Tamsin Jones

Personent Hodie

Chorale Fantasia for Organ

Merula Music 70

Notes

The melody of *Personent Hodie* has always appealed to me on account of its strongly modal character. In this chorale fantasia the tune is stated three times with a fugal section before the final statement. My idea was to build up excitement and tension through relentless contrapuntal exchanges and almost continuous quaver motion—there are, by design, no points of repose. Therefore, it is only in its final appearance that the tune is given in its entirety. The organist should cathartically engage full organ at the arrival of the joyful refrain "Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring". A cadenza may be improvised where indicated in the final bar.

I have tried to avoid conventionally tonal writing in favour of a more modally oriented approach. I have tended to prefer flattened leading notes and there are numerous instances of eccentrically handled dissonances and unconventional voice leading, as in bars 40 to 41.

This composition is dedicated to my friend, the Anglo-American organist Felicity Mazur-Park.

DURATION

Approx. 4' 10''

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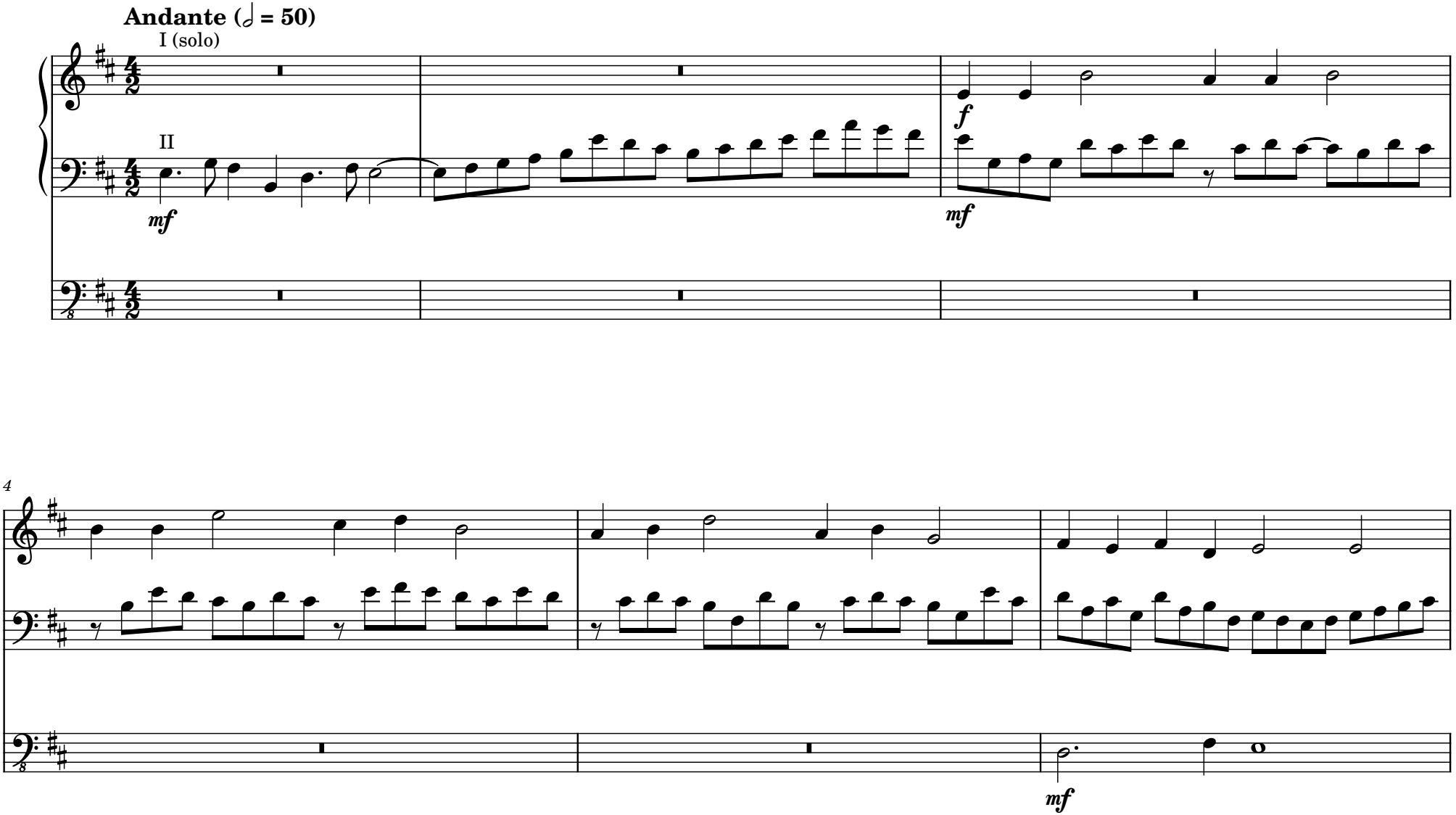
MM 70

For Felicity Mazur-Park

Fantasia on Personent Hodie

Tamsin Jones



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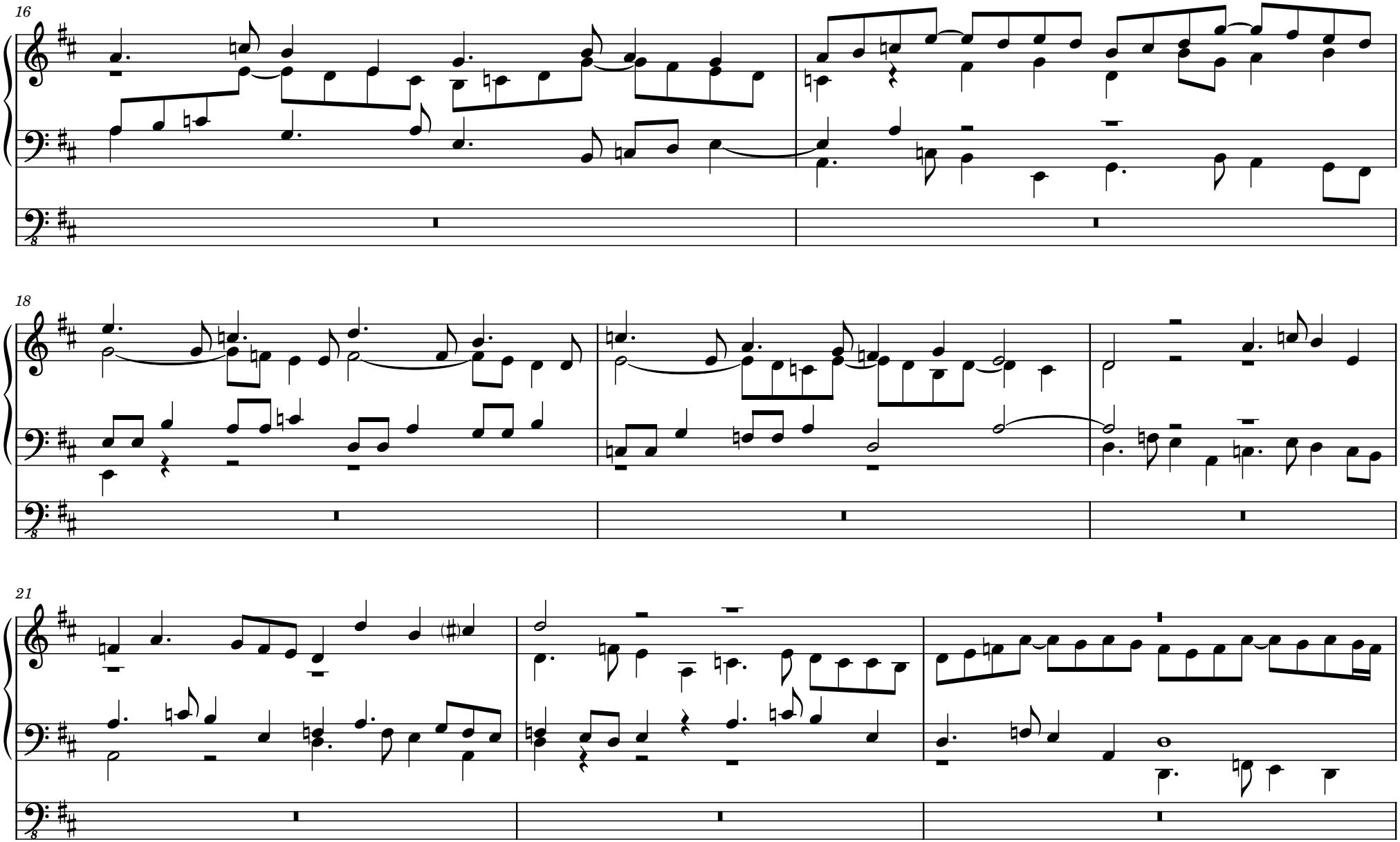

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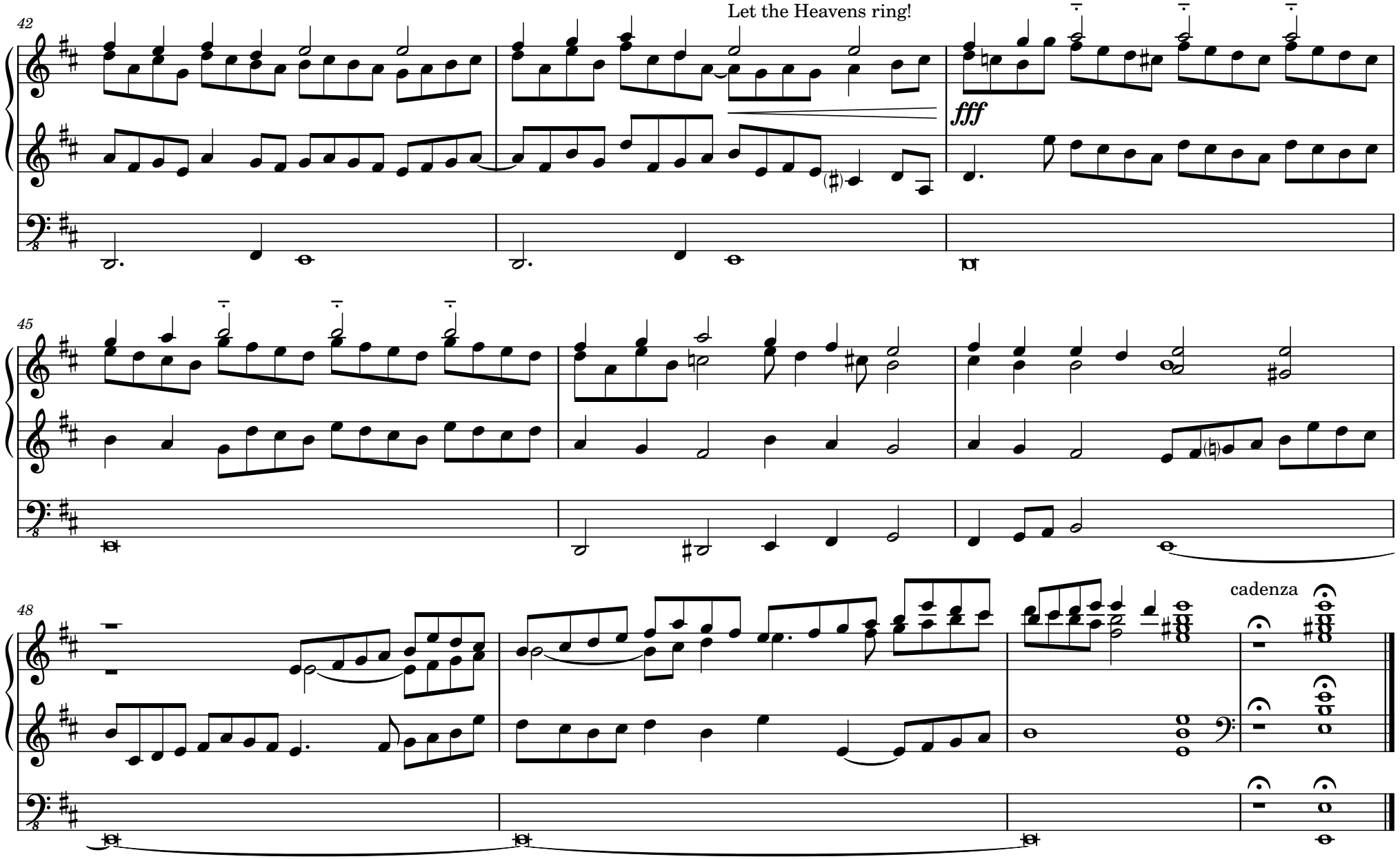

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