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Score

Eric Delgado

Los Olvidados

for

two pianos, eight hands

Performance Notes

duration: ca. 30 minutes

I. Cognitive Dissonance…. 5 min. 30 sec. ……page 5
II. a la……. 2 min. …… page 20
III. Echoes…… 6 min…… page 25
IV. ru ru……. 2 min. 30 sec……. page 38
V. In Distress …… 7 min…… page 42
VI. nene…… 2 min…… page 61
VII. Recollection…… 5 min…… page 64

Trills should start on the lower note. The trilled note is given in parenthesis. Accidentals apply throughout the measure but not across octaves. Courtesy accidentals are provided for clarity.

Program Notes

Los Olvidados is a seven-movement work for two pianos, eight hands which I wrote as a reaction to the family separation policy executed by the United States government at the southwestern border. Throughout the piece, the four performers guide the audience through musical themes and structure that stress the importance of recognizing the negative psychological effects the policy has had on Central American refugee children. Structurally, the work is thematically divided between even and odd numbered movements.

The odd numbered movements are related together by their approach to the concepts of loneliness, separation, and grief. "I. Cognitive Dissonance" features harsh, accented rhythmic patterns contrasted by a web of interlocking legato passages which are never reconciled. In "III. Echoes," a constant pulse is exchanged between all the performers though time is stretched with rippling rhythms that grow out of the hypnotic opening. "V. In Distress" is set in a pseudo-ritornello form with each of the pianists playing a solo section, coming together for anxious tutti sections. Each solo is marked with a stage of grief – Denial, Anger, Bargaining, Acceptance –

to describe the musical moment. "Recollection" brings back themes from earlier movements but abstracted to small fragments that leave the listener searching for meaning.

The even numbered movements are titled after a lullaby which I listened to as a child called "A la ru ru nene." Musically, this lullaby is unique since it ends on an unstable half cadence so that a singer can repeat it multiple times without feeling completed until the listening child has fallen asleep. "II. A la," "IV. ru ru," and "VI. nene" each begin the same melody and provide different musical continuations that mirror a journey of emotional transformation in the odd numbered movements.

Los Olvidados translates to "The Forgotten Ones" and refers to the young generation that has been adversely affected by the immigration debate in the United States over the past few decades. Composing this piece was not just an exploration of emotional states but also a call to action on the part of those who have not been affected and a reminder to never forget the trauma societal indifference can cause.

Piece completed: 26 February 2019

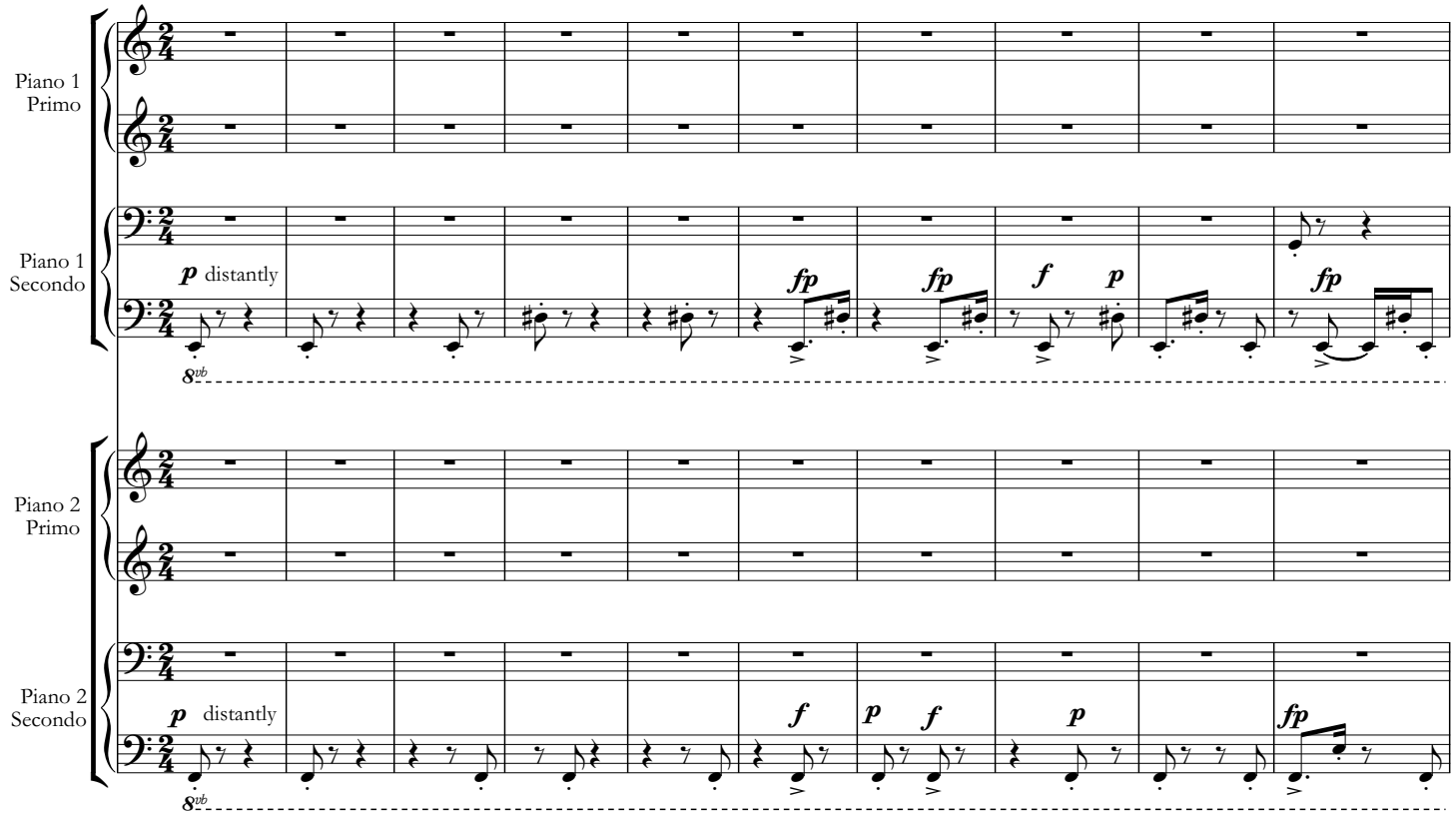
Los Olvidados

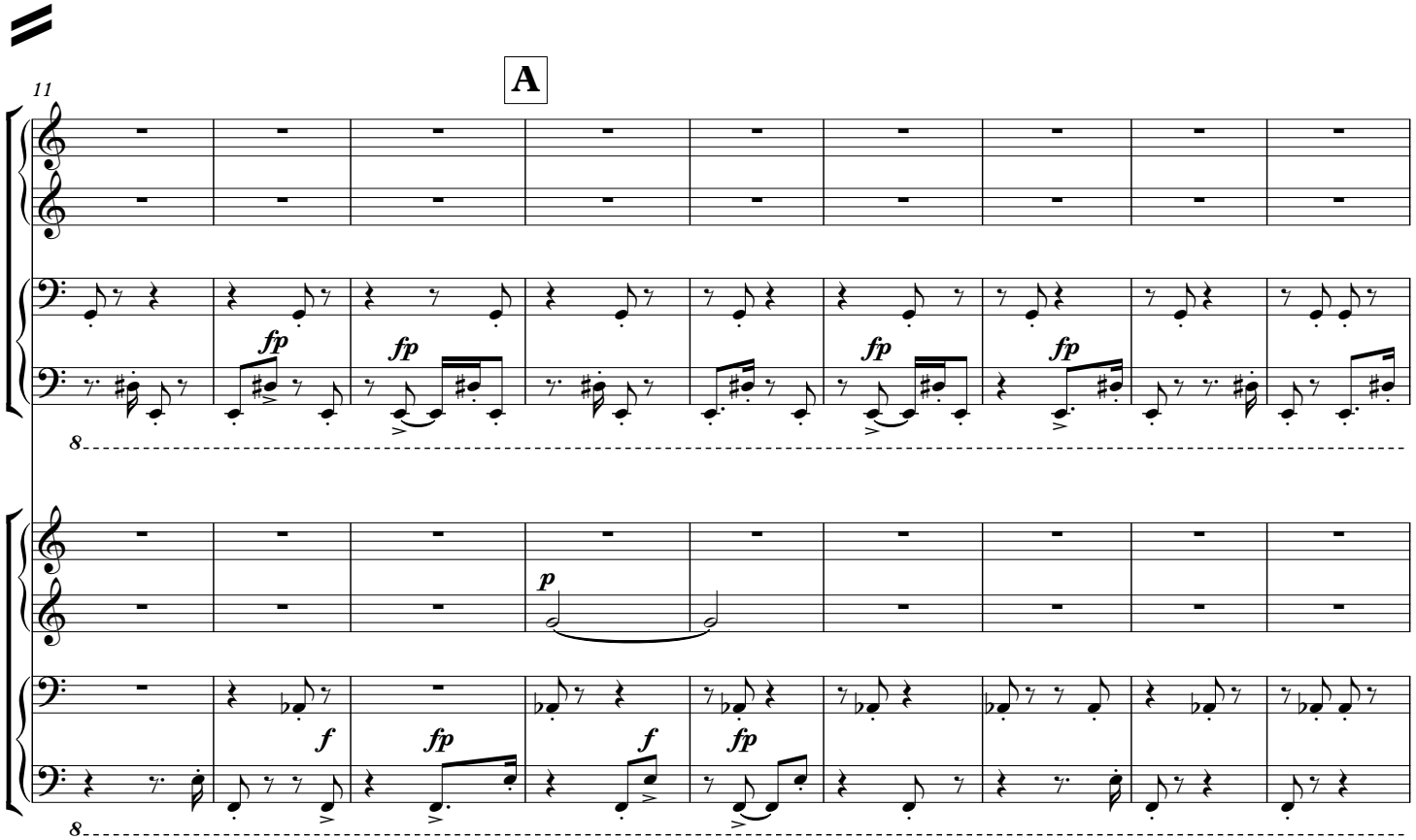
for two pianos, eight hands
(2019)

Eric Delgado
(b.1993)

I. Cognitive Dissonance

Menacing ♩=100





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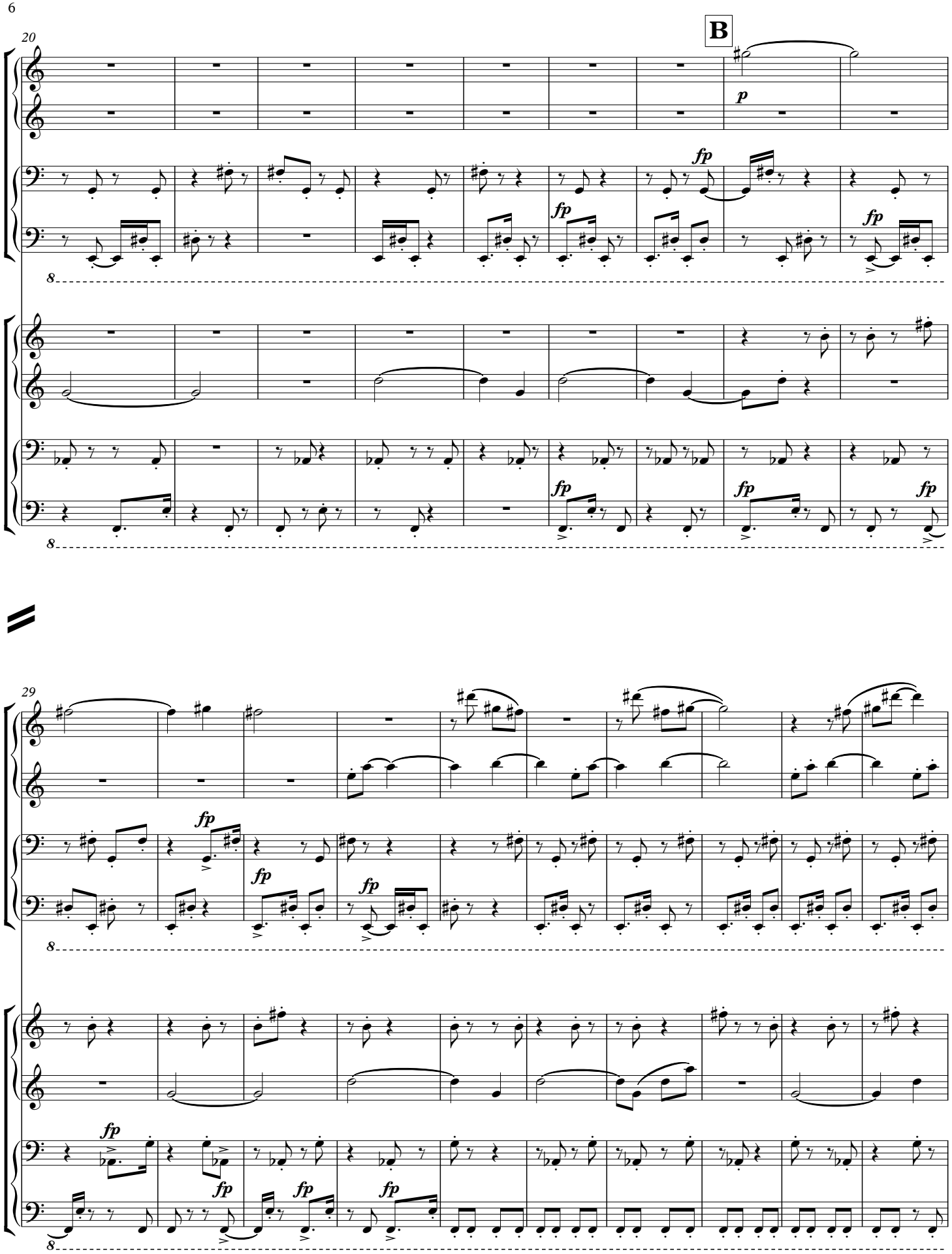
20
B
p
fp
fp
fp
8
fp
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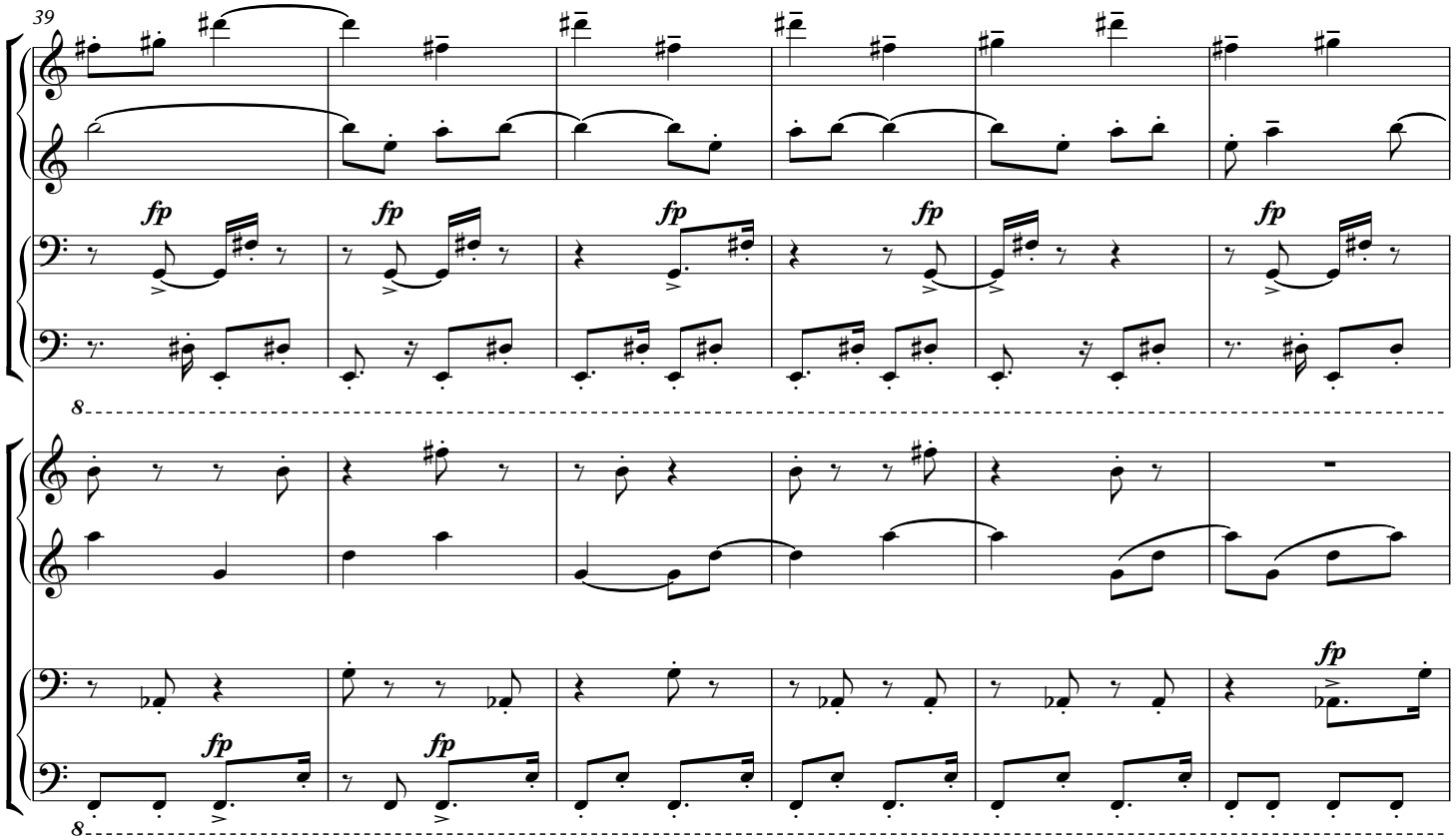
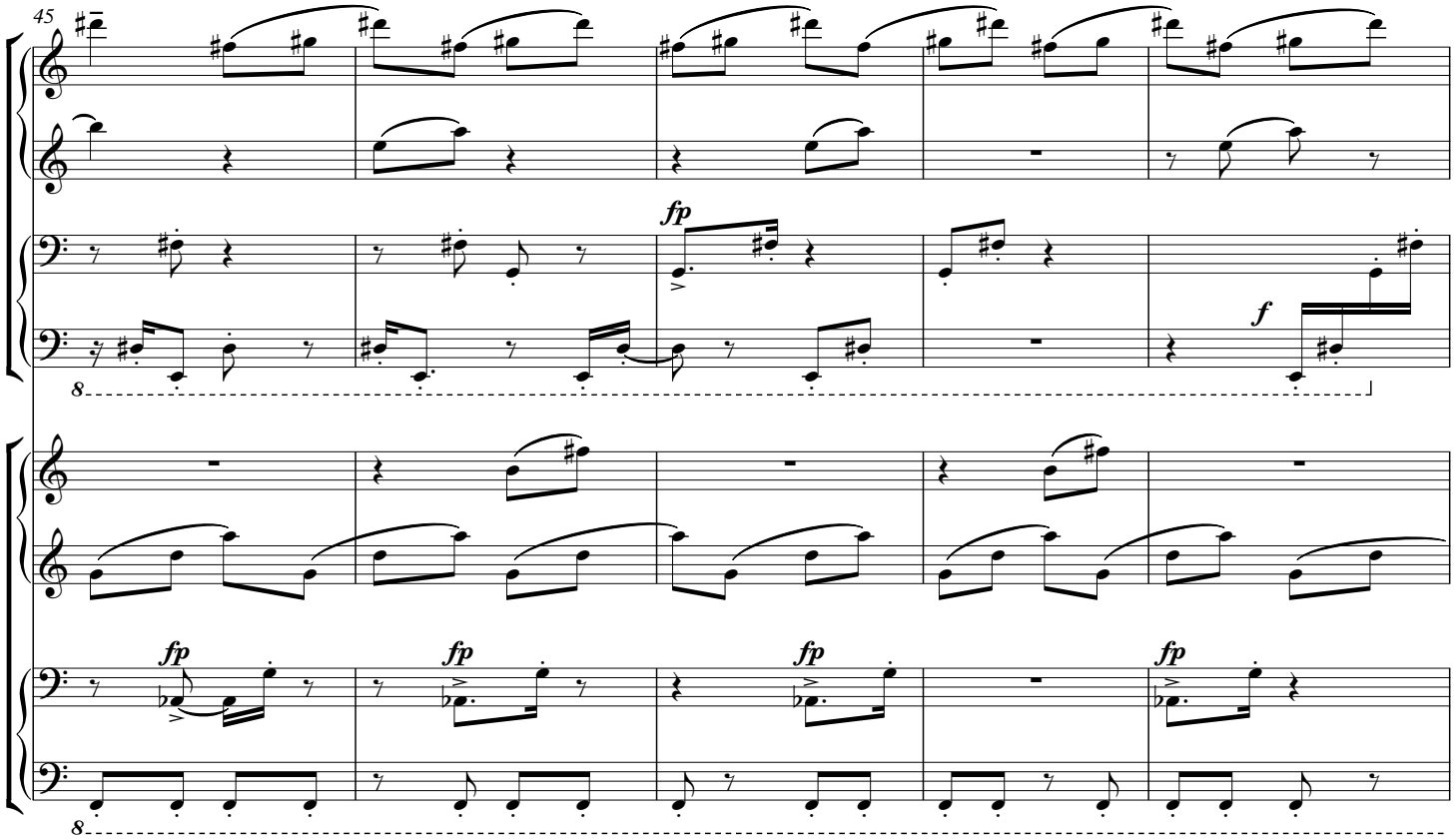
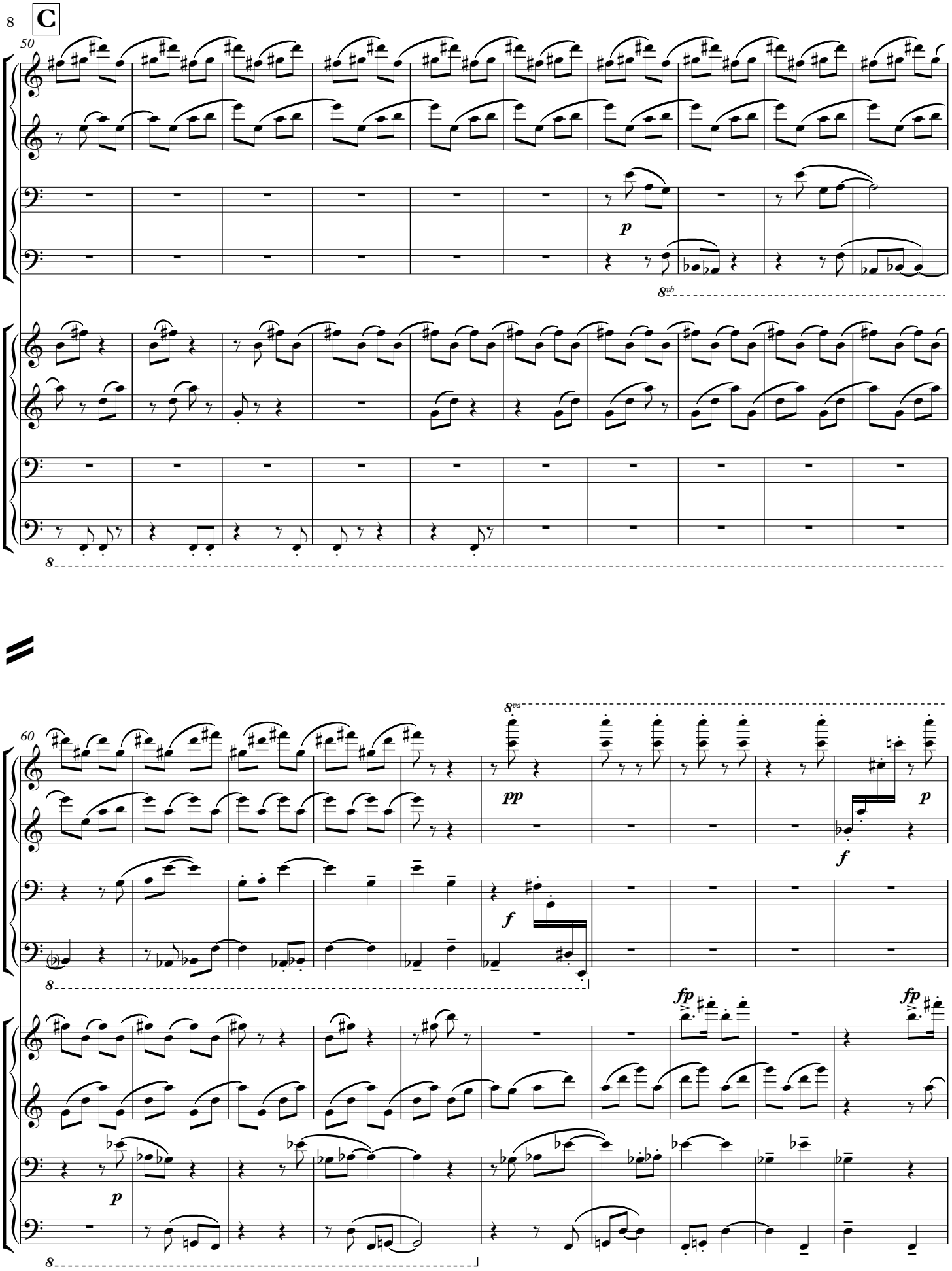
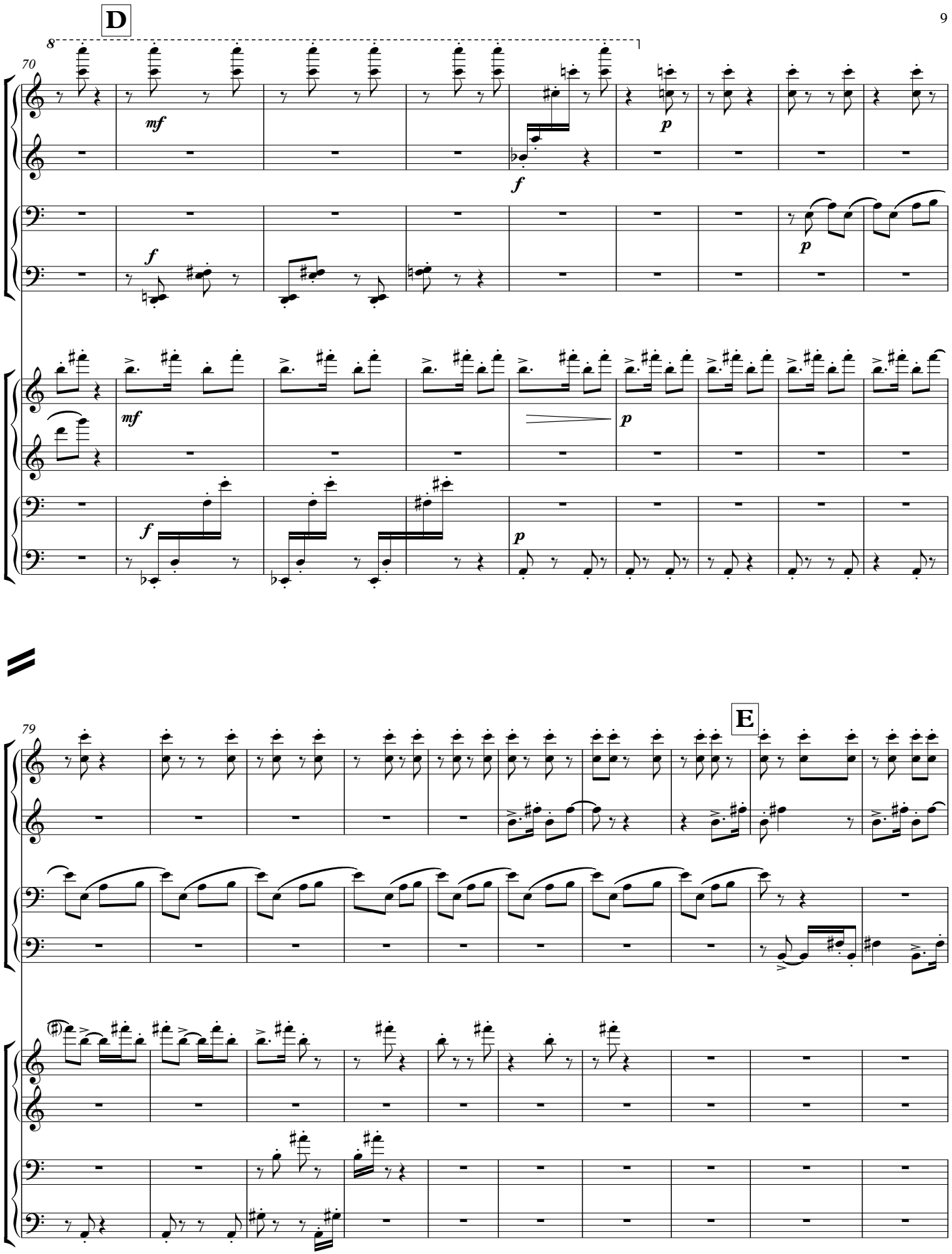
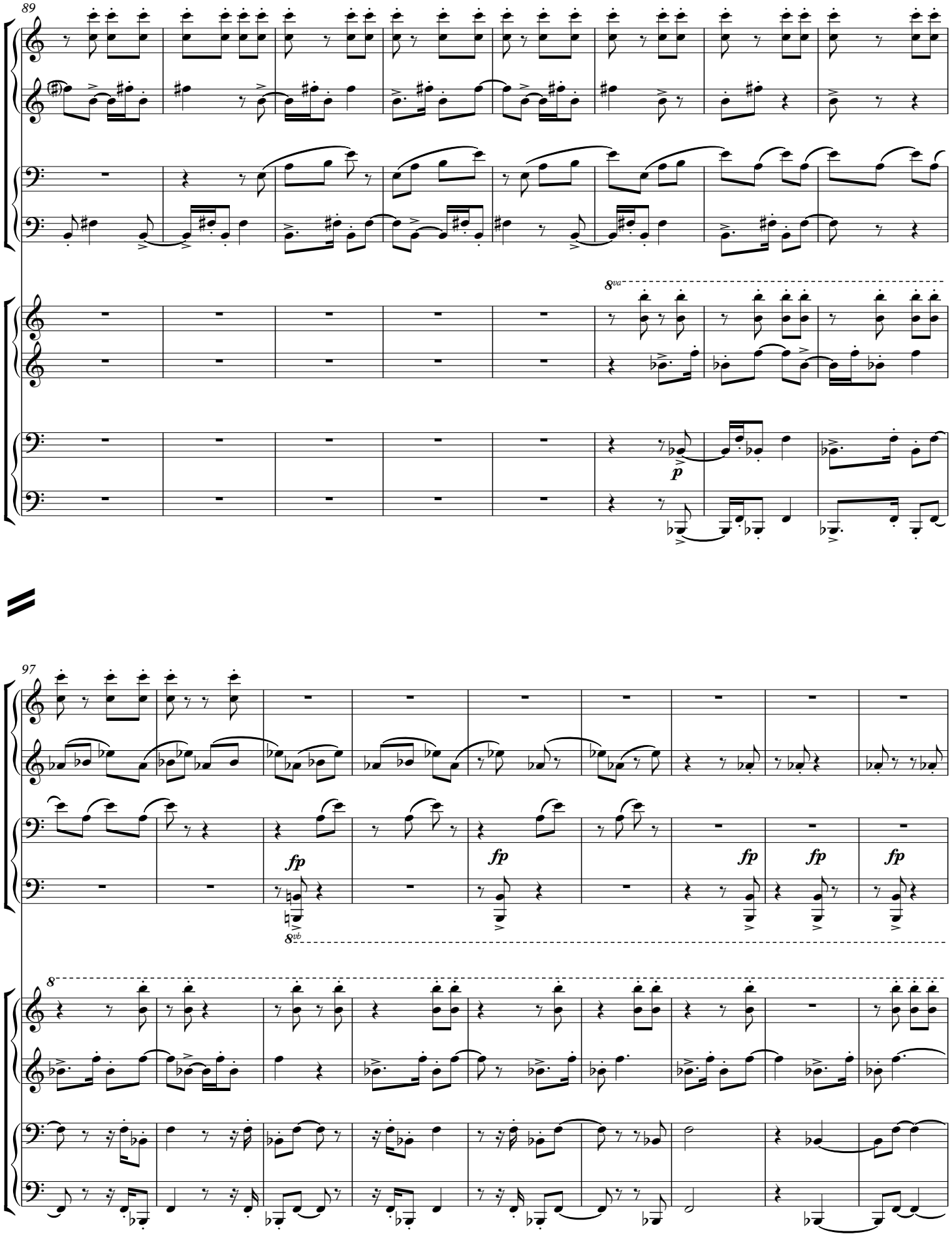
8
29
fp
fp
fp
8
fp
fp
fp
fp
8

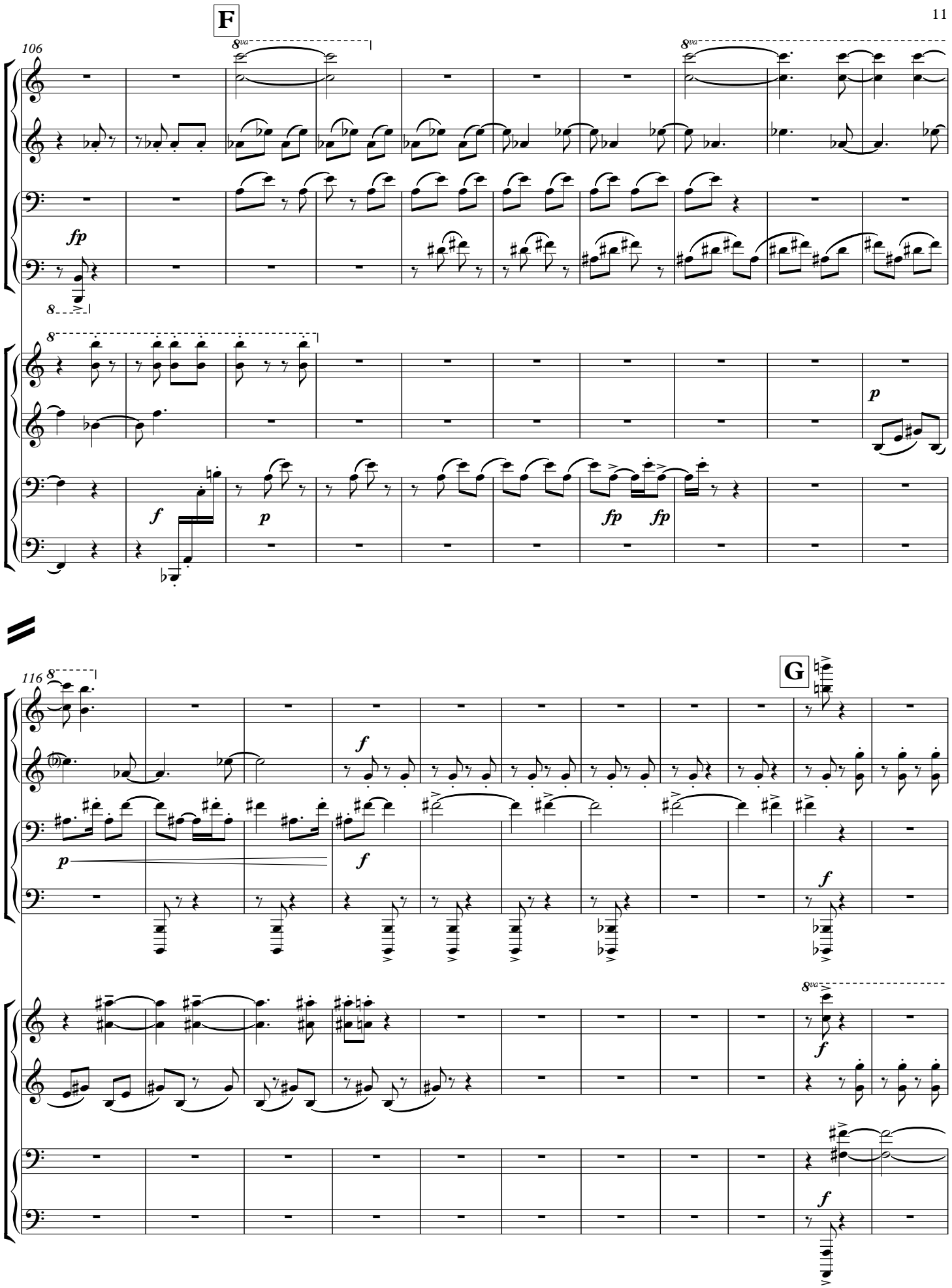

39
fp
fp
fp
fp
fp
8
fp
fp
fp
8

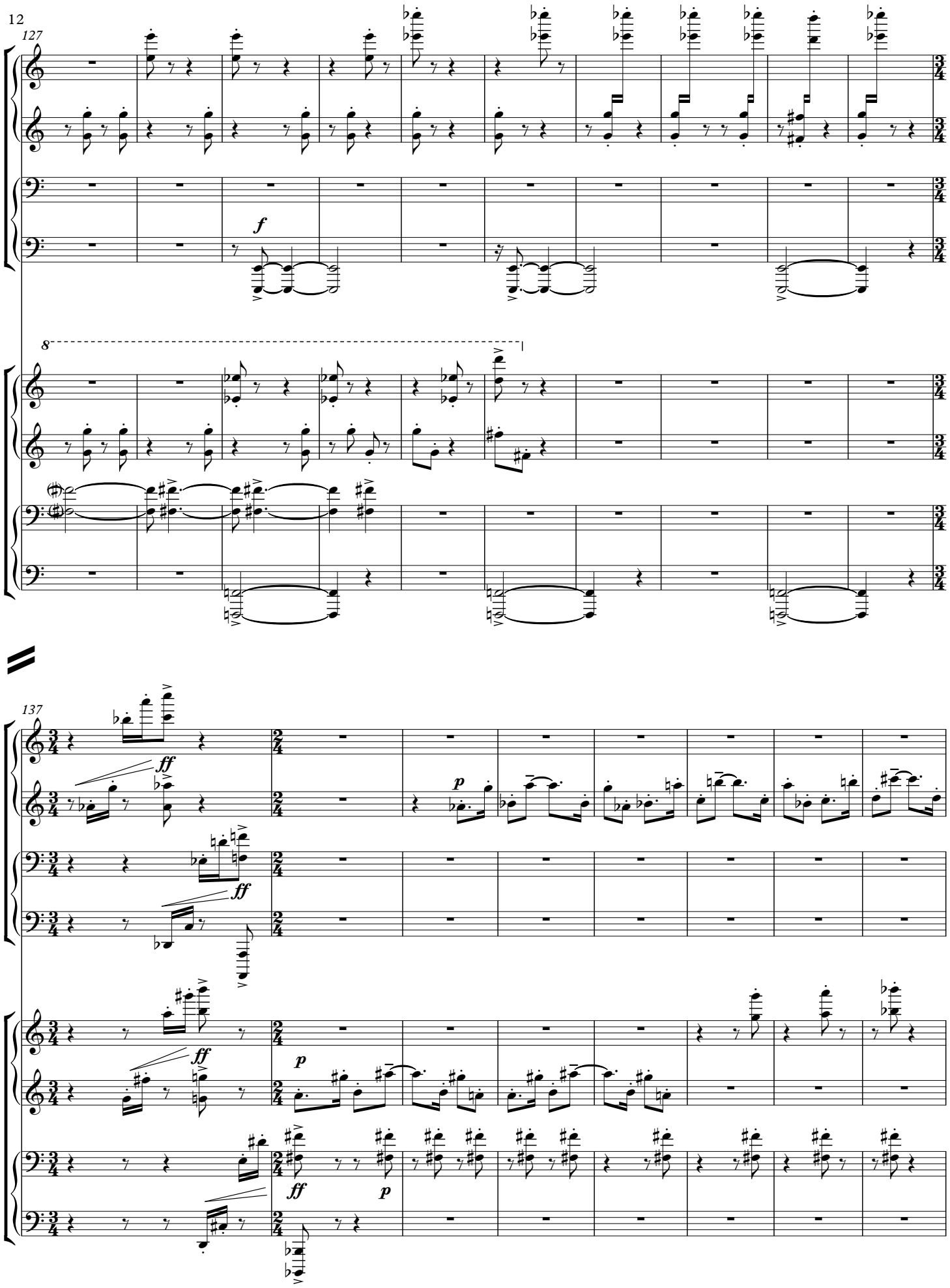

45
fp
f
8
fp
fp
fp
fp
8

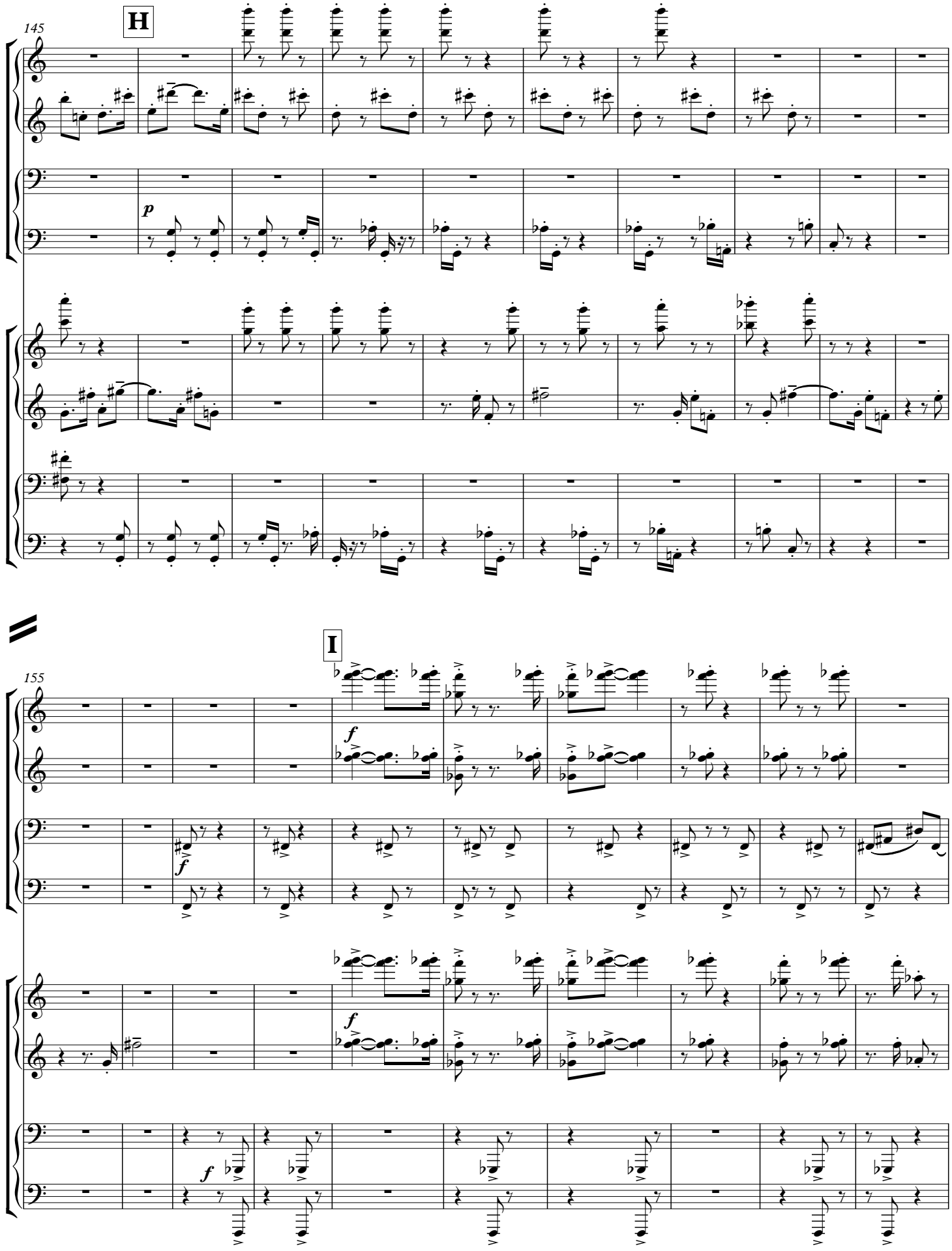

C
50
p
8vb
8
60
8va
pp
f
p
f
fp
fp
p
8

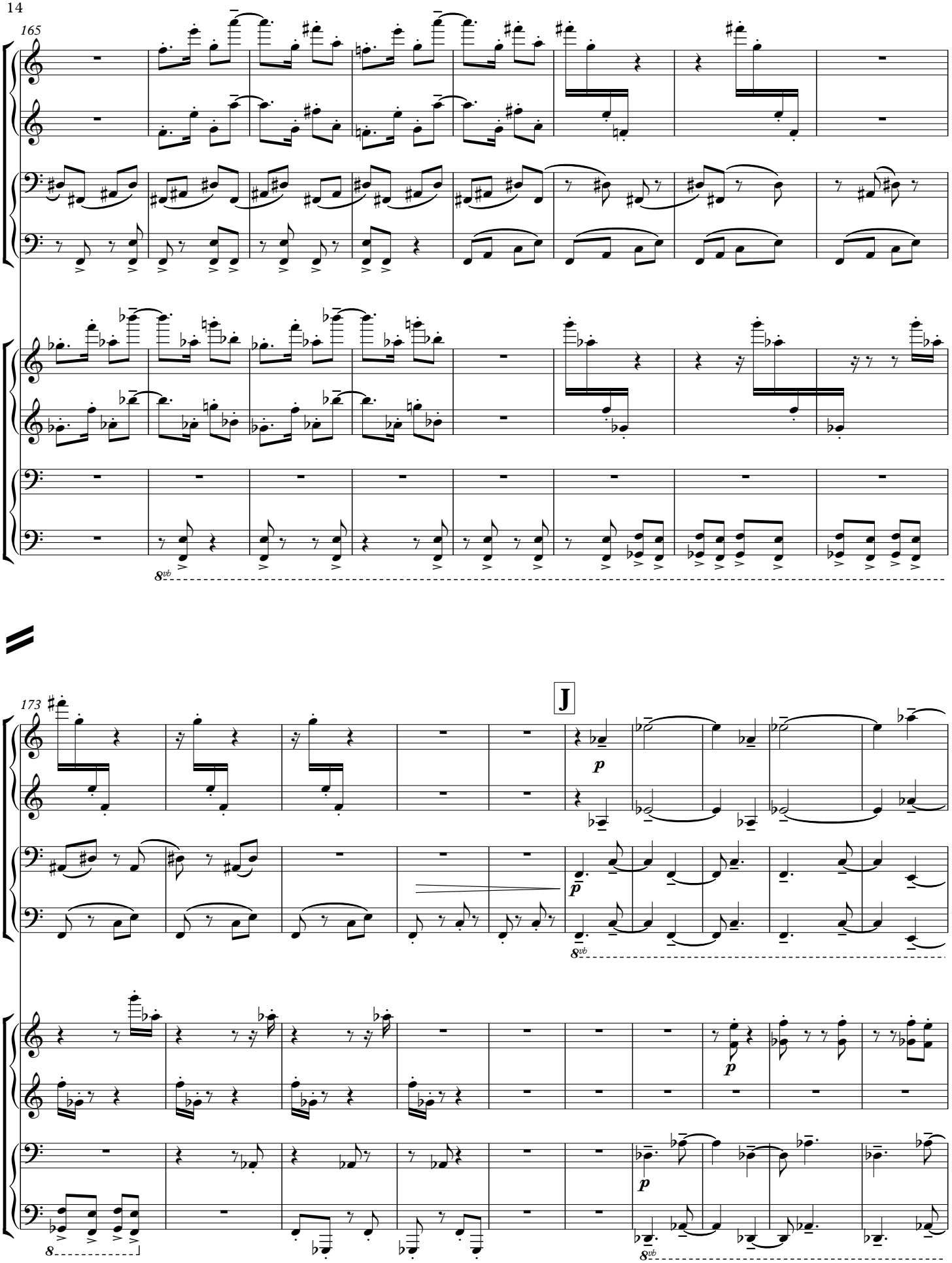

D
8
70
mf
f
p
E
79

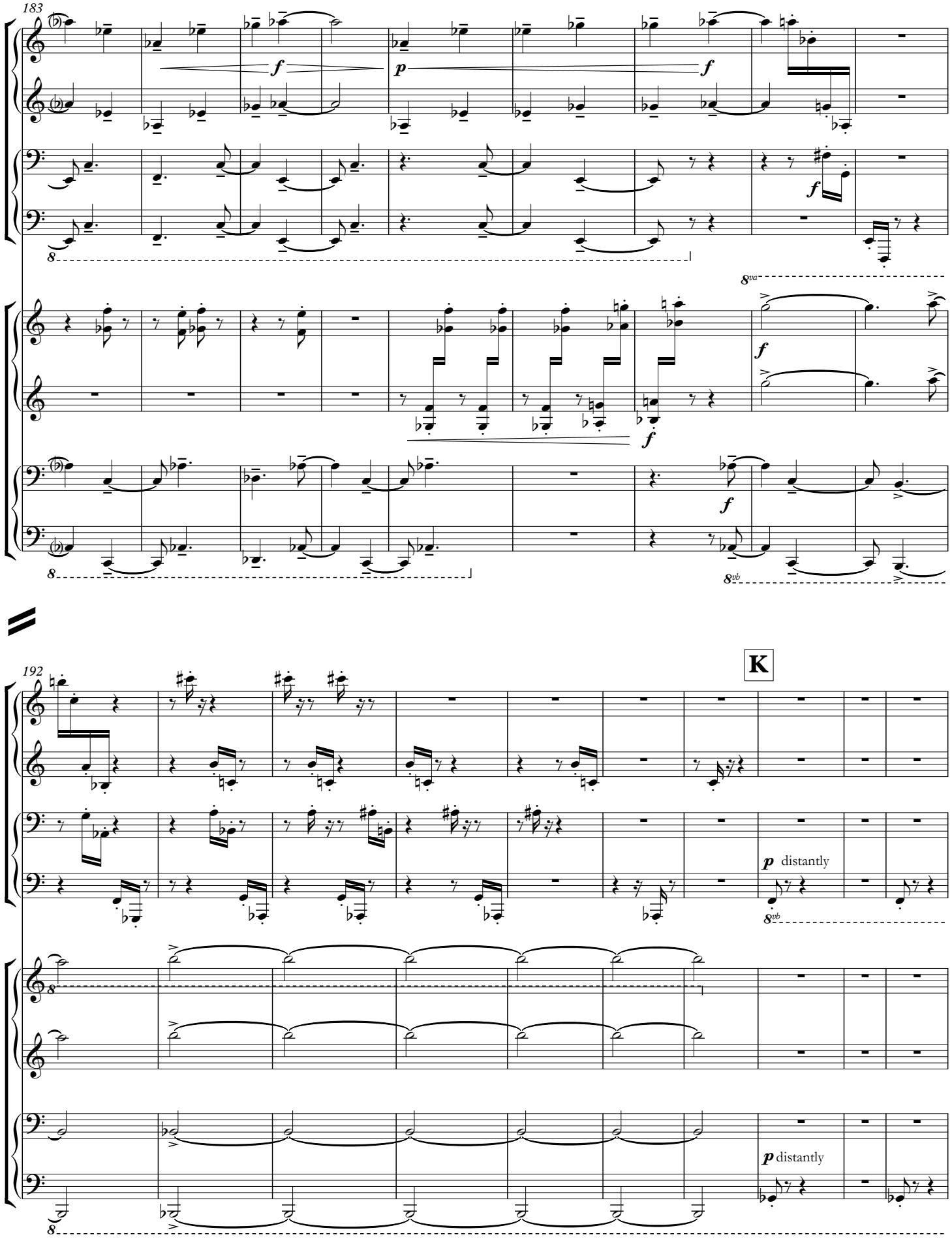

89
8va
p
97
fp
fp
fp
fp
fp
8vb
8

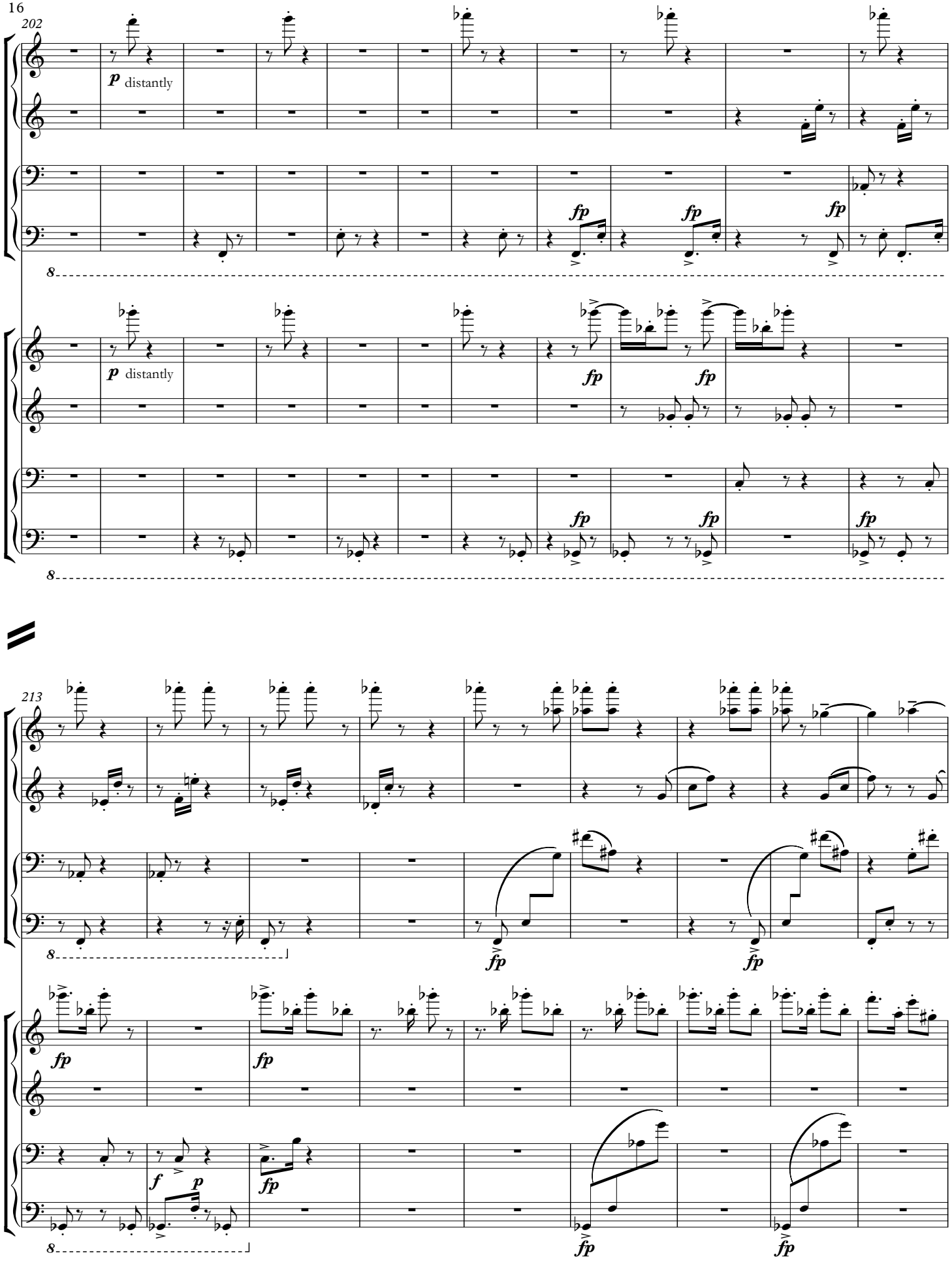

F
106
8va
fp
p
f
fp
116
G

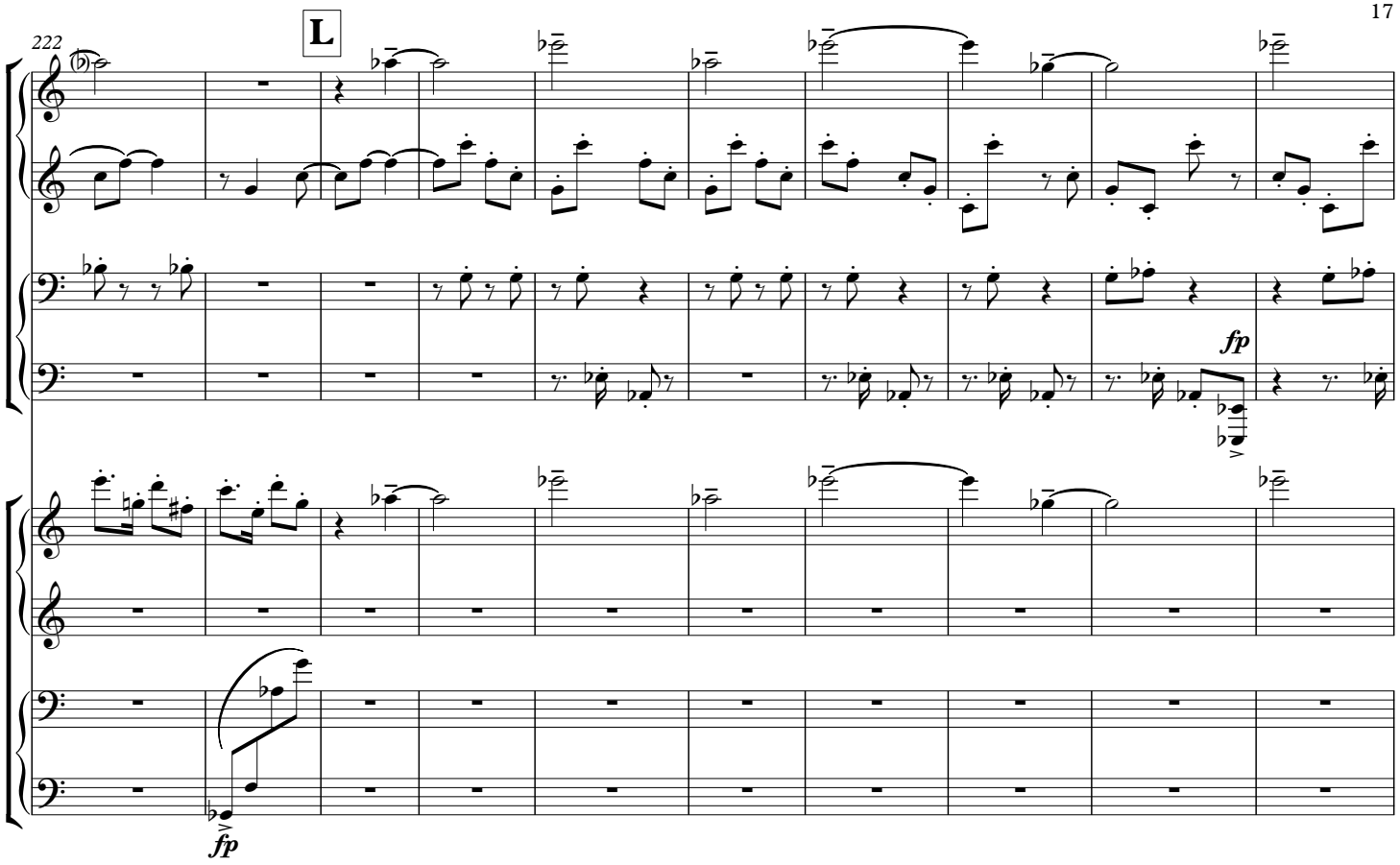

127
f
8
137
ff
p
ff
p
ff
p

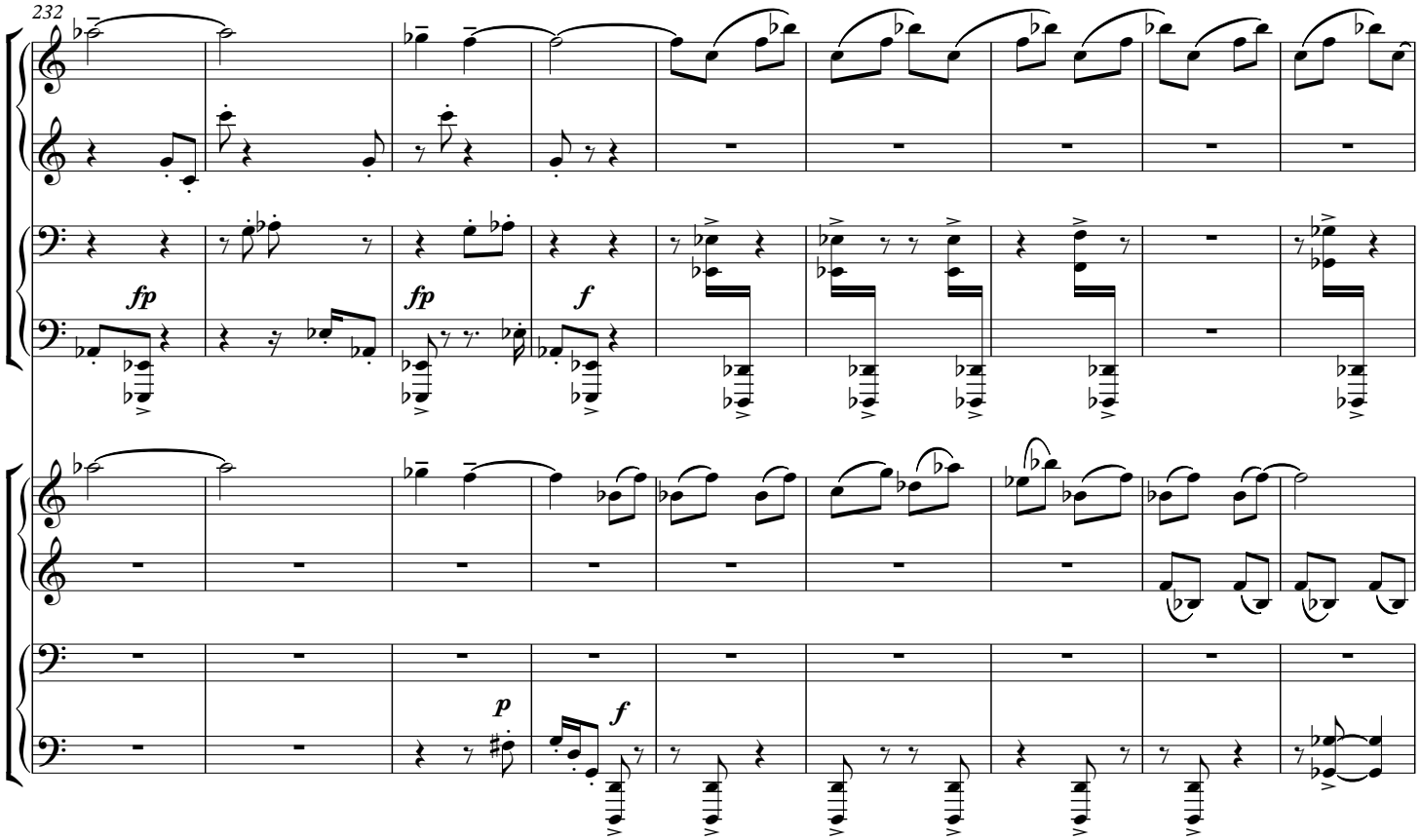

145
H
p
155
I
f
f
f
f

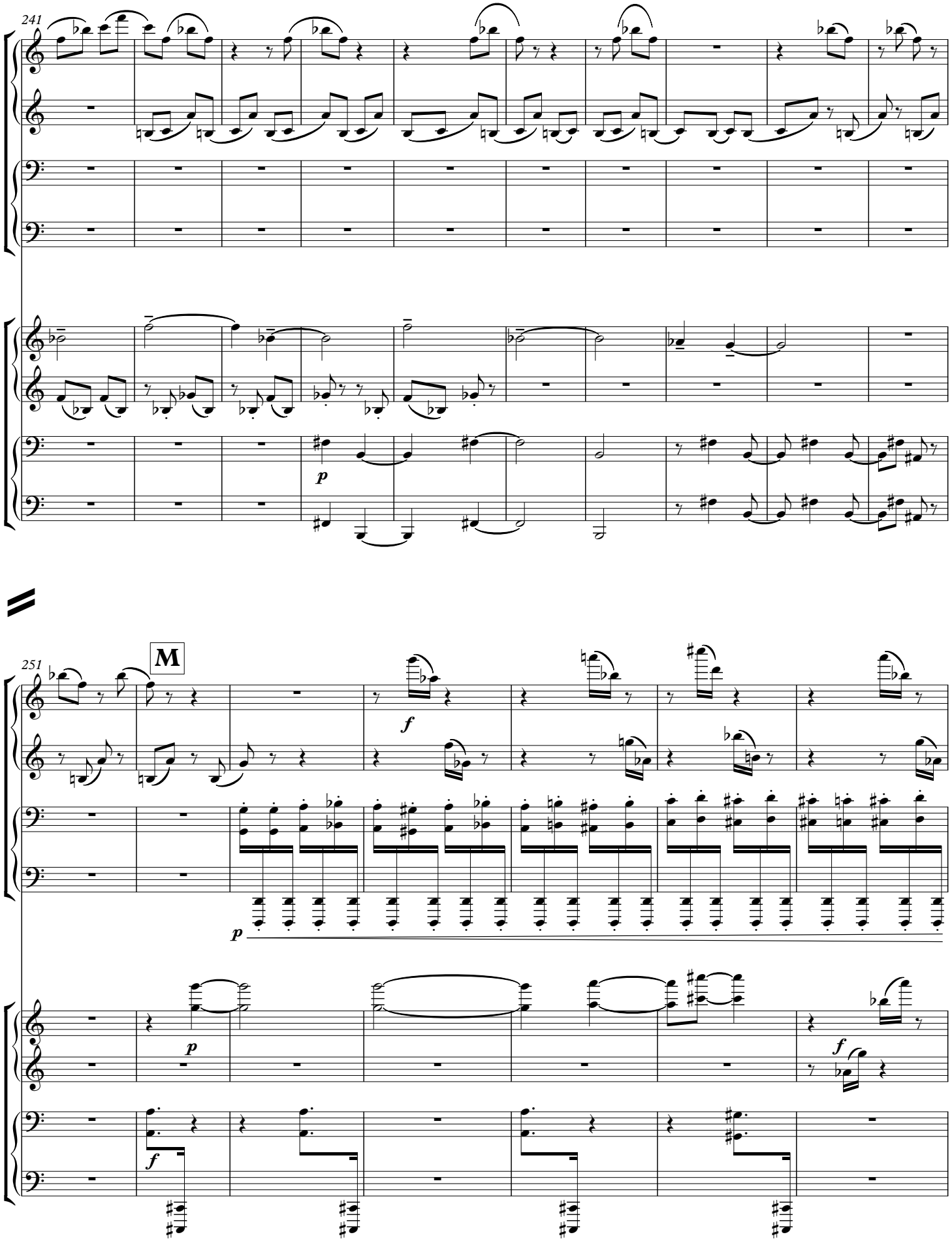

165
8vb
173
J
p
p
p
p
8
8vb

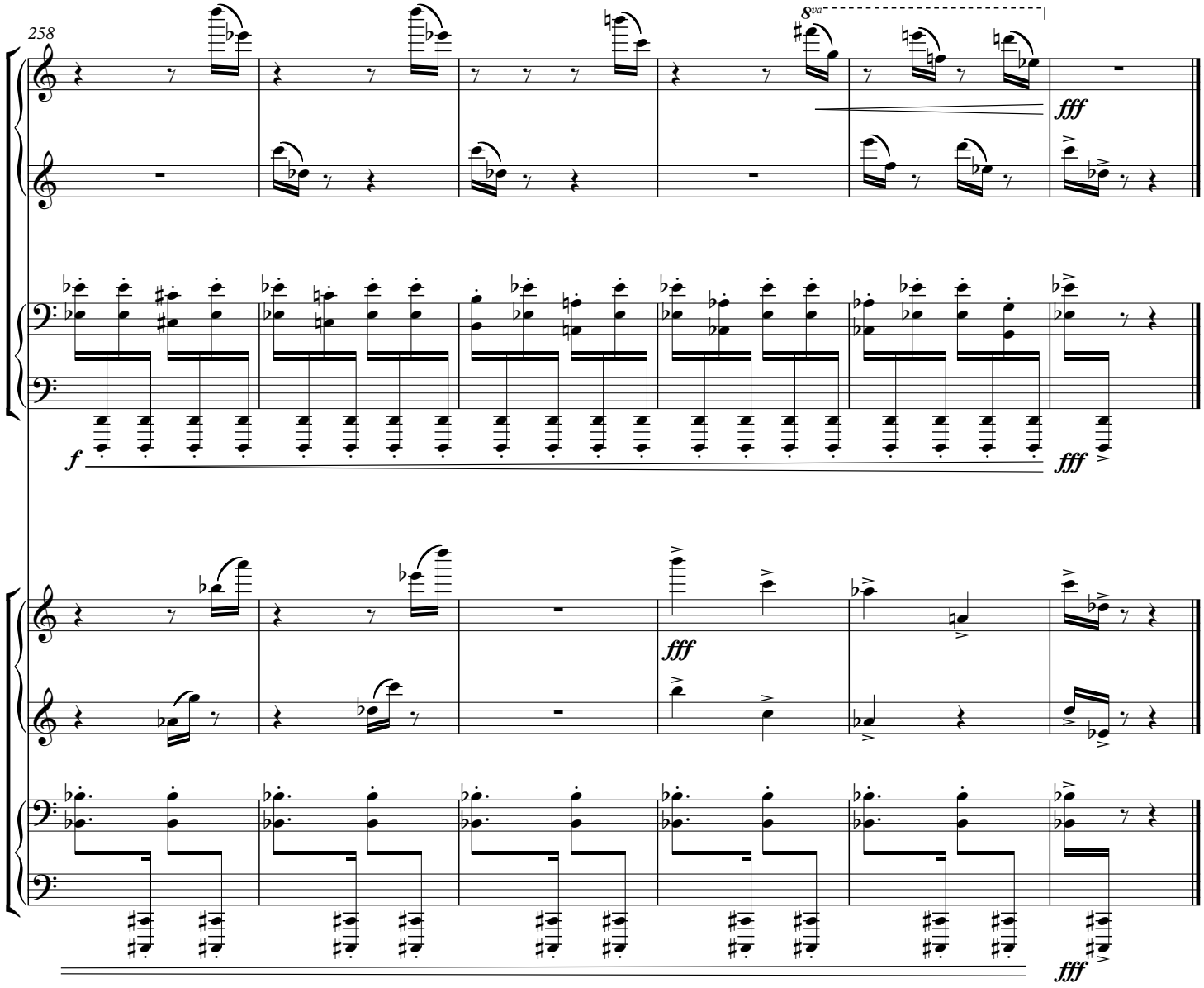

183
f
p
f
f
8va
f
f
f
8vb
192
K
p distantly
8vb
p distantly


202
p distantly
fp
213
f
p

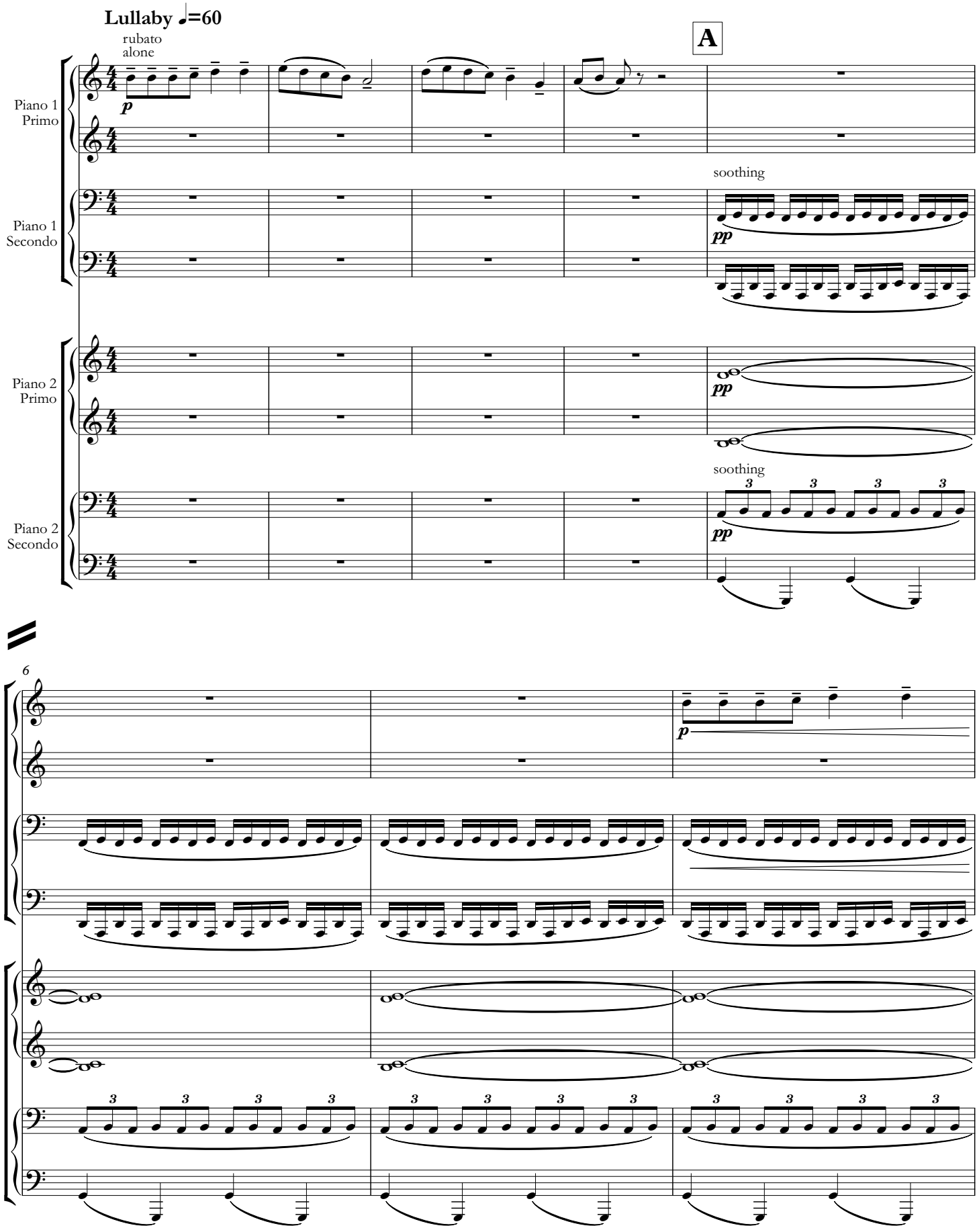

222
L
fp
fp

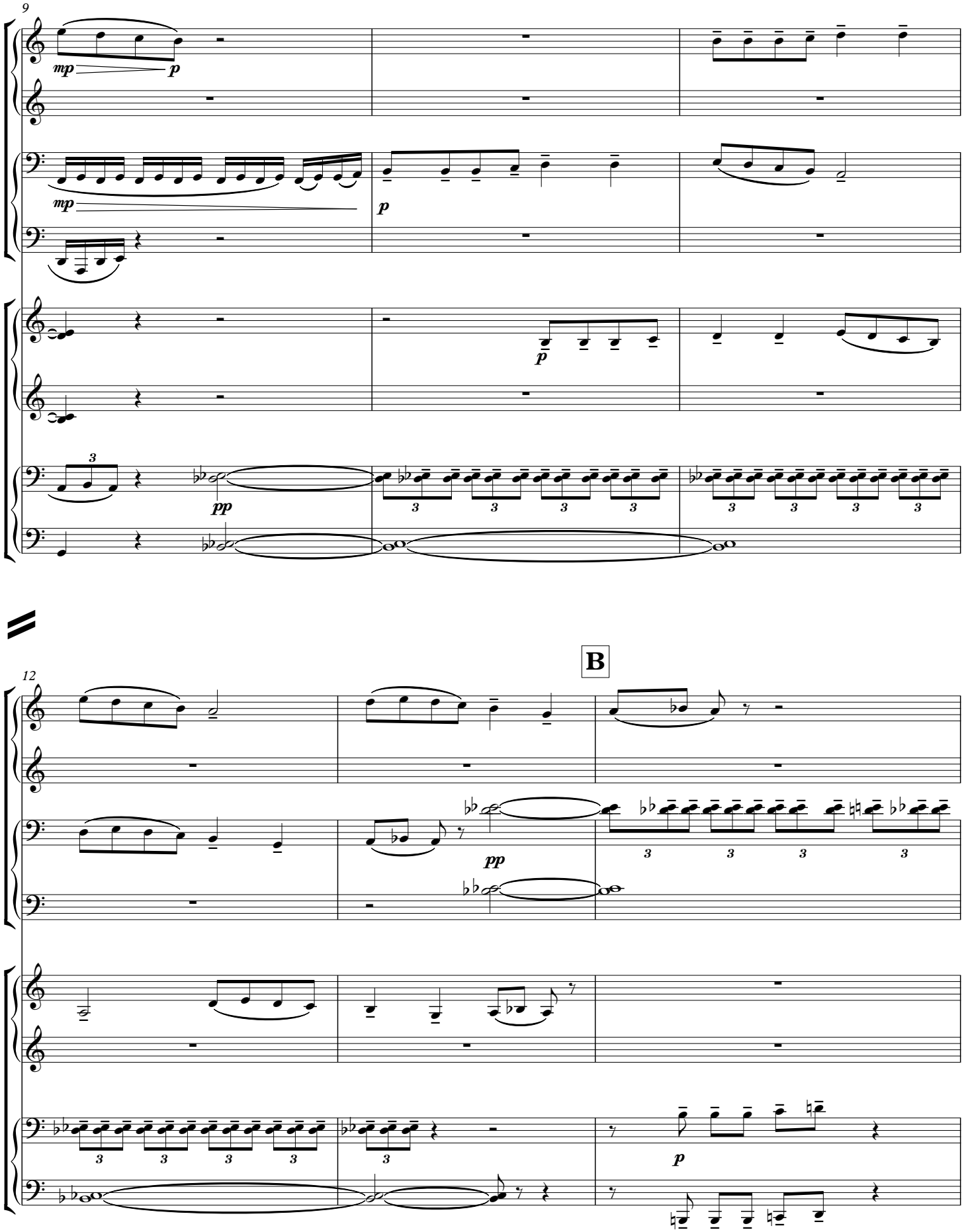

232
fp
fp
f
p
f

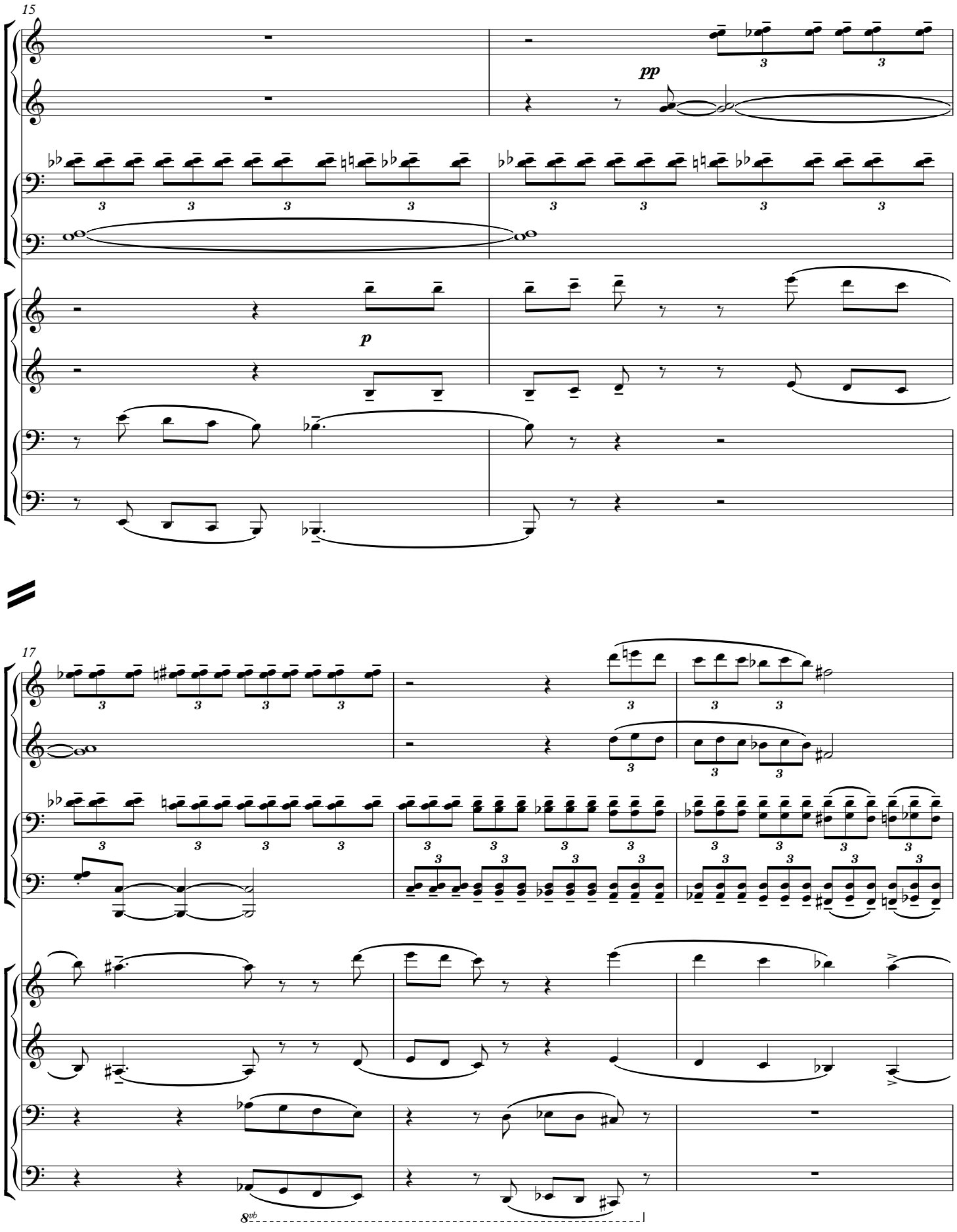

241
p
251
M
f
p
p
f
f

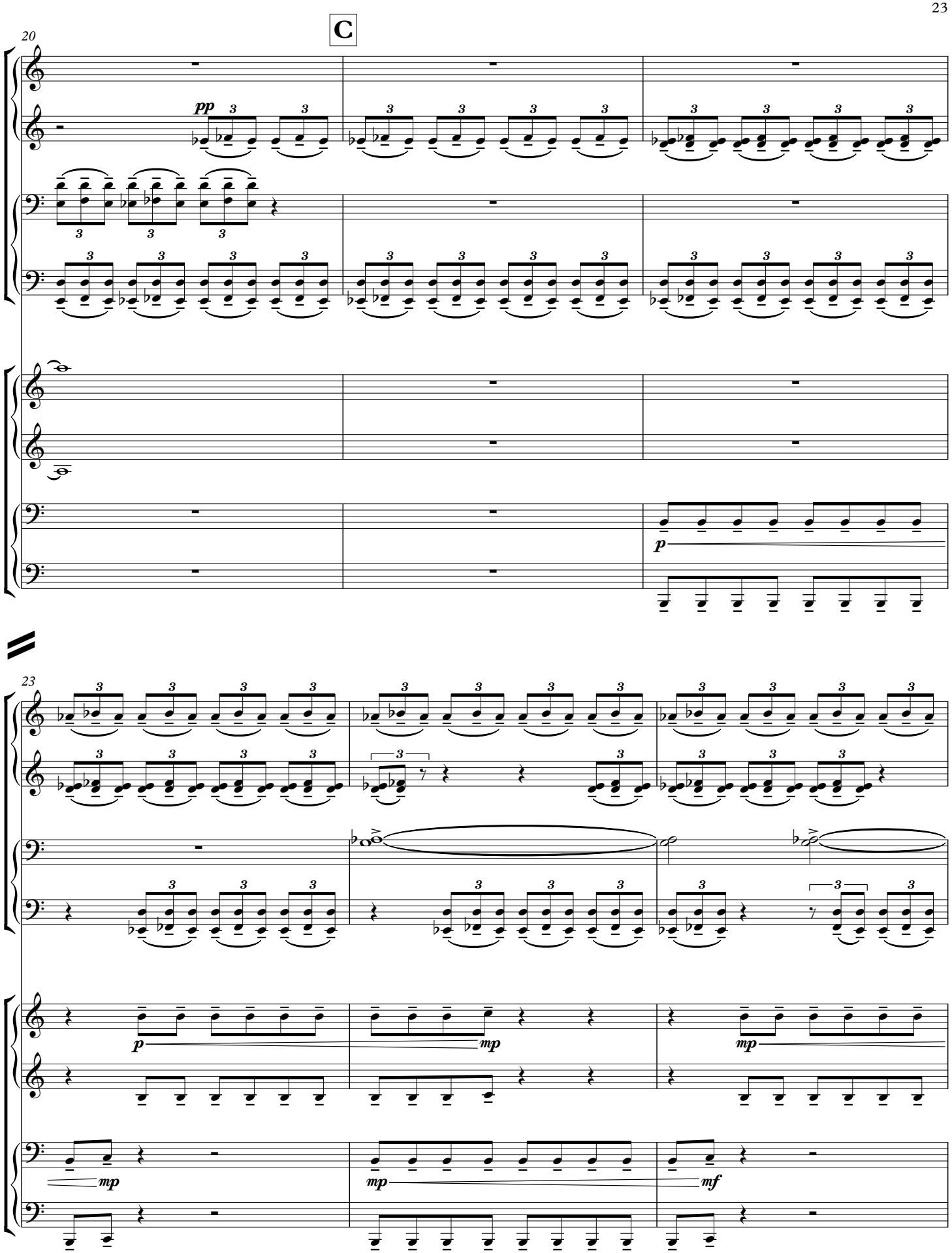

258
8va
fff
f
fff
fff
fff

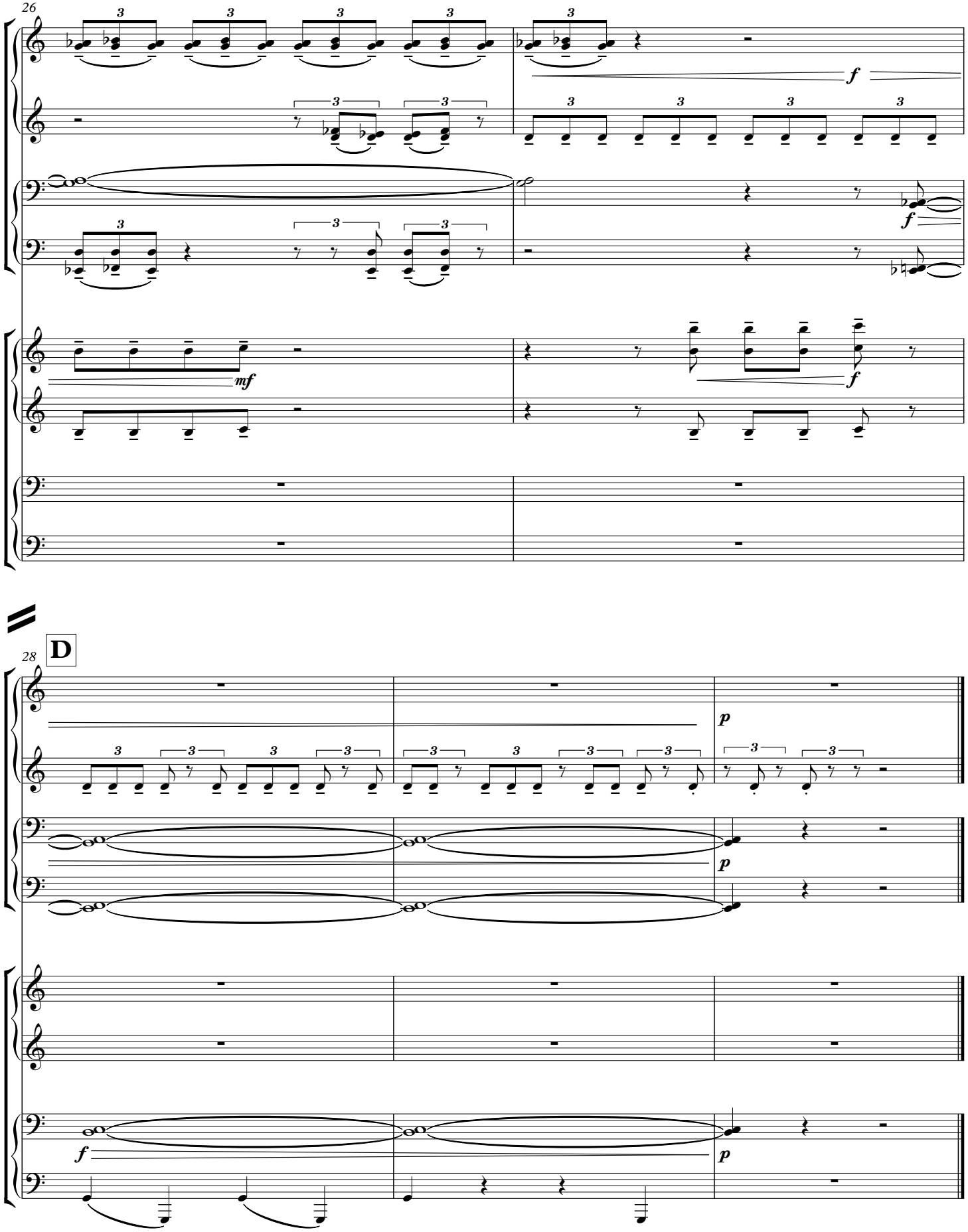
II. a la


Lullaby ♩=60
rubato
alone
A
Piano 1
Primo
Piano 1
Secondo
Piano 2
Primo
Piano 2
Secondo
soothing
soothing
6

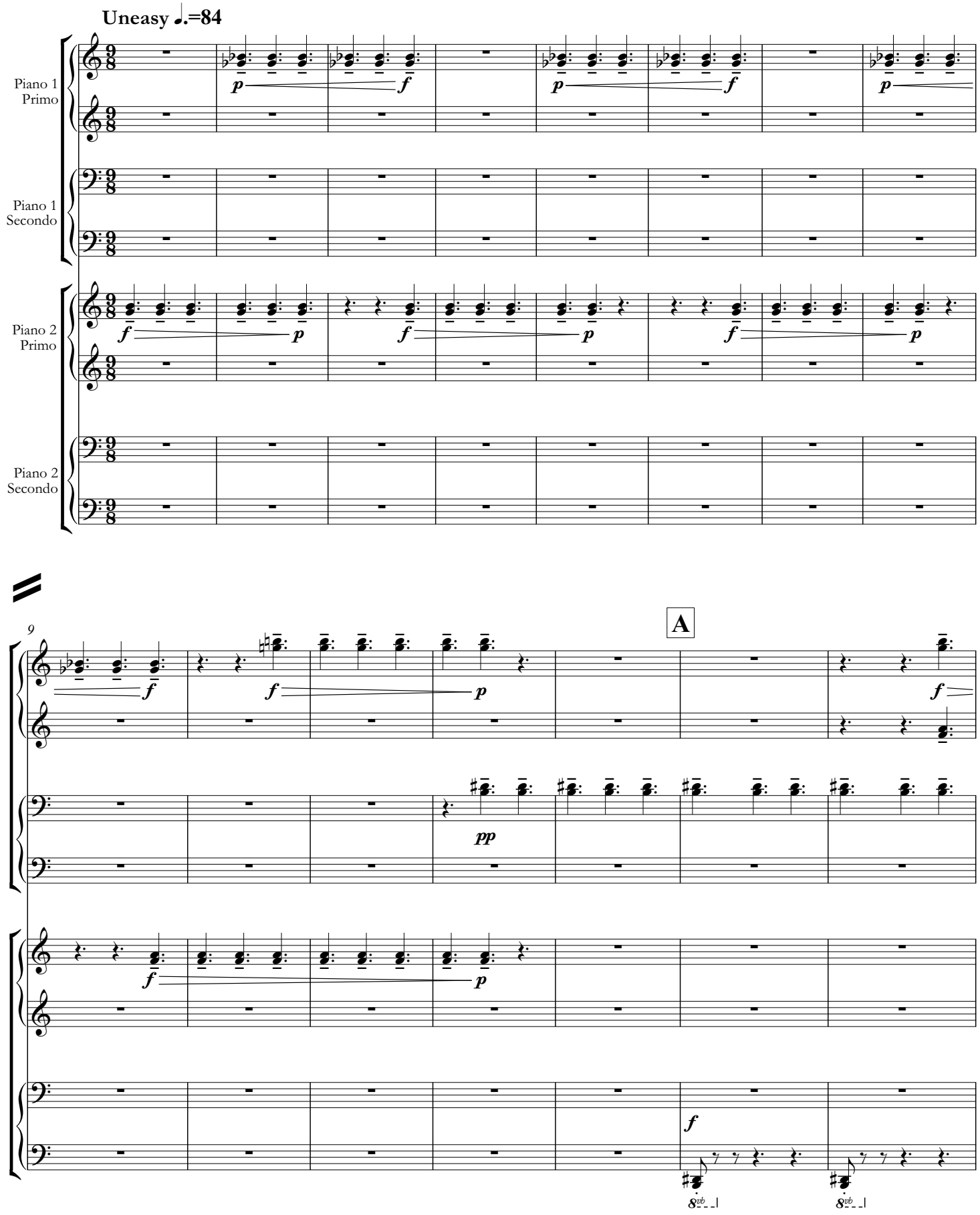

9
mp
p
mp
p
p
3
pp
3
3
3
3
3
3
3
3
B
12
pp
3
3
3
3
3
3
3
3
3
p

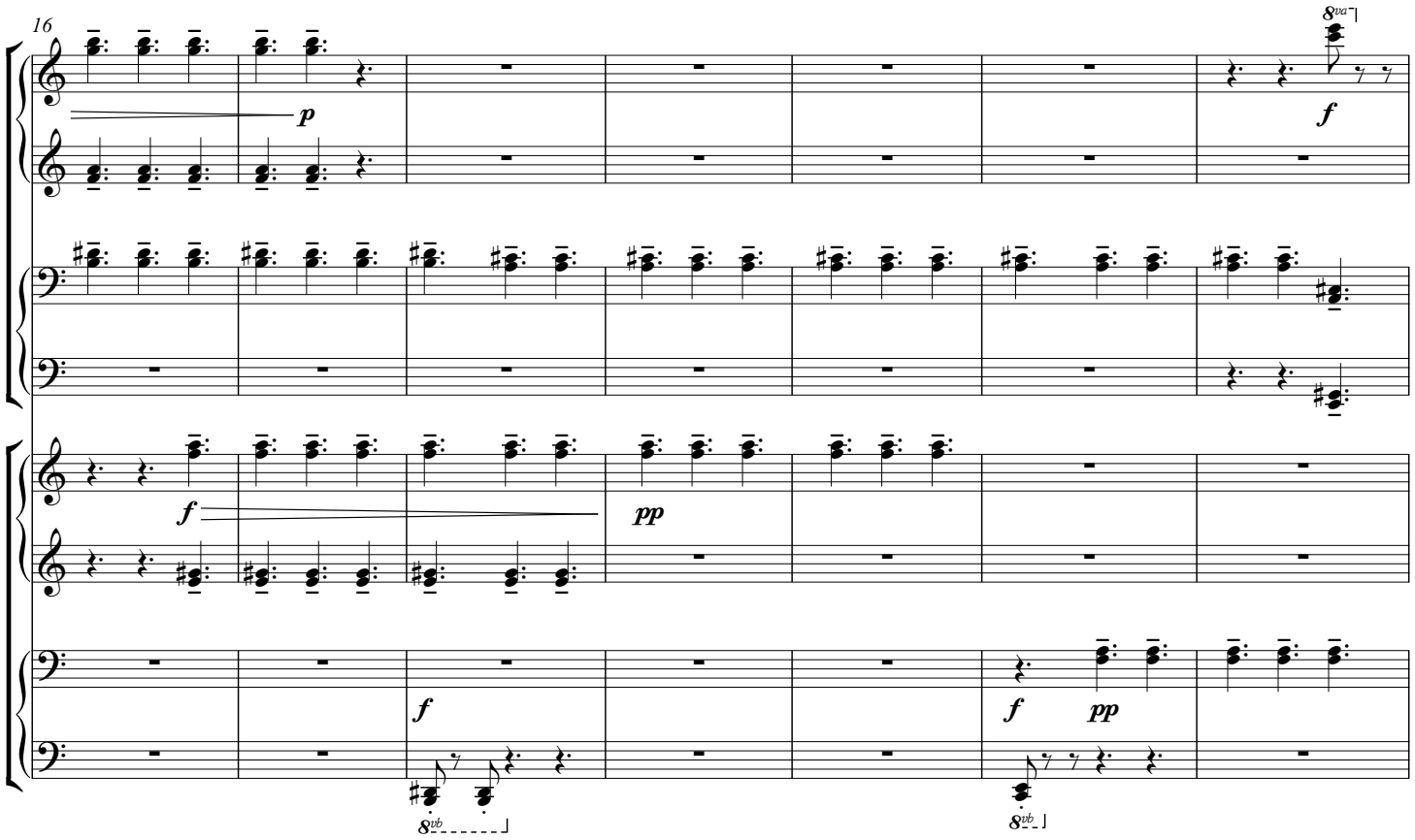

15
pp
p
17
8vb

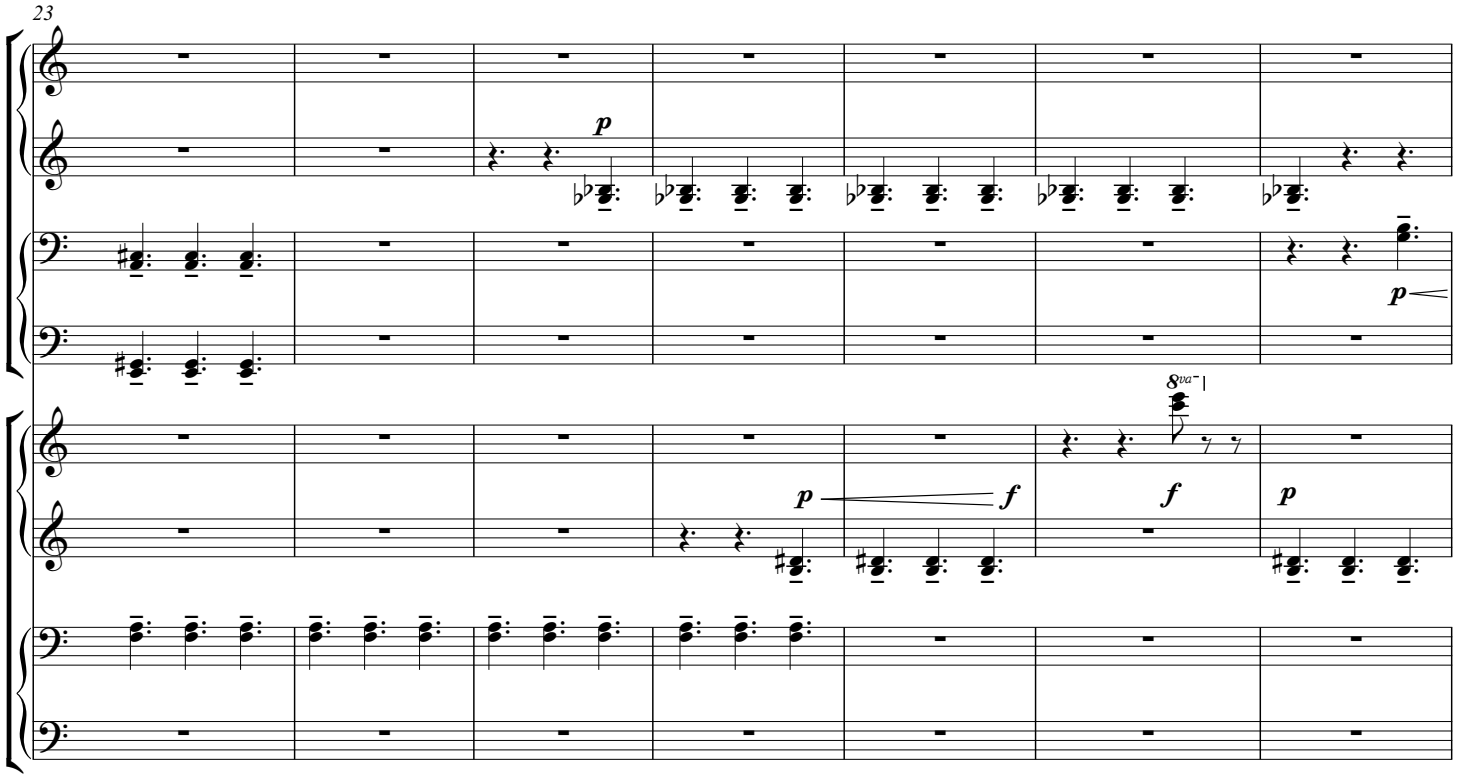

C
20
pp
p
23
p
mp
mp
mp
mp
mf

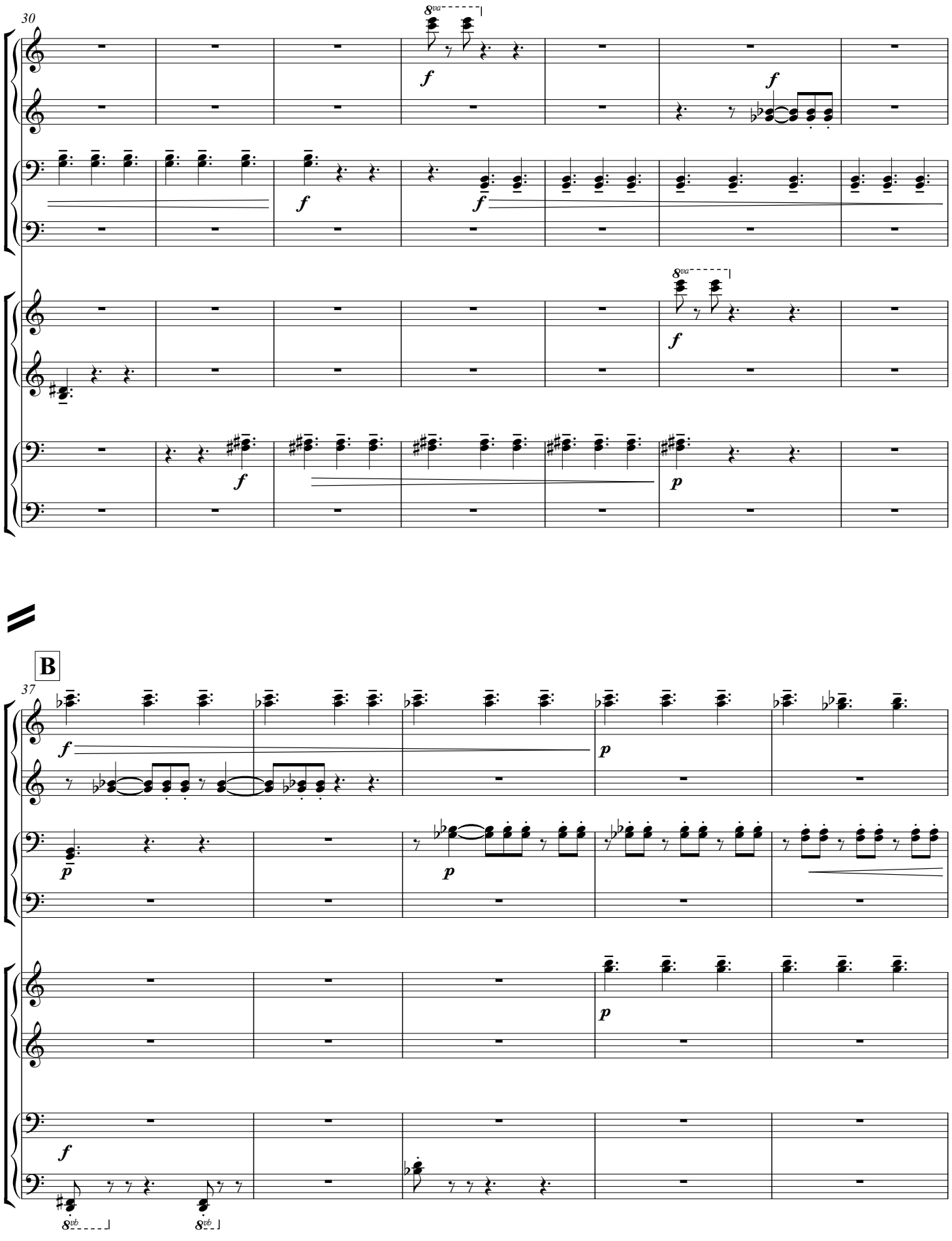

26
f
f
mf
f
28
D
p
p
f
p

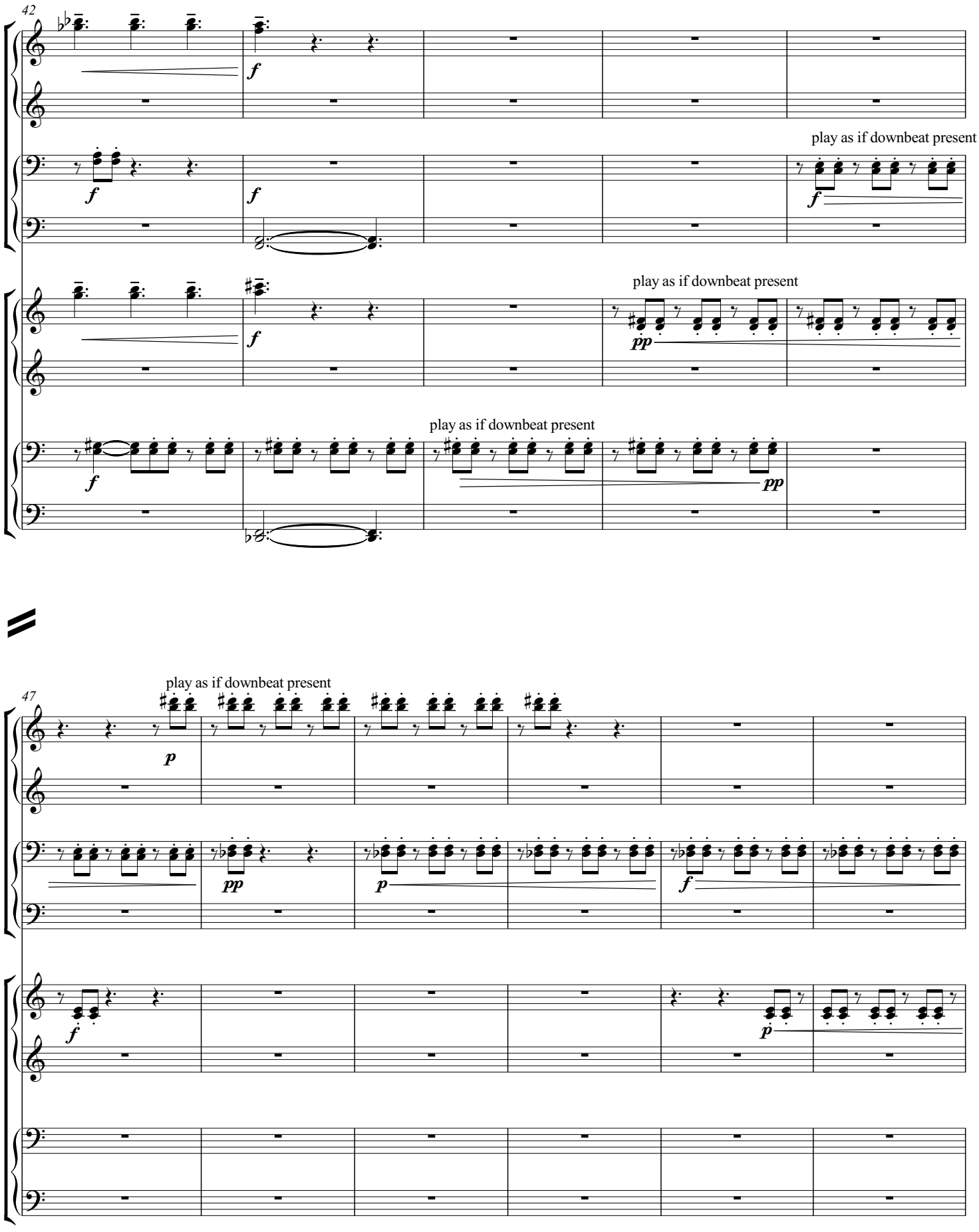
III. Echoes

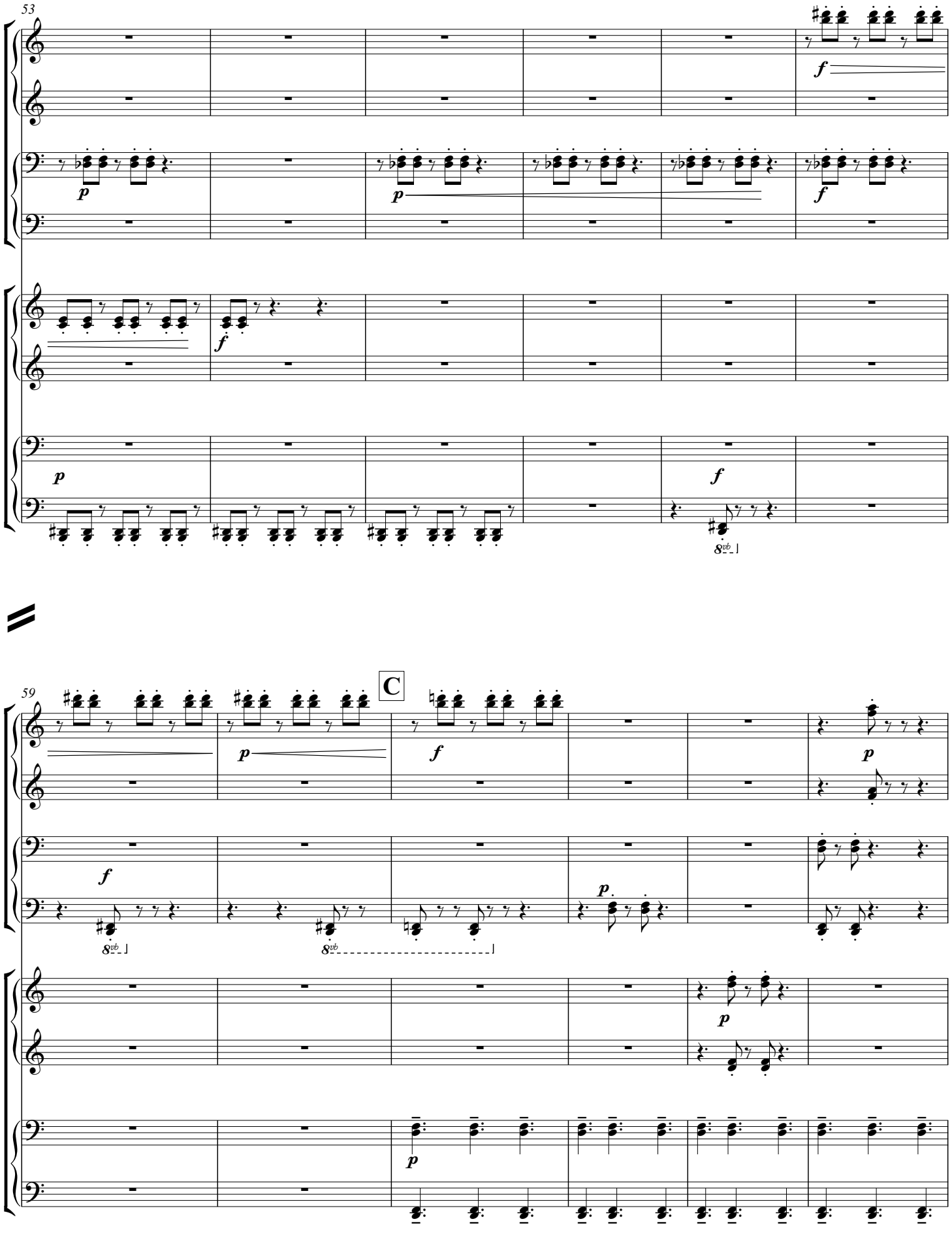

Uneasy ♩.=84
Piano 1 Primo
Piano 1 Secondo
Piano 2 Primo
Piano 2 Secondo
9
A

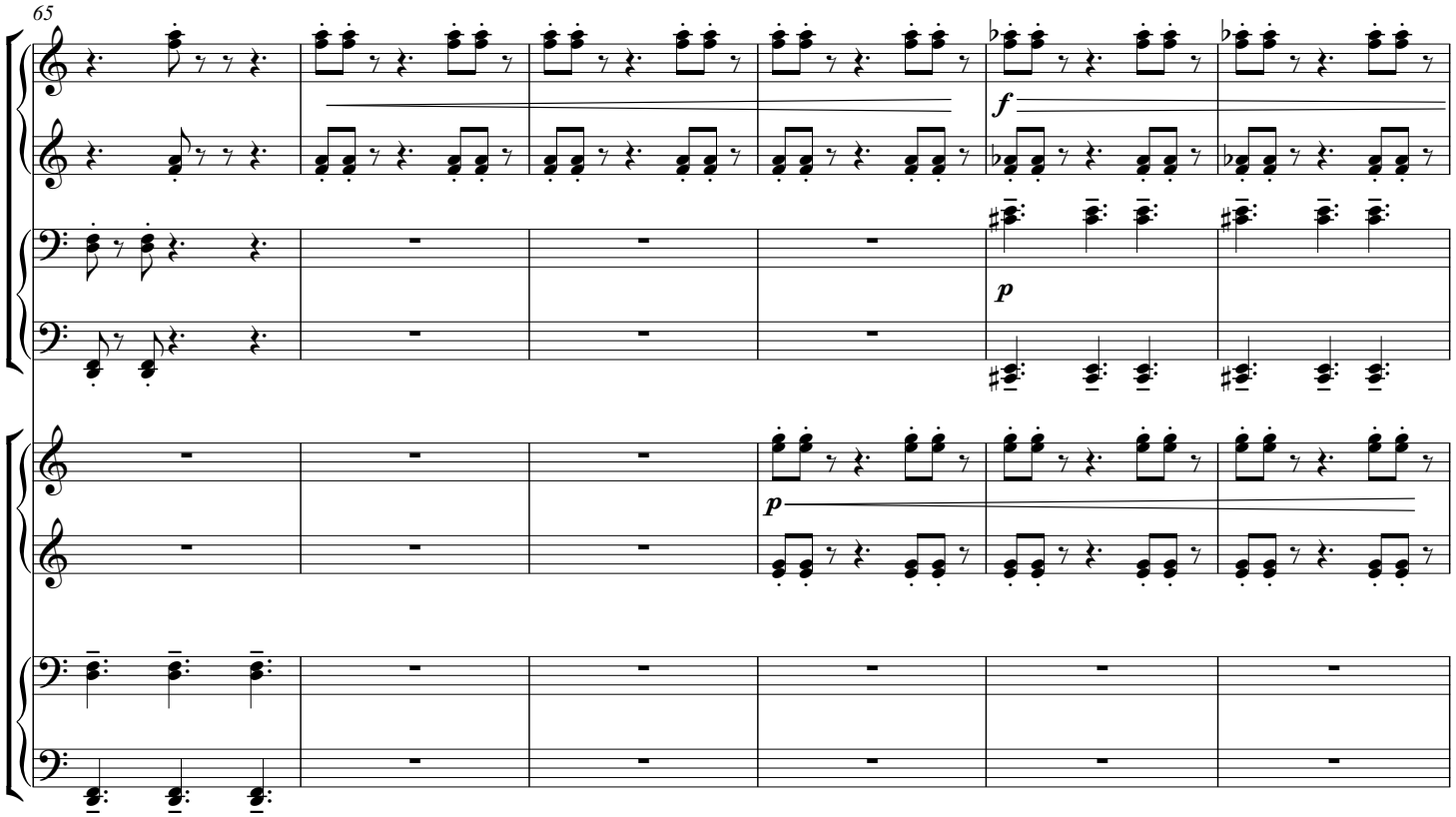

16
8va
p
f
f
pp
f
8vb
f
pp
8vb


23
p
p
p
f
8va
f
p


30
8va
f
f
f
f
8va
f
f
p
B
37
f
p
p
p
f
8vb
8vb


42
play as if downbeat present
play as if downbeat present
play as if downbeat present
47
play as if downbeat present


53
59
C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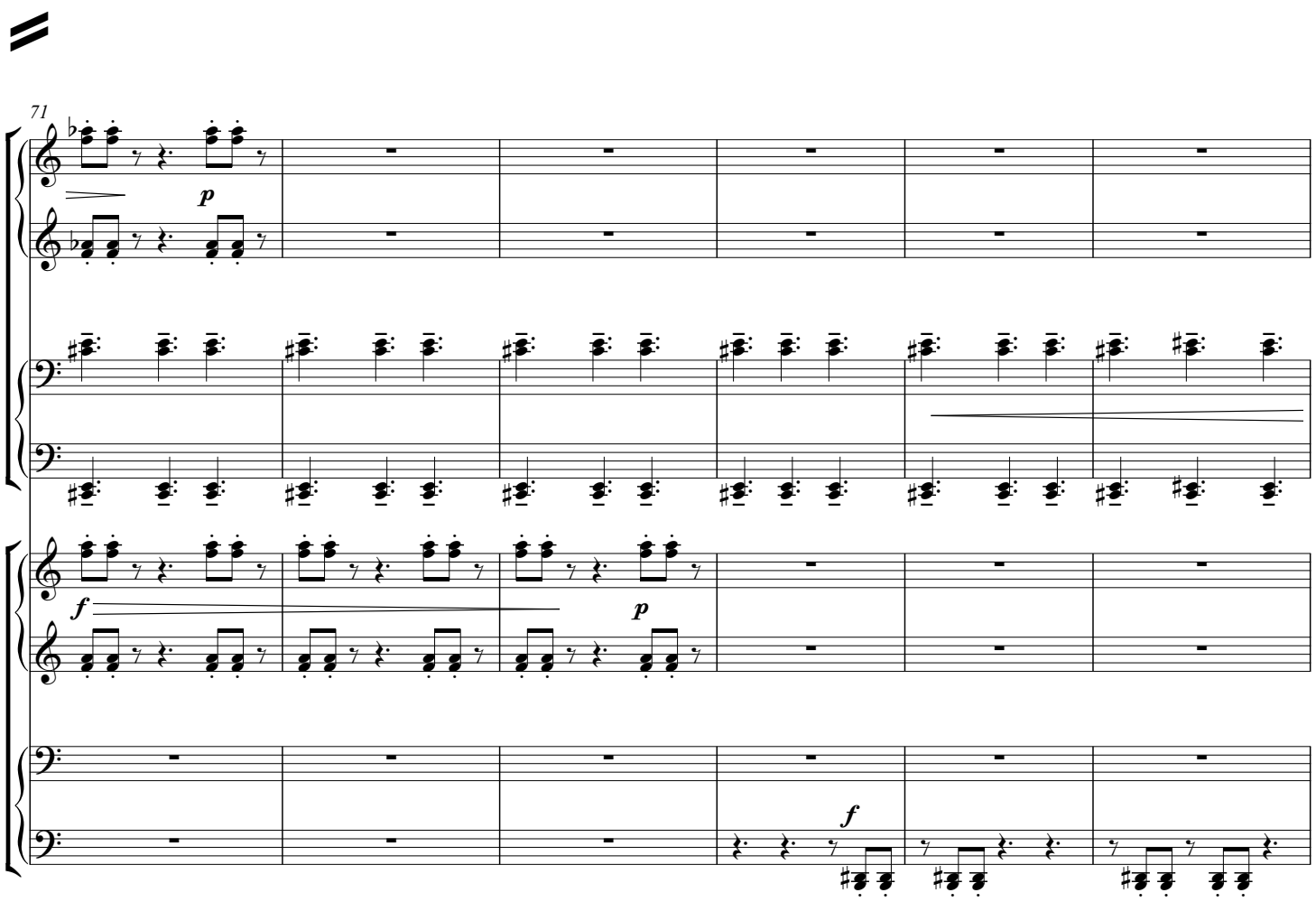
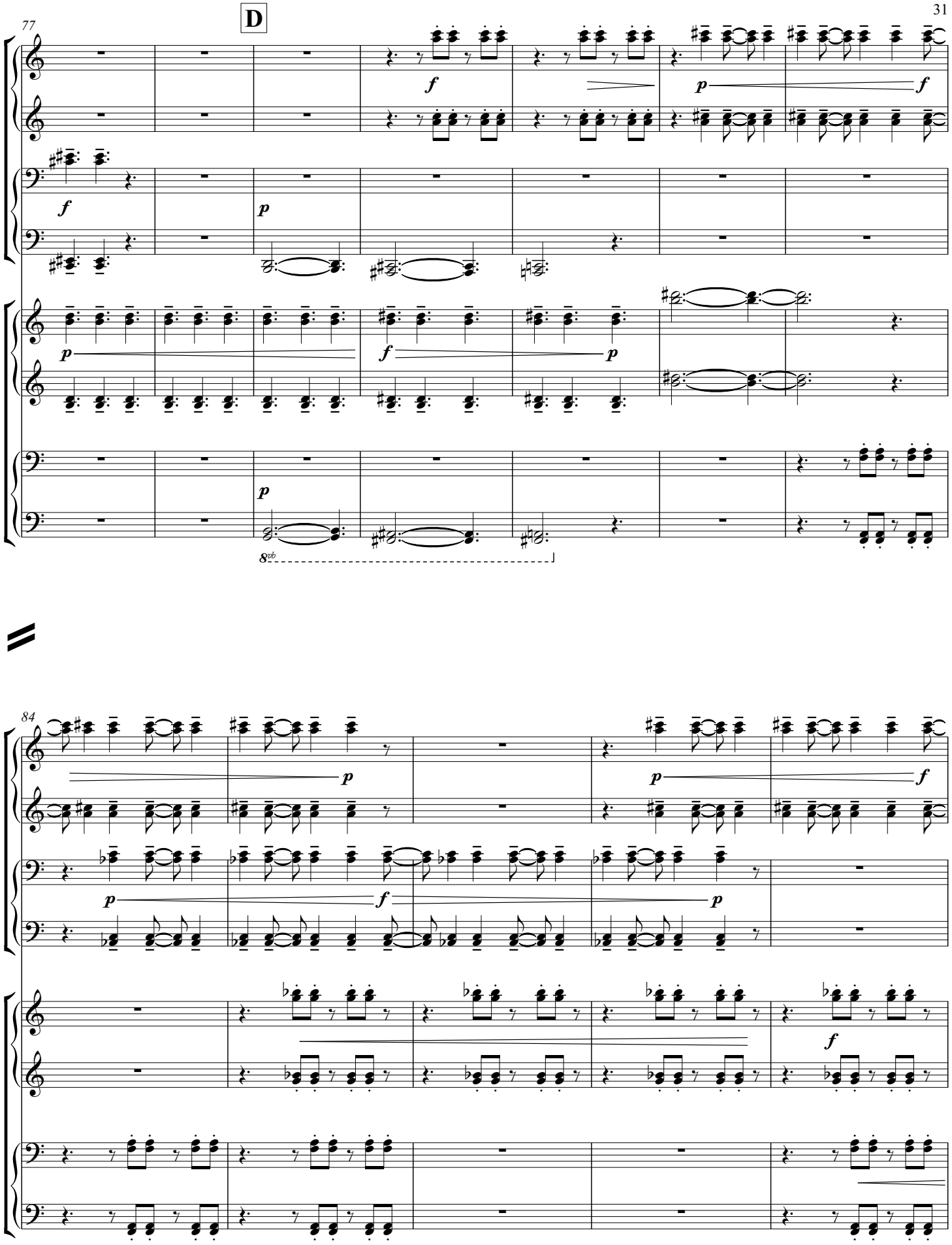
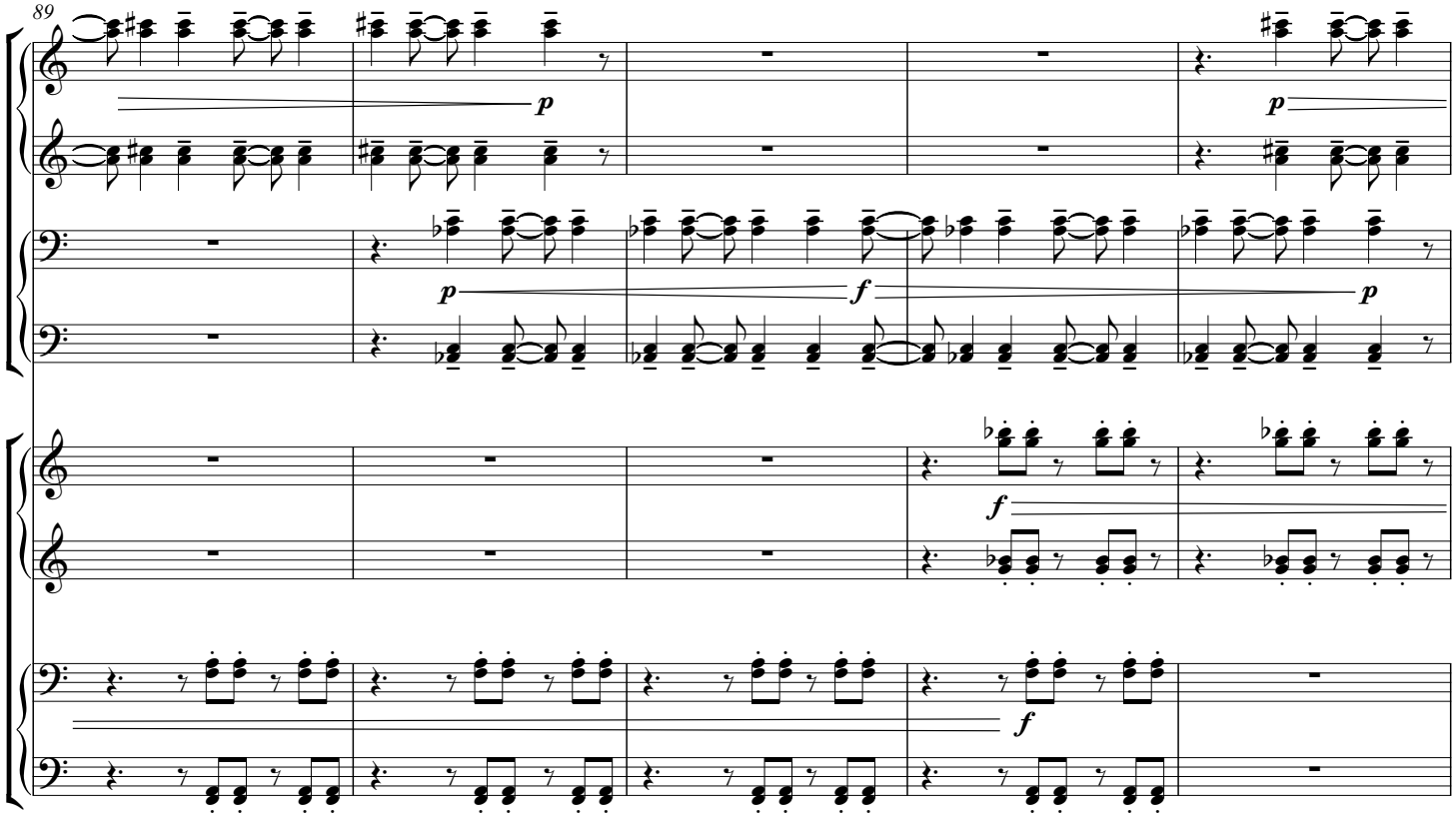
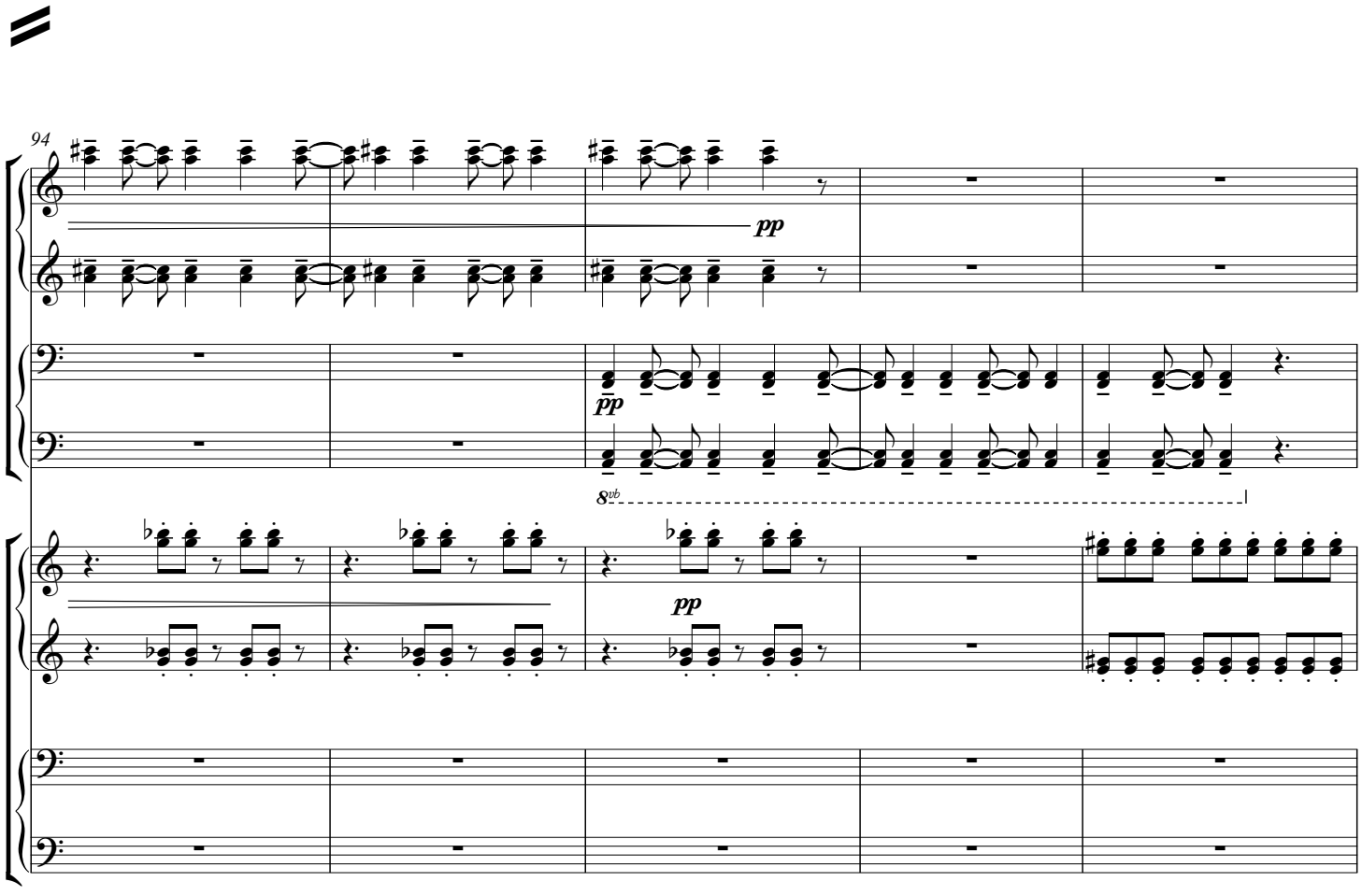
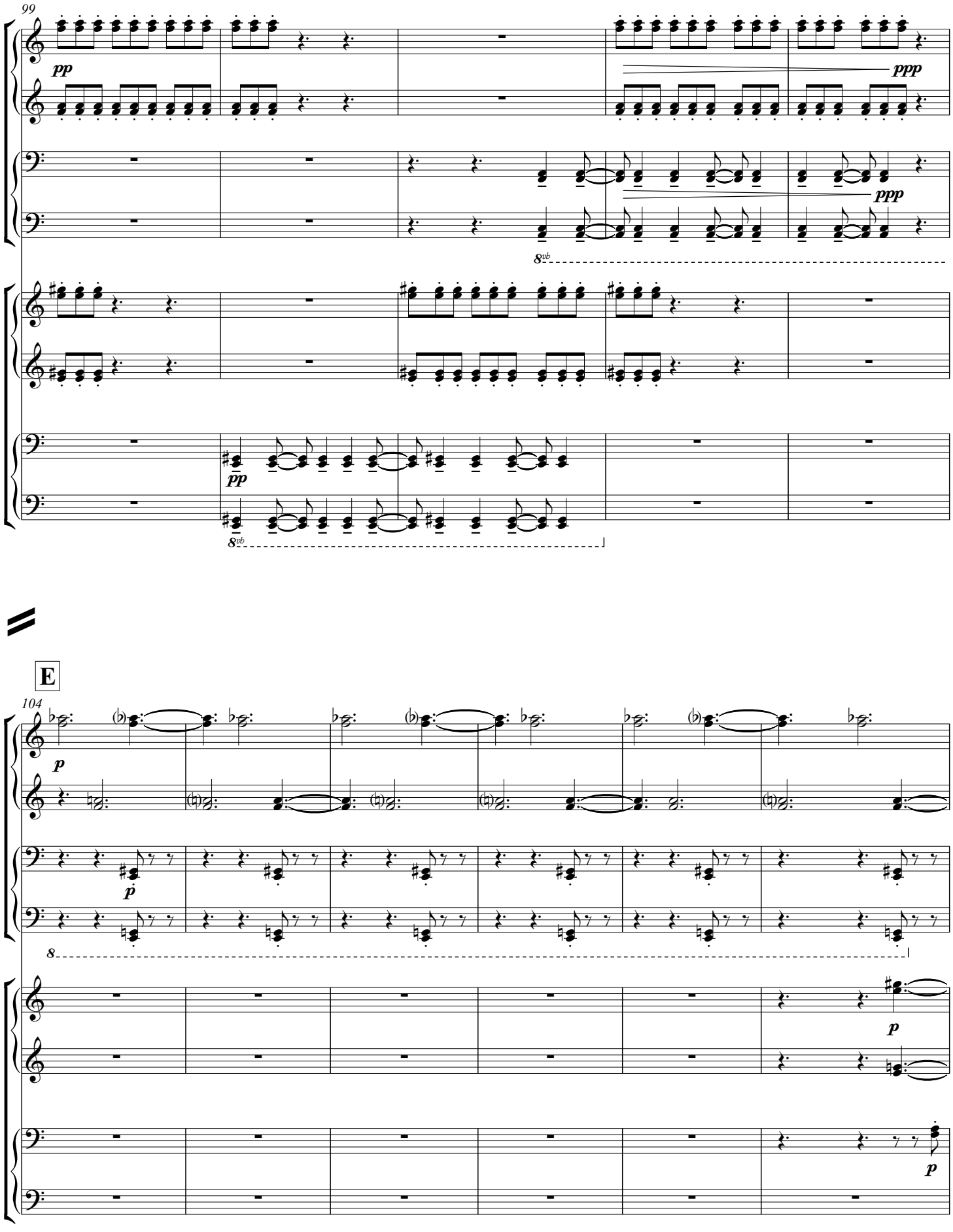
f
p
p

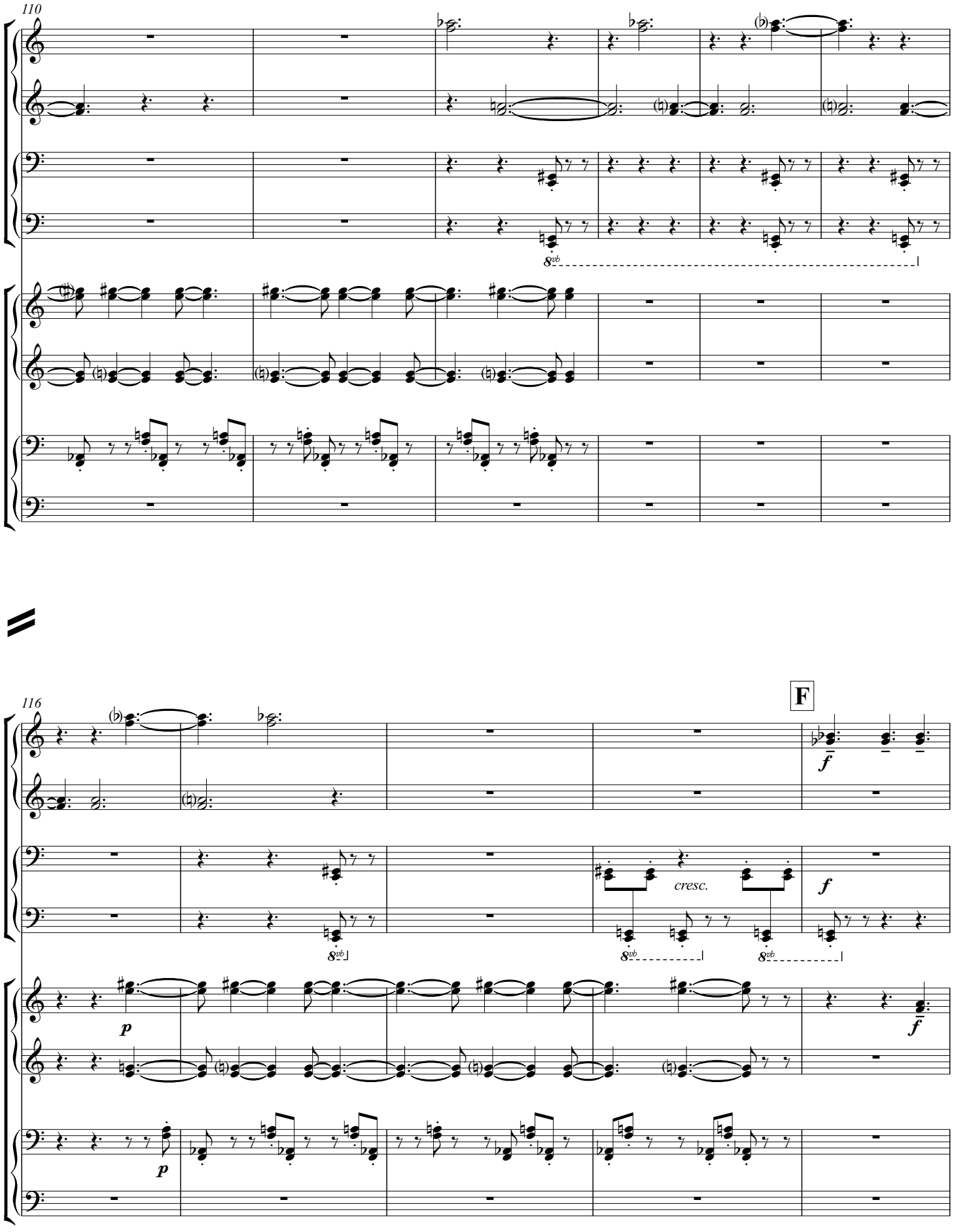

71
p
f
p
f

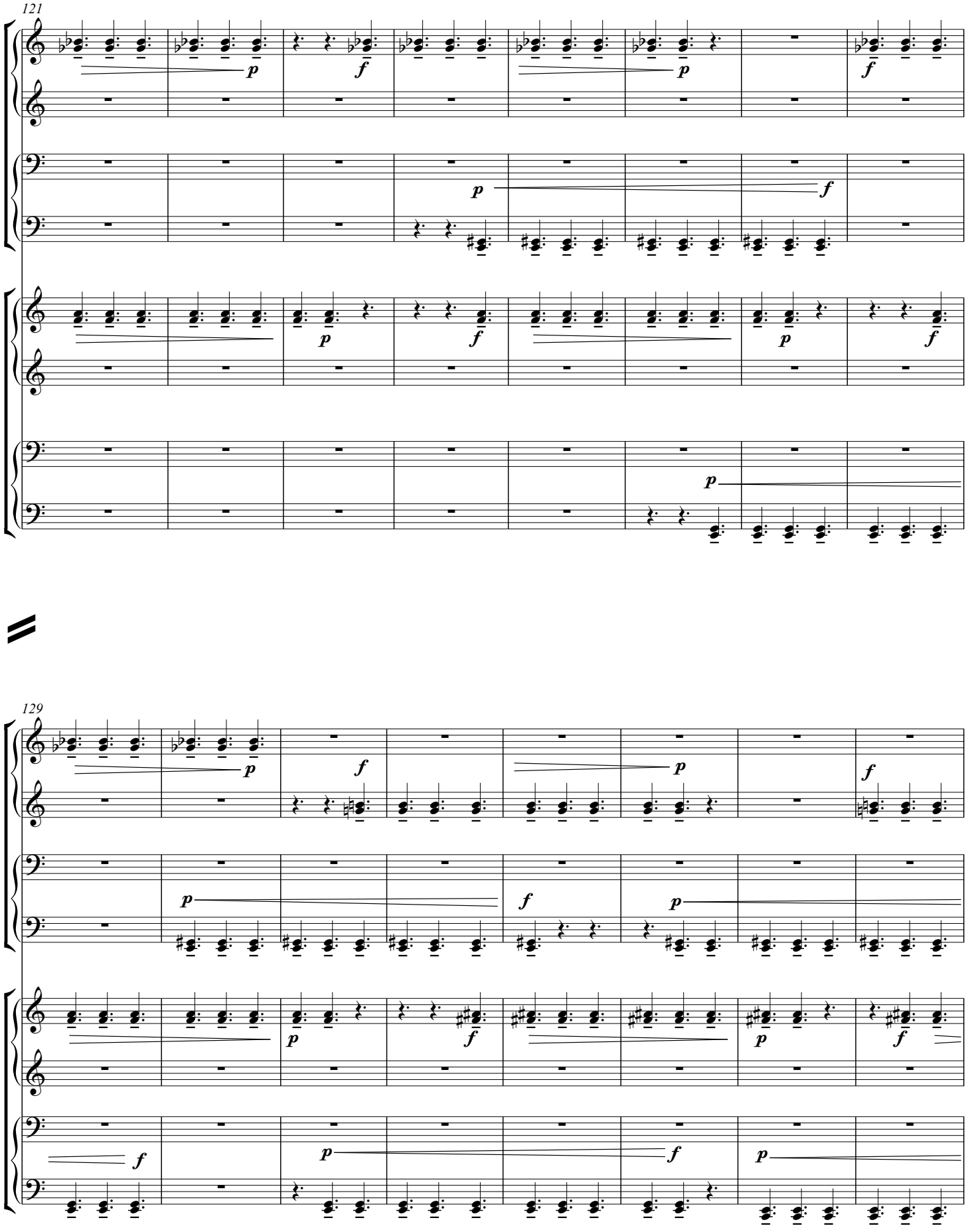

D
77
f
p
f
p
f
p
f
p
8vb
84
p
f
p
f
p
f

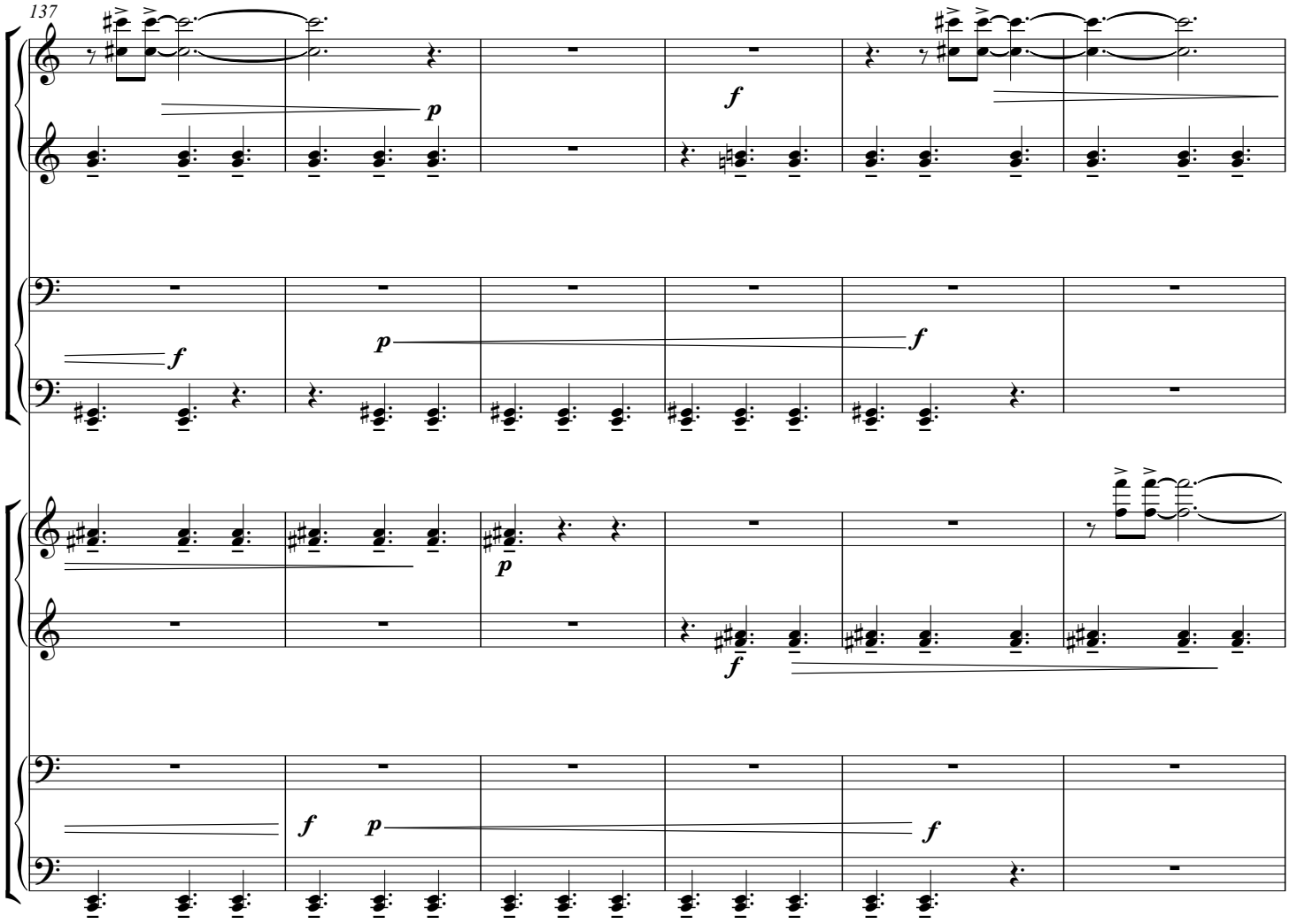

89
p
p
p
f
f
f

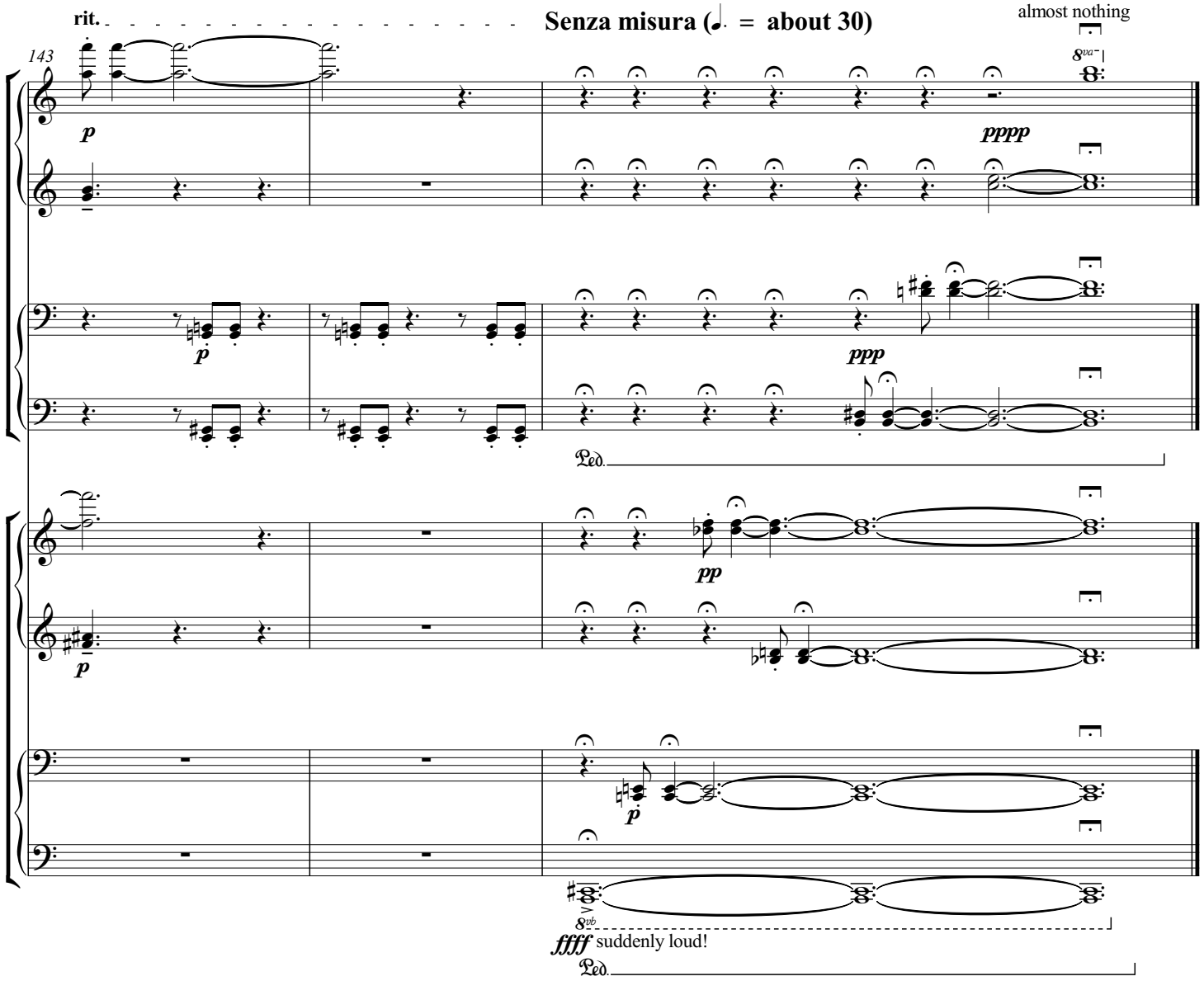

94
pp
pp
8vb
pp


99
pp
ppp
ppp
8vb
pp
8vb
E
104
p
p
8
p
p

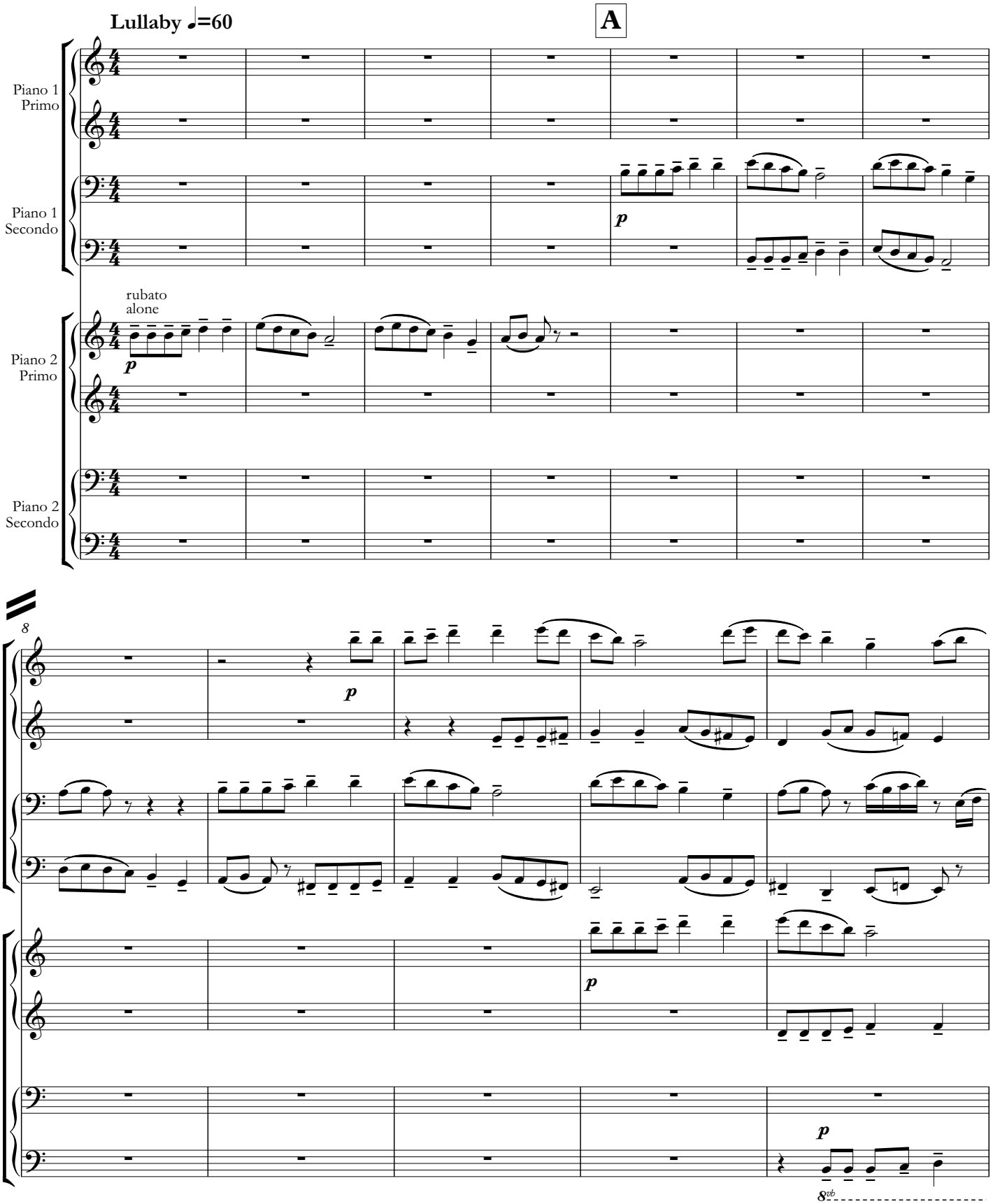

110
8vb
116
F
f
cresc.
p

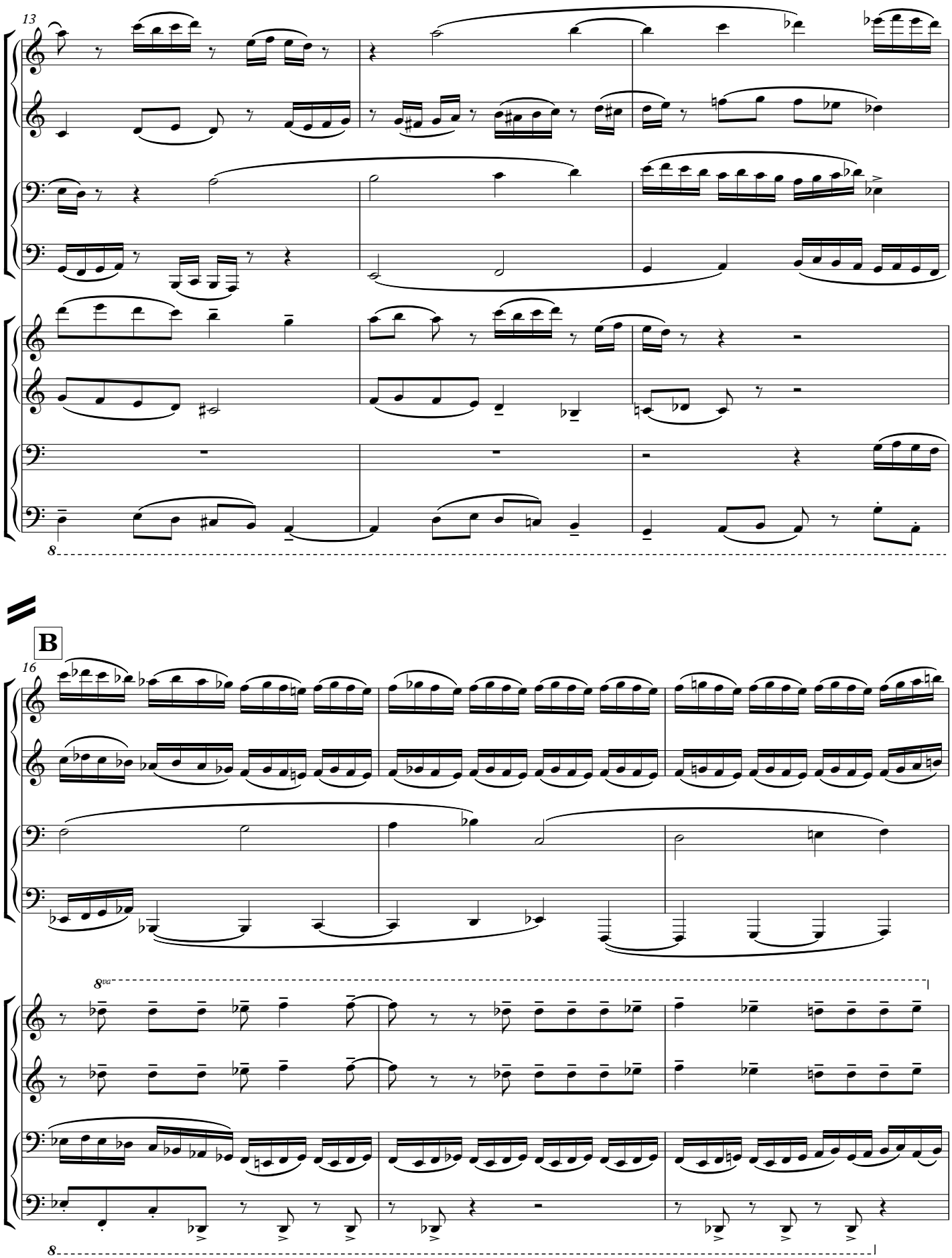

121
129

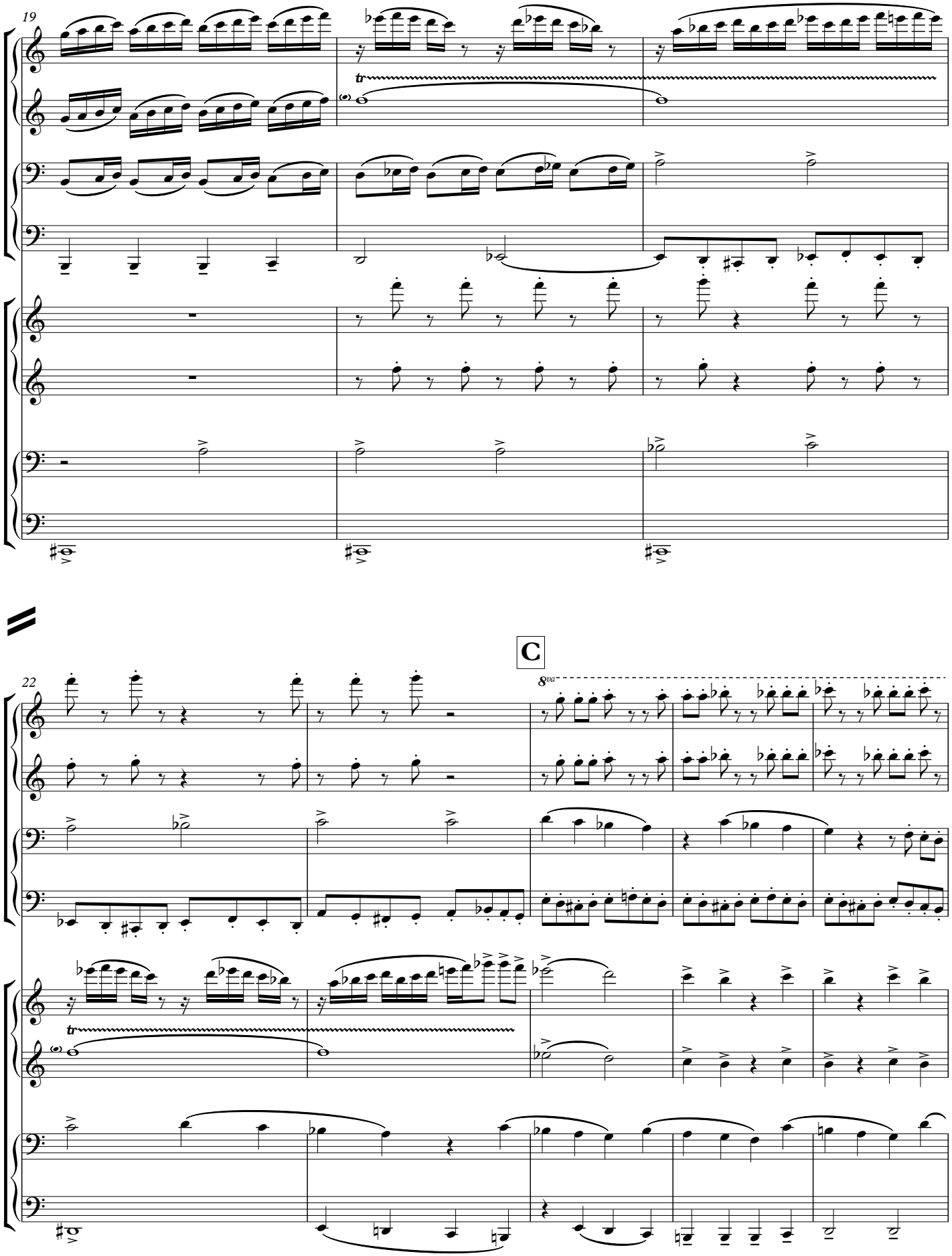

137
p
f
f
p
f
f
p
f
p
f
f
p
f

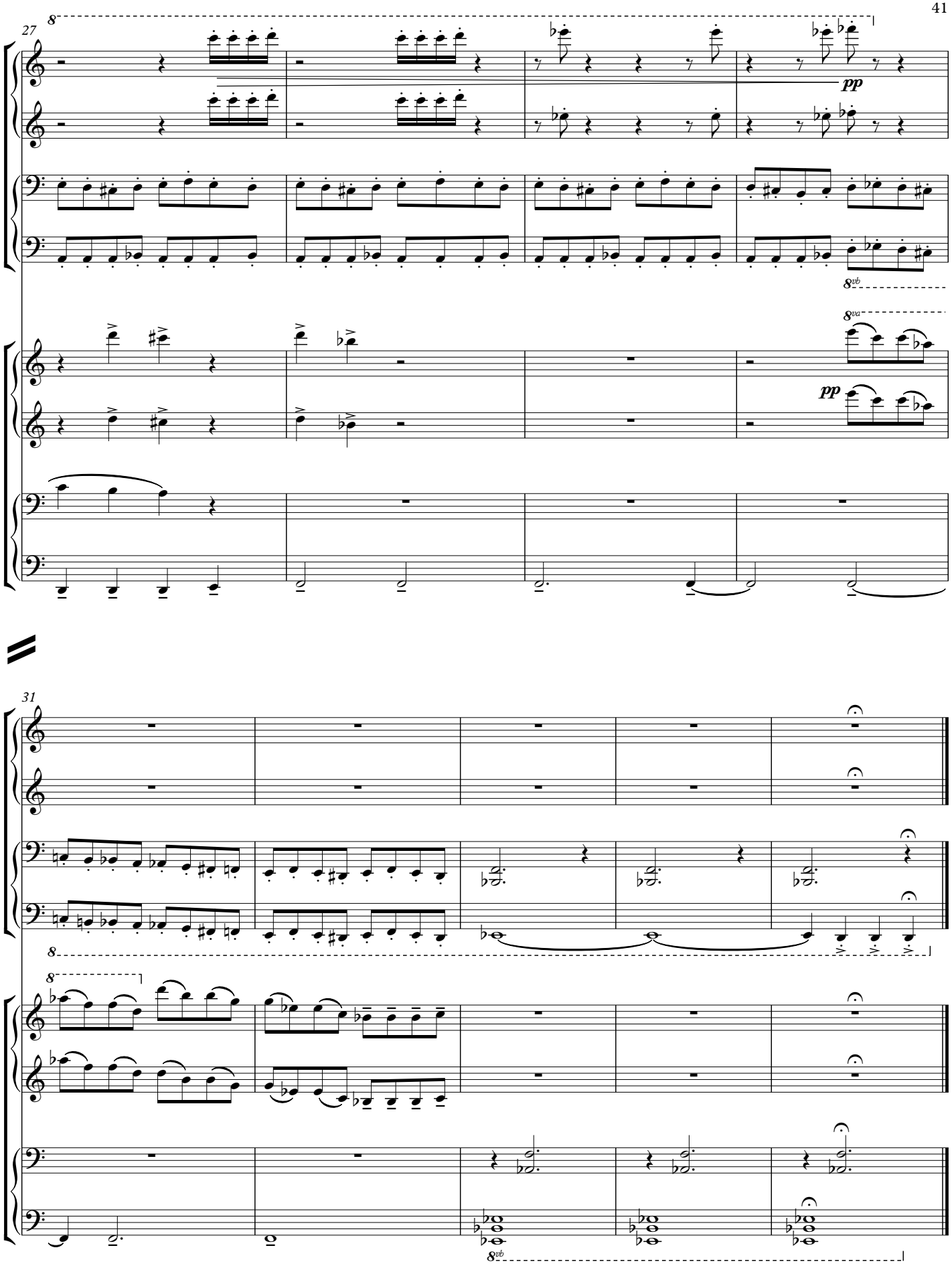

rit.
Senza misura (♩. = about 30)
almost nothing
143
p
pppp
p
ppp
Ped.
pp
p
p
8vb
ffff suddenly loud!
Ped.

IV. ru ru

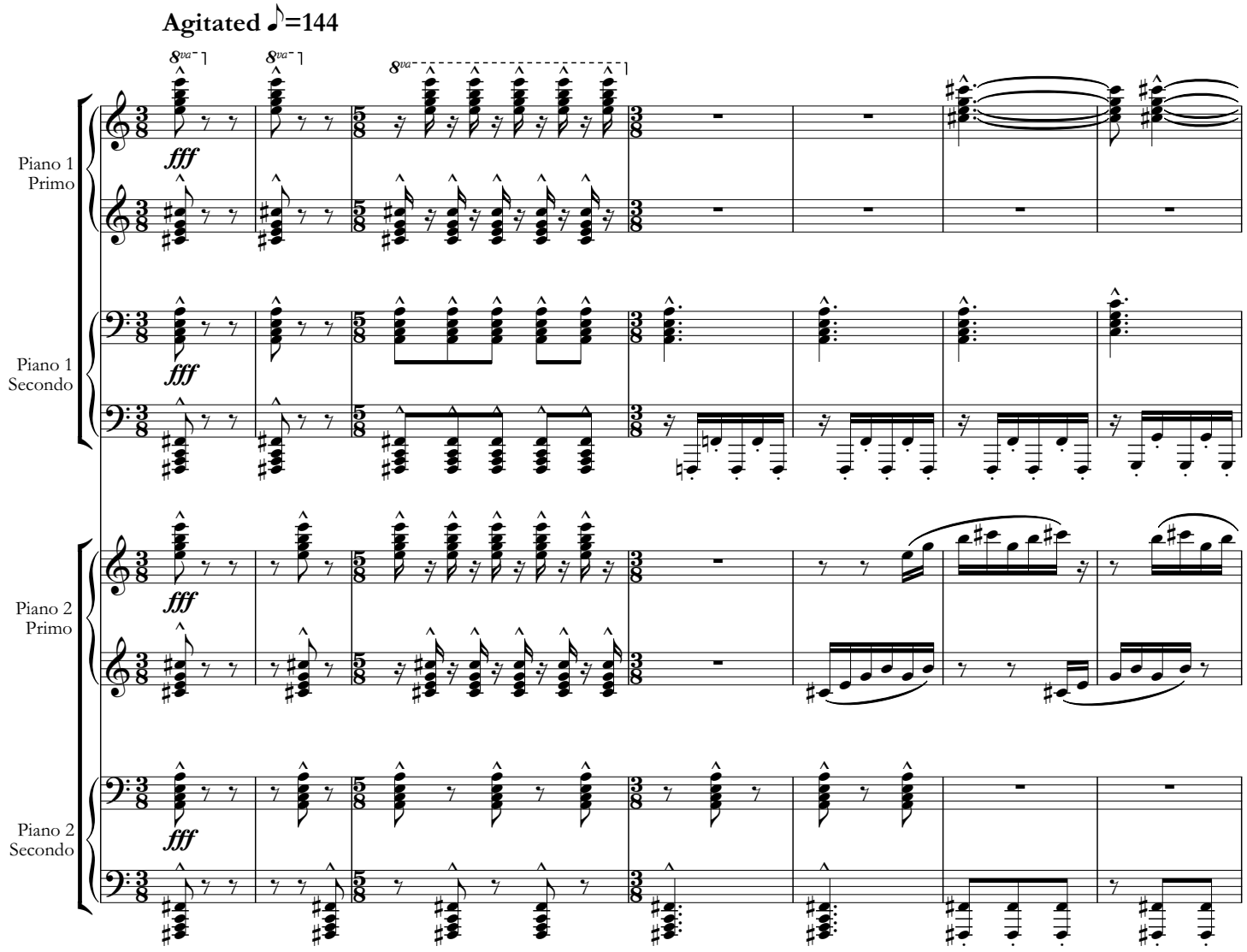

Lullaby ♩=60
A
Piano 1 Primo
Piano 1 Secondo
Piano 2 Primo
Piano 2 Secondo
rubato alone
p
8
8vb

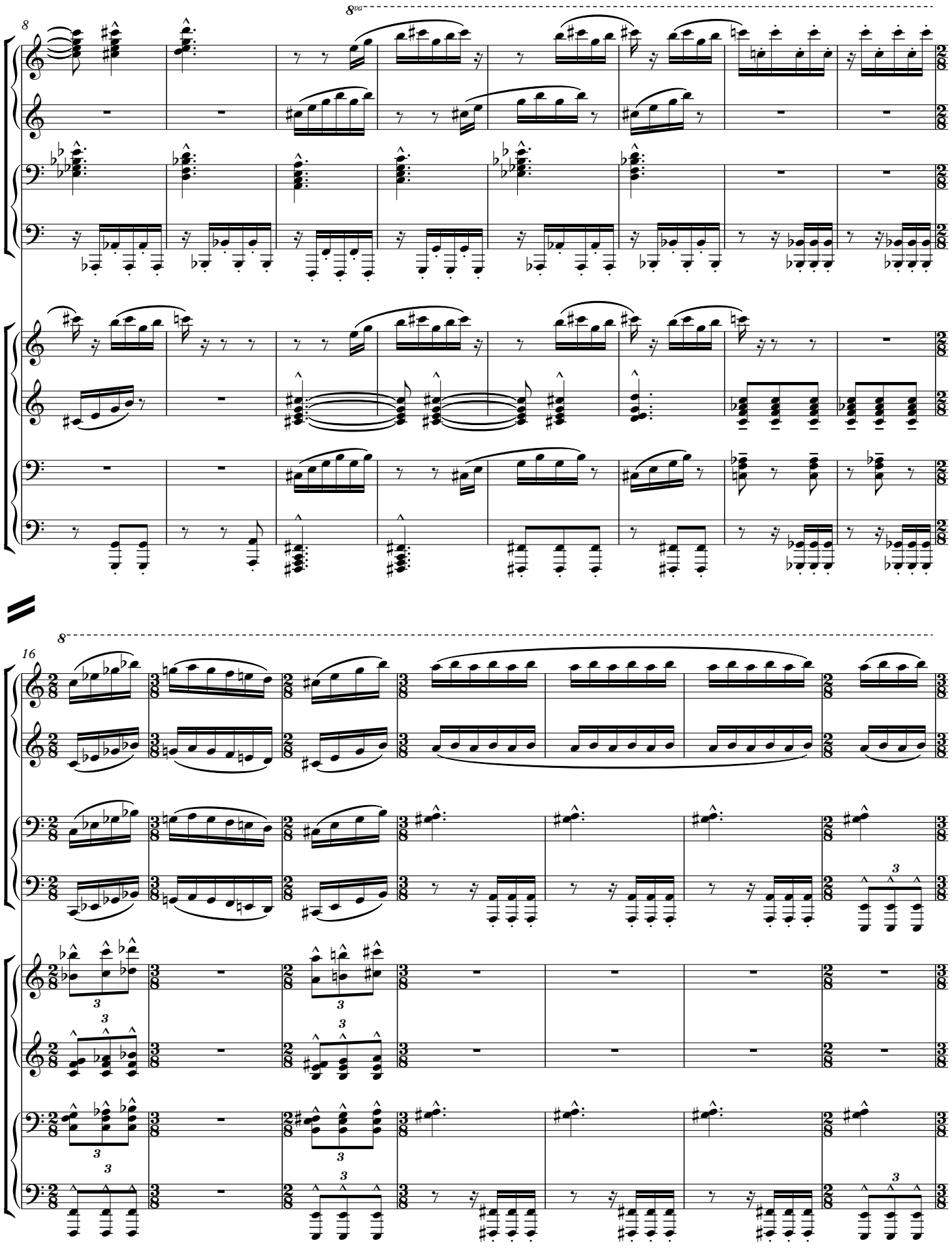

13
8
B
16
8va
8

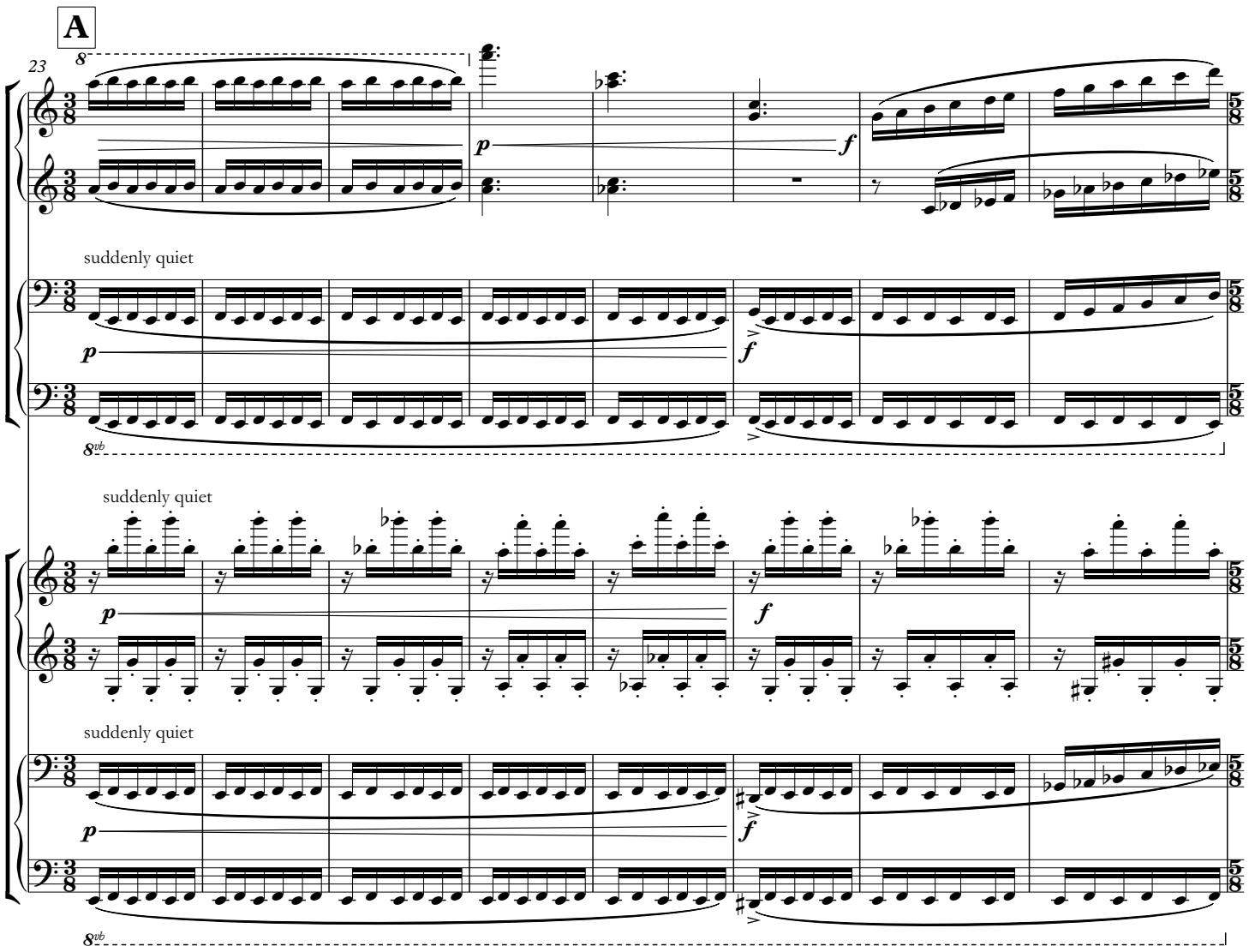

19
22
C
8va

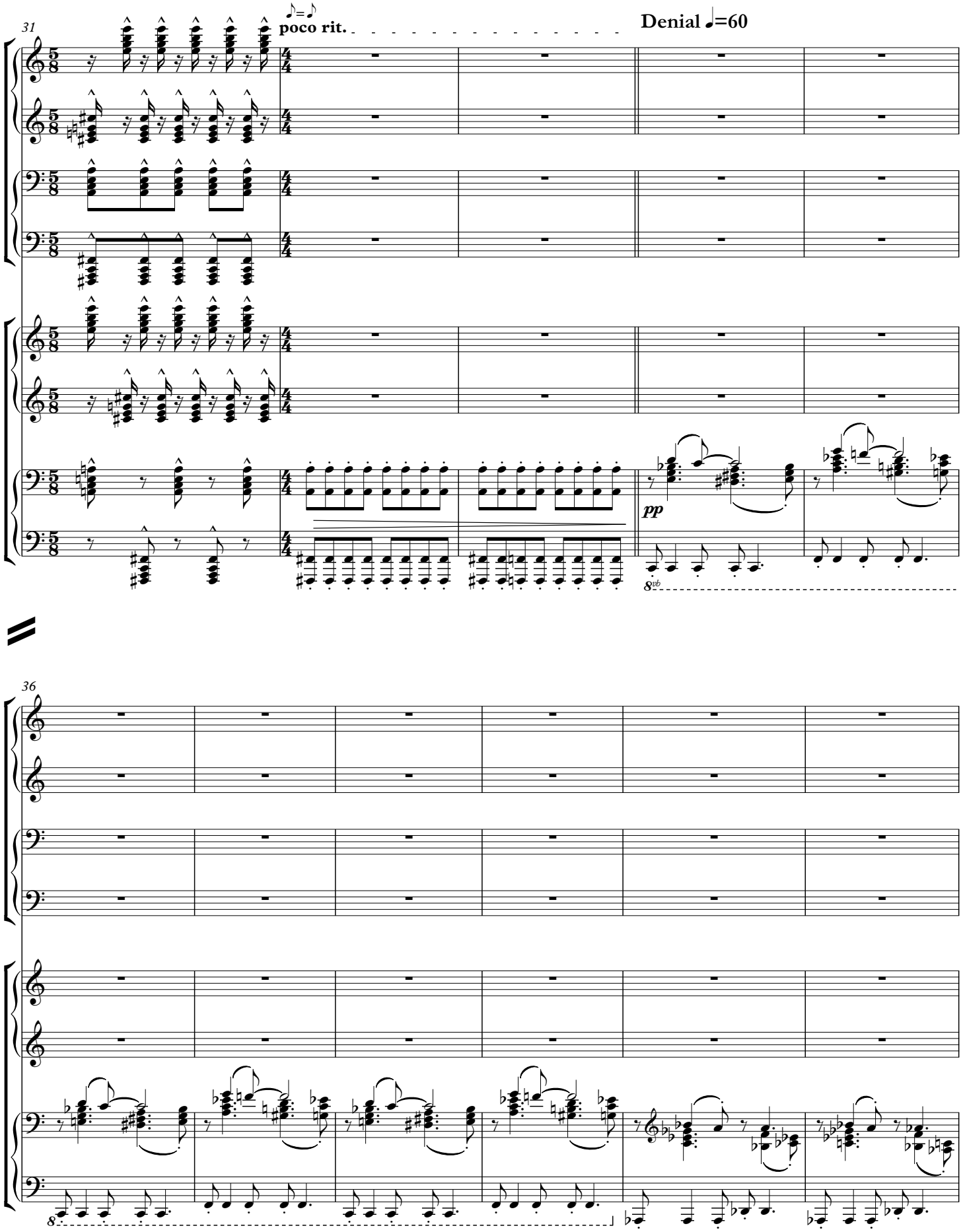

27
8
pp
8vb
8va
pp
31
8
8
8vb

V. In Distress




8va
8
16


A
23
8
p
f
suddenly quiet
p
f
8vb
suddenly quiet
p
f
suddenly quiet
p
f
8vb


31
poco rit.
Denial ♩=60
pp
8vb
36
8

B

42

8va

pp

8va

8va

pp

8va

8vb

46

molto accel.

p

8va

8va

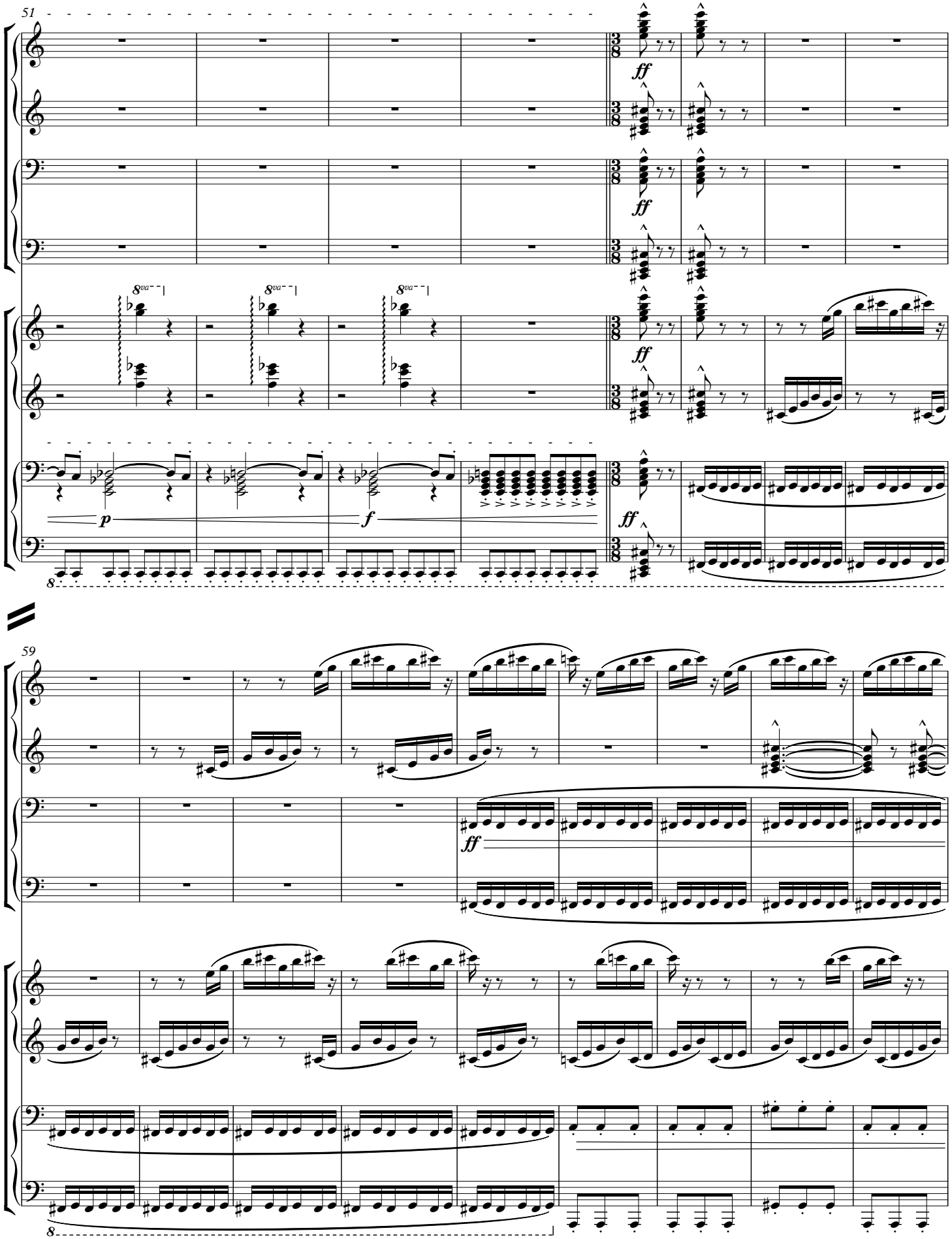
8va

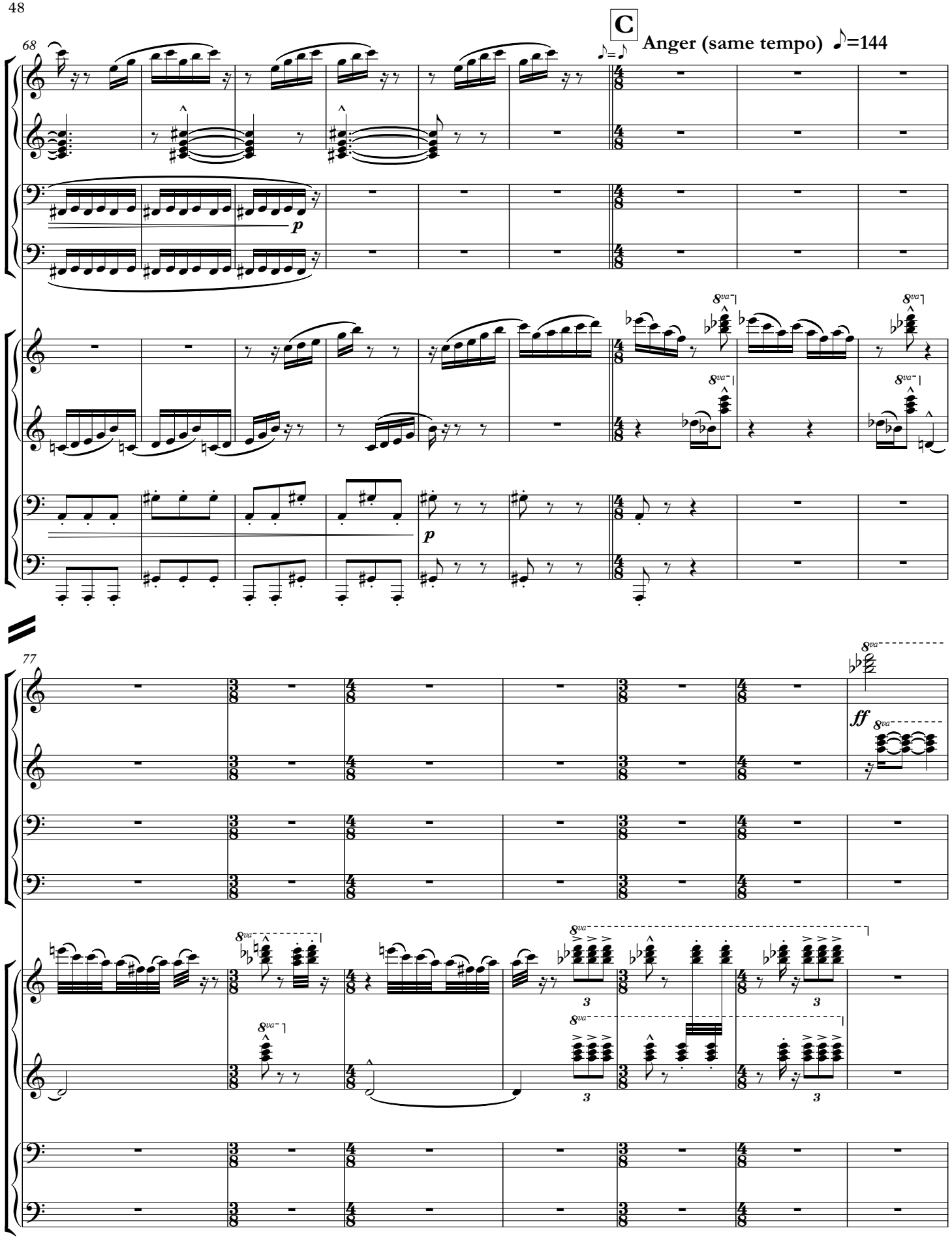
8va

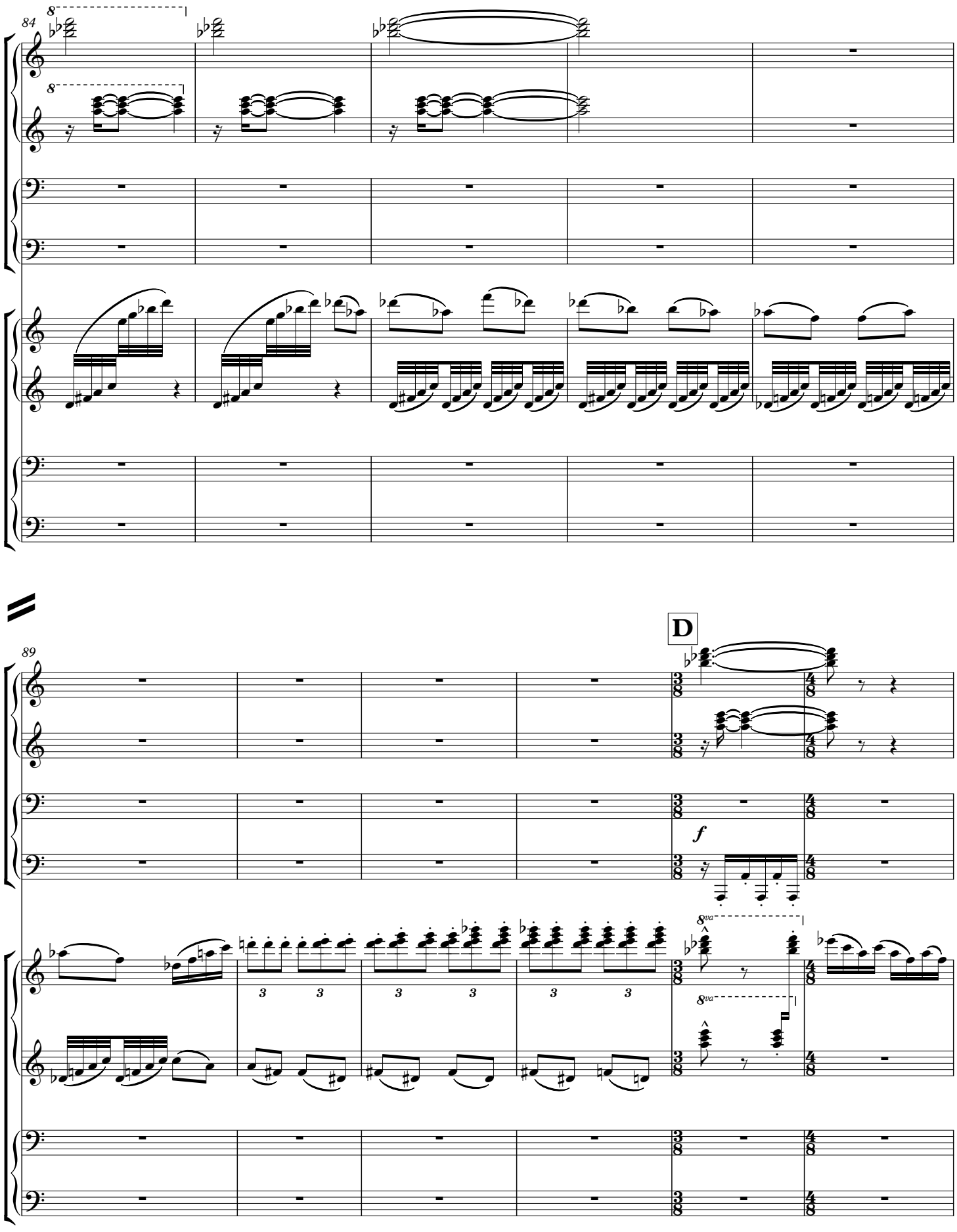
molto accel.

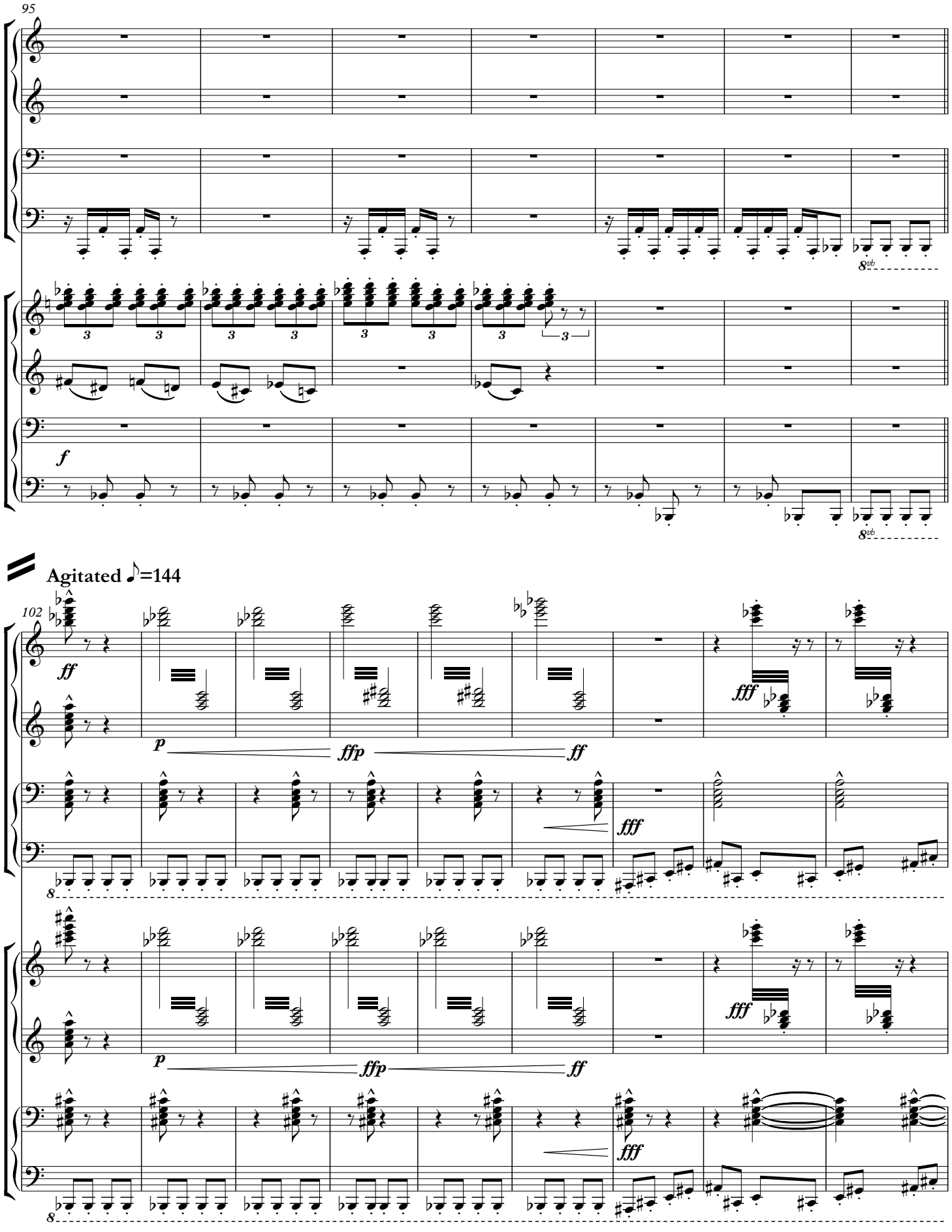
8vb

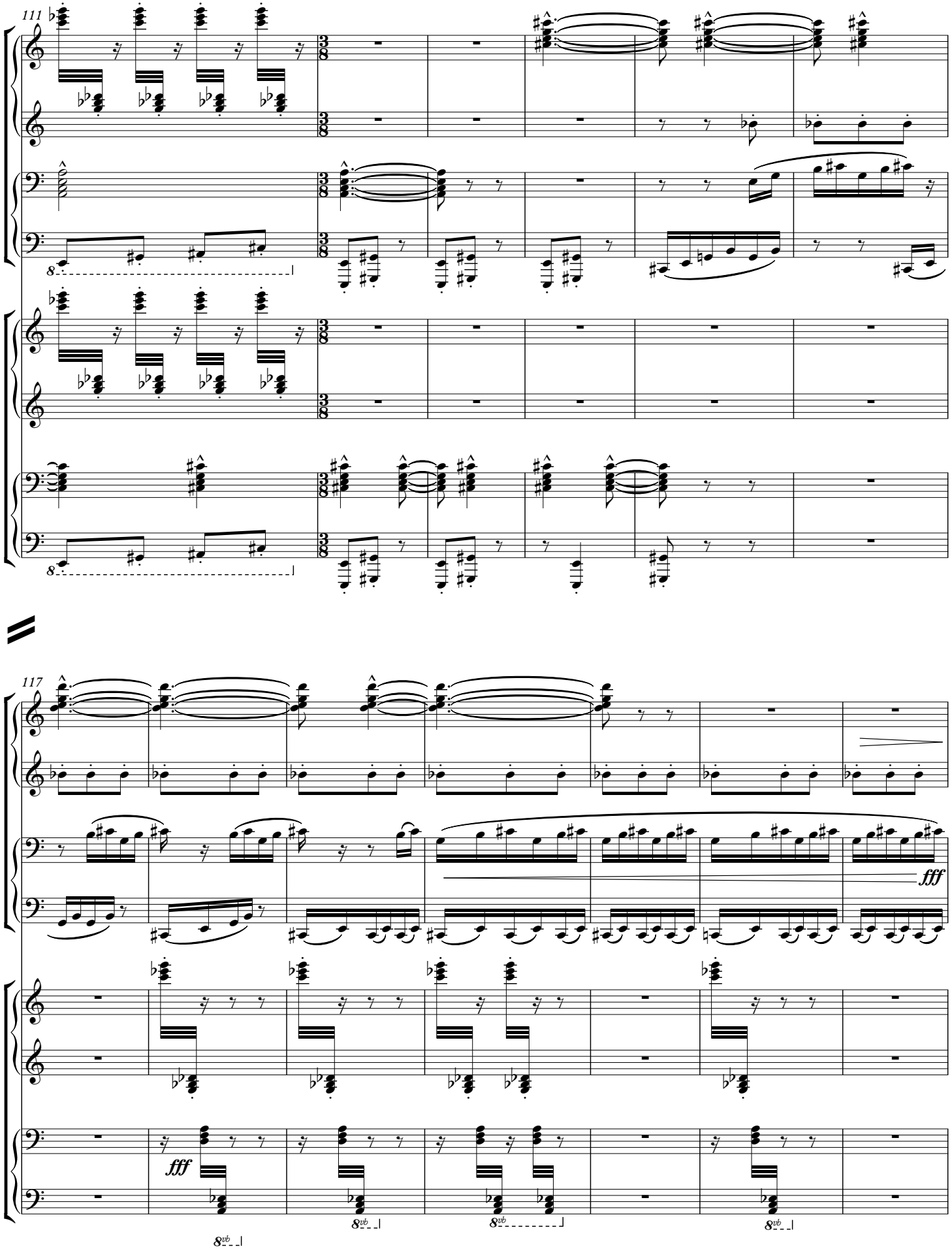
Agitated ♪=144




68
C
Anger (same tempo) ♪=144
p
8va
77
ff
3


84
8
8
89
D
f
3
3
3
3
3
3
8va
8va


95
f
8vb
Agitated ♪=144
102
ff
p
ffp
ff
fff
8


111
117
fff
fff

124 **E**

rit.

mf *p* *pp*

p subito

p

p

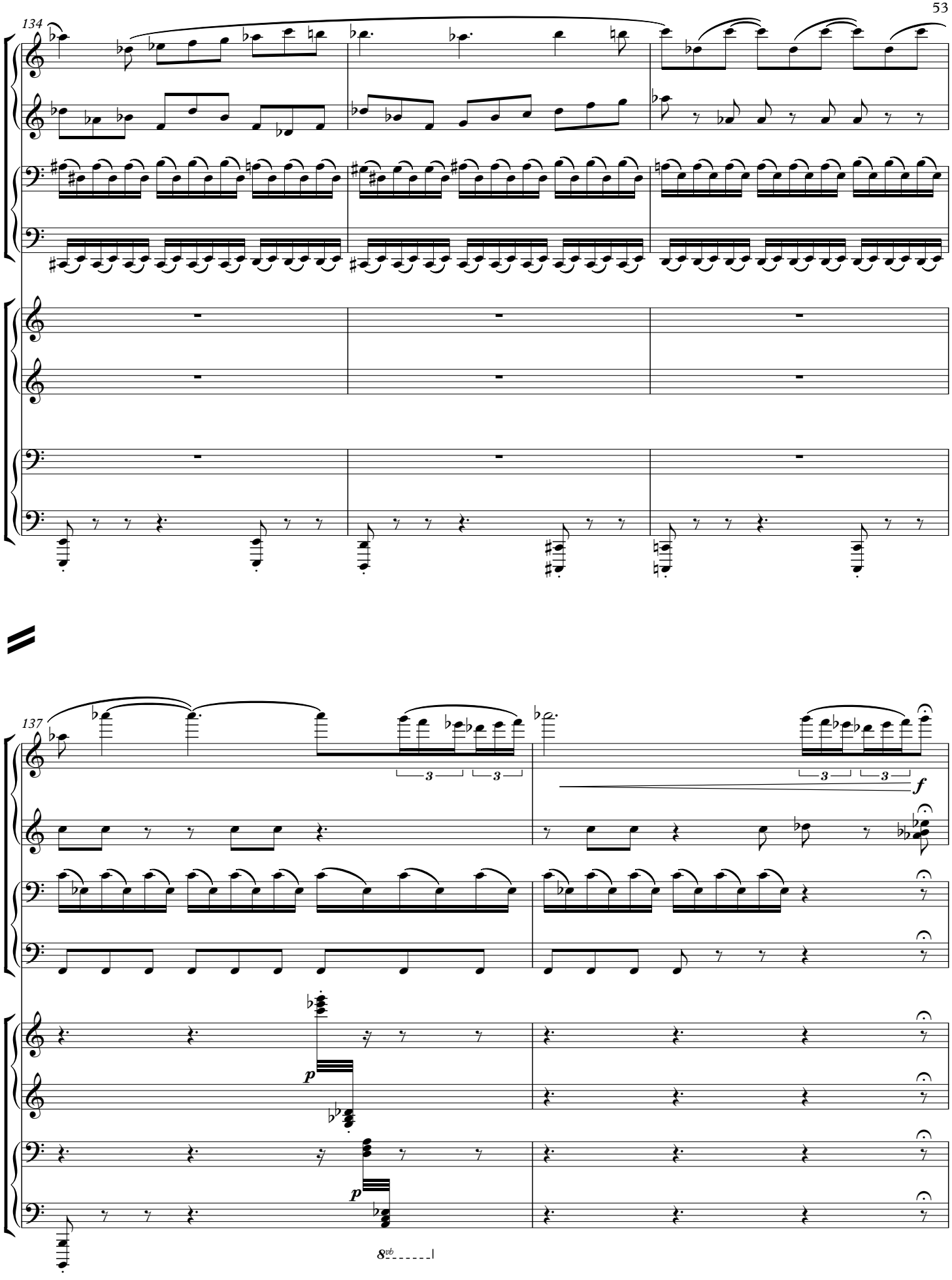
8vb 8vb 8vb 8vb

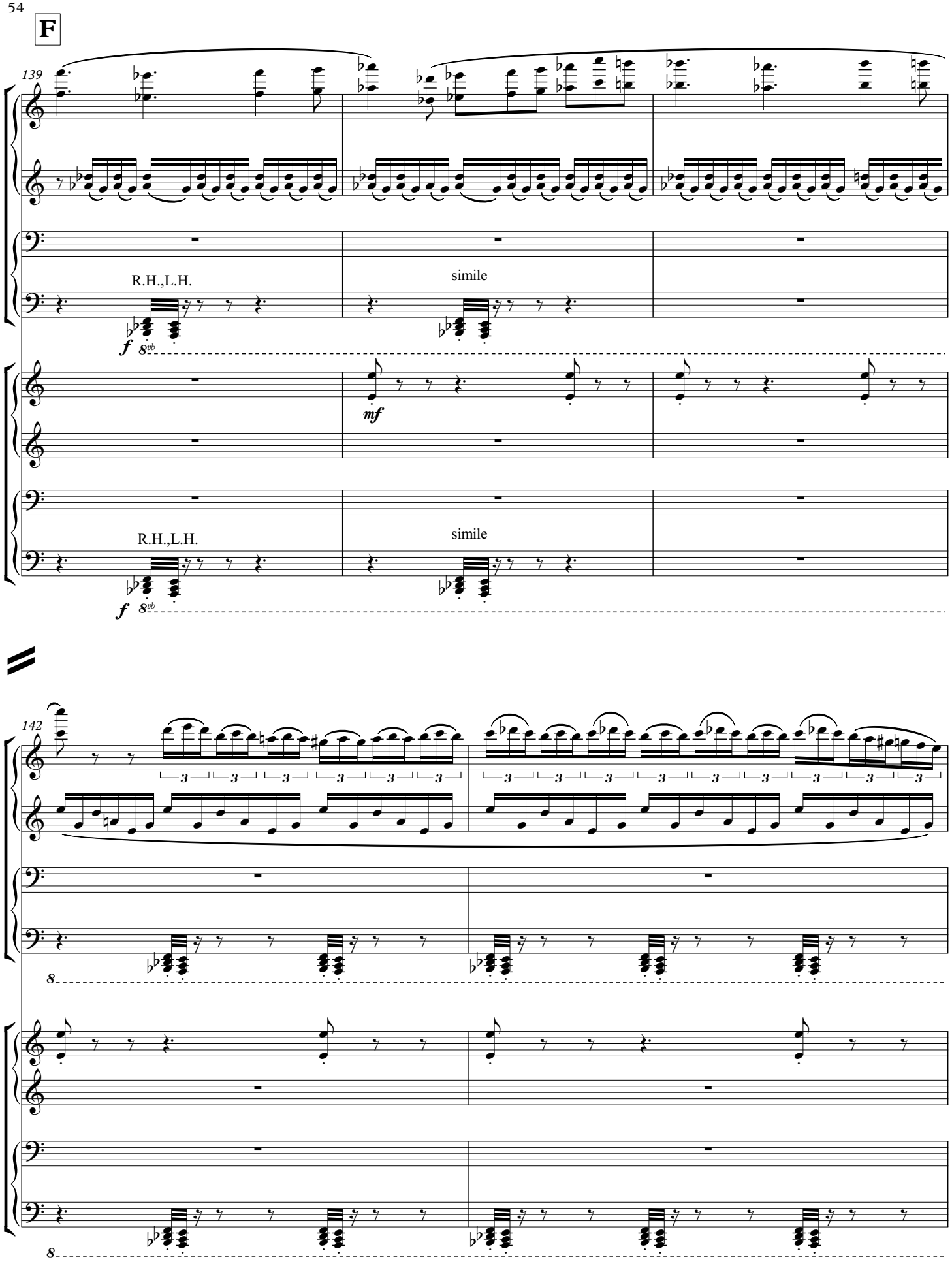
131 **Bargaining (slightly slower, ♪=120)**

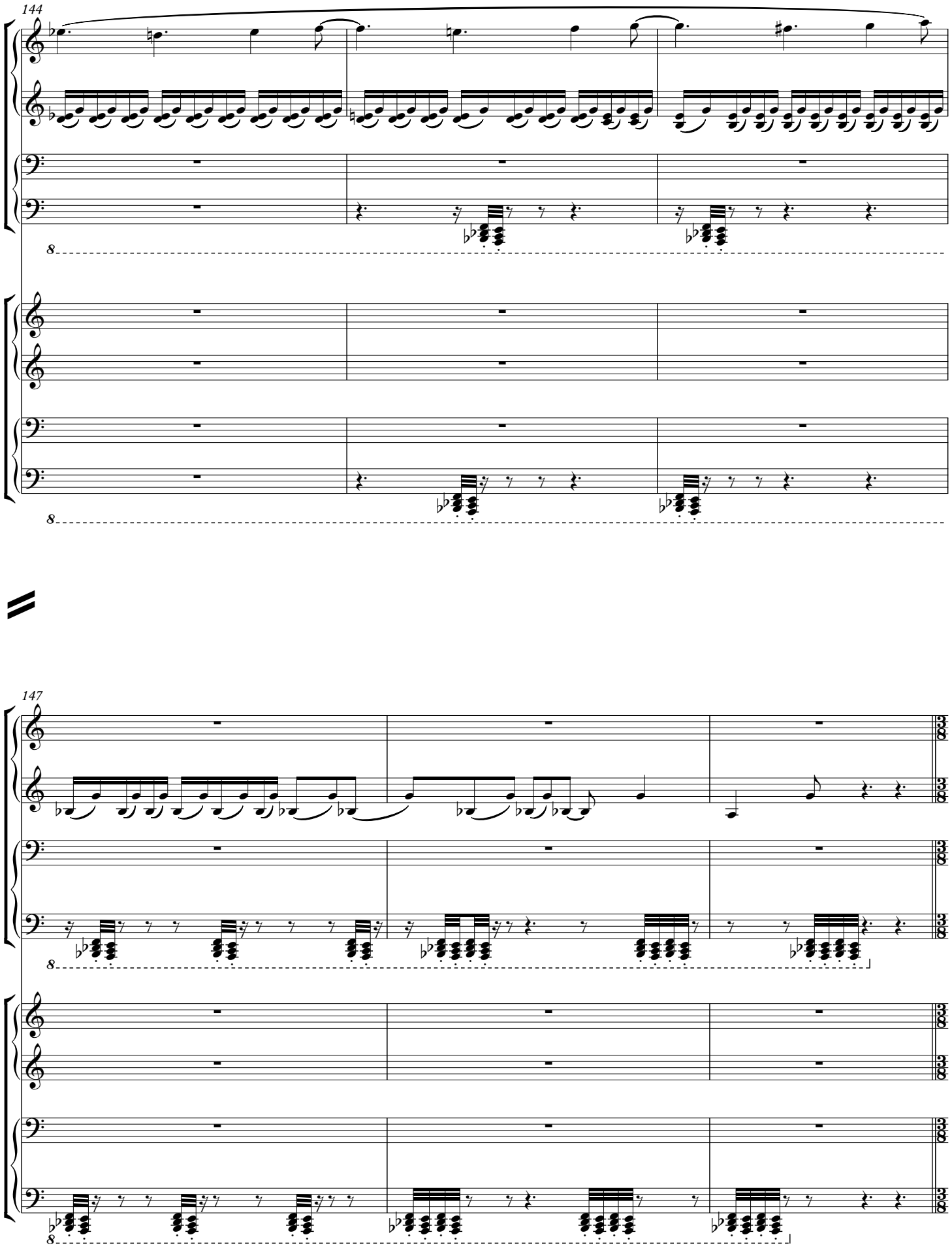
mp always smoothly

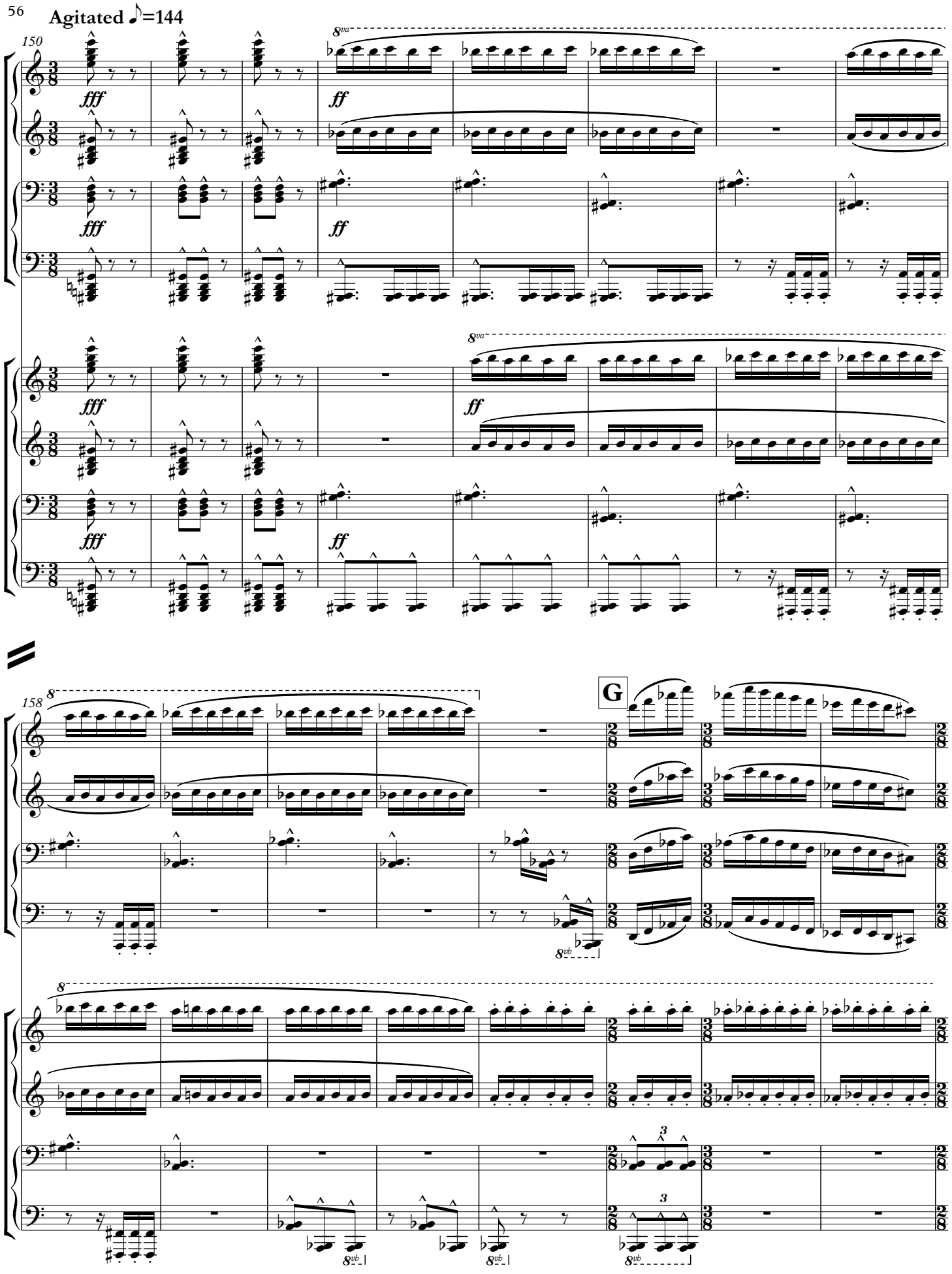
pp

pp


134
137
3
3
3
3
f
p
p
8vb


F
139
R.H.,L.H.
simile
f
8vb
mf
R.H.,L.H.
simile
f
8vb
142
3
8
8


144
8
8
147
8
8


Agitated ♪=144
150
fff
ff
8va
158
G
8vb
3

166

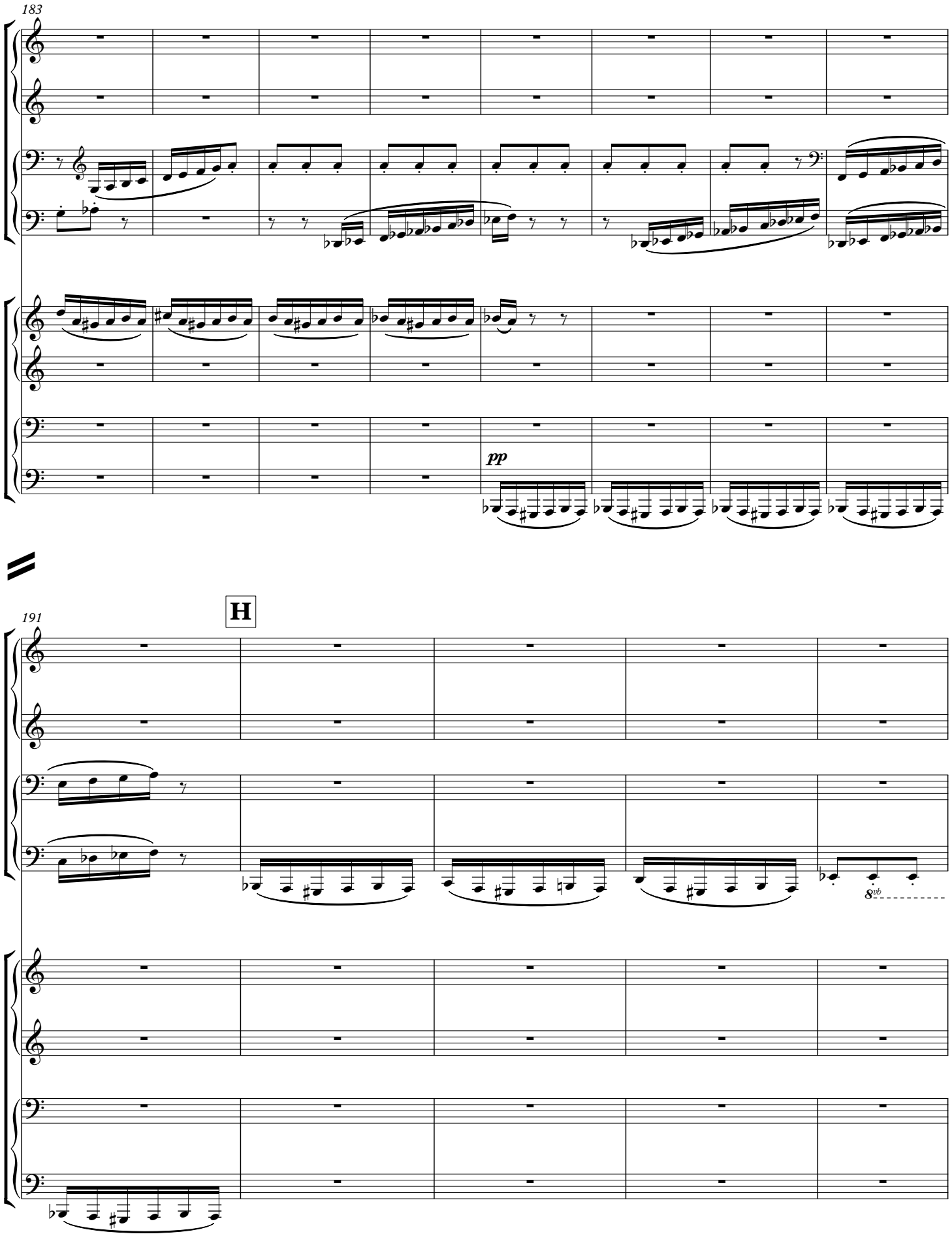
rit.

pp

174 **Acceptance ♪=100**

firm and with conviction

f


183
pp
H
191
8vb

196

8

Agitated ♪=144

204

8va

fff

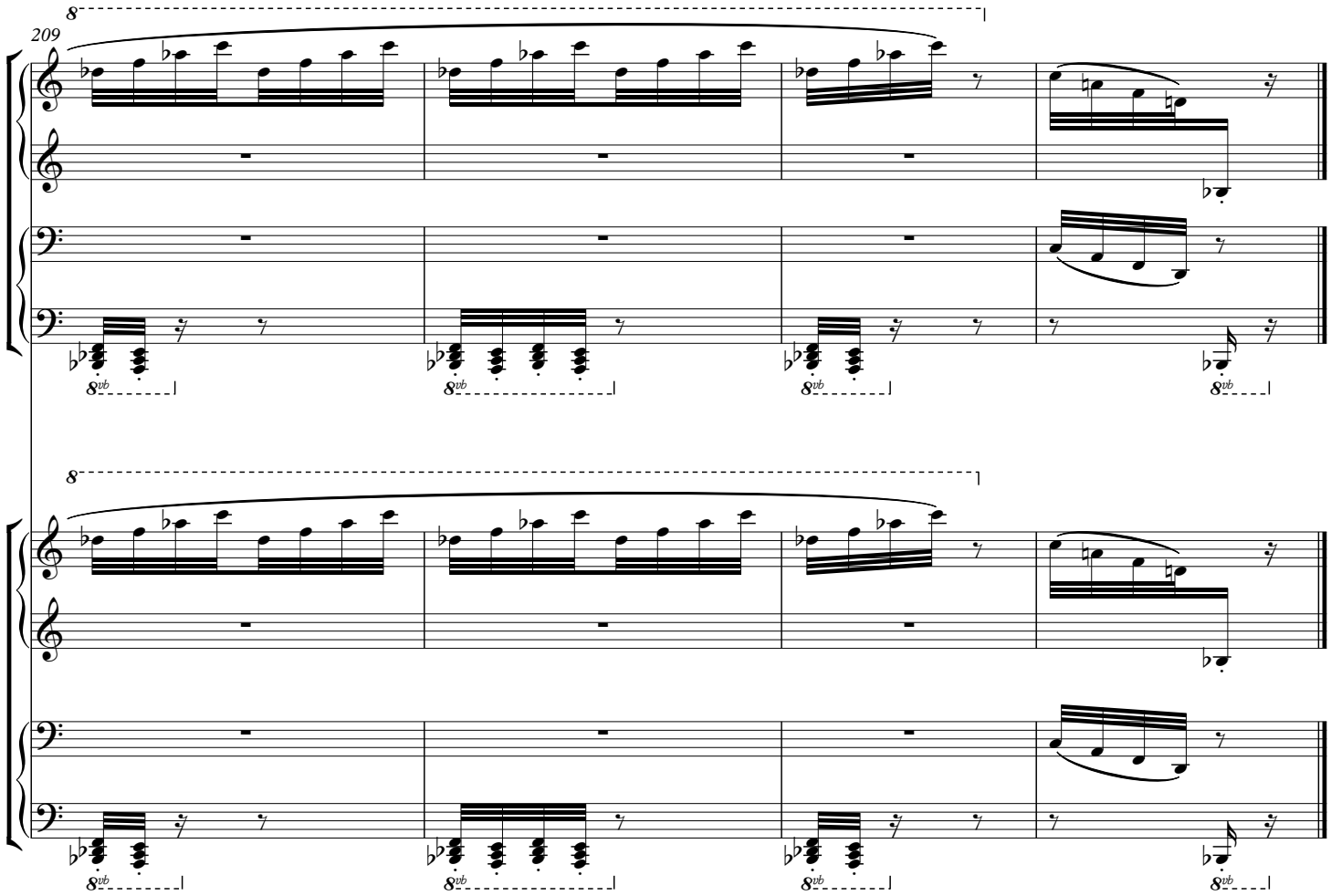
8va

fff

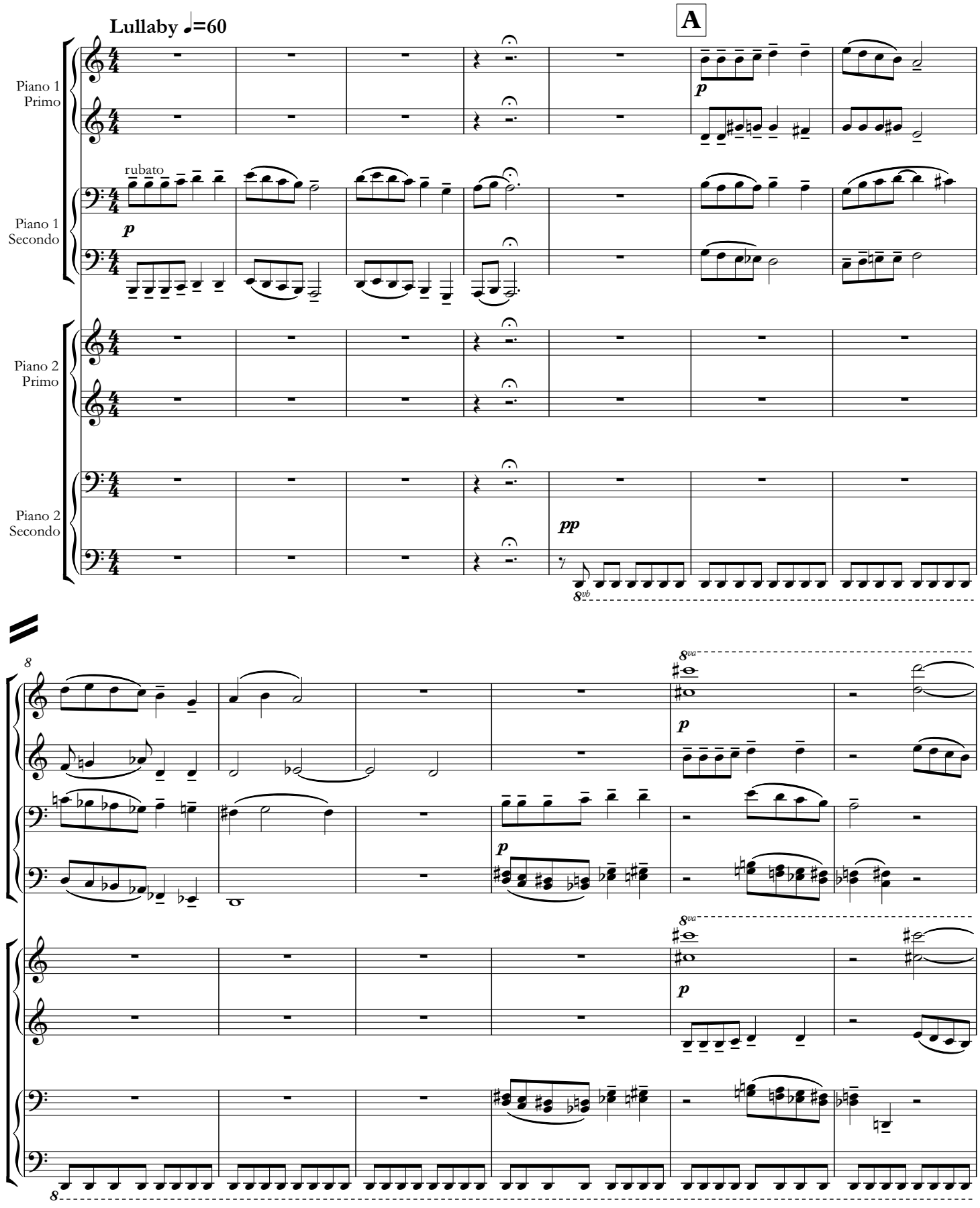
8va

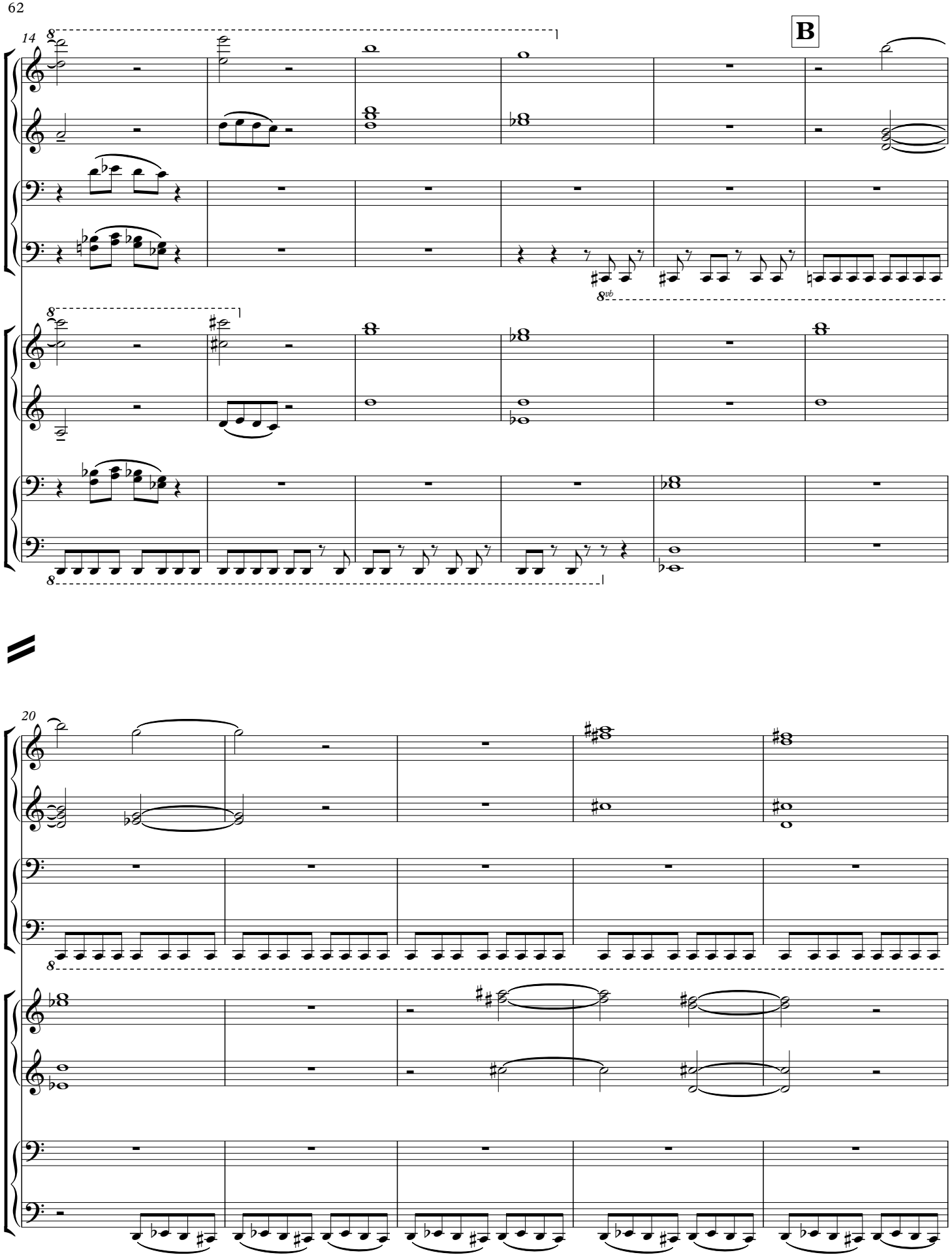
fff

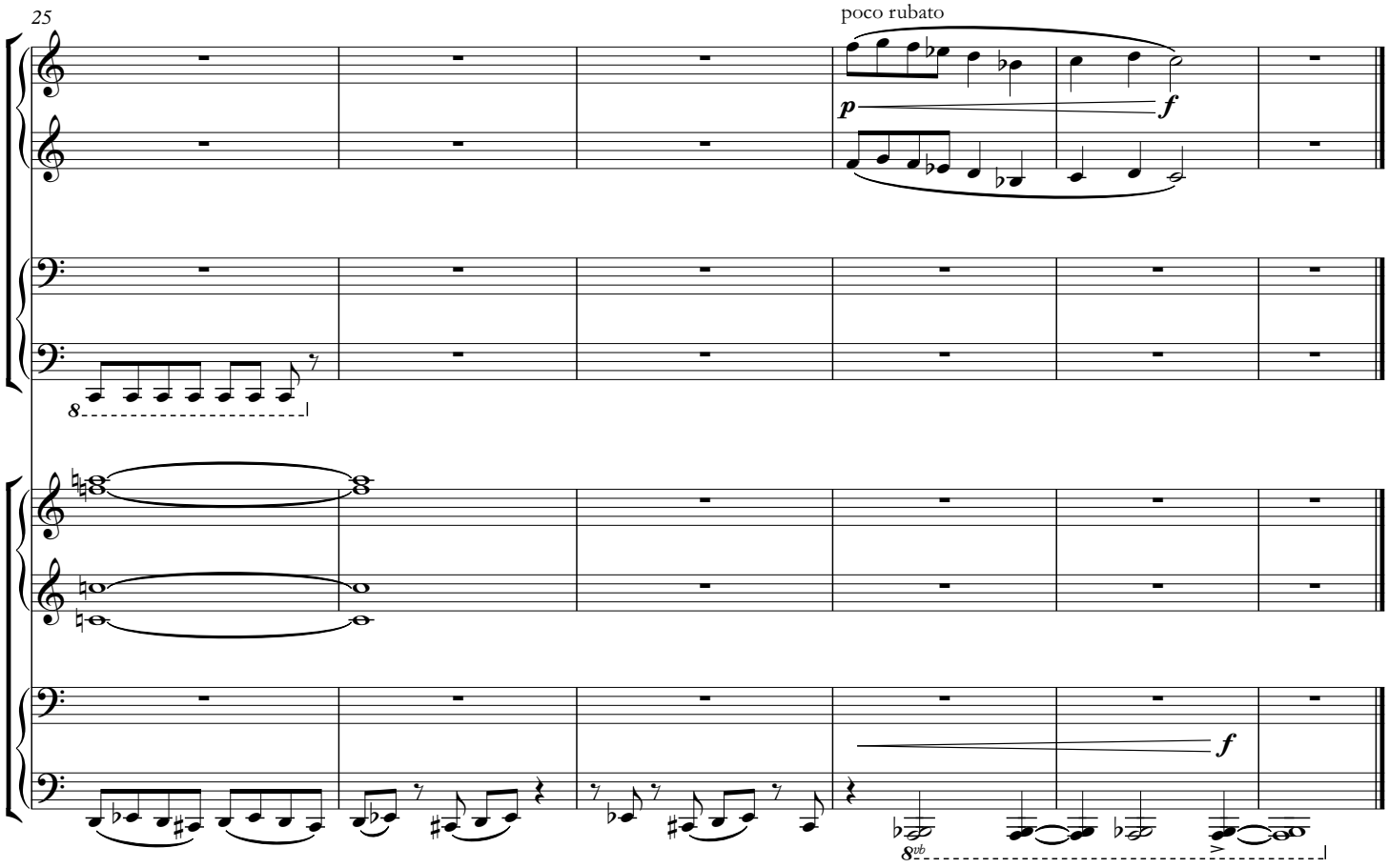
8vb


8
209
8vb
8
8vb

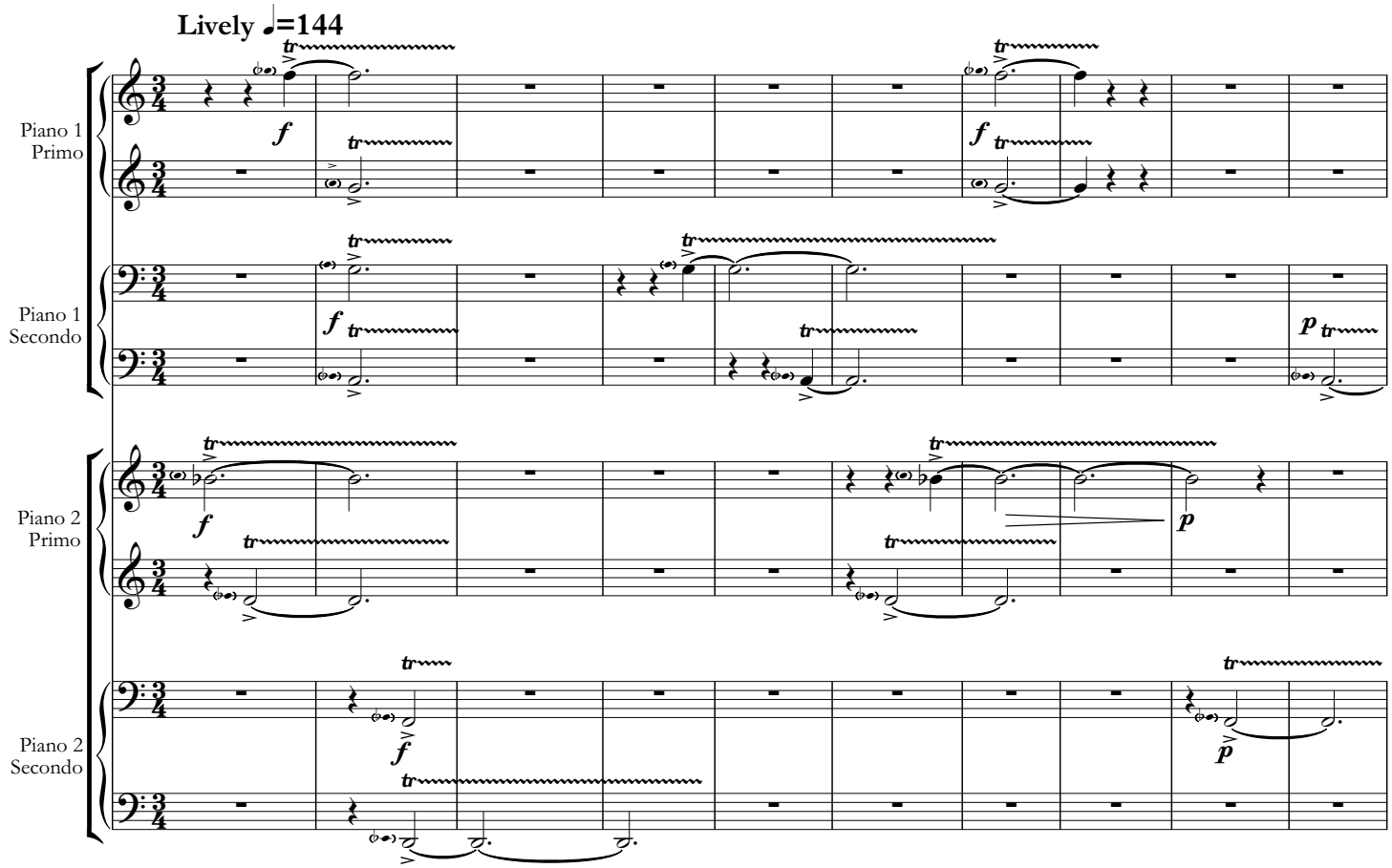
VI. nene

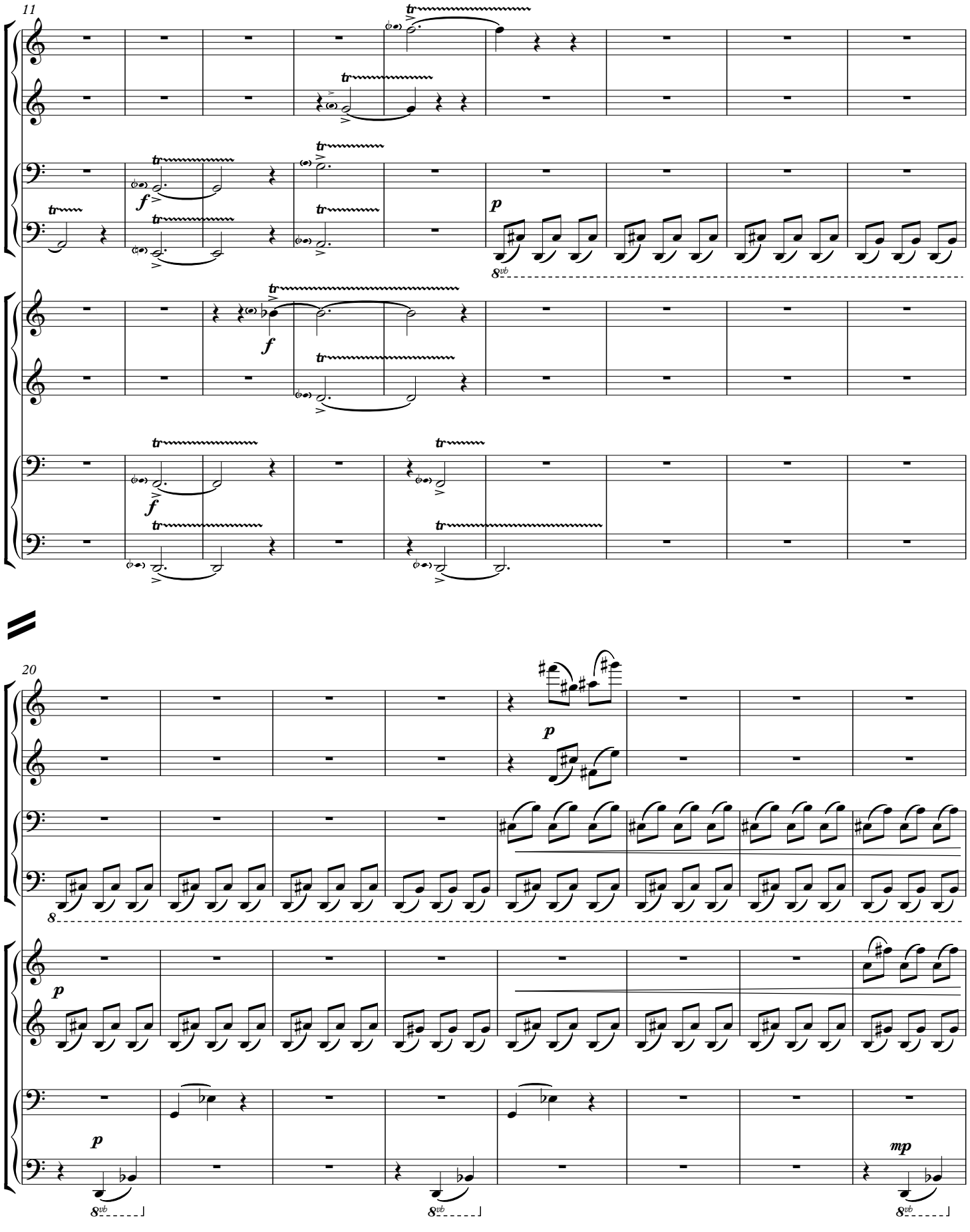

Lullaby ♩=60
A
Piano 1
Primo
Piano 1
Secondo
Piano 2
Primo
Piano 2
Secondo
rubato
p
pp
8va
8vb

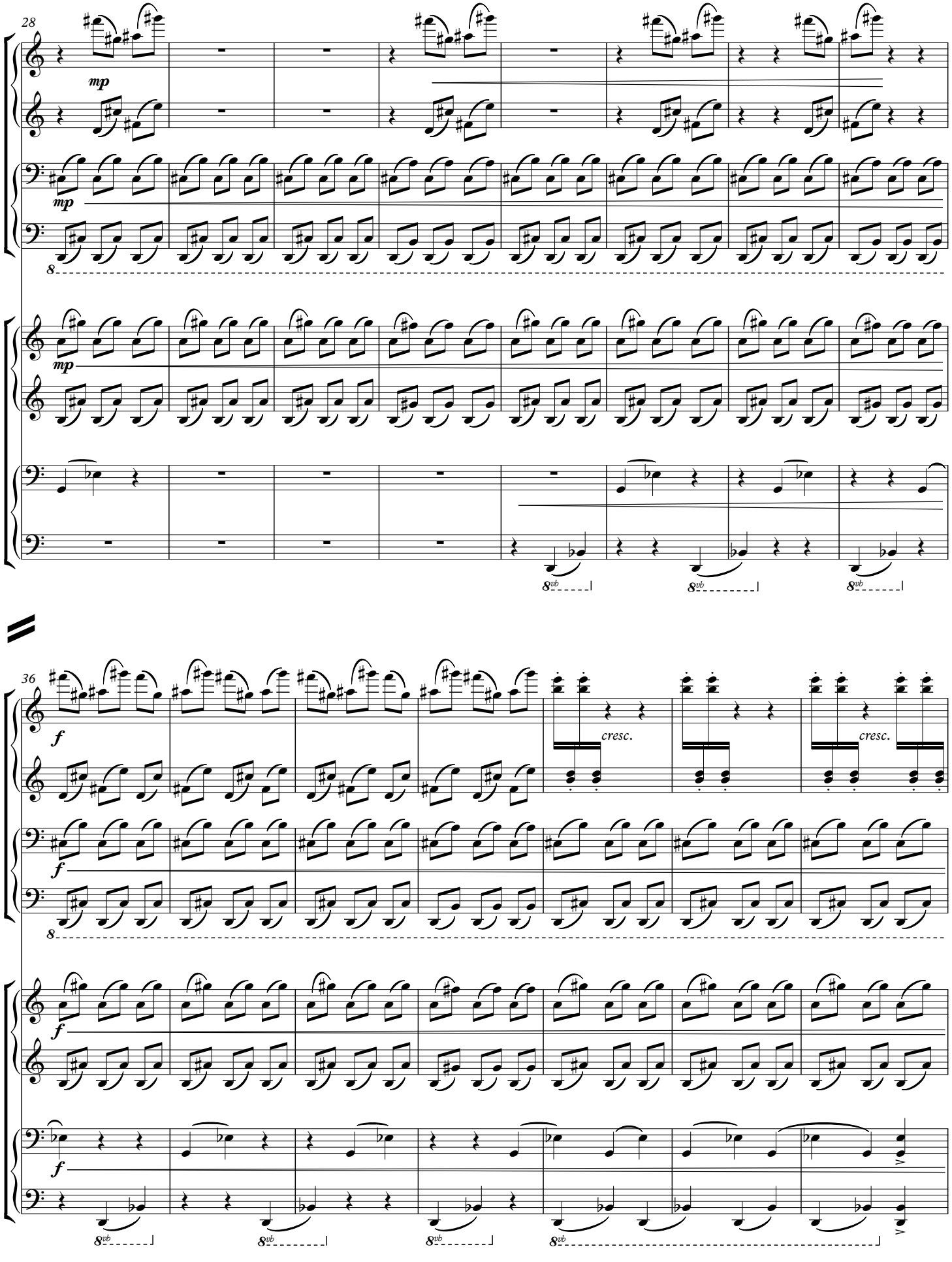

14
B
8va
8
20

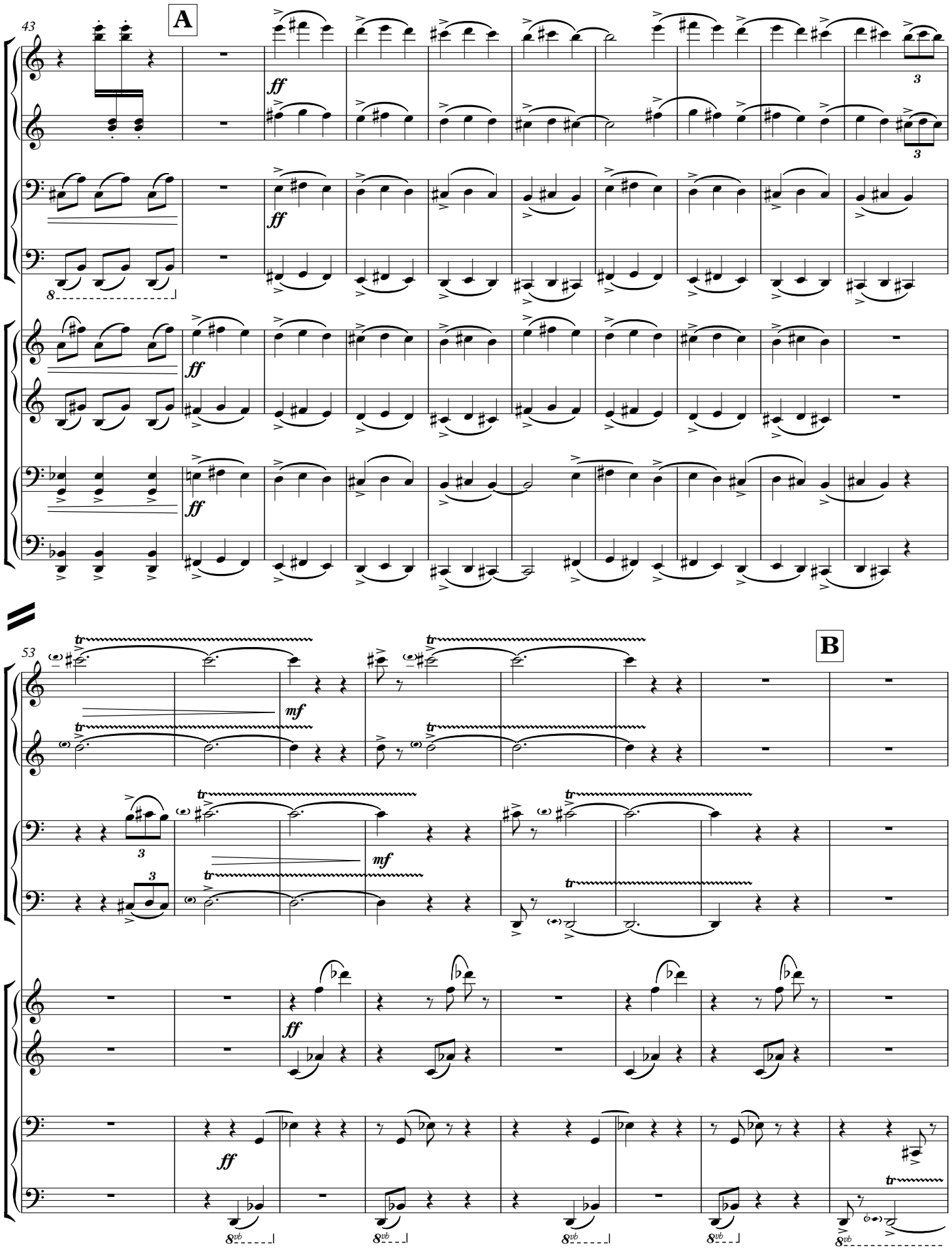

25
poco rubato
p
f
8
f
8vb

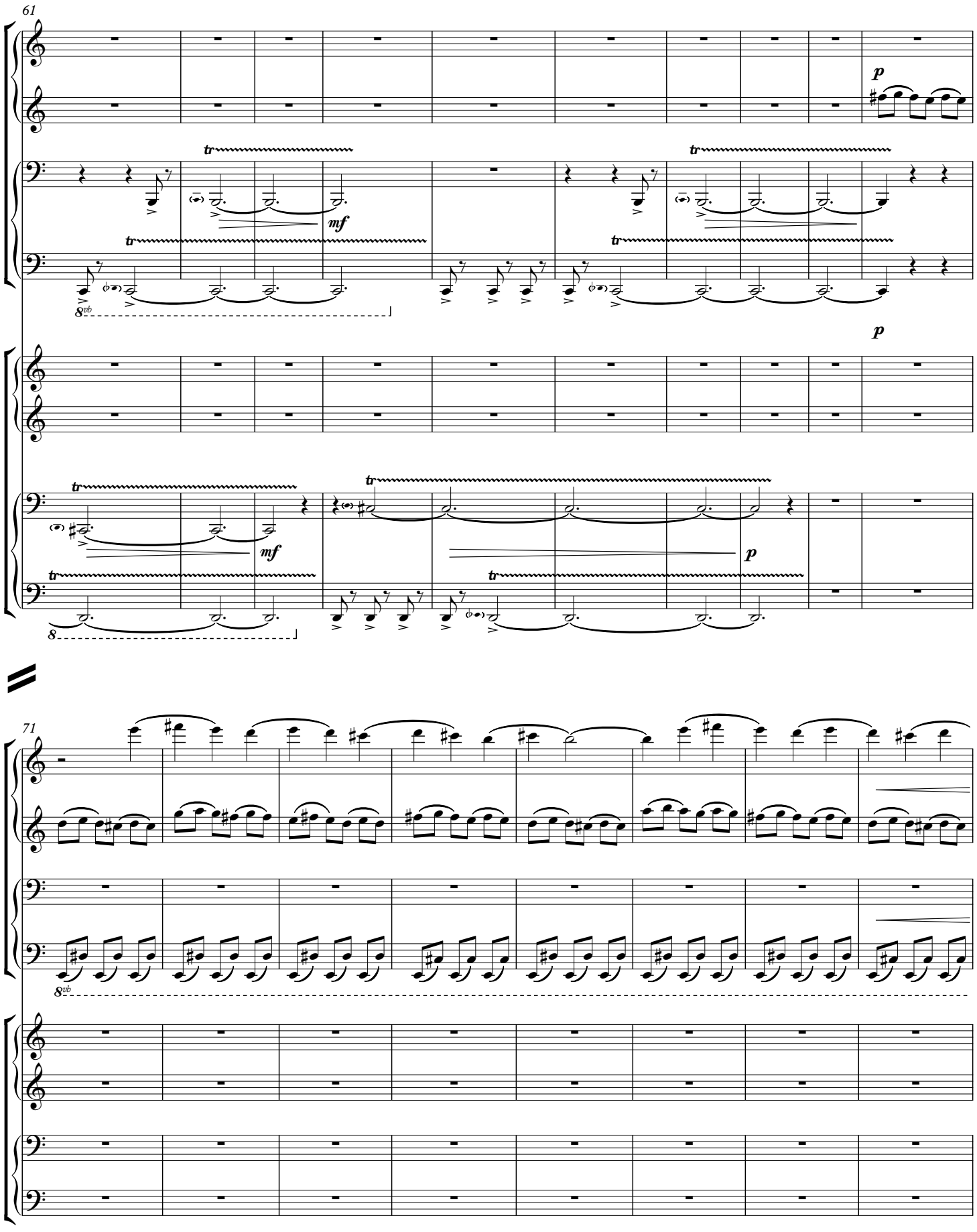
VII. Recollection

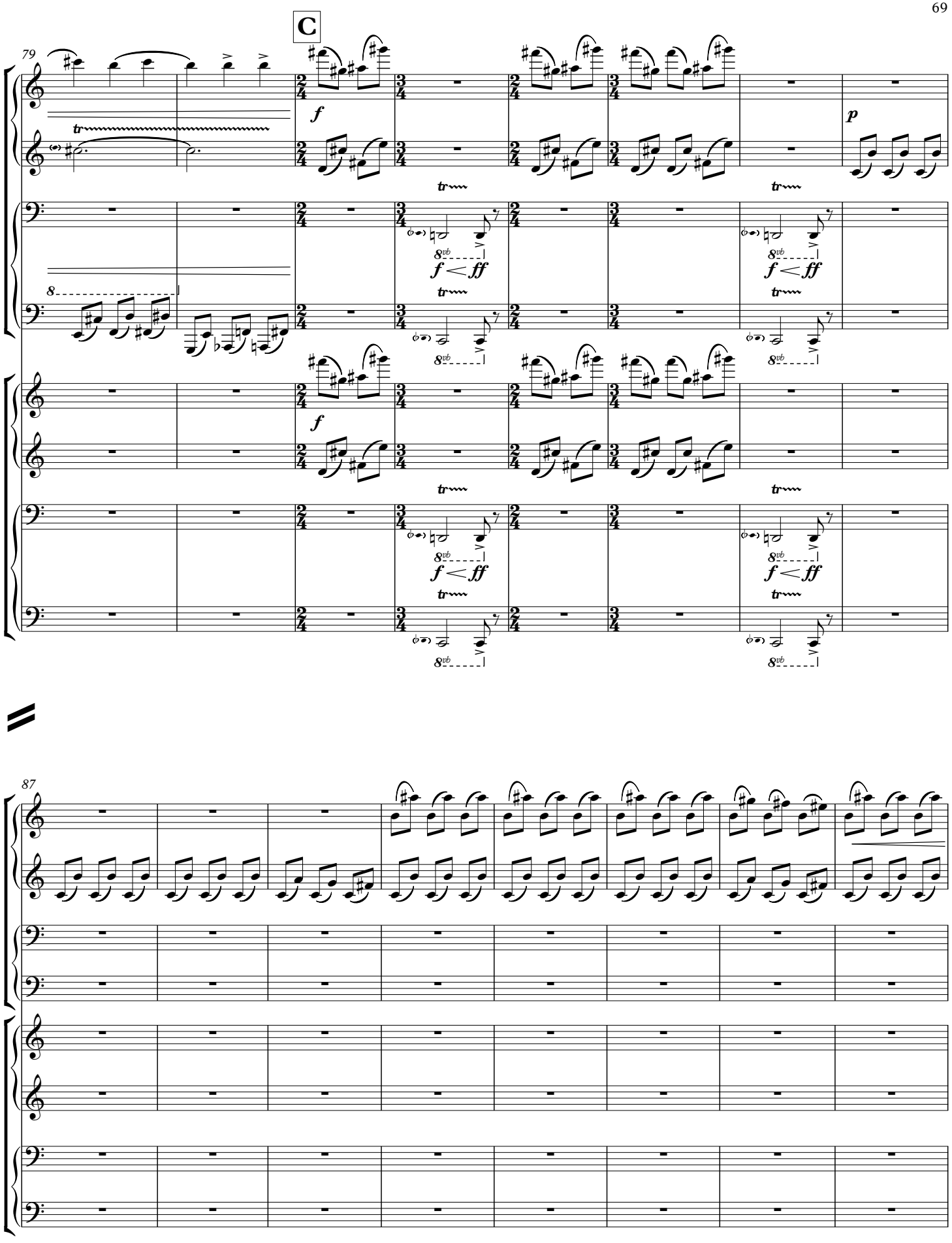


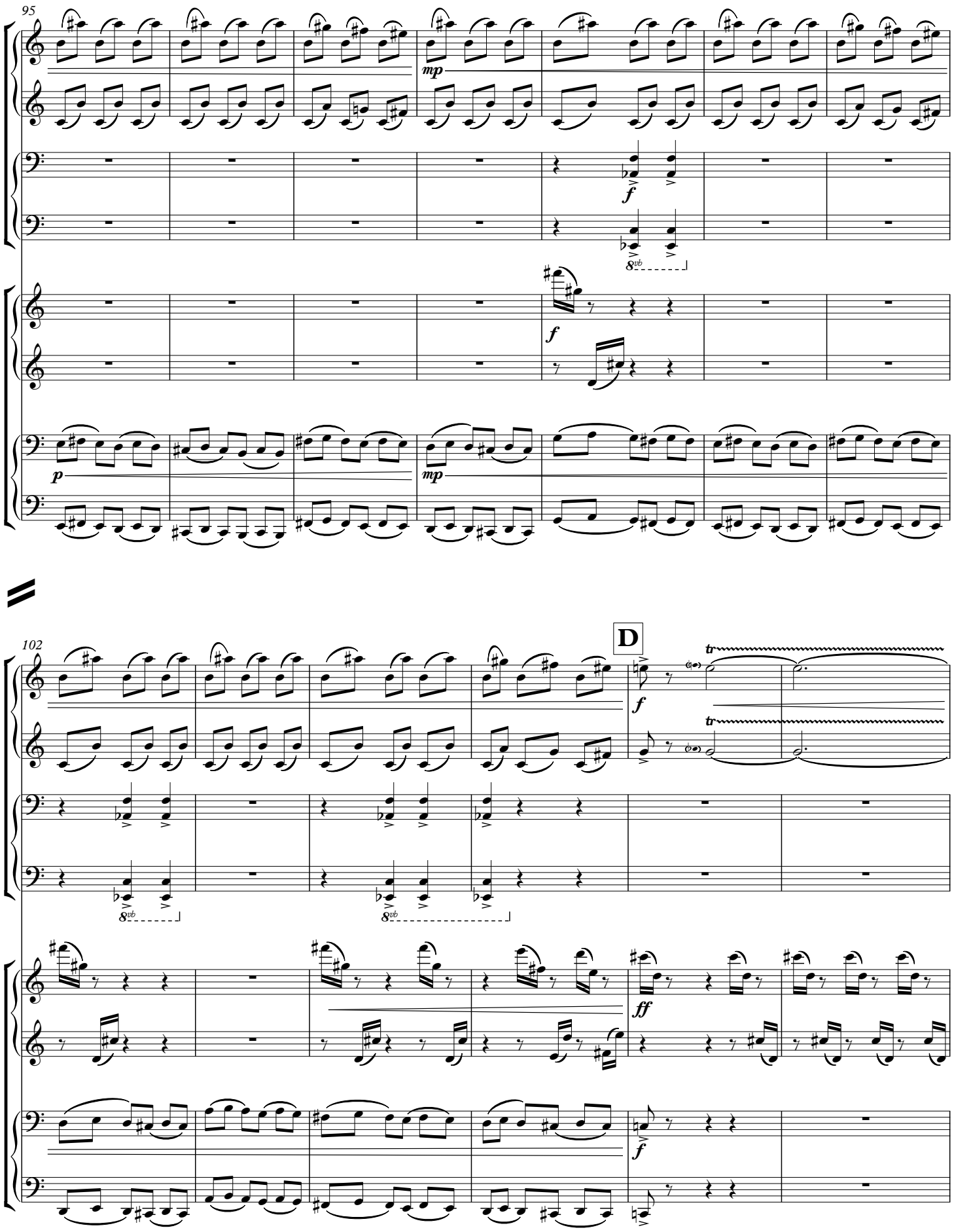

11
20
8vb
mp

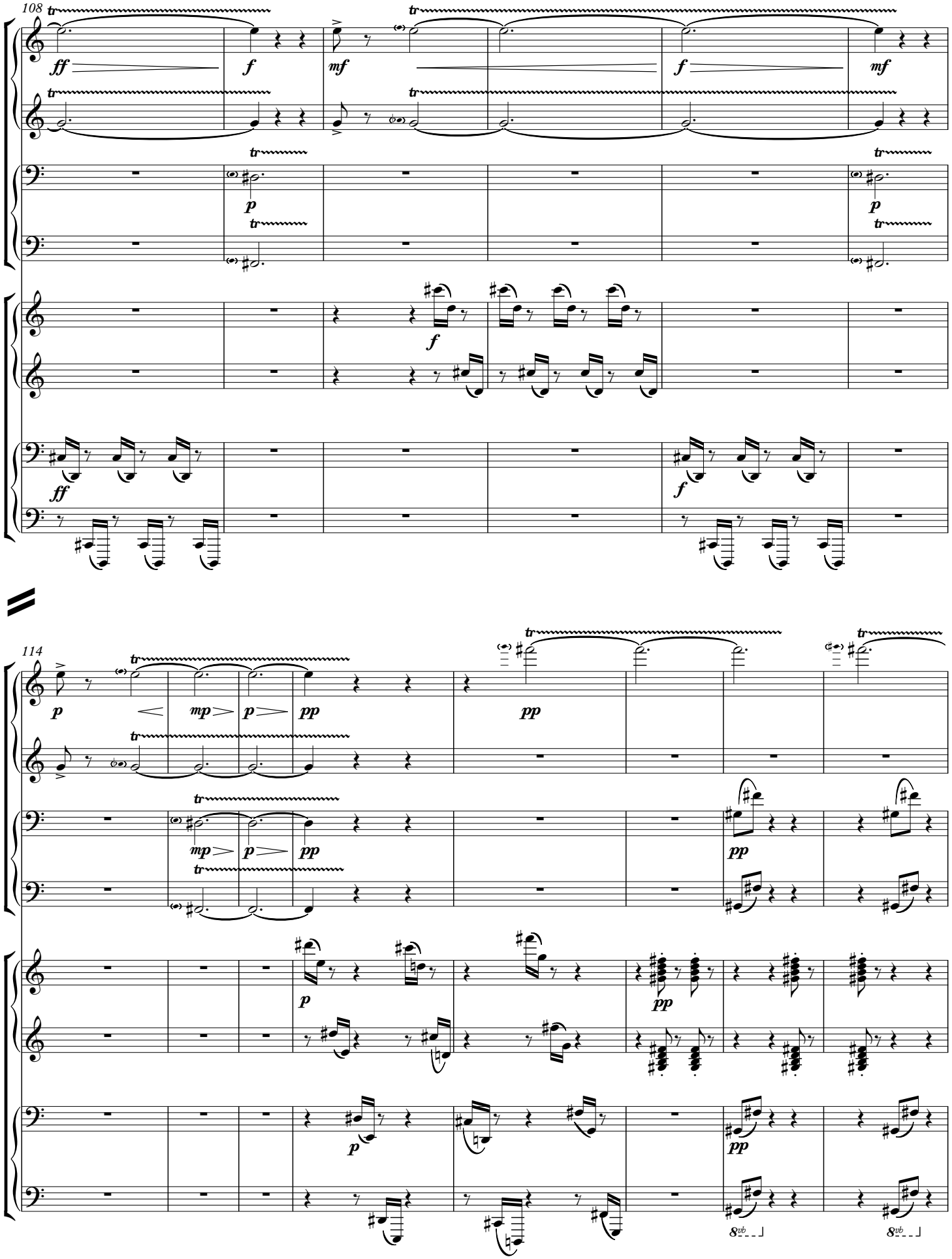

28
mp
mp
mp
8
8vb
8vb
8vb
36
f
cresc.
cresc.
f
f
f
8
8vb
8vb
8vb
8vb

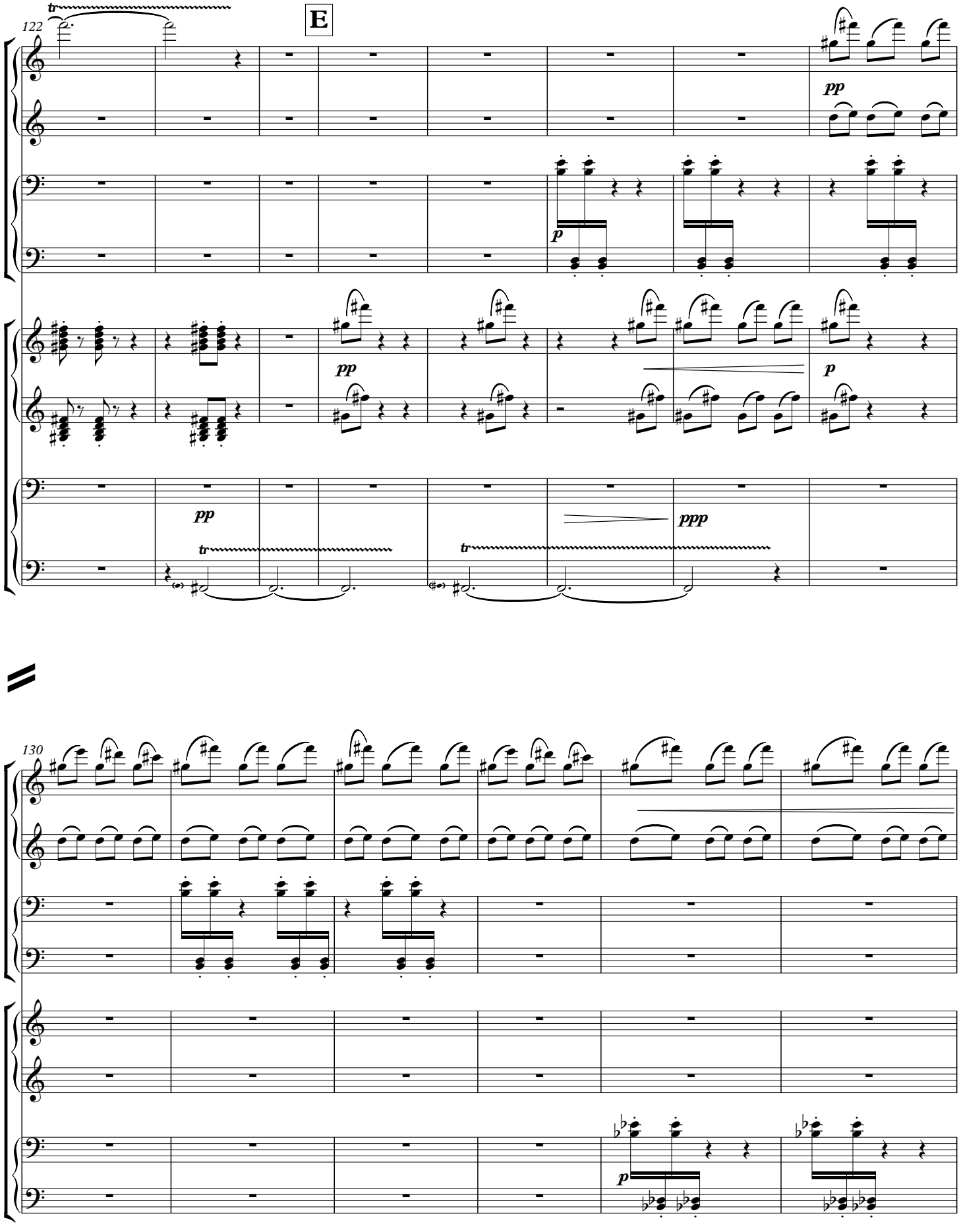

43
A
ff
53
B
mf
8vb

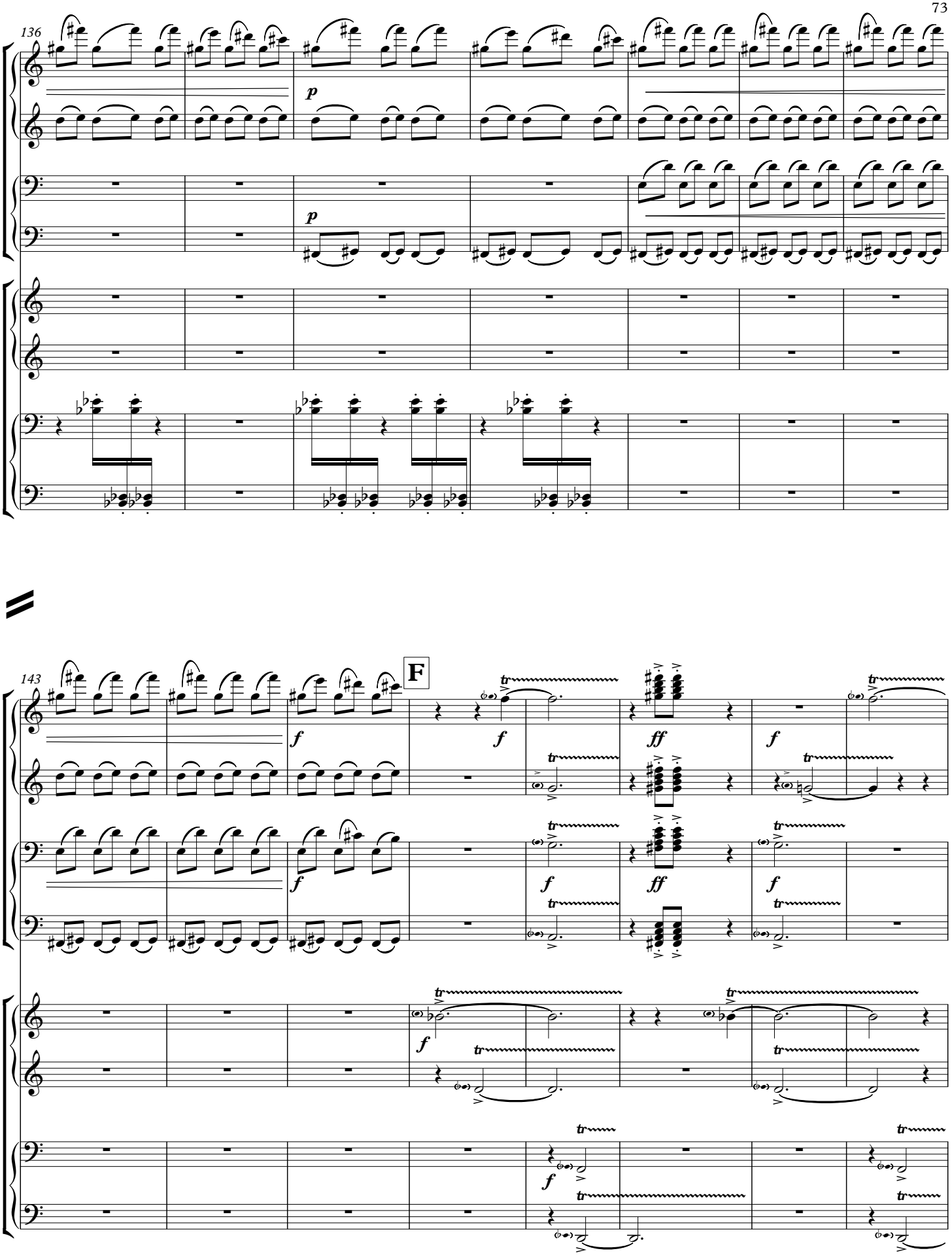

61
p
tr
mf
8vb
p
tr
mf
tr
p
71
8vb

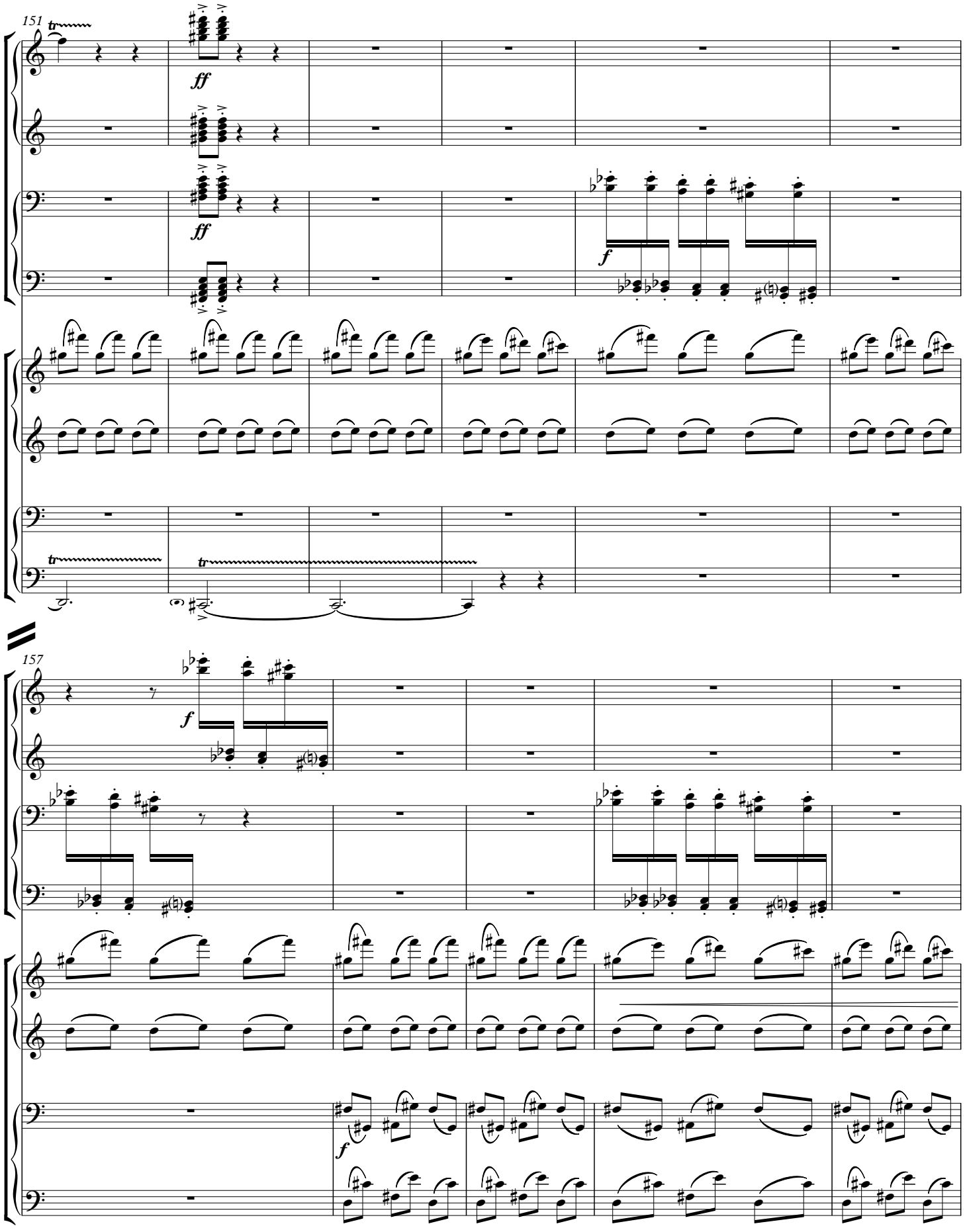

C
79
f
p
tr
8vb
f < ff
87


95
mp
f
8vb
f
p
mp
102
D
tr
tr
f
8vb
8vb
ff
f


108
ff
f
mf
f
mf
p
p
f
ff
f
114
p
mp
p
pp
pp
mp
p
pp
pp
p
pp
p
pp
8vb
8vb

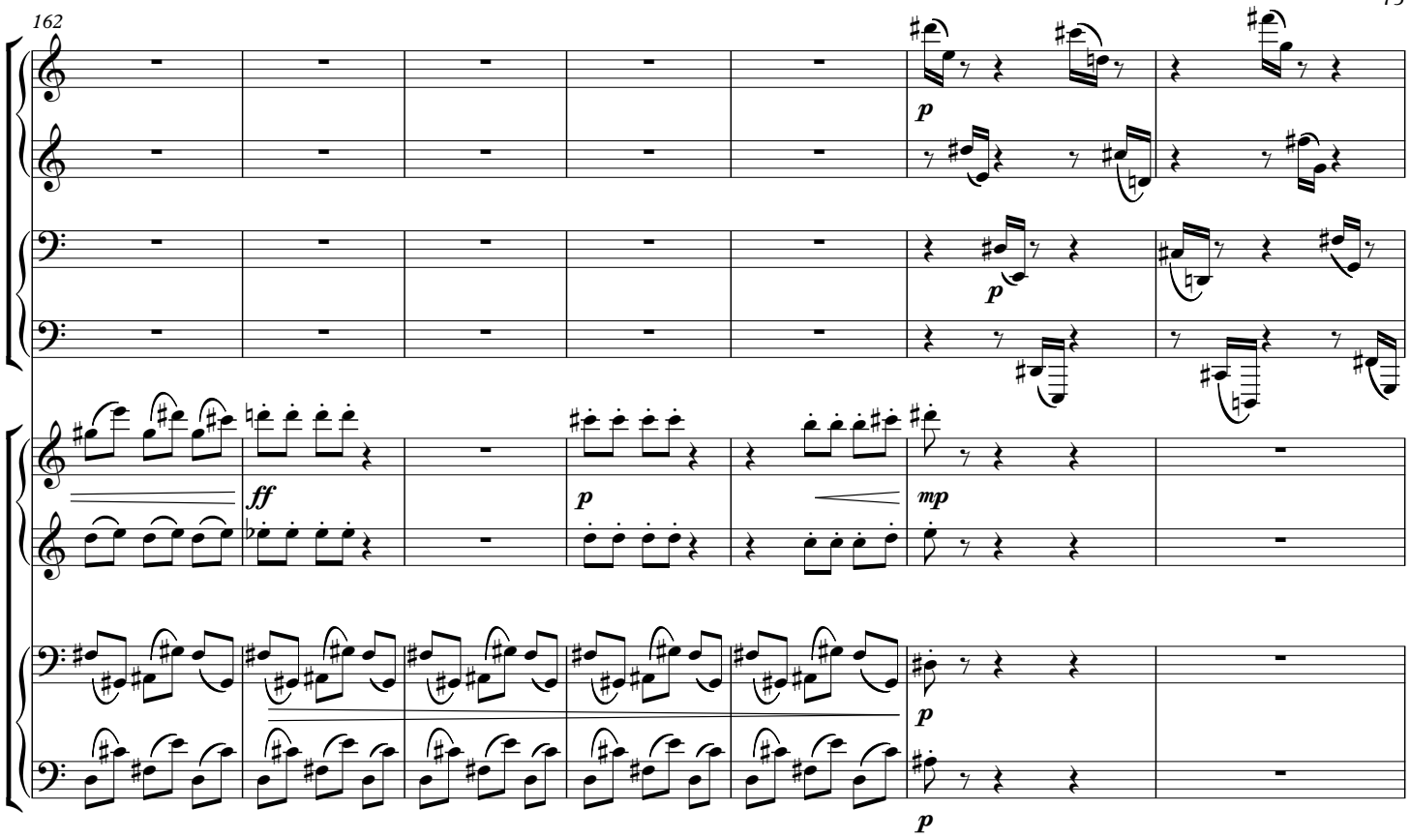

122
E
pp
p
pp
p
pp
ppp
130
p


136
p
p
143
F
f
ff
tr

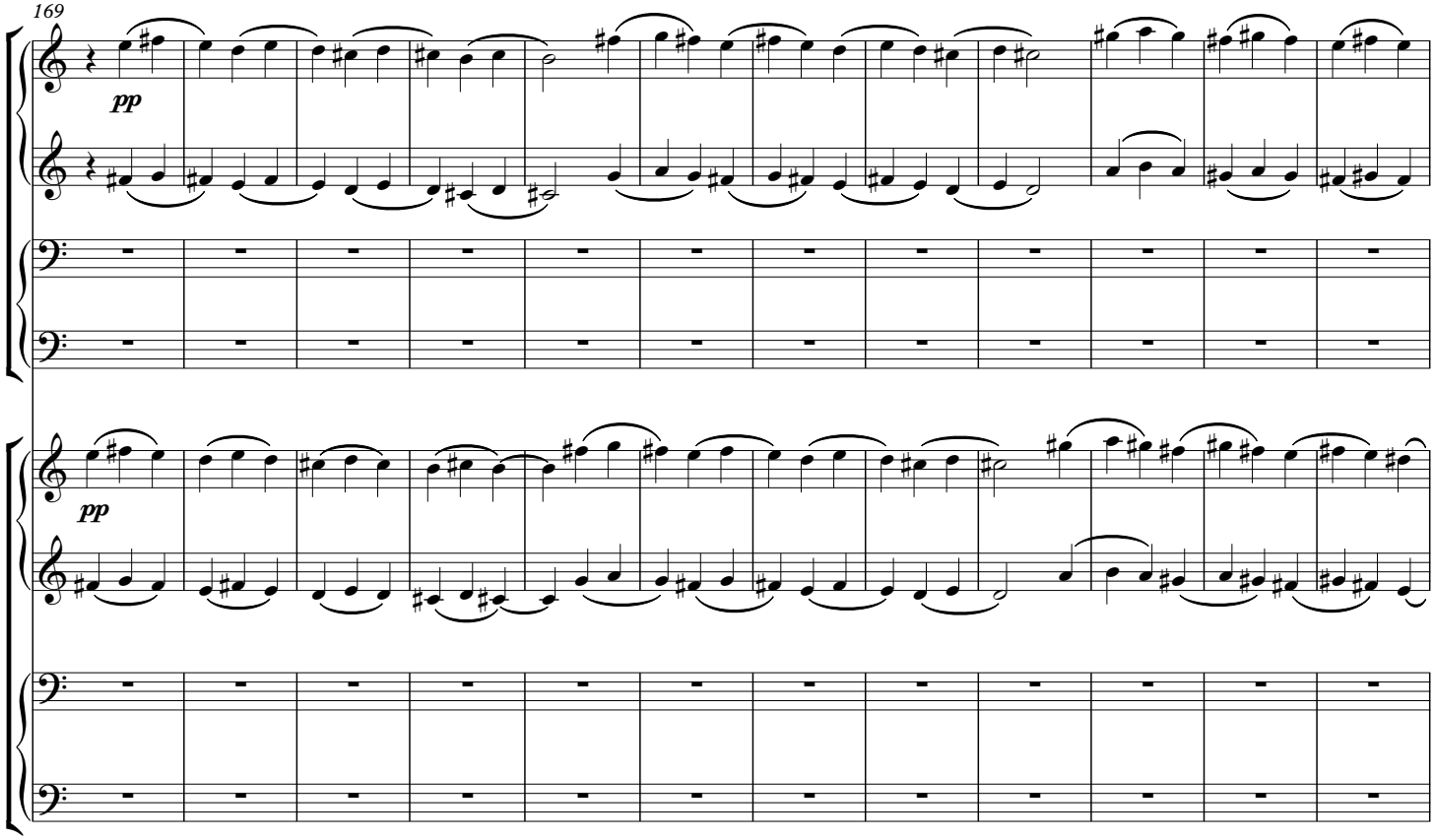

151
157

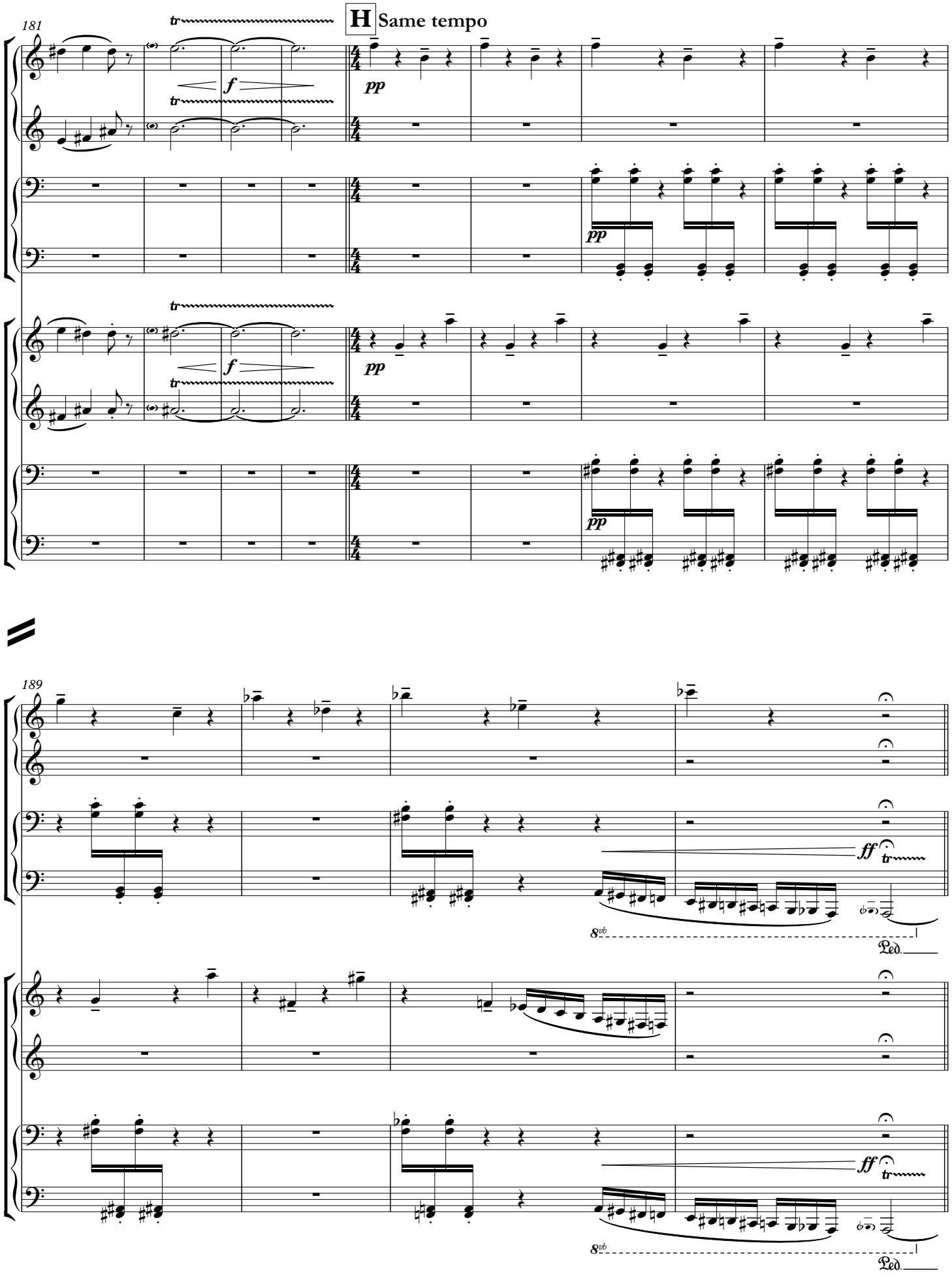
G

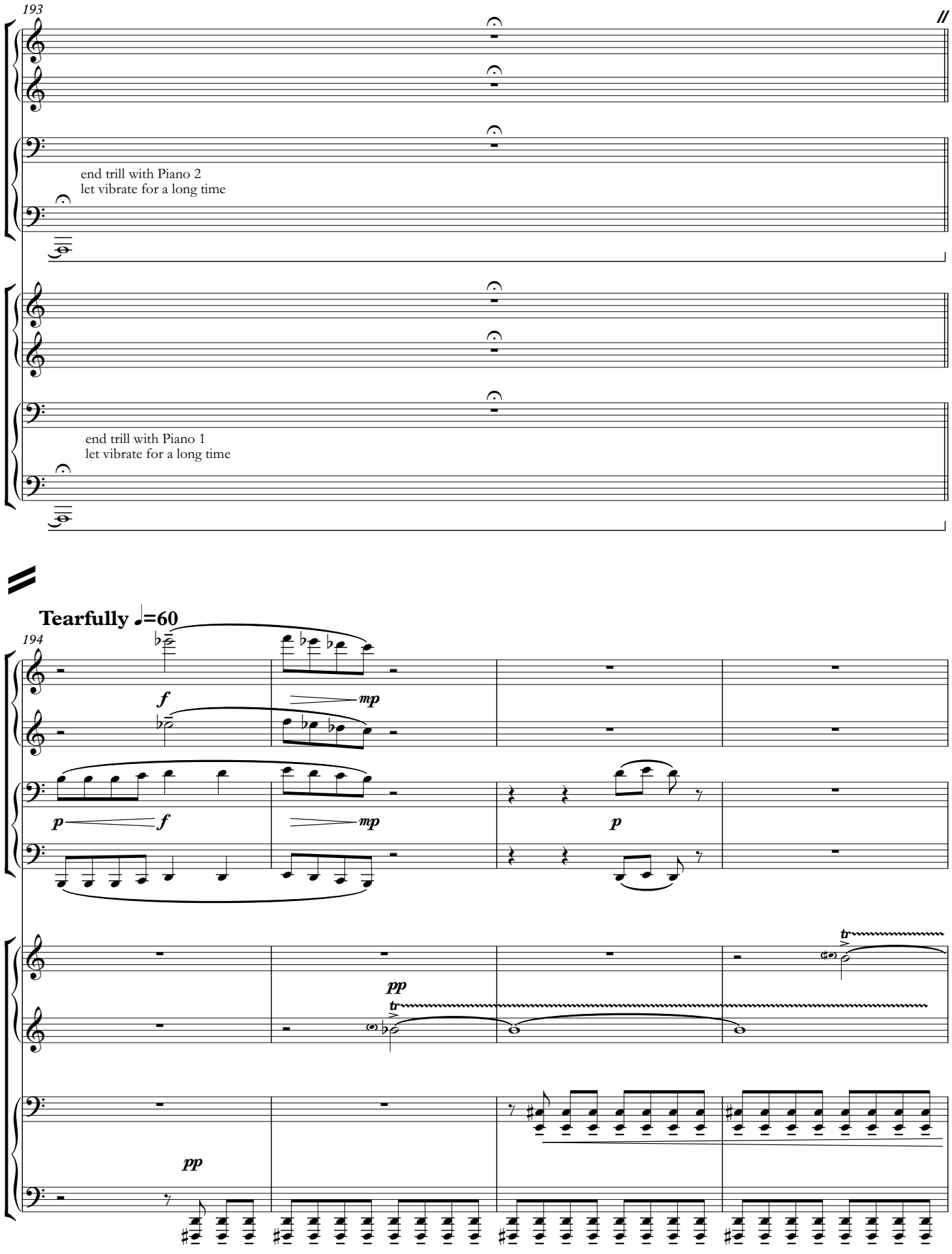
162

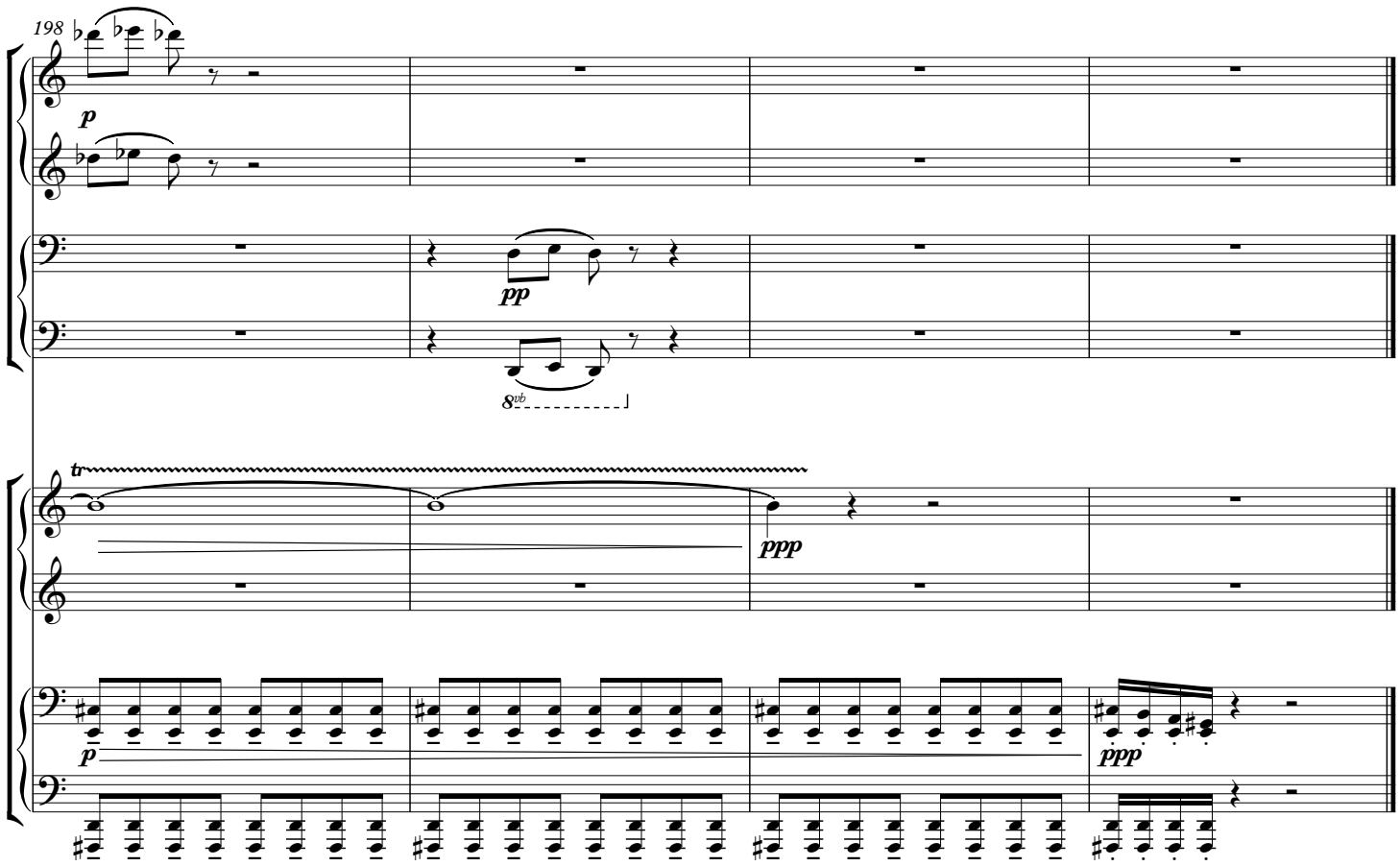


169




181
H Same tempo
tr
f
pp
189
ff
8vb
Ped.


193
end trill with Piano 2
let vibrate for a long time
end trill with Piano 1
let vibrate for a long time
Tearfully ♩=60
194
f
mp
p
f
mp
p
pp
tr
pp


198
p
pp
8vb
tr
ppp
p
ppp