Holy Mountain

for Solo Guitar

Op.8

Mike Zak

June 3, 2025

You are excrement.
You can change yourself into gold.

- The Alchemist, Holy Mountain

by Alejandro Jodorowsky

To Liat Cohen

Performance Instructions

Fermate

There are three types of fetame used throughout the piece, classified by their length:

- **Short fermata** - Ever so slightly longer than standard note length.

- **Medium fermata** - The ordinary fermata, natural to your play style.

- **Long fermata** - An exaggeratedly long fermata. Hold it until you're sick of it.

A fermata over a note prolongs mostly the holding part of that note, keeping the gap till the next note largely untouched.

An exception to this rule are notes marked staccato or staccato-tenuto, where the hold and gap parts should be increased evenly.

A fermata over a barline prolongs the gap between notes.

First 4 bars

The first 4 bars should be played what feels like 9 times (without explicitly counting).
Performer, however, is encouraged to study how 9 feels while studying the piece.
Each iteration should vary by tempo and dynamics CONSIDERABLY, but evening and averaging out at the very slow pace specified - $\boldsymbol{Tranquiliente}$ $\text{♩} = c.60$. and the dynamic of $piano$.

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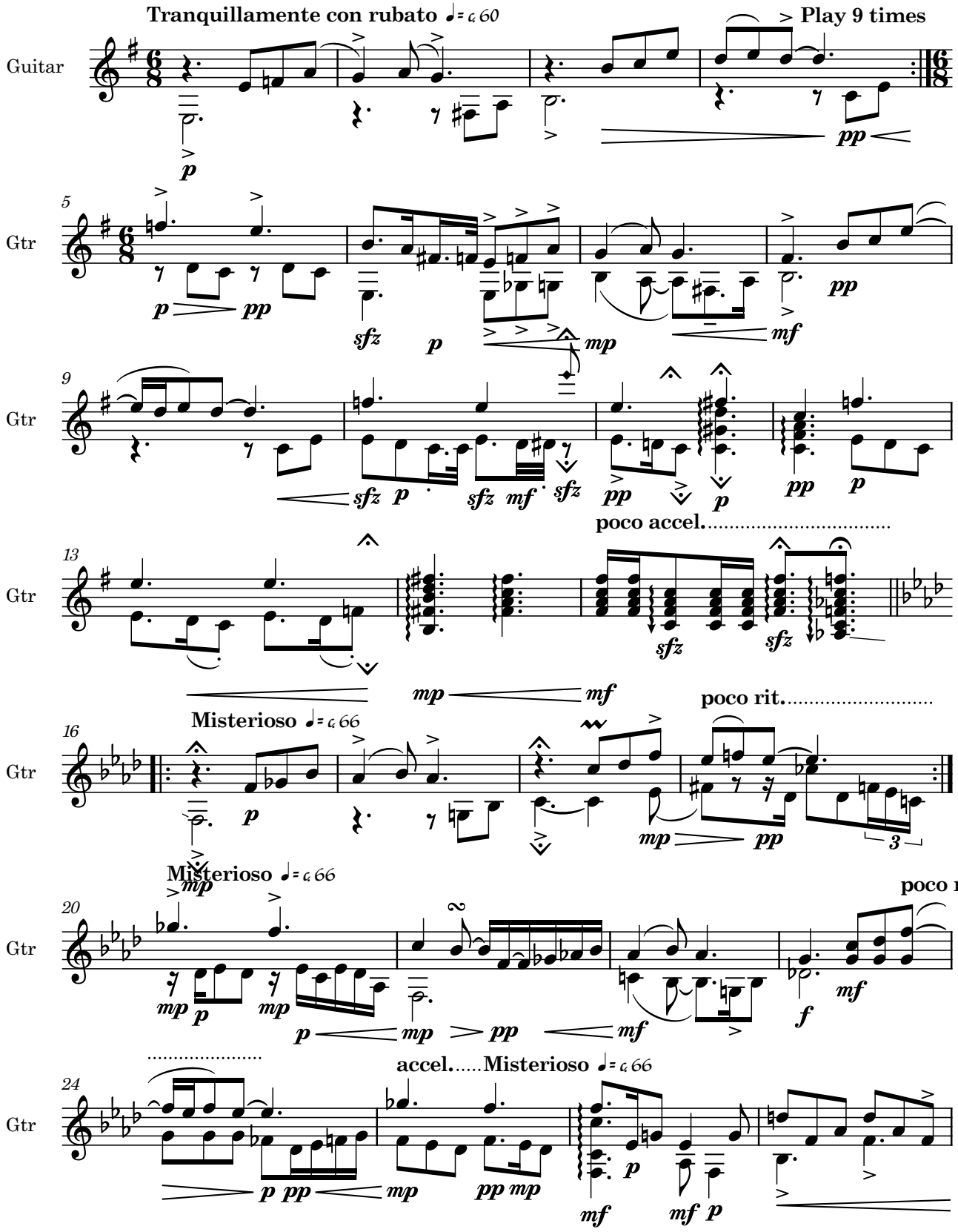
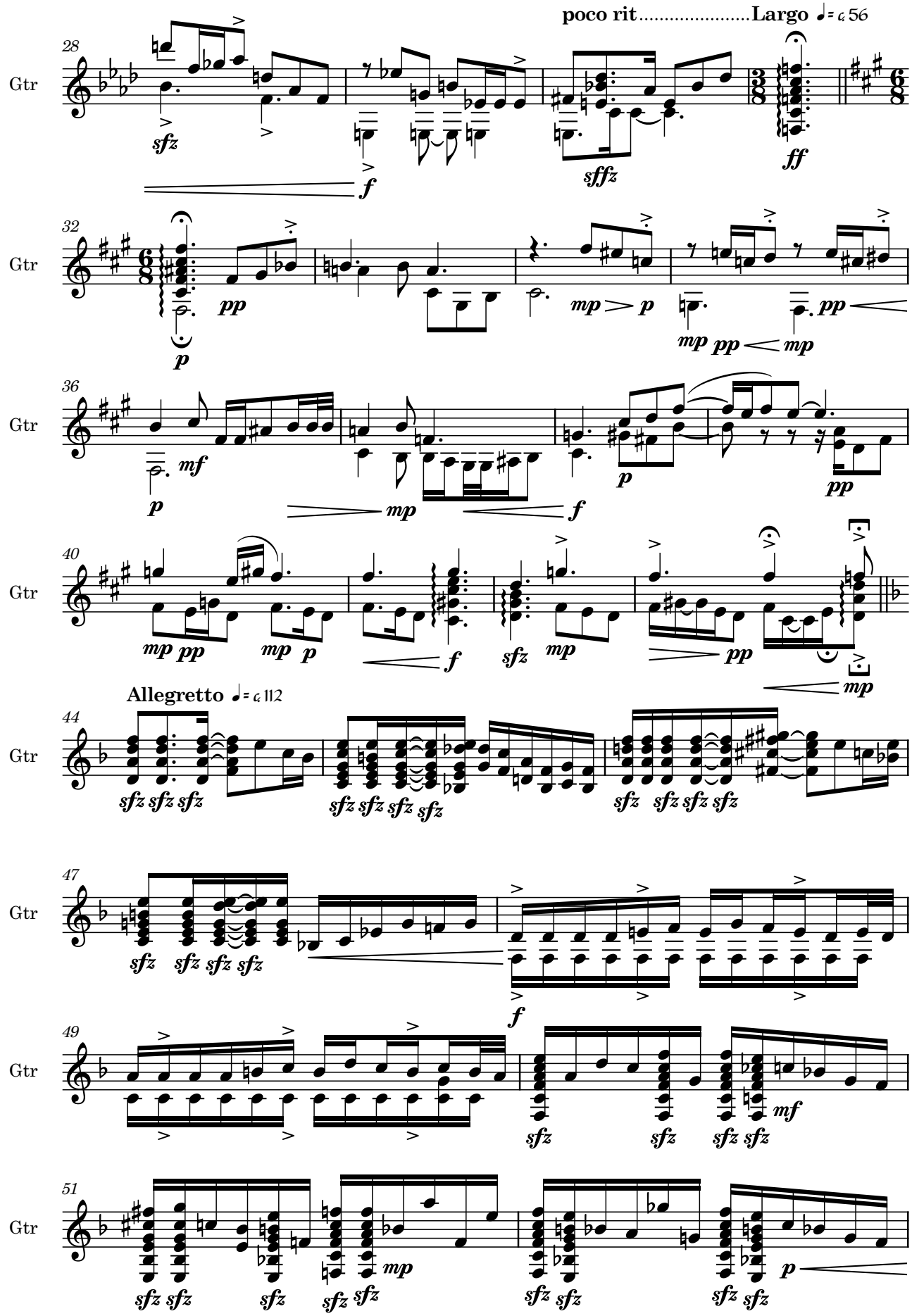
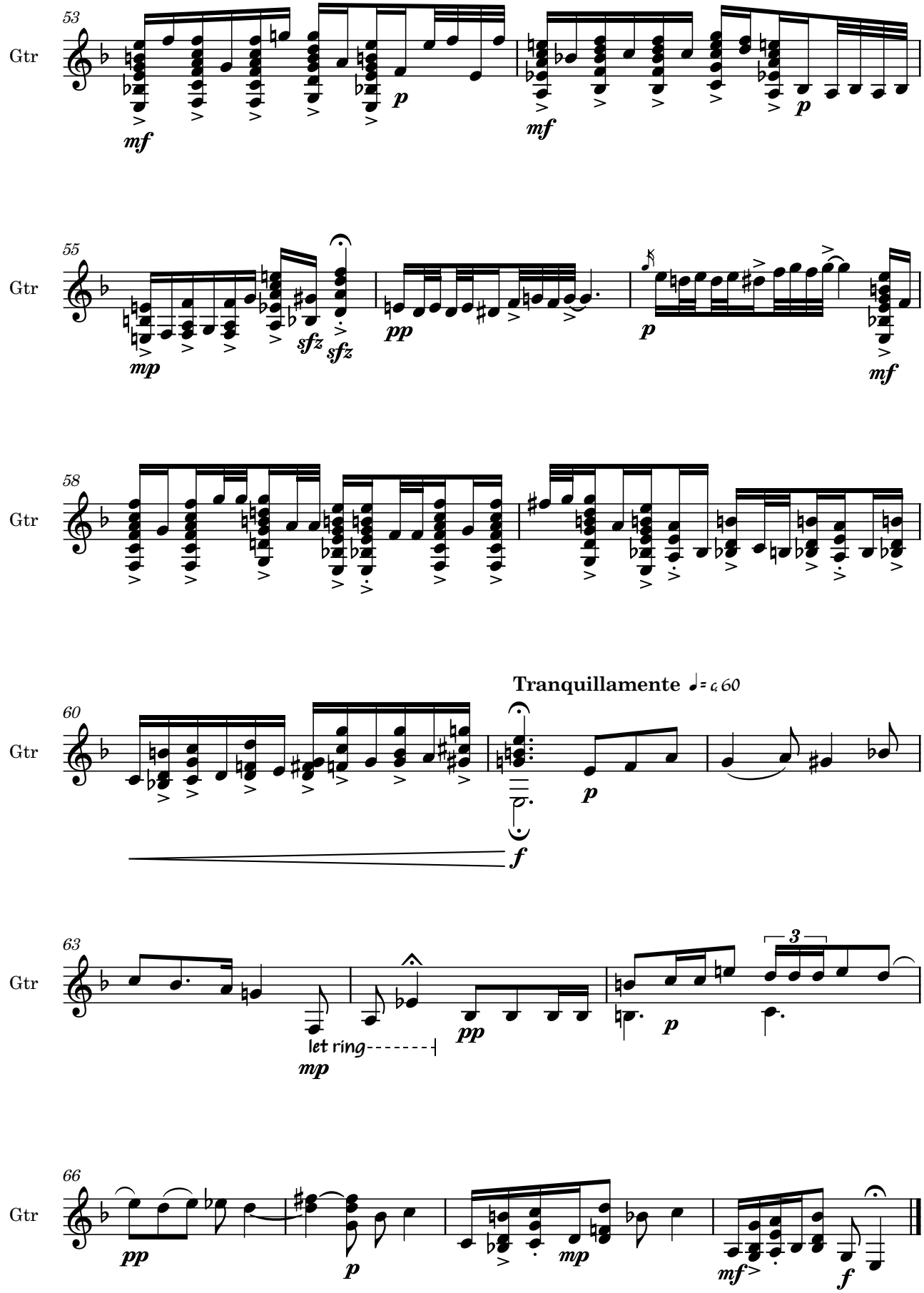
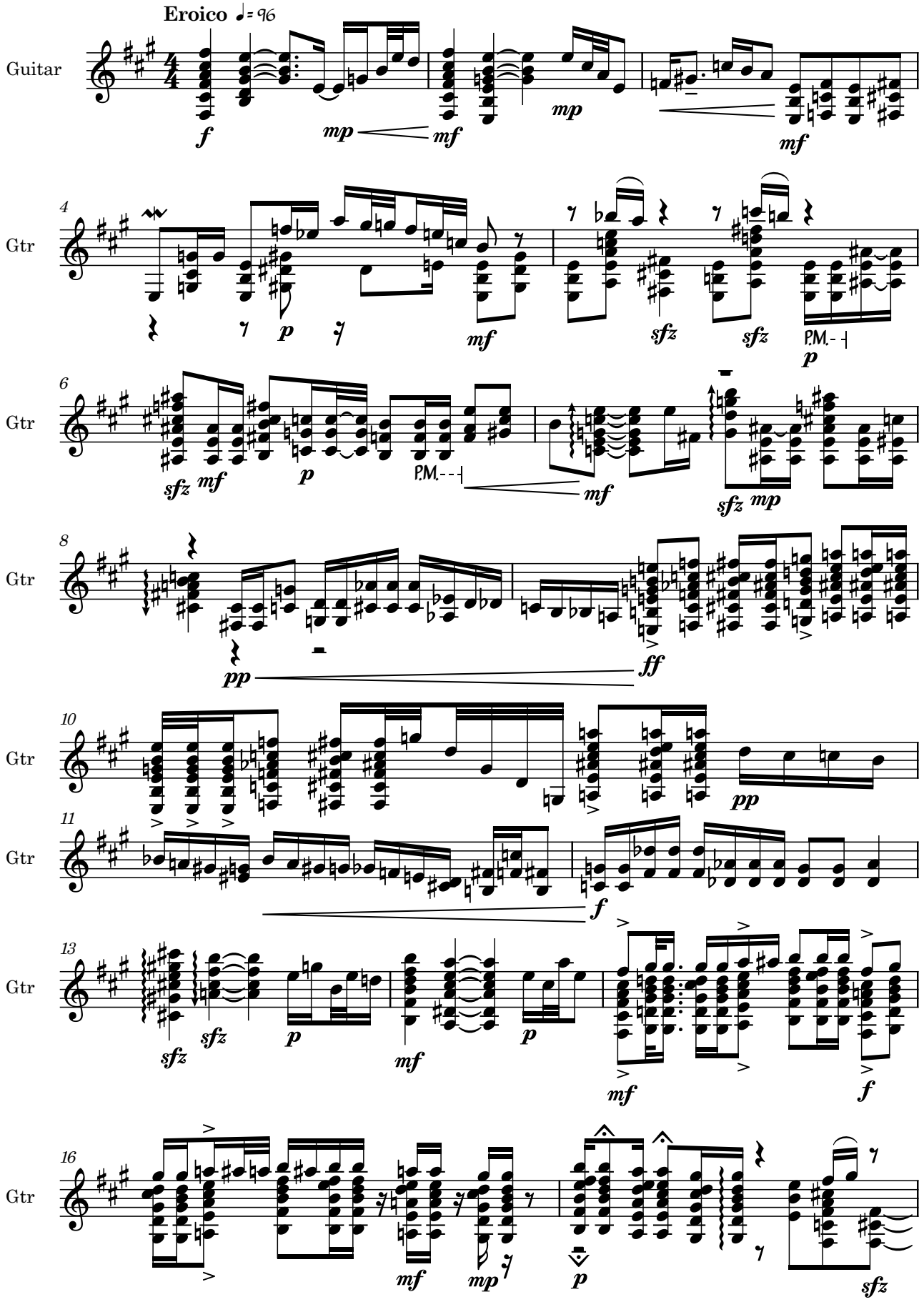
1. Ascent

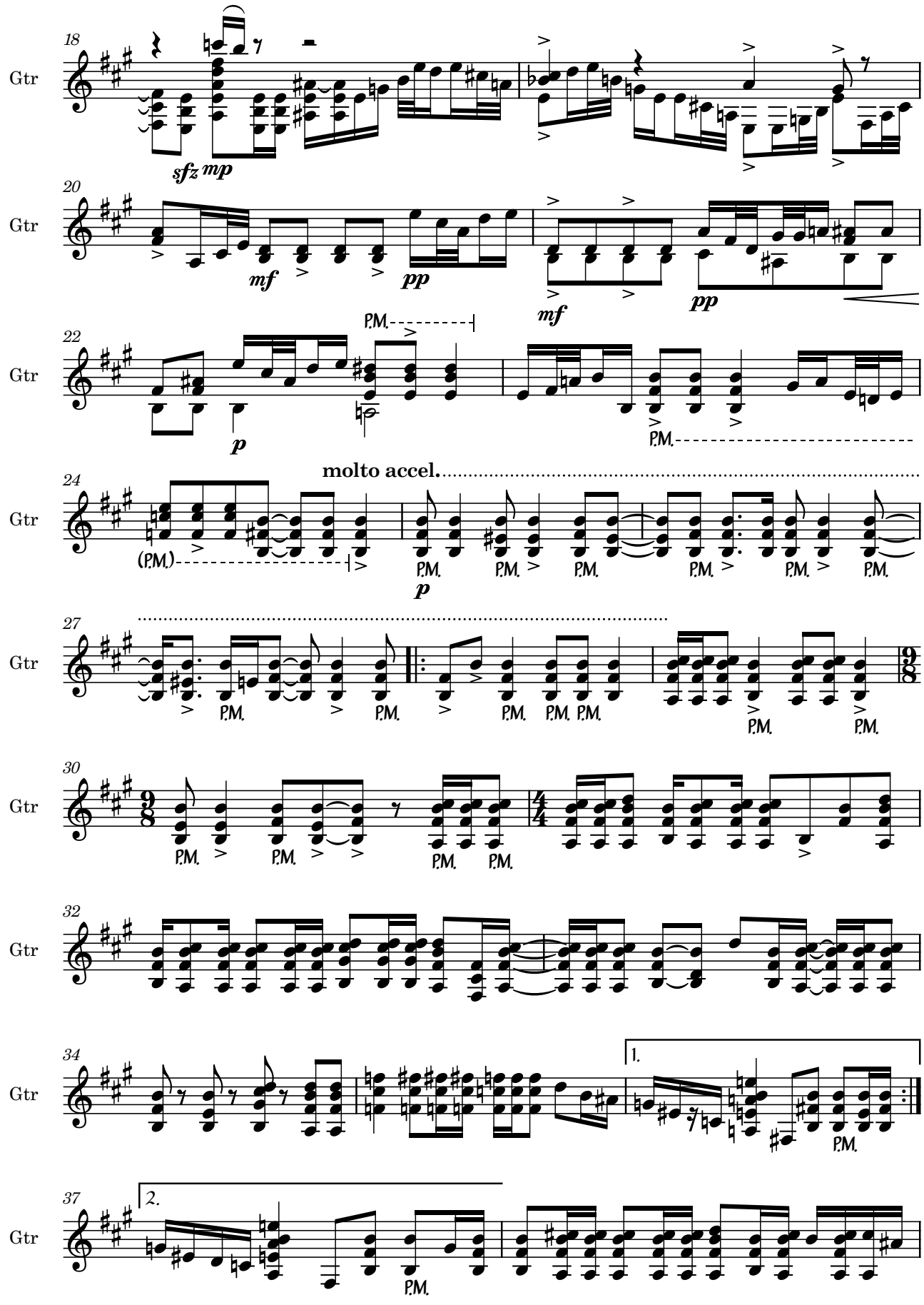


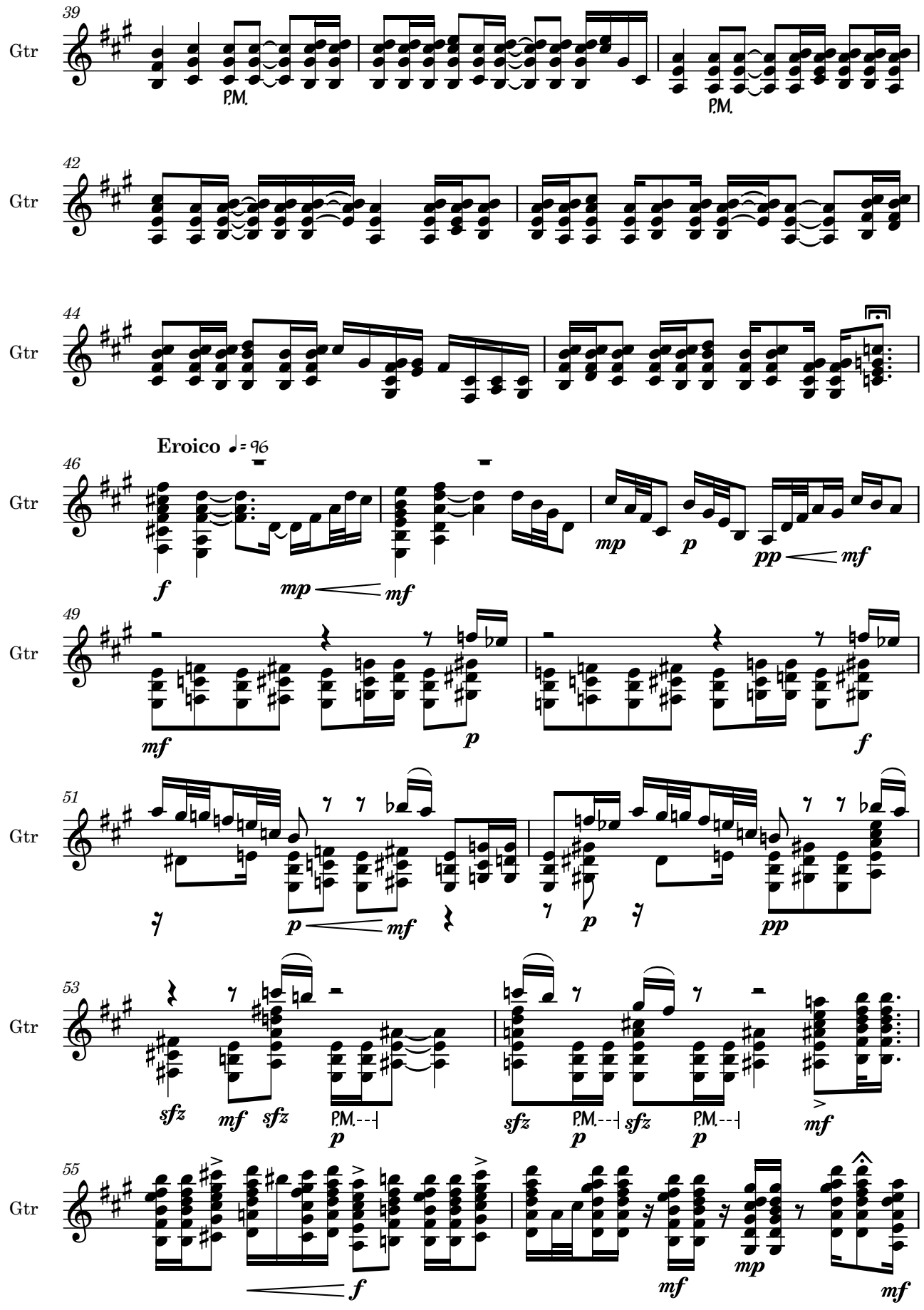

poco rit.....Largo ♩= 56
Allegretto ♩= 112
Gtr

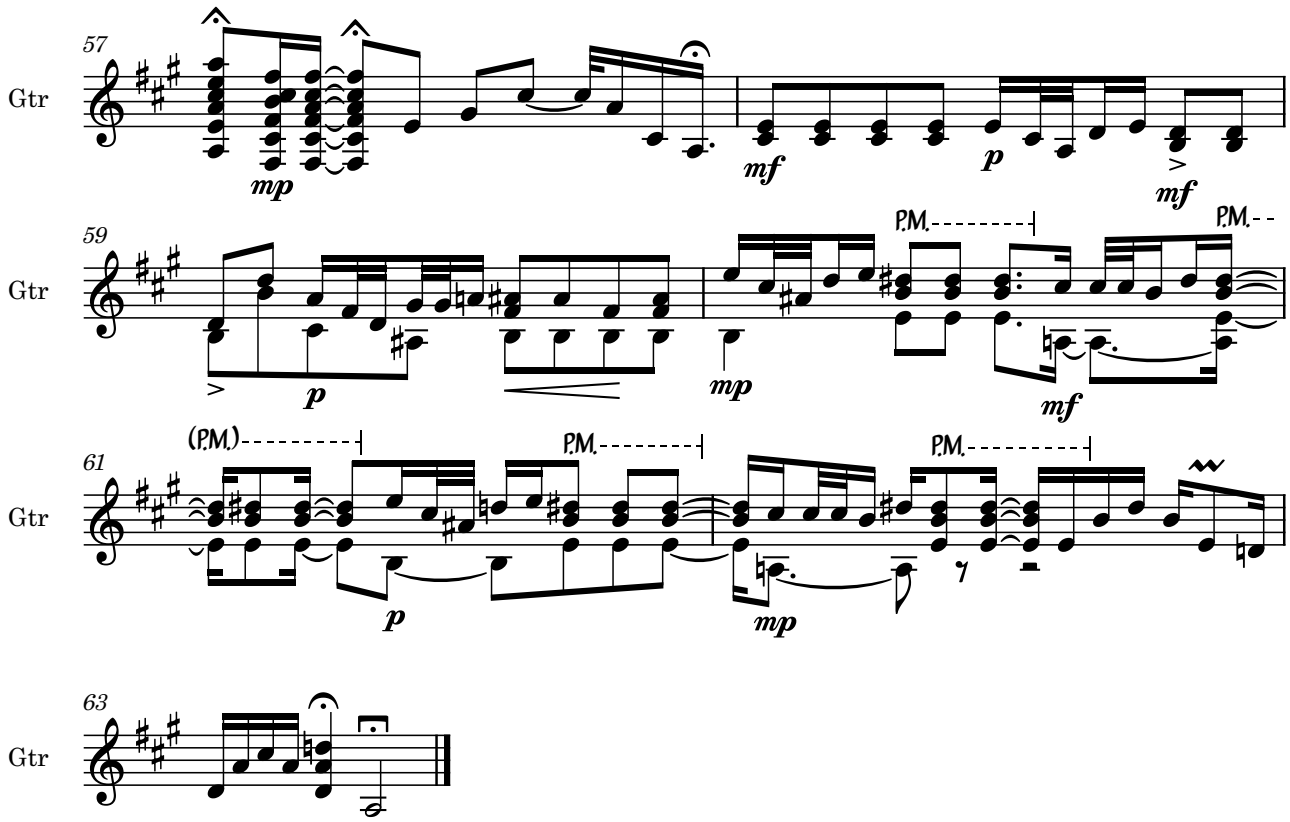

53
Gtr
mf
p
mf
p
55
Gtr
mp
sfz
sfz
pp
p
mf
58
Gtr
60
Gtr
Tranquillamente ♩= ca 60
p
f
63
Gtr
let ring
mp
pp
3
p
66
Gtr
pp
p
mp
mf
f

2. Plateau



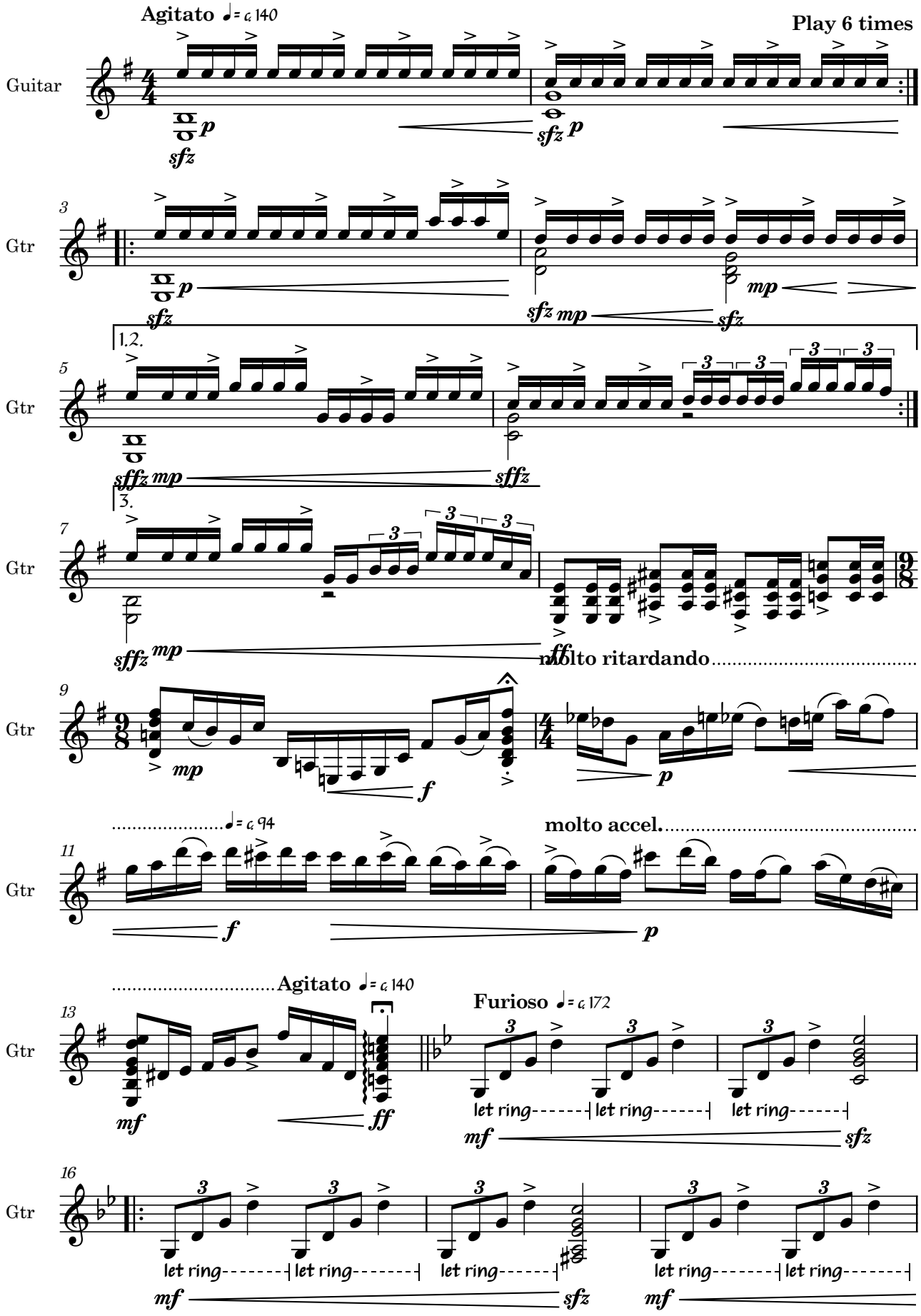

18
Gtr
sfz mp
20
Gtr
mf
pp
mf
pp
22
Gtr
P.M.
p
P.M.
24
Gtr
molto accel.
(P.M.)
P.M.
p
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
27
Gtr
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
30
Gtr
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
P.M.
32
Gtr
34
Gtr
1.
P.M.
37
Gtr
2.
P.M.

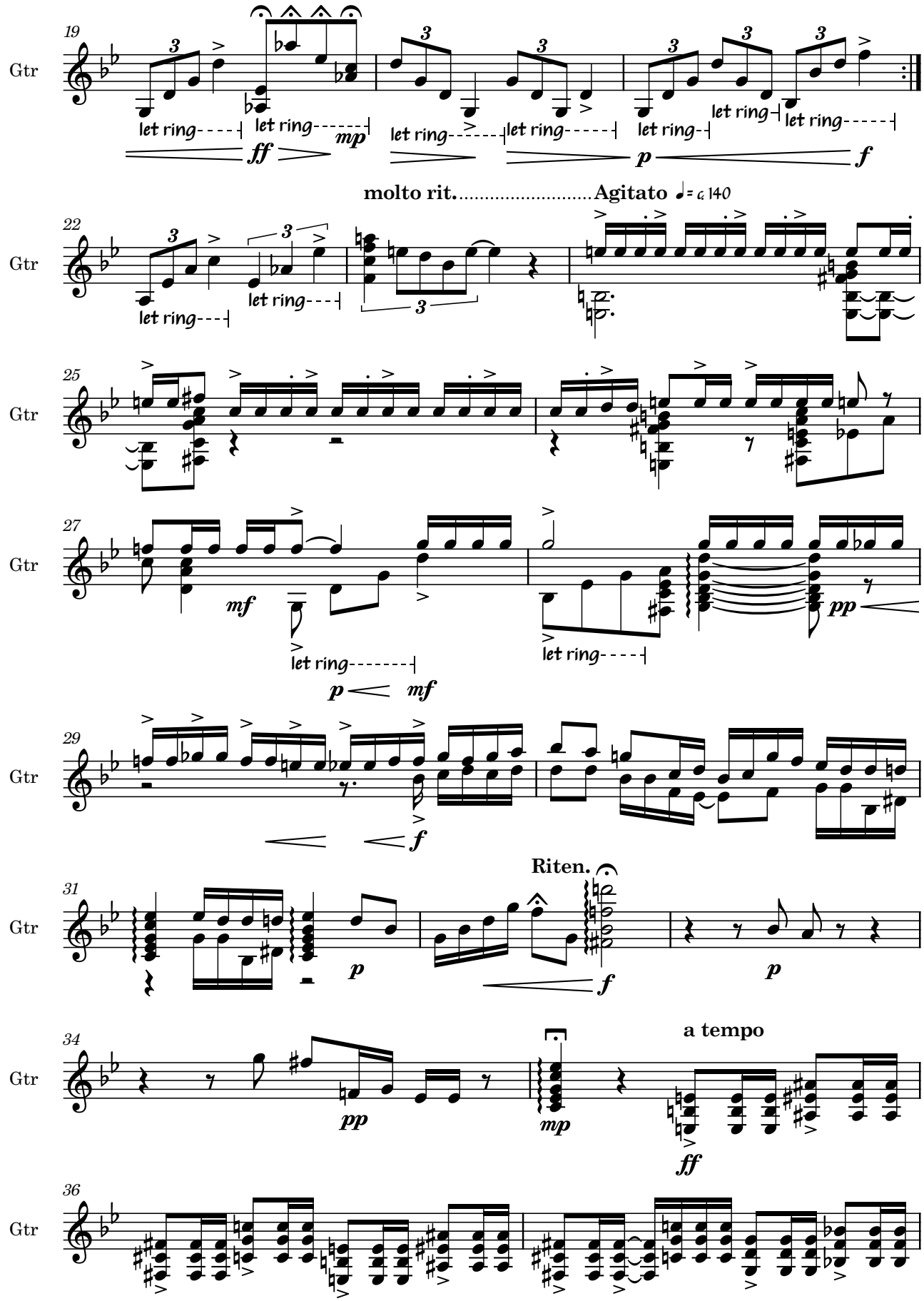

39
Gtr
P.M.
P.M.
42
Gtr
44
Gtr
Eroico ♩= 96
46
Gtr
f
mp
mf
mp
p
pp
mf
49
Gtr
mf
p
f
51
Gtr
p
mf
p
pp
53
Gtr
sfz
mf
sfz
P.M.
p
sfz
P.M.
p
sfz
P.M.
p
mf
55
Gtr
f
mf
mp
mf

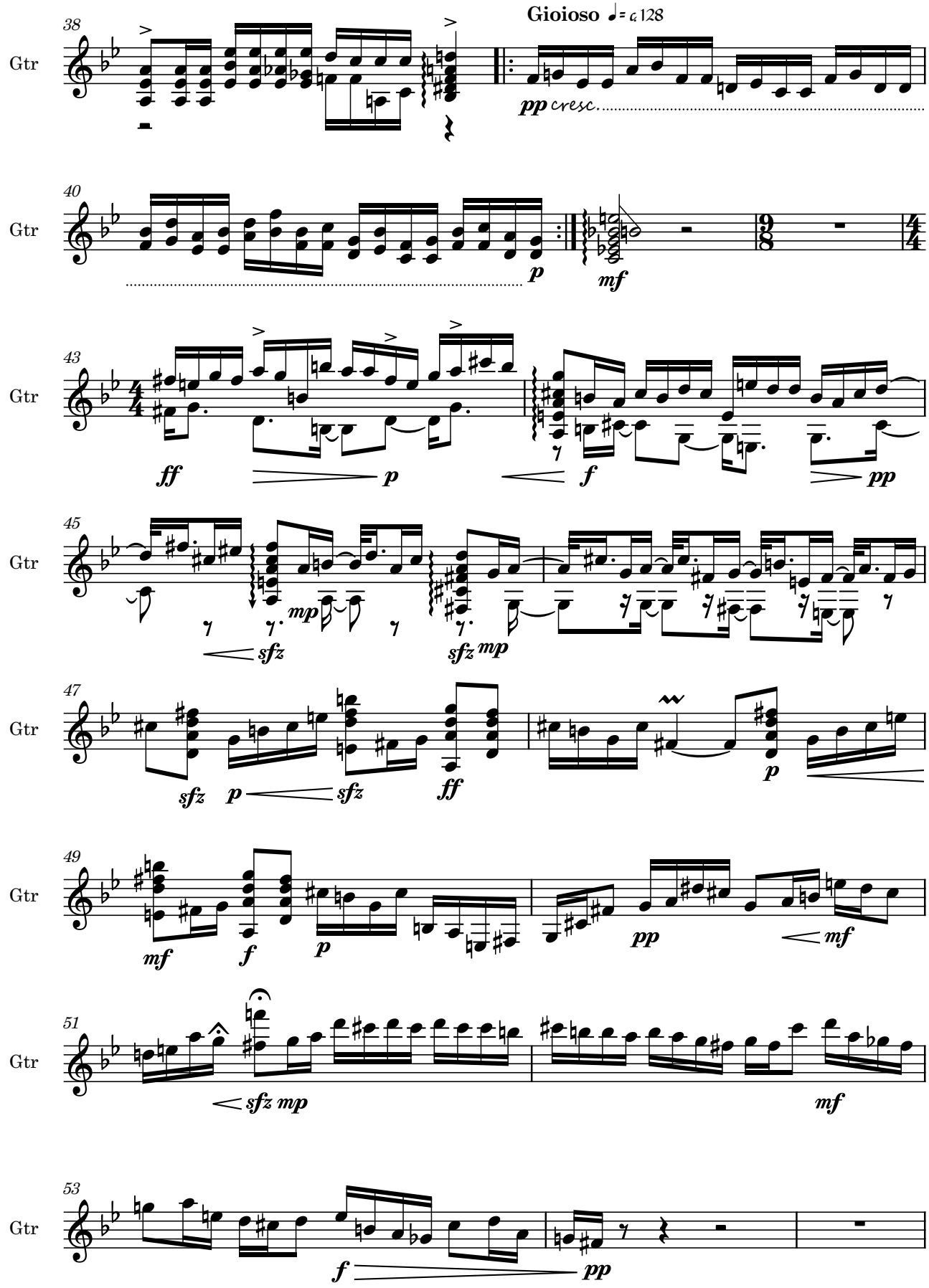


Continue to next movement right away

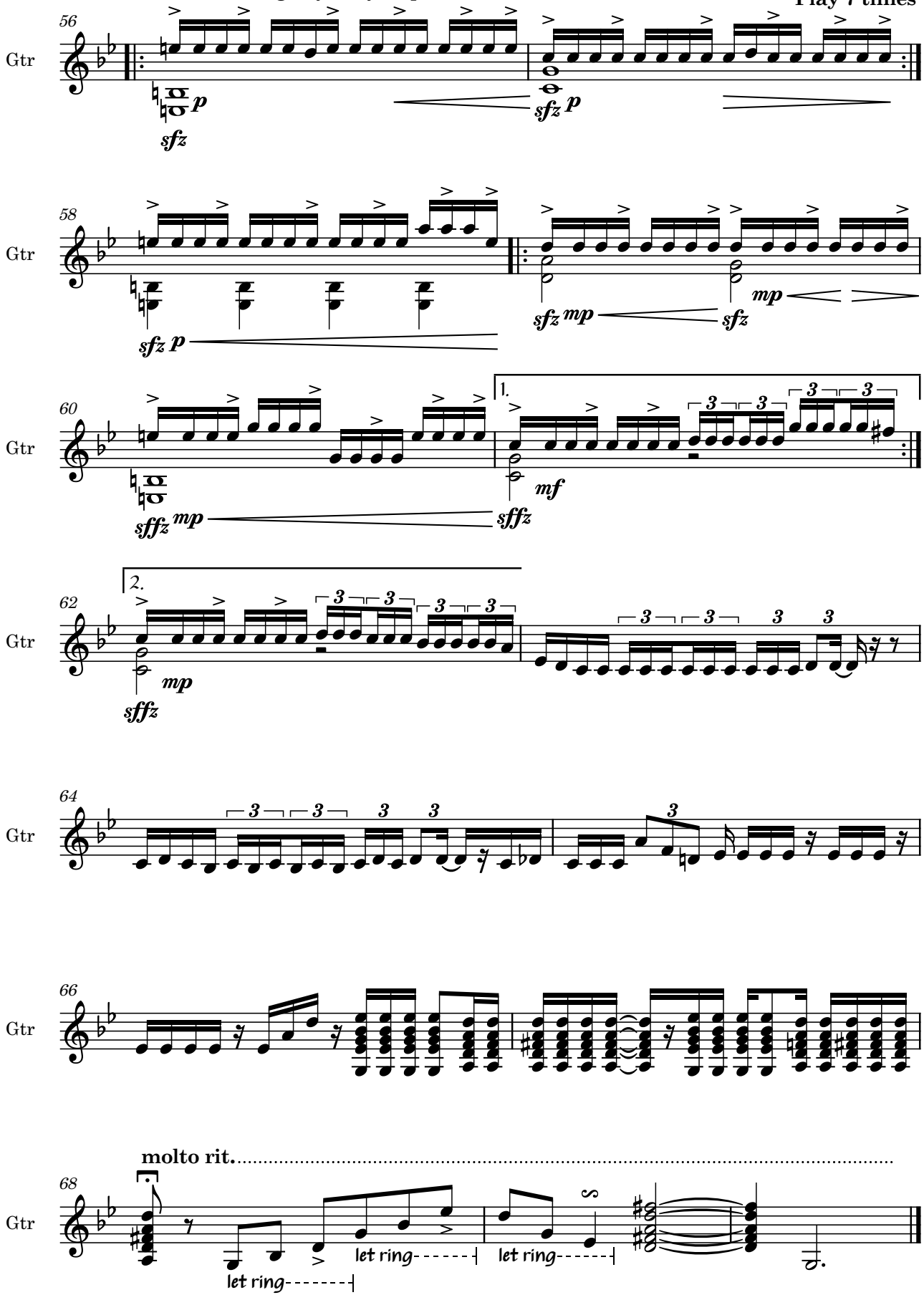
3. Descent


Agitato ♩= ca 140
Play 6 times
Guitar
Gtr
molto ritardando
molto accel.
Agitato ♩= ca 140
Furioso ♩= ca 172
let ring
1.2.
3.


19
Gtr
let ring
ff
let ring
mp
let ring
let ring
p
let ring
let ring
f
molto rit.
Agitato
22
Gtr
let ring
let ring
25
Gtr
27
Gtr
mf
let ring
p
mf
let ring
pp
29
Gtr
f
31
Gtr
Riten.
p
f
p
34
Gtr
pp
mp
a tempo
ff
36
Gtr


Gioioso ♩= c 128
38
Gtr
pp cresc.
40
Gtr
p
mf
43
Gtr
ff
p
f
pp
45
Gtr
sfz
mp
sfz mp
47
Gtr
sfz
p
sfz
ff
p
49
Gtr
mf
f
p
pp
mf
51
Gtr
sfz mp
mf
53
Gtr
f
pp

Agitato ♩= ca 140

The odd notes don't have to be on the same beat each iteration and can slightly vary in pitch

Play 7 times