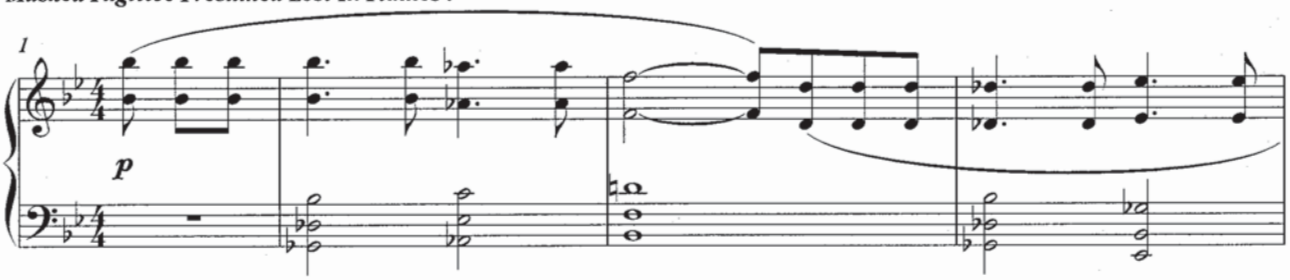
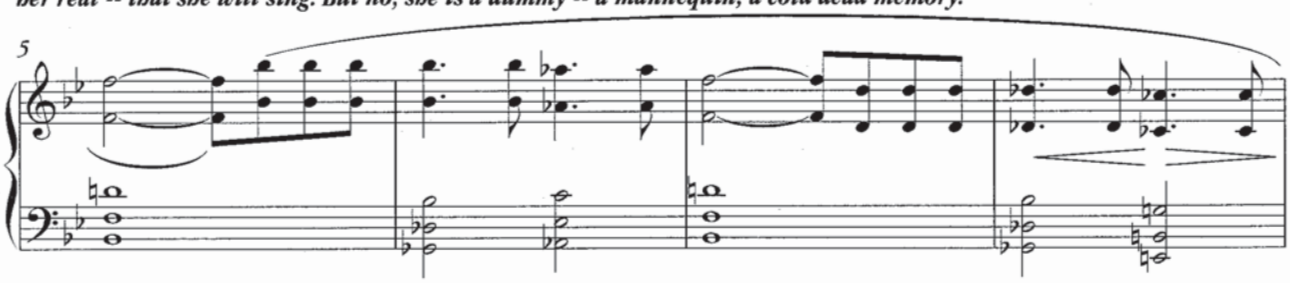
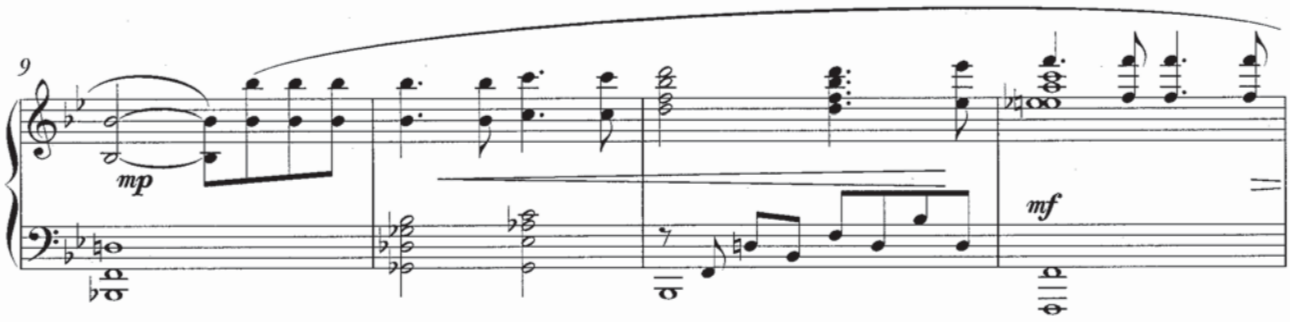
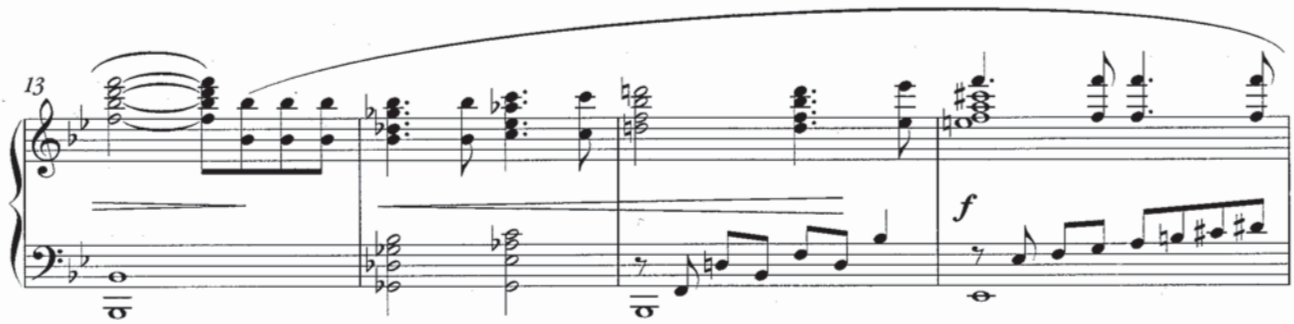
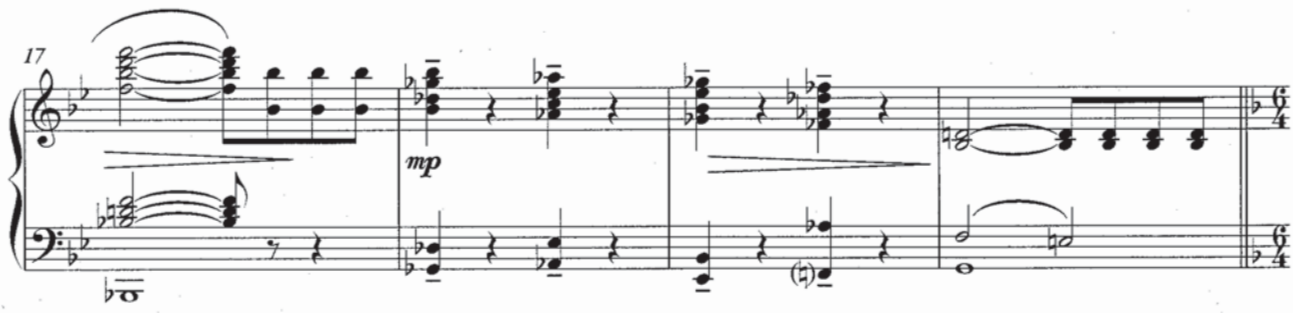
Act One
Prologue

Darkness. A projection showing a mock-up of the New York Times dated 1897 bearing the headline: 'Paris Opera House Burns; Masked Fugitive Presumed Lost In Flames'.



An image appears alone. It is a FIGURE, the figure of a beautiful WOMAN: CHRISTINE. For a moment, perhaps, we believe her real -- that she will sing. But no, she is a dummy -- a mannequin, a cold dead memory.