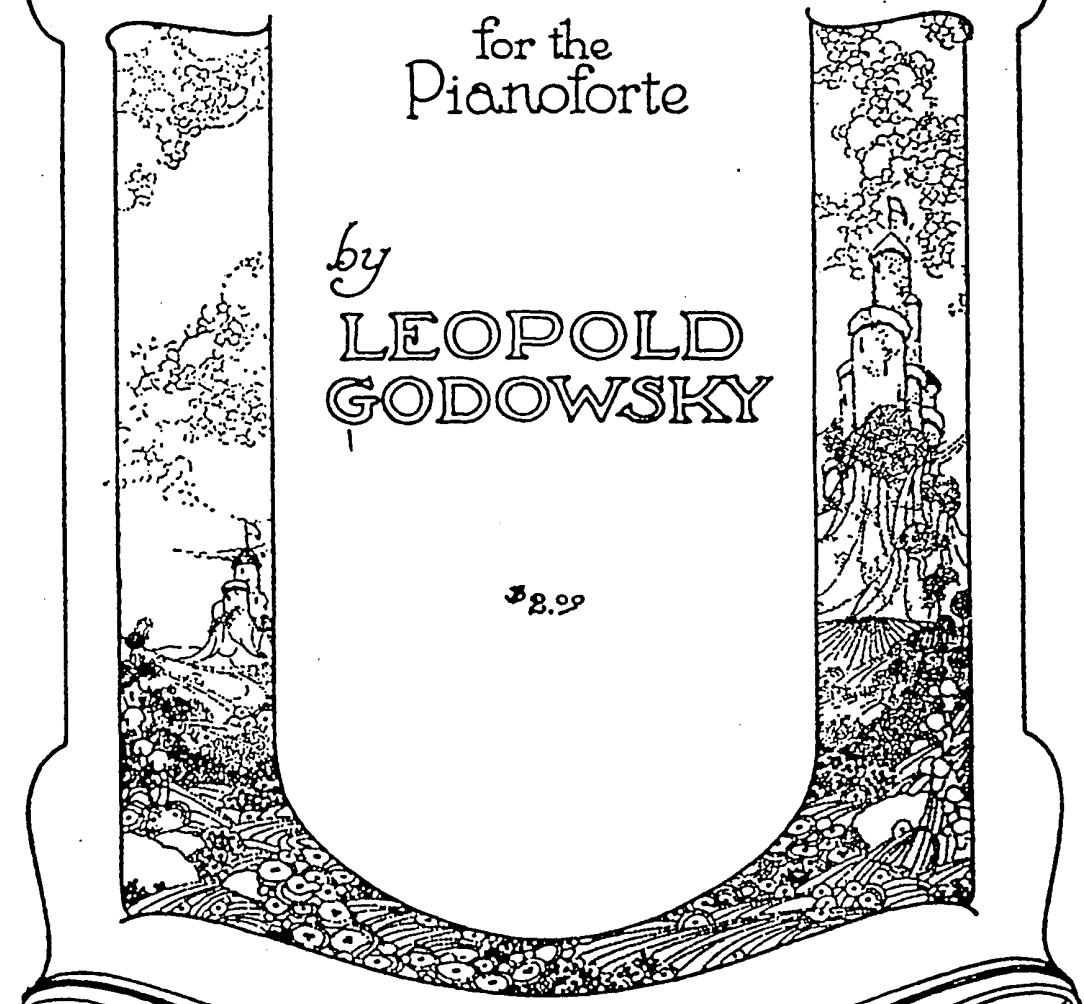
To my dear old friend, Sam Franko,
from his devoted, Leopold Godowsky New York,
March 18th 1932

PASSACAGLIA

for the
Pianoforte

by
LEOPOLD
GODOWSKY

$2.00



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Prefatory Remarks.

THE theme of my Passacaglia is based upon the first eight measures of Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. This Passacaglia consists of forty-four Variations, a Cadenza and a Fugue. The analysis and description of and comment upon this work I leave to the serious student and interested scholar.

This composition, written on the eve of the hundredth anniversary of Franz Schubert's death, is my heartfelt tribute to this precious and prolific genius, who, despite his short and uneventful life, succeeded so admirably in translating our innermost emotions into music.

With the exception of Chopin, I know of no other composer whose lyricisms have touched the heart of so many; whose melodies have become so thoroughly the treasured property of all civilized nations; whose tone-imageries have so sensitized and refined our poetic susceptibilities.

I will feel fully rewarded, should this contribution to the approaching commemoration prove to be worthy of the occasion.

LEOPOLD GODOWSKY

Atlantic City, N. J.

November 7th, 1927 .

Passacaglia

LEOPOLD GODOWSKY

Andante moderato (about ♩ = 100)

*) The theme of the Passacaglia should stand out in all variations, sufficiently to be noticed, but not too prominently when it is not the leading voice.

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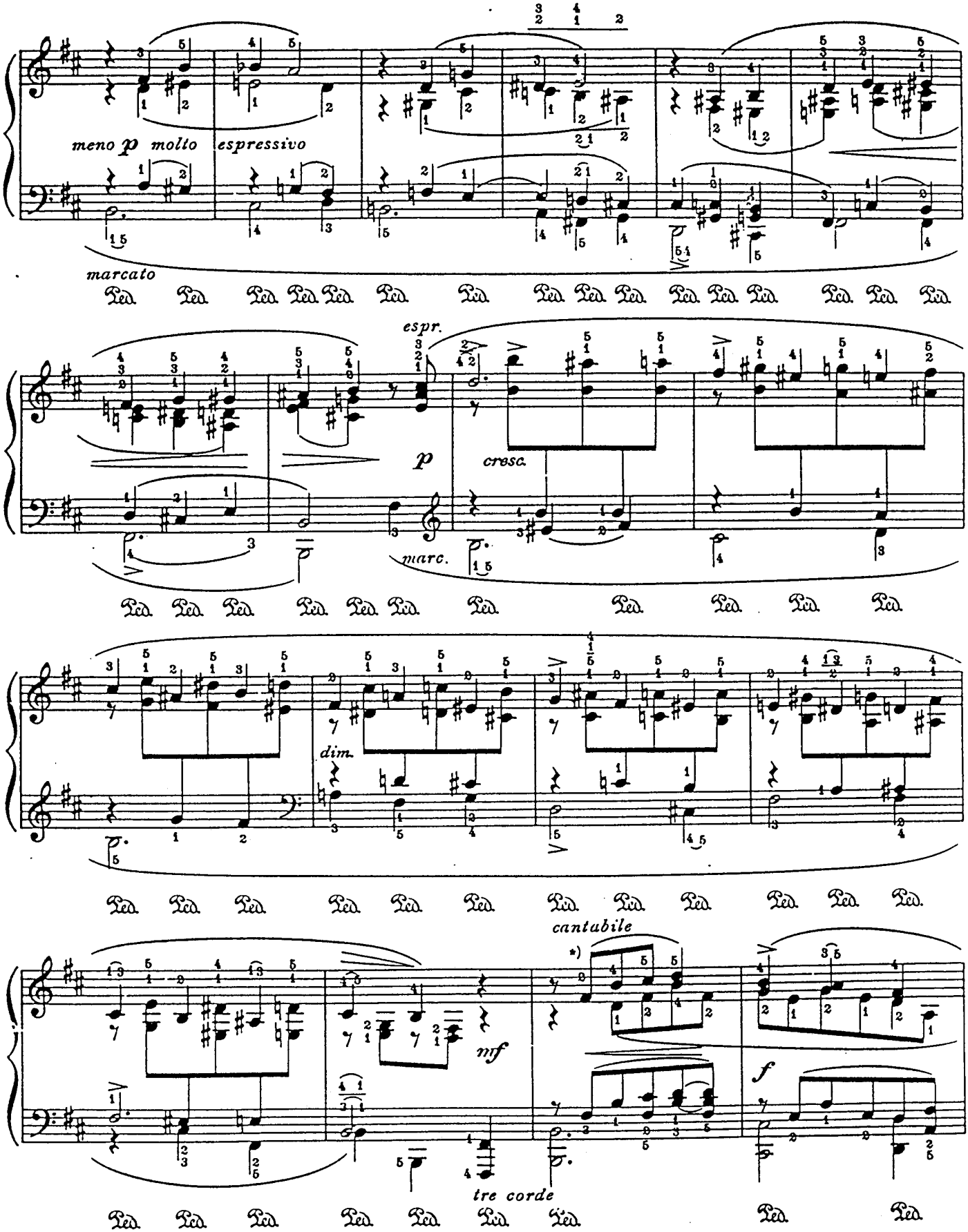


*) The upper voice is a contraction of the Passacaglia theme.

molto dim.
espr.
una corda
pp
p
marc.
(senza pedale ad libitum)
poco cresc.
dim.
pp
leggiero
p
marc.
(senza pedale ad libitum)

8
Ped.
pp cantabile
l.h.
r.h.
p staccatissimo
sopra
sotto
(Ped. obligatory) tre corde
leggiero
pp
pp dolcissimo
una corda

poco cresc.
dim.
poco
pp rall.
p cantabile
tranquillo
a tempo
poco
cresc.

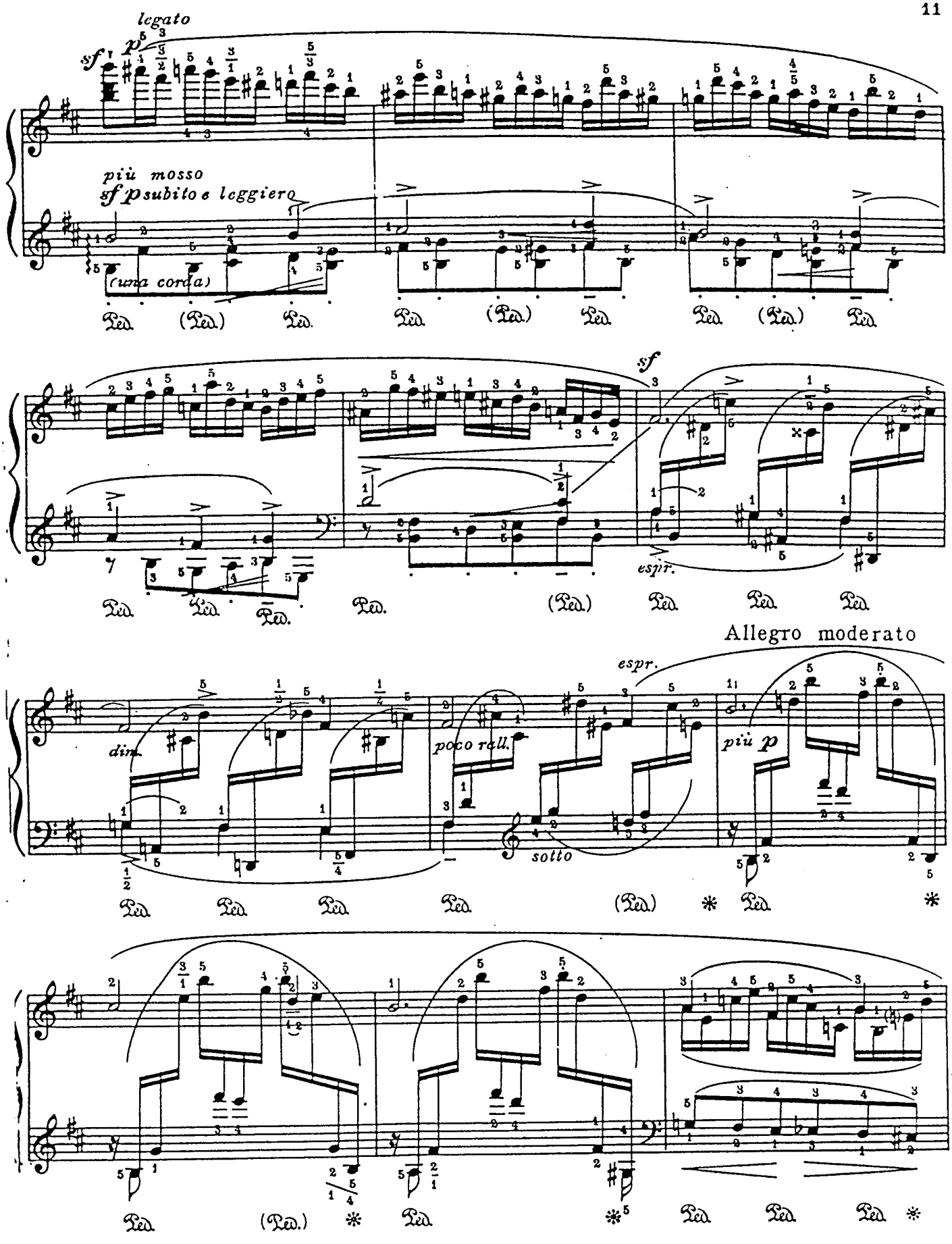
molto espressivo
dim. e rall
più p
a tempo
molto cresc.
con fuoco ed appassionato
ff non legato
tre corde

molto dim.
sf
molto espressivo
pp
sostenuto (più lento)
una corda
poco cresc.
dim.
pp

ppp
senza pedale
sempre
pp
molto cresc. ed agitato
8f
ff con fuoco
tre corde

Allegro moderato

non legato, articolato


legato
sf
p
più mosso
sf p subito e leggiero
(una corda)
Ped.
sf
espr.
Allegro moderato
espr.
dim.
poco rall.
sotto
più p

Ped. (Ped.) * Ped. Ped. * Ped. Ped.
rall.
pp
p leggiero
a tempo (allegro moderato)
marc.
*Ped. *Ped. *Ped. Ped. *
Ped. Ped. Ped. *
p
molto cresc.
sf
ff
Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.
tre corde

*) This ♮C may be played by the fifth finger of the left hand.

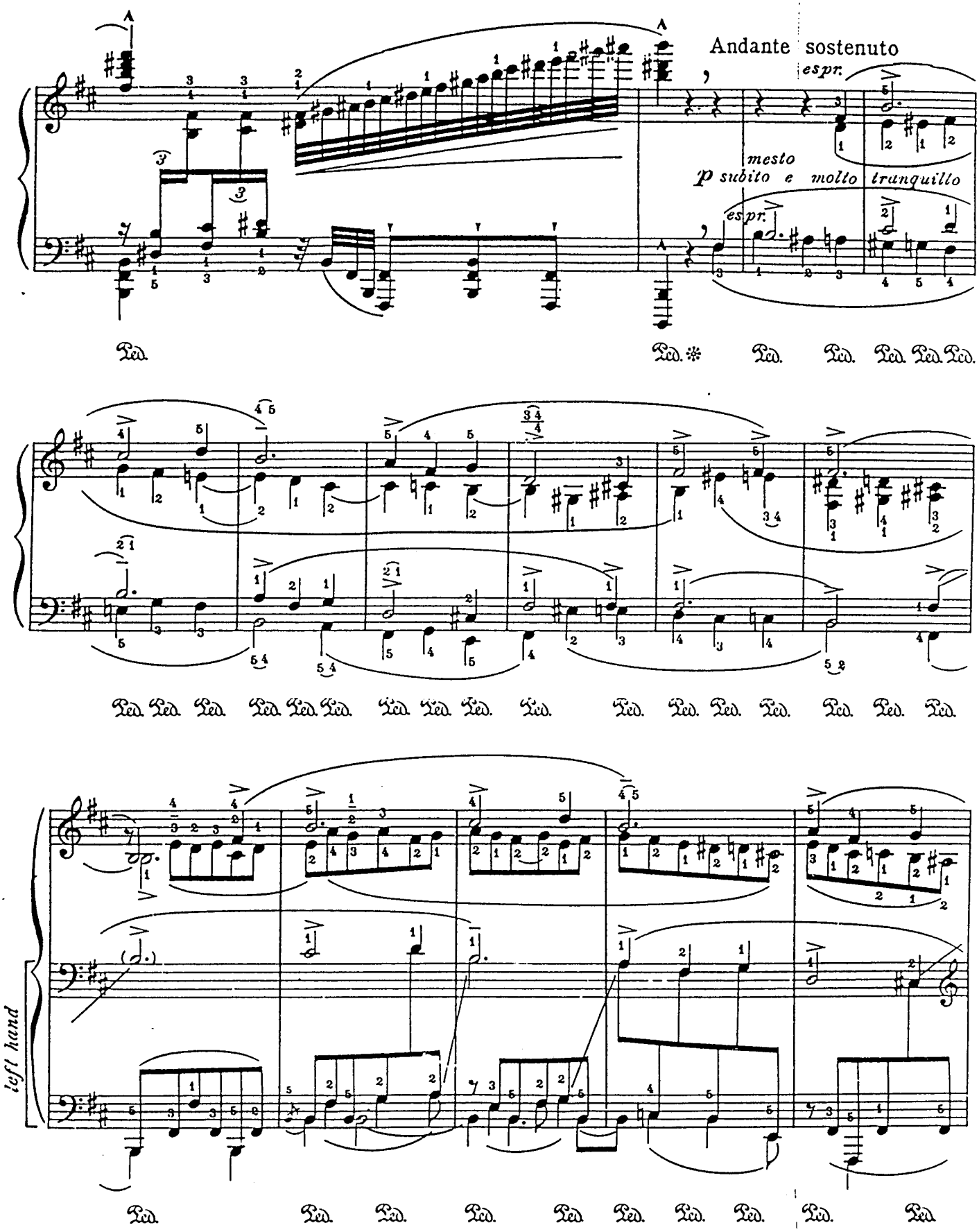
sf dolcissimo e tranquillo
sf sf sempre ff
espr.
p subito e legato
sf
una corda
con tenerezza
dim.
più p
rall. e dim.

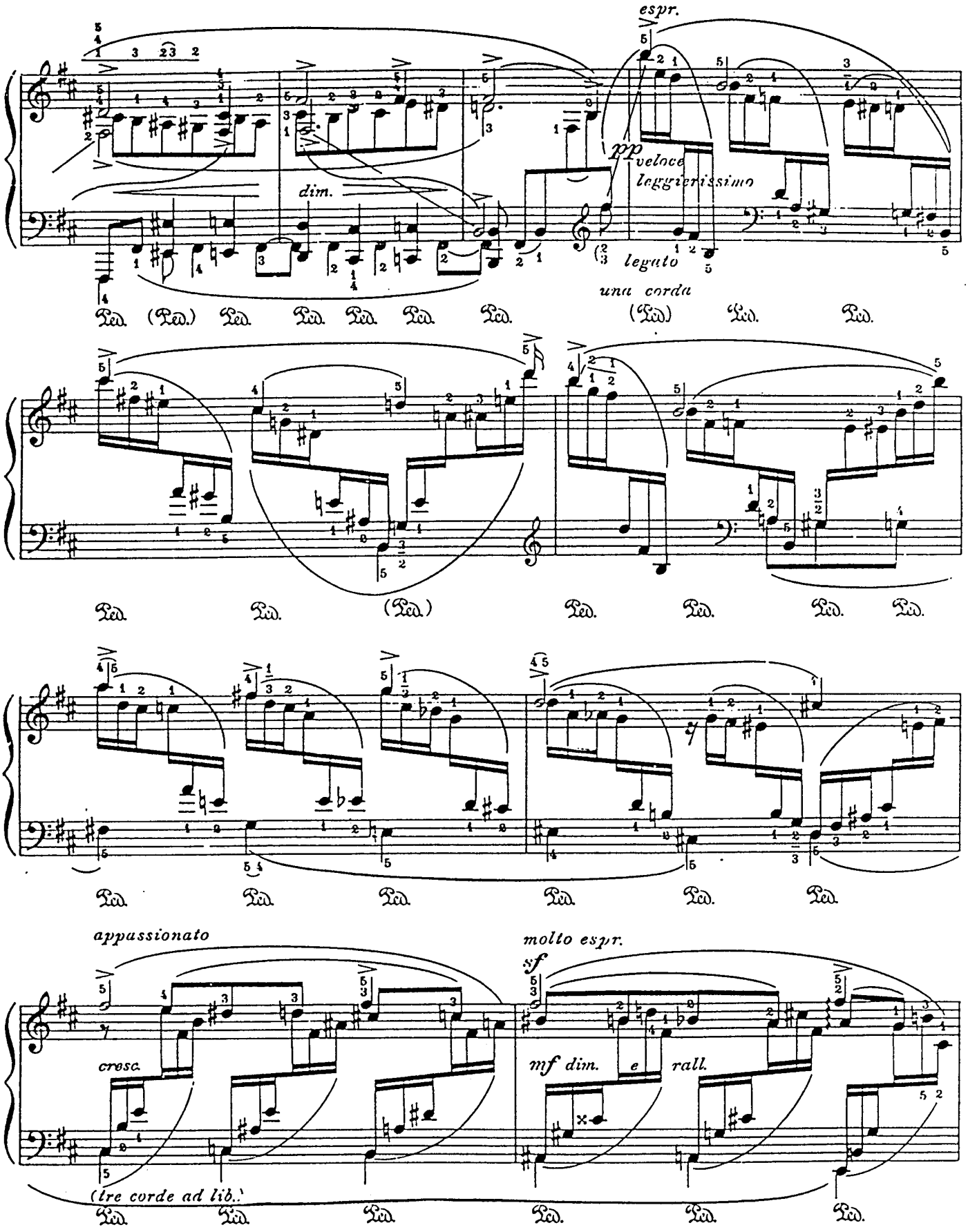
right hand
pp
molto tranquillo(più lento)
pp armonioso
poco a
poco più rall.

Allegretto
p
espr.
tranquillo
molto cresc.
f
ff
sf
tre corde
energico
ff non legato e martellato

con brio
sempre ff e non legato

fff


Andante sostenuto
espr.
mesto
p subito e molto tranquillo
espr.
left hand


espr.
pp
velocissimo
leggierissimo
dim.
leguto
una corda
appassionato
molto espr.
sf
cresc.
mf dim.
e
rall.
(tre corde ad lib.)

Allegretto grazioso
espr.
p
più rall. e dim.
più p
sfp
sfp
p
sfp
sfp
tre corde
sfp
sfp
leggiero
Ped.
(*)

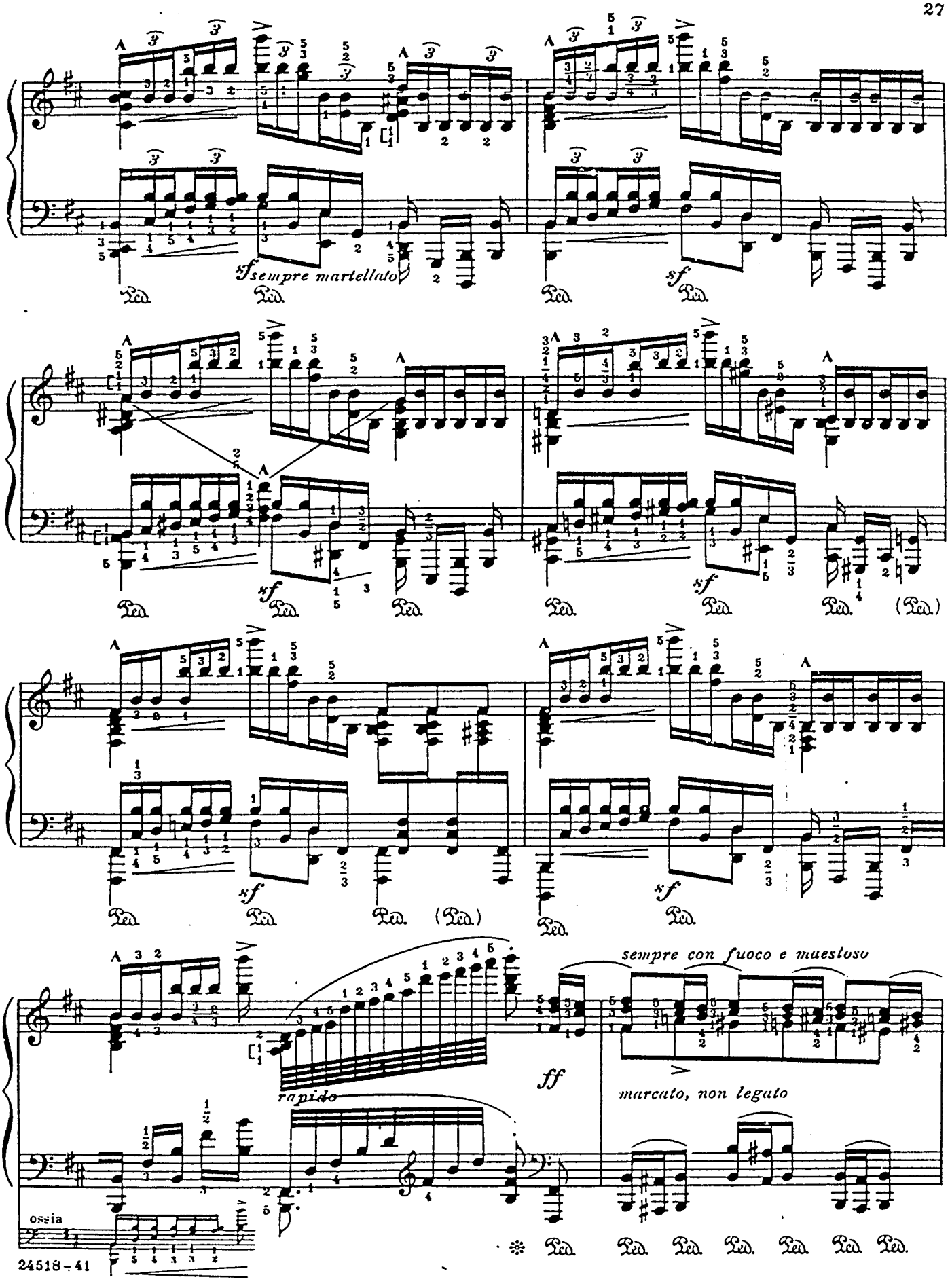
p tranquillo
una corda
Ossia:
più p
p
poco rall.
a tempo
p

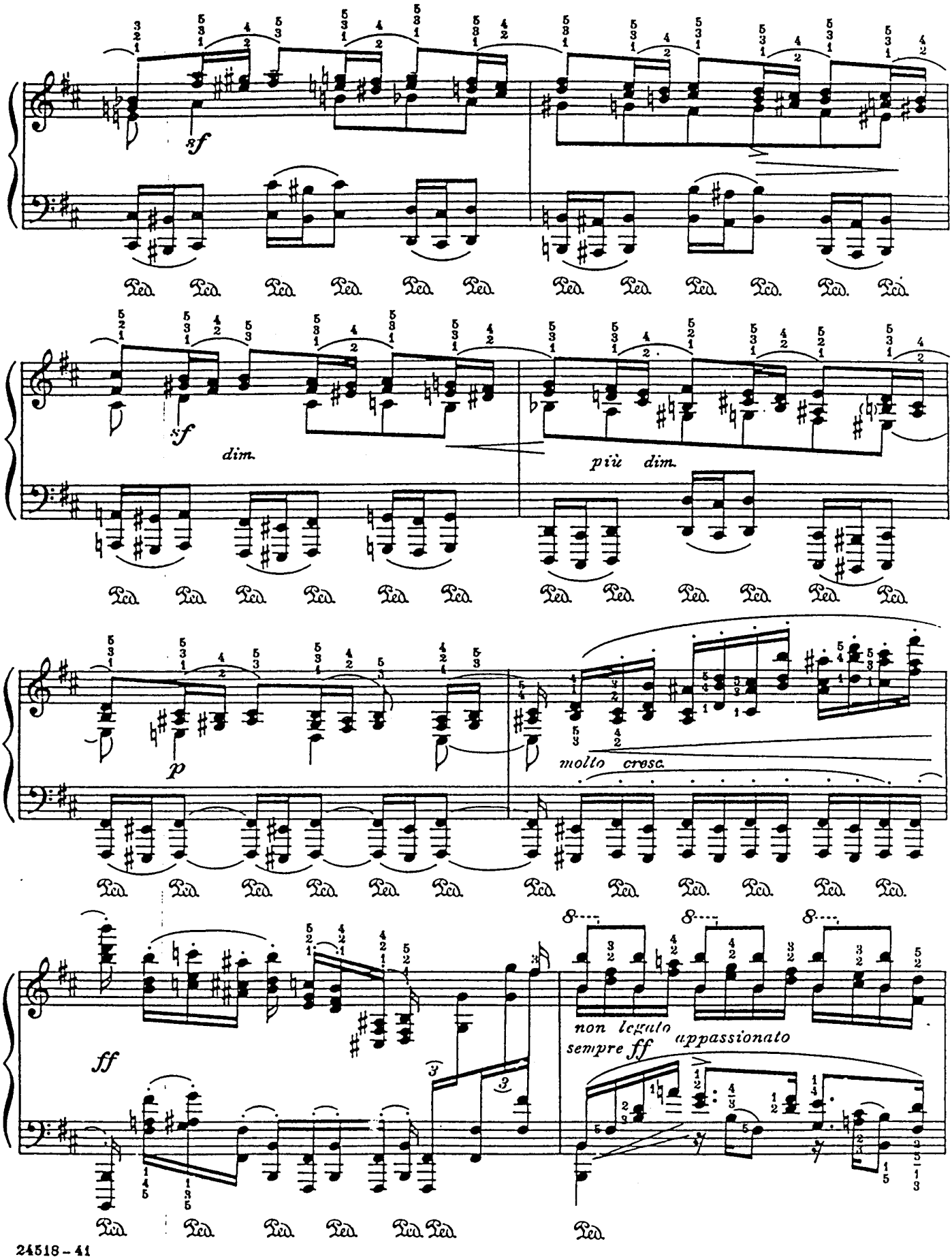
espr.
tranquillo
marcato
Ped.
appassionato
f subito, agitato
dim.
tre corde
(Ped.)
calmando
p
una corda
rapido
pp poco rall.
f subito
tre corde

ff molto meno mosso
left hand
left hand
left hand

poco rall.
più rall. e dim.
pp
ff
molto agitato
più mosso
meno f e calmando
espr.

molto dim.
rall.
espr.
tranquillo
p
marcato
f
ff con fuoco, sempre non legato
sf martellato
(Erlking)


sempre martellato
sempre con fuoco e maestoso
rapido
marcato, non legato
ossia


sf
sf
dim.
più dim.
p
molto cresc.
ff
non legato
sempre ff
appassionato

Ped.
(Ped.)
Maestoso
ff
tr

*) A faster trill is advisable.

*) If the omission of the Fugue is desired, the Passacaglia should end here.

Atlantic City, N.J., September 25th, 1927.

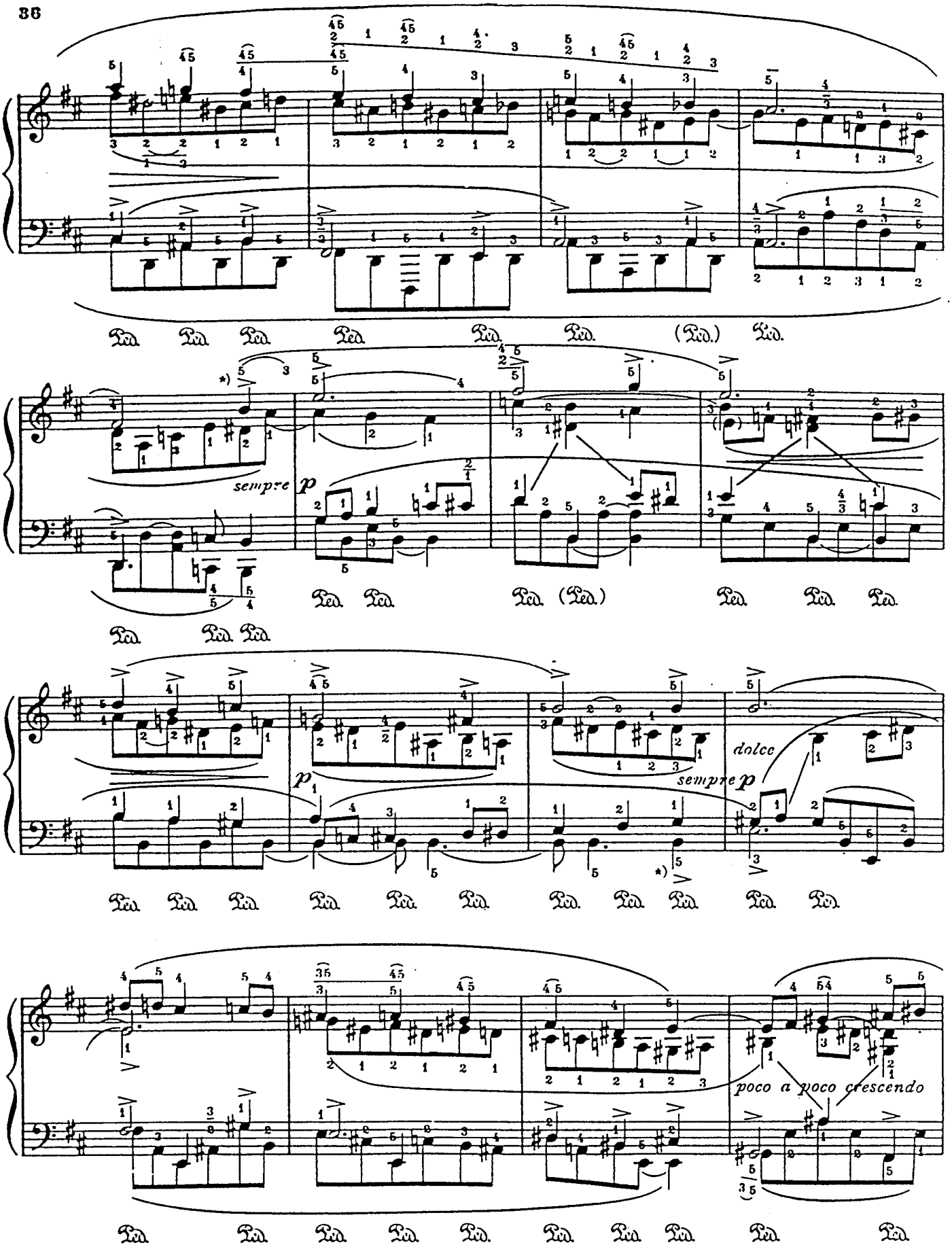
Andante espressivo (Epilogue)
p
una corda
Ped.
pp
rall.
smorzando
Cadenza
8
pp veloce
sempre pp
cresscendo
tre corde

molto cresc.
più f
ff meno mosso
meno f
mp più sostenuto
una corda
p
più rallentando e dim.
ppp

Fuga

Andante sostenuto (about ♩. = 46)

*) The accents should be played softly and expressively; the theme should stand out unobtrusively.



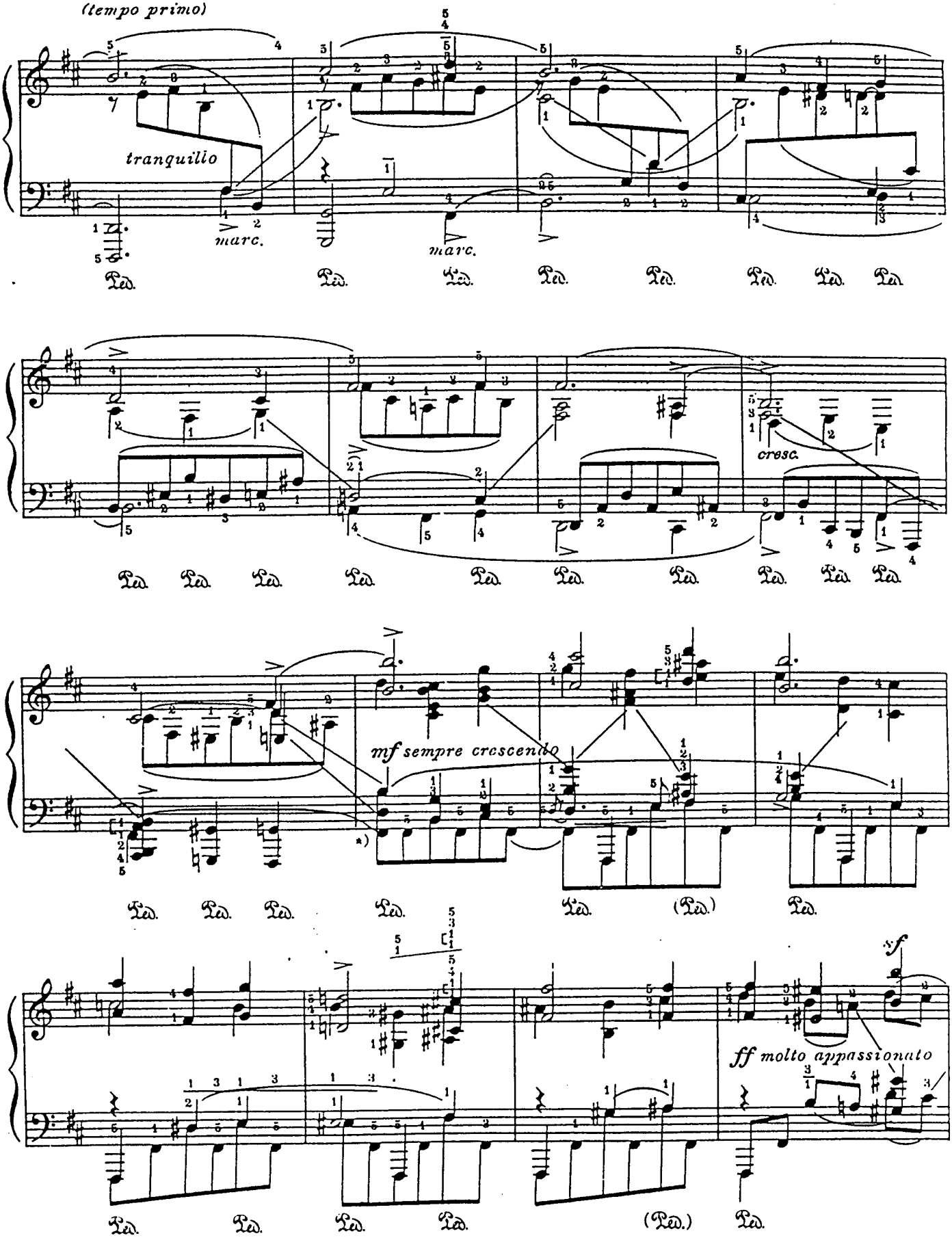
*) The accented notes should be played very softly and expressively; the theme should stand out unobtrusively.

e più animato
sf
tre corde
f
(Ped.)
dim.
p cresc.
più f ed agitato
poco a poco più f
sf
ff

*) The stems upward are intended for the right hand, downward, for the left hand.

left hand
Ped.
(Ped.)
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
(Ped.)
Ped.
cresc.
p
sf
left hand
p cresc.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
(Ped.)

più cresc.
cresc.
più cresc.
left hand
Ped.
dim. e calmando
espr.
p più rall.
più p
marc.
left hand
dim. e calmando
p più rall.
più p
Ped.



 *) In the following eleven measures, the Organ-point must be emphasized persistently.

New York, October 21st. 1927.