BRELLS

for Brass & 3 Octave Handbells
…with optional rhythm section

by

Matt Johnson

www.MattJohnsonMusic.com

DOLCE & NUIT PRODUCTIONS

COMPOSER'S NOTES

HANDBELLS: *The division of labor for the lower two parts may be somewhat unorthodox, but works well. Positions 1 & 2 play* ***all*** *the bass clef bells…with some sharing…and Position 2 occasionally rings Db5.*

- Position 1 bell assignments: C4, D♭4, E4, G4, A♭4, B♭4 & B4.
- Position 2 bell assignments: D4, E♭4, F4, G♭4, A4, C♭5, C5, & (D♭5).

BRASS: *Parts for C, B-flat and E-flat instruments are included—depending on the instrumentation available for the performance. A solo brass instrument can play the melodic line if needed.*

RHYTHM SECTION: *I've included chord symbols above the handbell part for a rhythm section to augment the performance if the director so desires. The suggested rhythm section might include bass, drums & cymbal (rolls) and enter at measure 3.*

- ***Drums*** *should play light cymbals in the 6/8 sections and "groove" in the 4/4 measures. In measures 11 & 15, simply "mark" the beat on high hat initially; similar measures later on should have a light groove with a firm backbeat.*
- ***Bass*** *should play softly and simply throughout in the upper registers.* ***Please*** *anticipate the bass notes in the 6/8 sections with the handbells.*
- ***Cymbal*** *swells may transition into the different musical sections as desired.*

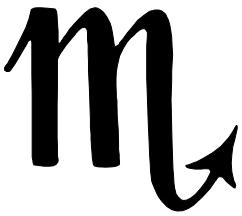
Important: Any added rhythm section should never cover up the delicate bells…simply support the rhythm.

FYI: *The musical idea for this piece came in 1989 while I was playing a "gig" at Harvard University…you just never know when inspiration may strike!*

- *The engraving of this work was done by the composer.*

Namaste,

Matt Johnson



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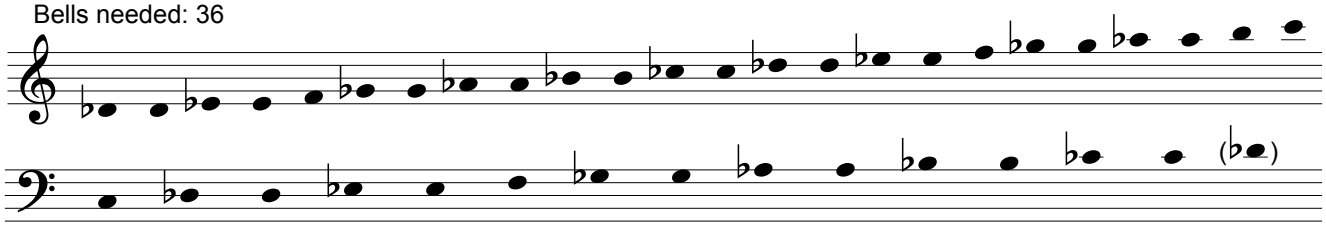
BRELLS

(for Brass & Handbells…with optional rhythm section)

3 octaves
Bells needed: 36



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Energetic (♪ = 176) **(♪ = ♪ throughout)**

Brass

Handbells

mf

2

Cymbal roll

(Rhythm section - IN)

FMaj7 C9 FMaj7 C9

3 4

f LV LV LV LV

FMaj7 C9 G

5 6

Sk R

LV LV LV R

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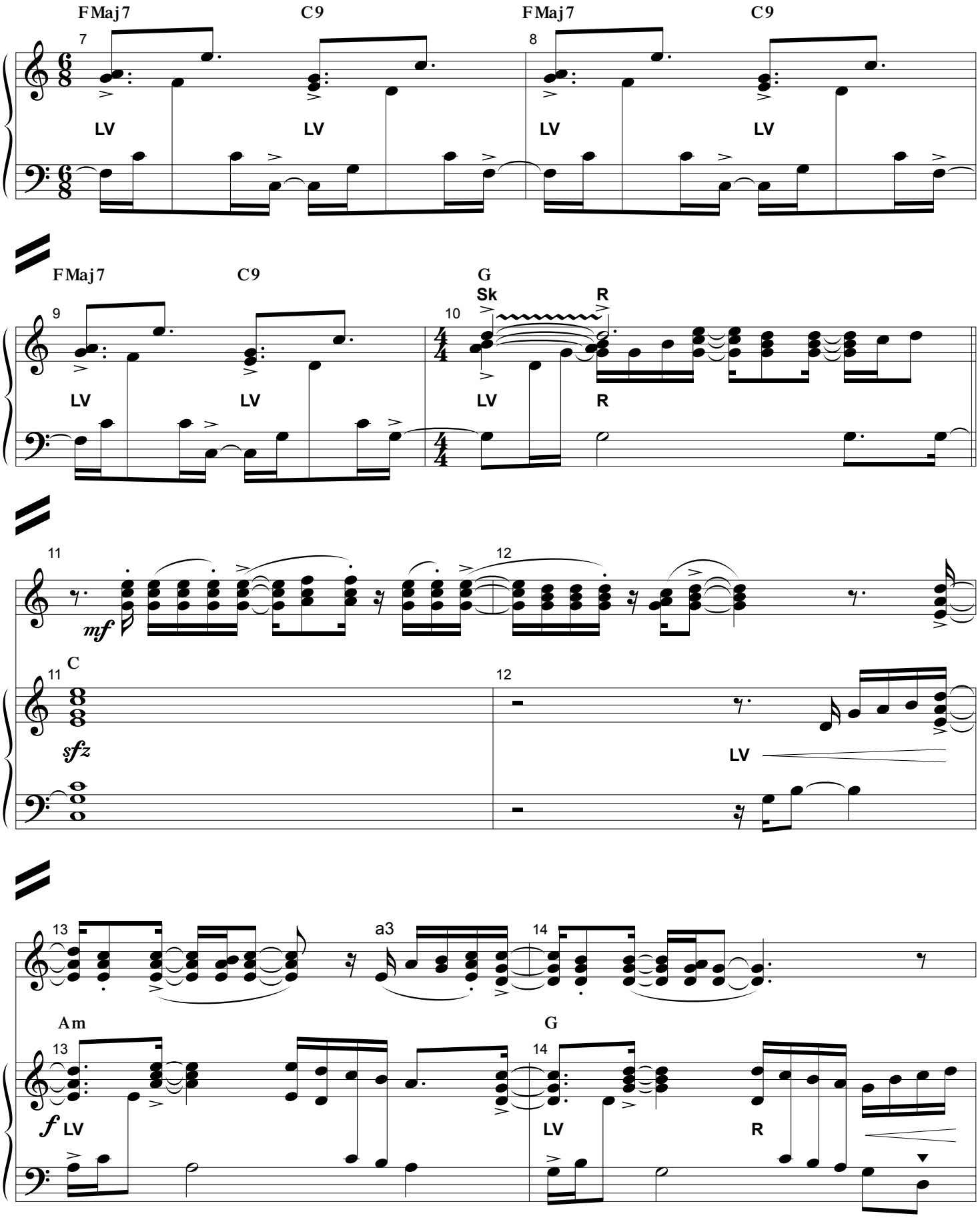
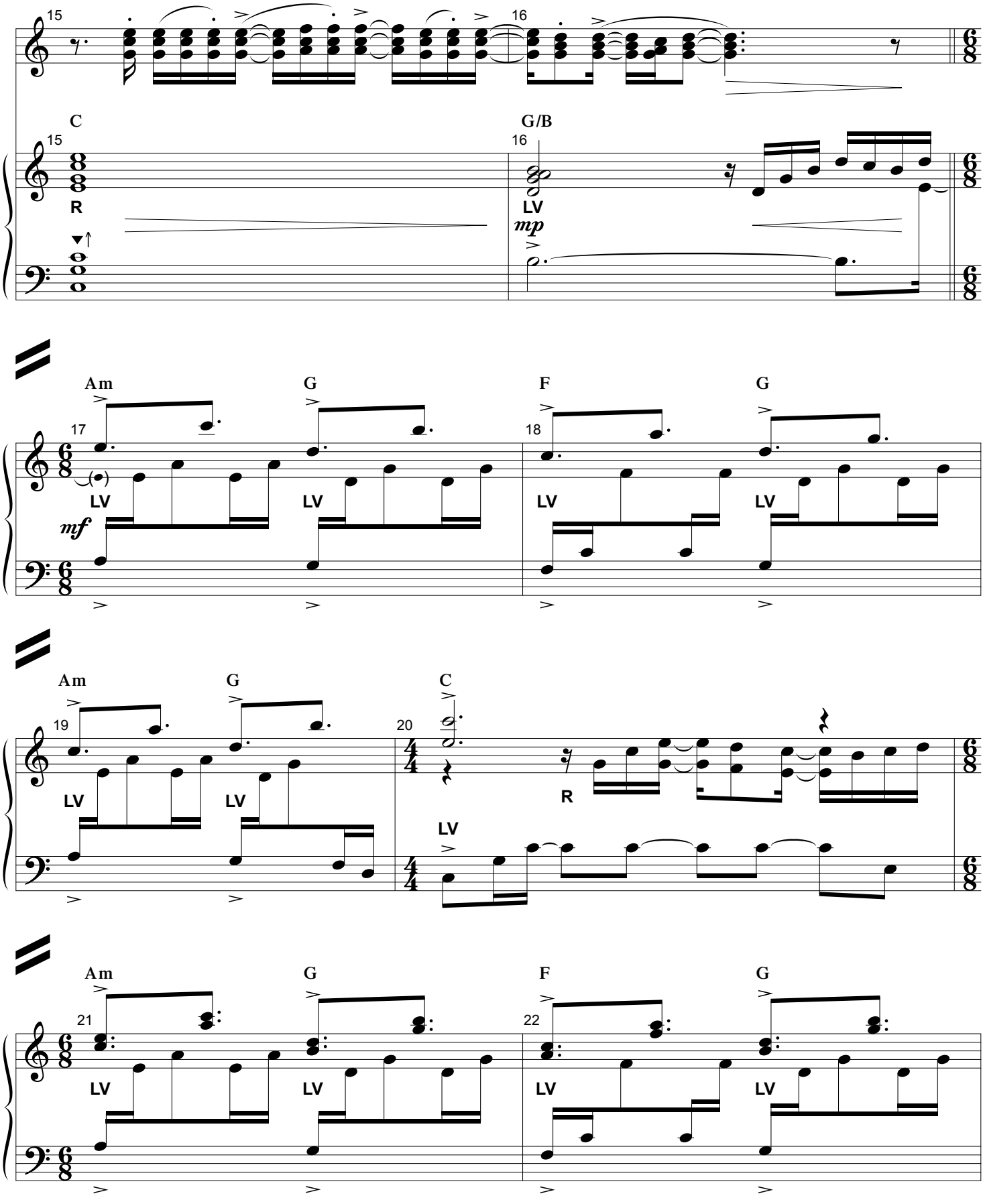
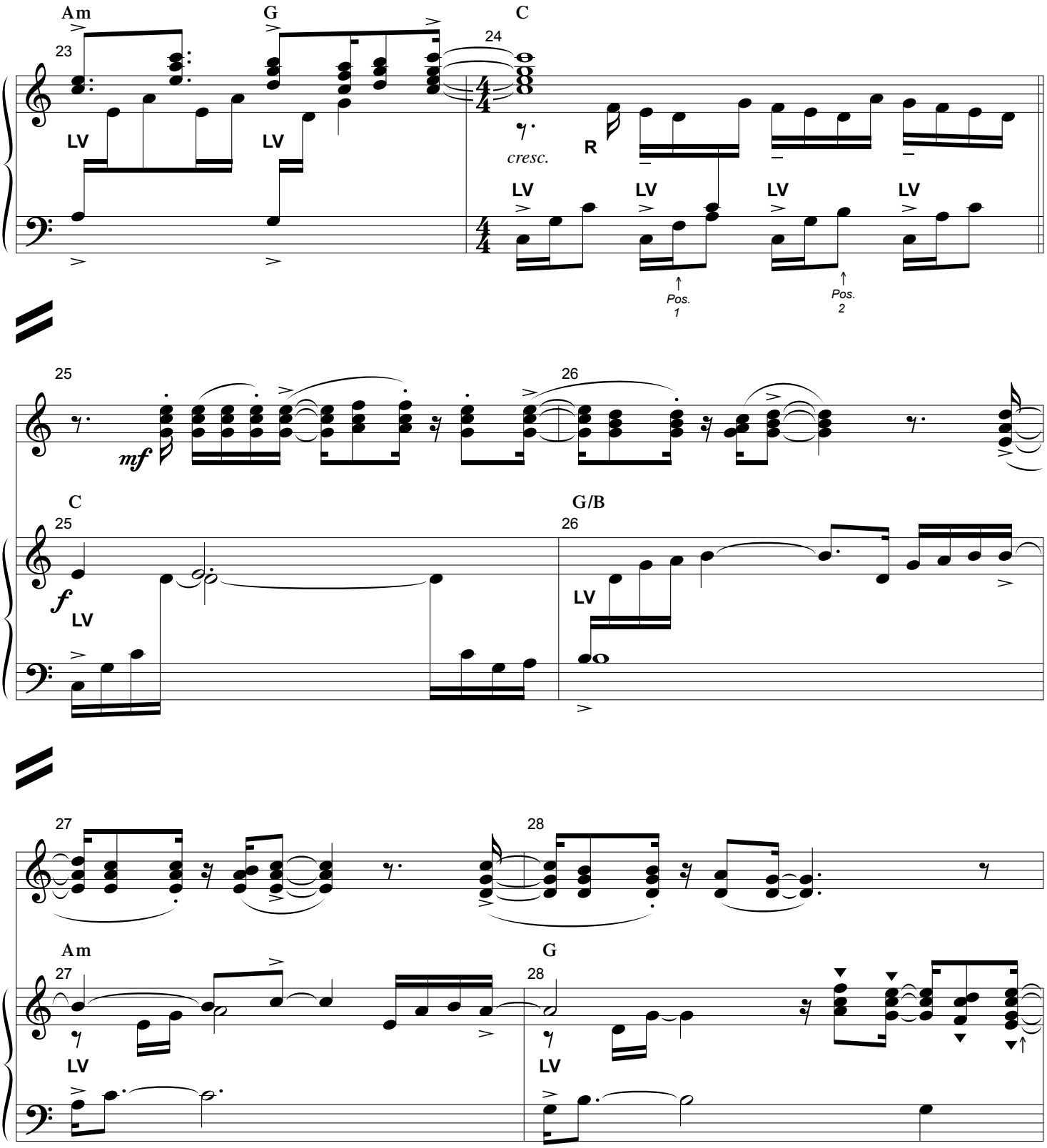
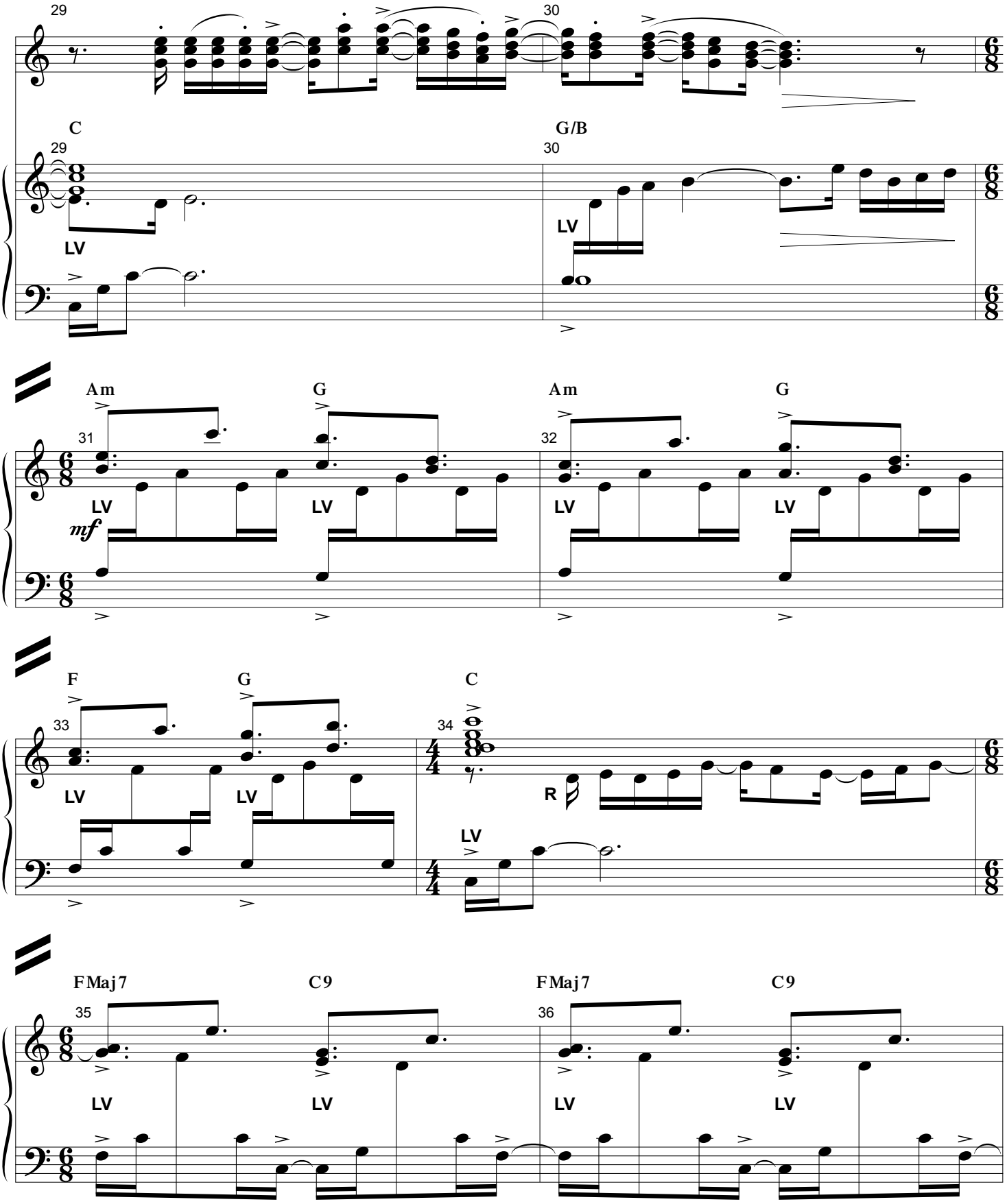
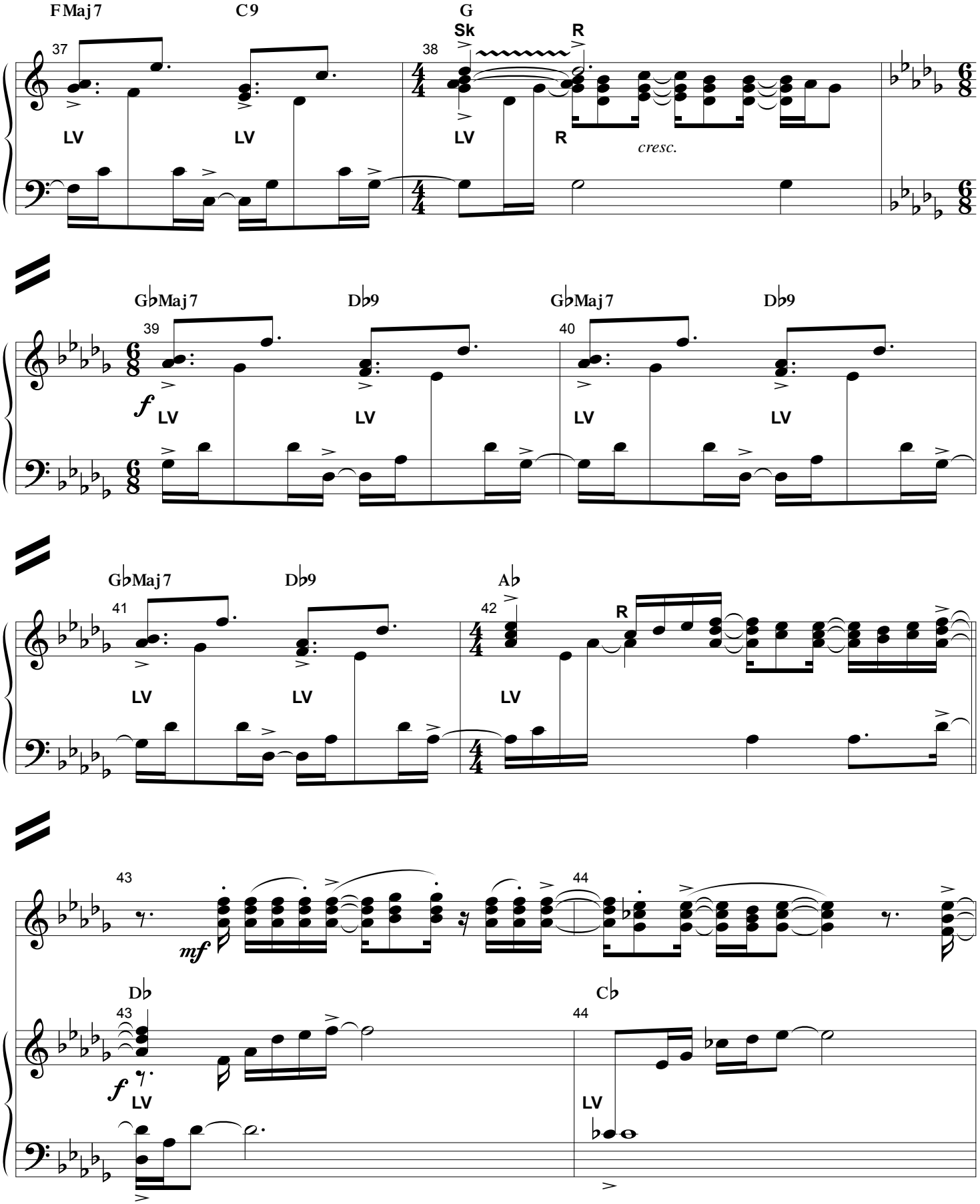
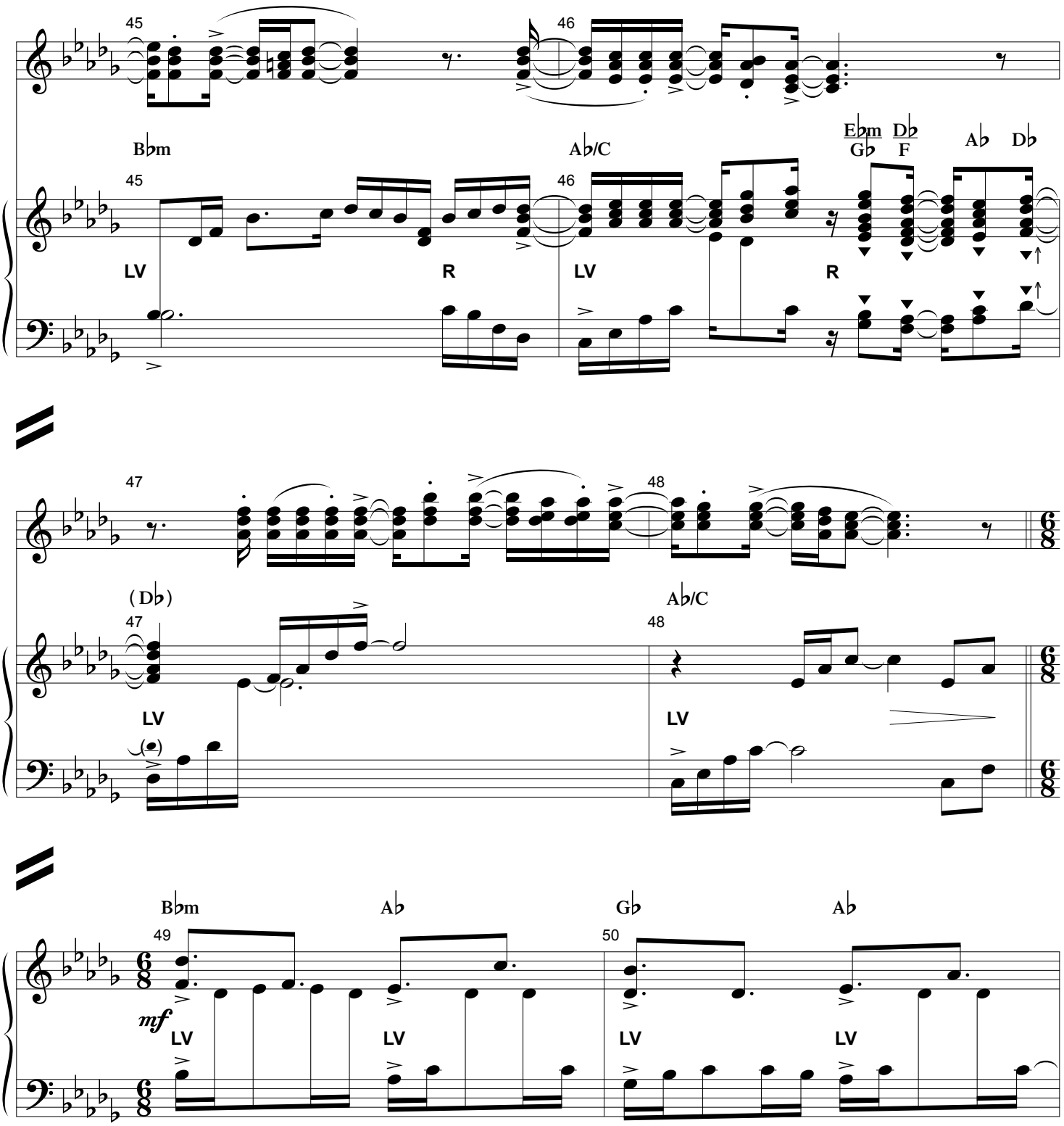

FMaj7
C9
FMaj7
C9
7
8
LV
LV
LV
LV
FMaj7
C9
G
Sk
R
9
10
LV
LV
LV
R
11
12
mf
C
11
12
sfz
LV
13
a3
14
Am
G
13
14
f
LV
LV
R

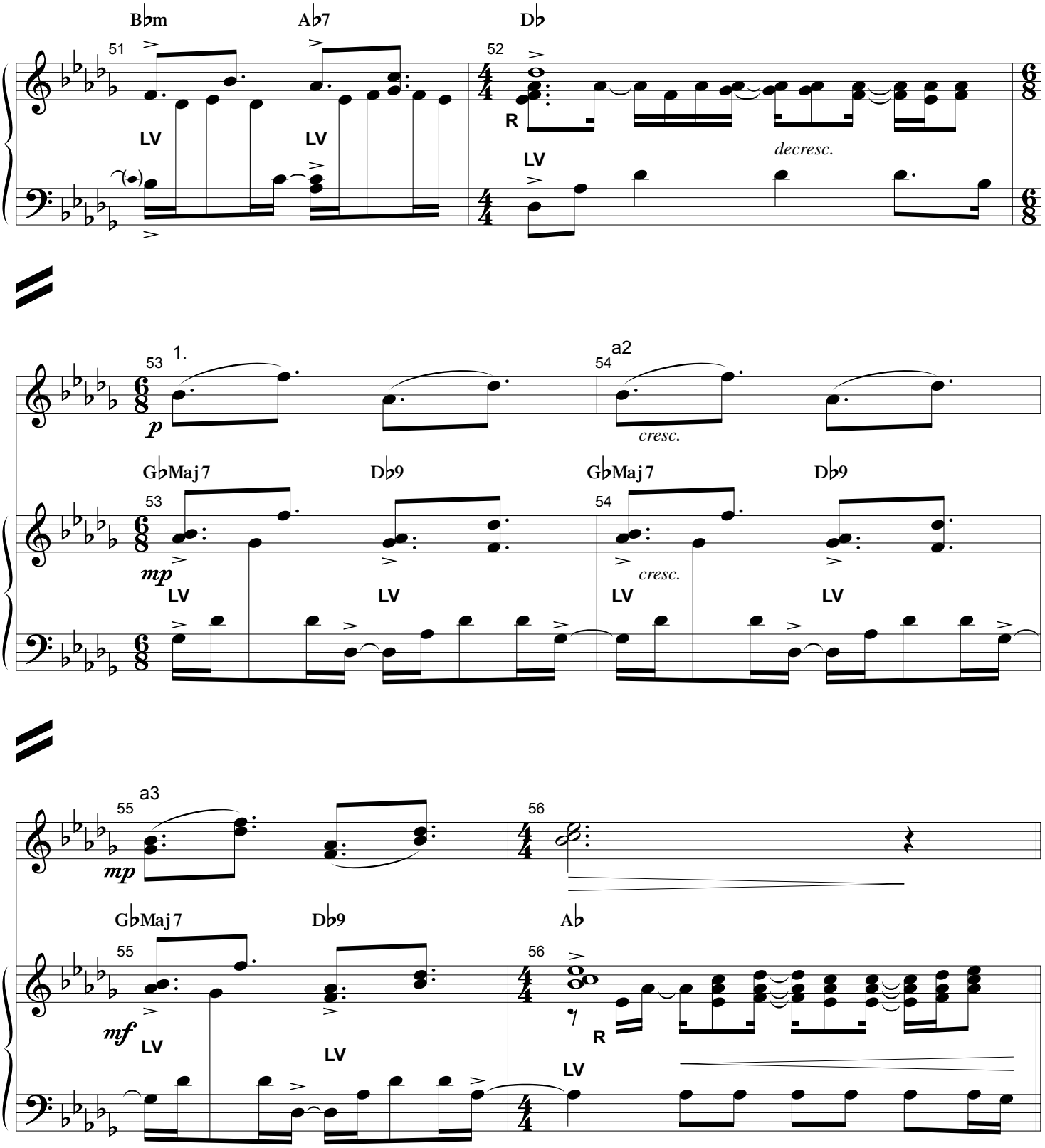

15
16
C
G/B
R
LV
mp
Am
G
F
G
17
18
LV
mf
19
20
21
22

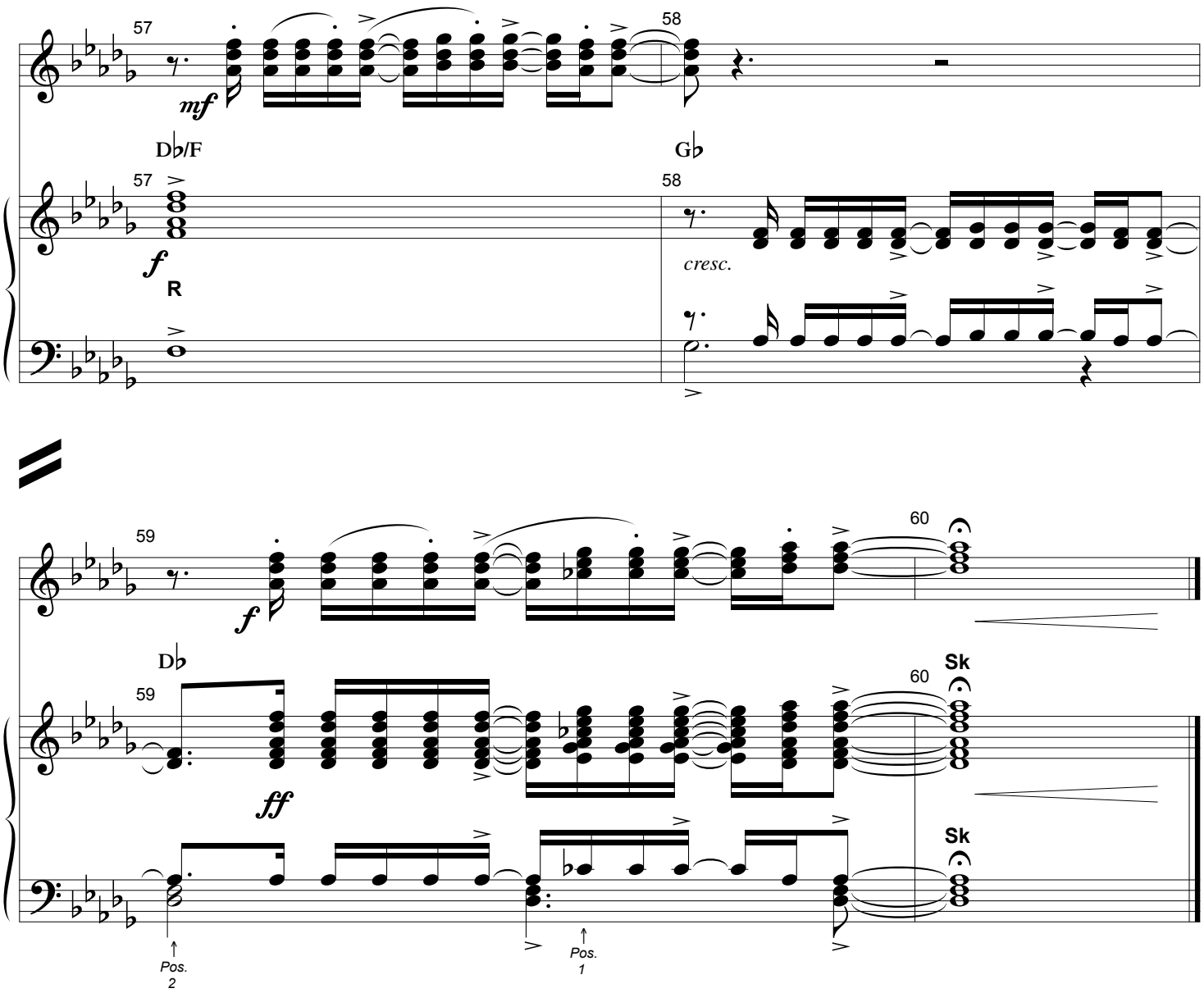

Am
G
C
23
24
LV
LV
cresc.
R
LV
LV
LV
LV
Pos. 1
Pos. 2
25
26
mf
C
G/B
25
26
f
LV
LV
27
28
Am
G
27
28
LV
LV


29
30
C
G/B
LV
Am
G
31
32
mf
F
33
34
R
FMaj7
C9
35
36


FMaj7
C9
G
Sk
R
37
38
LV
LV
LV
R
cresc.
GbMaj7
Db9
GbMaj7
Db9
39
40
f
LV
LV
LV
LV
GbMaj7
Db9
Ab
41
42
R
LV
LV
LV
43
44
mf
Db
Cb
43
44
f
LV
LV


45
46
Bbm
Ab/C
Ebm Db
Gb F
Ab Db
LV
R
LV
R
47
48
(Db)
Ab/C
LV
LV
Bbm
Ab
Gb
Ab
49
50
mf
LV
LV
LV
LV


B♭m
A♭7
D♭
51
52
LV
LV
R
LV
decresc.
1.
53
a2
54
p
cresc.
G♭Maj7
D♭9
G♭Maj7
D♭9
53
54
mp
cresc.
LV
LV
LV
LV
a3
55
56
mp
G♭Maj7
D♭9
A♭
55
56
mf
LV
LV
R
LV


57
58
mf
D♭/F
G♭
57
58
f
R
cresc.

59
60
f
D♭
59
60
Sk
ff
Sk
Pos. 2
Pos. 1

BRELLS

(for Brass & Handbells…with optional rhythm section)

BRASS PARTS/CONCERT PITCH

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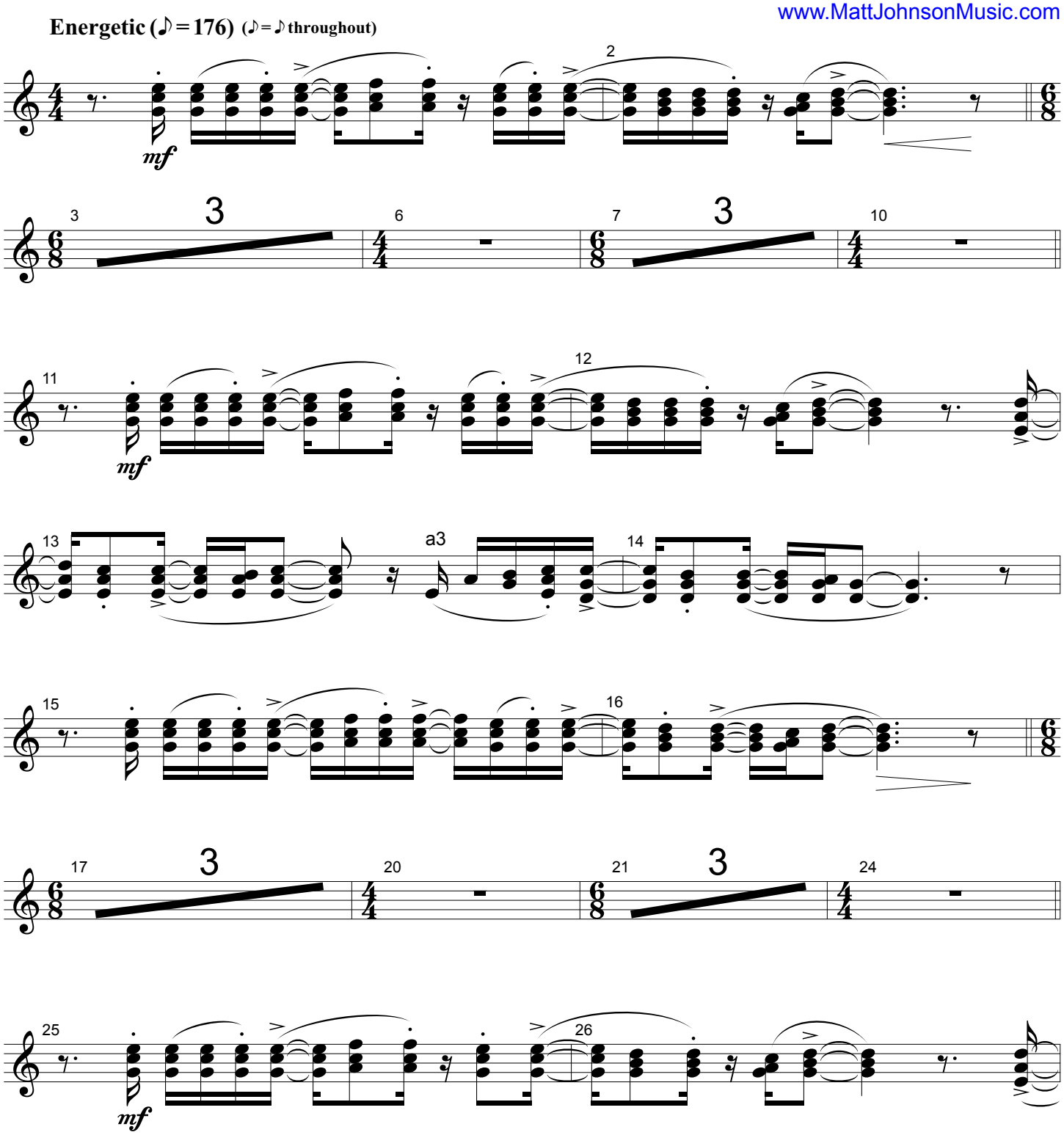

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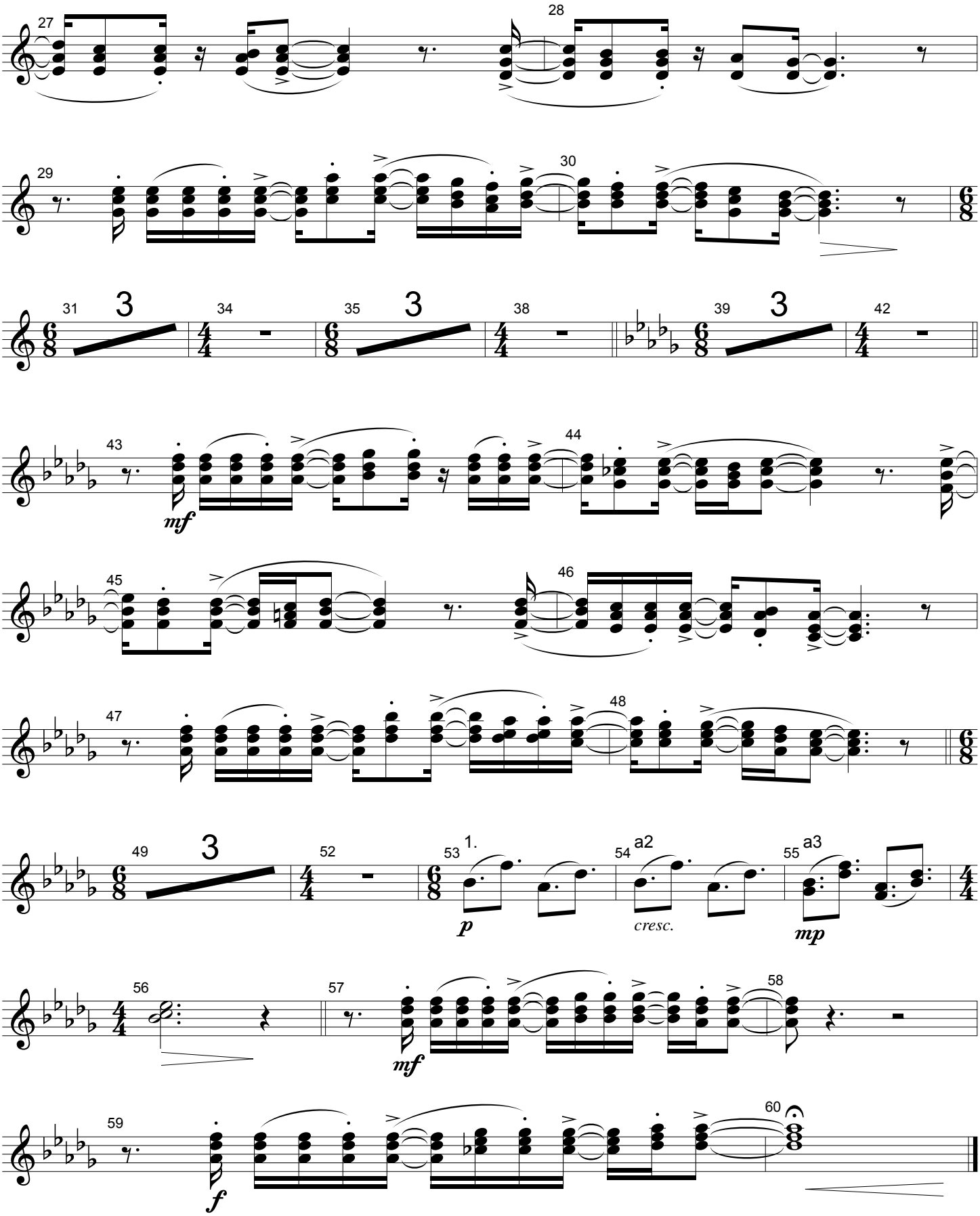
27
28
29
30
31
3
34
35
3
38
39
3
42
43
mf
44
45
46
47
48
49
3
52
53
1.
p
54
a2
cresc.
55
a3
mp
56
57
mf
58
59
f
60

BRELLS

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BRASS PARTS/B-flat Instruments

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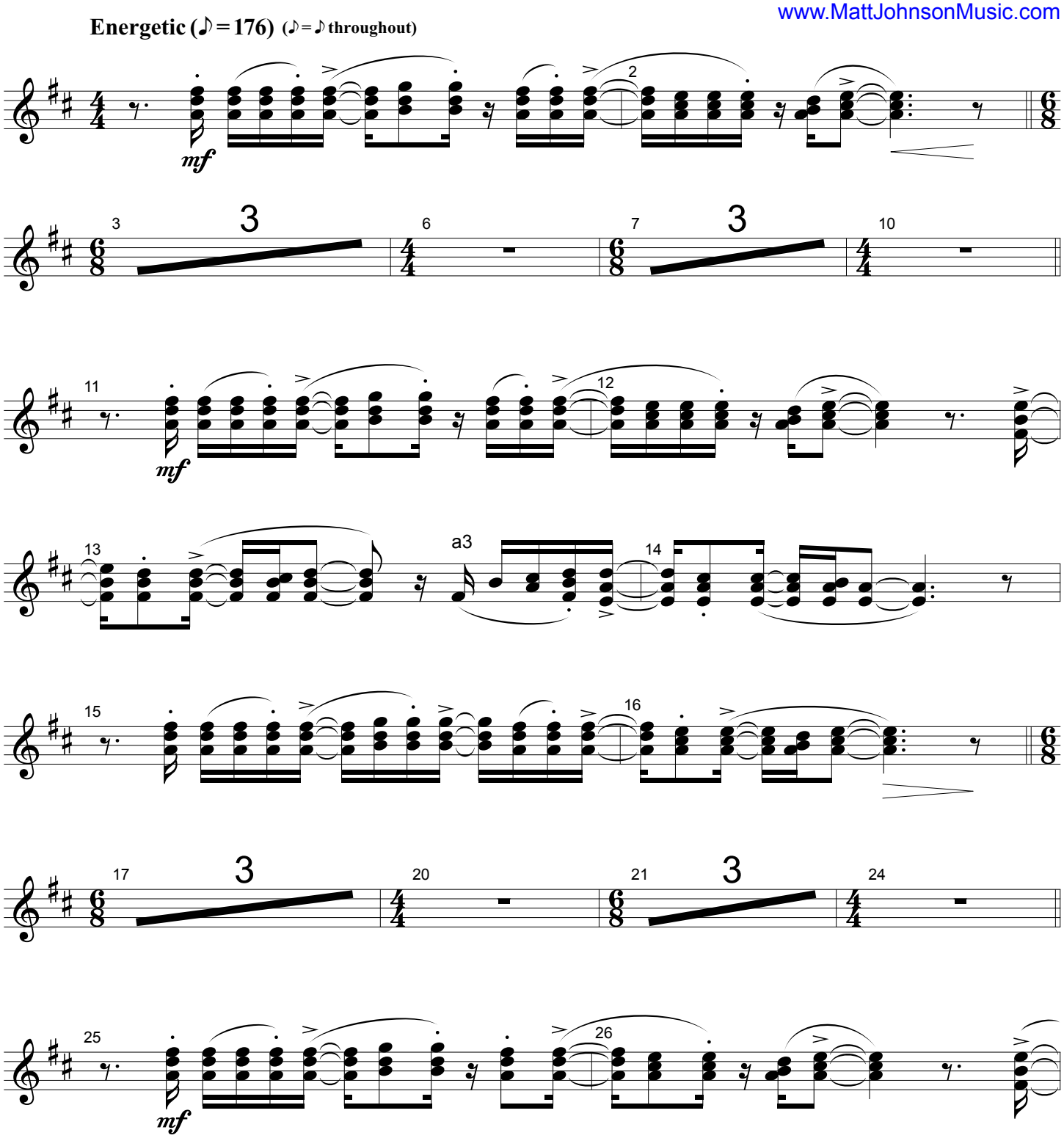

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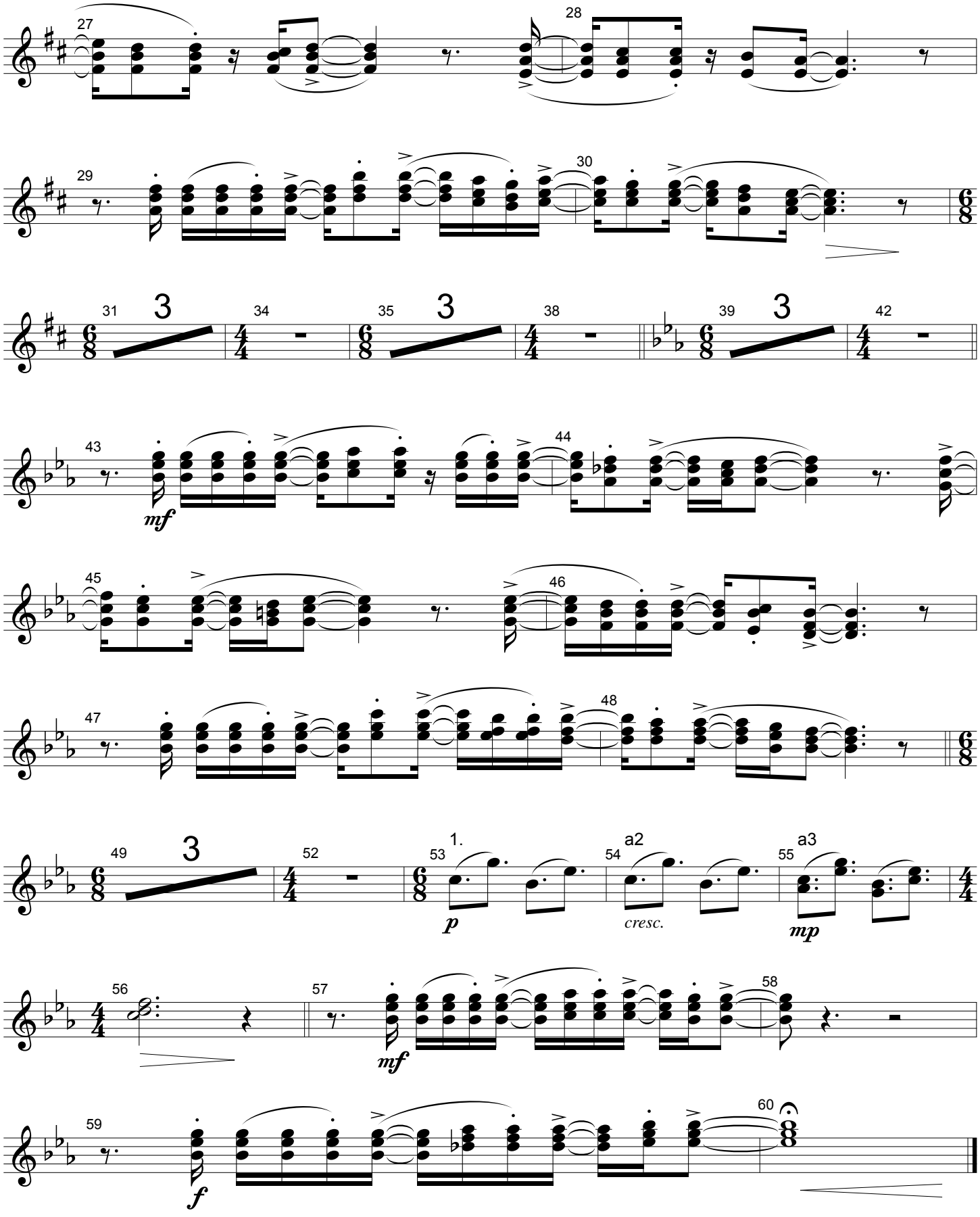
27
28
29
30
31
3
34
35
3
38
39
3
42
43
mf
44
45
46
47
48
49
3
52
1.
53
p
a2
54
cresc.
a3
55
mp
56
57
mf
58
59
f
60

BRELLS

(for Brass & Handbells…with optional rhythm section)

BRASS PARTS/E-flat Instruments

(octaves may need to be adjusted
to match the original chordal voicings)

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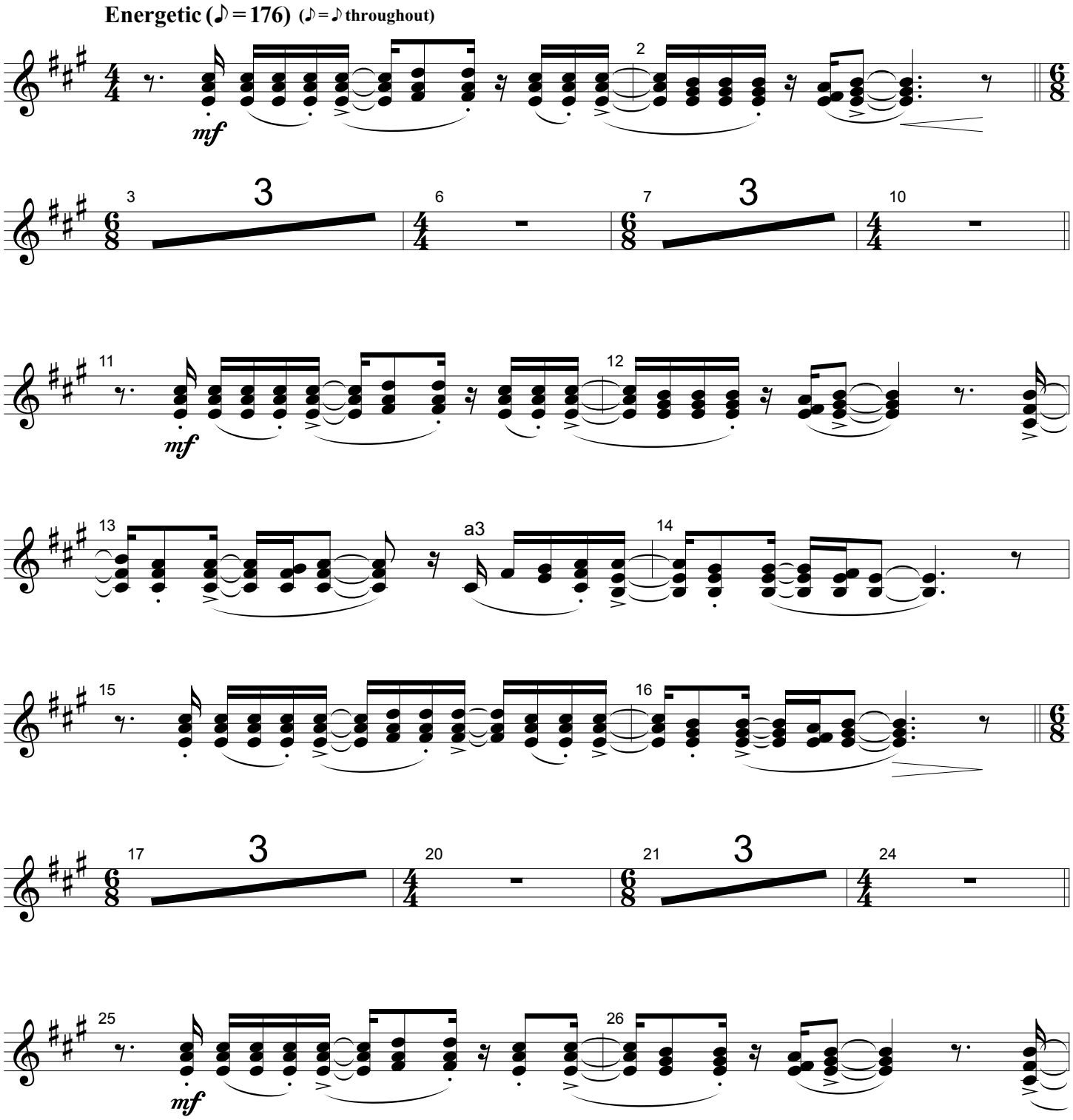

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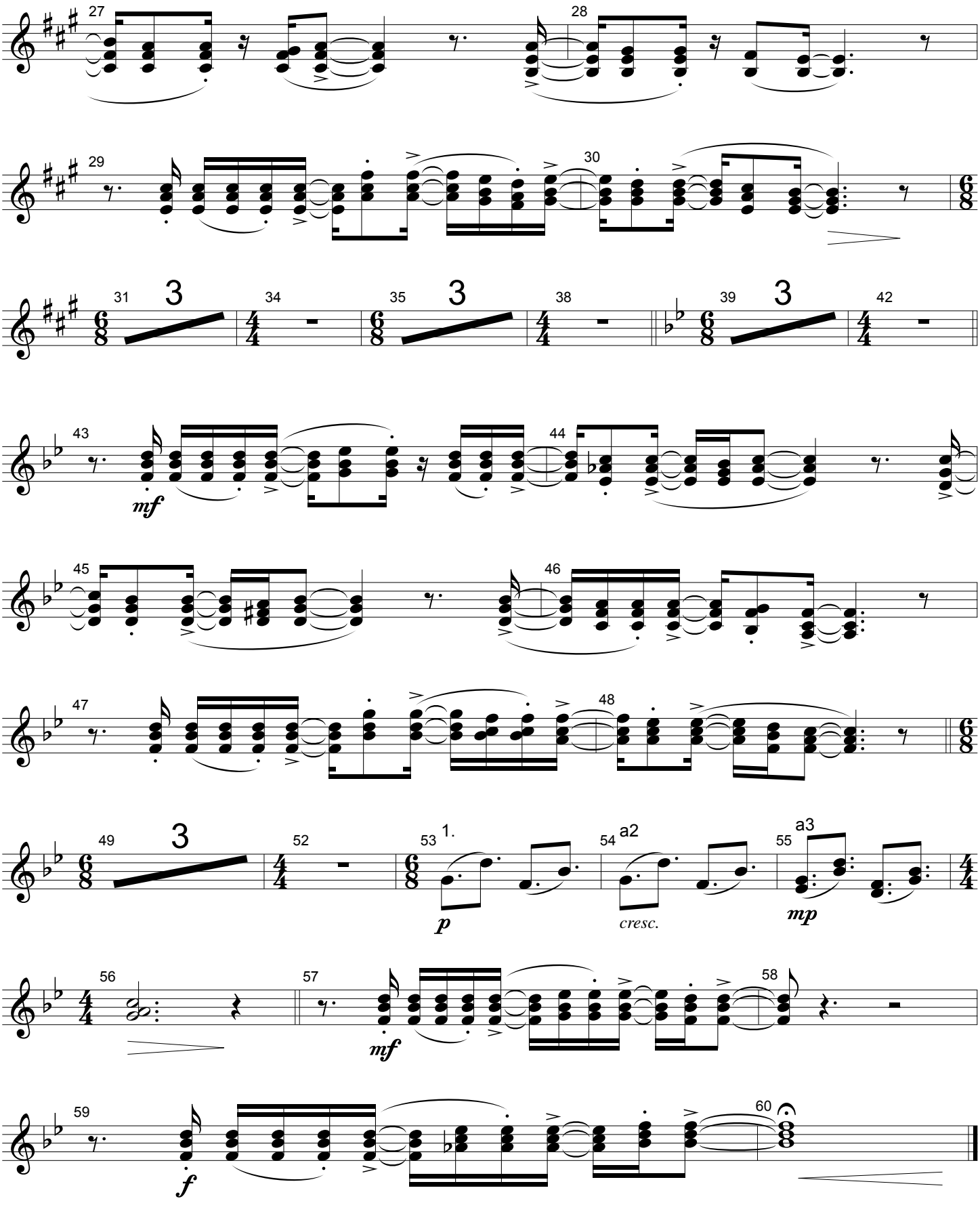
27
28
29
30
31
3
34
35
3
38
39
3
42
43
mf
44
45
46
47
48
49
3
52
53
1.
p
54
a2
cresc.
55
a3
mp
56
57
mf
58
59
f
60