Arthur C. Benson's

ODE TO MUSIC

SET TO MUSIC FOR

Soprano, Contralto, Tenor & Bass soli, Chorus and Orchestra

by

C. Hubert H. Parry

Harp

Composed for the opening of the new Concert Hall at the Royal College of Music - June 13, 1901

IN THE UNITED STATES

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ENGLISH HERITAGE
MUSIC SERIES

The "renaissance" in English music is generally agreed to have started in the late Victorian period, beginning roughly in 1880, and was most notable for compositions by C.V. Stanford, C. Hubert H. Parry, Edward Elgar, Henry Walford Davies, Harold Darke and others. Public demand for major works in support of the annual choral festivals held throughout England at that time was considerable which led to the creation of many large scale works for orchestra with soloists and chorus. Although a number of those works found their way into print and are regularly performed today, a considerable number of compositions, both large-scale and more intimate works, are not available. These works either were never published or were published but are no longer available in the publishers' catalogues. While the existence of these works is documented in biographies of the composers, the ability to study and, most importantly, to perform these compositions is not possible.

Changes in the International copyright laws in the mid-1970's played a pivotal role in creating this void, opening a significant number of musical compositions to public access. As a result, music publishers lost the ability to generate revenue from the sale/rental of such music. Performance score inventories of these works were eliminated. In addition, for many compositions, the only published material were vocal scores - full scores and orchestra parts were hand notated for the premiere of a work and then were 'recycled' for future performances. While full score autograph manuscripts are now accessible through the major music libraries in the UK, the hand-notated parts have long since been lost. These autograph full score manuscripts along with copies of the published vocal scores are now the only resources available for studying and performing these works.

The English Heritage Music Series has been created to ensure that these compositions are preserved, are accessible for scholarly research and, most importantly, are available for performance by future generations. Its mission is to:

- Source unpublished/out-of-print English composer compositions that are in the U.S. public domain
- Preserve these compositions through the preparation of performance scores using notation software
- Provide open Internet access to the scores to facilitate study, performance and sharing of performance material (program notes, audio, reviews, etc.)

In preparing the English Heritage Music Series editions, every effort has been made to adhere strictly to the notation contained in the manuscripts. Because of the passage of time and its effect on the condition of the manuscript, the absence of clear information often times by the composer in notating divided instruments, and with emendations in the composer and other hands resulting from use of the manuscript in performance, there were numerous circumstances which required interpretation and decisions for notes, accidentals, dynamics, articulations and tempi. Should questions arise in the use of these editions, the composers' autograph manuscripts and the Novello vocal scores should be consulted for clarification.

Matthew W. Mehaffey
Editor

Professor of Music
University of Minnesota - School of Music
Minneapolis, Minnesota USA

Source Information

Autograph Manuscript:	Royal College of Music, London MS 4192
Vocal Score:	Novello Octavo Edition No. 11230
Royal College of Music Library	Michael Mullen, Ass't. Librarian - mmullen@rcm.ac.uk
Oxford University, Bodleian Music Section, Weston Library	Martin Holmes, Curator of Music - martin.holmes@bodleian.ox.ac.uk
Manuscript Transcription & Score Preparation	David Fielding - dhcfielding@charter.net

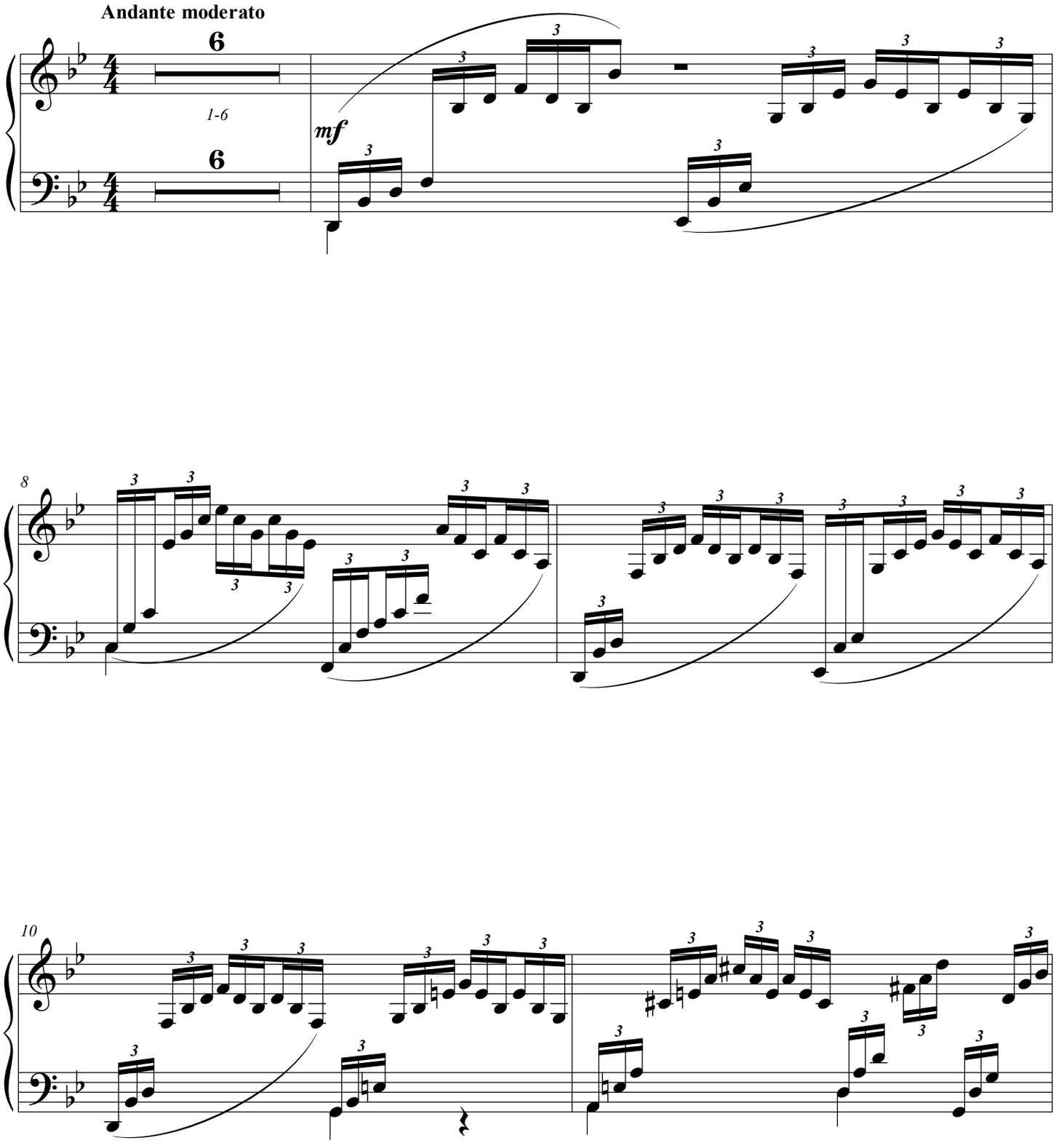
Reference Material and Software

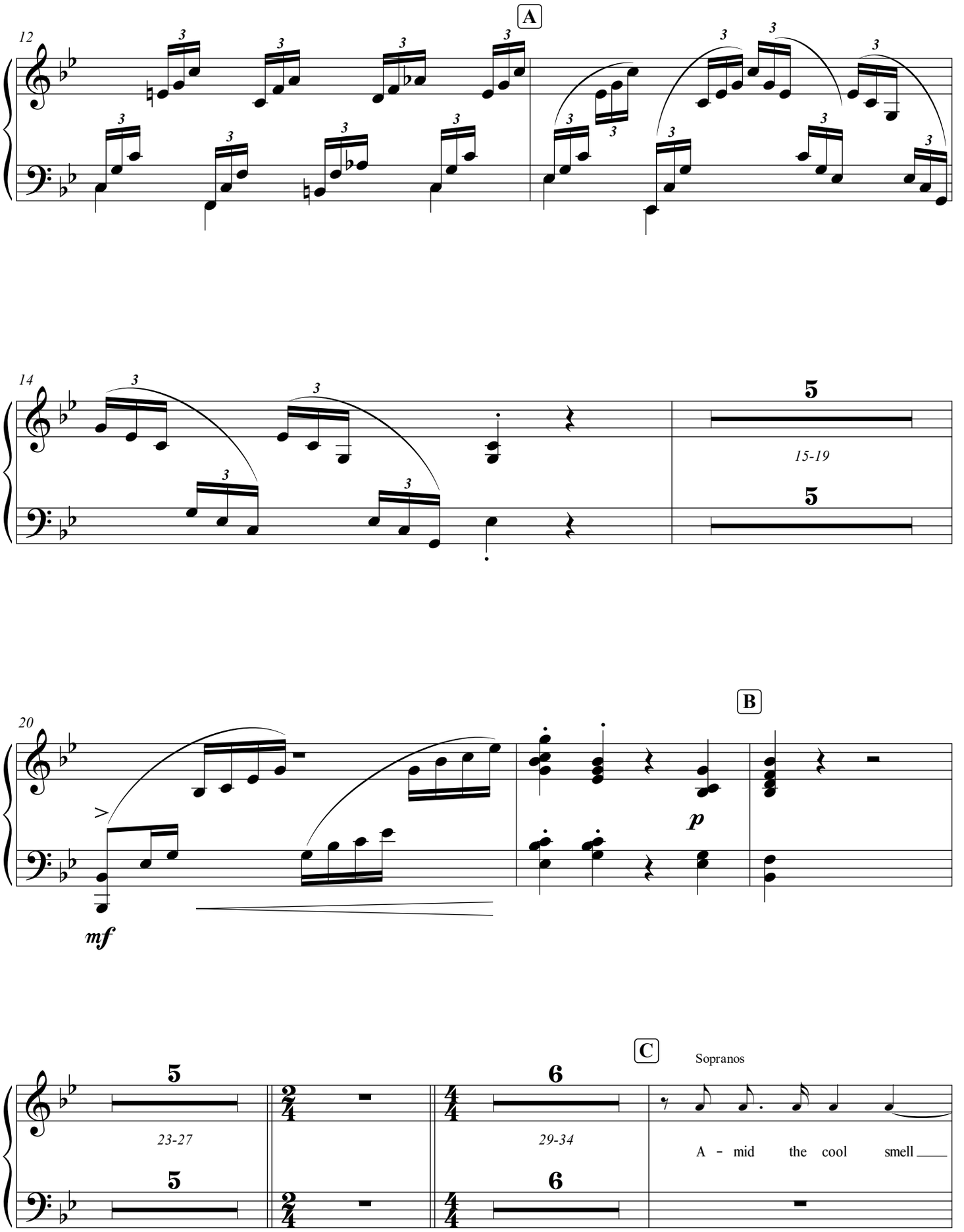
Notation Software: Finale v. 26 *Audio Software:* Garritan Personal Orchestra 5 *Graphic Software:* Adobe Photoshop CS5
Document Software: Adobe In Design CS5 *Music Notation Reference:* Behind Bars by Elaine Gould, Faber Music © 2011

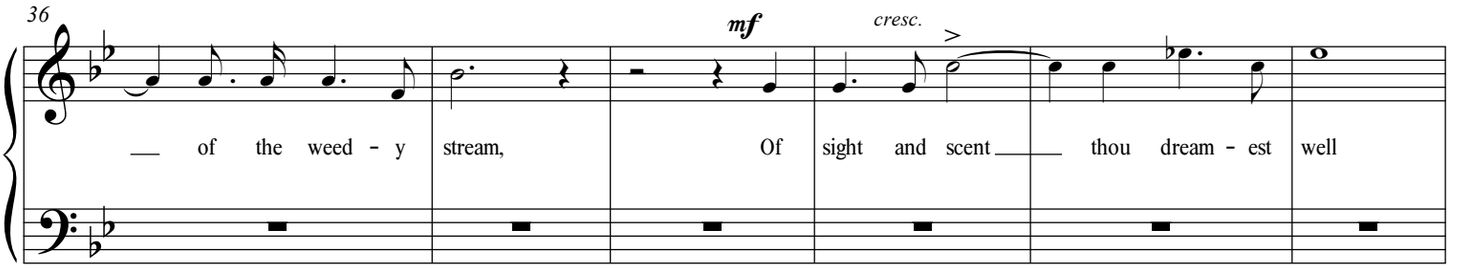
Arthur C. Benson's

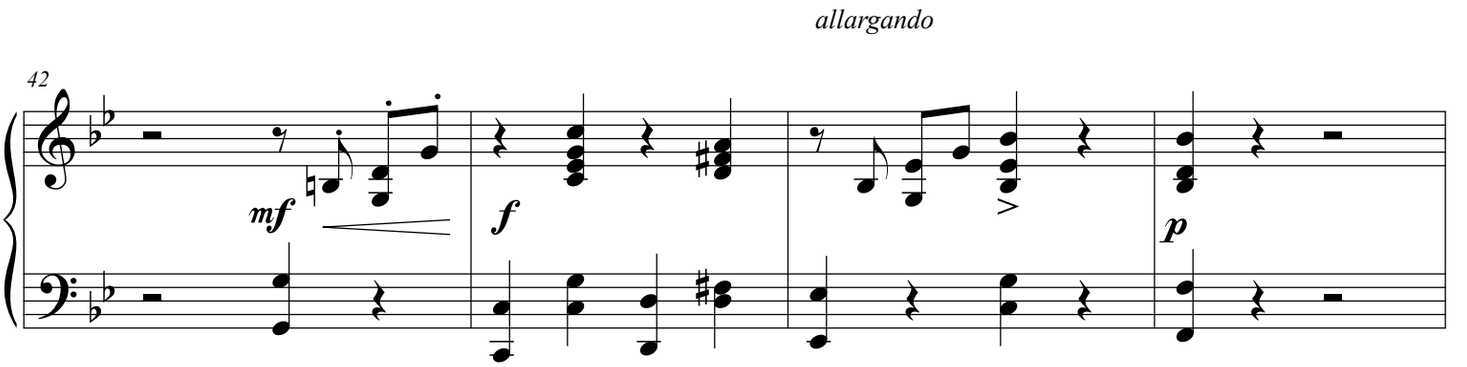
ODE TO MUSIC

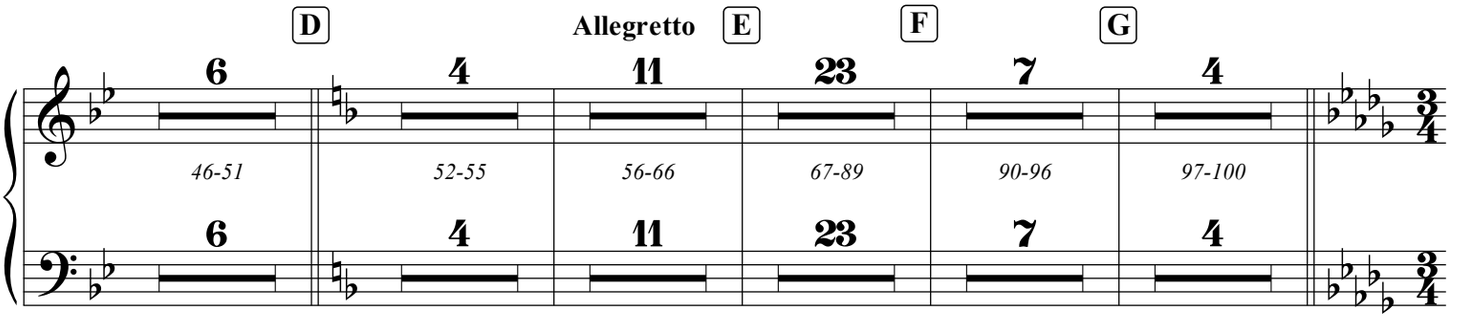
Music by C. HUBERT H. PARRY

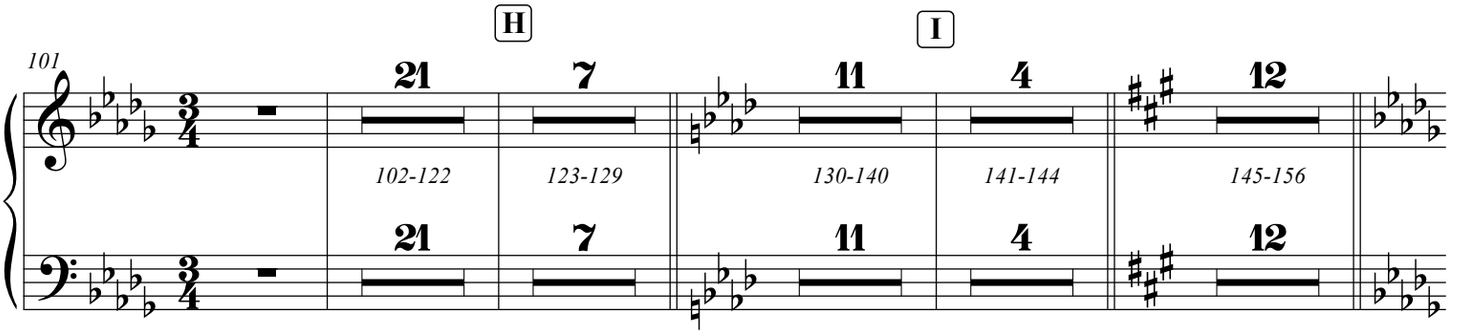



A
12
14
5
15-19
5
20
B
mf
p
C
Sopranos
5
23-27
5
6
29-34
6
A - mid the cool smell

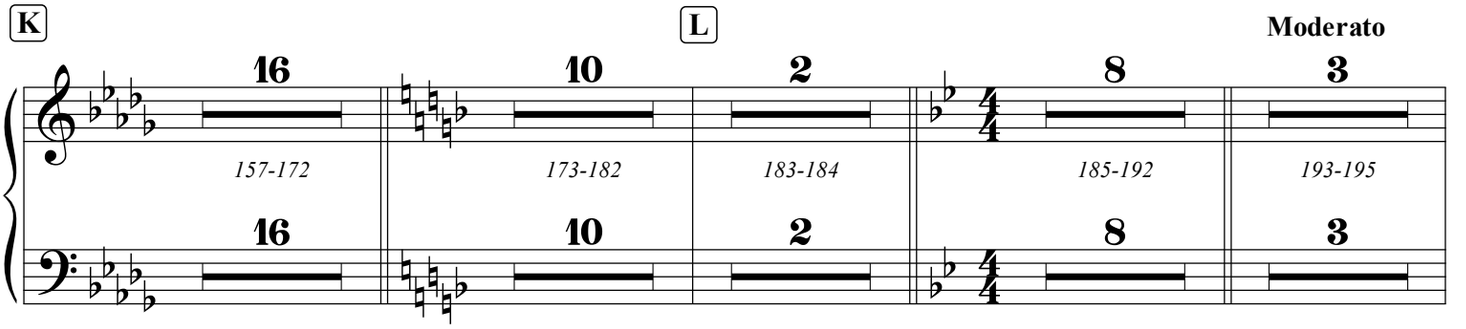

36
mf
cresc.
of the weed - y stream, Of sight and scent thou dream - est well

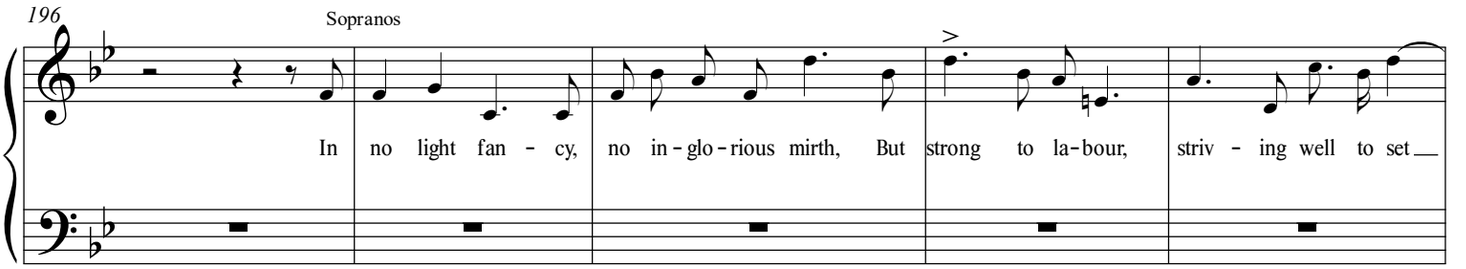

allargando
42
mf
f
p

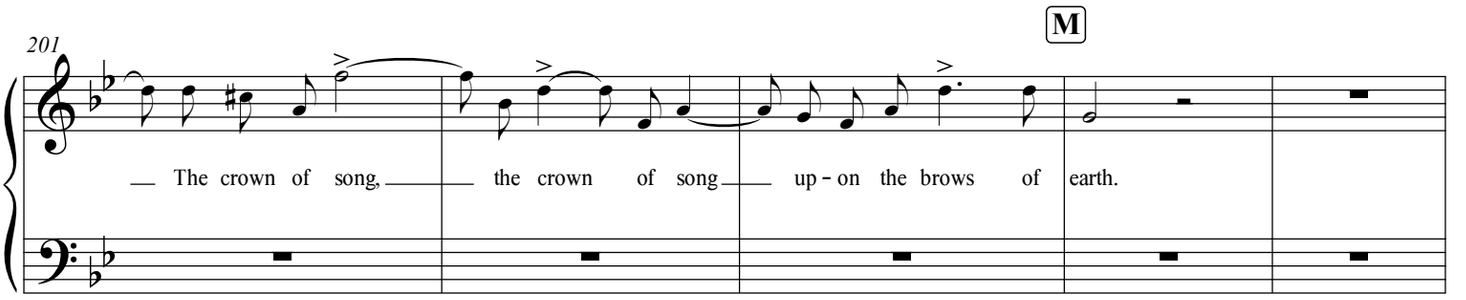

D
Allegretto
E
F
G
6
4
11
23
7
4
46-51
52-55
56-66
67-89
90-96
97-100

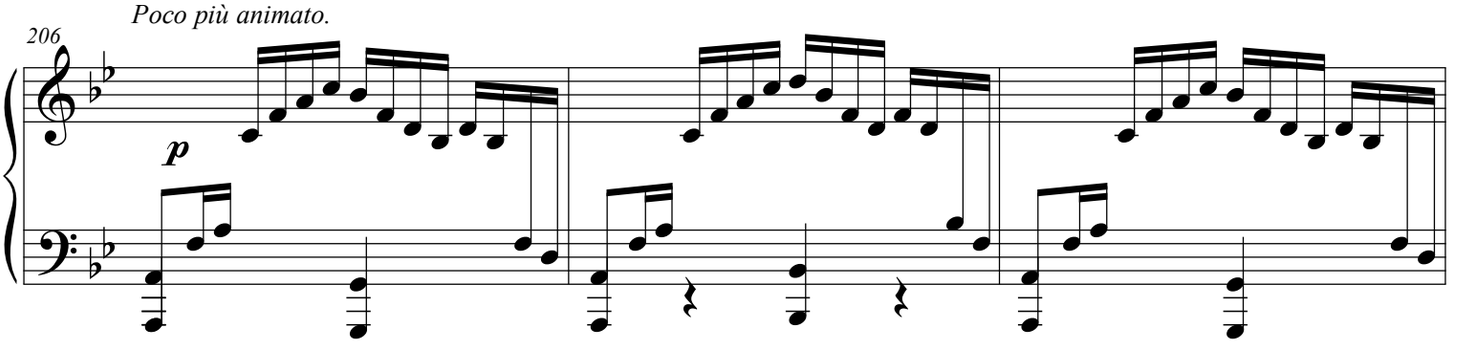

H
I
101
21
7
11
4
12
102-122
123-129
130-140
141-144
145-156

Intentionally blank for Page Turn


K
L
Moderato
16
10
2
8
3
157-172
173-182
183-184
185-192
193-195


196
Sopranos
In no light fan - cy, no in - glo - rious mirth, But strong to la - bour, striv - ing well to set


201
M
The crown of song, the crown of song up - on the brows of earth.


206
Poco più animato.
p

allargando

209

212

N

p

215

3

3

3

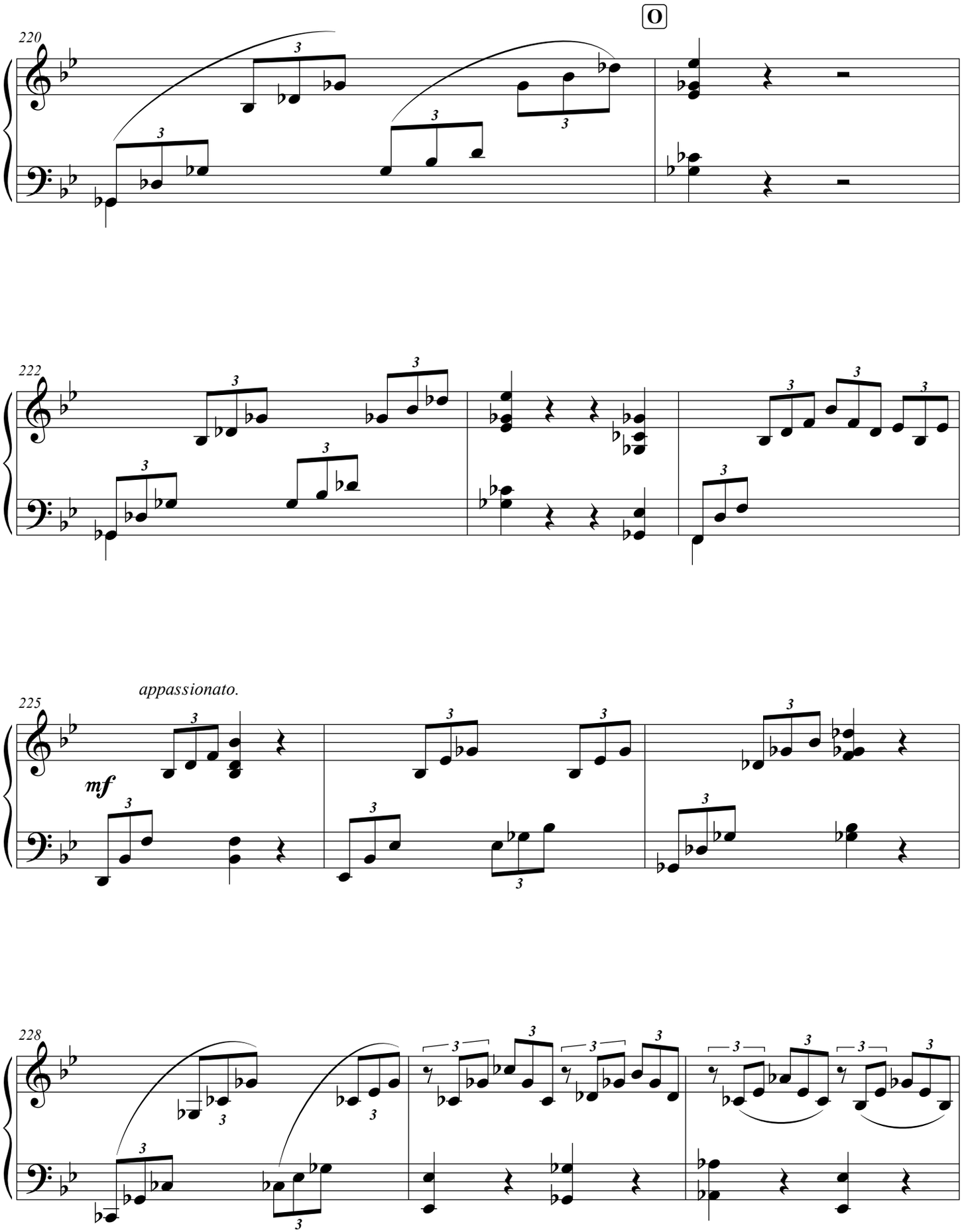
218

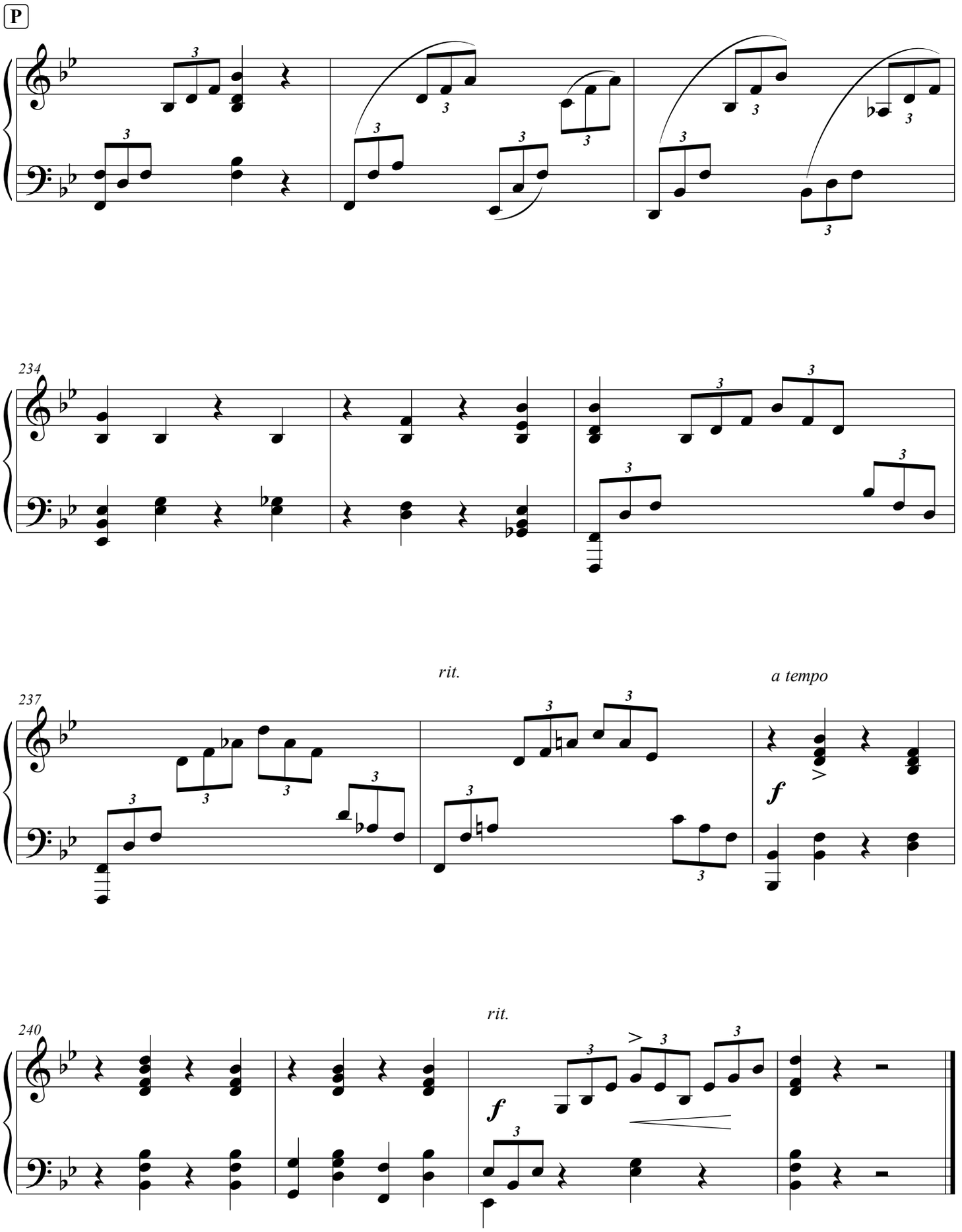
3

3

3

3


O
220
222
appassionato.
225
mf
228


P
234
237
rit.
a tempo
f
240
rit.
f

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MUSIC SERIES

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1.11/03