GABRIEL FAURÉ

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About the Music

Gabriel Fauré's (1845–1924) Dolly is a collection of six piano duets that reflect upon experiences from childhood. The suite was written between 1894 and 1896 and published in London by Metzler and in Paris by Hamelle in 1897. The first performance was on April 30, 1898 by Edouard Risler (1873–1929) and Alfred Cortot (1877–1962).

Henri Rabaud (1873–1949), Fauré's successor as director of the Paris Conservatory, orchestrated Dolly. This orchestrated version was first performed at Monte Carlo on December 6, 1906. In 1913, Michelle Kahn transcribed two movements, Berceuse and Le jardin de Dolly, for harp.

Dolly is dedicated to Hélène Bardac (b. 1892), the daughter of Emma Bardac (1862–1934) and her first husband. Emma later divorced and became the second wife of Debussy. It is said that Hélène was so tiny when she was born that she was nicknamed Dolly. At the time when Fauré wrote these pieces, she was a charming little blonde girl.

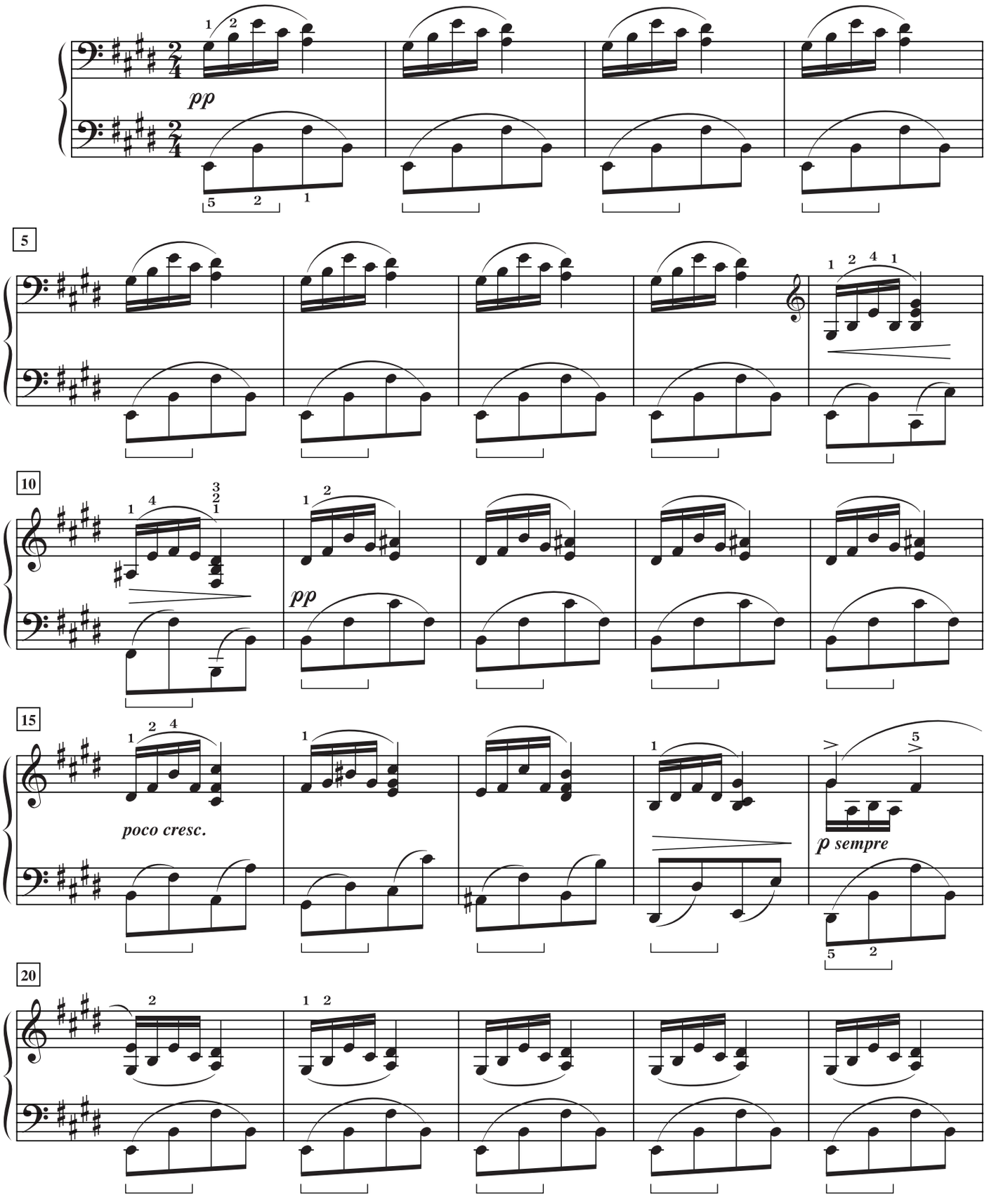
Dolly shows a wittier side than most of Fauré's other music through its depiction of a scene or mood from childhood in each movement. It passes from severe to tender, from grave to happy. The pieces in this set are the only music by Fauré given titles other than those of a musical genre.

DOLLY
BERCEUSE

SECONDO

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)
Op. 56, No. 1

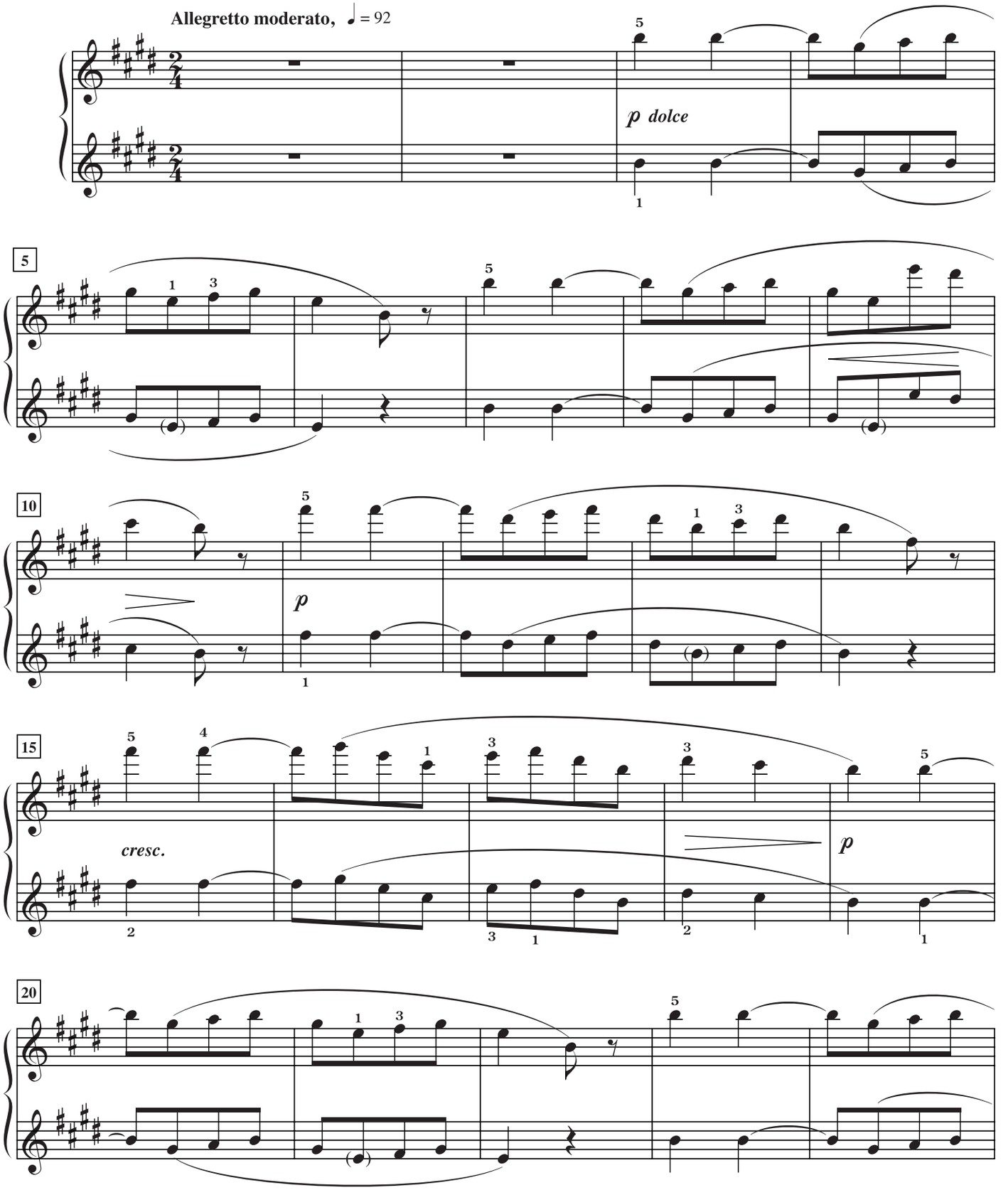
Allegretto moderato, ♩ = 92



DOLLY
BERCEUSE

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)
Op. 56, No. 1

PRIMO

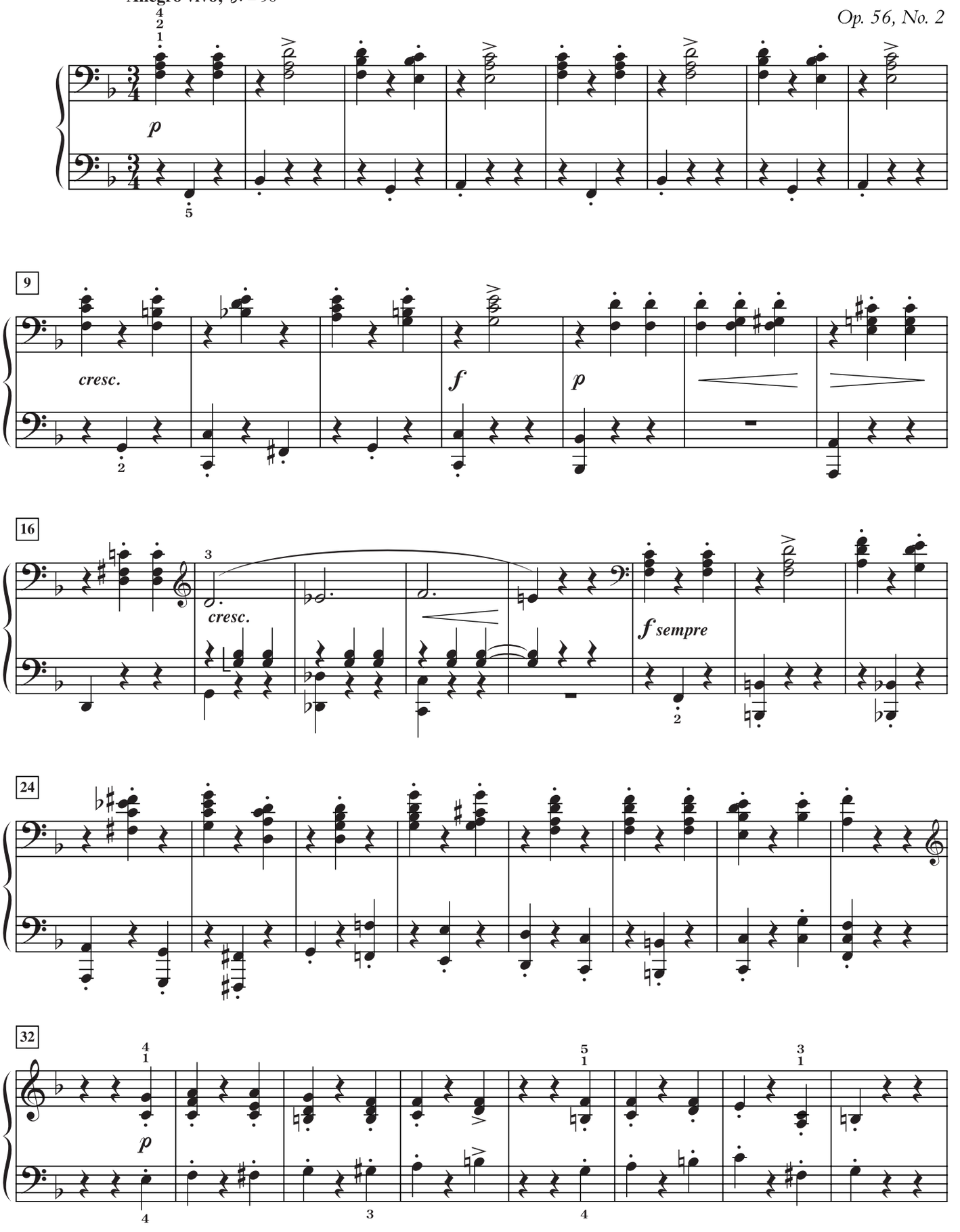


Mi-a-ou

SECONDO

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)
Op. 56, No. 2

Allegro vivo, ♩. = 96

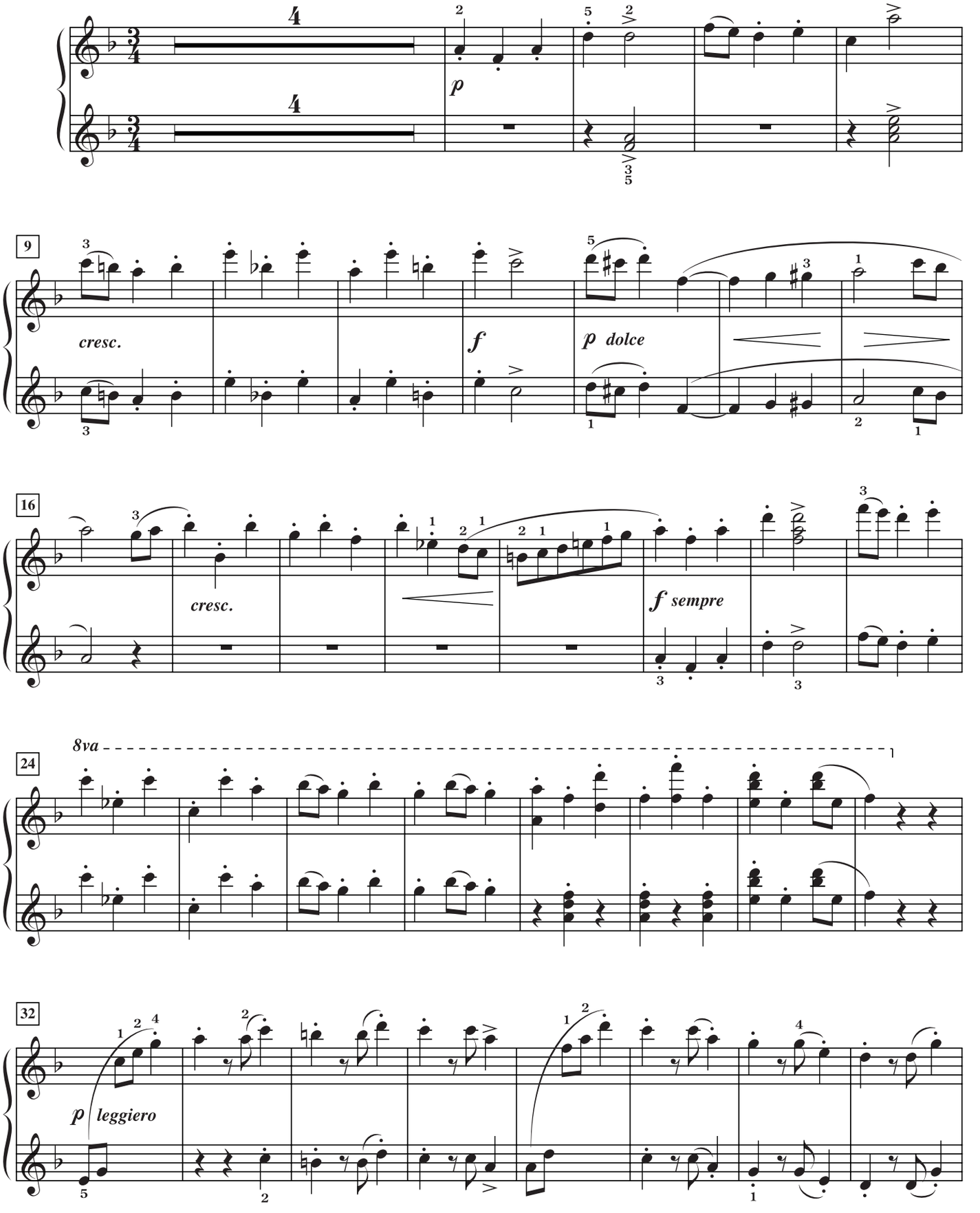


Mi-a-ou

PRIMO

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

Op. 56, No. 2

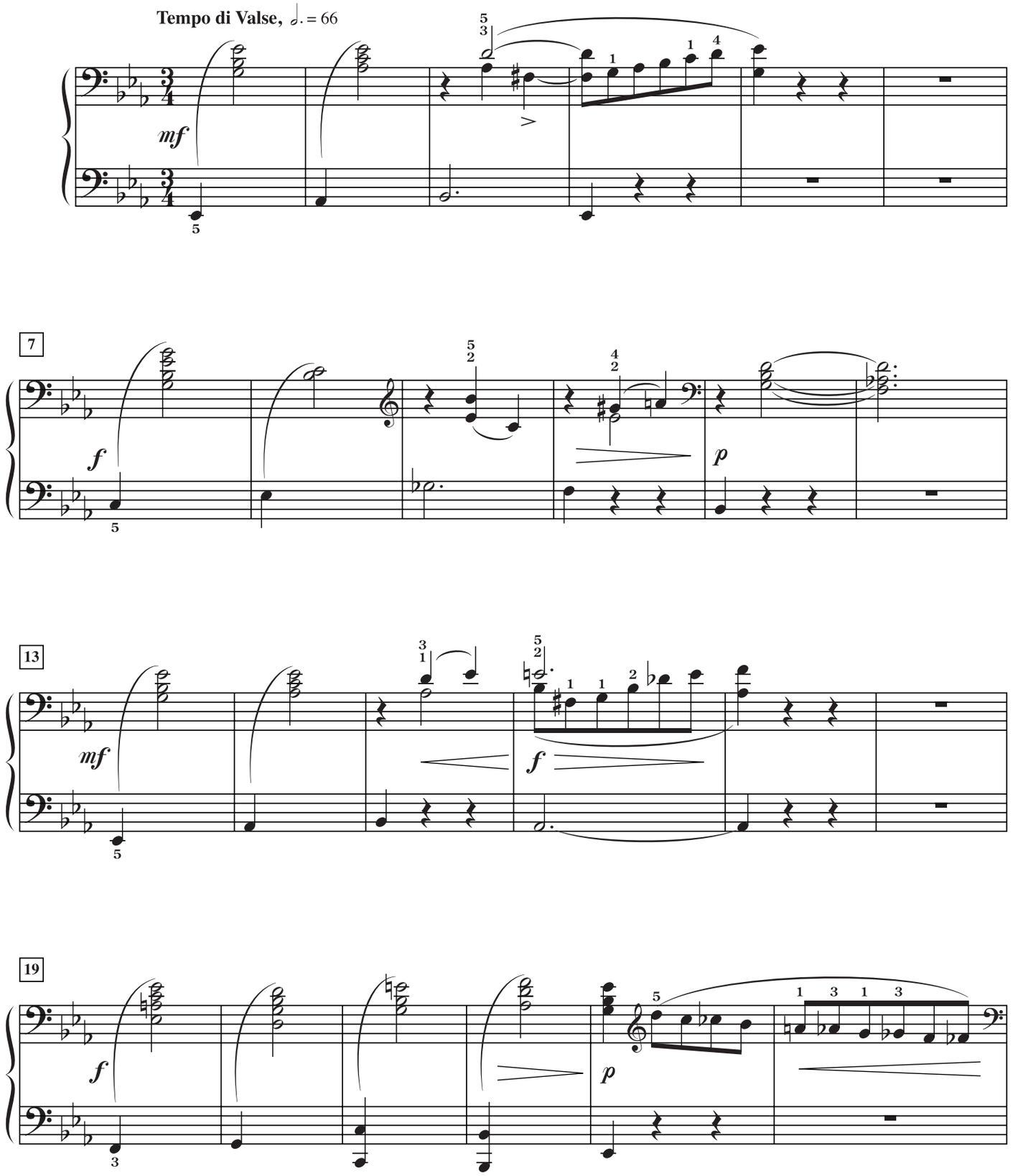


KITTY-VALSE

(KITTY-WALTZ)

SECONDO

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)
Op. 56, No. 4



KITTY-VALSE

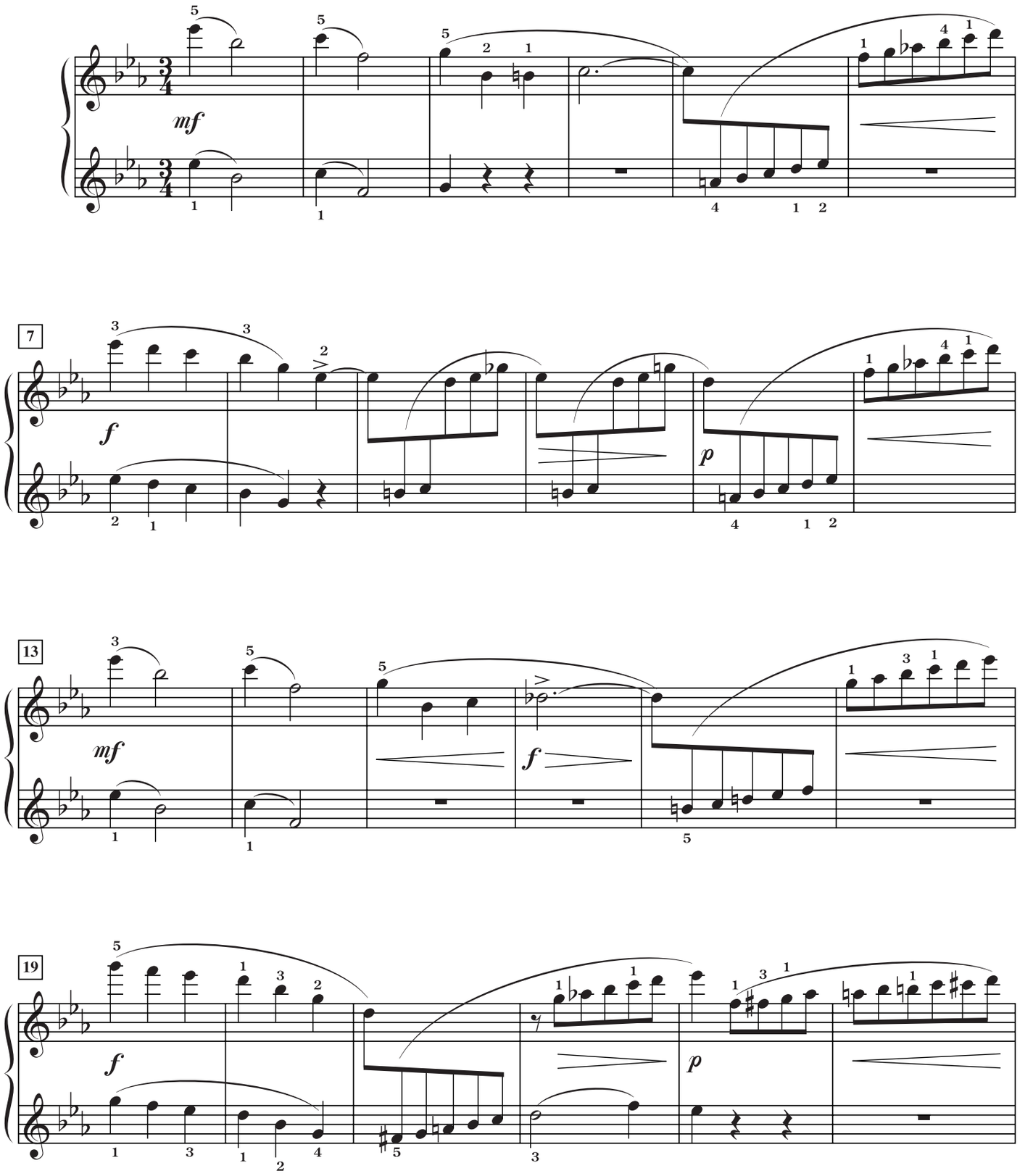
(KITTY-WALTZ)

PRIMO

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

Op. 56, No. 4

Tempo di Valse, ♩. = 66



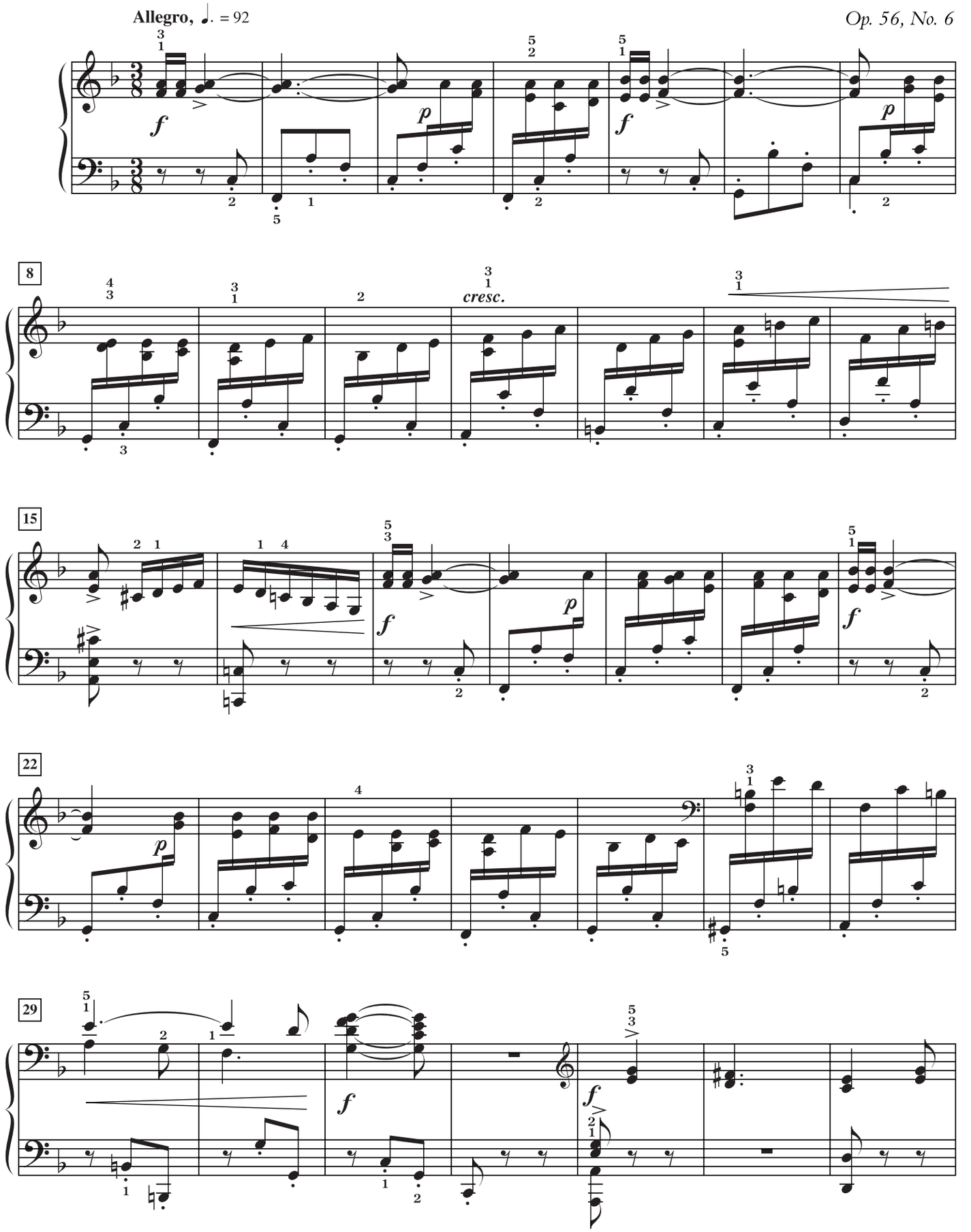
Le pas espagnol

(The Spanish Dance Step)

SECONDO

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

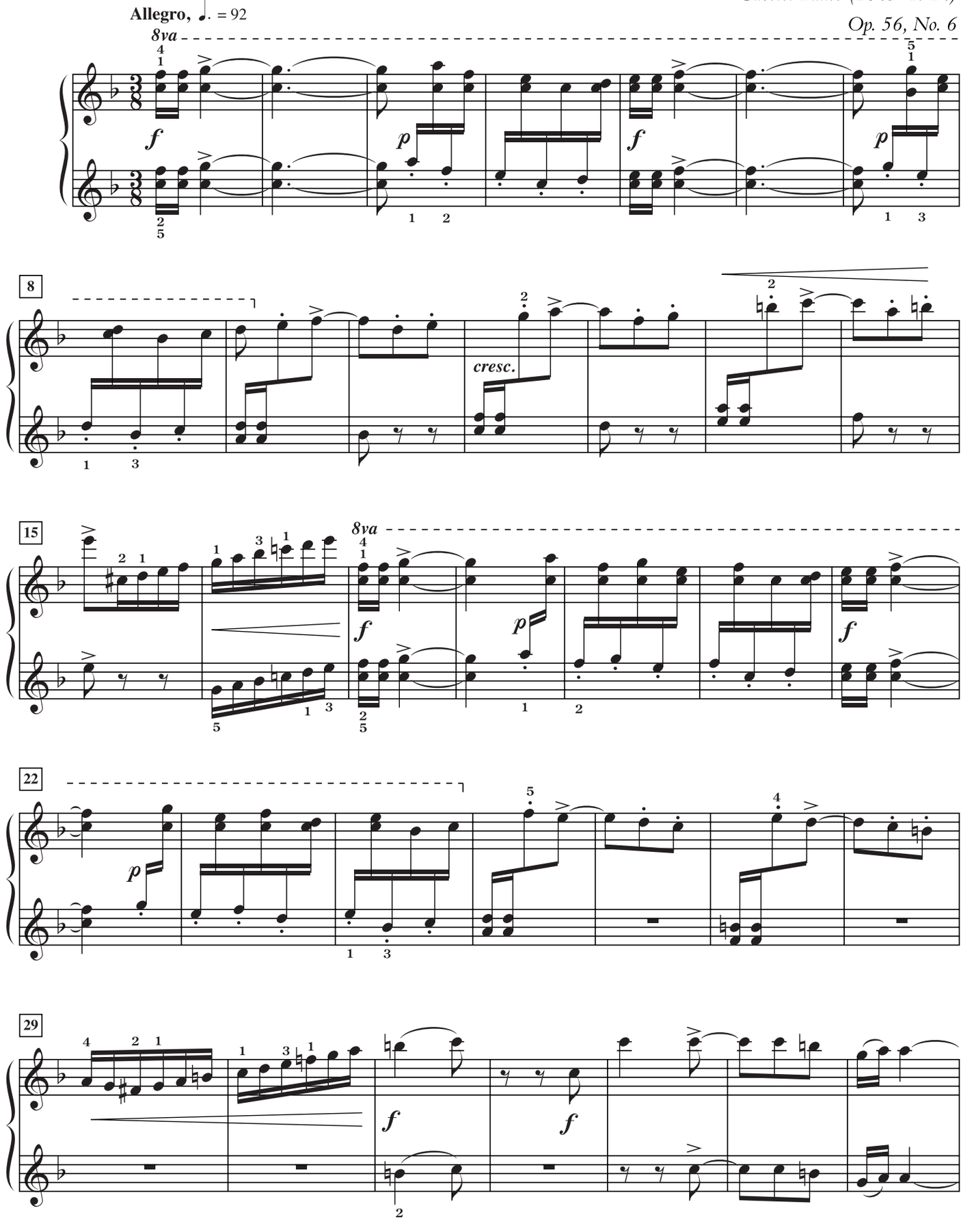
Op. 56, No. 6



Le pas espagnol

(The Spanish Dance Step)

PRIMO

Gabriel Fauré (1845–1924)

Op. 56, No. 6