David Rubinstein

Chopsticks Variations

Piano

Duration: 11 minutes

ShadowHillsMusic.com

Chopsticks Variations

According to *The Book of World-Famous Music*, the composition currently known as "Chopsticks" was deposited in 1877 at the British Museum under the title *The Celebrated Chop Waltz* by Arthur de Lulli, which was the pseudonym of Euphemia Allen, the 16 year-old sister of the publisher Mozart Allen. Borodin, Rimsky-Korsakov and Liszt wrote variations on the theme.

I felt absurdly intrigued and challenged by the notion of working on a theme that many listeners might consider simple-minded or trite. They will be relieved to know that the theme is never directly quoted, but is presented in various disguises, some more recognizable than others. The composition exists in two versions; one for solo piano and the other for piano and orchestra. *Chopsticks Variations* was composed in 2001 and slightly revised in 2002. -DR

Chopsticks Variations

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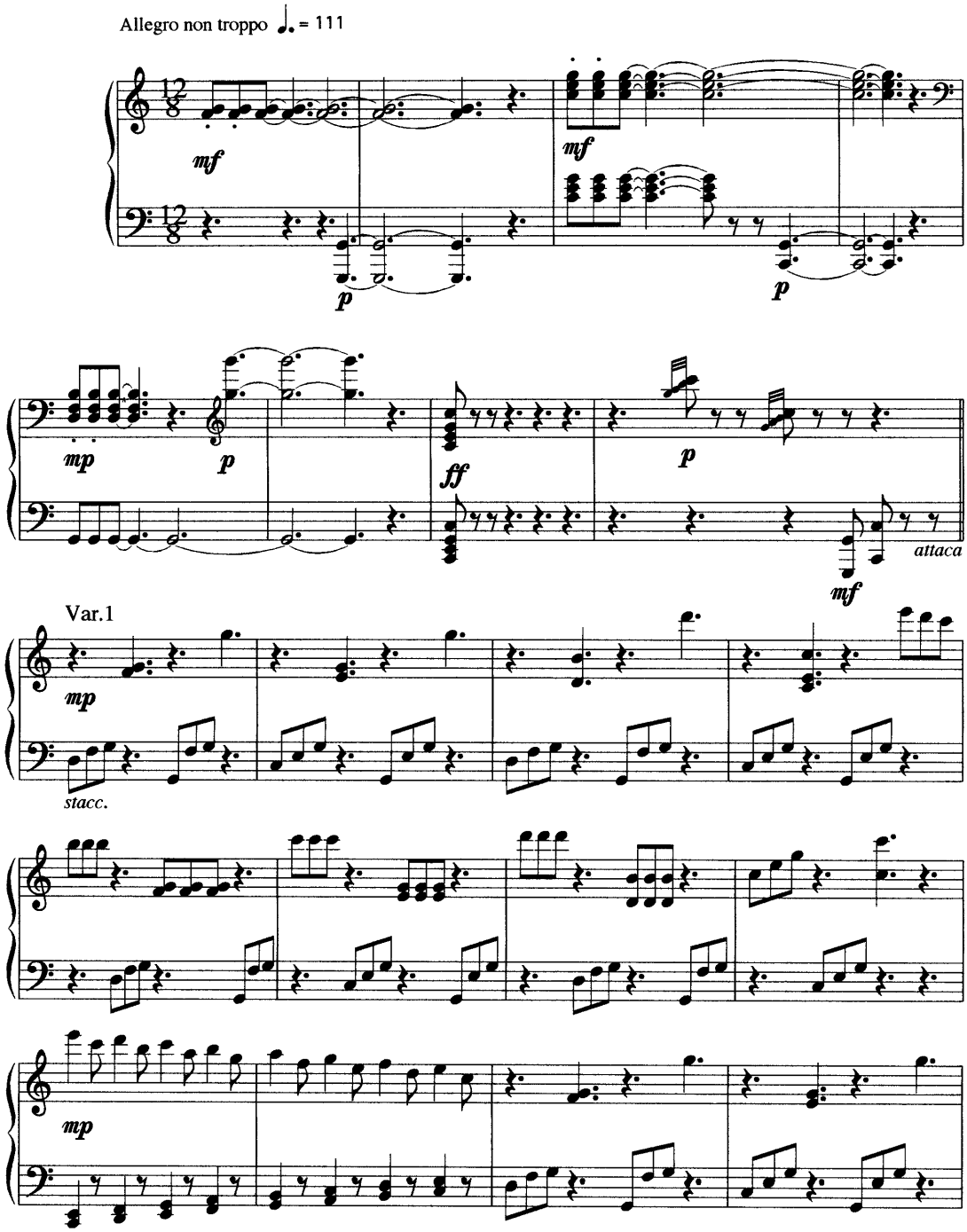
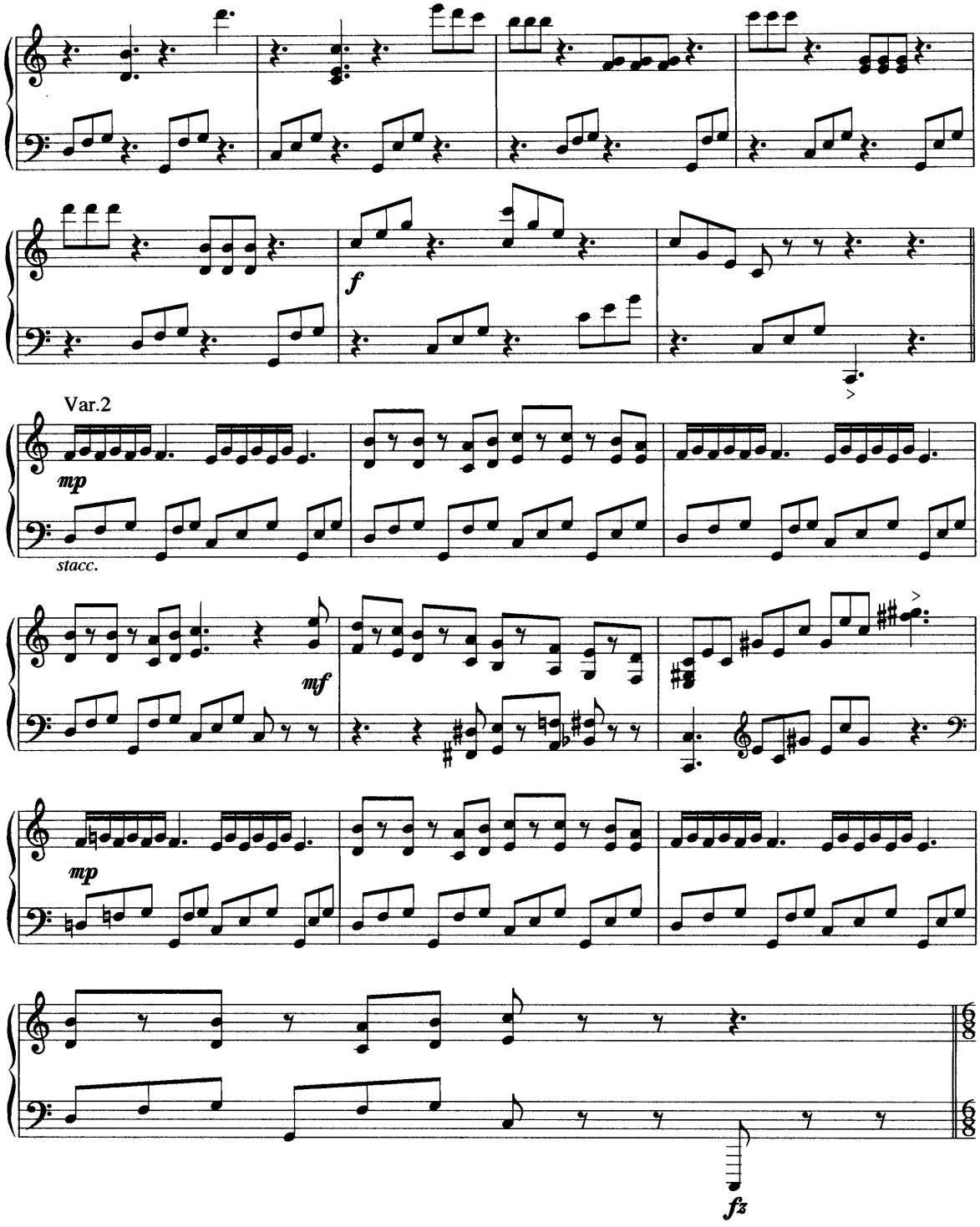
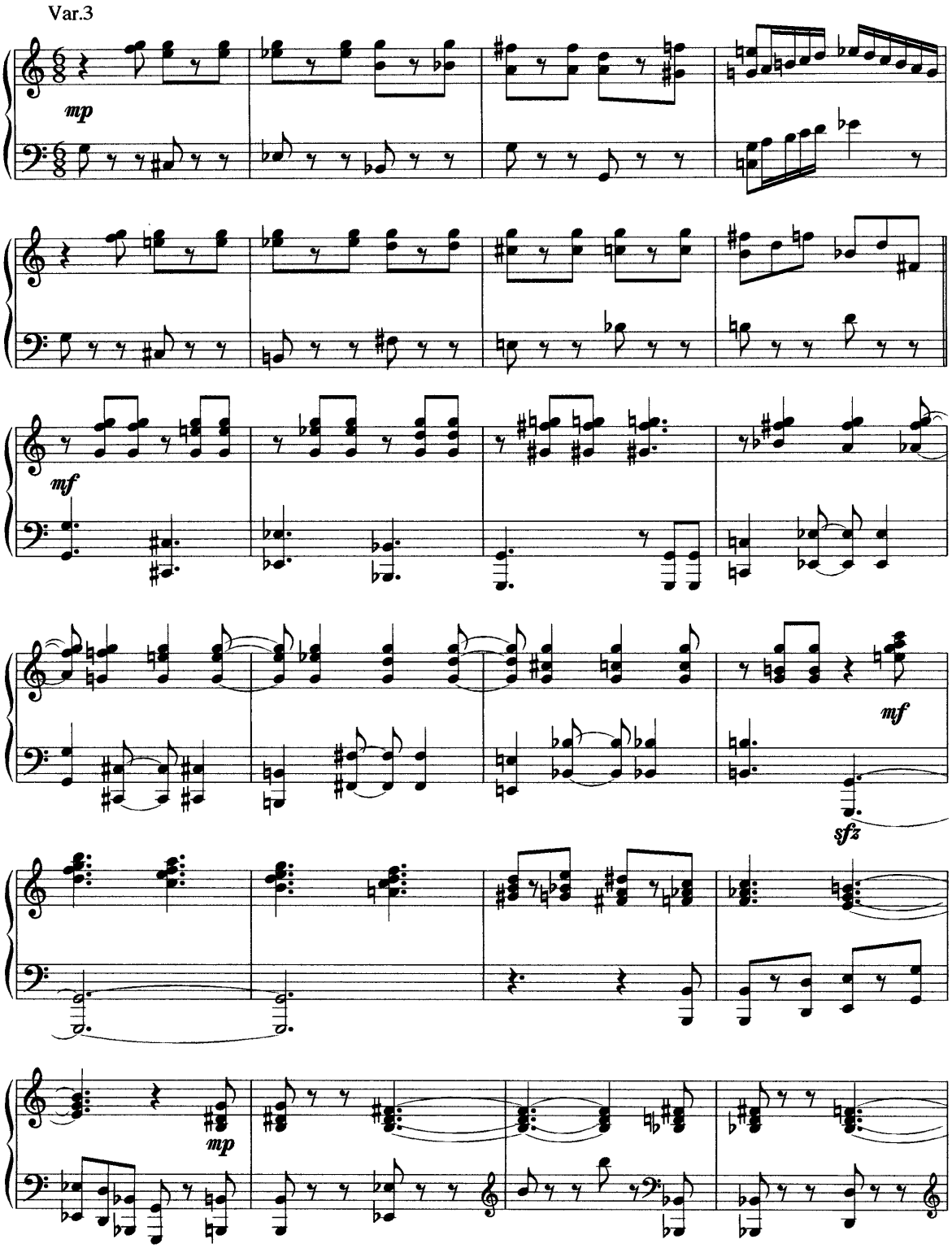
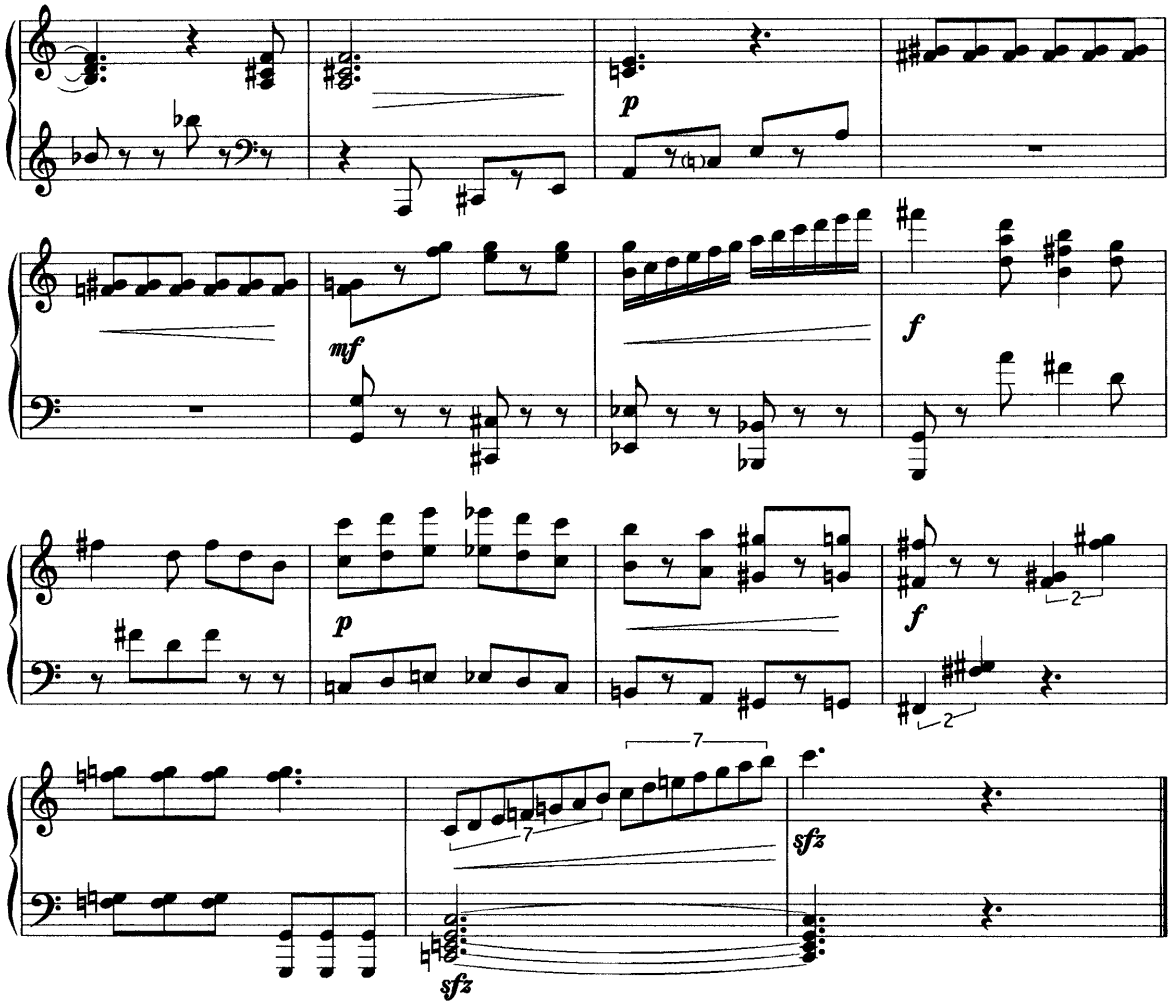



f
Var.2
mp
stacc.
mf
mp
fz


Var.3
mp
mf
mf
sfz
mp


p
mf
f
p
f
2
2
7
7
sfz
sfz