Piano

Rhapsody in Blue

George Gershwin

2020 Edition
by Tim and Louise Berens

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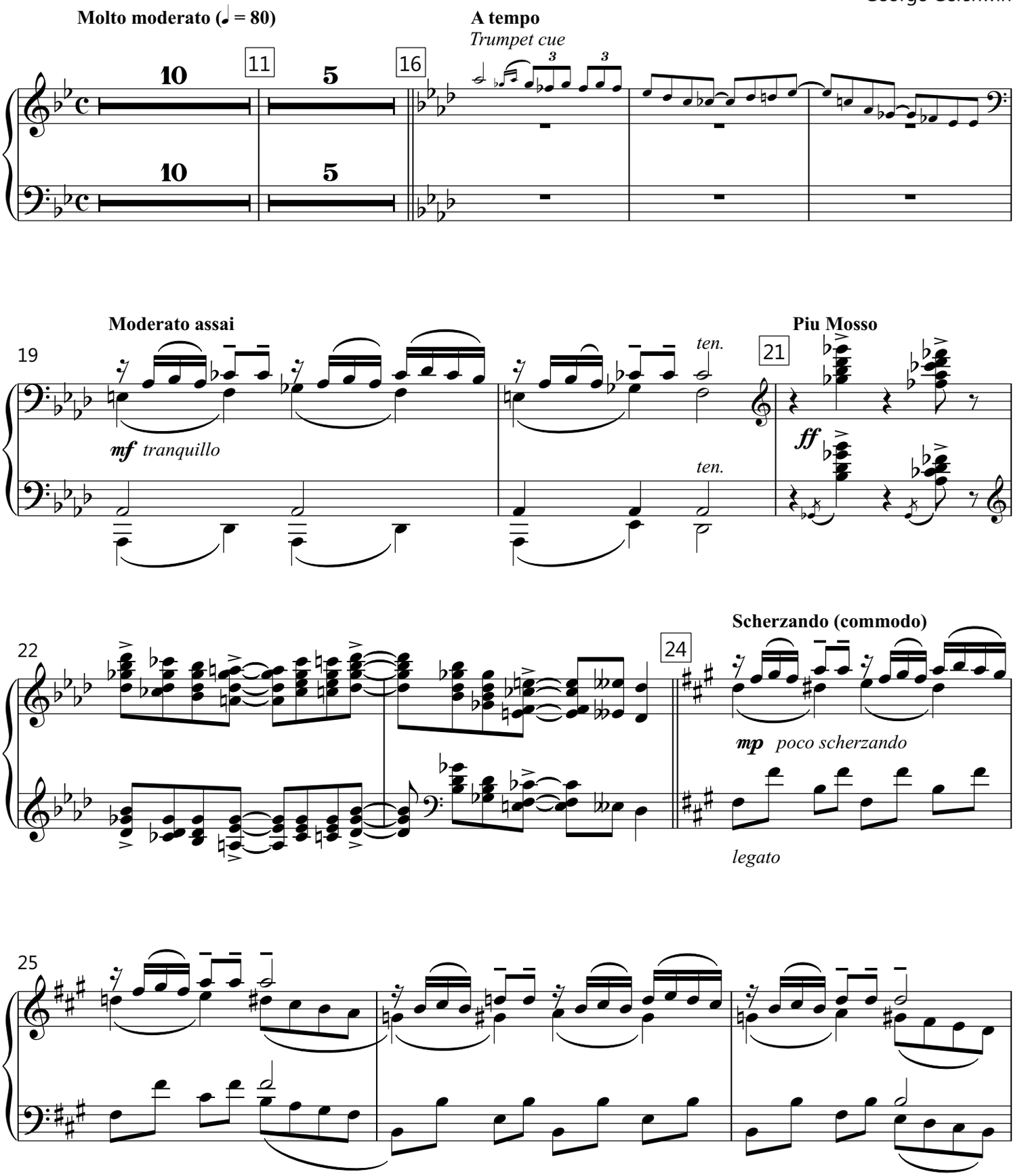
George Gershwin



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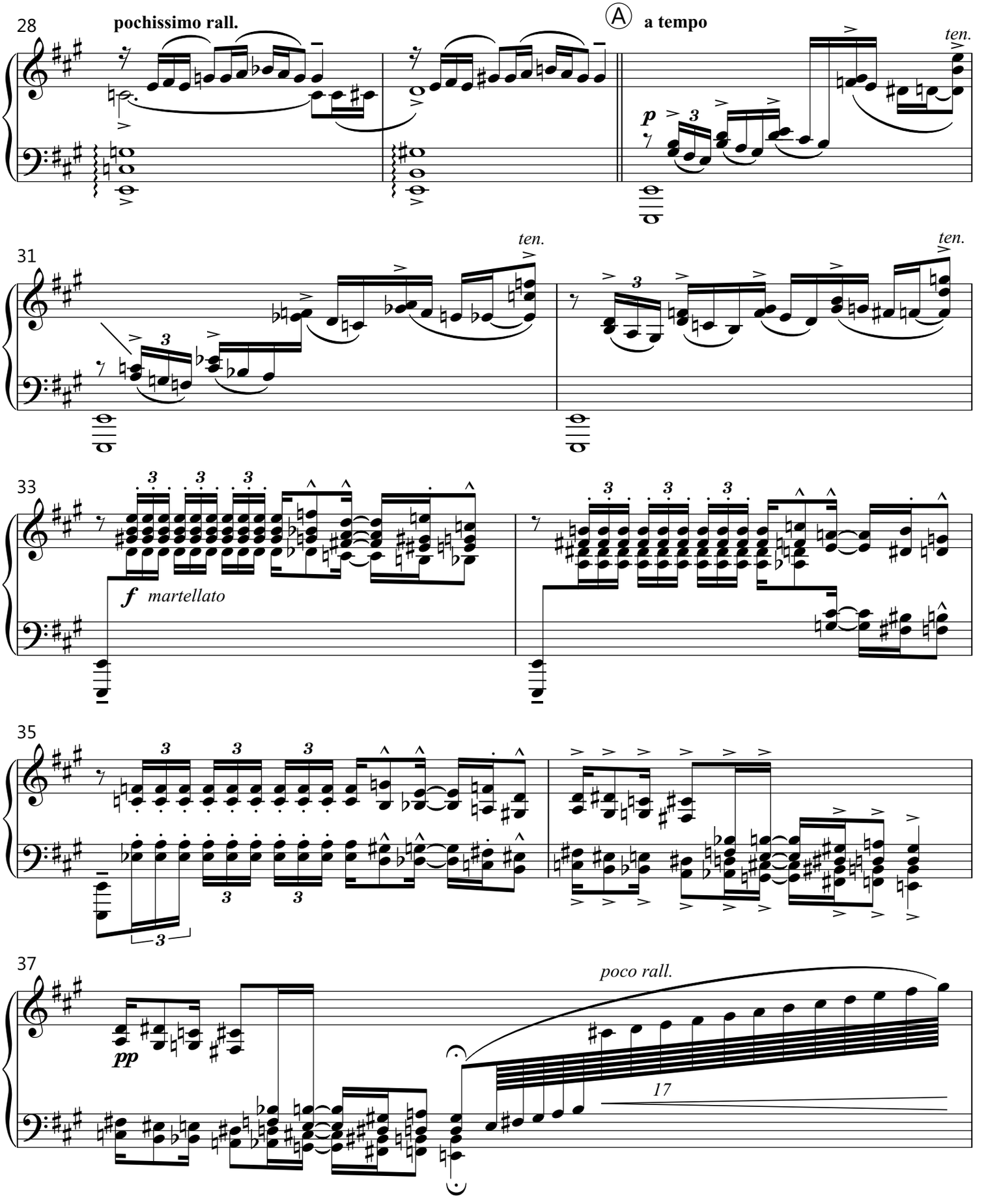
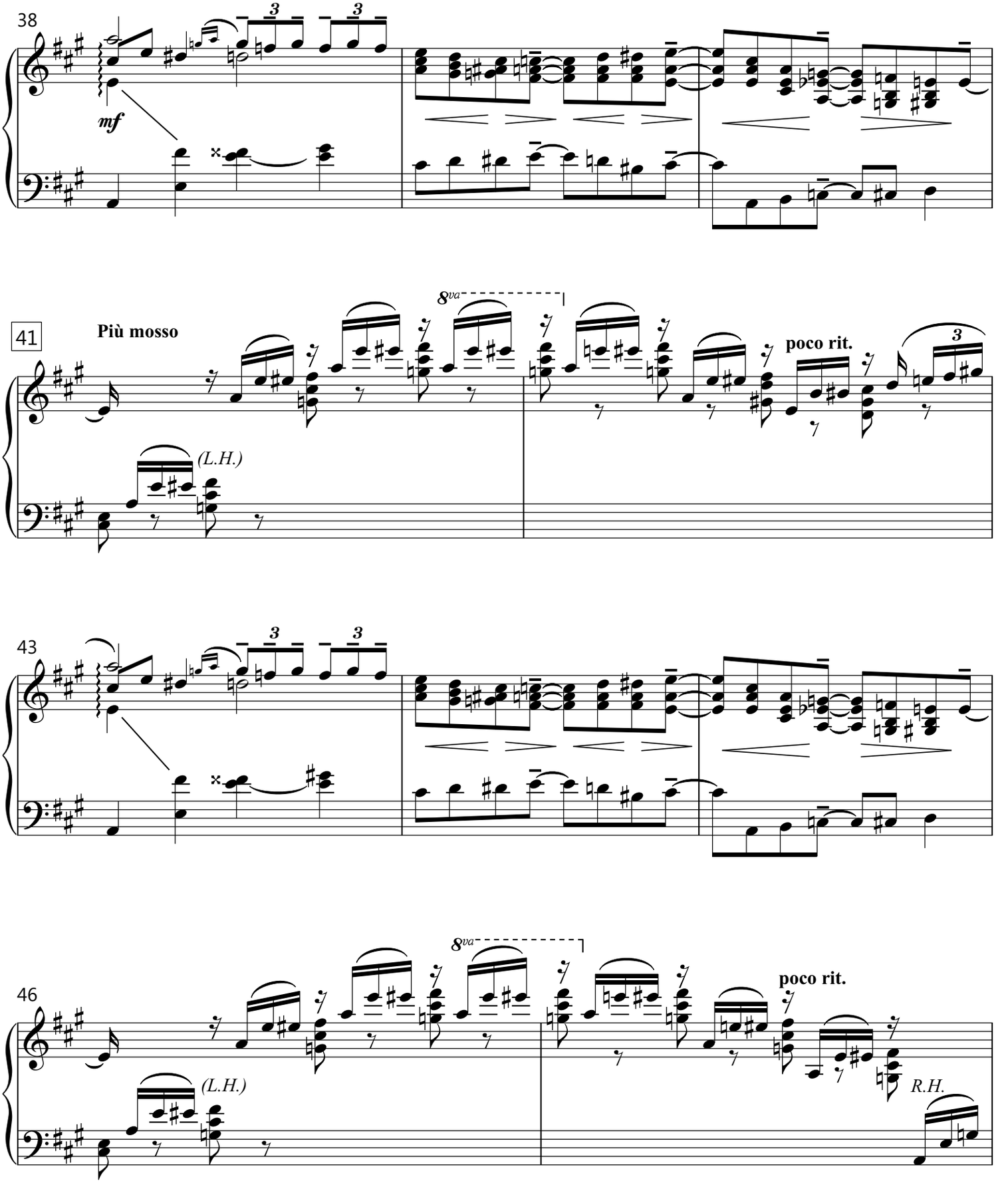
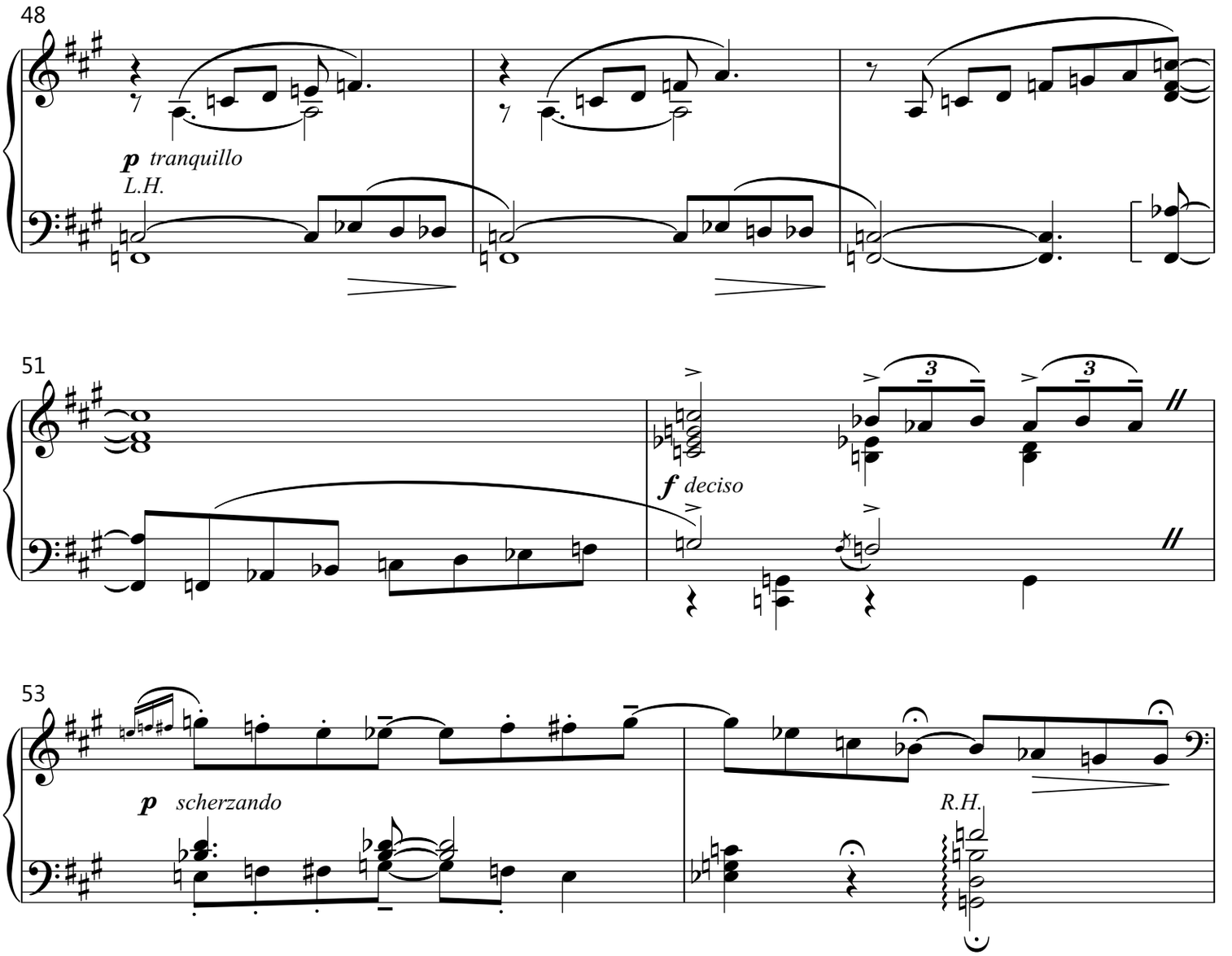
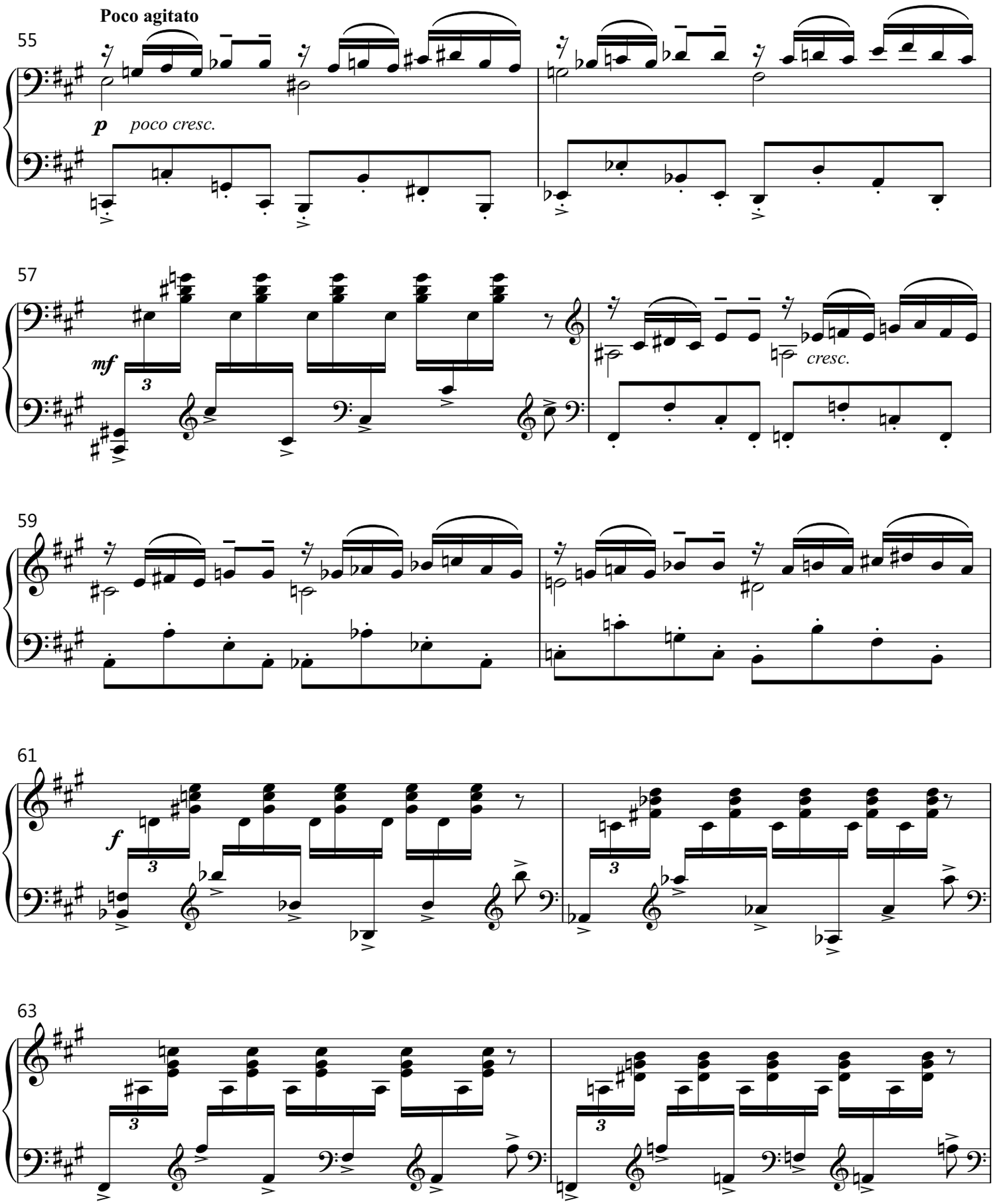
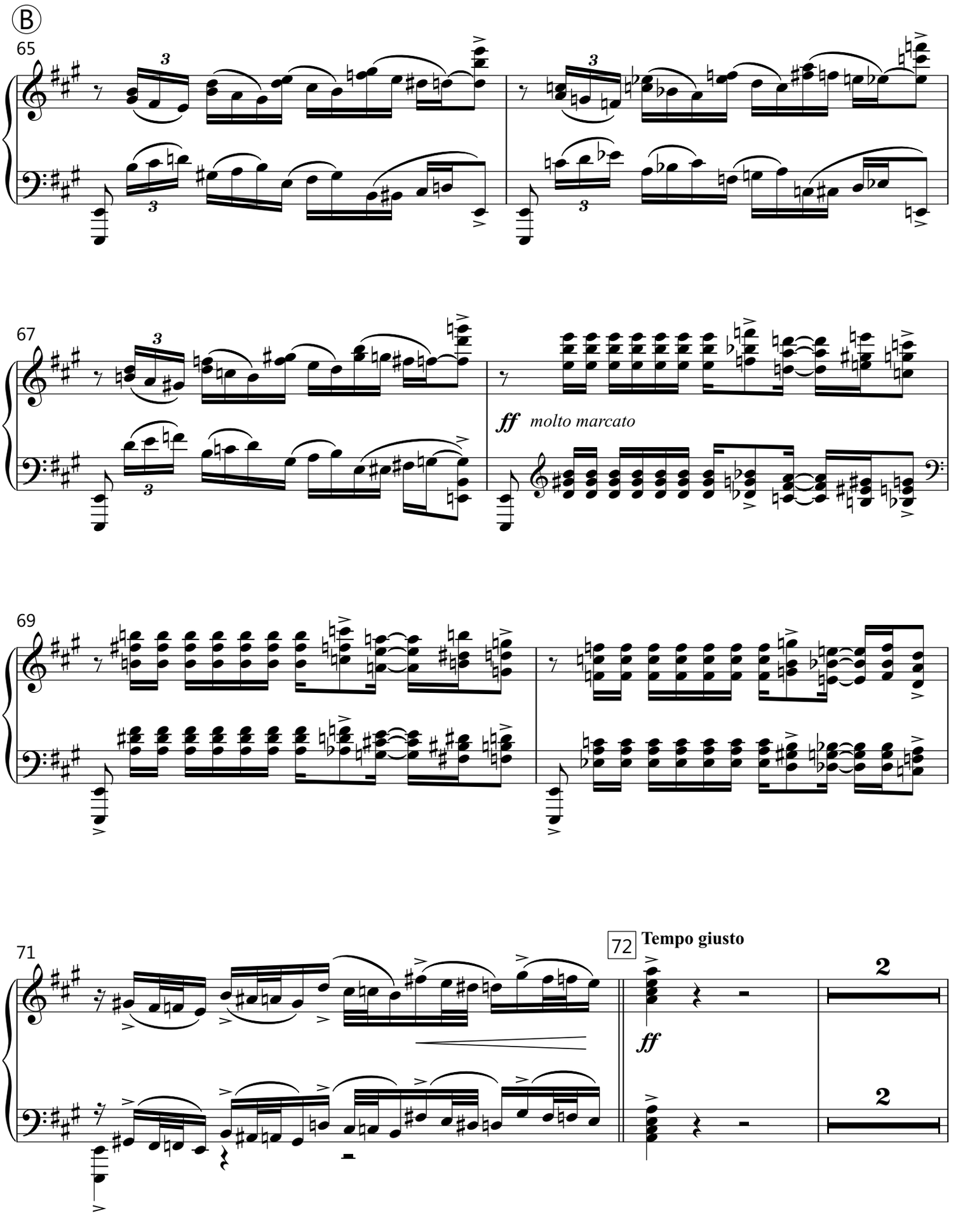

28
pochissimo rall.
A
a tempo
ten.
31
ten.
ten.
33
f martellato
35
37
pp
poco rall.
17


38
mf
41
Più mosso
8va
poco rit.
(L.H.)
43
46
8va
poco rit.
(L.H.)
R.H.


48
p tranquillo
L.H.
51
f deciso
53
p scherzando
R.H.


Poco agitato
55
p
poco cresc.
57
mf
cresc.
59
61
f
63


B
65
67
ff molto marcato
69
71
72
Tempo giusto
ff
2
2

2020 Edition Notes

The primary sources for this edition are the 1924 publication of the Two Pianos, Four Hands edition of *Rhapsody in Blue*, and the original handwritten pencil score by George Gershwin, which is available on the Library of Congress website.

Great care was taken to ensure the accuracy of this edition. Edits were made to the score for a variety of reasons. Some edits convey widely-used articulations that were not in either of the original sources, but conform to contemporary performance practice of the piece. Some wrong notes were corrected in this edition to conform to Gershwin's handwritten score rather than the published two piano edition.

Some small changes were made to conform to modern notation practices, and great care was taken to ensure readability. Page turns work in favor of the piano soloist in the Piano Solo part, and work in favor of the rehearsal pianist in the Rehearsal Piano/Piano Solo part.

Rehearsal numbers were changed to a large bar number in a box. The rehearsal letters were left as they were in the 1924 publication. Parentheses were removed from courtesy accidentals. All pedal markings are exactly as they were in the original publication.

This edition's notation conforms to the notation practices defined in *Behind Bars*, by Elaine Gould, published by Faber Music.

The editors wish to thank Frank Proto, Michael Chertock, Brian Cashwell, and Julie Spangler for their expert advice on revisions to this edition.

The editorial choices are documented by bar number and action taken on the following page.

Bar Number	Editorial Action Taken
30, 31	Moved quarter rest in first beat to bass clef
48	Added *L.H.*
53	Added editorial staccatos in voice two of bass clef
66	Beat 3: Used F-sharp instead of G-flat as Gershwin did in handwritten score
72	Added editorial Fortissimo
81-83	The beaming of the eighth notes was changed to conform to Gould
81-84	Added editorial slurs
94	Removed "simile"
114	Added editorial fermata to ease reading
115	Moved the treble clef change to the beginning of the bar
124, 126	Editorial slurs added
127	Editorial Forte added
181-200	The beaming of the eighth notes was changed to conform to Gould
181-194	Editorial staccatos were added to the left hand
189	Added editorial Piano dynamic
200	The beaming of the eighth notes was changed to conform to Gould
239	Added editorial slurs
251	Changed Forte to Mezzoforte
260, 264	Added editorial staccato and tenuto marks in bass clef

Bar Number	Editorial Action Taken
293, 295	Beat 1: Stem up for readability
297	Unnecessary sharps removed C-sharp and last G-sharp
461, 463, 467, 469, 471-474	Added editorial staccato on last eighth note in the bar
462,464	Slur was extended to conform to similar passages such as bar 468
474	Fixed wrong note: Handwritten score has C sharp on beat 2 in left hand
483	Editorial rit. added as is the custom
492	Fixed wrong note: F in bass clef changed to G
489-495	Simplified slurs to only above notes