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1987

Variations on a Theme by Webern : for Solo Guitar

Scott Lakin Jones

Anton Webern

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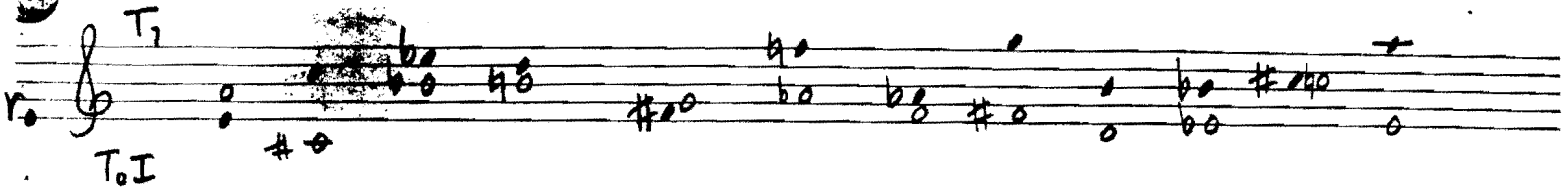
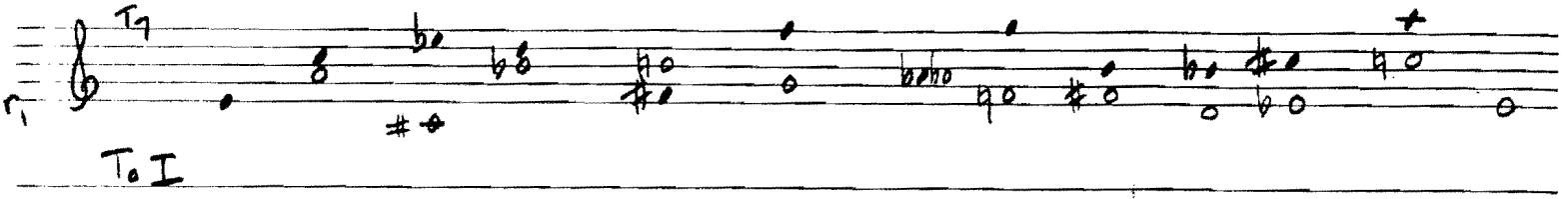
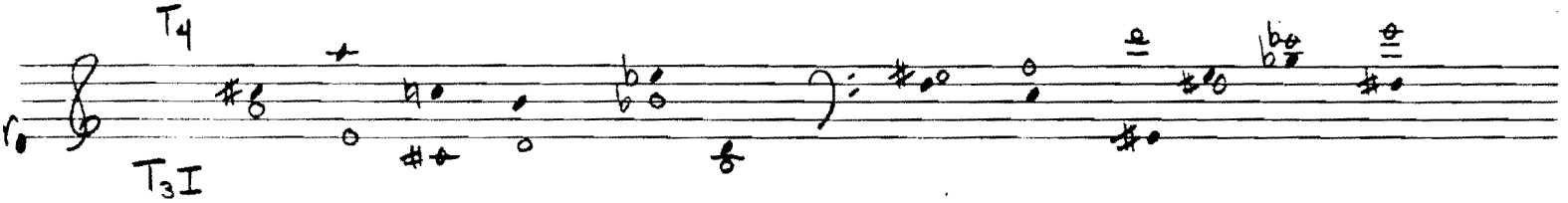
Row Rotations

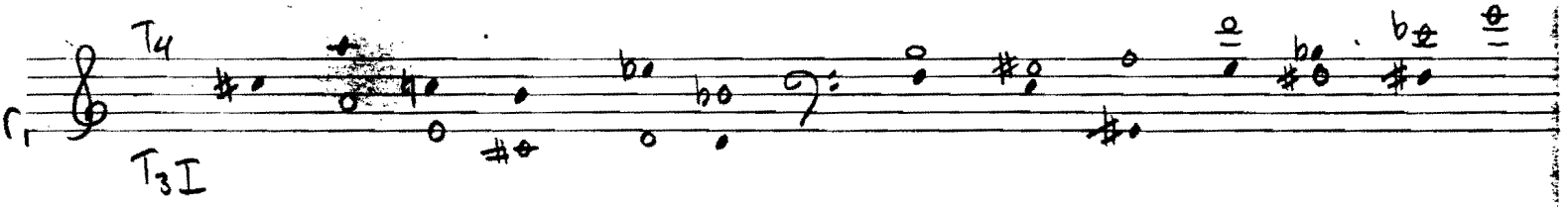
mm 39 – 42





mm 42 – 46





Scott Lakin Jones
March 16, 1987

Notes on Variations on a theme by Webern

Row: 0 3 4 1 2 5 6 9 10 7 8 11

Order numbers 1 and 3 in Webern's row (the row used in his Variations for Orchestra, op. 30) are rotated to create the row used in this composition. This preserves hexachordal pc content and symmety, but alters the musical character of the row.

Measures are incorrectly labeled in the score. The first measure= m.0 (sixth measure = 5.)

Guitar music sounds an octave lower than written except harmonics (⁰) which sound as written.

Theme (m.0-9): Tetrachords presented linearly, moving through T_0, RT_0, T_0I, RT_0I.

Var. I (m.10-17): Harmonic structure of second T_0 tetrachord (m.6) is used as the basis for unfolding the tetrachords of the following sequence:

T_0 T_8 T_4 T_0
RT_0 RT_8 RT_4 RT_0

Var. II (m.18-27): Tetrachords subdivided into dyads. Tetrachords I and III emphasize interval 1 and 2 (and inversion), tetrachord II emphasizes interval 3. Alternation of these differing harmonic areas creates tension and release.

Sequence: T_0I T_5I $T_{10}I$ T_3I T_8I
RT_0I RT_7I RT_2I RT_9I RT_4I

Var. III (m.28-35): Row forms used melodically in free counterpoint. Common tones are frequent and are usually repeated in close temporal proximity and in the same register. Centers of symmetry (A and E♭) are distinguished by repetitions an octave apart, but are otherwise not exploited. Sequence:

$T_{10}I$ $T_{2}I$ $T_{6}I$
$RT_{10}I$ $RT_{2}I$ $RT_{6}I$

Var. IV (m.36-43): Retrograde of theme. Harmonic aspects of tetrachords is emphasized.

All row sequences used in this composition are modifications of sequences found in Webern's Variations for Orchestra op. 30 .

This piece was written in a day. Creating a masterpiece requires much more time than that.

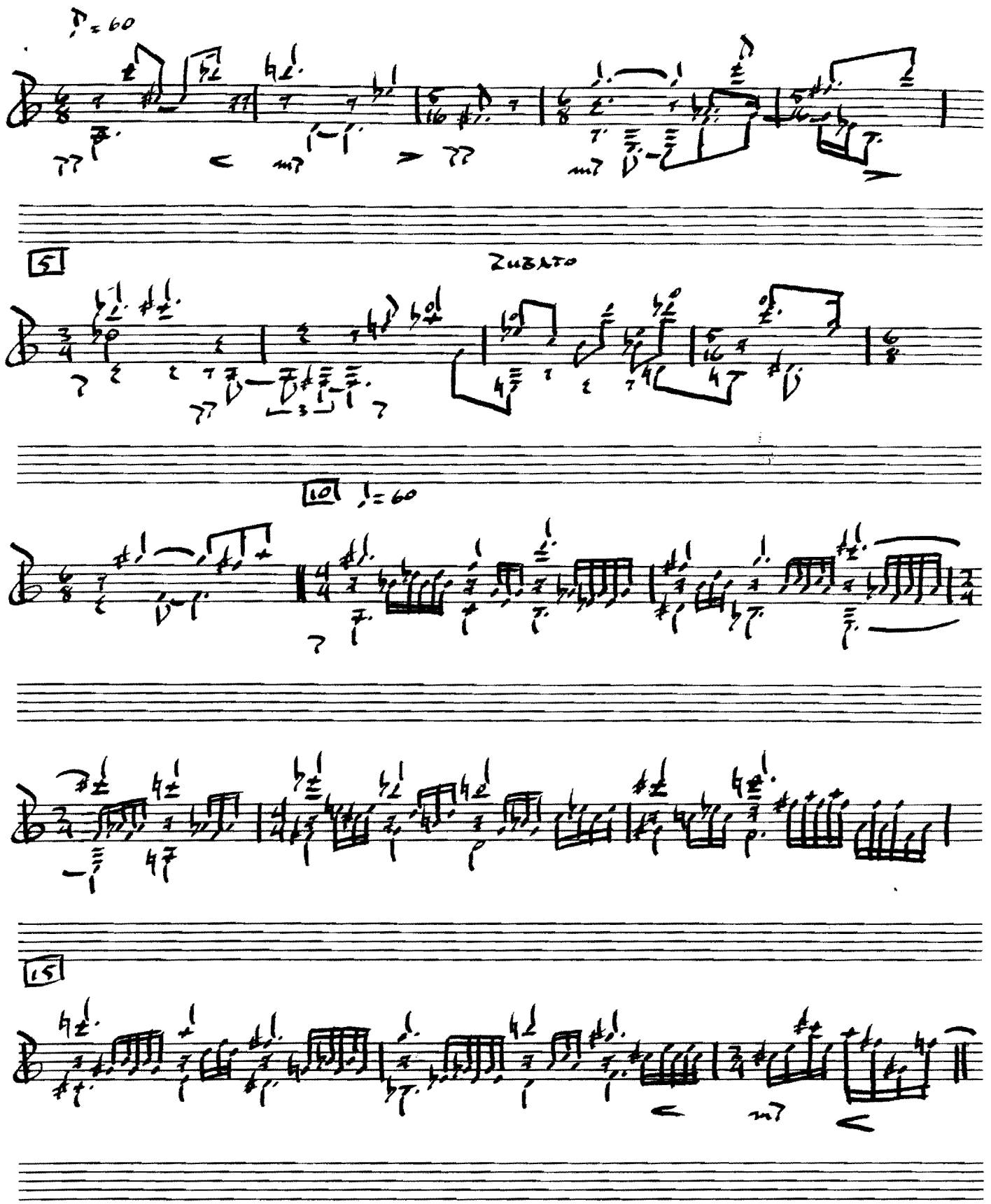
FAL
X
JONES, S.L.
BOX I
NO. 4

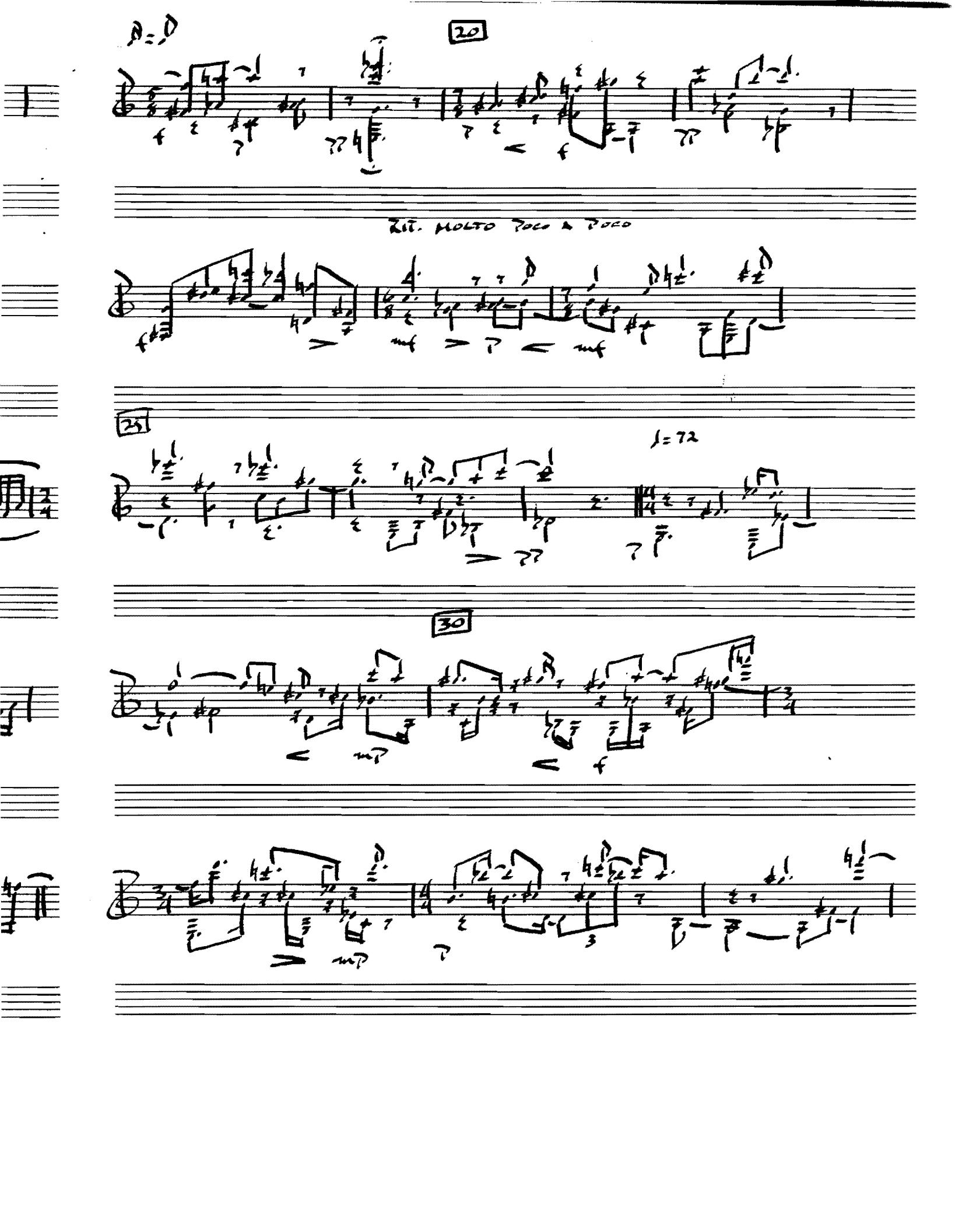
VARIATIONS ON A THEME BY WEBER

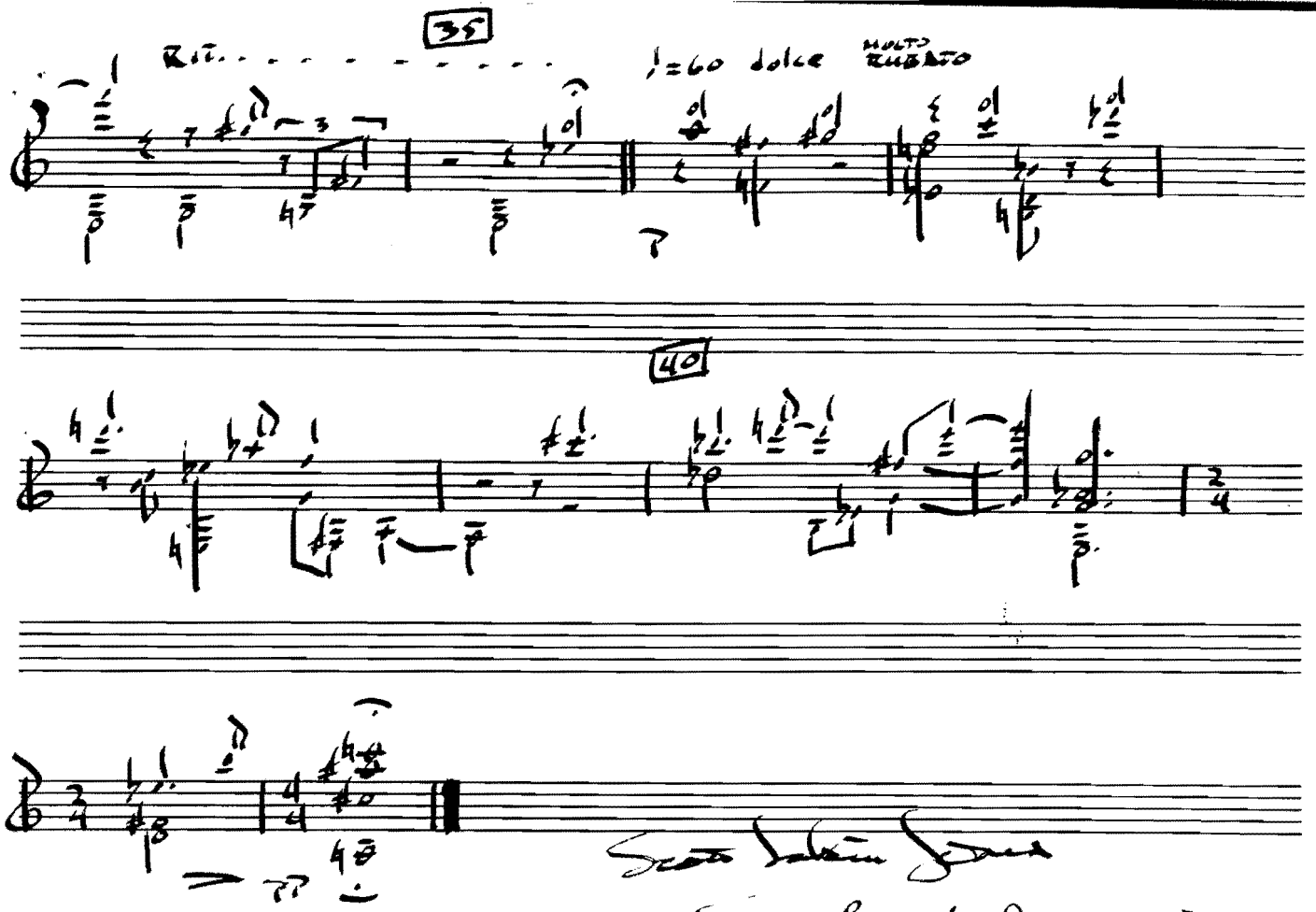
FOR SOLO GUITAR

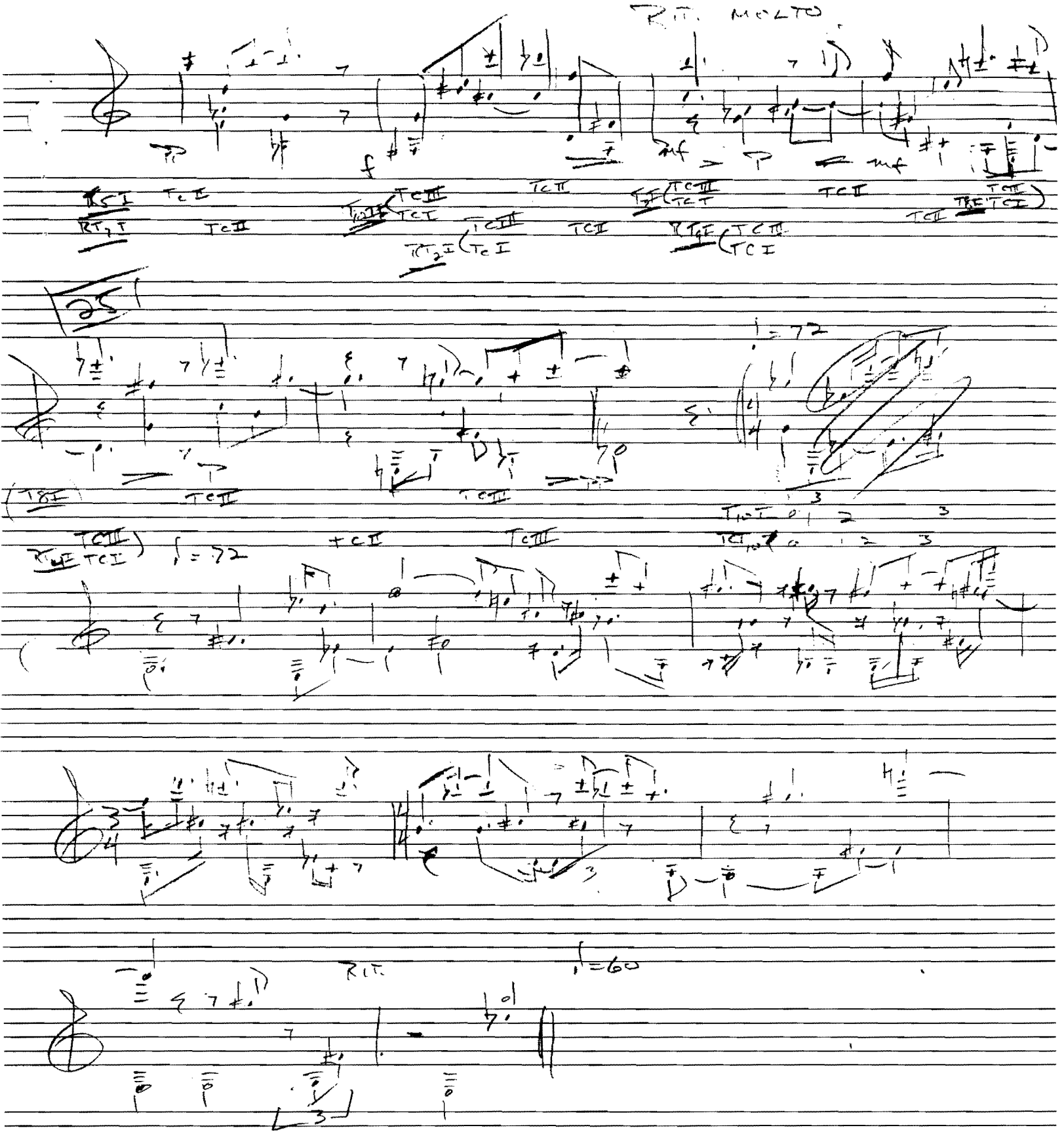
SCOTT LAKIN JONES
SEATTLE
MARCH 1987

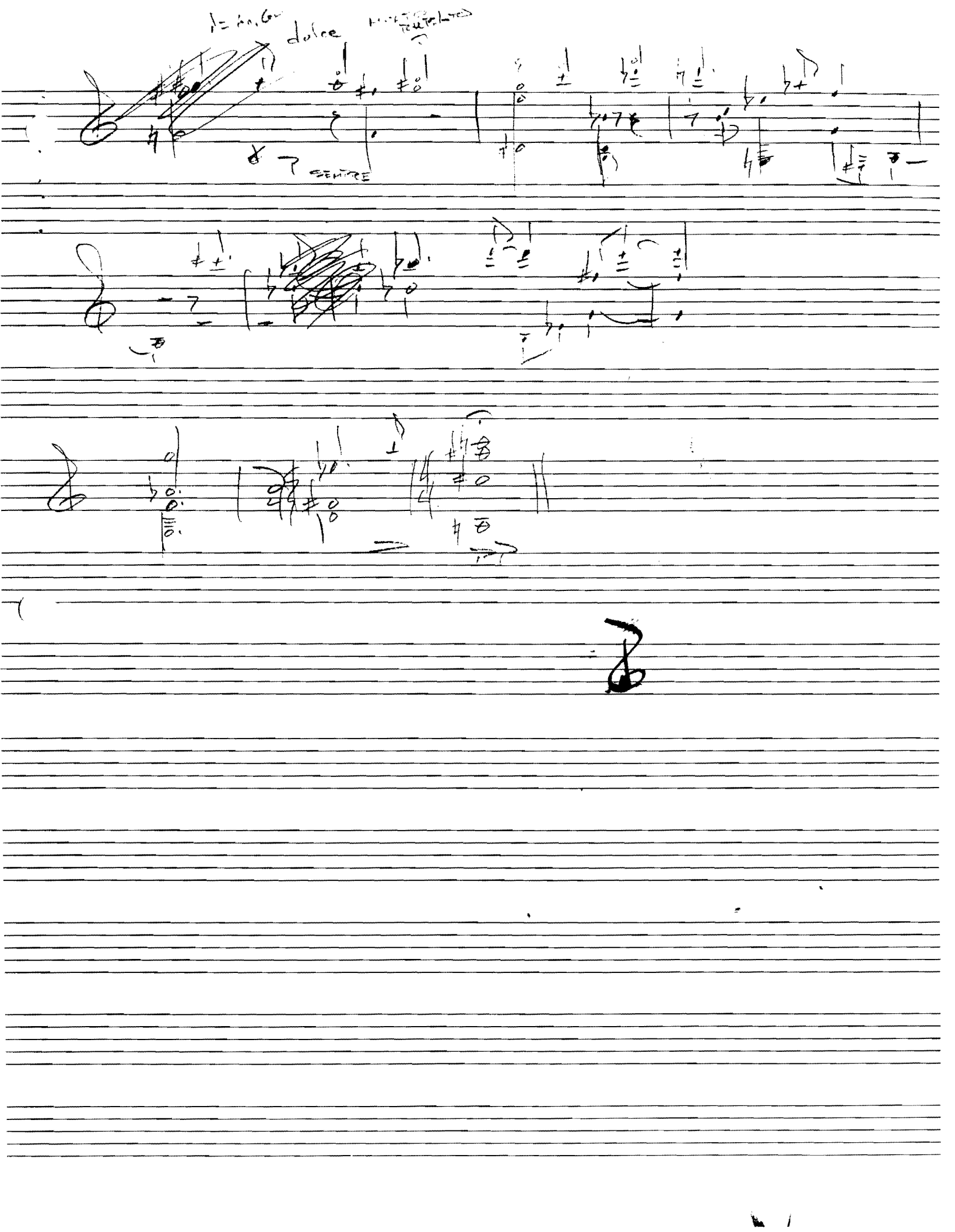
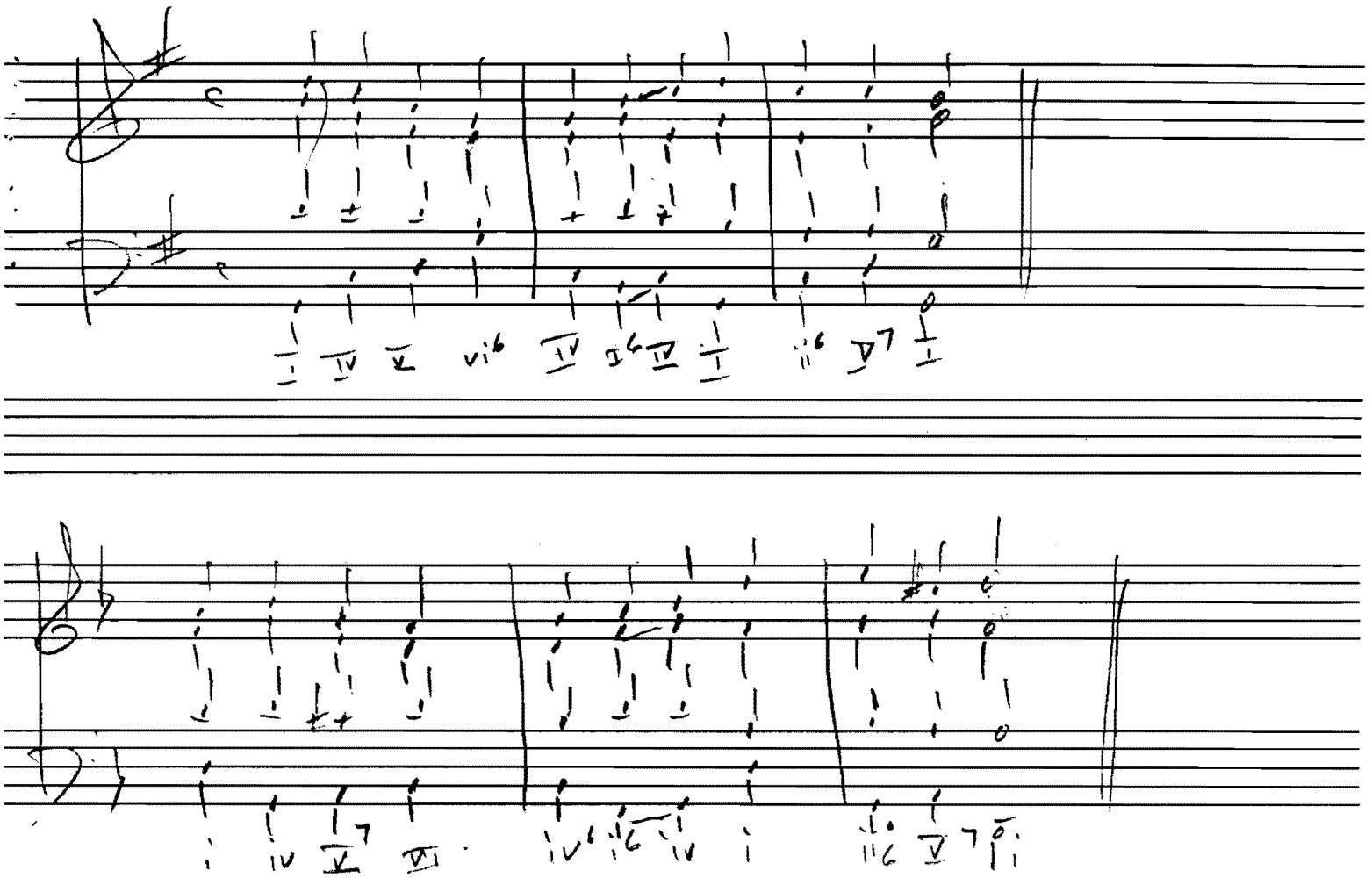
G.SCHIRMER
No. 53—10 Staves
PRINTED IN U.S.A.


♩= 60
5
Subito
10
♩= 60
15


20
Rit. MOLTO POCO A POCO
25
♩= 72
30


35
Rit. . . . . .
♩=60 dolce
MOLTO RUBATO
40
Scott Joplin
March 15 1887


RIT. MOLTO
25
♩= 72
♩= 72
RIT.
♩= 60


dolce
SEMPRE