HENRY COWELL

HILARIOUS CURTAIN OPENER AND RITOURNELLE

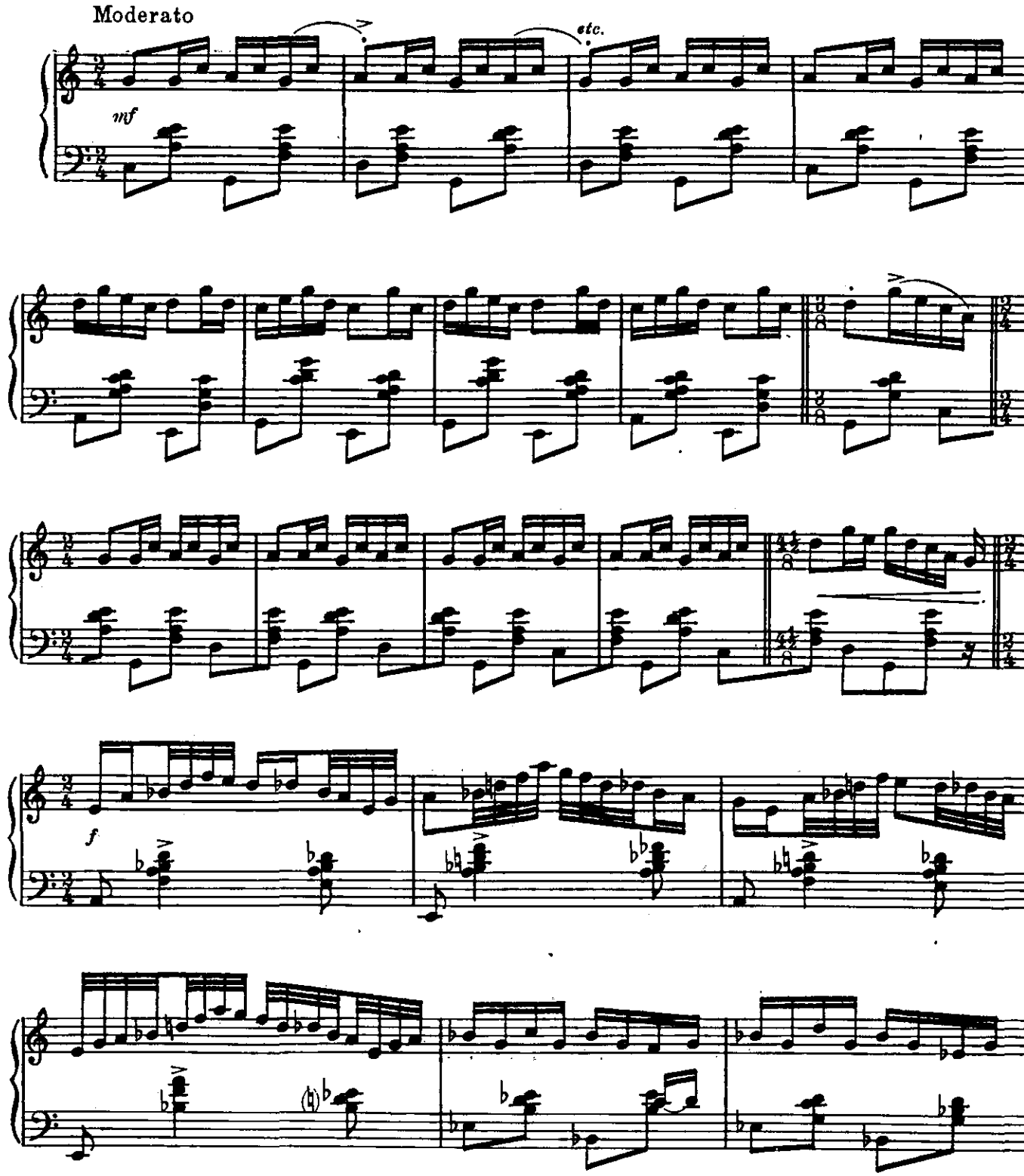
FROM INCIDENTAL MUSIC FOR "LES MARIES DE LA TOUR EIFFEL" BY JEAN COCTEAU

The present pieces are taken from Mr. Cowell's incidental music for a production of Cocteau's play that was organized at the Cornish School in Seattle, Washington, in the spring of 1939. The choreography for the production was by Bonnie Bird, and John Cage was musical director.

The 'Ritournelle' is an example of Mr. Cowell's **elastic form,** invented for the purpose of efficient long-distance collaboration with choreographers or stage-directors. In this way, Martha Graham on the East Coast and Mr. Cowell on the West produced both 'Deep Song' and 'Immediate Tragedy.'

Hilarious Curtain Opener

HENRY COWELL



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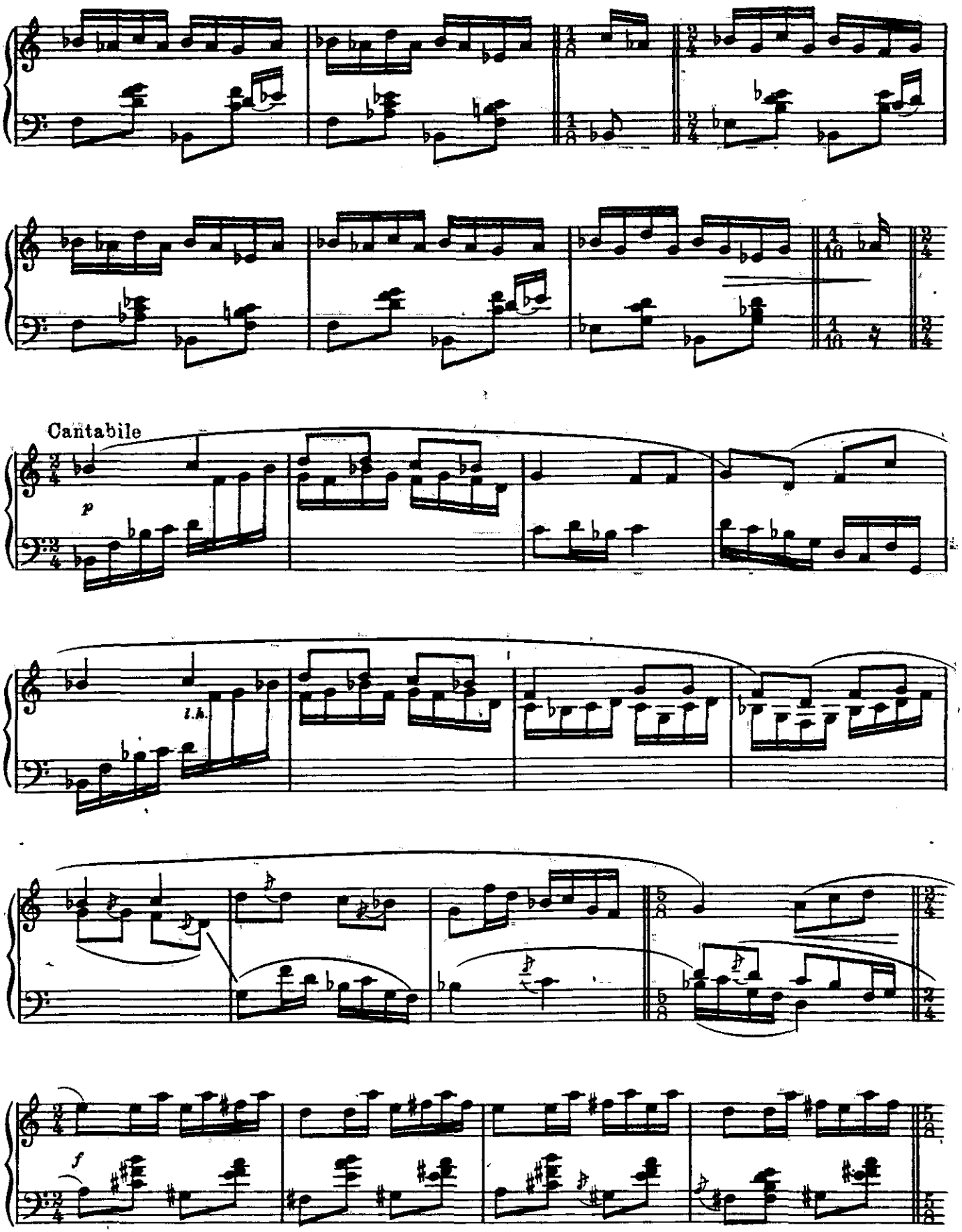
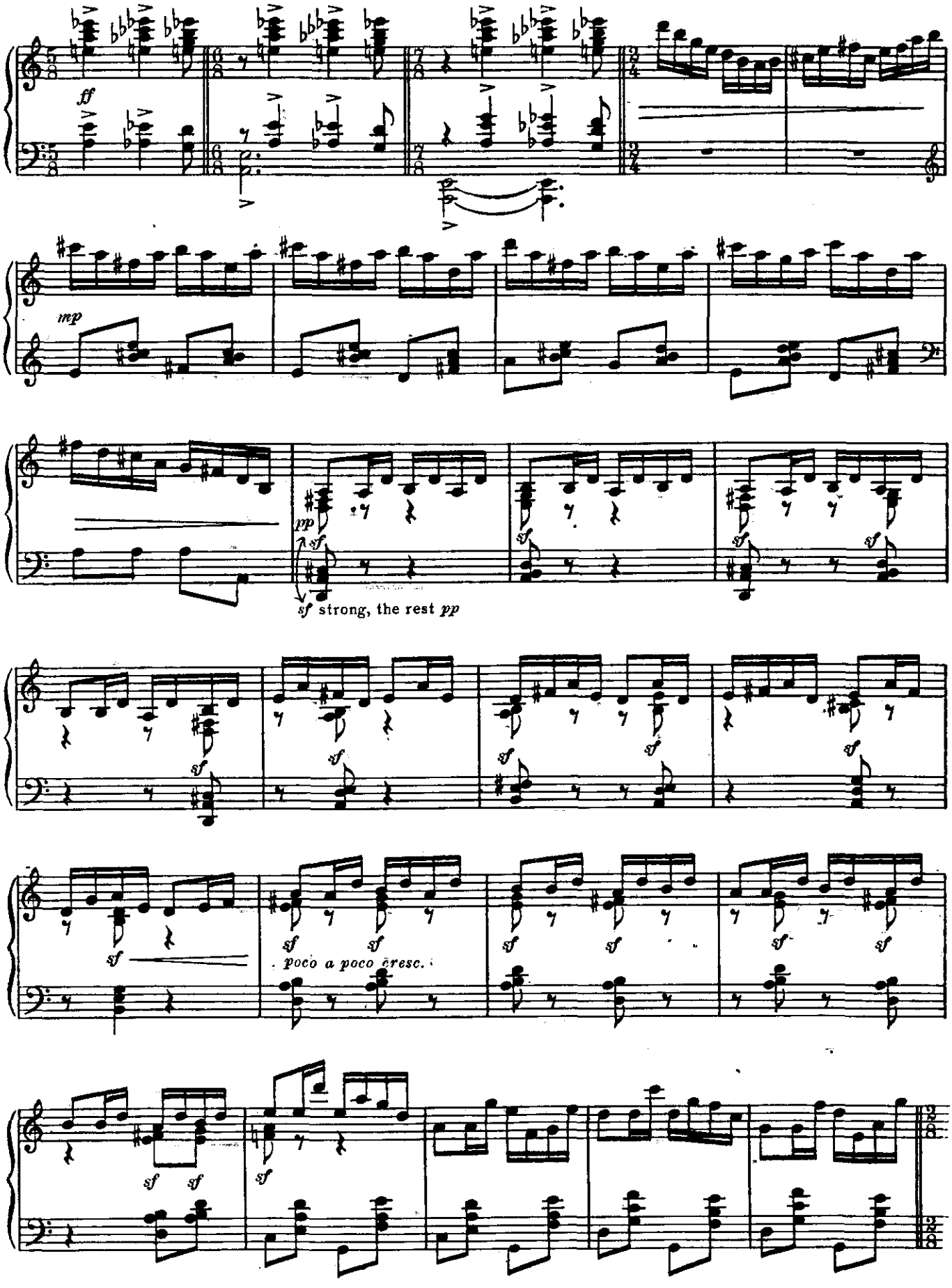
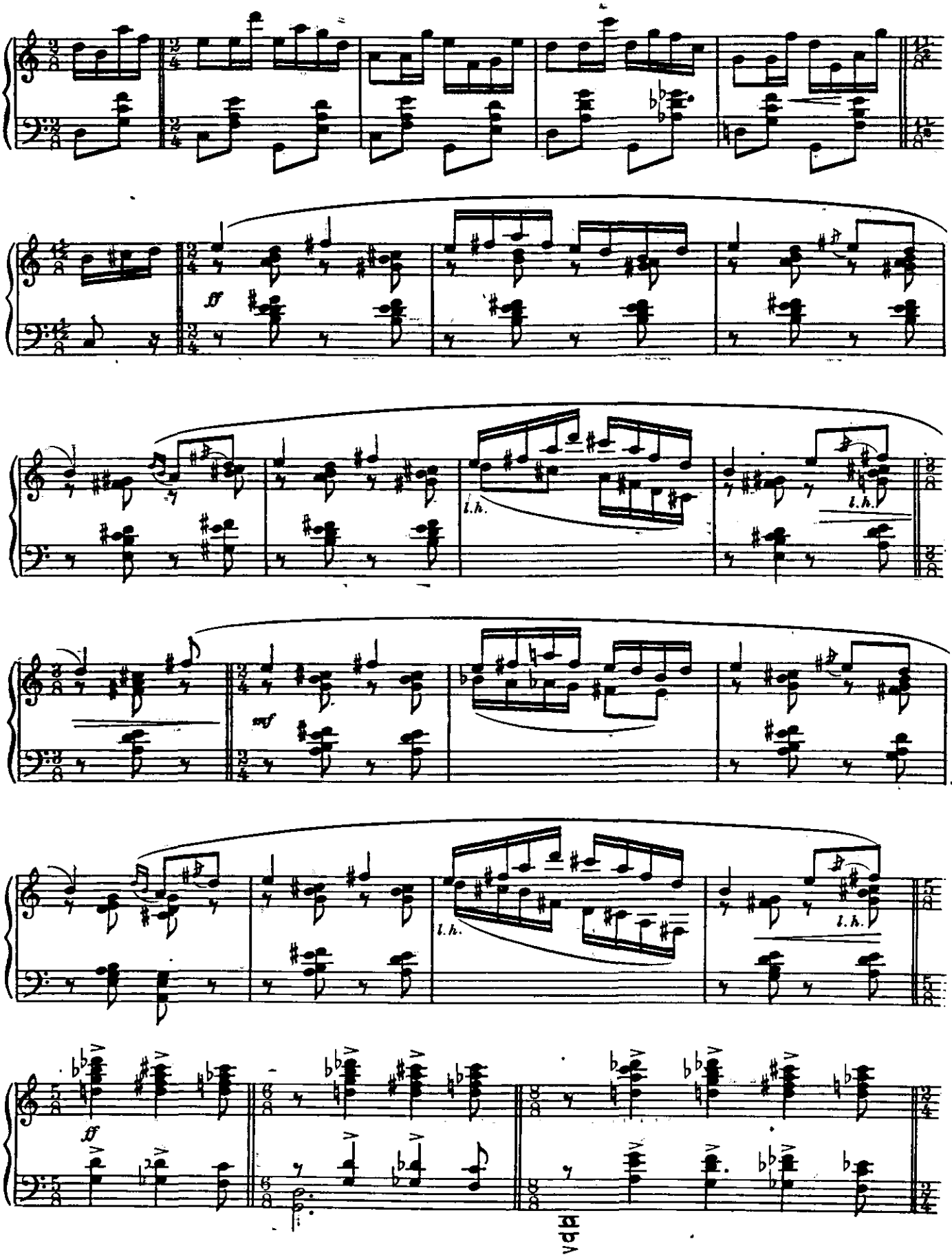
M
1
N55
v.19, no.1




ff
mp
pp
sf
sf strong, the rest pp
poco a poco cresc.


ff
l.h.
l.h.
mf
l.h.
l.h.
ff
8va

suddenly change from *ff* to *pp*

pp *l.h.* *l.h.*

accel.

Più mosso *(molto vivace)*

8va

f

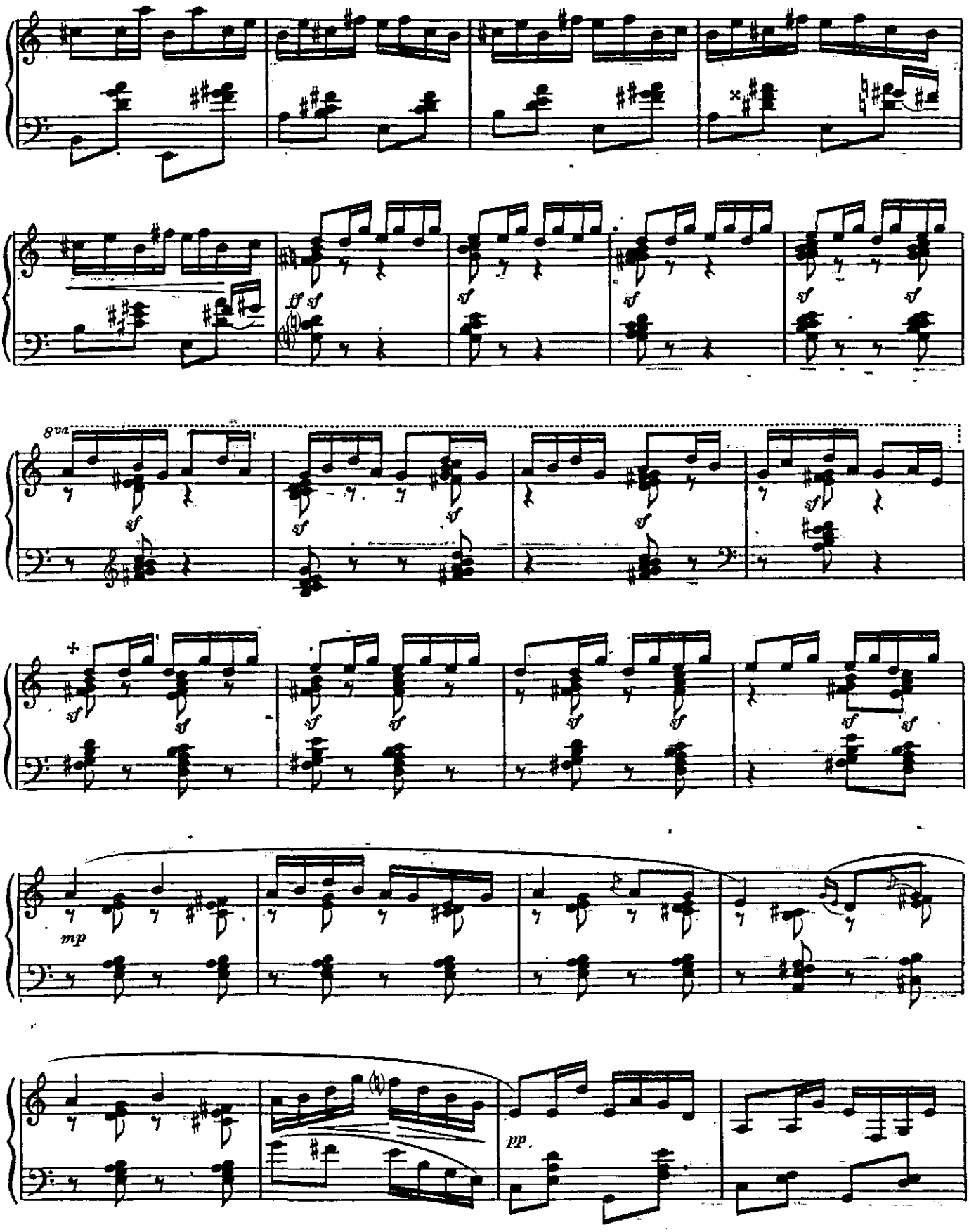
8va

Poco meno mosso

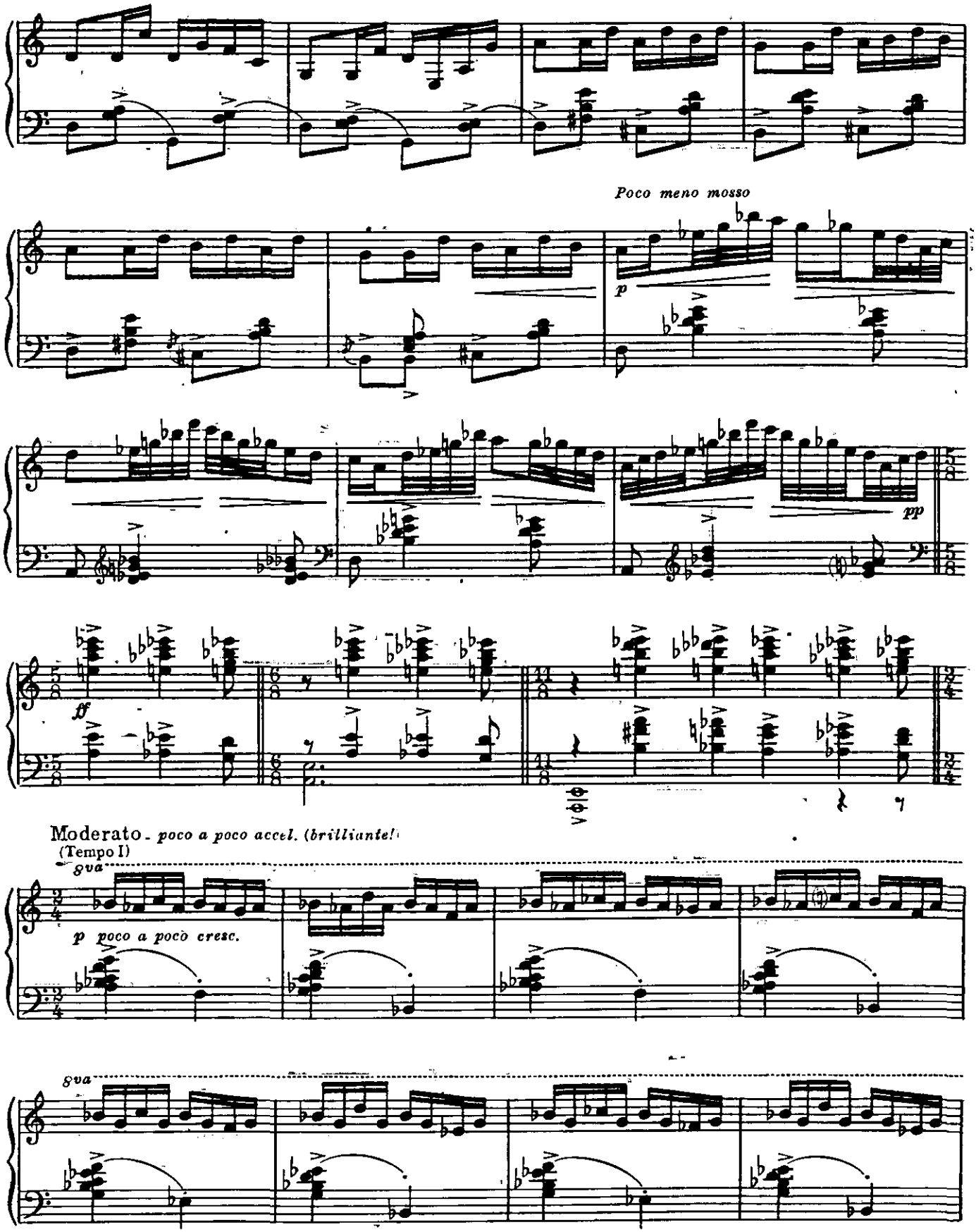
p

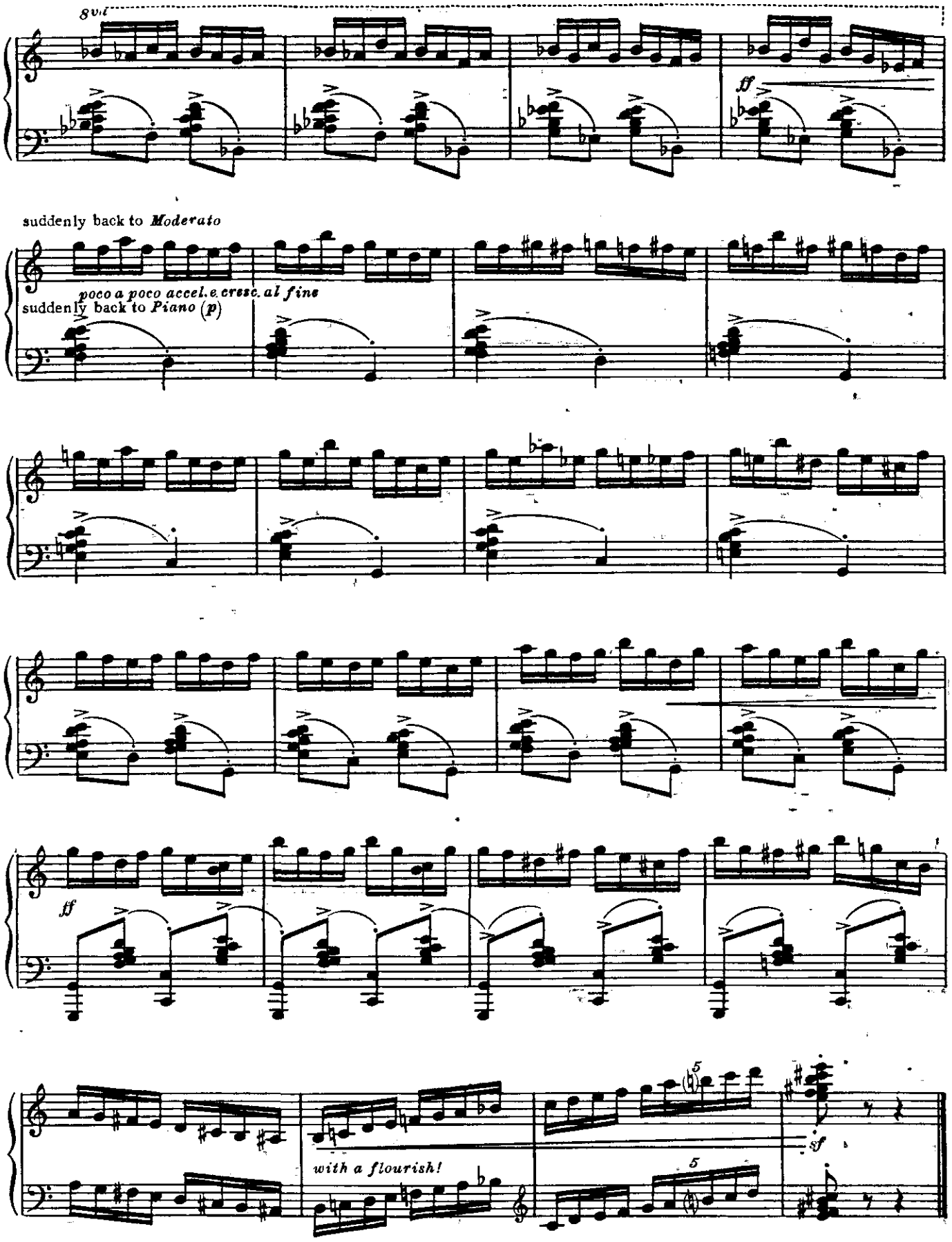
Più mosso

f



✢ If you can't wiggle your 4th and 5th fingers fast enough, leave out the lower right hand chords.

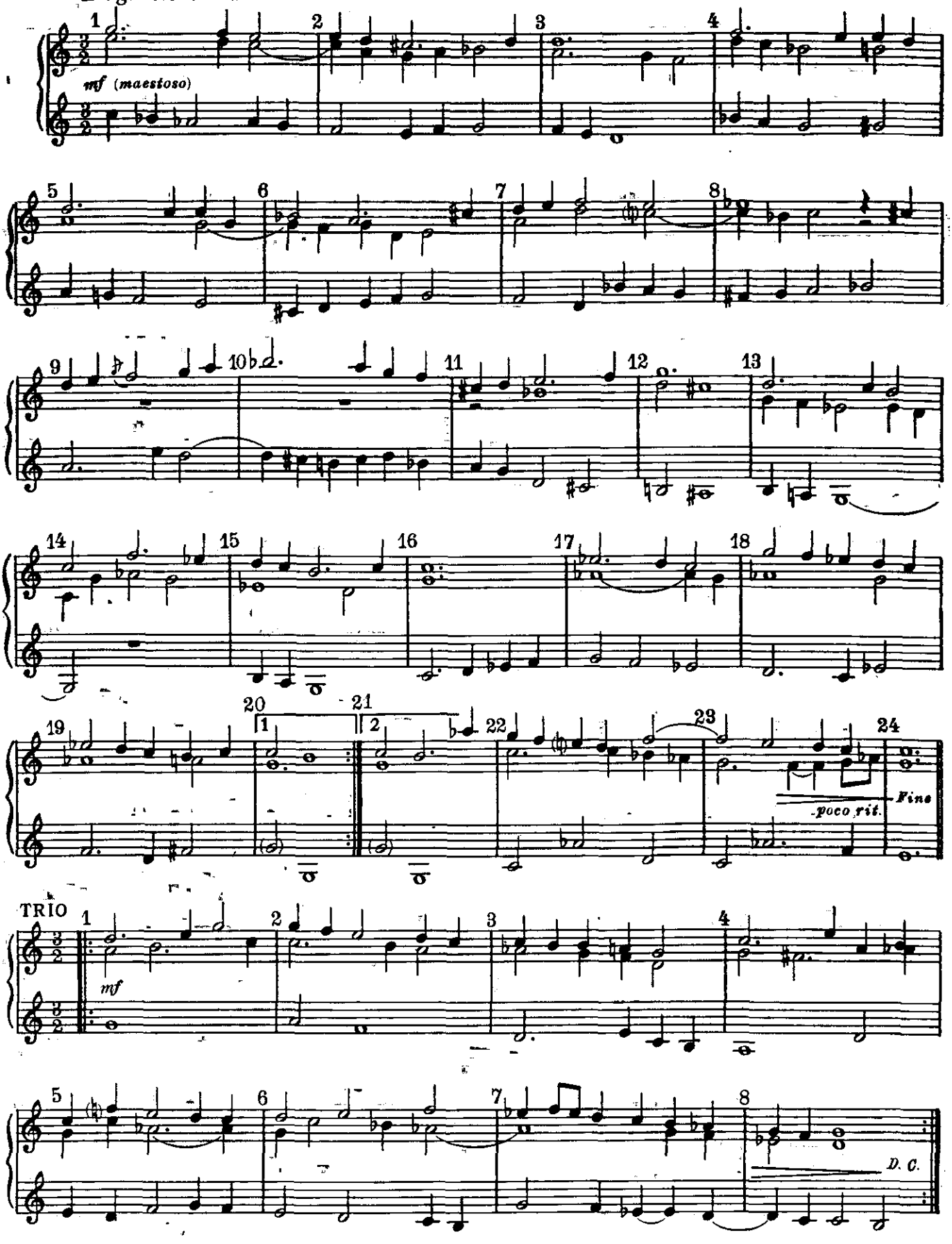

Poco meno mosso
p
pp
ff
Moderato - poco a poco accel. (brilliante!)
(Tempo I)
8va
p poco a poco cresc.
8va


8va
ff
suddenly back to *Moderato*
poco a poco accel. e cresc. al fine
suddenly back to *Piano* (*p*)
ff
with a flourish!
sf

Ritournelle

-- Larghetto cantabile

HENRY COWELL



ELASTIC FORMS OF RITOURNELLE

SECTION ONE

(Numbers refer to Measures as numbered on reverse side)

In place of Measures 23 and 24, 19 and 20 may always be used if it is desired to repeat.

3	Measure	Version:	Use	Numbers	1-23-24.
4	"	"	"	"	1-2-23-24
5	"	"	"	"	1-2-3-23-24
6	"	"	"	"	1-2-13-14-15-24
7	"	"	"	"	1-2-3-4-5-23-24
8	"	"	"	"	1-2-6-7-12-13-23-24
9	"	"	"	"	1-2-3-4-5-21-22-23-24
10	"	"	"	"	1-2-3-4-5-19-21-22-23-24
11	"	"	"	"	1-2-3-4-5-6-7-21-22-23-24
12	"	"	"	"	1 to 10, then 23 and 24
13	"	"	"	"	1 to 10, then 22-23-24
14	"	"	"	"	1 to 7, then 17-18-19-21-22-23-24
15	"	"	"	"	1 to 13, then 23-24
16	"	"	"	"	1 to 14, then 23-24
17	"	"	"	"	1 to 15, then 23-24
18	"	"	"	"	1 to 15, then 22-23-24
19	"	"	"	"	1 to 17, then 23-24
20	"	"	"	"	1 to 18, then 23-24

(20 may also be the complete section to the repeat)

SECTION TWO (Trio)

3	M	3	Measure	Version:	Use	Numbers 1-2-3
4		4	"	"	"	" 1-2-7-8
5		5	"	"	"	" 1-2-6-7-8
6		6	"	"	"	" 1-2-5-6-7-8
7		7	"	"	"	" 1-2-3-5-6-7-8
8	A	8	As written			

Other elastic constructions may be made, rather tha nthose suggested here. There are many other ways in which different measures may be fitted together plausibly.