Sounds of Spain

BOOK ONE

Catherine Rollin

Over the years I have had many requests from teachers for more Spanish-style pieces. Two of my solos, NIGHTS IN SPAIN and EL CONQUISTADOR, have been selected for several competitions and festival lists and have received a very enthusiastic response. The pieces are at an intermediate level and very manageable technically, yet they feature expressive melodies and dramatic sections that sound quite difficult and showy. While I had thought of composing a few more pieces in this style, I decided to write an entire collection devoted to Spanish-style pieces after giving a workshop in Oklahoma. A teacher there described her students' successful performances of these two solos so effusively that I was convinced of the need for more pieces like them. Once I started working on ideas for a new collection, many pieces evolved and it was rewarding exploring the different elements that make up the colorful Spanish music tradition. Soon these ideas grew into two new collections!

In these pieces I have tried to include the diverse and colorful sounds of Spain. Listen for the rolled chords and plucked staccatos that emulate the guitar. There are strong dance rhythms that emanate from the many dance forms that influence Spanish music, including Flamenco and Tango. The expressive melodies have harmonies that reflect the Moorish presence that permeates Spanish music.

My hope is that these pieces will elicit expressive, rhythmical and dramatic performances from those who play them. Most importantly, however, *por favor disfrutenlo* (please enjoy)!

Catherine Rollin

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7 Colorful Early Intermediate to Intermediate Piano Solos in Spanish Styles

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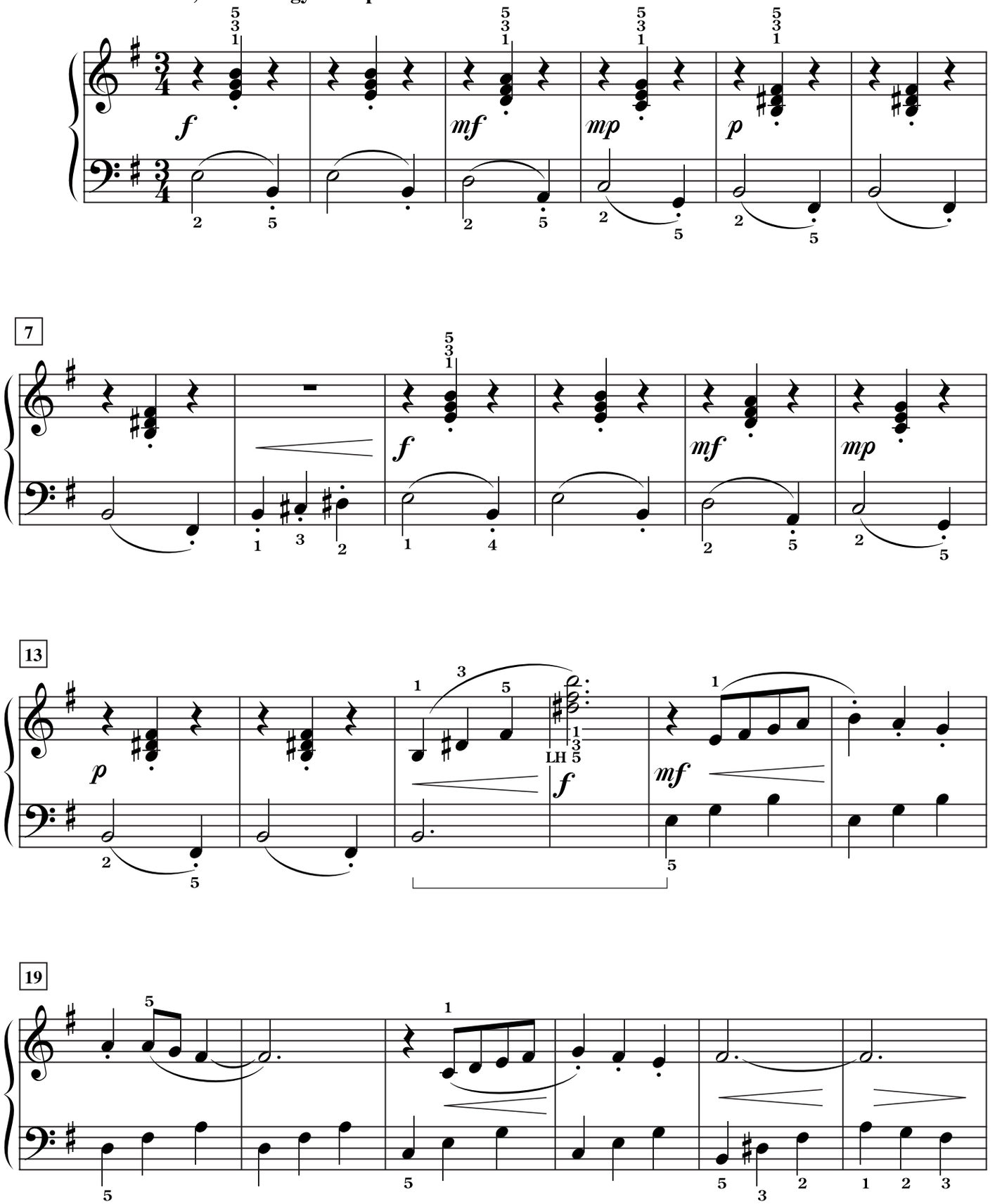
Alfred

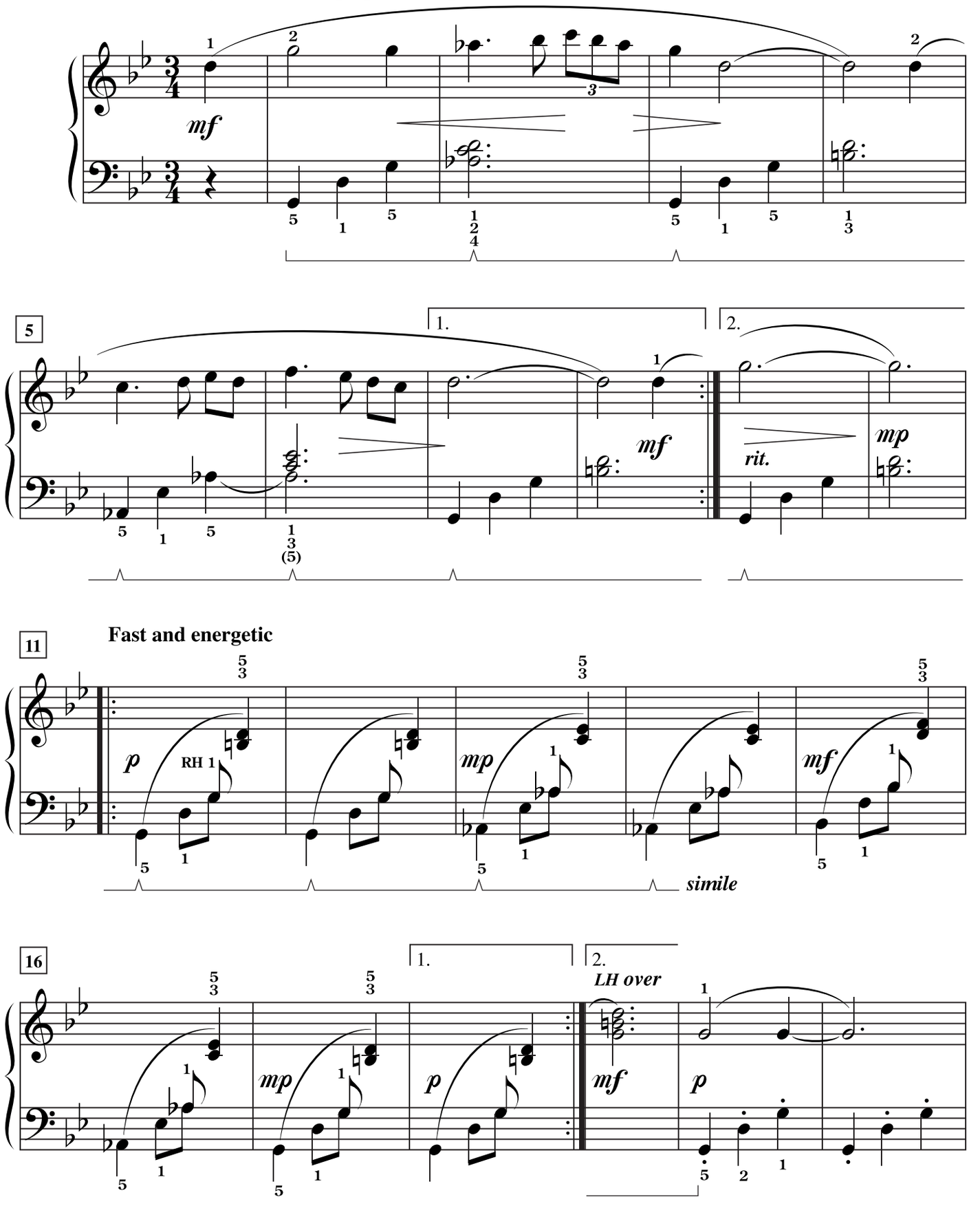
Fire Dance

Catherine Rollin

Fast, with energy and spirit



The Matador

Fairly slow and singing, with expressive freedom

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