JOSEPH SOWA

CLARINET SONATA

for B-flat clarinet and piano

PERUSAL SCORE

WINDHAM MUSIC PRESS

PERUSAL SCORE

JOSEPH SOWA

CLARINET SONATA

for B-flat clarinet and piano

2008-2009, rev. 2015

PERUSAL SCORE

WINDHAM MUSIC PRESS

1. These Distracted Times

2. Scarred Hands

3. Interlude—Cadenza

4. Trees of Life

PROGRAM NOTE

I wrote each of the movements of my clarinet sonata for different players. The music of the first movement was inspired by the last three words from Thomas Tomkins' keyboard piece "A Sad Pavan for These Distracted Times," though Tomkins' work otherwise has no relation to the music. While writing the second movement, almost from the start, I felt the music resonate with the words "scarred hands." To me, these words seemed loaded and affecting: What scarred them? Was it accident? Malice? Sin? Do they still hurt or have they healed? Are they whole or irreparably damaged? How do others react to these scars? With compassion? Disgust? Embarrassment? Whose scars are they? Whose hands are they? Have they transcended their wounds? What do they do now? The final movement, "Trees of Life," reflects the energy and excitement of cross-country racing. Between the sensation of my physical exertion and the tangible presence I felt from the forest, such events for me seemed filled with life.

"Scarred Hands" was written for Jean Kopperud and Stephen Gosling, 16 September–6 October 2008. It was first performed by them on 11 November 2008.

"Trees of Life" was written for Hannah Bates Christensen and Jackie Bodily Biggs, 23 January–26 February 2009. It was first performed by them on 11 November 2009

"These Distracted Times" was written 9 September–19 October 2009.
It was first performed by Tara Hill Matthews and Mark Witmer on 1 April 2011.

Total duration: 25 minutes

PERUSAL SCORE

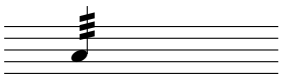
Copyright © 2009, 2015 Joseph Sowa (ASCAP)
All Rights Reserved

To buy Windham Music Press publications or to find out more
about the music of Joseph Sowa, please contact:

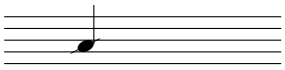
Email: inquiries@josephsowa.com
Website: www.josephsowa.com

NOTATION KEY

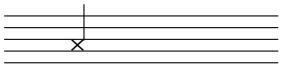
Clarinet



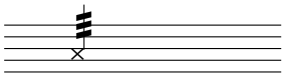
Flutter-tongue



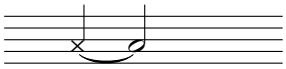
Sing through instrument without vibrating the reed (i.e., not multiphonics); ossia 8vb throughout



Blow air through instrument—non-pitched

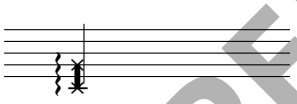


Blow air and rattle keys evenly



Imperceptibility transition from blowing air to a playing a pitch as normal

Piano



Strum the strings inside the piano, creating a cluster approximately of the size and pitches indicated

PERUSAL SCORE

ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE NOTES

- All movements are to be played *attaca*
- All trills are upward by diatonic step unless otherwise indicated
- **x** = senza misura

PERUSAL SCORE

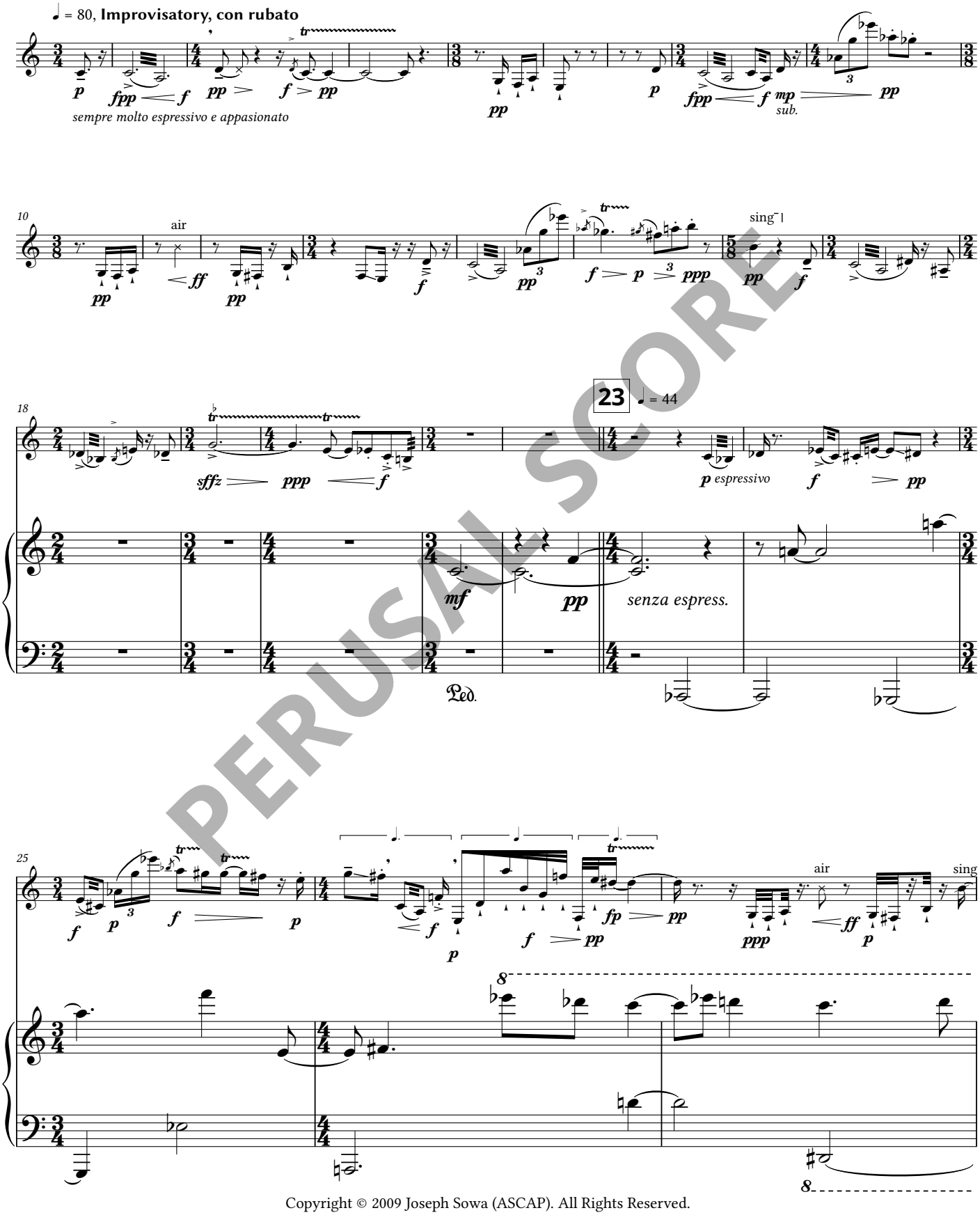
Clarinet Sonata was a finalist in the 2009 ASCAP Morton Gould Composer Awards

Clarinet Sonata

I

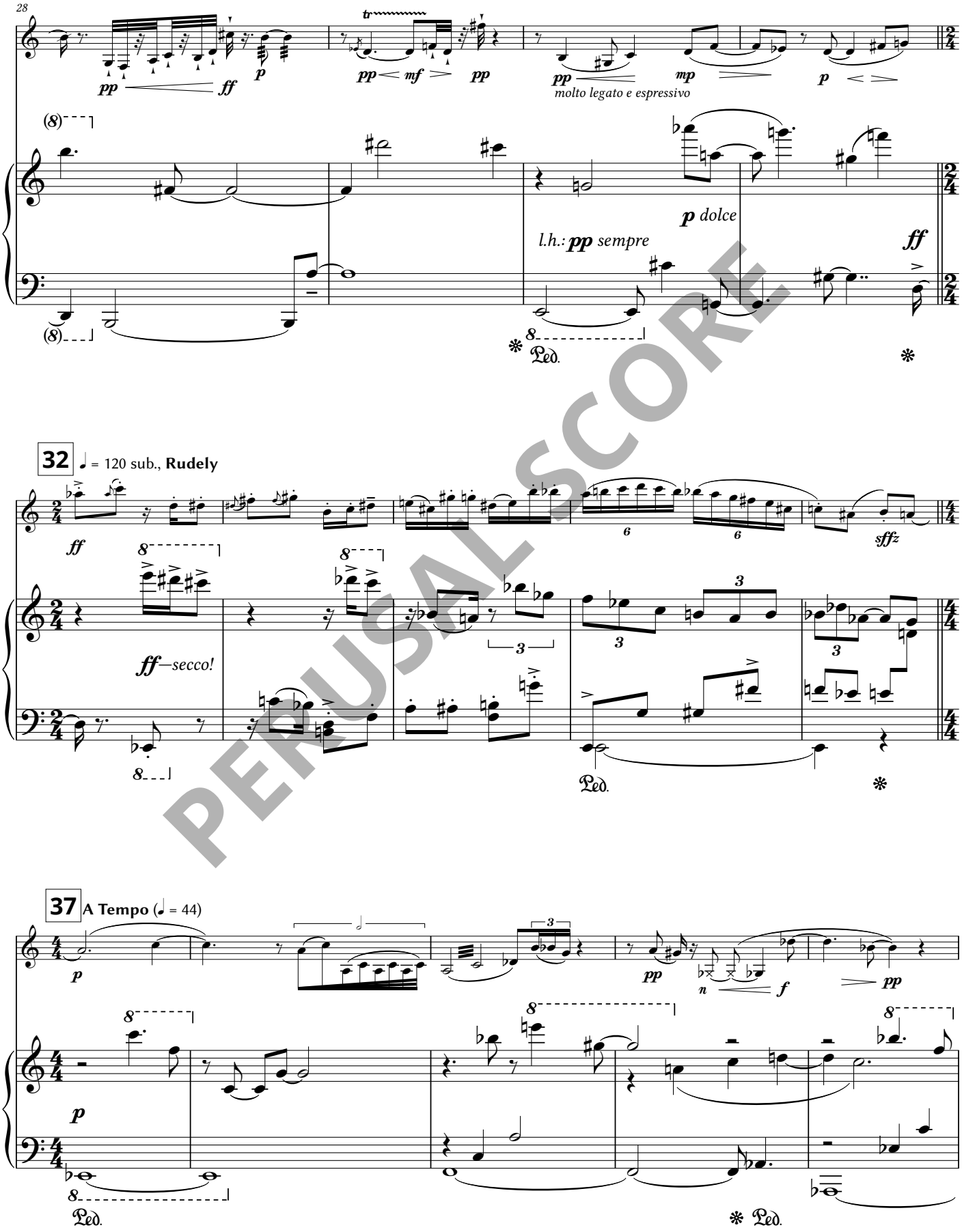
These Distracted Times

Joseph Sowa

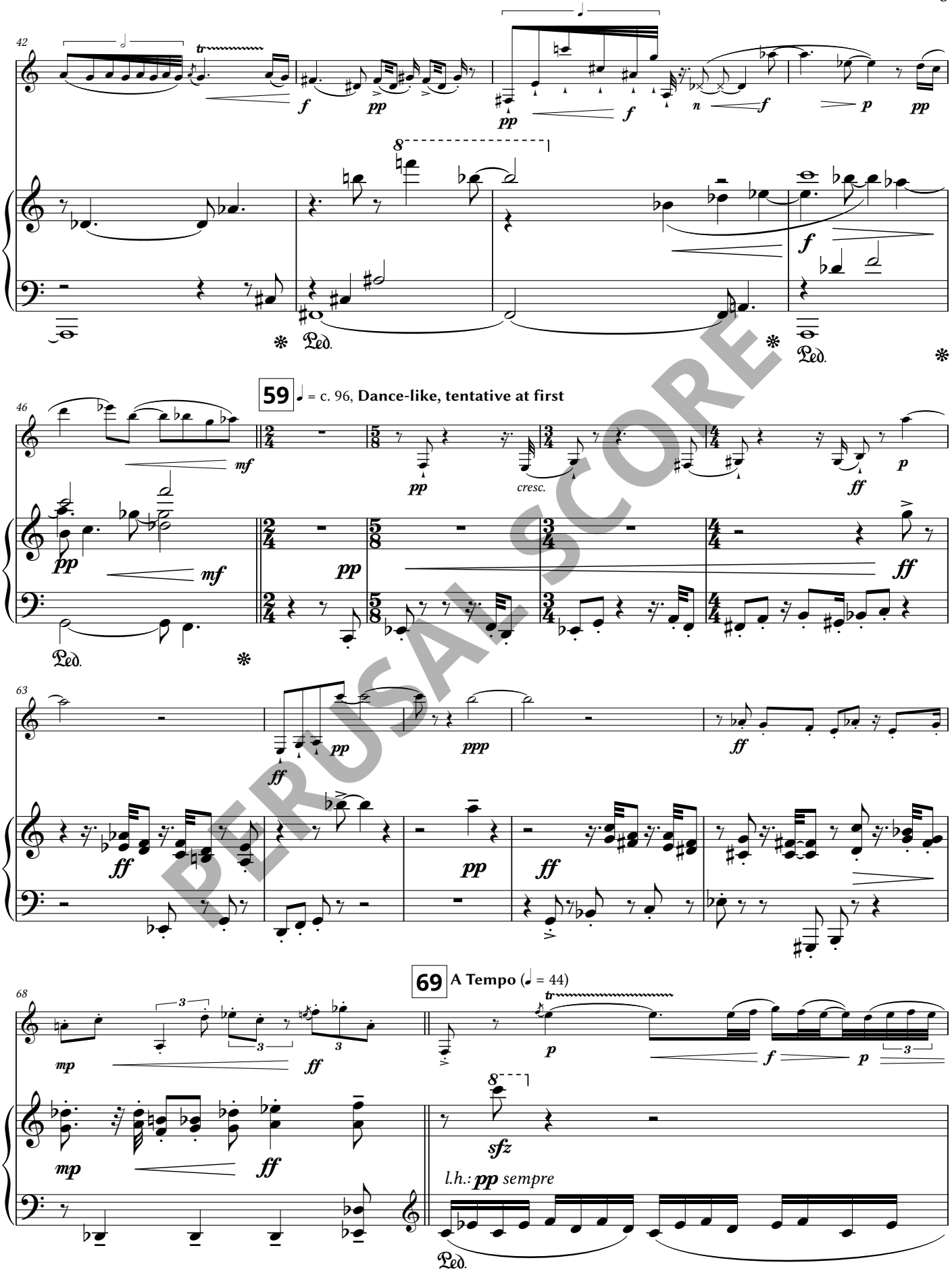


PERUSAL SCORE

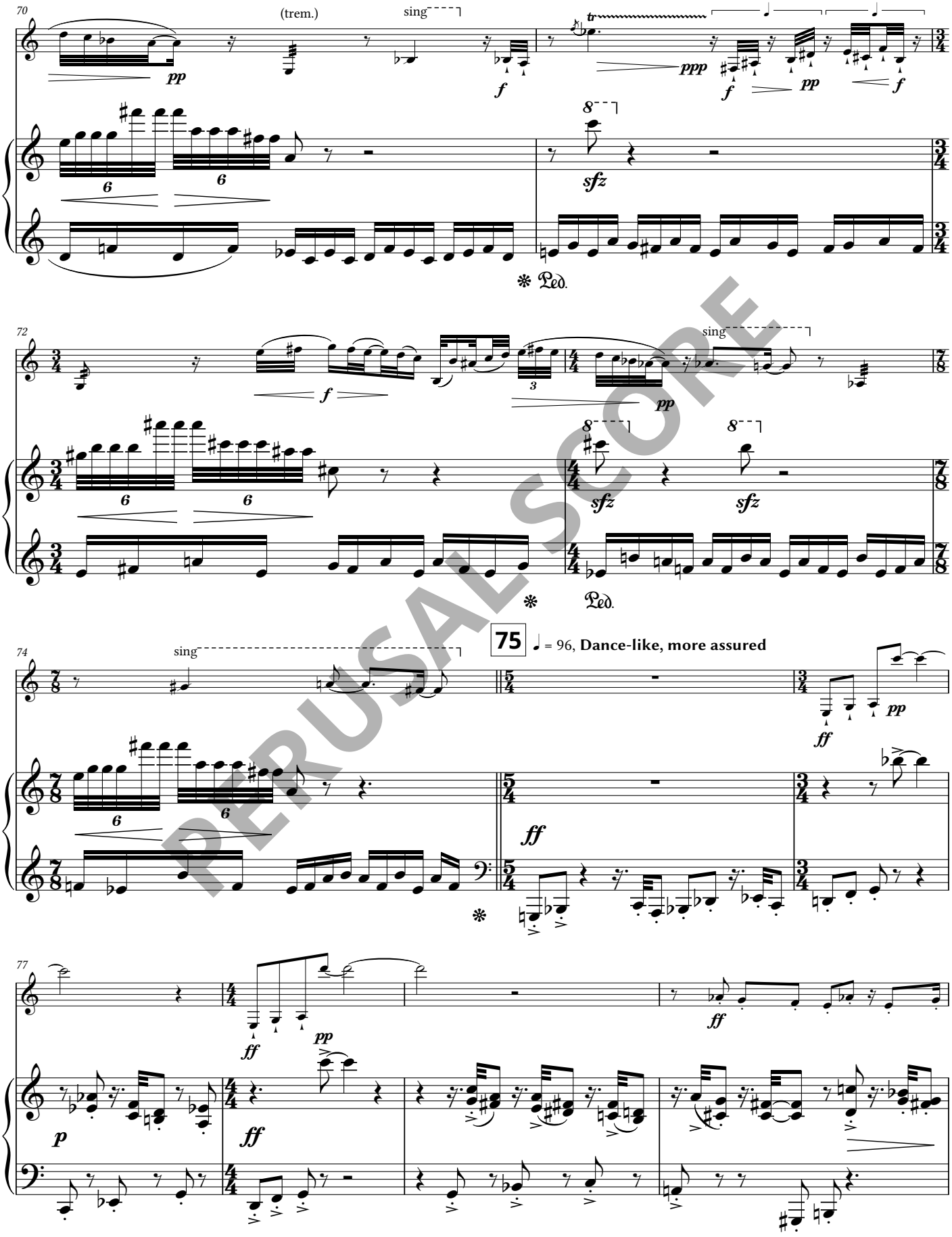
Copyright © 2009 Joseph Sowa (ASCAP). All Rights Reserved.
Windham Music Press • www.josephsowa.com



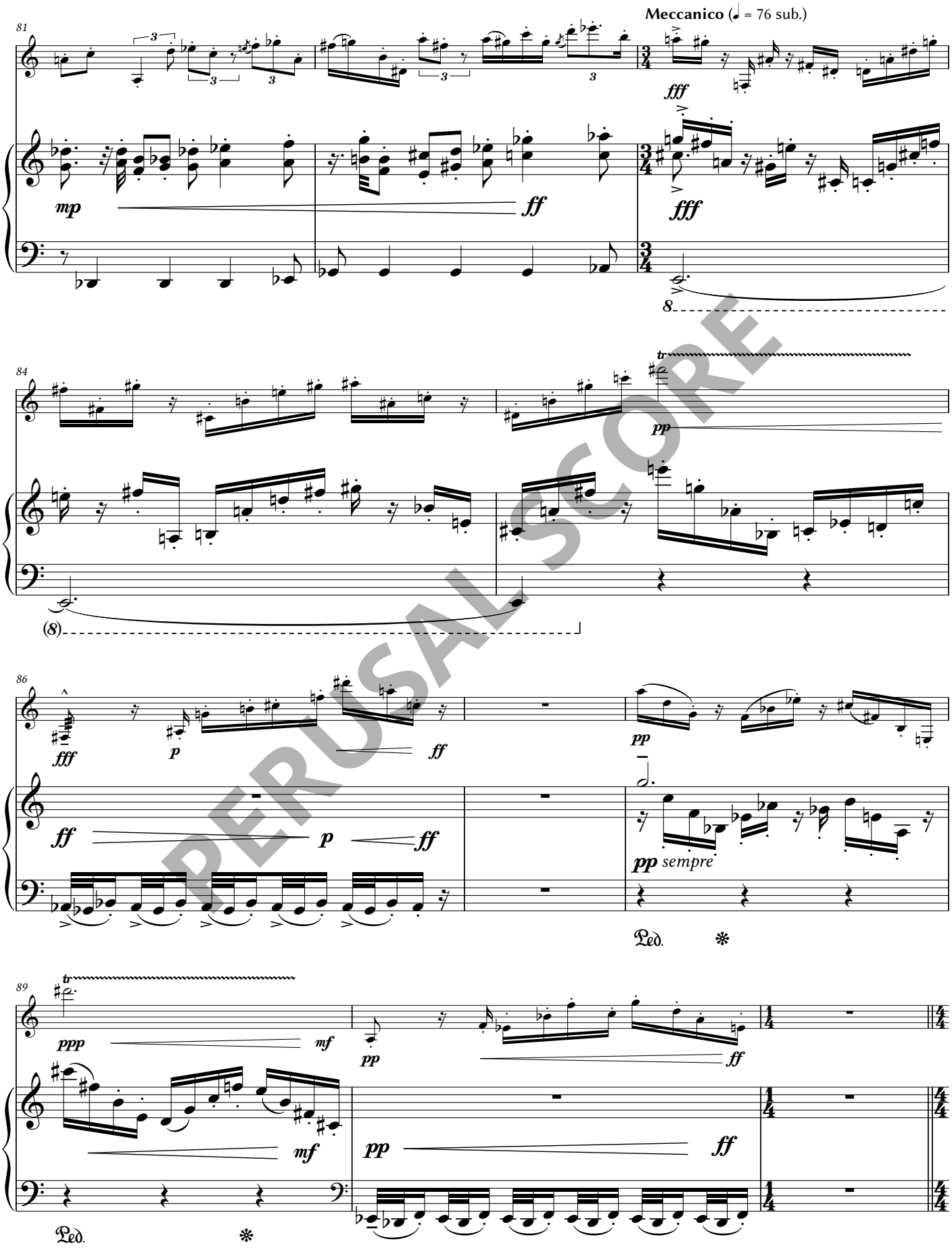
PERUSAL SCORE



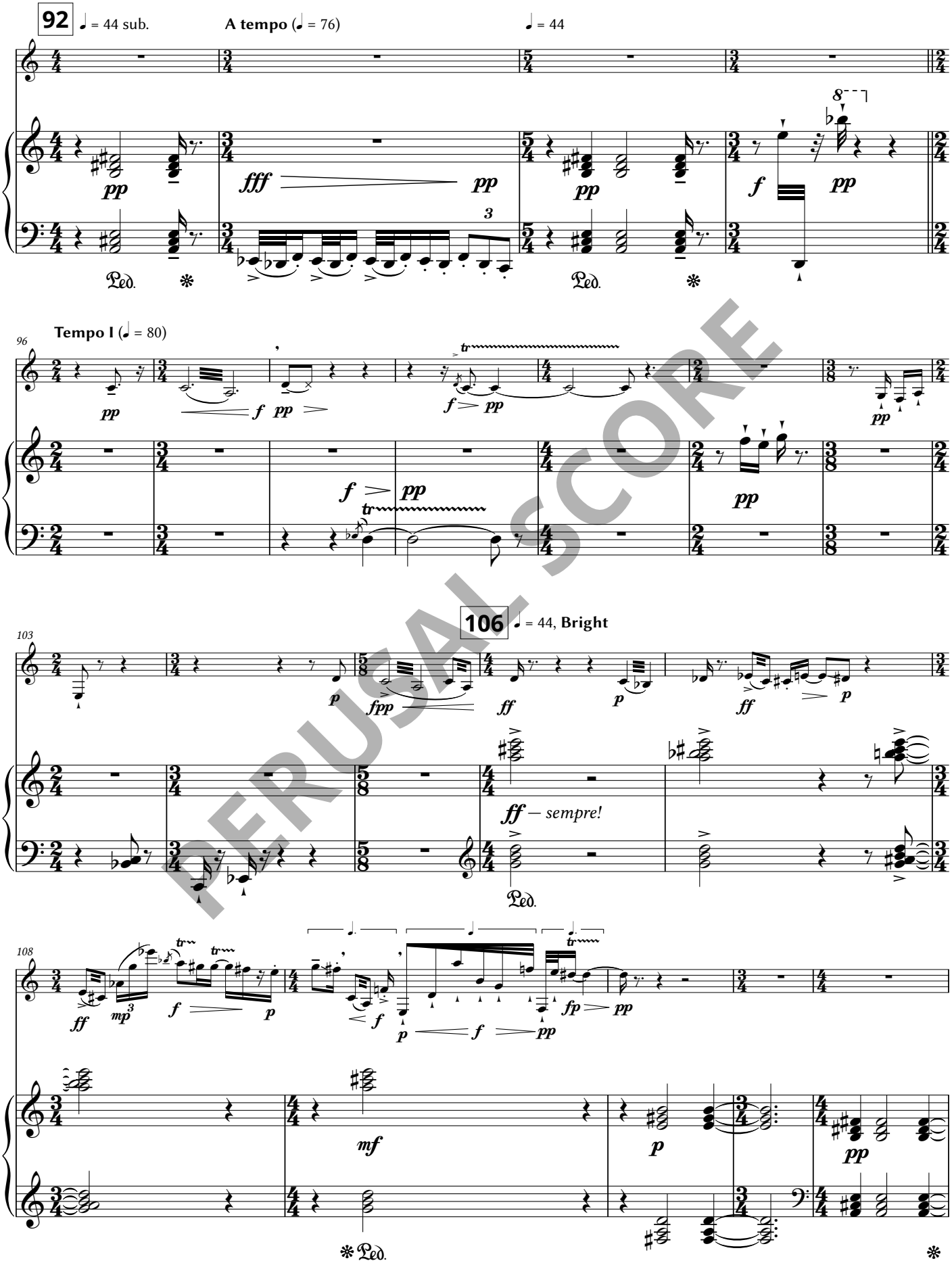
PERUSAL SCORE



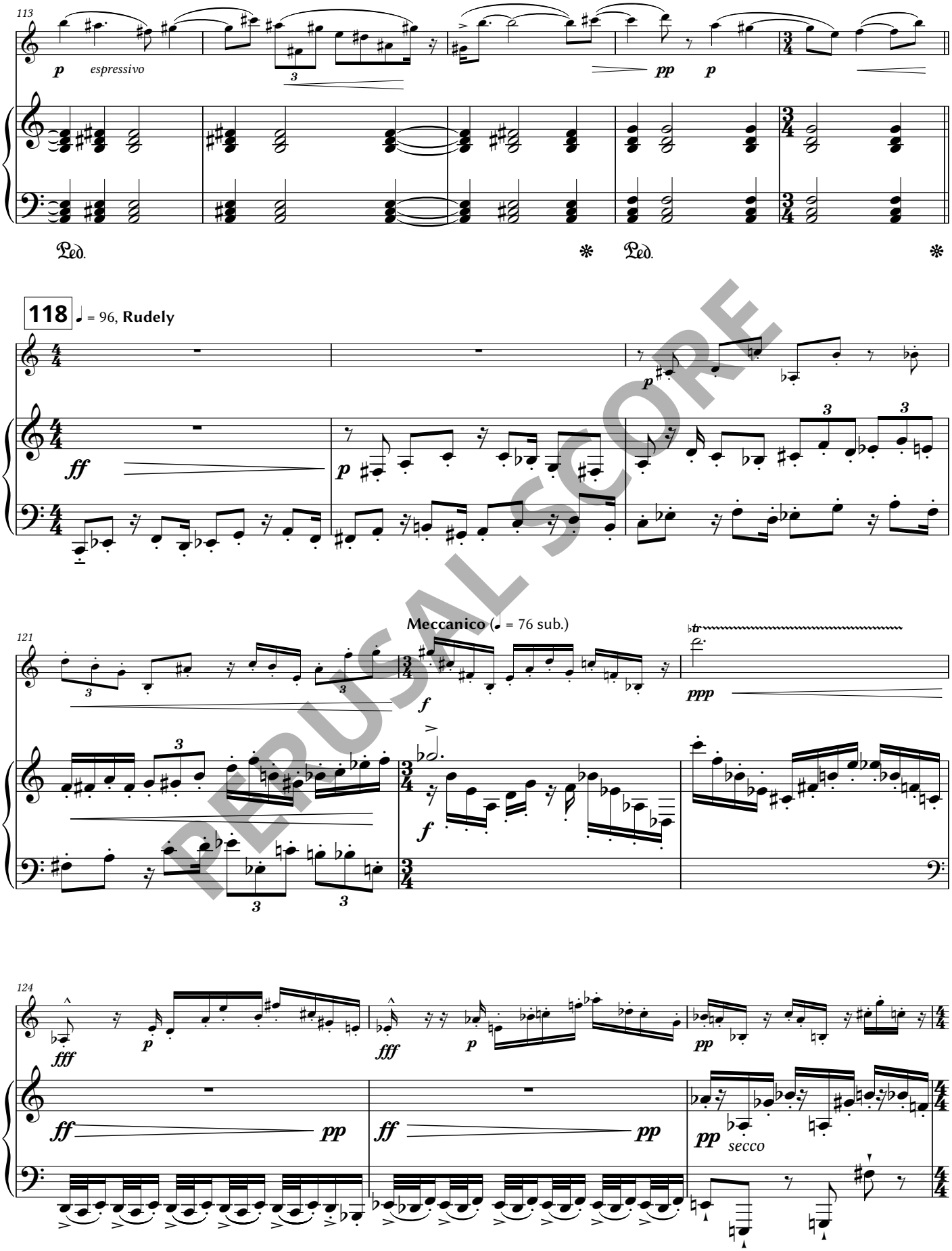
PERUSAL SCORE



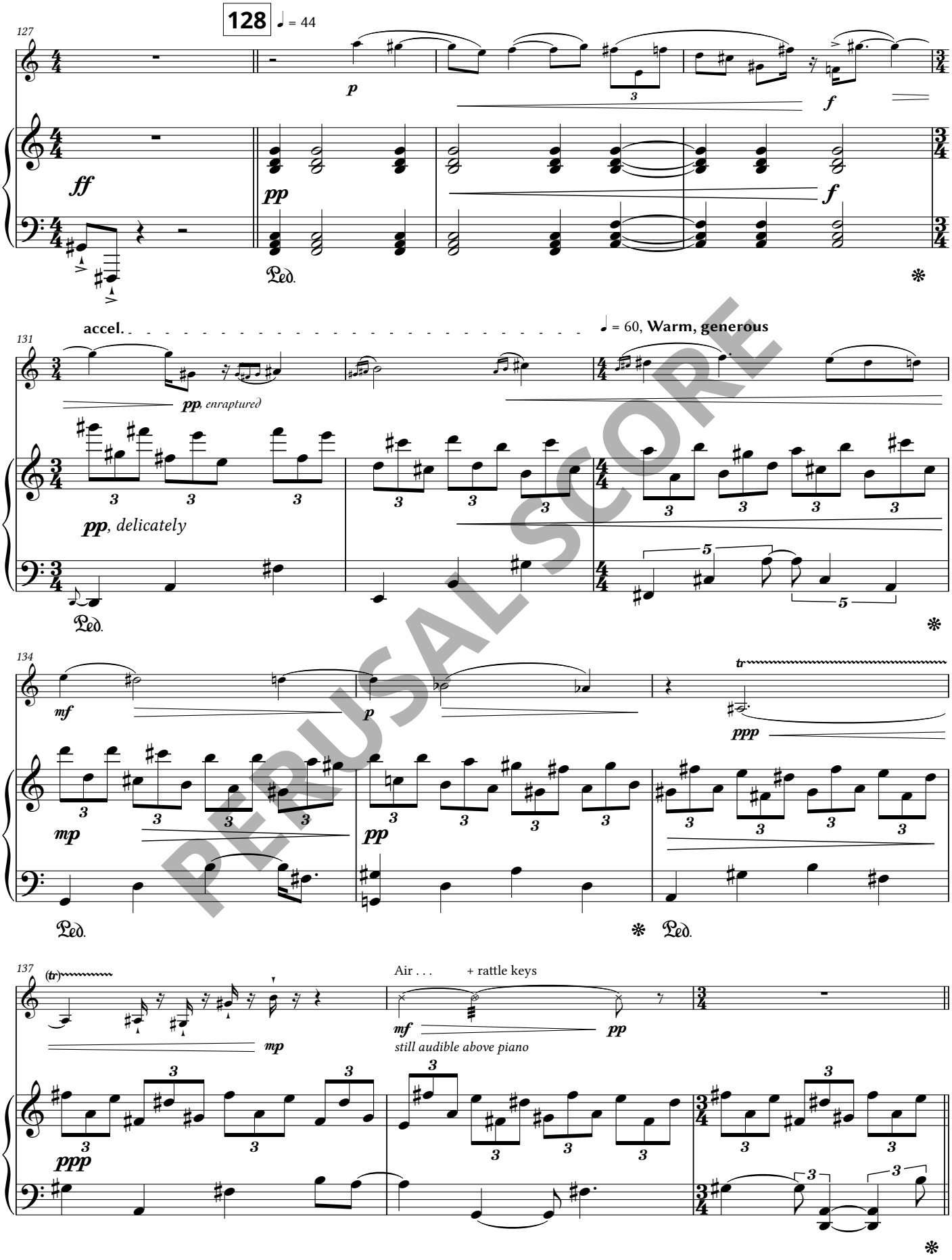
PERUSAL SCORE



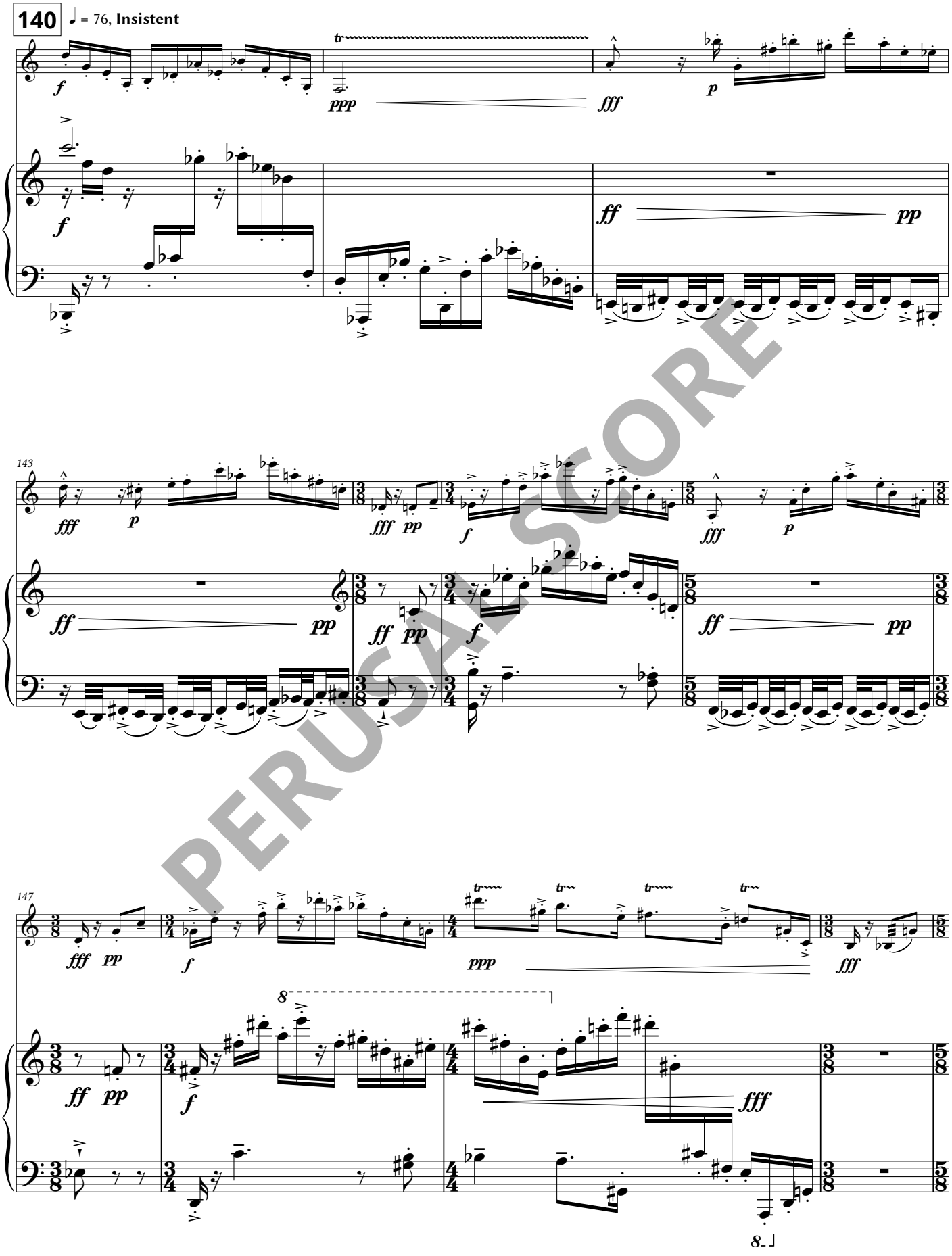
PERUSAL SCORE

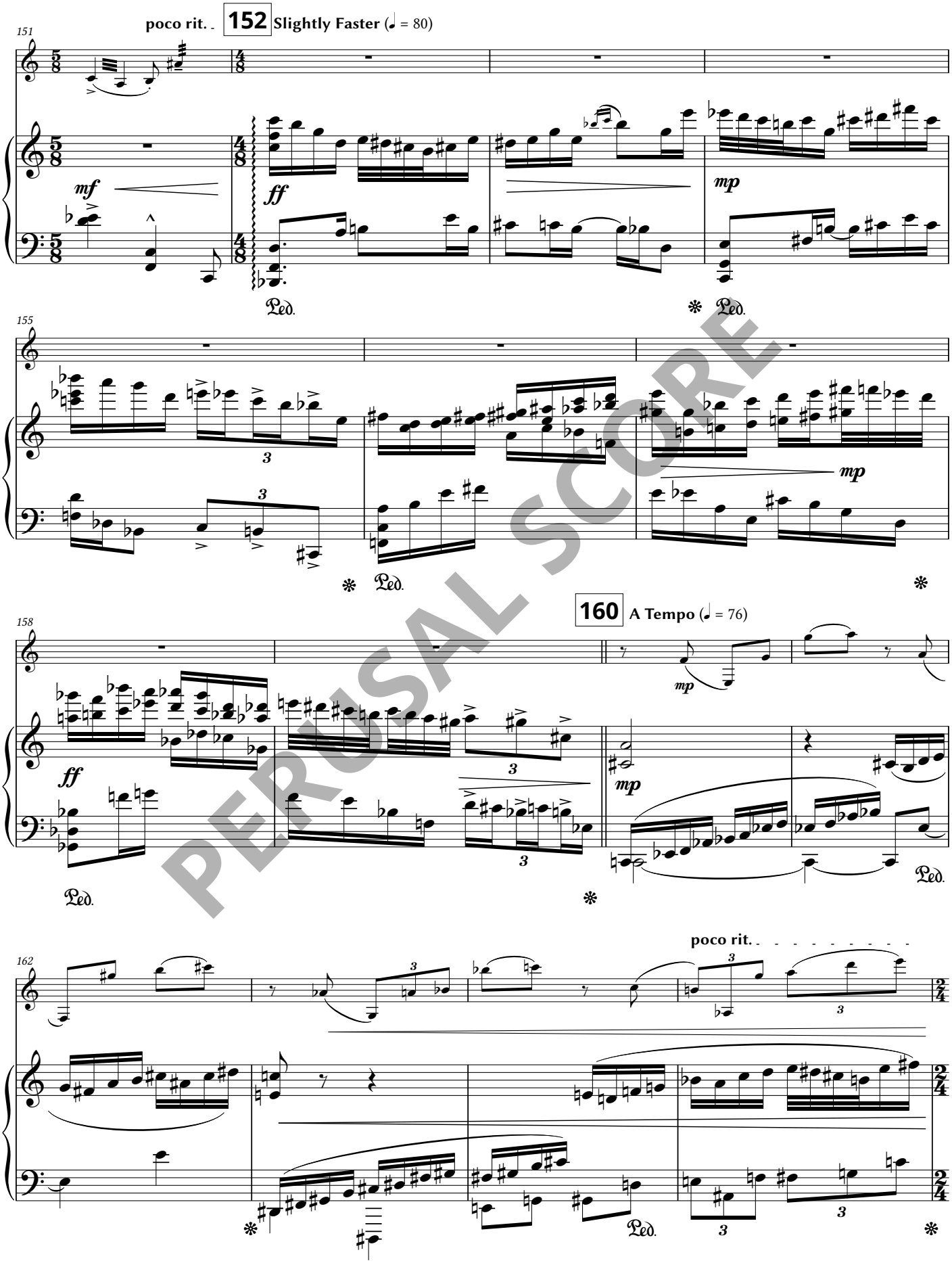


PERUSAL SCORE

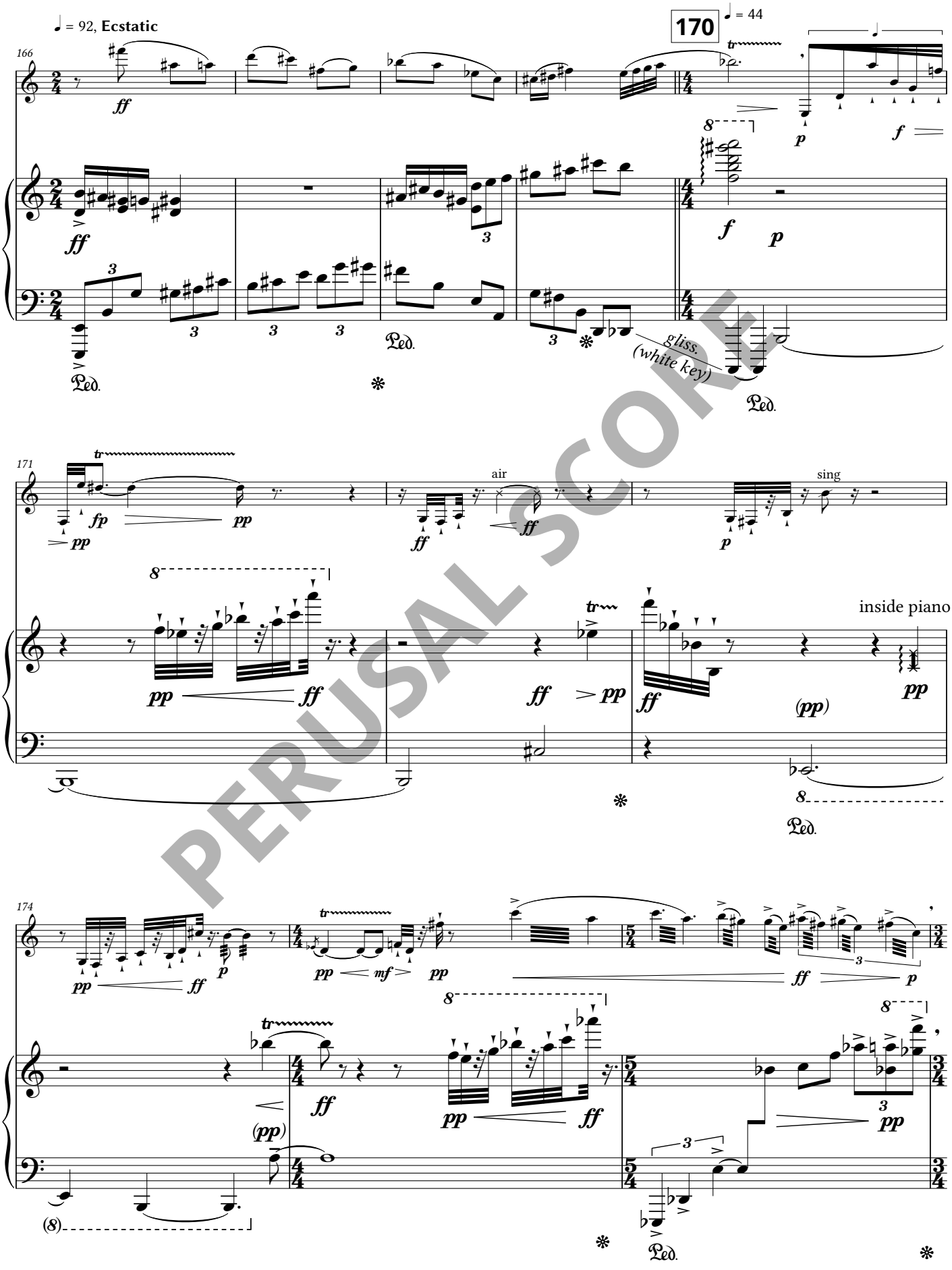


PERUSAL SCORE

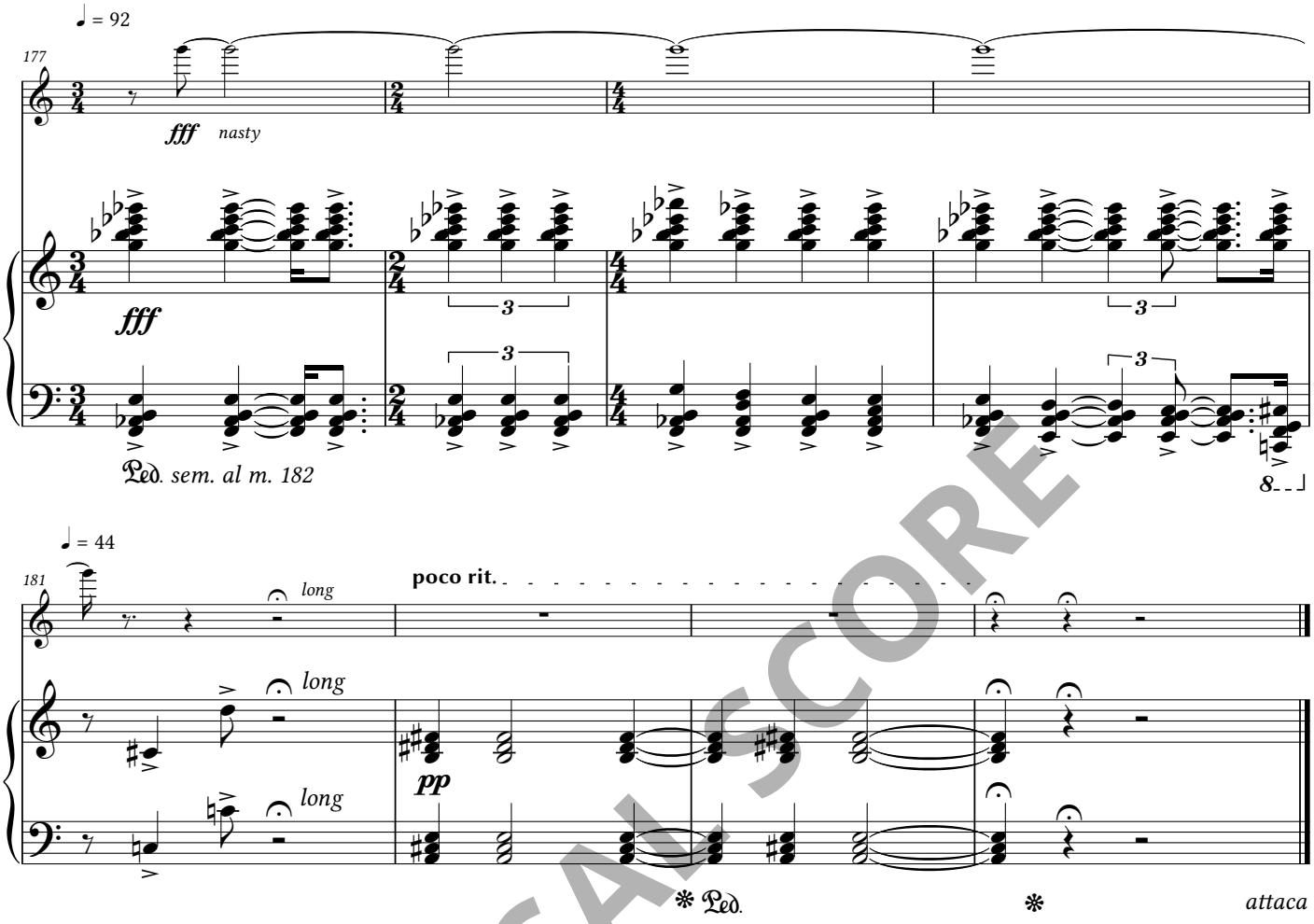

140
♩ = 76, Insistent
143
147
8
8
PERUSAL SCORE



PERUSAL SCORE



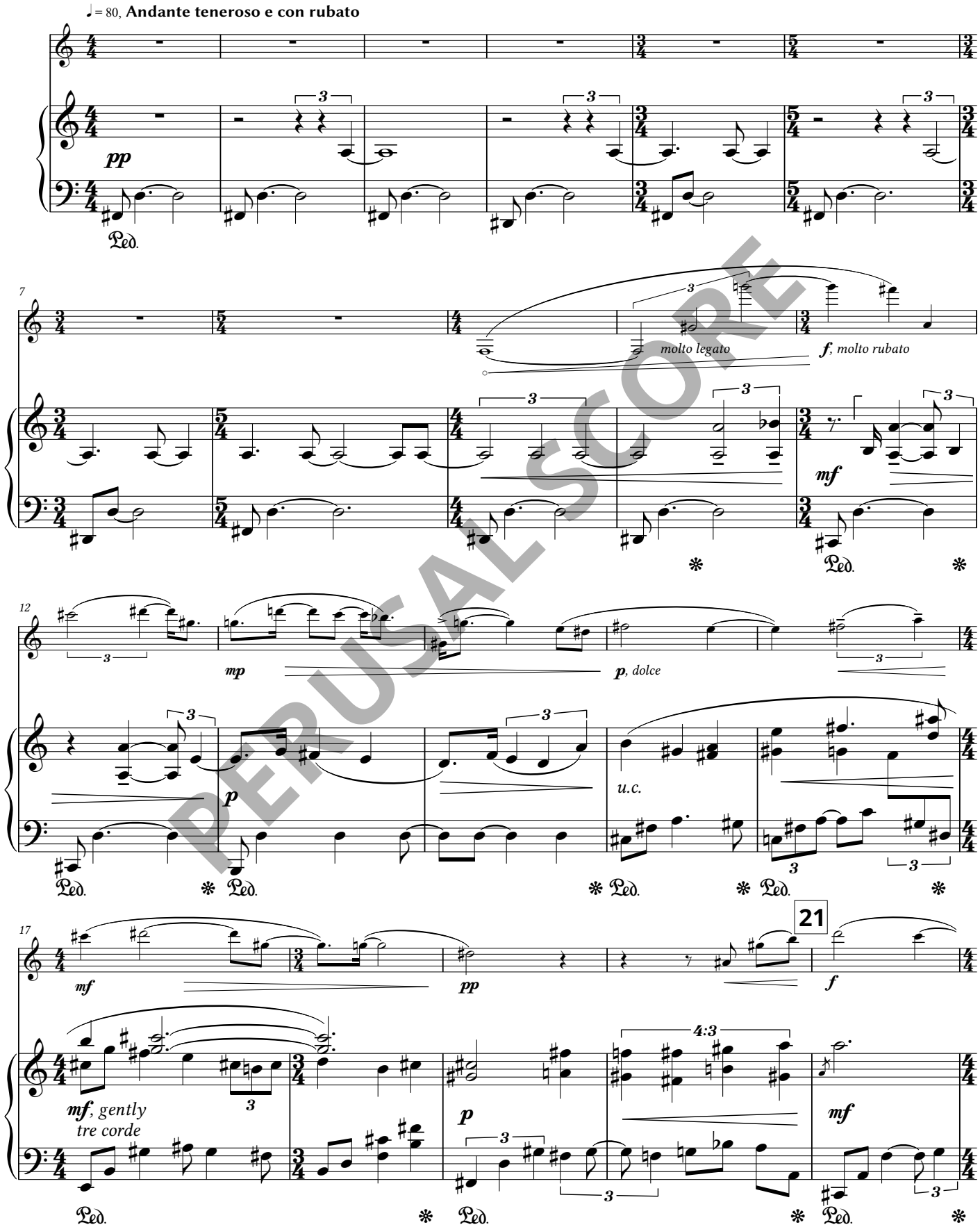
PERUSAL SCORE



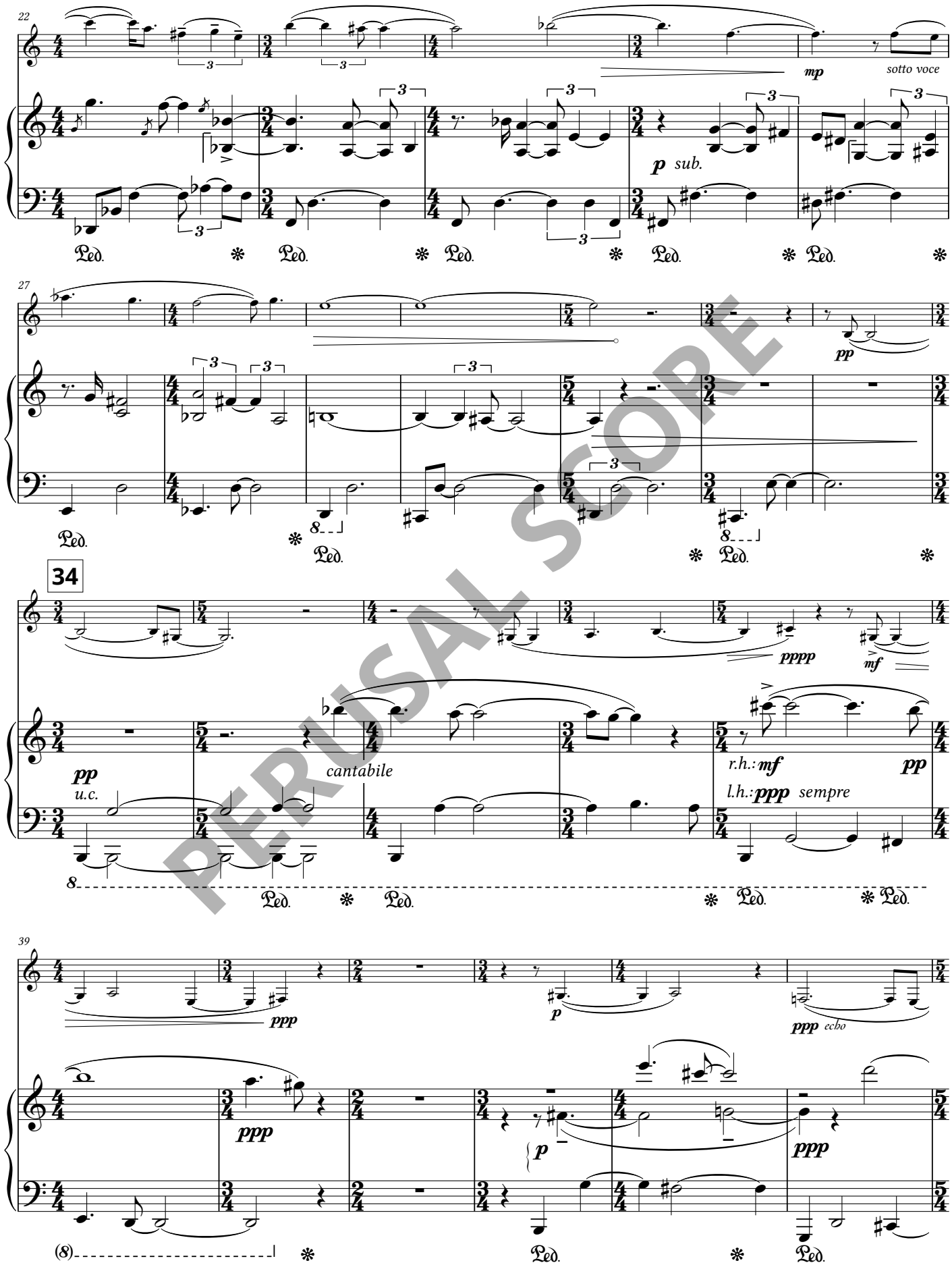
PERUSAL SCORE

II

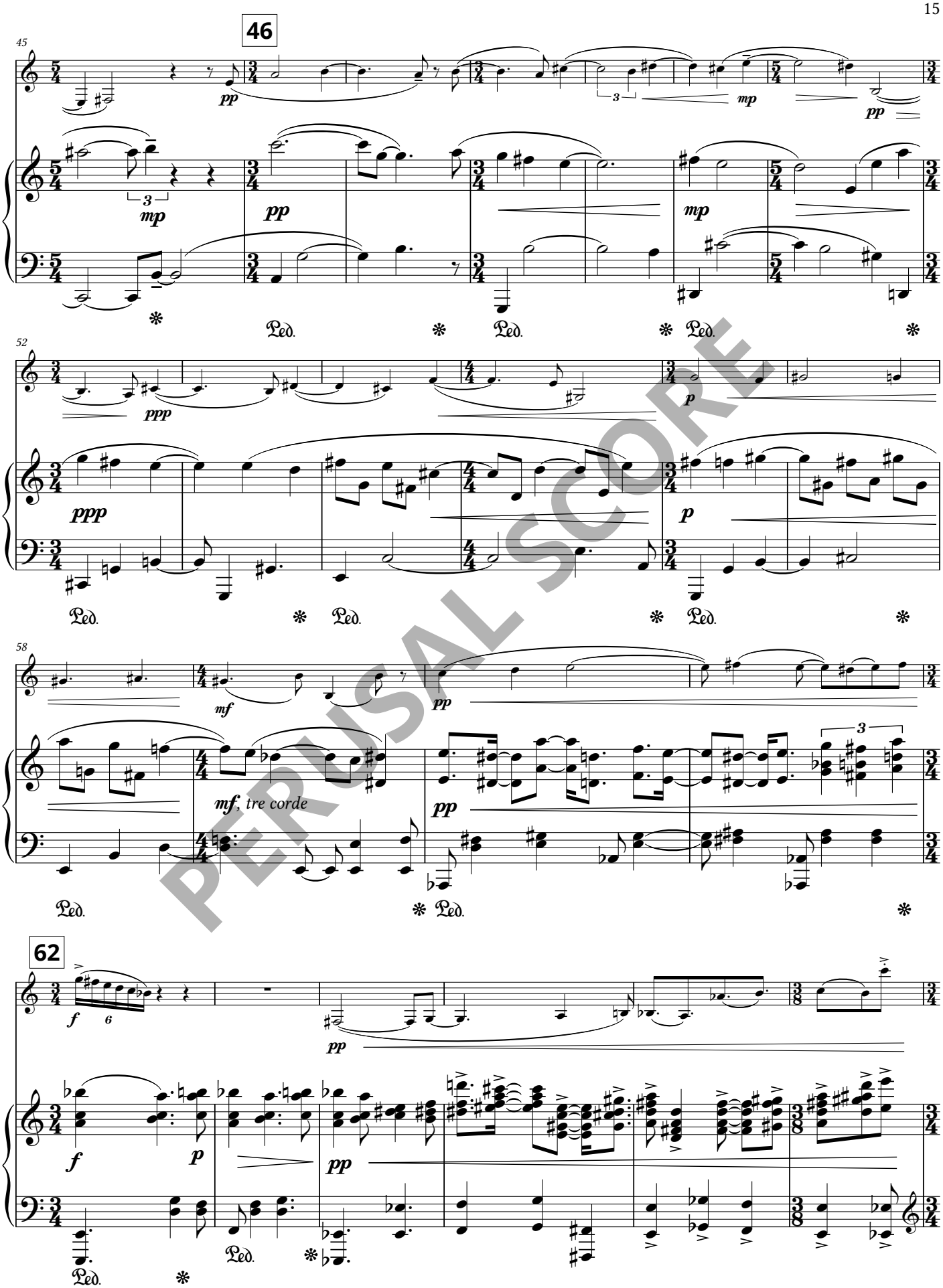
Scarred Hands

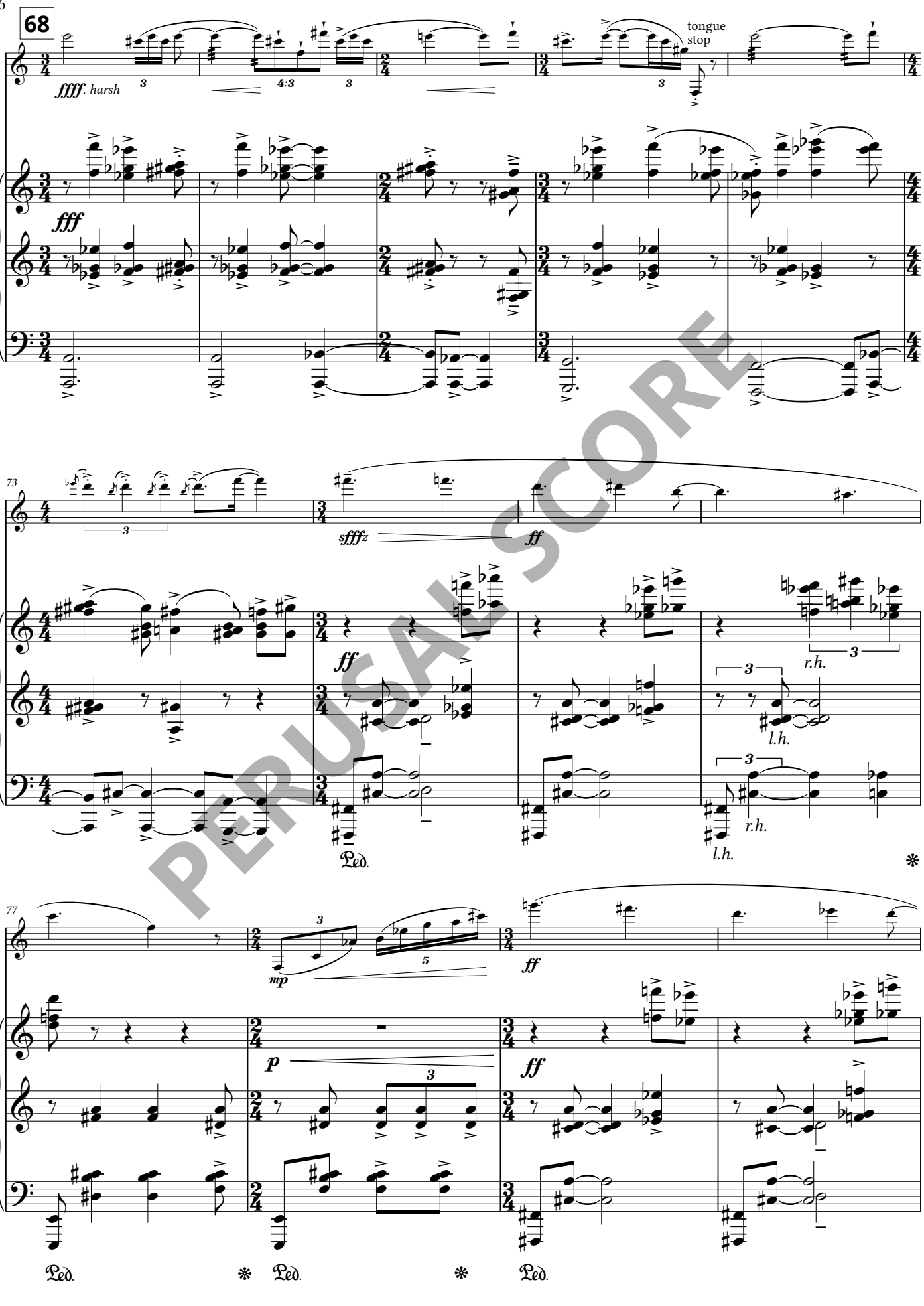


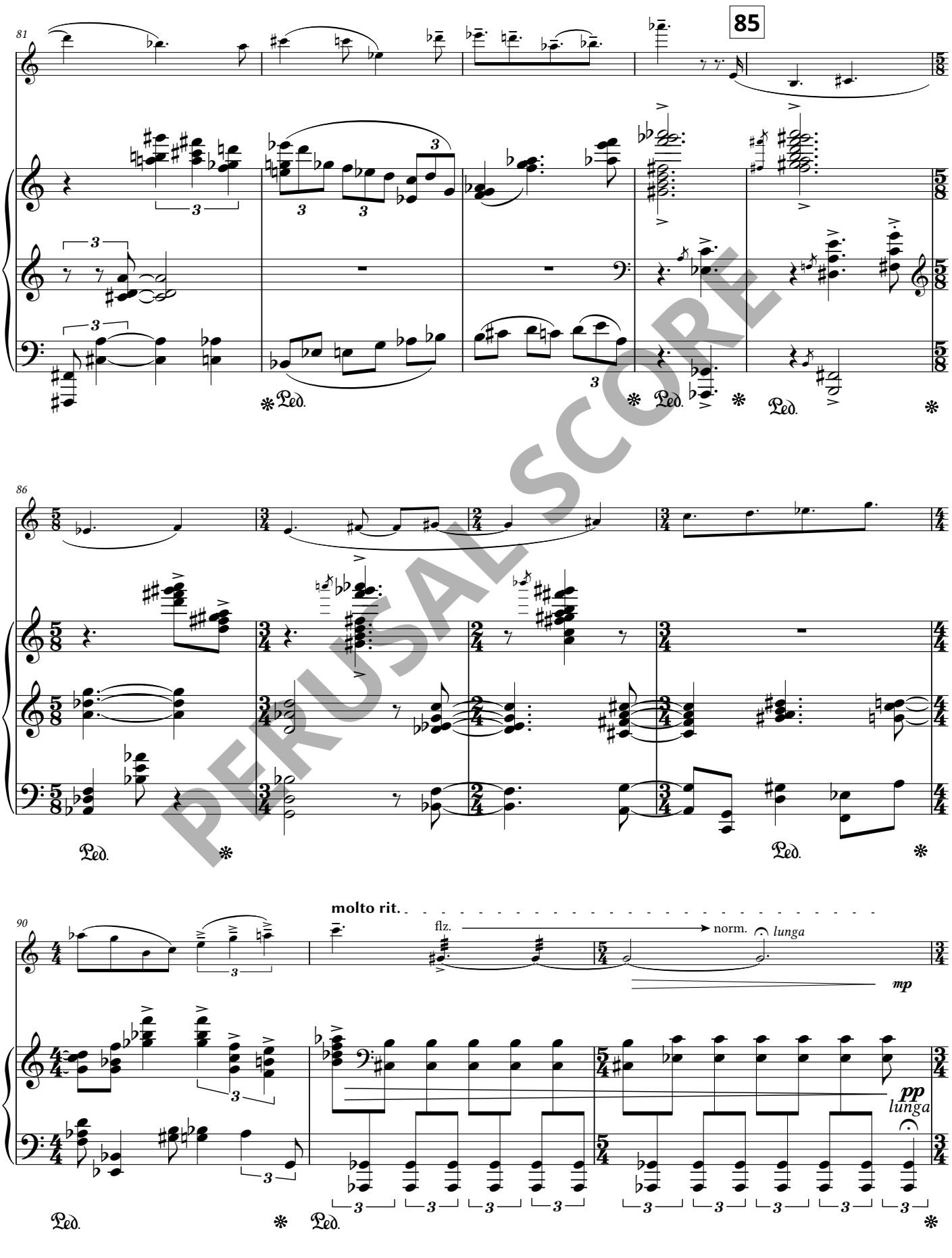
PERUSAL SCORE



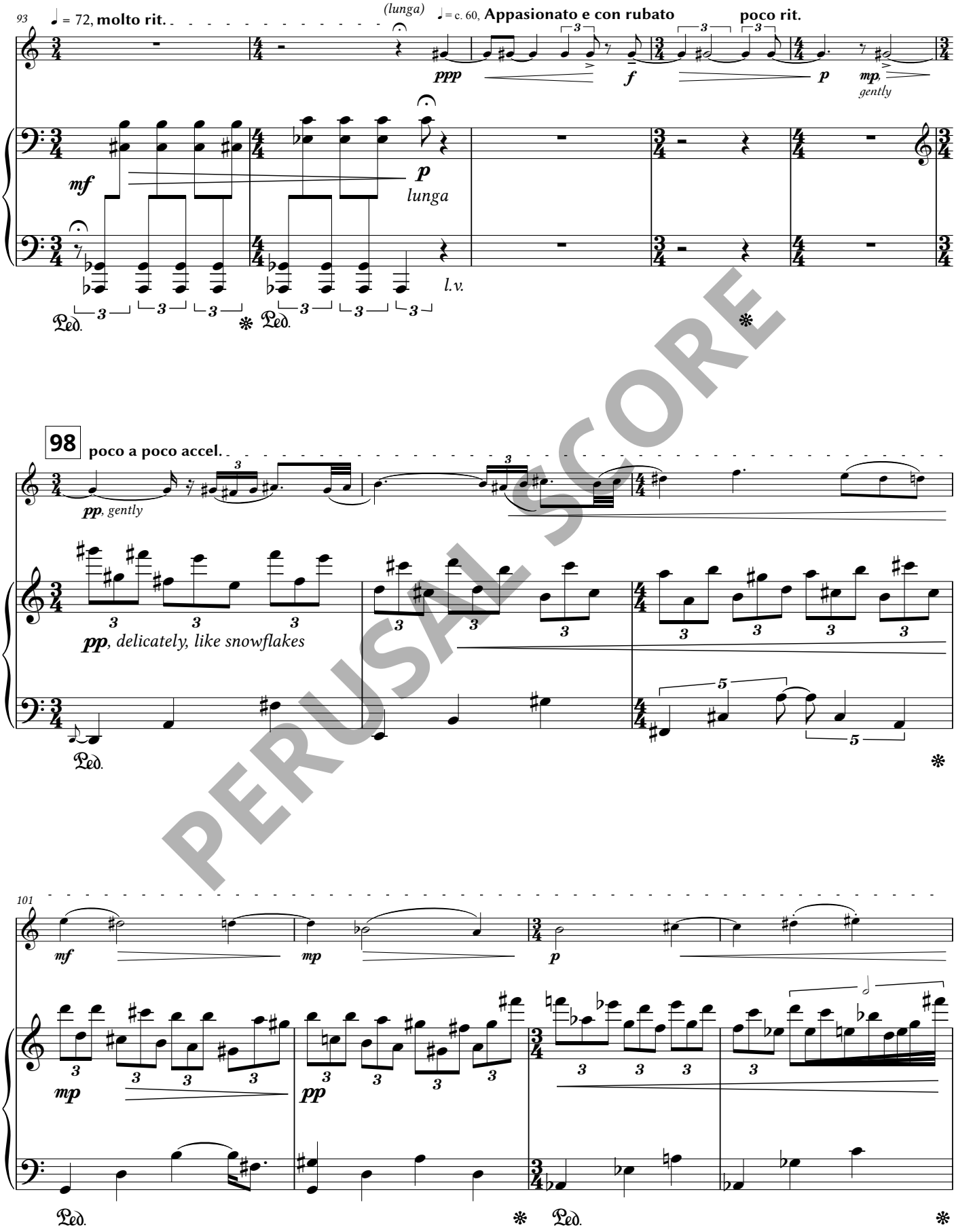
PERUSAL SCORE


46
45
52
58
62
PERUSAL SCORE

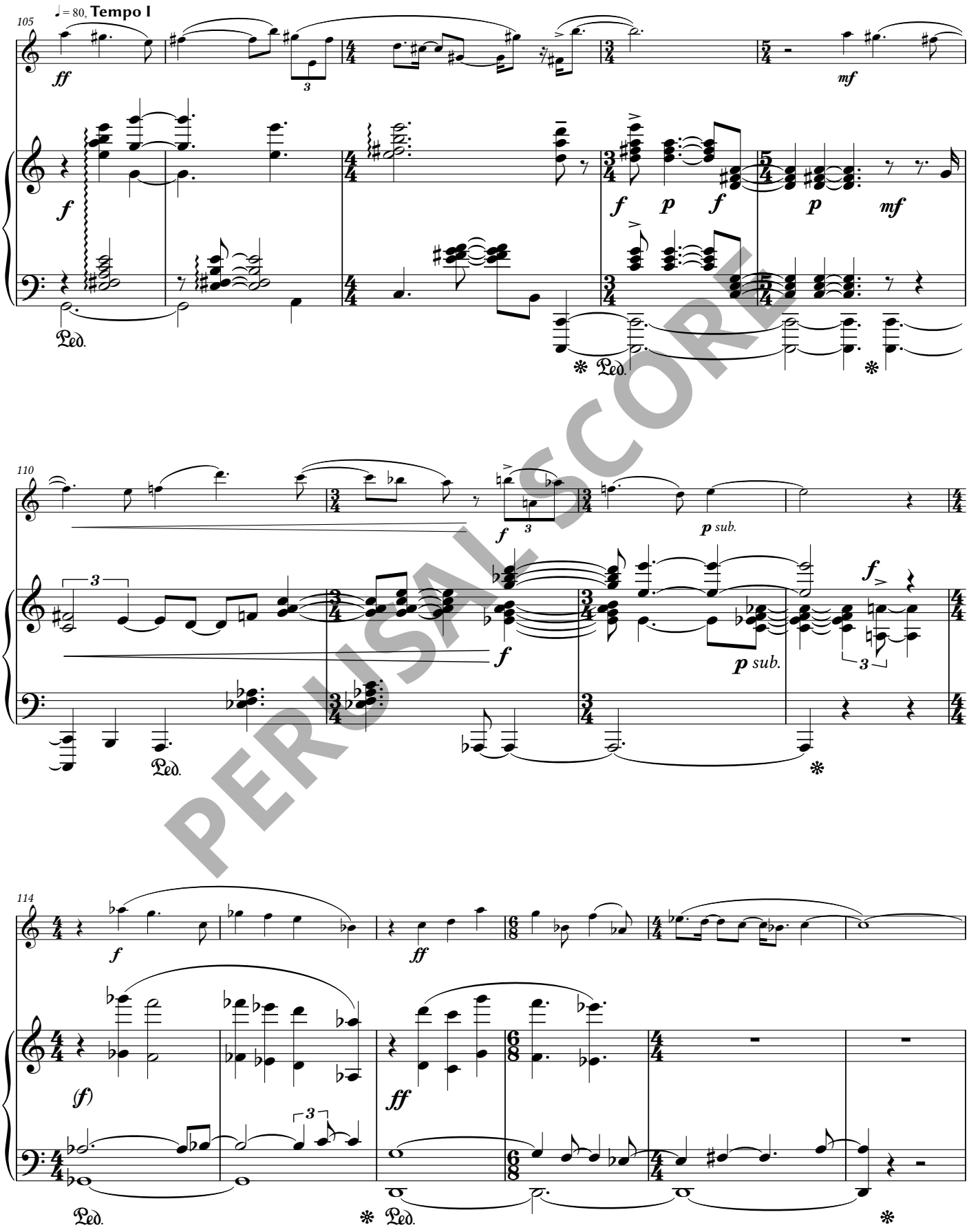

68
ffff. harsh
tongue
stop
fff
73
sfffz
ff
r.h.
l.h.
Ped.
77
mp
p
PERUSAL SCORE



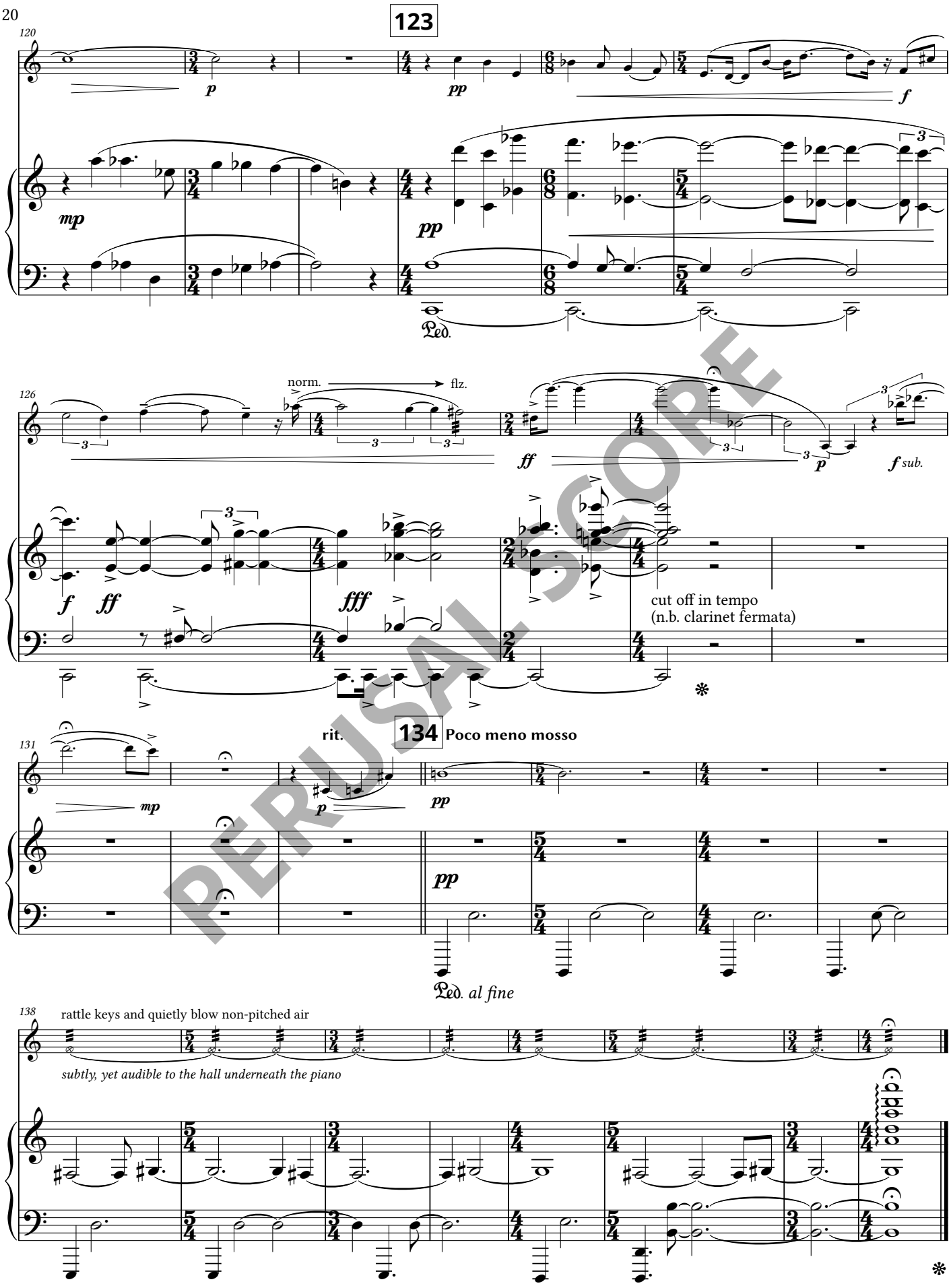
PERUSAL SCORE



PERUSAL SCORE



PERUSAL SCORE



PERUSAL SCORE

Interlude—Cadenza

Improvisatory, freely

ca. 25" ♩ = 84

ca. 25" ♩ = 84

ca. 3" ca. 25"

well articulated (but sustatined) — molto legato

ff, strong and sweet

♩ = 84*

♩ = 44

Presto possible ♩ = 88

To Cl.

intense!

attaca

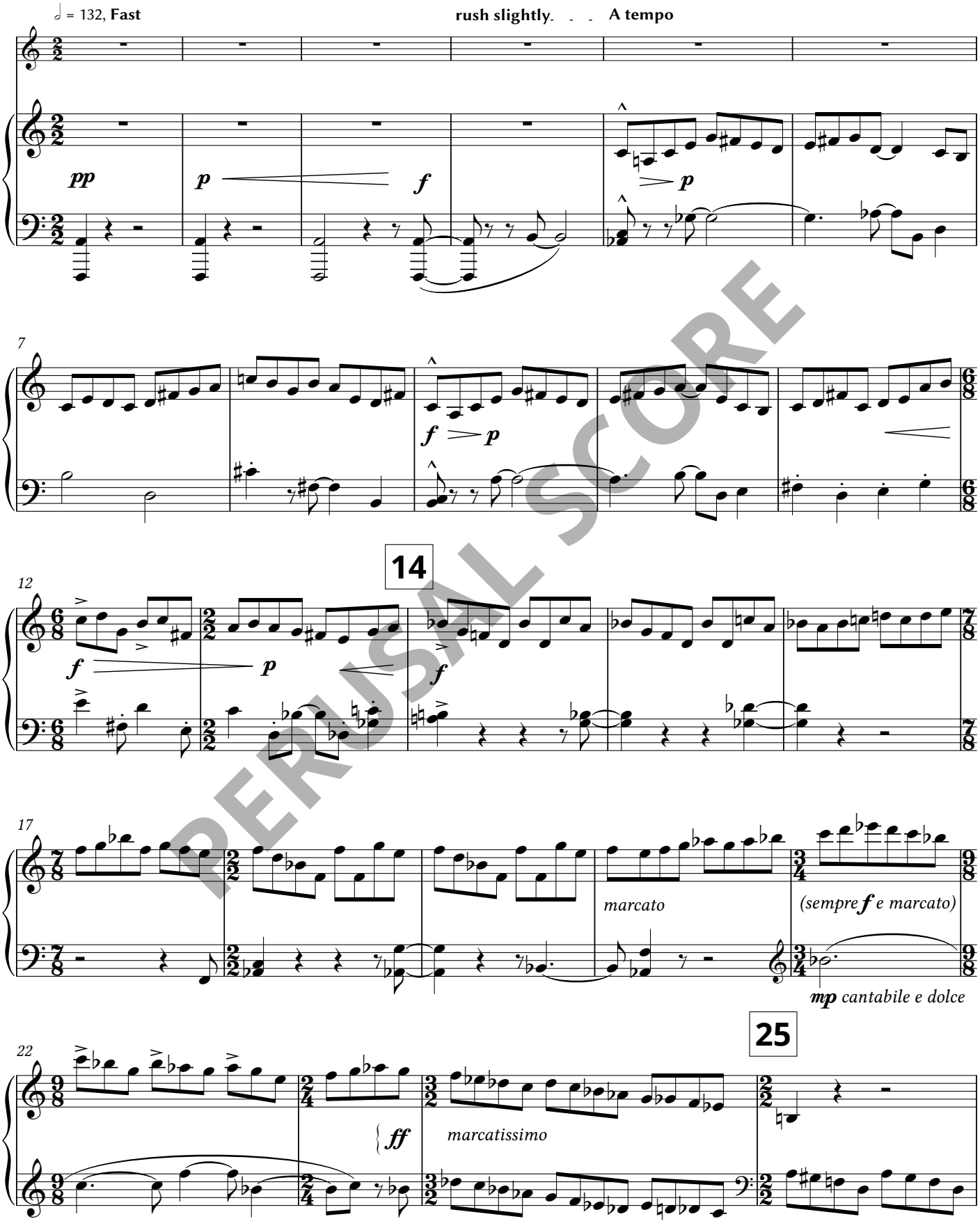
PERUSAL SCORE

*) Ossia: poco a poco accel. starting slower than ♩ = 84 moving to faster than ♩ = 84

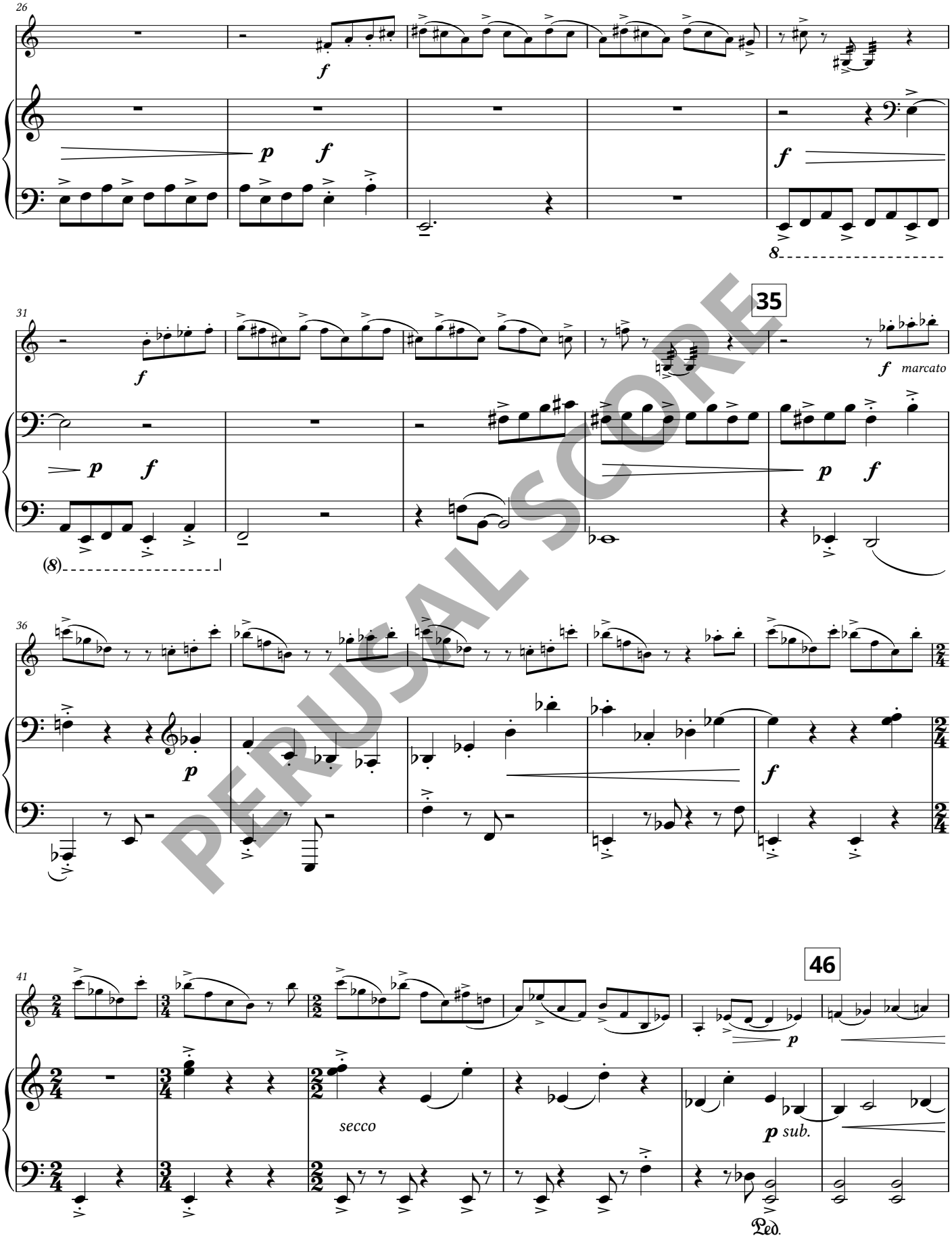
†) Ossia: chromatic scale up to the high F♯

PERUSAL SCORE

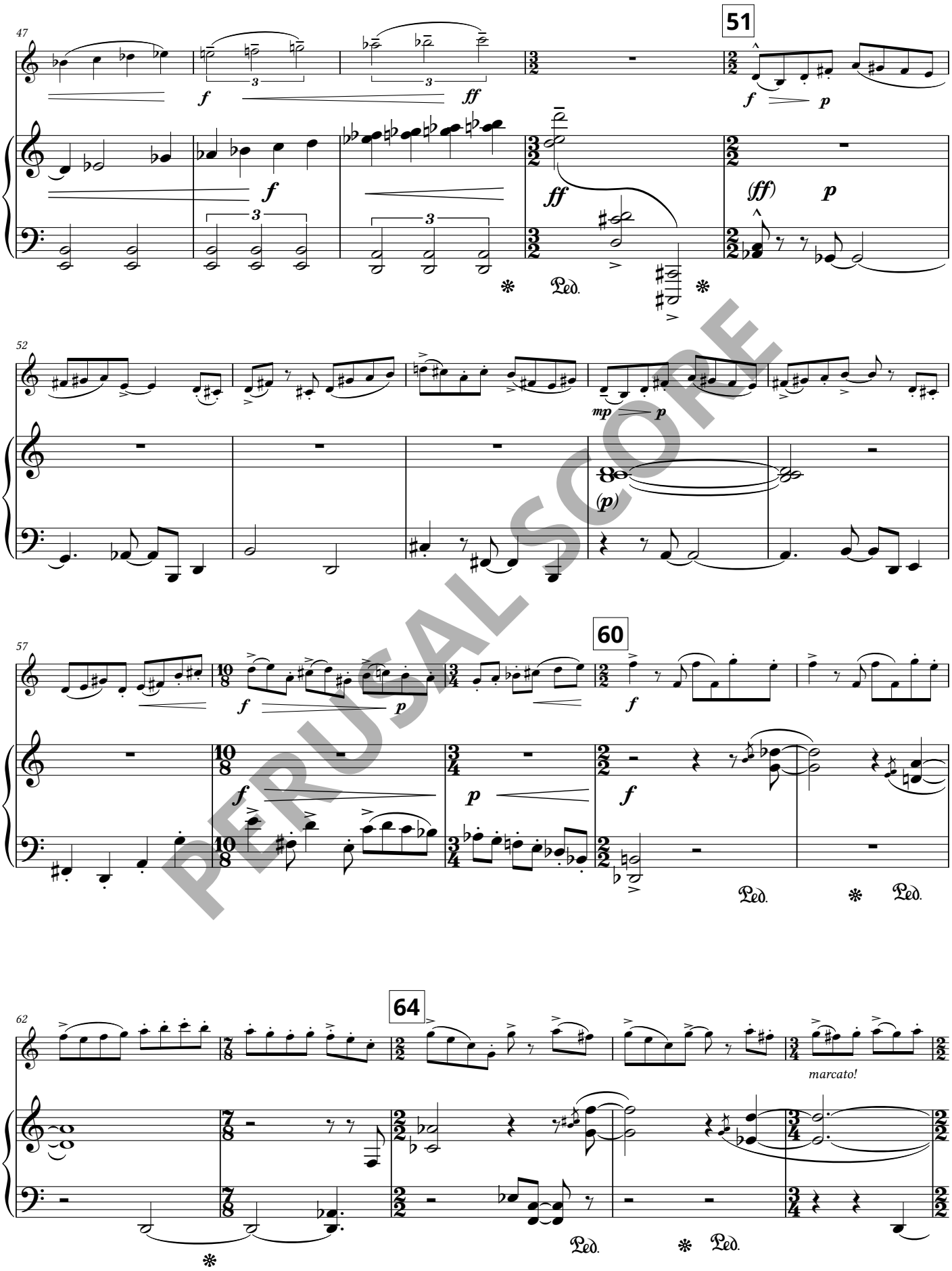
Trees of Life

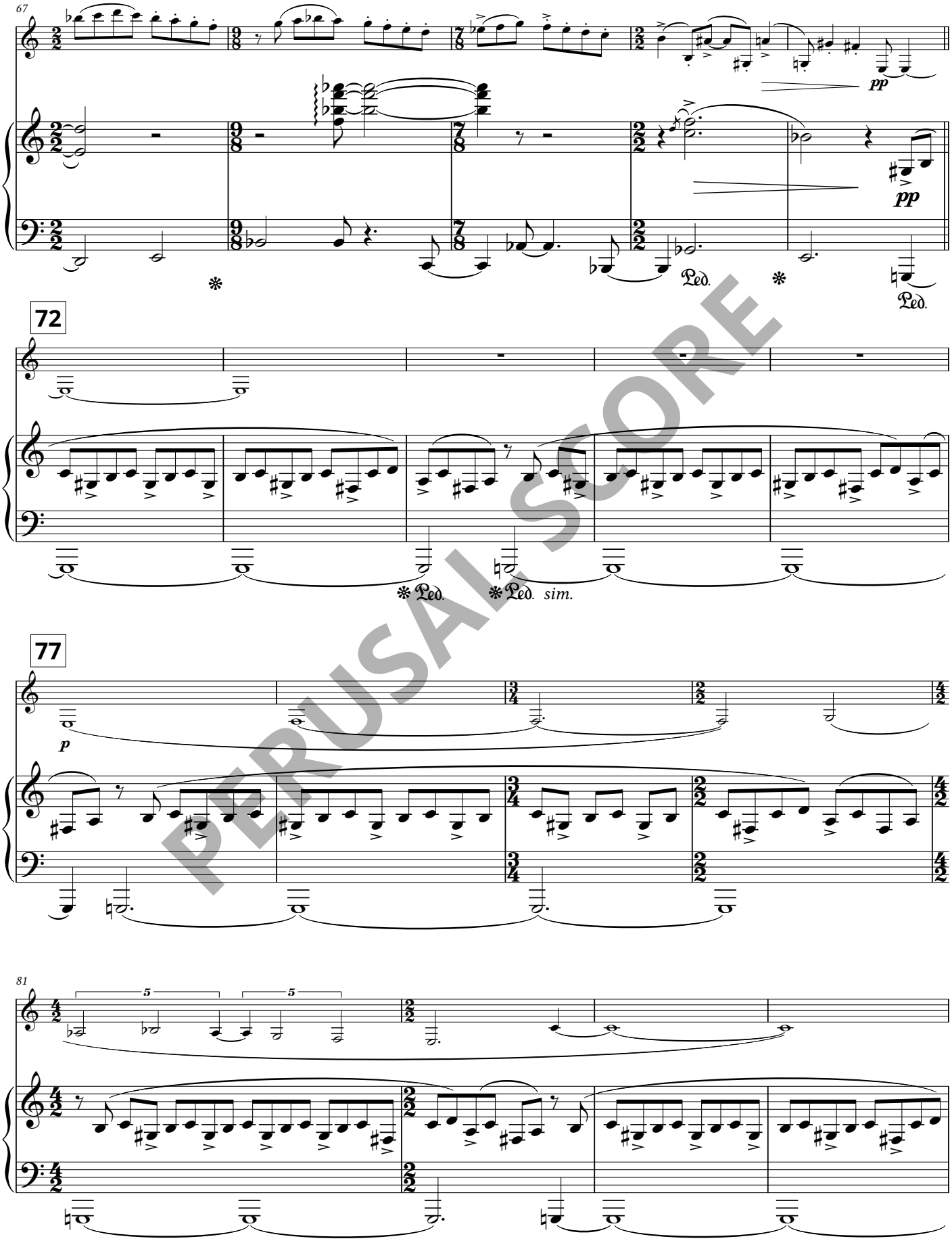


PERUSAL SCORE

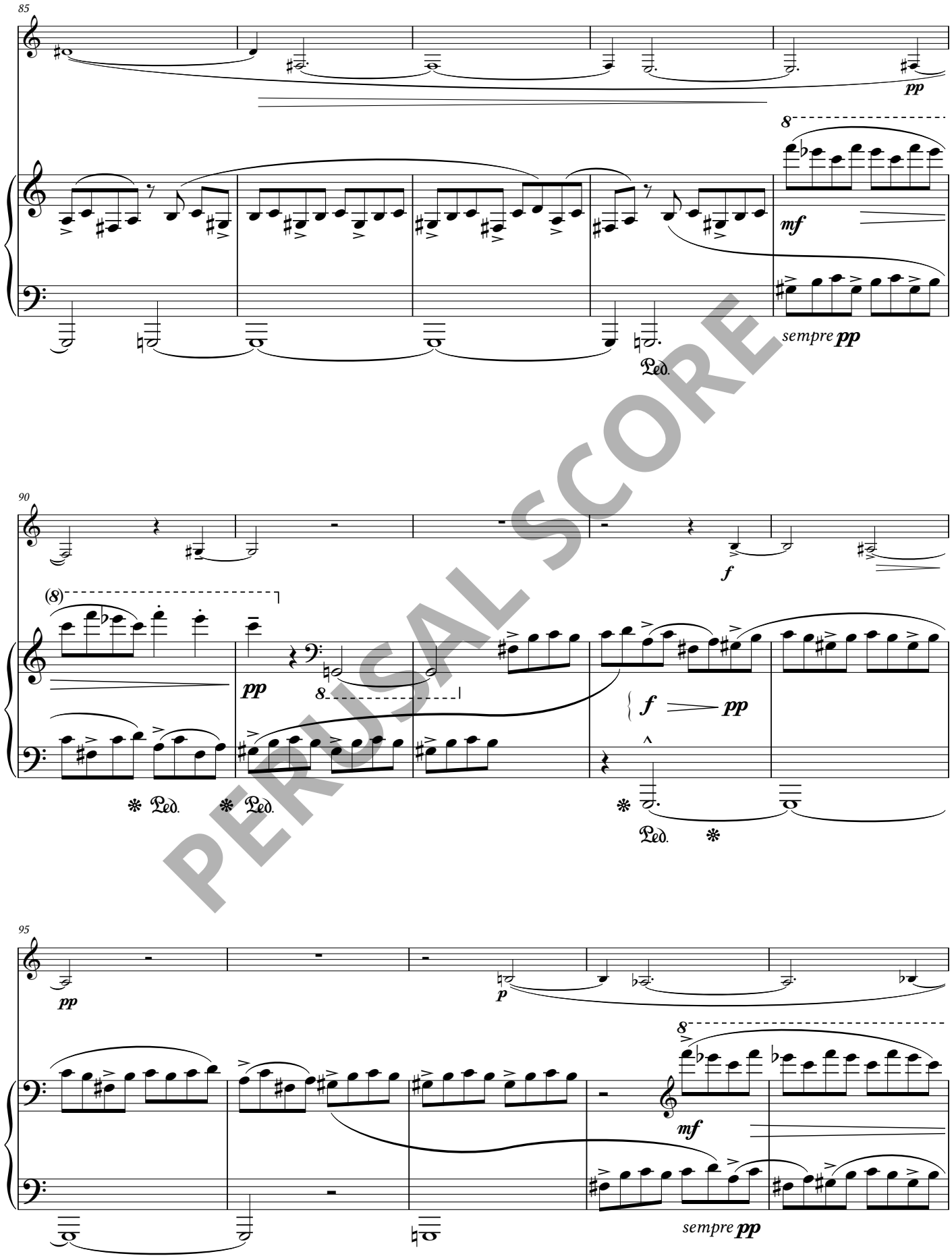


PERUSAL SCORE

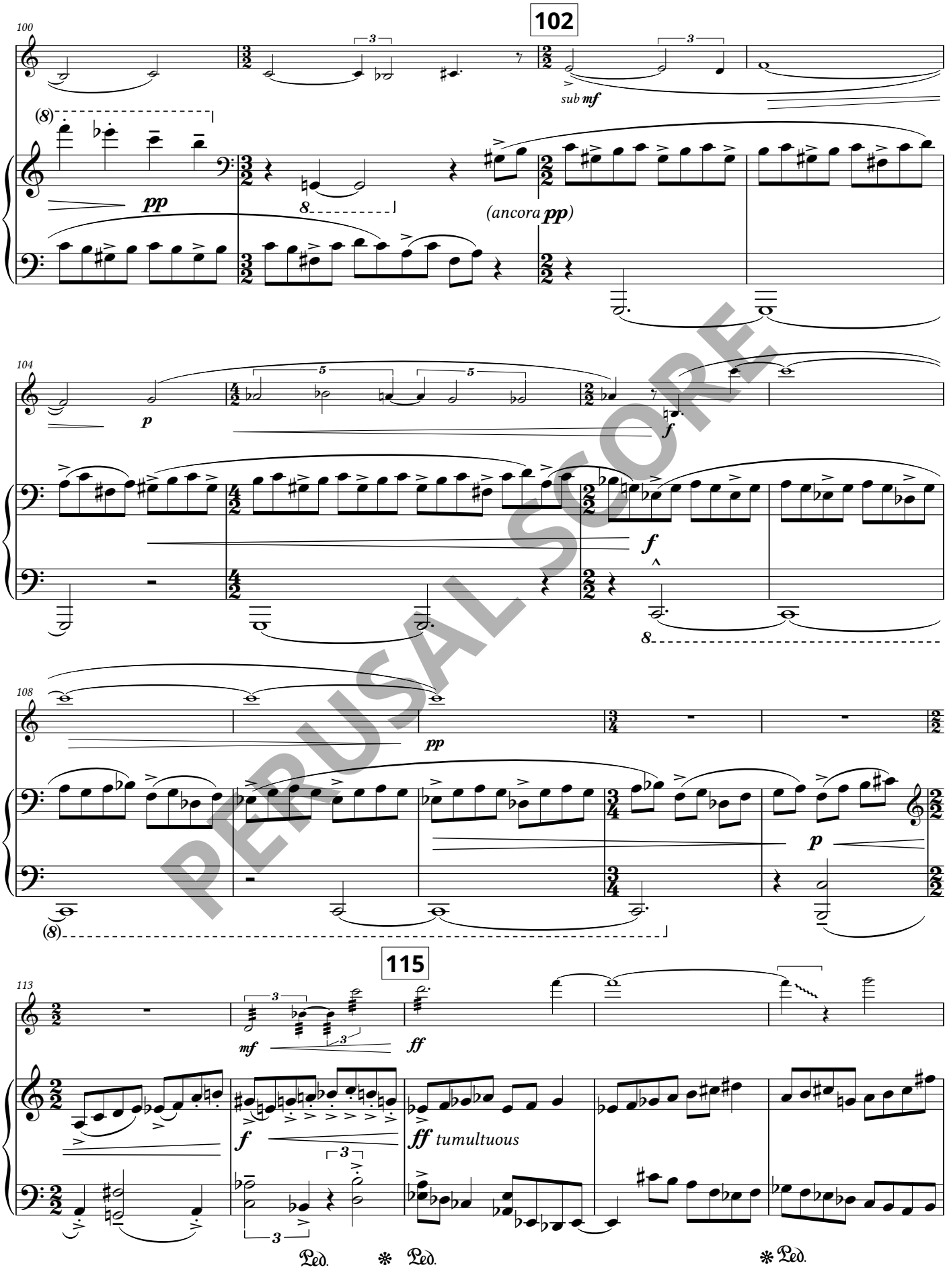

47
51
52
57
60
62
64
marcato!
Ped.
PERUSAL SCORE



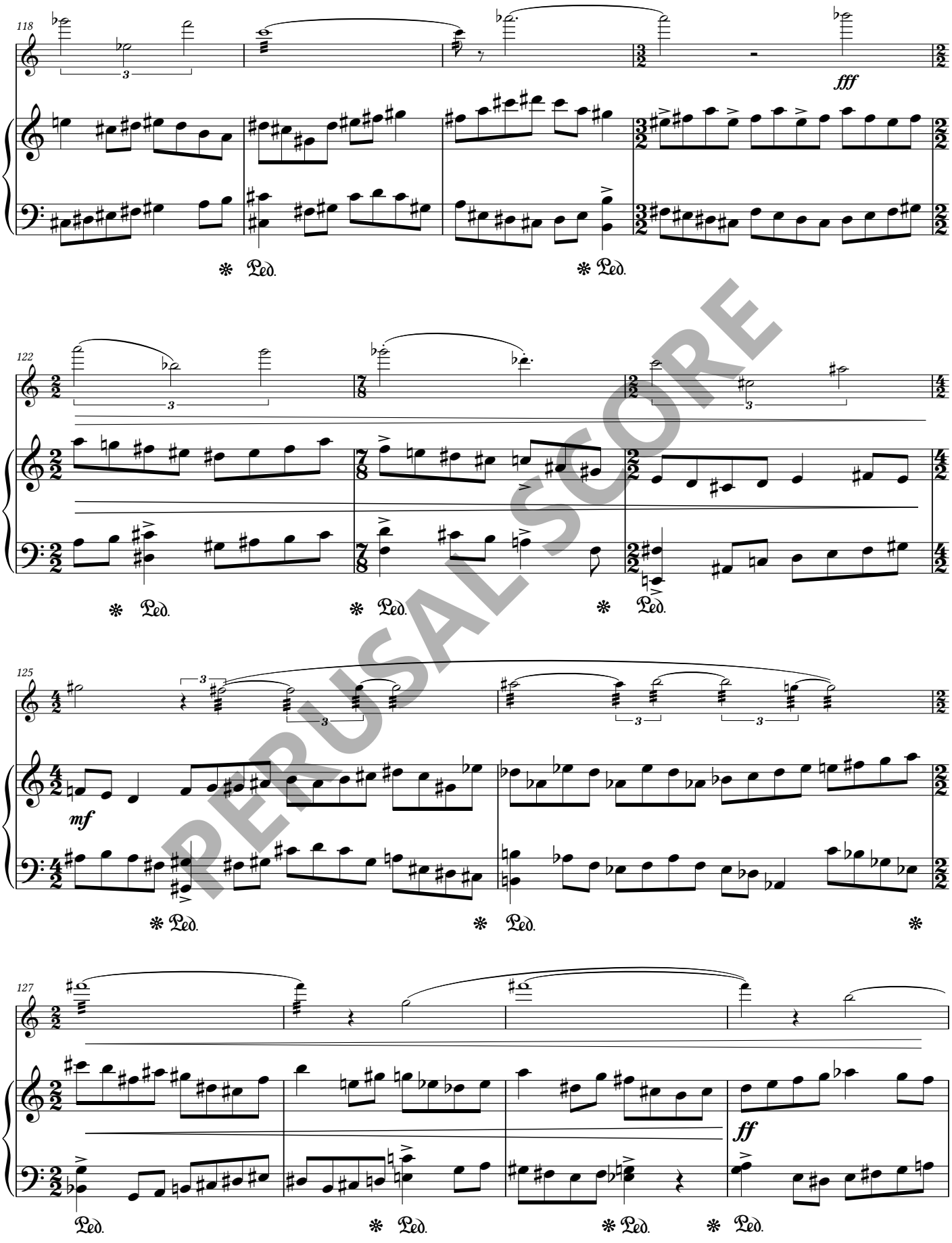
PERUSAL SCORE



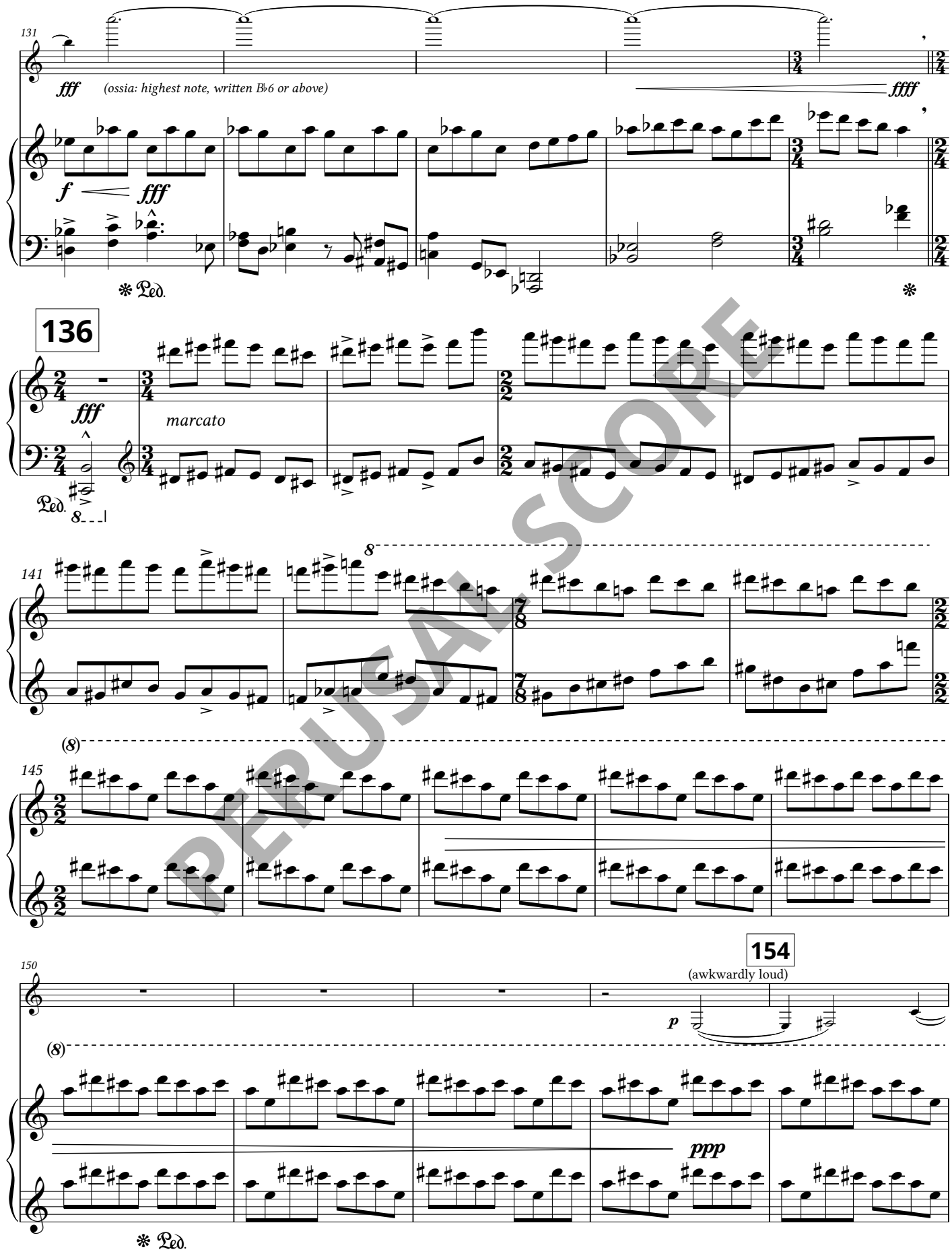
PERUSAL SCORE



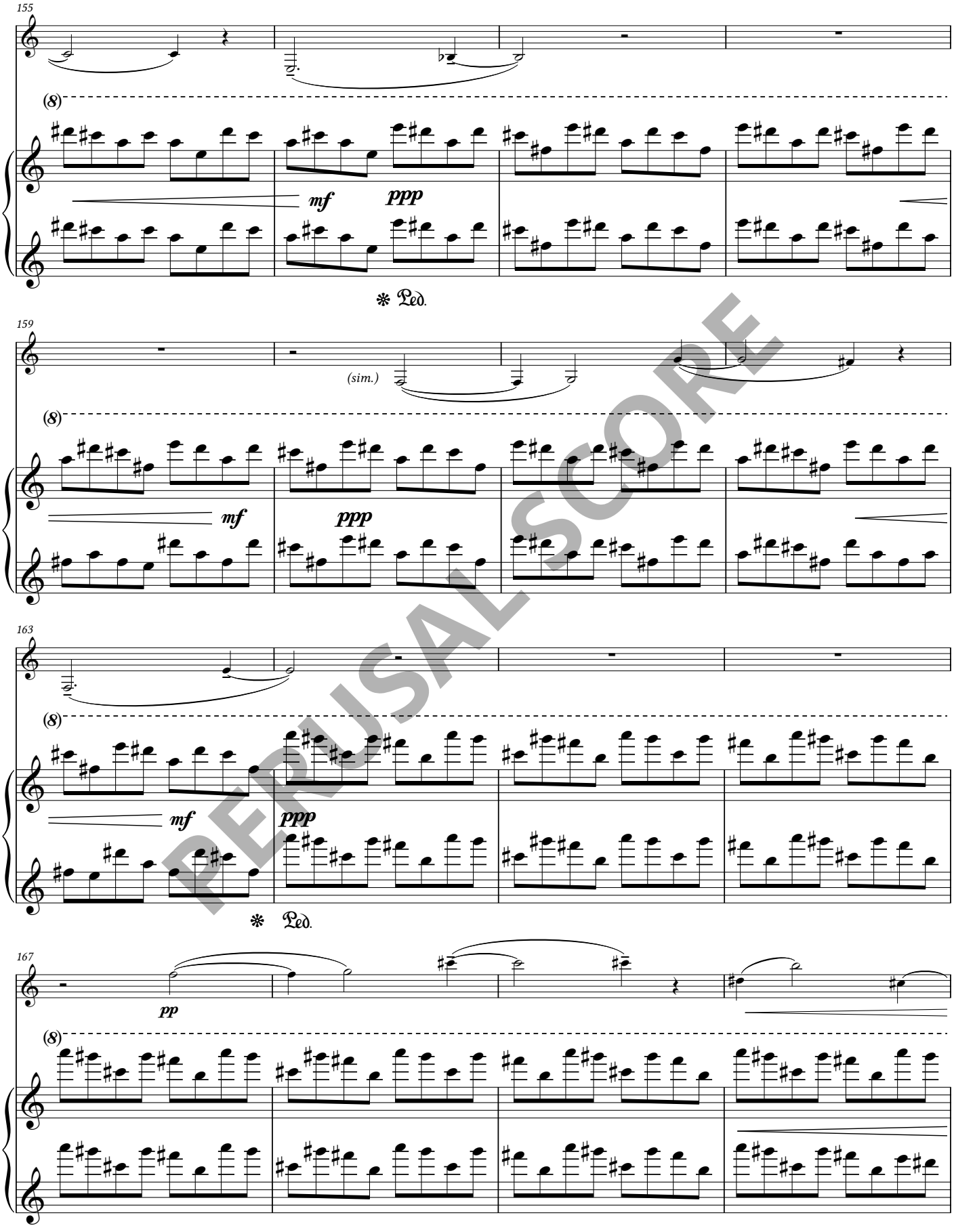
PERUSAL SCORE



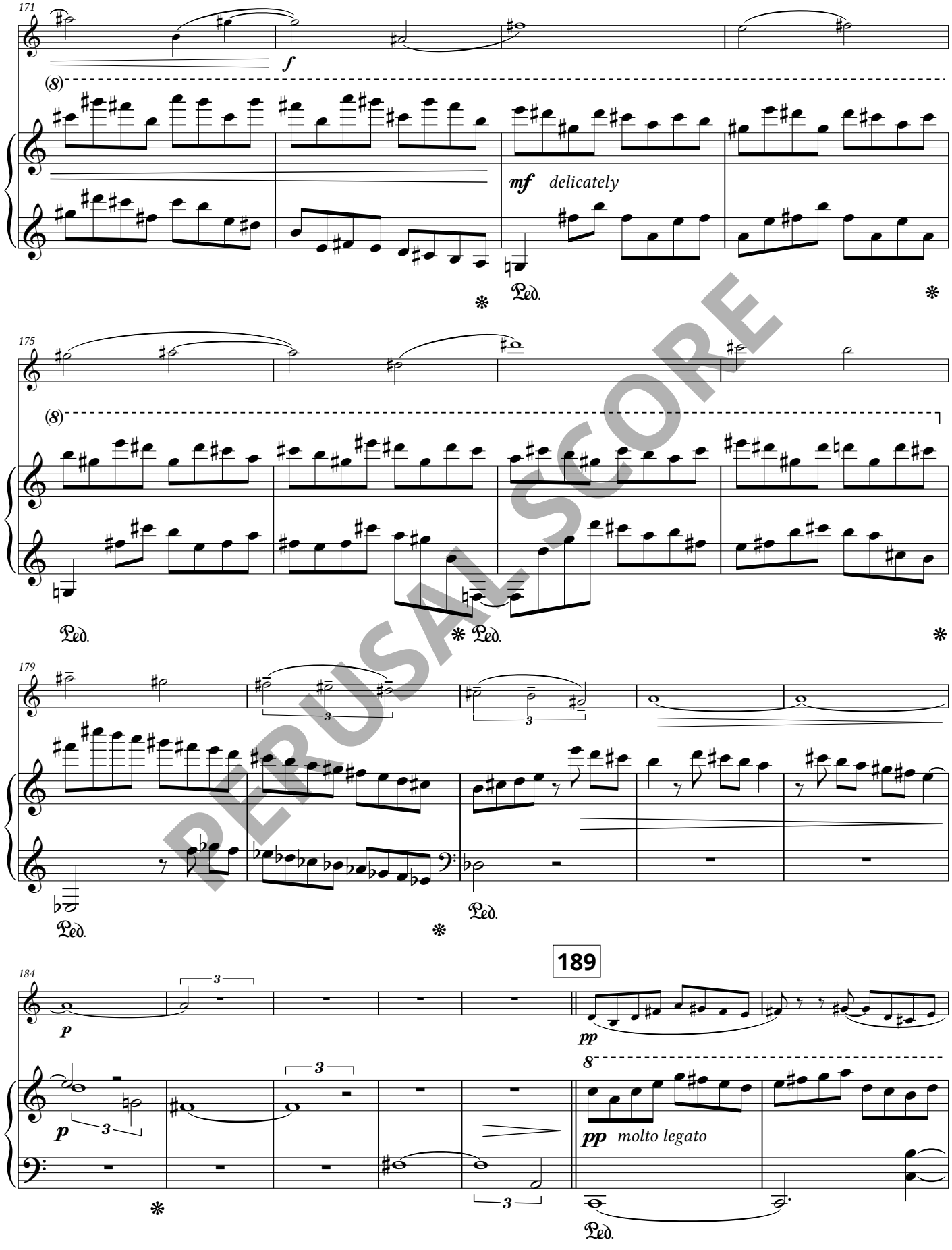
PERUSAL SCORE



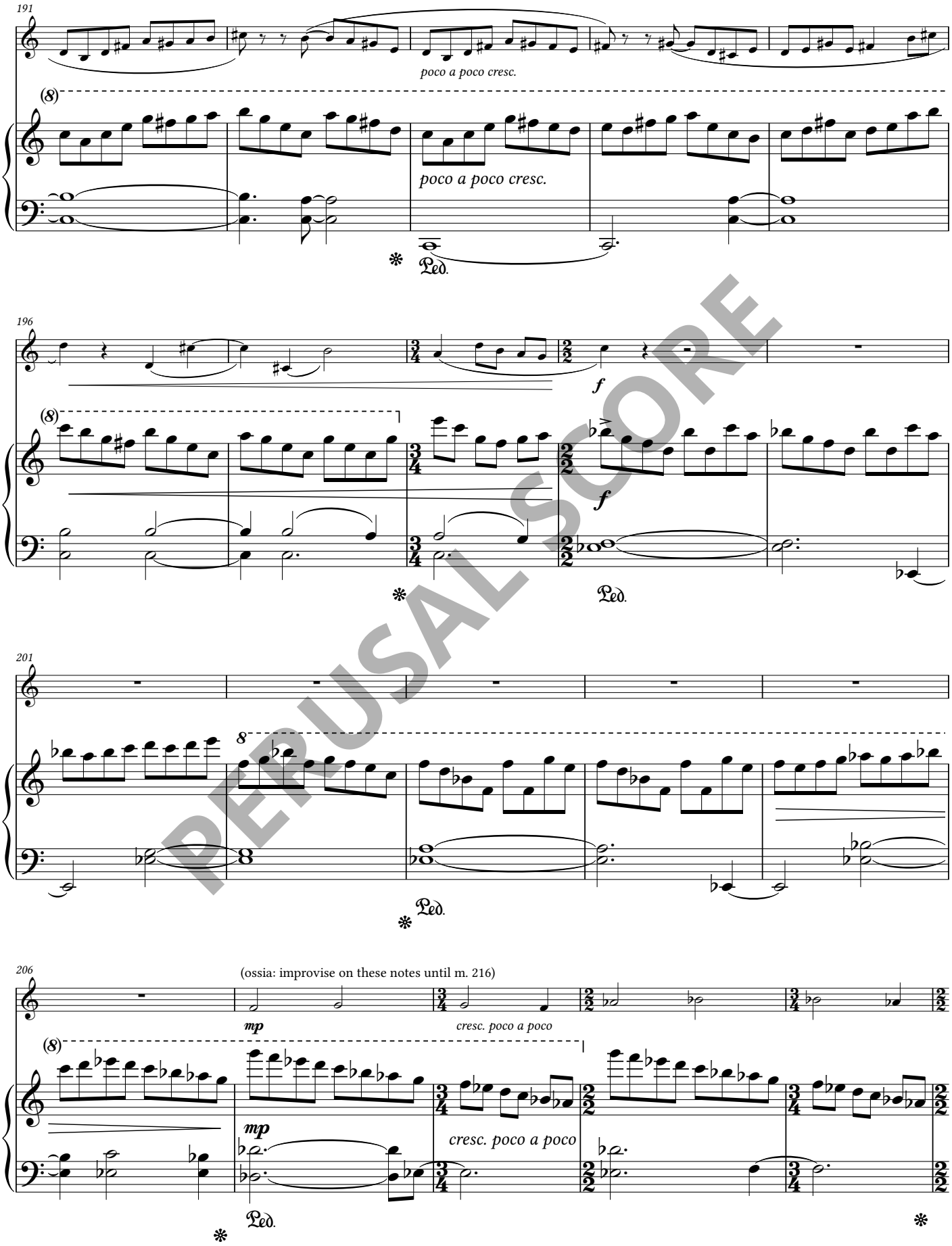
PERUSAL SCORE



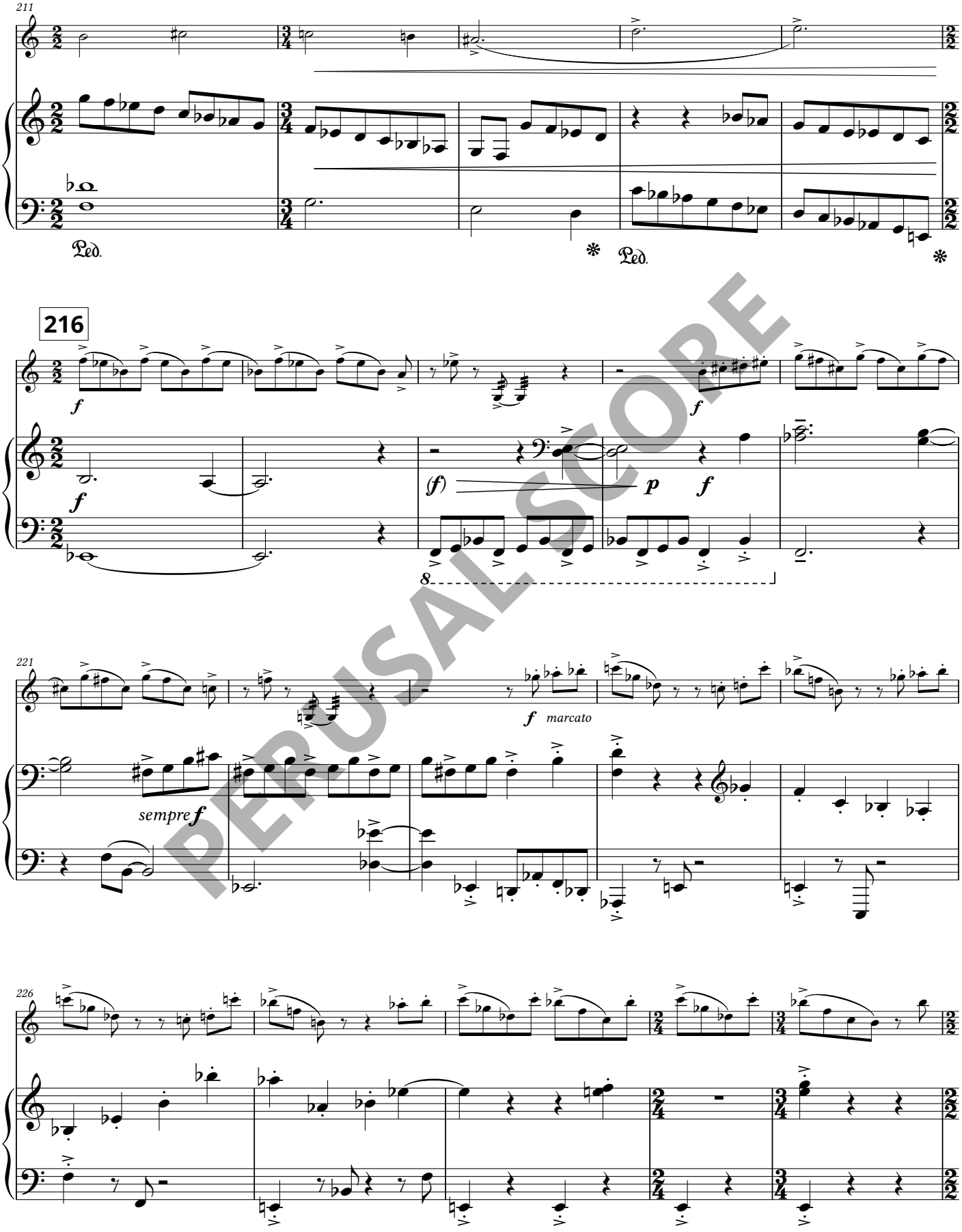
PERUSAL SCORE



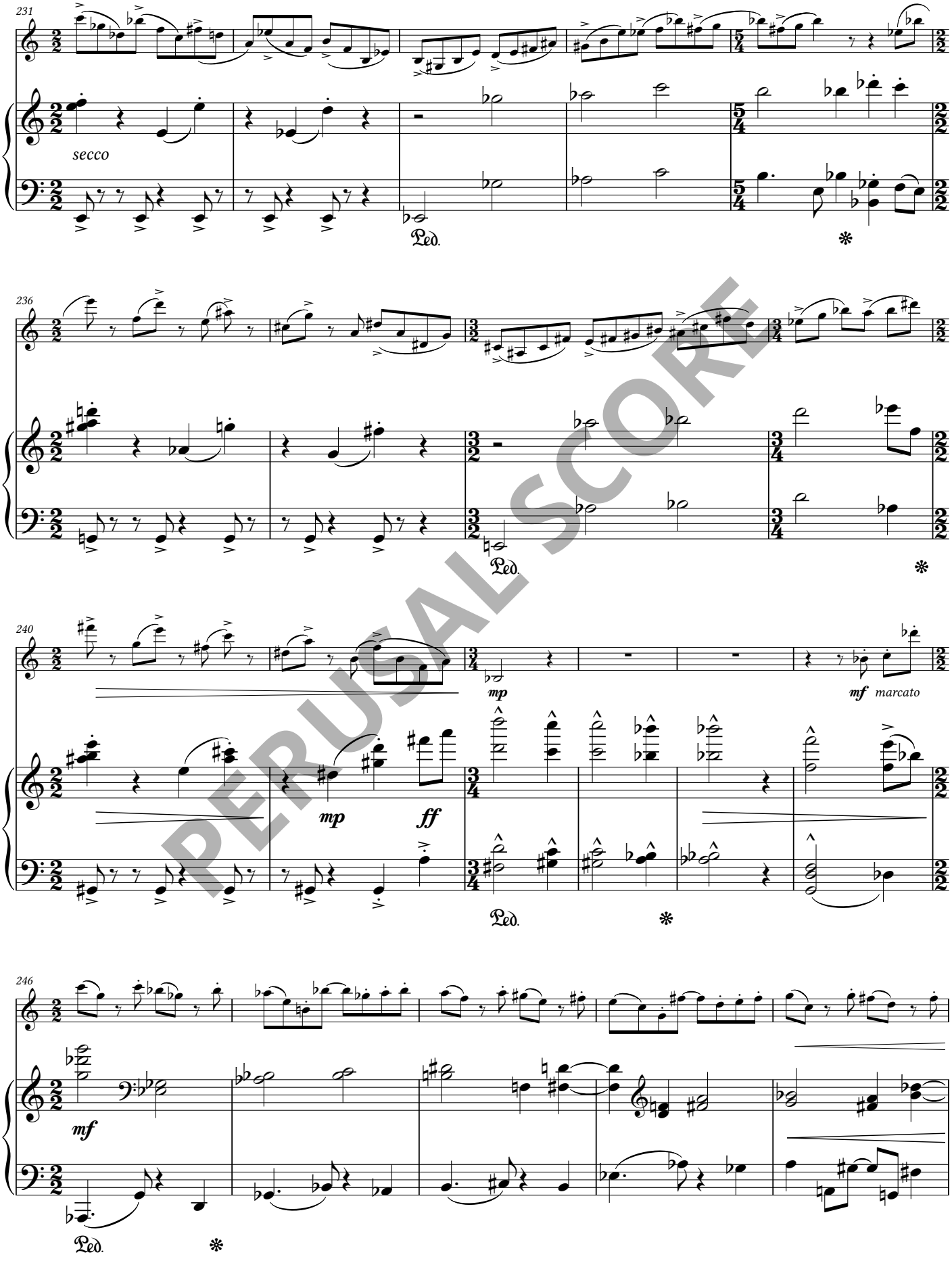
PERUSAL SCORE



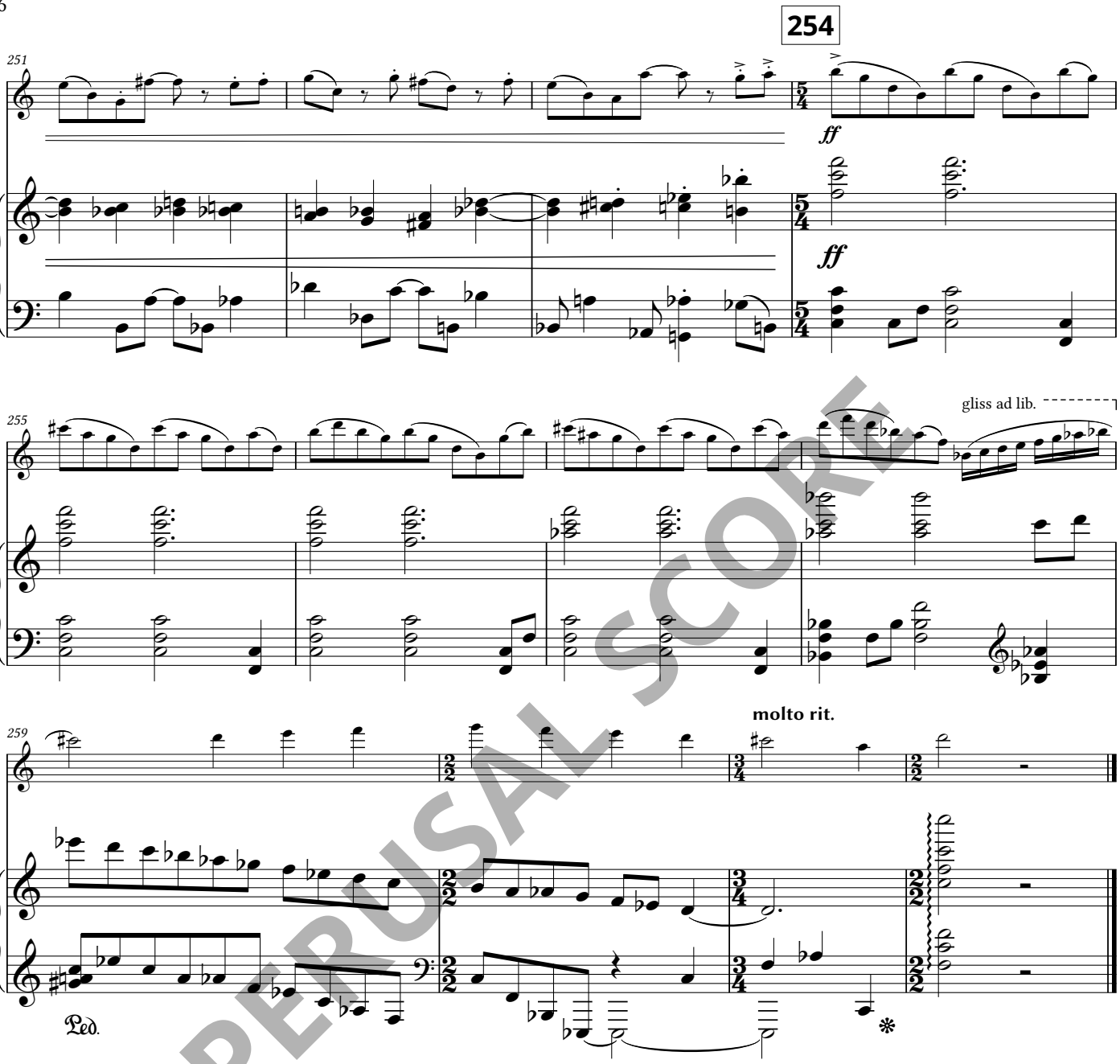
PERUSAL SCORE



PERUSAL SCORE



PERUSAL SCORE



PERUSAL SCORE