PEDAGOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE SOLO PIANO WORKS OF THORKELL SIGURBJÖRNSSON

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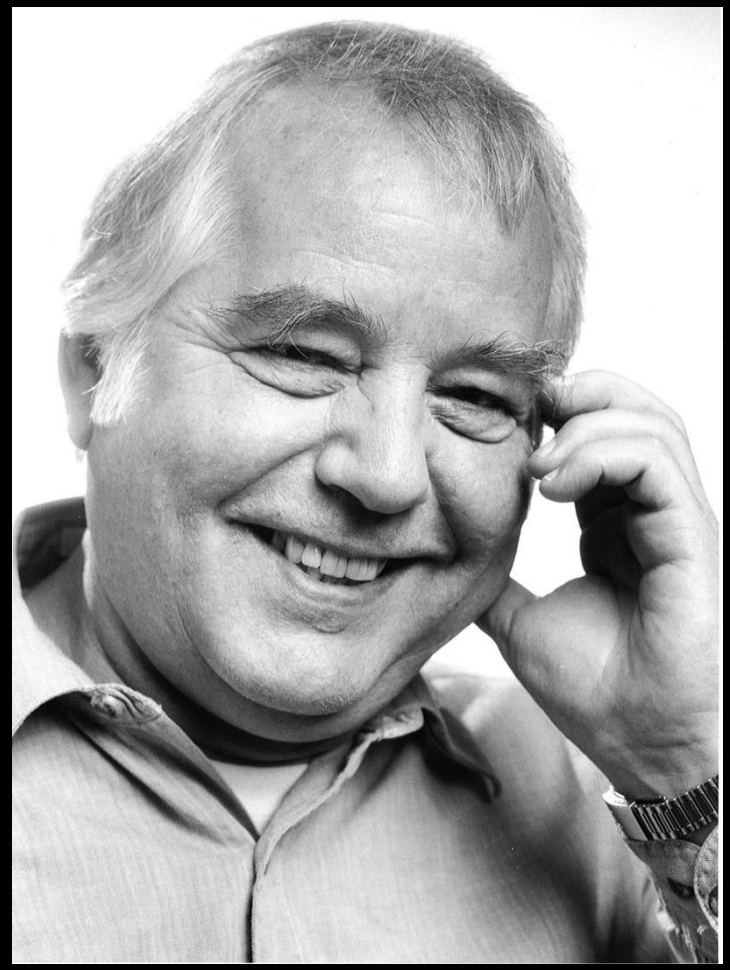
FEATURES OF BARTÓK'S PIANO MUSIC

- Ear training
- Mirroring and altered hand positions
- Delightful miniatures
- Sightreading
- Modal
- Unexpected/complex rhythmic patterns
- Folk songs
- Counterpoint
- Dissonance
- Encourages hands separate practice
- Wide range of articulative markings

THORKELL SIGURBJÖRNSSON (1938-2013)



APASPIL (1966)

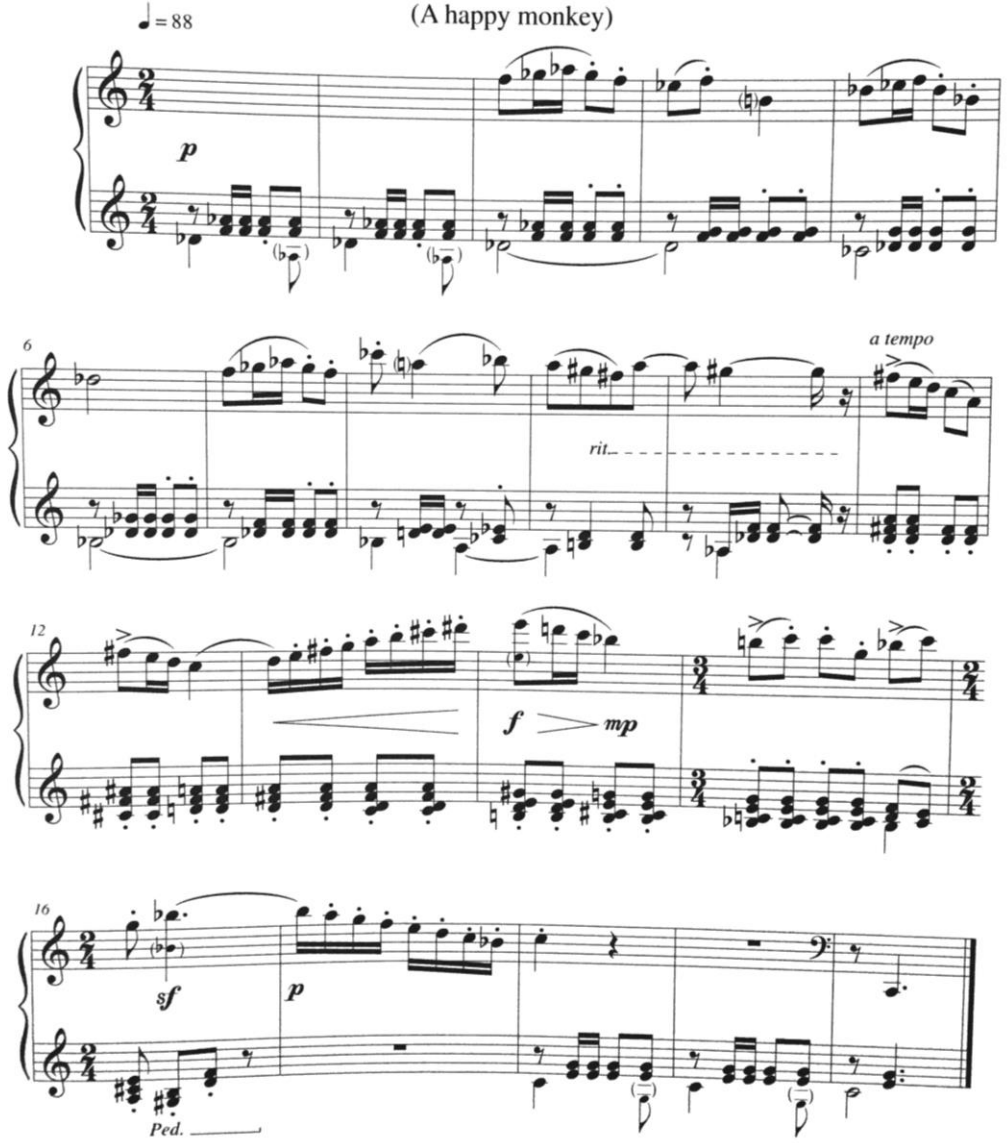
- Modal
- Dissonances
- Folksong qualities
- Counterpoint
- Variety of articulation
- Uneven phrase lengths
- Mixed meter
- Solfege/Ear training

Sjö lög úr Apaspil/
Seven Songs from Apaspil

(Composed in 1966)

Þorkell Sigurbjörnsson

Kátur api
(A happy monkey)



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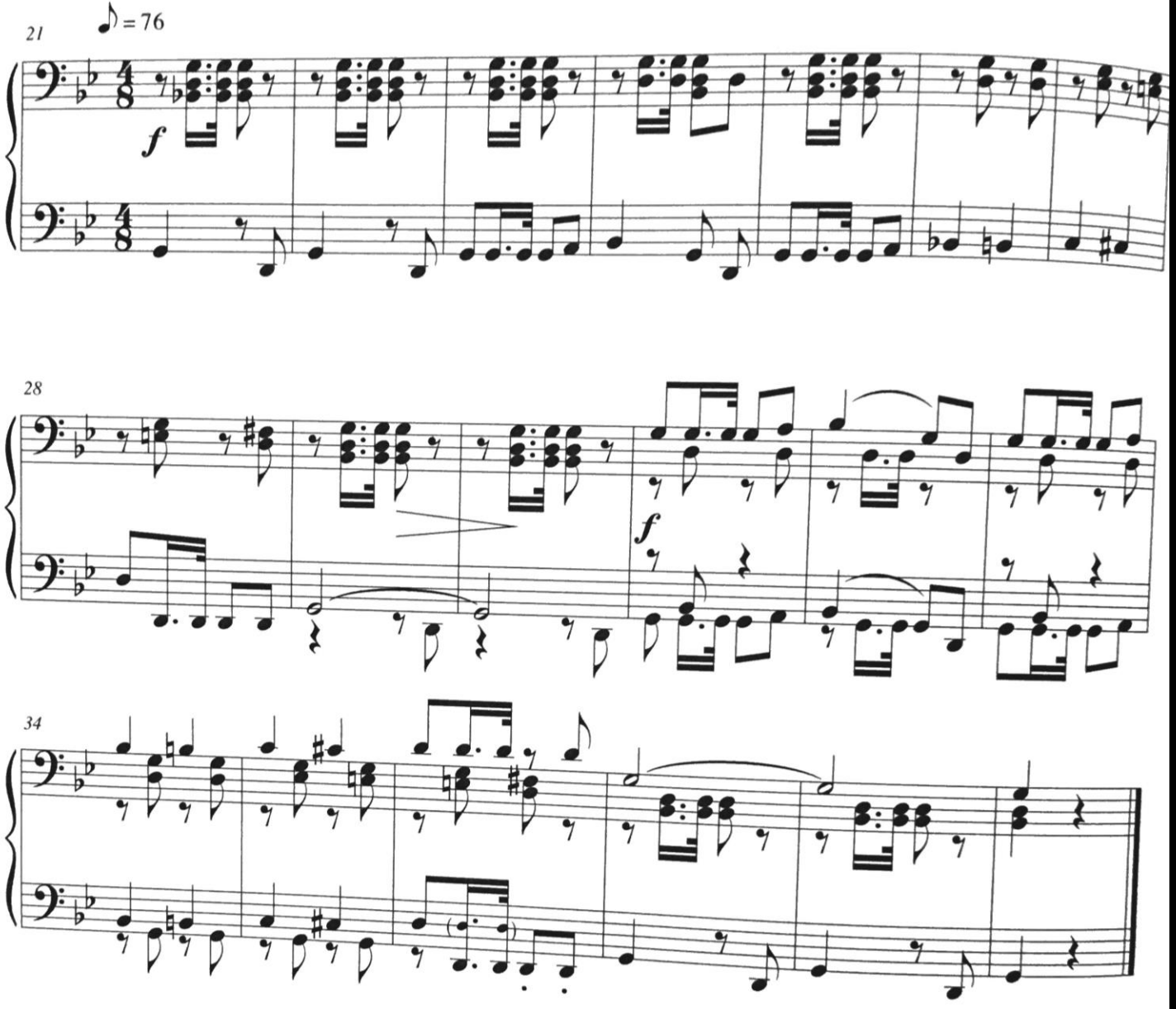
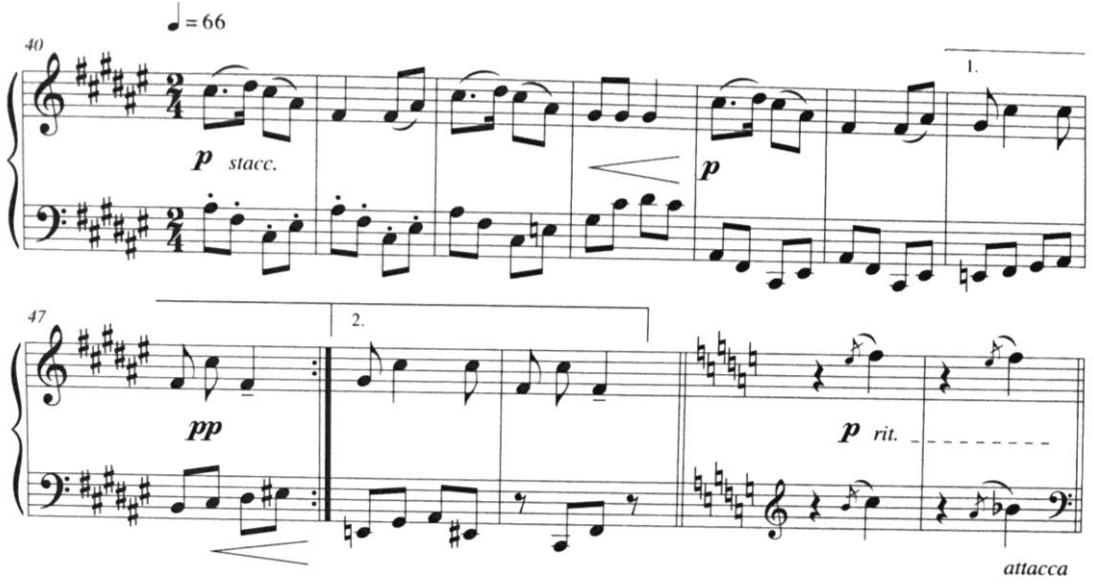
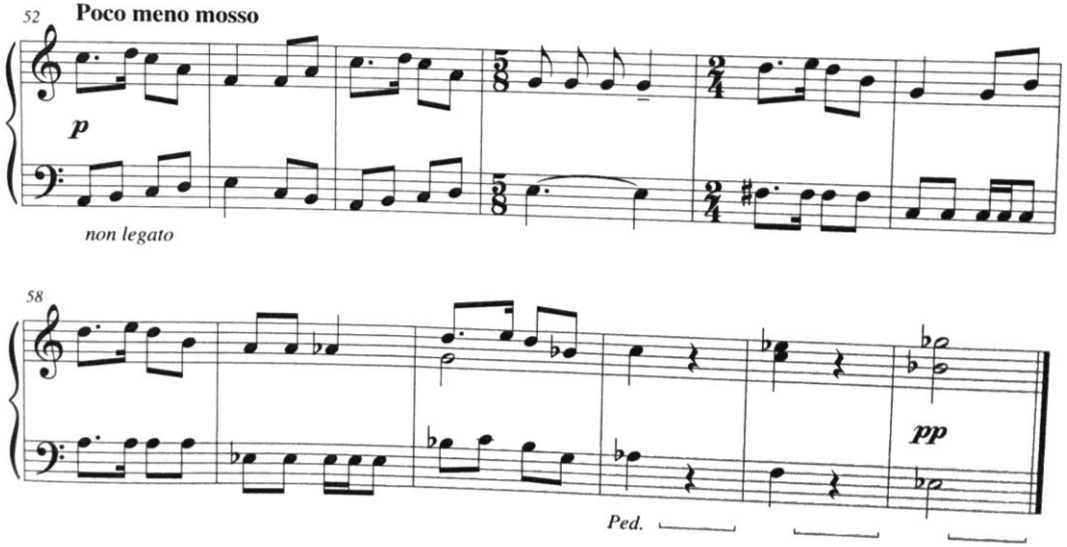
Dýratemjarinn
(The animal trainer)



Í skólanum
(In the school)



Dýratemjarinn kemur
(The animal trainer comes)



SINDUR (2000)

- Extended techniques
  - Sostenuto pedal
  - Double-pedaling
- Tone color
- Imitation/Canonic
- Motivic
- No real tonal center

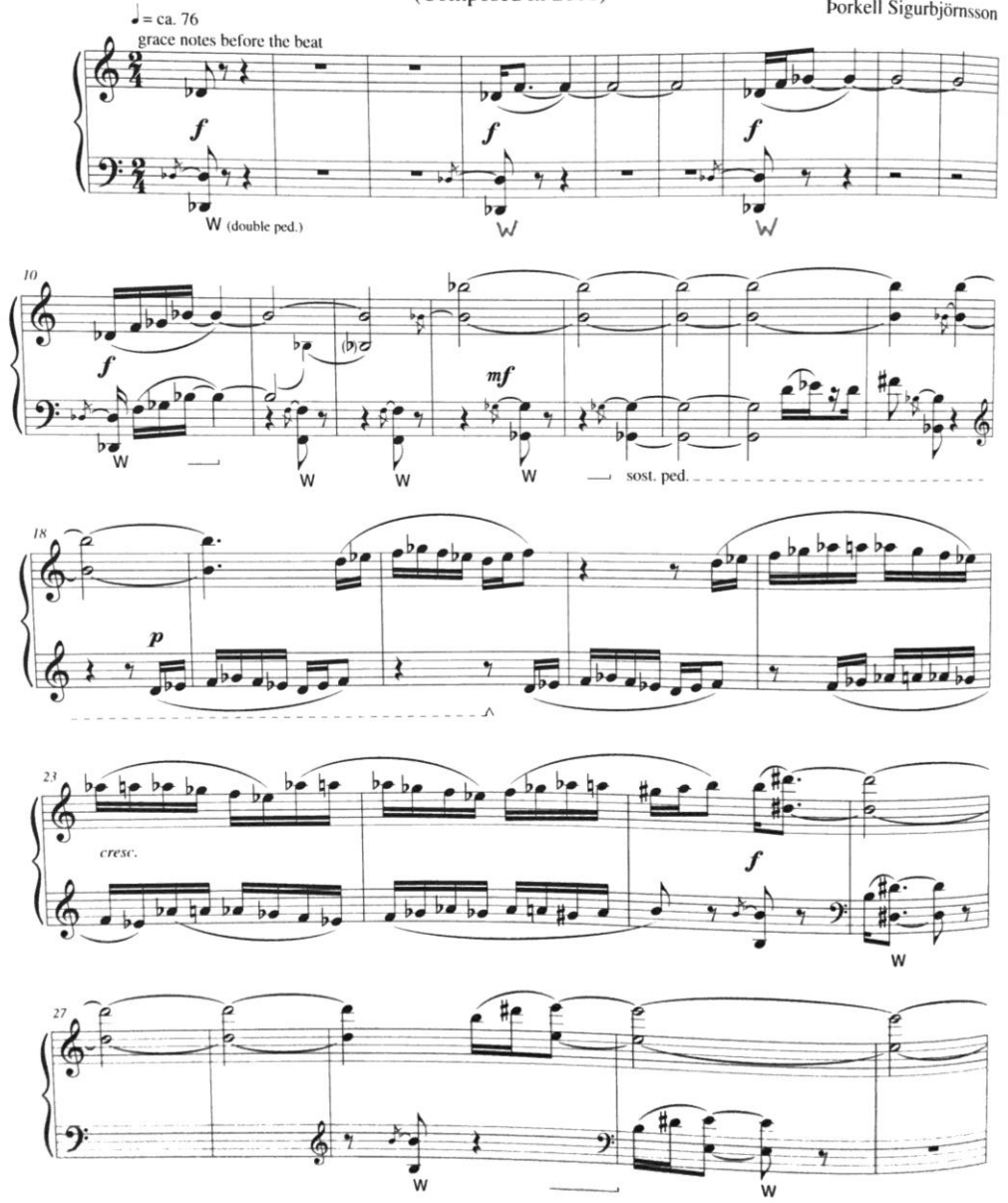
Sindur

(Scintillation)

til Íslands deildar EPTA/to the Icelandic chapter of EPTA

(Composed in 2000)

Þorkell Sigurbjörnsson



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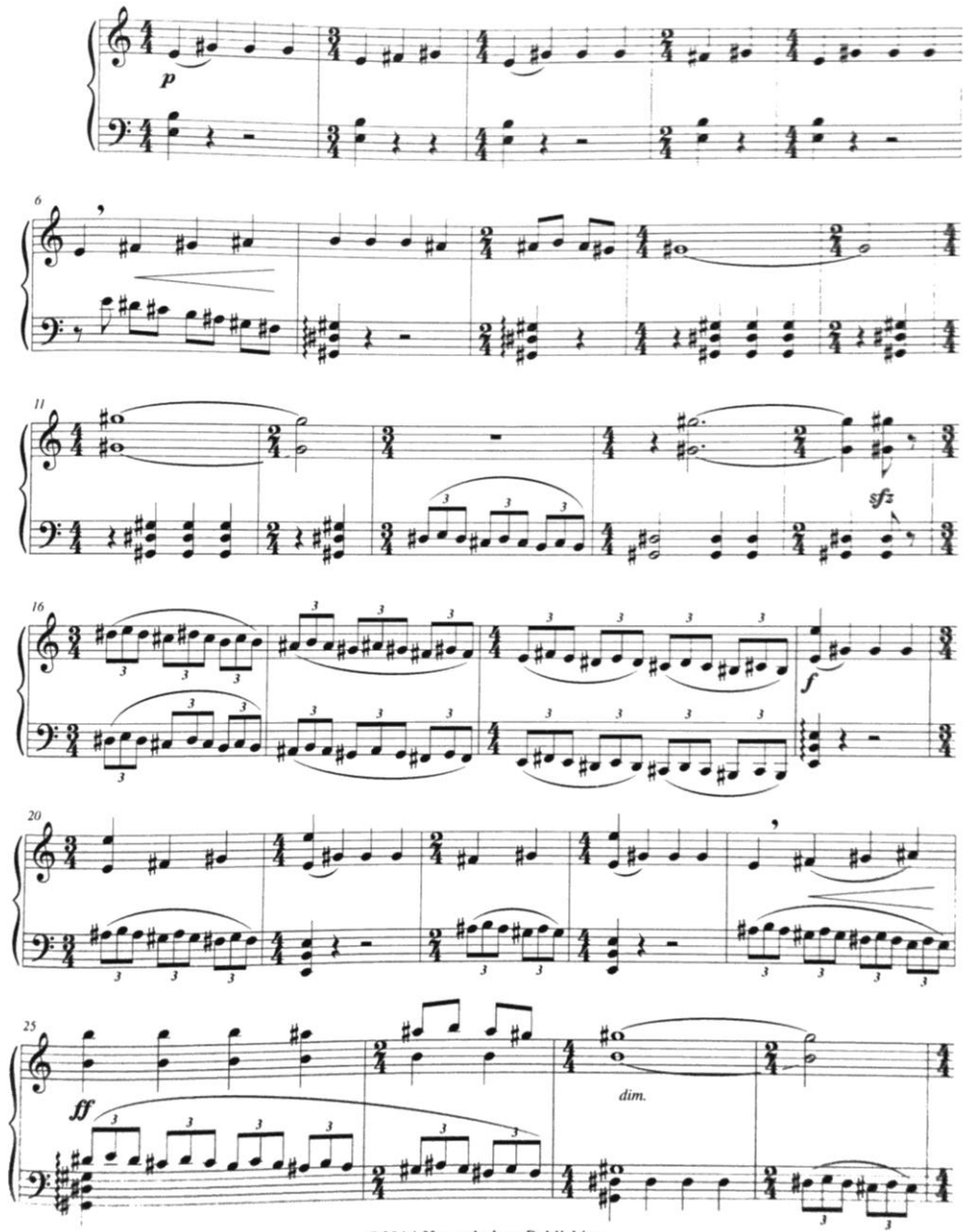
LAGSTÚFUR FYRIR VIGDÍSI (1981)

- Icelandic folk song
  - Rímur
  - Tvísöngur
- Mixed meters
- Lydian mode
- Canon
- Extensive use of triplet rhythms

Lagstúfur fyrir Vigdísi

(Composed in 1981)

Þorkell Sigurbjörnsson



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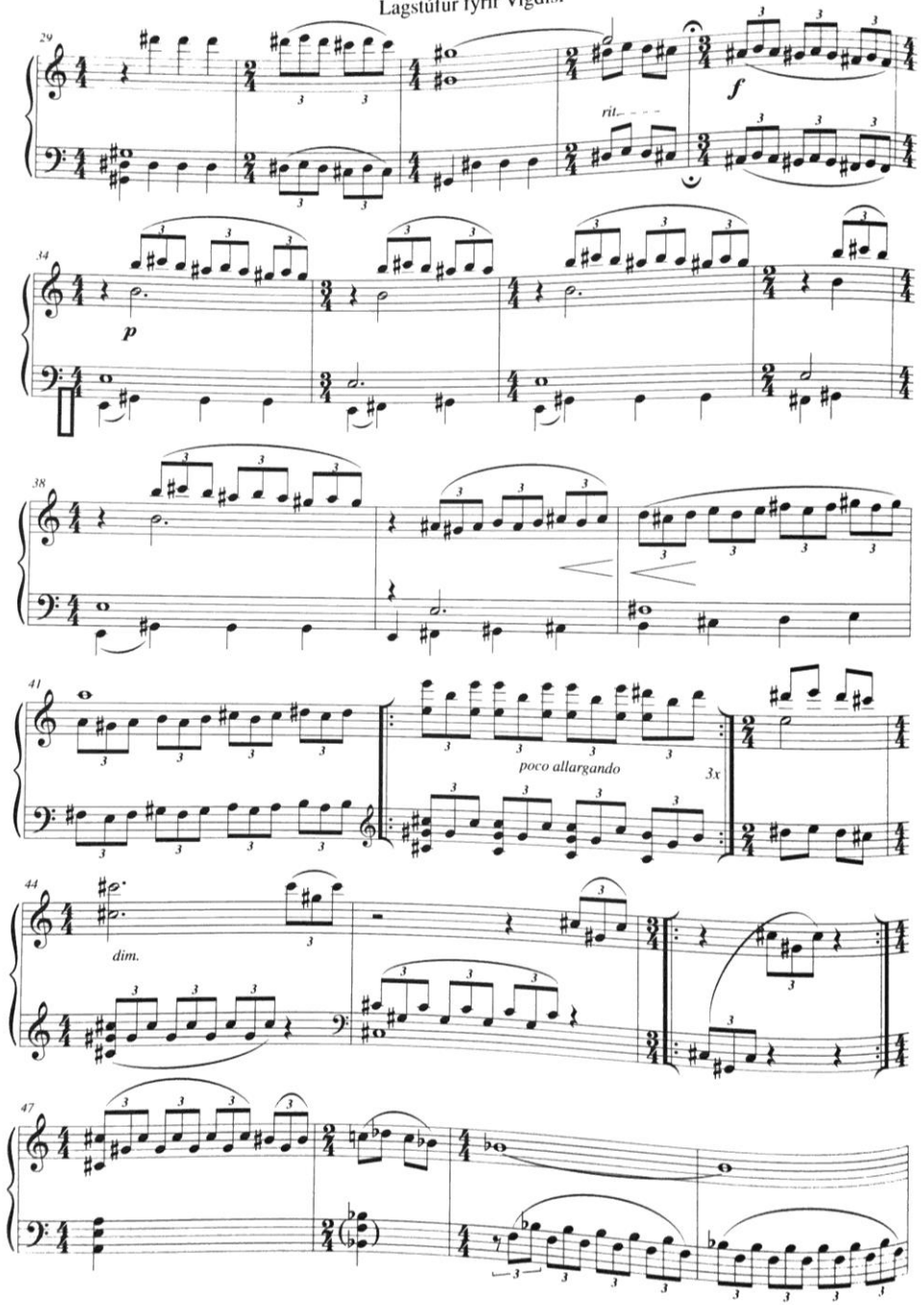
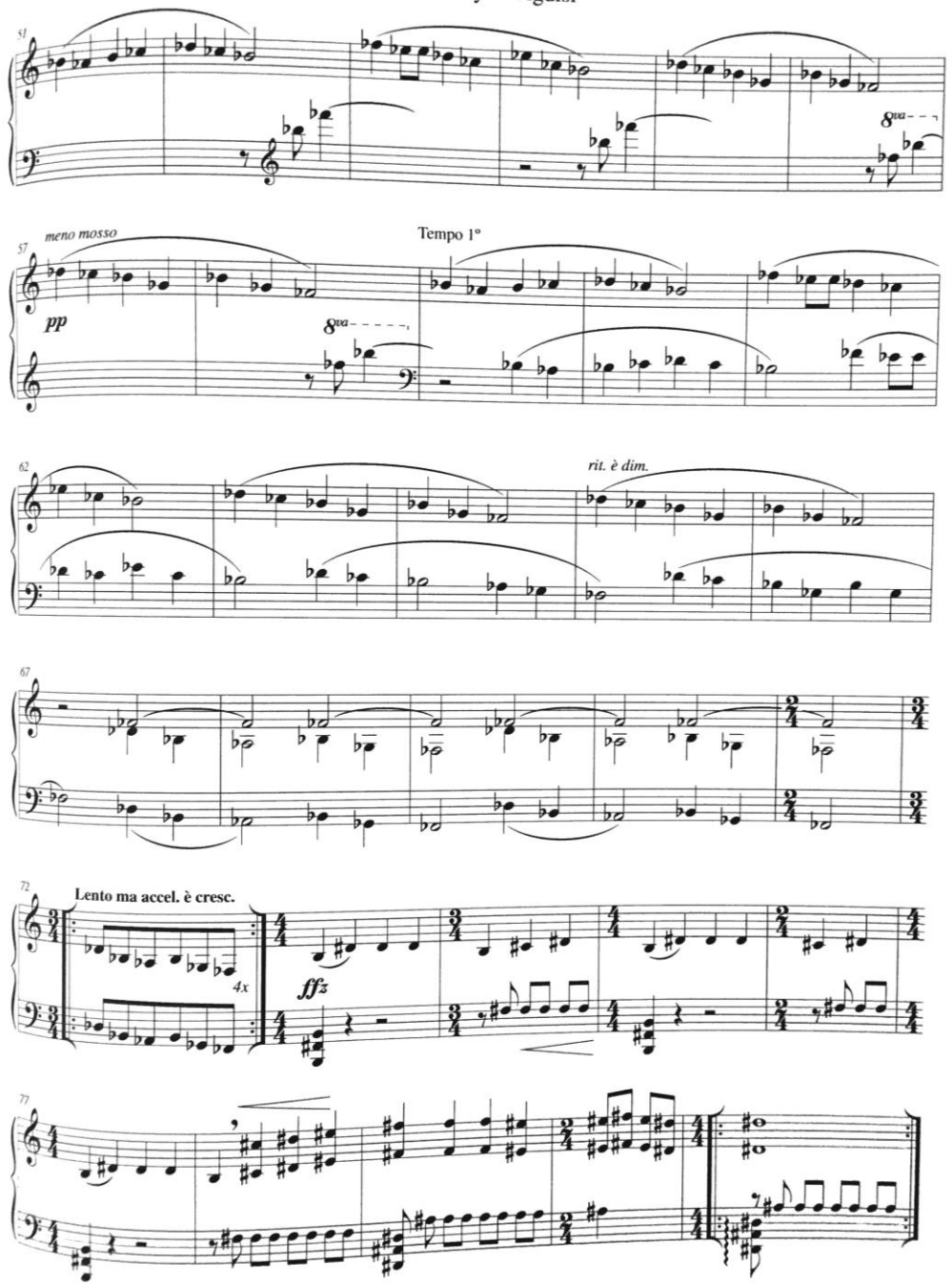
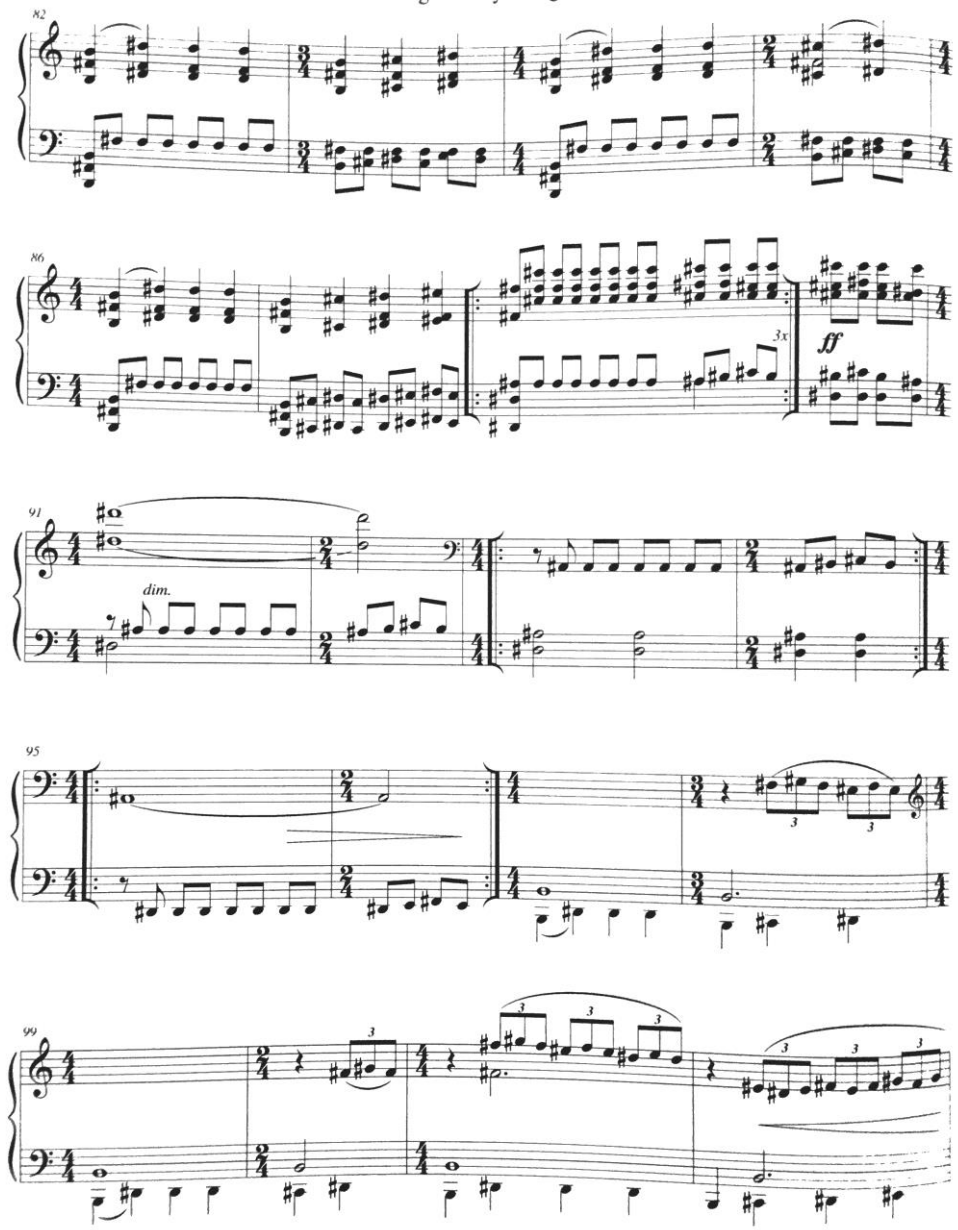
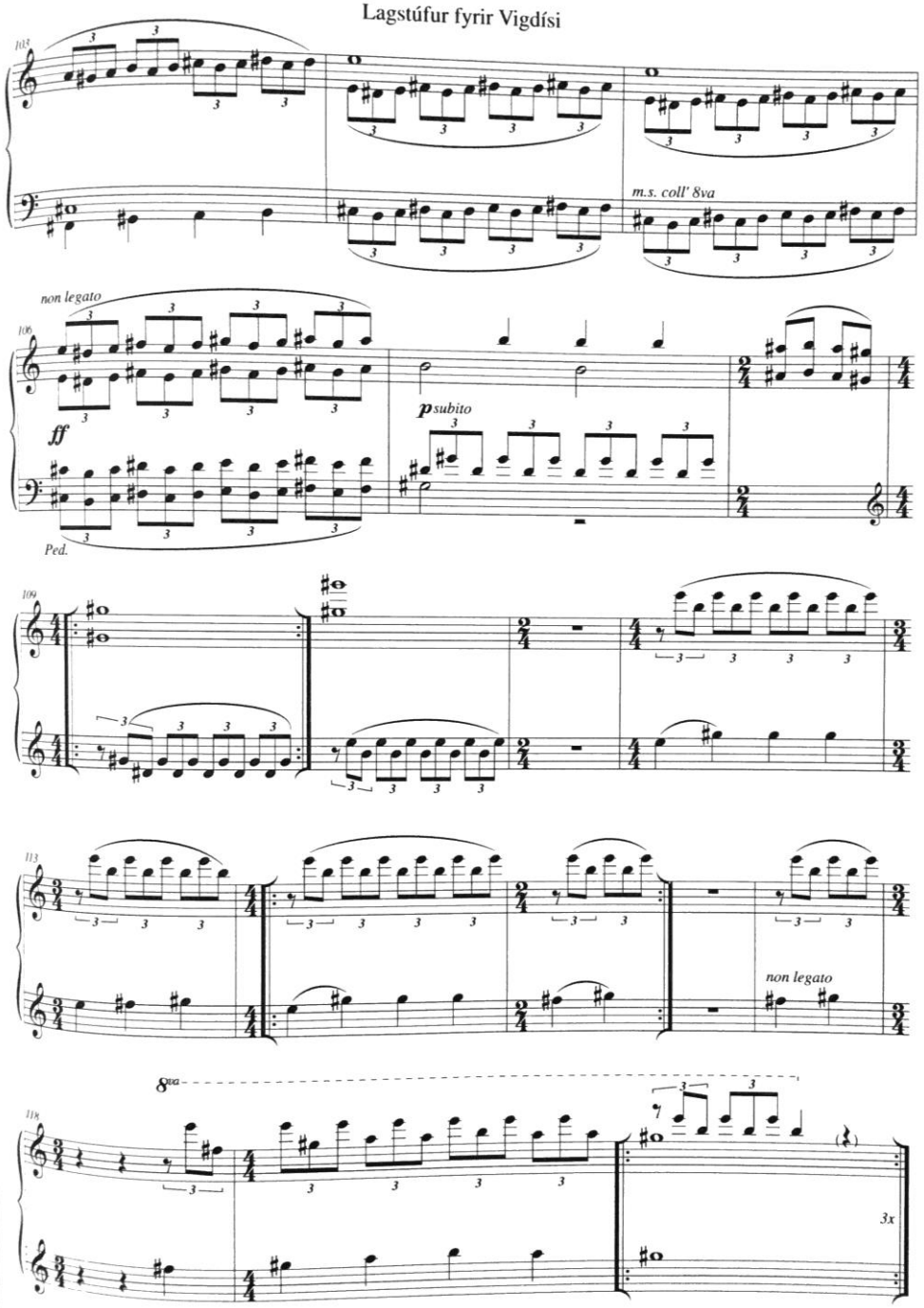
Lagstúfur fyrir Vigdísi




51
8va
57
meno mosso
Tempo 1°
pp
8va
62
rit. è dim.
67
72
Lento ma accel. è cresc.
4x
fffz
77


82
86
3x
ff
91
dim.
95
99


103
m.s. coll' 8va
non legato
106
ff
p subito
Ped.
109
113
non legato
8va
118
3x

OTHER PIANO WORKS

- Der wohltemperierte Pianist (1971)
  - Mixed meters
  - Accentuations
  - Uneven rhythmic structures
  - Third movement: unusual tone colors
- Concert Tours (1972)
  - Mixed meters
  - Accentuations
  - Uneven rhythmic structures
  - Fourth movement: canonic Icelandic folk tune
  - Fifth movement: retrograde of first movement

OTHER PIANO WORKS

- SO (1973)
  - Virtuosic tour de force
  - Reimagines much of Bartók's tonal language
  - Mixed meter
  - Tone clusters
- Hans Variations (1979)
  - Thorkell's pianistic masterpiece
  - Variations on sections of the thematic material (Icelandic folksong)
  - Articulative variety
  - Modal
  - Mixed meter
  - Some variations use hand mirroring of a previous variation
  - Unique pianistic colors

OTHER PIANO WORKS

- Chaconnette (1985)
  - Use of chaconne bass
  - Motivic
  - Much of the piece is in 5/4 or 4/4
- MA KKNOTT (1993)
  - Minimalistic
  - Alternating/repetitive fingering
- Chesa (2008)
  - Mixed meter
  - Clever pedal markings (extended piano techniques)
  - Folk song elements
  - Motivic

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QUESTIONS?