Canons from the Art of Fugue

by

Johann Sebastian Bach

1685–1750

Arranged in 2008
for keyboard by
Alberto Gomez Gomez

Use freely

Canons from Bach's Art of Fugue

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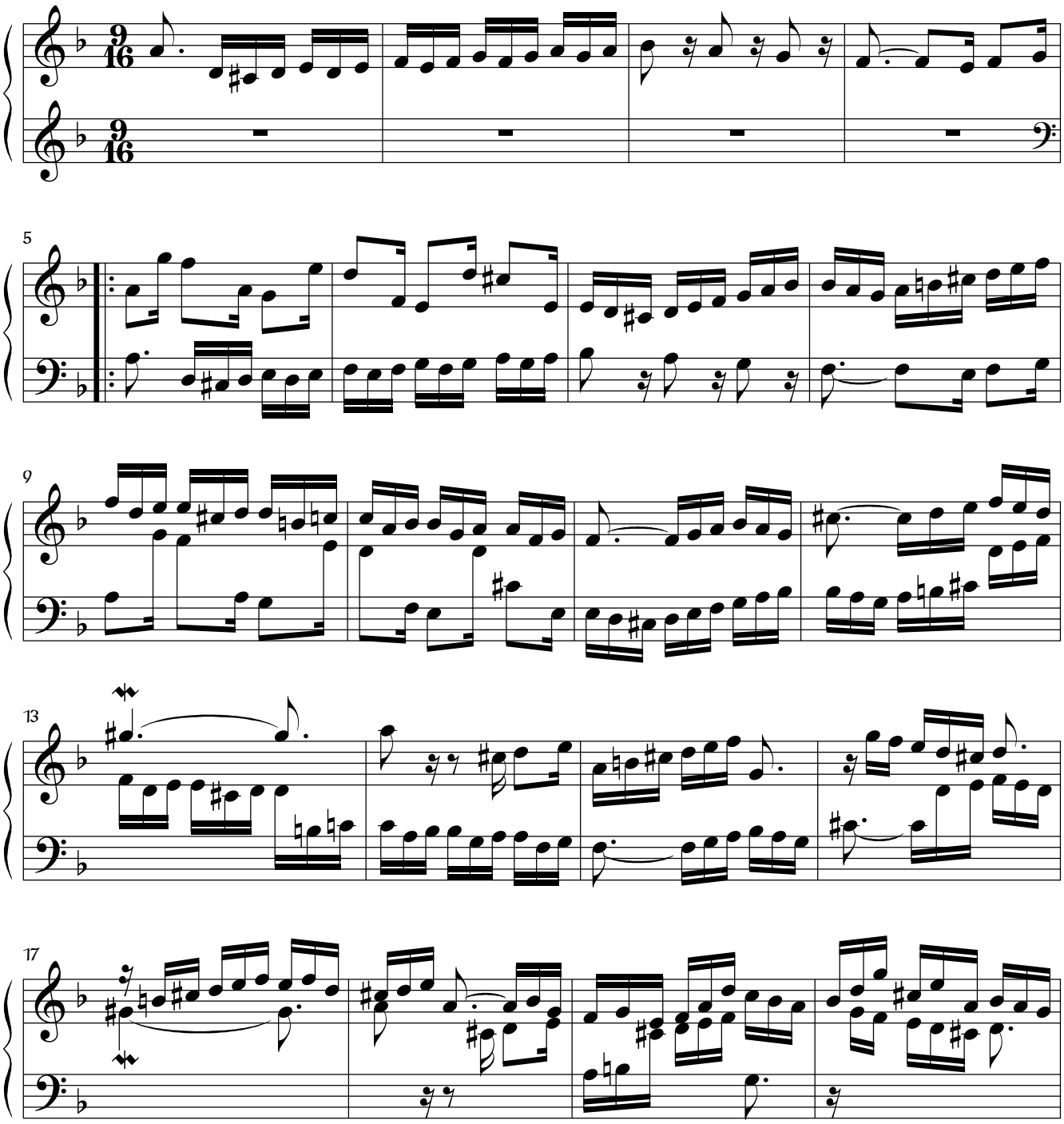
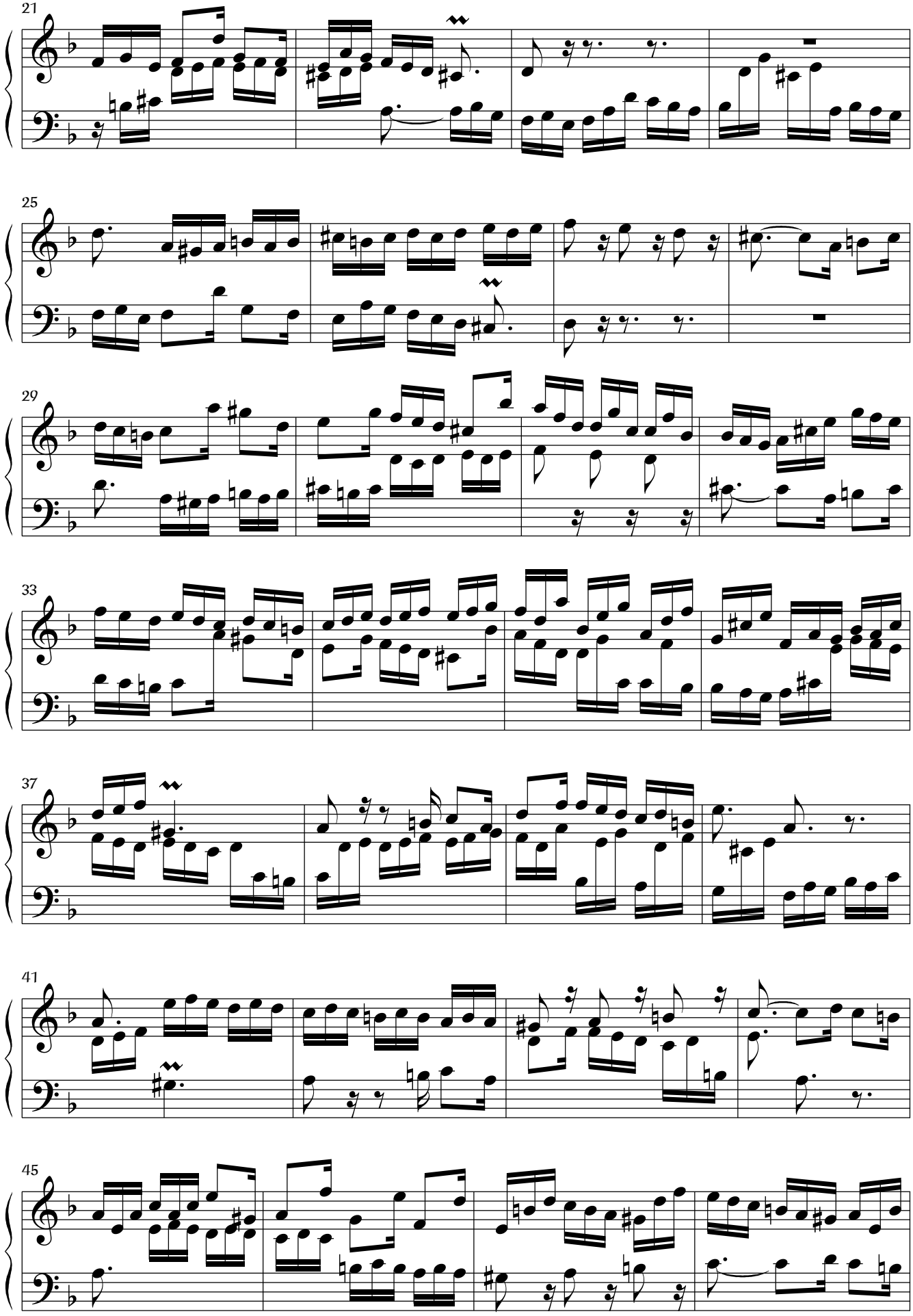
1. Canon at the Octave Below

Canon alla Ottava

By the time of his death in 1750, Bach had written 14 fugues and 4 canons of what turned out to become the finest collection of contrapunctal music ever. Unfinished though it is, the Art of Fugue not only remains unequalled to this day, but is also considered a crowning achievement of Western art.

J. S. Bach

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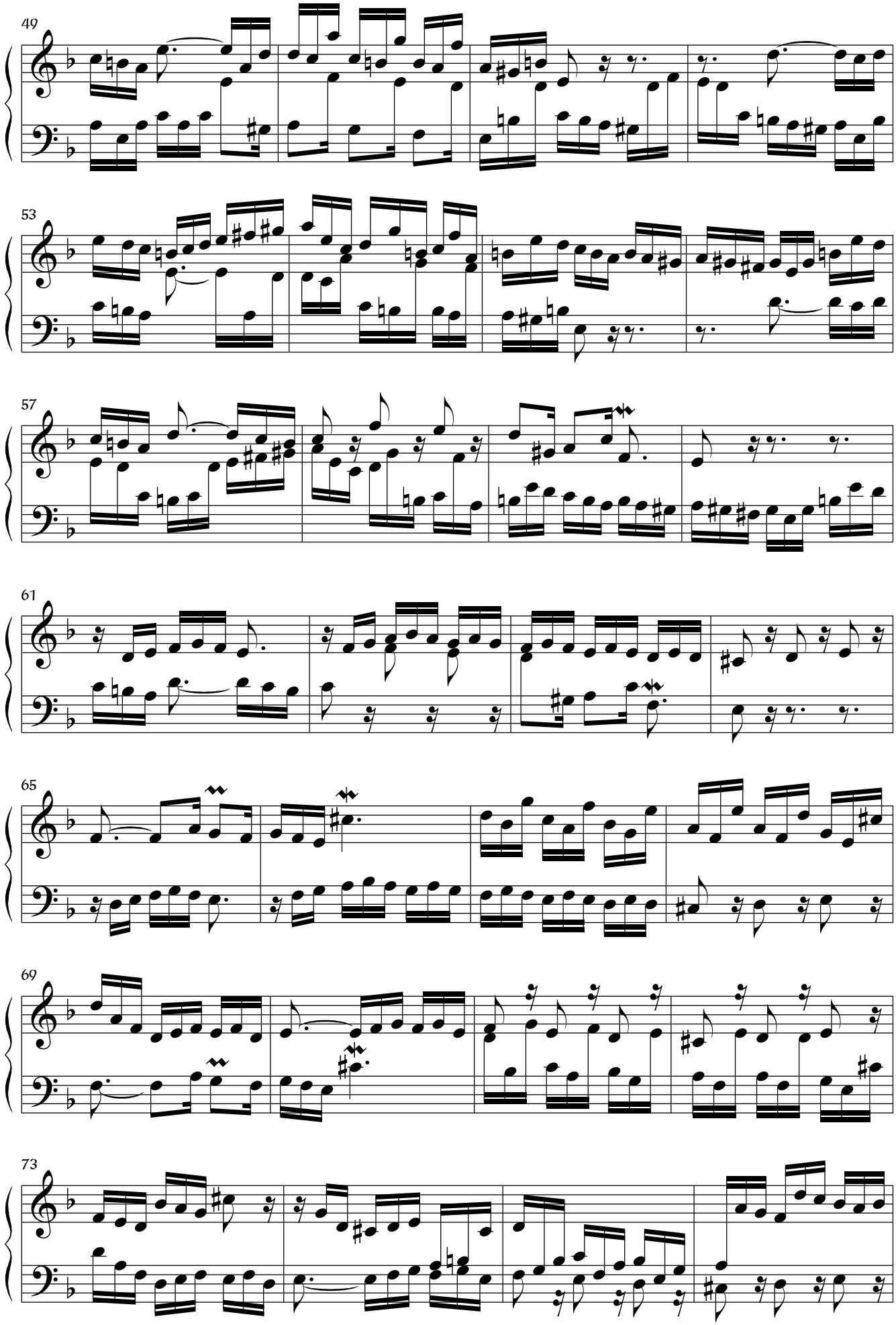
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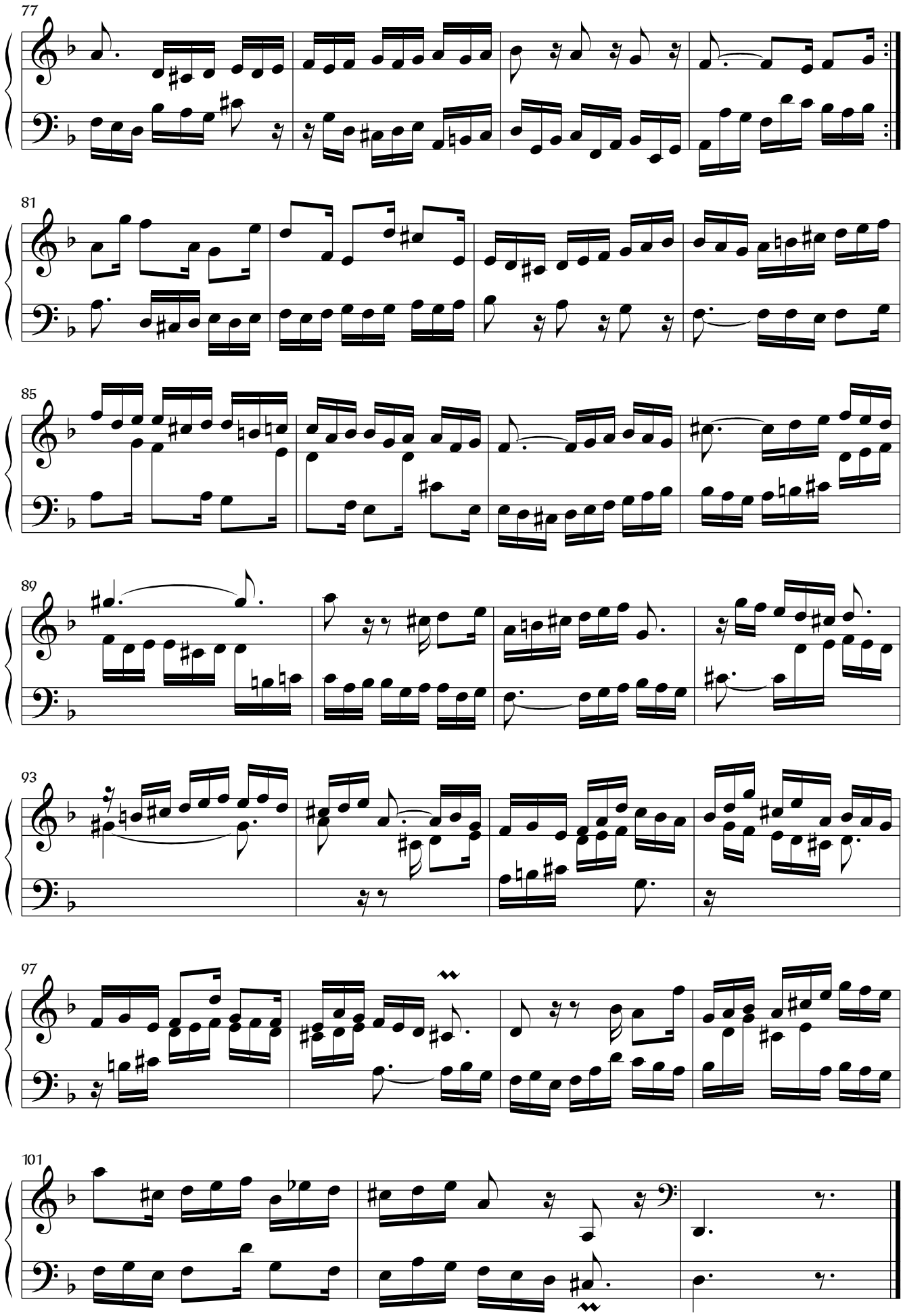
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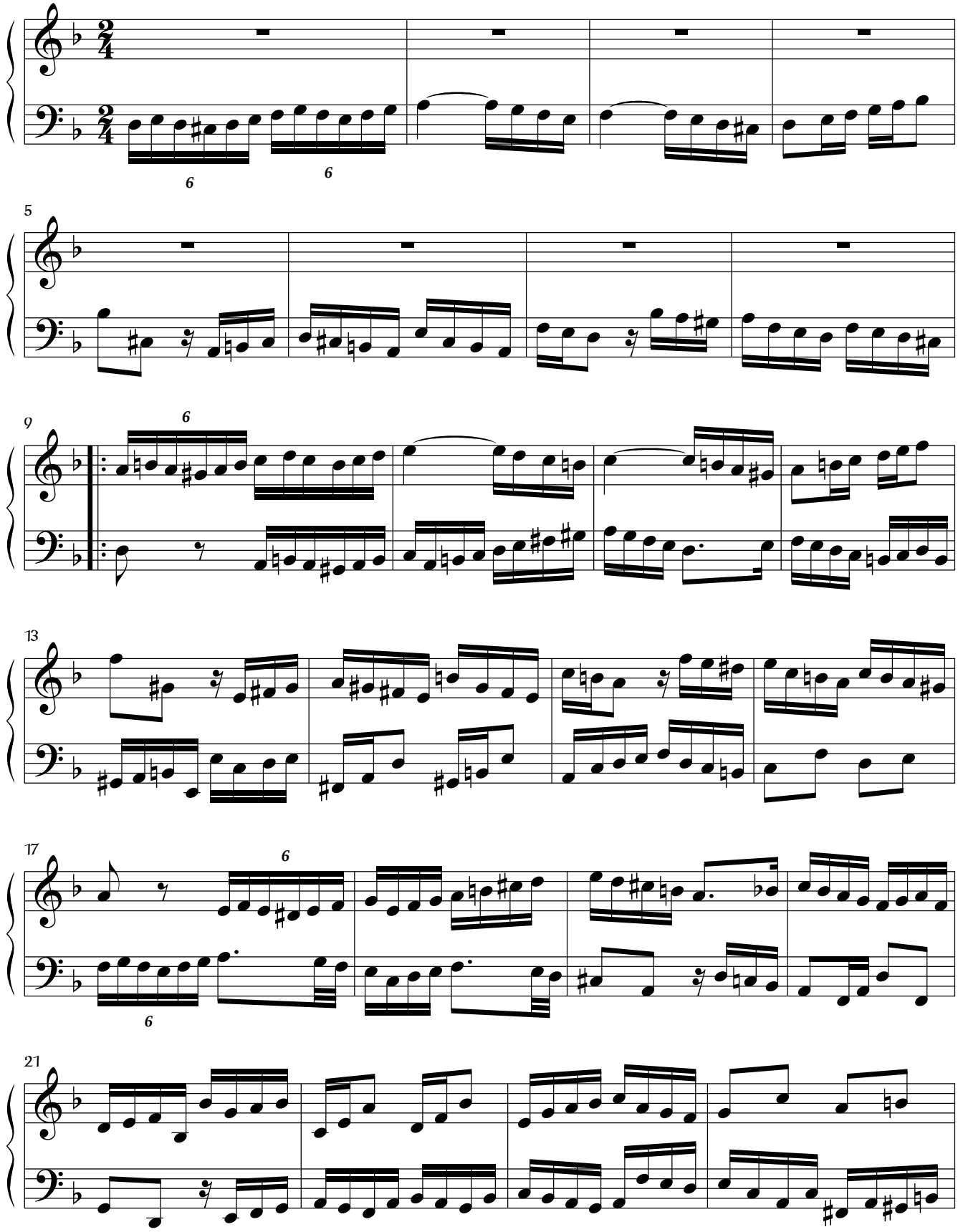
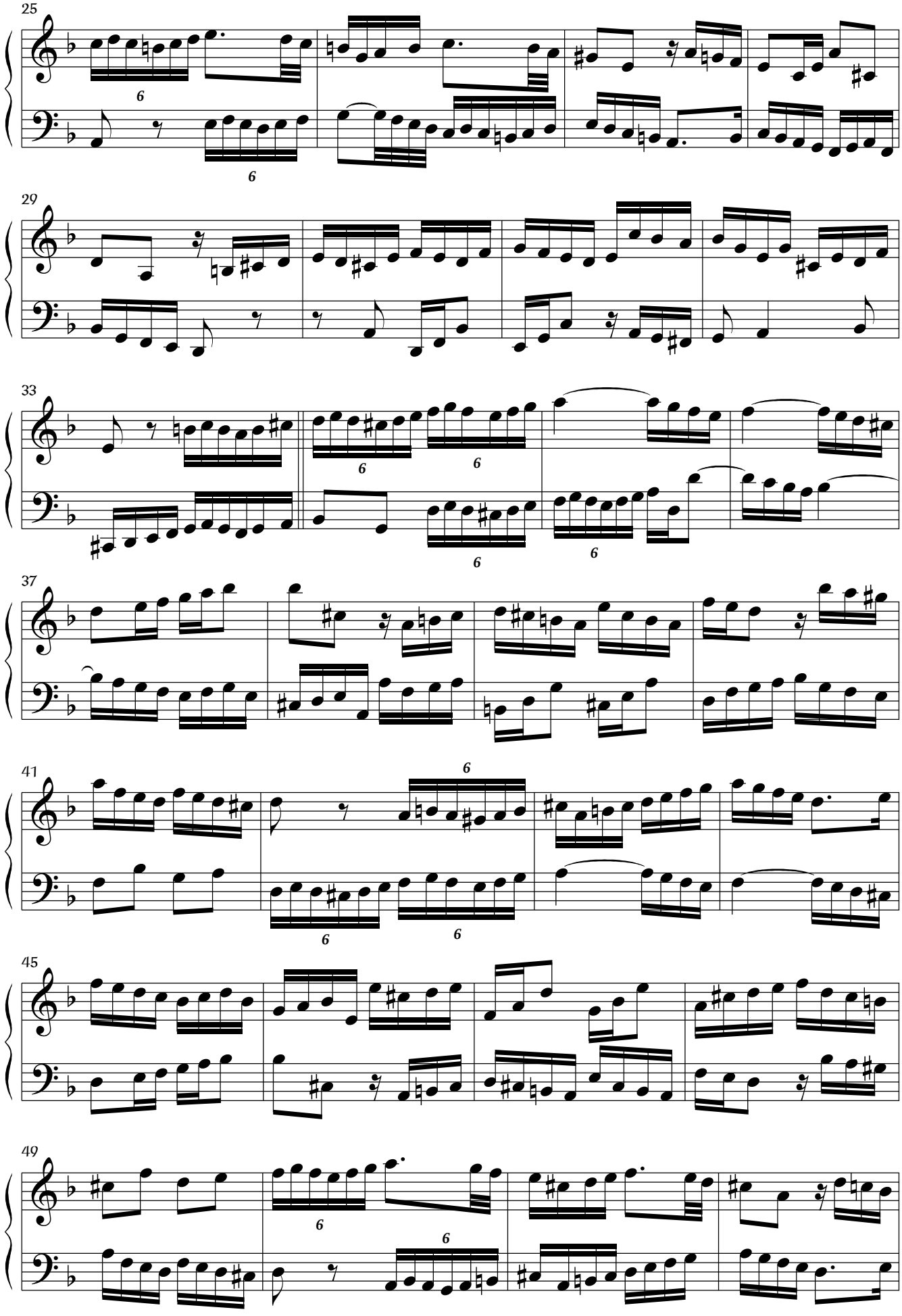
2. Canon at the Tenth Above

Canon alla Decima

J. S. Bach

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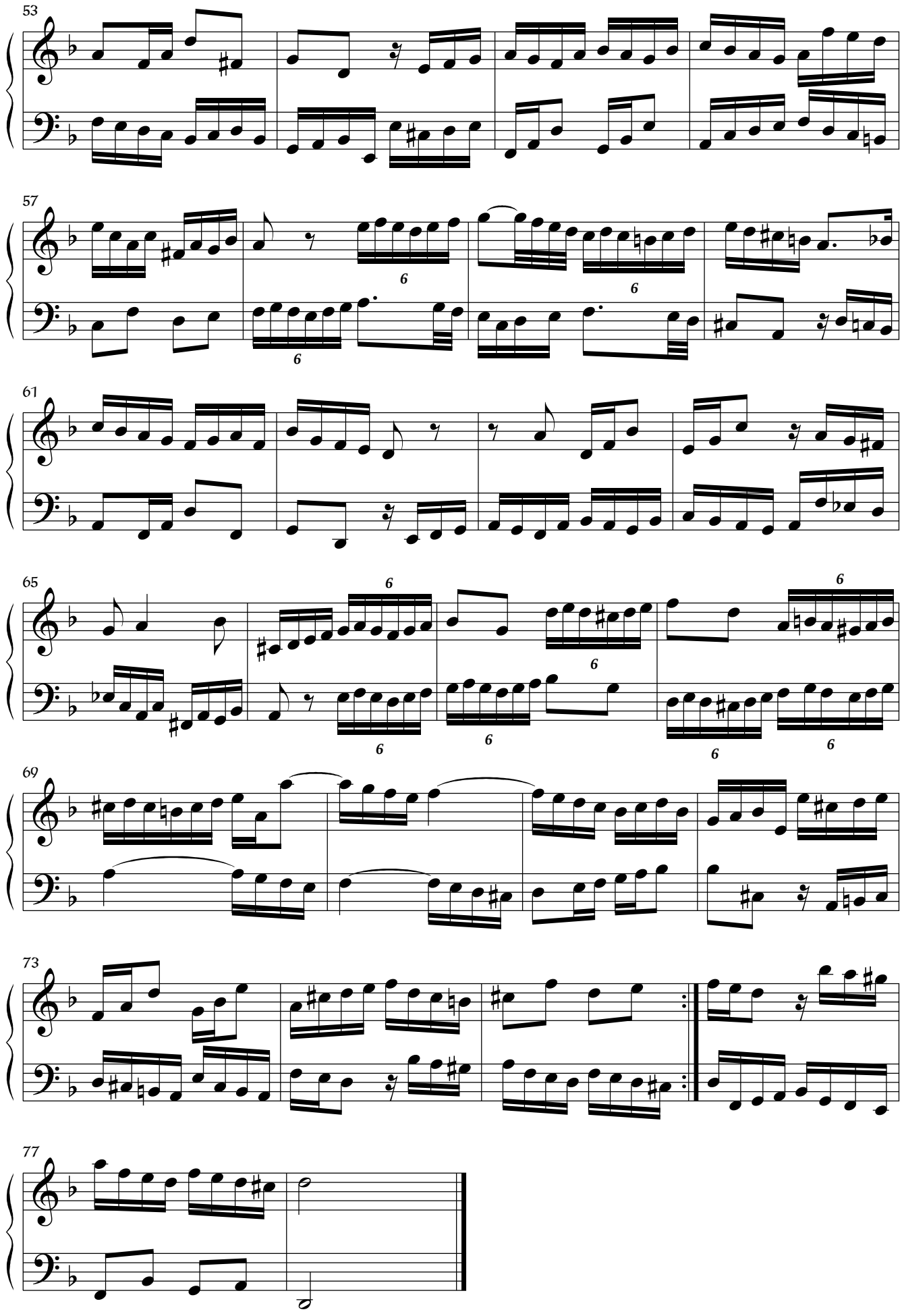
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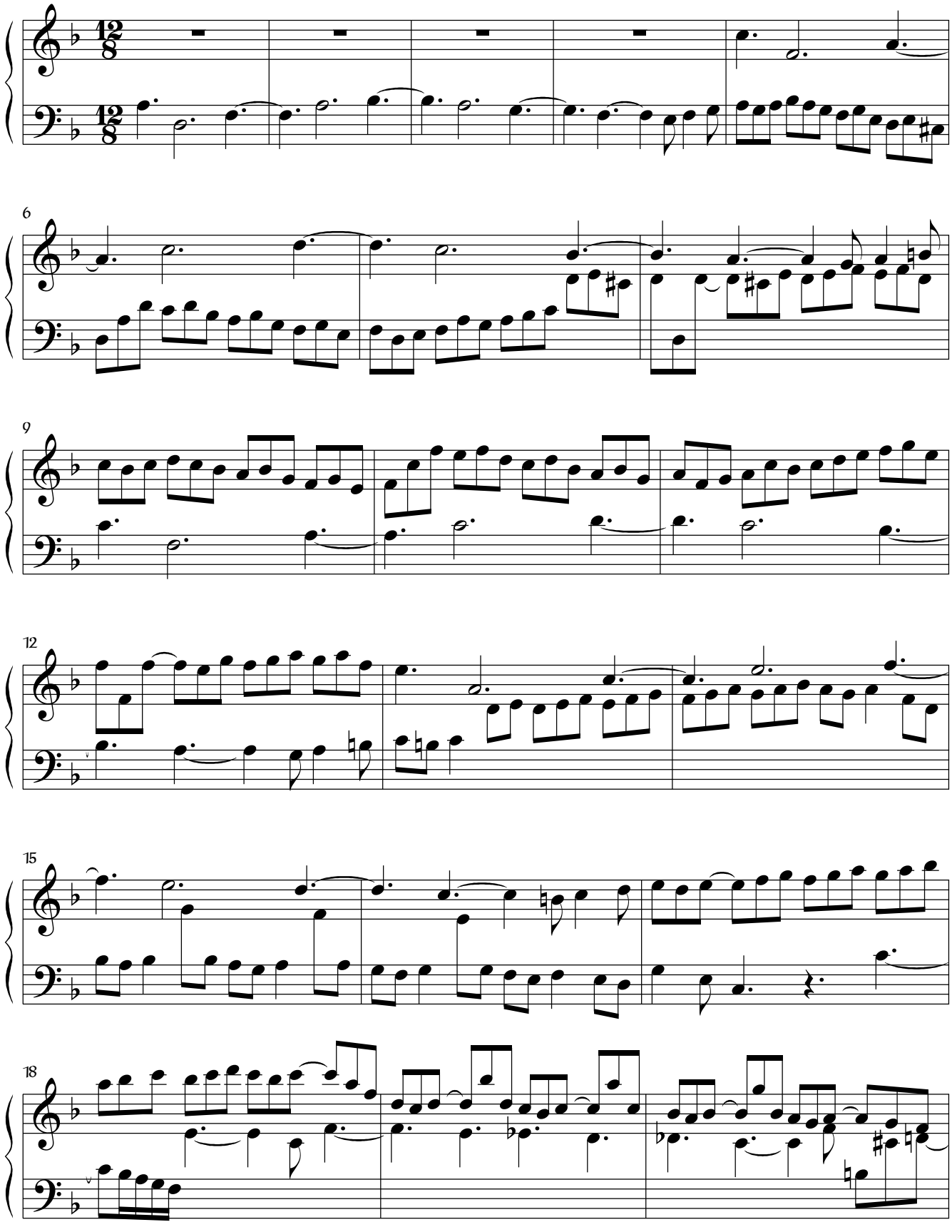
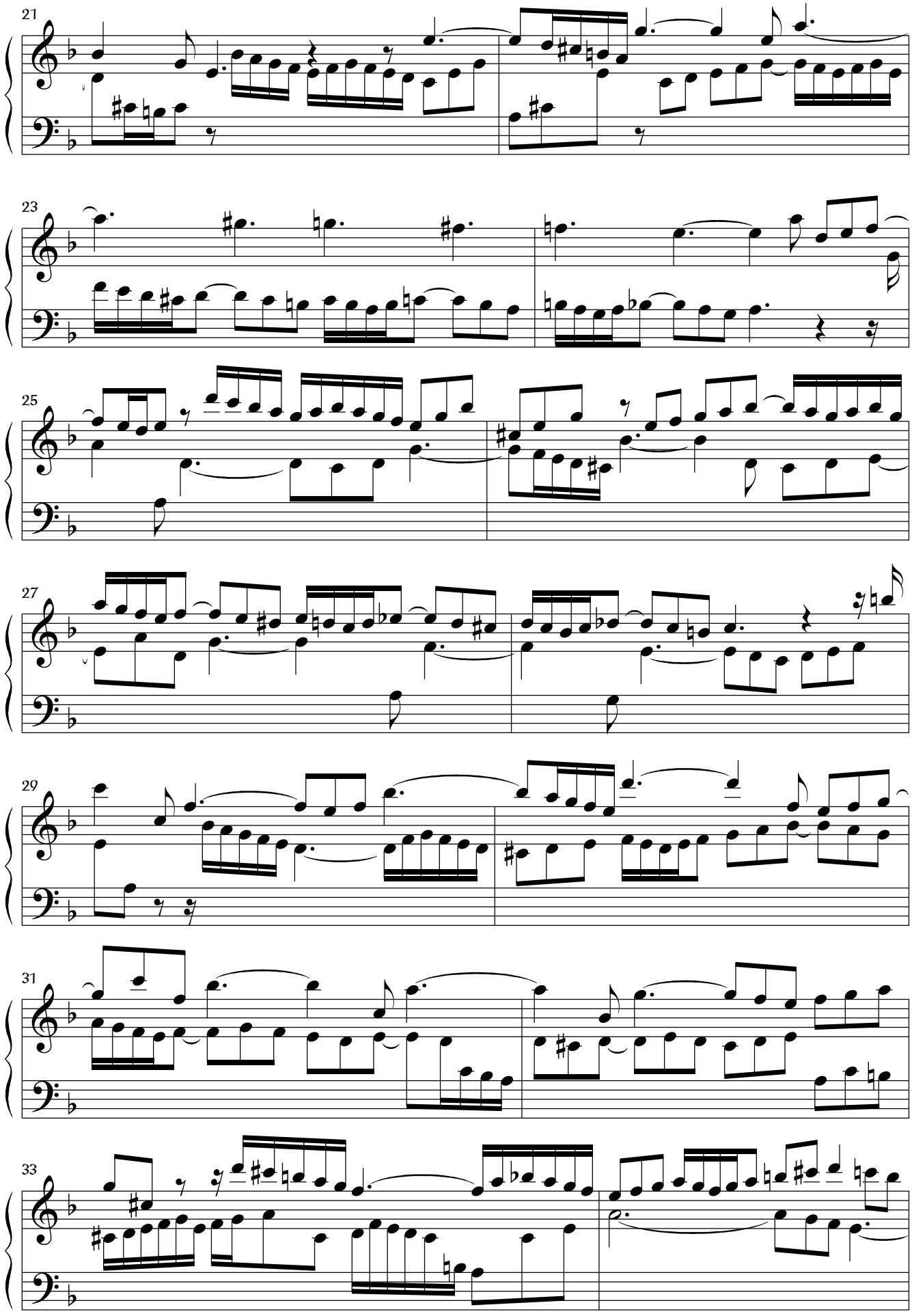
3. Canon at the Twelfth Above

Canon alla Duodecima

J. S. Bach

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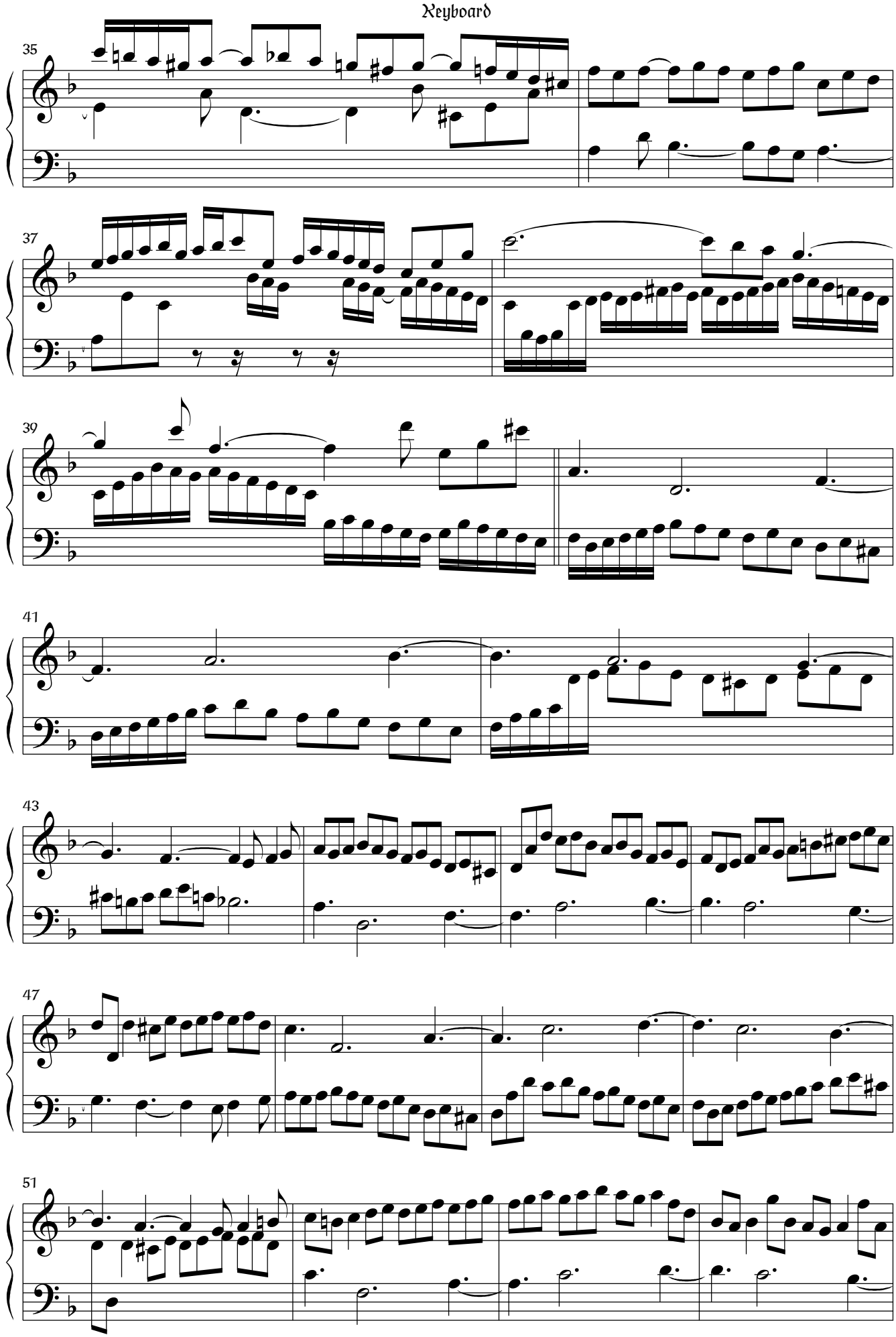
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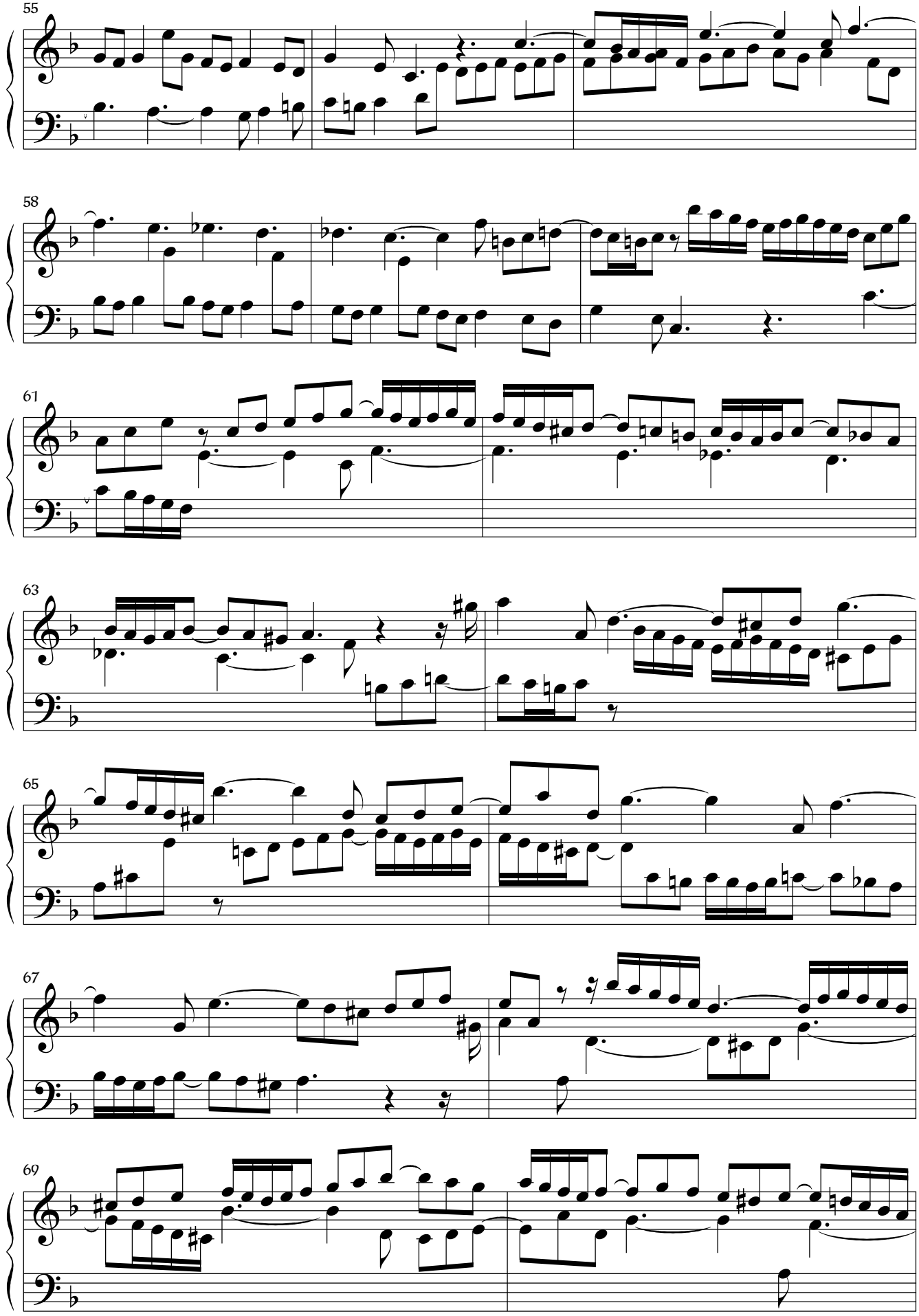
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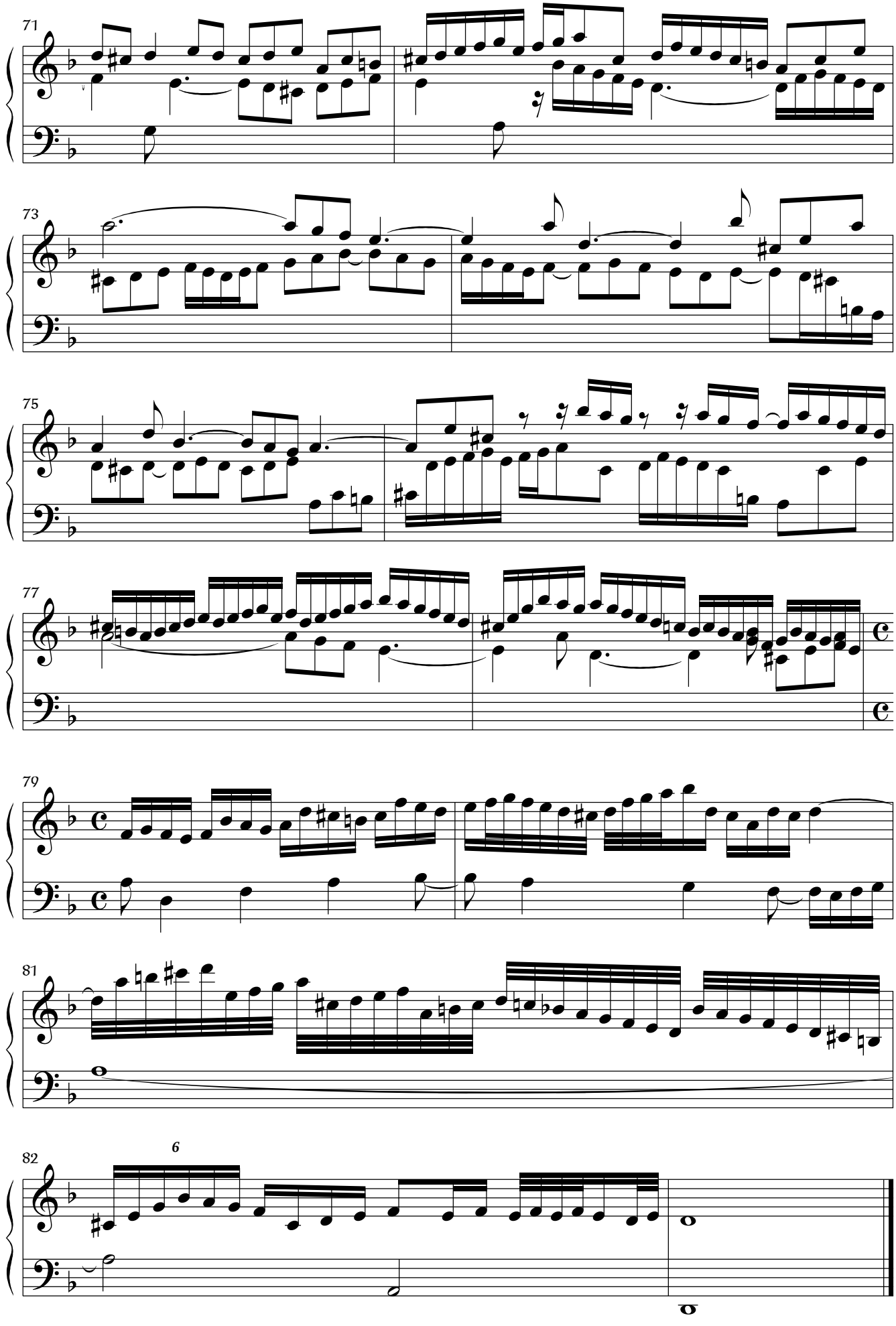
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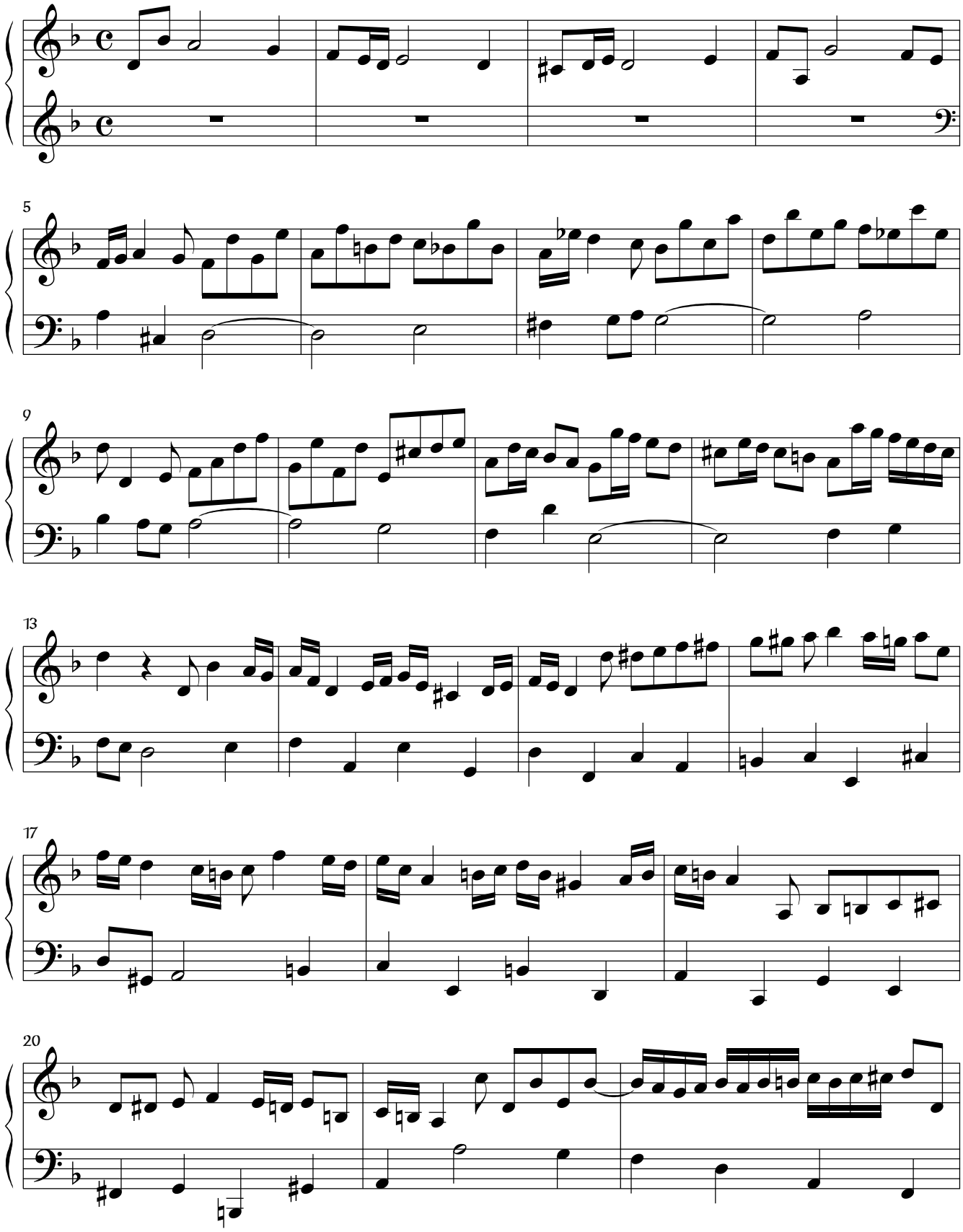
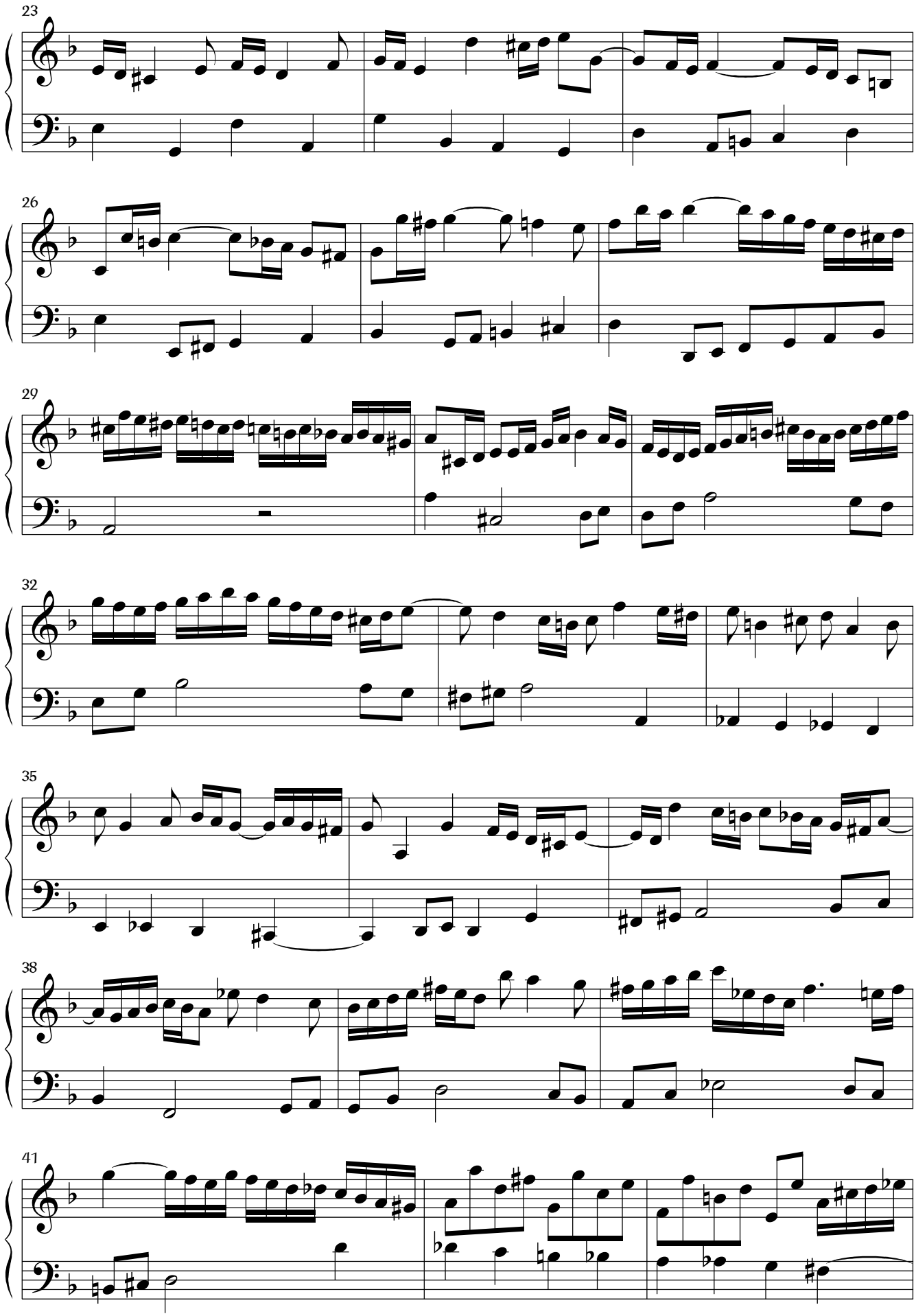
4. Augmented Canon in Contrary Motion

Canon per Augmentationem in contrario Motu

J. S. Bach

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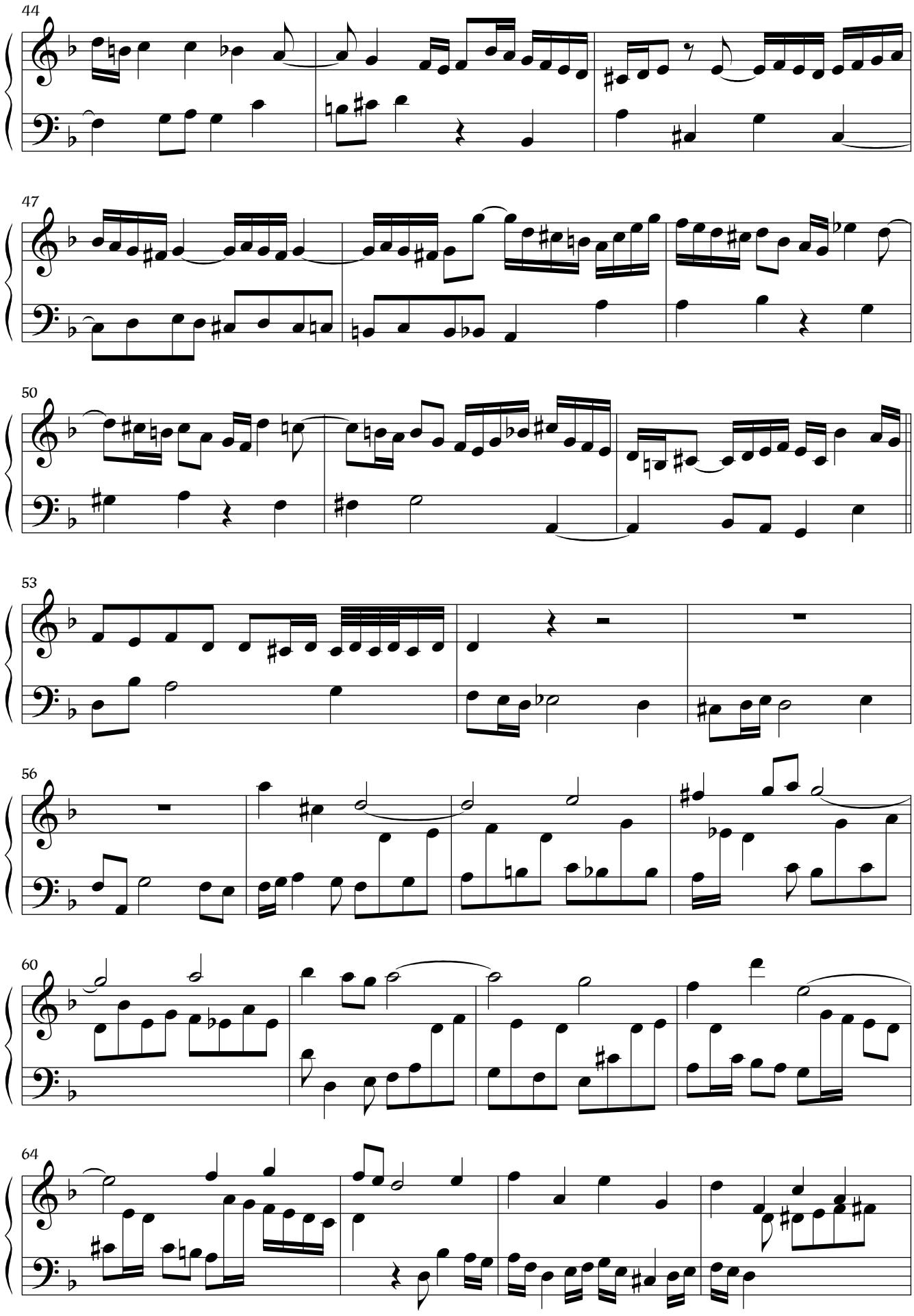
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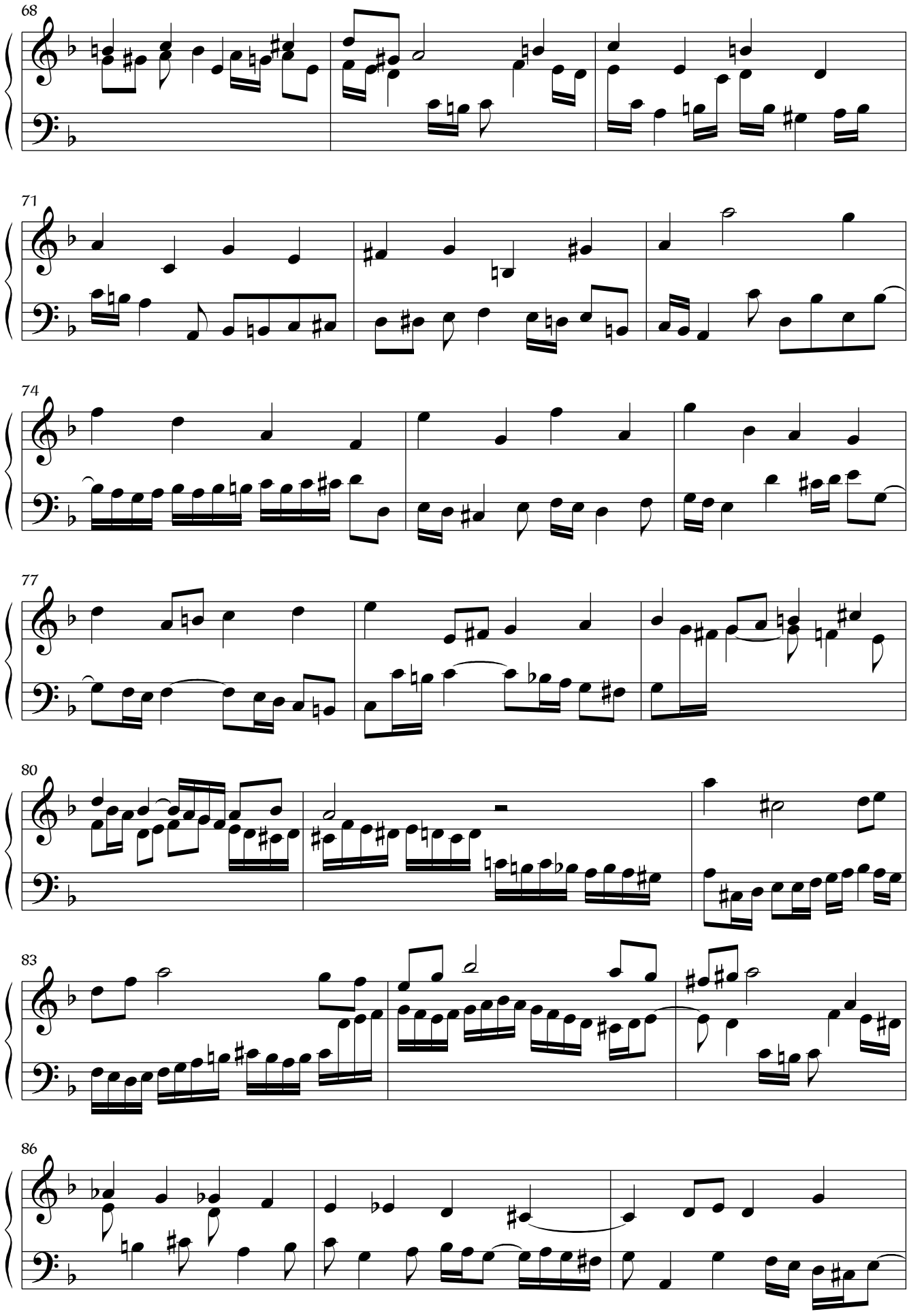
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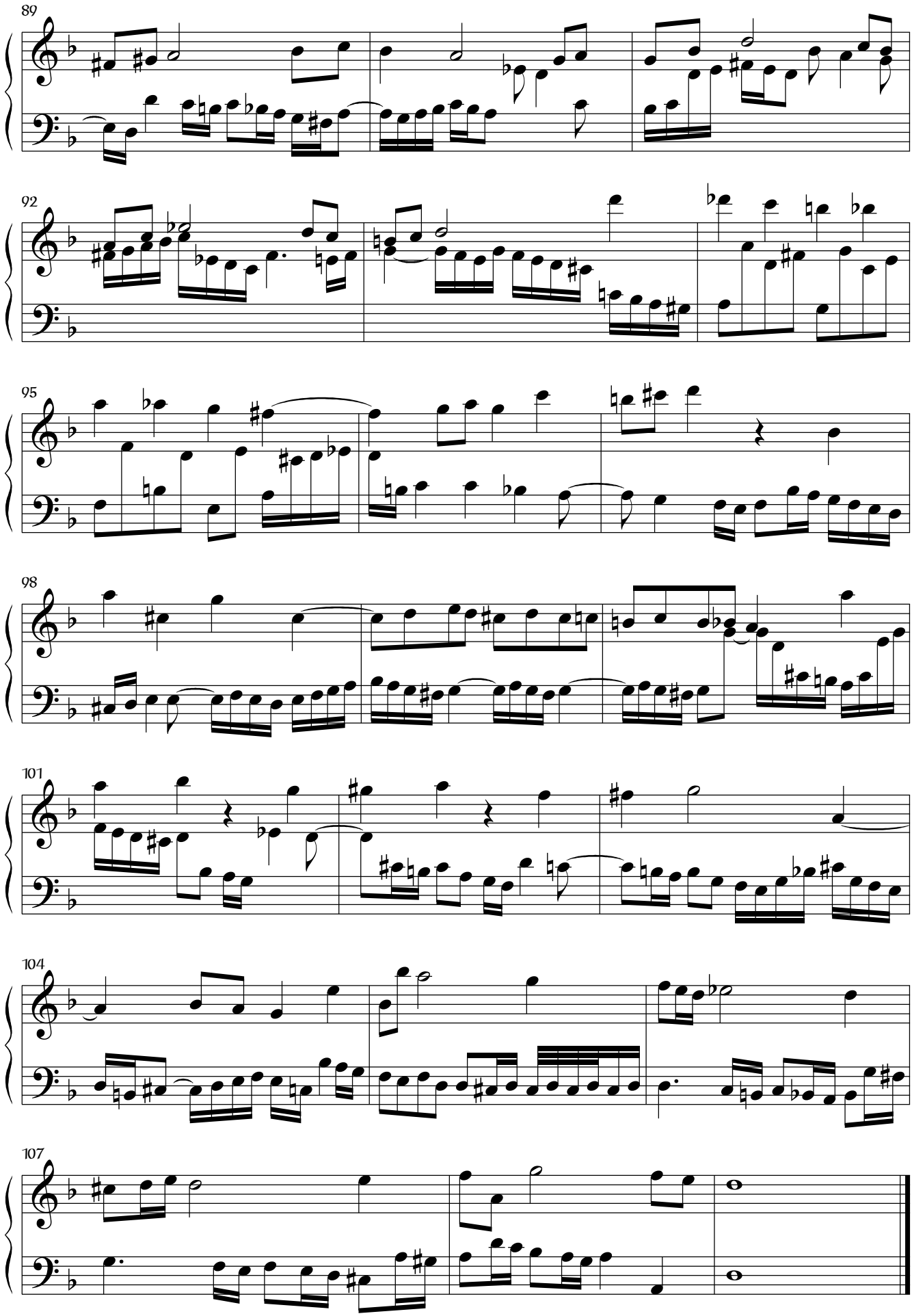
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Structure of the Art-of-Fugue Canons

1. Canon at the Octave Below

Theme	Theme at the dominant	Theme at the dominant and backwards	Theme upside-down	Theme

2. Canon at the Tenth Above

Part 1 (at the 10th above)		Part 2 (at the 8ve below)		Coda
8 mm. rest	Canon follower a 10th above	Canon leader	Bridge an 8ve above	
Canon leader	Bridge	8 mm. Free ctpt.	Canon follower an 8ve below	

3. Canon at the Twelfth Above

Part 1 (at the 12th above)		Part 2 (at the 8ve below)		Coda
4 mm. rest	Canon follower a 12th above	Canon leader	Bridge an 8ve above	
Canon leader	Bridge	6 mm. Free ctpt.	Canon follower an 8ve below	

4. Upside-down Augmented Canon

Part 1 (at the 12th above)		Part 2 (at the 8ve below)	
Canon leader		4 mm. rest	Canon follower upside-down and augmented
4 mm. rest	Canon follower upside-down and augmented	Canon leader	