Christopher Stark

S E A S O N A L M U S I C

for string quartet

(2016-18)

Full Score

S O M M E R S O P U B L I S H I N G

I. Spring Music
II. Summer into Fall
III. Winter Music

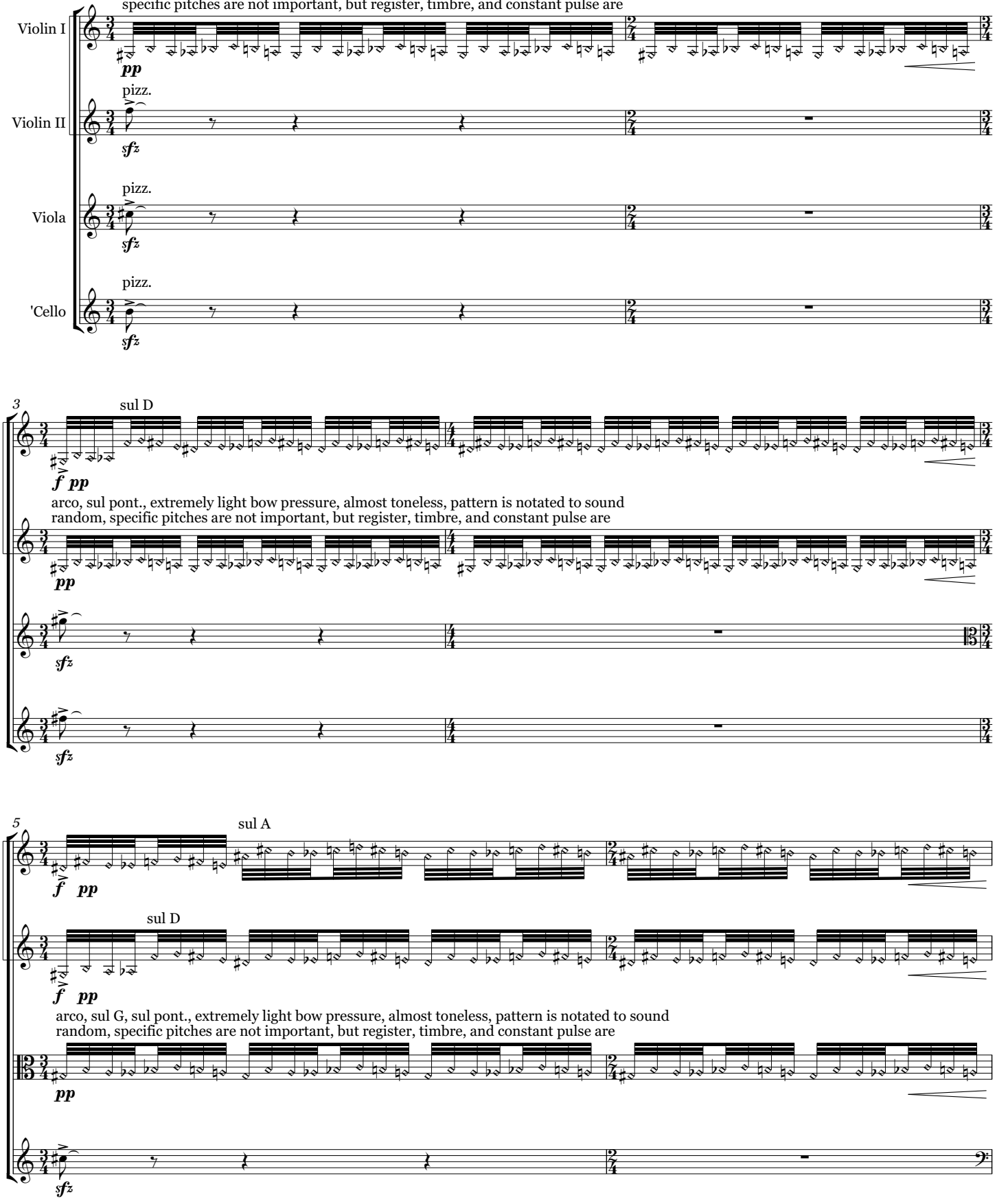
Duration = 30’00”

This work was completed while in residence at Copland House, Cortlandt Manor, New York, as a recipient of the Copland House Residency Award

I. SPRING MUSIC

Molto energico; sparkling ♩ = 82

Christopher Stark (2016)



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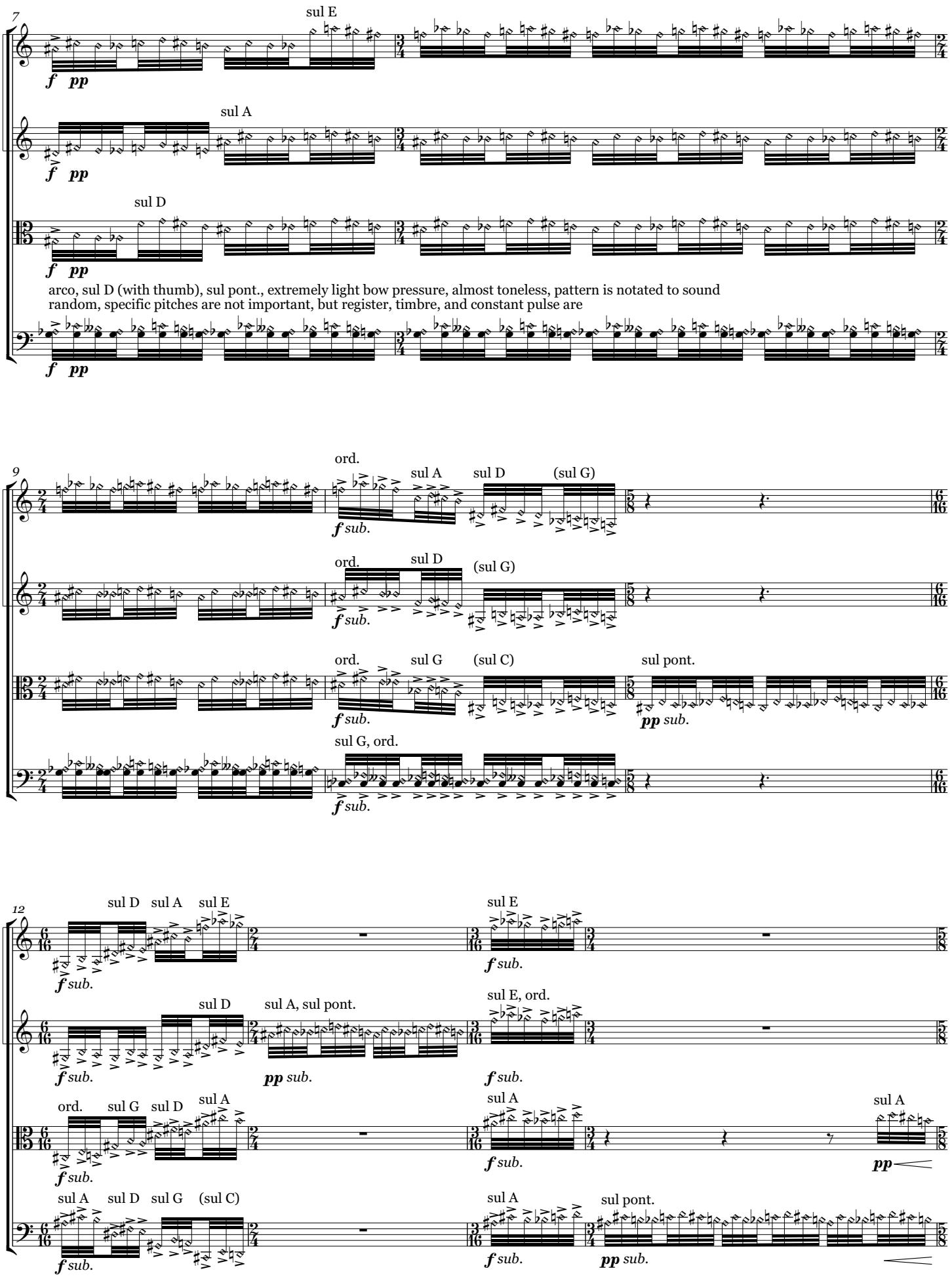
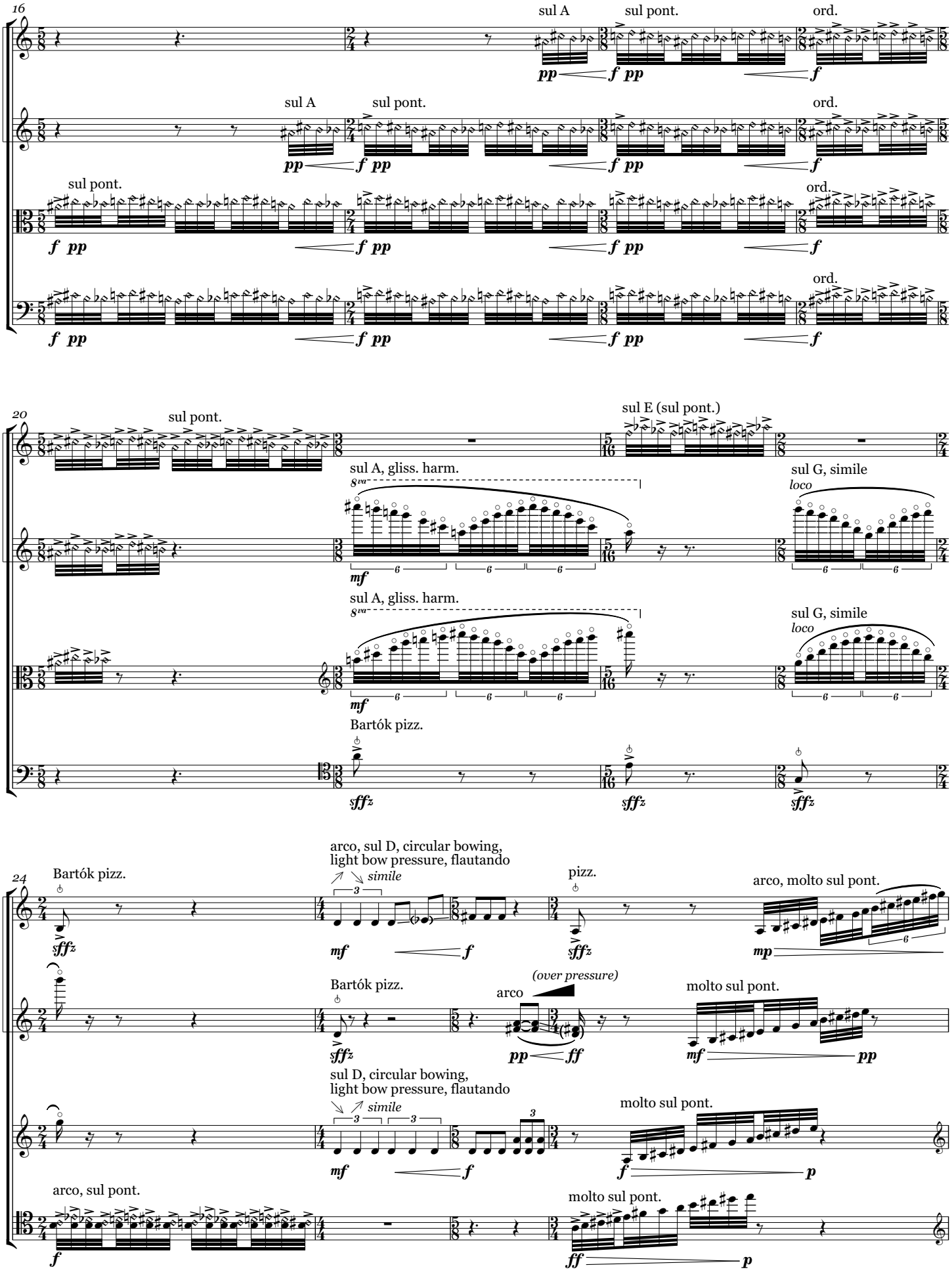

7
sul E
sul A
sul D
f pp
arco, sul D (with thumb), sul pont., extremely light bow pressure, almost toneless, pattern is notated to sound
random, specific pitches are not important, but register, timbre, and constant pulse are
9
ord.
sul A
sul D
(sul G)
f sub.
ord.
sul D
(sul G)
ord.
sul G
(sul C)
sul pont.
pp sub.
sul G, ord.
12
sul D
sul A
sul E
sul A, sul pont.
sul E, ord.
ord.
sul G
sul D
sul A
sul A
sul D
sul G
(sul C)
sul pont.


16
sul A
sul pont.
ord.
pp
f pp
f
sul A
sul pont.
ord.
pp
f pp
f
sul pont.
ord.
f pp
f pp
f pp
f
ord.
f pp
f pp
f pp
f
20
sul pont.
sul E (sul pont.)
sul A, gliss. harm.
8va
sul G, simile
loco
mf
sul A, gliss. harm.
8va
sul G, simile
loco
mf
Bartók pizz.
sfffz
sfffz
sfffz
24
Bartók pizz.
arco, sul D, circular bowing,
light bow pressure, flautando
simile
pizz.
arco, molto sul pont.
sfffz
mf
f
sfffz
mp
Bartók pizz.
arco
(over pressure)
molto sul pont.
sfffz
pp
ff
mf
pp
sul D, circular bowing,
light bow pressure, flautando
simile
molto sul pont.
mf
f
f
p
arco, sul pont.
molto sul pont.
f
ff
p

28

pizz. arco

pizz.

pizz. arco

sul A, gliss. harm.

(sul A) loco

ord. molto sul pont.

pizz.

arco, molto sul pont.

31

molto sul pont.

arco, molto sul pont.

pizz.

arco, molto sul pont.

ord.

pizz.

arco, molto sul pont.

34

ord.

sul tasto, light bow pressure

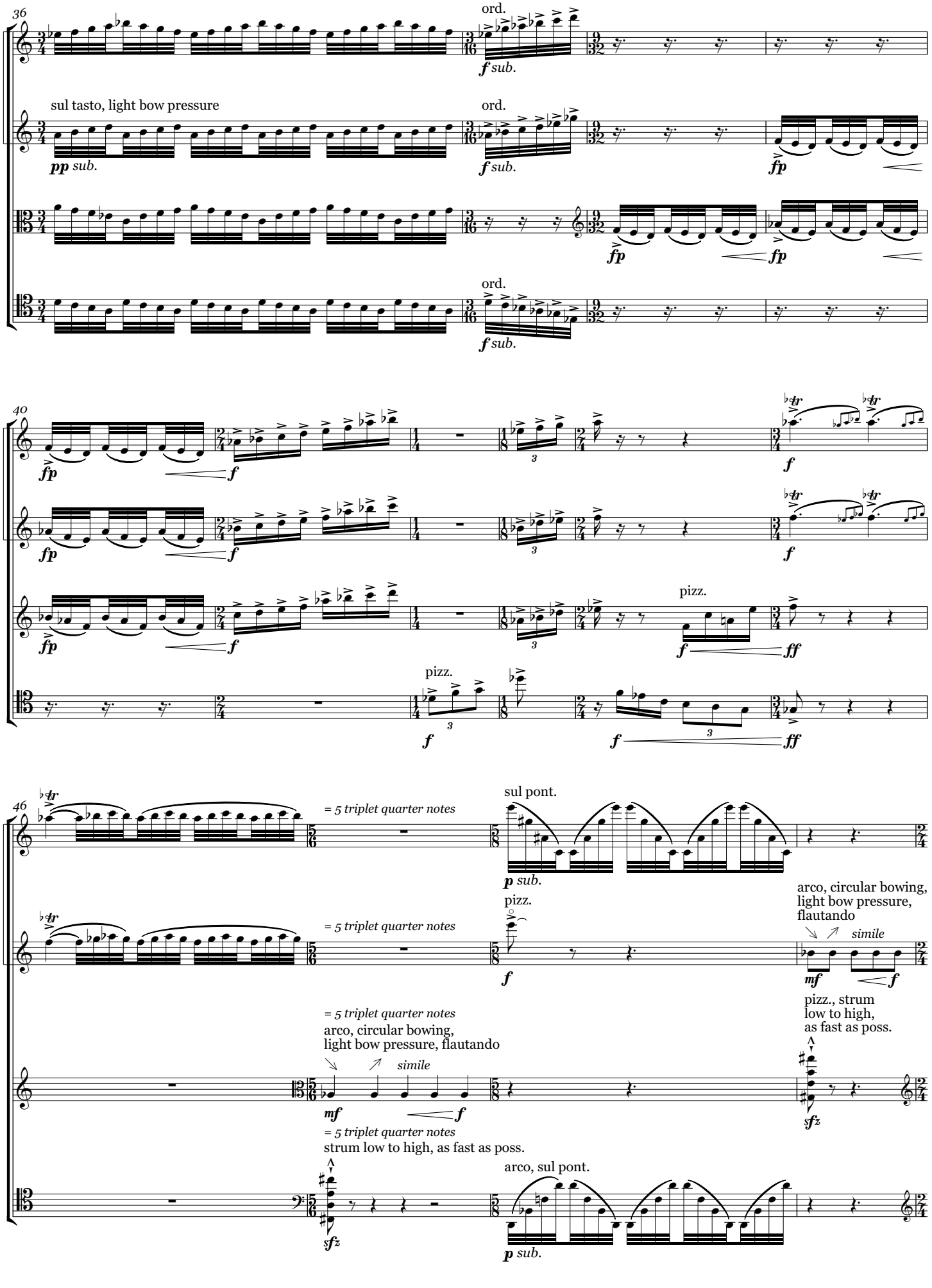
ord.

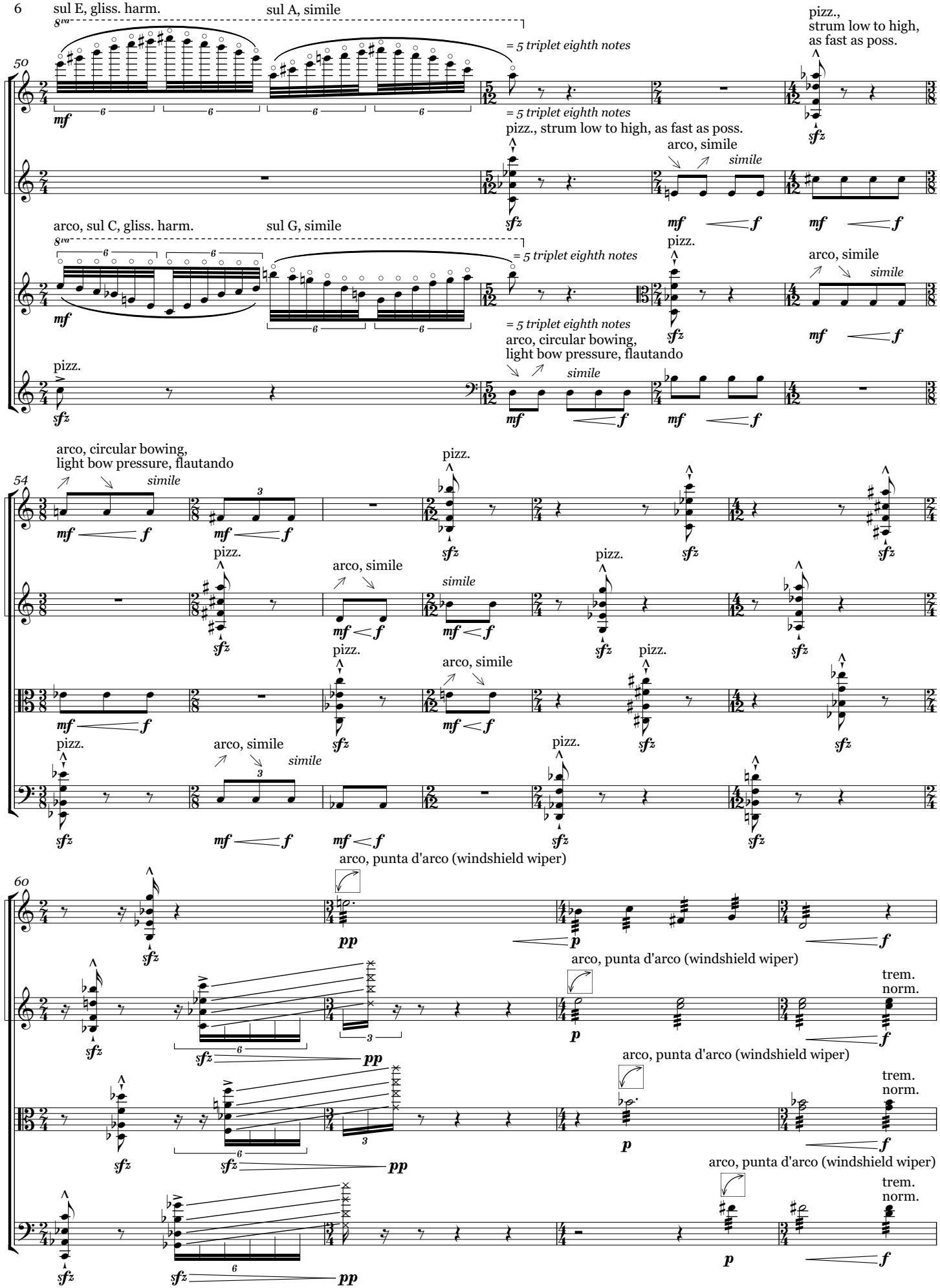
ord.

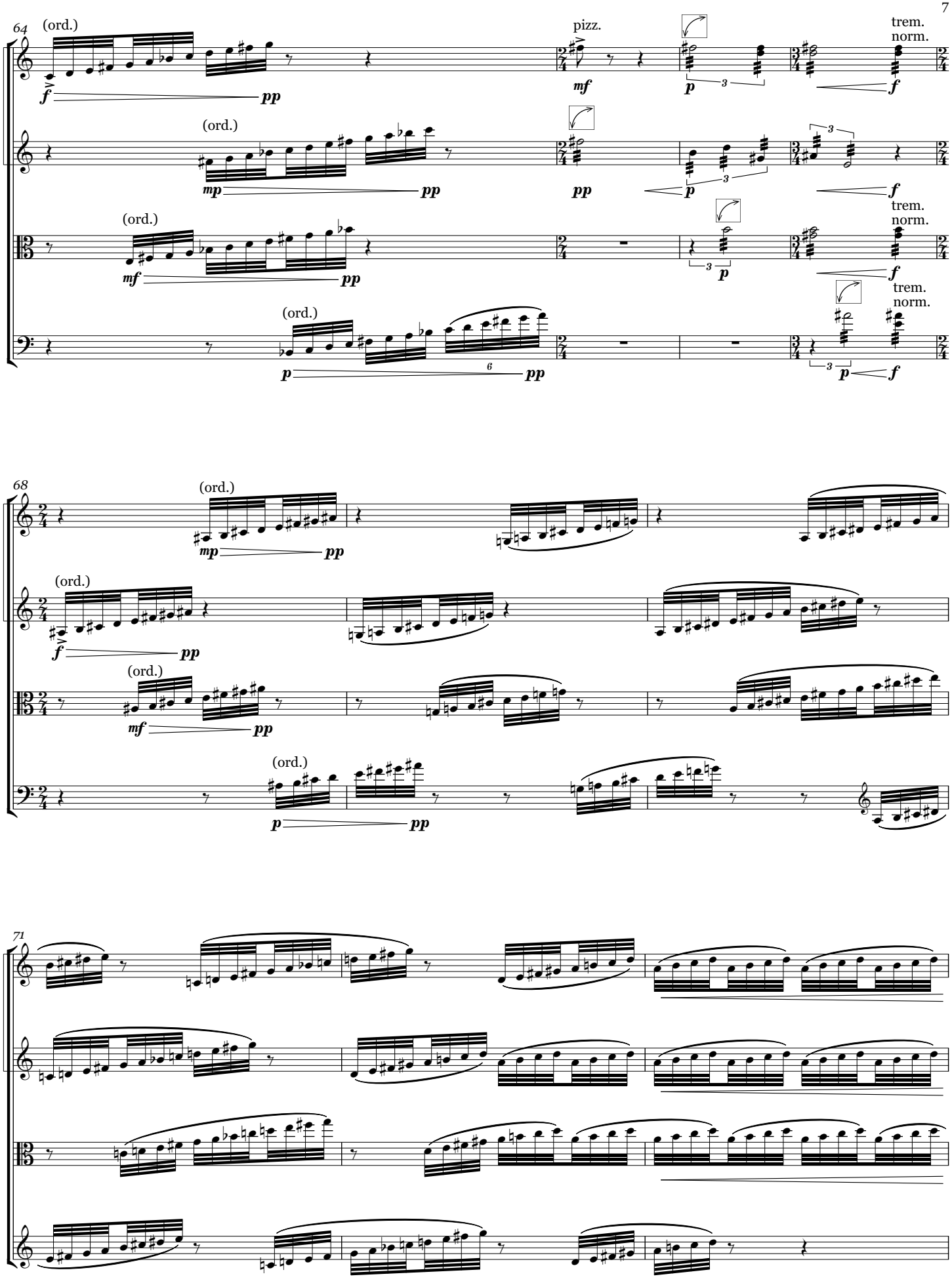
sul tasto, light bow pressure

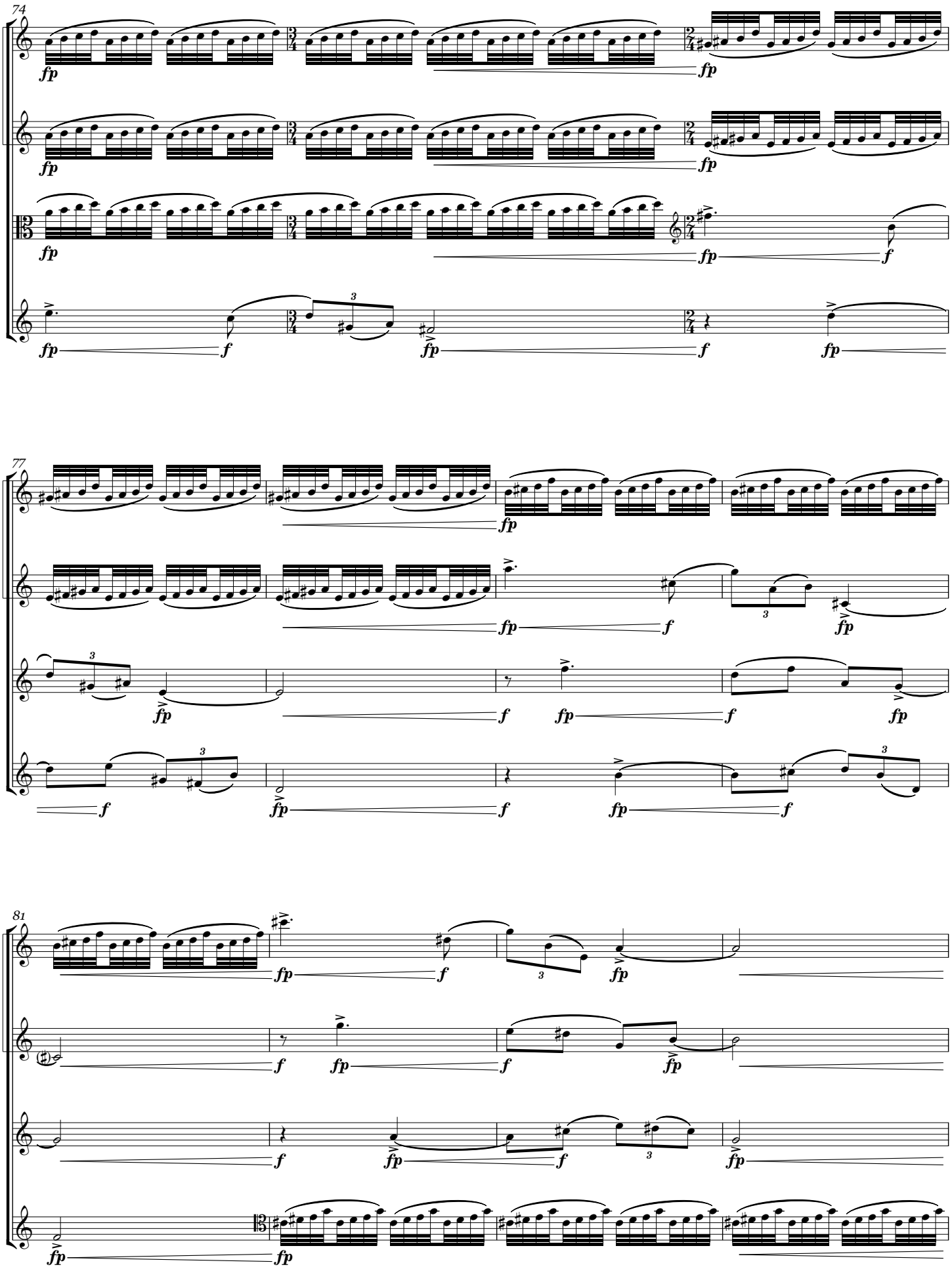
ord.

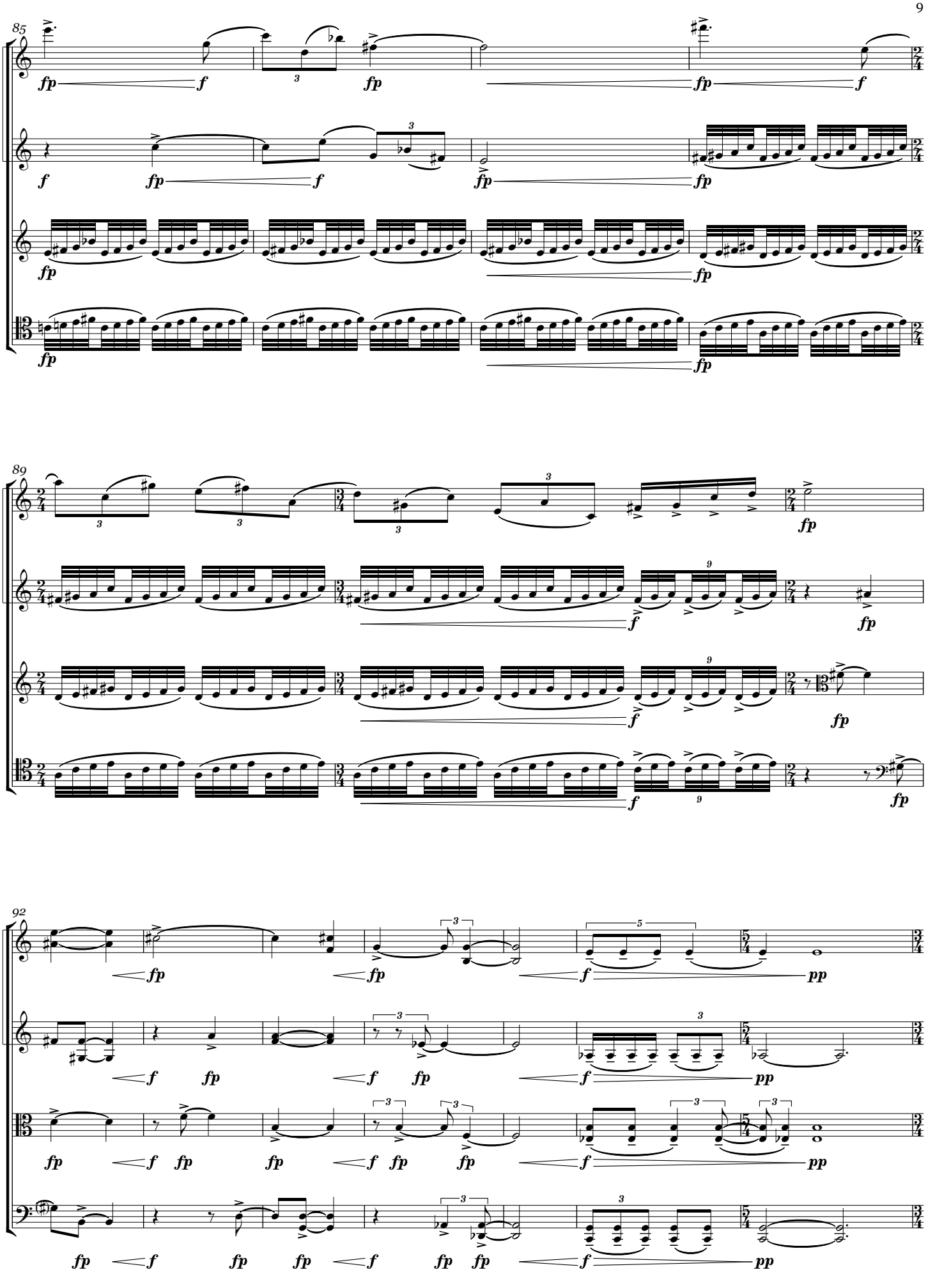
sul tasto, light bow pressure

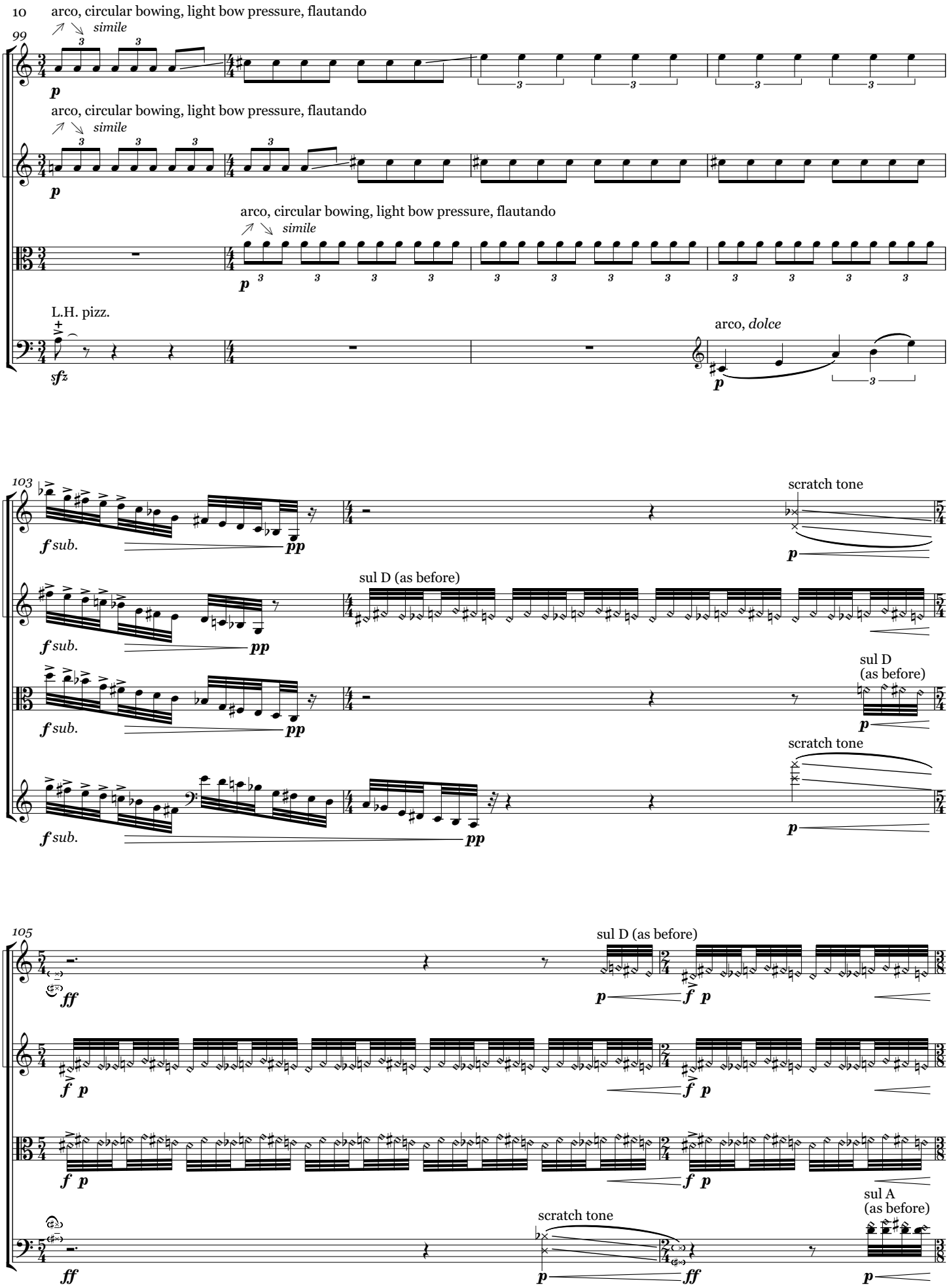

36
ord.
f sub.
sul tasto, light bow pressure
pp sub.
ord.
f sub.
fp
fp
fp
fp
ord.
f sub.
40
fp
f
fp
f
fp
f
pizz.
f
ff
pizz.
f
f
ff
46
= 5 triplet quarter notes
sul pont.
p sub.
= 5 triplet quarter notes
pizz.
f
arco, circular bowing, light bow pressure, flautando
simile
mf
f
= 5 triplet quarter notes
arco, circular bowing, light bow pressure, flautando
simile
mf
f
pizz., strum low to high, as fast as poss.
sfz
= 5 triplet quarter notes
strum low to high, as fast as poss.
sfz
arco, sul pont.
p sub.

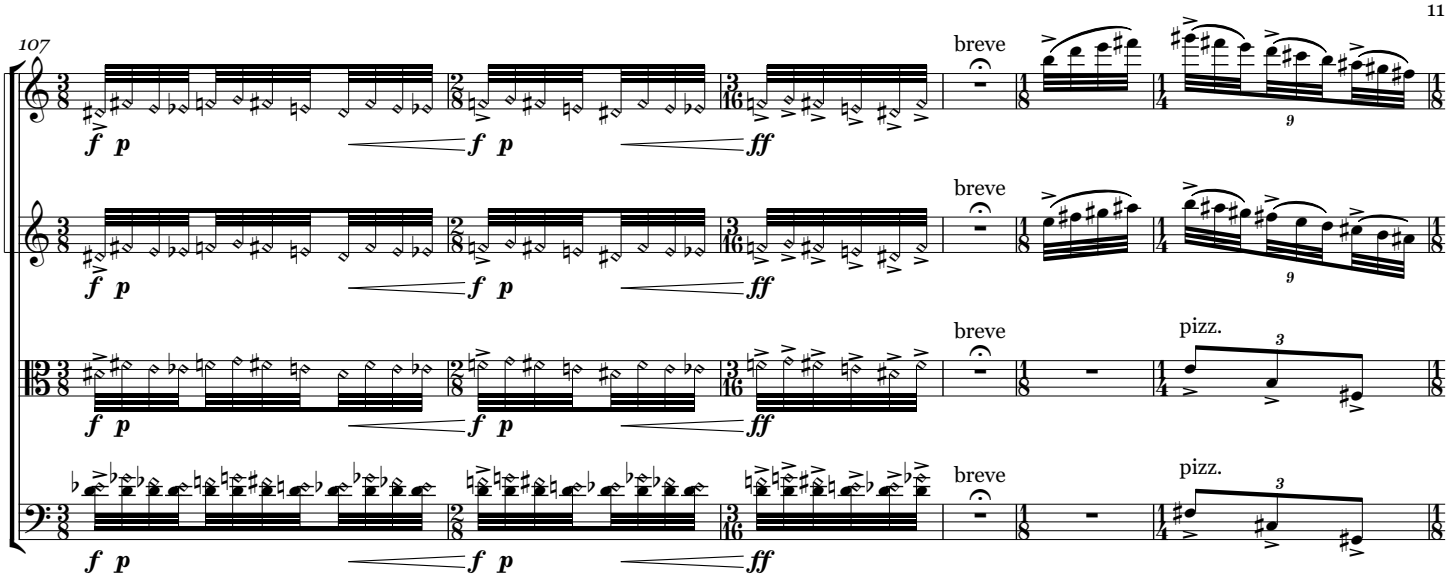

sul E, gliss. harm.
sul A, simile
= 5 triplet eighth notes
pizz., strum low to high, as fast as poss.
arco, simile
simile
arco, sul C, gliss. harm.
sul G, simile
pizz.
arco, circular bowing, light bow pressure, flautando
50
54
60
arco, punta d'arco (windshield wiper)
trem. norm.

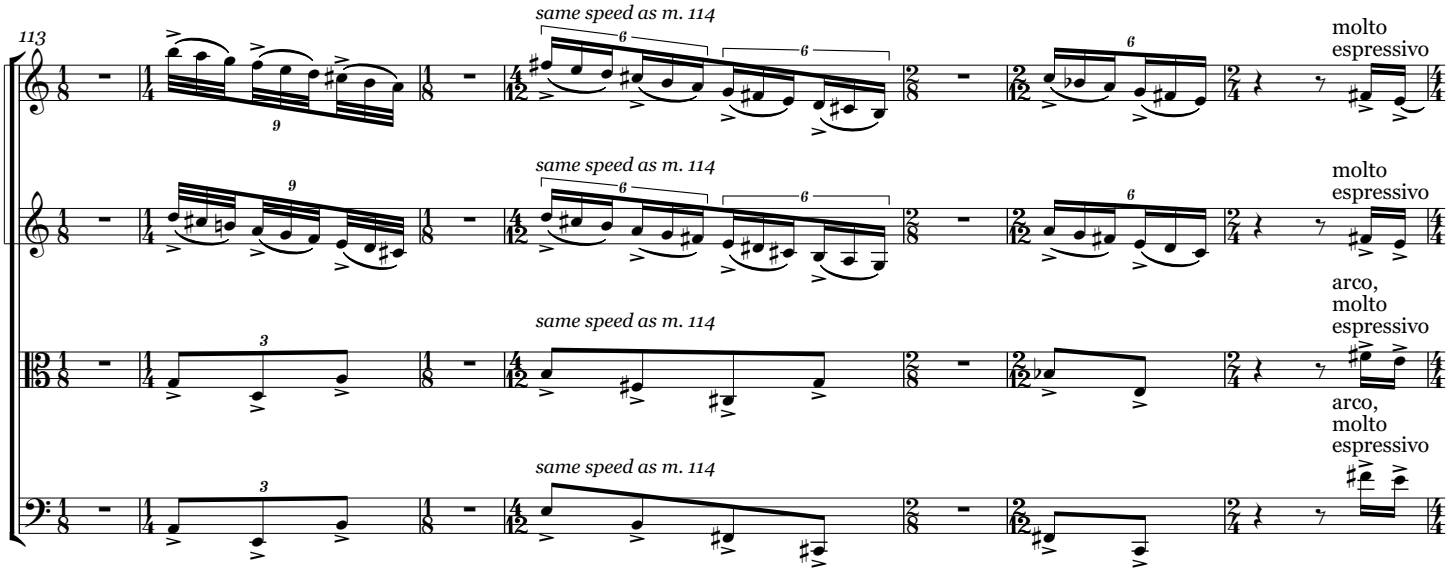

64
(ord.)
pizz.
trem.
norm.
68
71

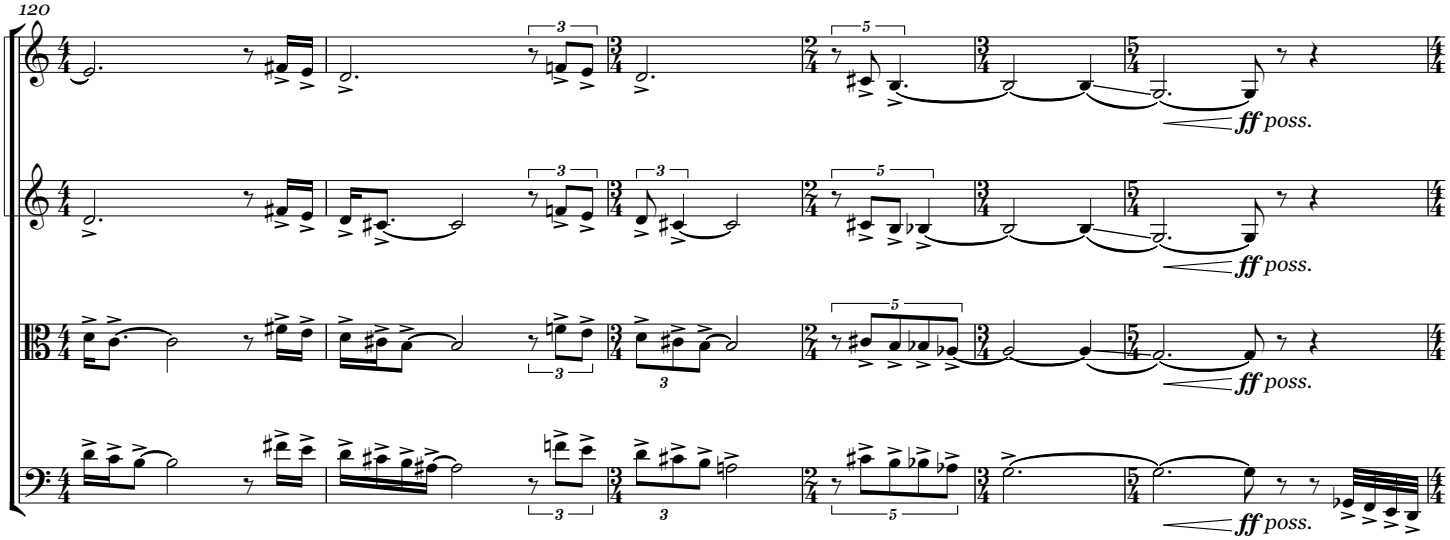

74
77
81

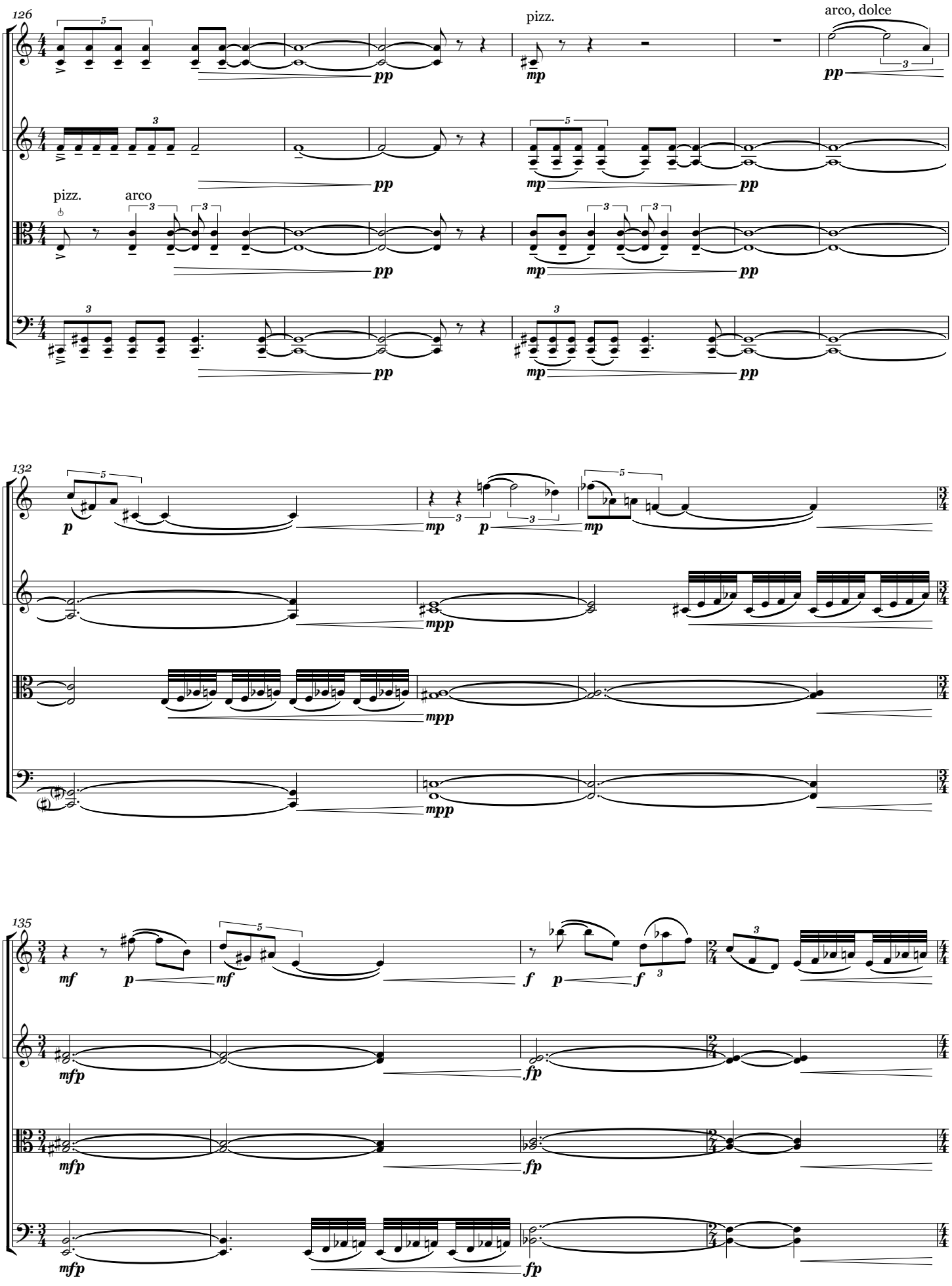

85
89
92
fp
f
pp

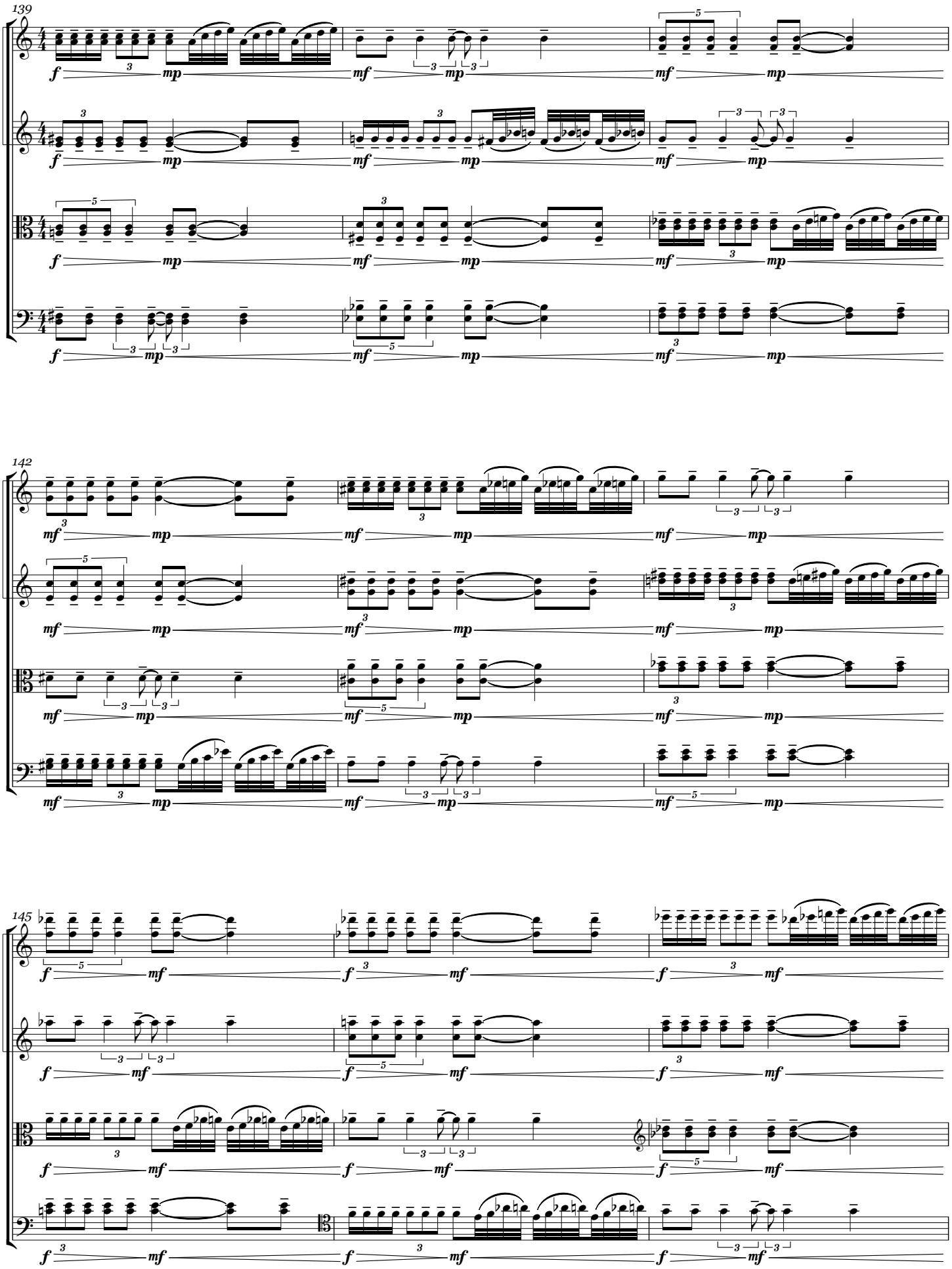

arco, circular bowing, light bow pressure, flautando
simile
arco, circular bowing, light bow pressure, flautando
simile
arco, circular bowing, light bow pressure, flautando
simile
L.H. pizz.
arco, dolce
scratch tone
sul D (as before)
sul D
(as before)
scratch tone
sul D (as before)
sul A
(as before)
scratch tone


107
breve
pizz.
f p
ff

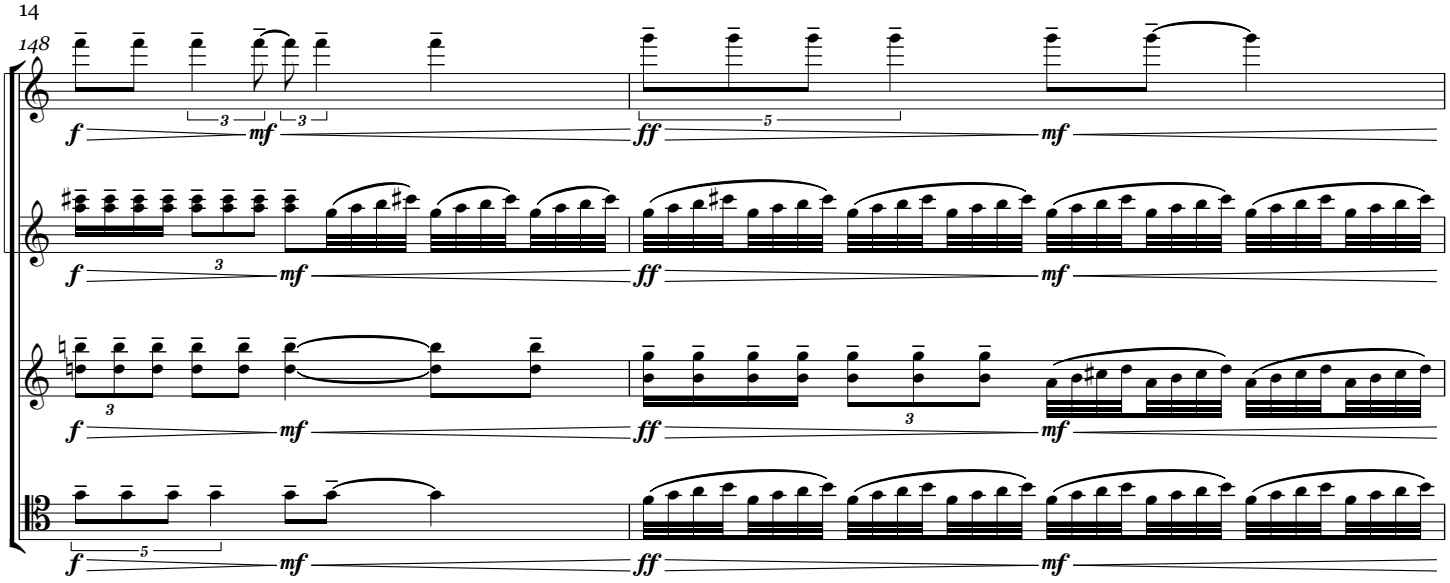

113
same speed as m. 114
molto espressivo
arco, molto espressivo


120
ff poss.

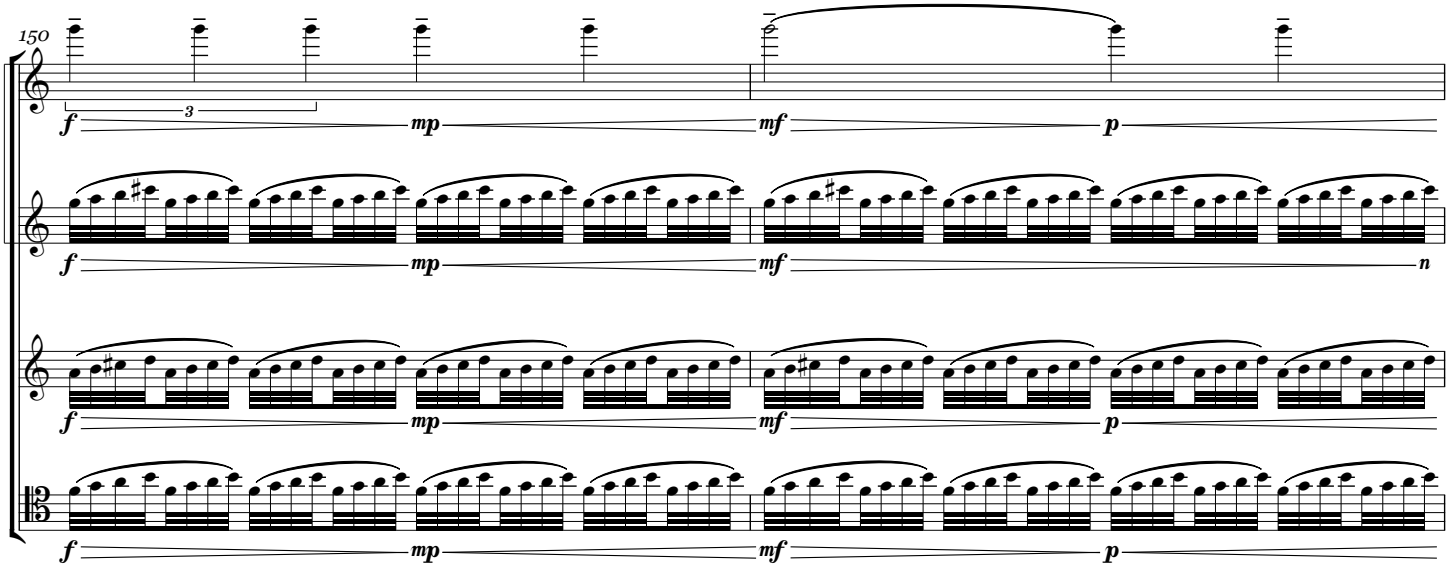

126
pizz.
arco, dolce
pizz.
arco
132
135


139
142
145

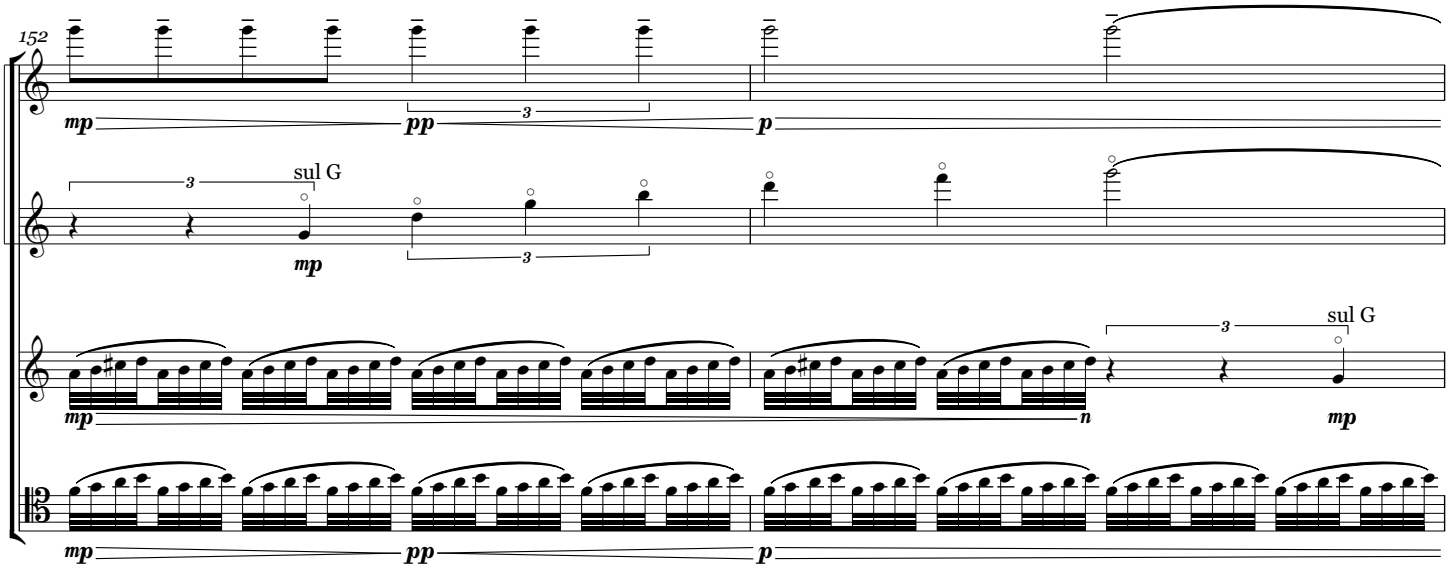
148

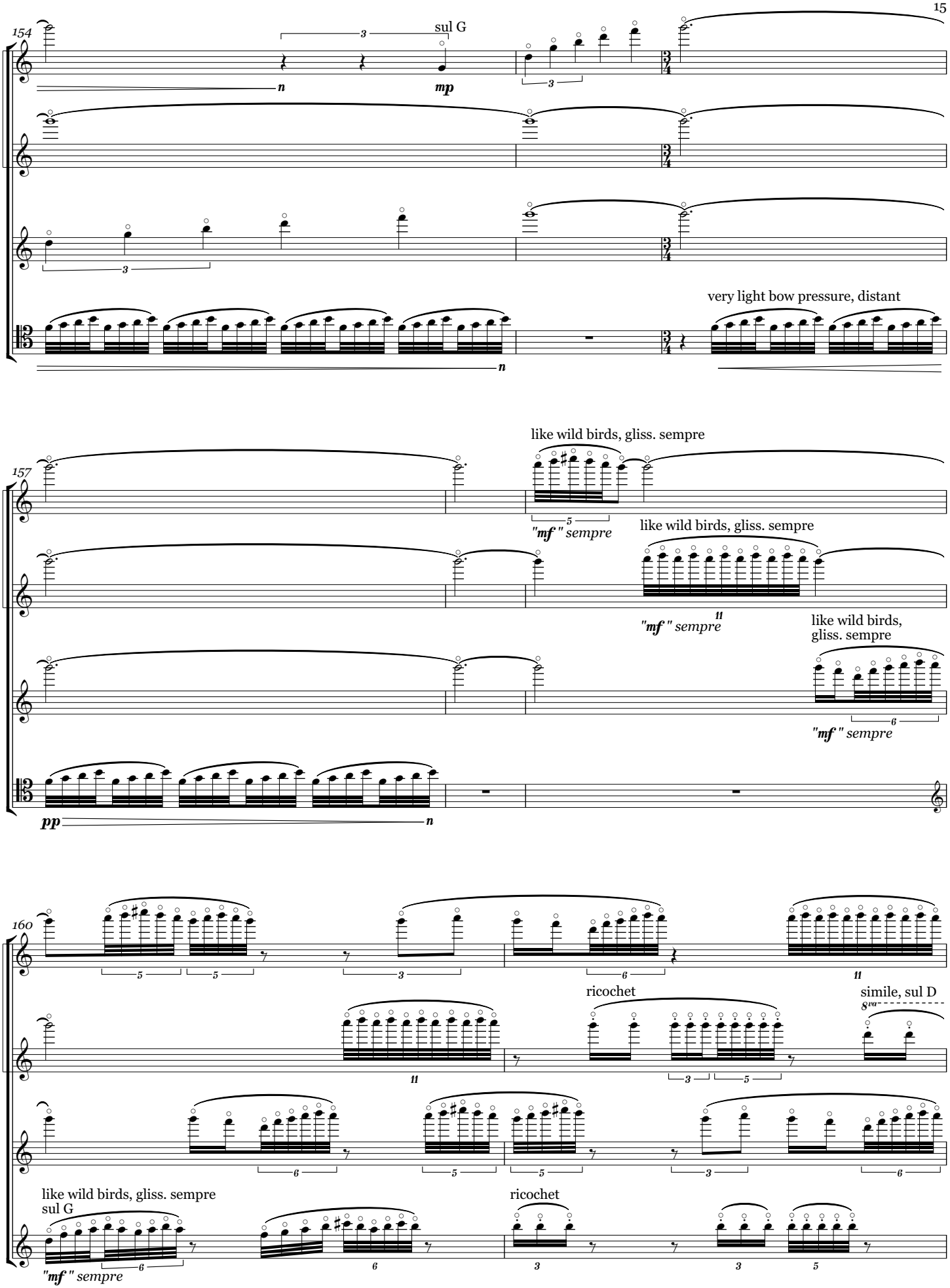


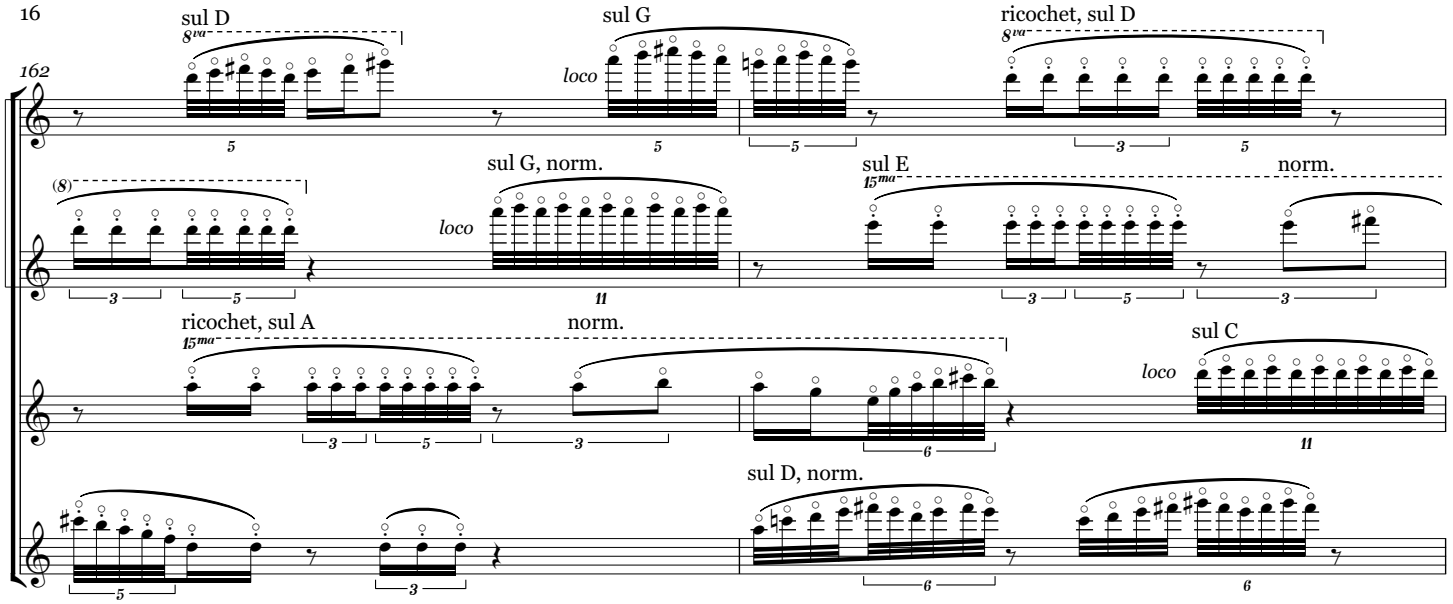
150

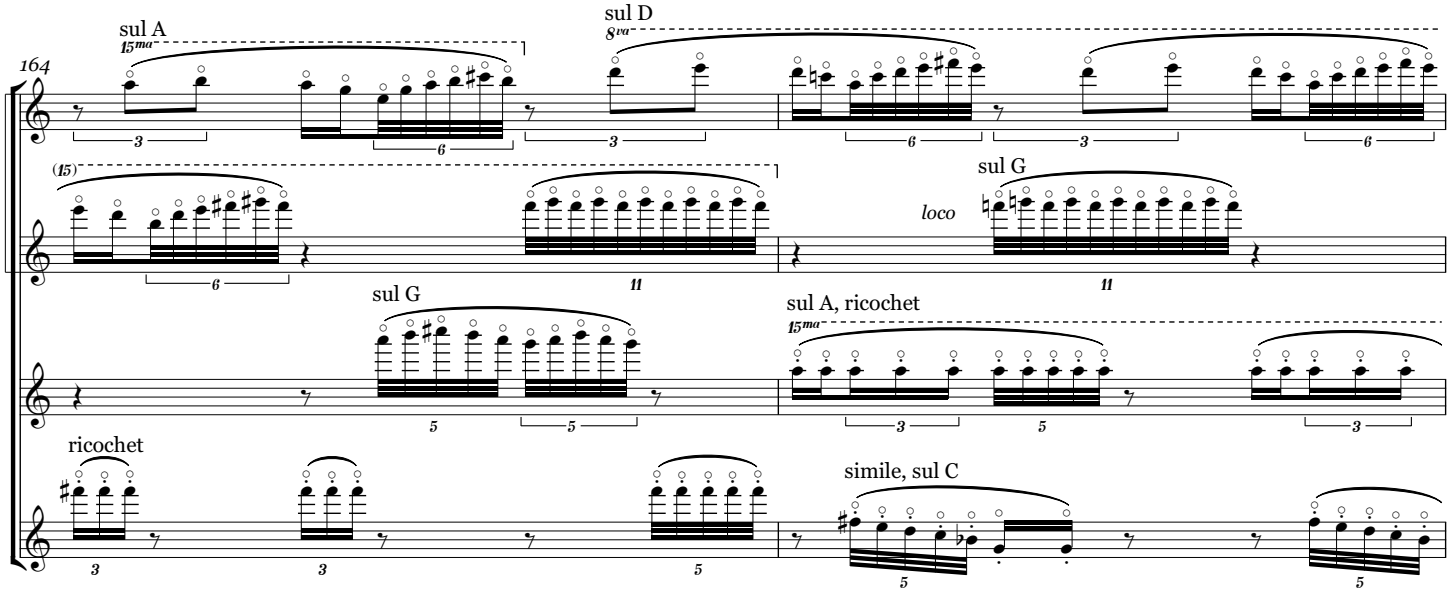


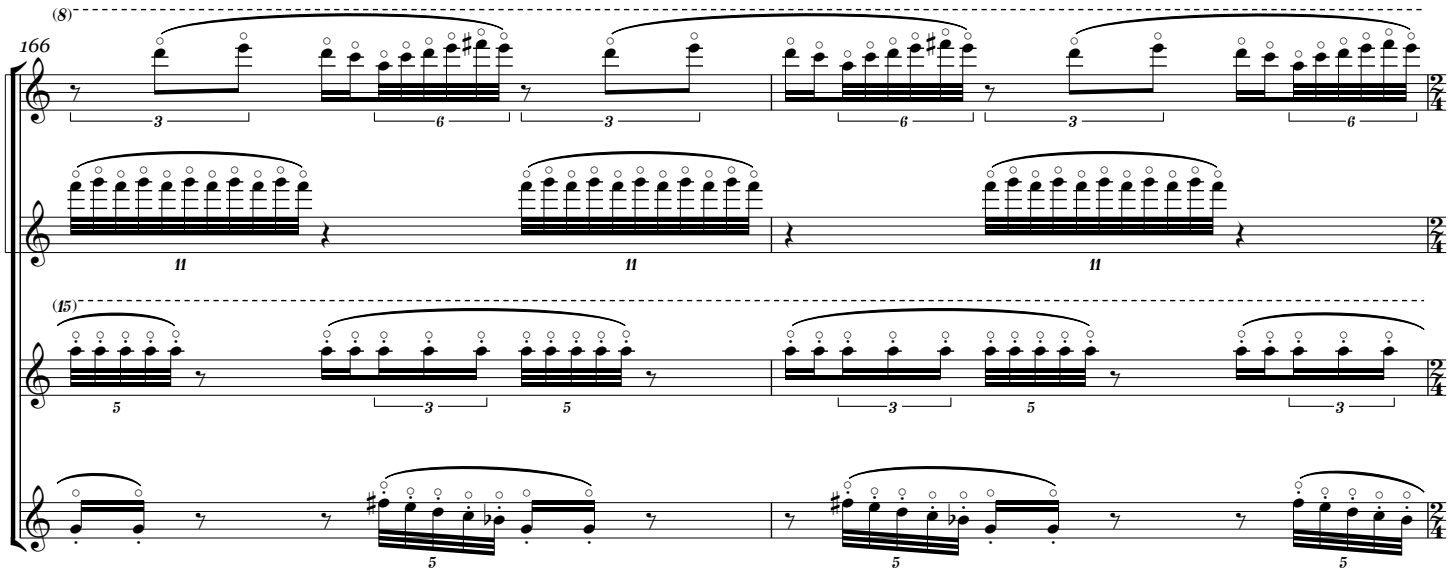
152

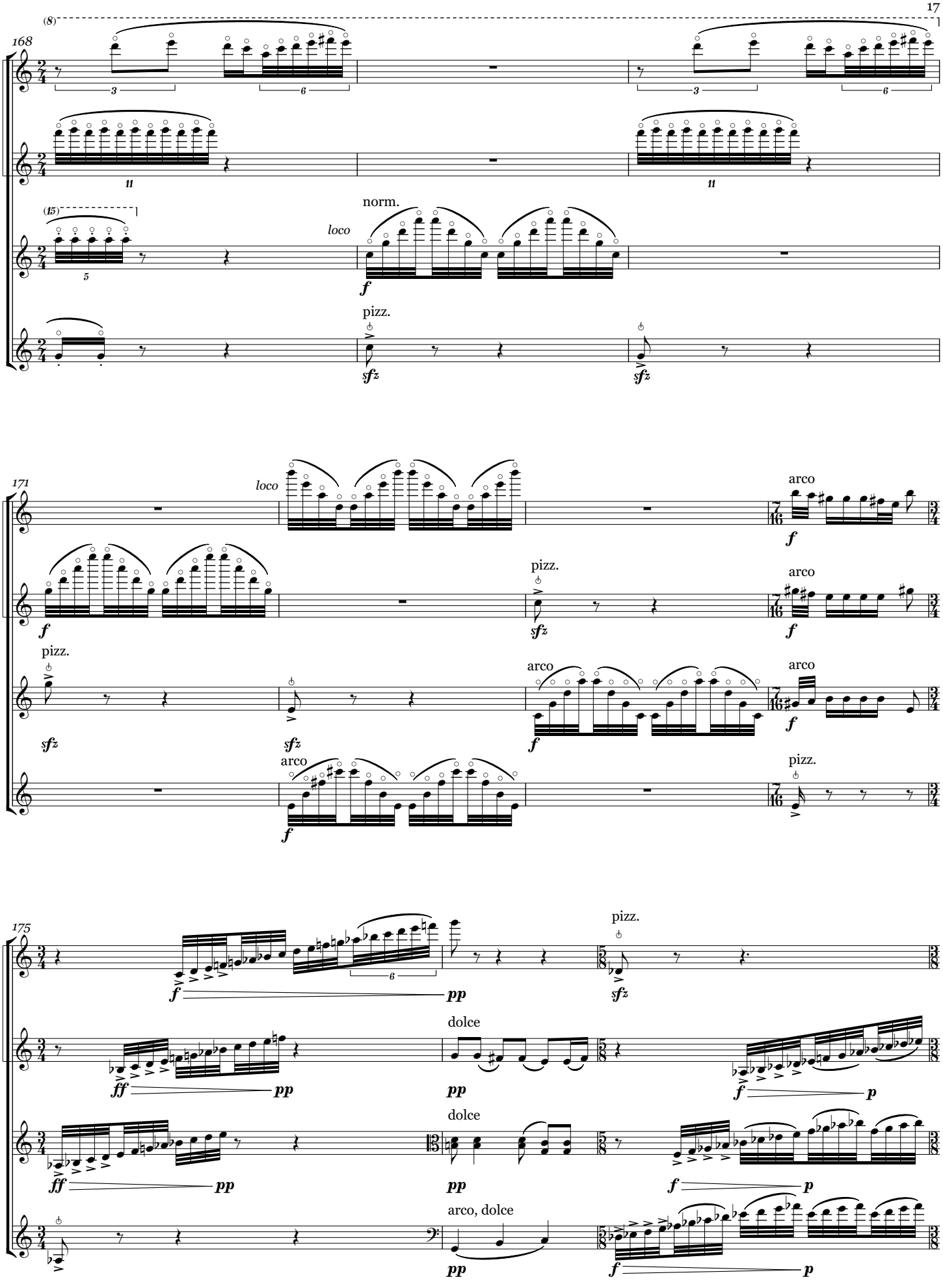


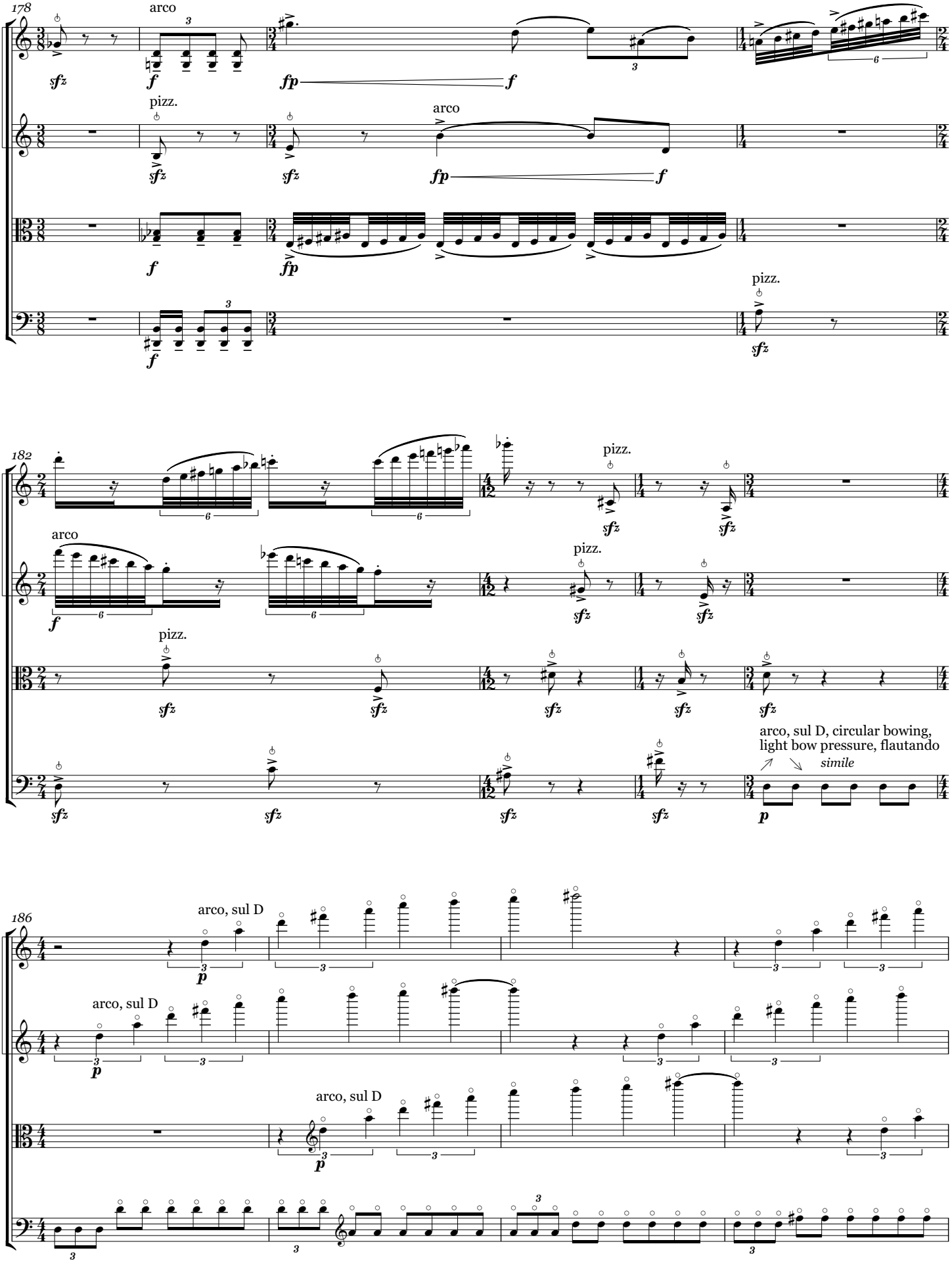

154
sul G
mp
very light bow pressure, distant
157
like wild birds, gliss. sempre
"mf" sempre
like wild birds, gliss. sempre
"mf" sempre
like wild birds,
gliss. sempre
"mf" sempre
pp
160
ricochet
simile, sul D
like wild birds, gliss. sempre
sul G
"mf" sempre
ricochet

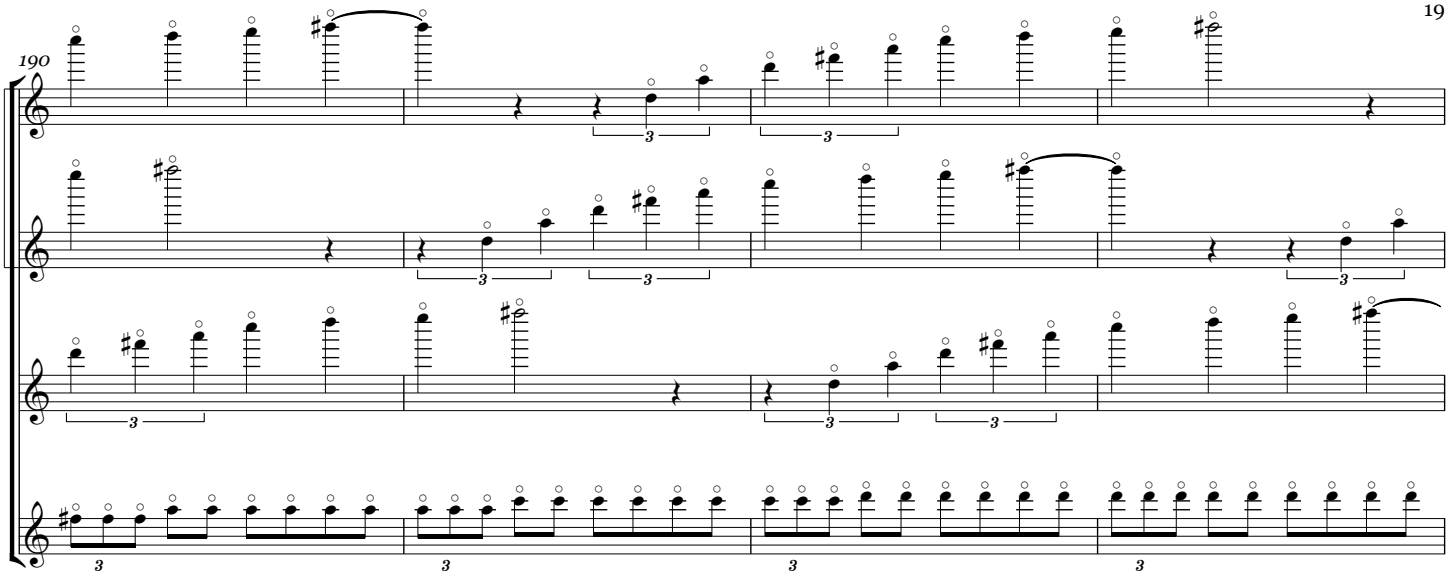

162
sul D
8va
sul G
loco
ricochet, sul D
8va
(8)
sul G, norm.
loco
sul E
15ma
norm.
ricochet, sul A
15ma
norm.
sul C
loco
sul D, norm.

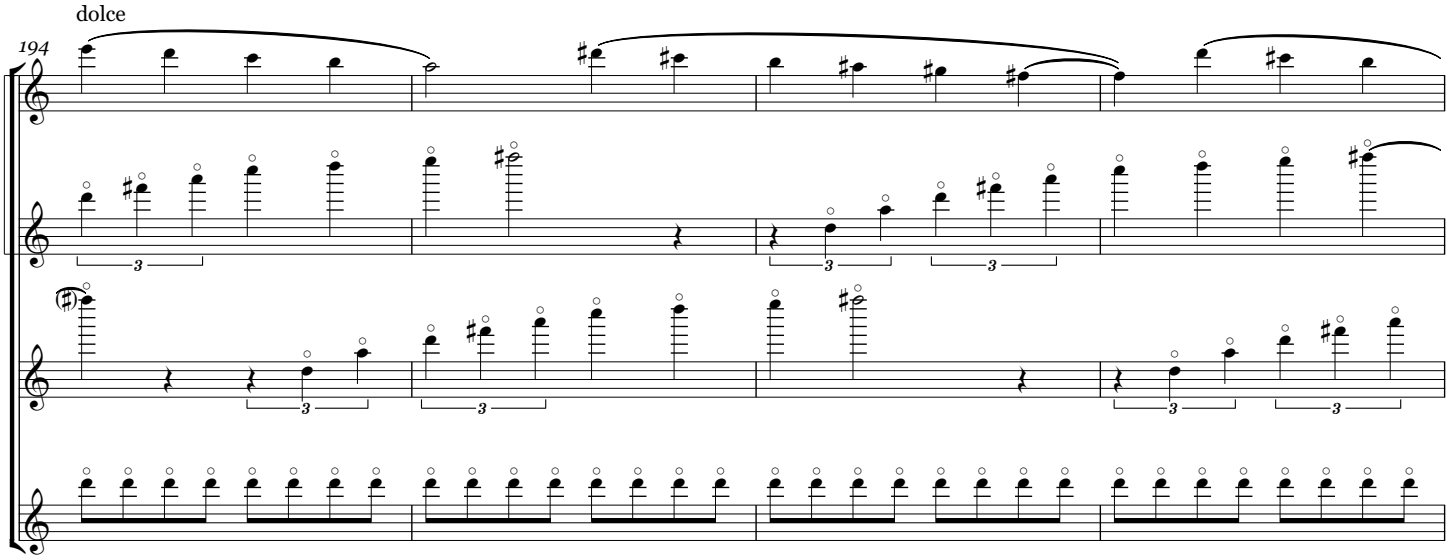

164
sul A
15ma
sul D
8va
(15)
sul G
loco
sul G
sul A, ricochet
15ma
ricochet
simile, sul C

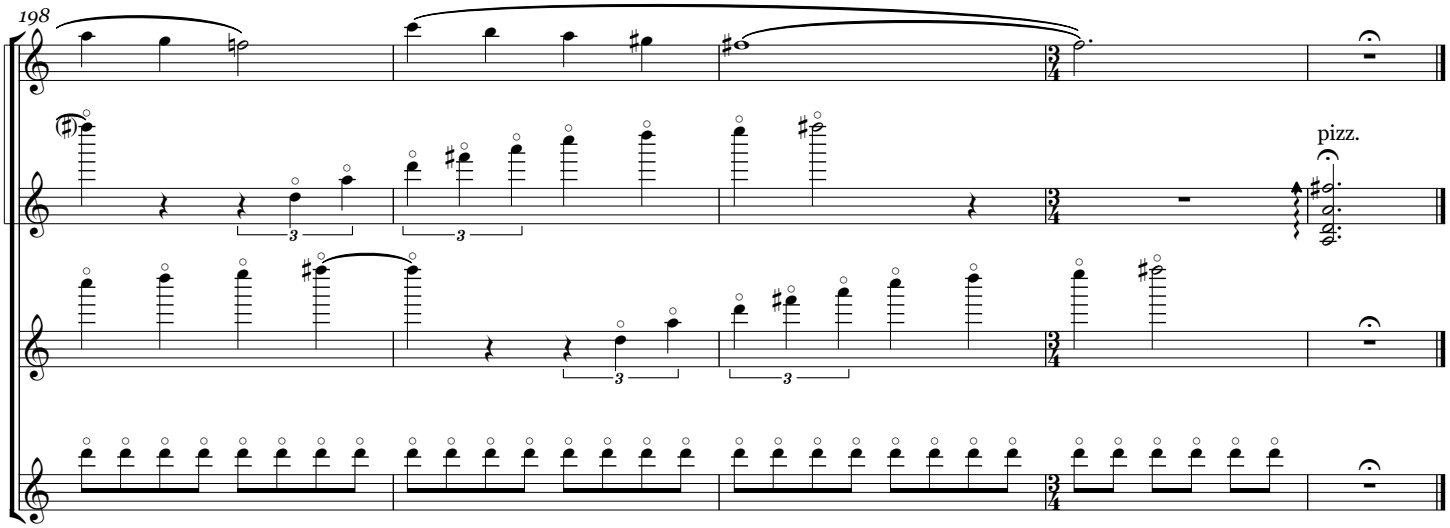

166
(8)
(15)


168
(8)
(15)
loco
norm.
pizz.
171
arco
175
dolce
arco, dolce


178
arco
pizz.
arco
182
pizz.
arco
pizz.
pizz.
arco, sul D, circular bowing,
light bow pressure, flautando
simile
186
arco, sul D
arco, sul D
arco, sul D


190

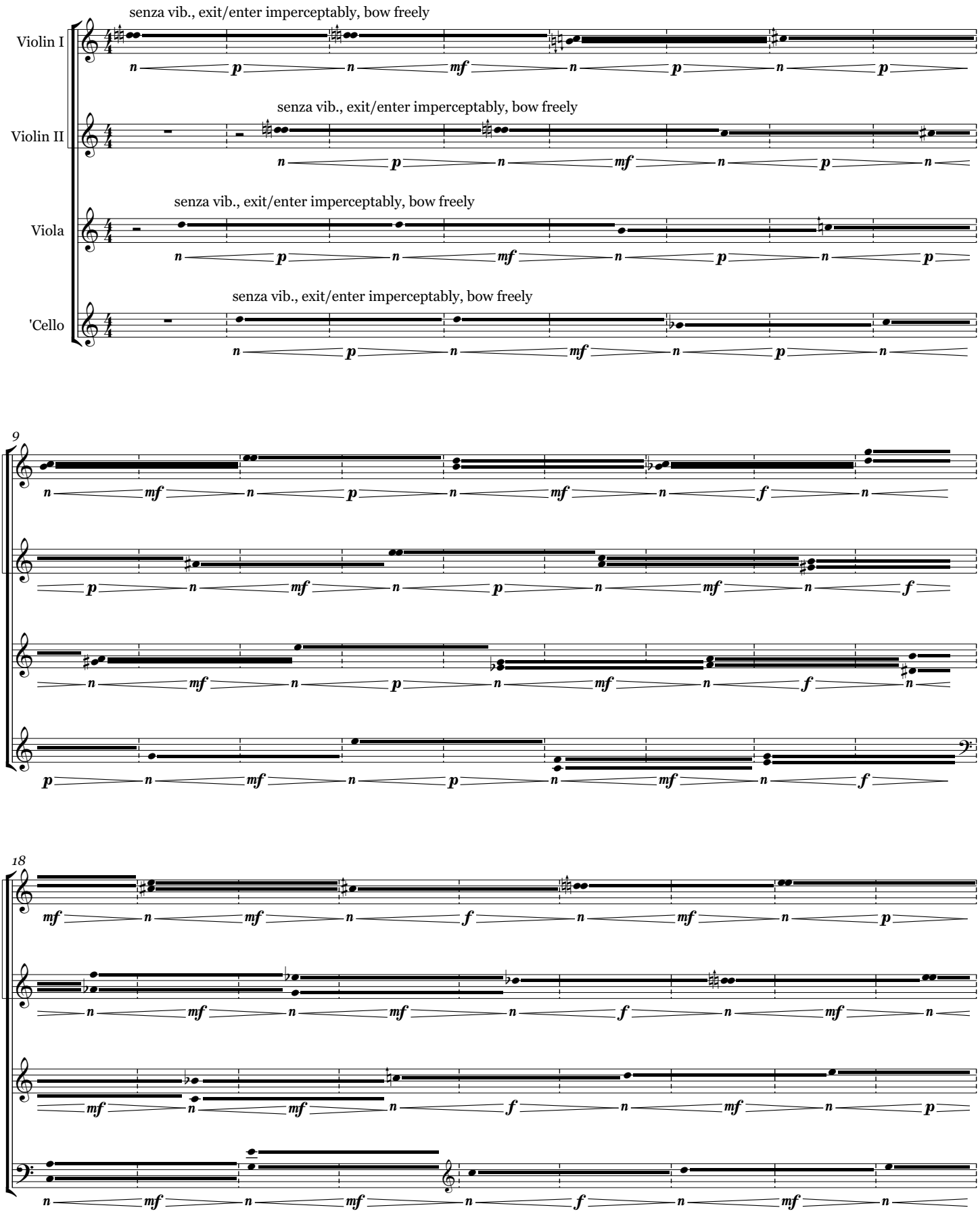

dolce
194


198
pizz.

II. SUMMER INTO FALL

Slow and intense ♩ = 58

Christopher Stark (2018)



Allegro ♪ = 132+

27

PLAY 4x

n *f* *n* *ff poss. sempre*

PLAY 4x

p *n* *f* *n* *ff poss. sempre*

PLAY 4x

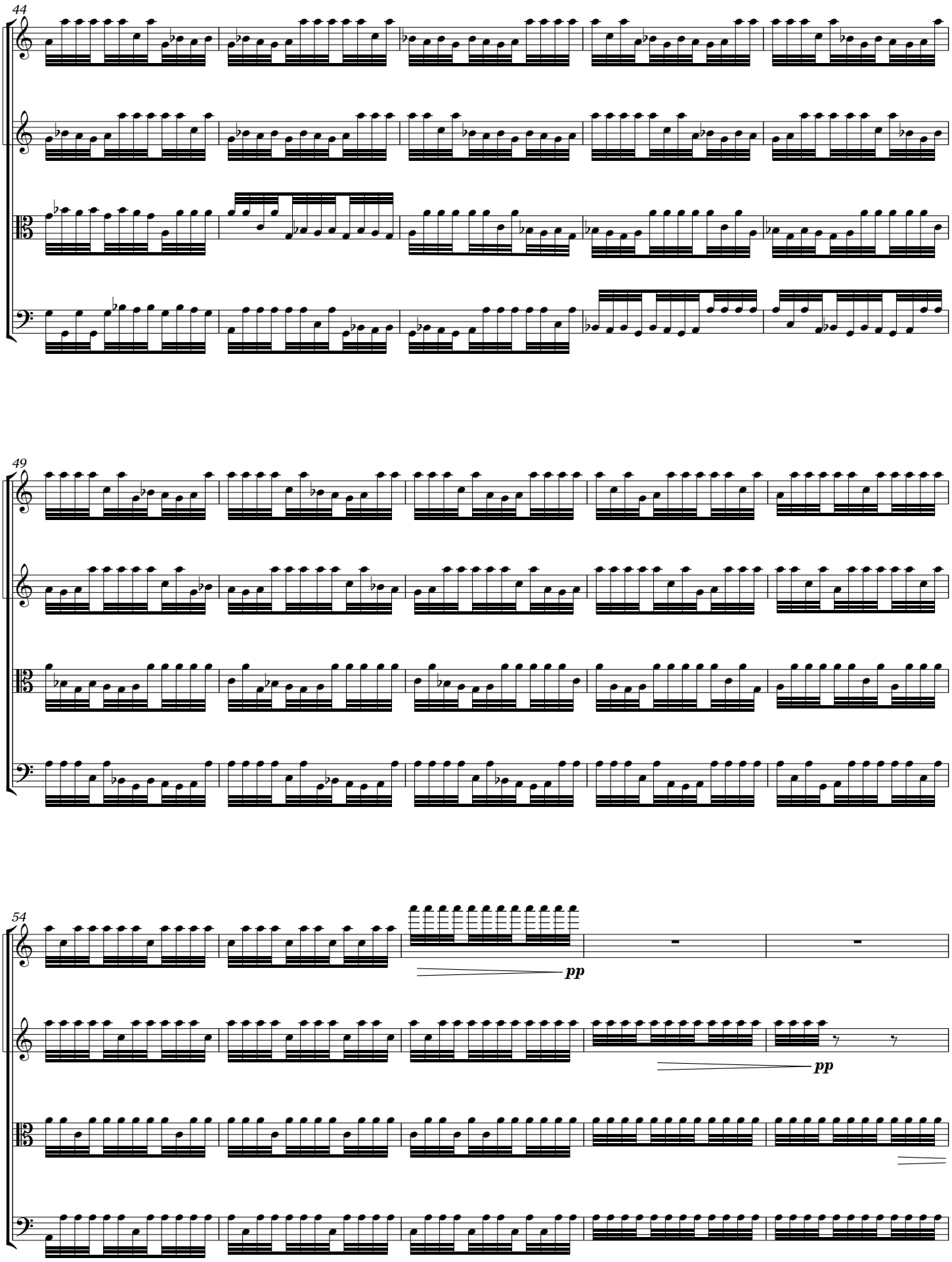
n *f* *n* *ff poss. sempre*

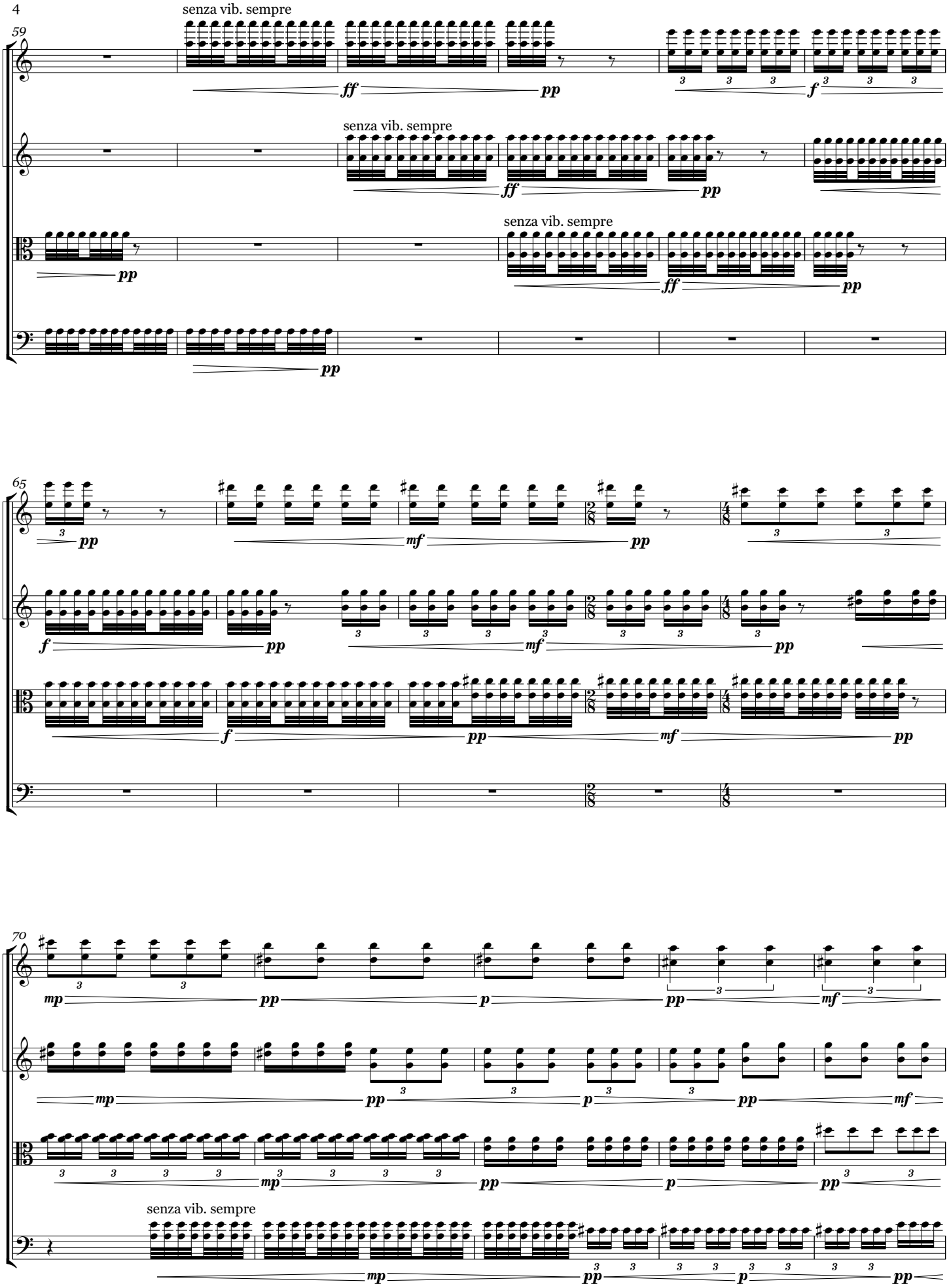
PLAY 4x

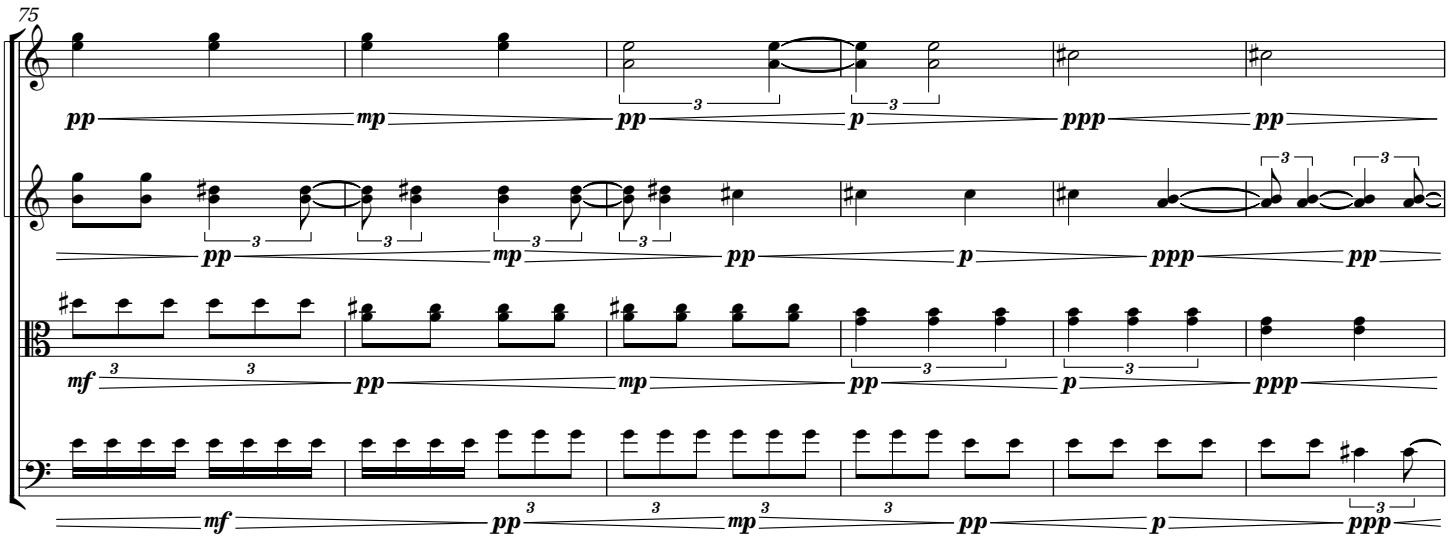
p *n* *f* *n* *ff poss. sempre*

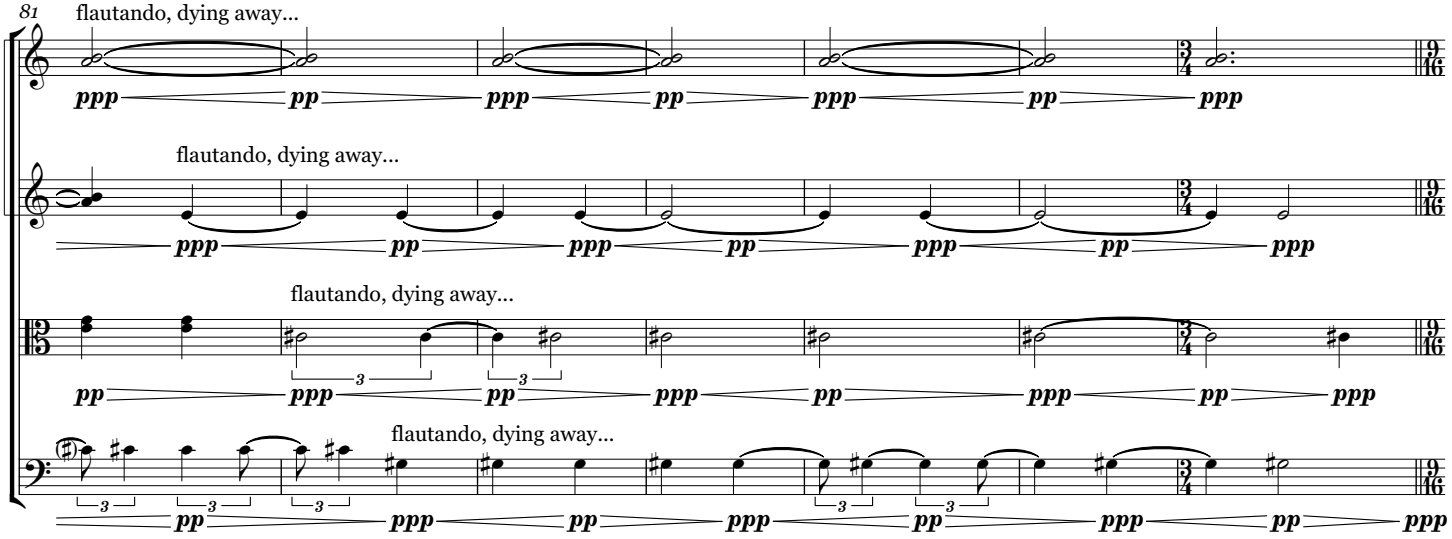
34

39

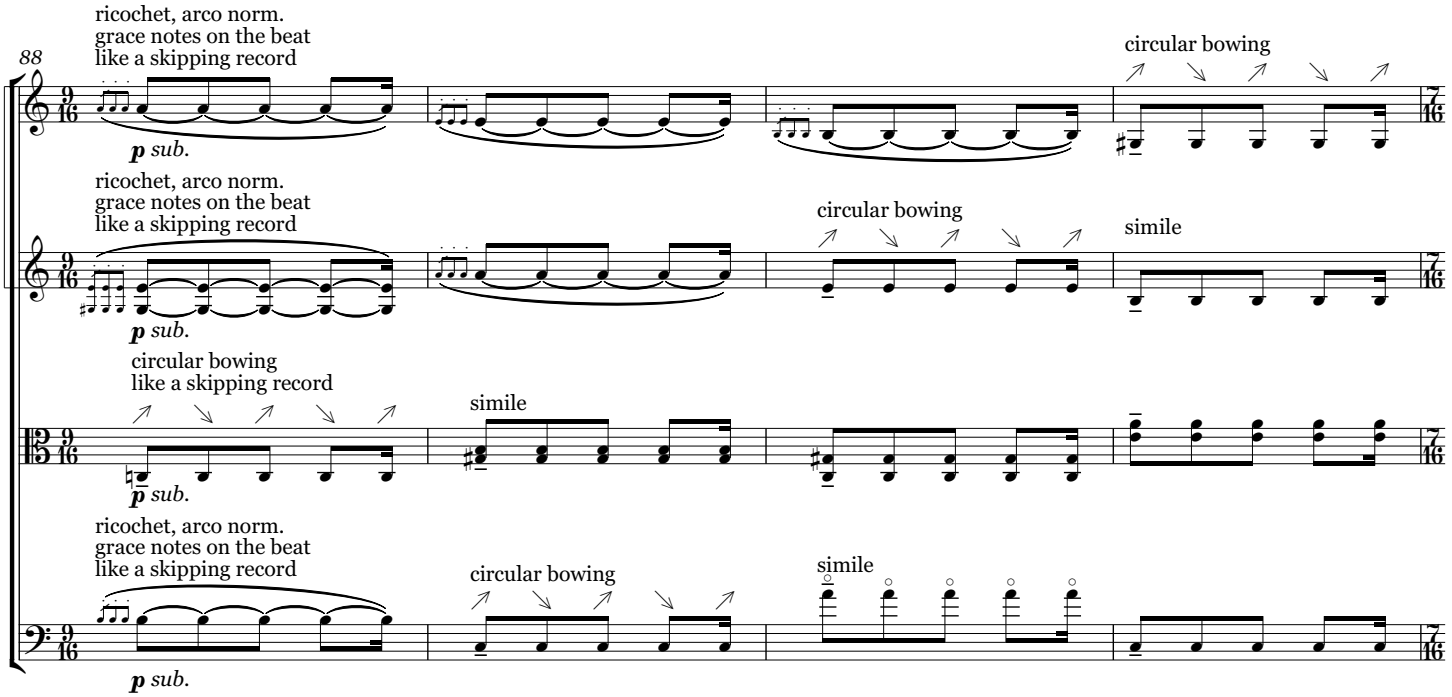

44
49
54
pp
pp

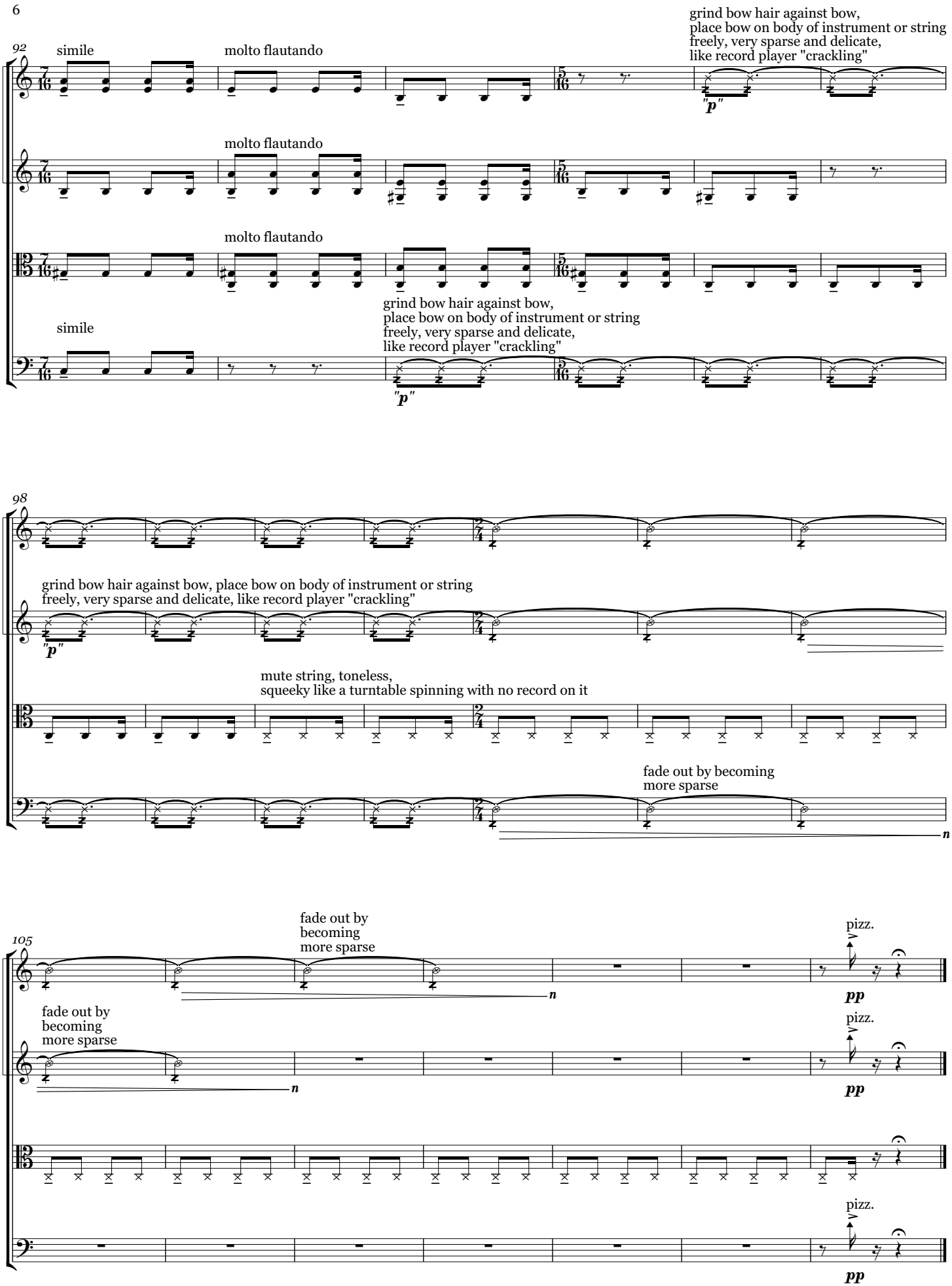

59
senza vib. sempre
ff
pp
f
senza vib. sempre
ff
pp
senza vib. sempre
pp
ff
pp
pp
65
pp
mf
pp
f
pp
mf
pp
f
pp
mf
pp
70
mp
pp
p
pp
mf
mp
pp
p
pp
mf
mp
pp
p
pp
senza vib. sempre
mp
pp
p
pp





Suddenly, Andante ♪ = 96




92
simile
molto flautando
grind bow hair against bow,
place bow on body of instrument or string
freely, very sparse and delicate,
like record player "crackling"
"p"
molto flautando
molto flautando
simile
grind bow hair against bow,
place bow on body of instrument or string
freely, very sparse and delicate,
like record player "crackling"
"p"
98
grind bow hair against bow, place bow on body of instrument or string
freely, very sparse and delicate, like record player "crackling"
"p"
mute string, toneless,
squeeky like a turntable spinning with no record on it
fade out by becoming
more sparse
n
105
fade out by
becoming
more sparse
n
pizz.
pp
fade out by
becoming
more sparse
n
pizz.
pp
pizz.
pp

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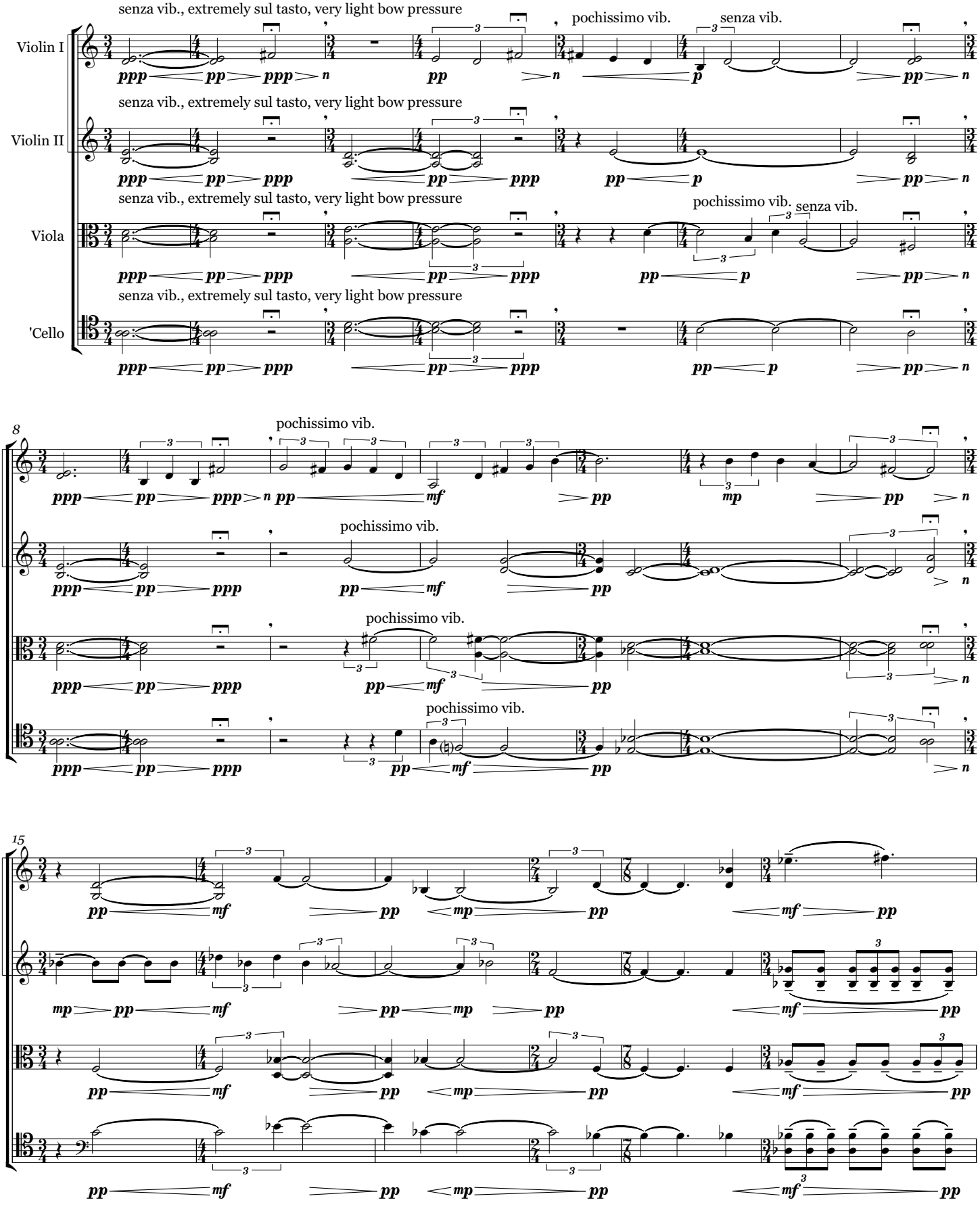
III. WINTER MUSIC

Christopher Stark (2016)

Delicately, patiently, ghostly, distant, with rubato (♩. = 72)



rit.

With energy ♩. = 60

21

mp pp p ppp n pp

27

ff

Play this measure 4x

(repeat ord.)

29

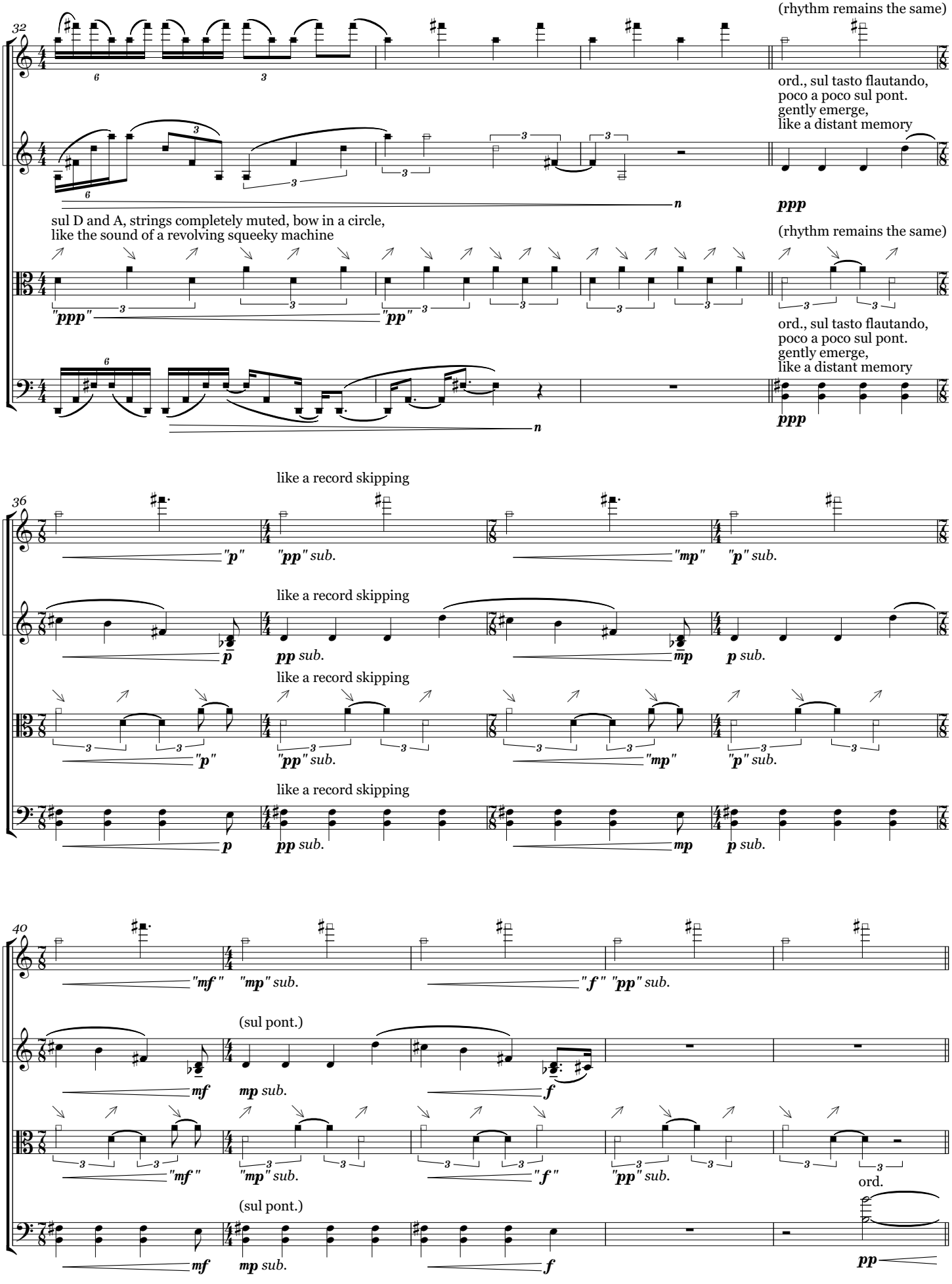
gradually becoming toneless
lifting fingers, gradually muting strings,
disintegrating

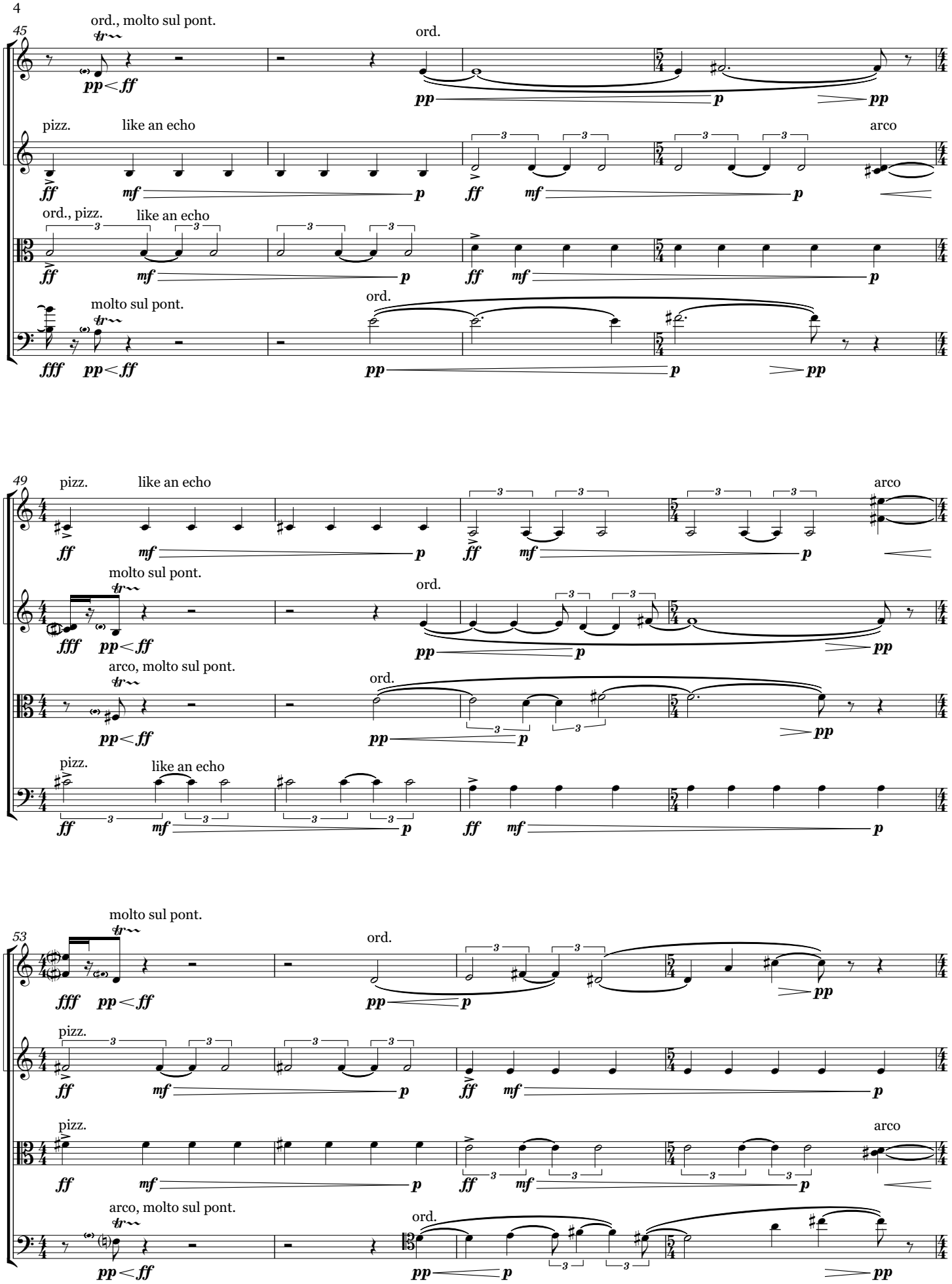
muted, toneless, noise

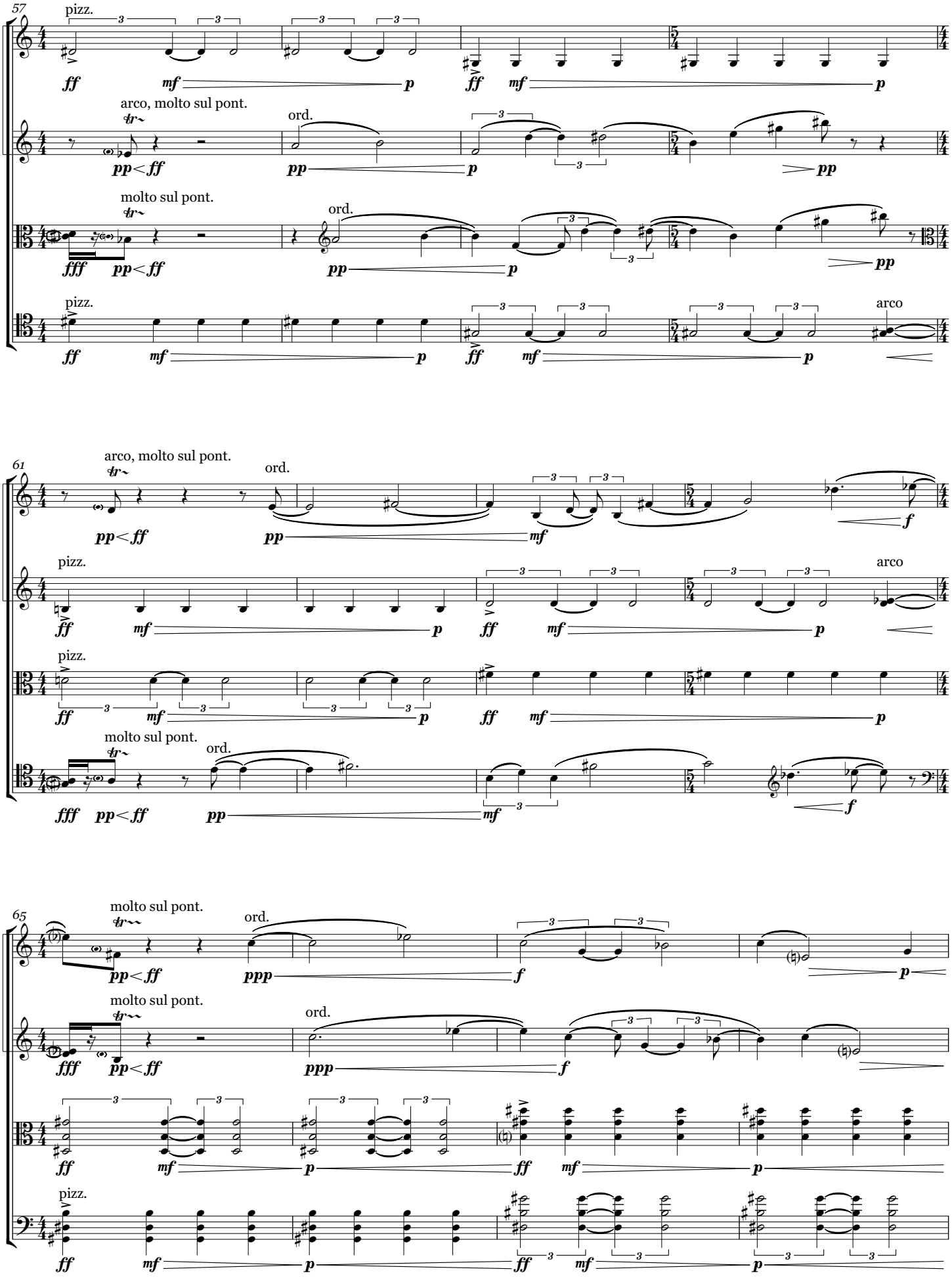
decresc. poco a poco
don't fade too quickly

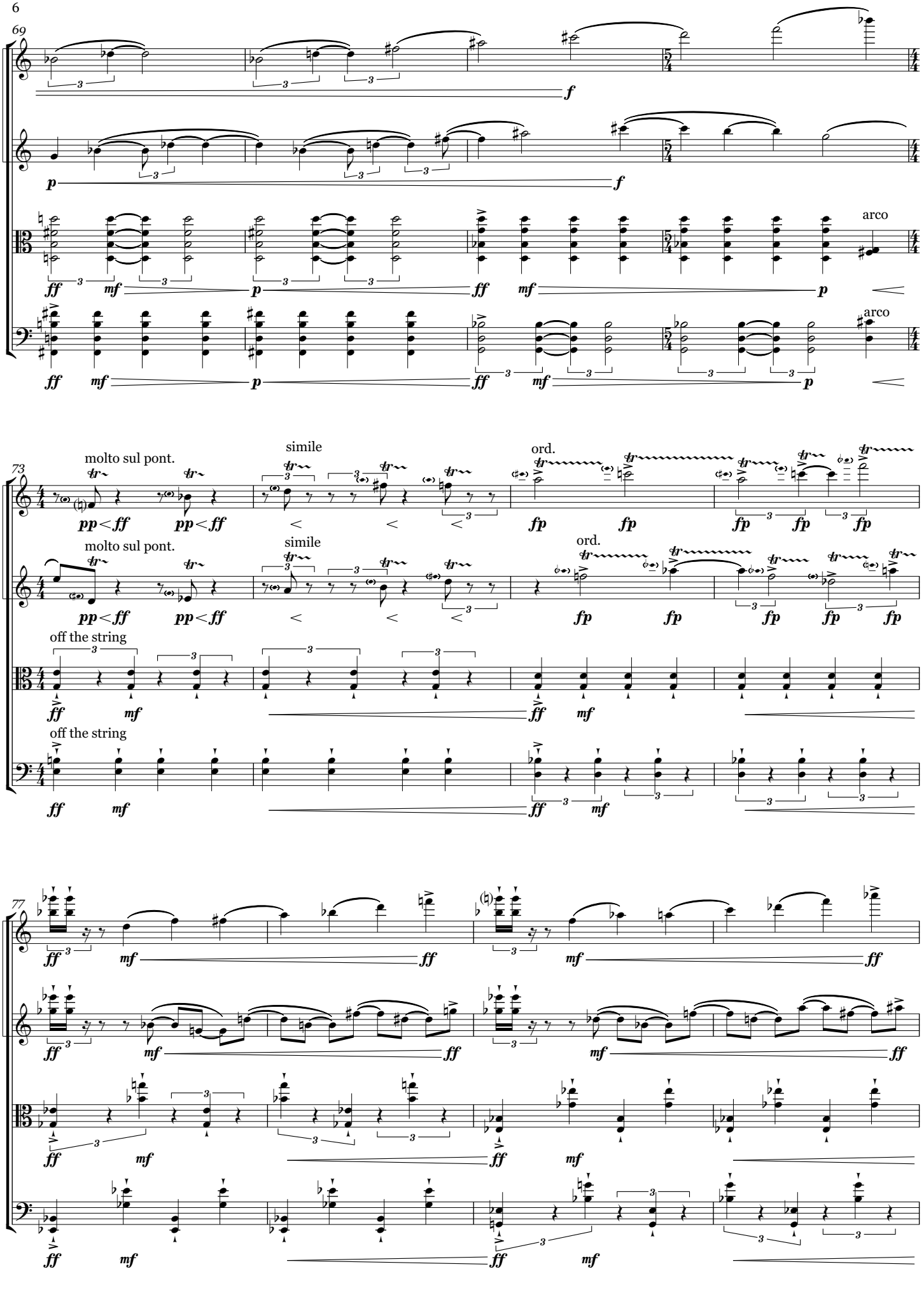
(p continue decresc.)

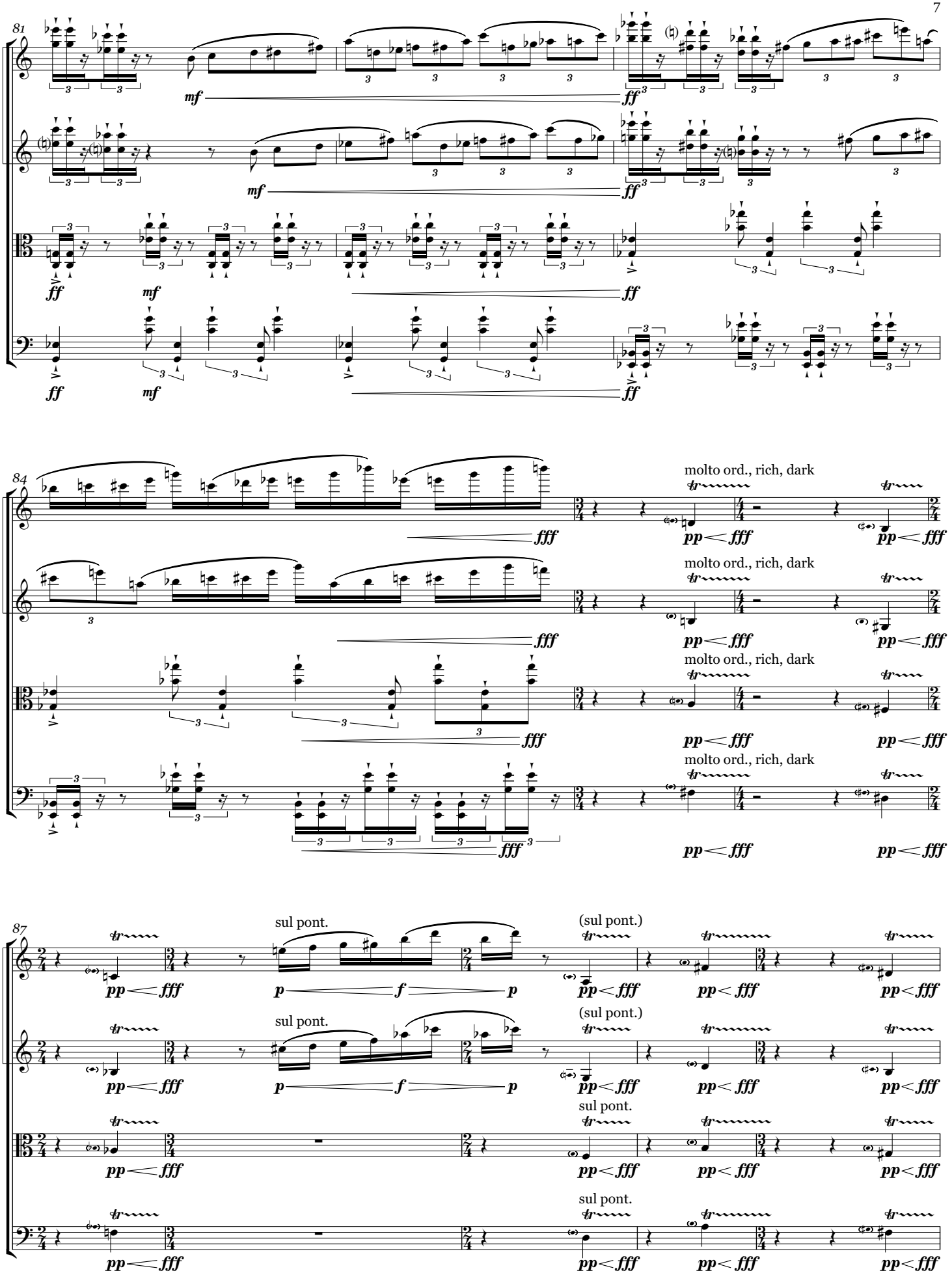
"ppp" sempre

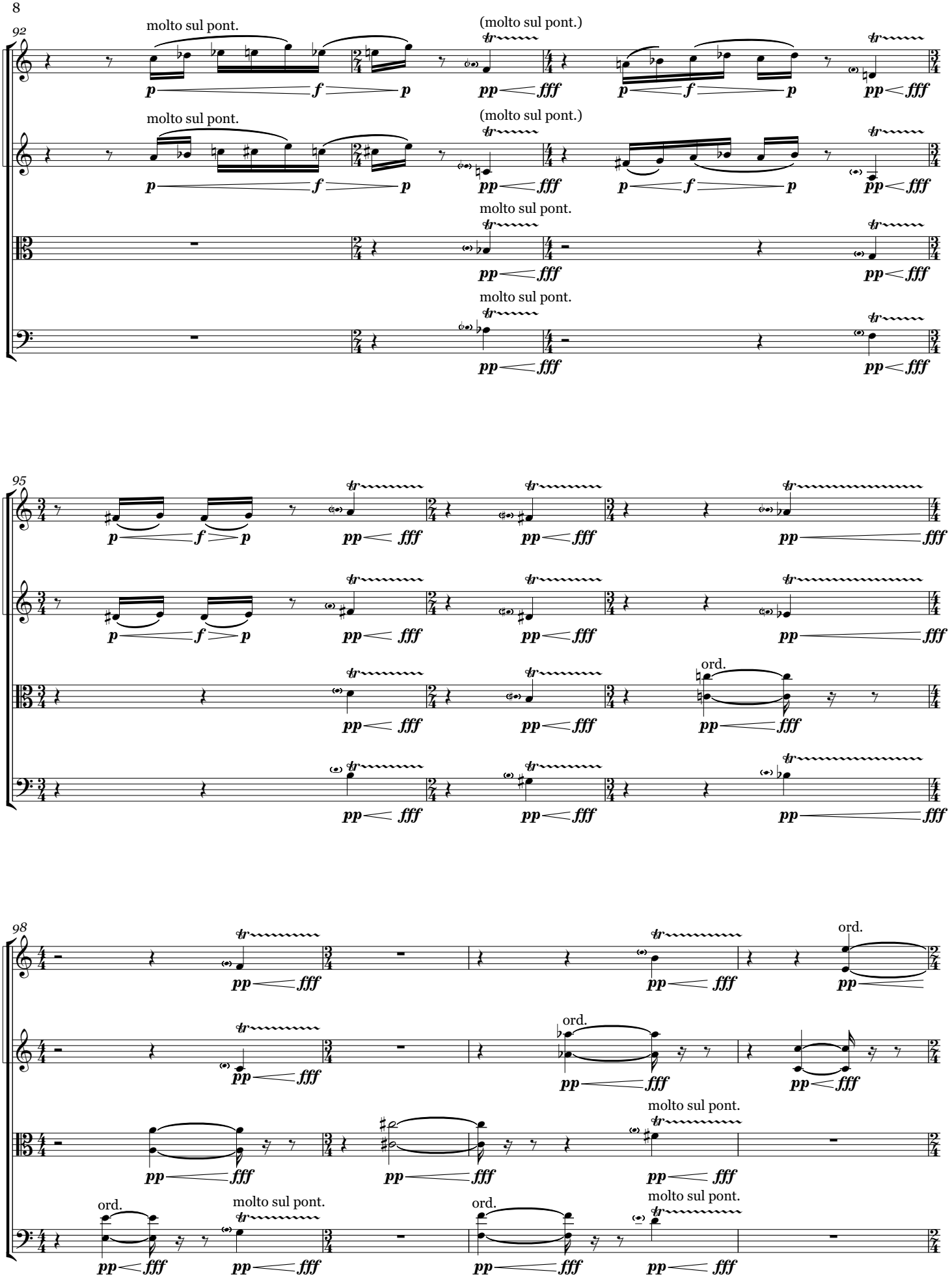

32
(rhythm remains the same)
ord., sul tasto flautando,
poco a poco sul pont.
gently emerge,
like a distant memory
ppp
sul D and A, strings completely muted, bow in a circle,
like the sound of a revolving squeeky machine
"ppp"
"pp"
(rhythm remains the same)
ord., sul tasto flautando,
poco a poco sul pont.
gently emerge,
like a distant memory
ppp
36
like a record skipping
"p"
"pp" sub.
"mp"
"p" sub.
like a record skipping
p
pp sub.
mp
p sub.
like a record skipping
"p"
"pp" sub.
"mp"
"p" sub.
like a record skipping
p
pp sub.
mp
p sub.
40
"mf"
"mp" sub.
"f"
"pp" sub.
(sul pont.)
mf
mp sub.
f
"mf"
"mp" sub.
"f"
"pp" sub.
ord.
(sul pont.)
mf
mp sub.
f
pp

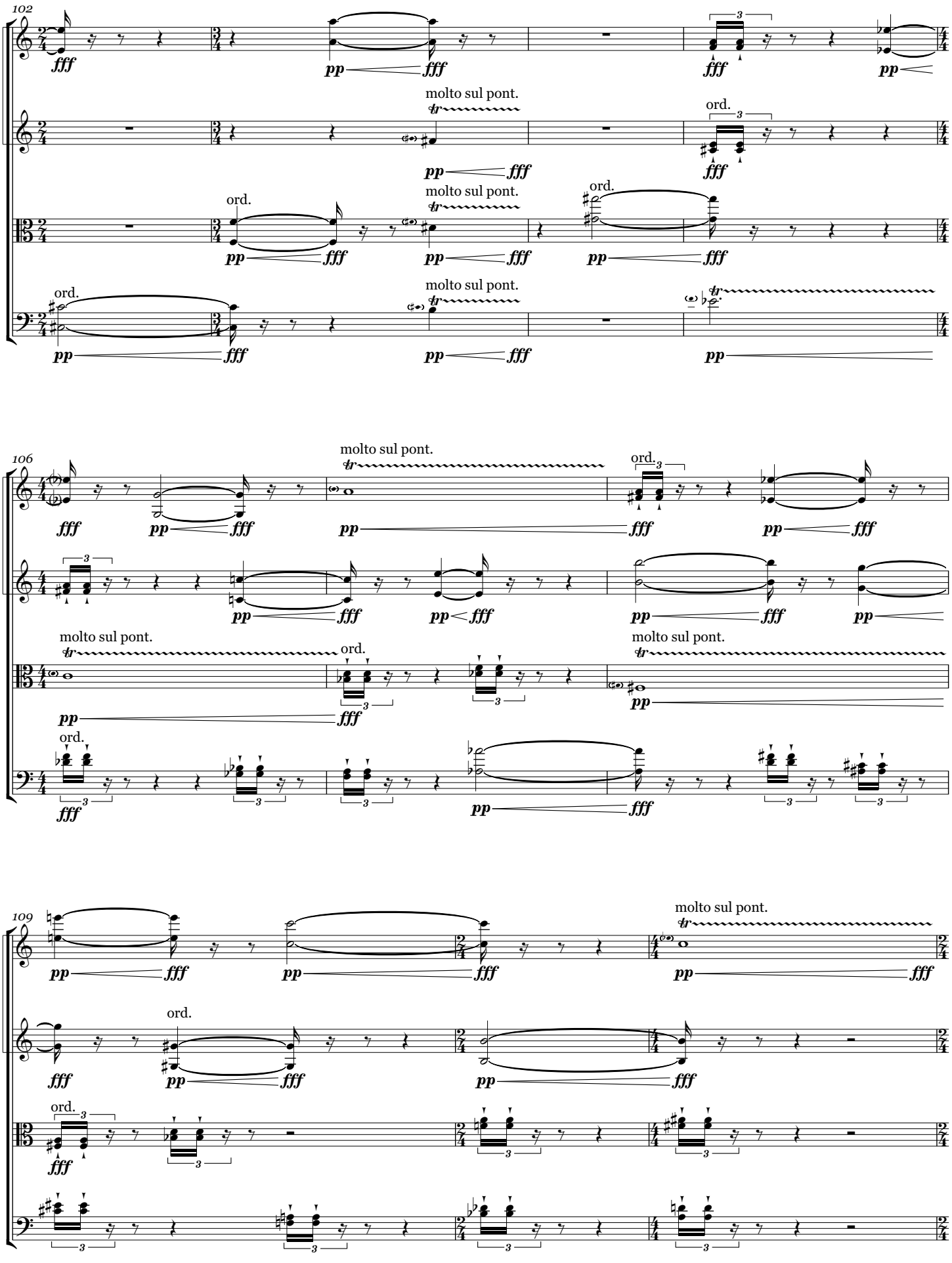

45
ord., molto sul pont.
ord.
pizz.
like an echo
arco
ord., pizz.
like an echo
molto sul pont.
ord.
49
pizz.
like an echo
arco
molto sul pont.
ord.
arco, molto sul pont.
ord.
pizz.
like an echo
53
molto sul pont.
ord.
pizz.
pizz.
arco
arco, molto sul pont.
ord.

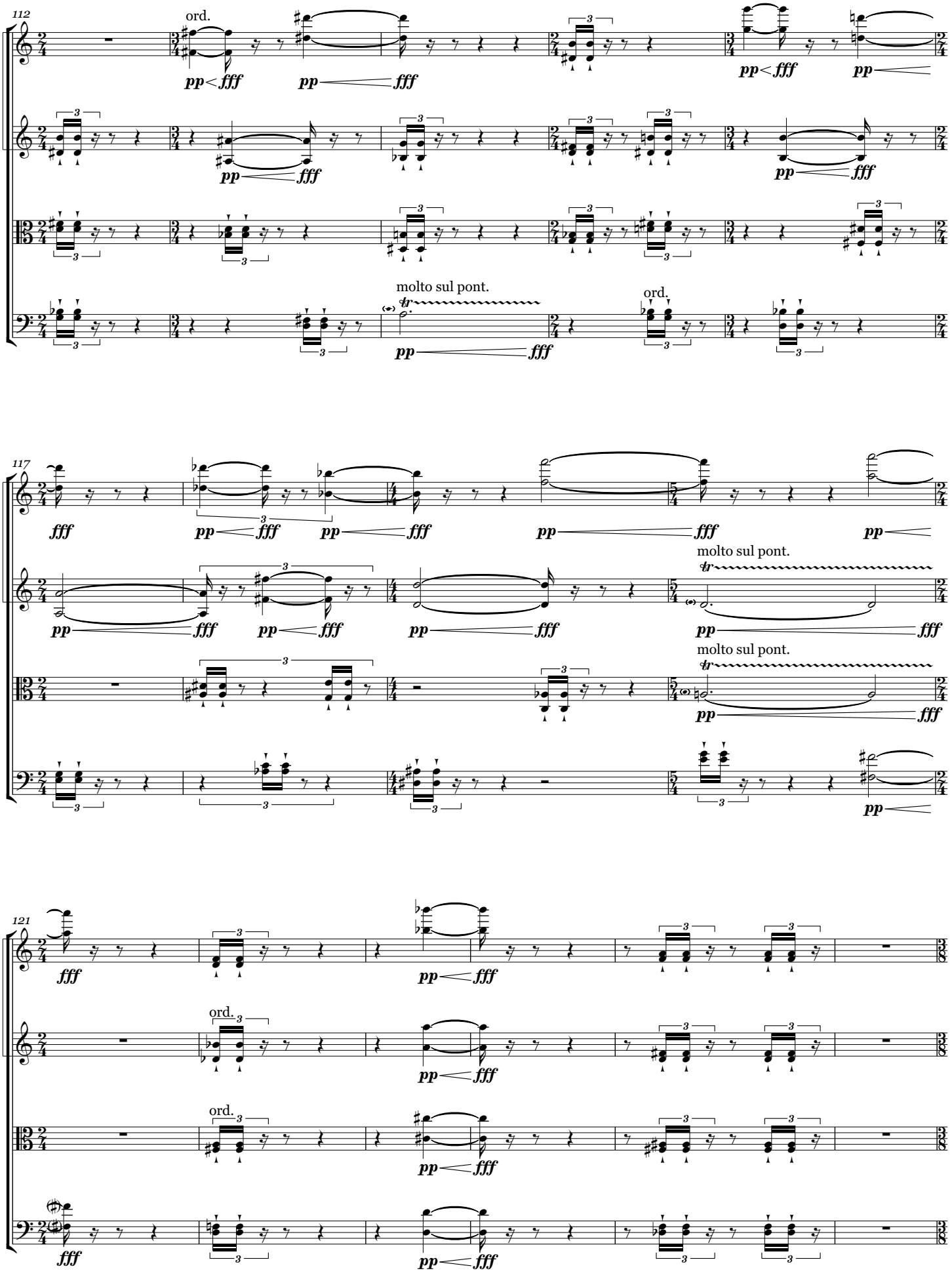

57
pizz.
arco, molto sul pont.
ord.
molto sul pont.
ord.
pizz.
arco
61
arco, molto sul pont.
ord.
pizz.
arco
pizz.
molto sul pont.
ord.
65
molto sul pont.
ord.
molto sul pont.
ord.
pizz.

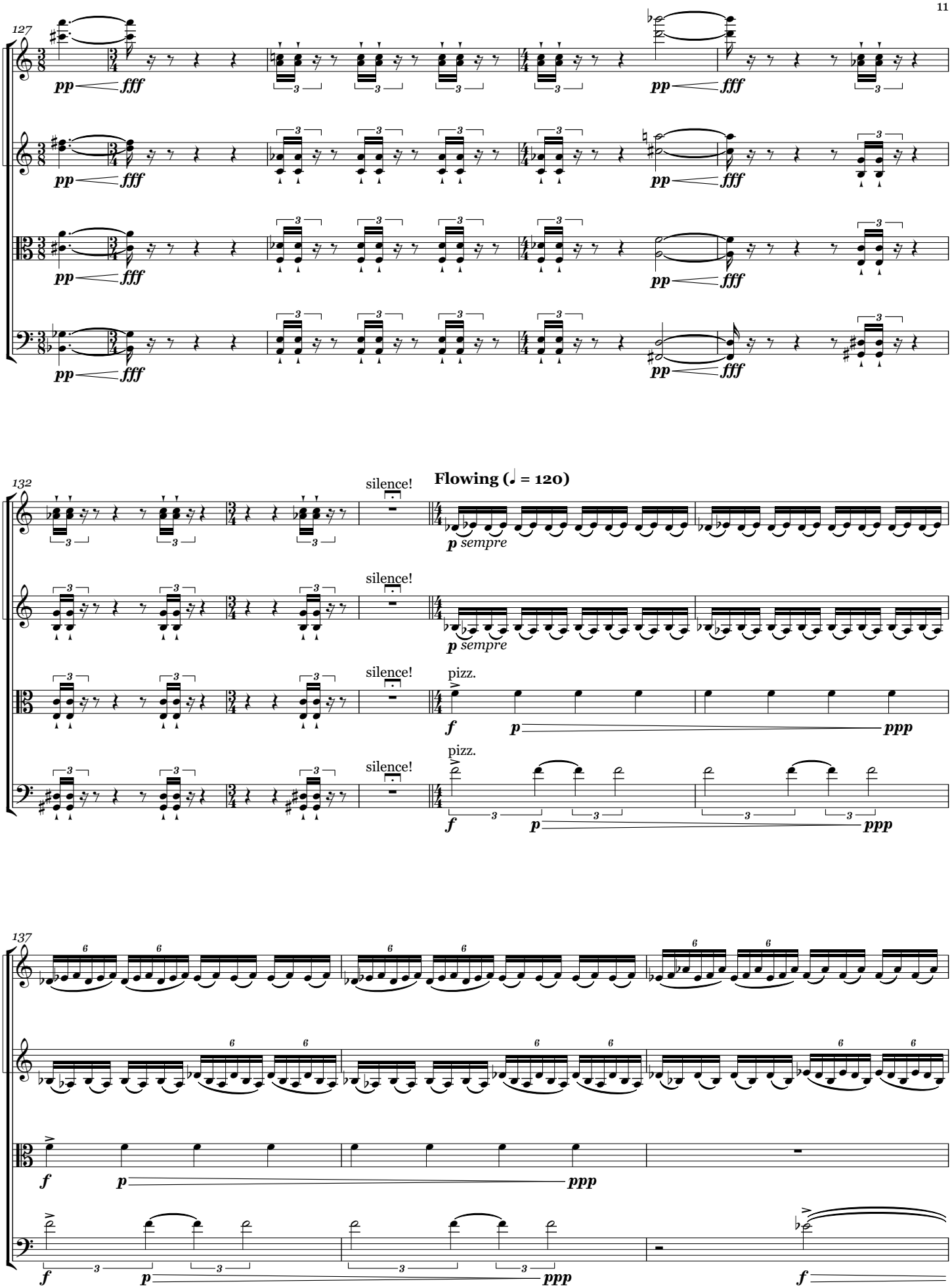

69
arco
arco
73
molto sul pont.
simile
ord.
molto sul pont.
simile
ord.
off the string
off the string
77

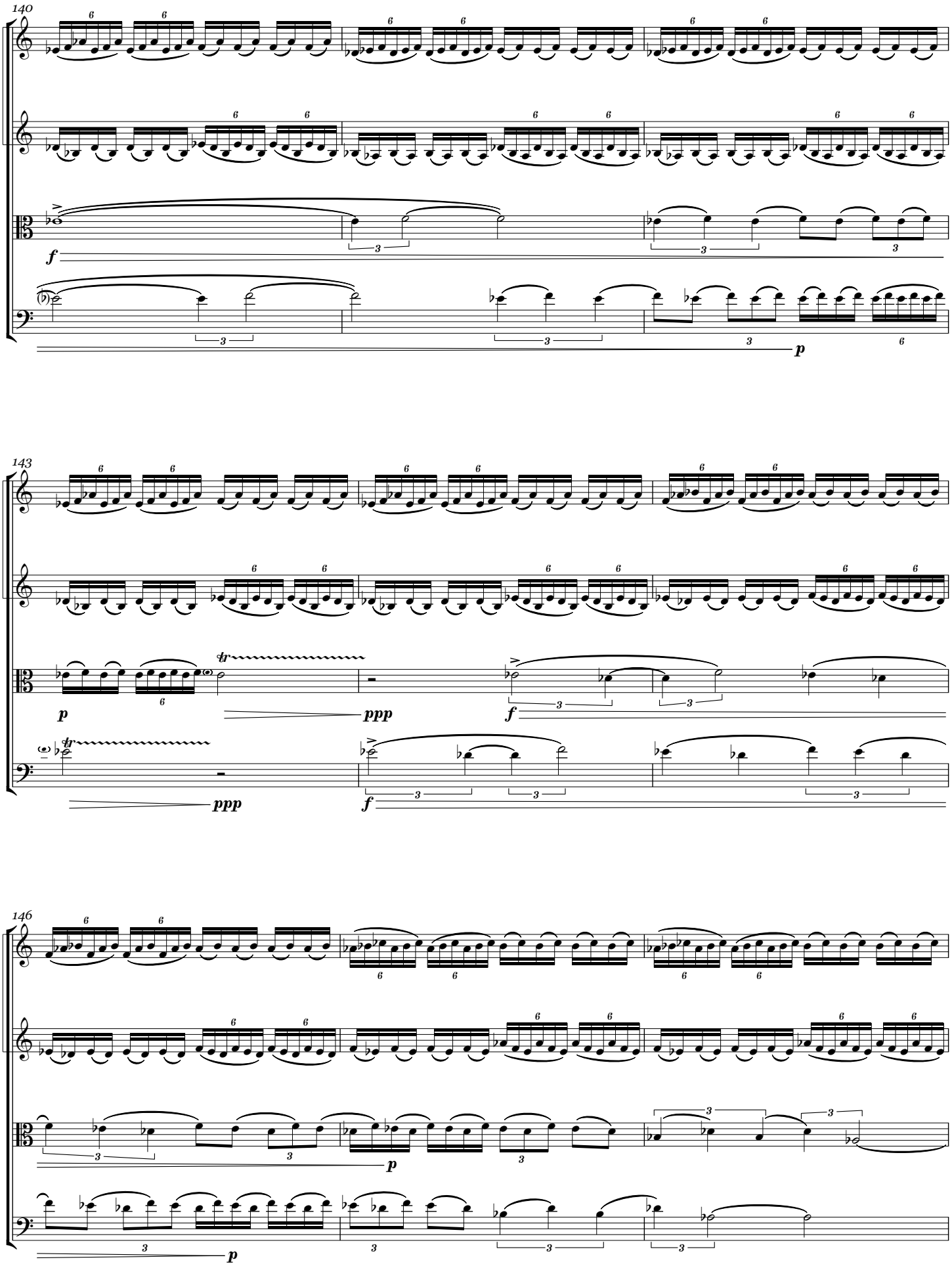

81
84
87
molto ord., rich, dark
sul pont.
(sul pont.)

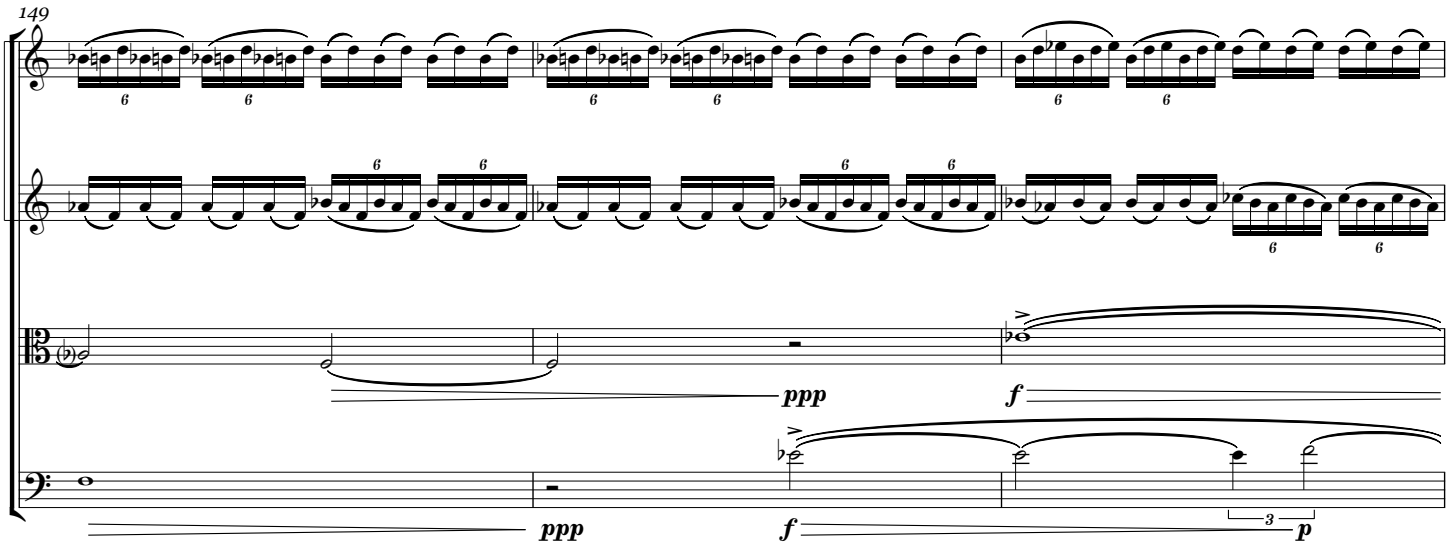

92
molto sul pont.
(molto sul pont.)
95
ord.
98
molto sul pont.
ord.

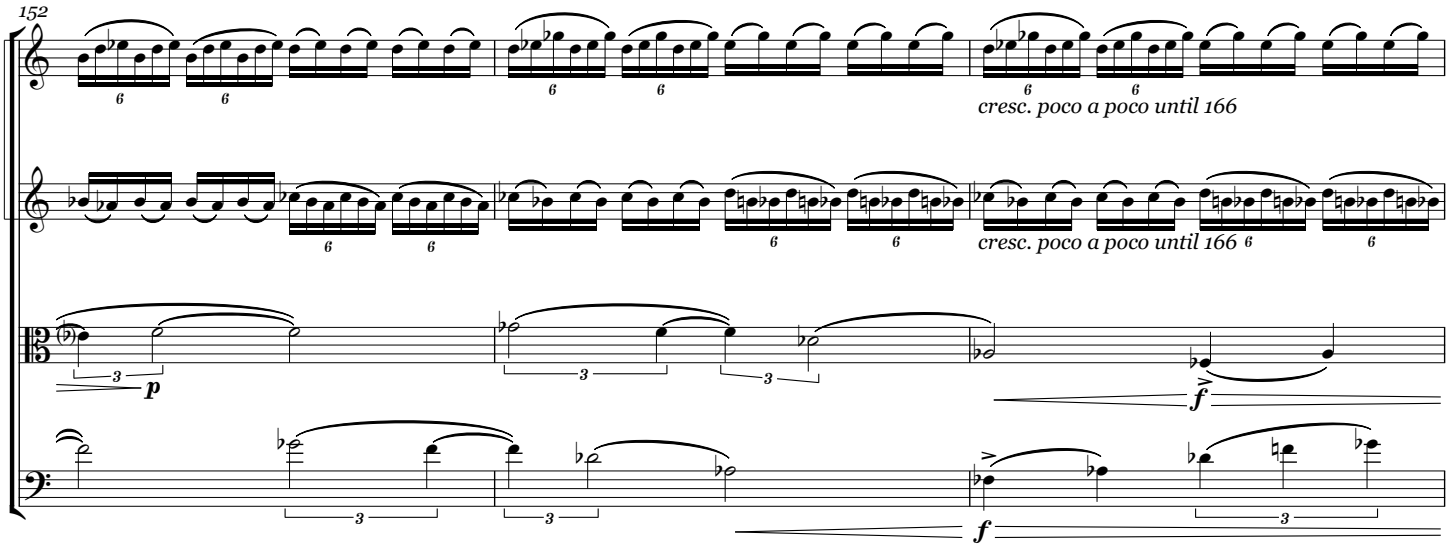

102
106
109
molto sul pont.
ord.
fff
pp

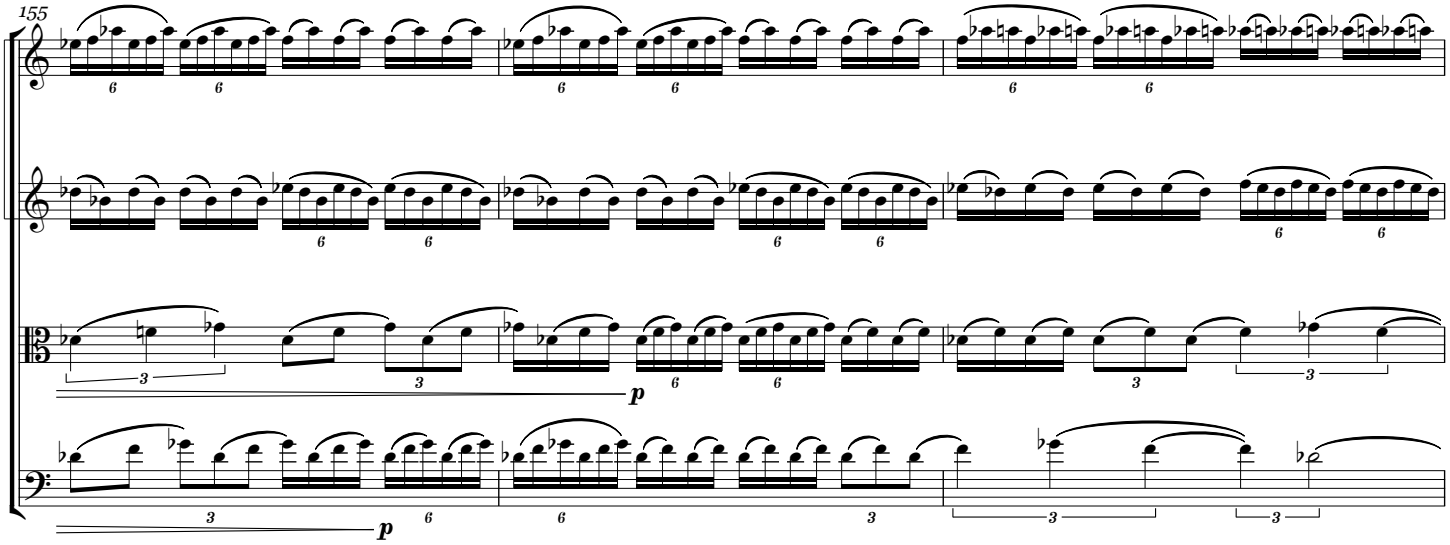

112
ord.
molto sul pont.
ord.
117
molto sul pont.
molto sul pont.
121
ord.
ord.


127
132
137
silence!
Flowing (♩ = 120)
pizz.
pp
fff
p sempre
f
p
ppp

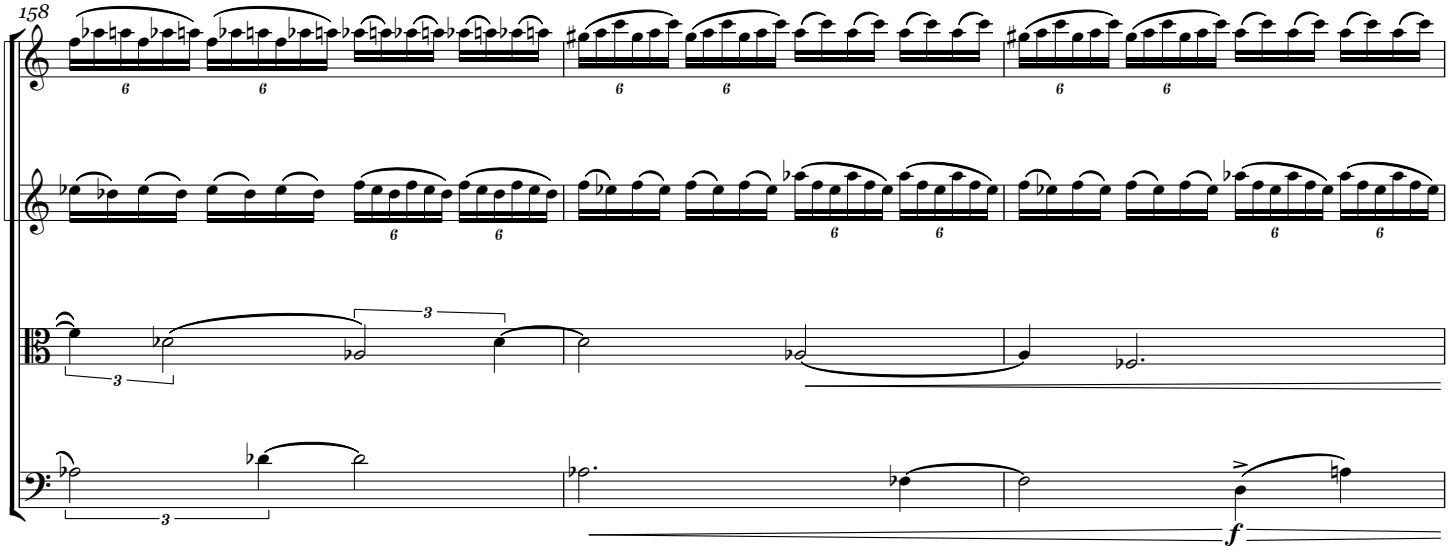

140
f
p
143
p
ppp
ppp
f
f
146
p
p


149
ppp
f
ppp
f
p

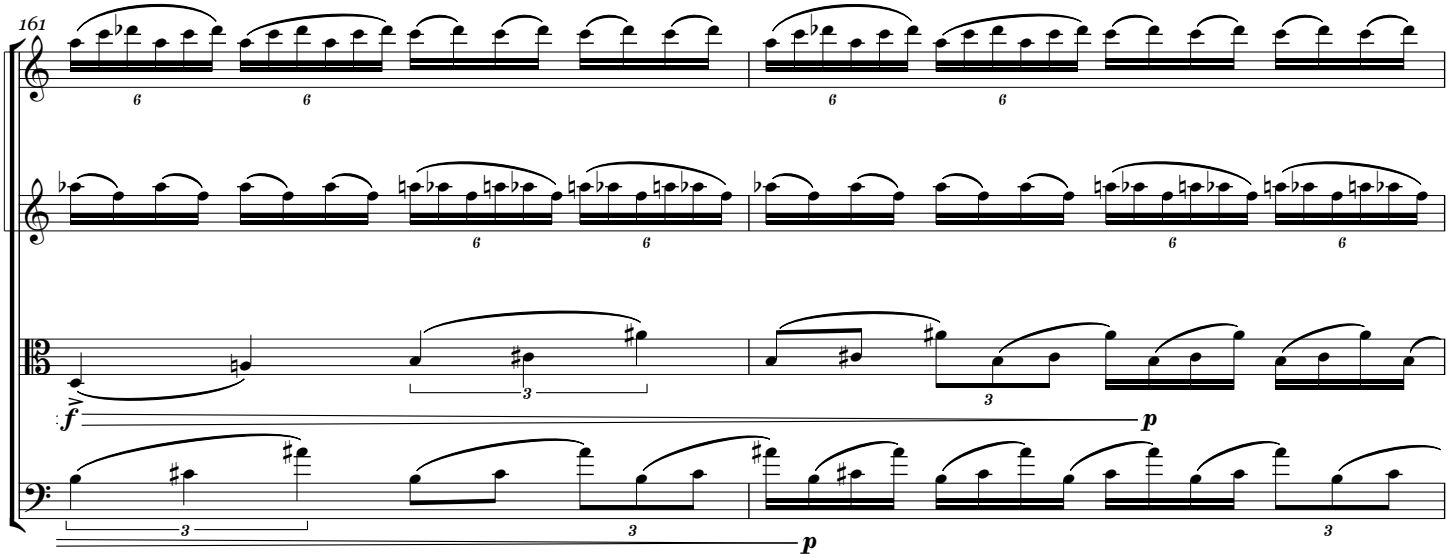

152
cresc. poco a poco until 166
cresc. poco a poco until 166
p
f
f


155
p
p

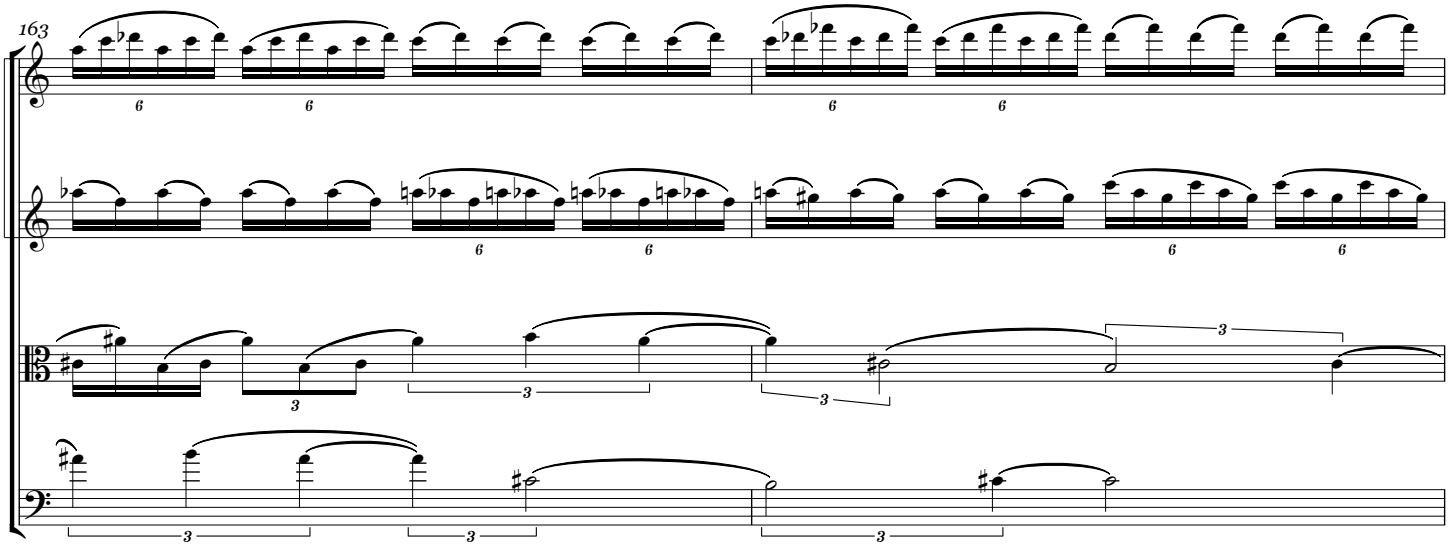
158

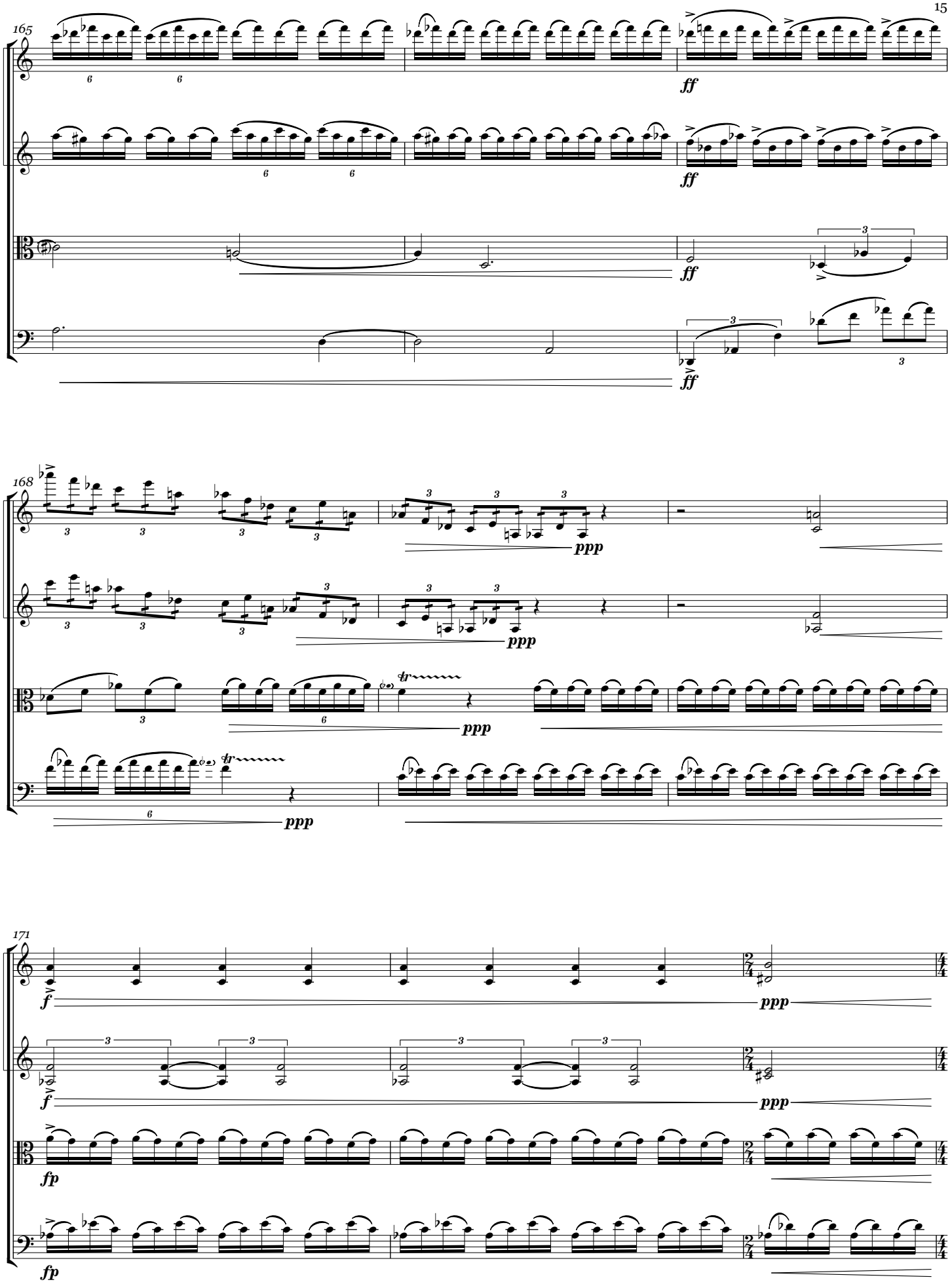


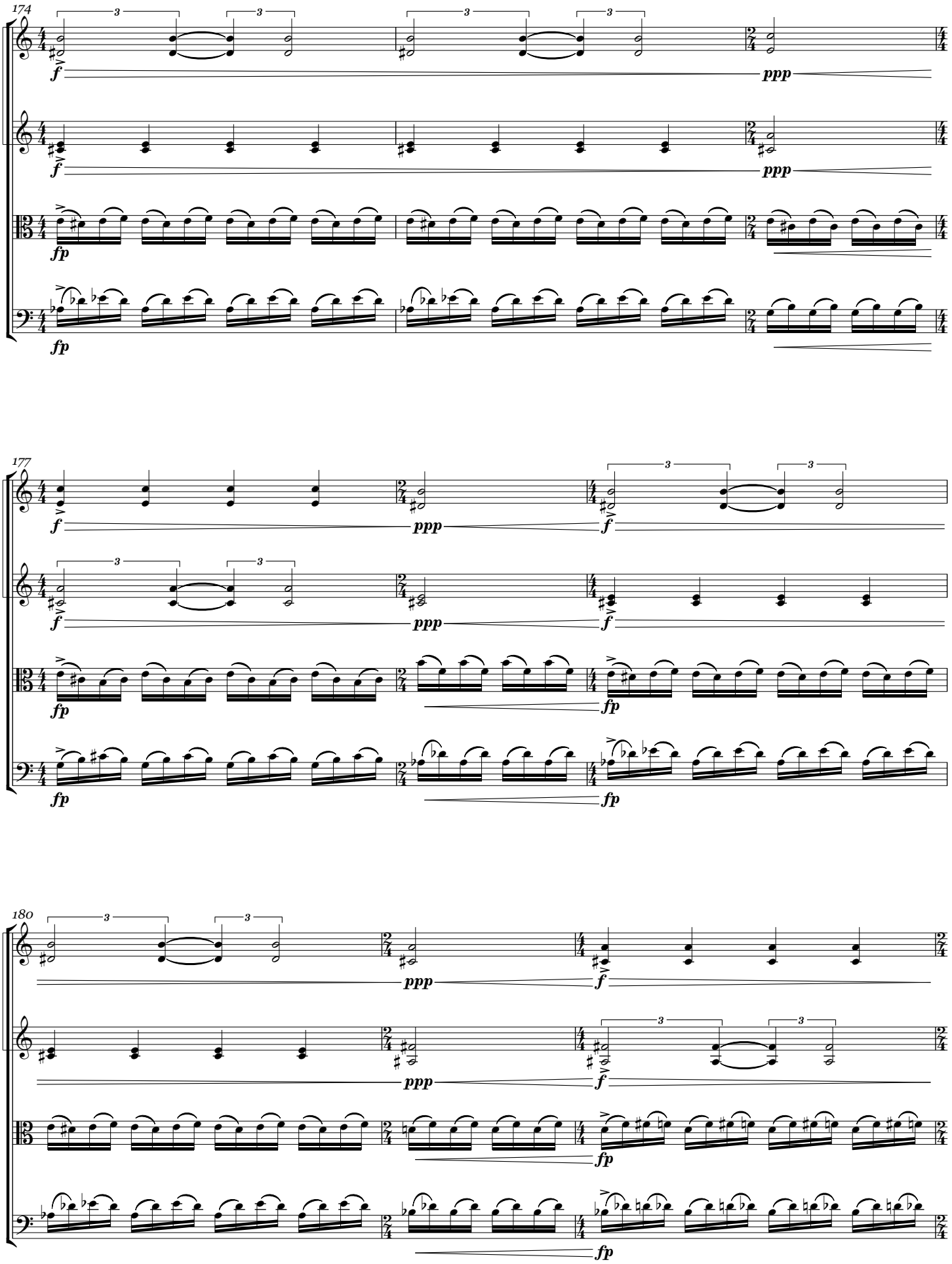
161



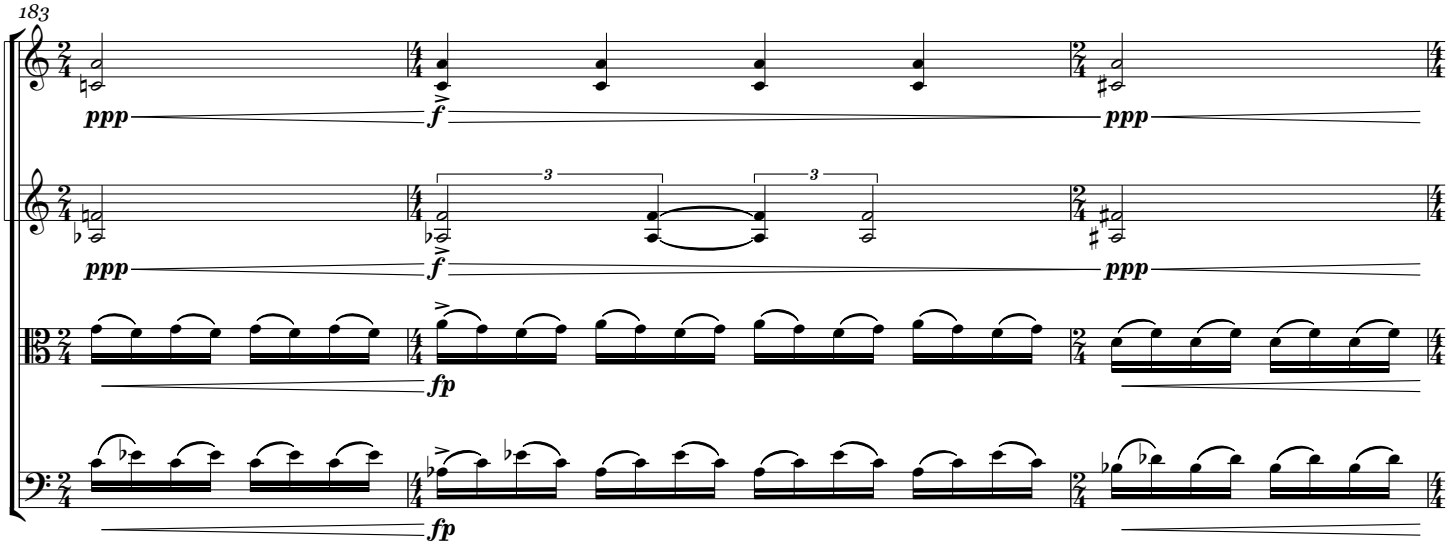
163



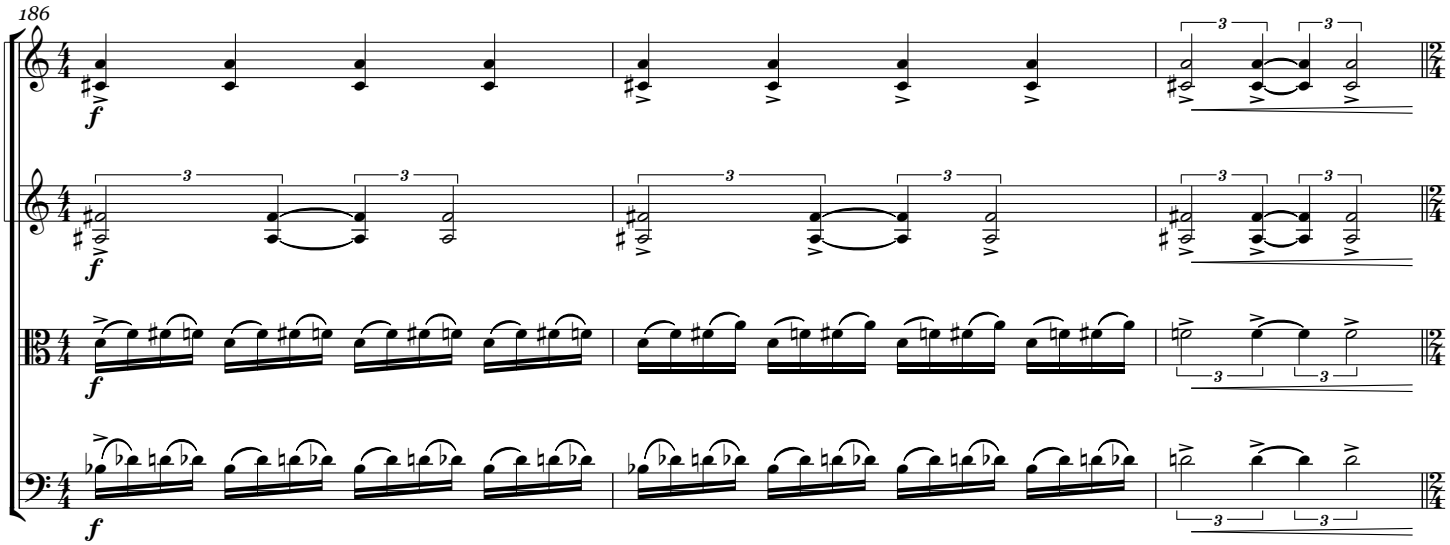

165
ff
ff
ff
ff
168
ppp
ppp
ppp
ppp
171
f
ppp
f
ppp
fp
fp


174
177
180
f
ppp
fp

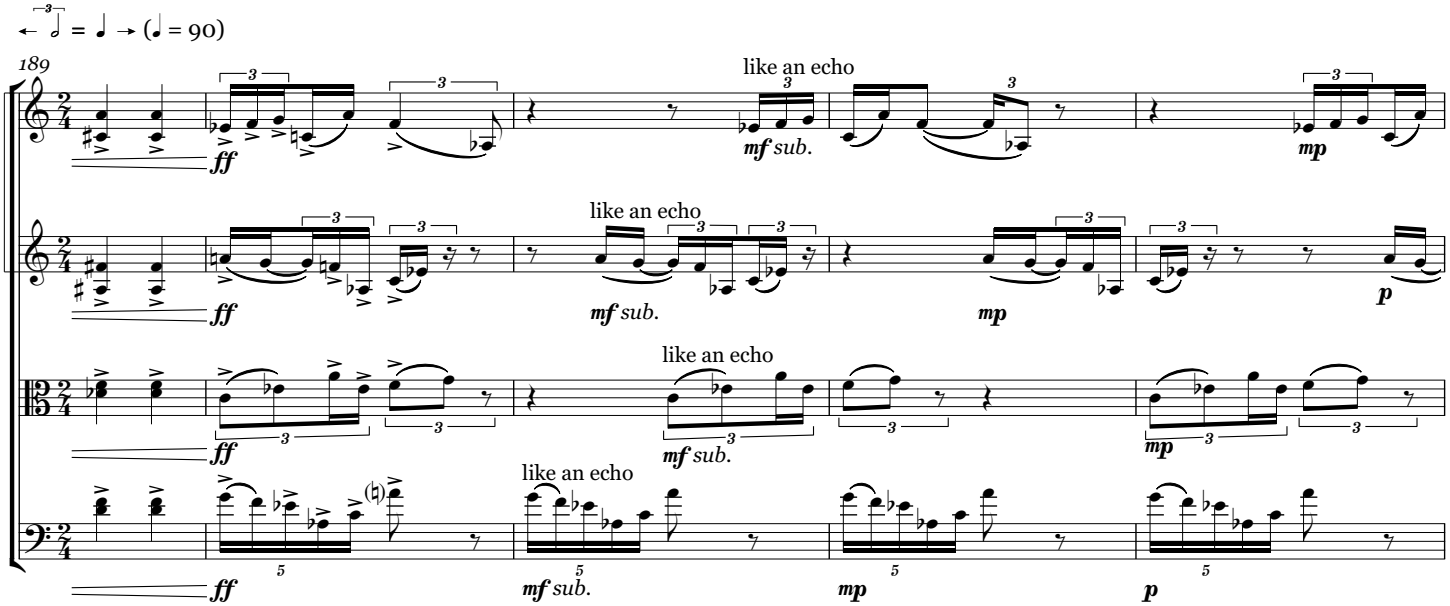
183

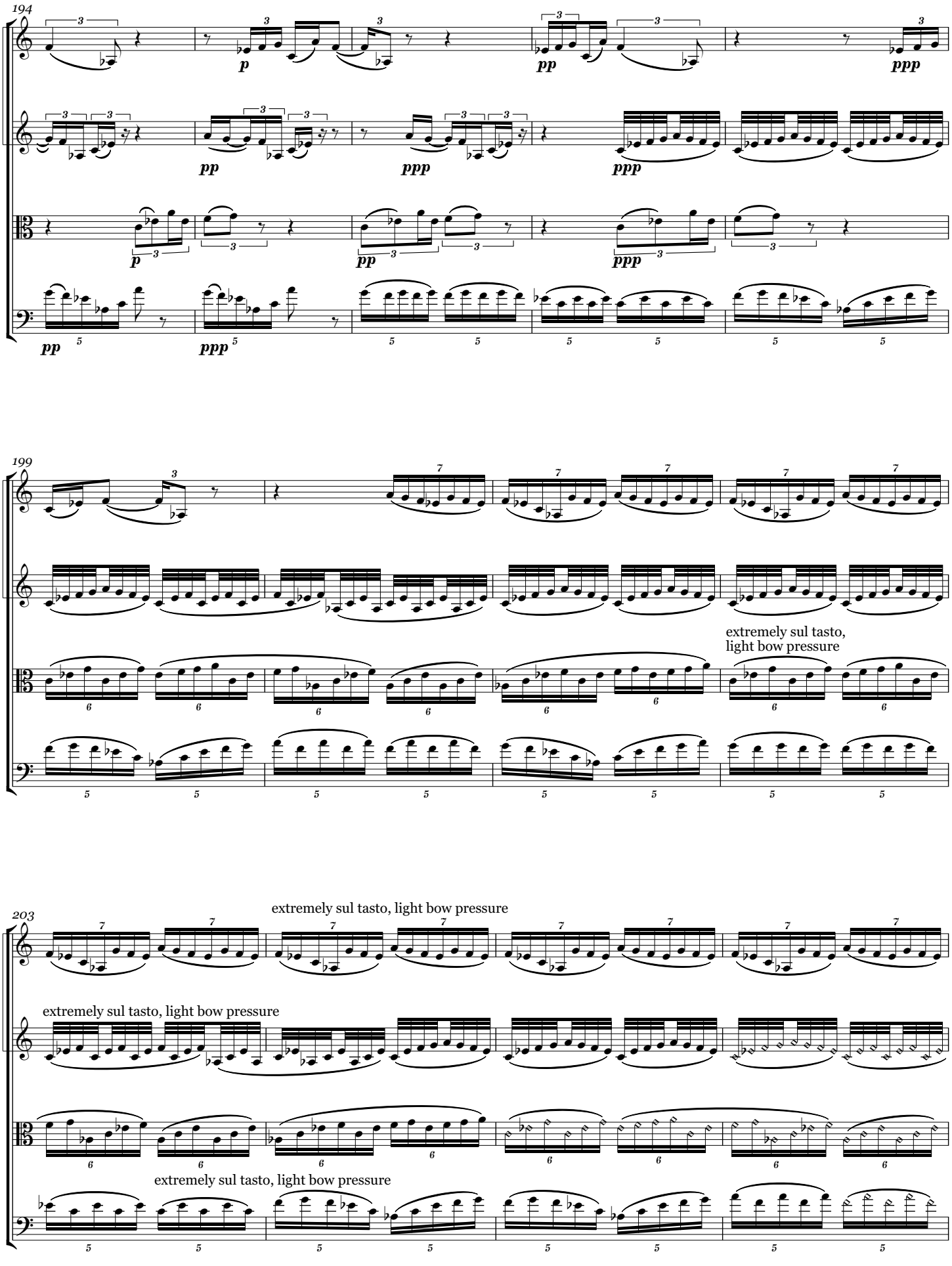

ppp
f
ppp
ppp
f
ppp
fp
fp

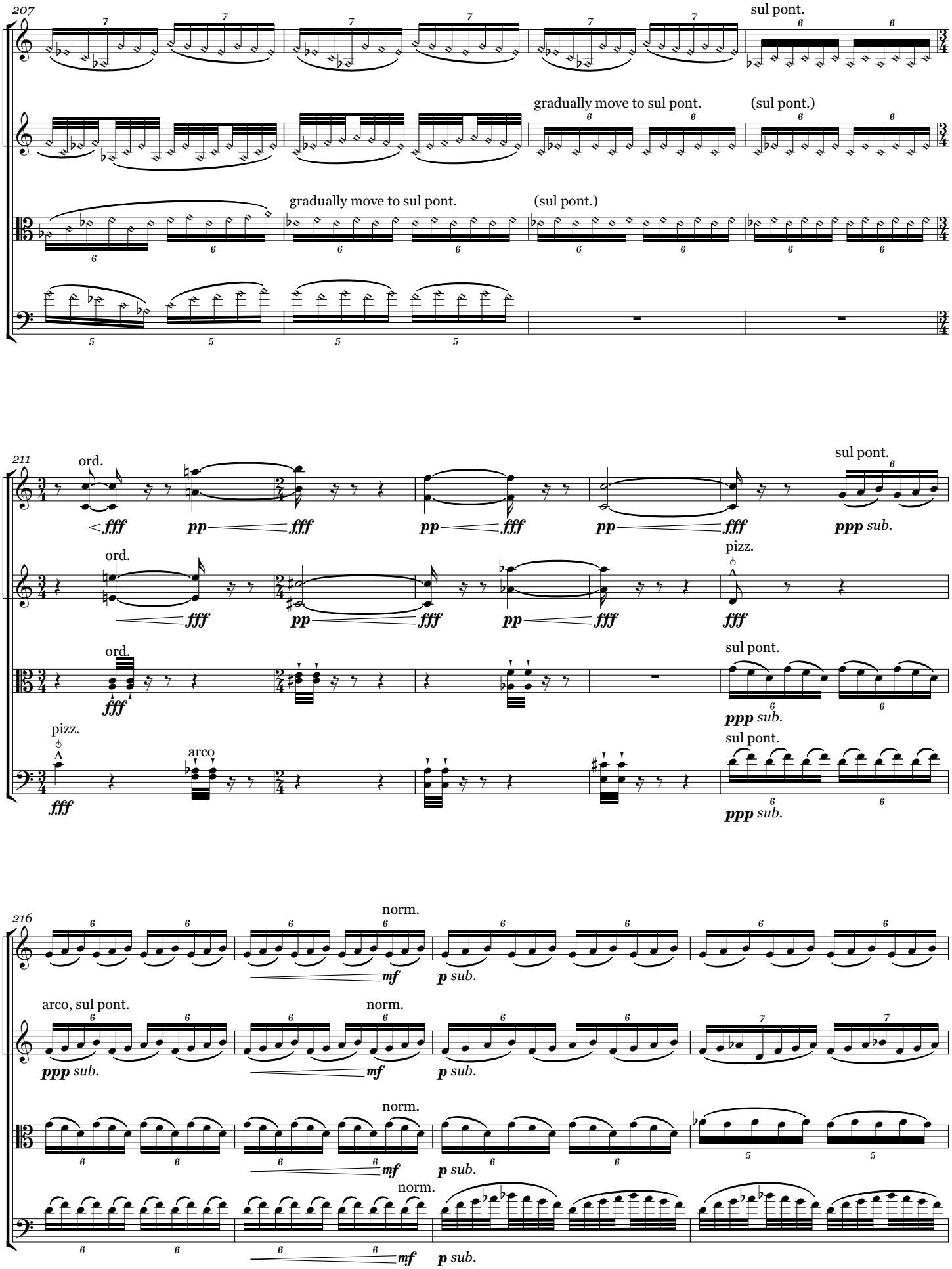
186

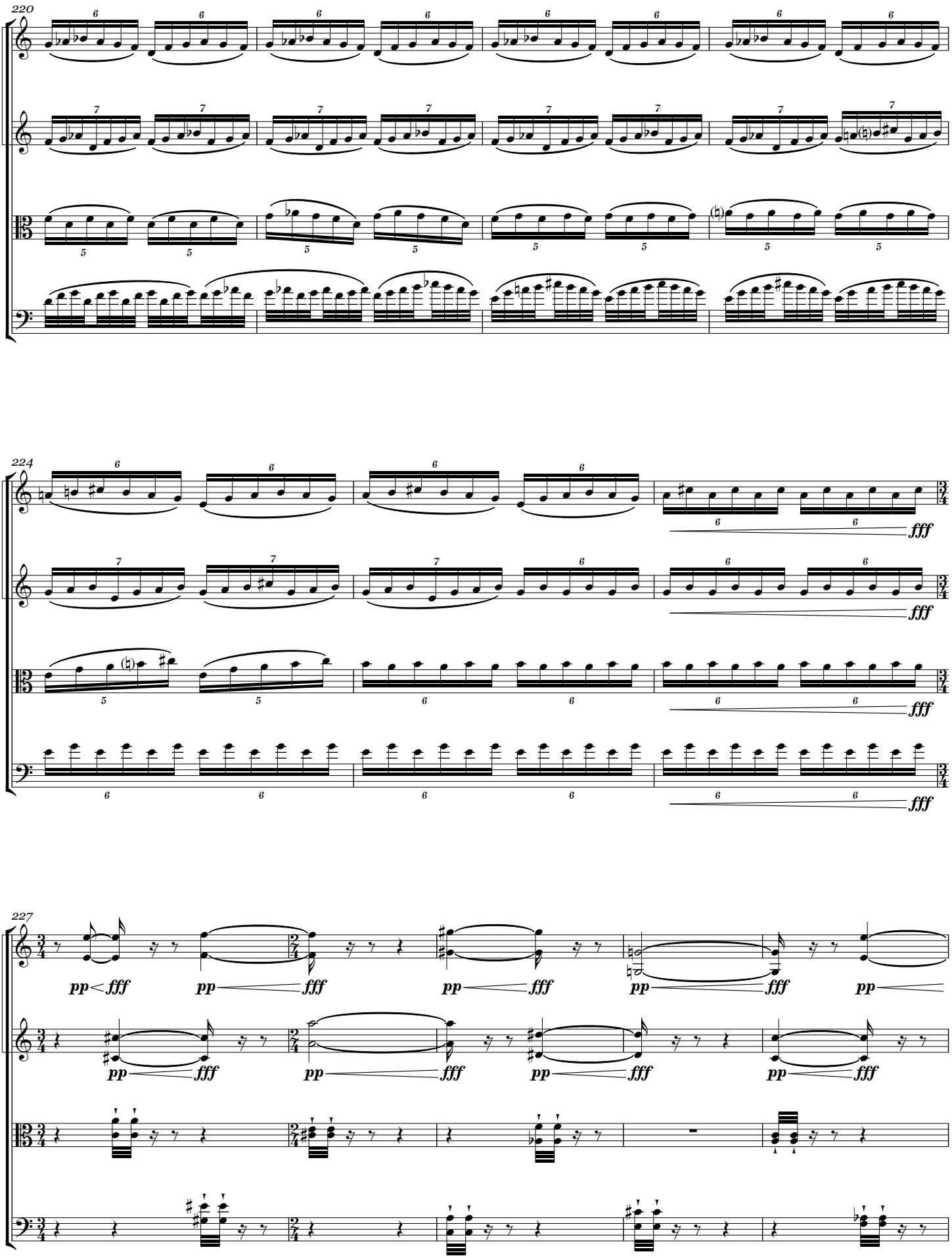

f
f
f
f

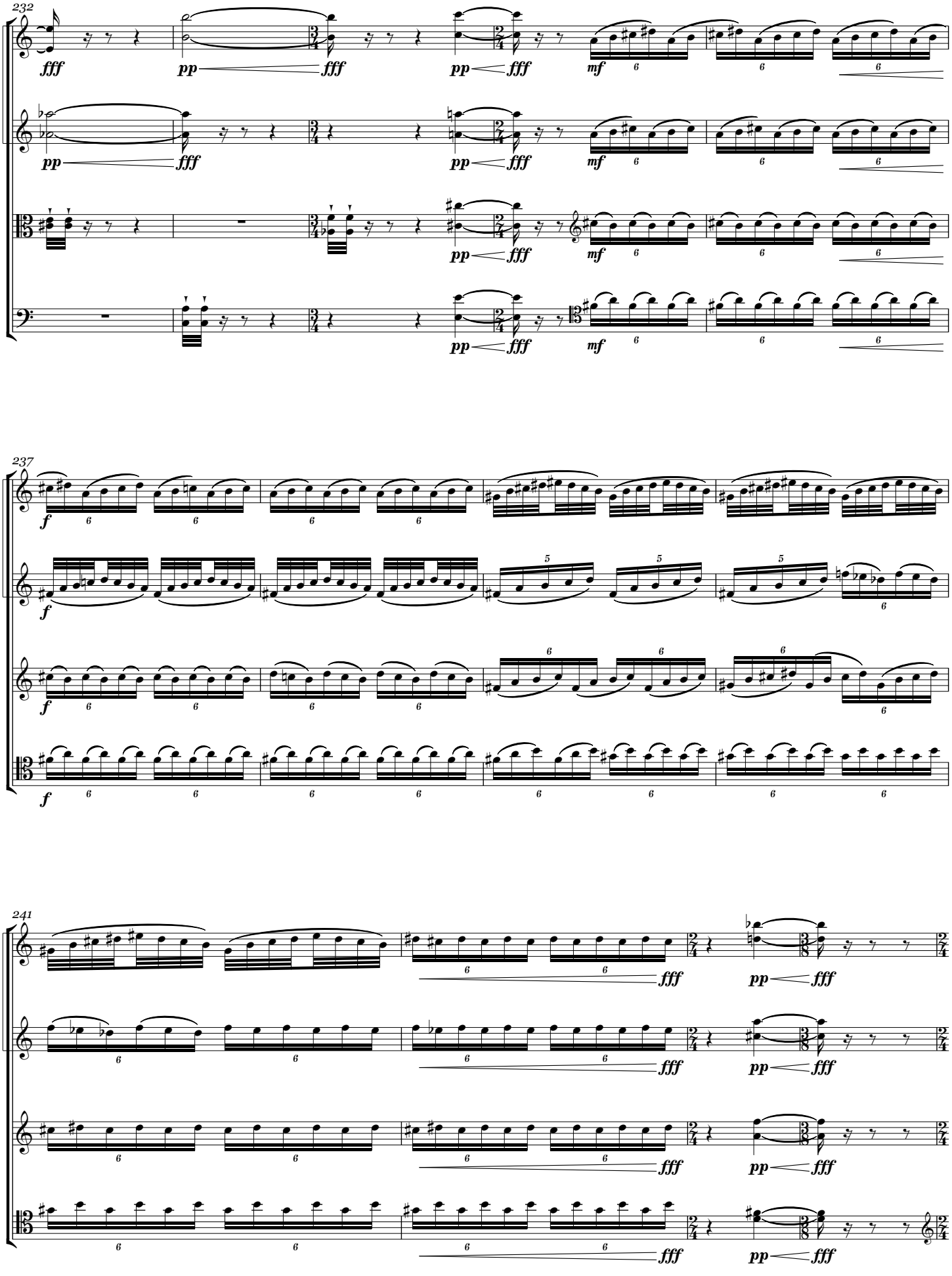
189


like an echo
ff
mf sub.
mp
like an echo
ff
mf sub.
mp
p
like an echo
ff
mf sub.
mp
like an echo
ff
mf sub.
mp
p


194
p
pp
ppp
199
extremely sul tasto,
light bow pressure
203
extremely sul tasto, light bow pressure
extremely sul tasto, light bow pressure
extremely sul tasto, light bow pressure

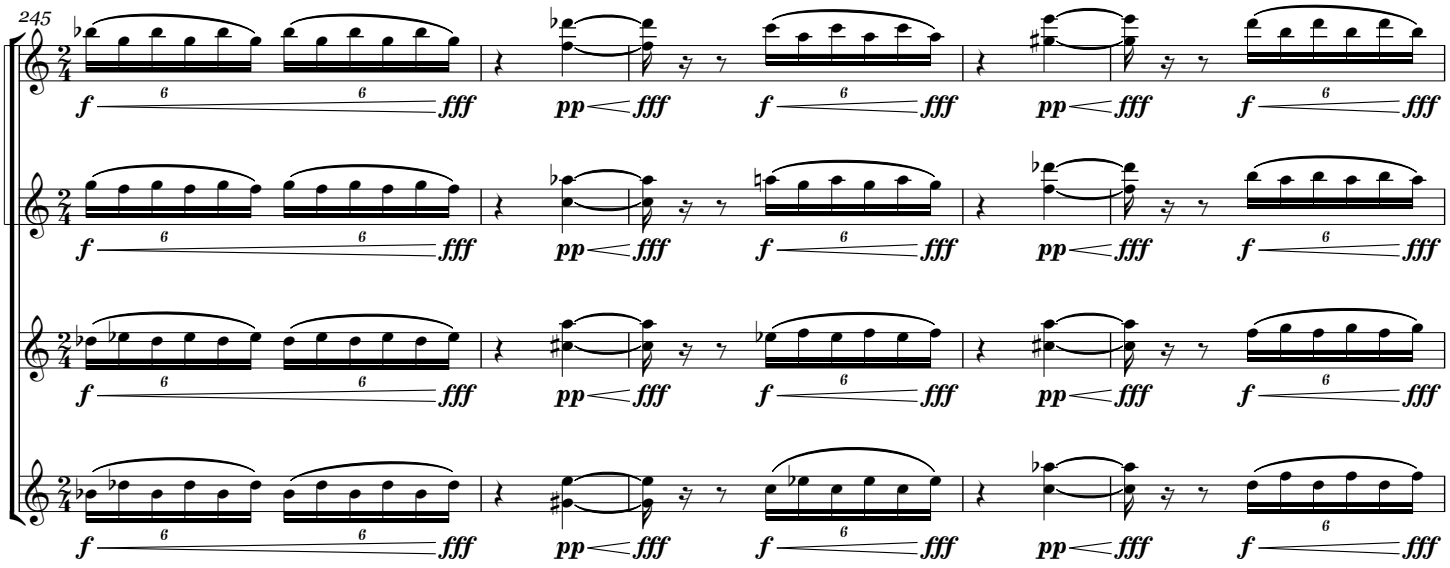

207
sul pont.
gradually move to sul pont.
(sul pont.)
gradually move to sul pont.
(sul pont.)
211
ord.
fff
pp
fff
pp
fff
pp
fff
sub.
sul pont.
ppp
ord.
fff
pp
fff
pp
fff
pizz.
fff
ord.
fff
sul pont.
ppp sub.
pizz.
fff
arco
sul pont.
ppp sub.
216
norm.
mf
p sub.
arco, sul pont.
ppp sub.
norm.
mf
p sub.
norm.
mf
p sub.
norm.
mf
p sub.


220
224
227
fff
pp
fff


232
237
241

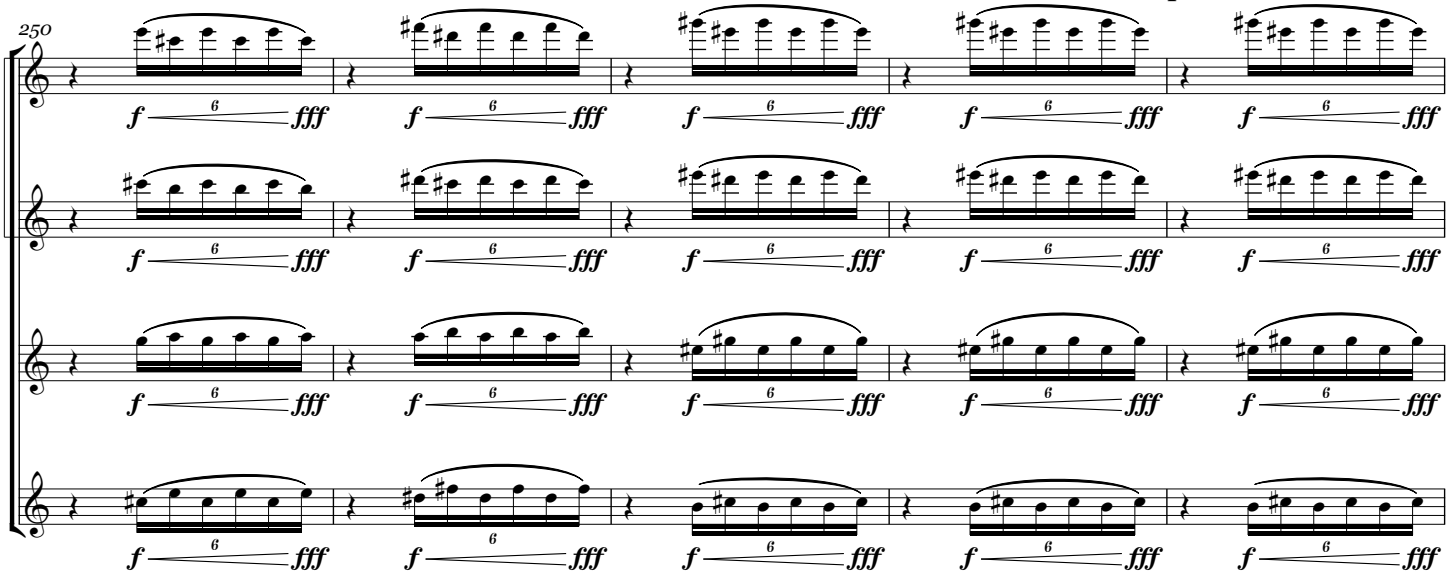
poco accel.

245



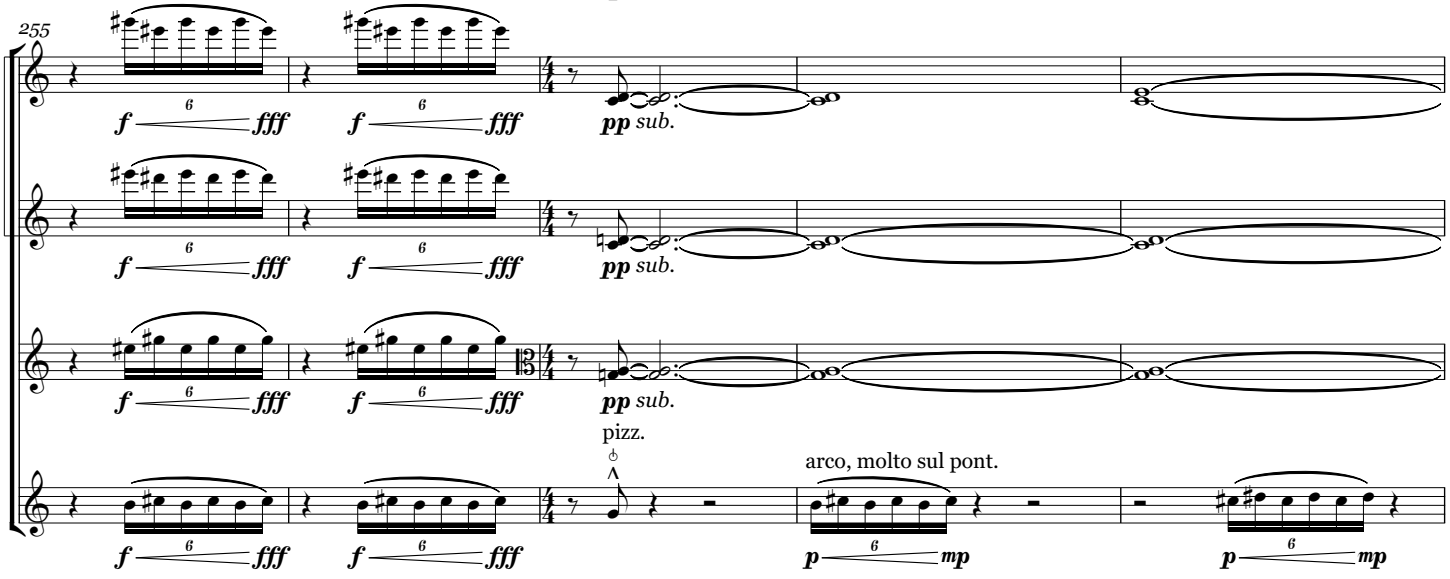
poco rit.

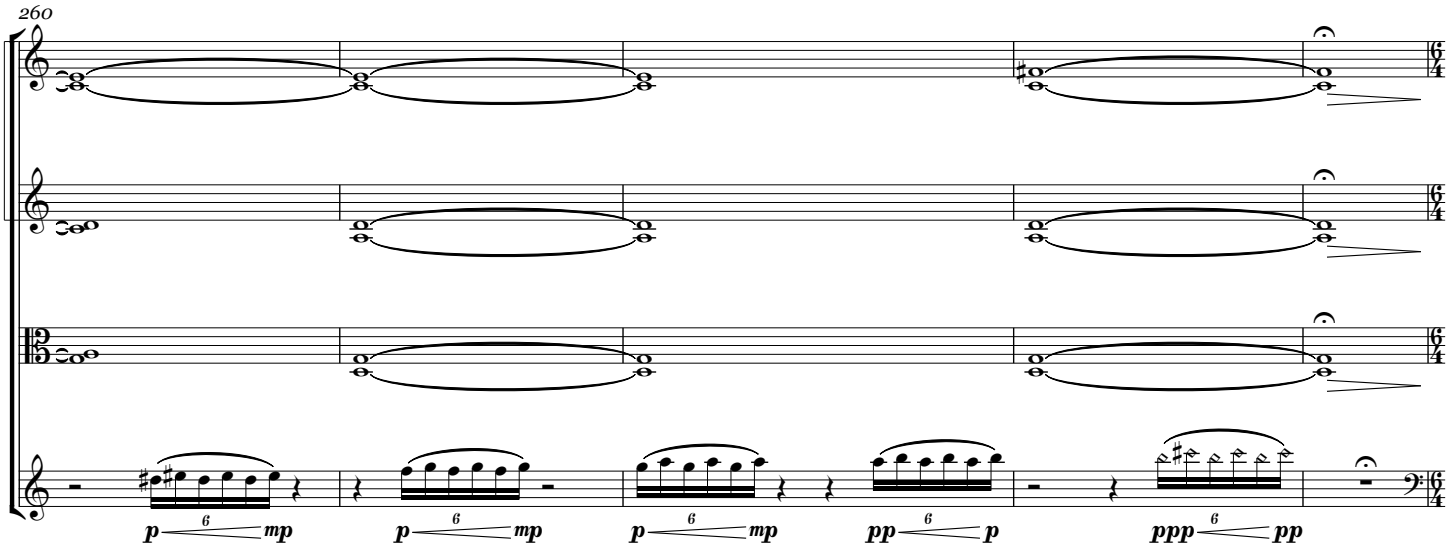
250



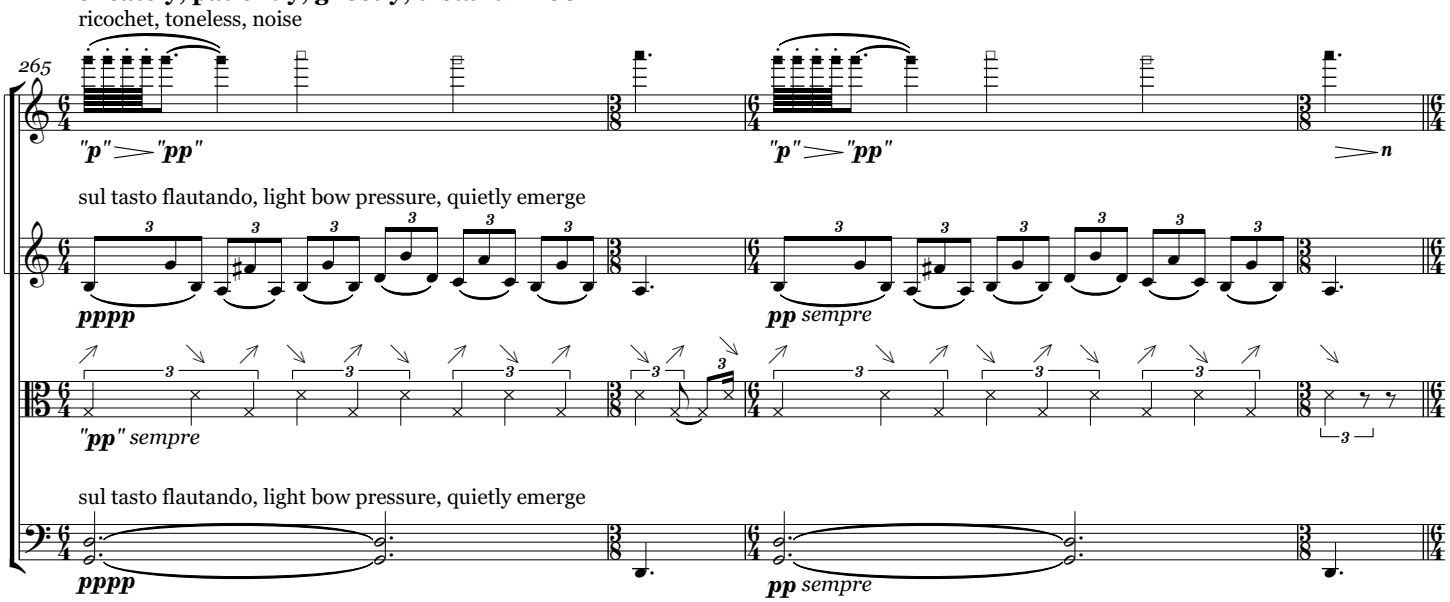
a tempo

255

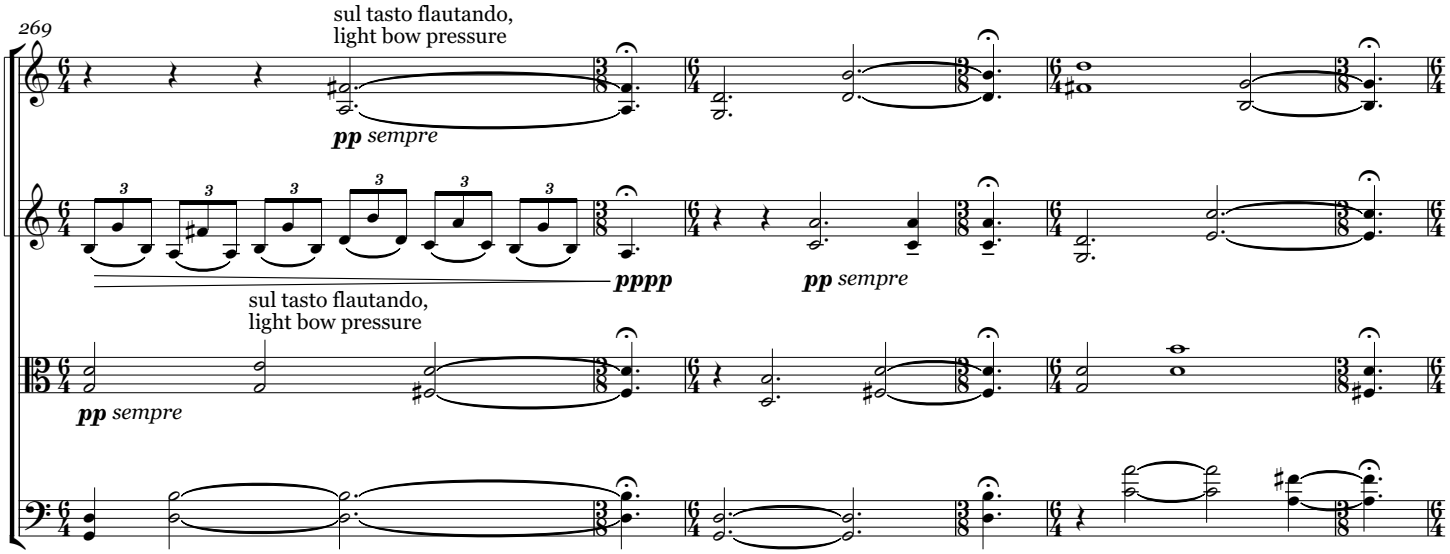




Delicately, patiently, ghostly, distant ♩ = 60

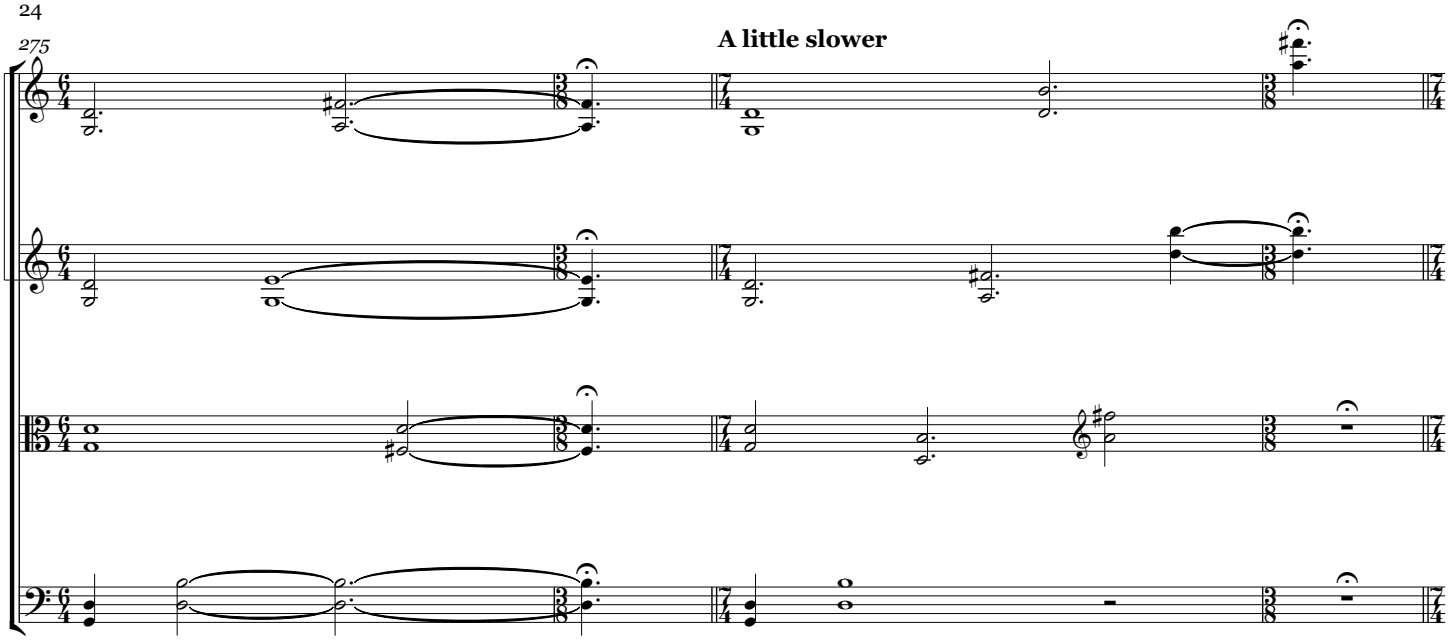
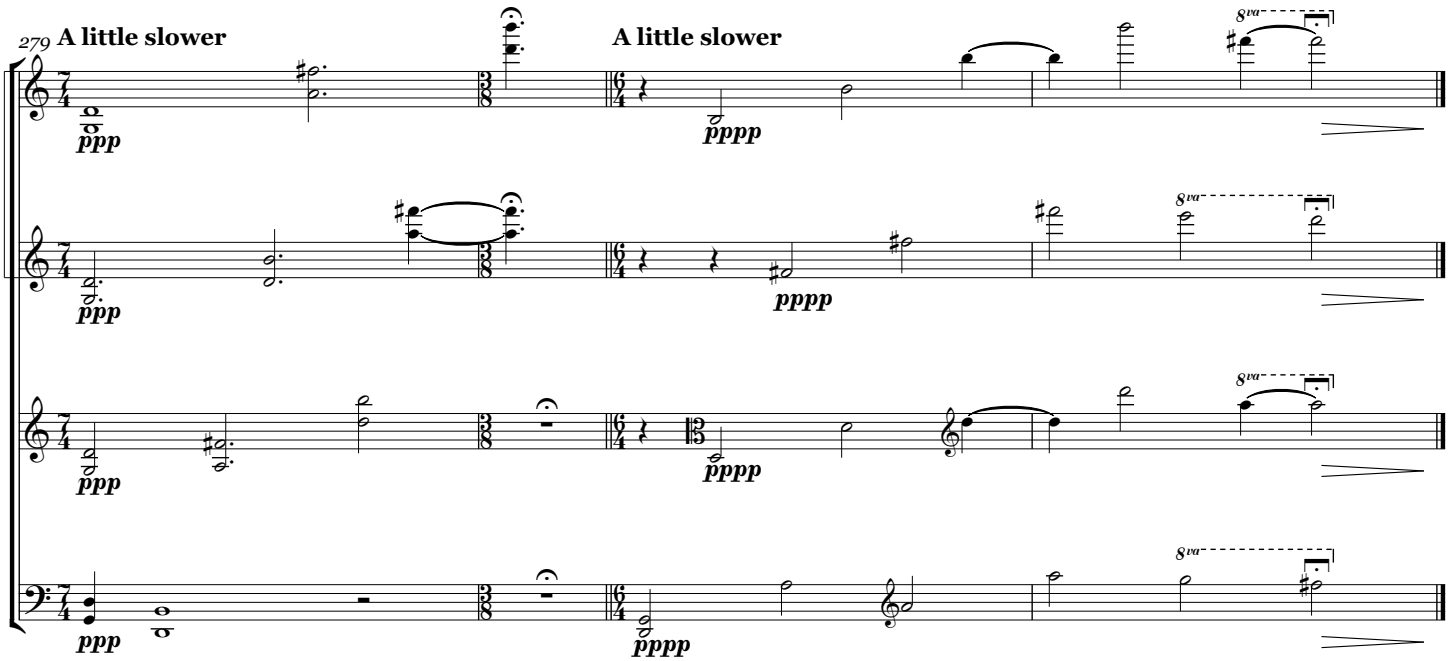


A little slower



275

A little slower



279 **A little slower** **A little slower**