WALTER ROSS

OLD JOE CLARK'S
MUSICAL OFFERING

Two Upper and One Lower Double Reed Instruments

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A CM 006

Walter Ross

(1936-)

Walter Ross was born in Lincoln, Nebraska, USA, in 1936. He began to study the French horn at the age of twelve and, by seventeen, was performing professionally with the Lincoln Symphony Orchestra.

Although spending four years at the University of Nebraska studying mechanical engineering and astronomy, he continued playing with the orchestra. Ross decided to return to university to study music. After his master's degree, he went on to Cornell University for his doctorate. There, he was awarded an Organization of American States Fellowship to study composition privately under Alberto Ginastera at the Instituto Torcuato de Tella (Buenos Aires). He has been the recipient of significant grants and fellowships, numerous awards and prizes.

Ross began teaching composition and theory in the Music Department at the University of Virginia in 1967. He established the Charlottesville University and Community Orchestra, which he conducted for two years. Later, he formed a Baroque trio sonata ensemble in which he played flute and recorder.

During his tenure at the University of Virginia he served as Chairman of the Department of Music and was awarded a University Outstanding Teaching Award. He participated in regional, national, and international juries of composition and performance.

Walter Ross has composed over 150 works, which have been widely performed in over forty countries. Many of his compositions have been published, recorded and broadcast. He is, perhaps, best known for his compositions featuring brass and woodwinds. The influences of his own extensive performance background and diverse musical training (with composers who stressed bright orchestration and rhythmic excitement) can be detected in many of his works. Many of his recent pieces are representative of his current interest in neo-modal, pan-diatonic composition.

He has been a visiting composer at the Aspen Music Festival, a featured composer at several universities and forums, and a board member of the Capital Composers Alliance.

In 1997 he wrote a cantata featuring the poetry of Rita Dove, the American Poet Laureate. Recent choral works include 'Lux Aeterna' to honour the victims of 9/11, which has been performed upon a number of occasions.

Retired from full time teaching, Walter Ross currently performs on double bass in the Blue Ridge Chamber Orchestra. In addition to composing, he continues his interest in chess (in 1969 he won a trophy in the U.S. Open Chess Tournament), astronomy, and the History of Science.

Old Joe Clark's
Musical Offering

Two Upper and One Lower Double Reed Instruments

AICM 006

Old Joe Clark's Musical Offering is a parody of *Das Musikalische Opfer*, BWV 1079 - 'The Musical Offering' by J.S. Bach. His collection of canons and fugues (and other pieces) was based upon a theme by Friedrich ll of Prussia.

The melody I have used for my set of canons and a 'sonata' is the American folk song *Old Joe Clark*, a tune in mixolydian mode (known as 'mountain minor' in the Blue Ridge mountains of Virginia), which has a seemingly endless number of outrageous verses. Originally composed in 1971, *Old Joe Clark's Musical Offering* evolved into this, its final form, in 1999. It has been conceived for combinations of double reed instruments. The parts are numbered I, II and III and can be varied upon the instruments indicated. The canons are always between the two upper voices.

This light-hearted trio is dedicated to Jennifer Paull.

Walter Ross
2000

❖❖❖

Works by Walter Ross published by ***Amoris International***

Autumn Pastorale	AI SI 012
Portraits from *La Commedia dell'Arte*	
I *Punchinello's Scherzino*	AI SI 016
II *Trio di fantasia*	AI CM 004
Concerto for Oboe d'amore - Keyboard Reduction	AI SI 022
Old Joe Clark's Musical Offering	AI CM 006
Variations on *'Auprès de ma blonde'*	AI EN 004
Concerto for Oboe d'amore & String Orchestra	AI OR 004

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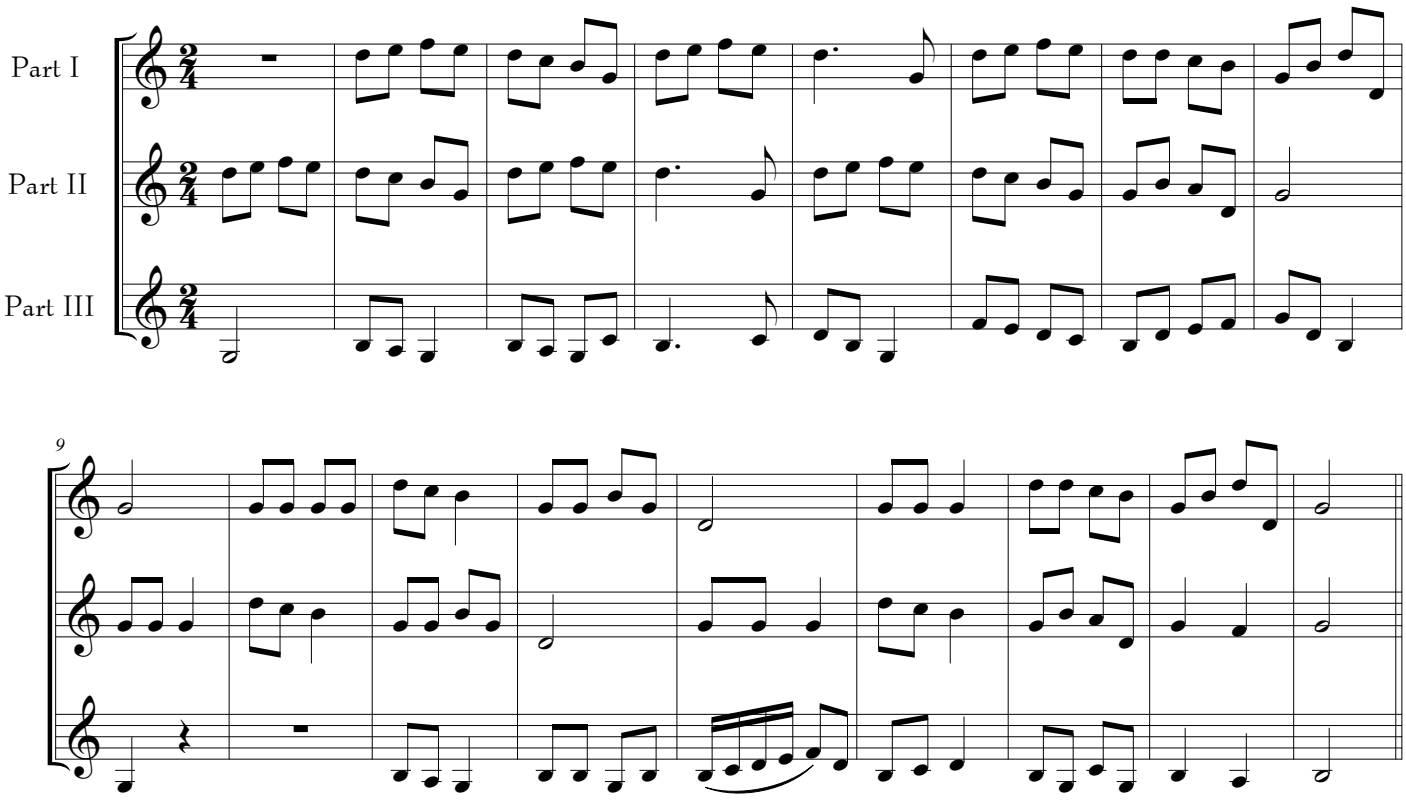
for Jennifer Paull

OLD JOE CLARK'S
MUSICAL OFFERING

❖ **Full Score**

Walter Ross
(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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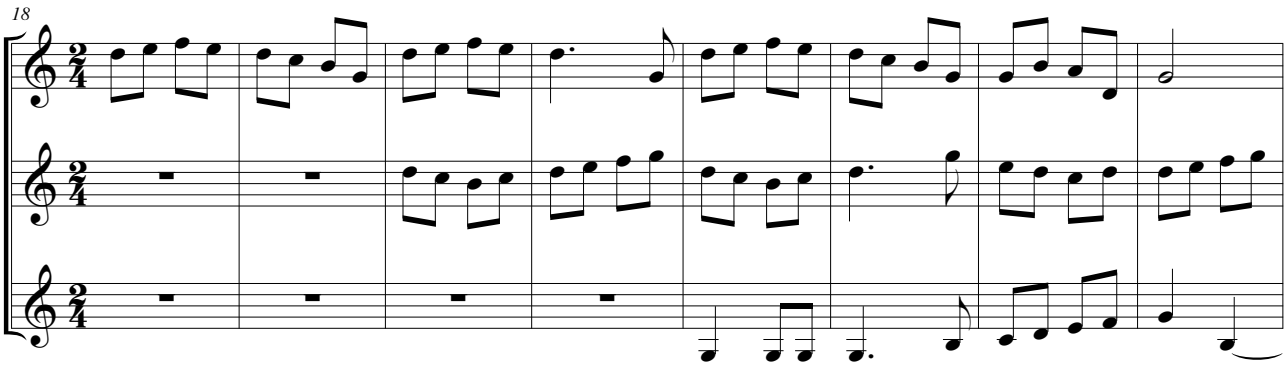

❖ In Concert Pitch

AI CM 006

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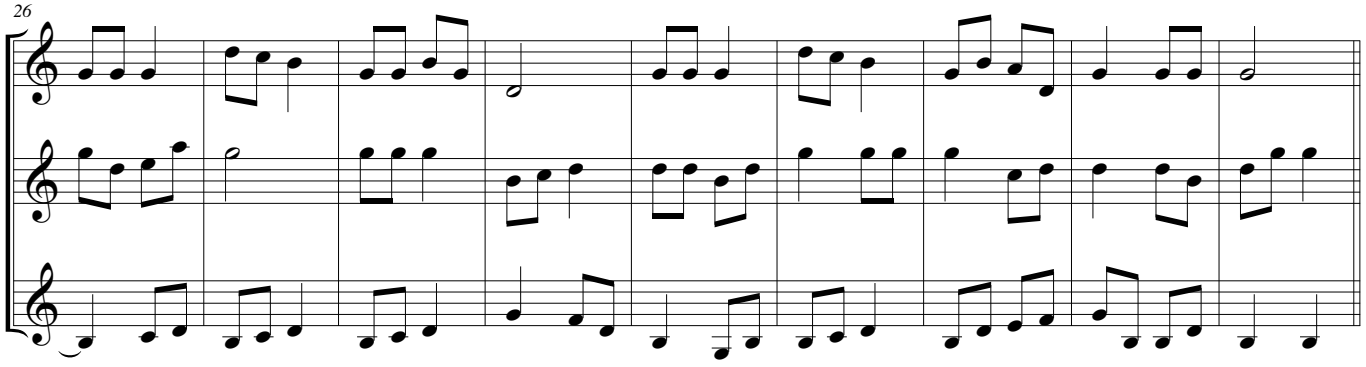
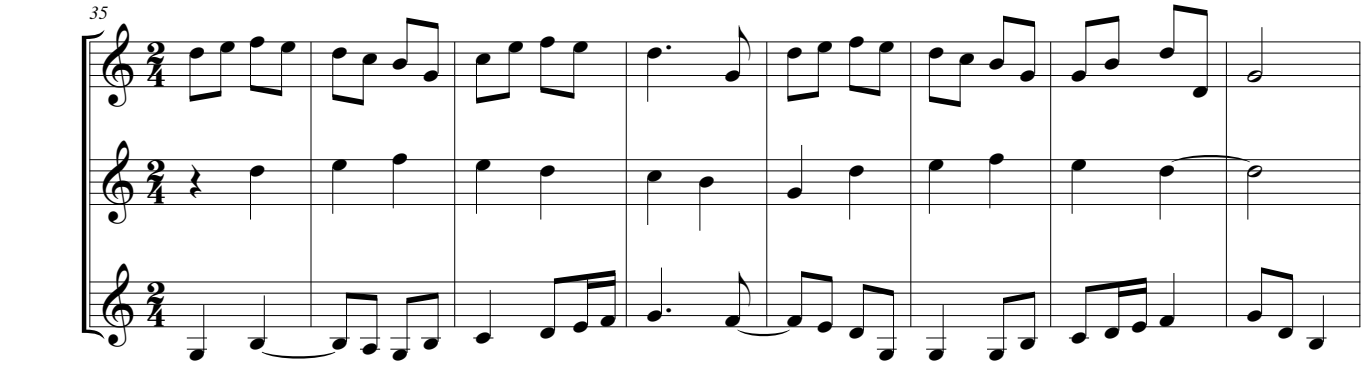
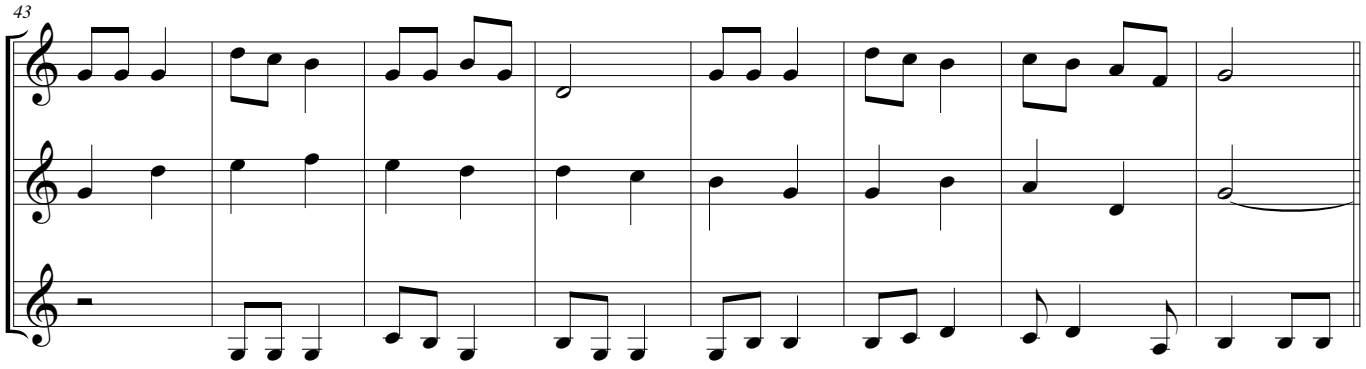
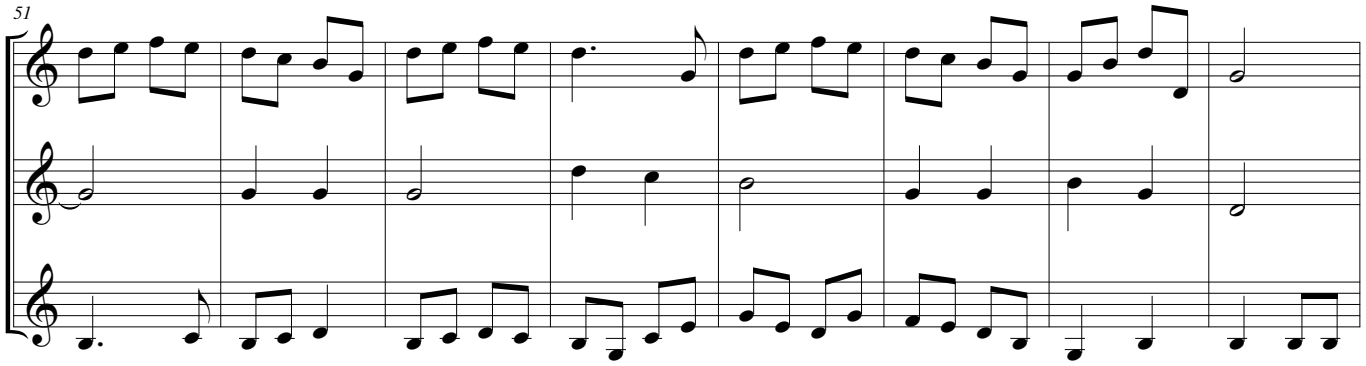
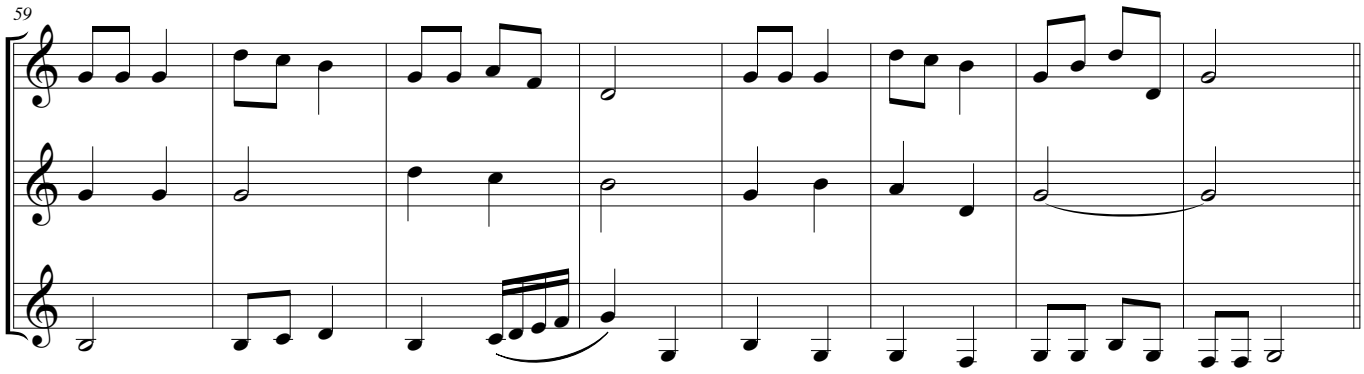


Canon in Augmentation









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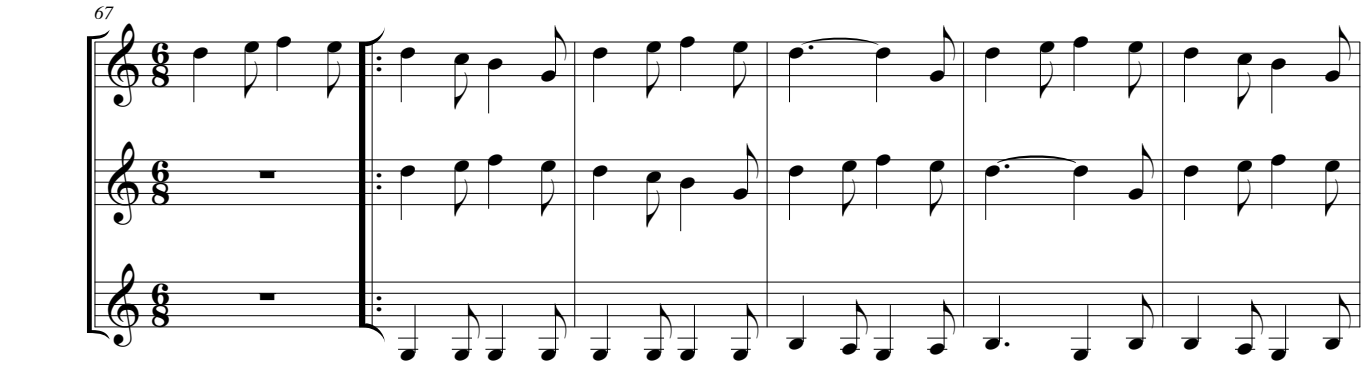

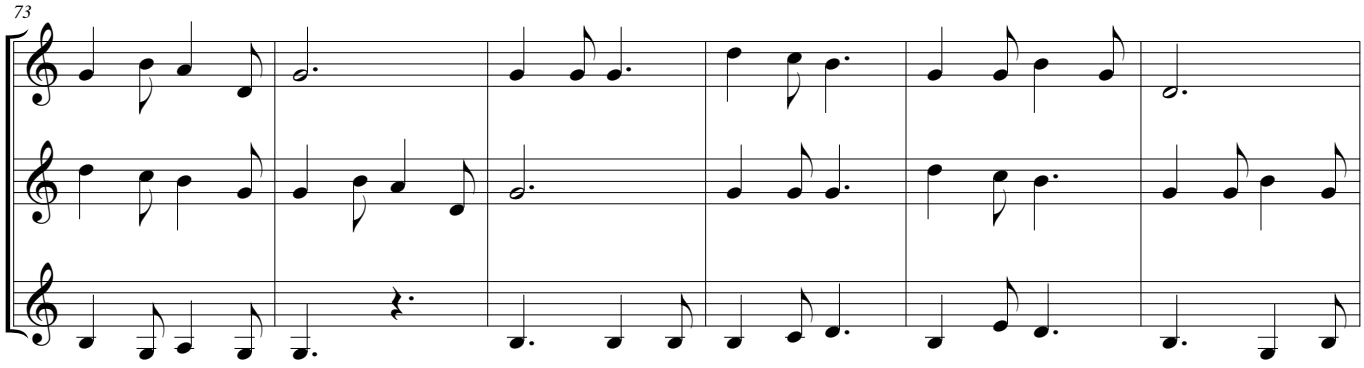

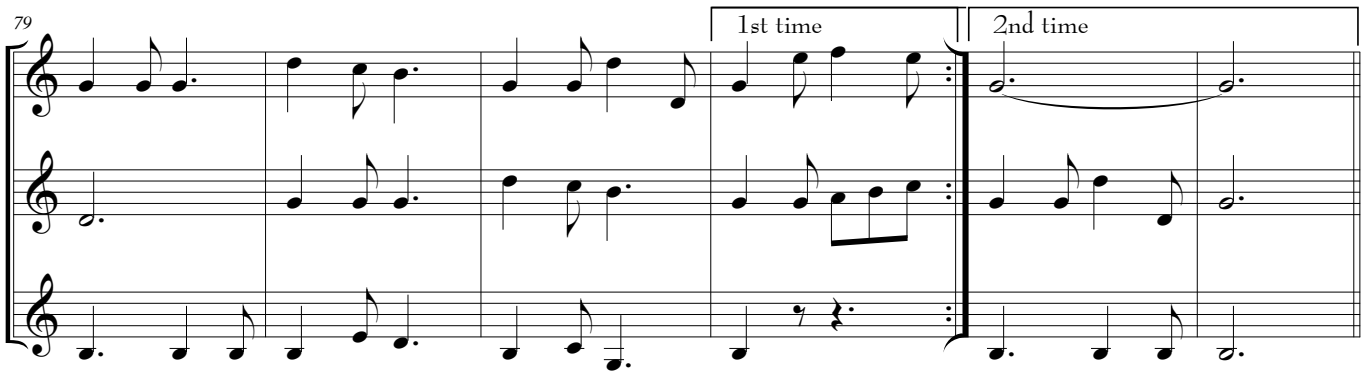

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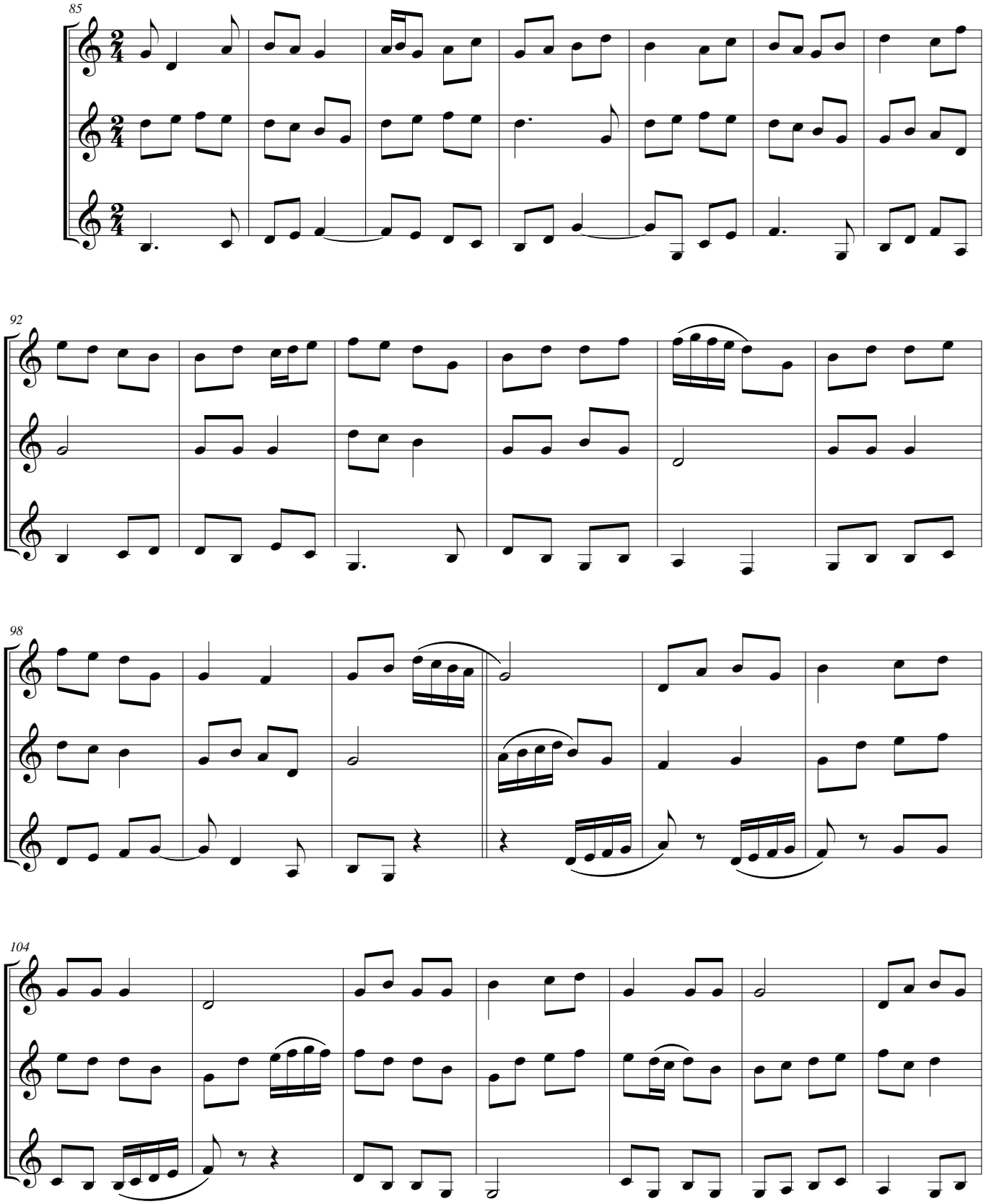

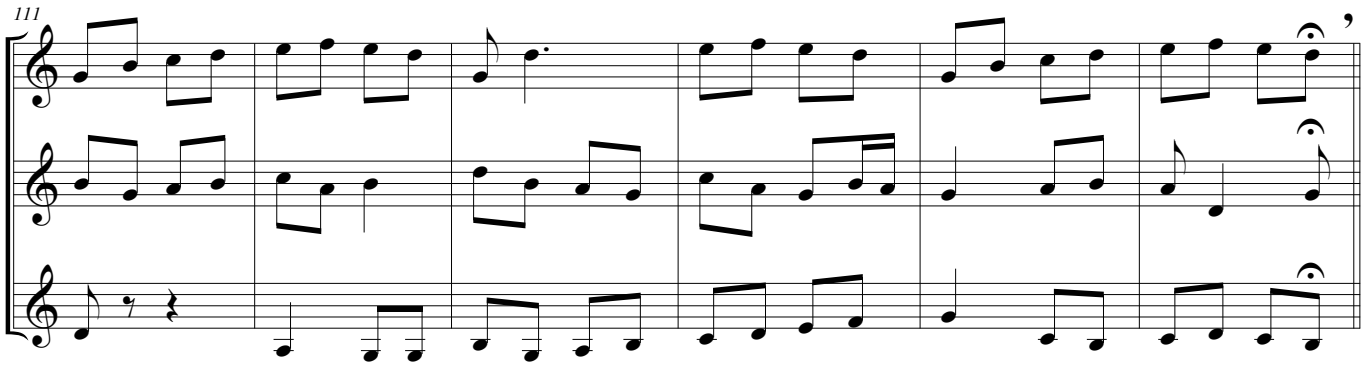

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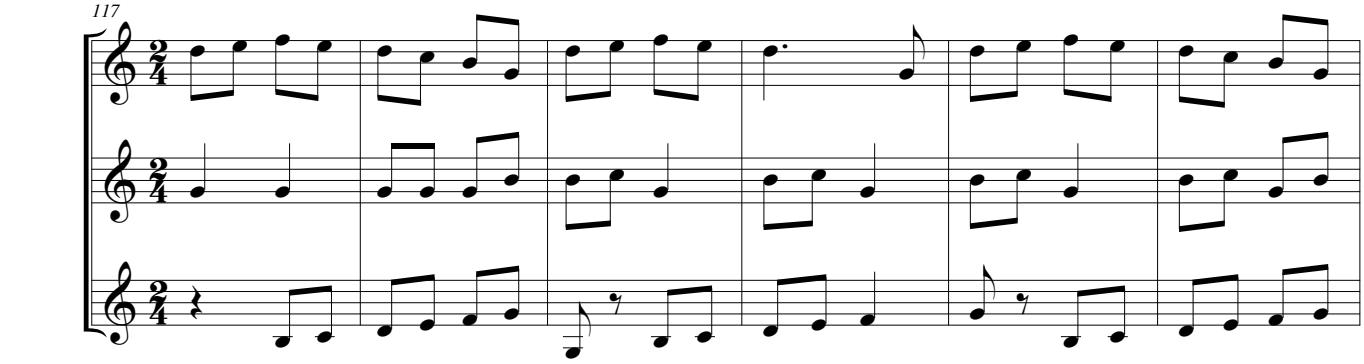

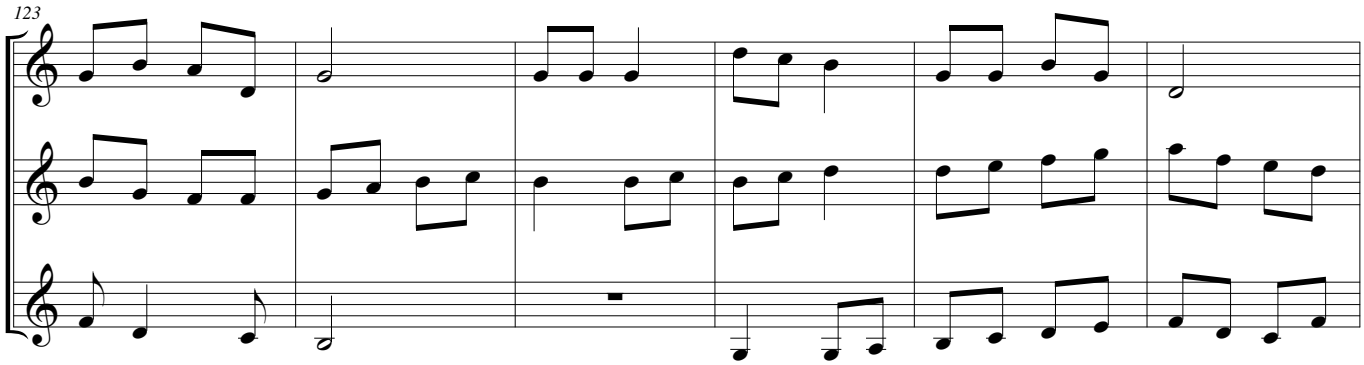

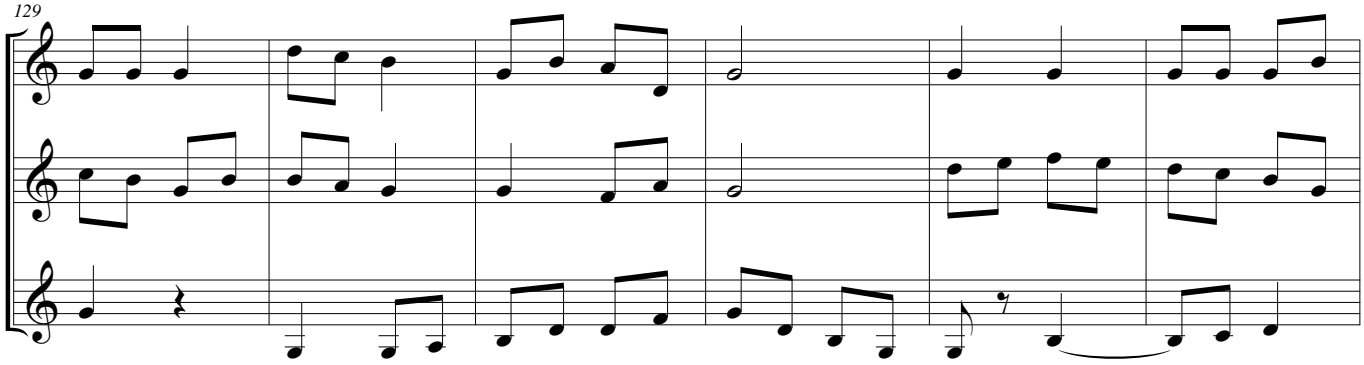

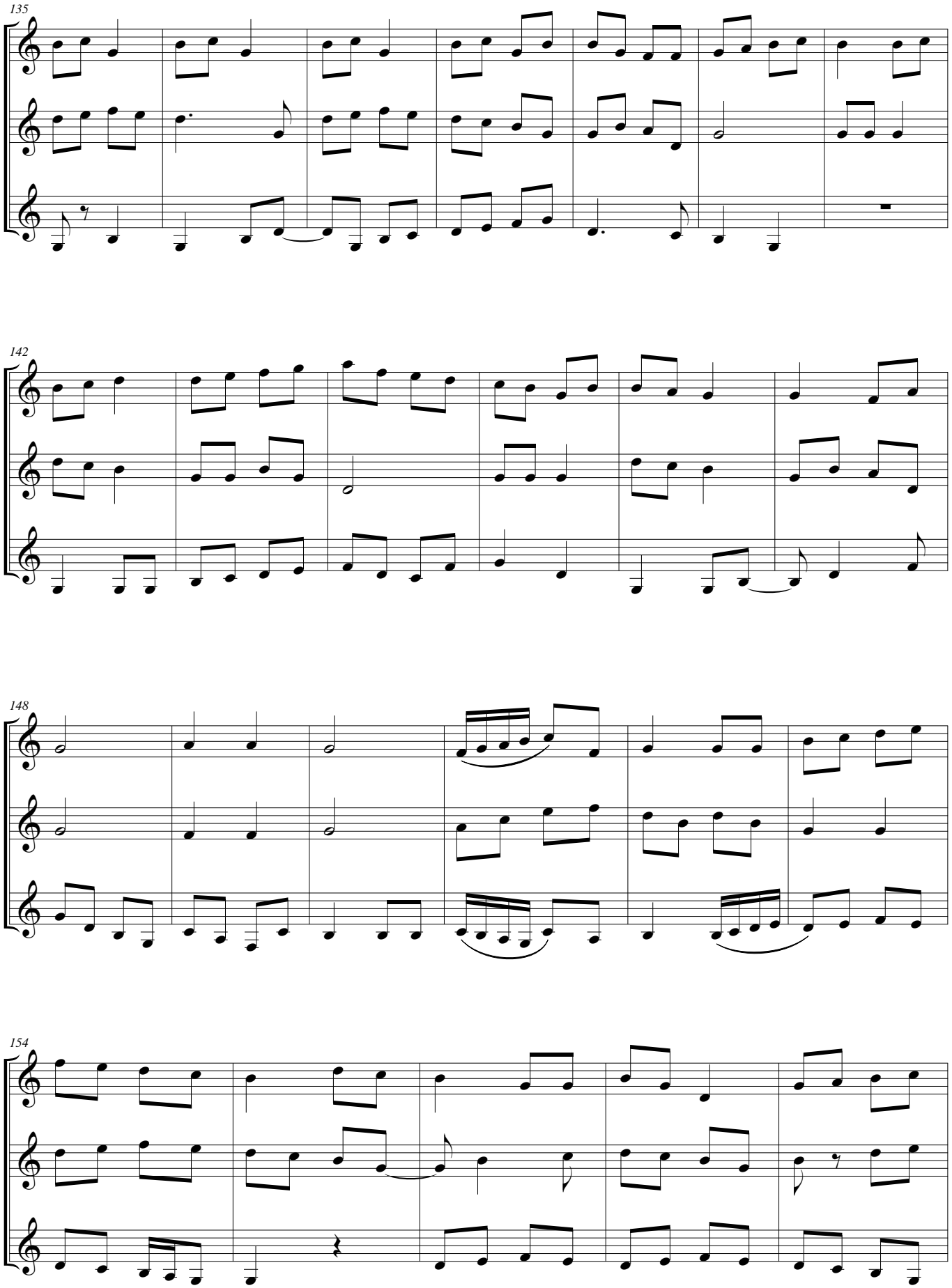
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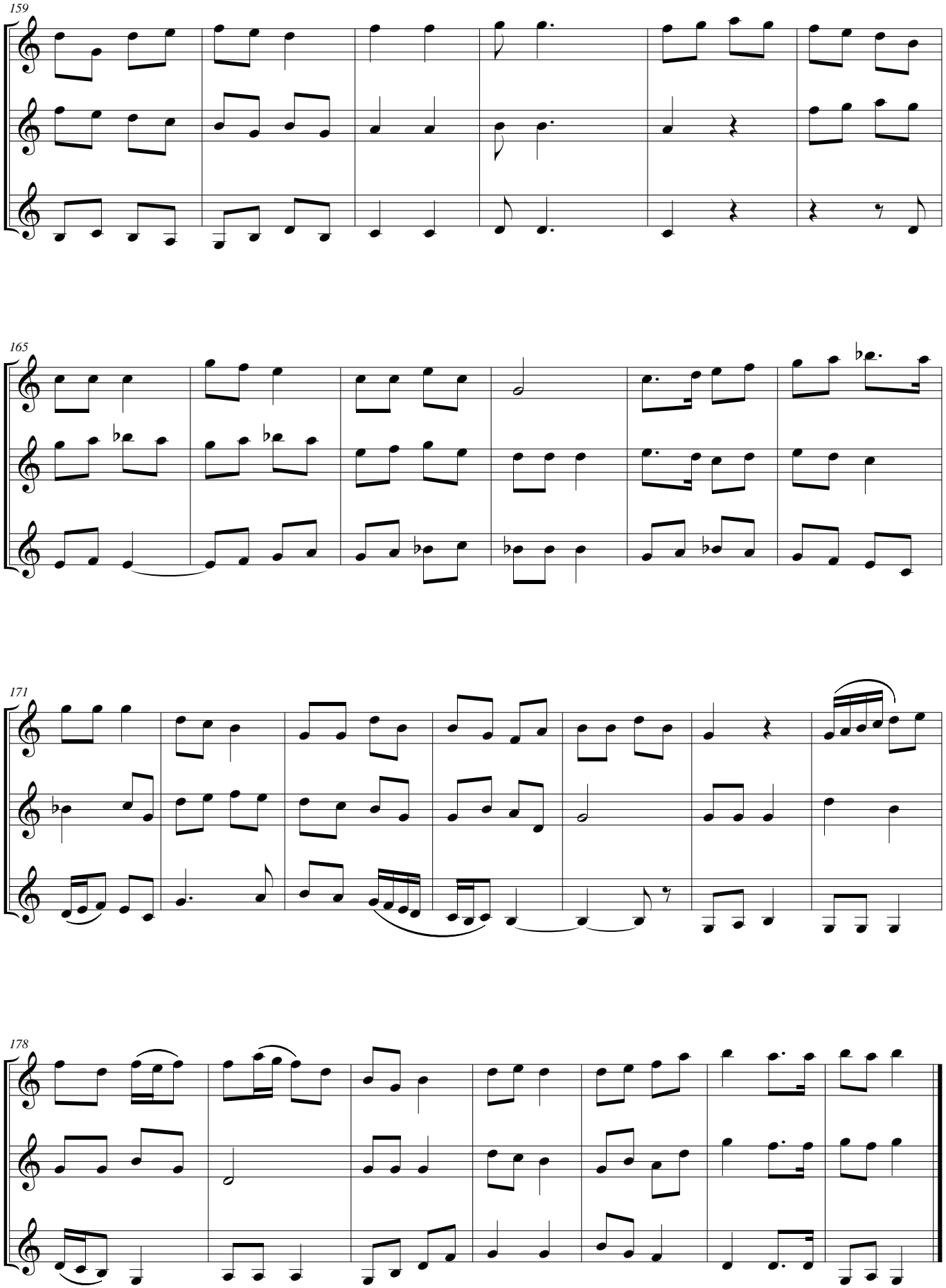

159
165
171
178

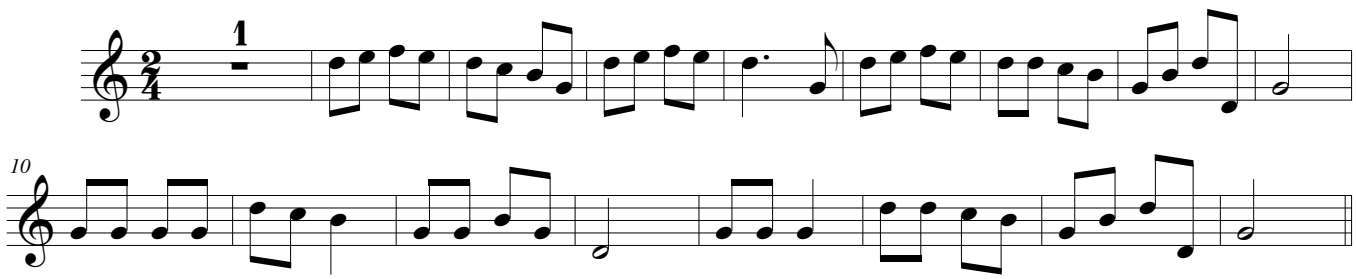
for Jennifer Paull

OLD JOE CLARK'S
MUSICAL OFFERING

Part I
Oboe I

Walter Ross
(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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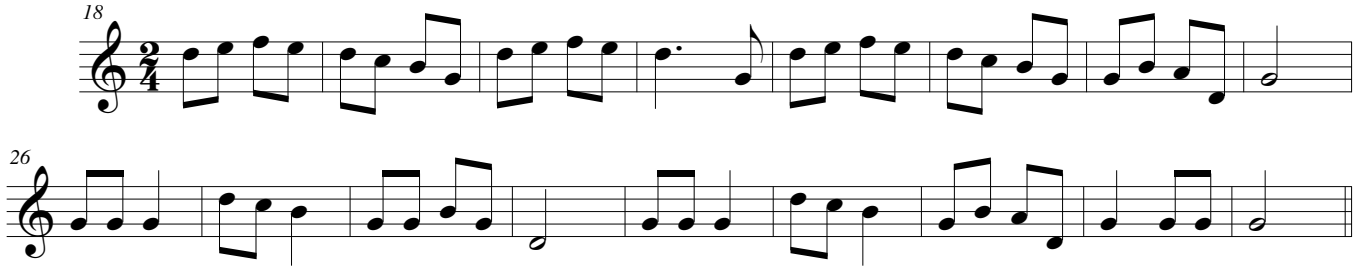

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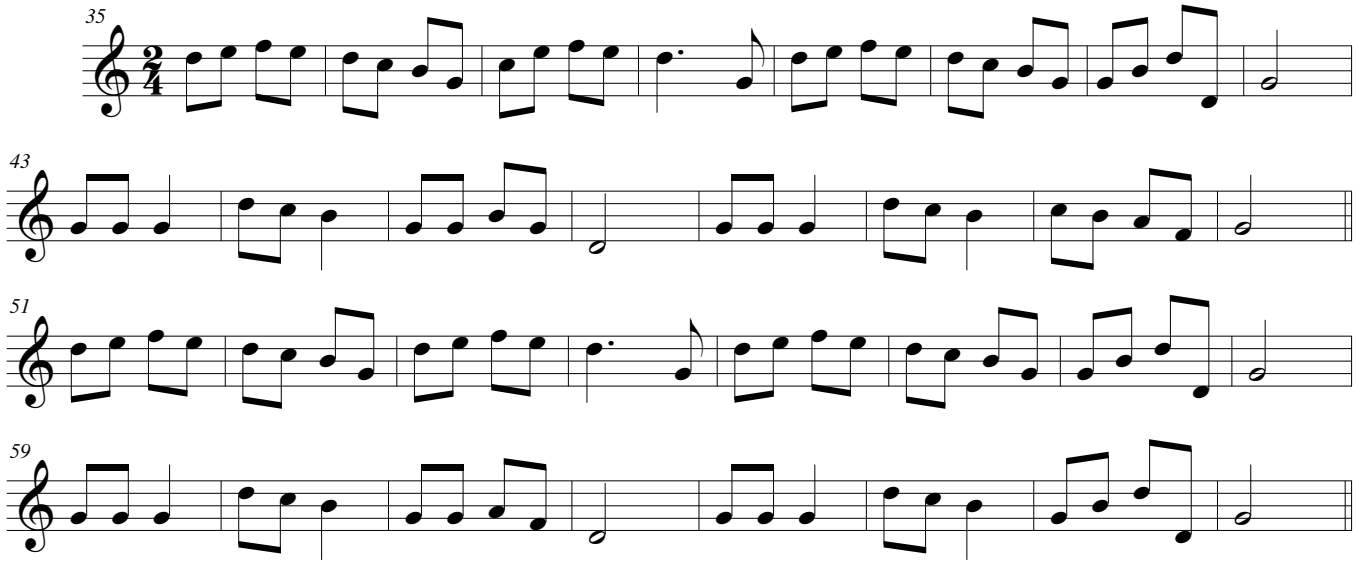

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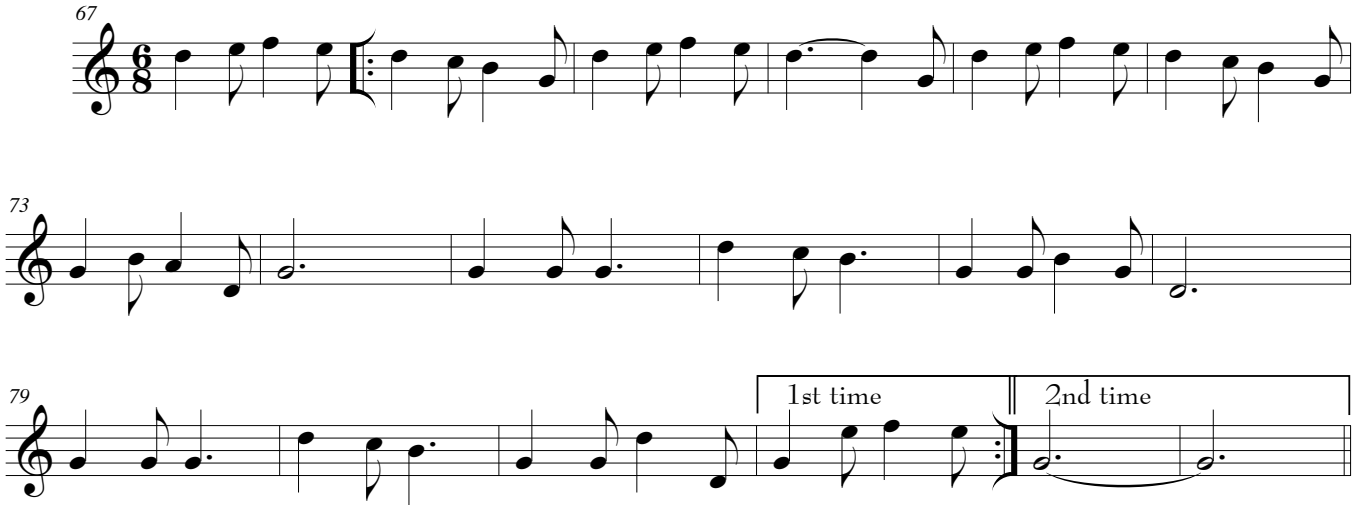
Oboe I

Perpetual Canon



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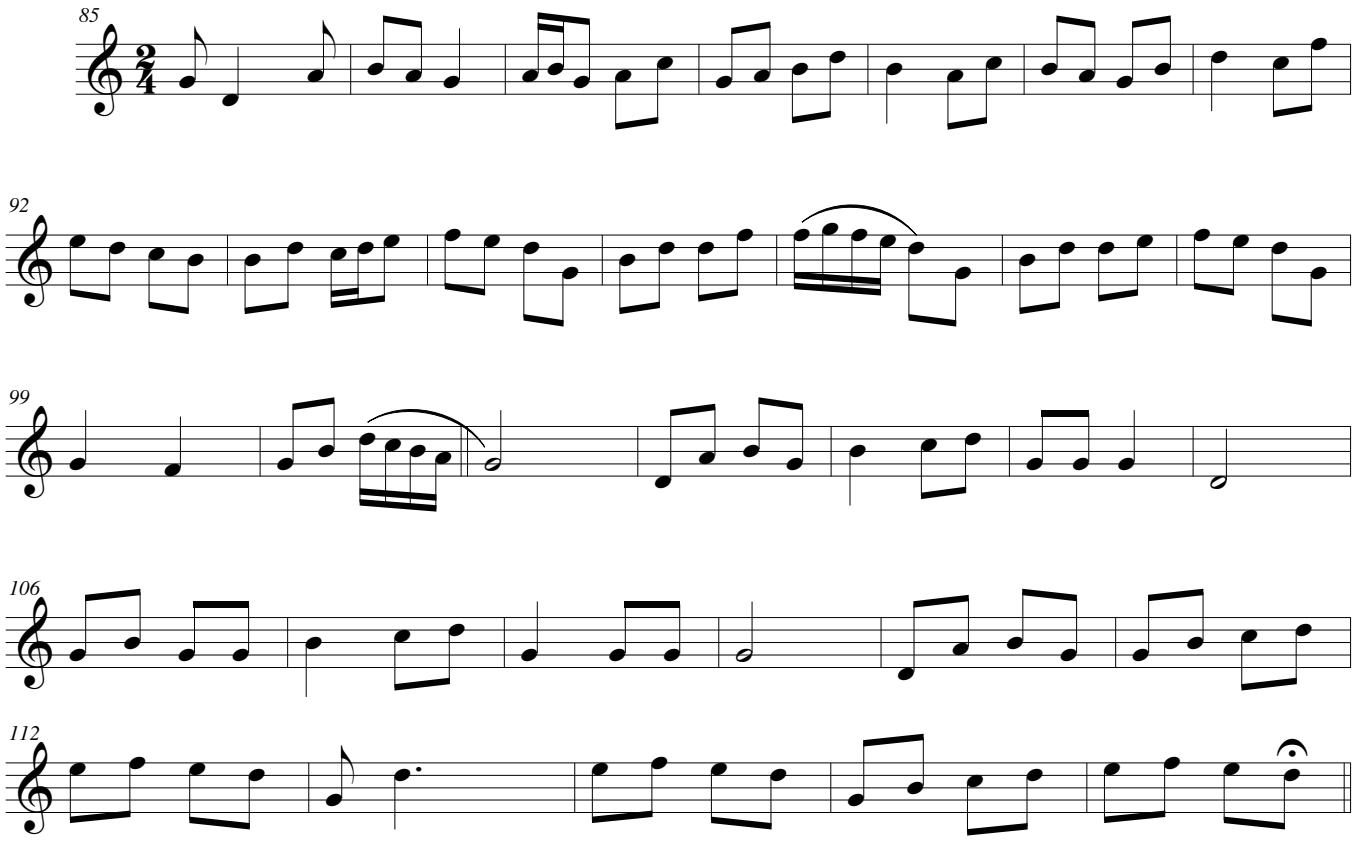
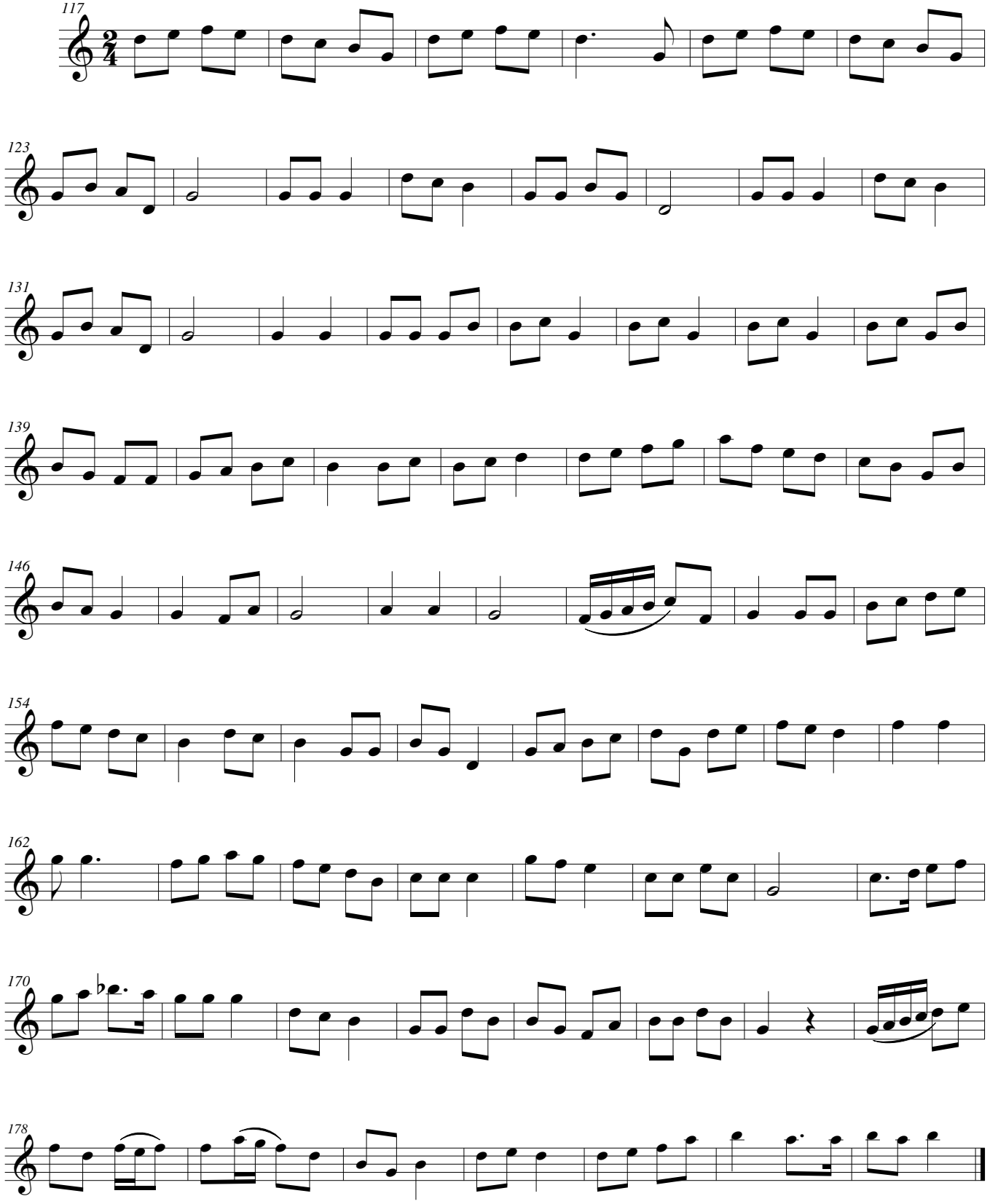


Sonata



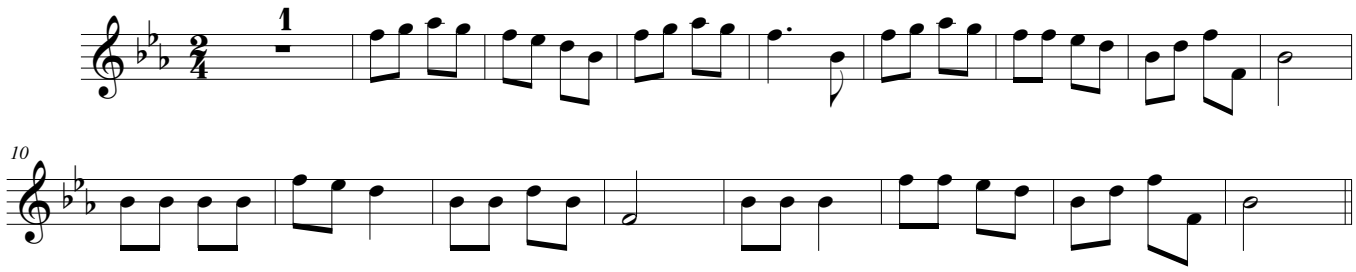
for Jennifer Paull

OLD JOE CLARK'S
MUSICAL OFFERING

Part I
Oboe d'amore I

Walter Ross
(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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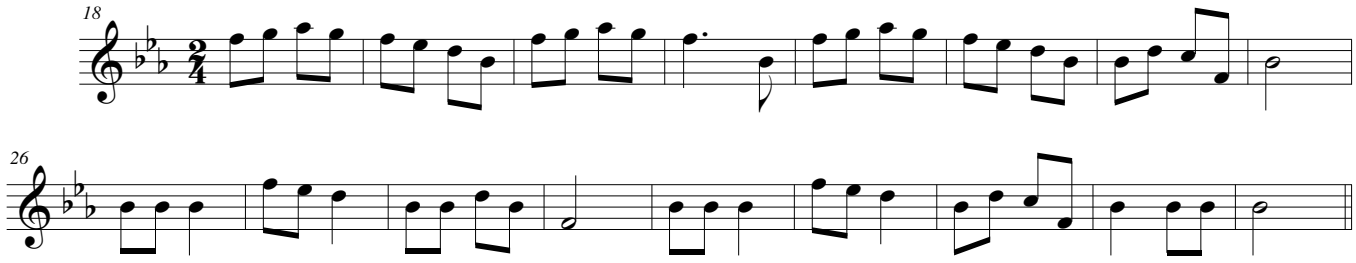

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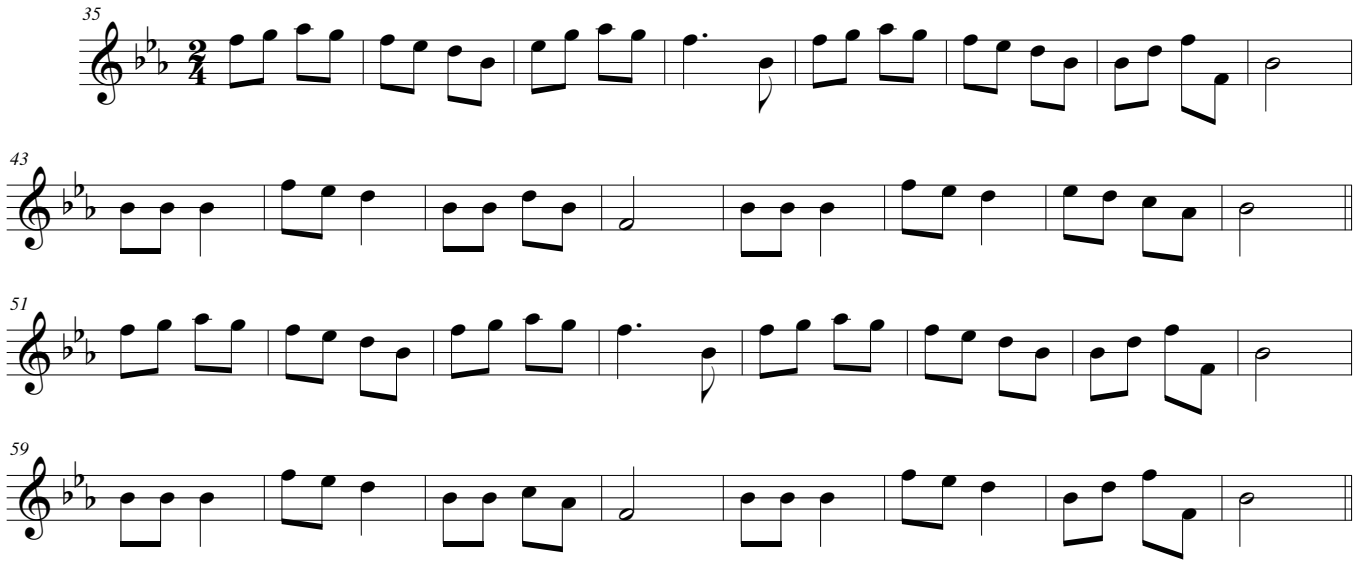

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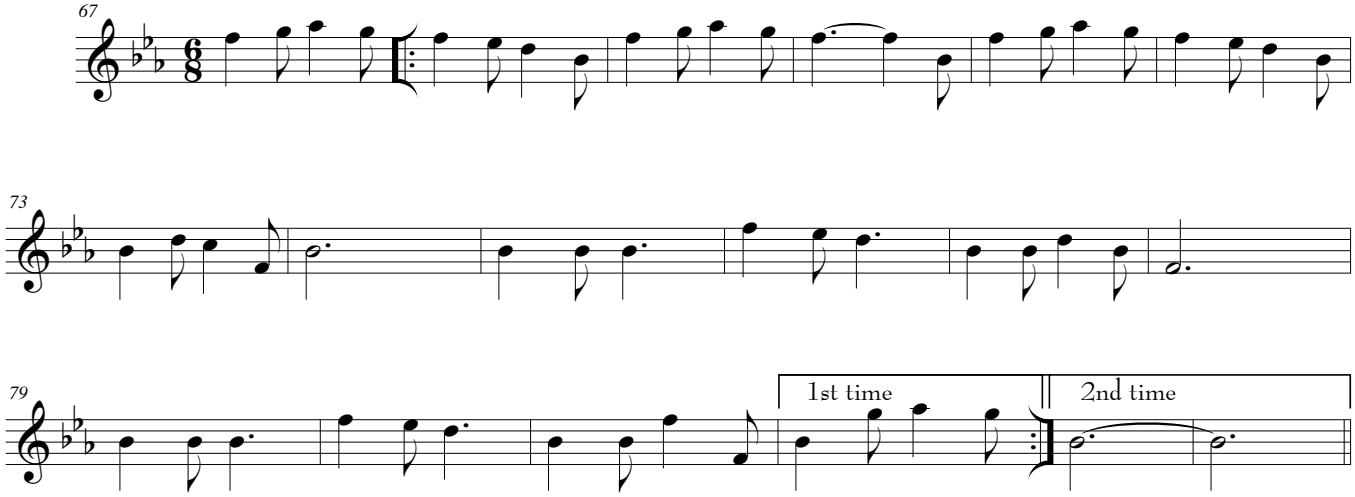
Oboe d'amore I

Perpetual Canon



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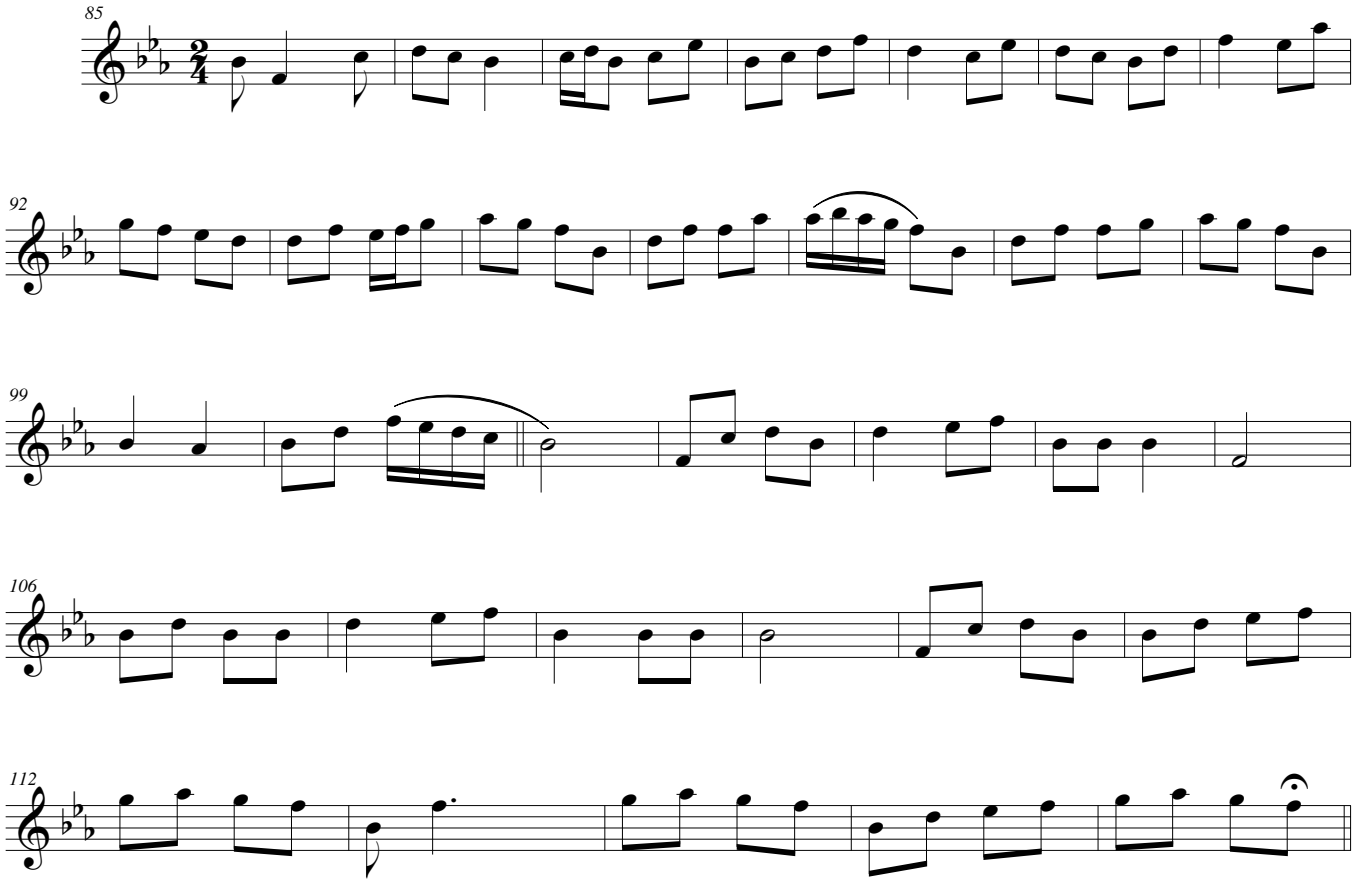
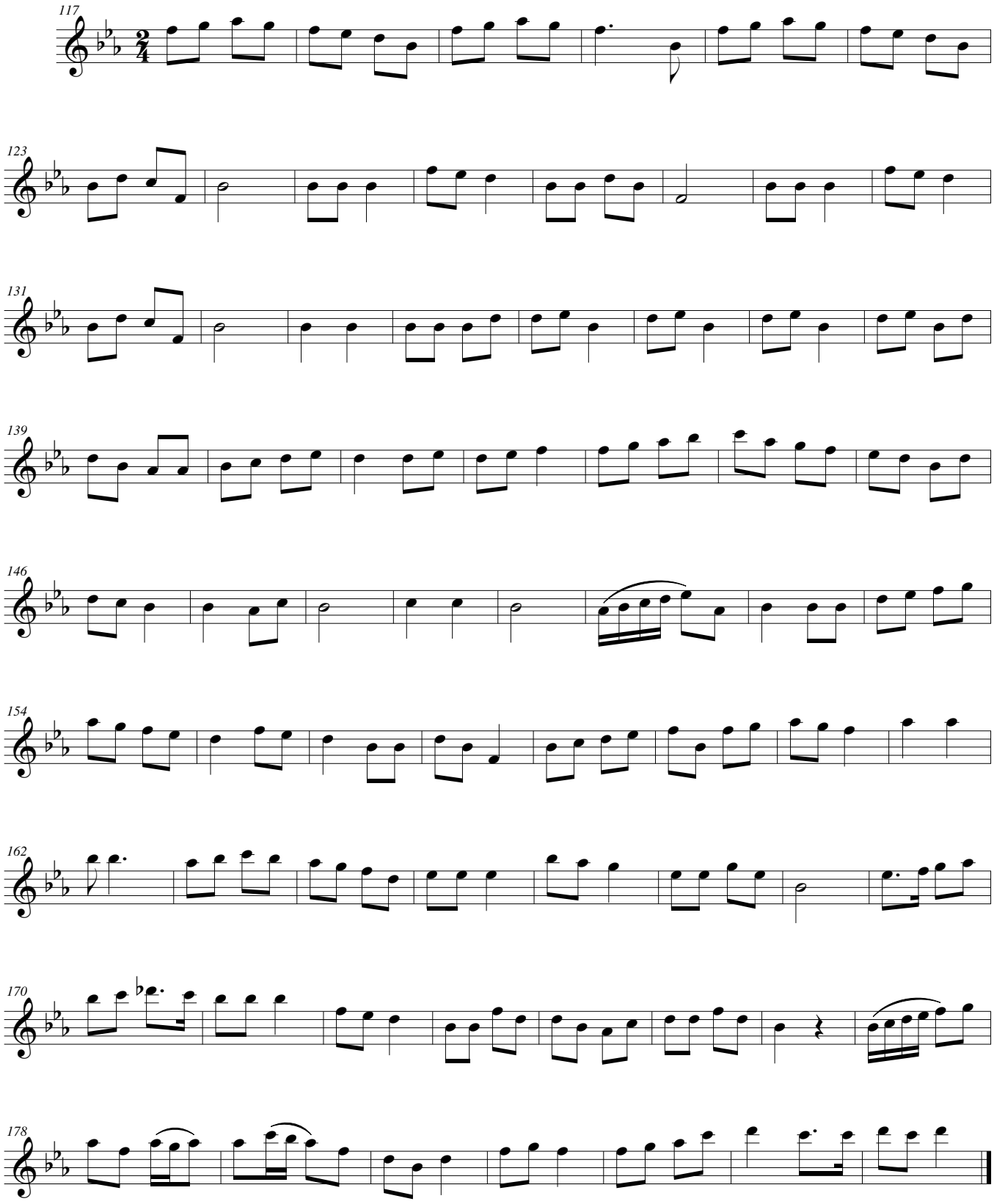


VI

Sonata



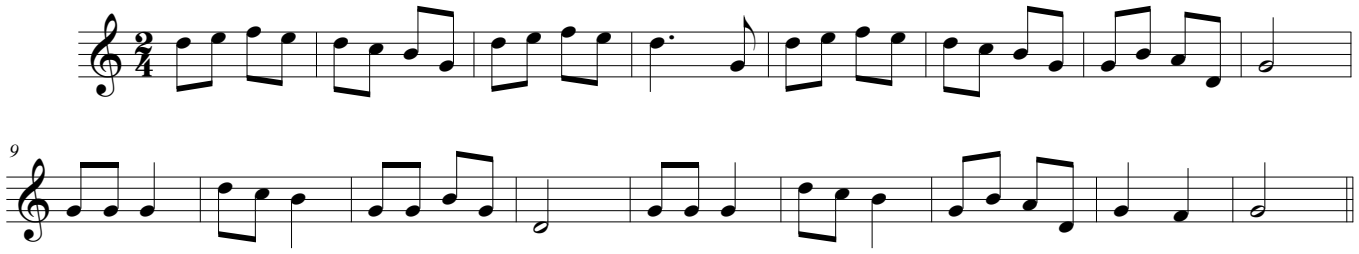
for Jennifer Paull

OLD JOE CLARK'S
MUSICAL OFFERING

Part II
Oboe II

Walter Ross
(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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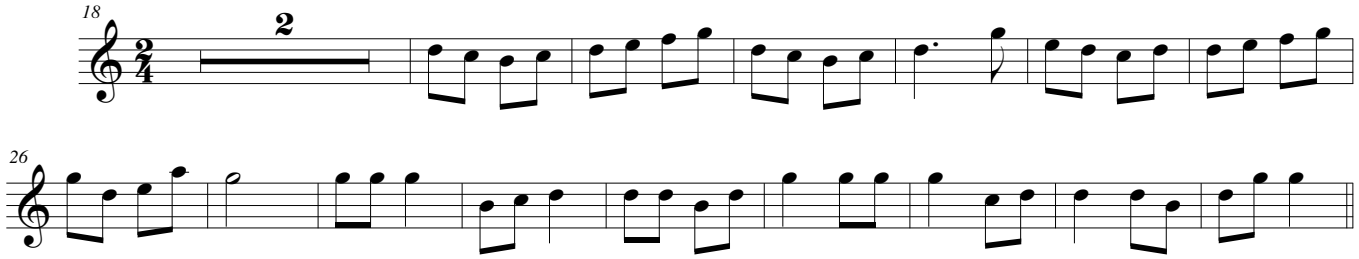

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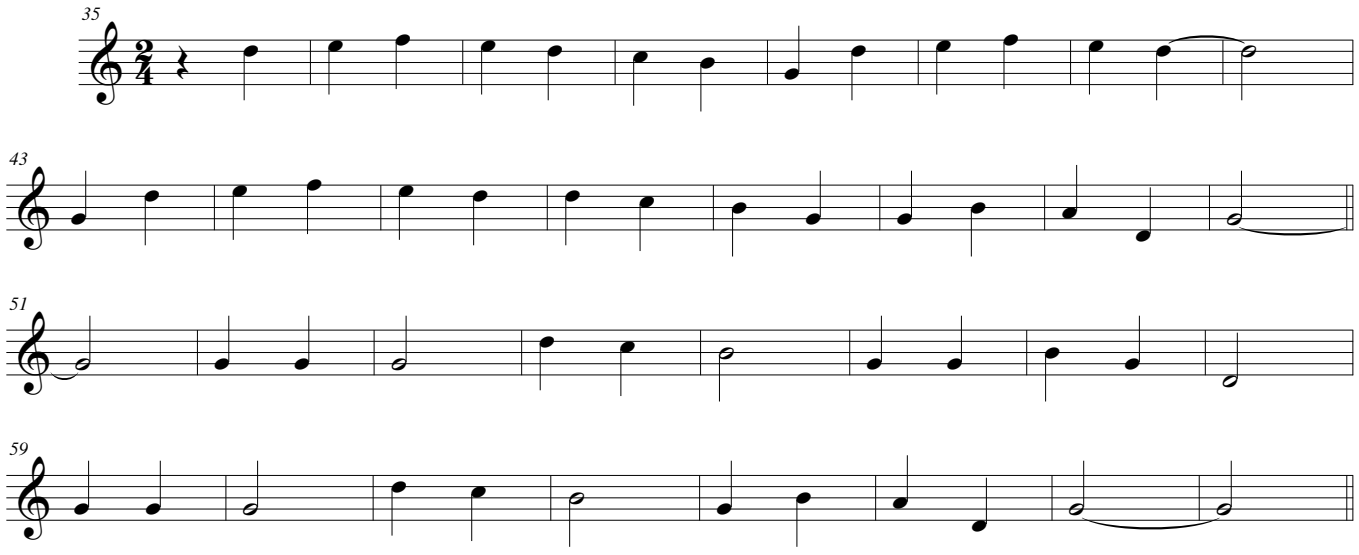

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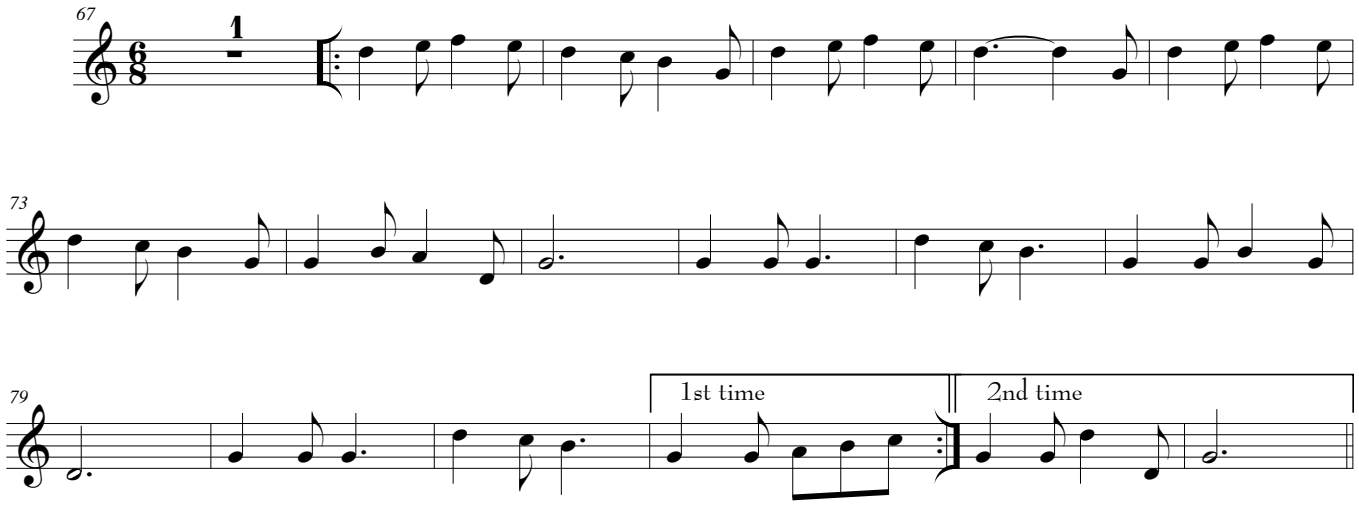
Oboe II

Perpetual Canon



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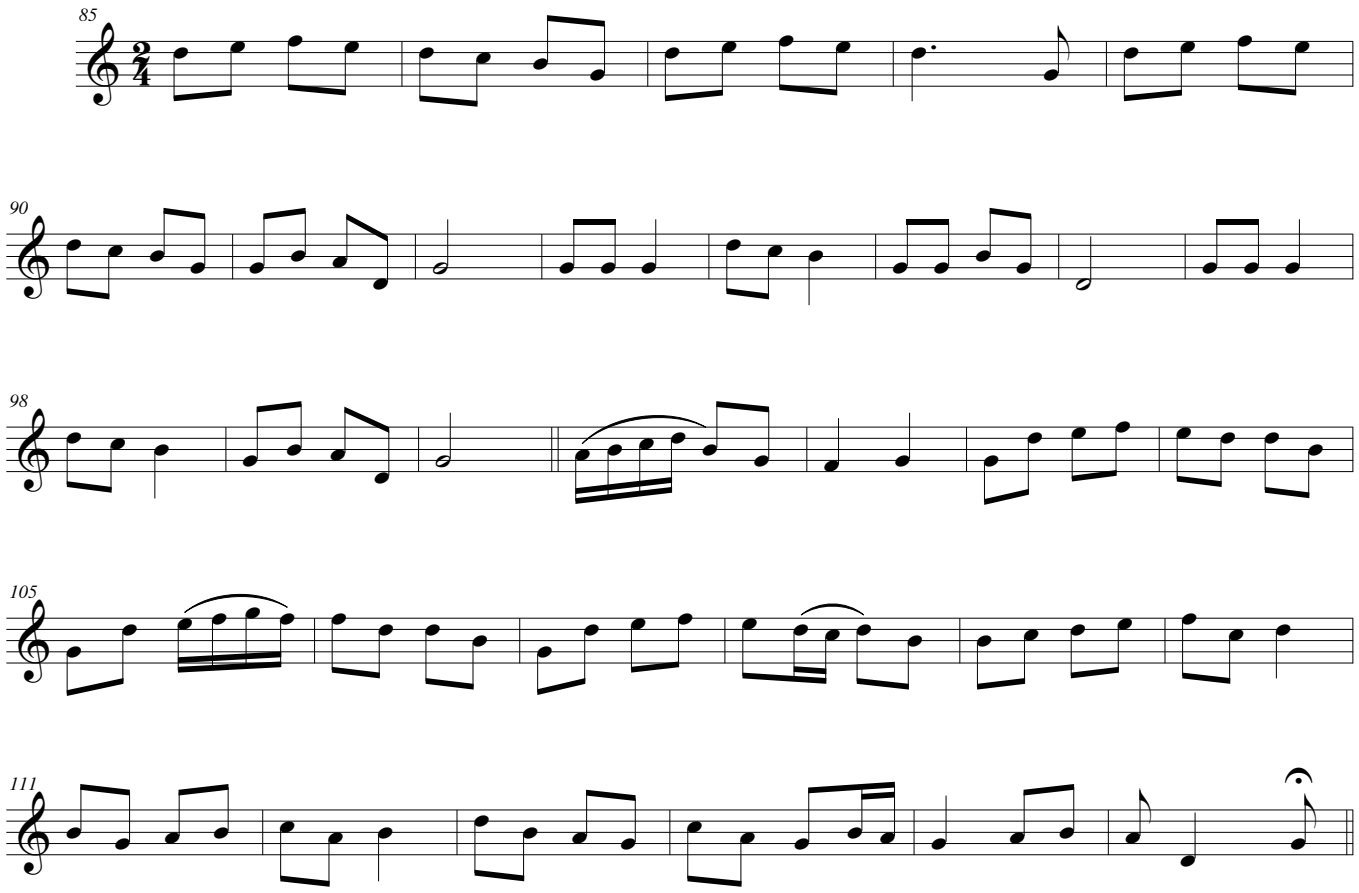

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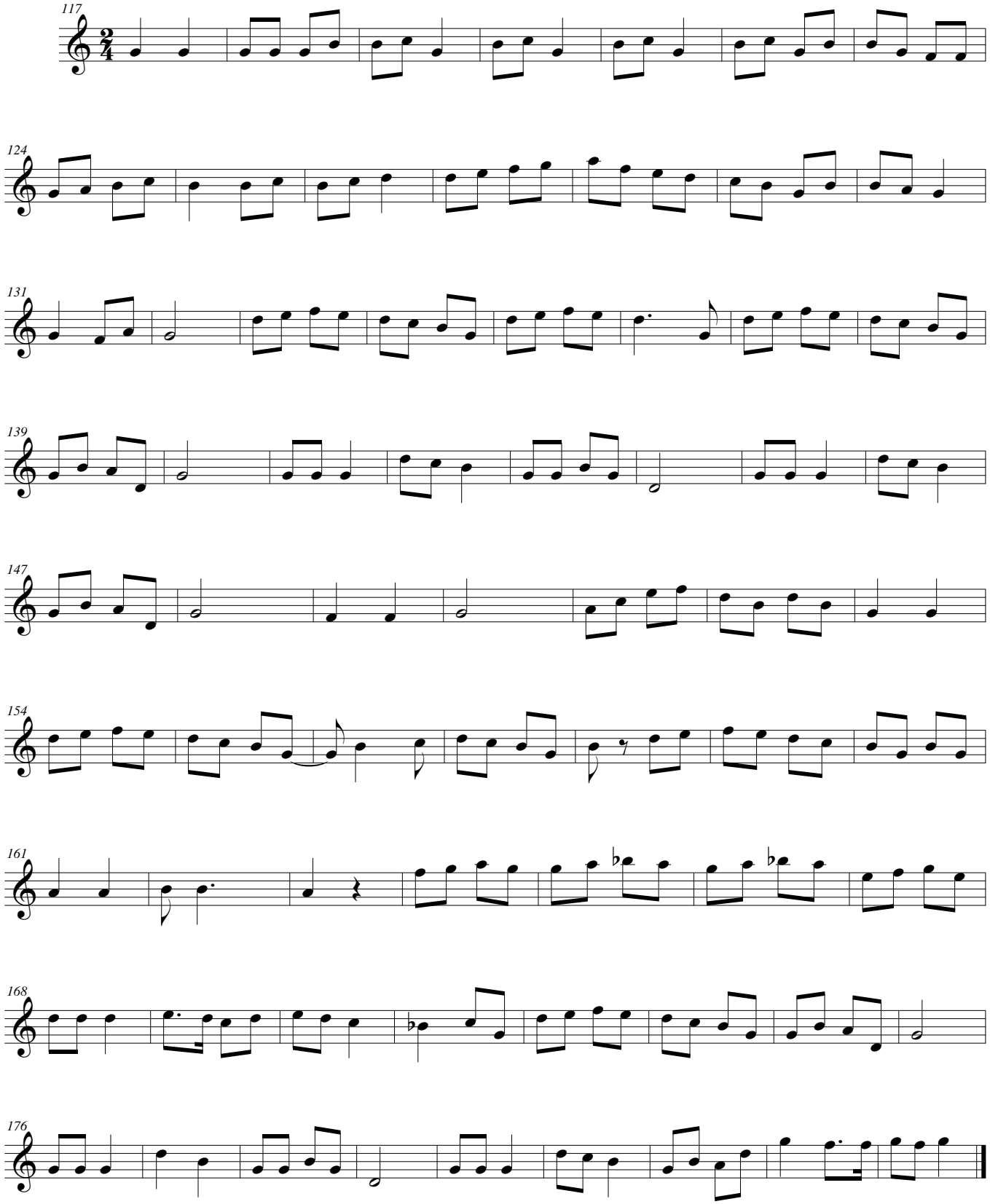


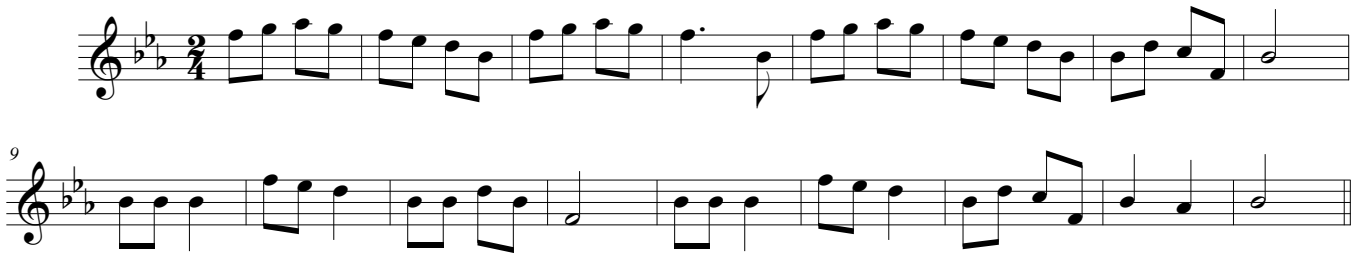
for Jennifer Paull

OLD JOE CLARK'S
MUSICAL OFFERING

Part II
Oboe d'amore II

Walter Ross
(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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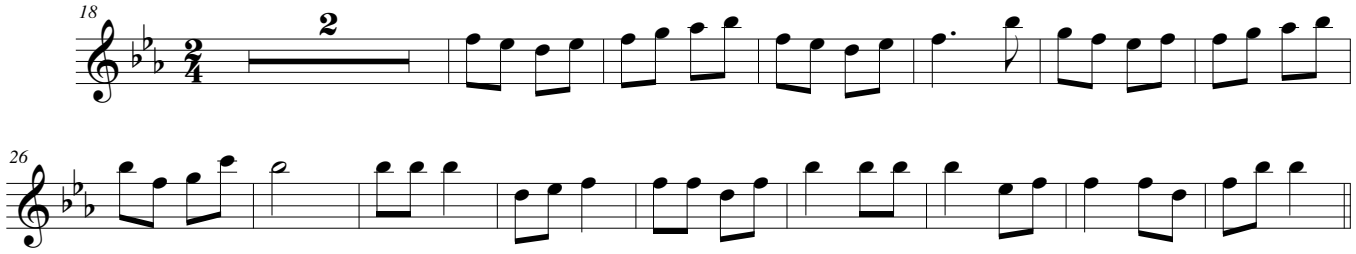
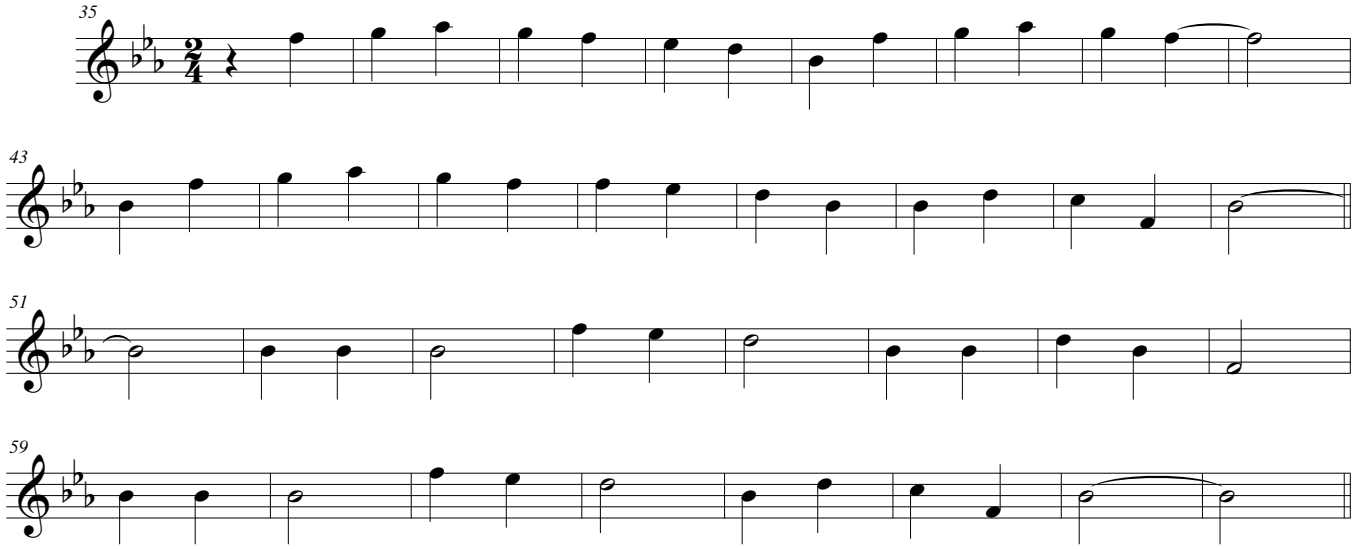


Canon in Augmentation



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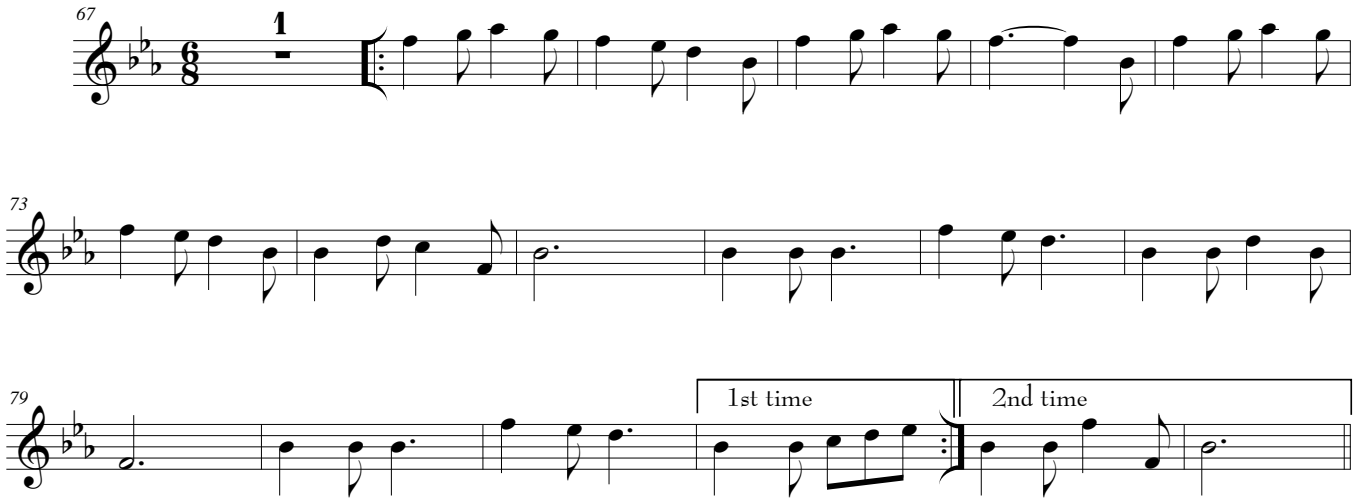
Oboe d'amore II

Perpetual Canon



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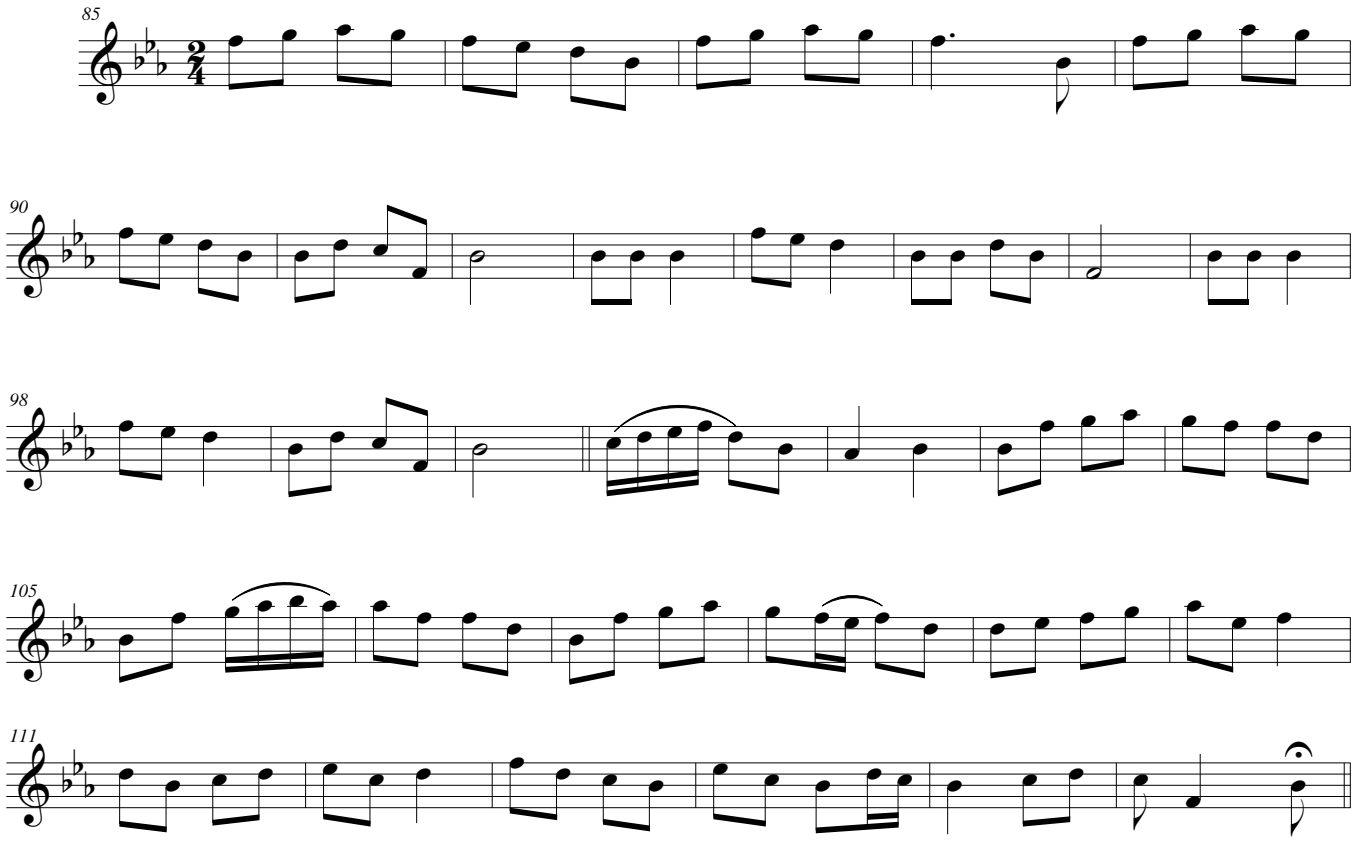

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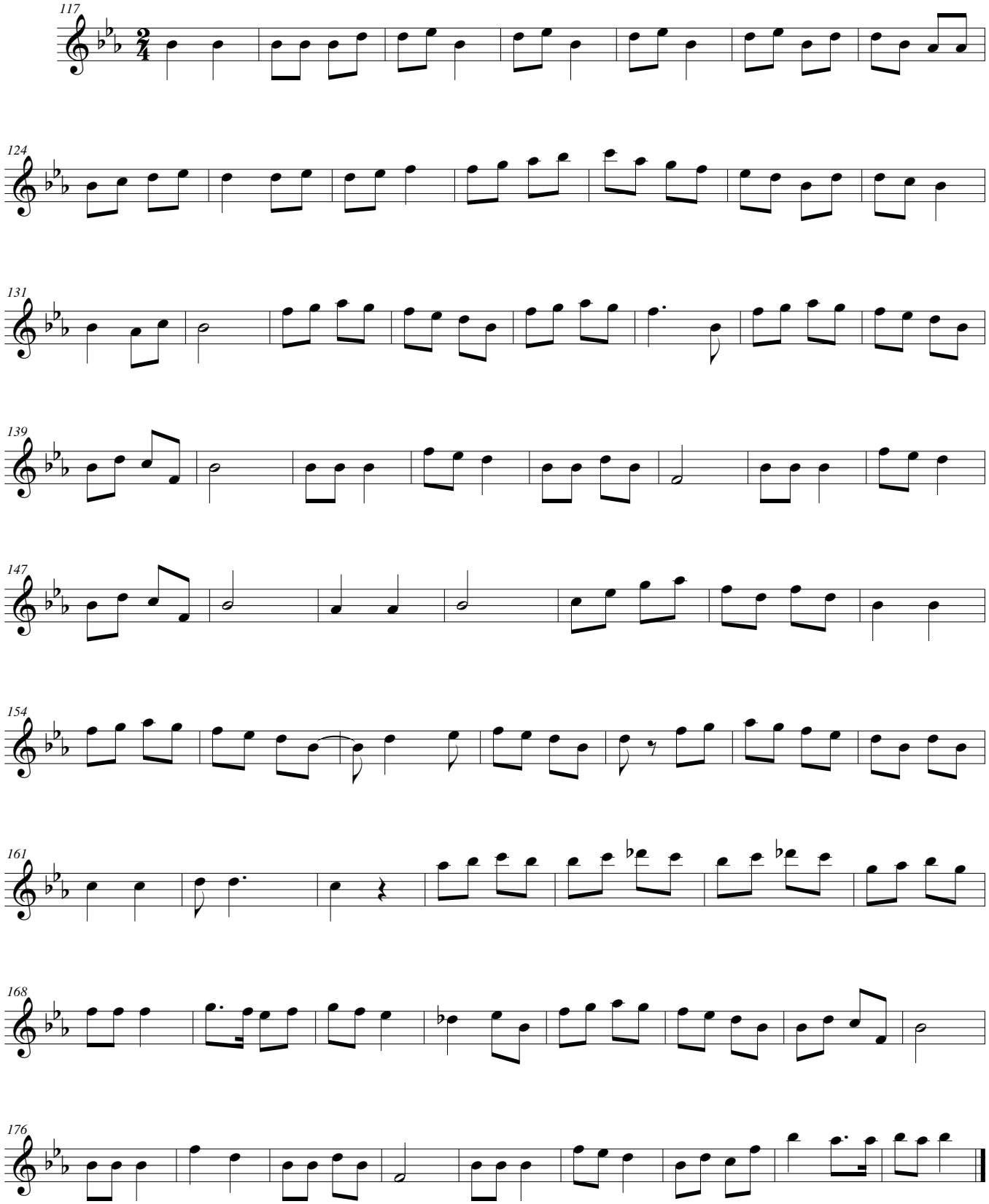


for Jennifer Paull

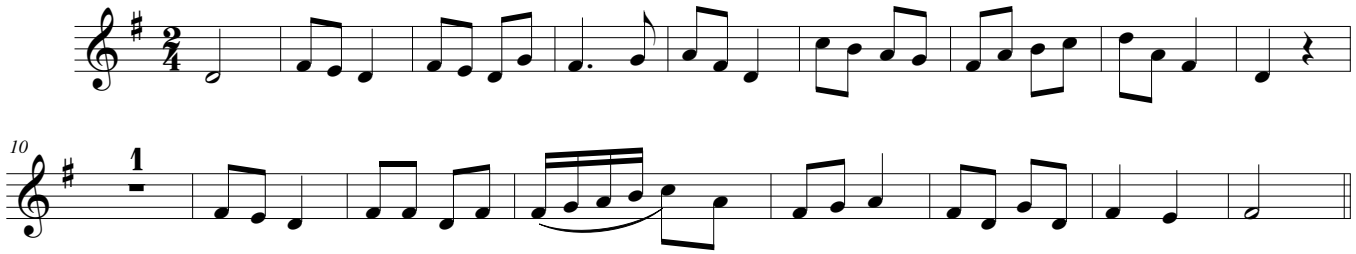
OLD JOE CLARK'S

MUSICAL OFFERING

Part III
Cor anglais

Walter Ross
(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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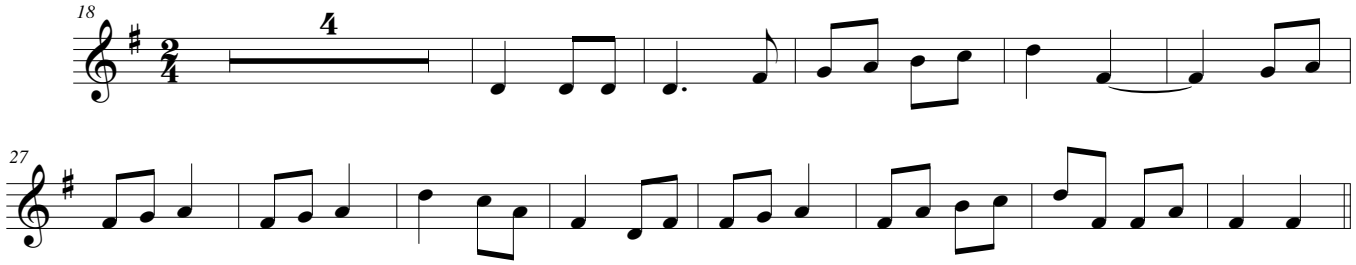
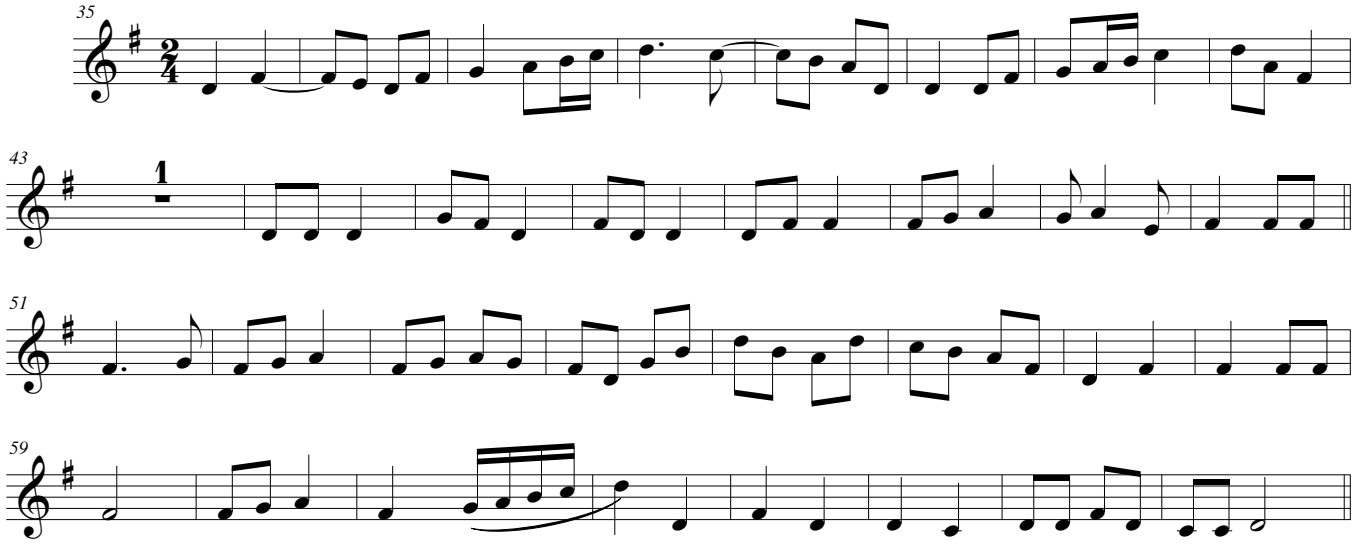


Canon in Augmentation



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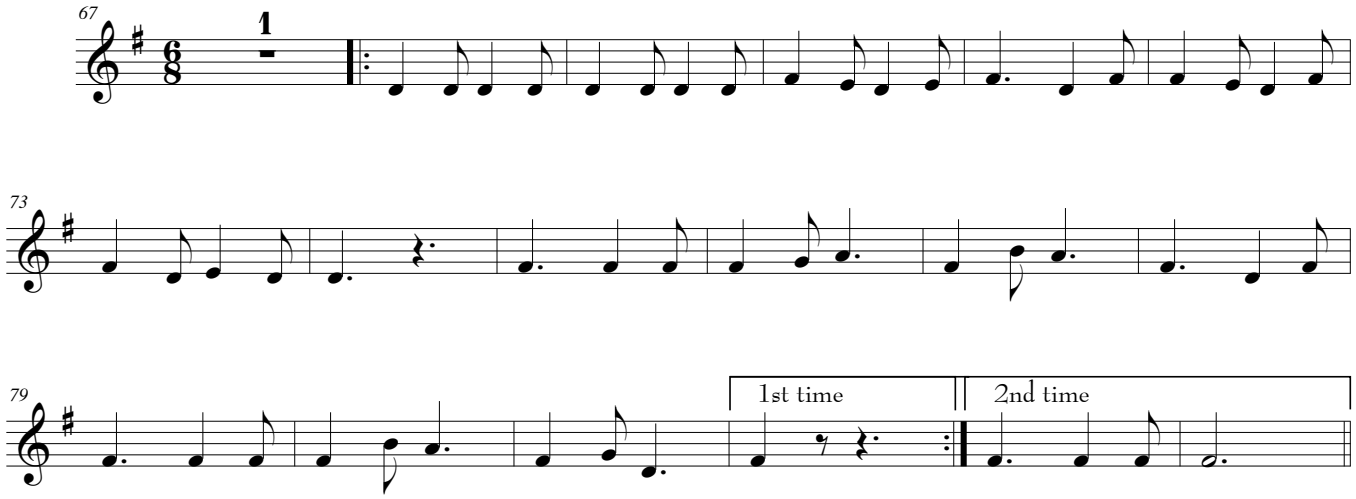
Cor anglais

Perpetual Canon



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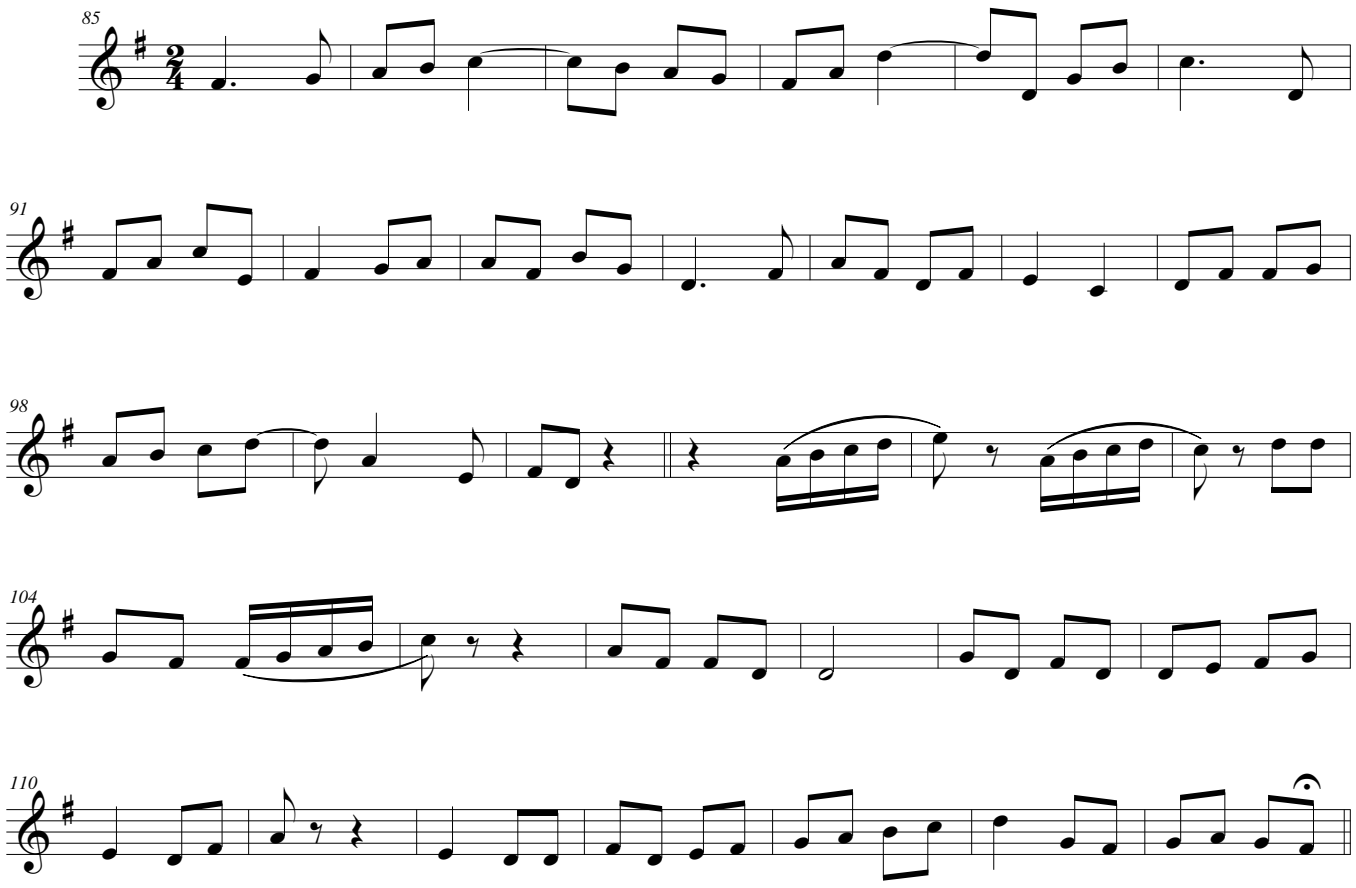
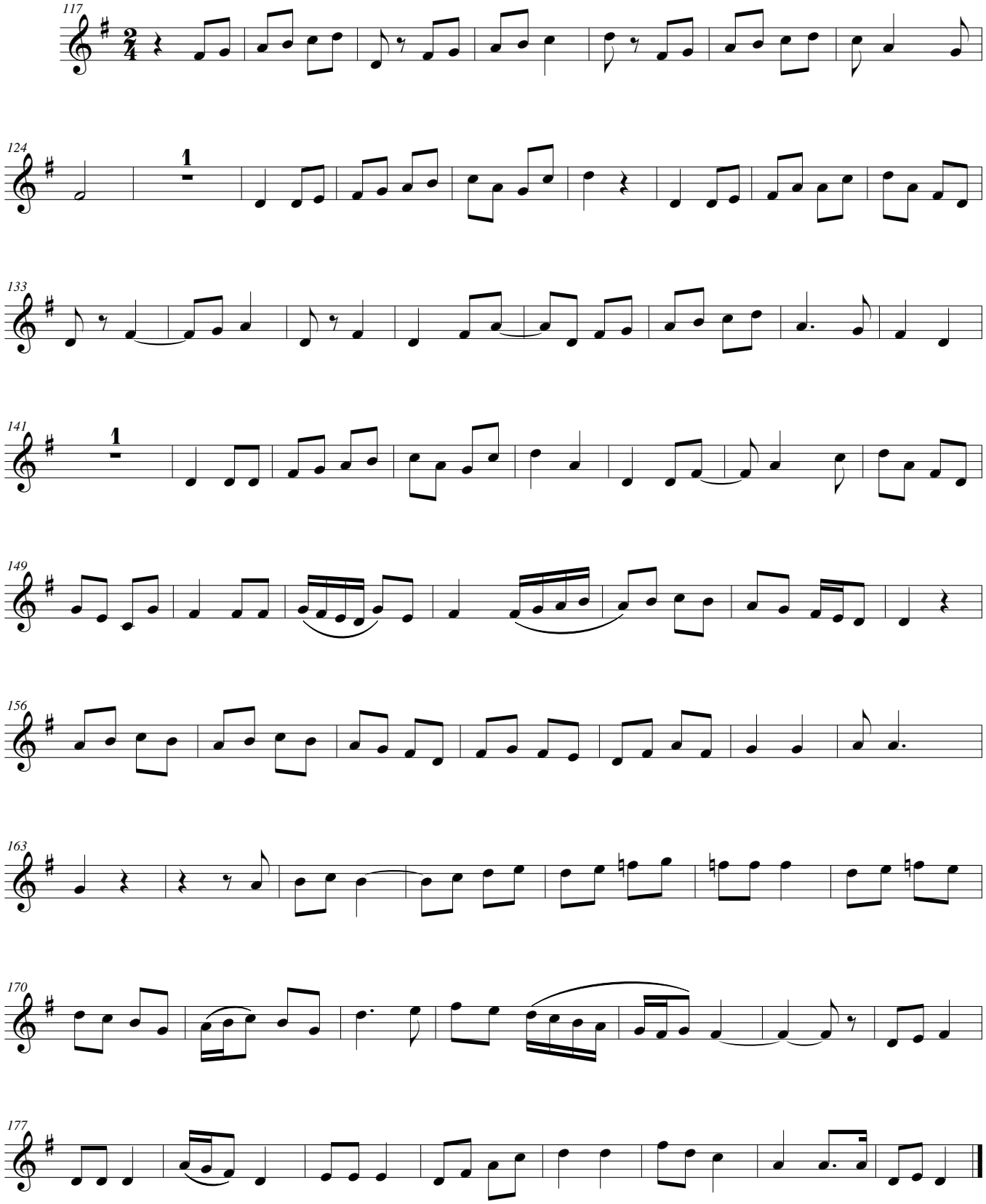


Sonata



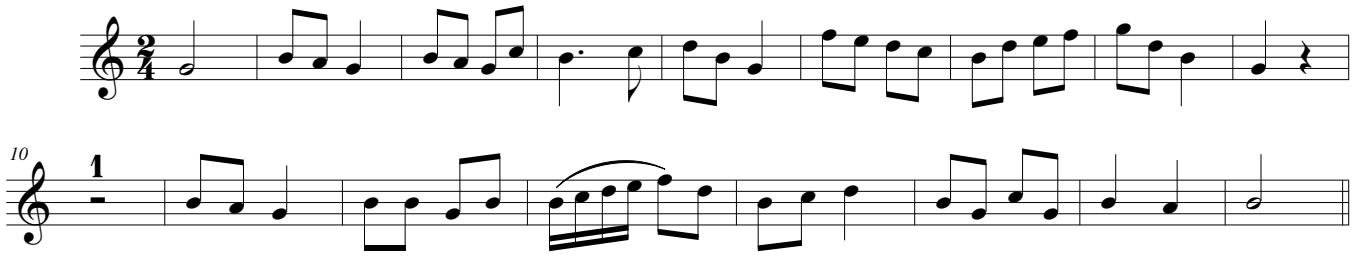
for Jennifer Paull

OLD JOE CLARK'S
MUSICAL OFFERING

Part III
Bass Oboe

Walter Ross
(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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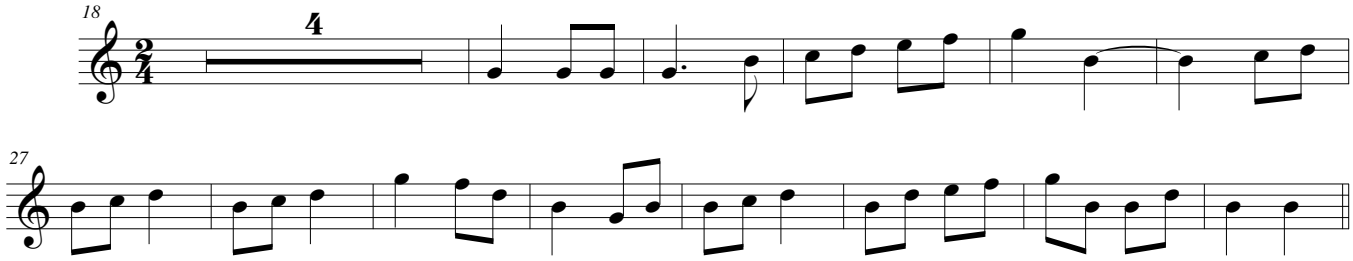

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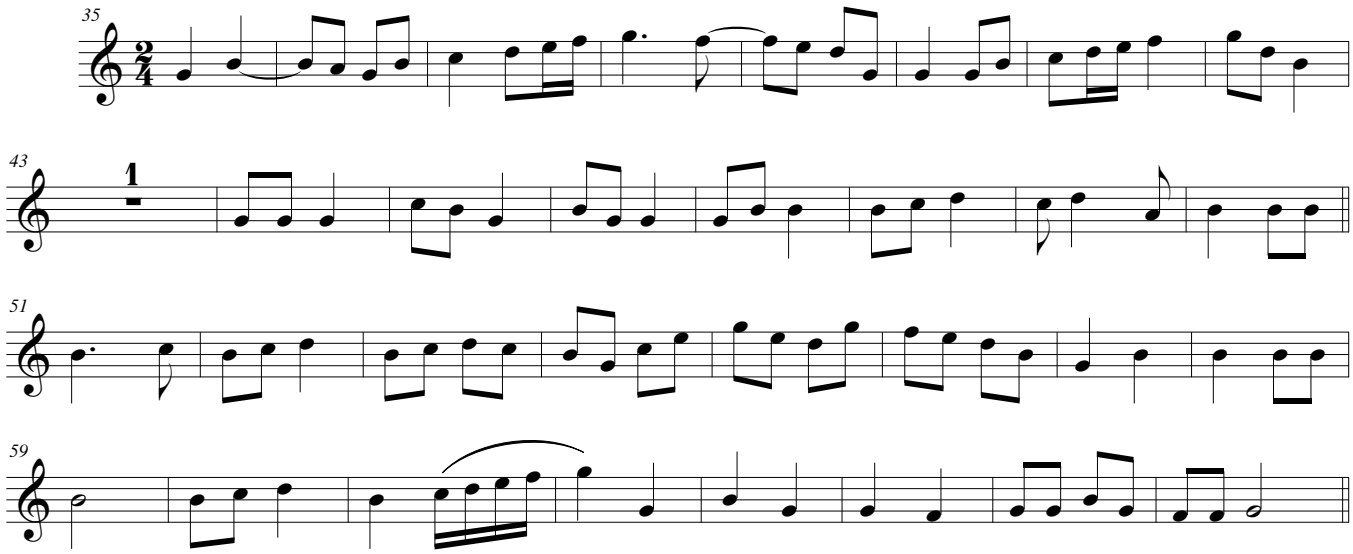

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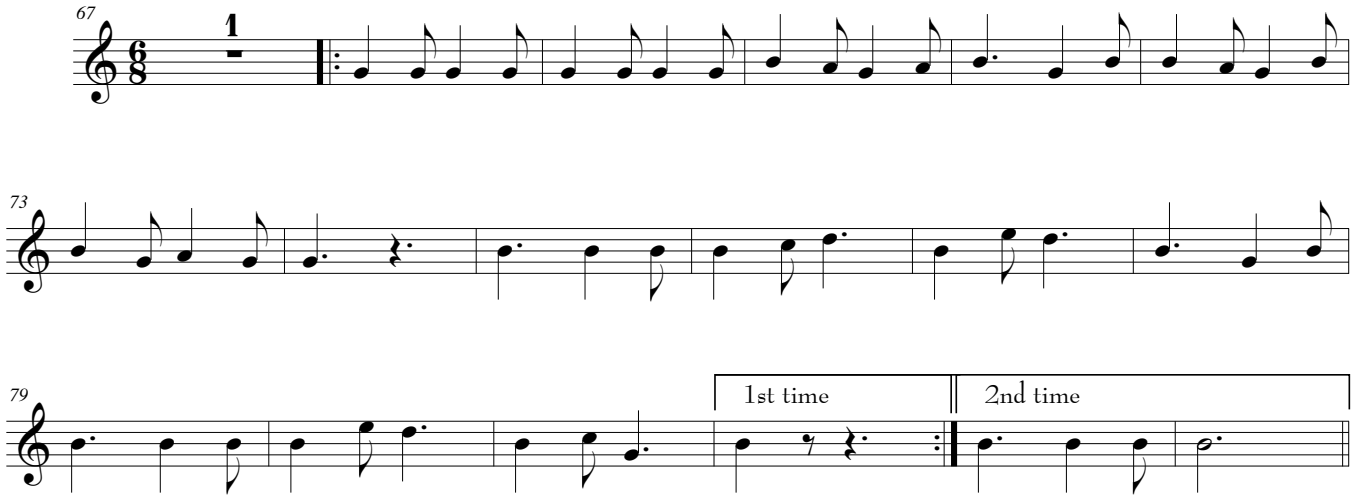
Bass Oboe

Perpetual Canon



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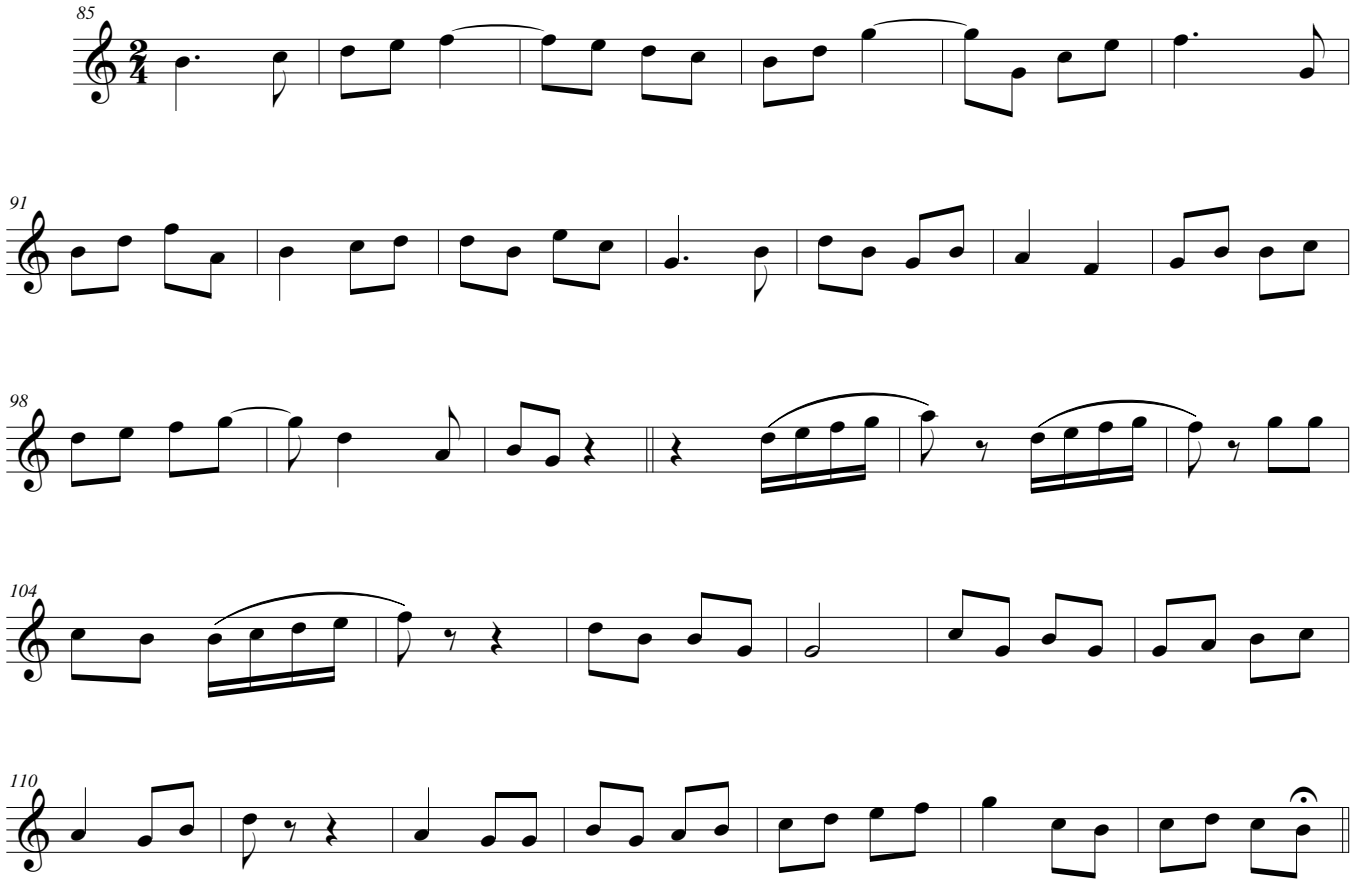

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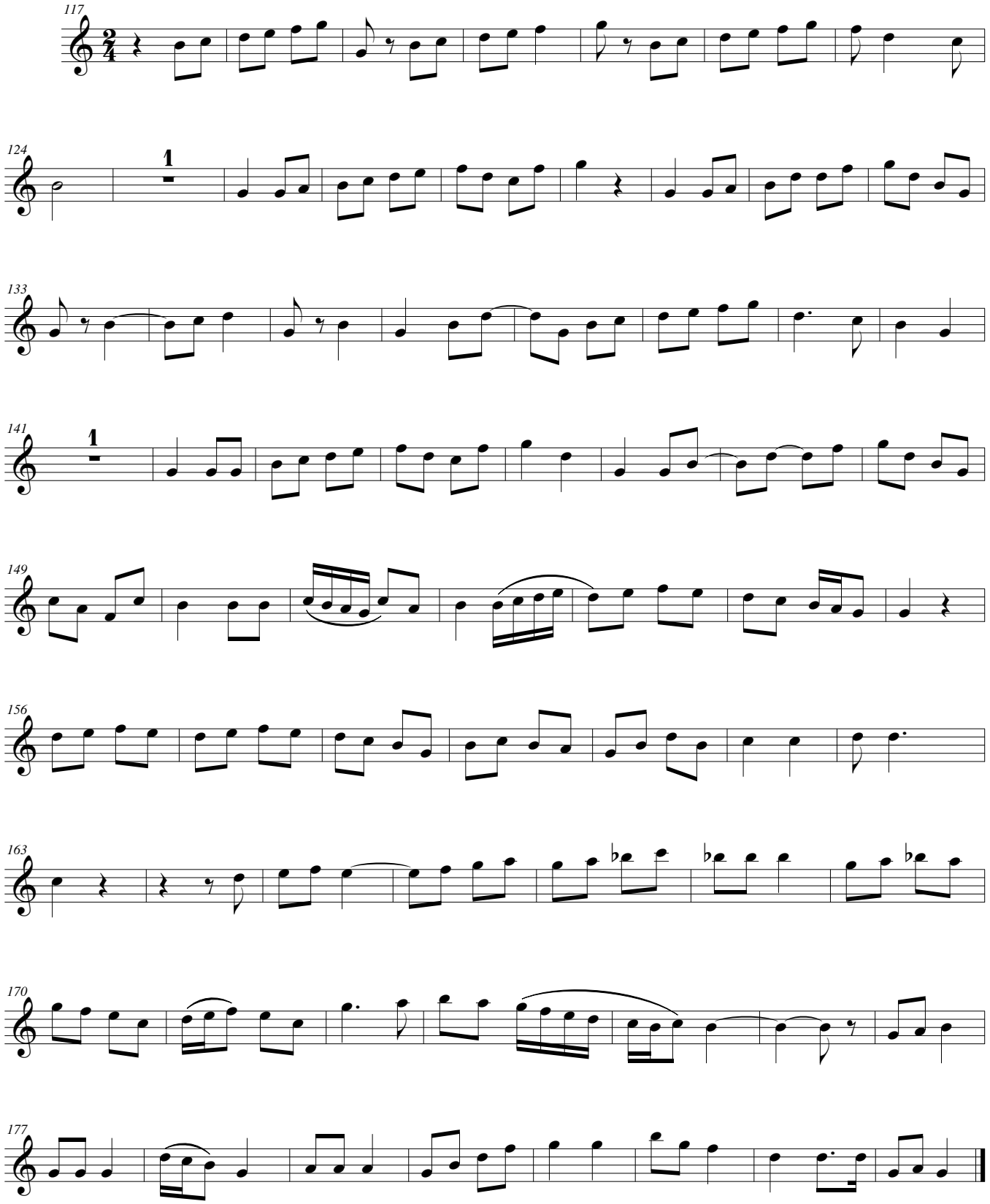


for Jennifer Paull

OLD JOE CLARK'S

MUSICAL OFFERING

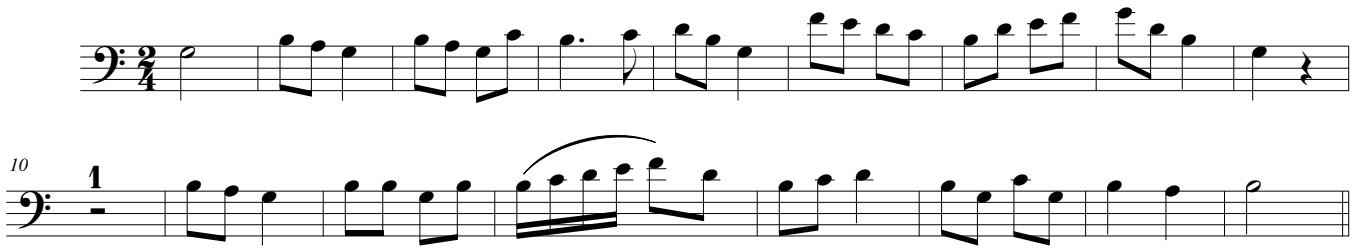
Part III

Bassoon

Walter Ross

(1936 -)

Canon at the Unison



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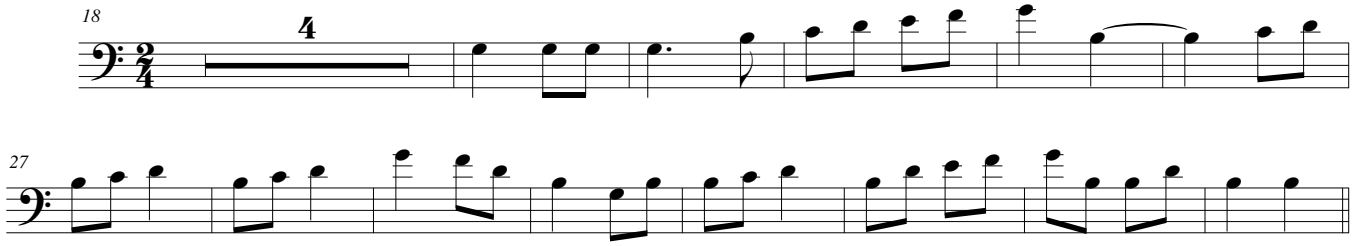
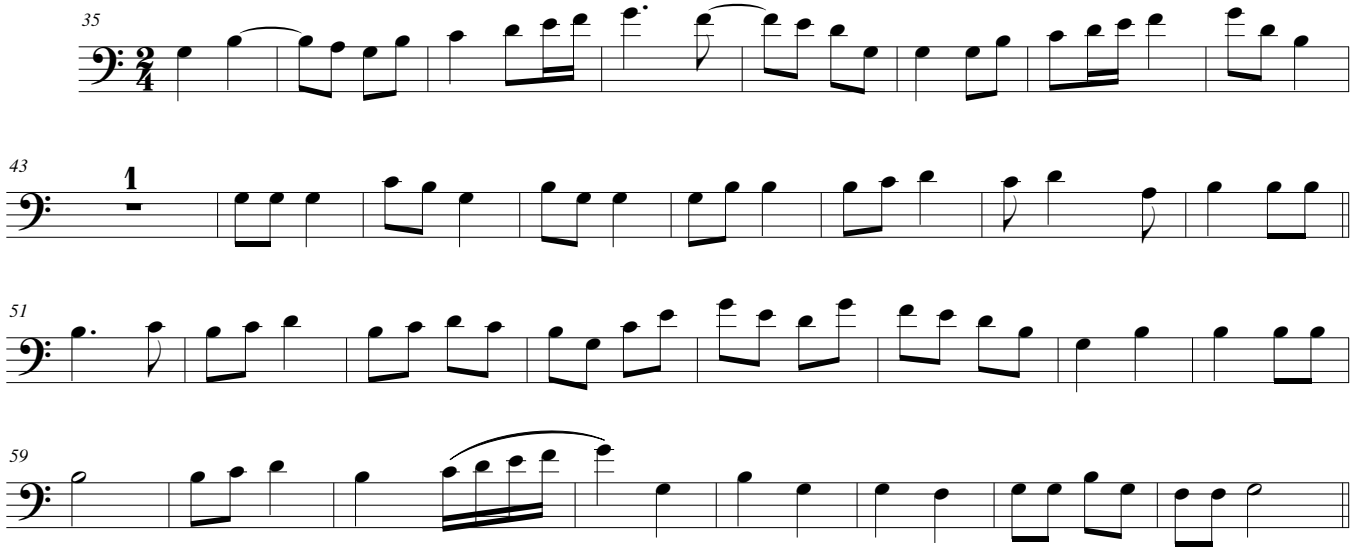


Canon in Augmentation



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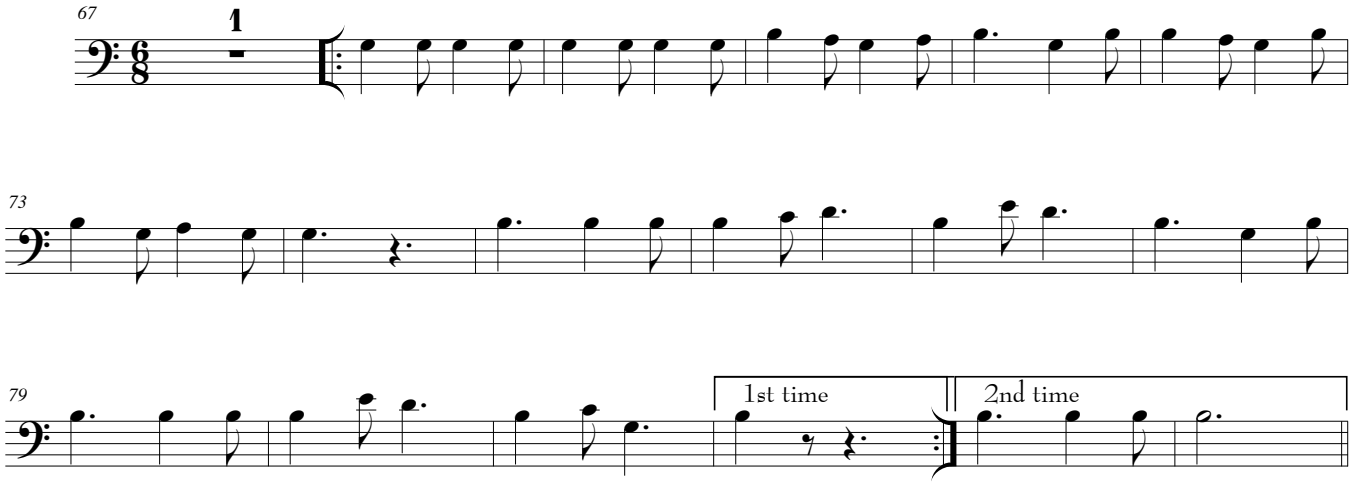
Bassoon

Perpetual Canon



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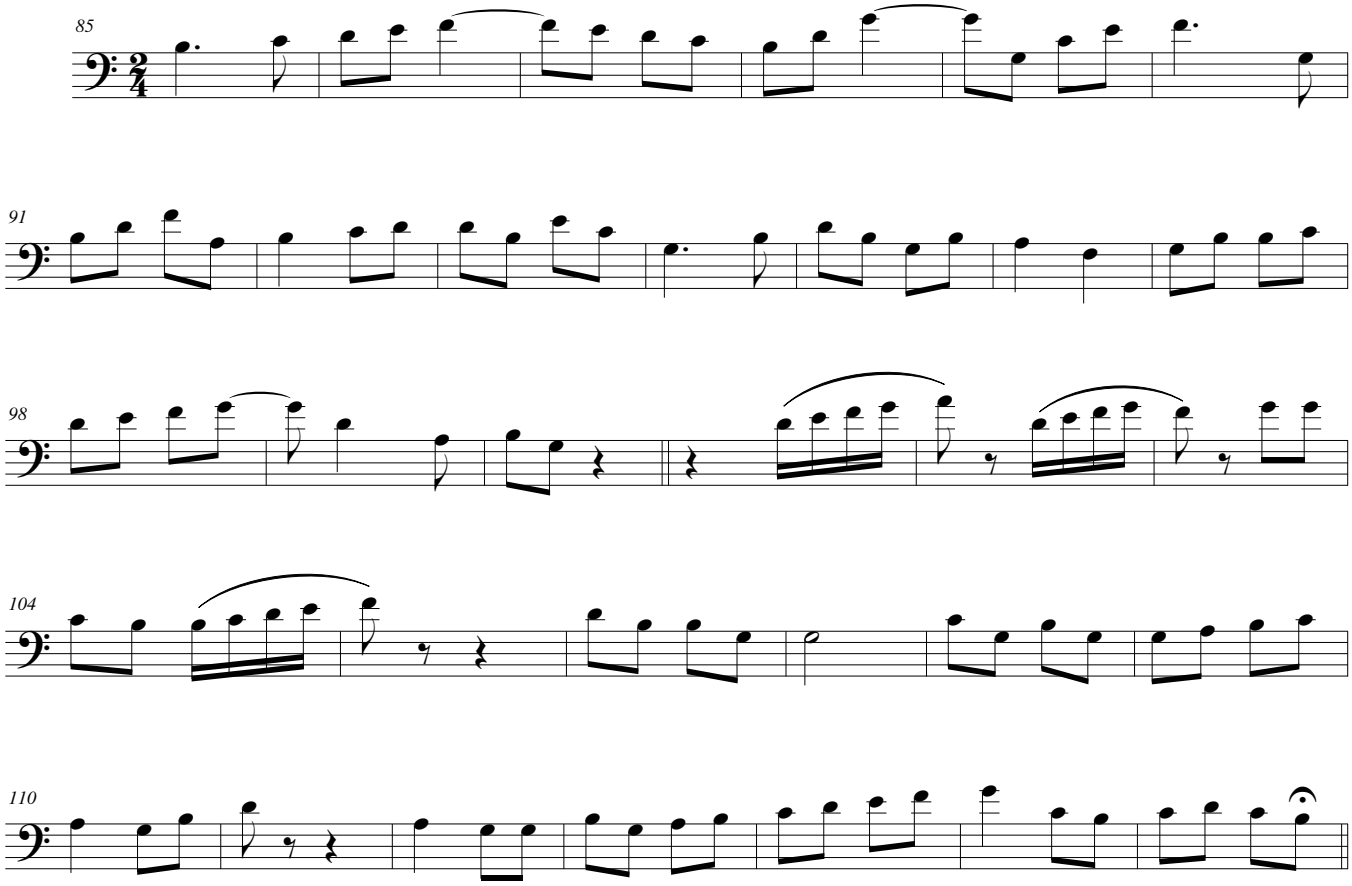
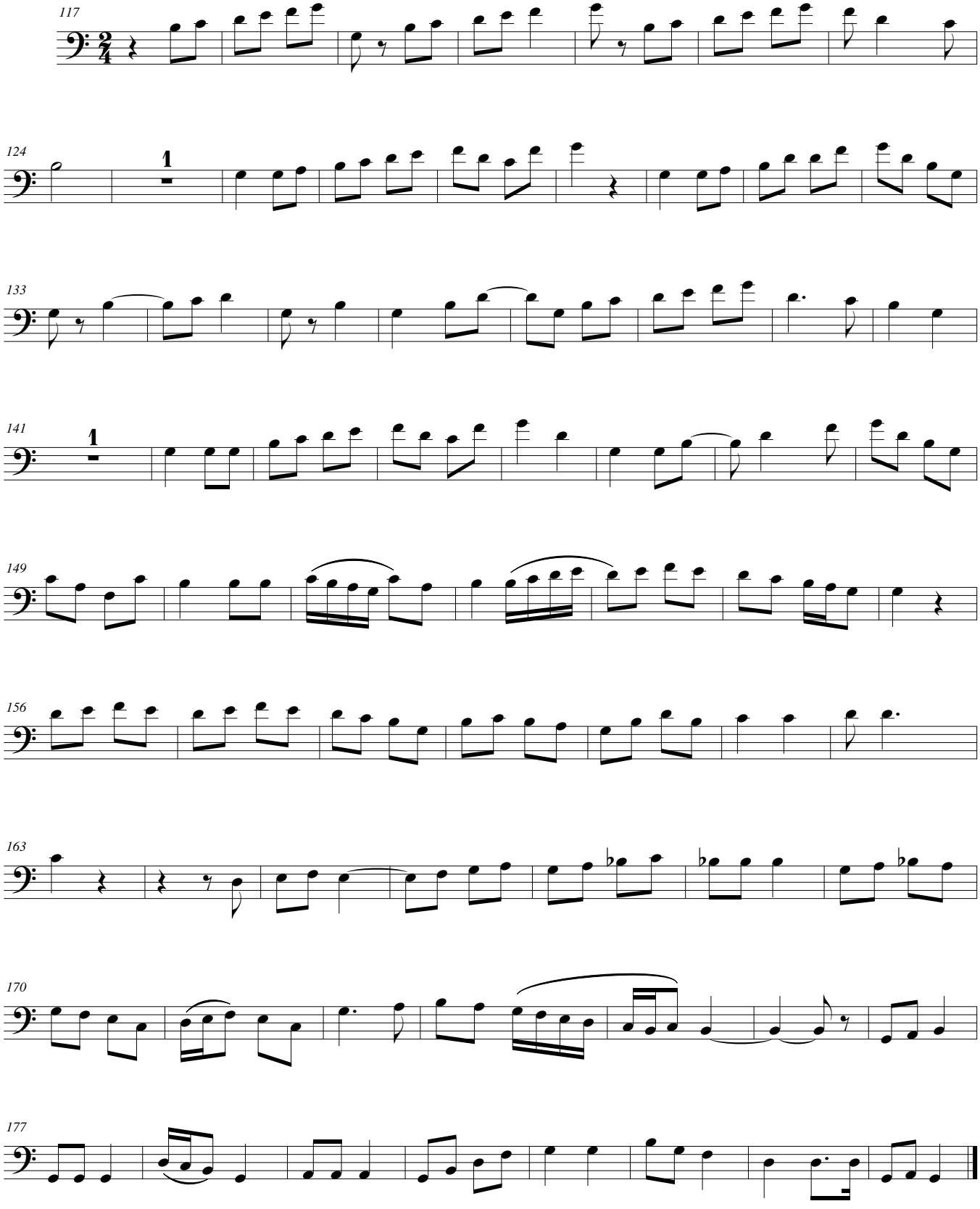
Sonata