maisema, muistuma, enne

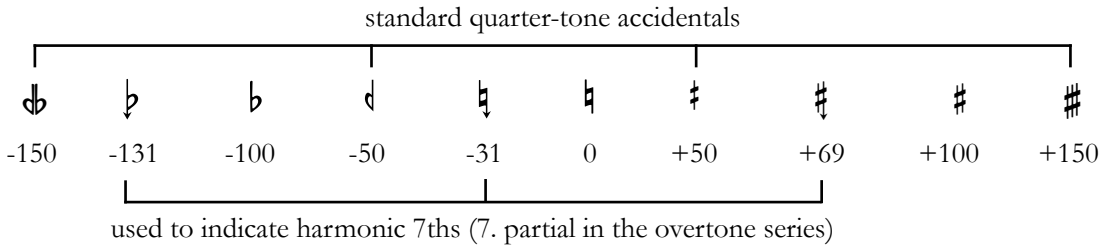
for string quartet

2025

dur. ca. 26’

P E R F O R M A N C E I N S T R U C T I O N S

The following microtonal notation is used (deviations marked in cents, 100 cents = 1 semitone):



Most harmonies in **maisema, muistuma, enne** are based on the **natural overtone series** as well as **quarter tones**. For pitches based on the seventh partial, an accidental with a downwards arrow is used. The pitch is lowered by 31 cents (approx. 1/6th tone).

The harmonic seventh arises from the natural overtone series as the interval between the fourth harmonic (second octave of the fundamental) and the seventh harmonic. This is easy to demonstate and understand with the natural overtones of the cello.

For sustained tones outside of the regular 12 equal temperament tones, **pitch accuracy** is more important than for notes that are part of a run or a gesture. In the scales containing microtonal notes, the gesture is more important than the exact pitches played.

Accuracy of **intonation** is crucial for the piece. The composer humbly asks musicians to pay close attention to the different microtones throughout the piece, even if it might cause some gray hairs. The result will be well worth it, though!

The bpm **metronome marks** are approximate and can fluctuate during the music.

All **staccato** notes should be the same length.

When no instruction about **vibrato** is provided, context dependent natural sounding vibrato should be used.

Glissandi should start immediately at the beginning of the note and last for its whole notated duration.

GENERAL NOTATION CONVENTIONS

Shift from one playing technique to other gradually.

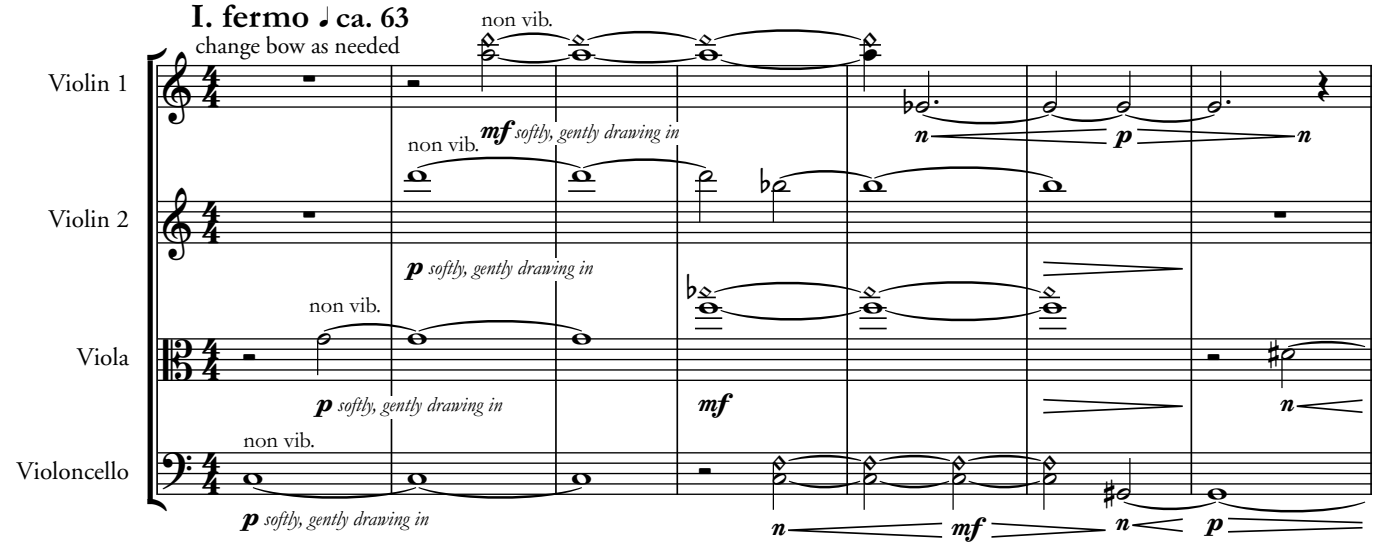
Gradually change left hand finger pressure from regular to harmonic during long note.

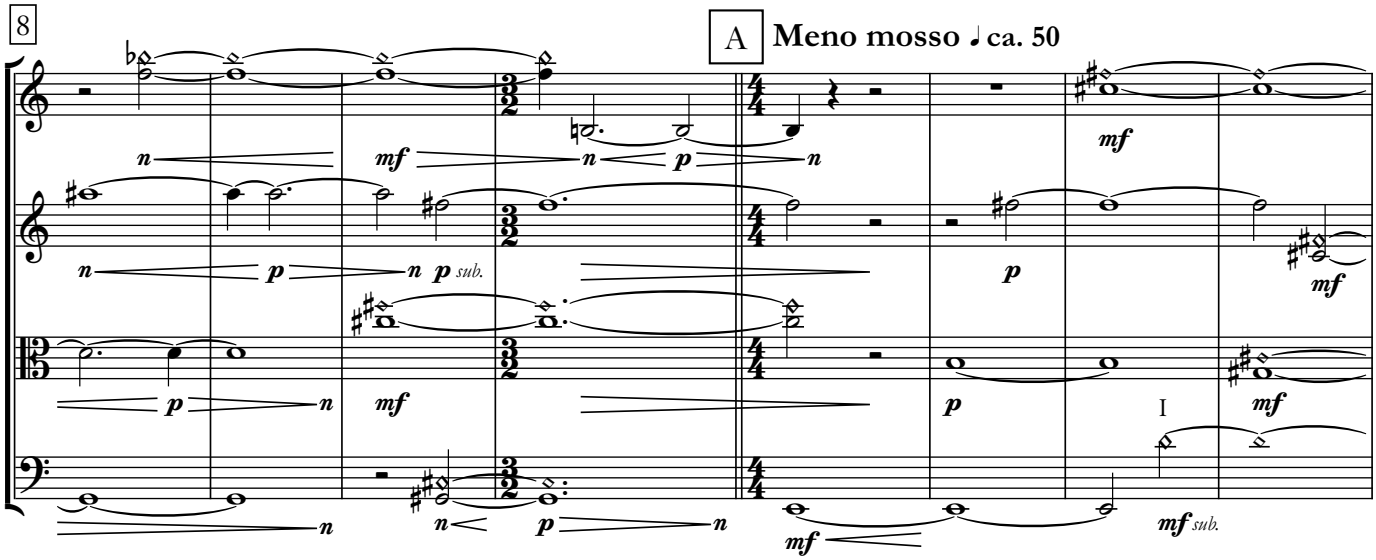
ABBREVIATIONS

non vib.	no vibrato at all
poco vib.	a shy, very subtle vibrato
con vib./vib. ord.	natural vibrato, context dependent
molto vib.	a very wide and audible vibrato
sul tasto	play slightly on top of the fingerboard
poco sul pont.	bow slightly nearer to the bridge, producing an audible ”twang” to the sound
sul pont.	bow near to the bridge, producing ample overtones but so that the notated pitch is still audible
m.s.p.	molto sul ponticello – bow almost on the bridge, producing mostly only overtones and a very distorted sound
pos. ord.	cancels all instructions related to bow position
flaut./flautando	bow fast and with light pressure on the fingerboard, creating a flute-like sound
ord.	cancels all special playing techniques
espress.	espressivo

maisema, muistuma, enne

2025





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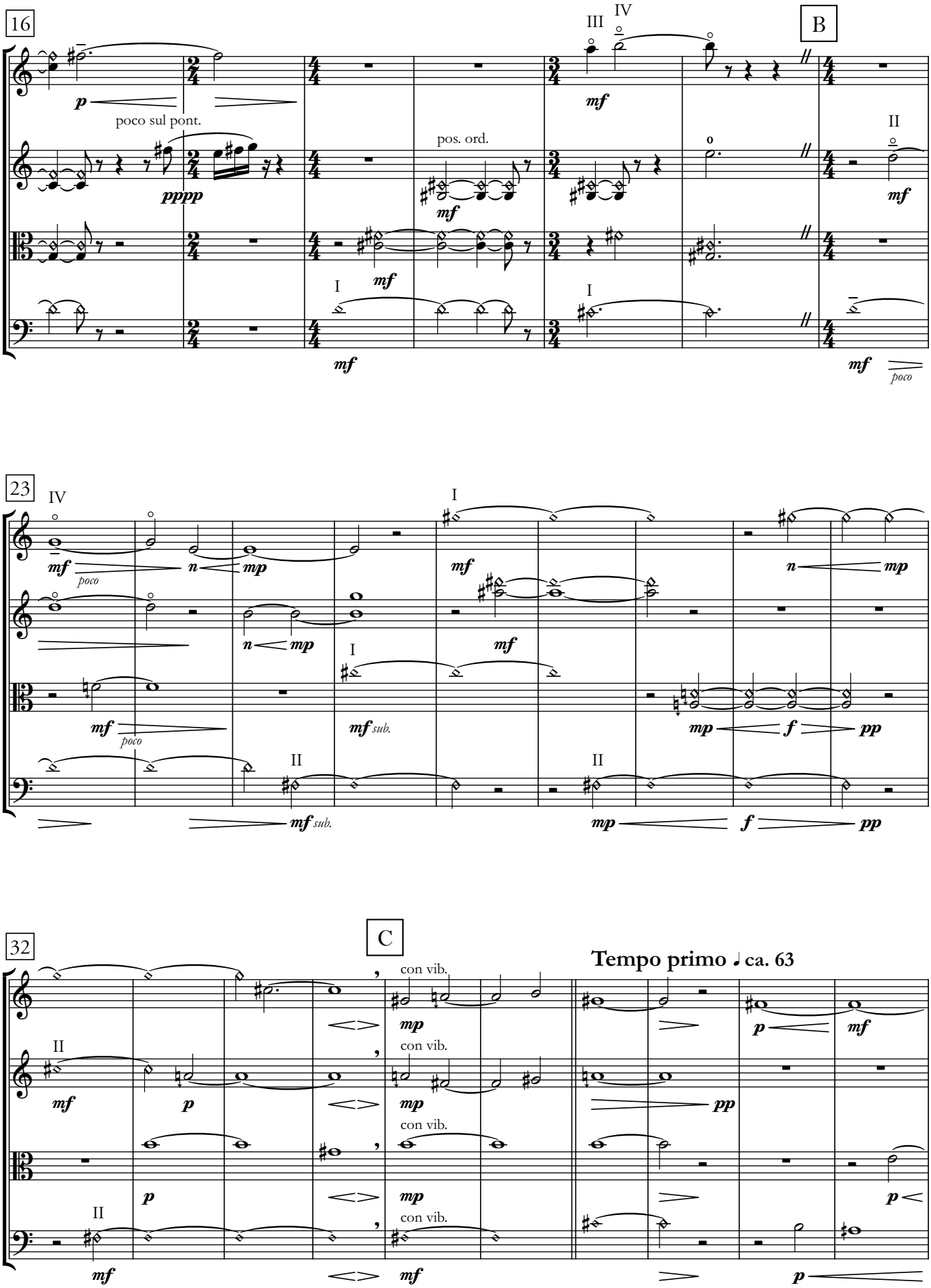
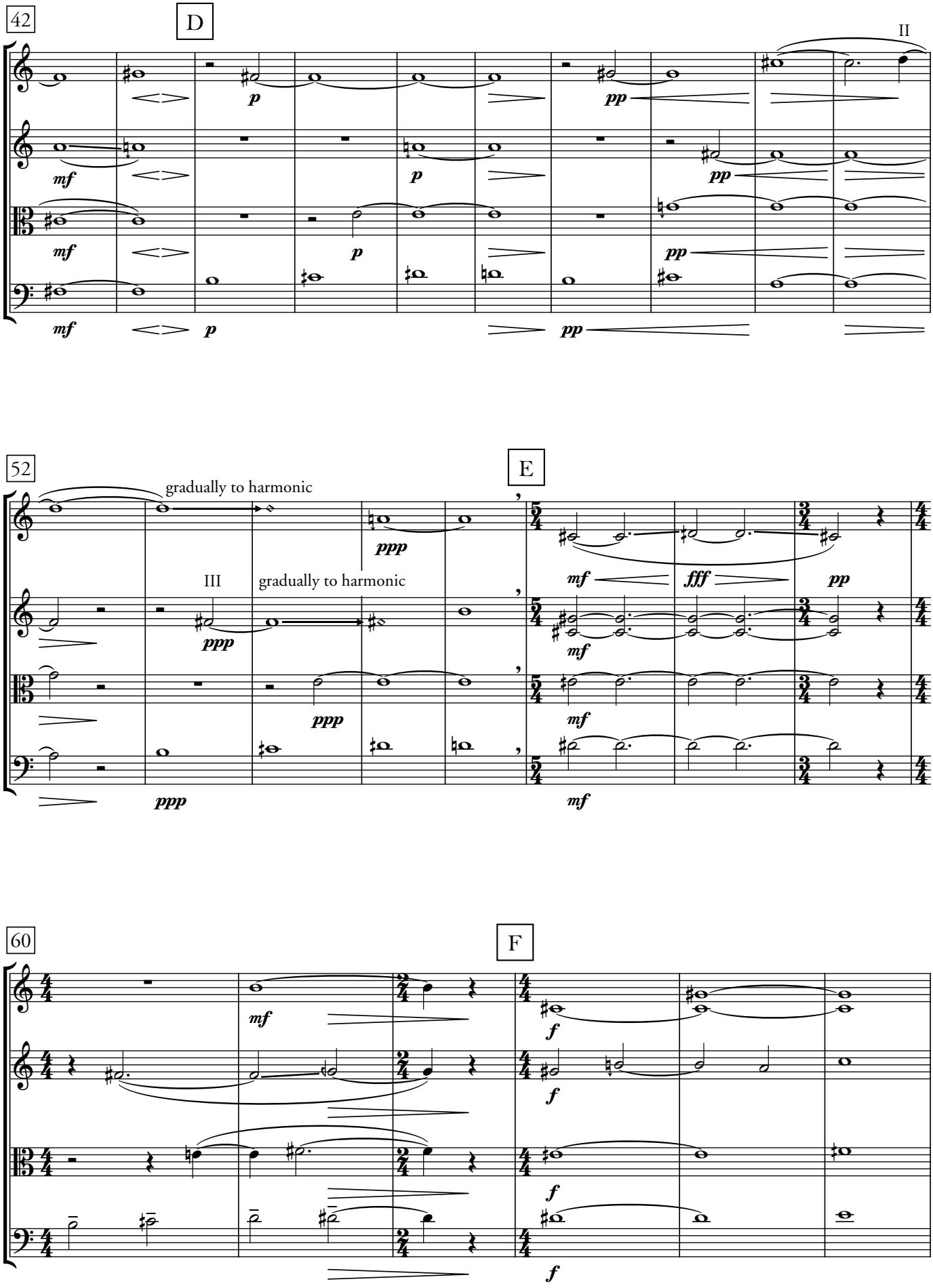
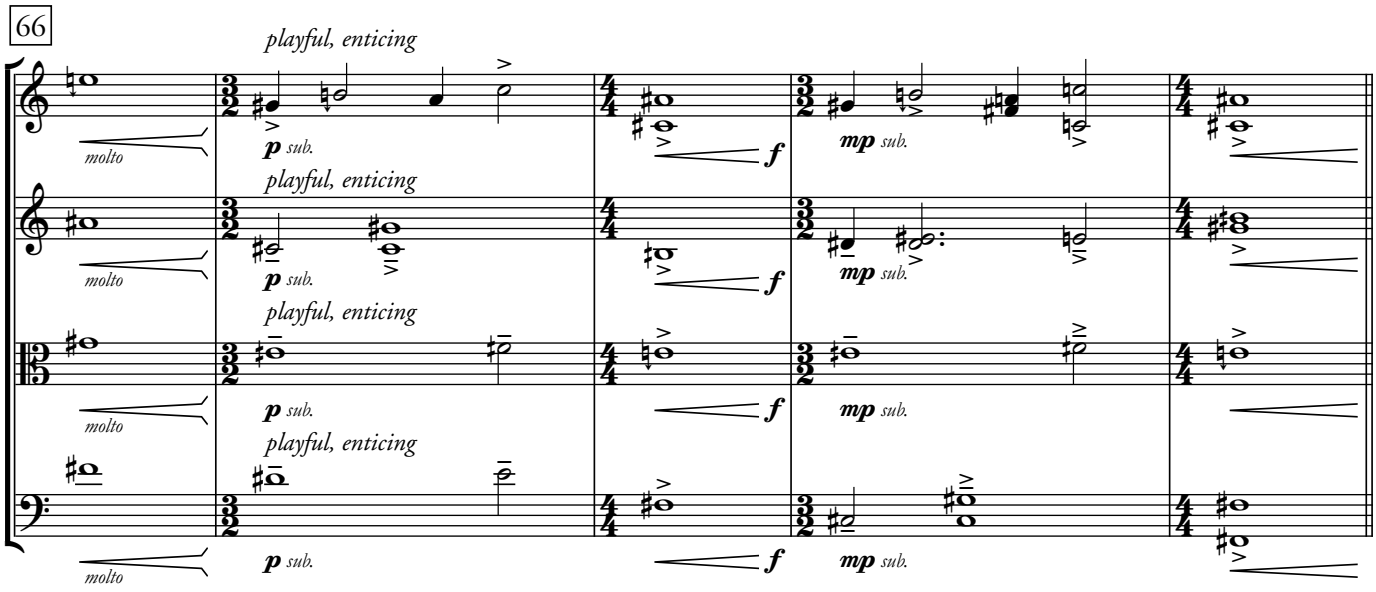
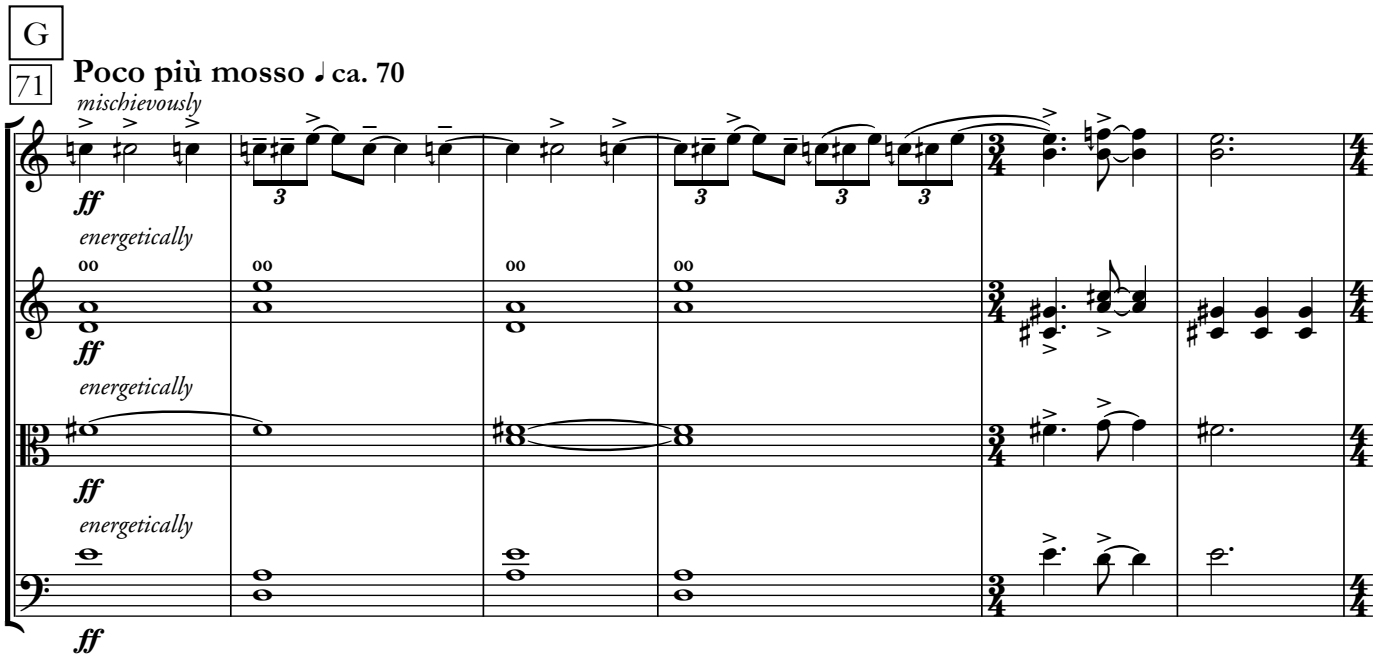
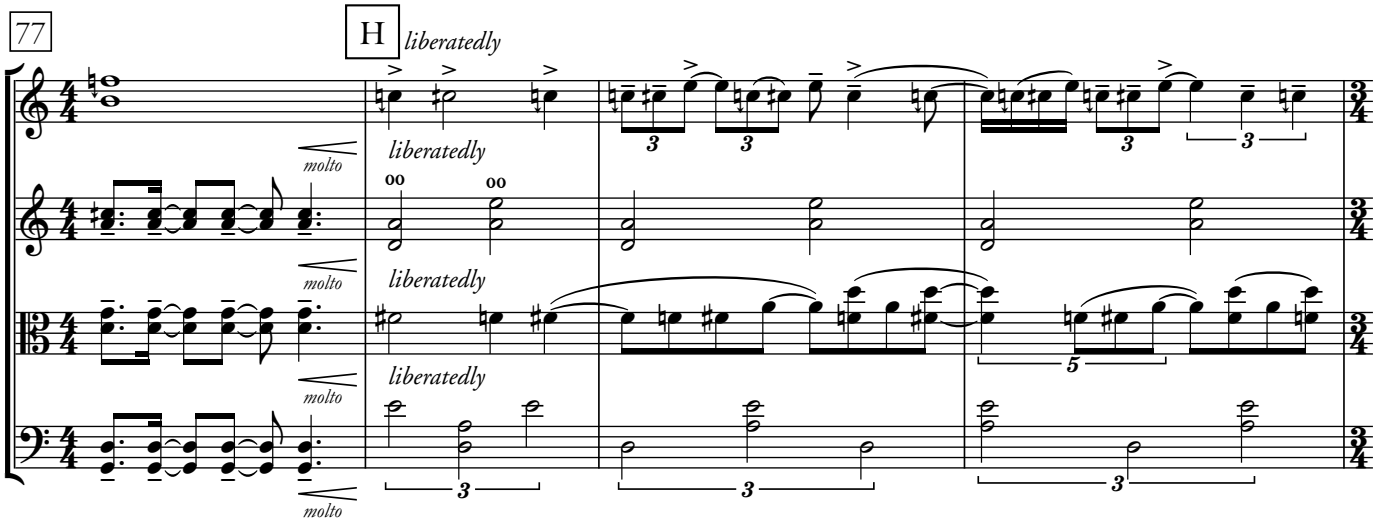
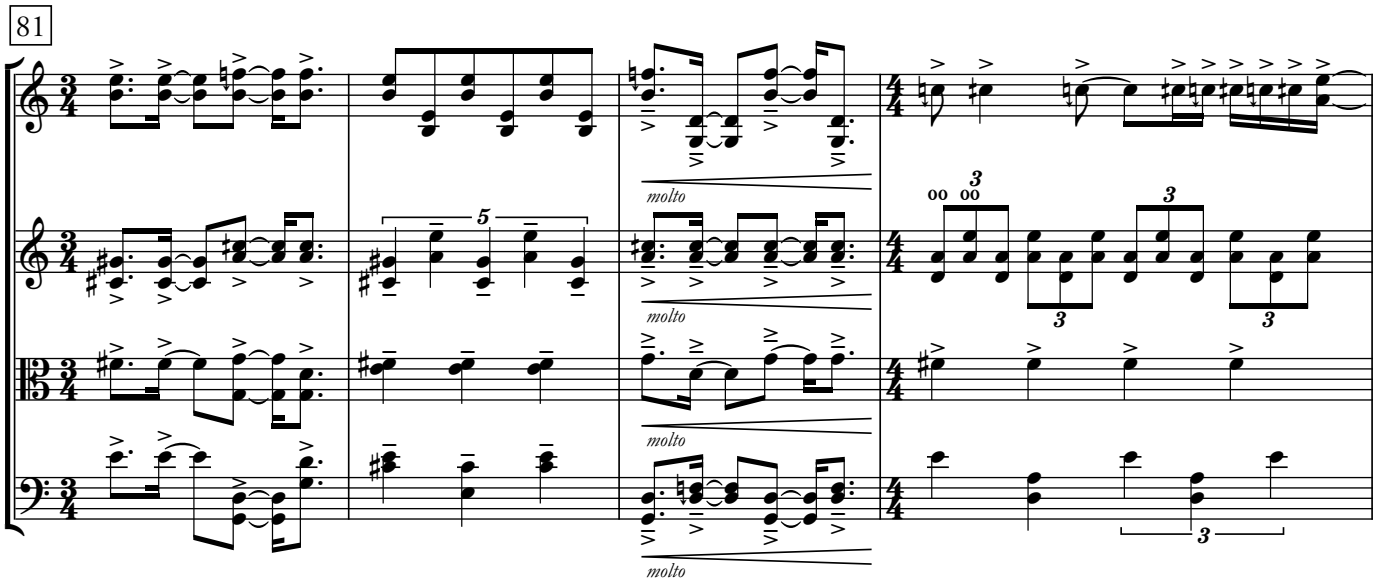

16
B
III
IV
poco sul pont.
pos. ord.
II
I
poco
23
IV
I
II
poco
mf sub.
32
C
Tempo primo ♩ ca. 63
con vib.

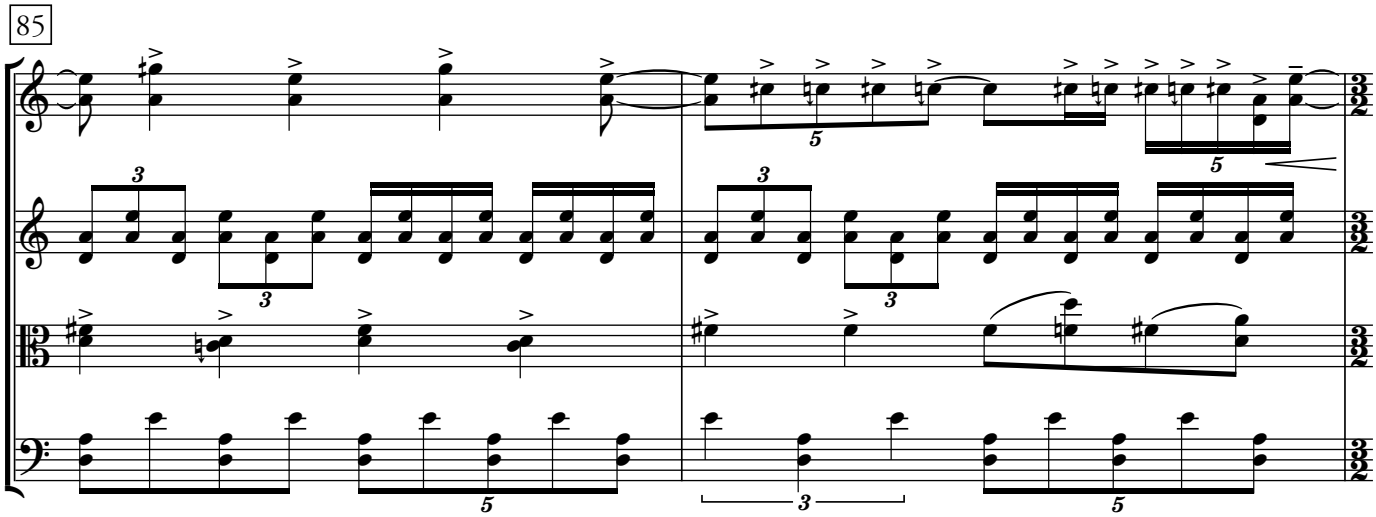

42
D
II
52
E
gradually to harmonic
III
gradually to harmonic
60
F

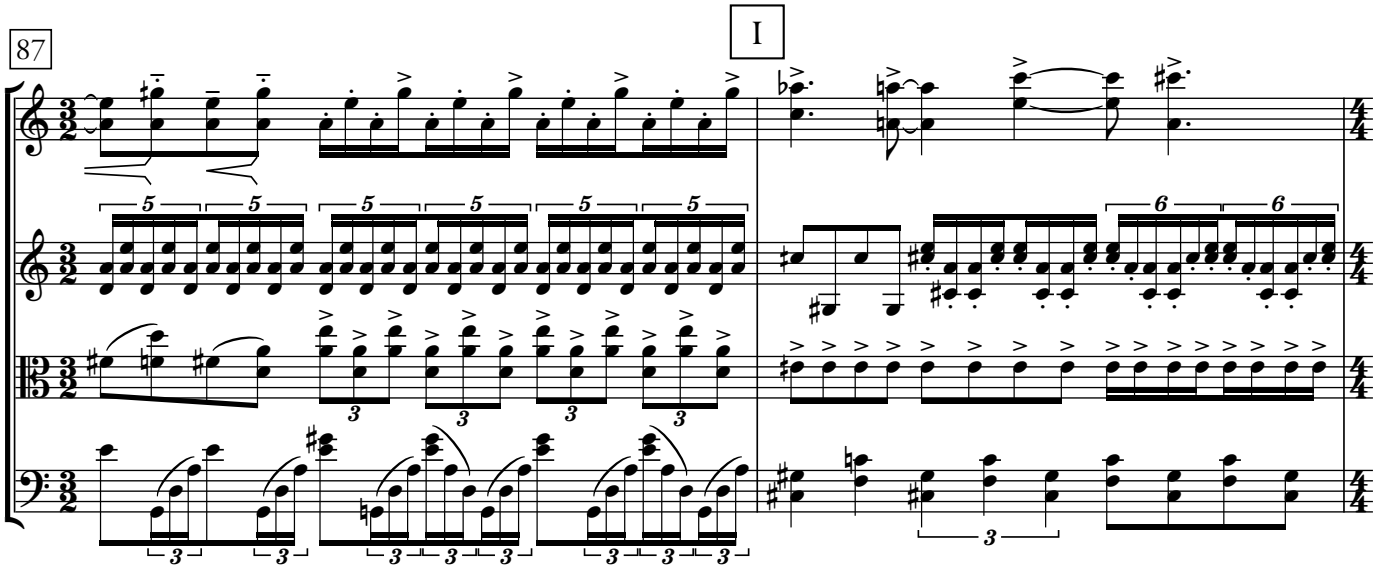

66
playful, enticing
molto
p sub.
f
mp sub.

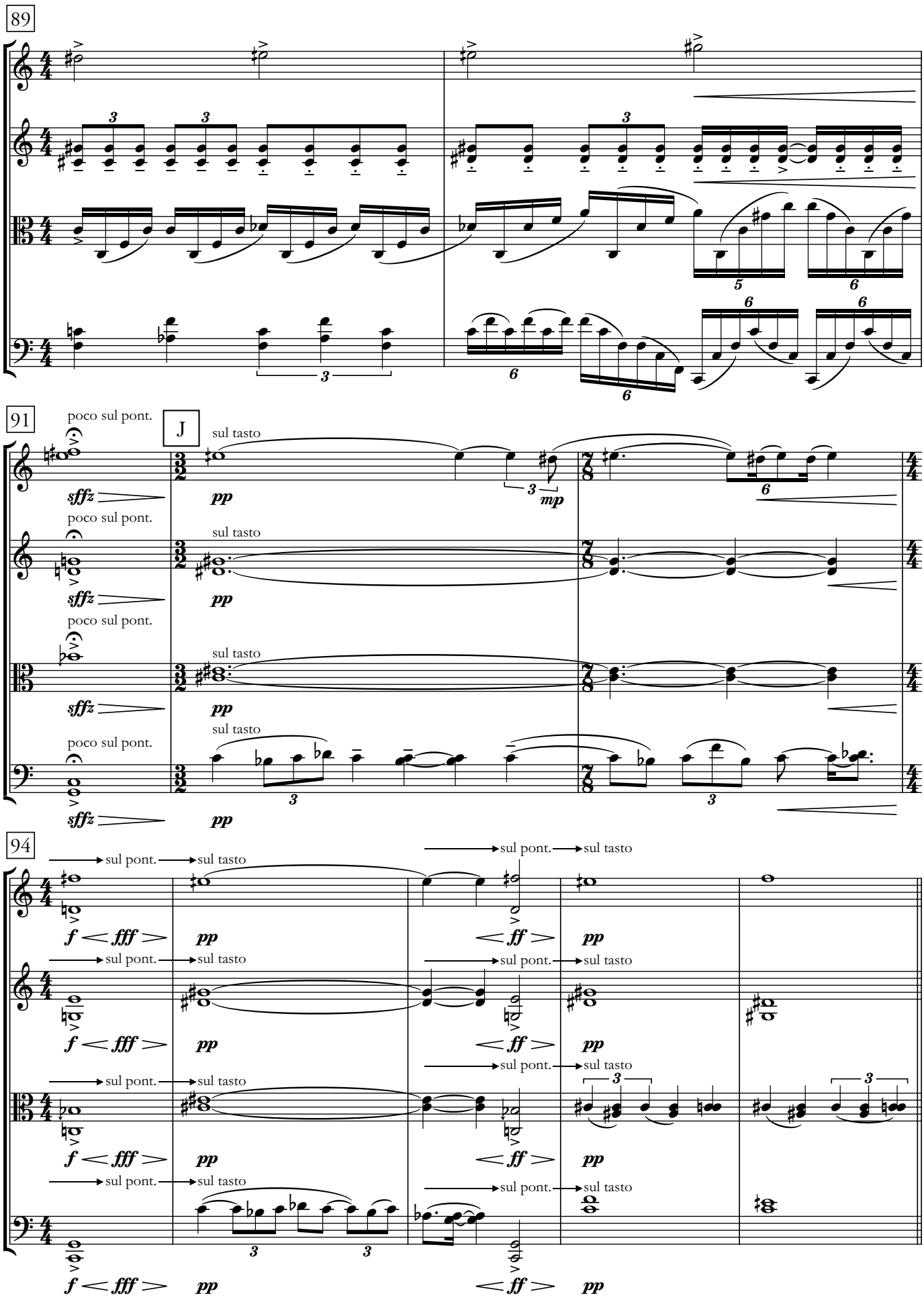

G
71
Poco più mosso ♩ ca. 70
mischievously
energetically
ff

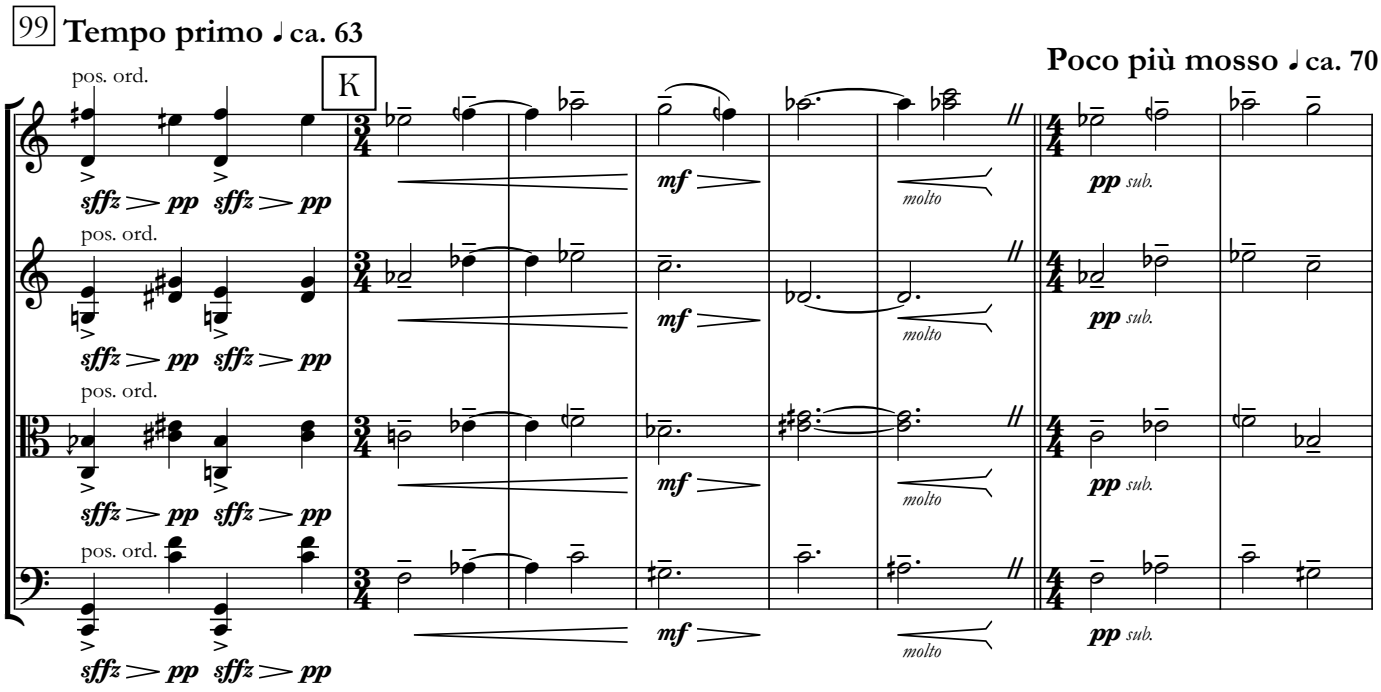

77
H
liberatedly
molto

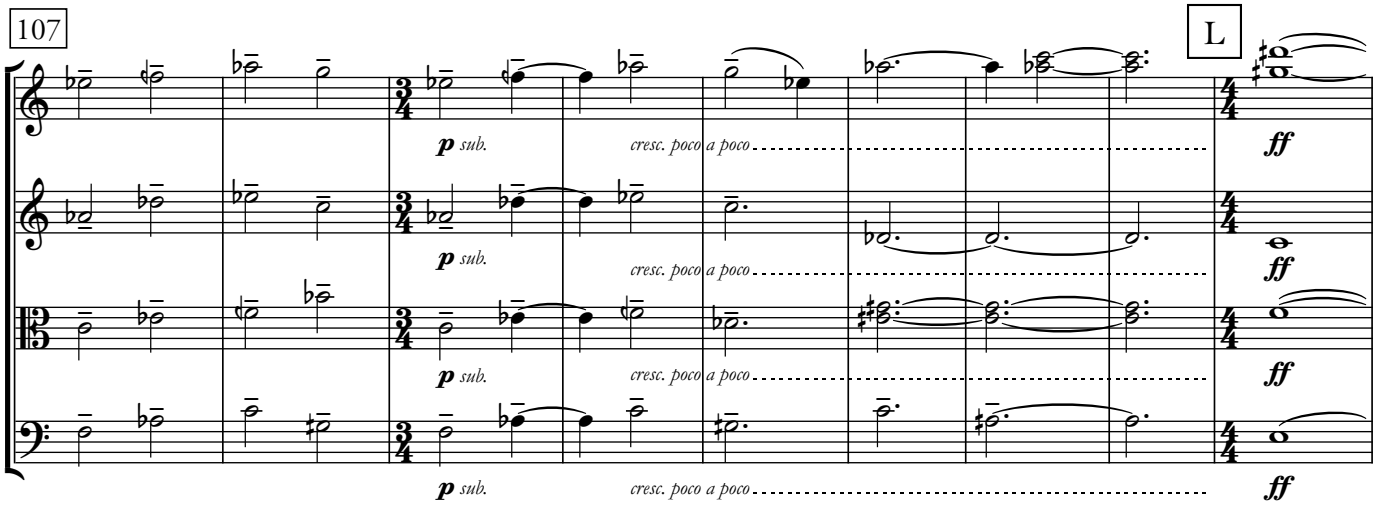

81
molto
molto
molto

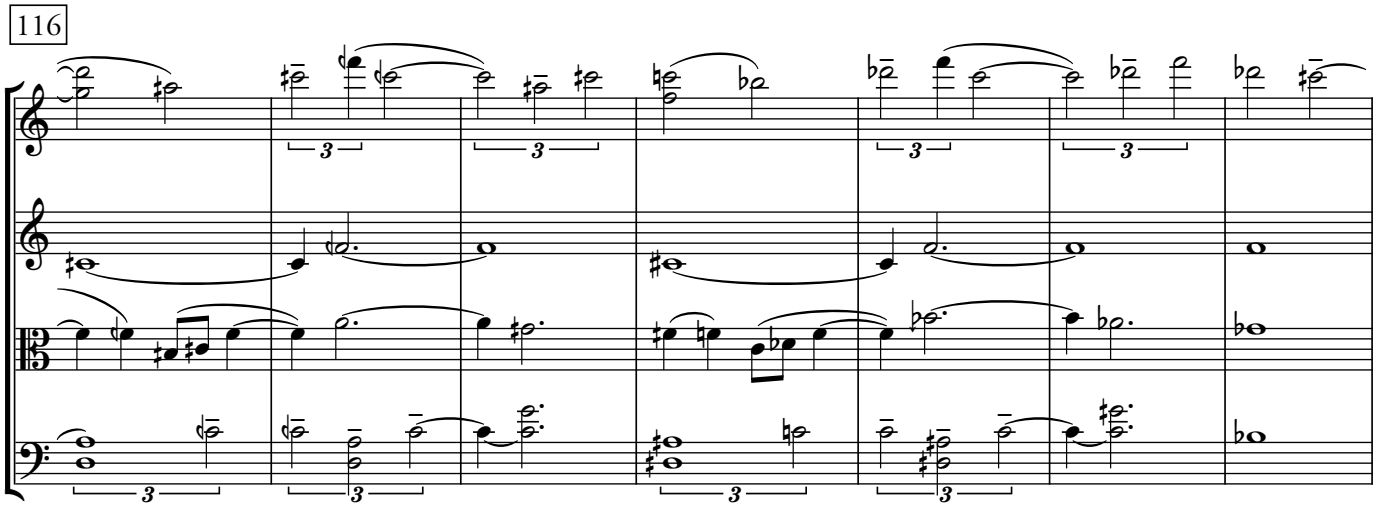

85

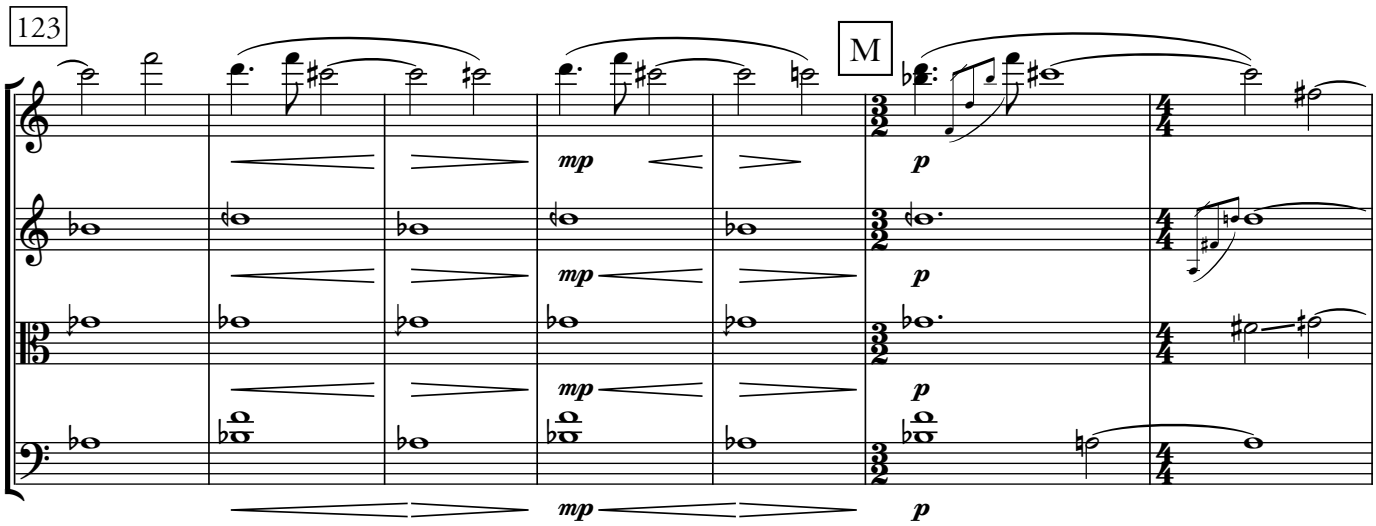

87
I

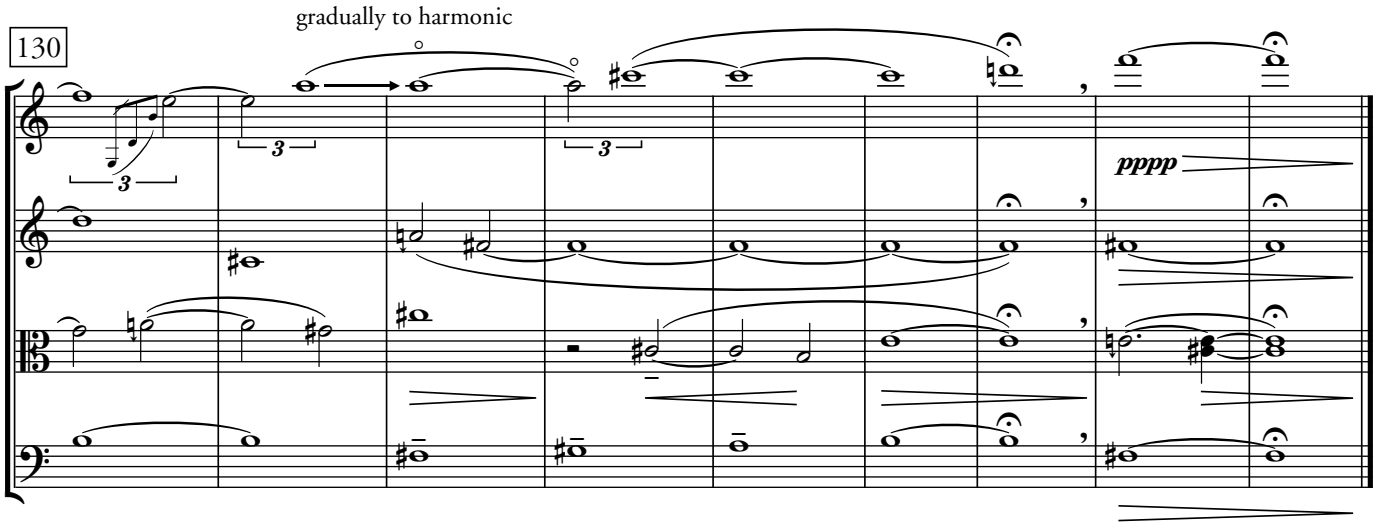

89
91
poco sul pont.
J
sul tasto
sffz
pp
mp
94
sul pont.
sul tasto
f < fff >
< ff >
pp


99
Tempo primo ♩ ca. 63
Poco più mosso ♩ ca. 70
K
pos. ord.
sffz pp
mf
molto
pp sub.

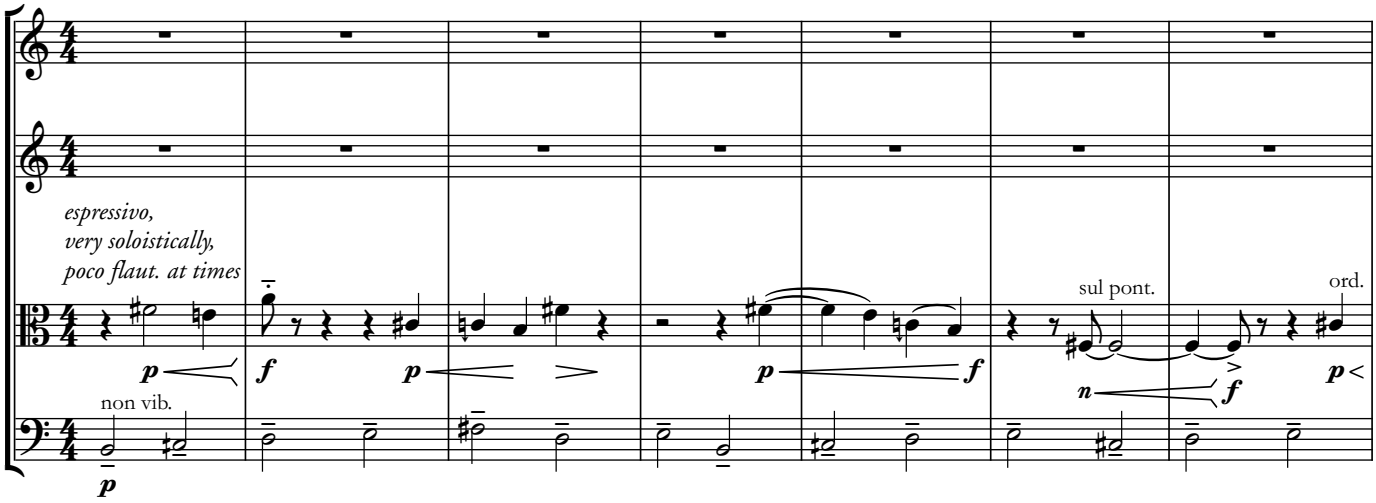

107
L
p sub.
cresc. poco a poco
ff


116
3


123
M
mp
mp
mp
mp
p
p
p
p

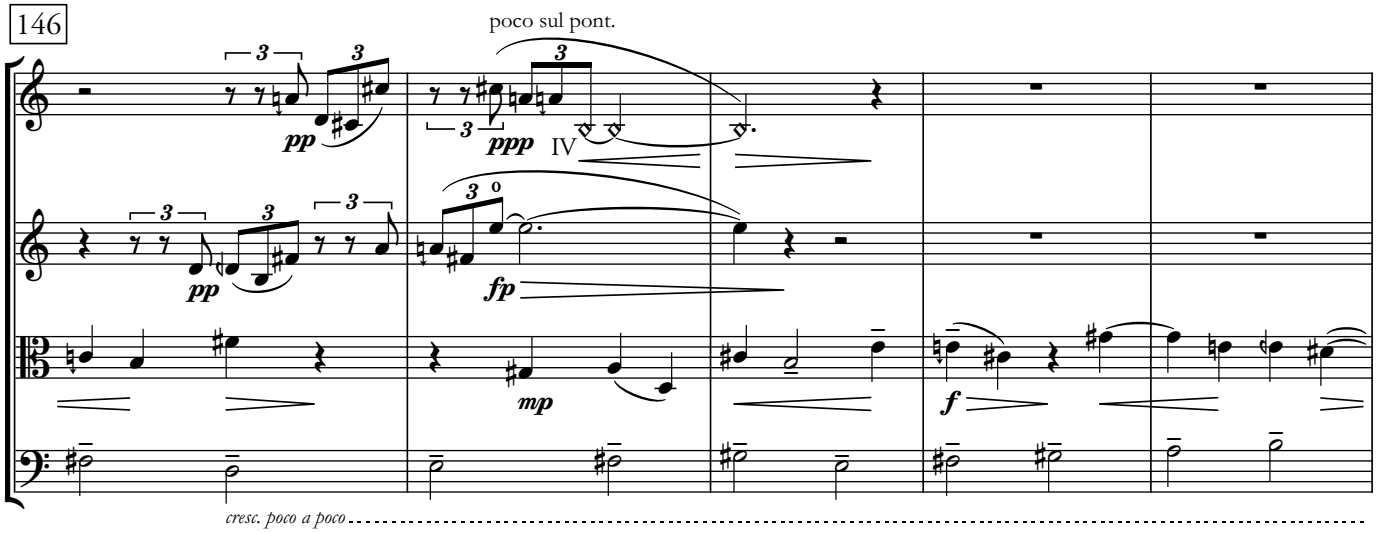

gradually to harmonic
130
3
3
3
pppp

139 **II. sempre ♩ ca. 63**



N

146



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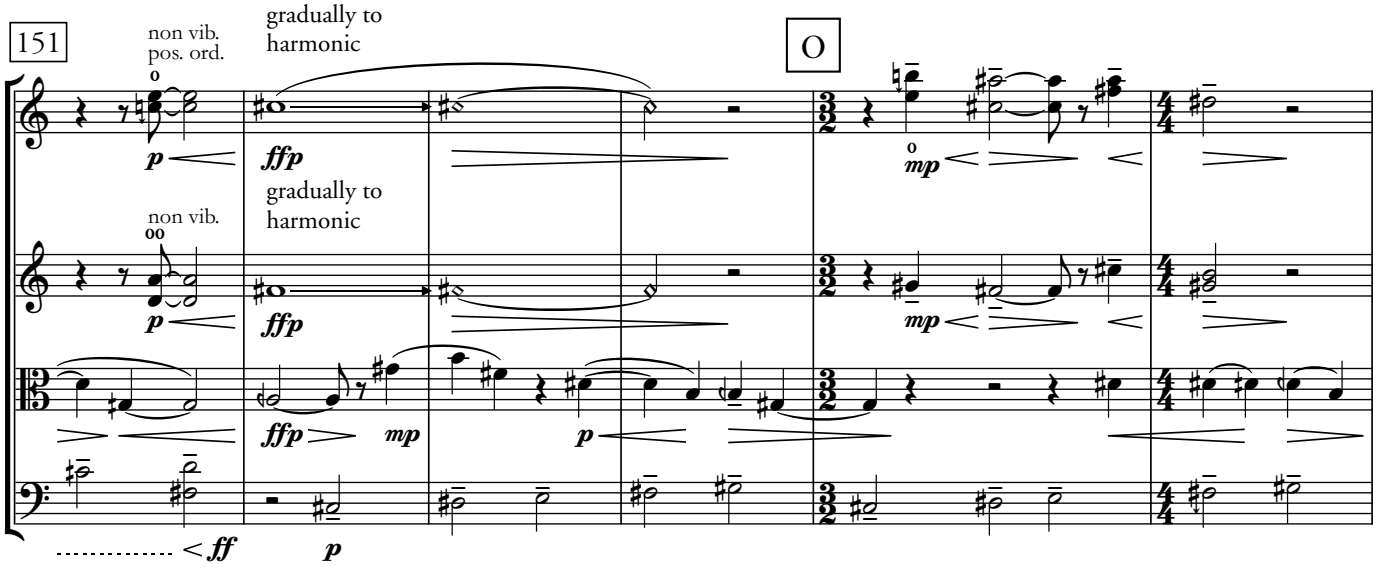
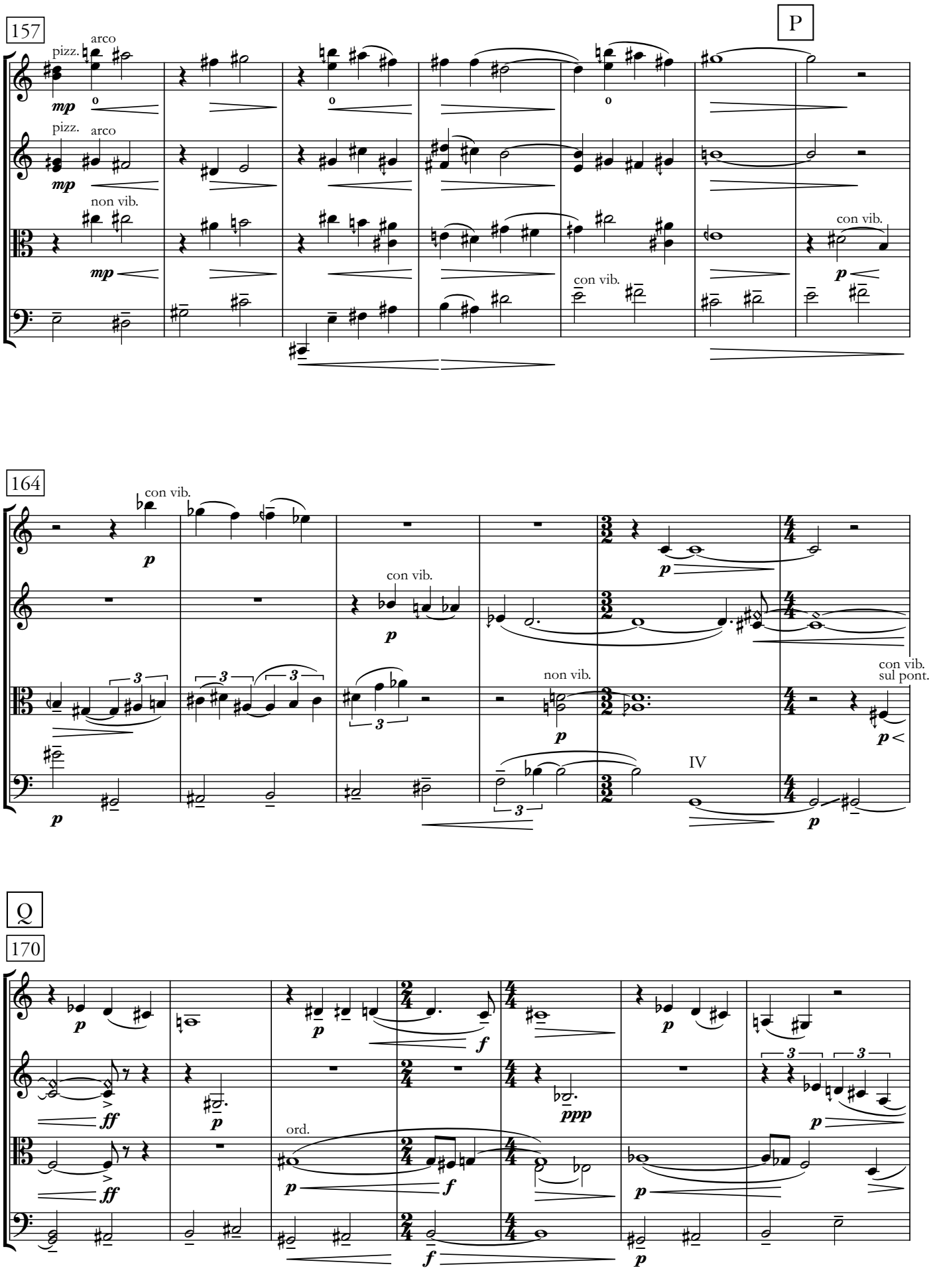
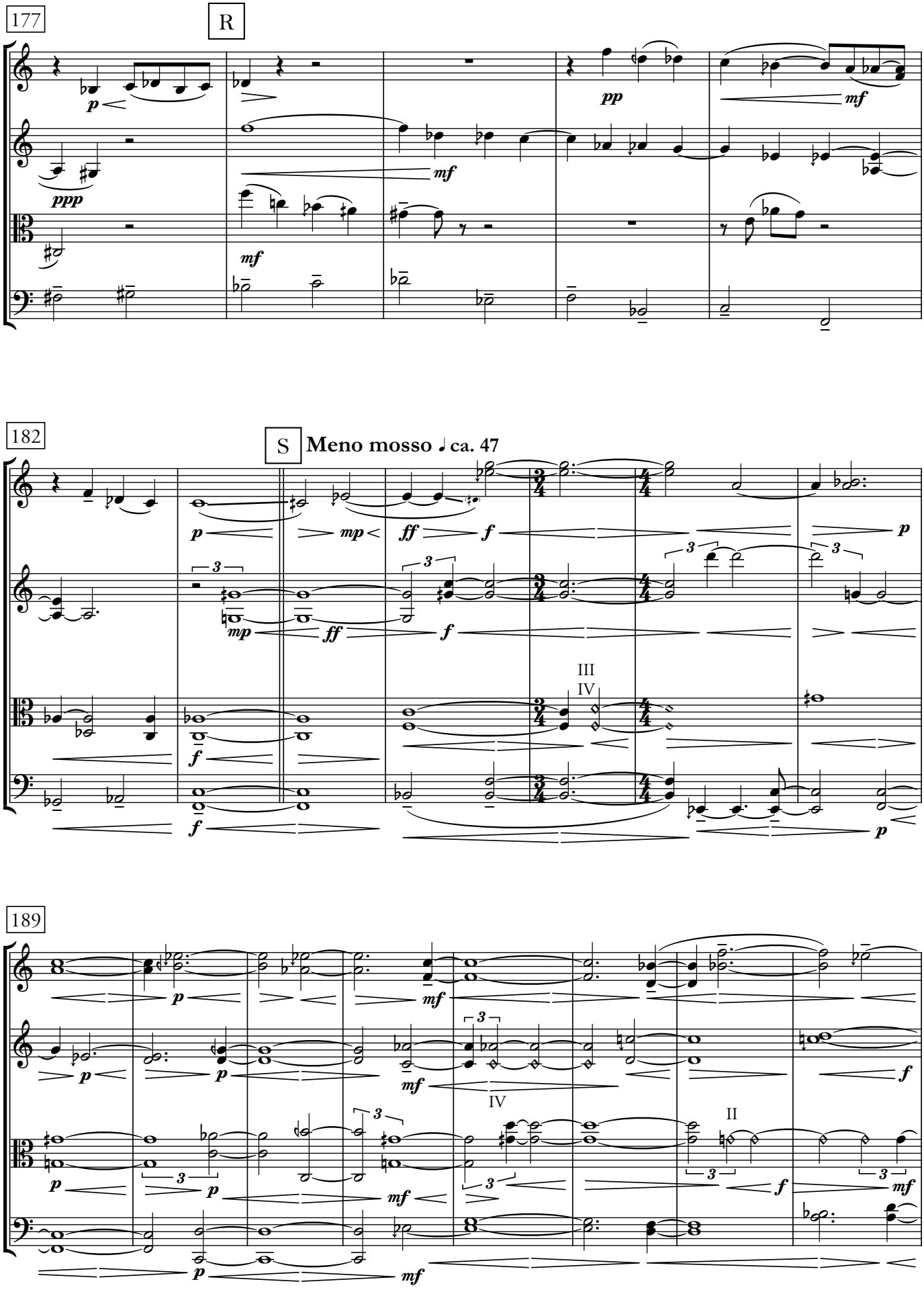
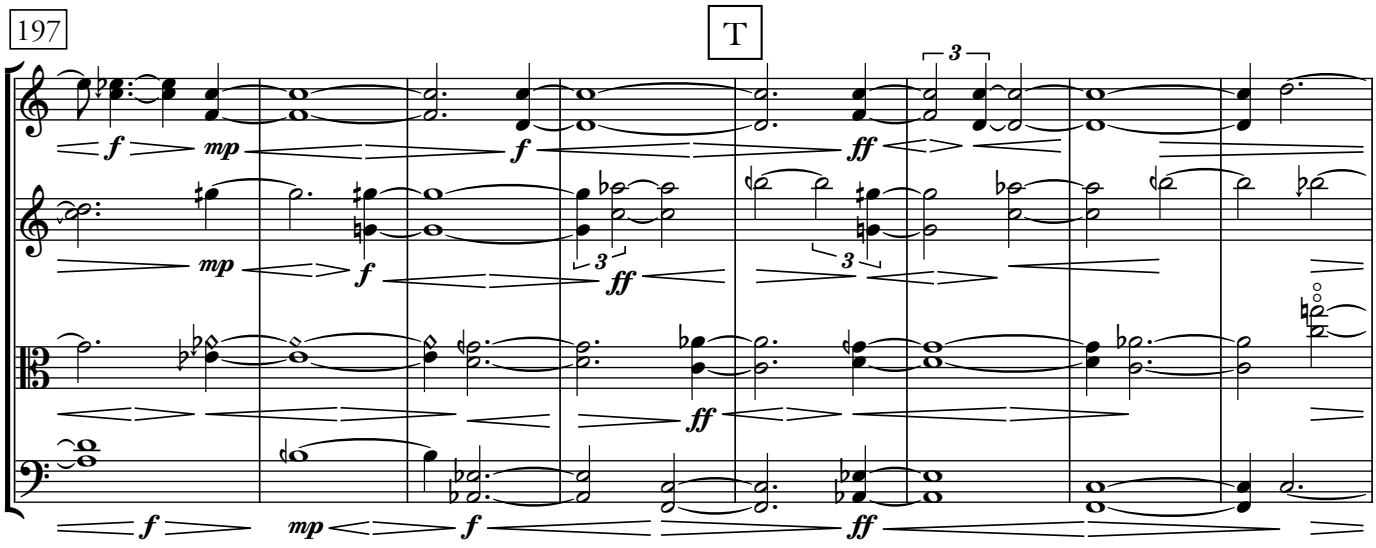
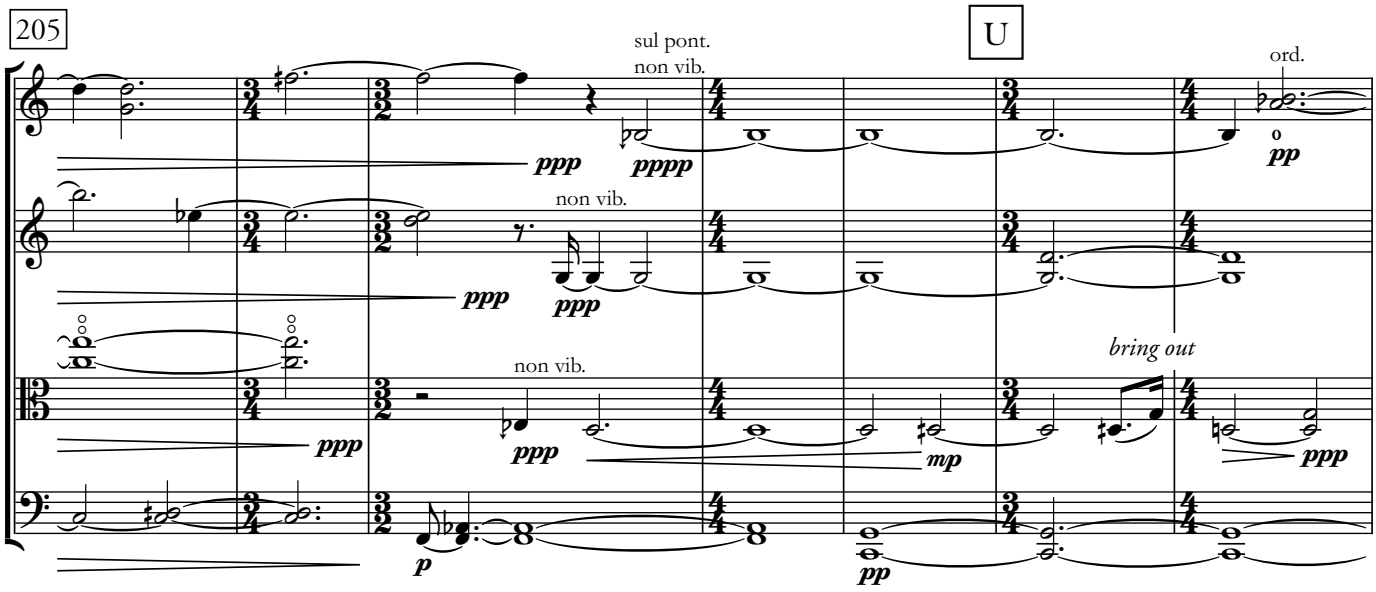
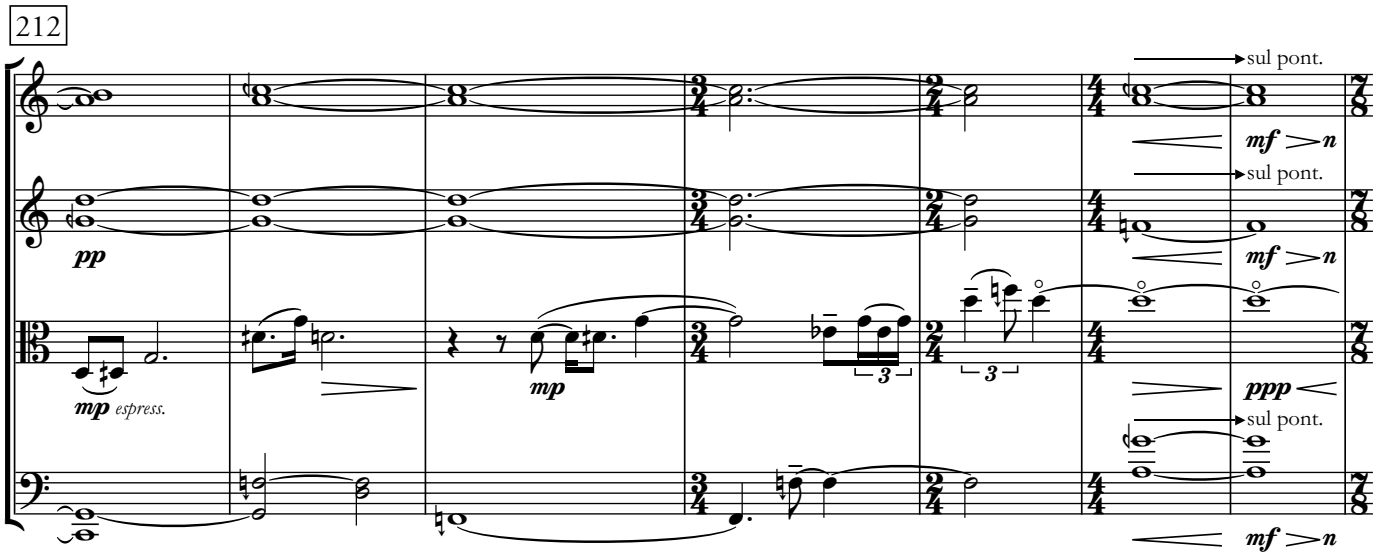


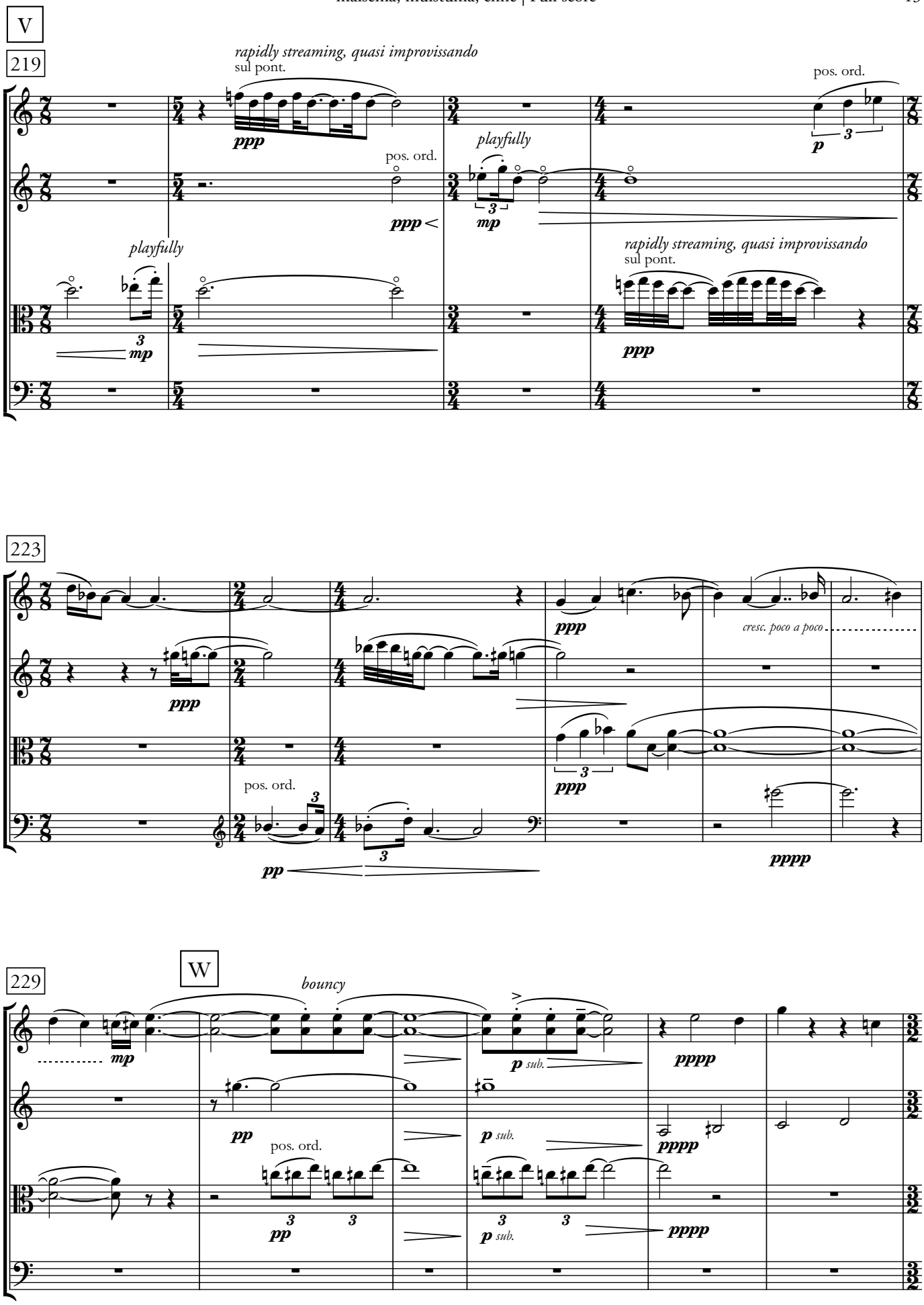

157
P
pizz.
arco
mp
pizz.
arco
mp
non vib.
mp
con vib.
p
con vib.
164
con vib.
p
con vib.
p
non vib.
p
IV
con vib.
sul pont.
p
Q
170
p
ff
p
ff
ord.
p
f
f
ppp
p
p
p

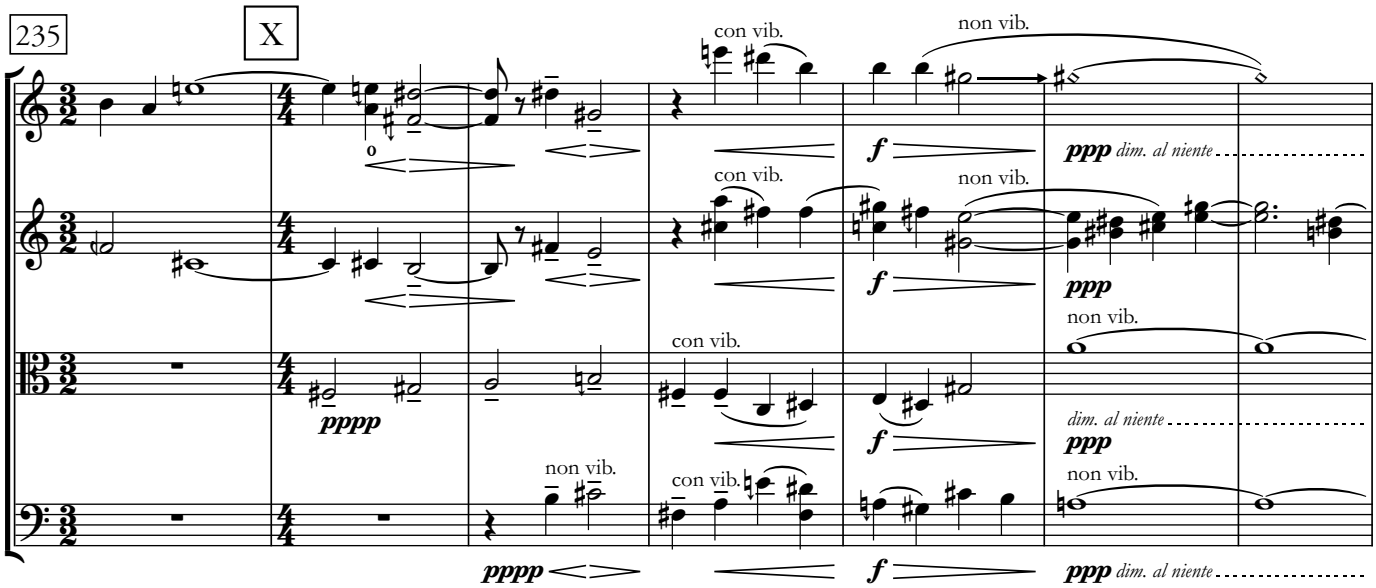

177
R
182
S
Meno mosso ♩ ca. 47
189
III
IV
II

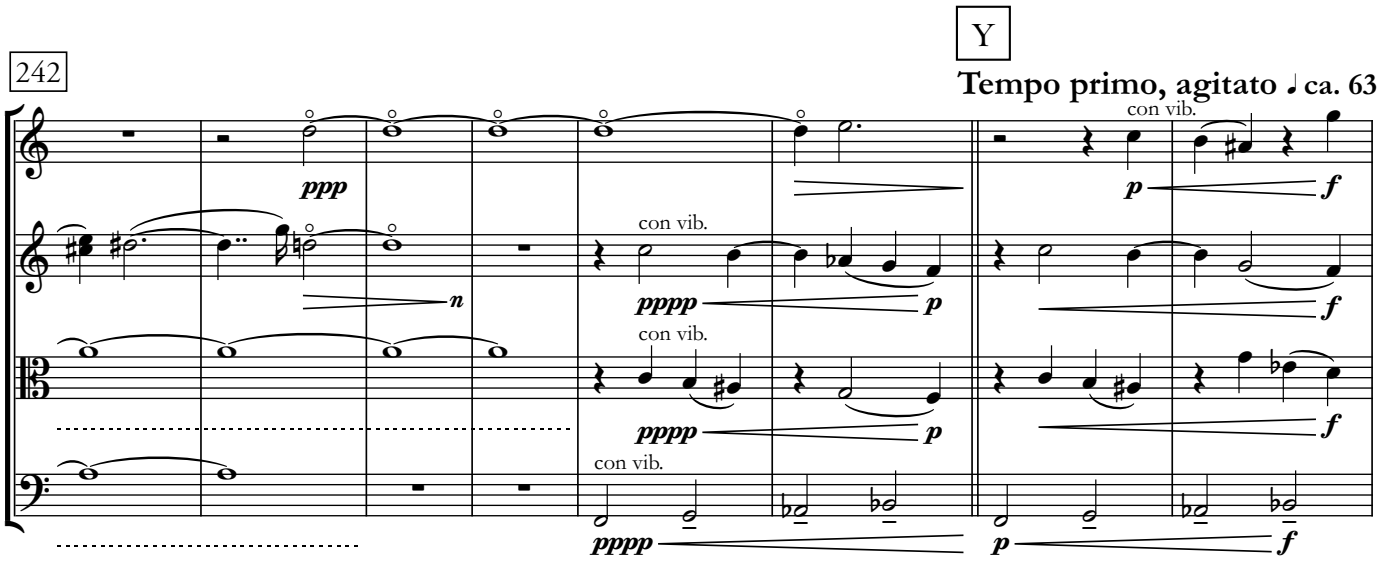

197
T
3
f
mp
f
ff
mp
f
3
ff
3
ff
f
mp
f
ff

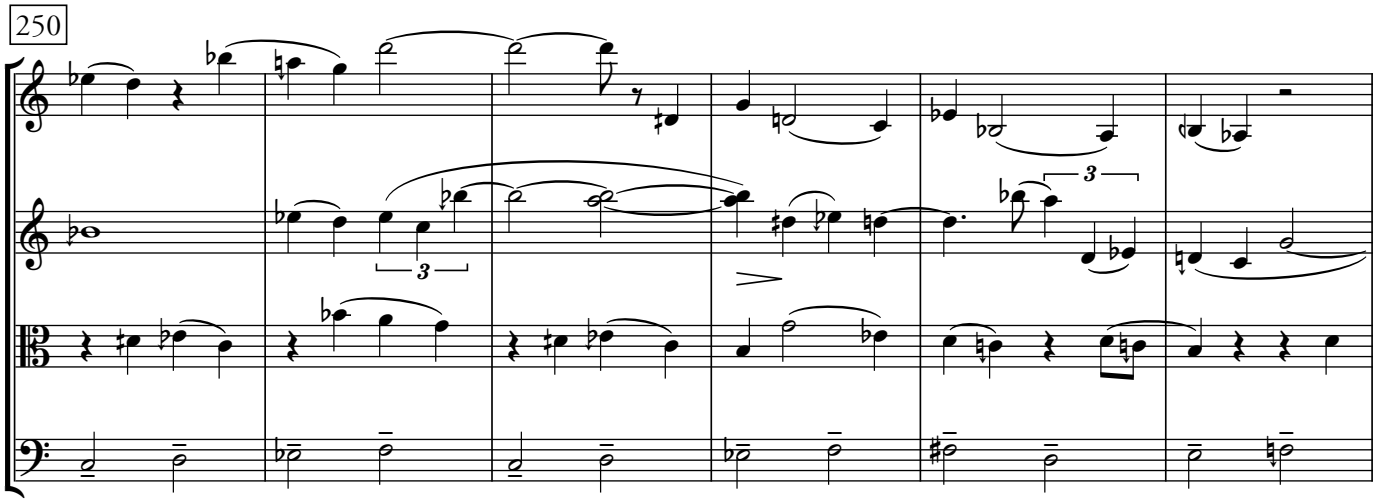

205
U
sul pont.
non vib.
ord.
ppp
pppp
pp
non vib.
ppp
ppp
bring out
non vib.
ppp
ppp
mp
ppp
p
pp

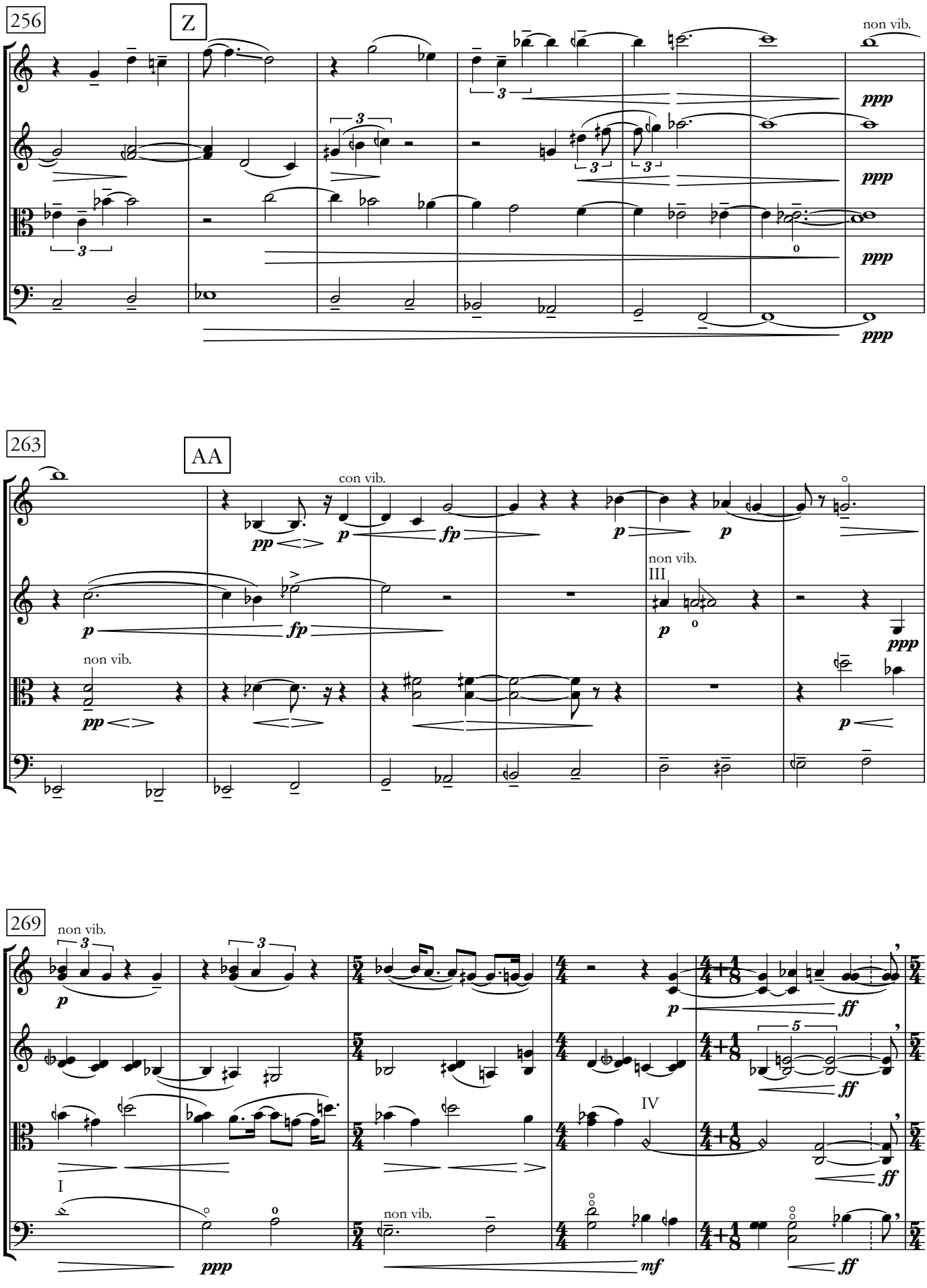

212
sul pont.
mf n
sul pont.
pp
mf n
mp espress.
mp
3
3
ppp
sul pont.
mf n


V
219
rapidly streaming, quasi improvissando
sul pont.
ppp
pos. ord.
p
playfully
pos. ord.
ppp <
mp
playfully
mp
rapidly streaming, quasi improvissando
sul pont.
ppp
223
ppp
cresc. poco a poco
ppp
pos. ord.
pp
pppp
W
229
bouncy
mp
p sub.
pppp
pp
pos. ord.
p sub.
pppp
pp
p sub.
pppp


235
X
con vib.
non vib.
ppp dim. al niente
pppp
f

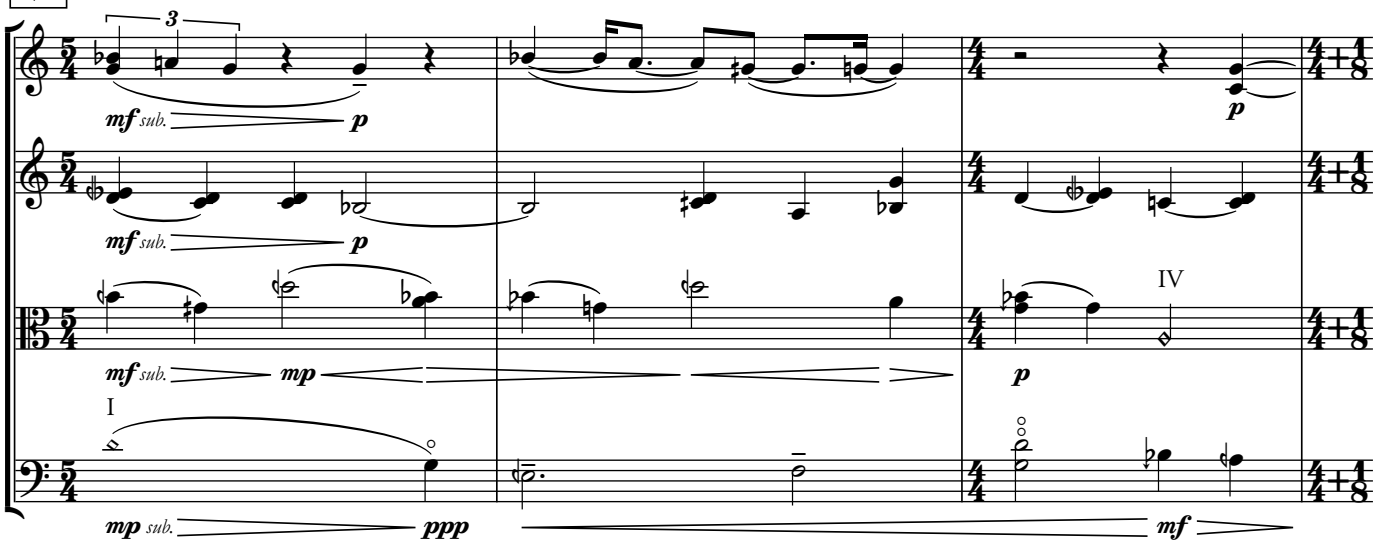

242
Y
Tempo primo, agitato ♩ ca. 63
con vib.
ppp
pppp
p
f


250
3


256
Z
non vib.
ppp
263
AA
con vib.
pp
p
fp
non vib.
III
269
non vib.
I
IV
mf
ff

BB

274



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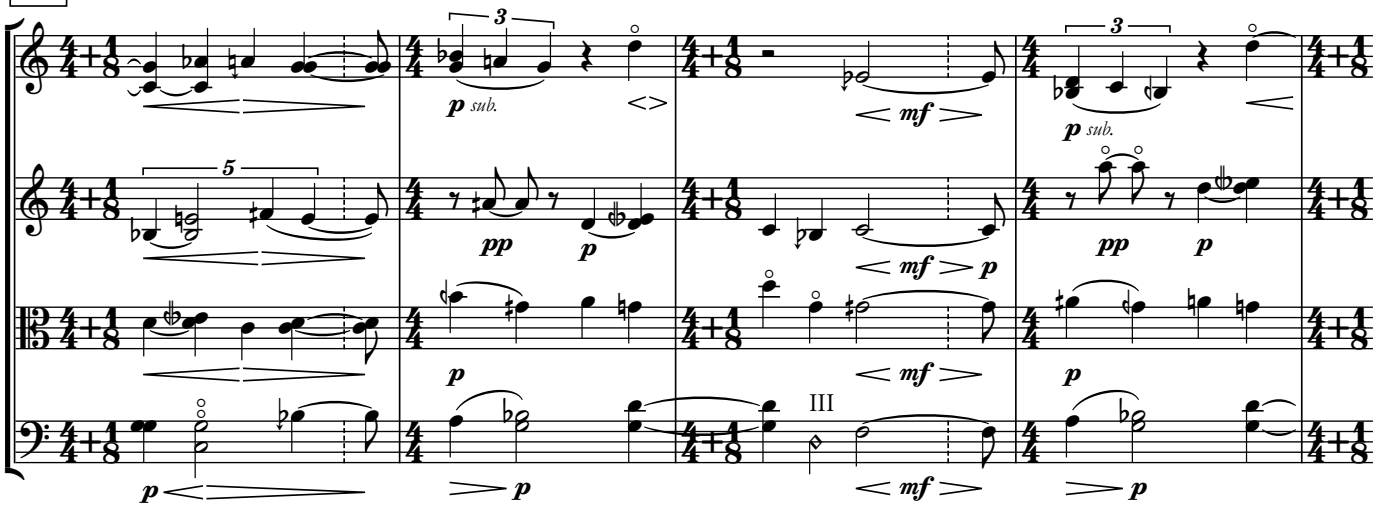
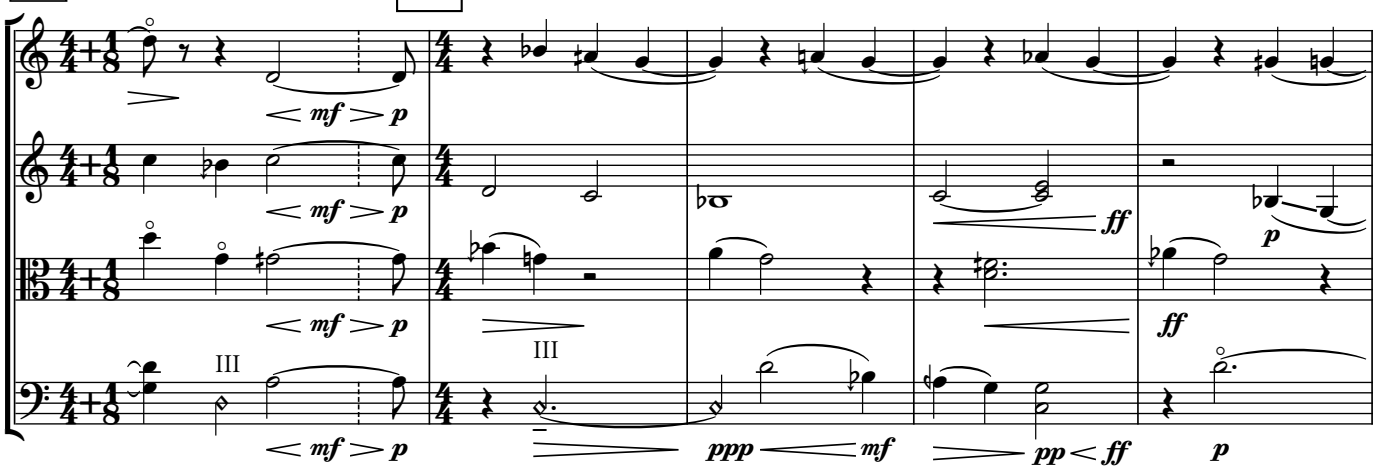
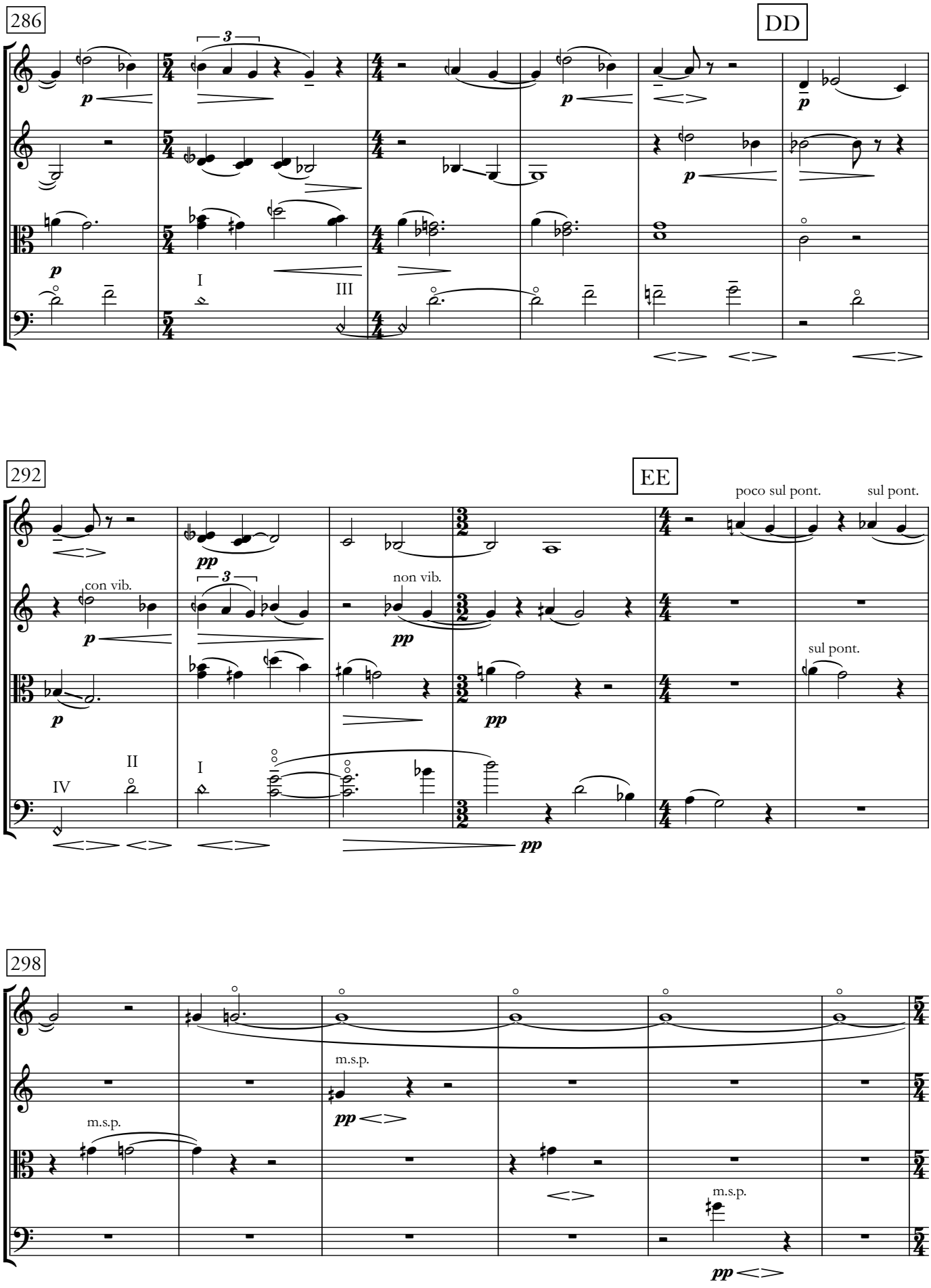
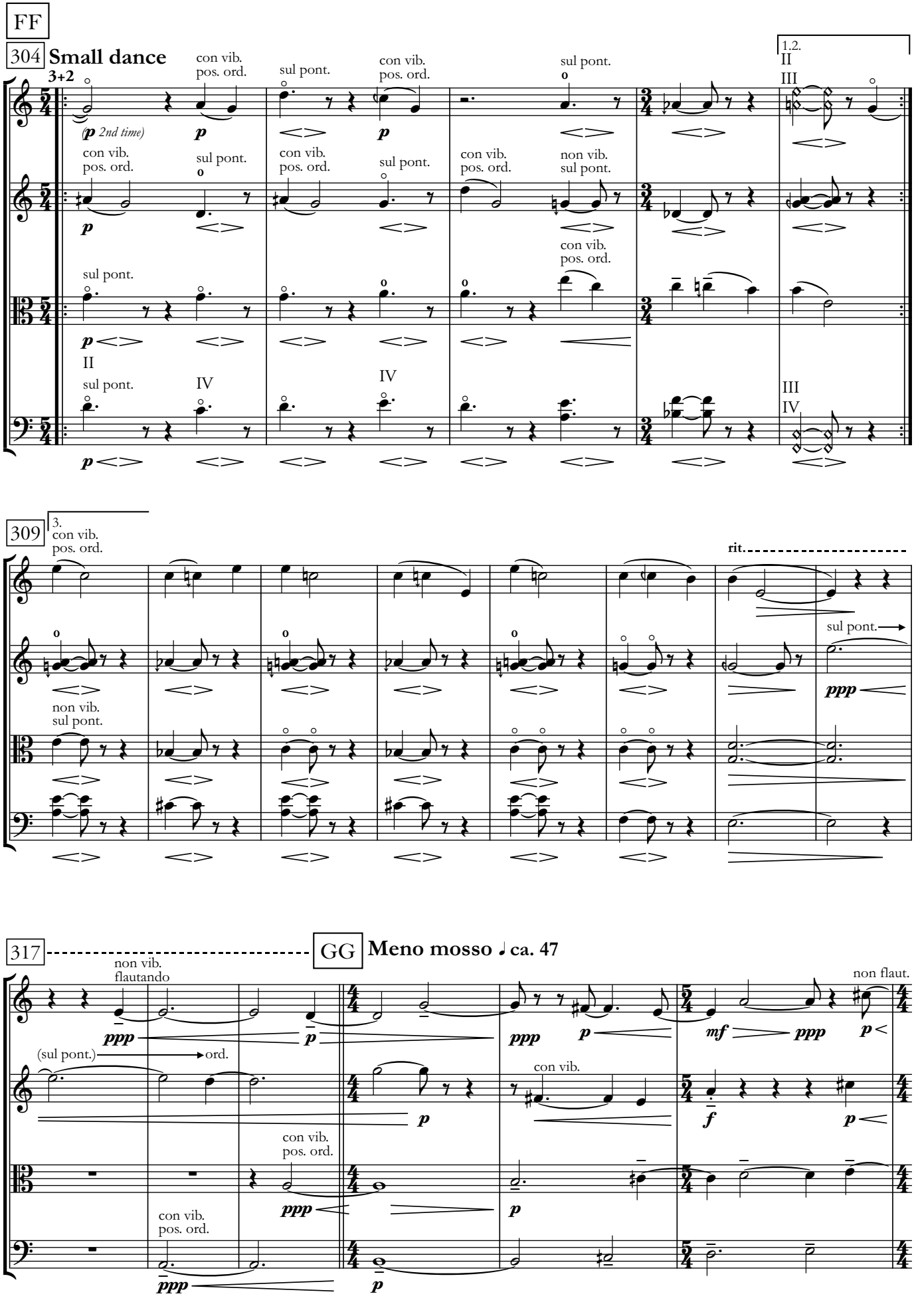


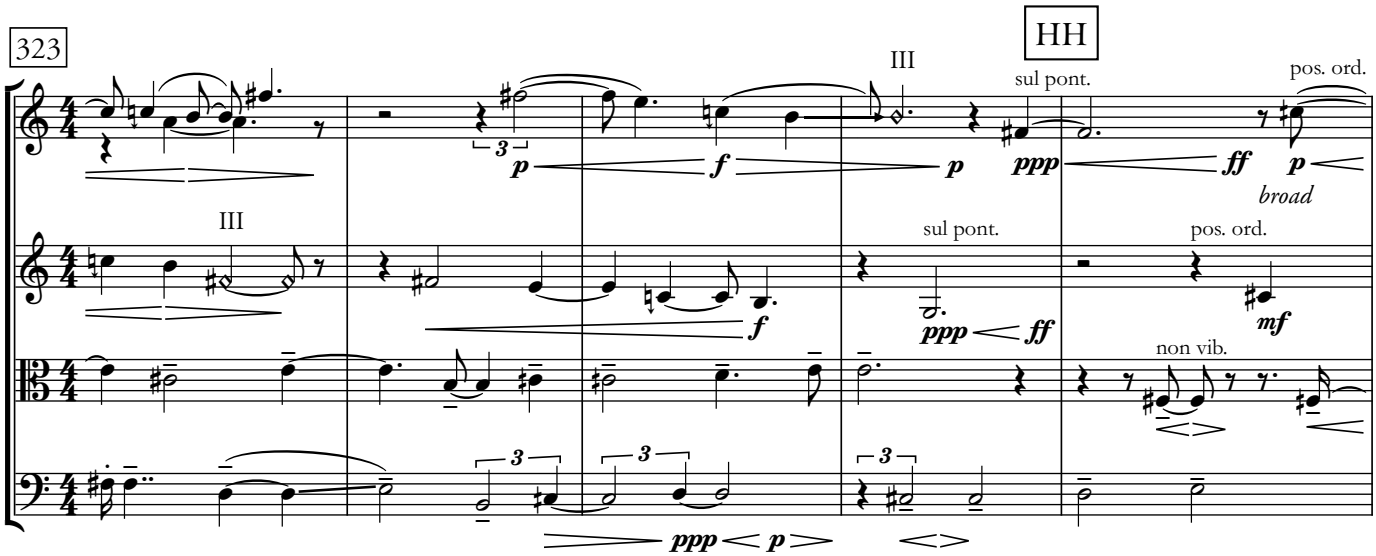
281

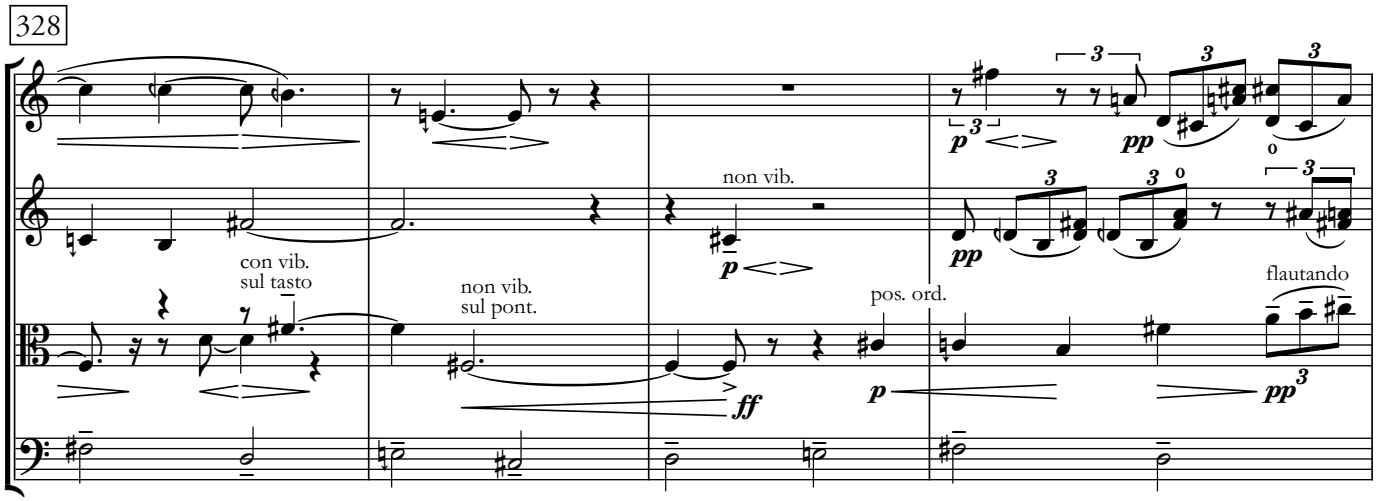
CC

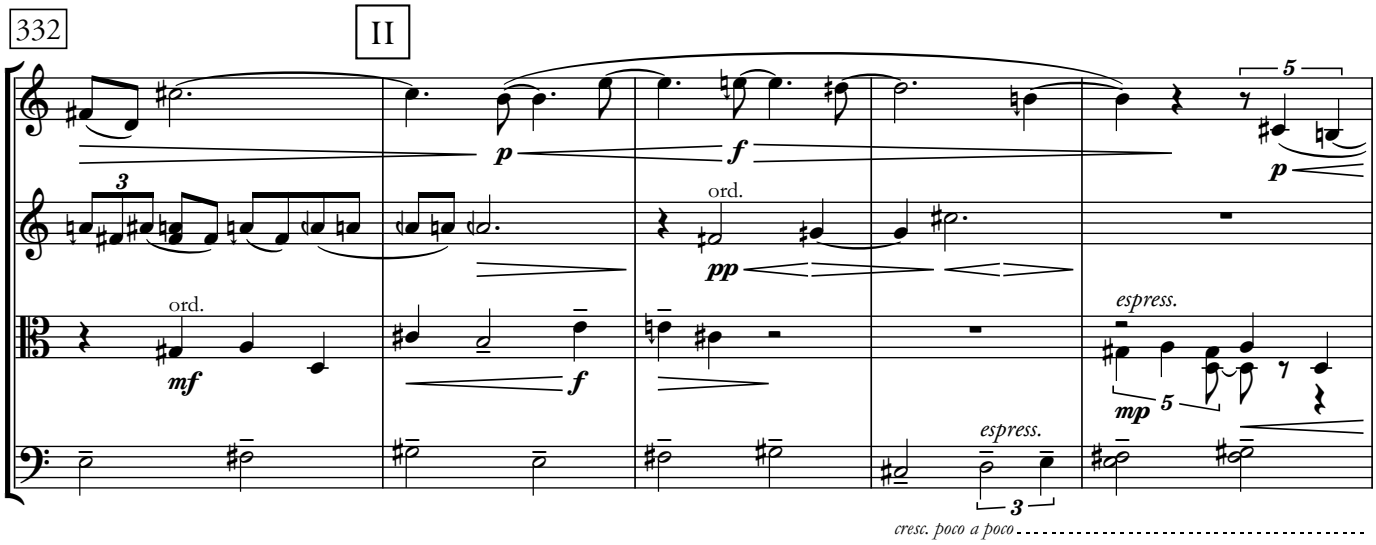


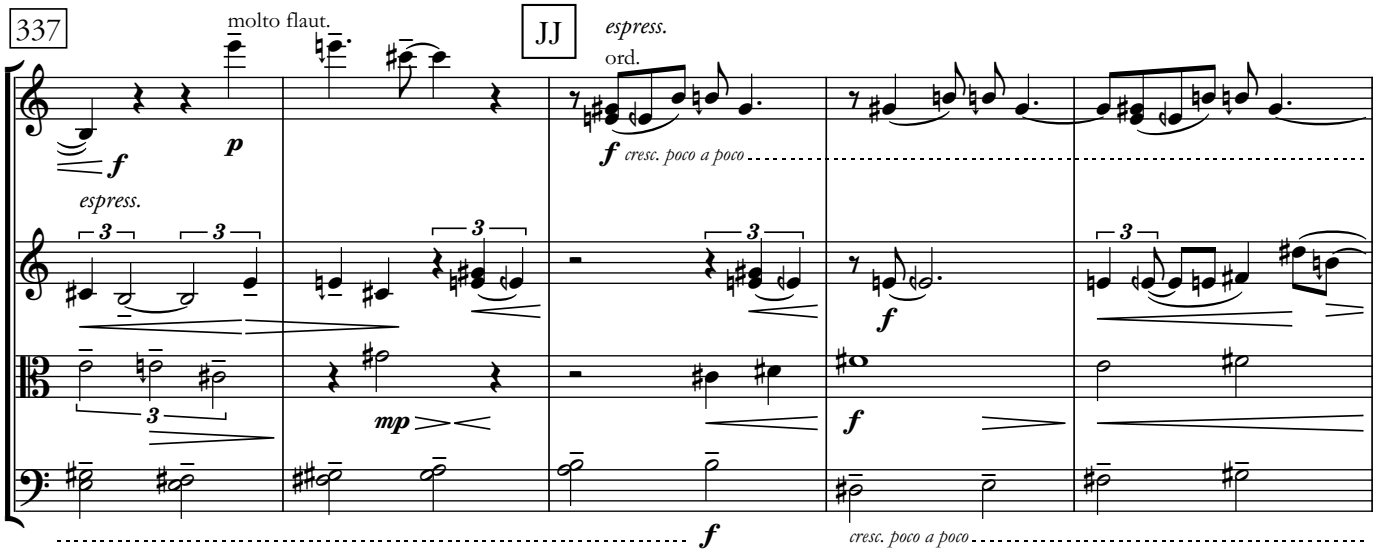

286
DD
292
EE
poco sul pont.
sul pont.
con vib.
non vib.
sul pont.
298
m.s.p.
m.s.p.
m.s.p.

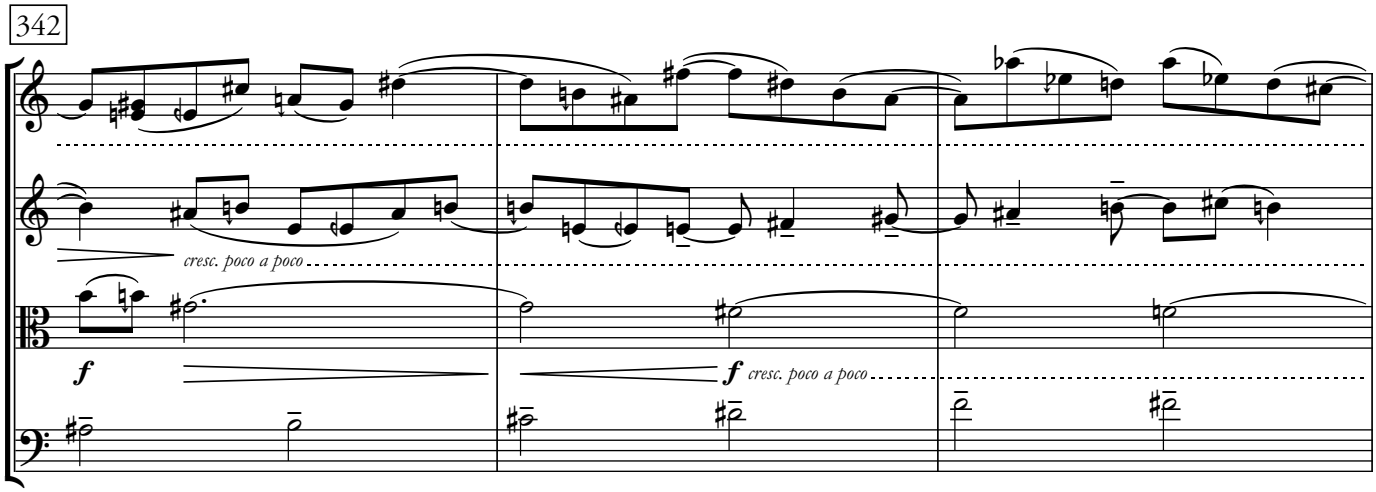

FF
304
Small dance
3+2
con vib.
pos. ord.
sul pont.
(p 2nd time)
non vib.
1.2.
II
III
IV
309
3.
rit.
ppp
non vib.
317
GG
Meno mosso ♩ ca. 47
flautando
(sul pont.)
ord.
non flaut.
mf
f

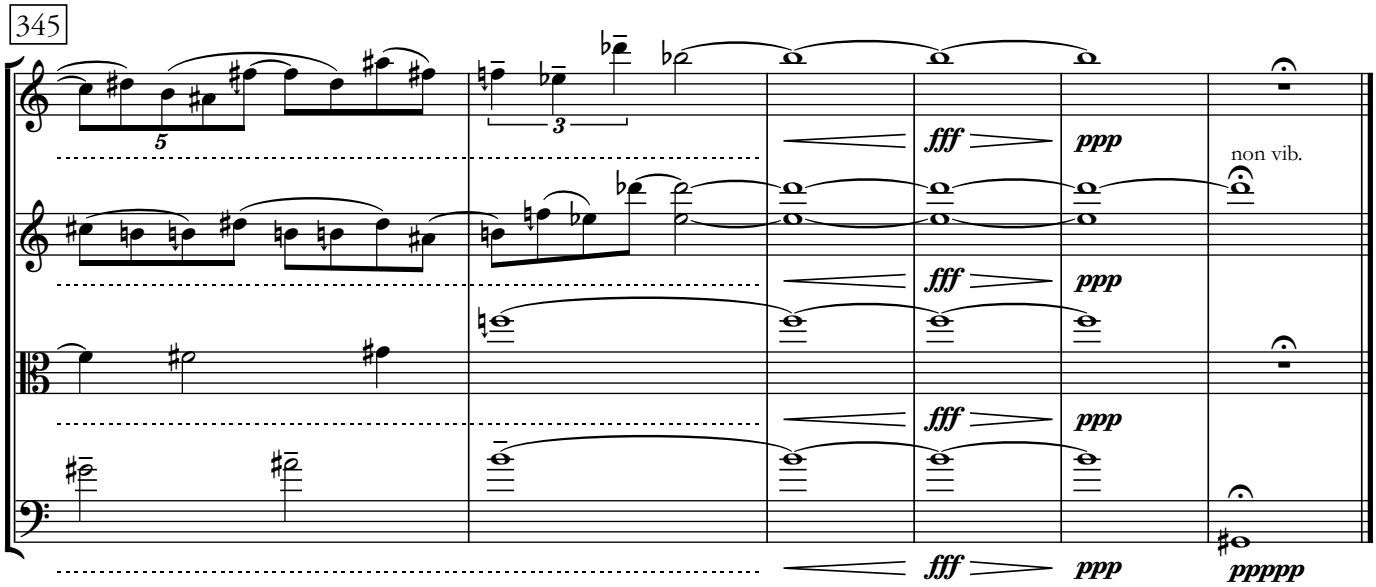

323
HH
III
sul pont.
pos. ord.
broad
III
sul pont.
pos. ord.
non vib.


328
non vib.
con vib.
sul tasto
non vib.
sul pont.
pos. ord.
flautando


332
II
ord.
ord.
espress.
espress.
cresc. poco a poco


337
molto flaut.
JJ
espress.
ord.
f
p
espress.
f cresc. poco a poco
mp
f
f
cresc. poco a poco


342
cresc. poco a poco
f
f cresc. poco a poco


345
fff
ppp
non vib.
fff
ppp
fff
ppp
fff
ppp
ppppp