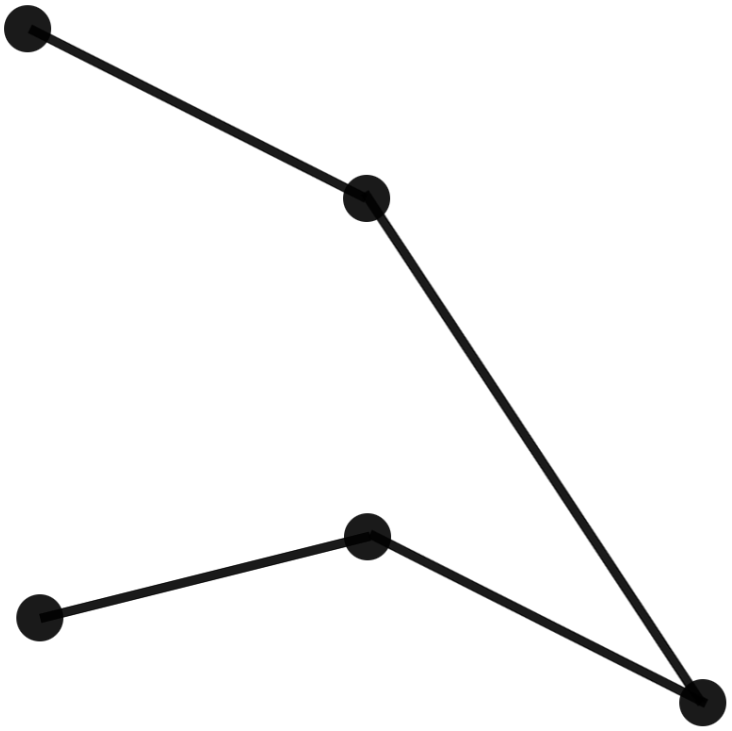
Anya Gowan

Sonata Celestia

for guitar



2018

This piece was inspired by a photograph of the Eagle Nebula taken by the Hubble telescope. It features three massive spires of gas and dust called *The Pillars of Creation*. The photograph was taken on April 1st, 1995 by Jeff Hester and Paul Scowen of Arizona State University.

Each movement is based on one colour from the photograph.

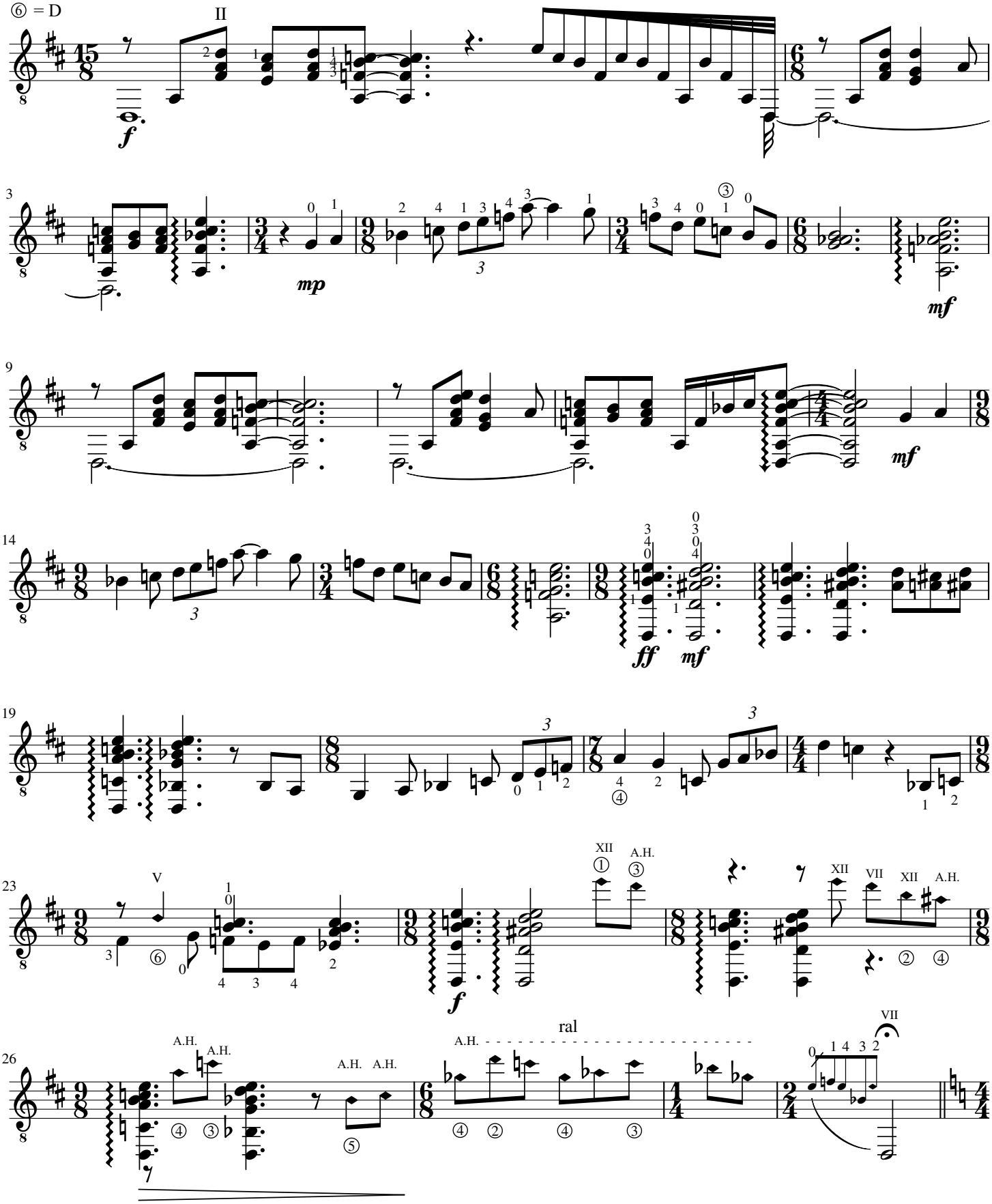
The first movement is yellow. It portrays the pillars,
which span several light years and whose gravity causes stars to form nearby.
The second movement is blue. It portrays the mist surrounding the pillars.
The third movement is green. It portrays the sky and stars in the background.
The fourth movement is red. It portrays the formation of a star.

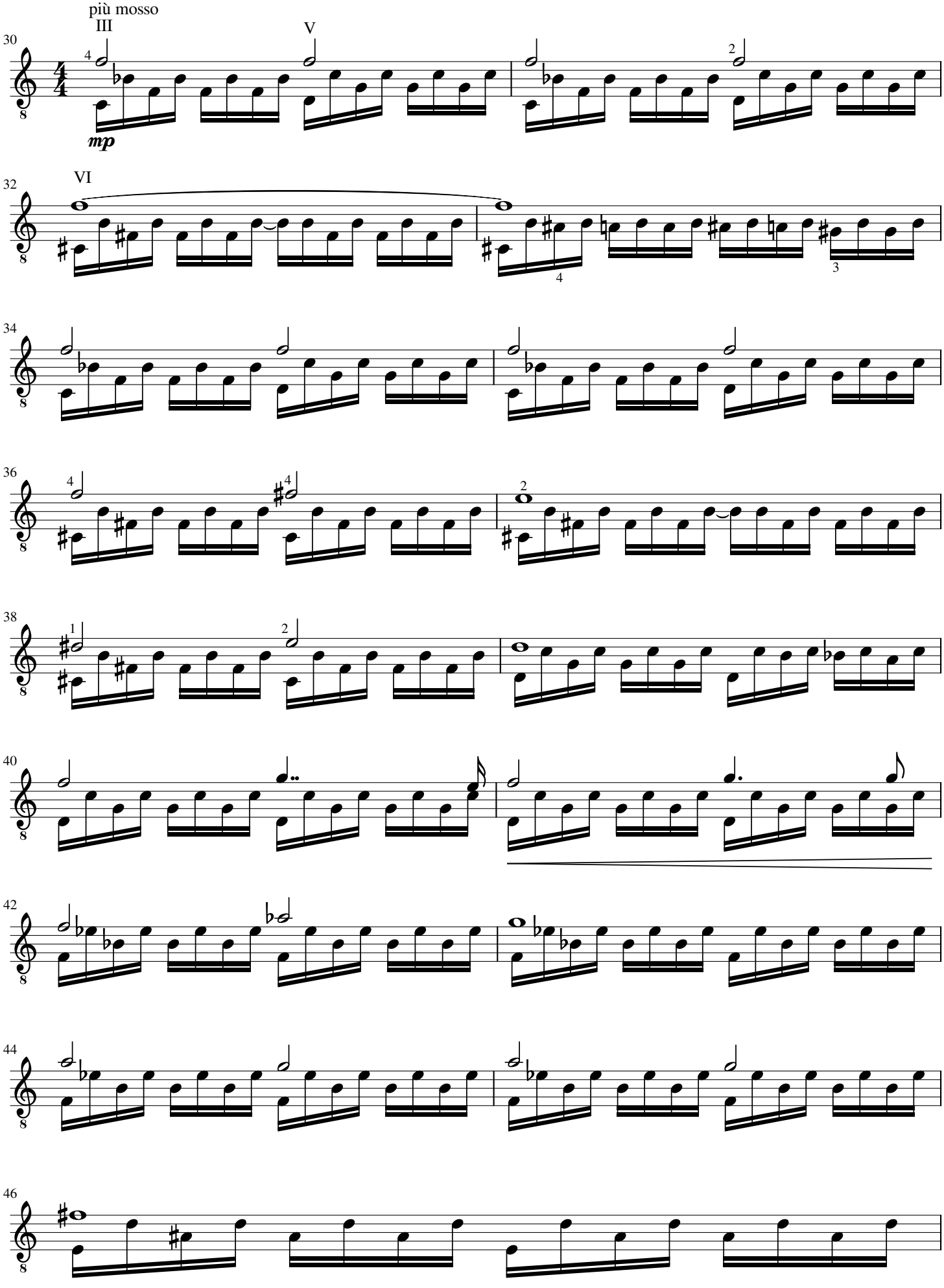
Sonata Celestia

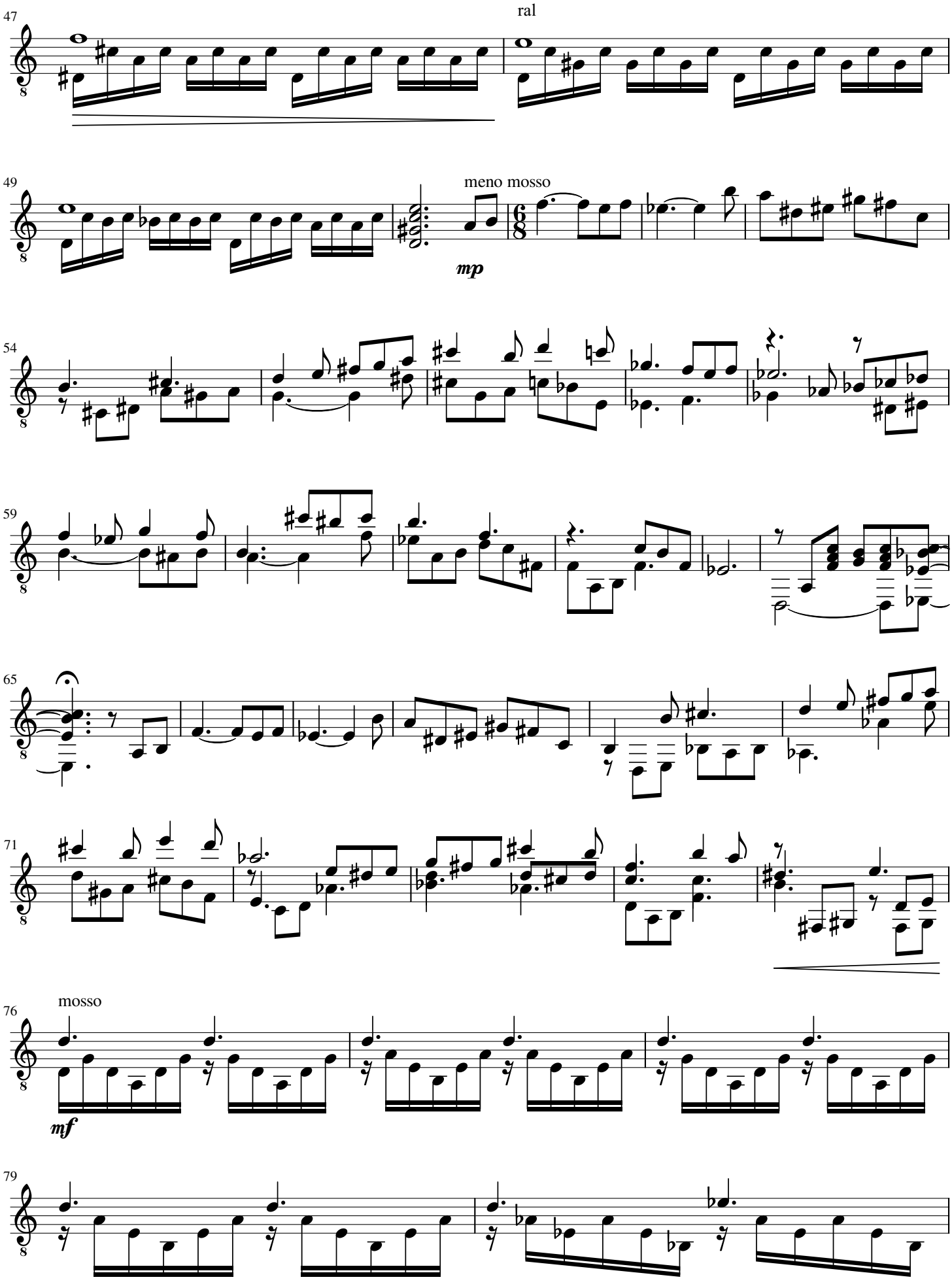
I

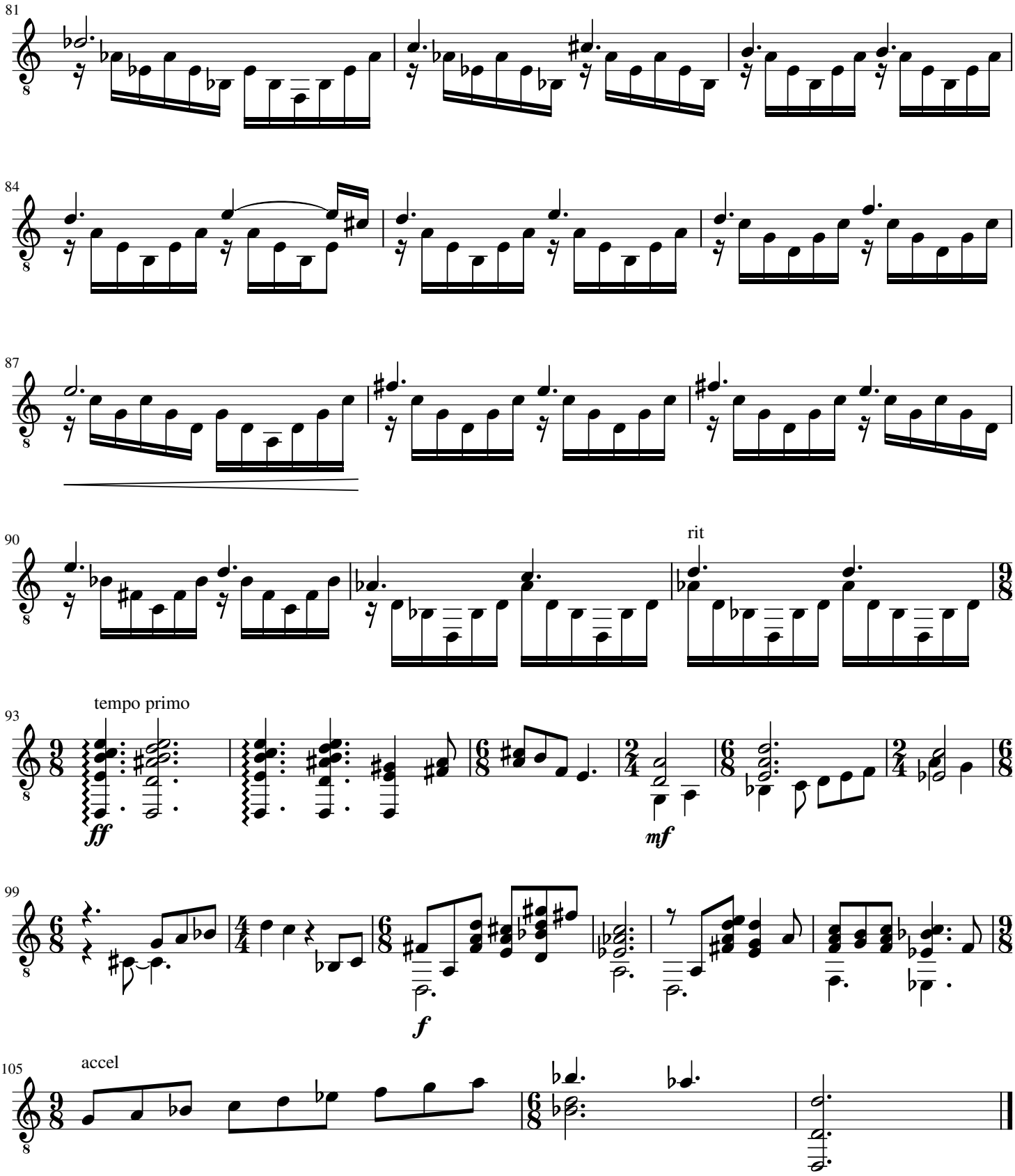
Anya Gowan

Allegro maestoso ♪ = 140

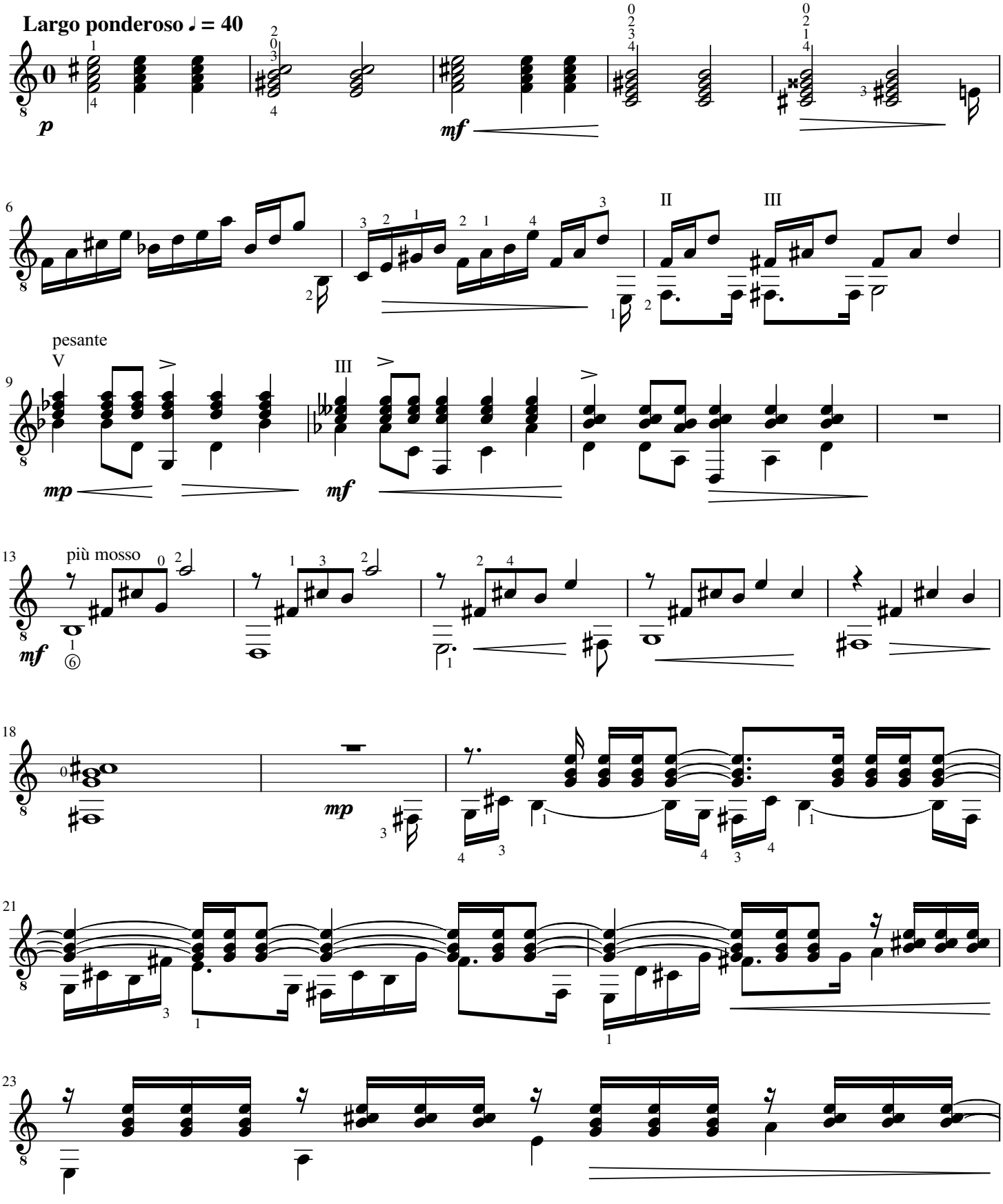


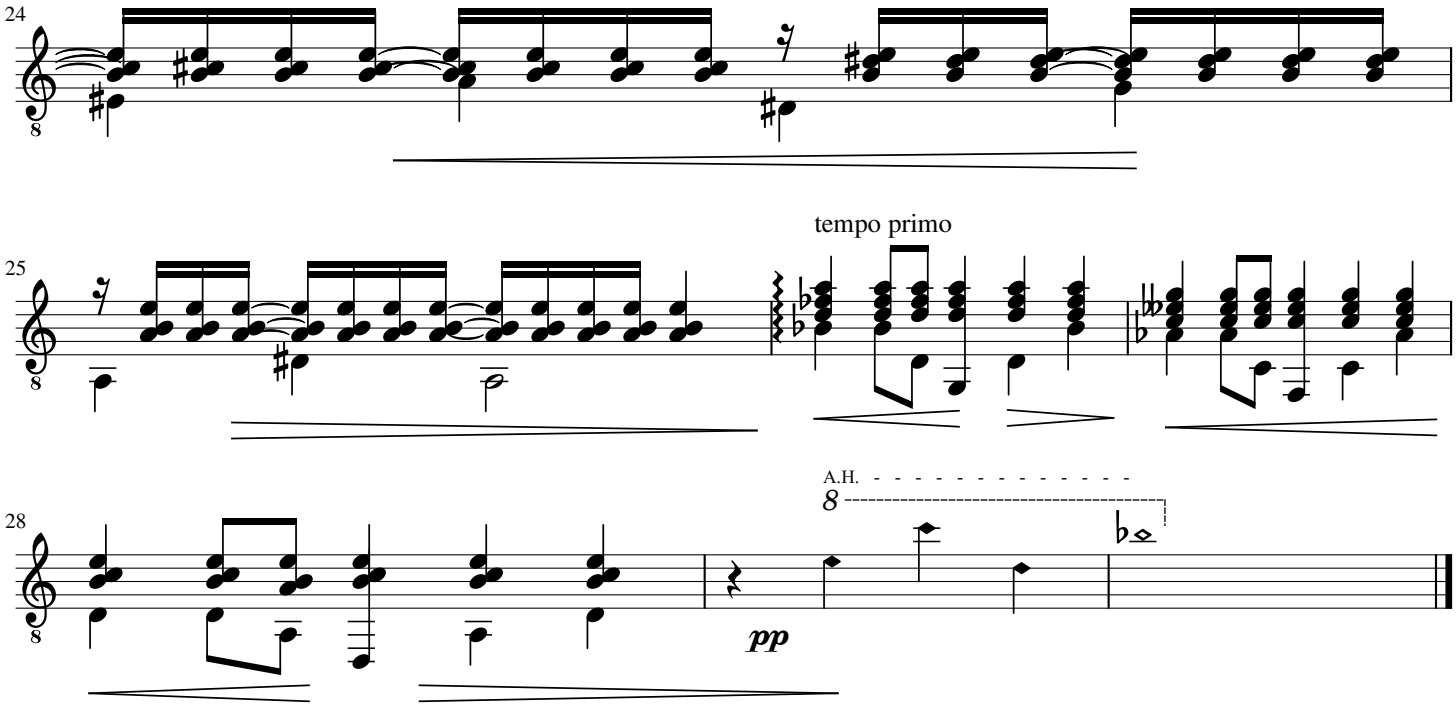

più mosso
III
V
mp
VI


47
ral
49
meno mosso
mp
54
59
65
71
76
mosso
mf
79

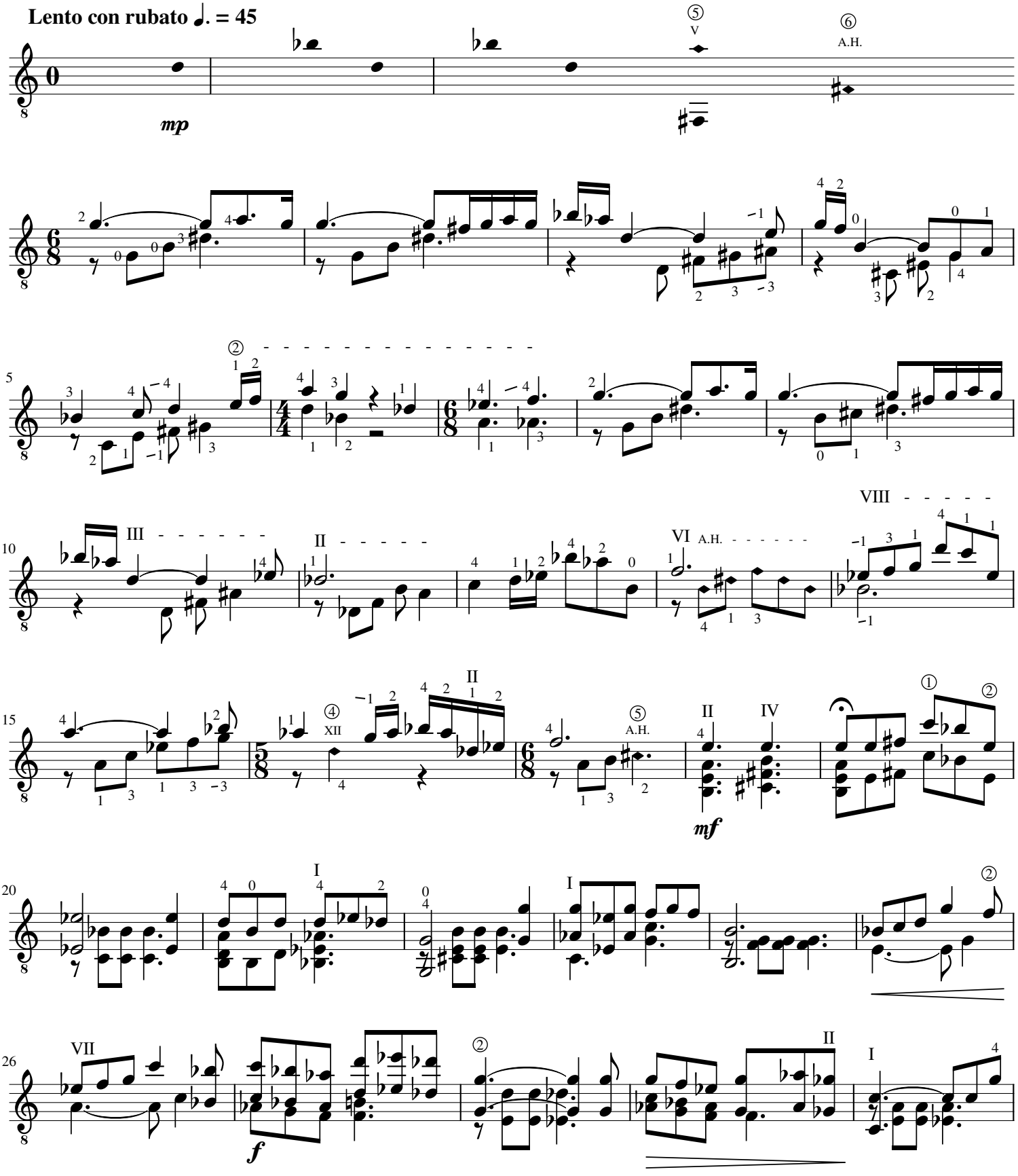

81
84
87
90
rit
93
tempo primo
ff
mf
99
f
105
accel

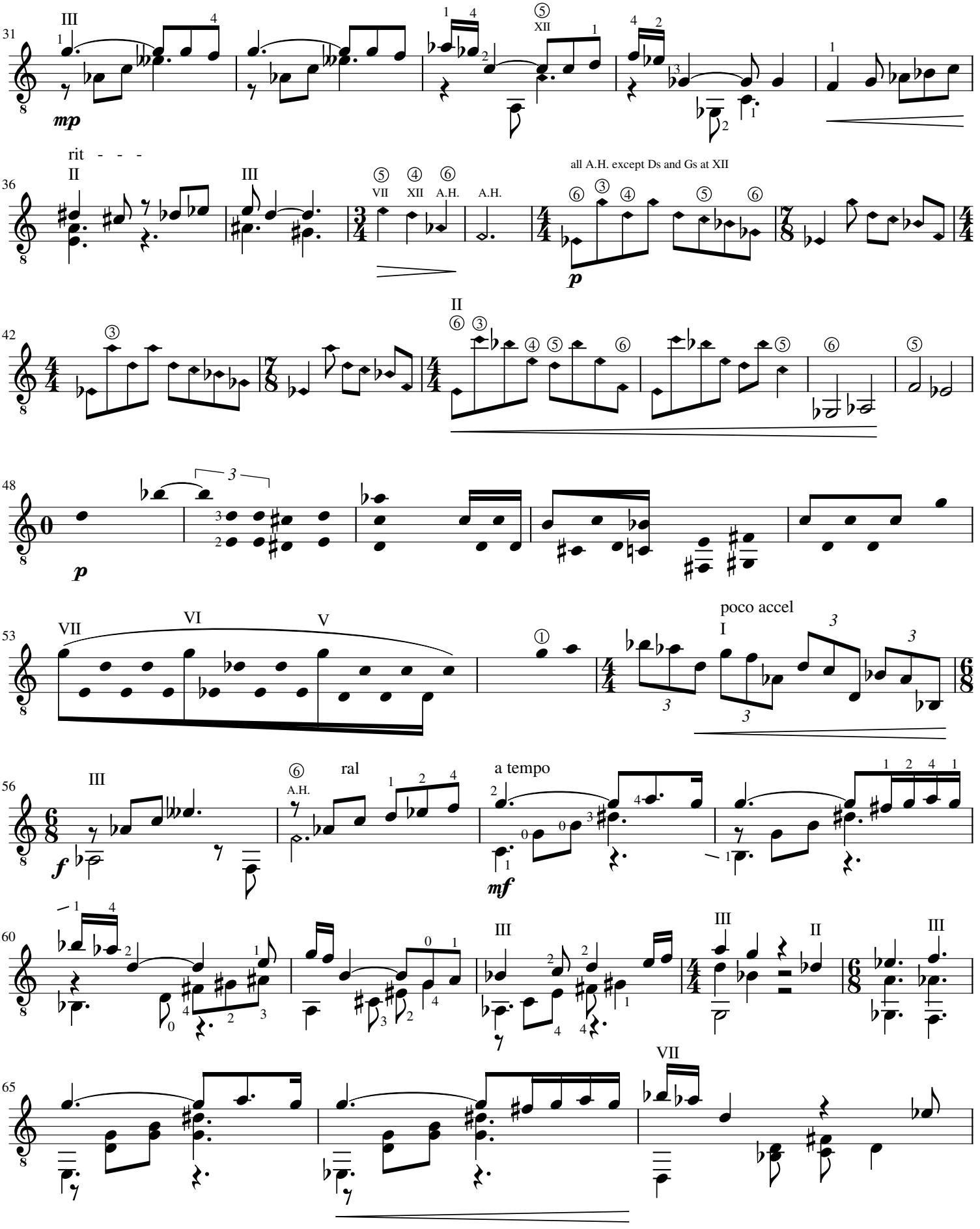
II

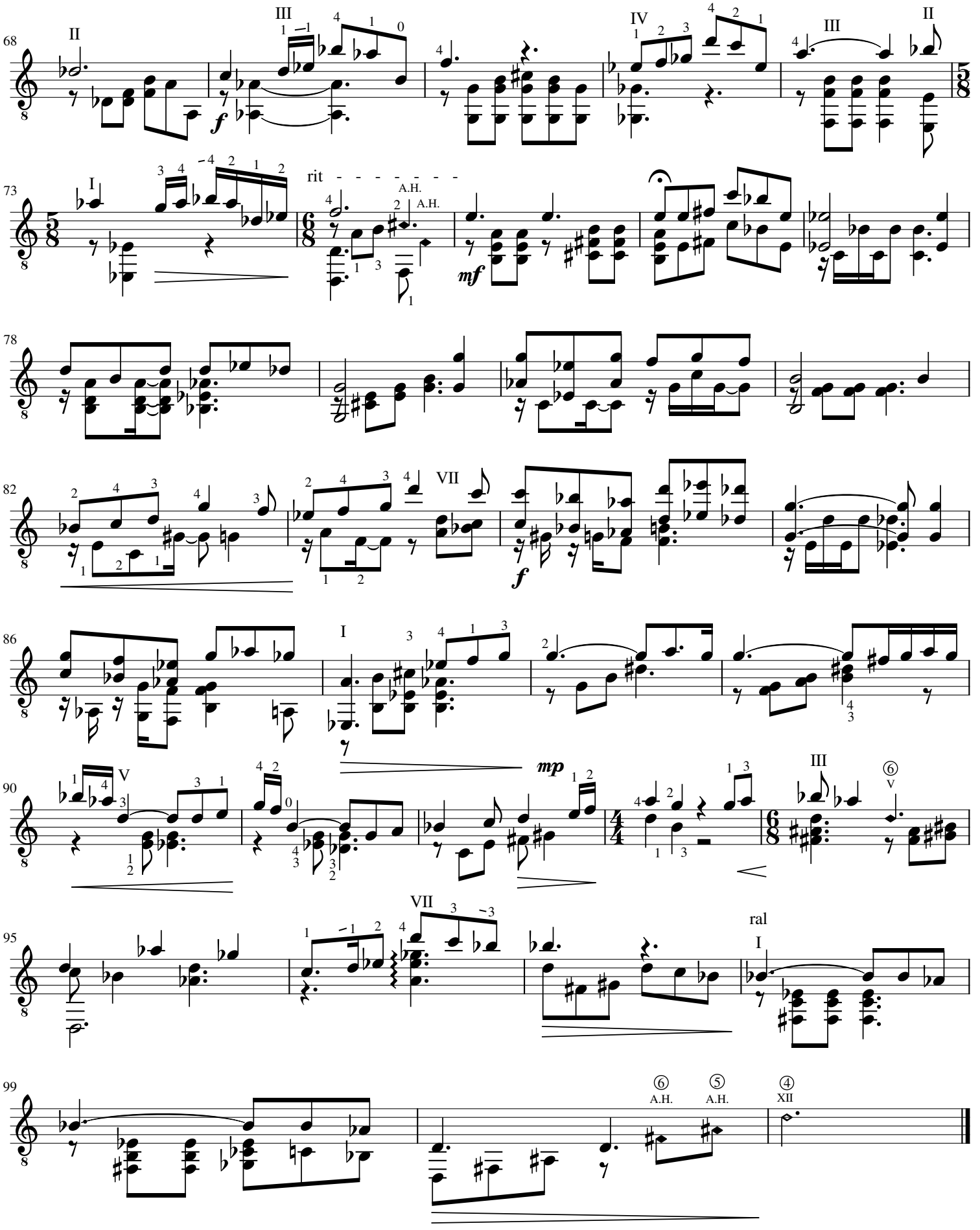

Largo ponderoso ♩ = 40
p
mf
II
III
pesante
V
III
mp
mf
più mosso
mf
⑥
mp
6
9
13
18
21
23


24
25
tempo primo
28
A.H.
8
pp

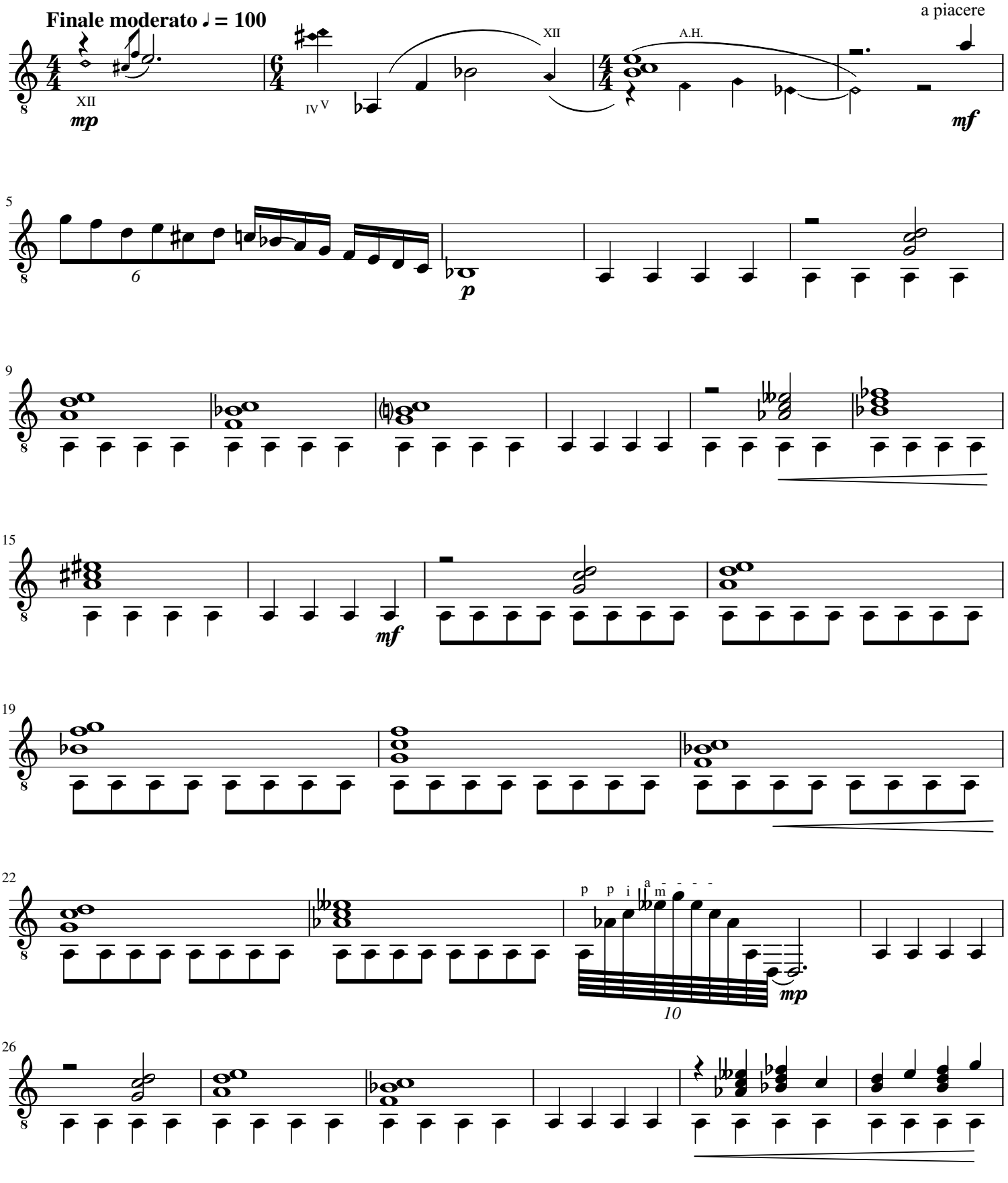
III

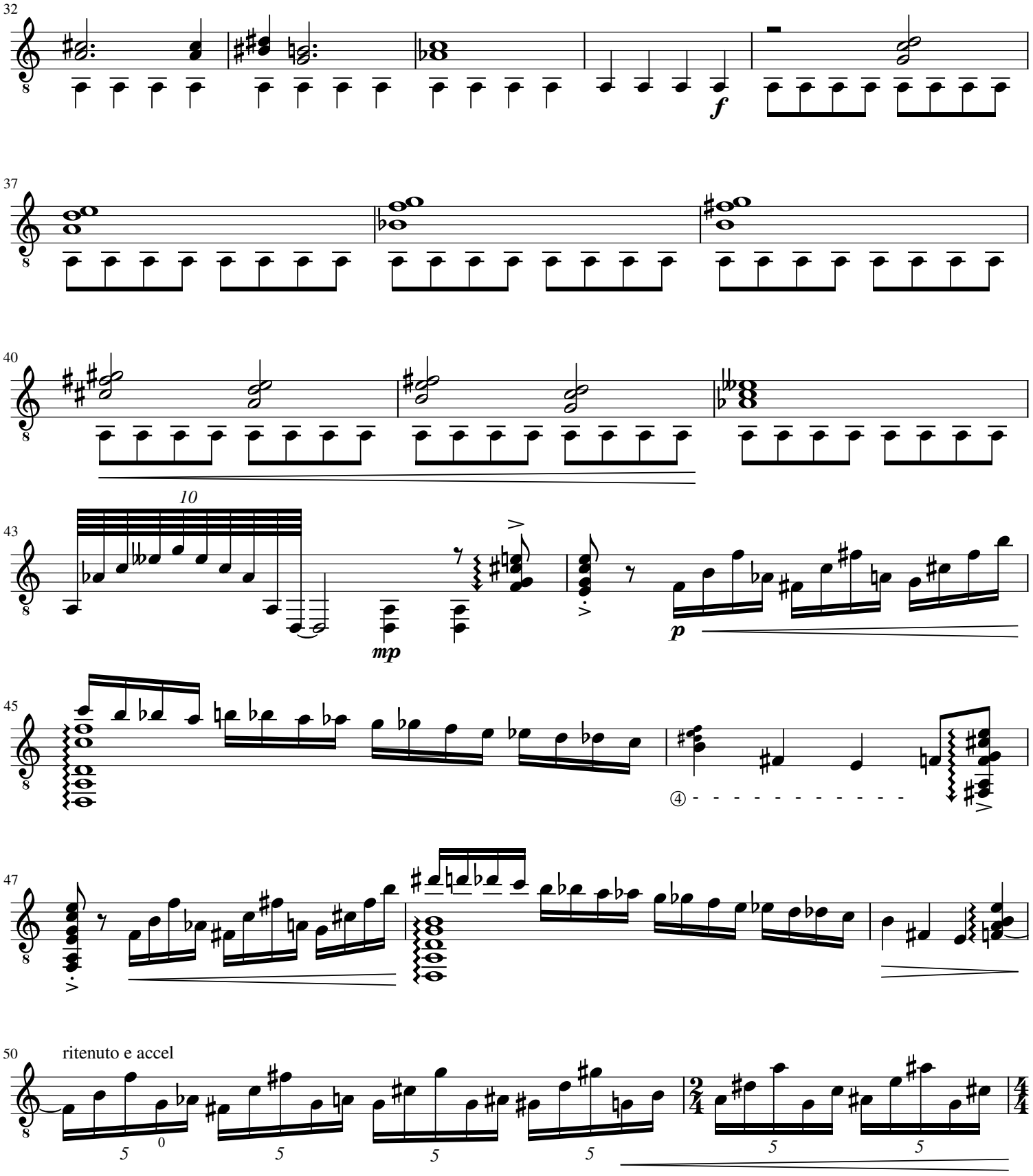

Lento con rubato ♩. = 45
mp
⑤ V
⑥ A.H.
5
III
II
VI A.H.
VIII
15
④ XII
⑤ A.H.
II
IV
mf
20
I
26
VII
f
II
I

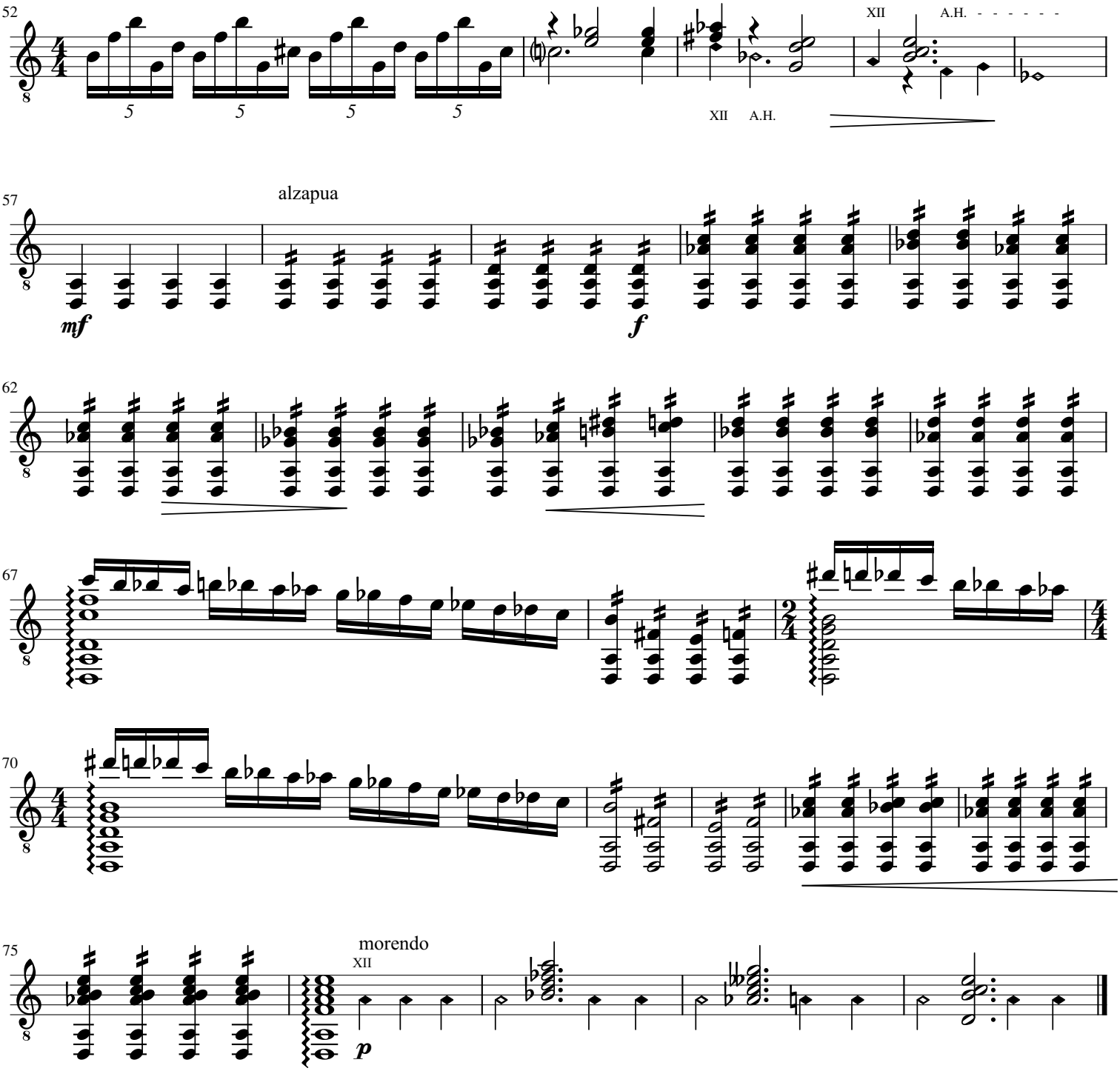

31
III
mp
36
rit - - -
II
III
VII
XII
A.H.
A.H.
all A.H. except Ds and Gs at XII
p
42
II
48
p
53
VII
VI
V
poco accel
I
56
III
A.H.
ral
a tempo
f
mf
60
III
II
III
65
VII


68
73
78
82
86
90
95
99
rit
A.H.
mf
f
mp
ral

IV


Finale moderato ♩ = 100
a piacere
XII
mp
IV V
XII
A.H.
mf
5
6
p
9
15
mf
19
22
p p i a m
10
mp
26


32
37
40
43
10
mp
p
45
④
47
50
ritenuto e accel


52
XII
A.H.
XII
A.H.
57
alzapua
mf
f
62
67
70
75
morendo
XII
p