Herrn Franz Simandl

Mitglied der K. K. Hofkapelle, 1. Contrabasssist u. Solo-Spieler des
K. K. Hofopern-Orchesters und Professor am Wiener Conservatorium

hochachtungsvoll zugeeignet.

Zwei Stücke

für den Contrabass

mit Begleitung

des Pianoforte oder Orchesters

componirt

von

B. Lvovský

OP. 11.

№ 1. Polonaise. — № 2. Romanze.

Preis 2 M. 50 Pf.

Eigenthum des Verlegers.

Bremen, A. E. Fischer.

New-York, Carl Fischer. 2427. Prag, Fr. A. Urbánek.

Lith. Anst. v. C. G. Röder, Leipzig

COVER TRANSLATION

"Sincerely dedicated to Mr. Franz Simandl, member of the KK Court Orchestra, 1st Double Bass and Solo player of the KK Court Opera Orchestra and Professor at the Vienna Conservatory.
Two Pieces for the Double Bass with accompaniment of the Pianoforte or Orchestra composed by B. Lvovsky., Op. 11.
Property of the publisher A. E. Fischer, Bremen"

BIOGRAPHIES

A.E. Fischer Publishing: 1862–1925. In 1925, it was bought by Anton J. Benjamin whose son, John Benjamin, grew the firm into a major European music publishing house. John's son, Hermann Benjamin,[1] was later appointed the general manager but was forced to flee to England c.1934 as antisemitism greatly increased with Hitler's rise to power. In 1936, Hermann Benjamin took his own life. Helene Benjamin, Hermann's wife, and their two children returned to Germany where they were later deported to Theresienstadt and murdered in the Treblinka extermination camp.[2]

Additionally, Richard Schauer,[3] an authorized signatory of the publishing house, was pressured under the Nazi racial laws in 1936 to sell the publishing house. Before the sale could be arranged however, he and other heirs of John Benjamin were forced to sell the publishing house to Hans C. Sikorski following the *Kristallnacht* pogrom in 1938.[4] Schauer fled to London and continued publishing there following World War II, well before negotiations for reparations had begun and despite the publishing house (located in Leipzig) having burned down completely in 1943. Following a restitution process in Hamburg in 1951, a settlement provided the complete return of the publishing house to the original owners.

Břetislav Lvovský, also known as Emil Pick (b. 1857, Prague; d.1910, Vienna), was a Czech bassist, composer, and critic. As a bassist, Lvovský was a student of Franz Simandl at the Vienna Conservatory where he assisted Simandl in creating his now famous *Method for Double Bass*[5]. As a composer, Lvovský wrote at least four operas, concerti, and pieces for many different instruments, including the bass.[6] As a critic, he was the editor of *Österreichische Musik-und Theaterzeitung*, a music, theater, and literature review magazine in Vienna and Leipzig, the editions of which may be read online at the Austrian National Library website.[7] Lvovský's daughter, Celia Lovsky (b. 1897, Vienna; d. 1979, Los Angeles), was an actress, with a long career of roles in many Hollywood films and shows,[8] including *The Foxes of Harrow* (1947), *The Twilight Zone* (1964) ,and *Soylent Green* (1973). Lovsky fled Austria to England, and experienced great difficulty immigrating to the United States in the 1940's with her husband, actor Peter Lorre.[9]

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[1] Sophie Fetthauer, "Hermann Benjamin," in *Lexicon of Persecuted Musicians of the Nazi era*, Claudia Maurer Zenck, Peter Petersen (ed.), Hamburg: Universität Hamburg, 2006, https://www.lexm.uni-hamburg.de/object/lexm_lexmperson_000000814.

[2] "Database of Victims," *Institute Terezínské iniciativy* online, December 1, 2016, https://www.holocaust.cz/en/database-of-victims/victim/5623-helene-benjamin/.

[3] Sophie Fetthauer, "Richard Schauer," in *Lexicon of Persecuted Musicians of the Nazi era*, Claudia Maurer Zenck, Peter Petersen (ed.), Hamburg: Universität Hamburg, 2006, https://www.lexm.uni-hamburg.de/object/lexm_lexmperson_00001108.

[4] United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. "Kristallnacht," Holocaust Encyclopedia, accessed on April 5, 2023, https://encyclopedia.ushmm.org/content/en/article/kristallnacht.

[5] Franz Simandl, *New Method for the Double Bass: English and Japanese texts,* ed. Frederick Zimmermann and Lucas Drew (New York: C. Fischer, 1984).

[6] Randy Schoenberg, "Břetislav Emil Lvovsky," *Geni,* last modified September 9, 2017, https://www.geni.com/people/B%C5%99etislav-Lvovsky/6000000066776137857.

[7] "Österreichische Musik- und Theaterzeitung," Österreichische Nationalbibliothek, accessed April 5, 2023, https://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno-plus?apm=0&aid=omt.

[8] "Celia Lvovsky," IMDb*,* accessed April 5, 2023, https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0522767/.

[9] Stephen D. Youngkin, *The Lost One: a Life of Peter Lorre (*Lexington, Ky.: University Press of Kentucky, 2005).

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

The purpose of this project is to make *Two Pieces (Zwei Stücke)* by Břetislav Lvovský easily available to bassists. The *Pieces* were last published c.1900, and existing copies are not only rare but also physically fragile to handle—the paper is now disintegrating. The published score used for this project (now in the public domain) was passed personally from Rudolf Fahsbender, Chicago Symphony Orchestra bassist,1927-64, to Professor Emeritus Richard Davis, professor of string bass, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1977-2016. Professor Davis preserved Lvovský s piece, making it possible for it to be available for the first time under the auspices of the non-profit organization, *The Richard Davis Foundation for Young Bassists*[10]. This project will also make Lvovský's *Two Pieces* more accessible to students with the enclosed orchestra**l** tuning piano transposition.

Research undertaken for this project indicates it is likely that Lvovský's *Two Pieces* were not re-issued because the publisher, Hermann Benjamin, was forced to flee Germany c.1934: antisemitism had exponentially increased in tandem with Hitler's rise to power in 1933. The years that followed, coinciding with World War II, are now known as the *Holocaust,* "the systematic, state-sponsored persecution and murder of six million European Jews by the Nazi German regime and its allies and collaborators[11]." During this time period, the Nazis committed the extensive theft of property, particularly that of Jewish people; reparation efforts, including the return of property, are ongoing over 80 years after the fact. In addition to being forced to flee his home, the majority of Benjamin's printing plates—and very likely the engravings of Lvovský's compositions—were destroyed in the Allied bombings of Leipzig during the War.

This project, undertaken by Ben Ferris, MM String Performance 2023, represents the partial fulfillment of the requirements fin MUSIC 497—Special Topics: *Music and Genocide,* Spring Semester 2023, with Professor Teryl Dobbs.

REPARATIONS/PUBLISHING

Zwei Stücke is now in the public domain, but given the story of this publication, you may feel compelled to contribute financially to efforts related to reparations.

One such organization is HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, founded to assist Jews fleeing pogroms in Russia and Eastern Europe. Today, HIAS is "a multi-continent, multi-pronged humanitarian aid and advocacy organization … dedicated to helping forcibly displaced persons around the world in keeping with the organization's Jewish ethical roots."

More information, and donations may be received at **www.hias.org**

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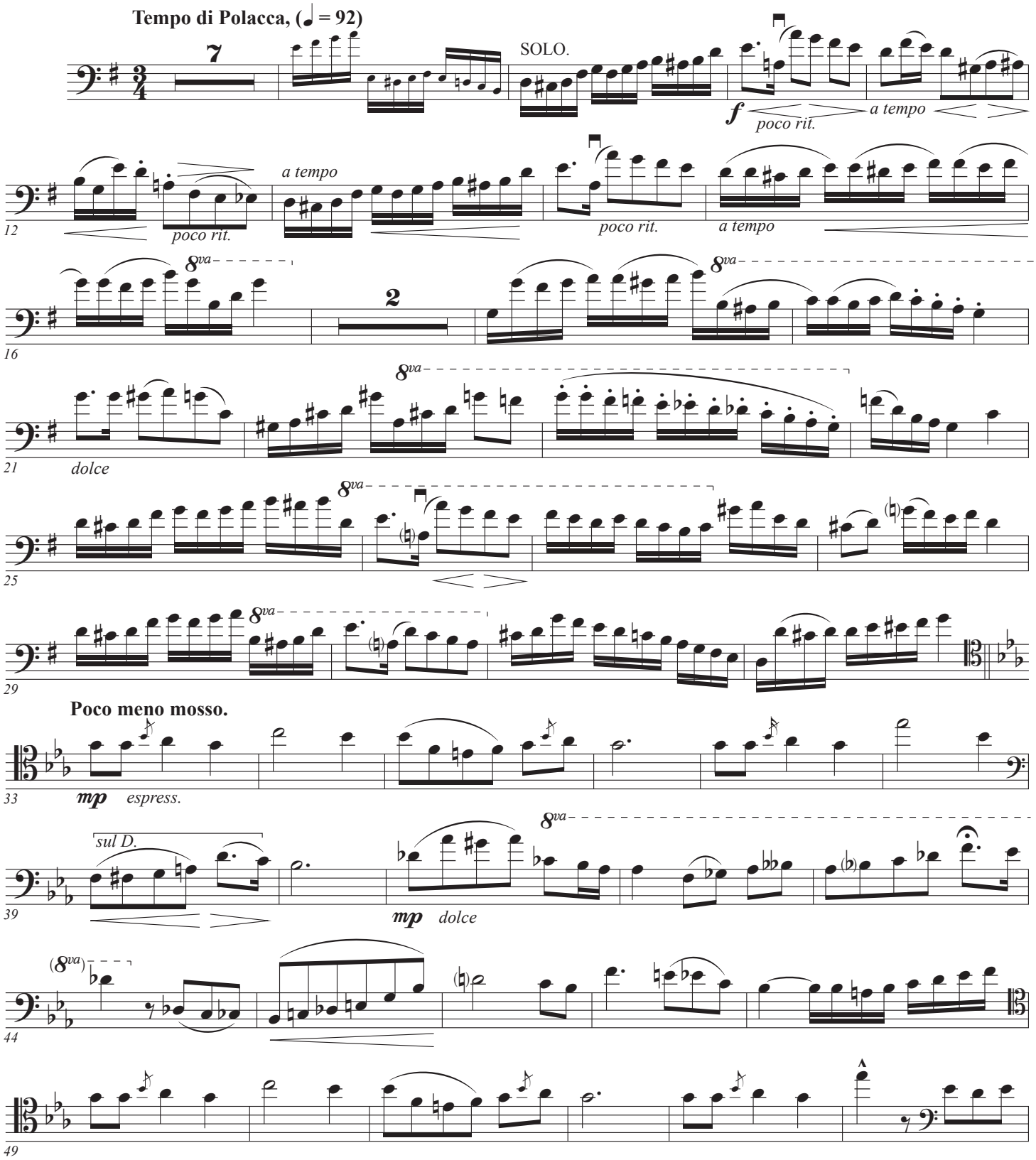
[10] "Richard Davis Foundation for Young Bassists," accessed April 5, 2023, https://www.richarddavisfoundation.org/.

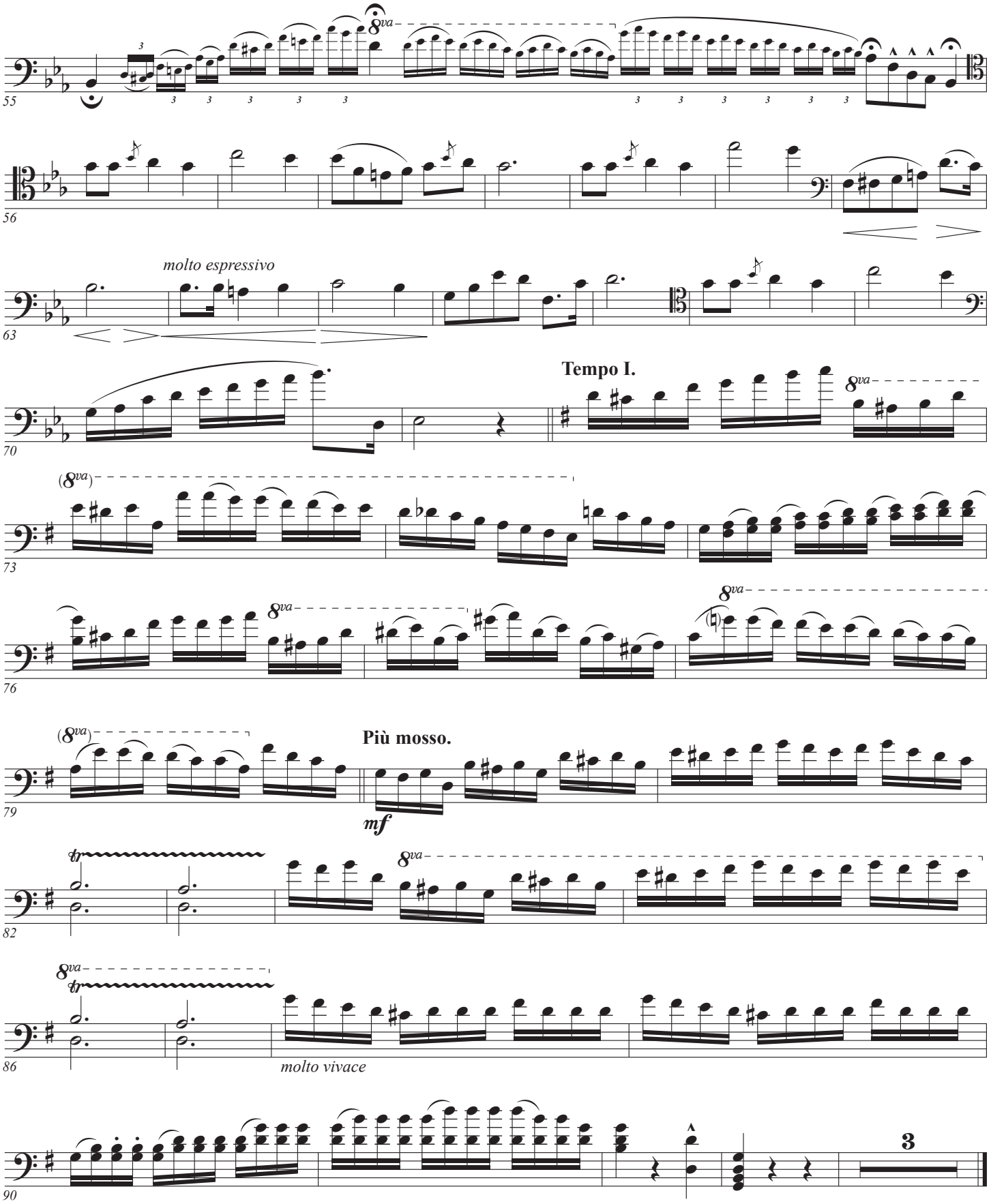
[11] United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. "Learn," Holocaust Encyclopedia, accessed on April 5, 2023, https://www.ushmm.org/learn.

Contrabass

No. 1. Polonaise concertante

B. Lvovsky, Op. 11.

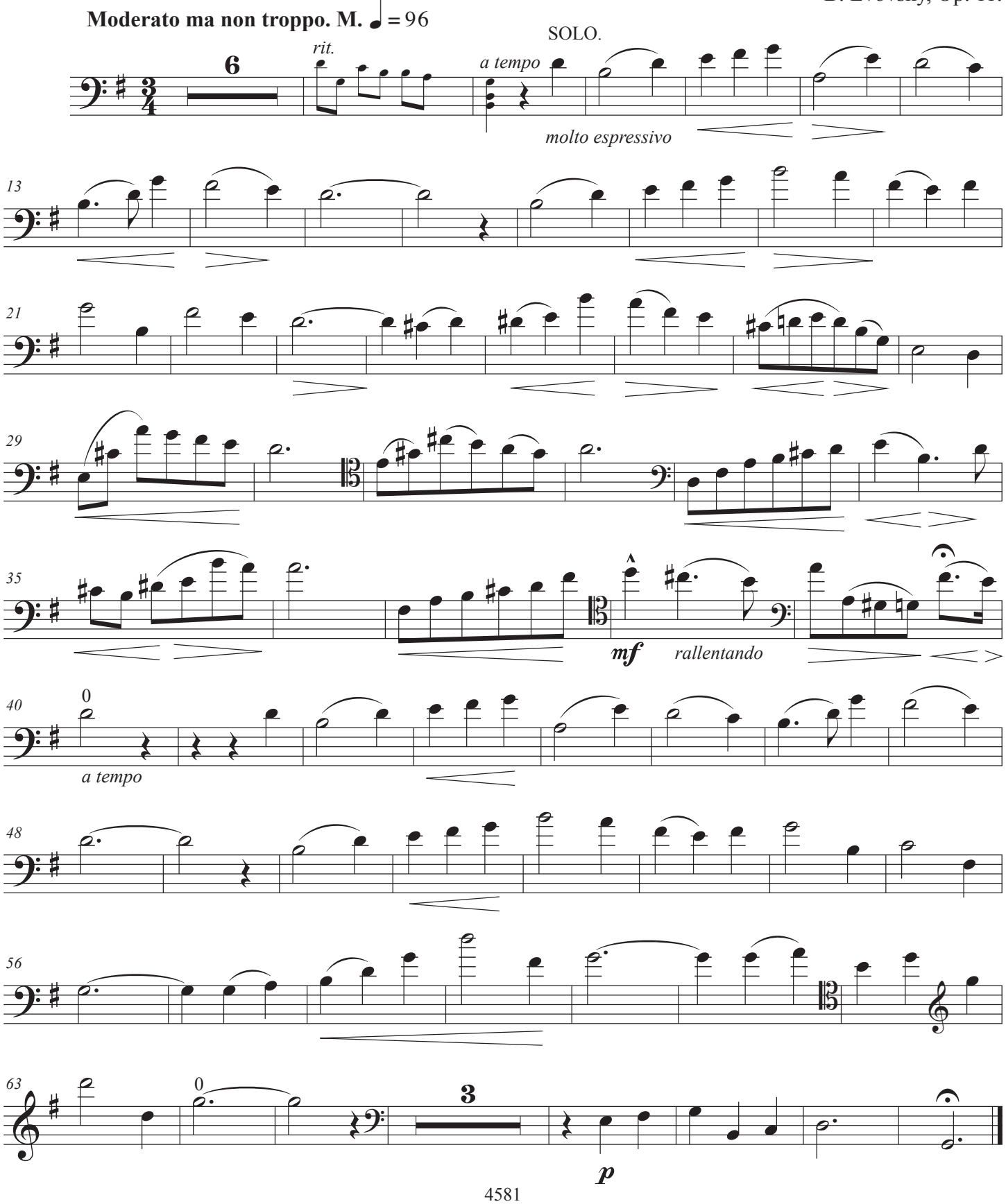



55
8va
56
molto espressivo
63
70
Tempo I.
8va
73
(8va)
76
8va
8va
79
(8va)
Più mosso.
mf
82
tr
8va
86
8va
tr
molto vivace
90
3

Contrabass

No. 2. Romanze.

B. Lvovsky, Op. 11.

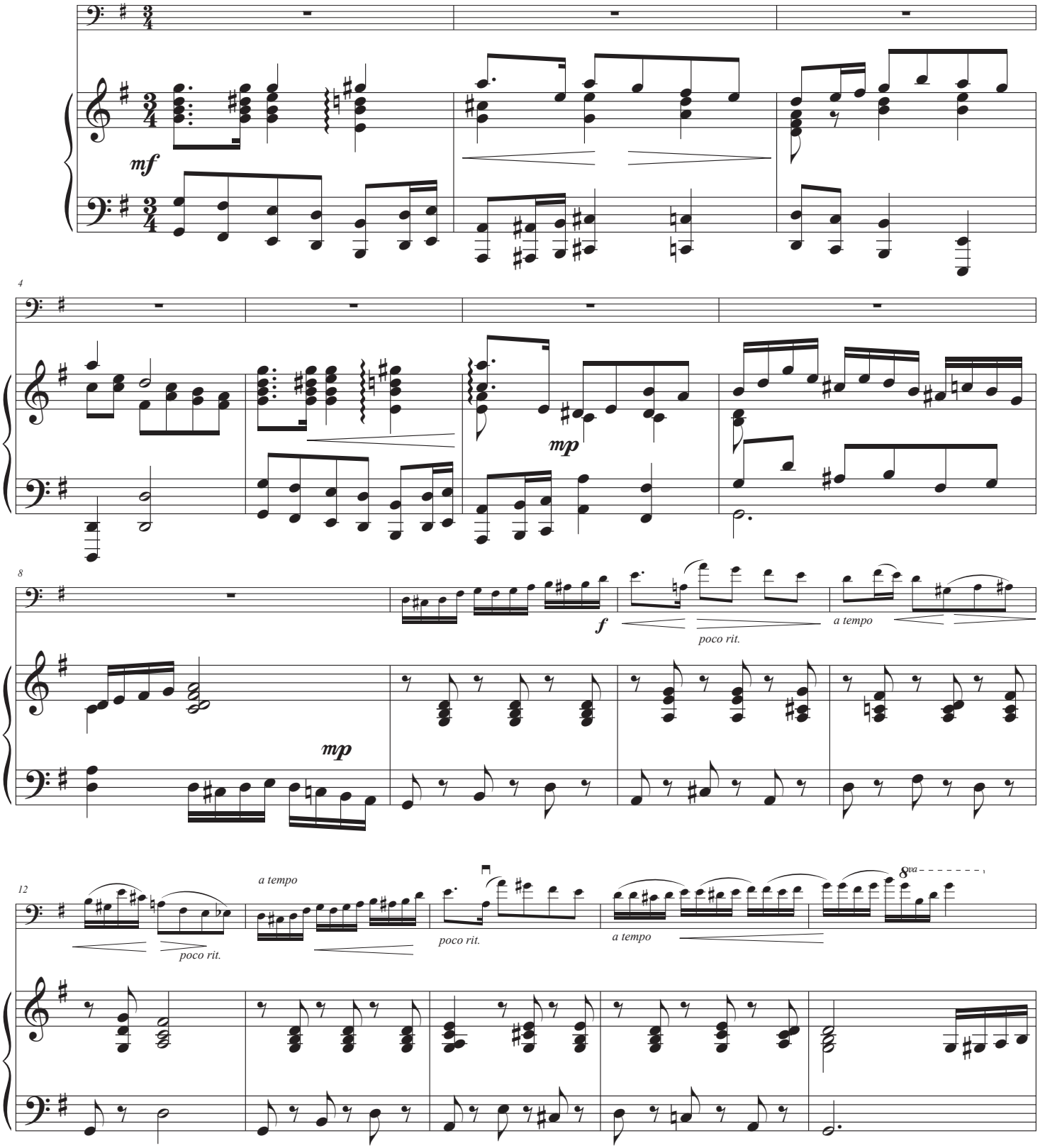


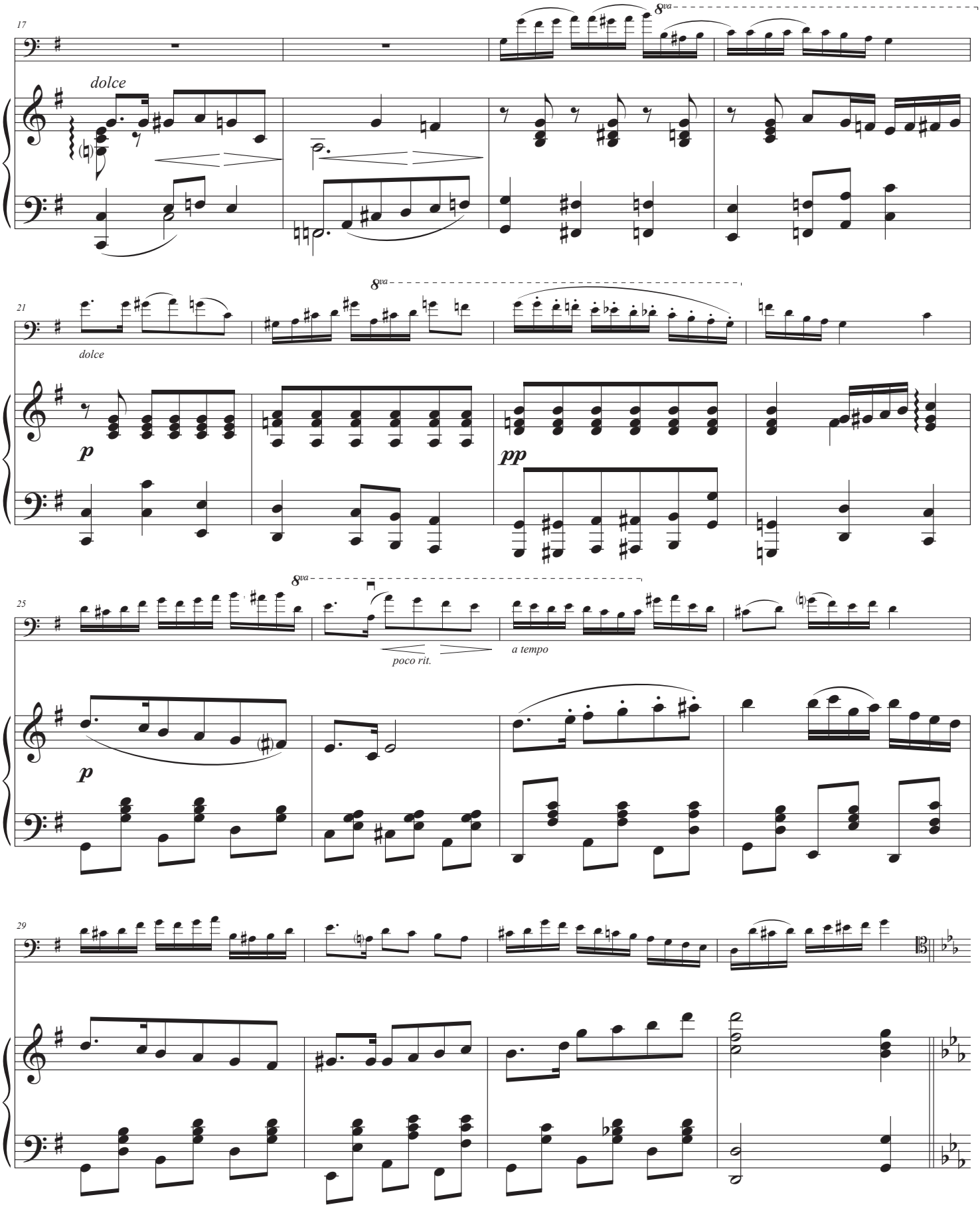
Score - Orchestra Tuning

No. 1. Polonaise concertante

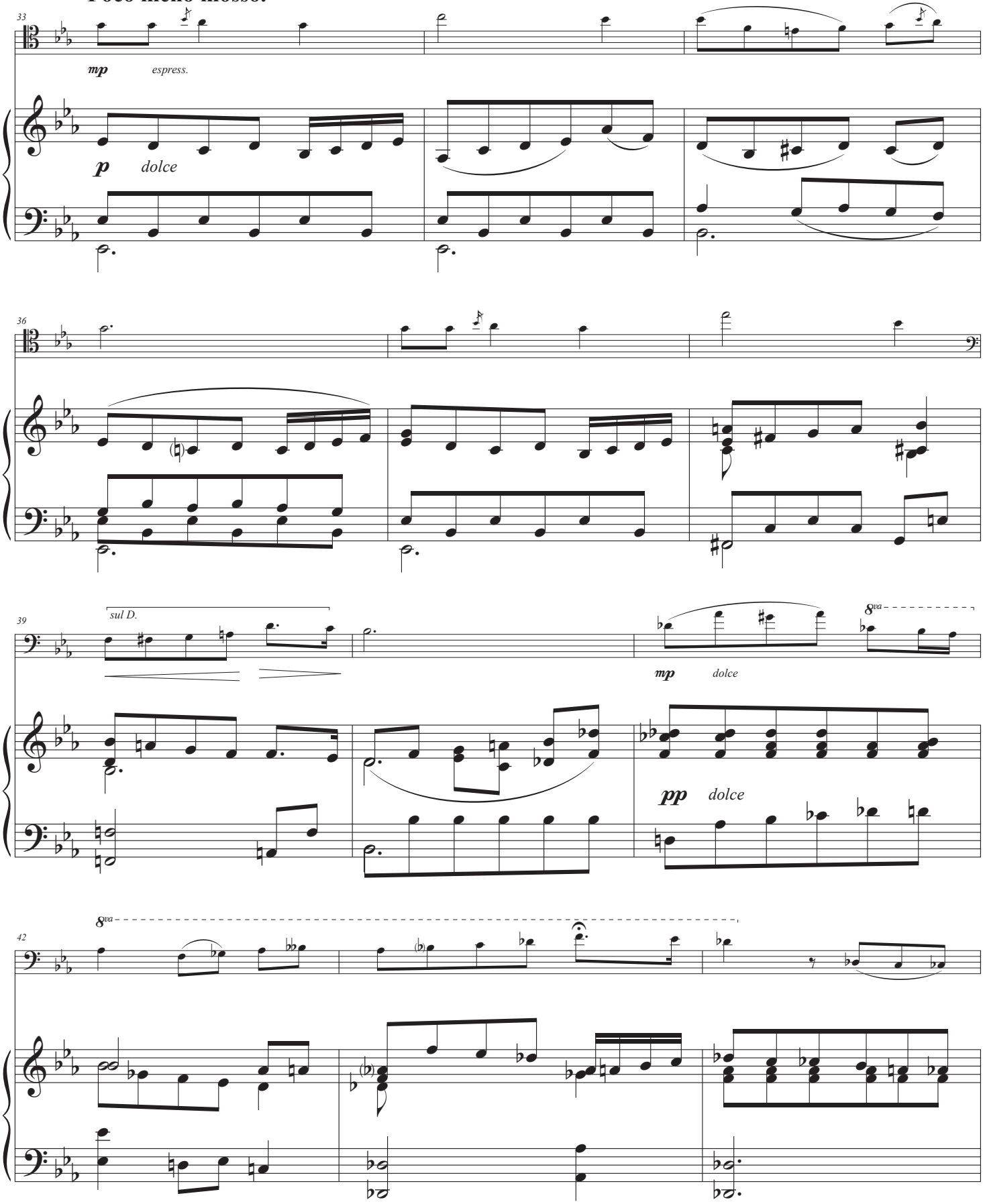
Tempo di Polacca, (♩ = 92)

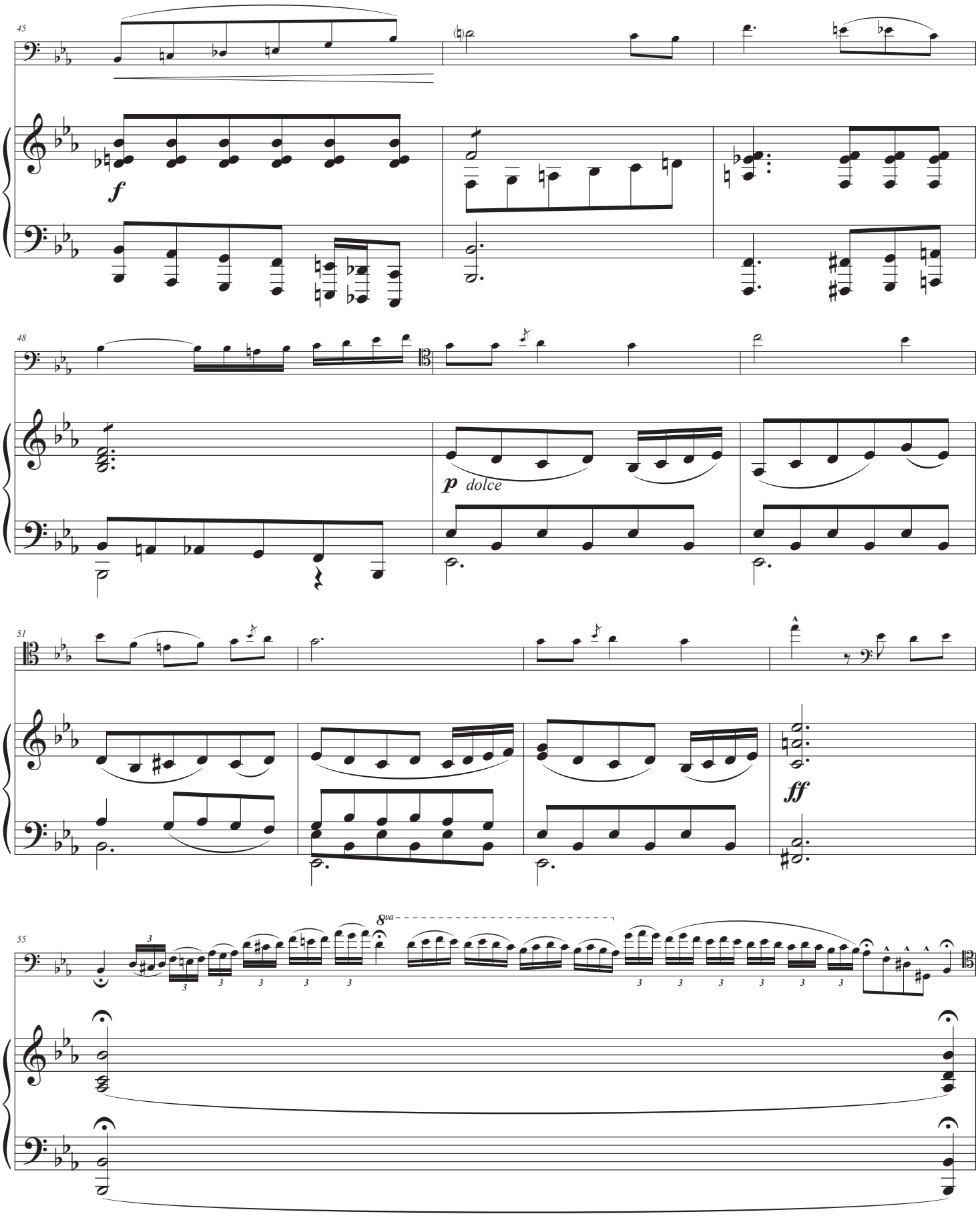
B. Lvovsky, Op. 11.

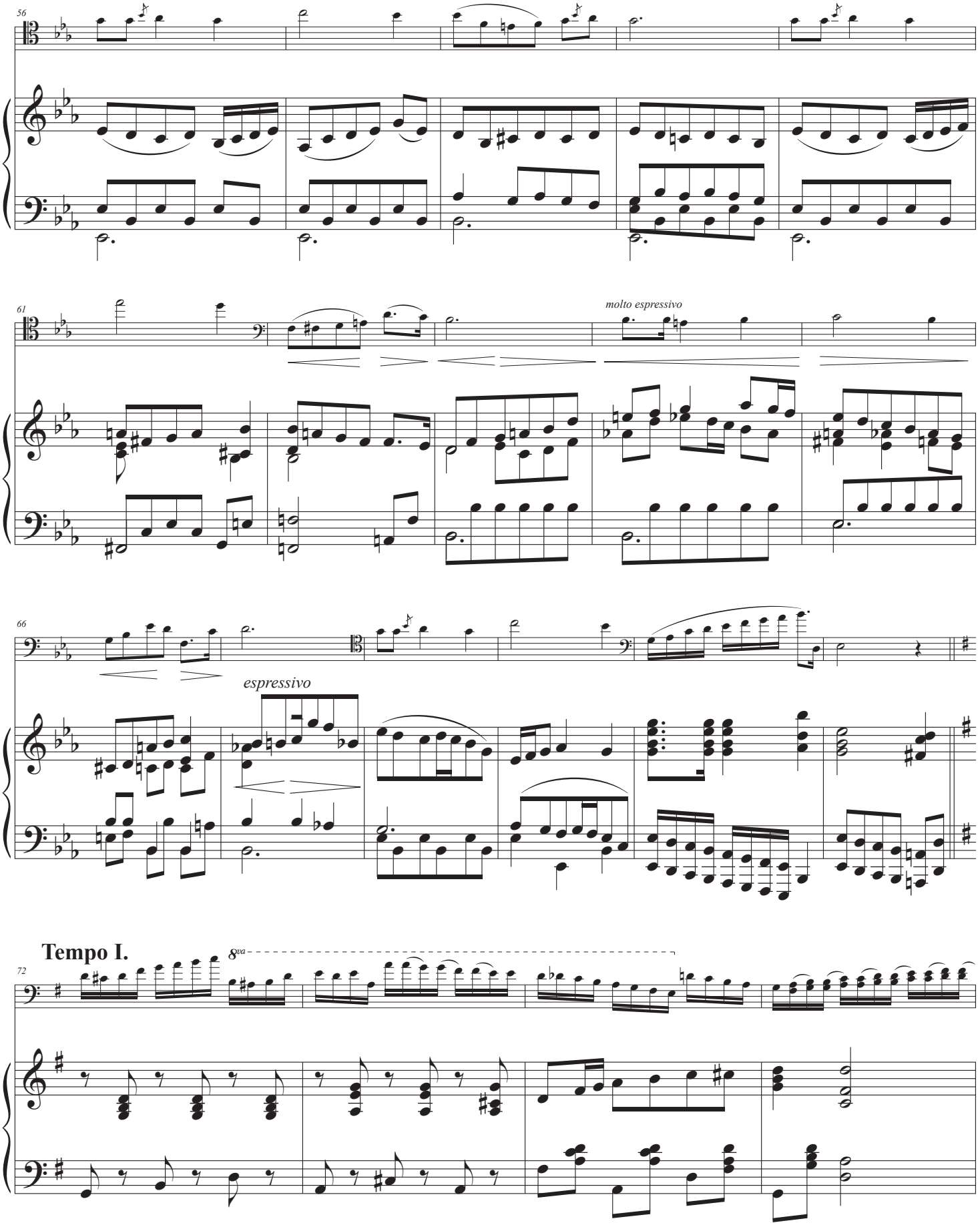


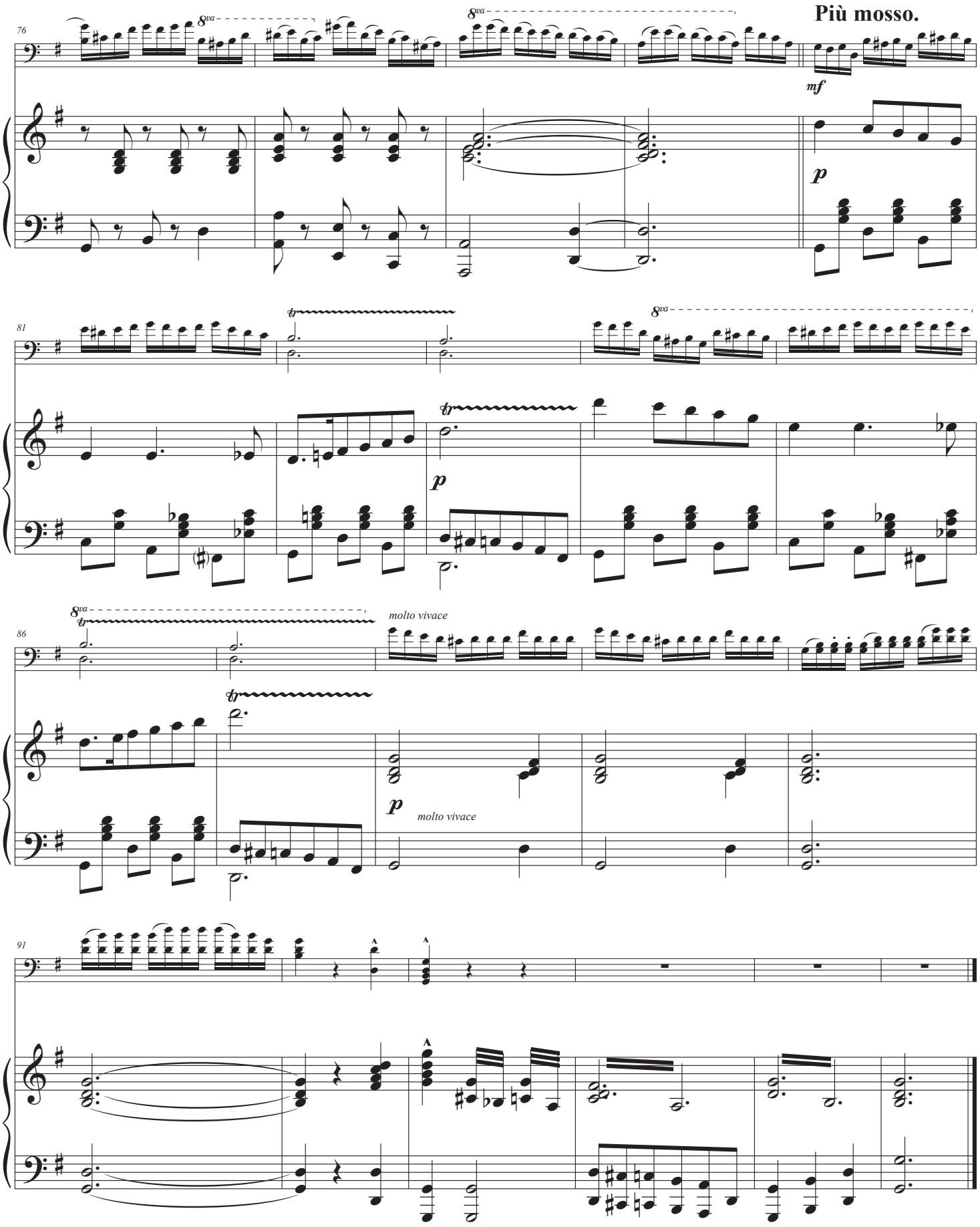

17
8va
dolce
21
8va
dolce
p
pp
25
8va
poco rit.
a tempo
p
29

Poco meno mosso.




45
f
48
p dolce
51
ff
55
8va

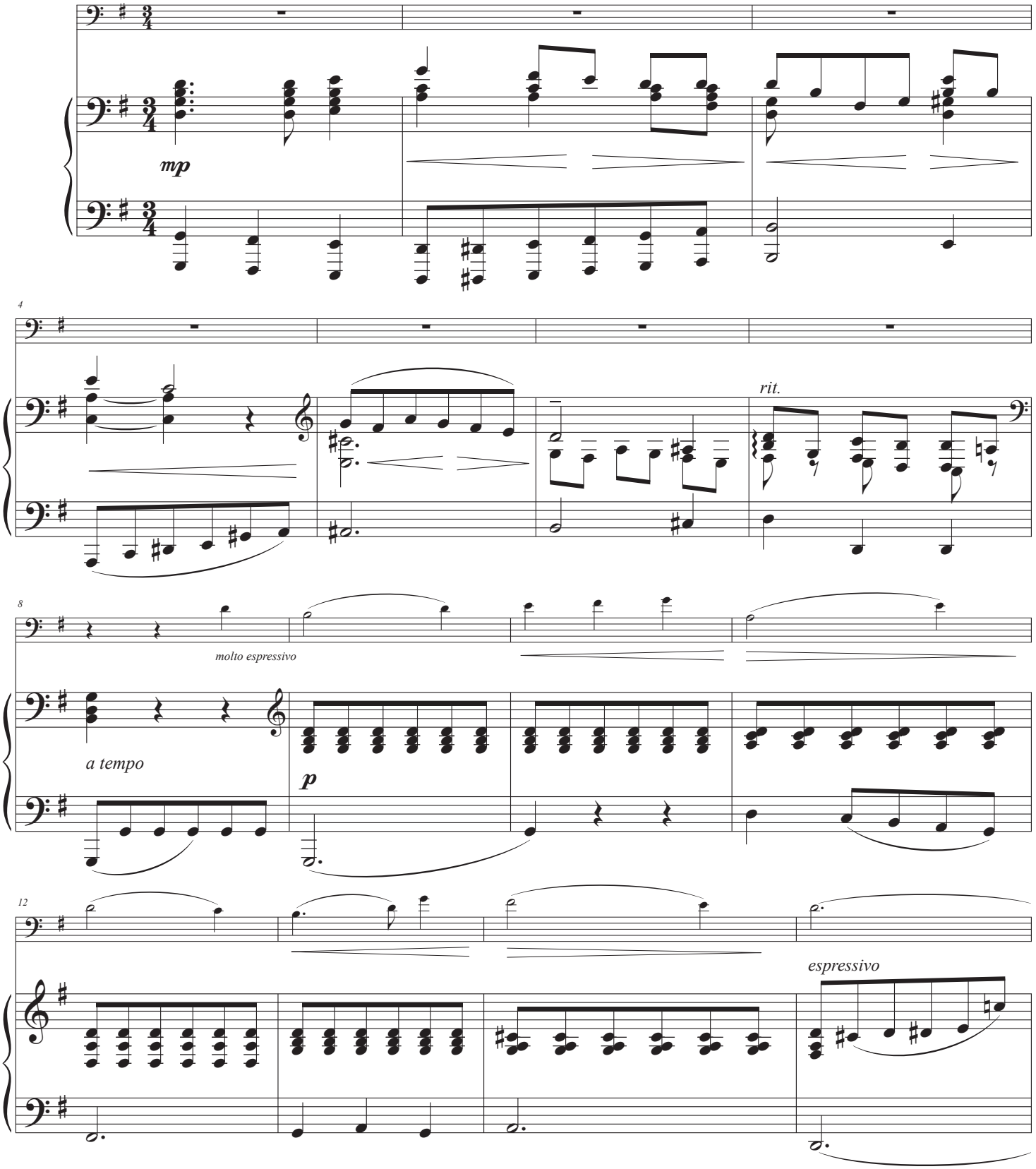

56
61
molto espressivo
66
espressivo
Tempo I.
8va
72

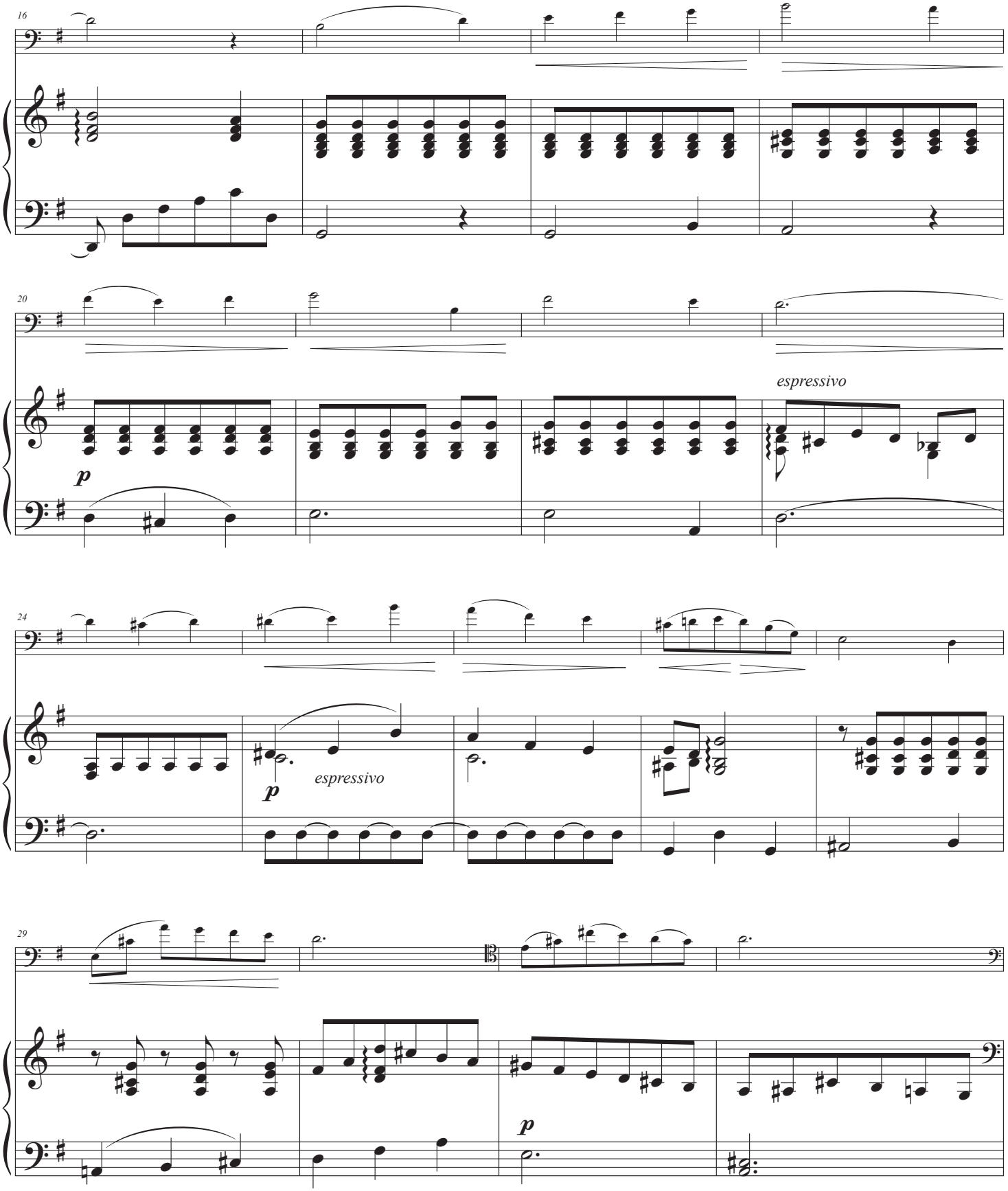

Più mosso.
mf
p
molto vivace
molto vivace

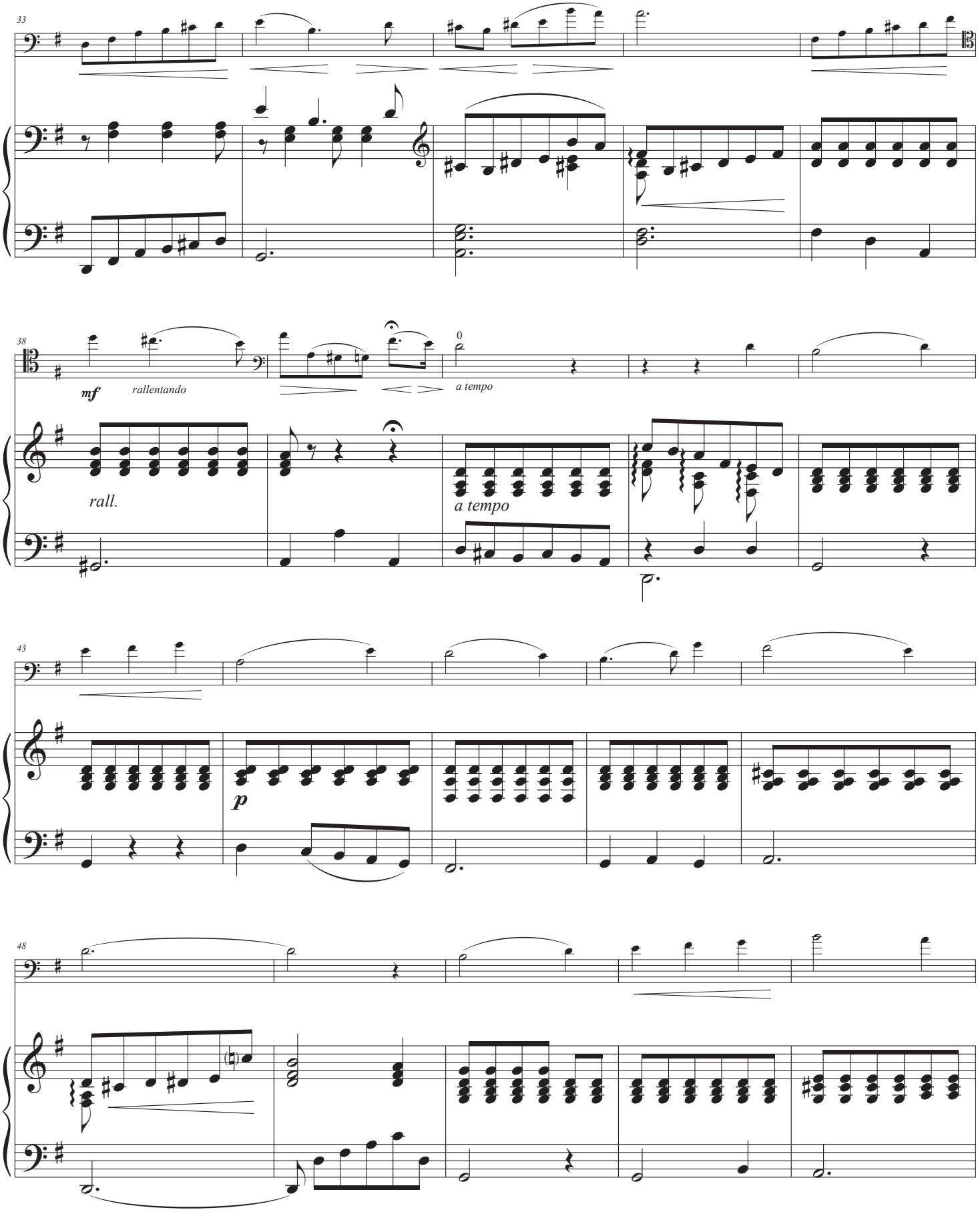
No. 2. Romanze.

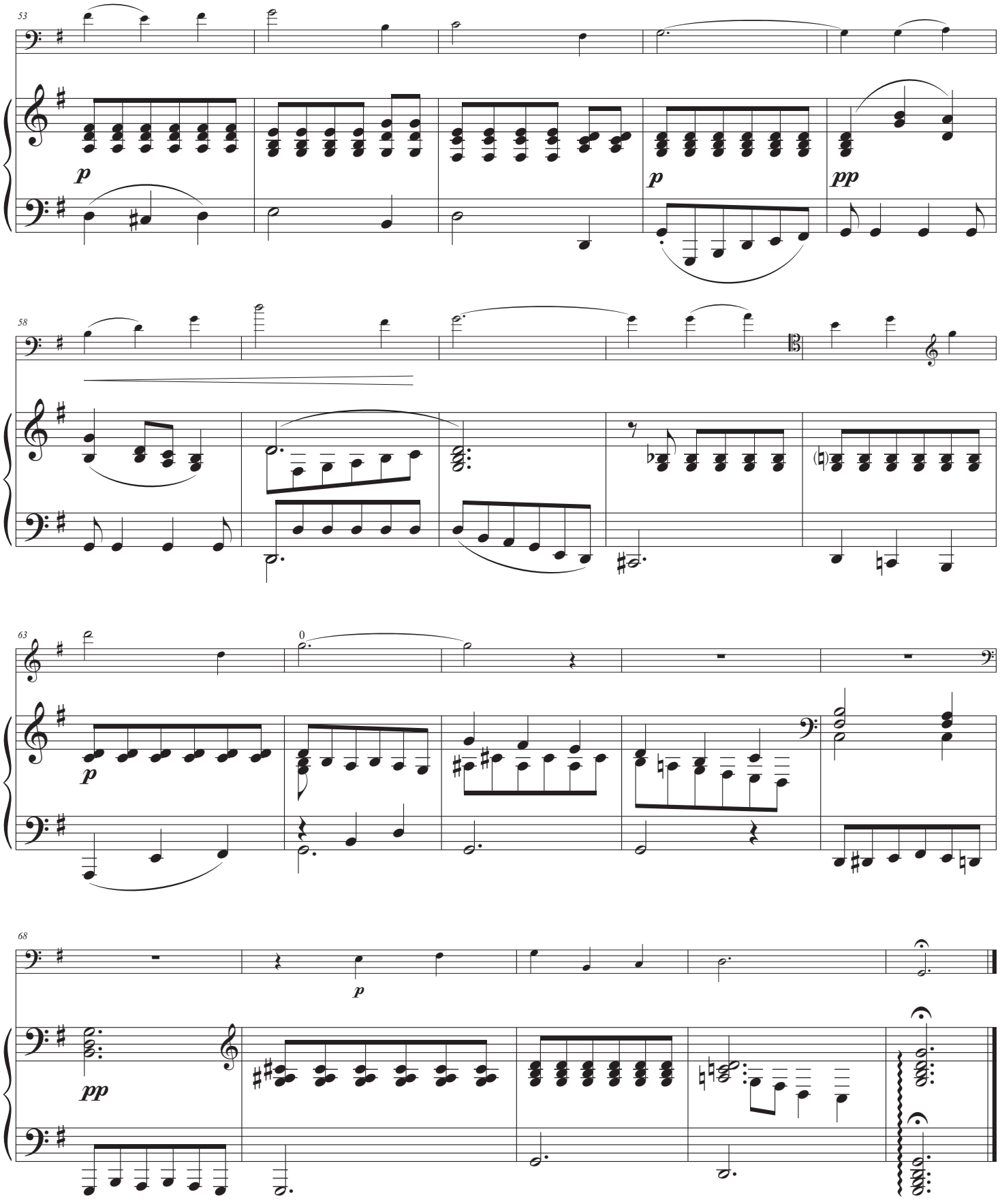
B. Lvovsky, Op. 11.

Moderato ma non troppo. M. ♩ = 96




16
20
p
espressivo
24
p
espressivo
29
p


33
38
mf
rallentando
0
a tempo
rall.
a tempo
43
p
48


53
p
p
pp
58
63
0
p
68
p
pp

10 - 18

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