Sonata
for
Clarinet and Piano

by

Karen Amrhein

I composed my Clarinet and Piano Sonata *in March 1996, at the request of Charlie Douglas, a fellow student at* The Peabody Conservatory. *Having played the clarinet (poorly) for much of my life, I feel a special affinity for the instrument, and am especially fond of its deep* chalumeau *register. Throughout the* sonata's *three movements I frequently dip into that dark, rich valley.*

After a quarter-century of revisions, I'm finally satisfied with this sonata. The first movement, a driving scherzo, *was written in May 2021. The second was formerly the first. The third movement is another* scherzo, *and originally was the second and third movements (now combined). This is a* scherzo *of indecision, a* schizo-scherzo, *never sure whether to go this way or that. It ends with a literal retrograde of its trio's meandering melody. The entire work lasts about ten minutes.*

The sonata is dedicated to my friend and colleague Lynda Dembowski.

-- Karen Amrhein, *September 1996 and June 2021*

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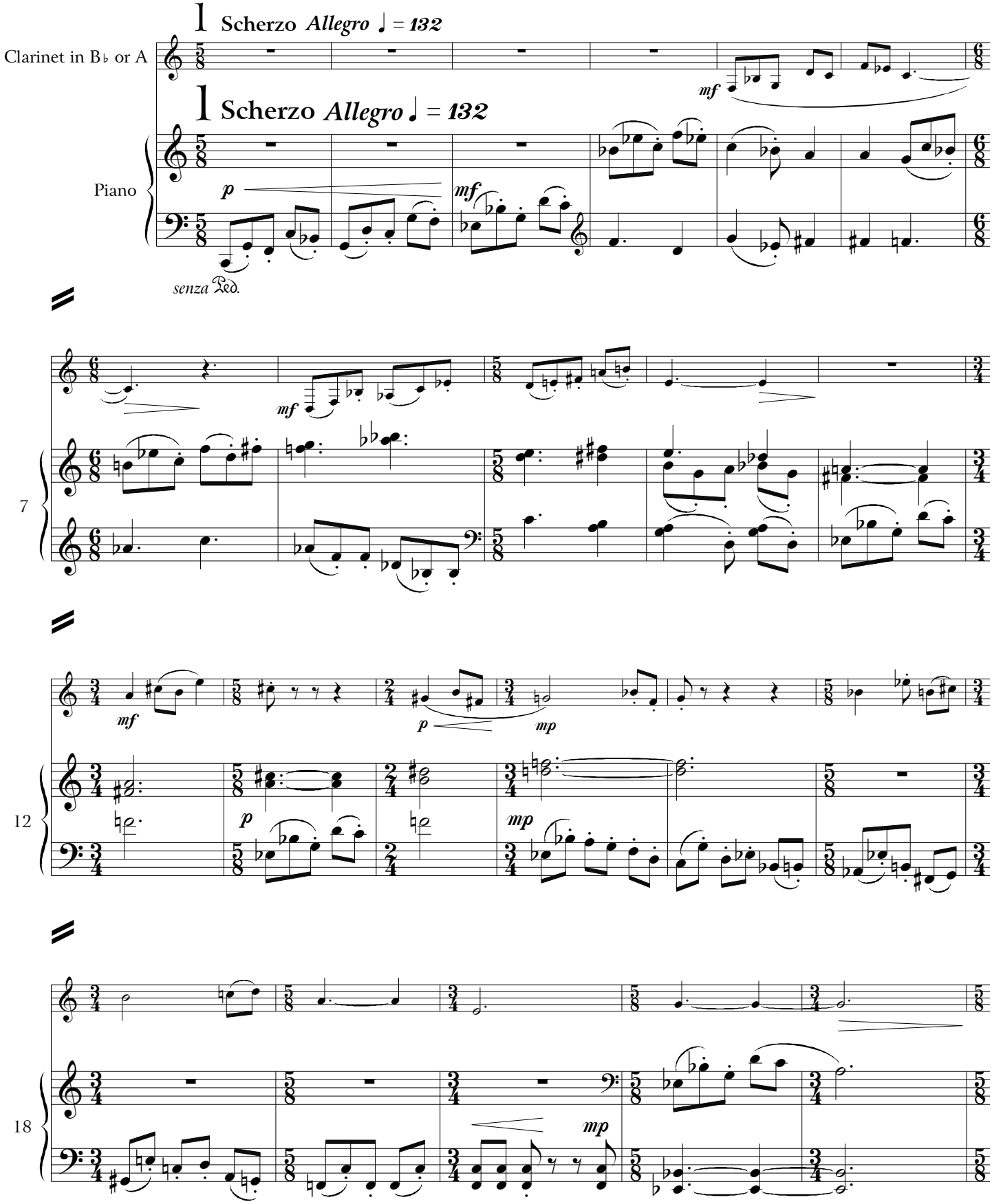
Score in C
Duration: ~10 Min.
Scherzo: 3 Minutes

for Lynda Dembowski

Sonata for Clarinet and Piano

Karen Amrhein (ASCAP)



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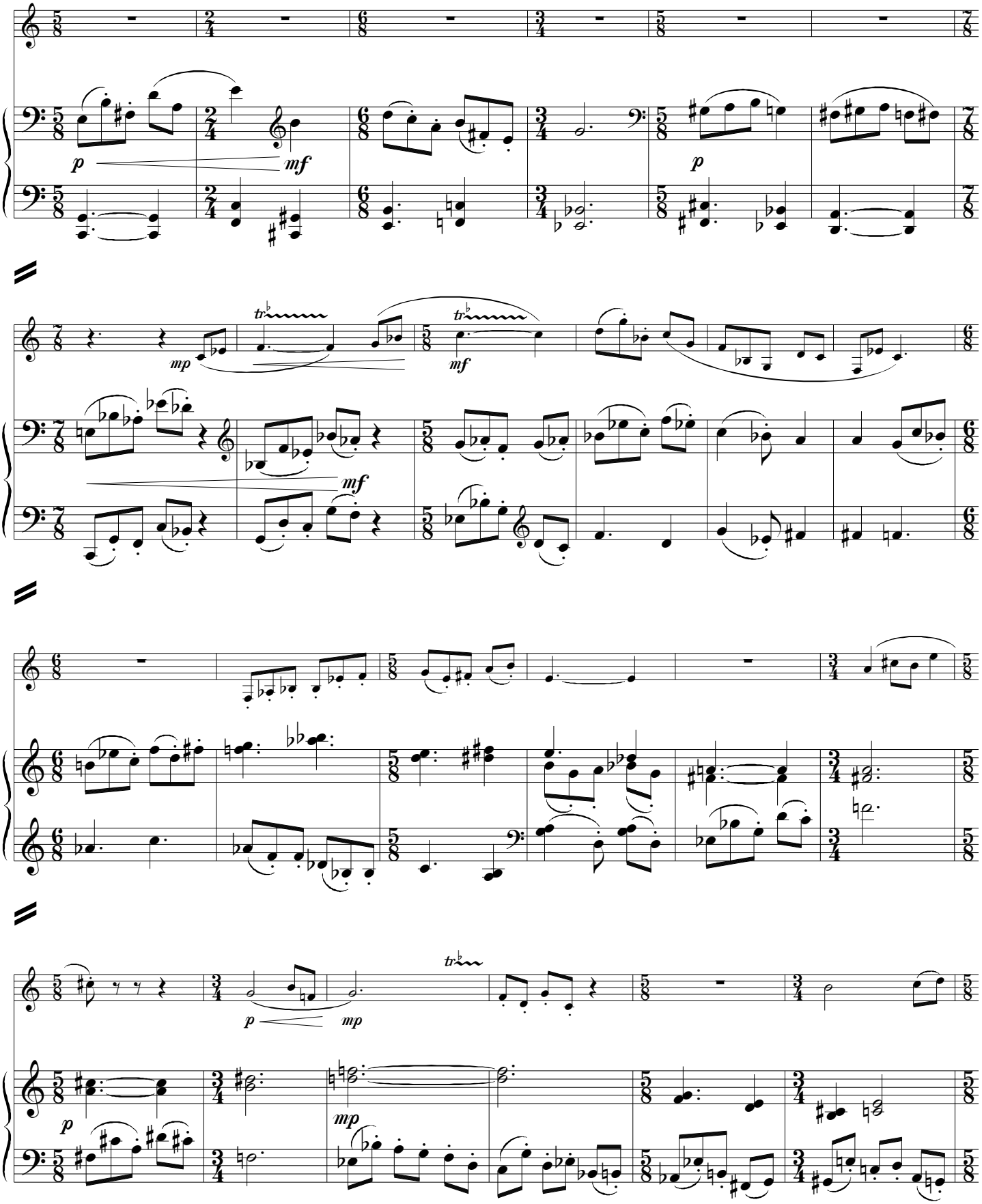
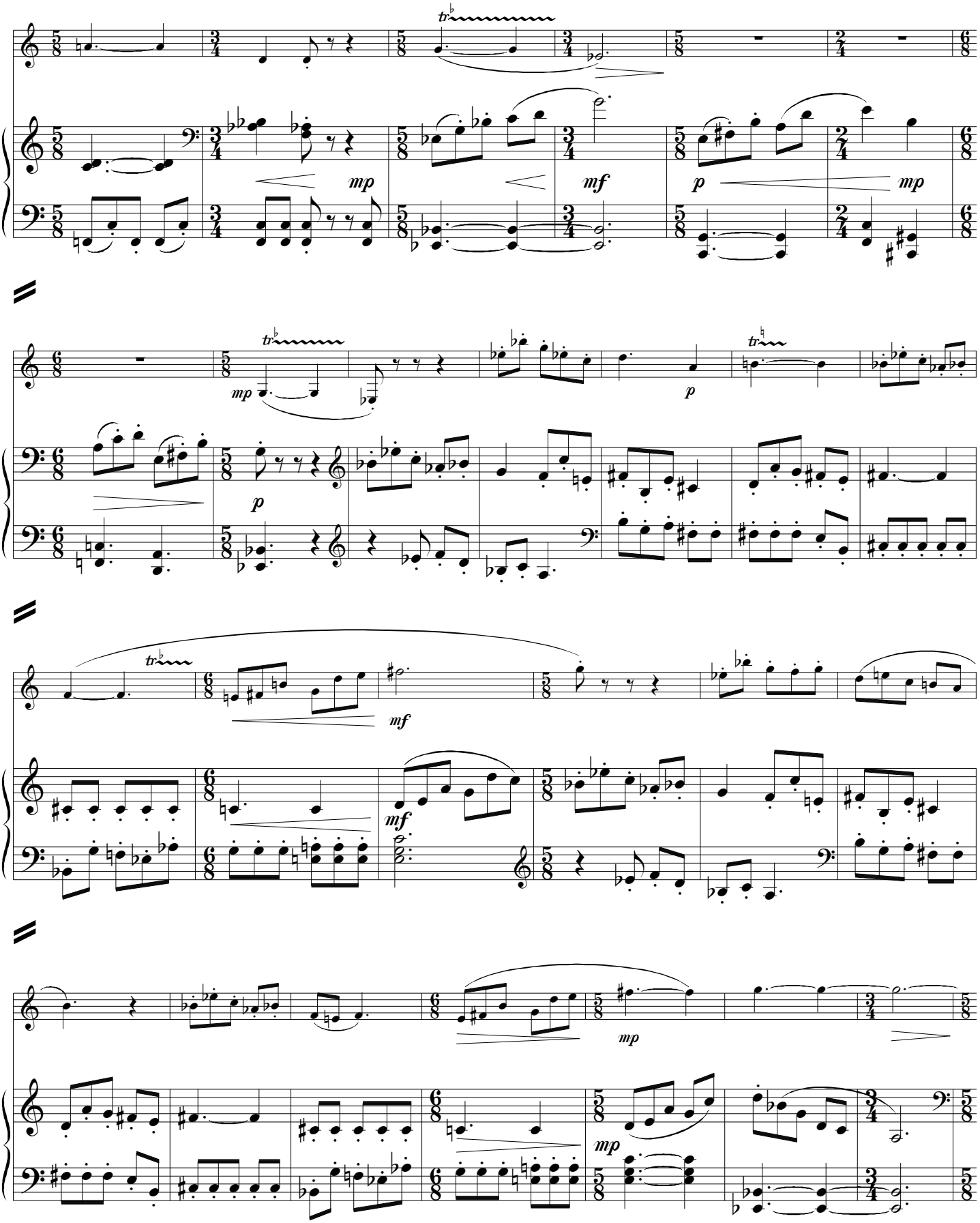
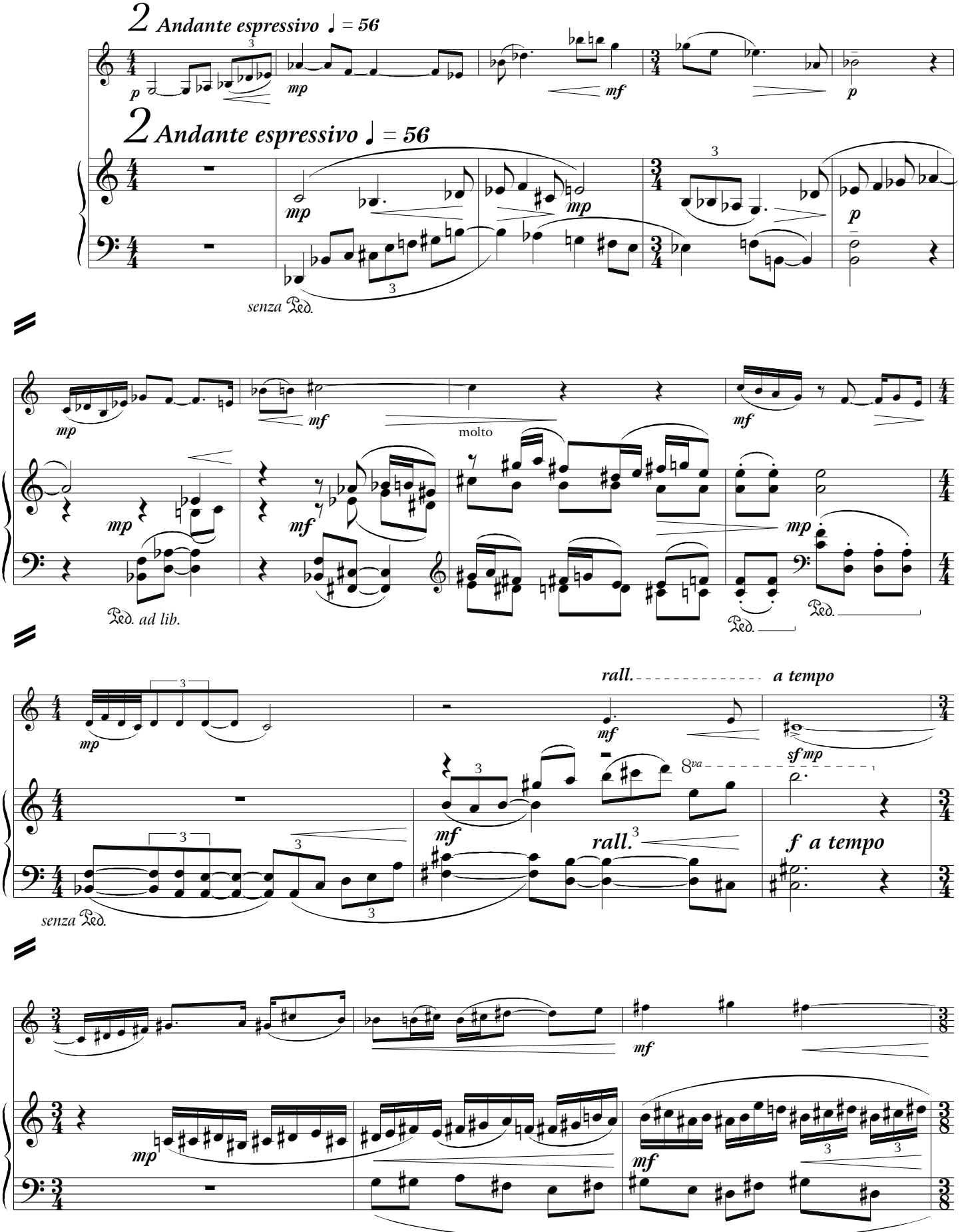
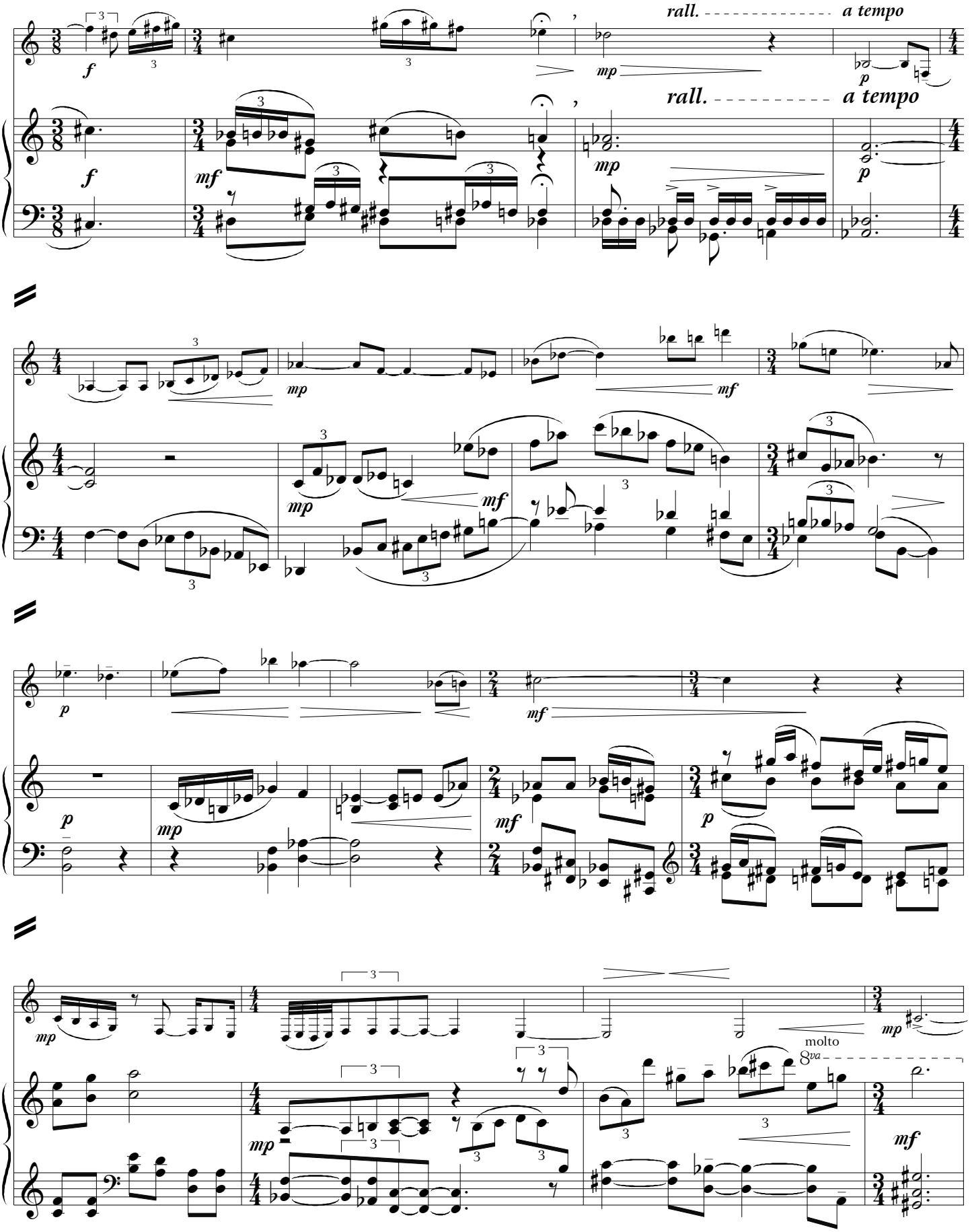
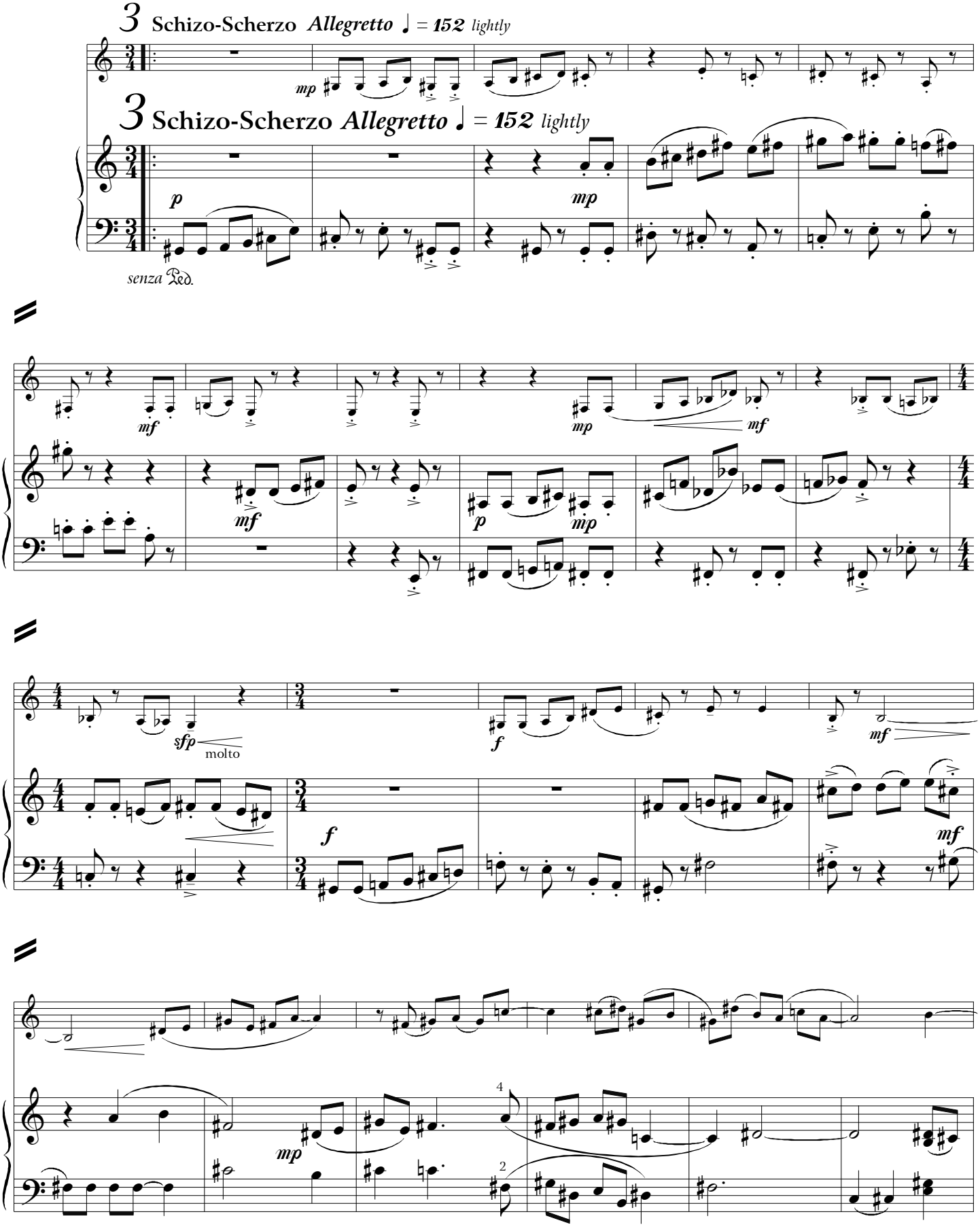
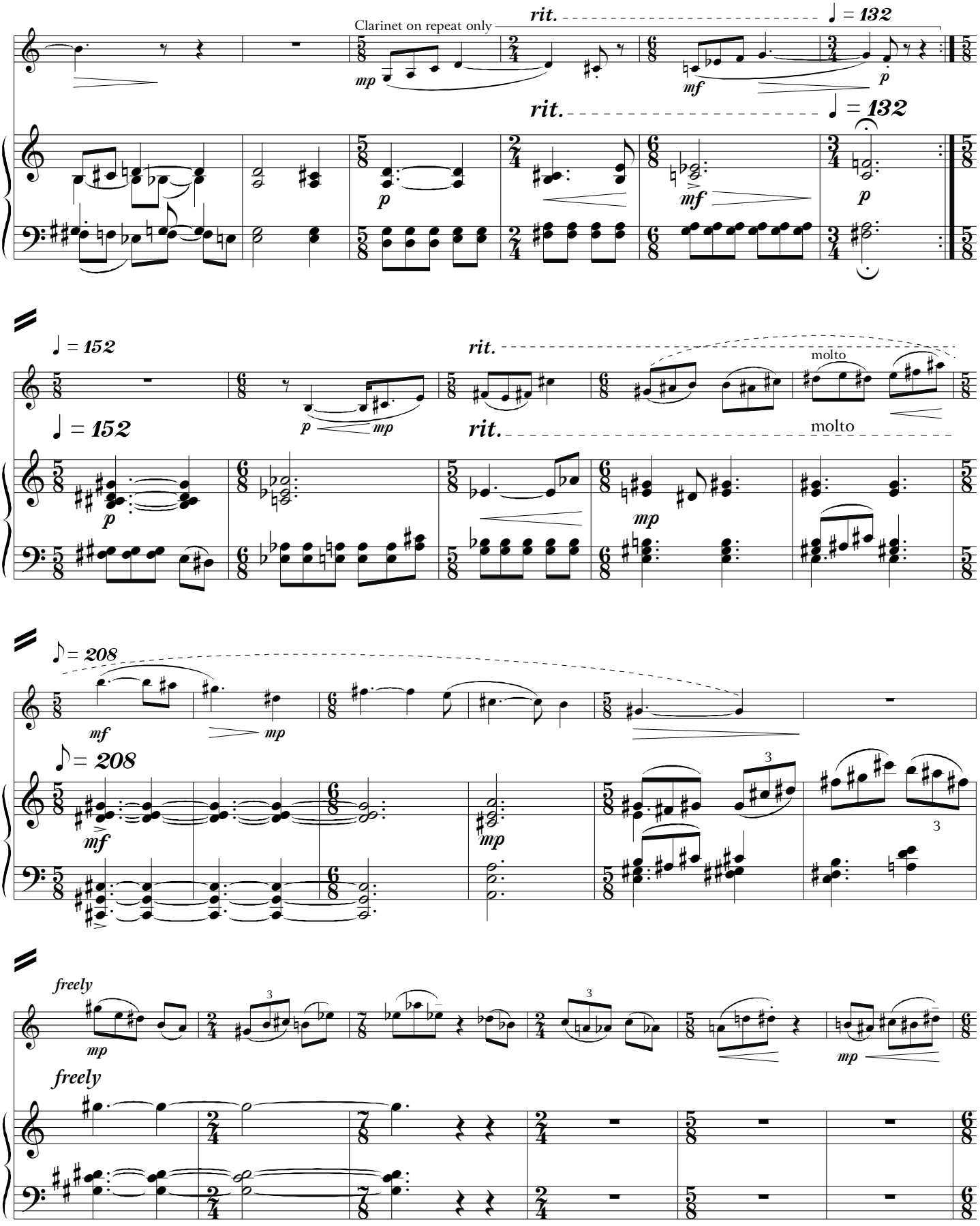

23
p
mf
p
29
mp
mf
mf
35
41
p
mp
mp

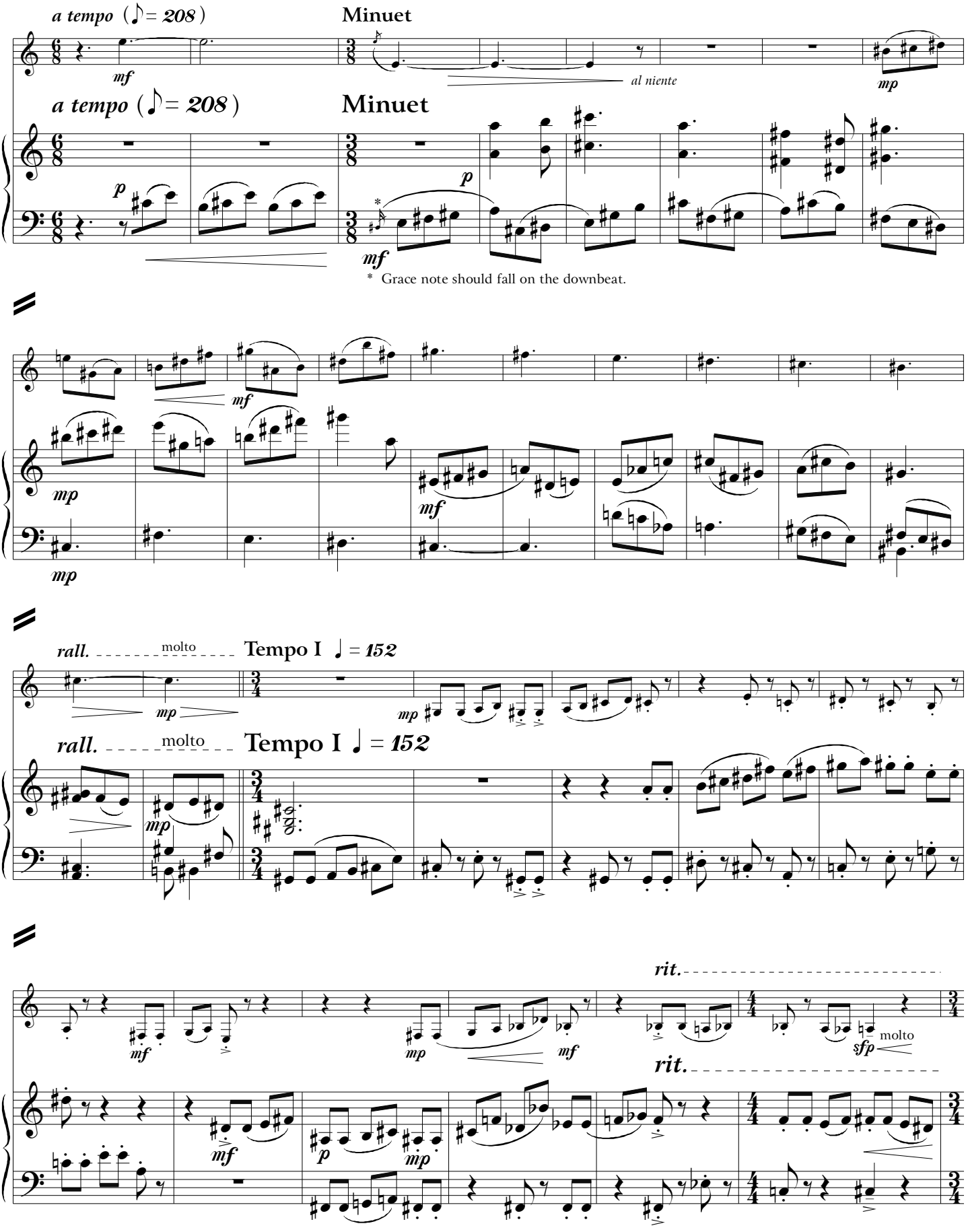

47
mp
mf
p
mp
53
mp
p
60
mf
mf
66
mp
mp


2 Andante espressivo ♩ = 56
p
mp
mf
p
2 Andante espressivo ♩ = 56
mp
mp
p
senza Ped.
6
mp
mf
molto
mf
mp
mp
Ped. ad lib.
Ped.
Ped.
10
rall.
a tempo
mp
mf
sf mp
8va
mf
rall.
f a tempo
senza Ped.
13
mf
mp
mf


rall.
a tempo
rall.
a tempo
molto
8va
16
20
24
29


3 Schizo-Scherzo Allegretto ♩ = 152 lightly
mp
3 Schizo-Scherzo Allegretto ♩ = 152 lightly
p
mp
senza Ped.
mf
mp
mf
mf
p
mp
6
sfp
molto
f
mf
f
mf
12
mp
4
2
17


Clarinet on repeat only
rit.
♩ = 132
rit.
♩ = 132
23
♩ = 152
rit.
molto
♩ = 152
rit.
molto
29
♪ = 208
♪ = 208
34
freely
freely
40


a tempo (♪= 208)
Minuet
mf
al niente
mp
a tempo (♪= 208)
Minuet
46
p
p
mf
* Grace note should fall on the downbeat.
mf
54
mp
mf
mp
rall.
molto
Tempo I ♩= 152
mp
mp
rall.
molto
Tempo I ♩= 152
64
mp
rit.
mf
mp
mf
sfp
molto
rit.
71
mf
p
mp