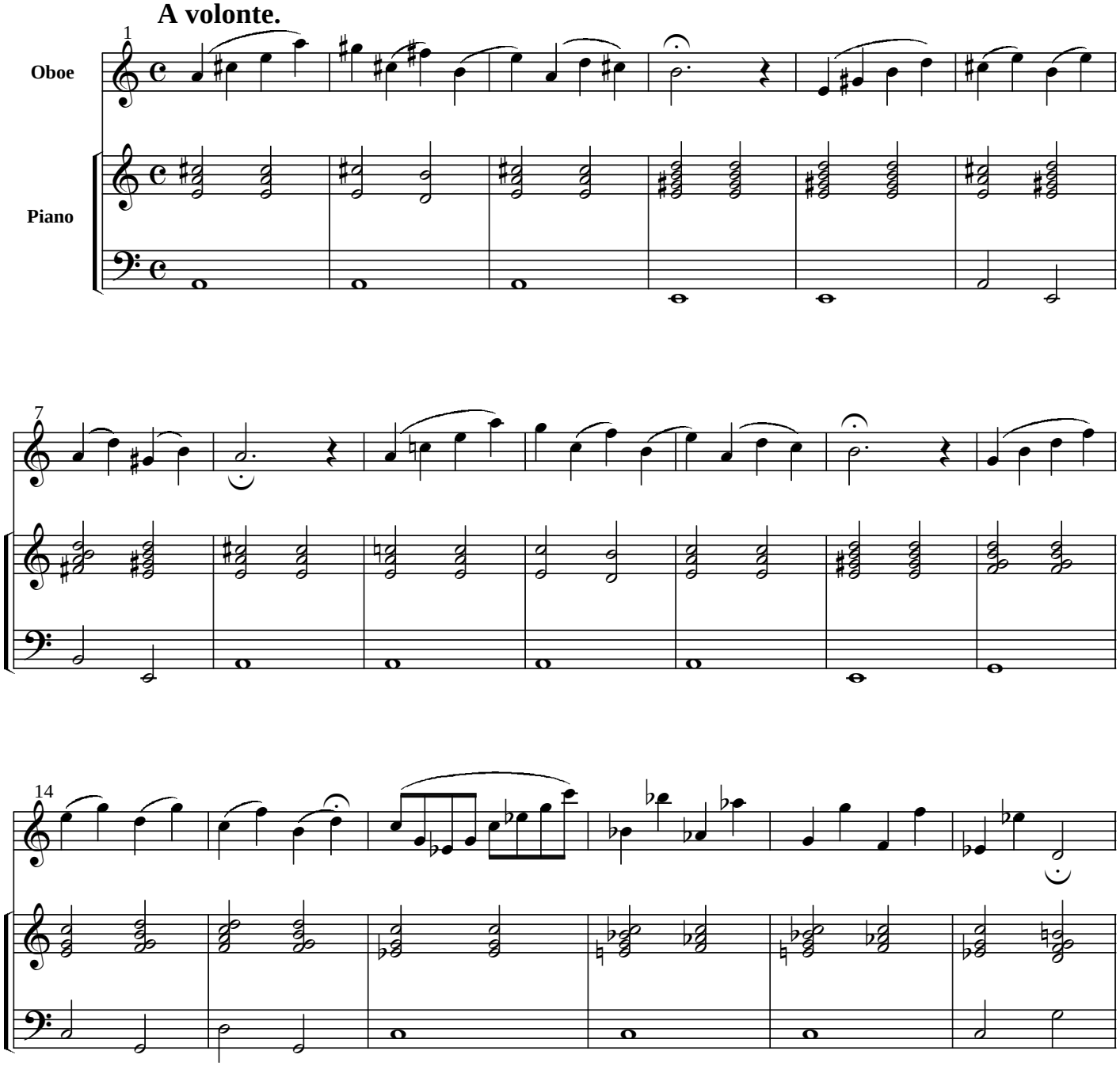
François Joseph Garnier (1755-c.1825)

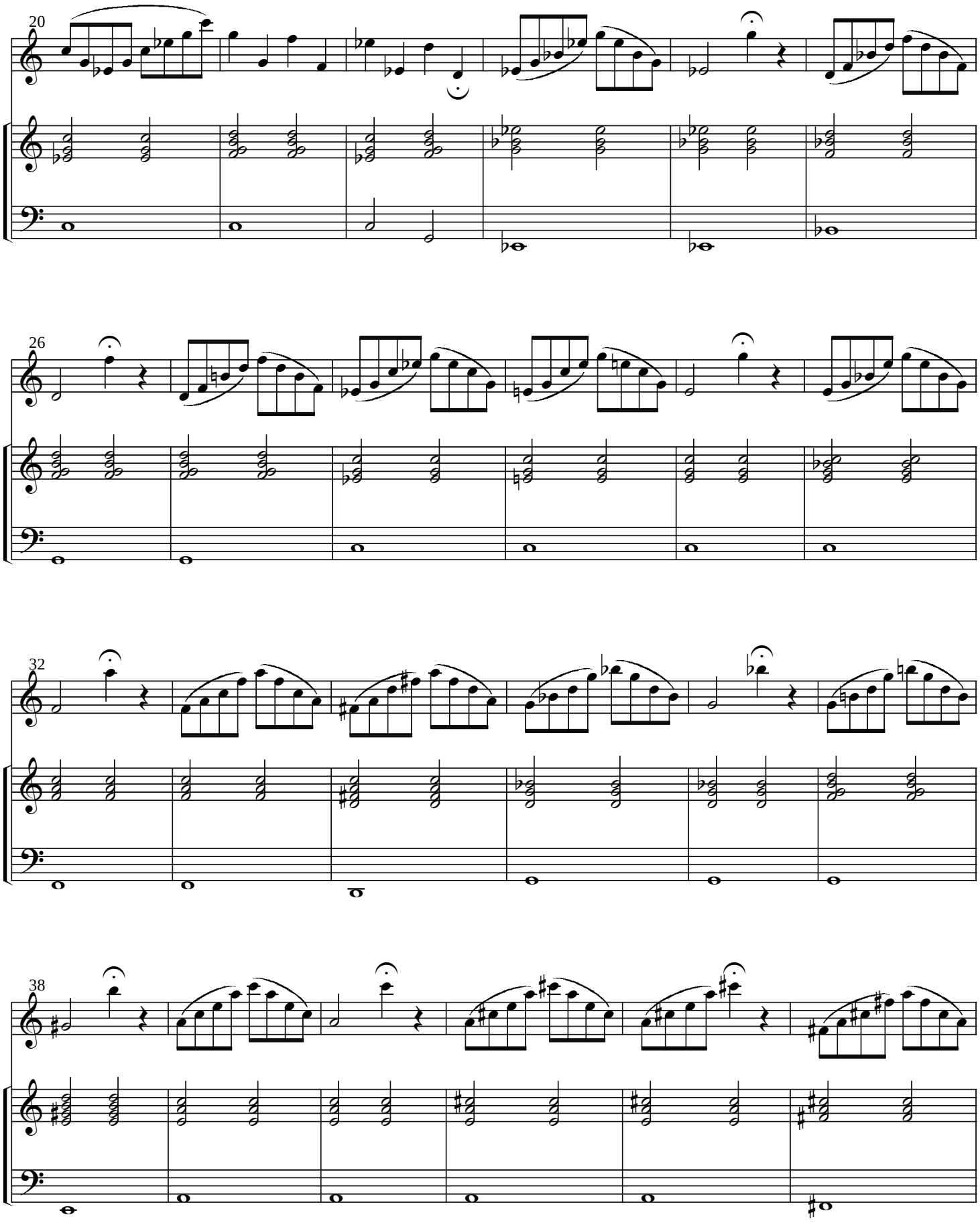
Compositions for a Single Oboe:
1 Prélude, 3 Caprices, and a Series of Cadenzas

Edition for Oboe and Piano by Charles-David Lehrer

Prélude No. 2 in A Minor

Prélude pour ajuster un hautbois ou former une anche neuve par les intervalles les plus sonores

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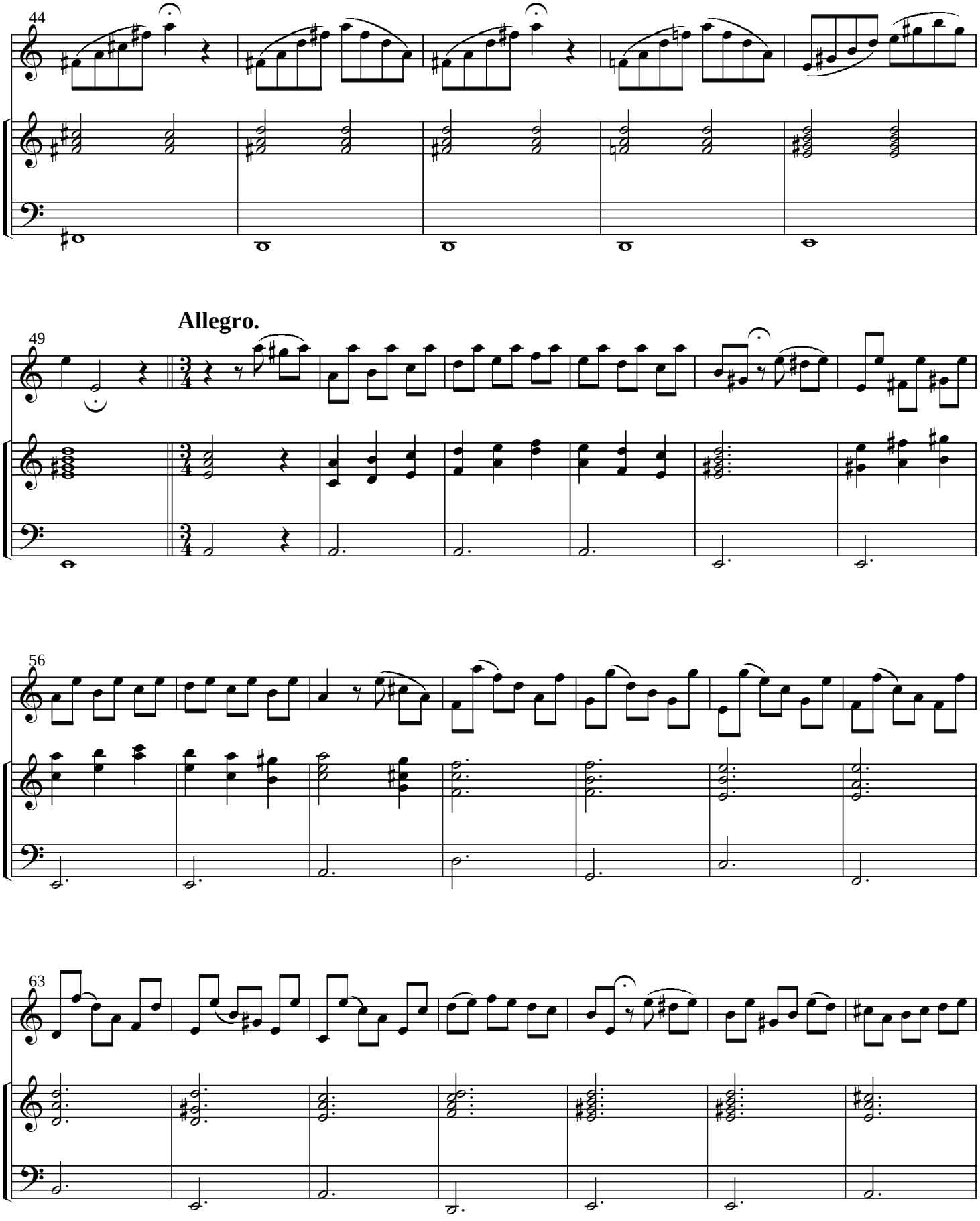
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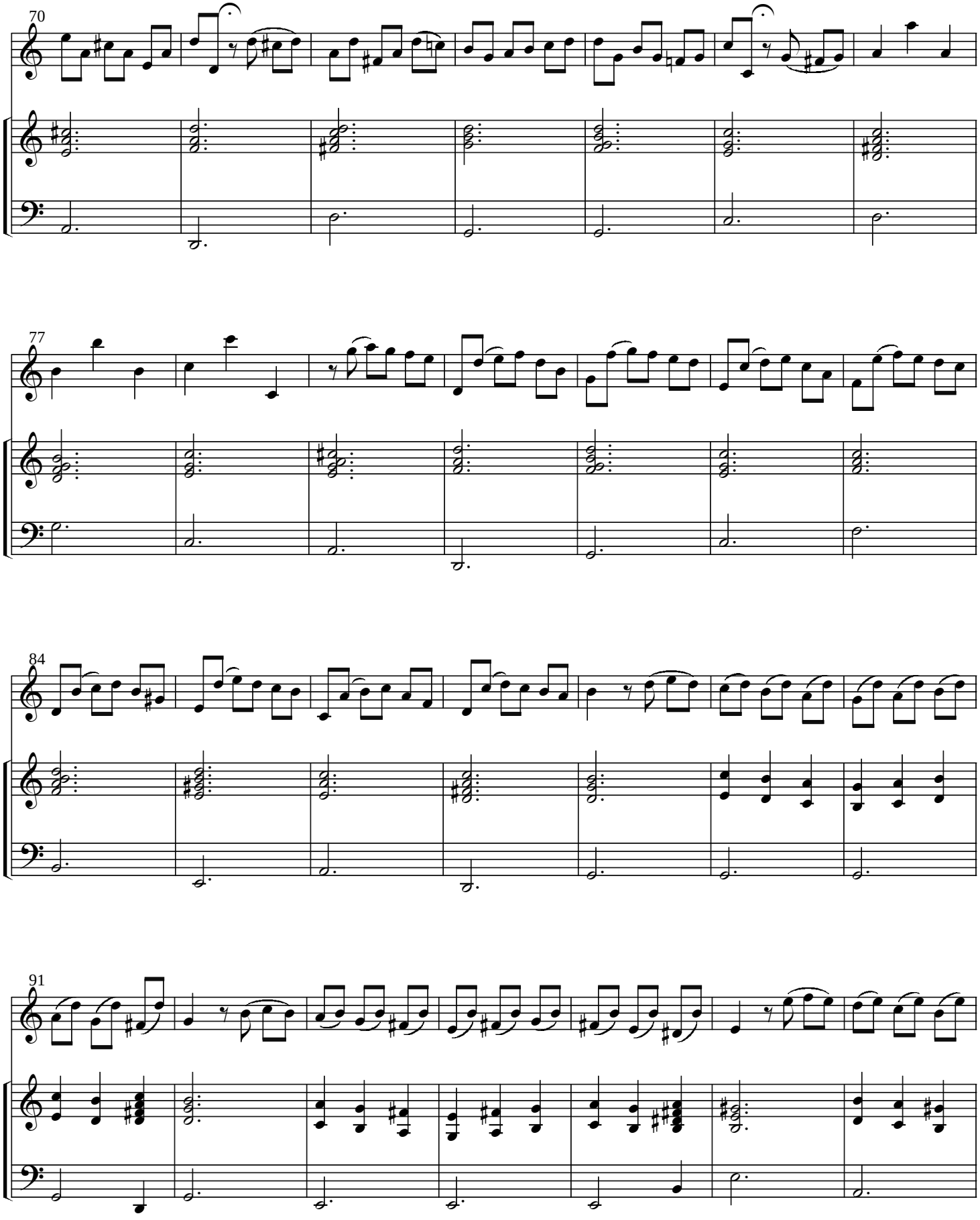
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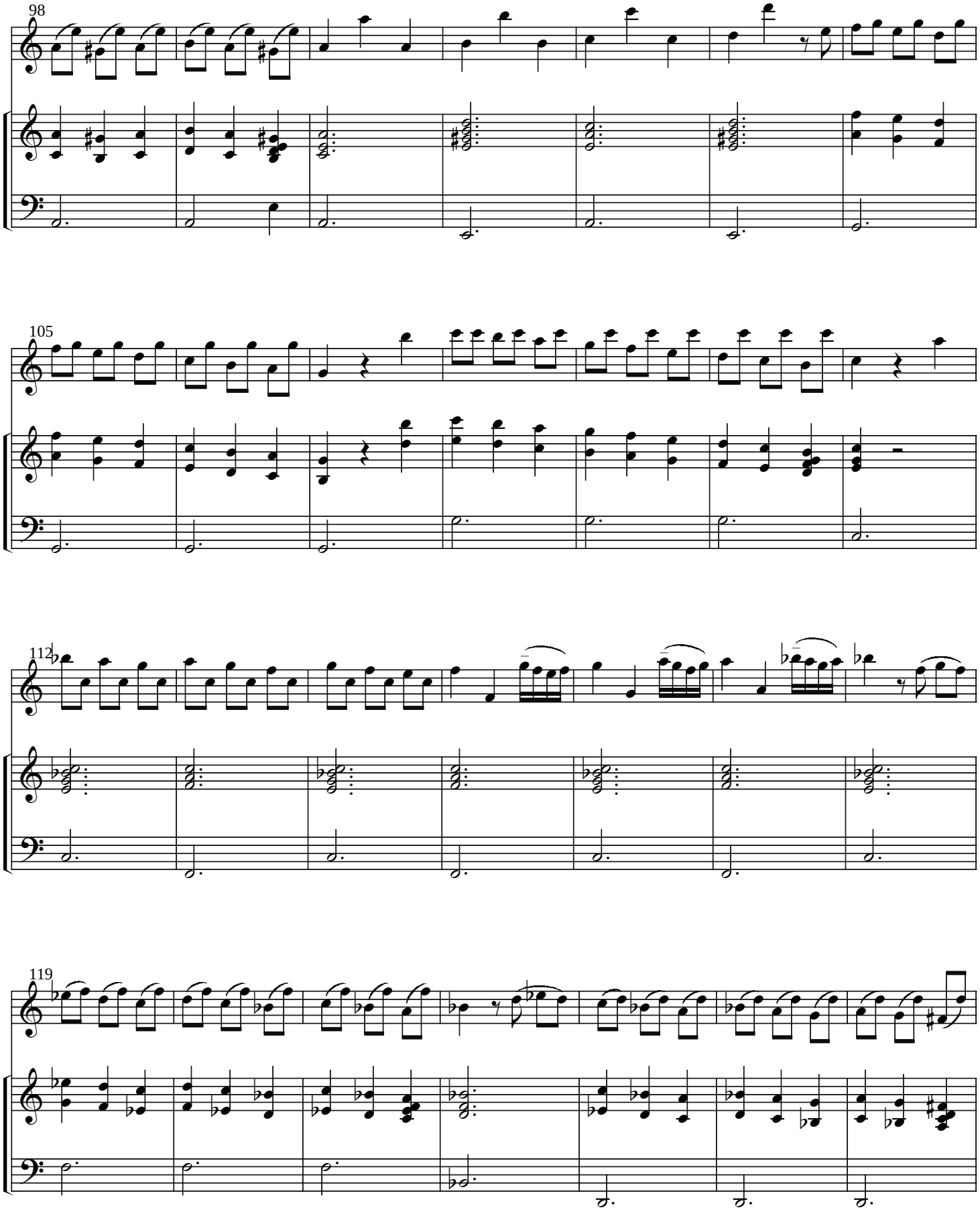
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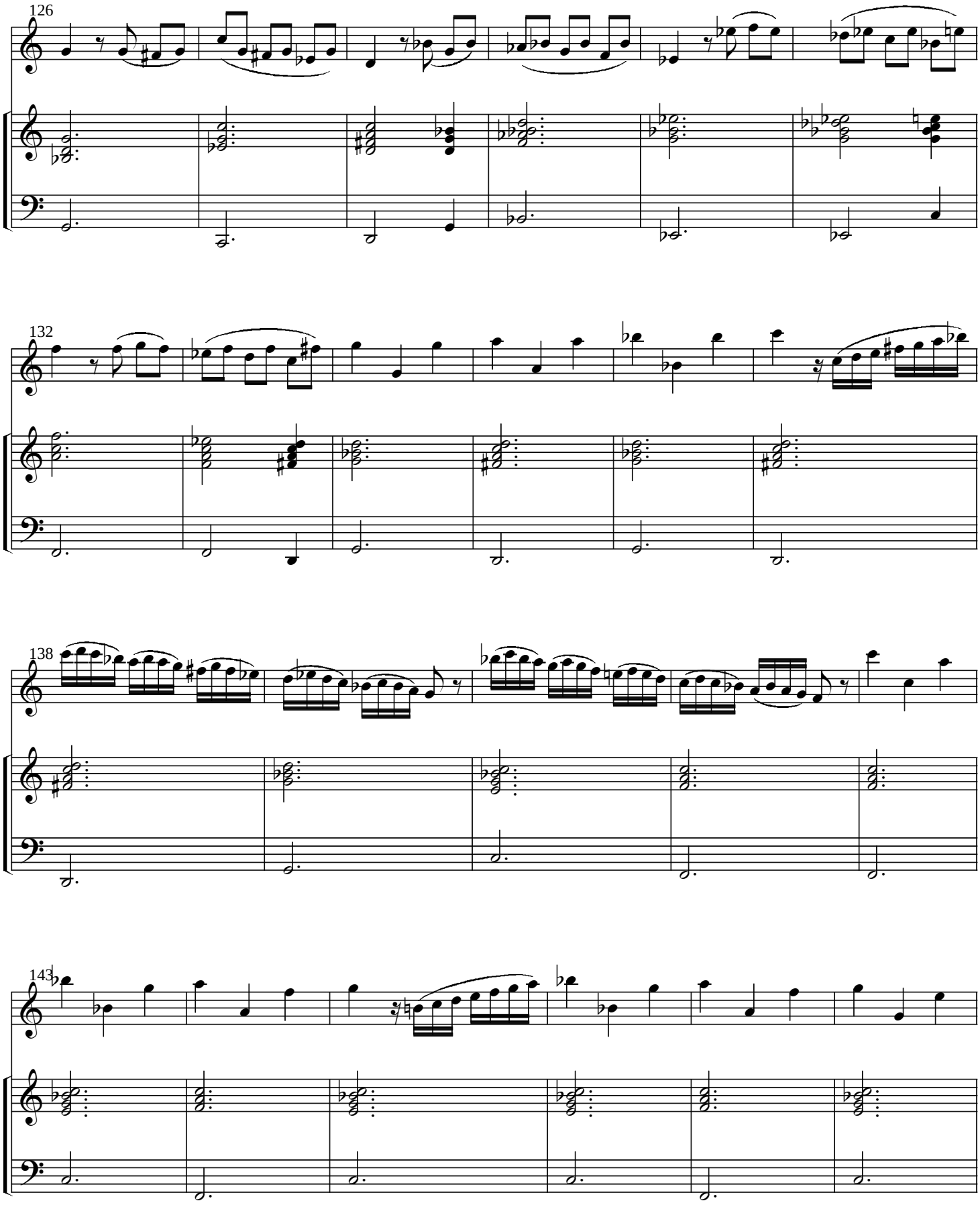
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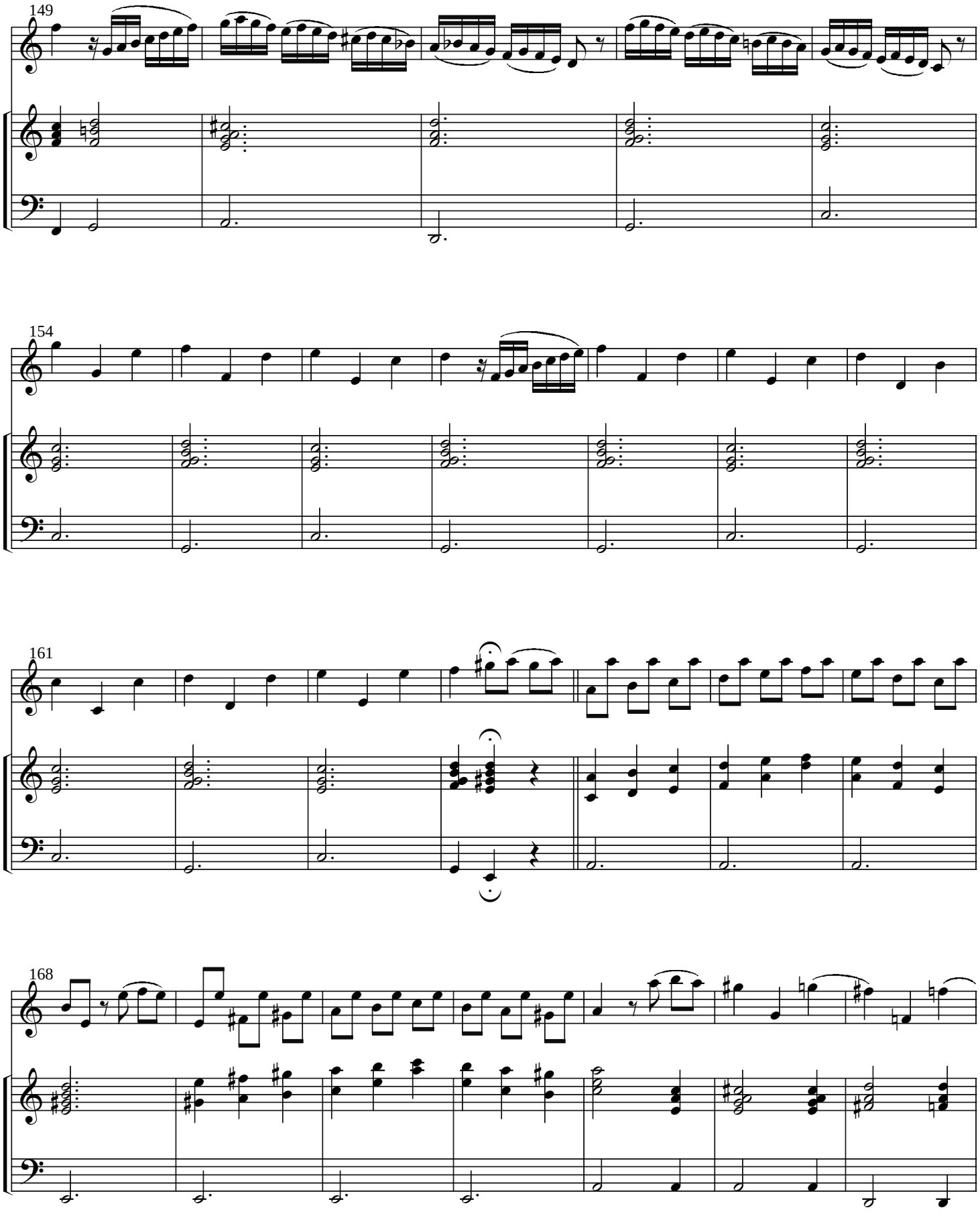
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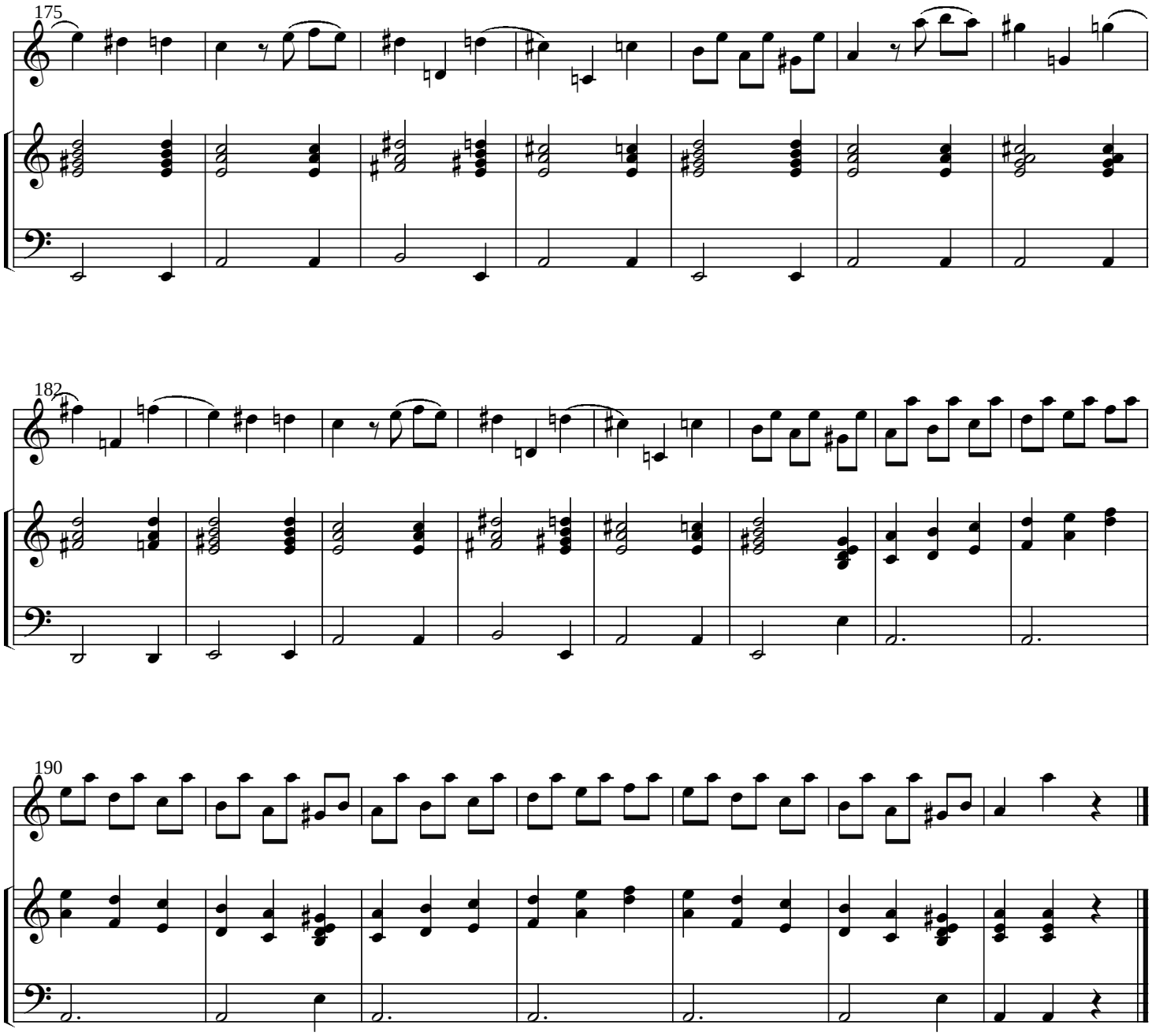

Prélude No. 2: The master entitles this study 'Prélude pour ajuster un hautbois ou former une anche neuve par les intervalles les plus sonores', that is: 'Prelude to be utilized in adjusting an oboe or for settling in a new reed through the use of intervals of great sonority'. This is the second of two such studies. The lost Prélude No. 1 is referred to on the frontispiece of Garnier's Méthode as 'Une étude pour les doigts et l'arrangement de la langue', that is: 'A study for the fingers and for manner of utilizing of the tongue'. In the case of the Prélude at hand, it is a toccata in two movements. The first of these is slow and is marked 'A volonte', that is 'With determination'. Its structure makes use of three very different motivic fields. The second movement utilizes a plethora of motives, many in sequence; and actually includes a short recapitulation of the first of these motivic fields in addition to two repeated closing themes. Many of the fermatas in this work appear to be indications of where the breath is to be taken.