Noah Godard

Topatopa

for orchestra

(Transposed Score)

Noah Godard

Topatopa

Completed December 8, 2024
Revised April 2, 2025

Instrumentation:

2 Flutes
2 Oboes
2 Clarinets in B ♭
2 Bassoons

4 Horns in F
2 Trumpets in C
2 Tenor Trombones
Bass Trombone
Tuba

Percussion (2 players): crotales, vibraphone, bass drum

Harp
Piano

Strings

Program Note:

Topatopa began as a project to write a new "frame" around a chunk of material from an older chamber piece of mine – a two-ish minute songlike section, plaintive and mildly folksy, which drew generously on Americana and indie folk. The music before and after this central section was to create a musical cutaway of sorts, as foreshadowings and echoes of its material variously emerged, dissolved, and snowballed out of control.

As I worked on the piece, however, I began to feel I was no longer the same composer who wrote the original section, and that the musical object I was picking apart was no longer wholly my own. This sense of dialogue with and distance from my former self led to a piece about memory, interiority, and fluidity, with the music never feeling quite comfortable in its own nostalgia.

The piece takes its title from the Topatopa Mountains in my native Ventura County, California, which are very visible in the distance while walking or driving around my hometown. After three years living on the East Coast, the range's iconic, angular ridges are a comforting sight and a symbol of home for me.

Duration: ca. 10 mins.

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Transposed Score

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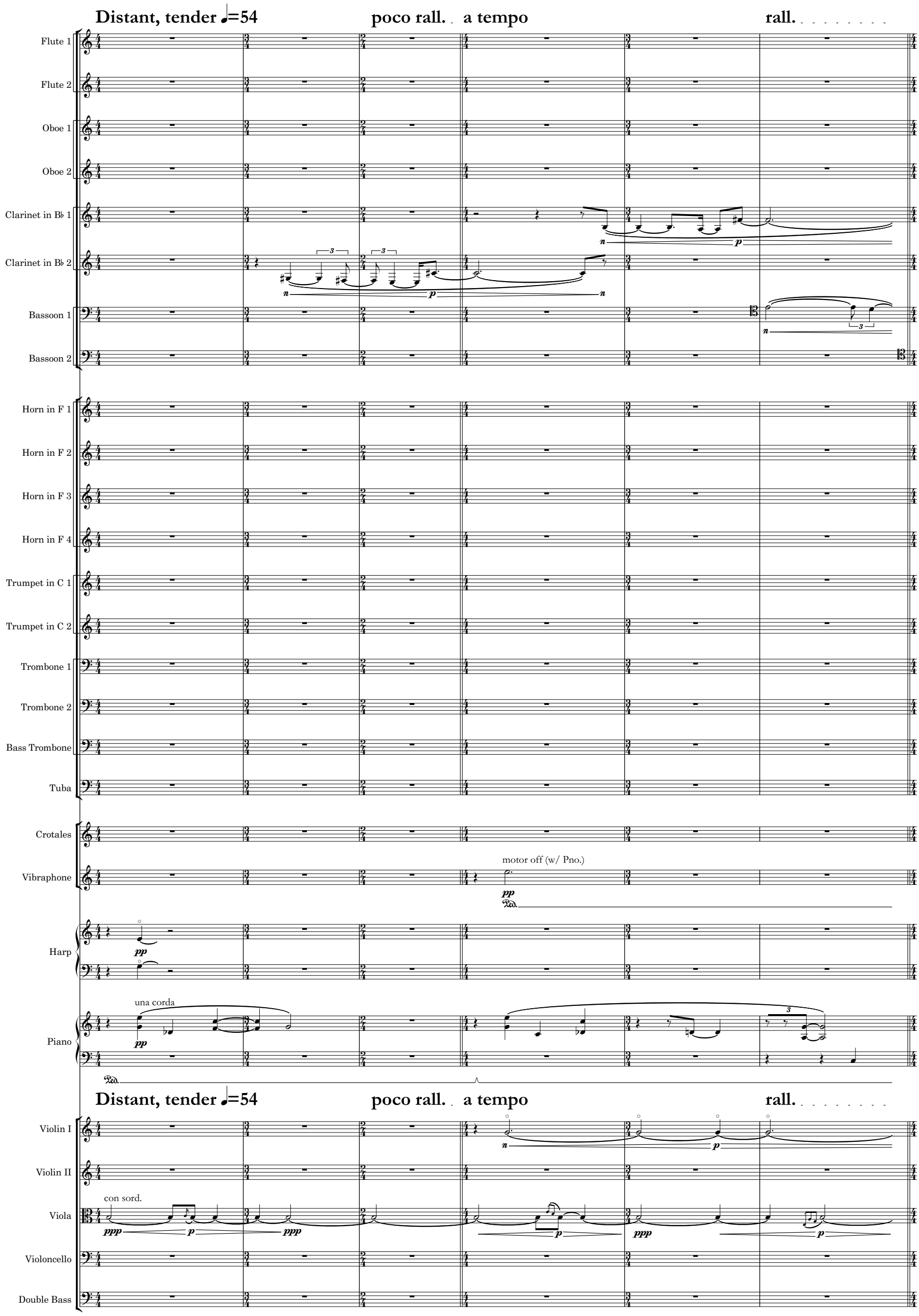

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7 a tempo

poco accel.

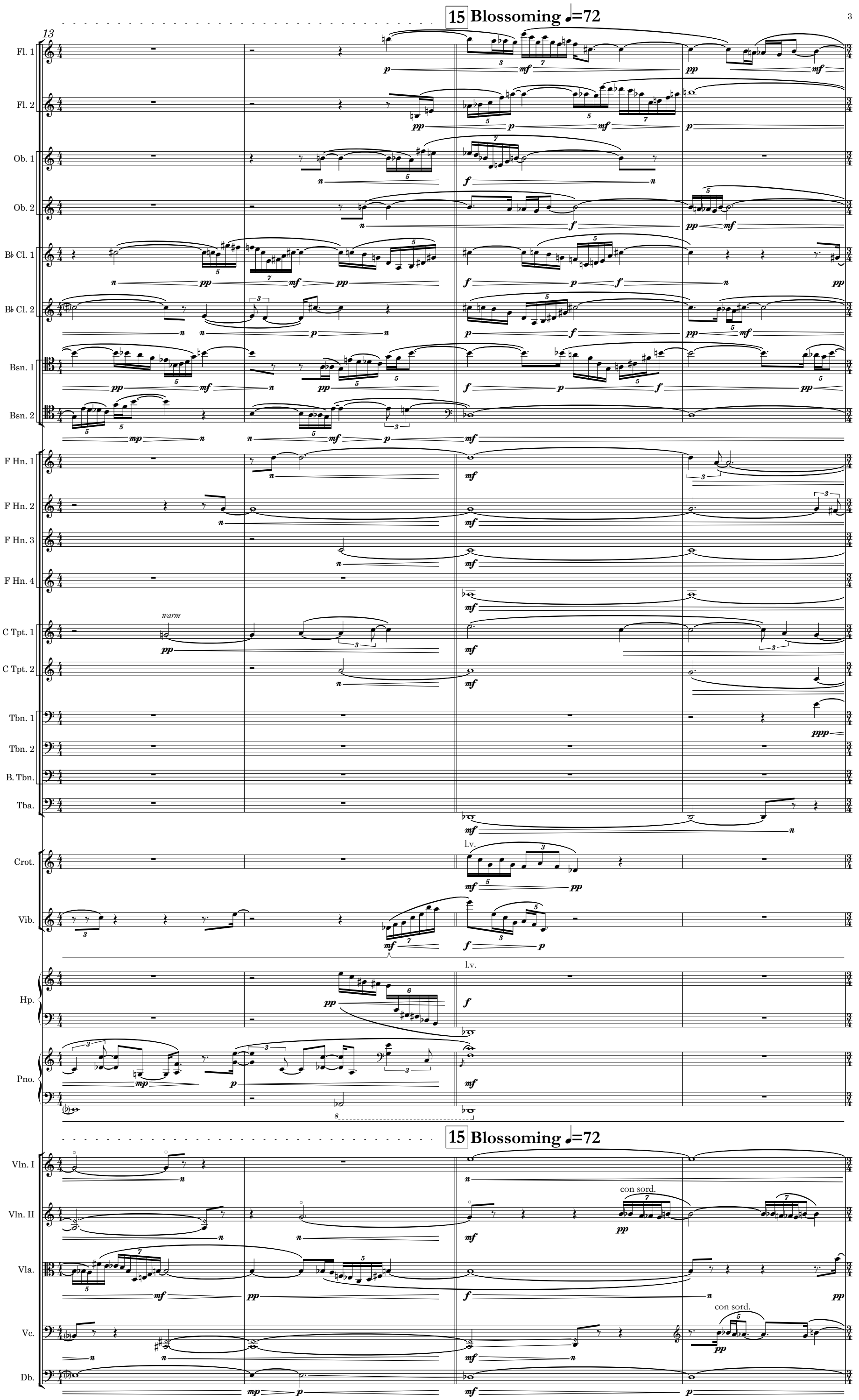
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.

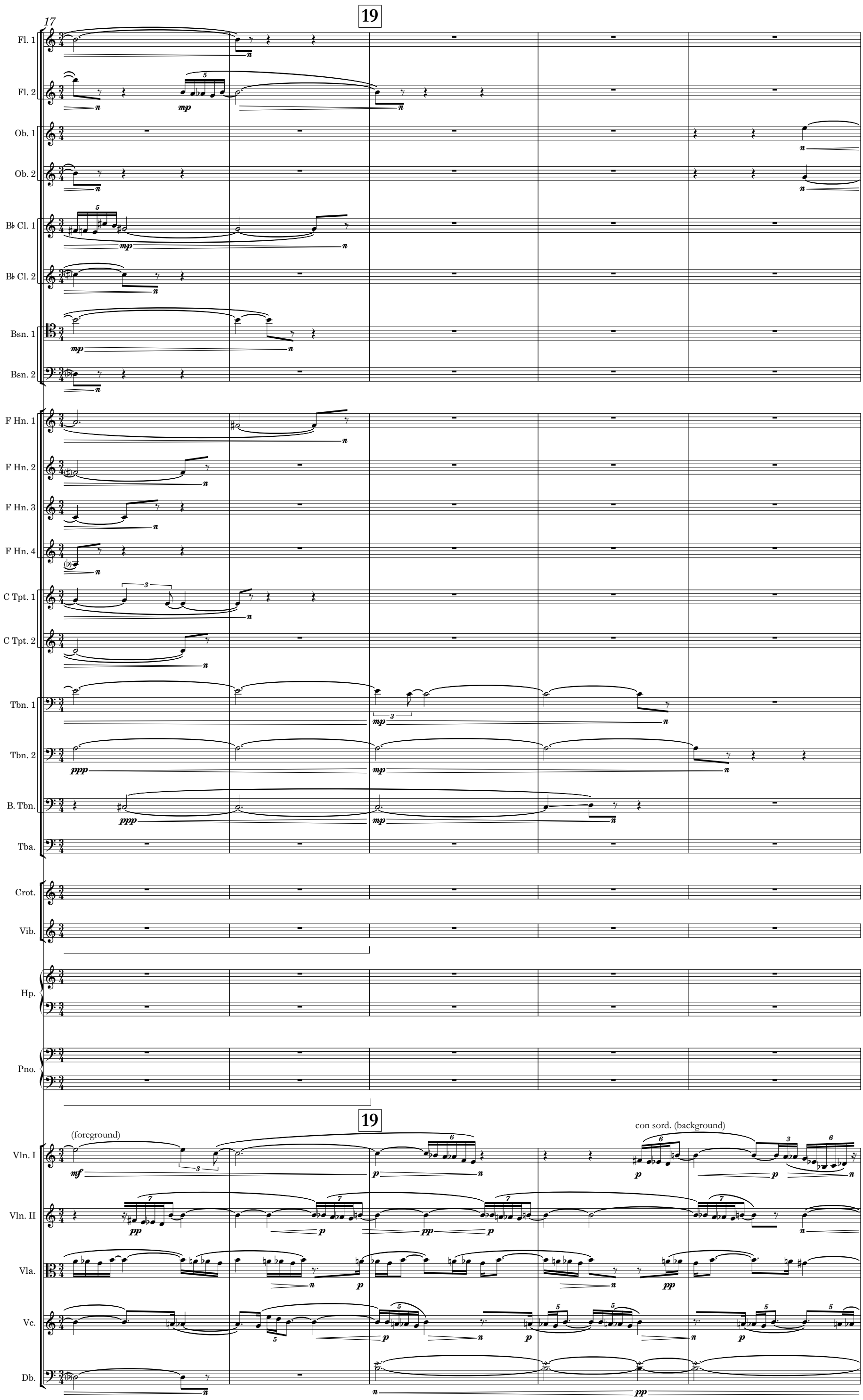
tre corda

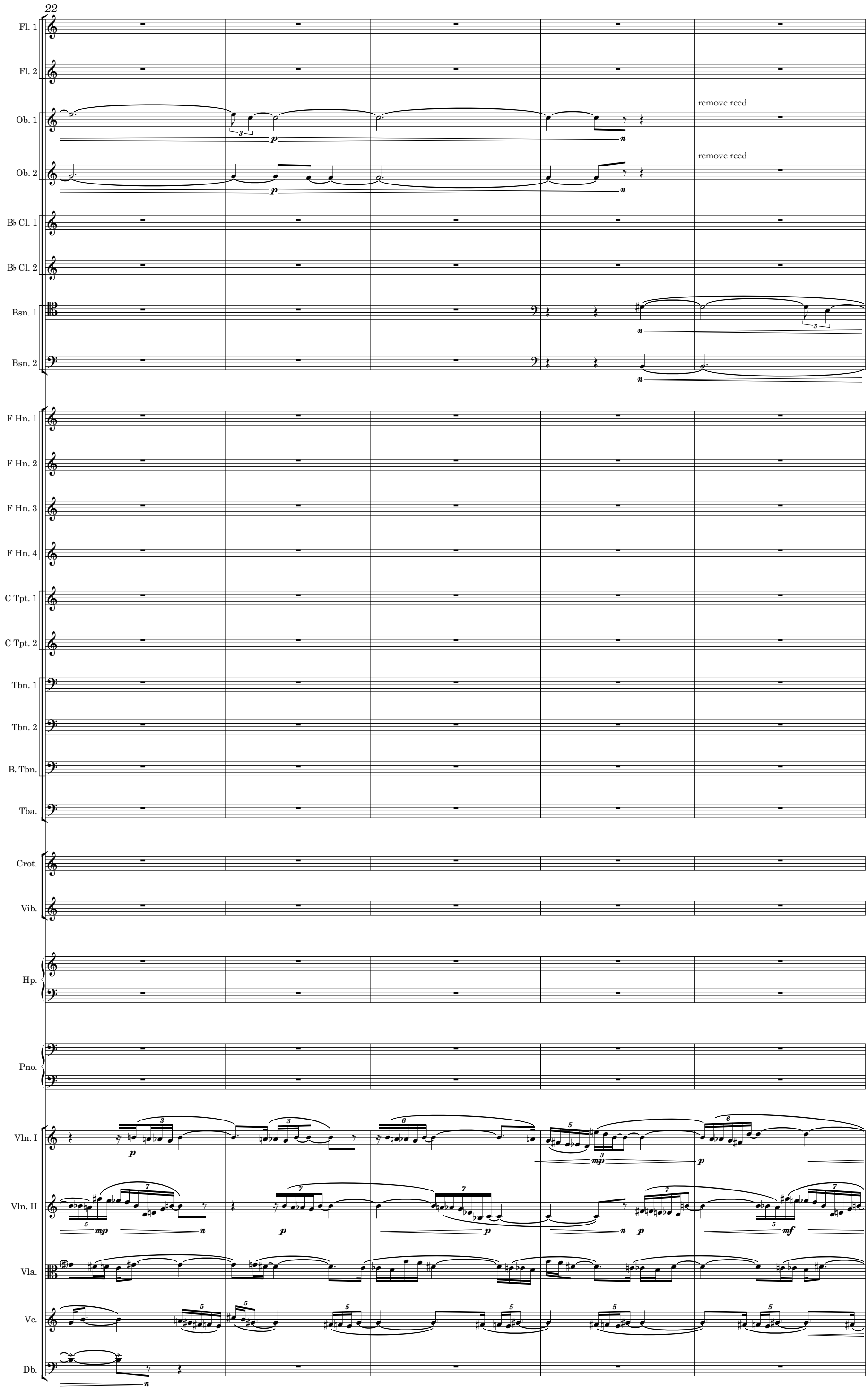
a tempo

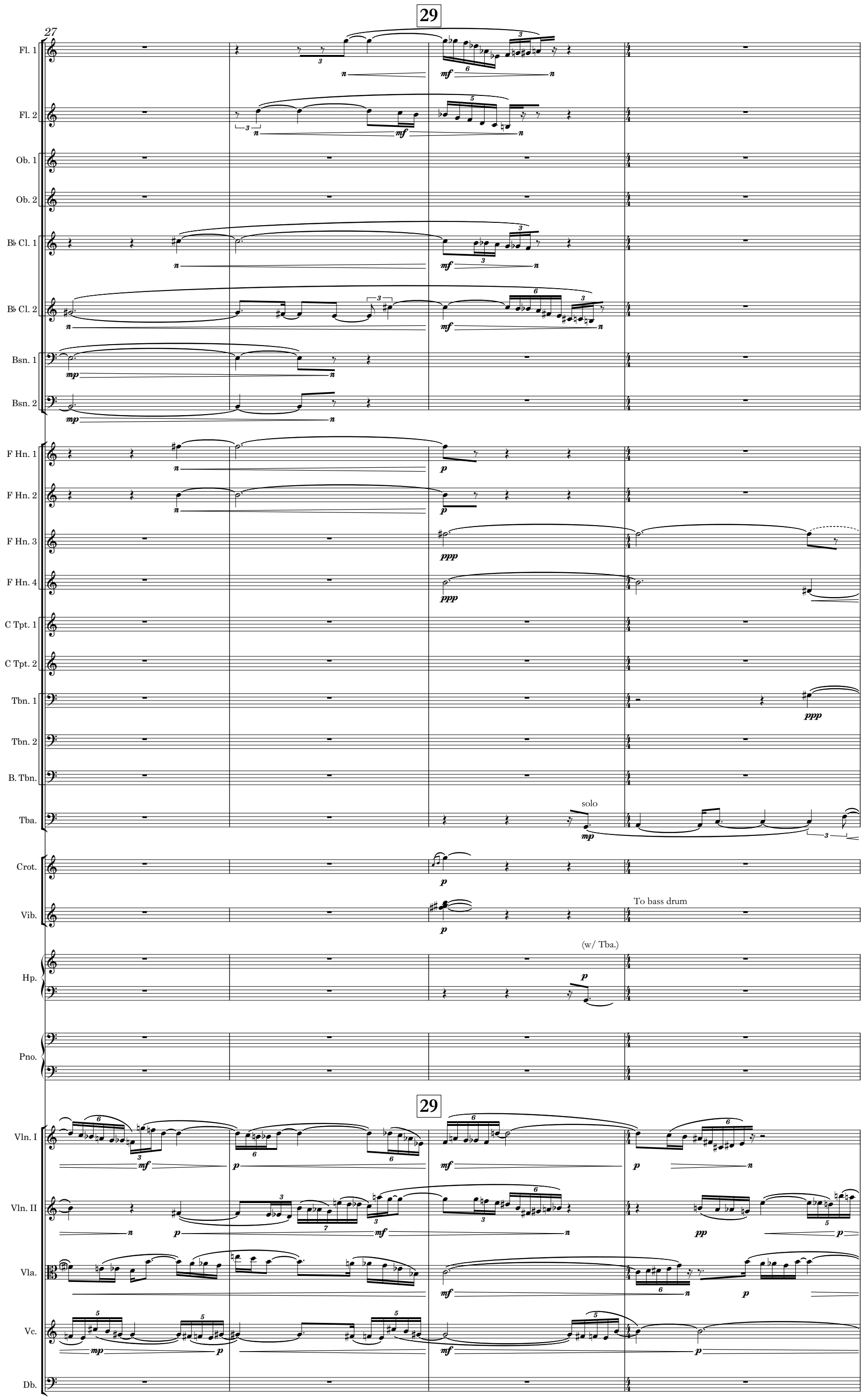
poco accel.

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.


15 Blossoming ♩=72
13
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
warm
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
l.v.
Crot.
Vib.
l.v.
Hp.
Pno.
15 Blossoming ♩=72
Vln. I
con sord.
Vln. II
Vla.
con sord.
Vc.
Db.


19
17
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
19
(foreground)
con sord. (background)
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.


22
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
remove reed
Ob. 2
remove reed
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.


29
27
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
solo
Crot.
Vib.
To bass drum
Hp.
(w/ Tba.)
Pno.
29
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

31 poco rall. . . . . Comforting ♩=66

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.

poco rall. . . . . Comforting ♩=66

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

38

poco accel.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

air sound (pitchless)

Ob. 1

blow air through instrument while fingering notated pitches (should sound mostly pitchless)

Ob. 2

blow air through instrument while fingering notated pitches (should sound mostly pitchless)

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

F Hn. 1

F Hn. 2

F Hn. 3

F Hn. 4

C Tpt. 1

blow air (pitchless)

C Tpt. 2

blow air (pitchless)

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Crot.

Vib.

Bass Drum

Hp.

Pno.

poco accel.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

(con sord.)

Vc.

Db.

43 (♩=ca. 72) rall. Distant ♩=52

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1 — (replace reed ad lib.)
Ob. 2 — (replace reed ad lib.)
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
B. D.
Hp. — l.v.
Pno.

43 (♩=ca. 72) rall. Distant ♩=52

Vln. I — half-pressure L.H., molto sul tasto *(wispy, hazy, hollow)*
Vln. II — half-pressure L.H., molto sul tasto *(wispy, hazy, hollow)*
Vla. — half-pressure L.H., molto sul tasto *(wispy, hazy, hollow)*
Vc. — half-pressure L.H., molto sul tasto *(wispy, hazy, hollow)*
Db.

49

rall. . . . . 52 Charming ♩=56

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
B. D.
Vibraphone
warm
Hp.
(l.v.)
Pno.

rall. . . . . 52 Charming ♩=56

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla. (solo)
mute off
Vla. (gli altri)
(half-pressure, molto s.t)
solo, senza sord., *espressivo*
Vc. (solo)
(half-pressure, molto s.t)
Vc. (gli altri)
Db.

55

rall.

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla. (solo)
Vla. (gli altri)
Vc. (solo)
Vc. (gli altri)
Db.

tumbling

tumbling

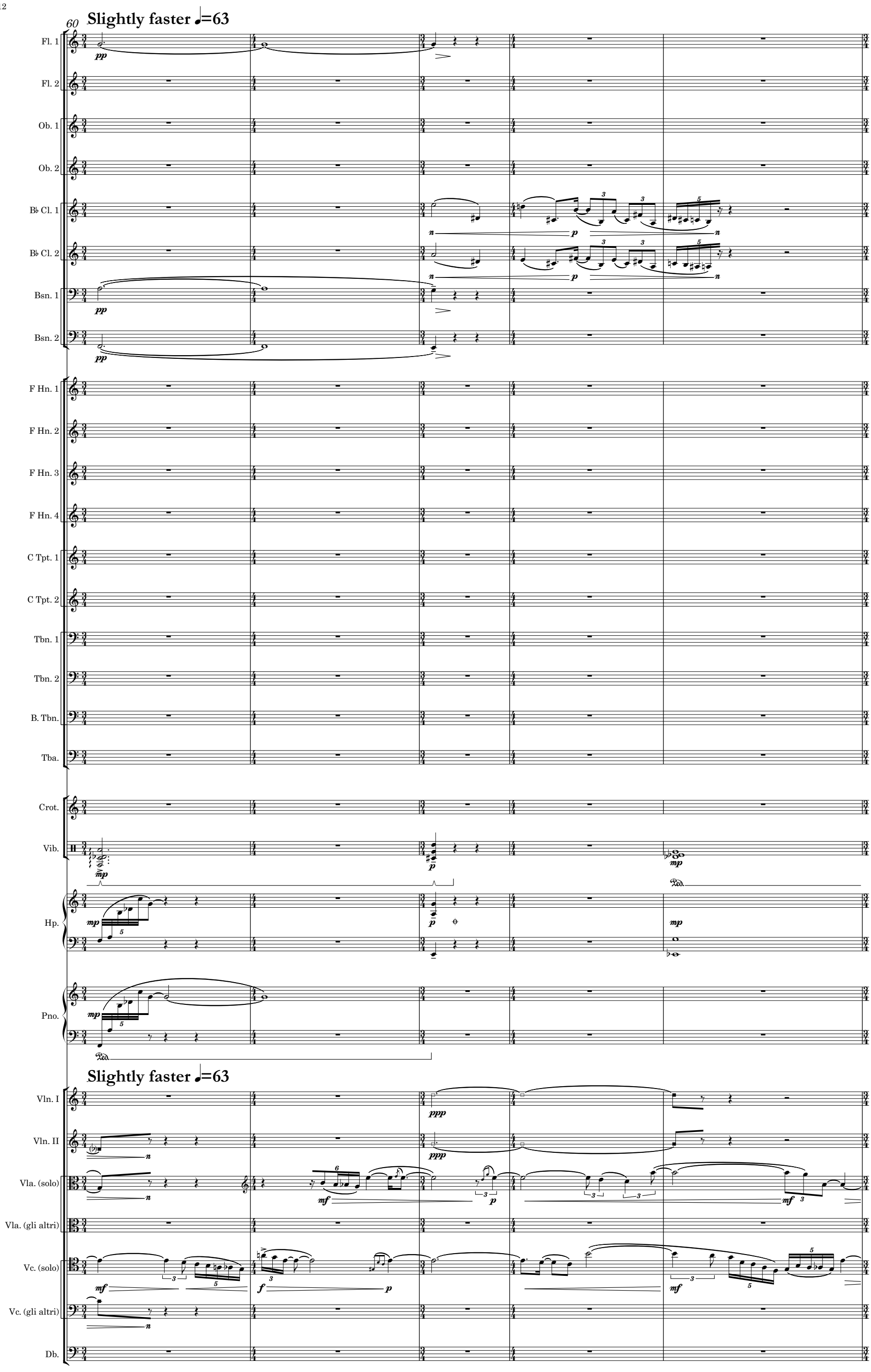
Ped.

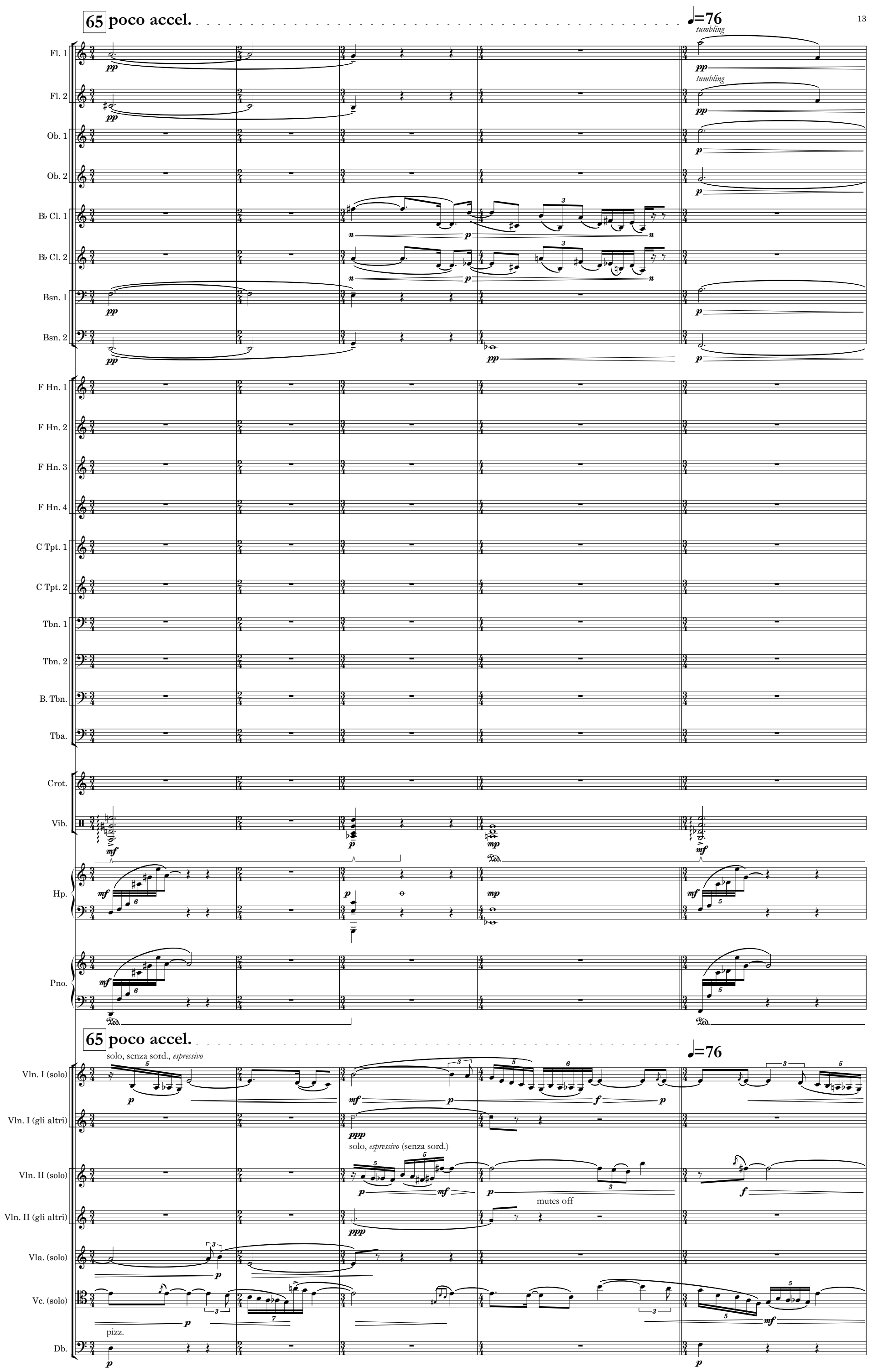
rall.

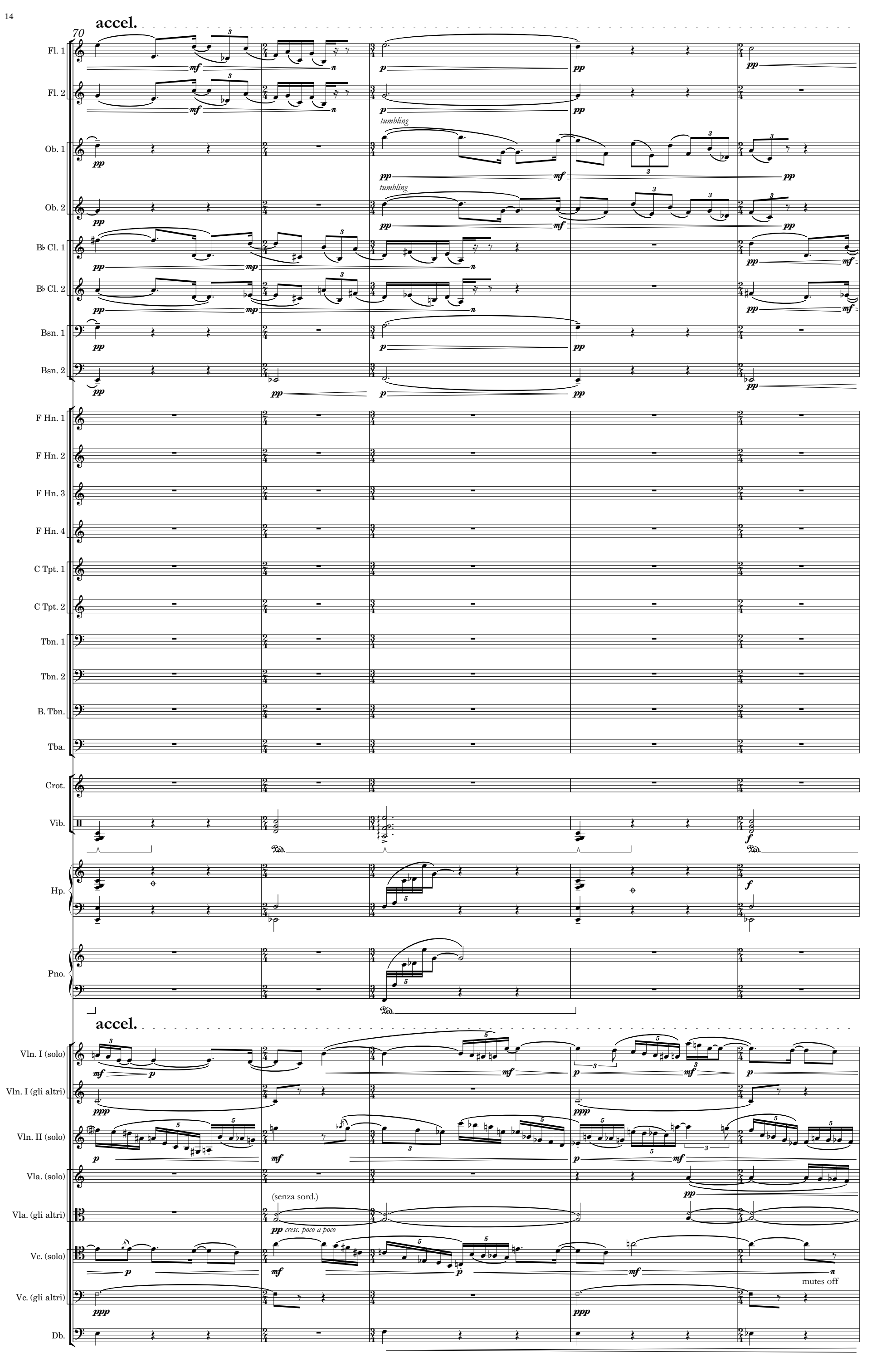
(half-pressure, molto s.t.)

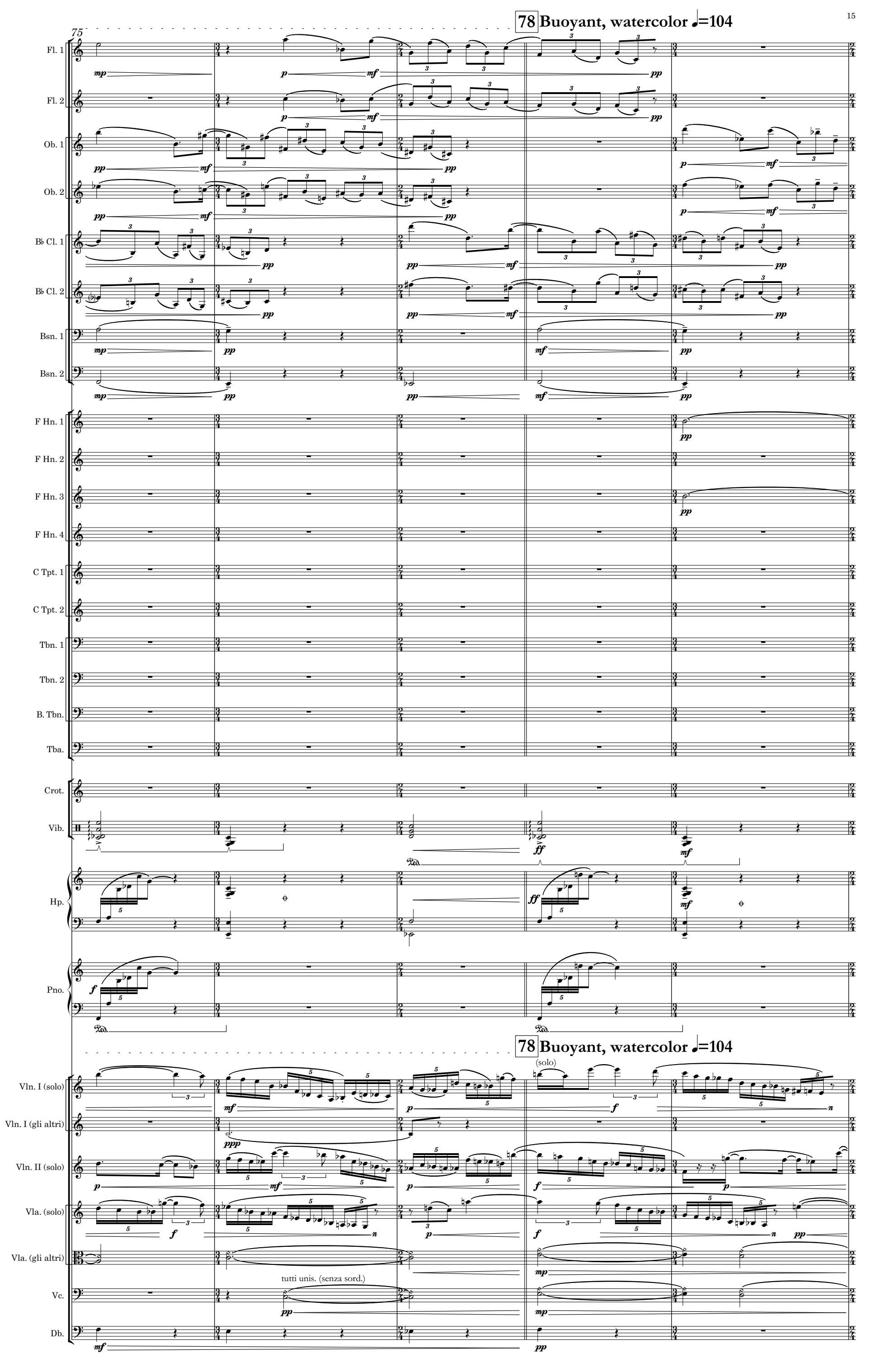
solo, *espressivo*
(senza sord.)

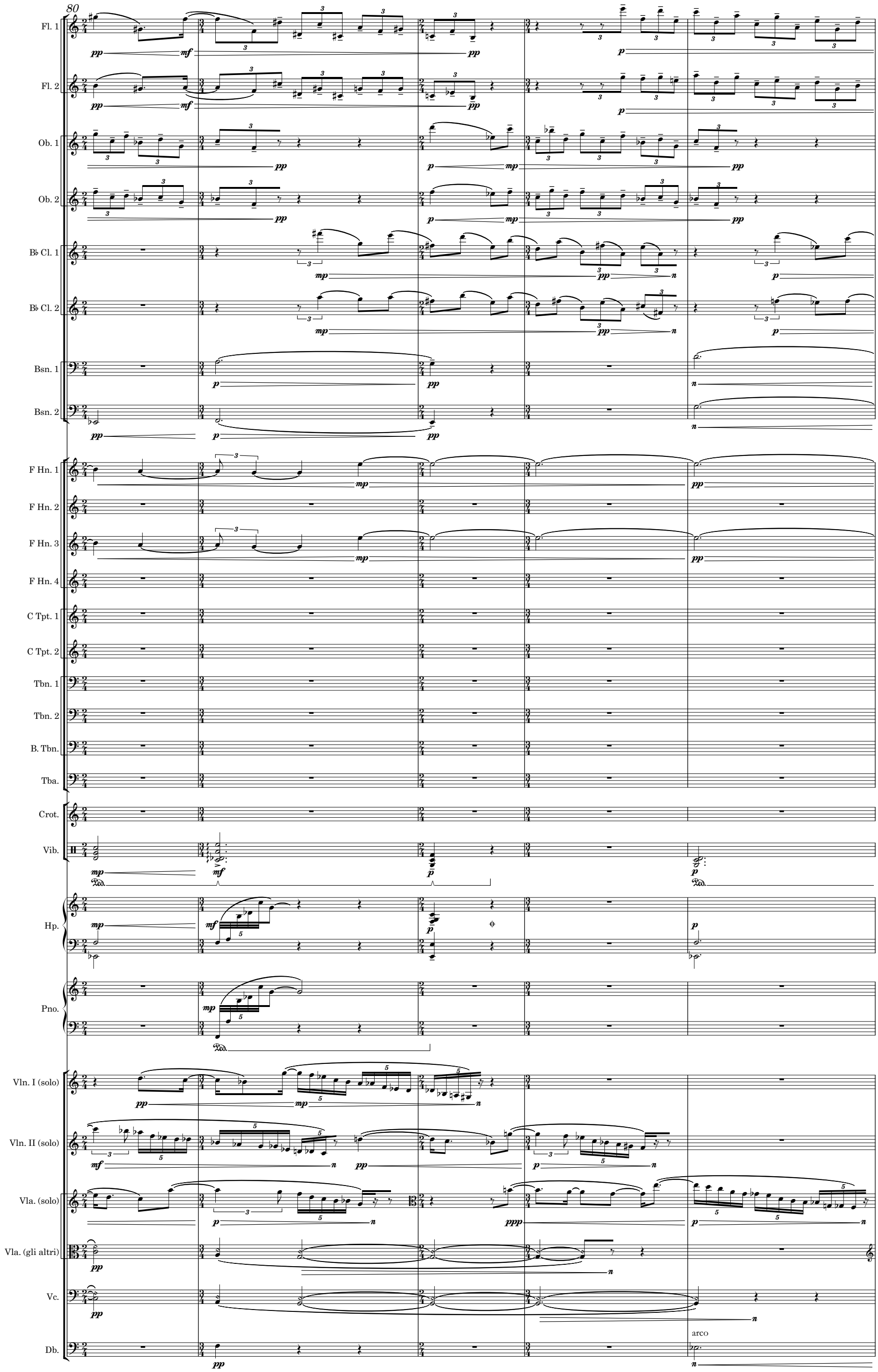
mutes off


60
Slightly faster ♩=63
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Slightly faster ♩=63
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla. (solo)
Vla. (gli altri)
Vc. (solo)
Vc. (gli altri)
Db.


65 poco accel.
♩=76
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
tumbling
tumbling
65 poco accel.
♩=76
solo, senza sord., espressivo
Vln. I (solo)
Vln. I (gli altri)
solo, espressivo (senza sord.)
Vln. II (solo)
mutes off
Vln. II (gli altri)
Vla. (solo)
Vc. (solo)
pizz.
Db.


accel.
70
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
tumbling
tumbling
accel.
Vln. I (solo)
Vln. I (gli altri)
Vln. II (solo)
Vla. (solo)
Vla. (gli altri)
Vc. (solo)
Vc. (gli altri)
Db.
(senza sord.)
cresc. poco a poco
mutes off


75
78 Buoyant, watercolor ♩=104
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
78 Buoyant, watercolor ♩=104
(solo)
Vln. I (solo)
Vln. I (gli altri)
Vln. II (solo)
Vla. (solo)
Vla. (gli altri)
tutti unis. (senza sord.)
Vc.
Db.

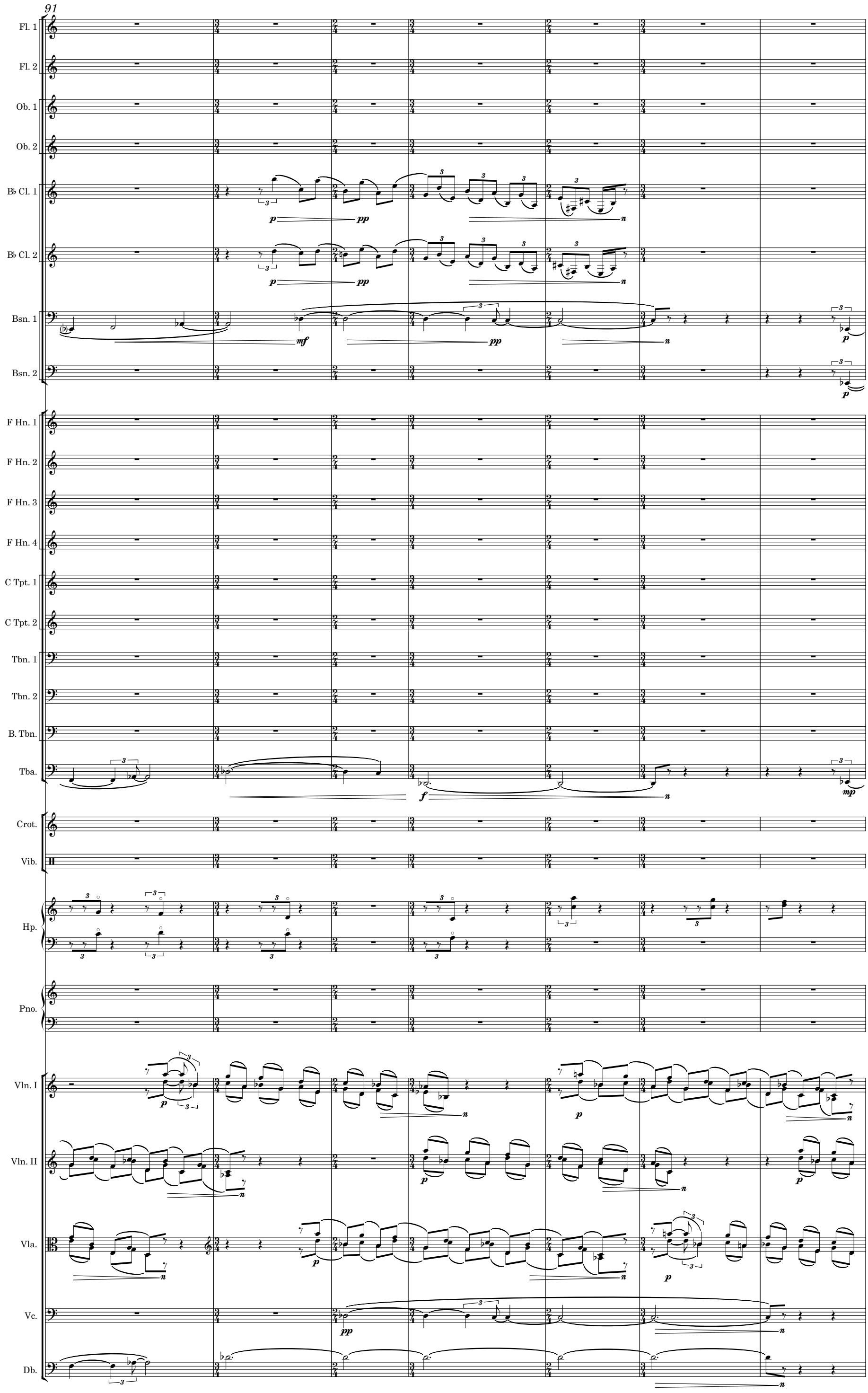

80
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I (solo)
Vln. II (solo)
Vla. (solo)
Vla. (gli altri)
Vc.
Db.
arco

85

poco rall. 90 ♩=96

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
solo
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
(sempre l.v.)
Pno.

tutti, div. a2 (senza sord.)
poco rall. 90 ♩=96
Vln. I
tutti, div. a2 (senza sord.)
Vln. II
div. a2
Vla.
div. a4 (half-pressure, molto s.t.)
Vc.
Db.


91
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

98

poco accel.

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.

bright

poco accel.

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

poco

104

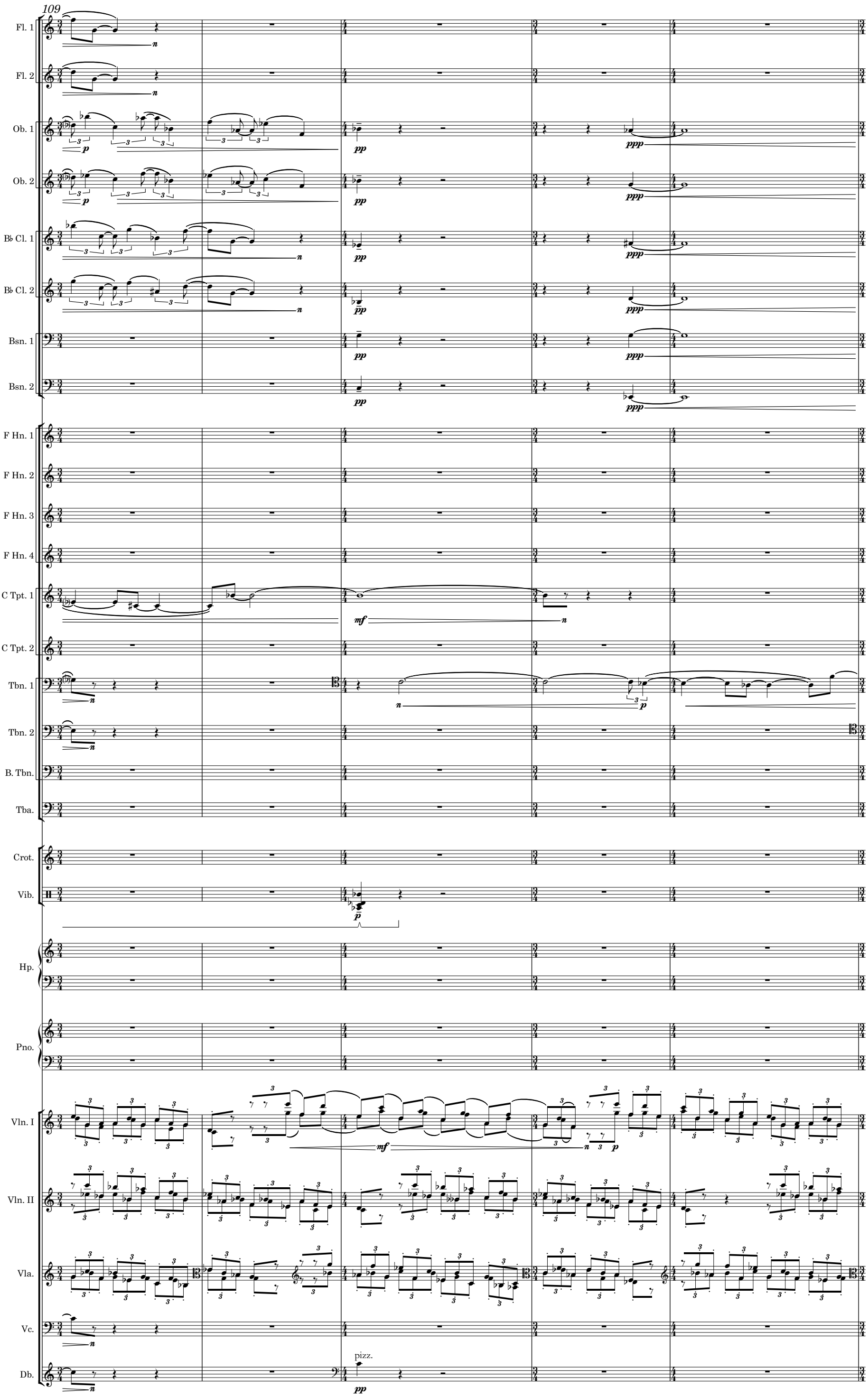
107 Effervescent ♩=104

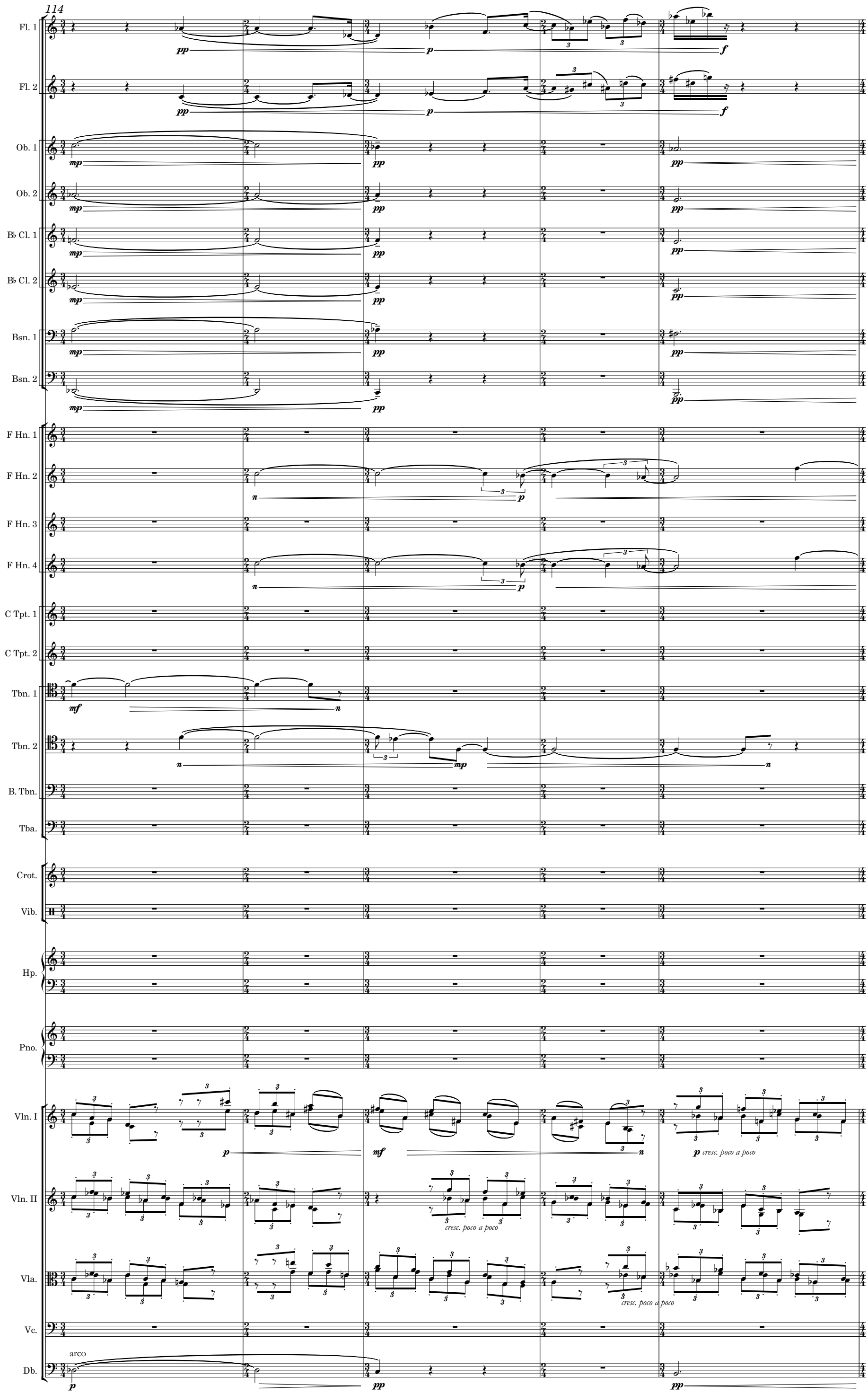
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
Tba.
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.

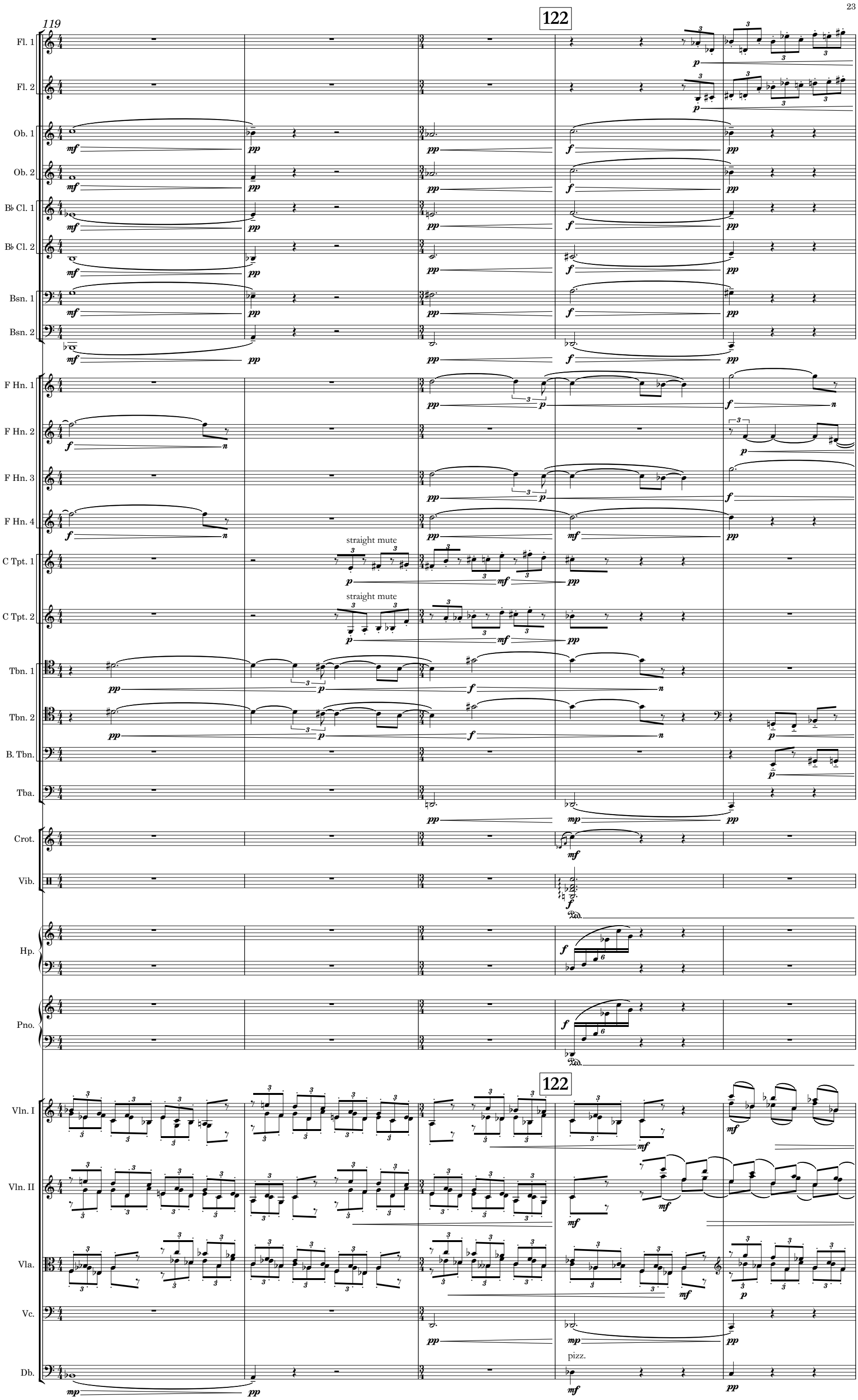
(ord.)

107 Effervescent ♩=104

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.


109
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
pizz.


114
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
arco
cresc. poco a poco


119
122
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
straight mute
straight mute
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
122
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
pizz.

124

poco accel.

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

mute out
(open)
mute out
(open)
sub.
sub.
To bass drum
Bass Drum
aggressive

poco accel.

129

Sub. much slower ♩=66

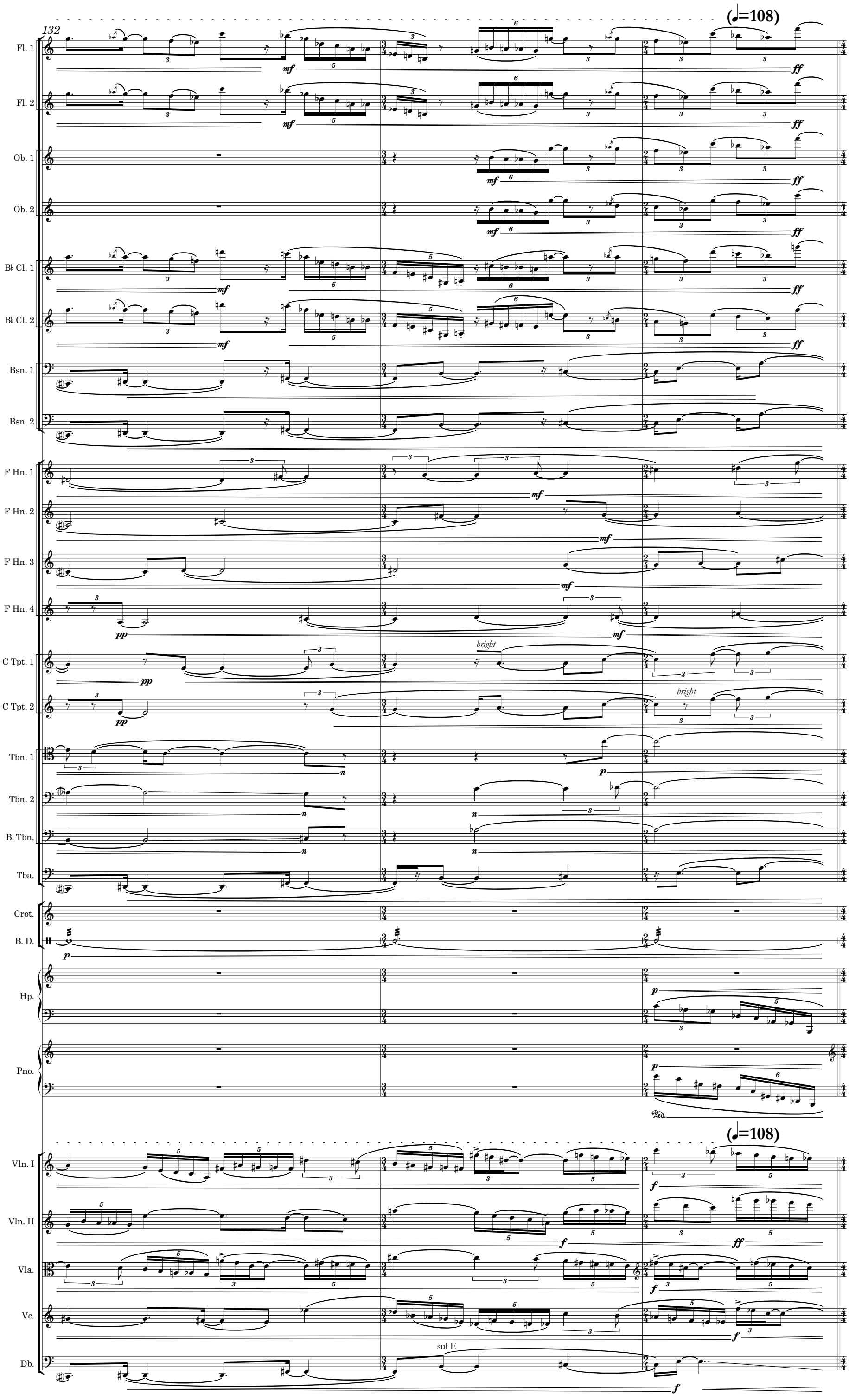
molto accel.

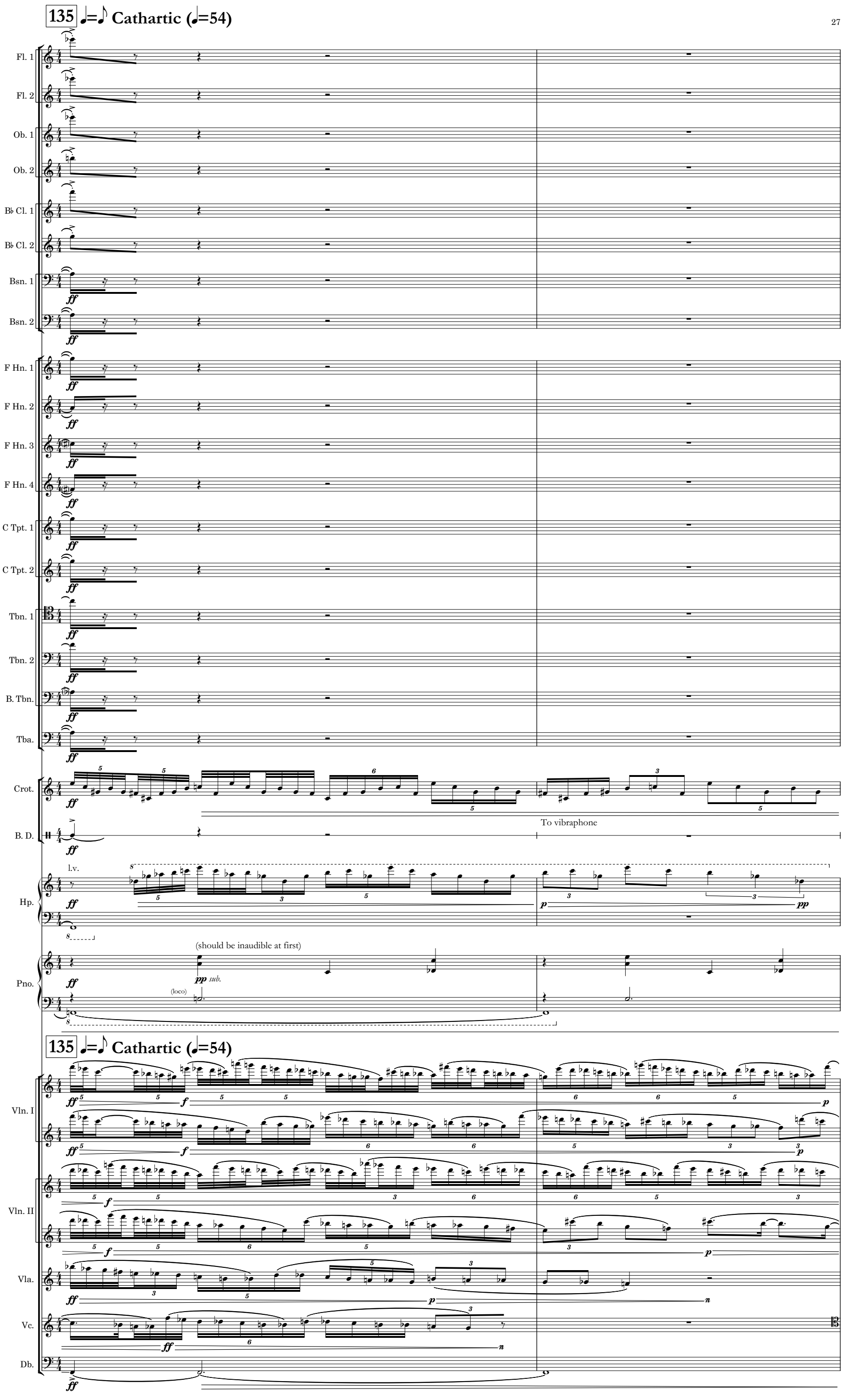
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
l.v.
B. D.
Hp.
Pno.

Sub. much slower ♩=66

molto accel.

Vln. I
tutti unis.
Vln. II
unis.
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
arco


132
(♩=108)
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
B. D.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.
bright
sul E


135 ♩=♪ Cathartic (♩=54)
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
To vibraphone
B. D.
l.v.
Hp.
Pno.
(should be inaudible at first)
pp sub.
(loco)
135 ♩=♪ Cathartic (♩=54)
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

137 (l.v.)

poco rall.

Crot.

Hp.

Pno.

poco rall.

wispy, becoming fog

Vln. I

wispy, becoming fog

Vln. II

wispy, becoming fog

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

143 ♩=♪ Quaint, a tempo (♪=54) accel. a tempo (always sub.) accel.

solo (alone w/ Pno.): *molto rubato*

B♭ Cl. 1

solo (alone w/ Cl. 1)

Pno.

a tempo accel. a tempo accel.

150

B♭ Cl. 1

Pno.

a tempo accel. a tempo accel.

(tutti unis.)

Vln. I

Vln. II

(tutti unis.)

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

156 a tempo (♪=54) accel. a tempo

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.

very freely, yearningly
increasingly frenetic
Vibraphone
(molto rubato on these arpeggi)

156 a tempo (♪=54) accel. a tempo

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

sul tasto, *awakening*
ord.

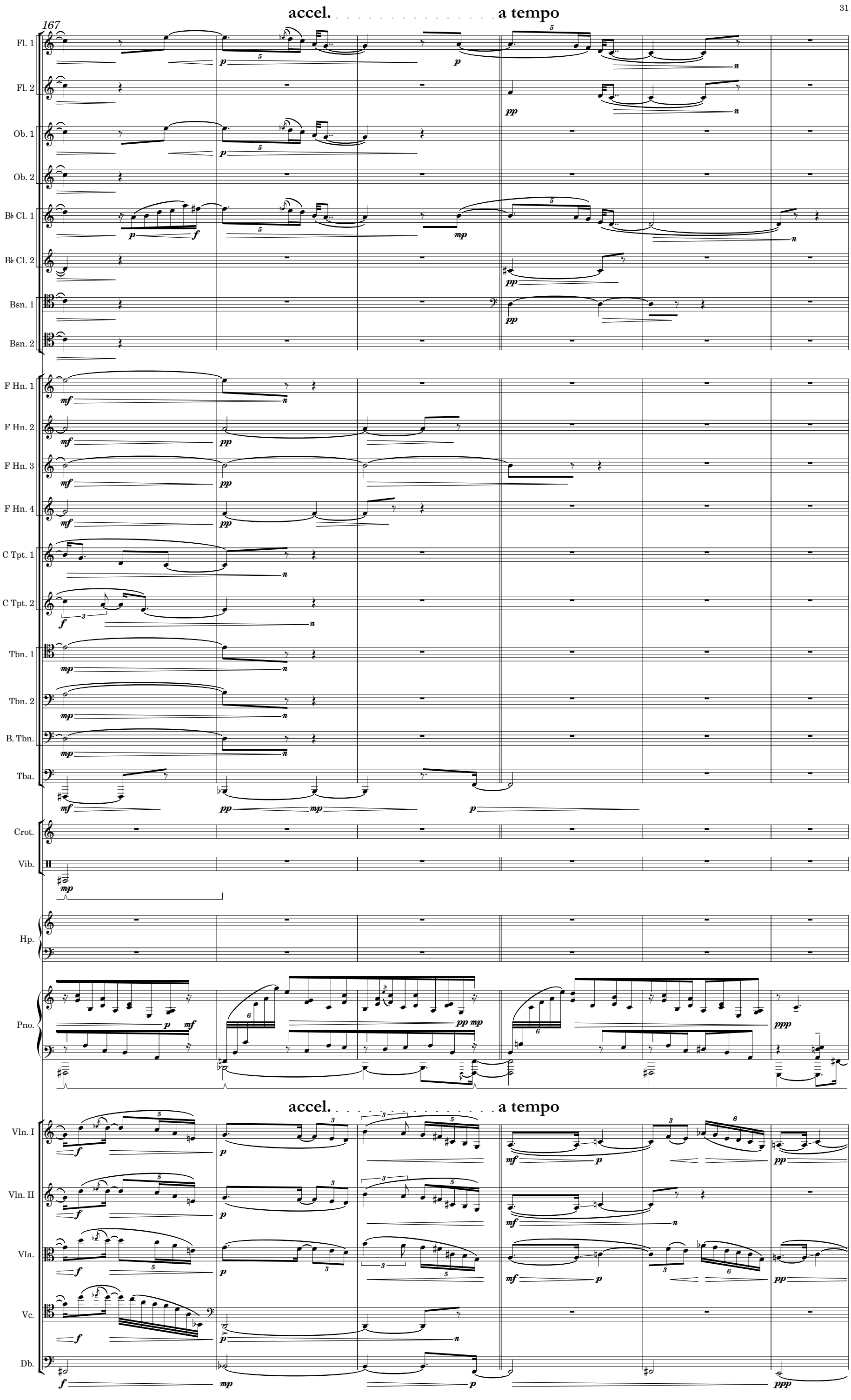
accel. 164 Warm and lush, a tempo

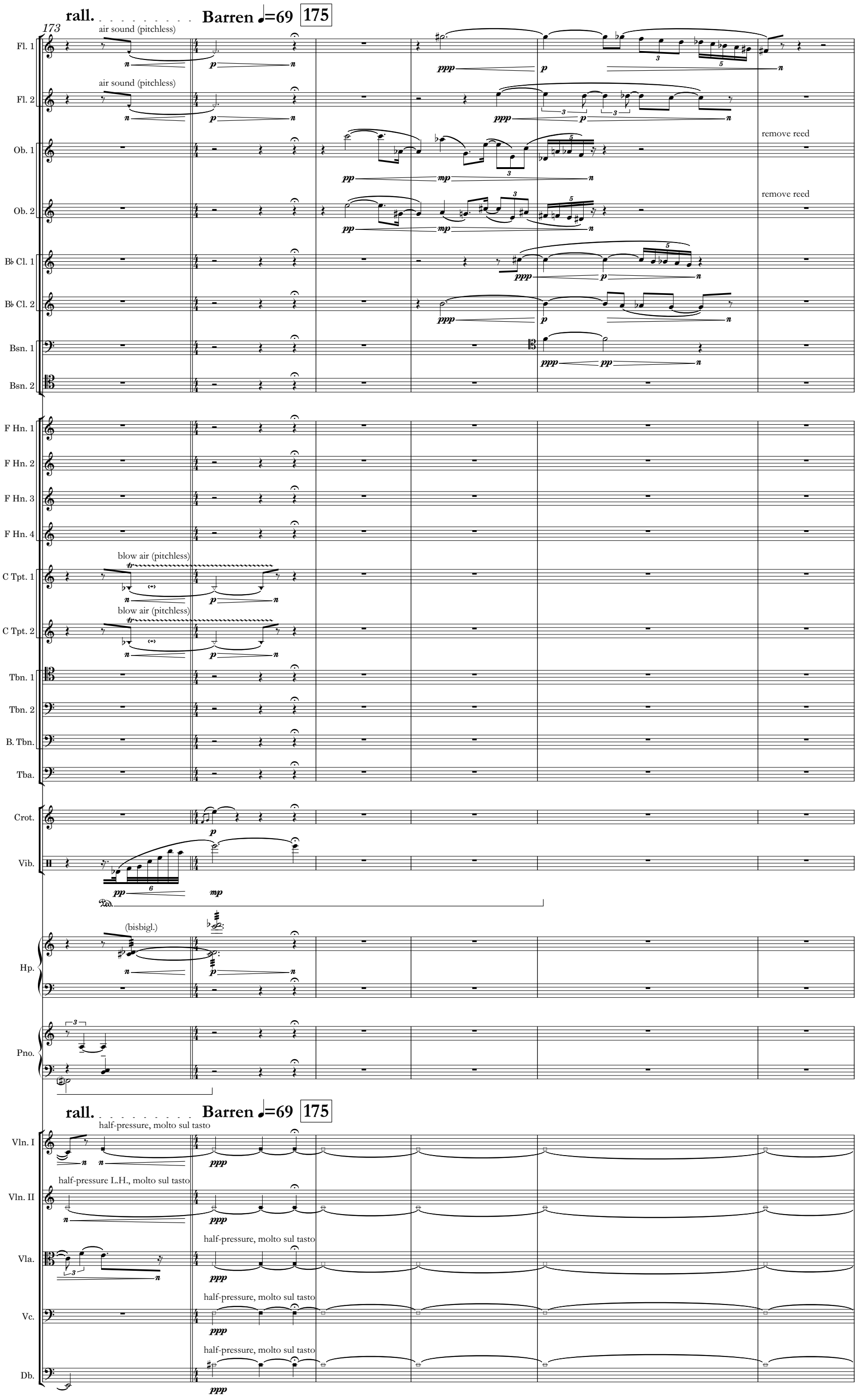
162

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.

accel. 164 Warm and lush, a tempo

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.


accel.
a tempo
167
Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
accel.
a tempo
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.


rall.
Barren ♩=69
175
173
Fl. 1
air sound (pitchless)
Fl. 2
air sound (pitchless)
Ob. 1
remove reed
Ob. 2
remove reed
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
blow air (pitchless)
C Tpt. 2
blow air (pitchless)
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
(bisbigl.)
Pno.
rall.
Barren ♩=69
175
Vln. I
half-pressure, molto sul tasto
Vln. II
half-pressure L.H., molto sul tasto
Vla.
half-pressure, molto sul tasto
Vc.
half-pressure, molto sul tasto
Db.
half-pressure, molto sul tasto

179

rall. 182 Somber, gentle ♩=63

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
Crot.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

tumbling

solo (ord.)

To bass drum

Bass Drum

Ped.

rall. 182 Somber, gentle ♩=63

186

rall. . . . . 191 Distant ♩=54

Fl. 1
Fl. 2
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
F Hn. 1
F Hn. 2
F Hn. 3
F Hn. 4
C Tpt. 1
C Tpt. 2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2
B. Tbn.
Tba.
B. D.
Vib.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Db.

delicate (solo)

(Ped. al fine)

solo (l.v.)

rall. . . . . 191 Distant ♩=54

192

accel. (𝅗𝅥=ca. 69)

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

air sound (pitchless)

Ob. 1

blow air (as before)

Ob. 2

blow air (as before)

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

F Hn. 1

F Hn. 2

F Hn. 3

F Hn. 4

(solo)

C Tpt. 1

C Tpt. 2

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

B. D.

Vib.

Hp.

Pno.

accel. (𝅗𝅥=ca. 69)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.