STACY GARROP

Noir Vignettes

for Double Bass and Piano

I. Murder at Midnight
II. Loaded Gun
III. Femme Fatale
IV. Last Cigarette

sample

THEODORE PRESSER COMPANY

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- Accidentals remain in effect throughout the bar, only in the octave shown.
- All grace notes are to be played before the beat.
- Glissandi last the entire duration of the indicated pitch.
- *Optional:* feel free to dress up in character: fedoras and trench coats for men, and 1940s-style dresses and hats for women.
- The bass part is provided in versions for standard orchestral tuning, and also for solo tuning.

PROGRAM NOTES

In the mid-1940s, film critics in France noticed a trend emerging in movies from the United States, which they coined *film noir* (which translates to "black film"). These movies were dark, moody, and pessimistic, reflecting the agitation and anxiety present in society following World War II. Several characteristics are commonly found in many of these movies, including a strong but flawed male lead (often a detective), a beautiful woman who either coerces the male lead into committing murder for her or is a killer herself (a "femme fatale"), and a twisting, turning plot line that involves one or more homicides. Additionally, there are several visual elements that these movies share: many are shot in black and white, with great emphasis on the use of shadows and light; alcohol and cigarettes are heavily consumed by men and women alike; and men typically wear trench coats and fedoras. Most of the story lines do not have happy endings. Examples of film noir include Orson Welles' *The Lady from Shanghai,* Billy Wilder's *Double Indemnity*, and John Huston's *The Maltese Falcon*.

NOIR VIGNETTES for Double Bass and Piano consists of four movements, each depicting a different aspect of film noir: Murder at Midnight, Loaded Gun, Femme Fatale, and Last Cigarette.

This piece was commissioned by the University of Illinois Research Board on behalf of double bassist Michael Cameron.

— Stacy Garrop

sample

Commissioned by the University of Illinois Research Board
on behalf of Michael Cameron for the Sonata Project

Noir Vignettes

for Double Bass and Piano

STACY GARROP

Duration: c. 13'

I. Murder at Midnight

Mysterious, freely (♩ = 60)

Double Bass (orchestral tuning)

Piano

*gliss.**

Ped. Ped. Ped. *sim.*

* Always gliss. for the entire duration of the indicated note value.

accel.

sample

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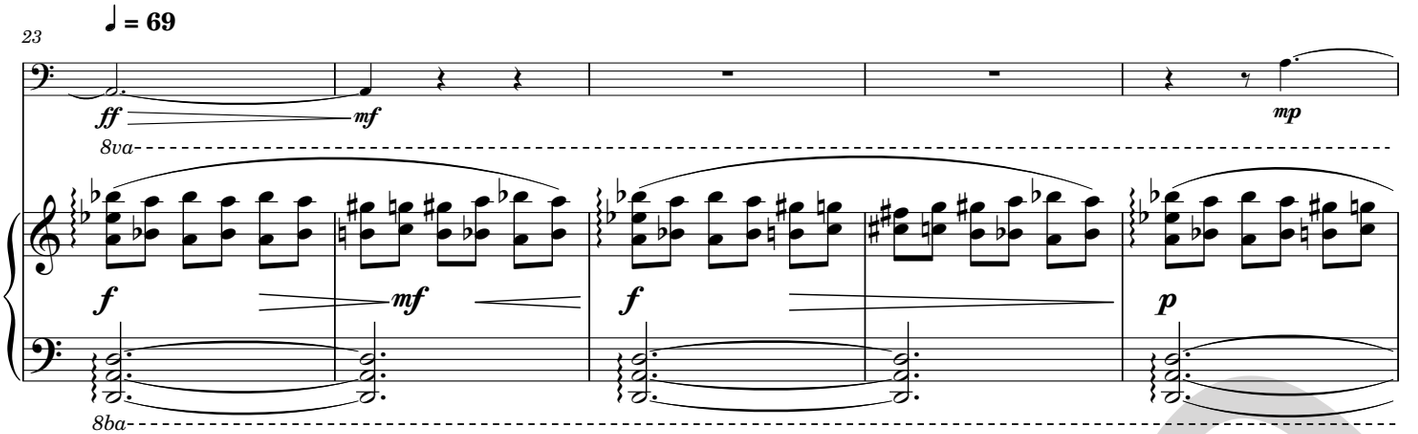
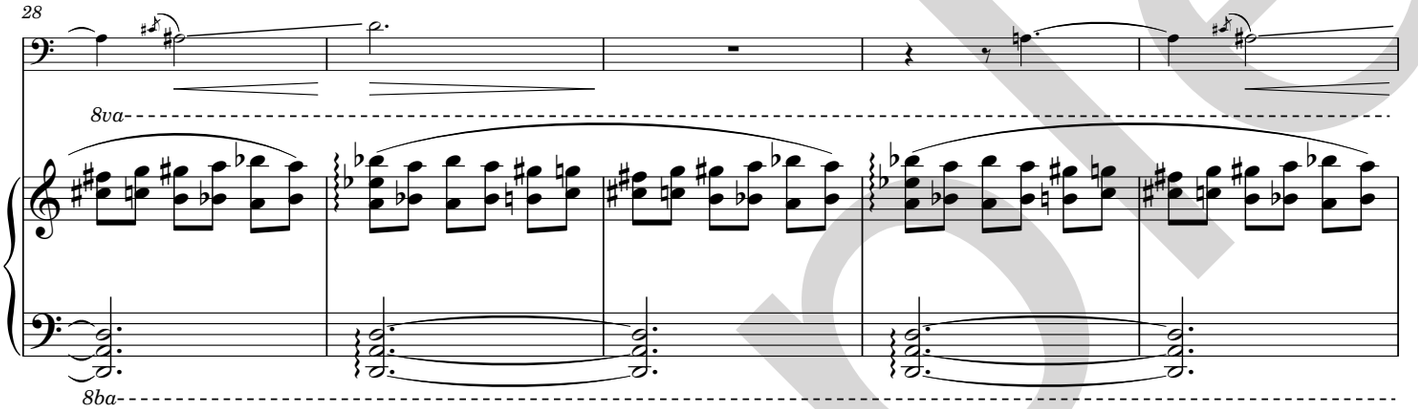
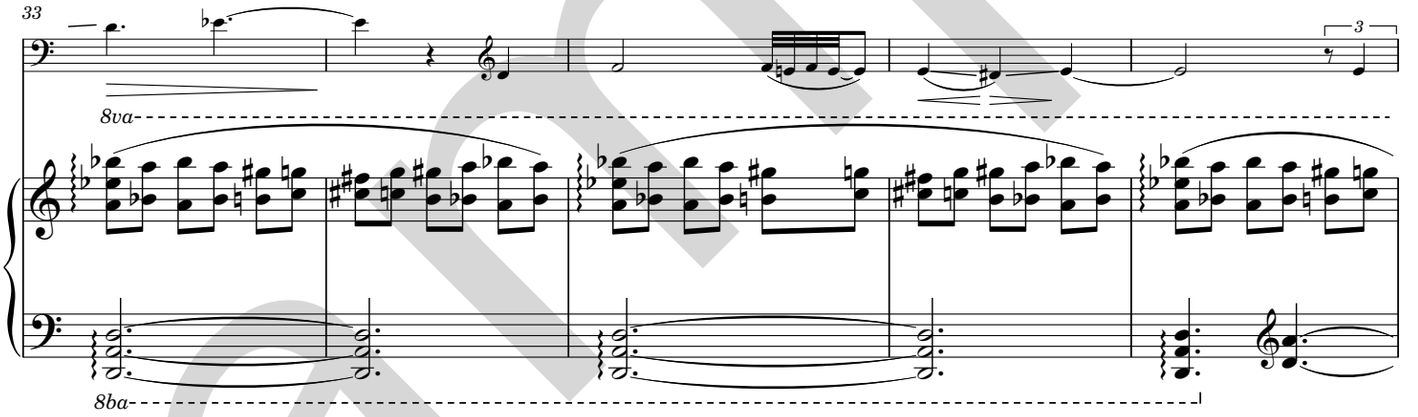
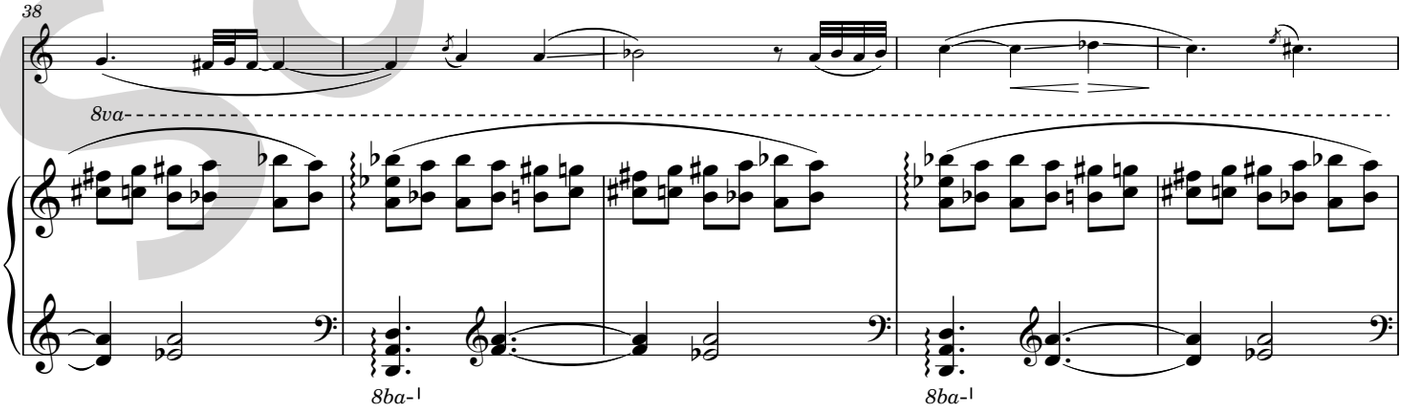


Start rolls in both hands simultaneously

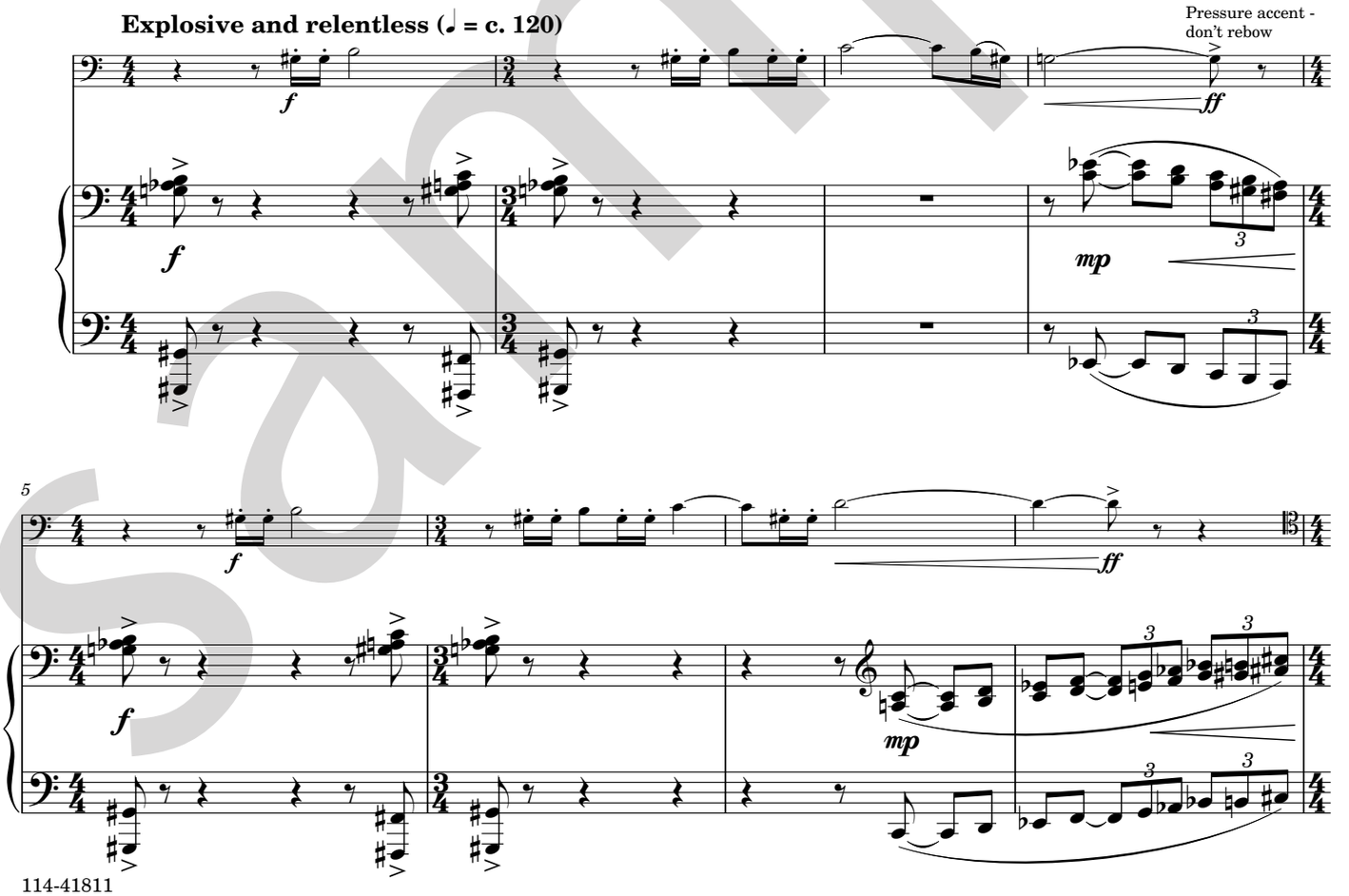






sample

II. Loaded Gun



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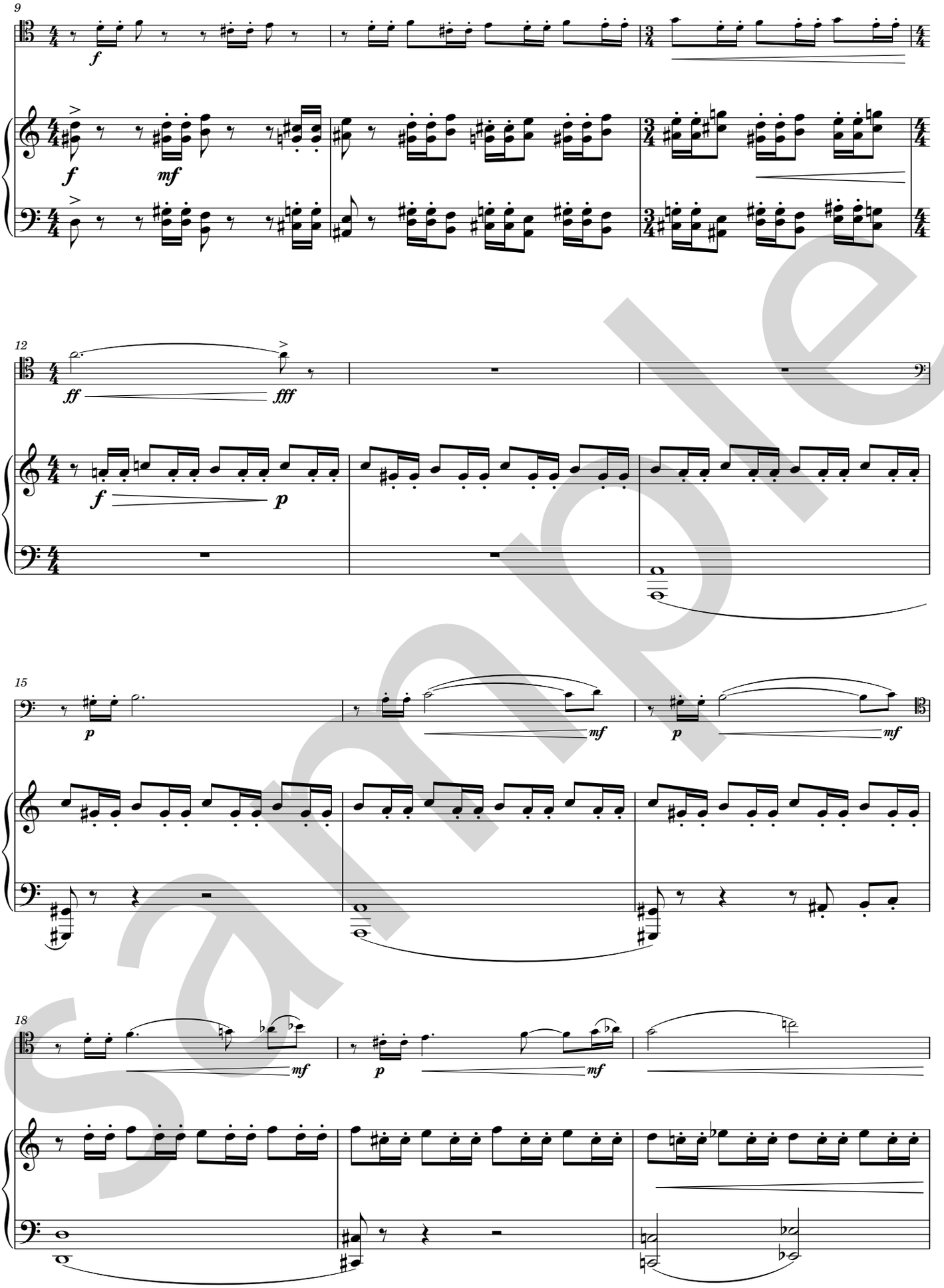

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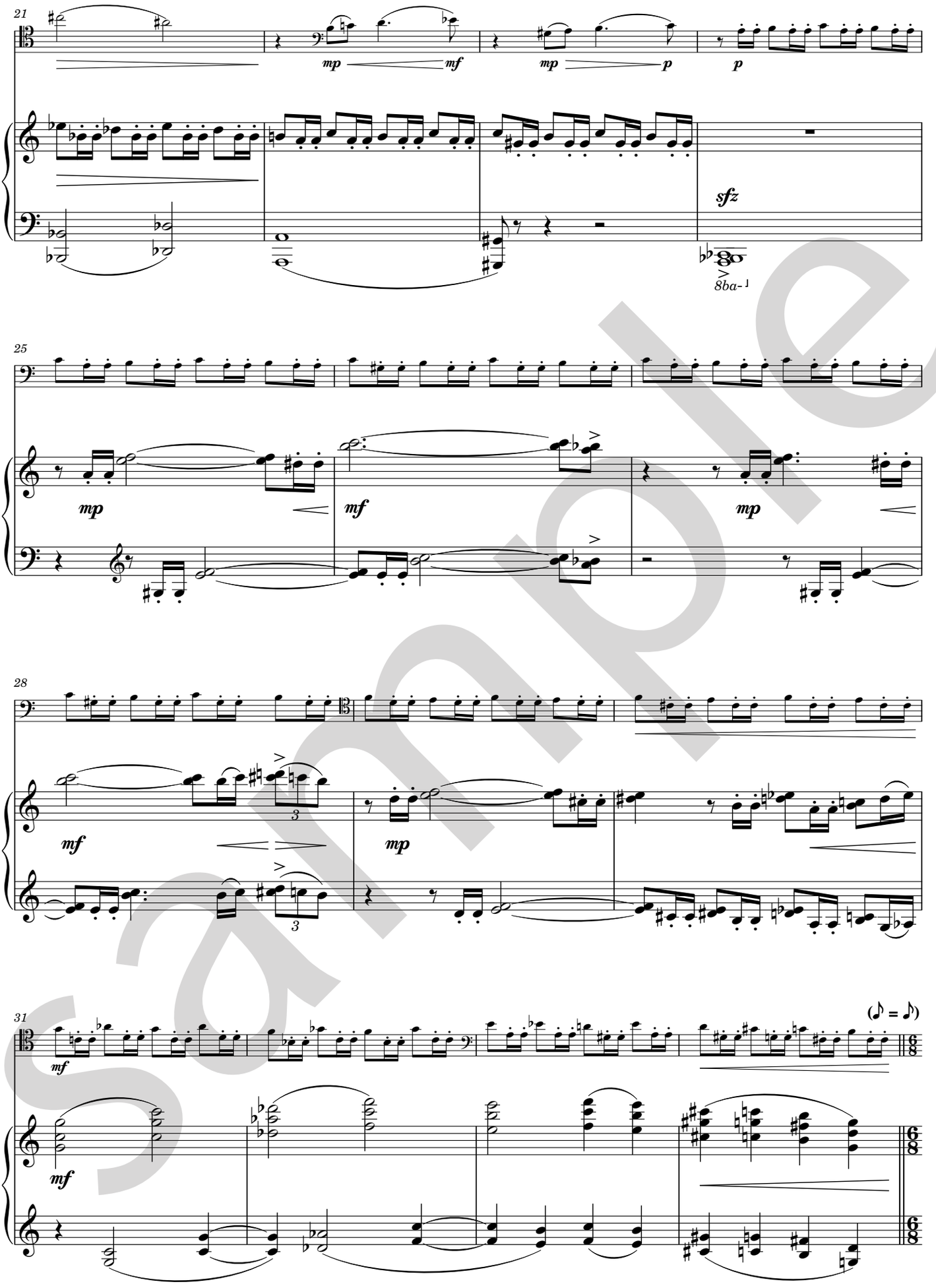
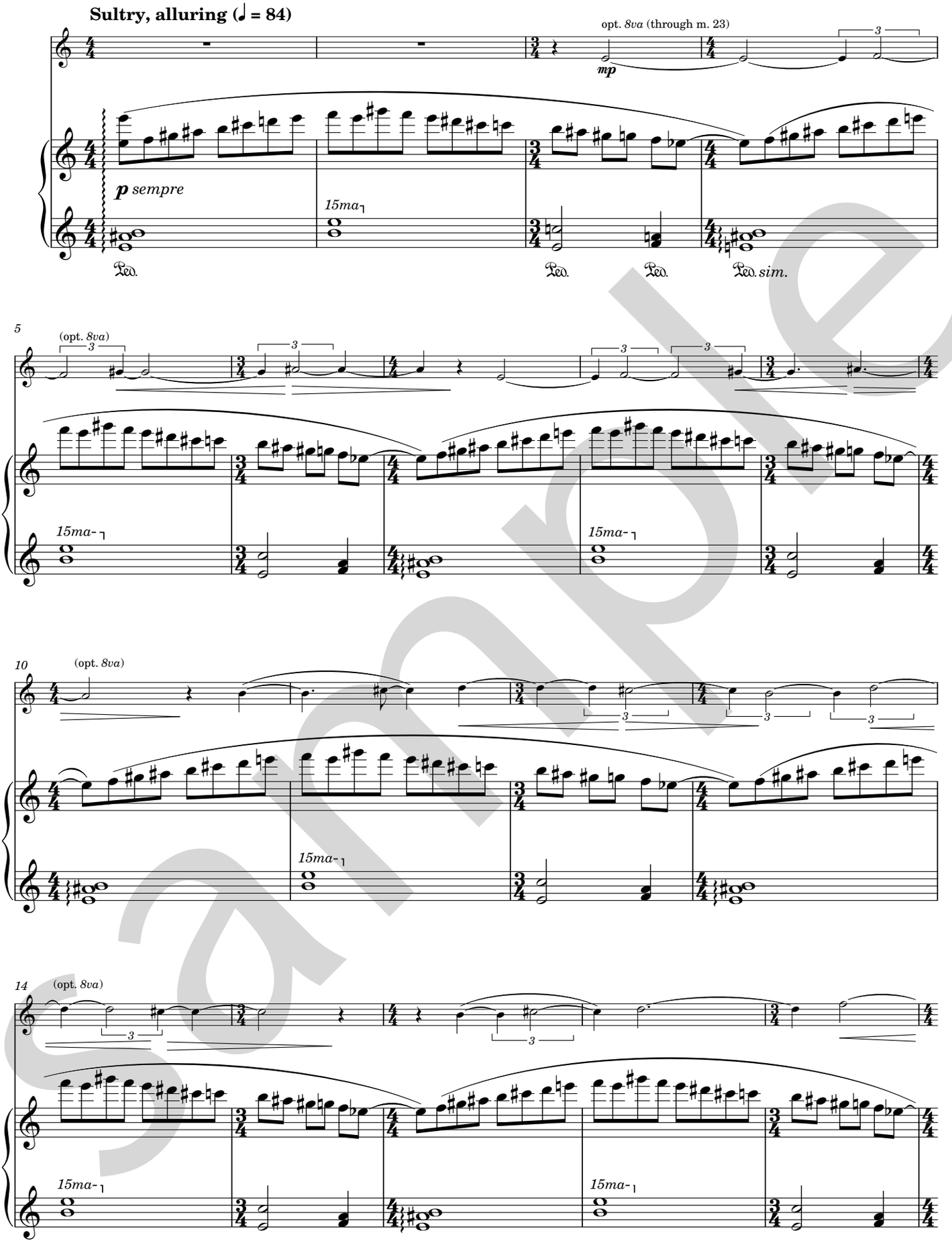


sample

III. Femme Fatale



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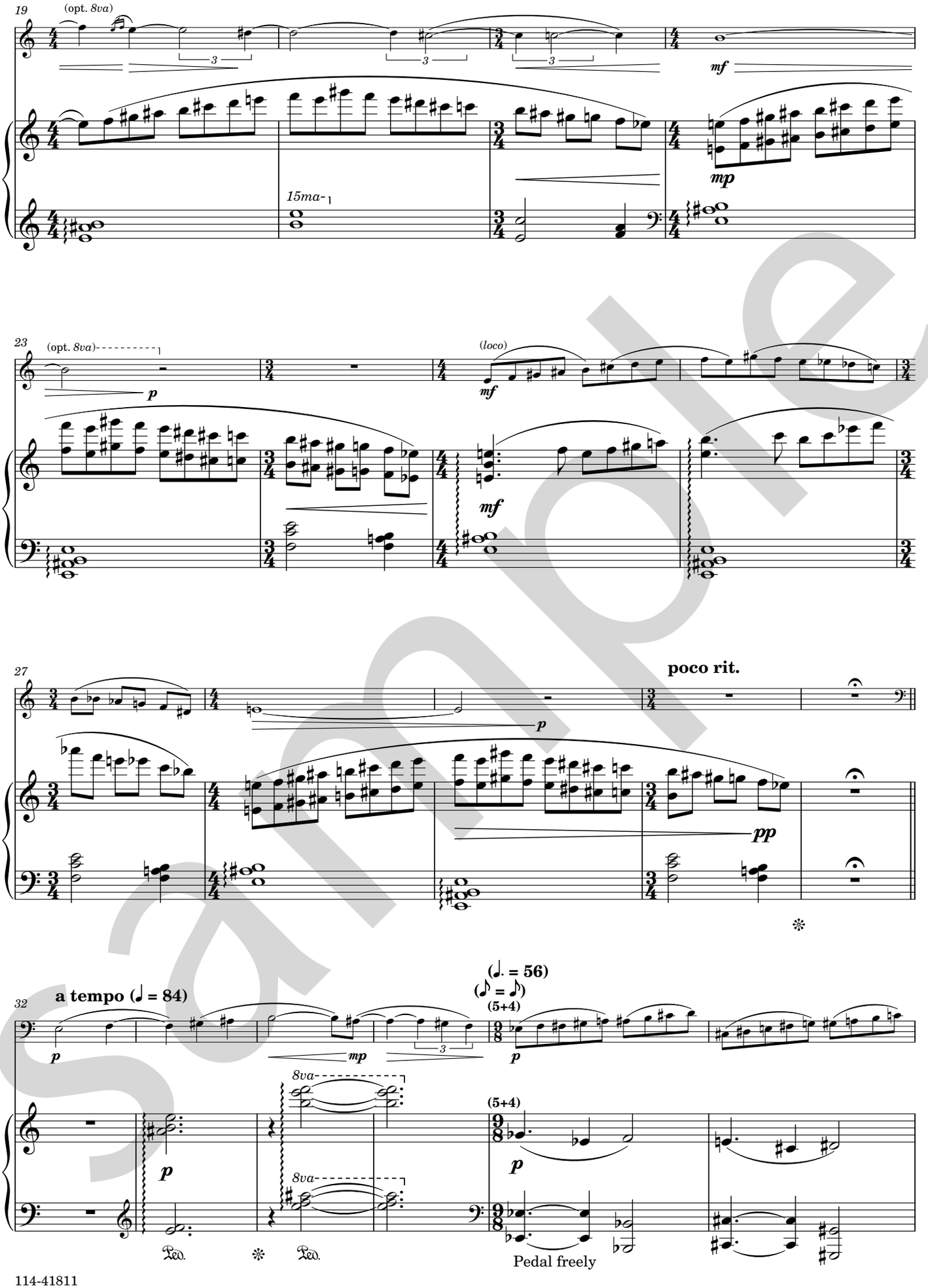
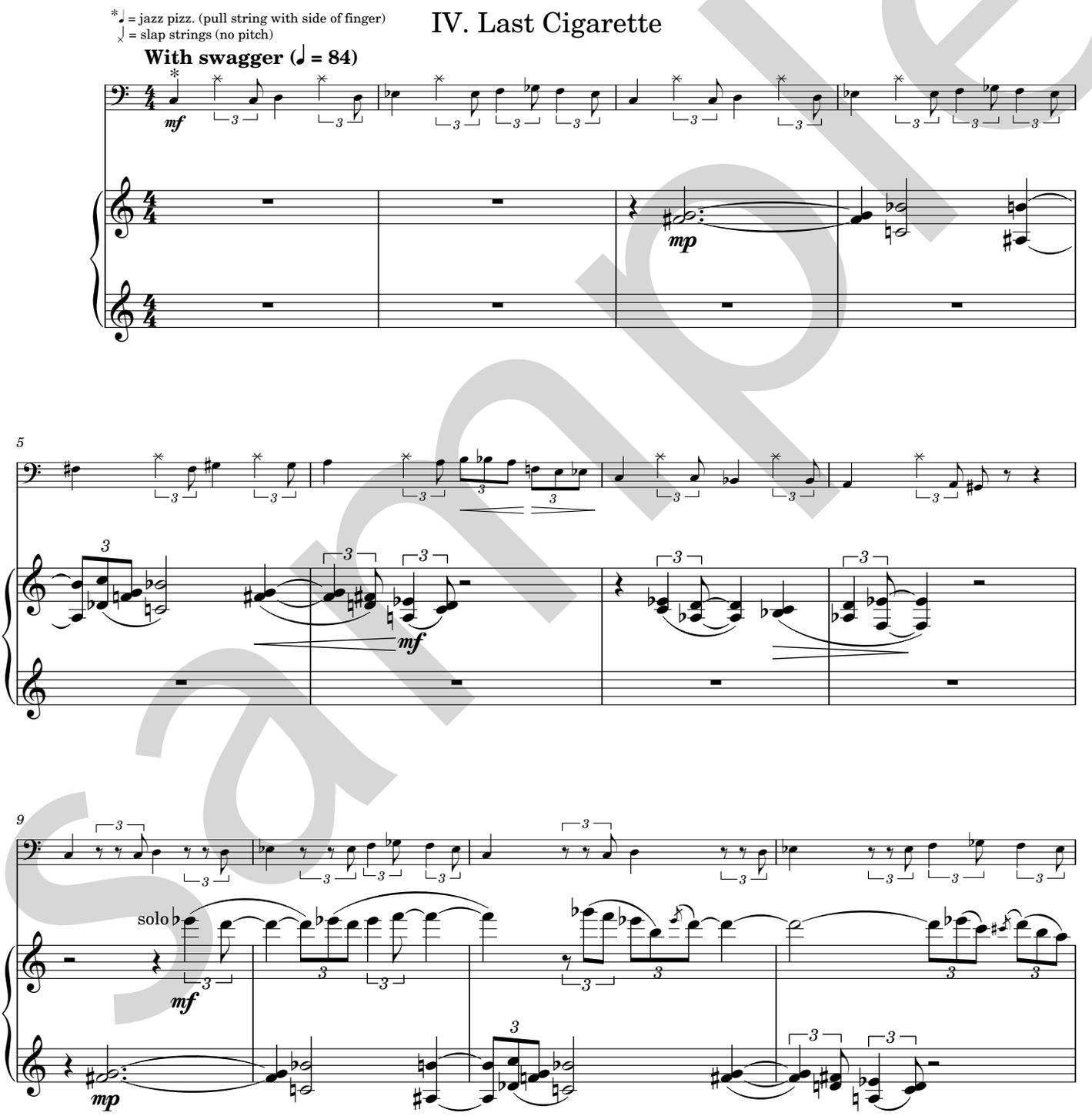
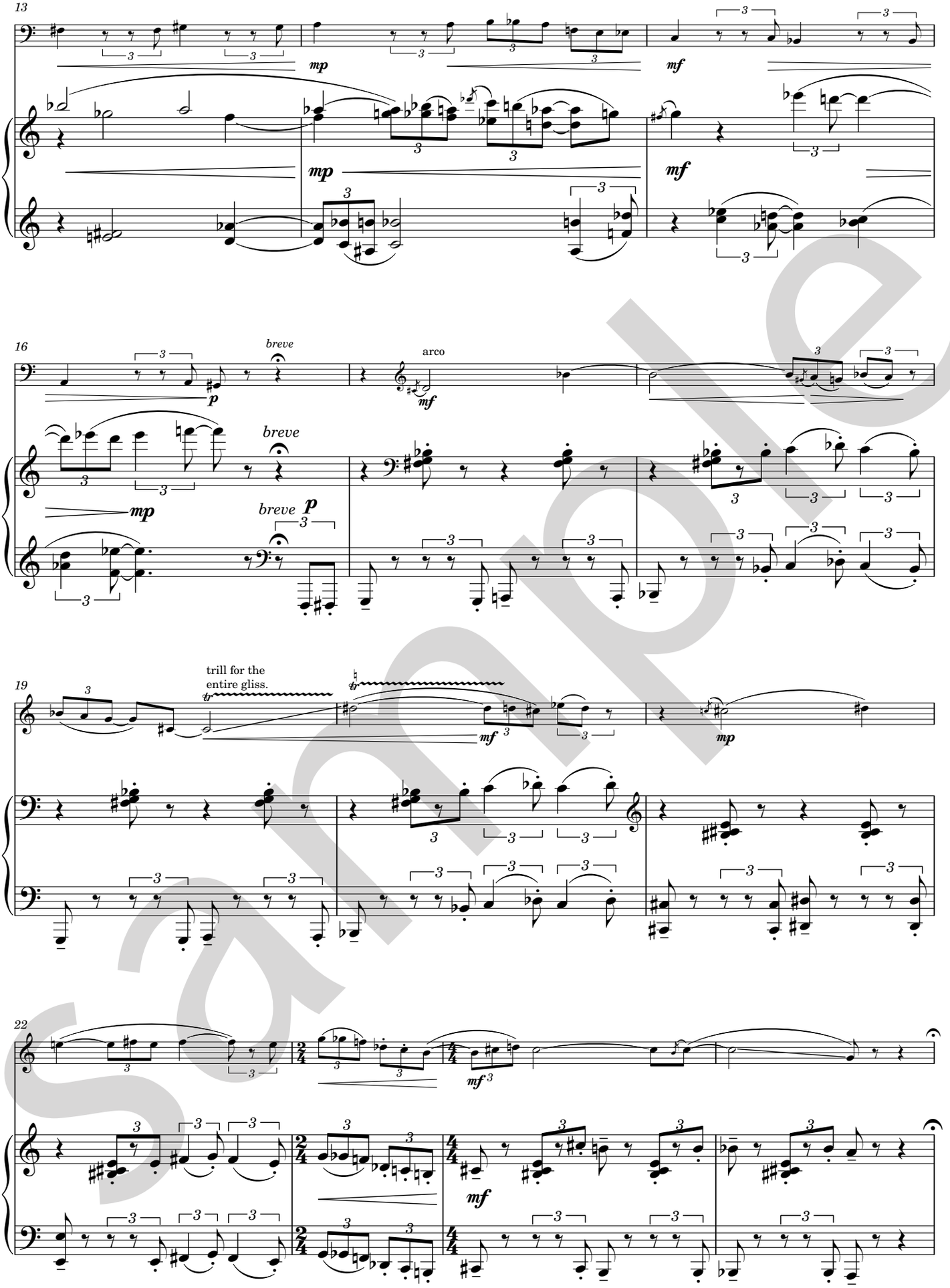

19
(opt. 8va)
15ma-
mf
mp
23
(opt. 8va)
p
(loco)
mf
mf
27
poco rit.
p
pp
32
a tempo (♩ = 84)
p
mp
(♩. = 56)
(♪ = ♪)
(5+4)
p
8va
8va
(5+4)
p
Ped.
Ped.
Pedal freely

sample


*♩ = jazz pizz. (pull string with side of finger)
× = slap strings (no pitch)
IV. Last Cigarette
With swagger (♩ = 84)
mf
mp
mf
solo
mf
mp

sample



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