What is a Piano Prelude?

Badie Khaleghian

Nicky Sohn

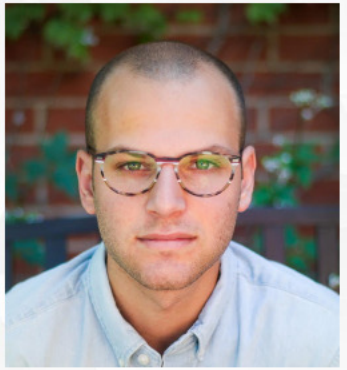
Sam Wu

·Six Composers·

·Six Brand New Pieces·

James Palmer
Pianist and Host

Olivia Bennett



Alex Berko

Dr. Pierre Jalbert

Examples of Independent “Piano Preludes”

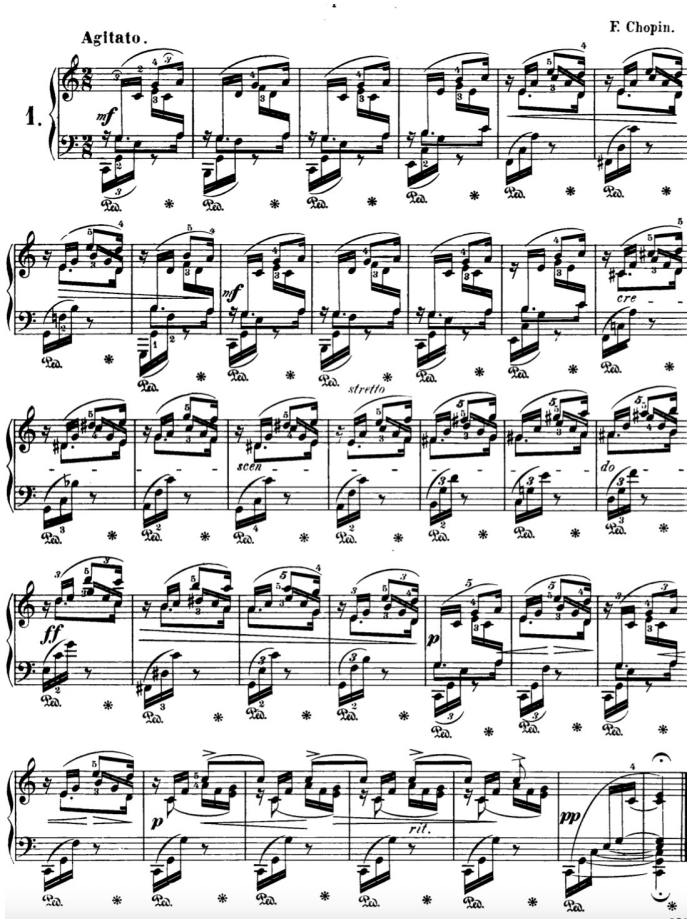
- **Chopin** – 24 Preludes Op. 28 (1839)
- **Alkan** – 25 Preludes Op. 31 (1847)
- **Scriabin** – 24 Preludes Op. 11 (1897)
- **Rachmaninoff** – 24 combining Op. 3 No 2, Op. 23, Op. 32
- **Debussy** – 2 Books of 12 each (1909-1913)
- **Messaien** – 8 Preludes (1929)
- **Kapustin** – 24 Jazz Preludes Op. 53
- **Auerbach** (b. 1973) – various complete cycles for piano, violin, cello

Variation Among Piano Preludes

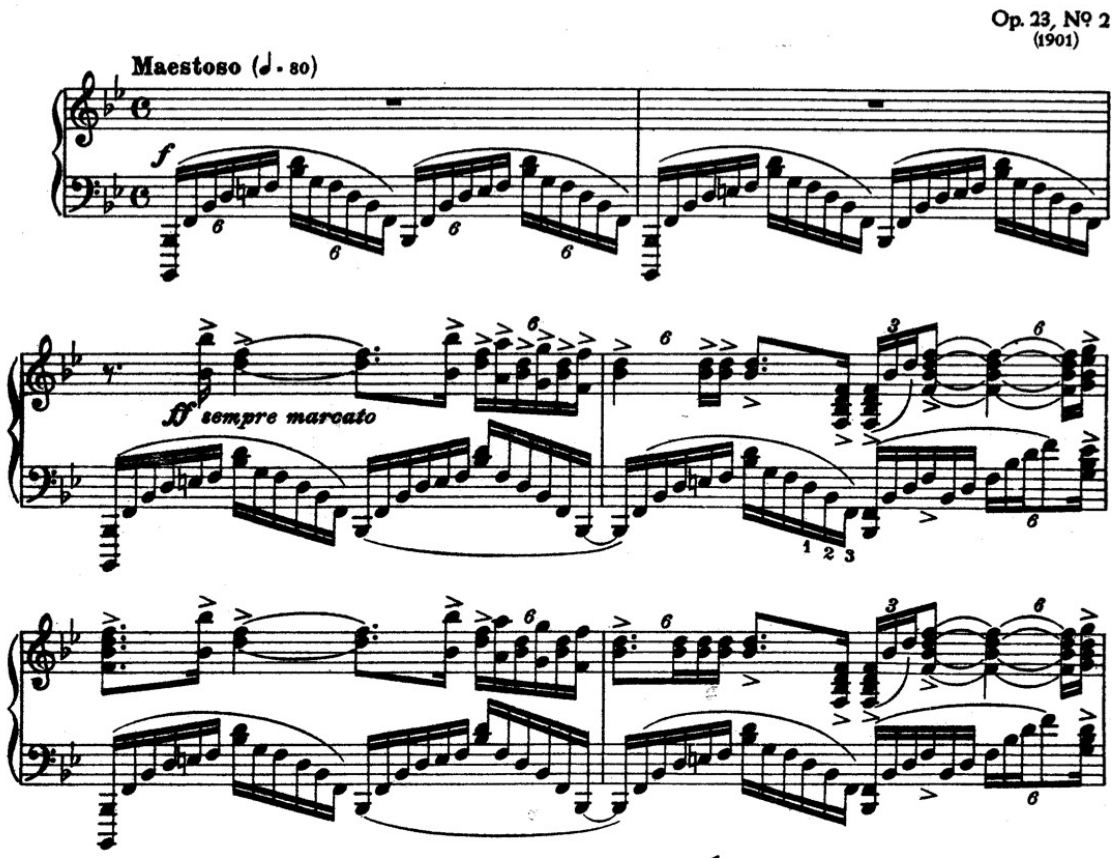
- Length
- Phrase Structure and Form
- Thematic/Programmatic vs. “Pure Music”
- Allusion to Other Genres

Length

Chopin – Op. 28, No. 1

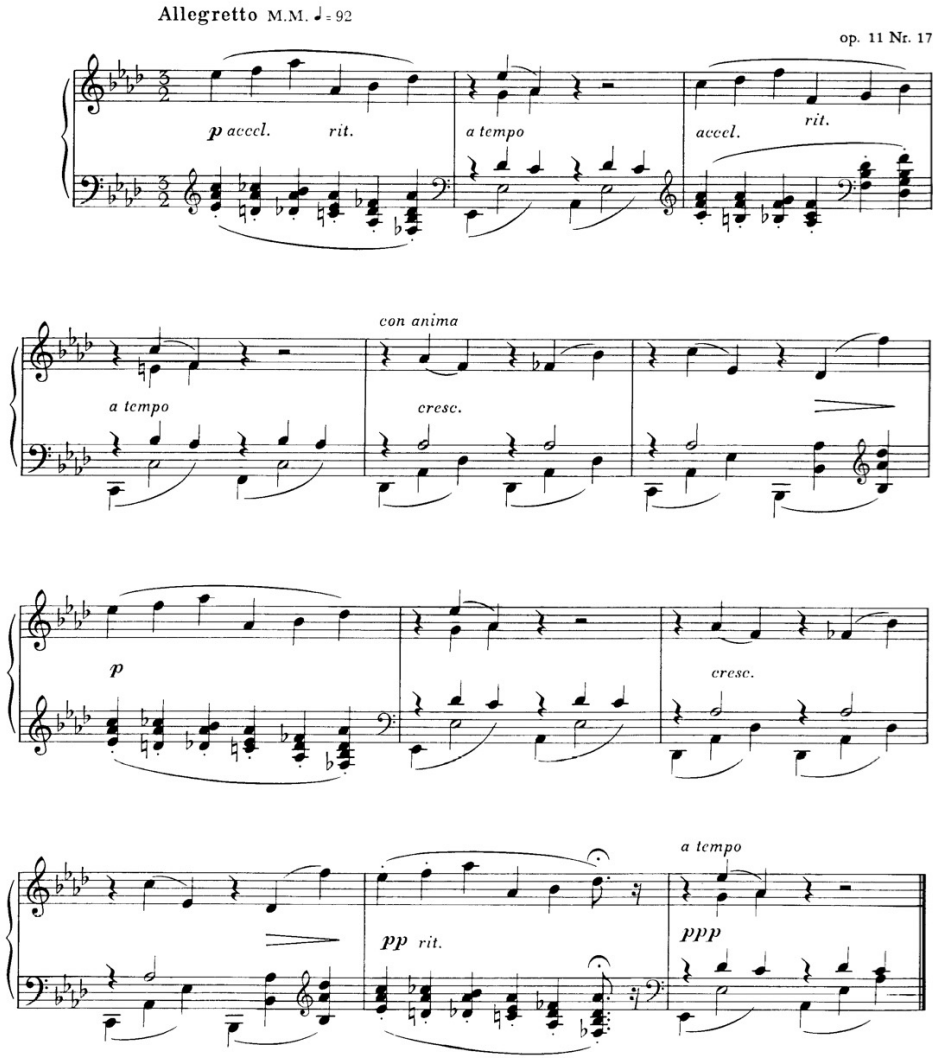


Rachmaninoff – Prelude Op. 23, No. 2

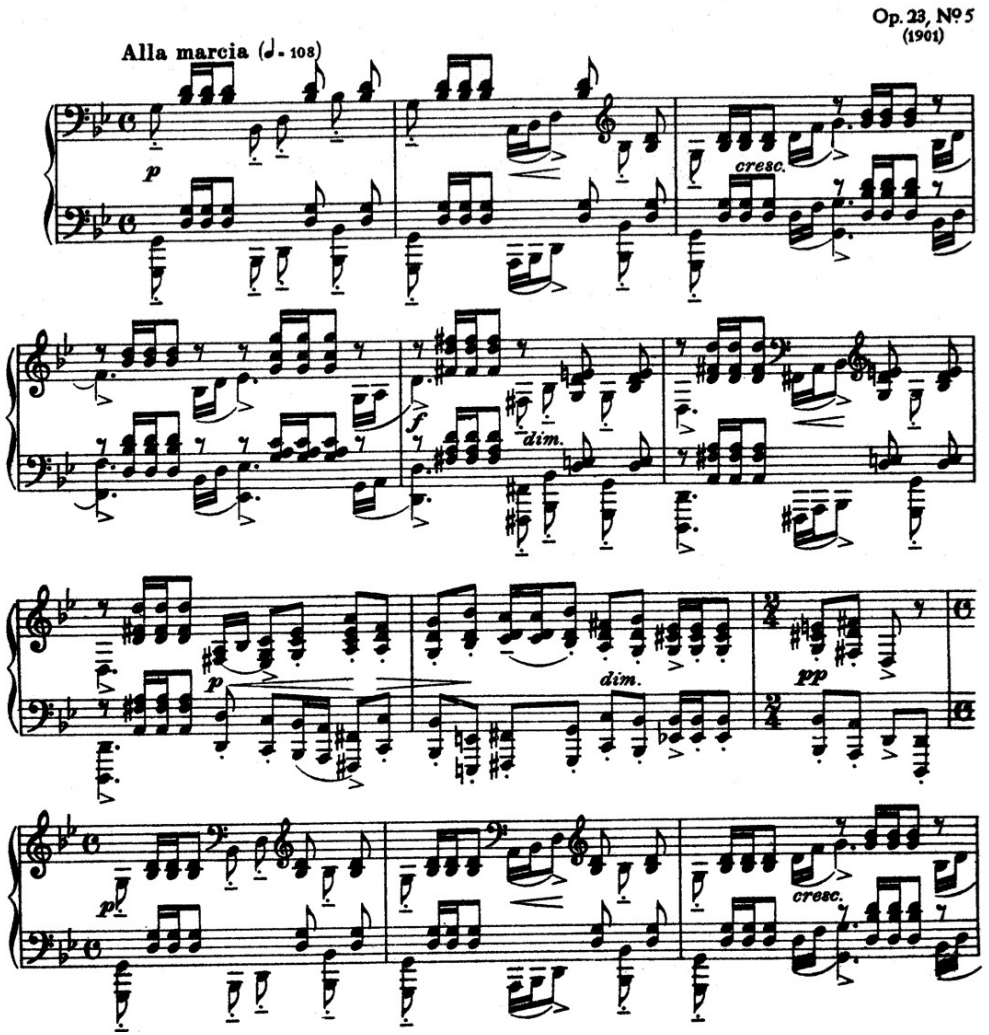


Phrase Structure and Form

Scriabin – Op. 11, No. 17

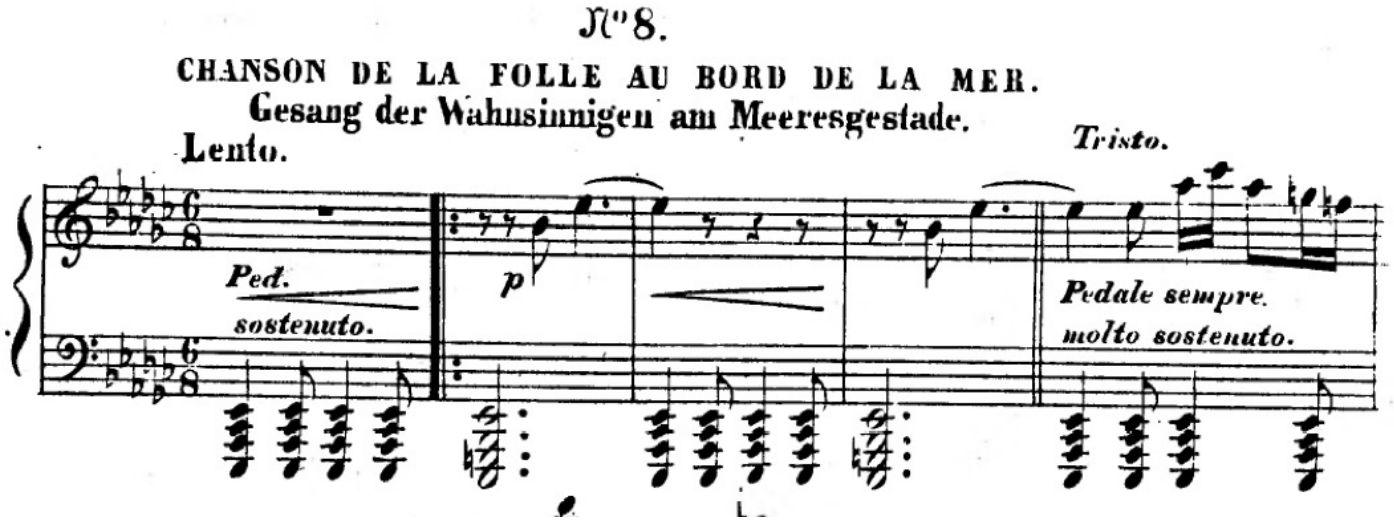


Rachmaninoff – Op. 23, No. 5

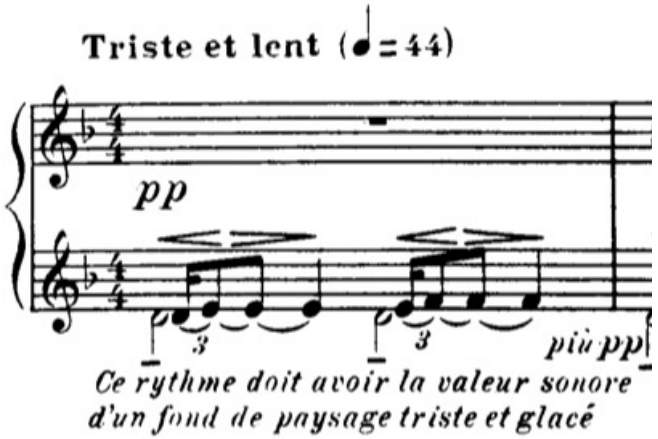


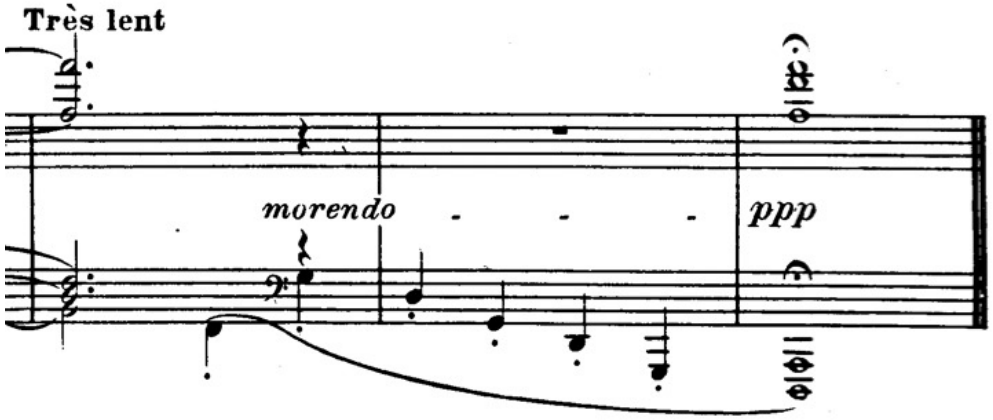
Thematic/Programmatic/Narrative

Alkan – Op. 31, No. 8



Debussy – Préludes, Livre I, No. 6





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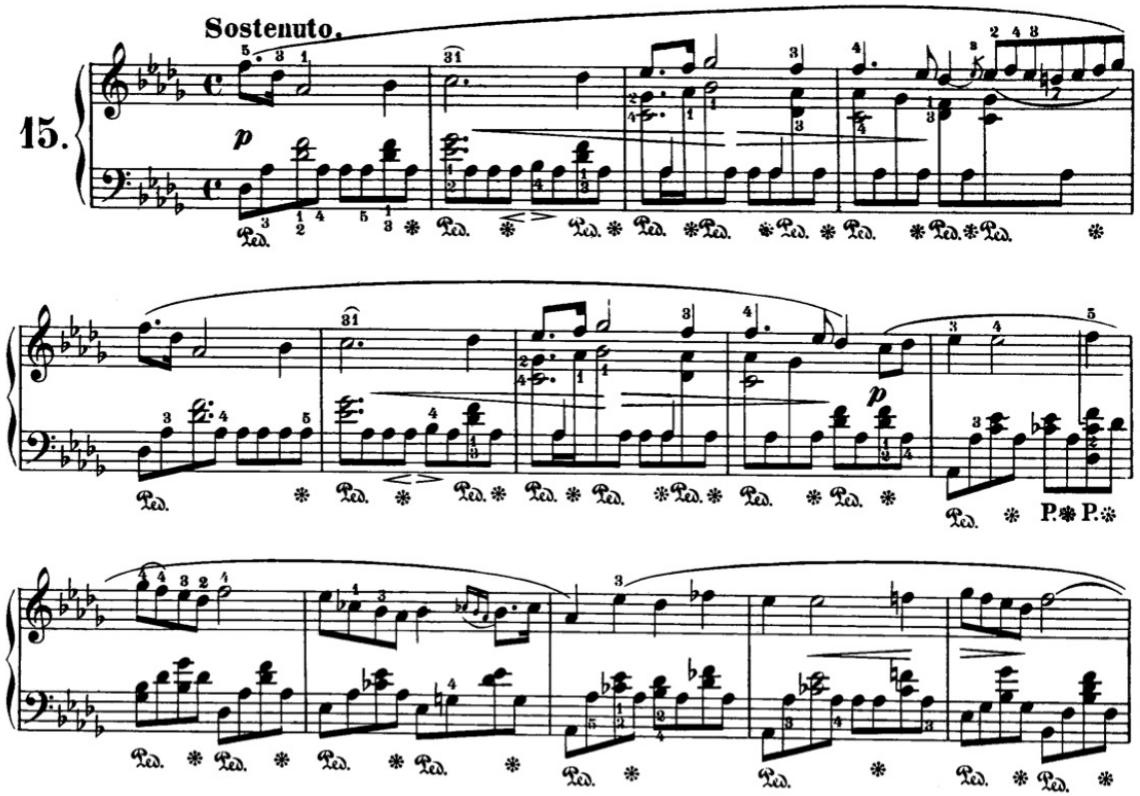
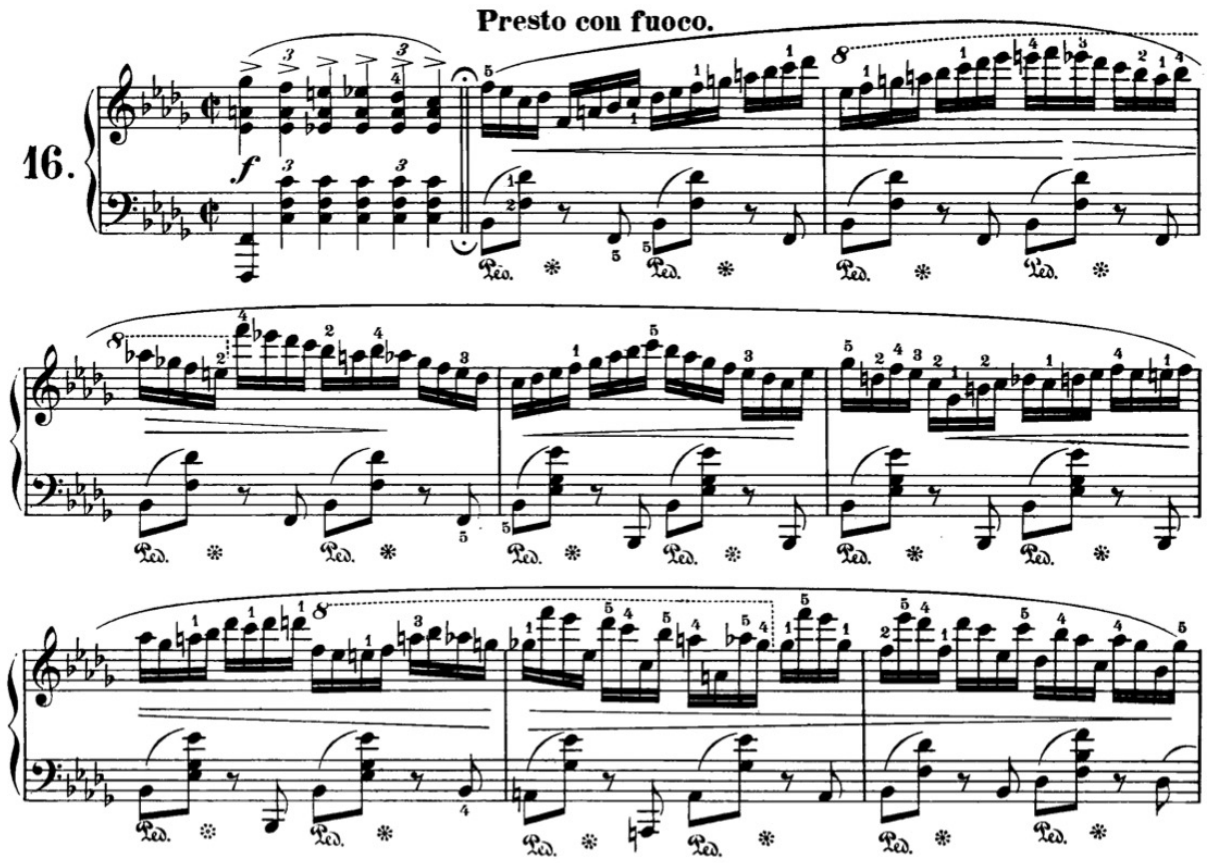
Allusion to Other Genres/Topics

Chopin – Op. 28, No. 15



Chopin – Op. 28, No. 16



Composers

- Badie Khaleghian, DMA
- Nicky Sohn, DMA
- Sam Wu, DMA
- Olivia Bennett, BM
- Alex Berko, MM
- Dr. Pierre Jalbert, Professor of Composition

Badie Khaleghian — *Turbulent Prelude*

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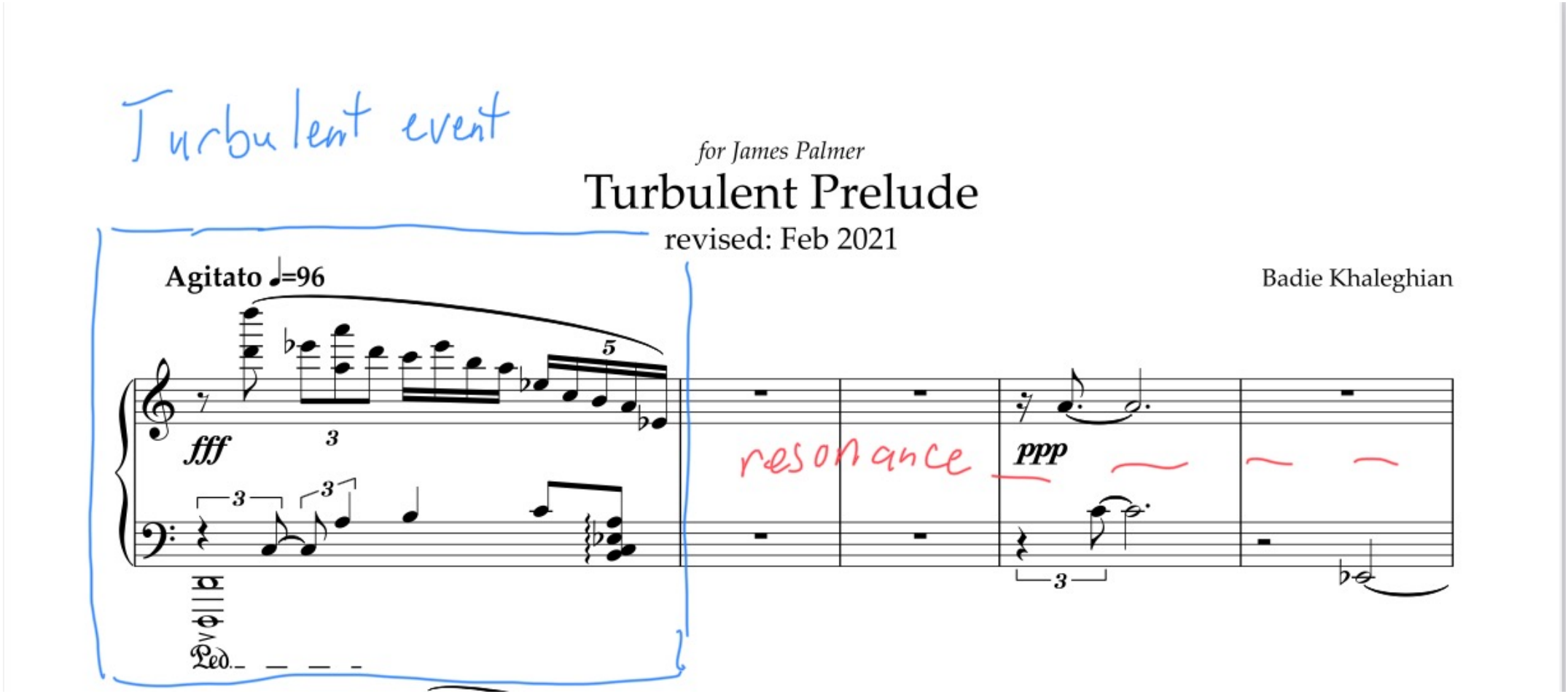
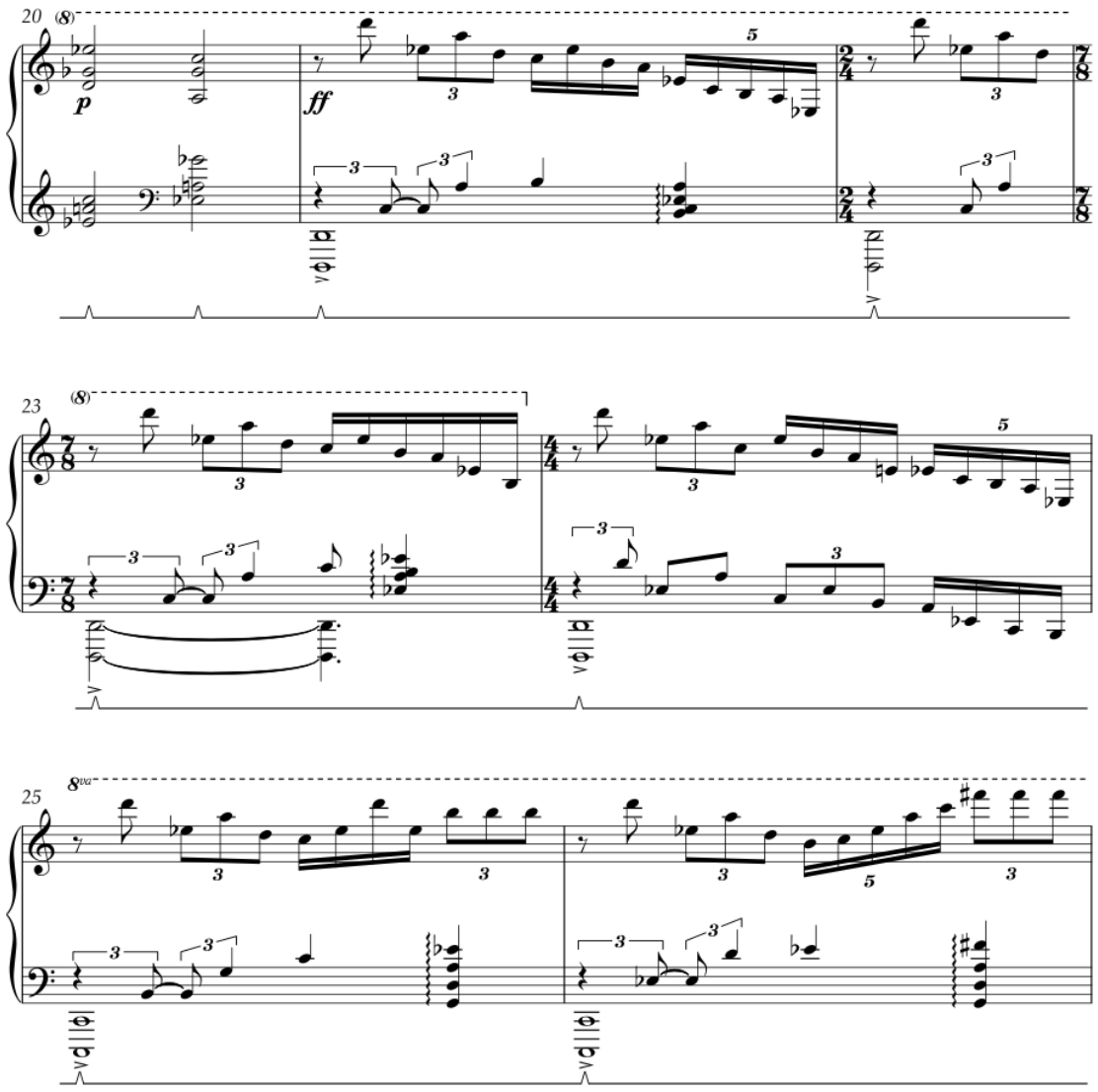


Badie Khaleghian — *Turbulent Prelude*



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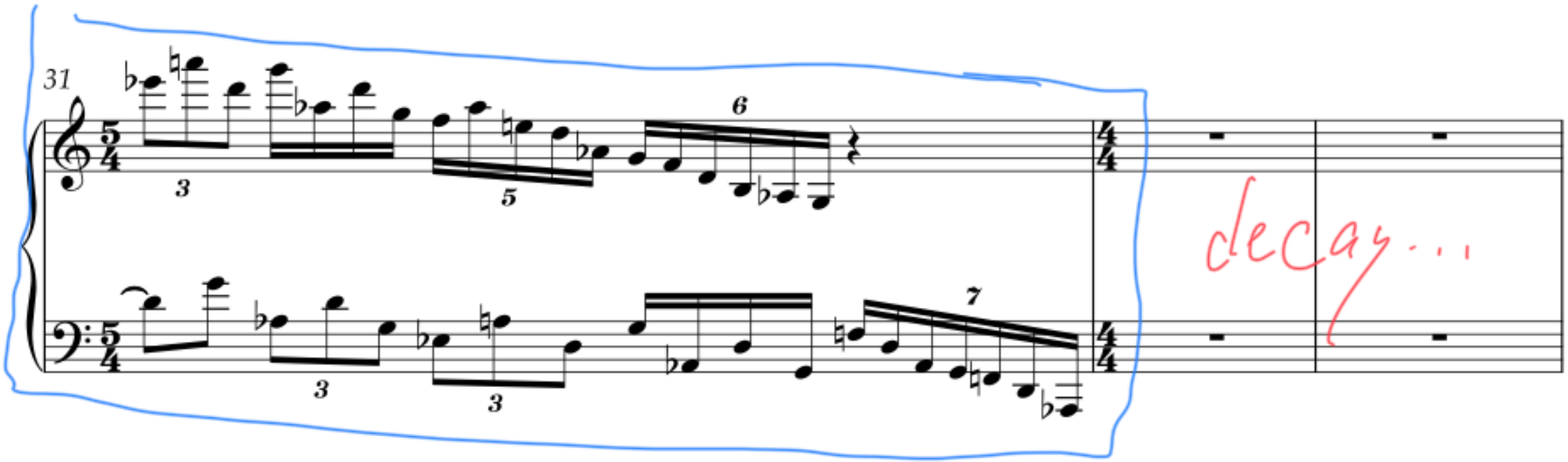

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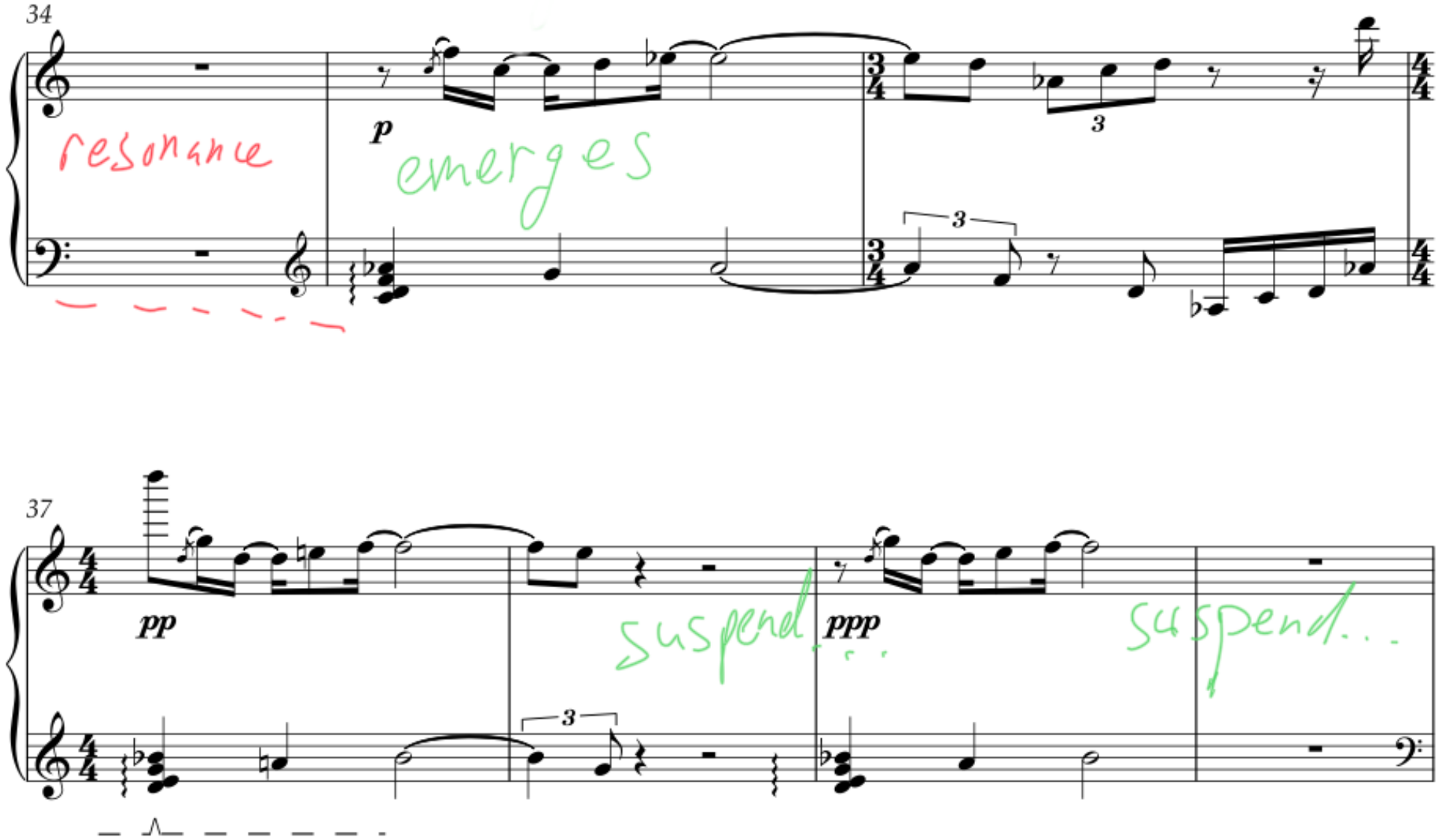

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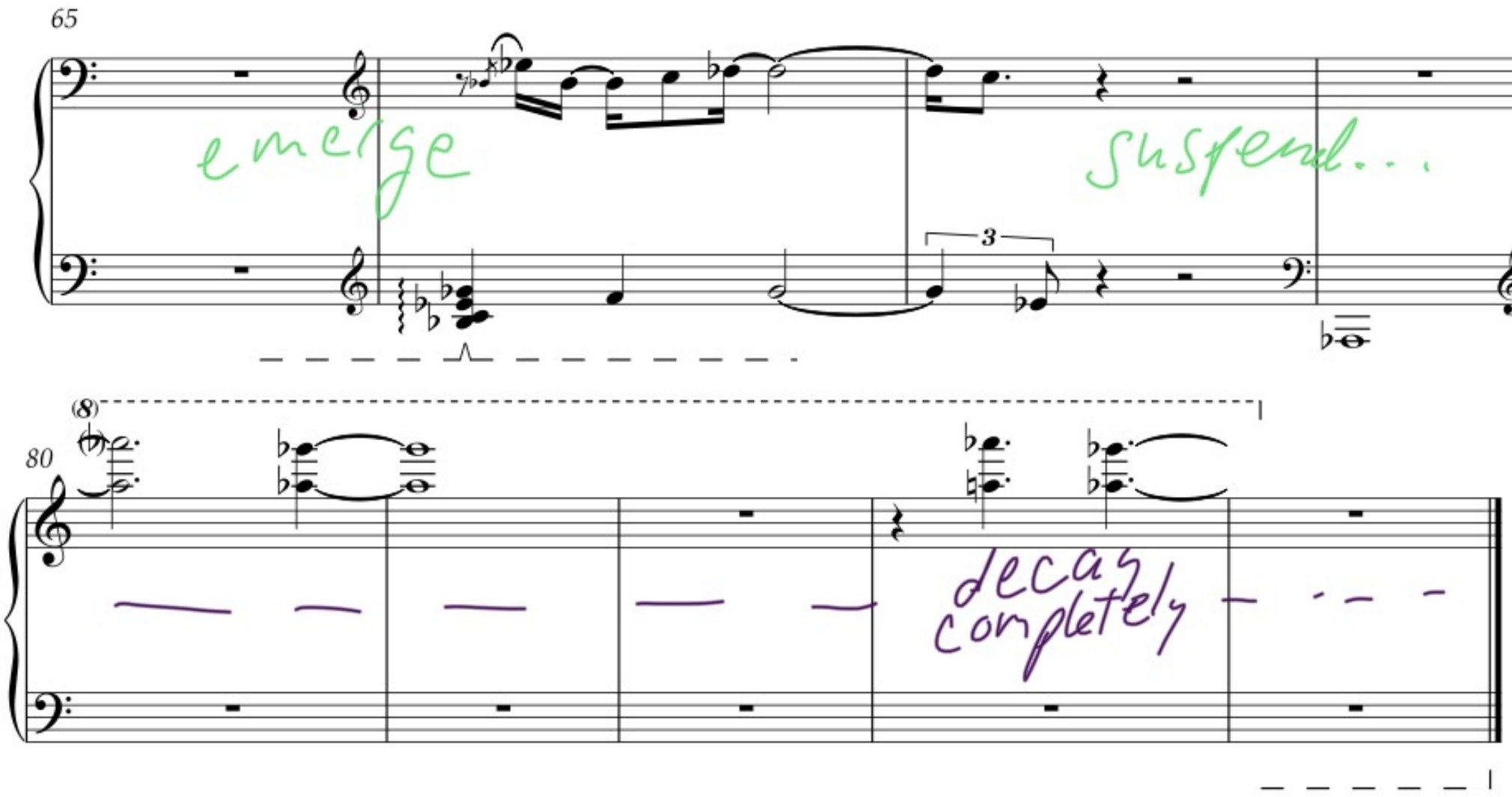

Nicky Sohn — *Humidity Rag*

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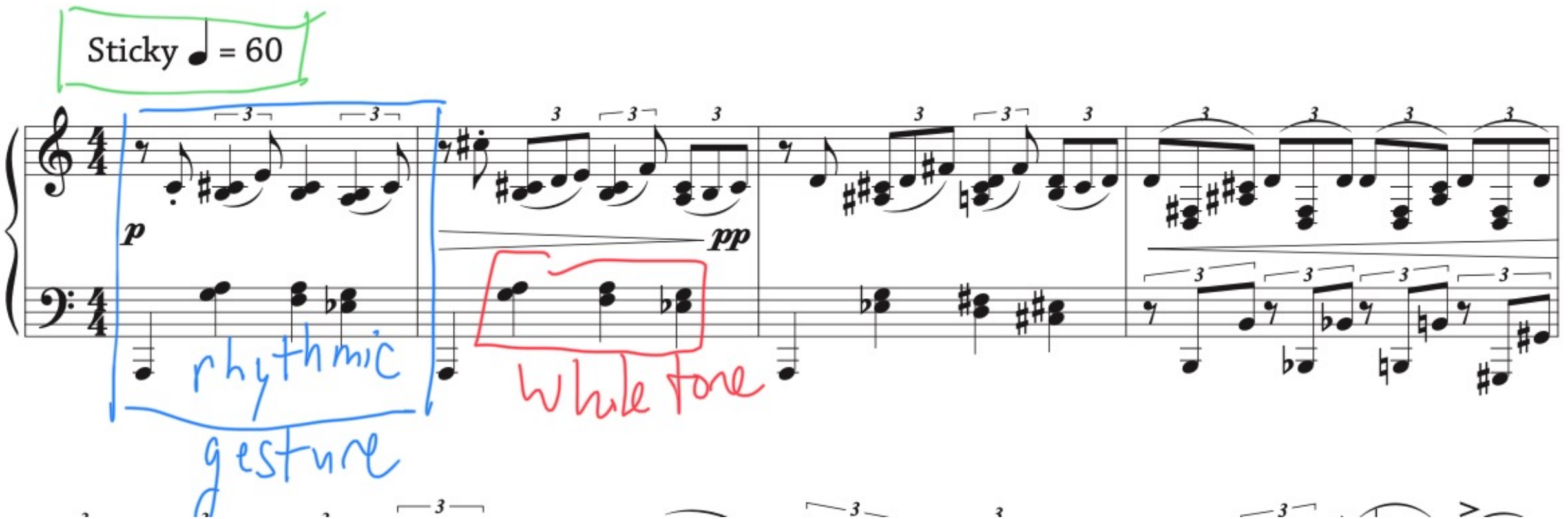

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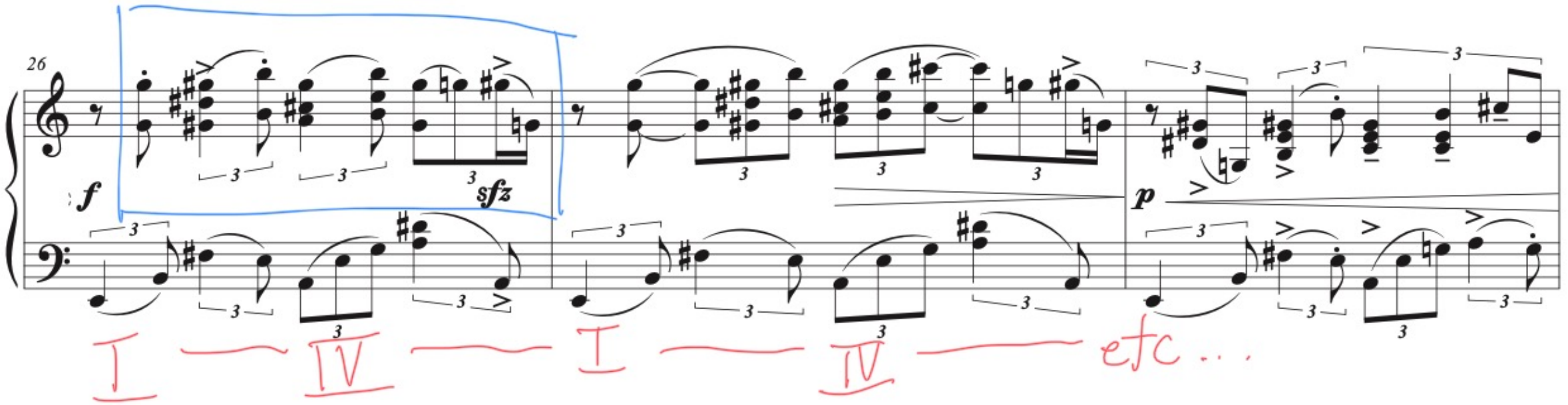

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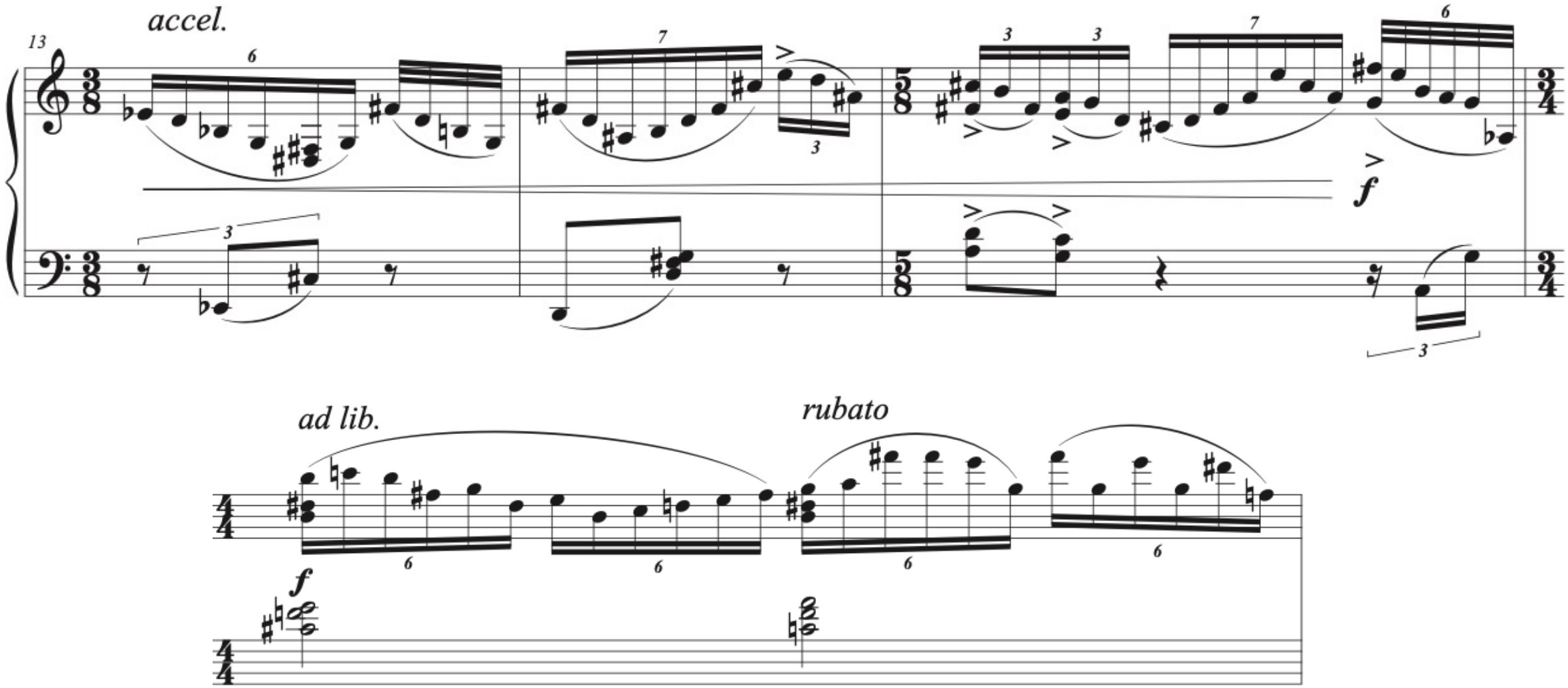

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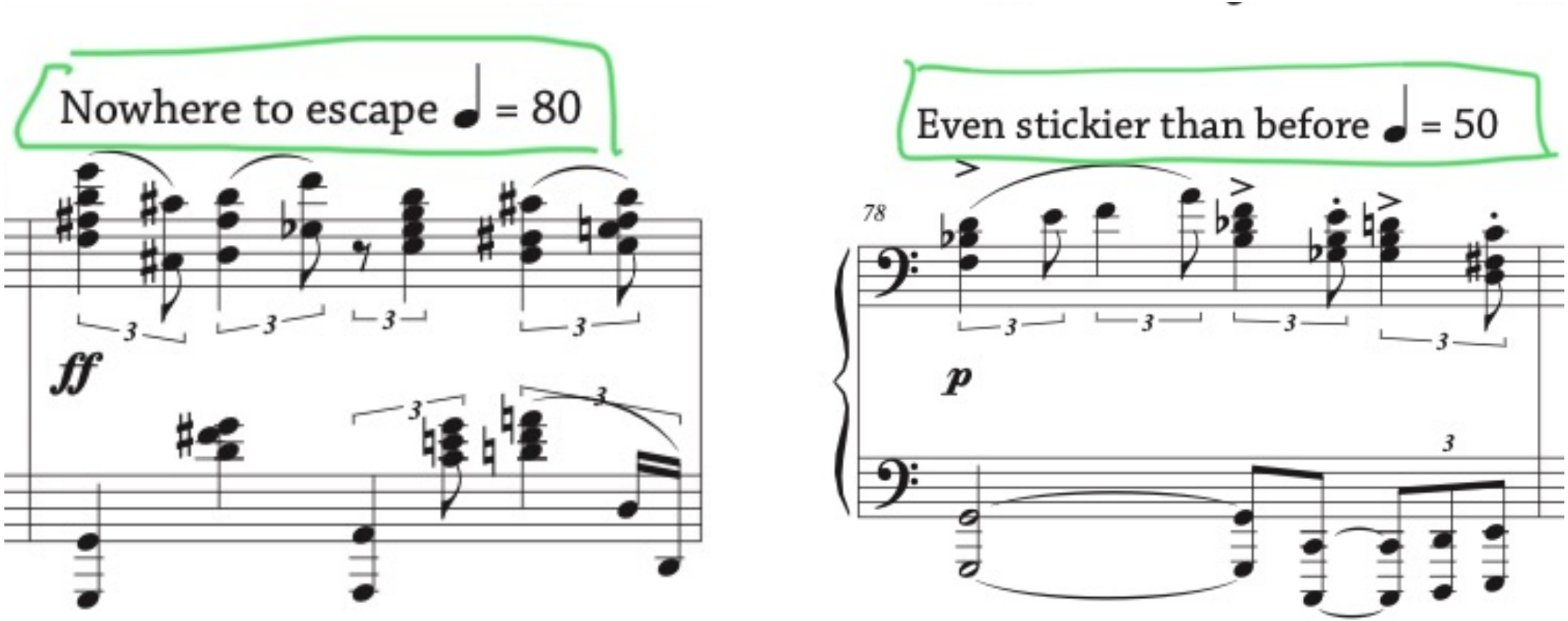

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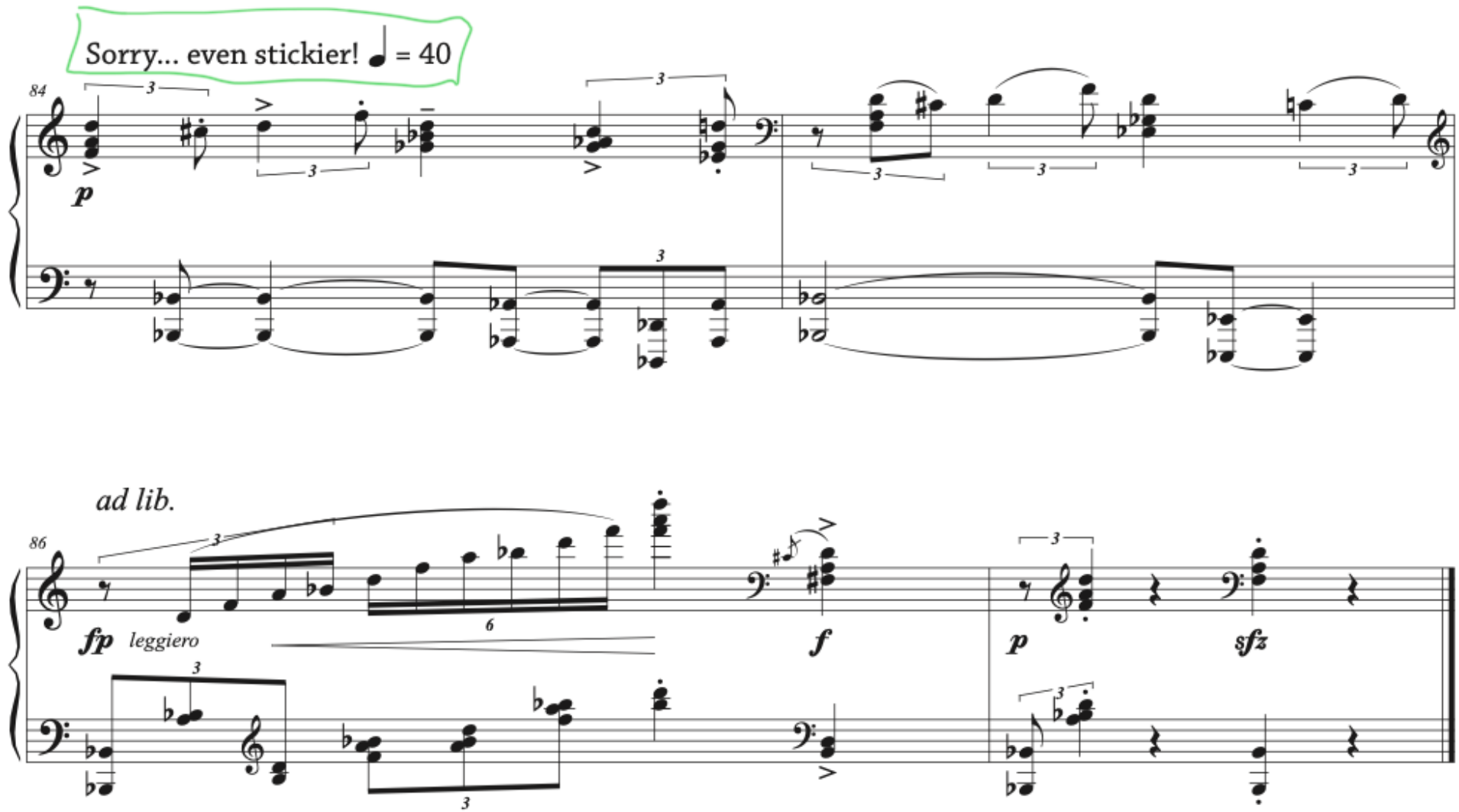

Houston, September 22, 2021

Sam Wu — *Tiny Forests*

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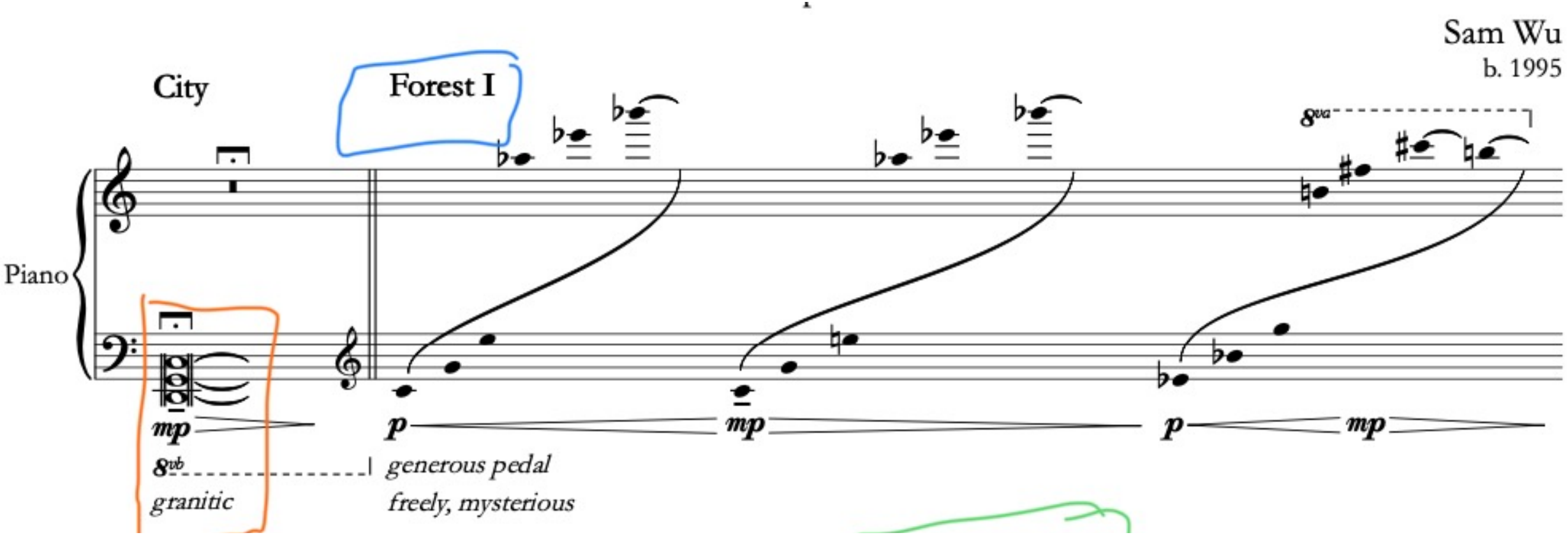

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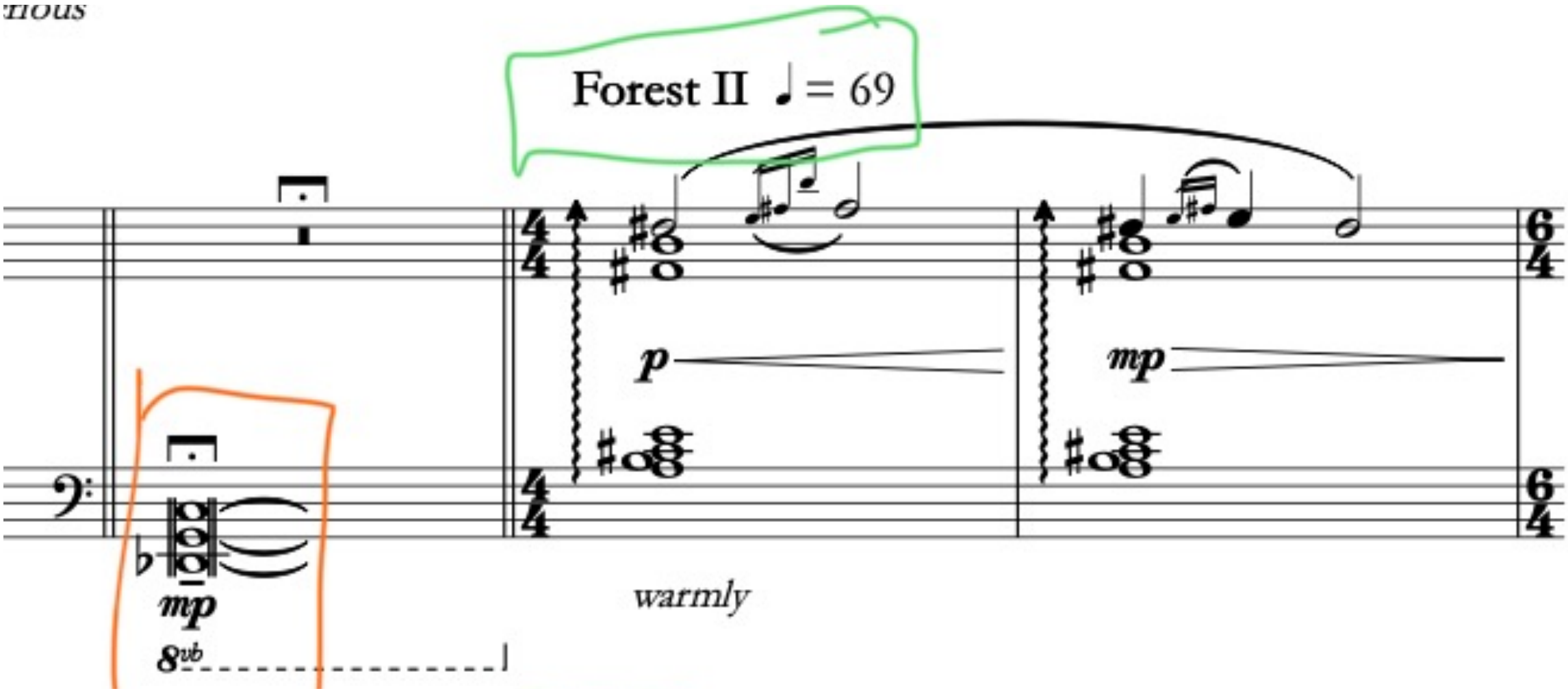

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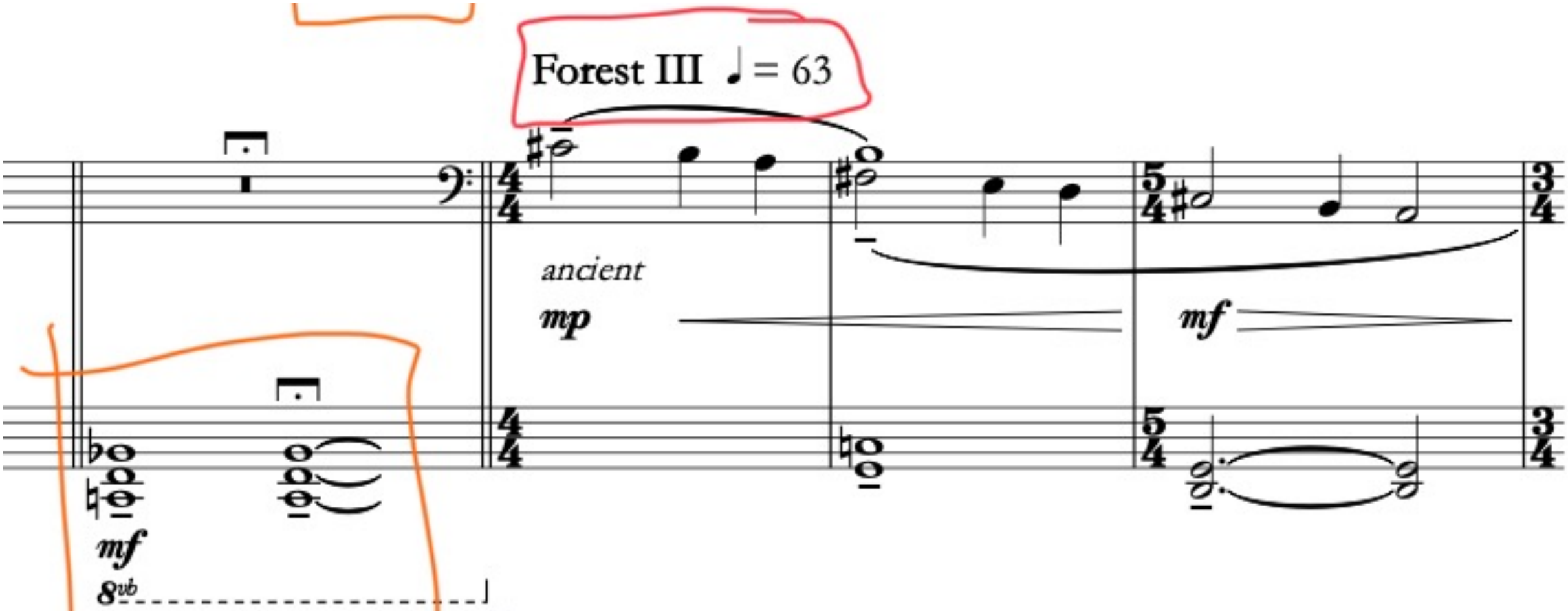

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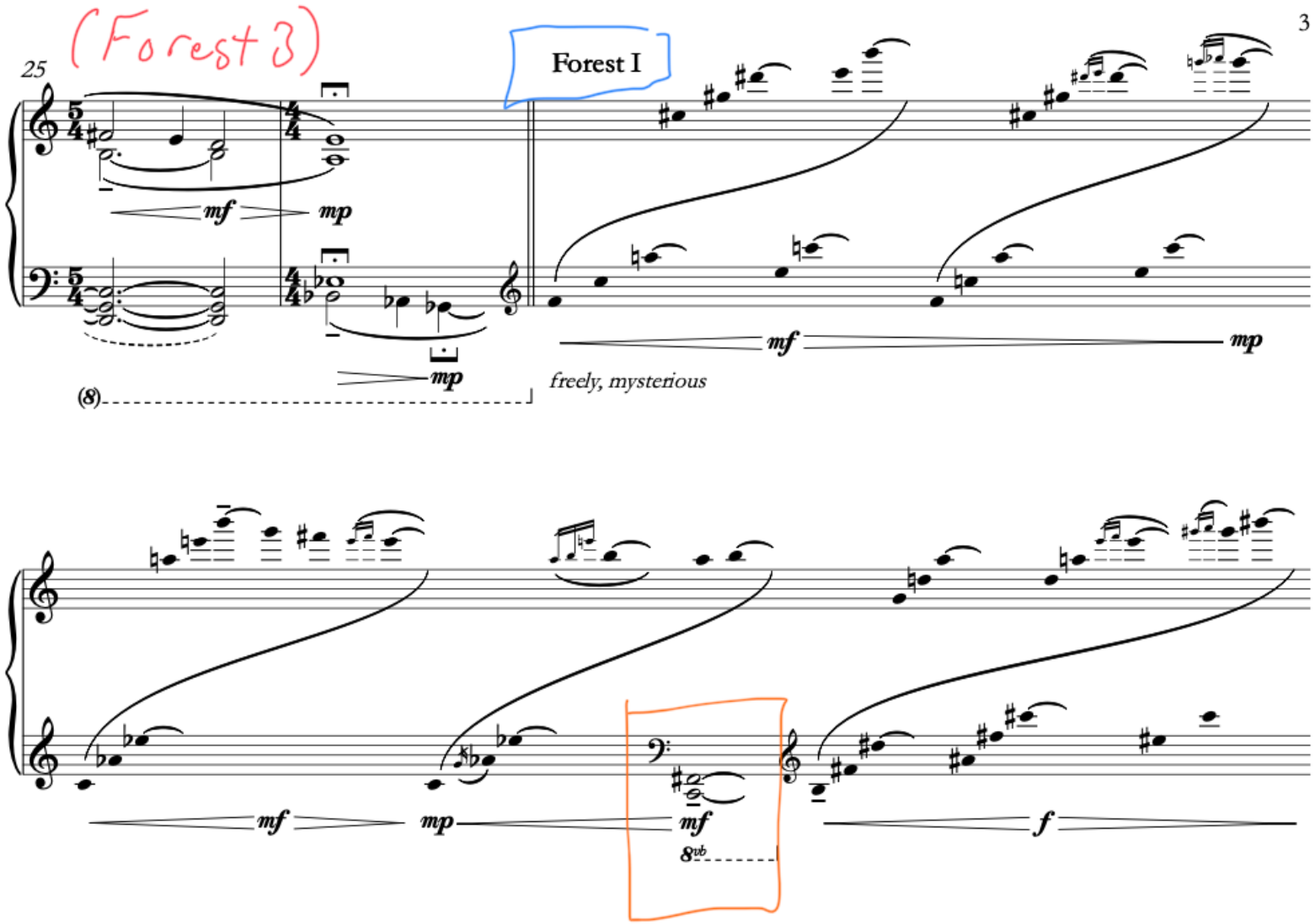

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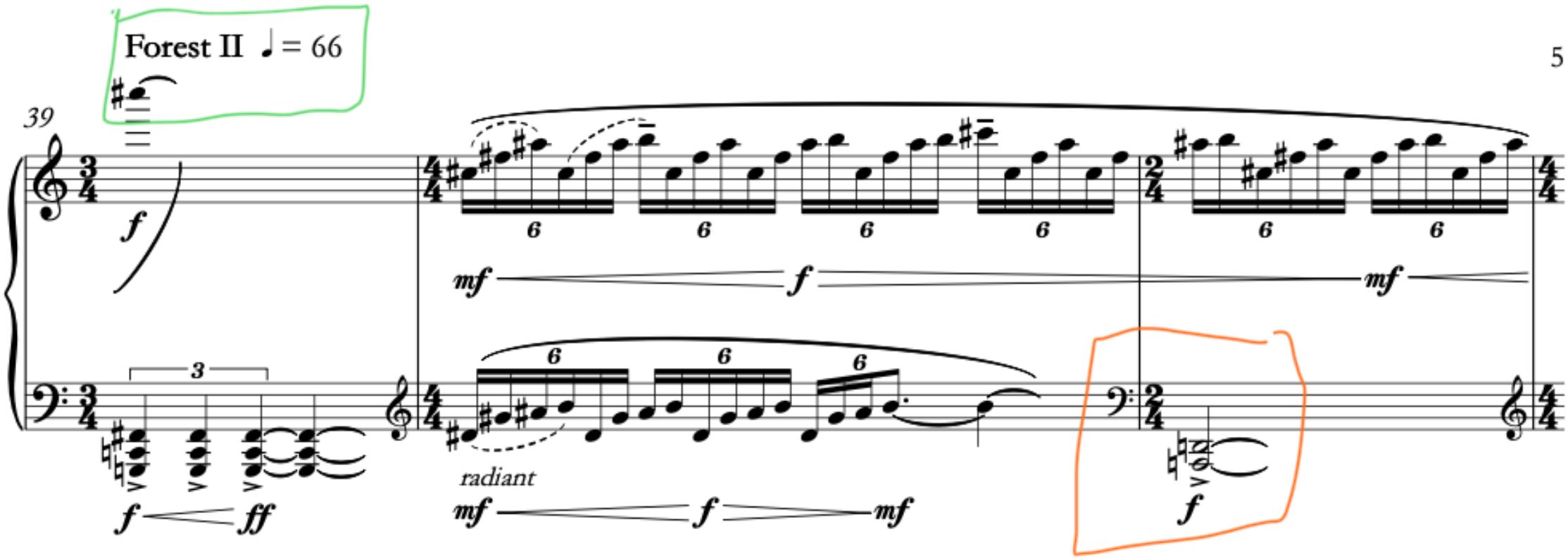

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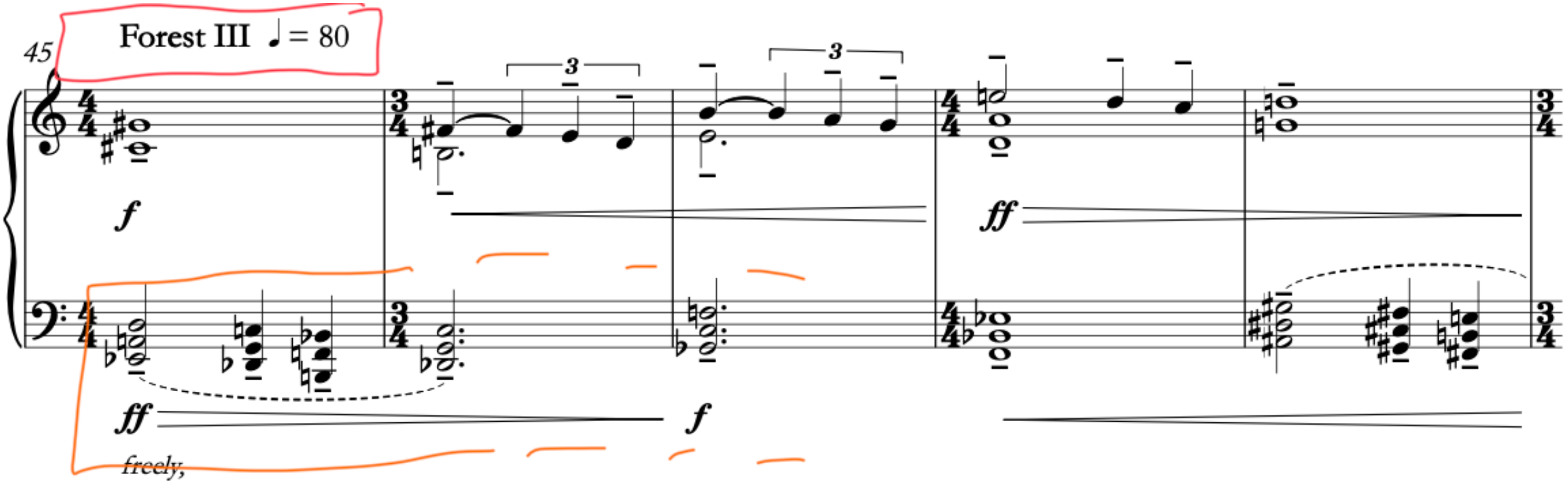

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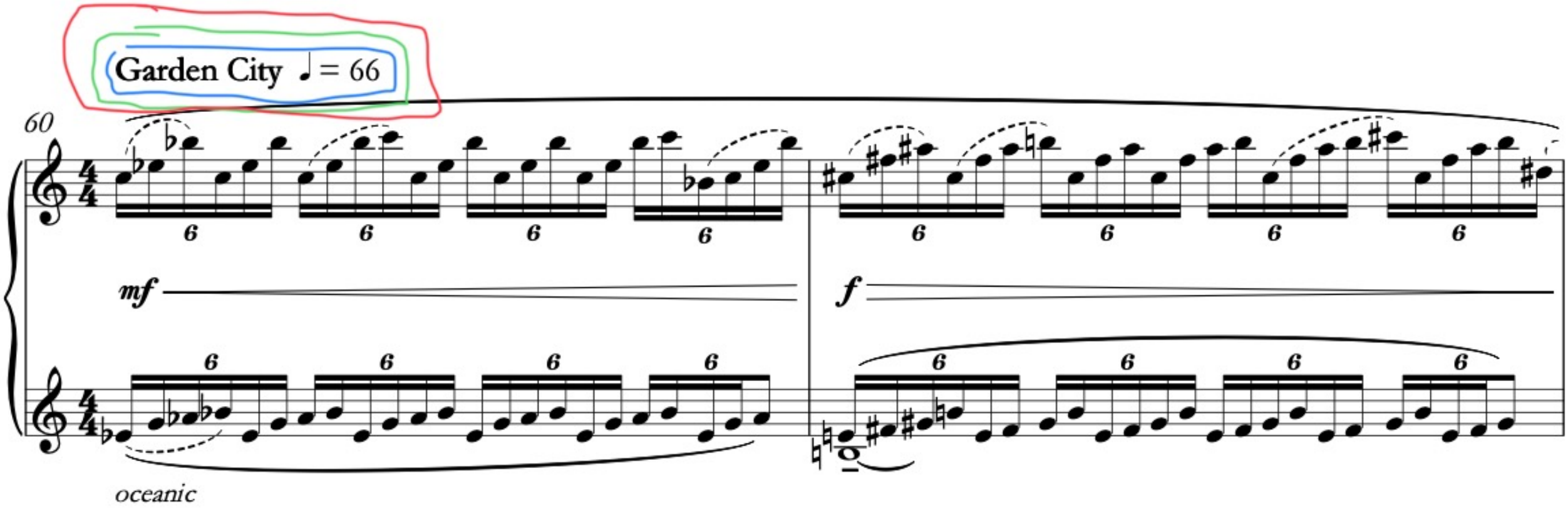

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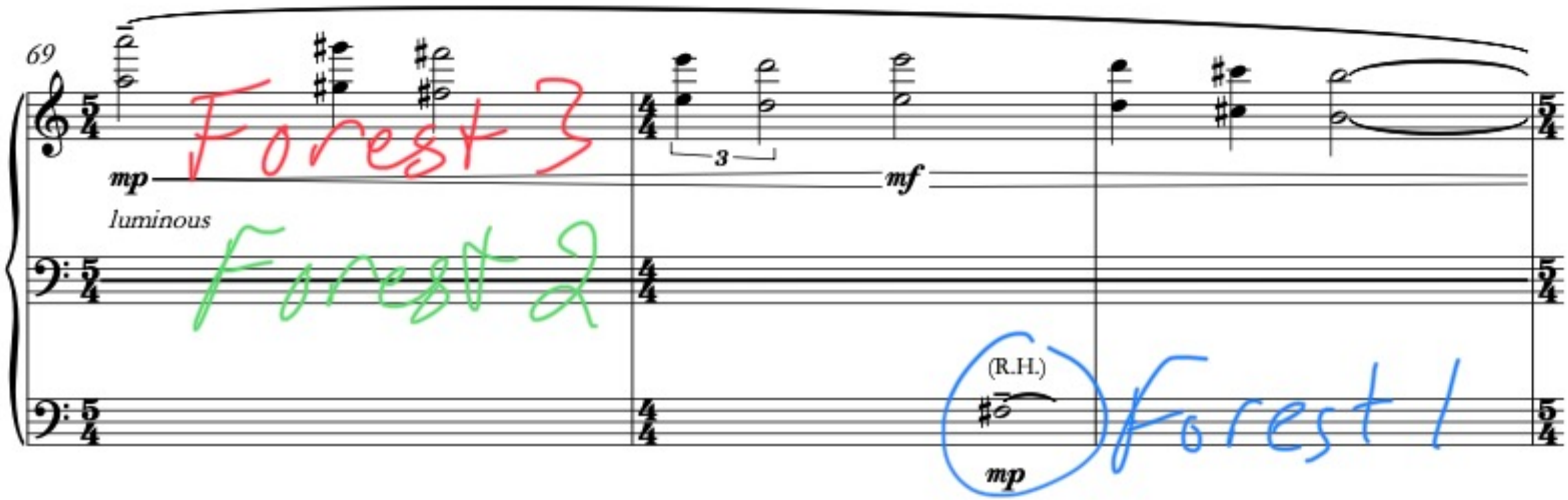

Olivia Bennett — *Prelude to the Afterlife*

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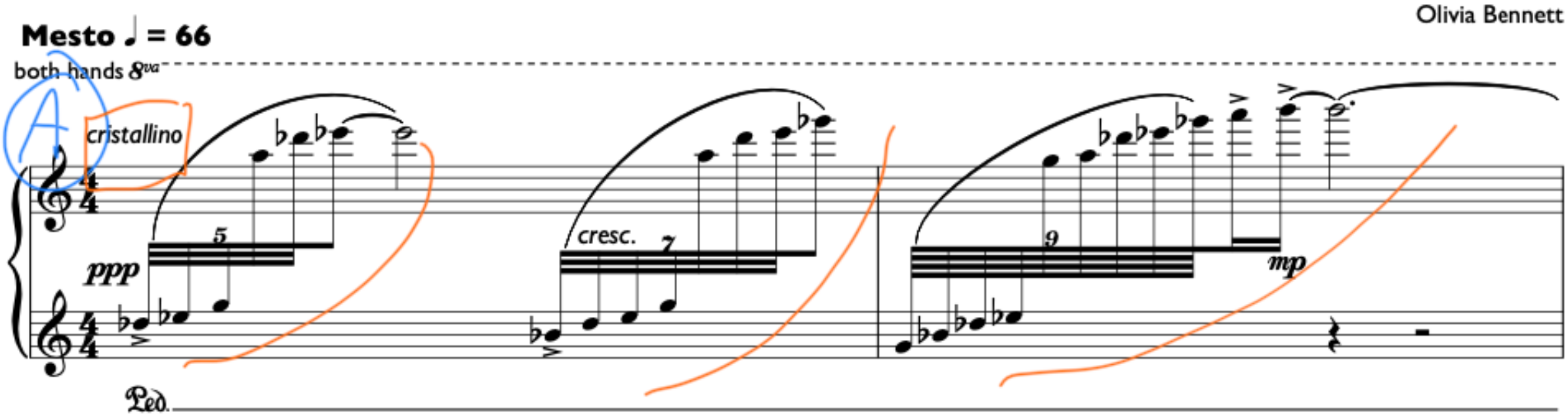

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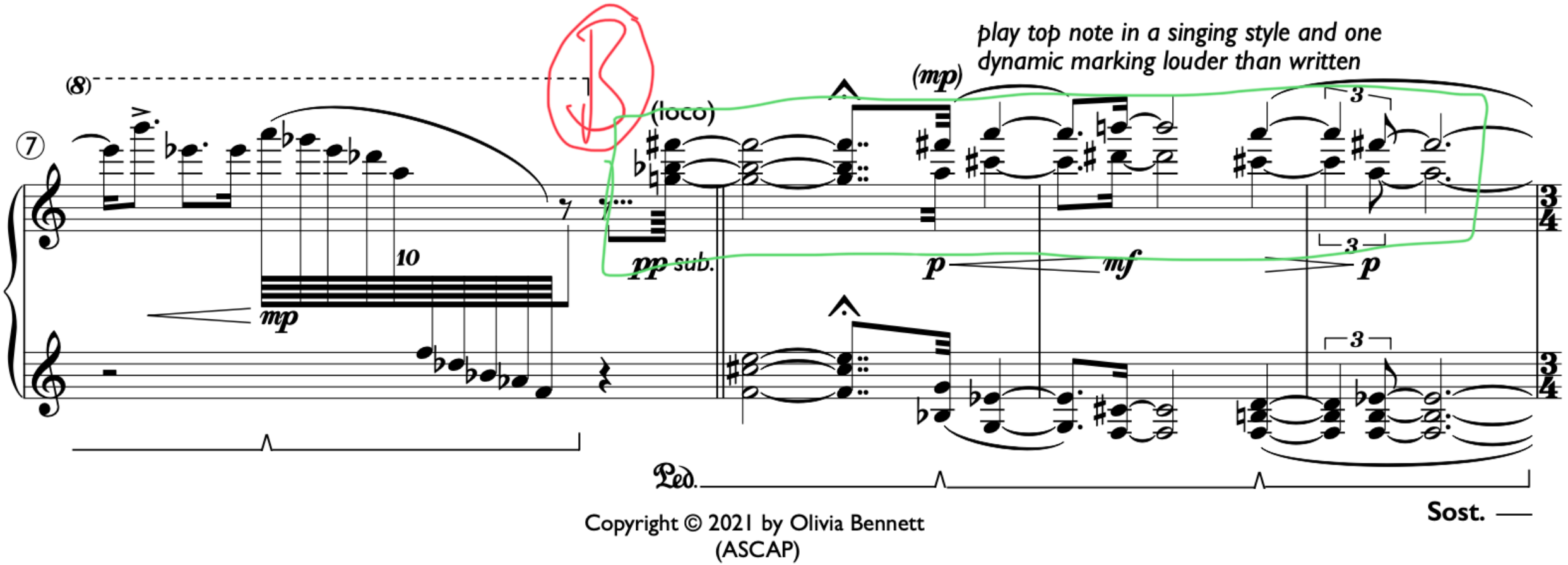

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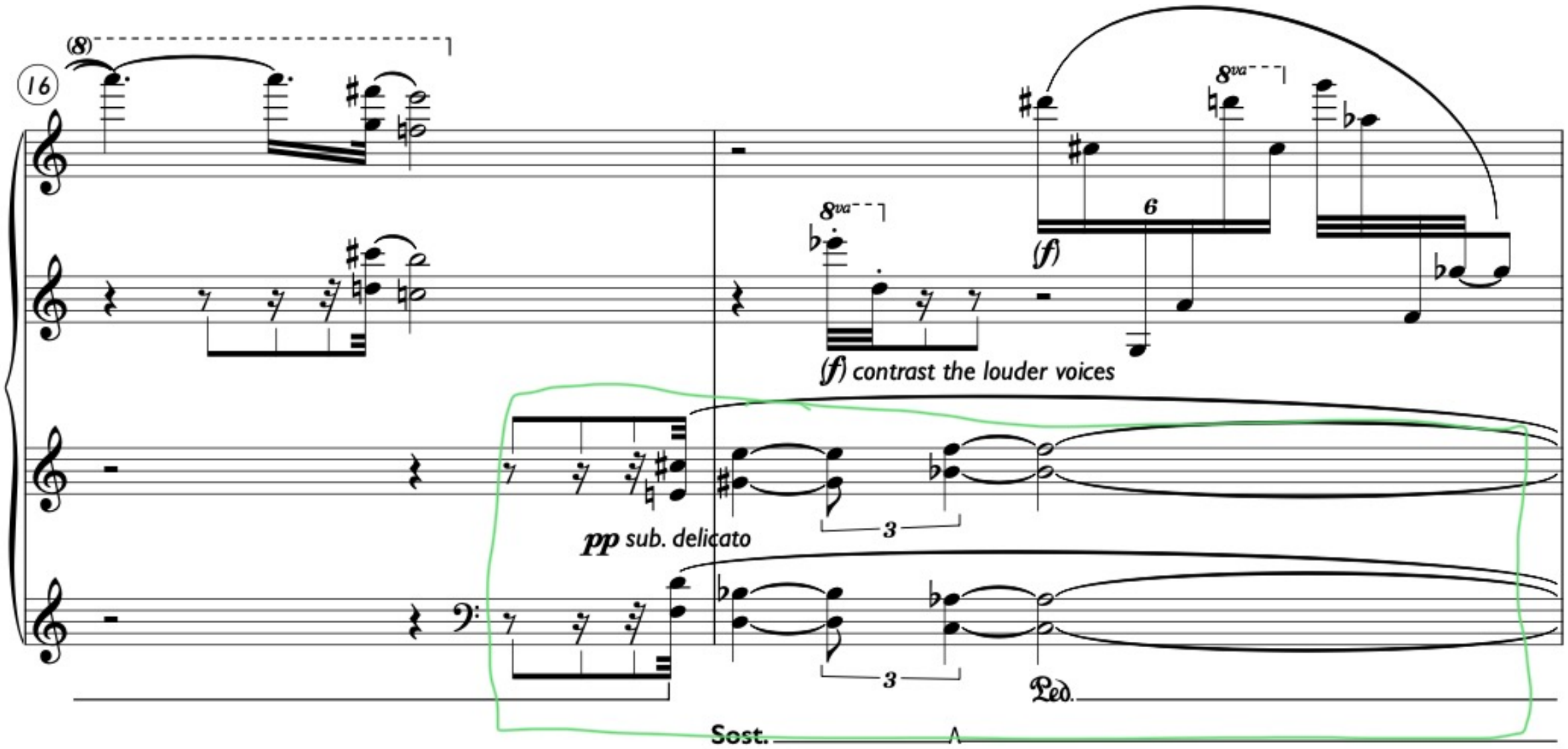

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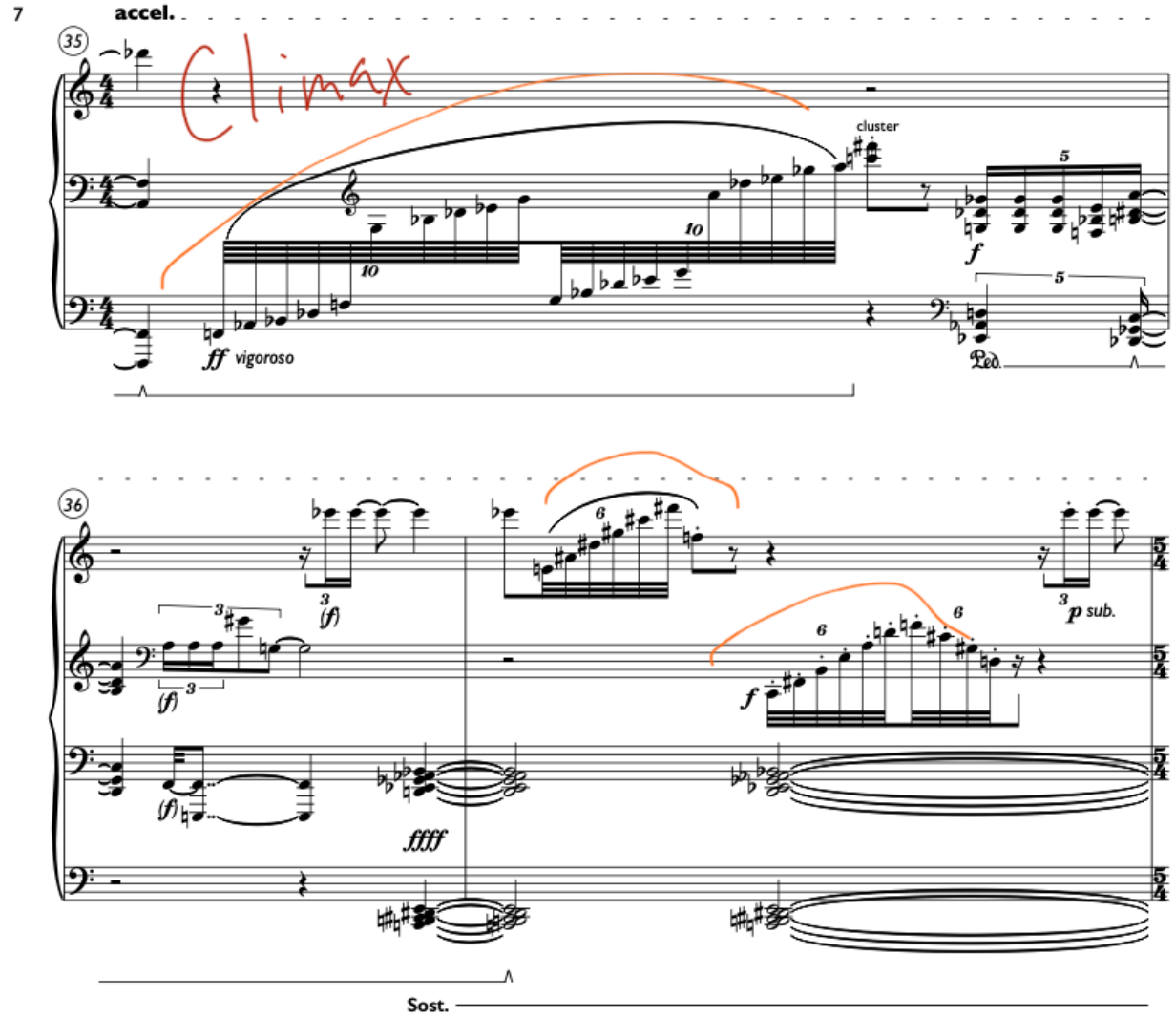

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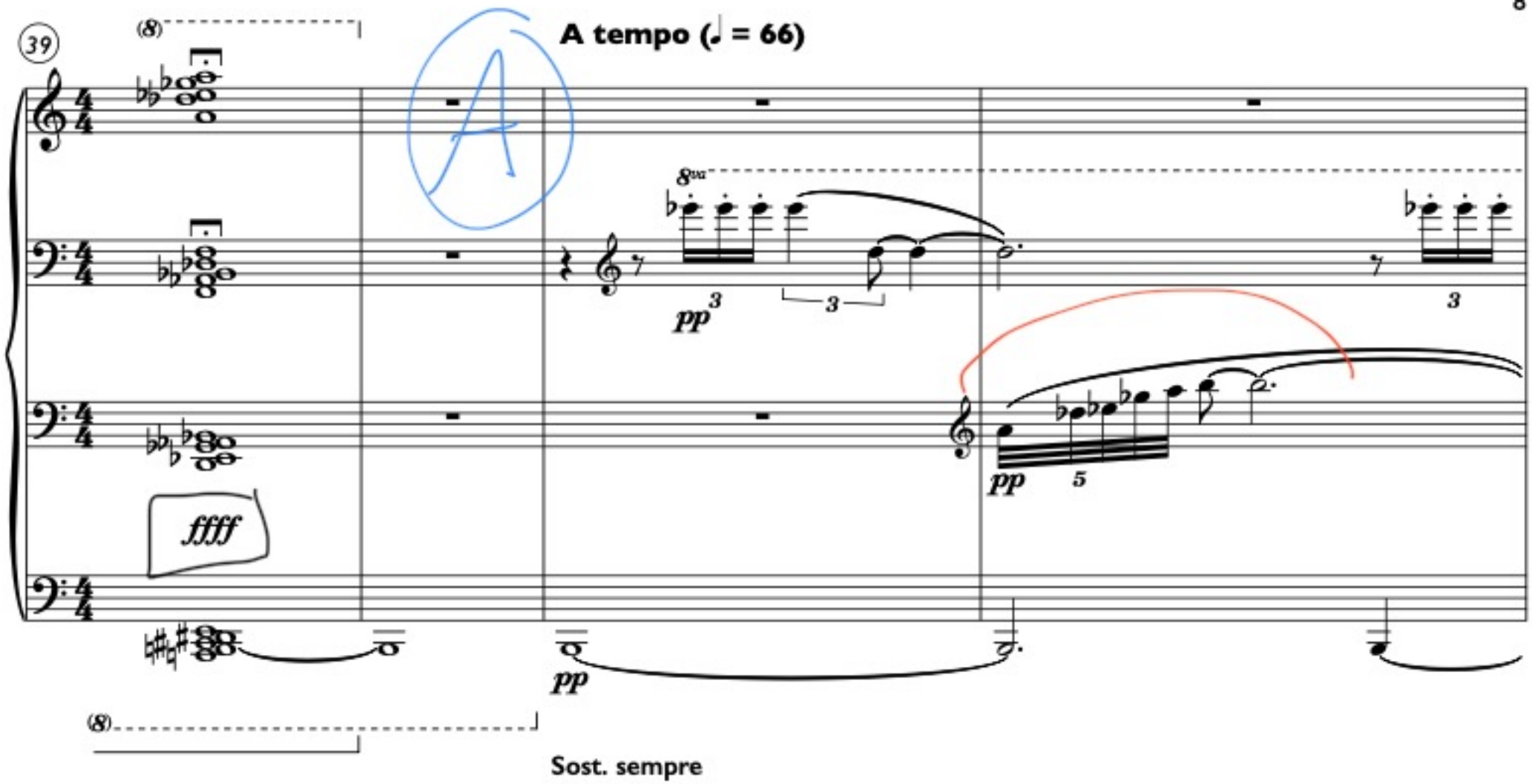

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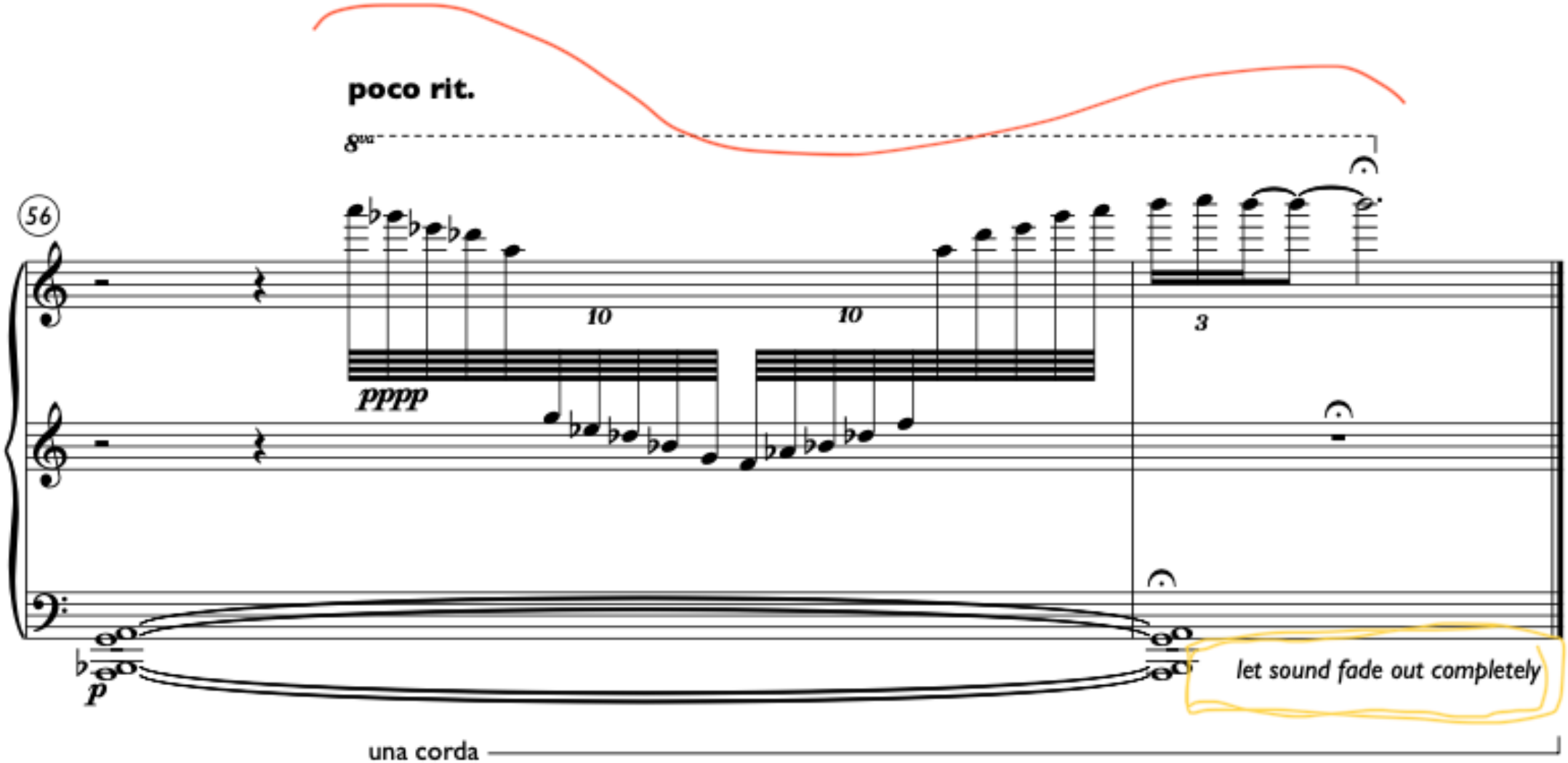

Alex Berko — *Erupt/Erode*

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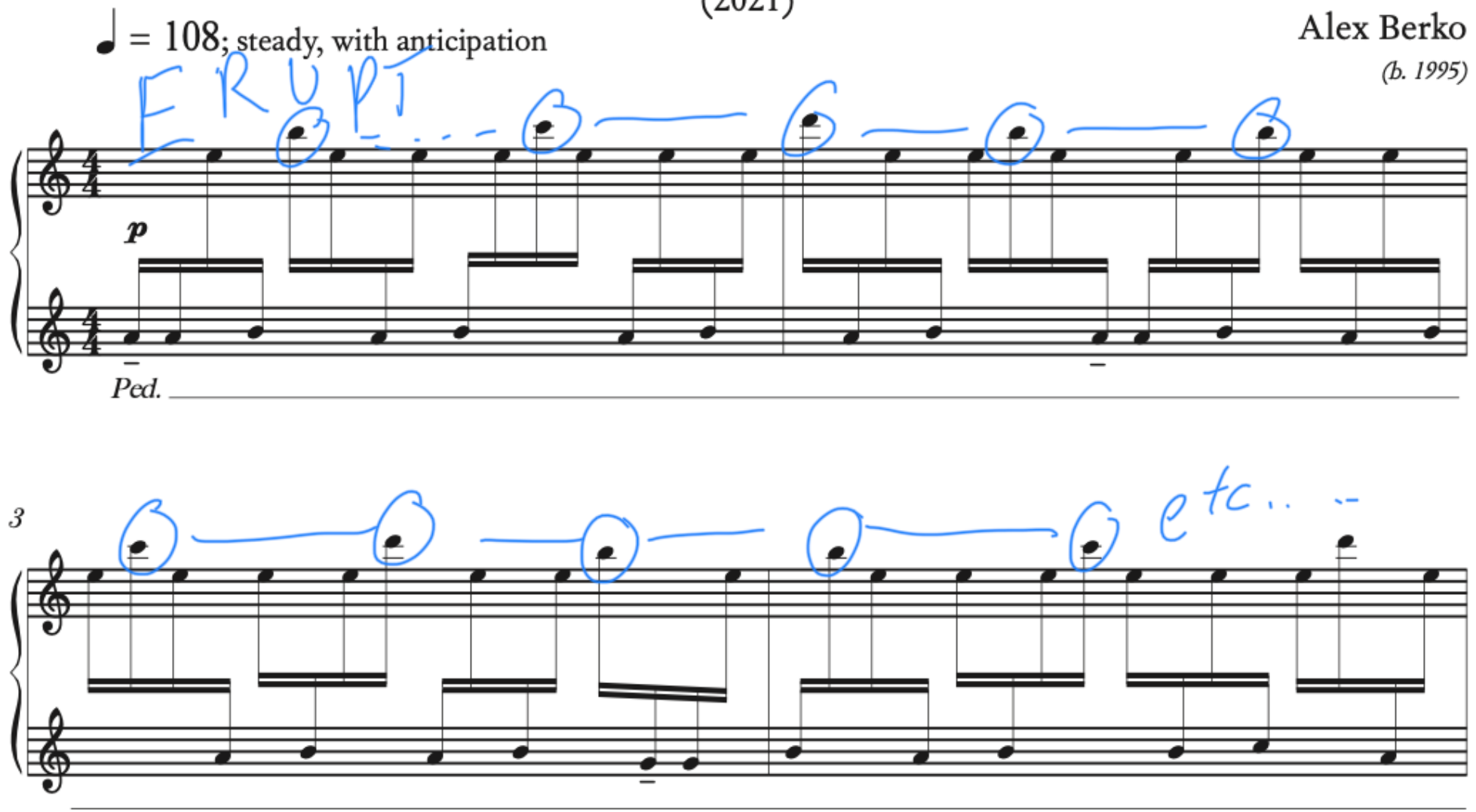
(2021)



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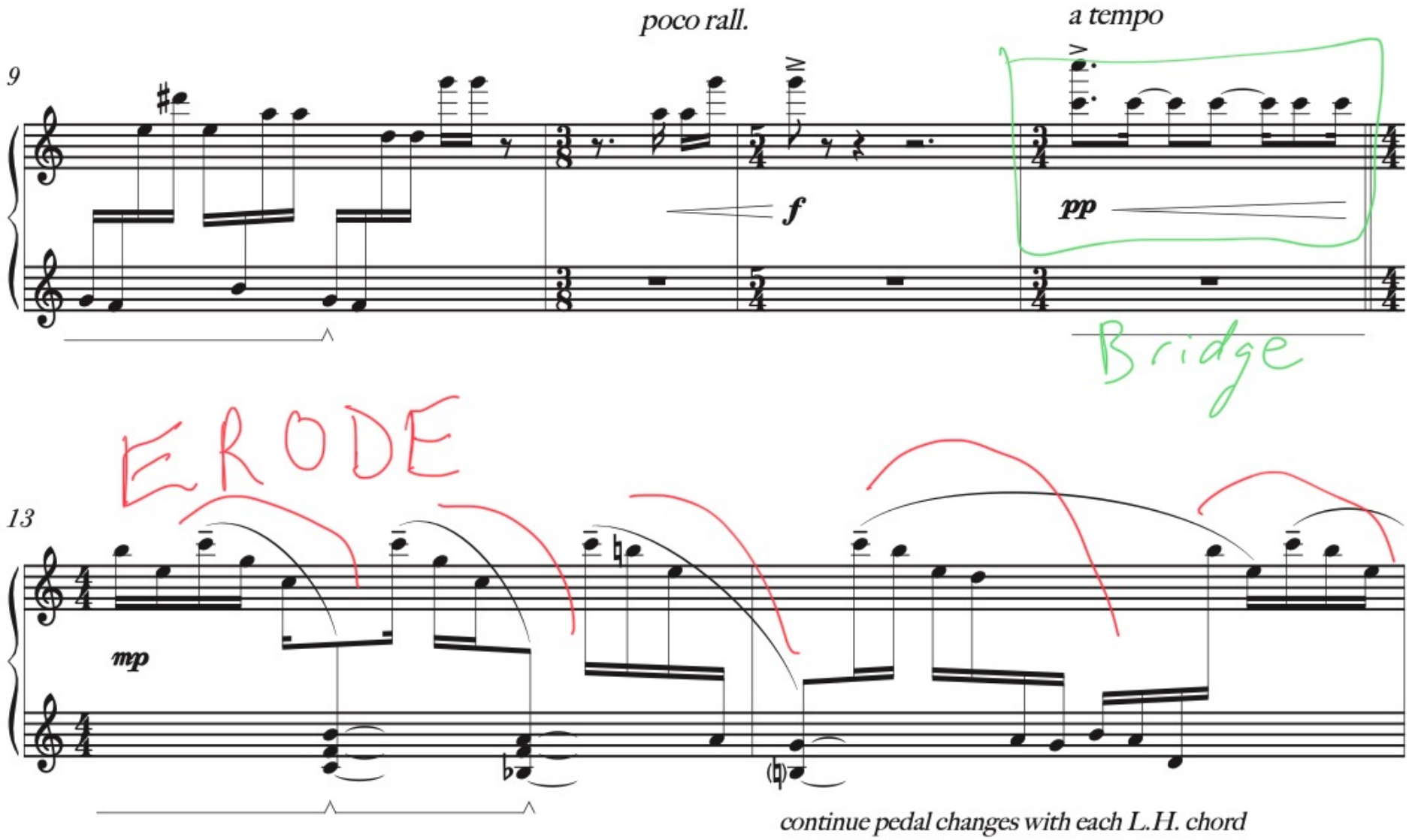

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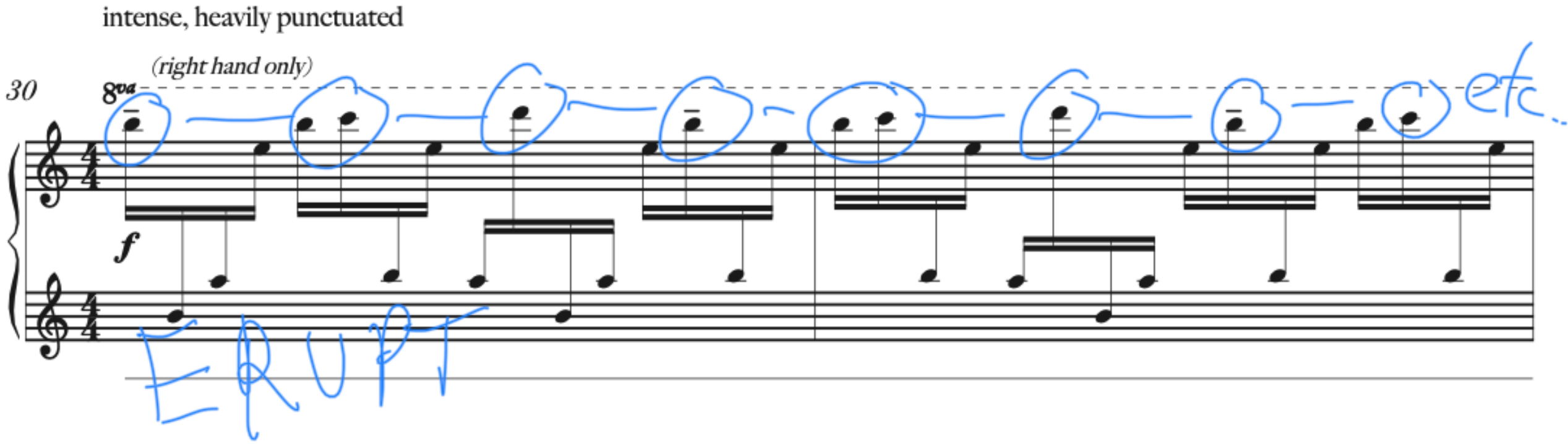

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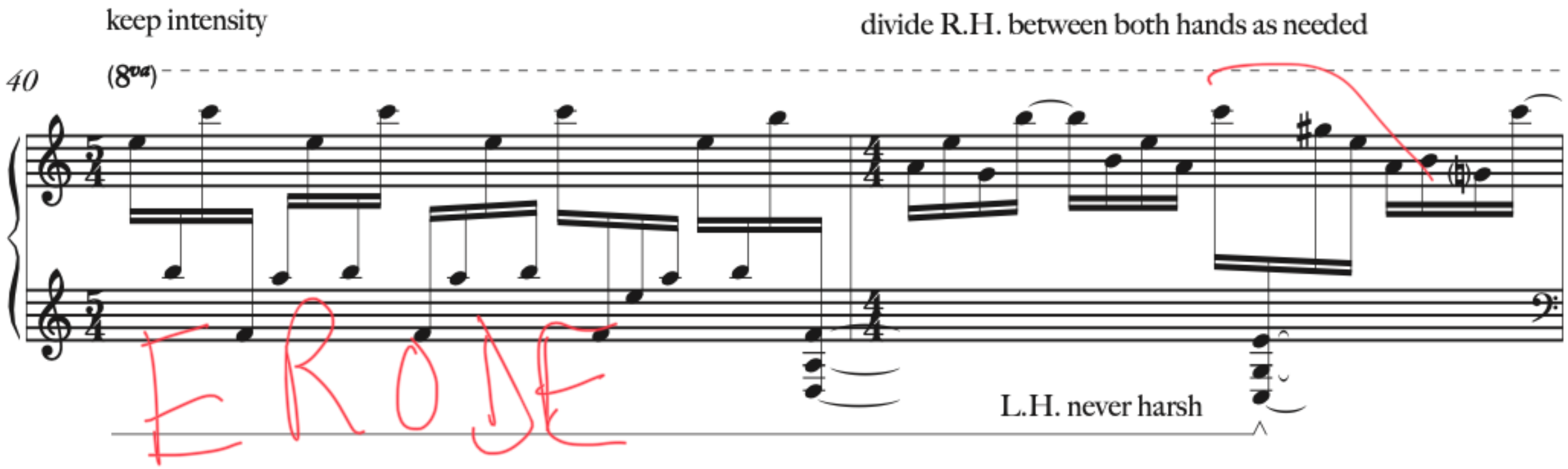

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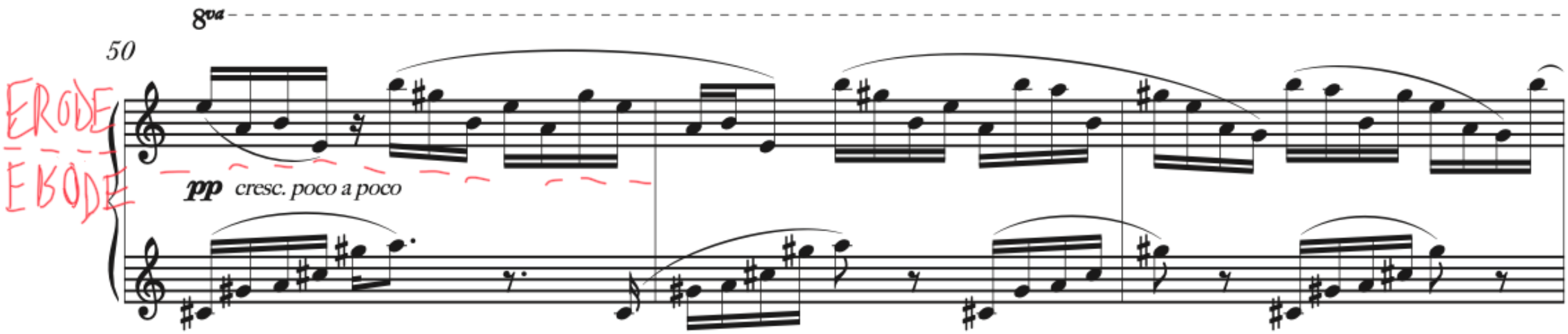

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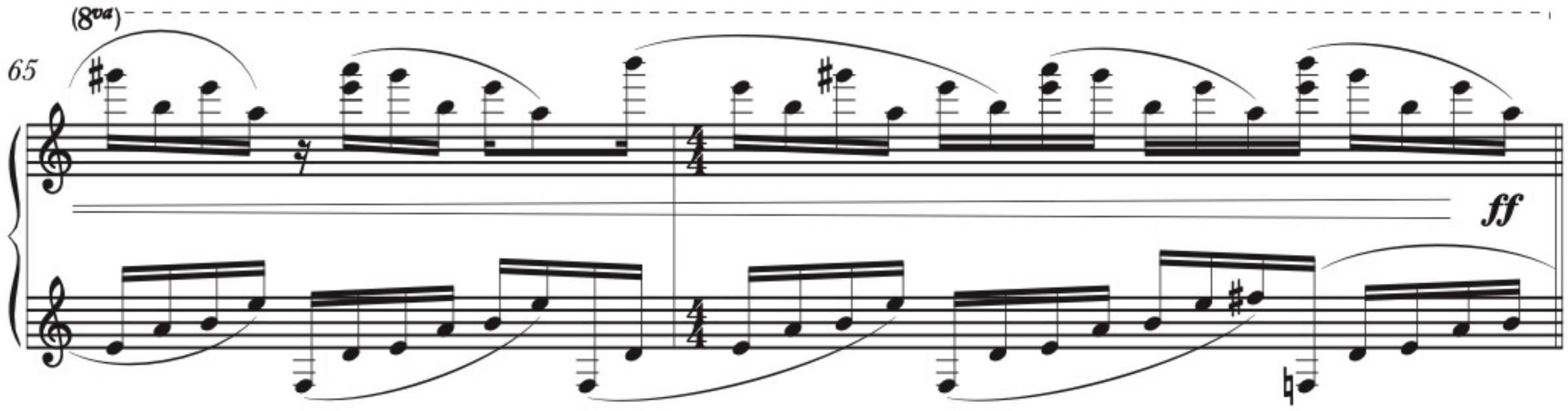

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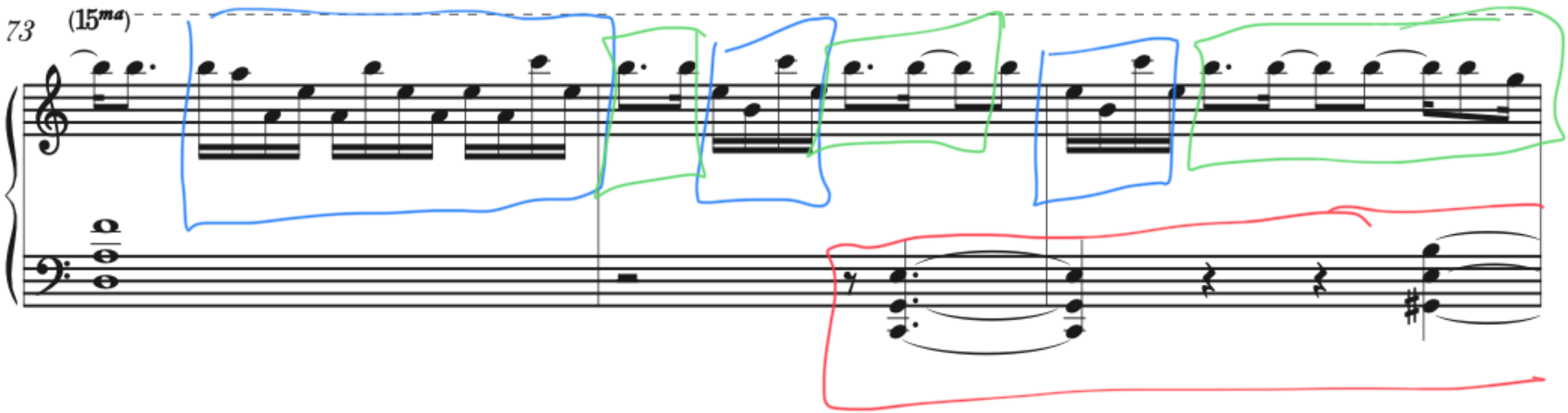

Pierre Jalbert — *Prelude: Dark Energy*

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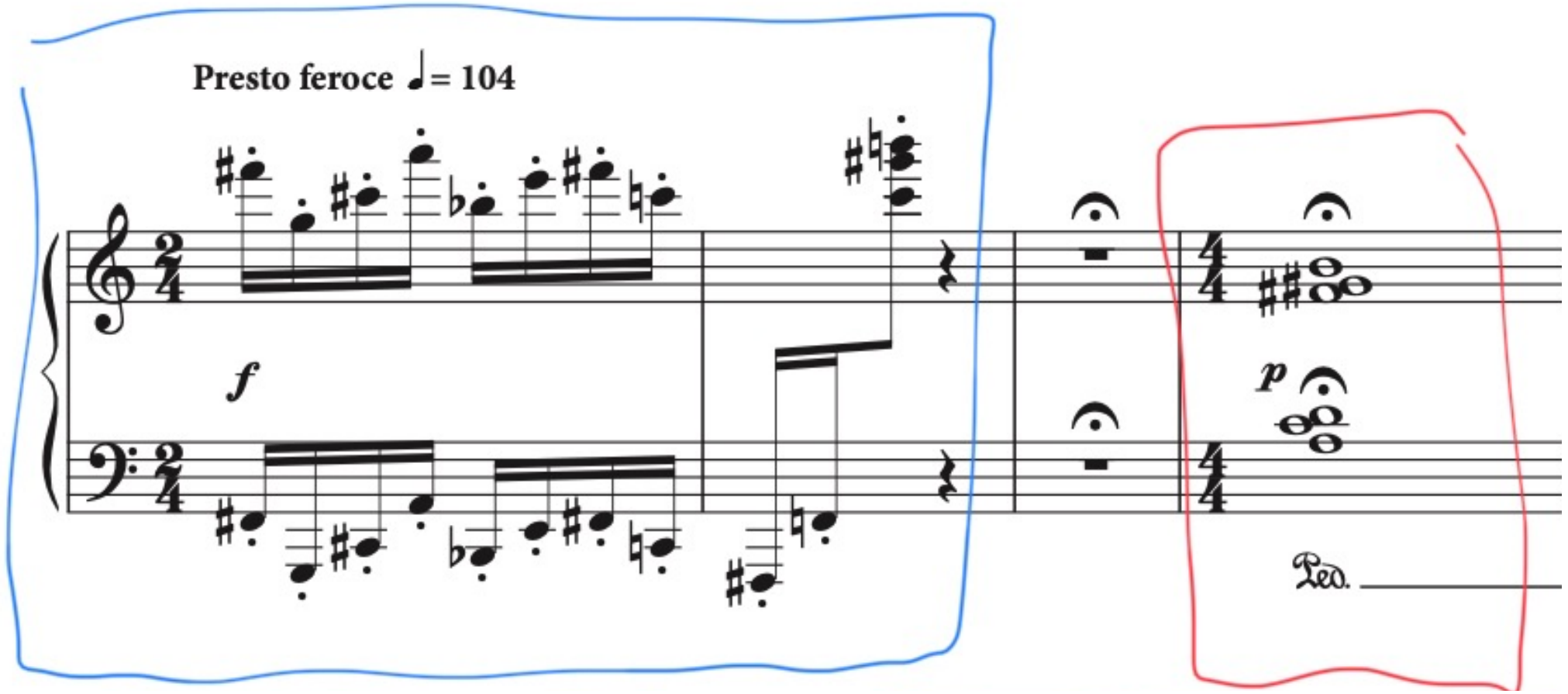

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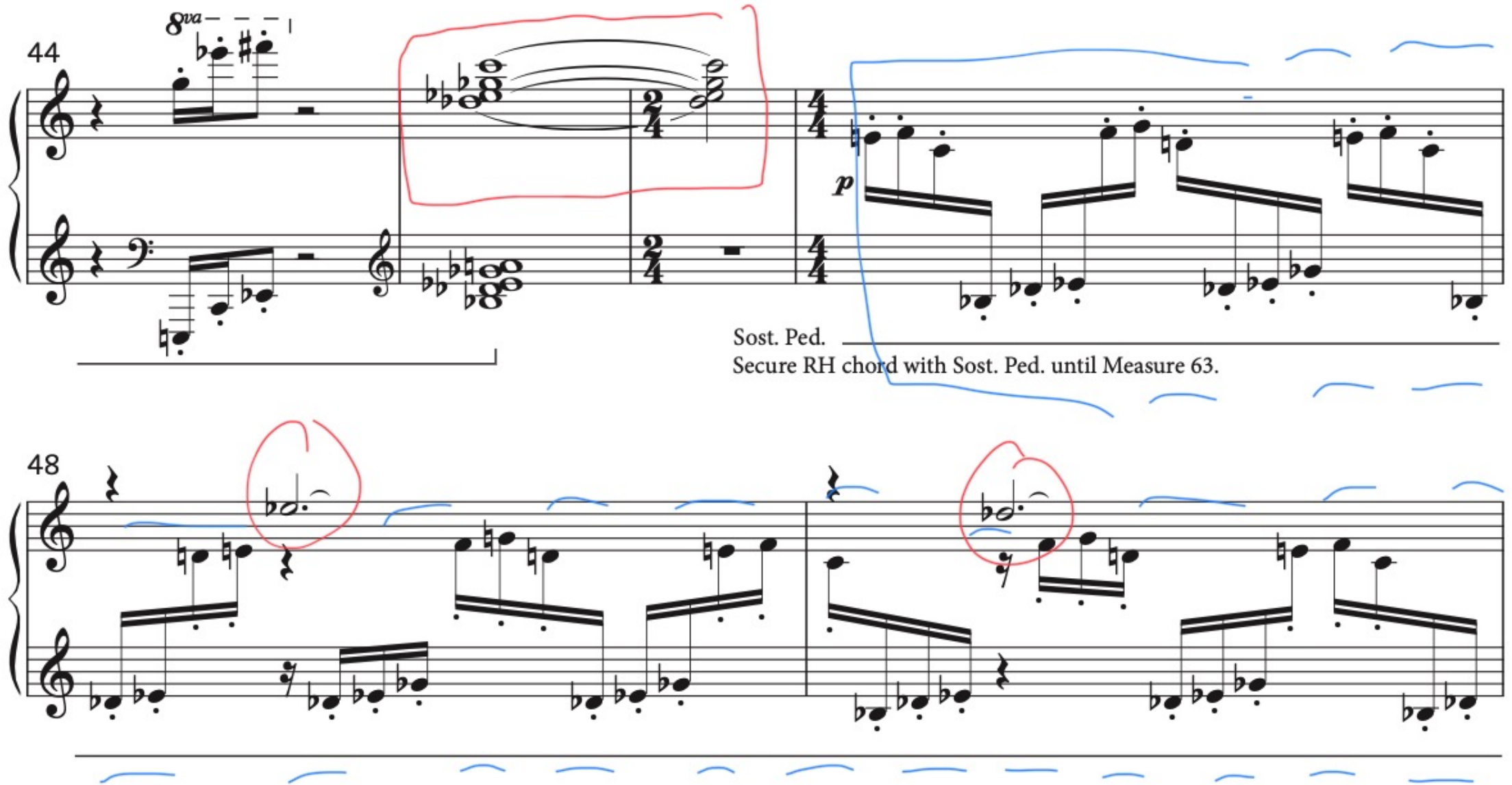

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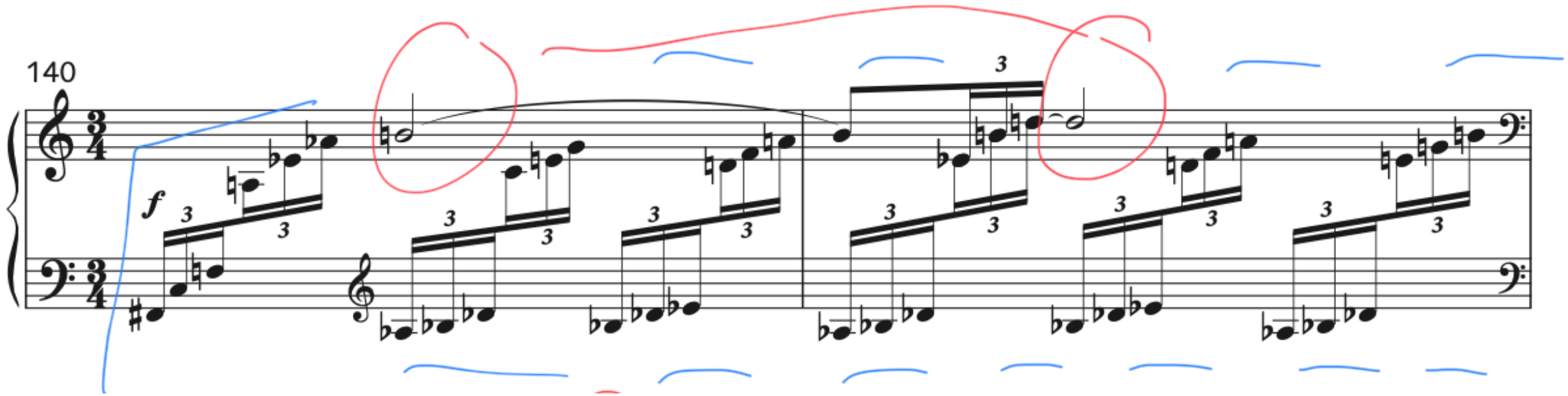

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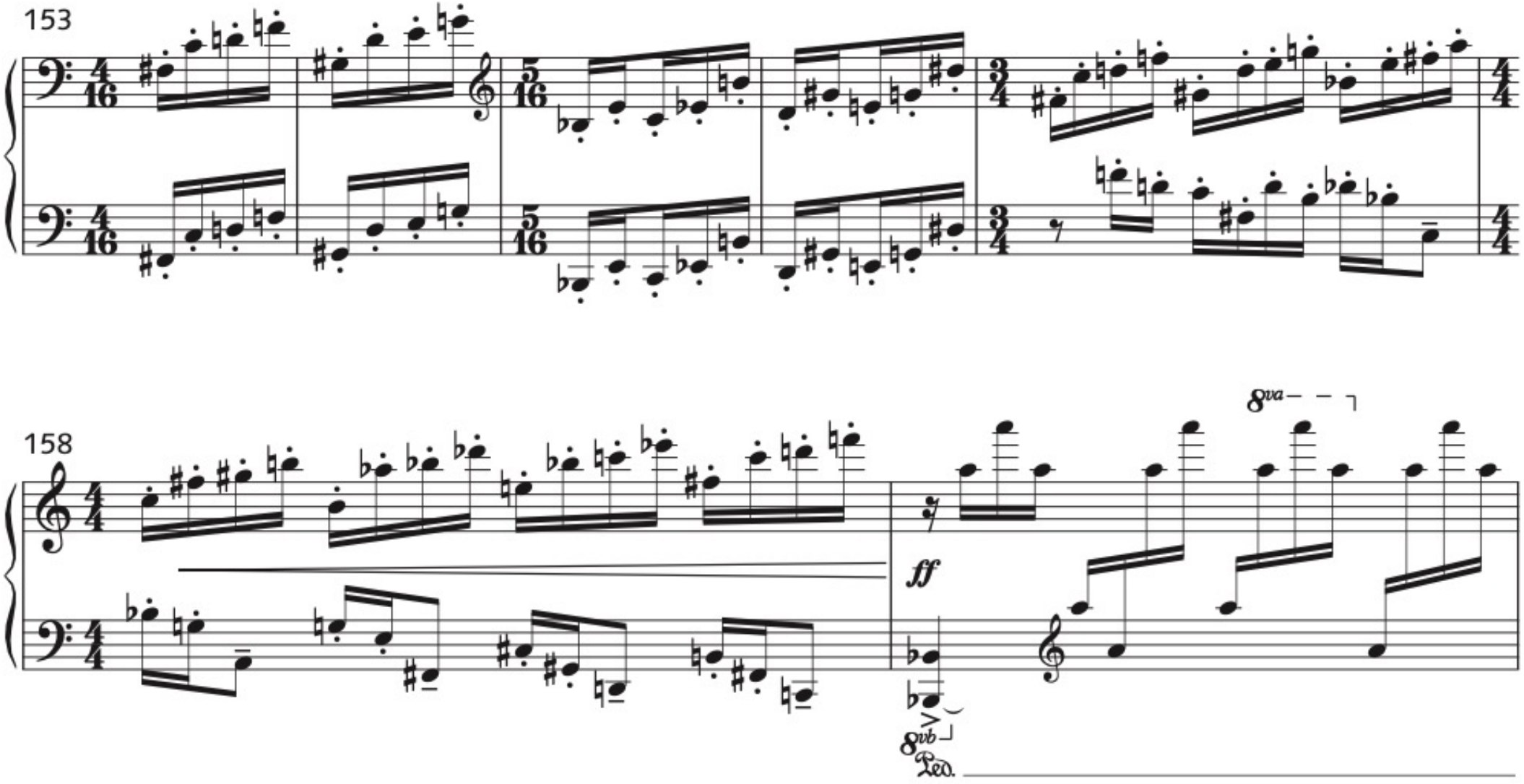

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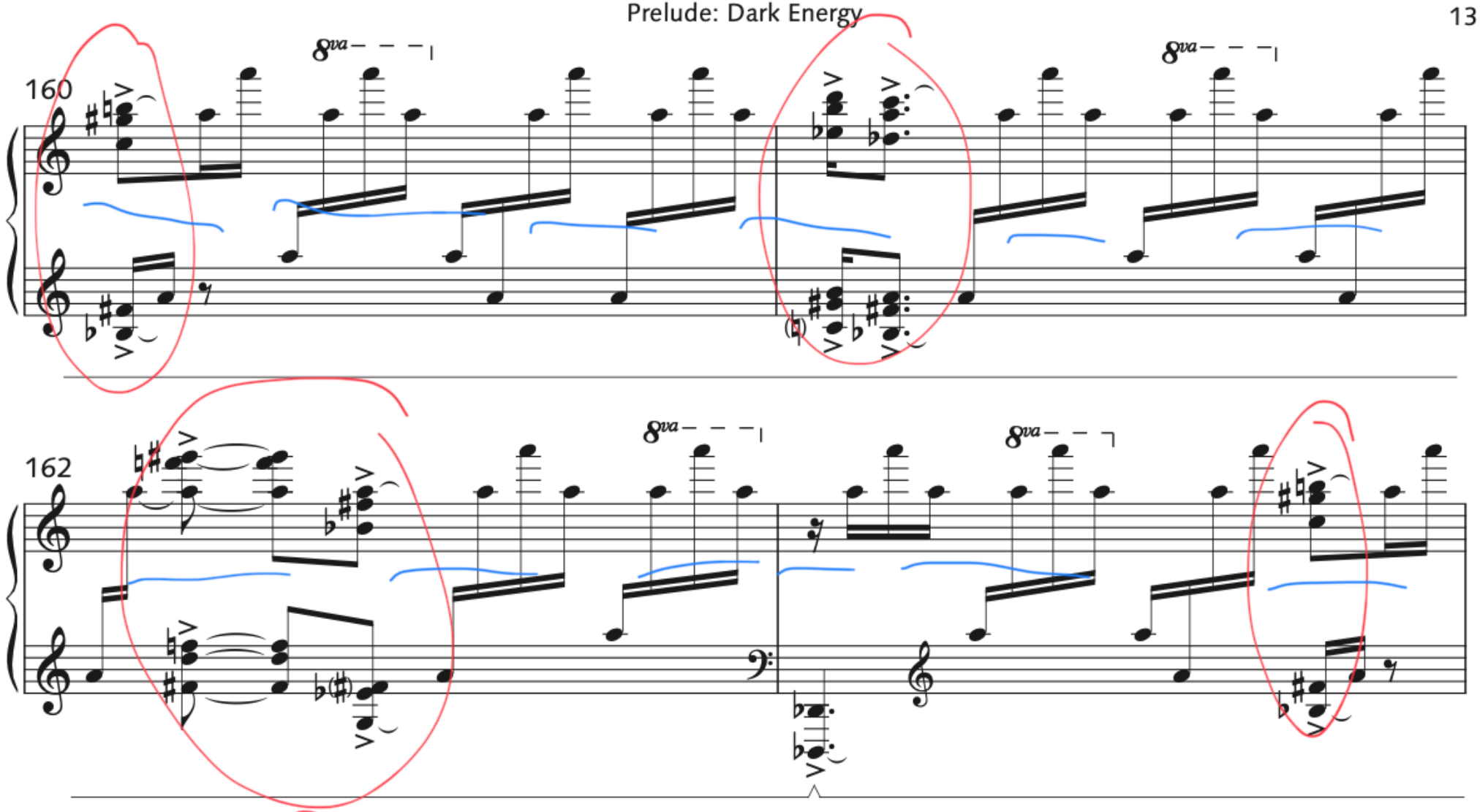
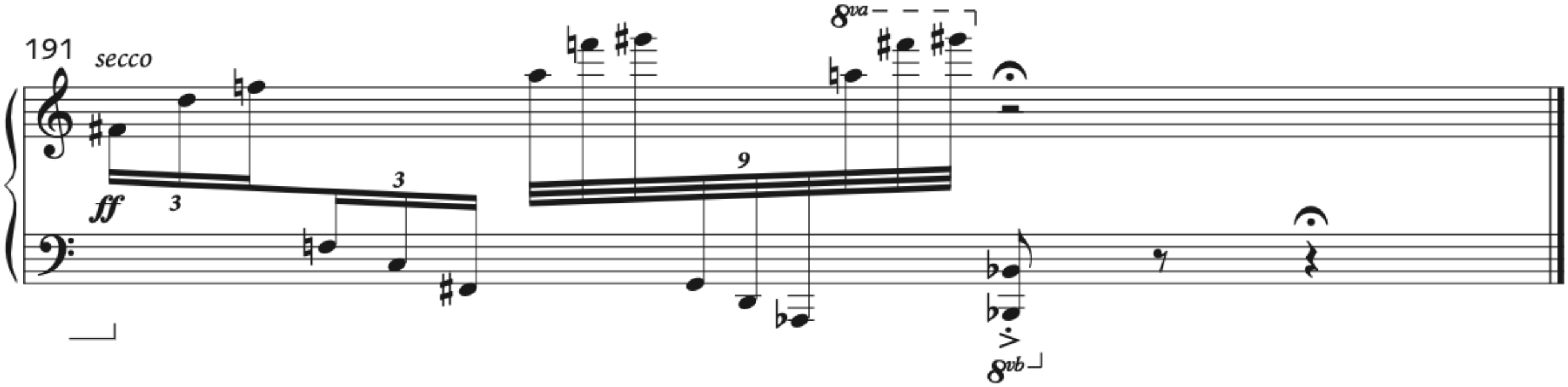
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