JAMES SELLARS

Waldstein Prelude

HOG RIVER MUSIC
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

Program Note

The *Waldstein Prelude* was composed as an introduction to the first movement *(Allegro con brio)* of Beethoven's great *Waldstein* Sonata, mirroring the slow introduction Beethoven provided for the last movement. Many of the motives in the Prelude — with variations, extensions and new material added — are taken from Beethoven's own slow introduction.

The *Waldstein Prelude* was commissioned (along with commissions from other composers) by British pianist Julian Jacobson as a foil (a relief?) to his performances of the complete cycle of 32 Beethoven Piano Sonatas.

Performance Note

The *Waldstein Prelude* may be performed as a separate, detached comment on the W*aldstein* Sonata, or as a true Introduction appended to the first movement. If the latter option is chosen, the pianist must proceed from the *Prelude* directly to the first movement of the Sonata (no interruptive applause), in which case the work may be listed in the program as follows:

Waldstein Sonata, op. 53 ..... Ludwig van Beethoven

Introduction: Adagio espressivo (composed by James Sellars, 1998)
I Allegro con brio
II Introduzione: Adagio molto — Rondo: Allegretto moderato

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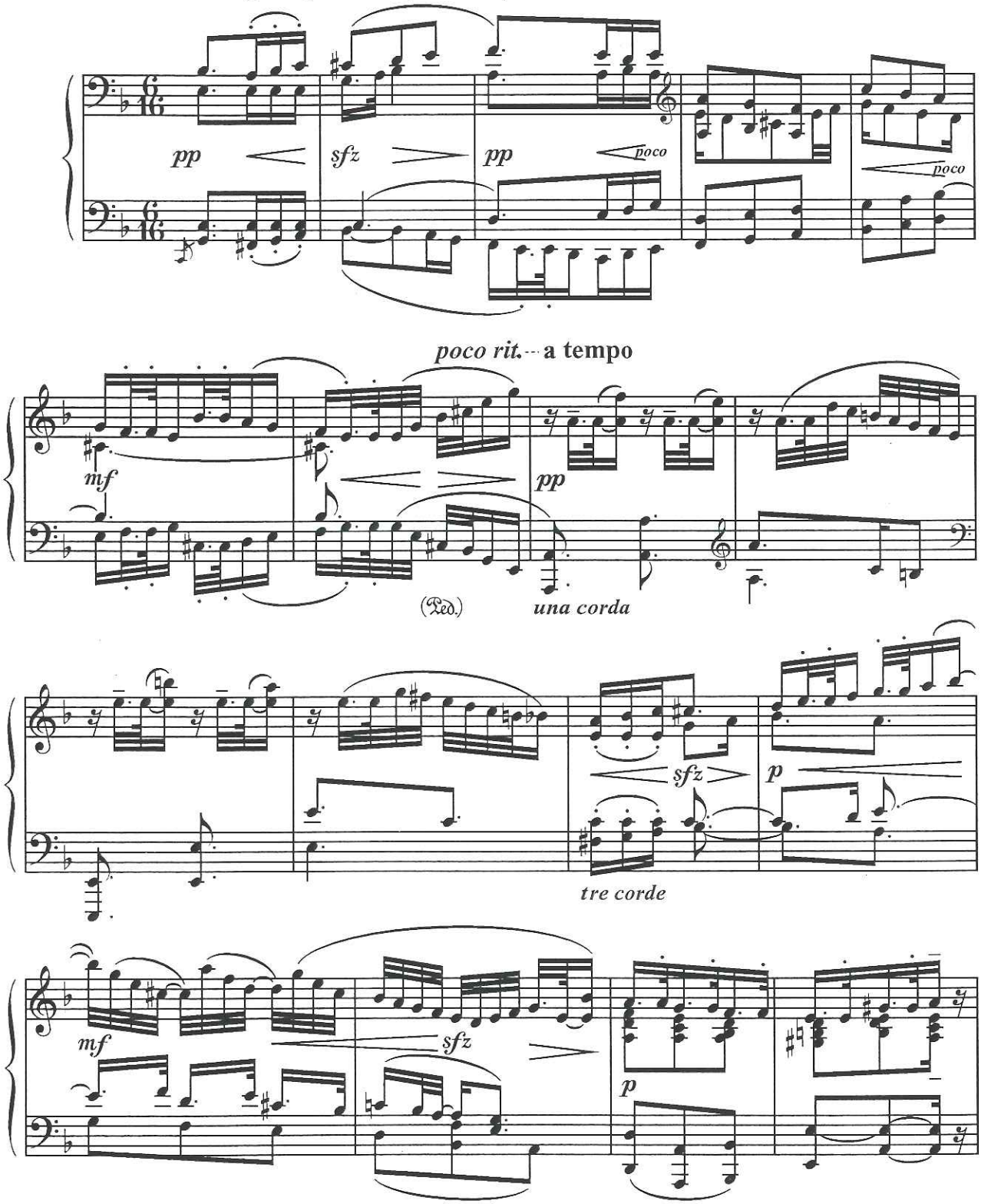
Waldstein Prelude

for Julian Jacobson

James Sellars

Adagio espressivo (♪=60-69)



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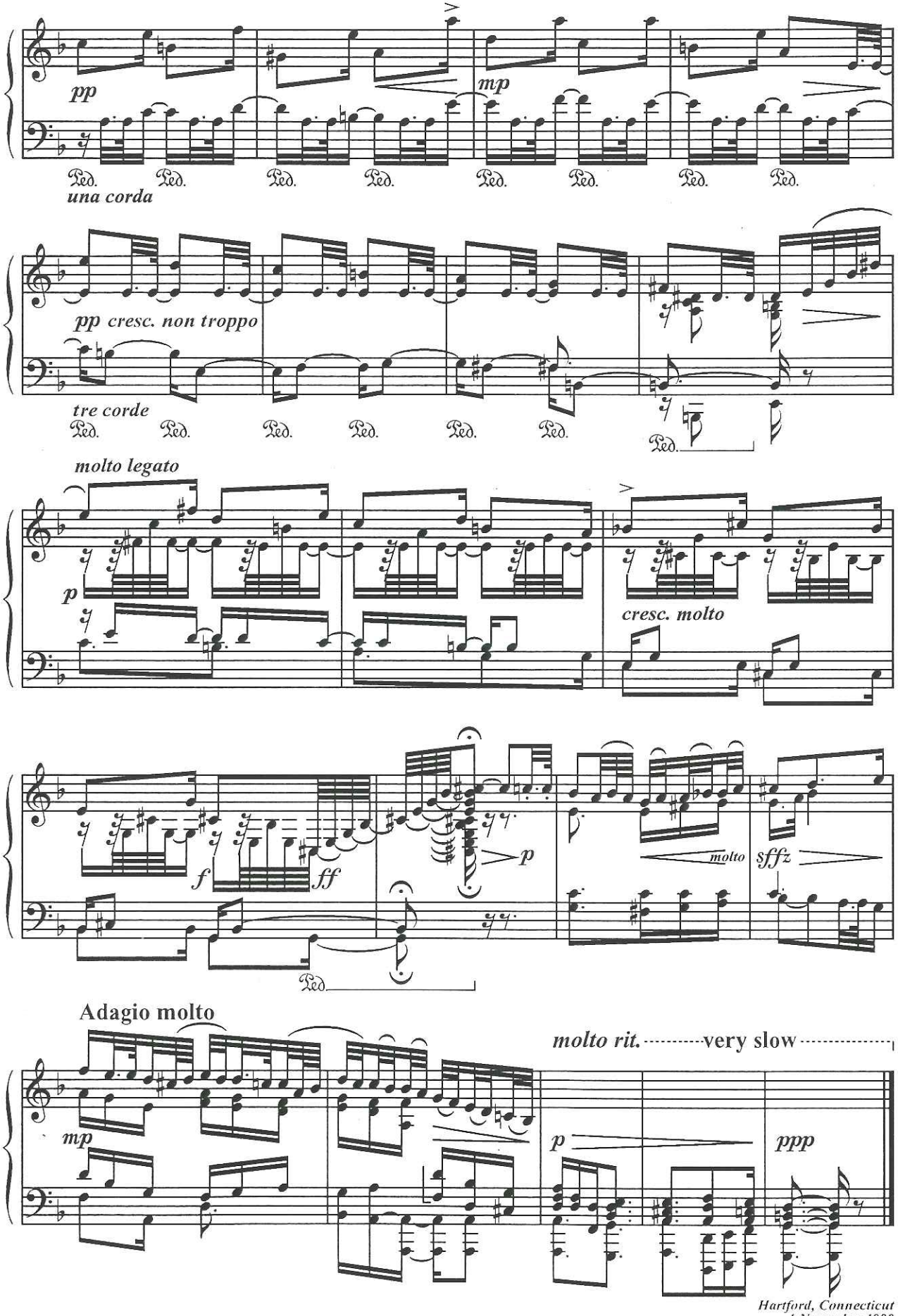

Hartford, Connecticut
1 November 1998