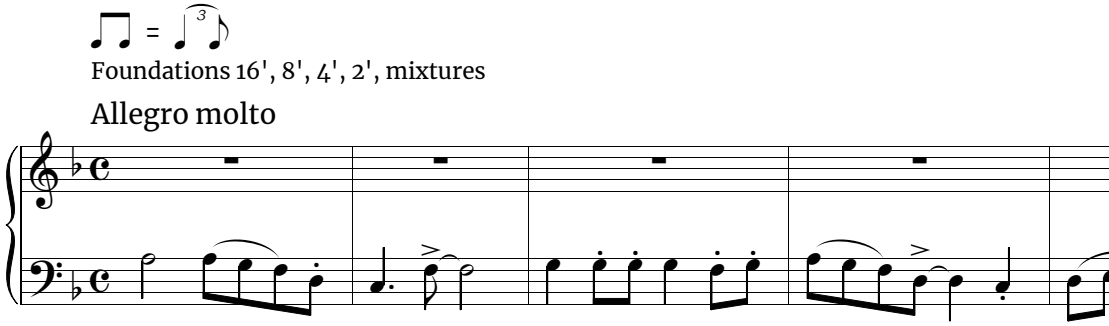
Michael Gailit 1957

Four Little Spiritual Preludes

2012/2023

| Little Mountain Fugue
| Inventio from Jericho
| Nobody Knows the Trio Trouble
| When the Saints Go Bach



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About the Four Little Spiritual Preludes

The Four Little Spiritual Preludes combine melodies of our time with elements of baroque composition in unique ways. The collection intends to pay respect to spirituals with the use of Johann Sebastian Bach's compositional techniques.

In ***Little Mountain Fugue***, a fughetta on *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*, the pleasure of motivic development takes up more space than new thematic entries.

Inventio from Jericho, in Bach's two-part *Invention in D minor*, BWV 775, exchanges the theme with the very similar melody of *Joshua fought the battle of Jericho* and stretches each measure by one beat.

Nobody Knows the Trio Trouble alludes to the difficulty of playing three independent voices. Similarities to Bach's *Trio Sonata in G major*, BWV 530, are not coincidental.

When the Saints Go Bach uses the texture of the chorale prelude *Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend* from Bach's Orgelbüchlein. The melody appears canonically in the outer voices.

Vienna, April 2023 Michael Gailit

Über die Four Little Spiritual Preludes

Die ***Four Little Spiritual Preludes*** verbinden auf sehr unterschiedliche Weise Melodien unserer Zeit mit Elementen der barocken Komposition. Die Sammlung beabsichtigt, den Spirituals mit der Anwendung von Kompositionstechniken Johann Sebastian Bachs Respekt zu zollen.

Bei ***Little Mountain Fugue***, einer Fughette über *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*, nimmt das Vergnügen motivischer Entwicklung mehr Raum ein als neue Themeneinsätze.

Inventio from Jericho tauscht in Bachs zweistimmiger *Invention in d-Moll*, BWV 775, das Thema mit der sehr ähnlichen Melodie von *Joshua fought the battle of Jericho* und dehnt jeden Takt um eine Schlagzeit.

Nobody knows the Trio Trouble spielt auf die Schwierigkeit an, drei unabhängige Stimmen zu spielen. Ähnlichkeiten mit Bachs *Triosonate in G-Dur*, BWV 530, sind nicht zufällig.

When the Saints Go Bach verwendet die Textur des Choralvorspiels *Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend* aus Bachs Orgelbüchlein. Die Melodie wird in den Außenstimmen kanonisch geführt.

Wien, im April 2023 Michael Gailit

The present revision of the first version, published in 2012, includes the swapping of the third with the fourth chorale prelude, as well as the rewriting of measures 10 to 14 in the present fourth chorale prelude.

Die vorliegende Revision der 2012 erschienenen Erstfassung umfasst das Vertauschen des dritten mit dem vierten Choralvorspiel, sowie im jetzigen vierten Choralvorspiel die Neufassung der Takte 10 bis 14.

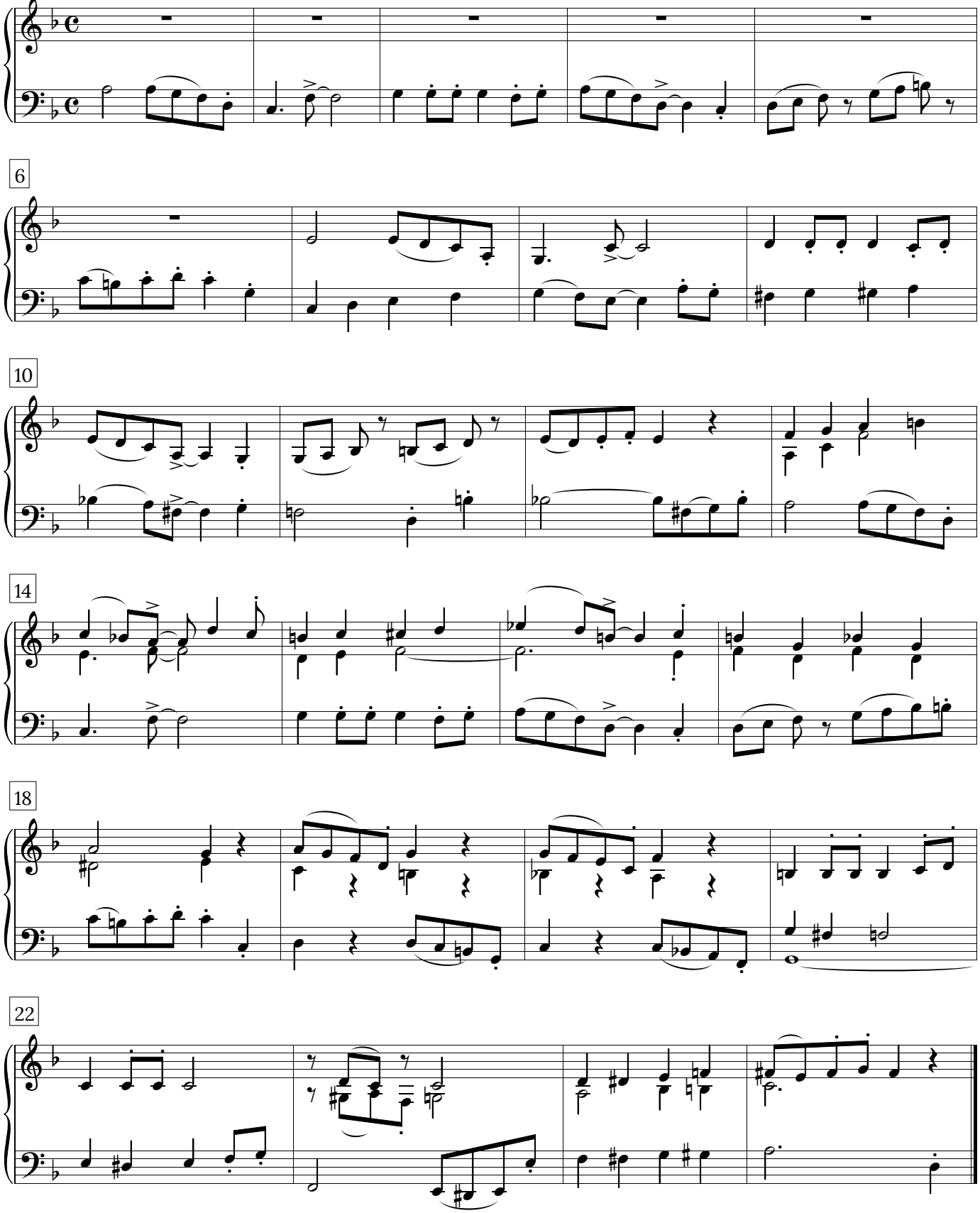
Little Mountain Fugue

(Go, Tell It on the Mountain)

Michael Gailit
*1957

Foundations 16', 8', 4', 2', mixtures

Allegro molto



Inventio from Jericho

(Joshua fought the battle of Jericho)

Right hand: Cornet
Left hand: Foundations 16', 8', reed 8'

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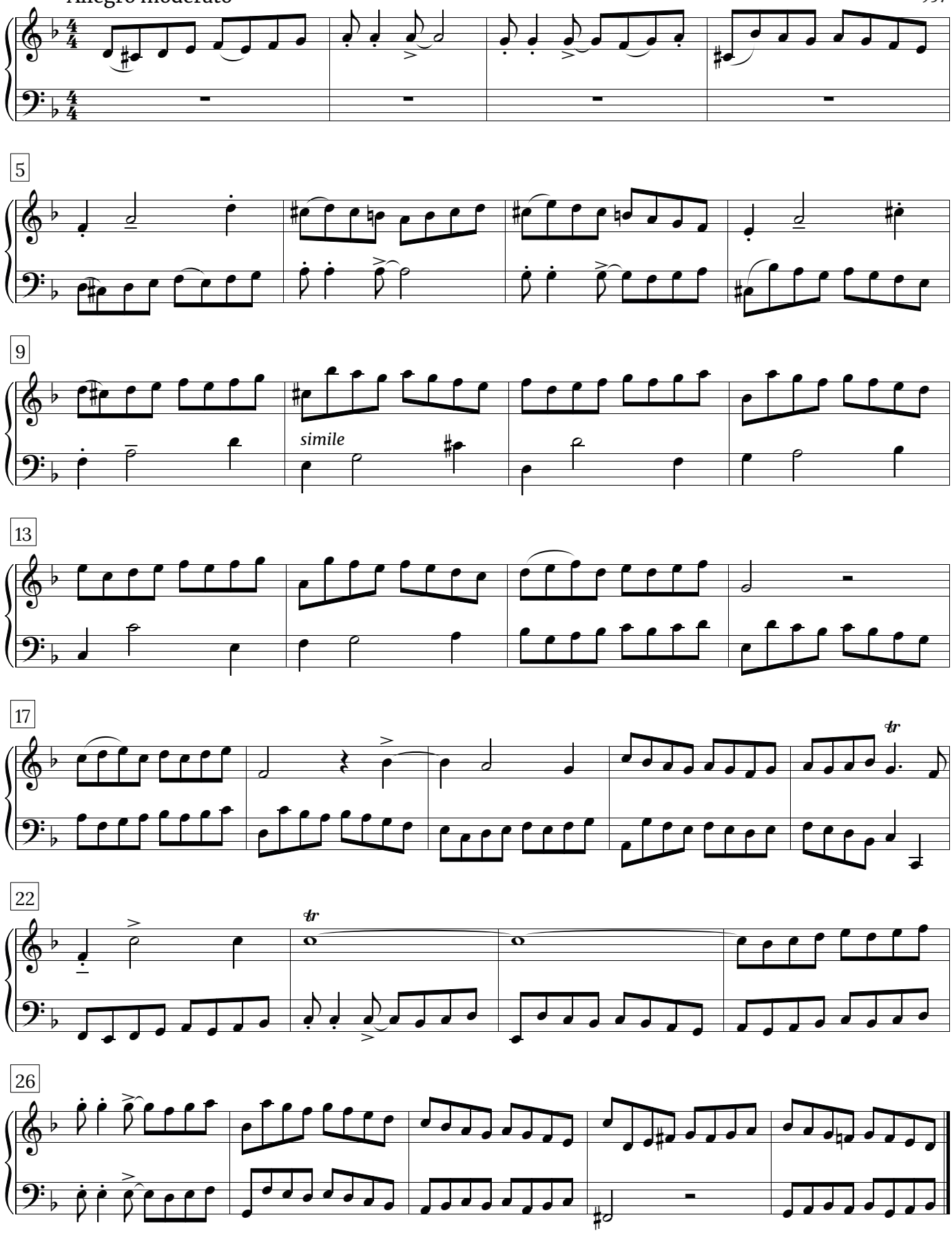
Allegro moderato



Nobody Knows the Trio Trouble

(Nobody Knows the Trouble I‘ve Seen)

Foundations 8', 4' on two manuals
Add oboe 8' for the left hand

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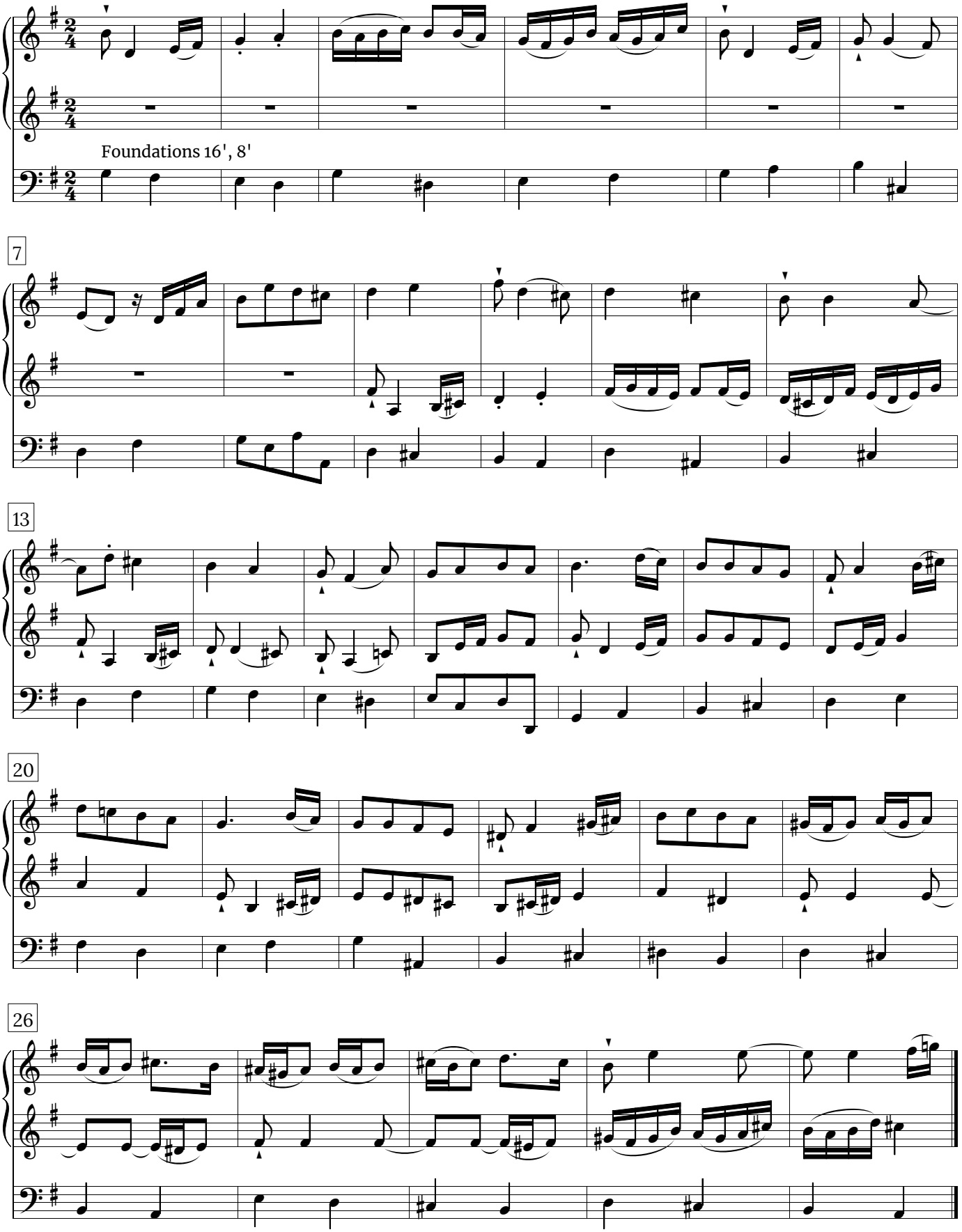
*1957

Andante



When the Saints Go Bach

(When the Saints Go Marching in)

Full organ

Andante

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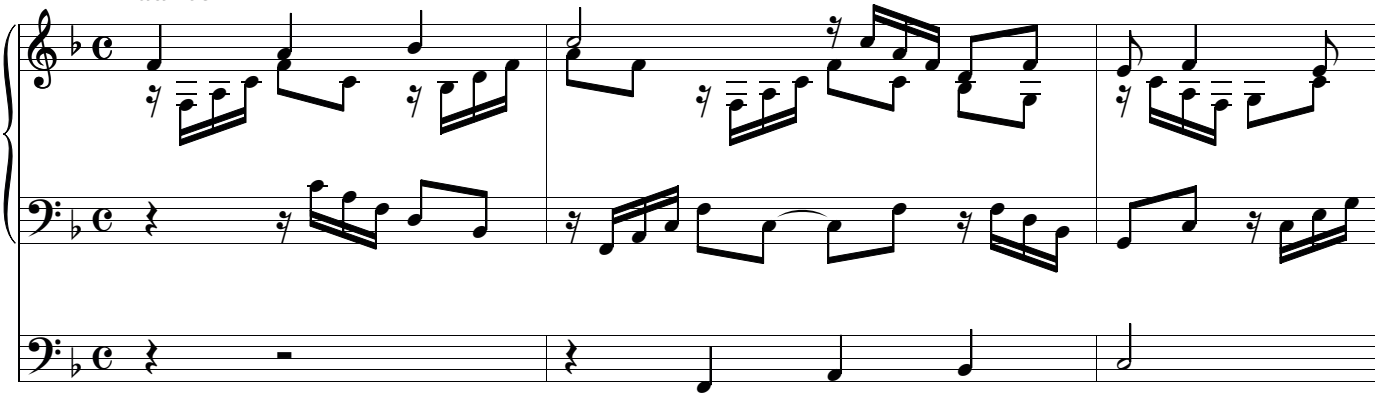

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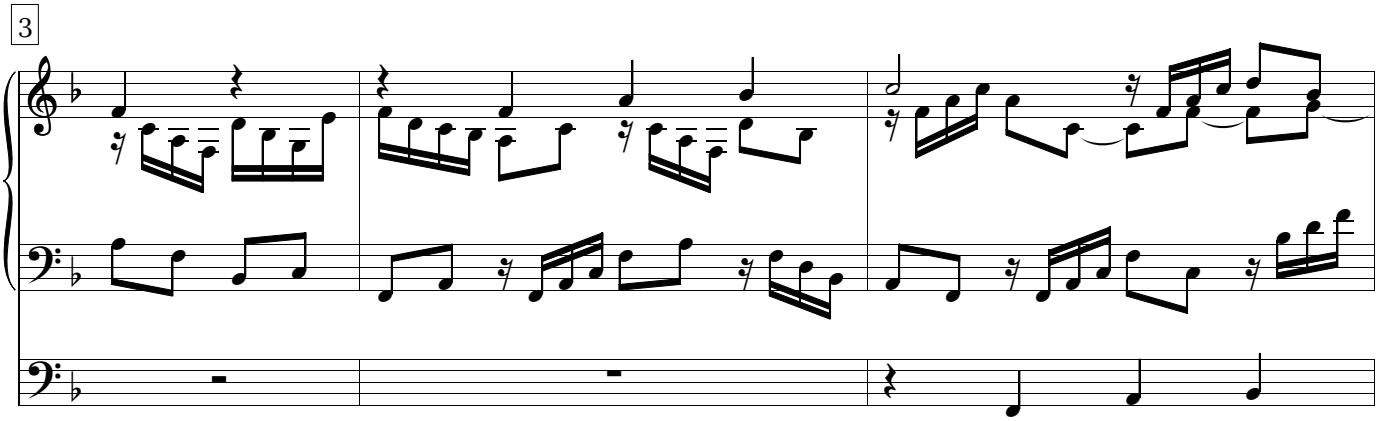

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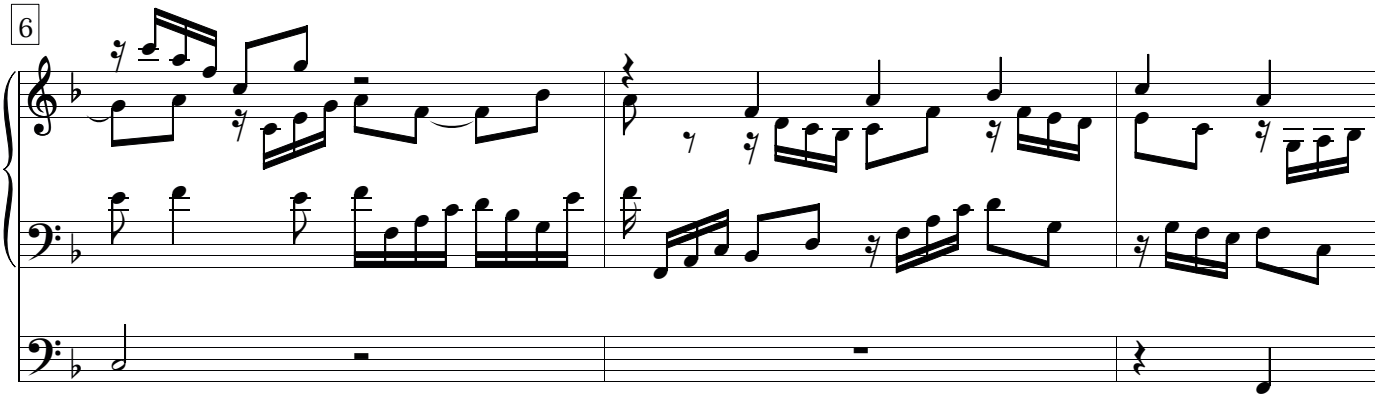
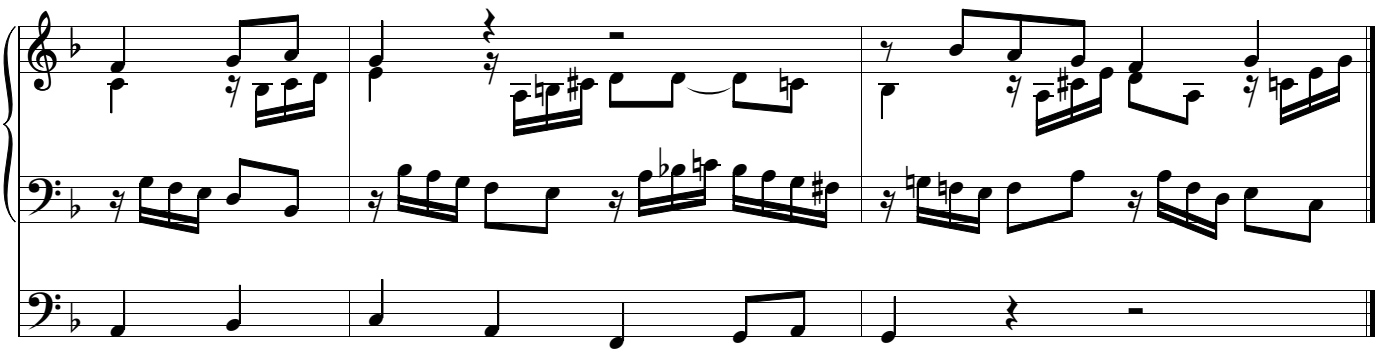
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