Concerto per Flicornobasso

Op. 155, PP.143.11

Amilcare Ponchielli
ed. Henry Howey

Since its return to the repertoire many questions about its existence have arisen. Among them are the circumstances of its creation. The autograph score has a curious scribble that obscures/corrects its date to 1872. One can state that there is an autograph progam that (supposedly) places its first performance on Sunday, March 17, 1872 in the Piazza Roma in Cremona. However, there are also newspaper listings for three more concerts, all in the Piazza Roma. This is a never before seen occurrence and suggests that the performance was delayed for an unknown cause.

A further mystery is that no name for a soloist can befound in archival records. Though a band roster for 1872 exists, no names are listed. The position of *flicornobasso* was not filled in 1865 as the audition winner refused the position. A name surfaces in an 1865 diary, but there is no official confirmation of this person in the band.

The articulations and phrase markings are drawn from the autograph score. In measures 111 and 123, Ponchielli does intend for the soloist to phrase at the barline. This is merely another instance of the operatic roots of this piece.

This latest piano version is based upon Ponchielli's own piano-to-band version of his duet for clarinets, *Il Convegno*. Thus it is "back-engineered" as though Ponchielli himself might have done it.

Perhaps the closest modern instrument to Ponchielli's *flicornobasso* is the modern British baritone. Ponchielli treats the *flicornobasso* exclusively as the tenor voice in his many opera settings. The companion *bombardino* is always the bass/baritone voice; thus its modern equivalent would be the British euphonium.

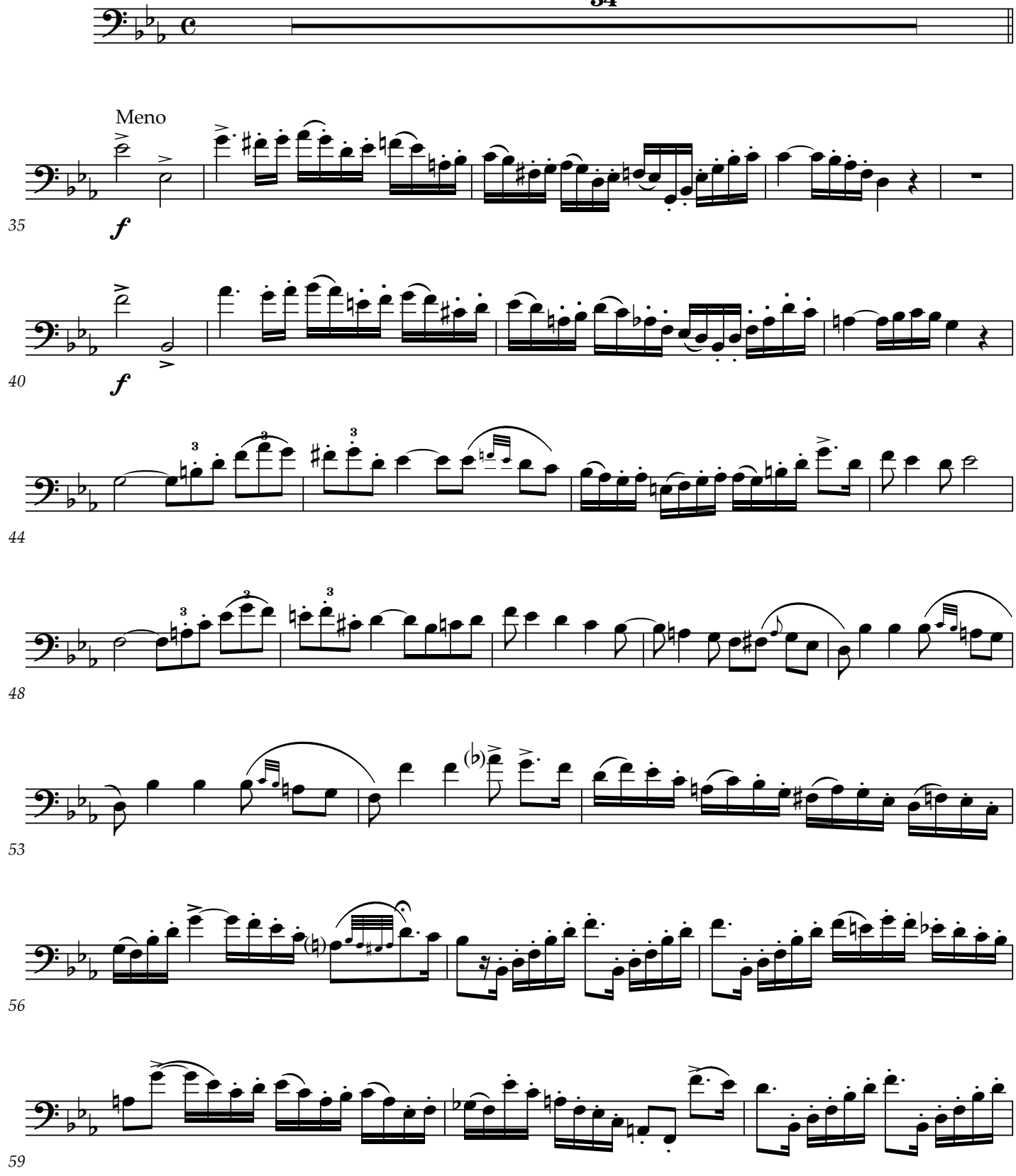
Concerto per Flicornobasso

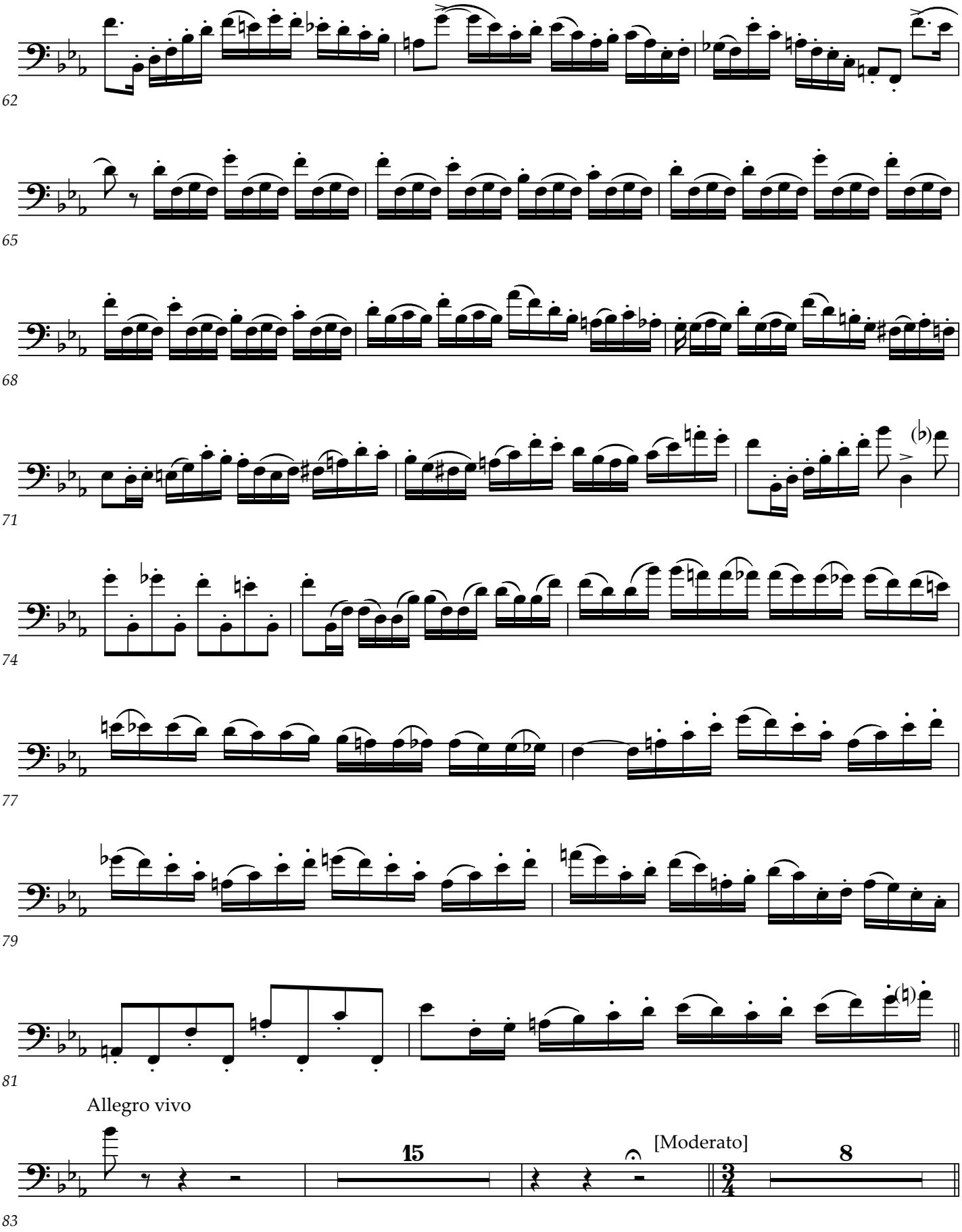
Op. 155, PP.143.11

Amilcare Ponchielli
(1834-86)
ed. Howey

Allegro non tanto

34




62
65
68
71
74
77
79
81
Allegro vivo
15
[Moderato]
8
83

Allegretto moderato

108

mp

112

116

120

rall.

a tempo

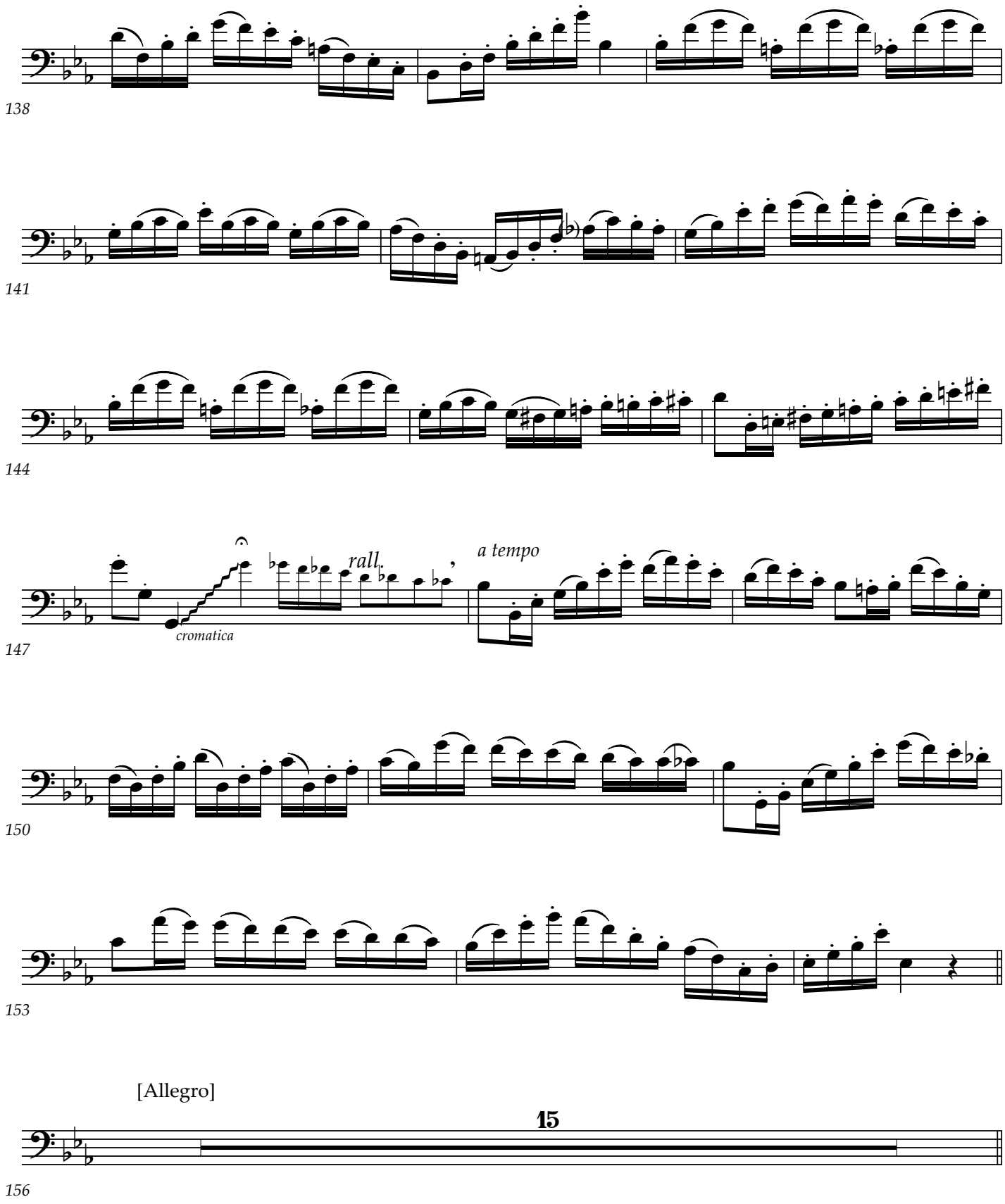
124

128

Variazione 1a

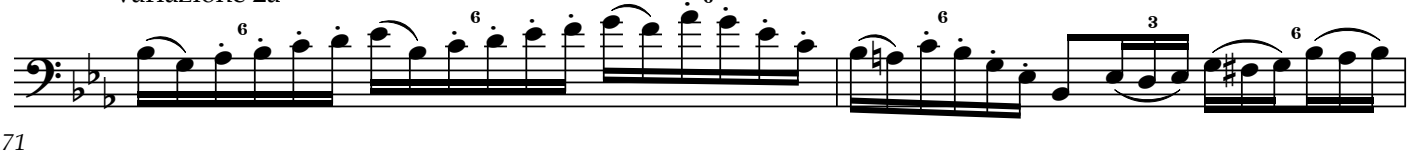
132

135

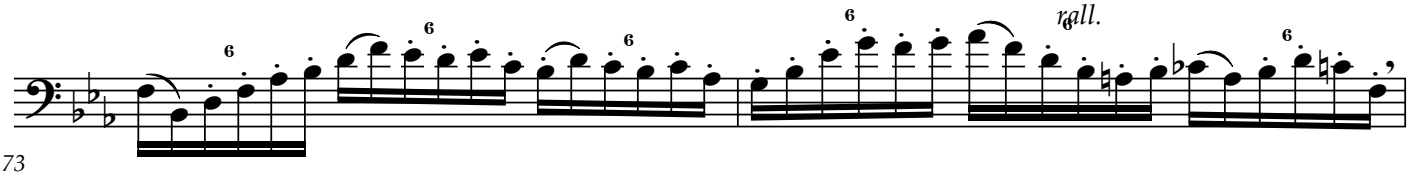

138
141
144
rall.
cromatica
a tempo
147
150
153
[Allegro]
15
156

Variazione 2a

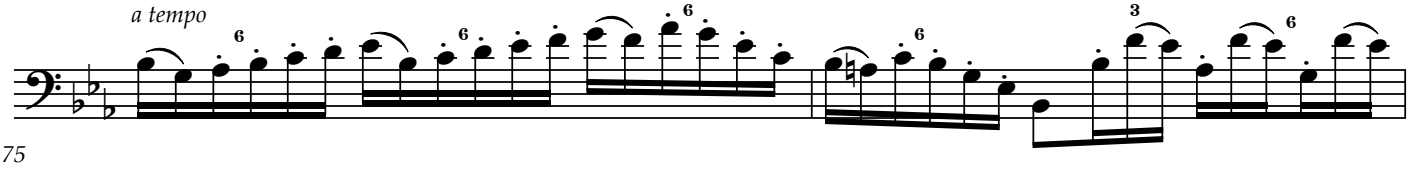
171



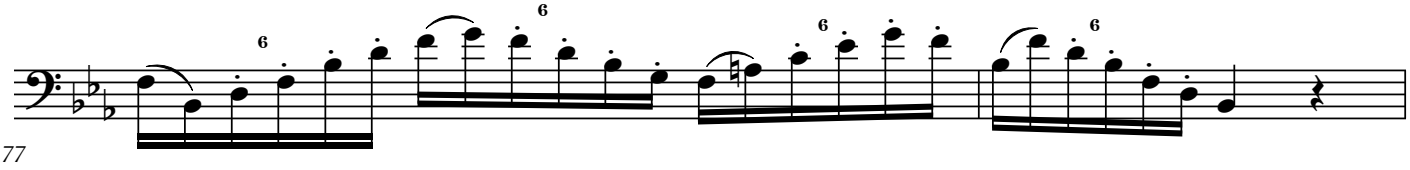
173



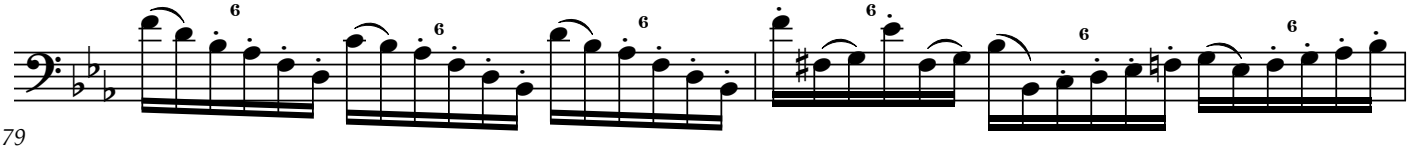
175

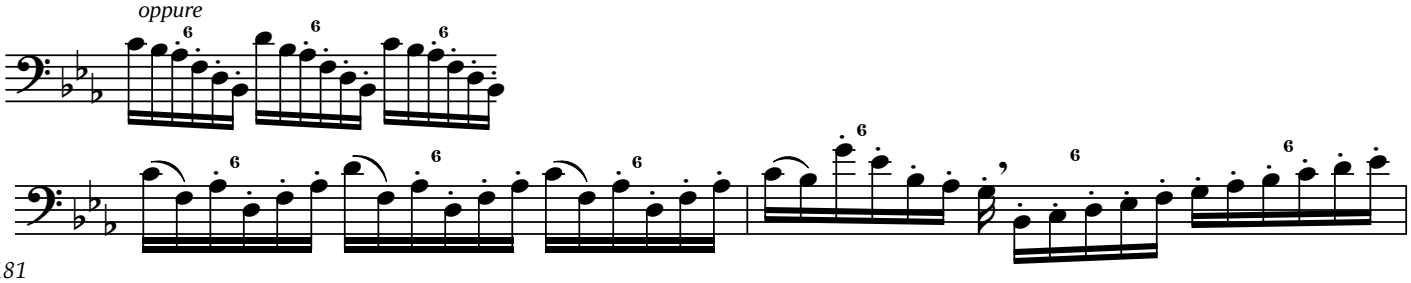


177



179





181

183

185

186

rall.

187

a tempo

189

rall.

191

a tempo

193

[Allegro]

15

195

Variazione 3a

210

212

rall.

a tempo

214

216

218

220

tall.

a tempo

222

224

225

226

rall.

228

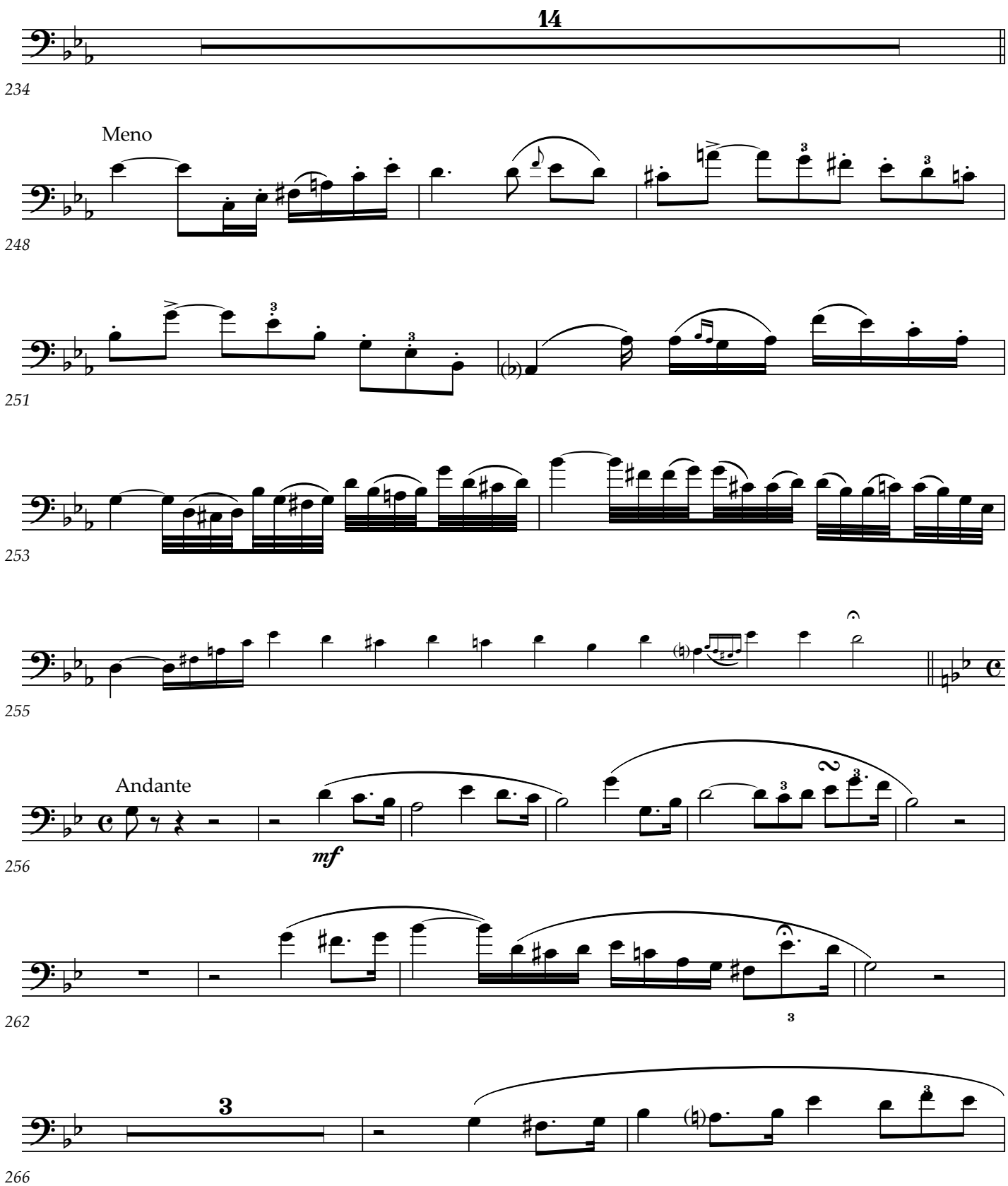
a tempo

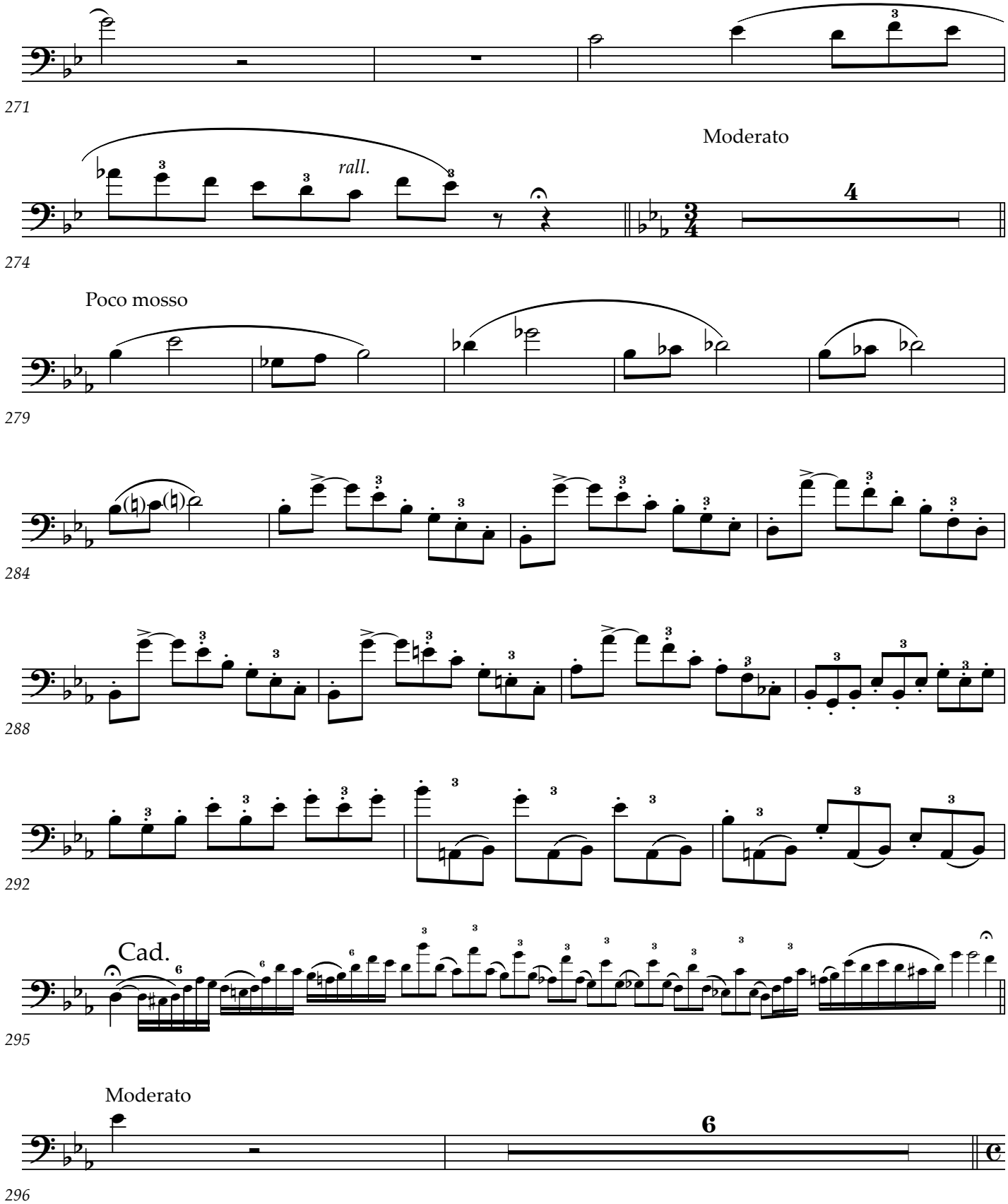
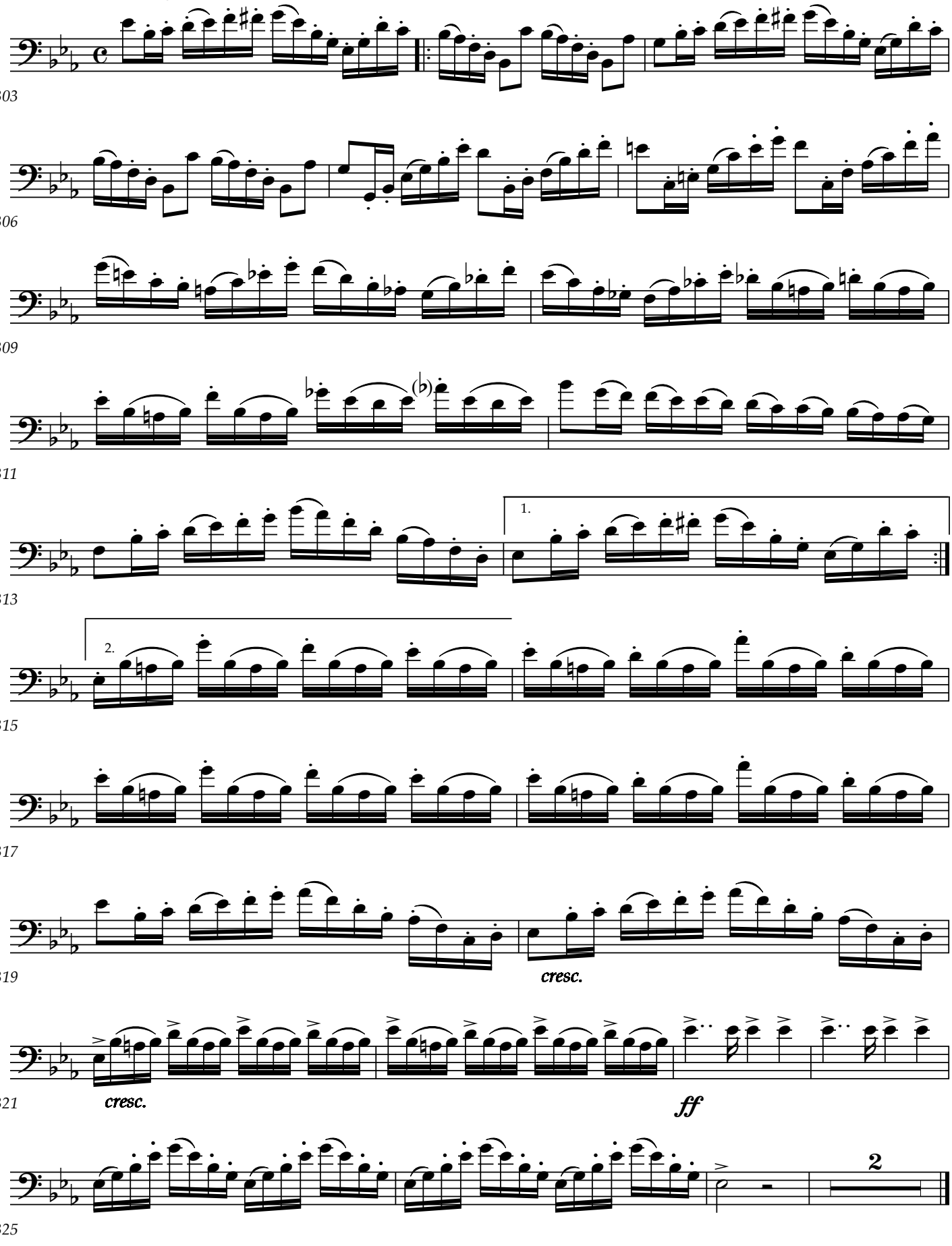
230

232

ff

Allegro




271
rall.
Moderato
274
Poco mosso
279
284
288
292
Cad.
295
Moderato
296

Allegro