Katherine Ryan Ayres

Several Scenes

for solo piano

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Performance Notes:

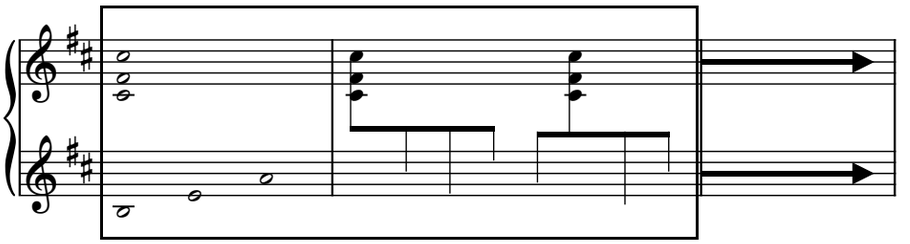
Several Scenes is a piece built on the indefinite repetition of small musical cells. While the piece has an approximate intended duration (between 40 and 50 minutes), the details as far as how long the various cells should each be repeated have been left open with the intention that the performer make these decisions for themselves based on how they are interpreting the piece. The performer may be liberal with each section's length as they see fit, so long as the following two conditions are met:

- The piece's duration falls roughly within the bounds suggested above
- All cells are repeated enough times that the performer has a chance to interpret each in a variety of ways

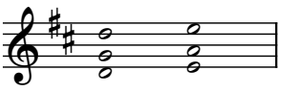
The performer should not make a fully notated realization of the score before performance; the score should be interpreted in real time during the performance as it appears on the page. A rough plan of events may be constructed to aid the performer in navigating through the score while the piece is being prepared, but any aids the performer uses should be supplements to, not replancements for, the score itself in performance.

Several Scenes

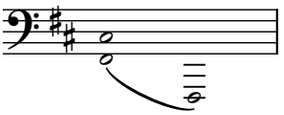
Explanation of symbols and notations



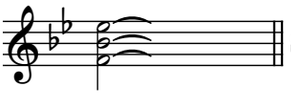
Using elements to left of dashed barline, ad lib attacks in 8th notes. Each vertical arrangement is one element. All elements played roughly equally often. Examples shown.



Unordered elements, to be played any amount of times.

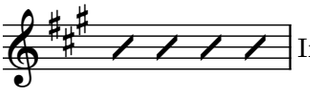


Ordered elements, each element played only once.

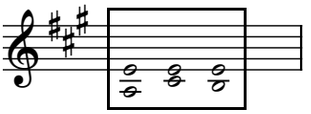


Strike once, let ring, do not repeat.

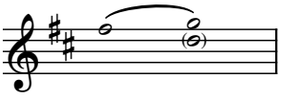
improvisations c. 10"



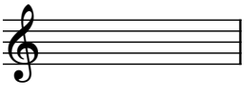
Improvise for indicated duration.



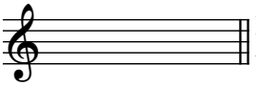
Elements available for use in improvisation.



Notes in parentheses are alternatives; pick one or the other.



Normal barlines visually and formally separate groups of material; they do not serve a metric function that applies to both hands unless a standard meter is explicitly marked.



Double barlines delineate cells of musical material that are repeated ad lib. All of the material within the bounds of the double bars is repeated. 'Bar numbers' in this piece refer to these double barlines.

Thick arrows represent the continuation of previous musical material through subsequent sections of music, until the end of the arrow.

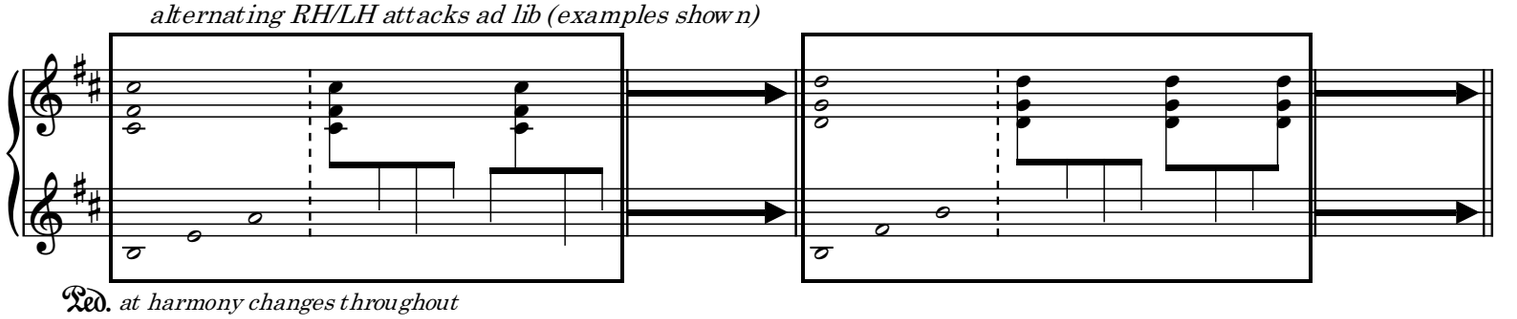
Several Scenes

for solo piano

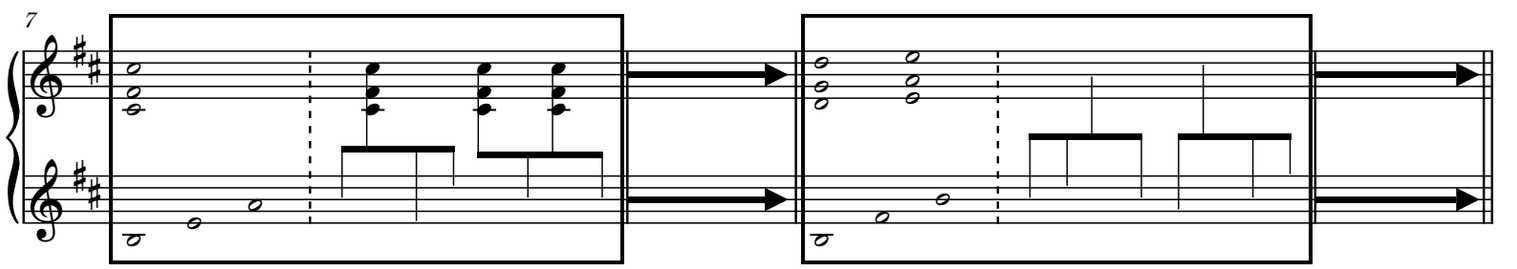
Katherine Ryan Ayres (2013, rev. 2024)

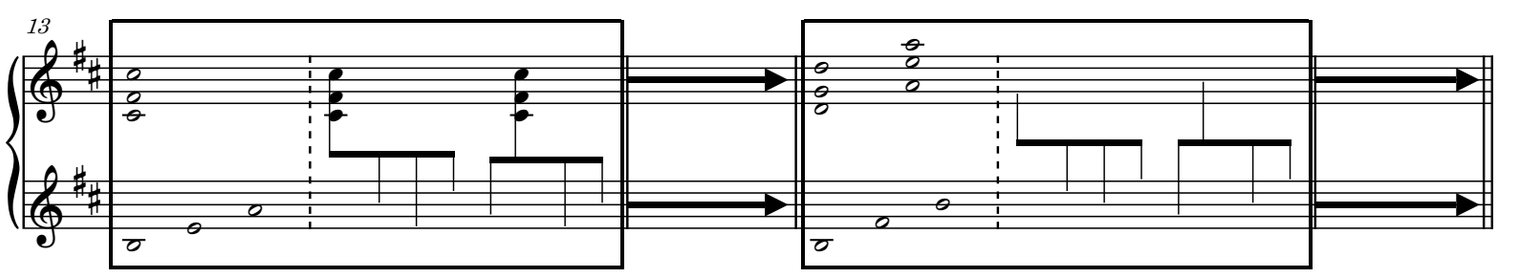
♩ = 174 **I. Snow-Thunder**

alternating RH/LH attacks ad lib (examples shown)

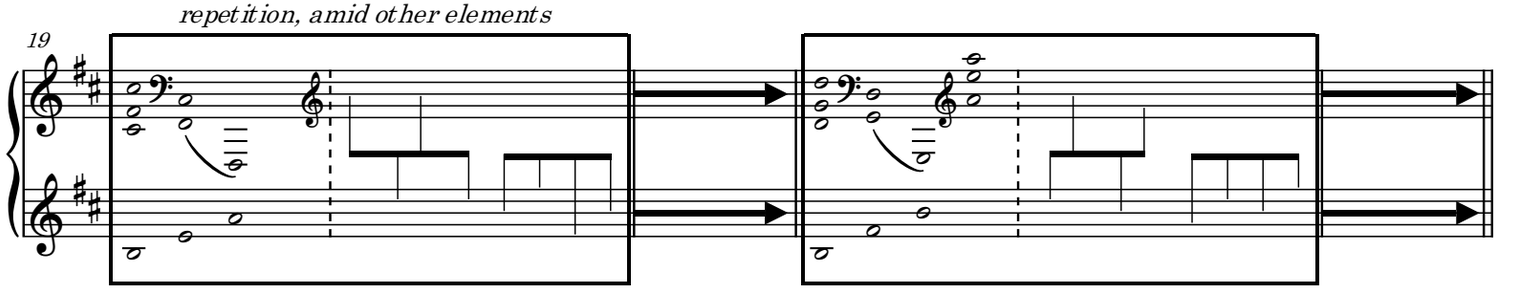


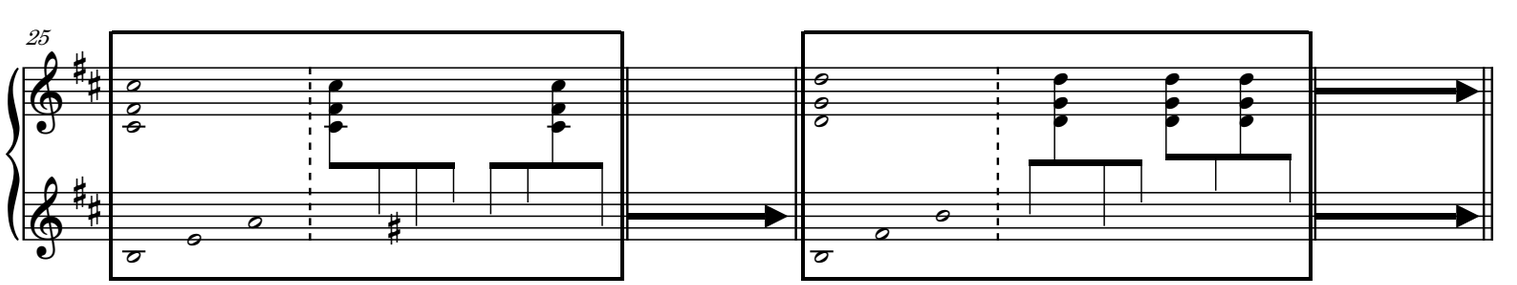
Ped. *at harmony changes throughout*





strike bass clef once per repetition, amid other elements





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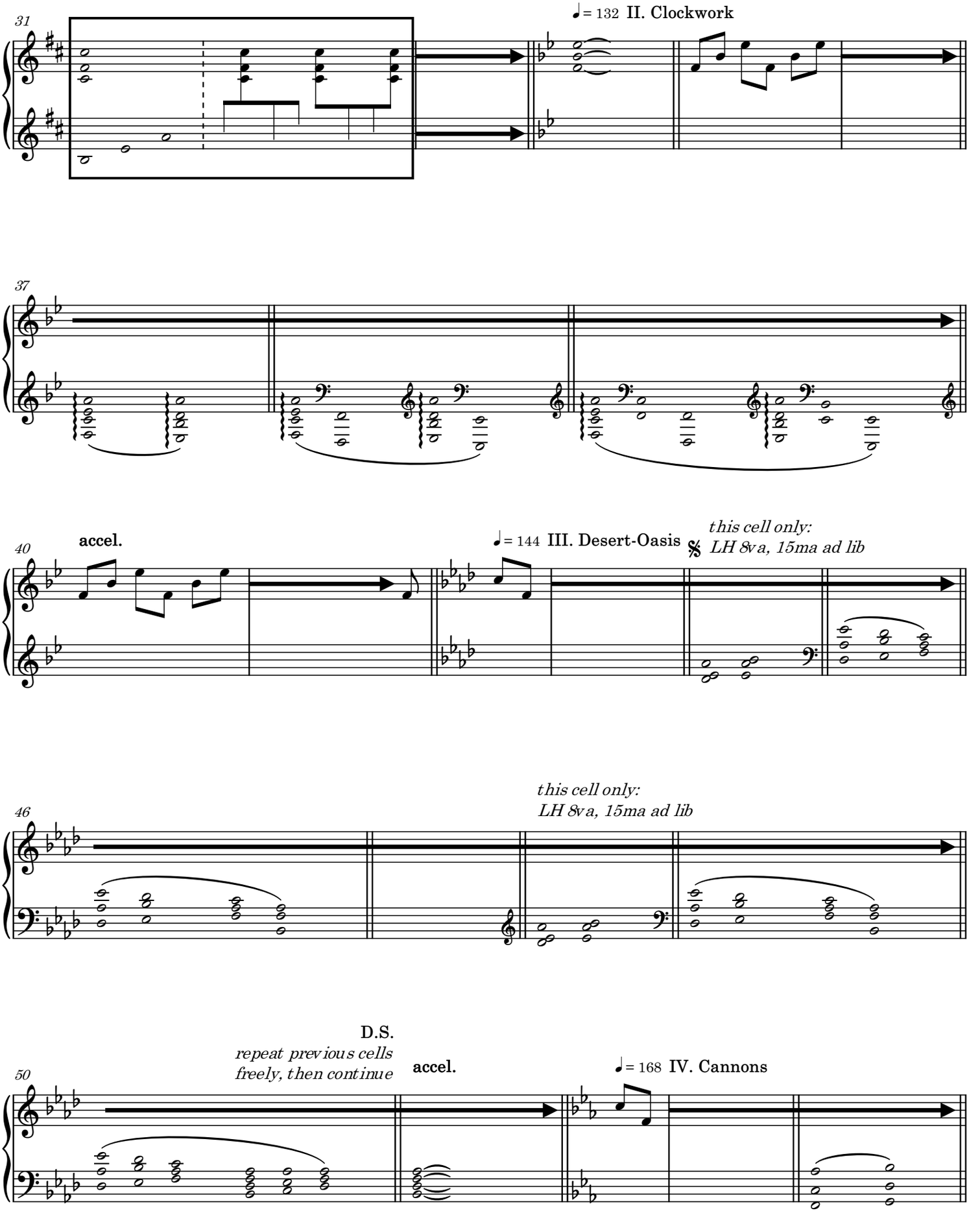
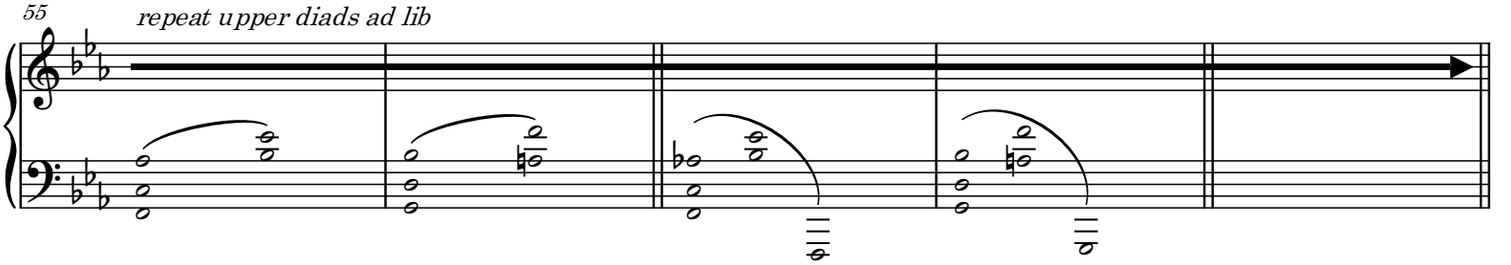
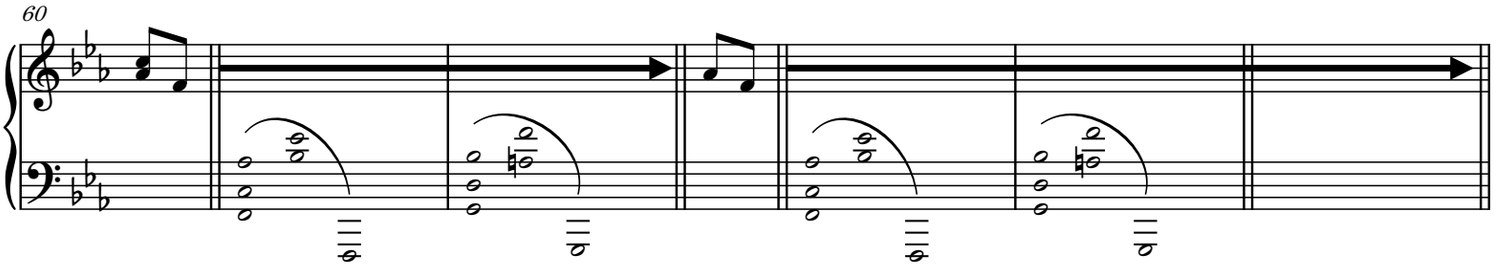

31
♩= 132 II. Clockwork
37
40
accel.
♩= 144 III. Desert-Oasis
this cell only:
LH 8va, 15ma ad lib
46
this cell only:
LH 8va, 15ma ad lib
50
D.S.
repeat previous cells
freely, then continue
accel.
♩= 168 IV. Cannons

strike lower triads/single notes once
repeat upper diads ad lib

55



60



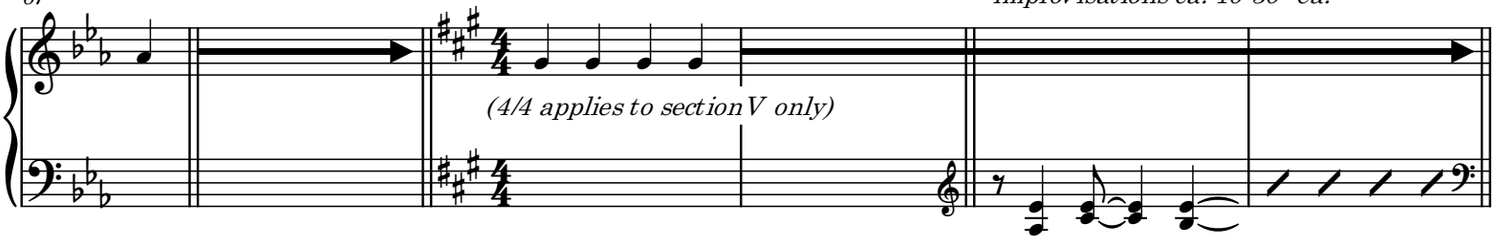
67

accel.

V. Crossing ♩= 200

(4/4 applies to section V only)

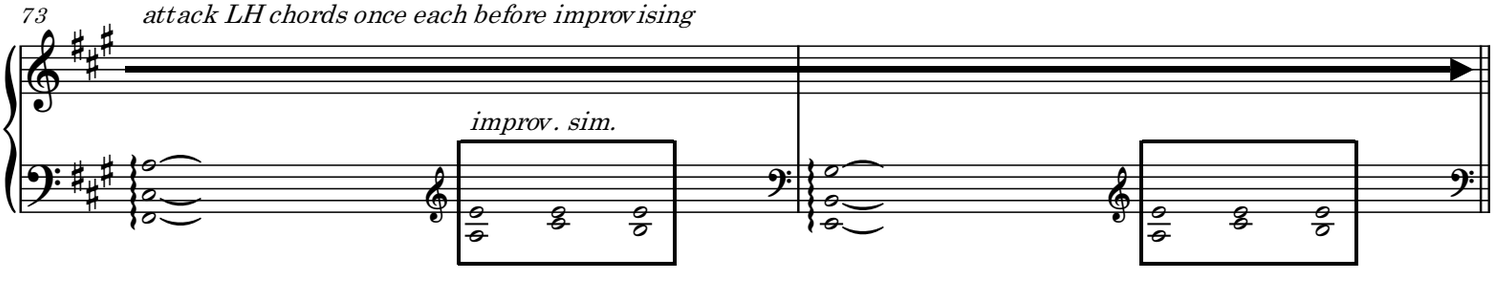
LH improvisations (from motif)
use only notated diads
improvisations ca. 10-30" ea.



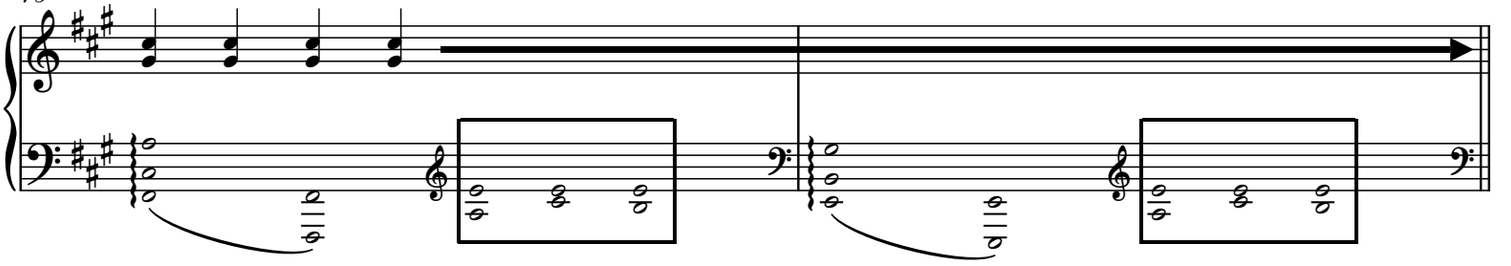
73

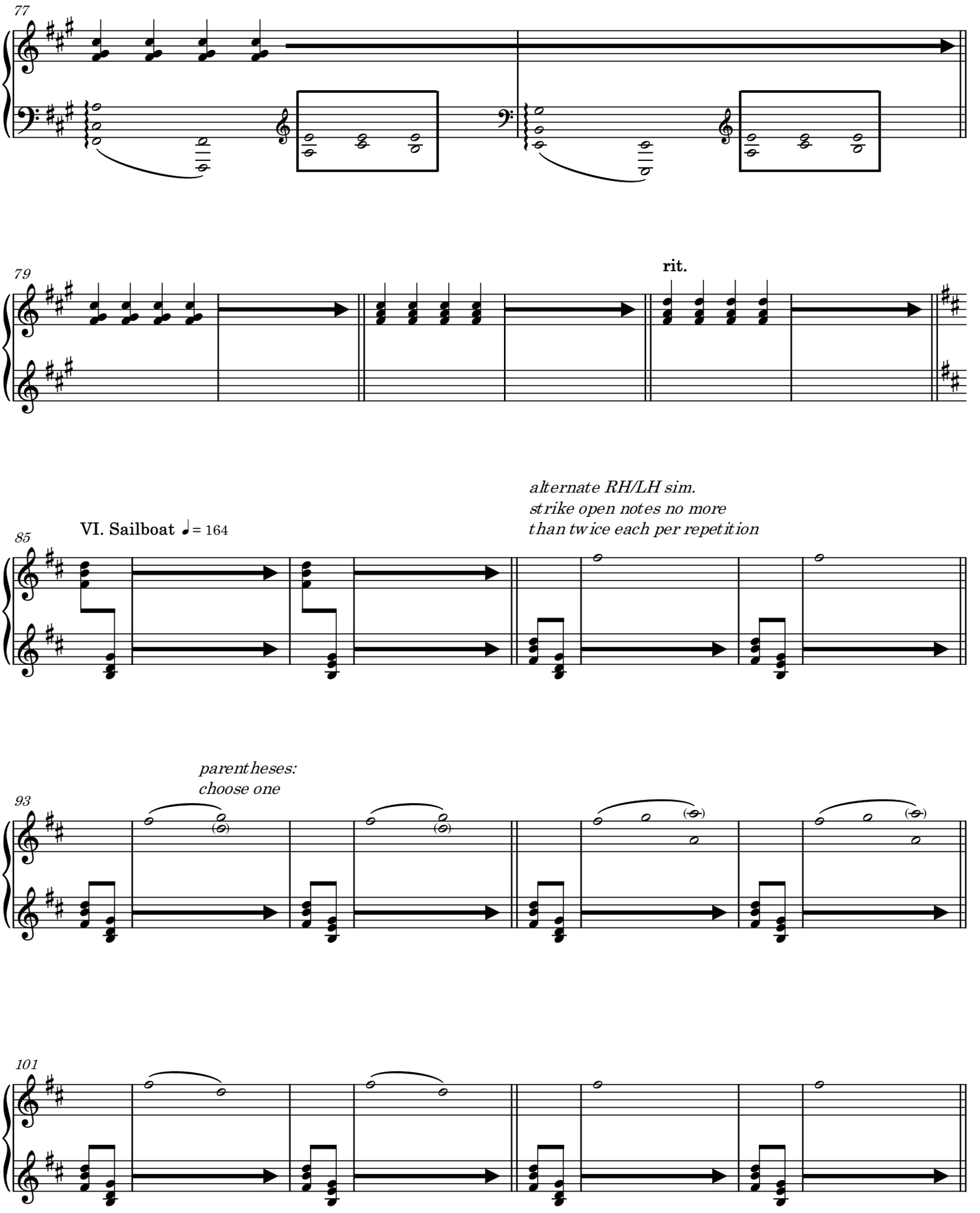
attack LH chords once each before improvising

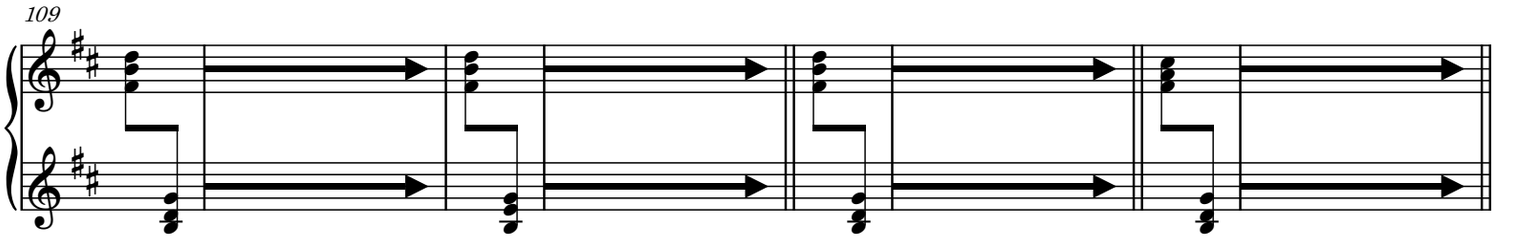
improv. sim.

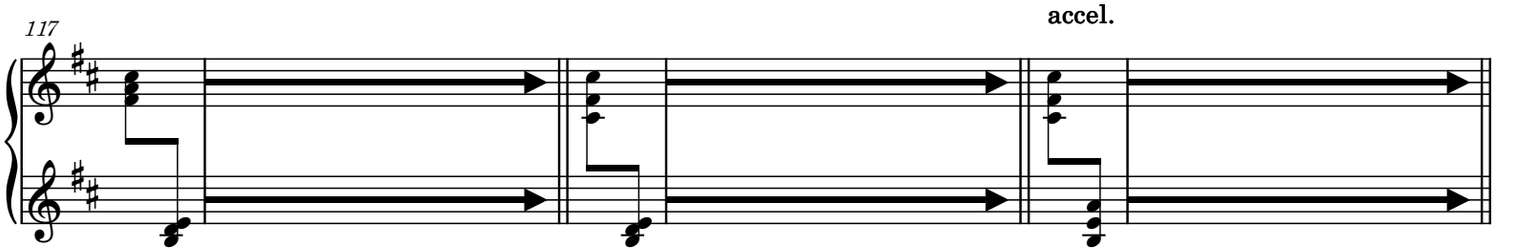


75



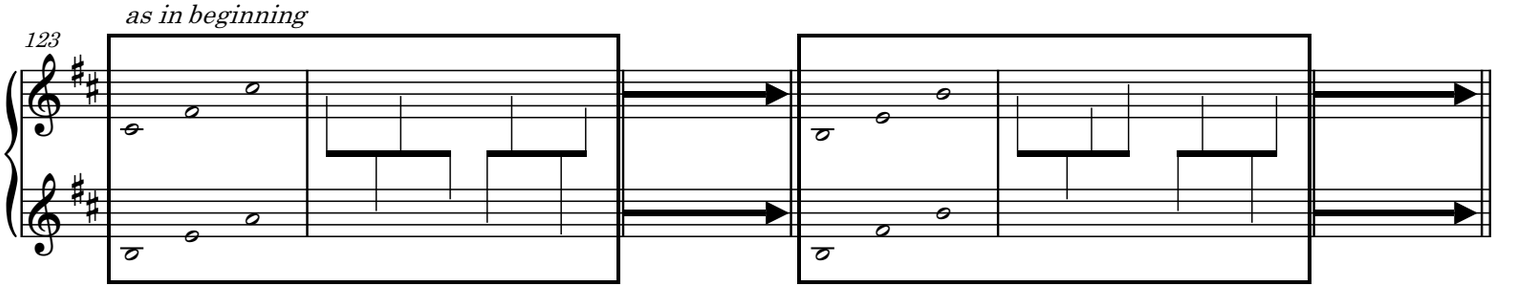

77
79
rit.
85
VI. Sailboat ♩= 164
alternate RH/LH sim.
strike open notes no more
than twice each per repetition
93
parentheses:
choose one
101

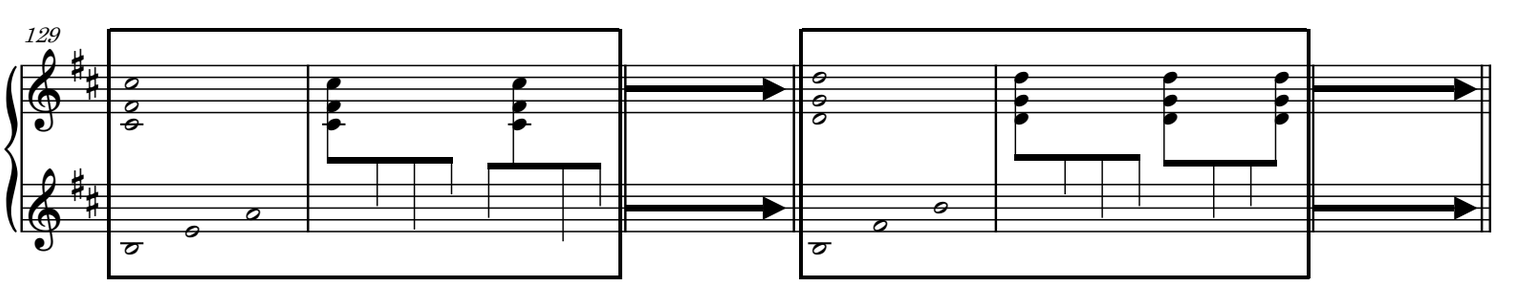


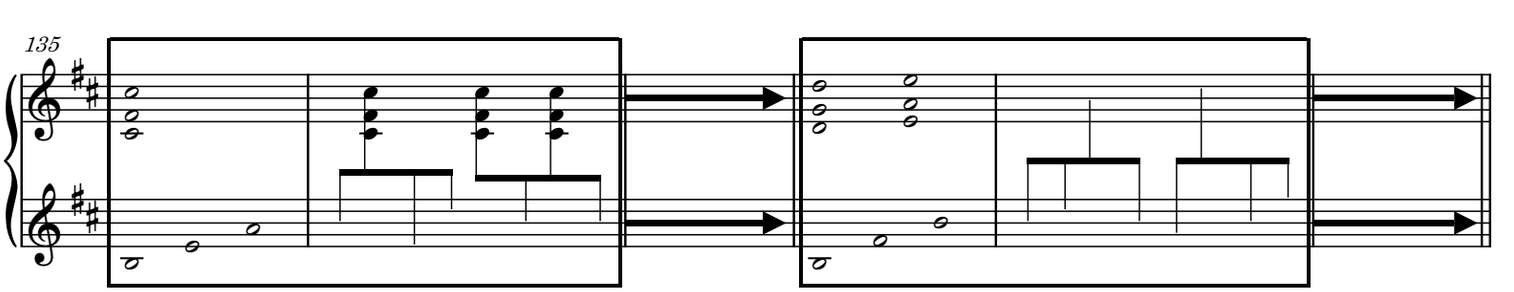


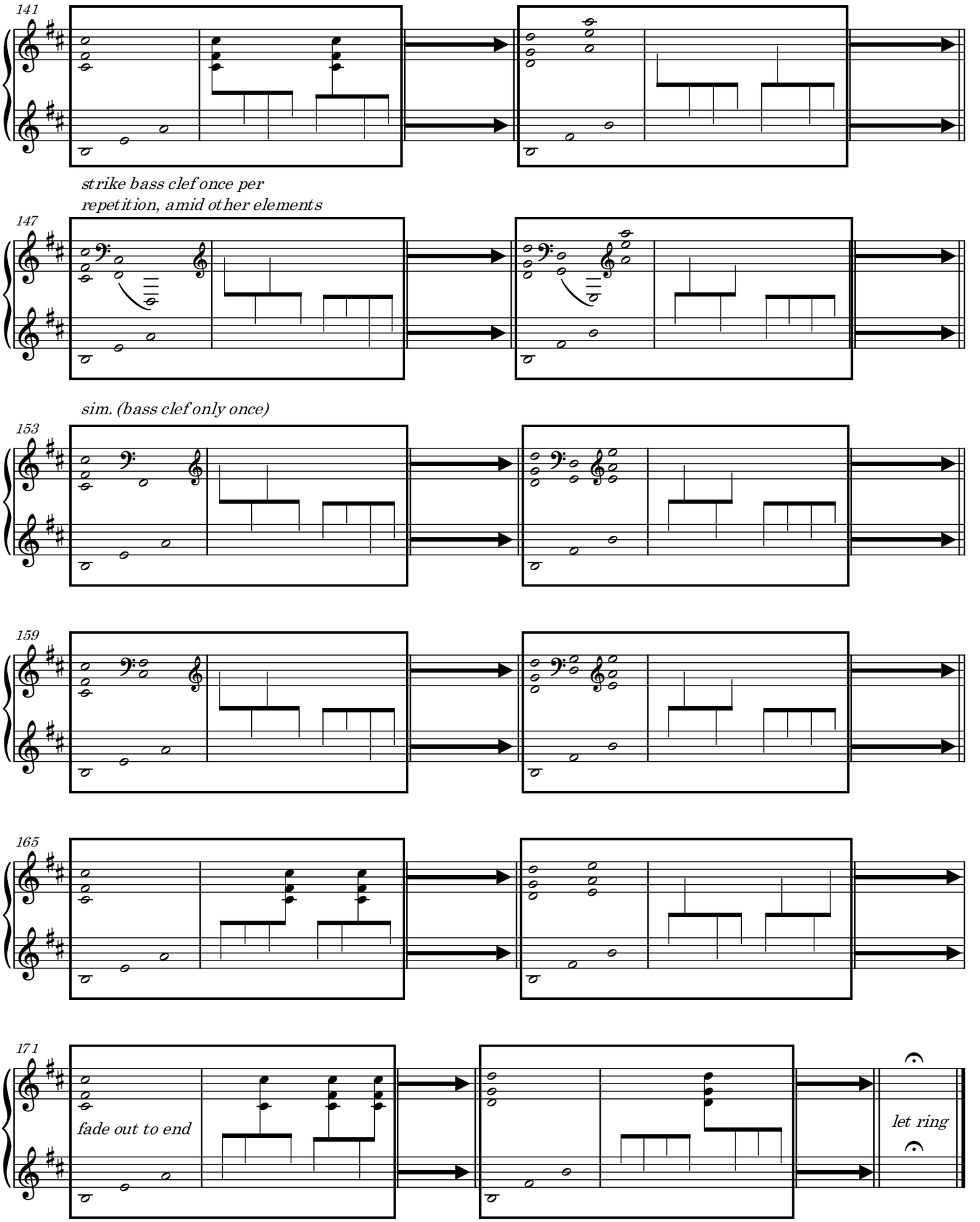
♩= 172 **Ia. Snow-Thunder (reprise)**

as in beginning








141
strike bass clef once per
repetition, amid other elements
147
sim. (bass clef only once)
153
159
165
171
fade out to end
let ring