

BERKLEE SERIES/BASS

reading contemporary electric bass rhythms

RICH APPLEMAN

BERKLEE PRESS

Reading Contemporary Electric Bass Rhythms

by

RICH APPLEMAN



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FOREWORD

Contemporary Electric Bass Rhythms mean many things to many people; fast repetitive funk vamps, long low sustained notes behind a singer, walking lines composed on the spot that shape a framework for a jazz soloist, and many more.

The rhythms and bass lines in this book are representative of what I've been playing in many different areas of performance — Theatre, Pop, Recording, Jazz, Dance, Funk, Fusion, Latin, Disco . . .

The Contemporary bassist must play, read, and compose in a variety of different styles.

Some general rules to think about:

- Don't get fooled by the apparent simplicity of basic foundation lines and rhythms. It takes good musicianship to play them right!
- Develop a vocabulary of basic rhythms and styles and use it as a basis on which to constantly expand. Be as versatile and flexible as possible.
- Be solid and supportive; Develop a good time feel and good sound before trying to be an out front lead-type player.

Some hints for practicing these exercises:

- Always play slowly and perfectly when learning something new.
- Play at different tempos with different phrasing.
- Try playing the lines and rhythms in all keys. Memorize the lines you especially like and expand upon them.
- Chord symbols have been omitted to make certain that the book is used to develop *reading* skills.
- Don't just play notes . . . make music!

Good Luck,

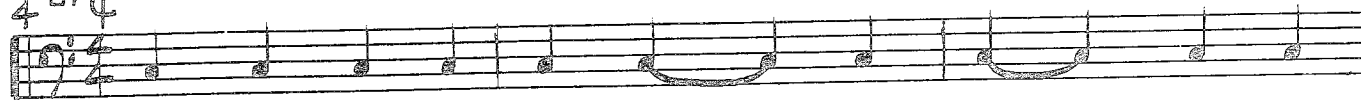
Richard E. Appleman

Chairman, Bass Department
BERKLEE COLLEGE OF MUSIC

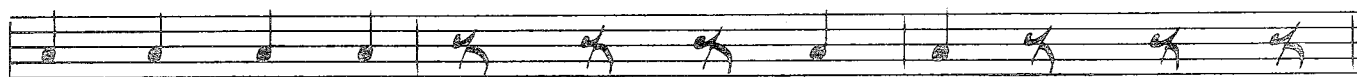
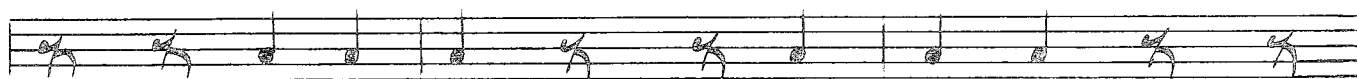
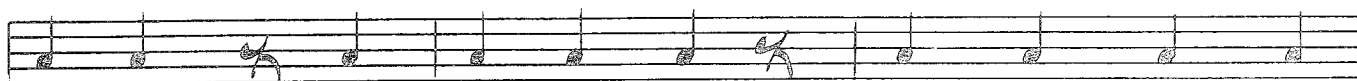
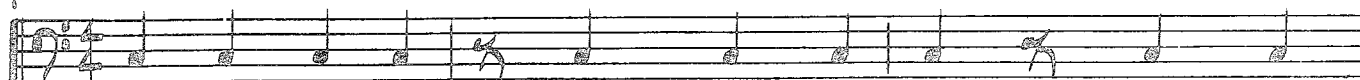
SECTION I

Regular Bass Line Rhythms. "Walking Bass", "Two Feel"

4 or C



4 or C

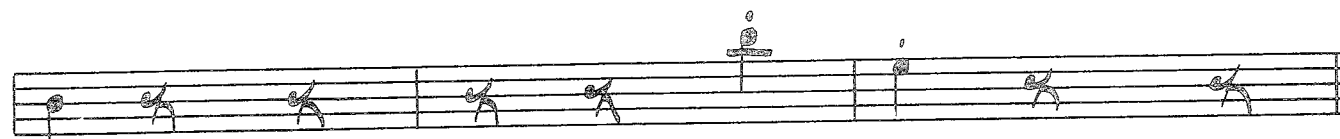
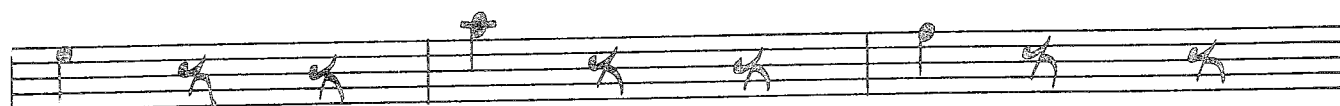
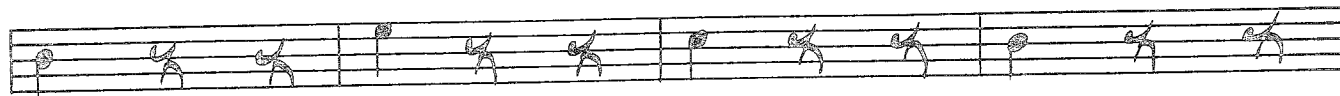
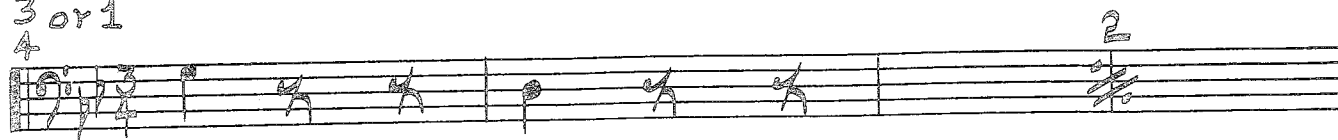


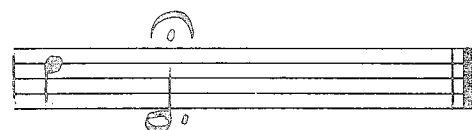
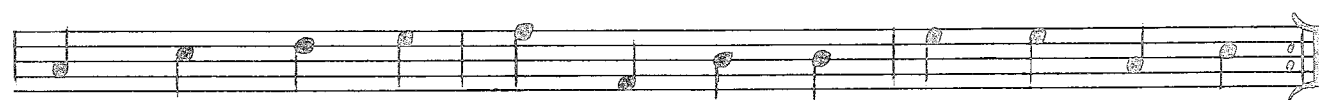
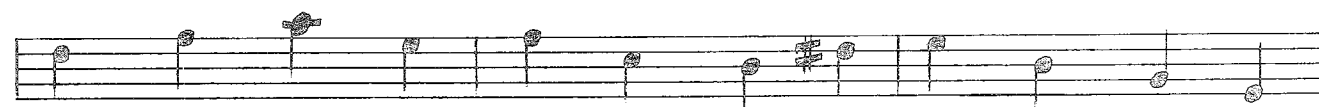
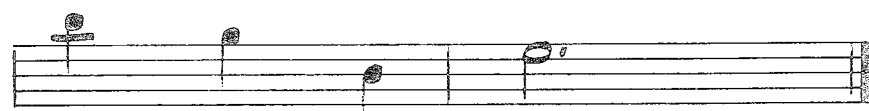
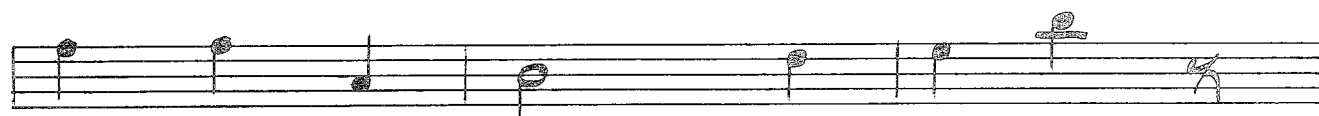
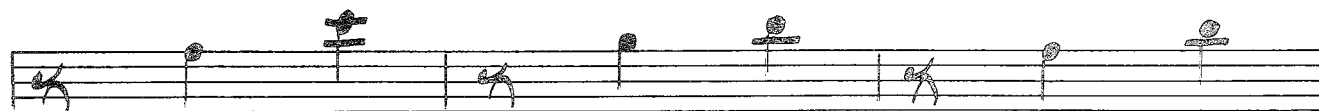
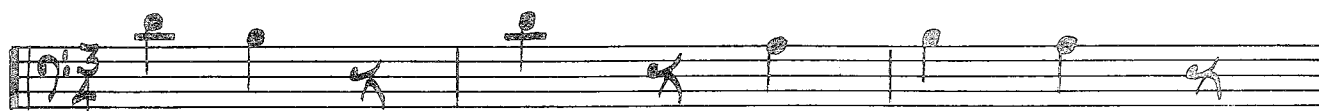
A handwritten musical score consisting of ten staves. The notation is in a single system, likely for a single melodic line. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is written in a style that suggests a 19th-century manuscript. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and triplet markings (indicated by a '3' inside a bracket). The first staff contains a triplet of eighth notes, followed by a quarter note, a half note, another triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, and a final triplet of eighth notes. The second staff continues with a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, and a half note. The third staff features a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The fourth staff shows a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a quarter note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, and a half note. The fifth staff contains a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The sixth staff features a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The seventh staff shows a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The eighth staff contains a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The ninth staff features a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note. The tenth staff shows a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, a triplet of eighth notes, a quarter note, a half note, and a quarter note.

4 or 4



3 or 1
4



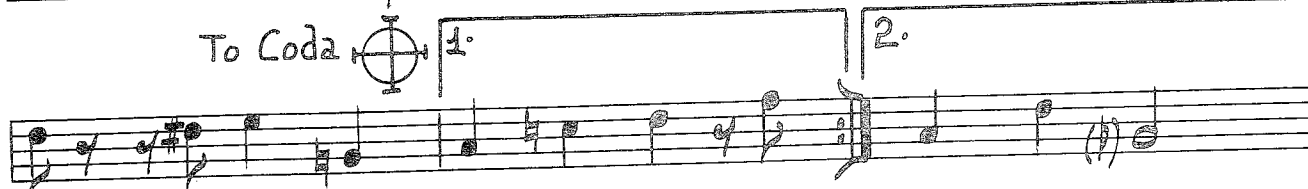


Handwritten musical score for guitar in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of 10 staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is written on the first staff, and the accompaniment is on the second staff. The third staff contains a "To Coda" instruction with a coda symbol. The fourth staff continues the melody. The fifth staff continues the accompaniment. The sixth staff has an "opt." (optional) section in parentheses. The seventh staff continues the melody. The eighth staff continues the accompaniment. The ninth staff ends with a double bar line and the instruction "D.C. al coda". The tenth staff begins with a "Coda" instruction and a coda symbol, followed by a single note on a staff with a 4/4 time signature, ending with a double bar line and the word "fine".





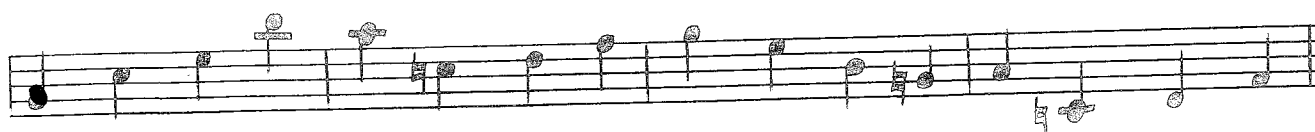
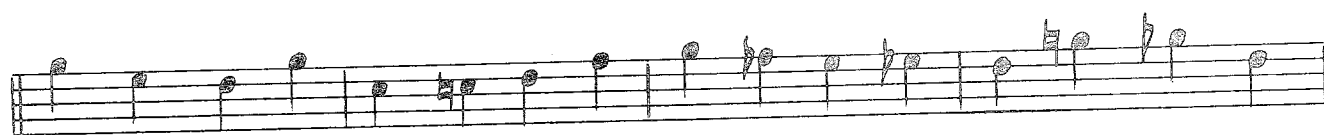
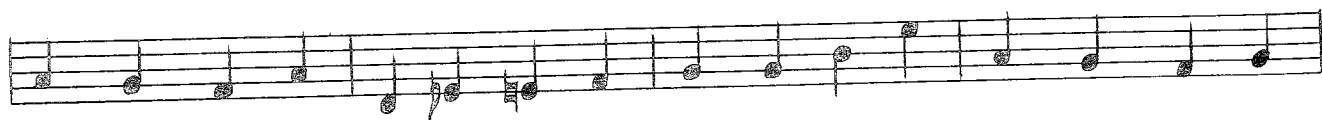
To Coda

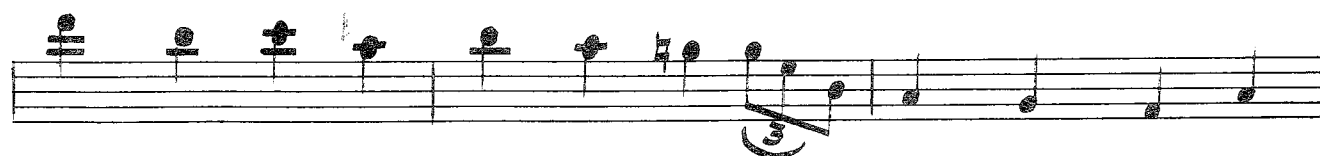
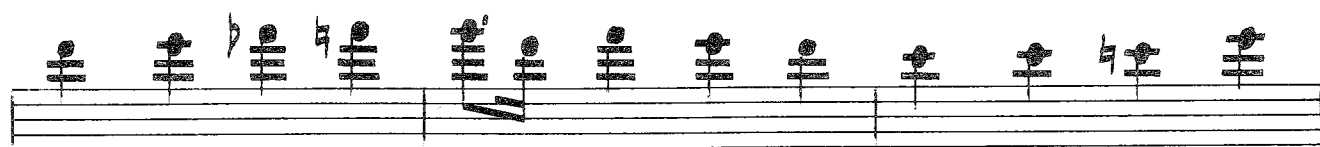
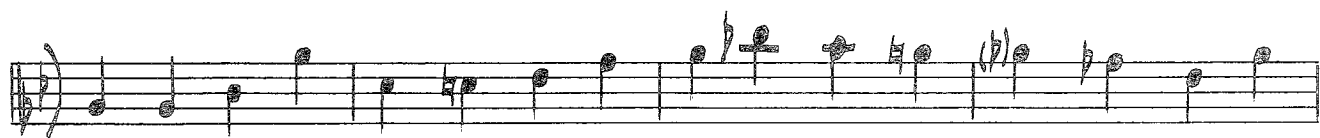


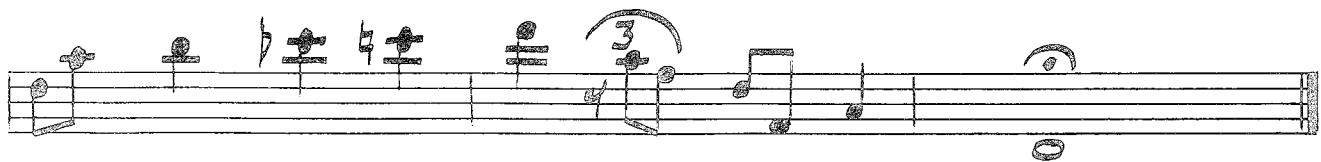
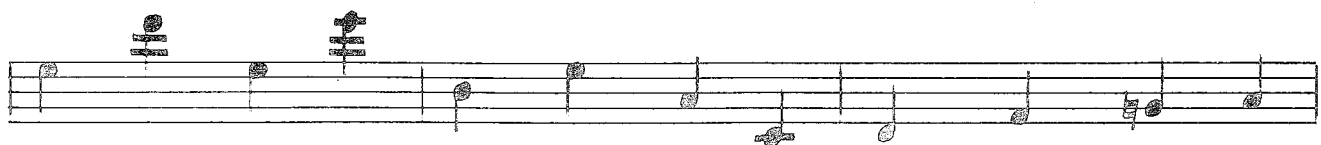
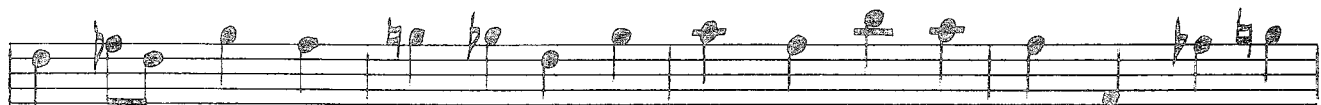
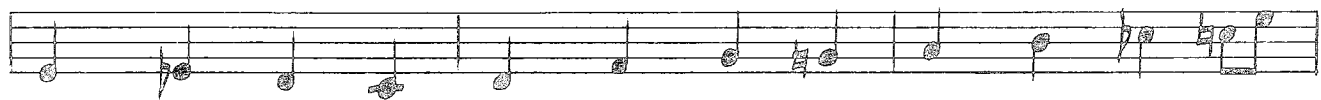
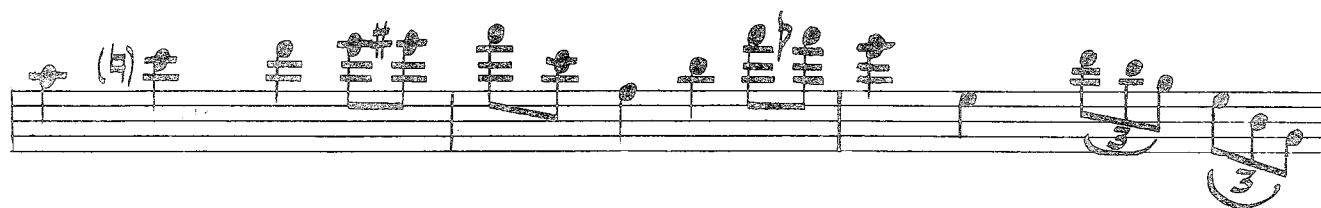
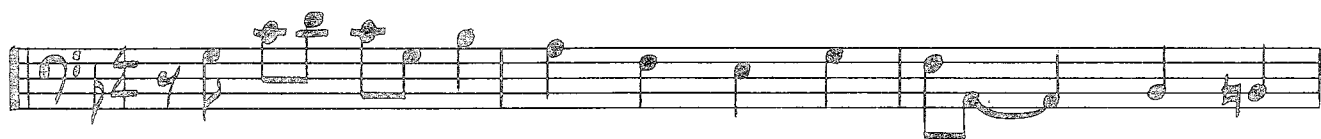
Coda







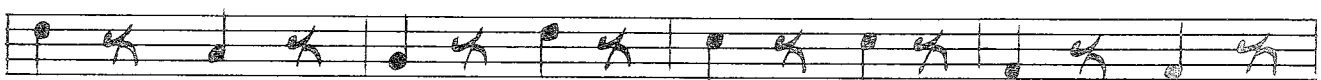
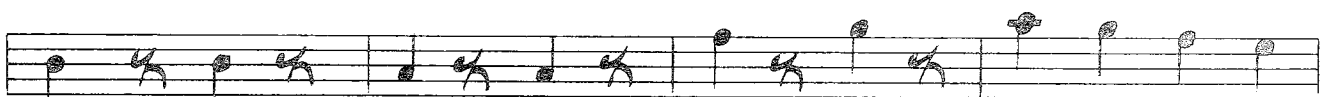
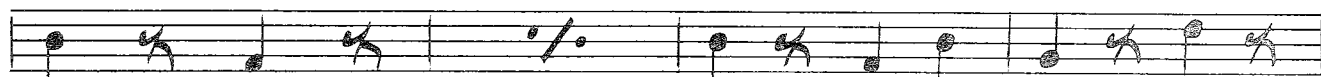
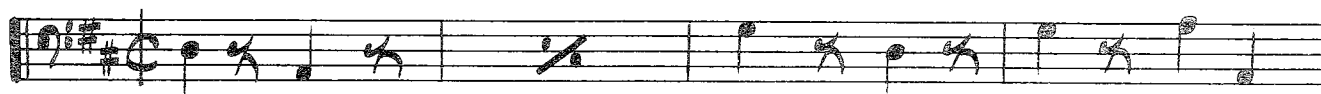


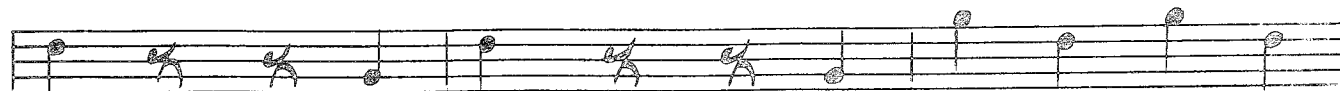




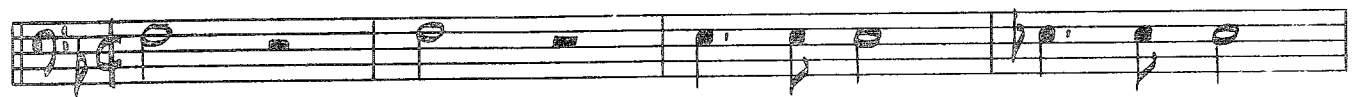
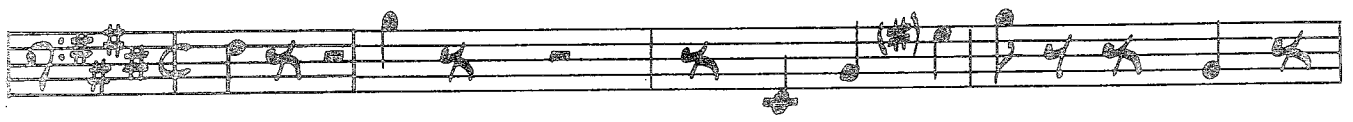
"2"

A handwritten musical score consisting of ten staves. The notation is in a single system, likely for a single melodic line. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The music is written in a fluid, handwritten style. The notation includes various note values: quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes. There are also rests, accidentals (sharps and naturals), and phrasing slurs. The score is organized into measures by vertical bar lines. The final staff ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.









2

Med. "2" feel

mf

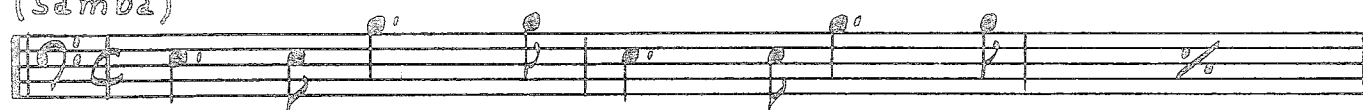
To Coda

1.

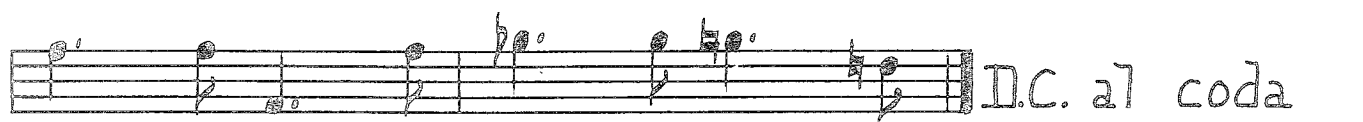
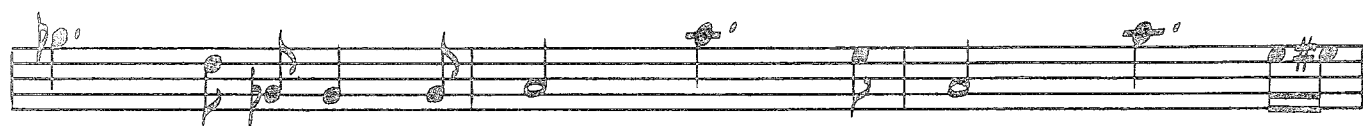
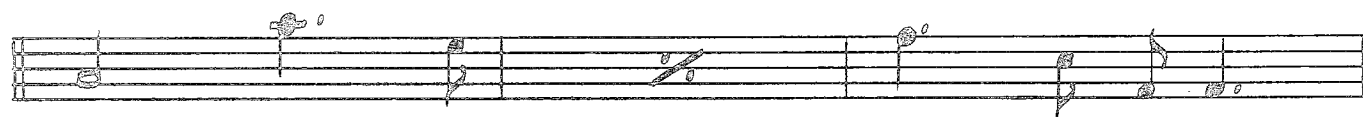
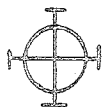
2.

Coda

Fast "2"
(samba)

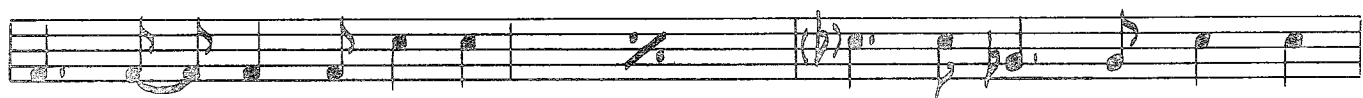
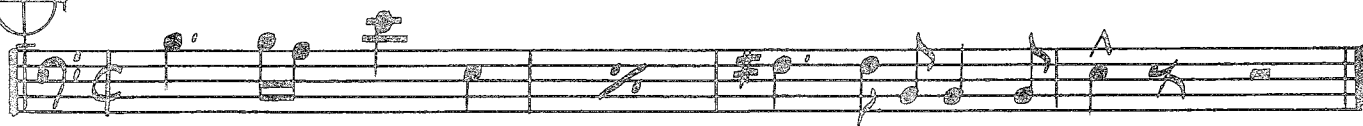


To Coda



D.C. al coda

Coda

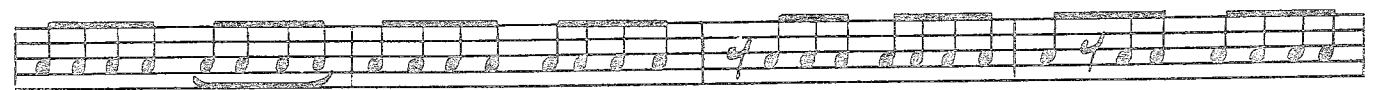
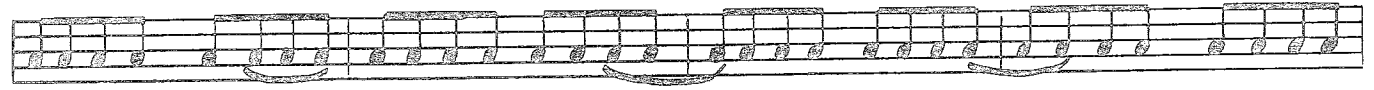
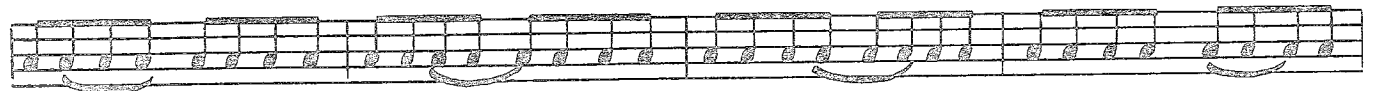
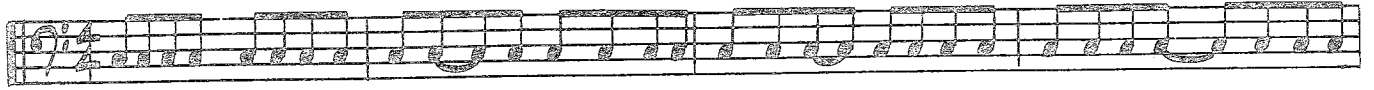


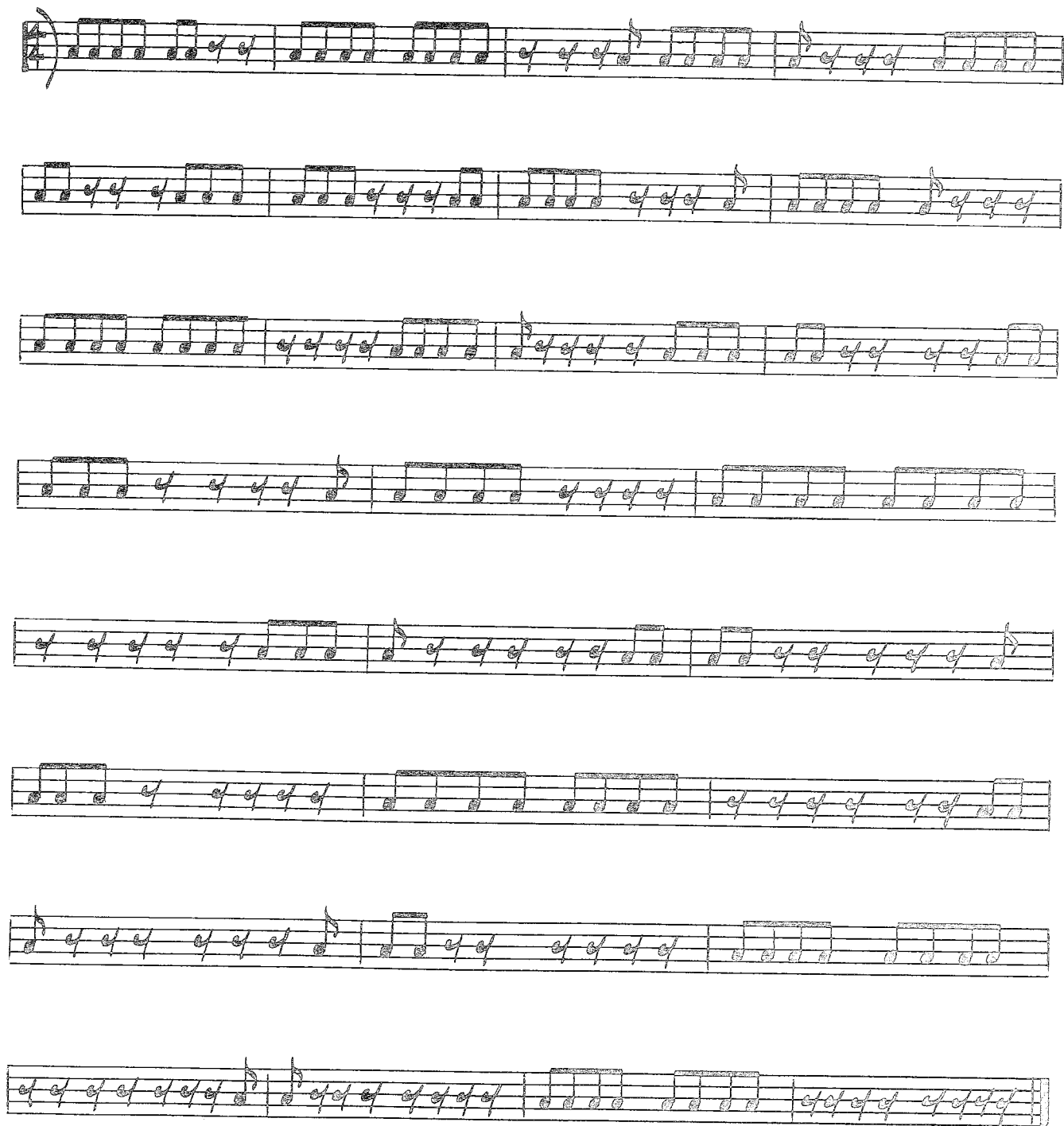
March



SECTION II

Syncopated, More Active Bass Lines and Rhythms. Eighth-Note Feel.
Top 40, Soft Rock, Country/Western, Radio and TV Jingles.

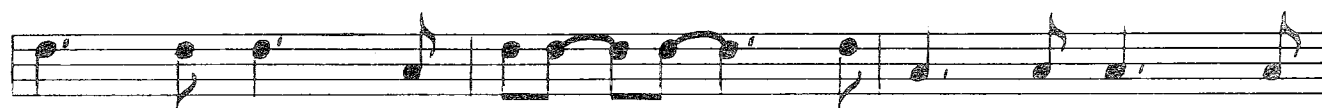
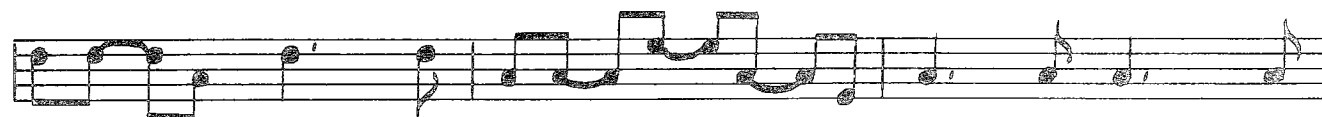




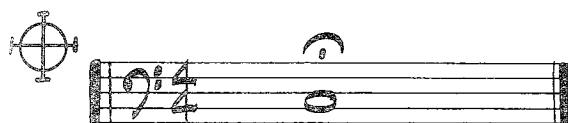




To Coda

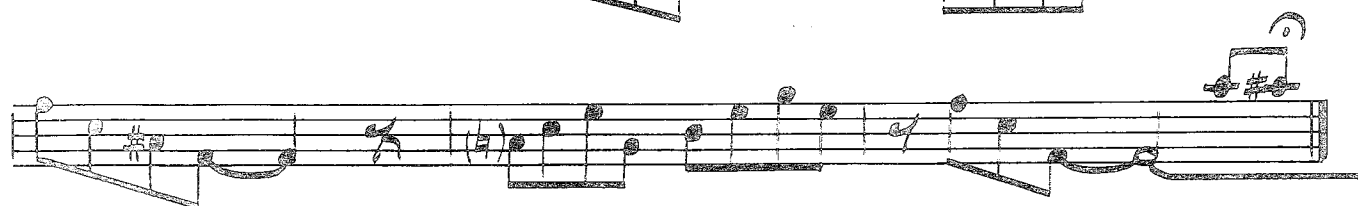
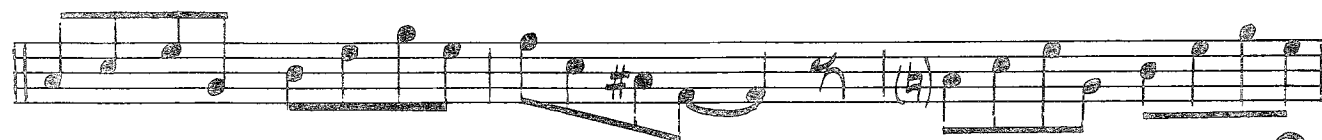
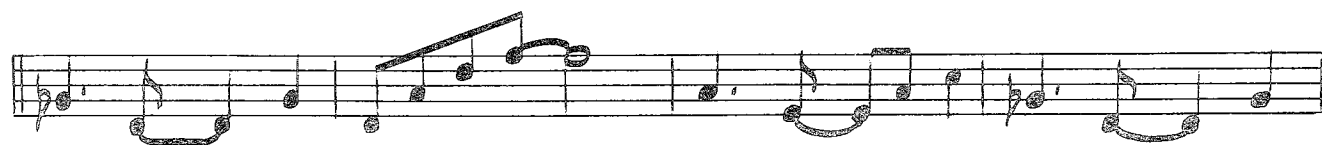
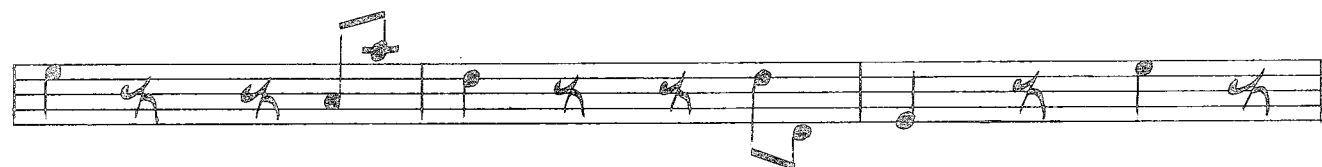
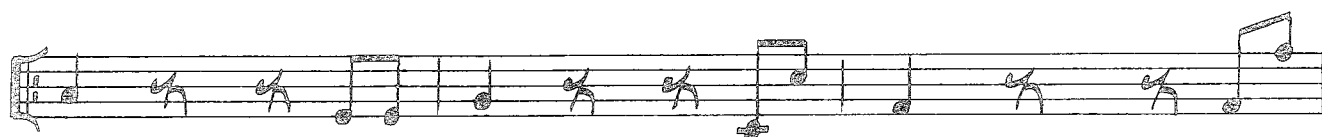
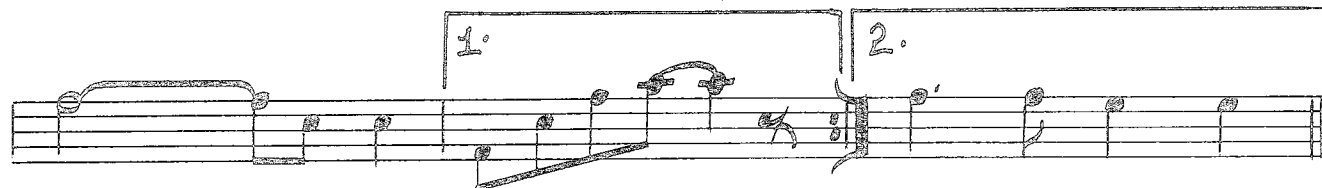
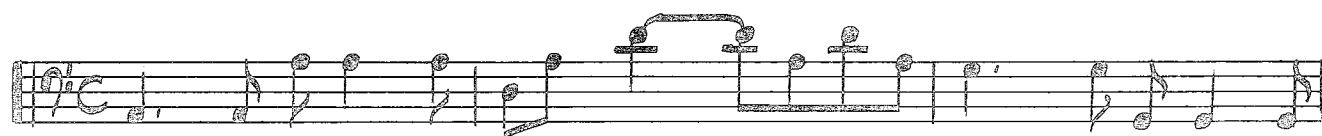


Coda



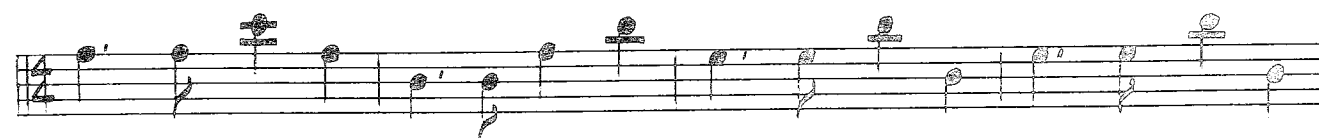
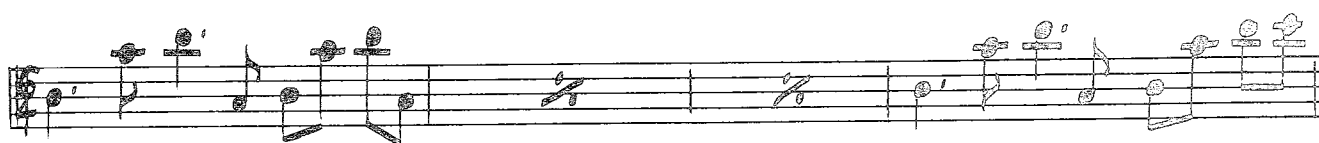
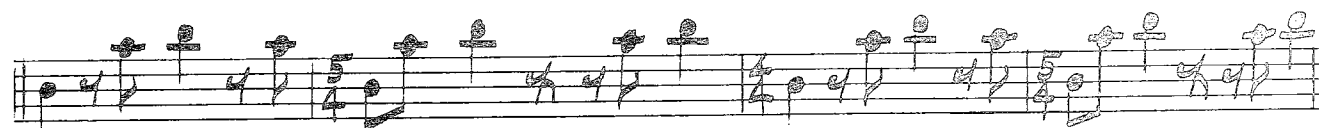
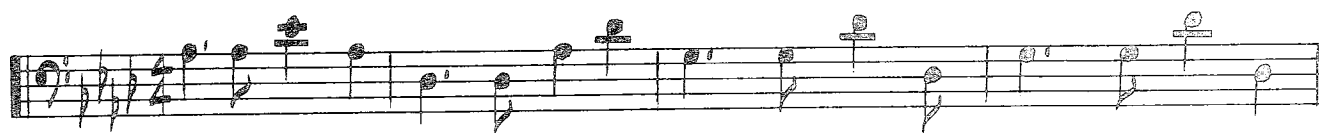
A handwritten musical score consisting of ten staves. The notation is in a single system, likely for a piano or guitar. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a common time signature (C). The music is written in a key with one sharp (F#), likely F# major or C# minor. The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes), rests, and accidentals (sharps and naturals). There are several slurs and ties throughout the piece. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff shows a change in the melodic line. The fourth staff features a series of chords or sustained notes. The fifth staff introduces a new melodic phrase. The sixth staff continues with a similar melodic pattern. The seventh staff shows a more complex rhythmic pattern. The eighth staff continues the melodic development. The ninth staff features a series of chords. The tenth staff concludes the piece with a final chord and a double bar line.

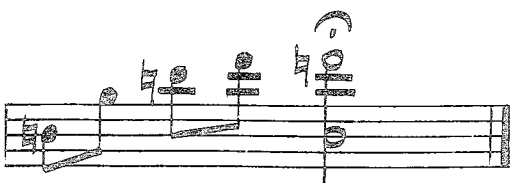
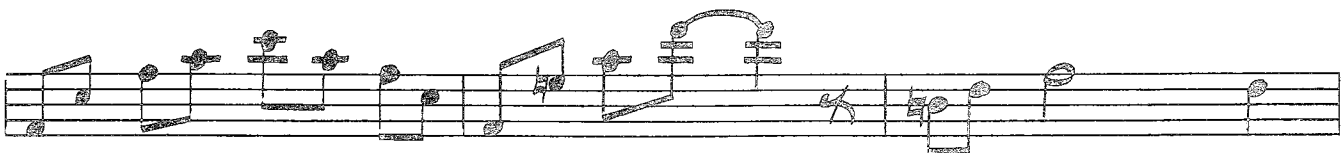
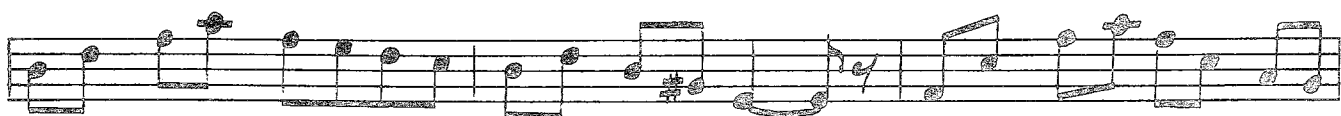
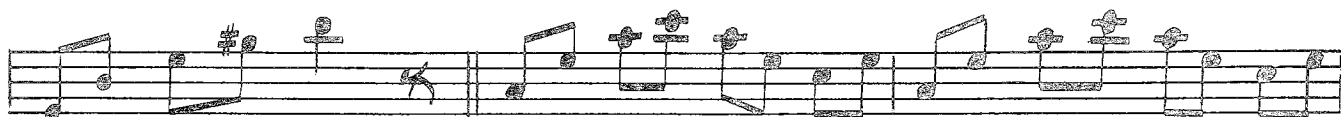
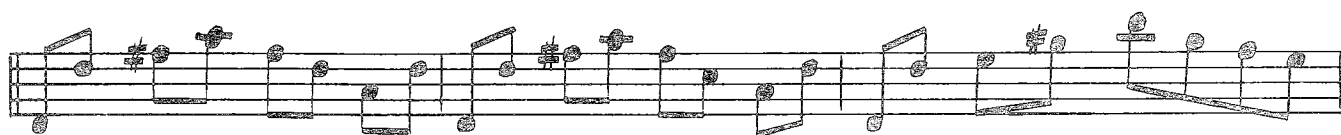
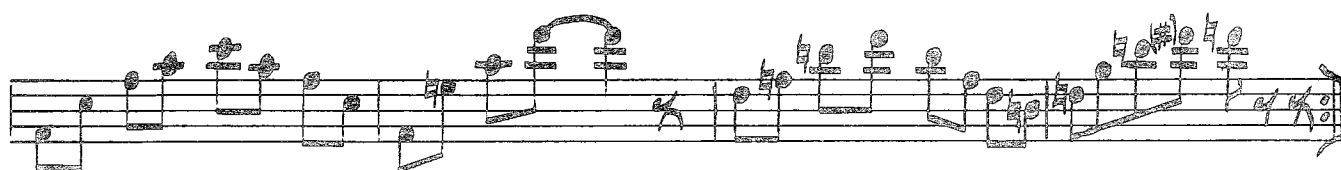
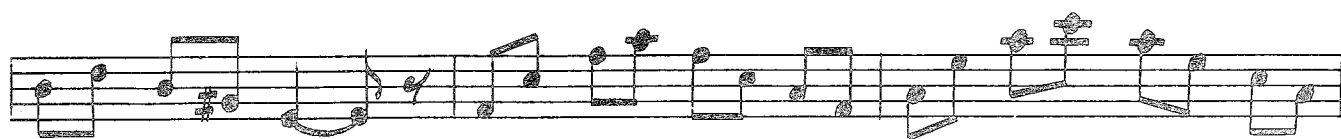
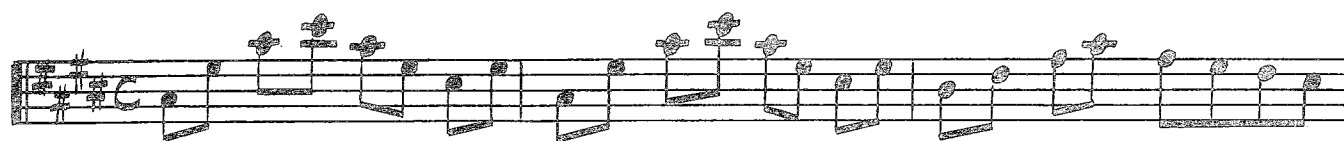


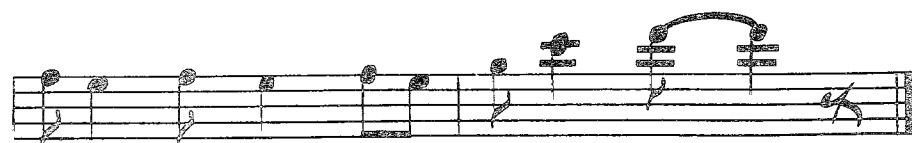
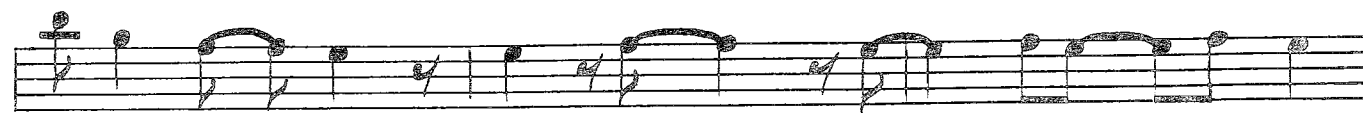
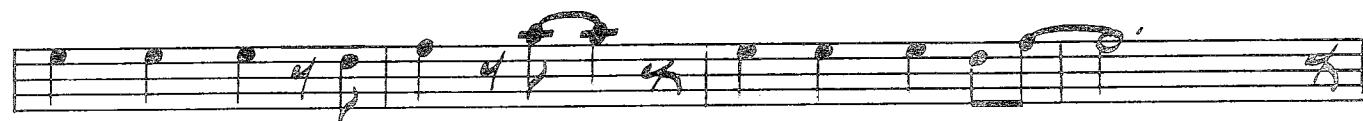
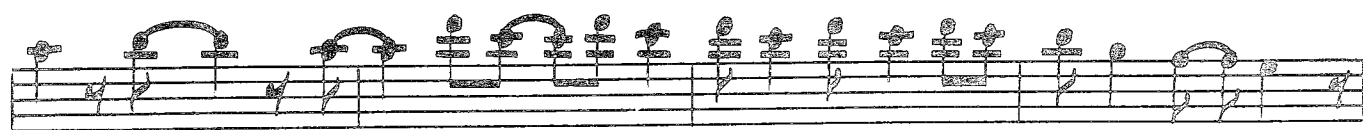
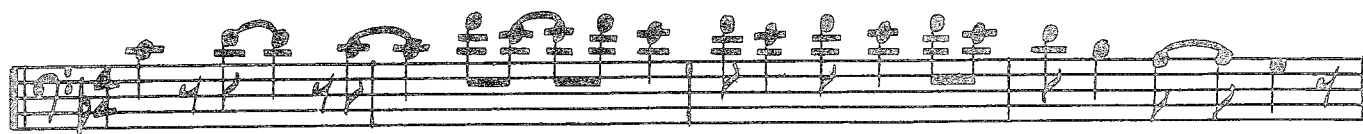


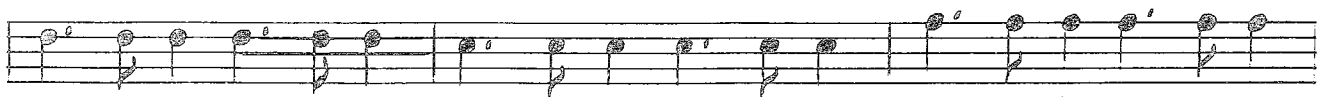
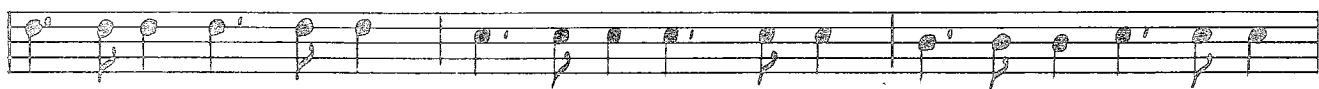
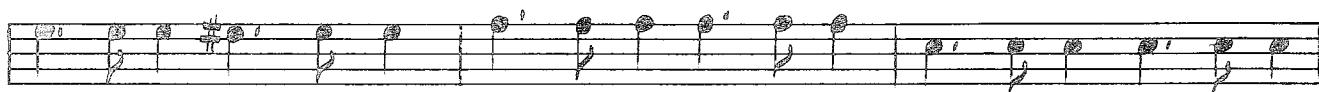
Handwritten musical score on ten staves. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, bar lines, and dynamic markings. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a common time signature (C). The subsequent staves show a variety of rhythmic patterns and melodic lines. The final staff ends with a double bar line.







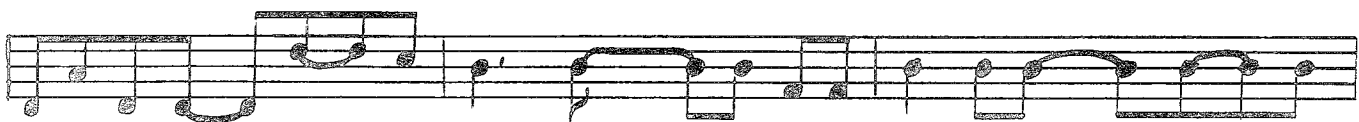
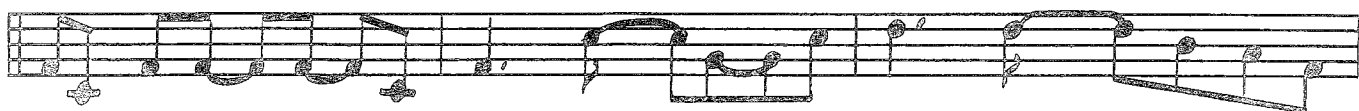








To Coda

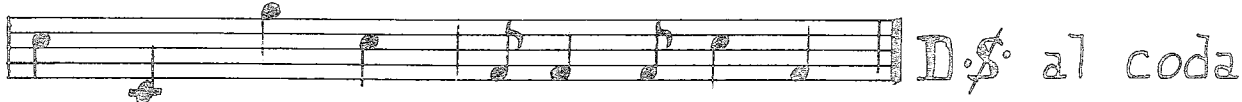
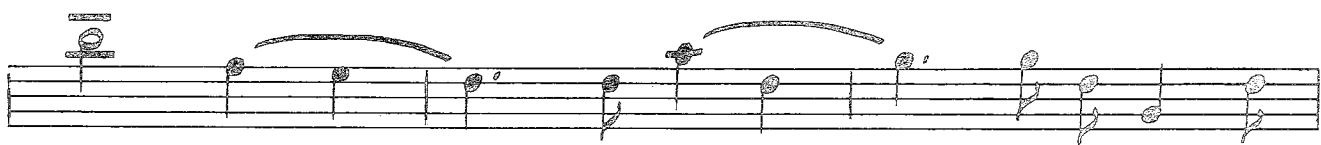


Coda



Med. "2"
(Latin)

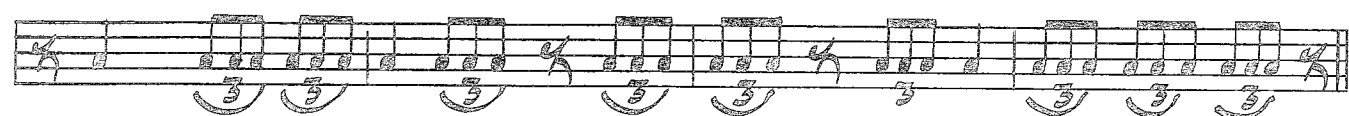
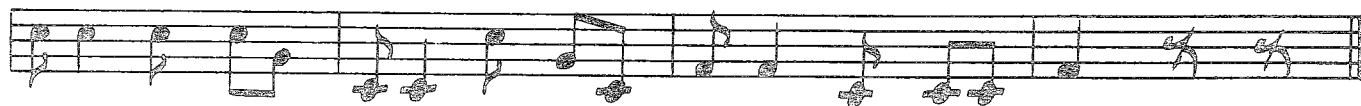
To Coda

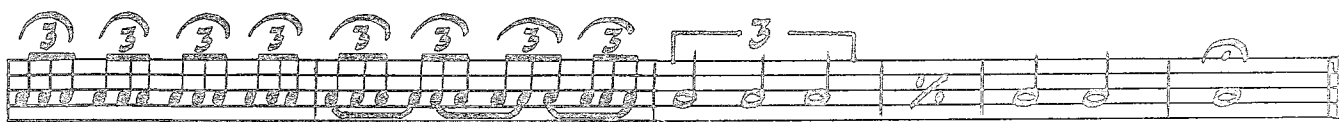
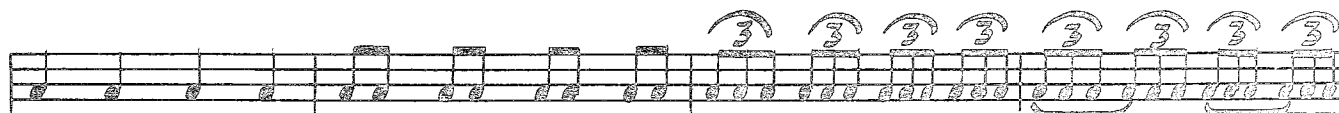


Coda

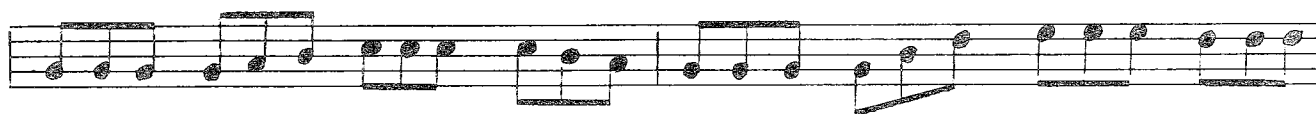
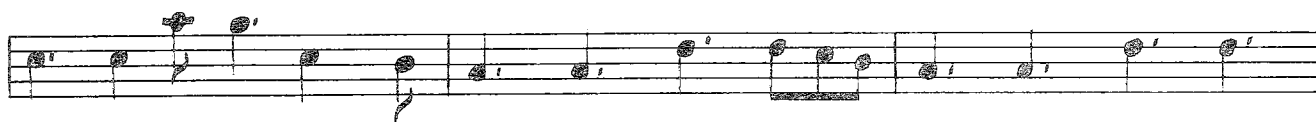


Fine











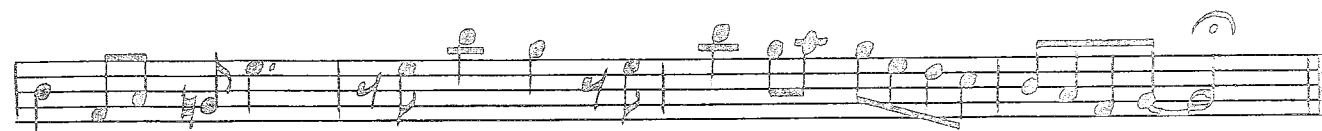
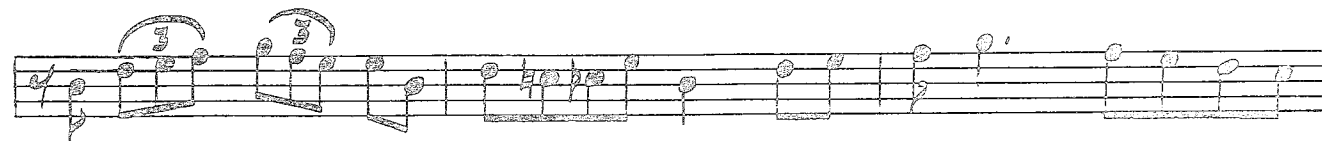
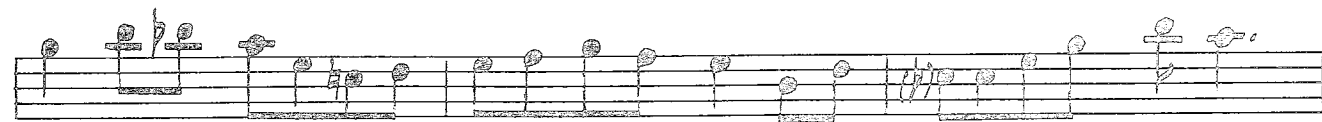
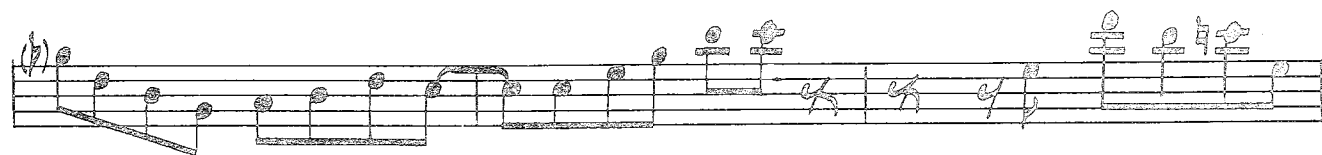
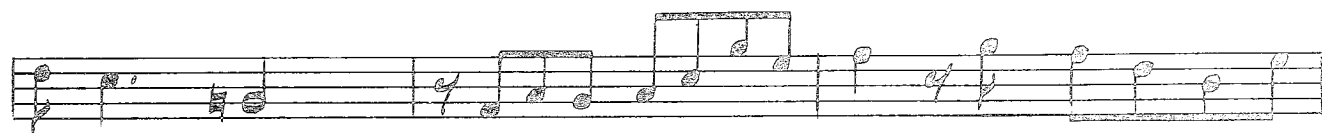
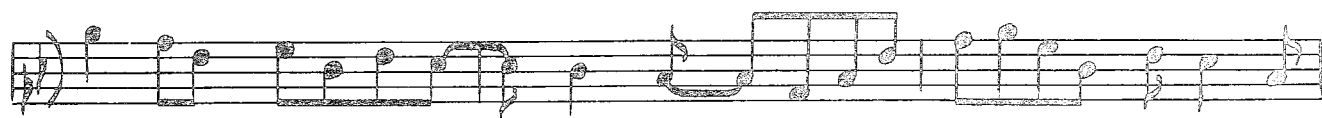




Handwritten musical notation on eight staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a common time signature (C). An asterisk (*) is placed above the first measure of the first staff. The notation consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, with some measures containing rests. The piece concludes with a double bar line on the eighth staff.

A handwritten musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The word "Note" is written above the staff. An asterisk (*) is placed to the left of the staff. The notation shows a sequence of notes, including eighth and sixteenth notes, with a double bar line at the end.



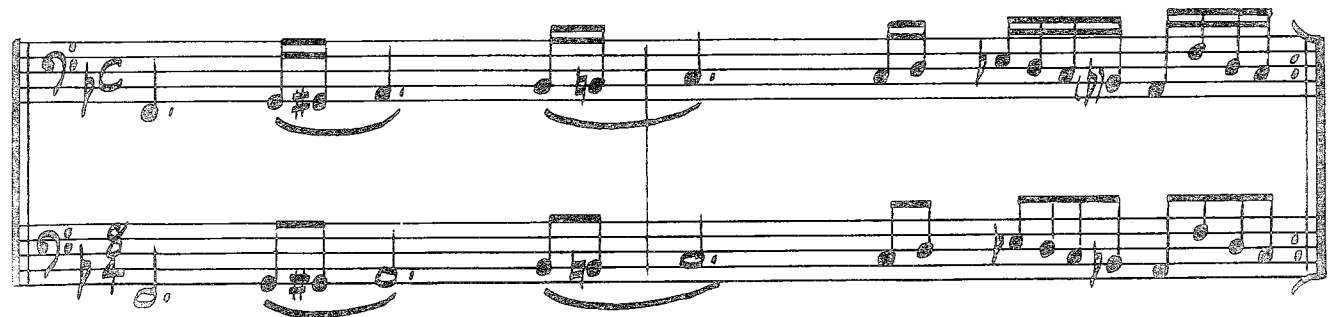
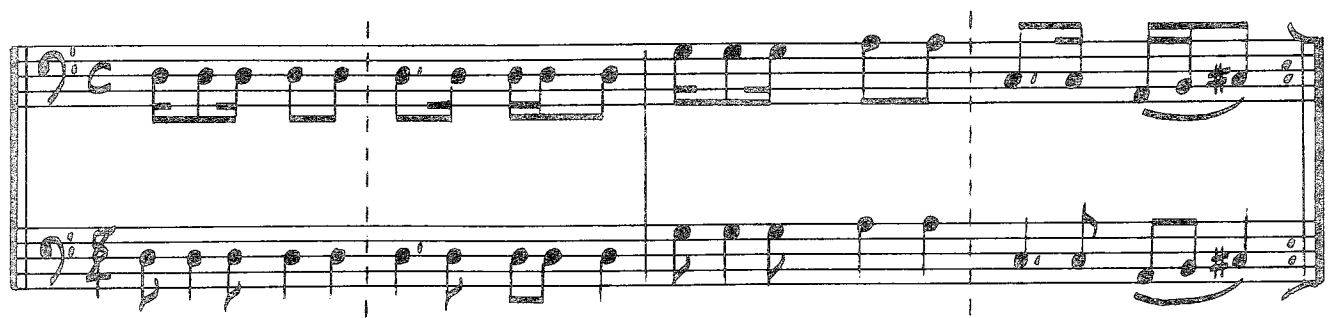
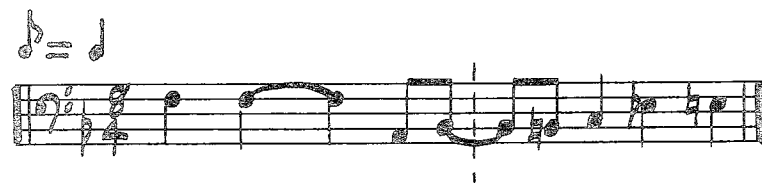
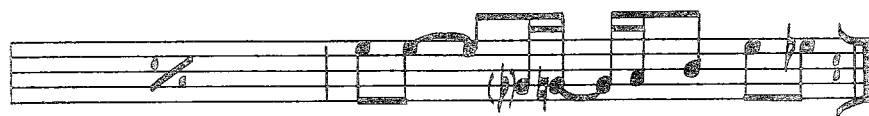
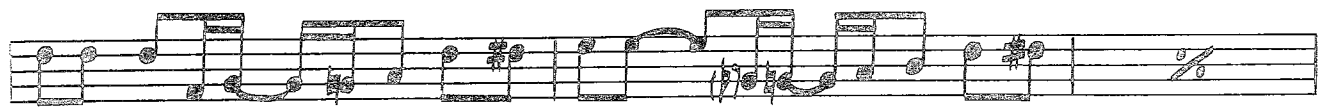
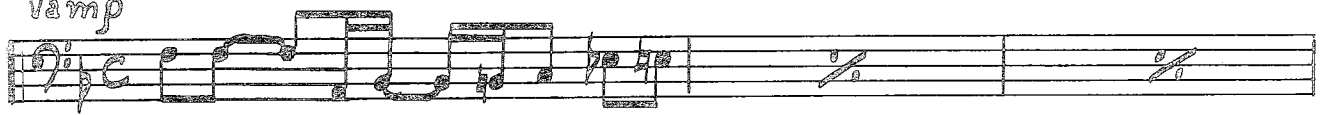


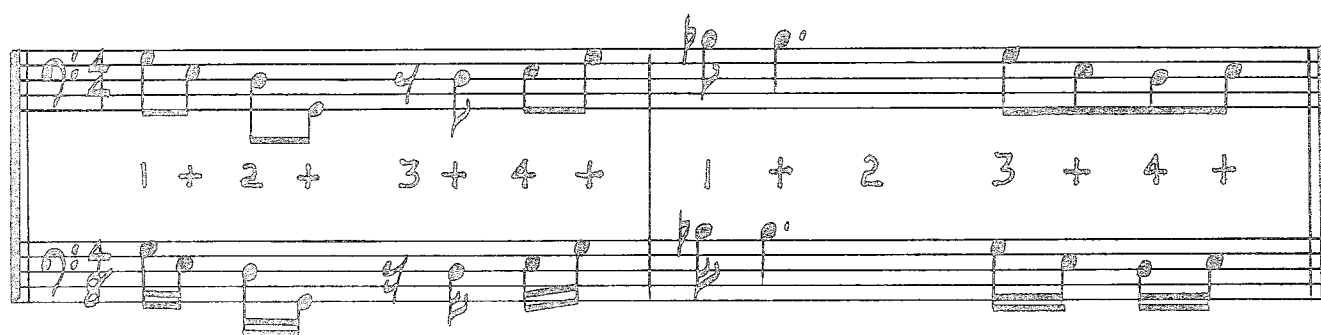
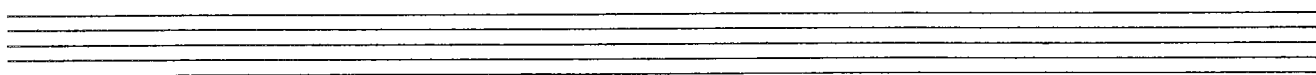
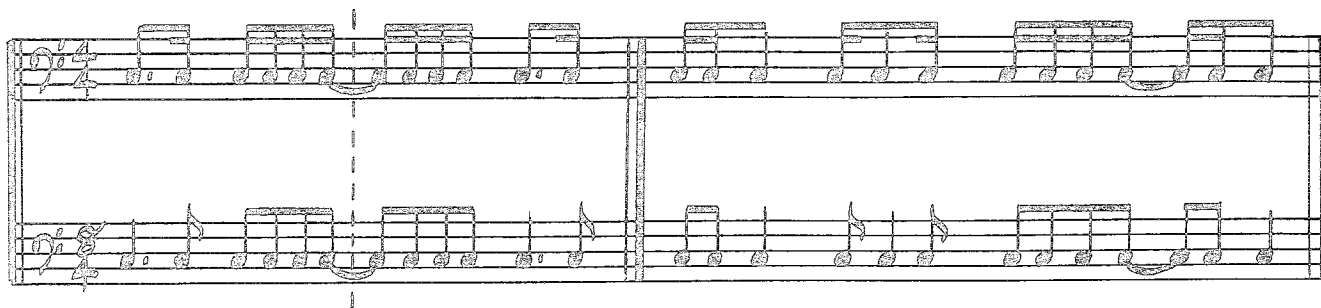
SECTION III

Busier, More syncopated Lines and Rhythms. Eighth and Sixteenth Note Feel. Funk, Rock, Disco, Contemporary Musical Theatre.

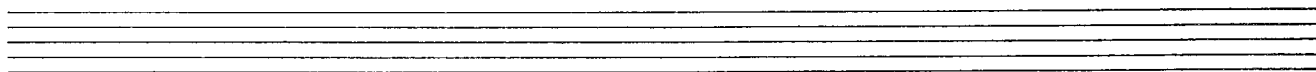
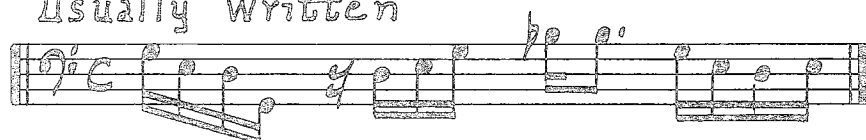
Section III consists of eight staves of musical notation, each containing a single melodic line. The notation is characterized by syncopated rhythms and eighth and sixteenth note patterns. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic figures such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and syncopated rhythms. The staves are arranged vertically, and the notation is written in a clear, legible style. The first staff starts with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various rhythmic figures such as eighth notes, sixteenth notes, and syncopated rhythms. The staves are arranged vertically, and the notation is written in a clear, legible style.

Vamp

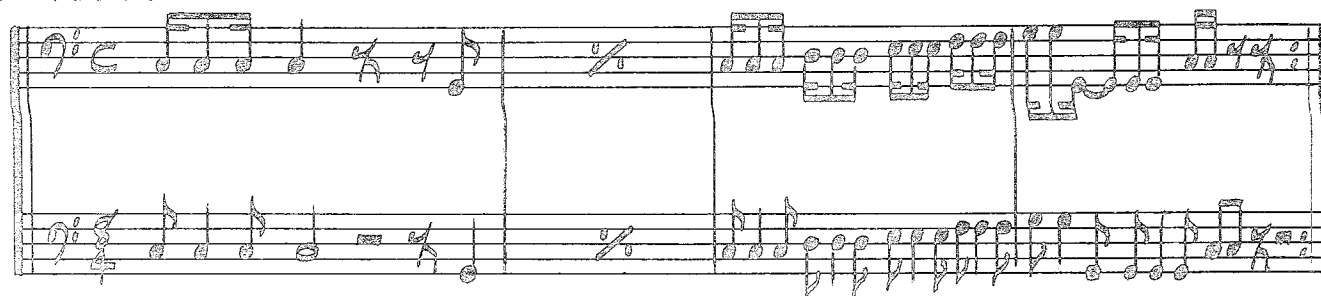


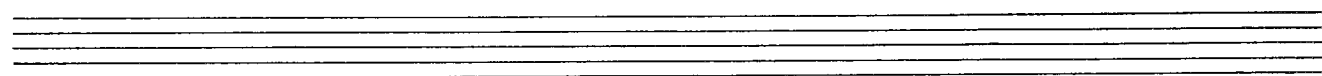
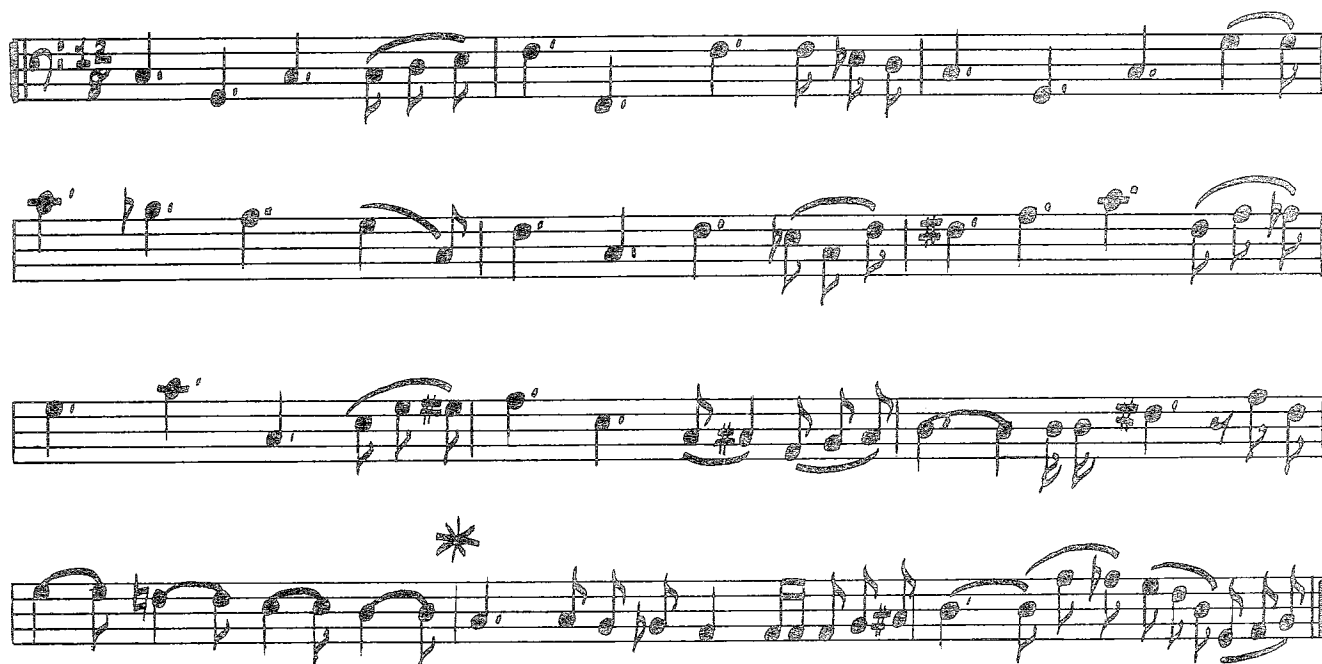


Usually written



Written

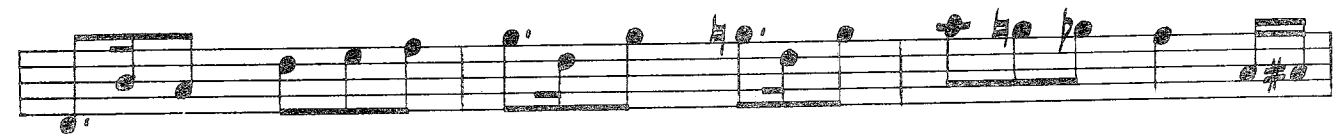
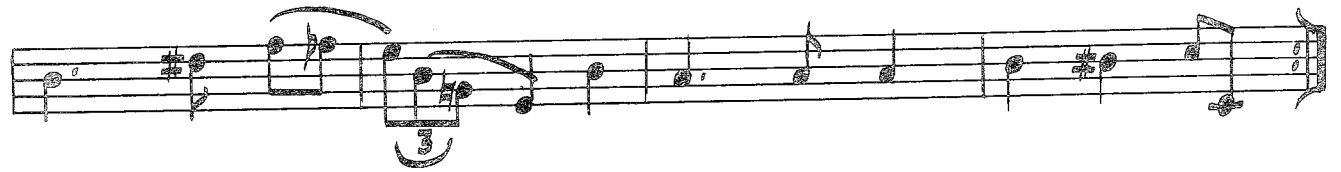
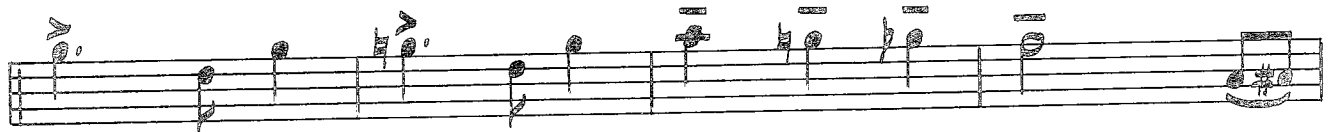
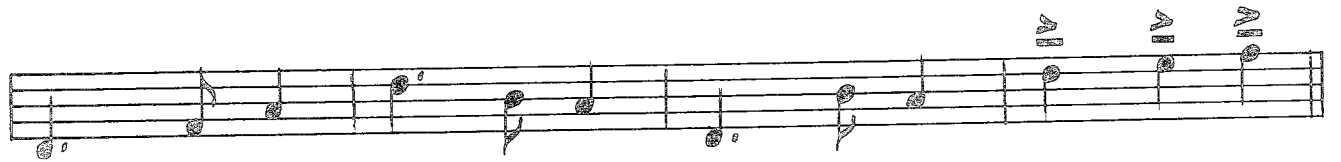




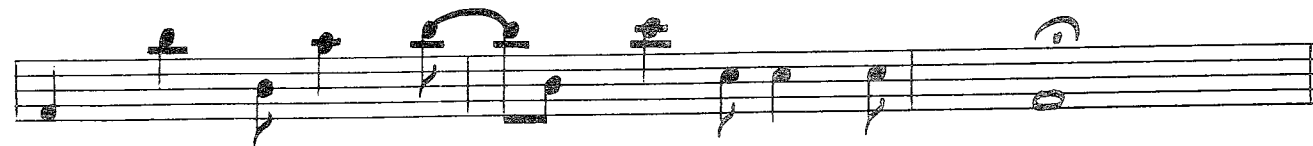
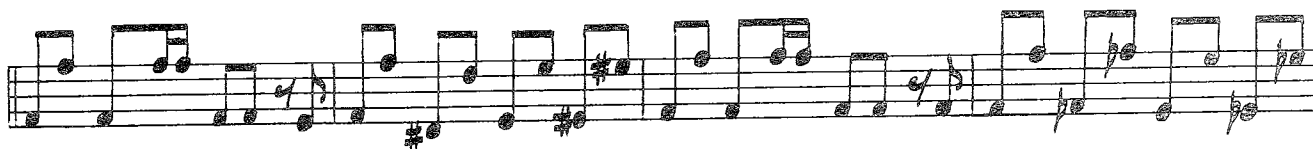
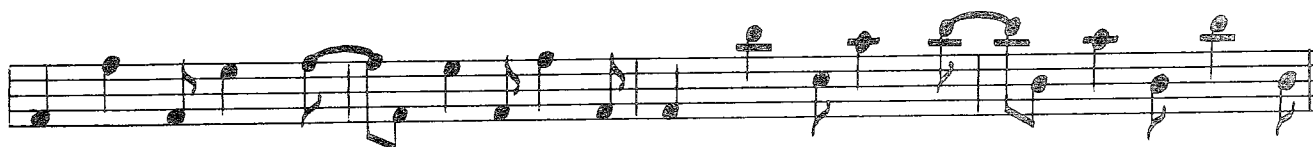
* ♪ in $\frac{12}{8}$ $\hat{=}$ ♪ in $\frac{3}{4}$

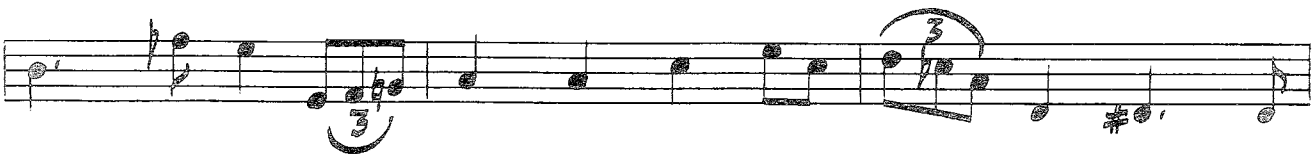
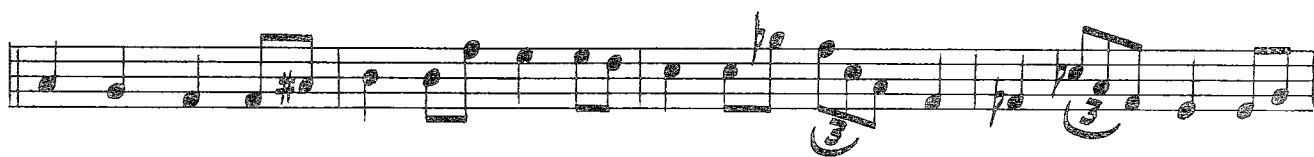


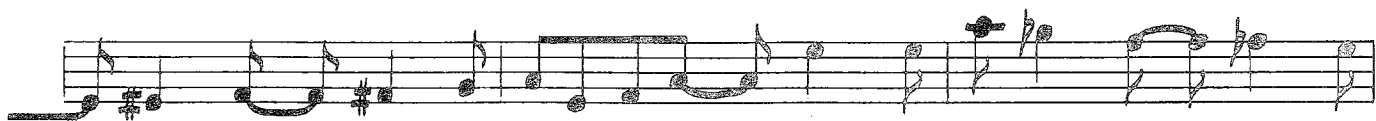
Long Notes



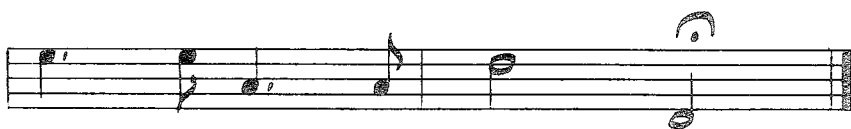






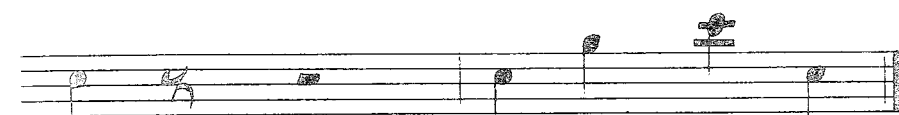
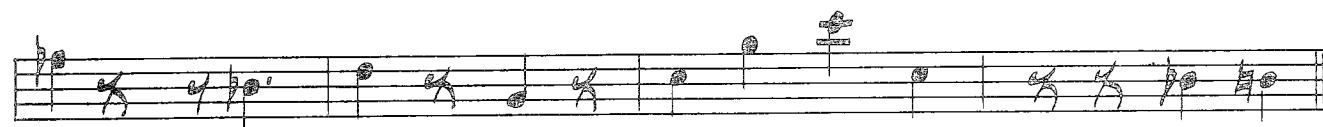


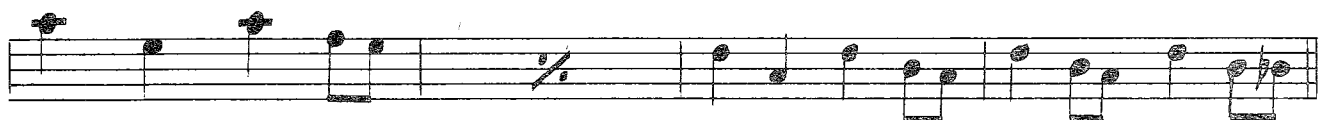
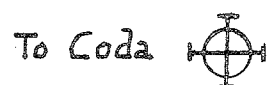






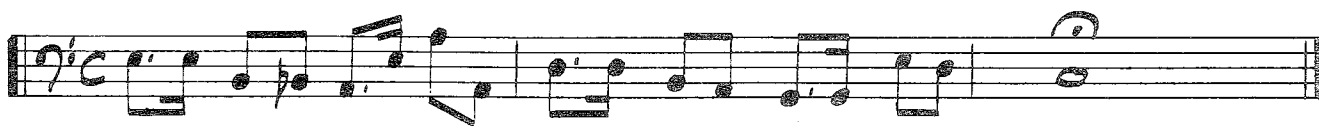


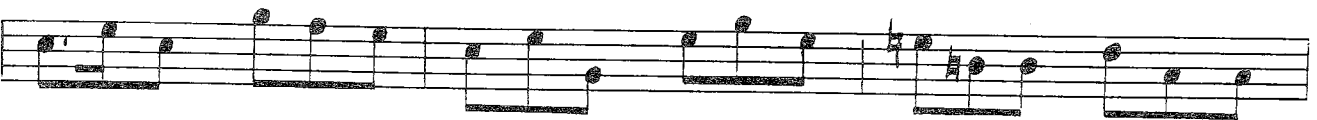
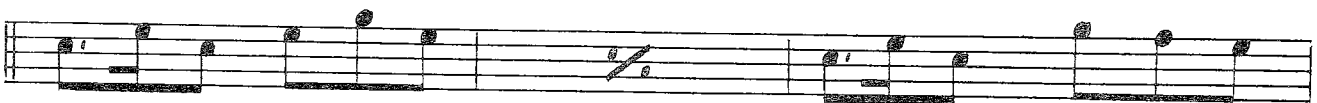
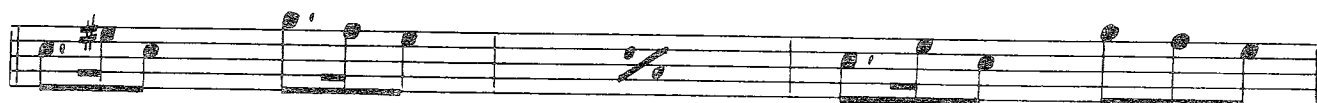


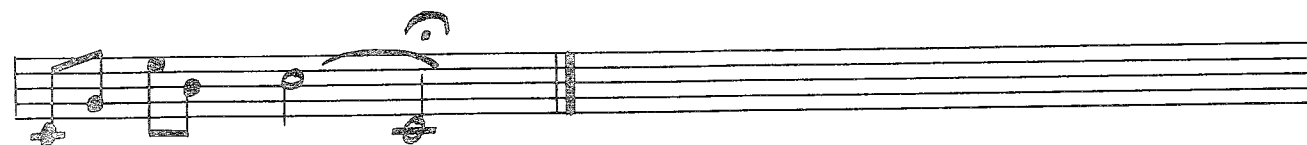
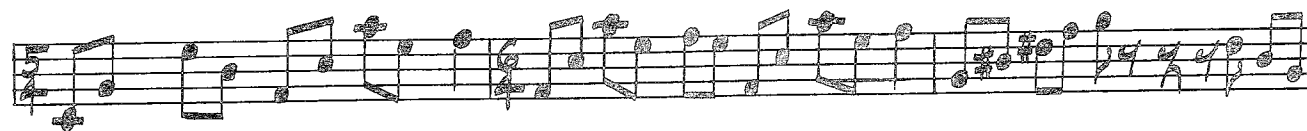
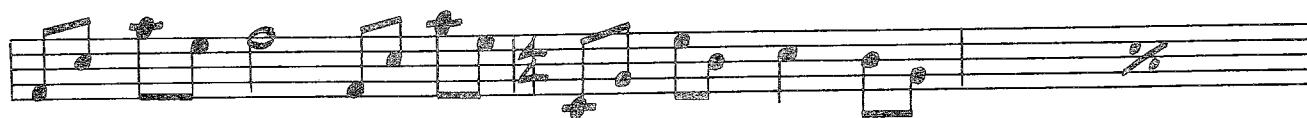
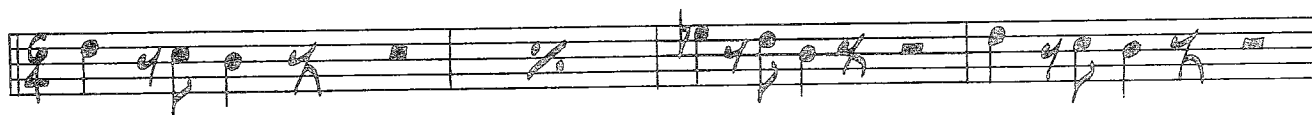
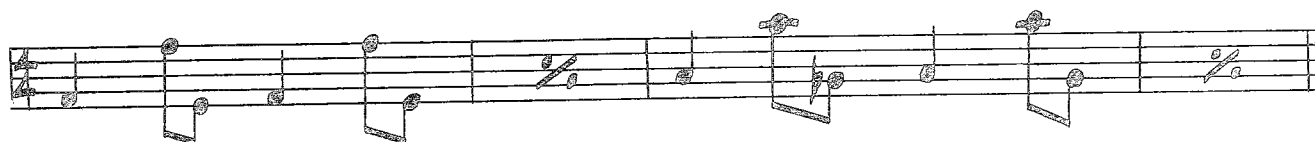


D.C. al coda

Coda

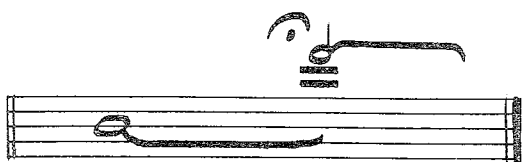
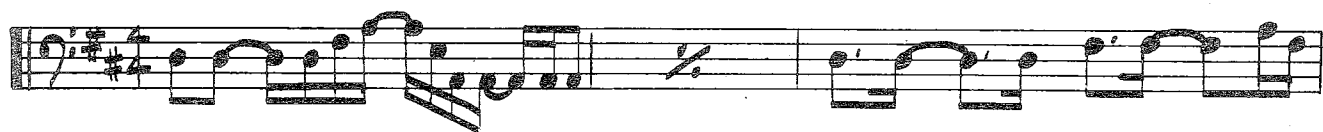


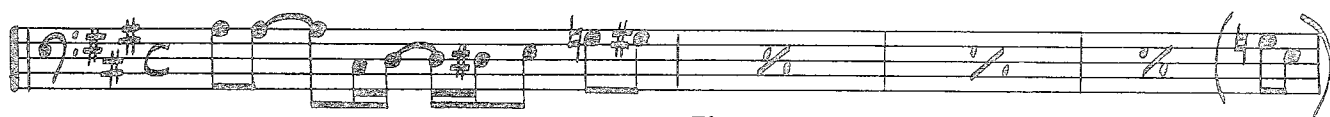




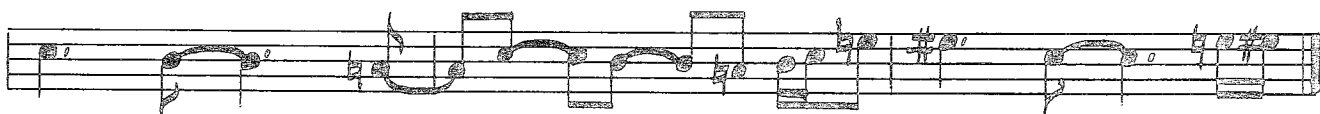
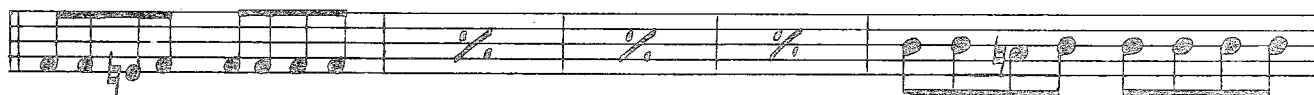






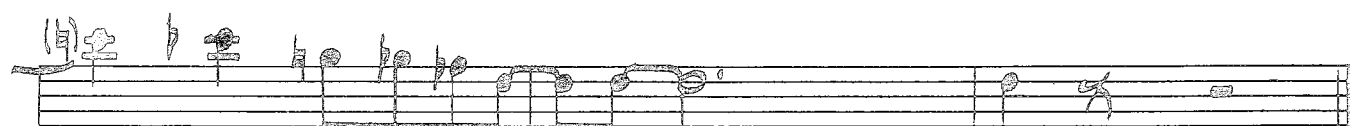
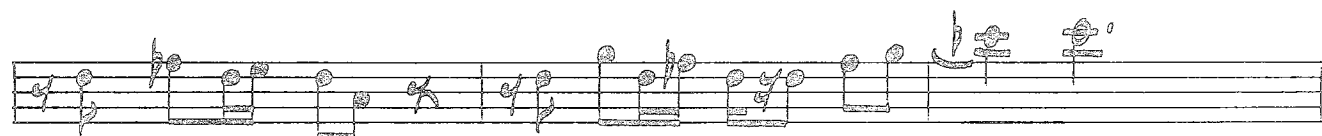
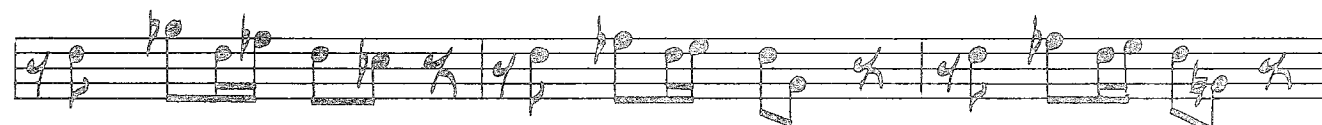
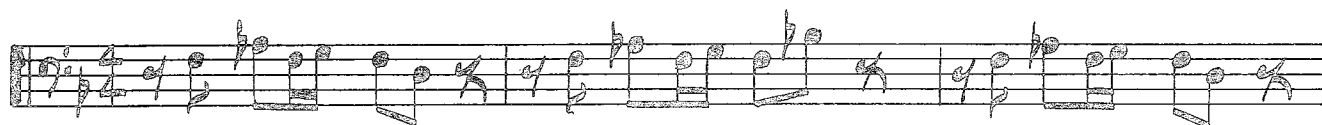
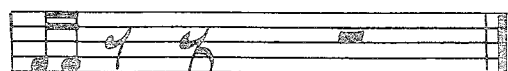


To Coda



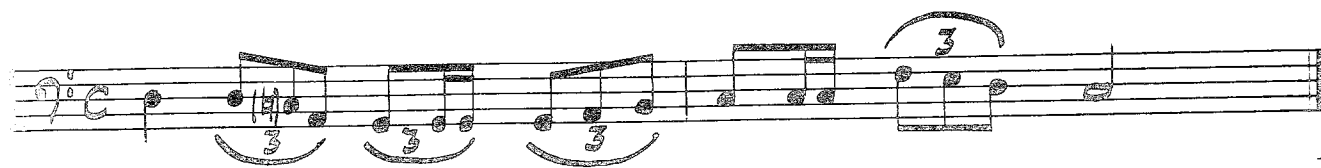
D.C. al coda

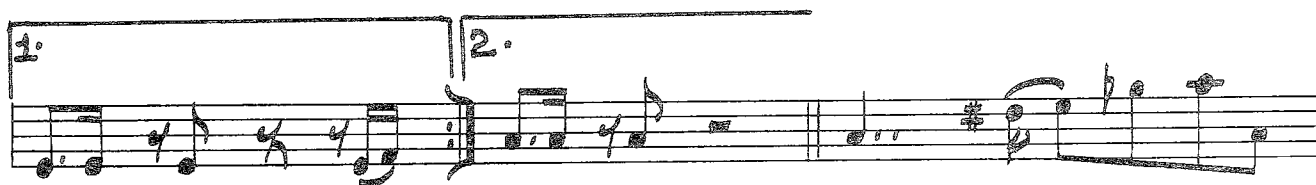
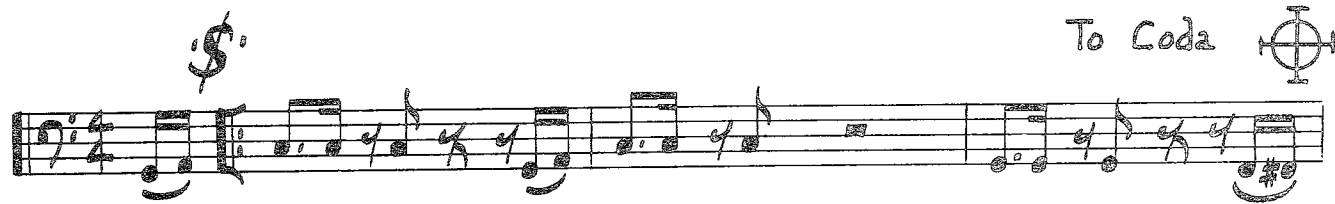
Coda





12 feel
8





Coda



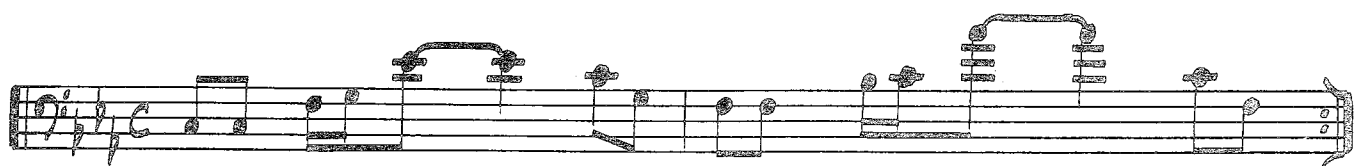
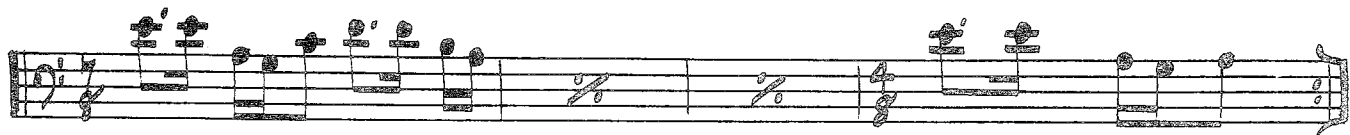
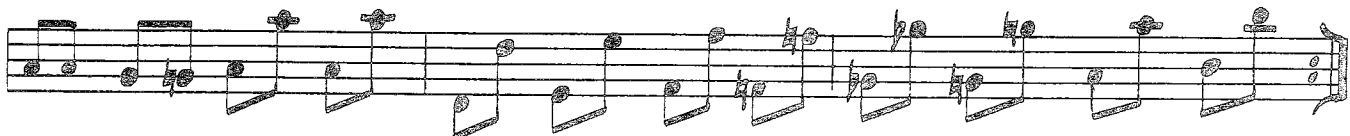
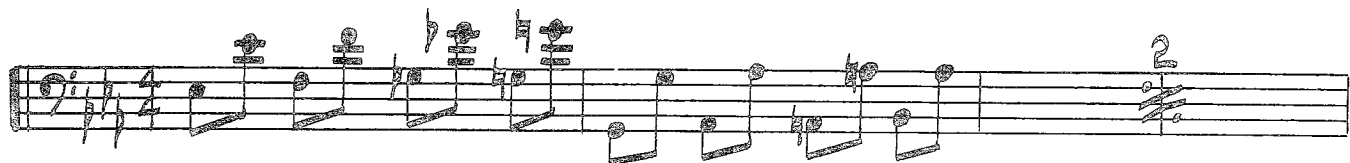
SECTION IV

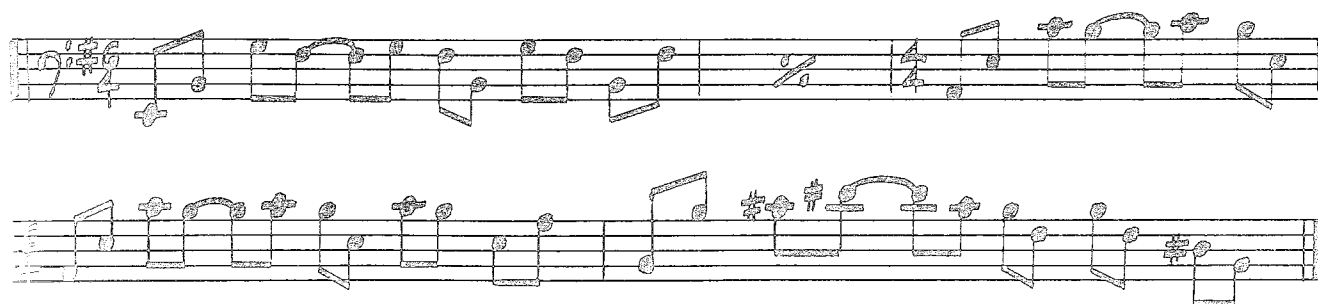
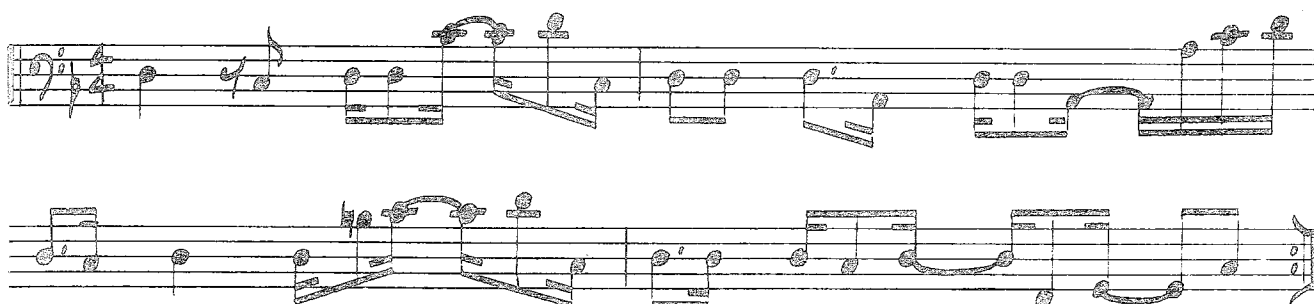
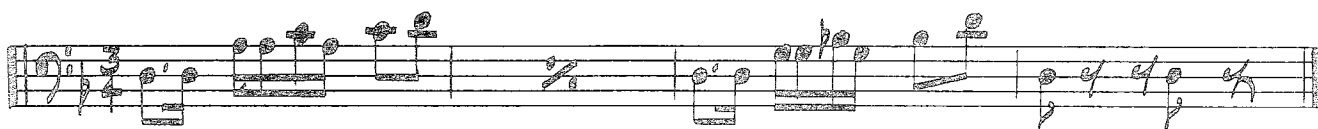
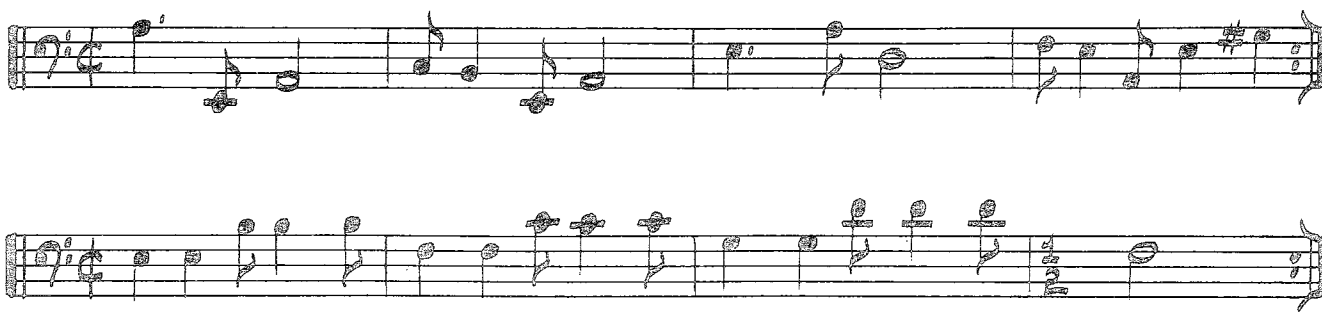
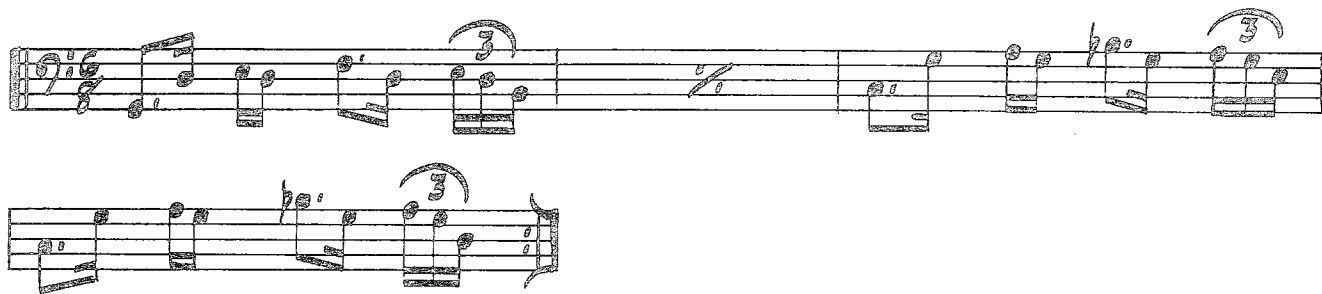
Vamps, Repetitive Phrases Using Moderately Active Rhythms.

$\frac{4}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$

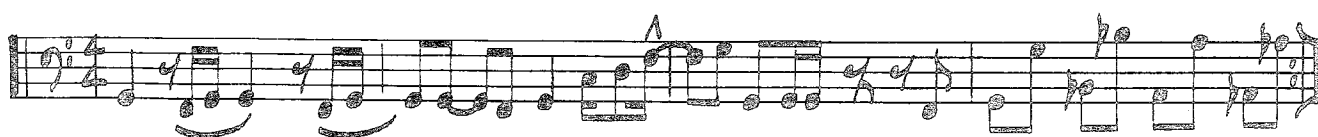
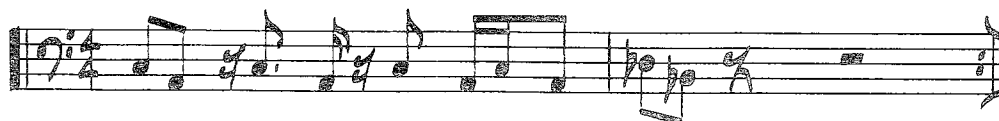
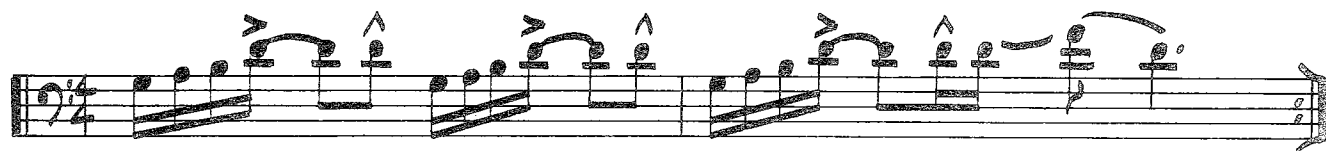
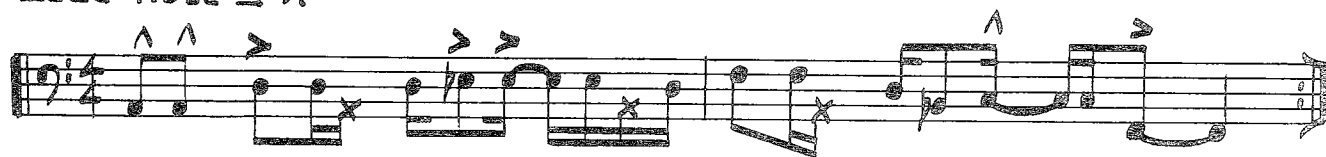
Section IV consists of eight staves of musical notation, each representing a different rhythmic pattern or vamp. The notation is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The time signature is indicated as $\frac{4}{4}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$. The patterns are as follows:

- Staff 1: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.
- Staff 2: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.
- Staff 3: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.
- Staff 4: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.
- Staff 5: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.
- Staff 6: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.
- Staff 7: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.
- Staff 8: A series of eighth notes, starting with a half rest, followed by a sequence of eighth notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4.





Dead Note = x

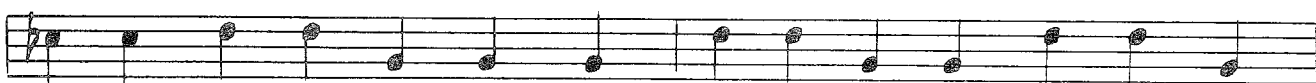
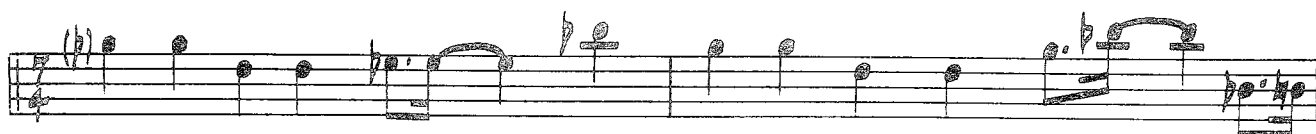
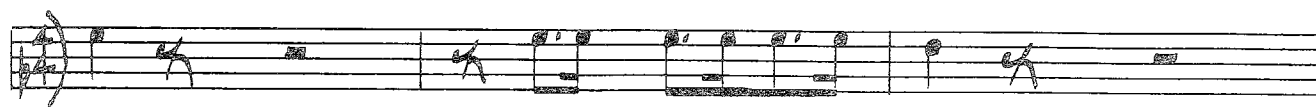




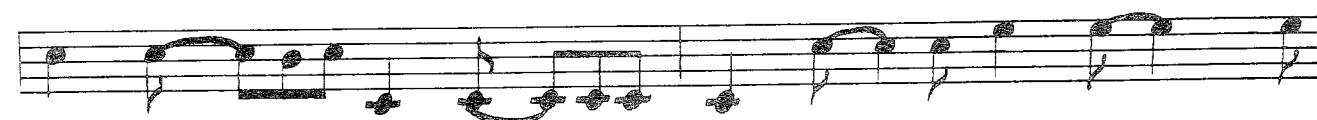
SECTION V

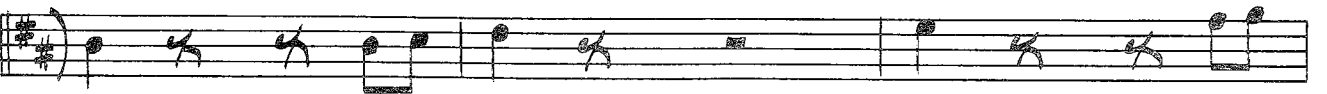
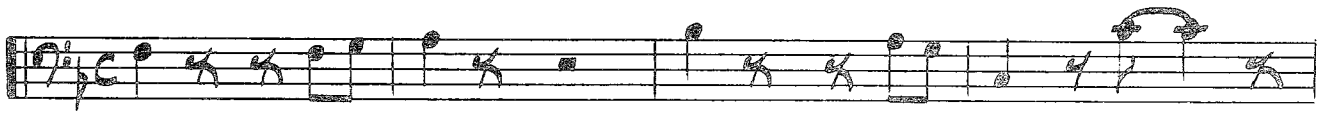
Reading Exercises: Varied Styles of Bass Lines and Rhythms
Found in Professional Performing Situations.

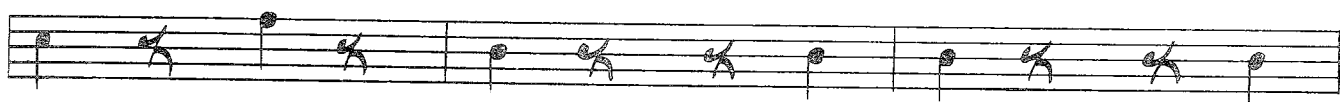
Eight staves of musical notation, each containing a different bass line or rhythm exercise. The exercises are written on a single staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a time signature of 4/4. The exercises include various rhythmic patterns, such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, as well as melodic lines with slurs and ties. The exercises are arranged in a vertical column, with each staff starting on a new line of music.



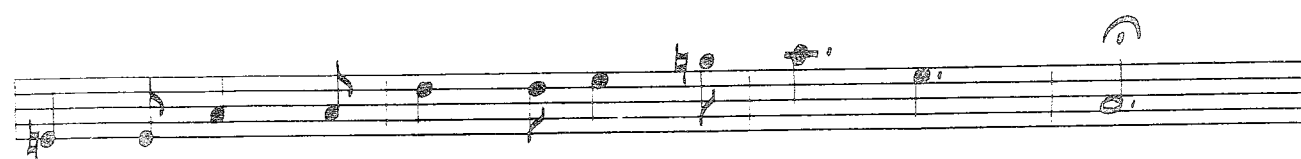
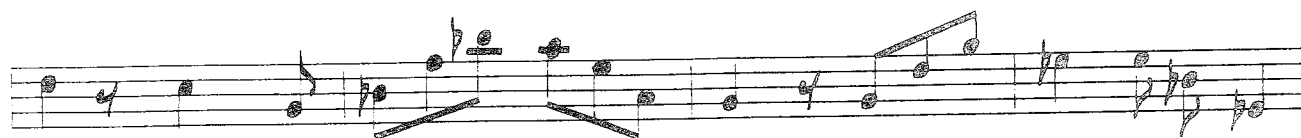
Handwritten musical score on ten staves. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, beams, and accidentals. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The score is written in a fluid, handwritten style.







Ballad



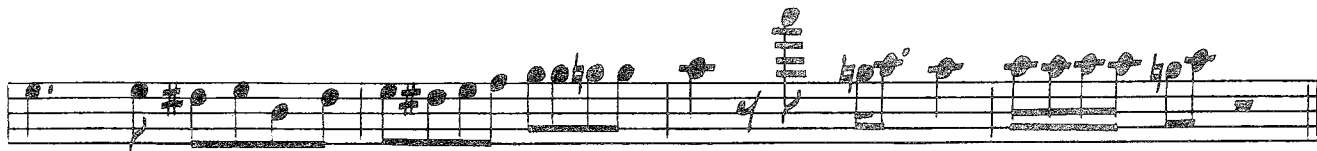
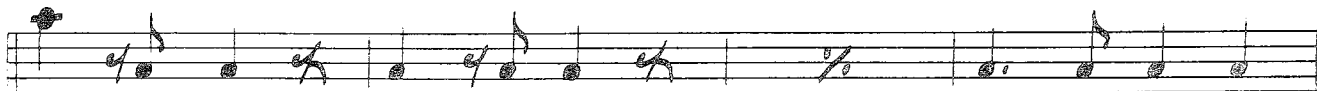
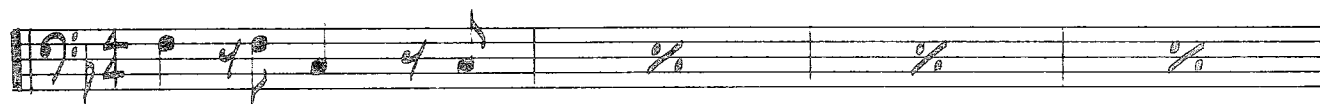


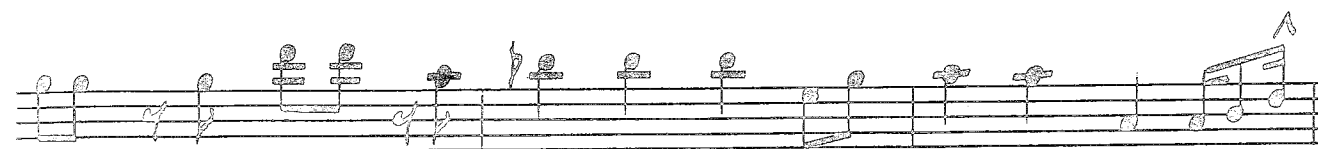
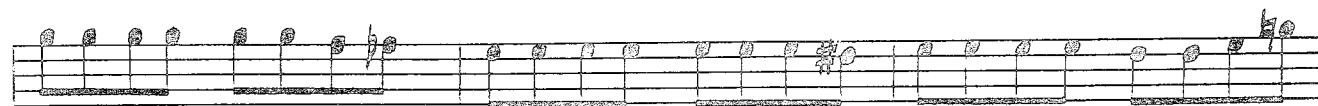
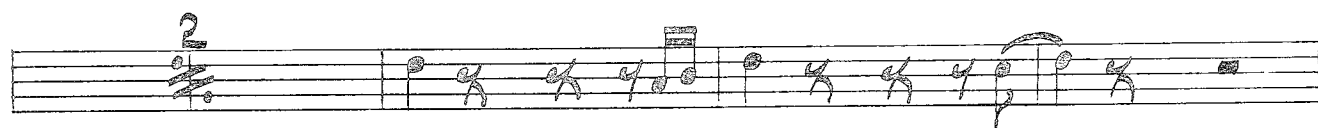
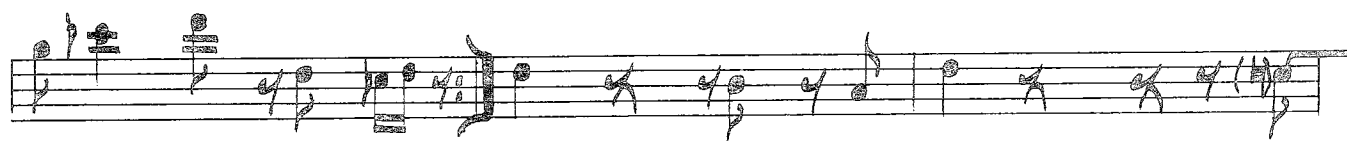
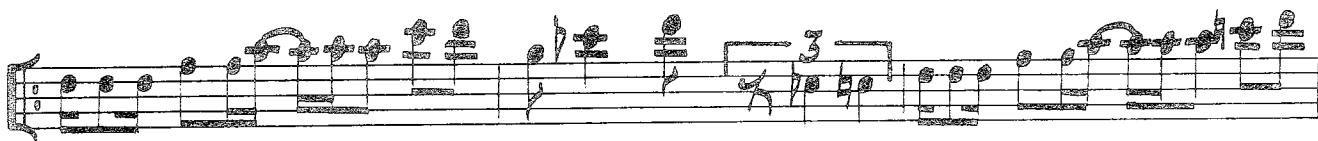


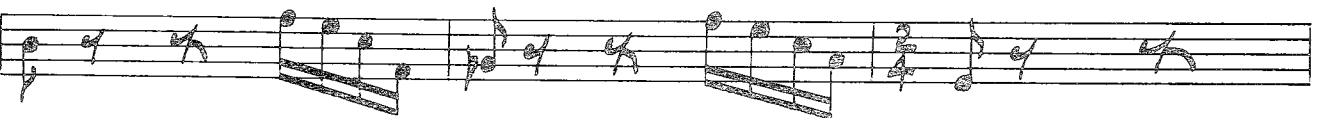
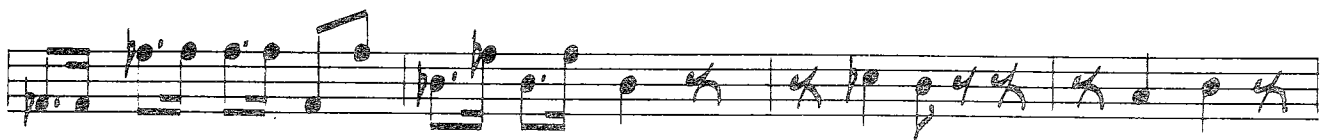
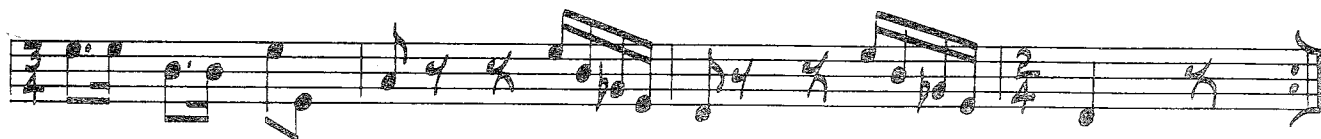




Handwritten musical score on ten staves. The first staff has a treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), and a 4/4 time signature. The notation includes various note values, rests, and accidentals. The second staff begins with a double bar line and a key signature change to one sharp (F#). The third staff continues the melody. The fourth staff features a key signature change to one flat (Bb). The fifth staff has a key signature change to two flats (Bb and Eb). The sixth staff continues with the two-flat key signature. The seventh staff contains several measures with a double bar line and a key signature change to one flat (Bb). The eighth staff continues with the one-flat key signature. The ninth staff shows a key signature change to one sharp (F#). The tenth staff is mostly empty, with a single note in the first measure and a double bar line.

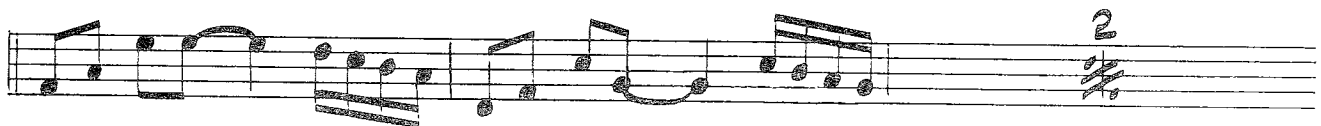






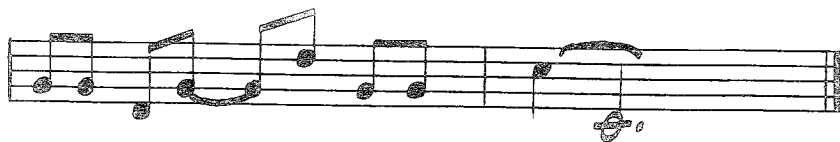
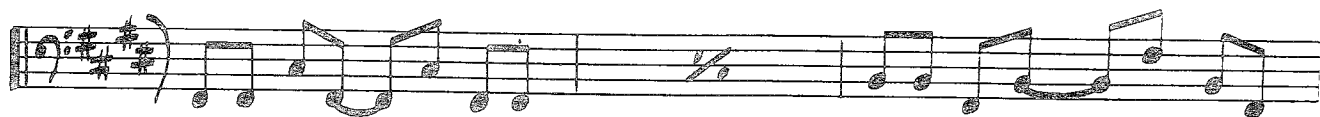


To Coda



D.C. al coda

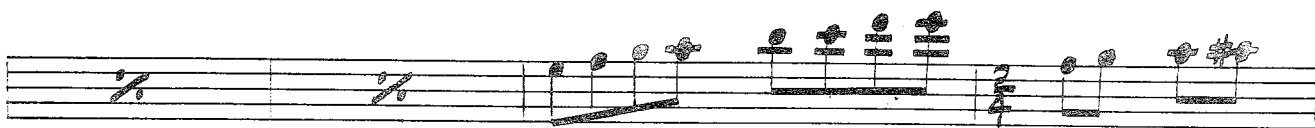
Coda

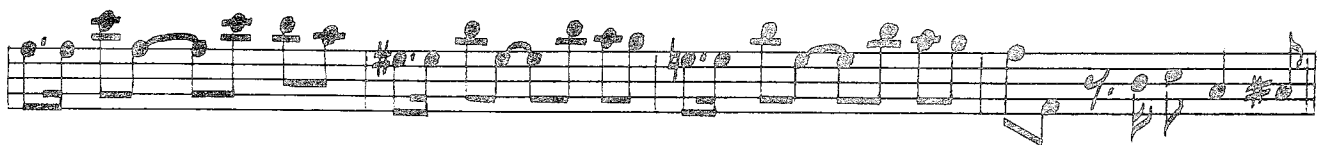
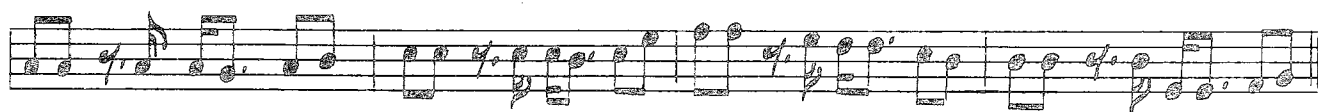
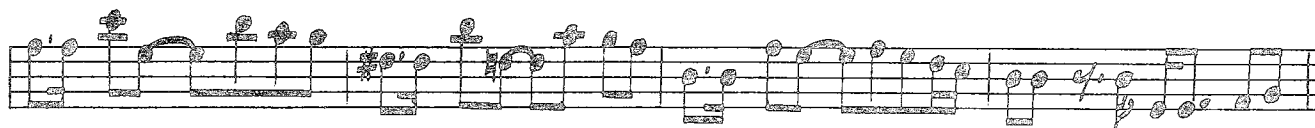


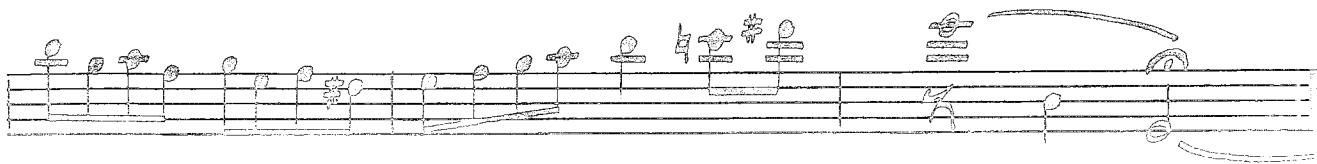
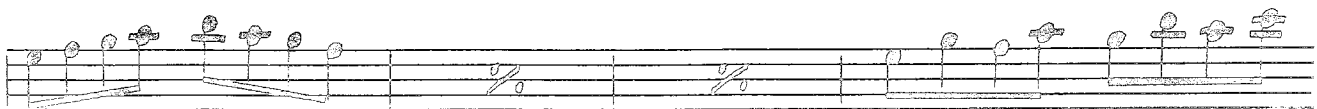
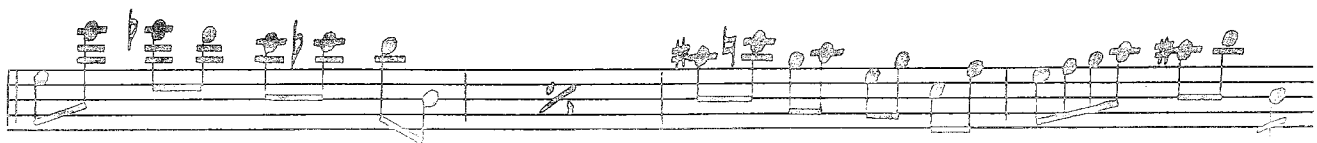
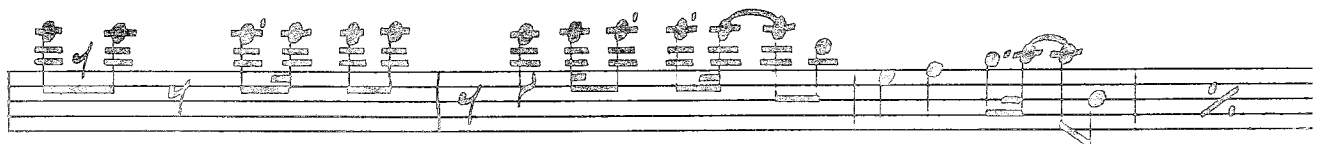
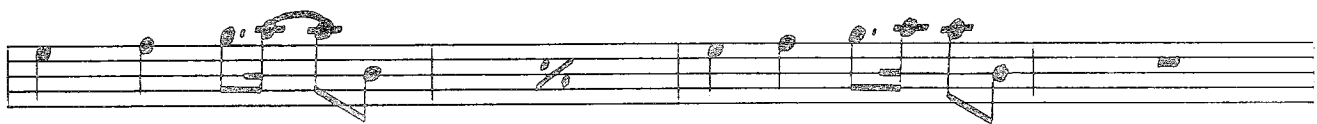




Handwritten musical score on eight staves. The notation includes various notes, rests, and accidentals. The key signature changes from one sharp (F#) to one flat (Bb) in the final system. The last staff includes a bracketed section labeled "4 x's".



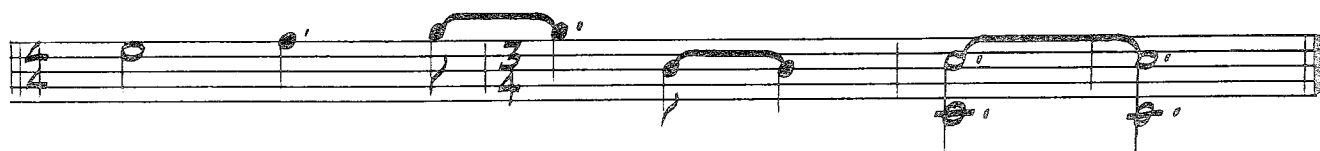




Latin

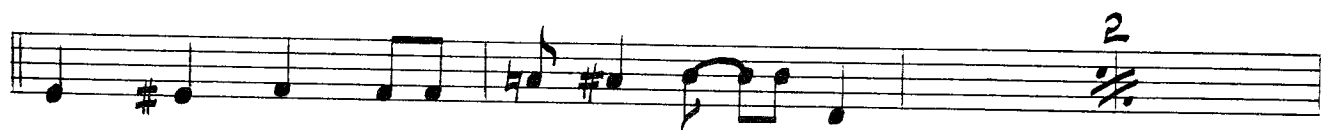




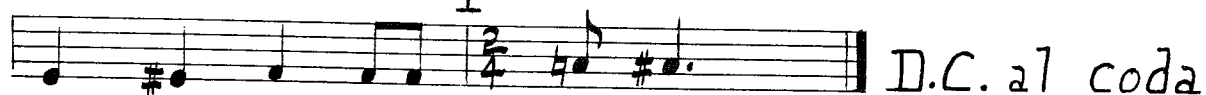








To Coda



Coda



To Coda

D.C. al coda

Coda



A handwritten musical score consisting of ten staves. The notation is in a single system, likely for a single melodic line. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, often beamed together. There are several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' in a circle) and slurs. The handwriting is in black ink on white paper. The staves are numbered 1 through 10 from top to bottom.

