Alfred's Basic Piano Library

Piano

Classic Themes

Level 4

Allan Small

This book contains new arrangements of great *Classic Themes*. Many of these beautiful melodies were not originally written for the keyboard. Composers write music in many instrumental forms—symphonies, concertos, ballets, etc. Allan Small has taken some of the most popular and arranged them in graded order for the piano student. Also included are arrangements of vocal music. There is music from popular operas as well as folk music, music that was passed down from one generation to another and whose composers are frequently unknown.

The purpose of this series of *Classic Themes* is to allow the piano student to become familiar with these beautiful melodies by performing them. Though not in any way a substitute for the original composition, *Classic Themes,* through its arrangements and write-ups for each selection, will give the student a heightened awareness of many composers and their works. By performing these arrangements and by listening to the recordings of the compositions in their original form, the student will gain an expanded understanding of and appreciation for the truly great music of the past.

The four books of *Classic Themes*, Levels 2–5, are designed to supplement ALFRED'S BASIC PIANO LIBRARY and are coordinated page-by-page with the LESSON BOOKS. The instructions in the upper right corner of the first page of each piece clearly indicate when the student is ready to learn the piece. The pieces may be played at any time after the designated pages are covered, but it is best not to attempt them sooner than these references indicate.

At Home (Lichner) 16
Bohemian Dance (Tchaikovsky) 26
Clair de Lune (Debussy) 10
España Themes (Chabrier) 4
Fandango from "Capriccio Español" (Rimsky-Korsakov) 6
Figaro Tarantella from "Barber of Seville" (Rossini) 8
Lullay, Thou Little Tiny Child (Old English Melody) 12
March Slav (Tchaikovsky) 30
Minuetto from Symphony No. 11 (Haydn) 17
My Heart at Thy Sweet Voice from "Samson and Delilah" (Saint-Saëns) 20
Night in Moscow, A (Traditional) 32
Romance (Tchaikovsky) 14
Rondo Op. 20, No. 1 (Kuhlau) 19
Symphony No. 40, Opening Theme (Mozart) 28
Tales from the Vienna Woods, Themes from (Strauss) 24
Tarantella in D Minor (Traditional) 2
Violin Concerto, Theme from (Mendelssohn) 13
Wedding March (Wagner) 18

Second Edition
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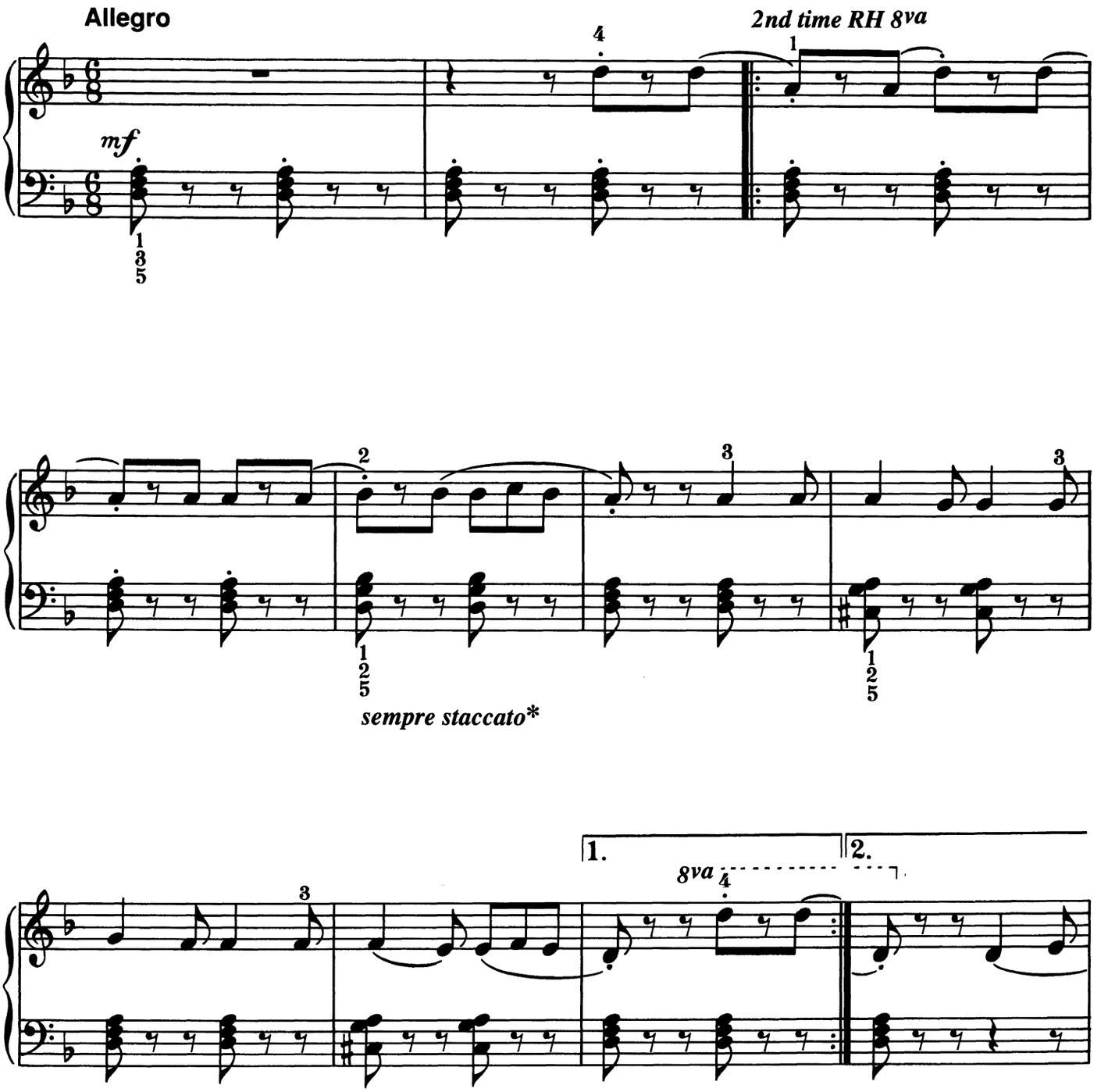
Use after TARANTELLA IN D MINOR, LESSON BOOK 4 (page 2).

This traditional tarantella is universally played whenever called for by dancers—especially at Italian weddings and functions.

Tarantella in D Minor

Traditional



Sempre means *always.* Play all LH notes staccato.

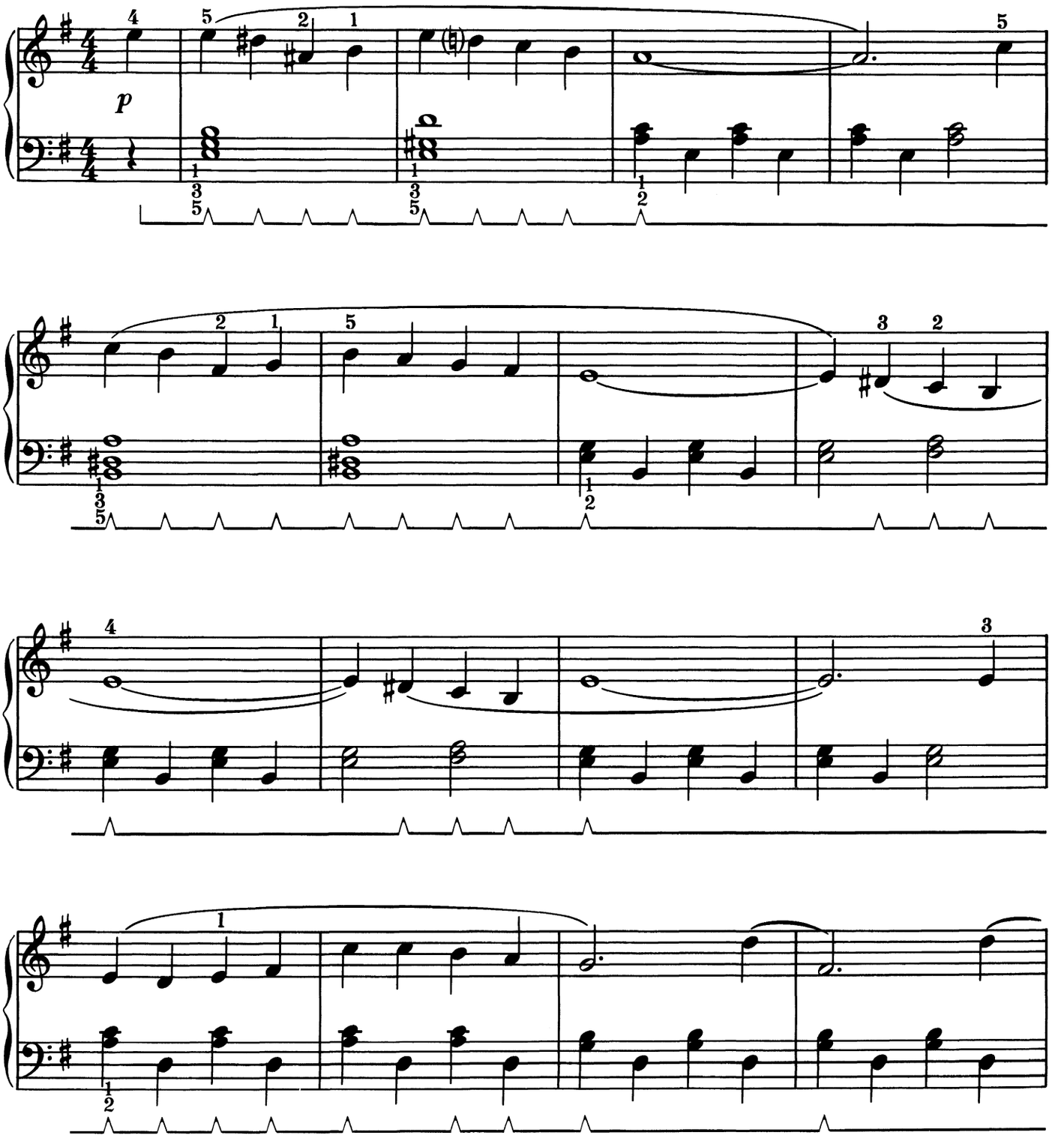
Use after WAVES OF THE DANUBE (page 28).

This plaintive romance by Tchaikovsky has the mood of forlorn love. Tchaikovsky uses the harmonic minor scale, with touches of the Eastern modes, as heard with the unusual A-sharp in the first measure.

Romance

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

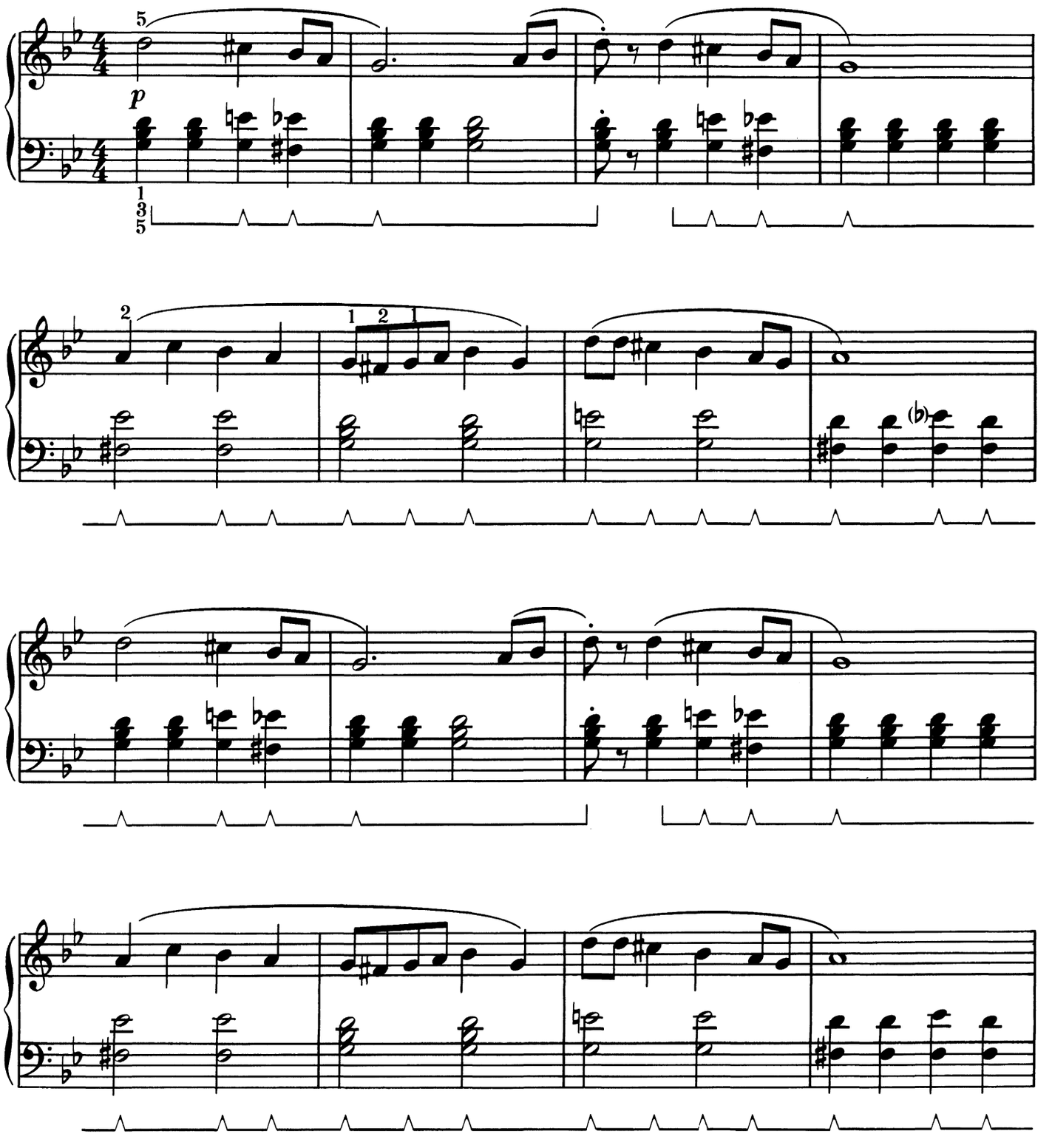
Lento e espressivo



Use after WALTZ IN G MINOR (page 43).

Tchaikovsky shows his brilliance for transforming Russian-style folk tunes into orchestral showpieces with *March Slav.* The piece is basically in G minor, but the addition of C-sharp gives it a distinctive Slavic sound.

March Slav

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Moderato