John Wolf Brennan

Happy Birthday Variationen

op.95

für Klavier

Móreen Mona Wolf
zugeeignet

Öffentliche Bibliothek
der Stadt Aachen

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Vorwort

Manchmal rächt sich die Musikgeschichte an den wohlerzogenen Vertretern des «guten Geschmacks» und kürt die krudesten oder kitschigsten Melodien zu kupferkesselgrünen Evergreens – man denke an Weihnachtslieder oder (staatlich verordnete) Nationalhymnen.

So hätten sich die beiden amerikanischen Schwestern Mildred Hill (Musik, *1916) und Patty Smith-Hill (Text, *1946) wohl kaum gedacht, dass der ihnen um die Jahrhundertwende zugeflogene Geburtstagssong um die Welt gehen würde.

Da es einerseits an festfreudigen Geburtstagskindern und klimperkundigen Amateuren nicht mangelt, anderseits gute Klavierfassungen dieses Songs rar sind, habe ich umstehende «aufrichtige Anleitung zur Gemüthsergözung verfertiget», in der Hoffnung, dass auch begabte KlavierspielerInnen ihre (Spiel-)Freude daran finden werden.

Als angenehme, durchaus harmlose und bei gesittet-bildungsbeflissenen Festgesellschaften sogar erwünschte Nebenwirkung kann sich ein Gang durch drei Jahrhunderte der oben erwähnten Musikgeschichte einstellen, ironisch distanziert, aber nicht ohne Respekt.

John Wolf Brennan, im Mai 1992

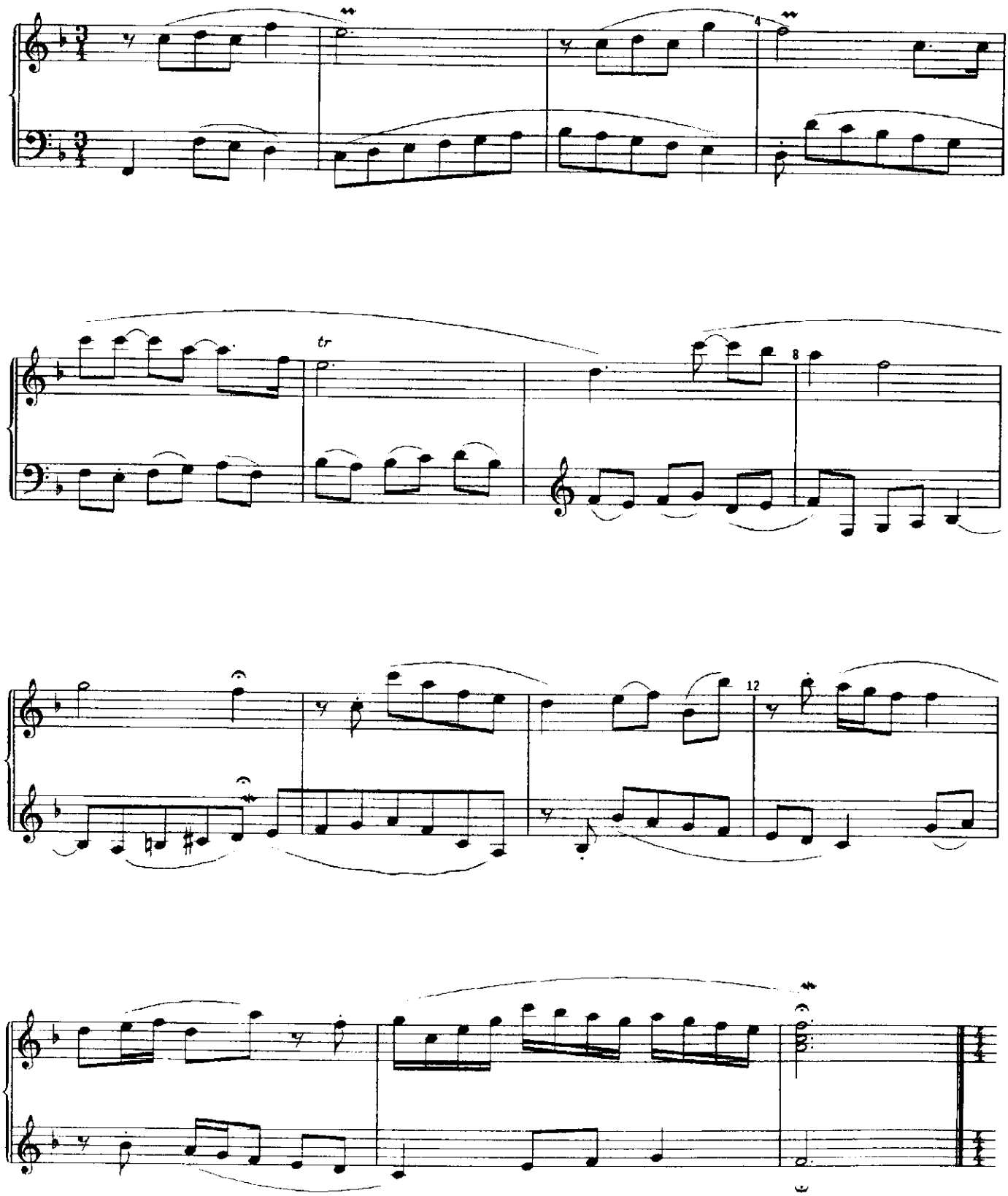
Gesamtspielzeit: 10 Minuten

Variation I

Joh. Seb. Bach

♩ = 100

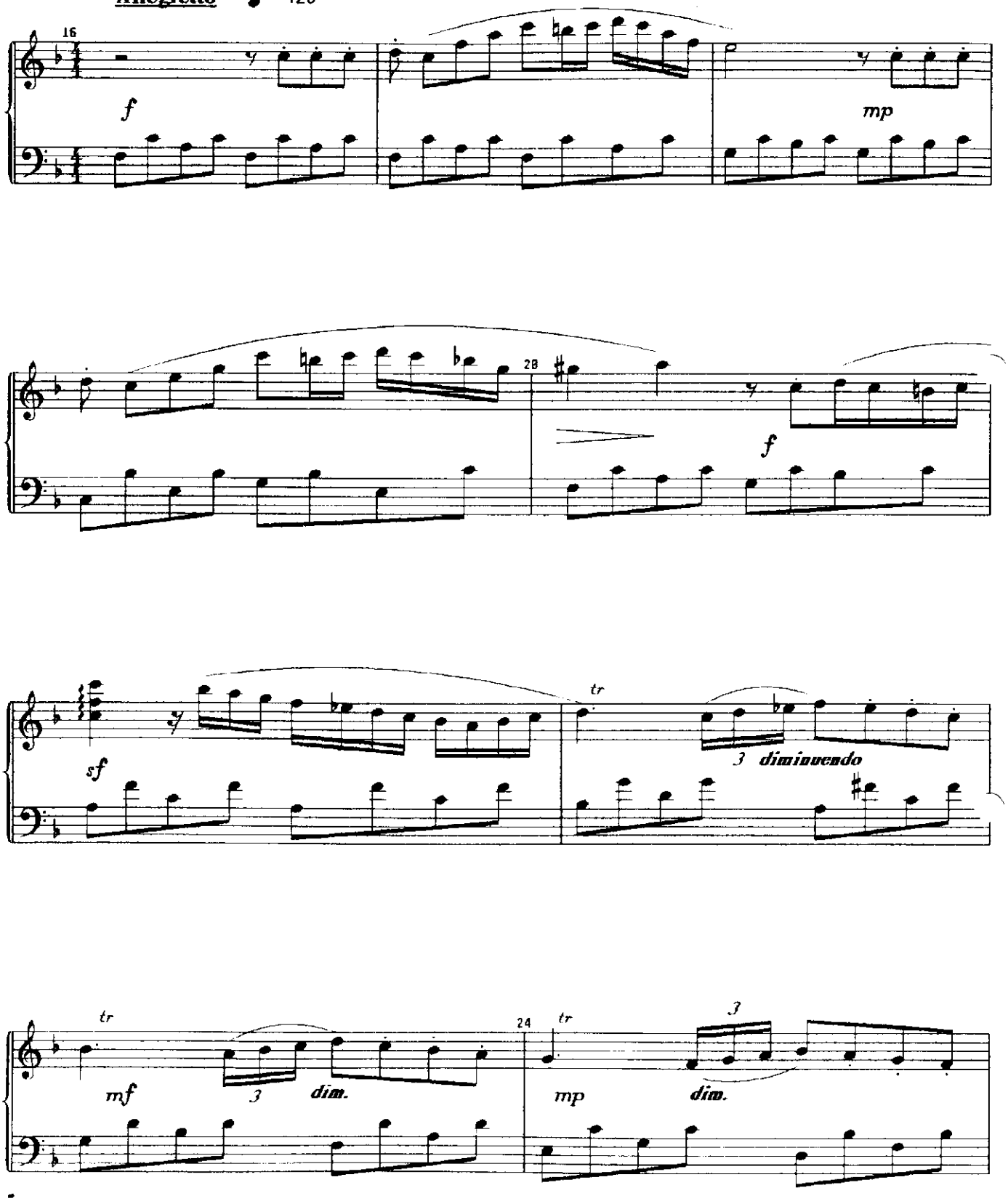
john wolf brennan op.95



Variation II

Wolfgang Amadé Mozart

Allegretto ♩ = 120



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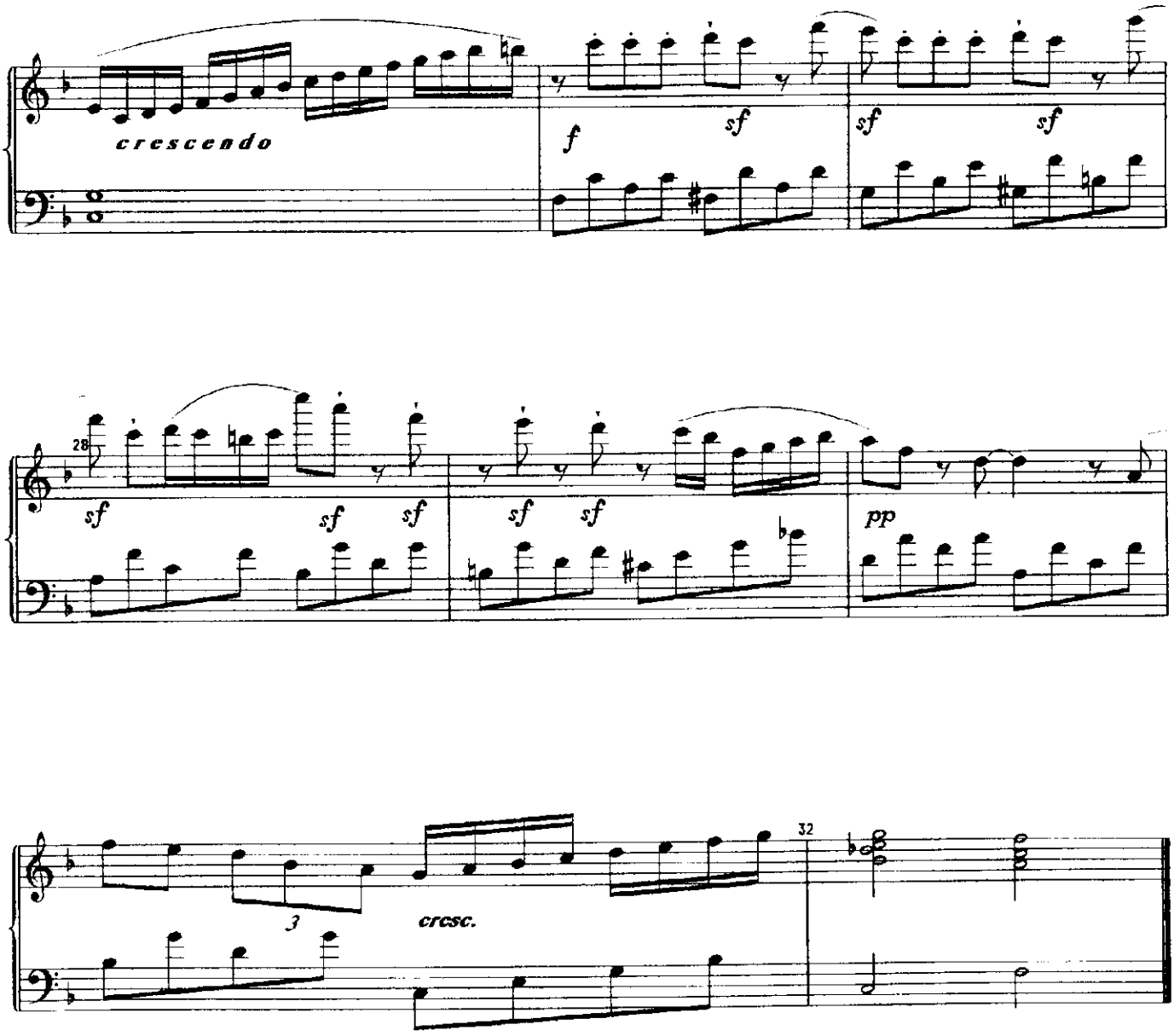
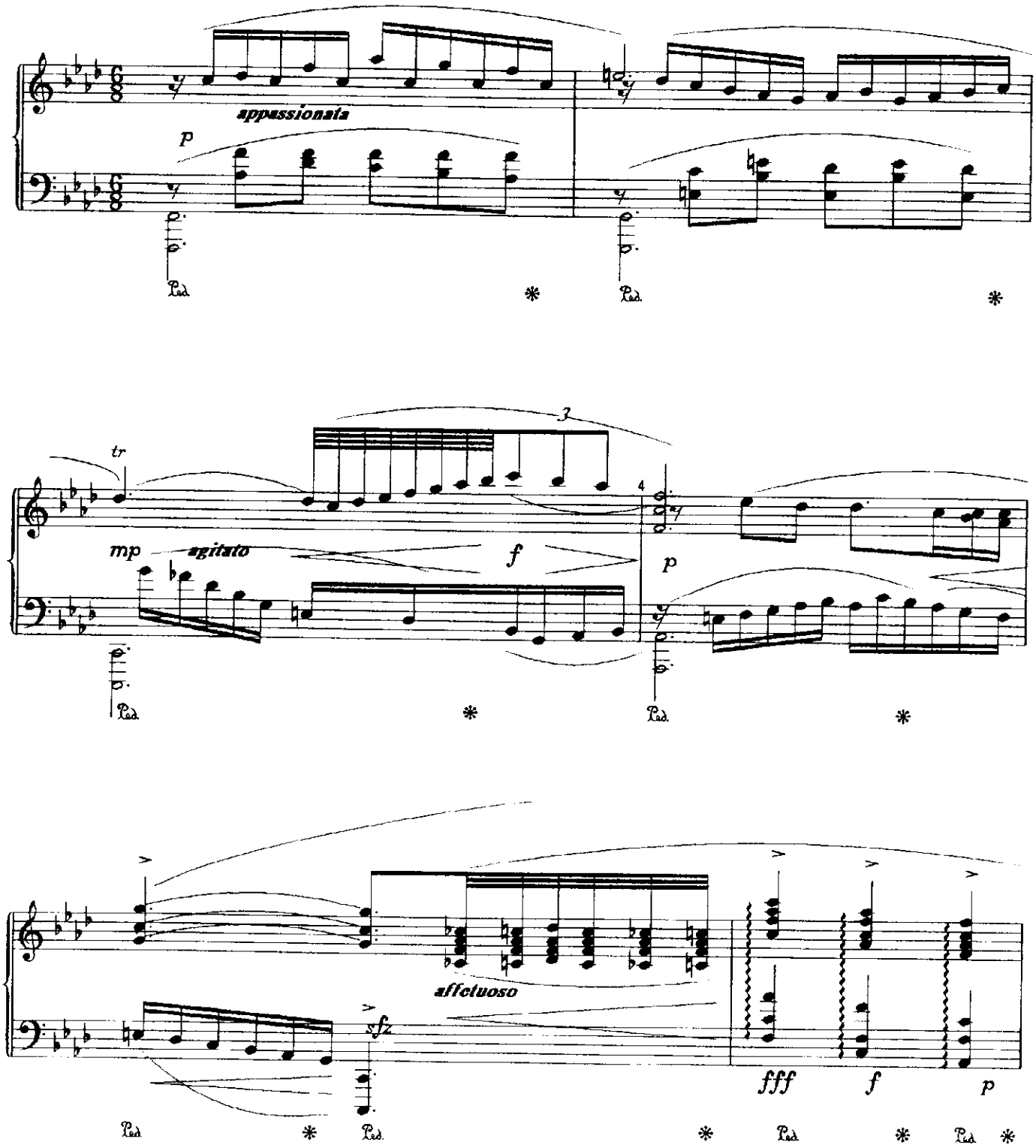
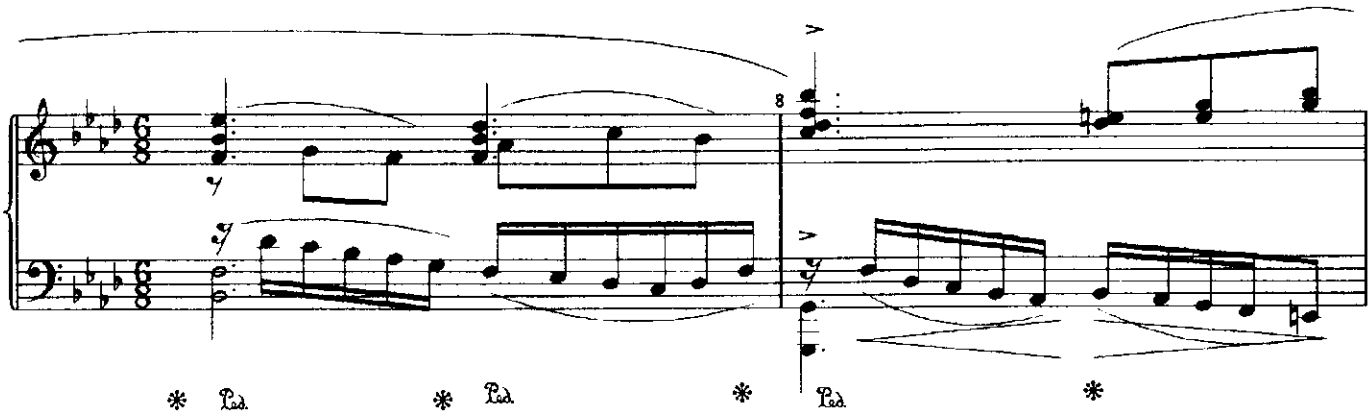

crescendo
f
sf
sf
sf
28
sf
sf
sf
sf
sf
pp
32
3
cresc.

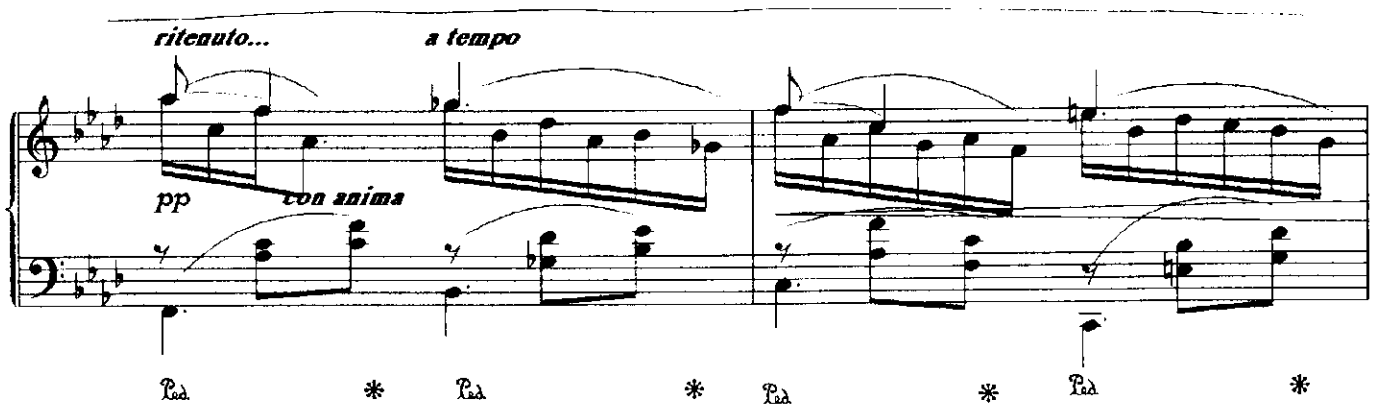
Variation III

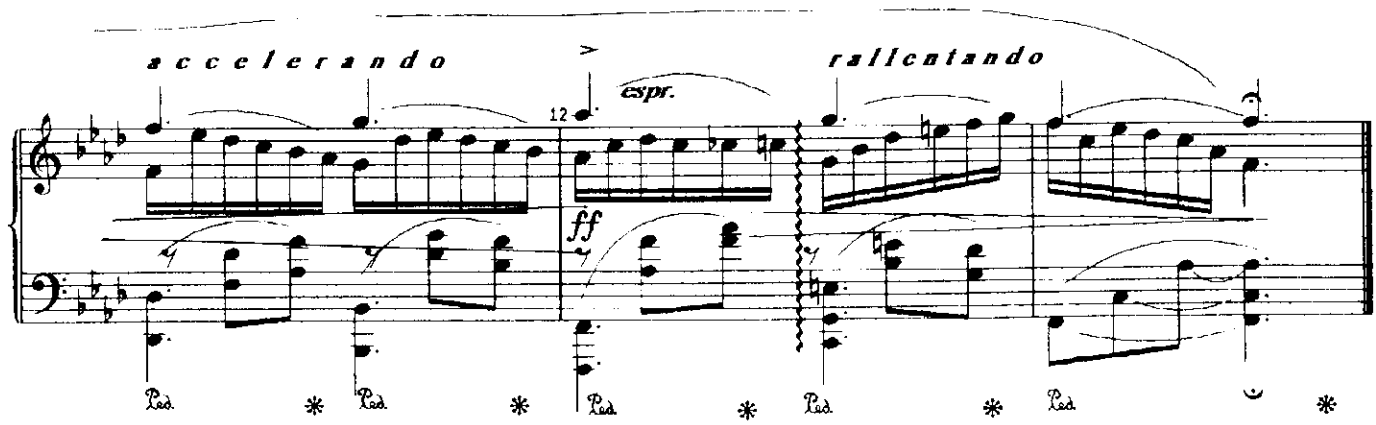
Fréd. Chopin

Andante cantabile




8
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.


ritenuto...
a tempo
pp
con anima
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

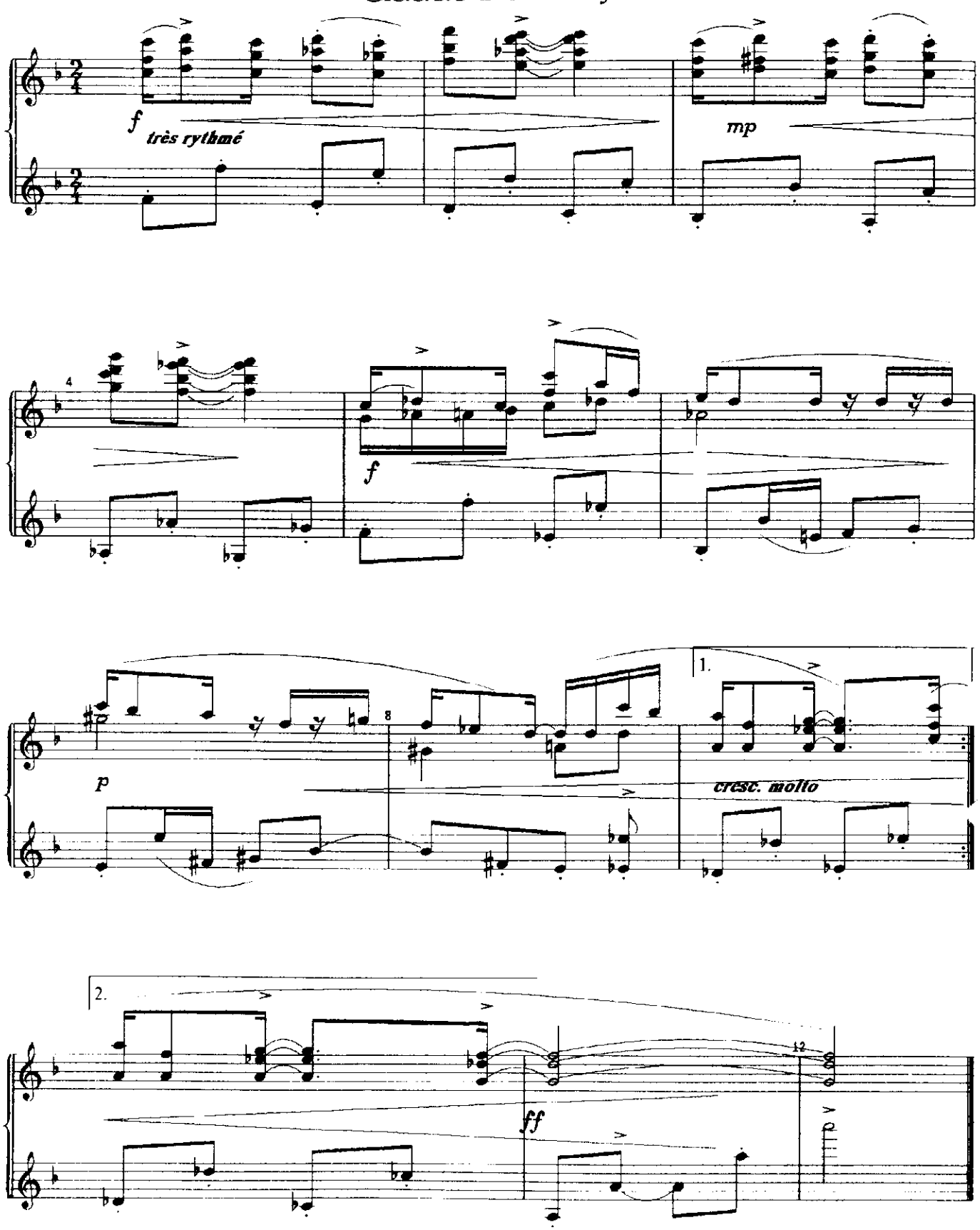

accelerando
12
espr.
ff
rallentando
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.

Variation IV

Claude Debussy

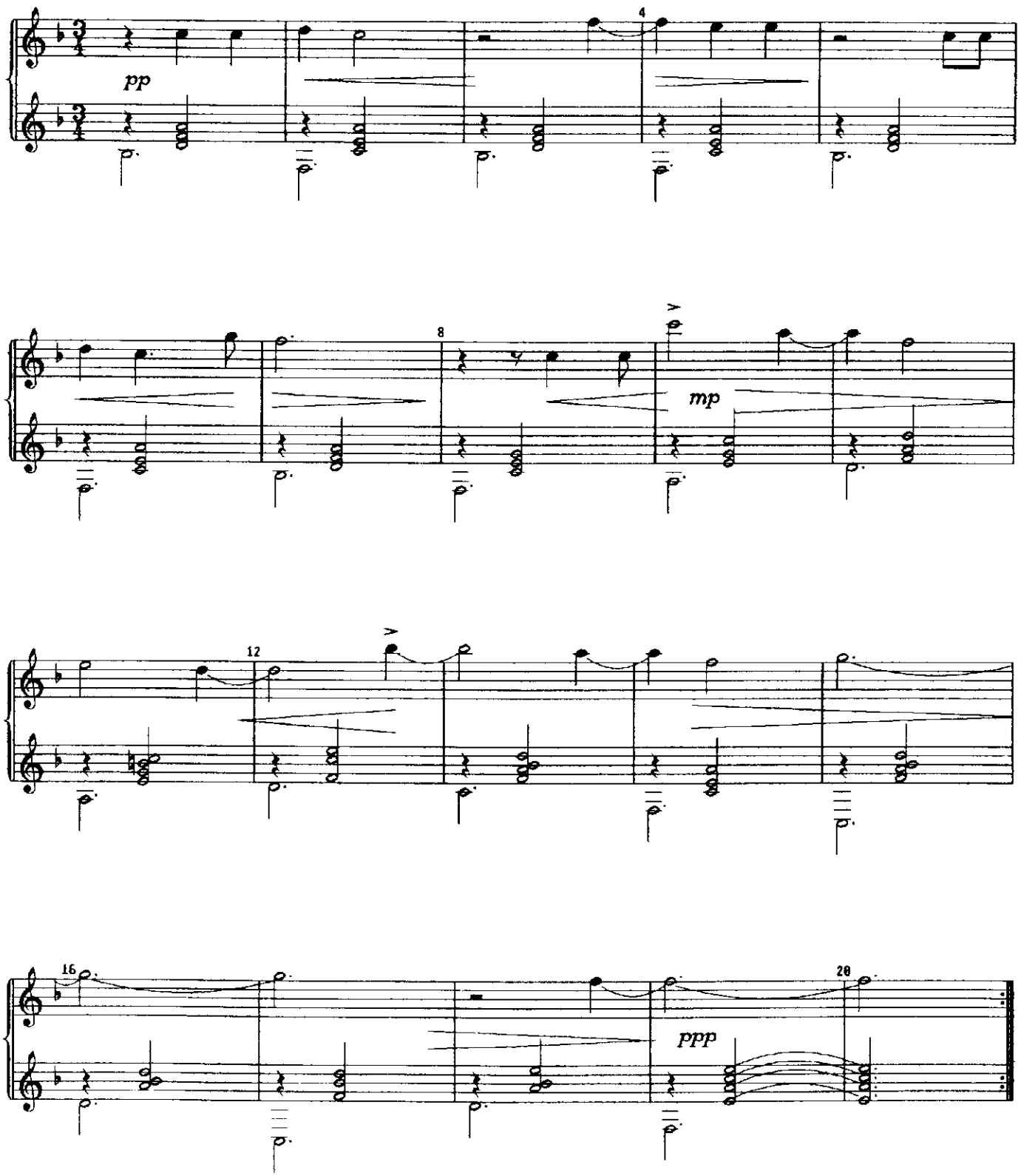
Allegro giusto

♩ = 72



Variation V

Lent et grave ♩ = 66 Erik Satie

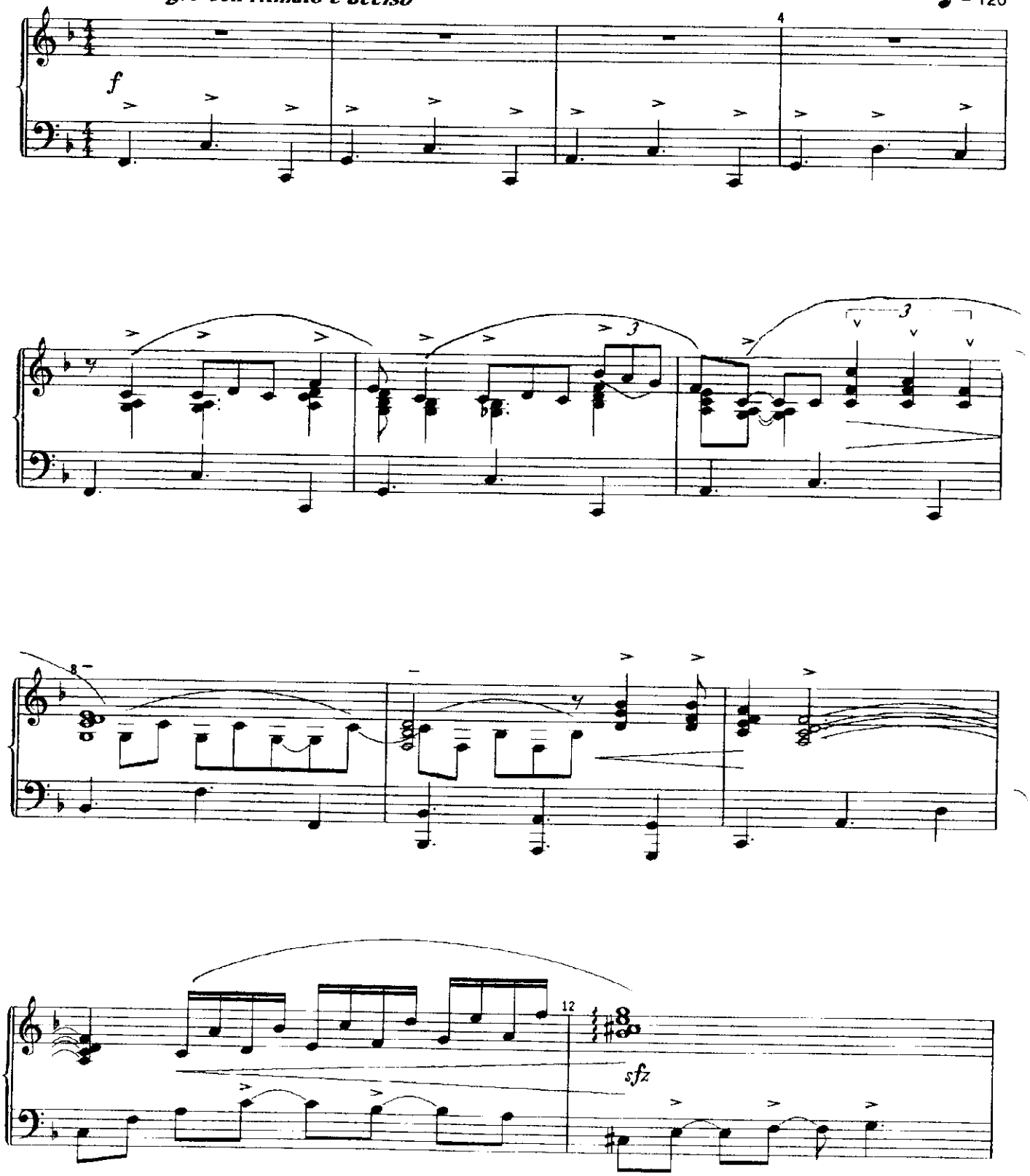


Variation VI

George Gershwin

Allegro ben ritmato e deciso

♩ = 120



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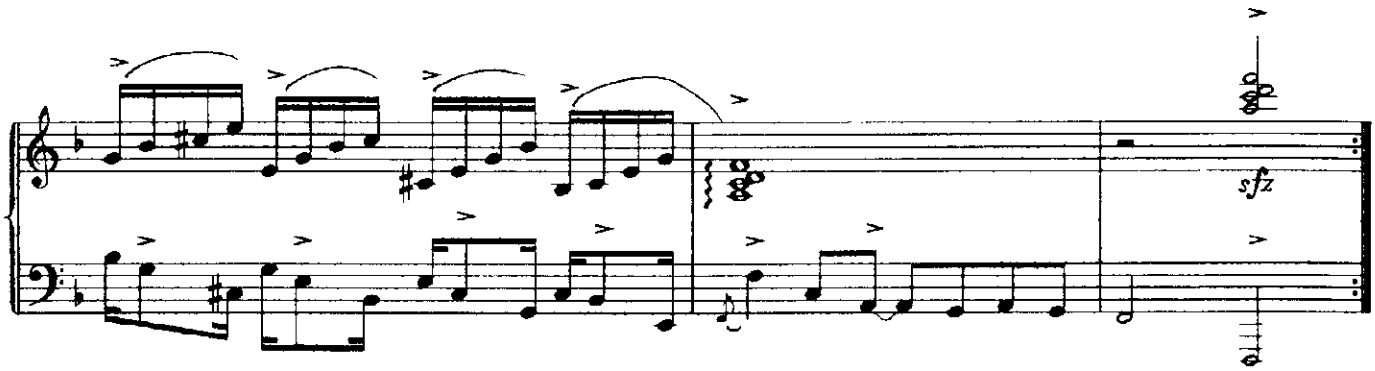
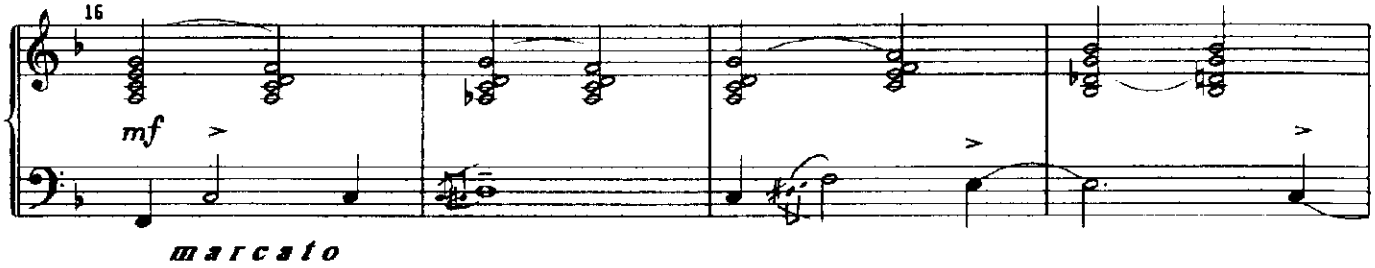
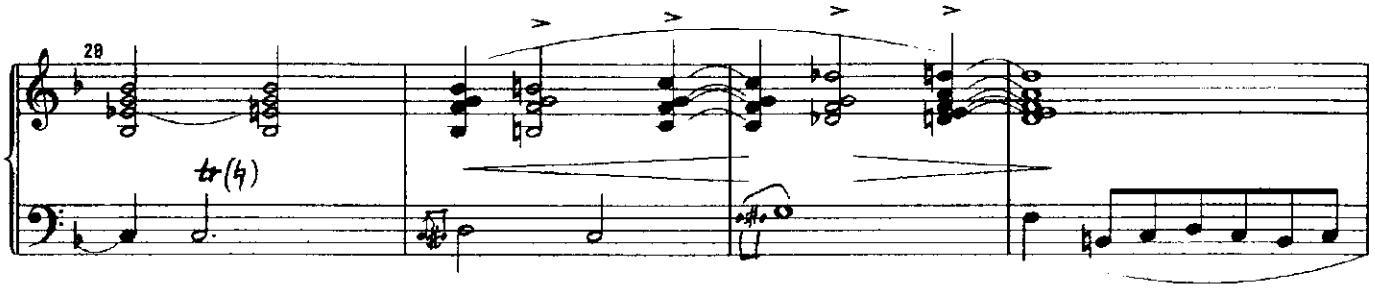
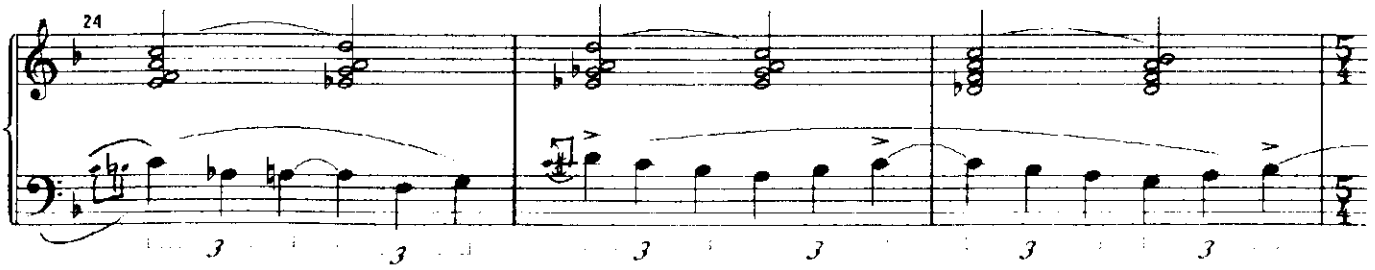
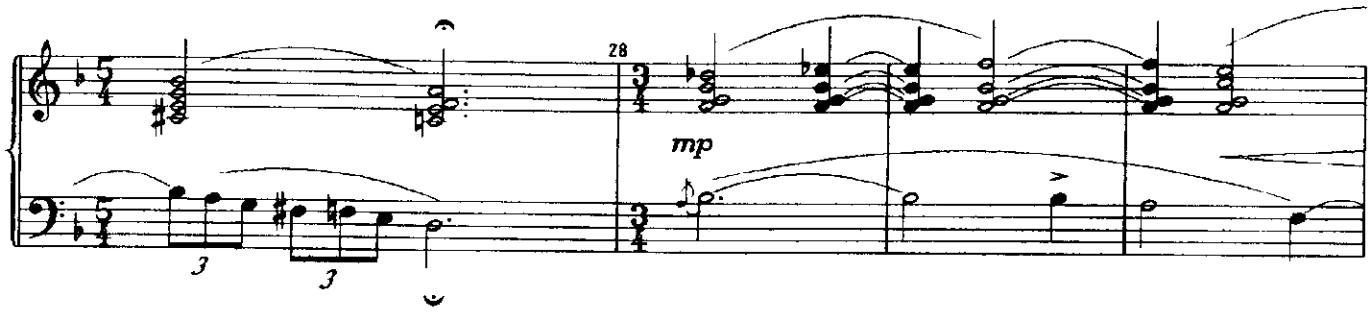


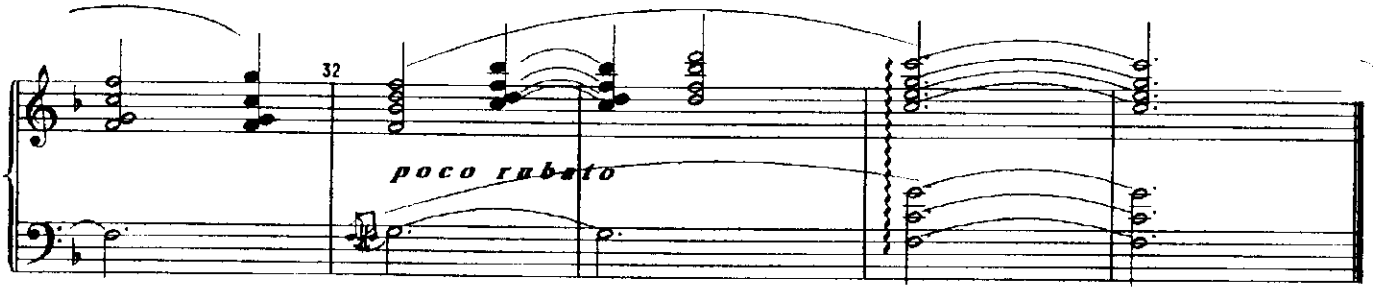
Basso cantabile, con licenza





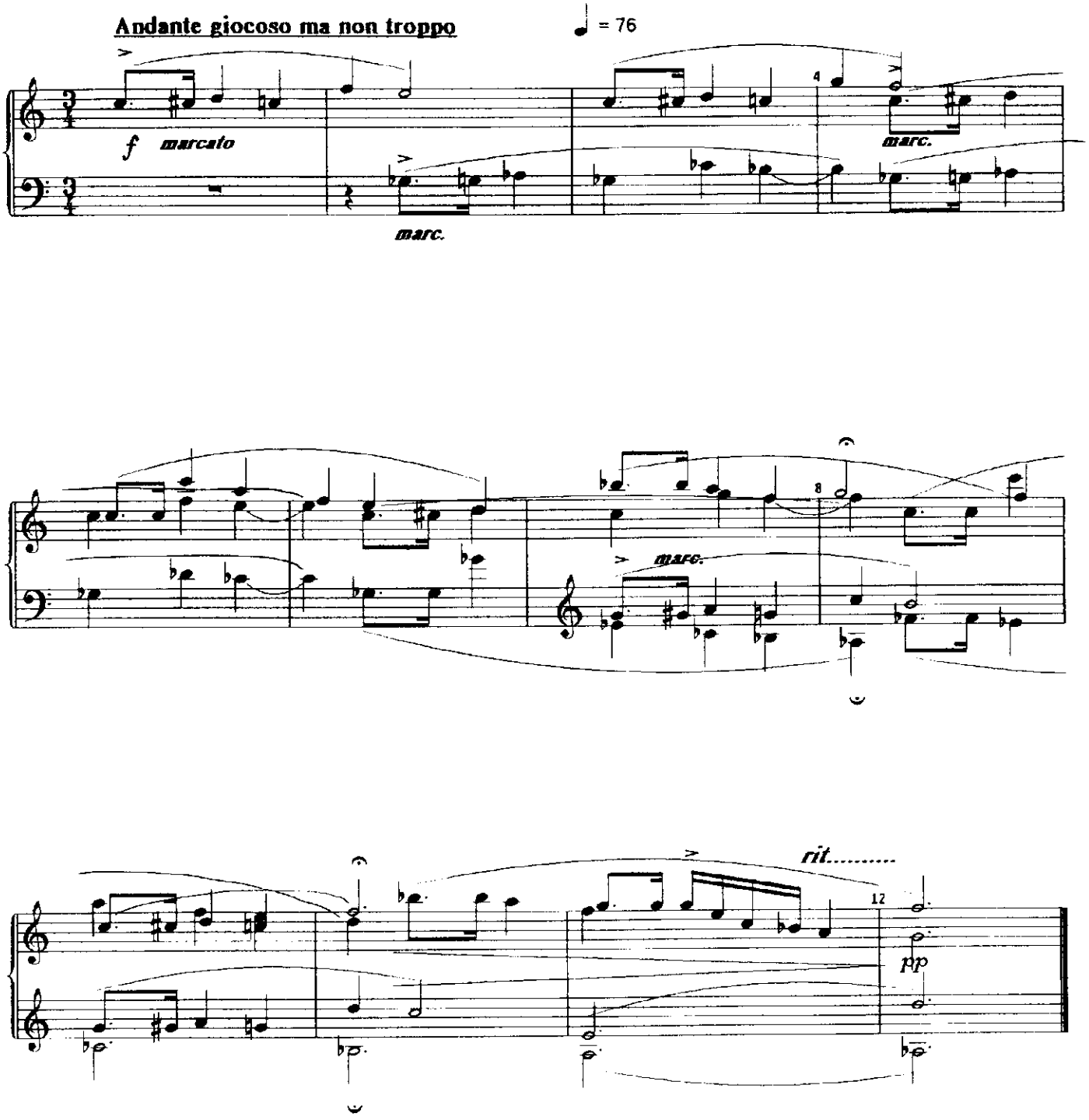



28
mp
3
3


32
poco rubato

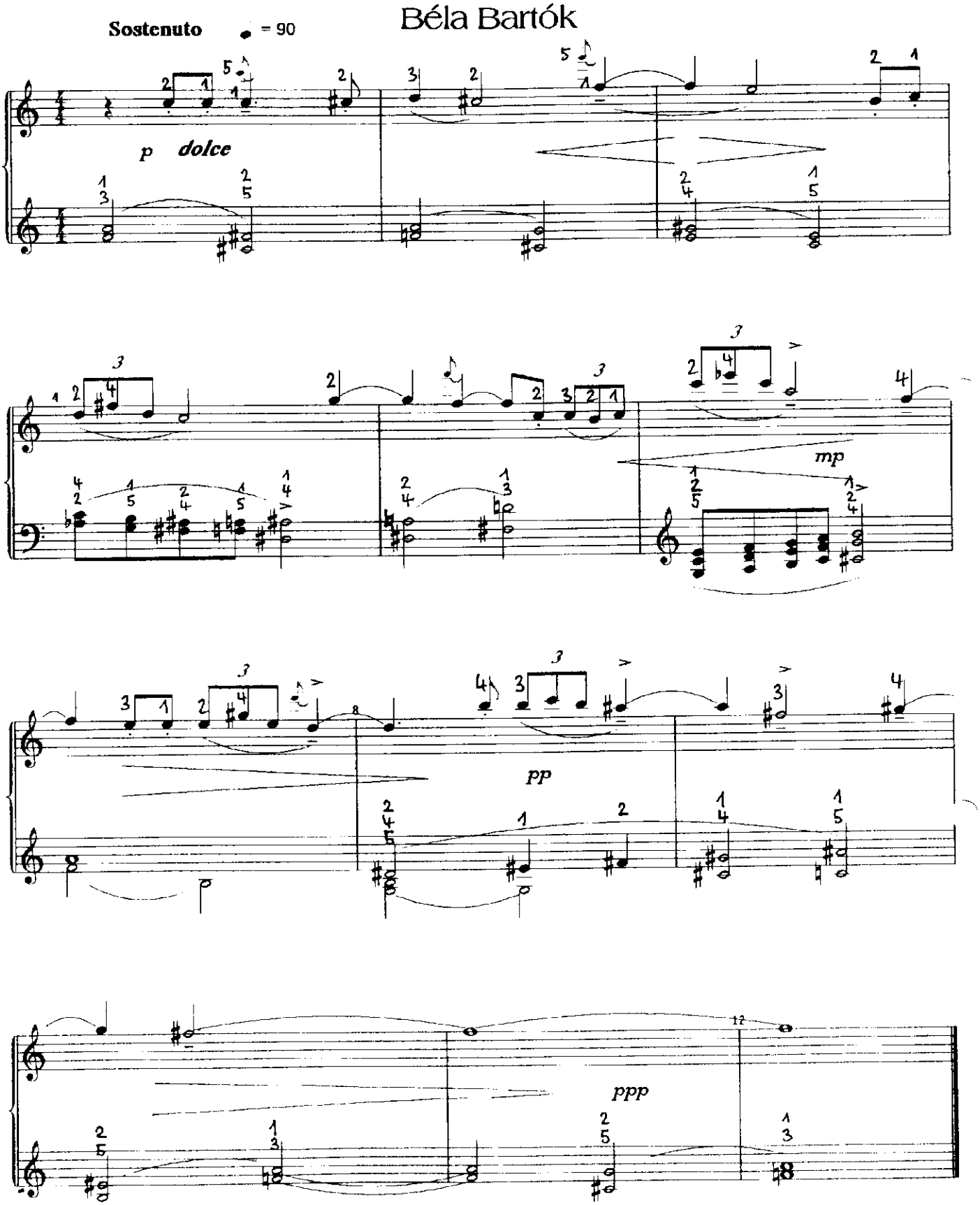
Variation VII

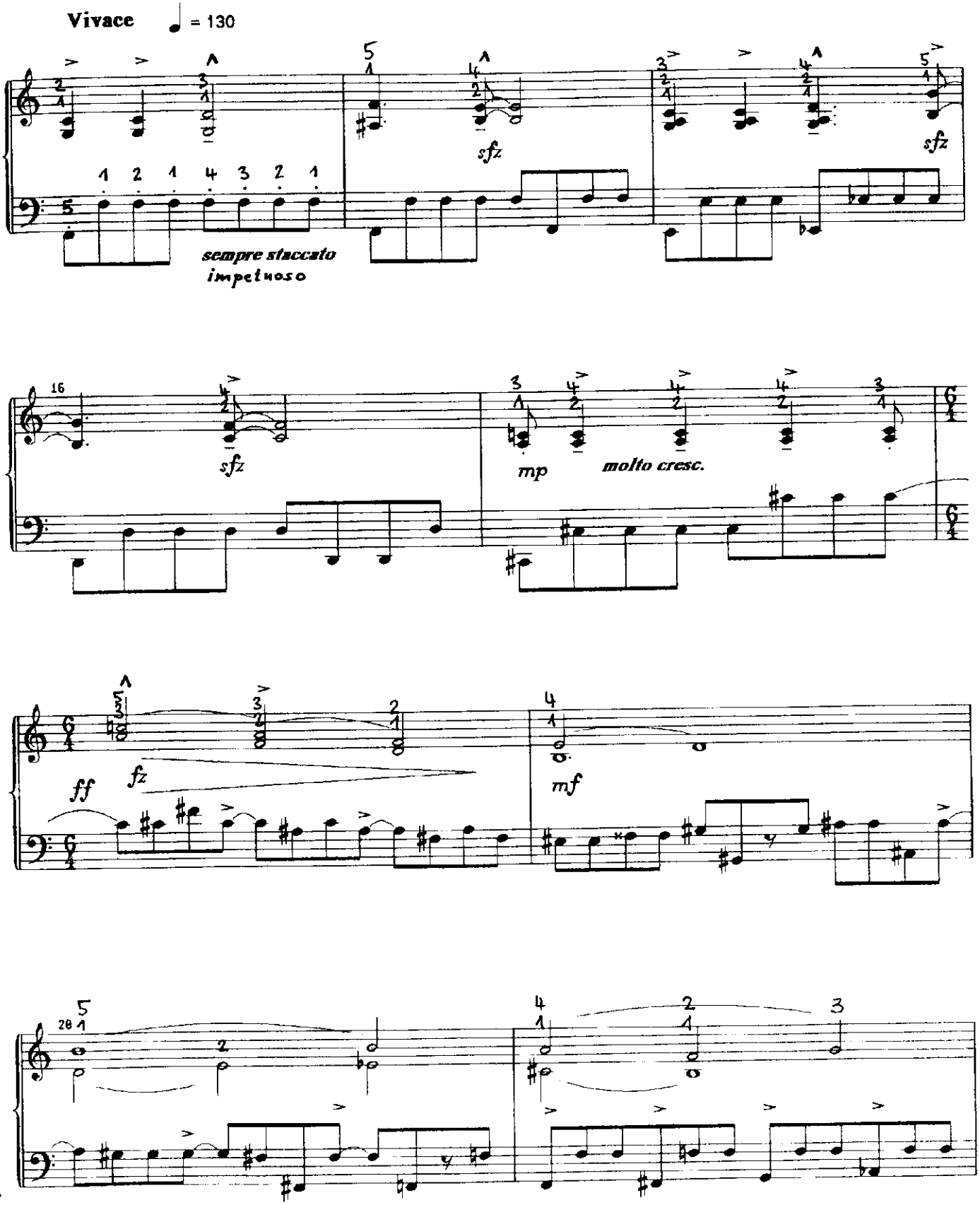
Kanon

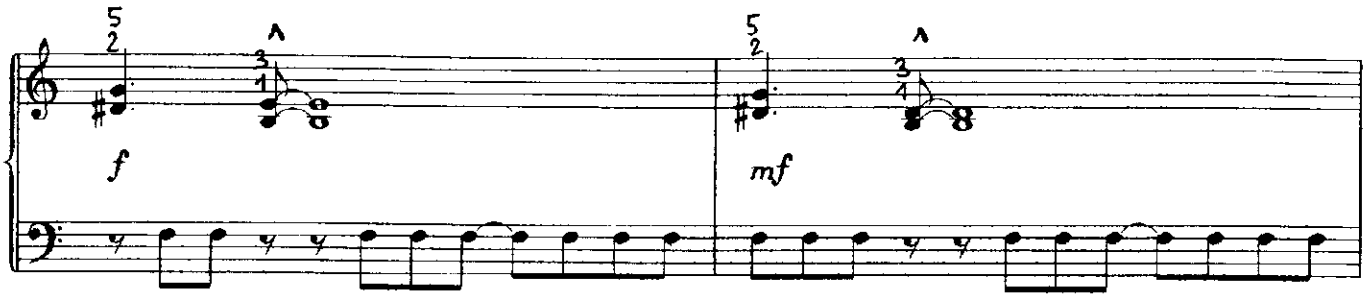


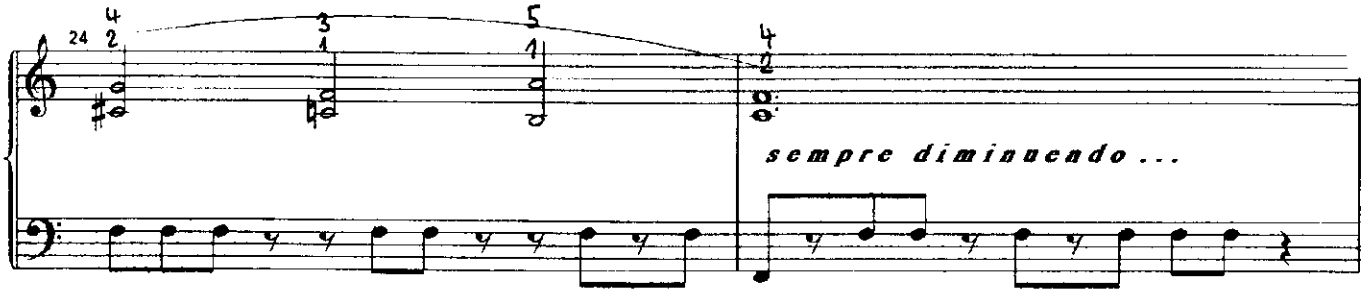
Variation VIII

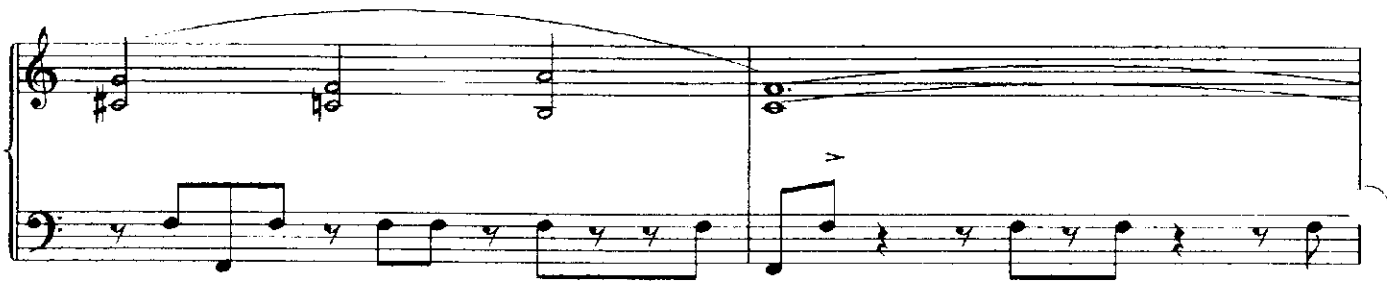
Béla Bartók

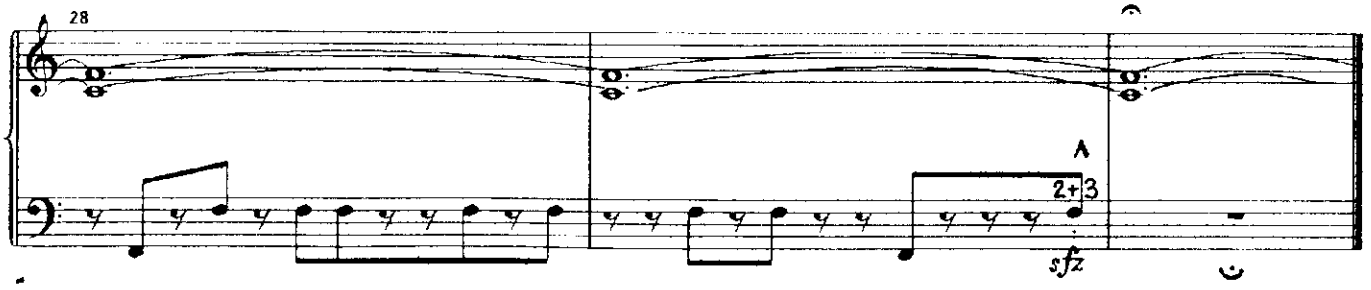



Vivace
= 130
sempre staccato
impetuoso
sfz
sfz
sfz
mp
molto cresc.
ff
fz
mf


f
mf


24
sempre diminuendo ...

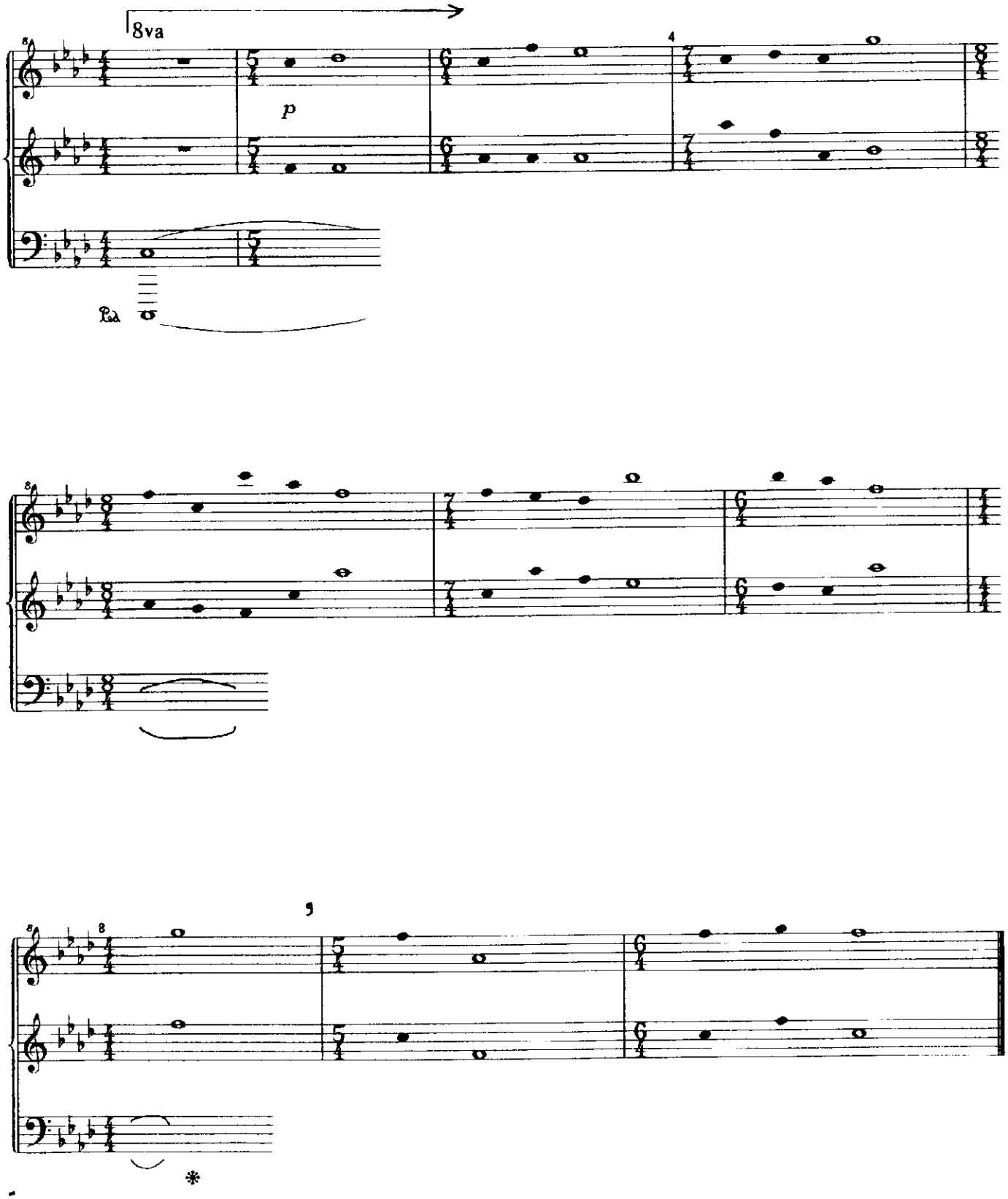



28
2+3
sfz

Variation IX

Epilog (a.p.)

Ruhig, in sich hineinhorchend



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