XAVIER MUZIK

PillowTalk

for Flute and String Quartet

INSTRUMENTATION

Flute

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

DURATION

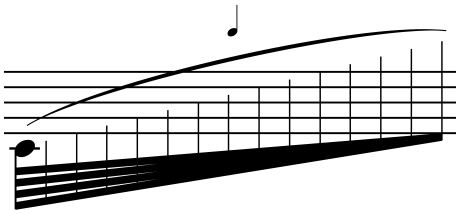
— ca. 13’00” —

NOTE

I often find myself engaged in a search for presence—I tend to hyper focus on or get overwhelmed by this or that ultimately diverting my attention and energies from the now—but that search has seldom extended to those moments before I fall asleep and those just after I wake up. As a child, I remember fondly the unmatched bliss and relaxation of watching “Rugrats” or “Hey Arnold” before my bedtime juxtaposed with the chaos of being a young child during the day. And as adult, I can’t deny the clarity of thought, ease of expression, and serenity that have come to define these moments for me. Now, I’m graciously fortunate enough to share these moments with my partner, Meagan. In that respect, the first section of *PillowTalk* is indeed a love song—an ode to these shared moments of presence. The following sections illustrate both the onset of overwhelming hyper focus and the melancholic depletion of energy that follows, all the while, ‘presence’ is ever present, as evidenced by the recurring motif first established in the opening flute solo.

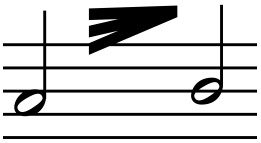
— Xavier Muzik

PERFORMANCE NOTES

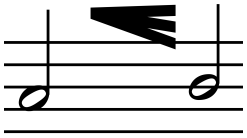


Technique: A flurry of notes through the gesture. Number of notes need not match the number of stems exactly, but be approximate. Lean into detuned/out of tune notes and tonally distorted aesthetic. Landing note may or may not be specified. May sometimes include a glissando or specified string (strings). Note above figure indicates duration

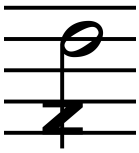
Dynamic: to or from nothing.



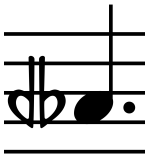
Technique: Feathered beam, decelerate through gesture. Applies to both tremolos and beams. Go at own pace. Don't synchronize.



Technique: Feathered beam, accelerate through gesture. Applies to both tremolos and beams. Go at own pace. Don't synchronize.

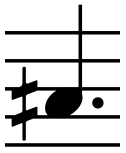


Technique: Flutter tongue (flute)

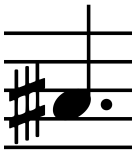


Accidental: 3 quarter-tones flat. Prioritize color and expression over precision. The goal is to color the tonal or sonic gravity of a line or harmony in the context of the music. Here, equal-temperament is a rubber band being stretched. but not broken.

Accidental: 1 quarter-tone flat. Intention and purpose same as above.



Accidental: 1 quarter-tone sharp. Intention and purpose same as above.



Accidental: 3 quarter-tone sharp. Intention and purpose same as above.

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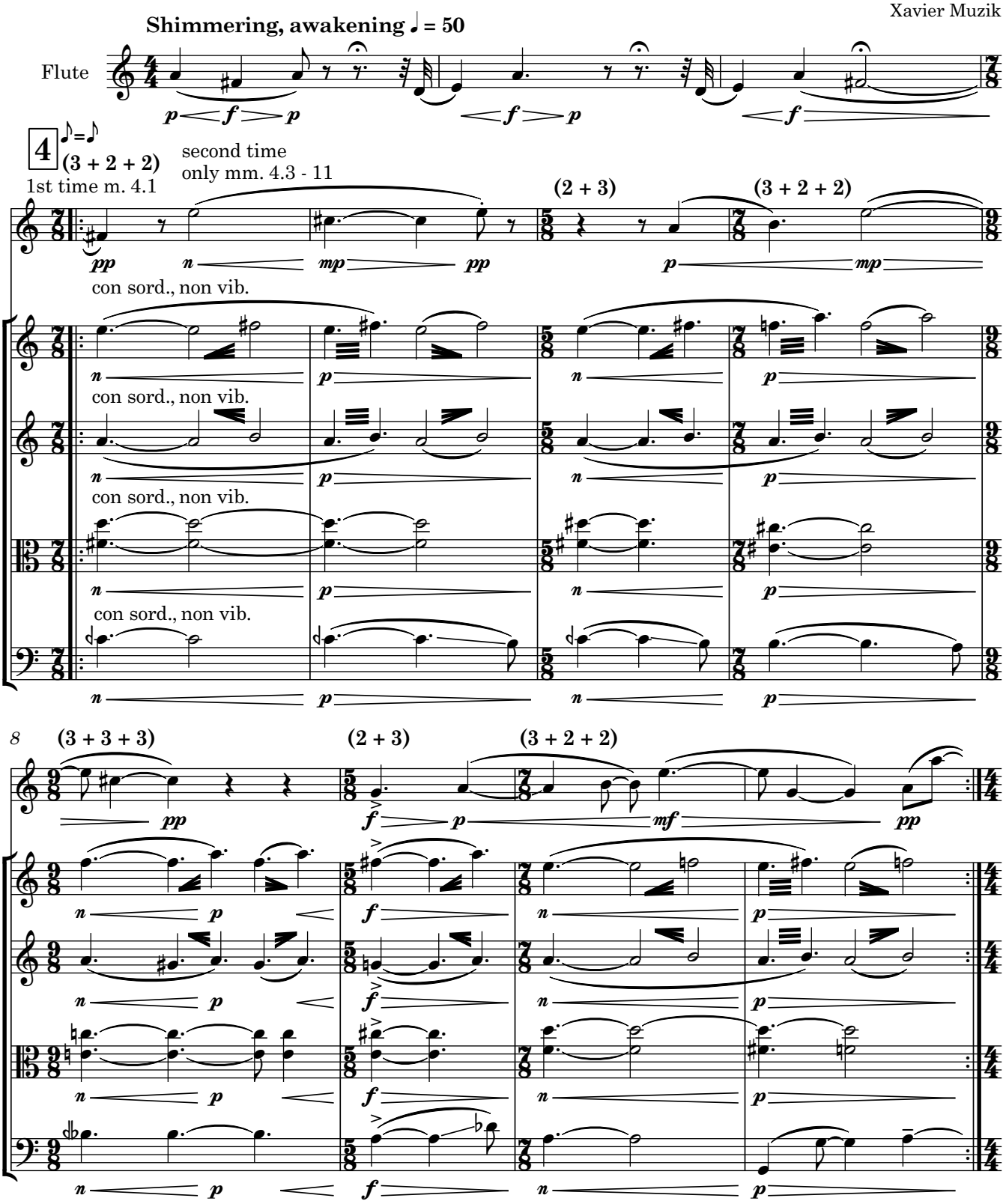
PillowTalk

For Flute and String Quartet

". . . I love our moments when the sun is low . . ."

Xavier Muzik



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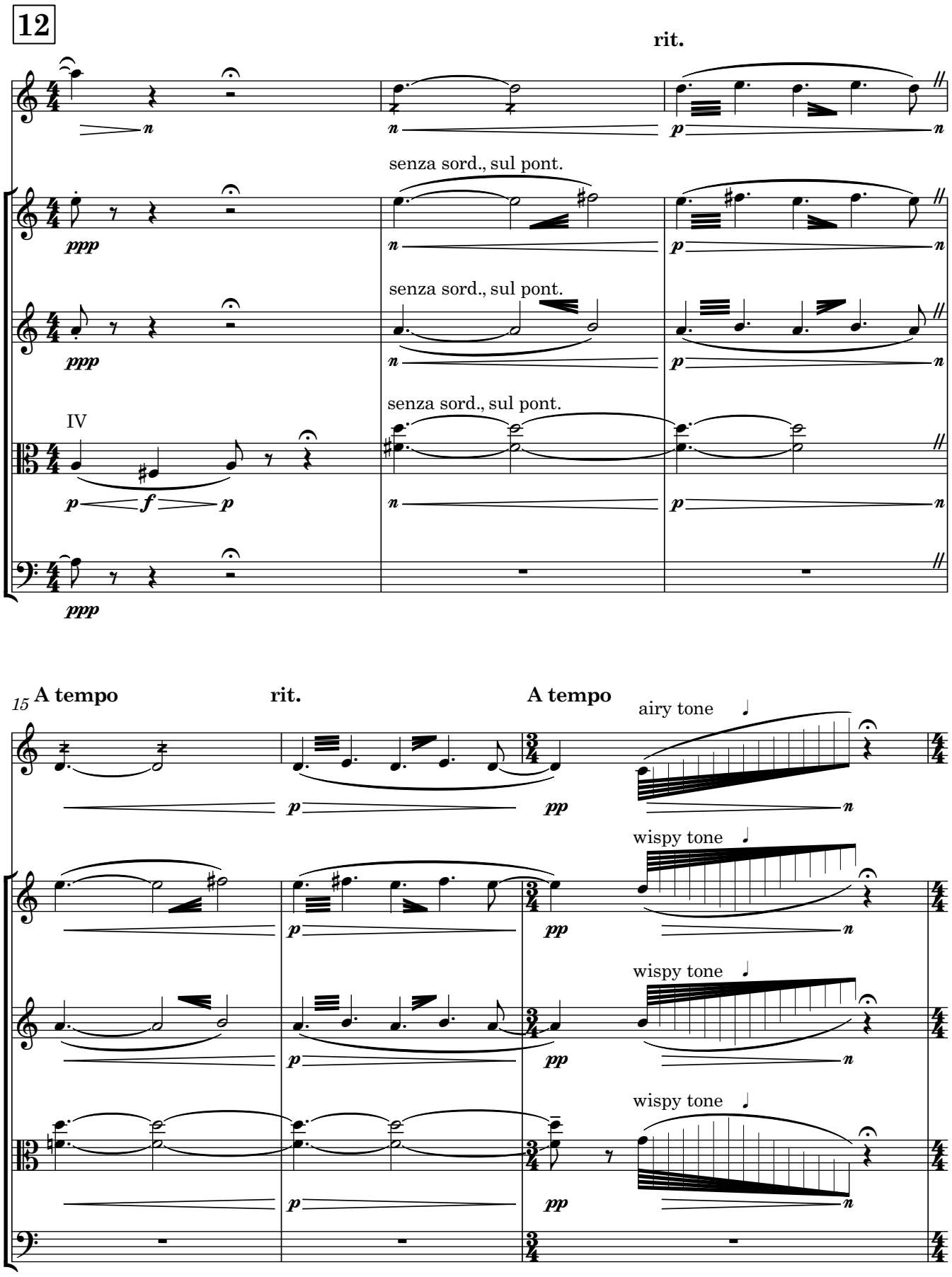
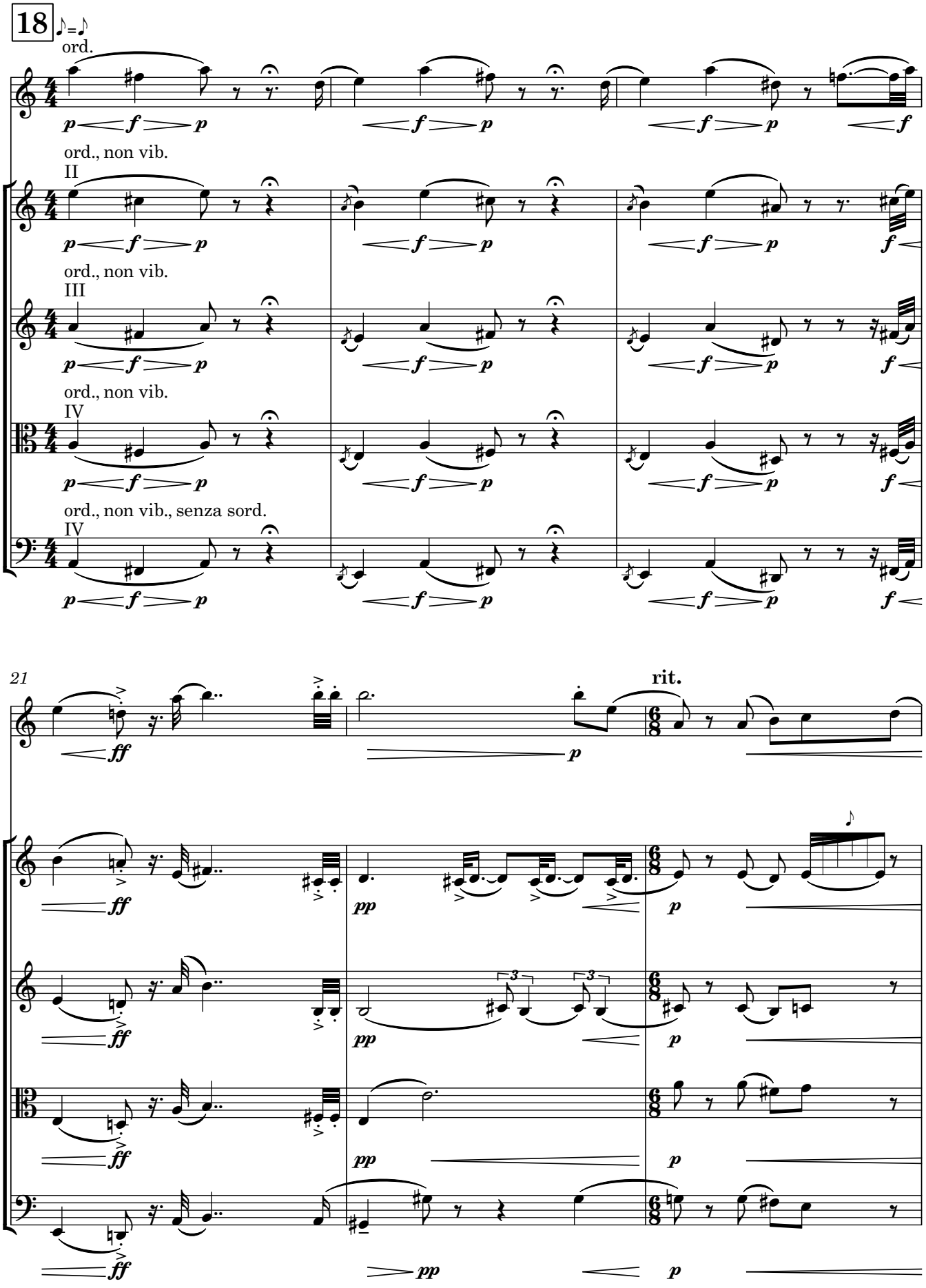
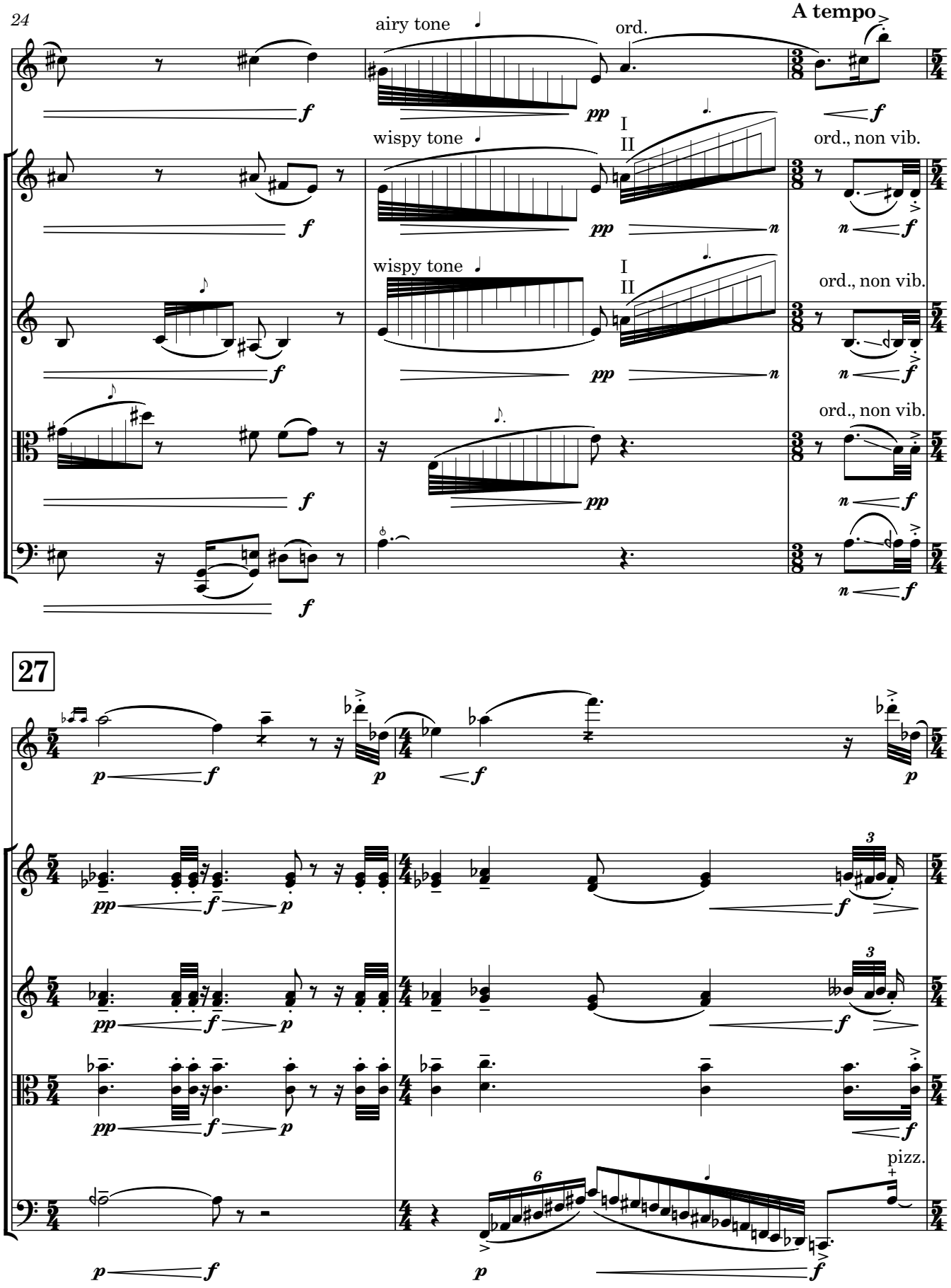
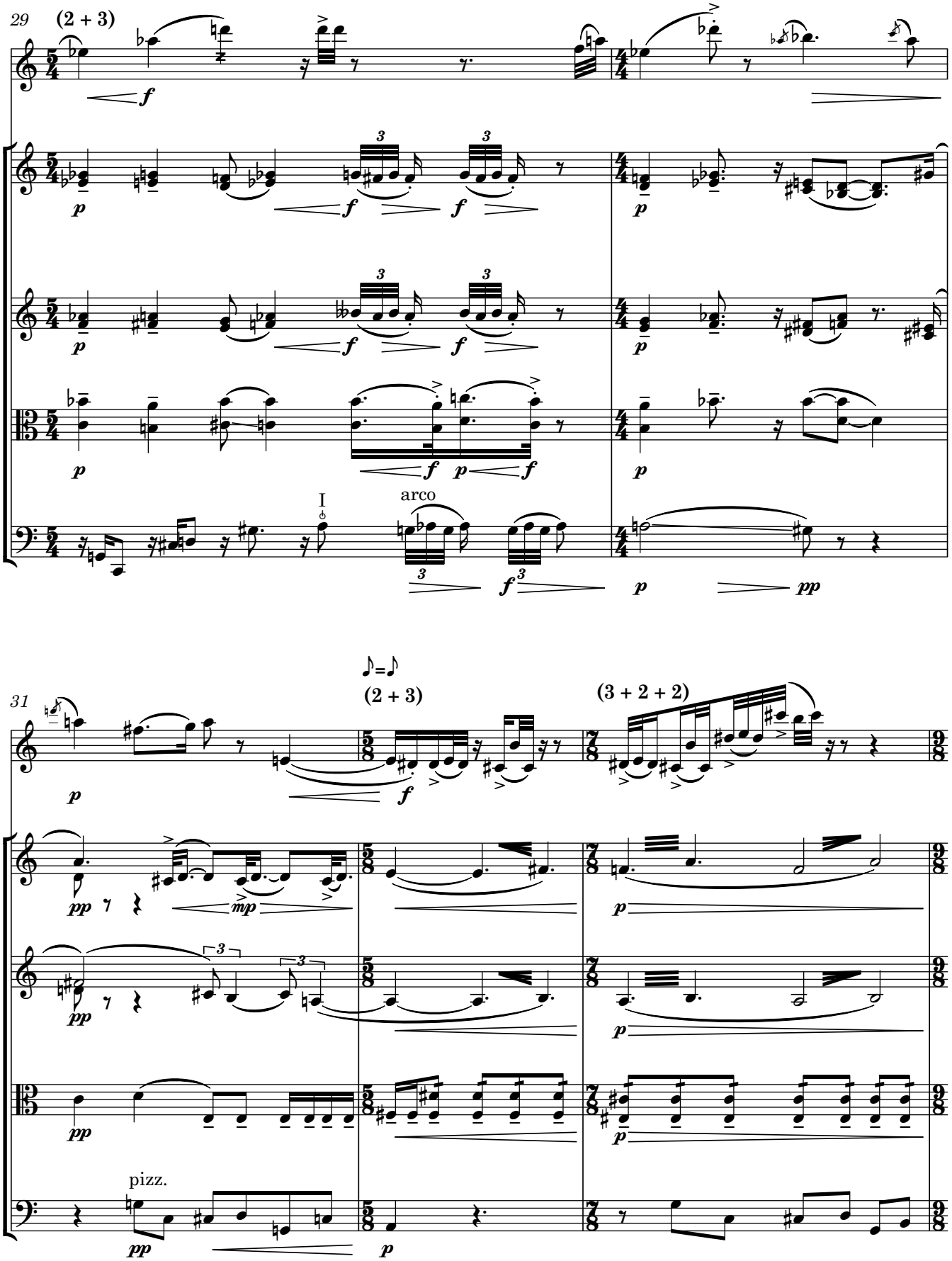
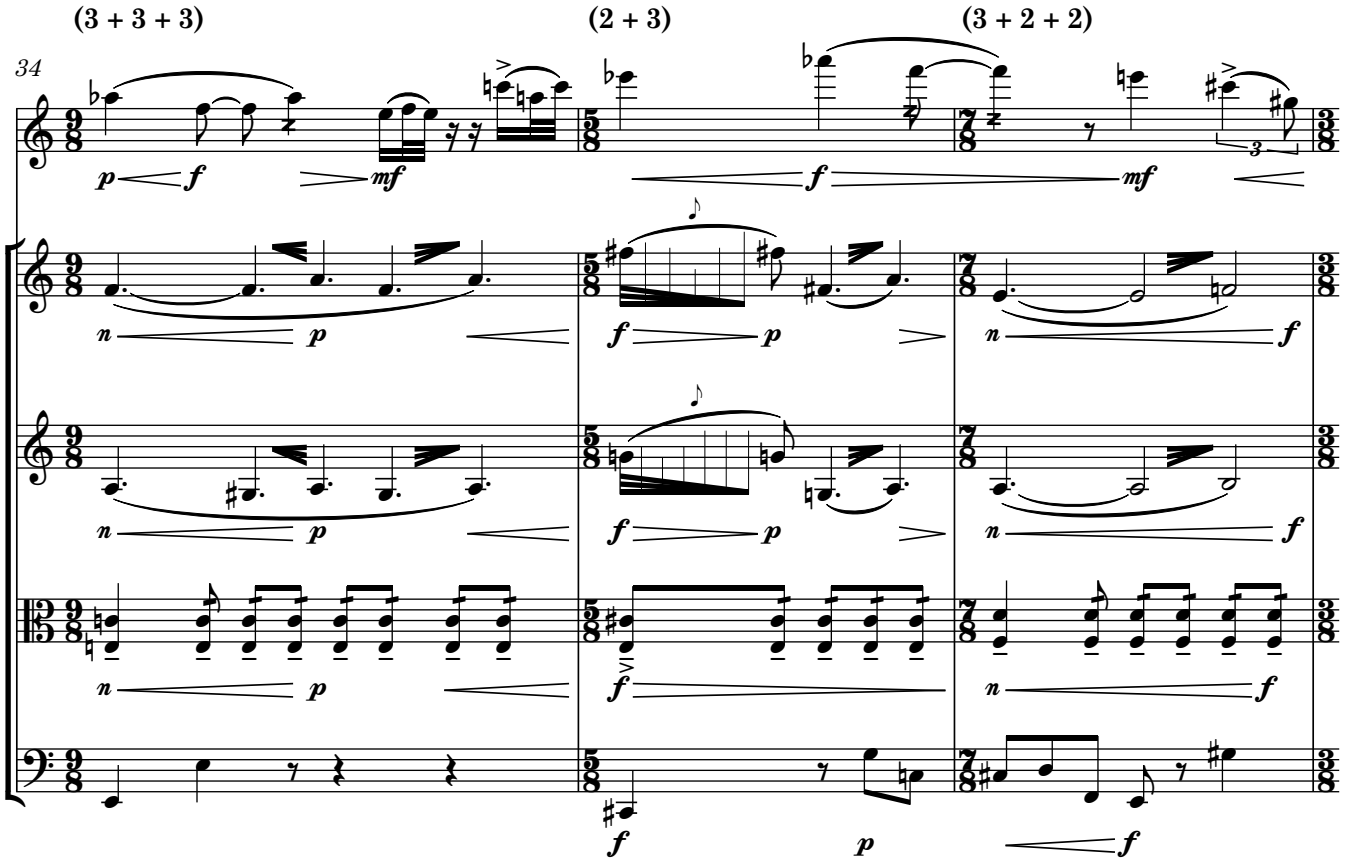
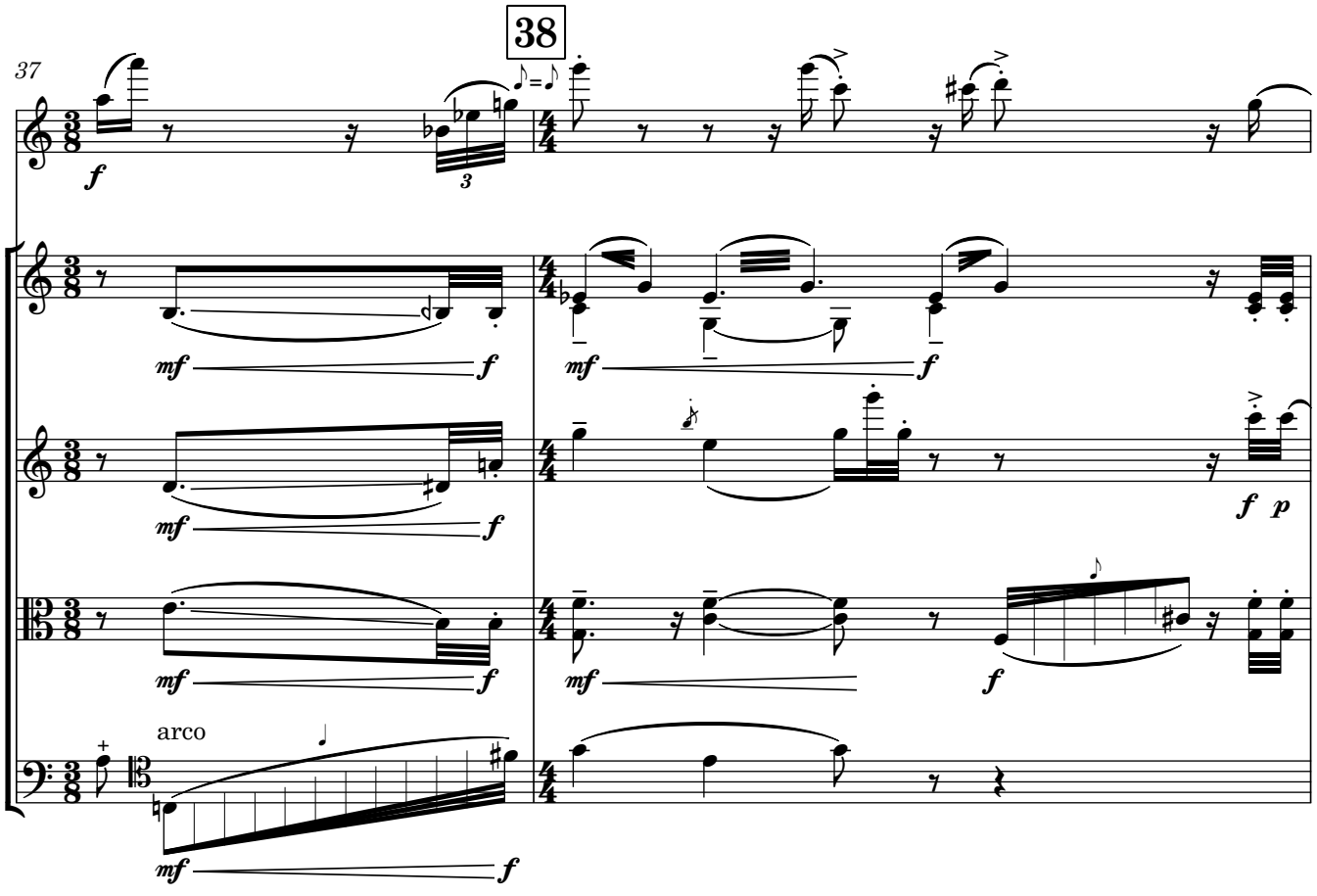

12
rit.
senza sord., sul pont.
senza sord., sul pont.
senza sord., sul pont.
IV
15
A tempo
rit.
A tempo
airy tone
wispy tone
wispy tone
wispy tone

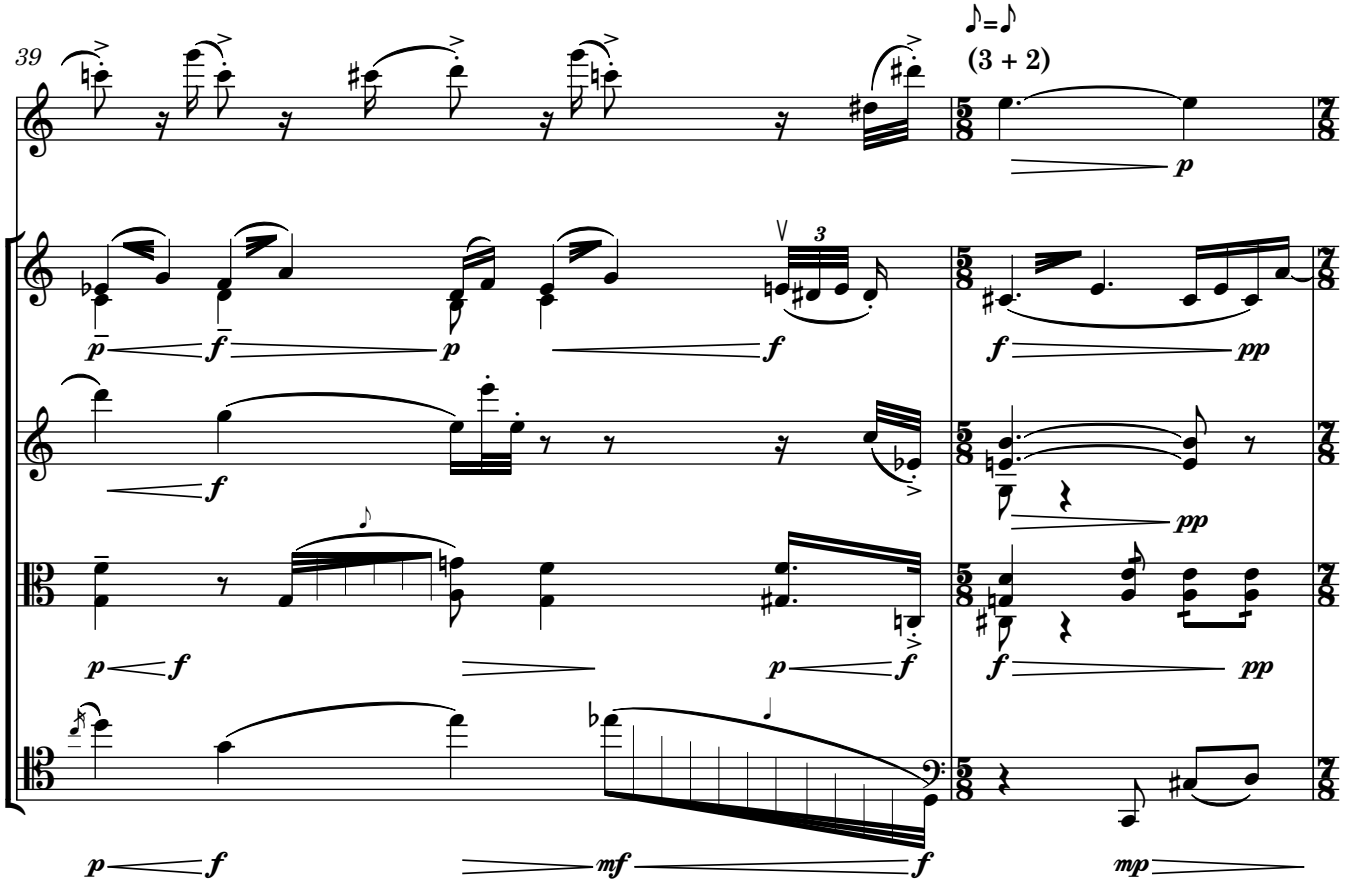

18
♪=♪
ord.
ord., non vib.
II
ord., non vib.
III
ord., non vib.
IV
ord., non vib., senza sord.
IV
21
rit.

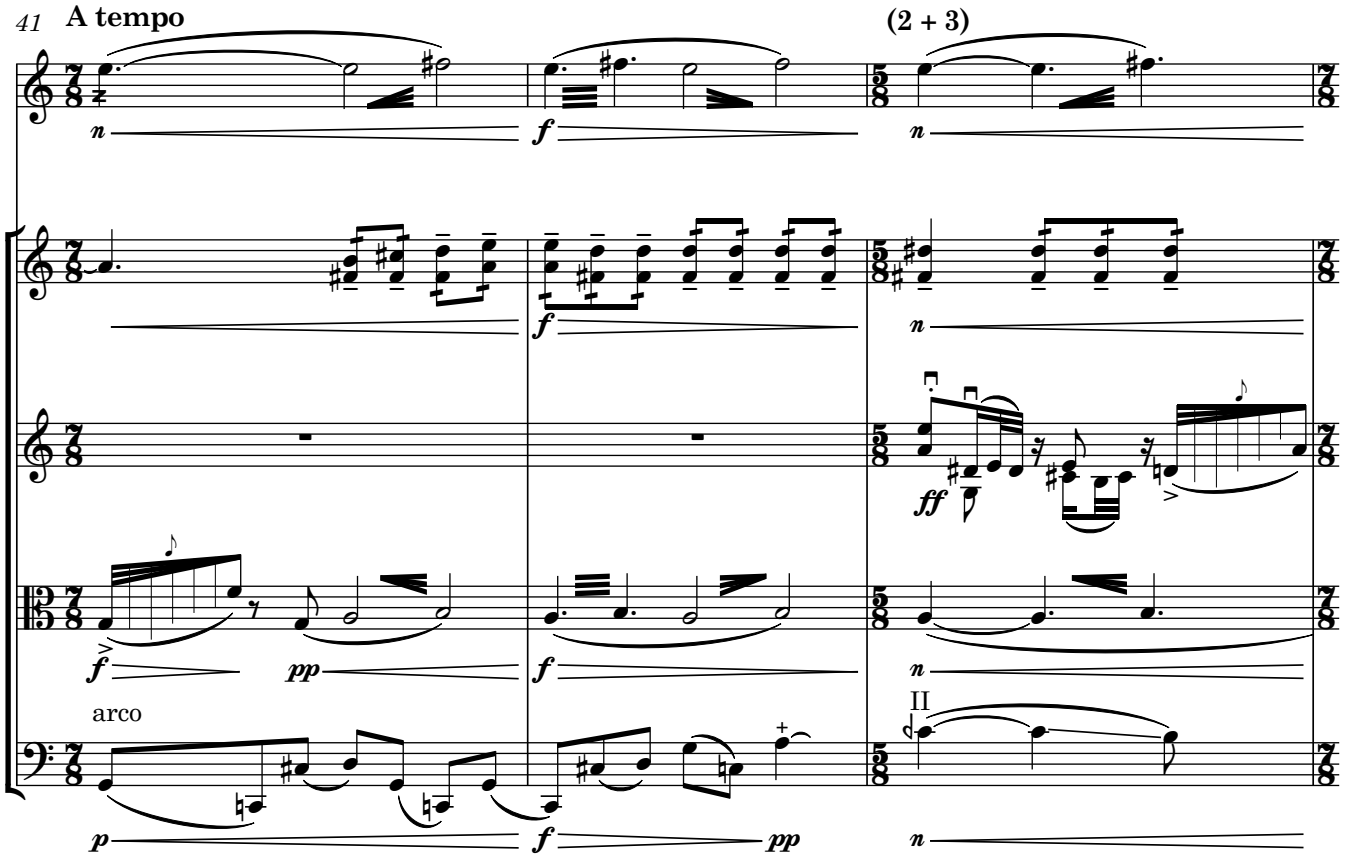

24
A tempo
airy tone
ord.
wispy tone
I
II
ord., non vib.
27
pizz.

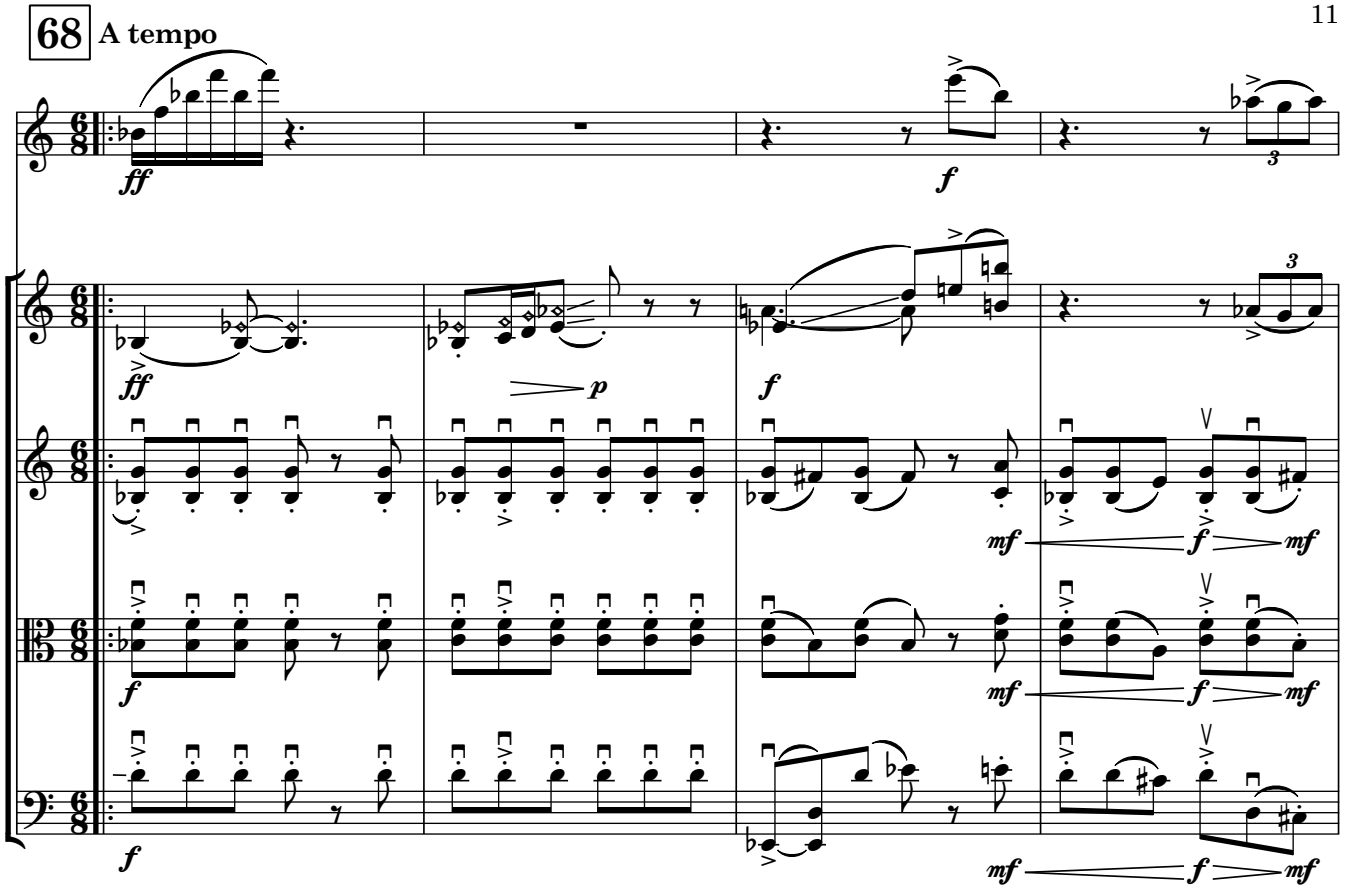

29
(2 + 3)
arco
pizz.
31
(2 + 3)
(3 + 2 + 2)

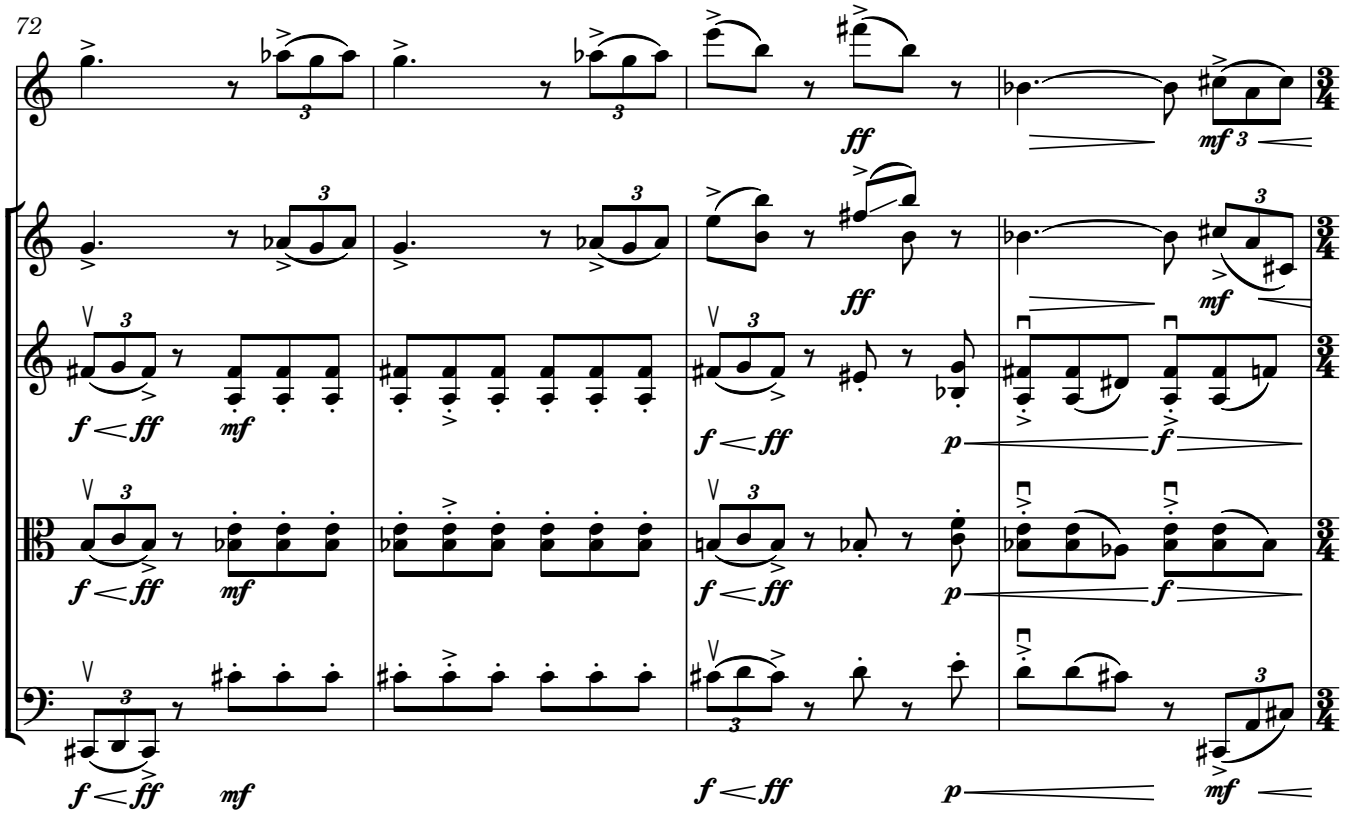

(3 + 3 + 3)
(2 + 3)
(3 + 2 + 2)
34


37
38
arco


39
♪=♪
(3 + 2)
p
f
pp
mf
mp

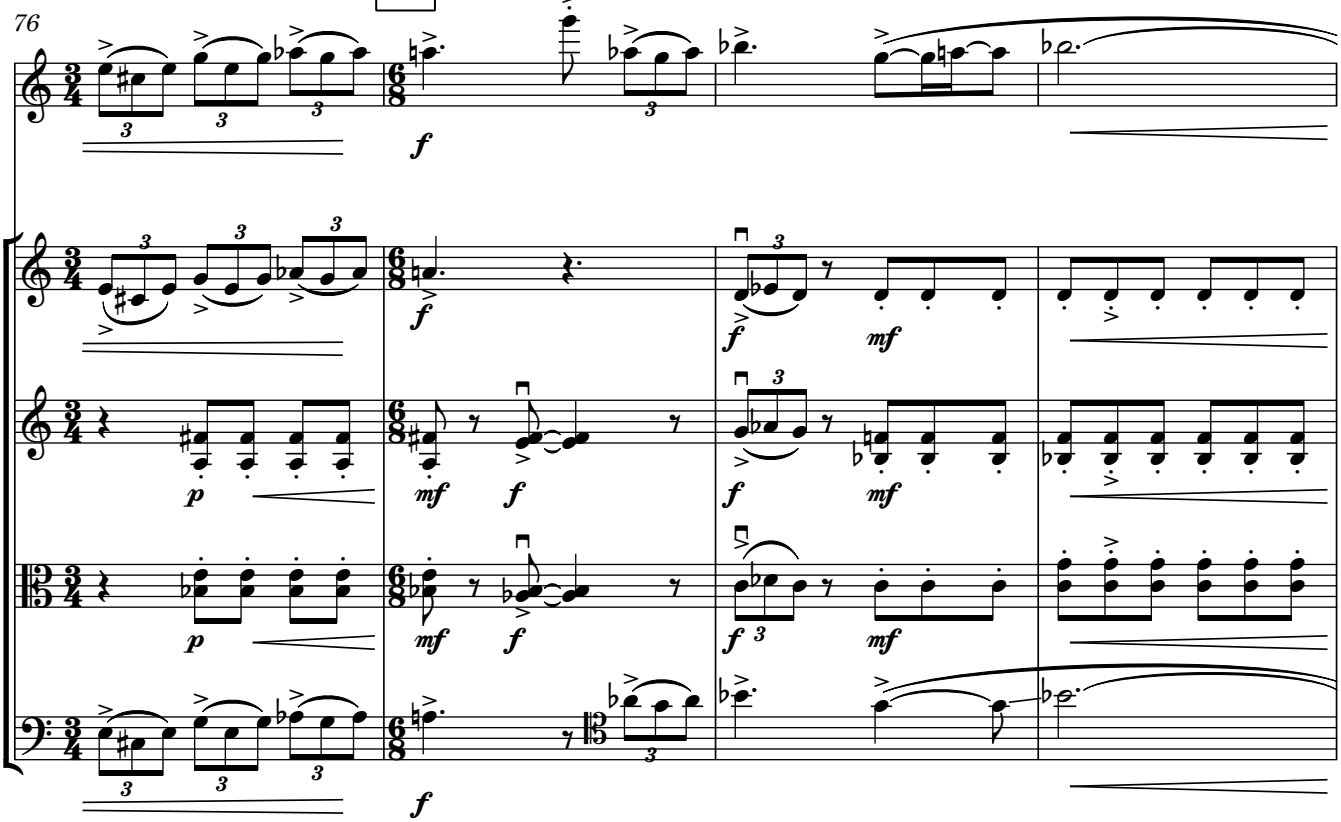

41
A tempo
(2 + 3)
n
f
ff
pp
arco
II


68
A tempo

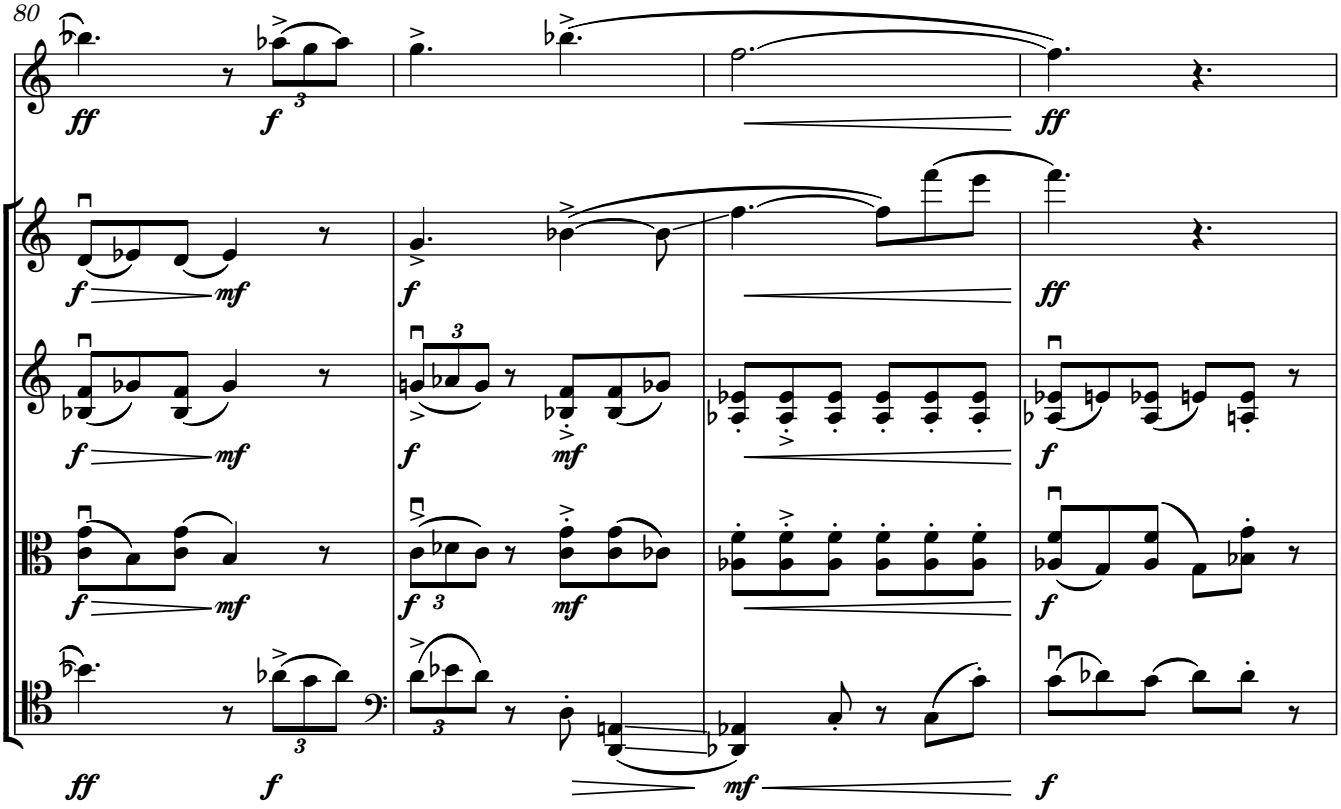

72

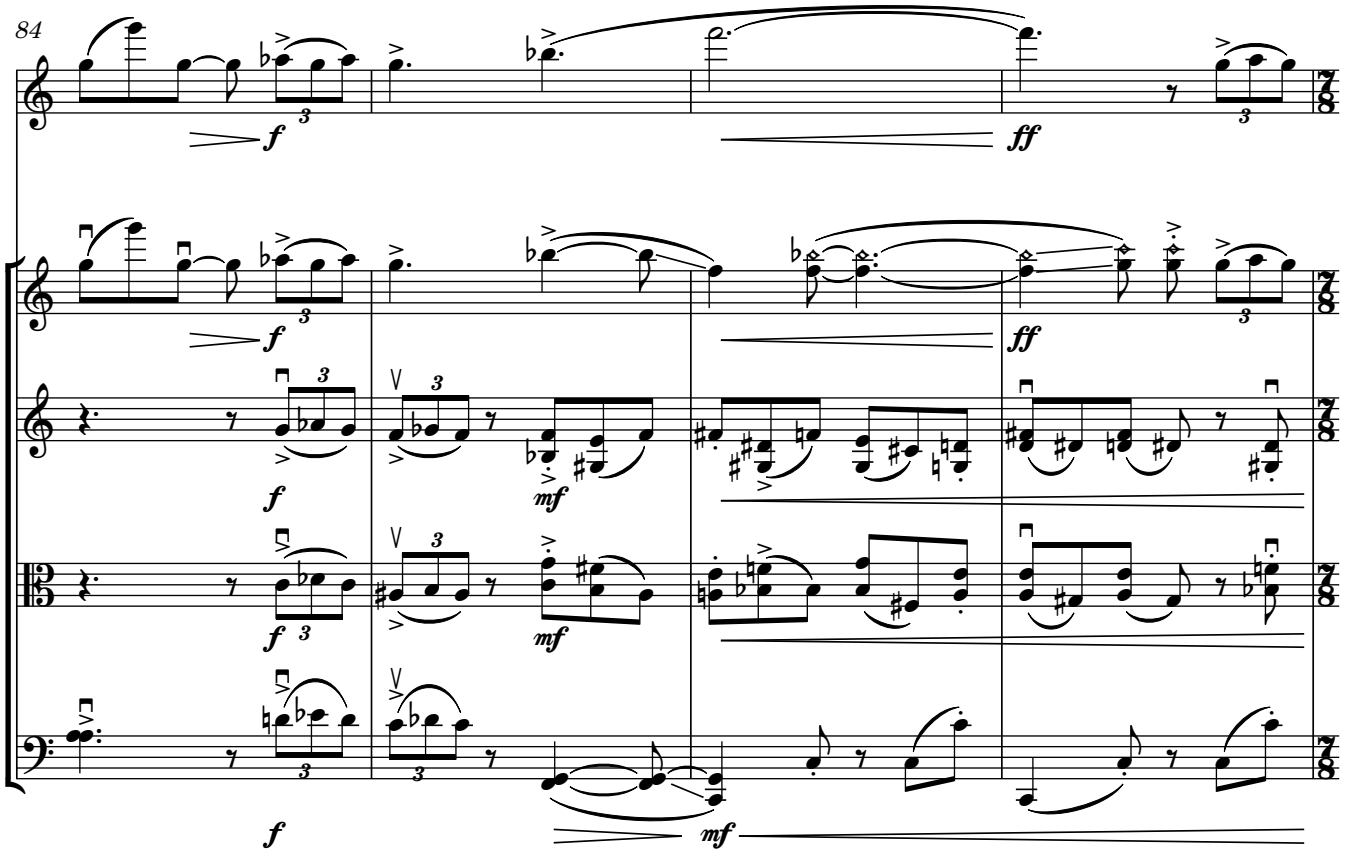
77

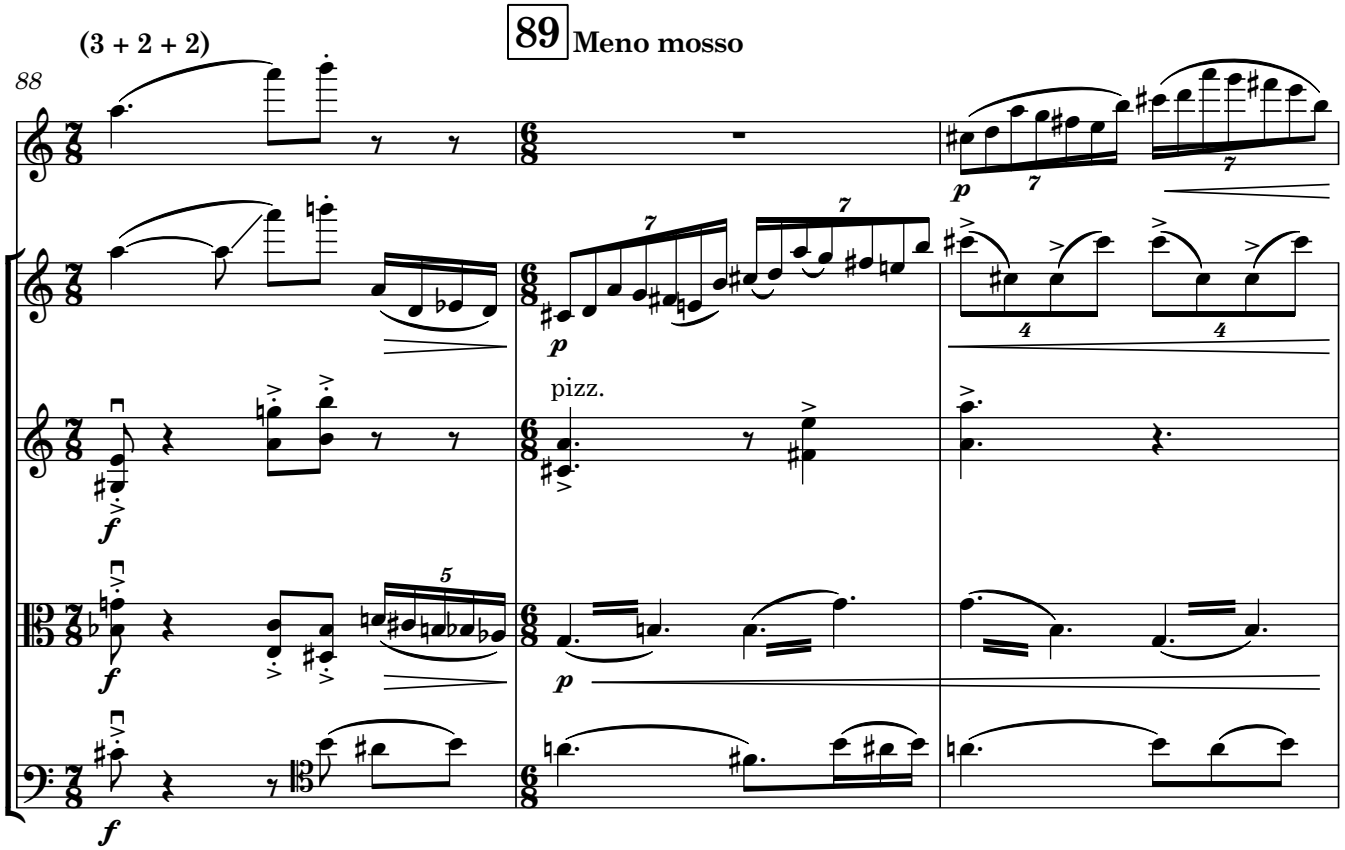
76

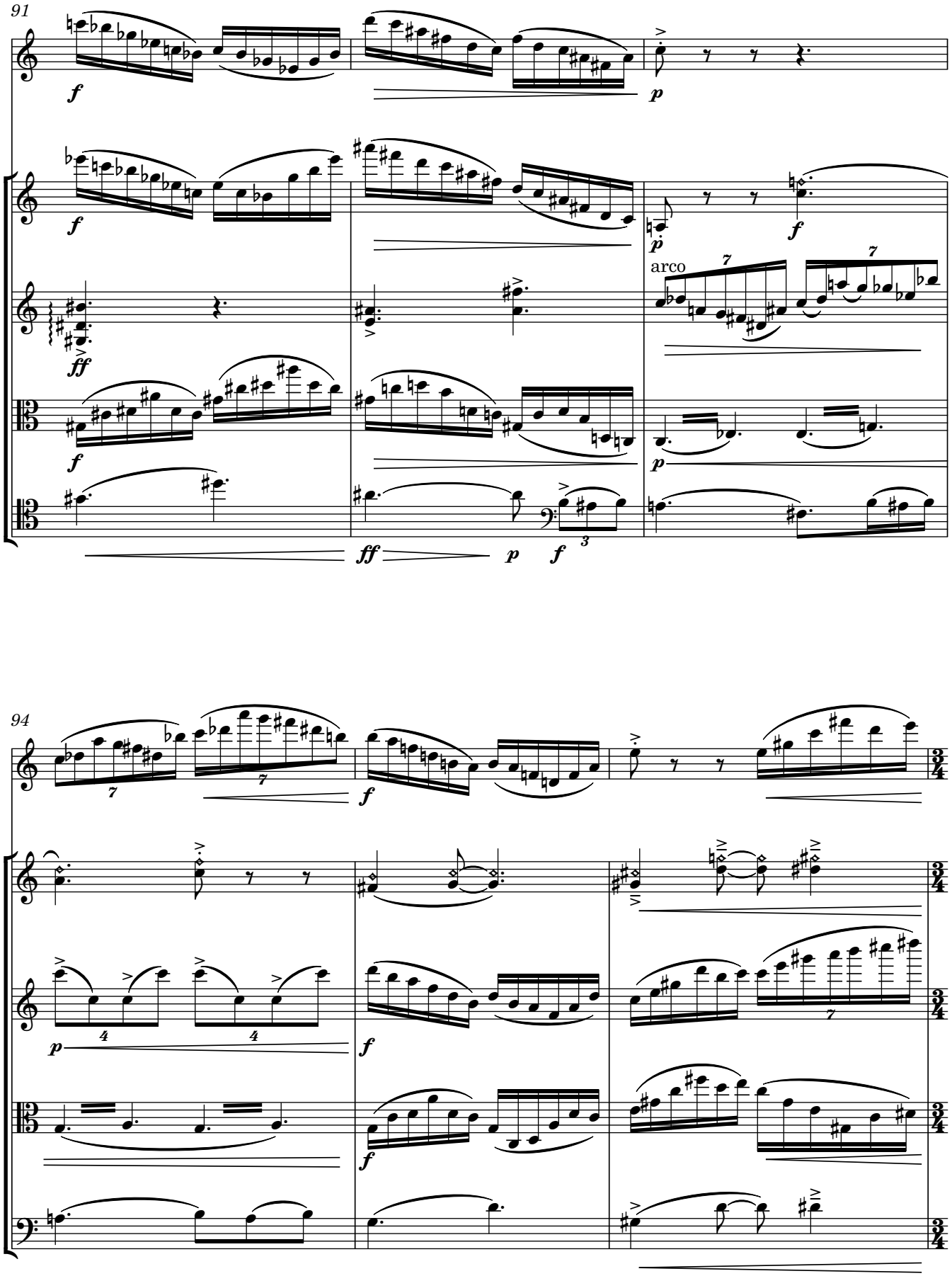


80



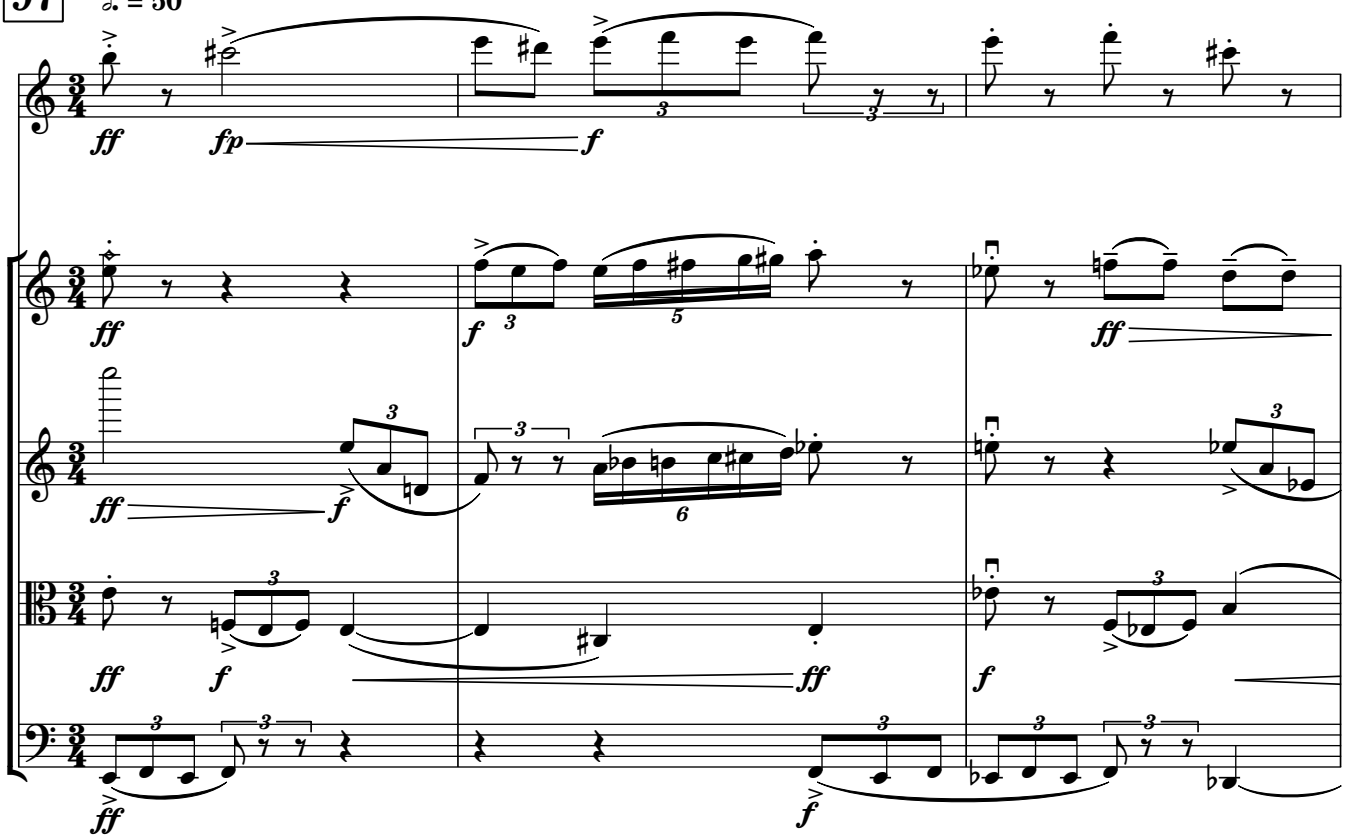

84
f
ff
mf


(3 + 2 + 2)
89
Meno mosso
88
p
pizz.
f


91
arco
94

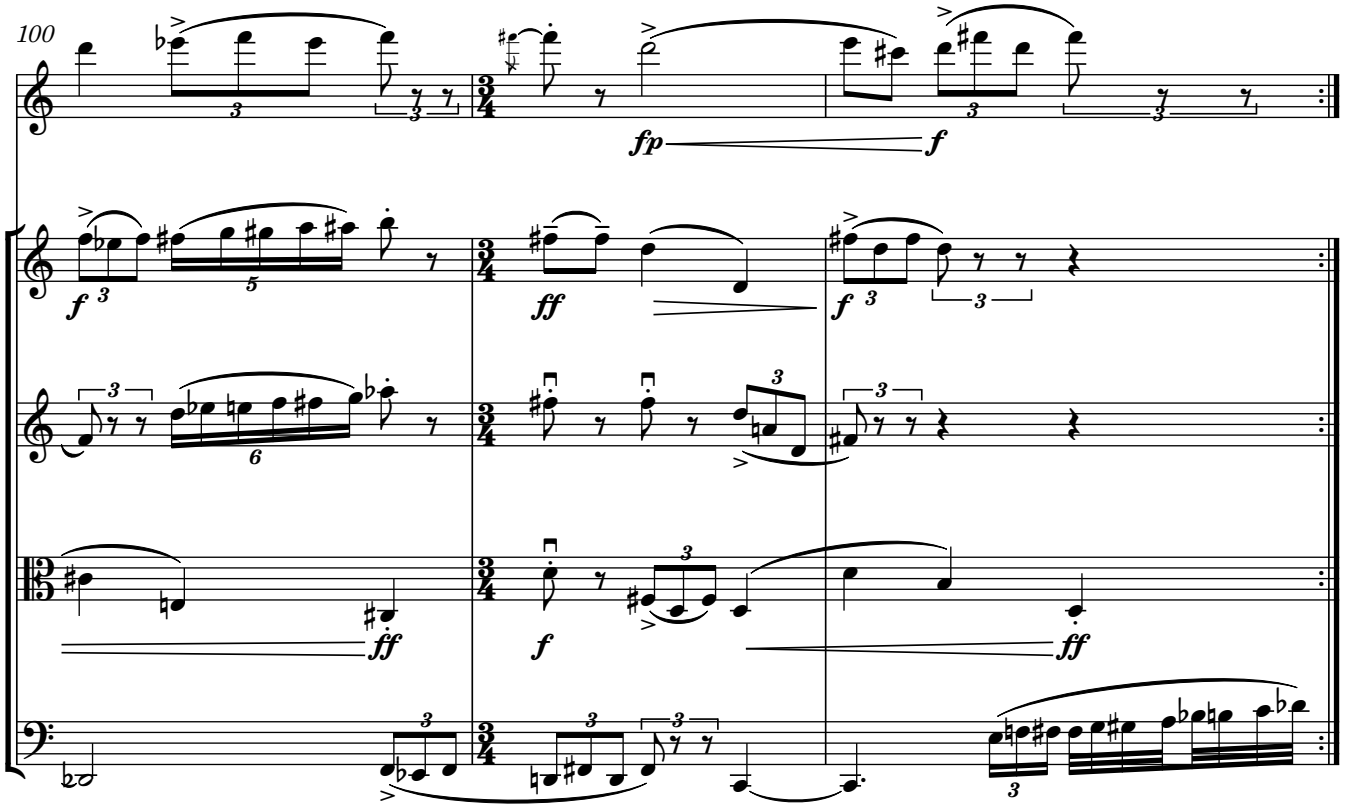
97

♩. = 50

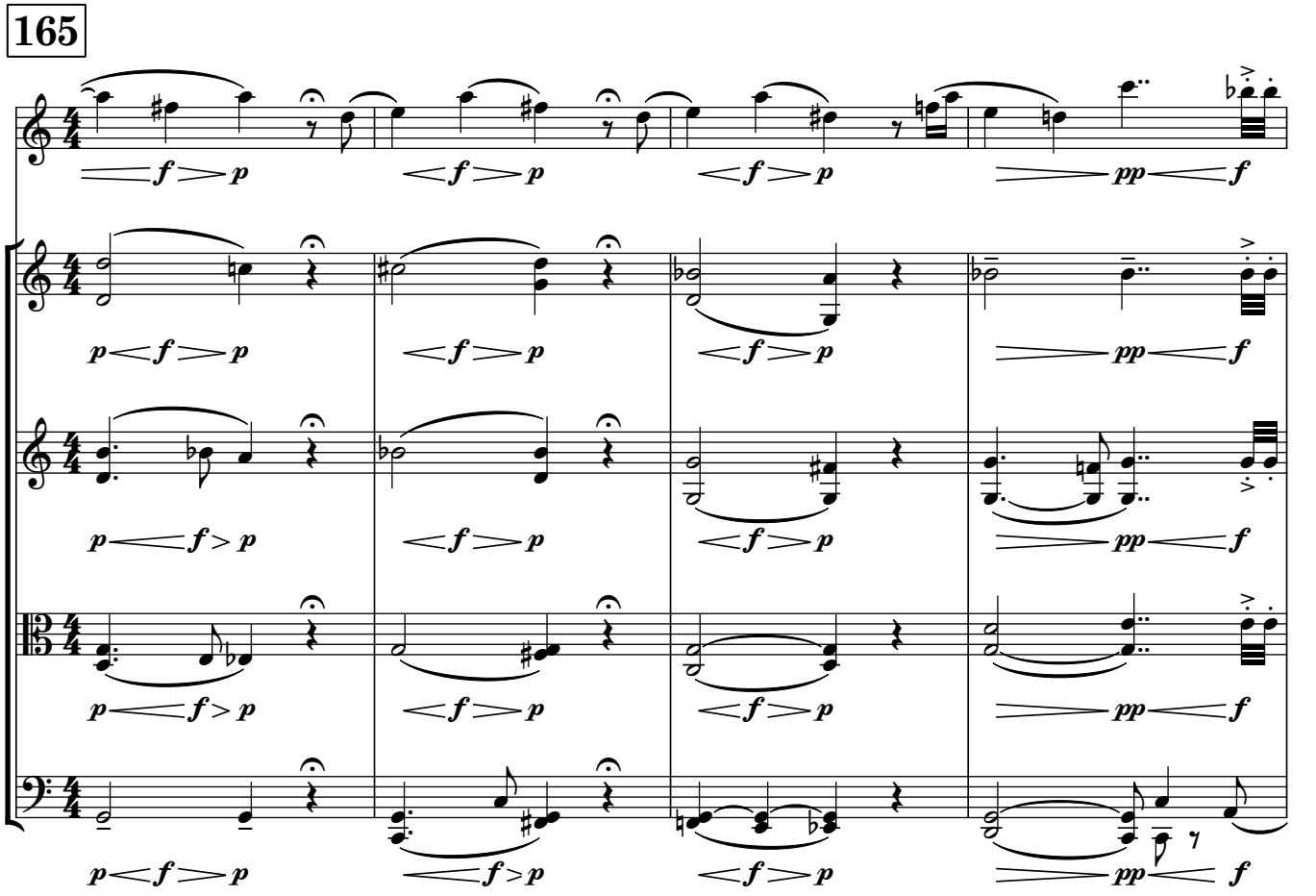


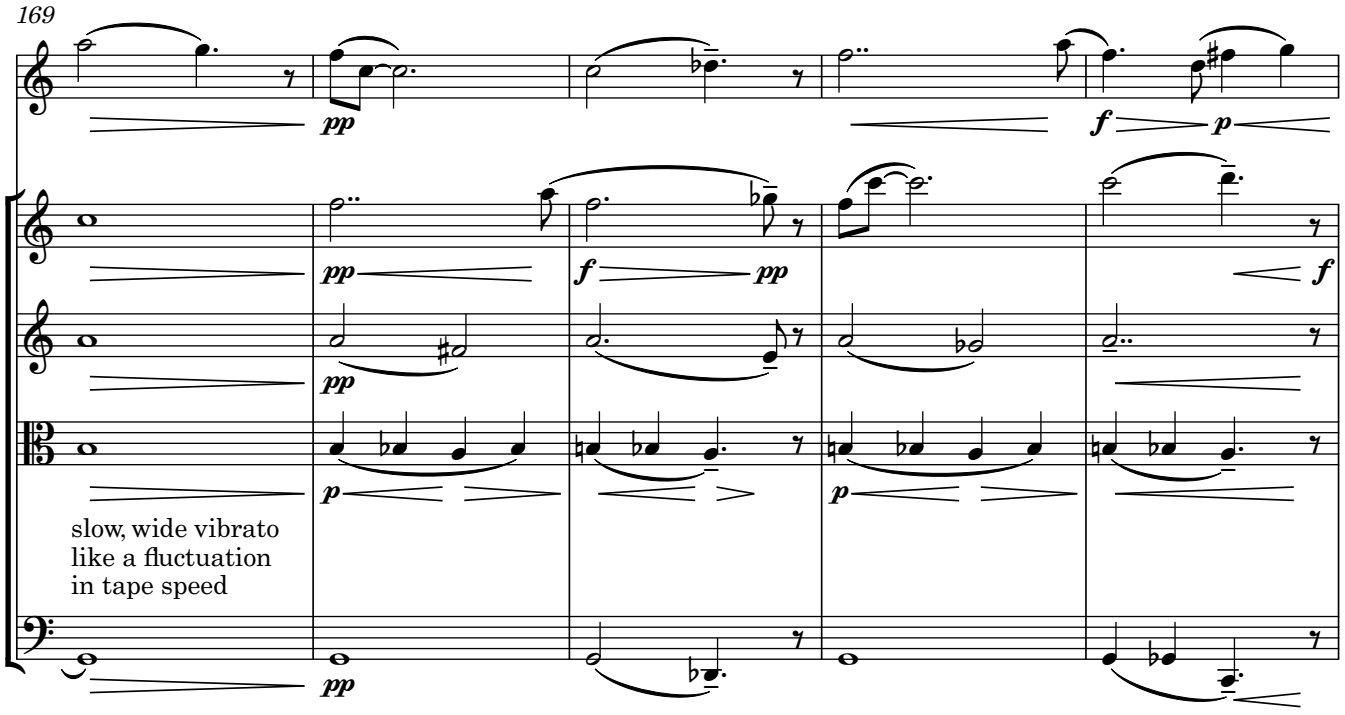
poco rit.

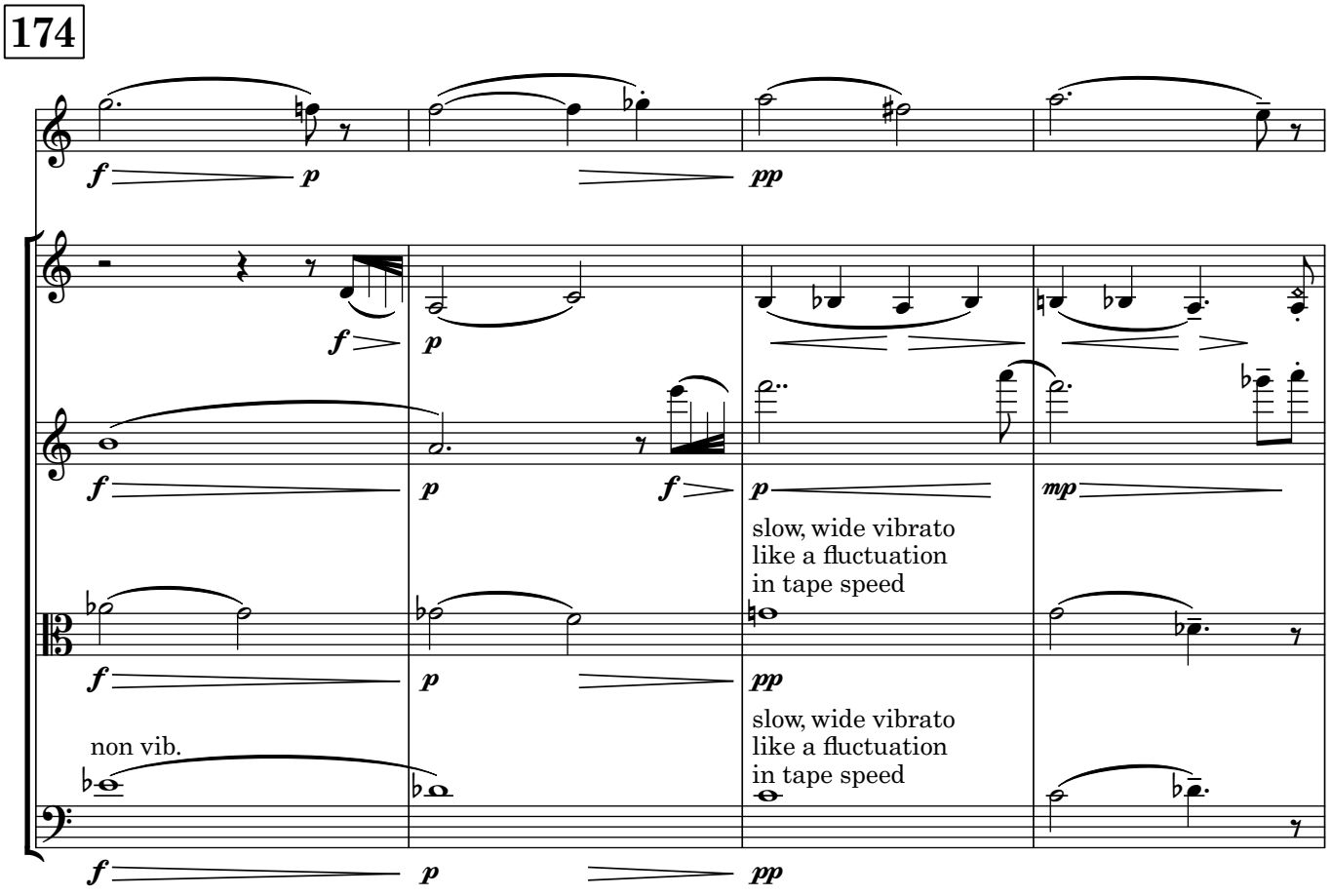
100

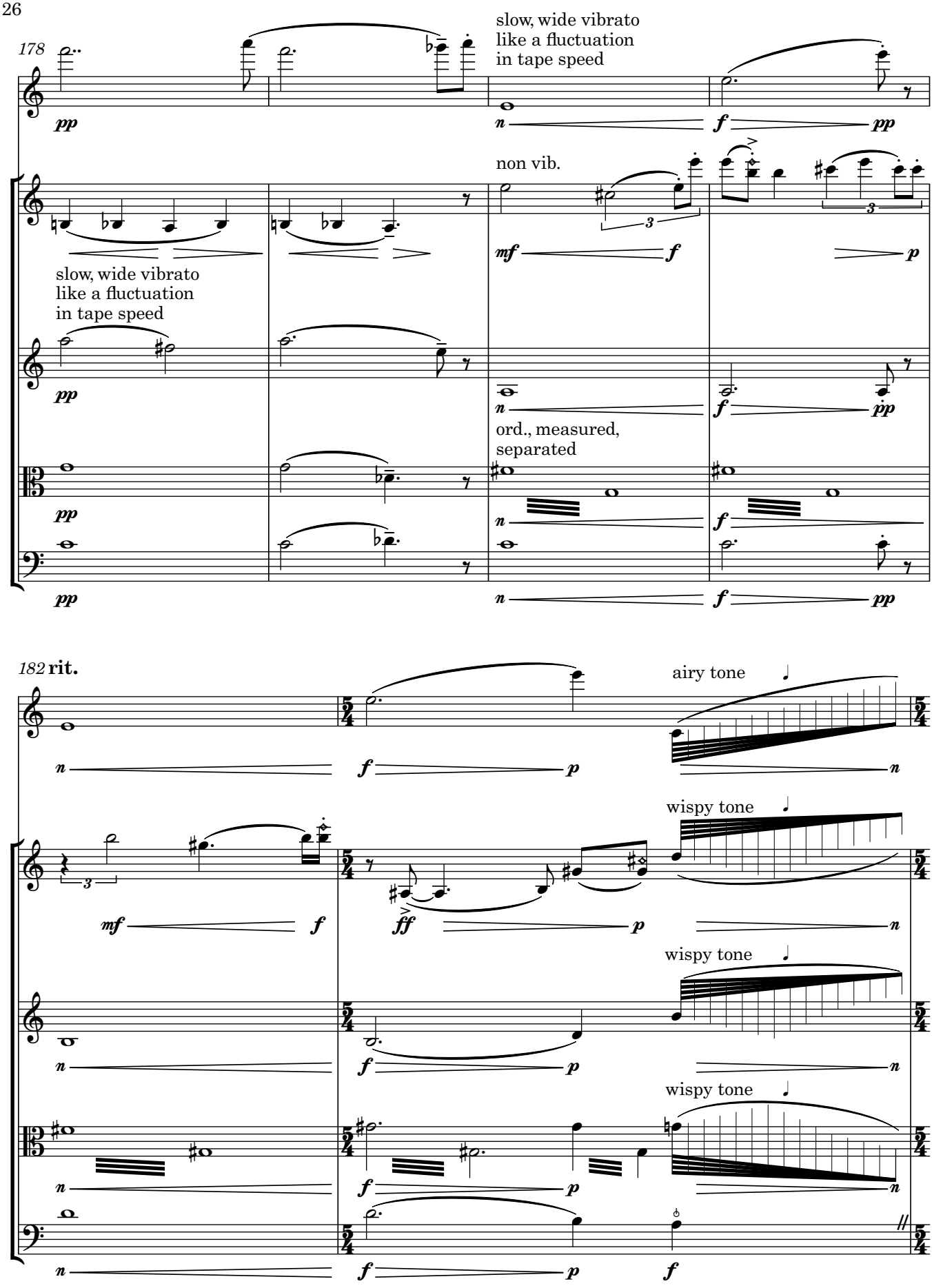


161
Lulling ♩ = 50
non vib., con sord.
non vib., con sord.
ord.,
non vib., con sord.
ord.,
non vib., con sord.


165


169
slow, wide vibrato
like a fluctuation
in tape speed


174
slow, wide vibrato
like a fluctuation
in tape speed
non vib.
slow, wide vibrato
like a fluctuation
in tape speed


178
slow, wide vibrato
like a fluctuation
in tape speed
non vib.
slow, wide vibrato
like a fluctuation
in tape speed
ord., measured,
separated
182 rit.
airy tone
wispy tone
wispy tone
wispy tone