IN BOUNDS

For solo piano

By Evan Ziporyn

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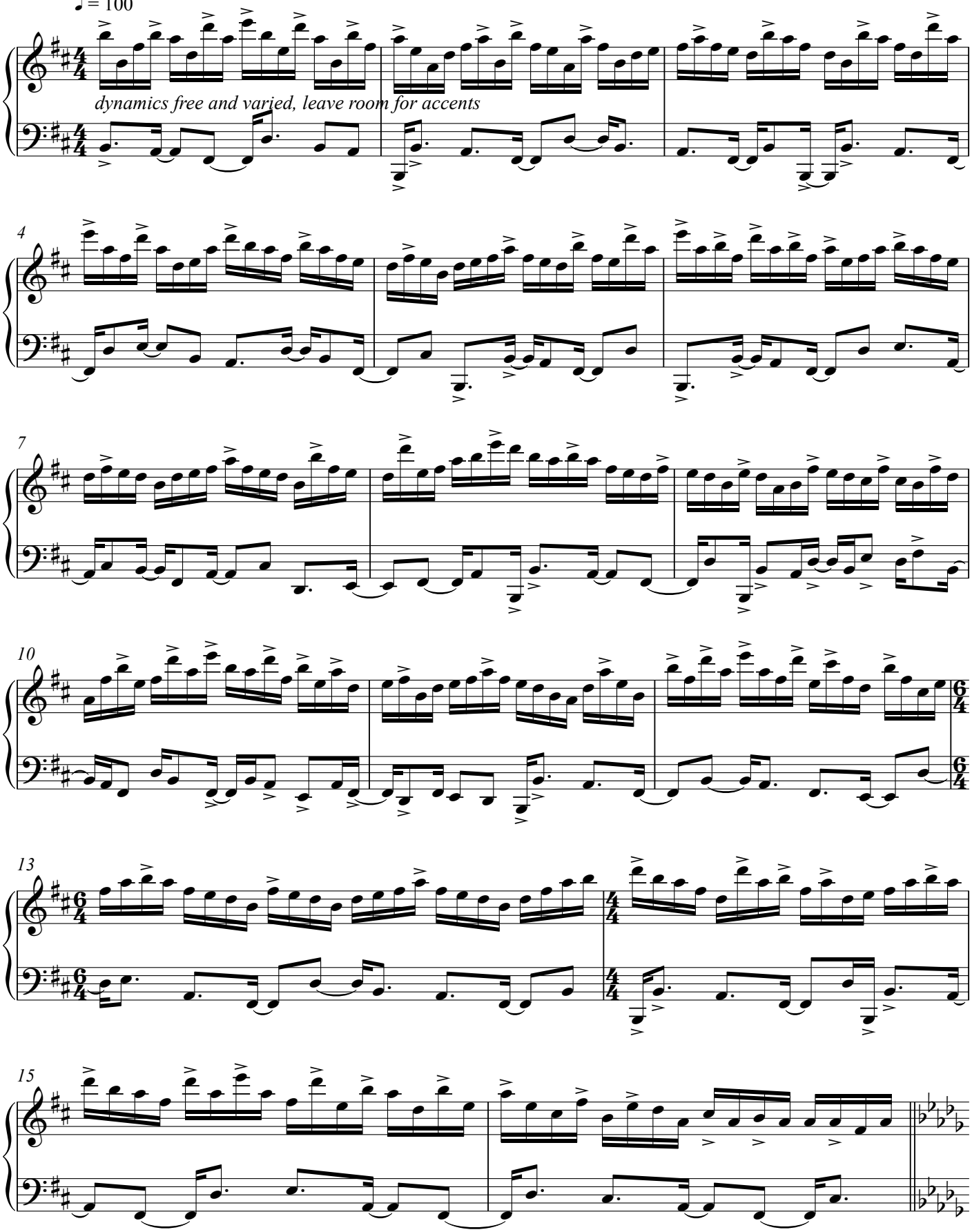
Length: 10 minutes!

Program notes by the composer:
In Bounds was written for Cristina Valdes in the summer of 2004, more or less on a dare. Cristina joined the Bang on a Can All-stars for a US tour that spring, and I was immediately struck by her vividness of her playing. It brought to mind an amazing performance of the Schumann Toccata I had heard 20 years earlier by the great (and now, sadly, recently deceased) Berkeley pianist Barbara Shearer. She made the piano vibrate with such controlled hysteria that one feared the hall itself might collapse. My goal was to channel a similar energy through a very different rhetoric. Cristina planned to premiere the piece in Havana; with this in mind, its initial rhythms (soon obscured) come from *santeria*. But bureaucracy intervened: the first performance was in El Salvador instead.

for Cristina Valdes

In Bounds

Evan Ziporyn

♩ = 100

dynamics free and varied, leave room for accents