Johann Sebastian

Bach

Inventionen

(Two-Part Inventions)

BWV 772 – 786

und

Sinfonien

(Three-Part Inventions)

BWV 787 – 801

für Tasteninstrument

LAVENDER
— B L U E —
Open Scores

Engraved by Davide Madrisan
https://github.com/madrisan/open-scores/

Based on a previous work of Allen Garvin and Olivier Vermersch,
and on the manuscripts by Johann Sebastian and Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (1720-1723)

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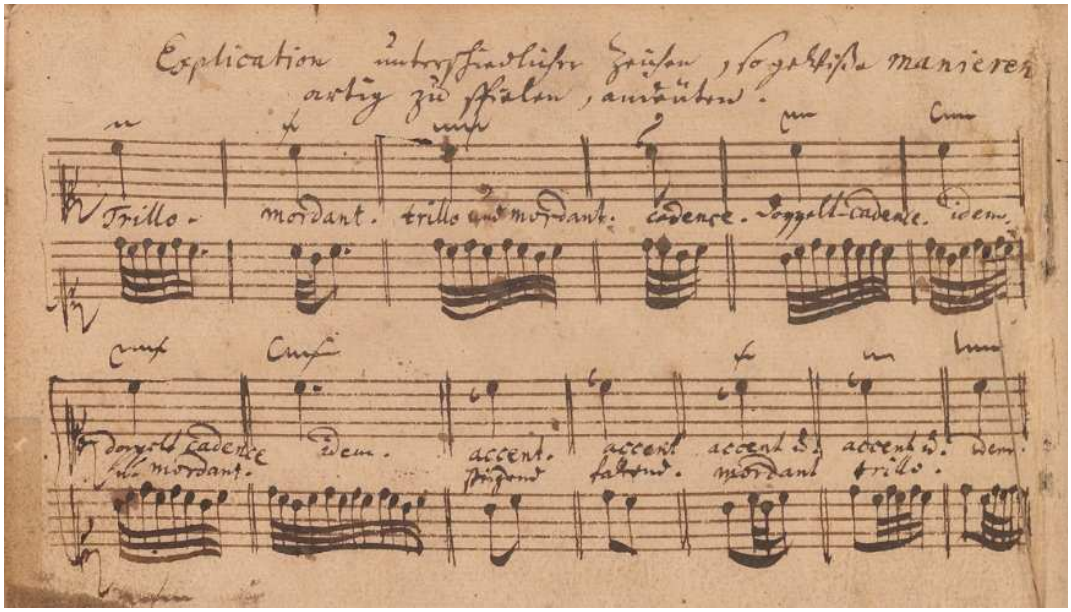
A guide to ornaments, written in Bach's hand

The following ornament table is a scan of the original manuscript *"Clavier-Büchlein vor Wilhelm Friedemann Bach",* written by Johann Sebastian Bach in January 1720 for the keyboard instruction of his eldest son. The German title translates as *"Explanation of various signs, showing how to play certain ornaments correctly".* Bach gives the sign for each ornament on the upper of the paired staves, while the lower shows its execution directly beneath. Note however that all of the ornaments in the table begin on the beat and almost all apply to a quarter note, so *the application is only practical at a moderate tempo.* Also note that Bach's manuscript uses soprano clefs, as several composers continued to do throughout the 18th century in place of the treble clef now used in all keyboard music.

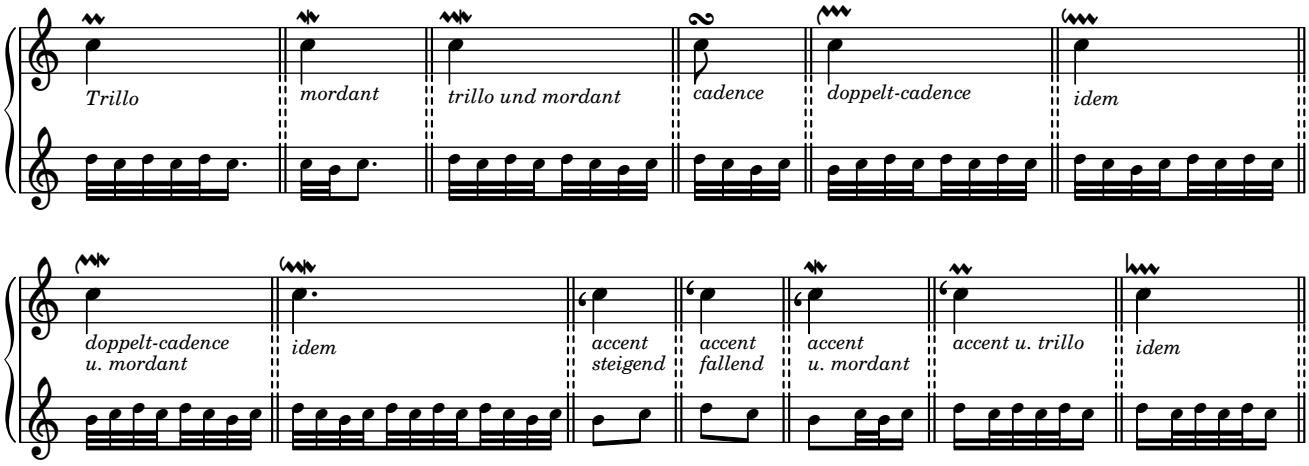


Excerpt from the manuscript "Clavier-Büchlein vor Wilhelm Friedemann Bach"

Below is a transcription as faithfully as possible of Bach's table, including the title and the original captions in German.

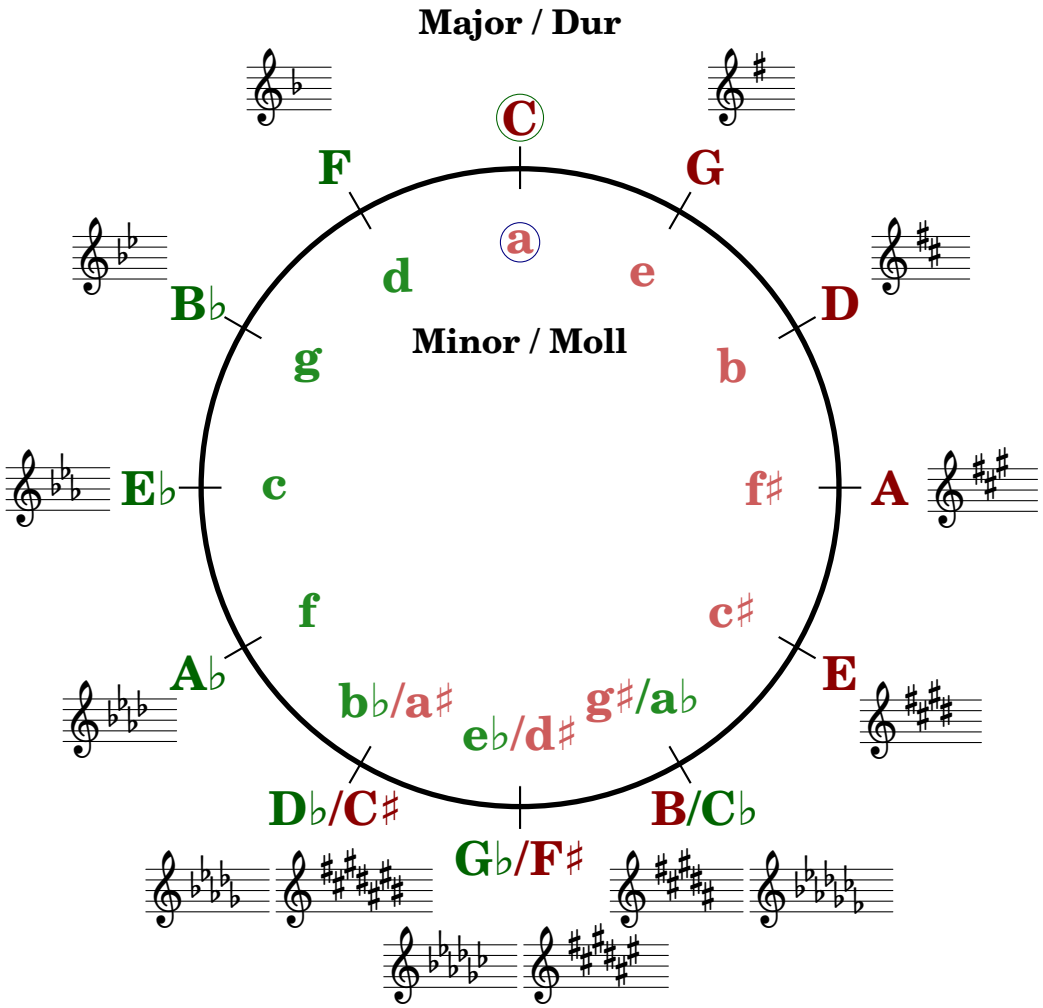
Explication unterschiedlicher Zeichen, so gewisse Manieren artig zu spielen, andeuten

(Explanation of various signs, showing how to play certain ornaments correctly)



Circle of fifths

In music theory, the *circle of fifths* is a way of organizing the 12 chromatic pitches as a sequence of perfect fifths. (This is strictly true in the standard 12-tone equal temperament system — using a different system requires one interval of diminished sixth to be treated as a fifth). If C is chosen as a starting point, the sequence is: C, G, D, A, E, B (=C♭) or H in german, F♯ (=G♭), C♯ (=D♭), A♭, E♭, B♭, F. Continuing the pattern from F returns the sequence to its starting point of C. This order places the most closely related key signatures adjacent to one another. It can be illustrated in the form of a circle.



The *Inventions and Sinfonias,* BWV 772–801, are both arranged in order of ascending key, each group covering eight major and seven minor keys:

C Major and c Minor
D Major and d Minor
E♭ Major, E Major, and e Minor
F Major and f Minor
G Major and g Minor
A Major and a Minor
B♭ Major and b Minor

Inventionen

(Two-Part Inventions)

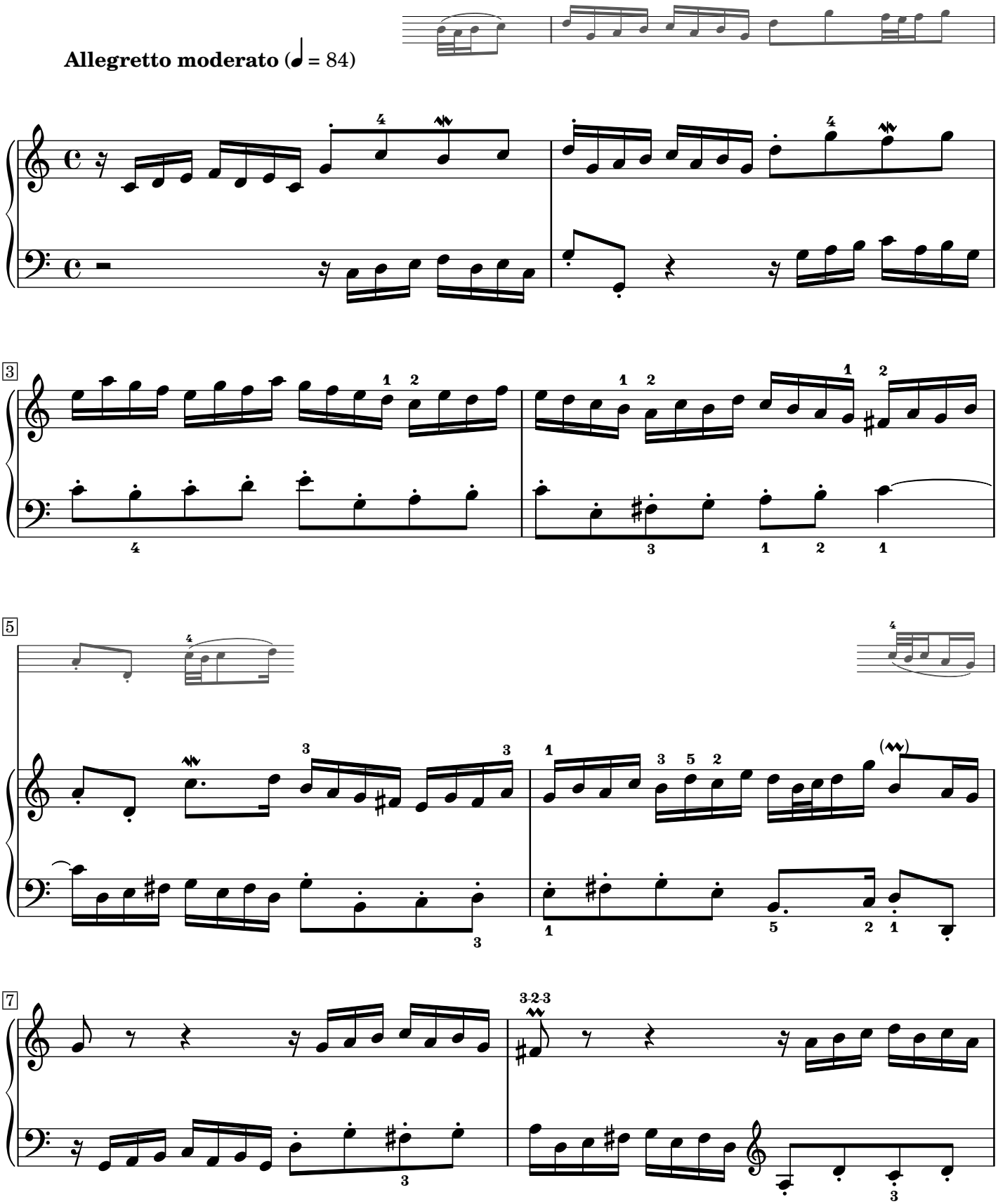
BWV 772 – 786

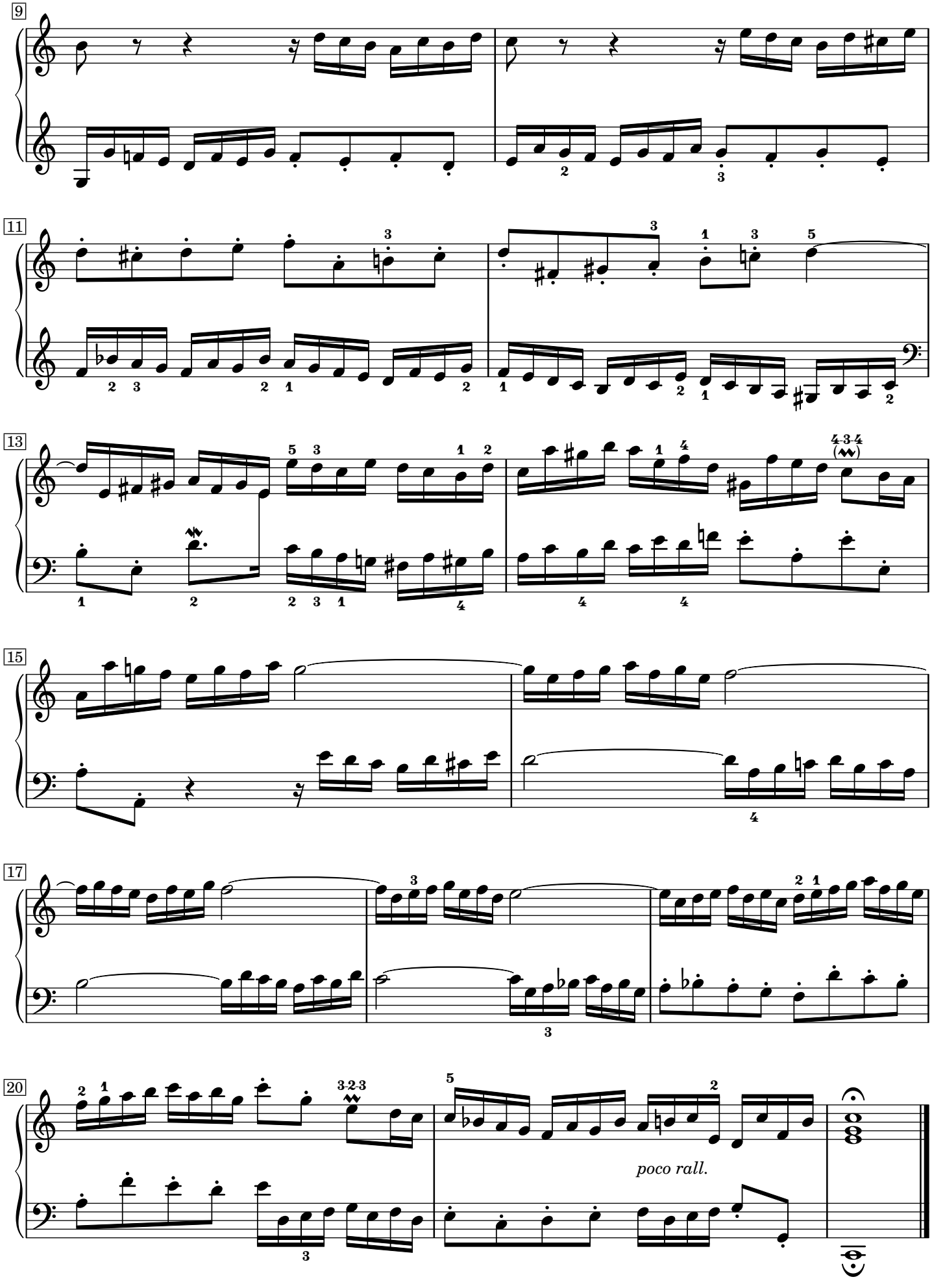
Invention I · C-Dur

Copyist Wilhelm Friedemann Bach (1720)

Johann Sebastian Bach
BWV 772

Allegretto moderato (♩ = 84)




9
11
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poco rall.

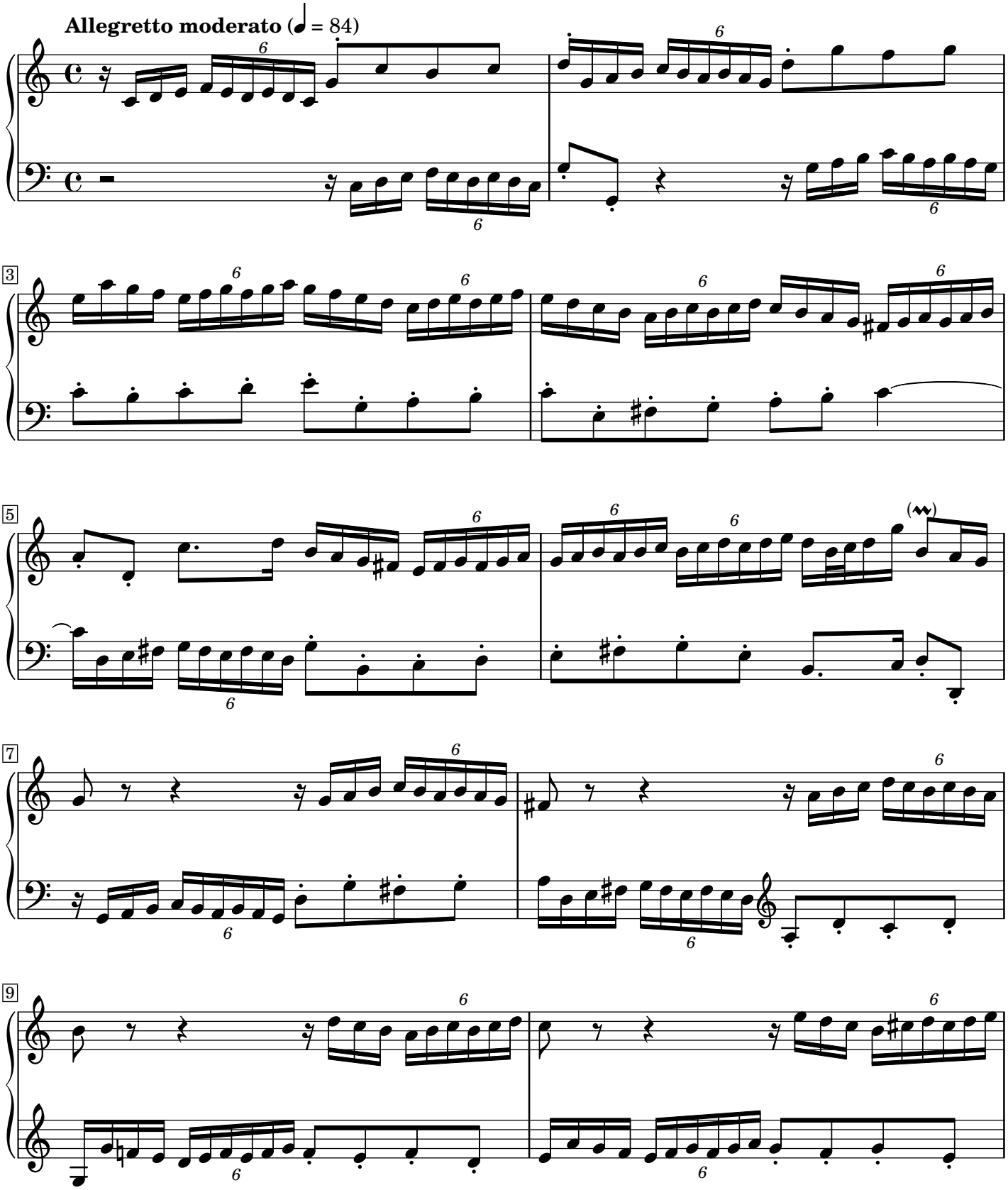
Invention I · C-Dur

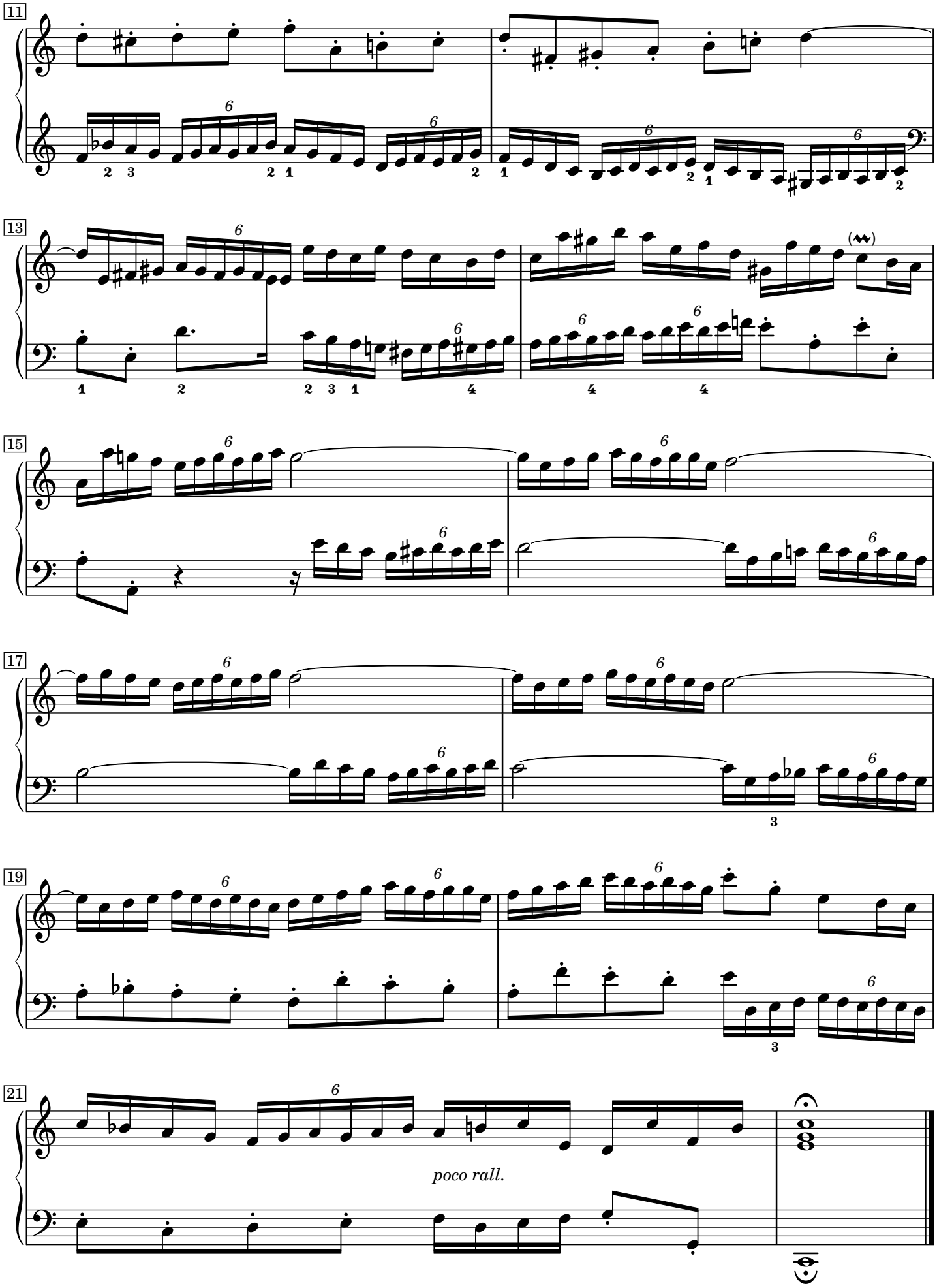
Johann Sebastian Bach's Manuscript (1723)

(revised version with triplets)

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 772a

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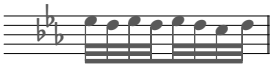
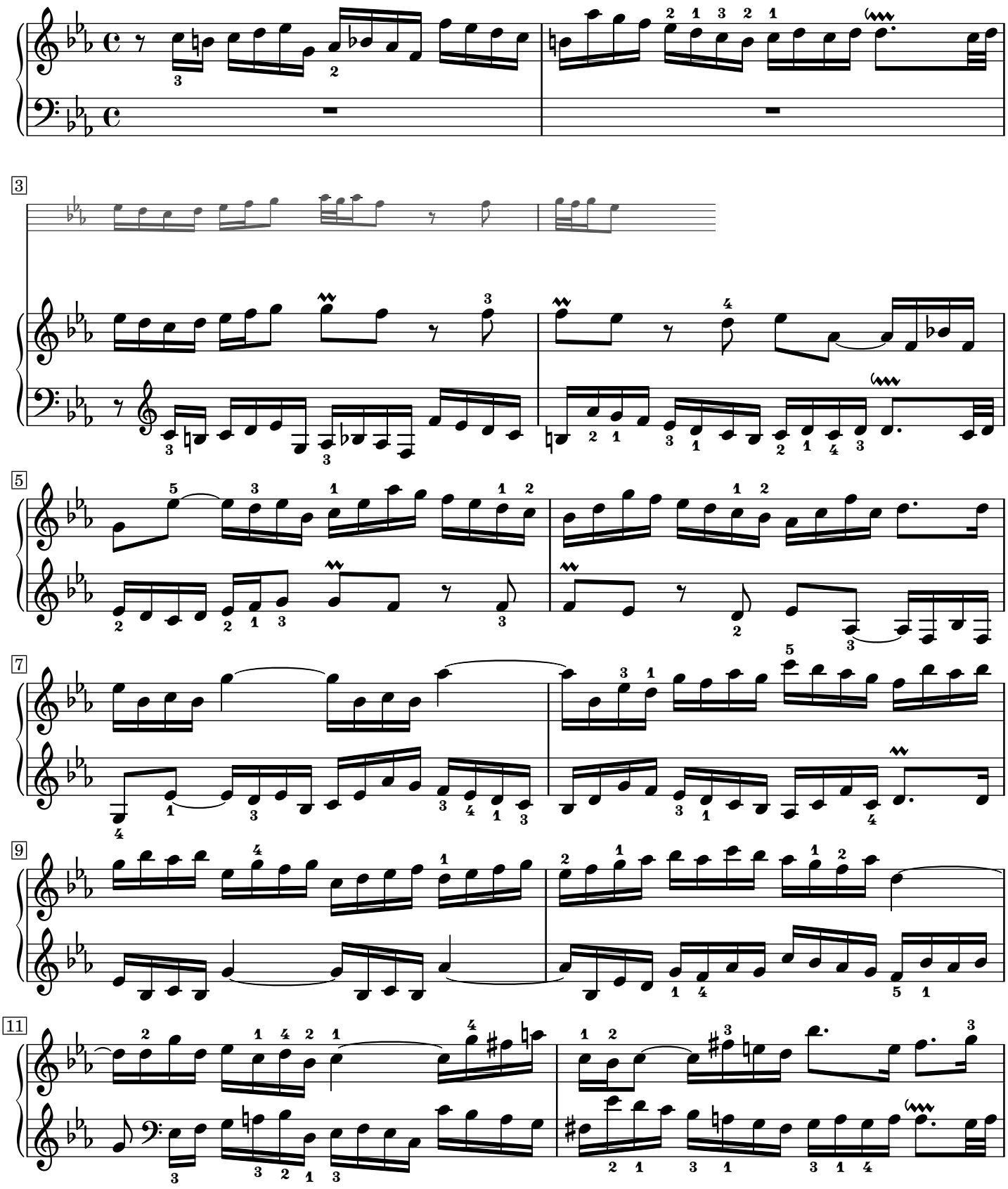
poco rall.

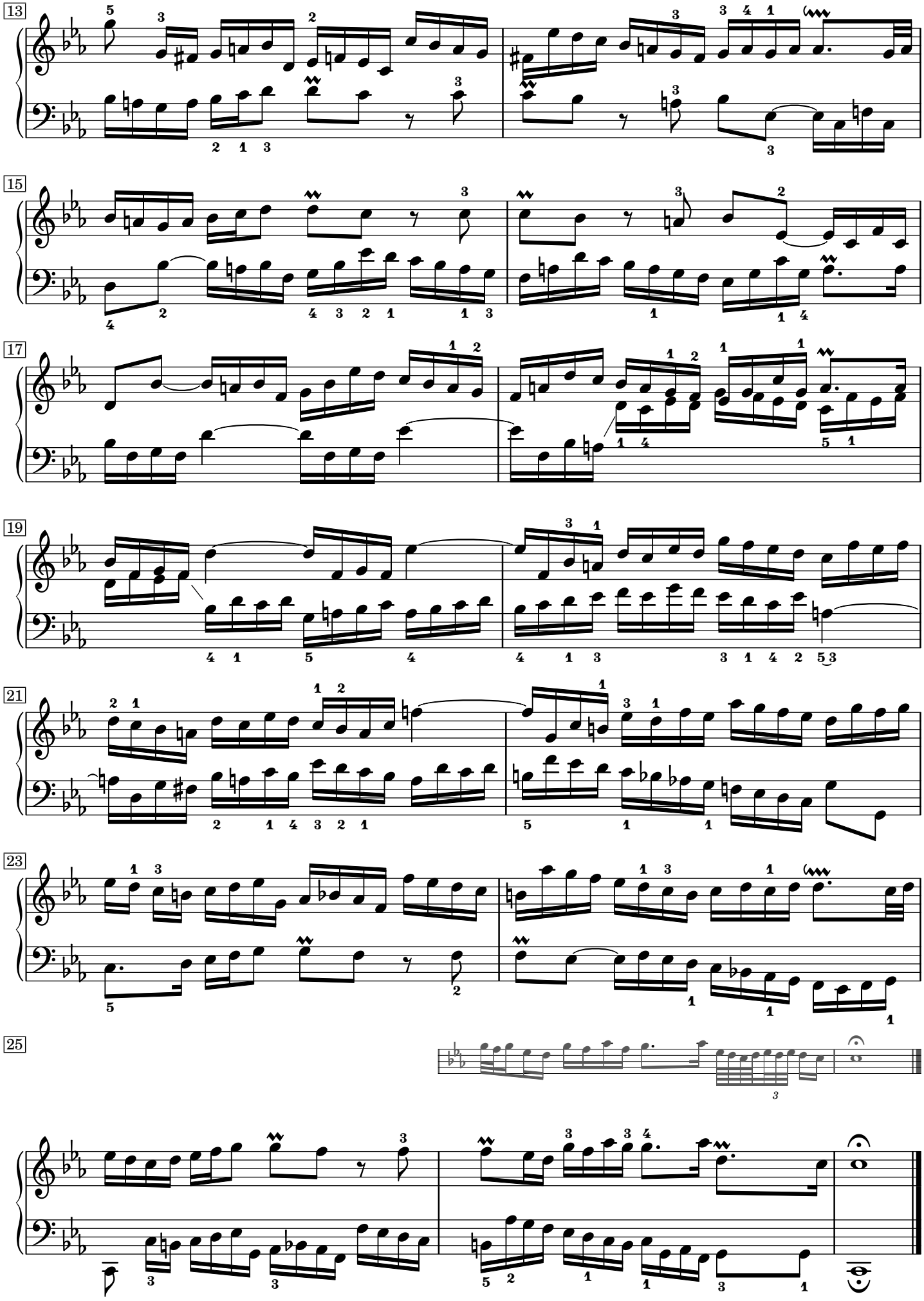
Invention II · c-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach
BWV 773



Moderato ed espressivo (♩ = 40)

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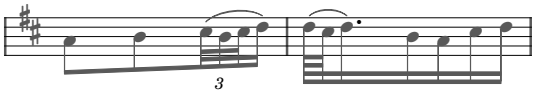
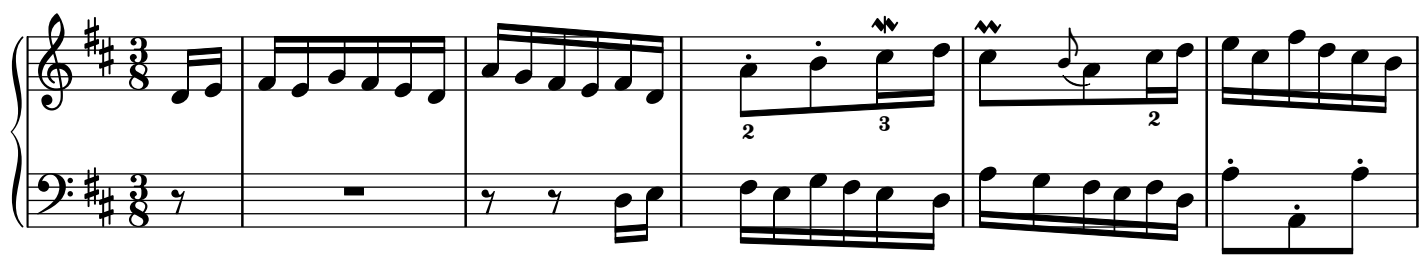
Invention III · D-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 774

Allegretto con brio (♩. = 64)





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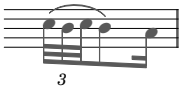

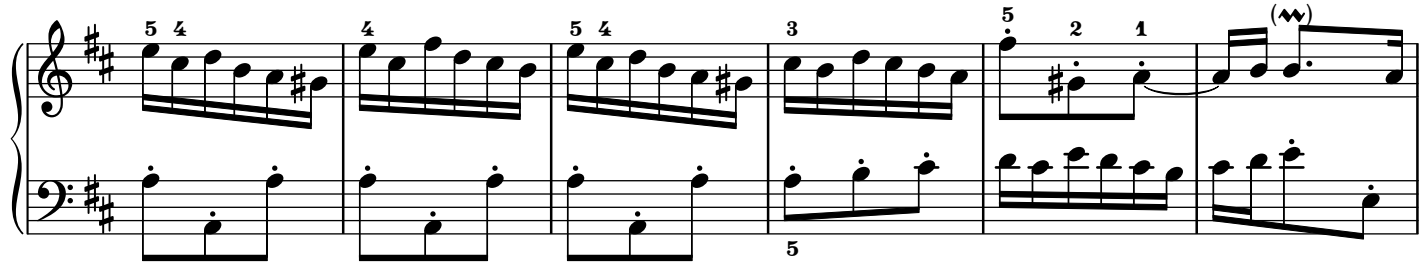

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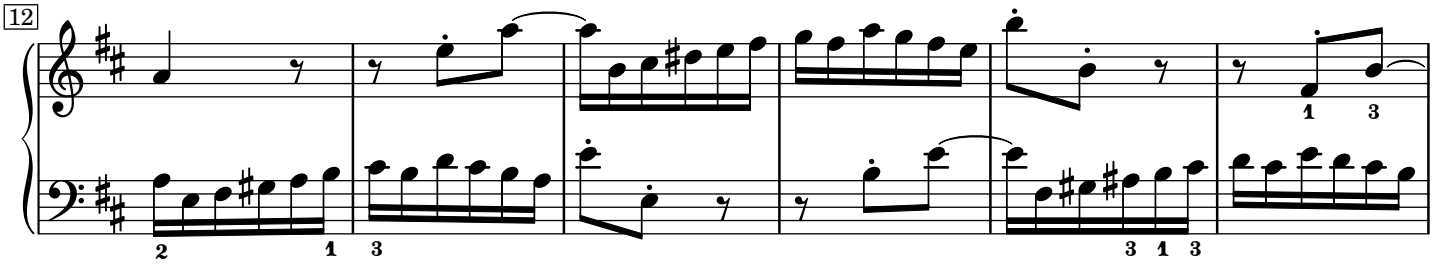

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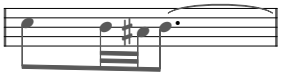

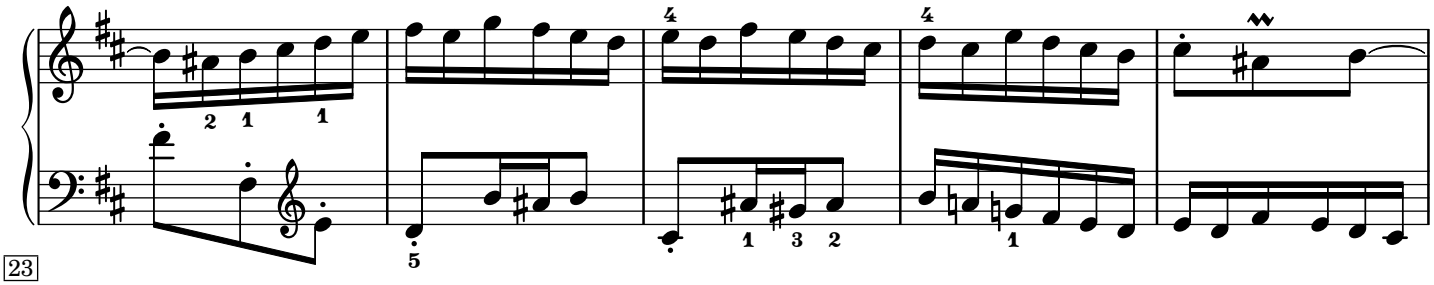

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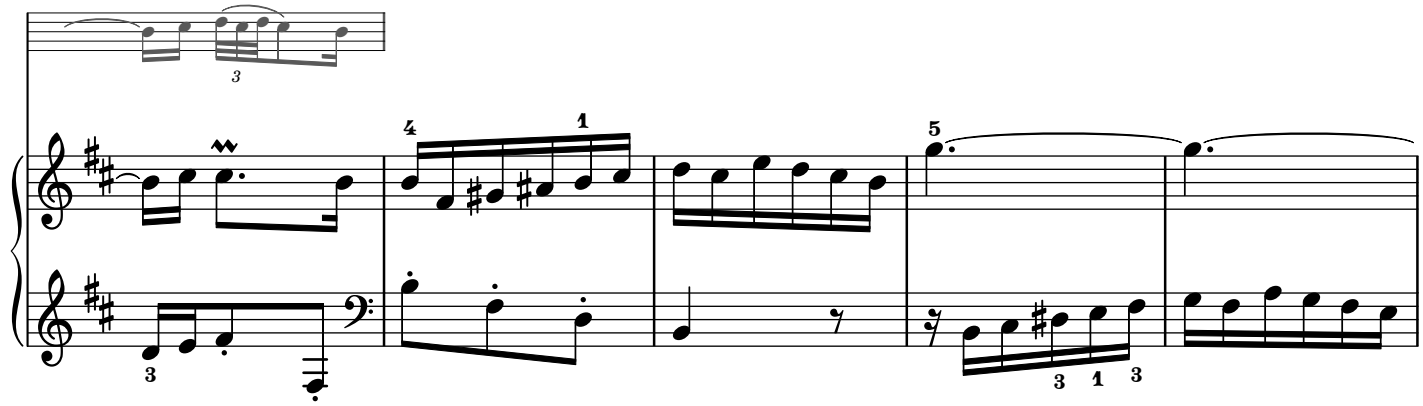

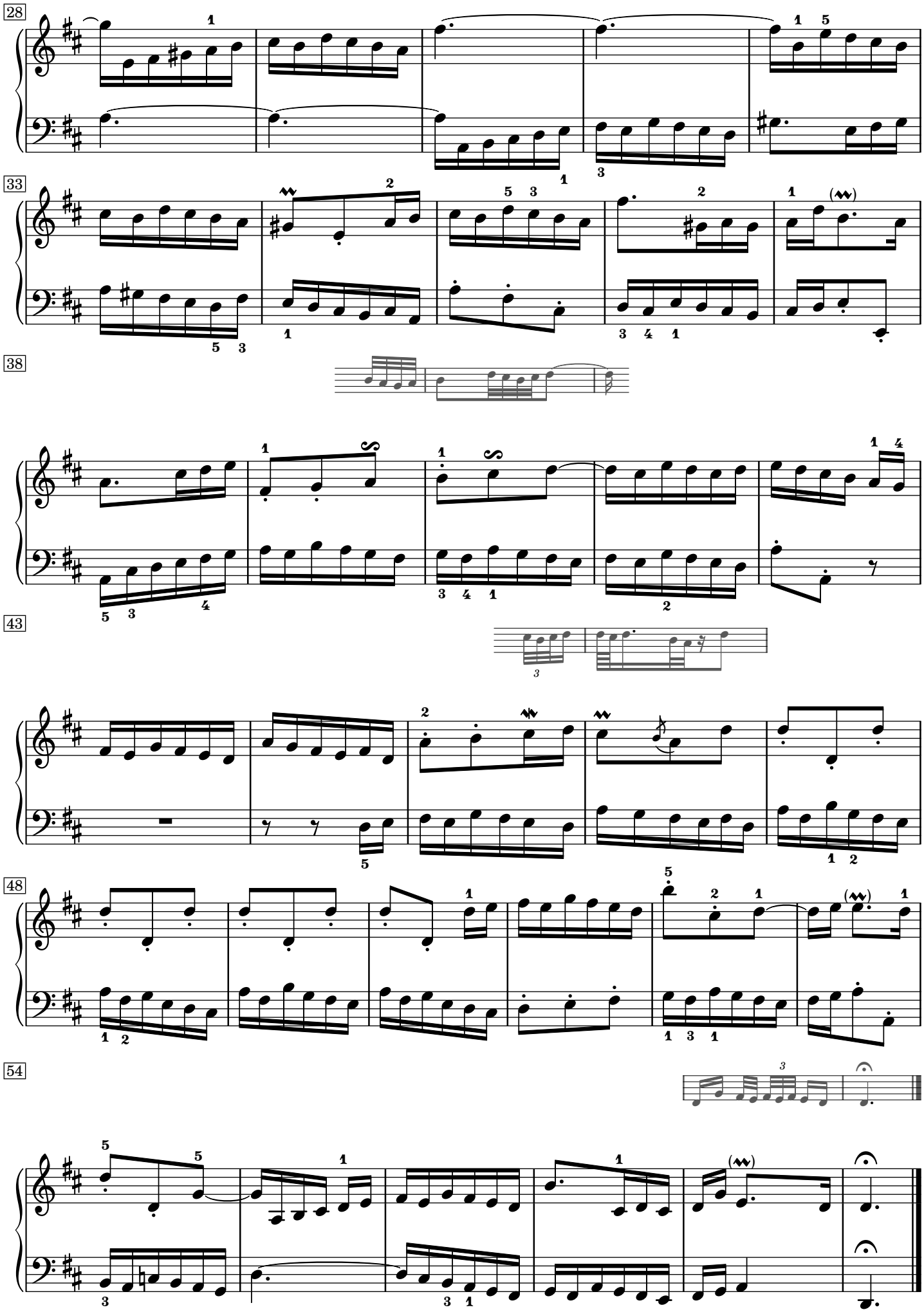
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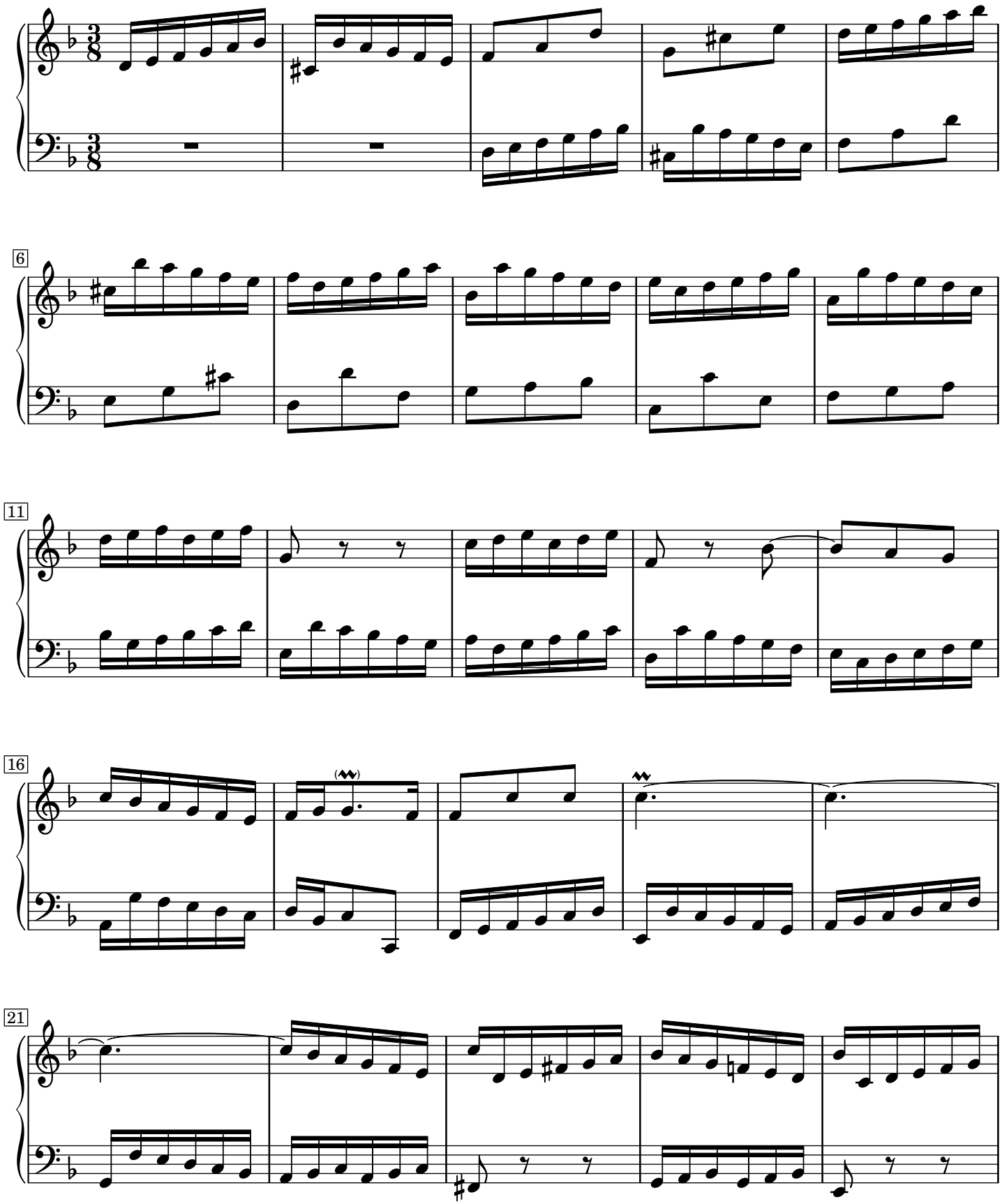
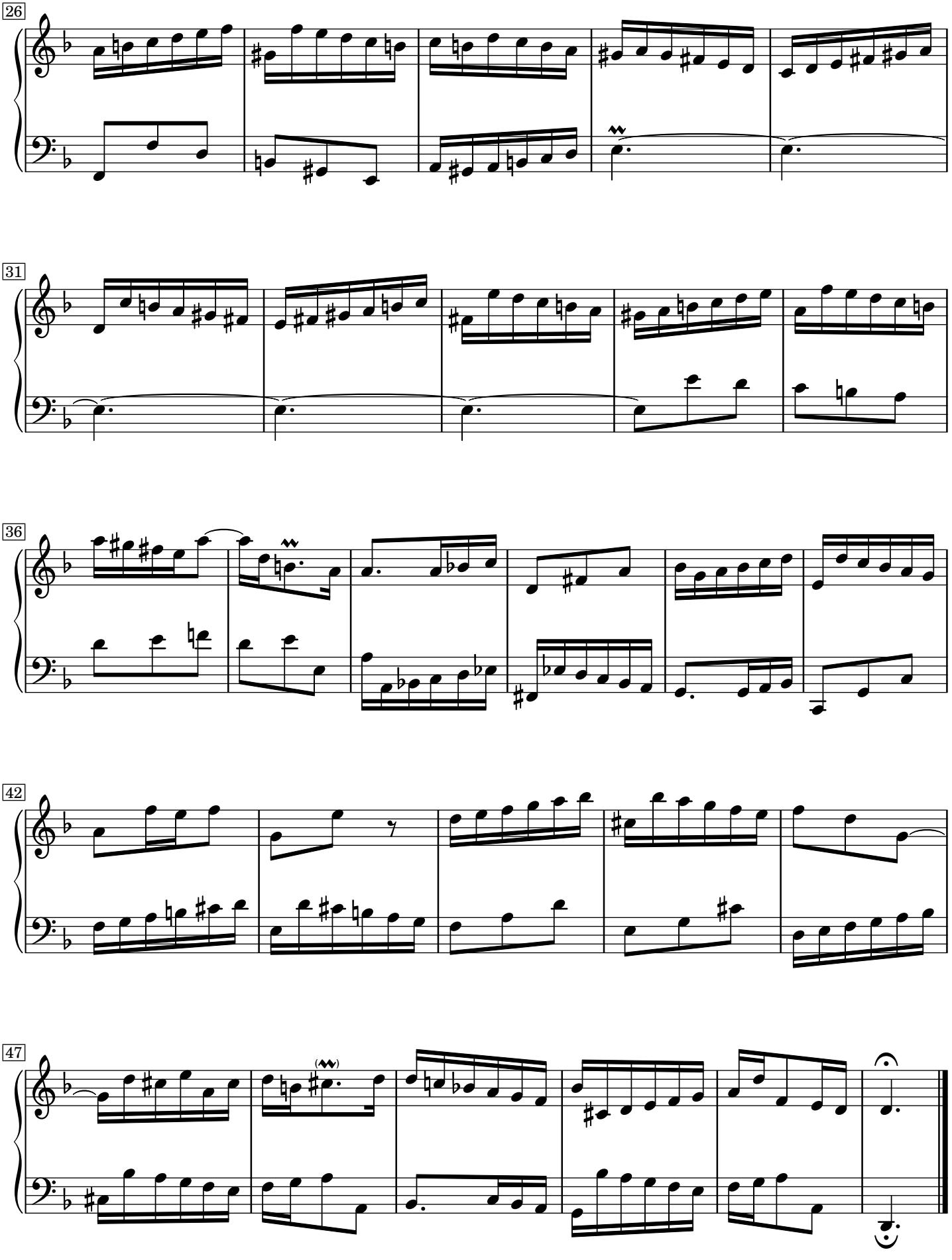
Invention IV · d-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 775

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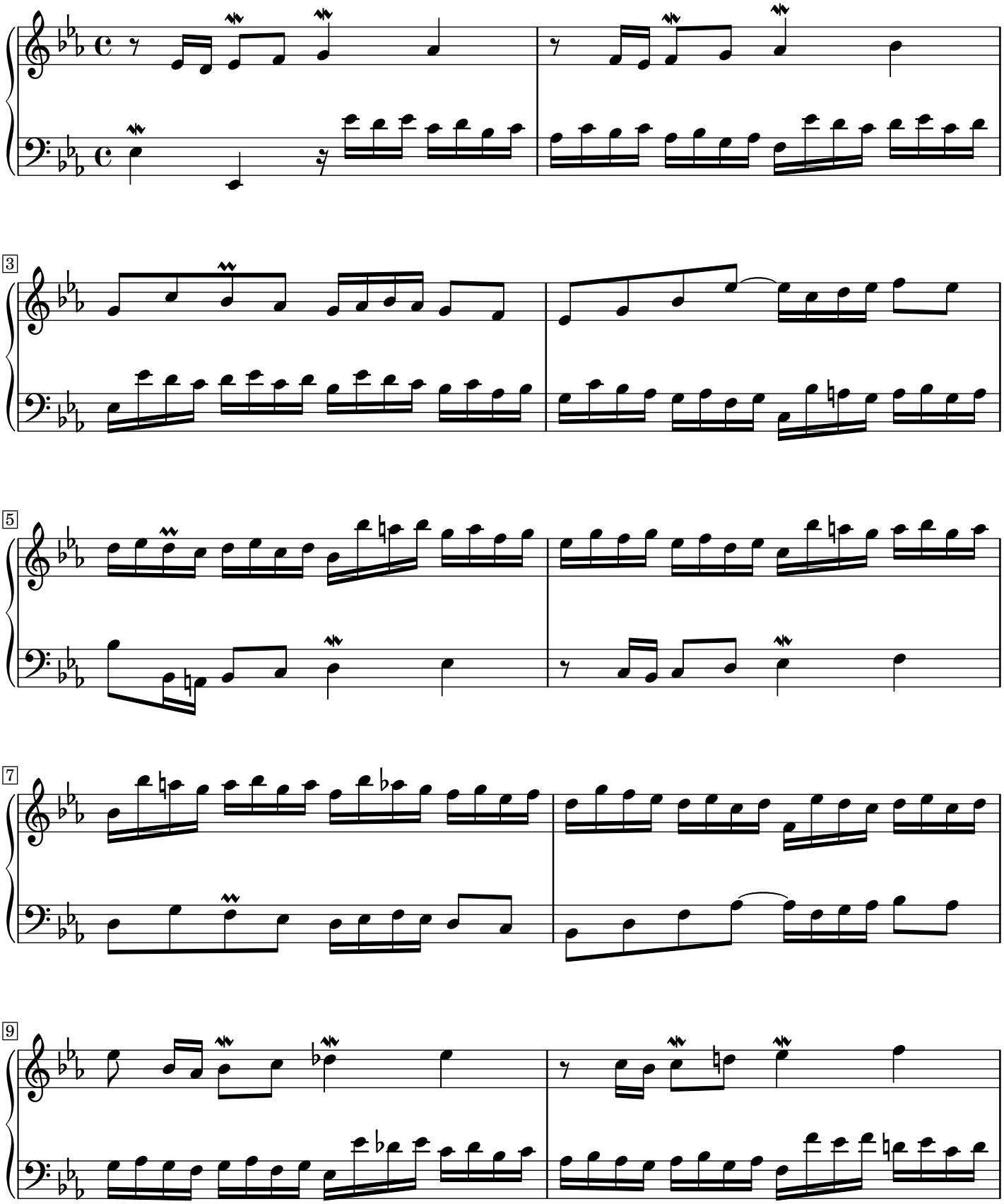
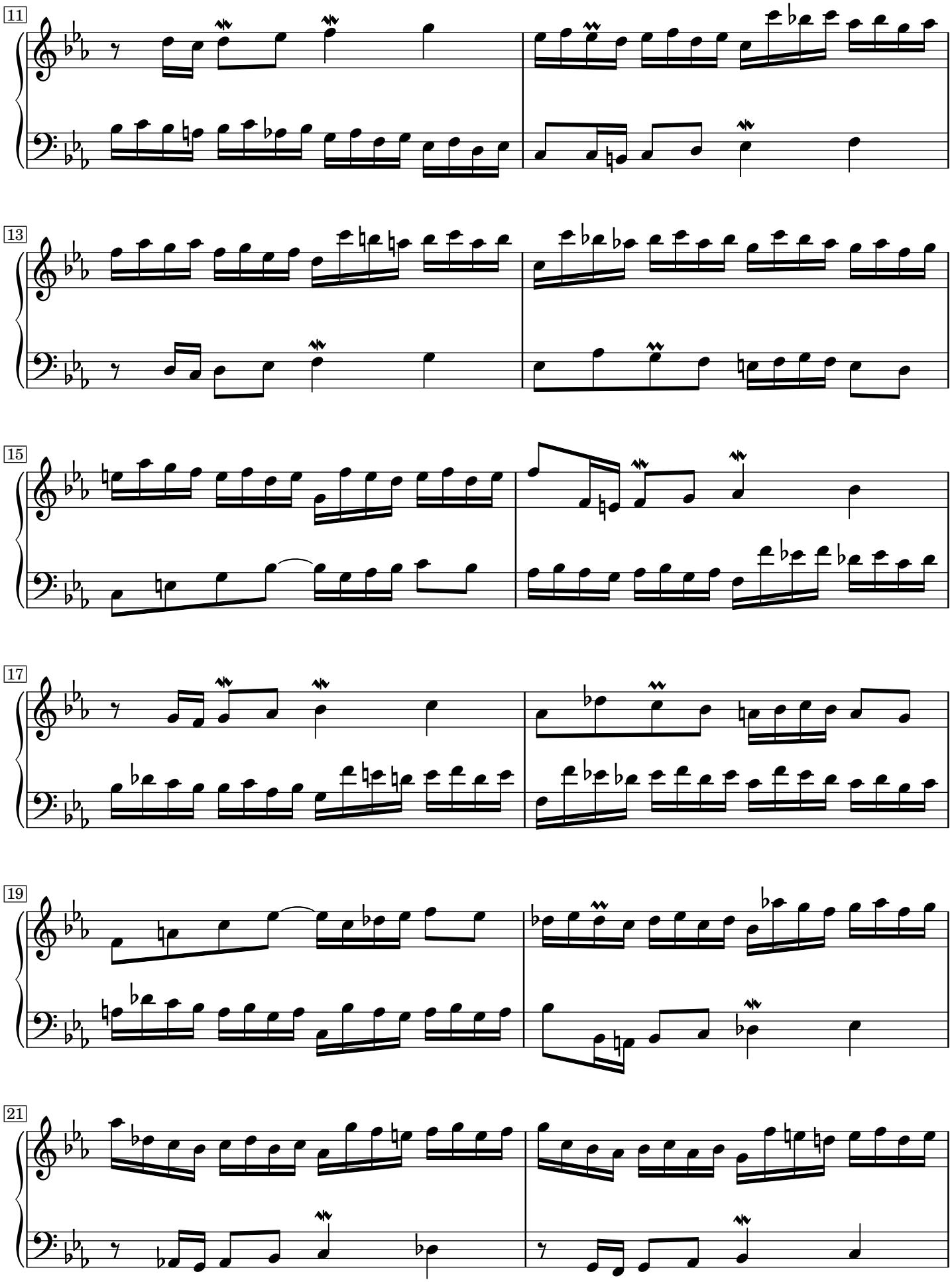
Invention V · Es-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 776

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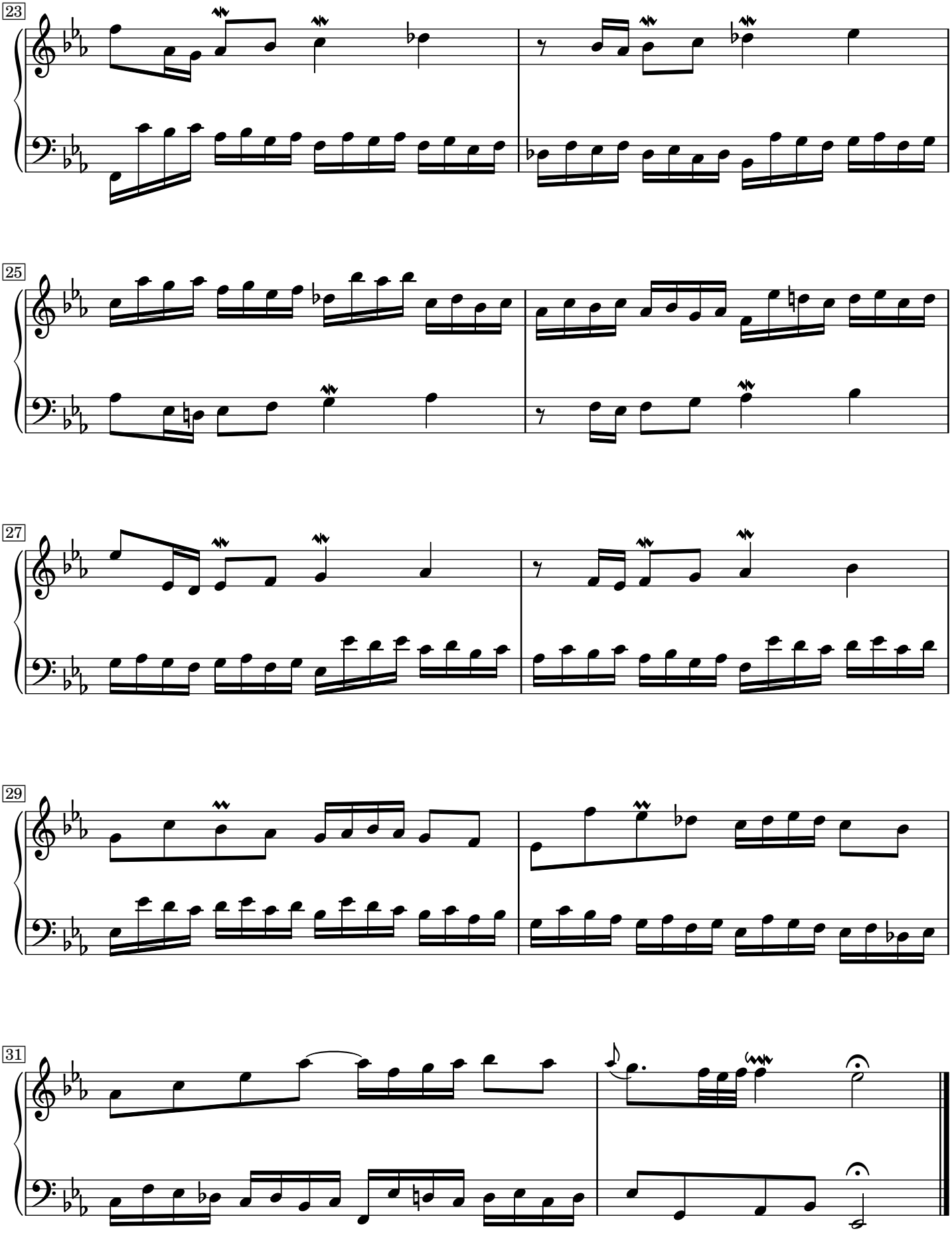
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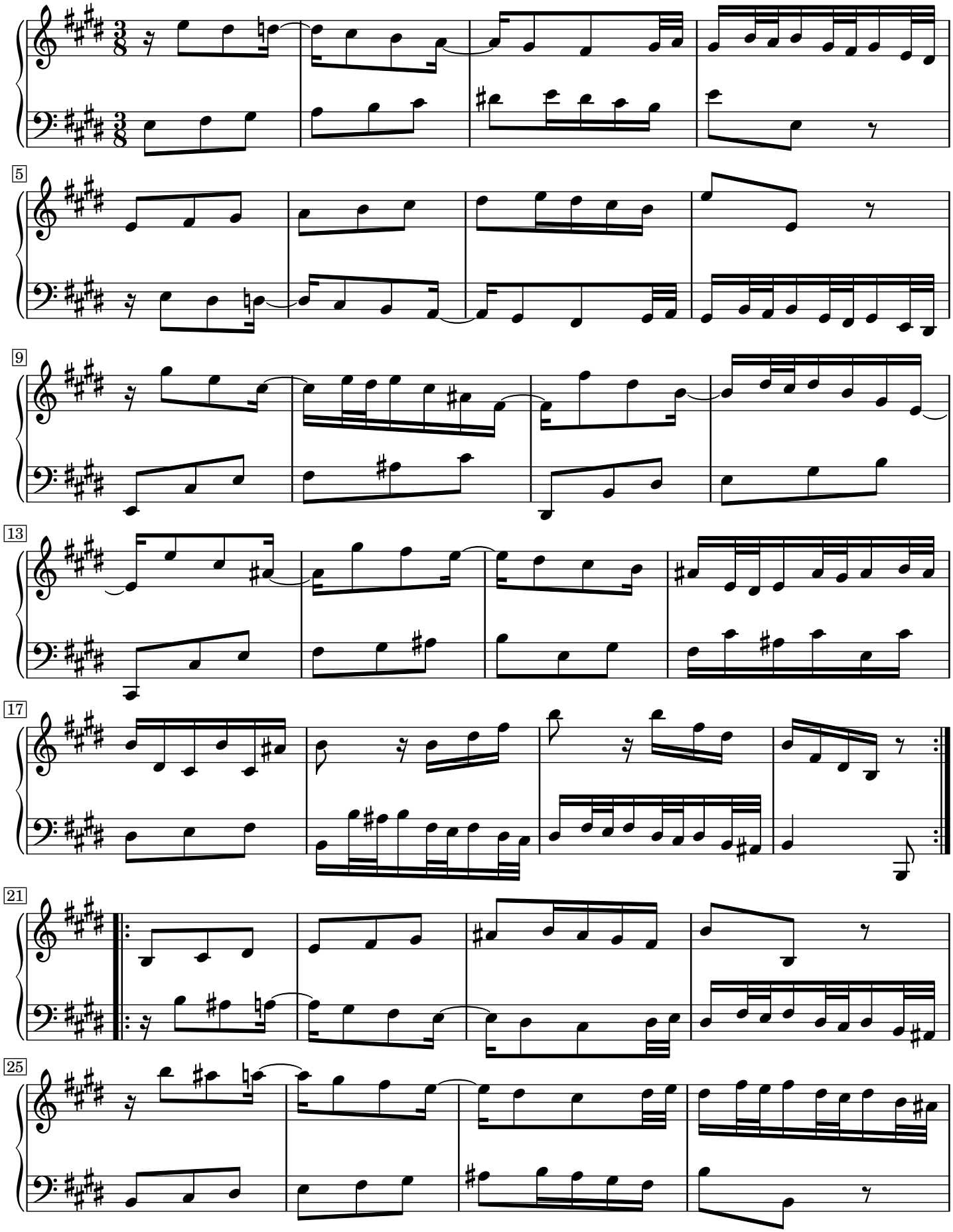
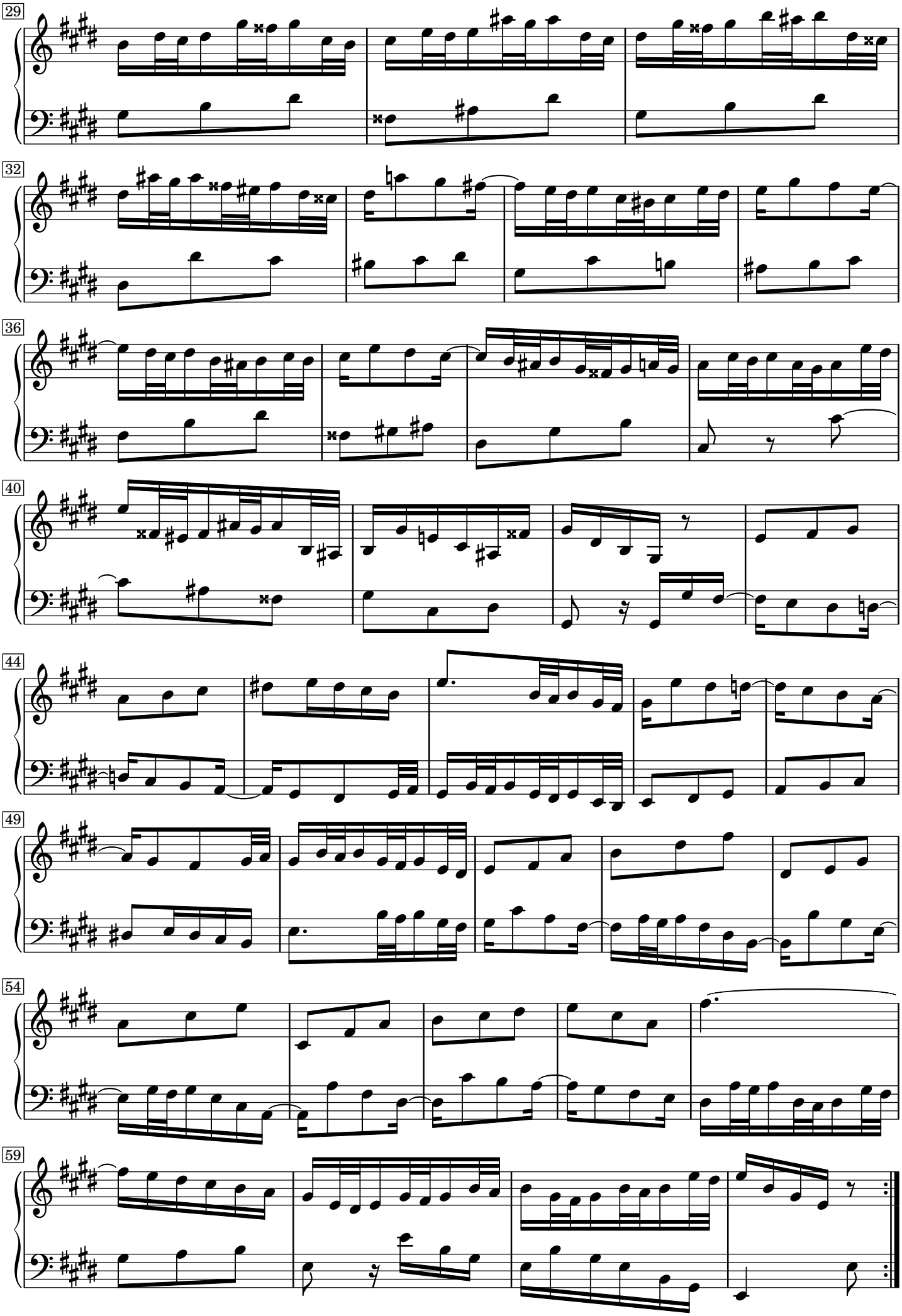
Invention VI · E-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 777

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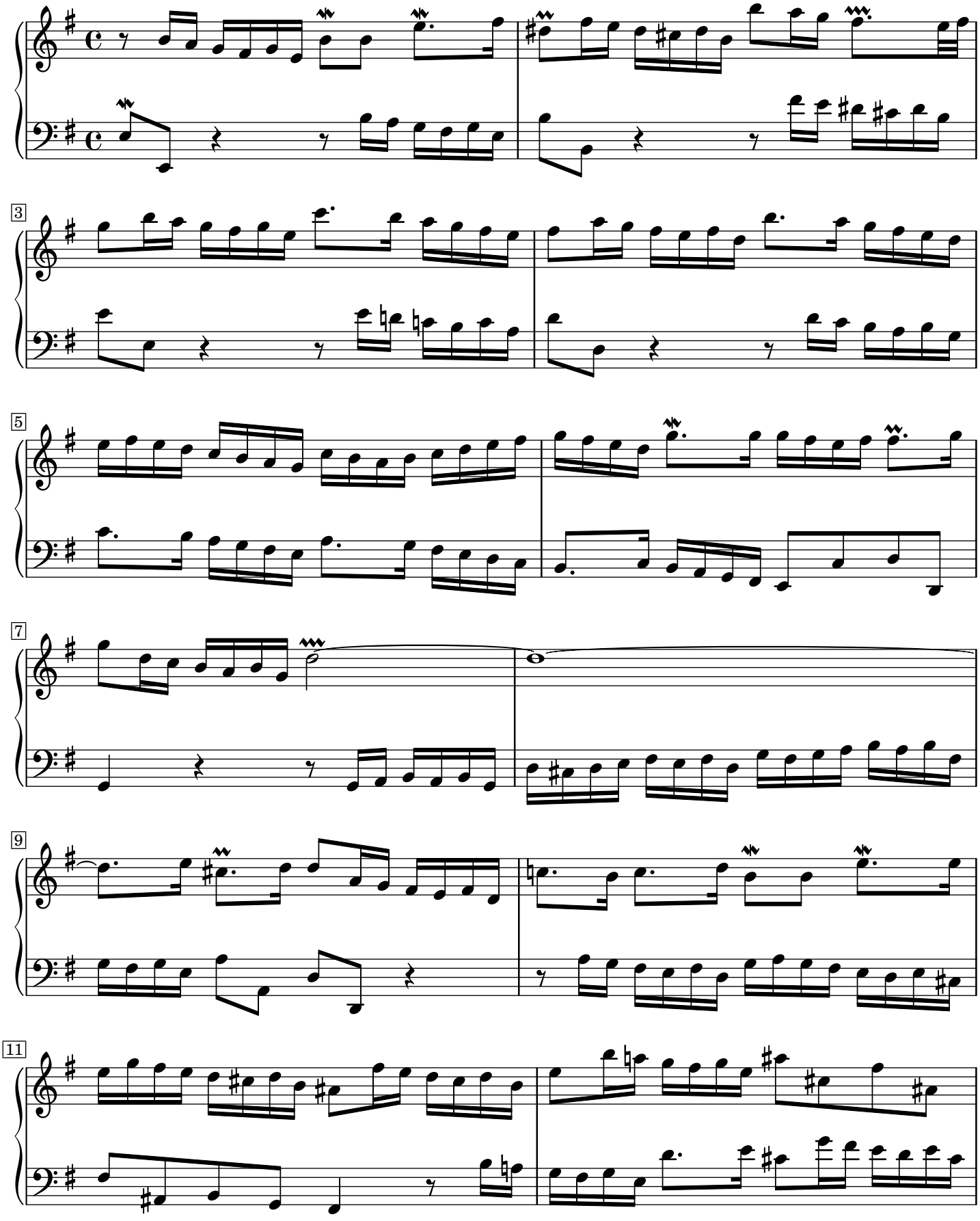
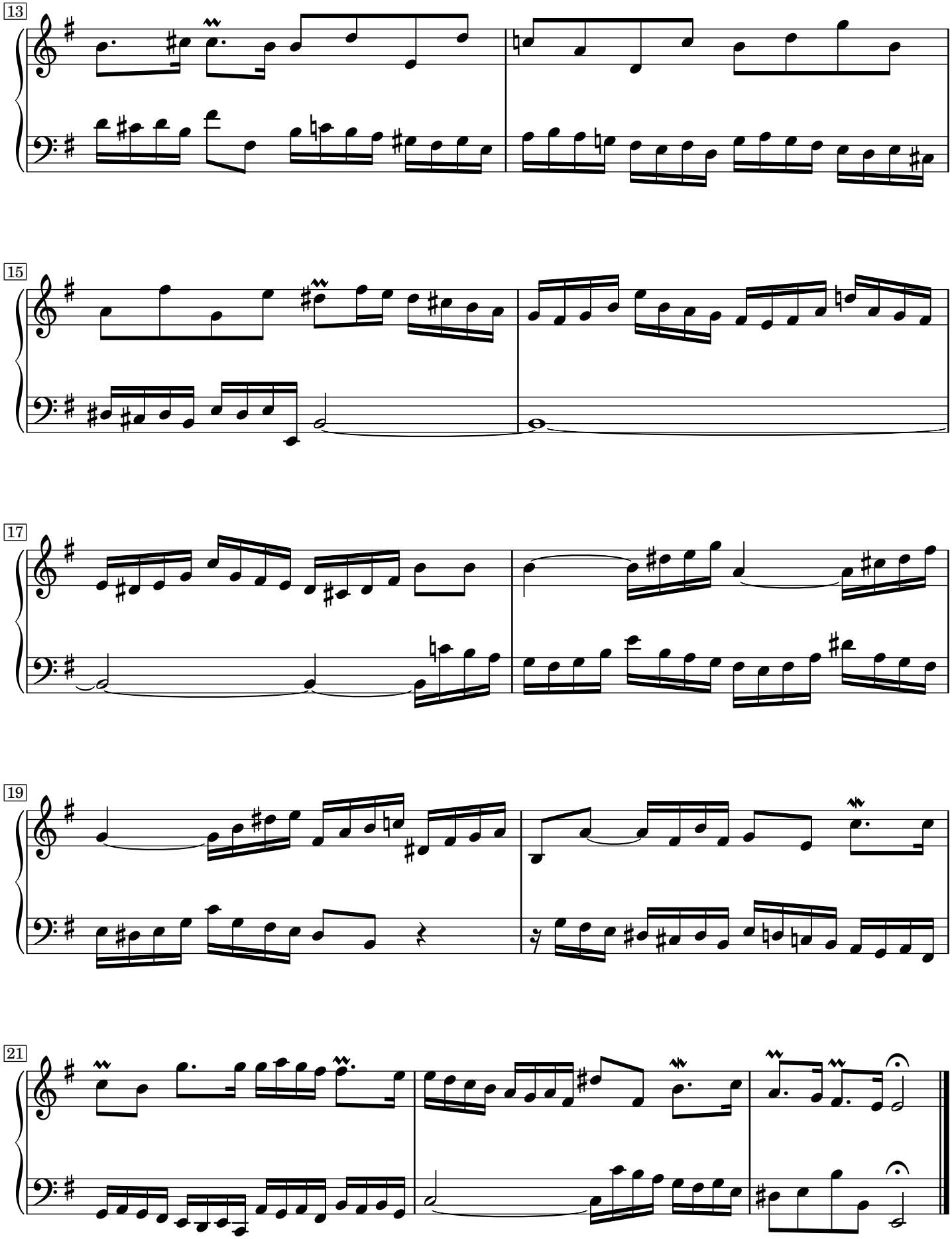
Invention VII · e-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 778

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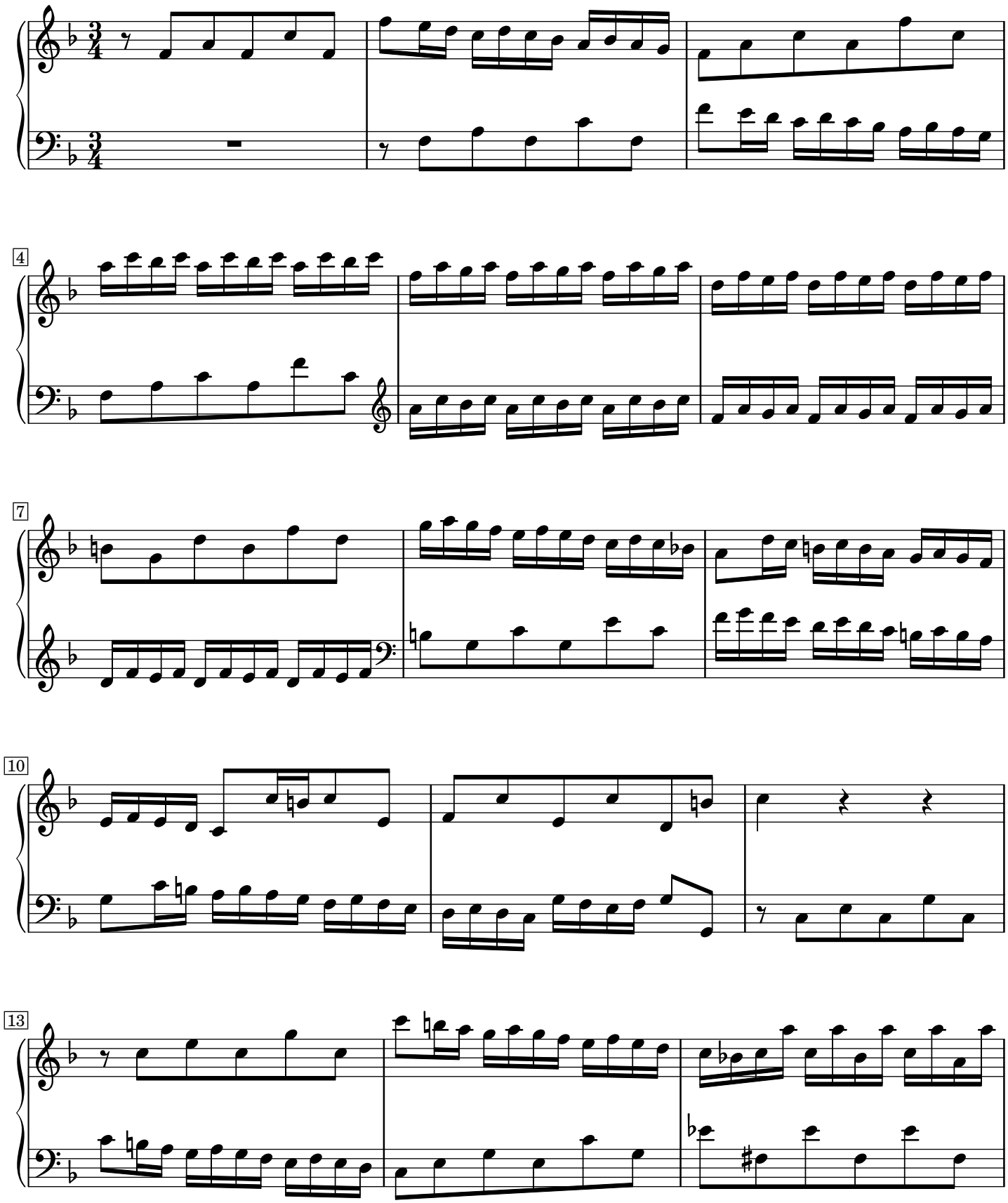
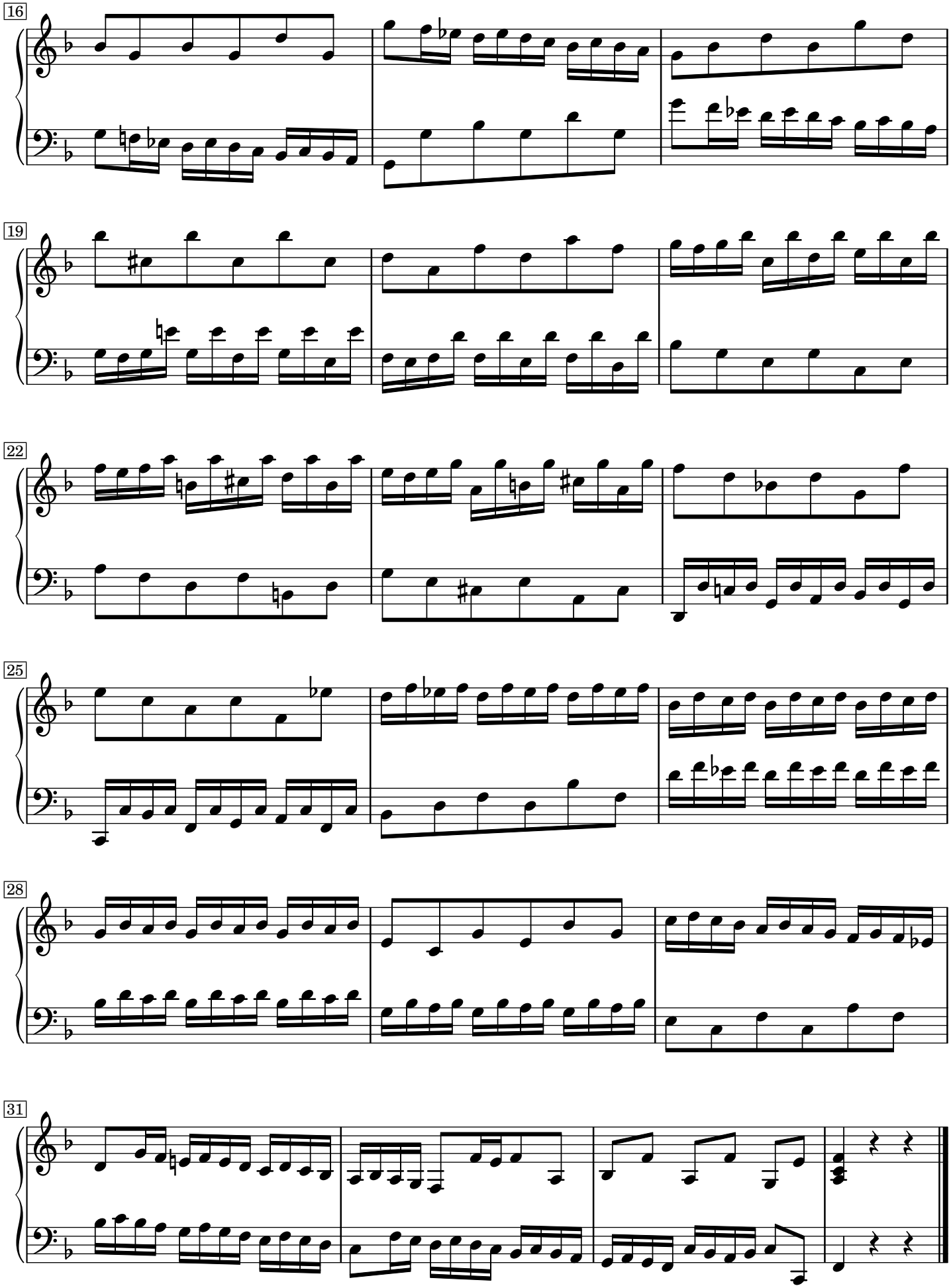
Invention VIII · F-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 779

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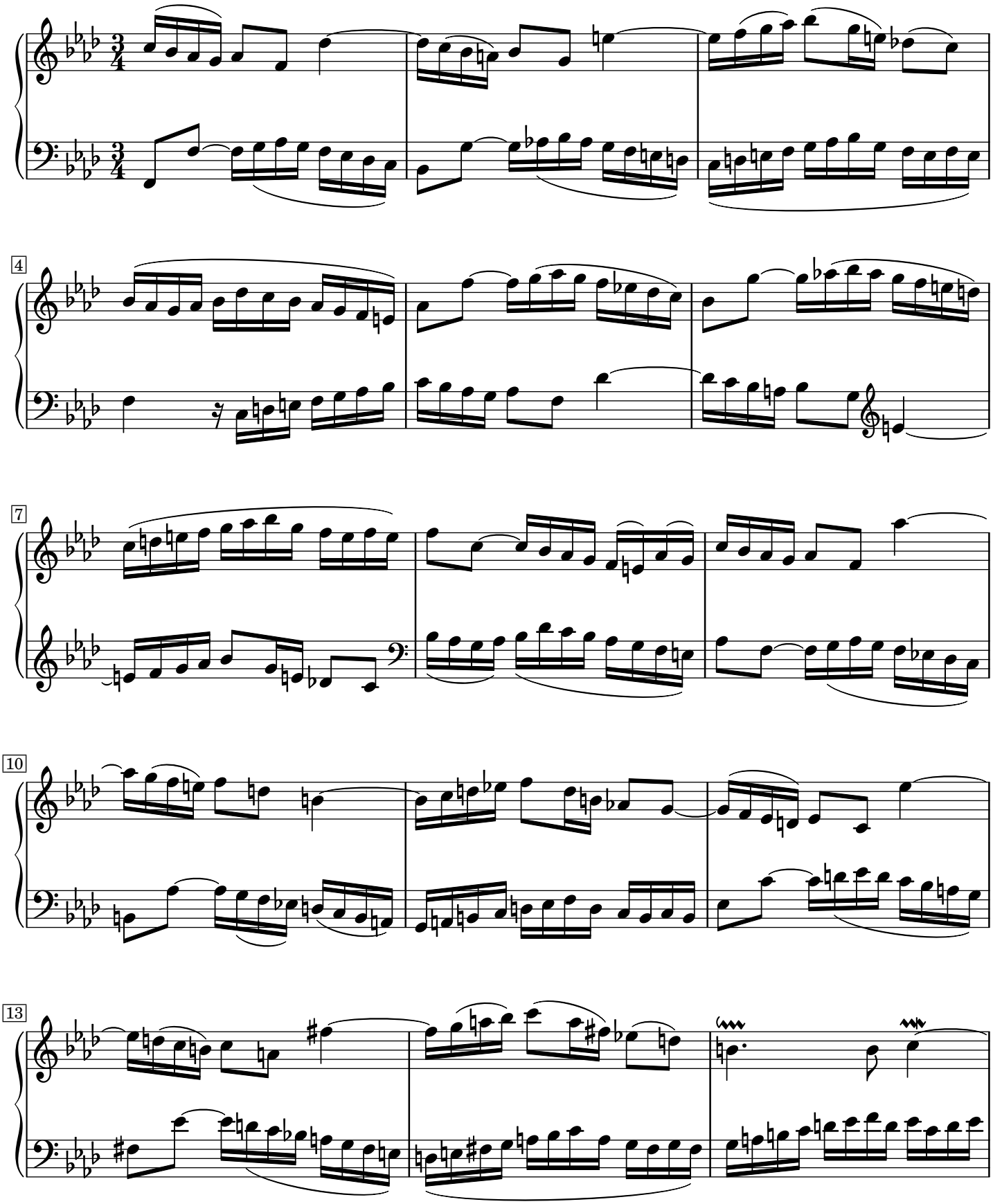
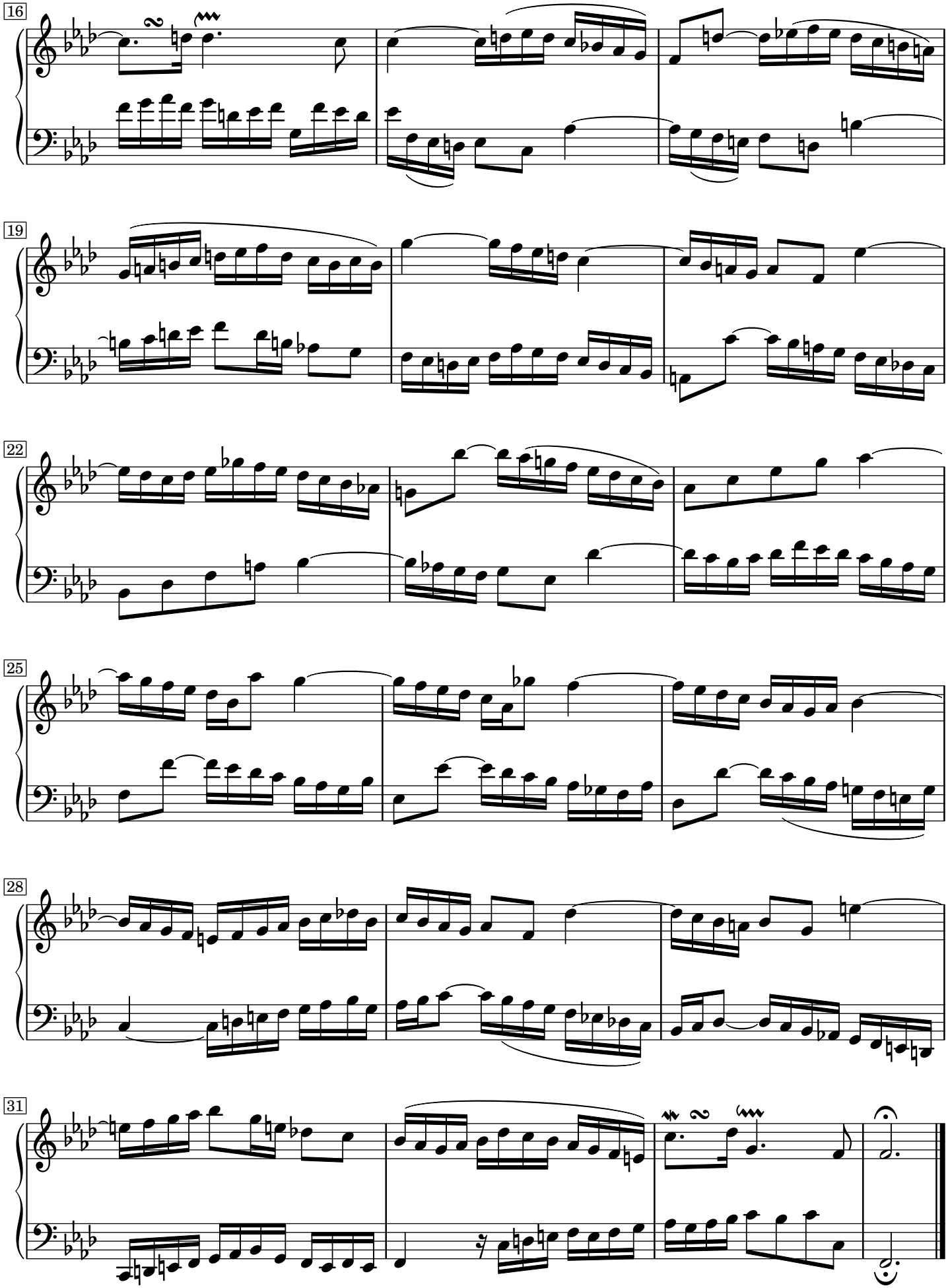
Invention IX · f-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 780

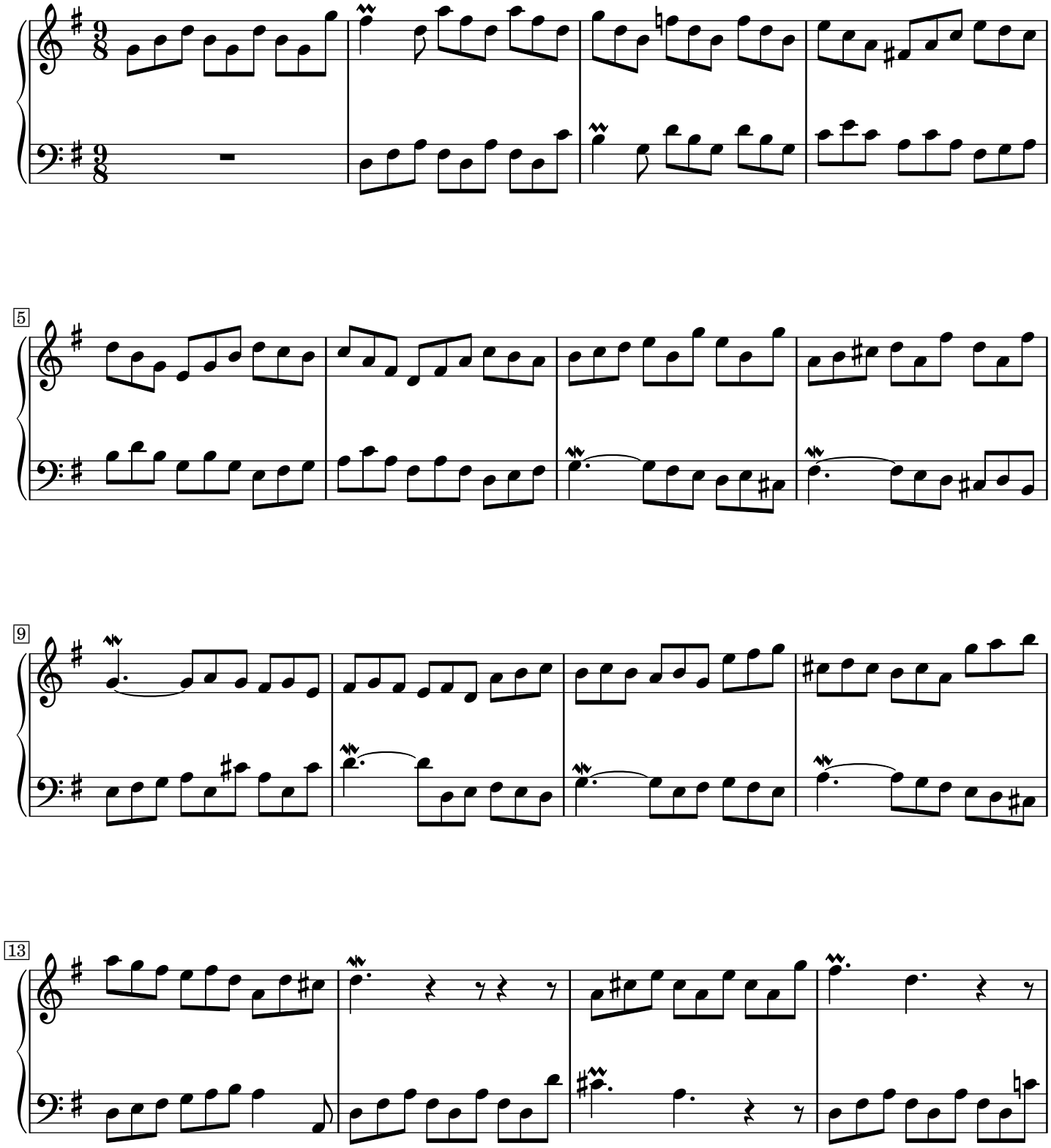


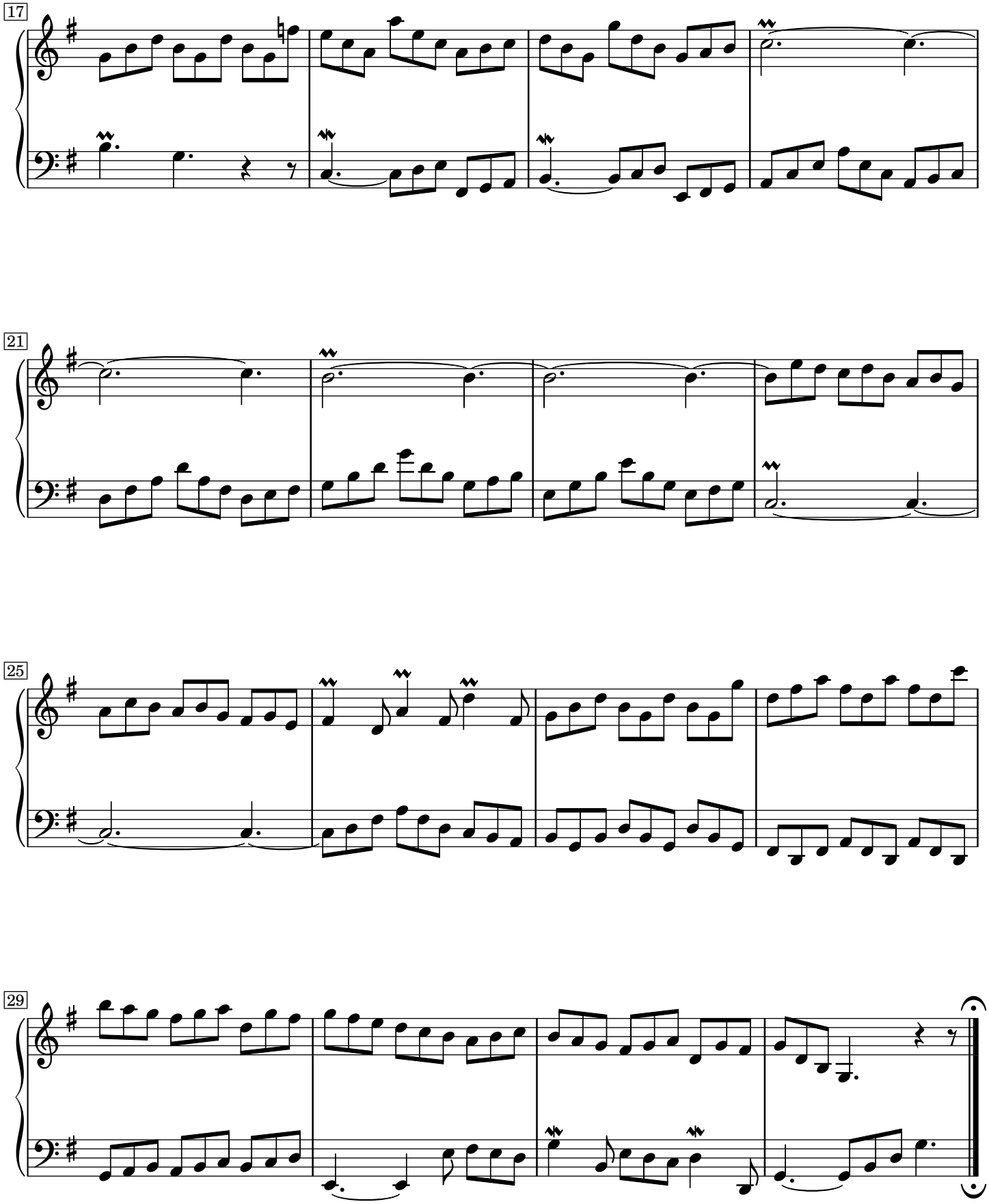


Invention X · G-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 781

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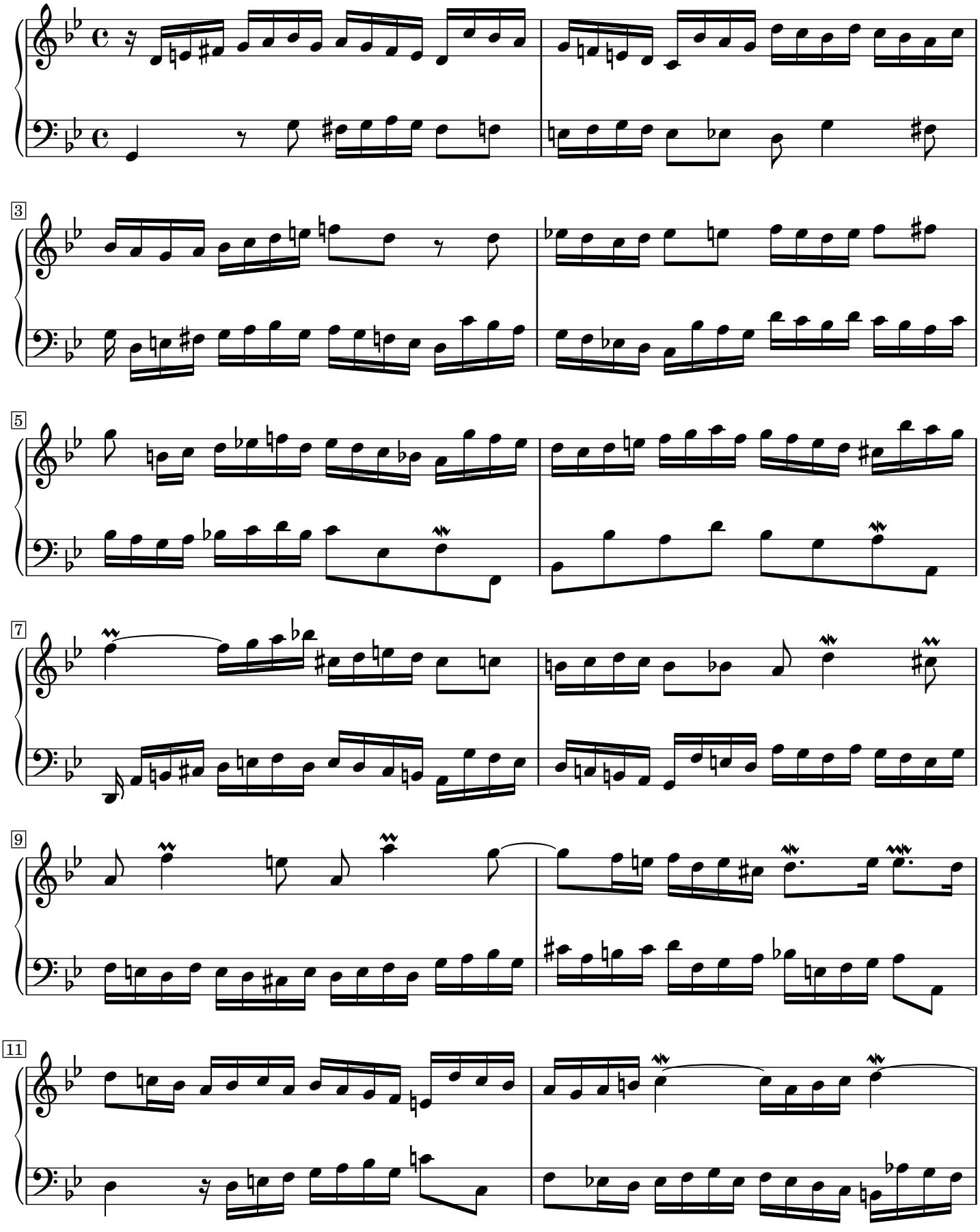
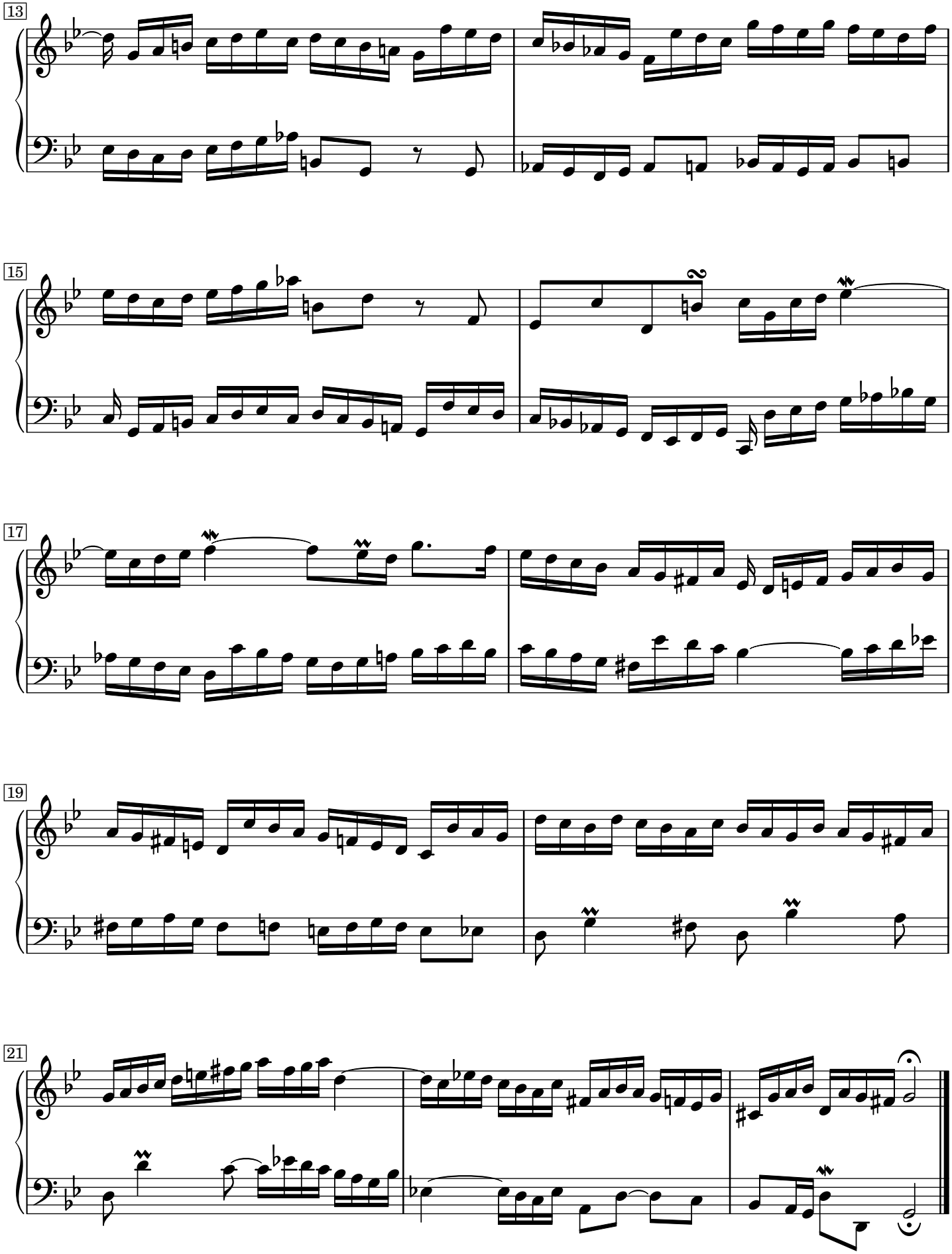
Invention XI · g-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 782

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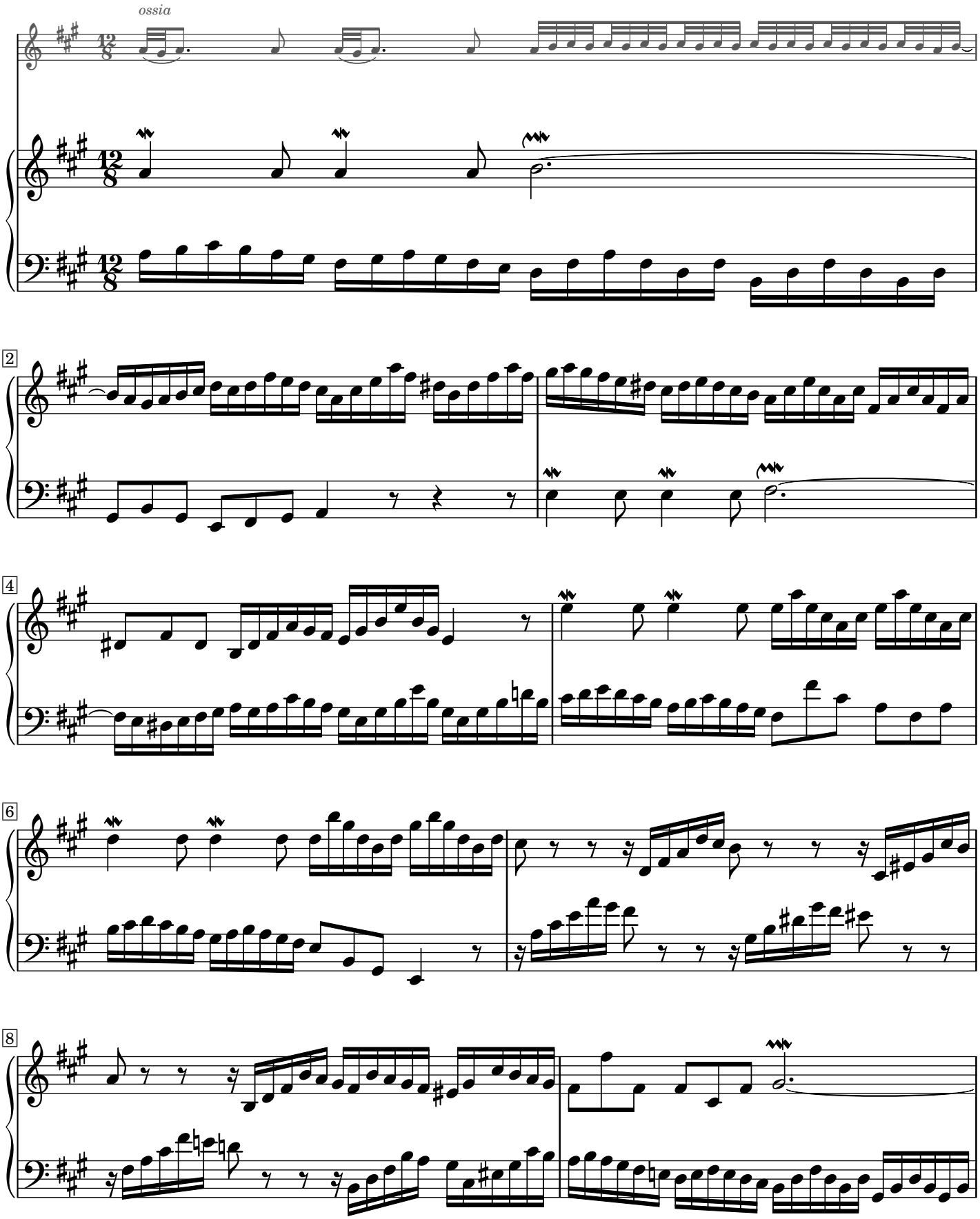
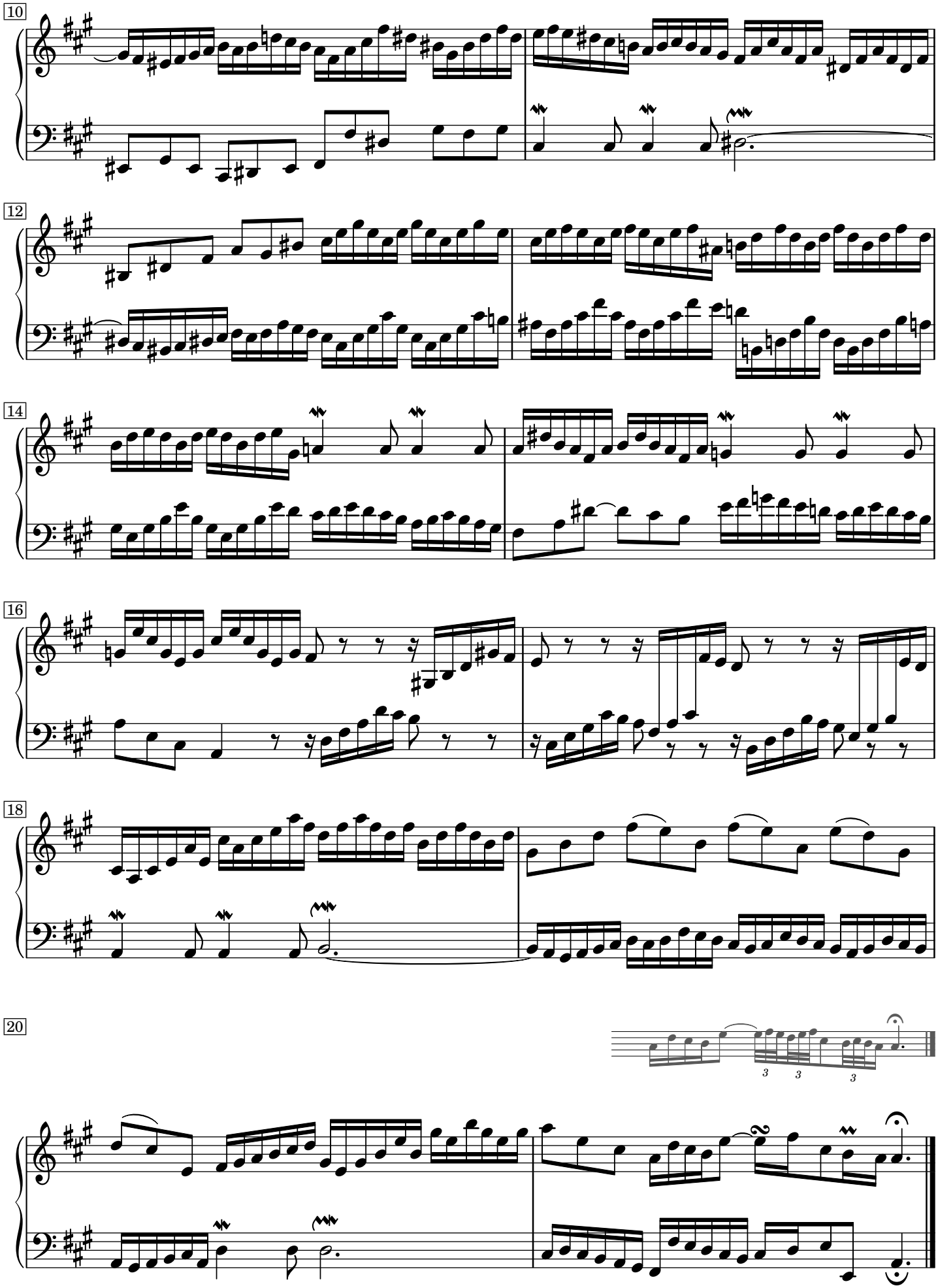
Invention XII · A-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 783

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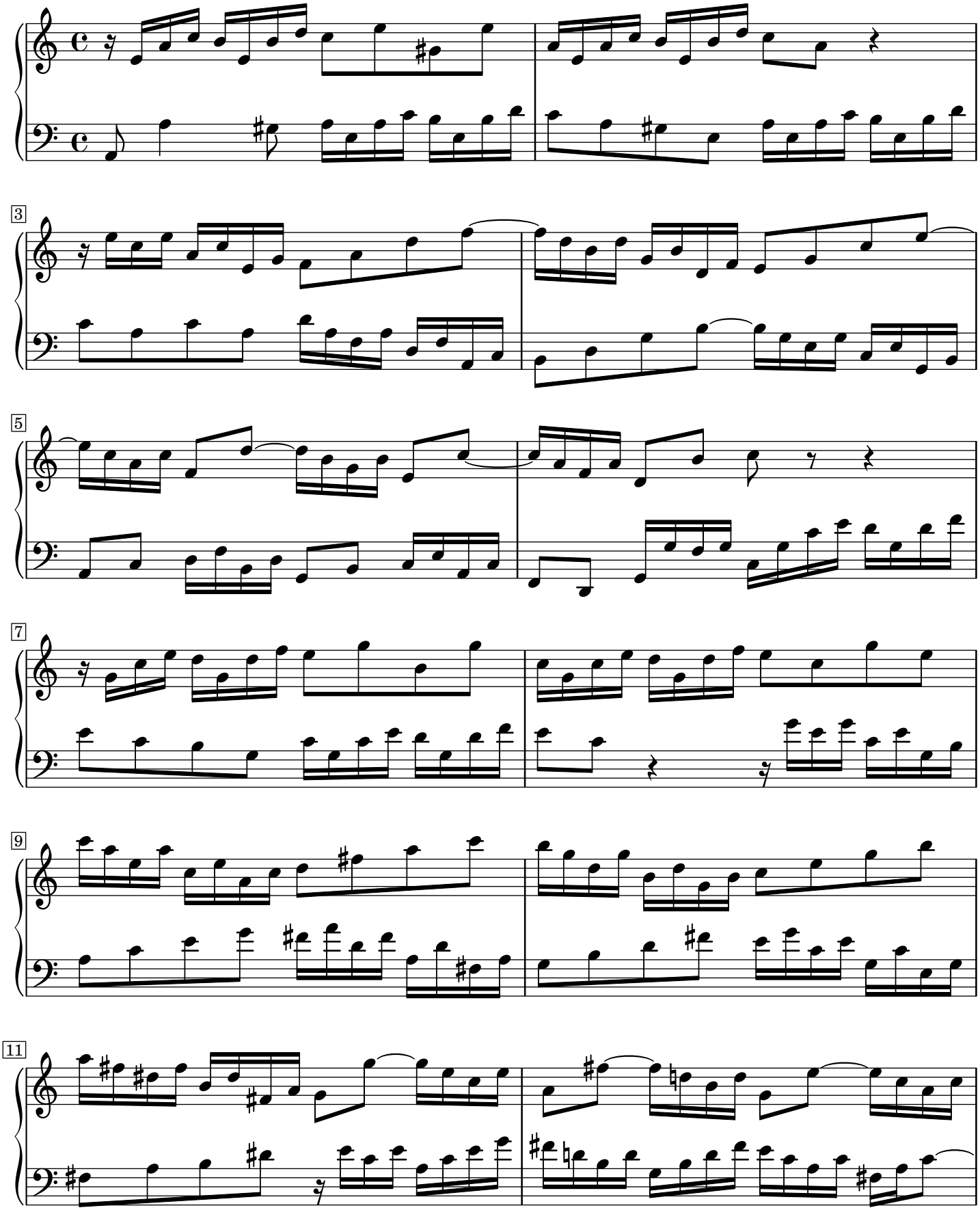
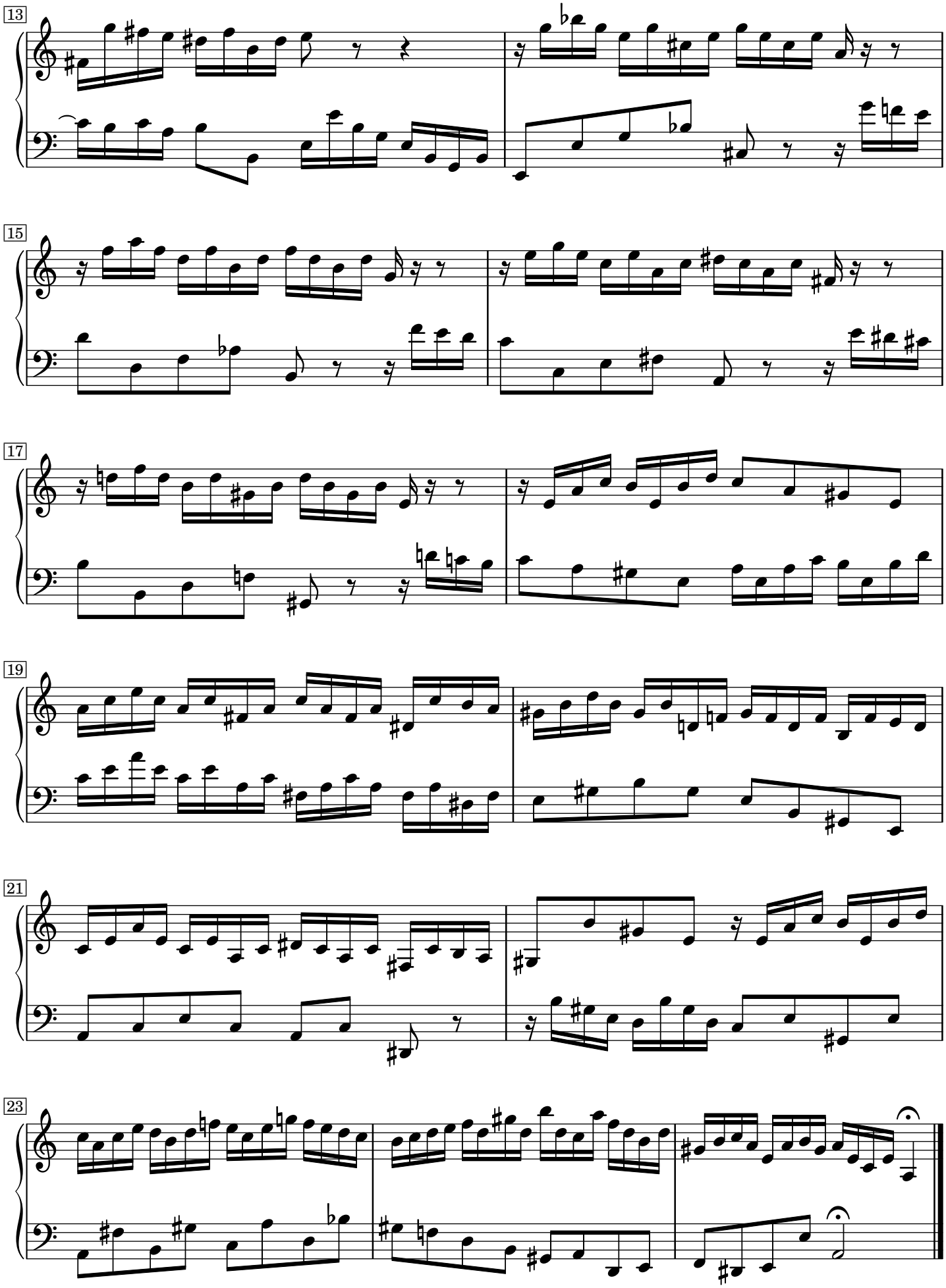
Invention XIII · a-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 784

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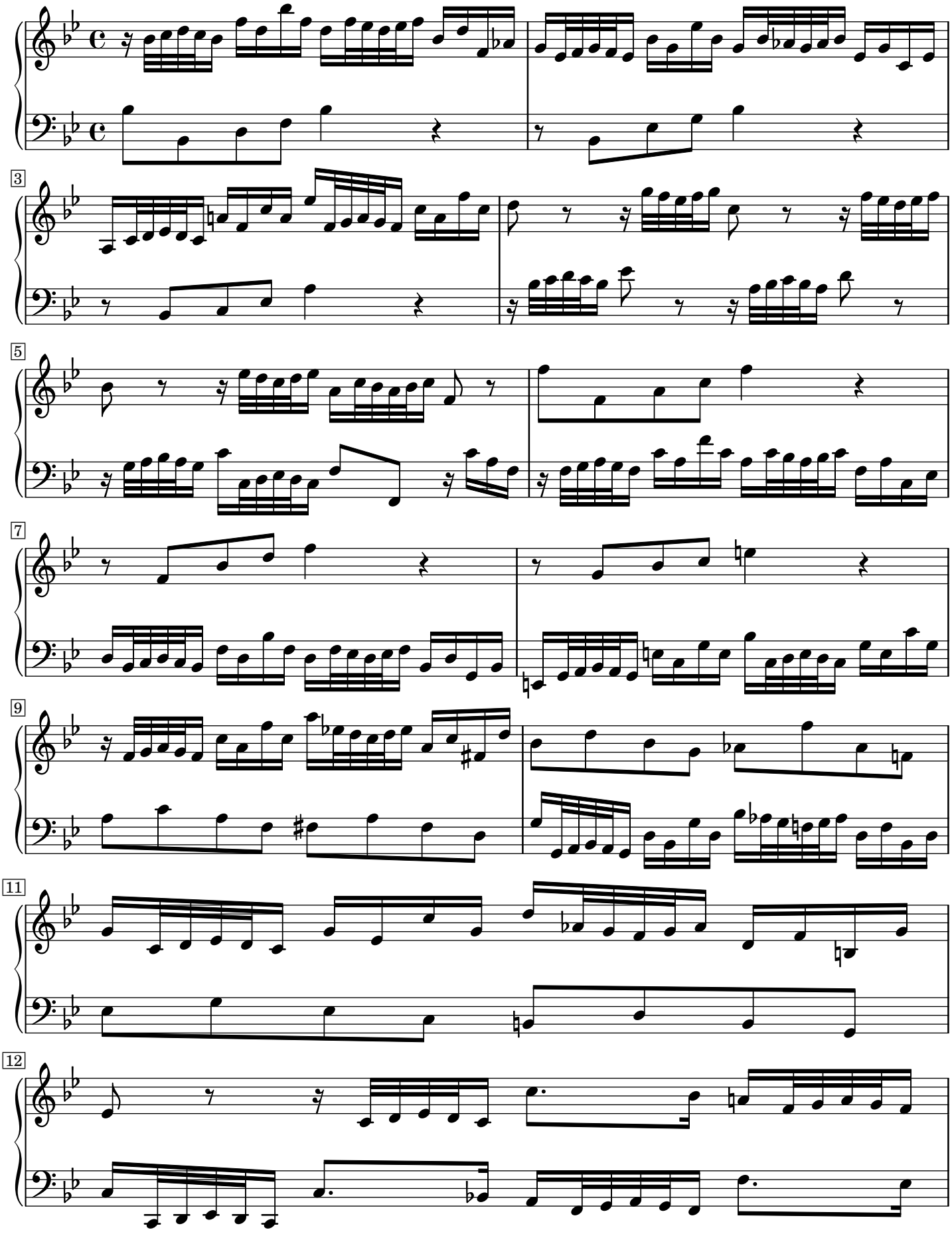
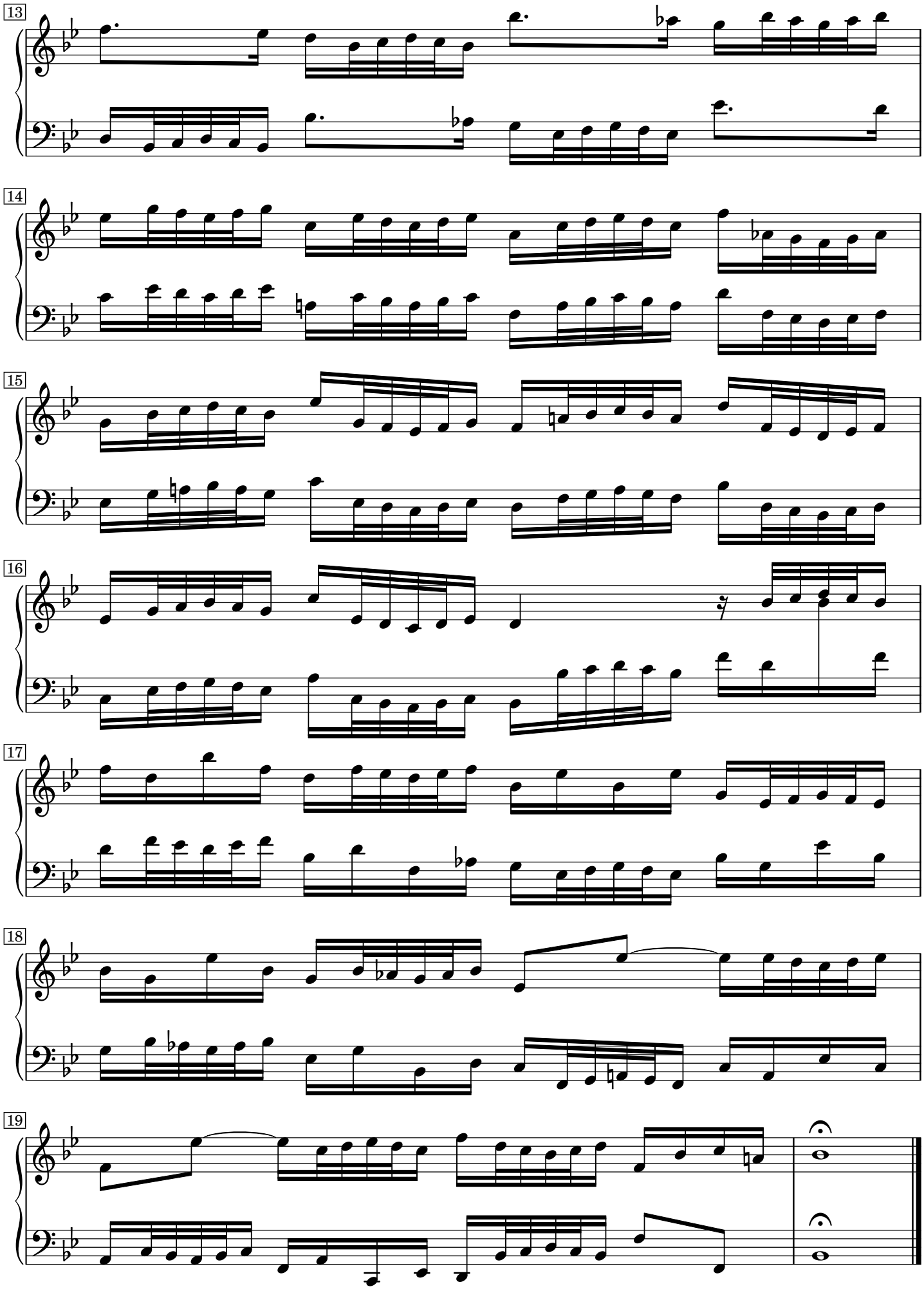
Invention XIV · B-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 785

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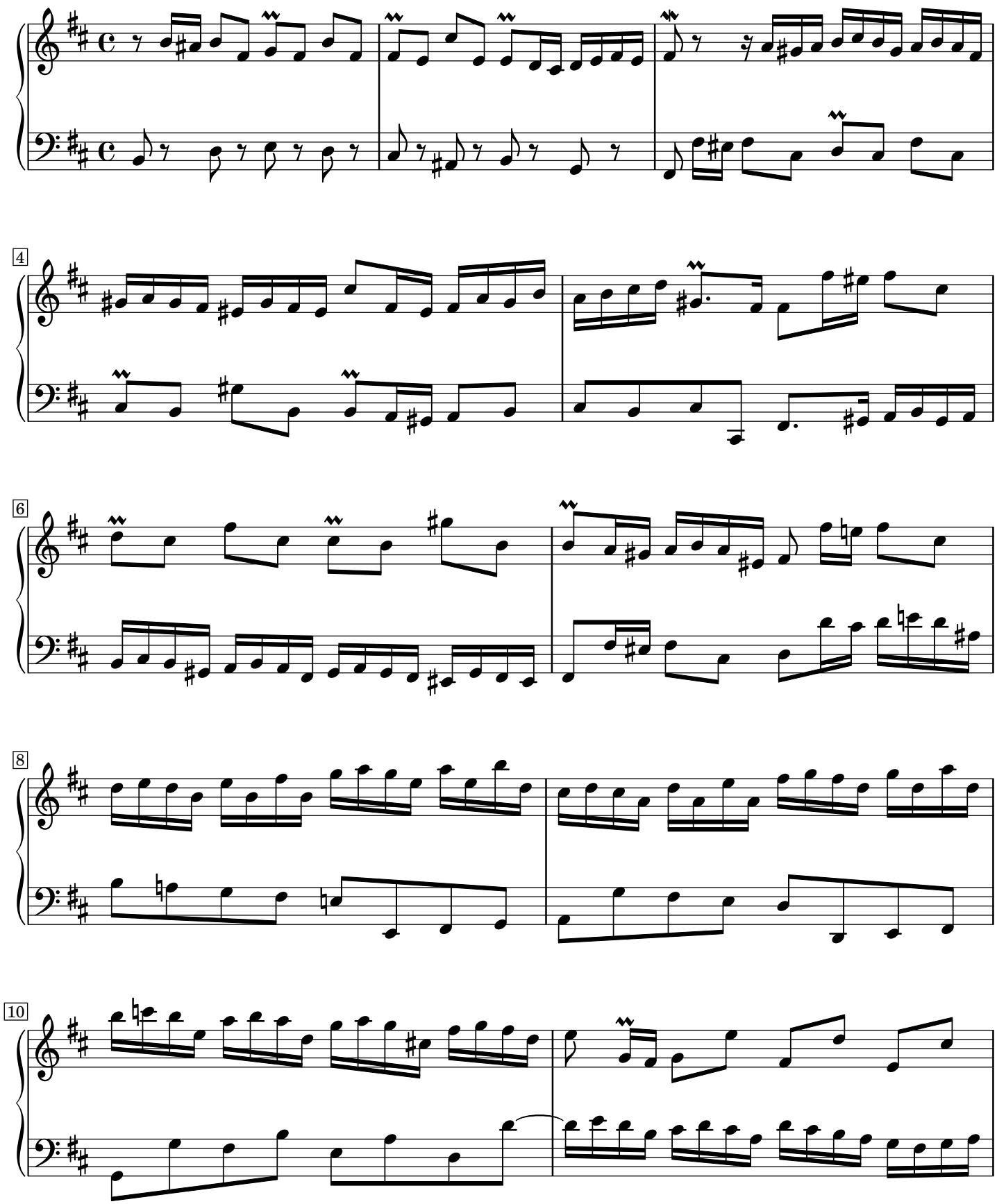
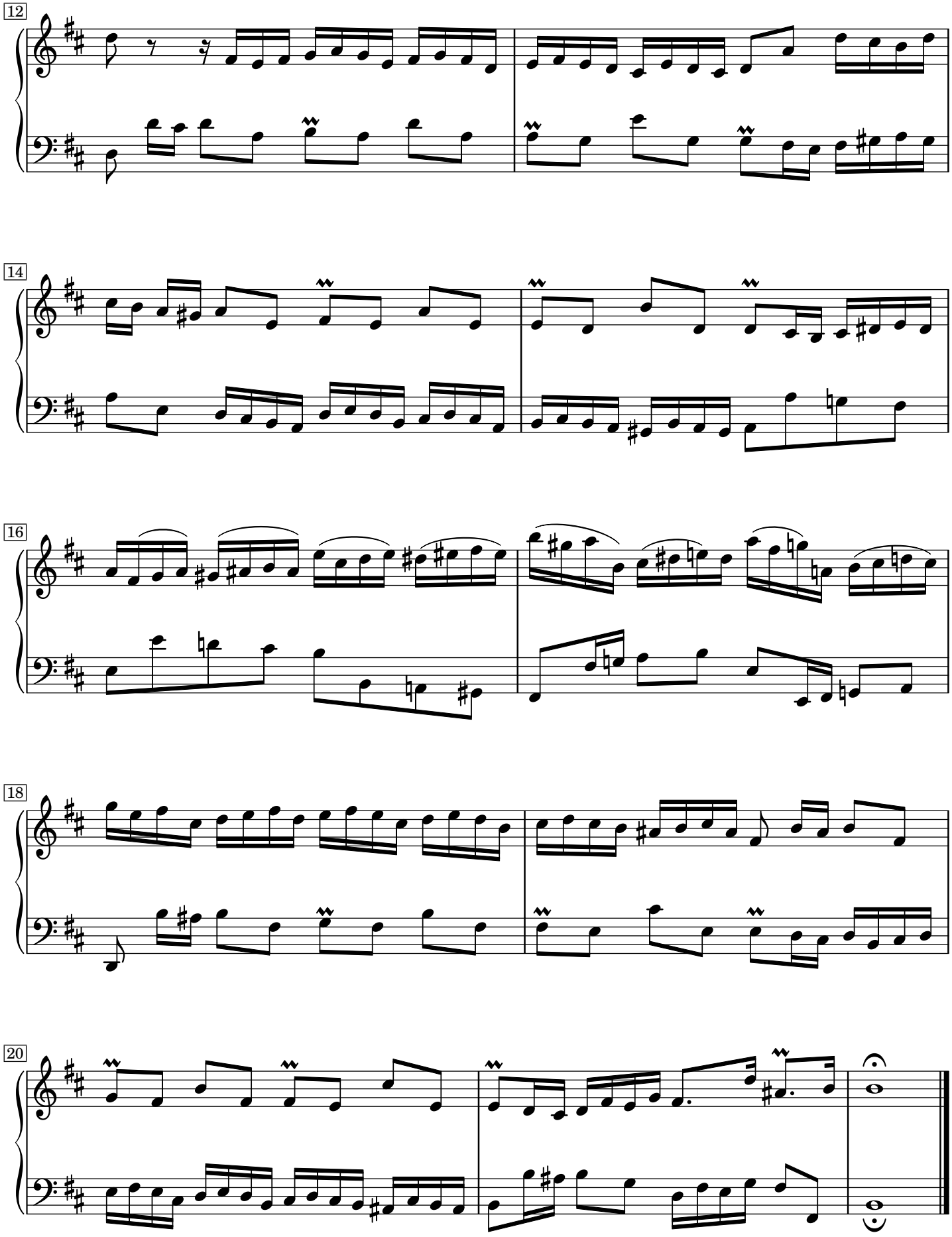
Invention XV · h-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 786

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Sinfonien

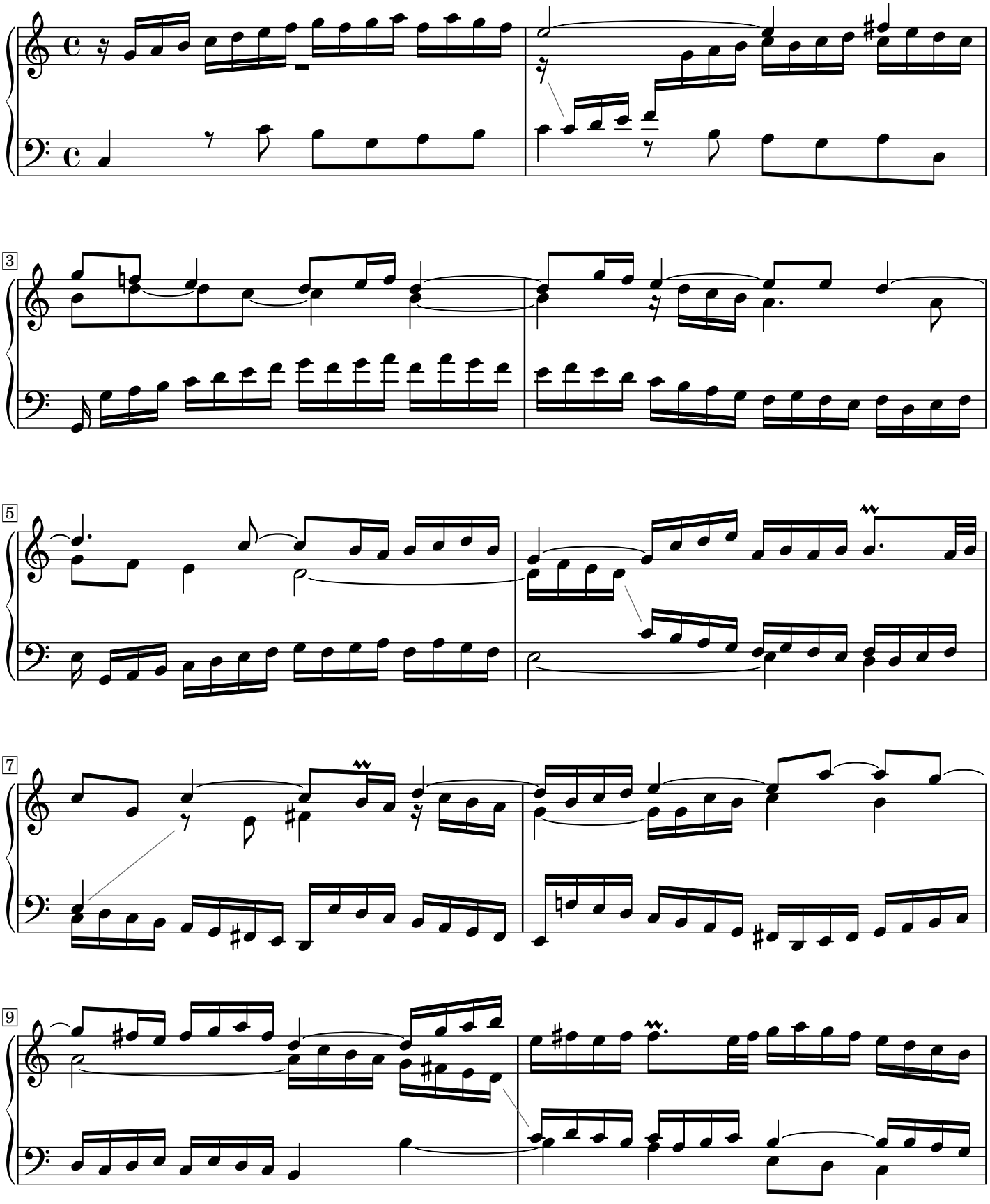
(Three-Part Inventions)

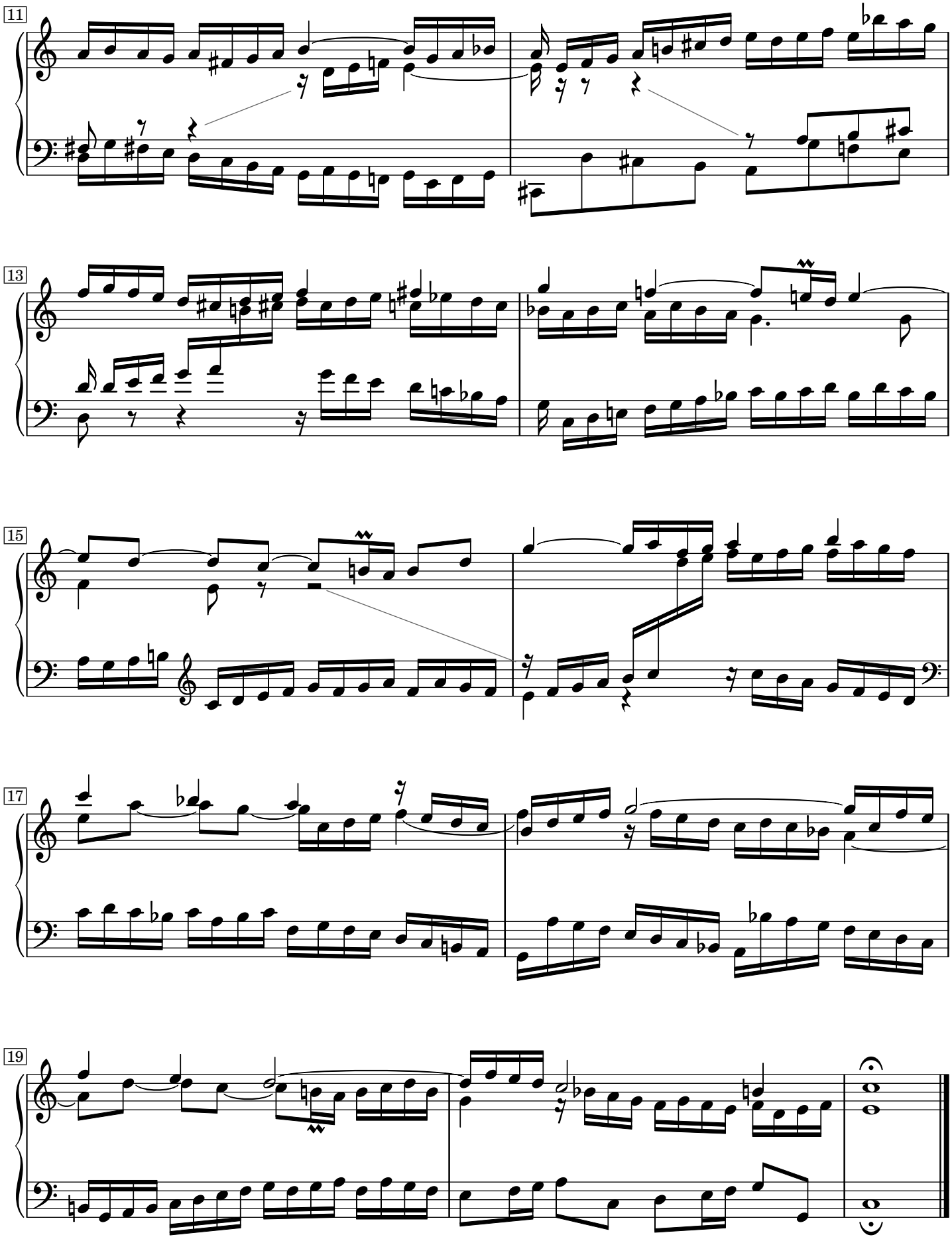
BWV 787 – 801

Sinfonia I · C-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 787




11
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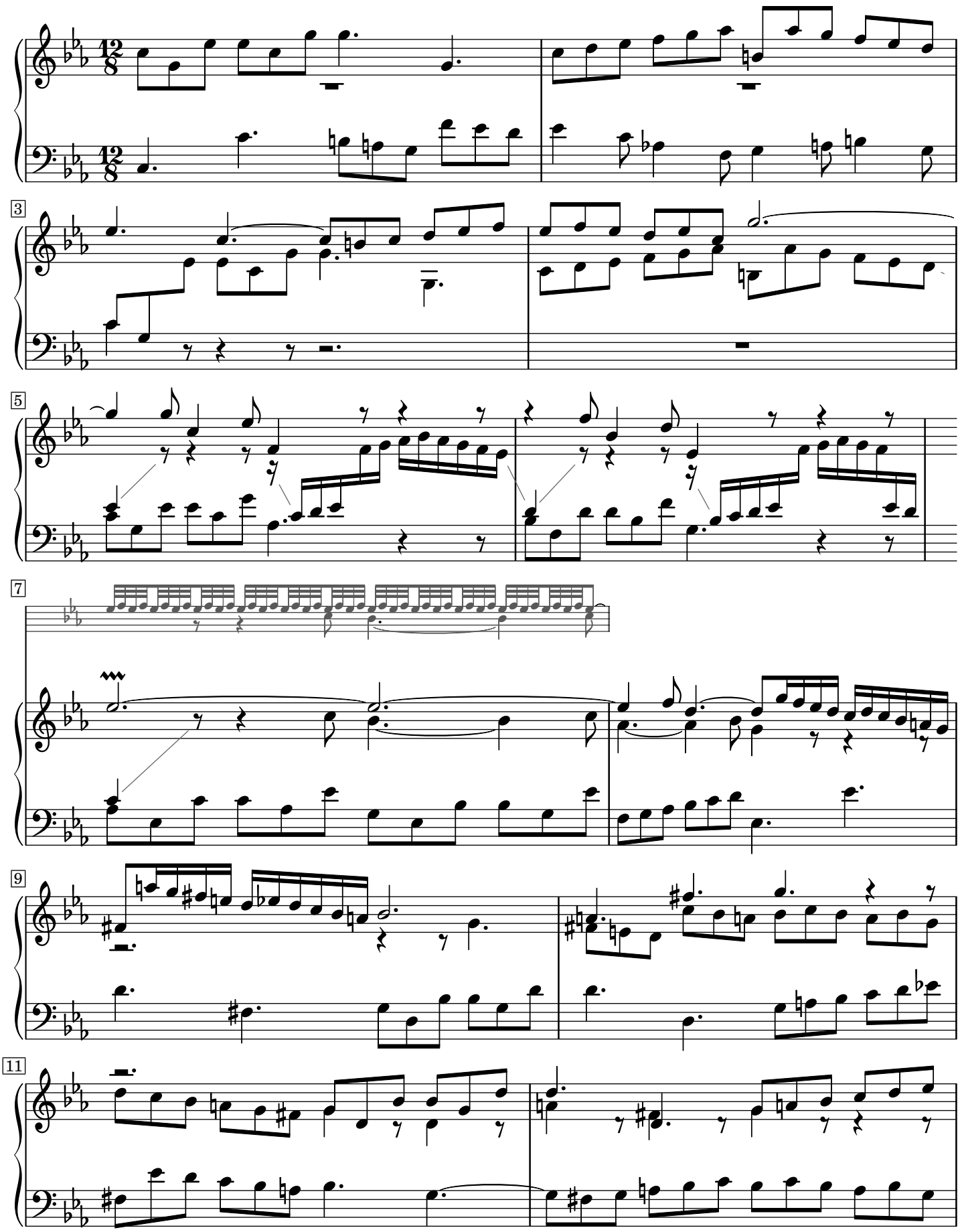
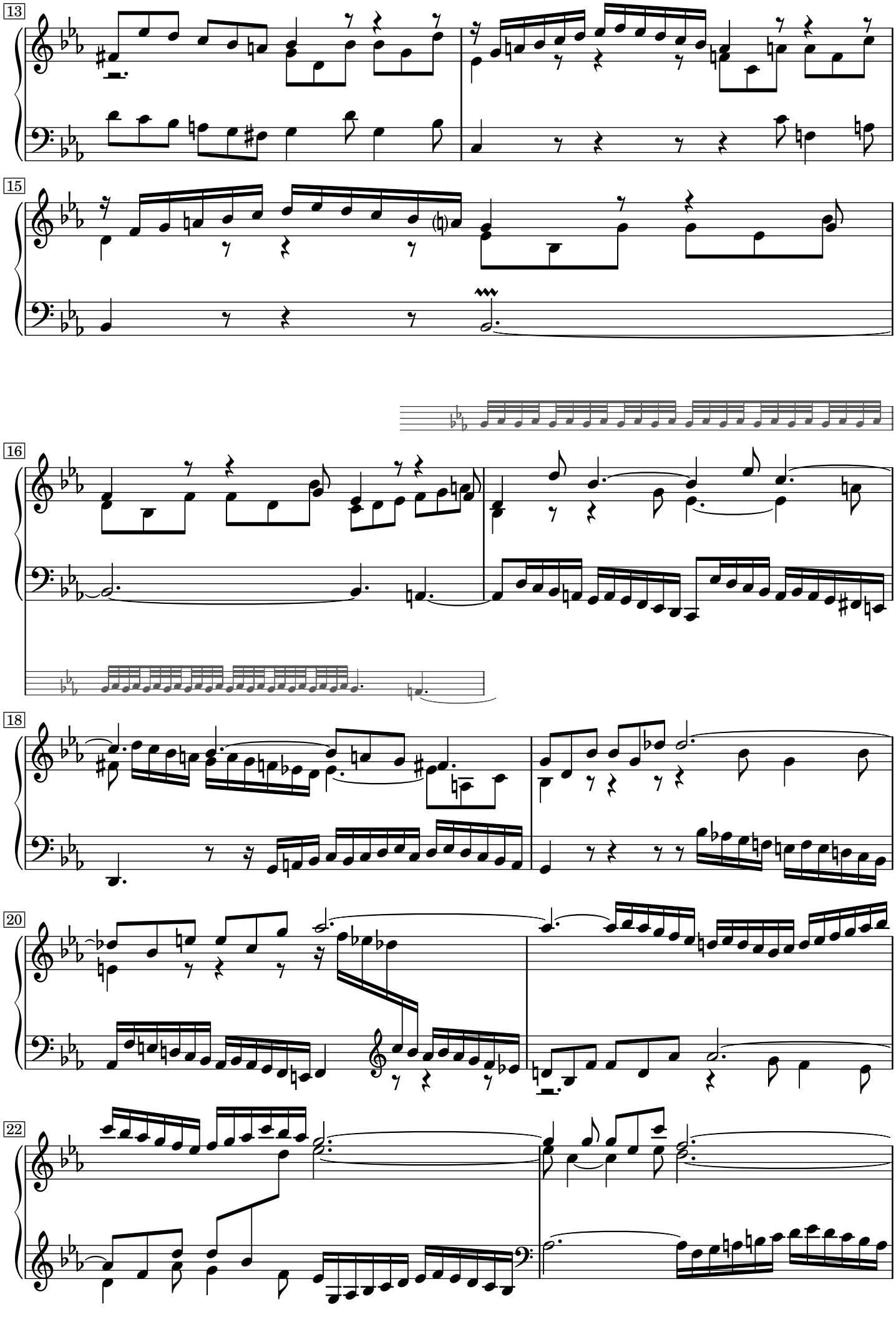
Sinfonia II · c-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 788

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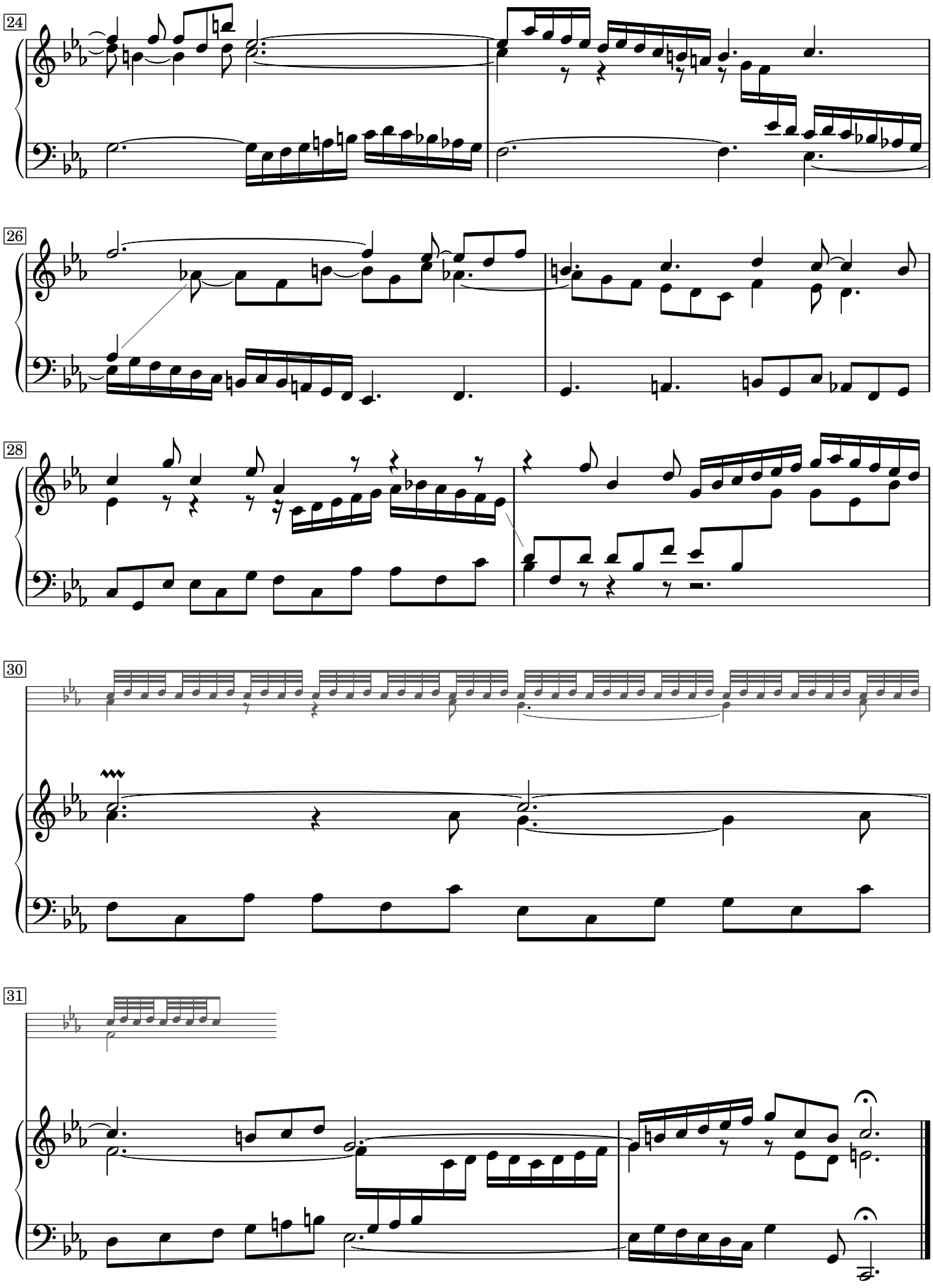
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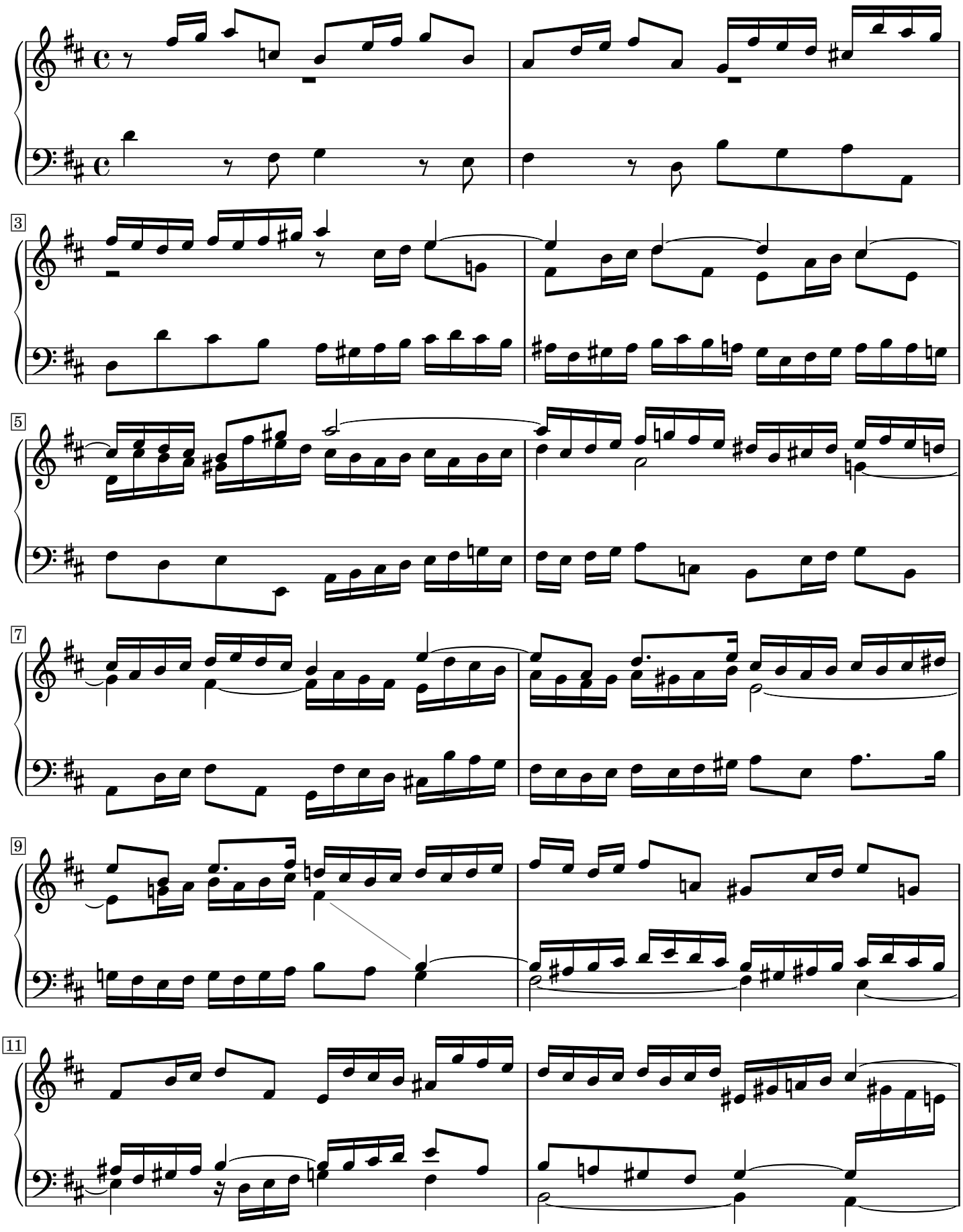
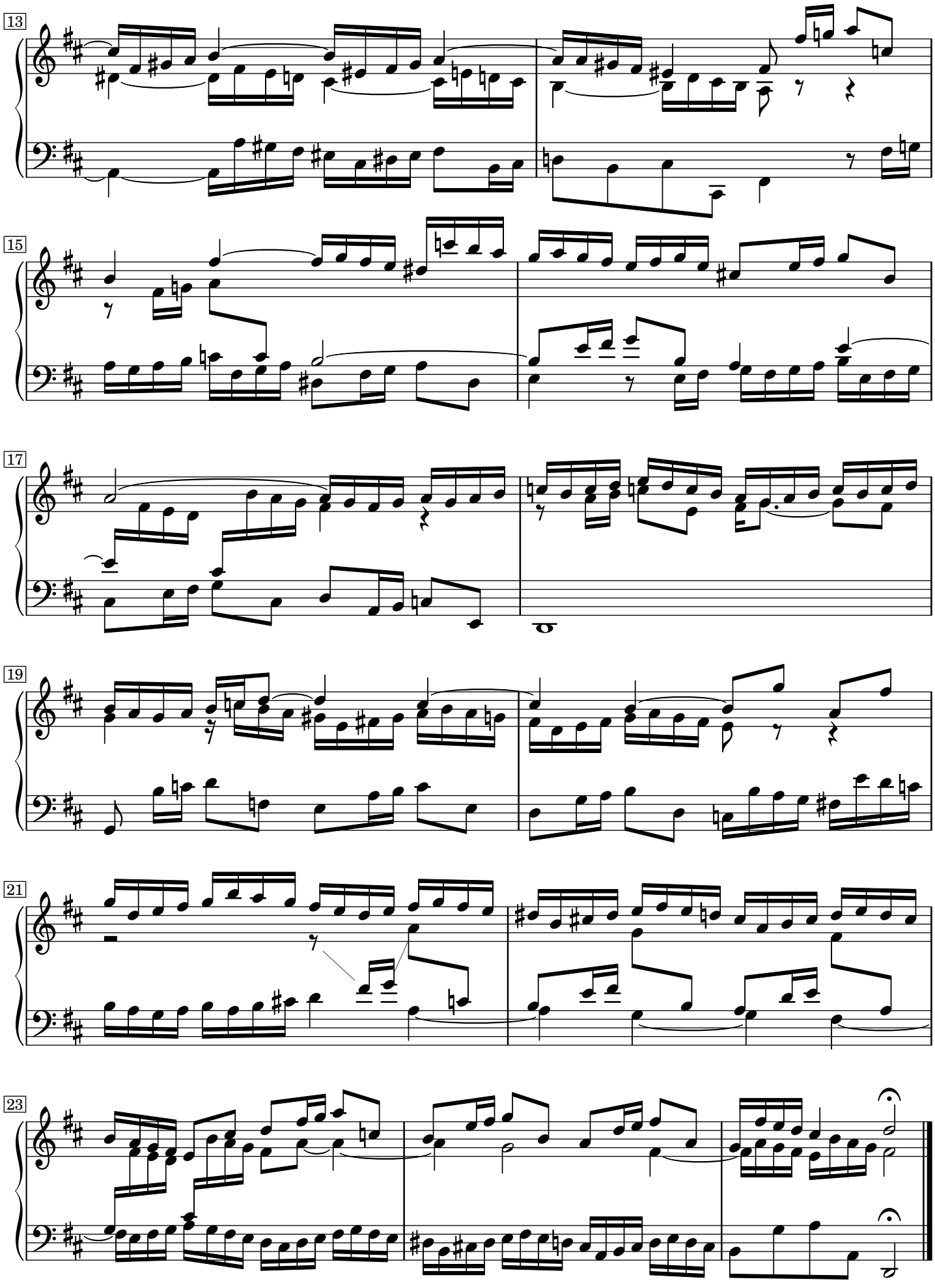
Sinfonia III · D-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 789

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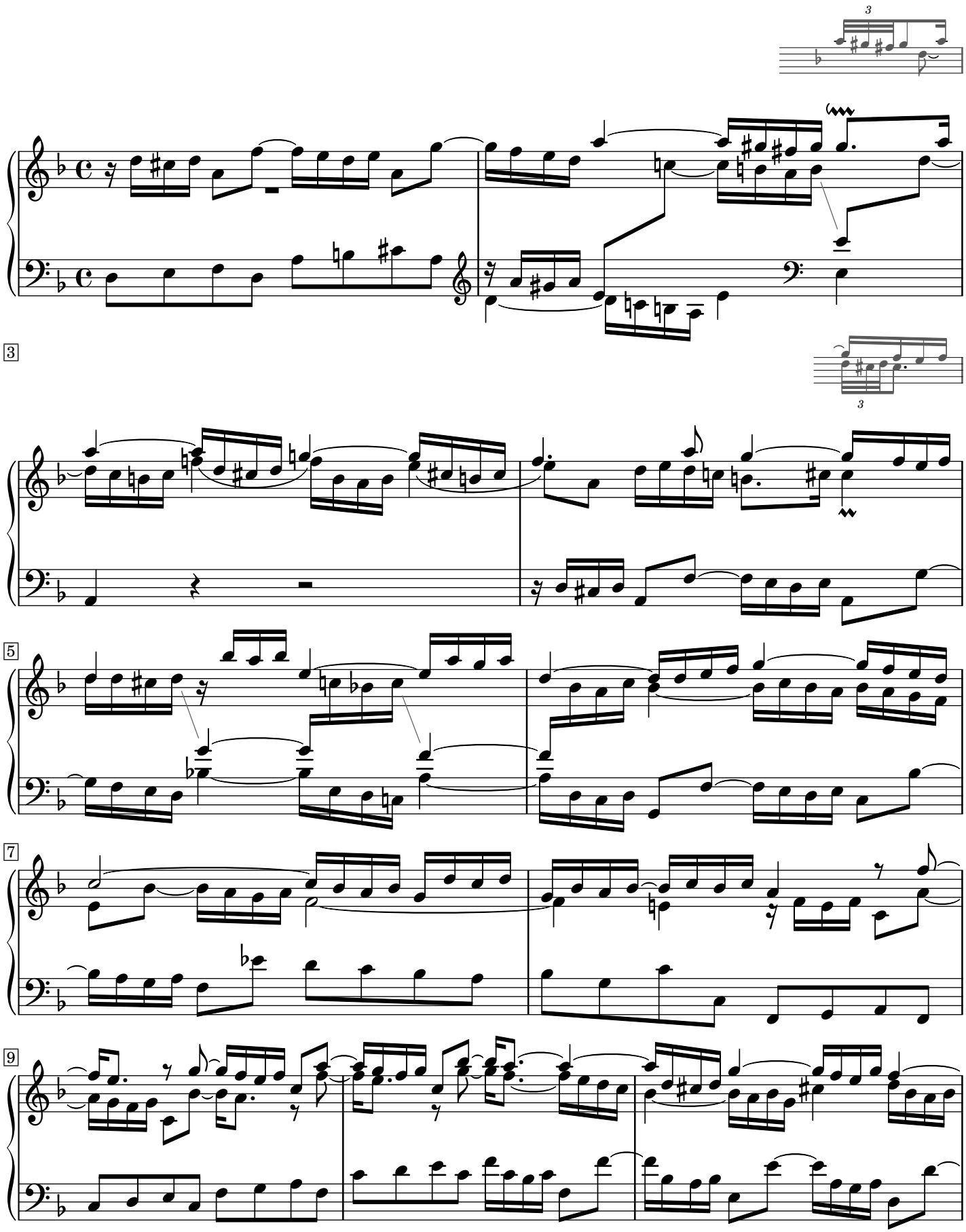
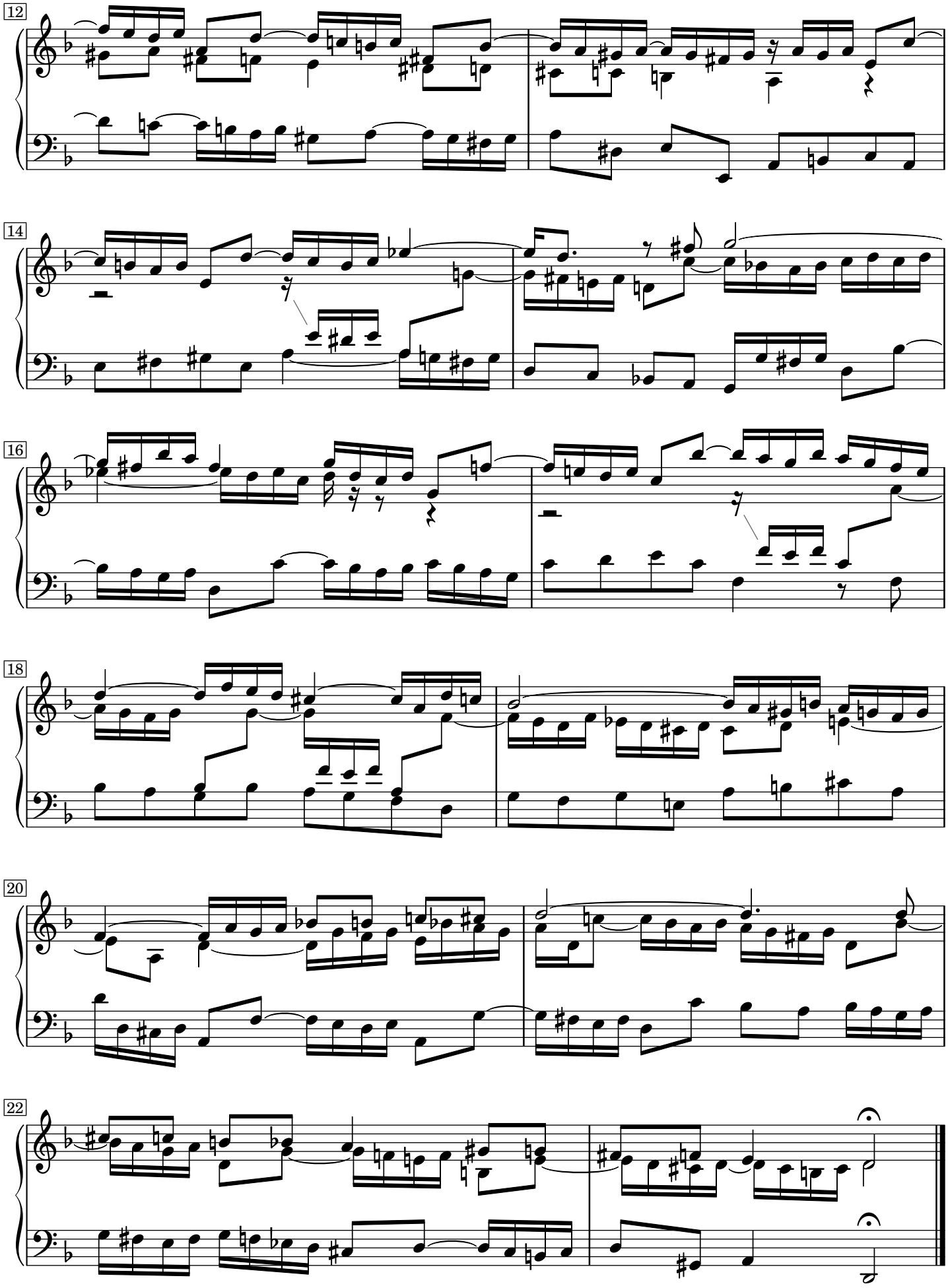
Sinfonia IV · d-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach
BWV 790

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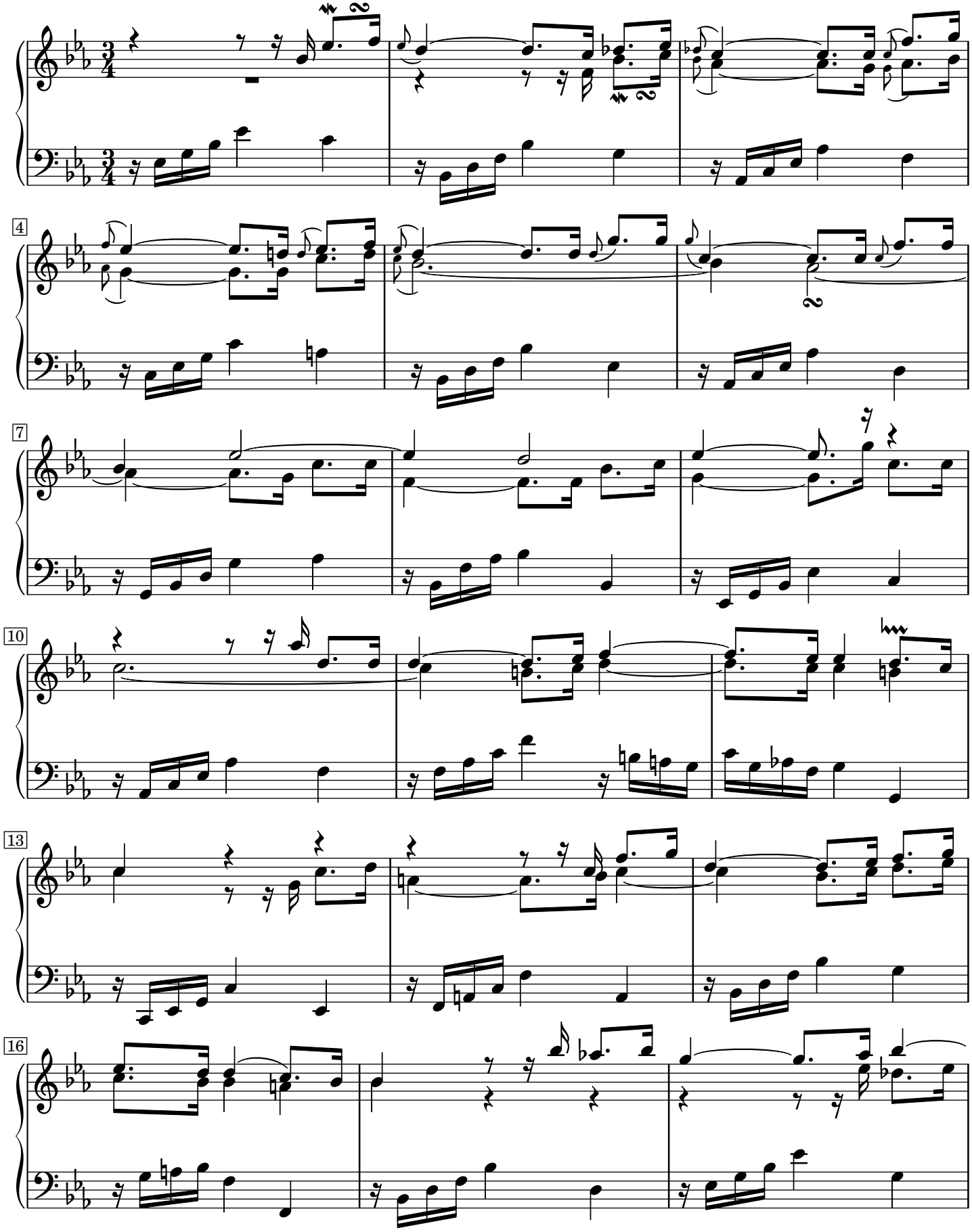
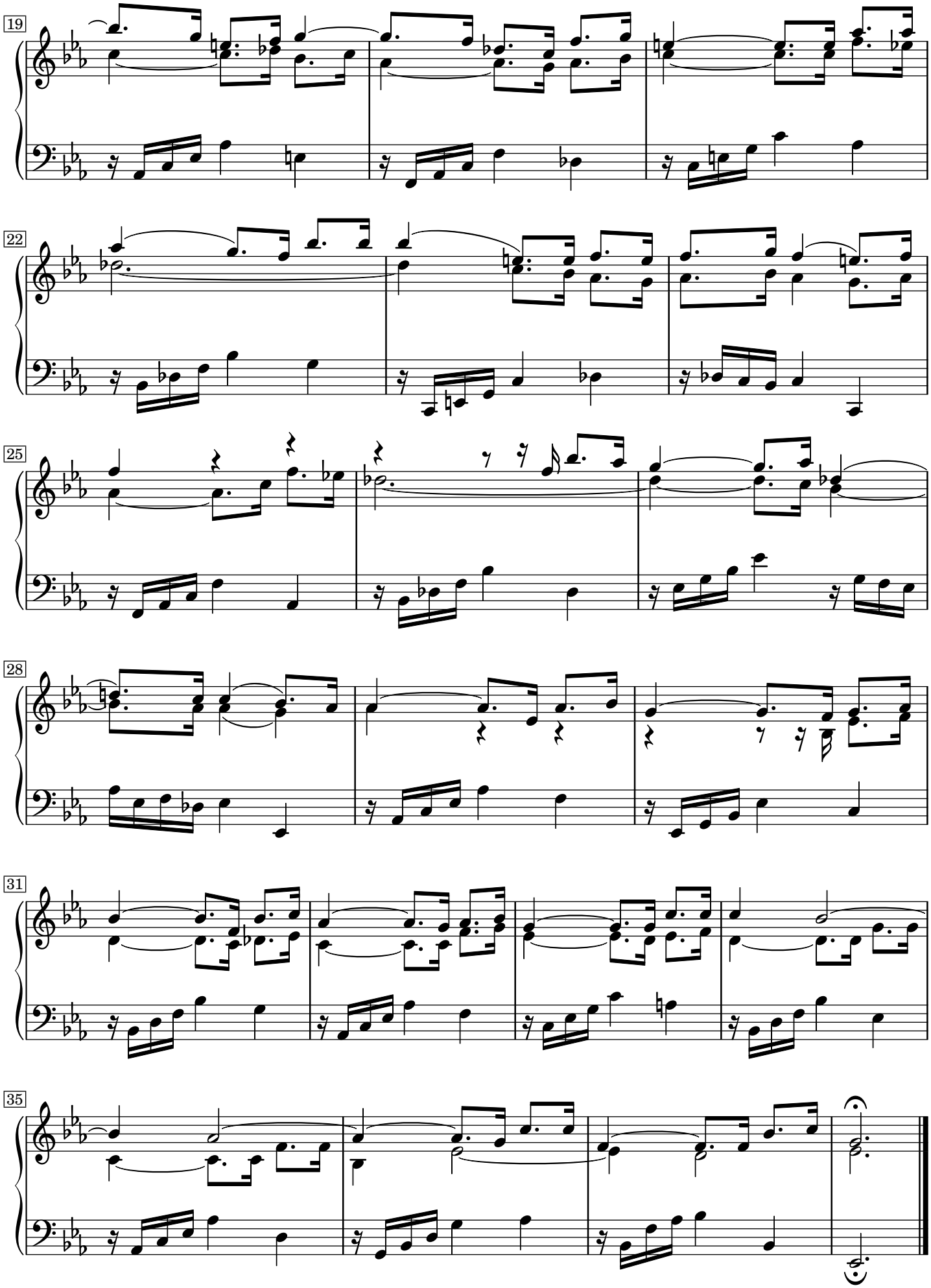
Sinfonia V · Es-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 791

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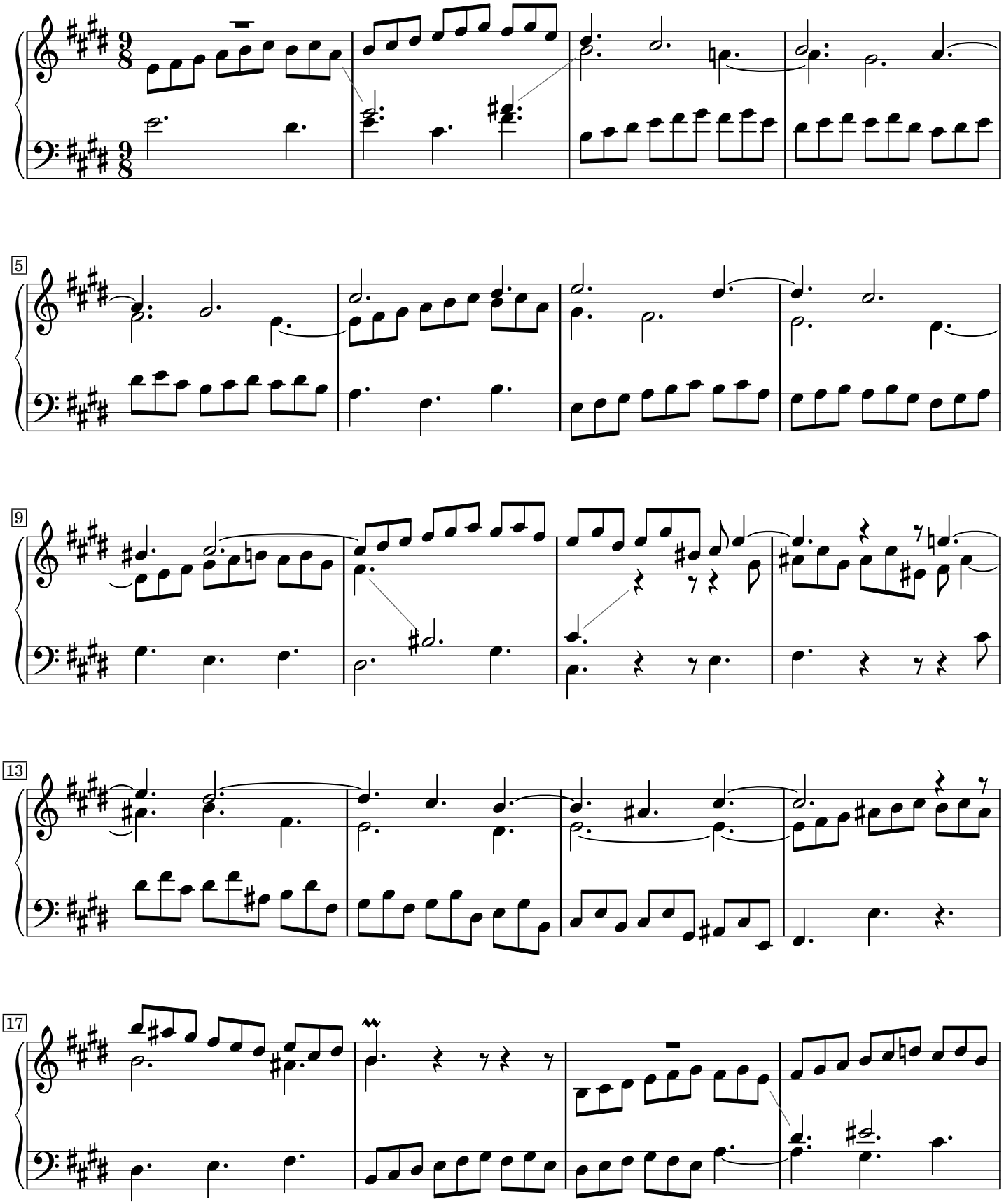
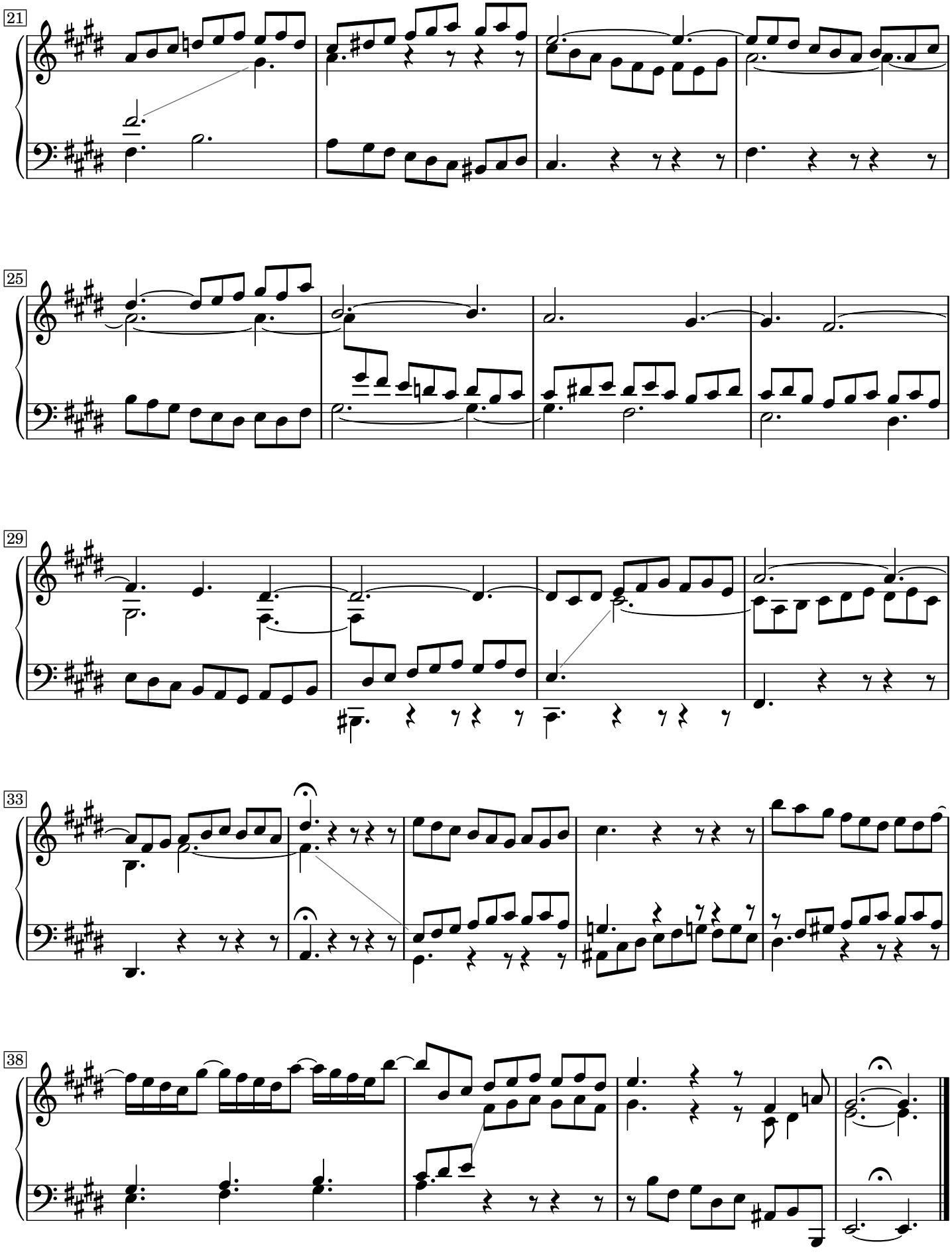
Sinfonia VI · E-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 792

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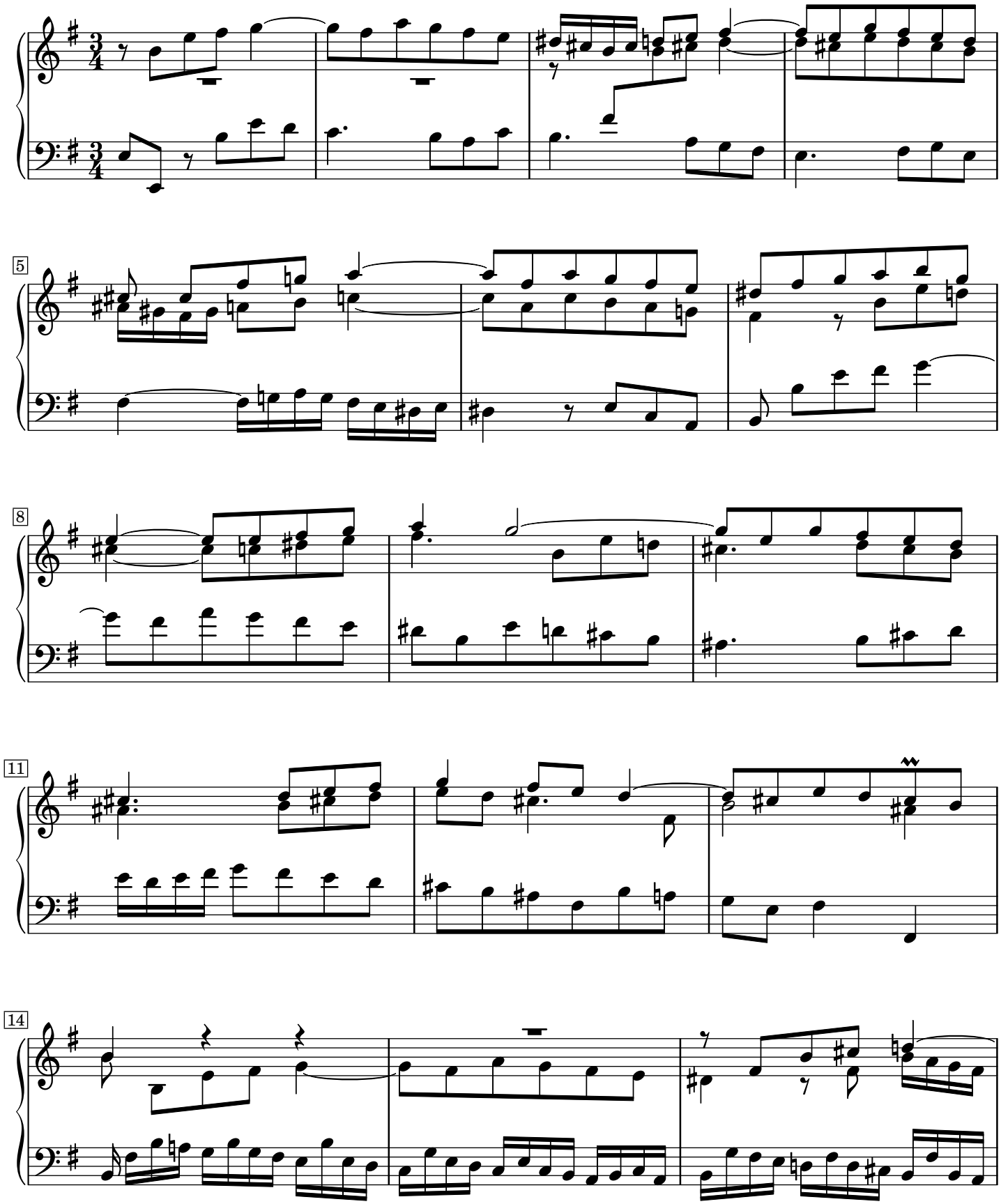
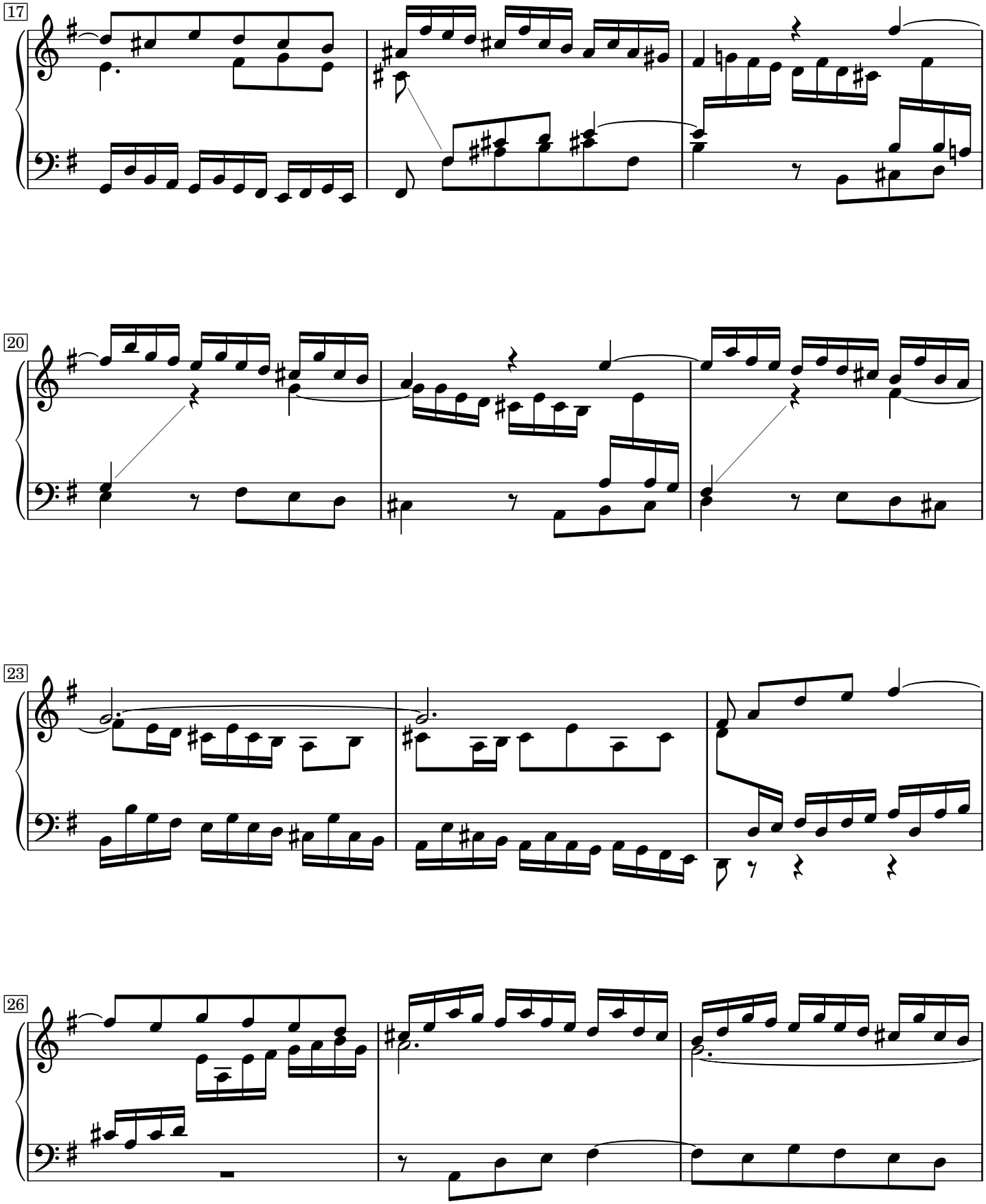
Sinfonia VII · e-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 793

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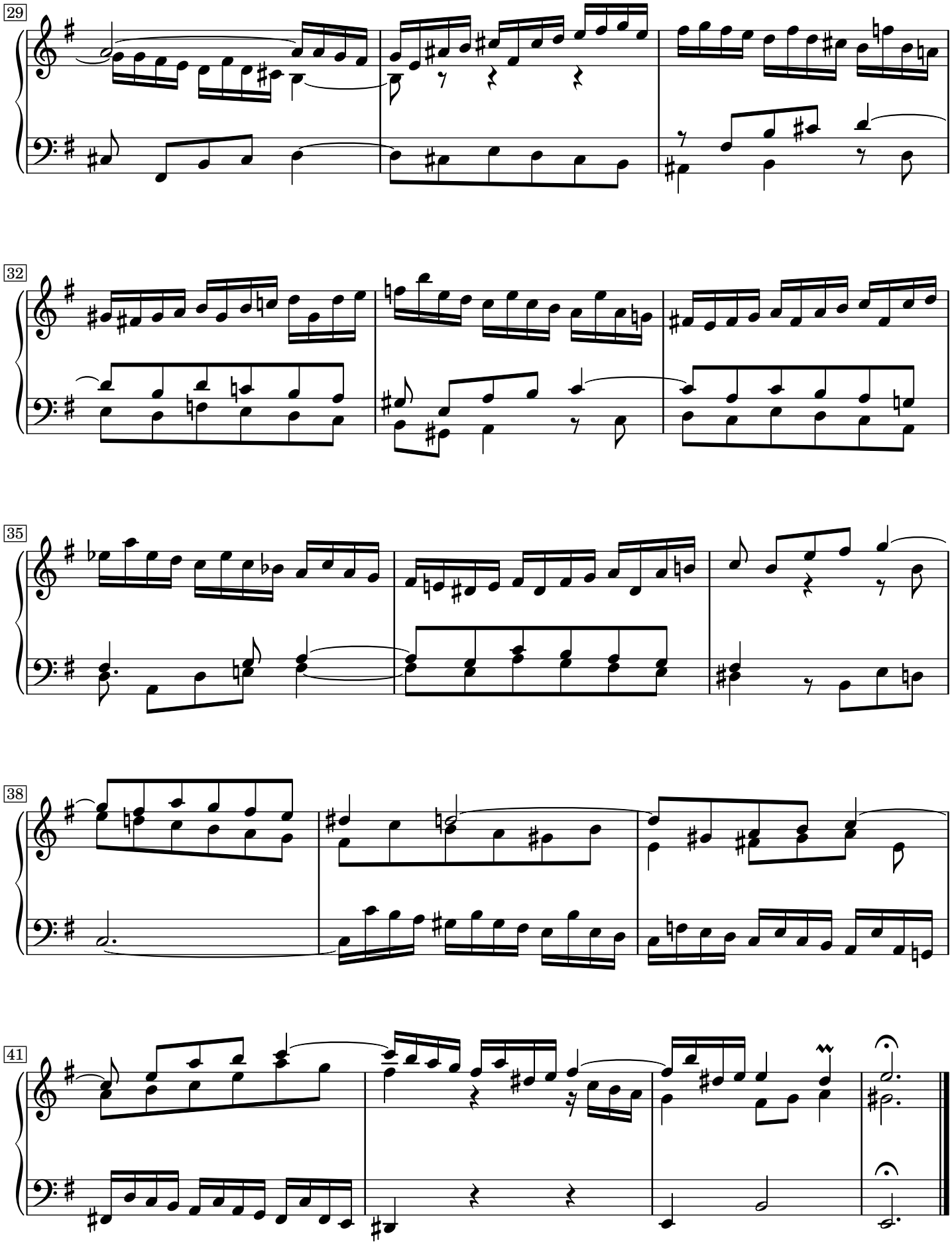
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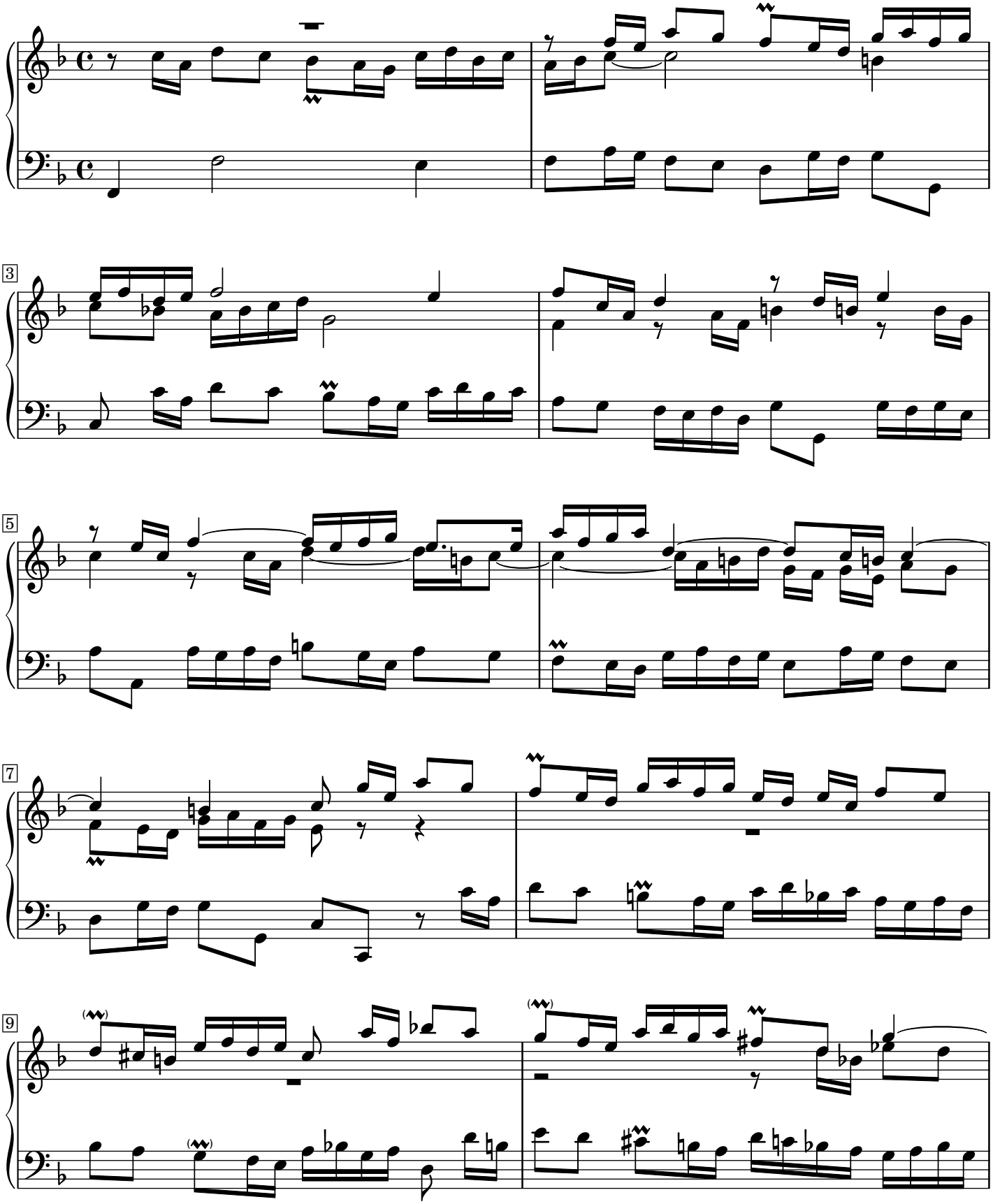
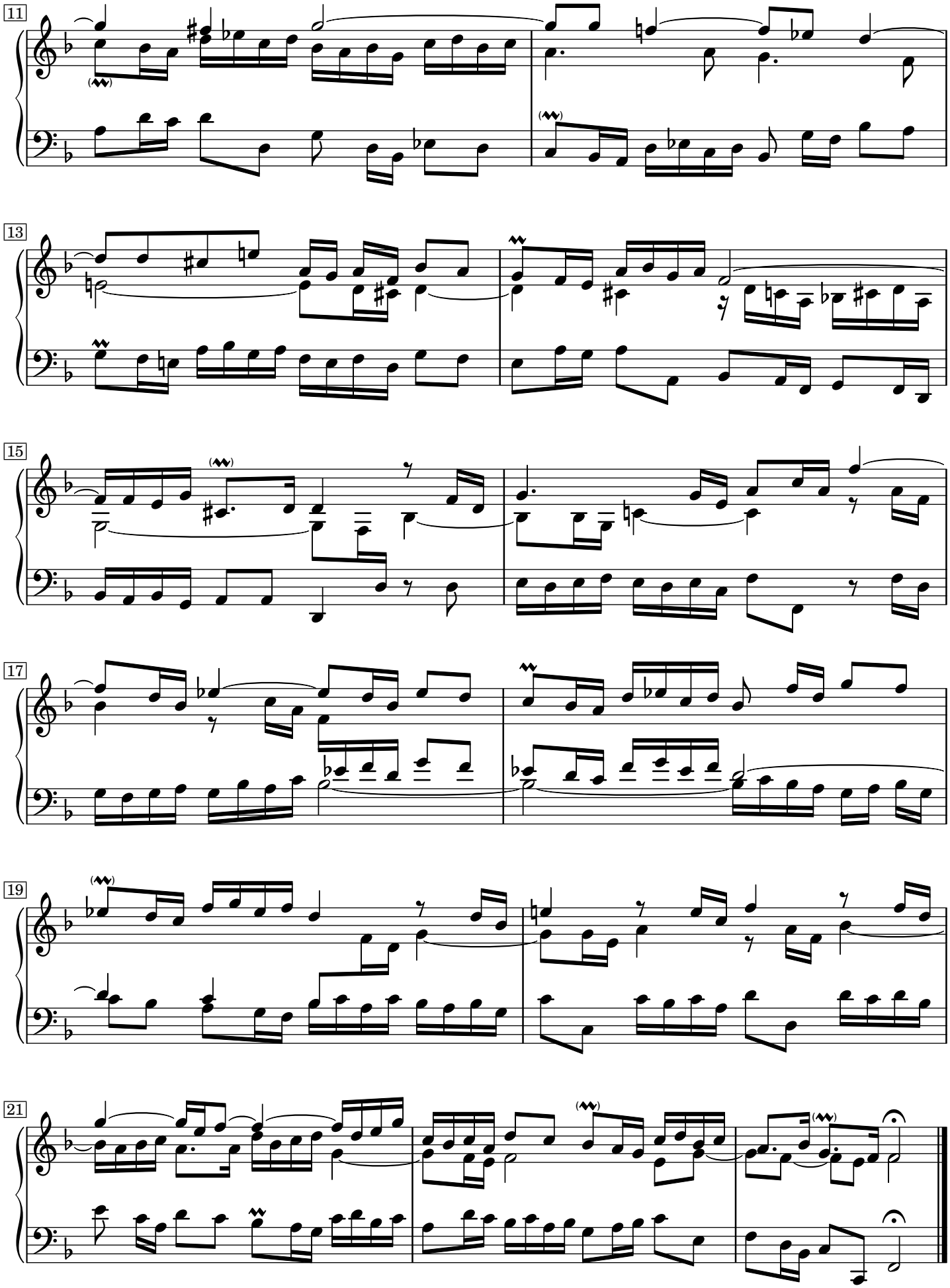
Sinfonia VIII · F-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 794

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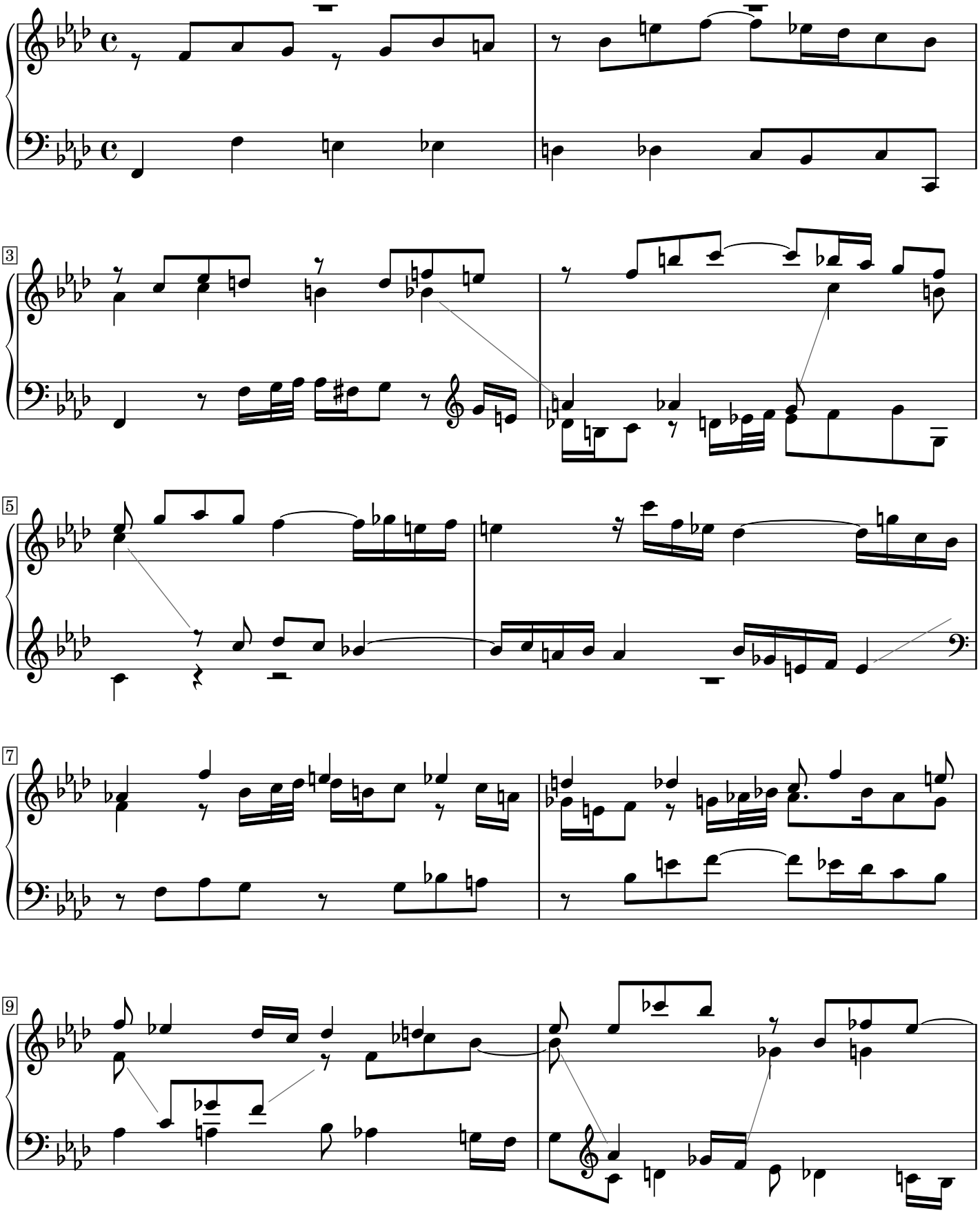
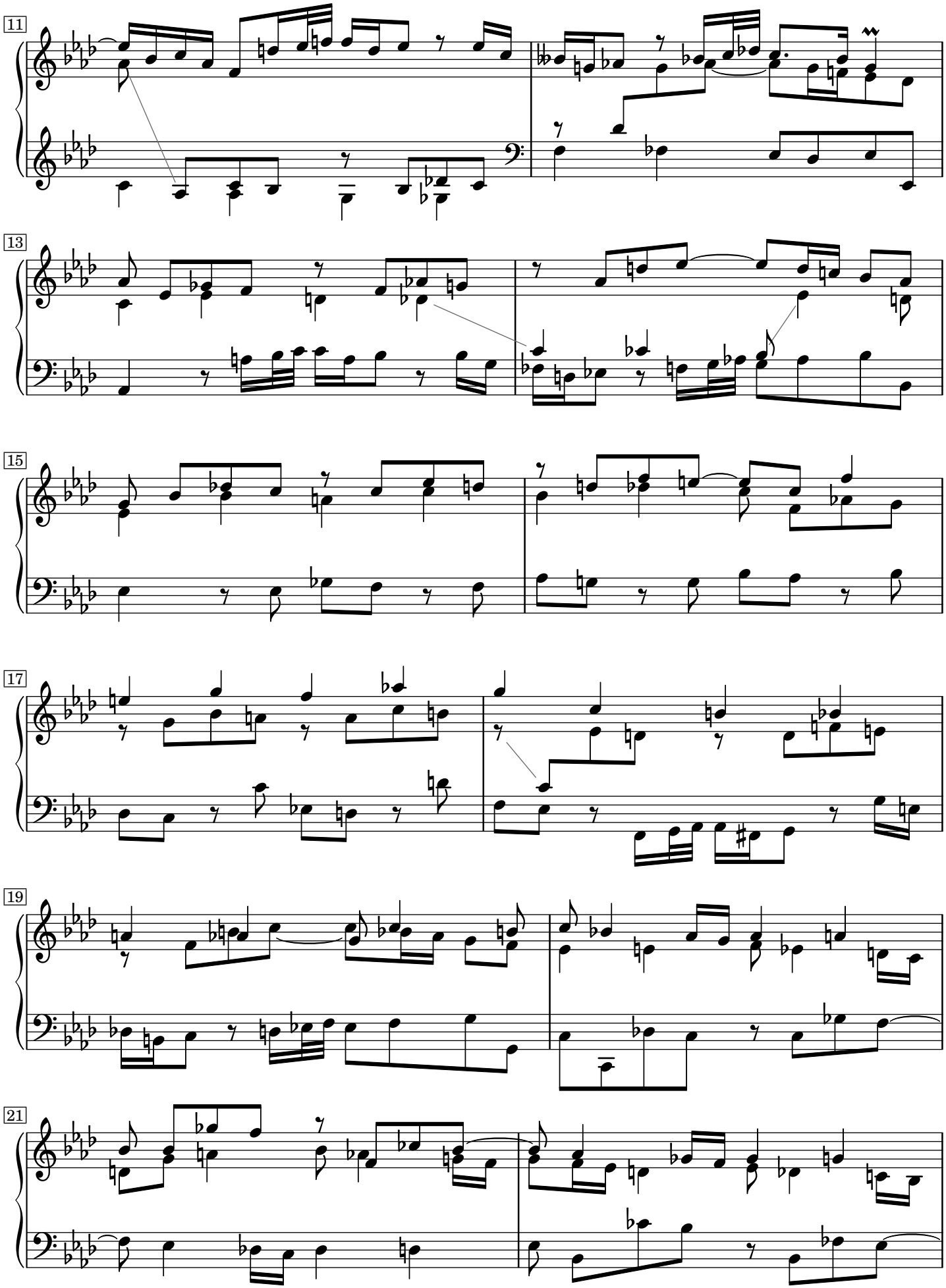
Sinfonia IX · f-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 795

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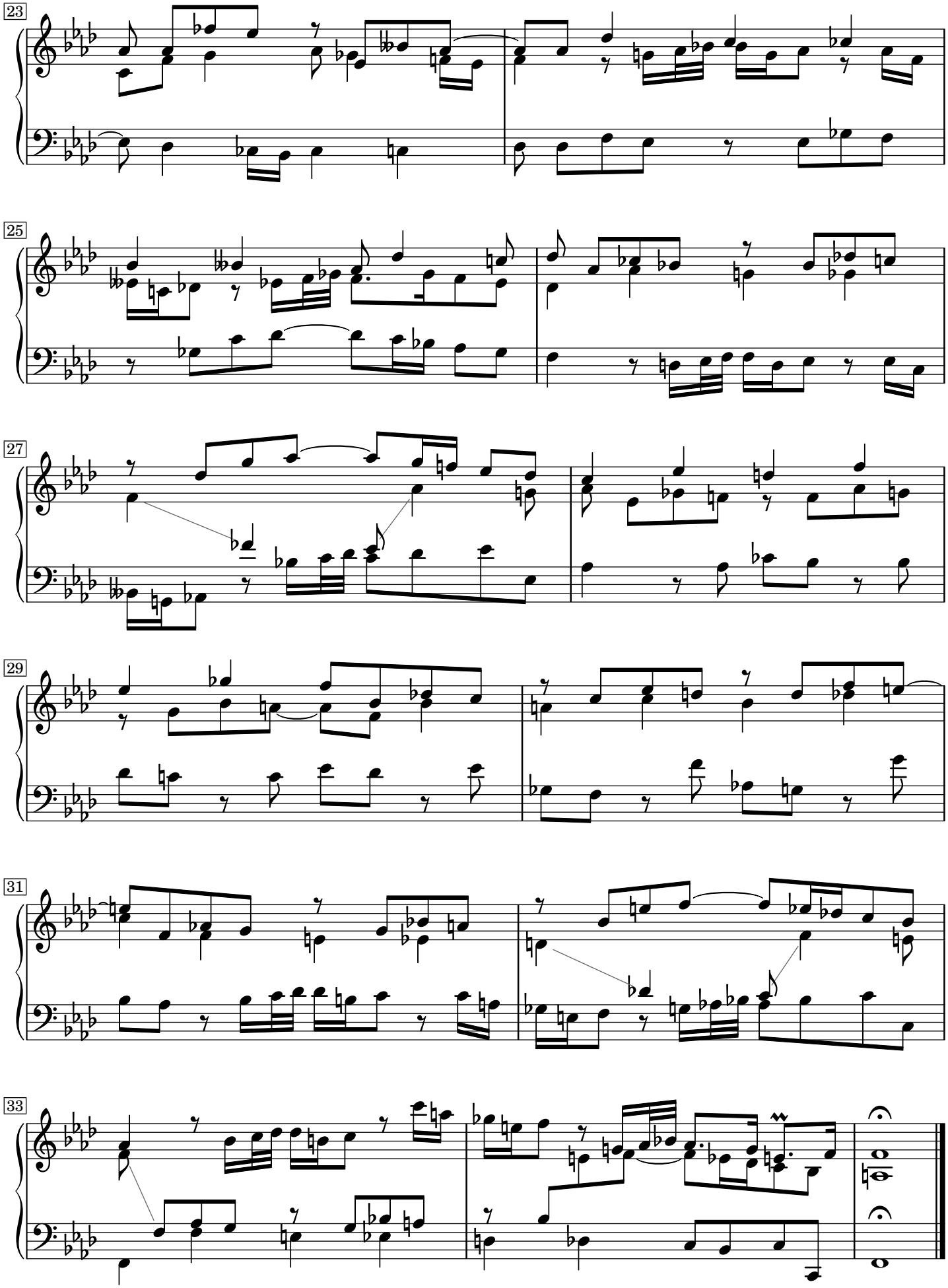
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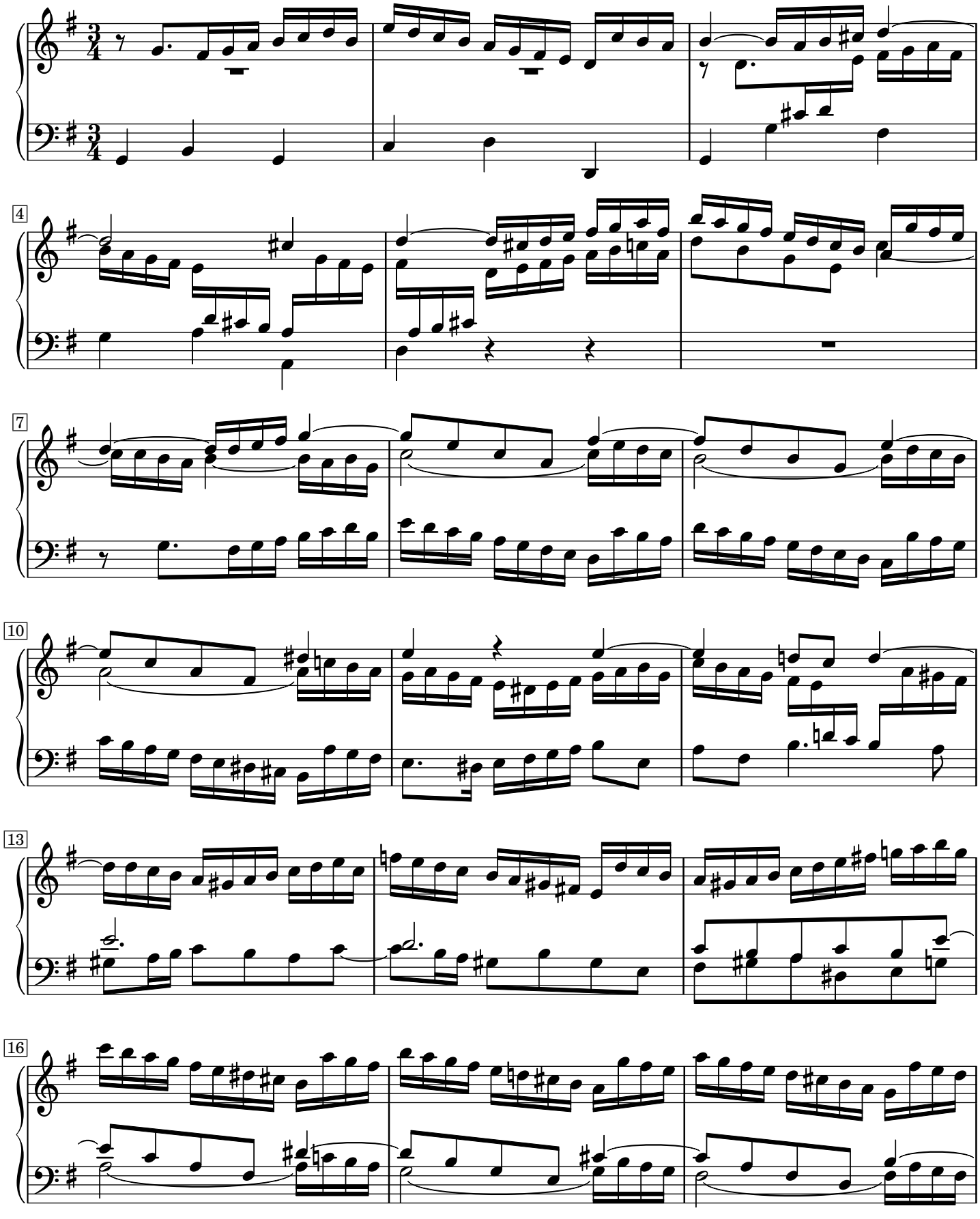
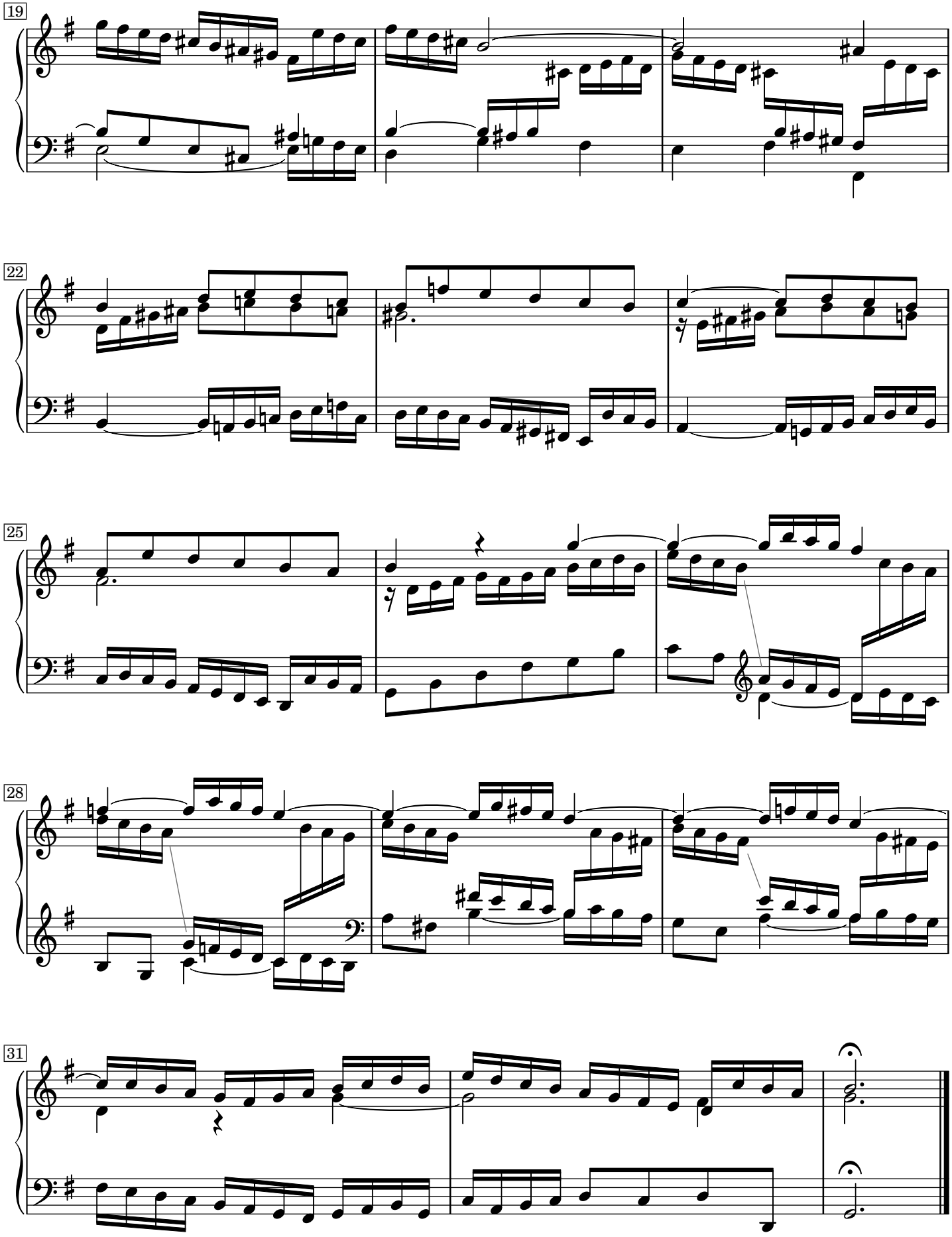
Sinfonia X · G-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 796

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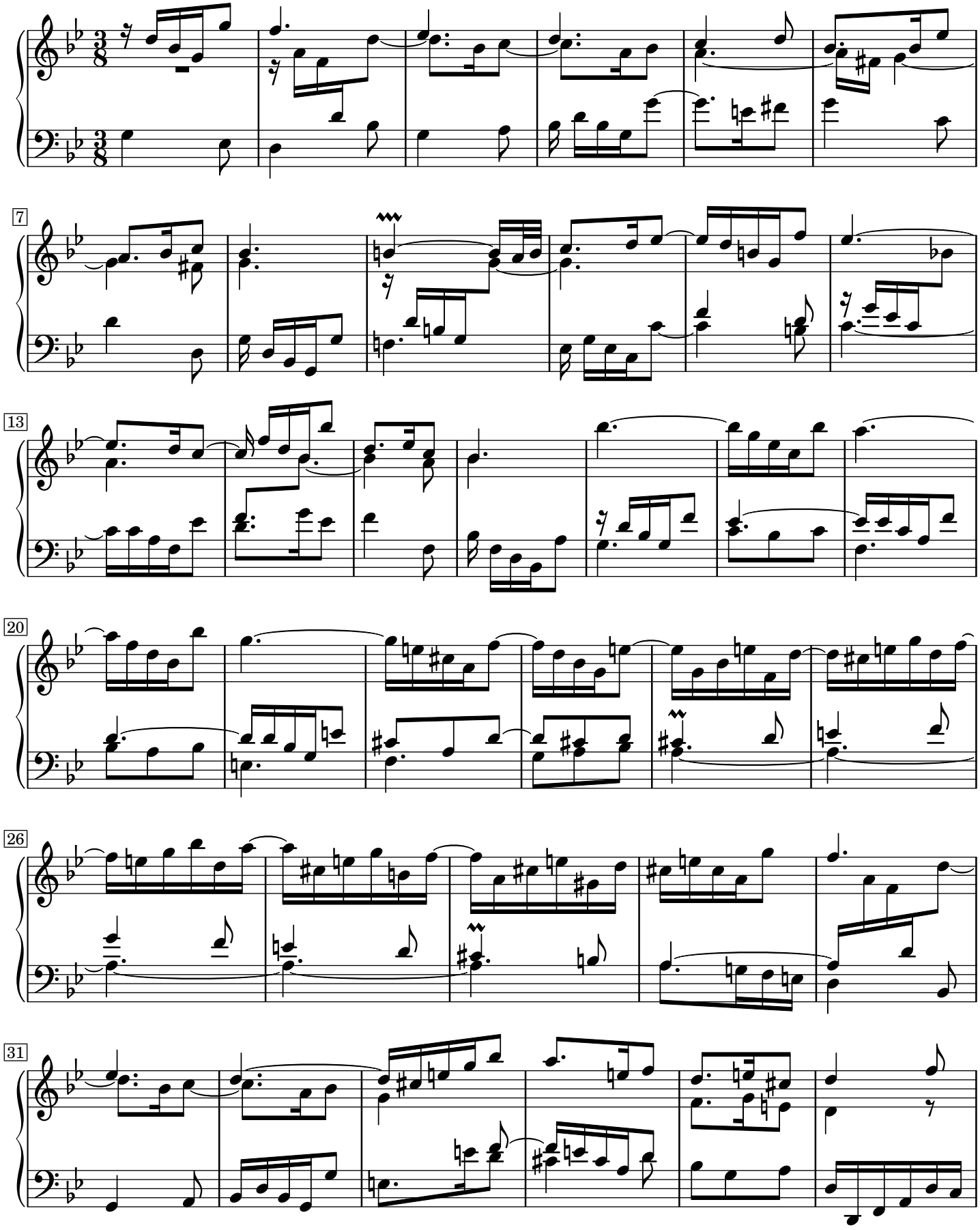
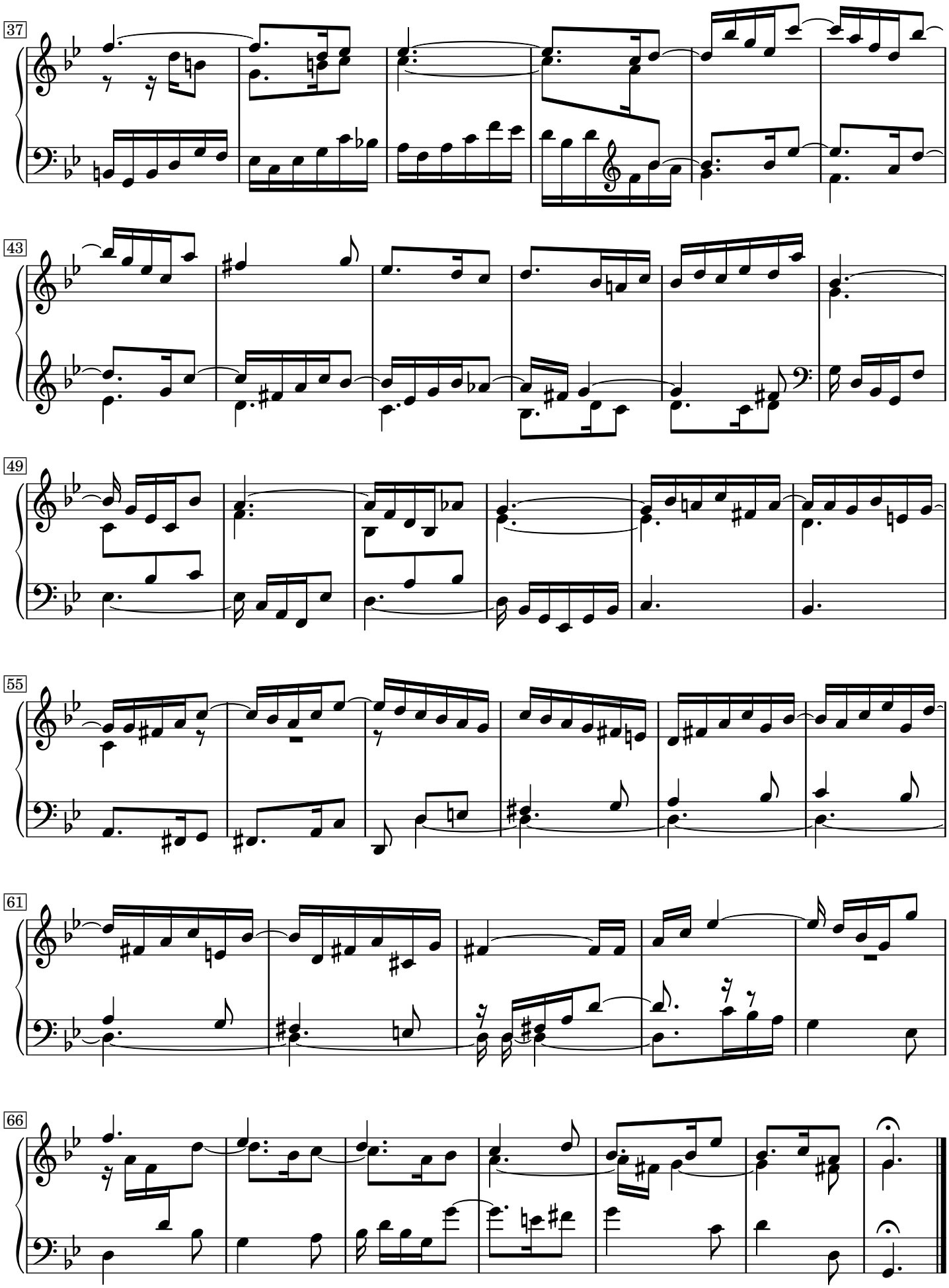
Sinfonia XI · g-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 797

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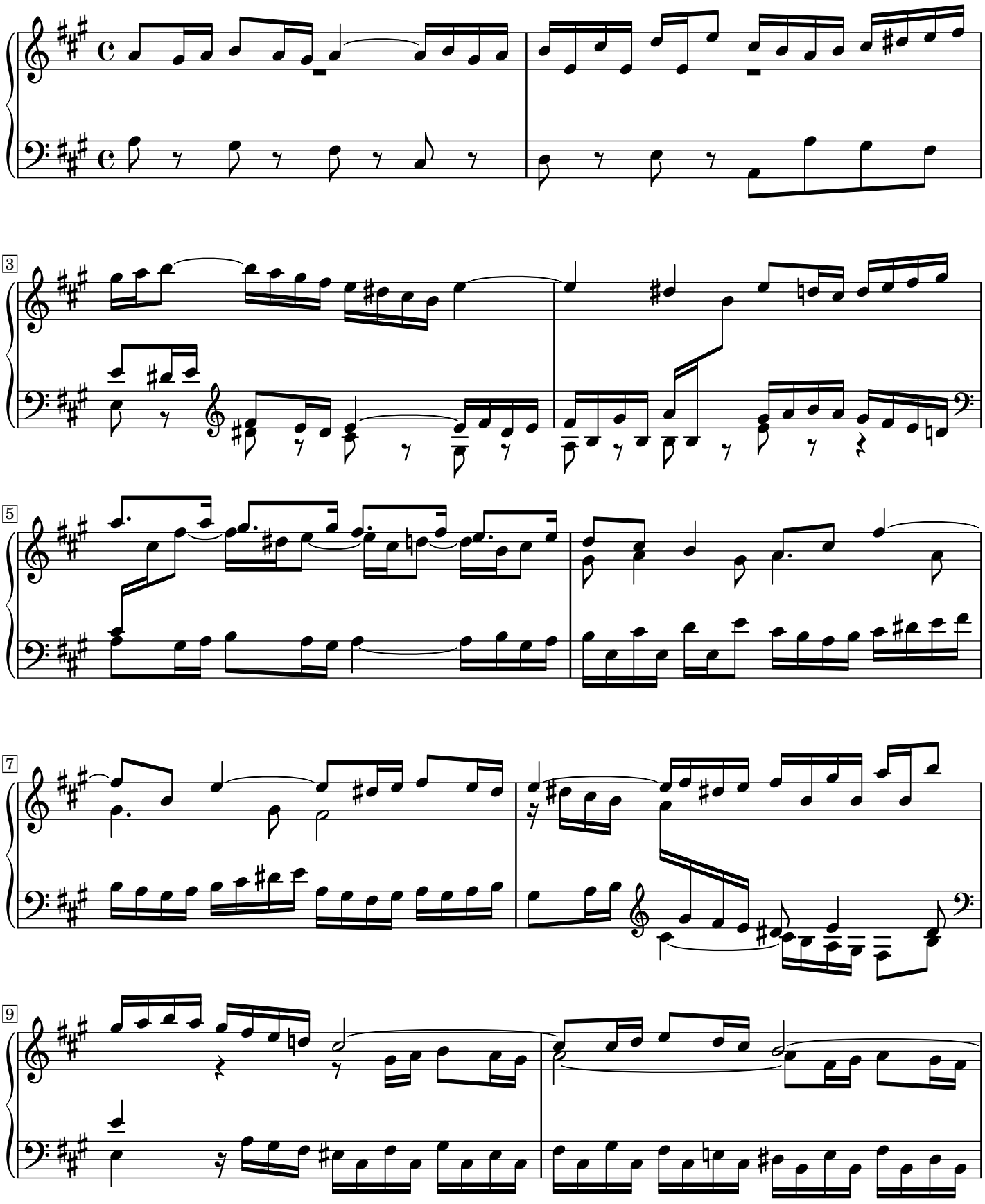
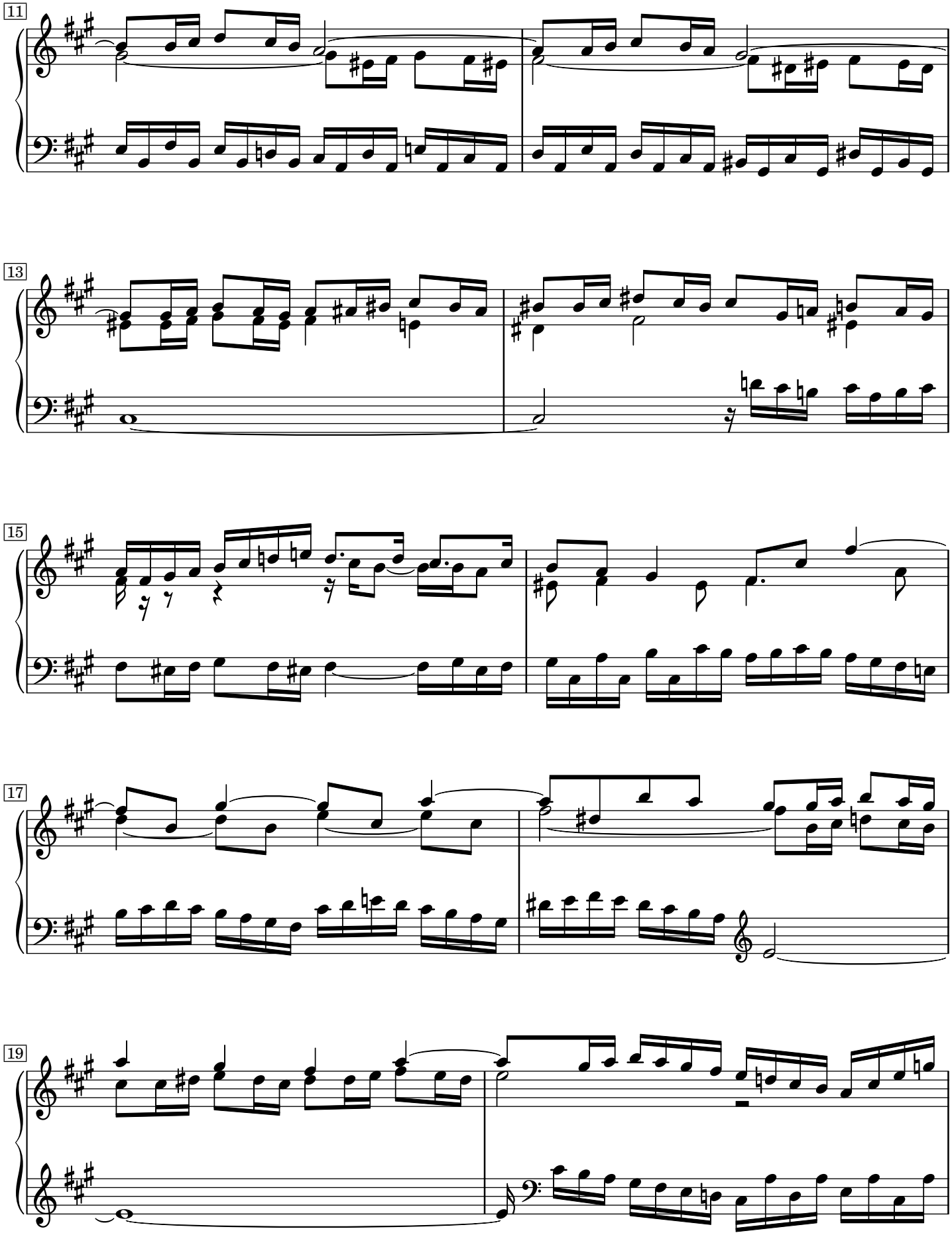
Sinfonia XII · A-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 798

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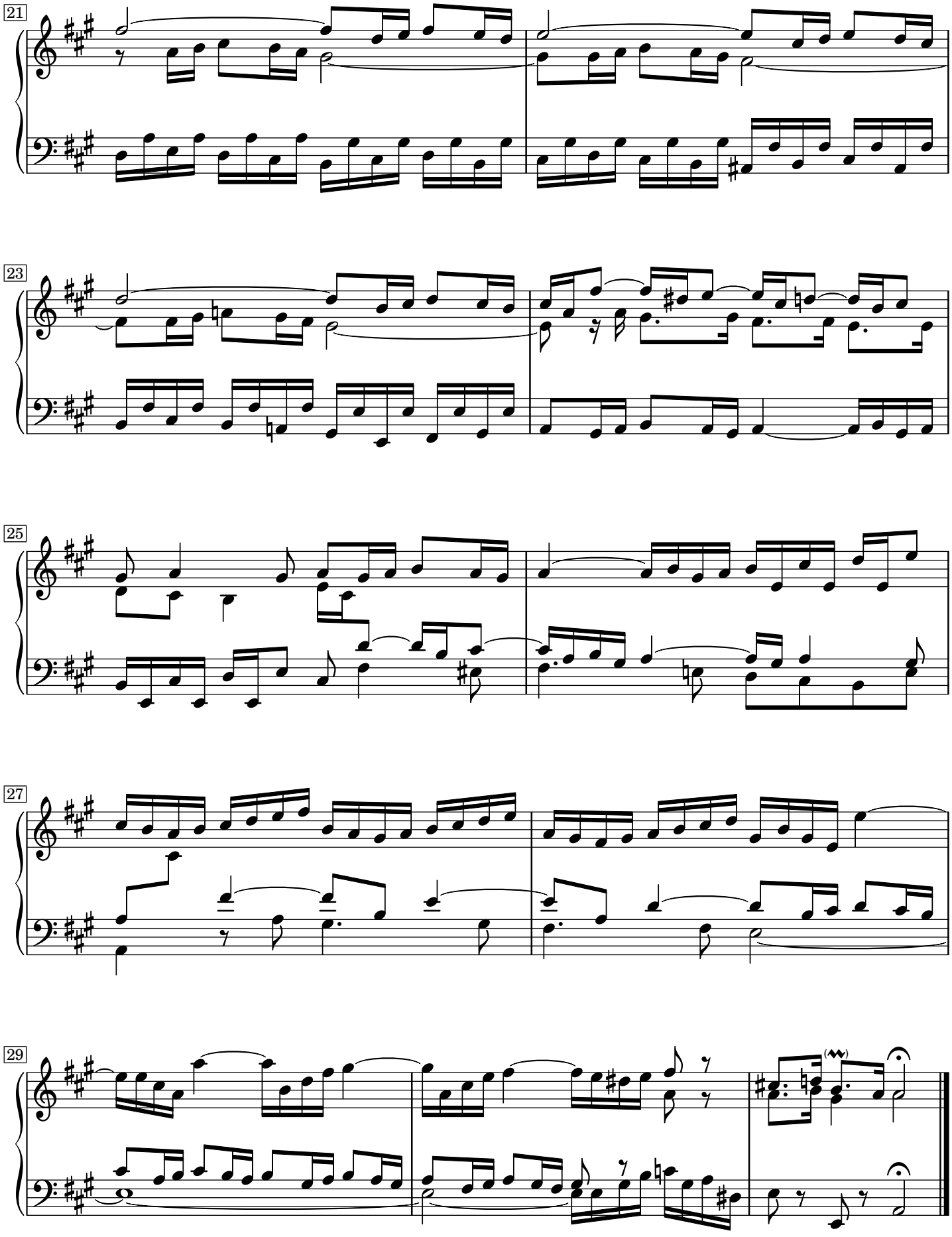
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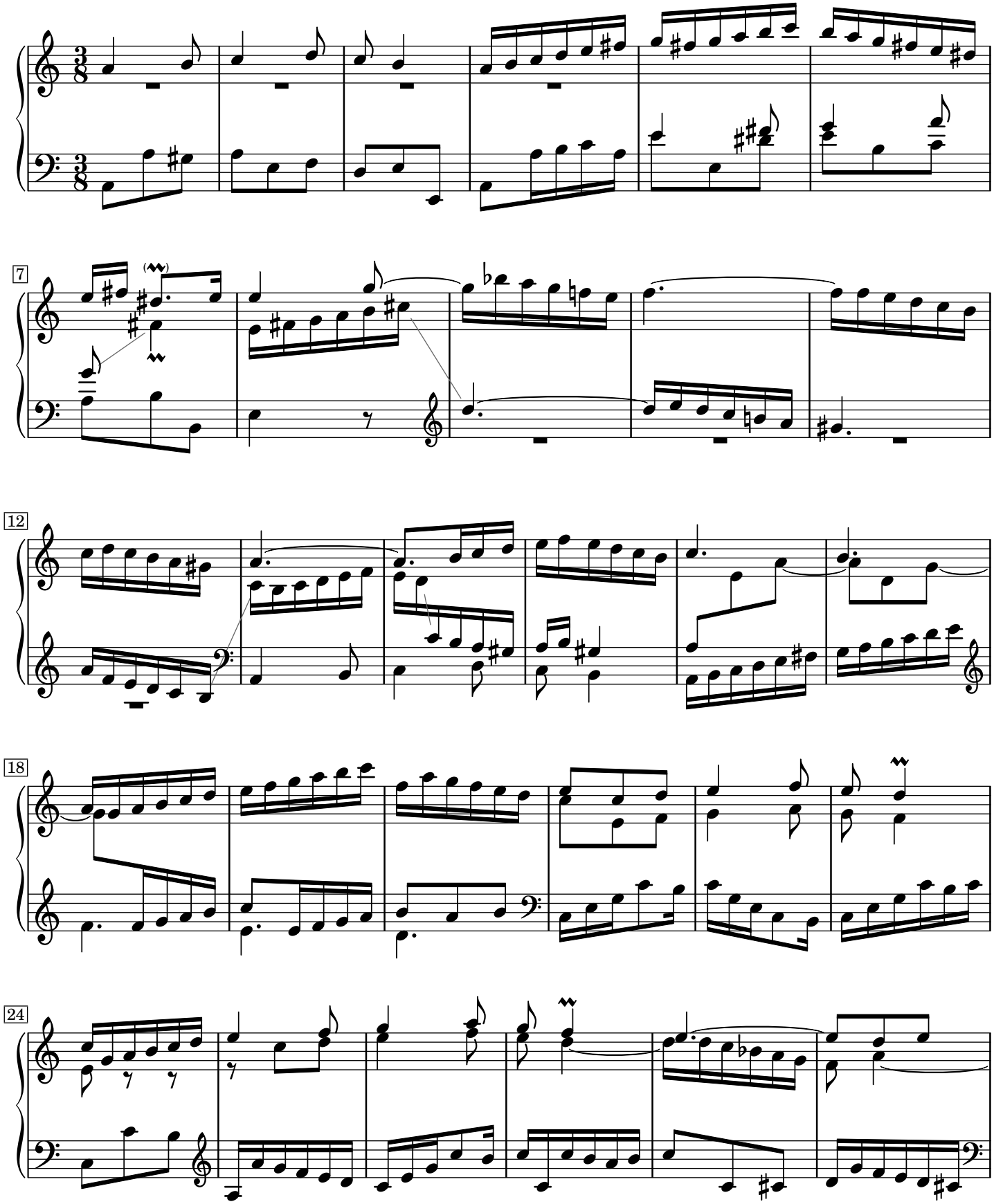
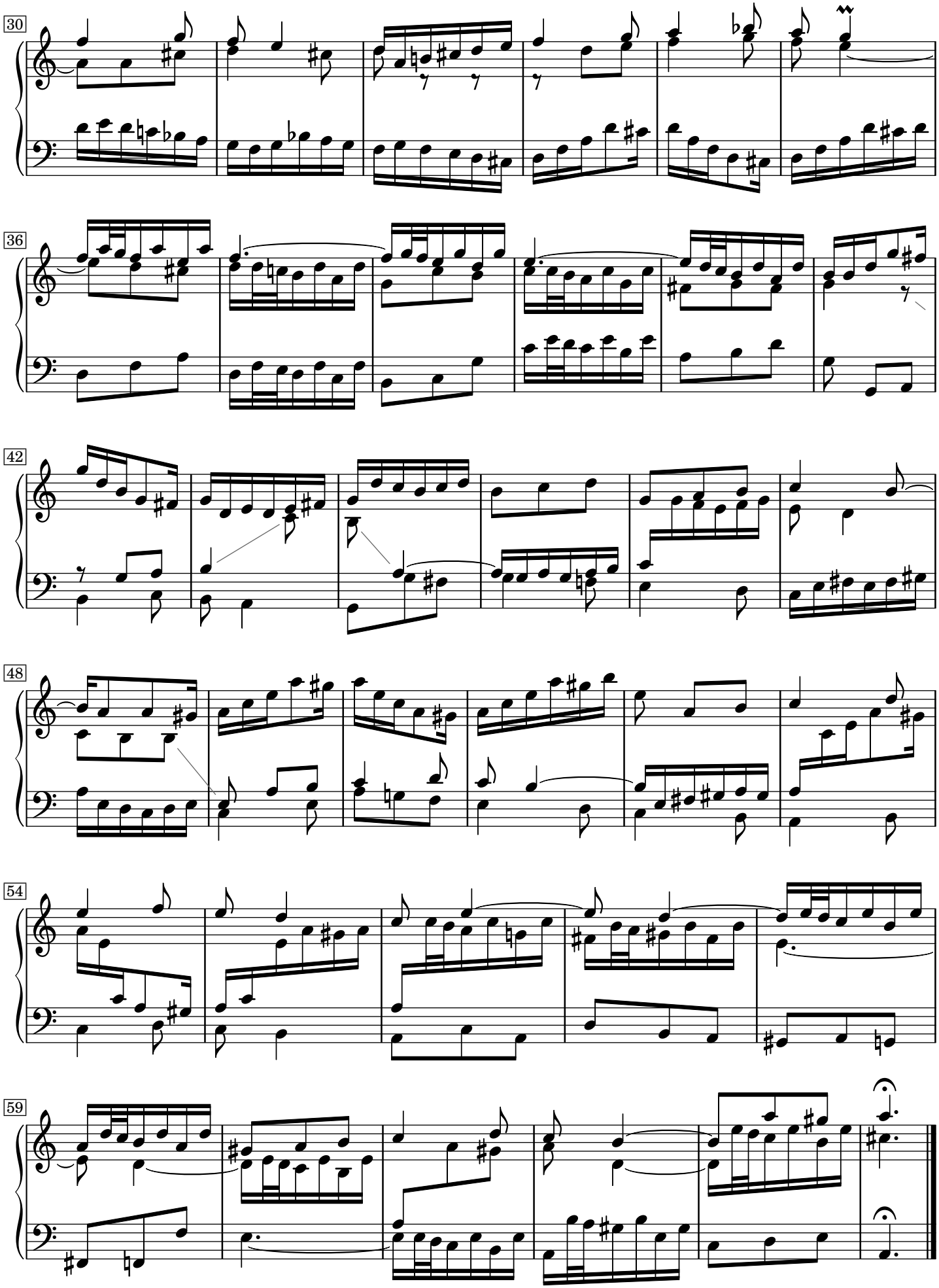
Sinfonia XIII · a-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 799

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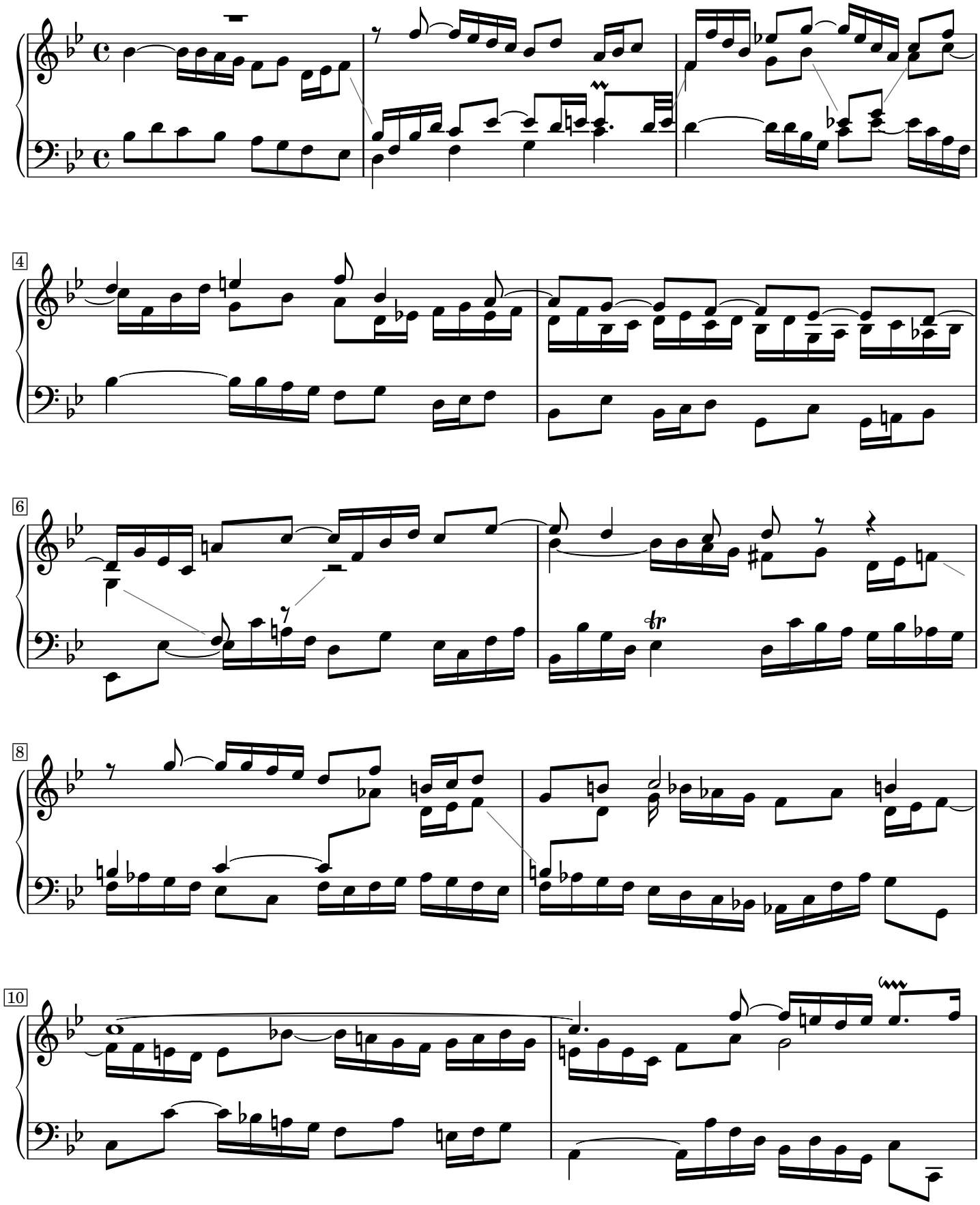
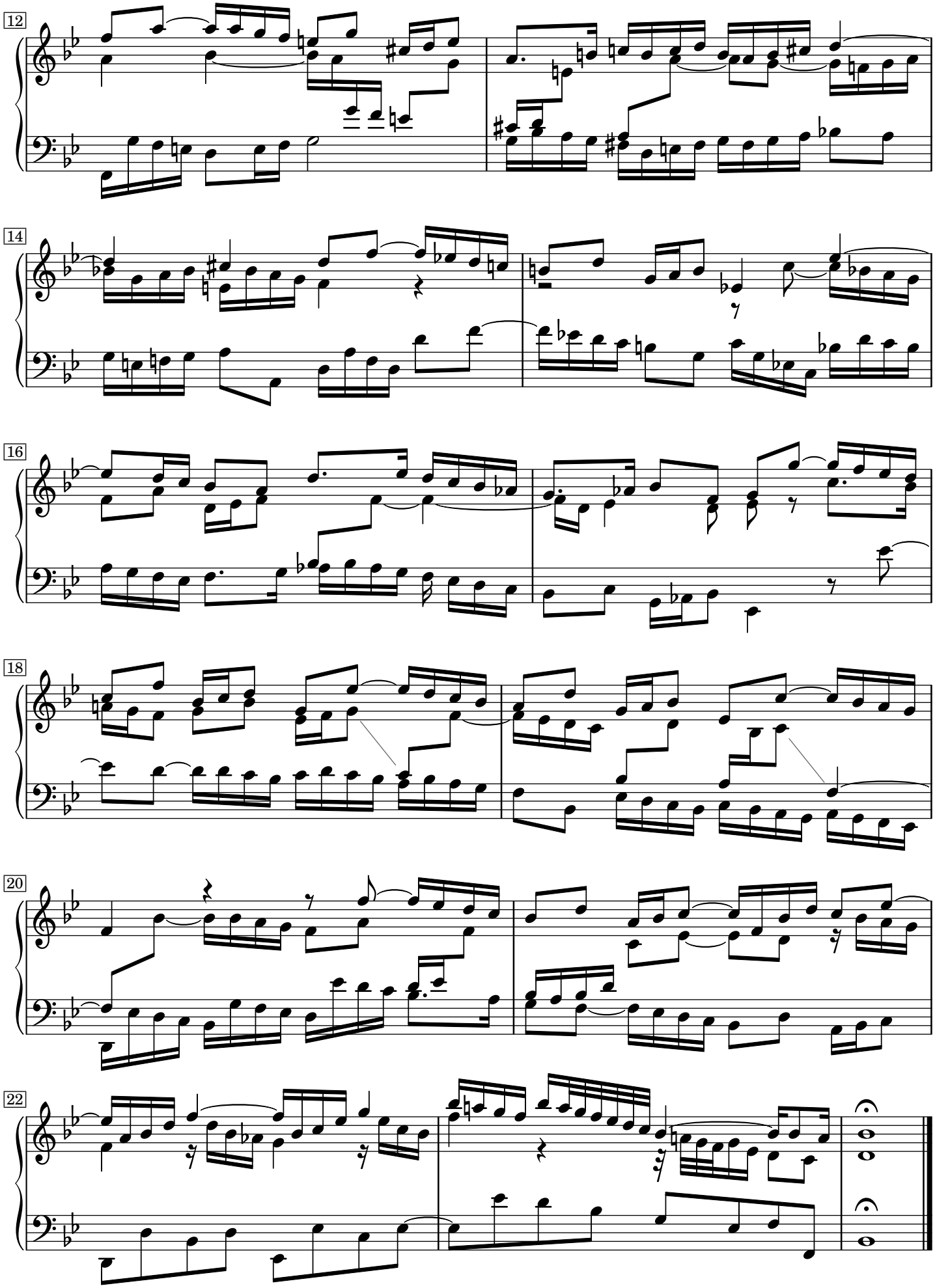
Sinfonia XIV · B-Dur

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 800

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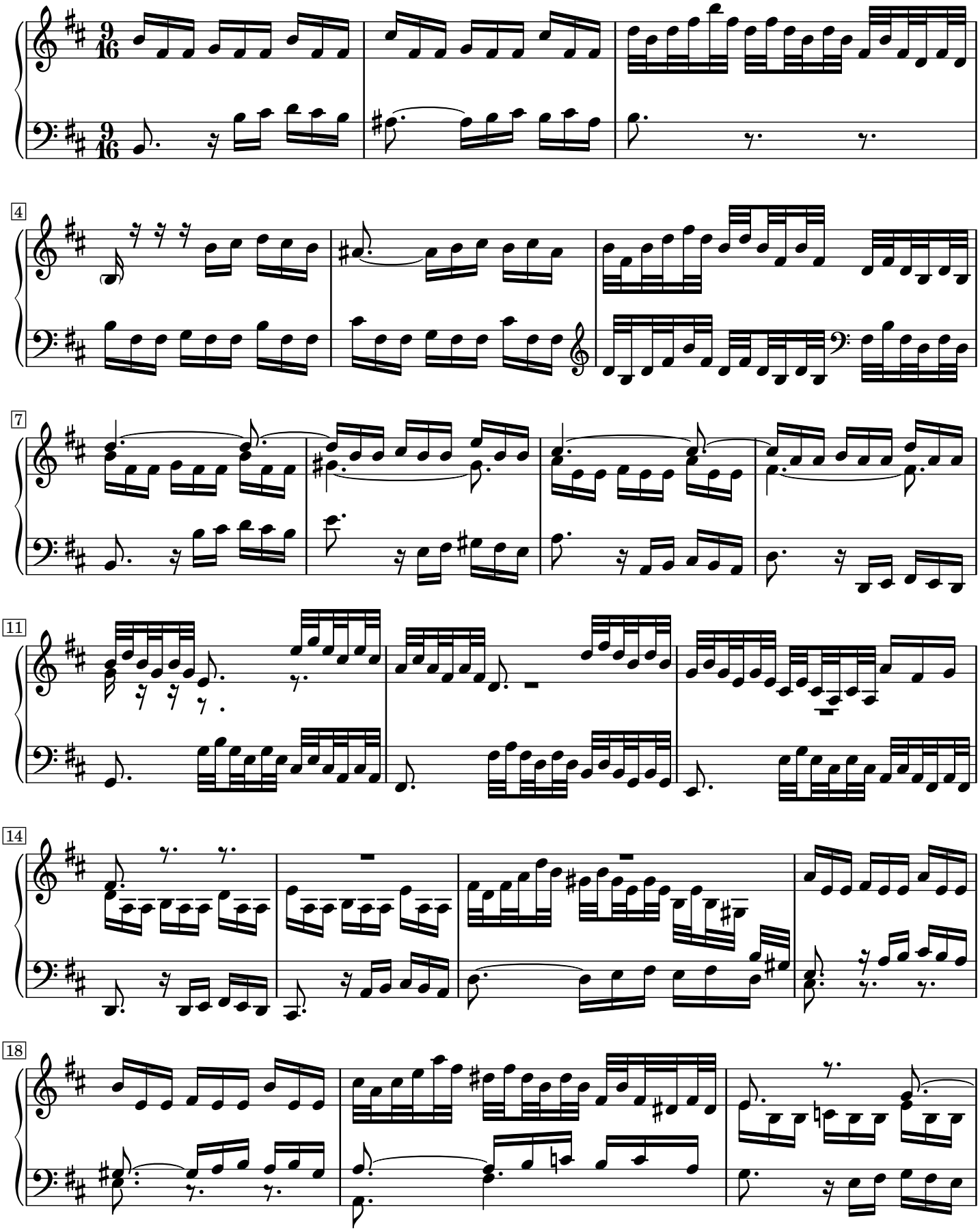
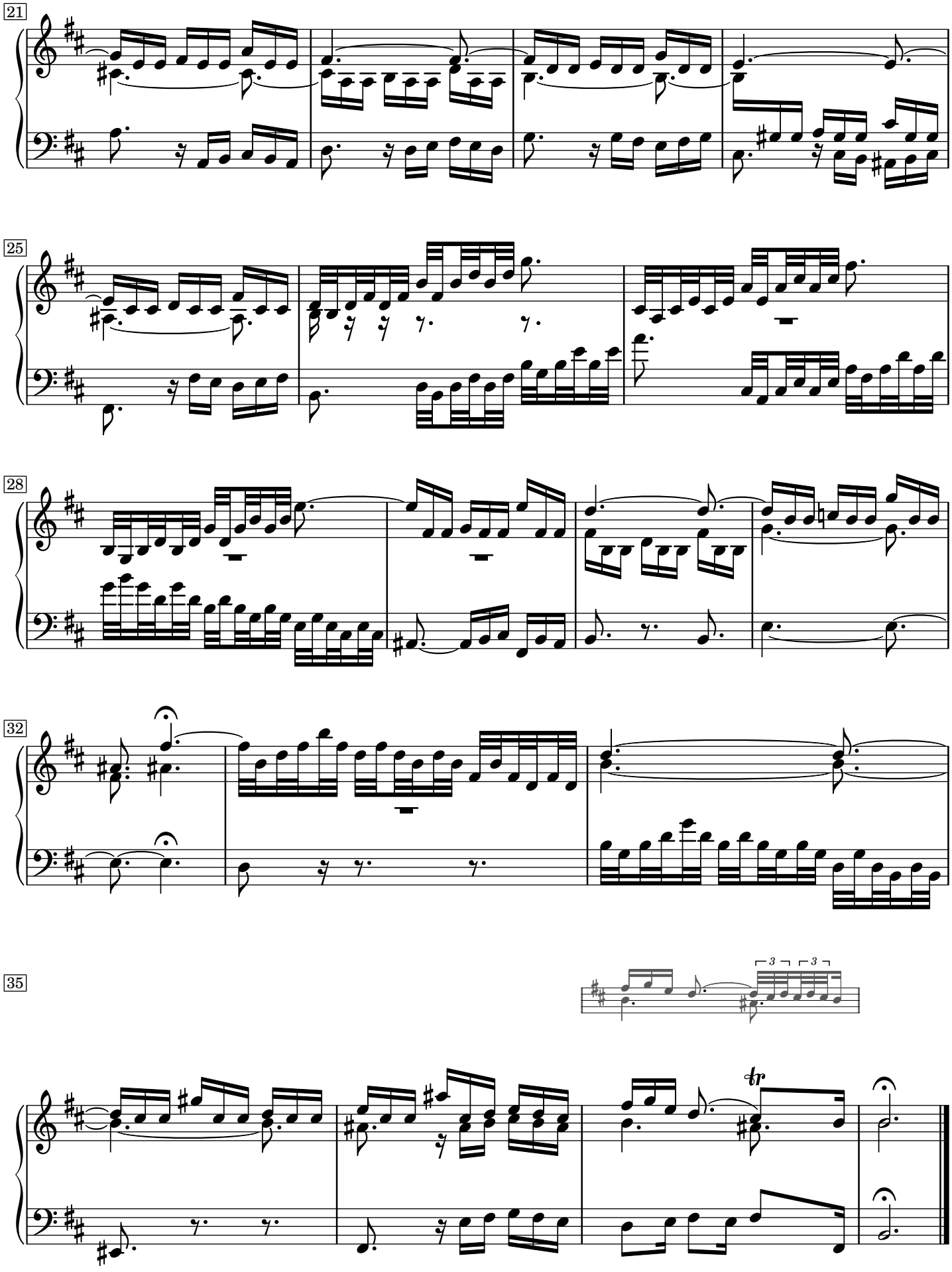
Sinfonia XV · h-Moll

Johann Sebastian Bach

BWV 801

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