Quintet Fugue for Piano

by

John M. Tarrh

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Performance Notes

Performance time: approximately 2 minutes 15 seconds

Program Notes

This fugue is a transcription for piano of the second movement of my *Serenade for Wind Quintet* (2007). In the wind quintet version, the fugue has a special twist. Generally in a fugue, each voice has its own well-defined tessitura (range of pitches) for statement of the fugue subject. Each voice may then use all twelve pitches of the chromatic scale as the fugue evolves through a variety of sequences and, perhaps, different key areas. This fugue is different. While each instrument has a well-defined tessitura for its statement of the fugue subject, only six pitches are used. Then, throughout the remainder of the fugue, each instrument is strictly limited to its specific set of six pitches. While quite restrictive, this pitch limitation frequently guides the choice of voices and results in a more free harmonic flow than might have otherwise been achieved. The fugue is ternary in form, with its central section based on the original fugue subject in retrograde (reversed order) using a different rhythm.

John M. Tarrh

Quintet Fugue

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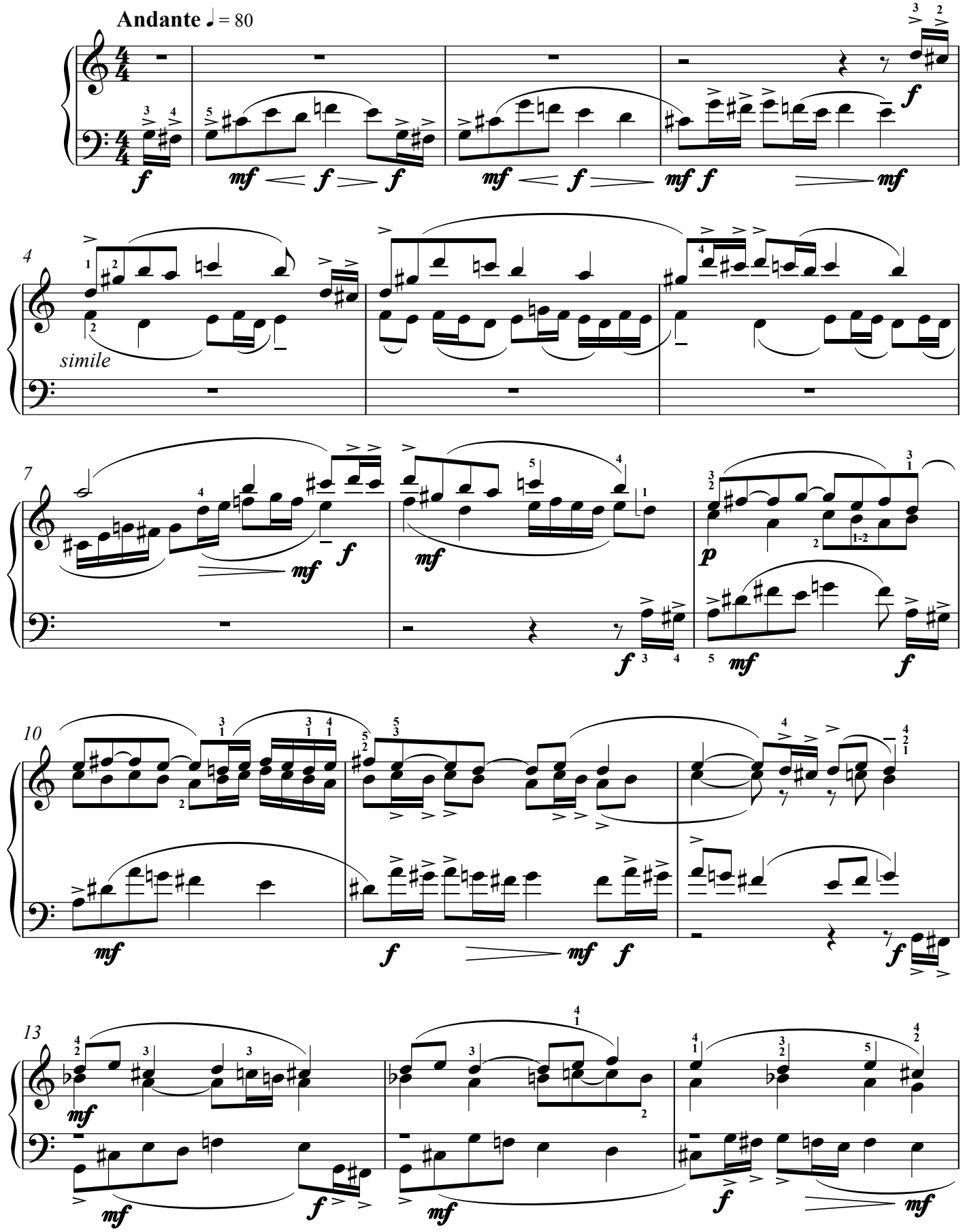
John M. Tarrh



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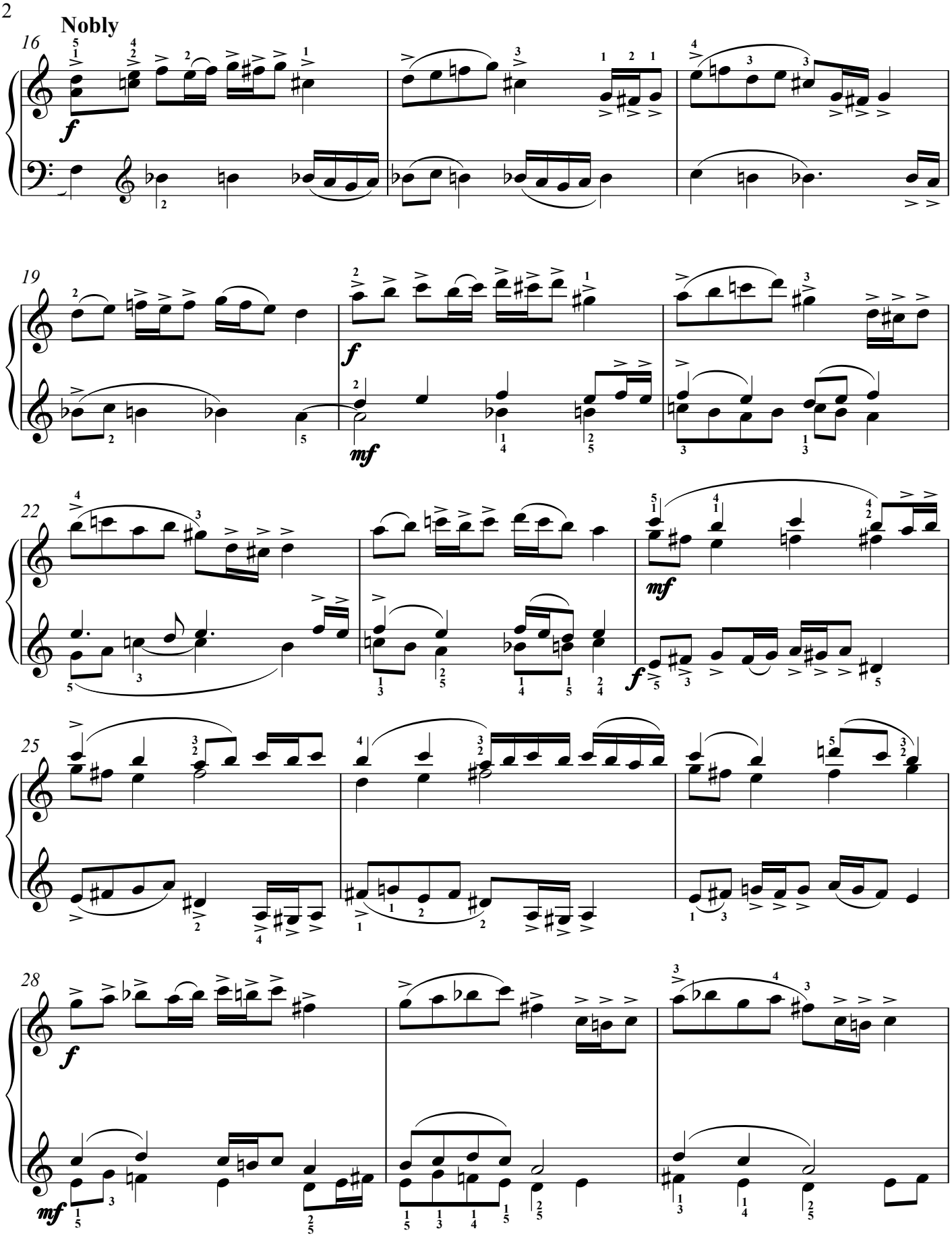
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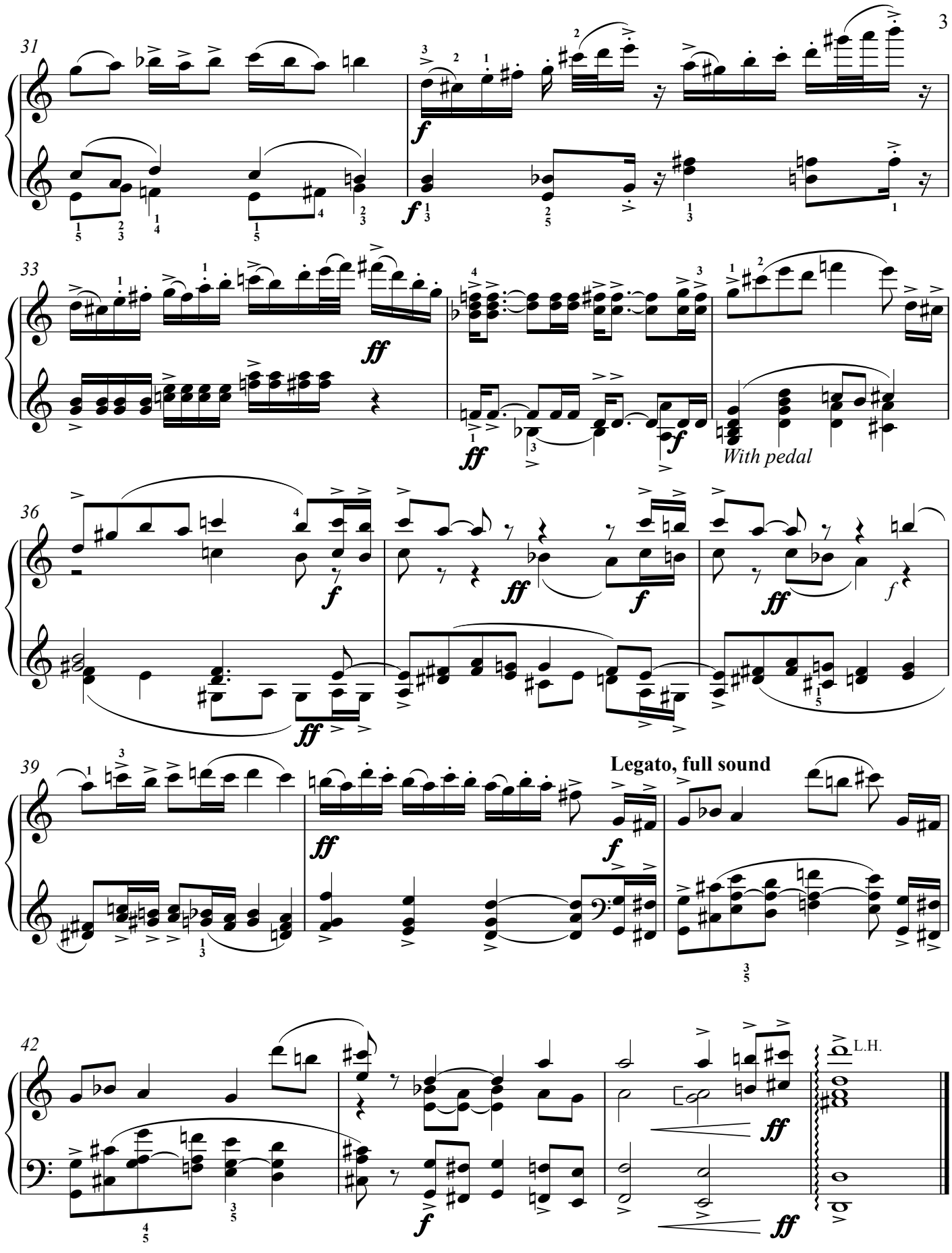
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