First Gymnopédie

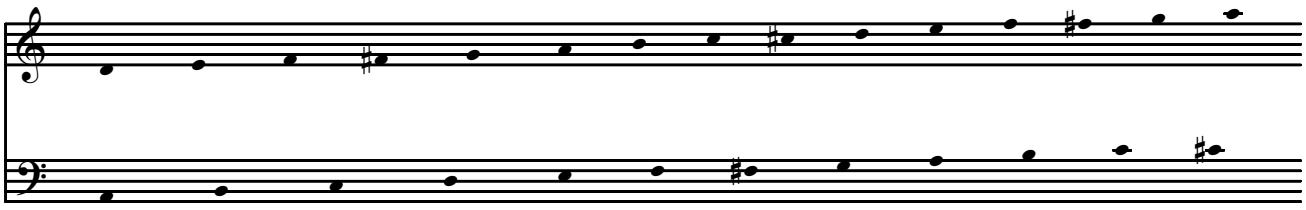
(1888)

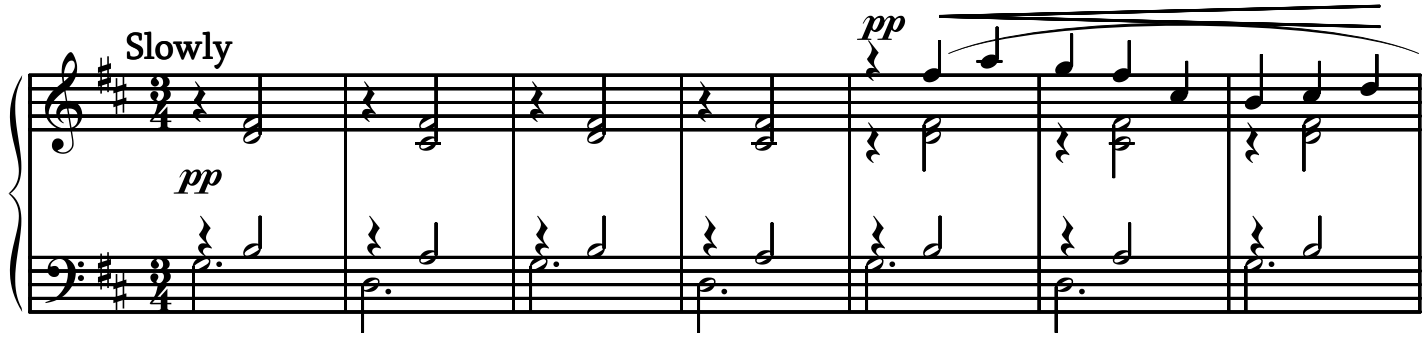
Erik Satie

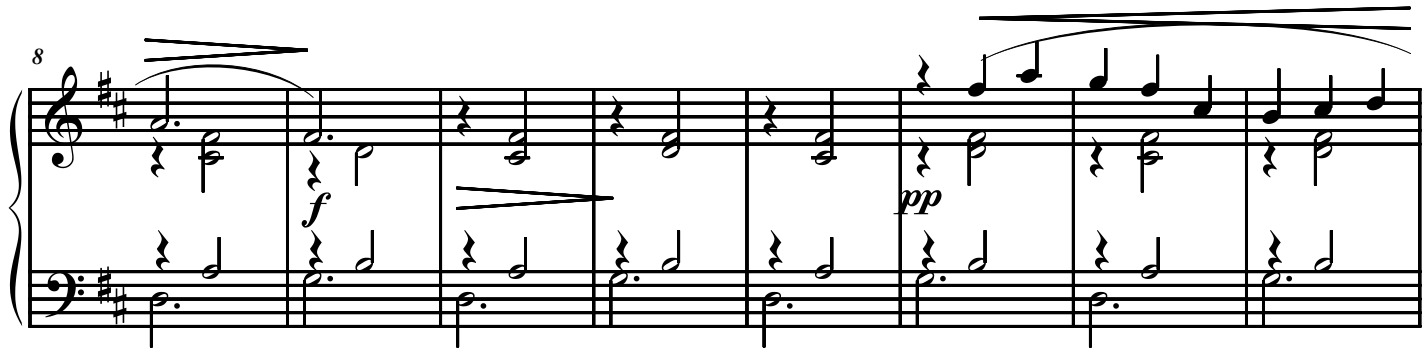
Arr. Andrei Strizek

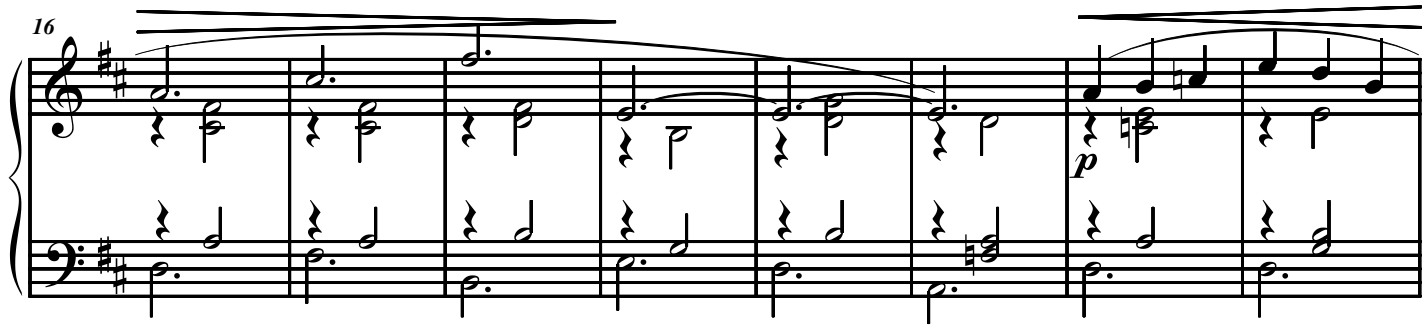
4 Octaves

Handbells Used: 27









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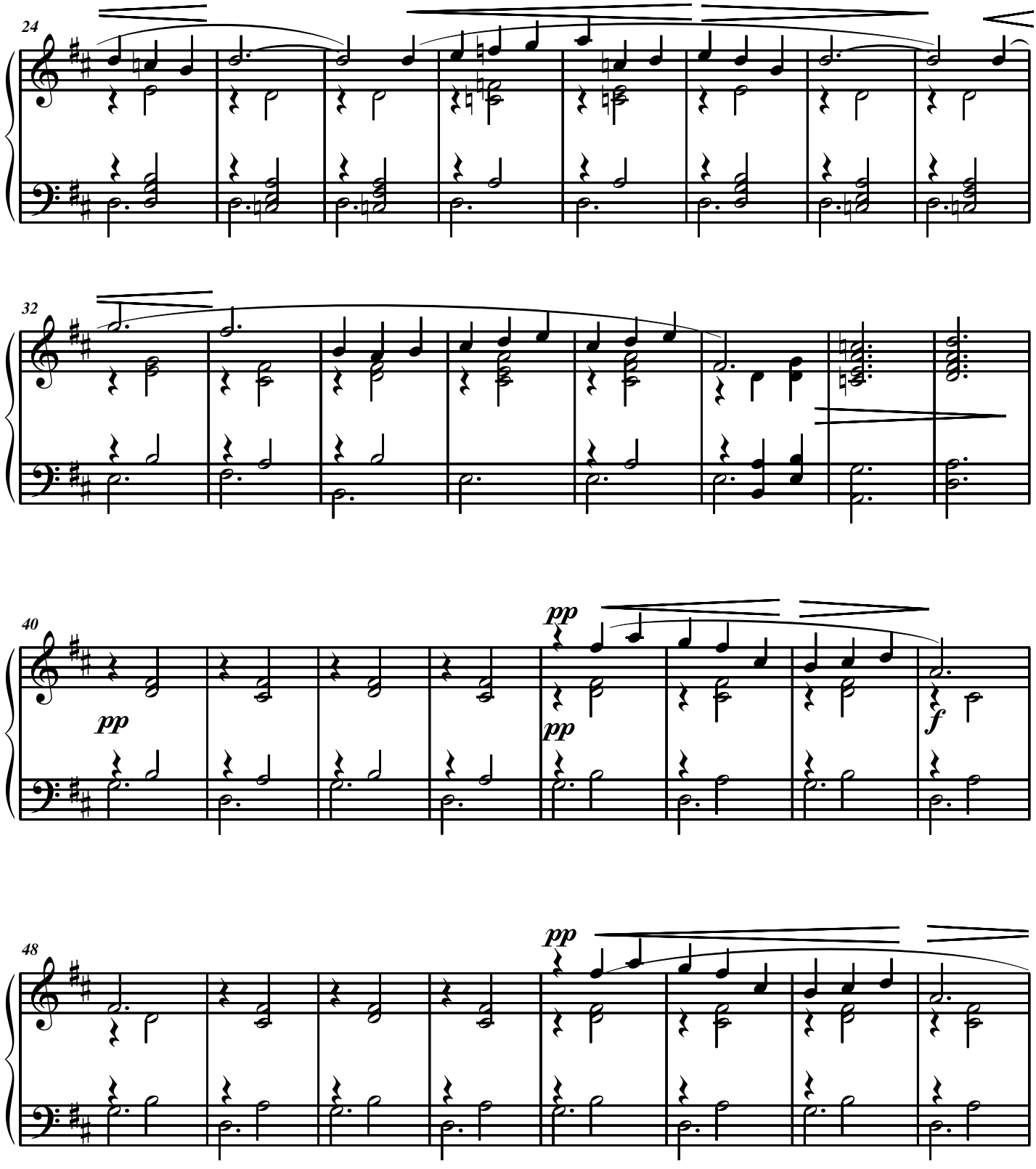
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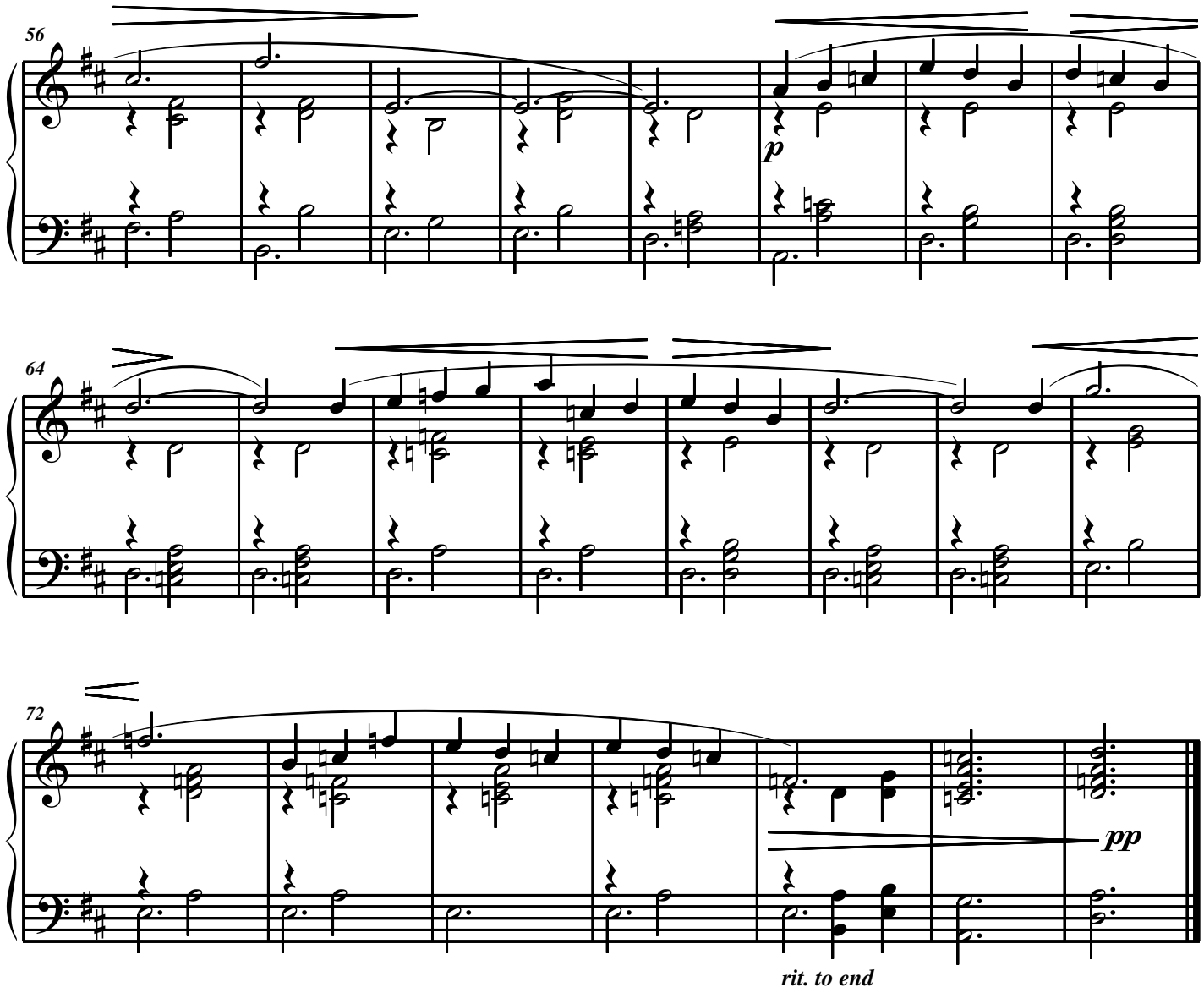

Performance Notes:

Gymnopédie was apparently a name invented by Satie, meant to indicate ceremonial dances performed by young men in ancient Greece. All three *Gymnopédies* are noted for their stark, yet graceful, melodic lines with minimal accompaniment.

This piece, originally for piano, had a tempo indication of *trés lent*, or "very slow." The nature of the handbell perhaps does not allow for as much sustain as can be had from the piano. Experiment with the tempo of the piece; it should not ever feel hurried, but all of the notes should be able to be held for their full note length.

The *crescendos* and *decrescendos* are mainly intended for the main melodic line. The accompaniment figures should always be subtle and should never detract from the melody.