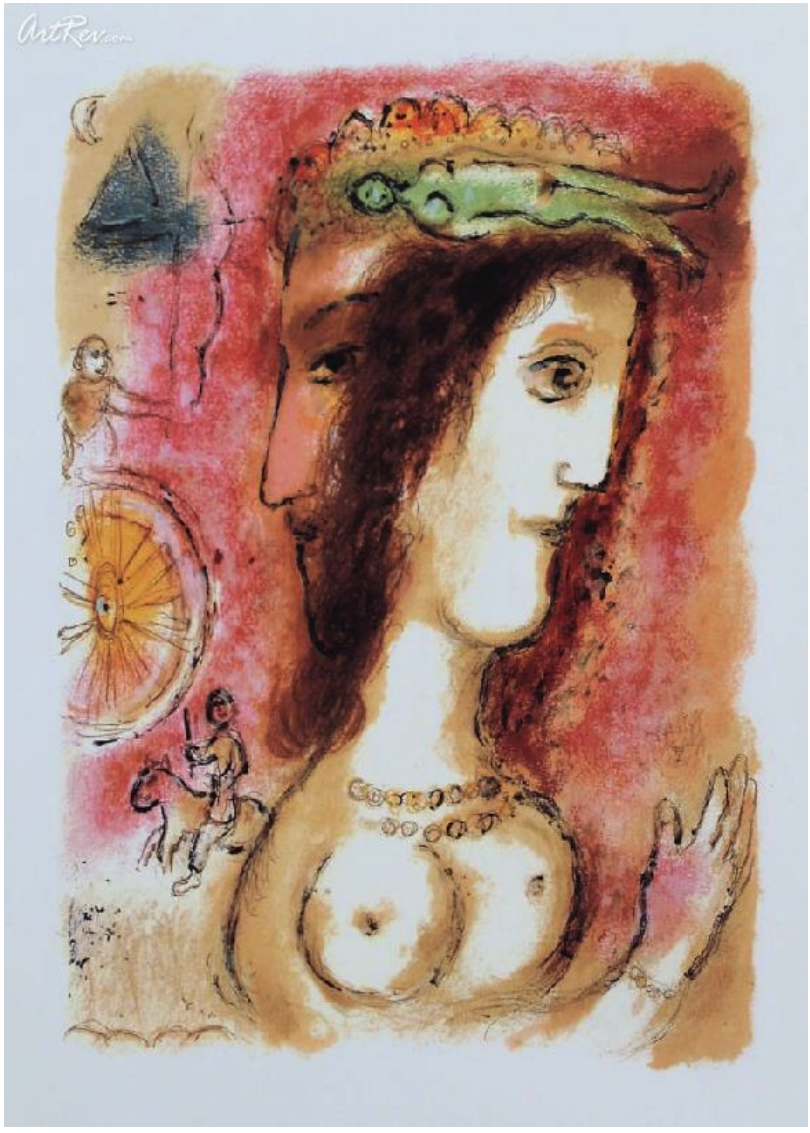
John Frandsen

PENELOPEIA



String quartet #3

Commissioned by
Rønnebæksholm

supported by
Danish Arts Foundation

Dur.: 12 min.
October 2015

www.johnfrandsen.eu

PENELOPEIA

Penelopeia (eller Penelope) var ifølge græsk mytologi datter af Ikaros og gift med Odysseus. Under Odysseus' 20 år lange sørejse blev hun hjemme på øen Ithaka, hvor hun tålmodigt ventede på sin mand og stod for opdragelsen af deres søn Telemachos.

Penelopeia var attraktiv og ombejlet; men hun var urokkelig i sin troskab mod Odysseus. Sine mange bejlere holdt hun hen med list: først når ligklædet til hendes svigerfar Laërtes var vævet færdigt, ville hun gifte sig igen. Hun vævede flittigt hver dag, men om natten trevlede hun dagens arbejde op igen.

Til sidst blev hun afsløret af en af sine slavinder, men til alt held vendte Odysseus hjem netop på samme tid, og efter en drabelig kamp med alle bejlerne genforenedes han med sin trofaste hustru.

Denne kvartet forsøger at fange nogle af de følelser og stemninger, der må have behersket Penelopeia i alle disse mange år: Længsel. Uro. Uvished. Tvivl. Rastløshed. En dagligdag opfyldt af en underligt nytteløs flid og aktivitet uden andet reelt formål end det at holde sig selv og omverdenen hen.

According to Greek mythology PENELOPEIA (or Penelope) was daughter of Ikaros and married to Ulysses. During Ulysses' 20 years of voyage she stayed back home on the island Ithaka, patiently waiting for her husband while raising their son Telemachos.

She was an attractive woman and lots of young men wooed her. But she was firm in her faith towards Ulysses. Her many suitors were kept away by a cheat: she declared that she would only merry again after having finished a woven shroud for Laërtes, her father-in-law. She worked hard on the fabric every day, but at night she unraveled all the day's work.

Finally her cheat was revealed by one of her servants, but fortunately Ulysses returned back at the same moment. After a heroic fight against all the suitors, he and Penelopeia were happily reunited.

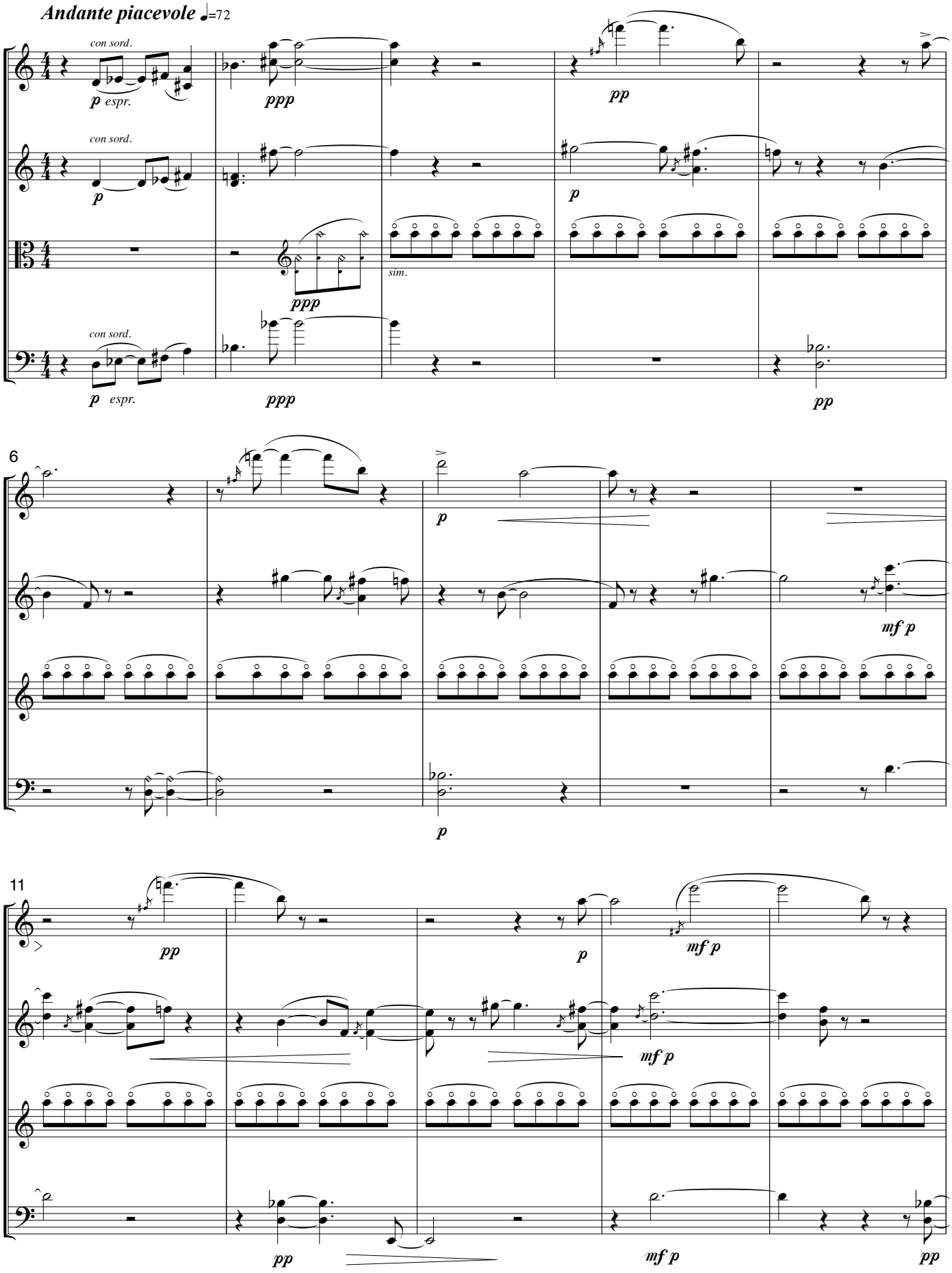
This string quartet attempts to capture some of the emotions and moods that must have filled Penelopeia through all these yaers. Longing. Unrest. Uncertainty. Doubt. A dayly life occupied by a strange useless diligence and activity with no other purpose than keeping yourself and your surroundings at a distance.

John Frandsen

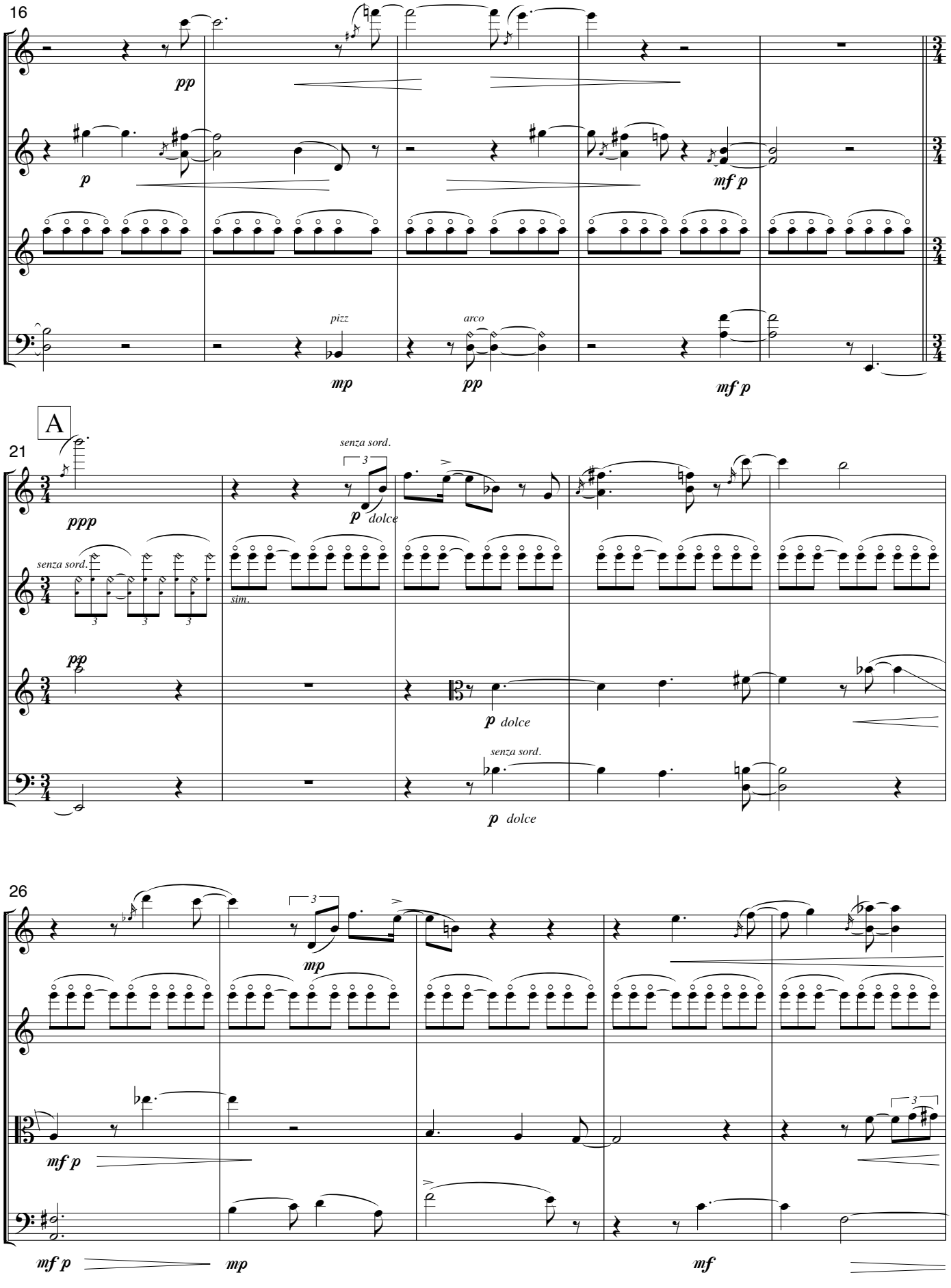
PENELOPEIA

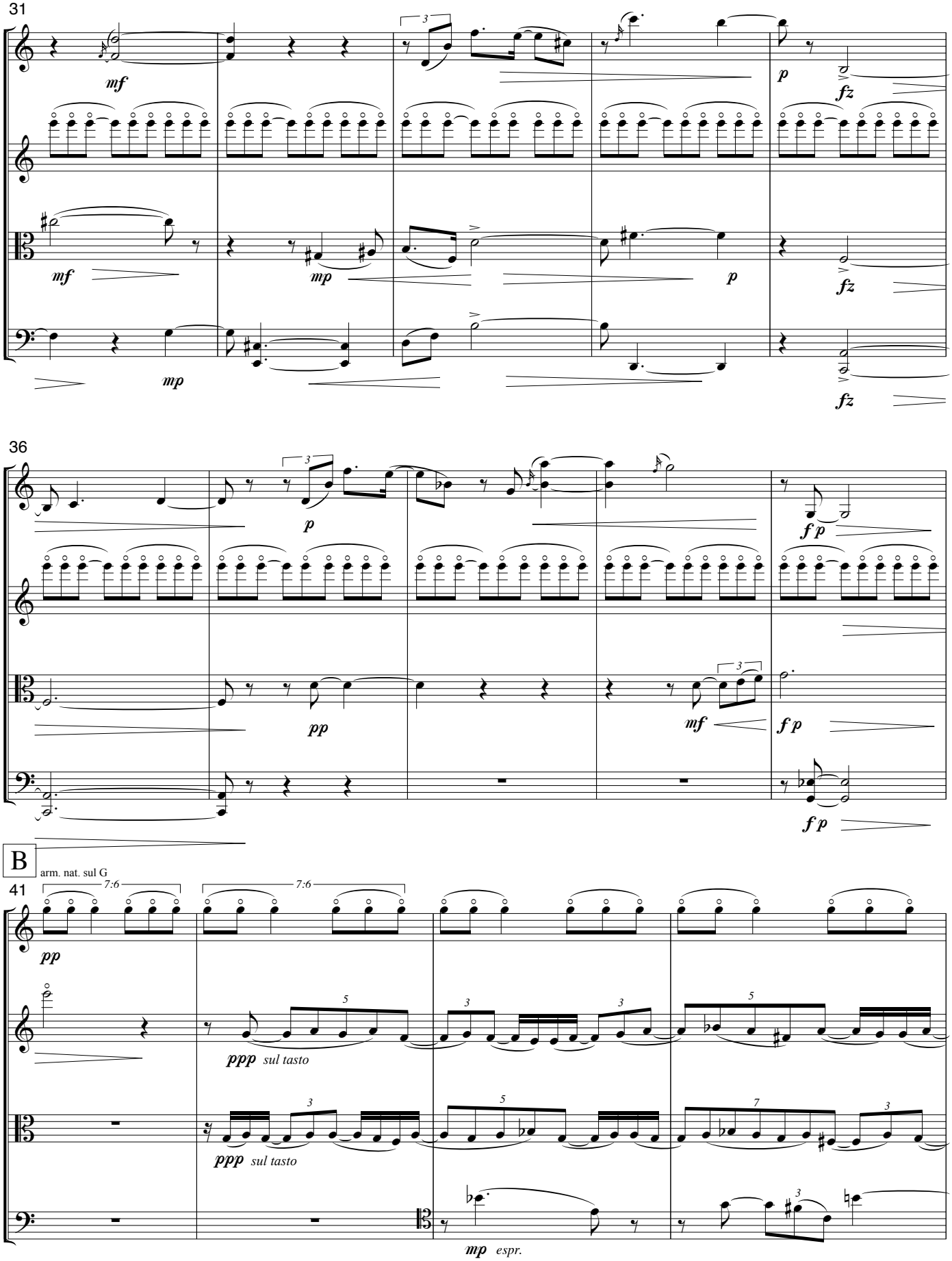
String quartet #3

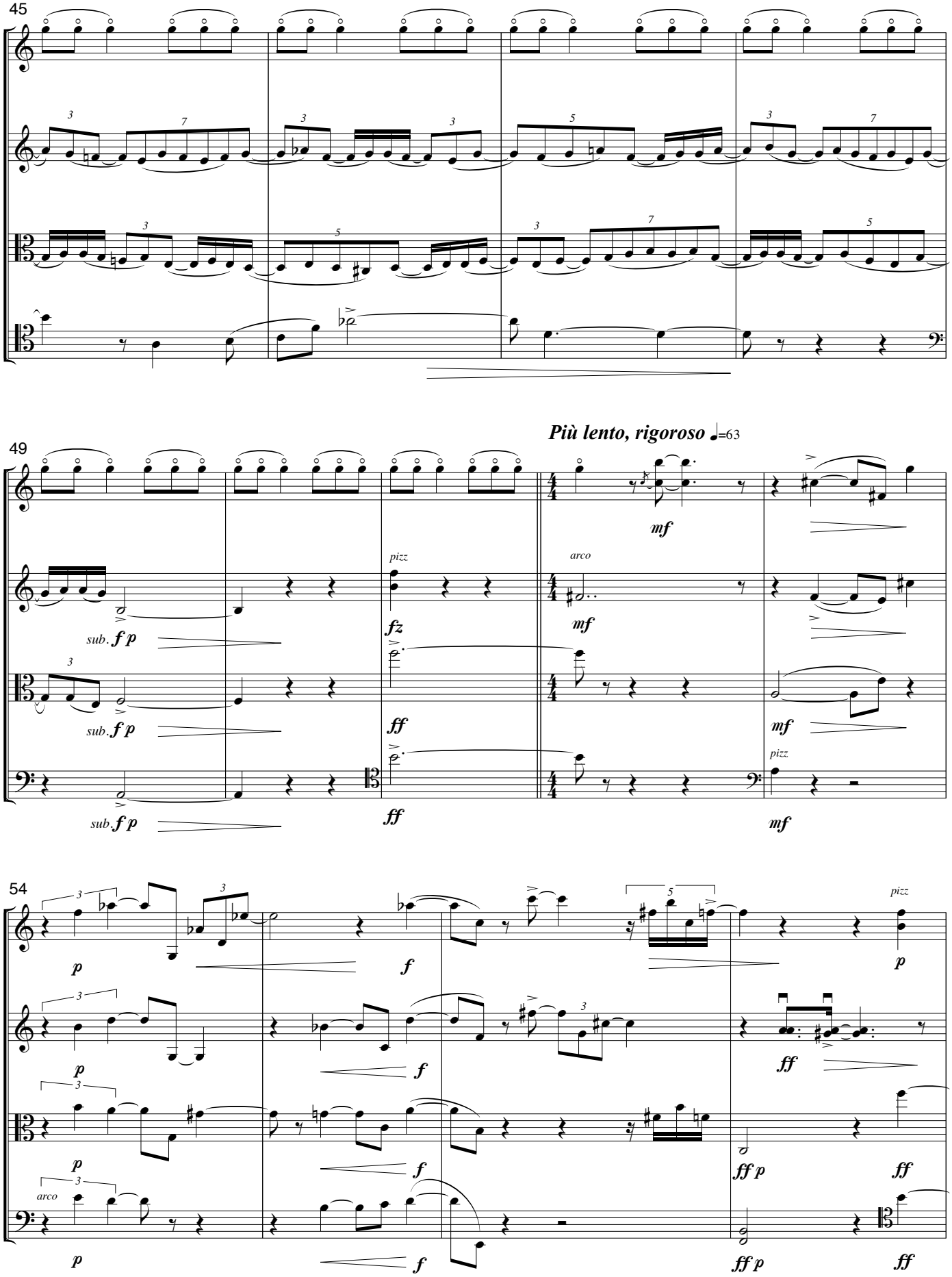
John Frandsen, 2015

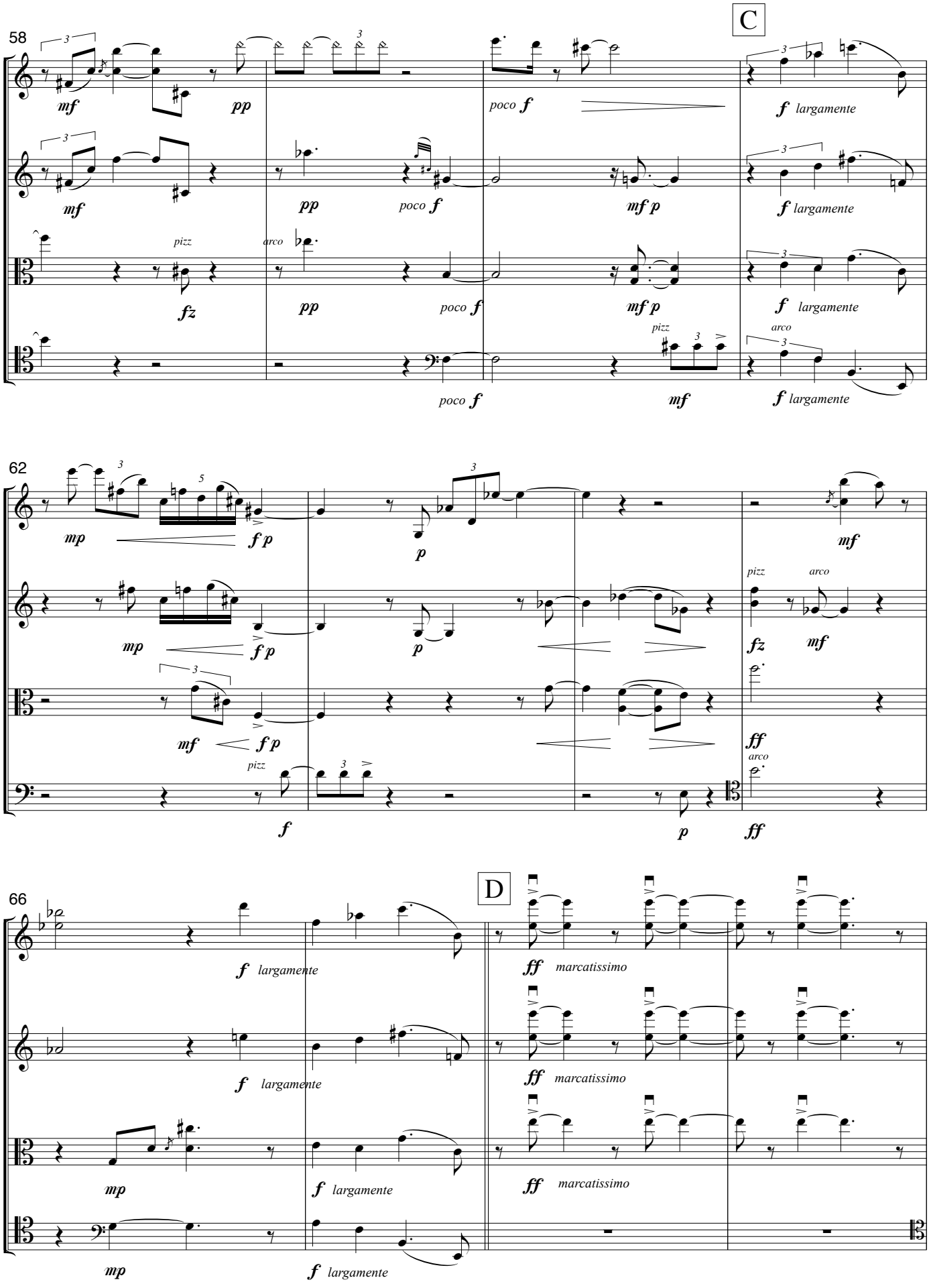


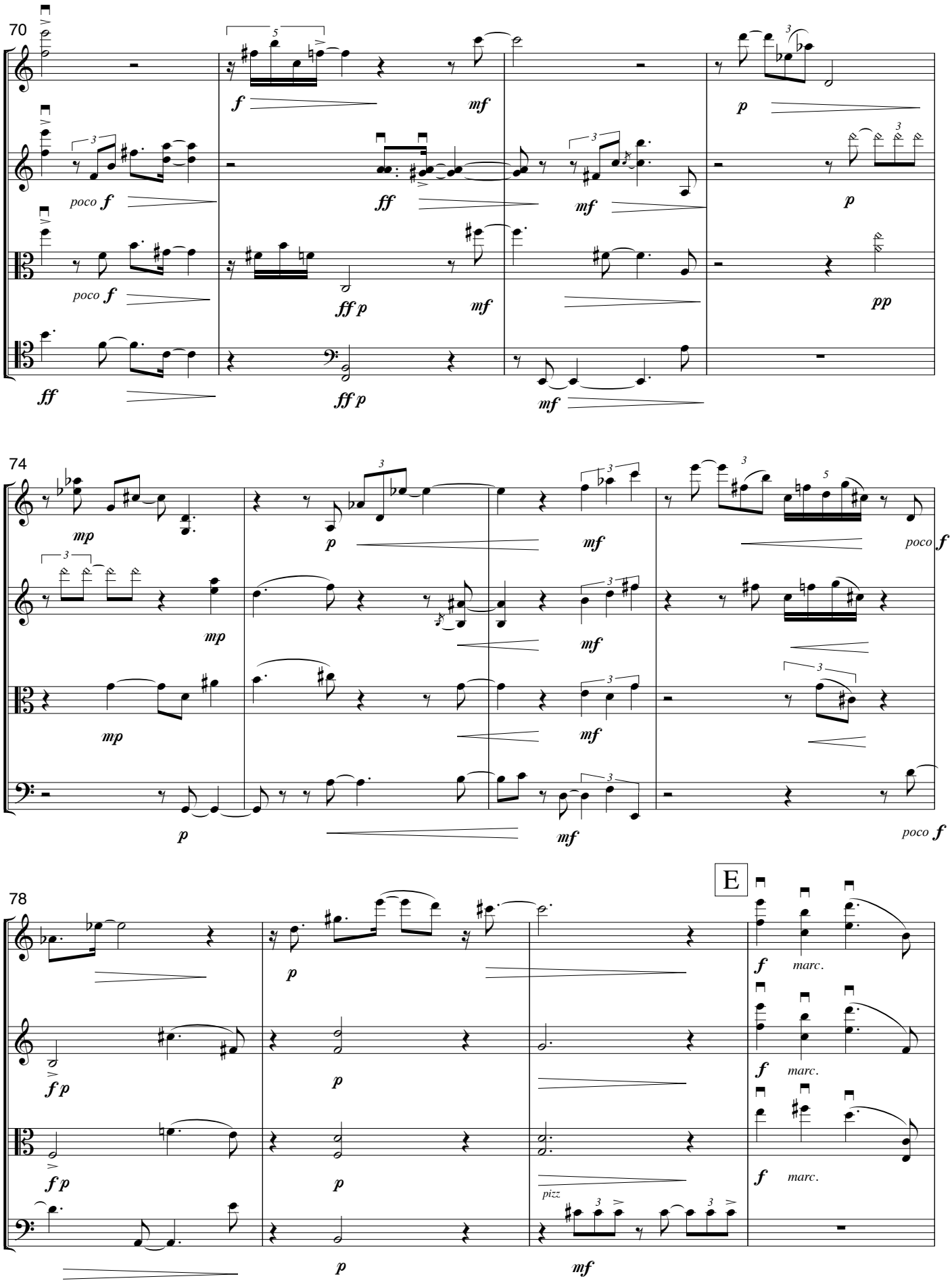
© 2015
www.johnfrandsen.eu

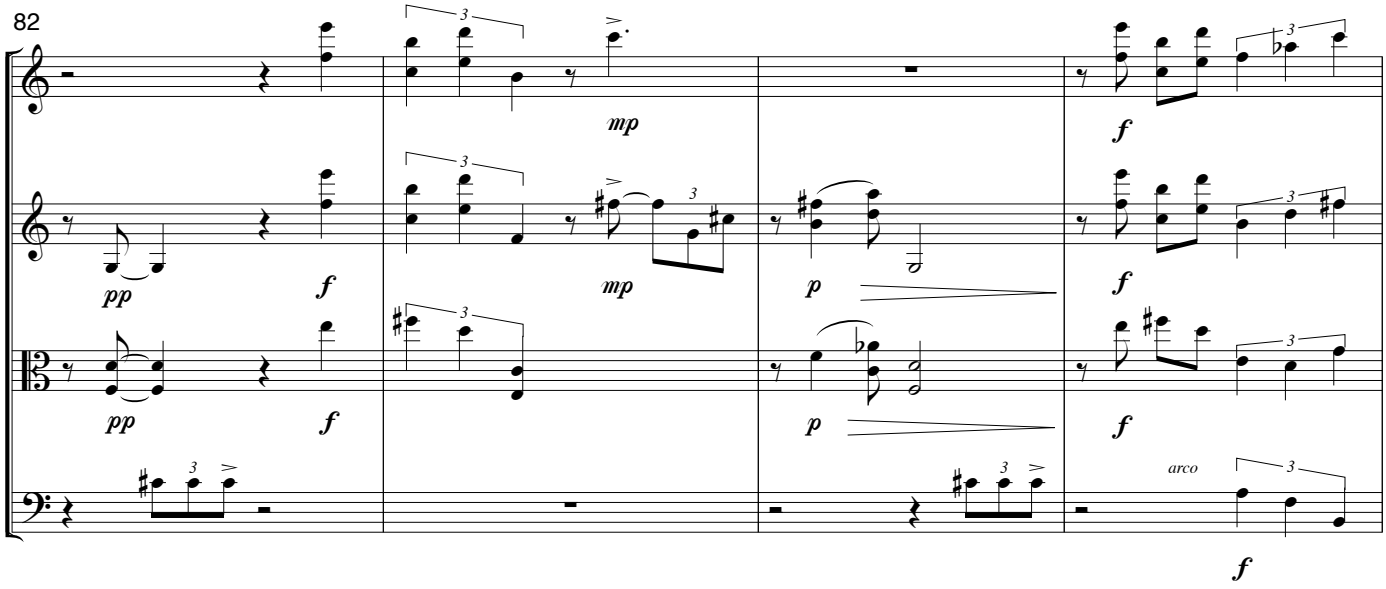

16
pp
p
mf p
pizz
mp
arco
pp
mf p
A
21
senza sord.
ppp
p dolce
senza sord.
sim.
pp
p dolce
senza sord.
p dolce
26
mp
mf p
mf p
mp
mf

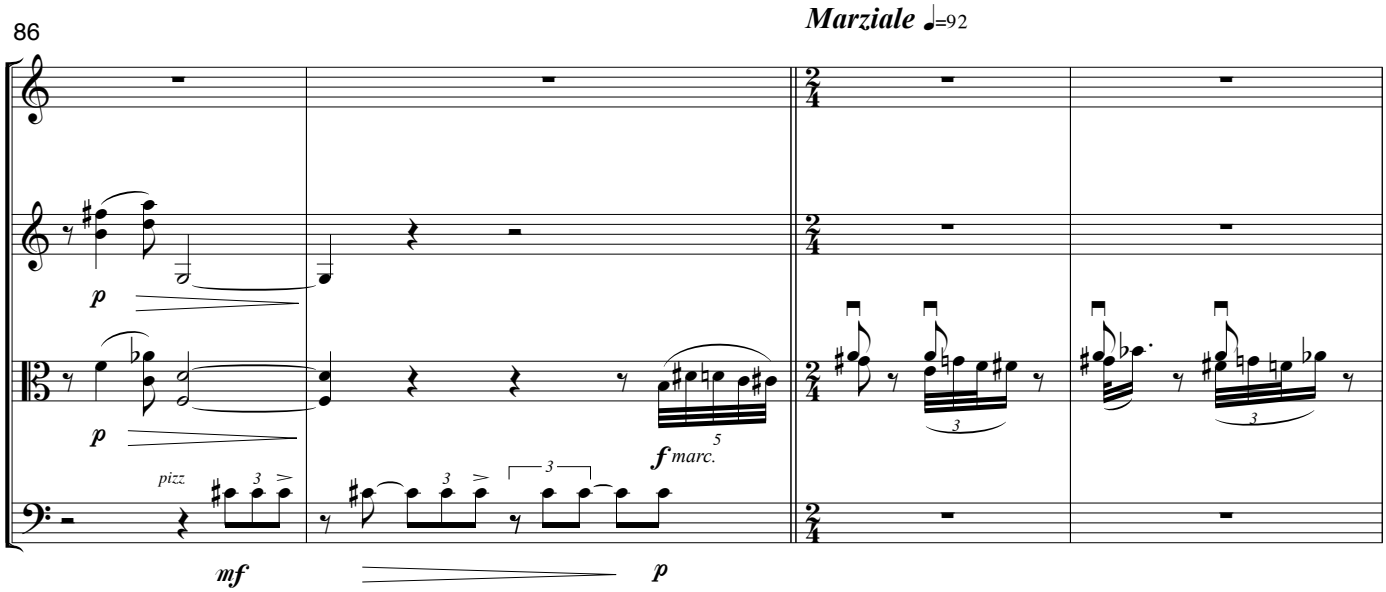

31
mf
mf
mp
mp
p
fz
fz
fz
36
p
pp
mf
f p
f p
f p
B
arm. nat. sul G
41
7:6
7:6
pp
ppp sul tasto
ppp sul tasto
mp espr.

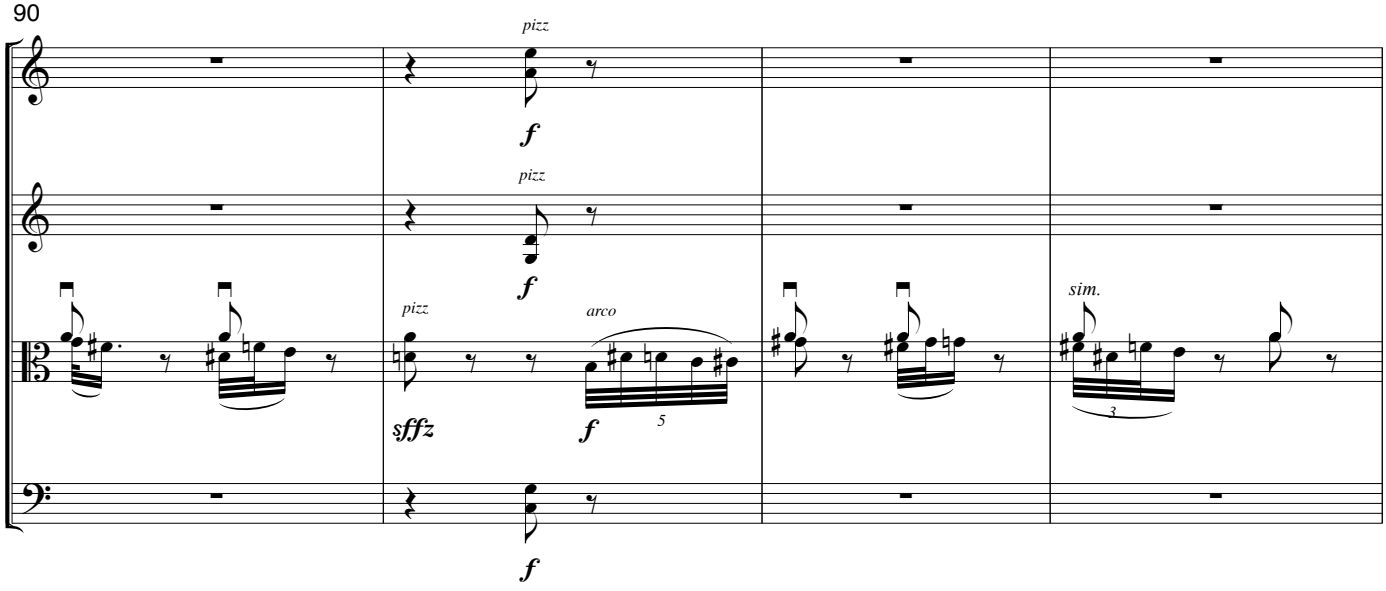

45
Più lento, rigoroso ♩=63
49
sub. f p
sub. f p
sub. f p
pizz
fz
ff
ff
arco
mf
mf
mf
mf
pizz
54
p
p
p
p
f
f
f
f
ff
ff p
ff p
ff
ff
pizz
arco


58
C
mf
pp
poco f
f largamente
mf
pp
poco f
mf p
f largamente
pizz
arco
fz
pp
poco f
mf p
f largamente
pizz
arco
poco f
mf
f largamente
62
mp
f p
p
mf
mp
f p
p
pizz
arco
fz
mf
mf
f p
pizz
ff
arco
f
p
ff
66
D
f largamente
ff marcatissimo
f largamente
ff marcatissimo
mp
f largamente
ff marcatissimo
mp
f largamente

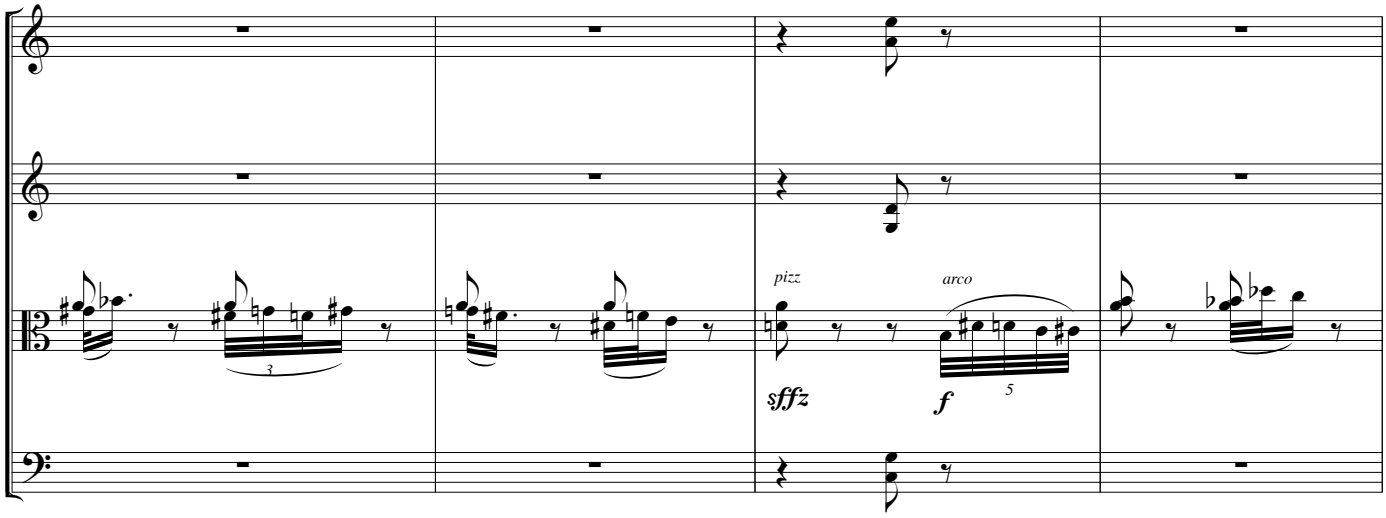

70
poco f
f
mf
ff
p
ff p
pp
74
mp
poco f
78
E
marc.
pizz


82
mp
pp
f
mp
p
f
arco

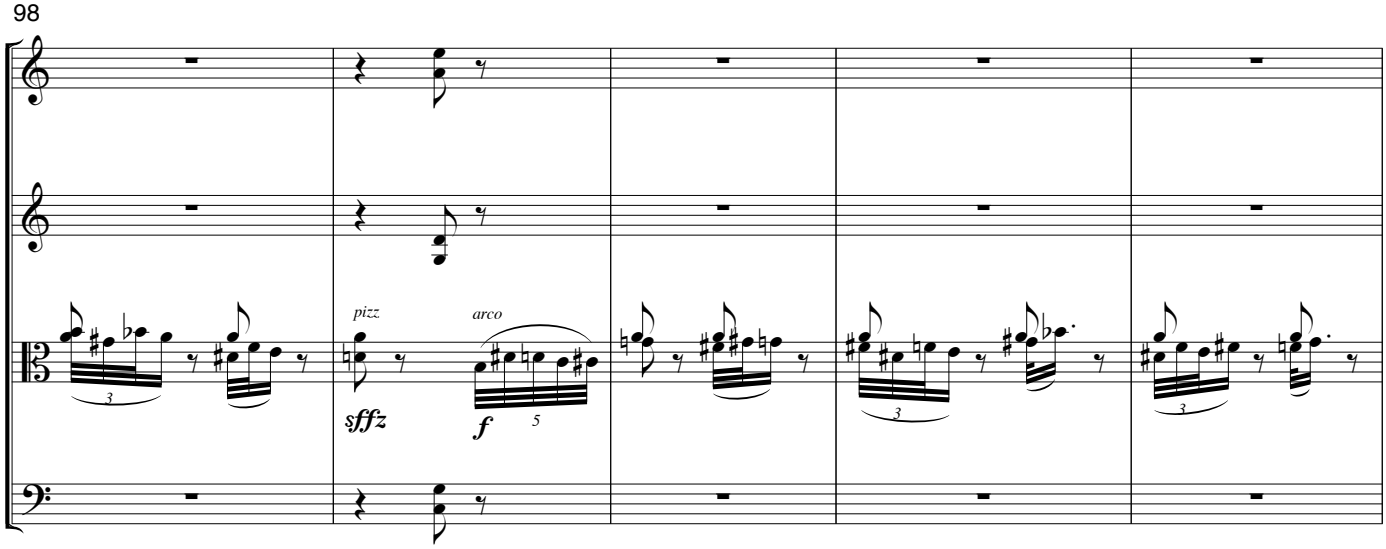

Marziale ♩=92
86
p
f marc.
pizz
mf
p


90
pizz
f
sffz
arco
sim.

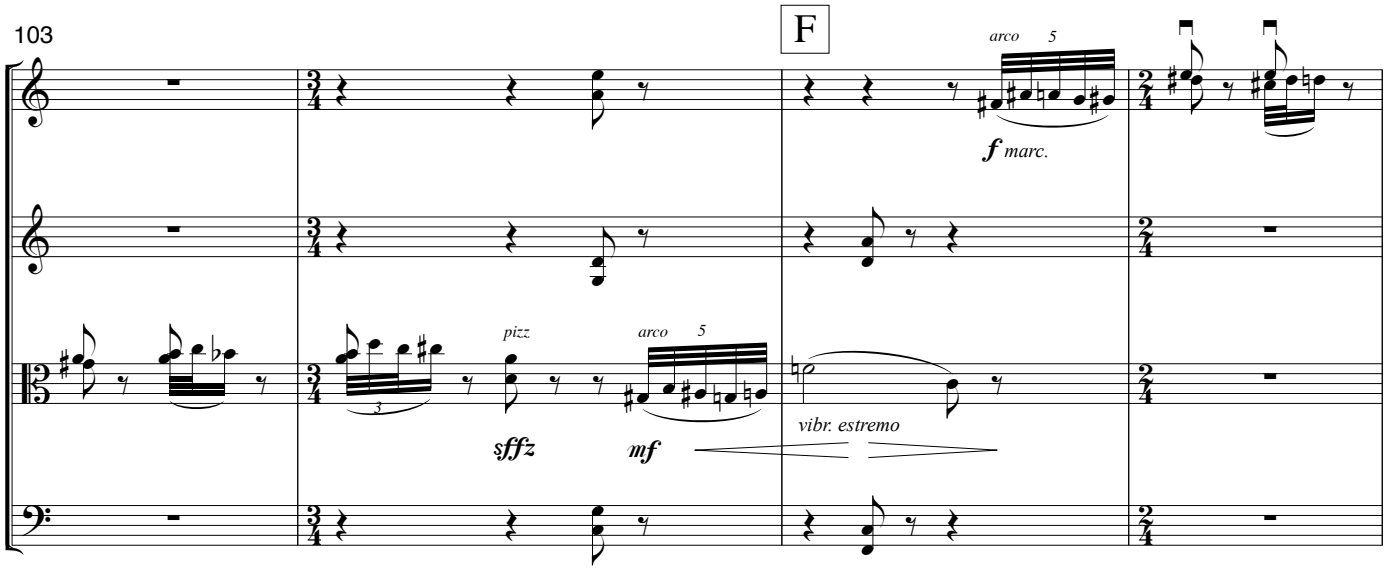
94

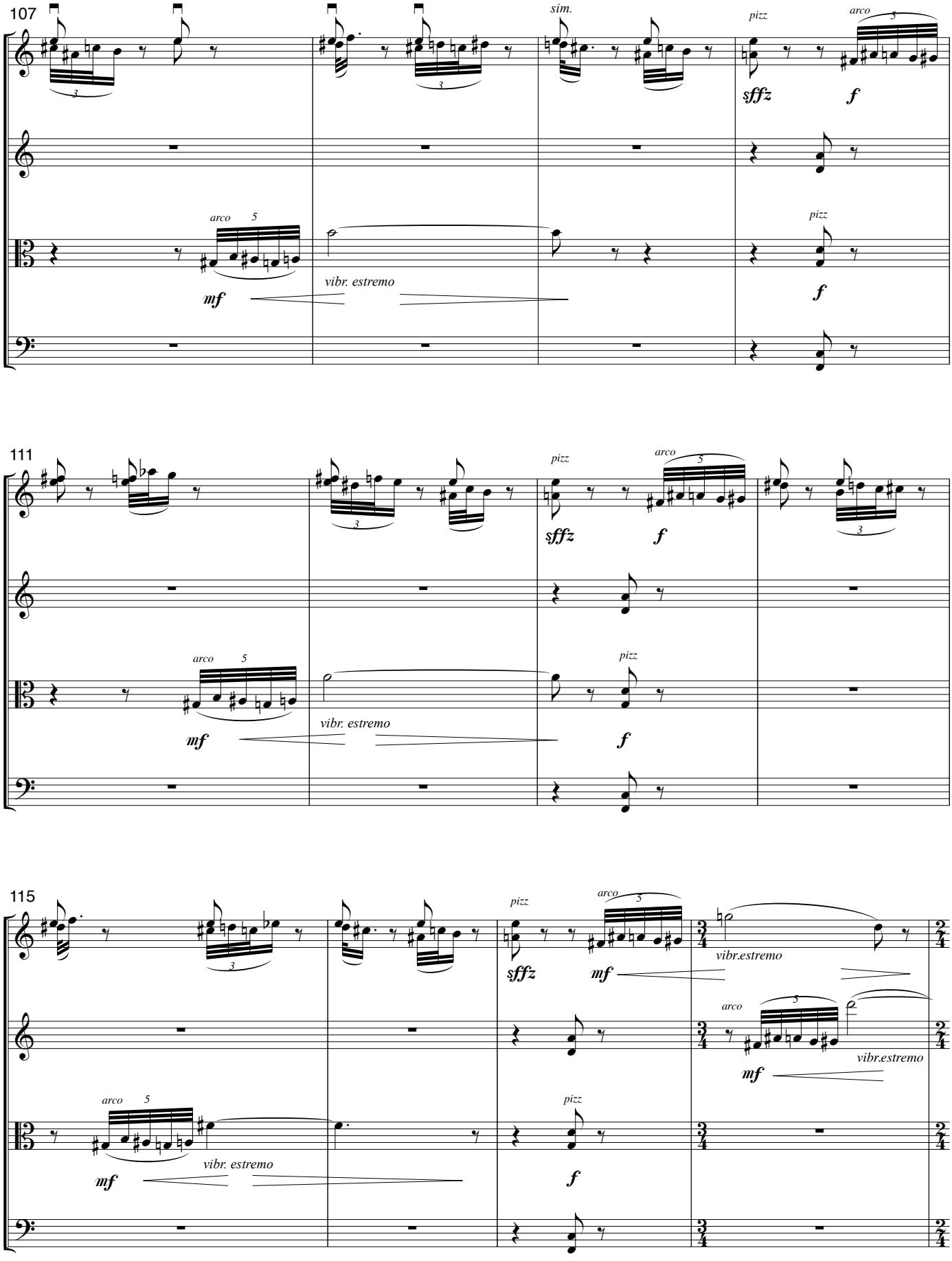

pizz
arco
sffz
f
5

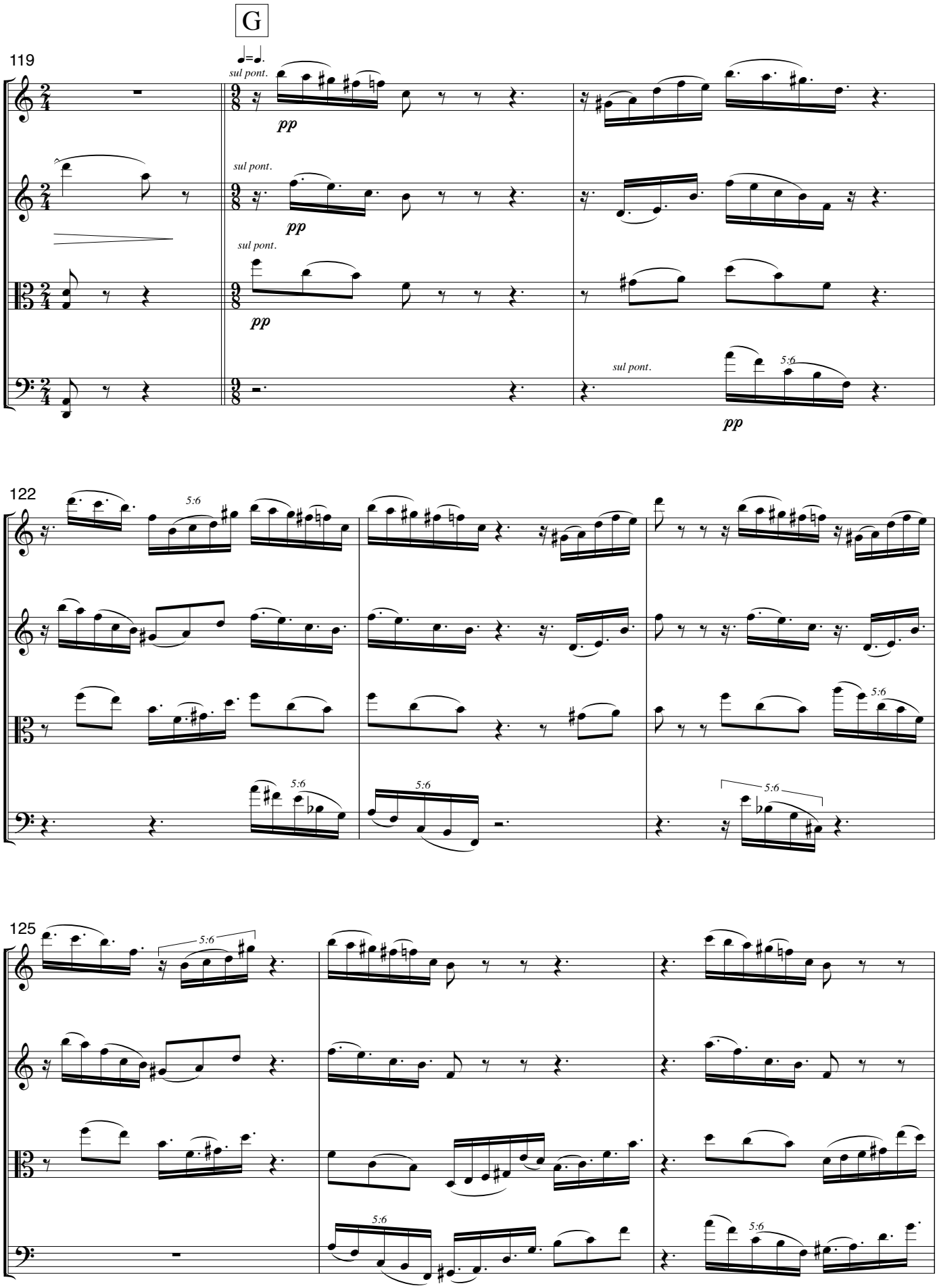
98

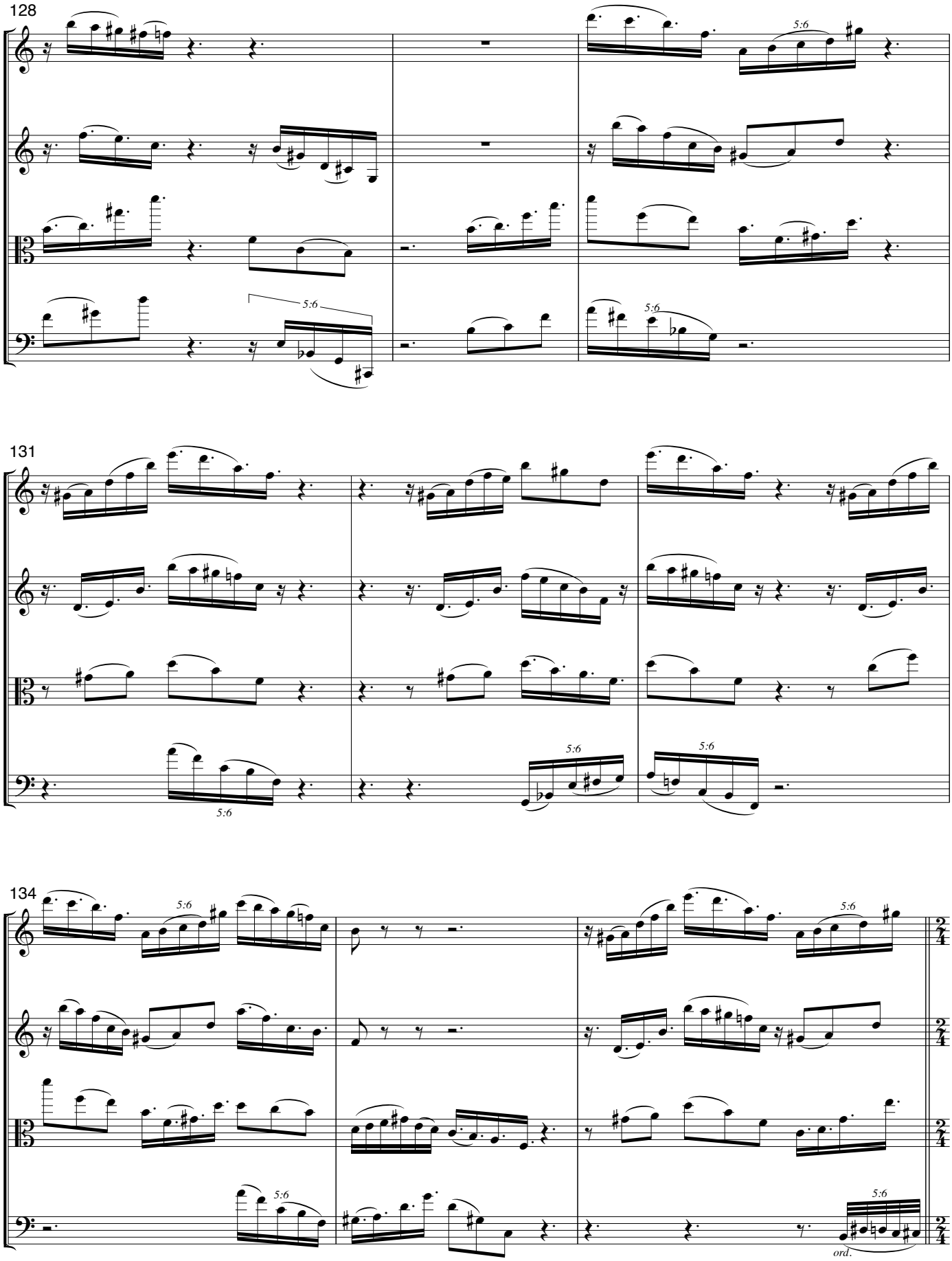

pizz
arco
sffz
f
5

103


F
arco 5
f marc.
pizz
arco 5
sffz
mf
vibr. estremo

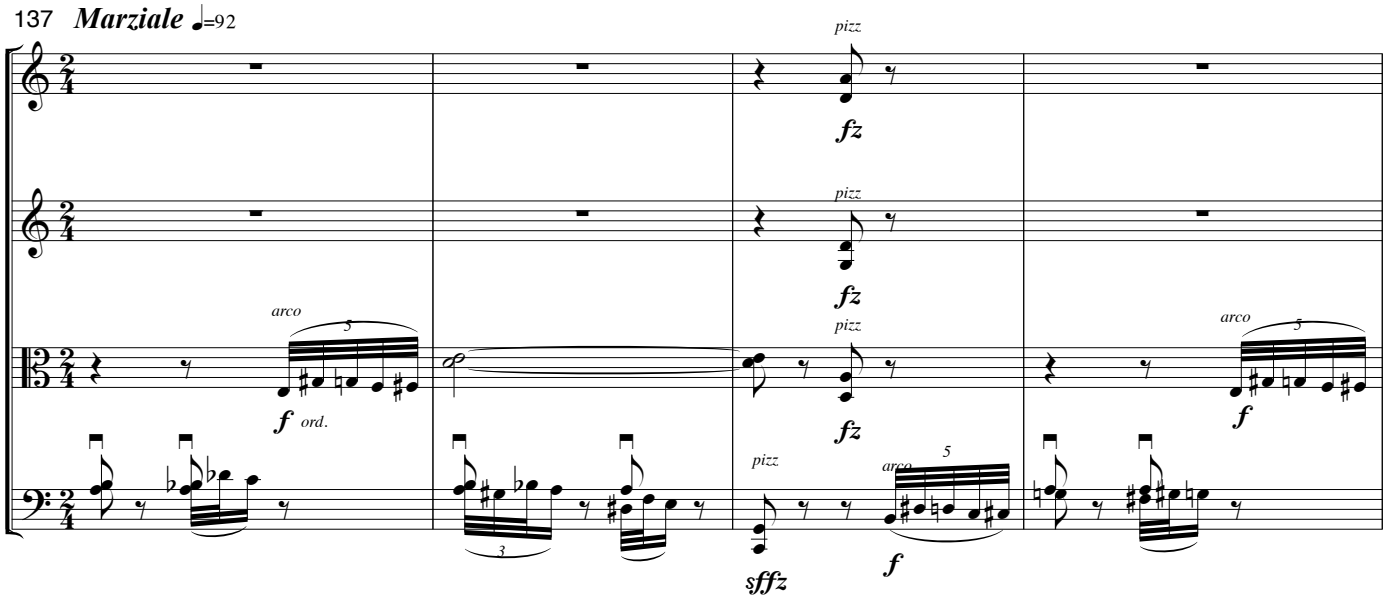

107
sim.
pizz
arco
sffz
f
arco
mf
vibr. estremo
pizz
f
111
pizz
arco
sffz
f
arco
mf
vibr. estremo
pizz
f
115
pizz
arco
sffz
mf
vibr.estremo
arco
mf
vibr.estremo
arco
mf
vibr. estremo
pizz
f


G
119
sul pont.
pp
sul pont.
pp
sul pont.
pp
sul pont.
5:6
pp
122
5:6
5:6
5:6
5:6
125
5:6
5:6
5:6

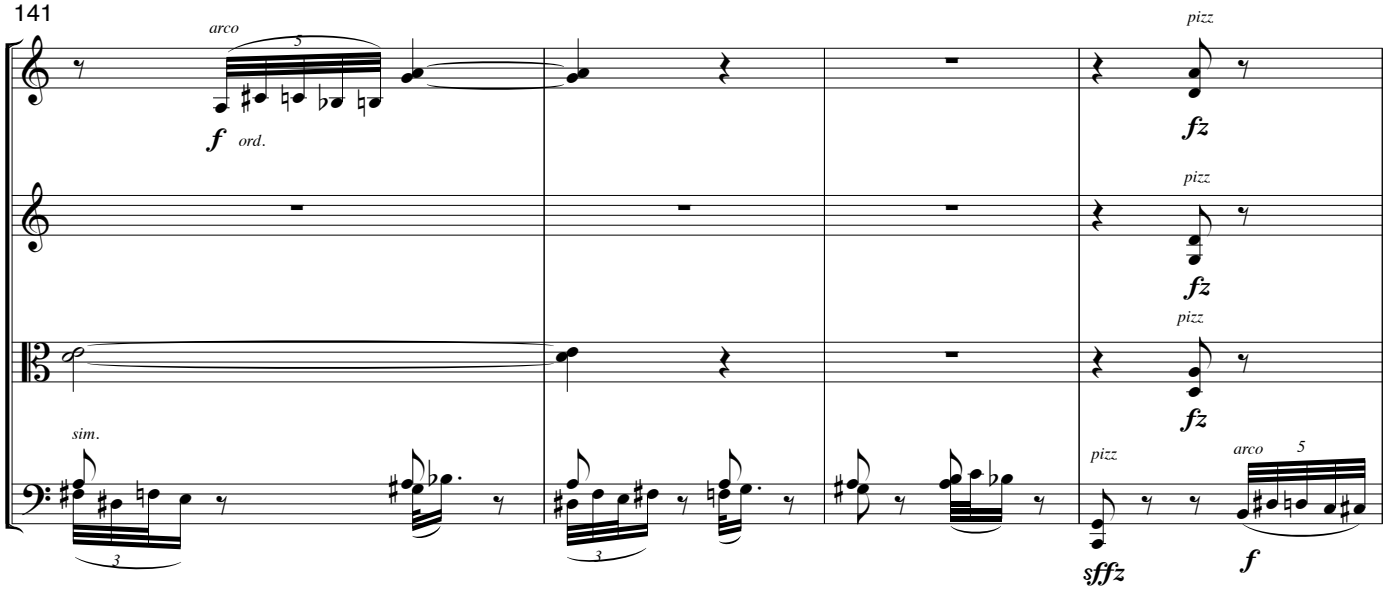

128
5:6
5:6
5:6
131
5:6
5:6
5:6
134
5:6
5:6
5:6
5:6
ord.

H

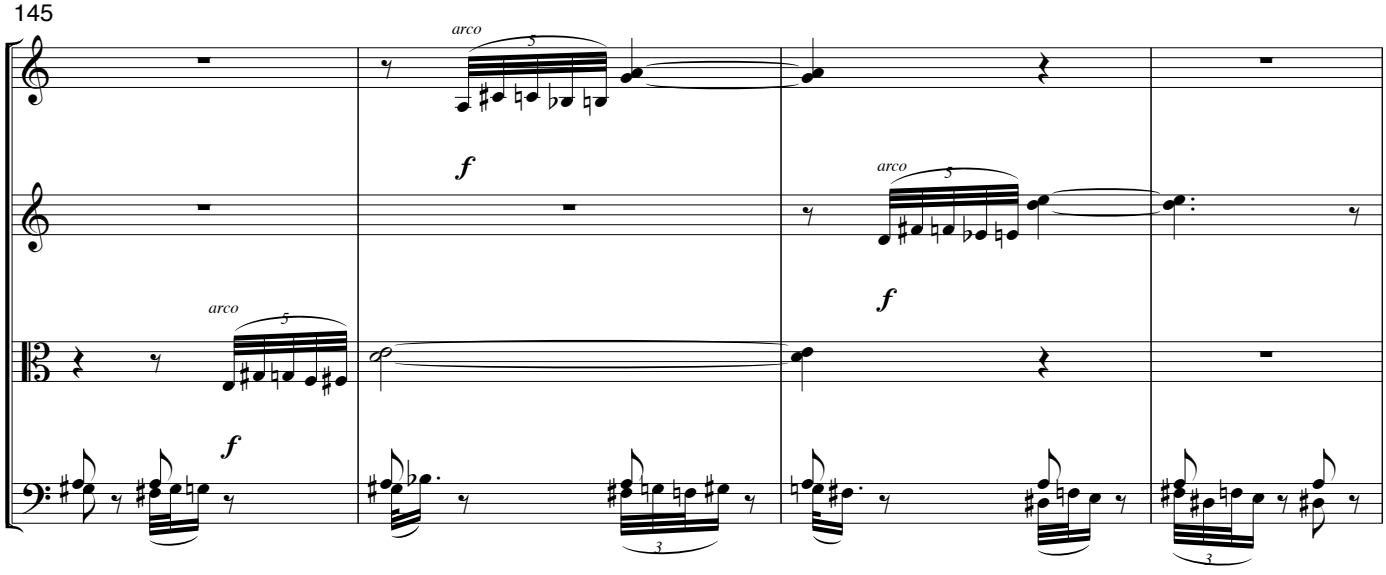
137 ***Marziale*** ♩=92

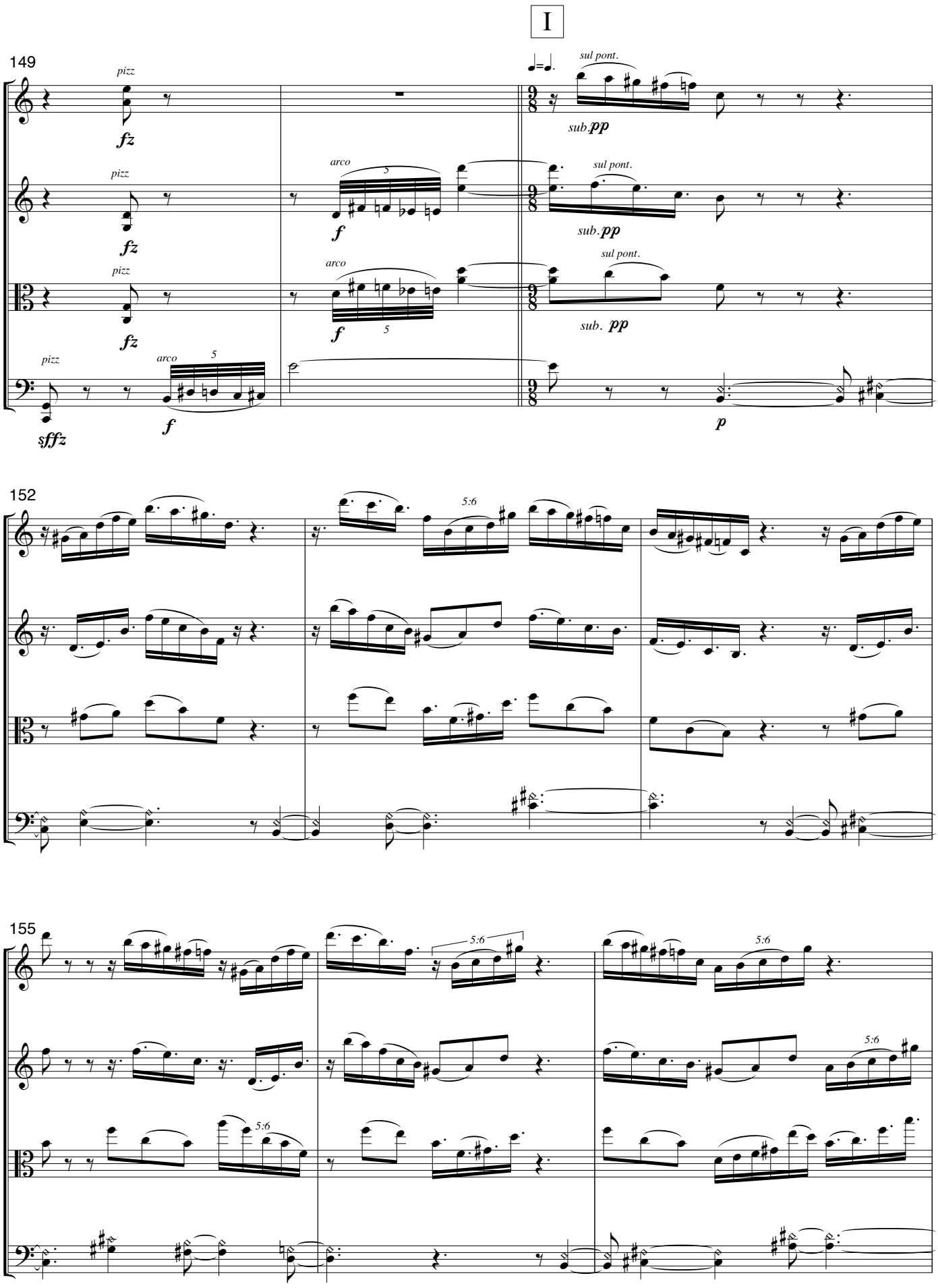


141

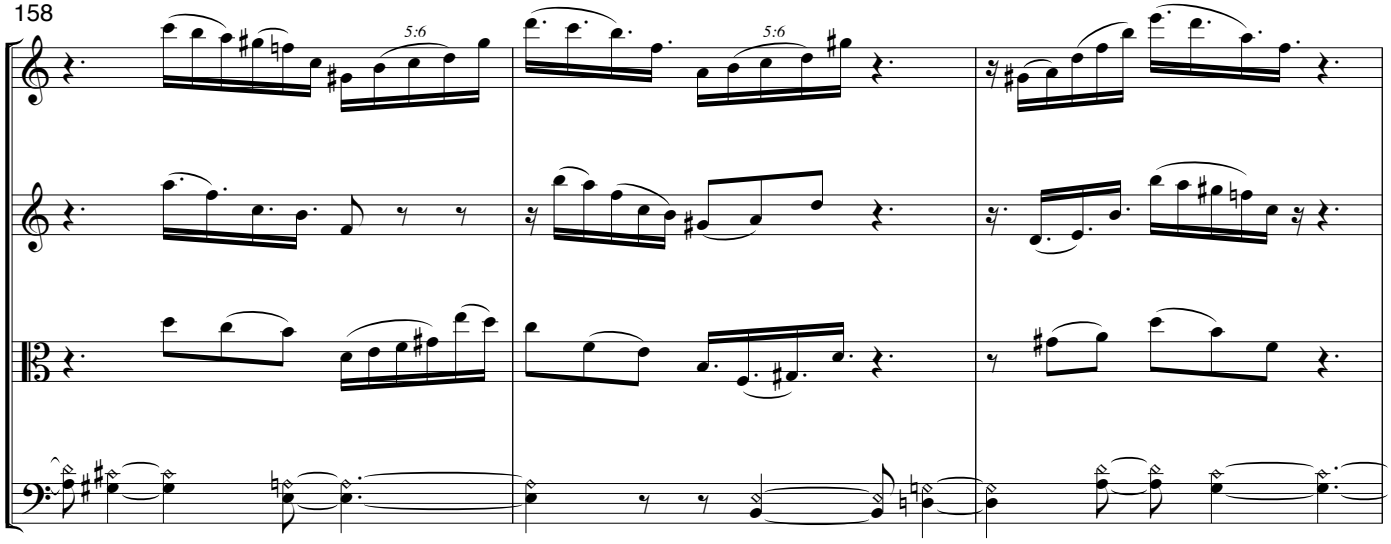


145

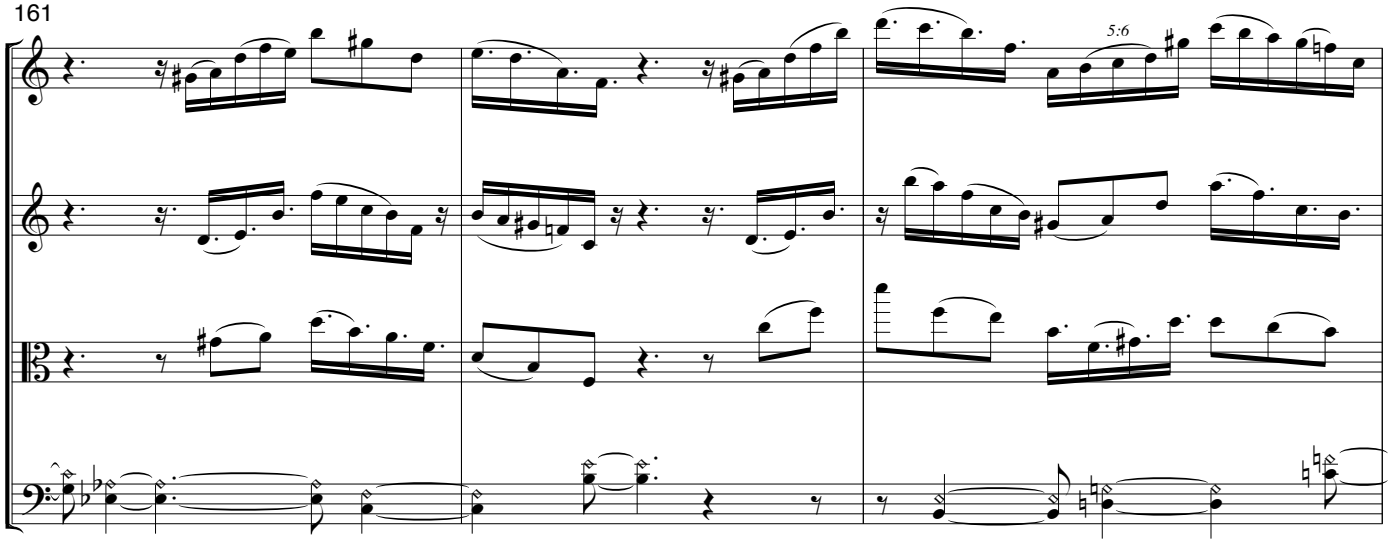



I
149
pizz
fz
arco
f
sul pont.
sub.pp
sffz
p
152
5:6
155

158

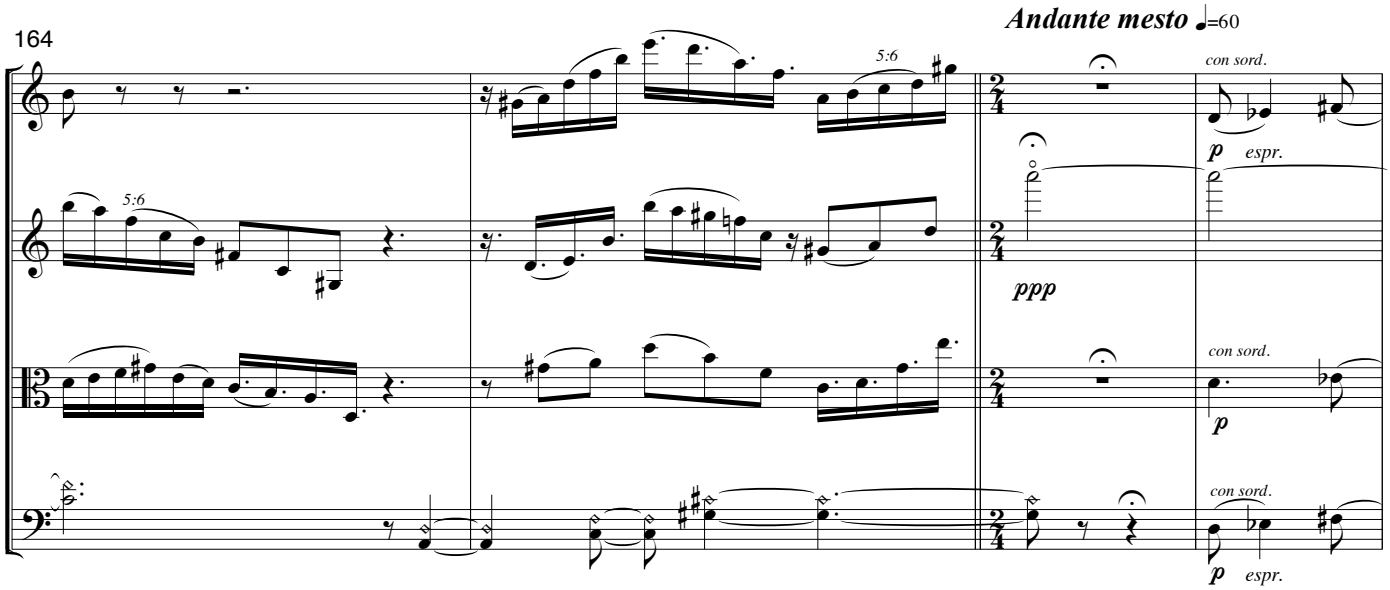


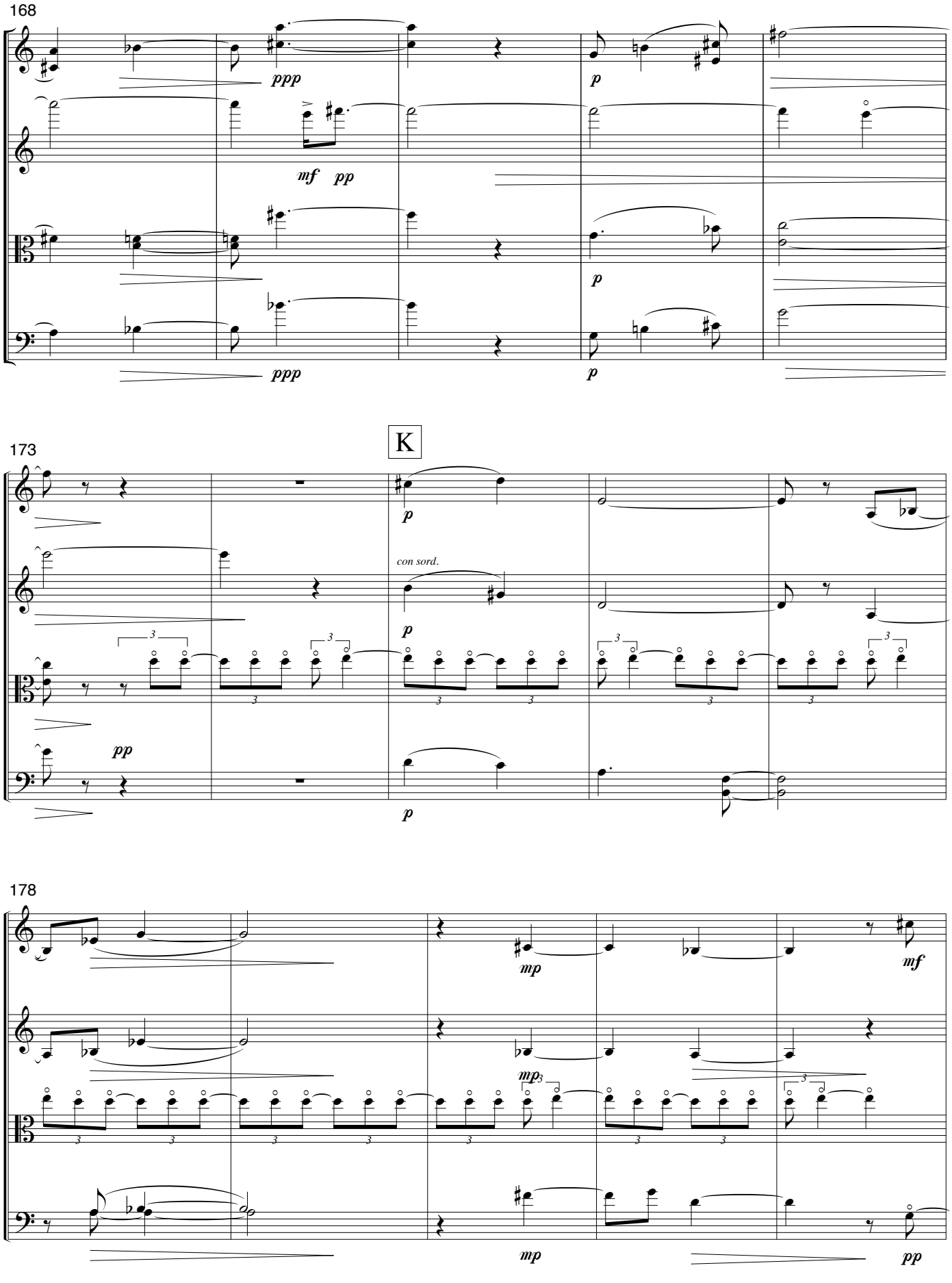
161

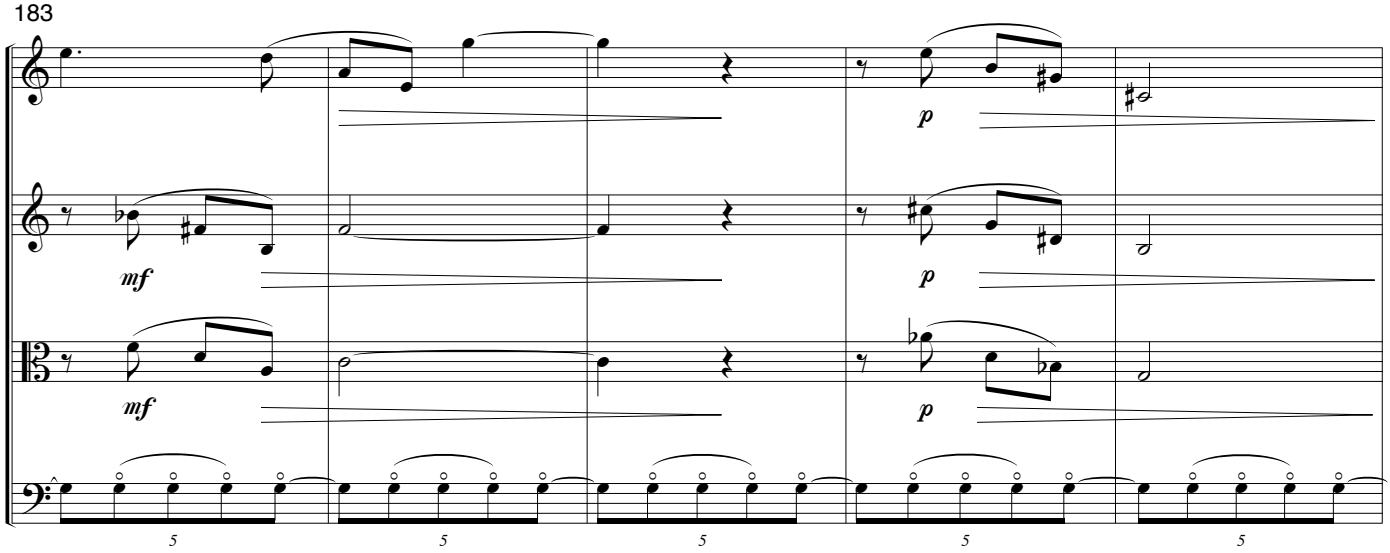


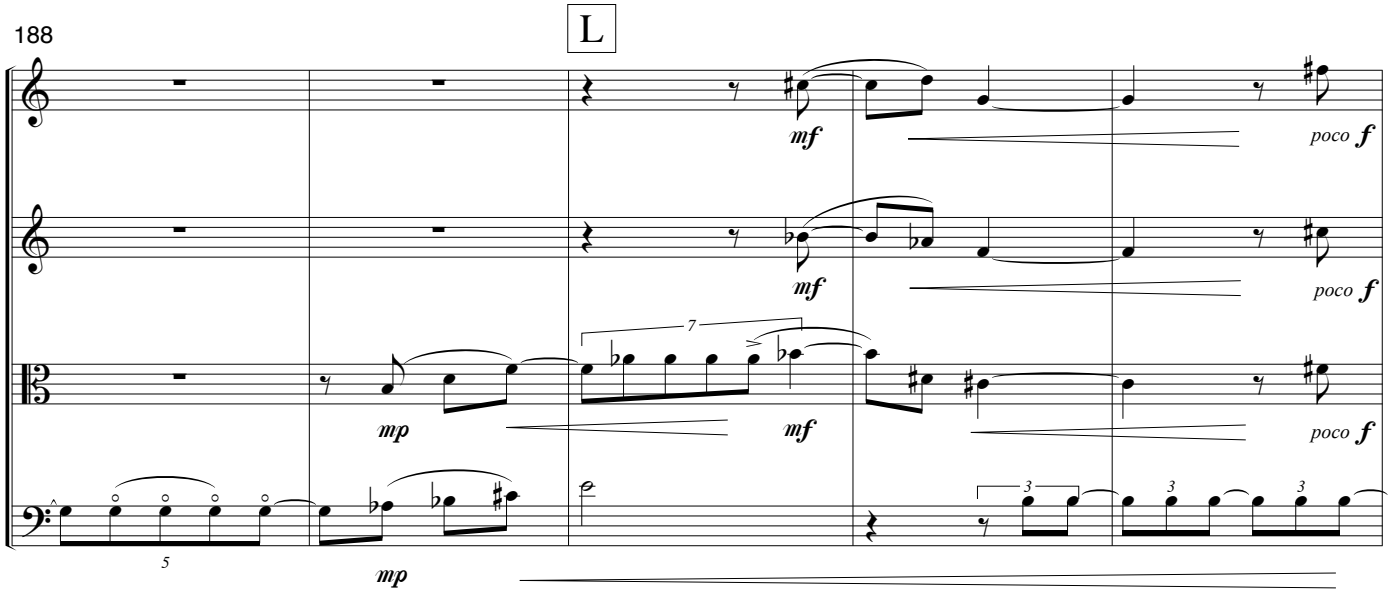
164

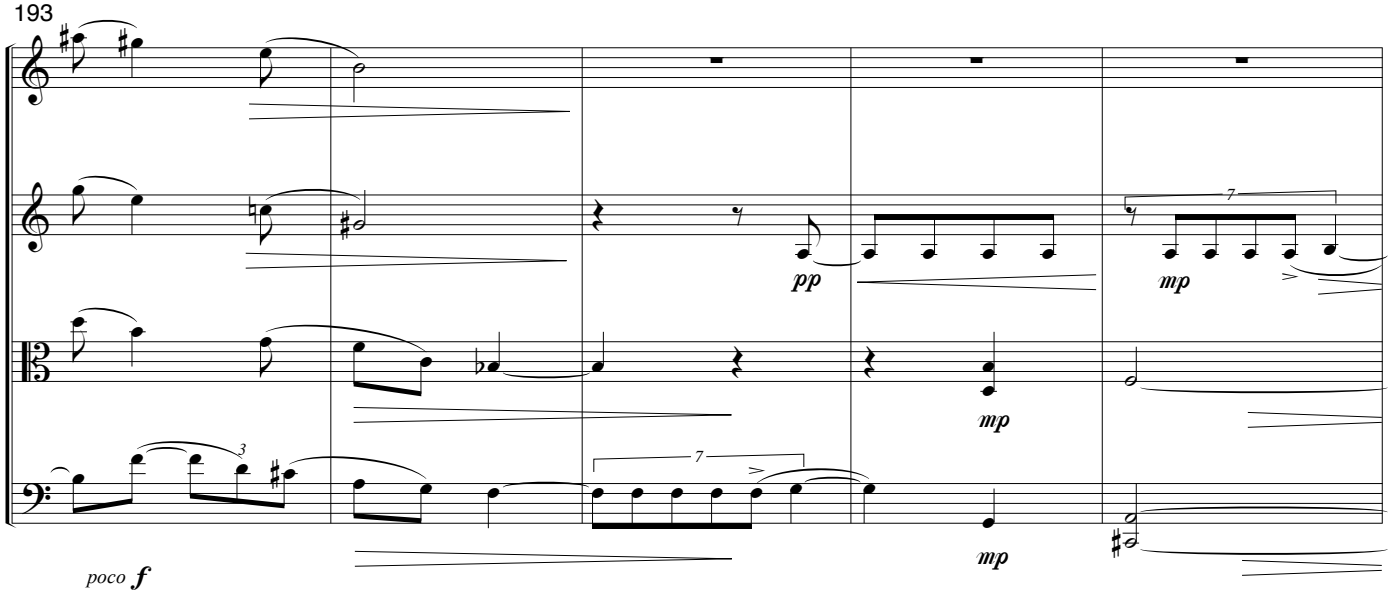
Andante mesto ♩=60

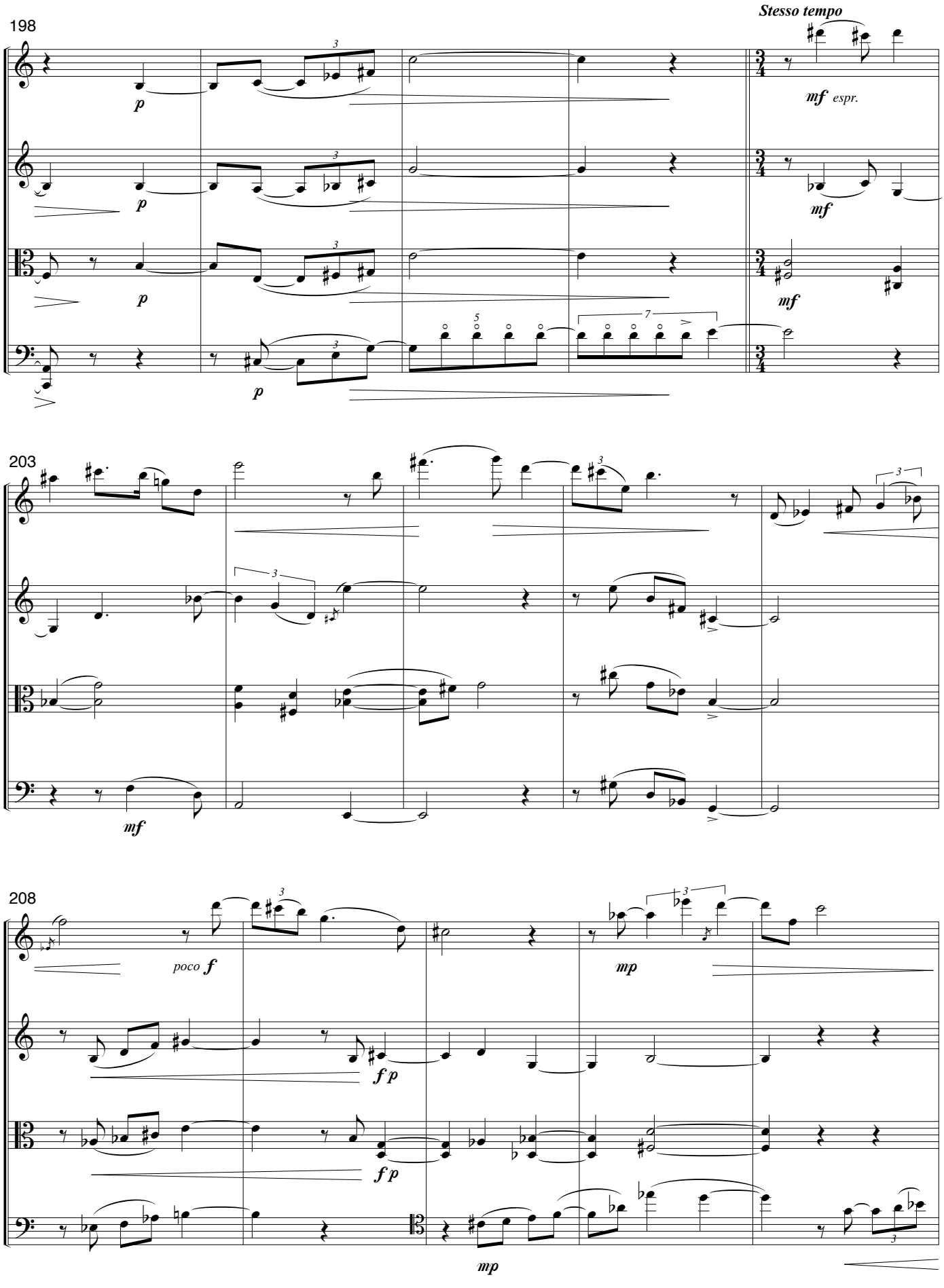


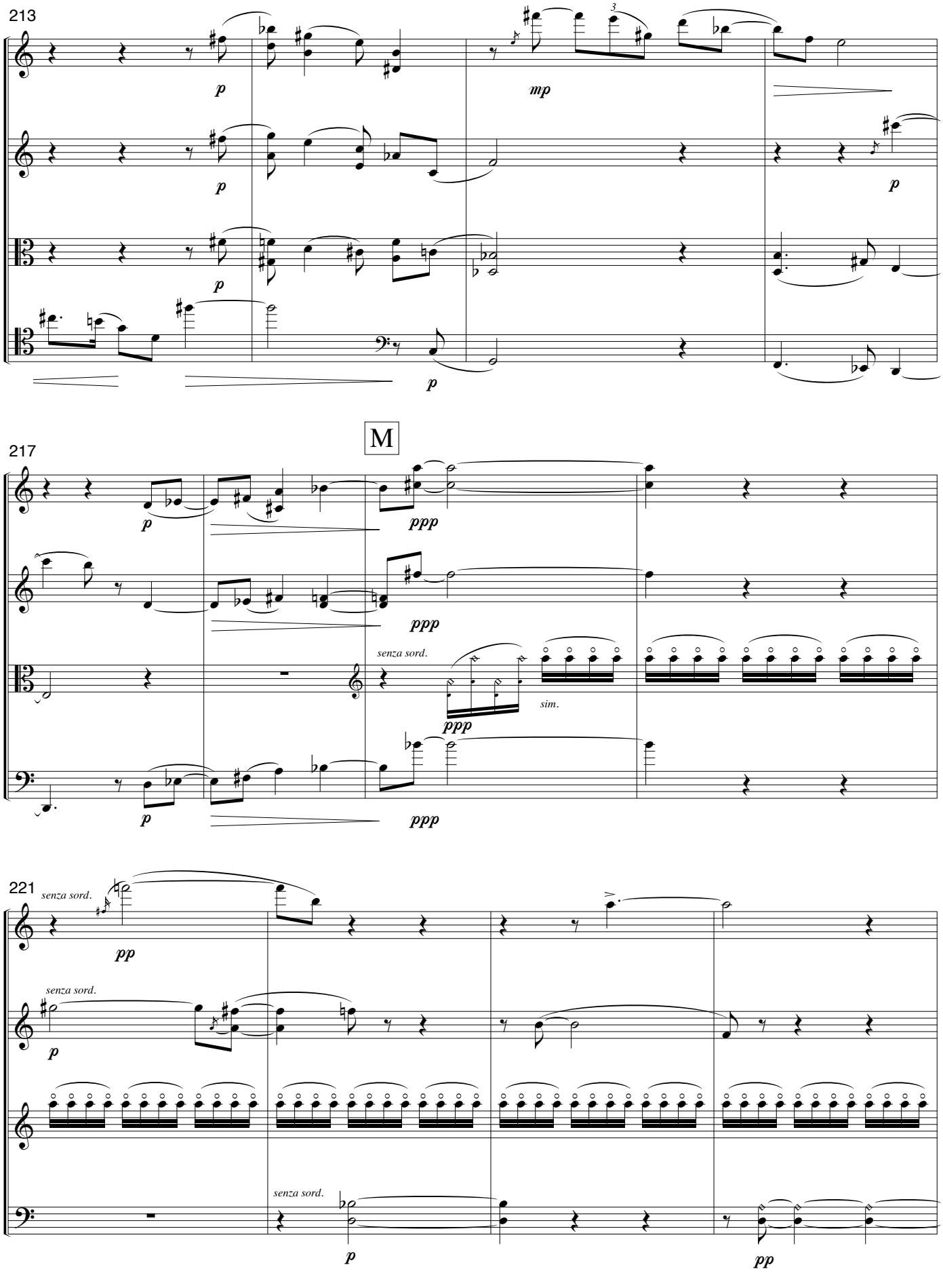

168
ppp
mf pp
p
p
ppp
p
K
173
p
con sord.
p
pp
p
178
mp
mf
mp
mp
pp

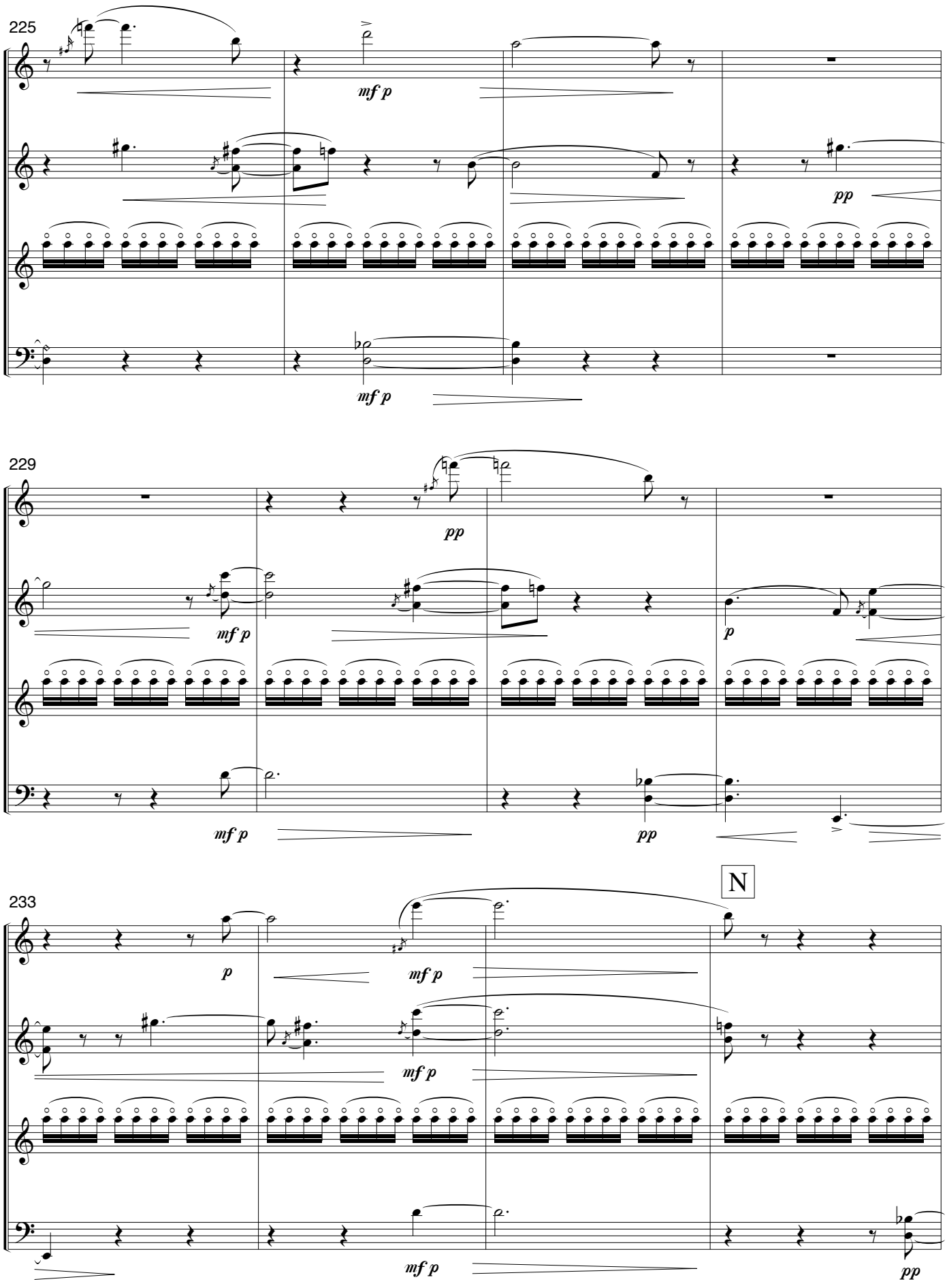

183
mf
p
mf
p
mf
p
5
5
5
5
5

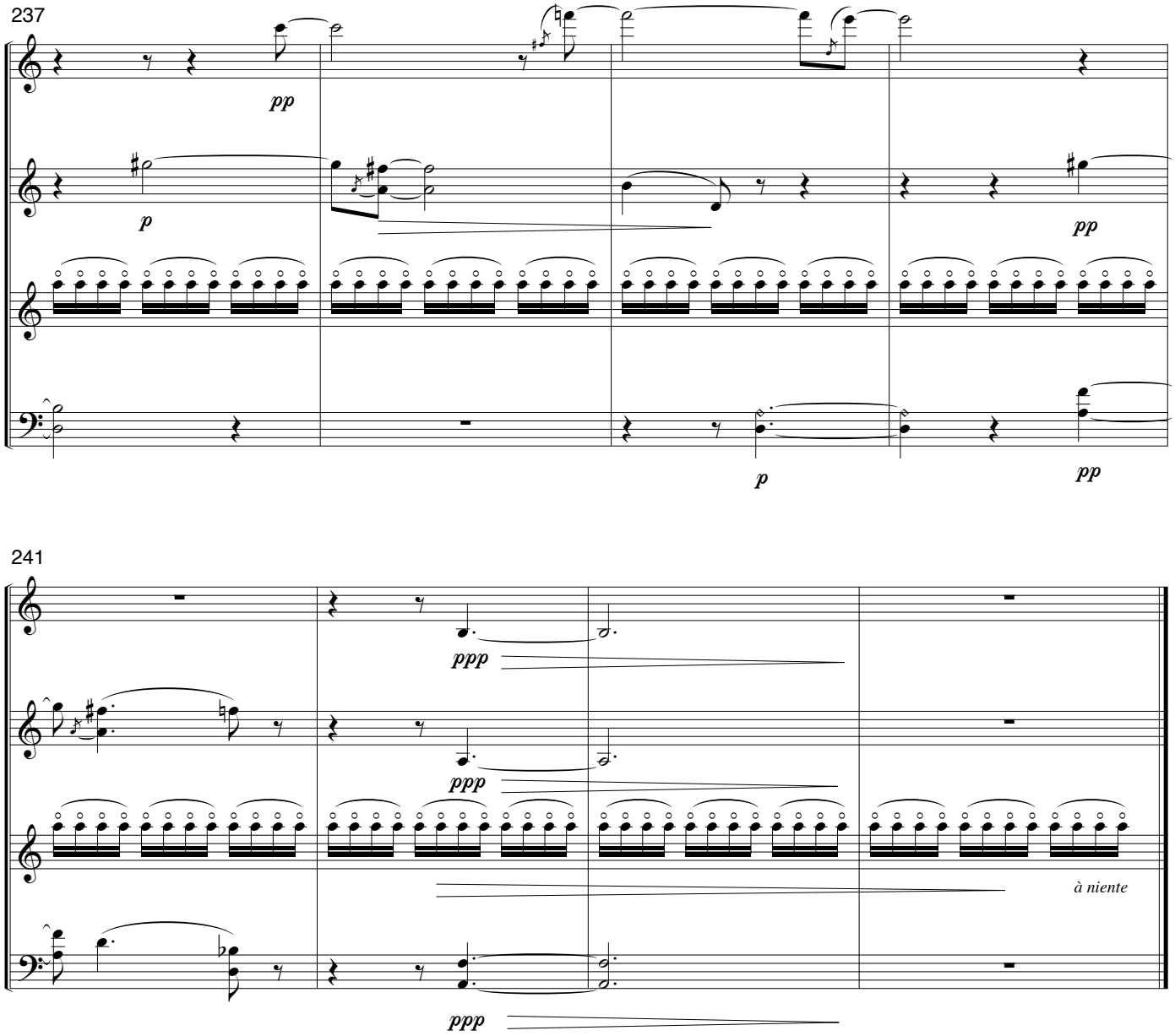

L
188
mf
poco f
mf
poco f
mp
mf
poco f
7
5
mp
3
3
3


193
pp
mp
7
mp
3
7
mp
poco f


198
Stesso tempo
p
mf espr.
mf
203
208
poco f
f p
mp


213
p
mp
p
p
p
p
M
217
p
ppp
ppp
senza sord.
sim.
ppp
p
ppp
221
senza sord.
pp
senza sord.
p
senza sord.
p
pp


225
mf p
mf p
pp
229
pp
mf p
p
mf p
pp
233
N
p
mf p
mf p
mf p
mf p
pp


237
pp
p
pp
p
pp
241
ppp
ppp
à niente
ppp