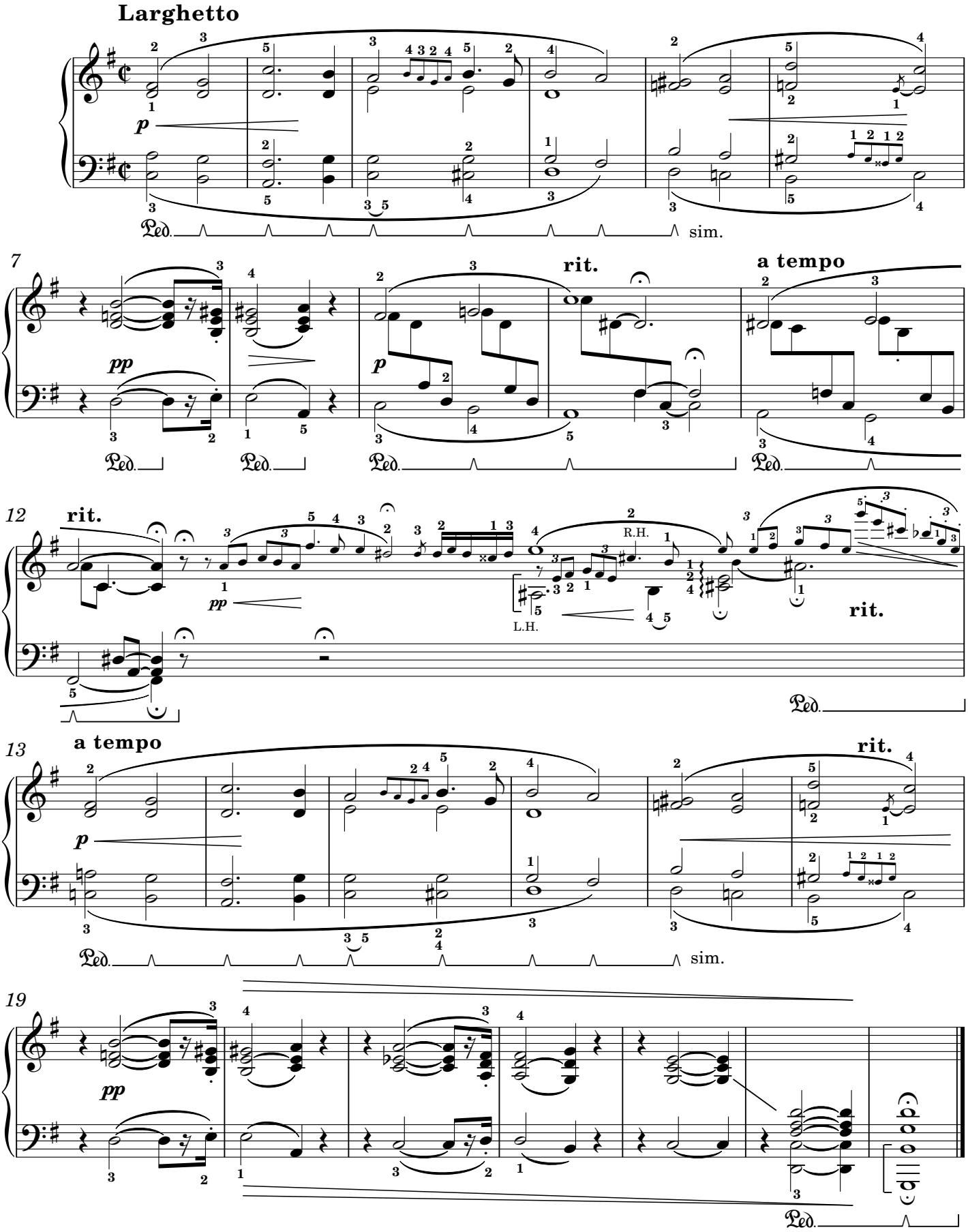
Robert SCHUMANN (1810-1856)

Der Dichter spricht, No 13 from *Kinderszenen* Op 15

INTERMEDIATE

Schumann speaks directly to the listener in the finale of his *Kinderszenen* cycle, rather as Beethoven does with his own introduction to Schiller's *Ode to Joy* in the finale of the Ninth Symphony. Schumann often talked of music as a language and, by extension, of himself as a poet. 'The poet's eye is the most beautiful and richest; I do not take objects as they are, but just as I perceive them subjectively within me, and so one lives more easily and freely.' Try to create a beautiful singing tone, with an emphasis on the top melody notes. There's lots to absorb here, in terms of phrasing, articulation and changes of tempo.