f
sf
Ped.
a tempo ♩. = 54
30
subito pp
[tune]
pp
subito pp
32
mf
f
mf


34
molto cresc.
fp
p
fp
pp
p
f
p
Ped.
36
sfz
Ped.
Ped.
37
poco rit. ♩. = 50
mp
pp
pp
Ped.


38
poco sostenuto ♩. = 48
molto rit ♩. = 40
40
a tempo ♩ = 54
cantabile
marcato
43
marcato
cresc.

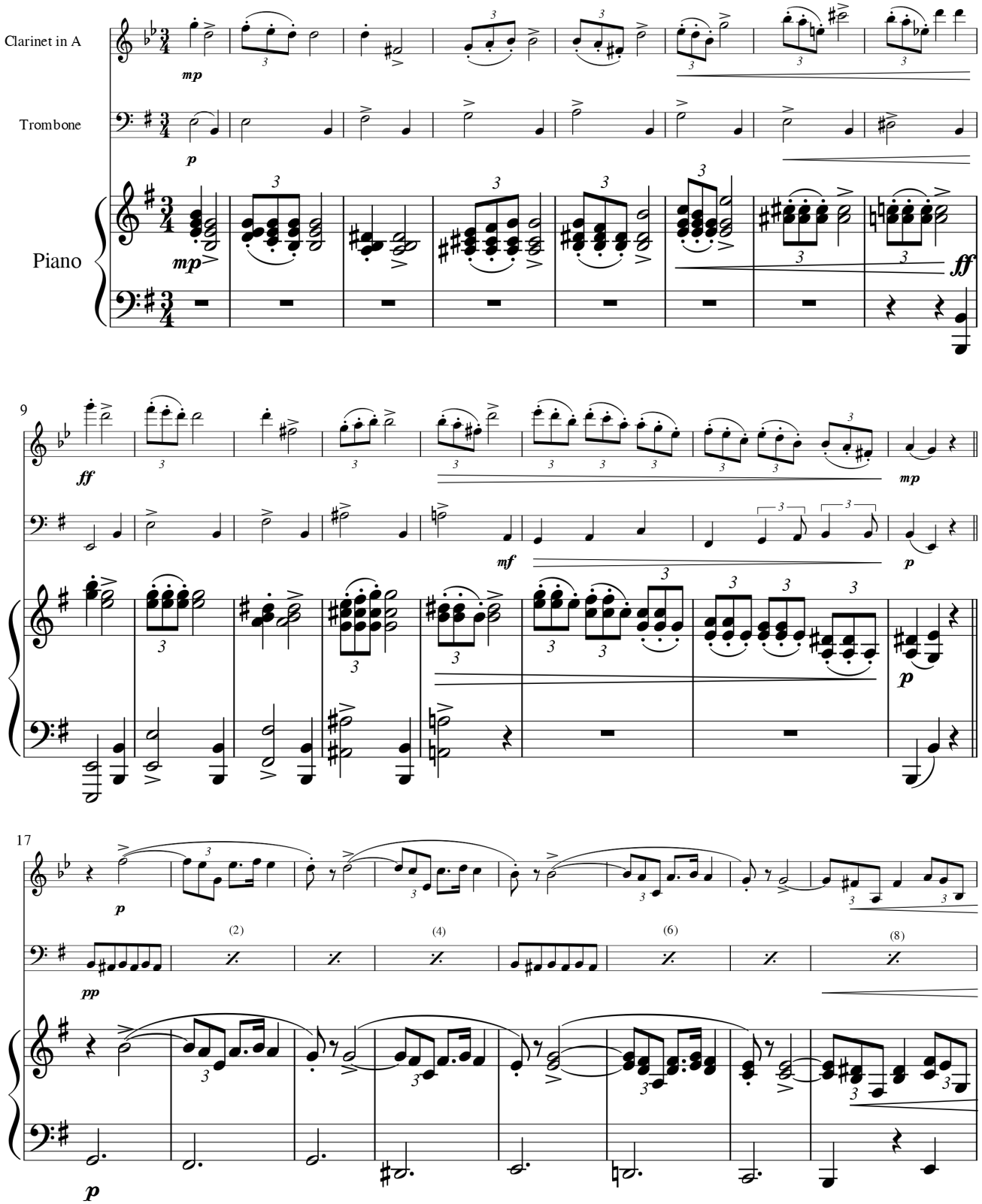

47
ritard.
a tempo
ff
fp
p
fp
p
p
fp
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

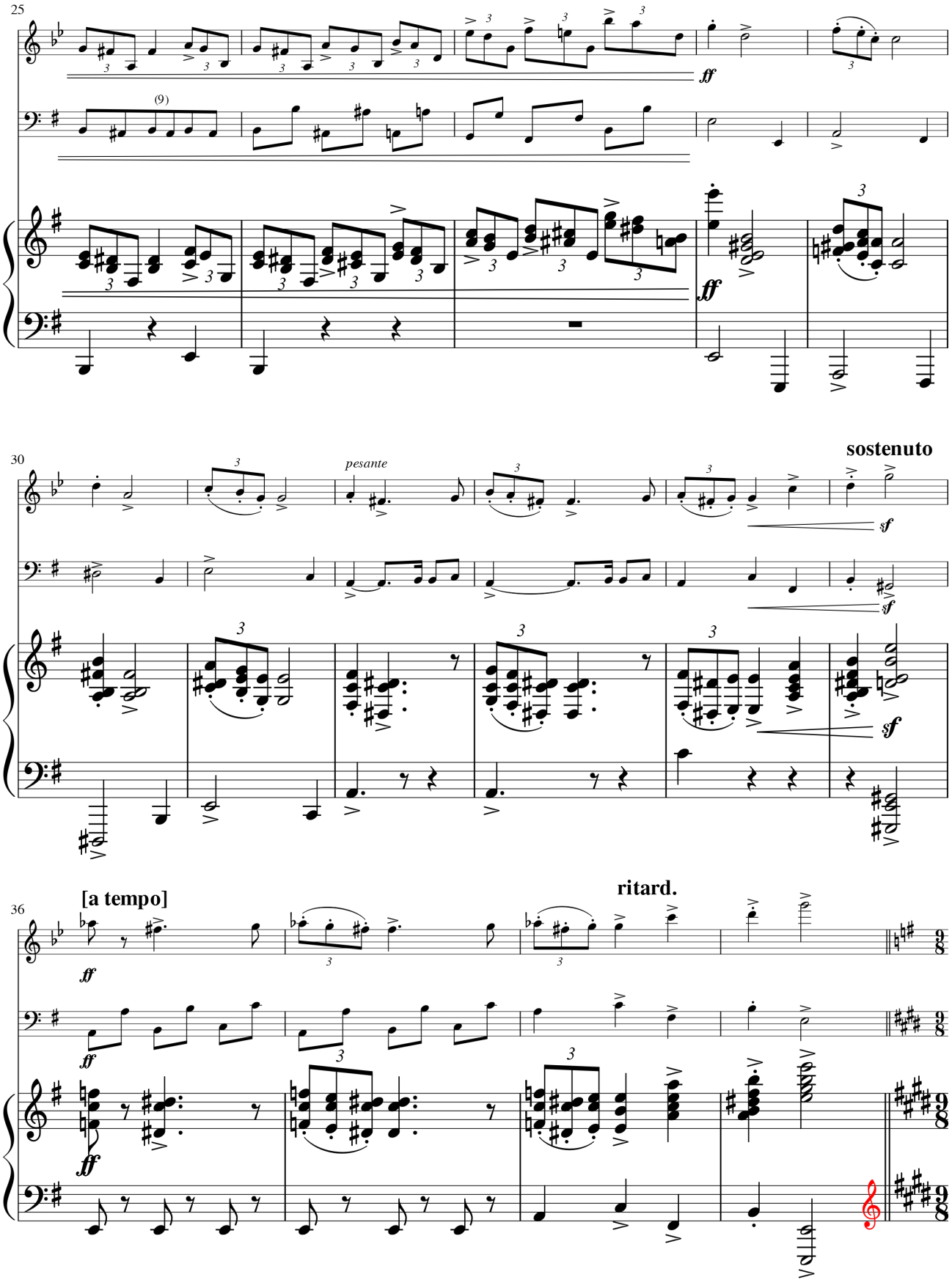
51
molto ritard.
pp
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

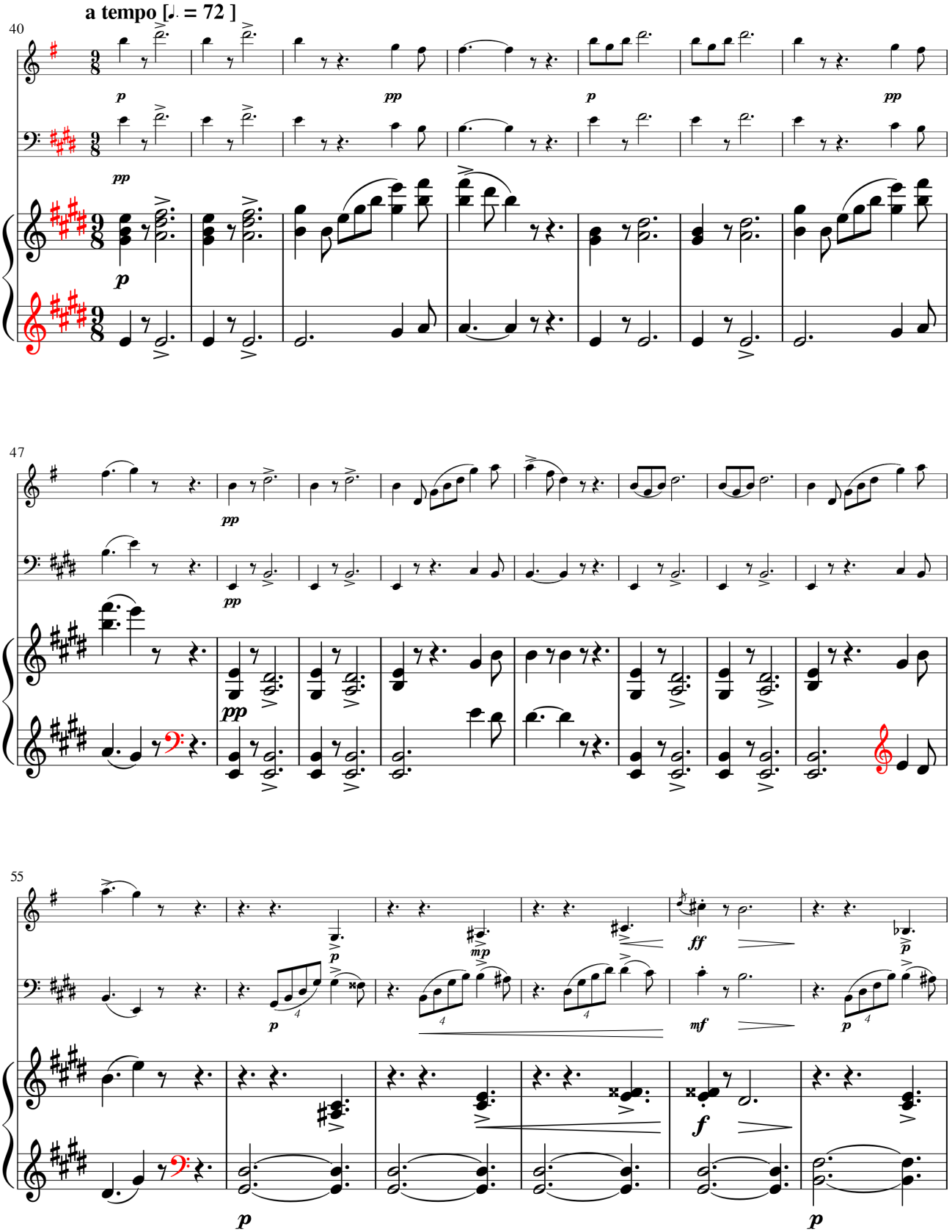
TrioSonata for Clarinet, Trombone and Piano

Piano and score arranged from the Piano Sonata Op 7 - **III - Alla Menuetto** Grieg

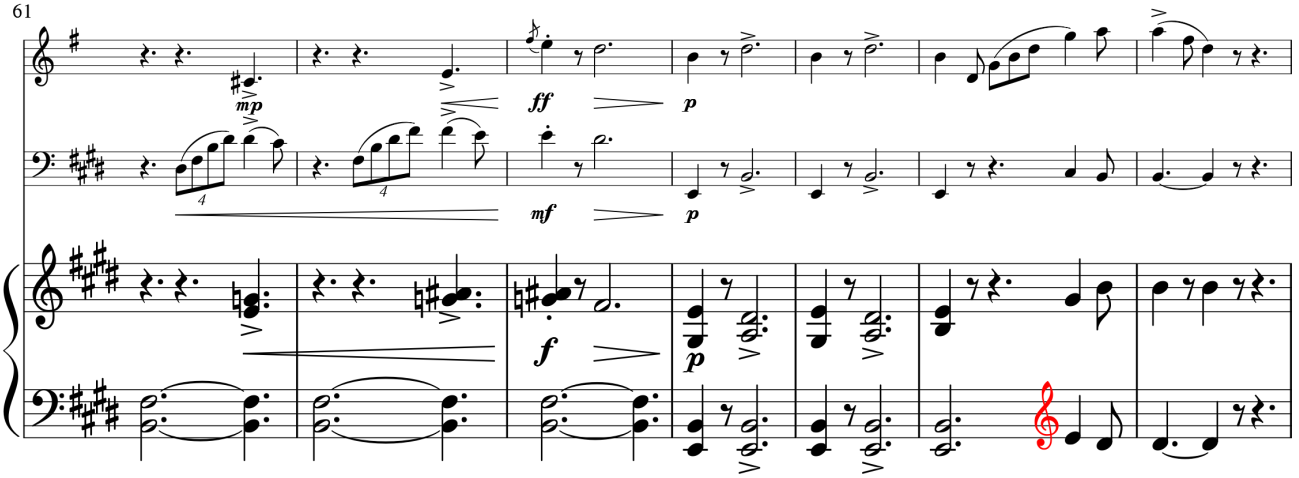
Alla Menuetto, ma poco più lento [♩ = 72]



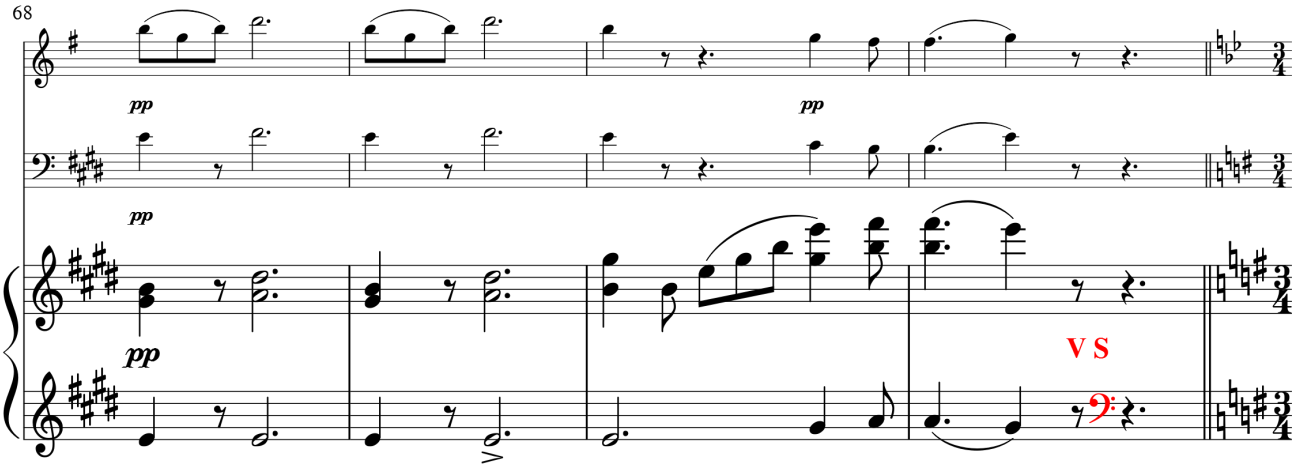

25
(9)
ff
ff
30
pesante
sostenuto
sf
sf
sf
36
[a tempo]
ff
ff
ff
ritard.

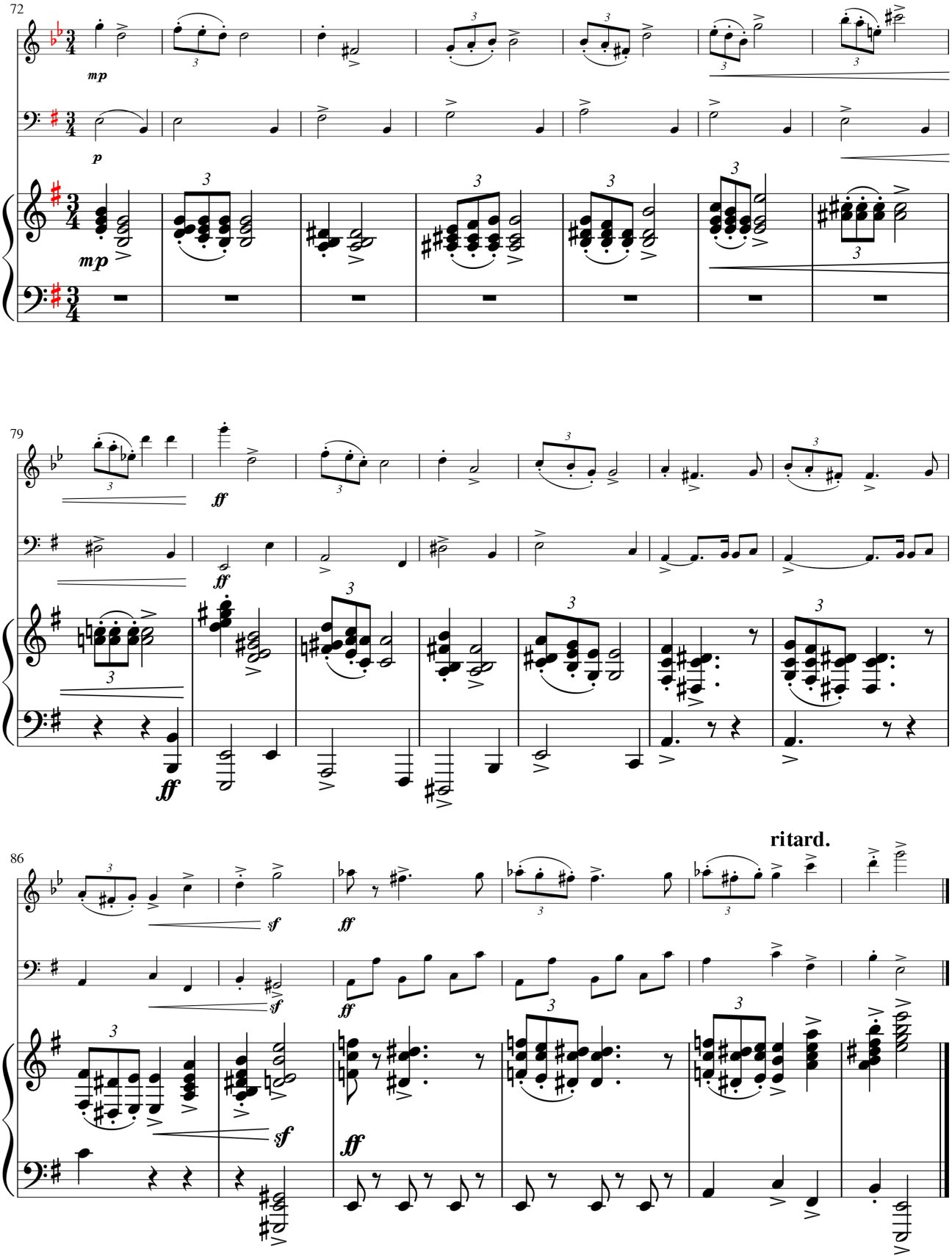

a tempo [♩. = 72]
40
47
55

61



68

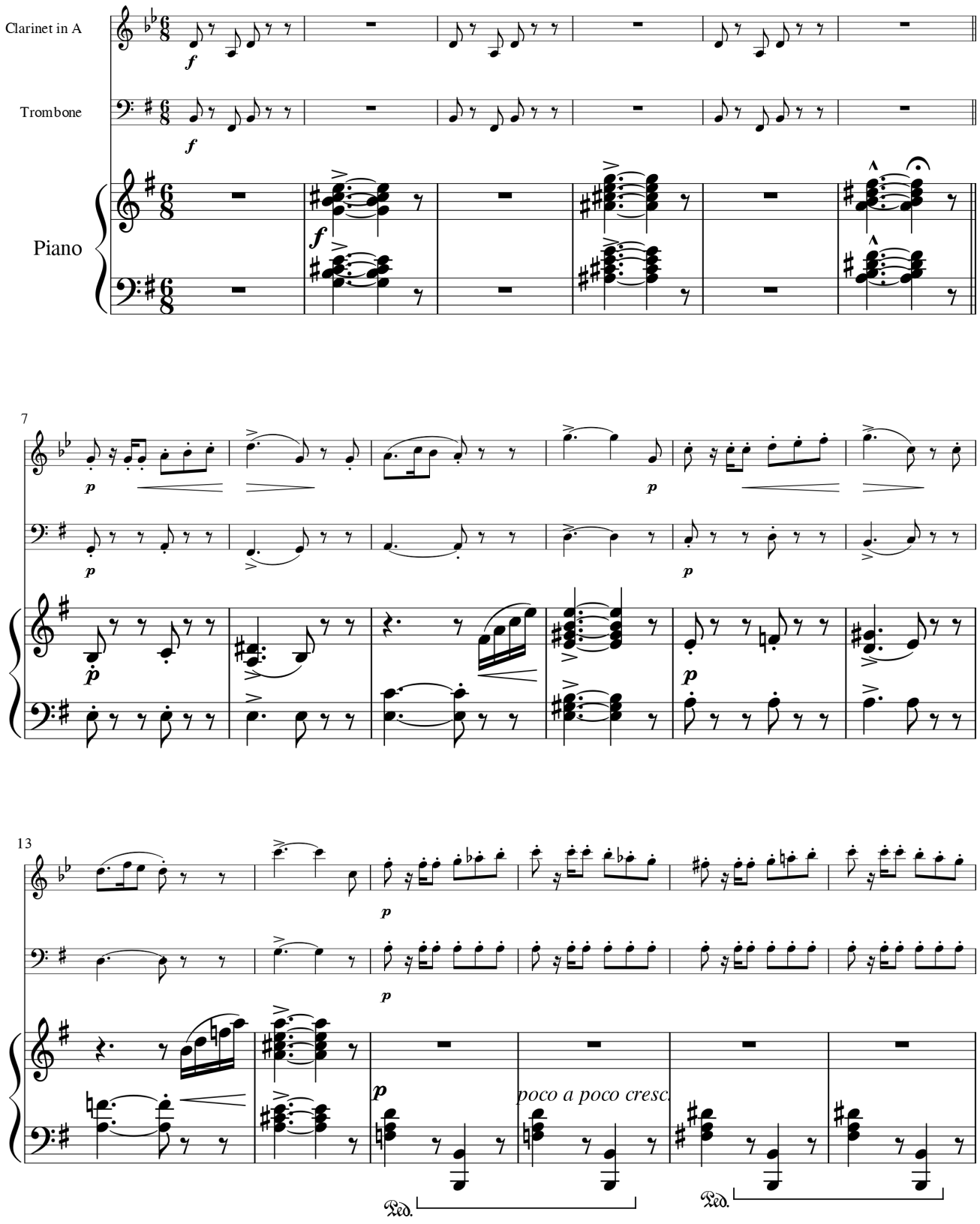


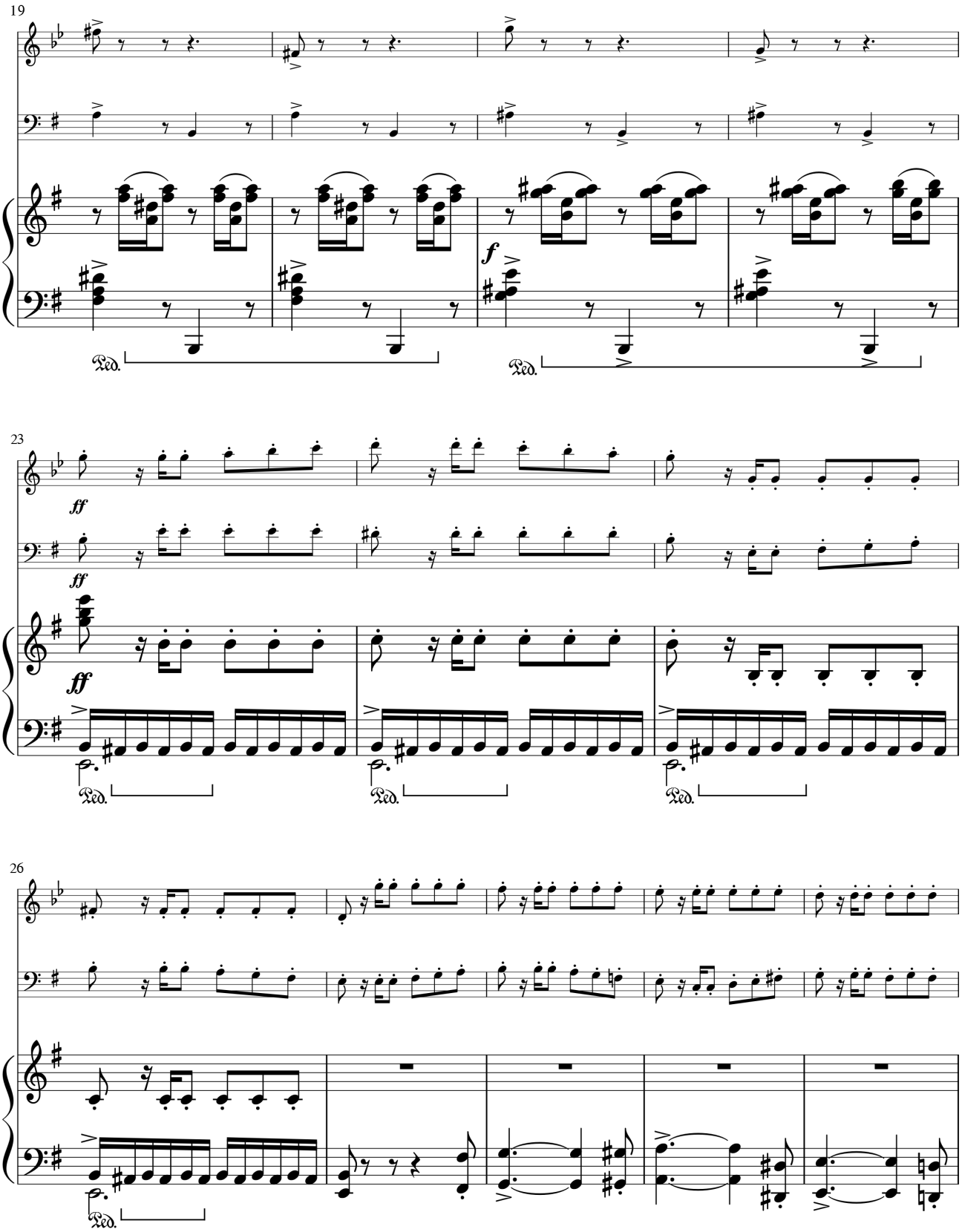

72
mp
p
mp
79
ff
ff
ff
86
ritard.
sf
ff
sf
ff

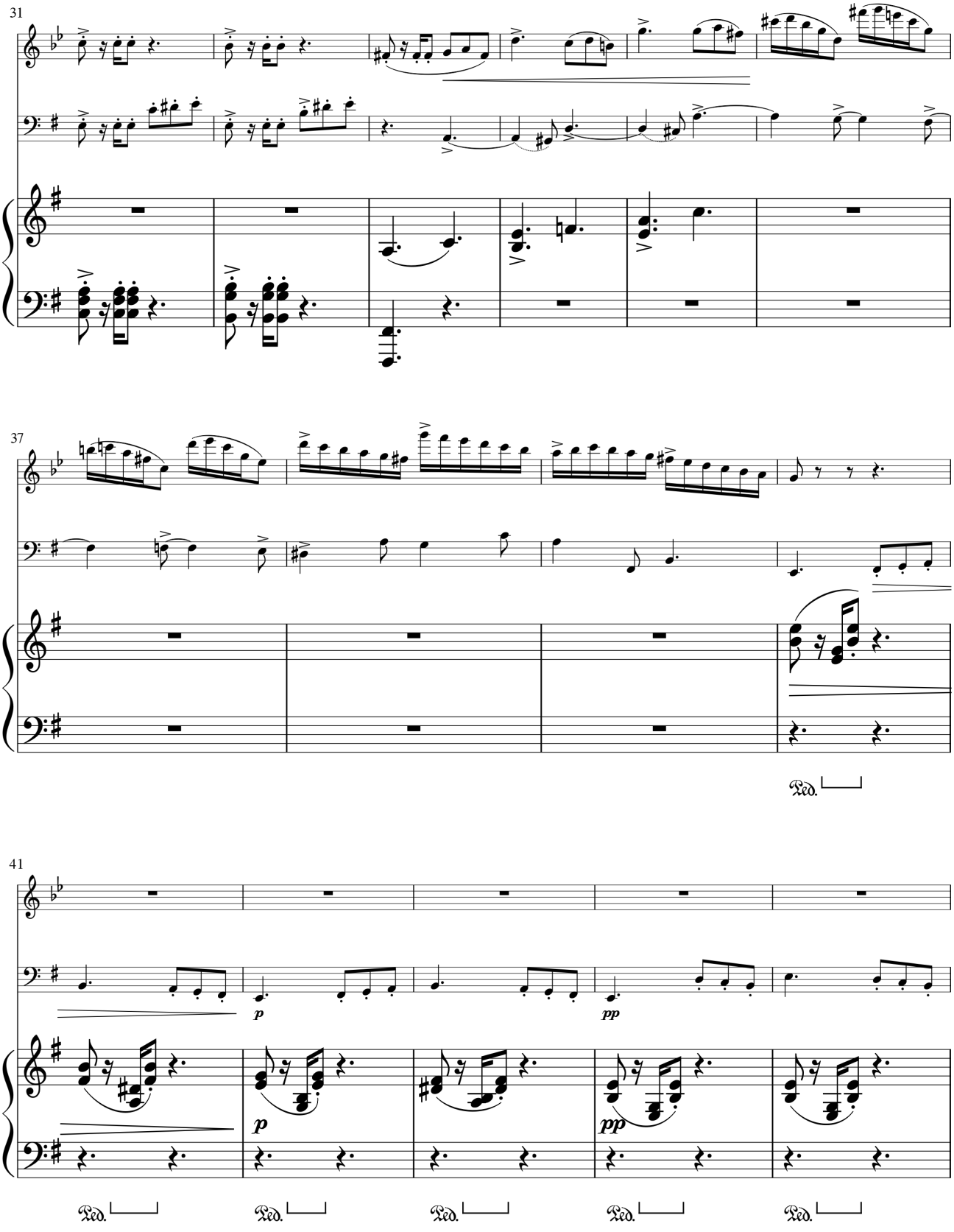
TrioSonata for Clarinet, Trombone and Piano

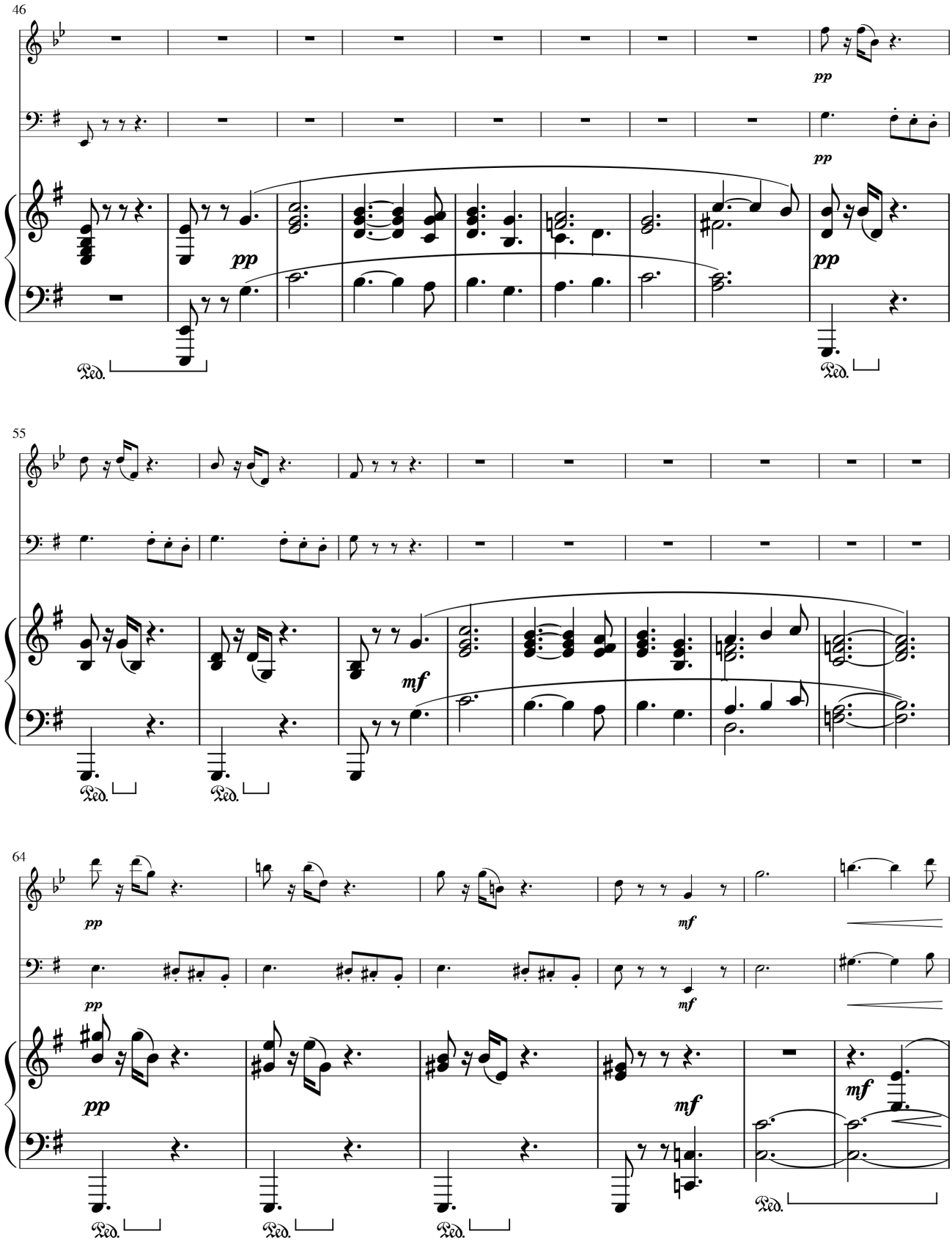
Piano and score — arranged from the Piano Sonata Op 7 - **IV - Finale** — Grieg

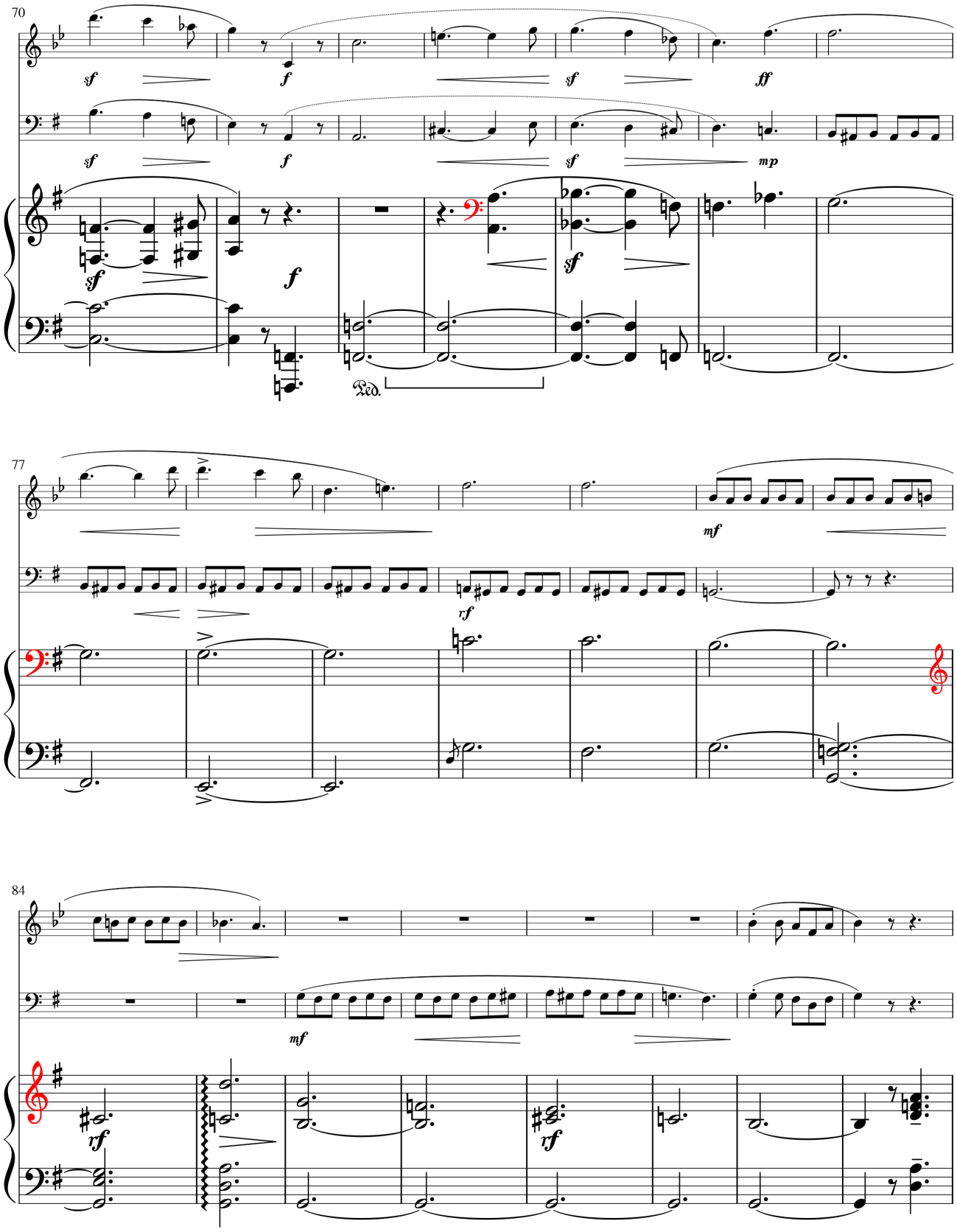
Molto allegro [♩. = 100]

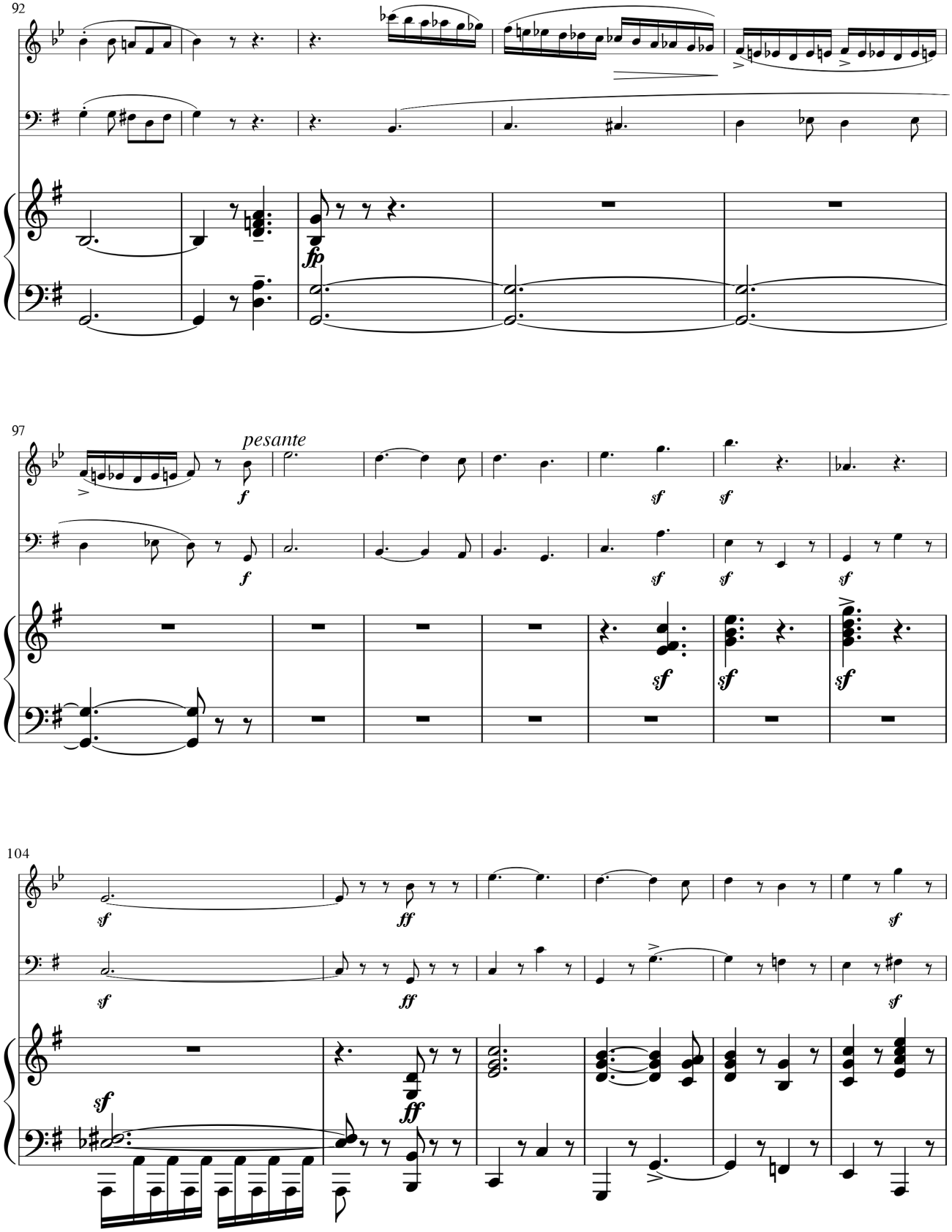


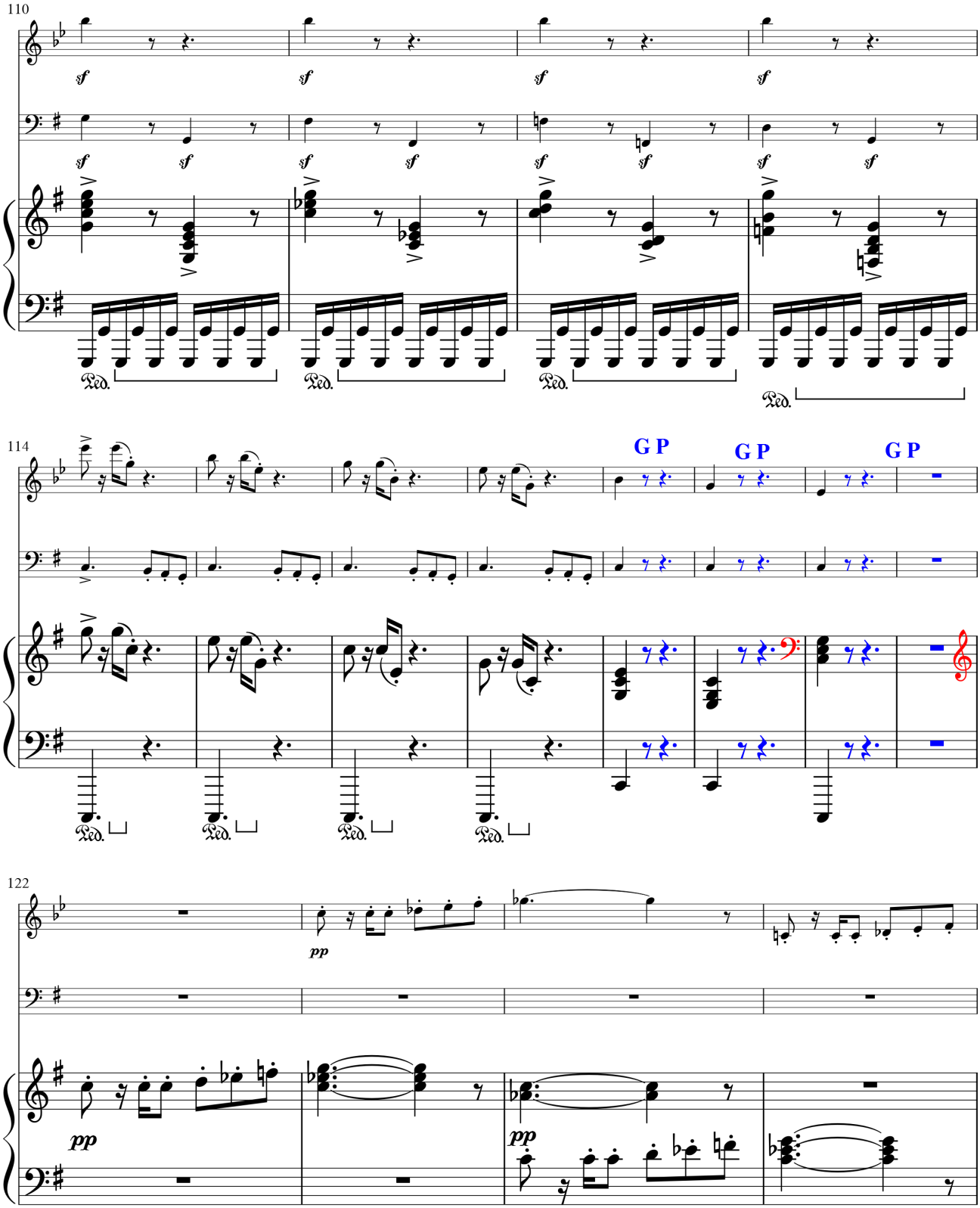

19
f
Ped.
Ped.
23
ff
ff
ff
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
26
Ped.

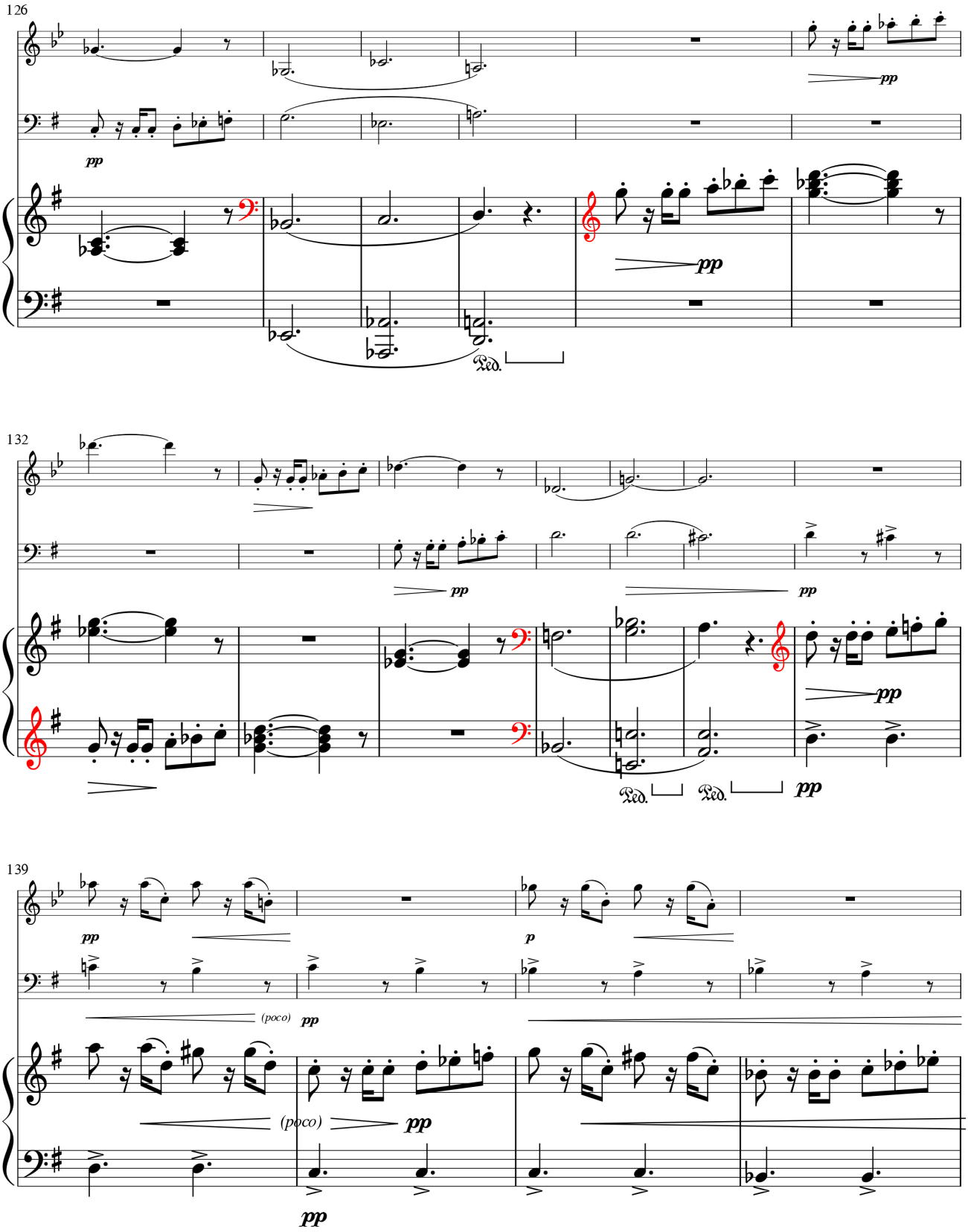

31
37
41
p
pp
Ped.

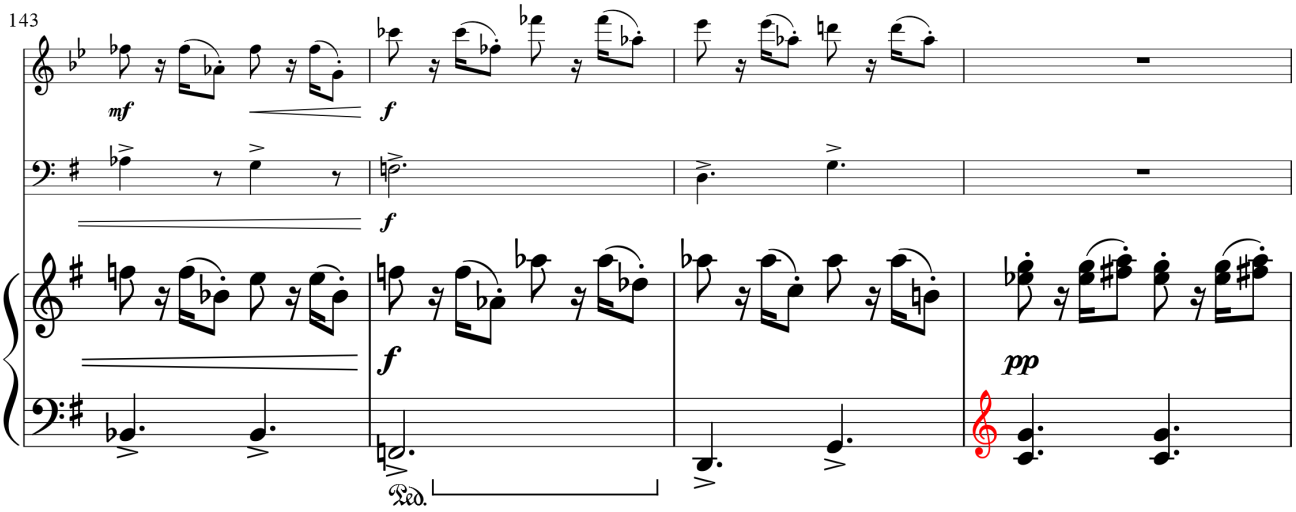

46
pp
pp
pp
pp
Ped.
Ped.
55
mf
Ped.
Ped.
64
pp
mf
pp
mf
pp
mf
mf
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

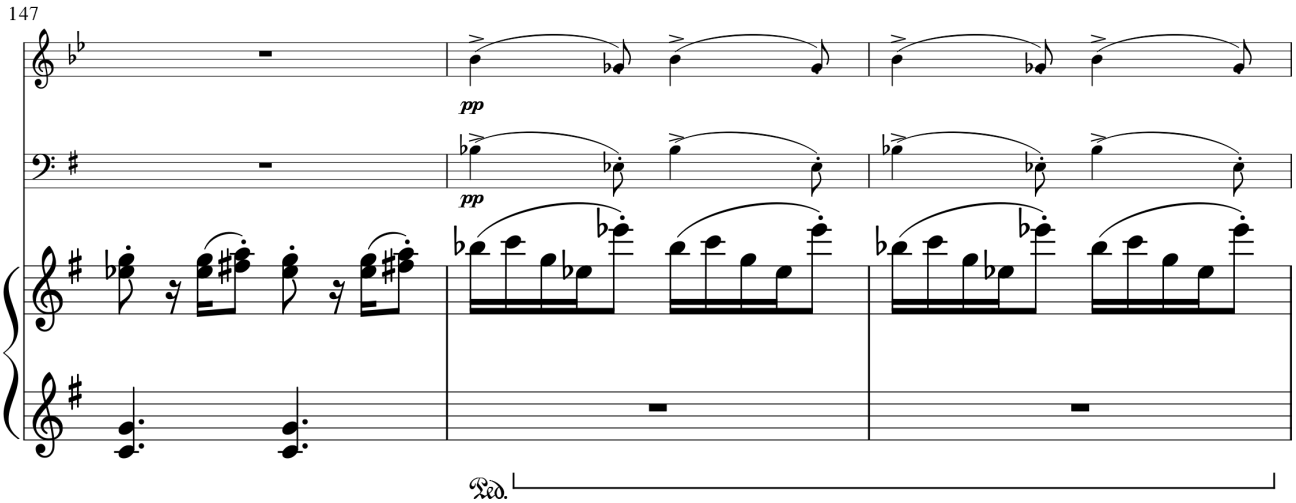

70
sf
f
sf
ff
sf
f
sf
mp
sf
f
sf
Ped.
77
mf
rf
84
mf
rf
rf

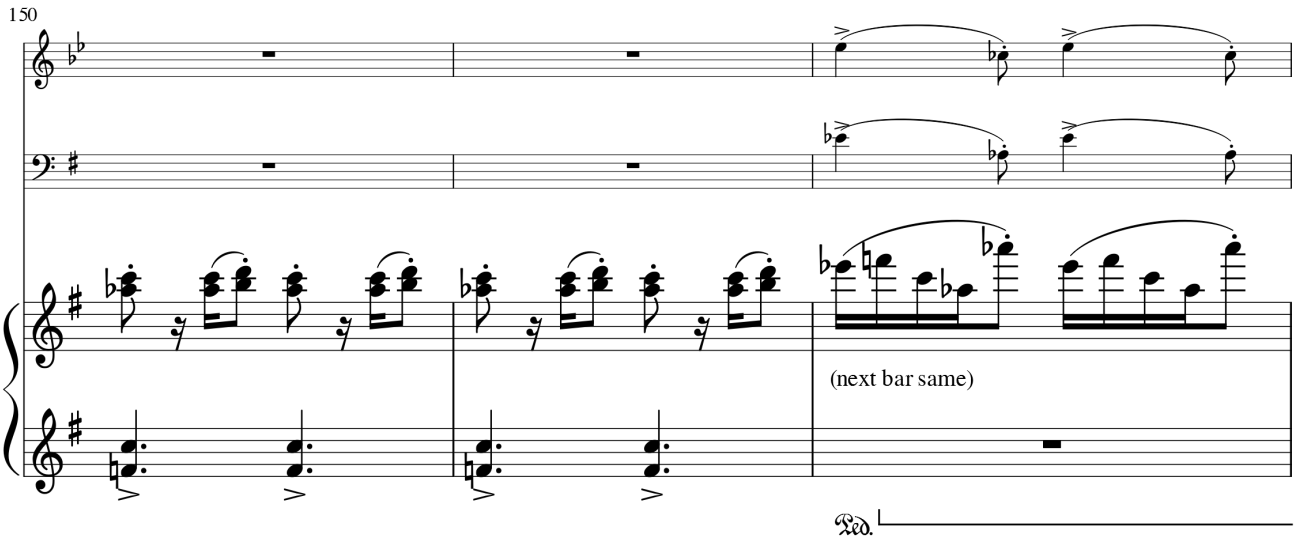

92
fp
97
pesante
f
sf
104
ff

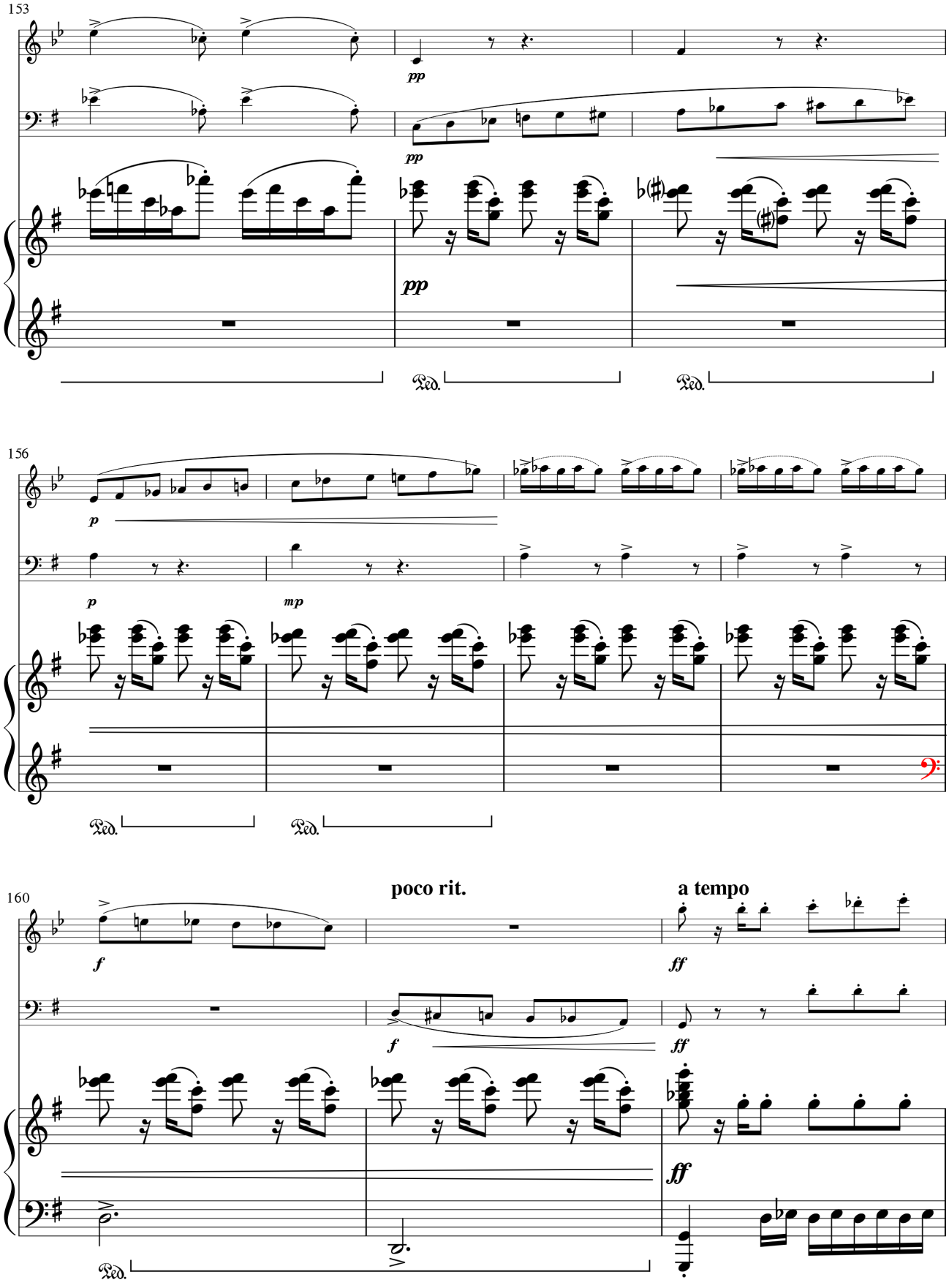

110
sf
Ped.
114
G P
G P
G P
122
pp

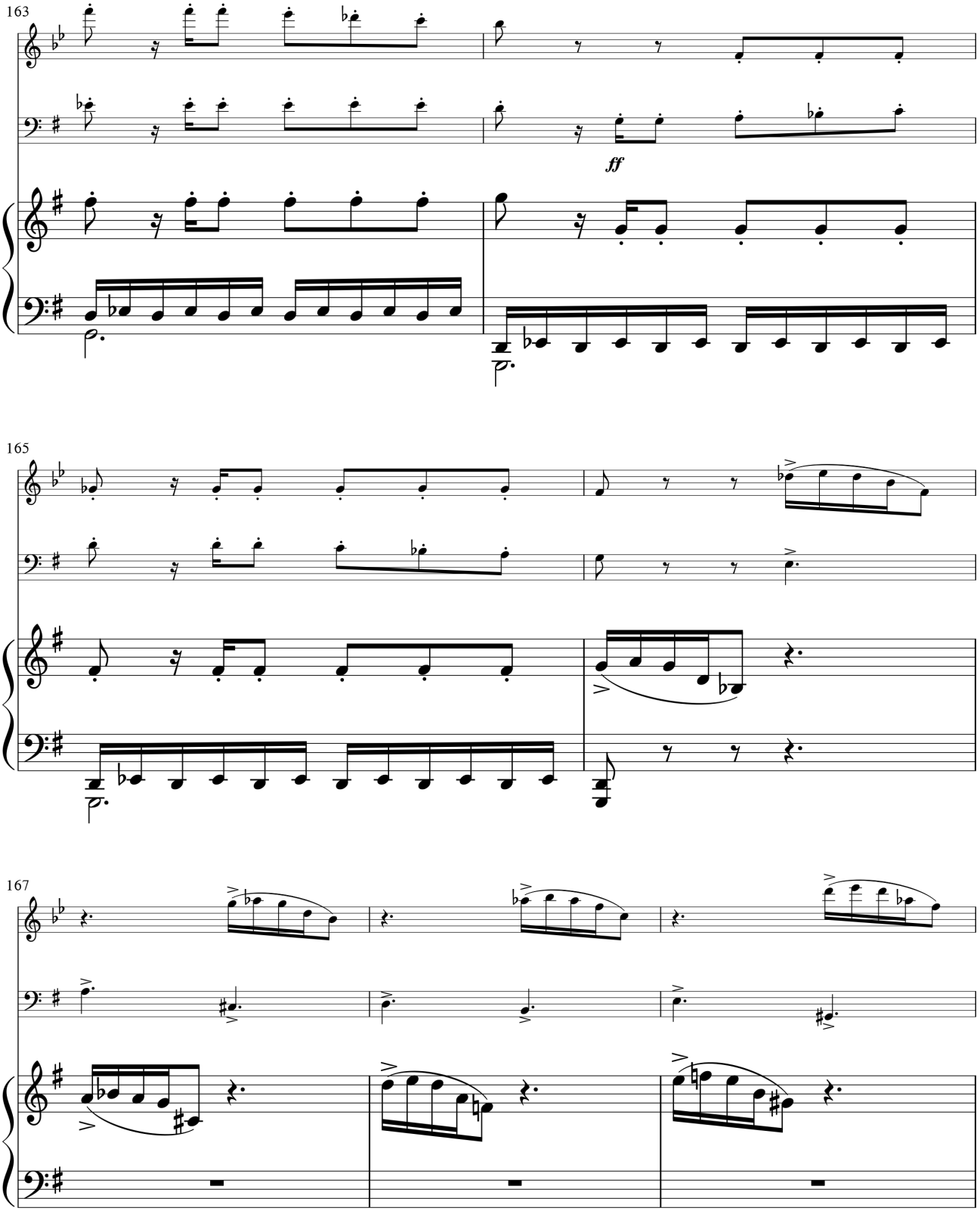

126
pp
pp
pp
Ped.
132
pp
pp
pp
Ped.
Ped.
pp
139
pp
p
(poco)
pp
(poco)
pp
pp

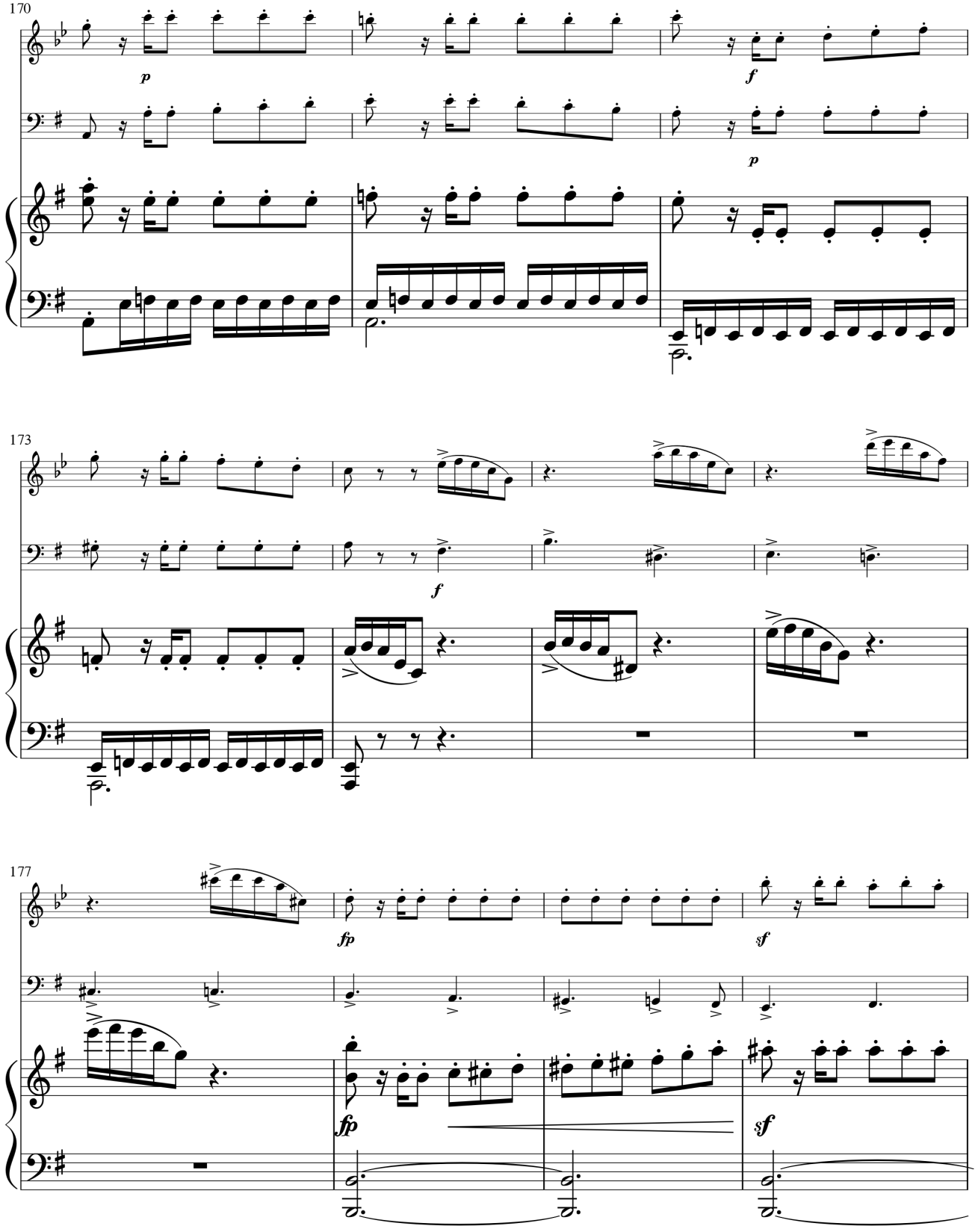

143
mf
f
f
f
pp
Ped.

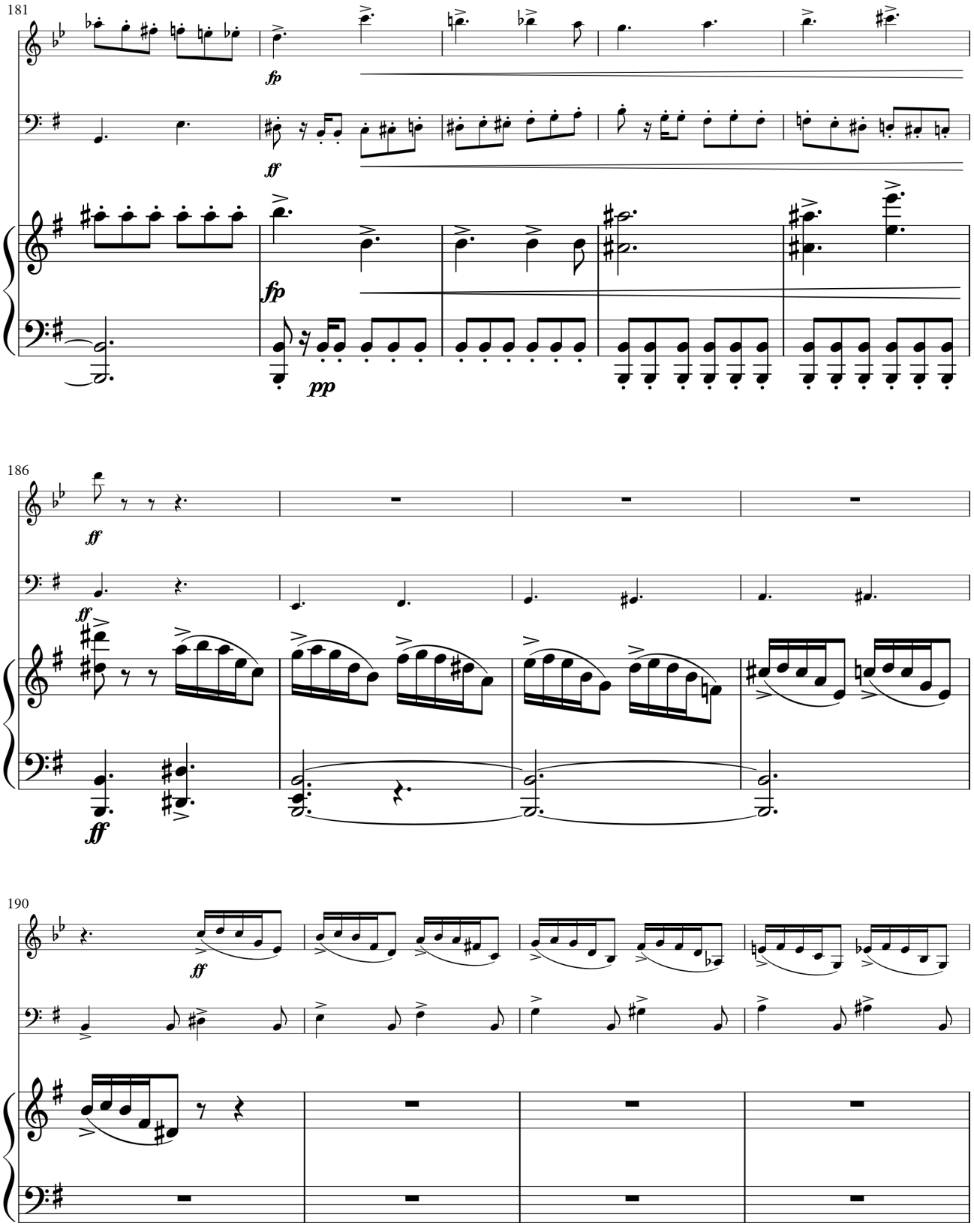

147
pp
pp
Ped.

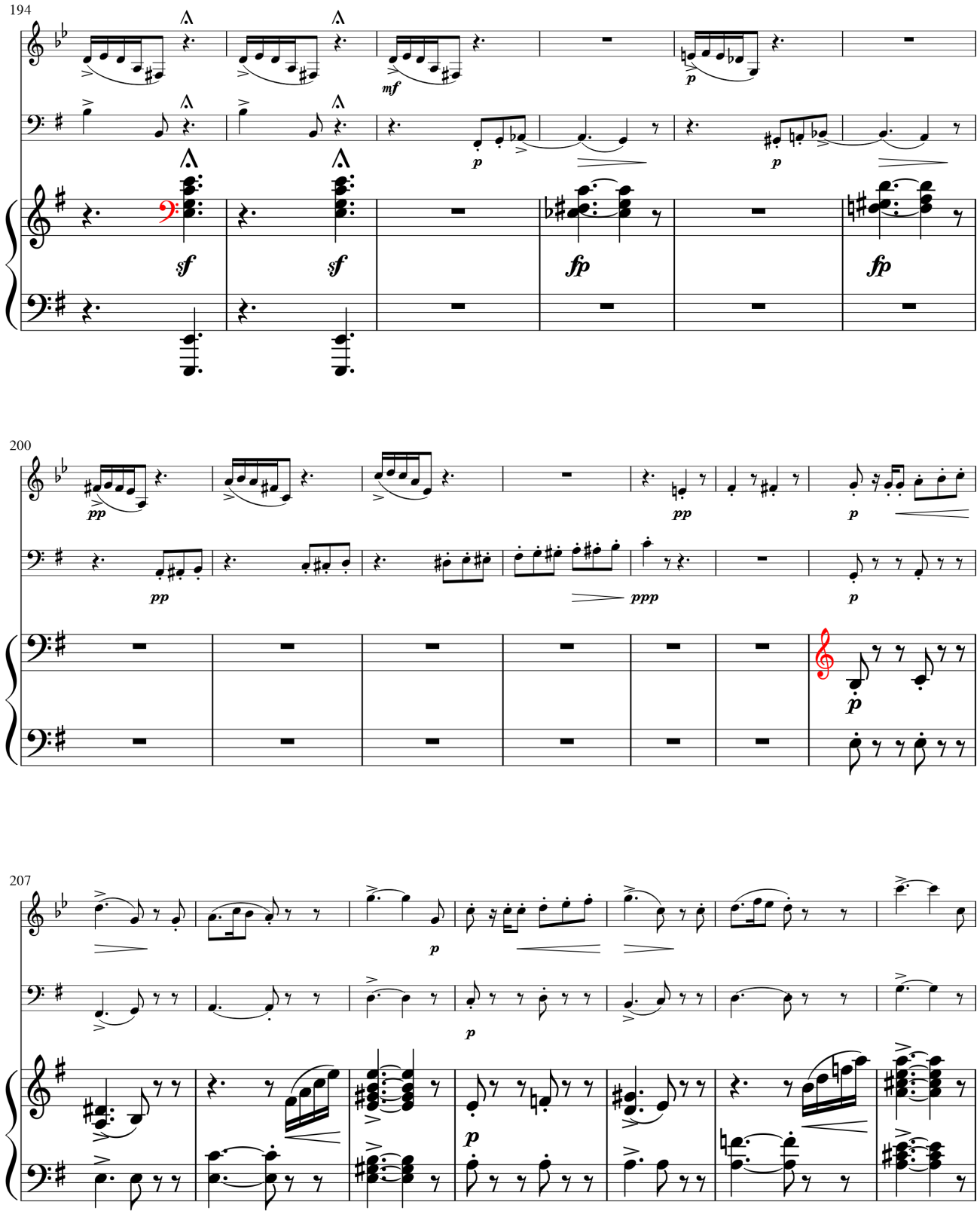

150
(next bar same)
Ped.

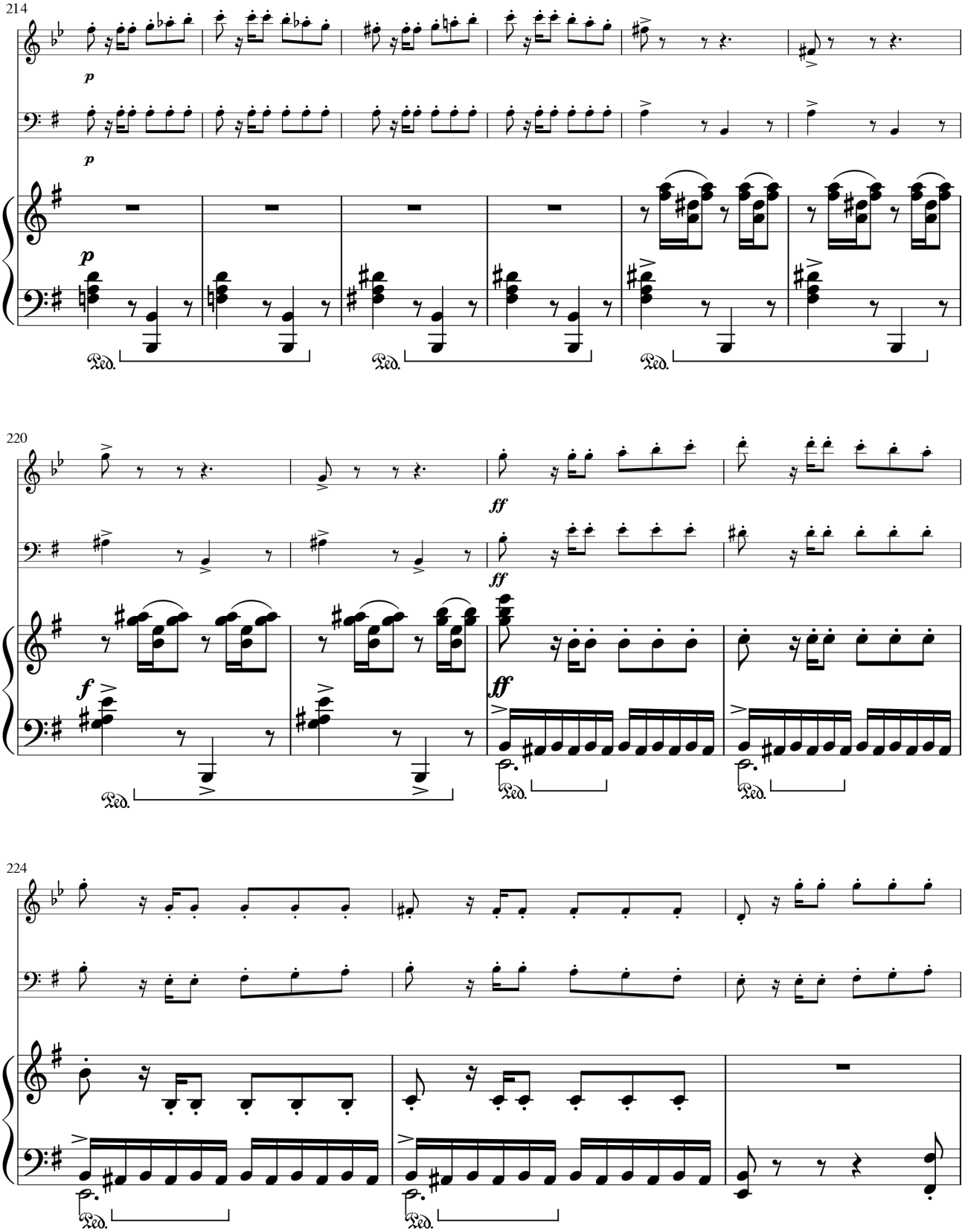

153
pp
pp
pp
Ped.
Ped.
156
p
p
mp
Ped.
Ped.
160
poco rit.
a tempo
f
f
ff
ff
ff
Ped.

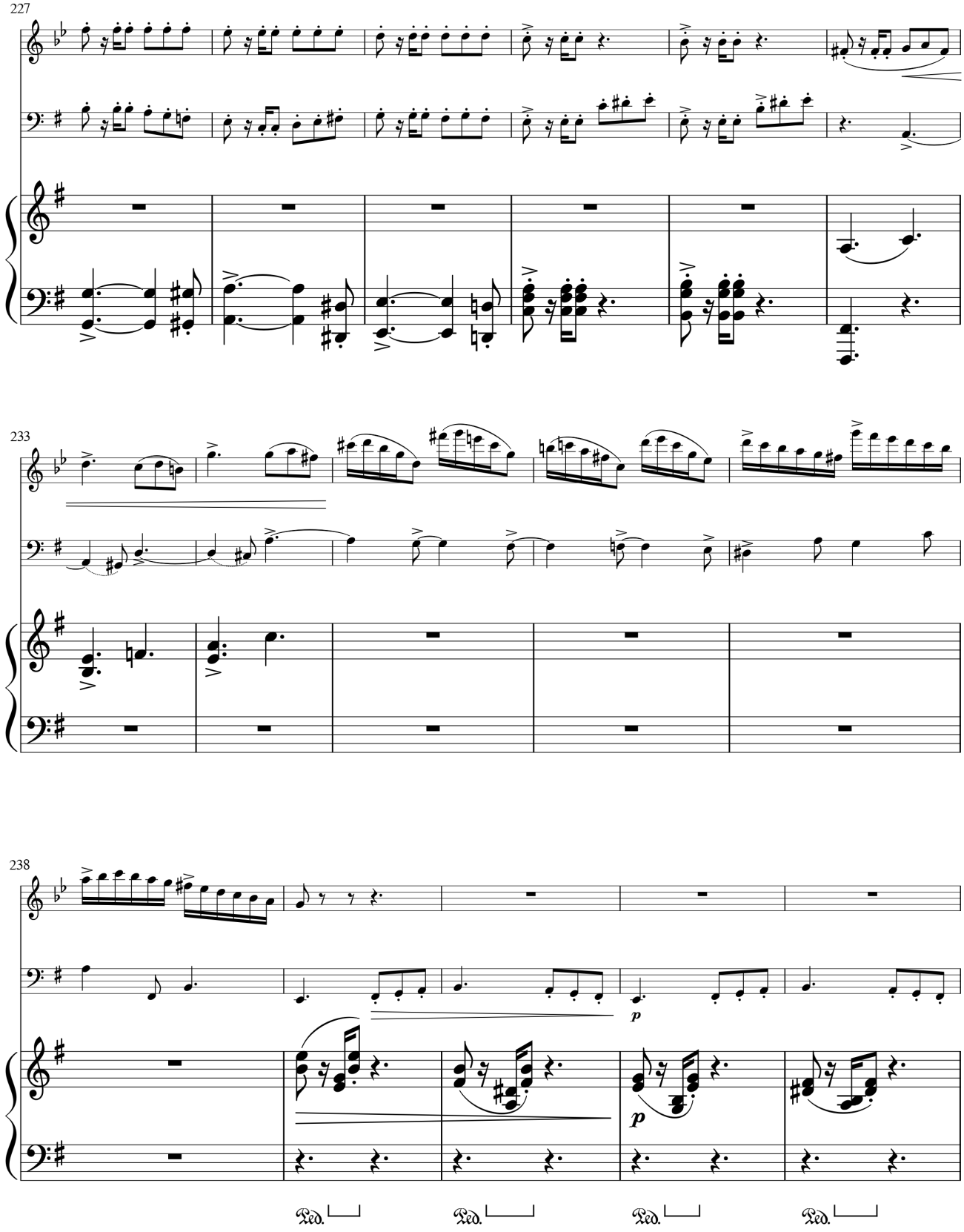

163
ff
165
167

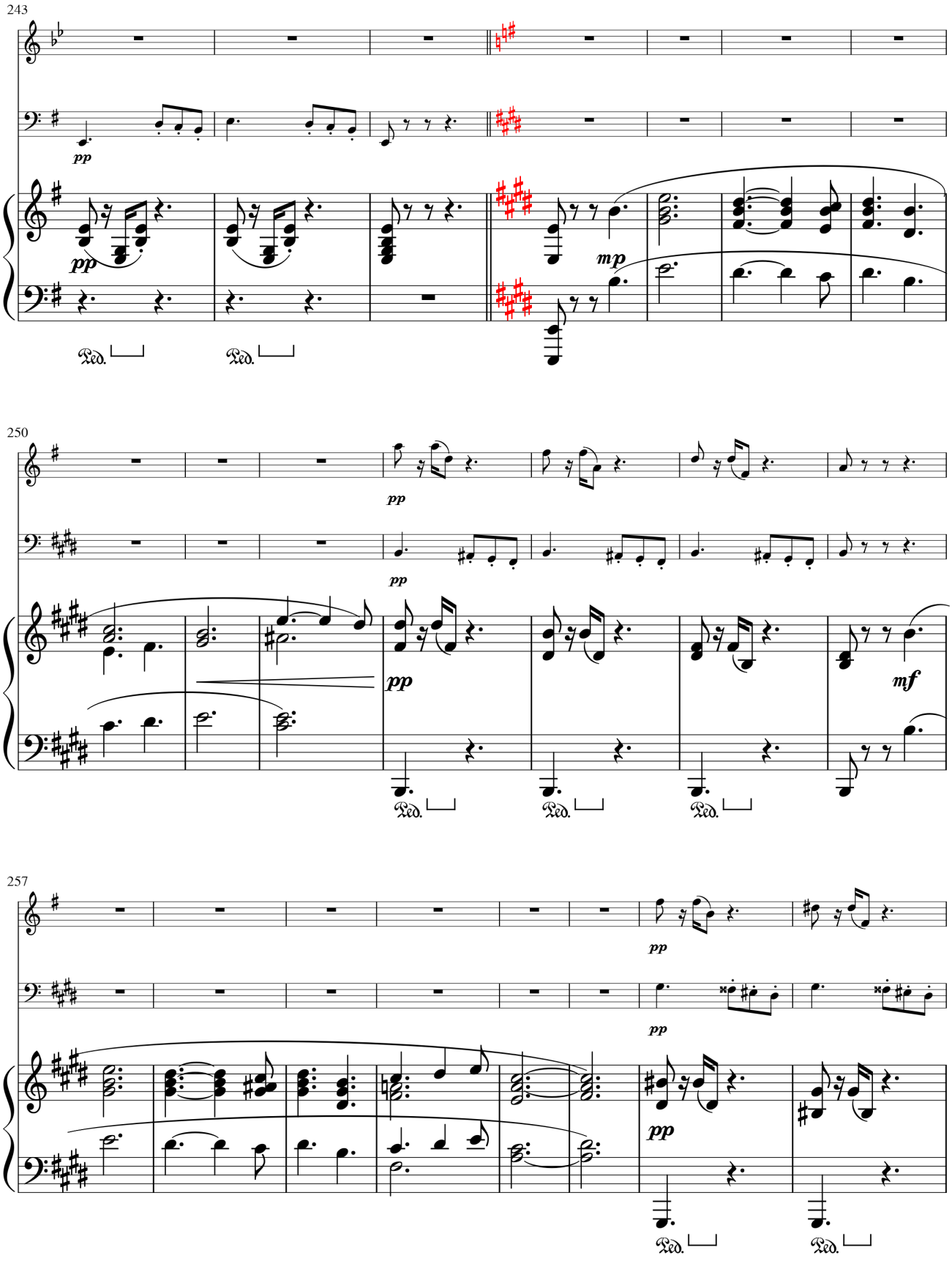

170
p
f
p
173
f
177
fp
sf
fp
sf

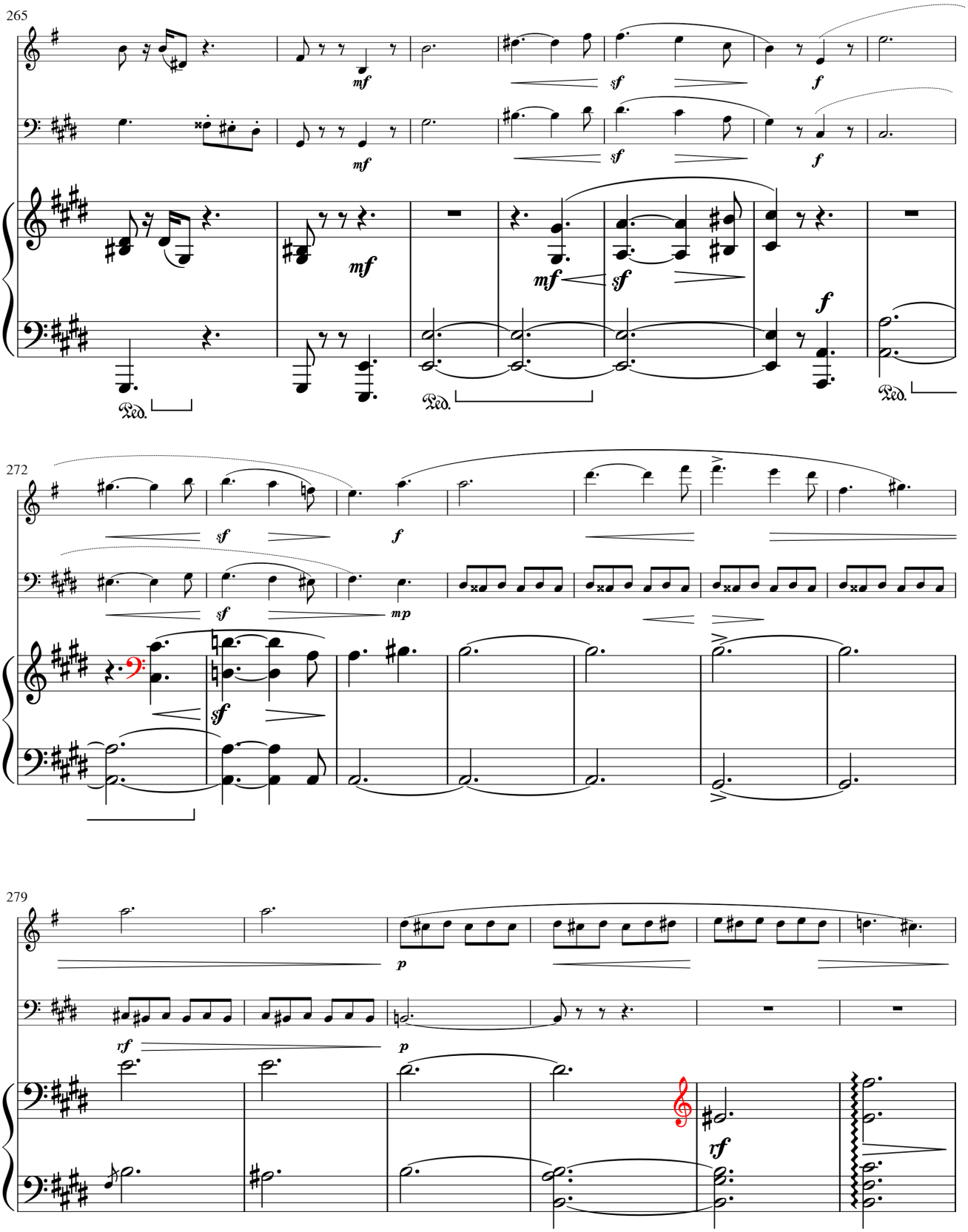

181
fp
ff
fp
pp
186
ff
ff
ff
190
ff

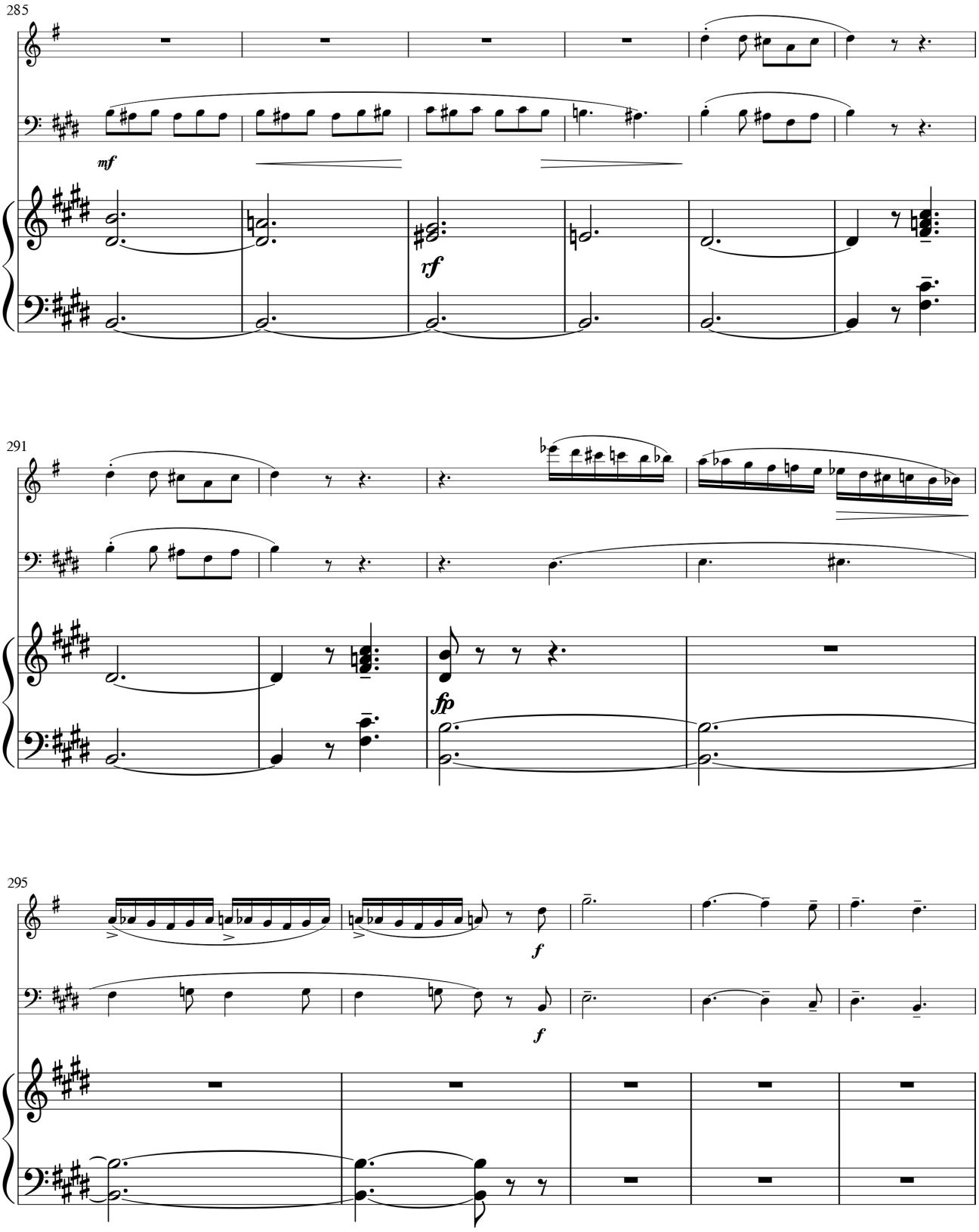

194
mf
p
p
sf
sf
fp
fp
200
pp
pp
p
pp
ppp
p
p
207
p
p
p

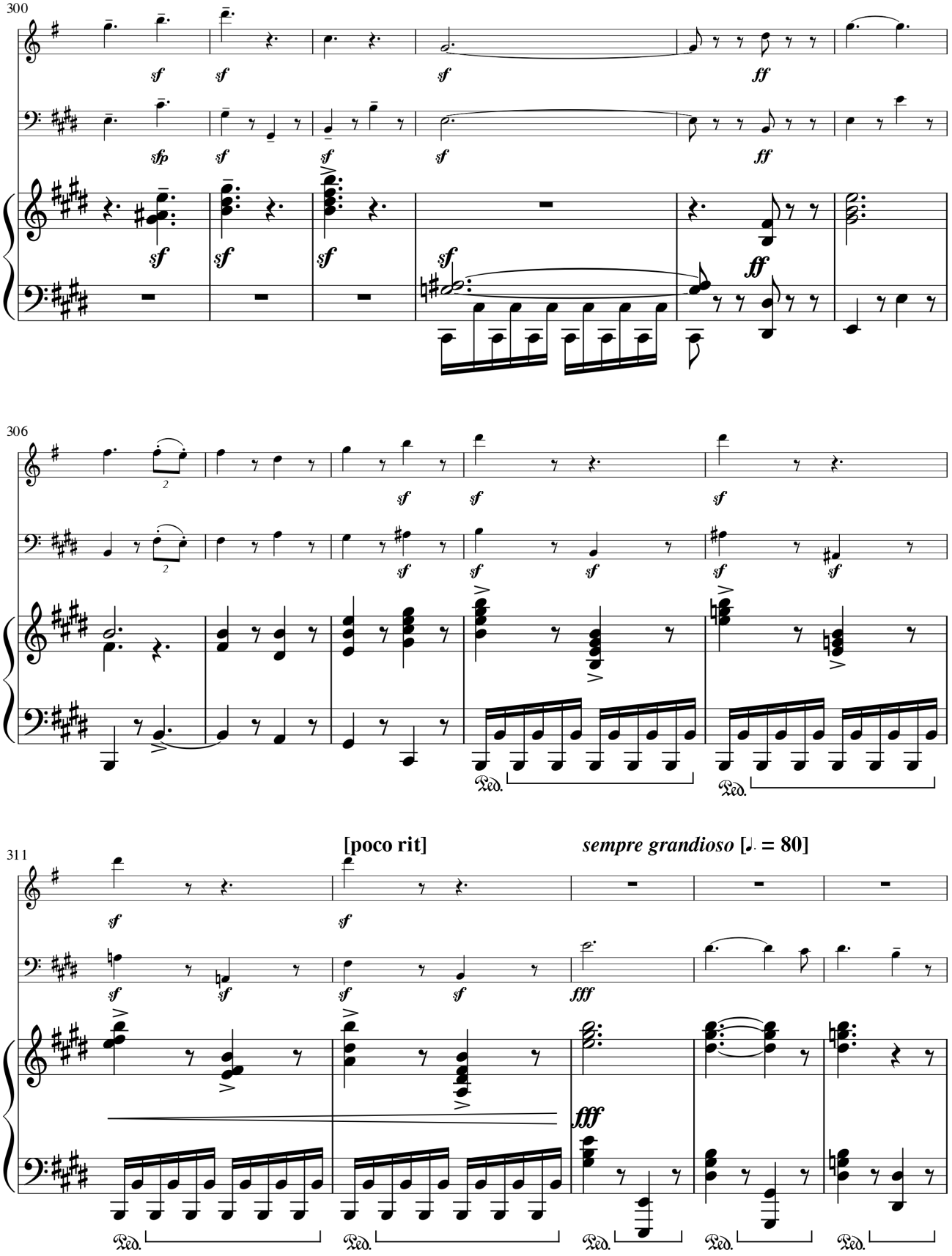

214
p
p
p
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
220
ff
ff
f
ff
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
224
Ped.
Ped.

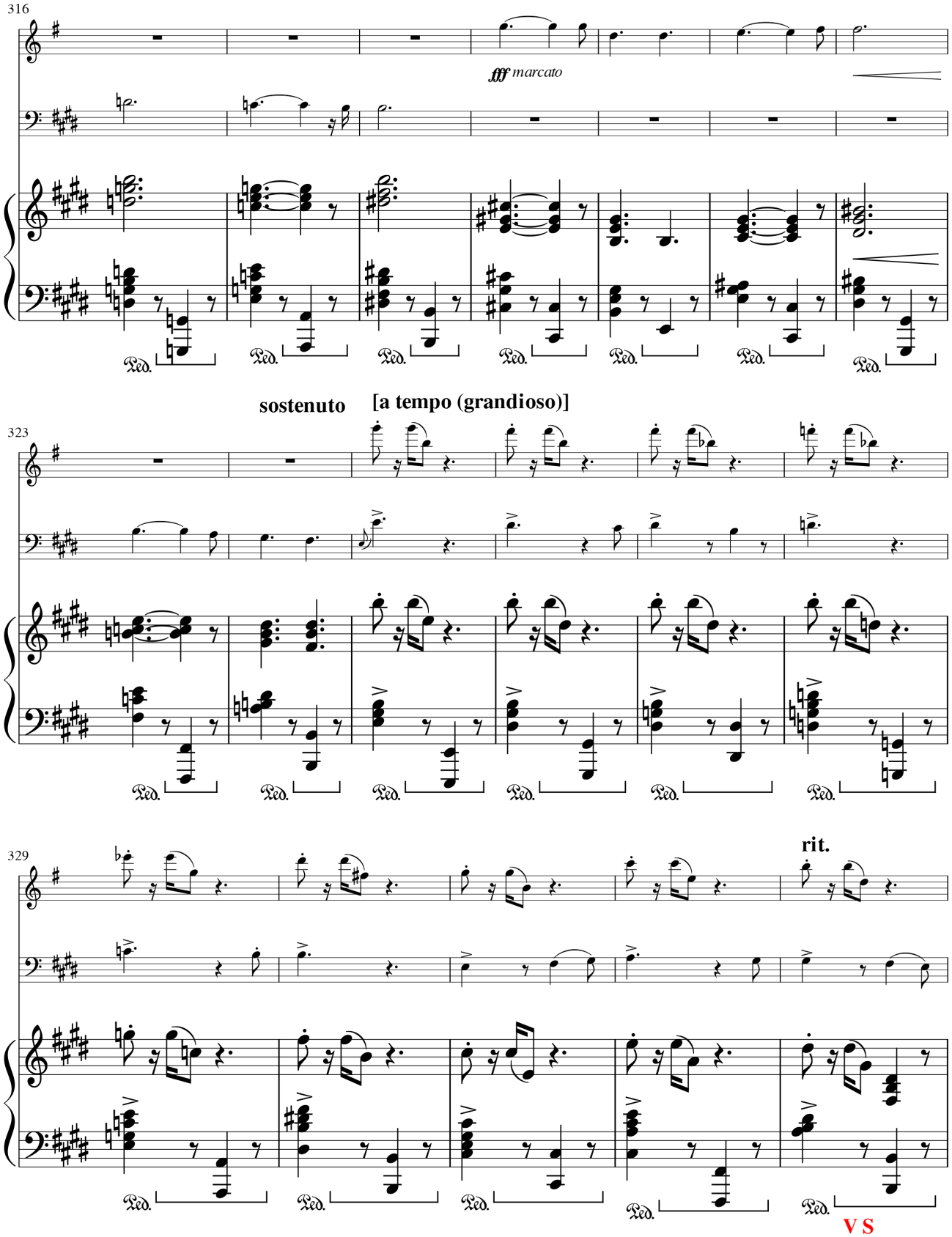

227
233
238
p
p
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

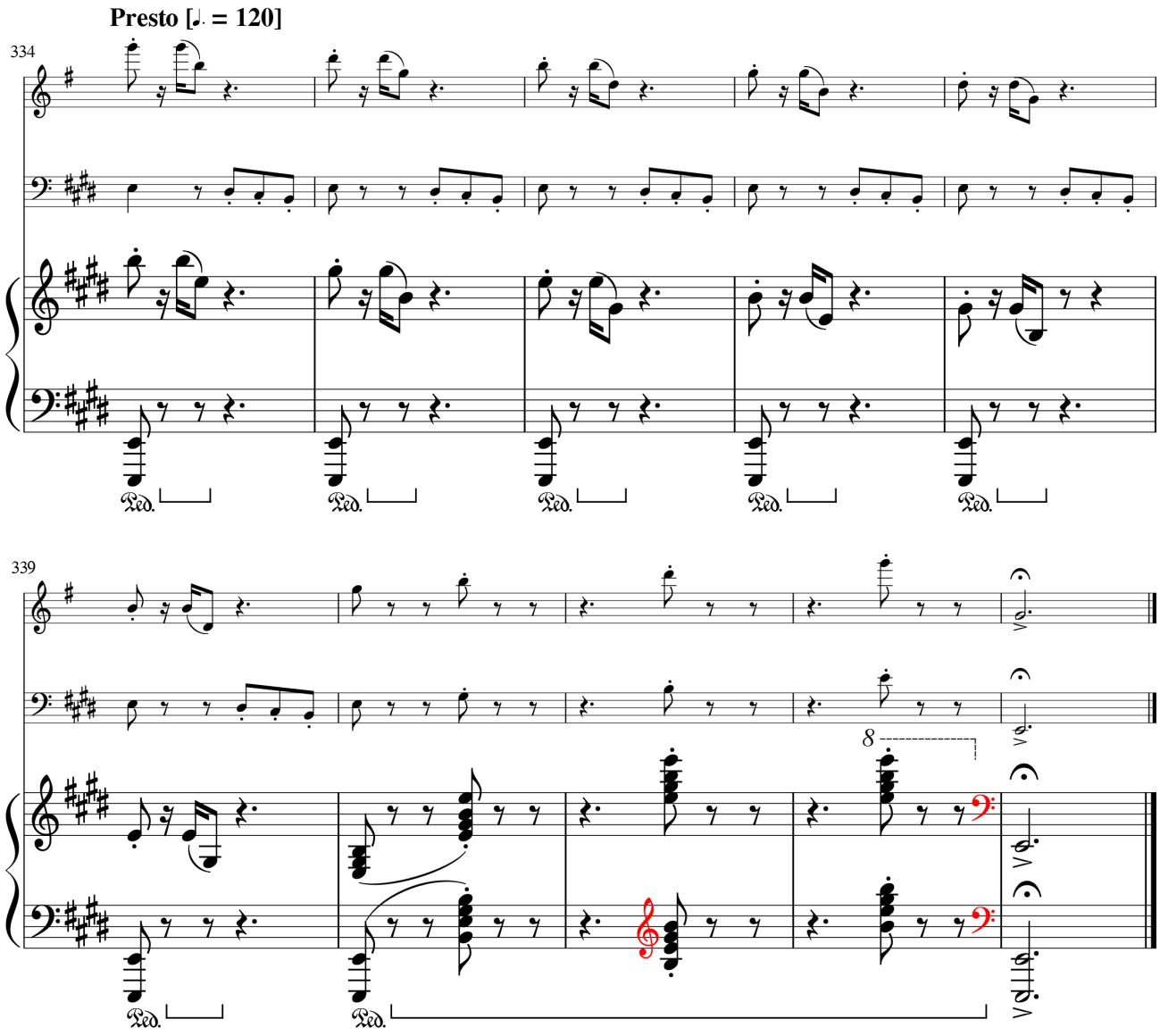

243
pp
pp
mp
Ped.
Ped.
250
pp
pp
pp
mf
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
257
pp
pp
pp
Ped.
Ped.


265
mf
sf
f
mf
sf
f
mf
mf
sf
f
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
272
sf
f
sf
mp
sf
279
p
rf
p
rf


285
mf
rf
291
fp
295
f
f


300
306
311
[poco rit]
sempre grandioso [♩. = 80]


316
fff marcato
sostenuto
[a tempo (grandioso)]
323
329
rit.
Ped.
V S


Presto [♩. = 120]
334
339
8
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

Edvard Hagerup Grieg was the son of Gesine Hagerup and Alexander Grieg. Alexander was British Consul in Bergen and the son of John Grieg, whose father Alexander Greig emigrated from Aberdeen in 1745 after the battle of Culloden, and changed the spelling of his name to approximate its Scottish pronunciation better in Norwegian. Gesine was from an indigenous Norwegian family with music in the blood - she taught Edvard the piano, starting at the age of six.

Edvard was sent to the Leipzig Conservatoire (founded in the year he was born, by Mendelssohn) as a result of a visit by the violin virtuoso Ole Bull to the Griegs' house in 1858, when he heard Edvard play some of his own compositions. At Leipzig Grieg was homesick, unhappy with some of his teaching (though excited by the piano playing of the famous Ignaz Moscheles, which often took the place of a lesson) and initially lazy. However contact with other talented students (such as Arthur Sullivan) made him realise that hard work, to learn basics which they already knew, would pay off. Unfortunately a swing to working excessively long hours may have exacerbated a severe chest infection which led to collapse of one lung, damaging his health for the rest of his life. His mother came to take her 16-year-old son home to recover, but he returned in the autumn (with his younger brother) and completed his studies in 1862 with good marks.

In 1863 he went to Copenhagen, then centre of Scandinavian musical life, meeting several important people including his Hagerup cousin and future wife (they were secretly engaged in 1864) the singer and pianist Nina, as well as composers Niels Gade and Rikard Nordraak. With Nordraak, Grieg founded the Euterpe Society devoted to establishing a Norwegian national music.

The piano sonata was composed in the summer of 1865 at the house of the Danish author Benjamin Feddersen in the village of Rundsted. The following details are from an interview of Grieg by the Rev. W. A. Gray, in The Woman at Home: "Whether it was the lovely situation, or the invigorating air which inspired me, I won't pretend to say. At any rate, within eleven days I had composed my sonata for the pianoforte, and very soon after my first sonata for the violin. I took them both to Gade, who was living out at Klampenborg. He glanced through them with satisfaction, nodded, tapped me on the shoulder, and said: 'That's very nice indeed. Now we'll go over them carefully and look into all the seams.' So we climbed a small steep staircase to Gade's studio, where he sat down at the grand pianoforte and played with absolute inspiration. I had often been told that, when Gade was inspired, he drank copious draughts of water. That day the Professor emptied four large water-bottles". ['Edvard Grieg' by Henry T Finck, 1905].

Although giving several hints of his mature 'Norwegian' and distinctive personal harmonic style, the sonata is in a more generic grand Romantic manner. The theme of the first movement begins with the three notes of Grieg's initials: E H [German notation for B natural] G. This gives rise to the home key of E minor for the whole sonata. The slow movement with its simple but memorable tune foreshadows the 'Lyric Pieces', but has a stormy central section. Although in Minuet form, the third movement manages to sound like a funeral march, relieved by another gentle melody in the Trio. The final movement was played at a gallop by Grieg on a historic 1903 wax cylinder. While his speed was no doubt dictated by constraints of the recording, the movement does have a more virtuoso character, before a slower 'Grandioso' ending. The whole Sonata could be seen as a study in compound time signatures, which are present in all four movements, often with contrasting rhythms in simple time.

The combination of powerful octave bass lines with rippling figurations, that features frequently in the outer movements of the sonata especially, suggested the transcription for these instruments.