N° 1019

Eve Beglarian

Getting to Know the Weather

for bass clarinet and optional percussion

EVBVD MUSIC
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Eve Beglarian
Getting to Know the Weather (1986)

Program Note:

The weather in this case is Chromatic Lydian, which was considered by Plato to be too sensual and lax to be suitable for the education of guardians. The piece attempts to compose out the kind of non-systematized, non-superimposing fooling around one sometimes does with new material and situations. The piece was originally written for saxophone player Marshall Taylor and dedicated to him with respect and affection.

To the Performer:

The instrumental part should be played like the bass line in a funk tune. If you play it solo, you will want to viscerally imagine a beat in your mind as you play the piece, and reflect the groove in your playing. If you perform with a drummer, please invent a groove together that makes it as fun as possible to play the piece. I can supply a modified version of James Brown's Funky Drummer groove if you want to work with a pre-recorded track, or you can feel free to make your own.

If you want to add an octave doubler or other processing to the bass clarinet sound, that's fine with me. In any case, you probably want to amplify the clarinet.

I have notated the score in chromatic Lydian throughout, though you will quickly hear that sections of the piece could be notated in F# minor or in A major. I hope that consistency of notation will outweigh whatever initial difficulties you might have with the unorthodox spelling.

Dynamics have generally not been notated since they grow naturally out of your playing. Start soft, get loud, and end quietly within a generally loud level throughout.

And don't play it too fast: it's sexier slower.

getting to know the weather

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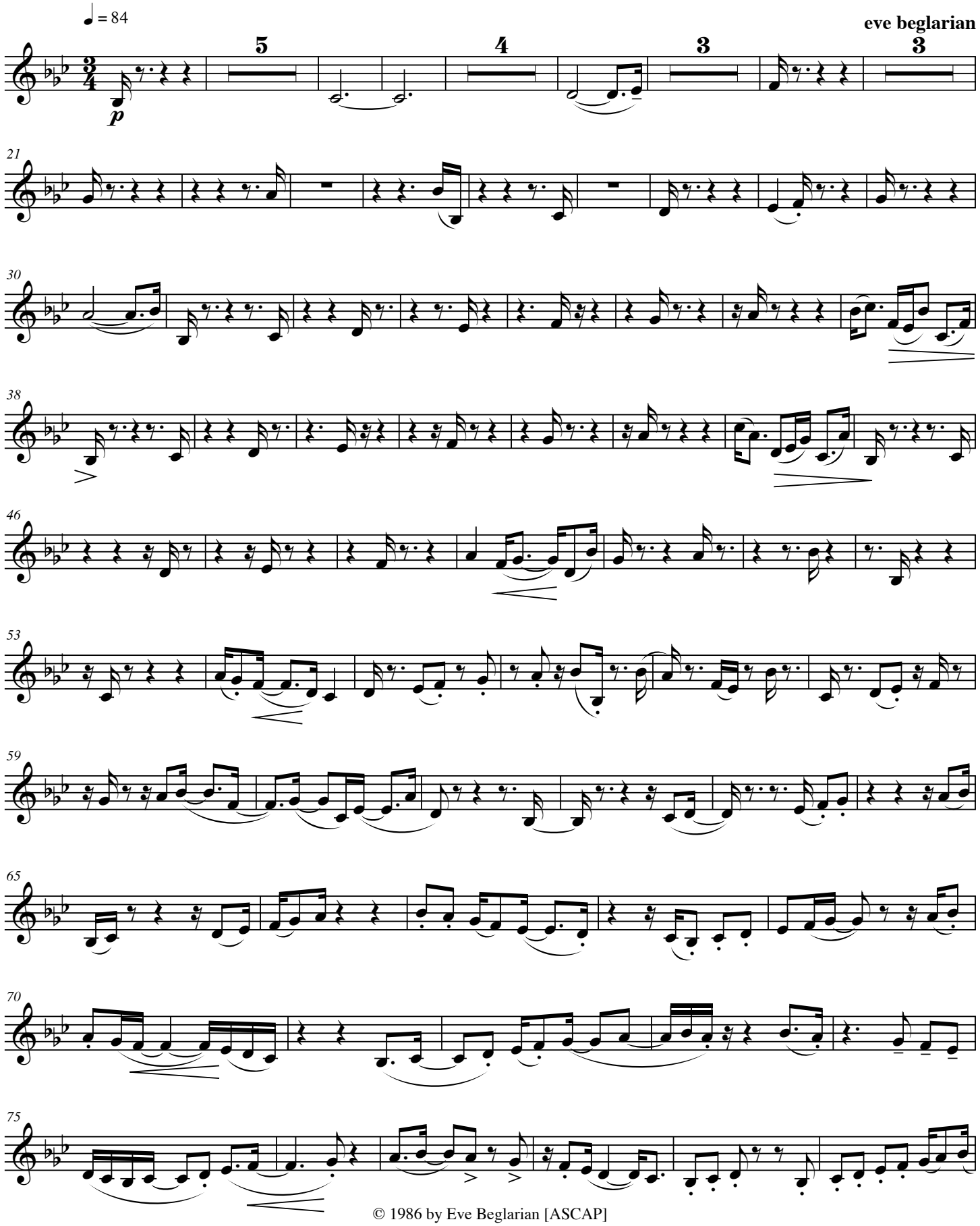

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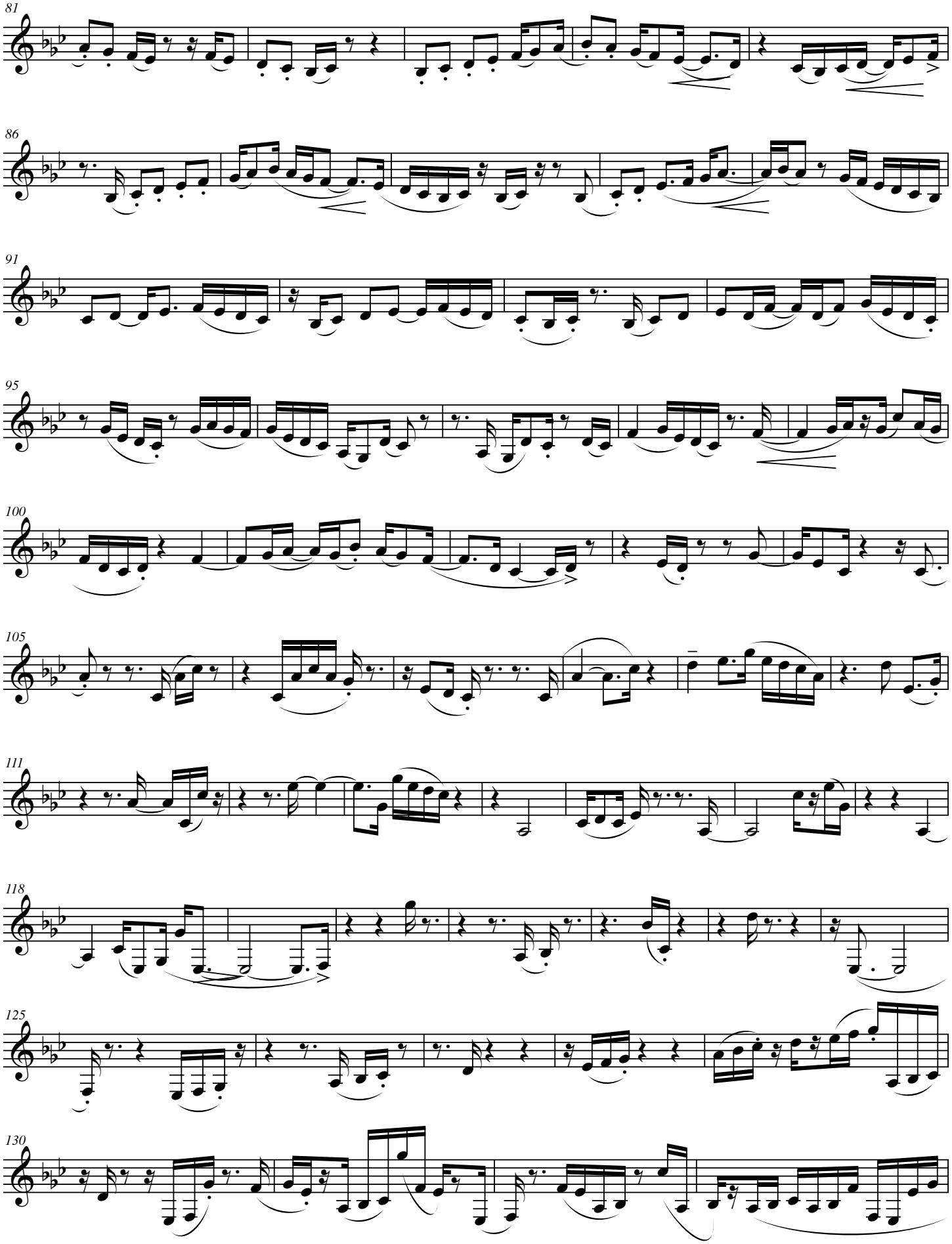
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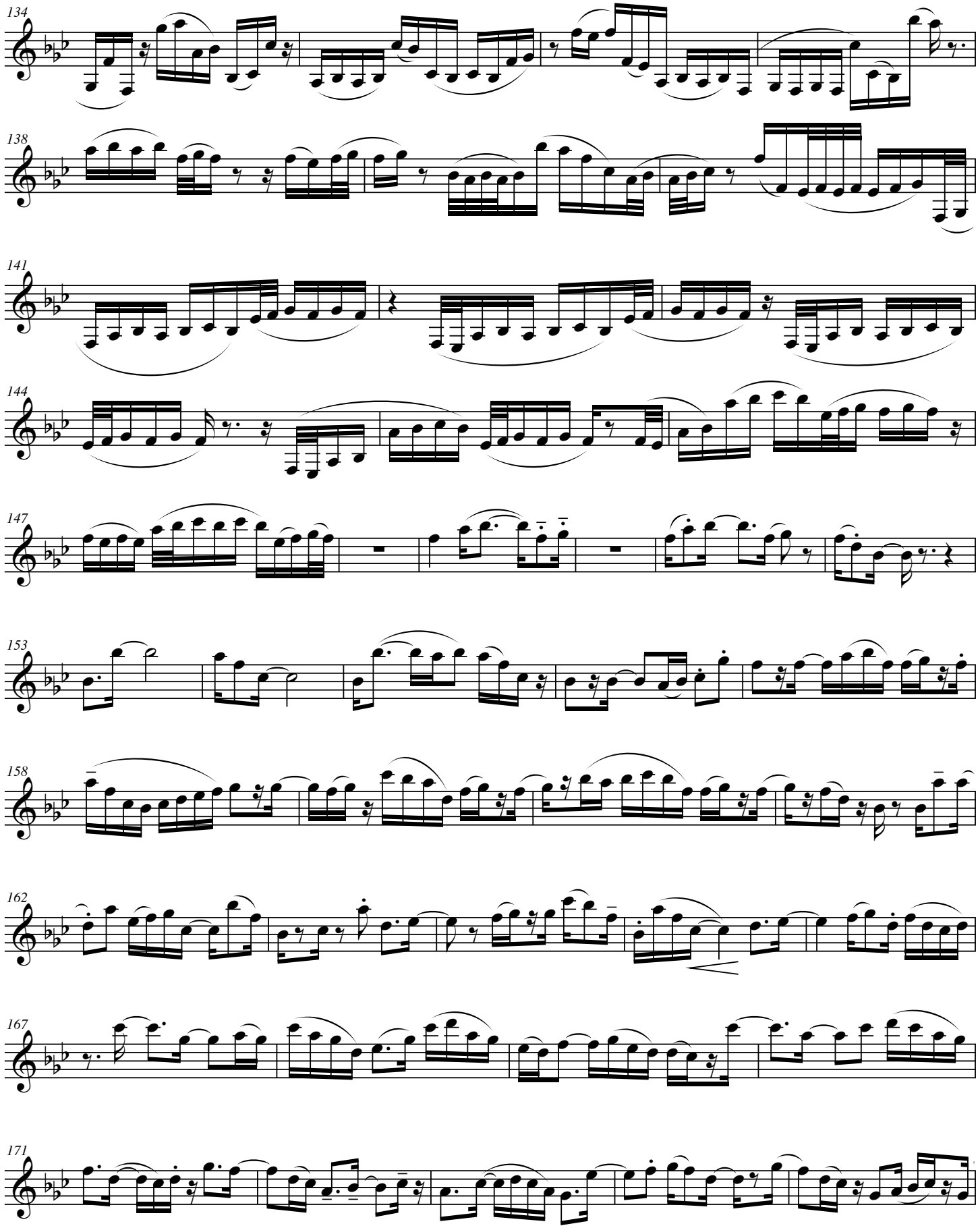
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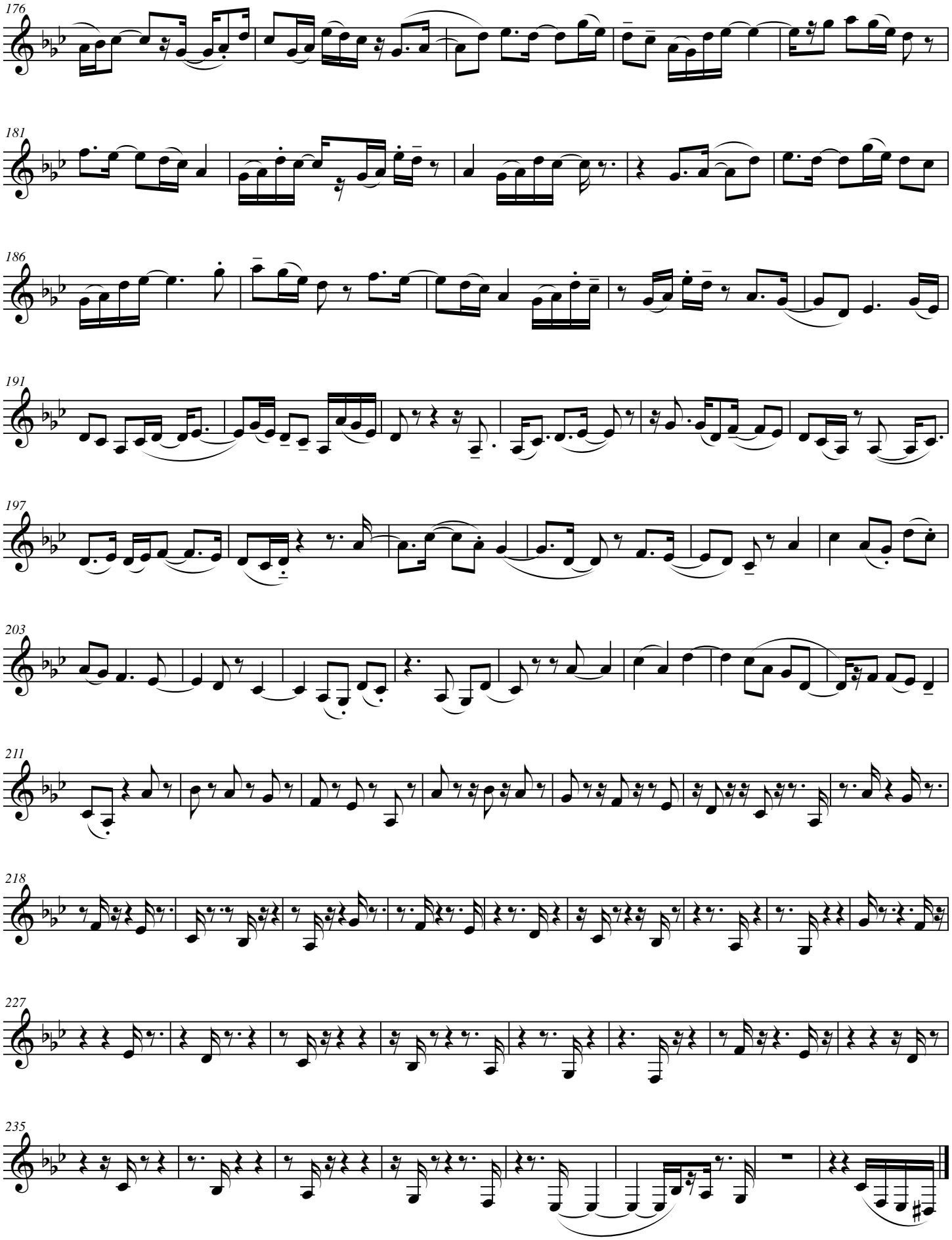
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