Book 1: Early Intermediate

Museum Masterpieces

10 Piano Solos Inspired by Great Works of Art

Catherine Rollin

As a child, I was very fortunate to have wonderful parents who loved the arts and viewed culture as something essential to life. They frequently took me to concerts, plays, operas, and our city's art museum, the Detroit Institute of Arts. It was there where I first became aware of the power of the visual arts. The greatest journey one can take is the one that my parents fostered in me—the journey into the world of creativity and imagination. It is through the arts that human beings create and reach beyond the ordinary experiences of daily life and the best of human potential is reached.

In *Museum Masterpieces*, I have composed music inspired by paintings that have moved me and taken me on that creative journey. These paintings are shown on pages 13–16. See the first page of each composition for the painting's corresponding page number. I hope that students enjoy these pieces and experience the profound interconnection between these two worlds of the arts.

Warmest wishes,

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P.O. Box 10003
Van Nuys, CA 91410-0003
alfred.com

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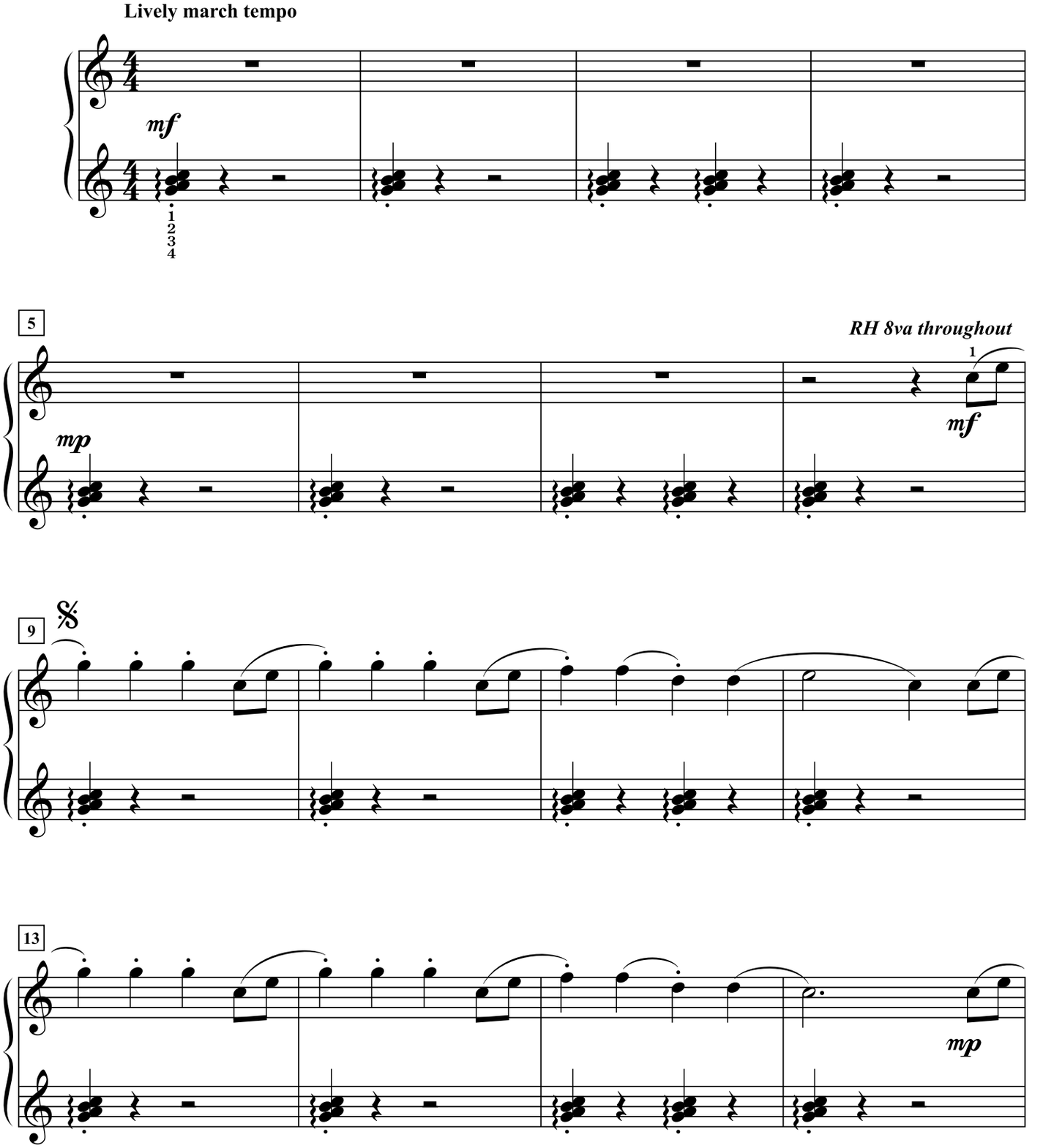
for Anna Rollin Grier

Le fifre (The Fife Player)

collection of Musée d'Orsay, Paris

artist: Édouard Manet (1832–1883)

Catherine Rollin

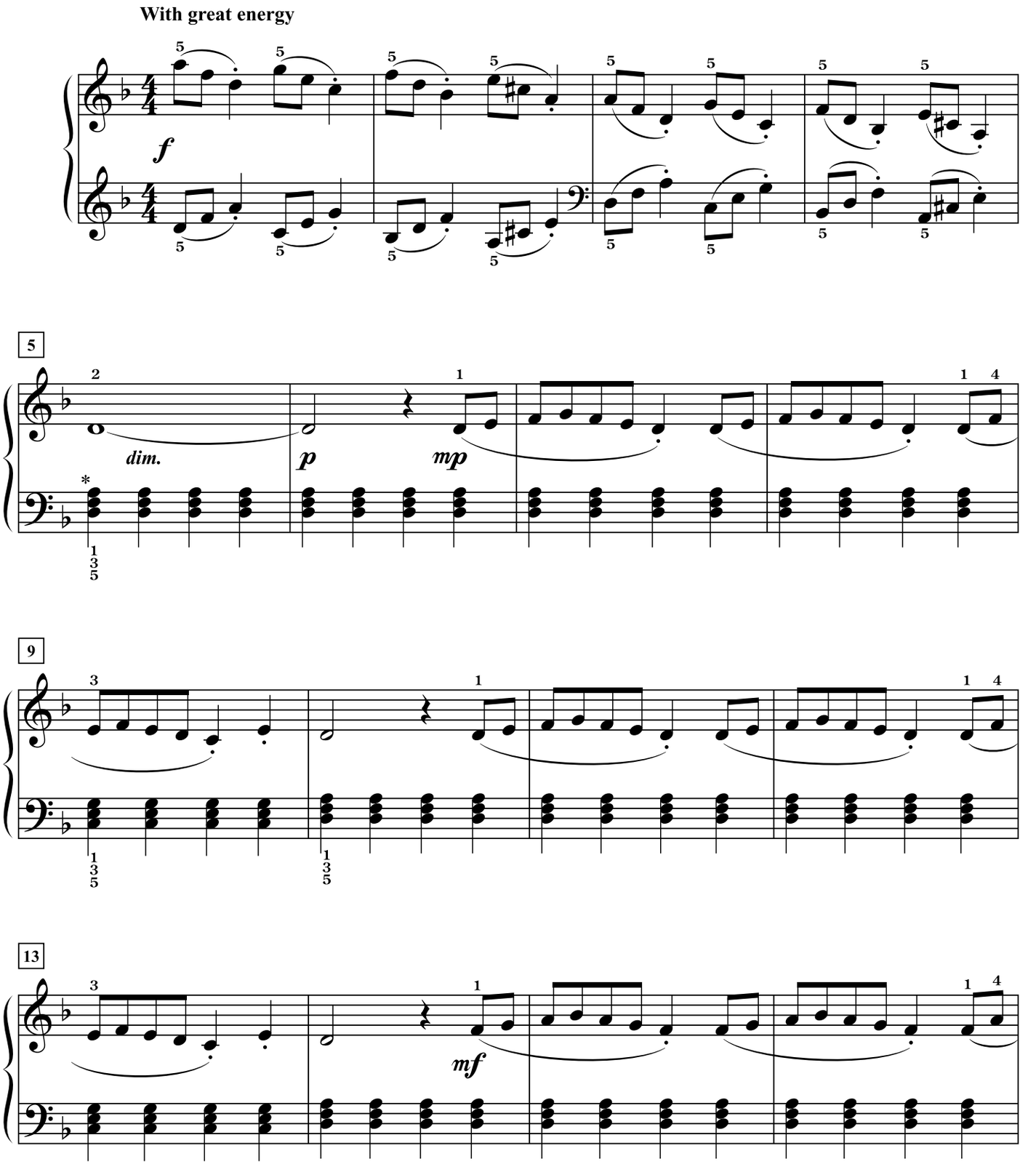


for Blake Alexander Meier

A Dash for the Timber

collection of the Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth
artist: Frederic Remington (1861–1909)

Catherine Rollin



* Play LH triads with a short, portato touch.

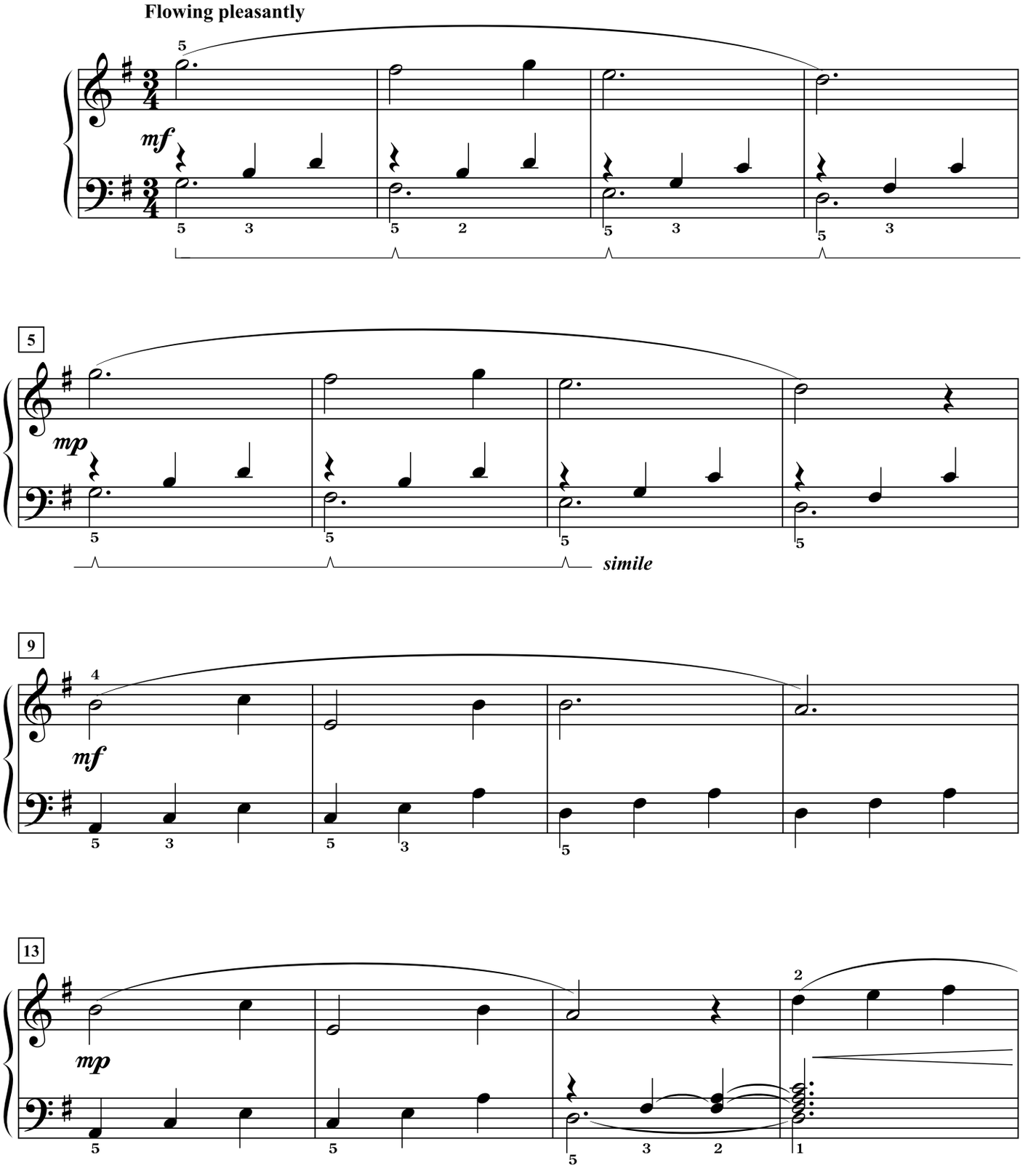
in memory of Vera Rollin

The Nut Gatherers

collection of The Detroit Institute of Arts

artist: William-Adolphe Bouguereau (1825–1905)

Catherine Rollin



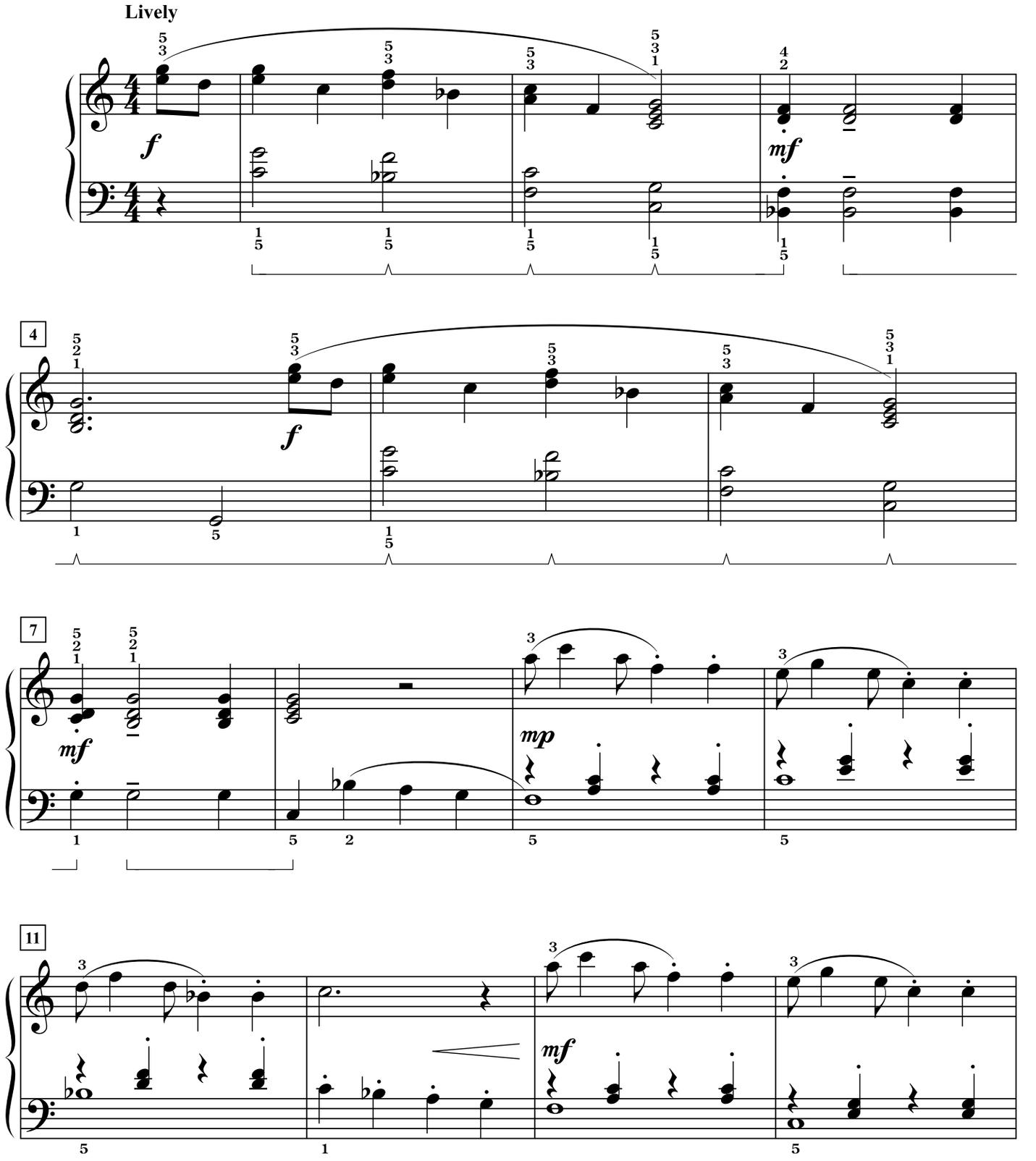
for Sydney Gayle LeSage

American Gothic

collection of The Art Institute of Chicago

artist: Grant Wood (1891–1942)

Catherine Rollin



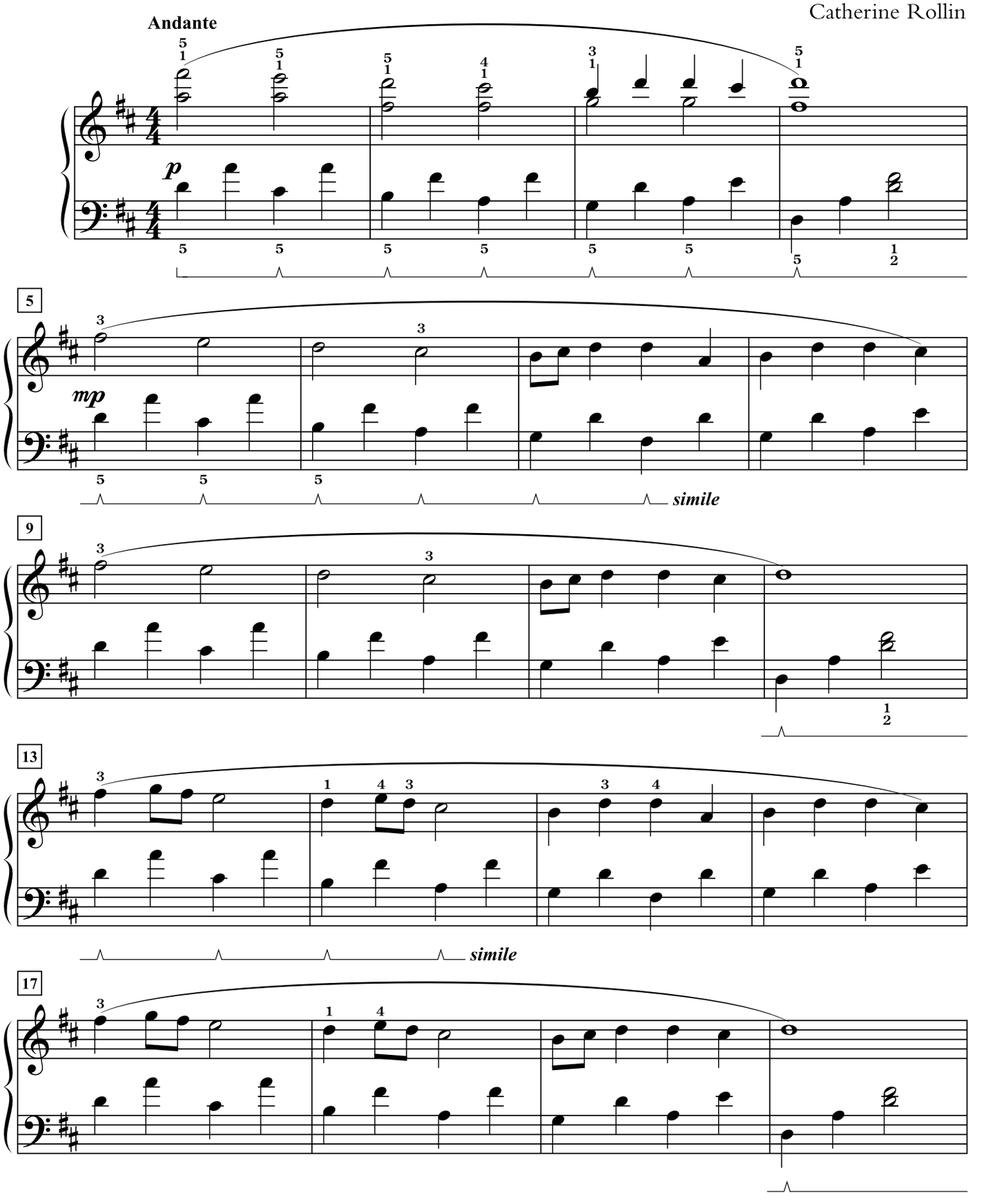
for Jesse Rae LeSage

Mona Lisa

collection of The Louvre, Paris

artist: Leonardo da Vinci (1452–1519)

Catherine Rollin



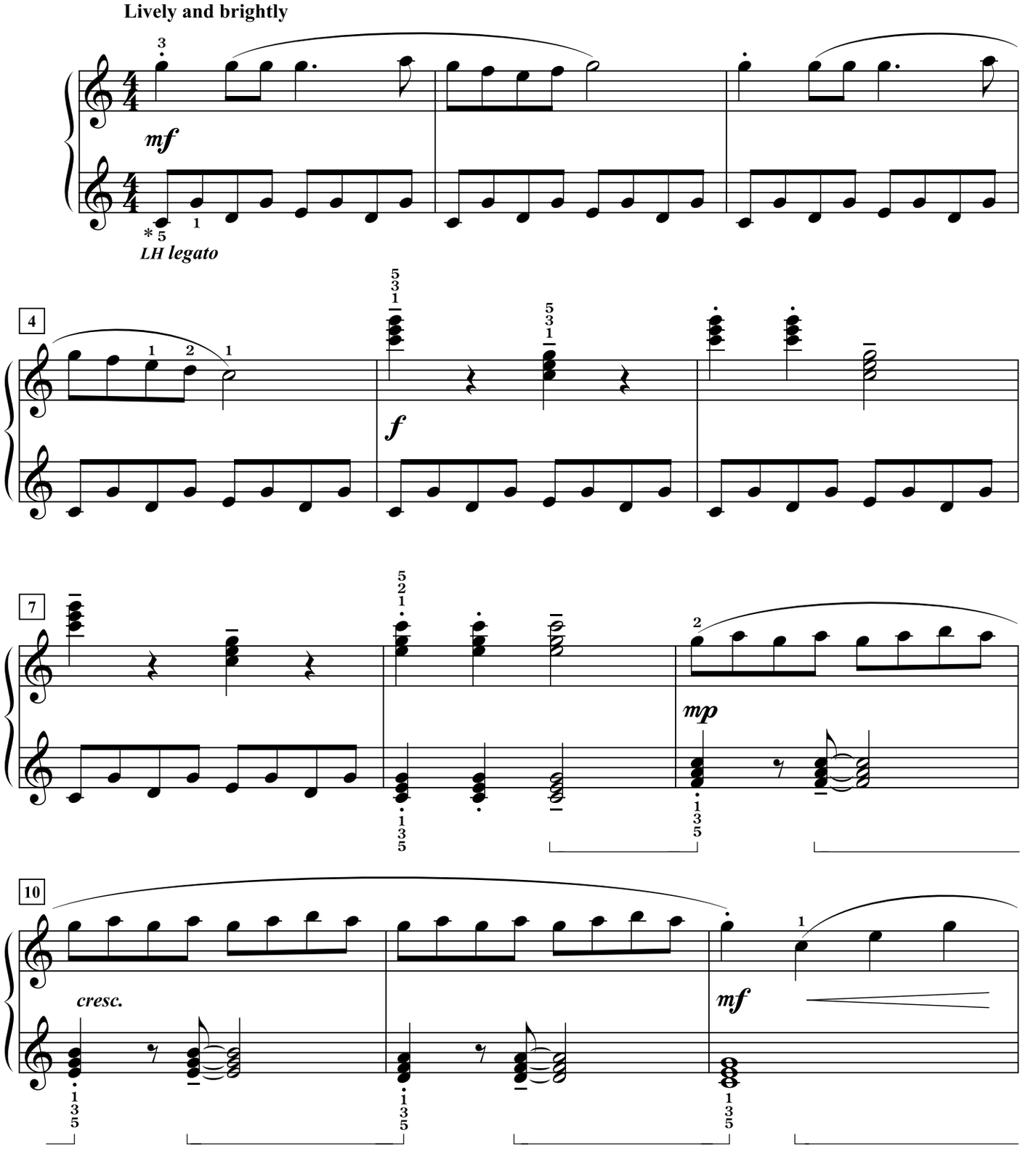
for Stephen Tu Grier

Senecio

collection of Kunstmuseum, Basel, Switzerland

artist: Paul Klee (1879–1940)

Catherine Rollin



* LH finger pedal suggested: