Reflections on "Arirang" (2006): Program Notes

"Arirang" is the most popular traditional folk song in Korea. Every region of the country has its own version. The influence for this piece comes from Seoul and the neighboring region, Kyoungki. Many opinions exist about the definition of the word "Arirang." However, its meaning has most widely become associated with feelings of yearning or of lost love. Koreans regard "Arirang" as the best song to express feelings of both joy and sorrow. Through my own reflections, this piece illustrates new feelings evoked from this traditional tune. To express myself freely, I used a mixture of various styles to breathe new life into an old melody. The organ lends special colors to this customarily vocal melody.

—A Young Kim

Dedicated to Dr. Larry Palmer, my dear professor at the Southern Methodist University

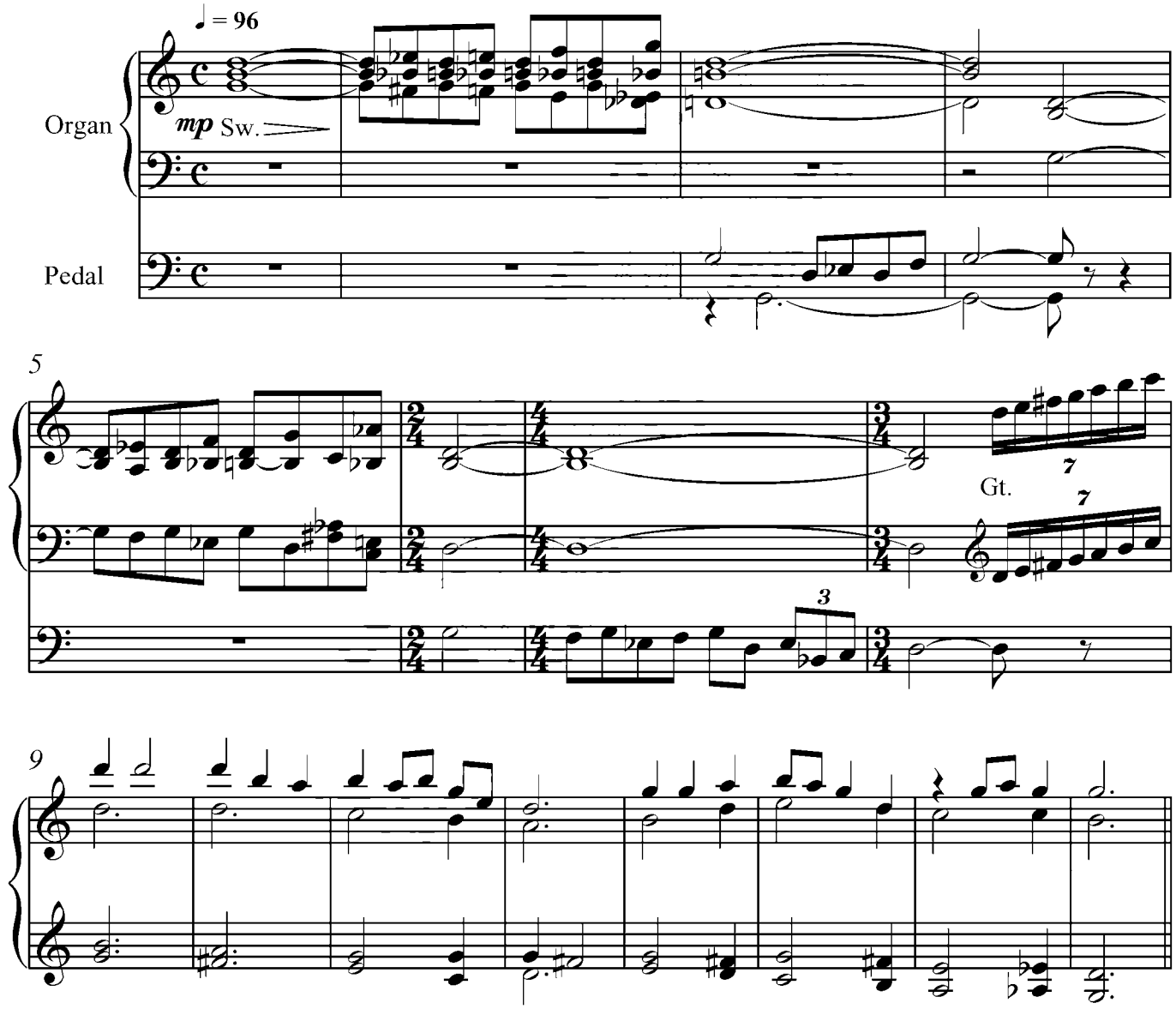
Reflections on "Arirang"

for Organ Solo

Sw: voix celeste
Pos: Fl. 8', 4'
Gt: Spielpfeife 8'
Ped: Bourdon 8'

Traditional Korean folk song
Setting by A Young Kim

I. Arirang: Rolling Hills



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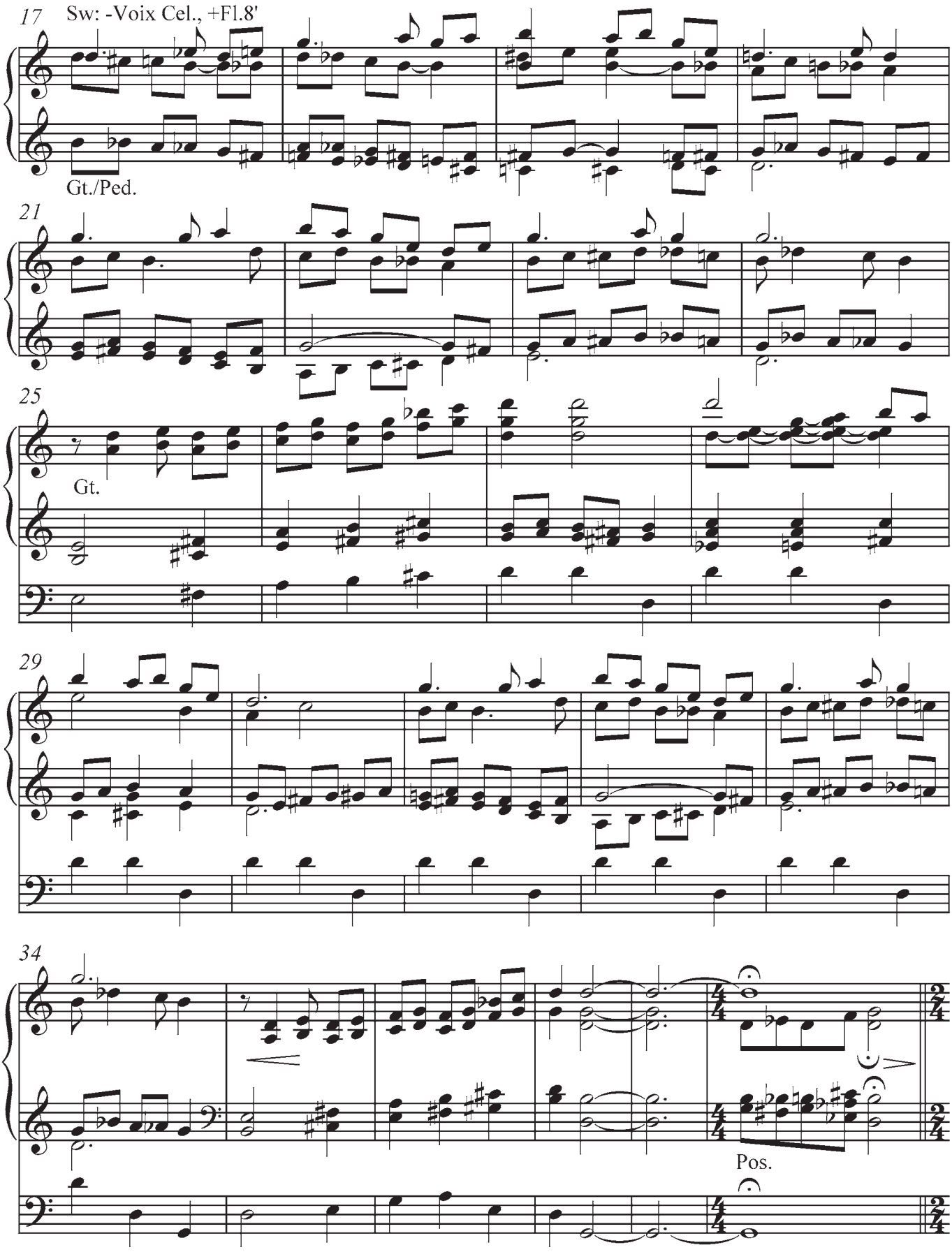
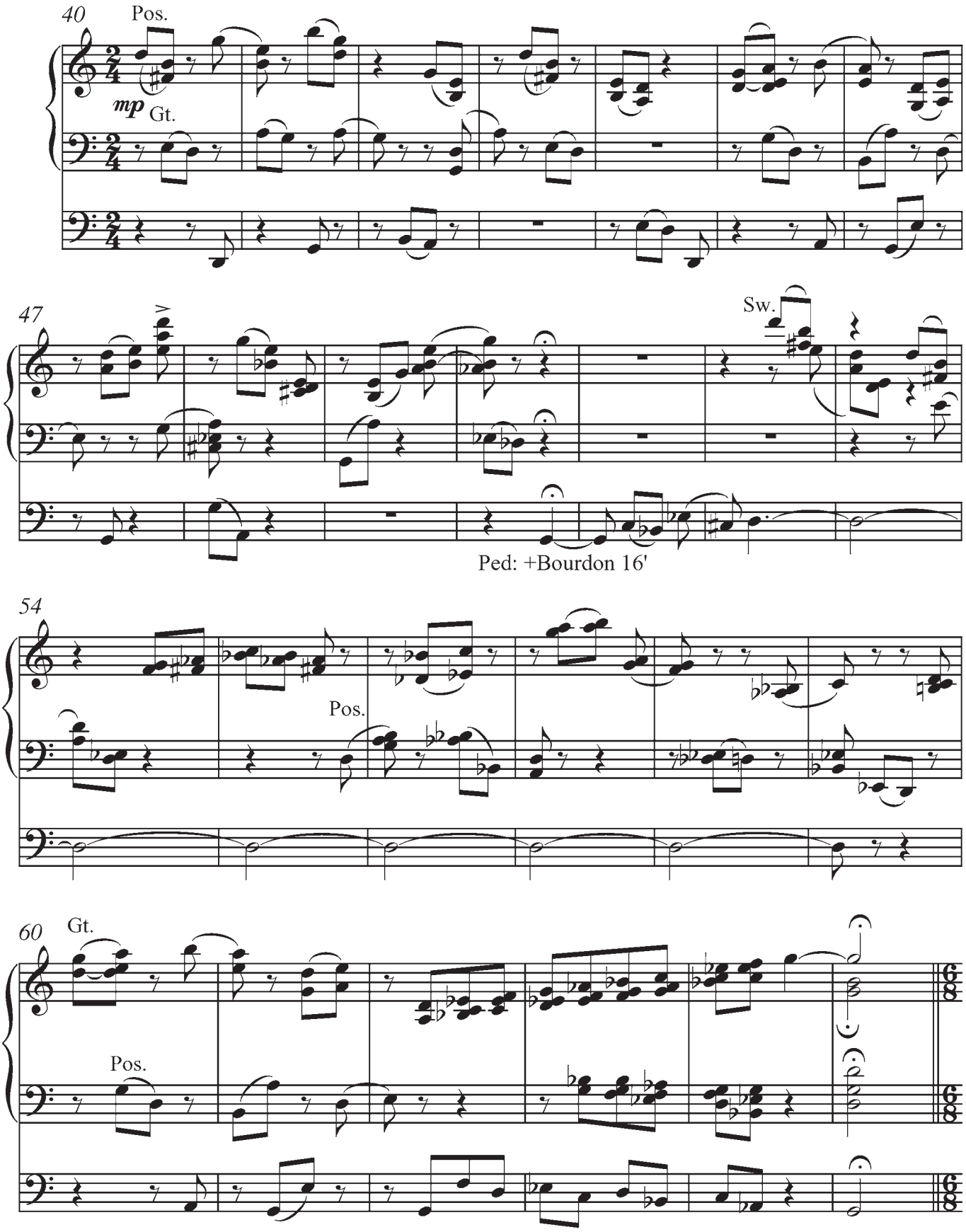
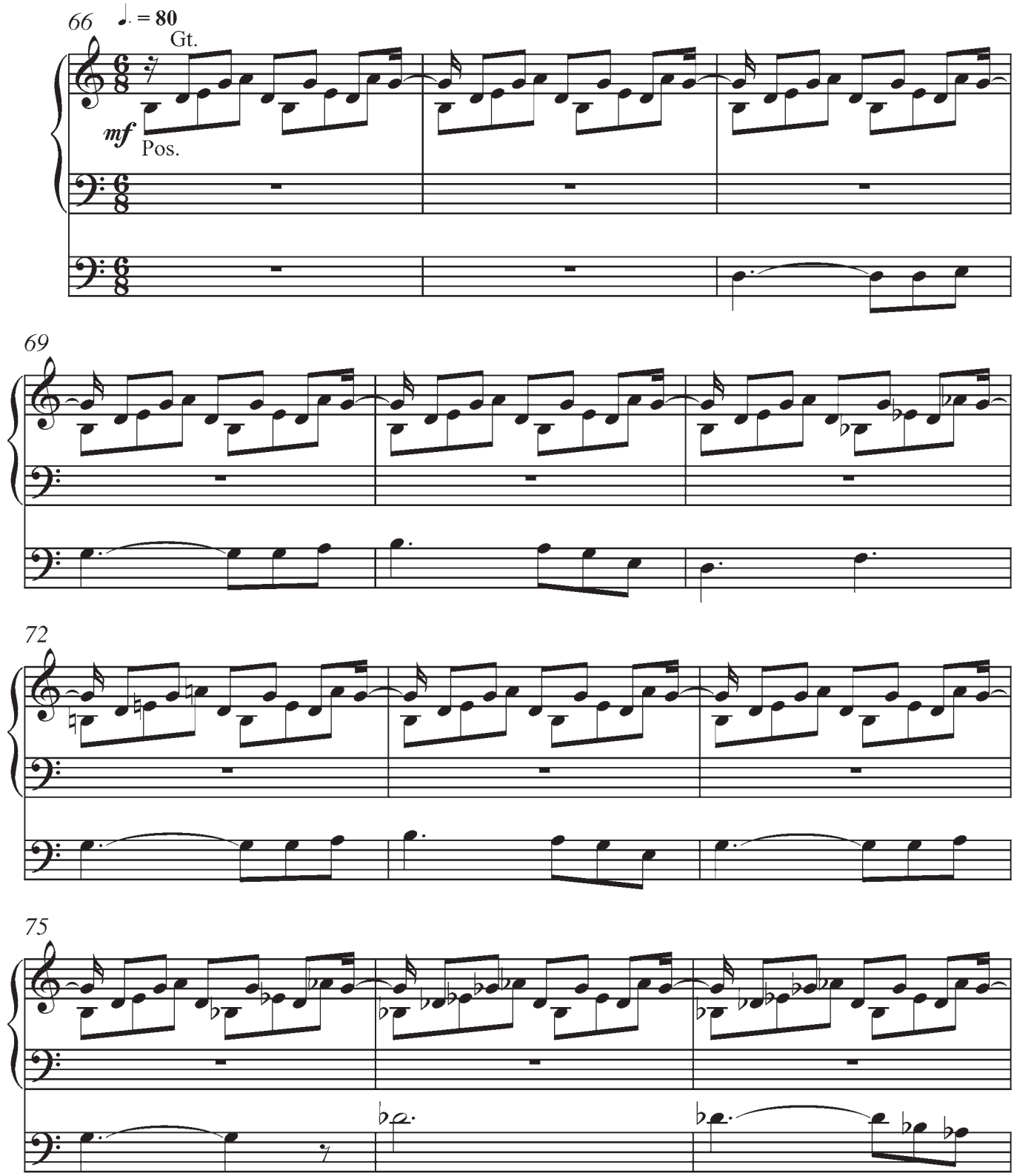

17
Sw: -Voix Cel., +Fl.8'
Gt./Ped.
21
25
Gt.
29
34
Pos.

II. Autumn Leaves



III. Eternal Spring (*alla* Steve Reich)

Sw: Hb. 8'
Pos: Preston. 8', Fl. 4'
Gt: Fl. 8', 4'
Ped: Oct. 4', Sw./Ped. 4'



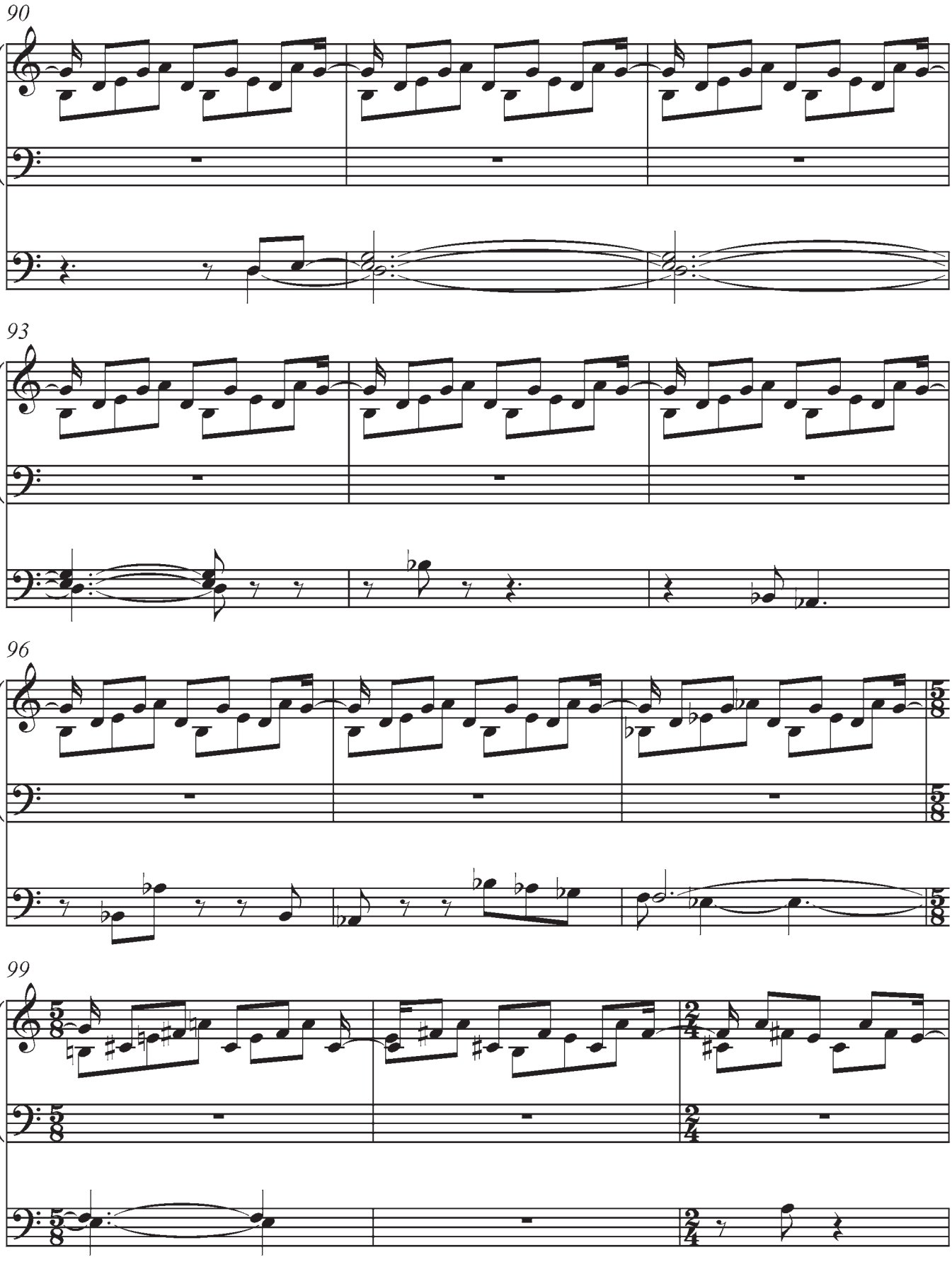
78

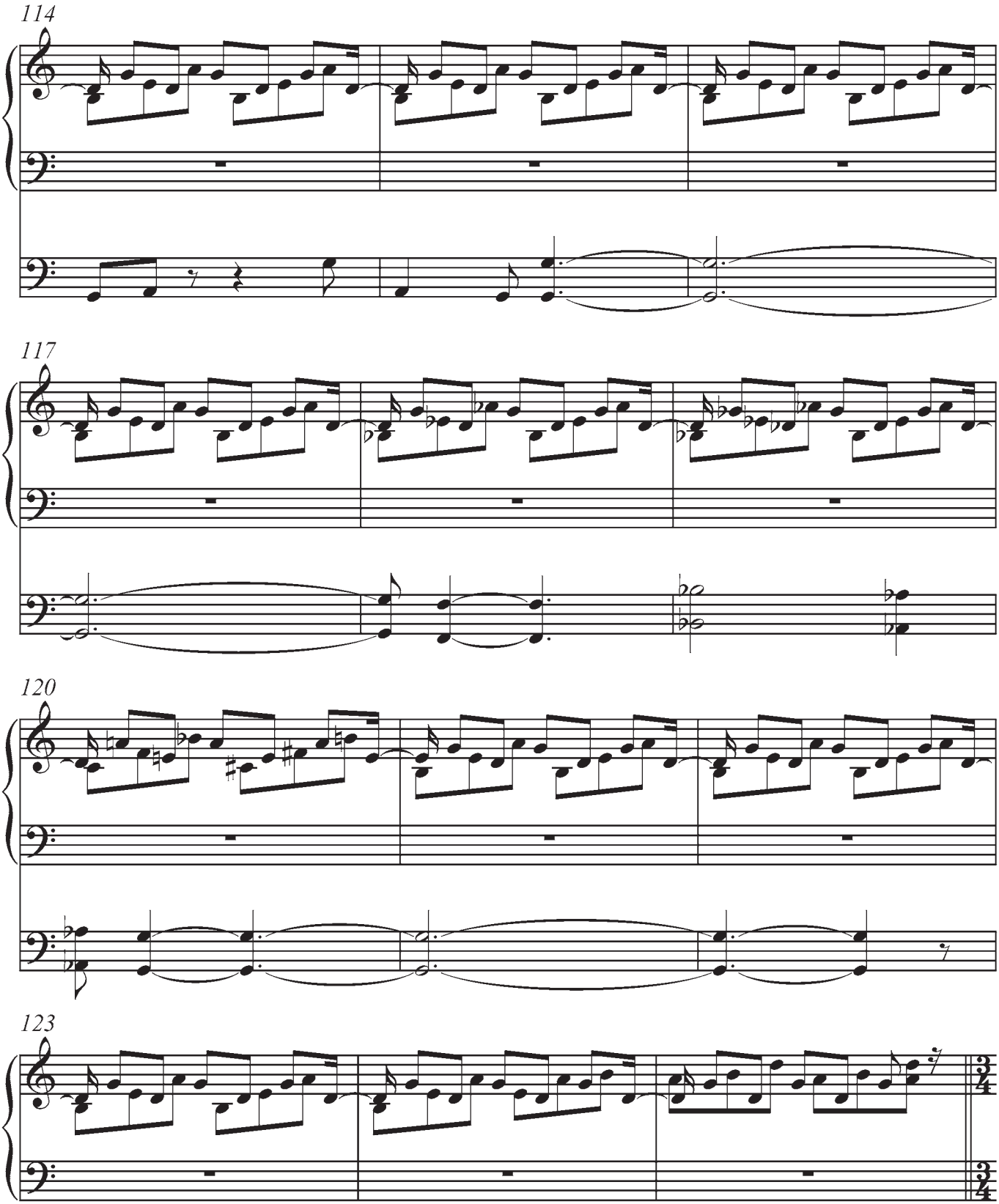
81

84

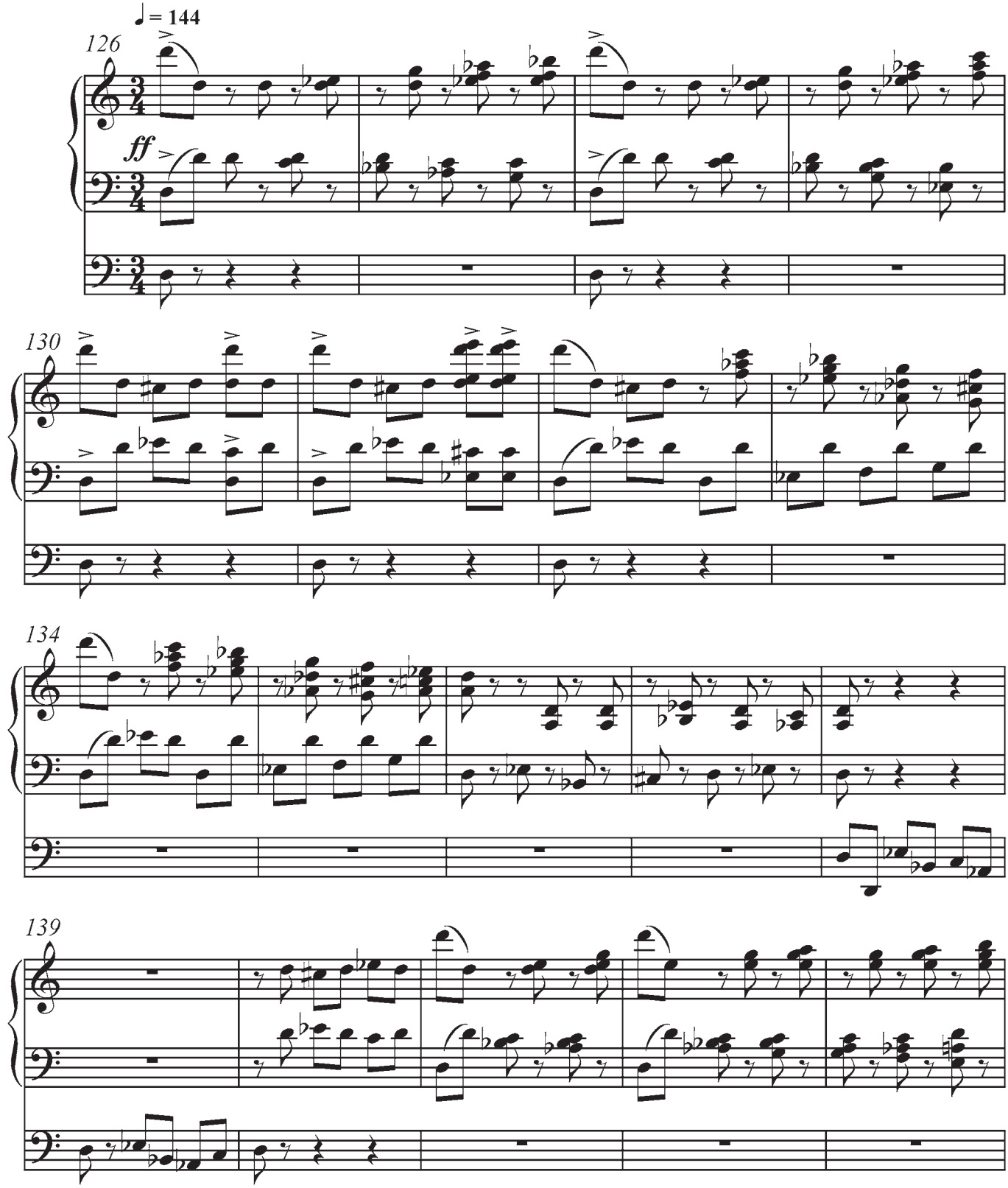
-Sw./Ped. 4', +Bourdon 16'

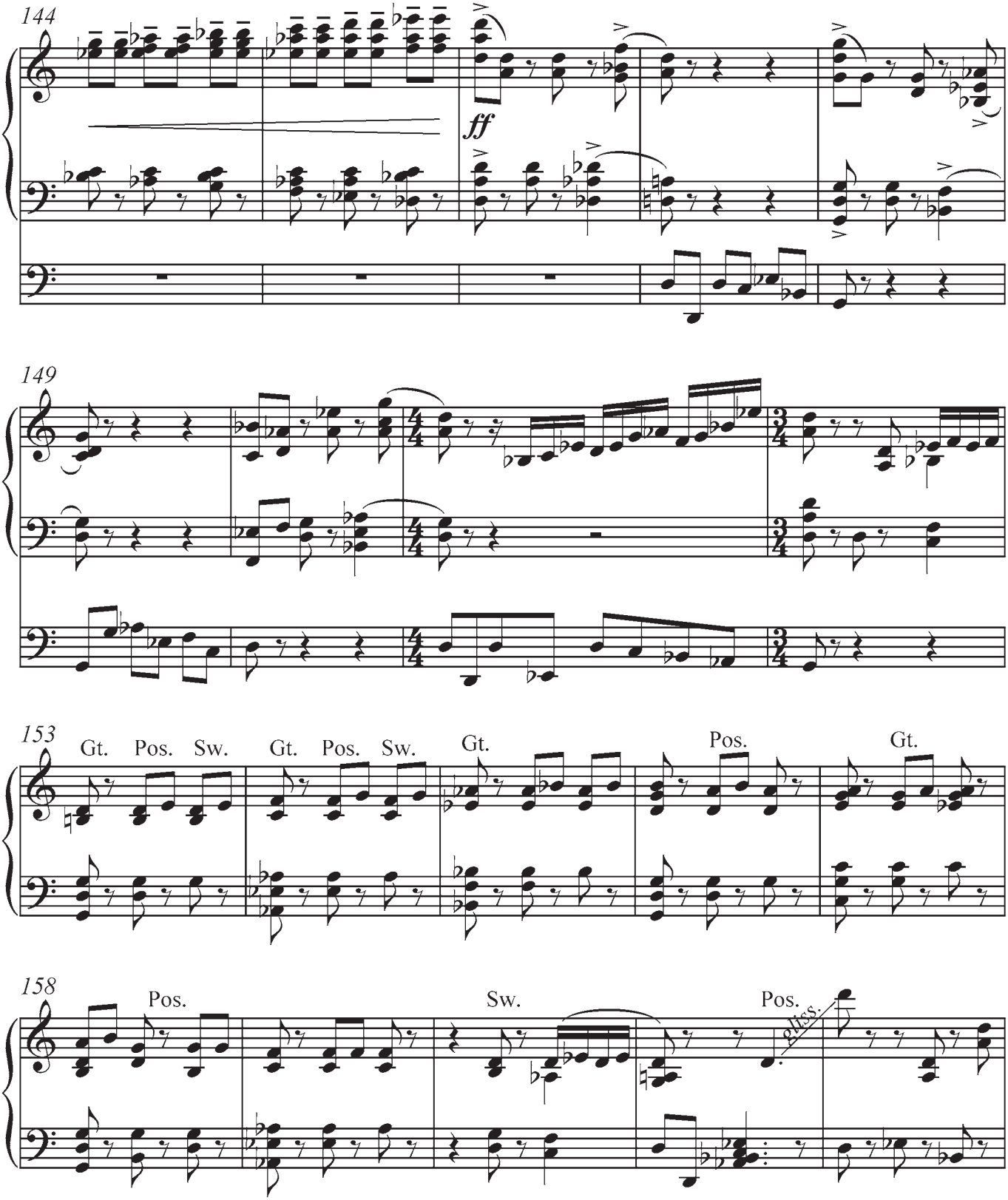
87

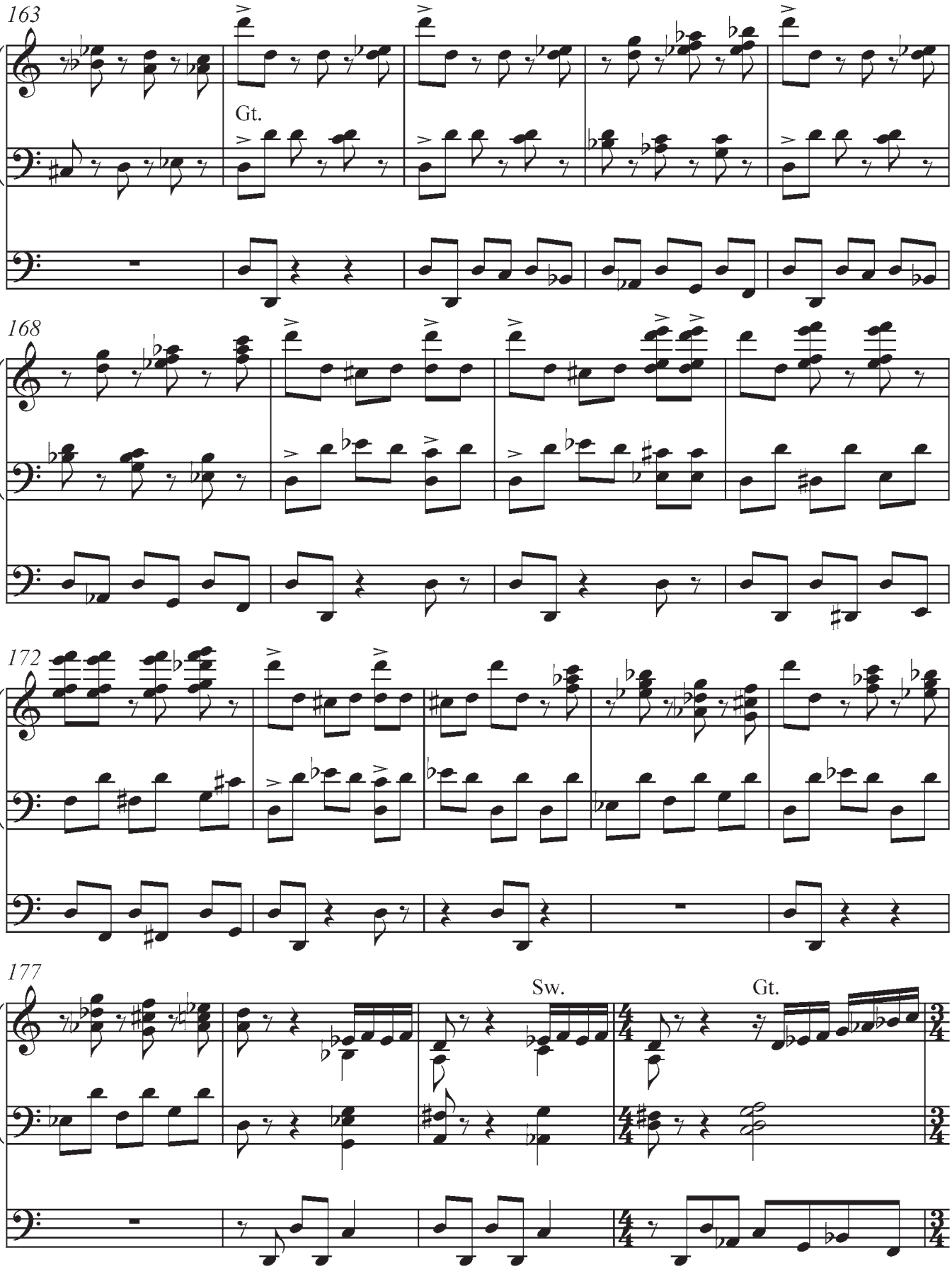

90
93
96
99

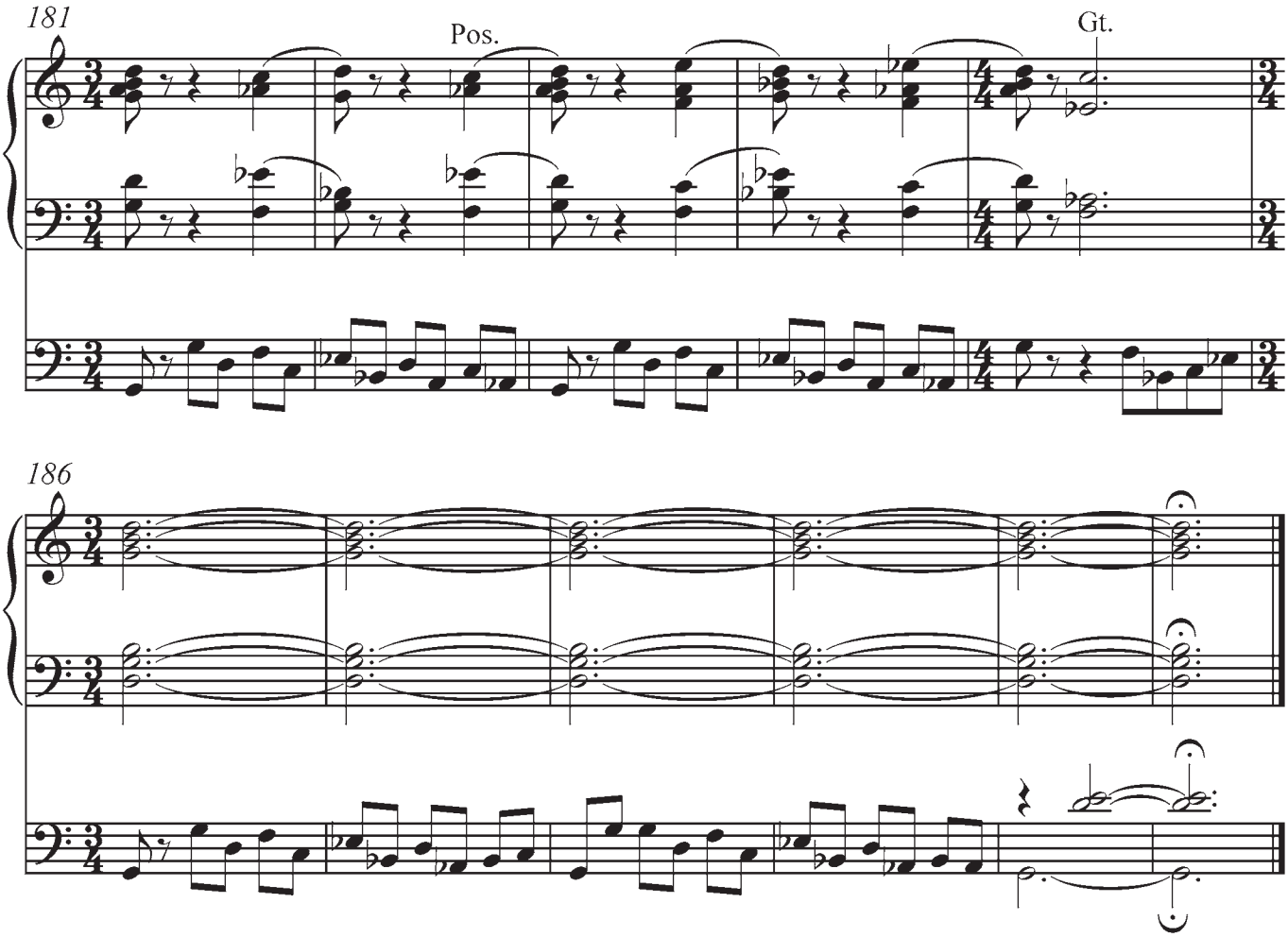

114
117
120
123

Sw: Foundation 8', 4', Soft Reed 8'
Pos: Foundation 8', 4', 2'
Gt: Foundation 8', 4', 2', Mixture
Ped: Preston 16', 8', 4', Gt./Ped., Sw./Ped.




144
ff
149
153
Gt.
Pos.
Sw.
Gt.
Pos.
Sw.
Gt.
Pos.
Gt.
158
Pos.
Sw.
Pos.
8va


163
Gt.
168
172
177
Sw.
Gt.



2006
6'10"