EDGAR PALM

1905 - 1998

Dance music from Curaçao

PUBLISHED BY THE PALM MUSIC FOUNDATION

Preface

The Palm Music Foundation (www.palmmusicfoundation.com) aims to promote the classical and salon music of the Antilles, specifically the Dutch Caribbean islands. It does this by organizing concerts, releasing CDs and music scores, publishing books and articles and offering lectures and interviews about this unique collection of classical and salon music.

This piano album includes 66 compositions that were written by the Curaçaoan pianist and composer Edgar Palm (1905-1998). Several sources were used to collect the music scores. The most important source has been the private Edgar Palm collection, which includes an important part of all handwritten manuscripts written by Curaçaoan composers. Besides this private collection, handwritten music scores were also provided by the well-known pianist and composer Norman Moron and by Mrs. Esther Cheri, a talented pianist and former student of Edgar Palm. Over the past few decades, various piano albums have been published that included music scores by Curaçaoan composers. This collection of piano albums also provided a number of music scores of compositions made by Edgar Palm. Eight music scores, i.e. the *Valse de Boda*, *Criselda la bella Arubanita*, *Hotel Curaçao Intercontinental*, *Ingrid*, *Princesita*, *Pepe sana*, *Inés* and *Teleraña*, were derived from Edgar Palm's own original music recordings. We are indebted to audio archaeologist Tim de Wolf for providing copies of Edgar Palm's recordings from the 50s and 60s. Using these recordings, and on the basis of his absolutely perfect pitch, pianist and composer Robert Rojer was able to deduce the music scores of each of these eight compositions.

I gratefully acknowledge the financial support given by Stephen Palm, Ralph Palm and Russell Palm, which aided in the digitization of all the music scores. I would also like to extend my thanks to Stephen Palm for his permission to copy the original handwritten scores made by Edgar Palm and to Norman Moron and Esther Cheri for providing two missing music scores. In addition, I would like to thank Marinus Degenkamp, who professionally digitized all the scores. Lastly, sincere thanks to my cousin Robert Rojer for meticulously reviewing all digitized versions of the scores.

Johannes I.M. Halman
Chairman of the Palm Music Foundation

About Edgar Palm

Edgar Rudolf Roemer Palm (Curacao, 8 February 1905 – Curacao, 12 January 1998) grew up in the colourful Otrobanda, where elements of European, African, Caribbean and Latin-American cultures influenced each other and where Curacao's music culture emerged in the mid-19th century. A domestic party in Otrobanda was unimaginable without plenty of music and dancing. Edgar Palm came from a very musical family. His great-grandfather Jan Gerard (shon Gerry) Palm (1831-1906) is generally considered to be the father of the Curaçaoan waltzes, mazurkas, danzas and tumbas. Edgar Palm's father, Rudolf Palm (1880-1950), and his brother, Albert Palm (1903-1958), were respected musicians in their time and their compositions are still well loved throughout the Caribbean ABC islands to this day. From the age of six, Edgar Palm was taught how to play the piano and the organ by his father, Rudolf Palm. He also received violin lessons from Willem (shon Wewe) Hellburg. At age eleven, Edgar Palm already regularly substituted for his father as an organist at the Fortkerk, the Protestant church in Curaçao. At fourteen, he accompanied several musicians and artists on the piano in Salon Habana and Teatro Naar. In 1921, Edgar Palm moved to the Netherlands to study mechanical engineering. He combined his study with lessons in music theory and playing the piano from Dirk van Dam and Johanna Tabernal. In 1926, Edgar Palm gave his first public performance in 's Hertogenbosch, together with violinist Marinus Ogier (who later became director of the Music School in 's Hertogenbosch). One of his performances during that time was a solo piano recital in 's Hertogenbosch's city theatre, where he played music composed by Grieg, Sinding and Rachmaninoff. After graduating in 1928, he returned to Curacao, where he combined his work for Shell with lessons from his father in playing the piano, composition and harmony theory. He also performed regularly. During this period, his father introduced him to the "secrets" of the cylinder piano (Kaha di òrgel). In 1949, during a sabbatical leave from Shell, Edgar Palm successfully passed the state exam piano at the Royal Conservatory in The Hague in the Netherlands. During this time, he also continued his music studies with Rudolf Feenstra and Everhard van Beijnum.

Throughout his lifetime, Edgar Palm undertook numerous initiatives and activities in the field of music. Here are just a few examples: accompanist at the piano for several foreign musicians; acting as a silent film accompanist in theatres; member of the Curacao Philharmonic Orchestra; founder of the "V-string orchestra"; organist for 13 years at the Santa Familia catholic church in Otrobanda; organist for 42 years at the Mikve Israel-Emanuel Synagogue in Curacao; involved in the organisation of many youth concerts; giving lectures on music in general and Antillean music in particular; music reviewer for

local newspapers; member of the board and teacher at the Curacao music school; member of the public council for cultural affairs; first chairman of the association of musicians in Curacao; recording thirty-seven 78-RPM-records, eight LPs and one CD with Curaçaoan dance music. Together with violinist Charles Sweers, he recorded a CD with music for piano and violin composed by the Curaçaoan composer Jacobo Conrad (1879-1918). Edgar Palm also published two piano albums including music scores written by Antillean composers. A very important contribution made by Edgar Palm to the preservation of the musical heritage of the Netherlands Antilles was his book *Music and musicians of the Netherlands Antilles* (published in Dutch as *Muziek en musici van de Nederlandse Antillen*), which was published in 1978. In 1992, his book *Manual for the study of our cylinder piano* (Dutch title: *Handleiding bij de studie van onze Kaha di òrgel*) was published by the Promuza foundation. Edgar Palm wrote this manual as course material for students who were learning how to build and restore cylinder pianos.

As a composer, Edgar Palm wrote circa ninety compositions. His oeuvre includes many beautiful Curaçaoan waltzes and mazurkas, sensual danzas and tumbas with their exciting rhythms, marches and a polka, but he also composed music for ballet performances. Unfortunately, we were unable to collect all his compositions. We therefore continue to hope that the missing compositions will be rediscovered at some point in the (near) future. Nevertheless, this piano book includes a substantial subset of Edgar Palm's compositions.

With his countless piano performances, his music recordings, his lectures and his books, maestro Edgar Palm succeeded in keeping his family's rich musical heritage alive. Edgar Palm received several accolades for his many contributions to the field of music. In 1975, he received the Cola Debrot award, given to him by the government of Curacao. He was also made a knight in the Dutch Order of Orange-Nassau and was later promoted to the rank of Officer in the Order of Orange-Nassau. He received the Order of Francisco de Miranda tercera clase from the Republic of Venezuela and he was later promoted to the Order of Francisco de Miranda primera clase. He received an honorary membership of the Bolivariana Society and in 1991, he was awarded the Silver Carnation by the Prince Bernhard Culture Fund.

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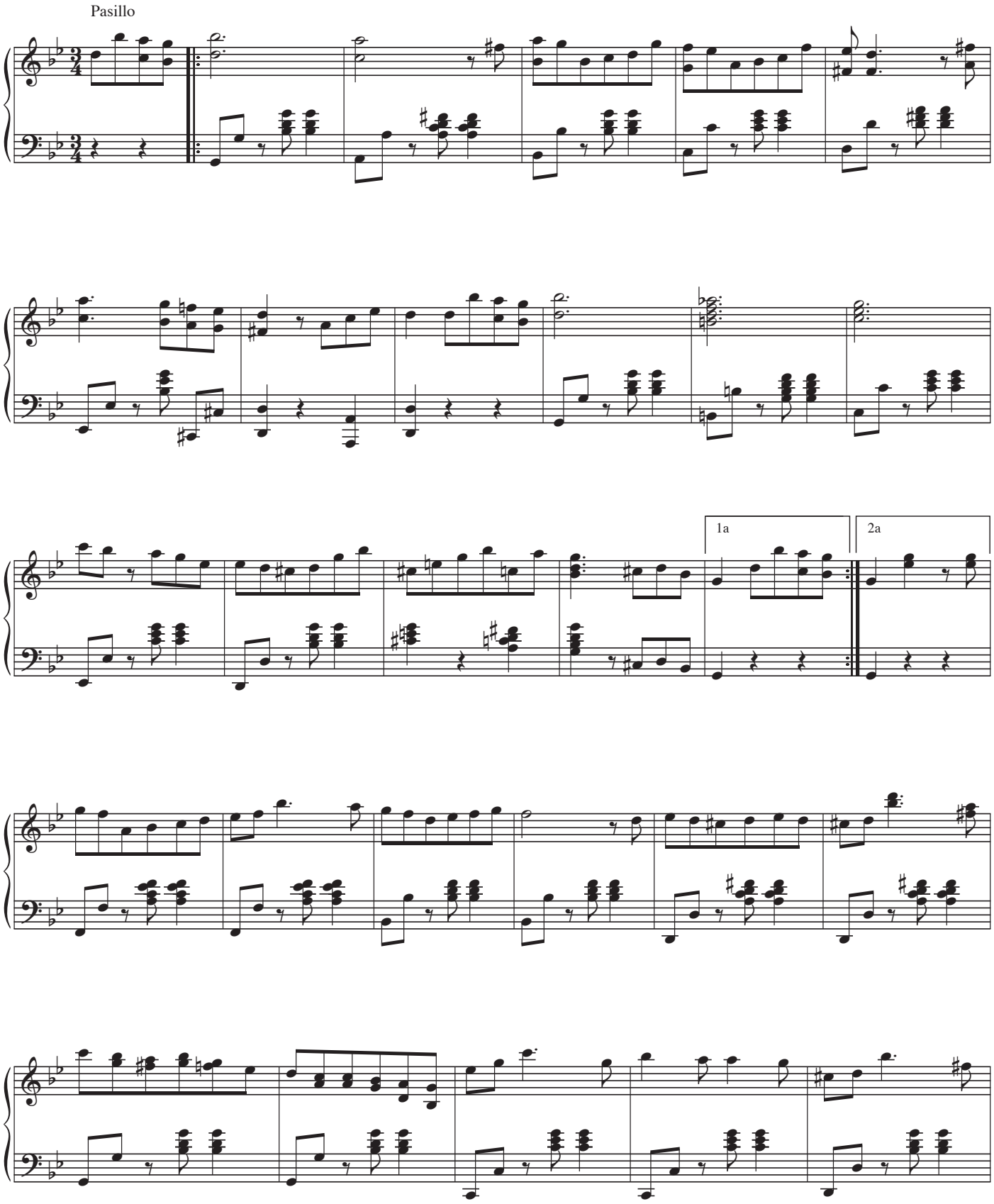
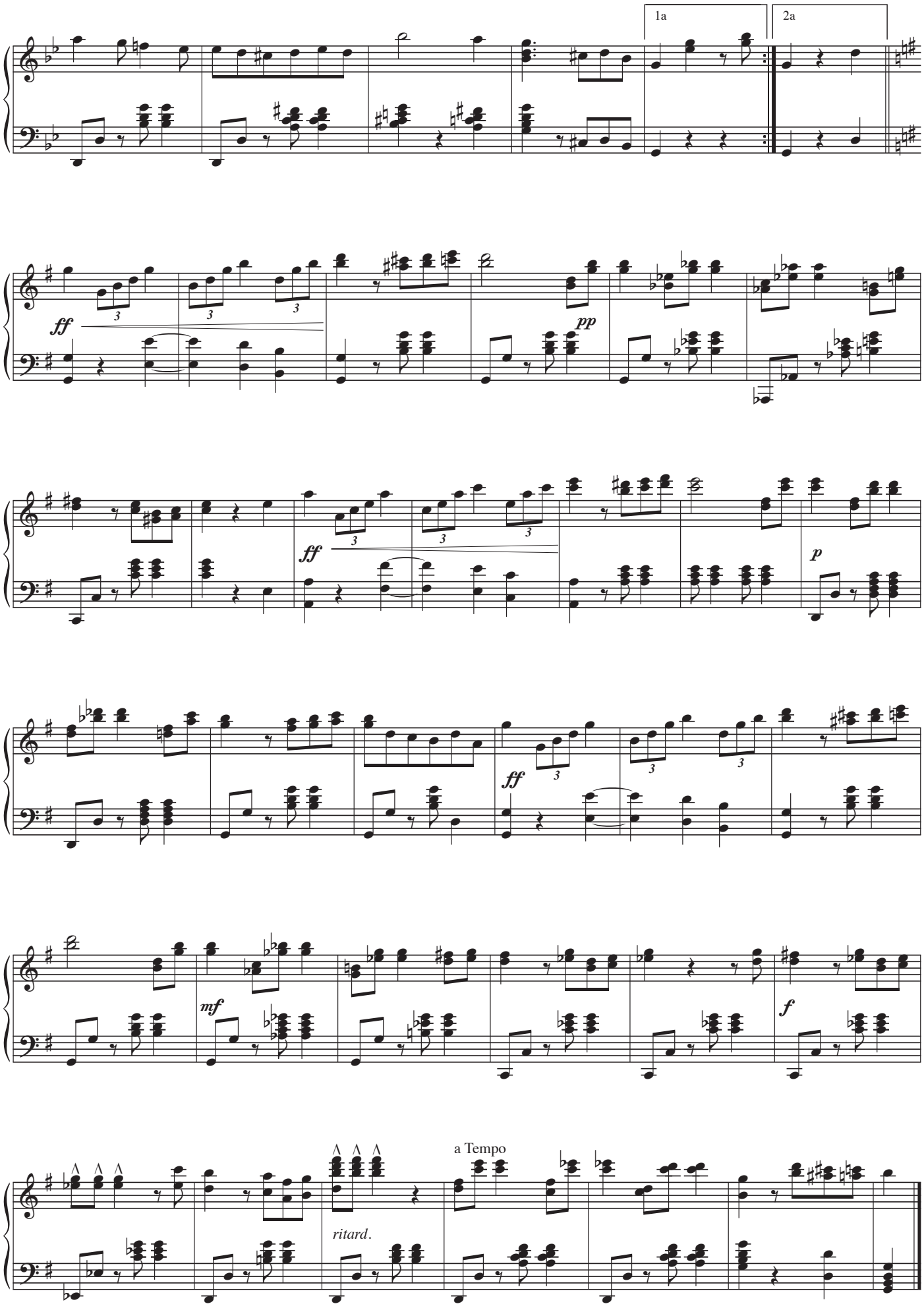
11 de enero de 1940

Dedicated to Rudolf Palm, father of Edgar Palm,
on the occasion of his birthday on 11 January 1940

Pasillo

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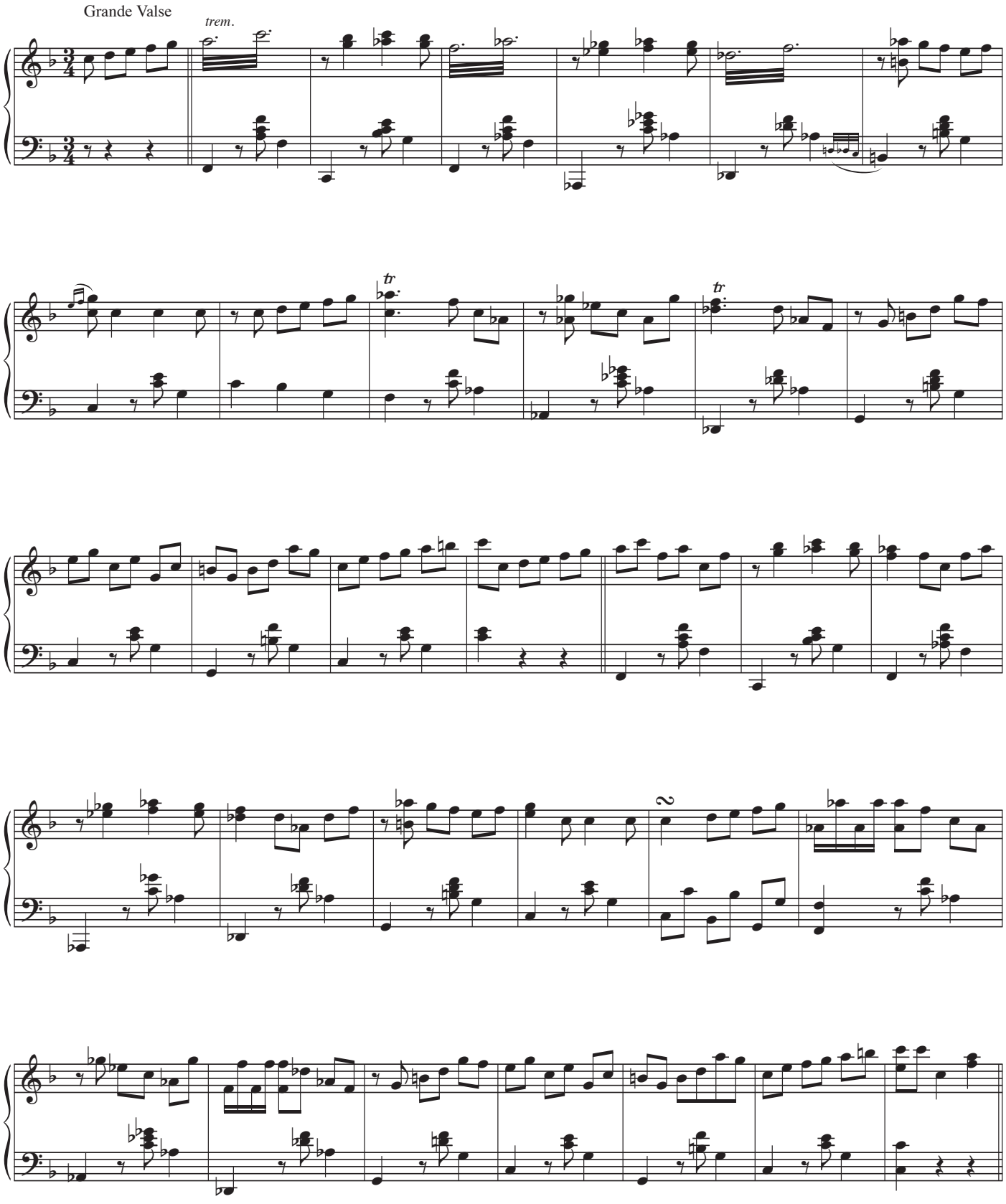
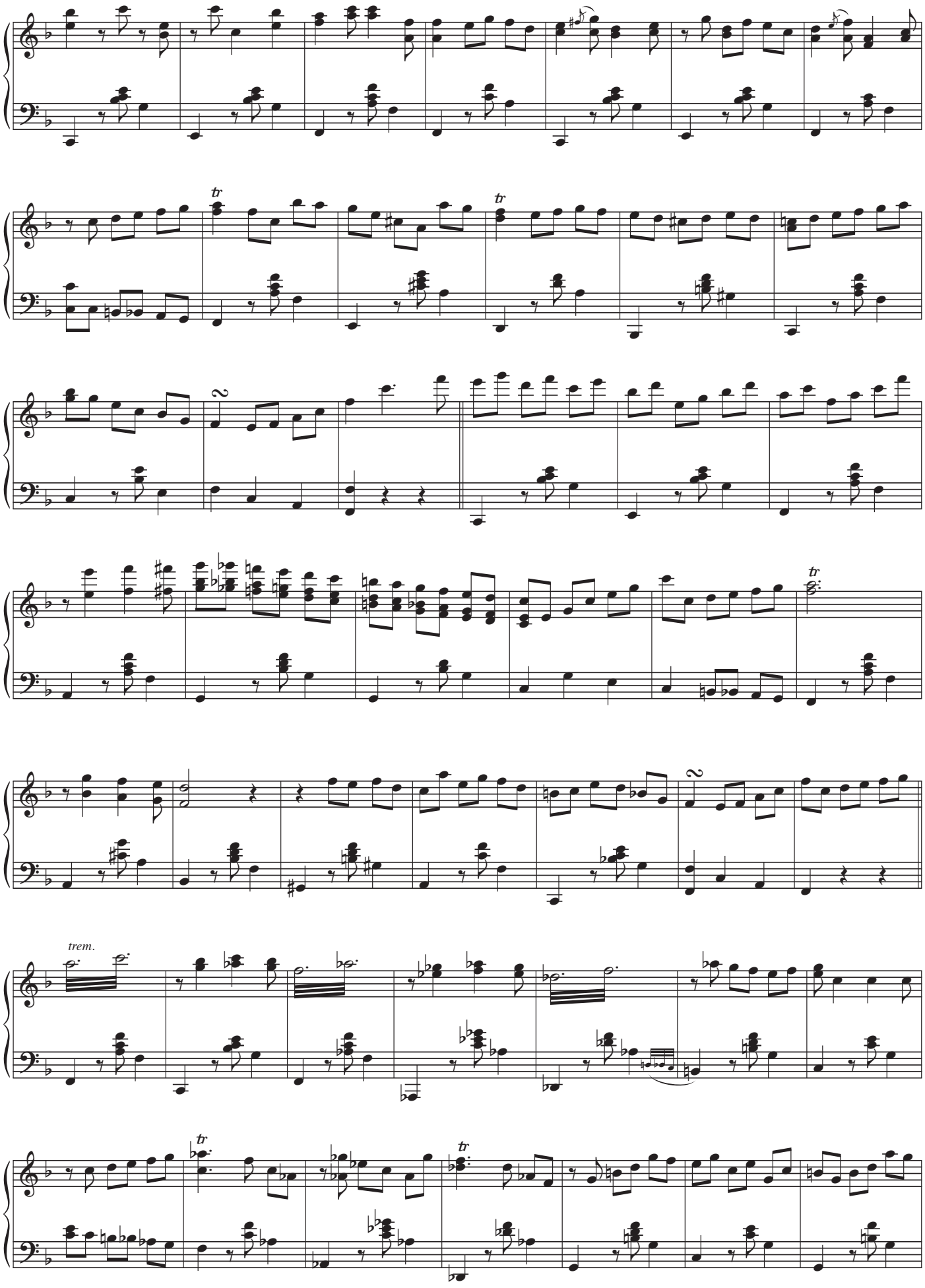
Kas Kòrá

Dedicated to Ir. P. de Kok, Shell; 1948

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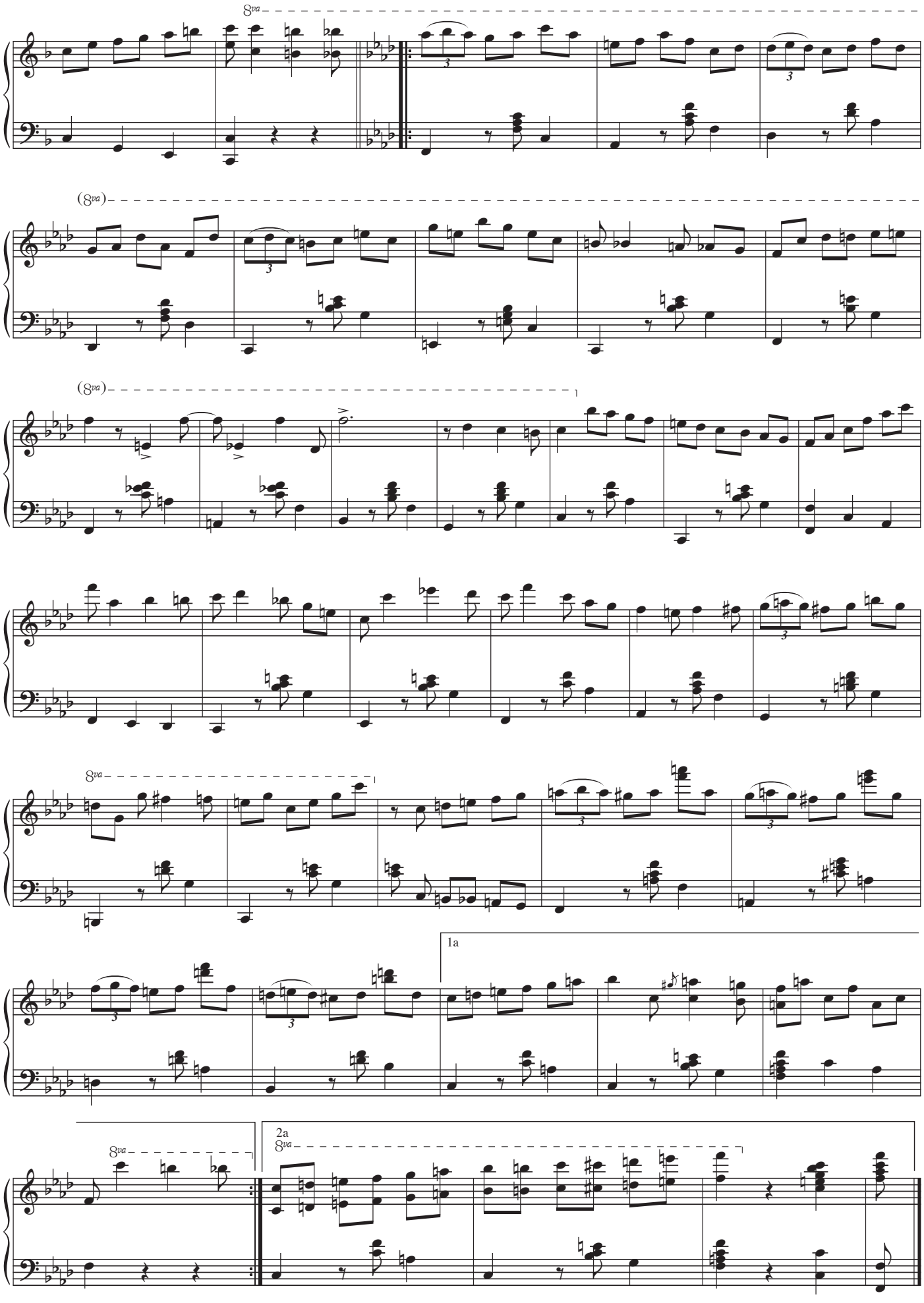
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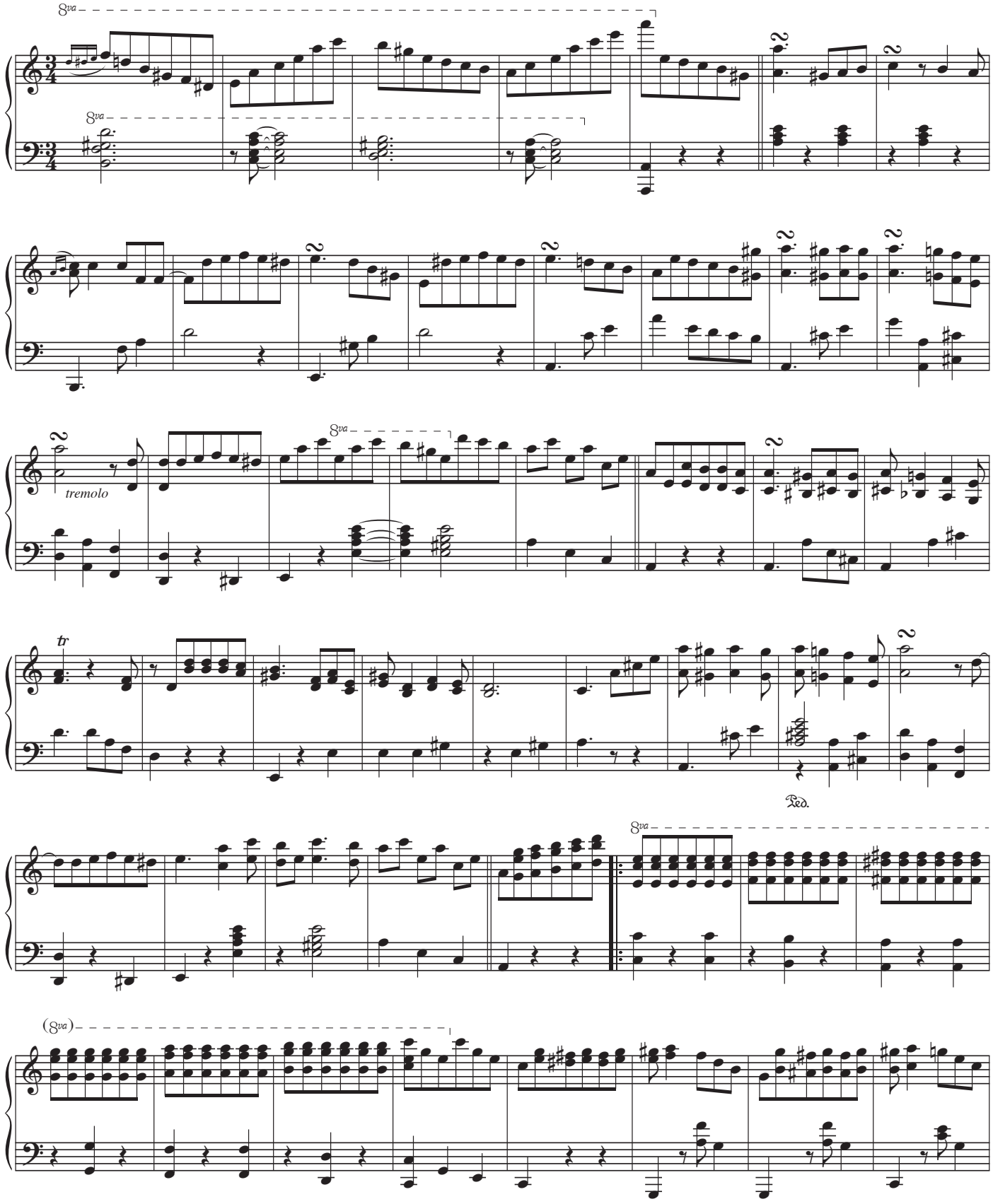
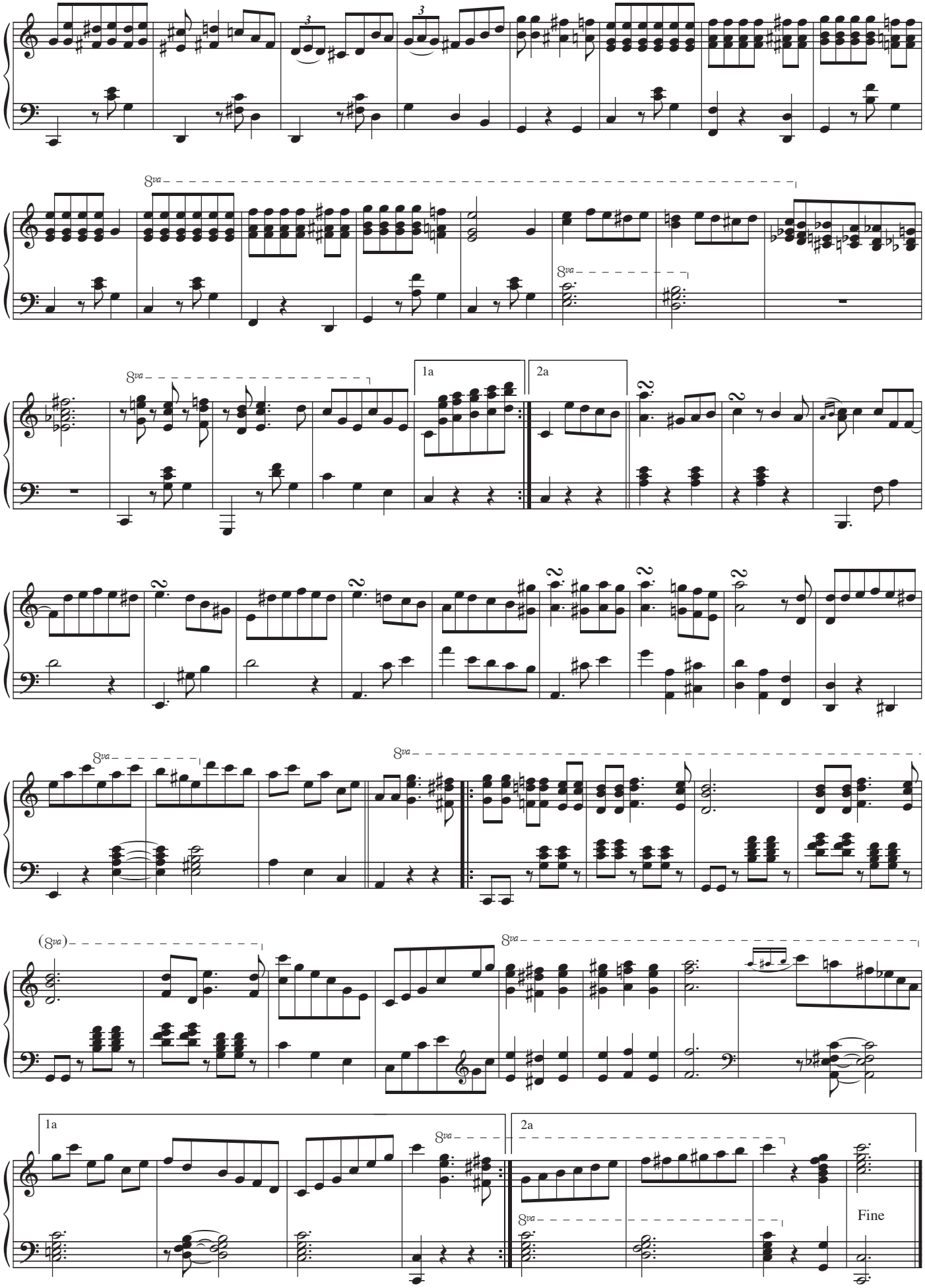
Joseline

Dedicated to Joseline Palm, daughter of Edgar Palm; 1952

Grande Valse

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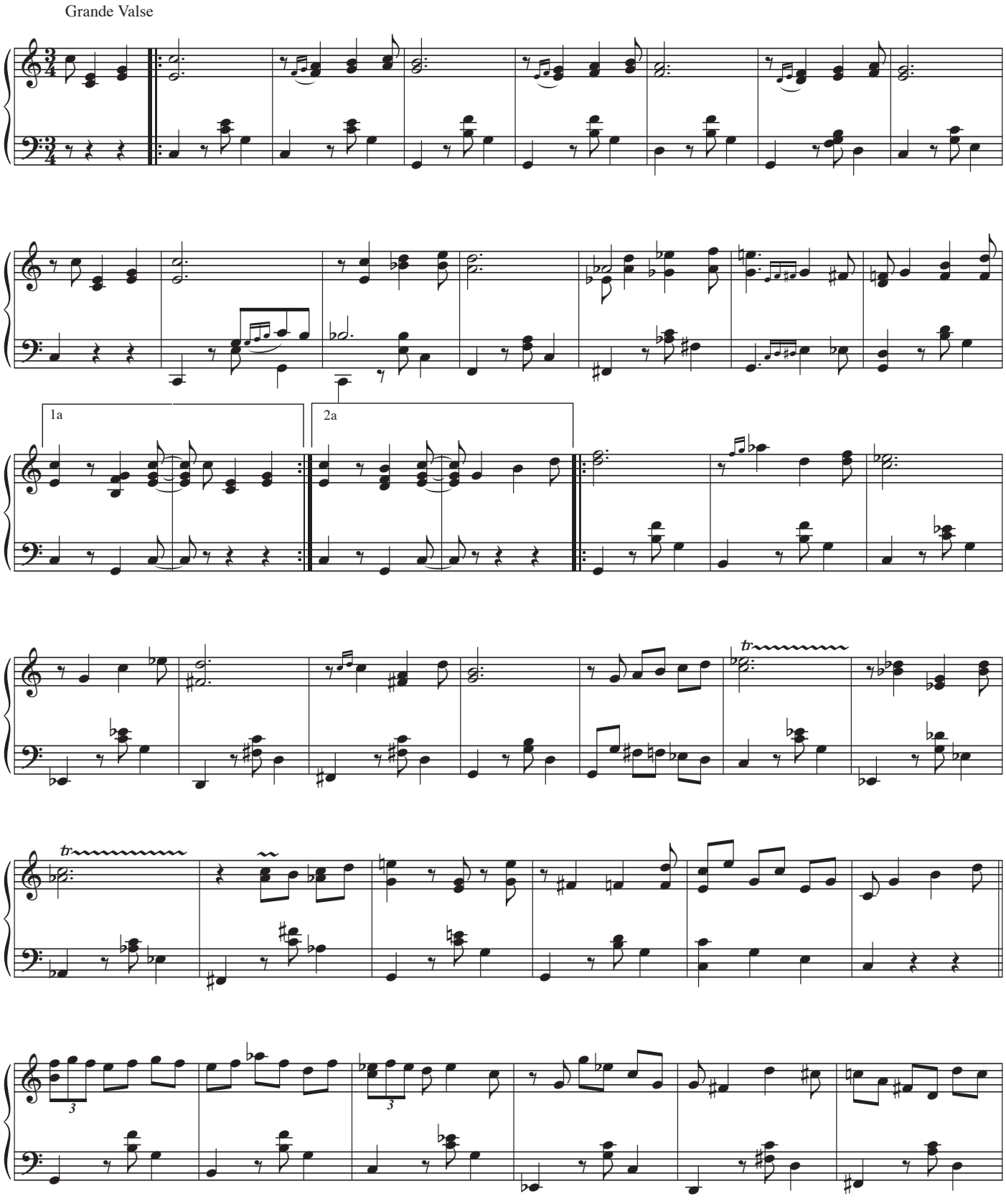
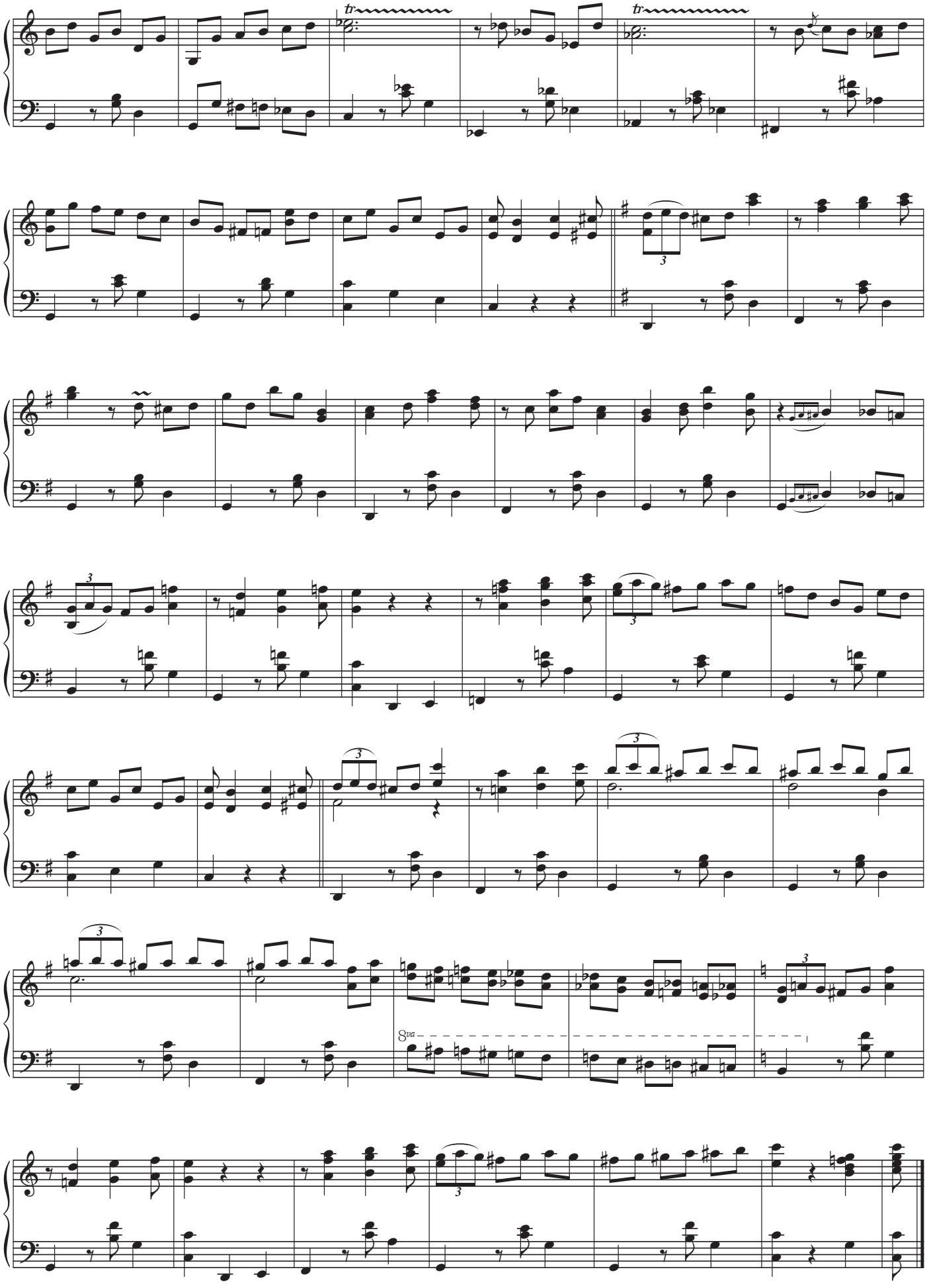
O Bella Trix

Dedicated to Princess Beatrix; 1965

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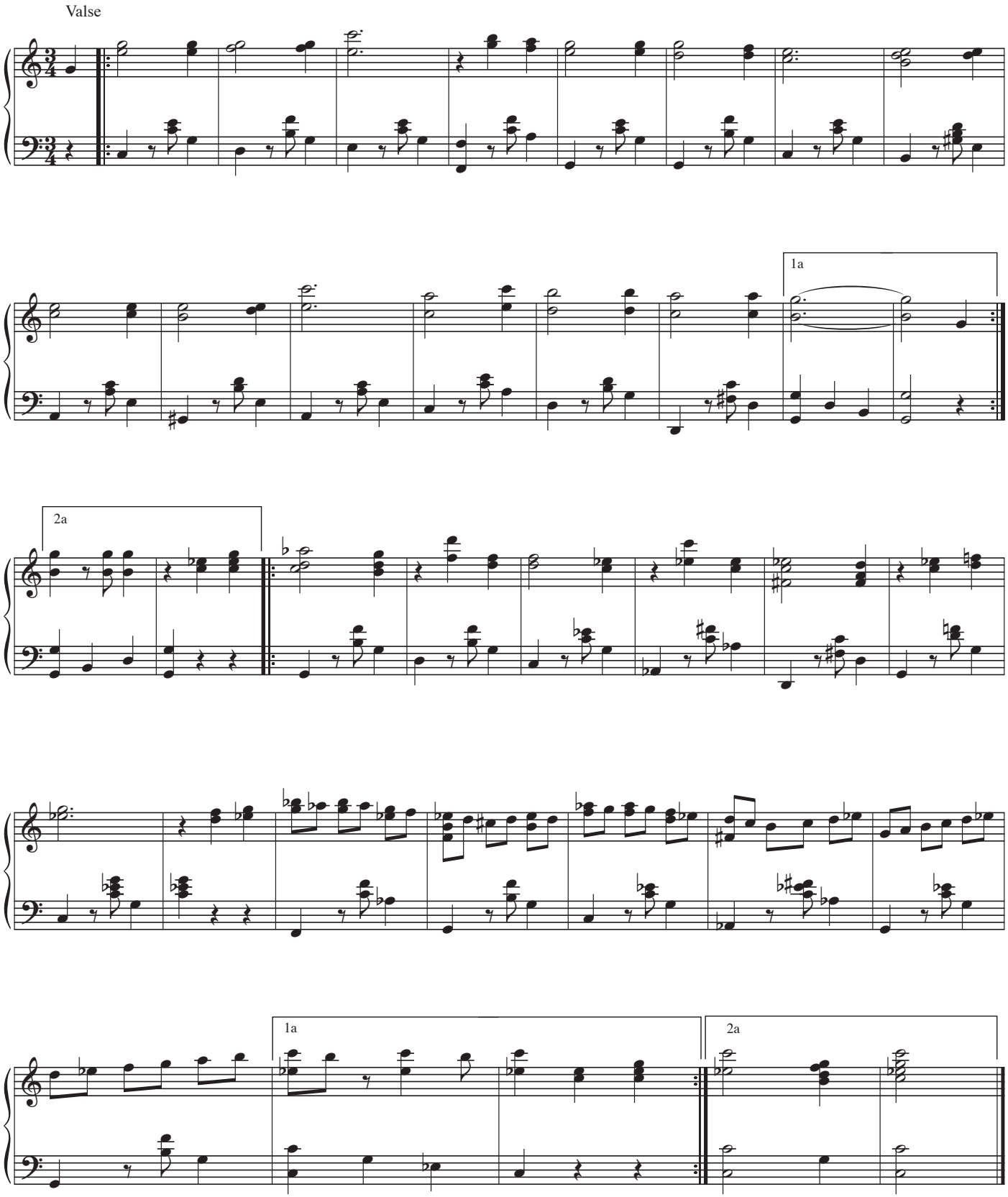
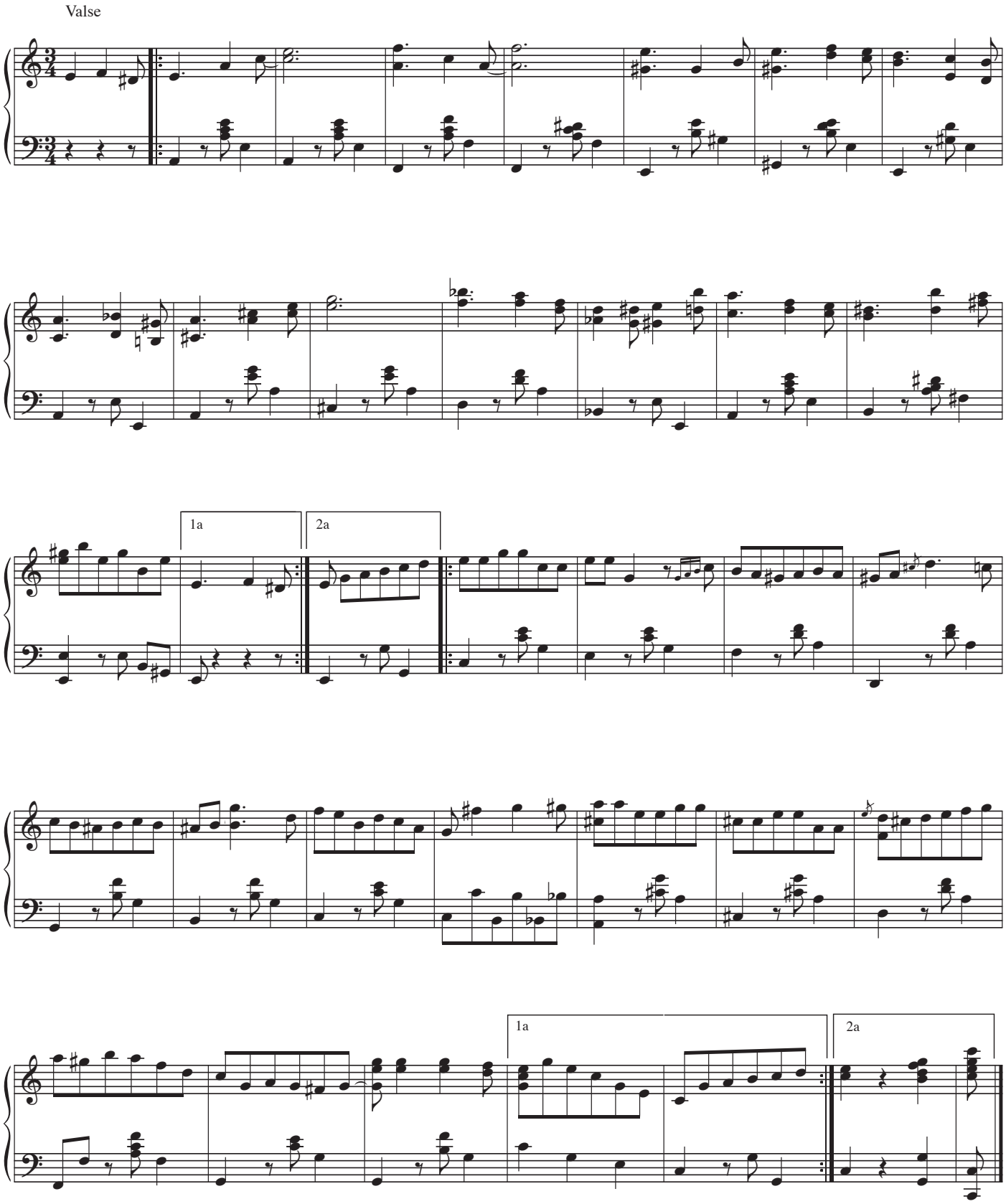
Amar



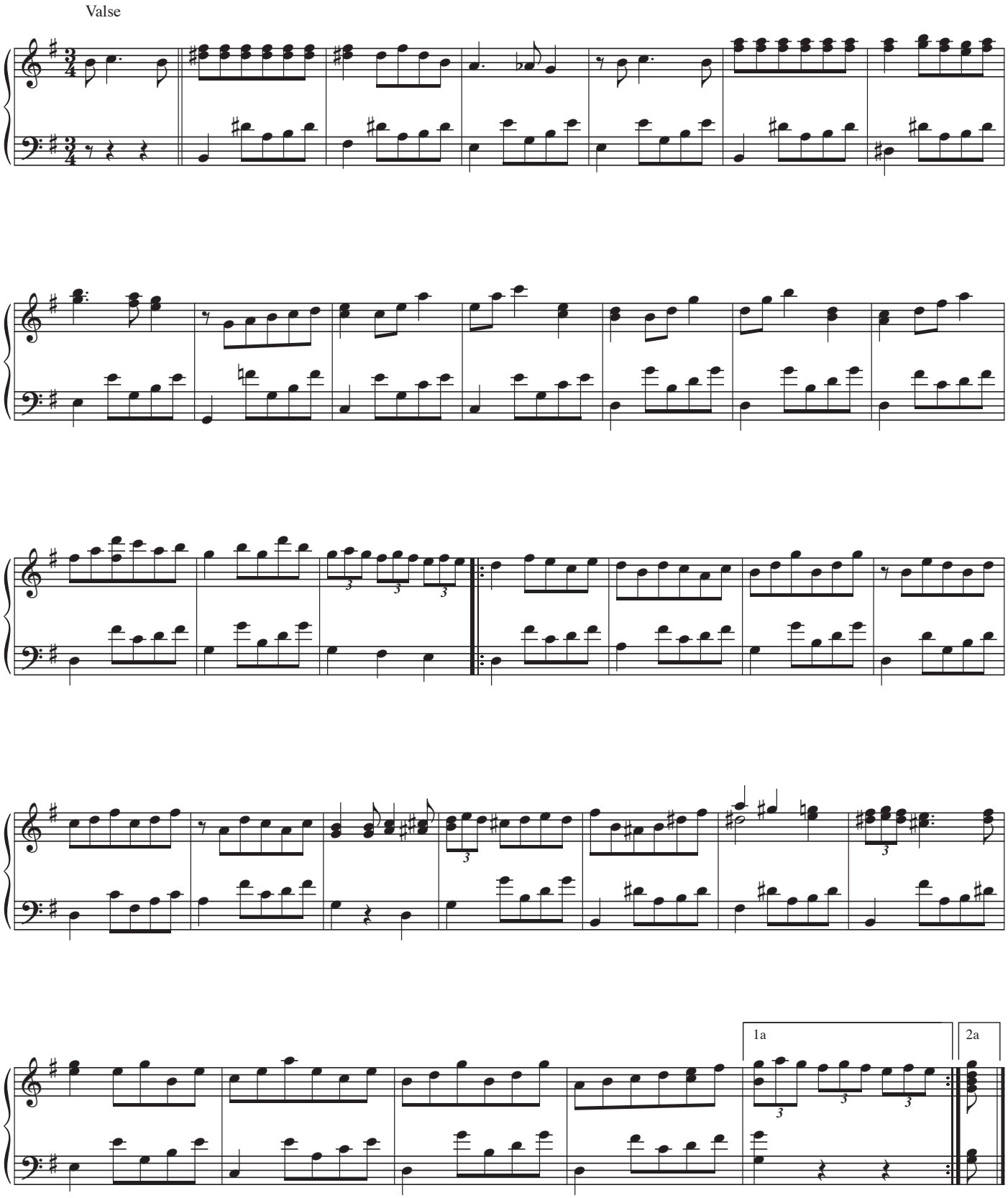
Anitra y Joseline

Dedicated to Anitra and Joseline Palm, daughters of Edgar Palm; 1954



Ana Maria (version 1)

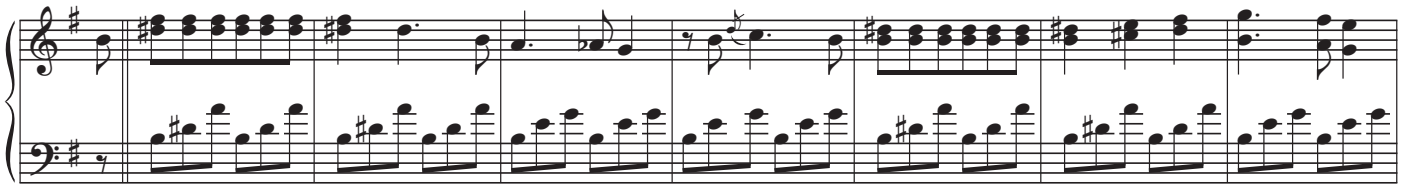
Dedicated to Ana Maria Martina



Ana Maria (version 2)

Dedicated to Ana Maria Martina

Valse



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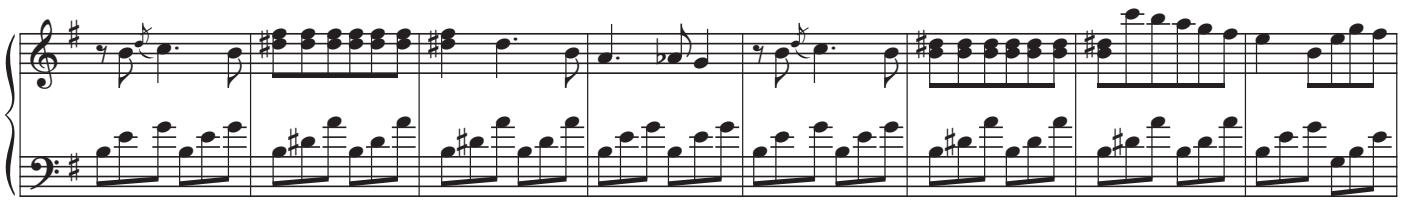
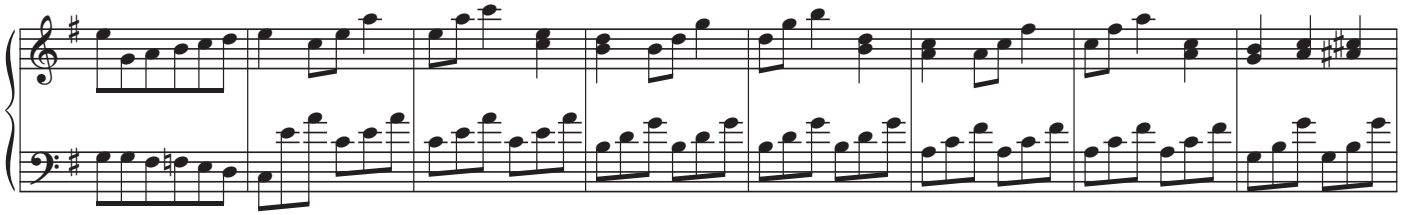
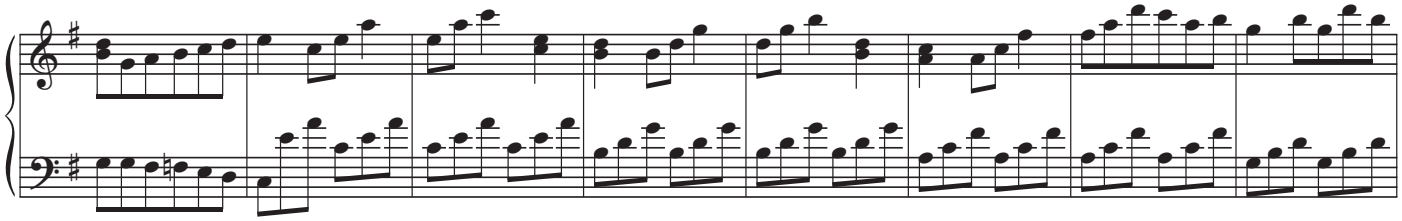
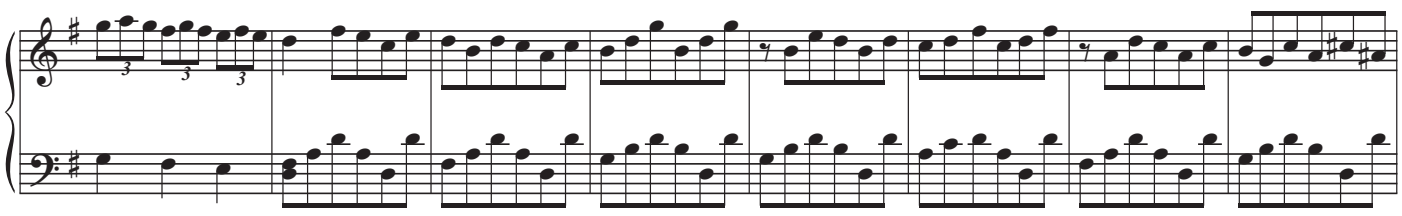
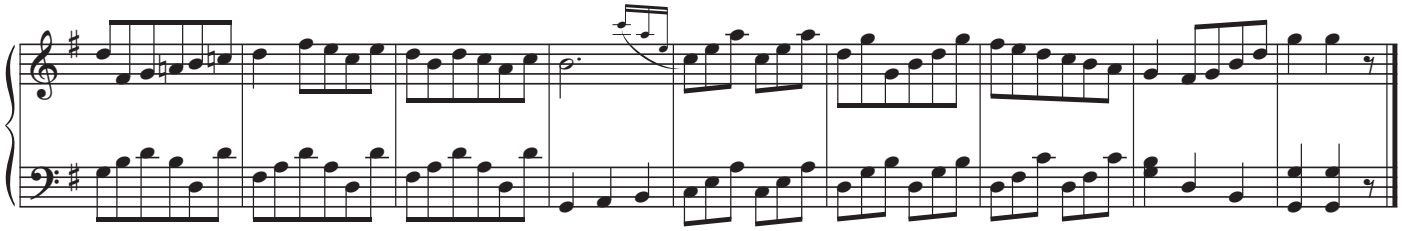




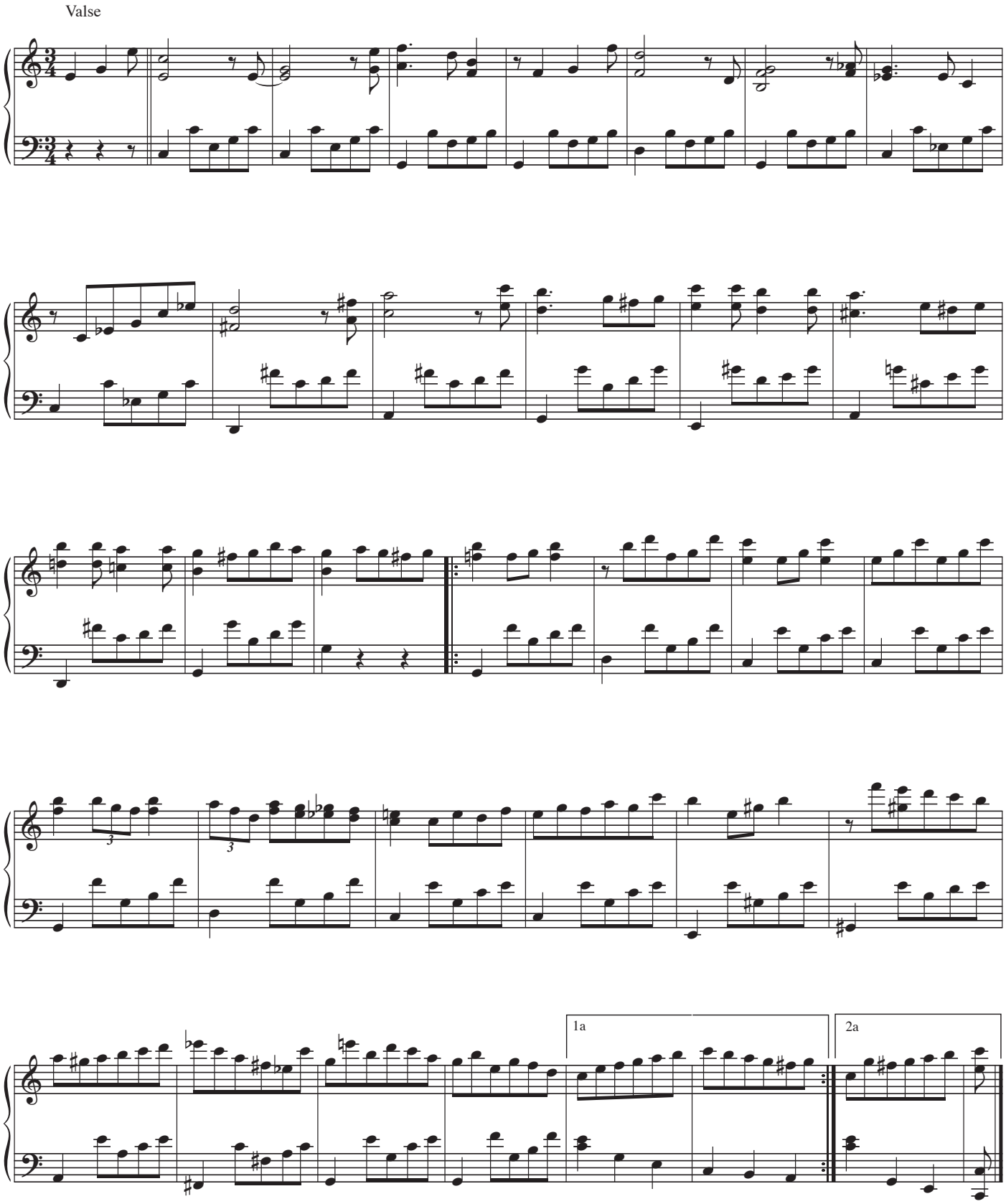




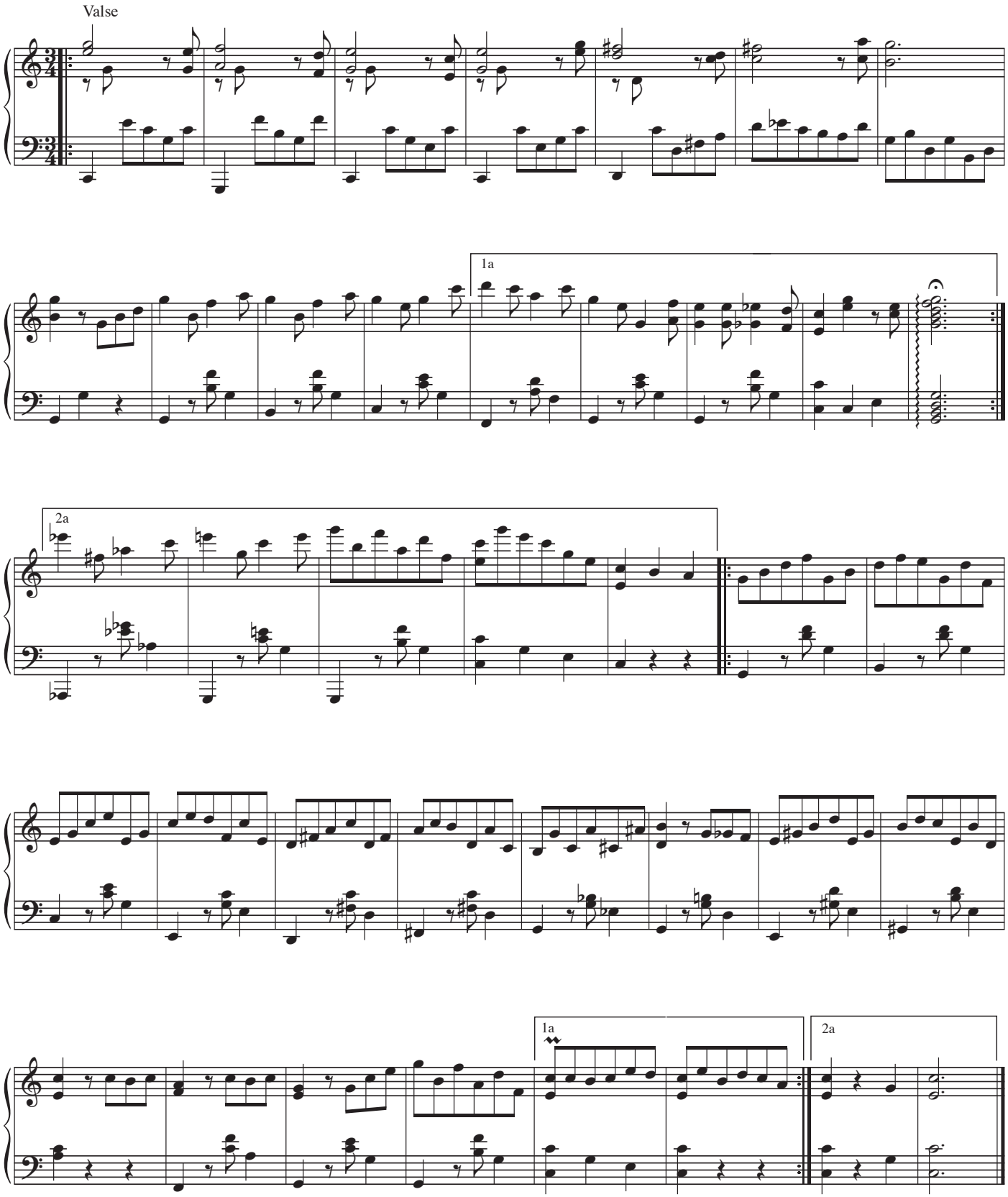


Angelica

Dedicated to Angela Martina

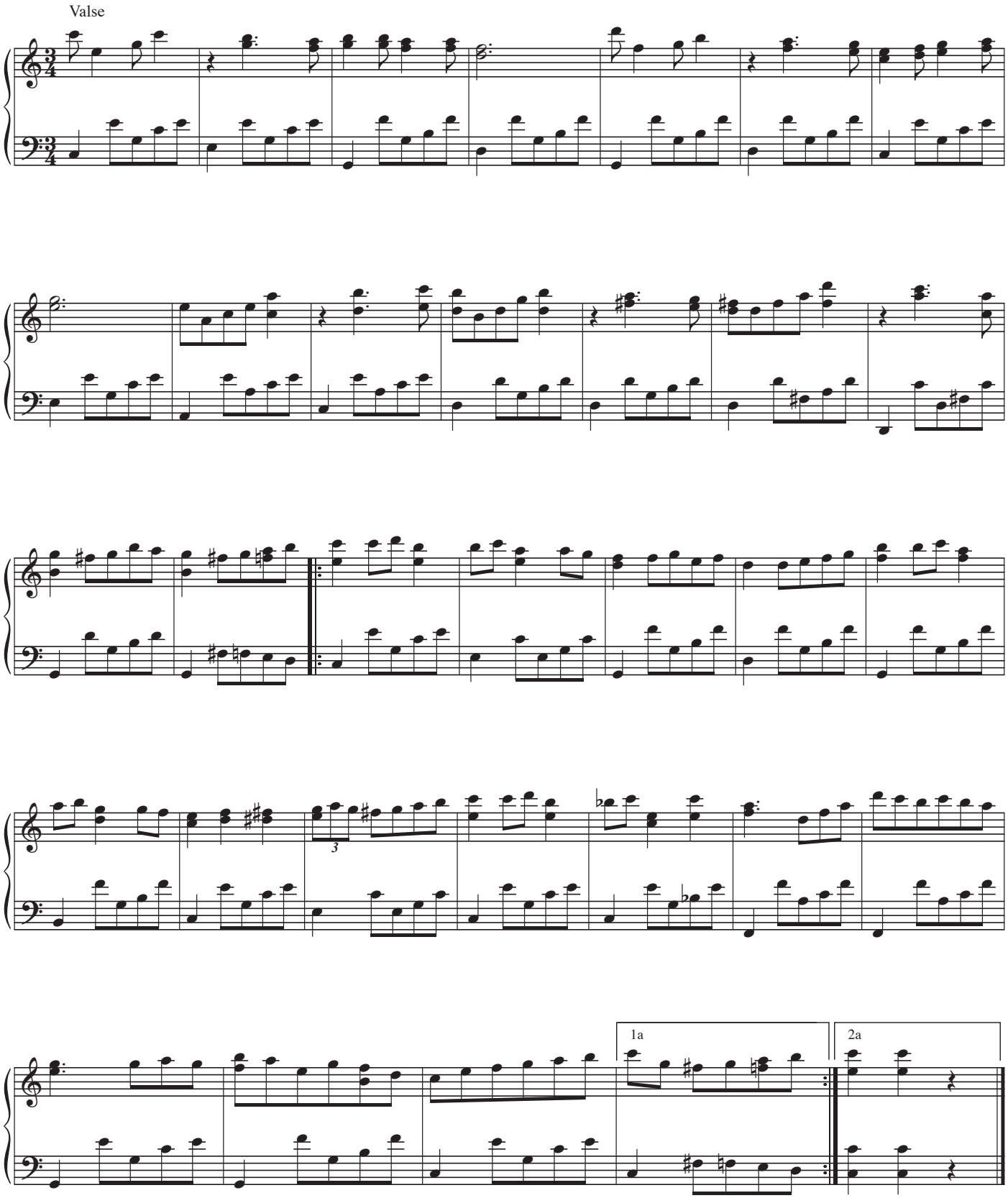


Anja



Annette

Dedicated to Annette Statius Muller



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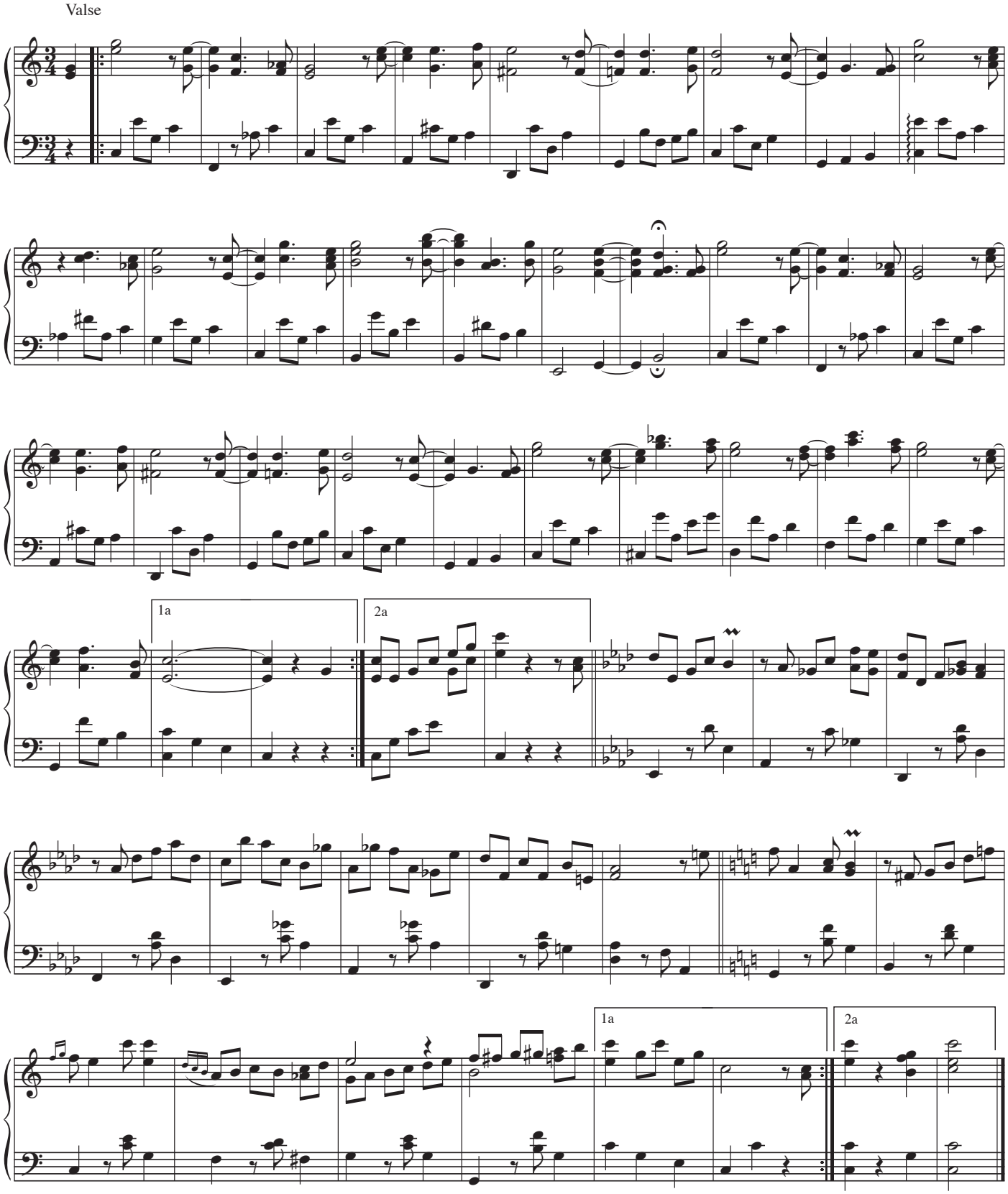
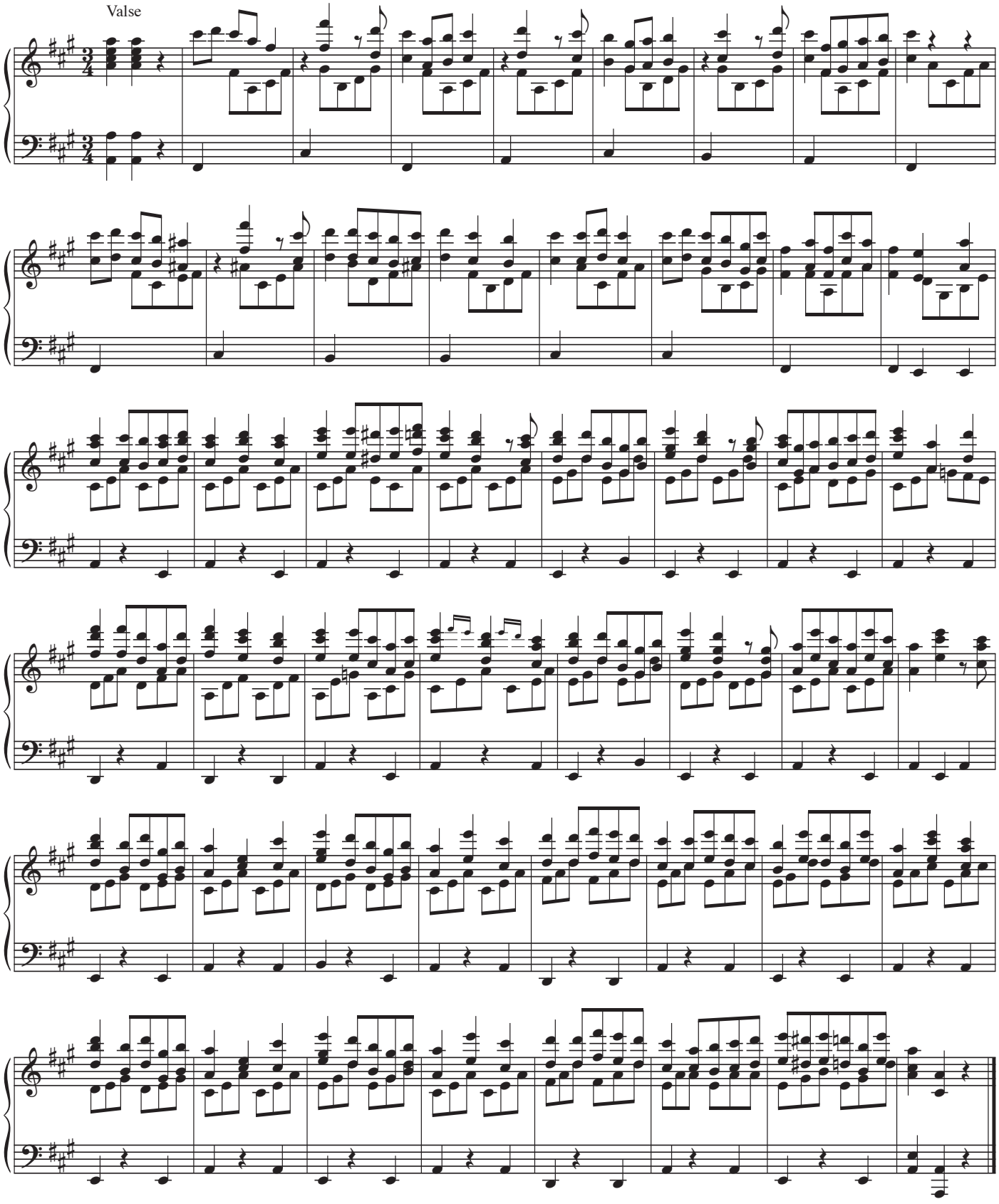


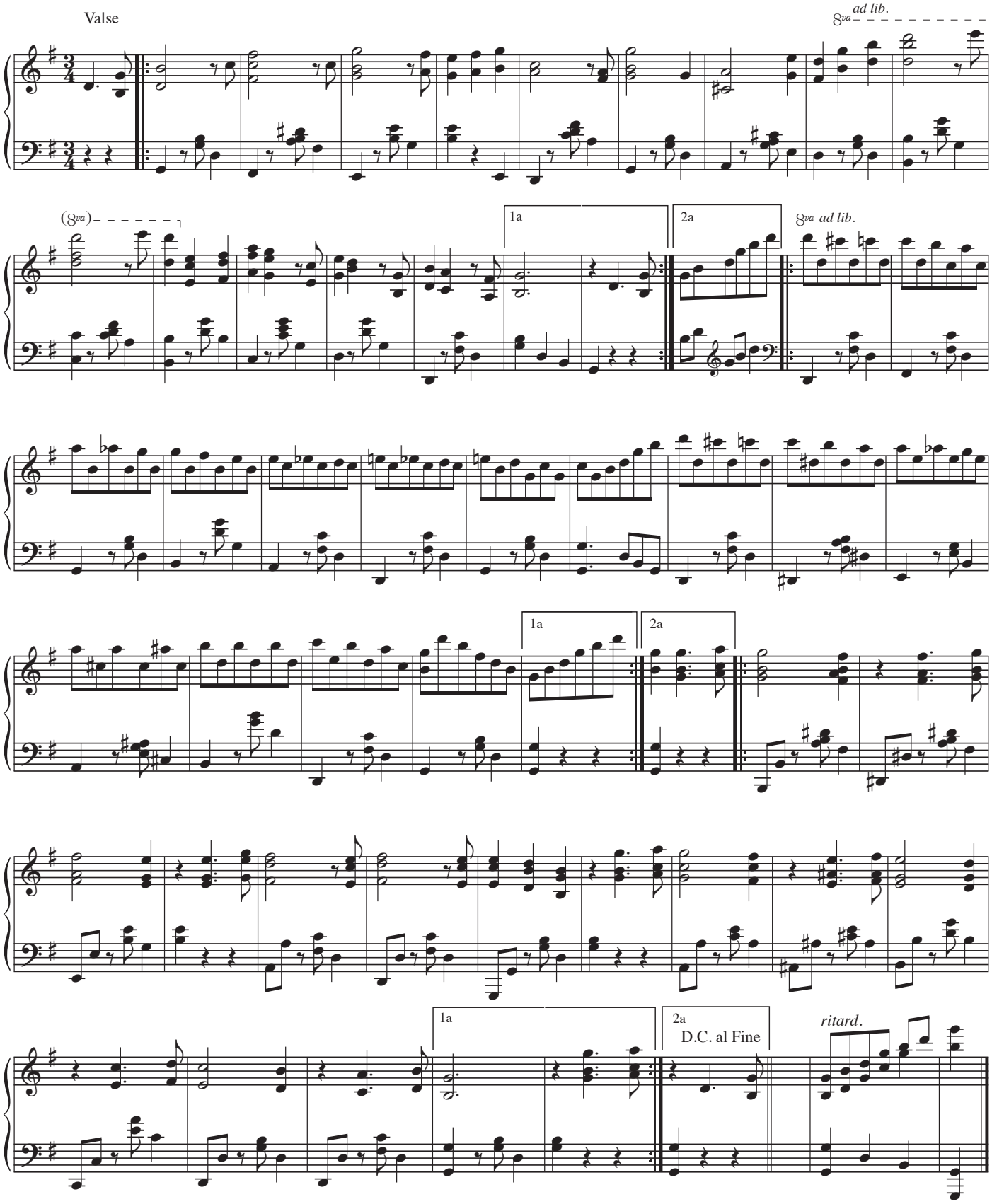
Ban Moreno

Dedicated to Ivan Moreno

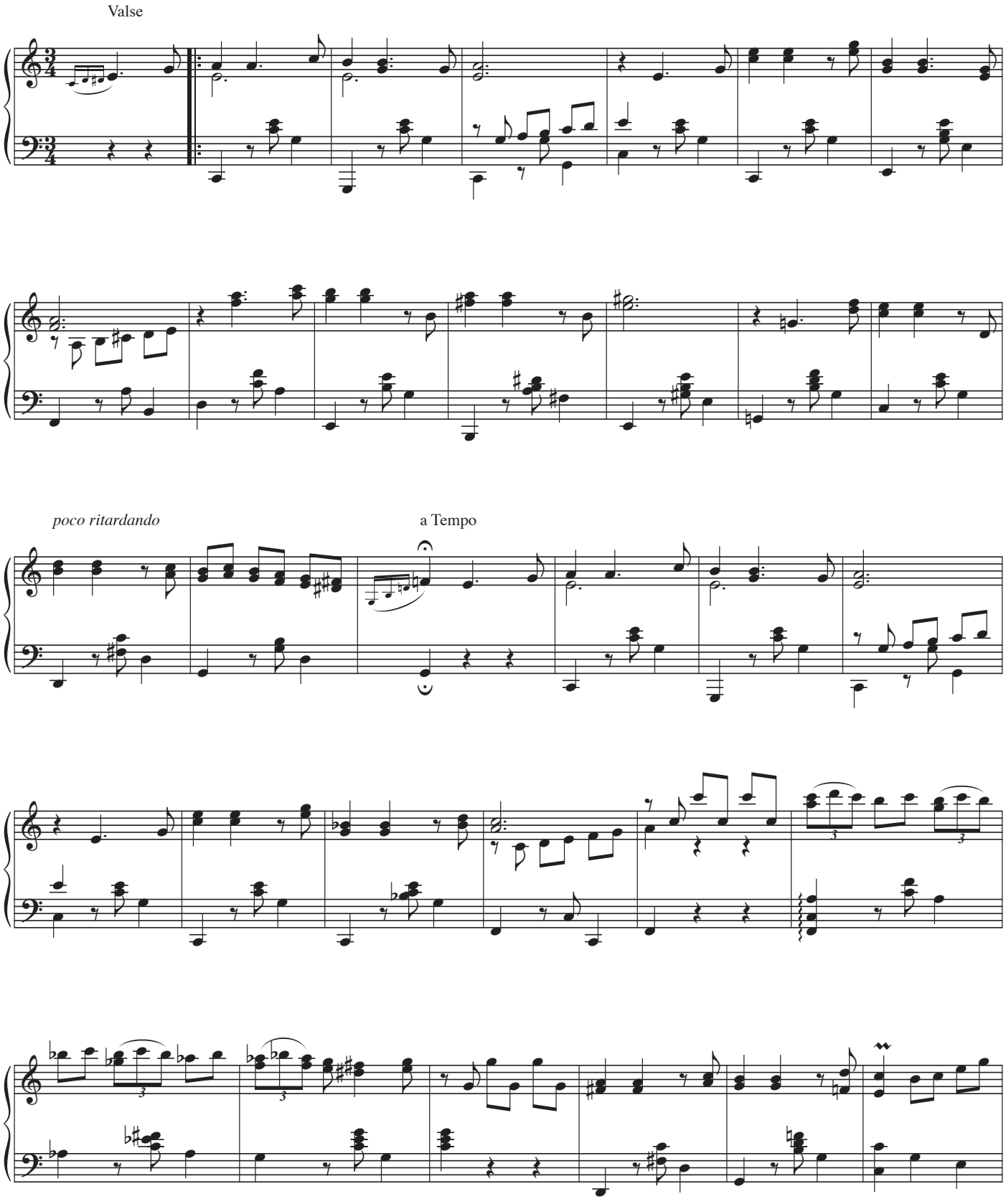


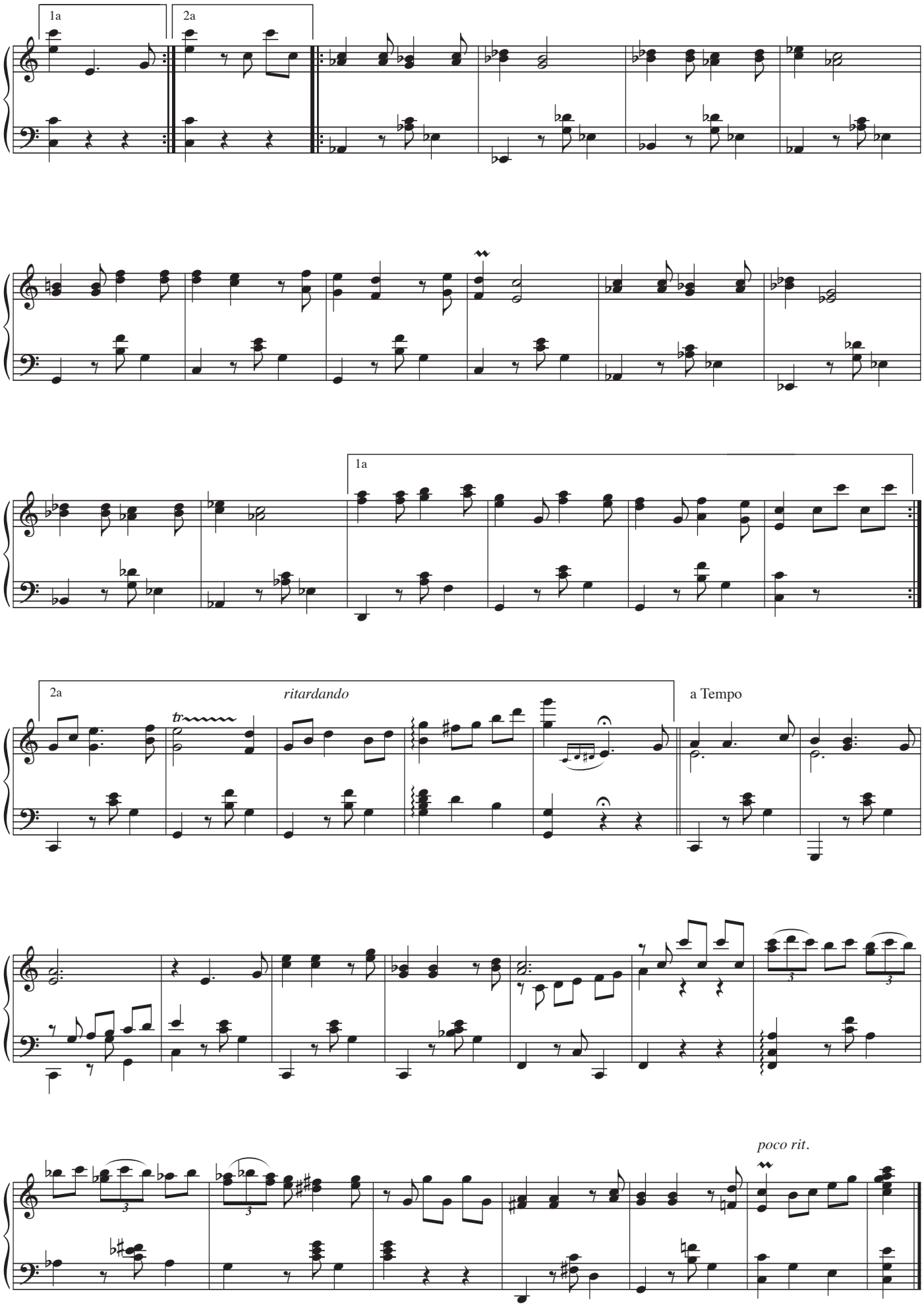
Bibiana

1958



Bouquet




1a
2a
1a
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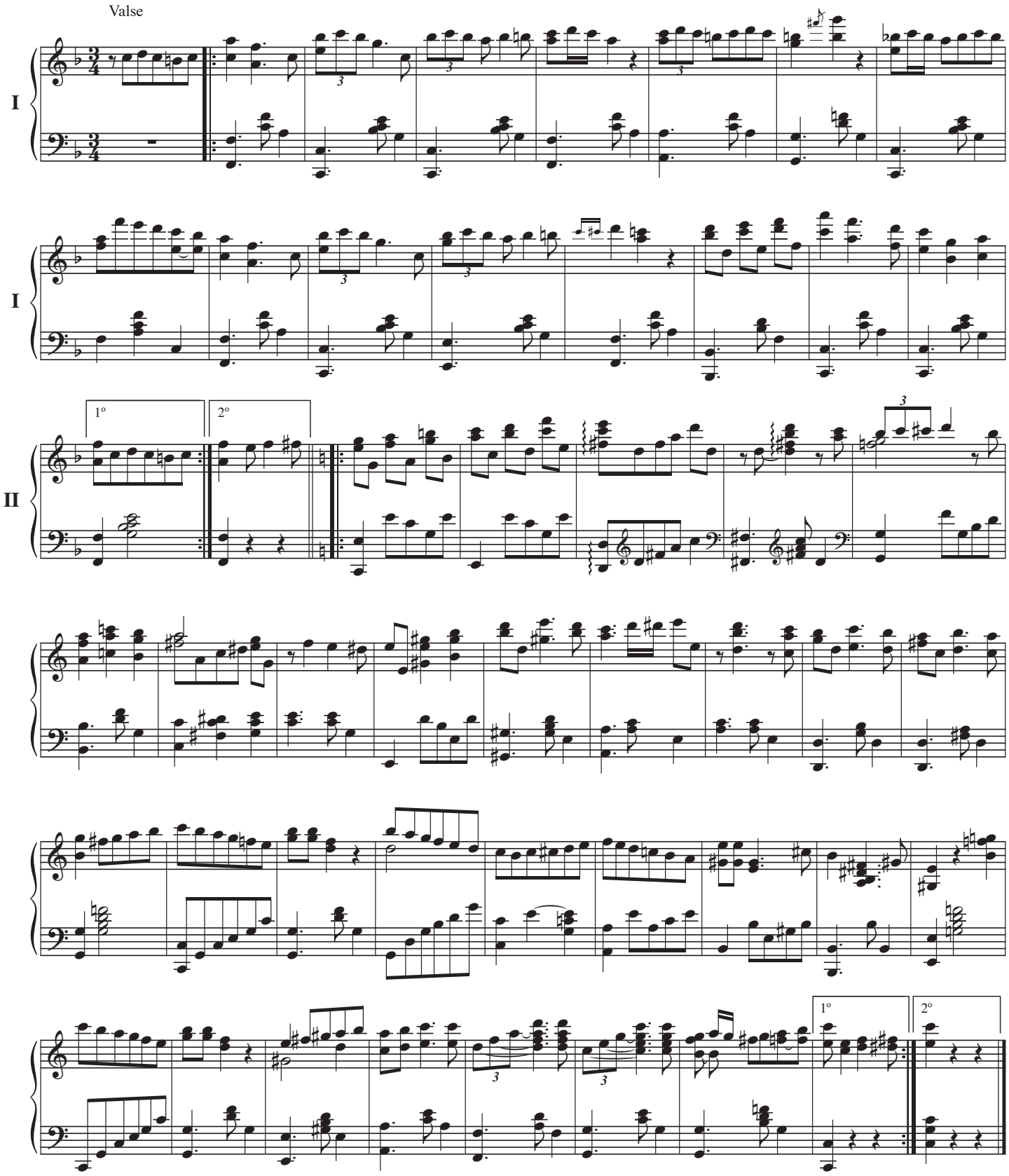
ritardando
a Tempo
poco rit.

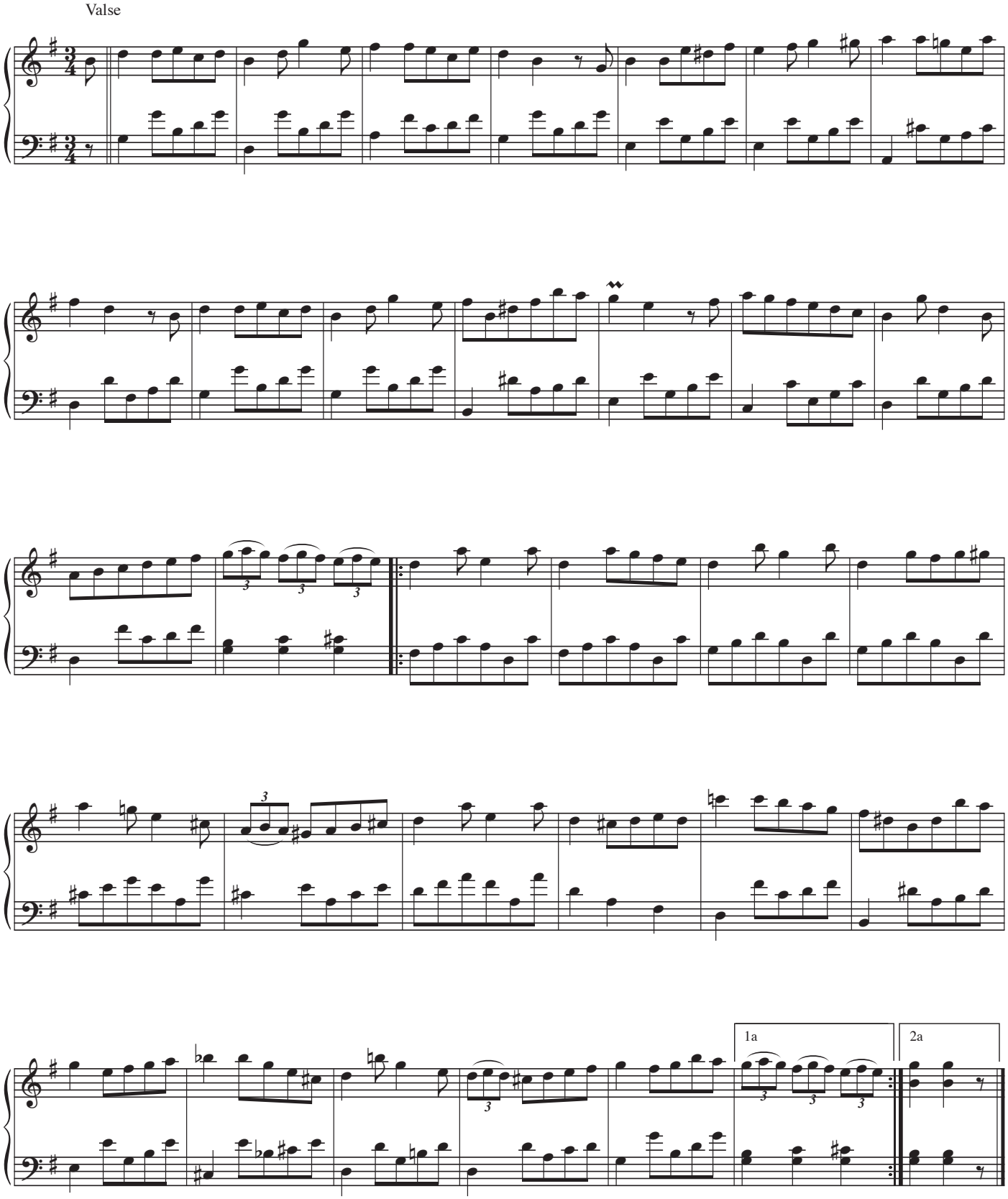
Criselda la bella Arubanita

Dedicated to Criselda Arends from Aruba



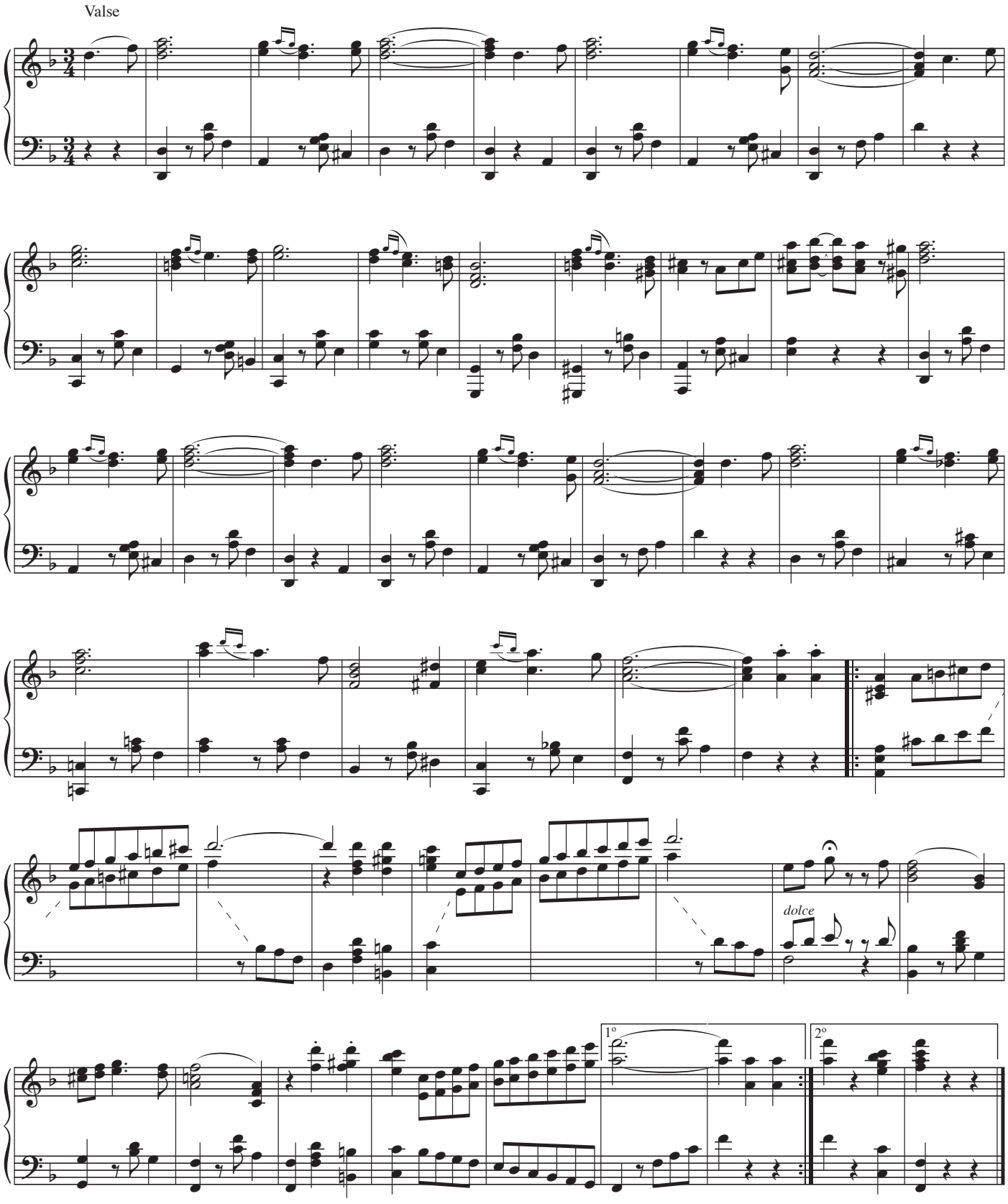
Djen djen

April 1981



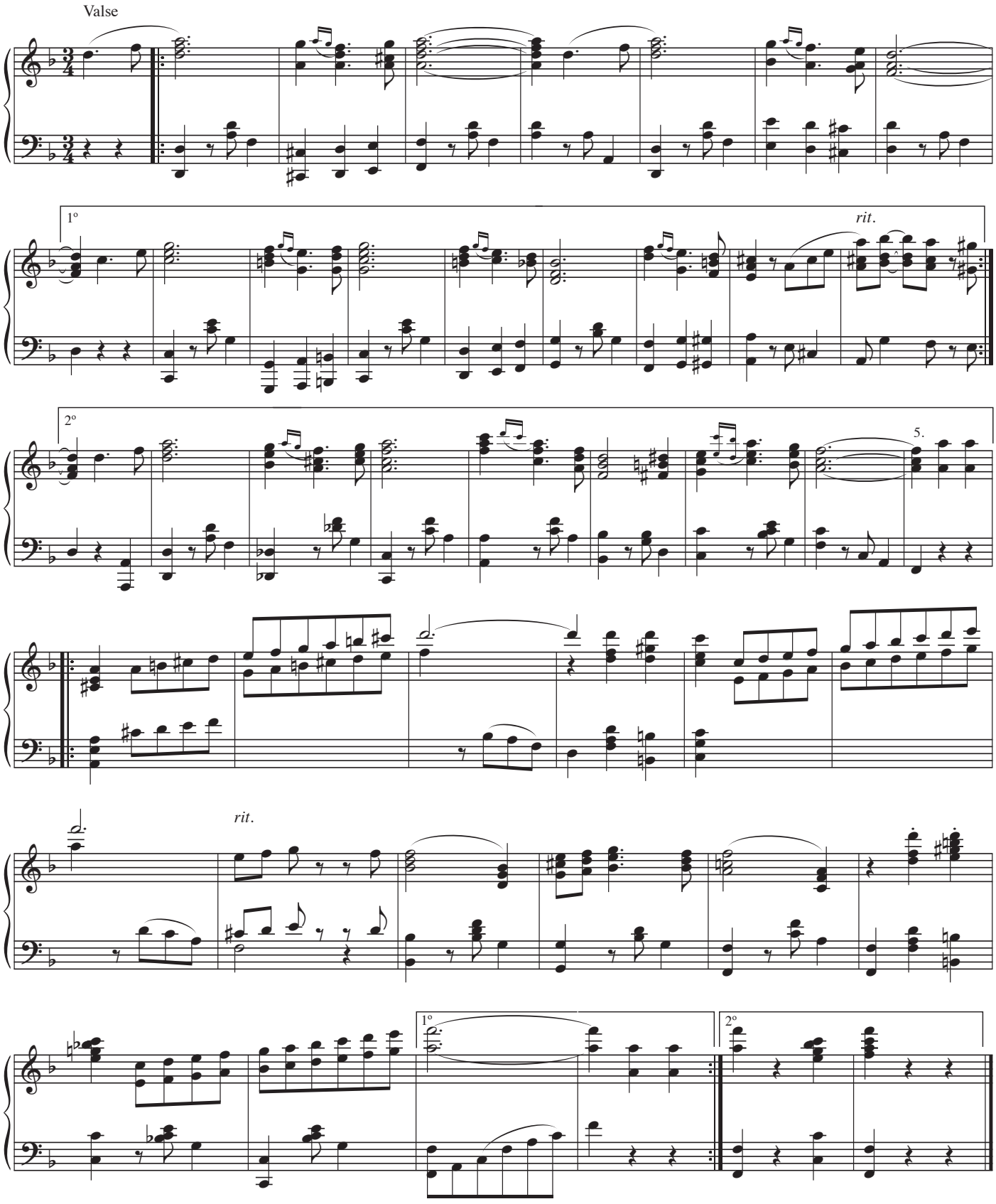
Don Pepe (version 1)

Dedicated to José Schemel; 24 November 1936
composed together with his brother Albert Palm



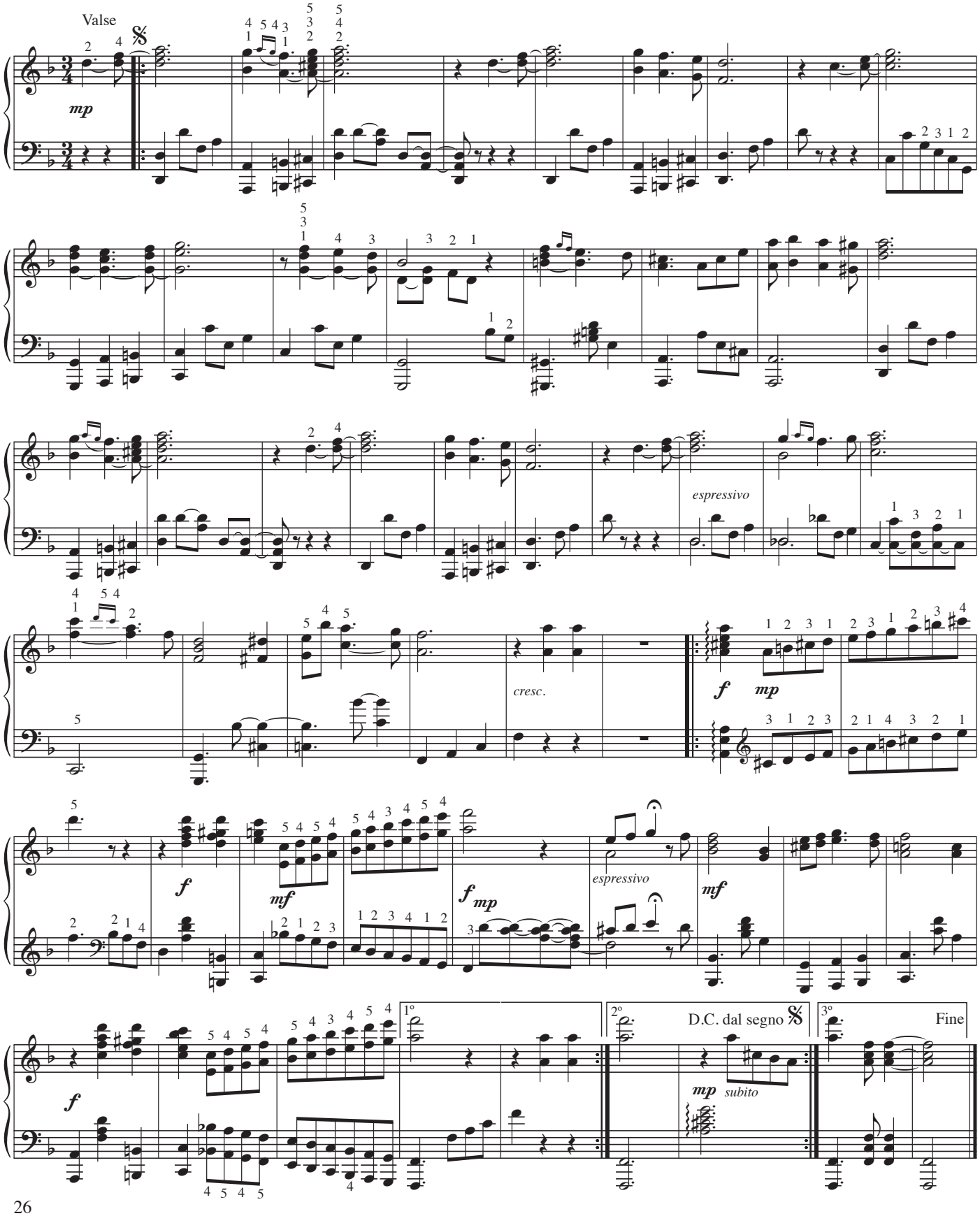
Don Pepe (version 2)

Dedicated to José Schemel; 24 November 1936
composed together with his brother Albert Palm



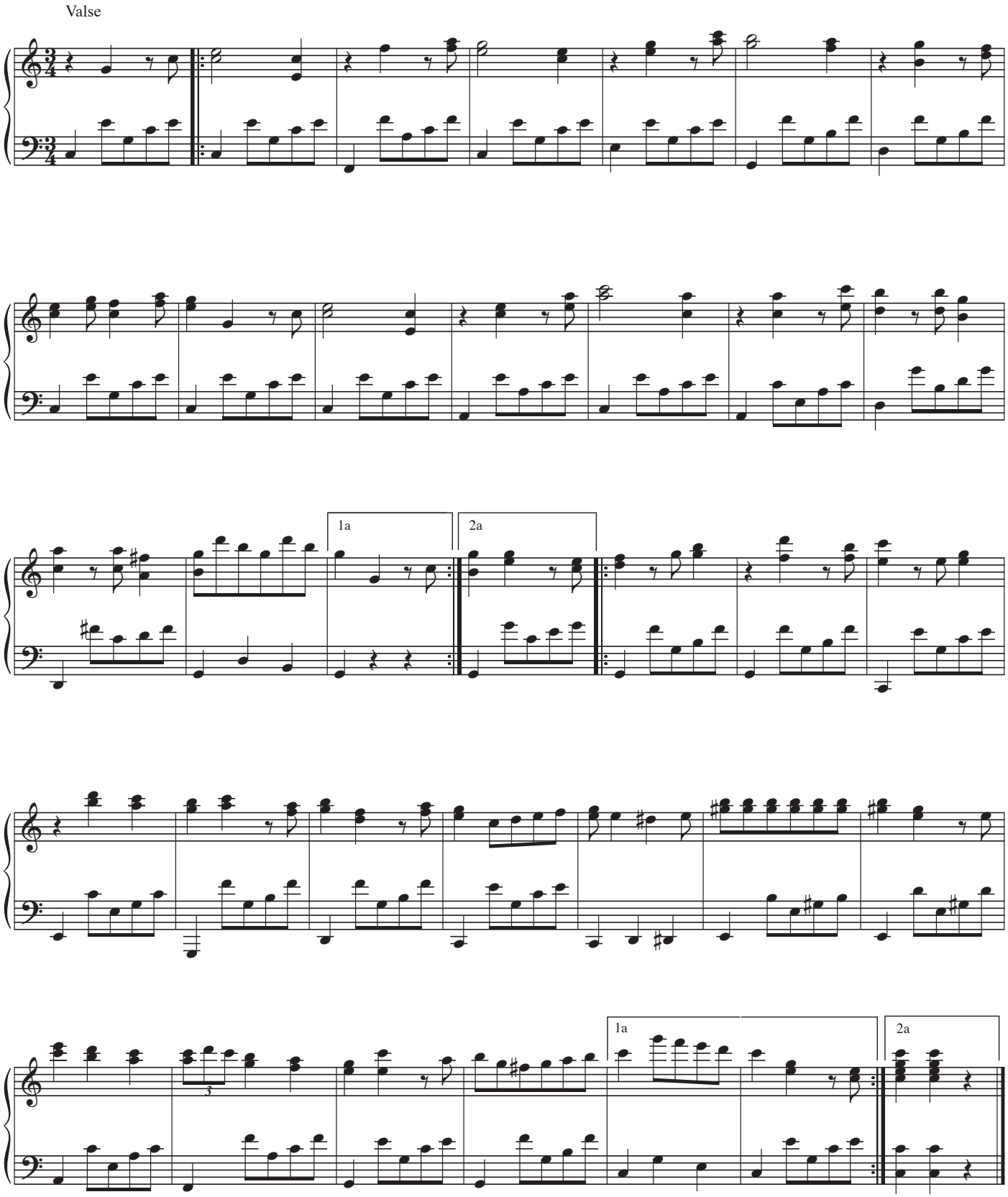
Don Pepe (version 2) [arr. Robert Rojer]

Dedictated to José Schemel; 24 November 1936
composed together with his brother Albert Palm

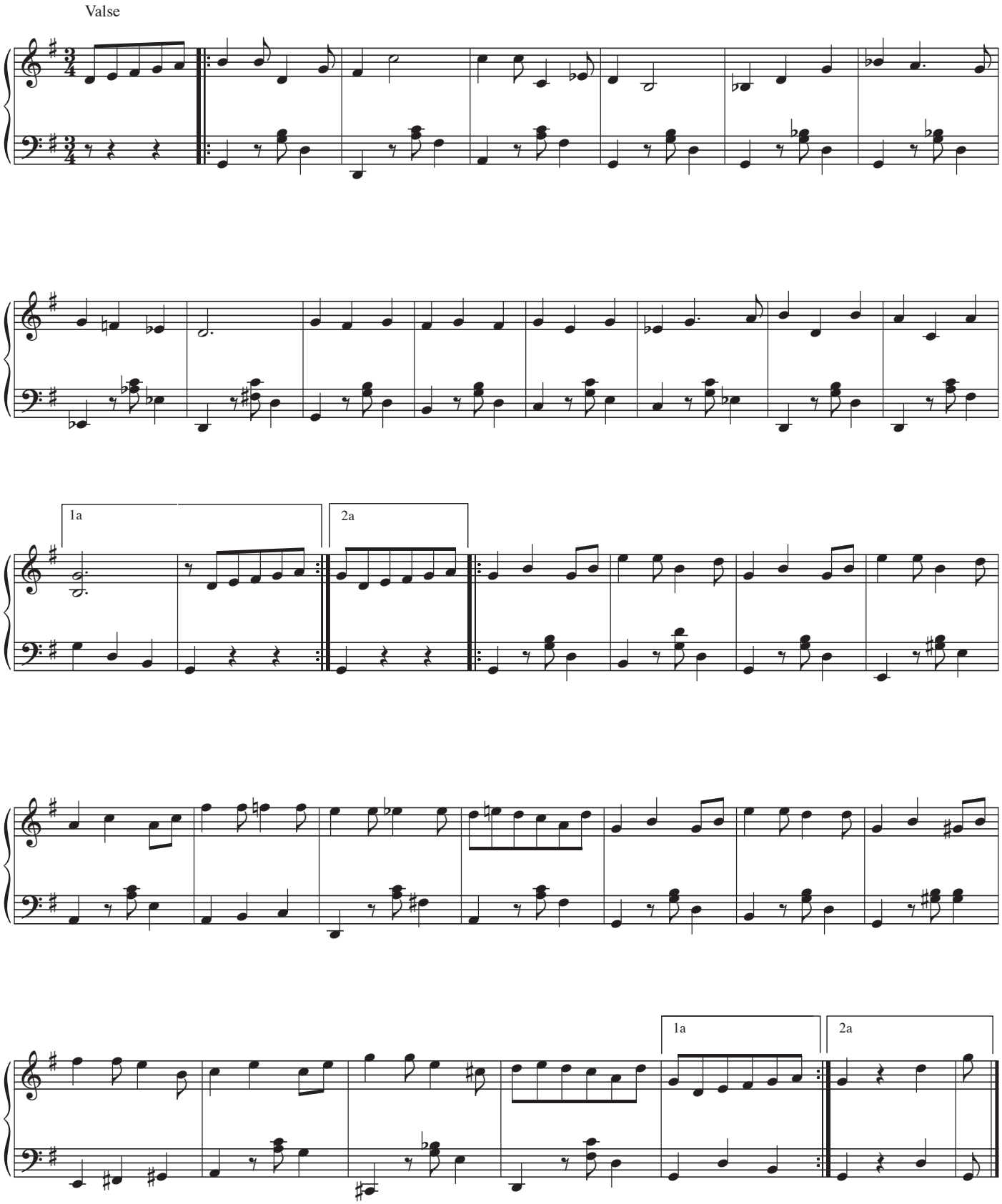


El Cojo

Dedictaed to his father Rudolf Palm; 6 November 1995

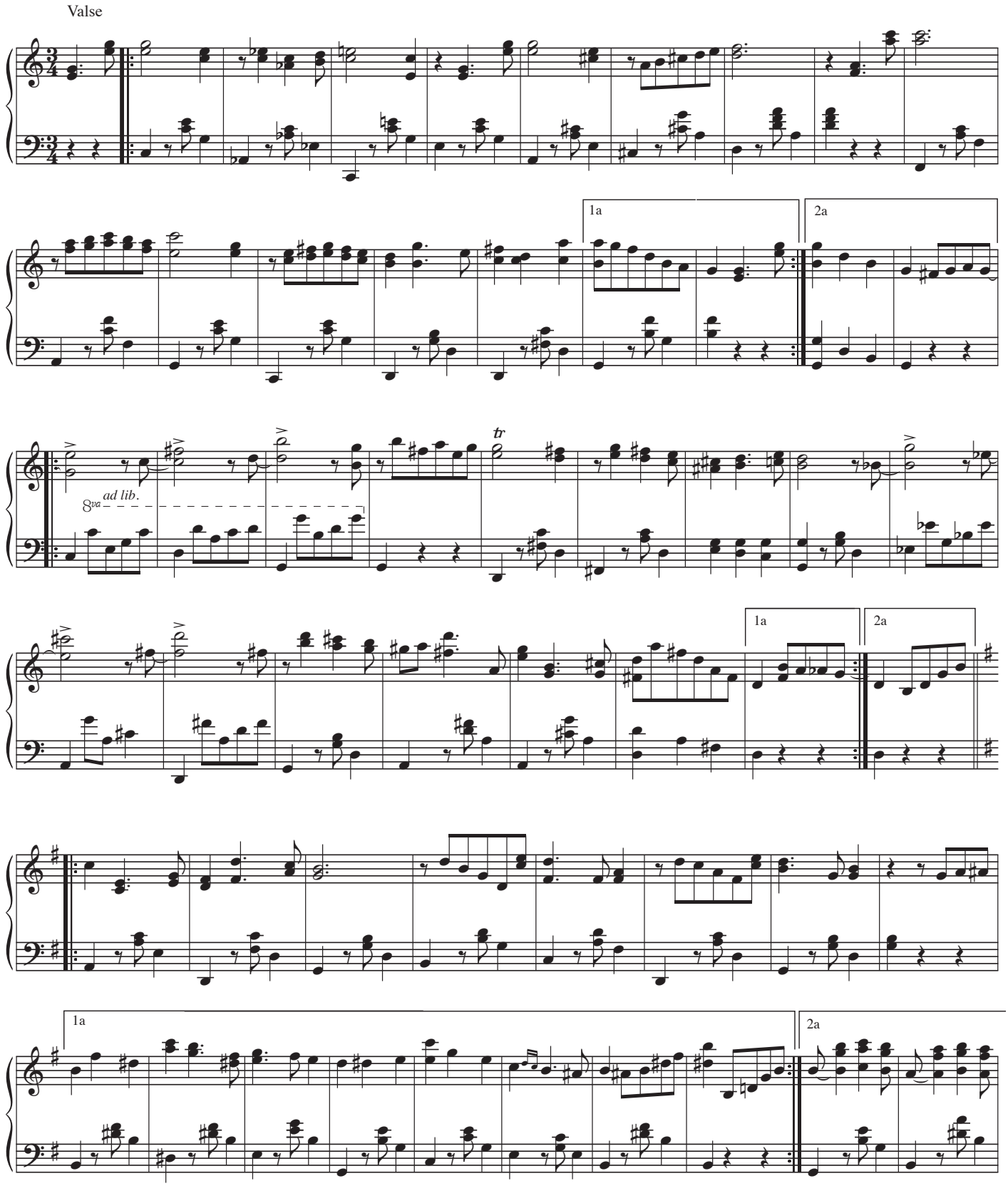


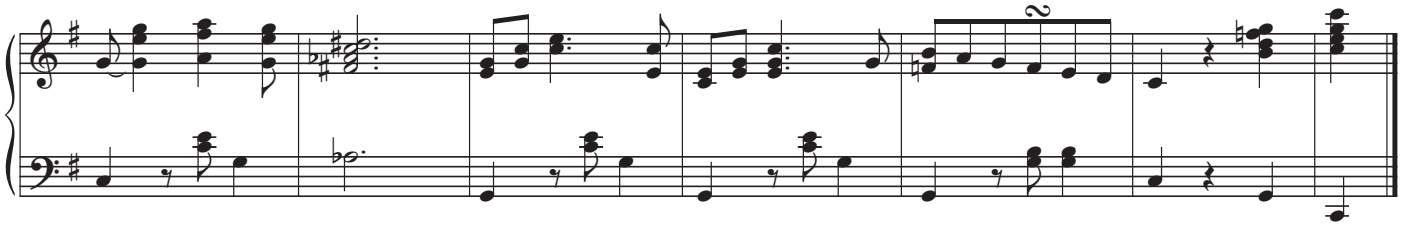
Enamorada



Esther

Dedicated to Esther Cheri; 30 August 1994

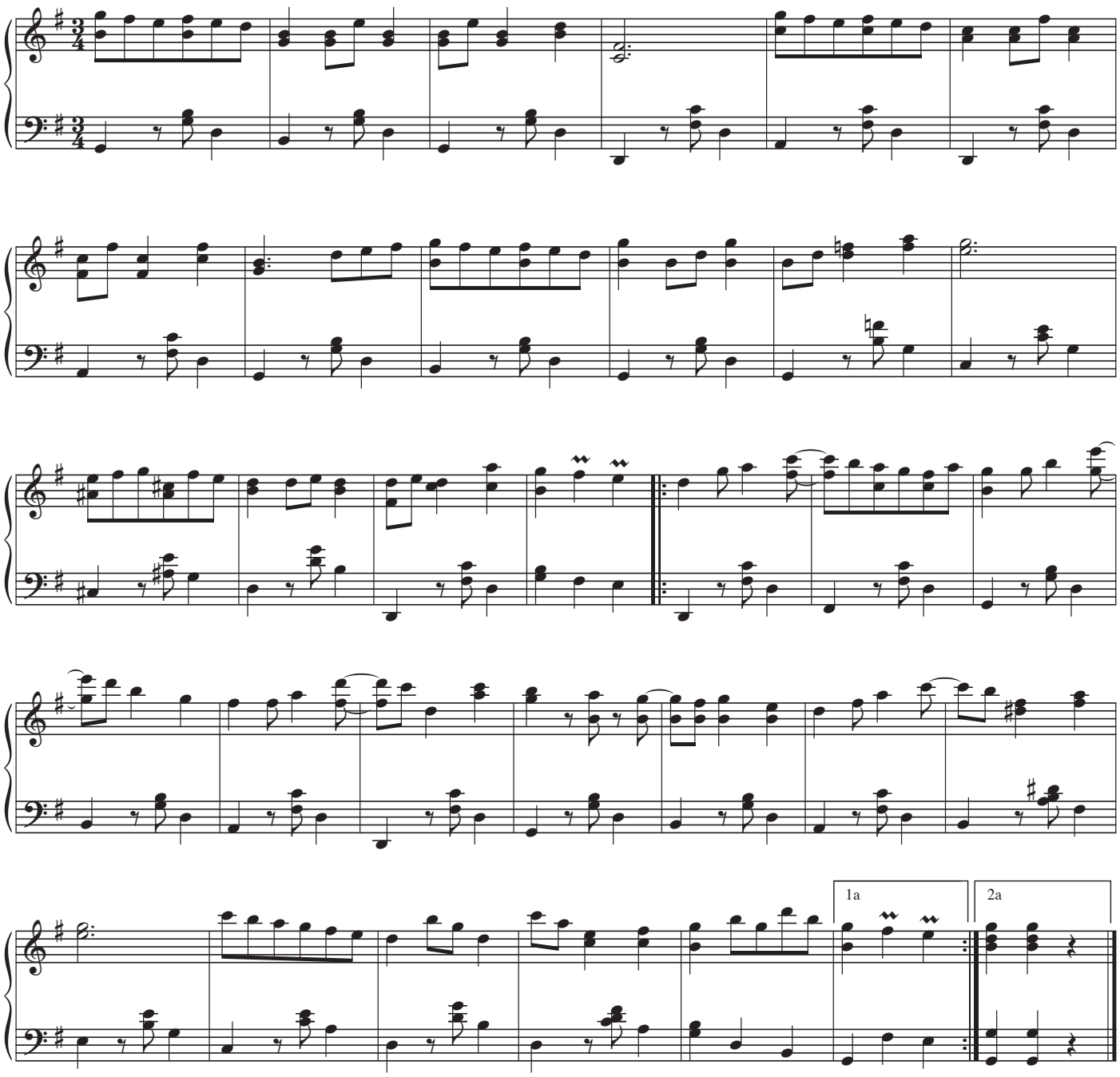




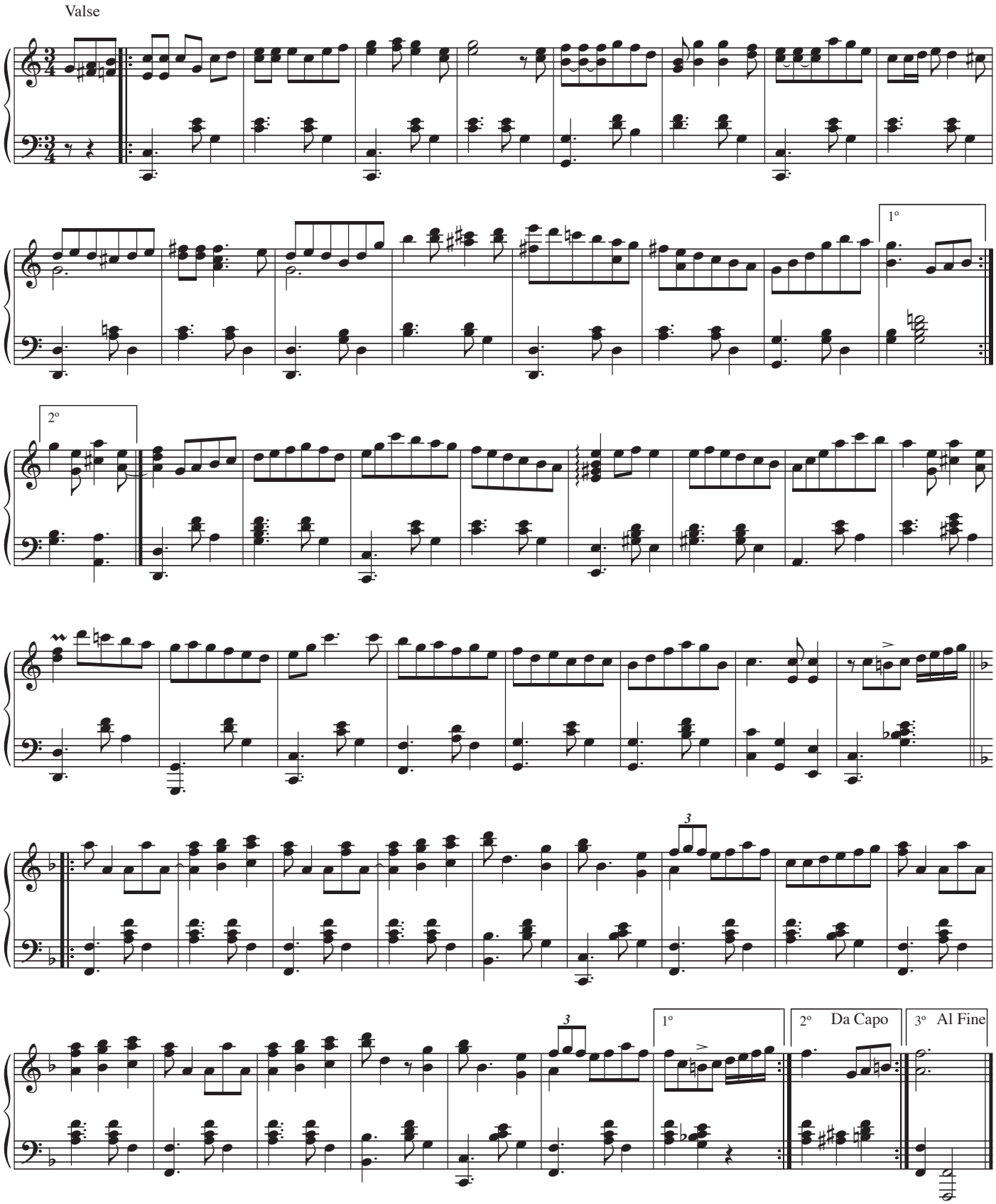
Frieda

Dedicated to Frieda Palm, wife of Edgar Palm

Valse

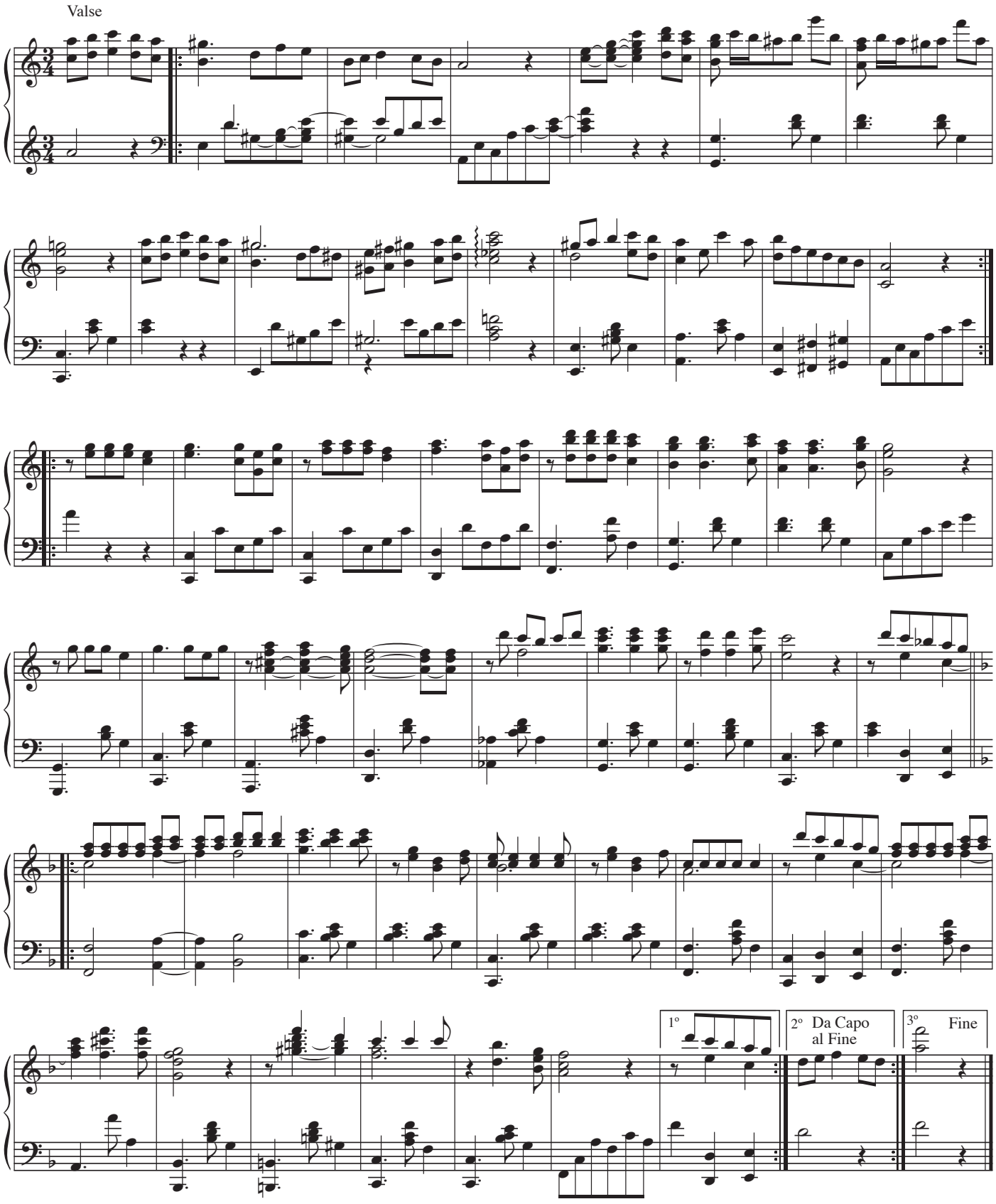


Hotel Curaçao Intercontinental



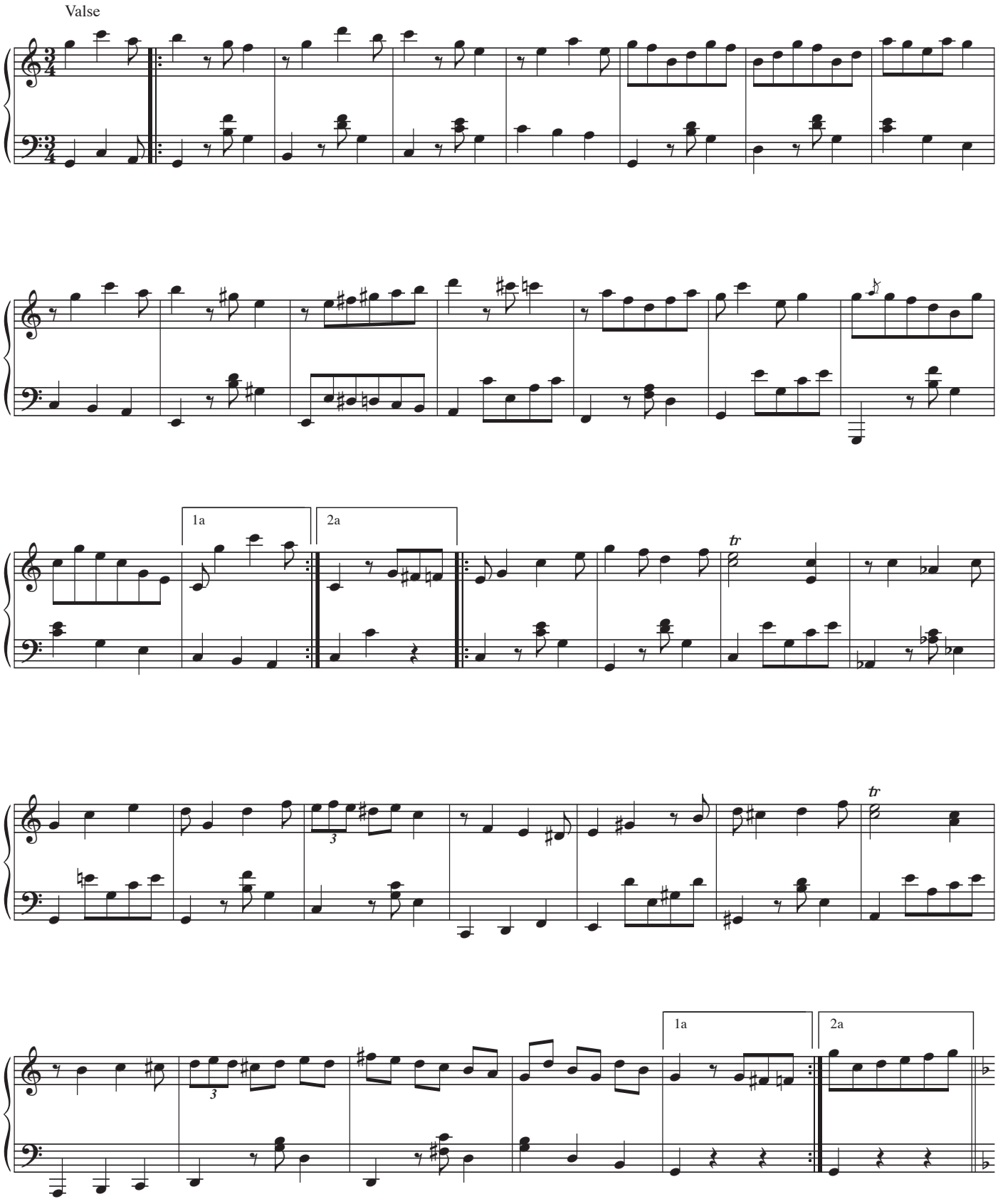
Ingrid

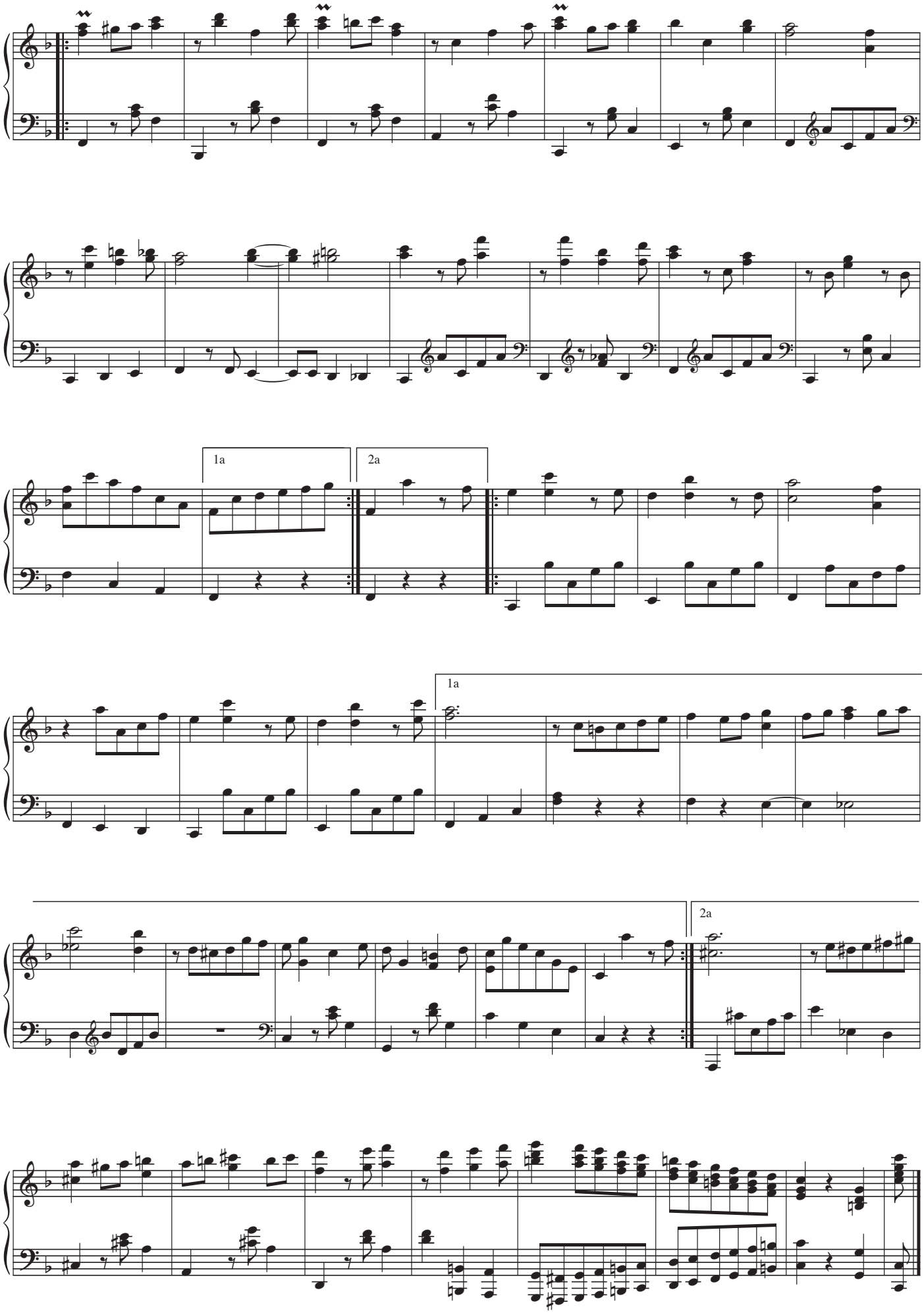
Dedicated to Ingrid Prince



Ivan Dinámico, Ivan simpático

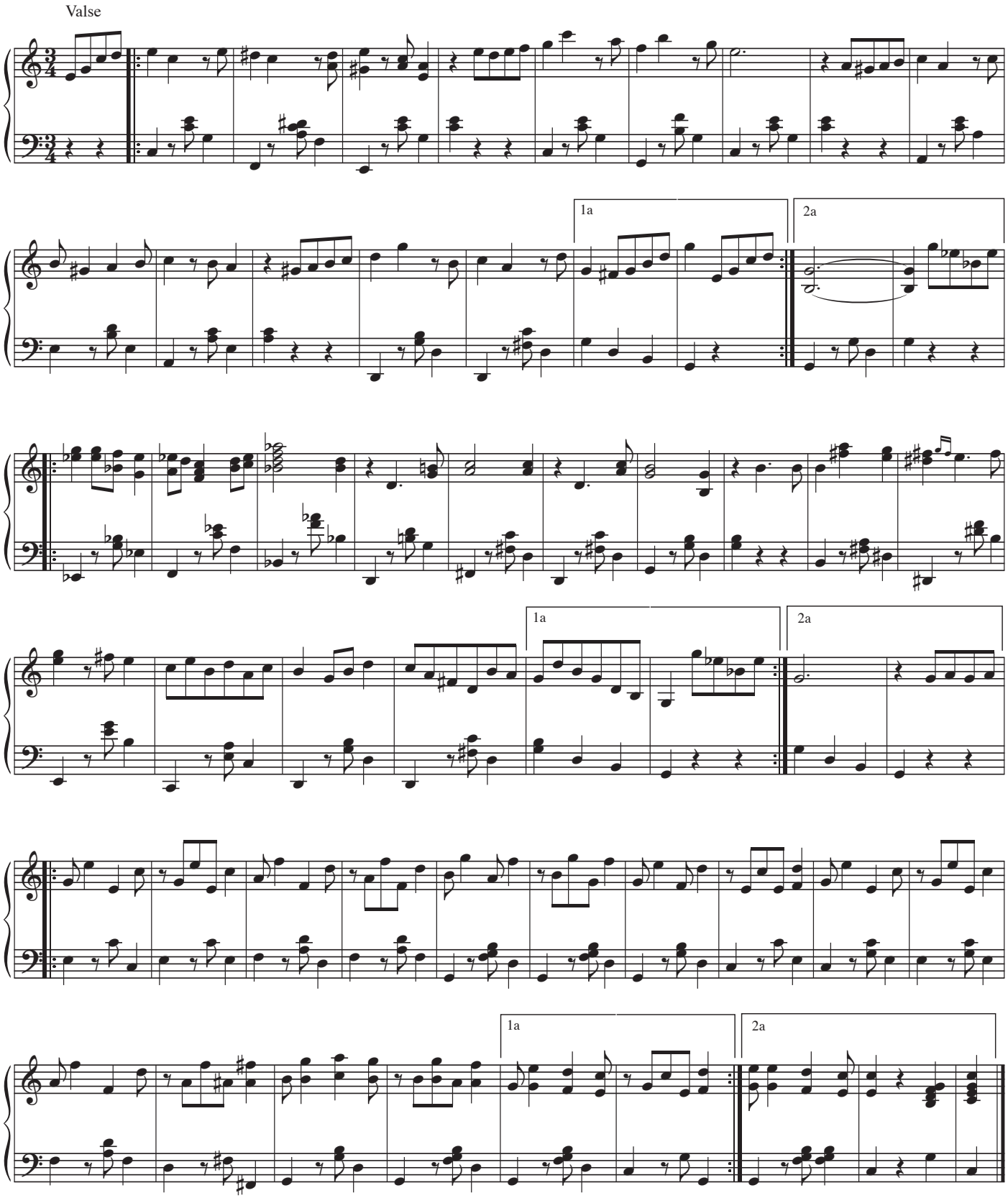
Dedicated to Ivan Moreno




1a
2a
1a
2a

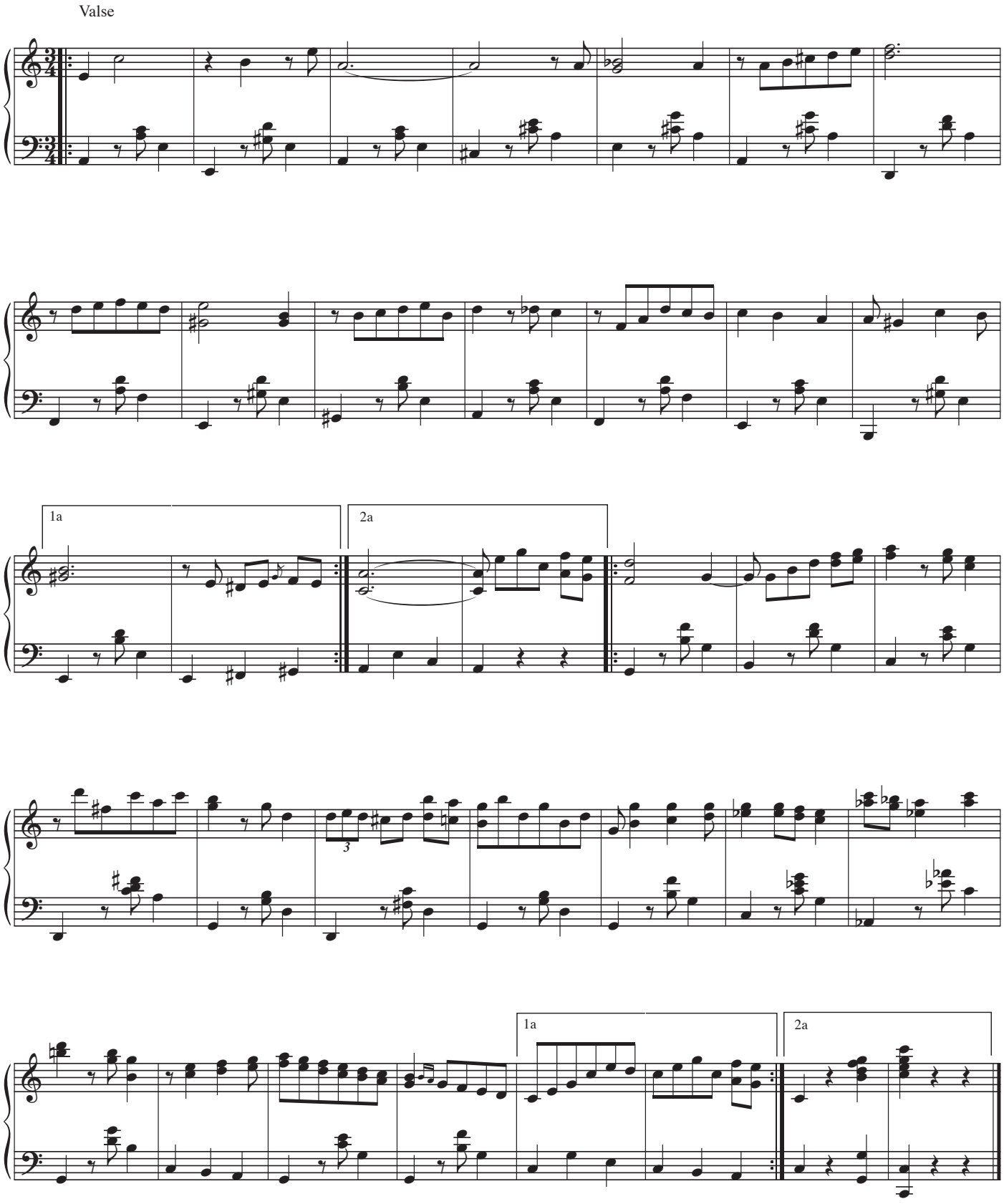
Jeanine

Dedicated to Jeanine Molina on the occasion of her birthday; 2 May 1994

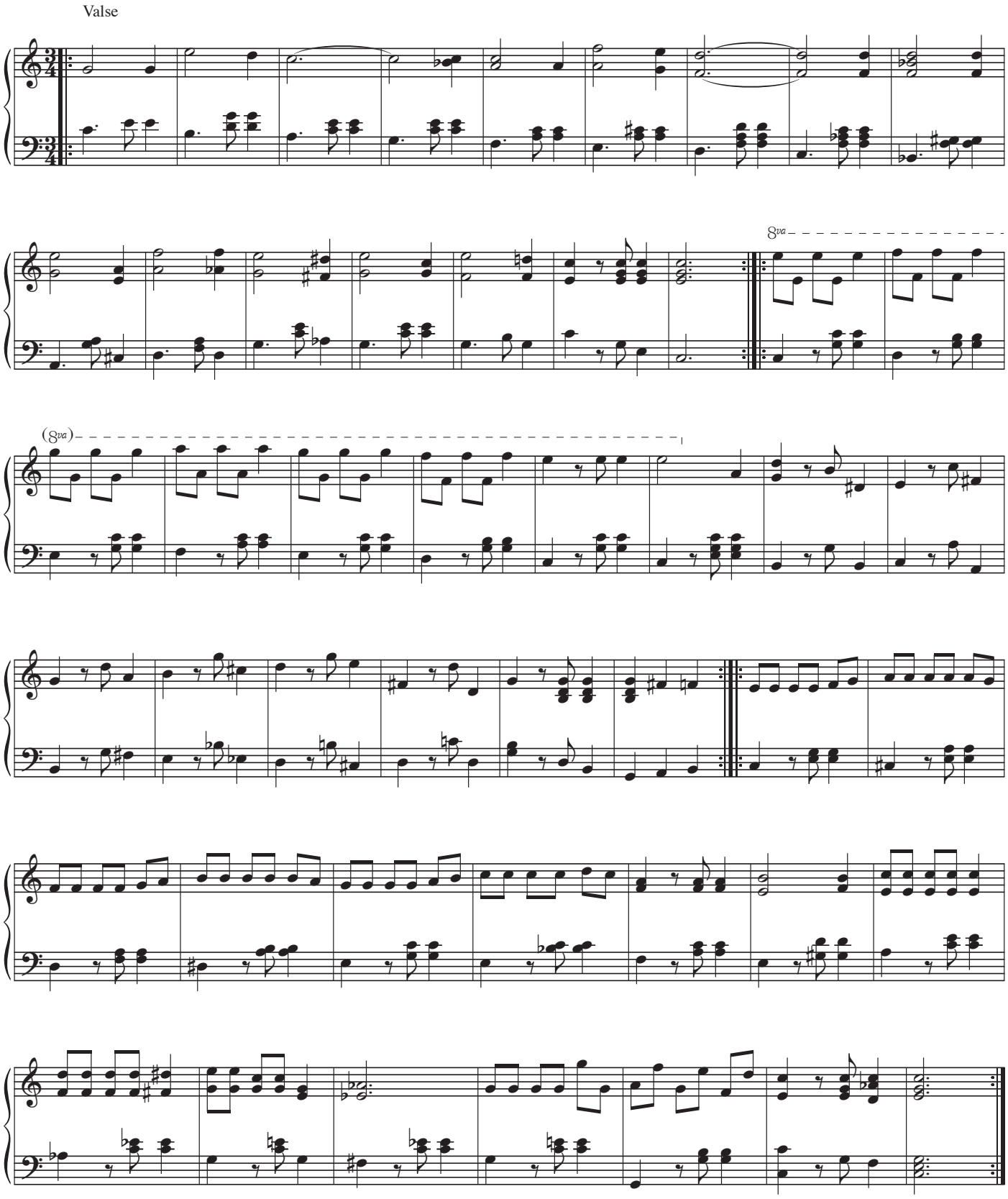


La Academia

Dedicated to Edzel Provence; 2 January 1996

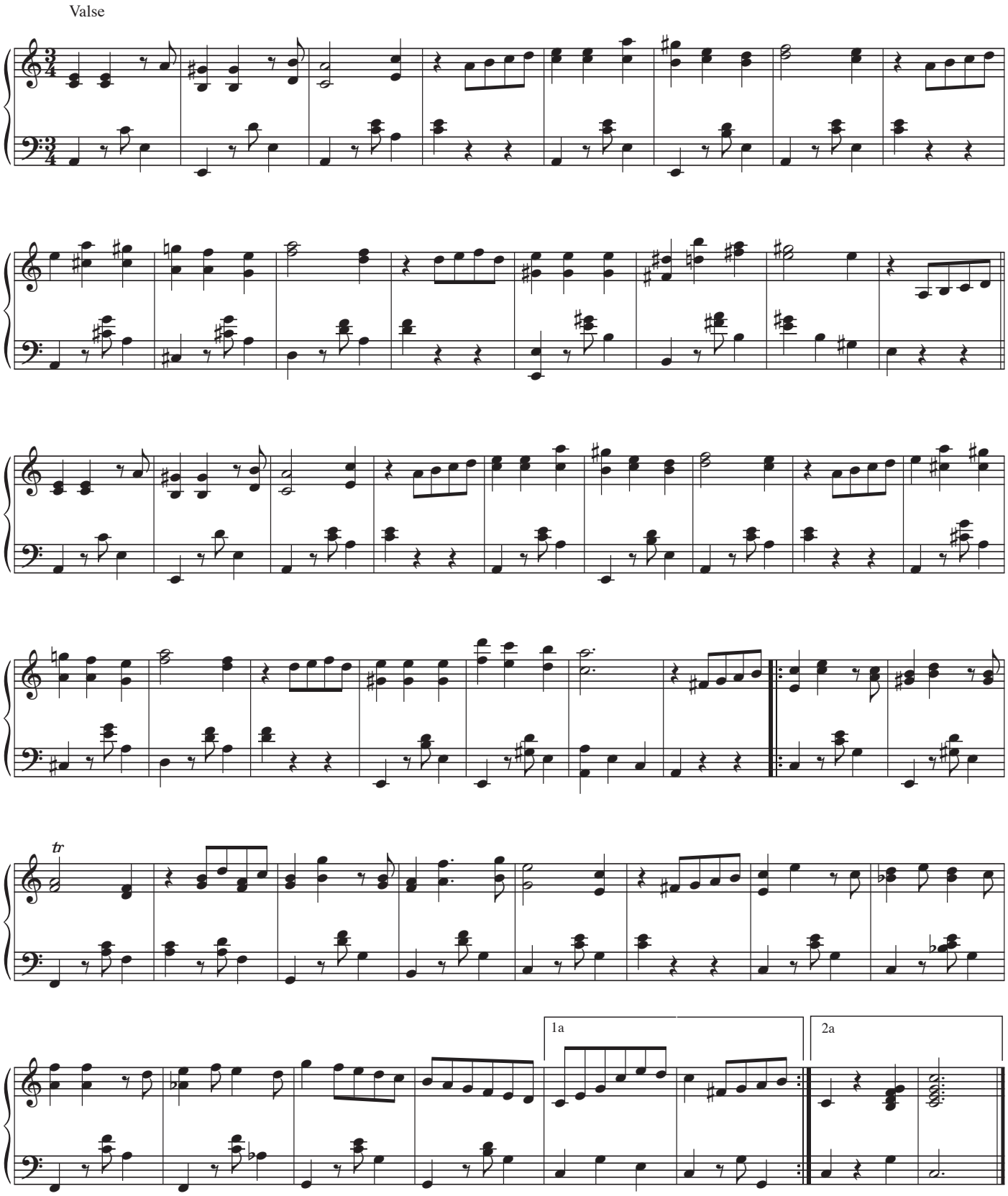


La Lección



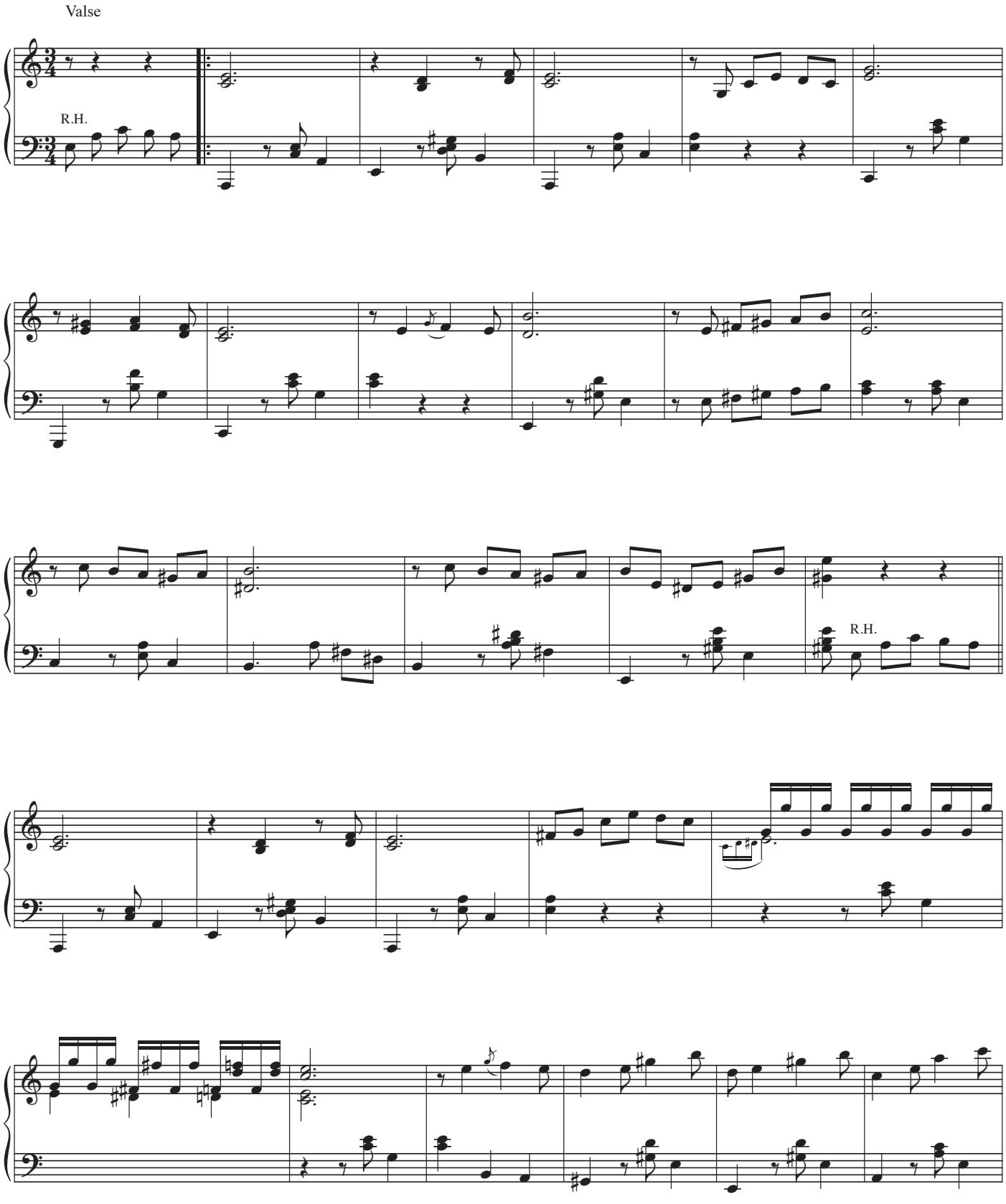
Lara

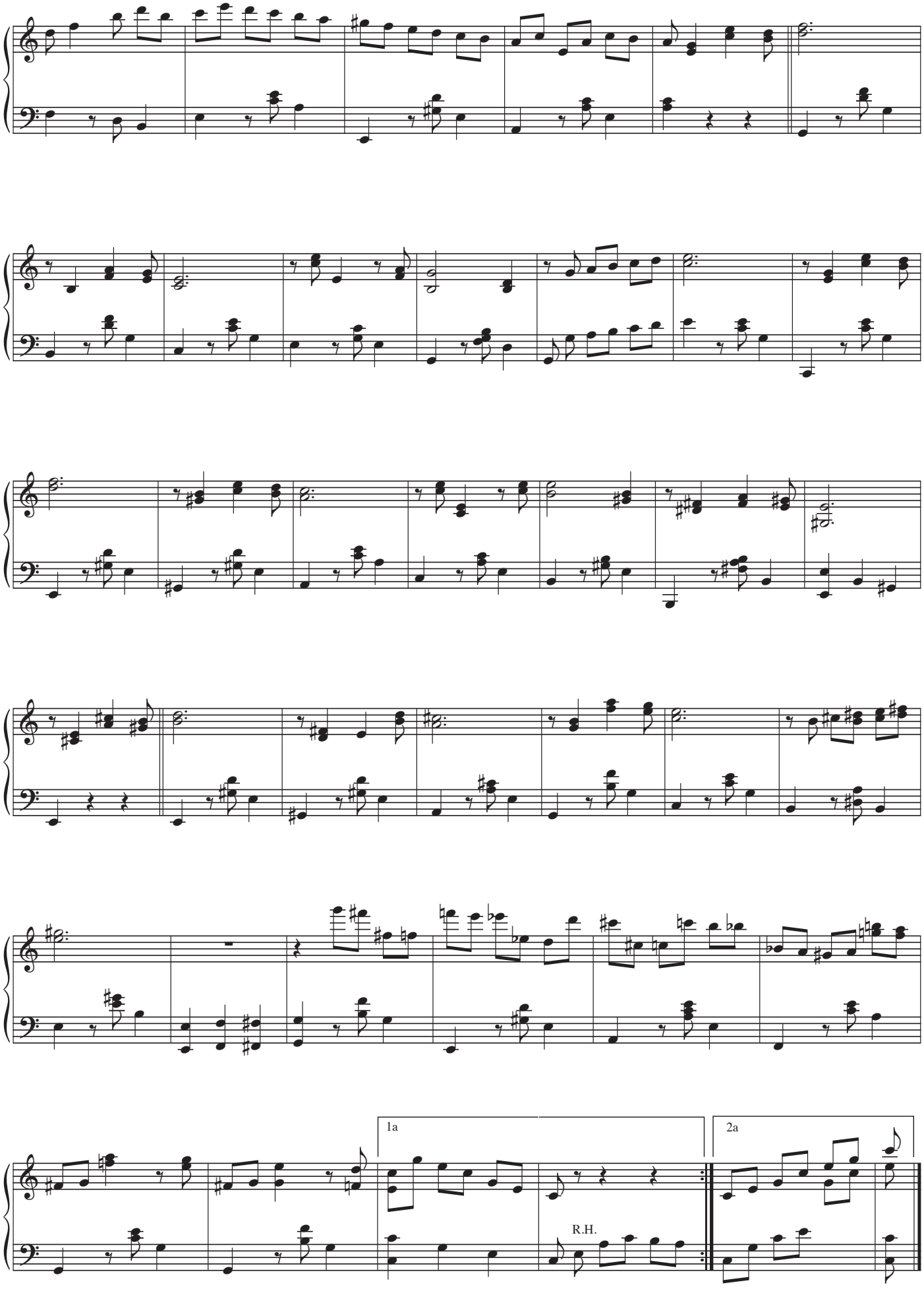
Dedicated to Lara Chirino; 8 December 1993



Maria Cecilia

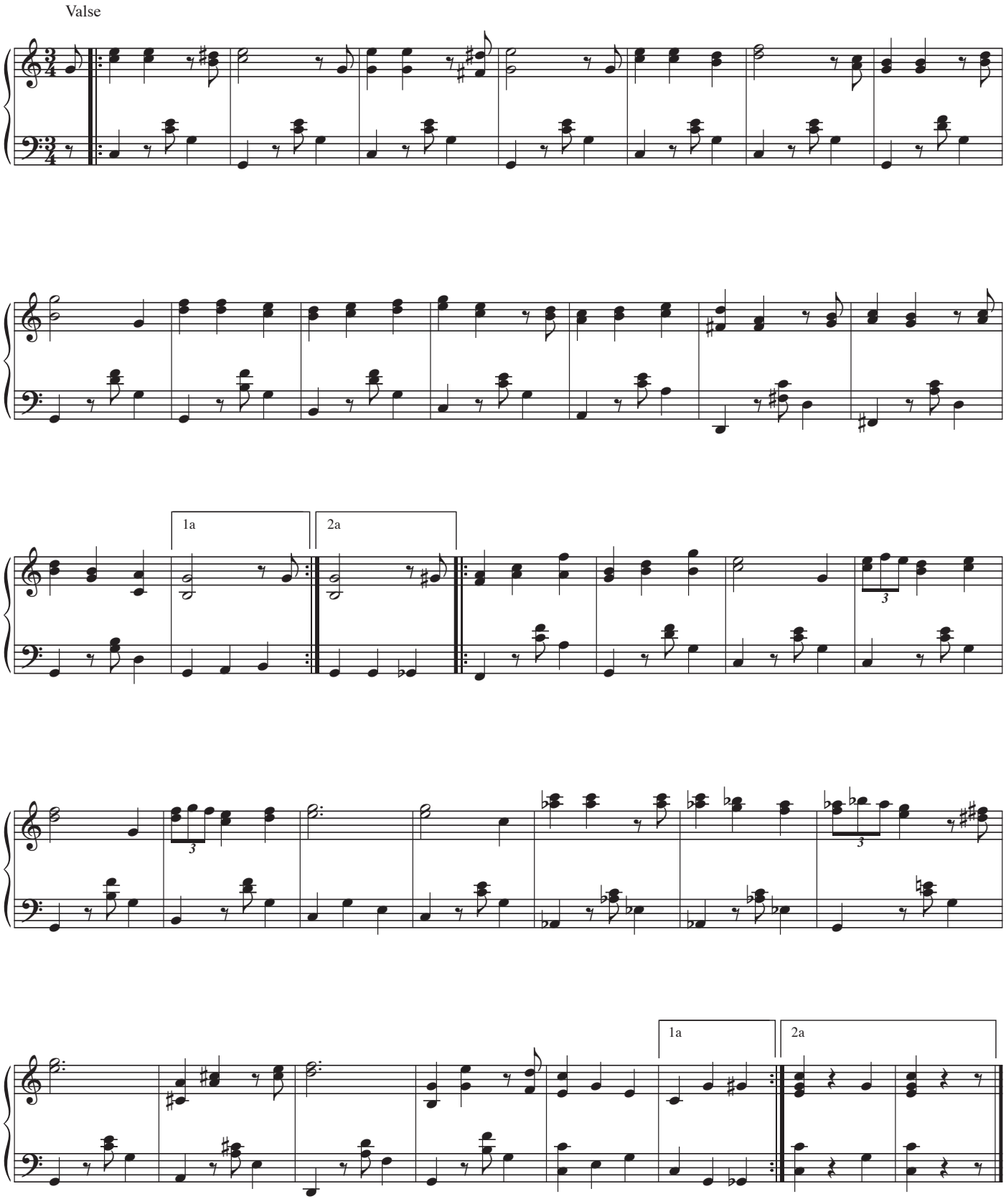
Dedicated to Maria Cecilia Martina; January 1982




1a
2a
R.H.

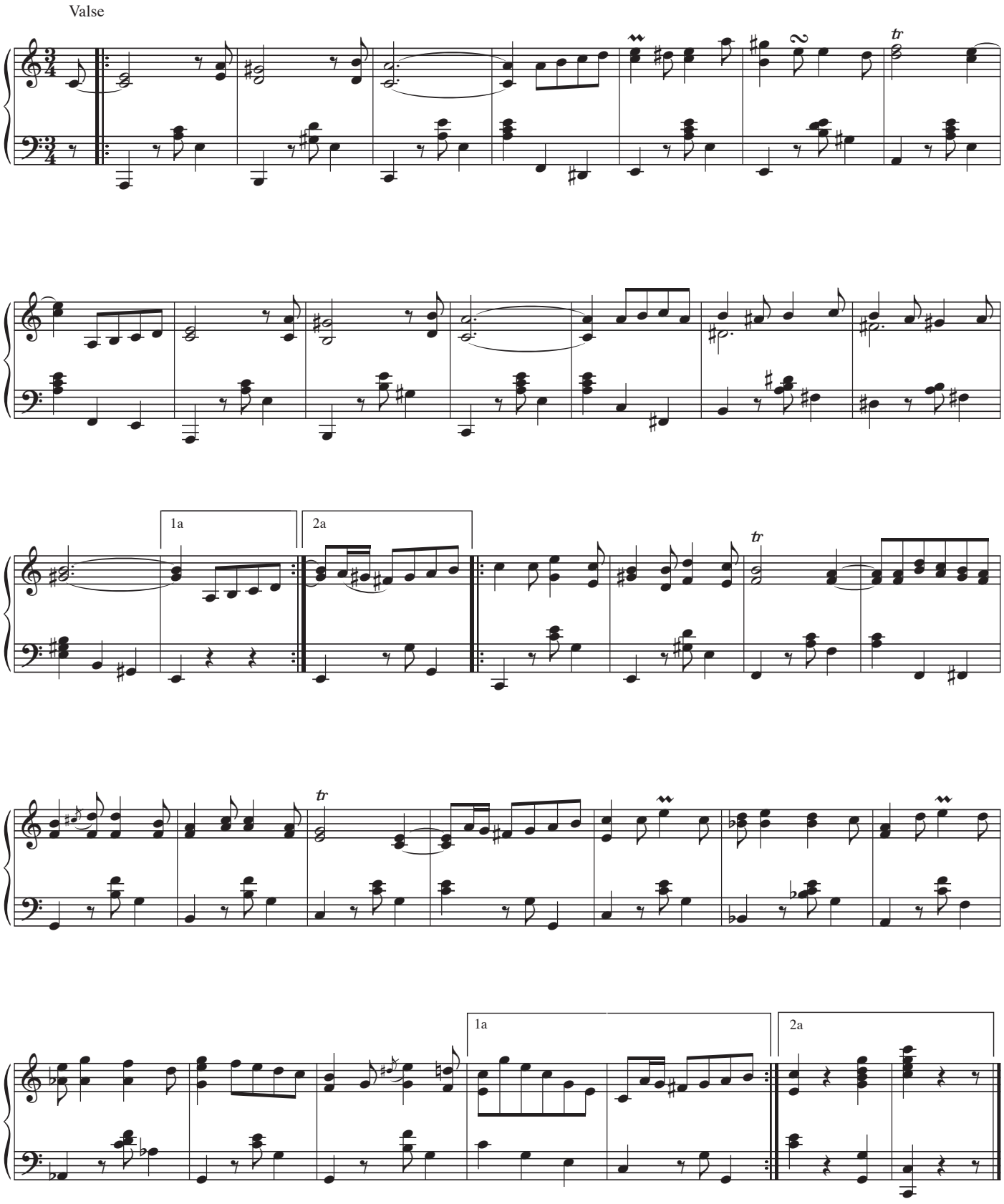
Maria José

Dedicated to Marie-José Eisden; August 1995



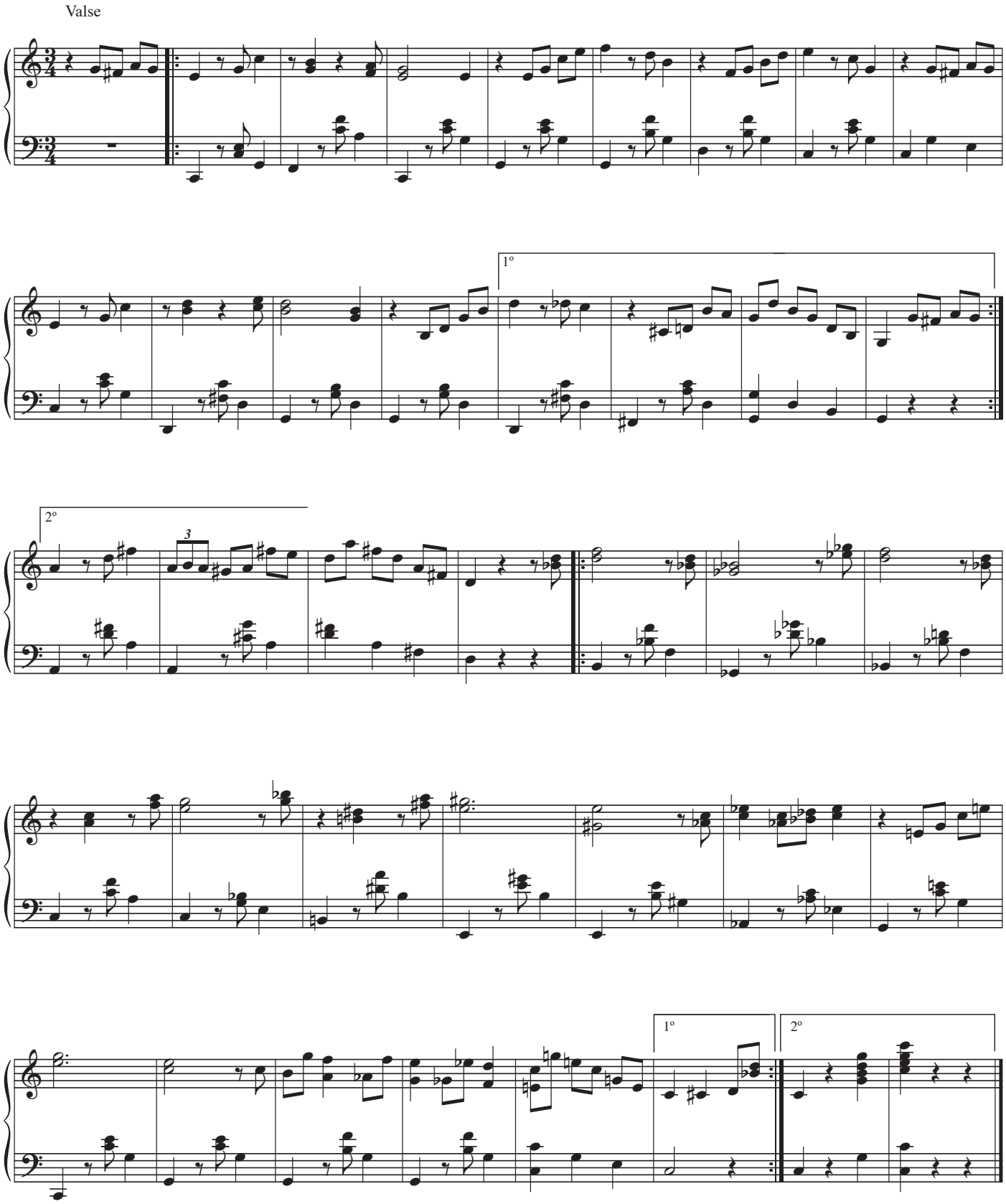
Marjan

Dedicated to Marjan van Beek; 29 August 1982



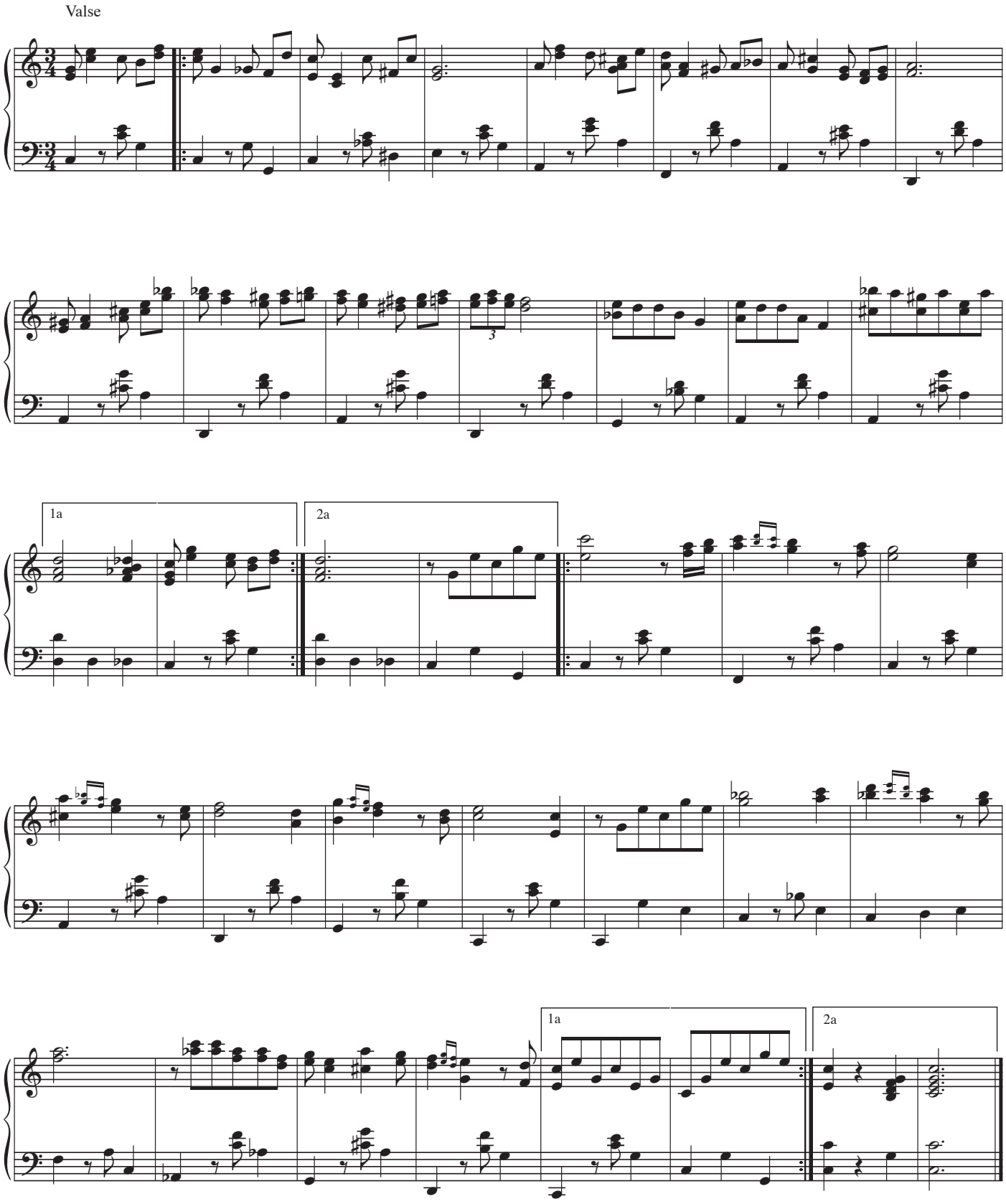
Mayerlinne

23 December 1995



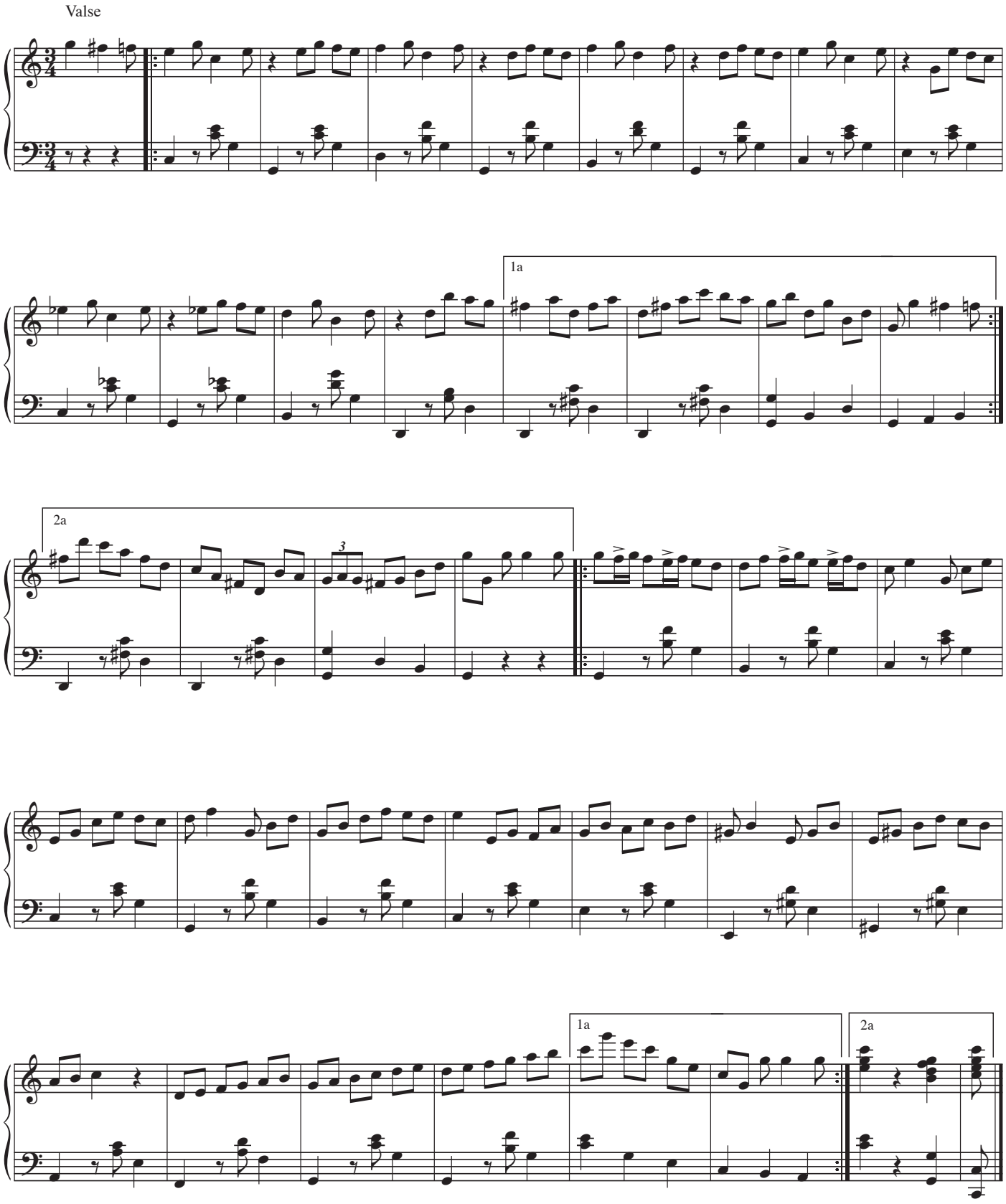
Mia

Dedicated to Mia Eisden; 6 October 1995

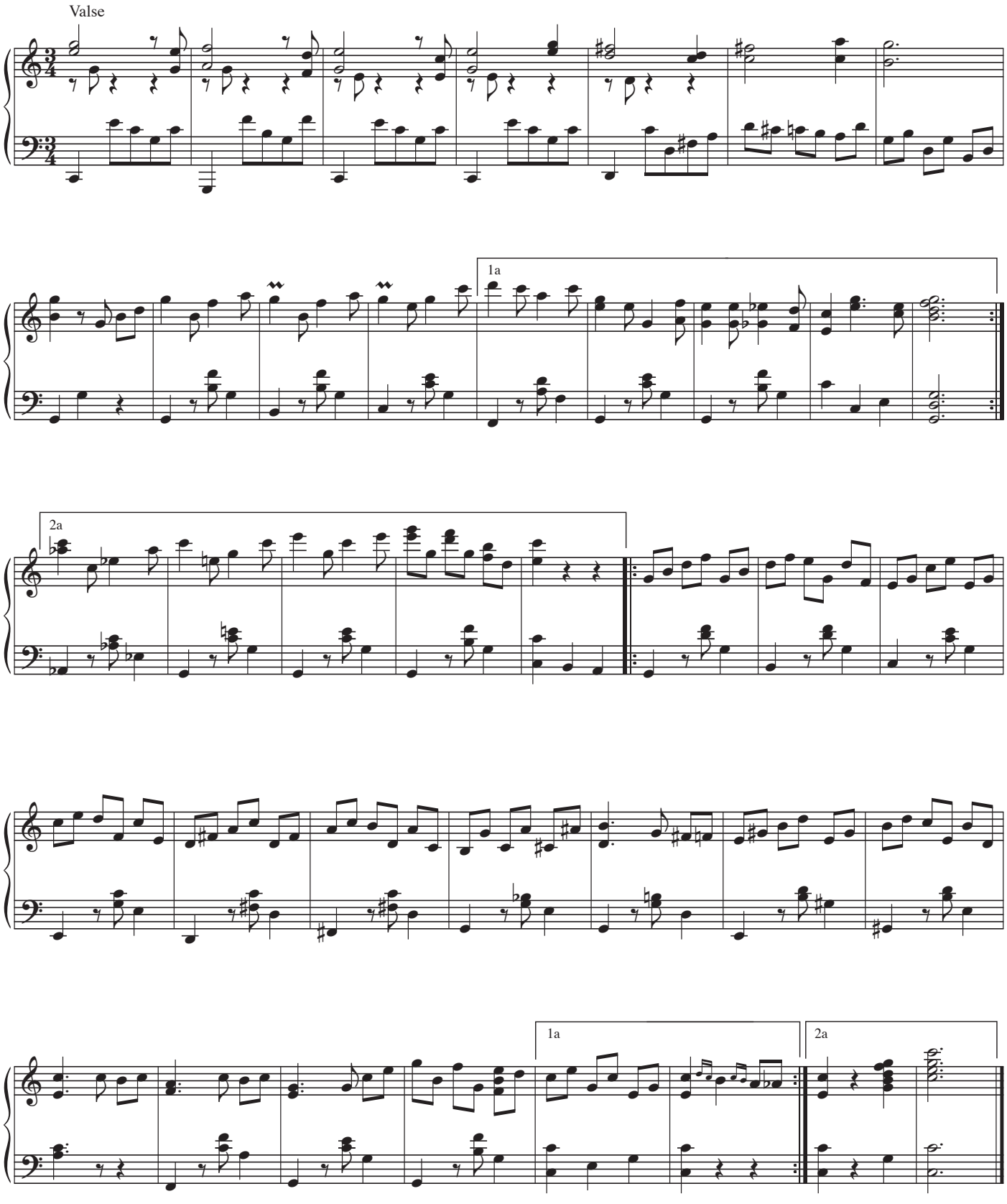


Myrna Carene

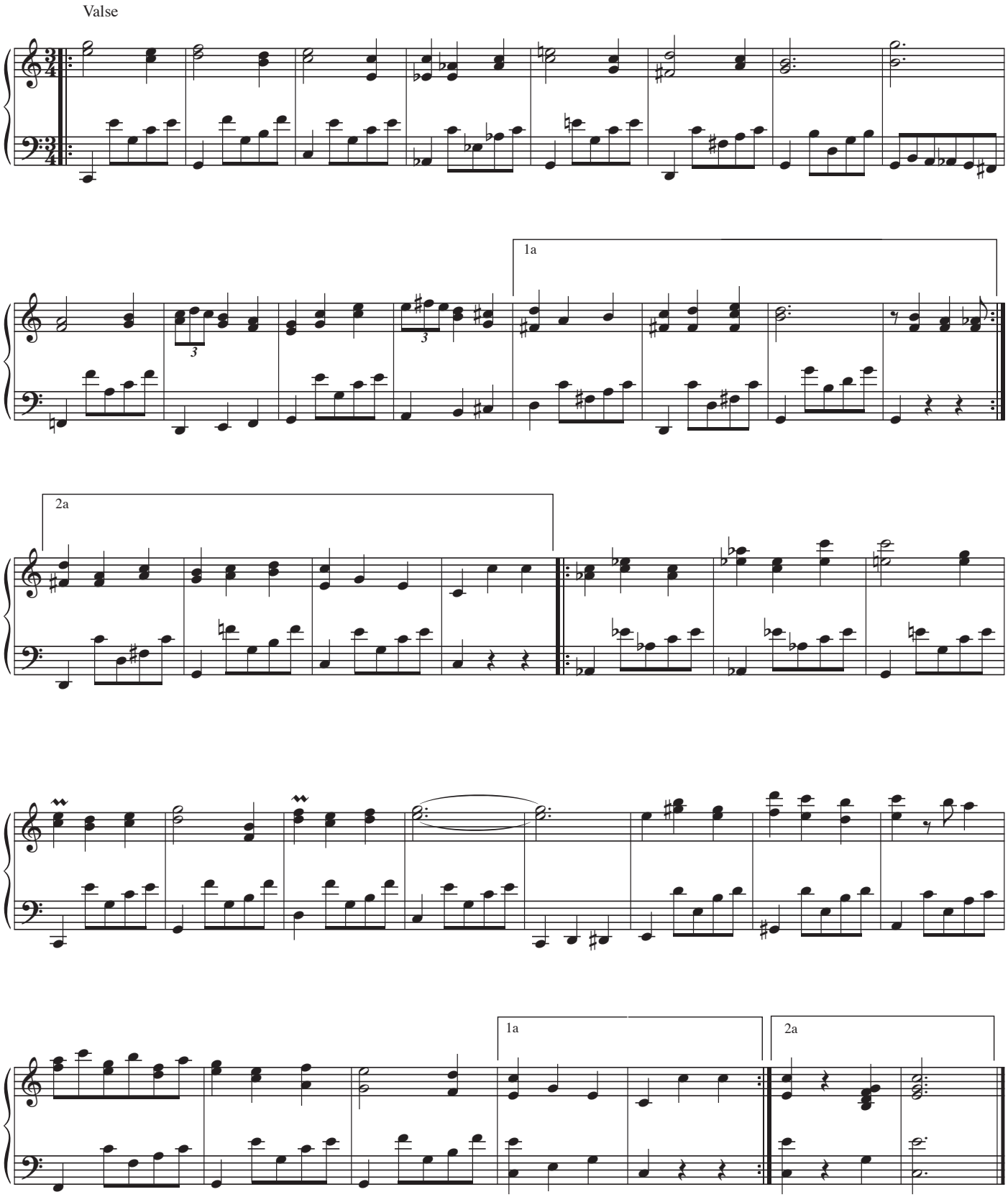
Dedicated to Myrna Moreno-Sprock



Neanja

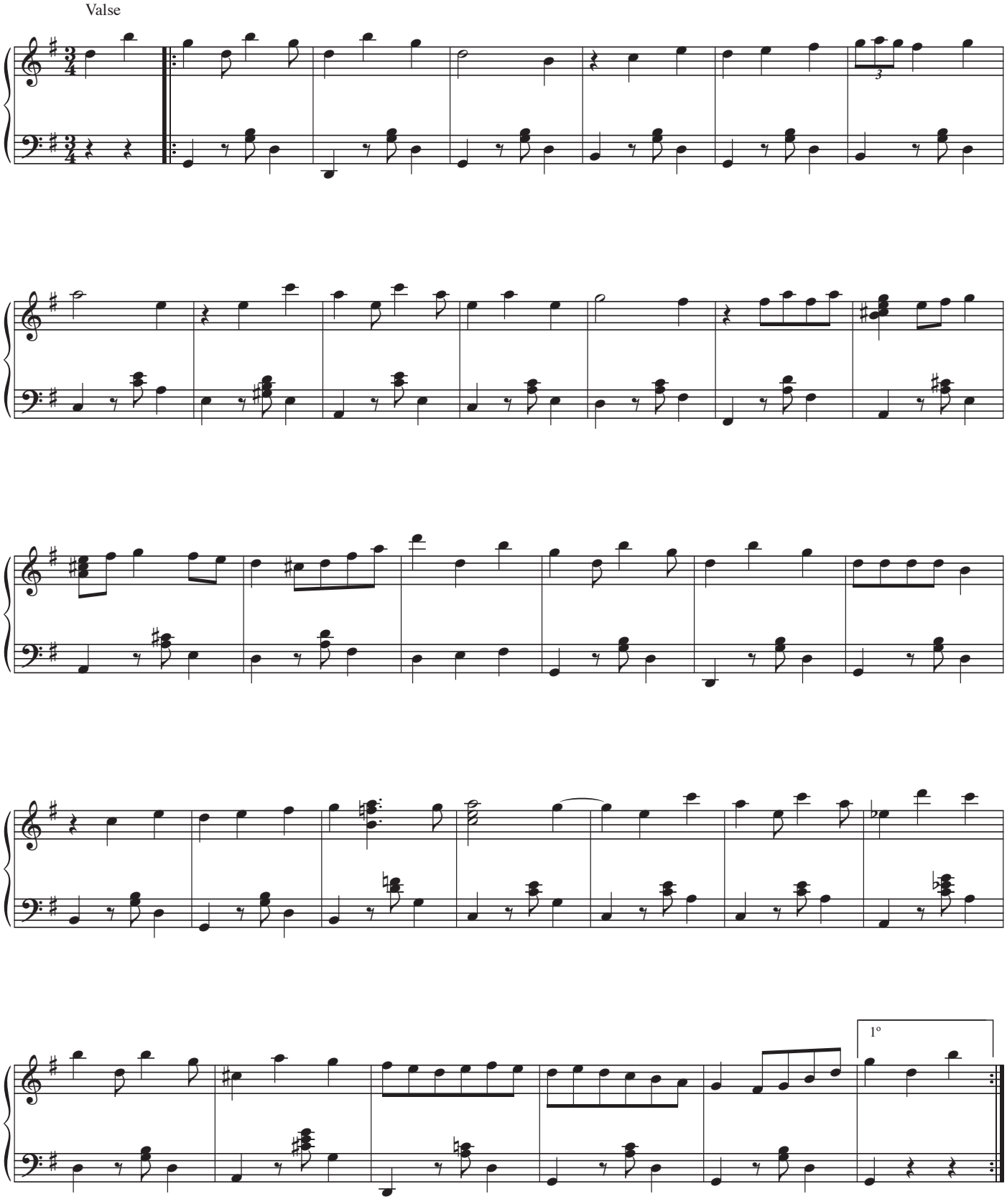


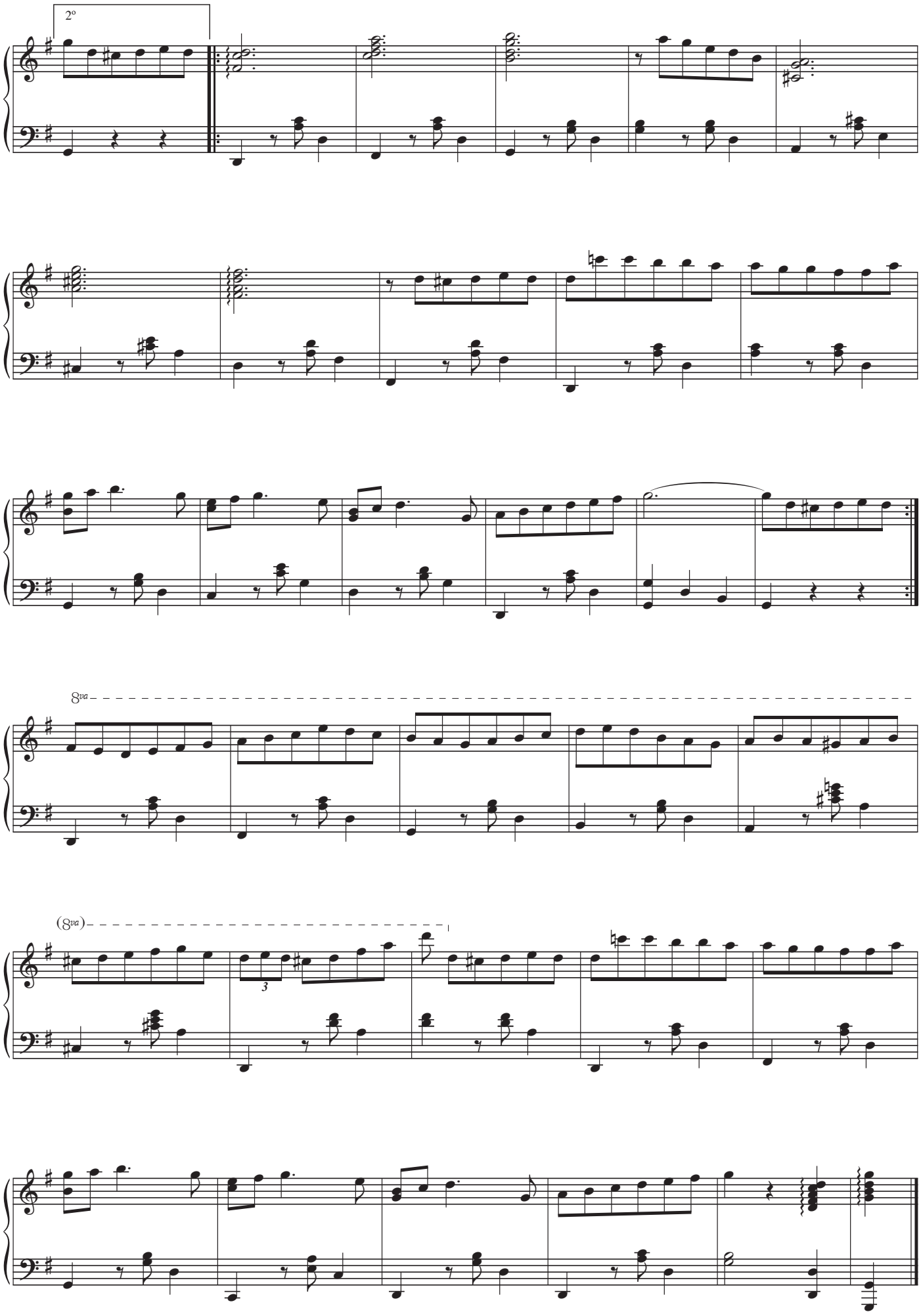
Nina



Norina

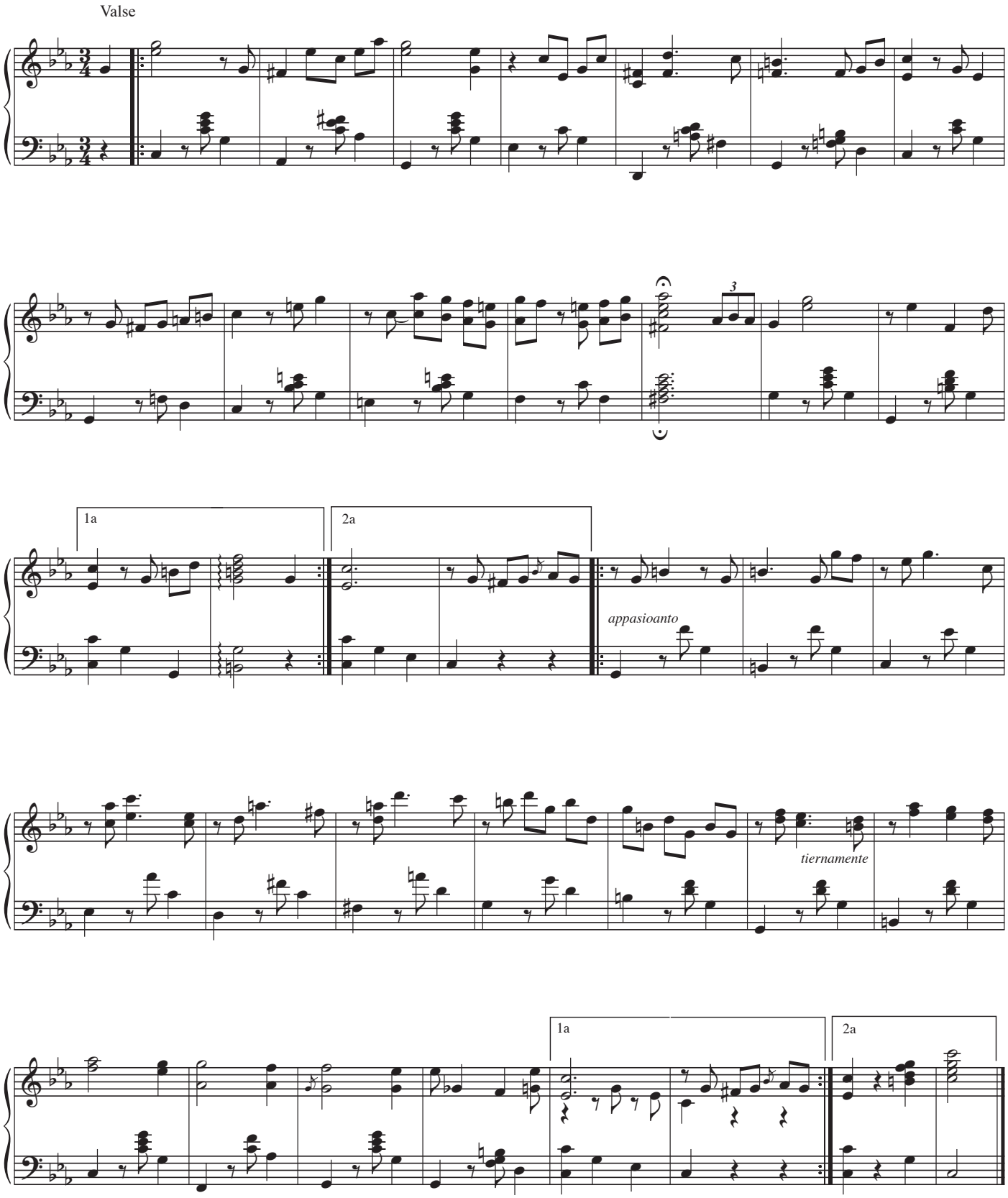
Dedicated to Norina Rojer-Maduro, wife of Edsel Rojer




2º
8va
(8va)
3

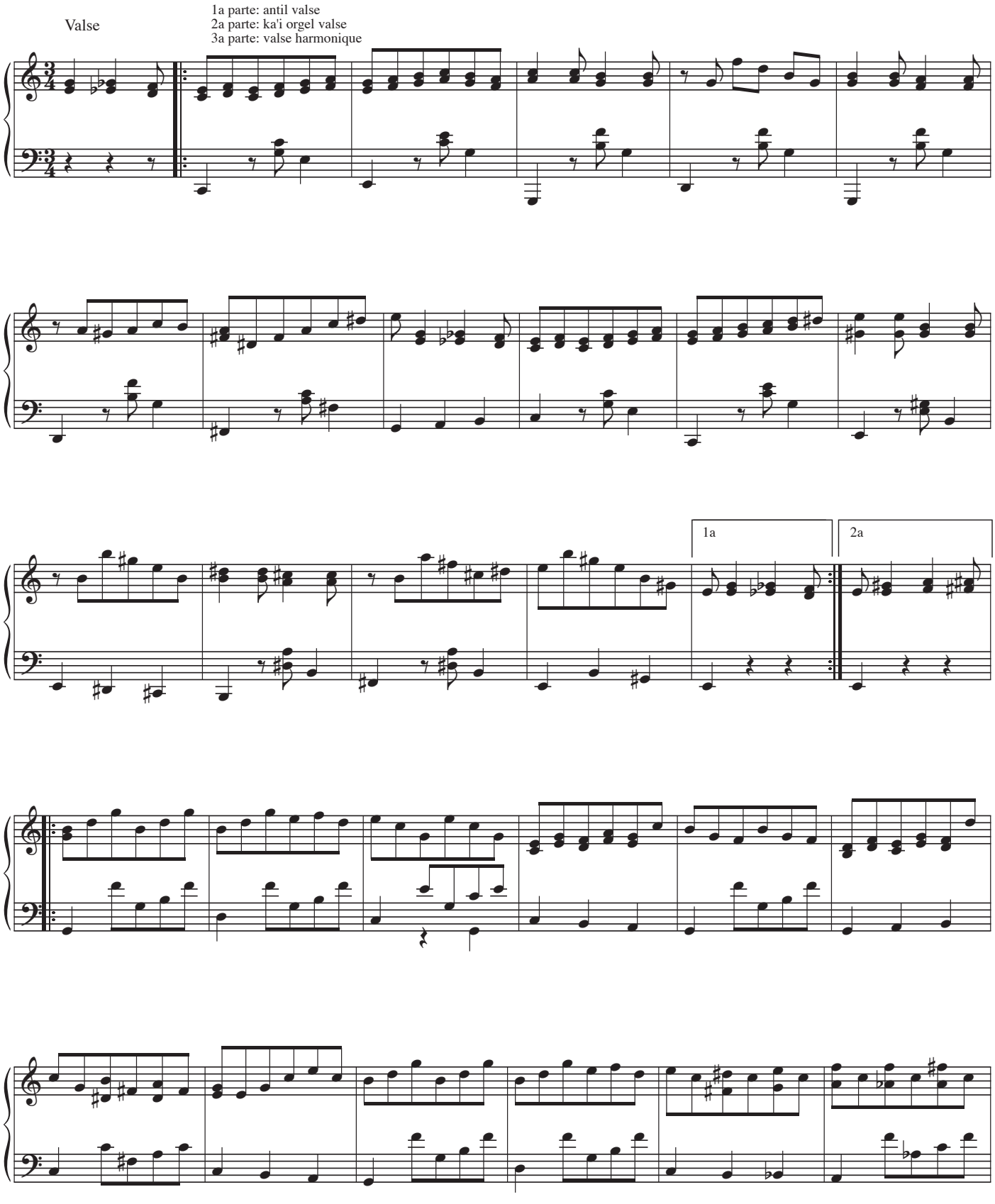
Padú

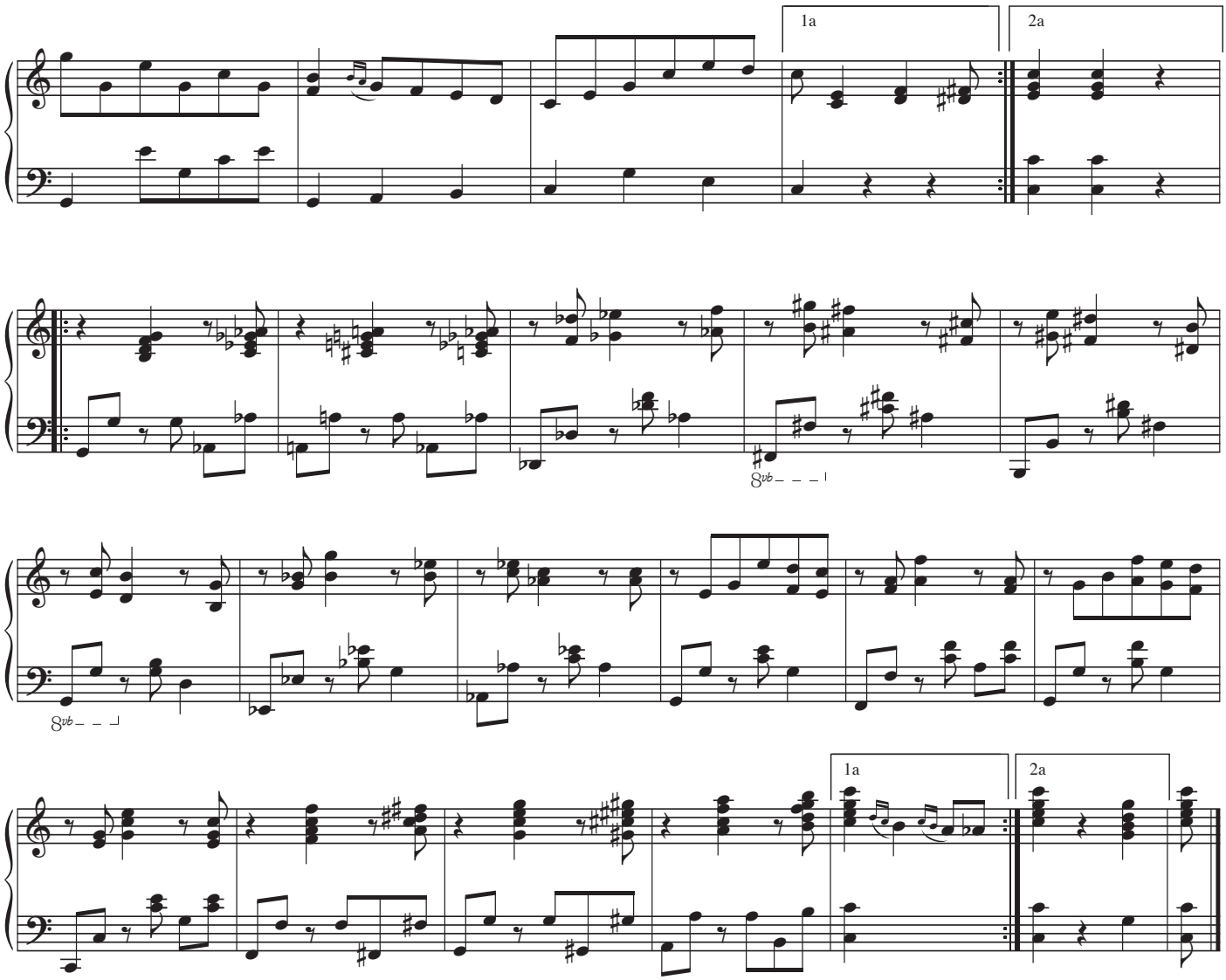
Dedicated to Juan Chabaya (Padú) Lampe



Palmar

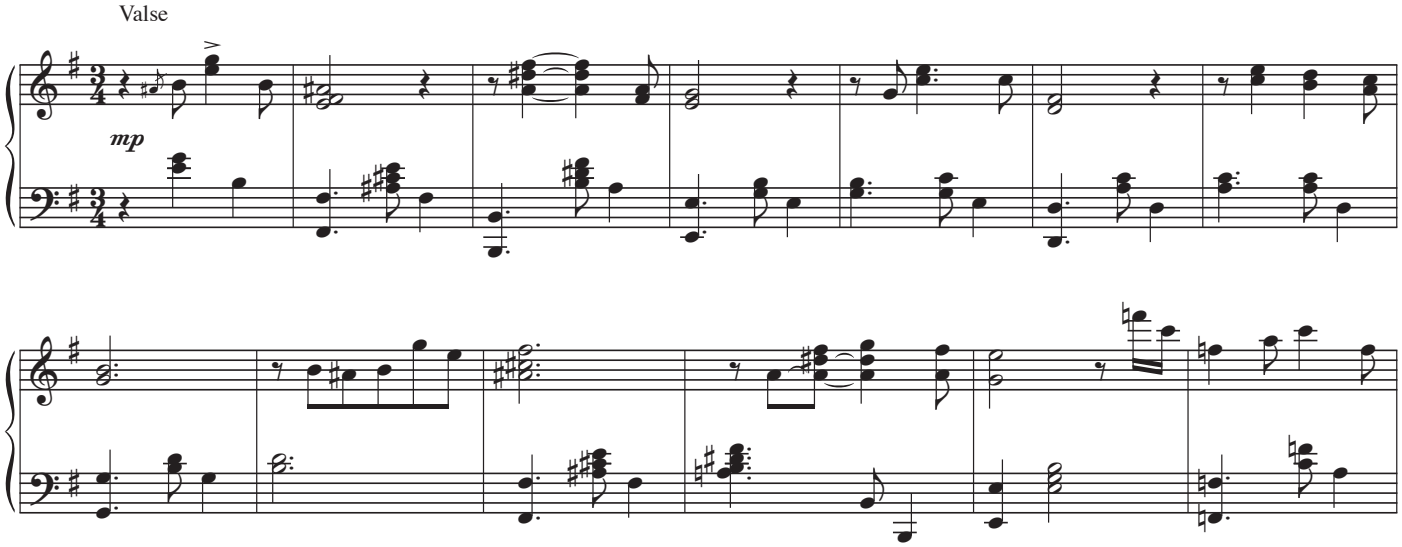
July 1995

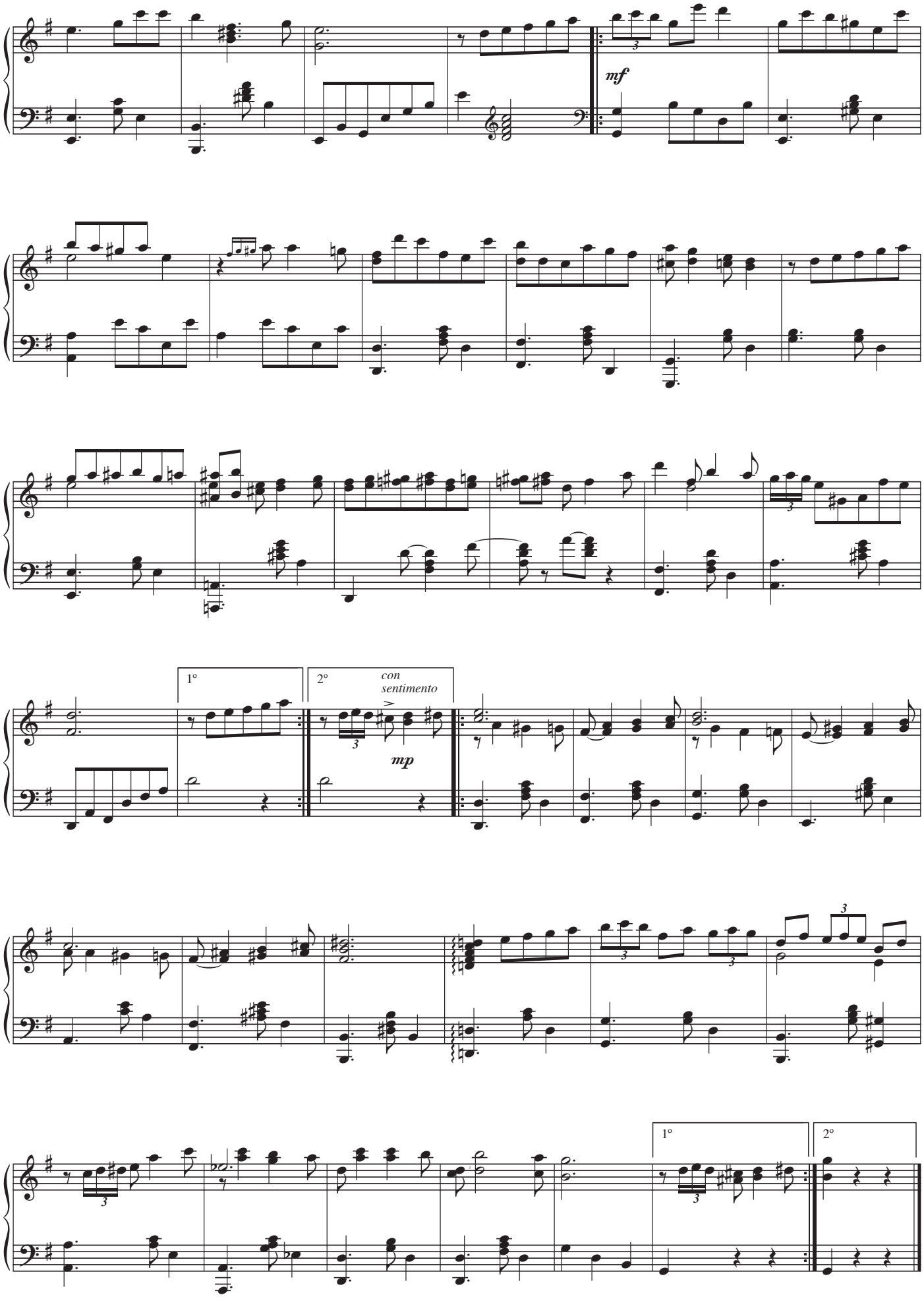




Princesita

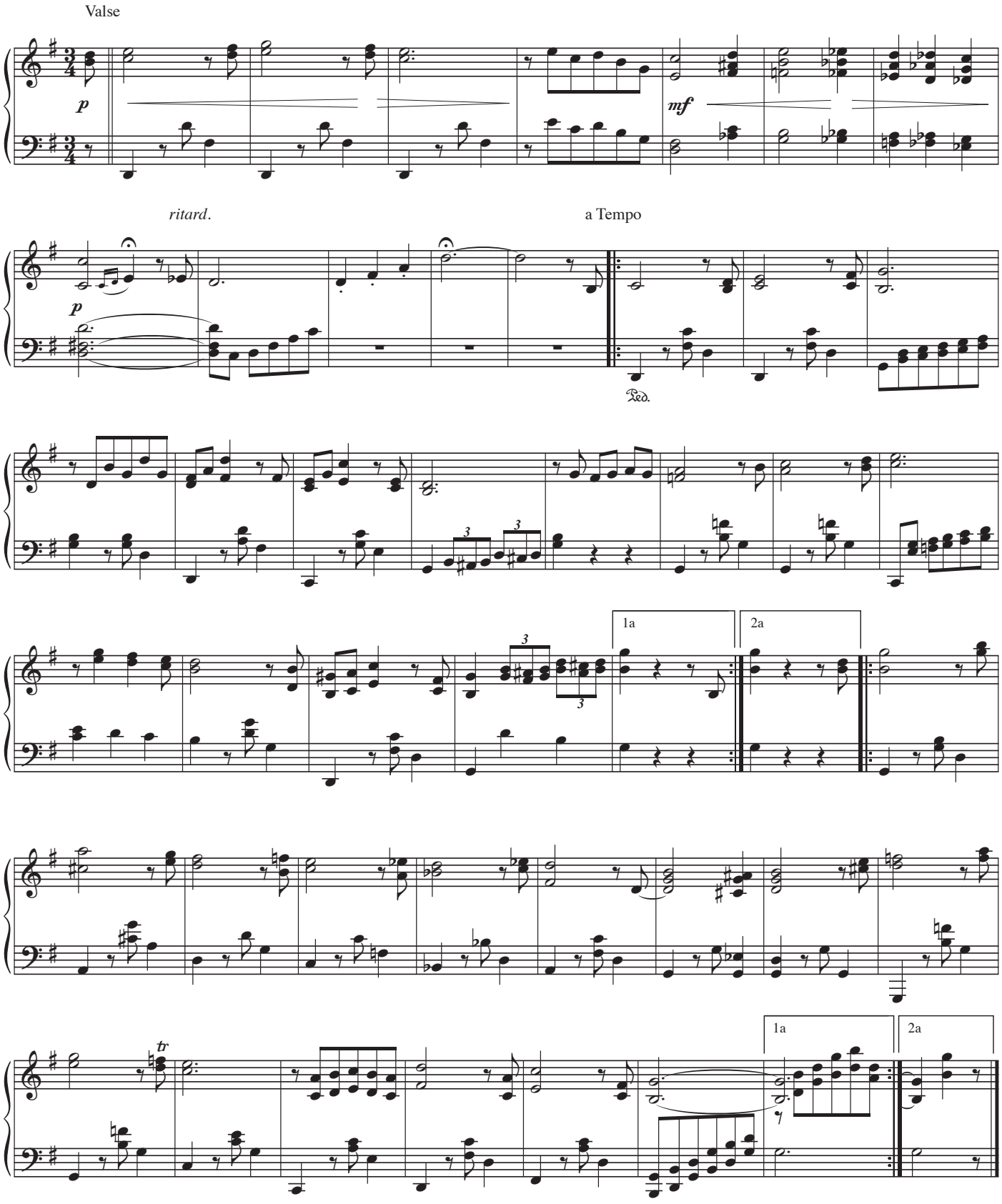
Dedicated to Edita Prince-Suares, wife of Toni Prince




mf
1º
2º
con
sentimento
mp
1º
2º

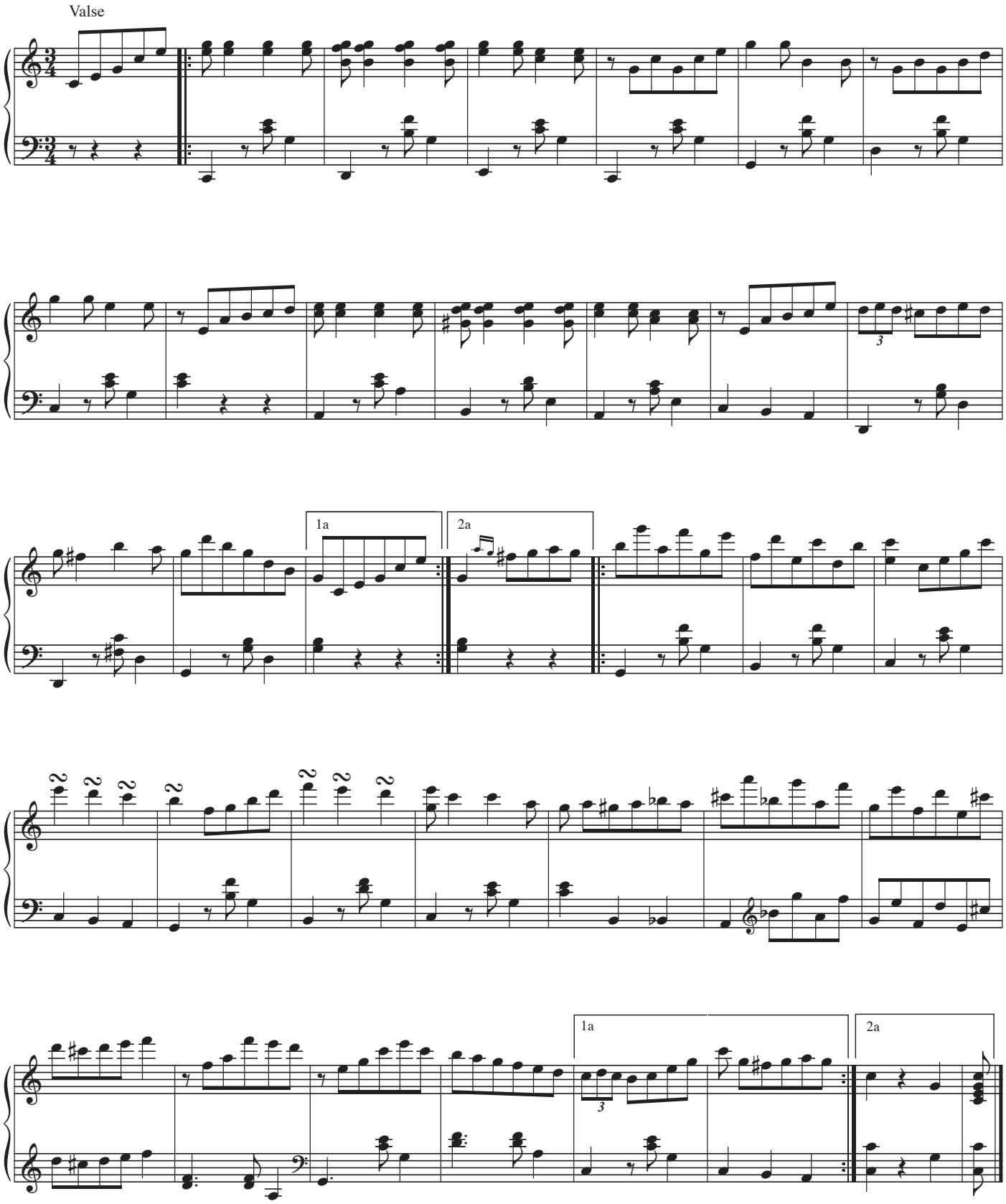
Romance (Buchi Fil y Nena)

1967



The Computer Master

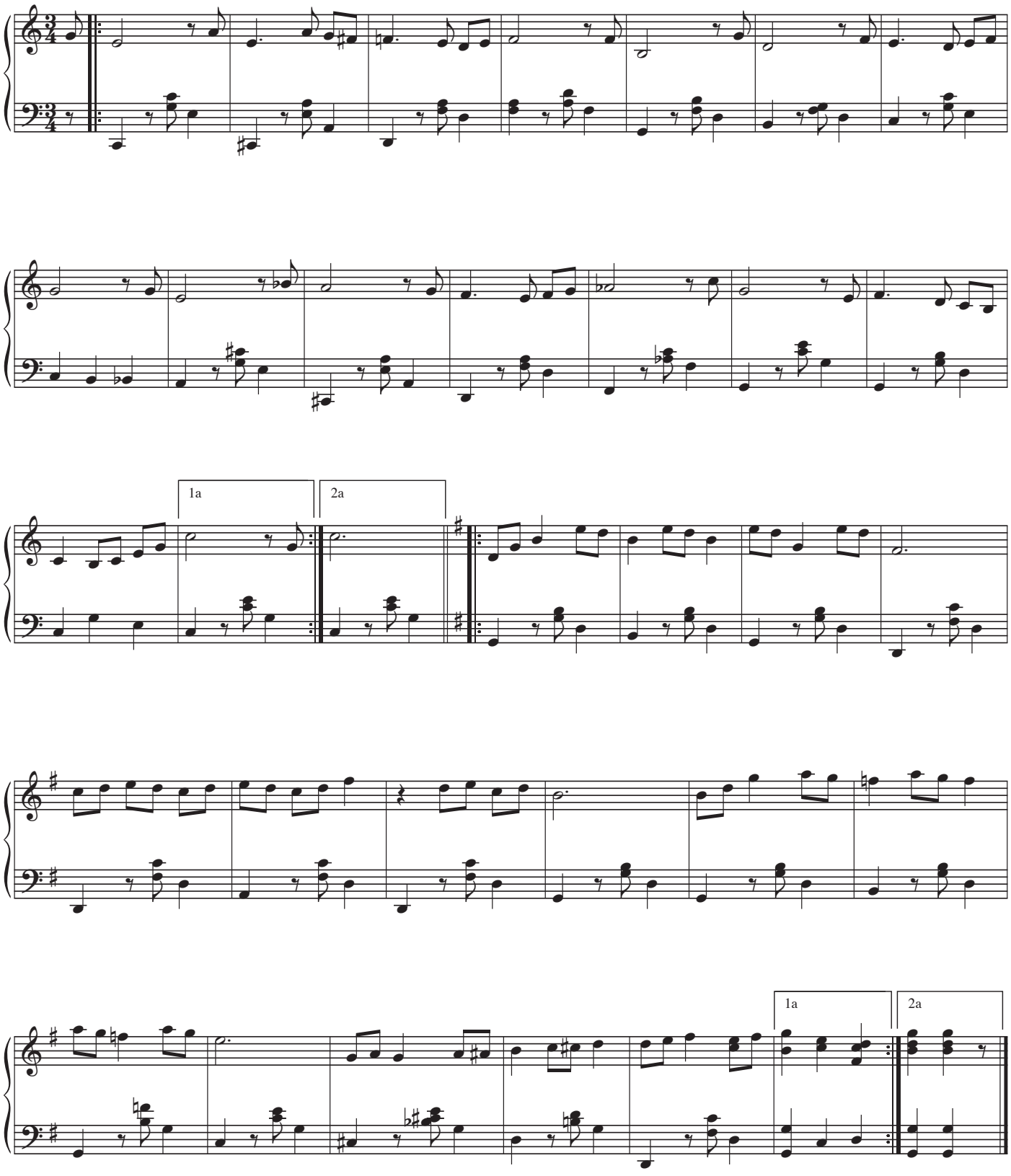
Dedicated to Anthony Palm, son of Edgar Palm; 8 November 1995



Tingilingi Box

Tingilingi Box

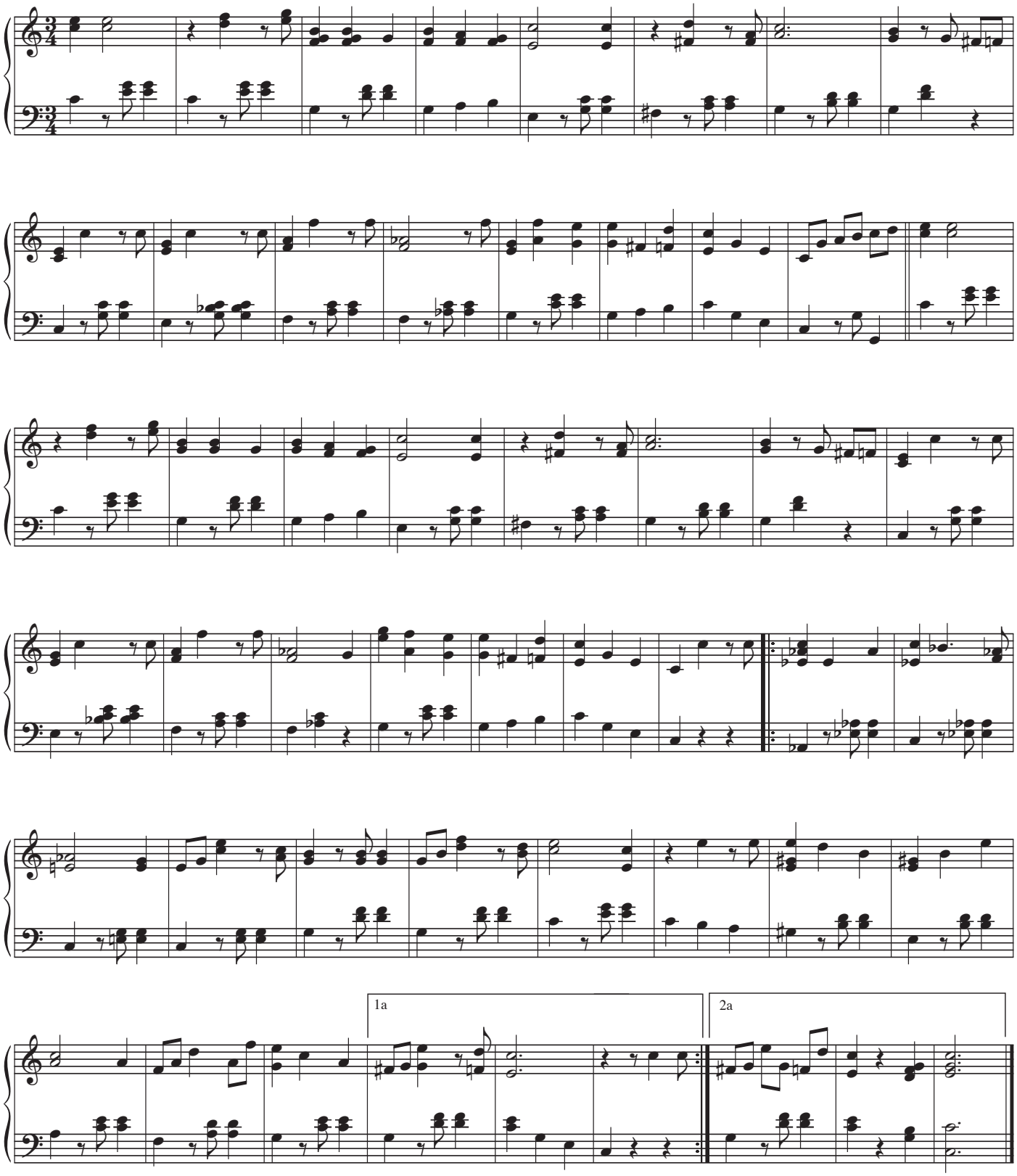
Valse 1982



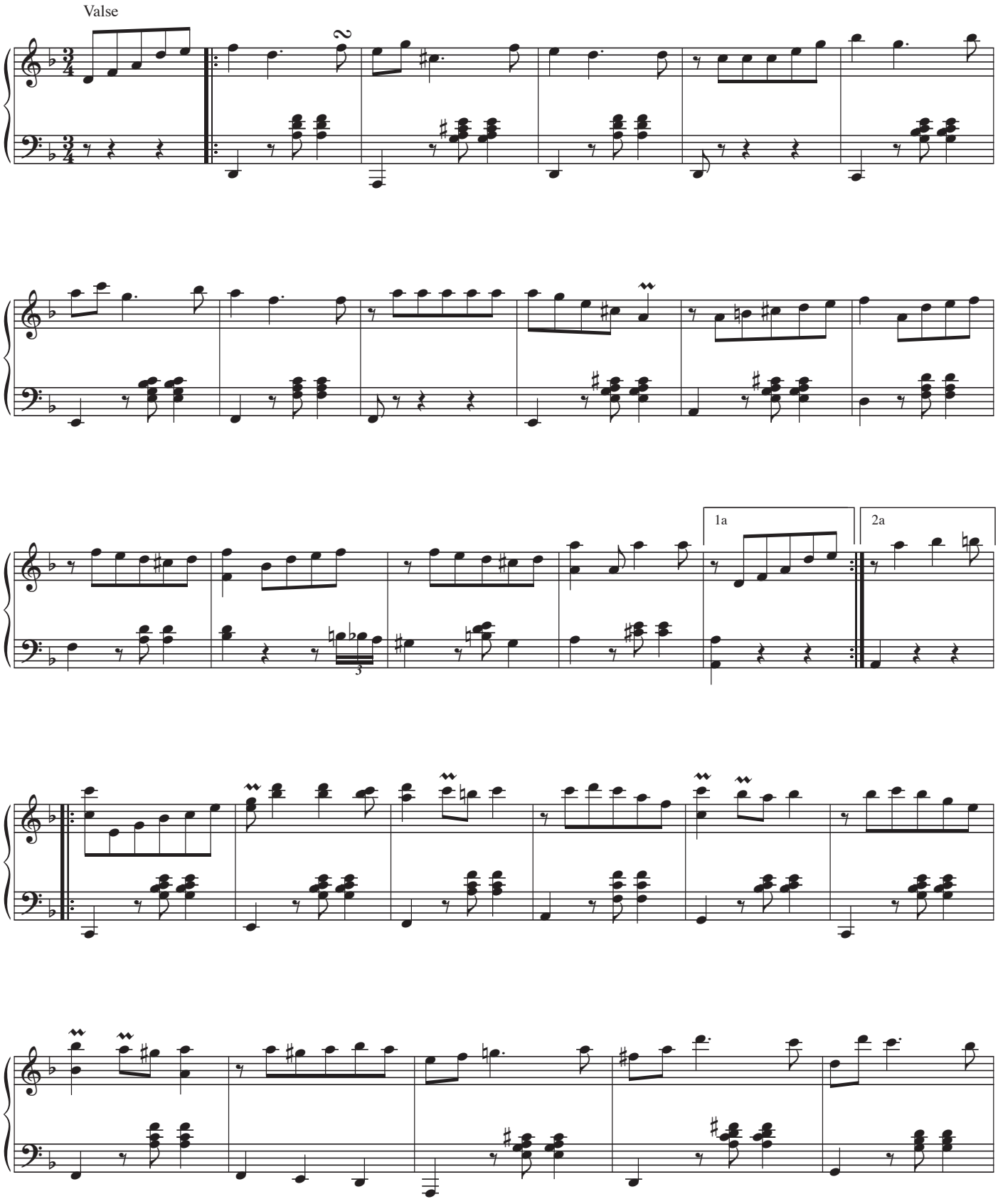
Tu Sonrisa

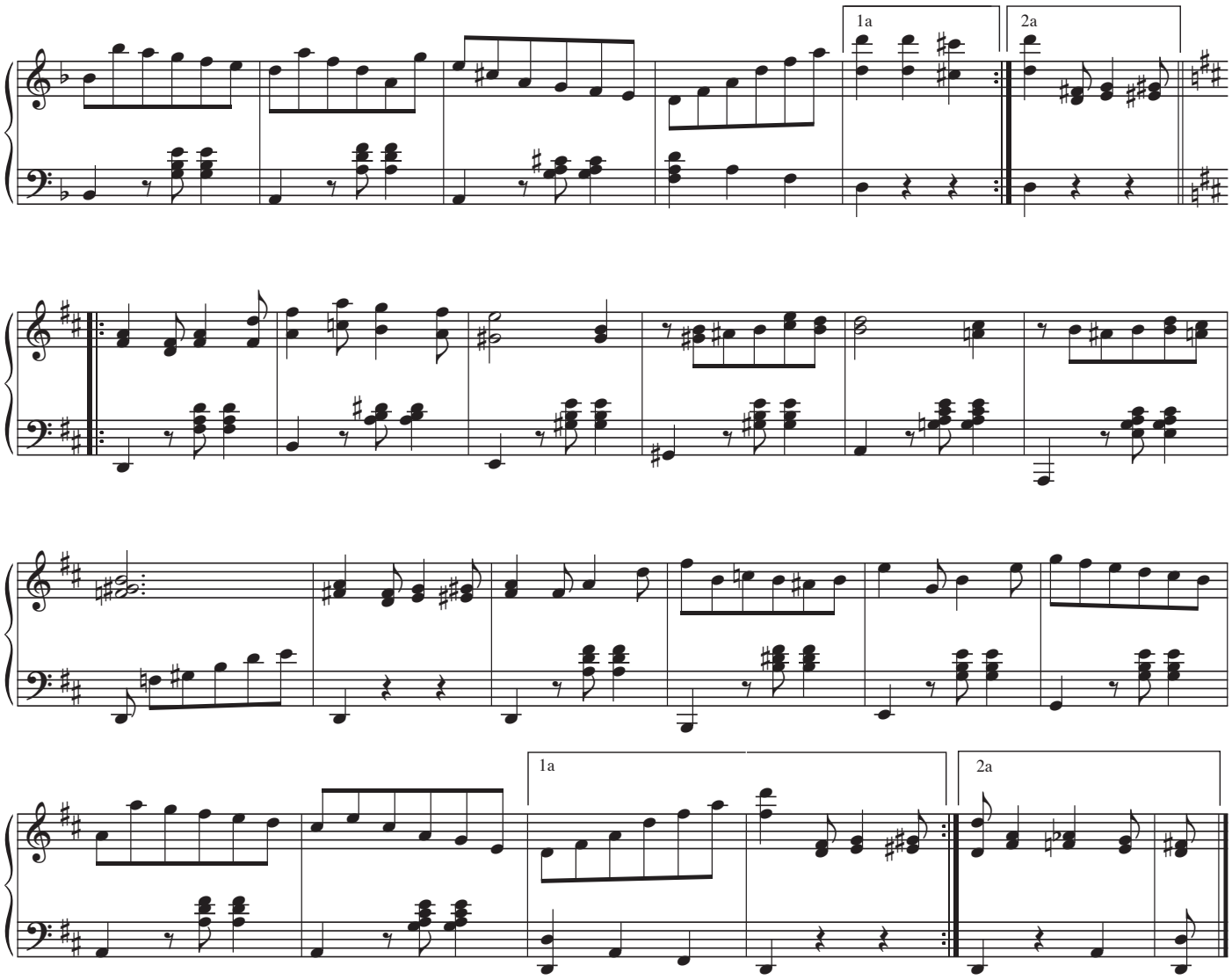
Dedicated to Dieuwke Molenaar; 15 April 1993

Valse

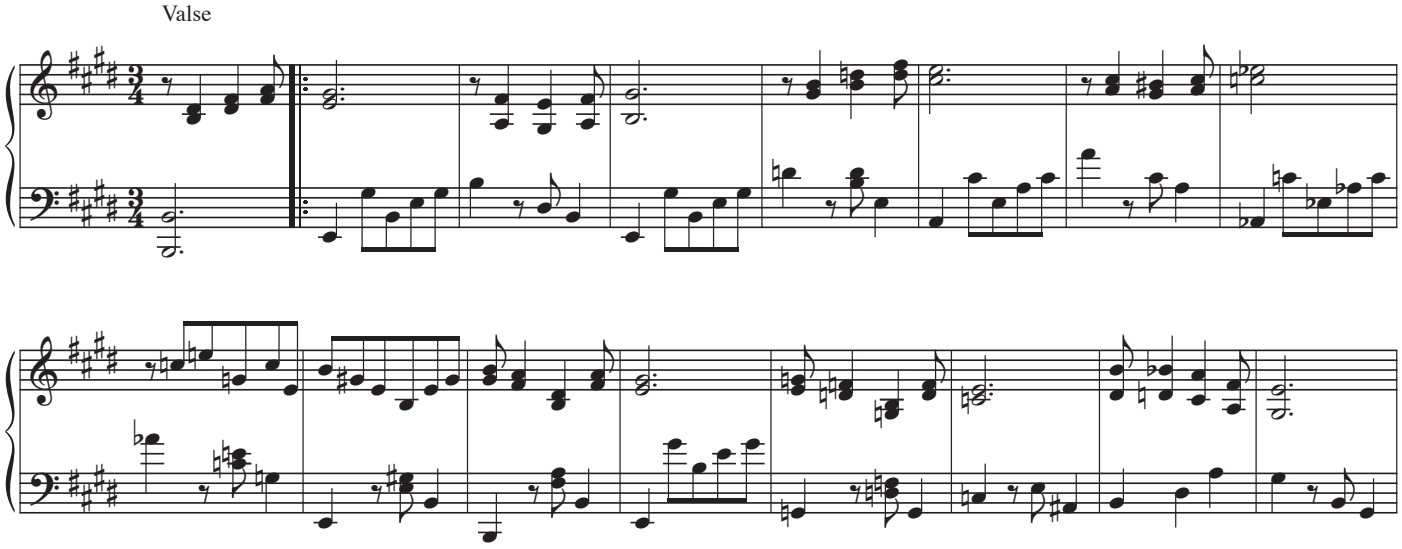


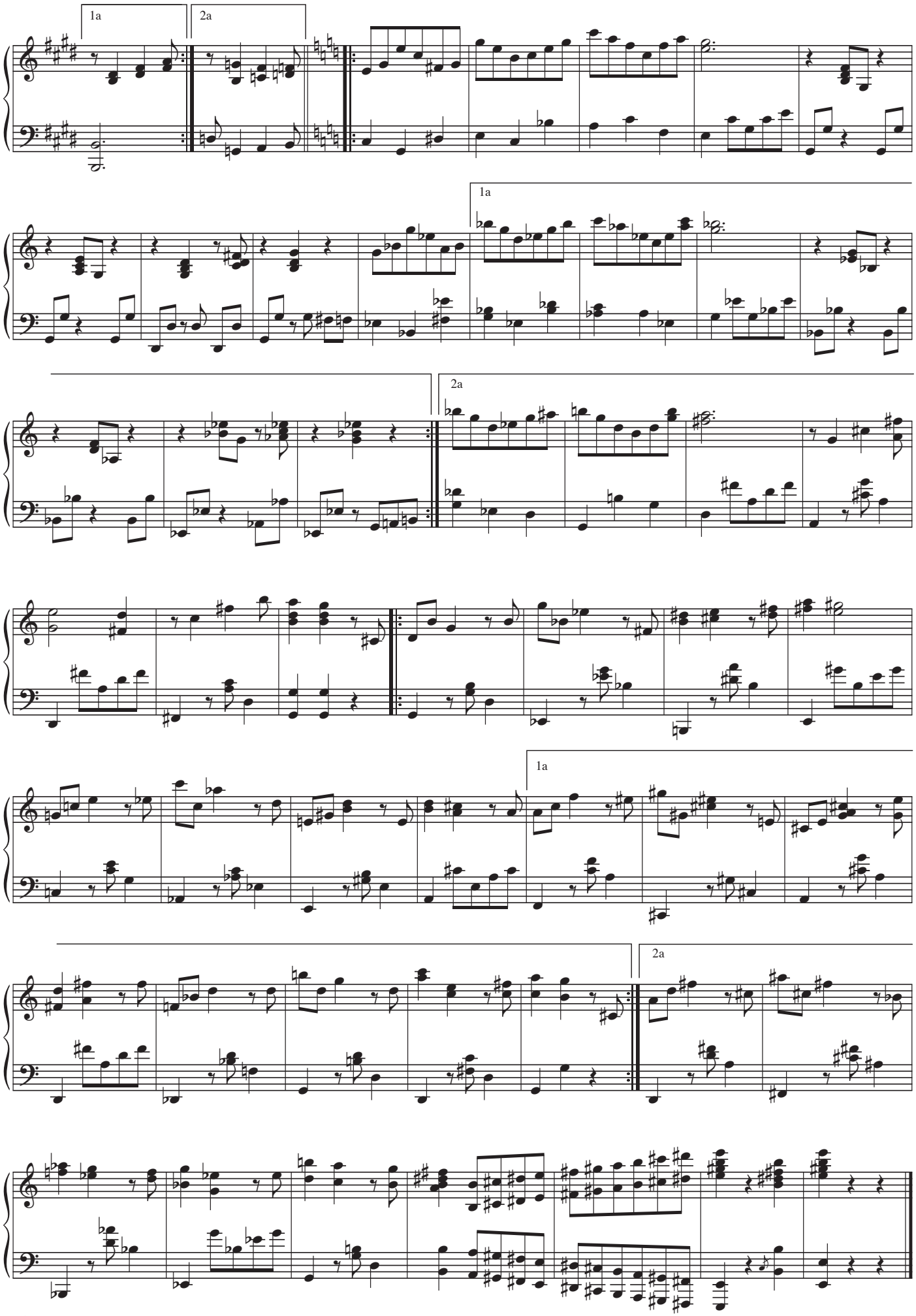
Tus Ojos





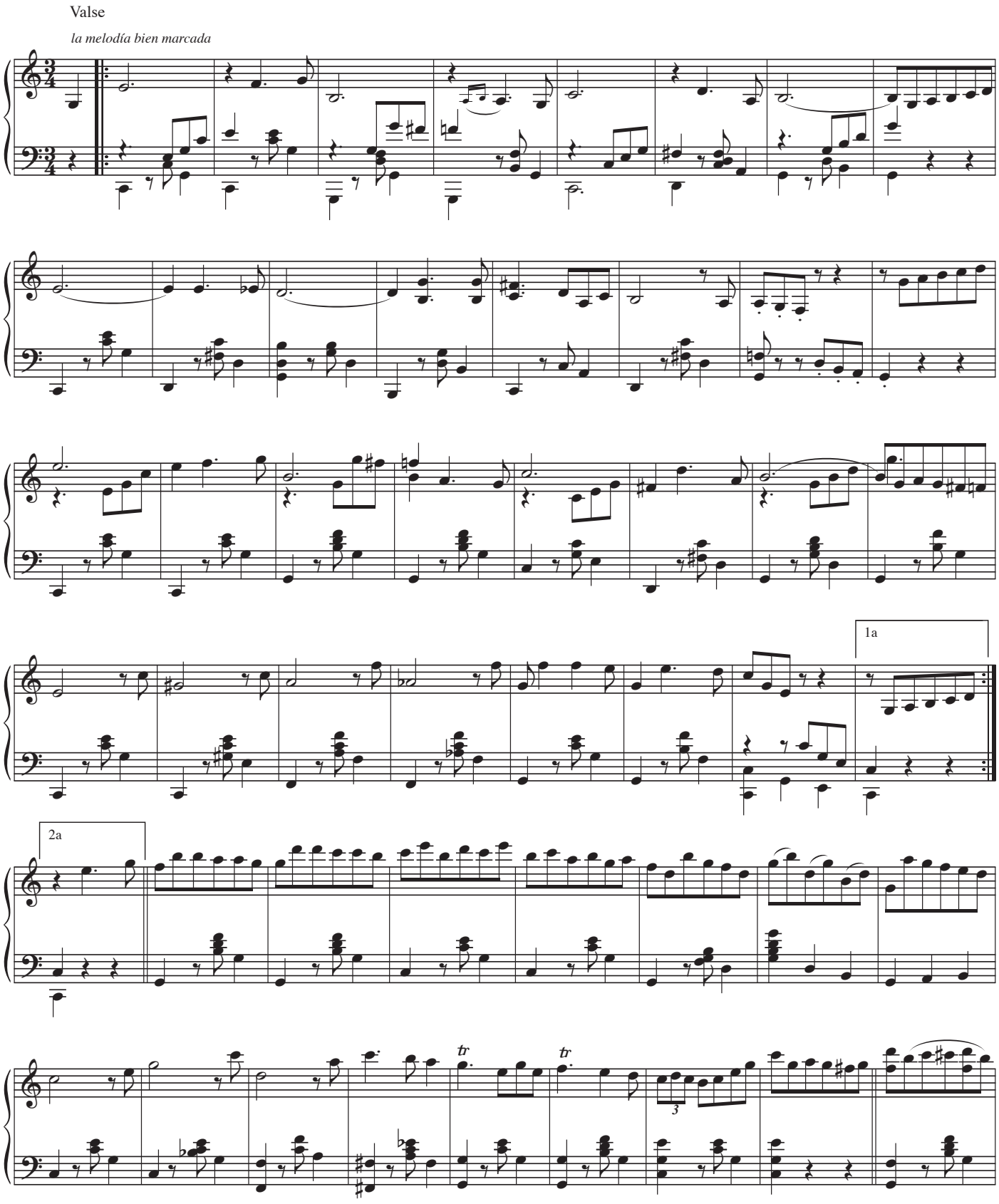
Valse 2000

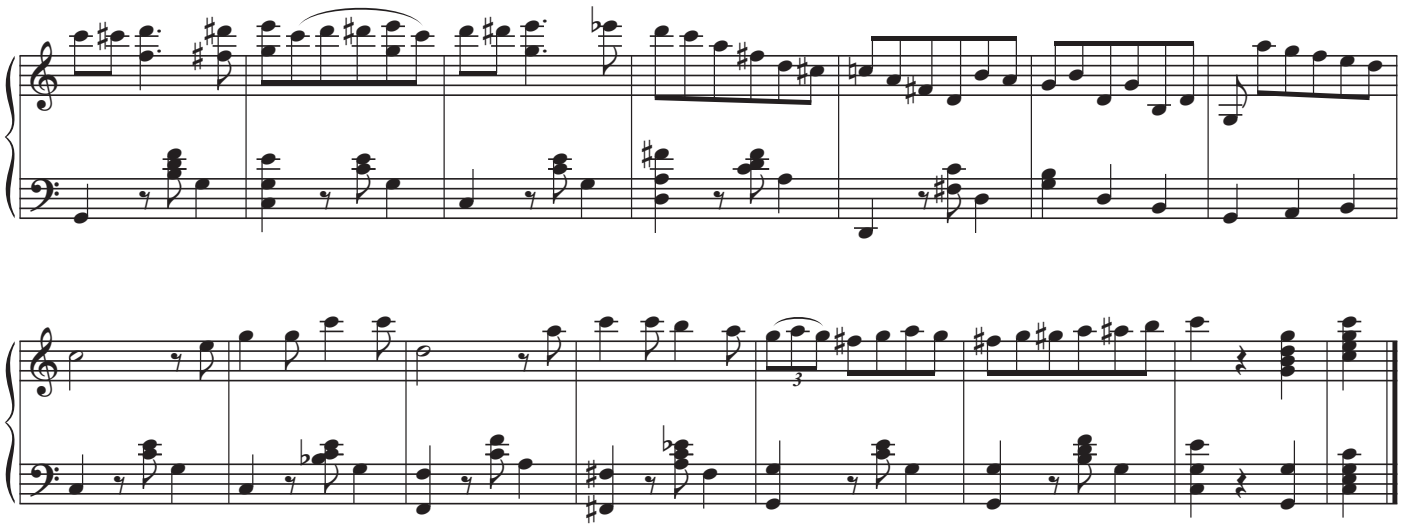



1a
2a
1a
2a
1a
2a

Valse de Boda

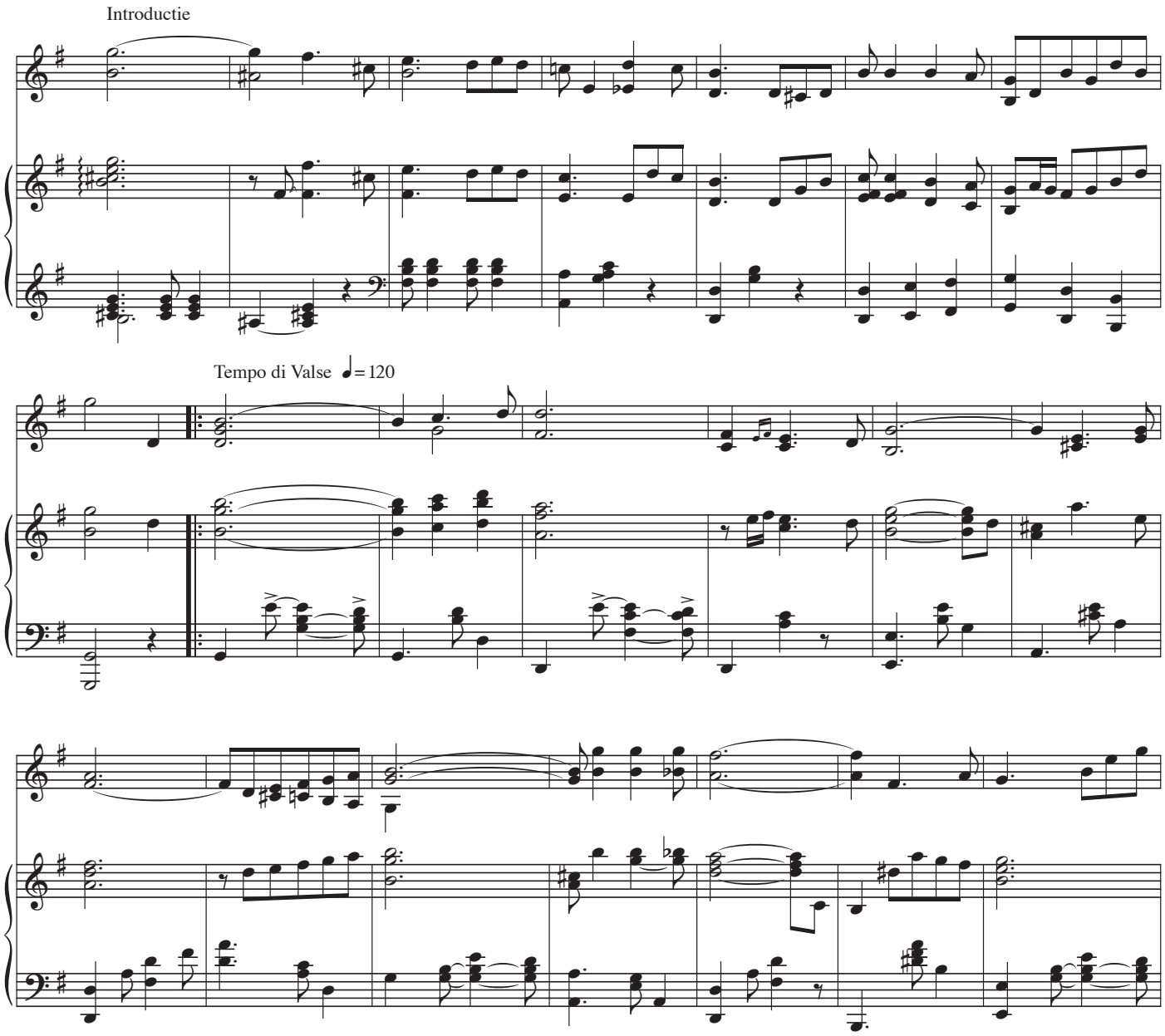
On the occasion of the wedding of Carlos Obediente and May de Haseth; 27 June 1953

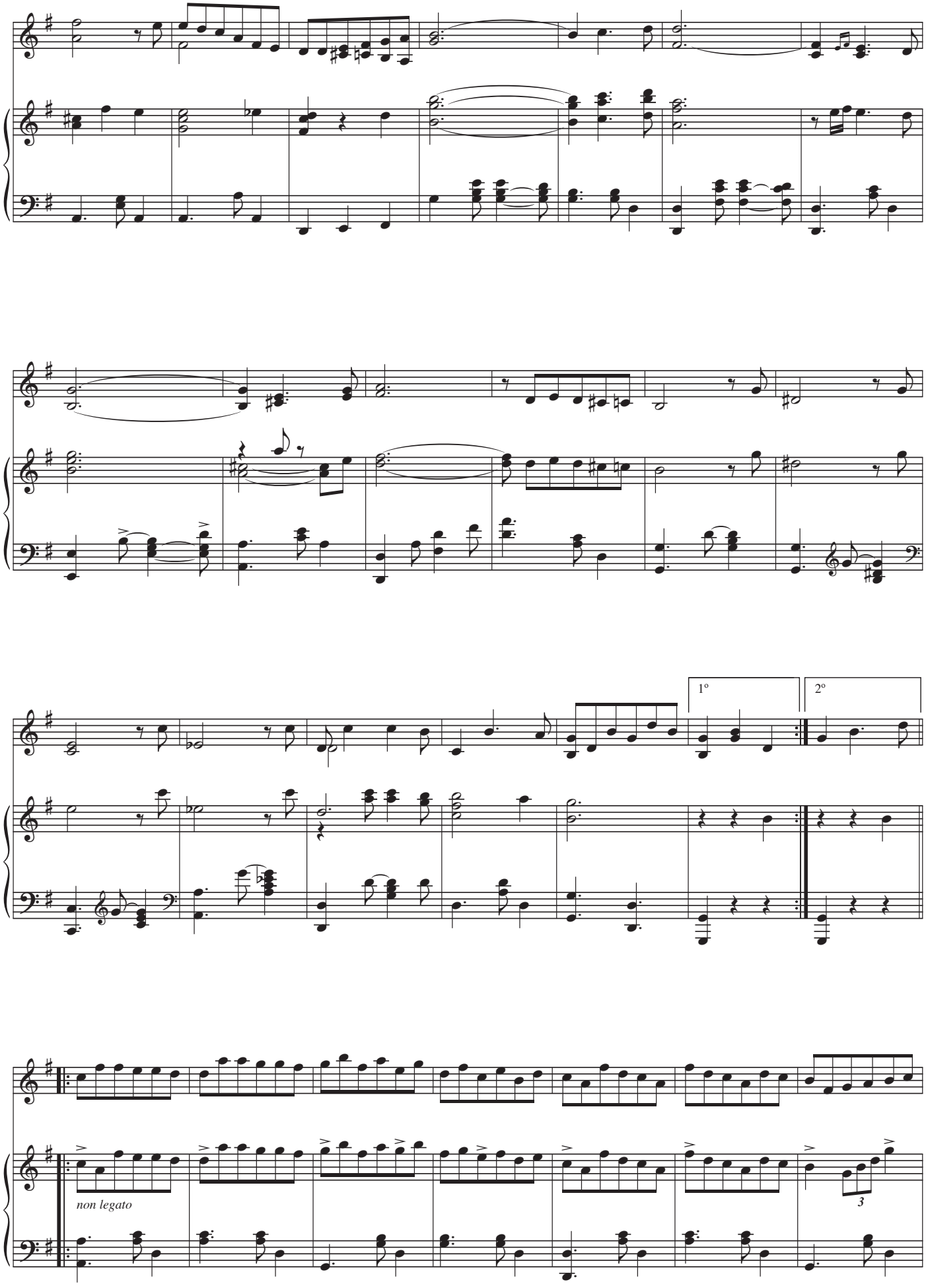


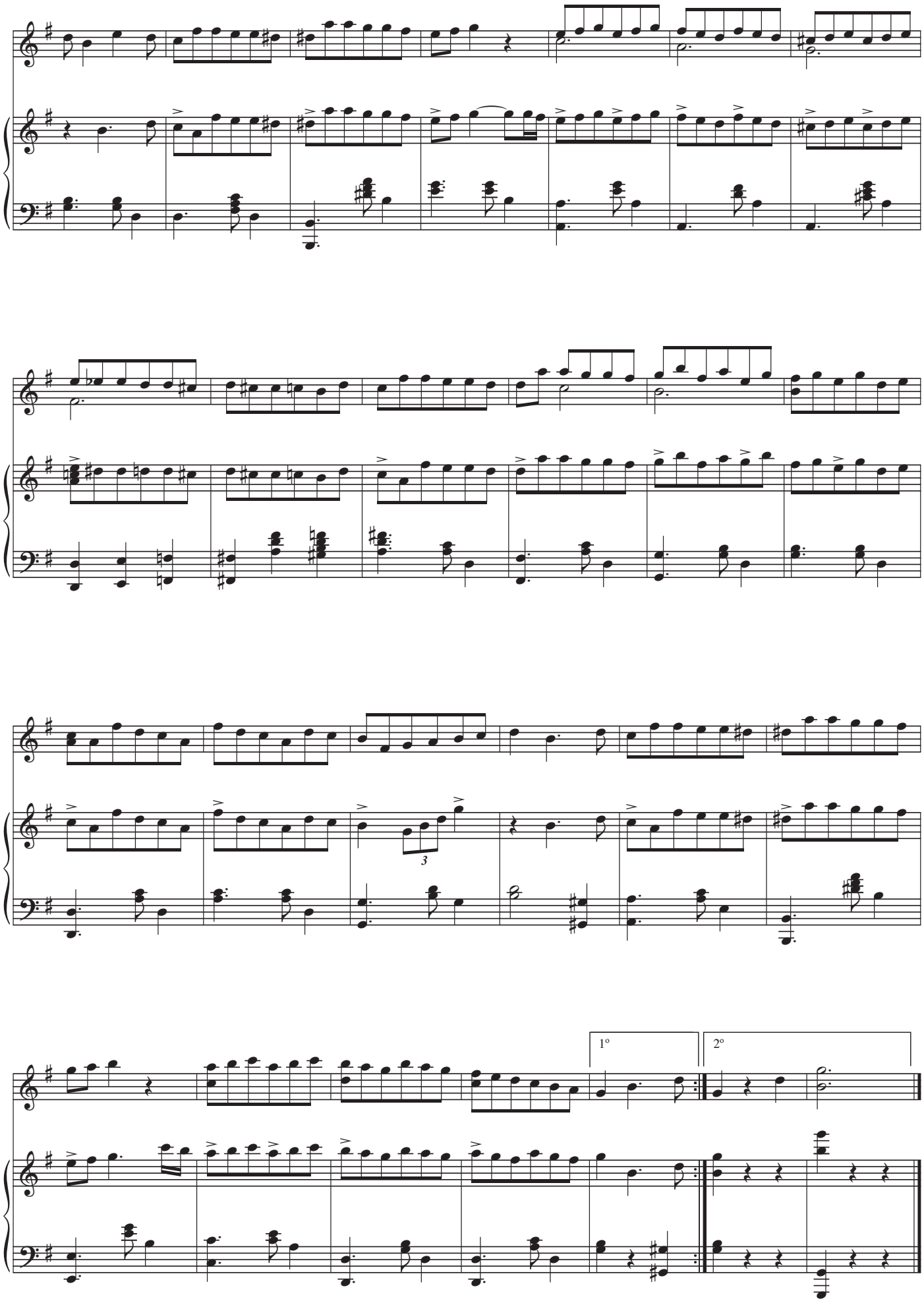


Valse de Boda (version with violin)

On the occasion of the wedding of Carlos Obediente and May de Haseth; 27 June 1953

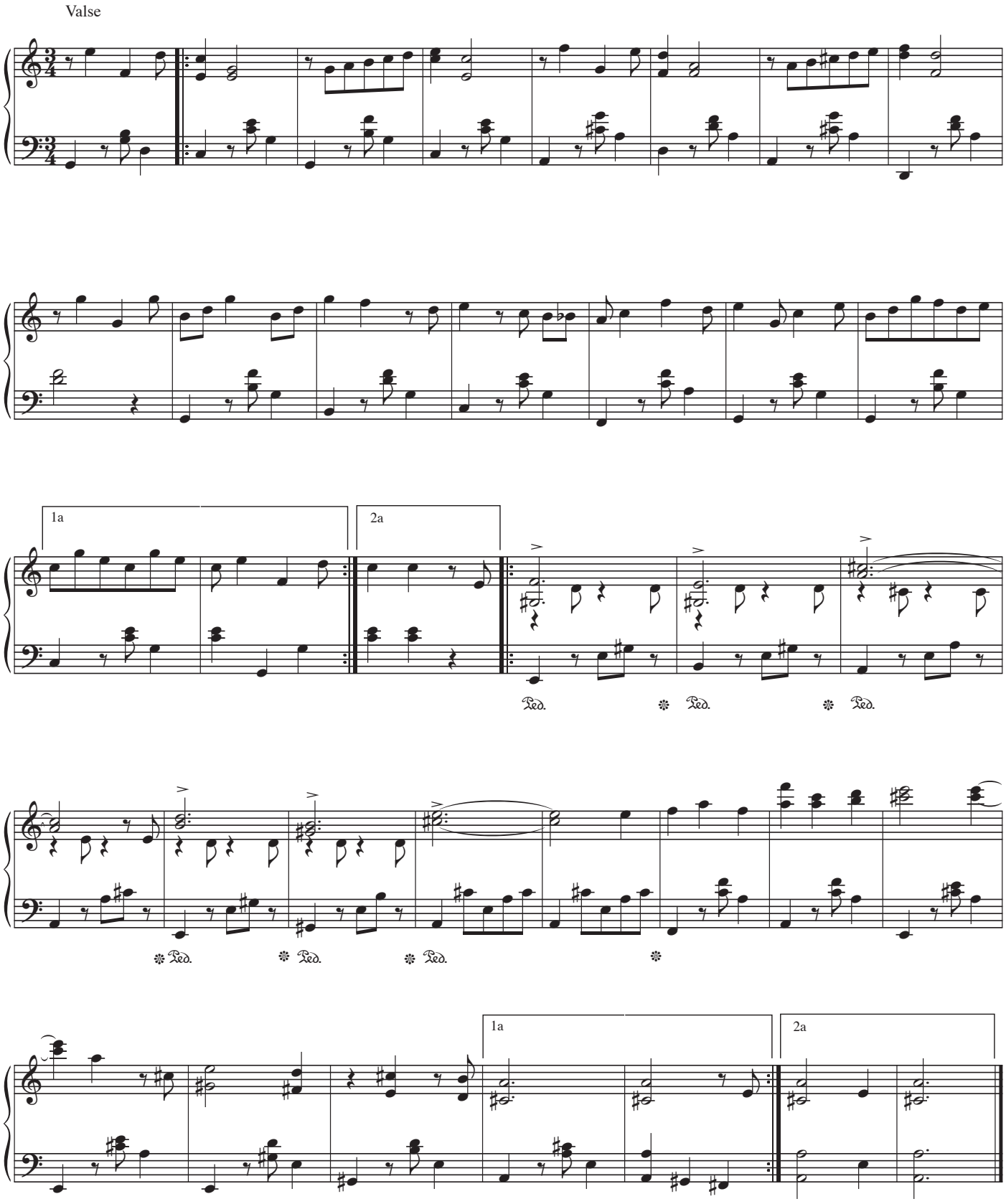



1°
2°
non legato
3


1º
2º

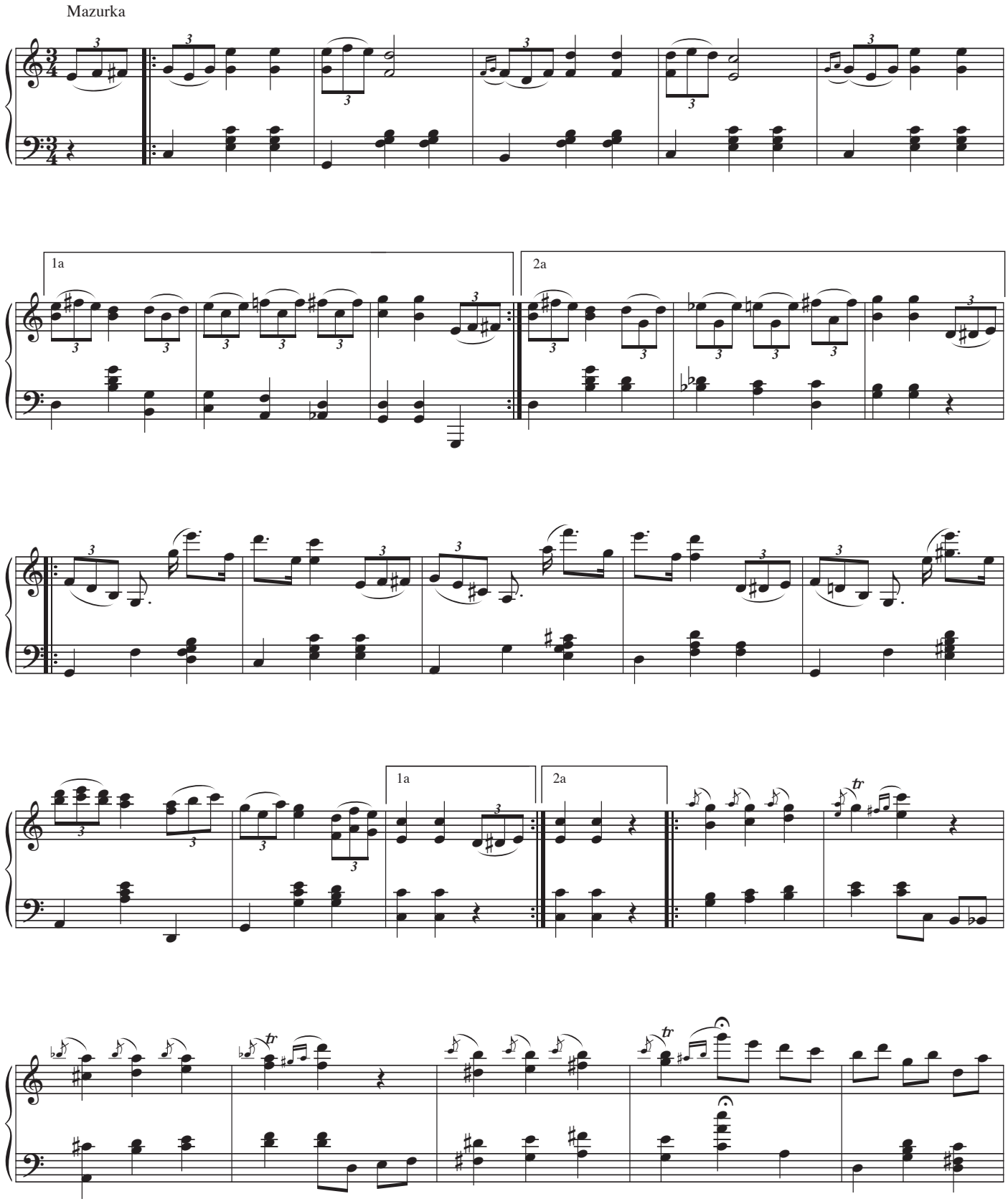
Via Golondrina

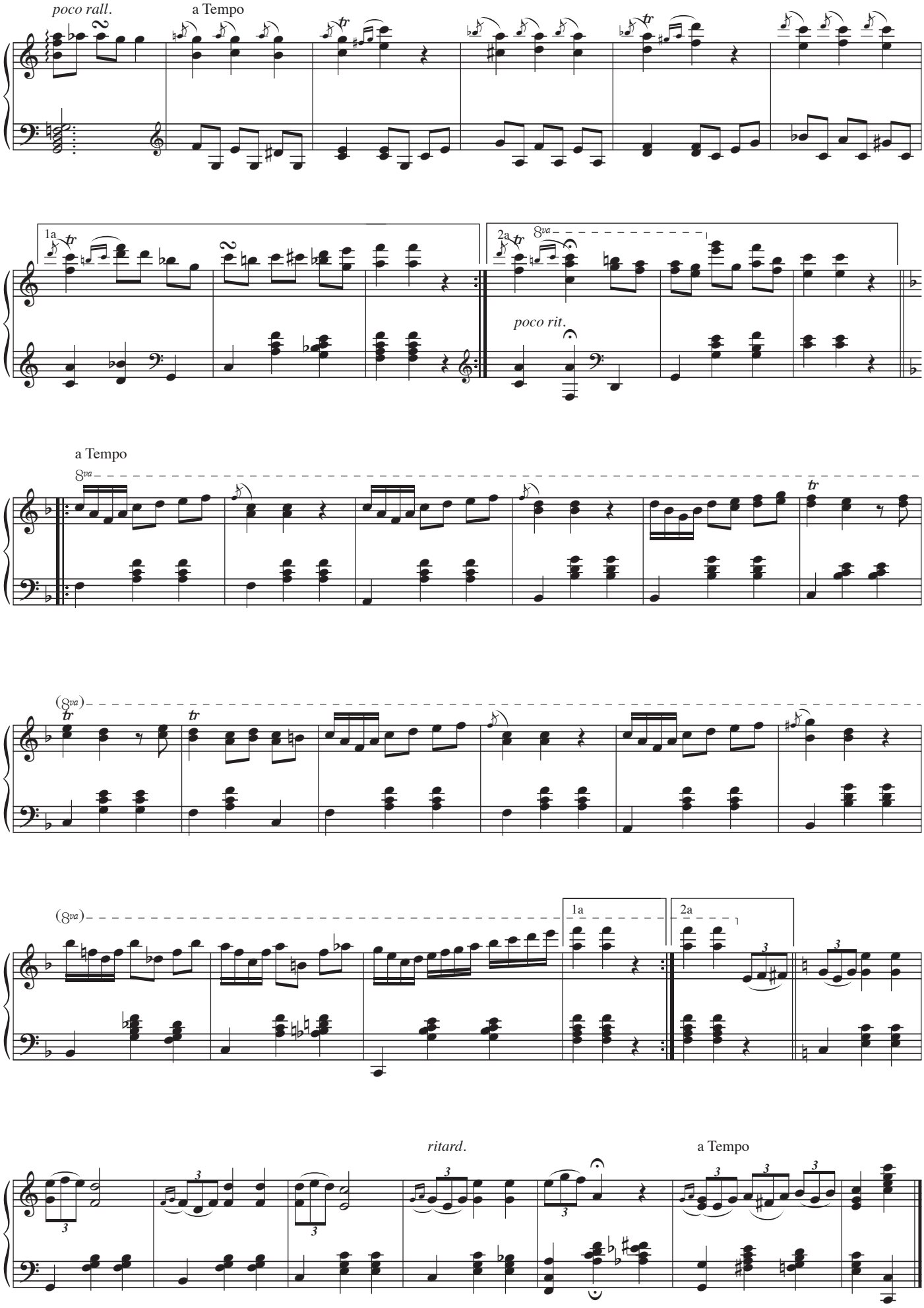
1 November 1995



Stephen

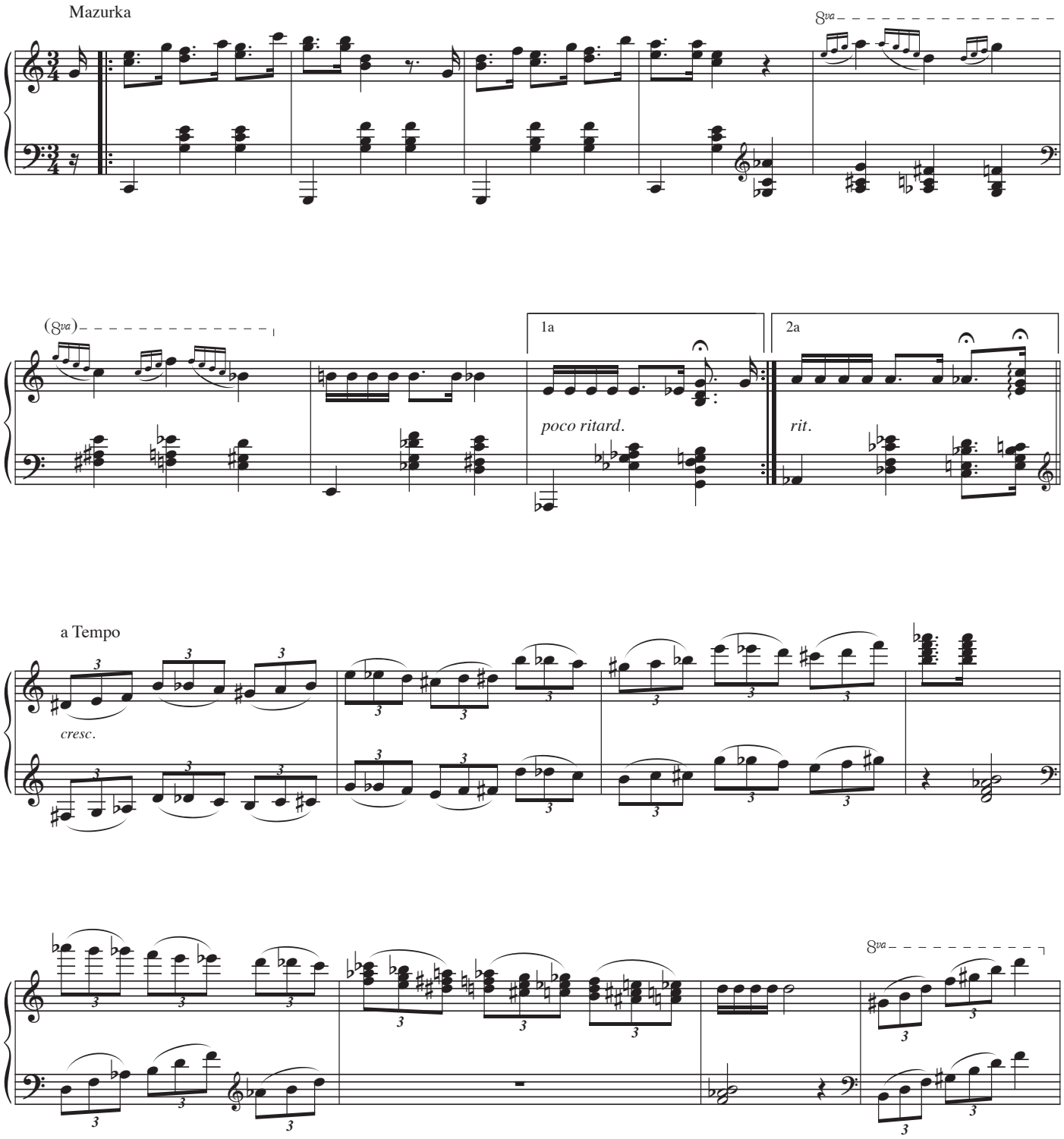
Dedicated to Stephen Palm, Edgar Palm's grandson; 1967

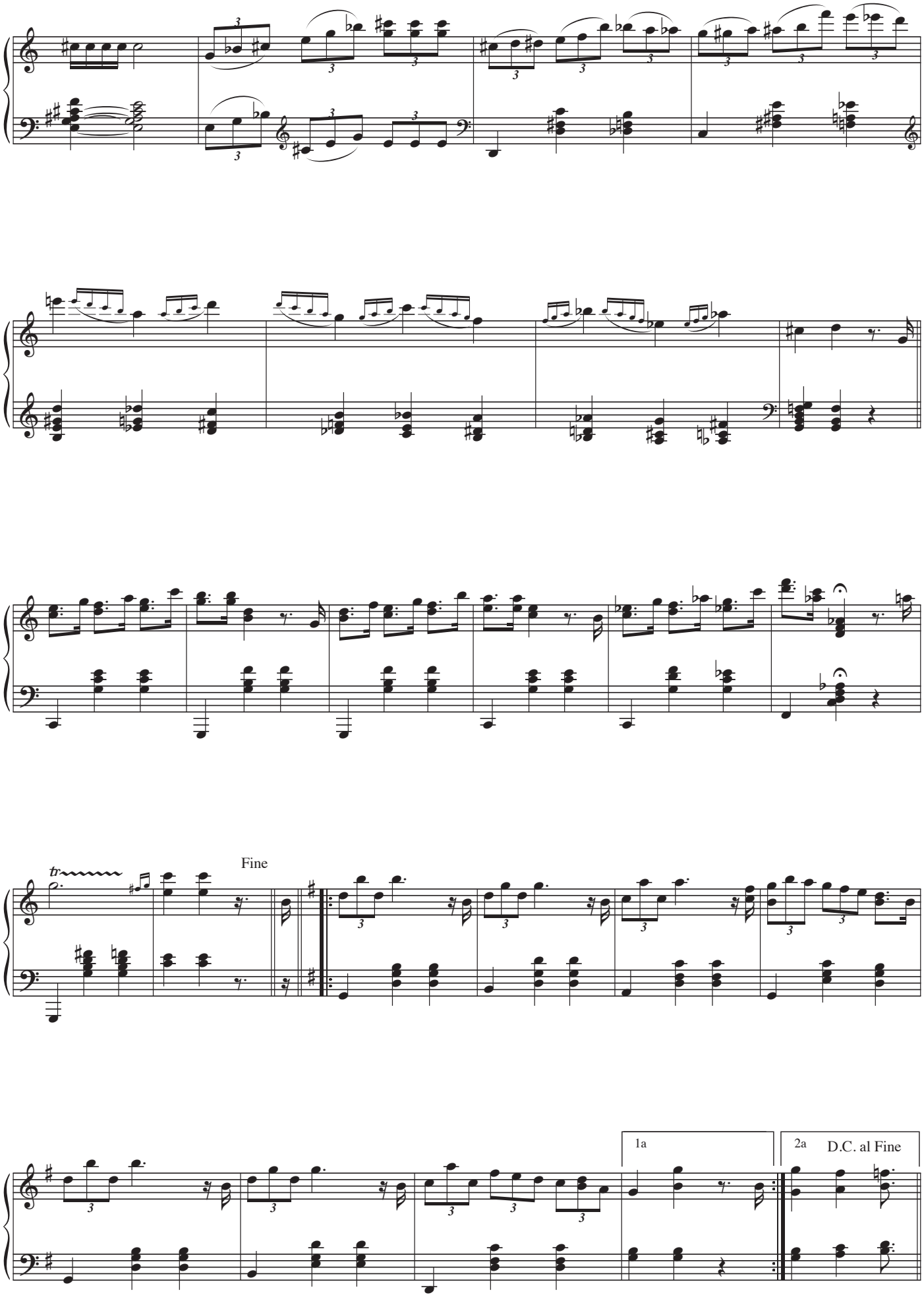



poco rall.
a Tempo
1a
2a
8va
poco rit.
a Tempo
8va
(8va)
(8va)
1a
2a
ritard.
a Tempo

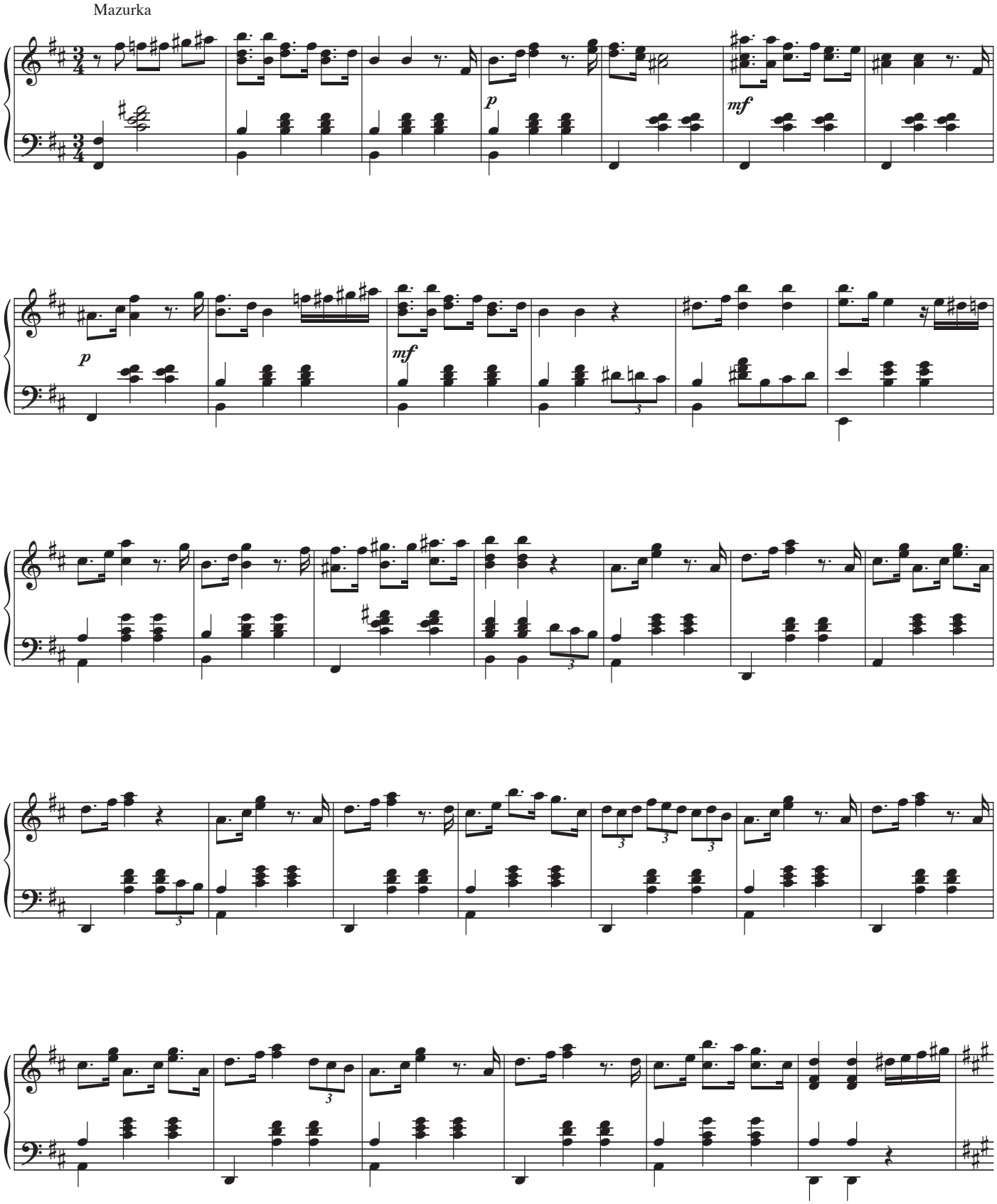
Giselle (La Traviesa)

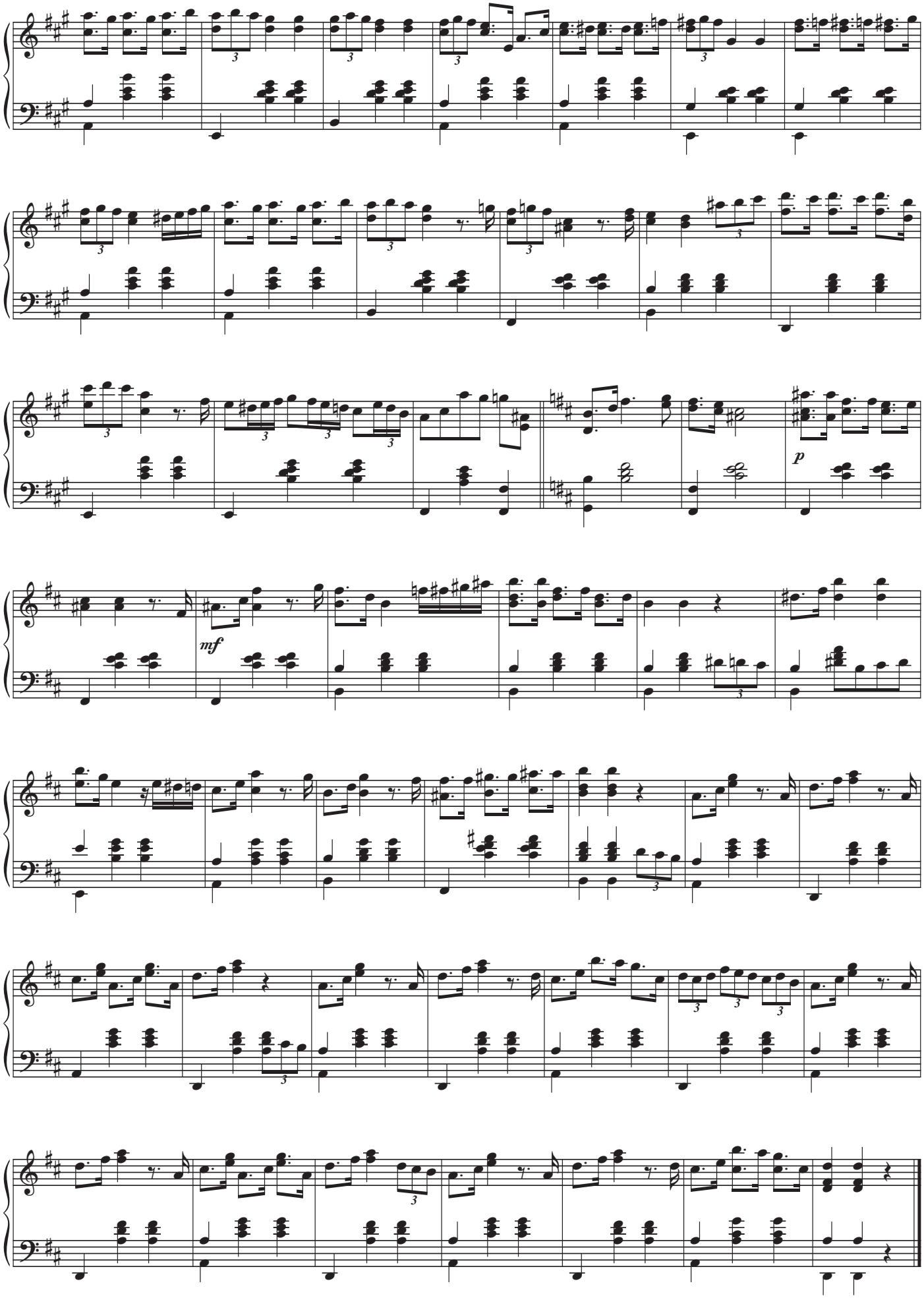
Dedicated to Giselle Verger, granddaughter of Edgar Palm; June 1976




Fine
1a
2a
D.C. al Fine

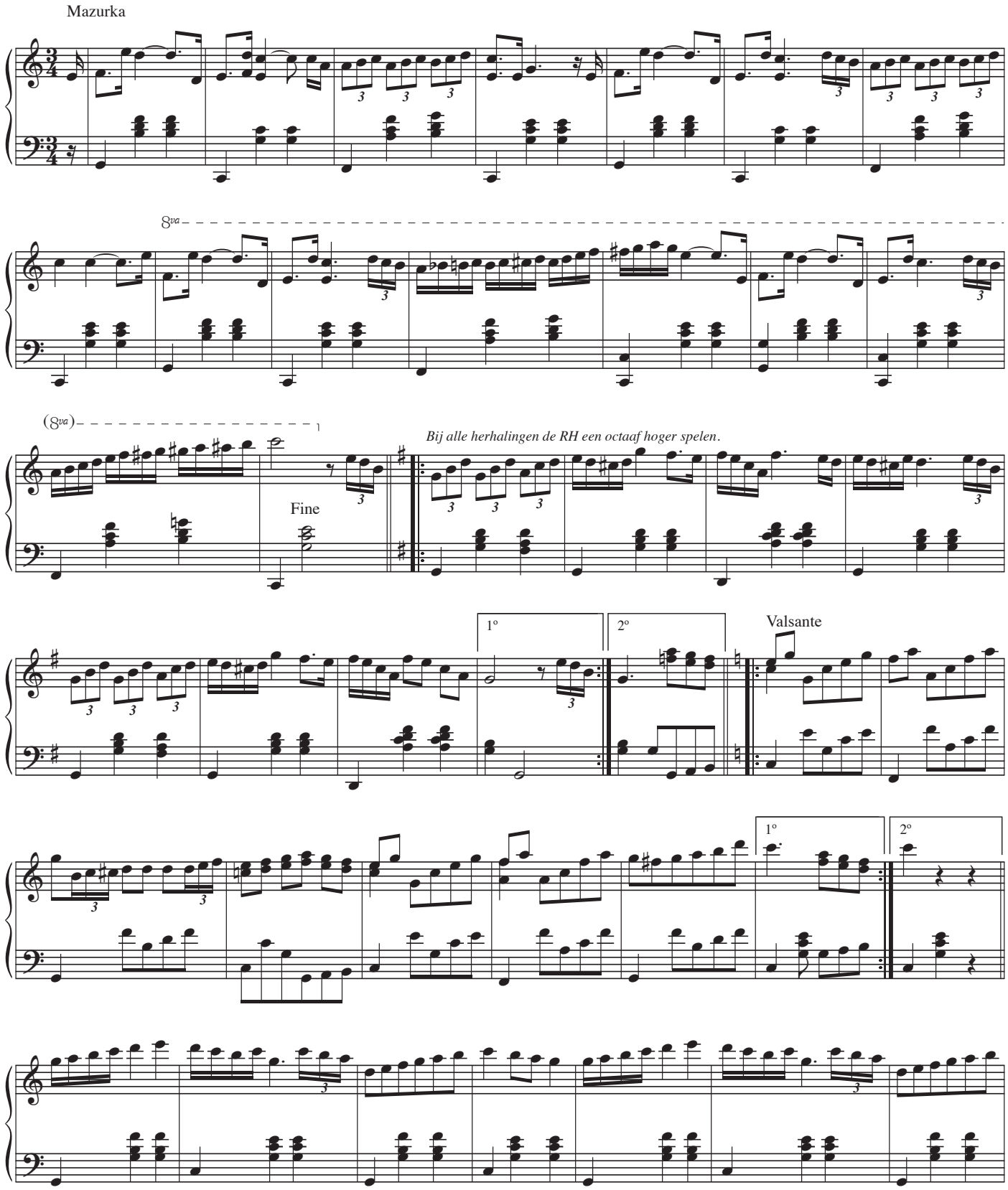
Gwendolyne

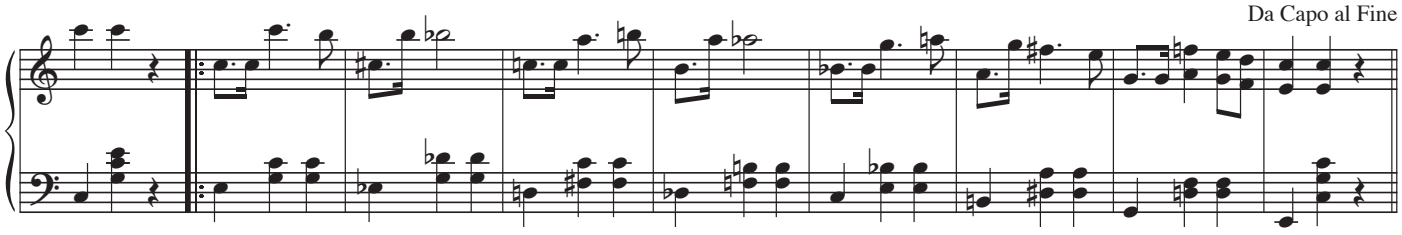



p
mf

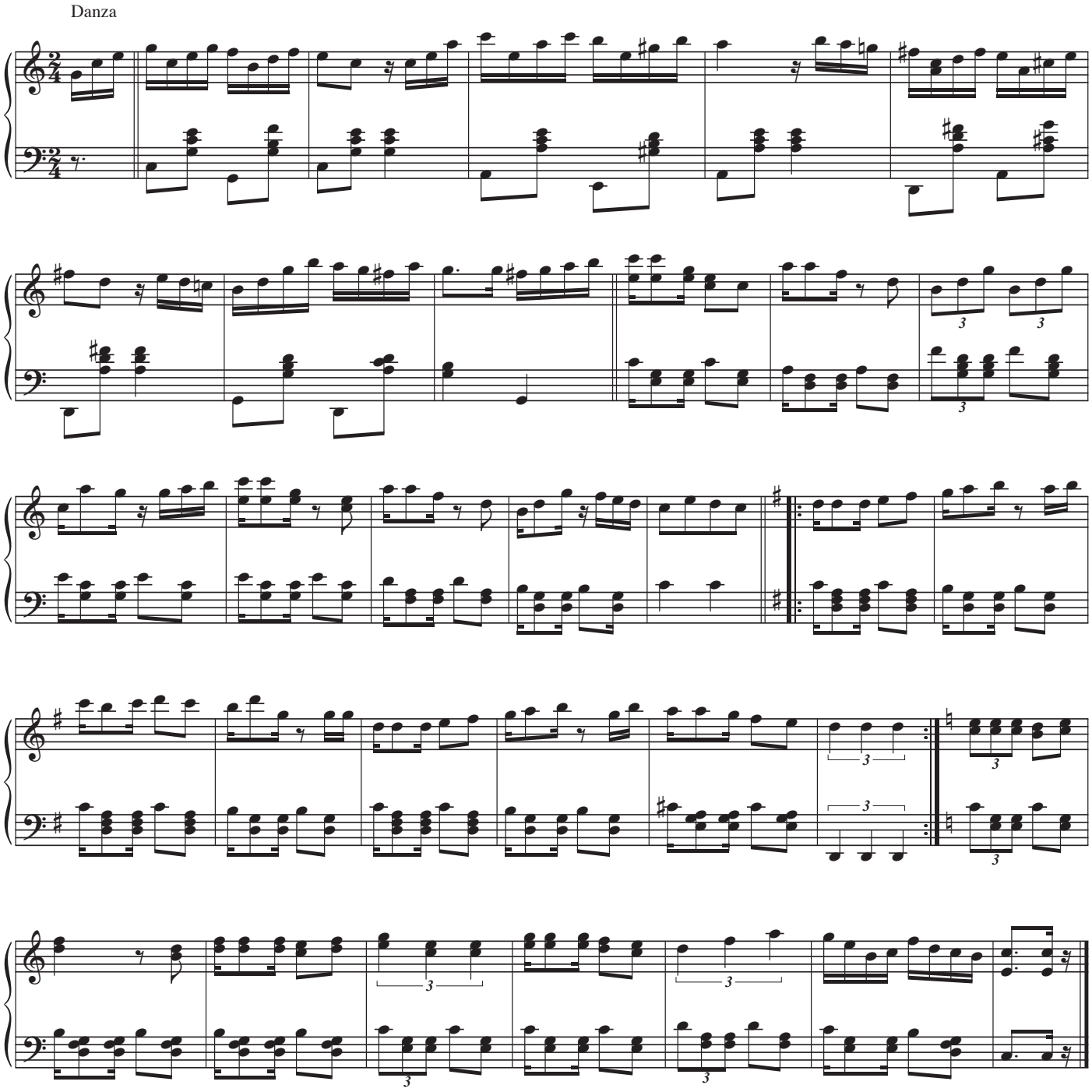
Inés

Dedicated to Inés Thieme (ballet teacher)



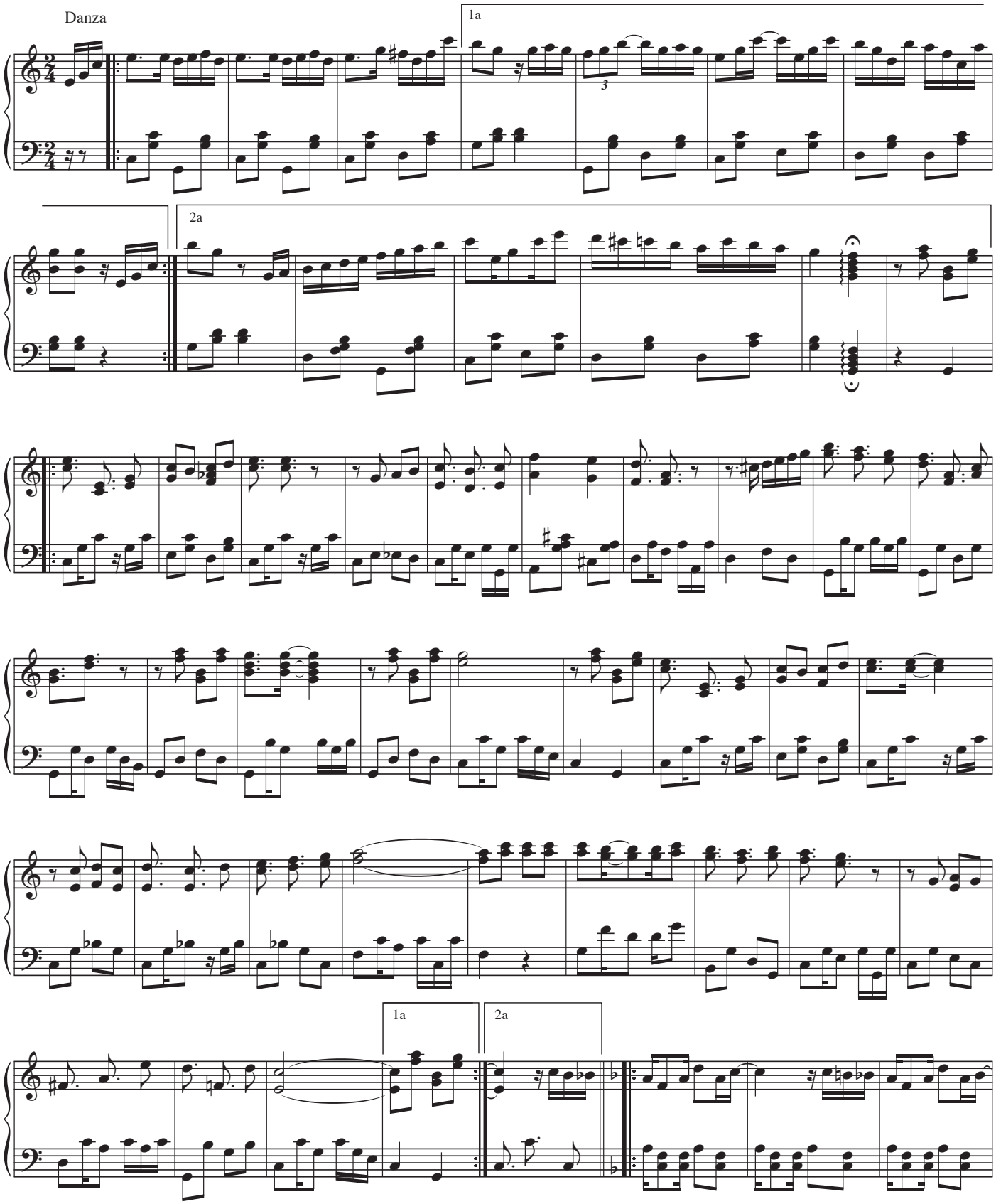


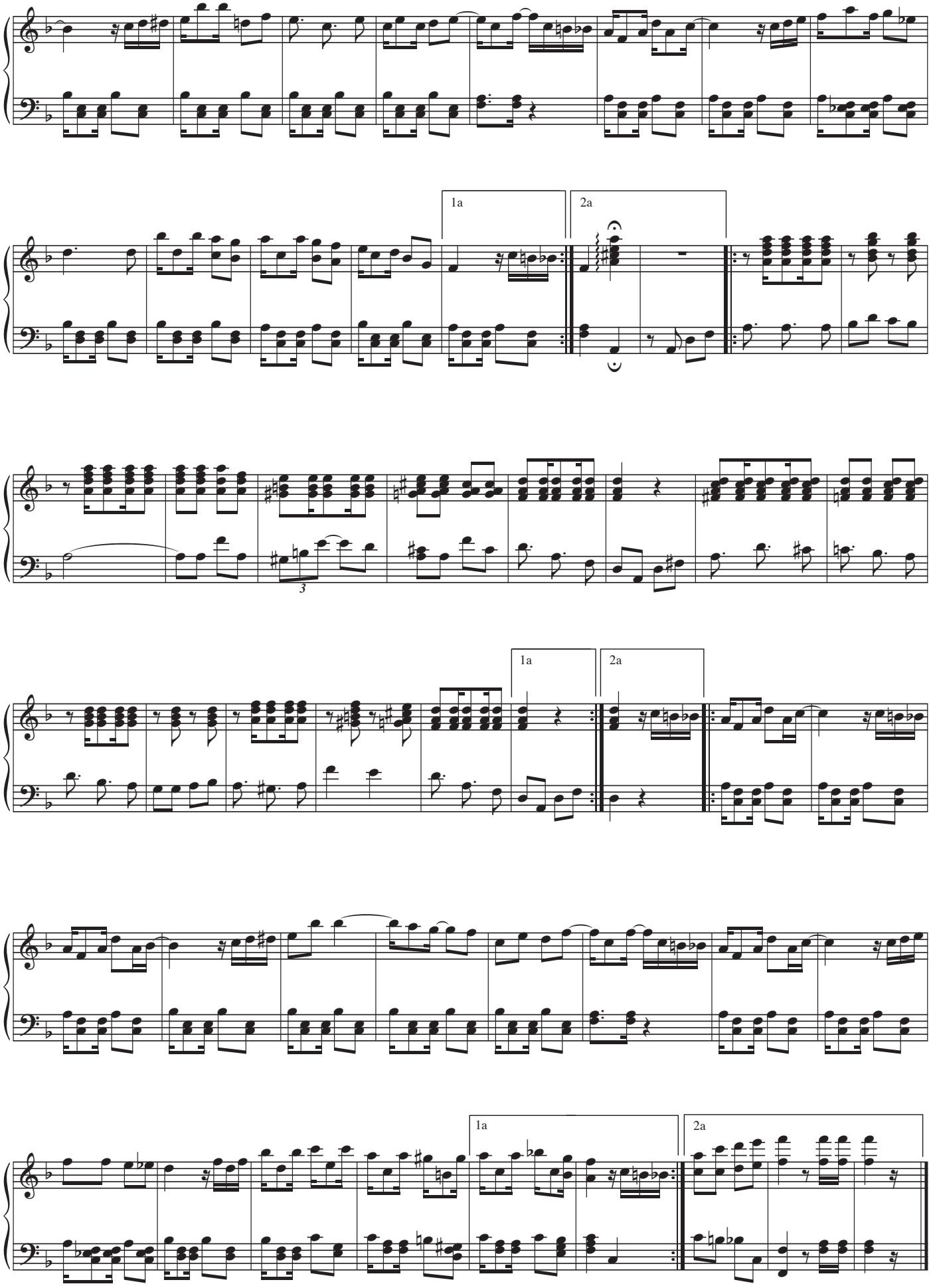
Lagami pasa



Victoriosa Flor Divina

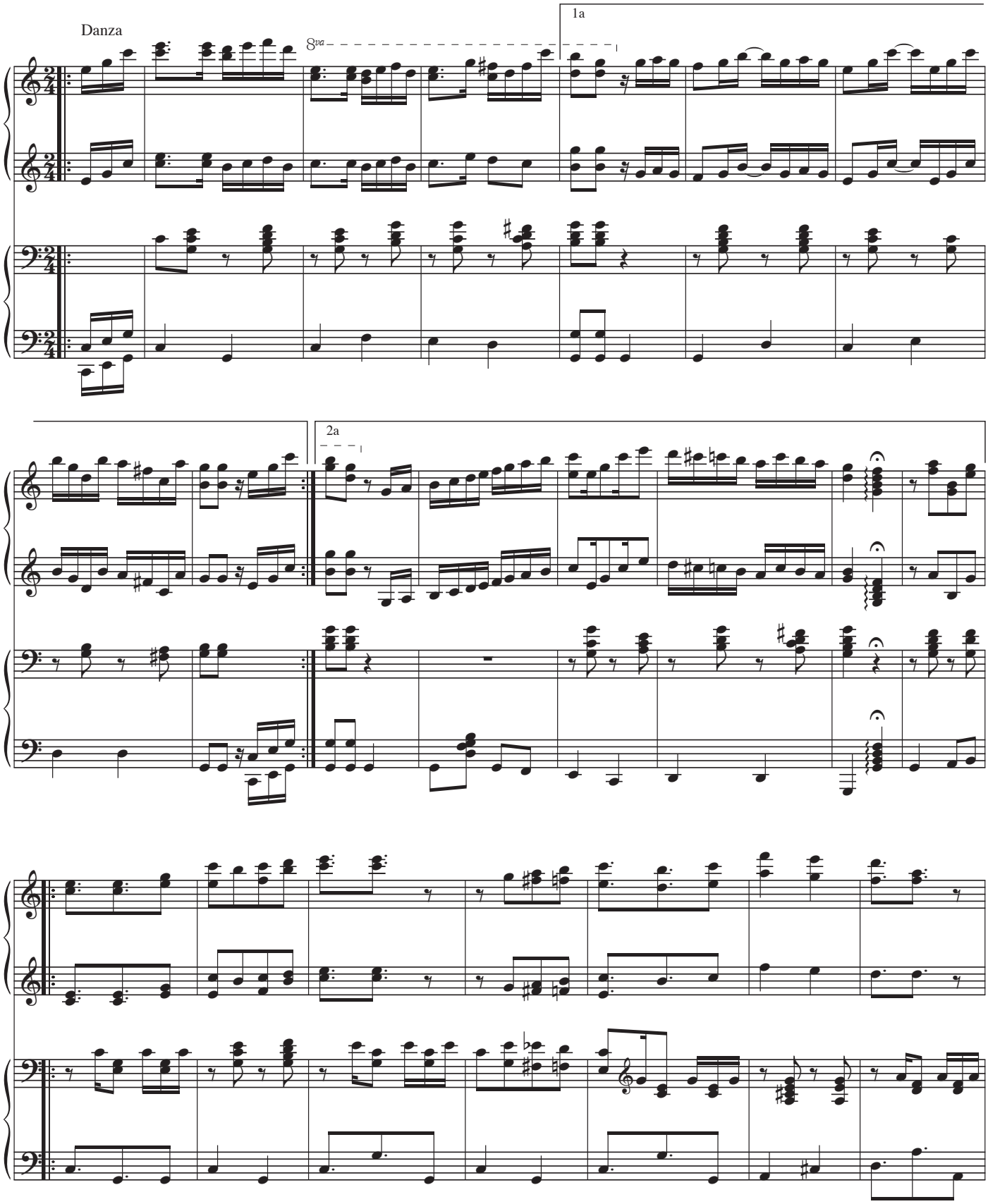
3 November 1990

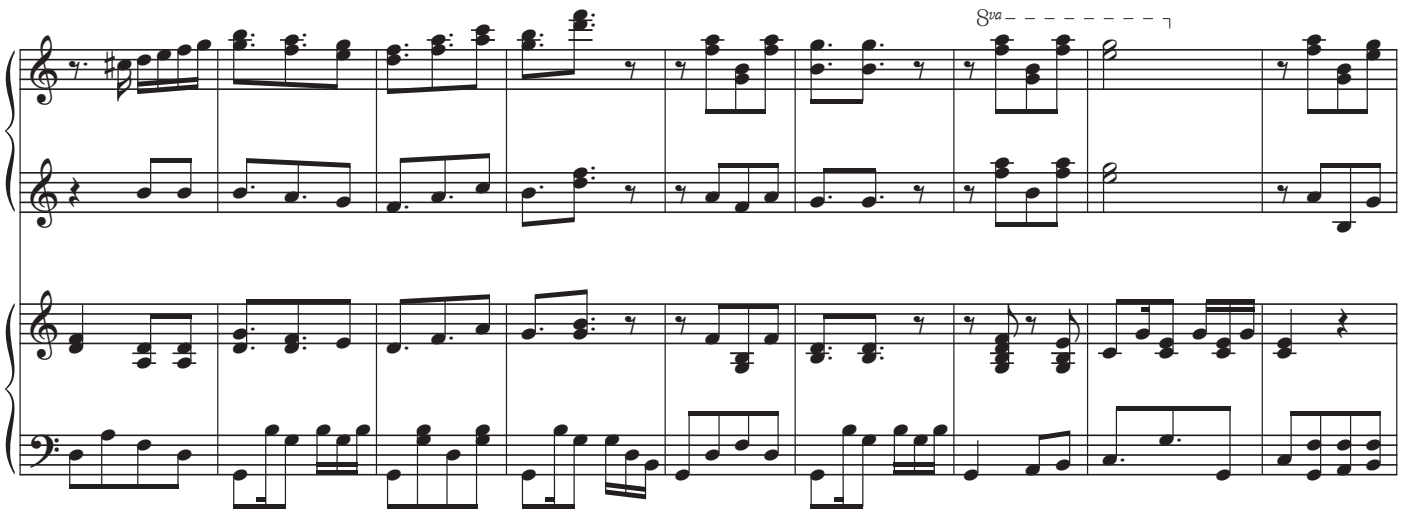


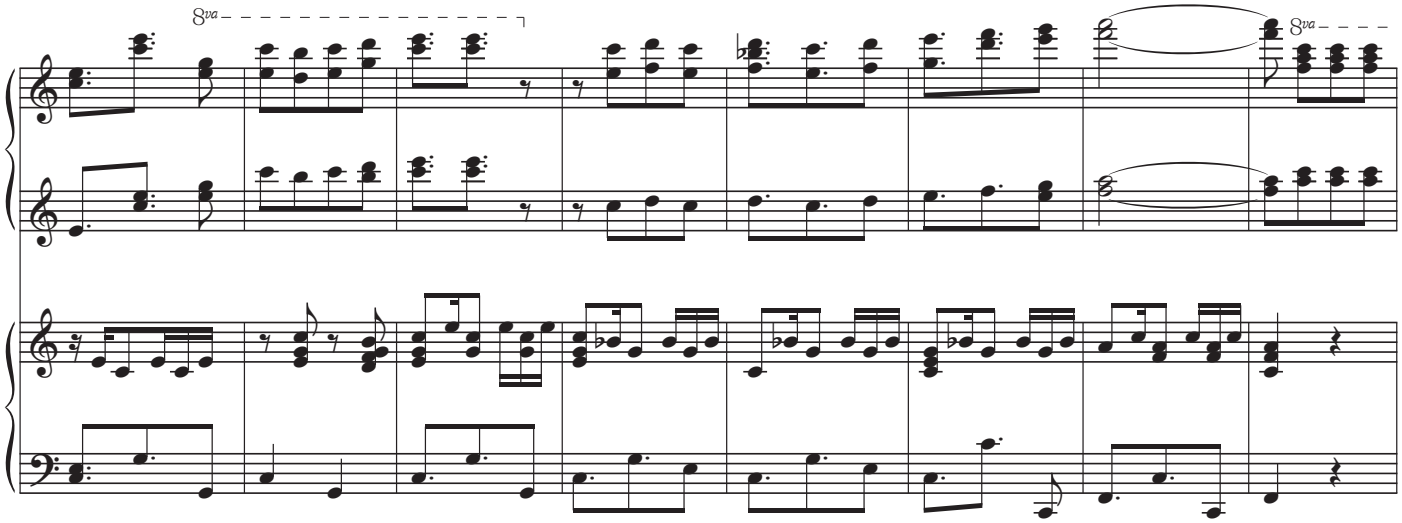

1a
2a
3
1a
2a
1a
2a

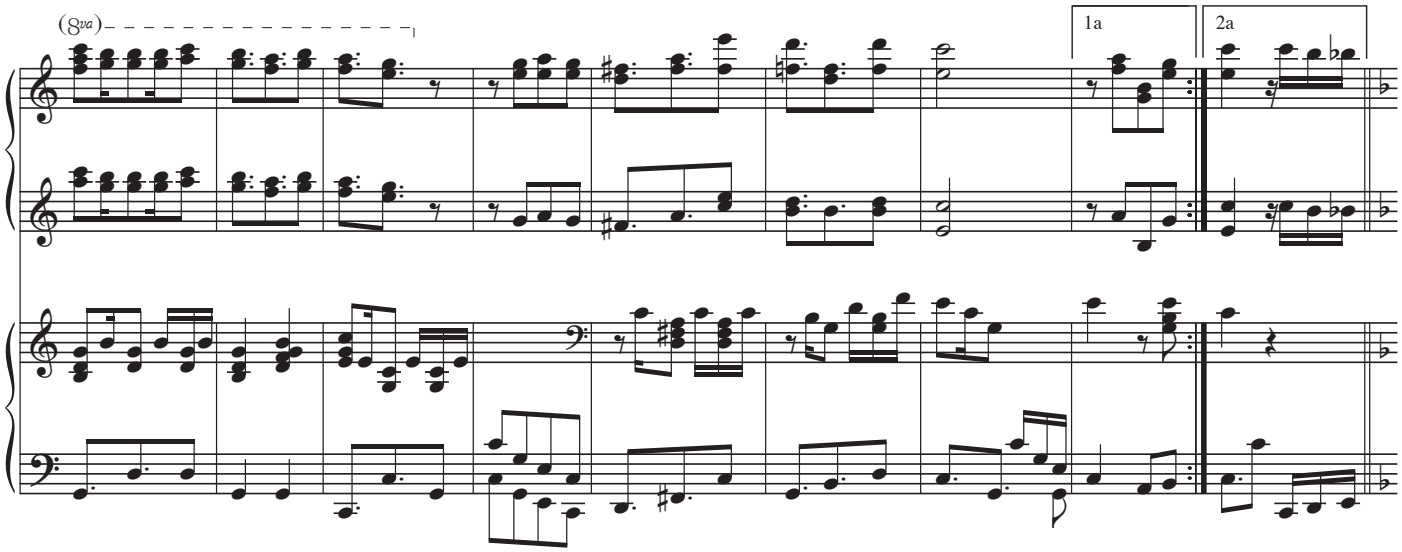
Victoriosa Flor Divina (quatre-mains version)

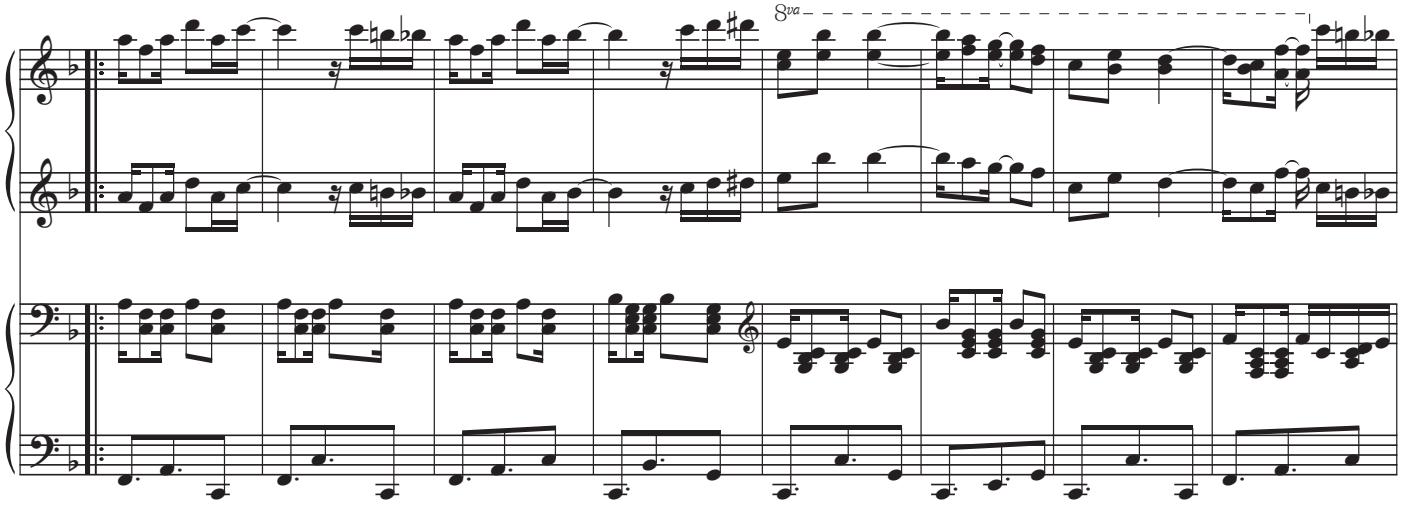
Dedicated to Nicole and Dianthe Chirino; 3 November 1990

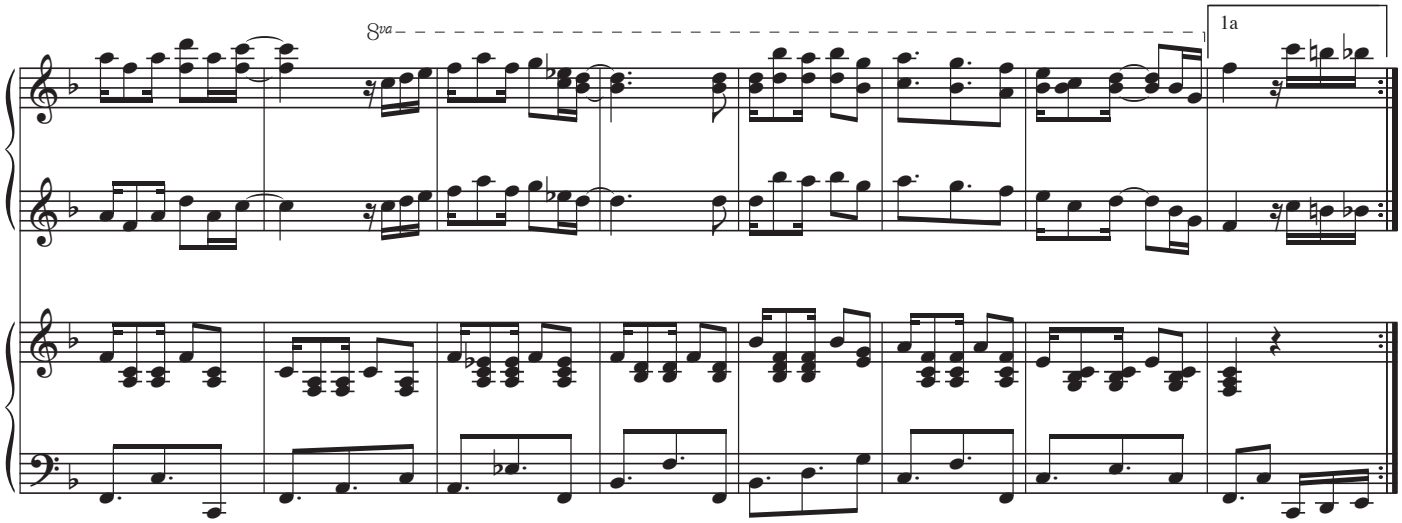


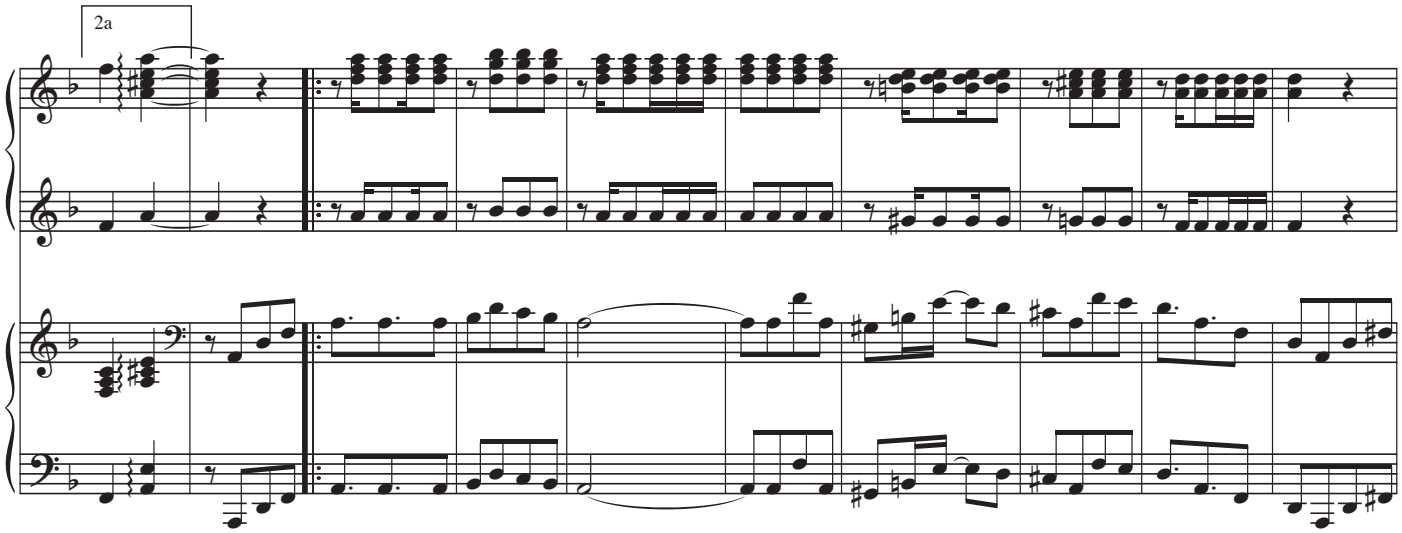

8va

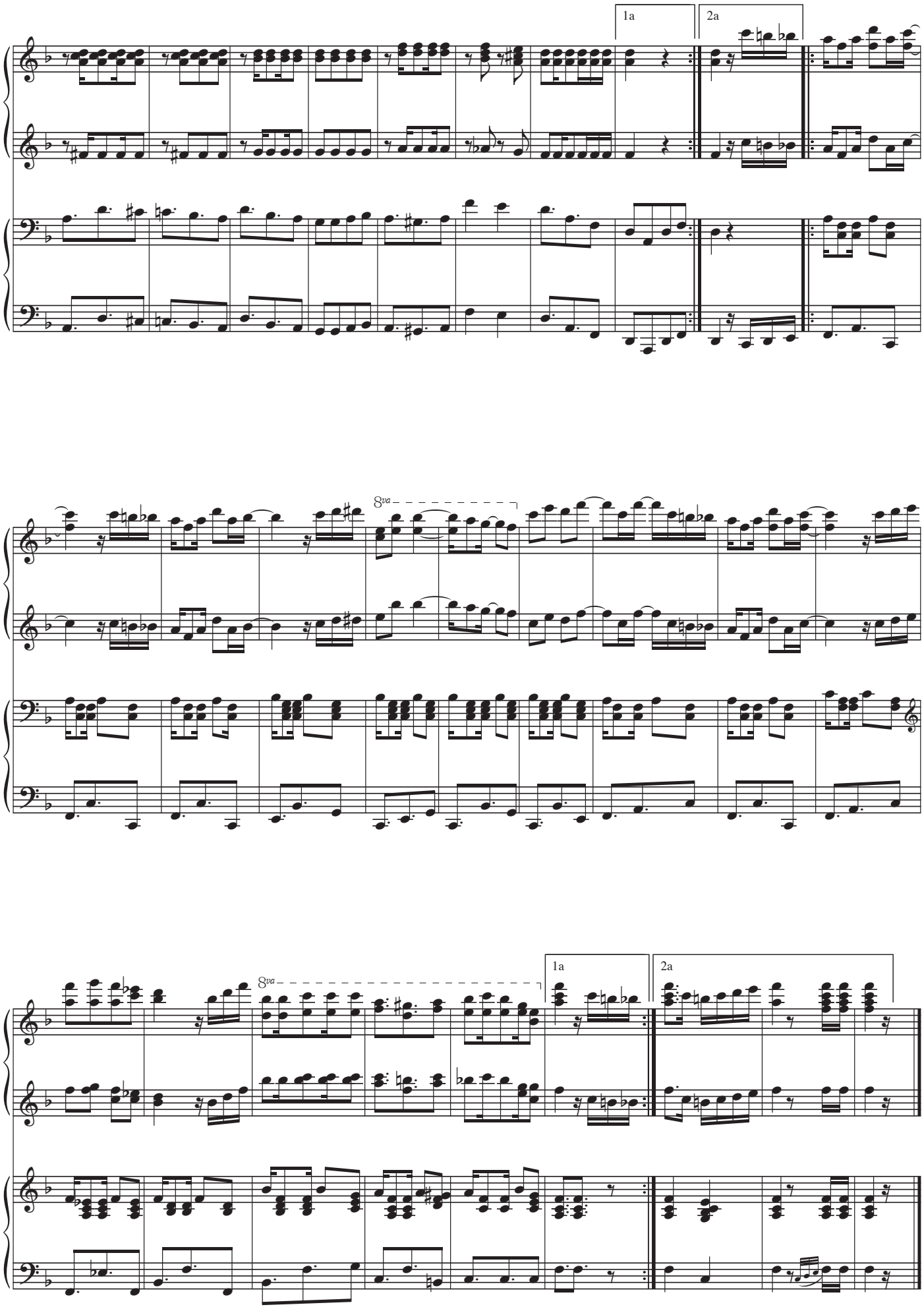

8va
8va


(8va)
1a
2a

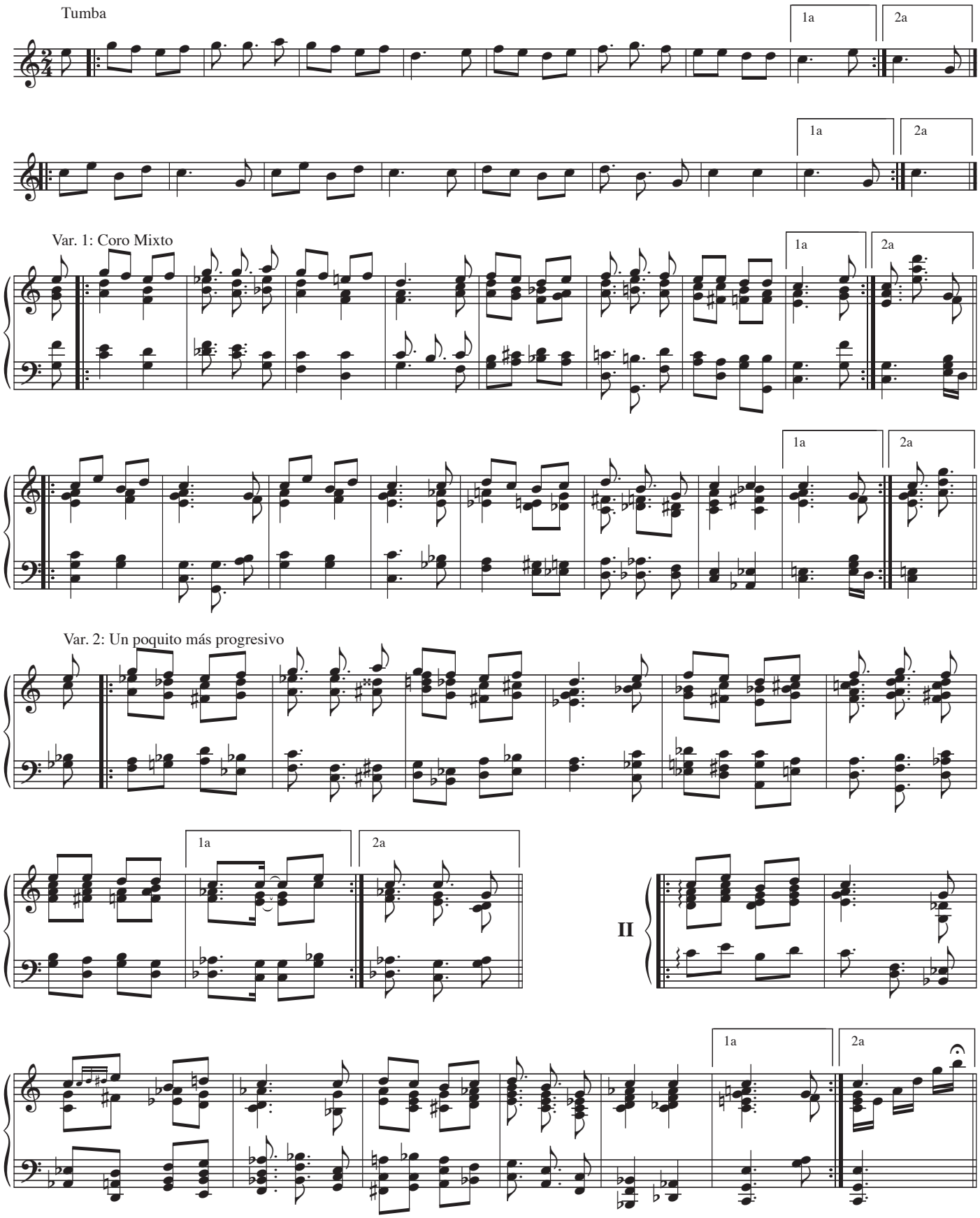

8va


8va
1a

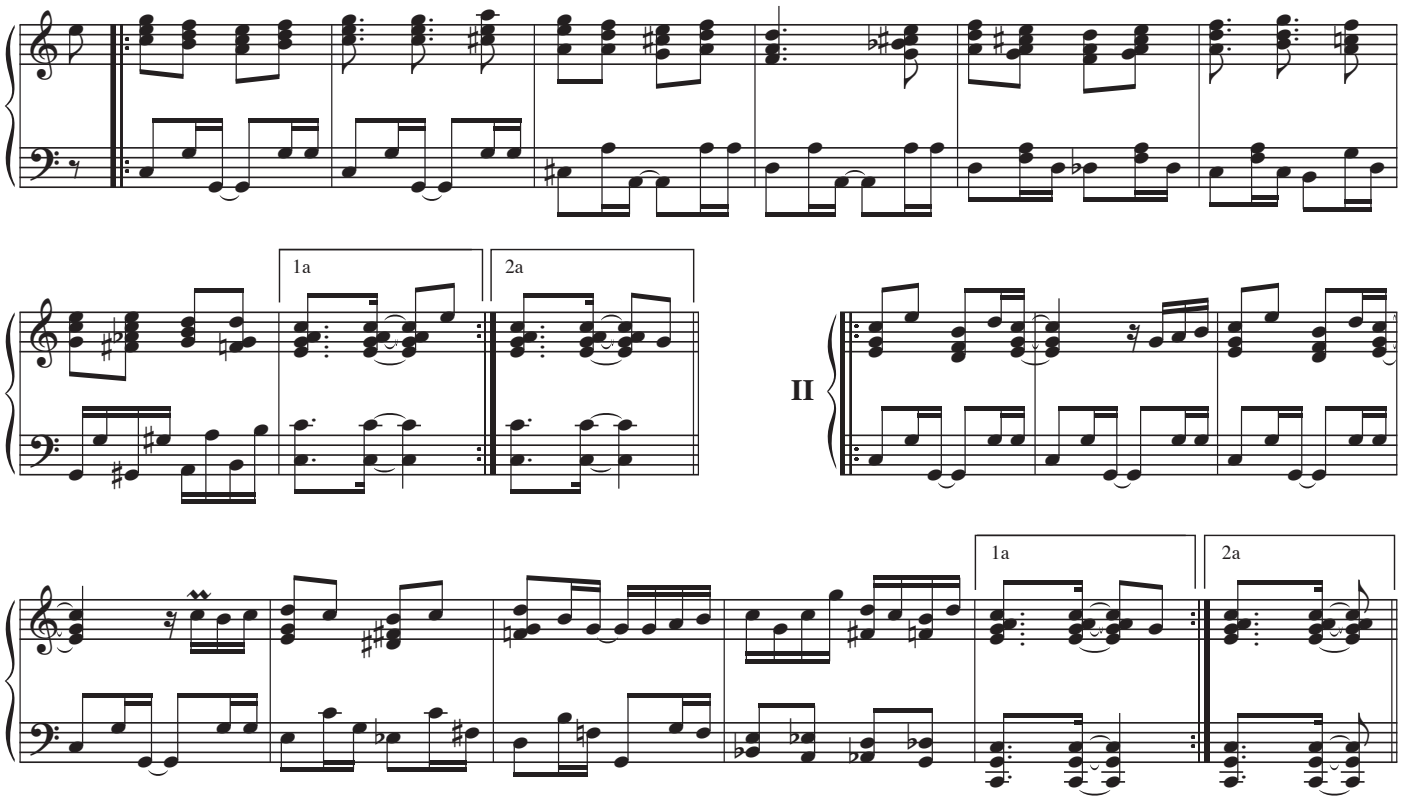

2a


1a
2a
8va
8va
1a
2a

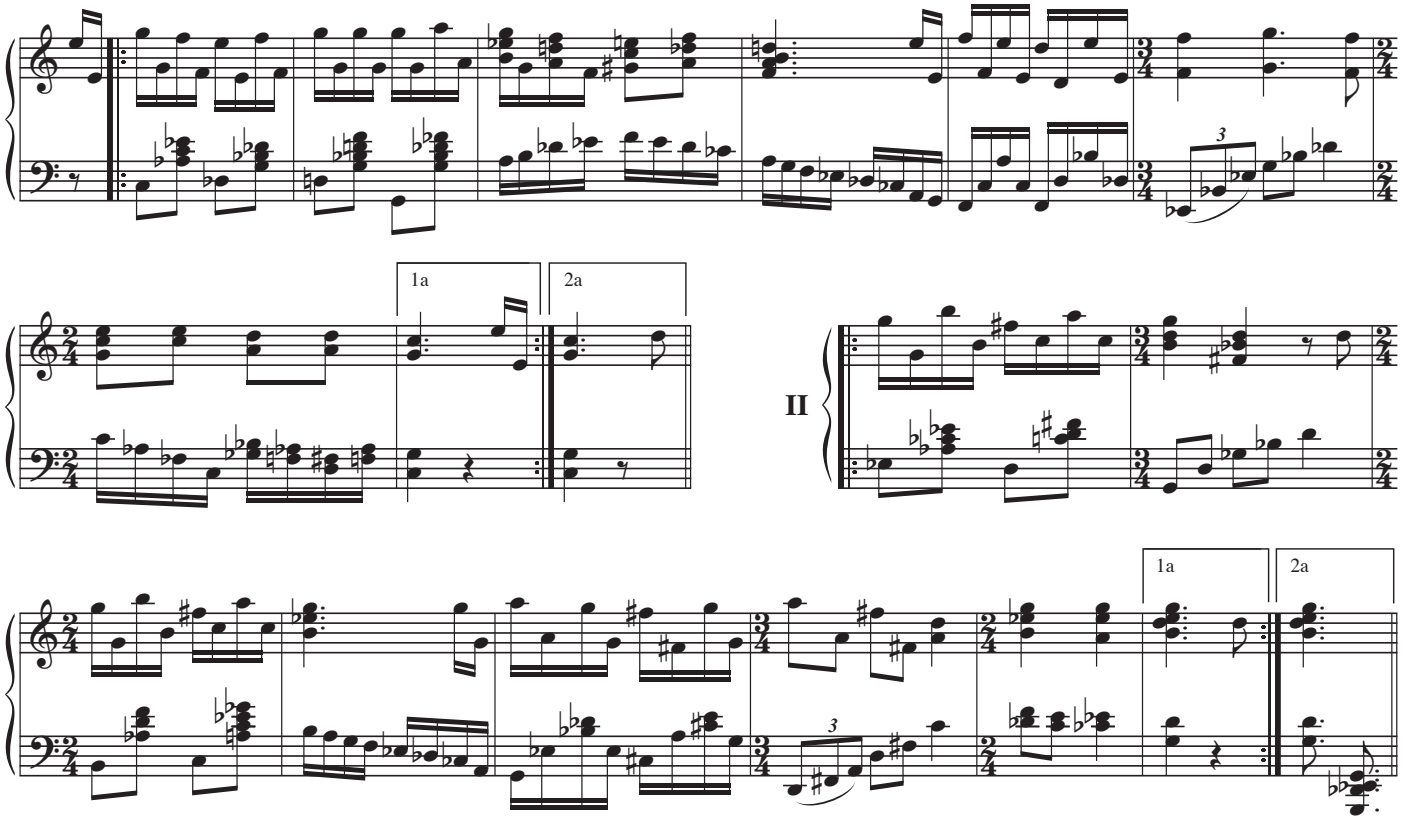
Don Pancho Variations Harmoniques



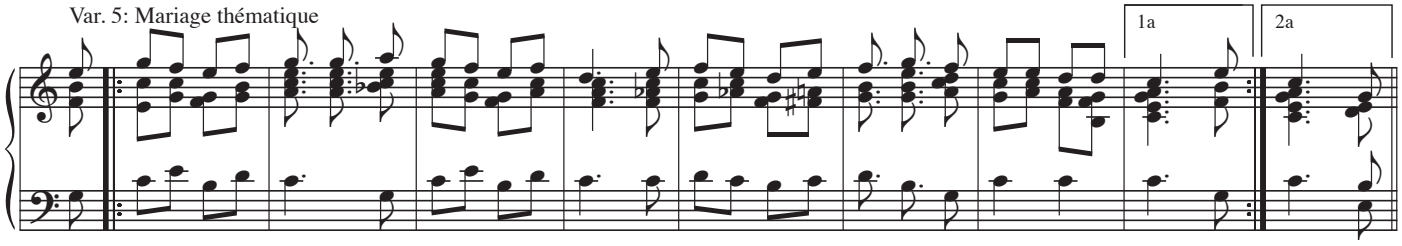
Var. 3: Salseado

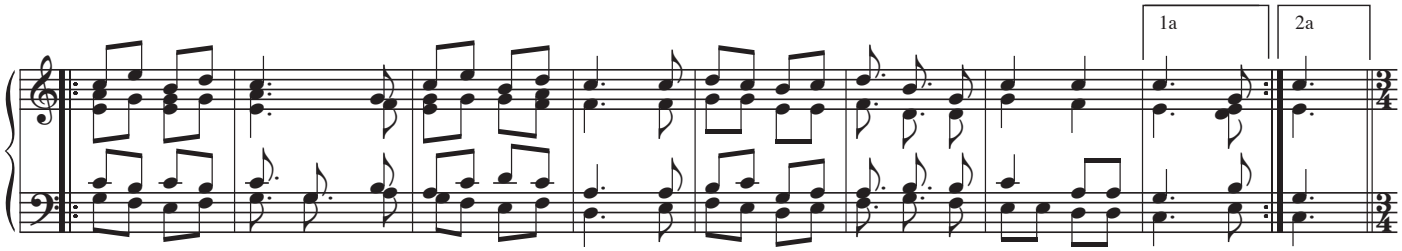


Var. 4: Psychedelisch bitonaal

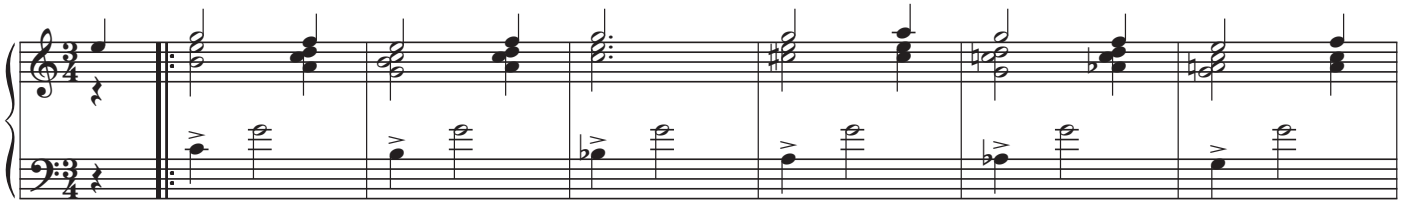


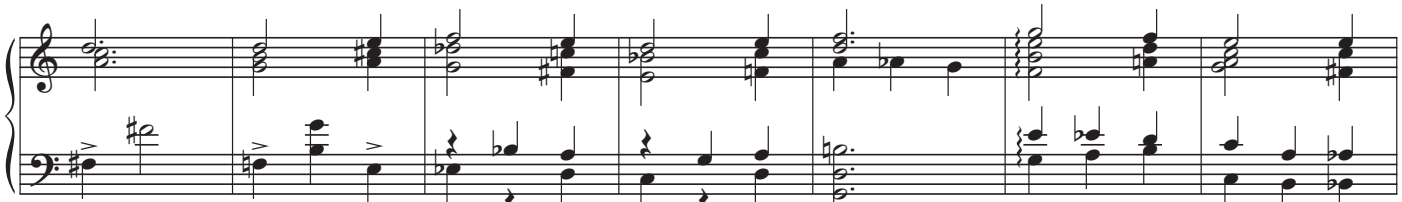
Var. 5: Mariage thématique

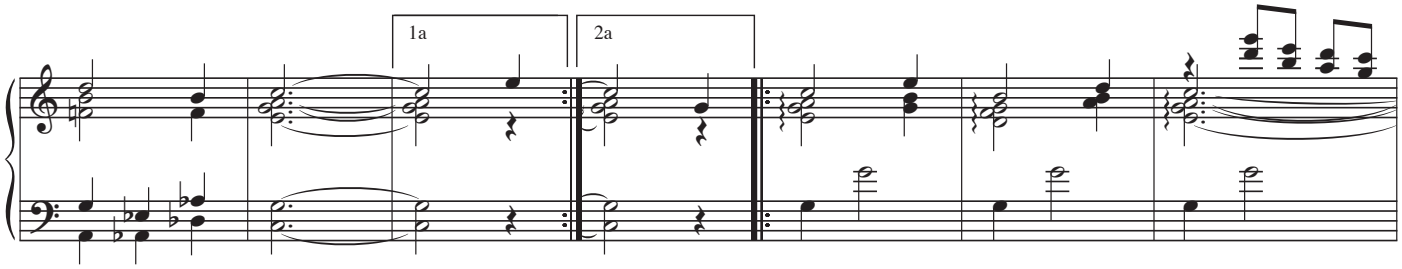


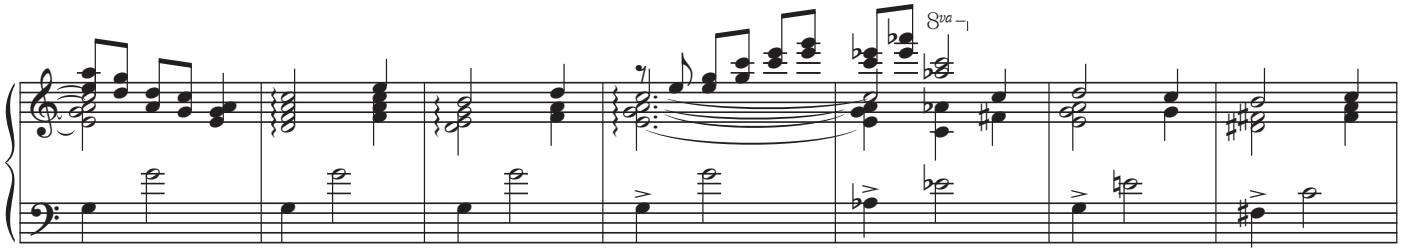


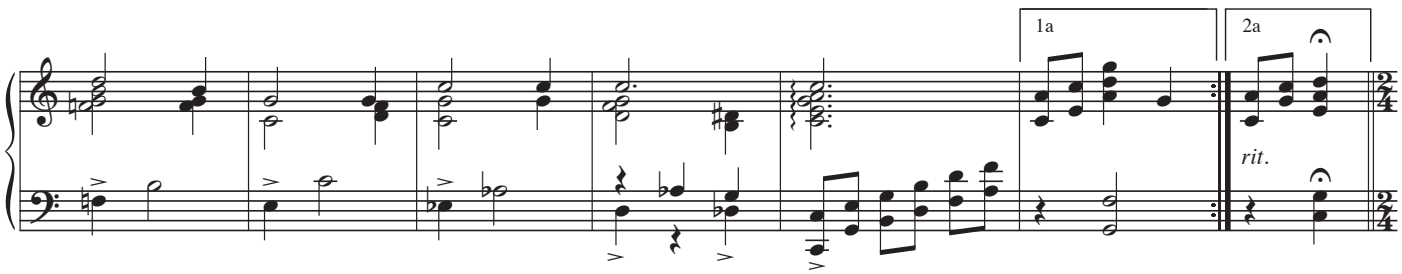
Var. 6: Don Pancho chromatiek



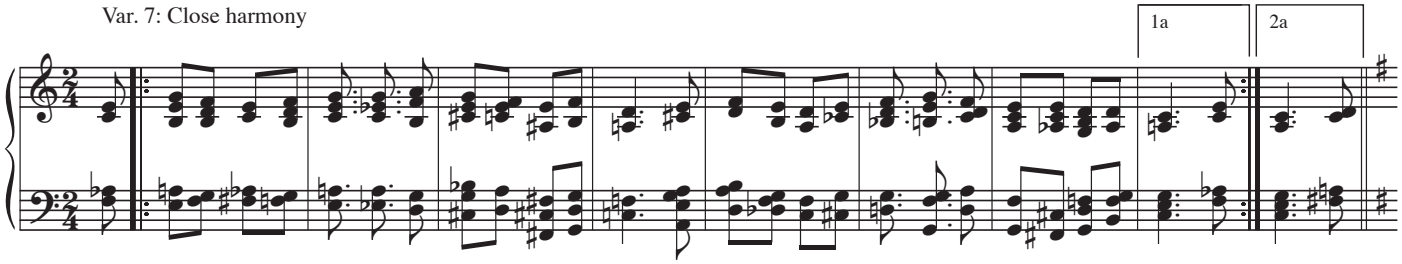


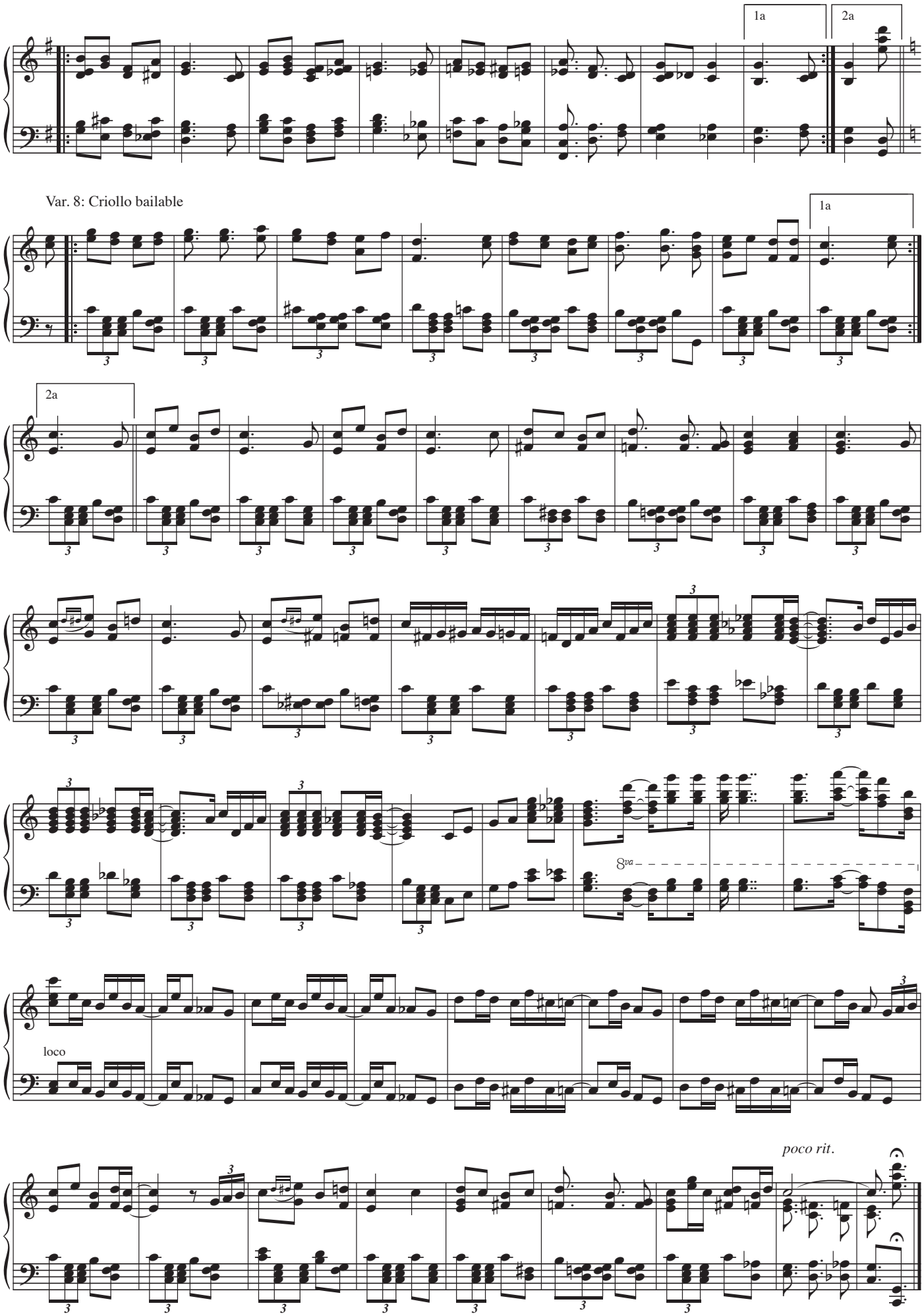






Var. 7: Close harmony

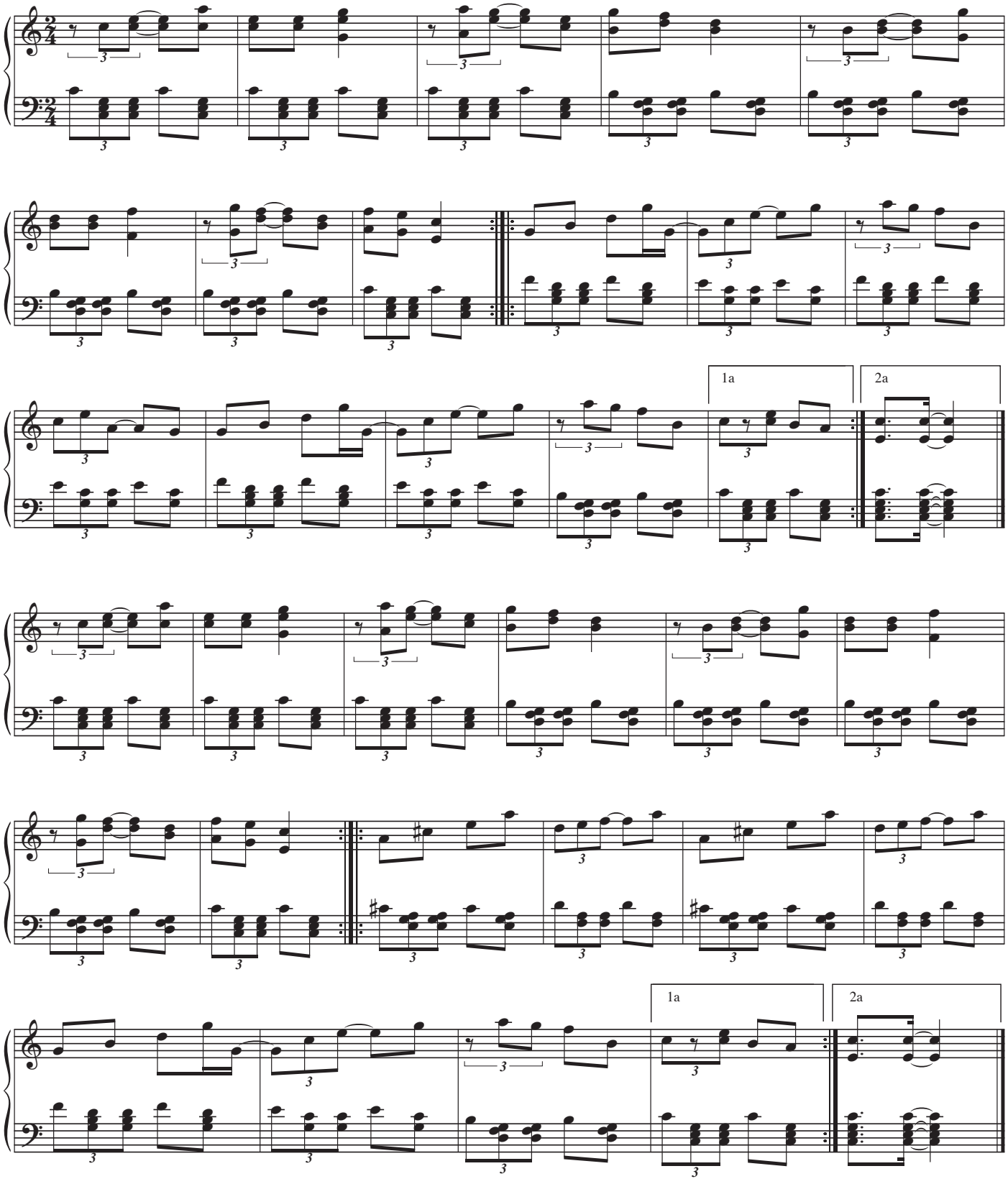



1a
2a
Var. 8: Criollo bailable
1a
2a
8va
loco
poco rit.

E Regalo

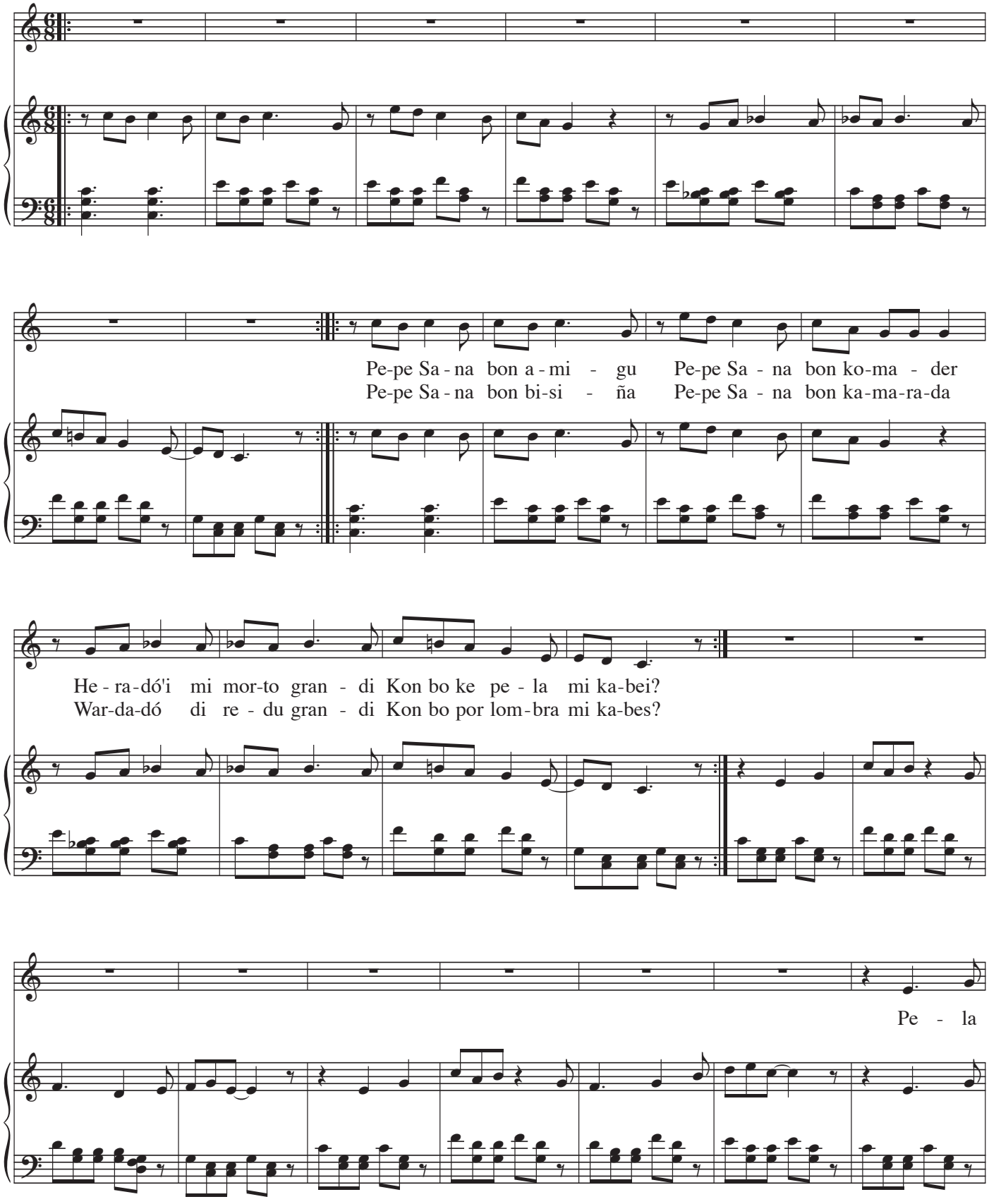
Dedicated to his son Anthony Palm

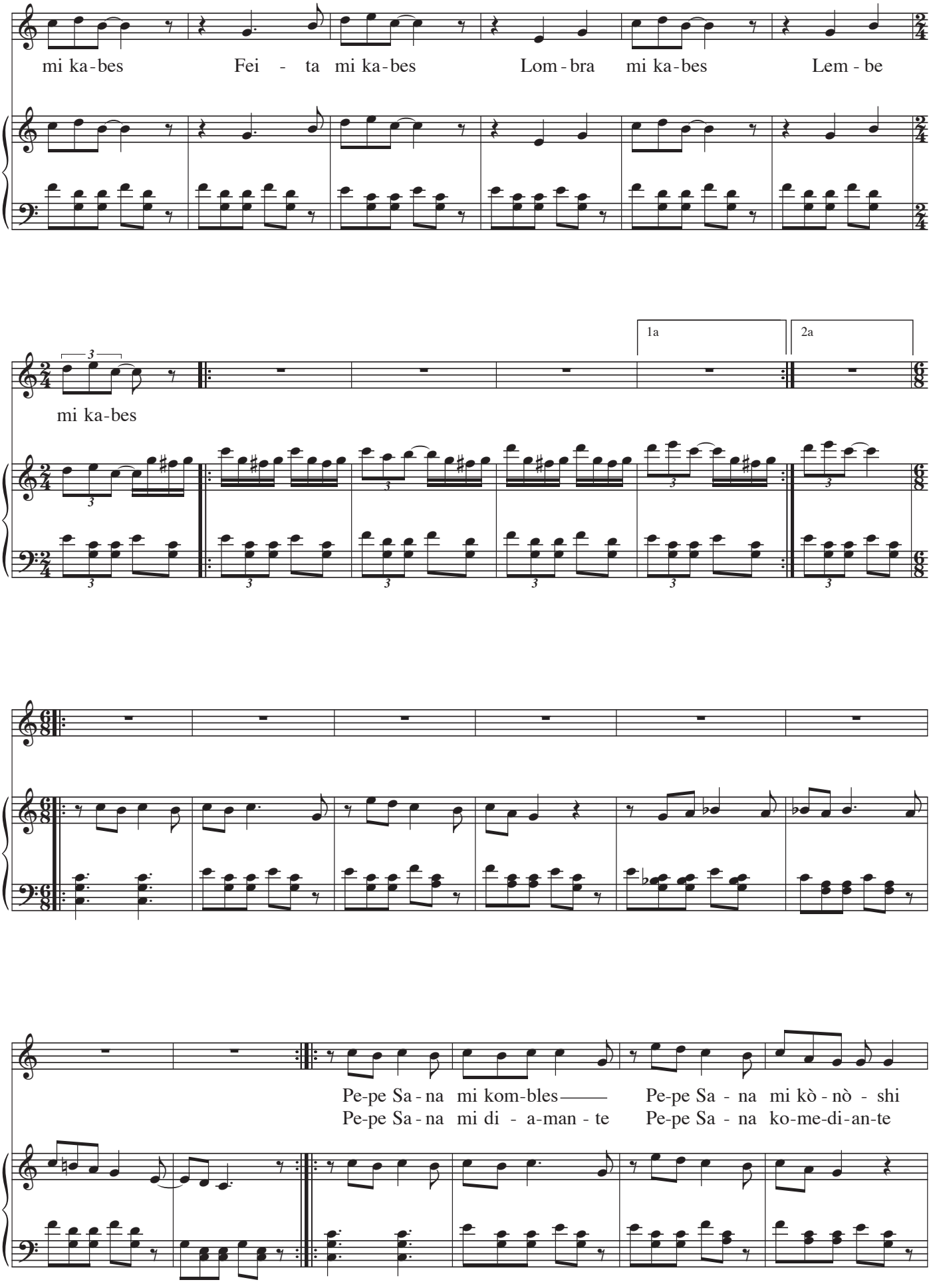
Tumba

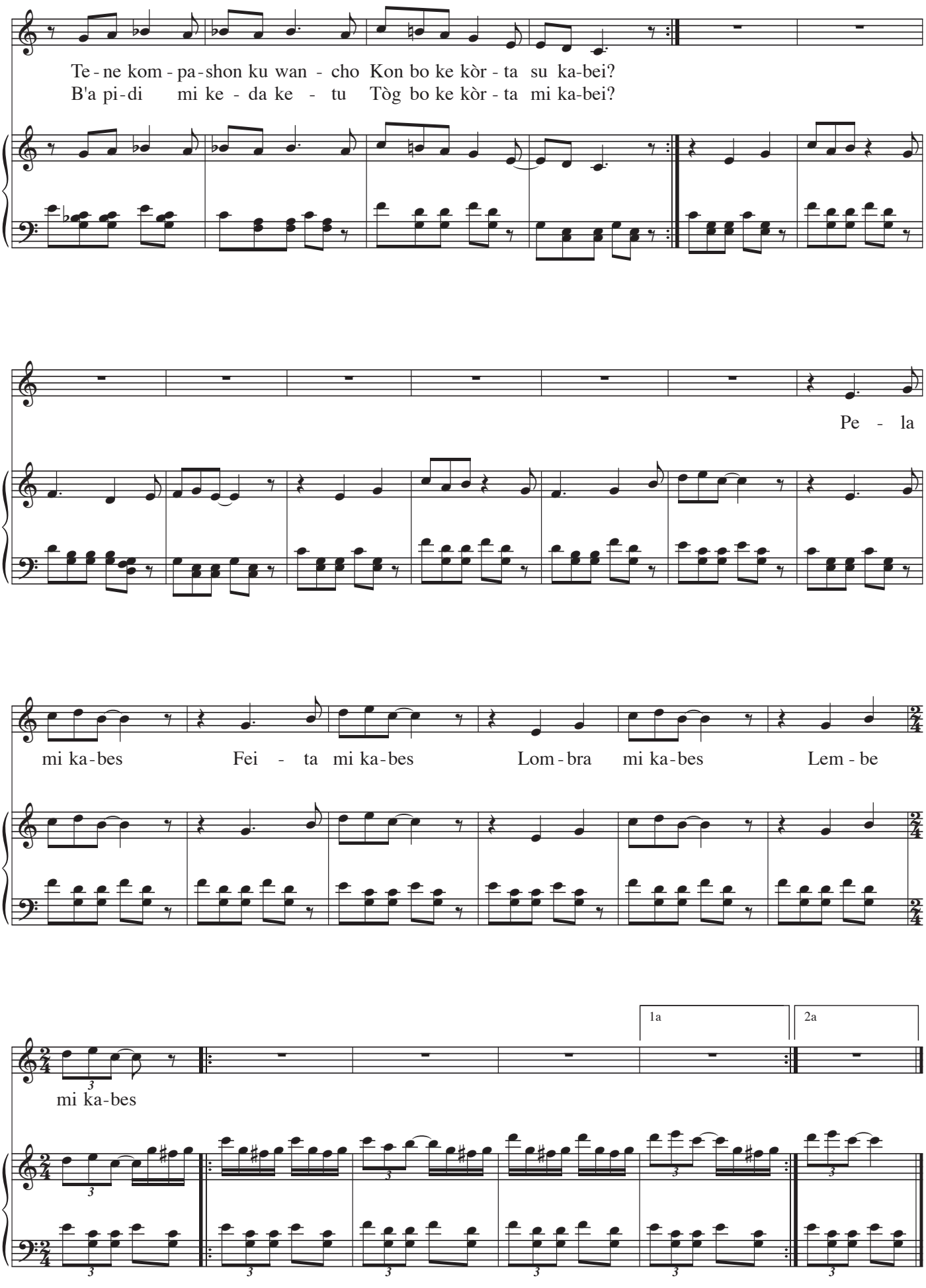


Pepe Sana

Tumba

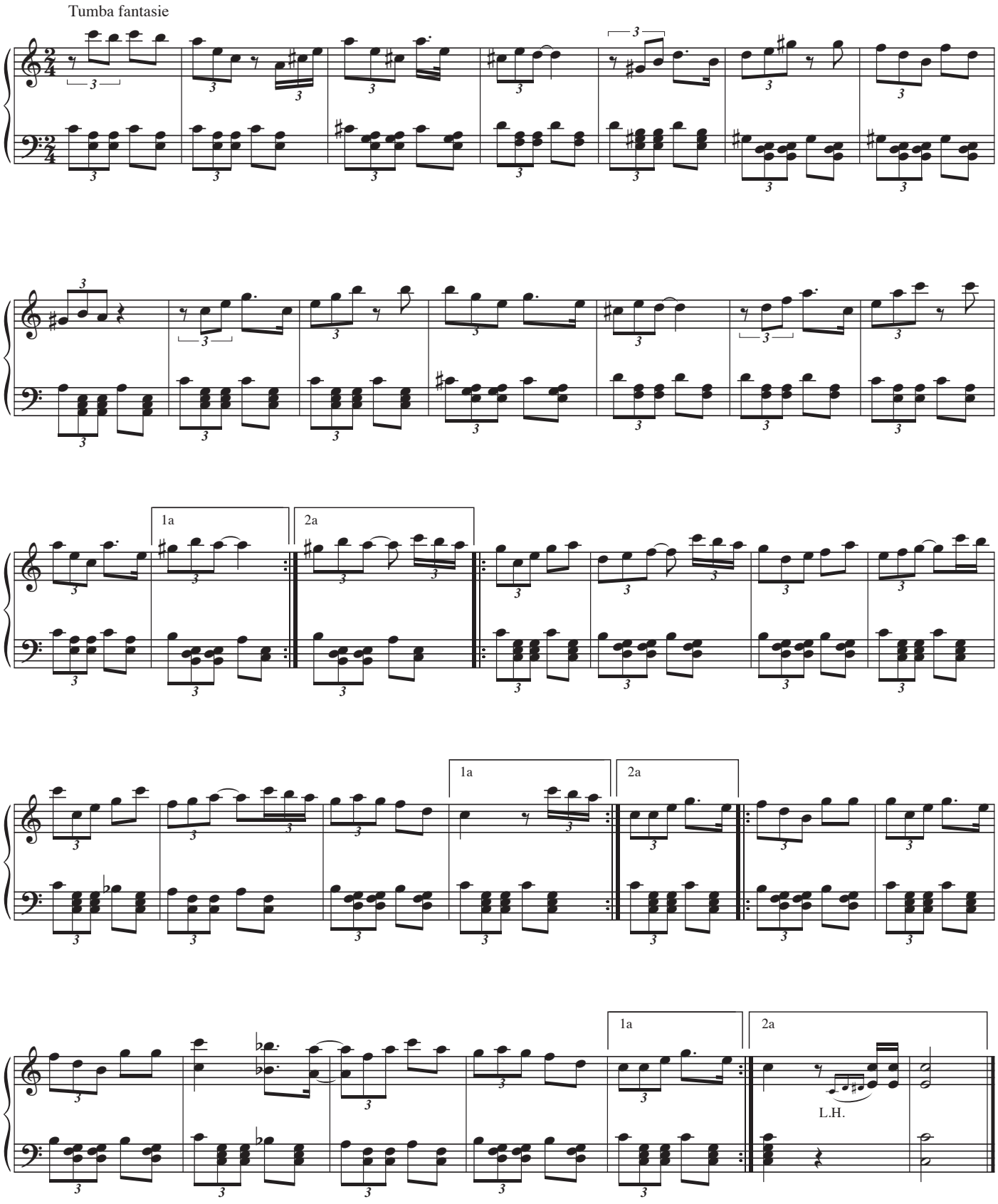



mi ka-bes
Fei - ta mi ka-bes
Lom-bra mi ka-bes
Lem-be
1a
2a
mi ka-bes
Pe-pe Sa-na mi kom-bles——
Pe-pe Sa-na mi di - a-man-te
Pe-pe Sa - na mi kò-nò - shi
Pe-pe Sa - na ko-me-di-an-te

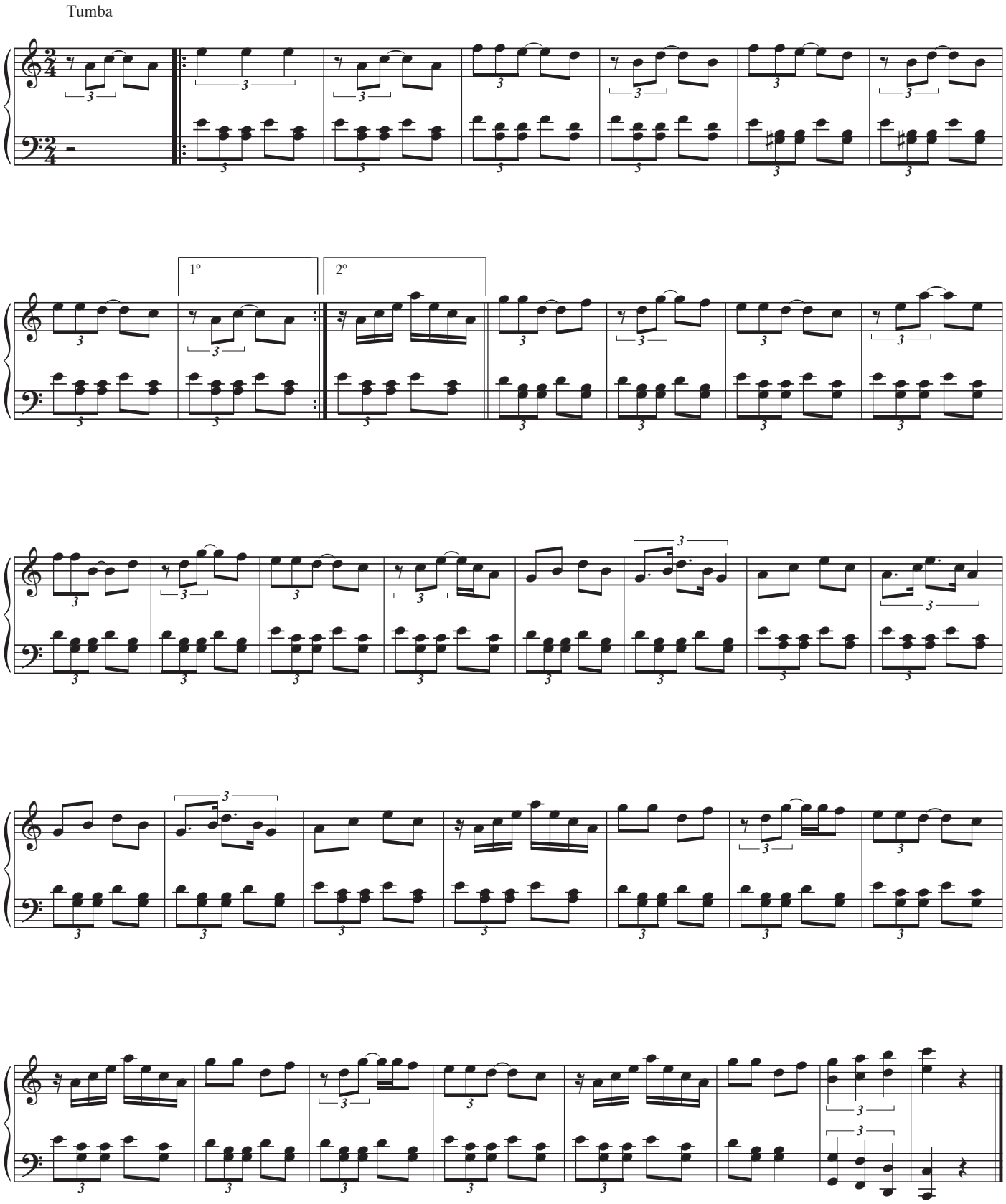

Te - ne kom - pa - shon ku wan - cho Kon bo ke kòr - ta su ka-bei?
B'a pi - di mi ke - da ke - tu Tòg bo ke kòr - ta mi ka-bei?
Pe - la
mi ka - bes Fei - ta mi ka - bes Lom - bra mi ka - bes Lem - be
1a
2a
mi ka - bes

Shon bunita kon ta bai

May 1958

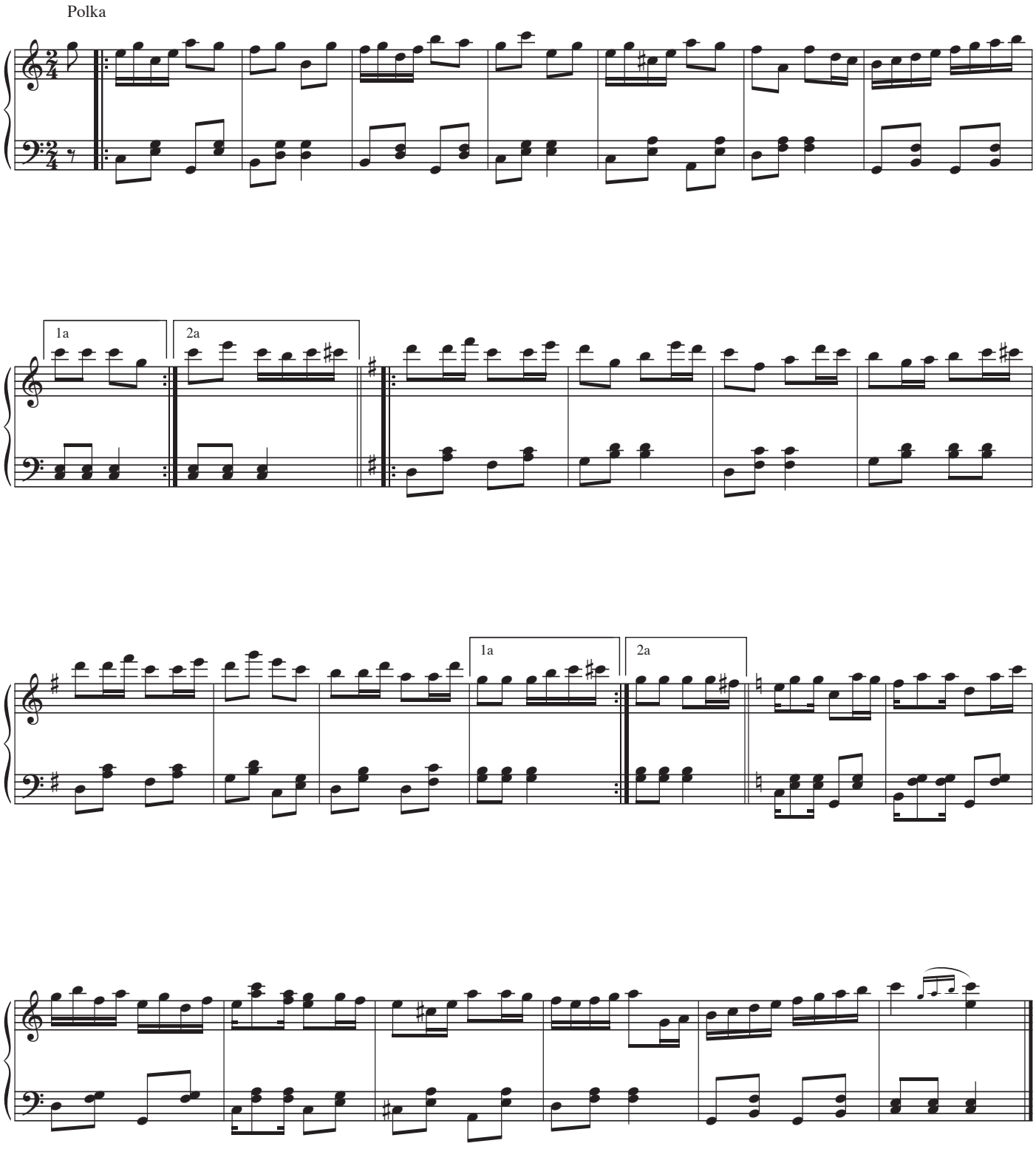


Telaraña



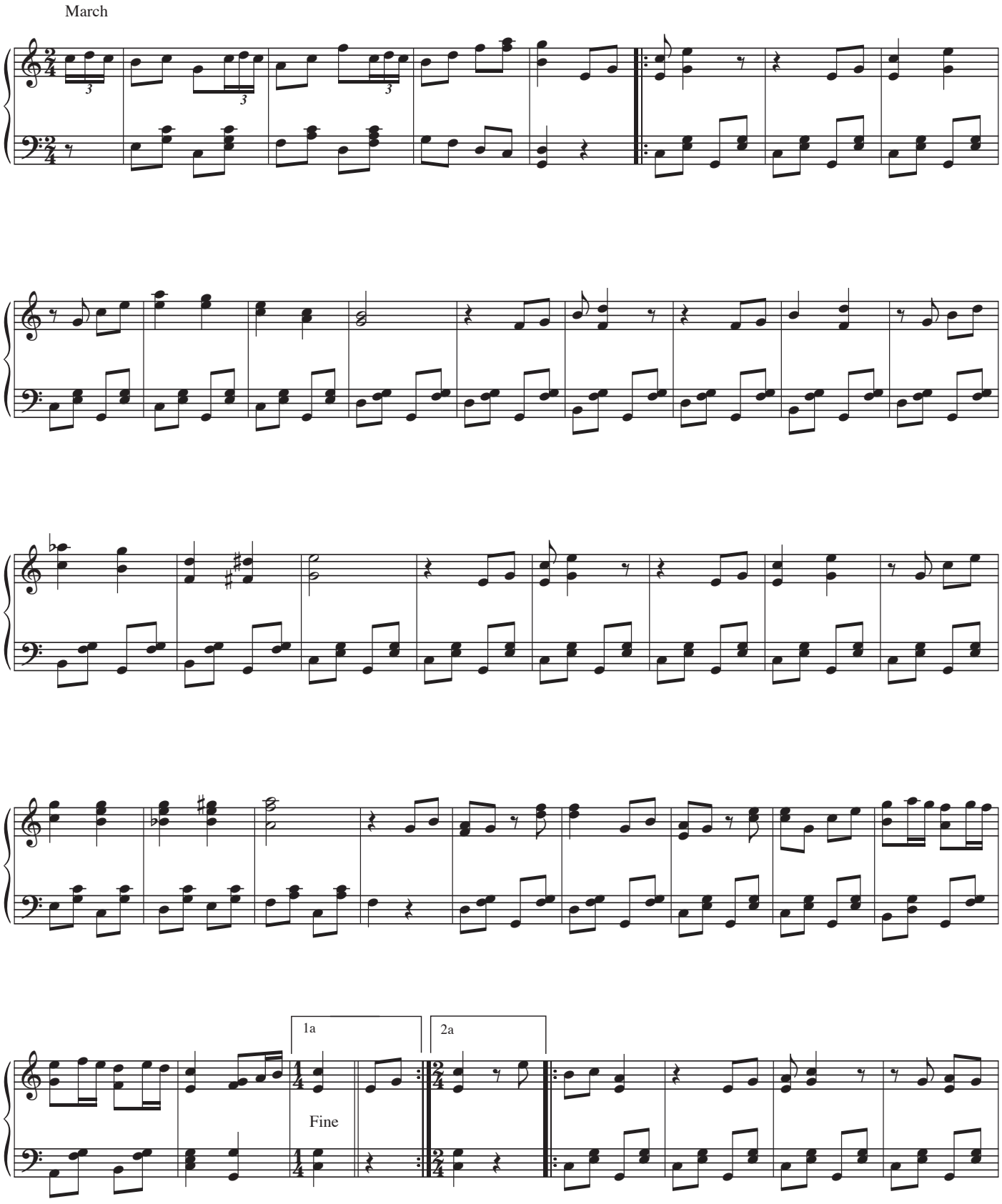
Ruud

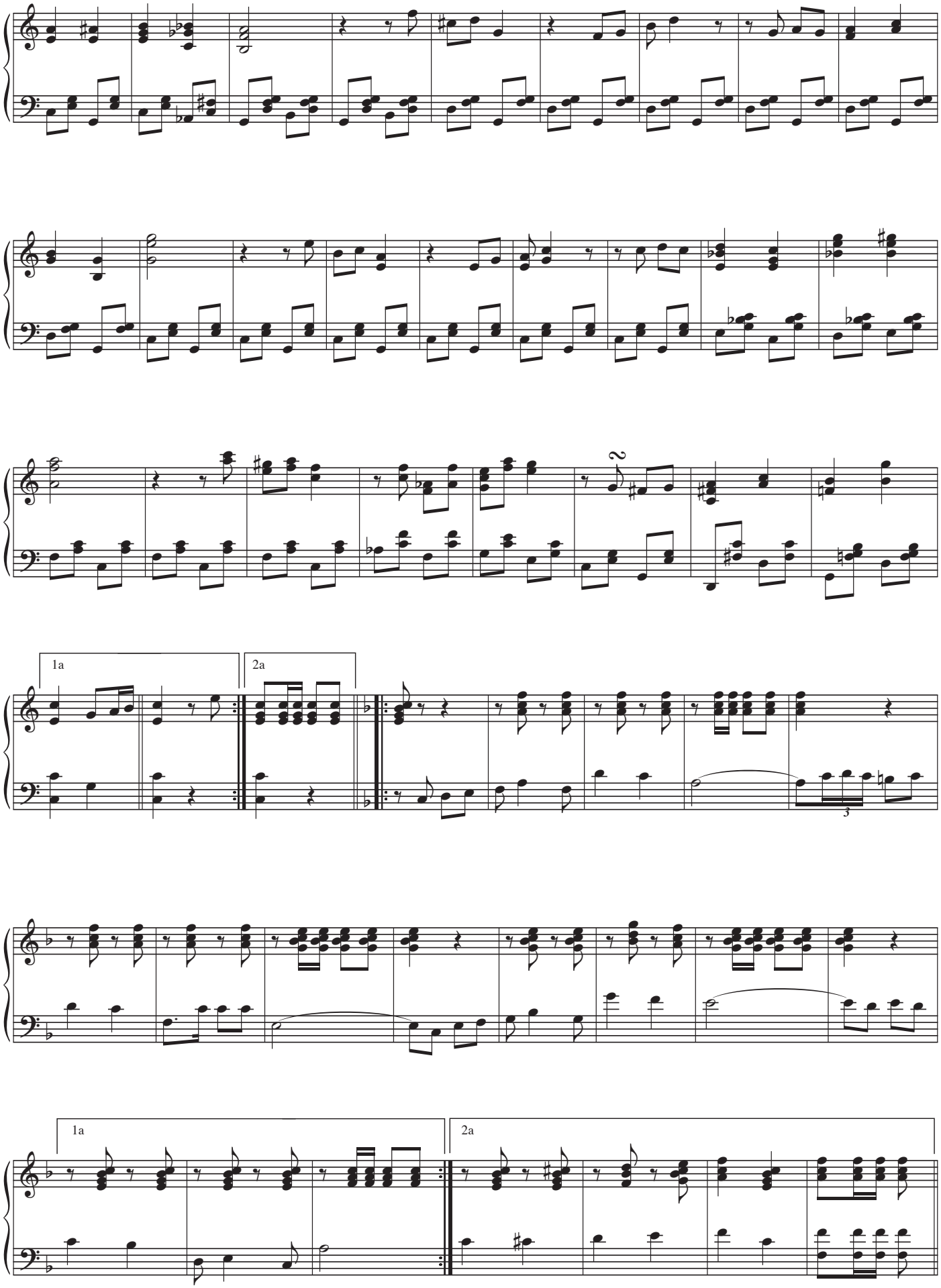
Dedicated to Ruud Smits, grandson of Edgar Palm



Clifford

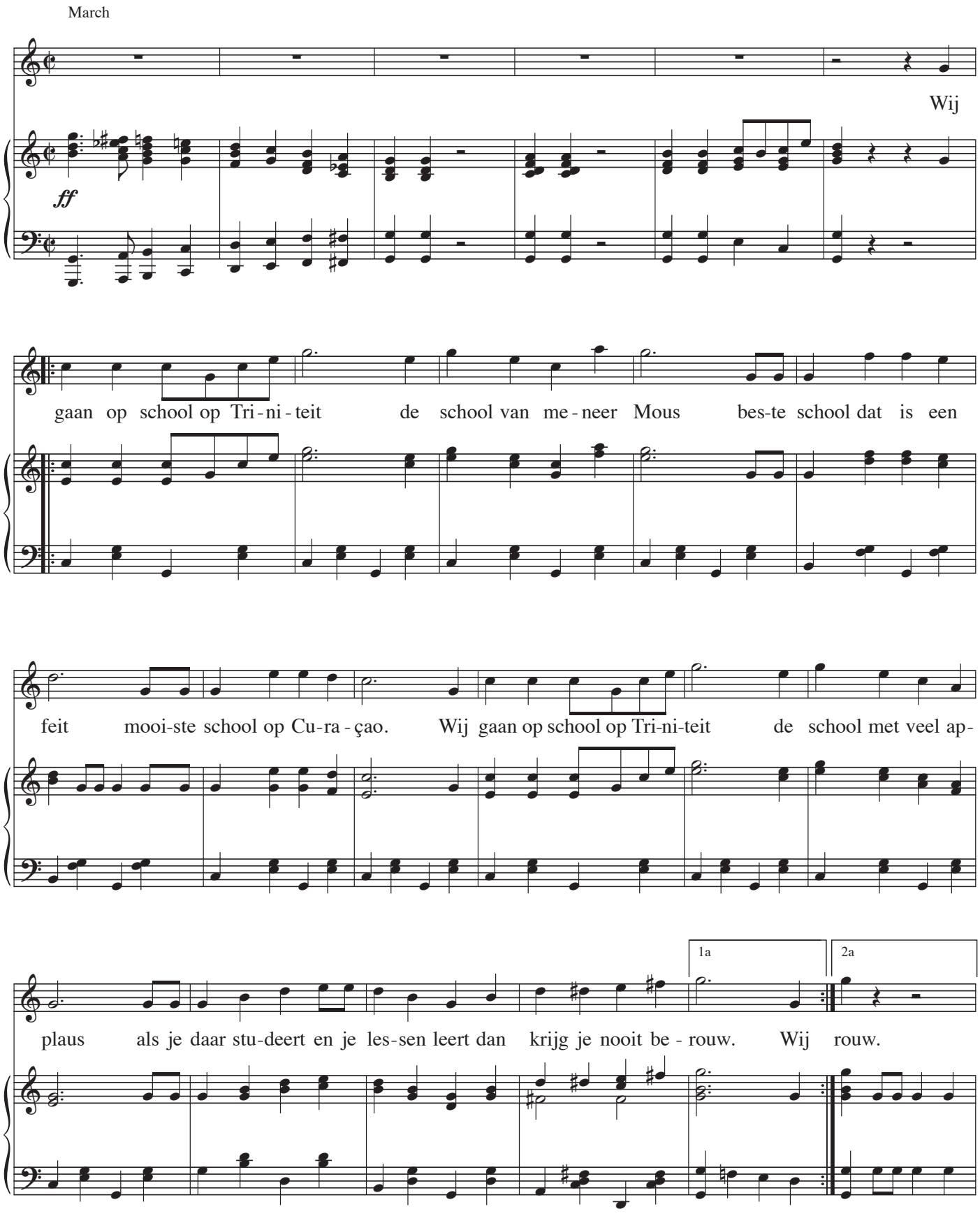
Dedicated to Clifford Palm, grandson of Edgar Palm; Vienna, 1977

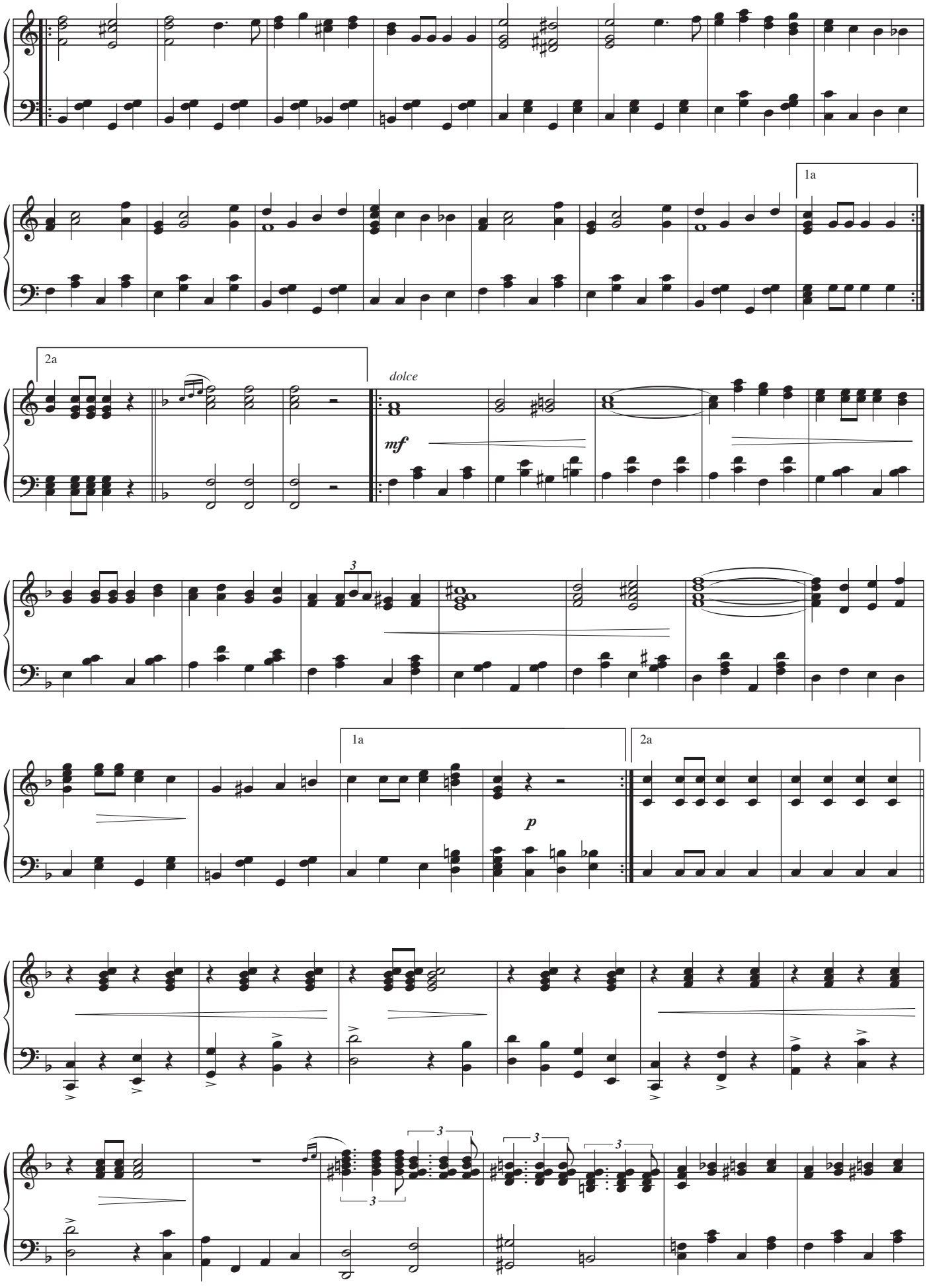


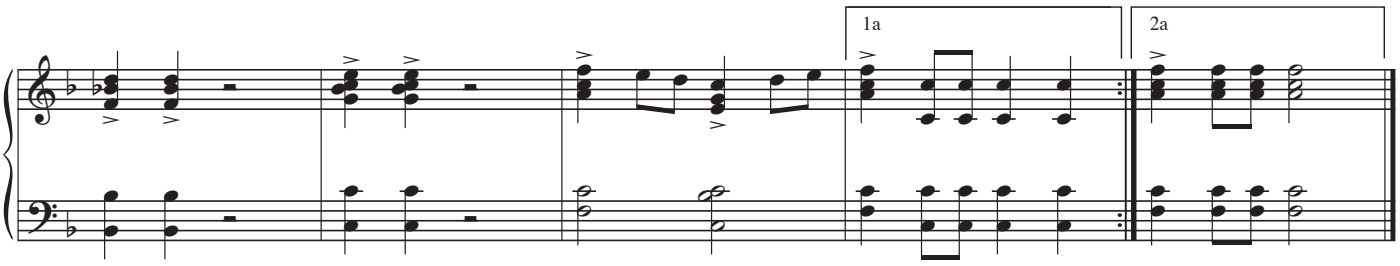

1a
2a
1a
2a

Triniteit College

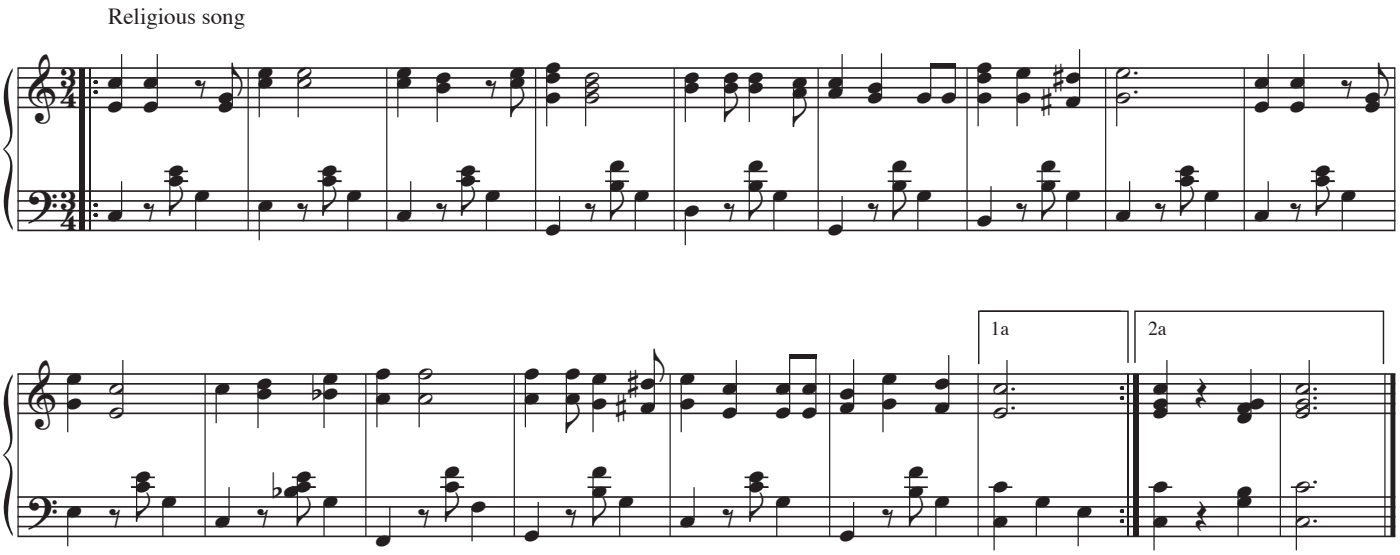
Dedicated to G.P. Mous; 25 June 1966



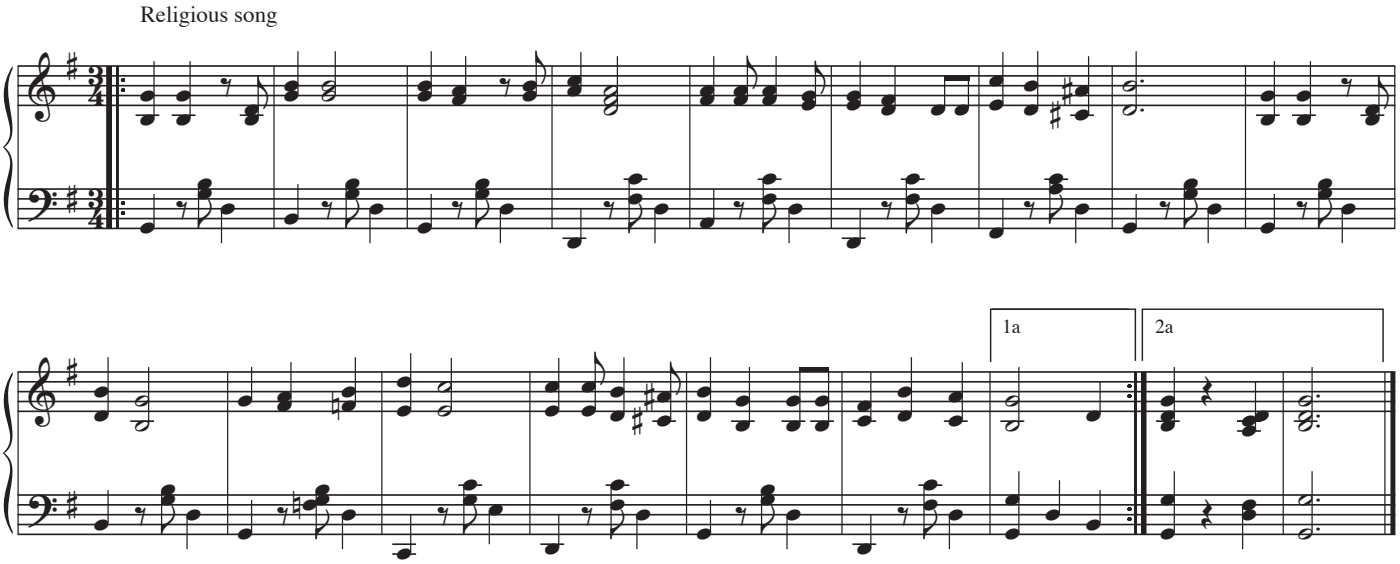

1a
2a
dolce
mf
3
1a
2a
p
3
3
3
3



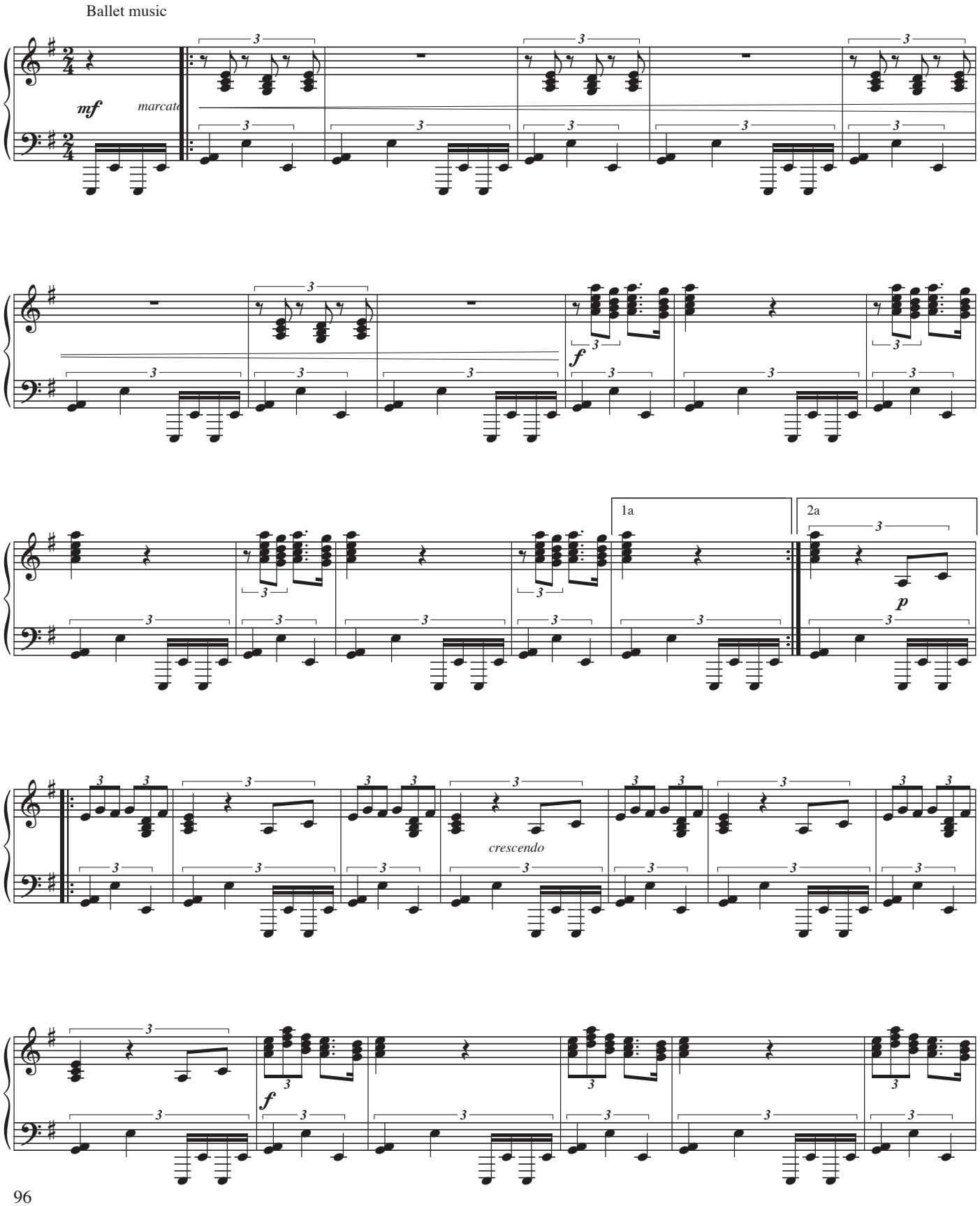
Kristu Maestro (version 1)

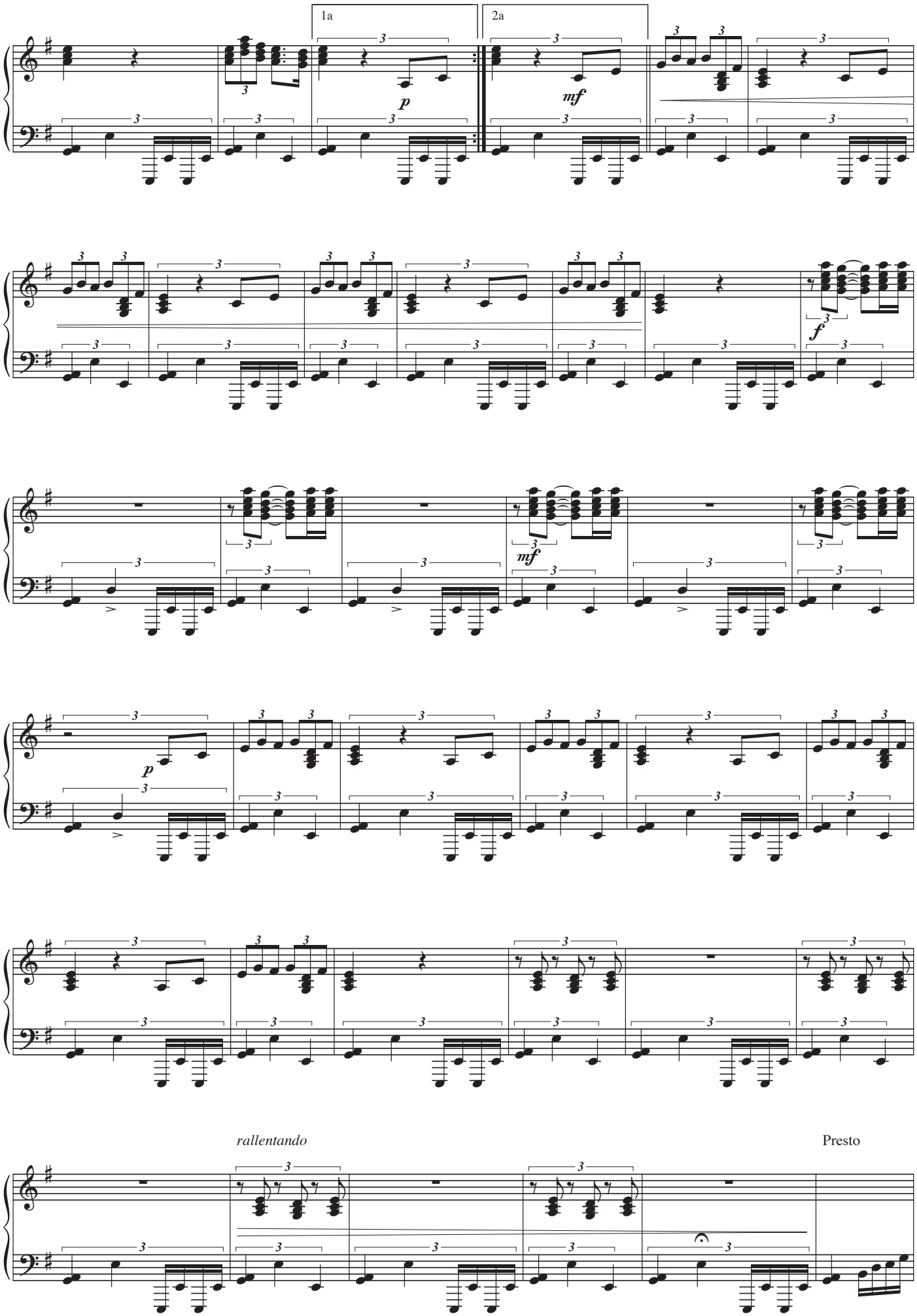


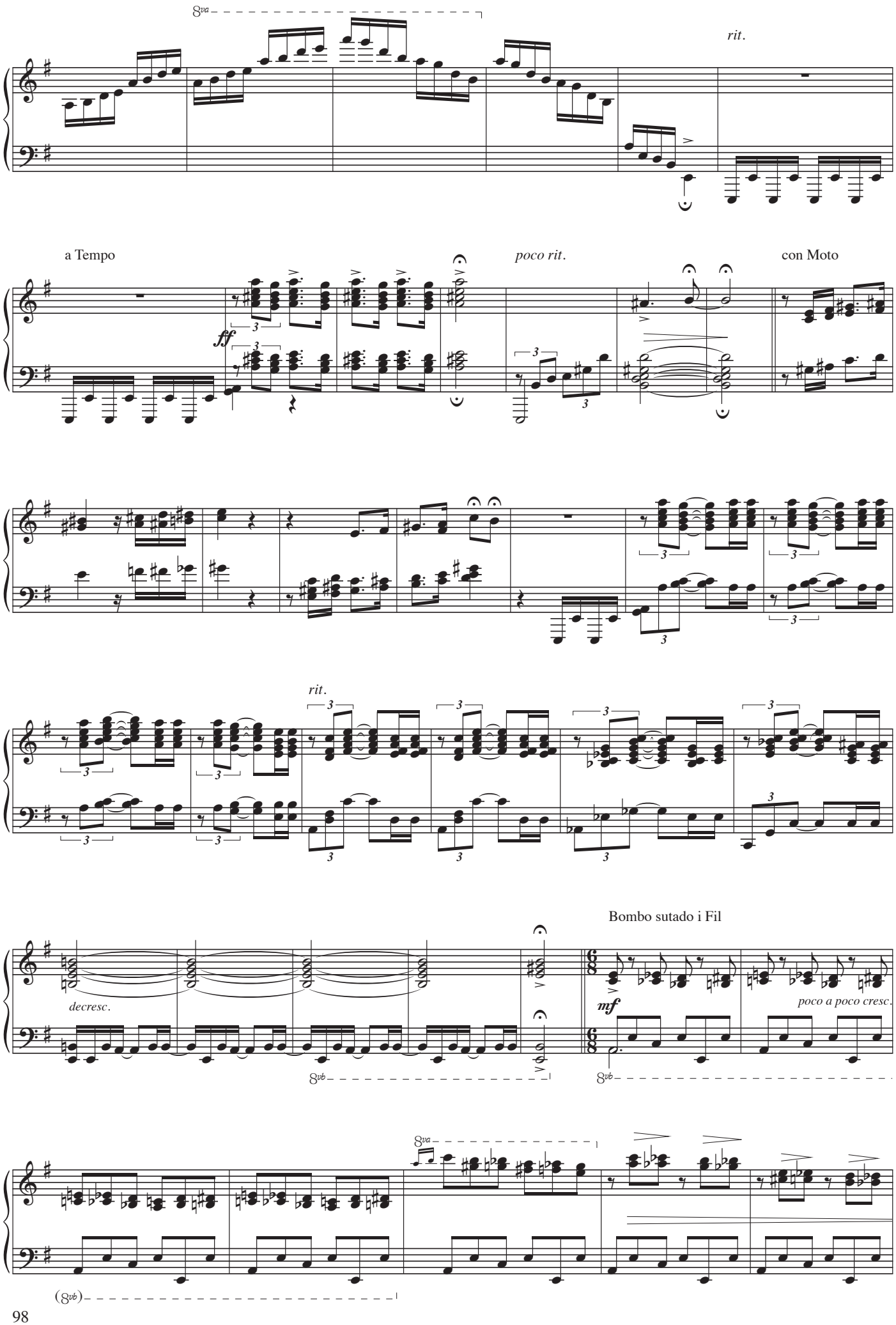
Kristu Maestro (version 2)

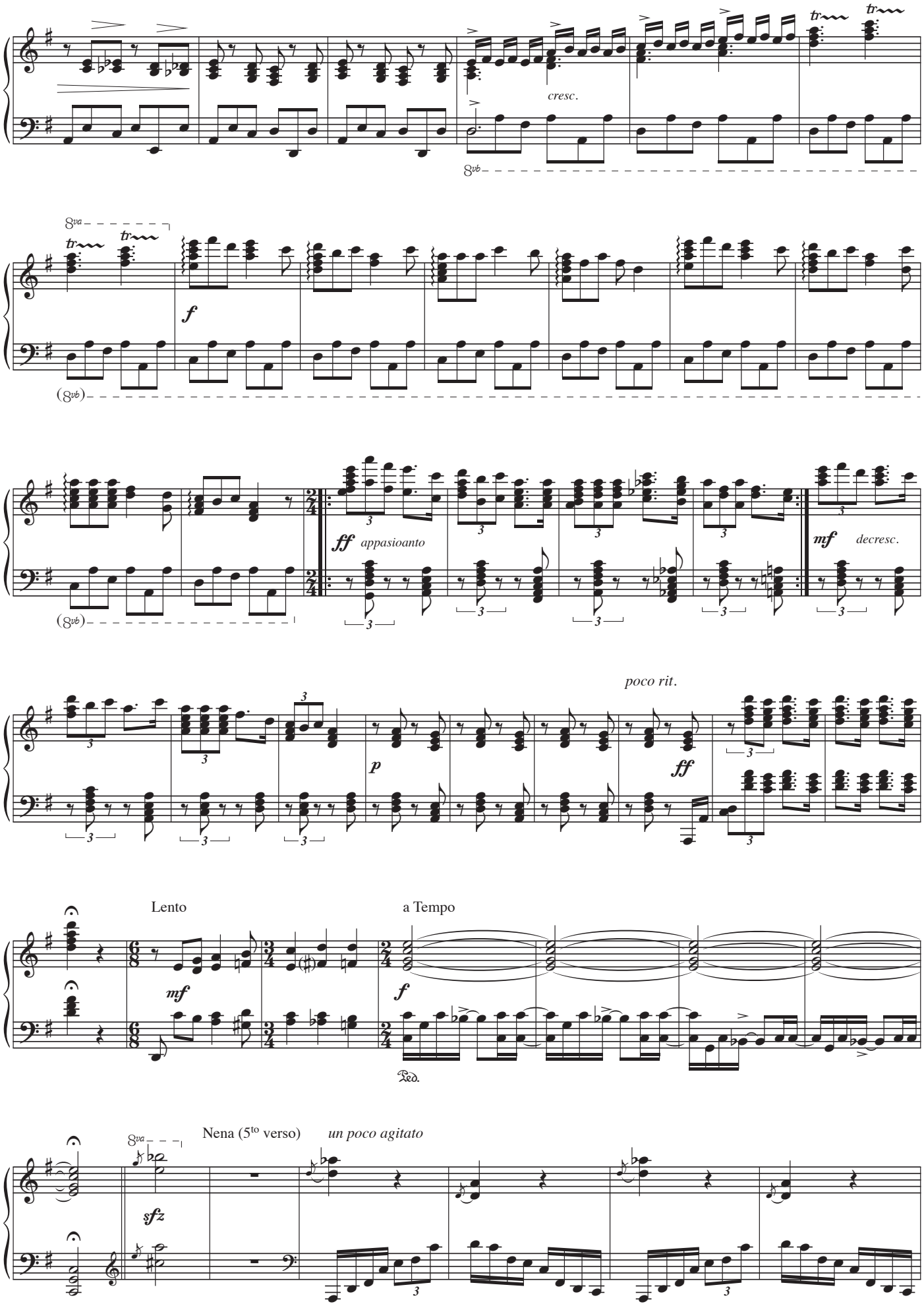


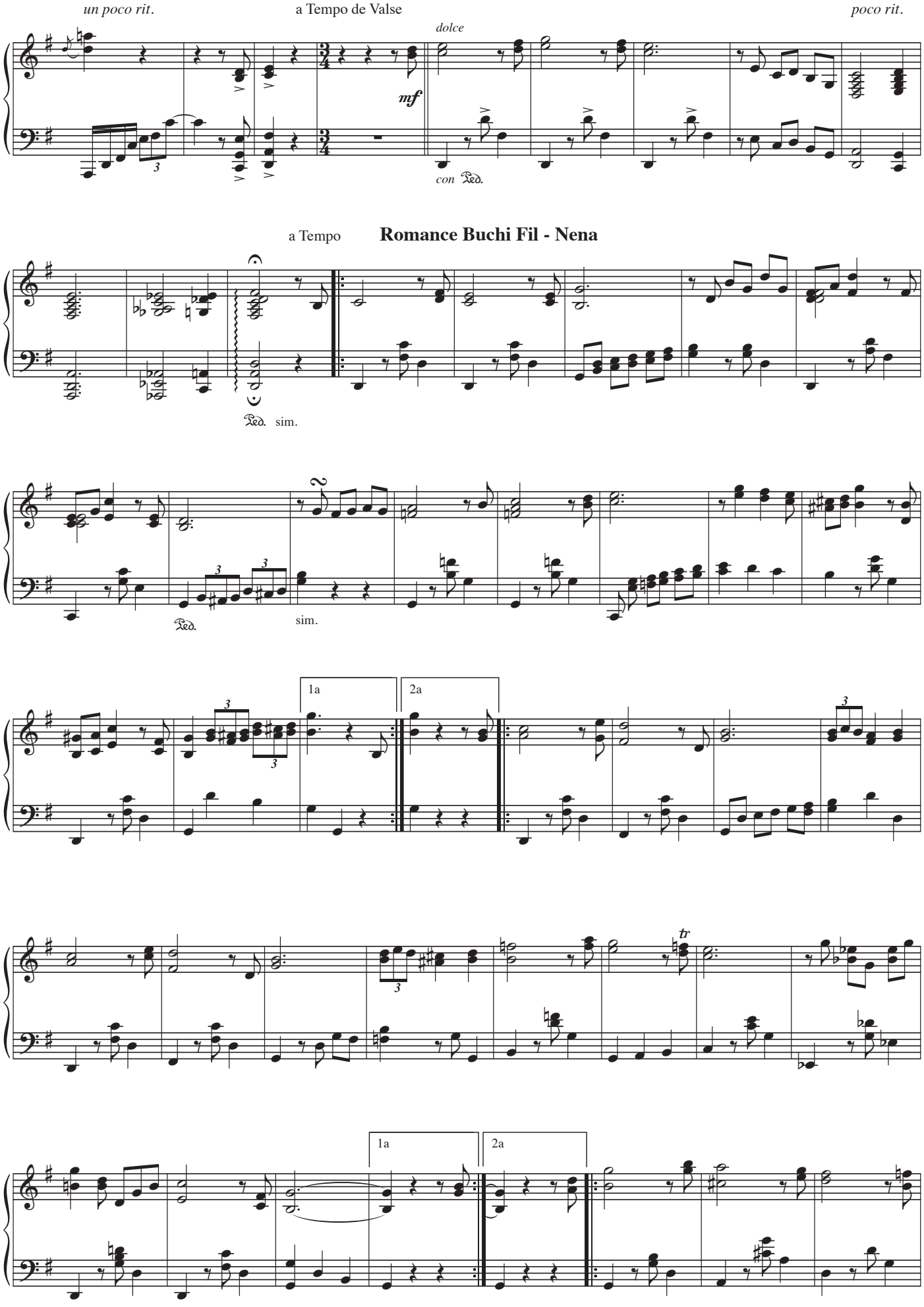
Buchi Fil

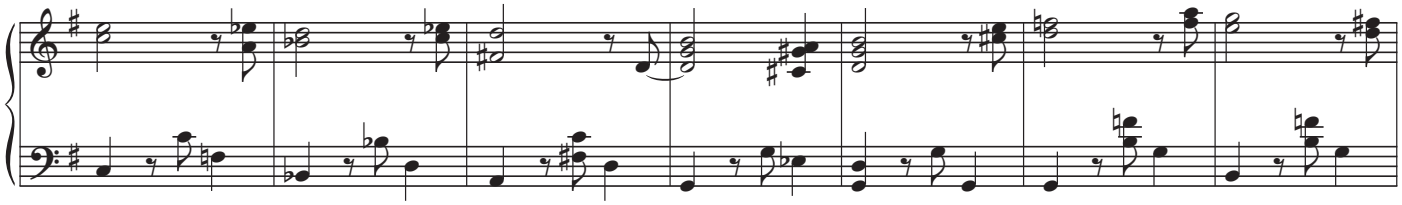


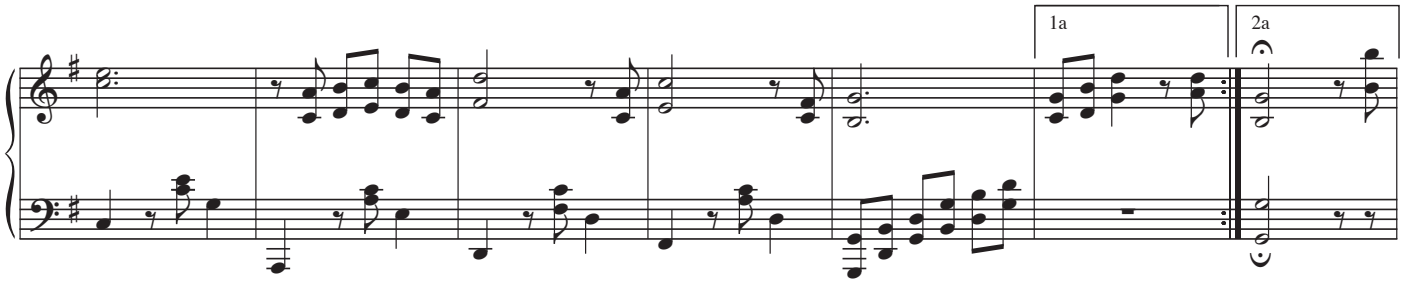

1a
2a
p
mf
f
mf
p
rallentando
Presto


8va
rit.
a Tempo
ff
poco rit.
con Moto
rit.
decresc.
8vb
Bombo sutado i Fil
mf
poco a poco cresc.
8va
(8vb)


cresc.
8va
8vb
f
ff appasioanto
mf decresc.
poco rit.
p
ff
Lento
a Tempo
mf
f
Ped.
Nena (5to verso)
un poco agitato
sfz

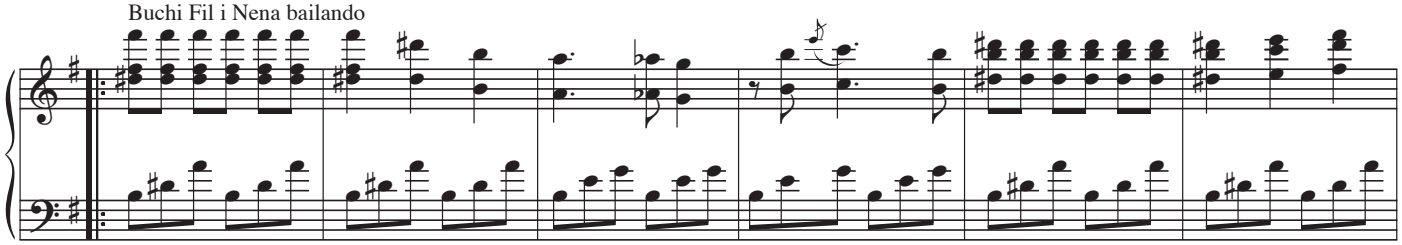

un poco rit.
a Tempo de Valse
poco rit.
dolce
mf
con Ped.
a Tempo
Romance Buchi Fil - Nena
Ped. sim.
Ped.
sim.
1a
2a
tr
1a
2a



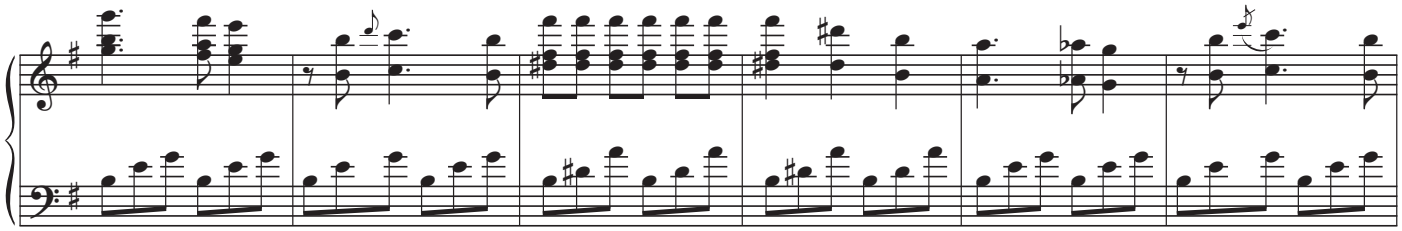


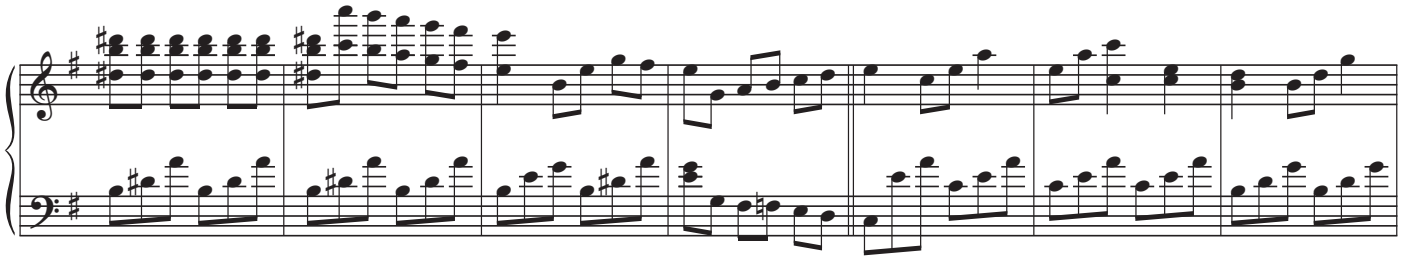
Imitando Valse de "Kai' orgel"

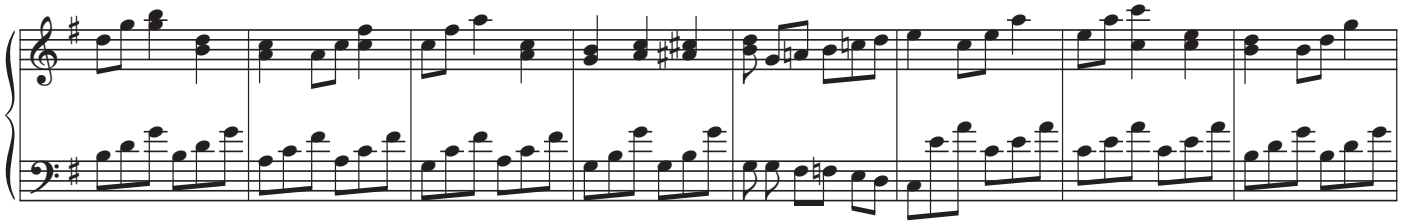
Buchi Fil i Nena bailando

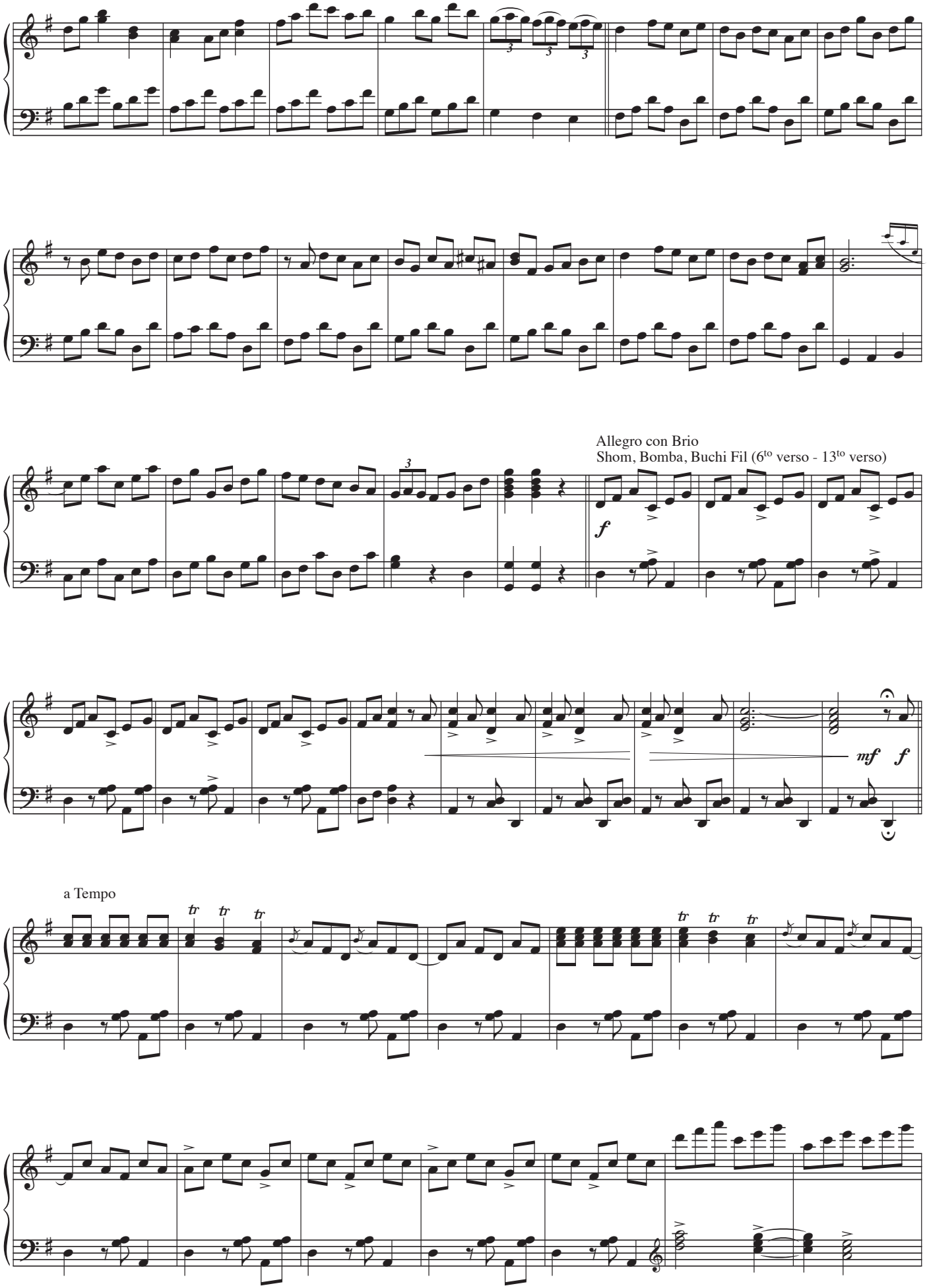


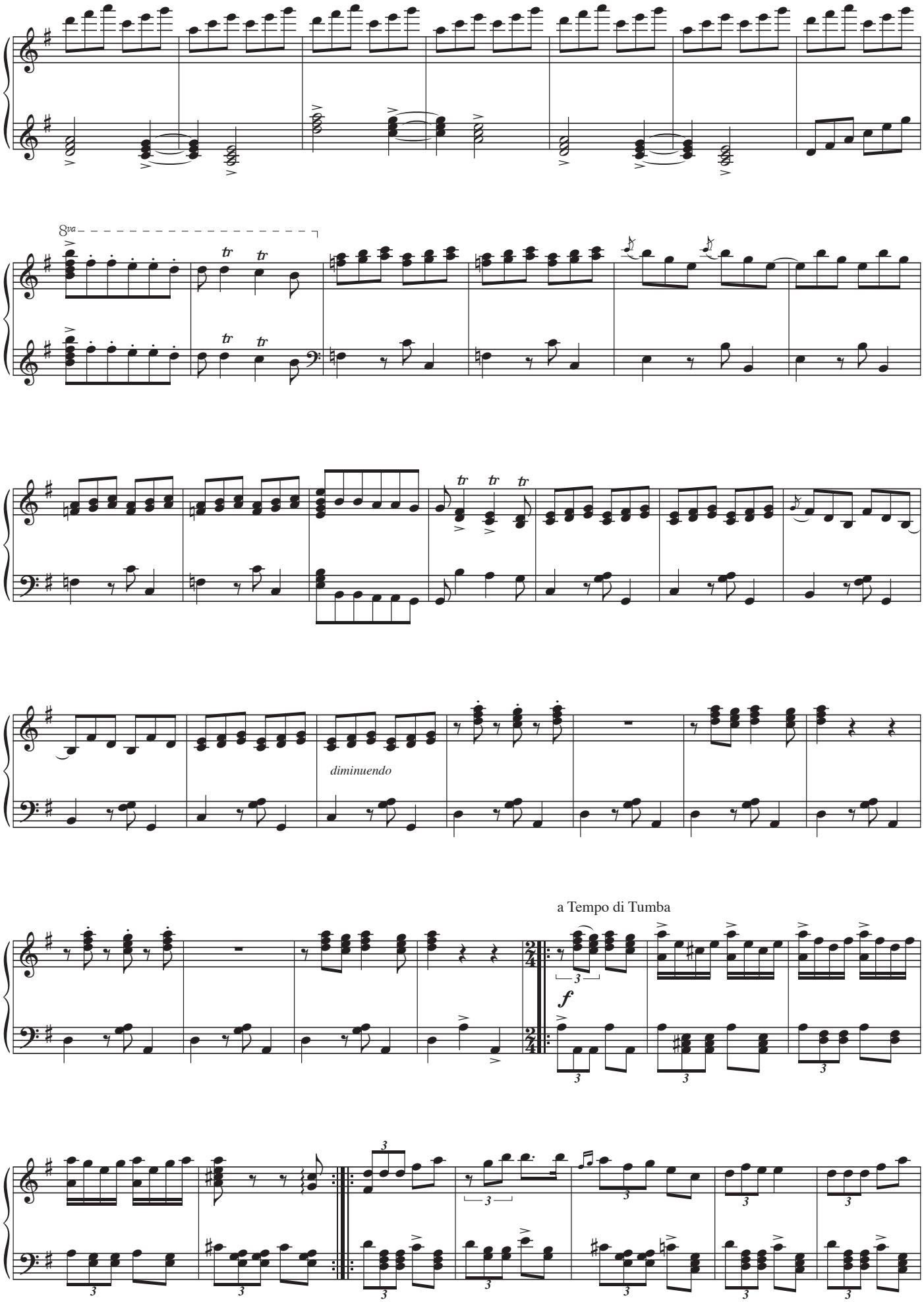
con Pedal para imitar la resonancia del "Kai orgel"

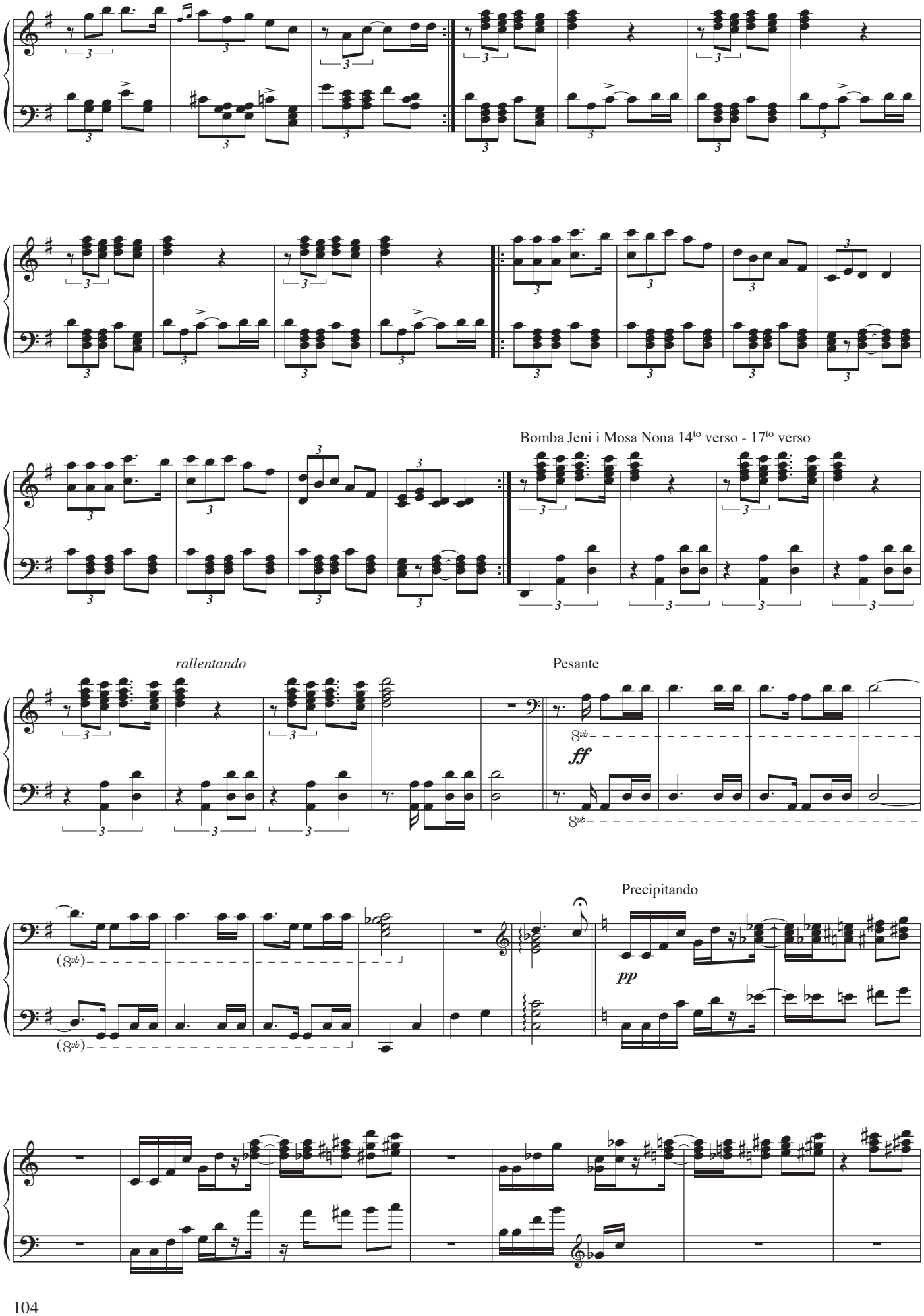


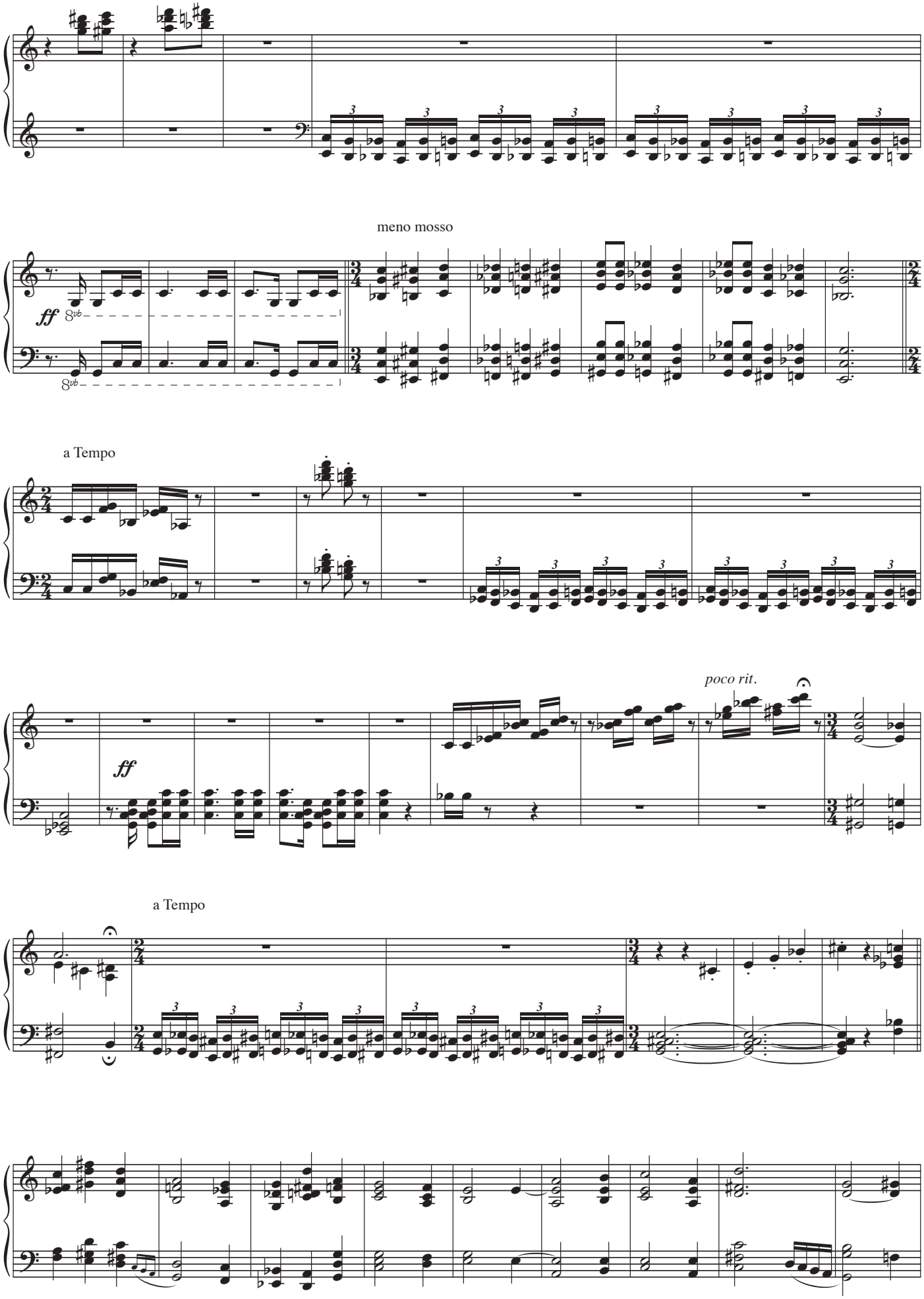


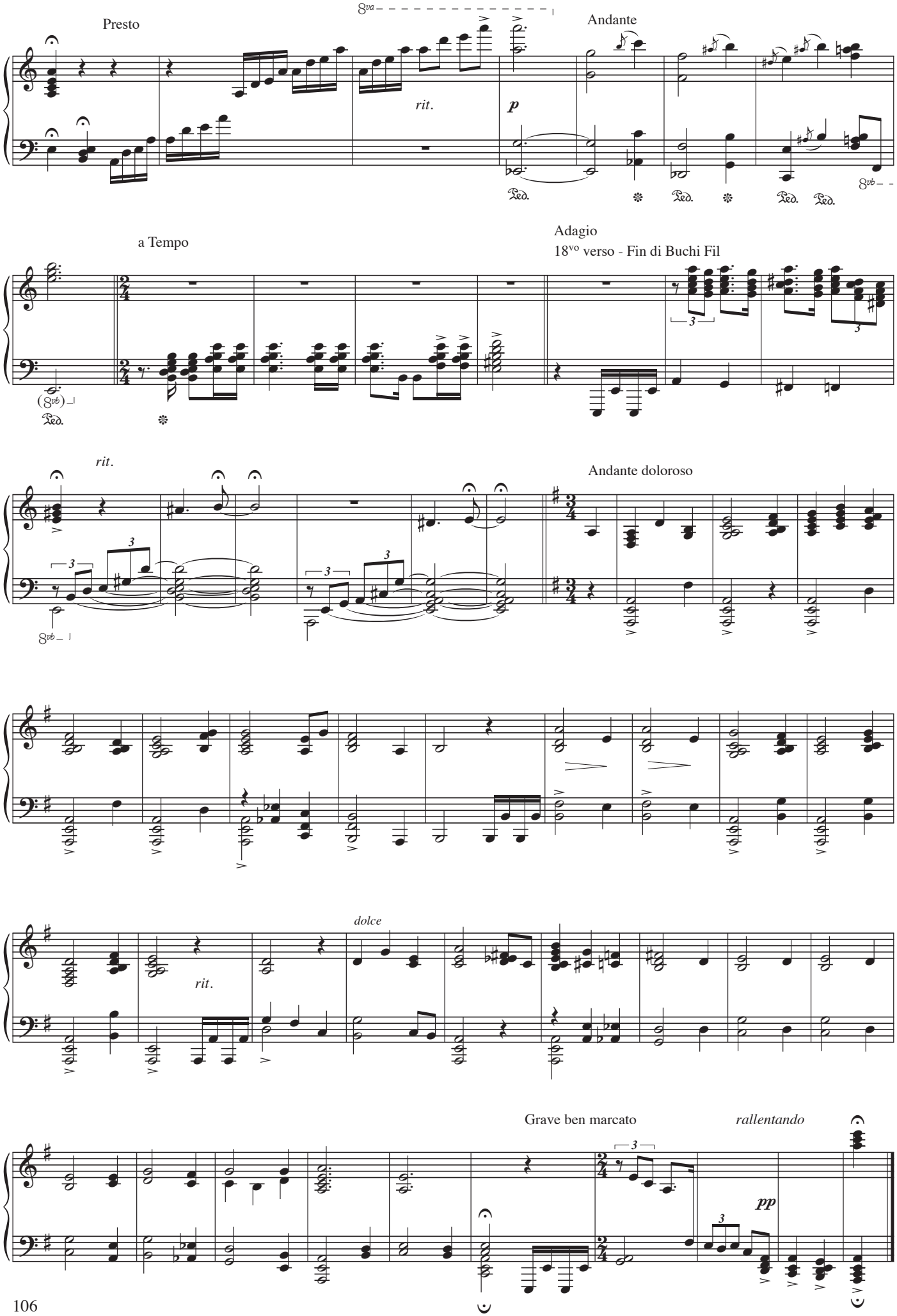



Allegro con Brio
Shom, Bomba, Buchi Fil (6to verso - 13to verso)
a Tempo


8va
diminuendo
a Tempo di Tumba
f

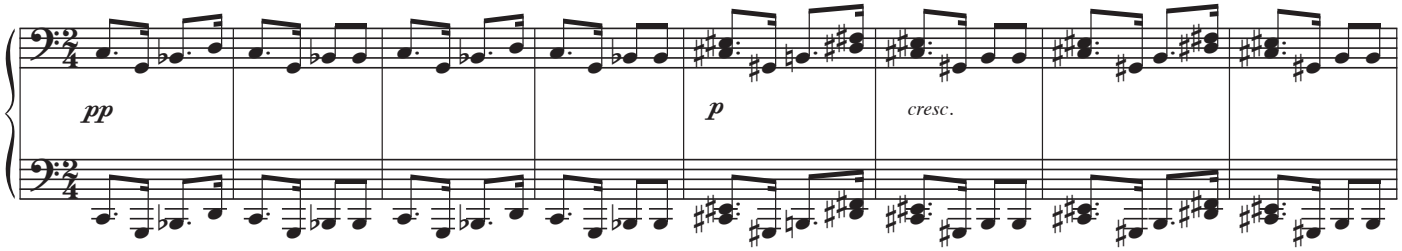

Bomba Jeni i Mosa Nona 14to verso - 17to verso
rallentando
Pesante
ff
Precipitando
pp

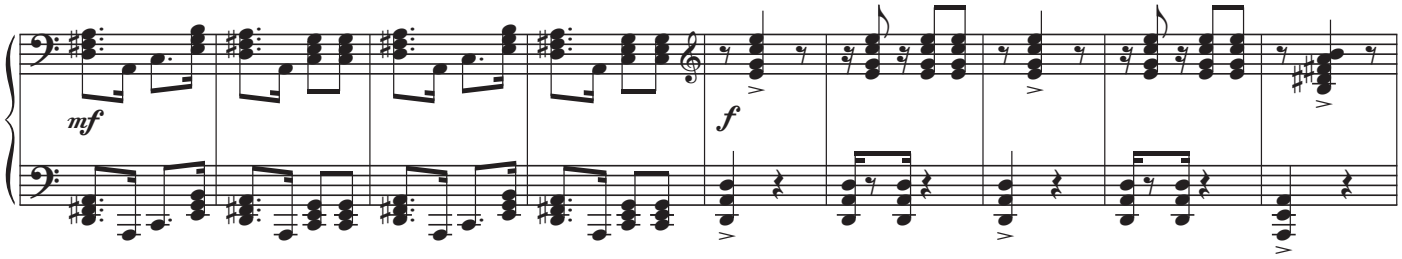

meno mosso
a Tempo
poco rit.
a Tempo


Presto
8va
rit.
p
Andante
8vb
a Tempo
(8vb)
Ped.
Adagio
18vo verso - Fin di Buchi Fil
3
rit.
Andante doloroso
8vb
dolce
rit.
Grave ben marcato
rallentando
pp

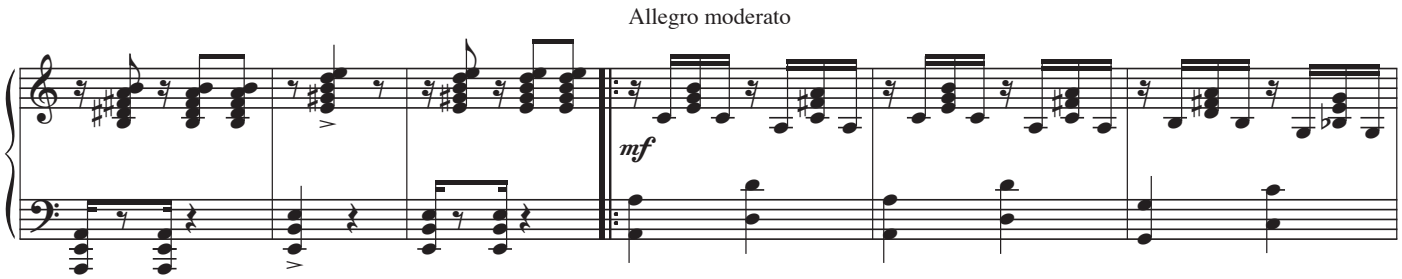
Doesje/Dulces recuerdos

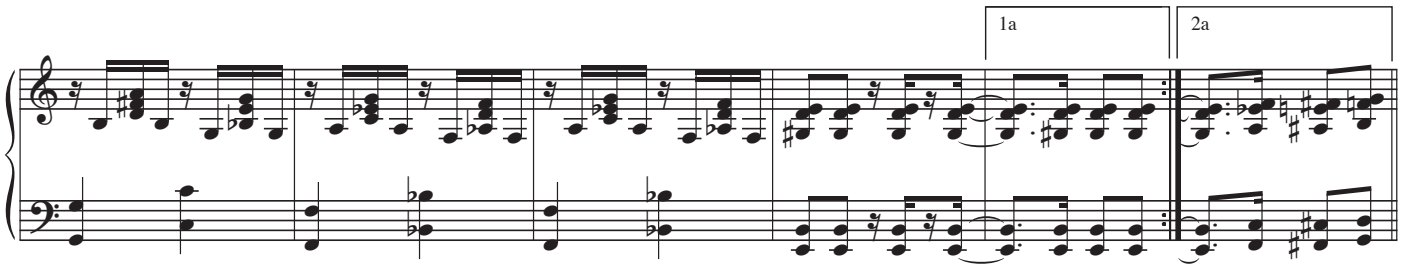
A1 Ballet music



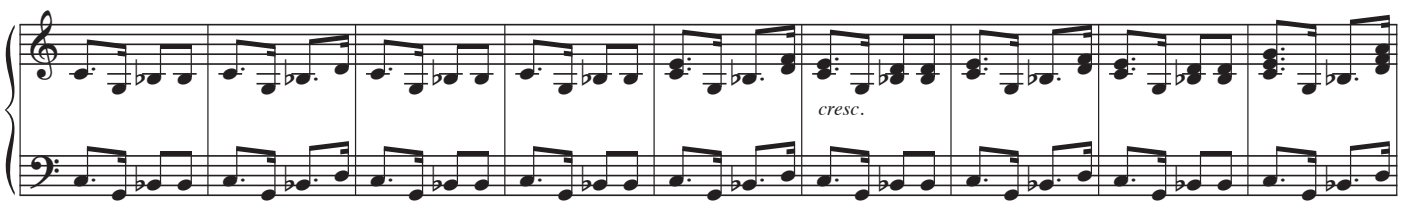


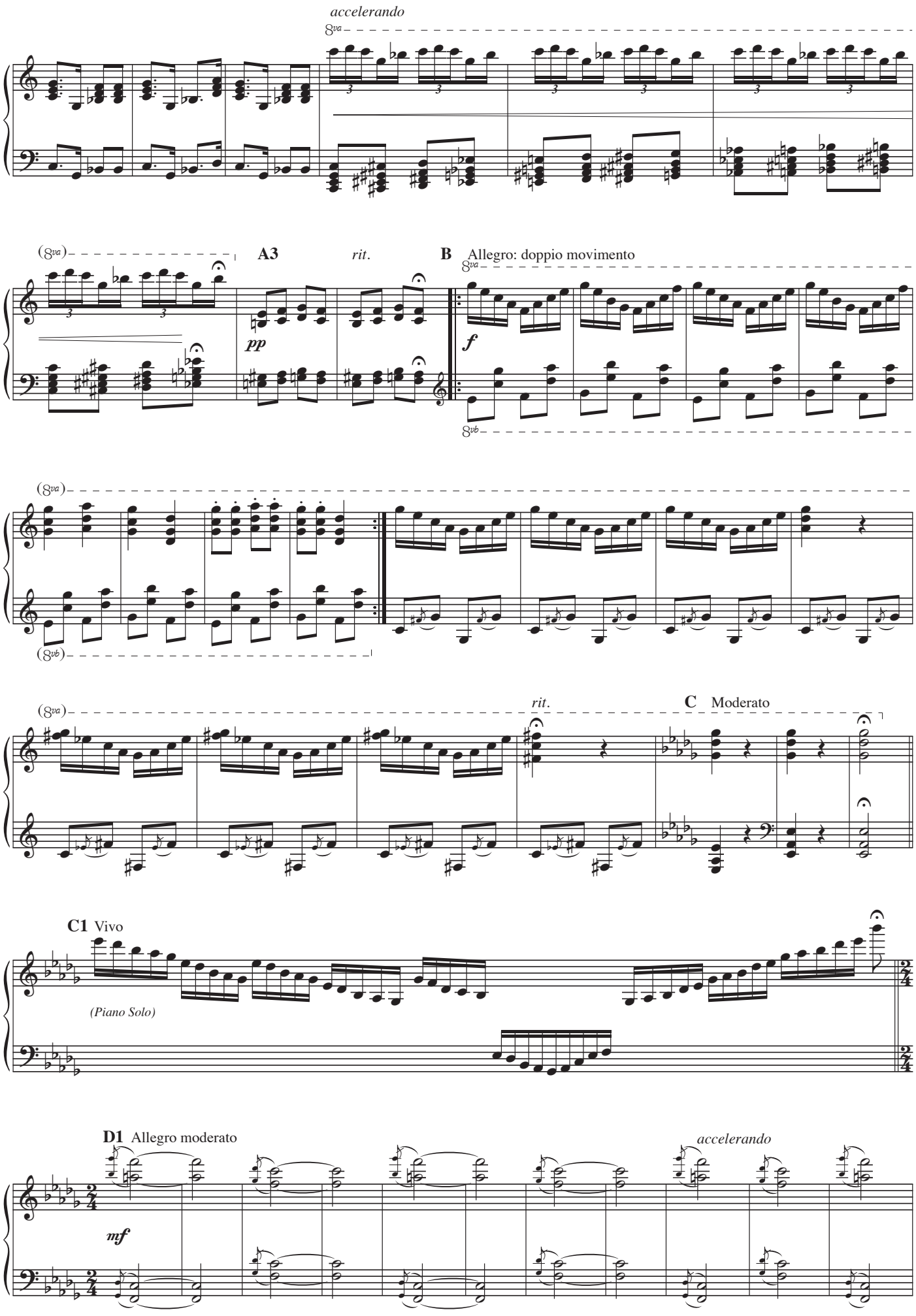
Allegro moderato

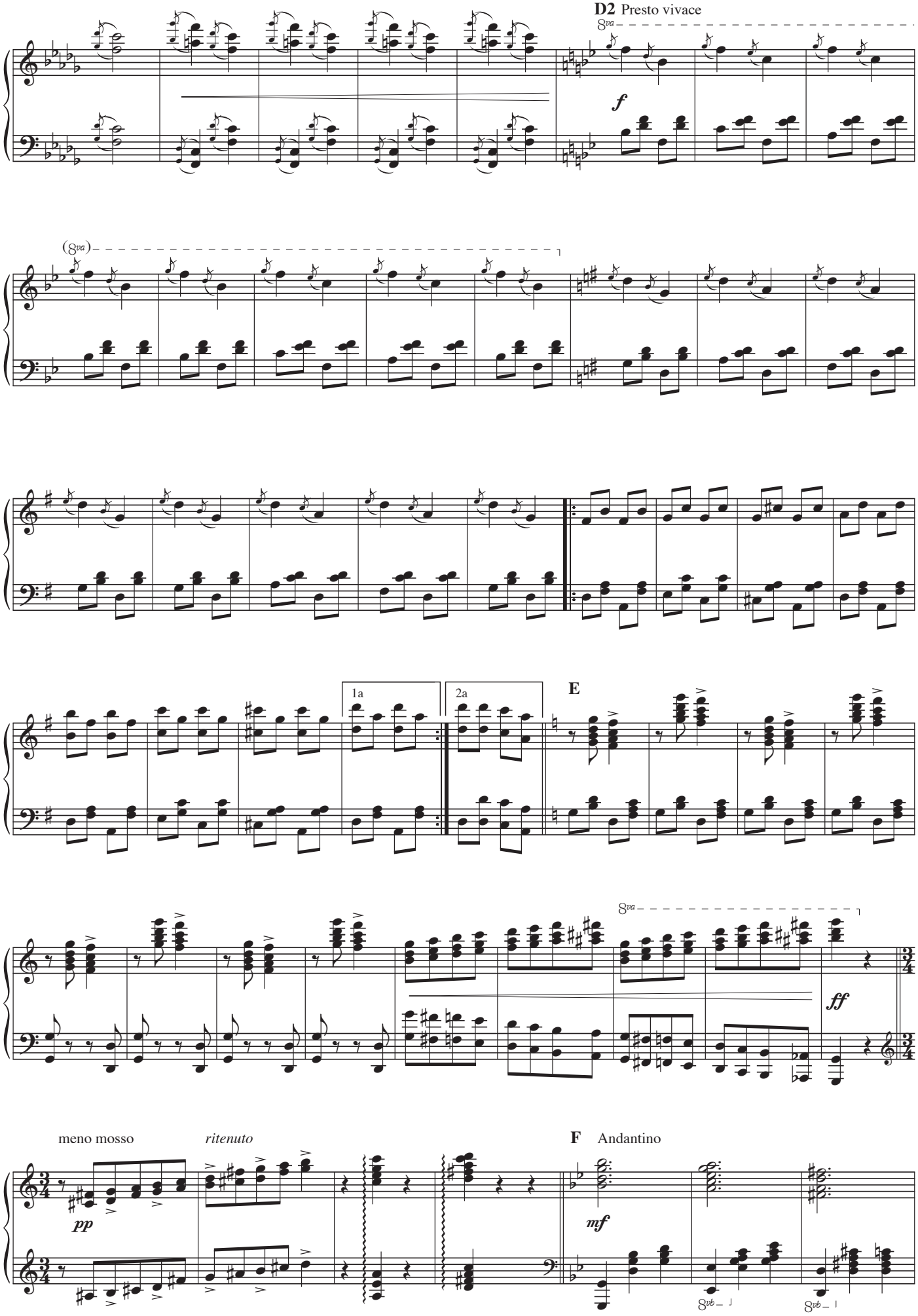


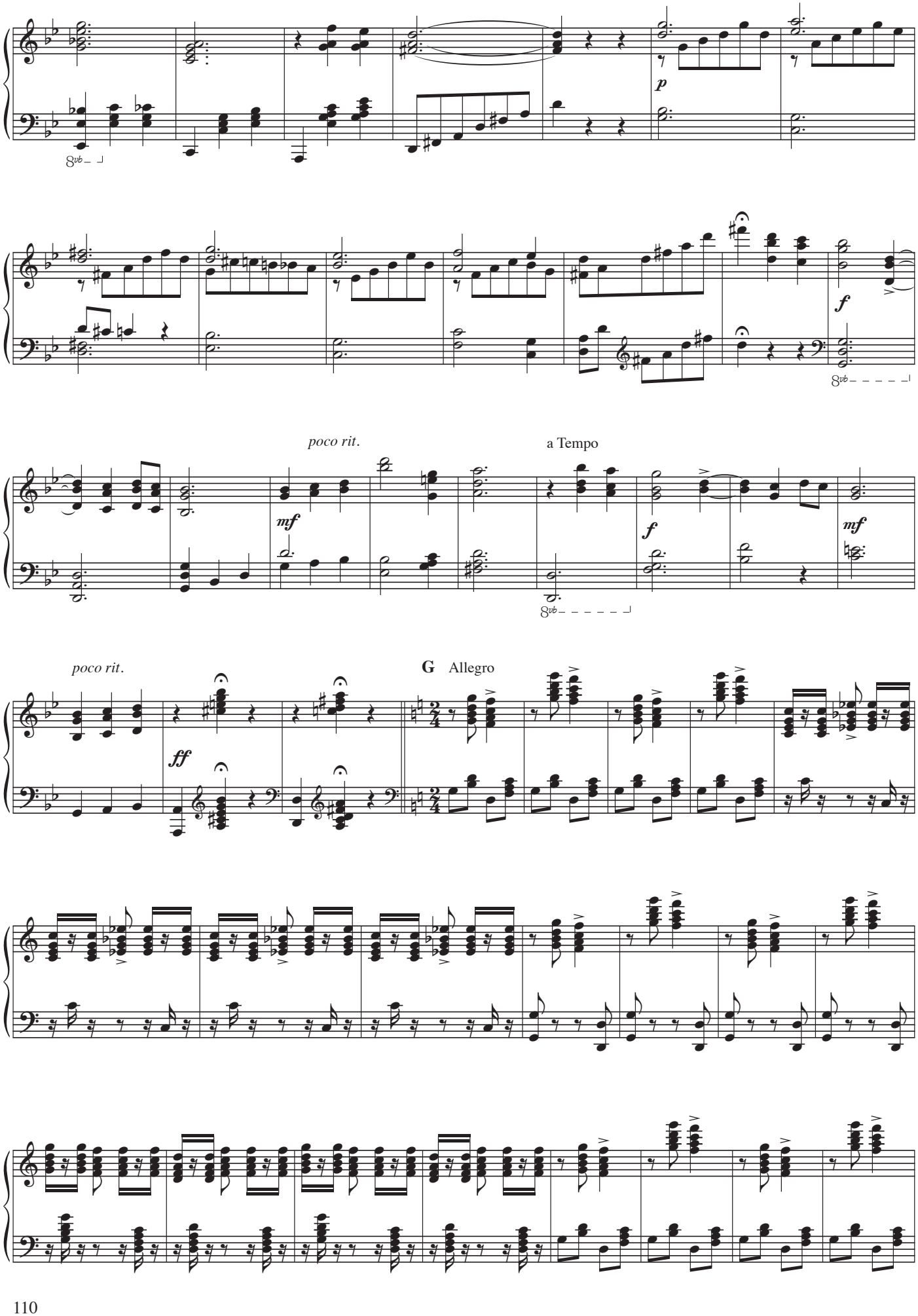


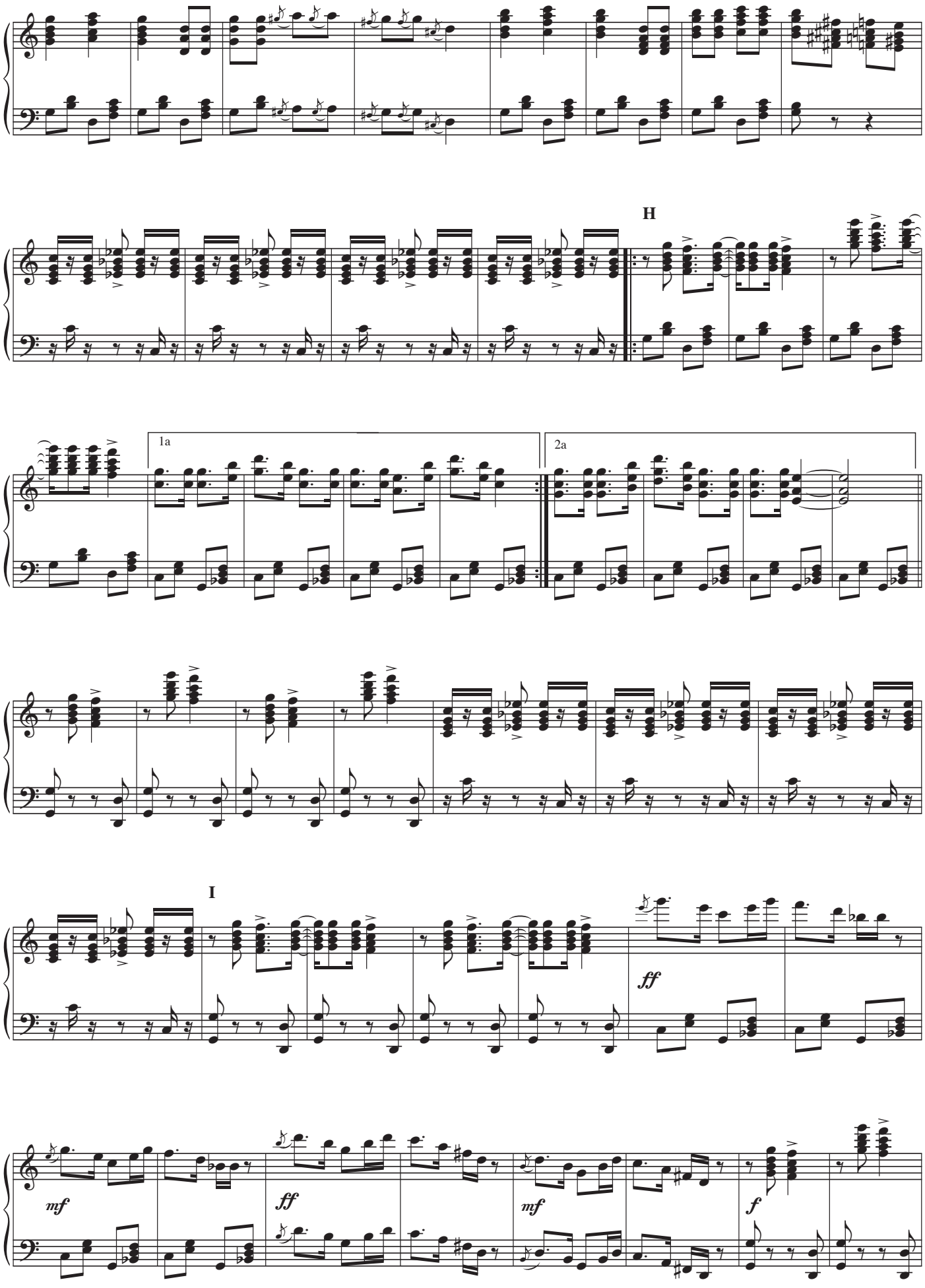
A2

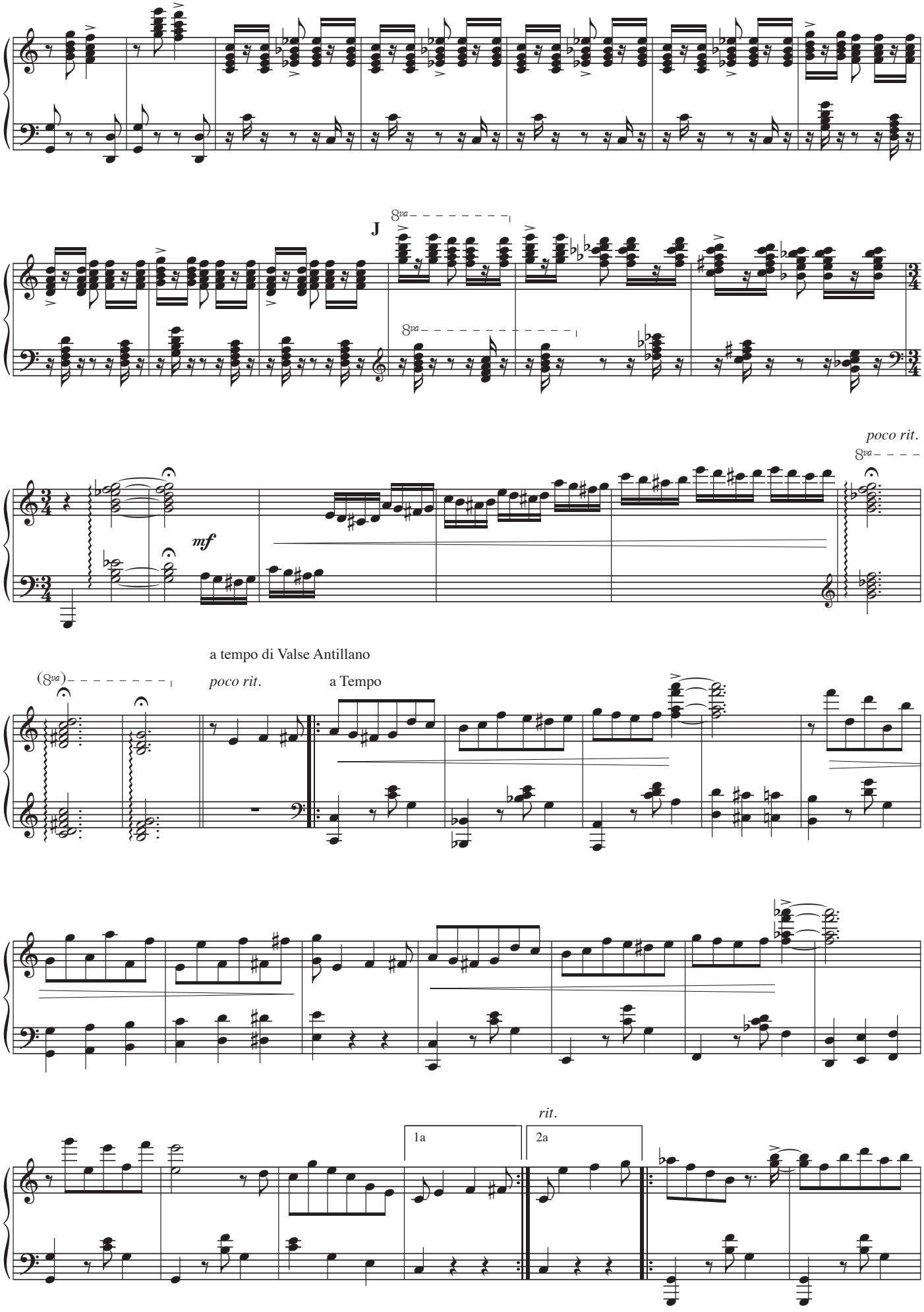


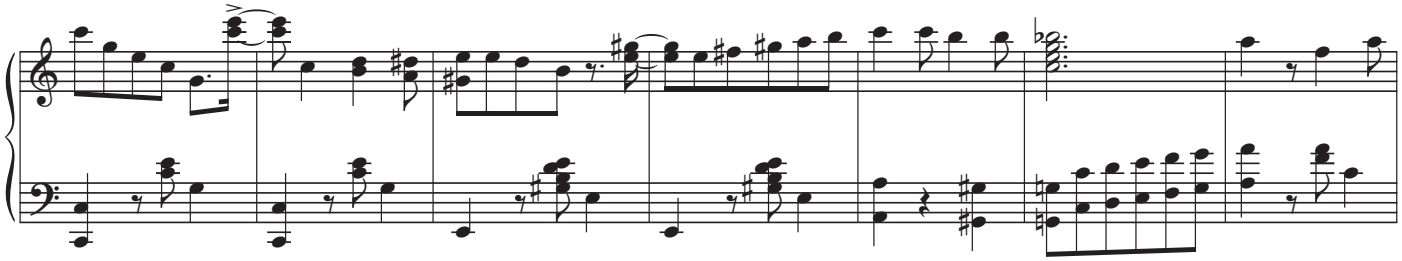

accelerando
8va
(8va)
A3
rit.
B
Allegro: doppio movimento
pp
f
8vb
(8vb)
rit.
C
Moderato
C1
Vivo
(Piano Solo)
D1
Allegro moderato
mf
accelerando

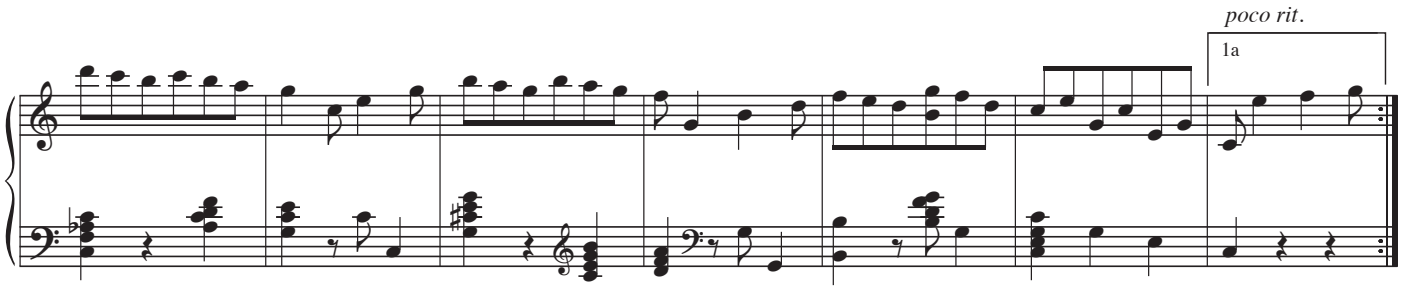

D2 Presto vivace
8va
f
(8va)
1a
2a
E
8va
ff
meno mosso
ritenuto
pp
F Andantino
mf
8vb
8vb

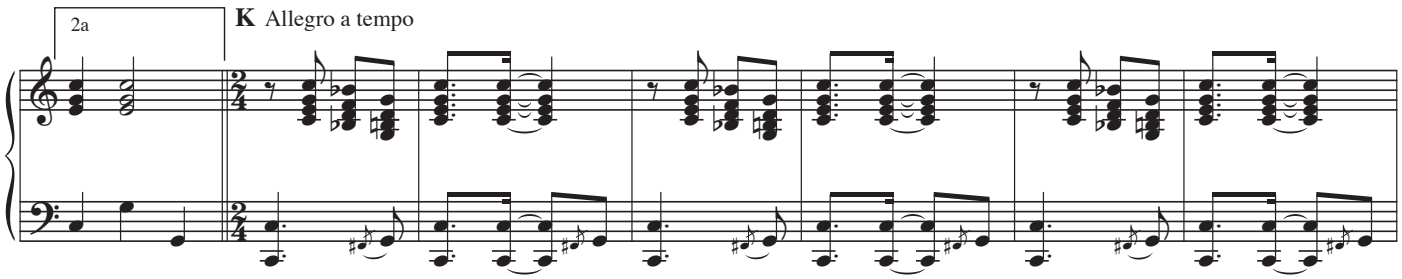

8vb
p
f
8vb
poco rit.
a Tempo
mf
f
mf
8vb
poco rit.
G Allegro
ff

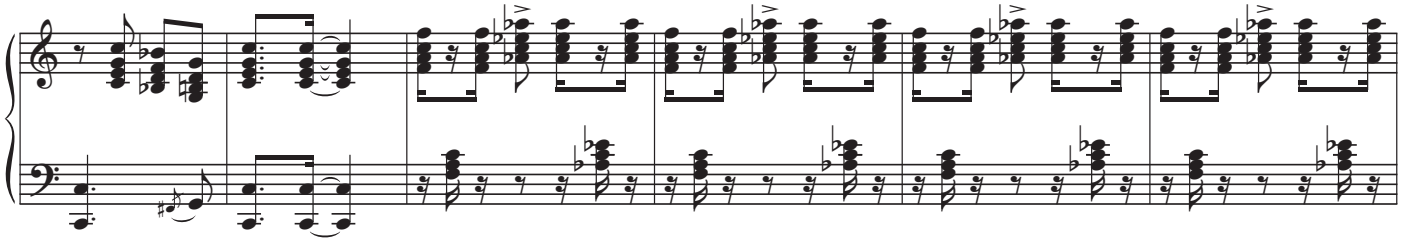

H
1a
2a
I
ff
mf
ff
mf
f

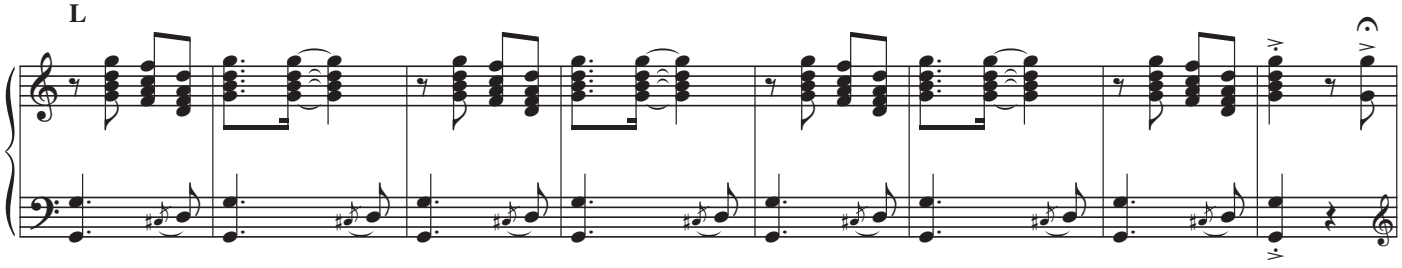

J
8va
poco rit.
mf
a tempo di Valse Antillano
(8va)
poco rit.
a Tempo
rit.
1a
2a

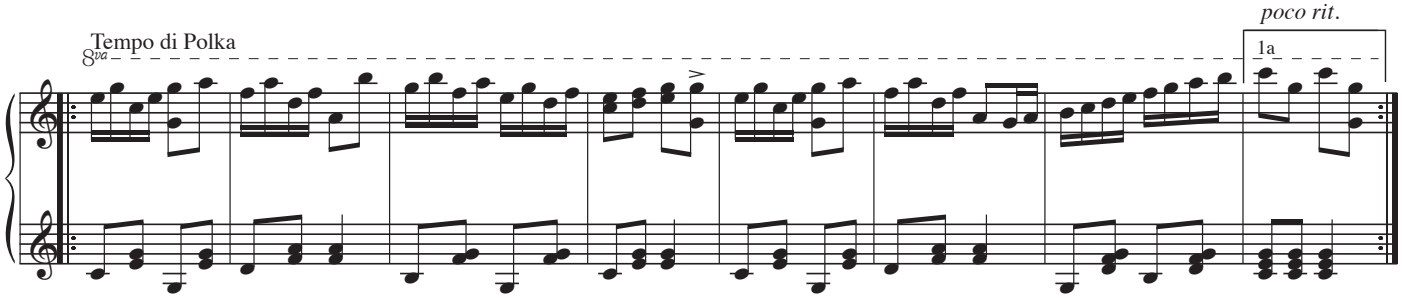


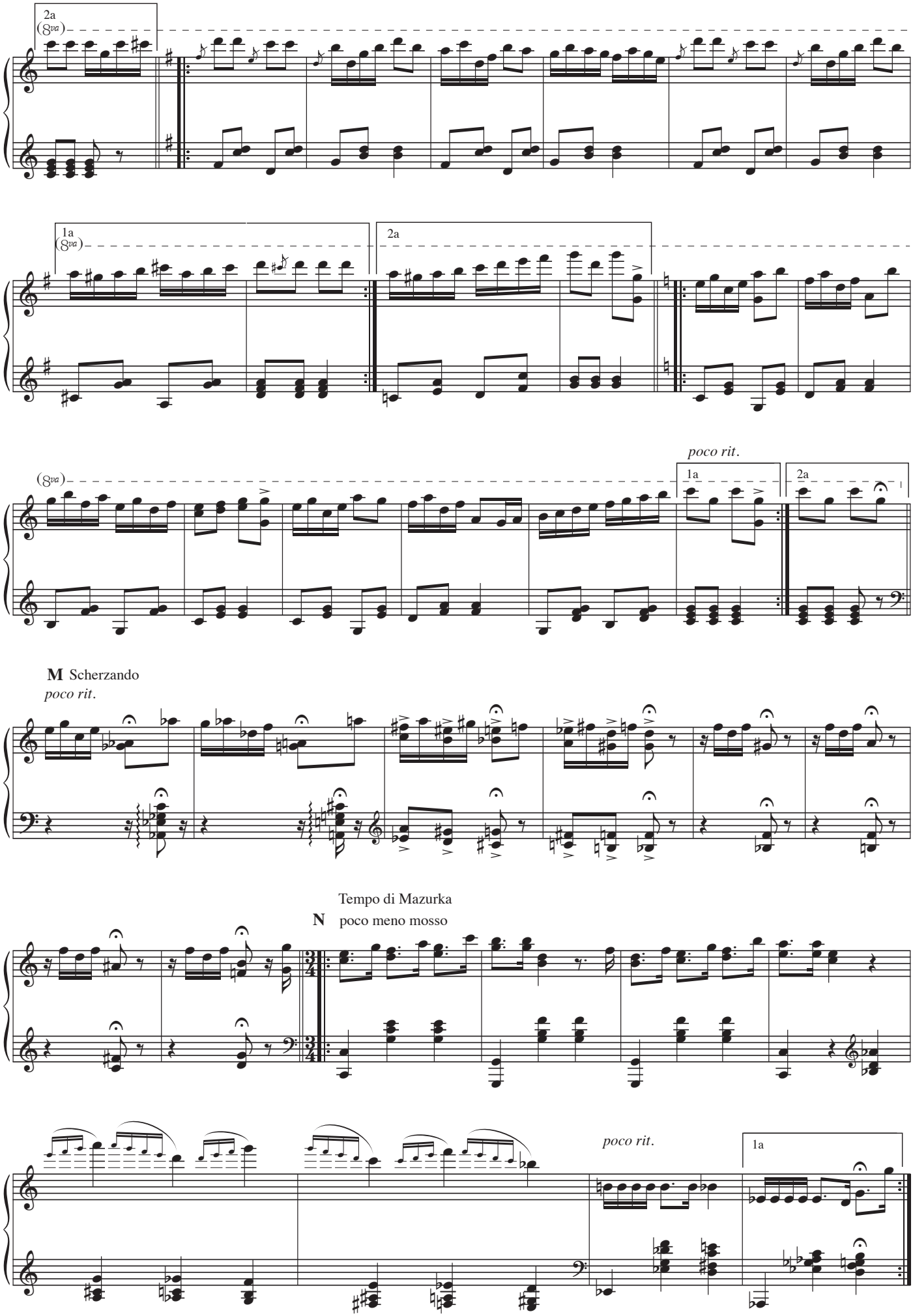

poco rit.
1a

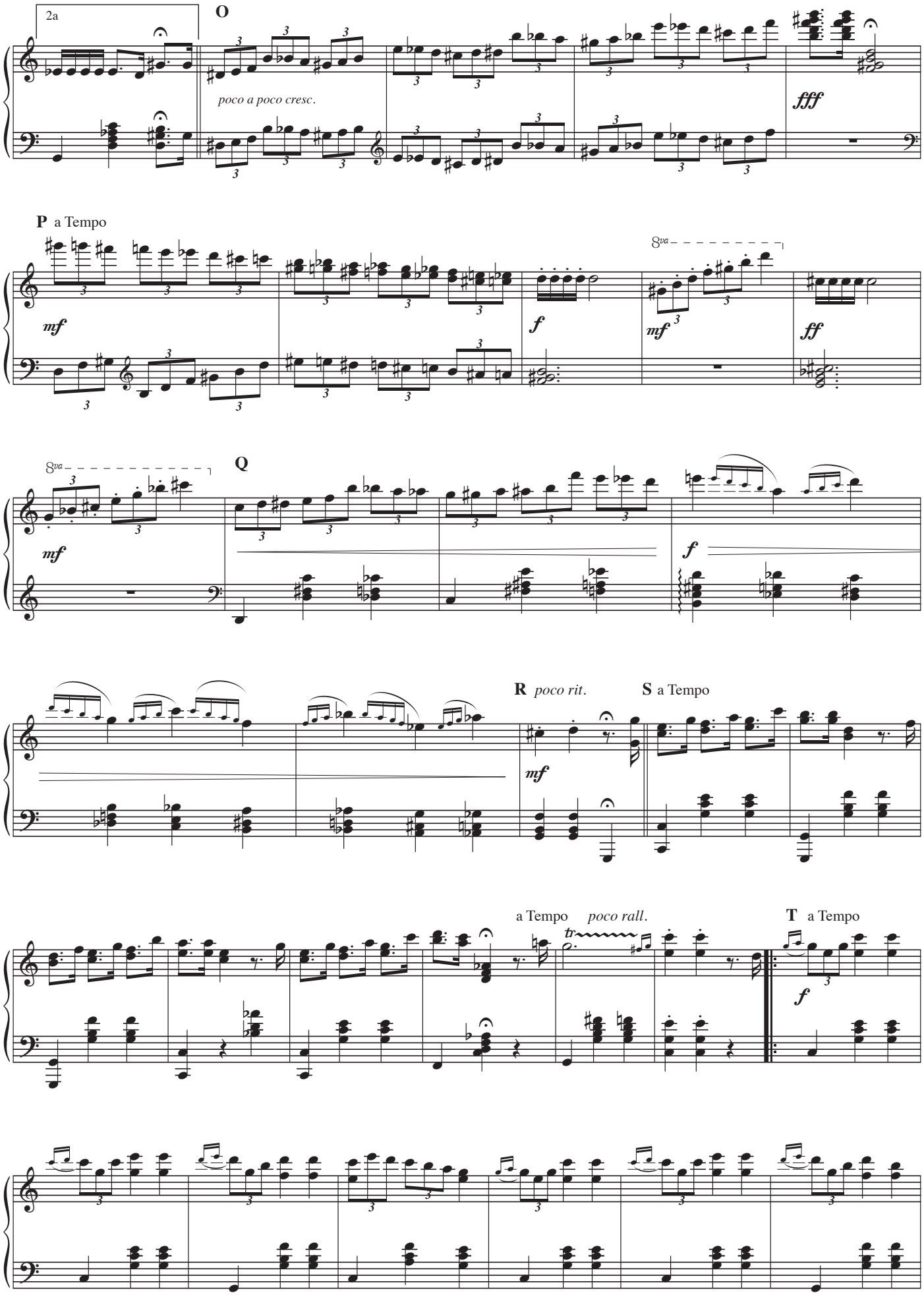

2a
K Allegro a tempo

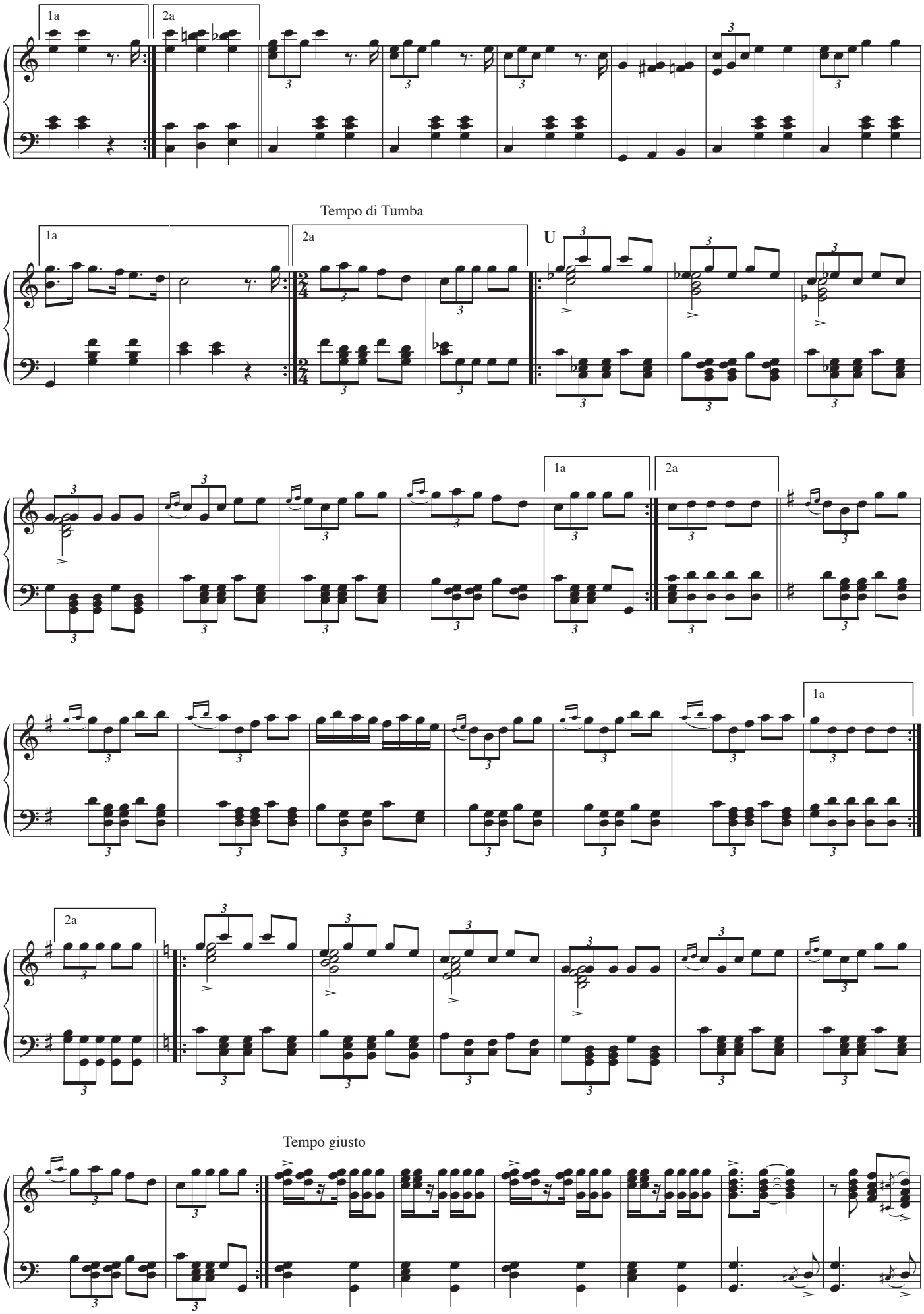


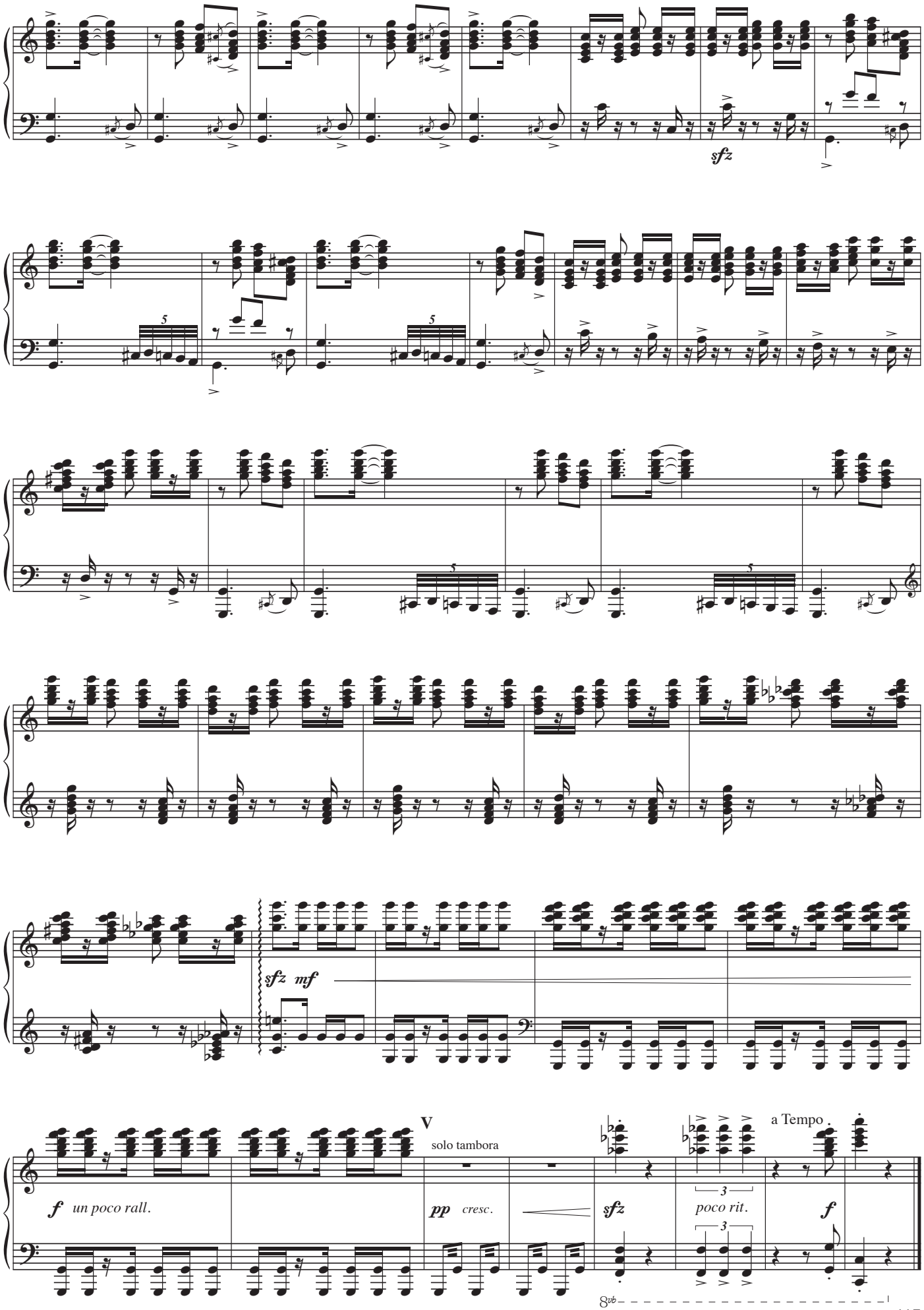

L


poco rit.
Tempo di Polka
8va
1a


2a
(8va)
1a
(8va)
2a
poco rit.
(8va)
1a
2a
M Scherzando
poco rit.
Tempo di Mazurka
N poco meno mosso
poco rit.
1a


2a
O
poco a poco cresc.
fff
P a Tempo
mf
f
mf
ff
8va
Q
mf
f
R poco rit.
S a Tempo
mf
a Tempo
poco rall.
T a Tempo
tr
f


1a
2a
Tempo di Tumba
1a
2a
U
1a
2a
1a
2a
Tempo giusto


sfz
5
5
5
sfz mf
V
solo tambora
a Tempo
f un poco rall.
pp cresc.
sfz
3
poco rit.
3
f
8vb