Editorial Commentary

Sinfonia No. 11 in G Minor, BWV 797 (Bach)

All parenthetical material and fingerings are editorial. The primary touch is legato throughout. You may use pedal in this piece, but sparingly. For this beautiful, lyrical melody, the performer needs a rich singing tone in the long musical ideas. The *Sinfonias* are challenging works that might be regarded as fugue-like, although the first announcement of the theme is accompanied by counterpoint.

Bach's works brought Baroque music to its highest perfection; for this reason, most historians date the end of the era with his death in 1750. Bach's family played a significant role in German music for over 150 years.

Sonata in E Major, Op. 14, No. 1 (Third Movement) (Beethoven)

All parenthetical material and fingerings are editorial. Note the sudden changes of dynamics in this piece, created intentionally to surprise the listeners and create humor. Be careful not to over-pedal in measures 47–83. A light accent pedal on the staccato bass octaves in this section may be appropriate. This rondo sparkles with rapid scales and broken chords. Be sure to convey a lilting, spontaneous and refreshing spirit as you play.

Beethoven was a musical giant who, by the time he was 30, became one of the most renowned pianists and composers in Europe. Although he adhered to Classical forms, his music was highly innovative from the beginning stages of his composing.

Grillen ("Whims") (from Fantasiestücke), Op. 12, No. 4 (Schumann)

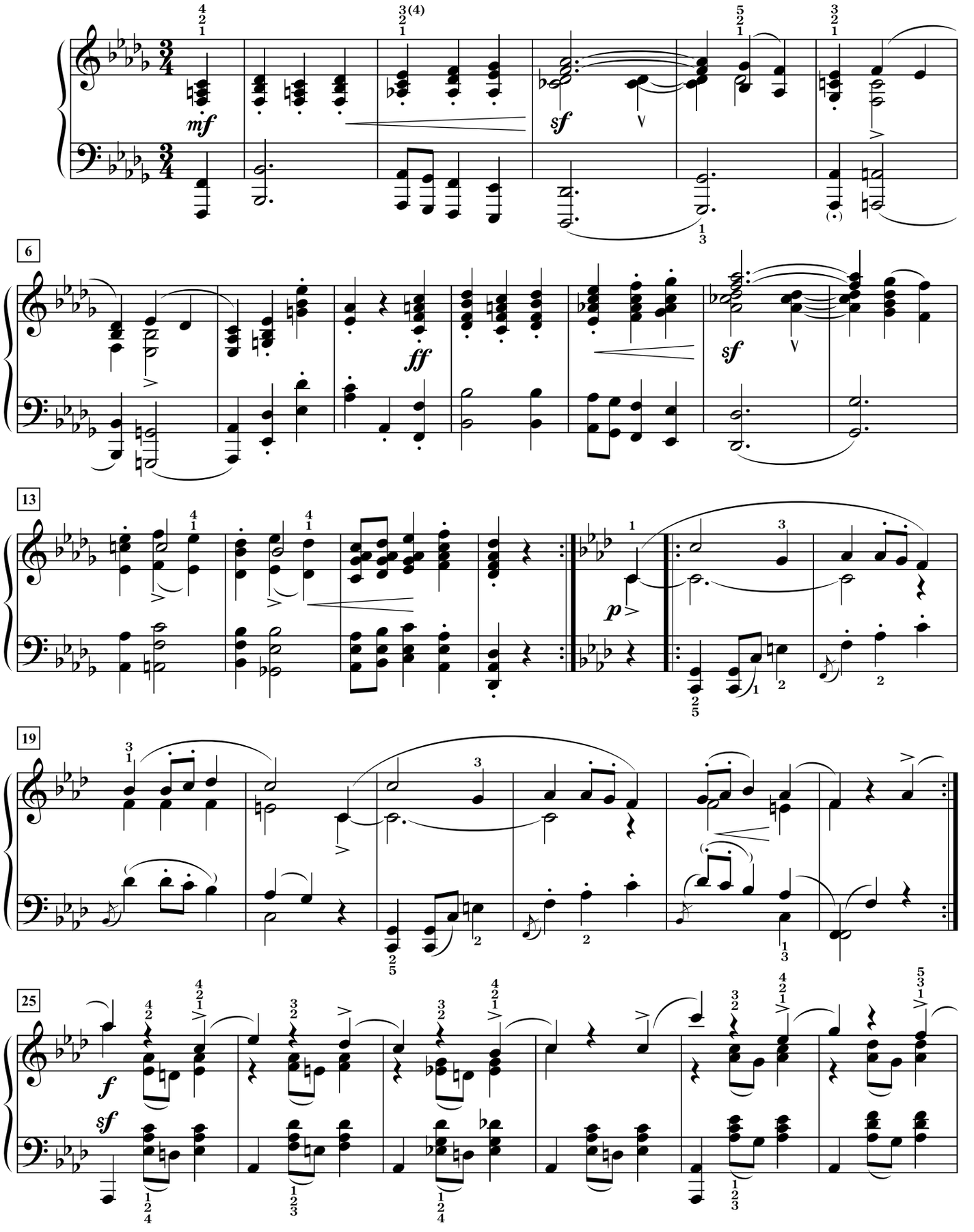
All parenthetical material and fingerings are editorial. This piece is humorous and capricious, filled with a whirlwind of successive ideas. The original score is marked "Pedal" at measure 1. A general marking such as this is usually interpreted as an indication to use pedal throughout the piece as needed, in the opinion of the performer and in conjunction with the performance practice precepts for the composer and style. Here, the editor suggests using accent pedals in measures 1, 3, 4–6, etc. Avoid pedaling through the many staccato chords, since they help create the humor and energy in the music.

The piece is in sonata rondo form (**A B A C A B**^{1} **A**). The melody should project at the start of the **C** section (measure 61). The grace notes in measure 87 should be played slowly, as a rolled chord, and pedal should be held from this rolled figure through the fermata in measure 88.

Schumann's creative, fanciful mind has produced some of the most imaginative music in the piano repertoire. His music was influenced by his strong literary background (his father was a bookseller). Schumann wrote plays and poems, and founded a progressive journal that was critical of salon music and musical stagnation.

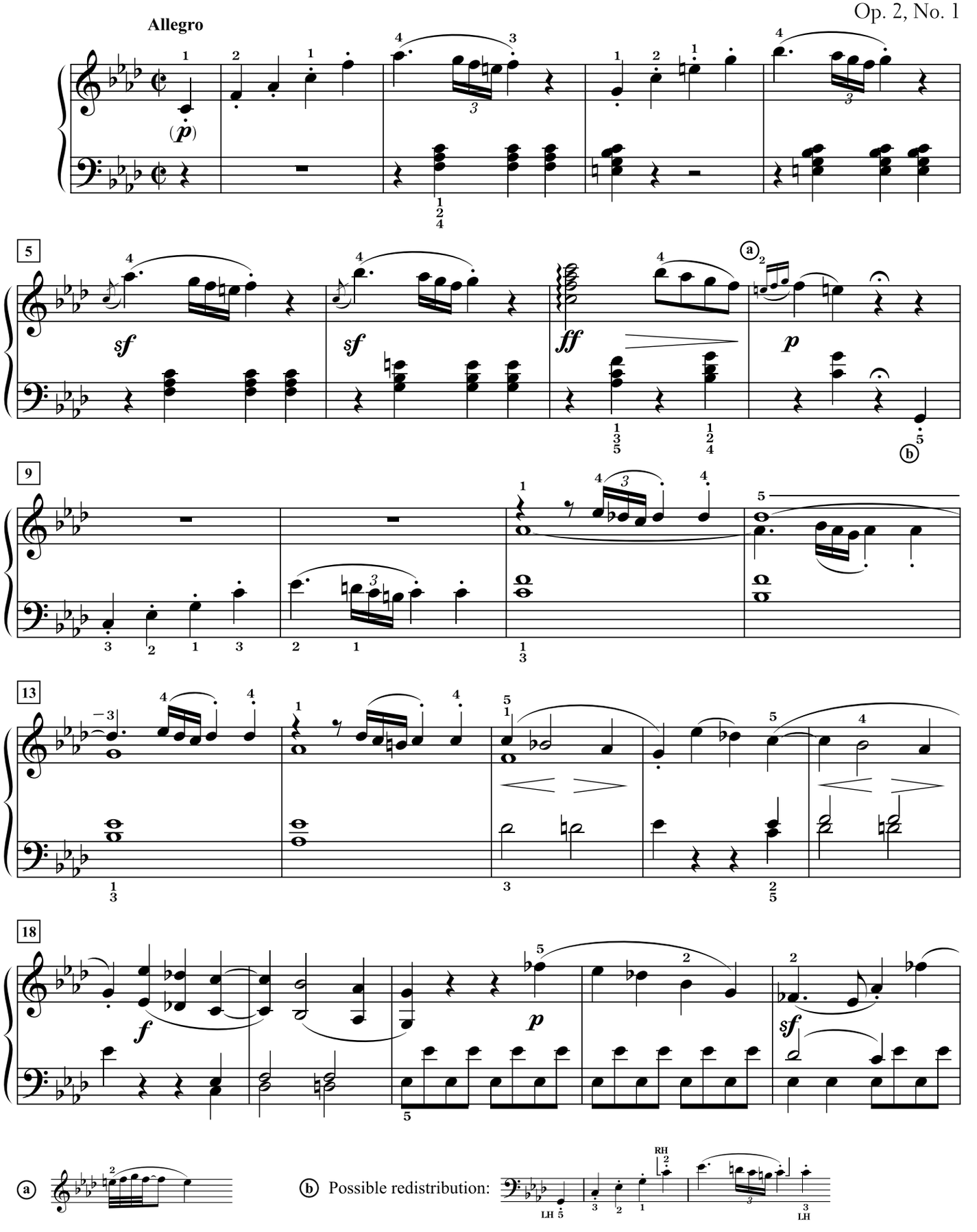
Grillen
("Whims")
from *Fantasiestücke*

Robert Schumann (1810–1856)
Op. 12, No. 4



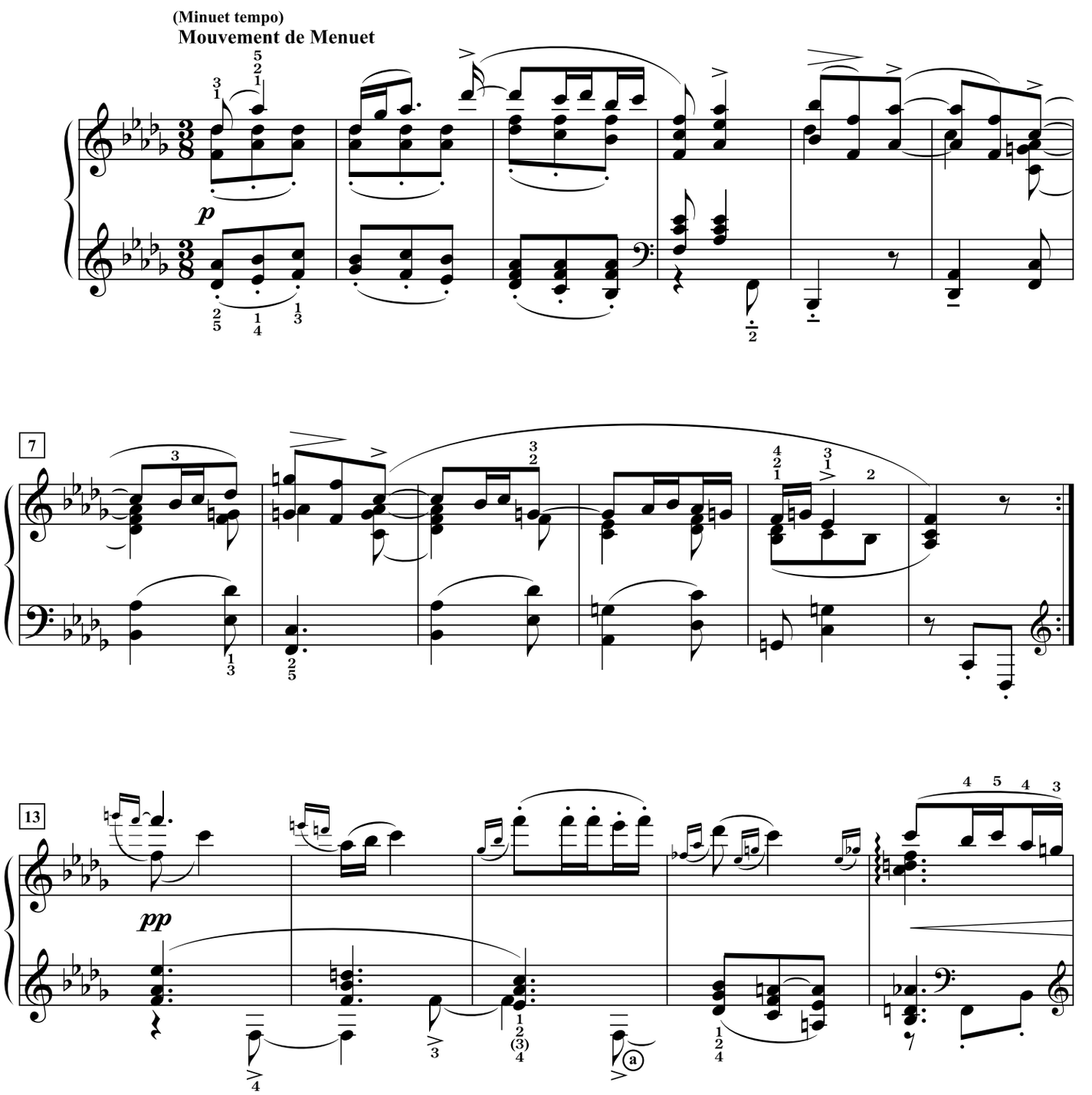
Sonata in F Minor
(First Movement)

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)
Op. 2, No. 1



Sonatine
(Second Movement)

Maurice Ravel (1875–1937)



(a) The unconnected "ties" are an indication to let the notes ring.