ABOUT *Incidental Ducklings*' relation to the Off-Off Broadway production of *The Ugly Duckling*

The Story of the Ugly Duckling -

Born into a duck pond, the Ugly Duckling was different from the others, bigger, awkward, ugly, he was teased, laughed at and cast out. One day he met a Wild Bird who befriended him, but soon afterward was shot by hunters. The Ugly Duckling went through a lonely winter's search. Would anywhere ever feel like home? When spring came, a group of royal birds swam to him and he swam among them, recognizing his true nature as a swan.

1st Movement: In the theater piece, the Mother Duck sings *Duck Etiquette* to the Ducklings as she teaches them how to swim. It's a setting of Hans Christian Andersen's text.

The words are:

"Now use your legs (instrumental interlude comes after that phrase) Mind you, quack properly!
And bend your necks to the Old Duck over there. And quack now, quack! Don't turn your toes in!
A well-bread duck keeps his legs wide apart (quack, quack) like his father and his mother! (quack!)"

2nd Movement: *Ducks in Summer* is a medley from various parts of the show. In the theatrical production, the opening bars set the mood, underscoring the character of Hans Christian Andersen as he begins to tell the tale. "The country was lovely just then, it was summer..."

The lyrical melody starting in the cello (bar 12) is adapted from the Ugly Duckling's soliloquy, a song that's at the heart of the show - *Different Can Be Special*. Finding himself alone, having to face the harsh winter, he gives himself a pep talk, sobbing along the way -

VERSE
Different can be special, it's really not that bad.
But if no one likes me, then different, makes me sad.
If they could look inside me, they'd see another bird.
I long to show them who I am, and have my voice be heard.

CHORUS
I know there's beauty in my heart; it fills me inside out.
I want to keep my spirits high, and learn not to doubt.
I guess I'll keep on searching, and keep on singing my own song,
And maybe as the road unwinds, I'll find where I belong."

lyrics by Brenda Bell

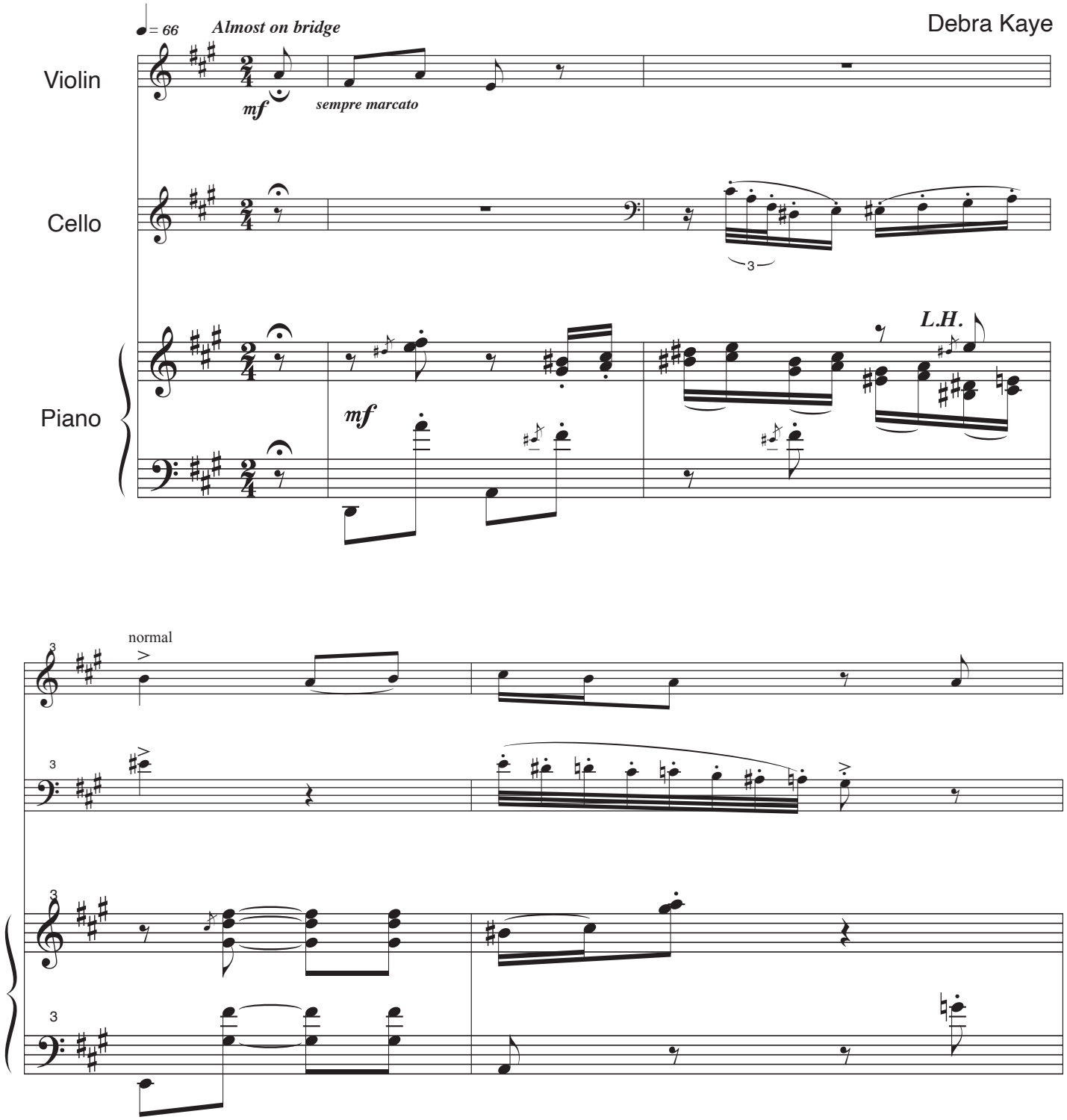
Swampy incidental music follows (bar 63), leading into a martial rhythm that underscores the Old Duck of the Barnyard's commanding entrance. To set her haught character, I used the rhythm of the song "Why Can't the English Teach Their Children How to Speak" from *My Fair Lady*.

3rd Movement: The Off-Off Broadway production of *The Ugly Duckling* was organized around a series of Season Dances. *Duckling Dance* was the opening dance number, Summer, when activity in the Barnyard is at its height.

DK

I. Duck Etiquette

Debra Kaye



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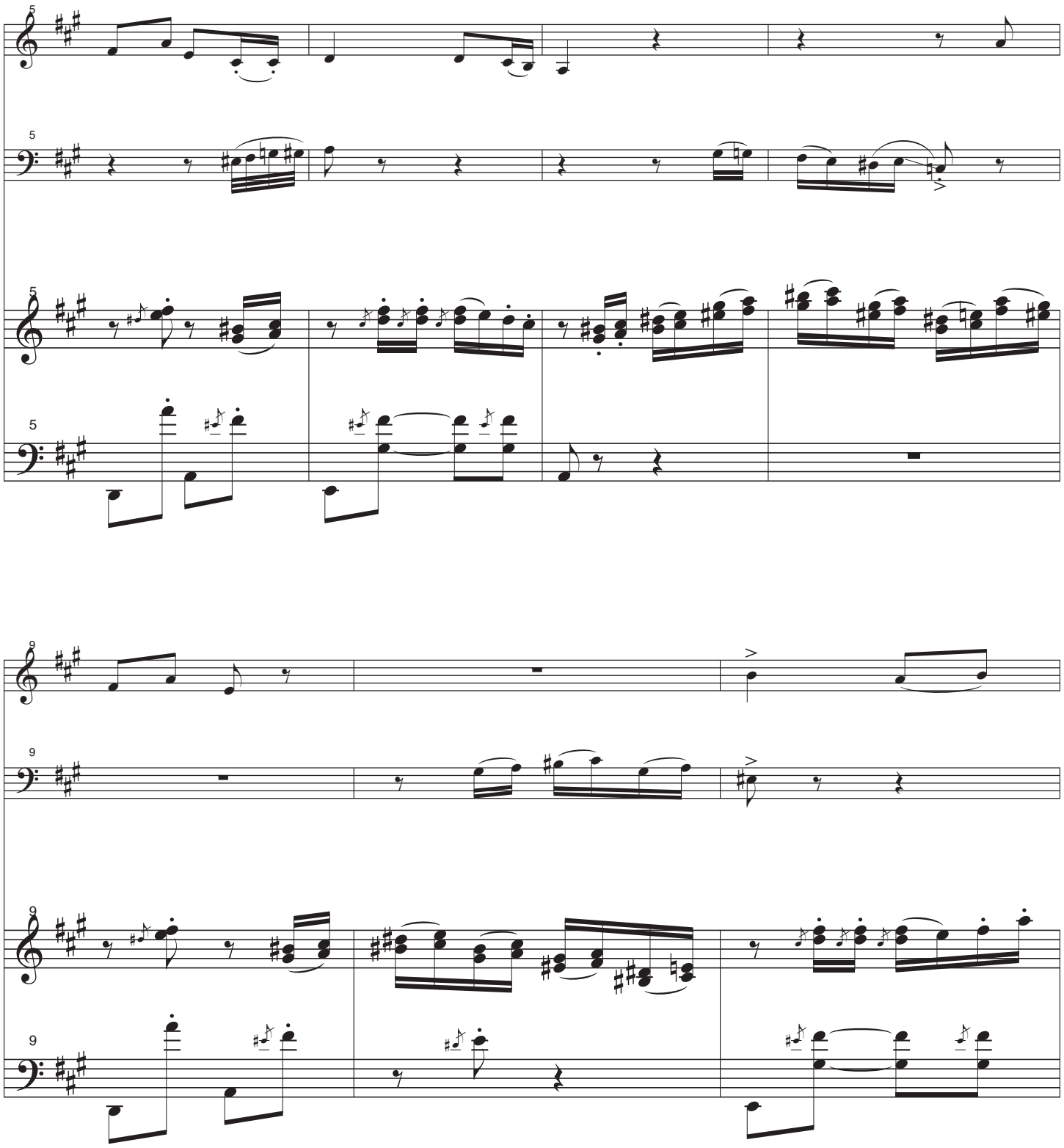
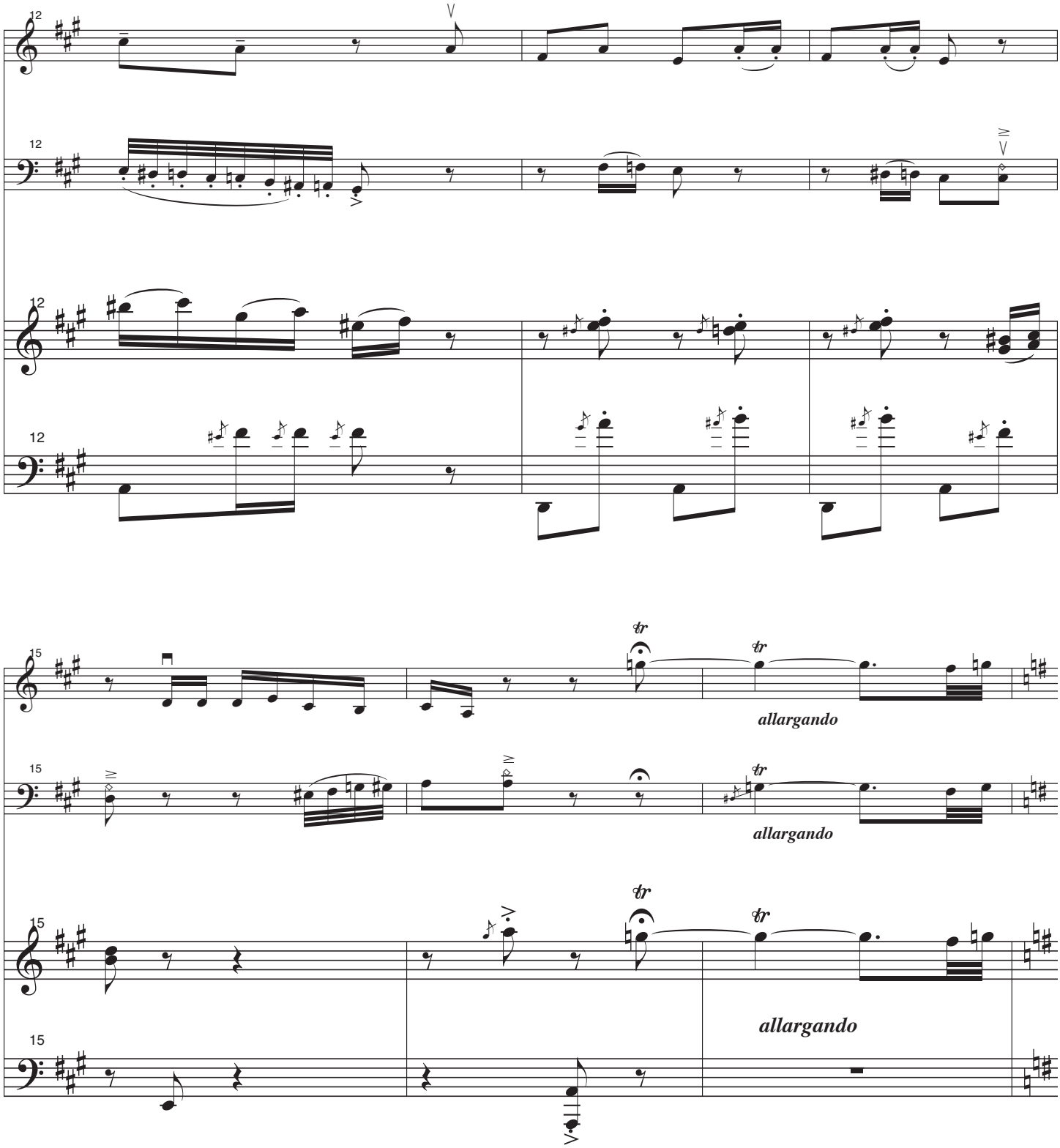
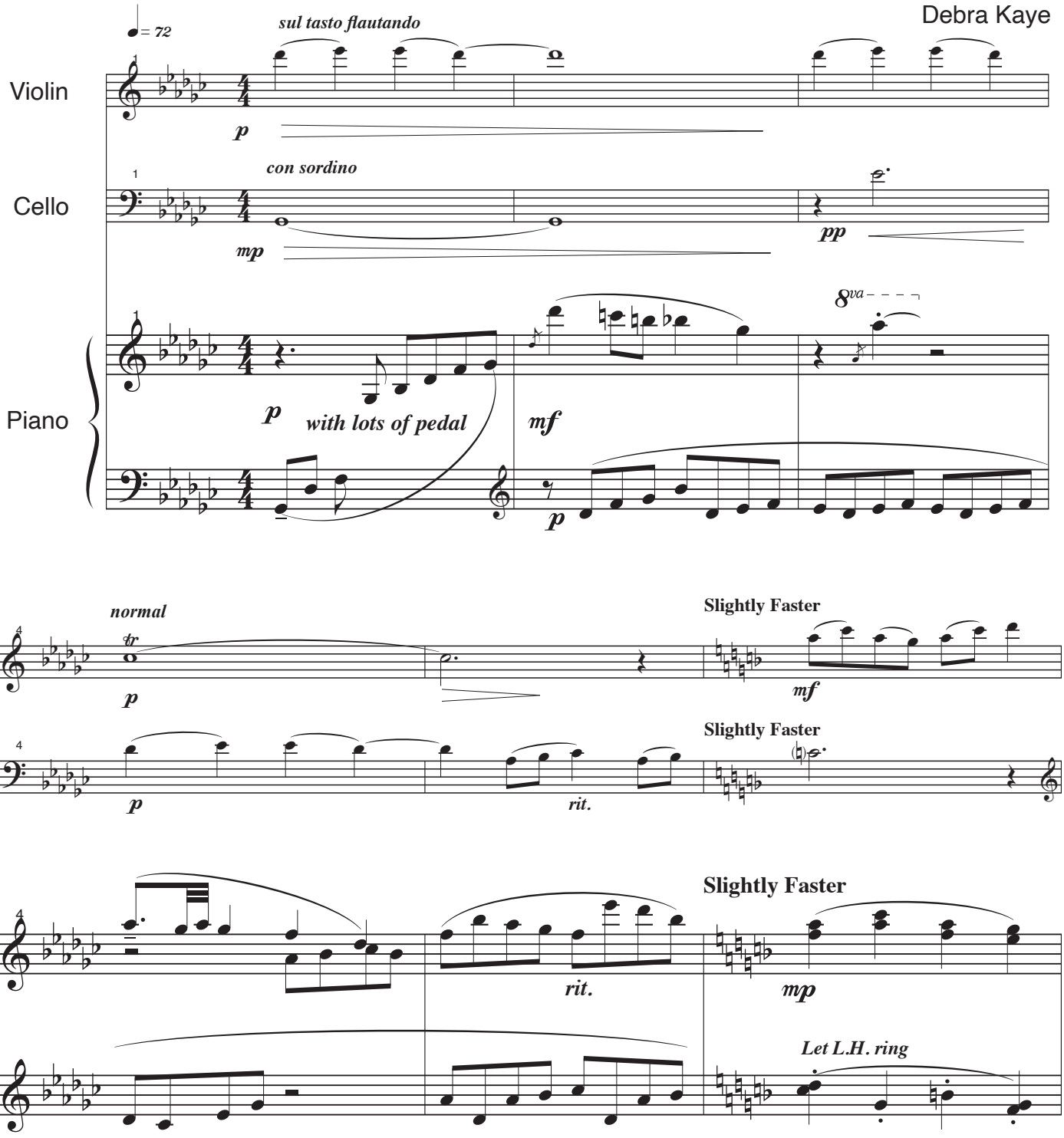



12
12
12
12
15
15
15
15
tr
tr
allargando
tr
tr
allargando
tr
tr
allargando

2. DUcks in Summer

Debra Kaye



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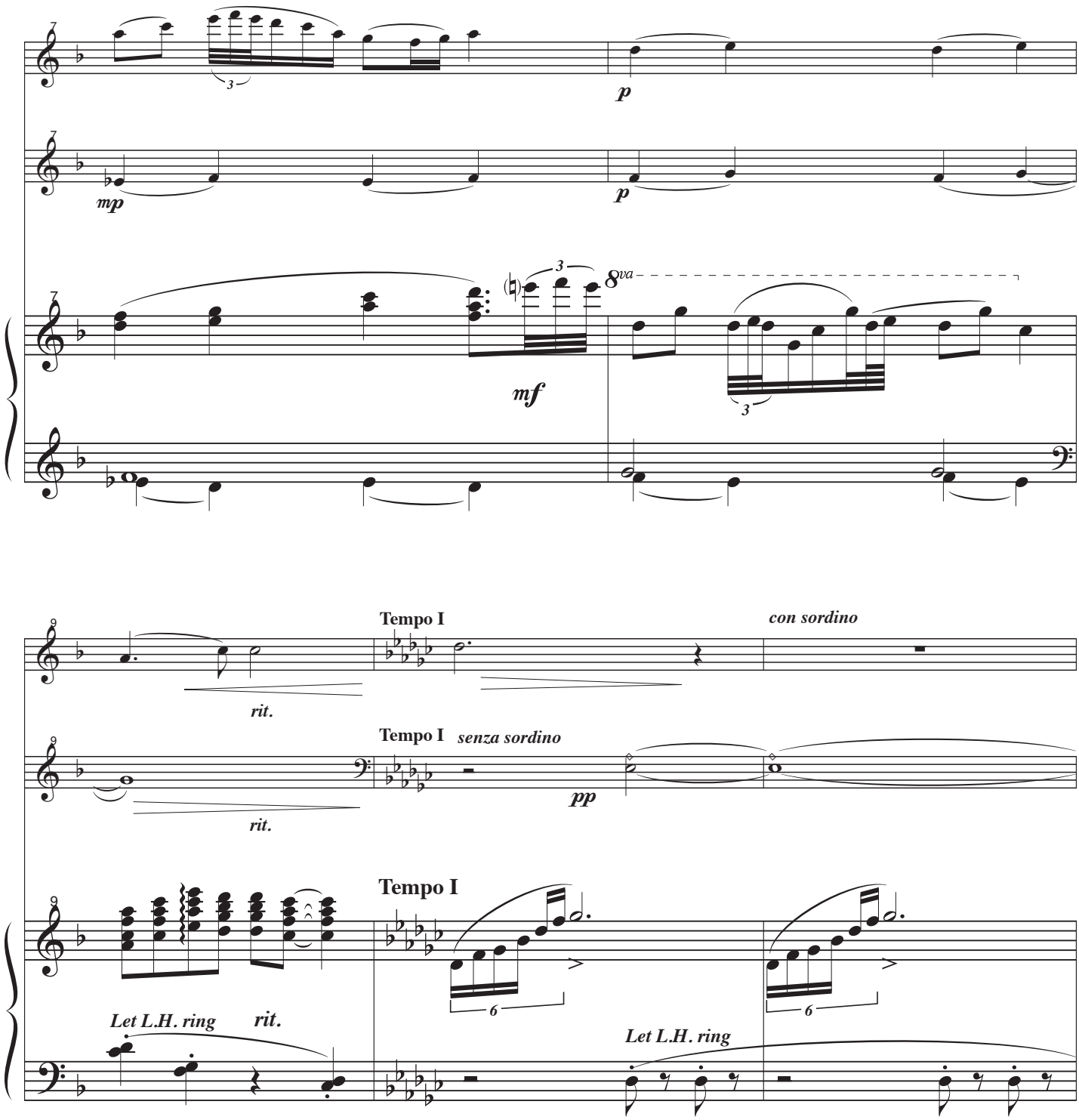
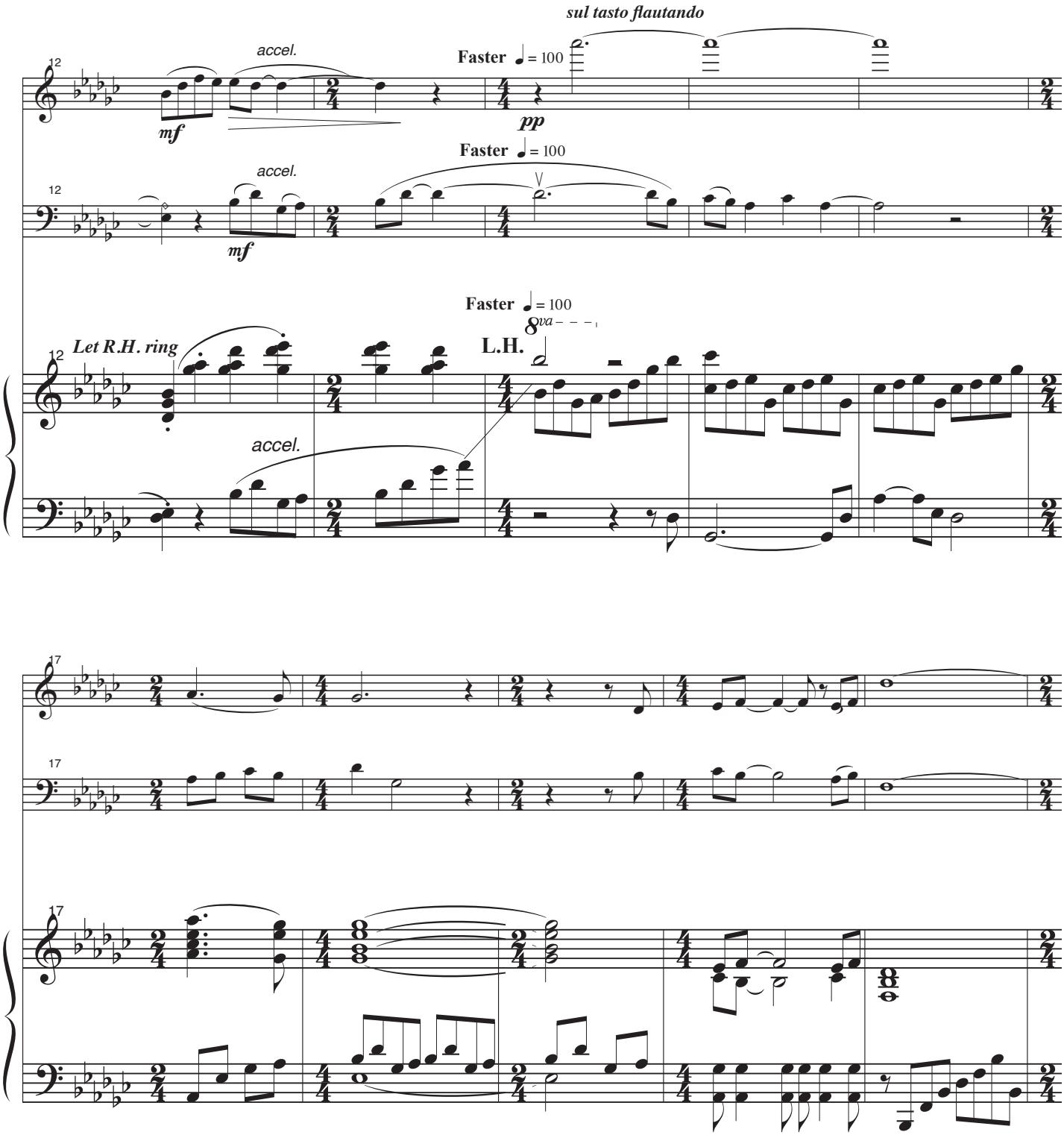
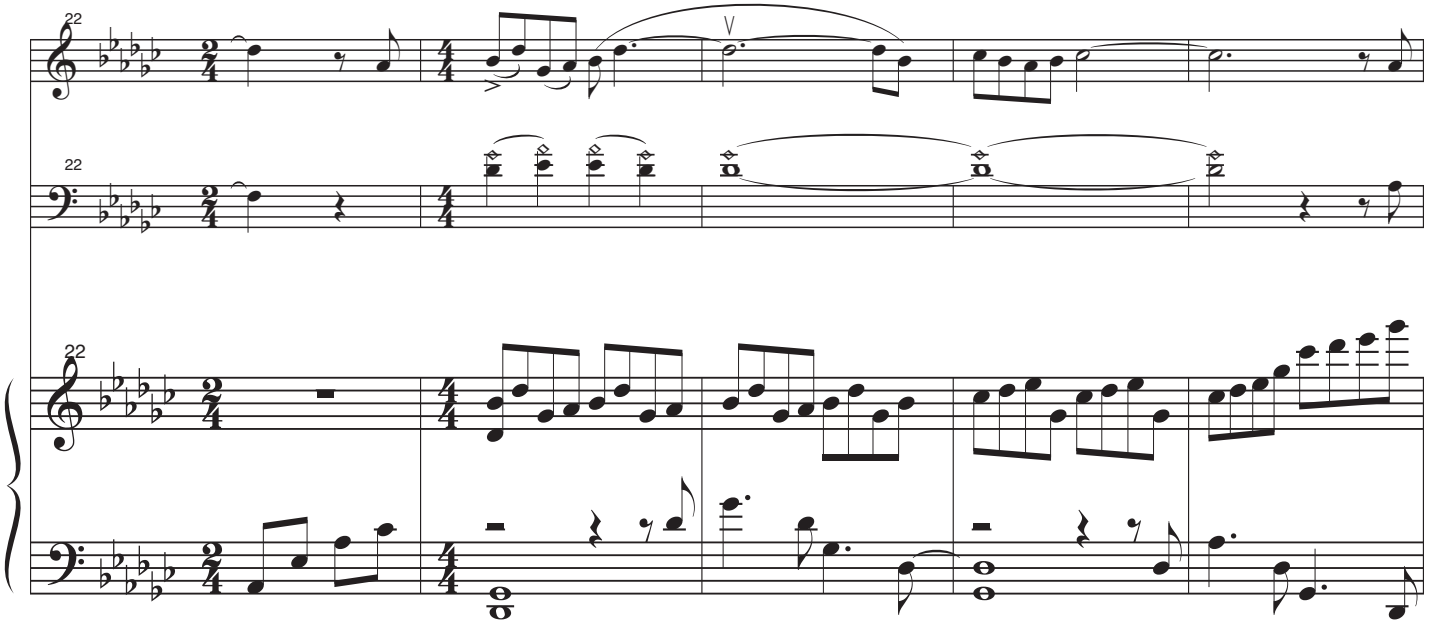

7
mp
p
p
3
8va
mf
3
9
rit.
Tempo I
con sordino
Tempo I
senza sordino
pp
rit.
Tempo I
6
6
Let L.H. ring
rit.
Let L.H. ring


sul tasto flautando
accel.
Faster ♩ = 100
mf
pp
accel.
Faster ♩ = 100
mf
Let R.H. ring
Faster ♩ = 100
8va
L.H.
accel.
12
17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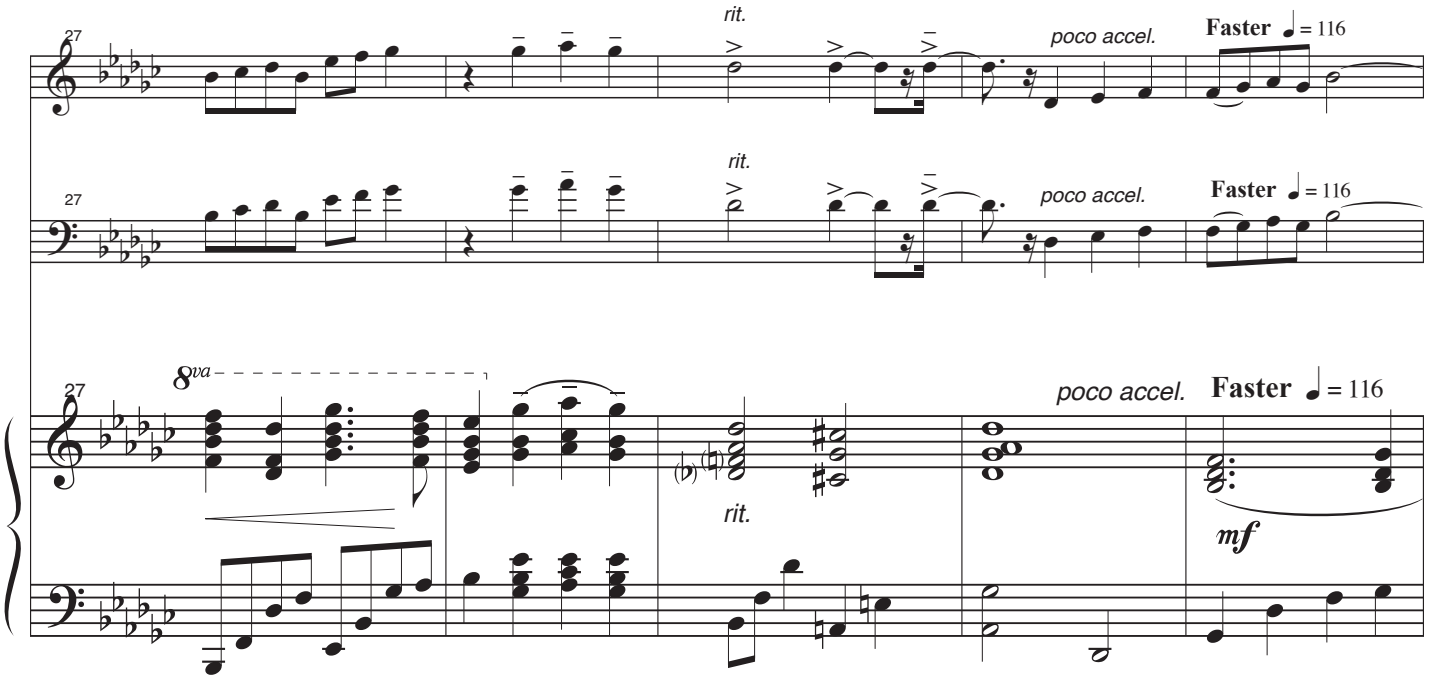
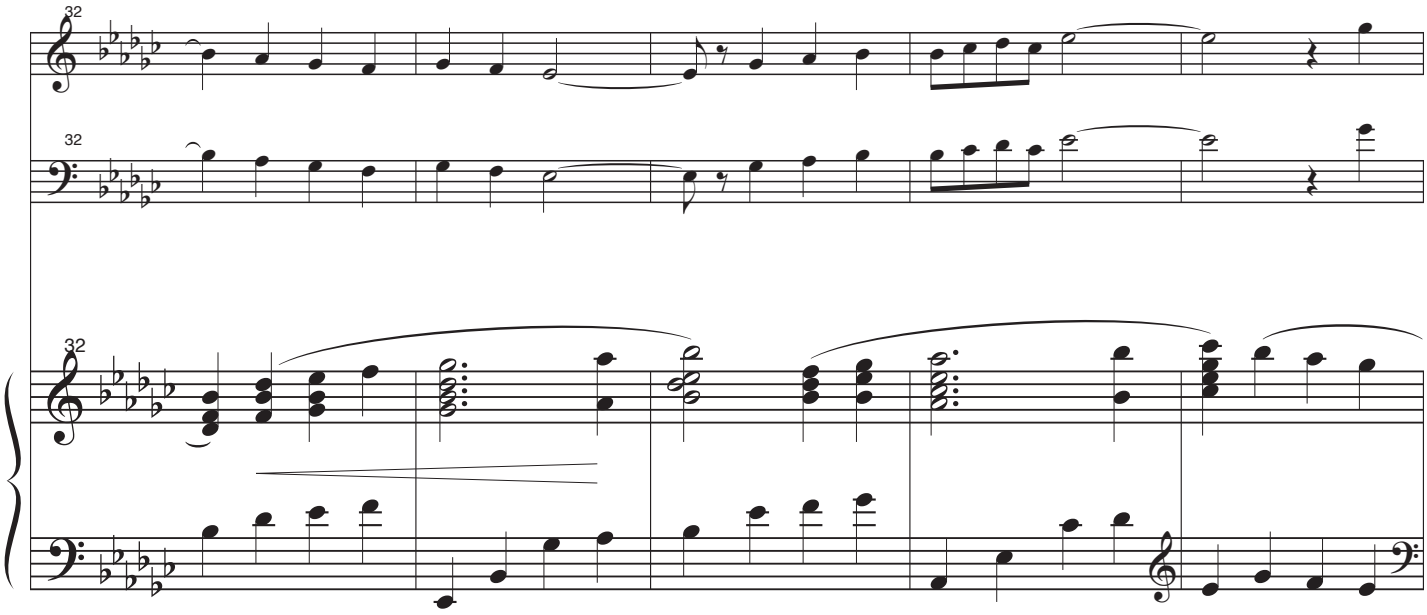
22
22


27
rit.
poco accel.
Faster ♩ = 116
27
rit.
poco accel.
Faster ♩ = 116
27
8va
poco accel.
Faster ♩ = 116
rit.
mf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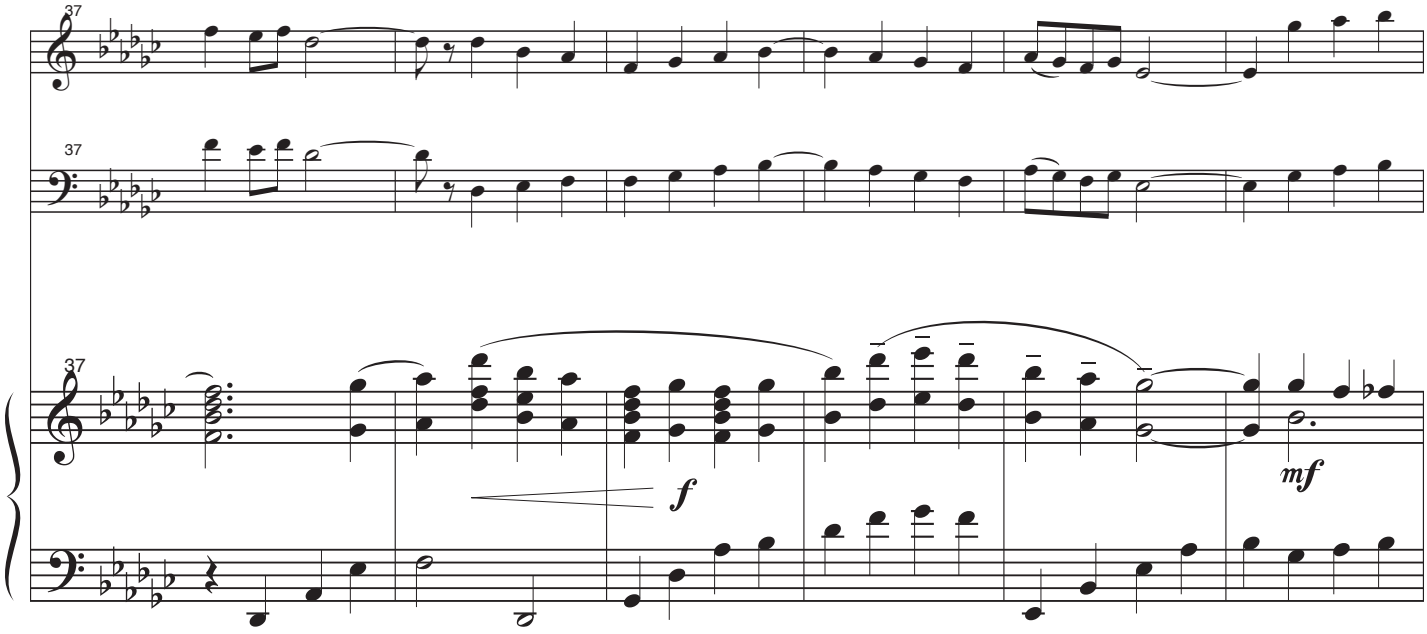
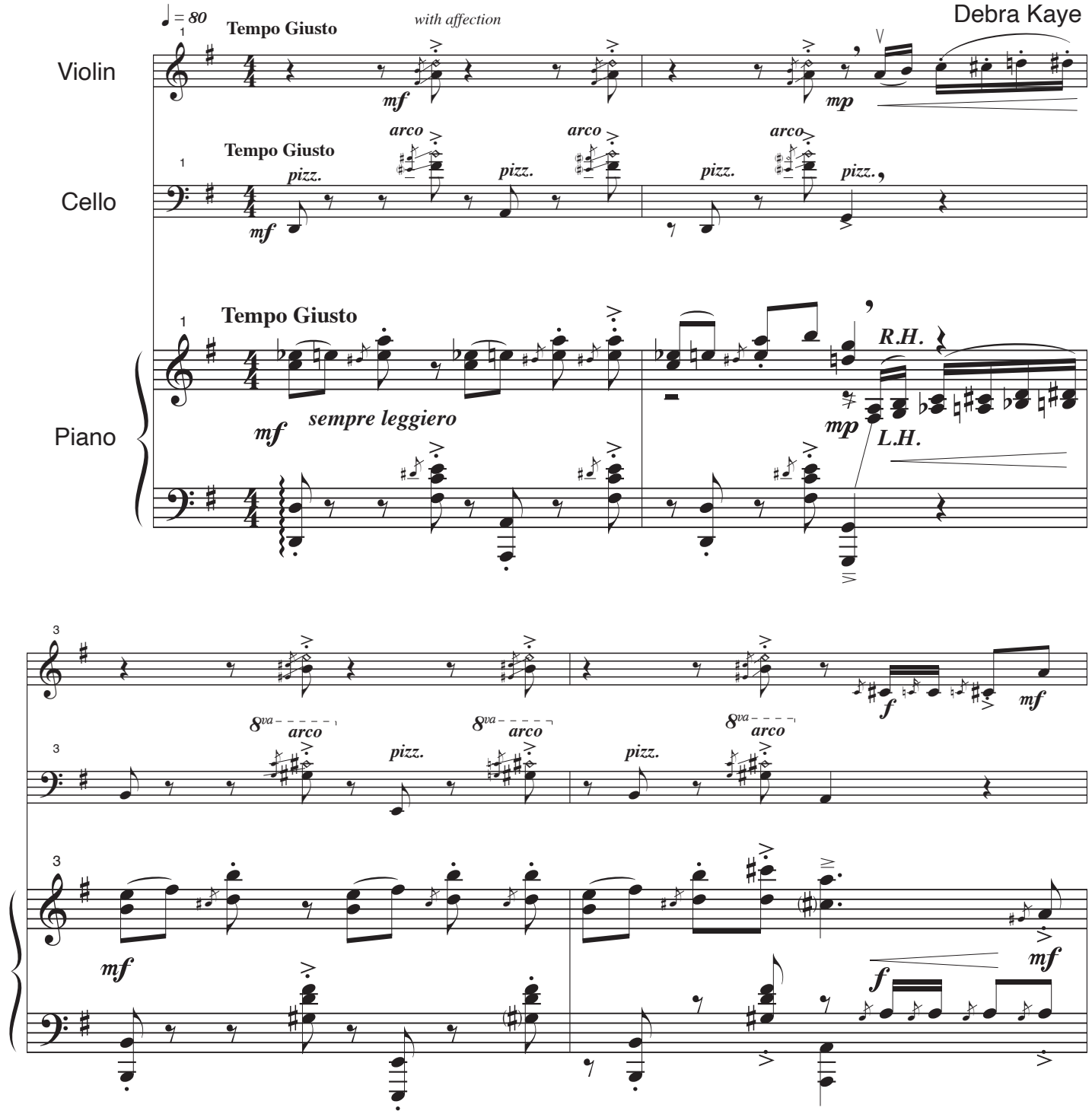
32
32


37
37
37
f
mf

3. DUckling Dance



*Violin and cello play the harmonics almost on the bridge in measures 1-6, and 21-24. Similarly for violin in the final bar.

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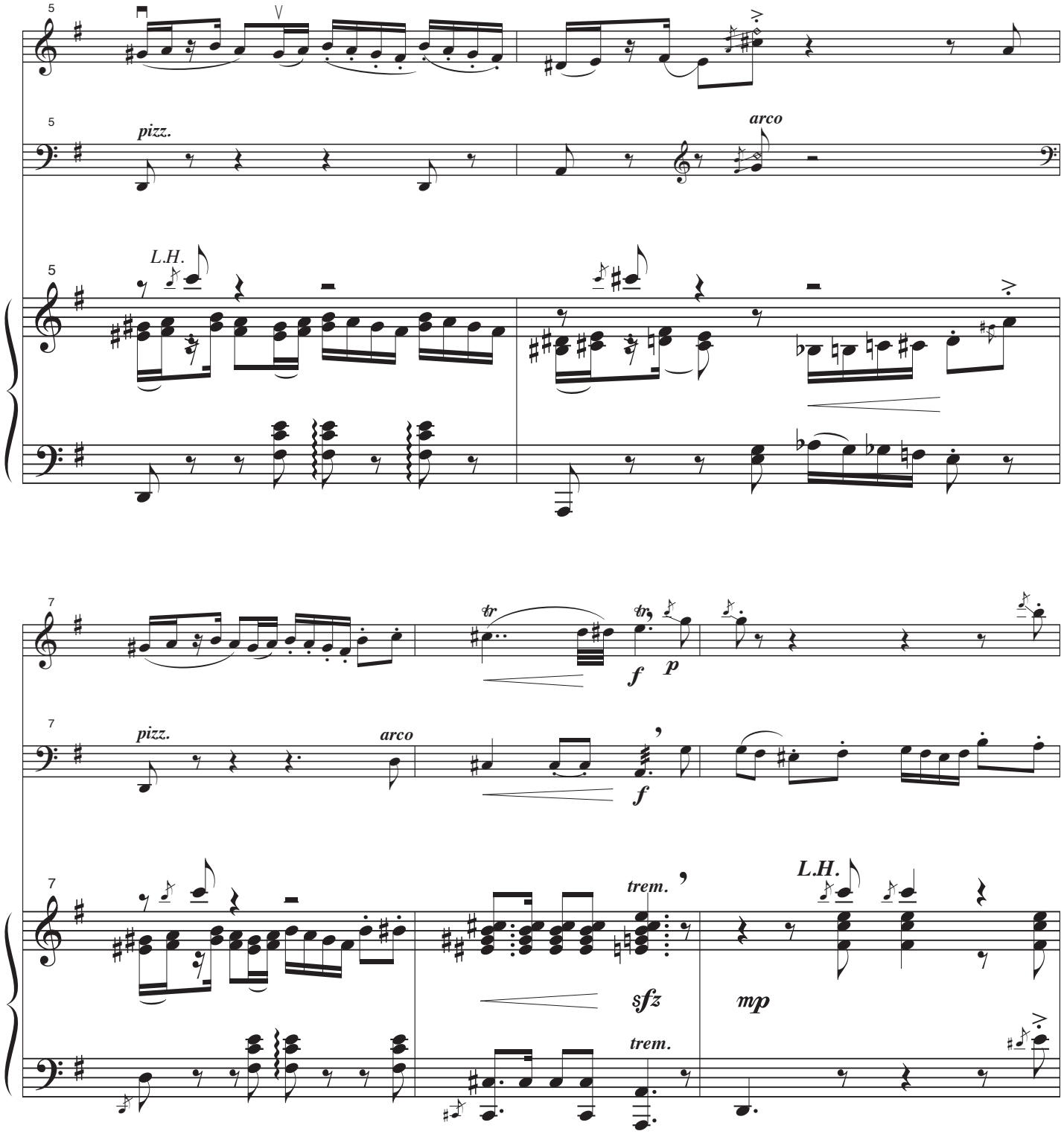
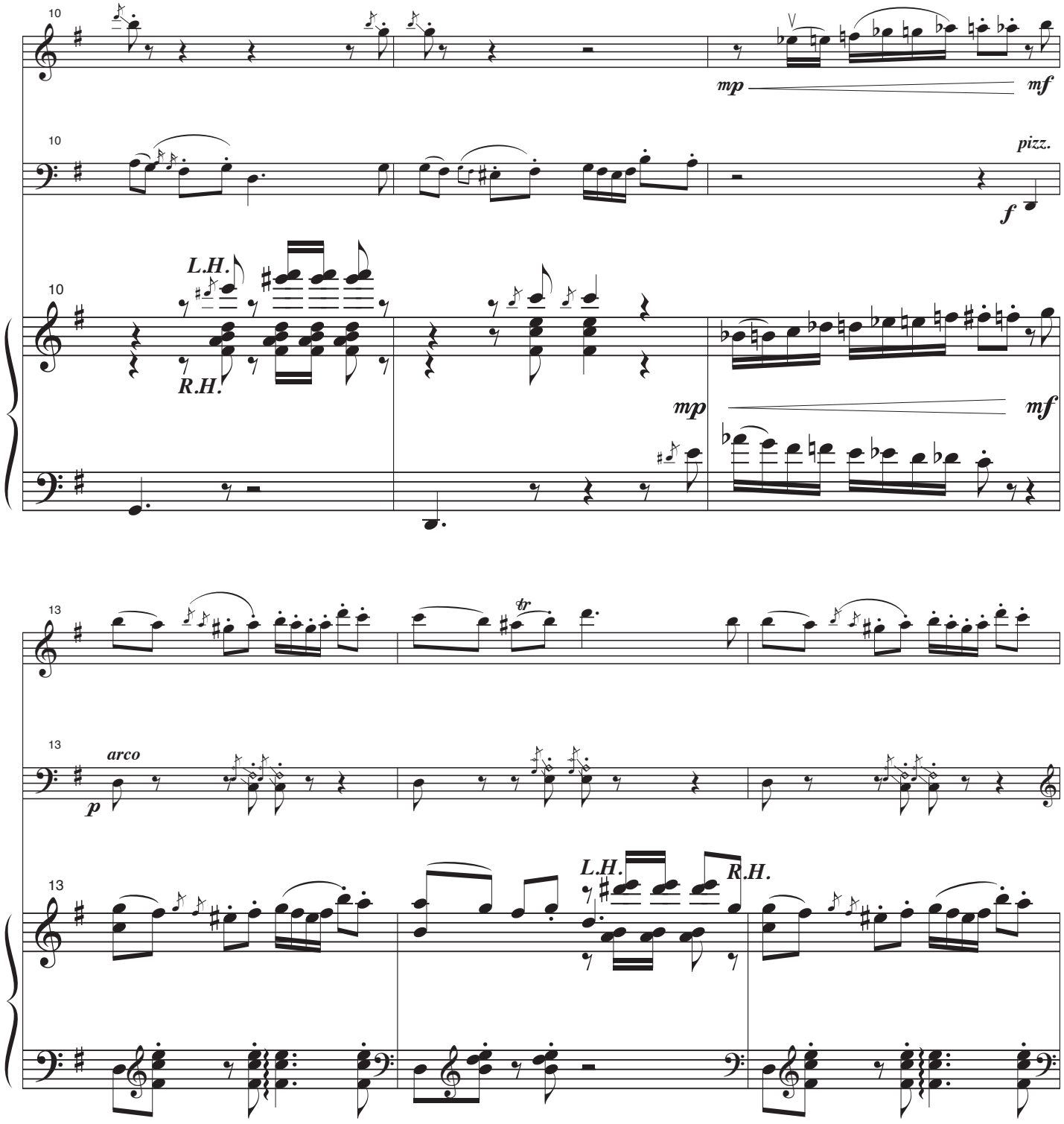
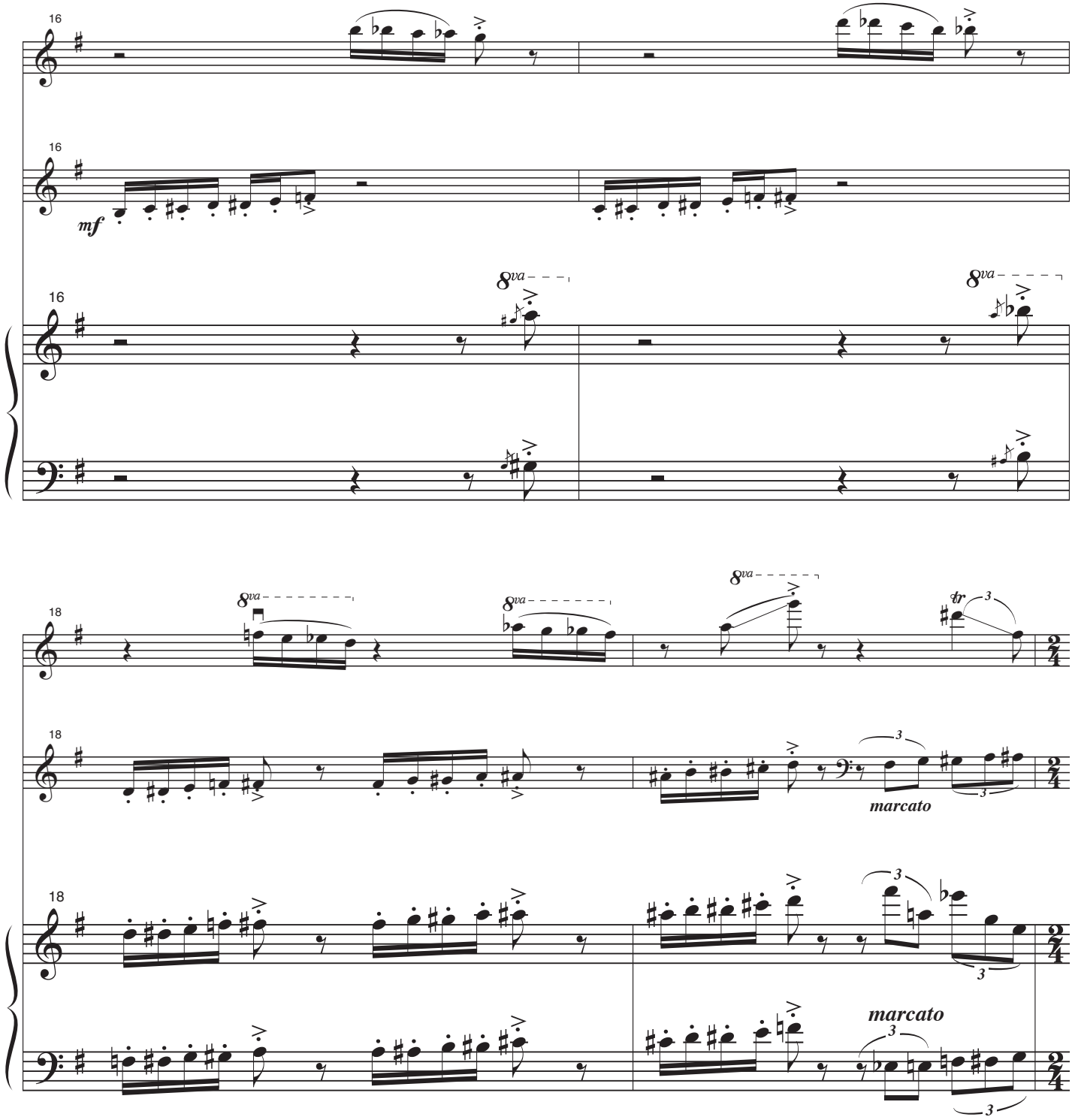
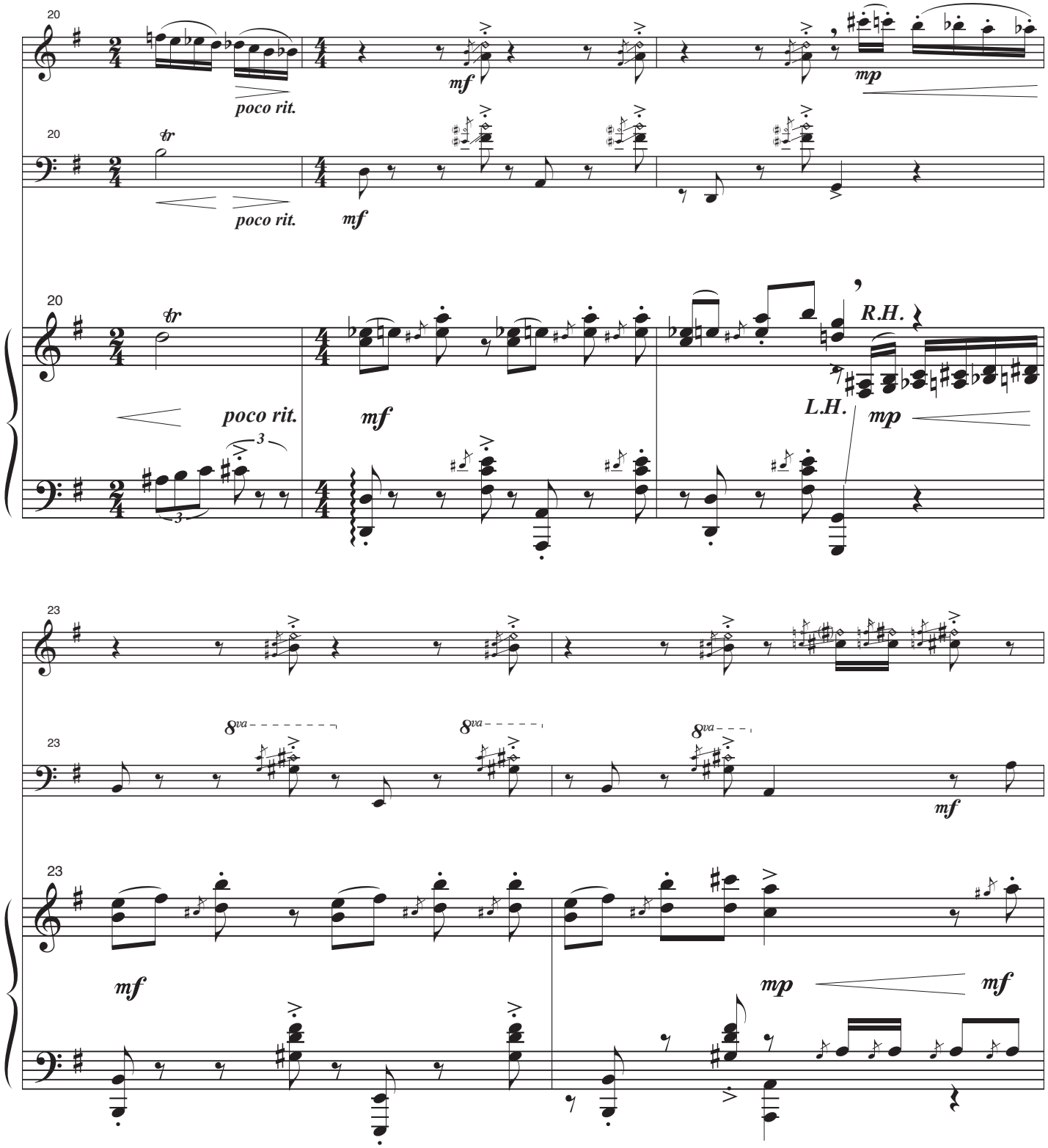

5
pizz.
arco
L.H.
7
tr
tr
f
p
pizz.
arco
f
trem.
L.H.
sfz
mp
trem.


10
mp
mf
10
pizz.
f
10
L.H.
R.H.
mp
mf
13
tr
13
arco
p
13
L.H.
R.H.


16
16
mf
16
8va
8va
18
8va
8va
8va
tr
3
18
marcato
18
3
marcato


20
poco rit.
mf
mp
tr
R.H.
L.H.
3
23
8va
mf
mp