Pulse Passacaglia

For

Organ

Mark Vaughn

2016

Pulse Passacaglia

Written by: Mark Vaughn

For: Organ

Duration: 7’

Denton, Texas

May, 2016

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A note to the performer:

This piece will generally require a registrant and a page turner. One person should be able to fulfill both these roles. The registration for this piece was developed with the organist David Summers on the Ardoin-Voertman Concert Organ at the University of North Texas. As registration varies between organs, the included stop indications should be used as guidelines for developing a registration scheme on different instruments.

A note on the title:

The pulse named in the title of the piece is the same pulse that begins the piece. This pulse sounds for the entirety of the piece, sounding only on the pitch E. It is obscured, absorbed, and clearly presented, but it is always present, barring one exception.

This pulse is meant to be the "ground bass" of this passacaglia. Though repetition plays an important role in other musical elements of this work such as the sixteenth note accompanying figure and the element most reminiscent of a traditional passacaglia, the melodic figure in the bass, the pulse is the only consistently repeated element throughout, while the other elements are considerably varied and altered.

The omnipresent pulse and the varied elements of this piece have poetic implications for me. There are things in our lives that seem as if they will never change, but they inevitably do. Yet, there is for each person a pulse that accompanies them throughout their life.

I feel that in both the poetic and musical sense of this piece it is important to try to follow the pulse through.

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Great: Principals 8', 4'
Swell: 8' Flute
Pedal: 16' Bourdon
Swell to Pedal

Pulse Passacaglia

for Organ

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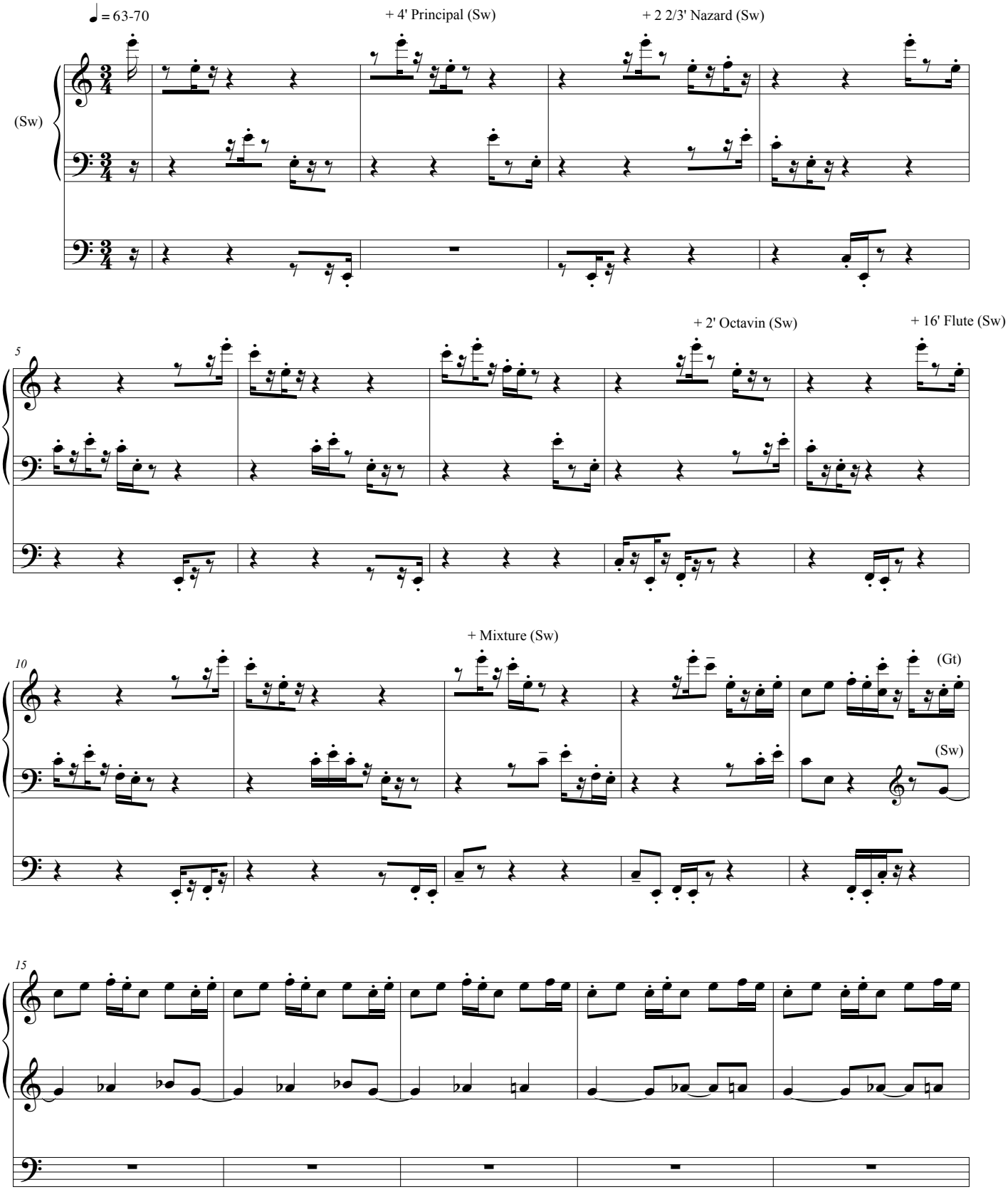

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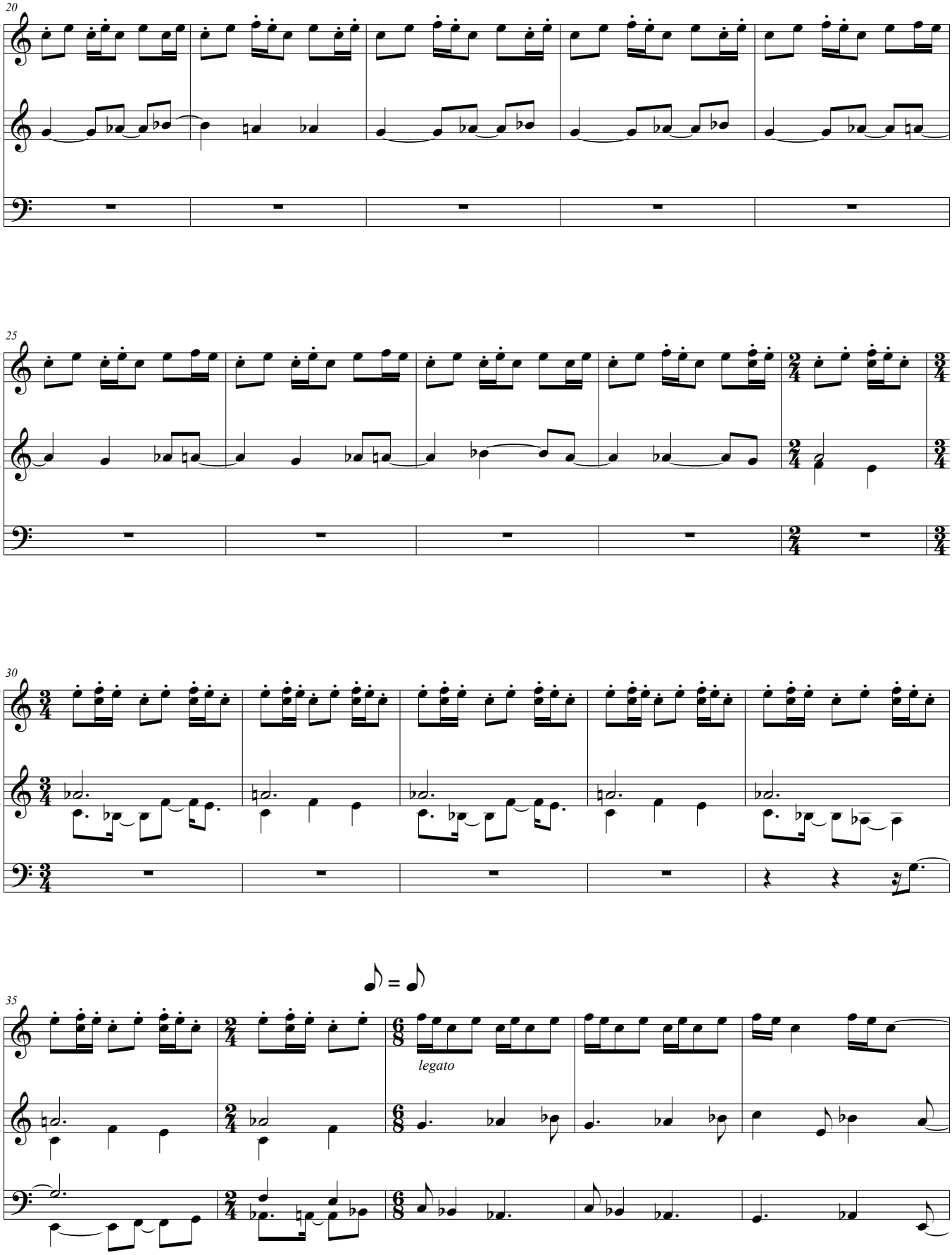
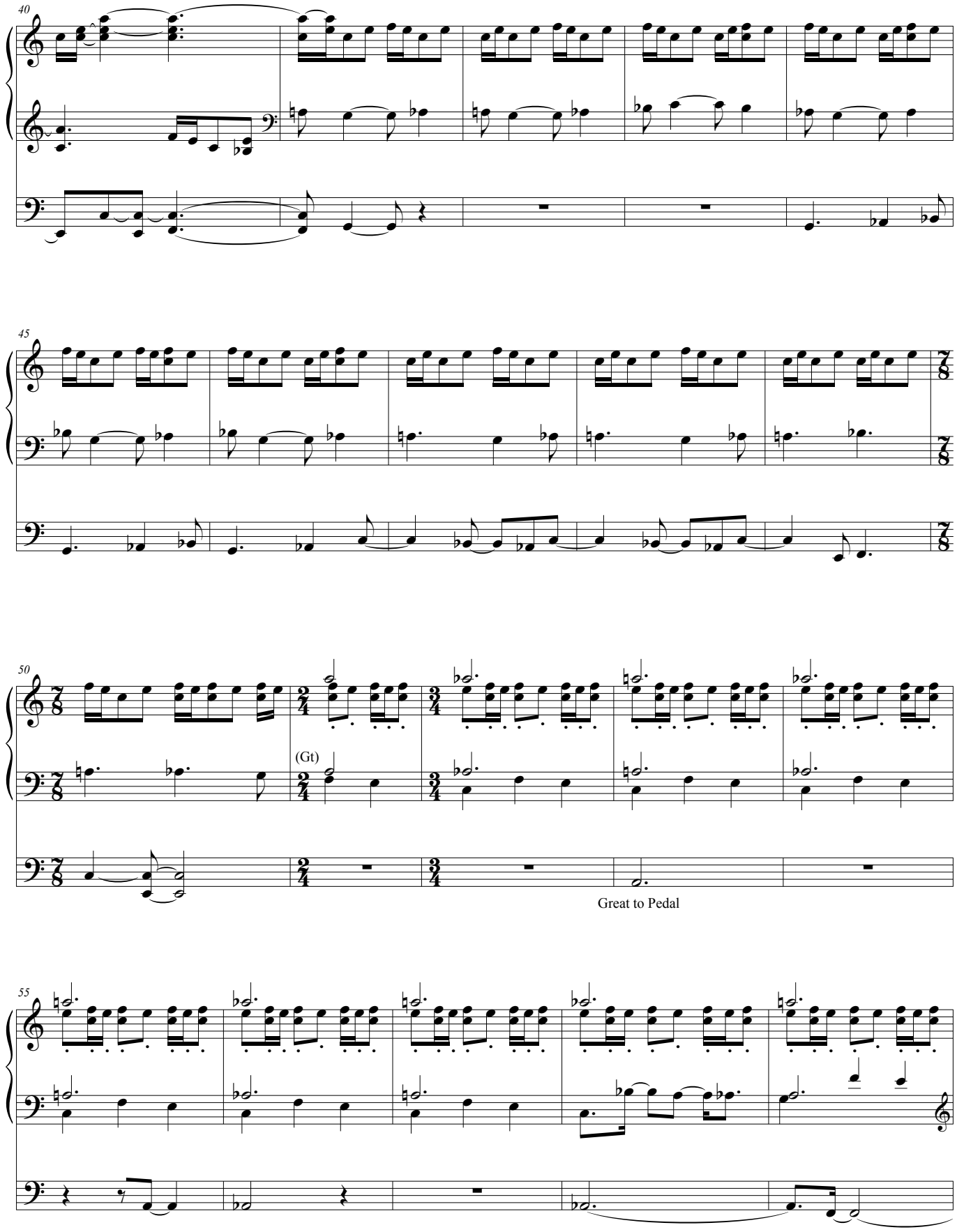
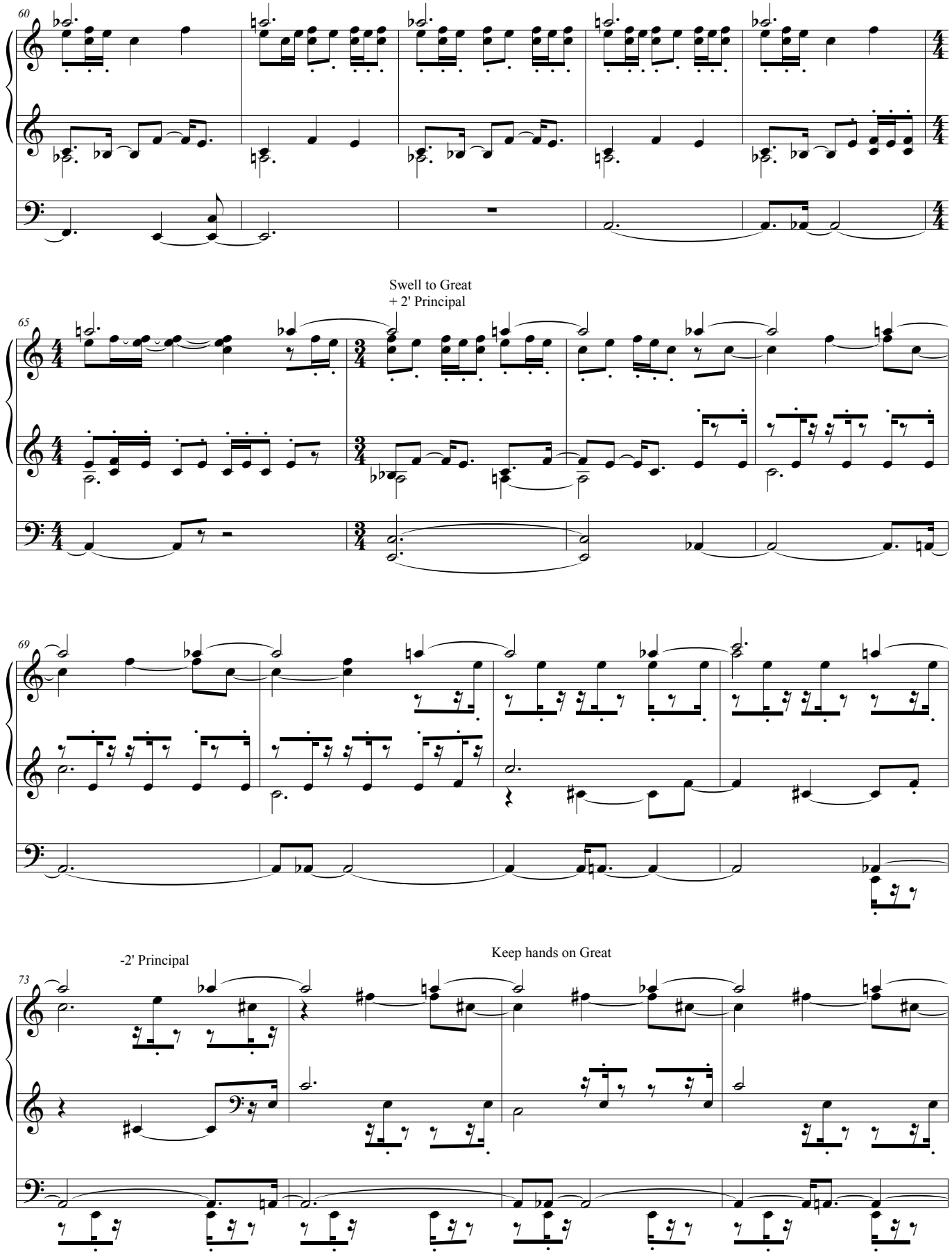
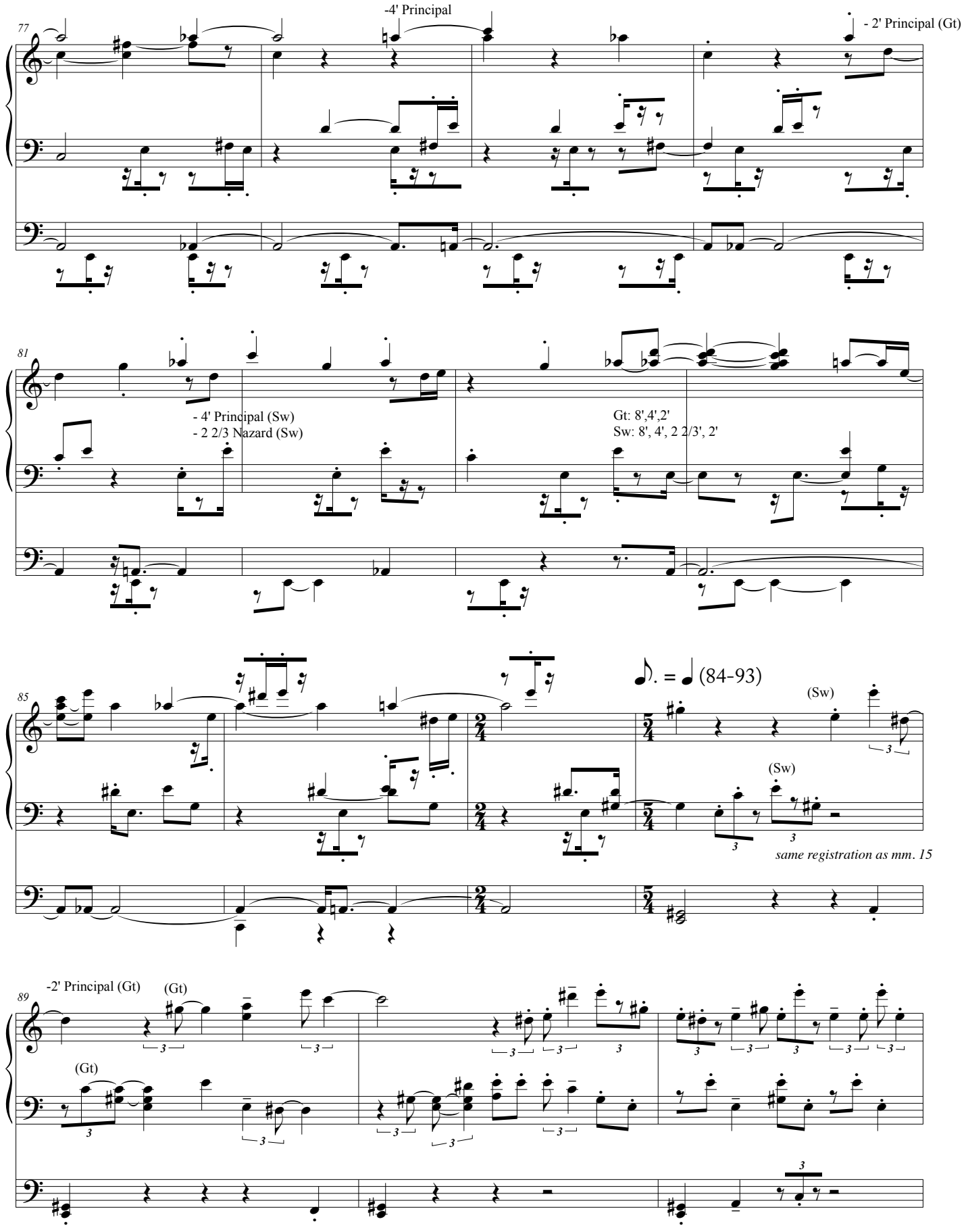
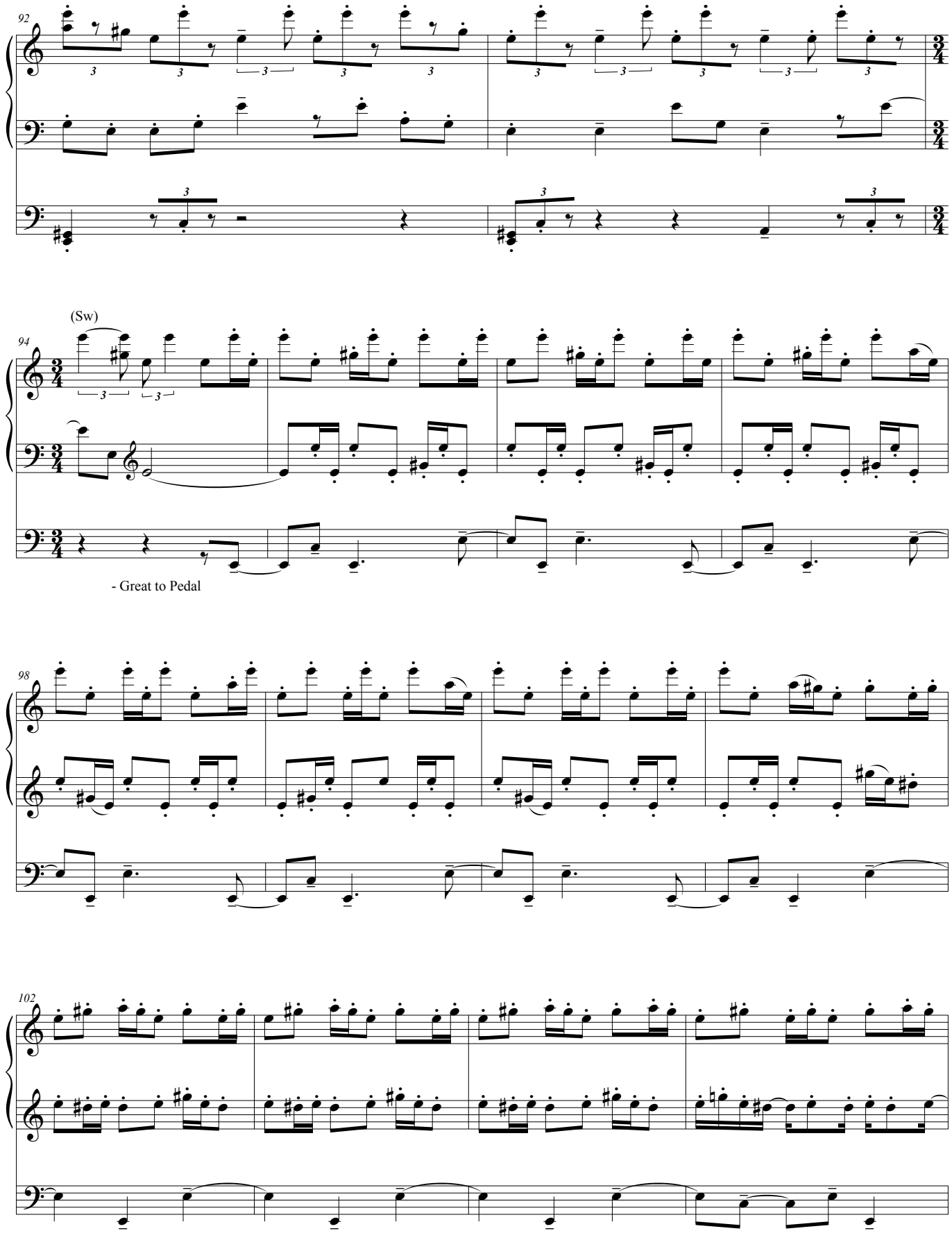
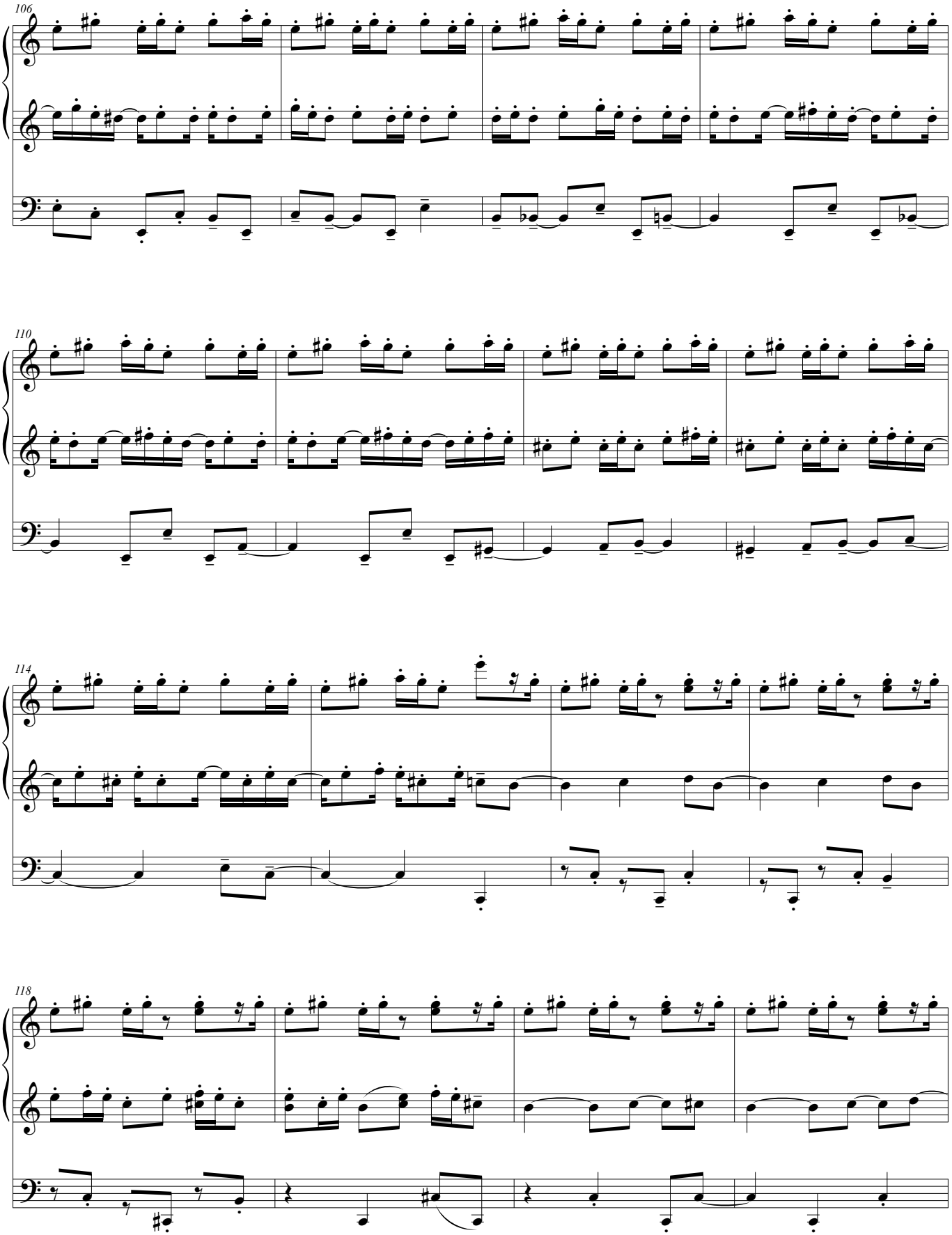

20
25
30
35
legato

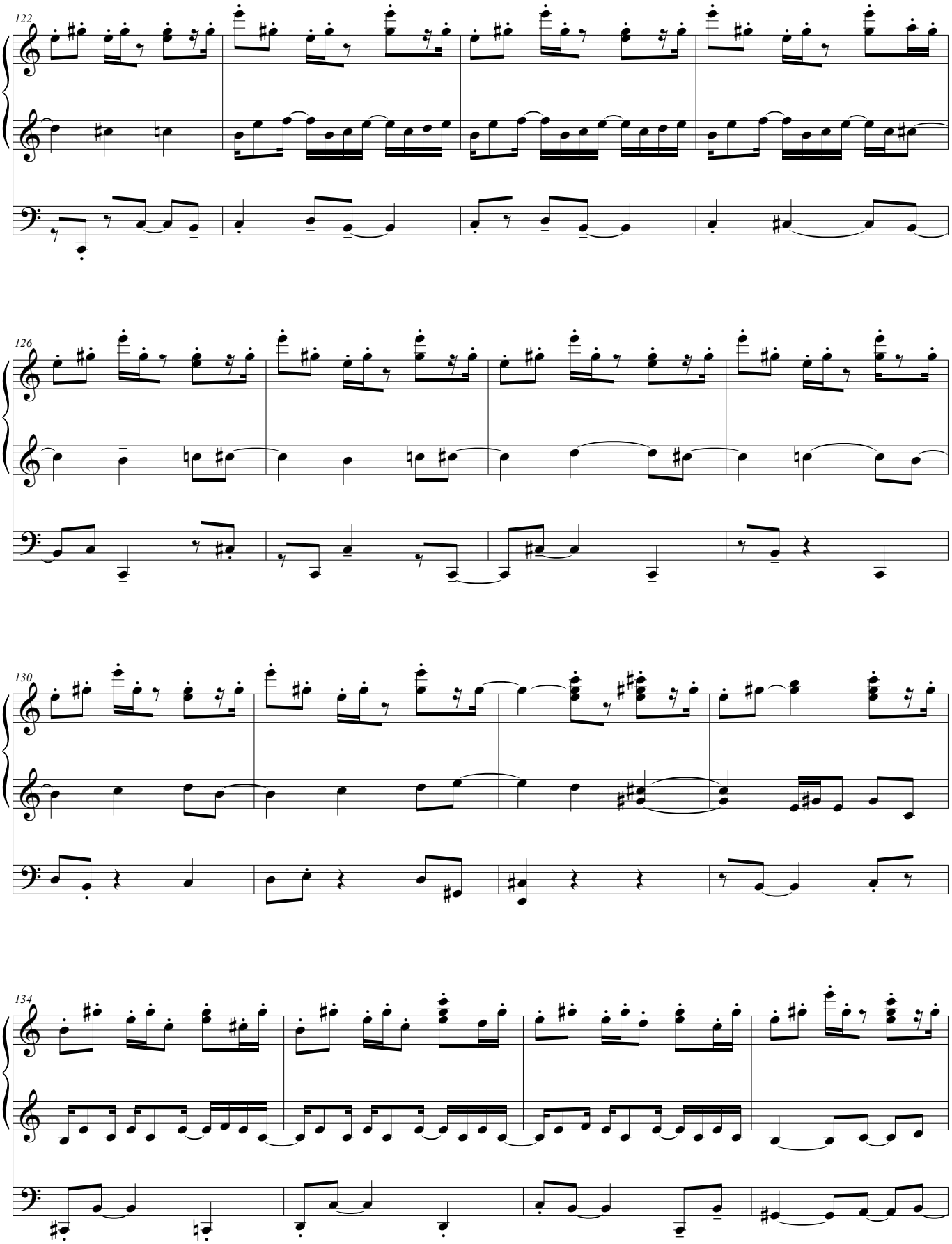

40
45
50
(Gt)
Great to Pedal
55

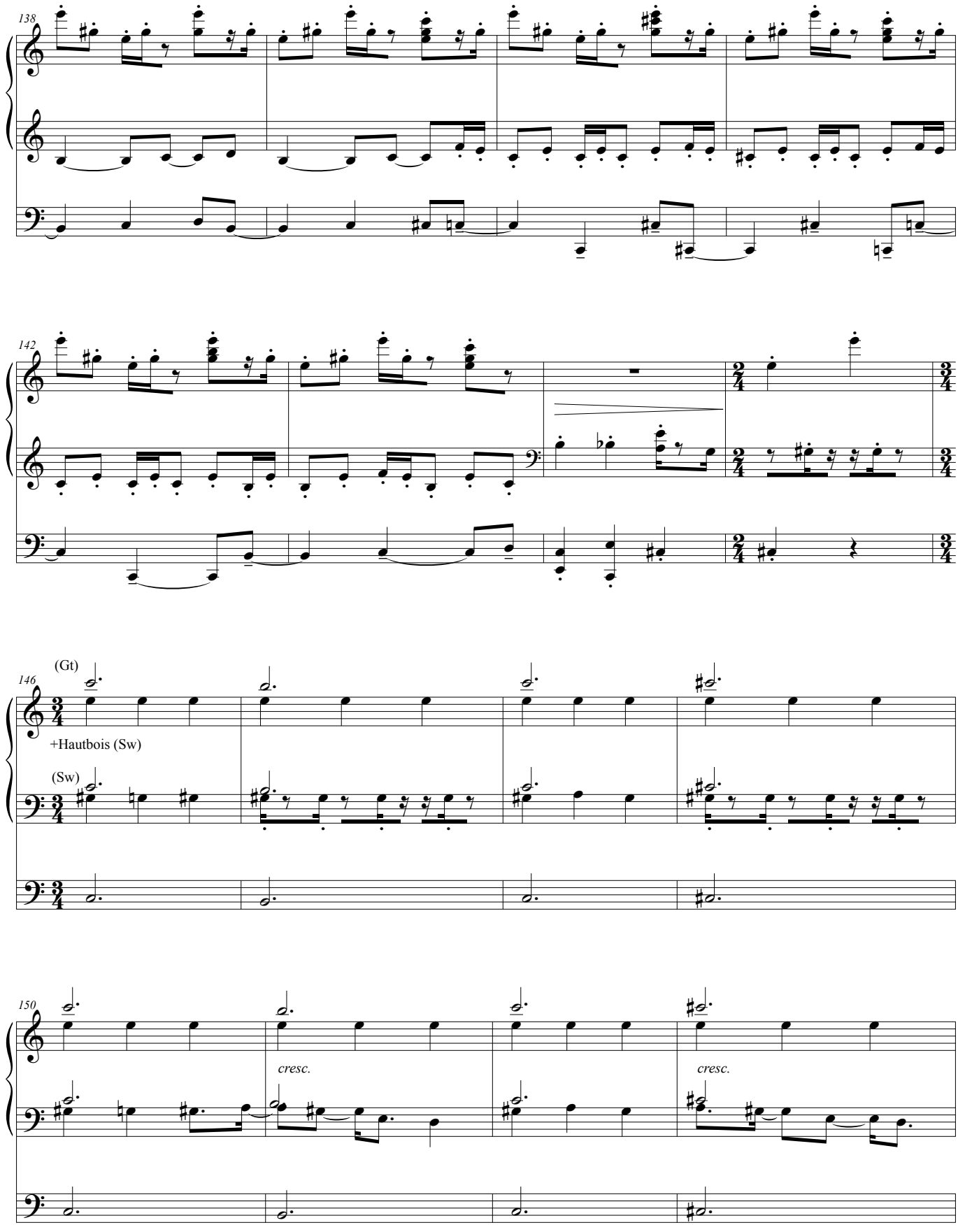

60
Swell to Great
+ 2' Principal
65
69
-2' Principal
Keep hands on Great
73

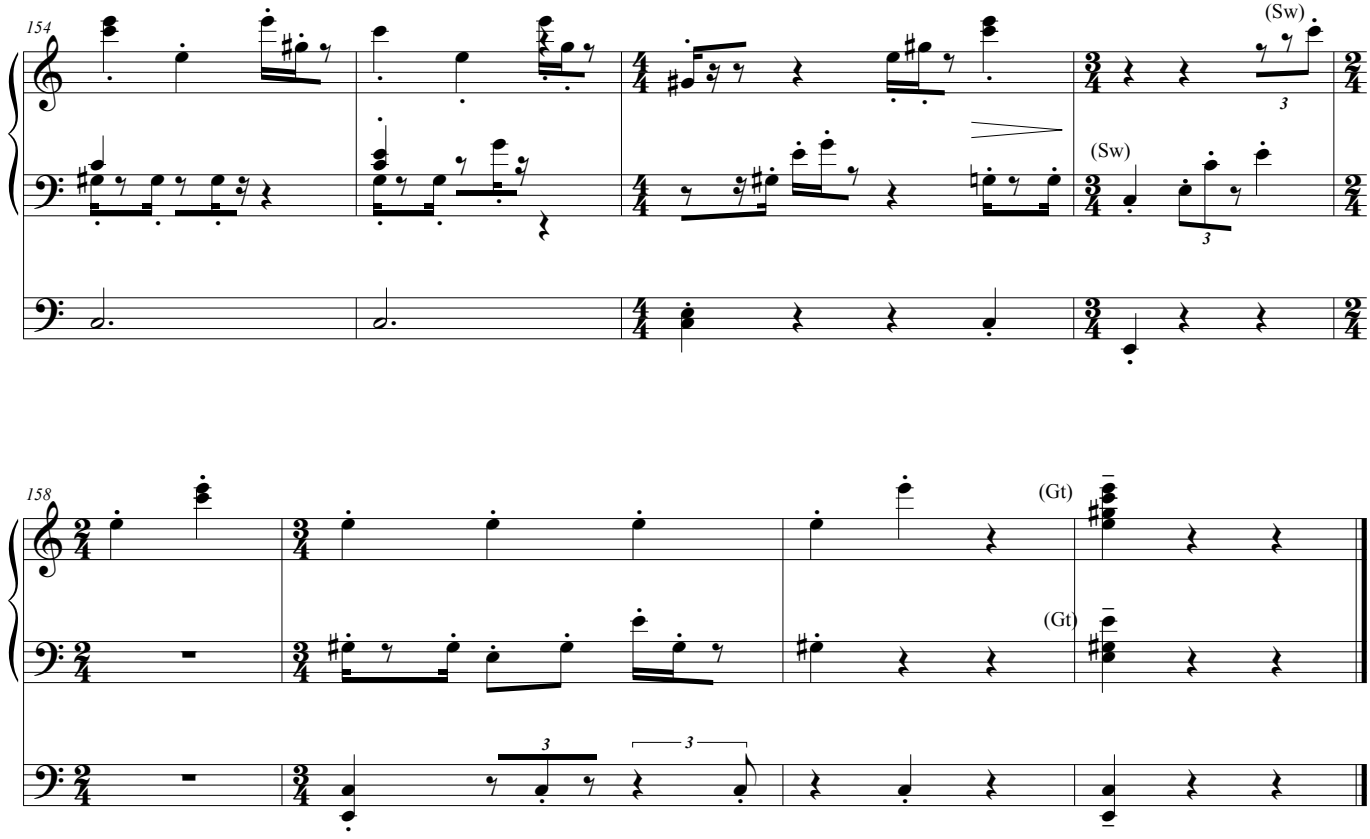

77
-4' Principal
- 2' Principal (Gt)
81
- 4' Principal (Sw)
- 2 2/3 Nazard (Sw)
Gt: 8',4',2'
Sw: 8', 4', 2 2/3', 2'
85
♪. = ♩ (84-93)
(Sw)
(Sw)
same registration as mm. 15
89
-2' Principal (Gt)
(Gt)
(Gt)


92
94
(Sw)
- Great to Pedal
98
102


106
110
114
118


122
126
130
134


138
142
146
(Gt)
+Hautbois (Sw)
(Sw)
150
cresc.
cresc.


154
(Sw)
(Sw)
3
3

158
(Gt)
(Gt)
3
3