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At the Mountains of Madness

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Anthony Constantino

At the Mountains of Madness

for Piano Solo

Actino Publishing

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(2019)

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"At the Mountains of Madness" is a novella written by H.P. Lovecraft in 1931. The original story, which is in the public domain, can be accessed through several sources including wikisource.org. This piece represents the story beginning at Chapter 5 and continuing through until the end. The composer strongly suggests that any performers of this work should read the H.P. Lovecraft novella prior to performance.

Program Notes

At the Mountains of Madness is a musical interpretation of the H.P. Lovecraft novella of the same title. It depicts the ruins of an ancient alien civilization, the Old Ones, discovered in Antarctica by a group of university scientists. The deserted city is incredibly vast and built entirely of large, cyclopean structures. As they explore further, they find detailed sculptures and bas-reliefs depicting the history of the Old Ones, their arrival to Earth, and their eventual demise. When they reach the depths of the city, they encounter a remaining *Shoggoth*, a terrifying monster created by the Old Ones, which chases them out of the city and back to their airplane. As they fly away fleeing for their lives, one of the explorers witnesses a final terror out of the plane window which is so horrifying, it drives him insane.

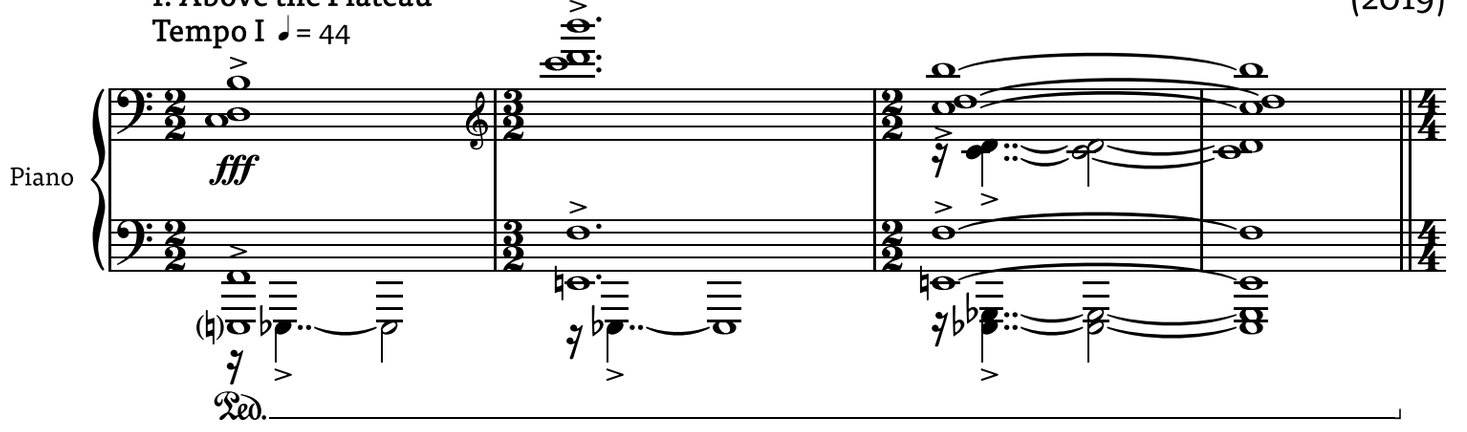
duration ca. 10 min.

At the Mountains of Madness

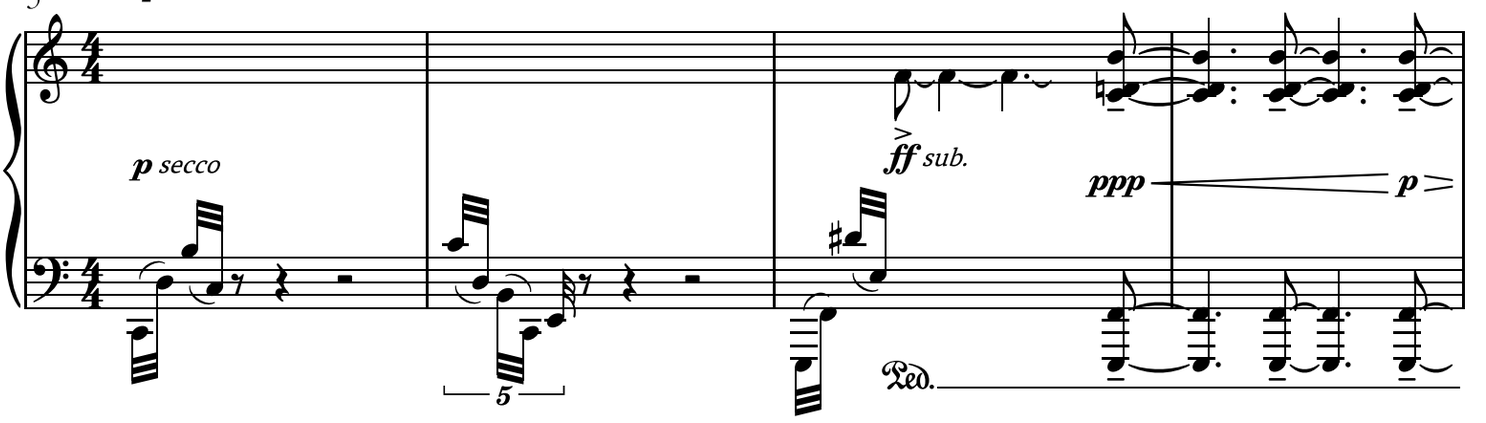
Anthony Constantino
(2019)

I. Above the Plateau

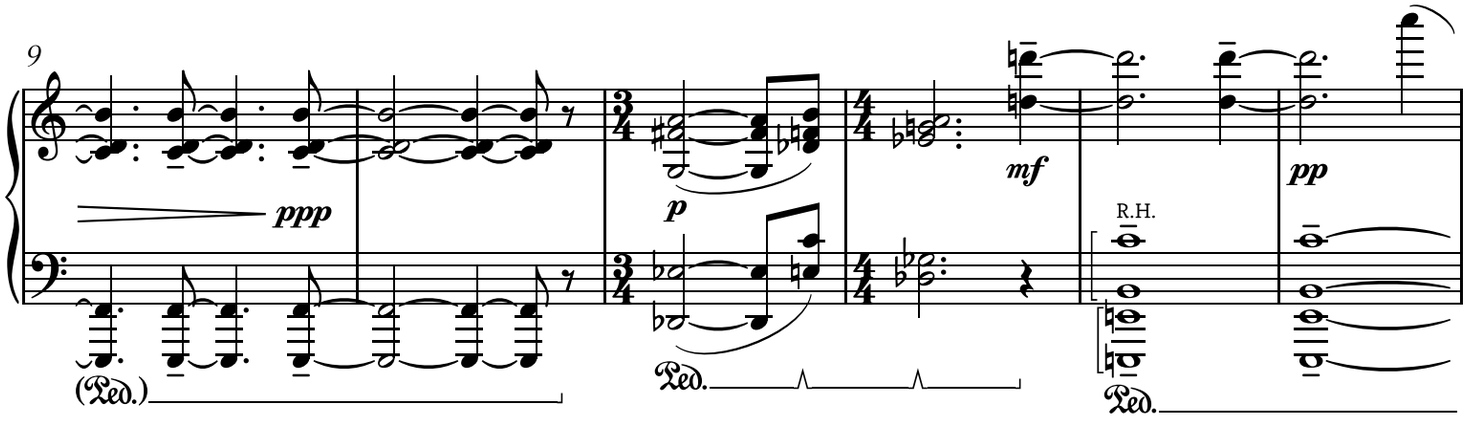
Tempo I ♩ = 44



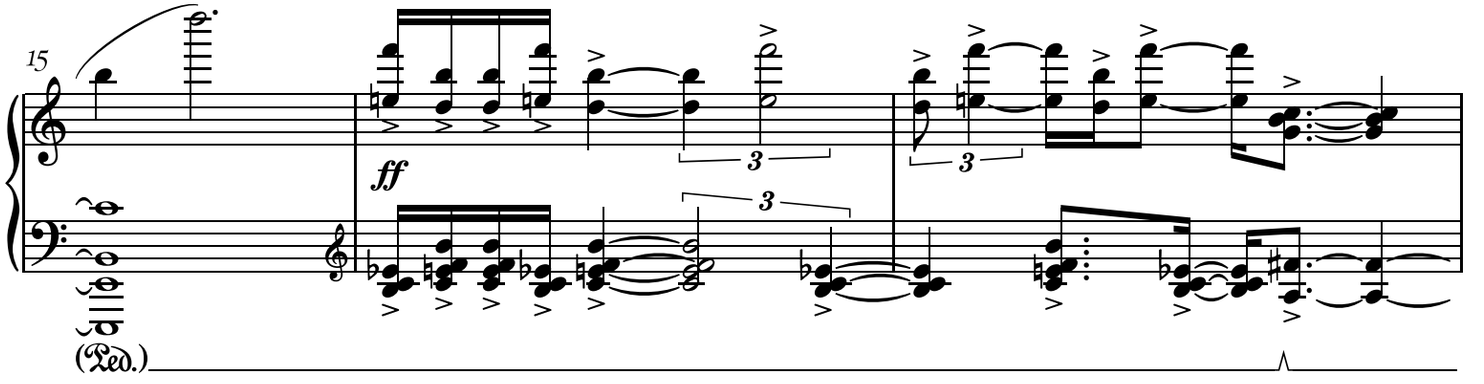
5 Tempo II ♩ = 72



9



15



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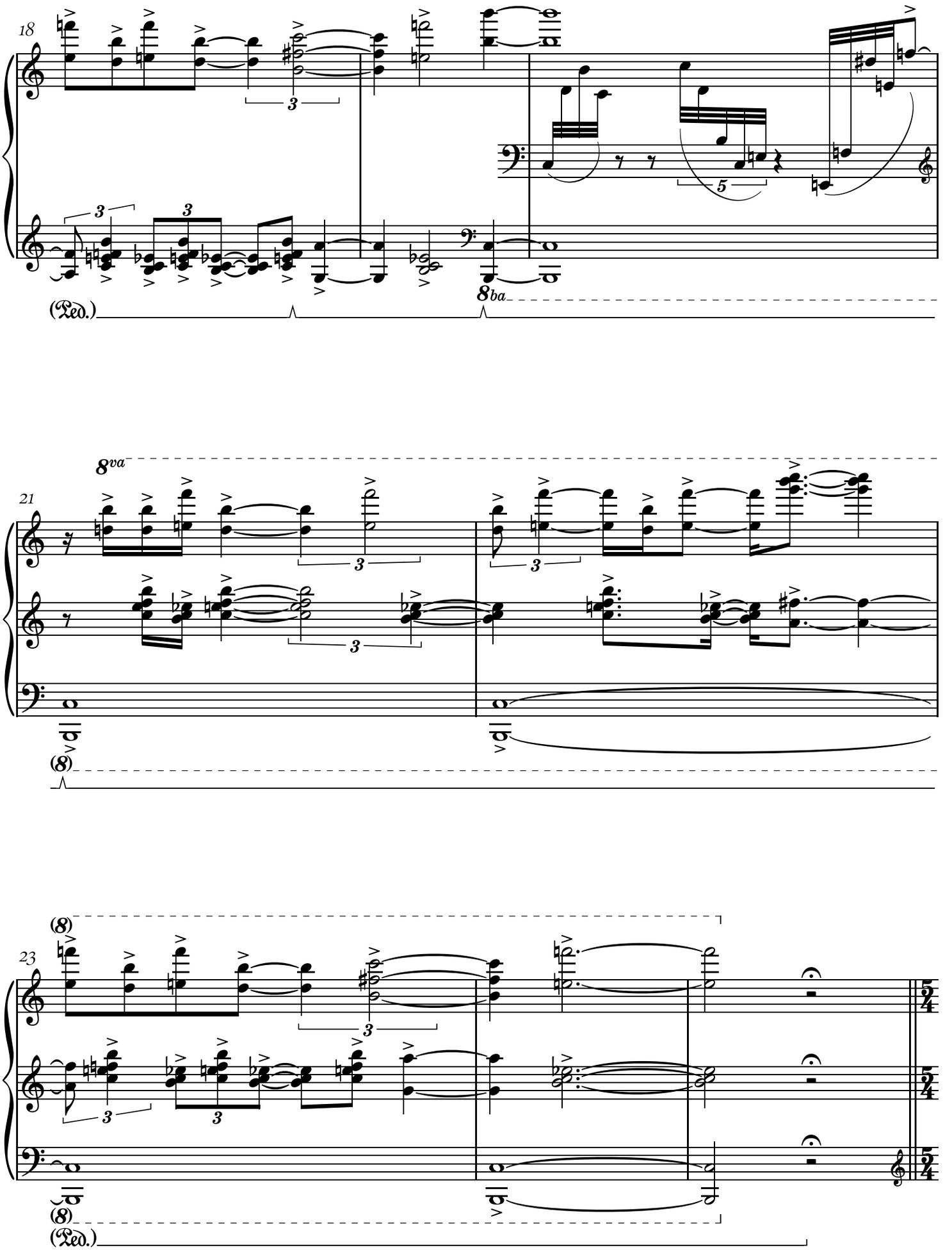
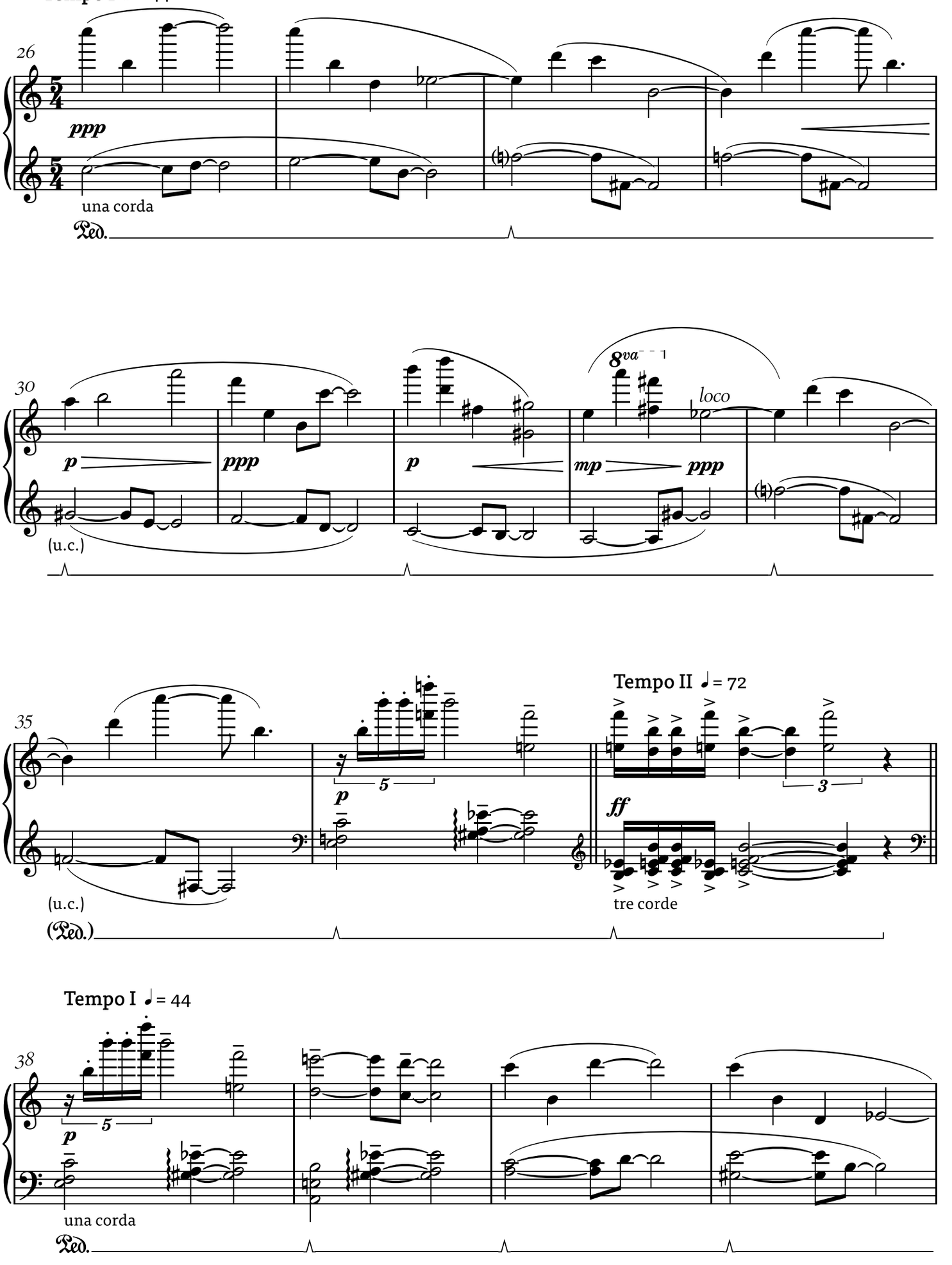
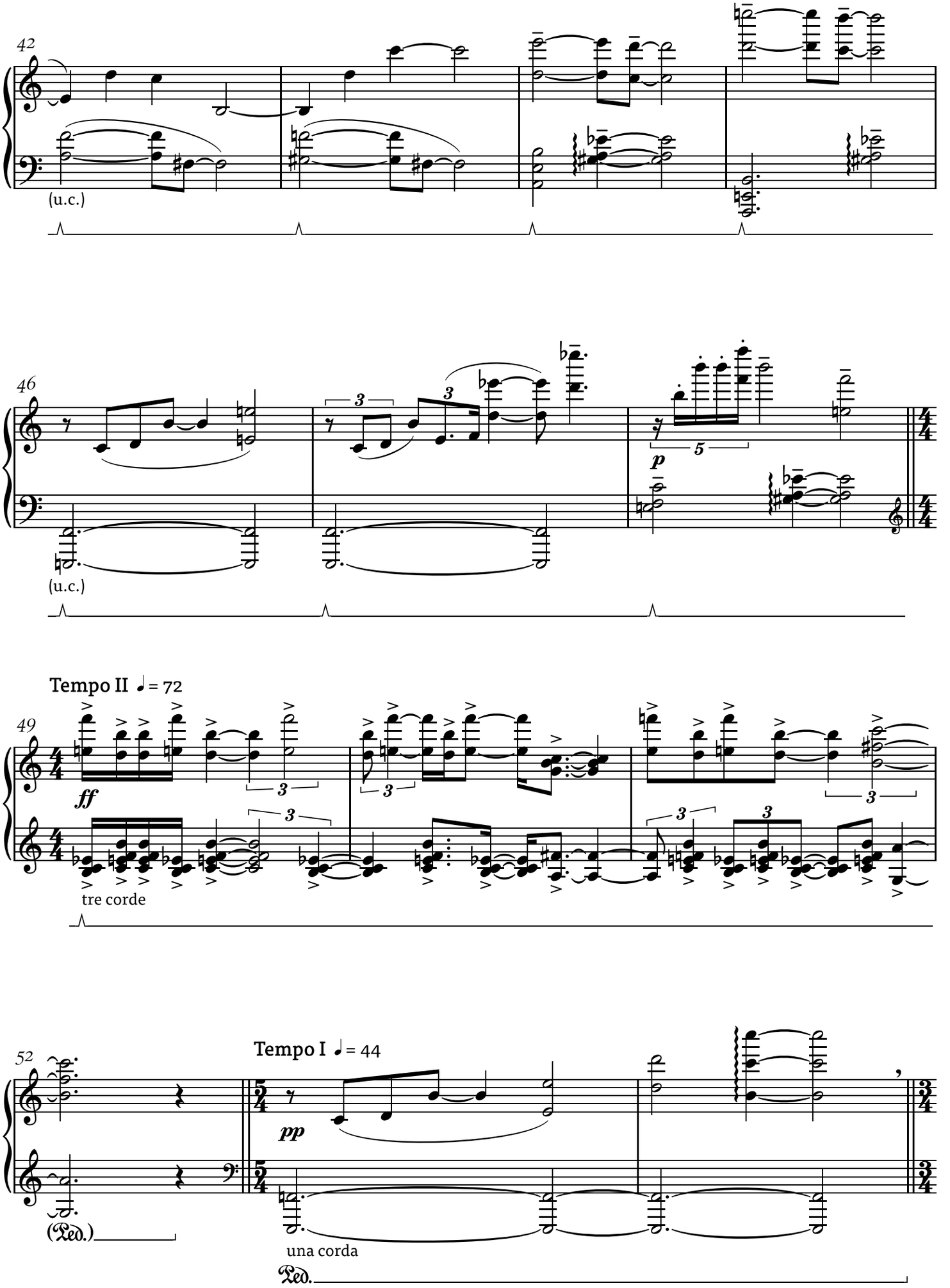

18
8ba
(Ped.)
8va
21
(8)
23
(8)
(8)
(Ped.)

Tempo I ♩ = 44


26
ppp
una corda
Ped.
30
p
ppp
p
8va
loco
mp
ppp
(u.c.)
35
(u.c.)
(Ped.)
Tempo II ♩ = 72
p
ff
tre corde
Tempo I ♩ = 44
38
p
una corda
Ped.


42
(u.c.)
46
(u.c.)
Tempo II ♩ = 72
49
ff
tre corde
52
Tempo I ♩ = 44
pp
(Ped.)
una corda
Ped.

III. Alien Sculptures

Tempo III ♩ = 88

bring out the top voice; like a dance

55

mf

tre corde

Ped.

62

f

69

pp

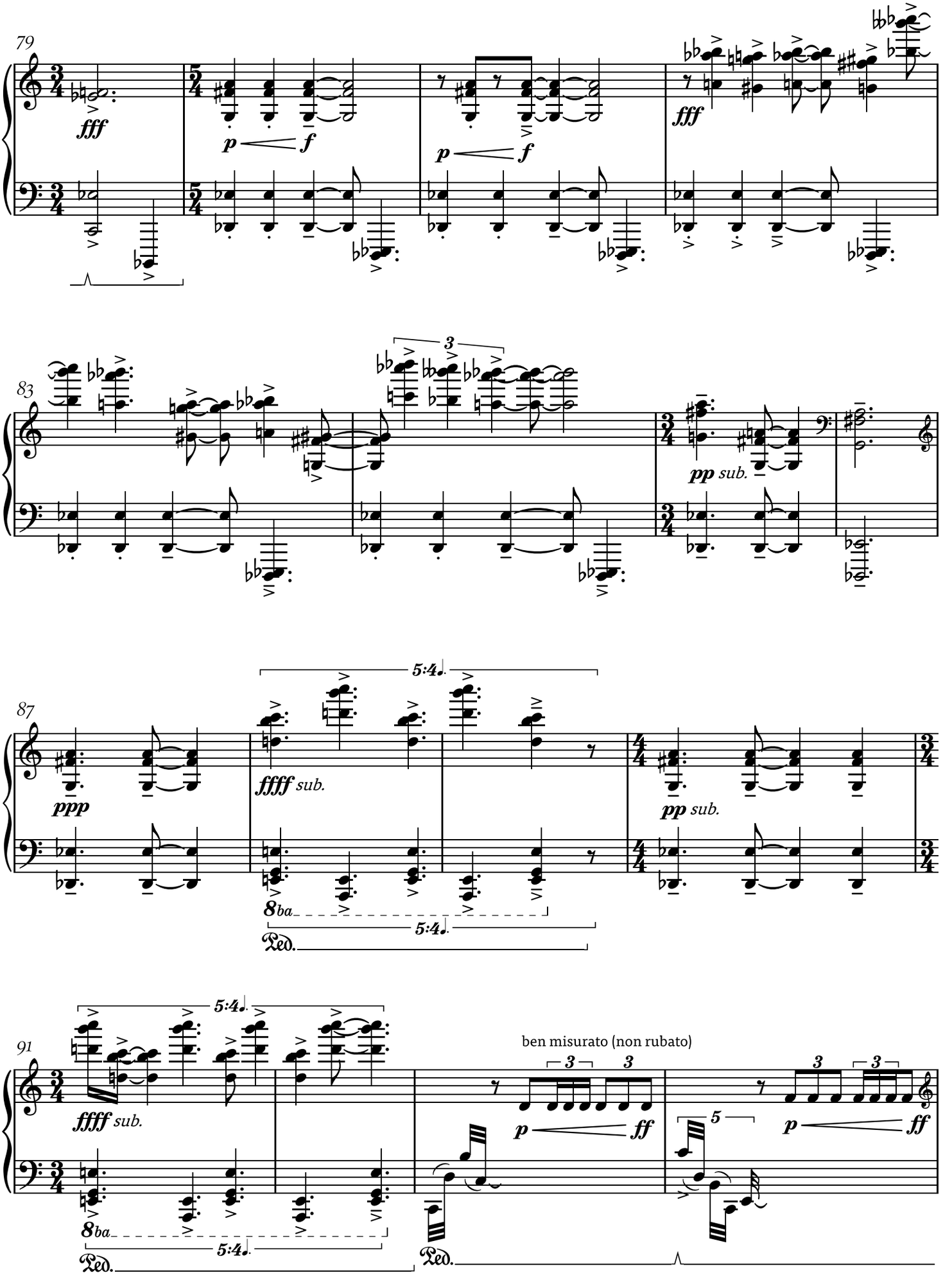
p

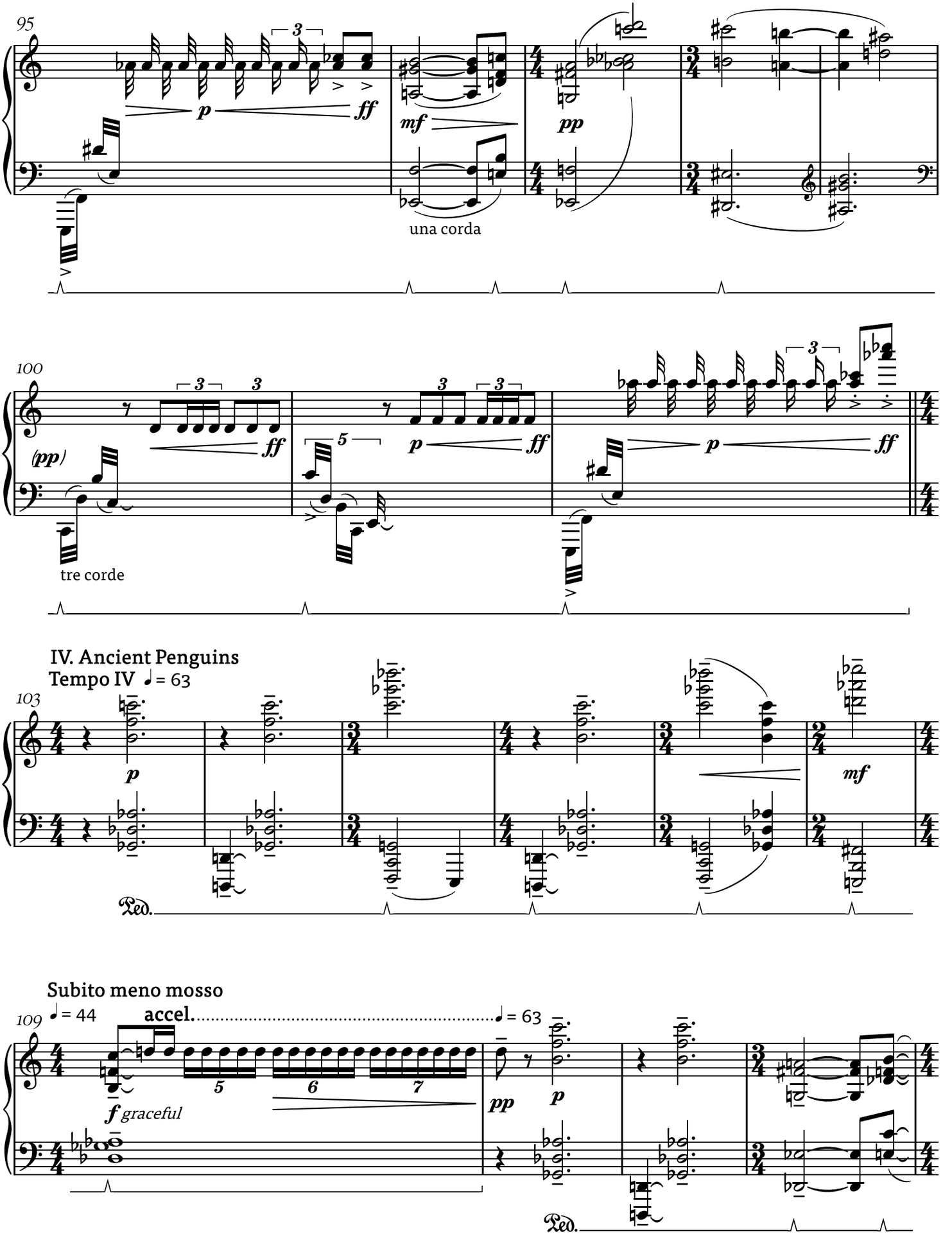
(p)

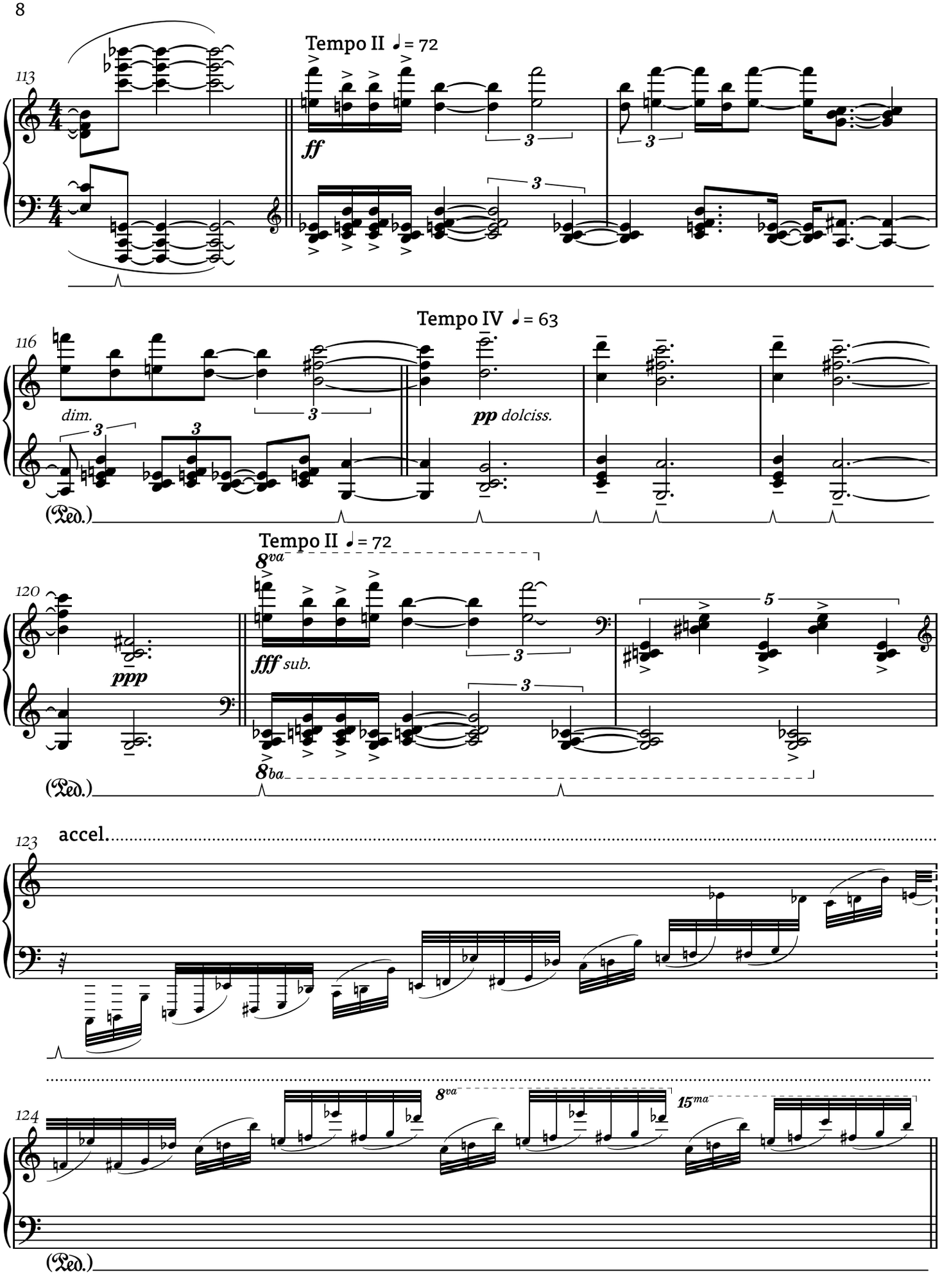
pp

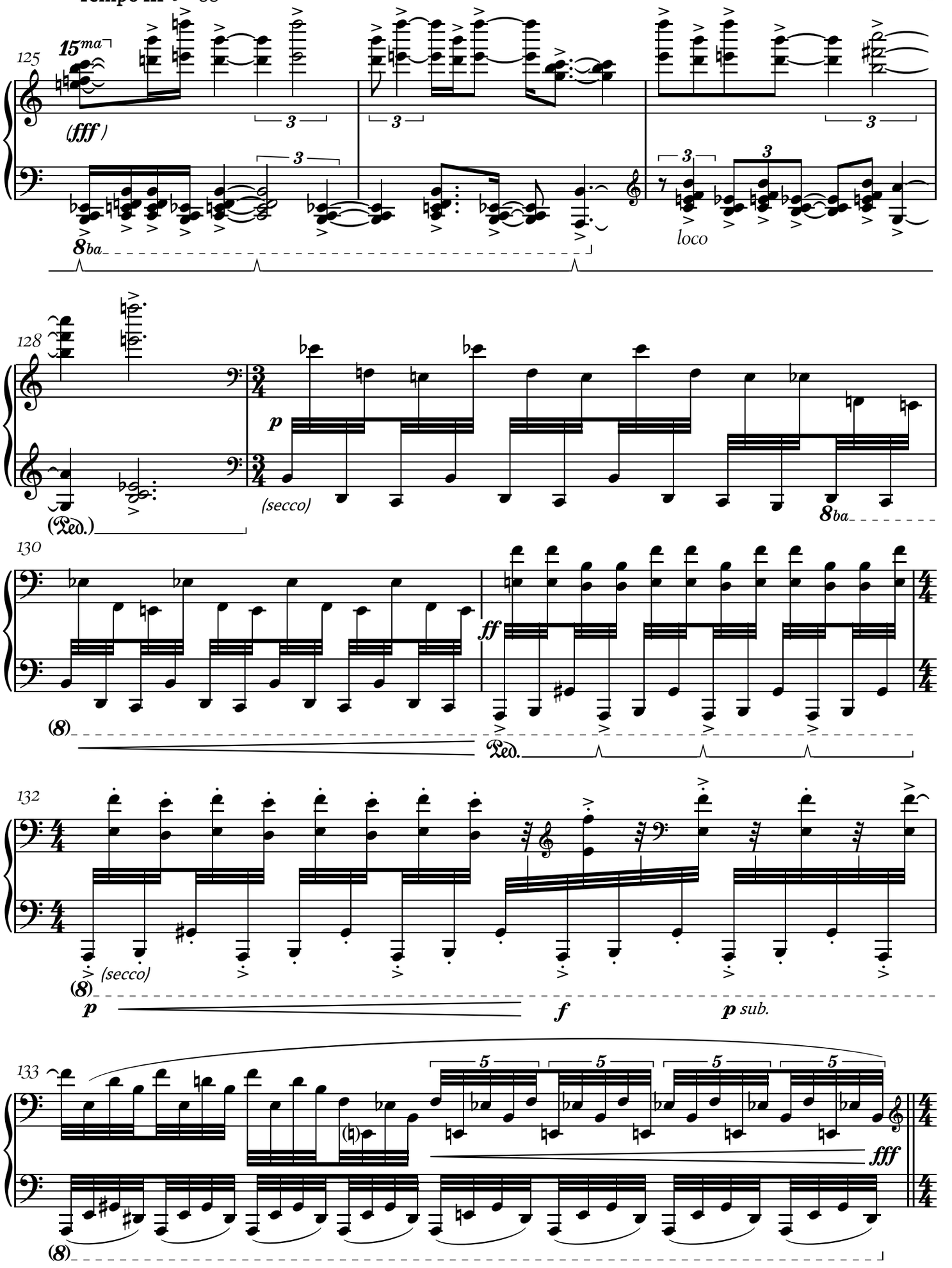
75

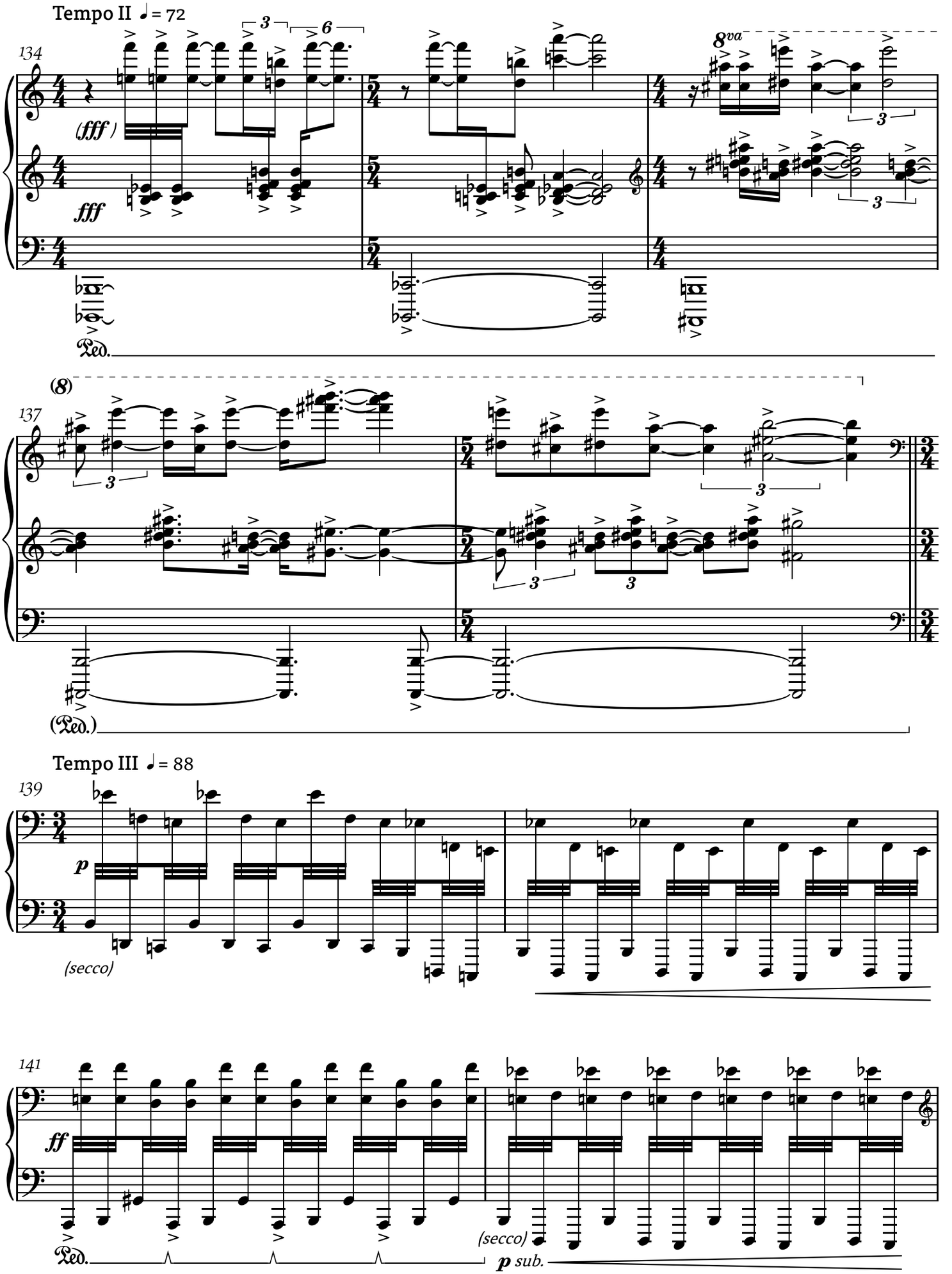
3

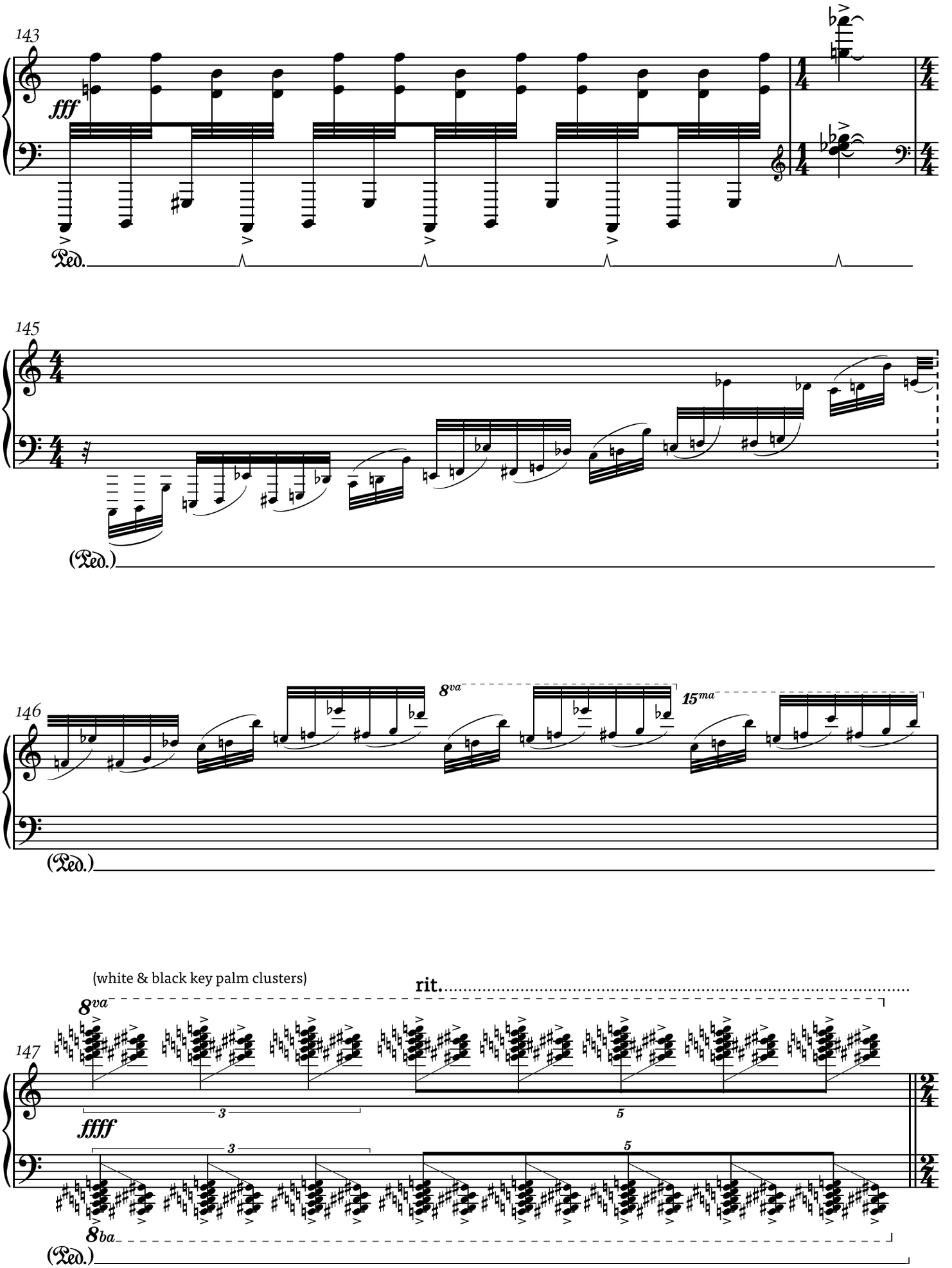

79
fff
p
f
83
pp sub.
87
ppp
ffff sub.
5:4
8ba
Ped.
91
ben misurato (non rubato)
ff


95
p
ff
mf
una corda
pp
100
(pp)
ff
tre corde
p
ff
IV. Ancient Penguins
Tempo IV ♩ = 63
103
p
mf
Ped.
Subito meno mosso
109
♩ = 44
accel.
♩ = 63
f graceful
pp
p
Ped.


113
Tempo II ♩ = 72
ff
116
dim.
Tempo IV ♩ = 63
pp dolciss.
(Ped.)
120
ppp
Tempo II ♩ = 72
8va
fff sub.
8ba
(Ped.)
123
accel.
124
8va
15ma
(Ped.)


125
15ma
(fff)
8ba
loco
128
p
(secco)
(Ped.)
8ba
130
ff
(8)
Ped.
132
(secco)
(8)
p
f
p sub.
133
5
fff
(8)


Tempo II ♩ = 72
134
(fff)
fff
8va
Ped.
(8)
137
(Ped.)
Tempo III ♩ = 88
139
p
(secco)
141
ff
Ped.
(secco)
p sub.


143
fff
Ped.
145
(Ped.)
146
8va
15ma
(Ped.)
(white & black key palm clusters)
rit.
147
8va
ffff
3
5
3
5
8ba
(Ped.)

VI. Escape & Final Horror

Tempo IV ♩ = 63

148

8va loco 8va loco

(fff) fff

R.H.

Ped.

151

8va

3 3 3

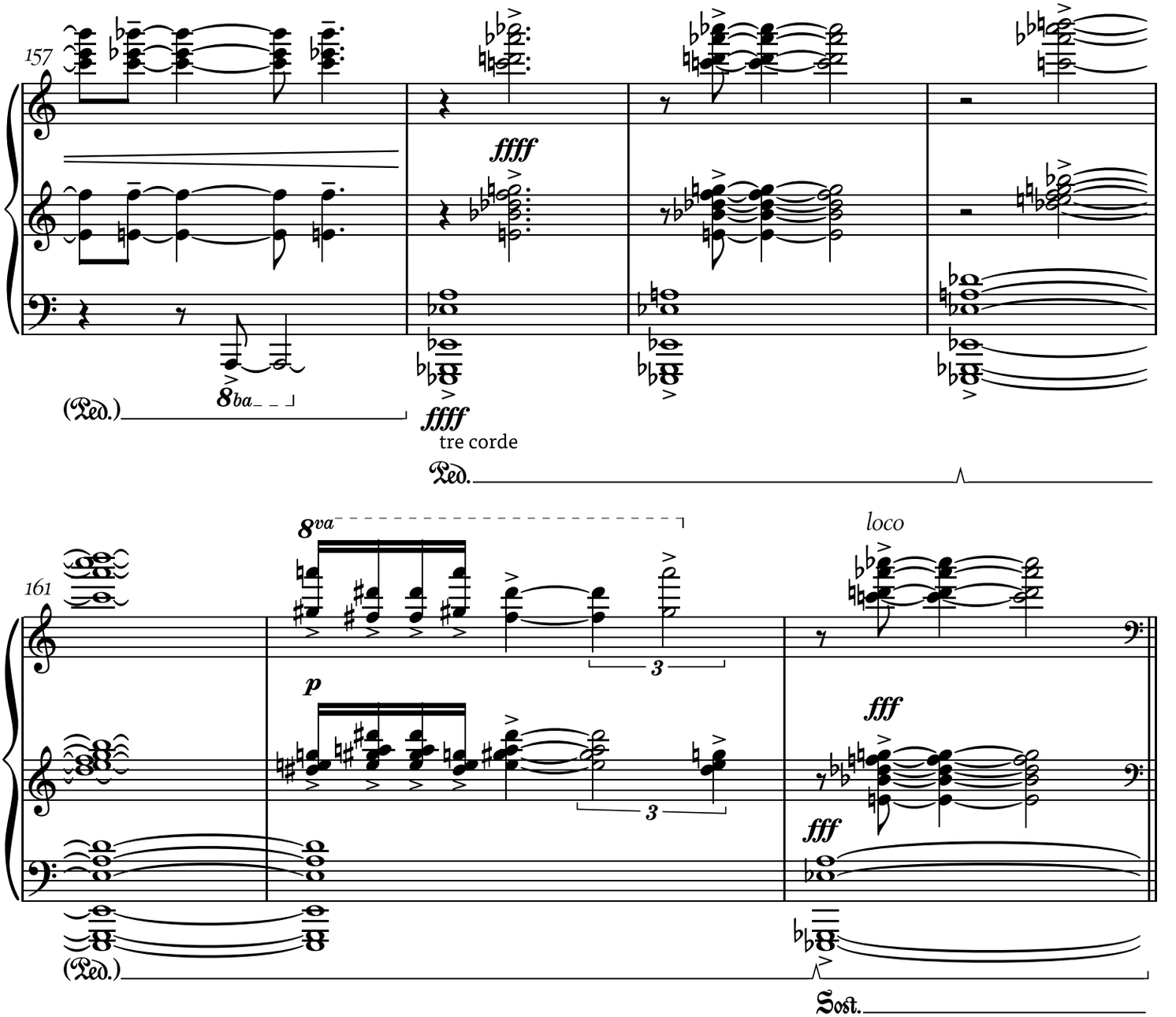
153

8va loco

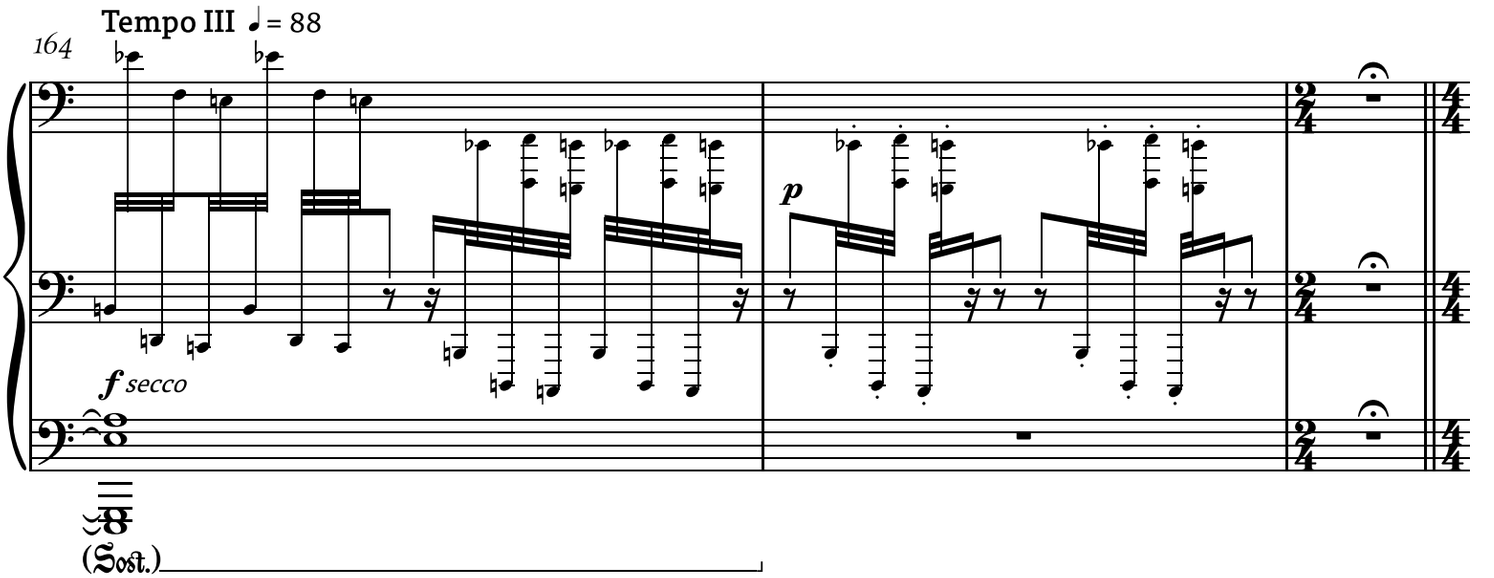
(fff) pp (fff)

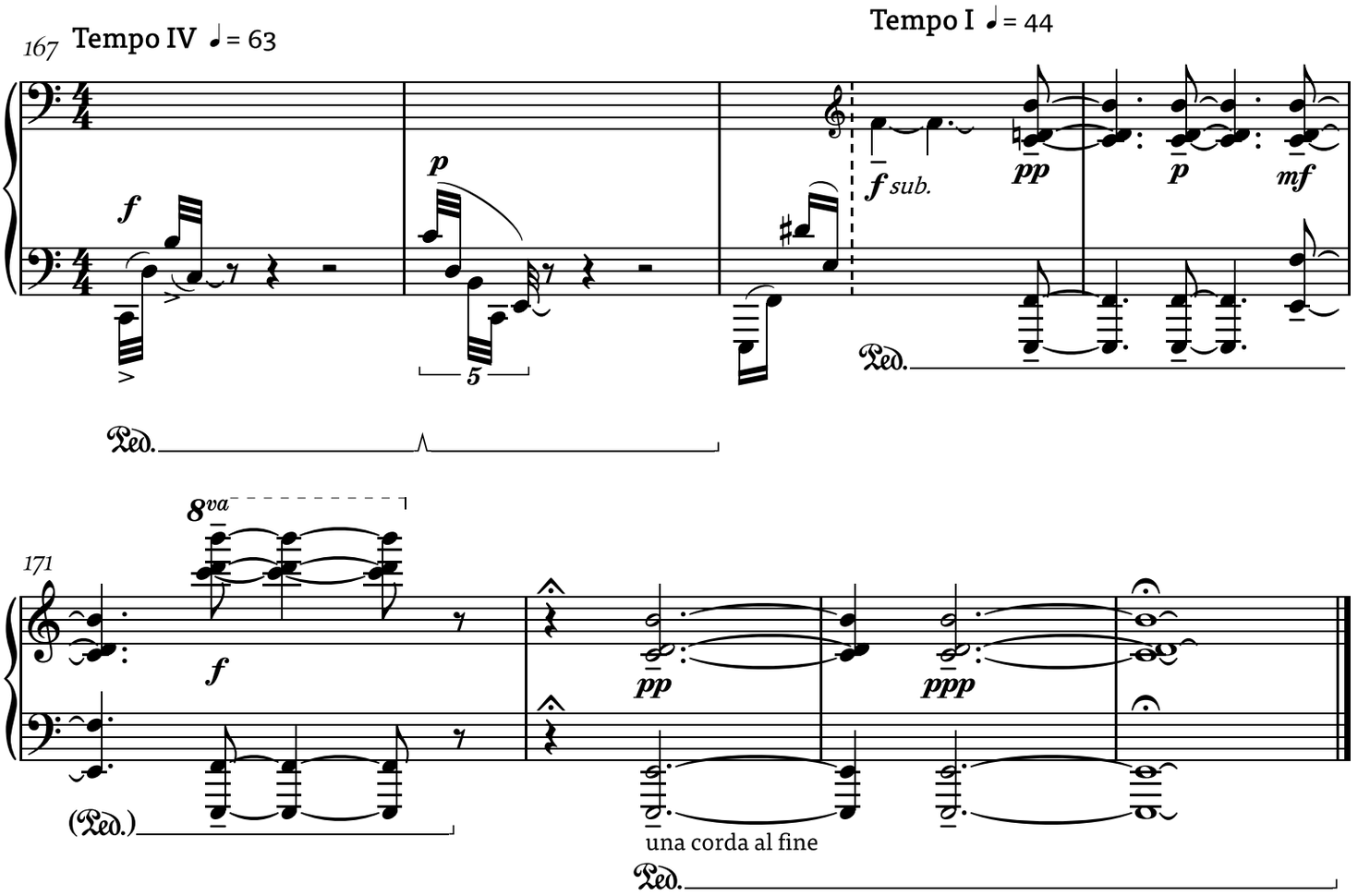
8ba una corda 8ba (pp)

(Ped.) Ped.


157
8ba
(Ped.)
ffff
ffff
tre corde
Ped.

161
8va
3
p
3
loco
fff
fff
(Ped.)
Sost.


Tempo III ♩ = 88
164
f secco
p
(Sost.)


167
Tempo IV ♩= 63
Tempo I ♩= 44
f
p
f sub.
pp
p
mf
5
Ped.
171
8va
f
pp
ppp
(Ped.)
una corda al fine
Ped.