Piano Suite No. 1

“The Sounds of the Unbecoming”

Ryan J. Ragsdale (b. 2000)

Instrumentation

Solo piano

Approximate Performance Time

7 minutes

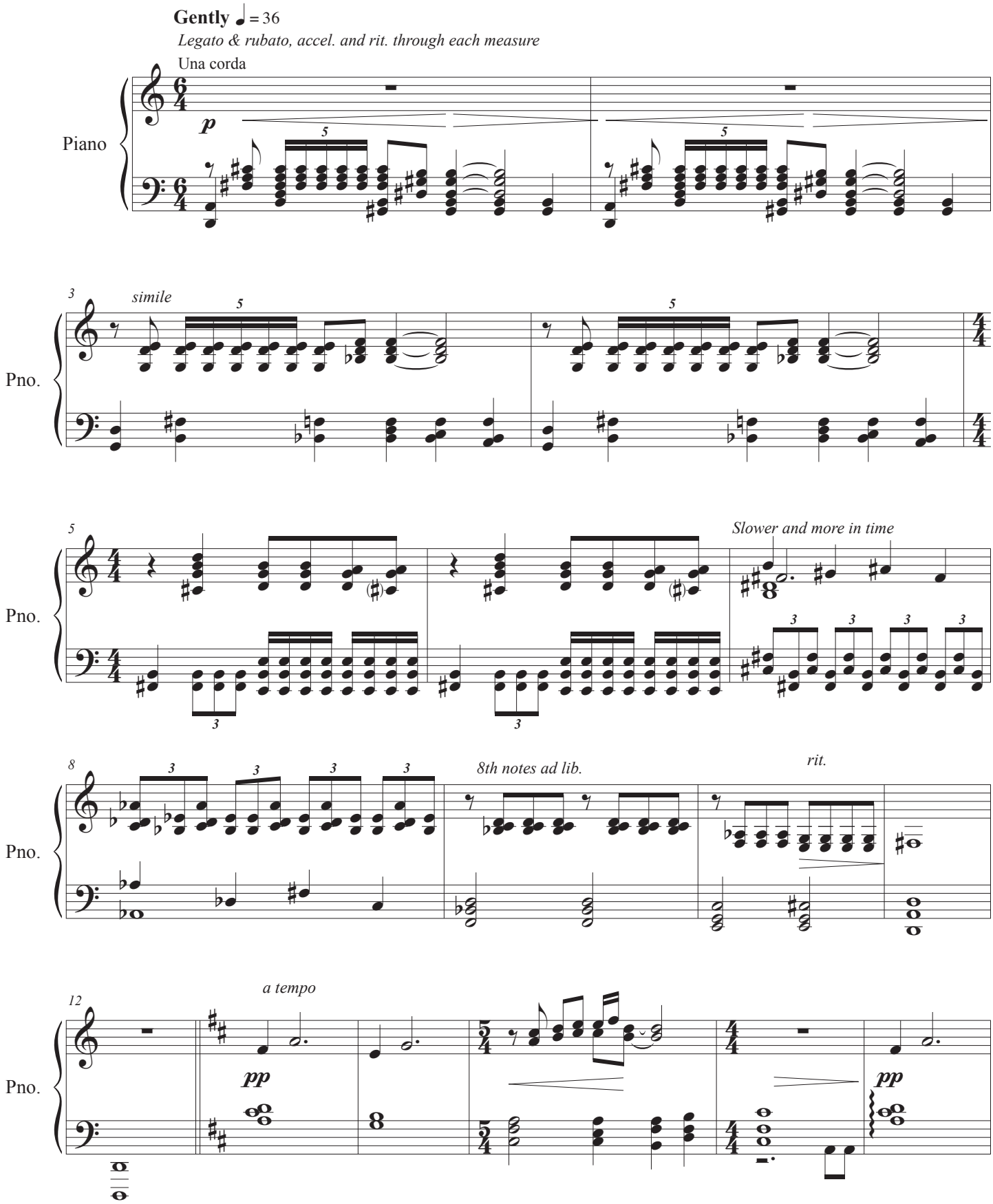
Program Note

This multi-movement work for solo piano documents the composer's life and self-discovery as a queer-identifying person. The music seeks to evoke the emotions of the composer's personal process in confronting his identity and coming out, particularly the pain of not being accepted by loved ones and the difficulty of unbecoming himself and recognizing his true identity. To many of his loved ones, this identity is sadly unbecoming.

Score

I: Oceanic State

Ryan J. Ragsdale



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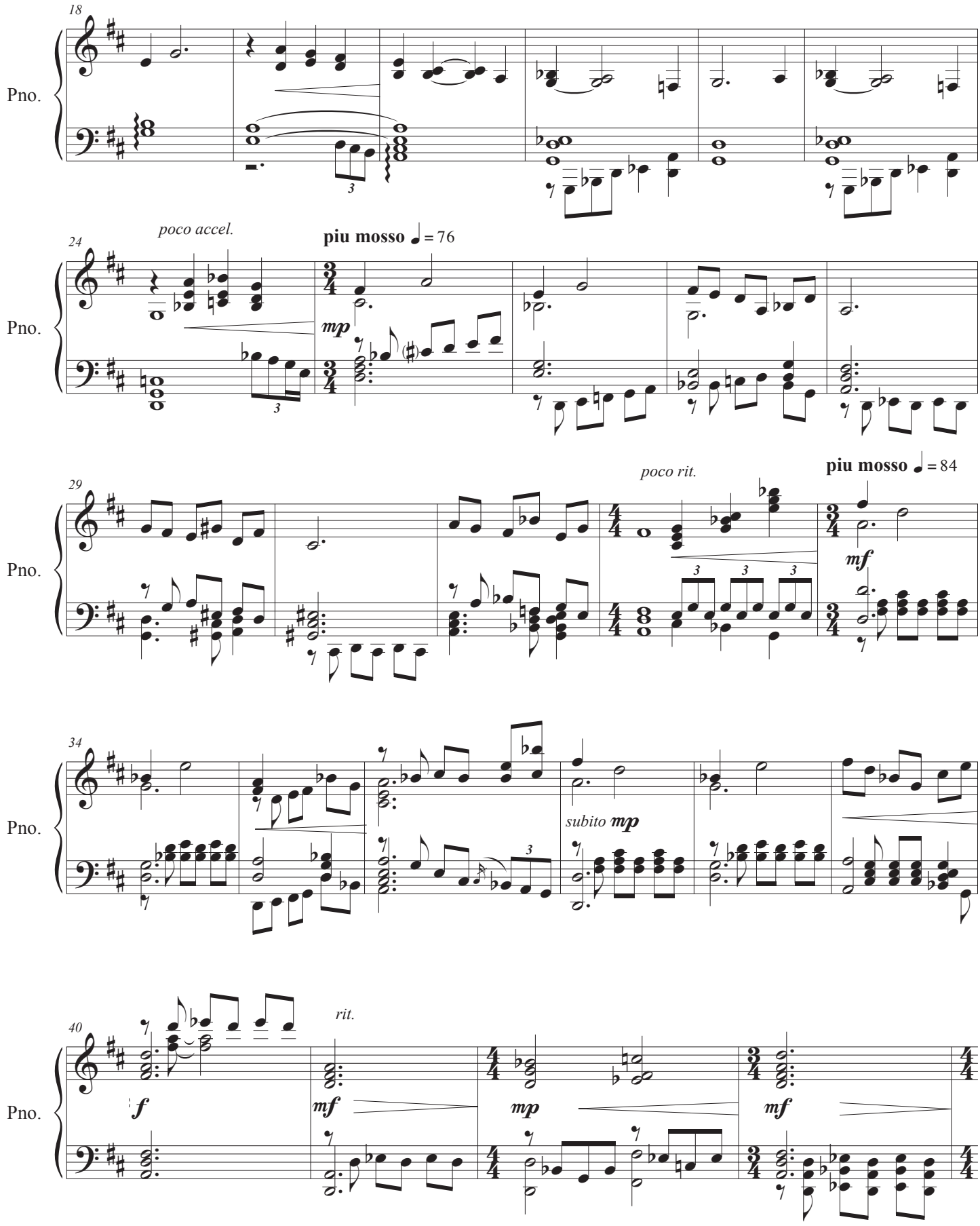
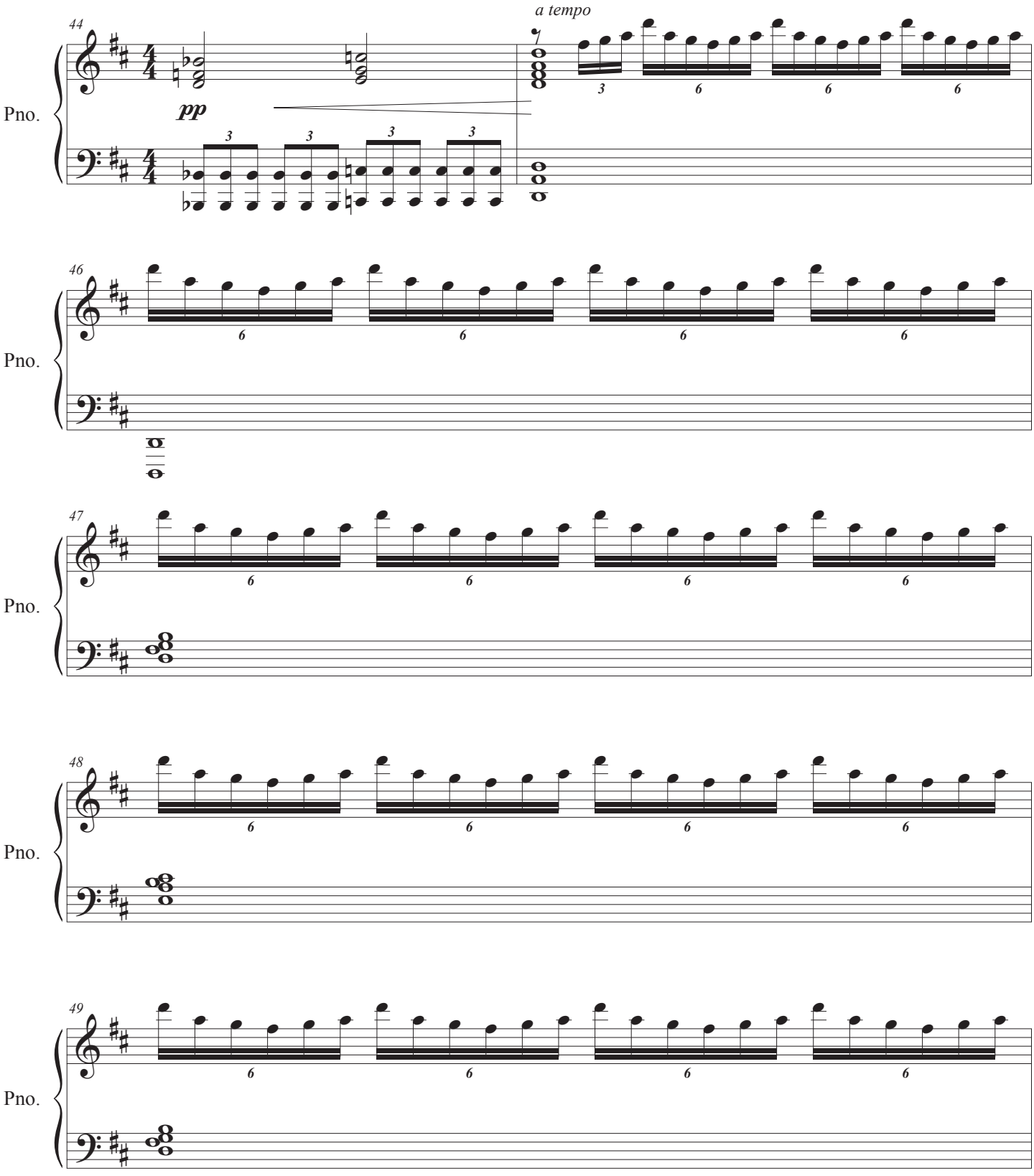
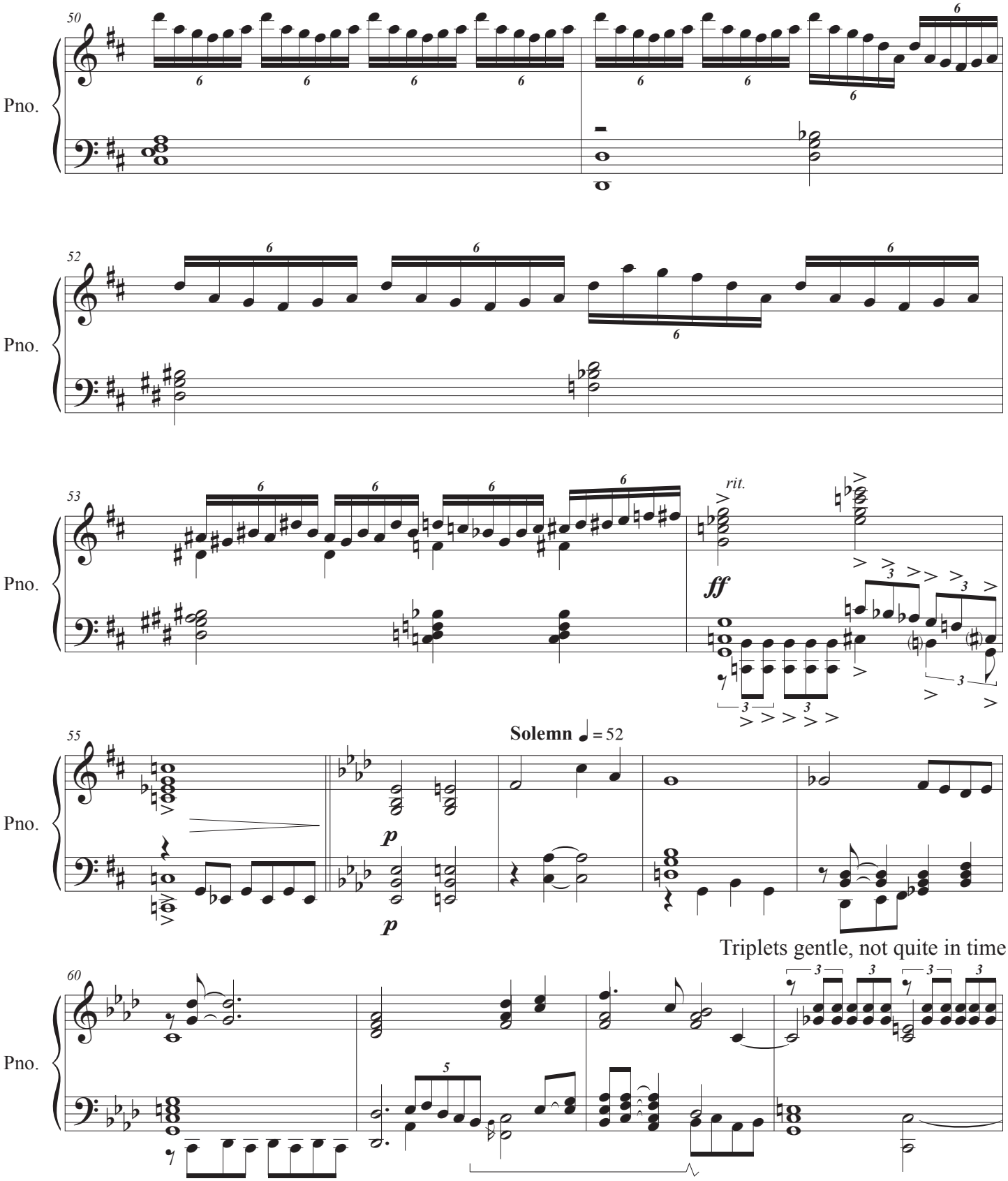
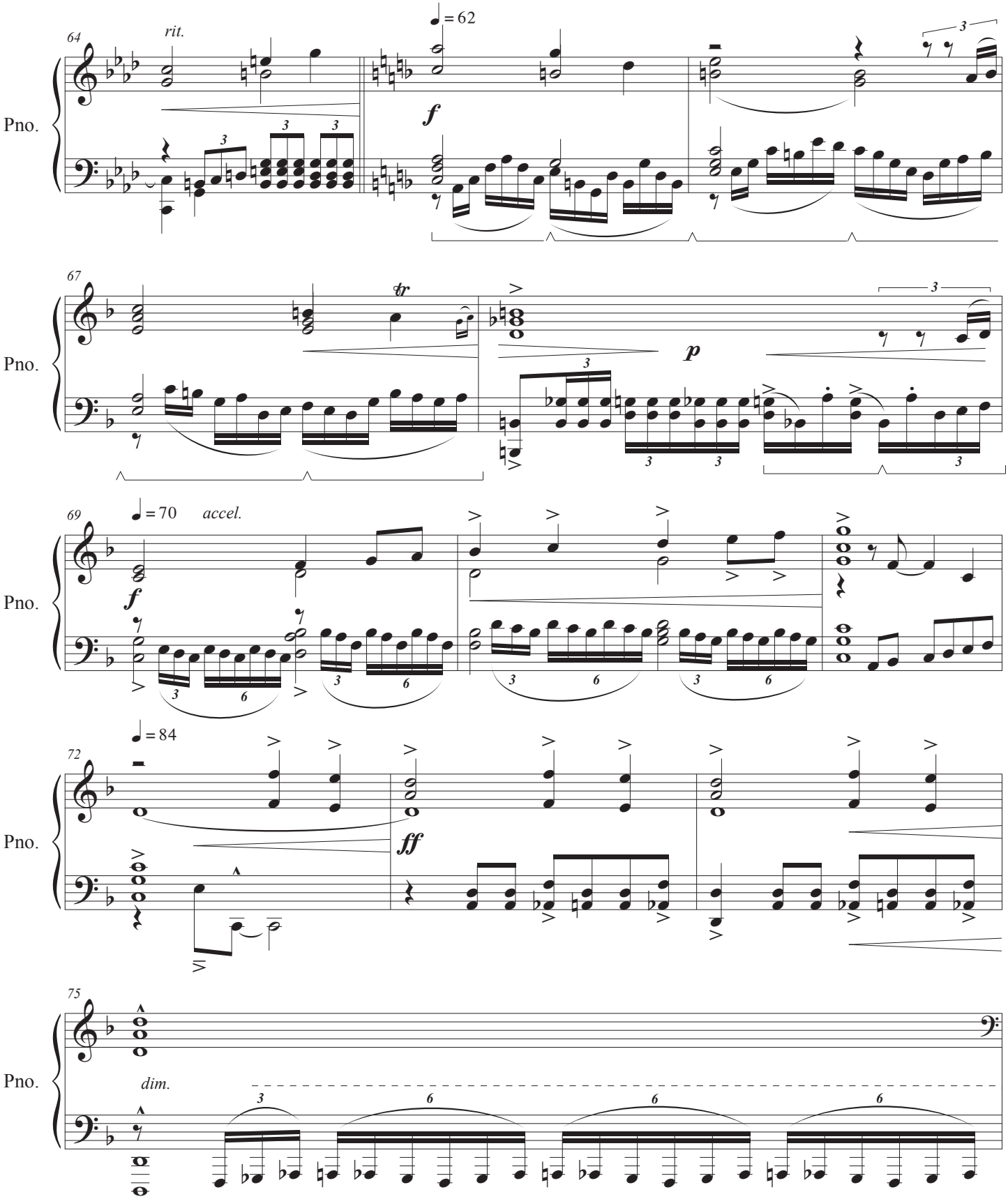
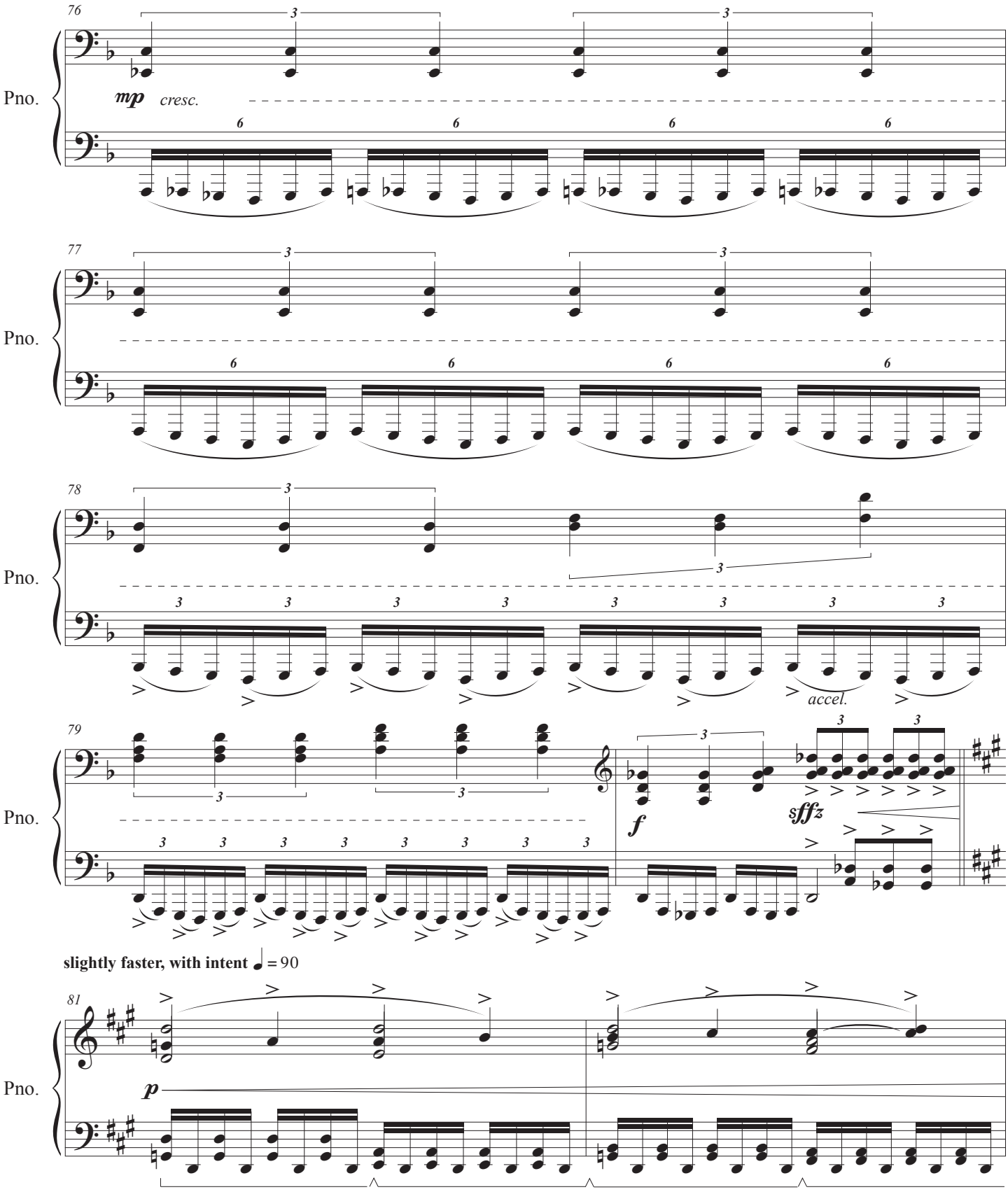
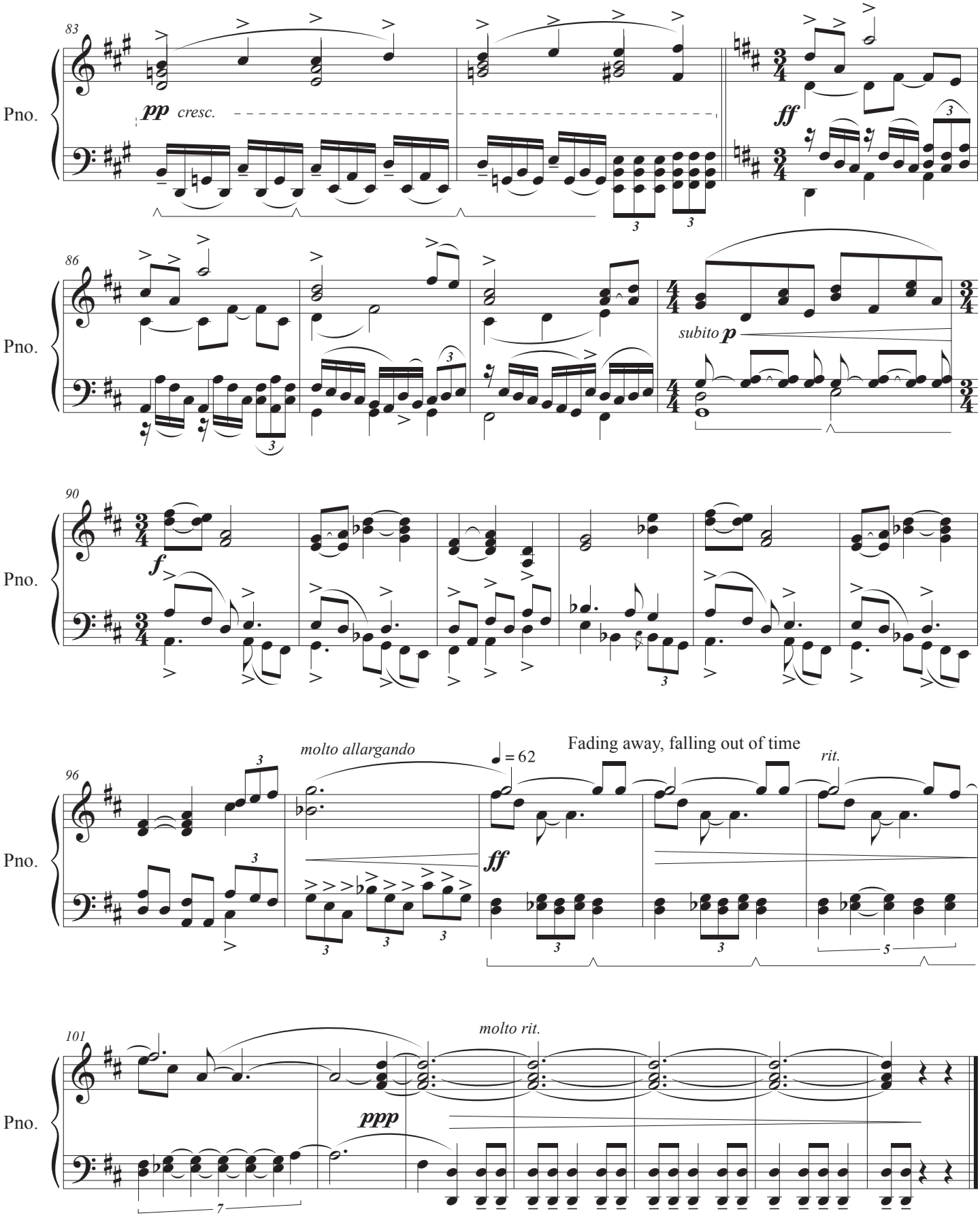

18
Pno.
24
poco accel.
piu mosso ♩ = 76
mp
Pno.
29
poco rit.
piu mosso ♩ = 84
mf
Pno.
34
subito mp
Pno.
40
rit.
f
mf
mp
mf
Pno.


44
a tempo
pp
Pno.
46
Pno.
47
Pno.
48
Pno.
49
Pno.


50
Pno.
52
Pno.
53
Pno.
rit.
ff
55
Pno.
Solemn ♩ = 52
p
p
Triplets gentle, not quite in time
60
Pno.


64
rit.
♩ = 62
f
Pno.
67
tr
p
Pno.
69
♩ = 70
accel.
f
Pno.
72
♩ = 84
ff
Pno.
75
dim.
Pno.


76
Pno.
mp
cresc.
77
Pno.
78
Pno.
accel.
79
Pno.
f
sffz
slightly faster, with intent ♩ = 90
81
Pno.
p


83
Pno.
pp cresc.
ff
86
Pno.
subito p
90
Pno.
f
96
Pno.
molto allargando
♩ = 62
Fading away, falling out of time
rit.
ff
101
Pno.
molto rit.
ppp