PAUL STANHOPE

Dance for the White Spirits

for

solo guitar

2017

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Composer's Note:

Tyson Gordon's painting 'Invasion Day 1' shows a ghostly visage of white settlers rowing to shore, tall ships in the background, depicting the events of January 26, 1788 from an Indigenous perspective. Historian Inga Clendinen, meanwhile, notes that a British observer in the first fleet wrote of that day: "These people mixed with ours and all hands danced together". This observation inspired the title of this work although Gordon's painting perhaps influenced its character more.

This short composition for solo guitar thus reflects on the events of first contact in a series of short, energetic motifs which become more elaborate as the piece progresses. There are ambiguities as to the intended emotional tone of the piece: in some ways it relives the ebullience of that first meeting while also suggesting the more sinister events of what was to come (a feat achieved so hauntingly in 'Invasion Day 1'). This work is dedicated to the Australian guitar virtuoso, Karin Schaupp, who gave the premiere performance and graciously provided editorial markings.

Duration c. 5 mins

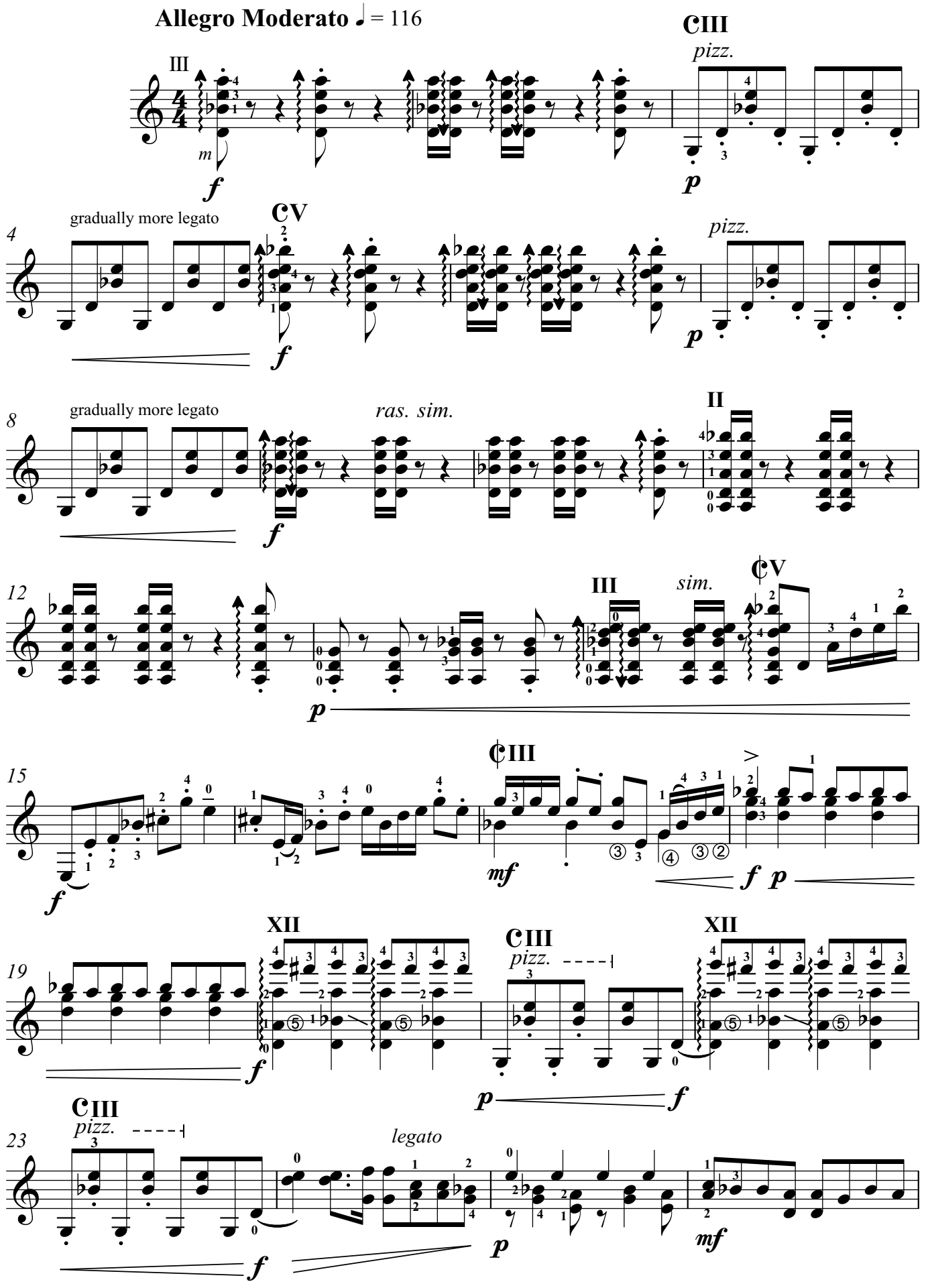
To Karin Schaupp

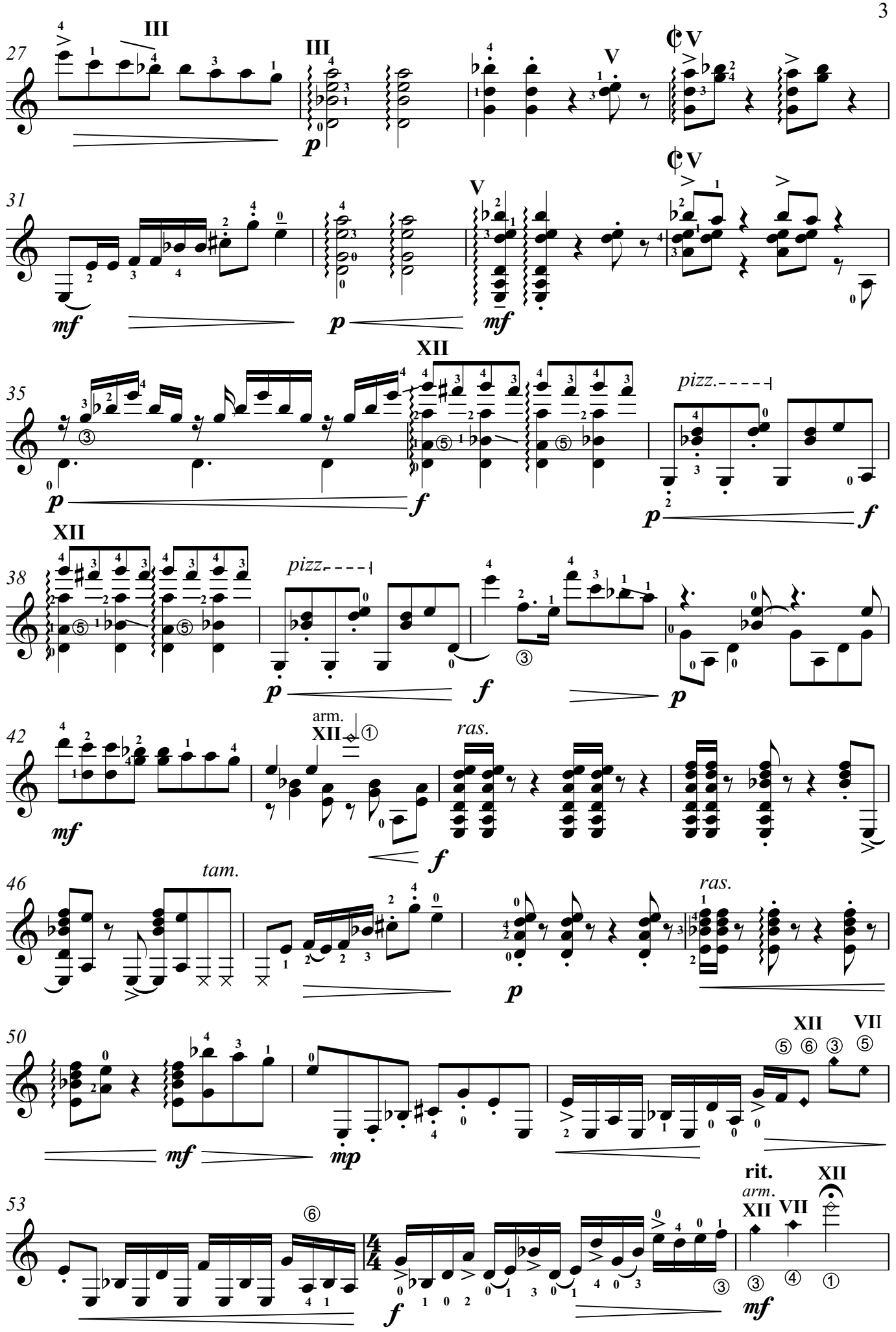
Solo Guitar

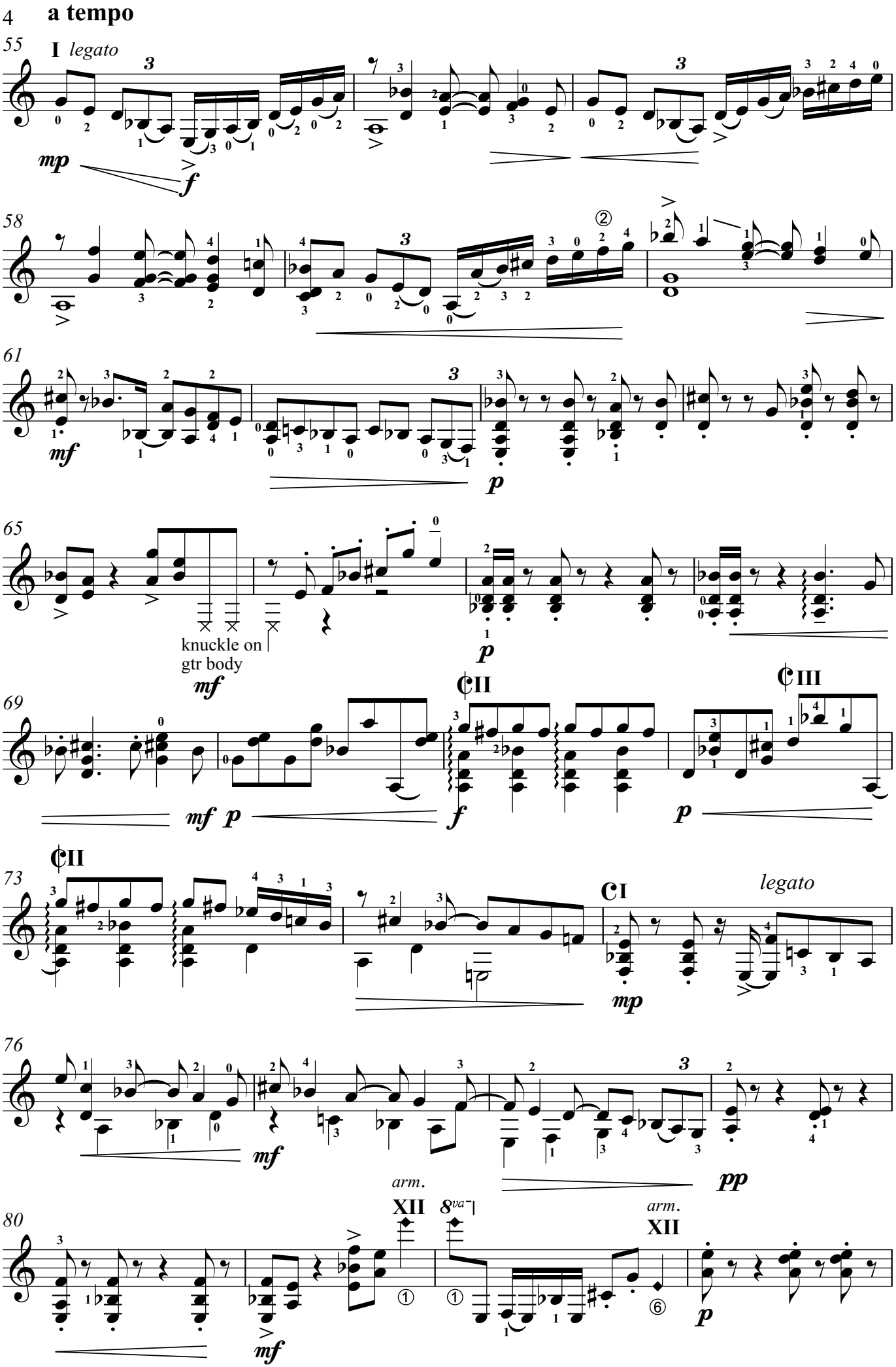
Dance for the White Spirits

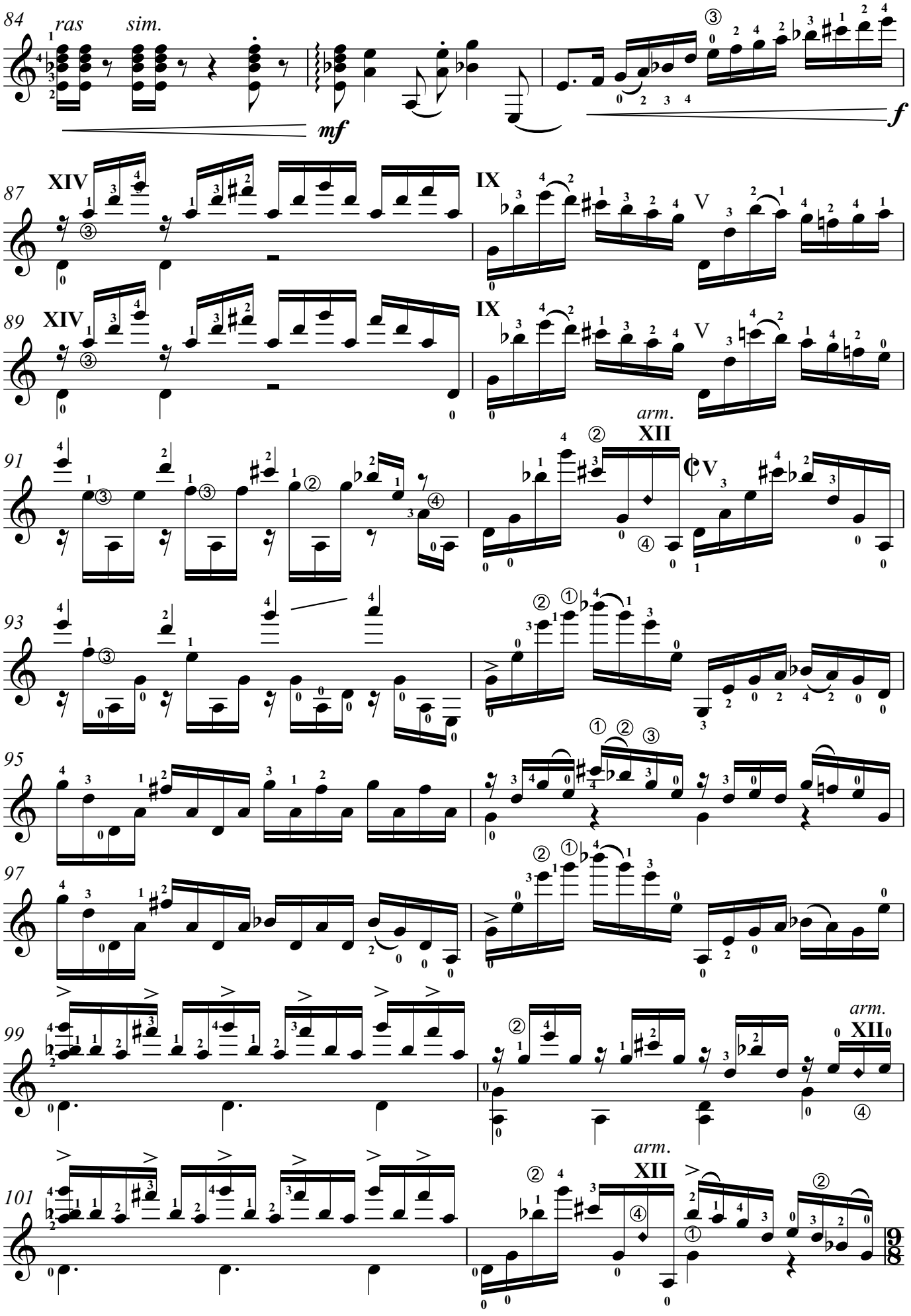
Paul Stanhope
2017
Edited by
Karin Schaupp

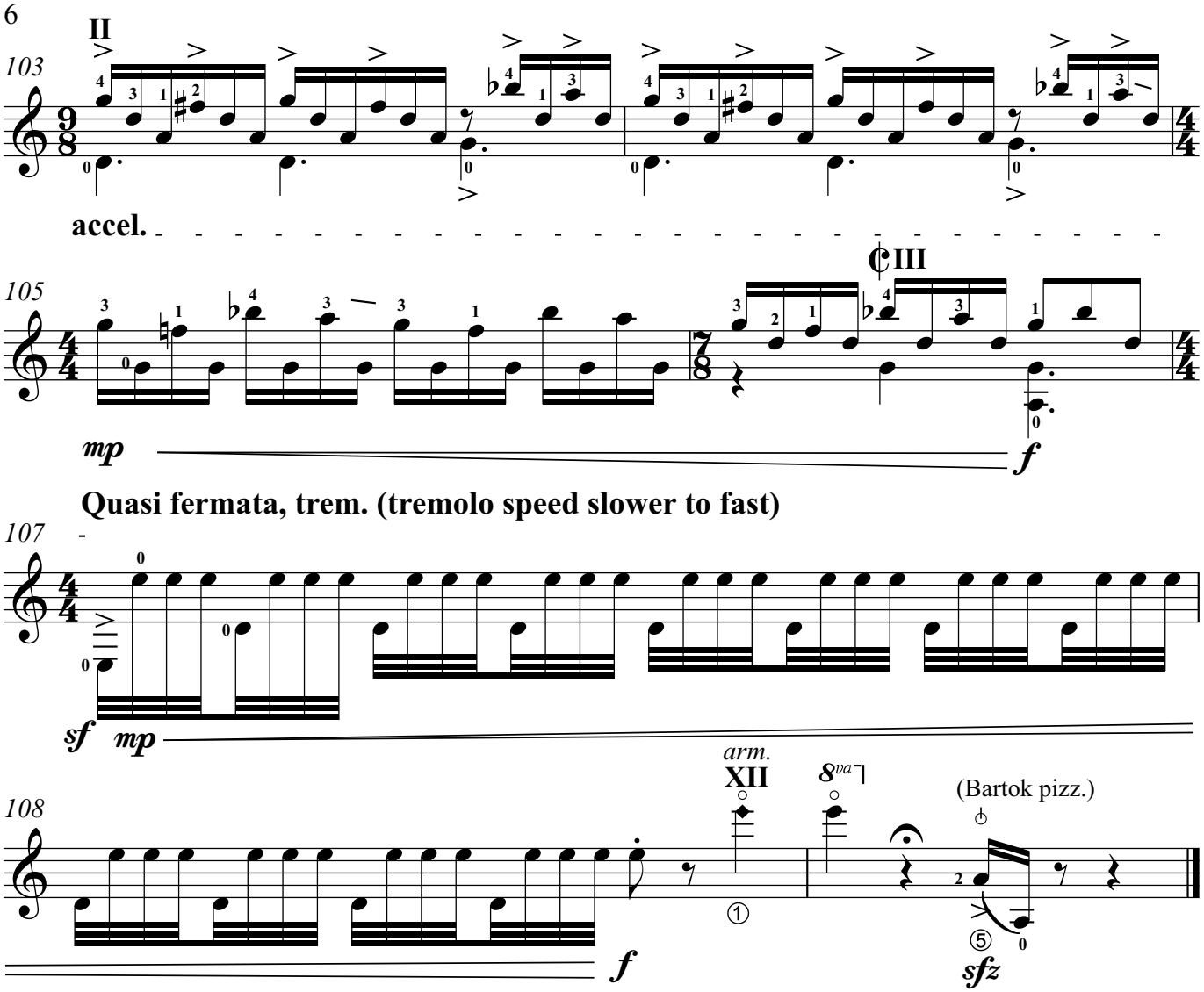
Allegro Moderato ♩ = 116




27
III
III
V
V
31
V
V
mf
p
mf
35
XII
pizz.
p
f
p
f
38
XII
pizz.
p
f
p
42
arm.
XII
ras.
mf
f
46
tam.
ras.
p
50
XII
VII
mf
mp
53
rit.
arm.
XII
VII
XII
f
mf


4
a tempo
55
I legato
mp
f
58
61
mf
p
65
knuckle on
gtr body
mf
p
69
mf p
f
p
73
legato
mp
76
mf
pp
80
arm.
XII
8va
arm.
XII
mf
p


84
ras
sim.
mf
f
87
XIV
IX
V
89
XIV
IX
V
91
arm.
XII
V
93
95
97
99
arm.
XII
101
arm.
XII



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Edited by Karin Schaupp.