Preface

During the 1981-82 season, Tony Caramia took a leave of absence from the University of Illinois to teach and compose at the New School for Music Study. A gifted pianist, teacher and improvisational jazz artist, Mr. Caramia was commissioned to create music of special appeal to intermediate piano students, especially teenagers. Three collections composed during that year have already appeared: *Sounds of Jazz,* Books 1 and 2 and *Folksongs Revisited.*

Another project during Mr. Caramia's year at the New School was this set of *Six Sketches*. Each sketch creates its own special musical world—unique and wholly different from any of the others. The collection gives intermediate students a chance to work with music that is easy to learn, technically and rhythmically interesting, musically sophisticated, and tonally rich and satisfying. The pieces make ideal recital selections, for they create an effect far beyond their level of difficulty.

Our students voted these six pieces, "The best of Caramia." We believe you and your students will agree.

Frances Clark and Louise Goss

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Performance Notes

Proclamation is a majestic piece, to be played with a big, full sound but no harshness. The left hand crossings should be felt as bold but graceful leaps, unhurried and dignified.

Highland Lament is gentle and unassuming. Give the lilting melody the tonal color of a flute or recorder, and fade into the distant highlands at the end.

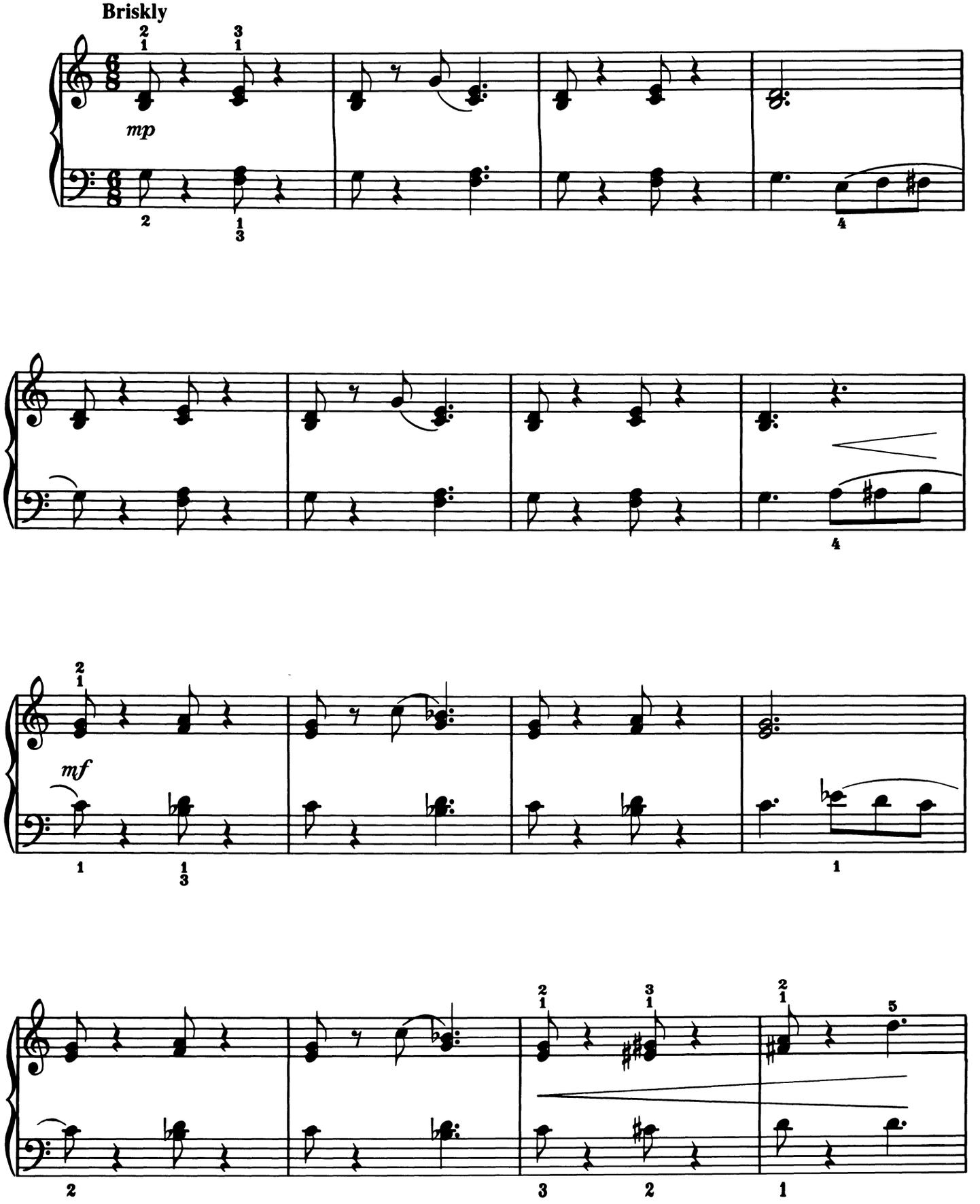
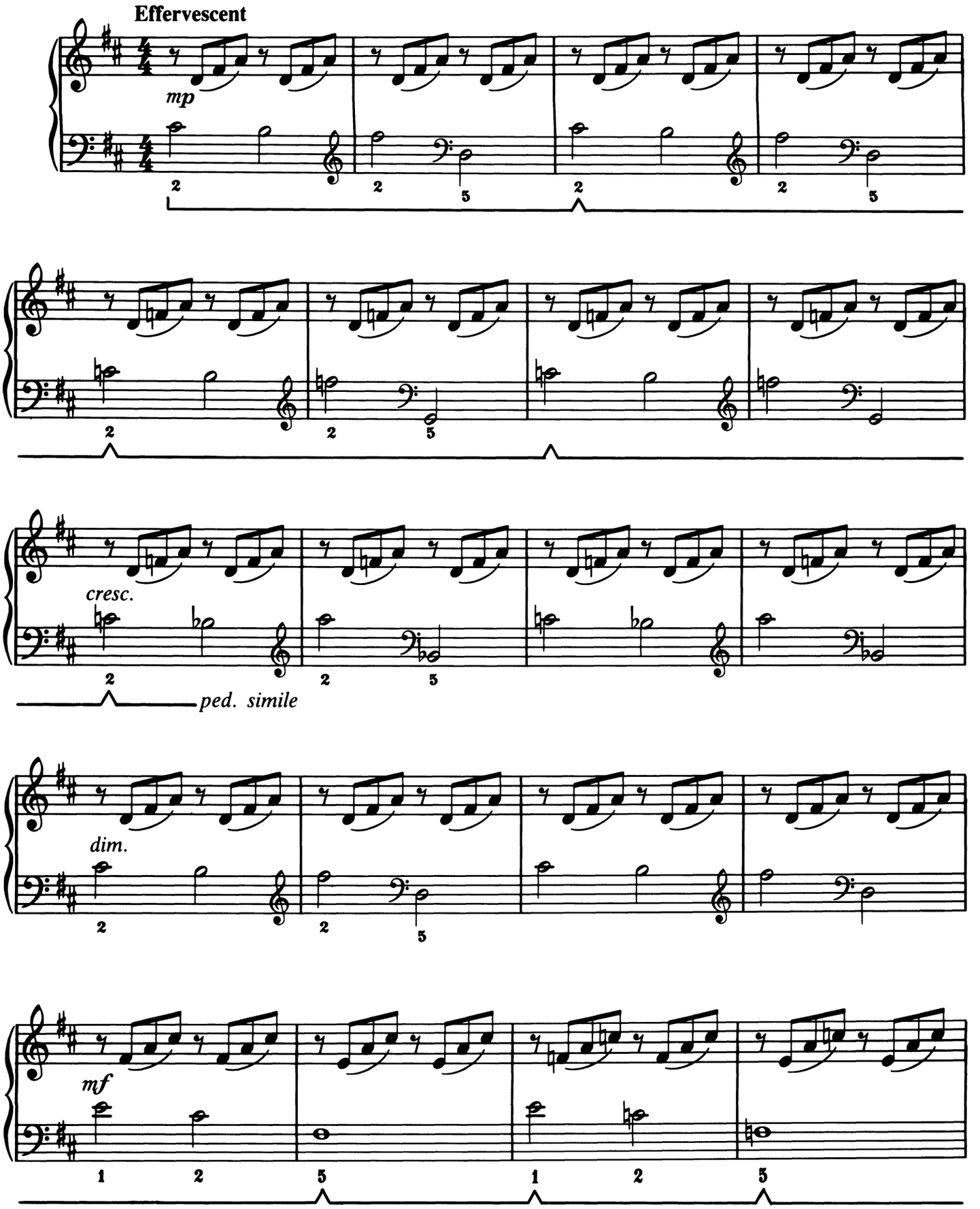
March is played with snap and crispness in an absolutely steady march tempo. Exaggerate the contrast between the short notes and the four-note slurs.

City Fountain is a play on water effects—a simple left-hand melody sings out against soft and shimmering right-hand arpeggios.

Reverie evokes a mood of tender contemplation. The left-hand melody is strong and smooth; the right-hand chords are soft, as if coming from a great distance.

Perpetual Motion is an energetic tour de force in which the rhythmic motion never stops or wavers. The tempo should be as fast (but no faster) than you can play it absolutely cleanly and clearly.

March



City Fountain