Maurice RAVEL

the complete works for piano

DAPHNIS et CHLOÉ

Part III
l'Aventure de Pán et de Syrinx

a revision of
the composer's
piano transcription

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Musical Health Warning : please be aware that these editions are definitely not urtext and should be consulted together with a traditional version. They have been devised purely to help solve musical and technical problems at the piano.

Please send comments and error reports to
Ray Alston : contact@pianopracticaleditions.com

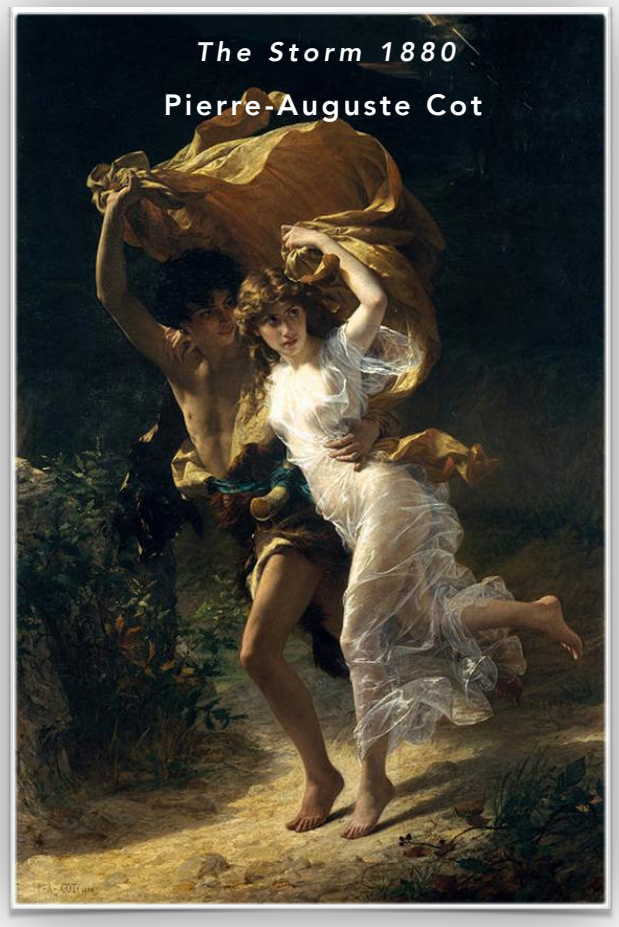
Maurice RAVEL 1875 - 1937

DAPHNIS et CHLOÉ

l'Aventure de Pán et de Syrinx

Unlike most musicians, as far as one knows, Ravel had no romantic attachments. And yet this eternal bachelor wrote some of the most erotic and sensuous music, as this Greek adventure will testify.

In 1909, the year Ravel started working on the score, he wrote — "I've just had an insane week: preparation of a ballet for the next Russian season. Almost every night, I compose until 3 in the morning."



According to the composer, "*Daphnis et Chloé* rather than a ballet is a 'choreographic symphony', with a formal sequence of keys and a minimum number of themes developed to create coherence. I wanted to compose a grand *tableau* staging an illusory Greece, as depicted by French artists at the end of the eighteenth century."
The sumptuous orchestration, sensuous melodies and harmonies evoke an ethereal impression of sublime voluptuousness. A ravelian sleuth might detect echoes of *Valses Nobles*, *Ondine* and *Jeux d'Eau*.

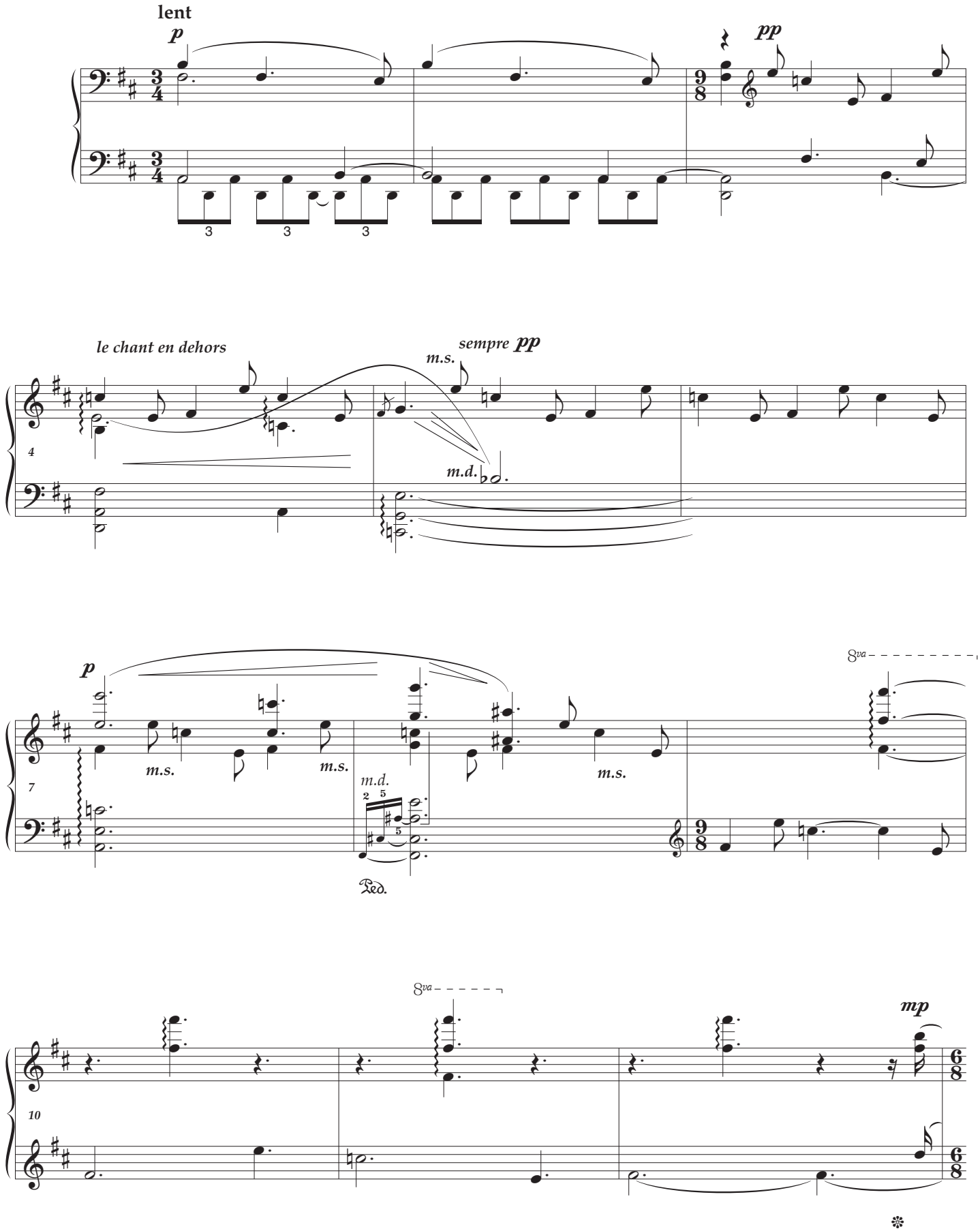
An old shepherd relates the legend of Pán and the Syrinx. Chloé mimes the role of the latter who was seduced by Pán's fluted air — no doubt a divine performance! The dance becomes more and more animated and, after a delirious pirouette, Chloé falls into Daphnis' arms following which he pledges his love before the Nymph's altar.

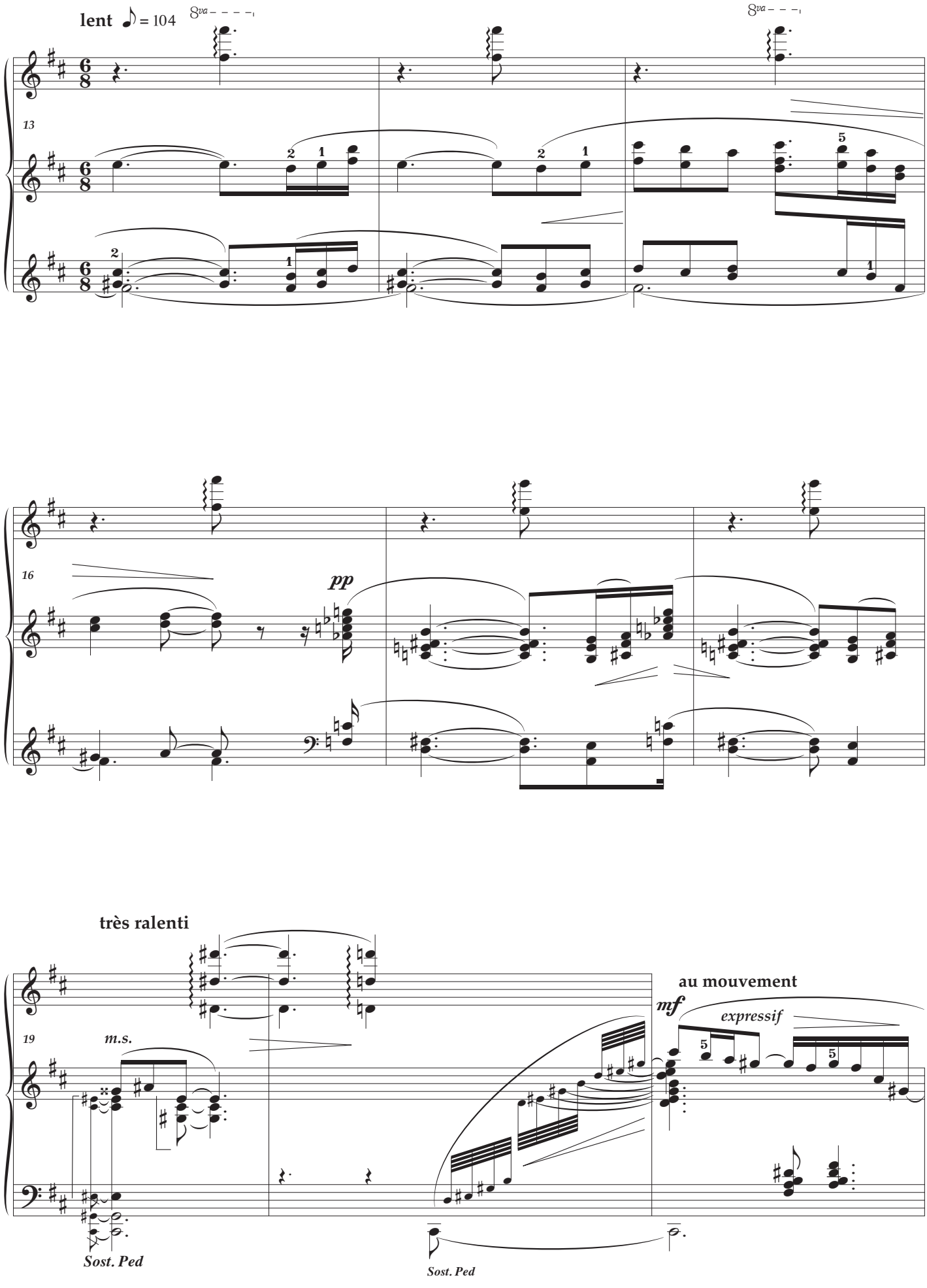
Ravel's original solo piano version for rehearsal dates from 1910 and includes some minor differences of text. This edition includes details to be found in the orchestral score, combined into a playable and integrated recital piece; although, given the nature of transcriptions, I am sure the reader will take the initiative and add, adjust or omit. The revision also contains some fingering, modified hand distribution, several sostenuto pedal suggestions and a French vocabulary on page 13.

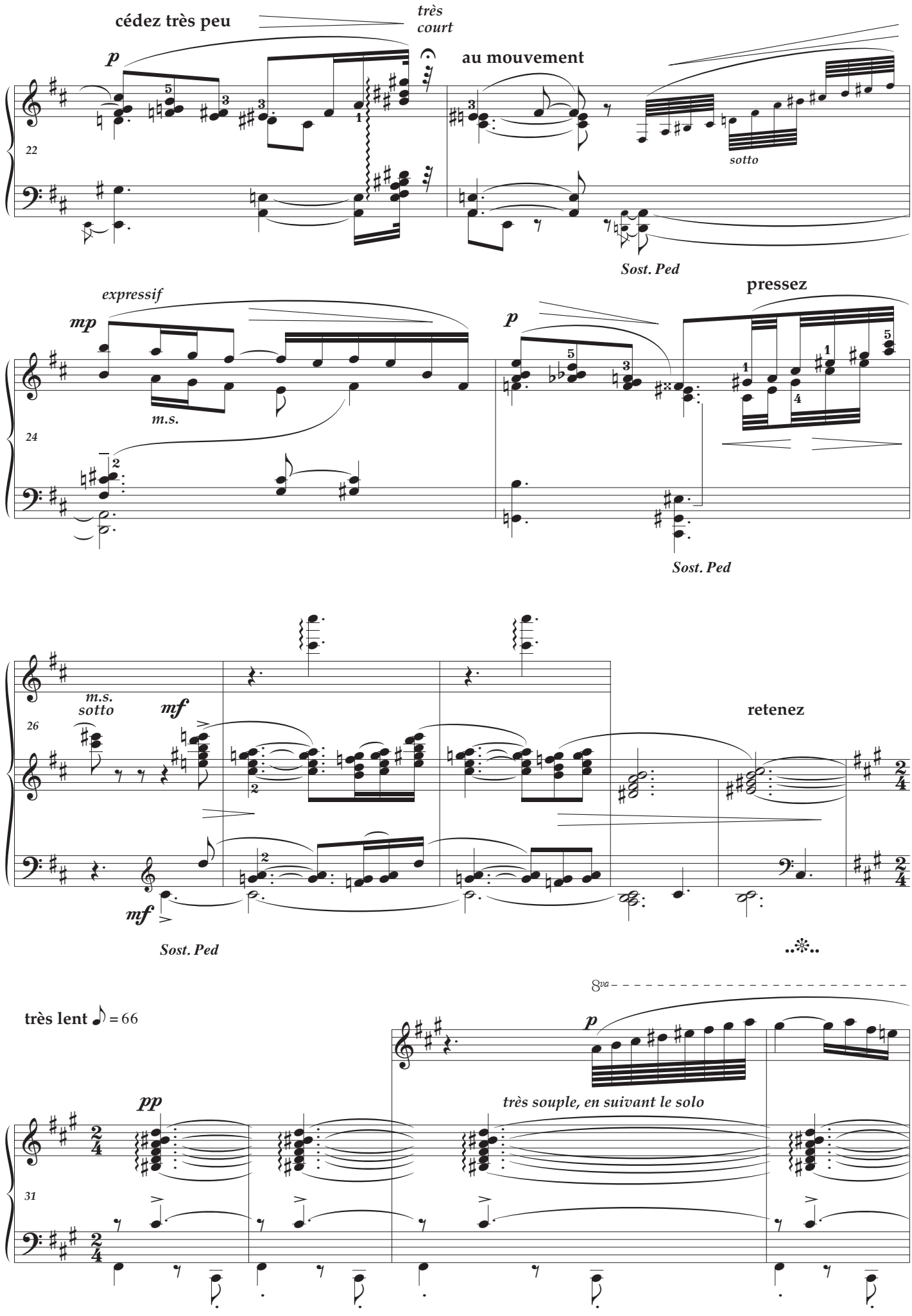
Daphnis et Chloé

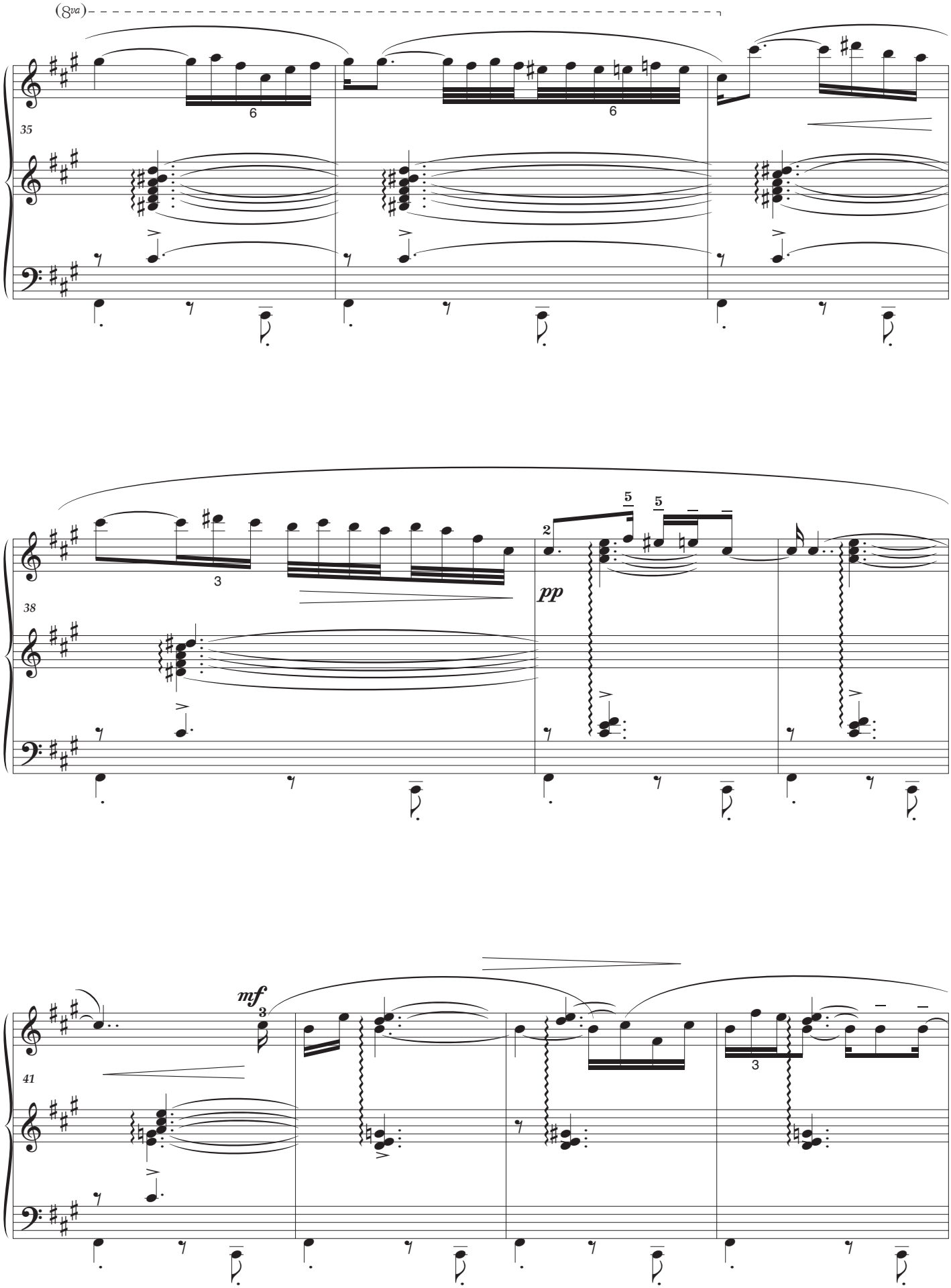
l'Aventure de Pán et de Syrinx

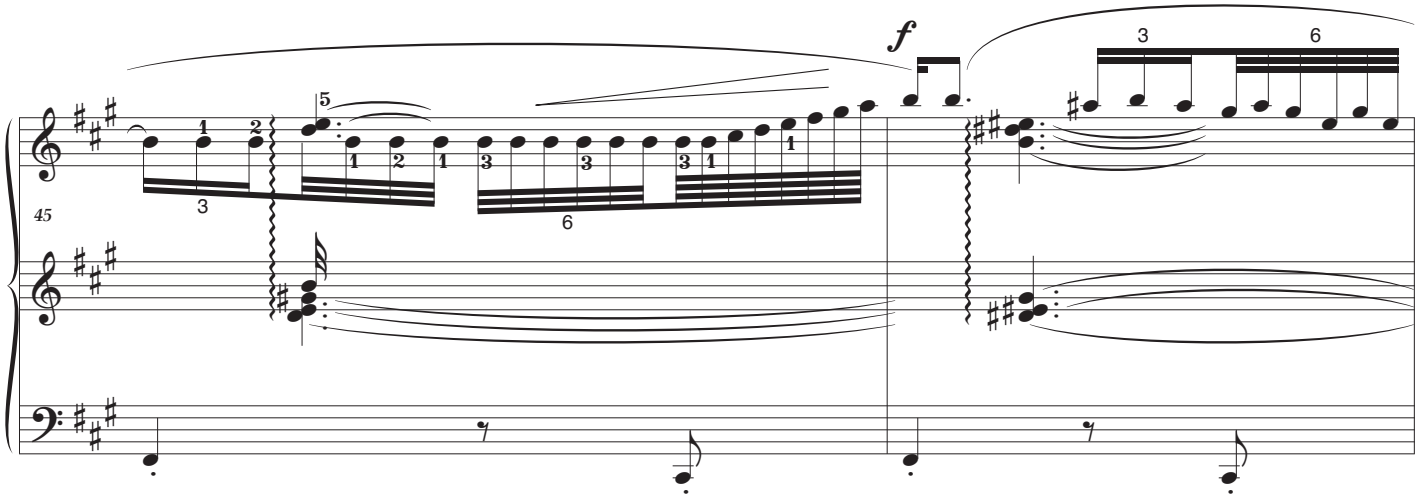
revision Ray Alston March 2020

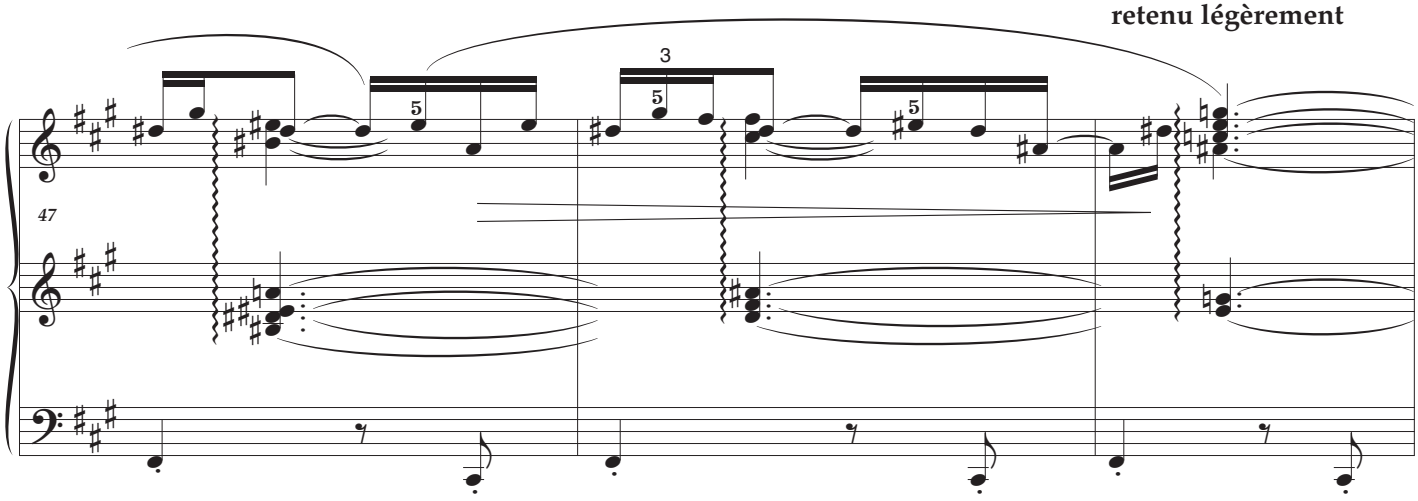


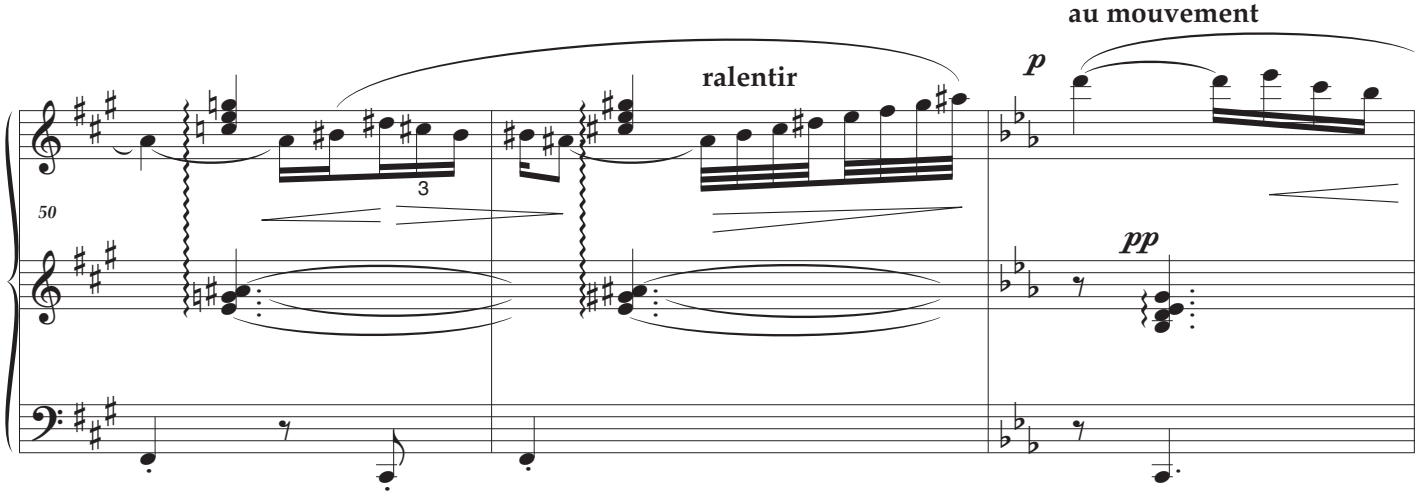

lent ♪ = 104
8va
13
16
pp
très ralenti
19
m.s.
Sost. Ped
au mouvement
mf
expressif
Sost. Ped

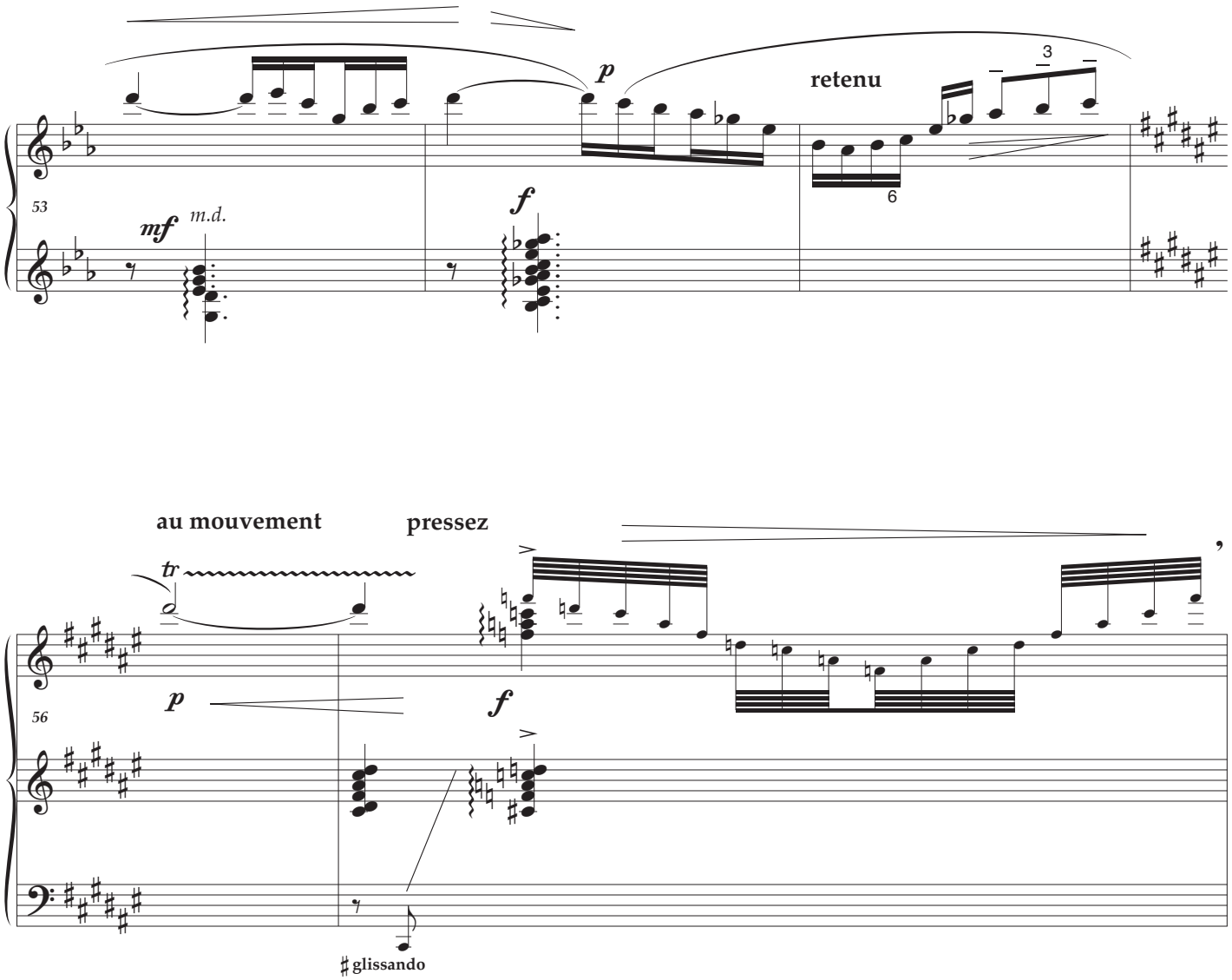

cédez très peu
très court
au mouvement
p
22
sotto
Sost. Ped
expressif
mp
m.s.
24
p
pressez
Sost. Ped
m.s.
sotto
mf
26
retenez
mf
Sost. Ped
8va
très lent ♪ = 66
p
pp
très souple, en suivant le solo
31

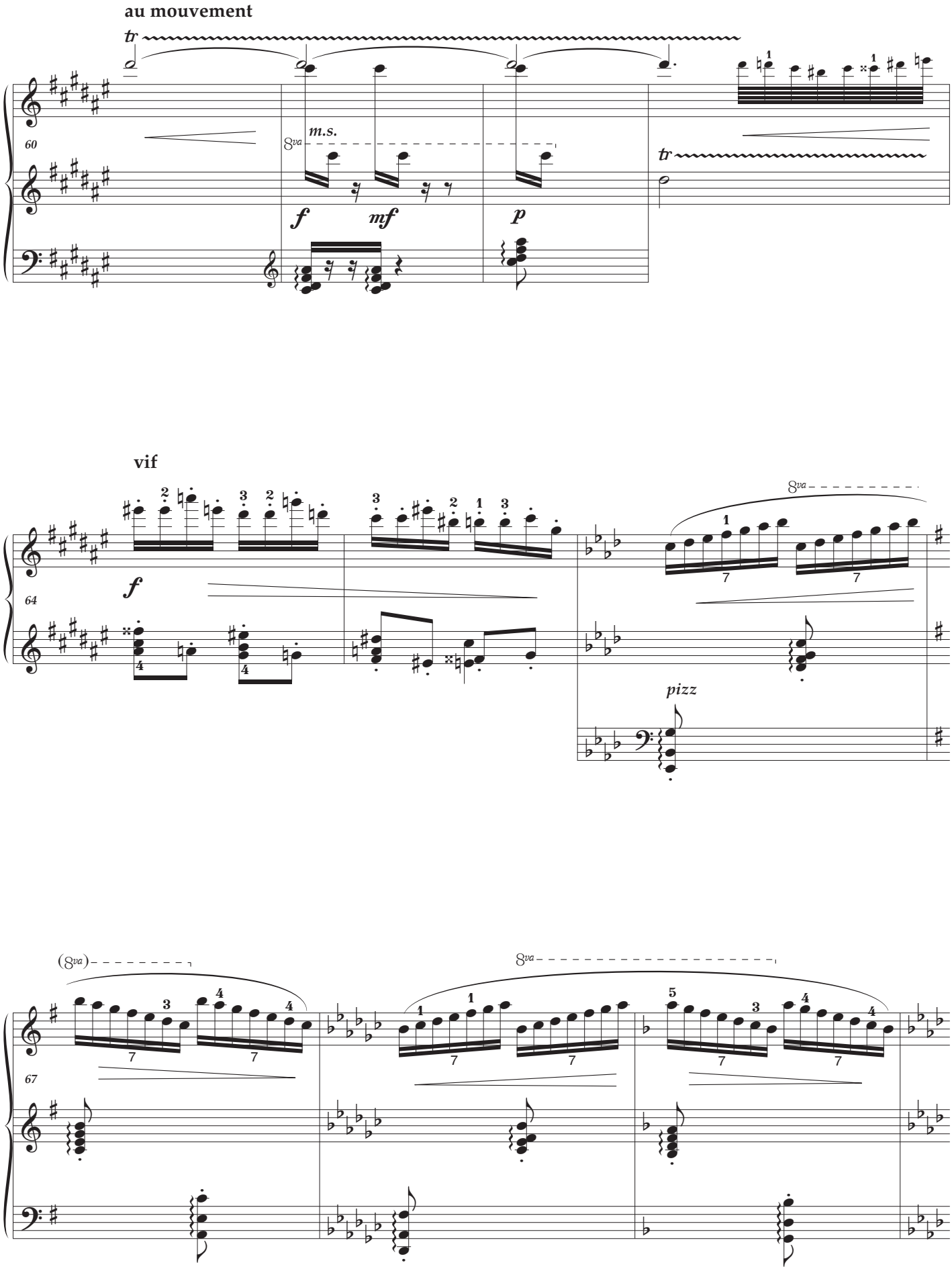

(8va)
35
6
6
38
3
2
5
5
pp
41
mf
3
3

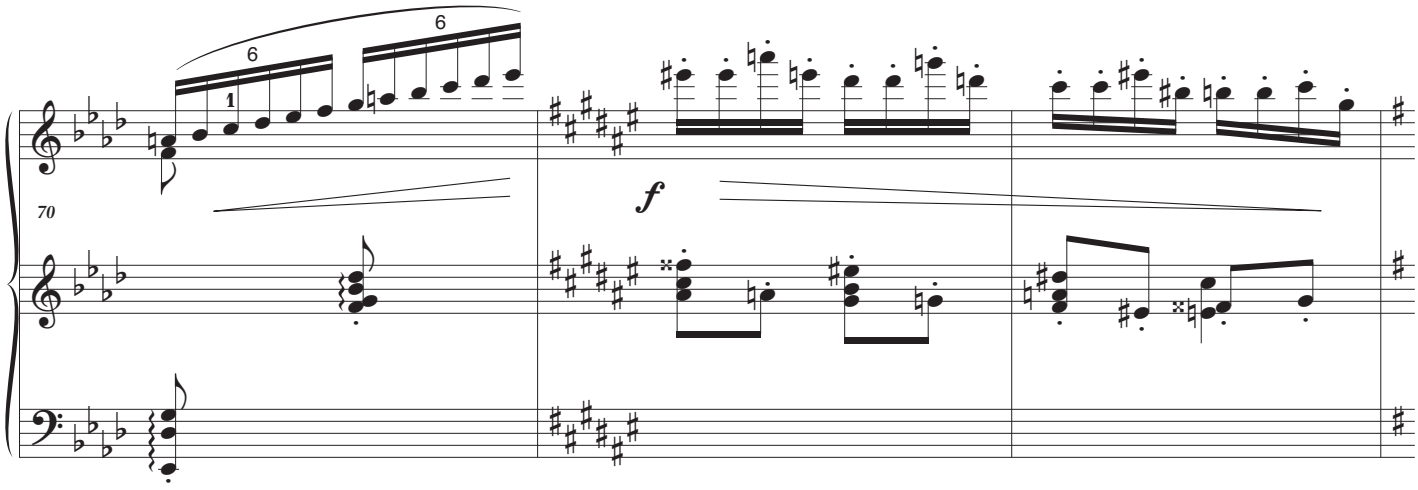

f
45

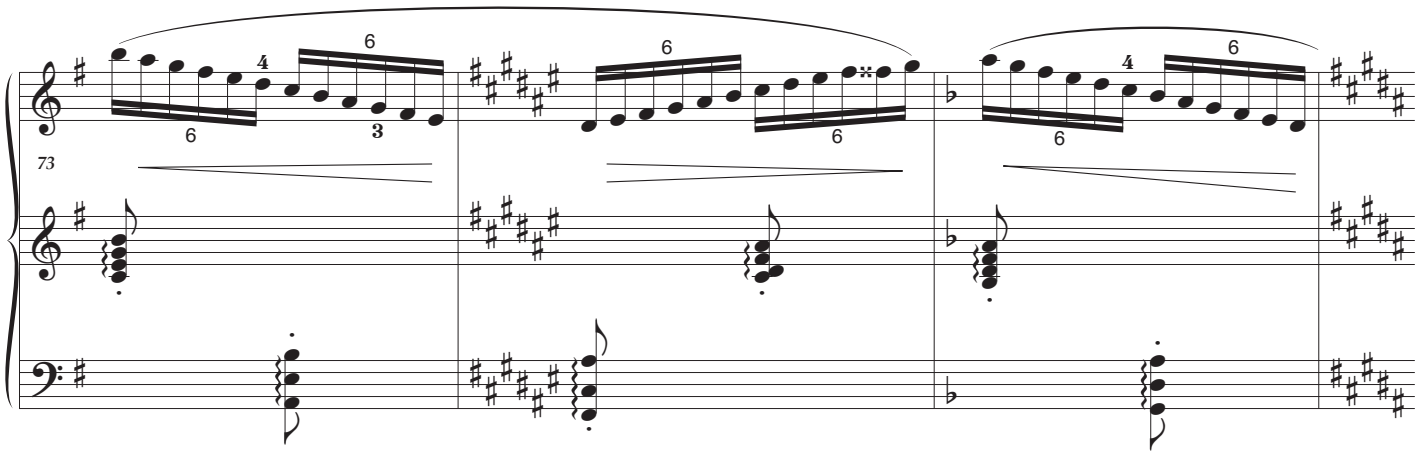

retenu légèrement
47


au mouvement
ralentir
p
pp
50

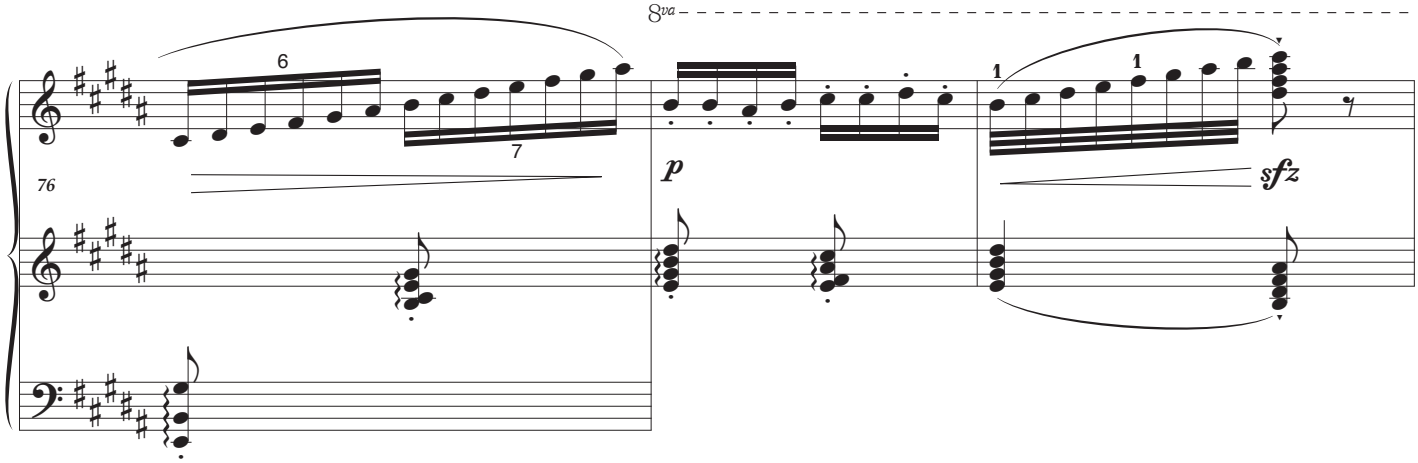

53
mf
m.d.
p
f
retenu
3
6
56
au mouvement
pressez
tr
p
f
glissando
58
au mouvement
pressez
tr
p
f
5
glissando

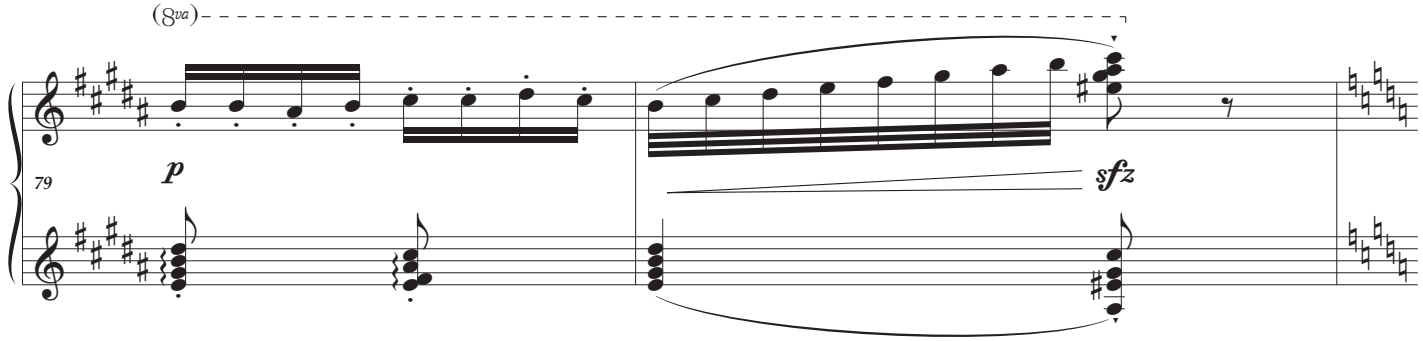

au mouvement
tr
60
8va
m.s.
f
mf
p
tr
vif
64
f
8va
pizz
(8va)
67
8va



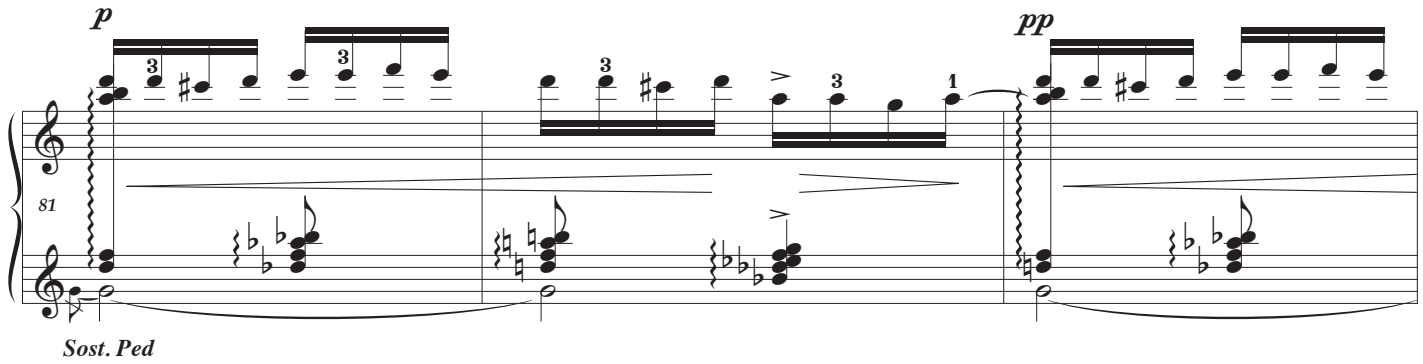


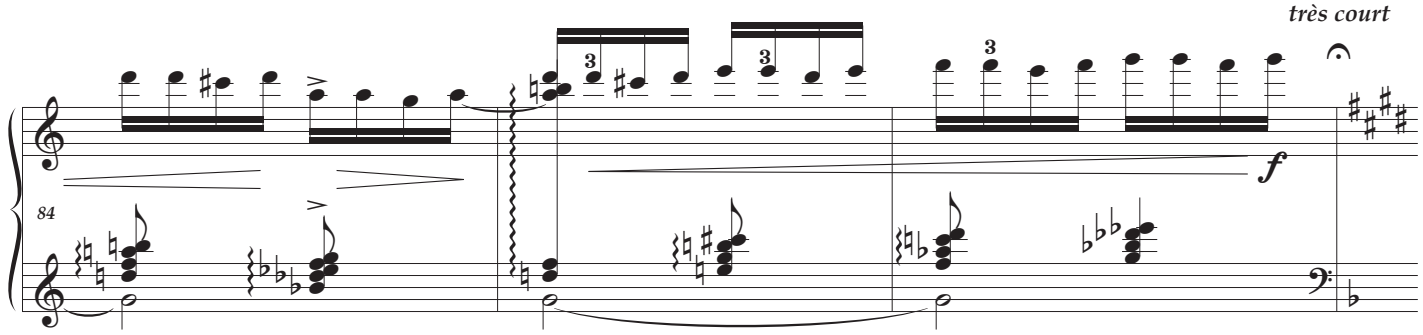
un peu plus animé



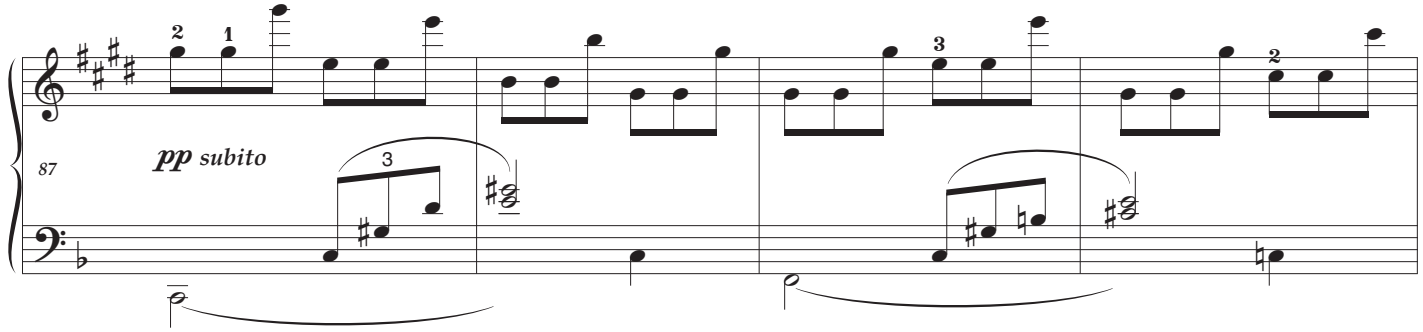


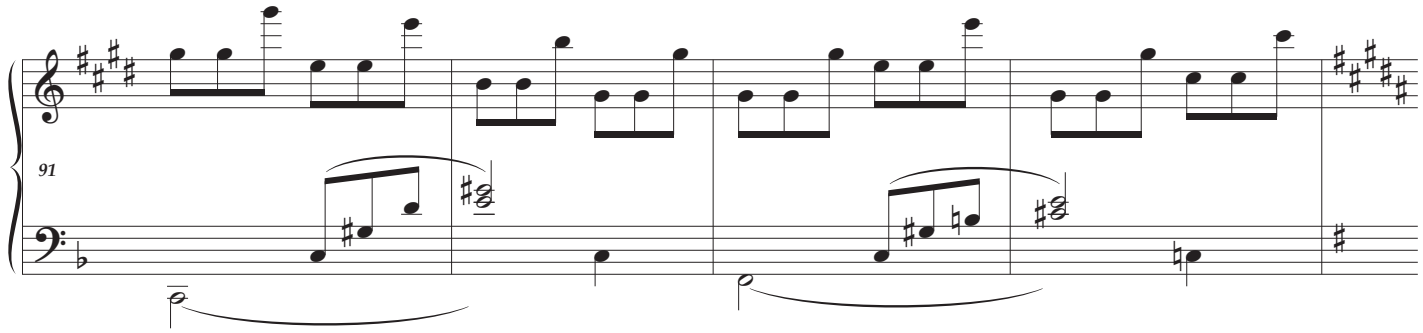
en animant toujours davantage

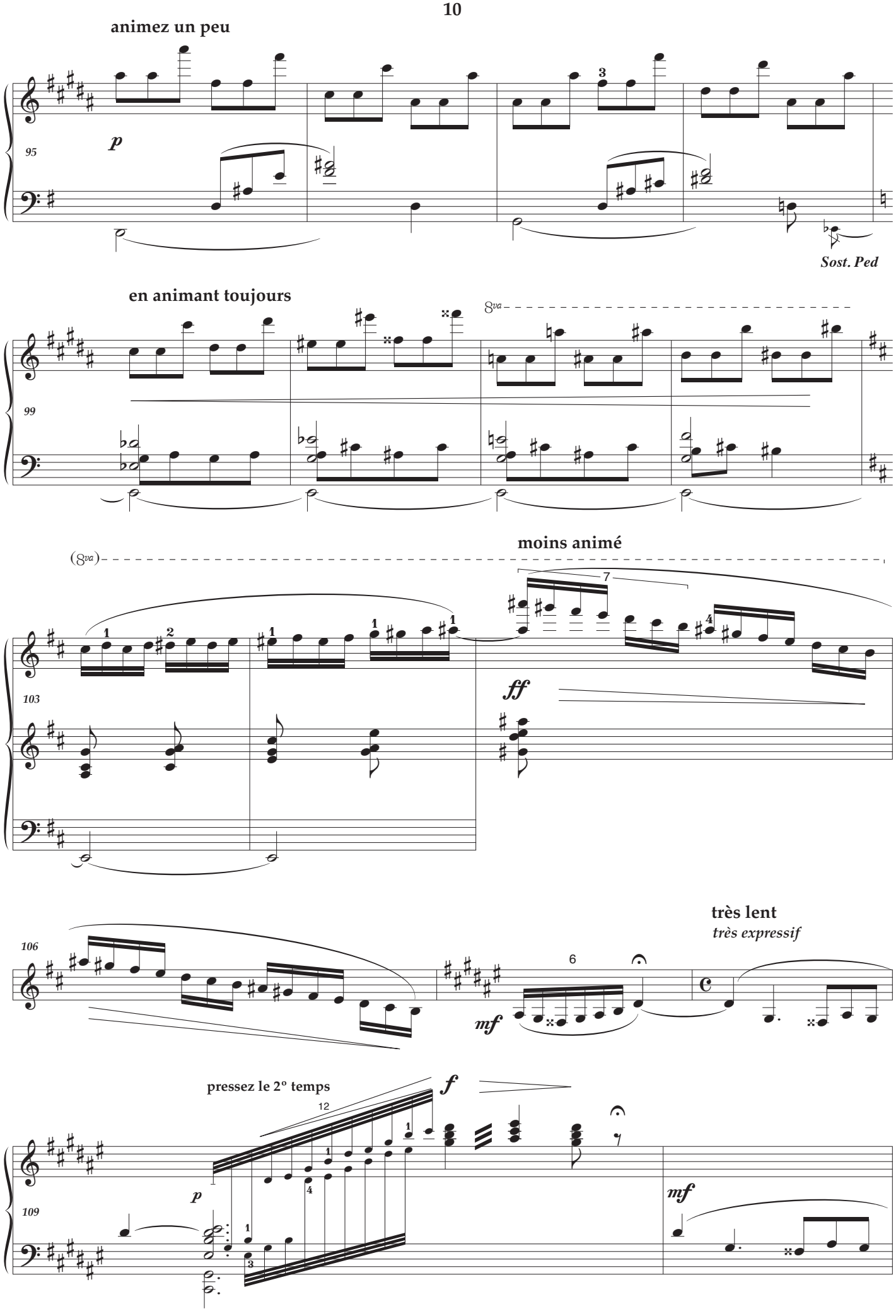


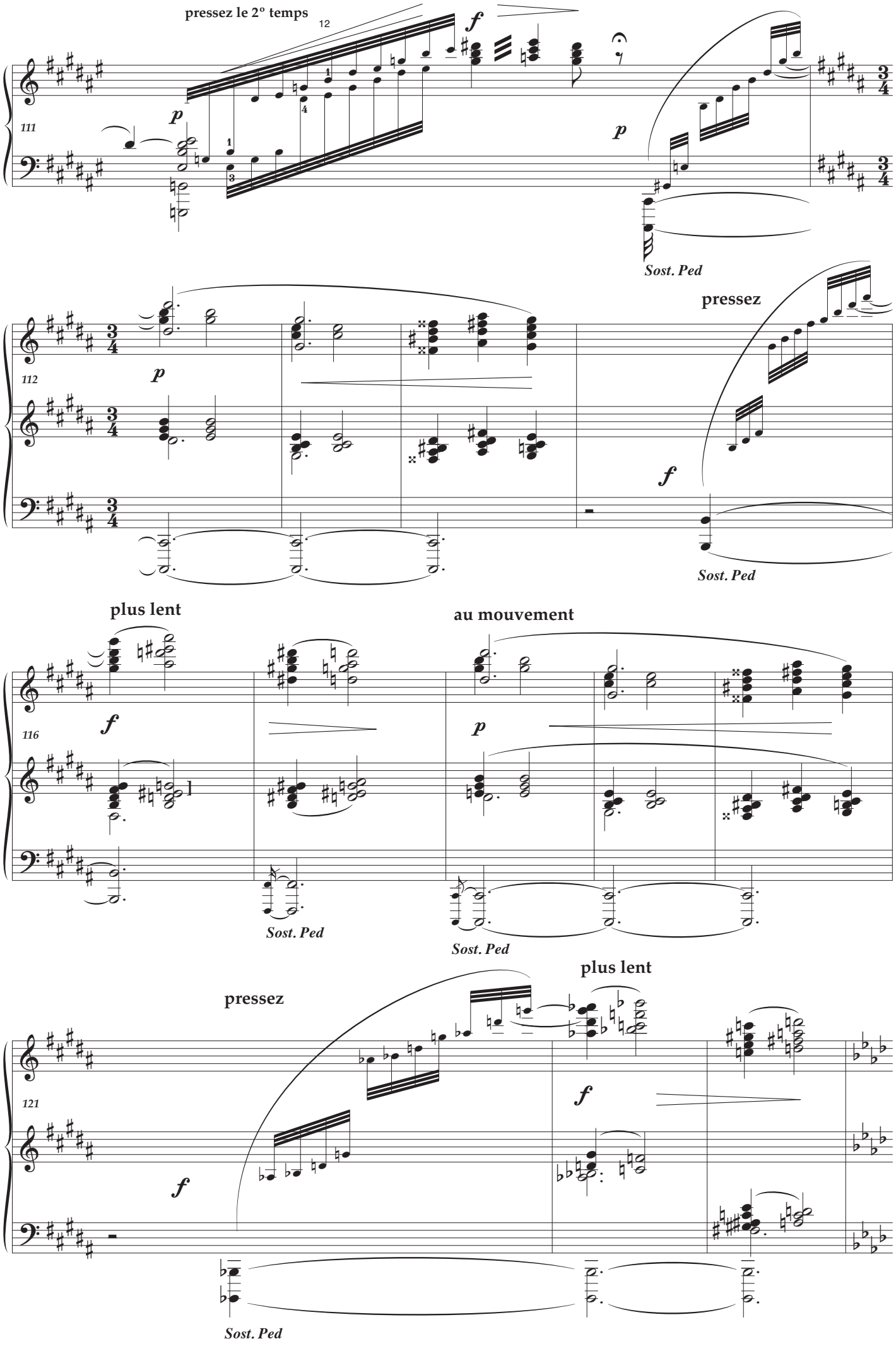


au premier mouvement (vif)
avec un peu plus de langueur






animez un peu
p
95
Sost. Ped
en animant toujours
8va
99
(8va)
moins animé
7
ff
103
très lent
très expressif
106
6
mf
pressez le 2º temps
12
f
p
109
mf


pressez le 2º temps
12
111
112
116
121
pressez
plus lent
au mouvement
Sost. Ped

même mouvement (plus lent)

très expressif

124

p

p

Sost. Ped

retenez peu à peu

8va

128

8va

au mouvement

(8va)

132

pp

Sost. Ped
sourdine

(8va)

134

Duration: **6’30**

le chant en dehors	bring out the melody
très ralenti	much slower
au mouvement	a tempo
cédez très peu	slow down very little
très court	very short (fermata)
pressez	accelerate
retenez	hold back the tempo
très souple, en suivant le solo	not in strict time, following the solo
retenu légèrement	slightly held back
vif	lively
un peu plus animé	a little more animated
au premier mouvement	tempo primo
avec un peu plus de langueur	a little more languid
en animant toujours	more and more animated
moins animé	less animated
pressez le 2° temps	accelerate the second beat
même mouvement (plus lent)	same tempo (slower)
sourdine	soft pedal