Cycle of 12 Pseudo-Ragtime Piano Solos

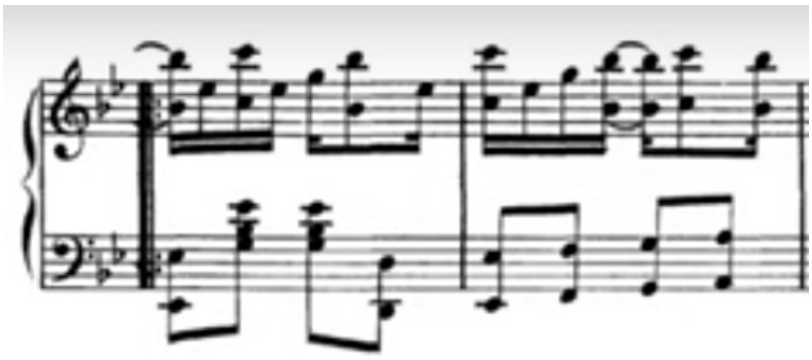
#1 A Major - "A Happy Pair"

Robert John Magnuson 1990

I wish attribution to include my name, date, and title of compositon as are listed in each score. I request that any public performance of any work I have released be recorded to video with sound, and that recording be forwarded to me (as video file or website URL of video). Please use the ‘Contact form on my website listed below if you have a video of a performance, to arrange how I might receive such.

In early 1990, my tiny computer & MIDI keyboards studio was complete. I purchased a fairly-expensive MS-DOS (before 'Windows') graphical notation software called "Music Printer Plus". As I began learning how to enter music into that program, I resolved to start with ragtime piano pieces, a la Scott Joplin. I also decided to create a cycle of such 'rags' in each of the chromatic keys from 'A' to 'A-flat'. The time to create the cycle of 12 only took, at most 4 months. One piece, #10 'G-flat' remained impossible to finish, for many years (more about this in the cover page for #10 'G-flat'.

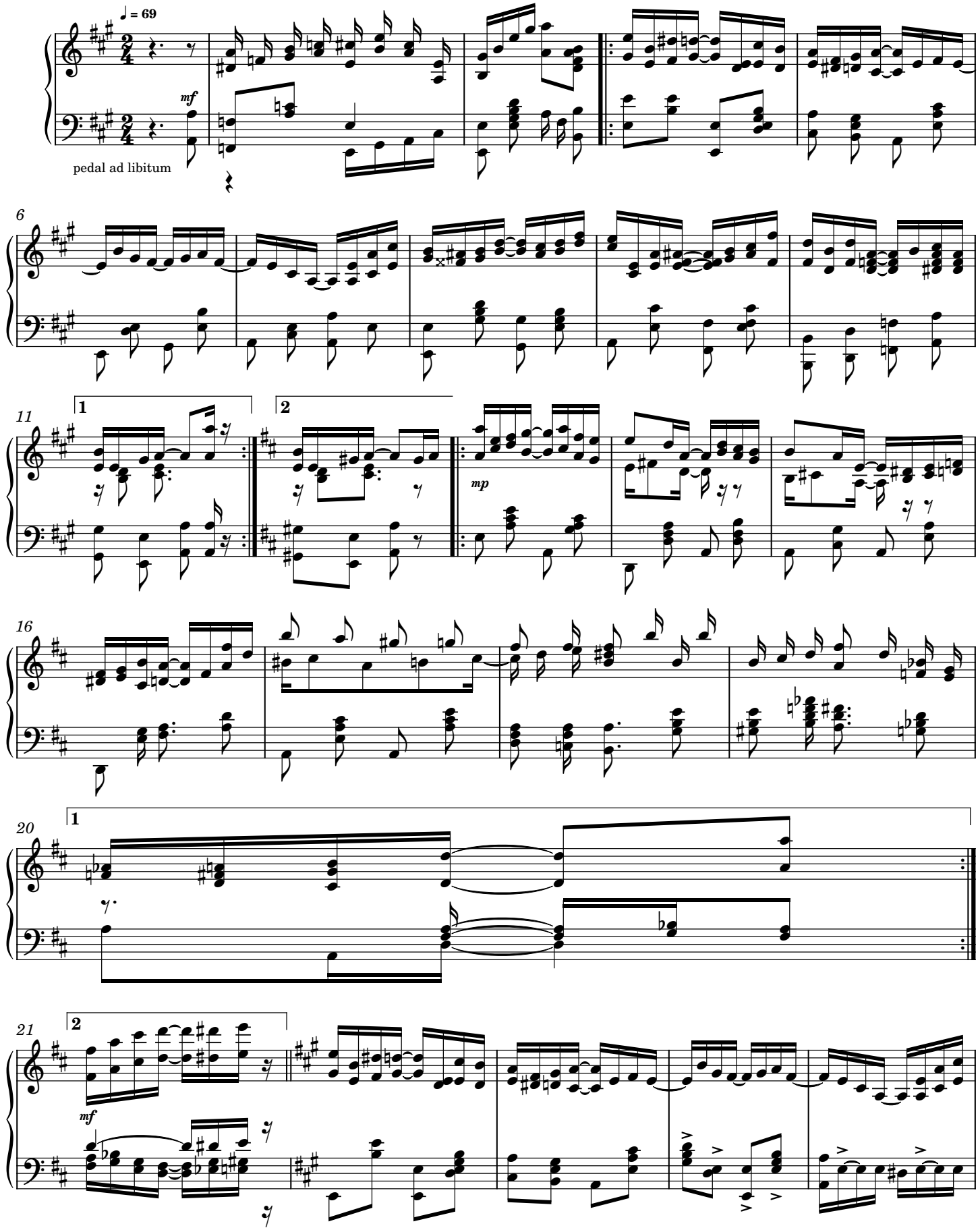
I call these 12 piano solos "pseudo-rag" because they almost never include this distinctive motive, as found in Scott Joplin's 1902 piece, "Elite Syncopations". Still, I'd like to think my rags invoke the feeling of ragtime piano genre.



Each composition has a subtitle, (here, "A Happy Pair"). As each 'rag' took shape, some aspect of the music, voicings, rhythm would suggest to me a choice for this subtitle. They are casual and light-hearted.

All my free compositions (and further info) are found at:

https://www.gandsnut.net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mf
pedal ad libitum
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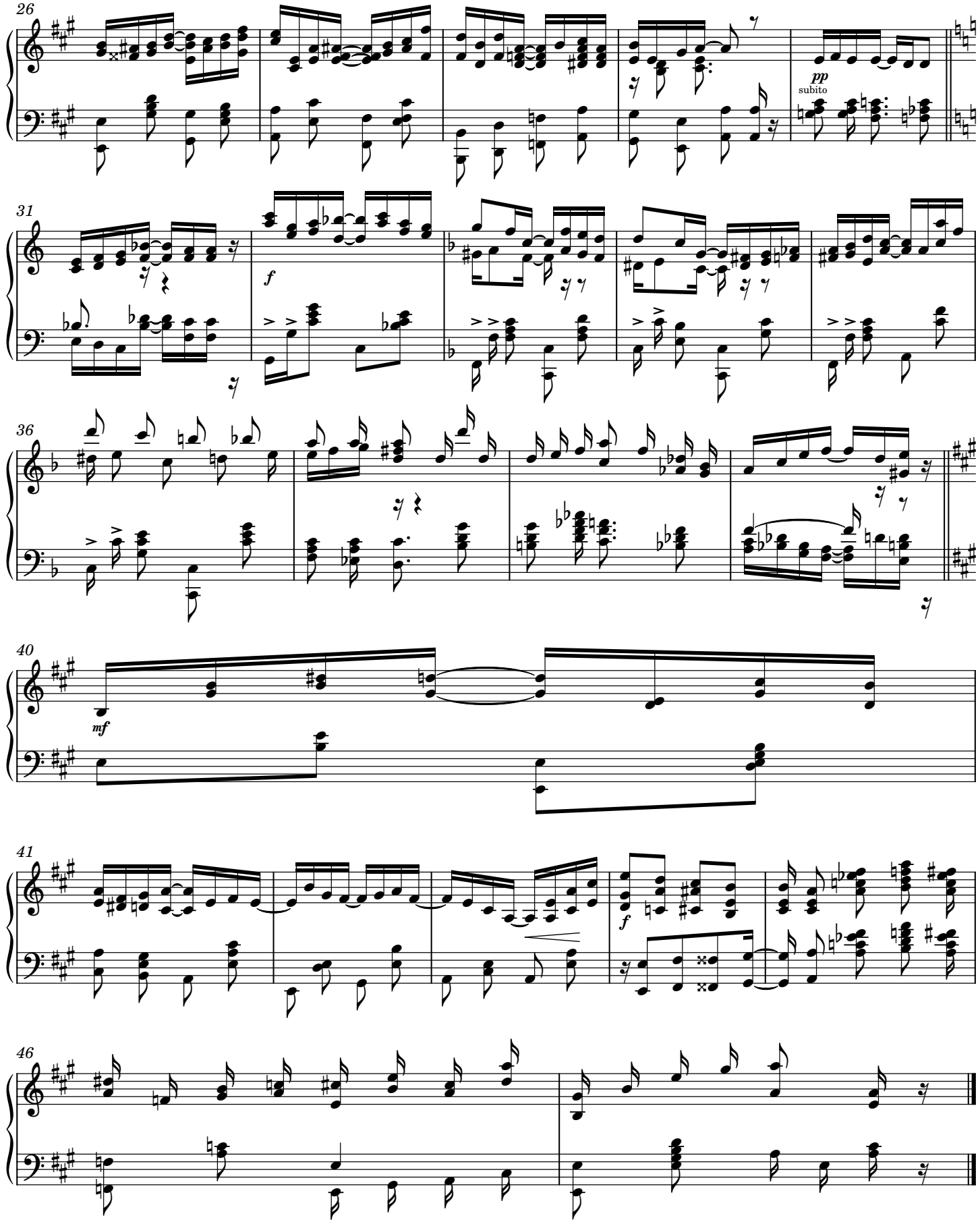
26
pp
subito
31
f
36
40
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41
f
46