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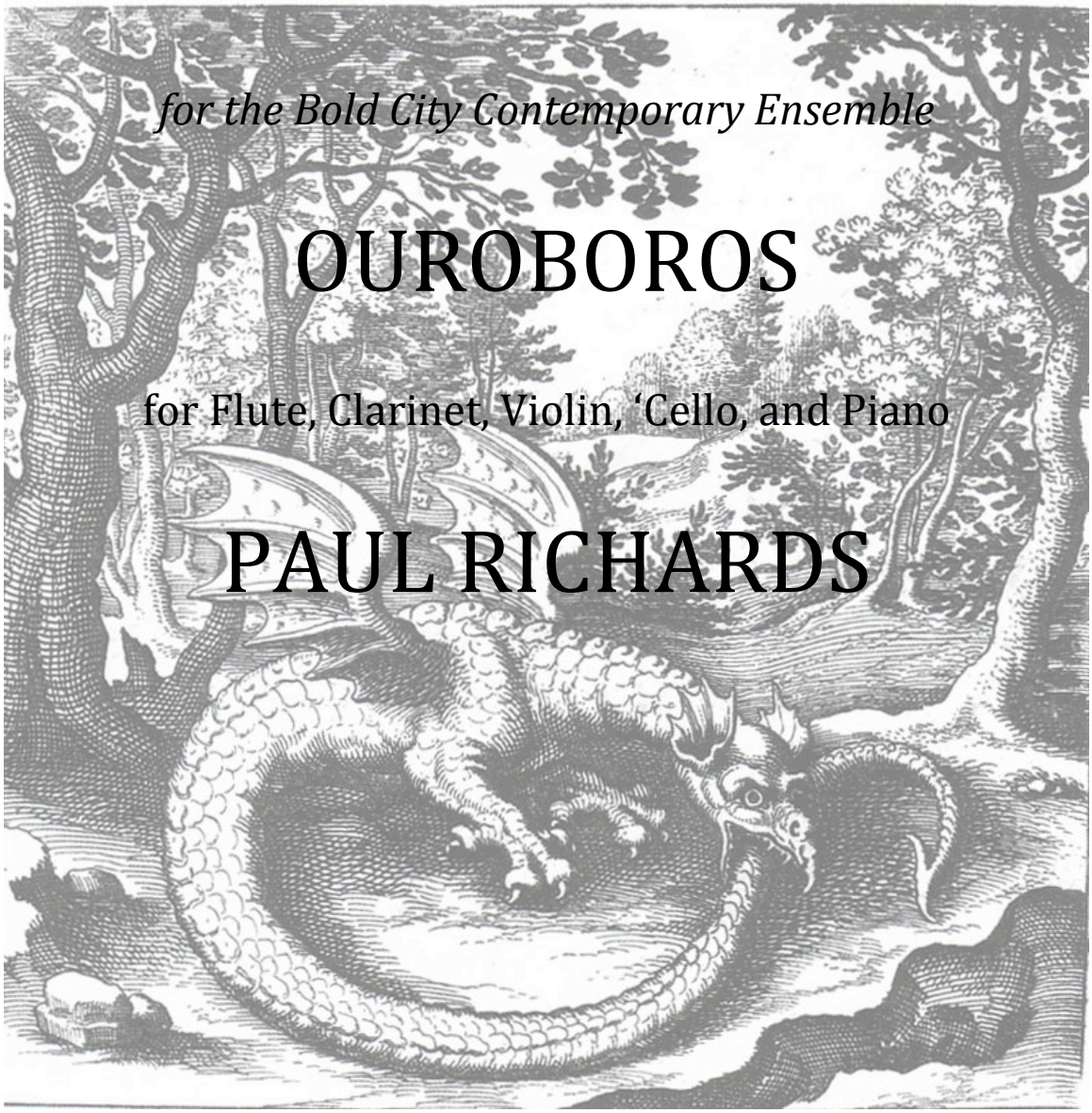


for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble

OUROBOROS

for Flute, Clarinet, Violin, 'Cello, and Piano

PAUL RICHARDS

OUROBOROS

for Flute, Clarinet in Bb, Violin, ‘Cello, and Piano

PAUL RICHARDS

Duration: 13 minutes

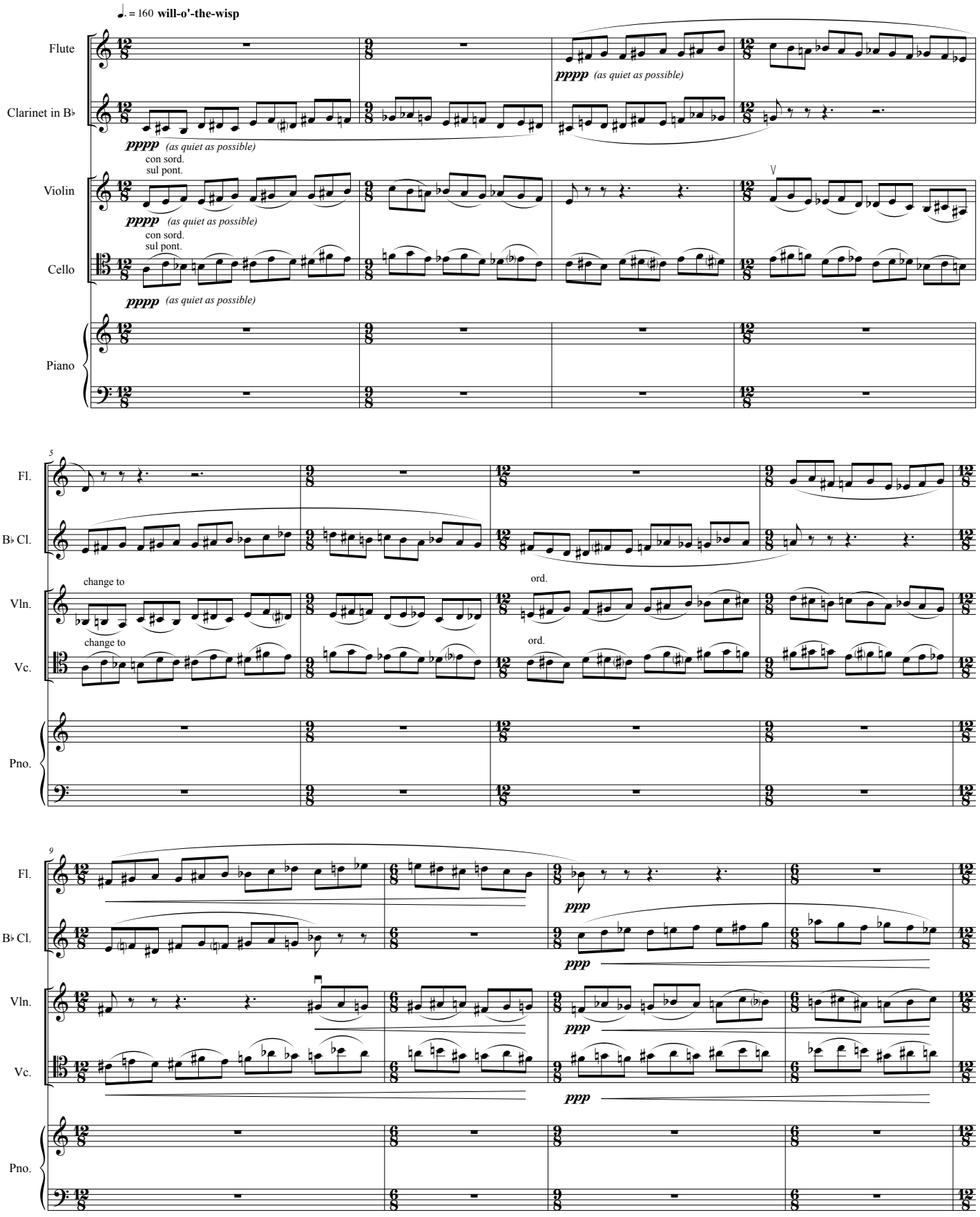
Program note: Found in numerous ancient cultures, an ouroboros is a depiction of a serpent or dragon eating its own tail, typically symbolizing eternity or cyclicality. Many of the musical materials in this work are cyclic in nature, with scales or interval patterns that are recursive in some way, exploring suggestions of infinity within a finite space.
Ouroboros was composed in 2017 for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble.

Score

Ouroboros

for the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble

PAUL RICHARDS



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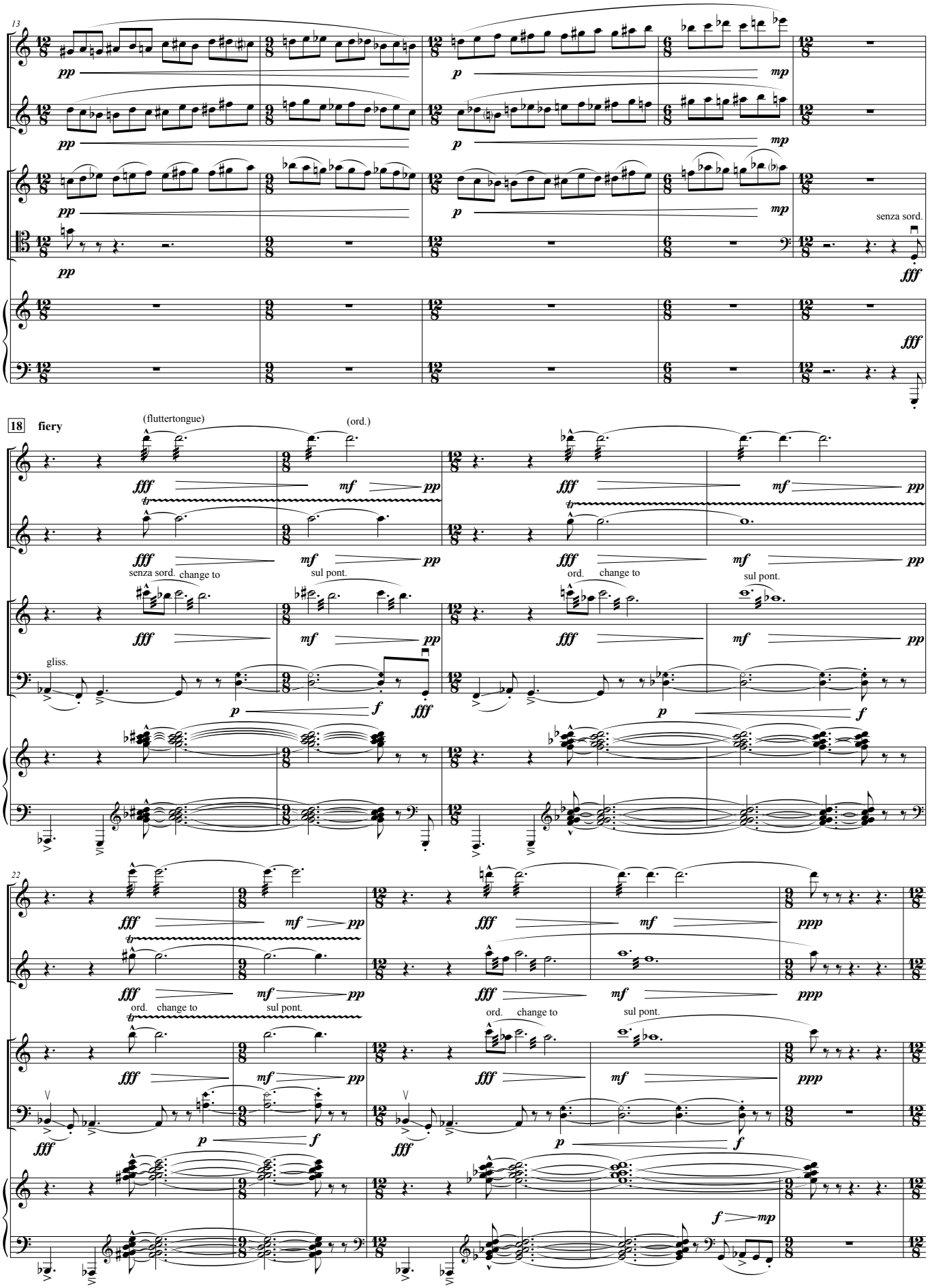
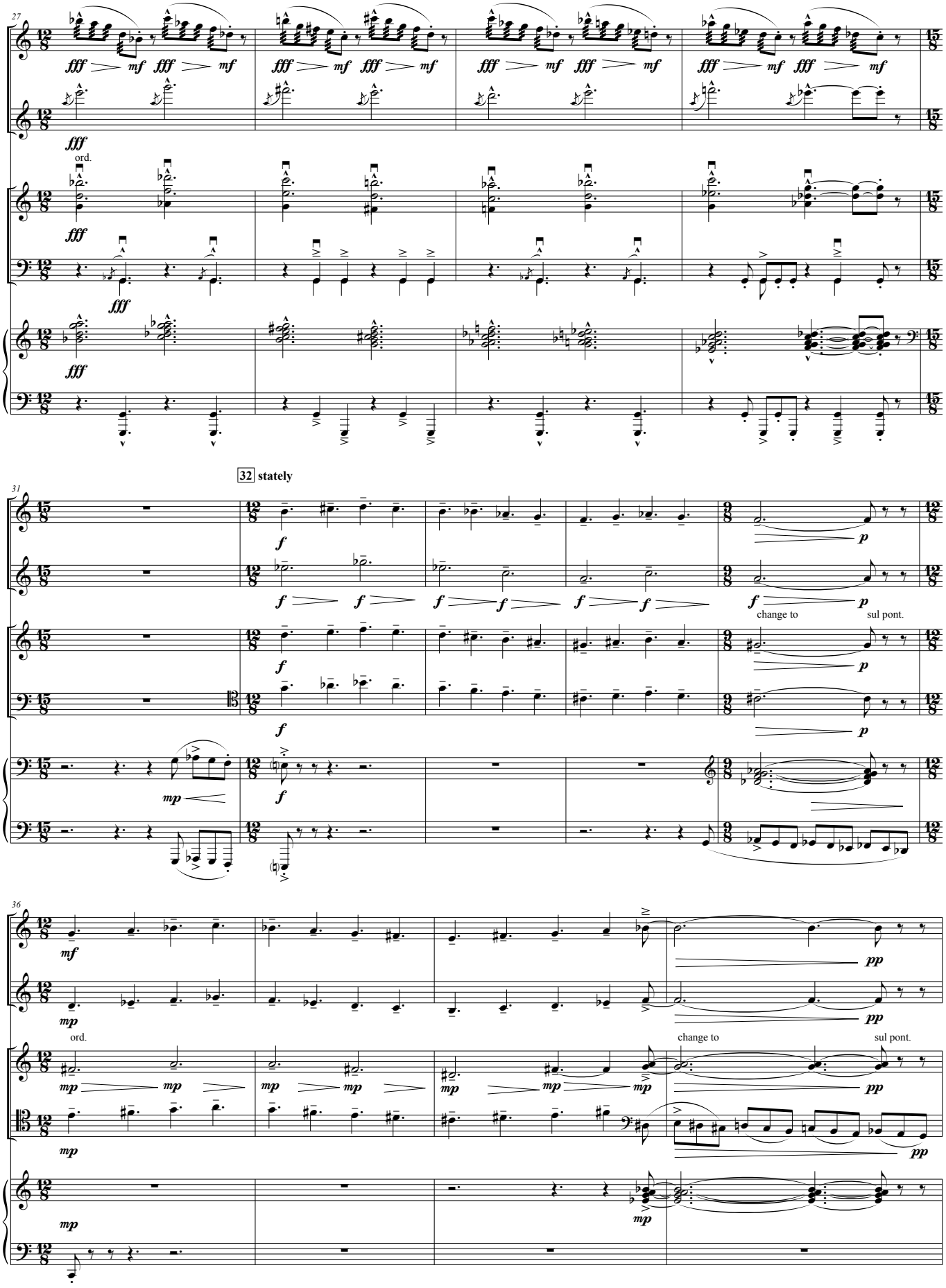
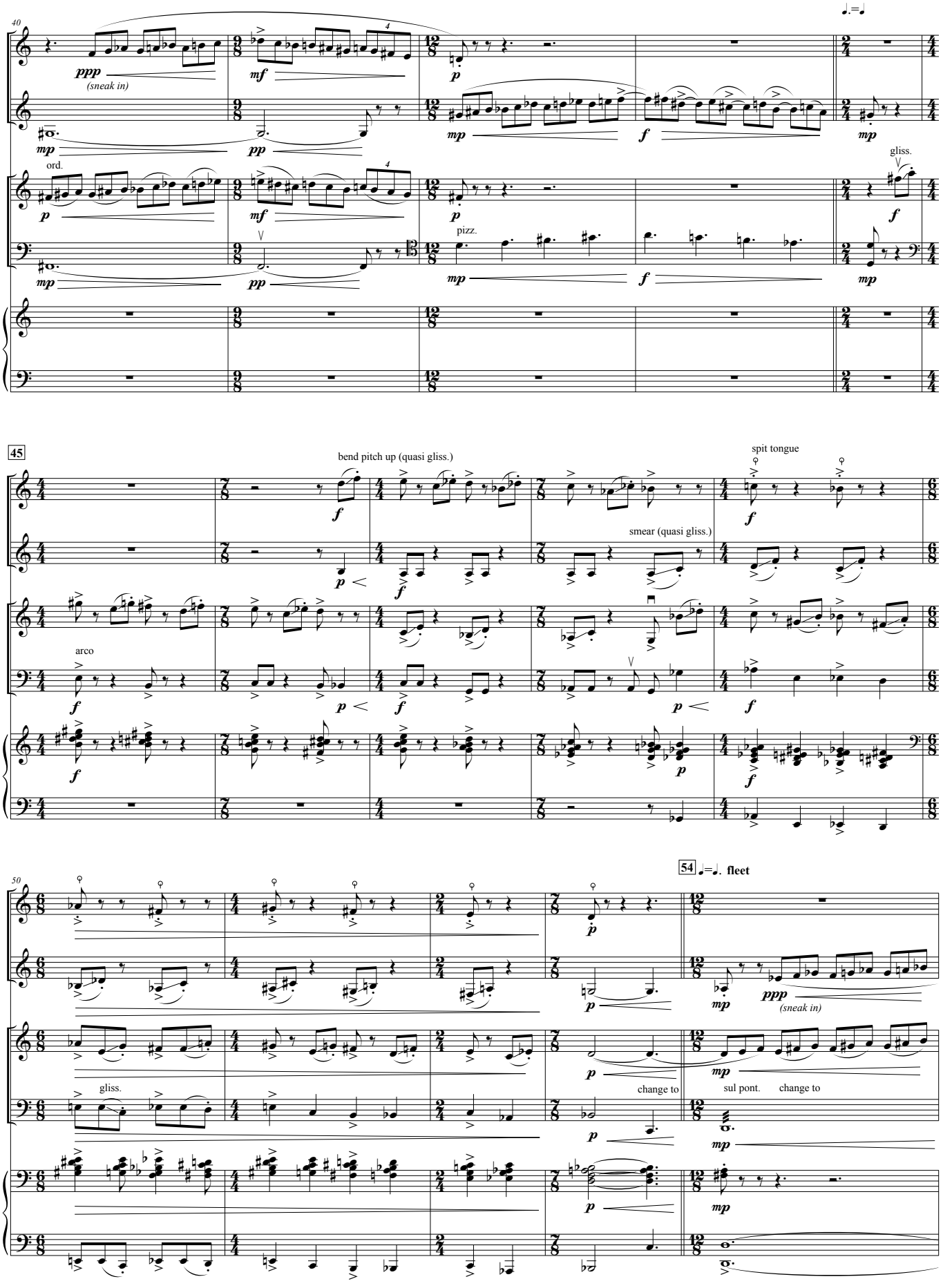
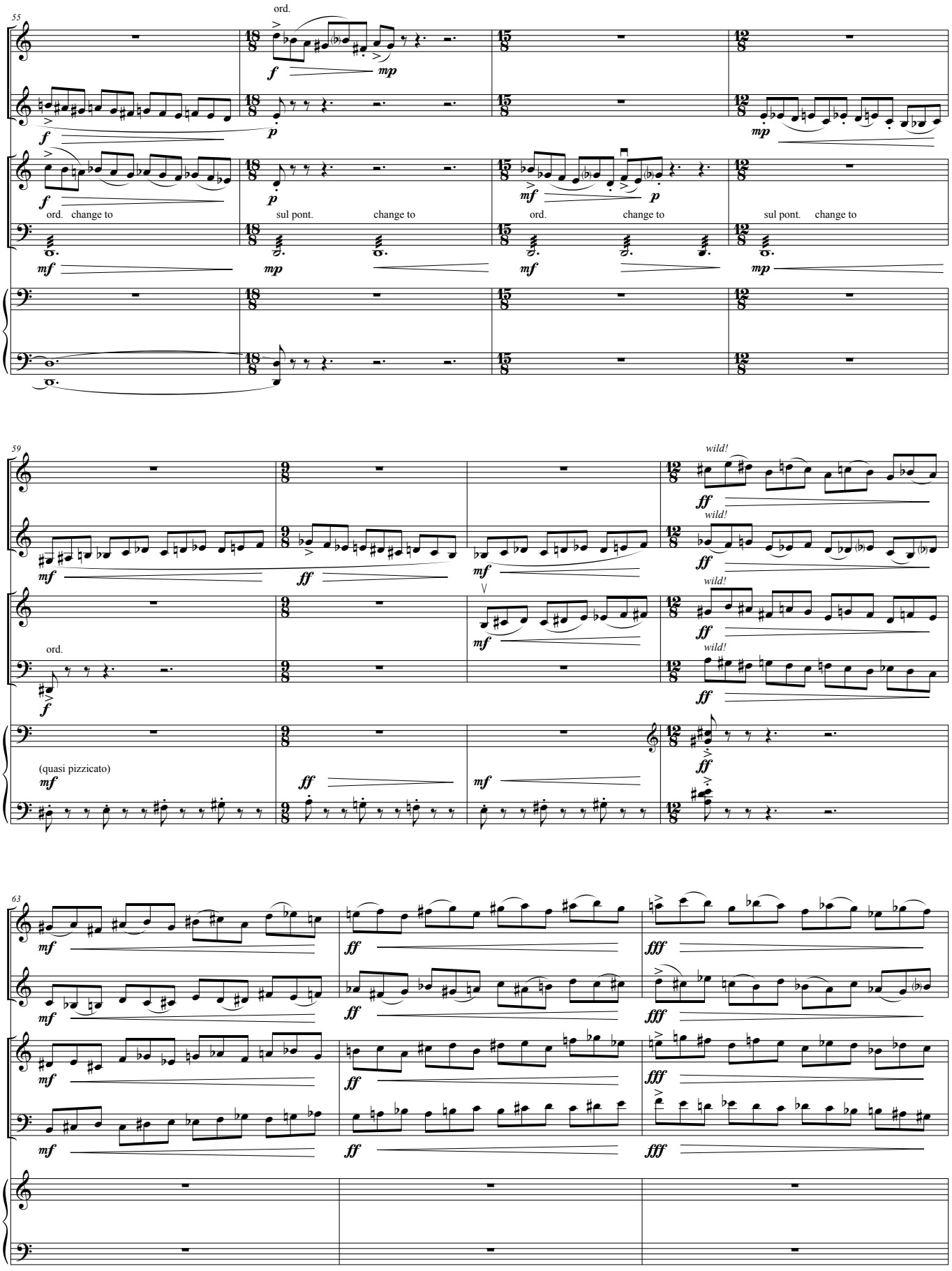
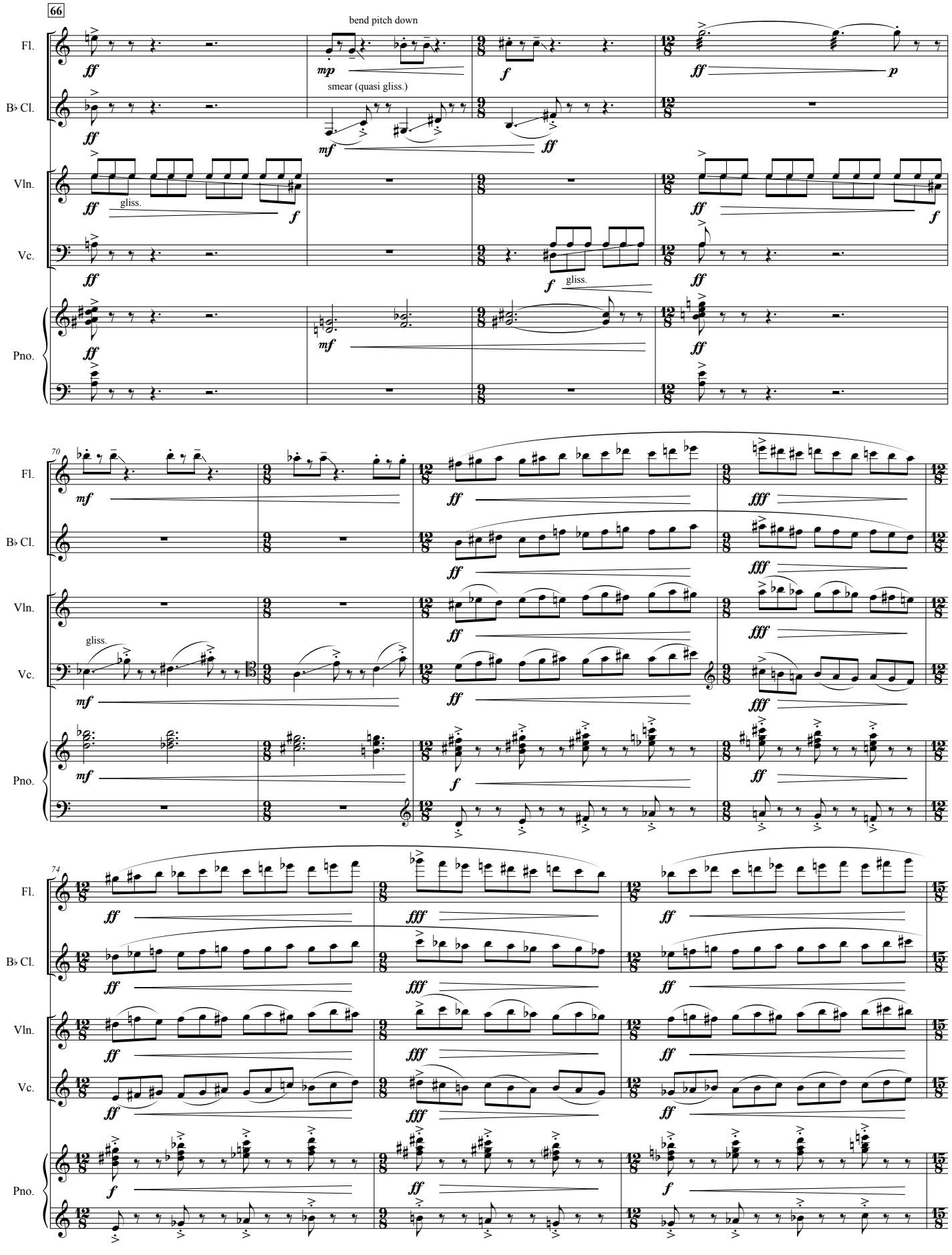
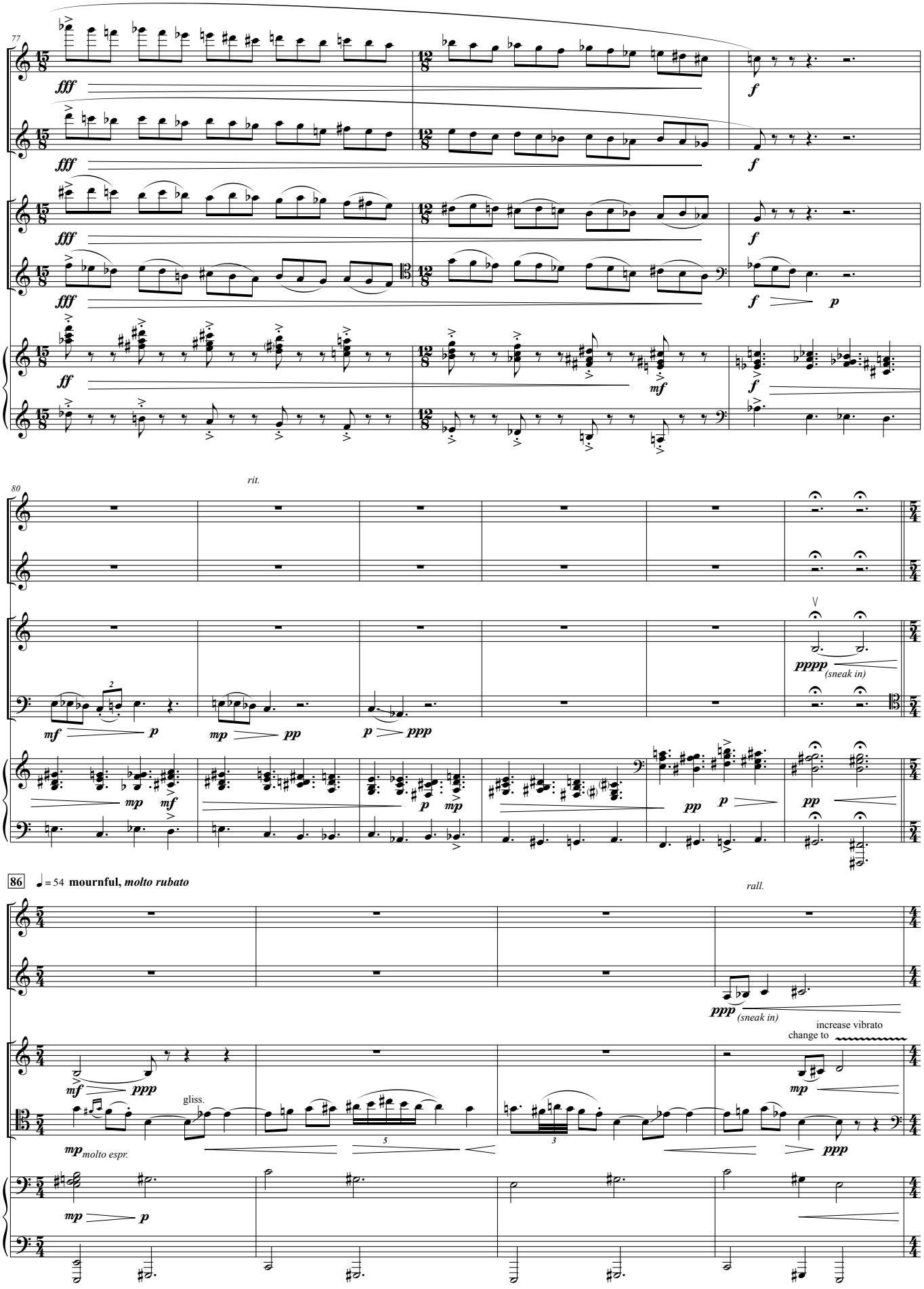

13
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
p
mp
senza sord.
fff
18
fiery
(fluttertongue)
(ord.)
fff
mf
pp
senza sord.
change to
sul pont.
ord.
gliss.
f
22
ppp
ord.
change to
sul pont.

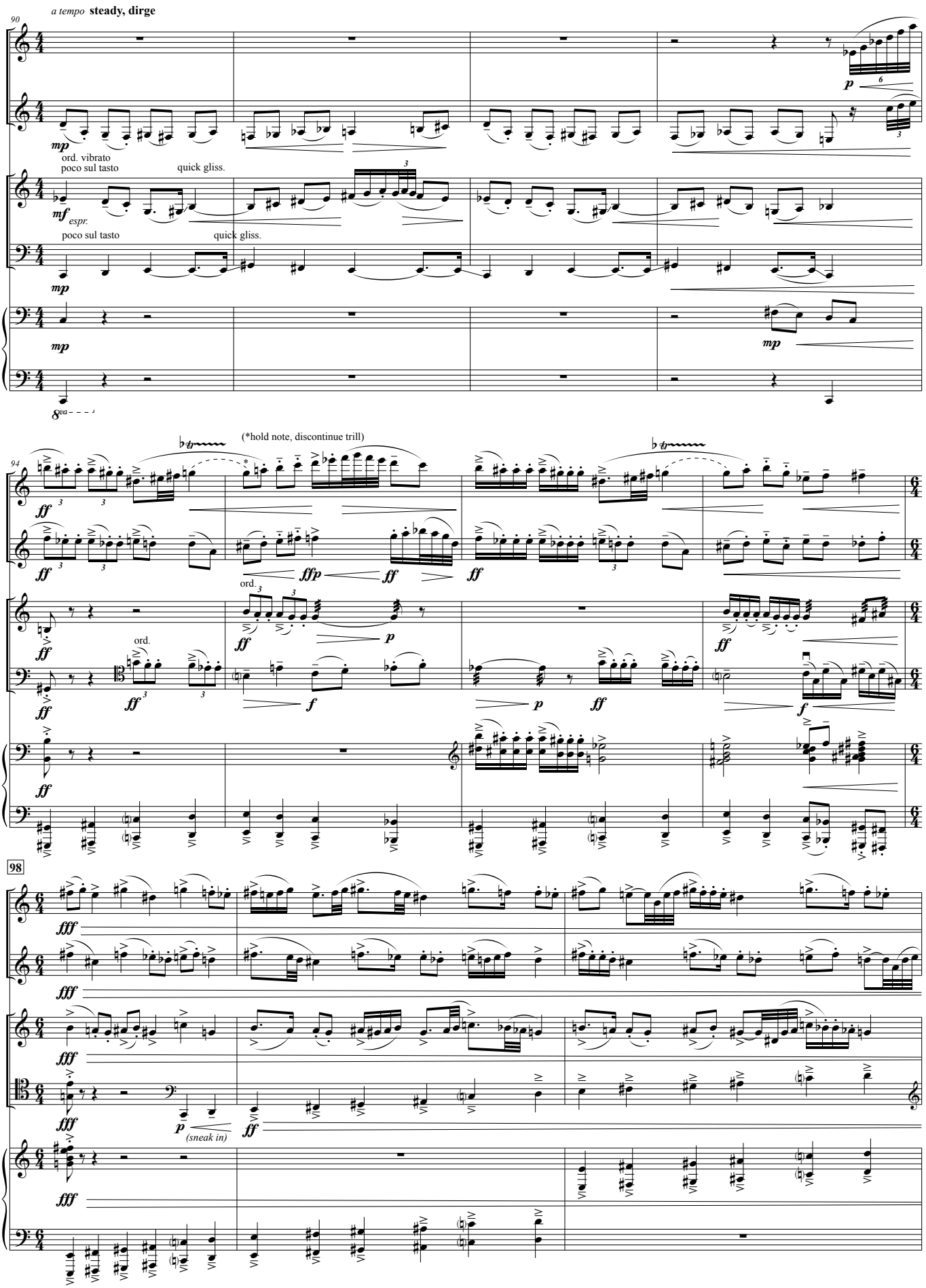

27
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
fff
mf
ord.
32 stately
31
f
p
change to
sul pont.
mp
36
pp

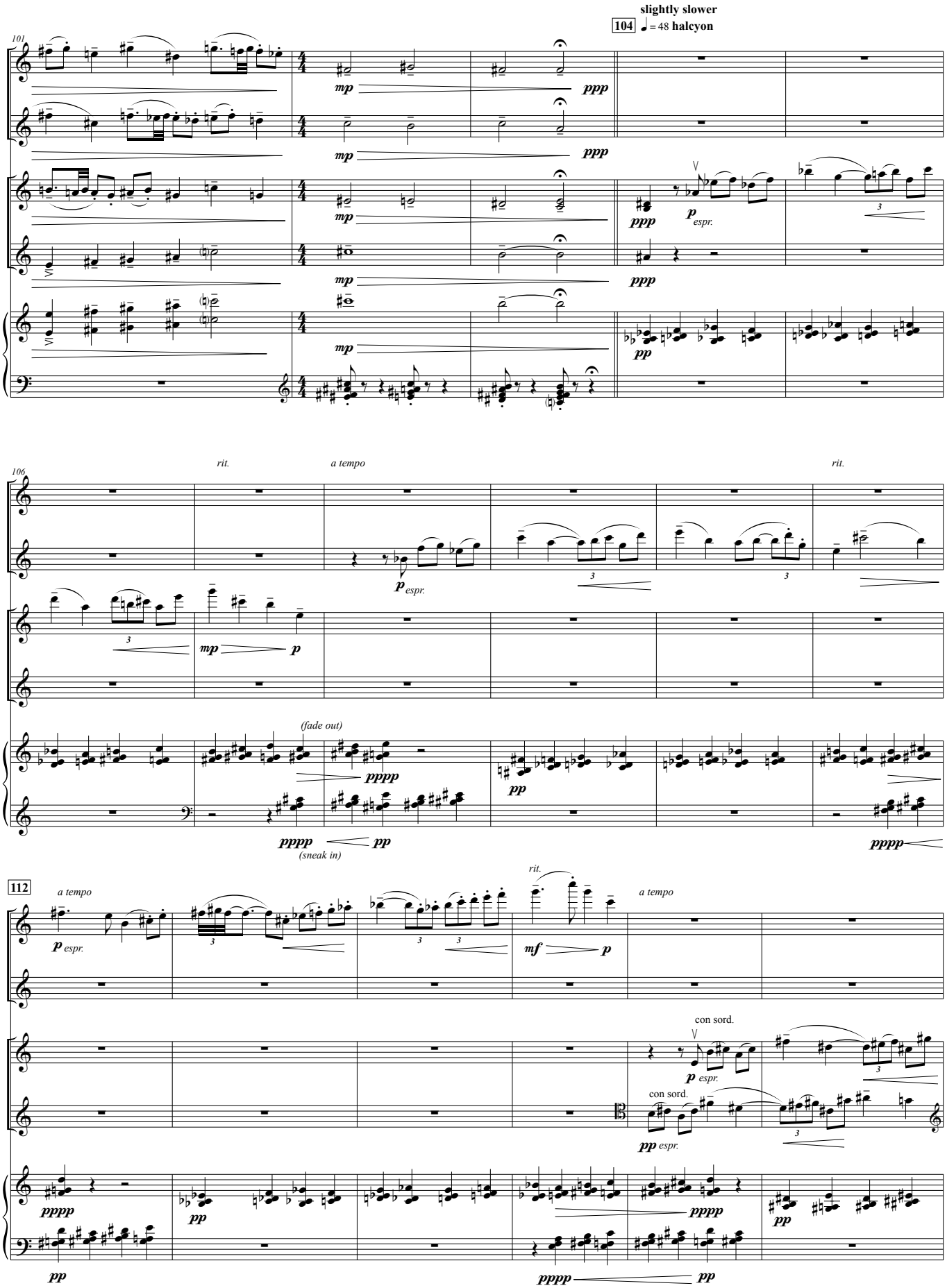

40
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ppp
(sneak in)
mf
p
mp
pp
f
ord.
pizz.
gliss.
45
bend pitch up (quasi gliss.)
spit tongue
smear (quasi gliss.)
arco
50
54 ♩=♩. fleet
gliss.
change to
sul pont.
change to

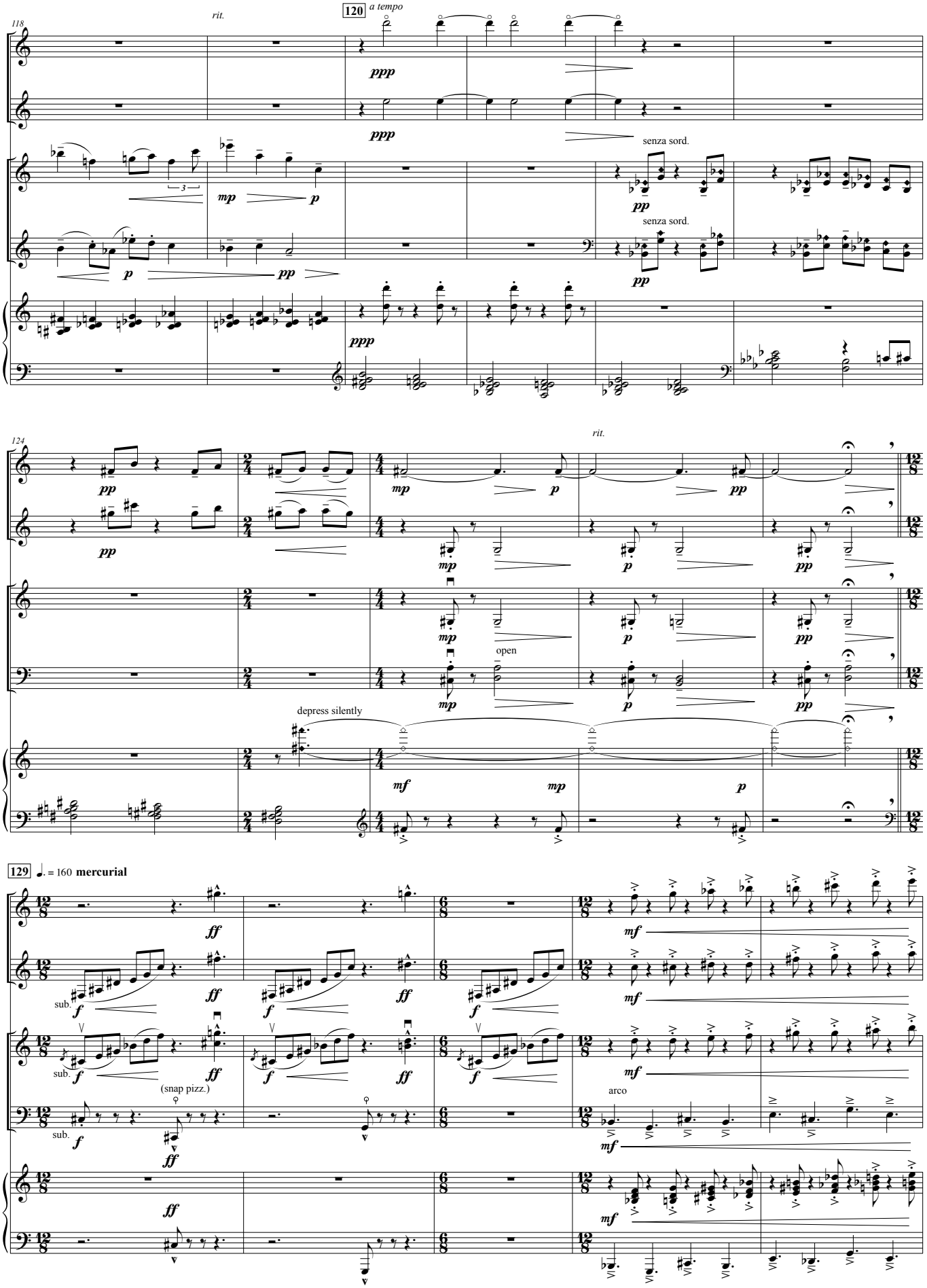

55
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ord.
change to
sul pont.
59
wild!
(quasi pizzicato)
63

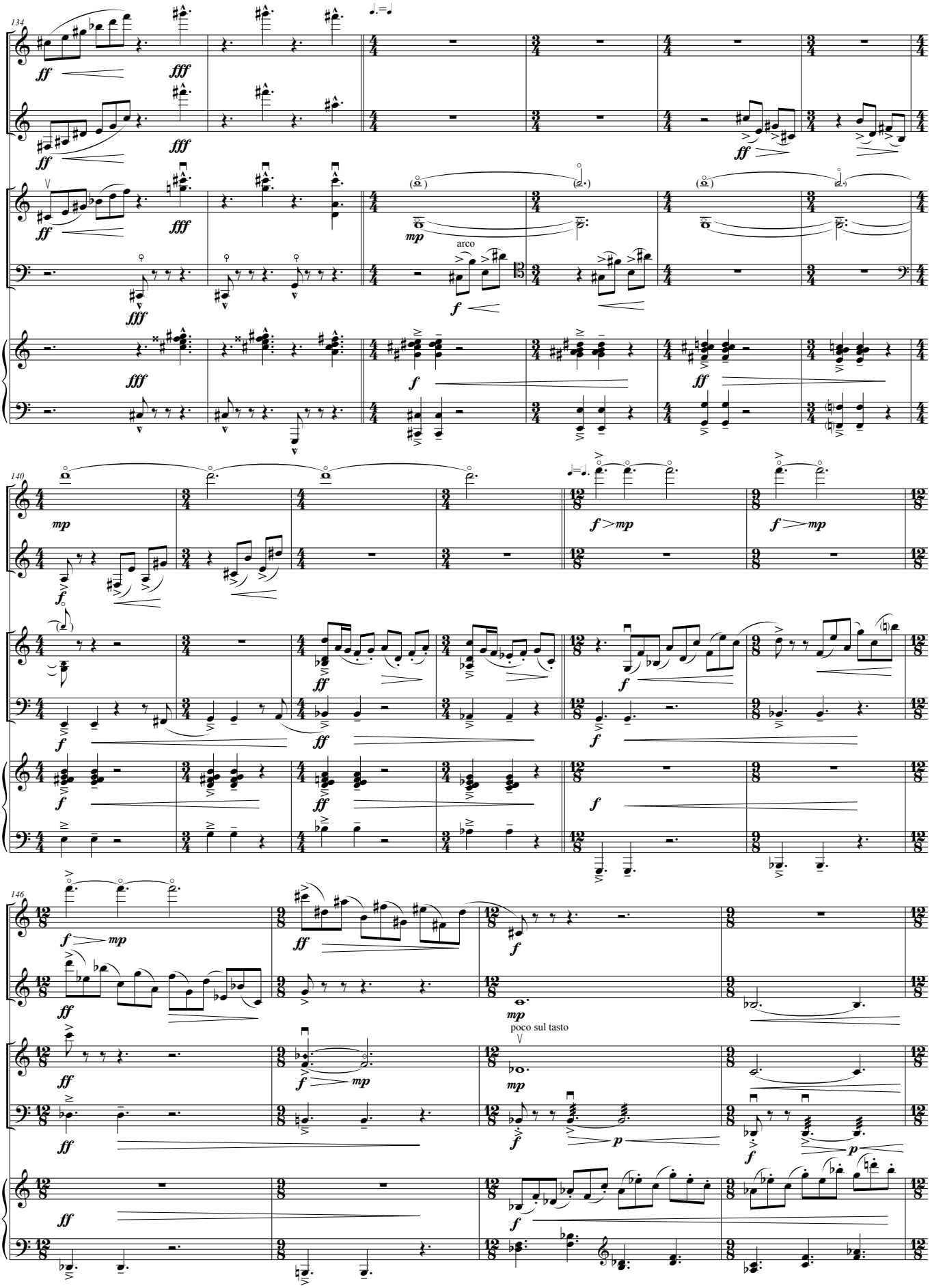

66
bend pitch down
smear (quasi gliss.)
gliss.
70
74
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.

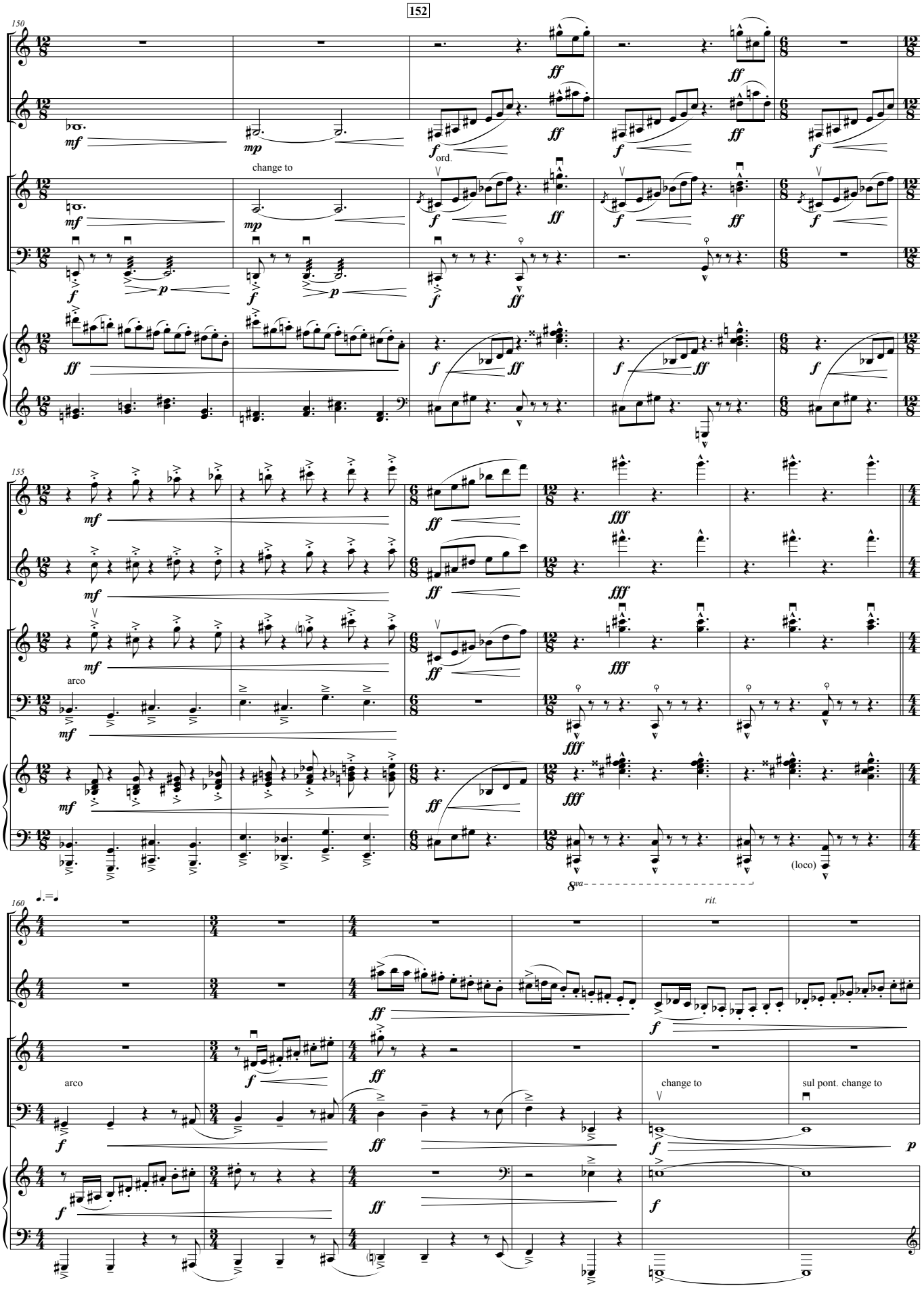

77
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
fff
f
ff
mf
p
80
rit.
pppp
(sneak in)
mf
mp
pp
ppp
86
♩ = 54 mournful, molto rubato
rall.
ppp
(sneak in)
increase vibrato
change to
gliss.
molto espr.

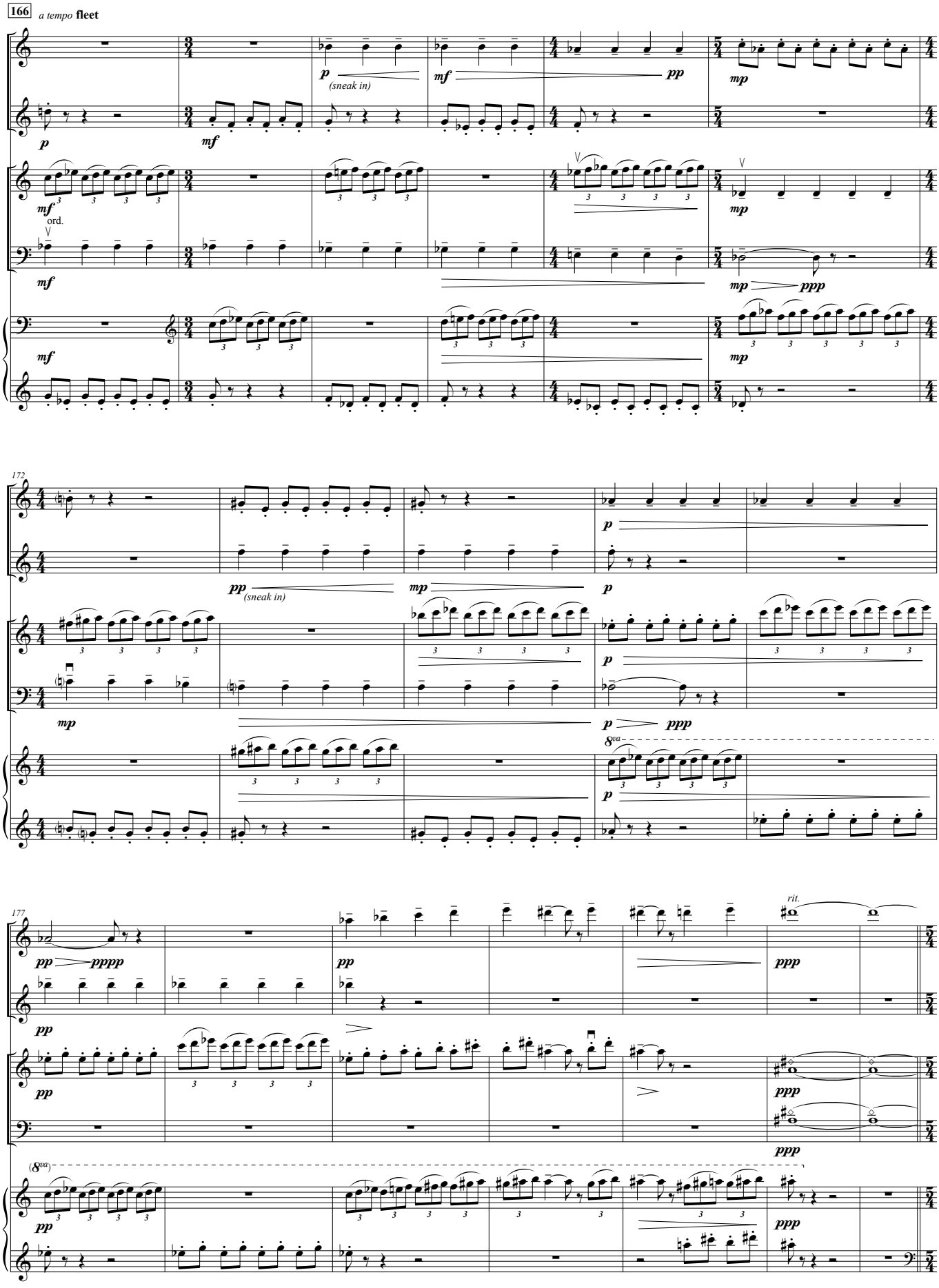

a tempo steady, dirge
90
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
ord. vibrato
poco sul tasto
quick gliss.
mf espr.
poco sul tasto
quick gliss.
mp
8va
94
(*hold note, discontinue trill)
ff
ffp
ff
ff
ord.
ff
p
ff
ff
ord.
ff
f
p
ff
f
ff
98
fff
fff
fff
p (sneak in)
ff
fff

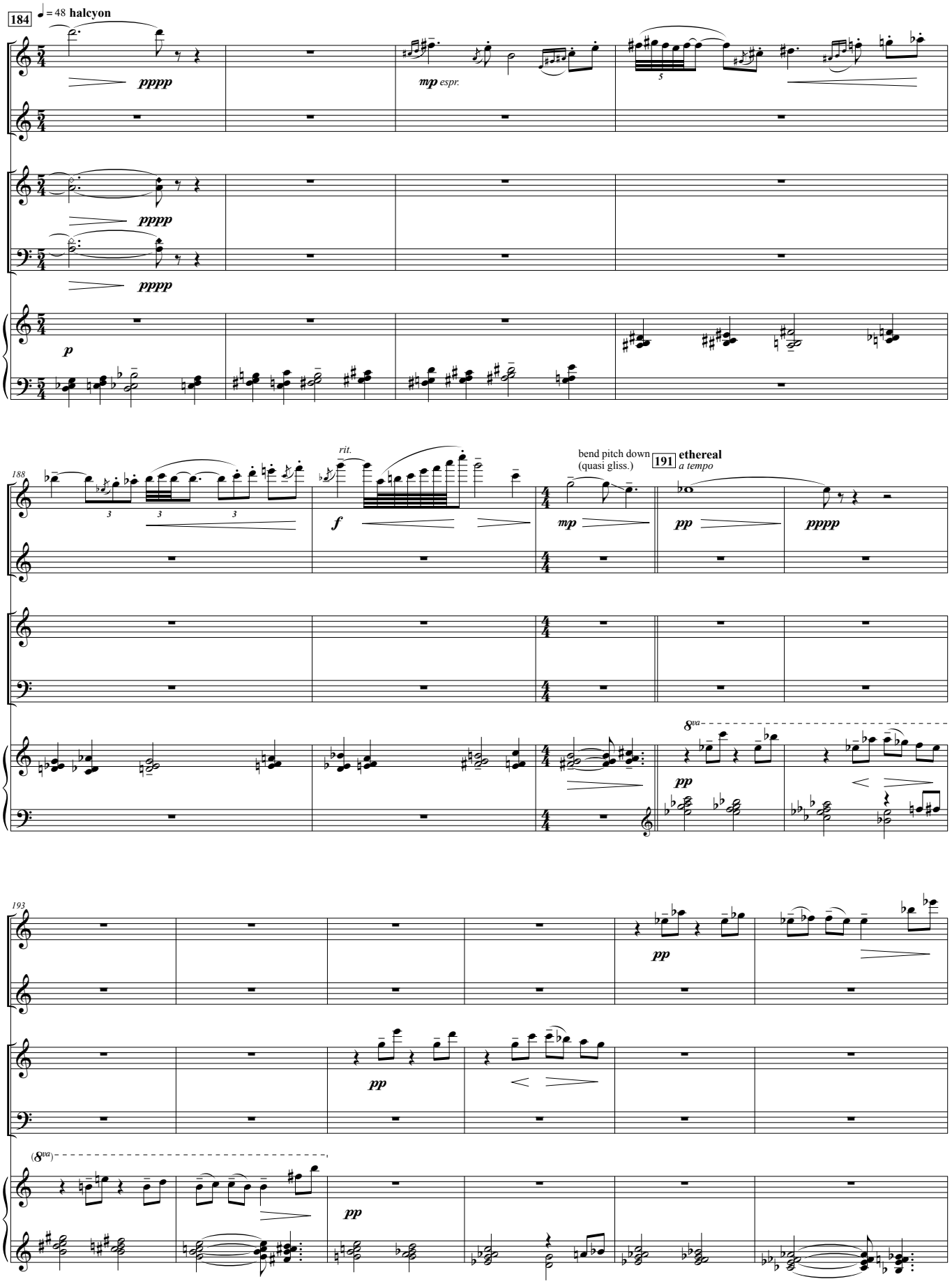

slightly slower
104 ♩ = 48 halcyon
101
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
ppp
p espr.
pp
106
rit.
a tempo
rit.
(fade out)
pppp
(sneak in)
112
a tempo
mf
con sord.

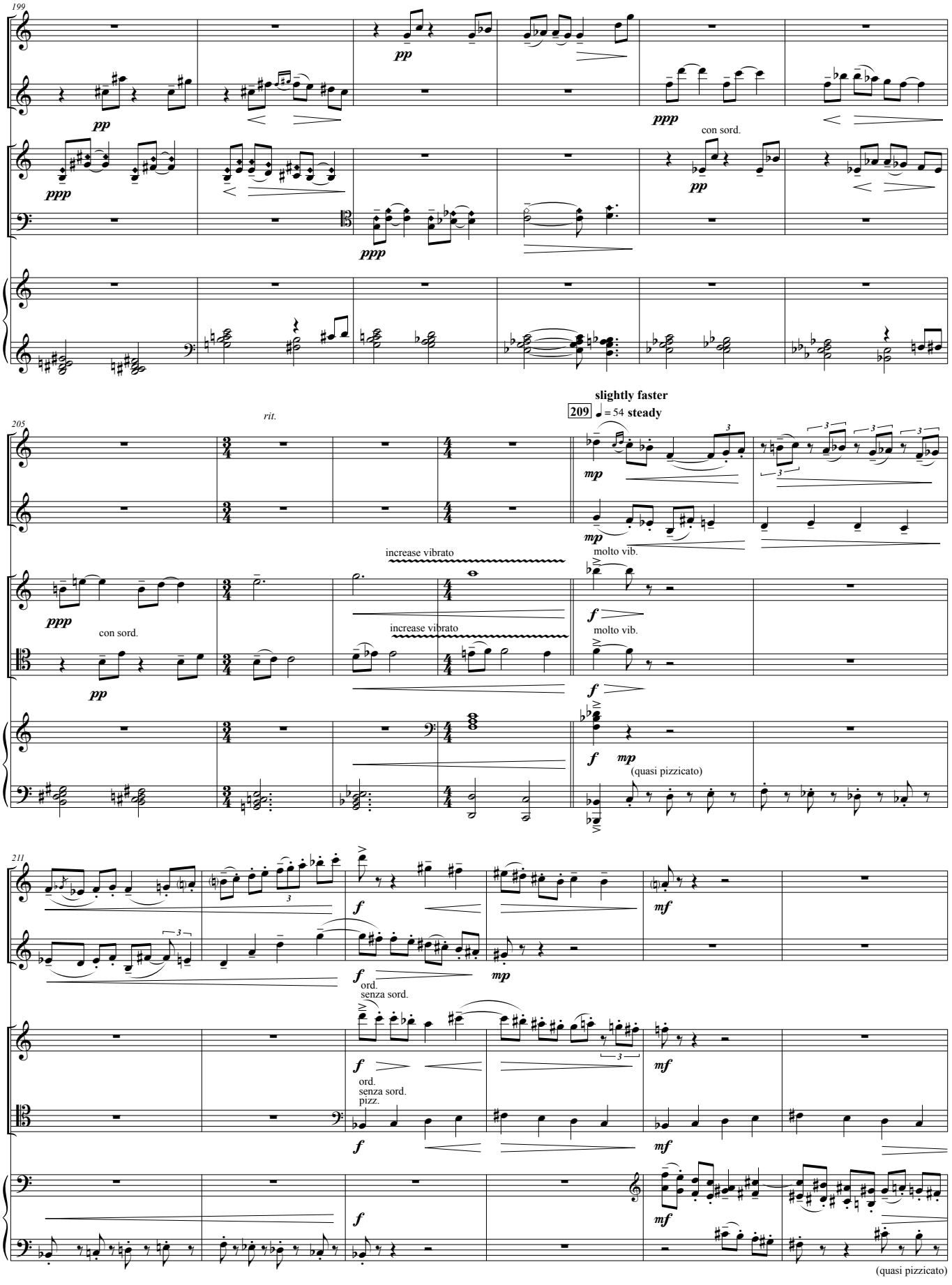

118
rit.
120 a tempo
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ppp
mp
p
pp
senza sord.
3
124
rit.
mf
open
depress silently
129 ♩. = 160 mercurial
ff
f
sub.
(snap pizz.)
arco

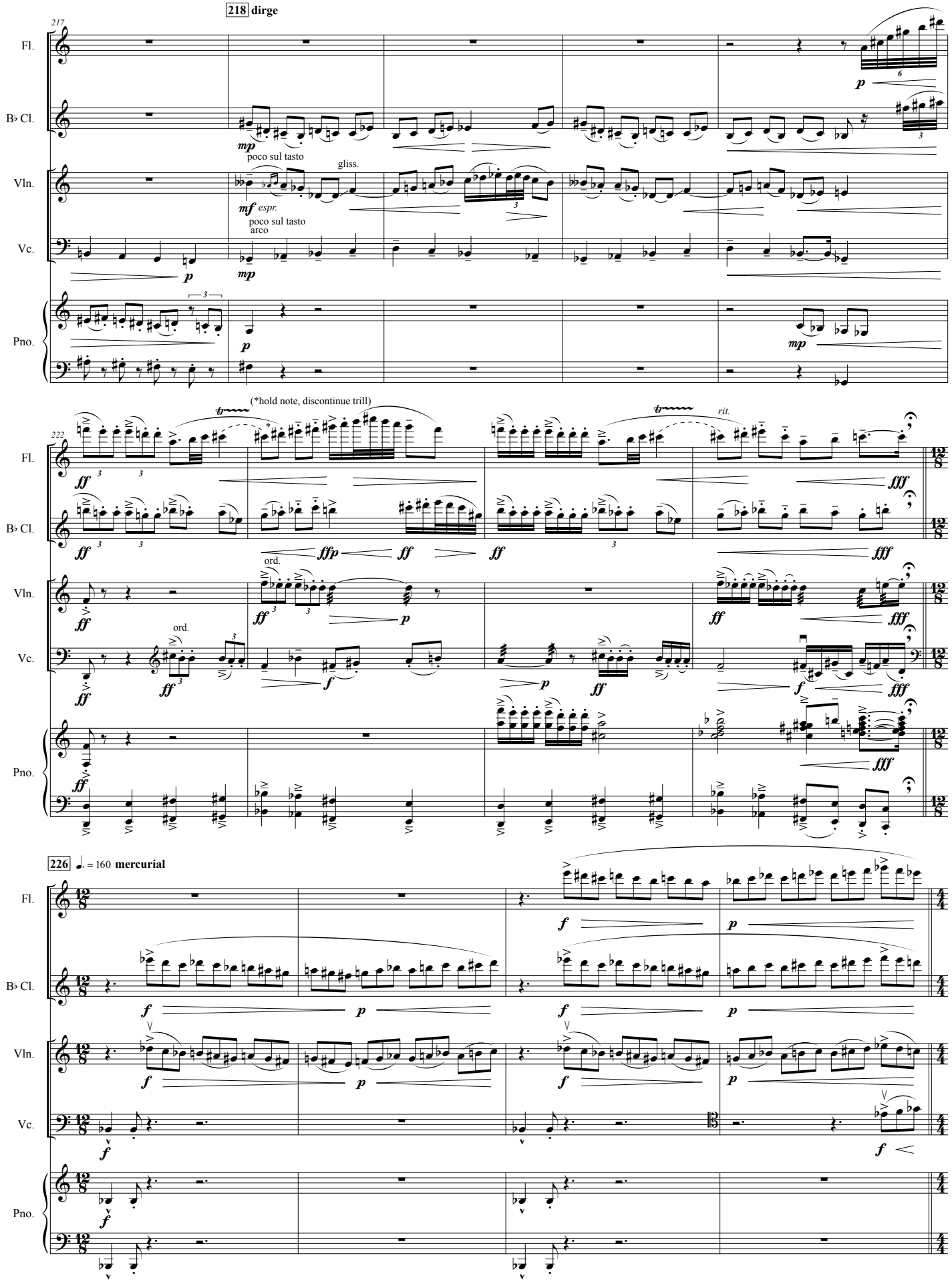

134
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
140
poco sul tasto
146

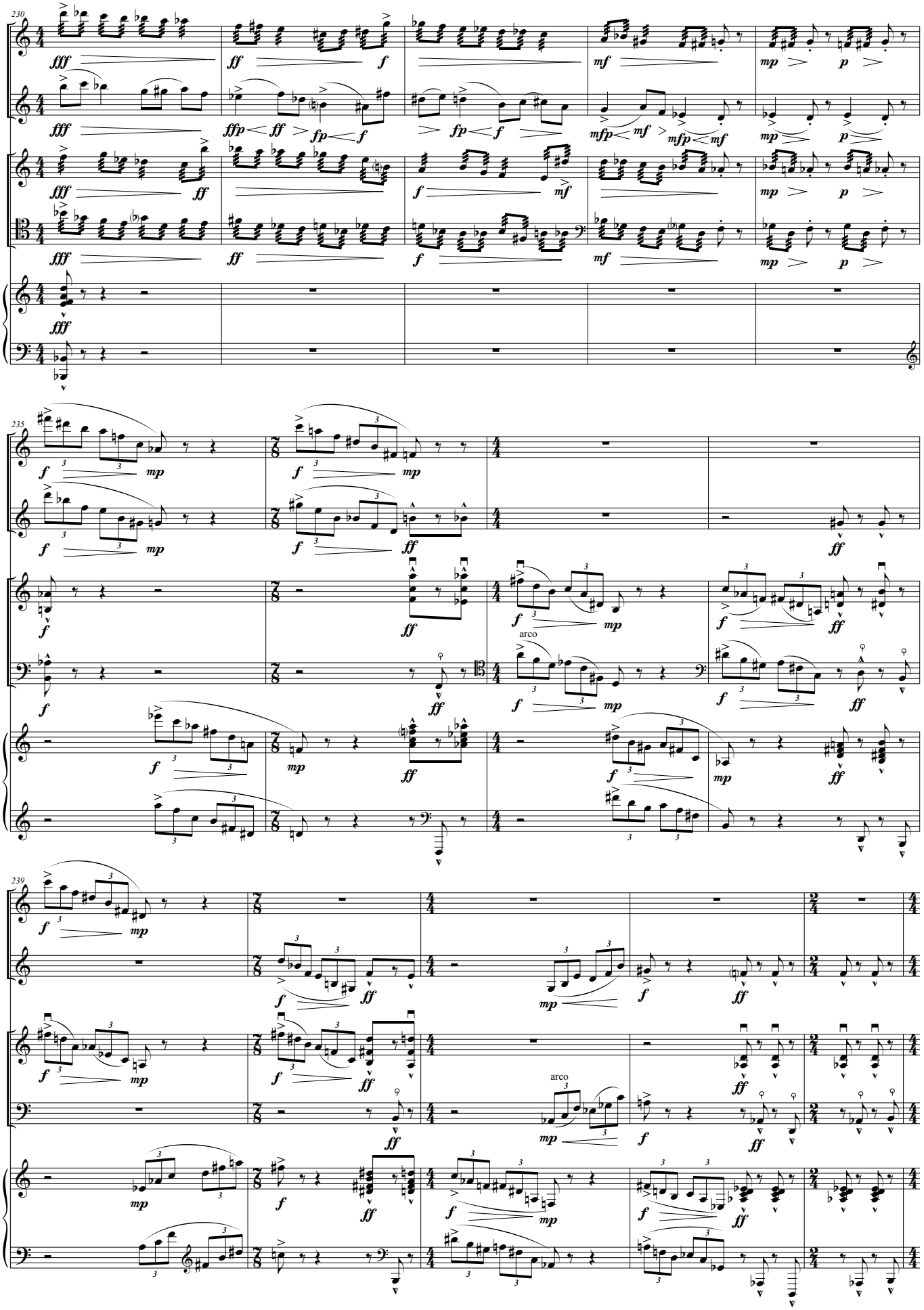

152
150
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
change to
ord.
155
arco
8va
(loco)
160
rit.
change to
sul pont. change to

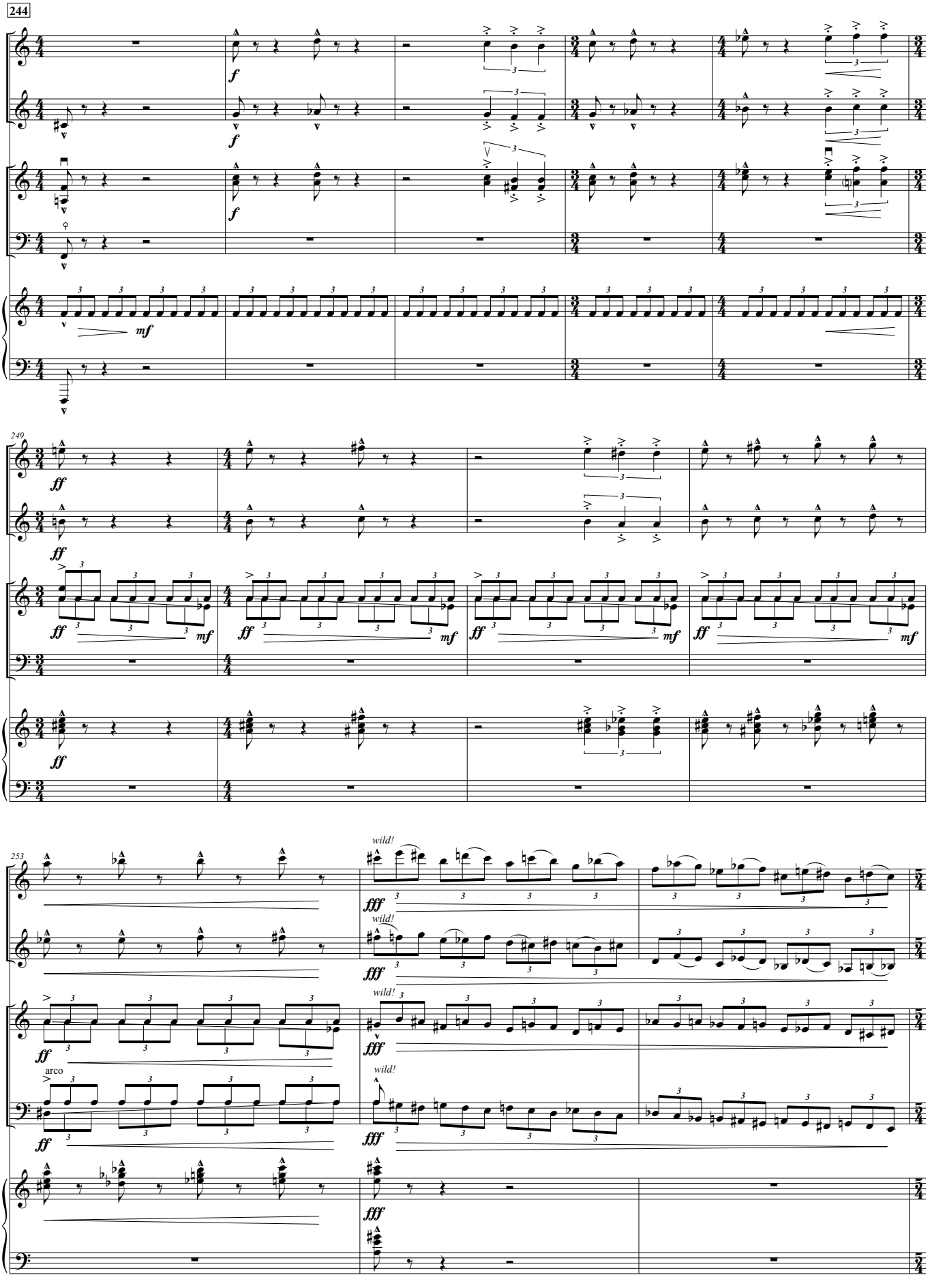

166
a tempo fleet
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ord.
(sneak in)
172
177
rit.
(8va)

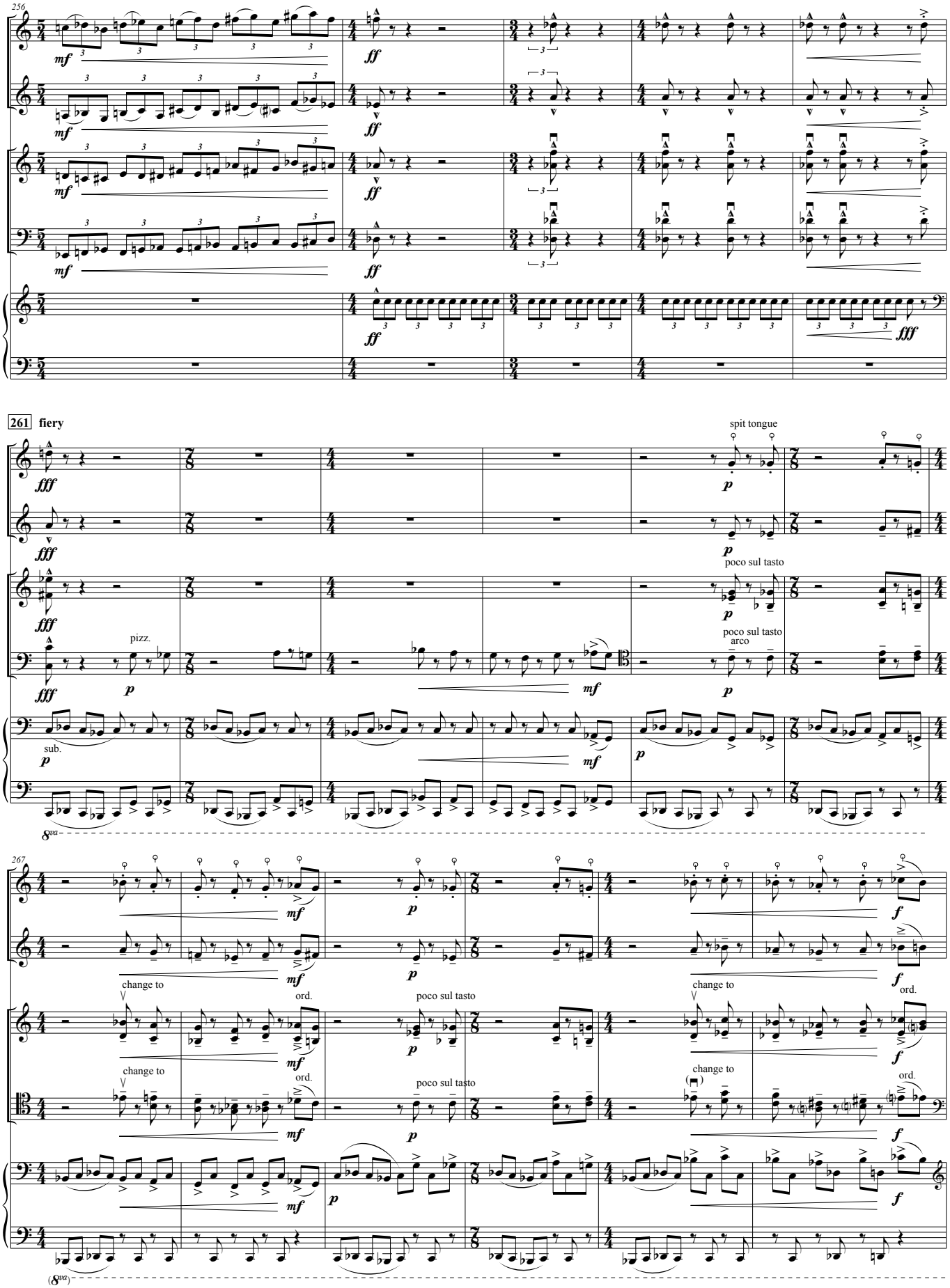

184
♩ = 48 halcyon
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pppp
mp espr.
p
188
rit.
f
mp
bend pitch down
(quasi gliss.)
191 ethereal
a tempo
pp
8va
193
(8va)

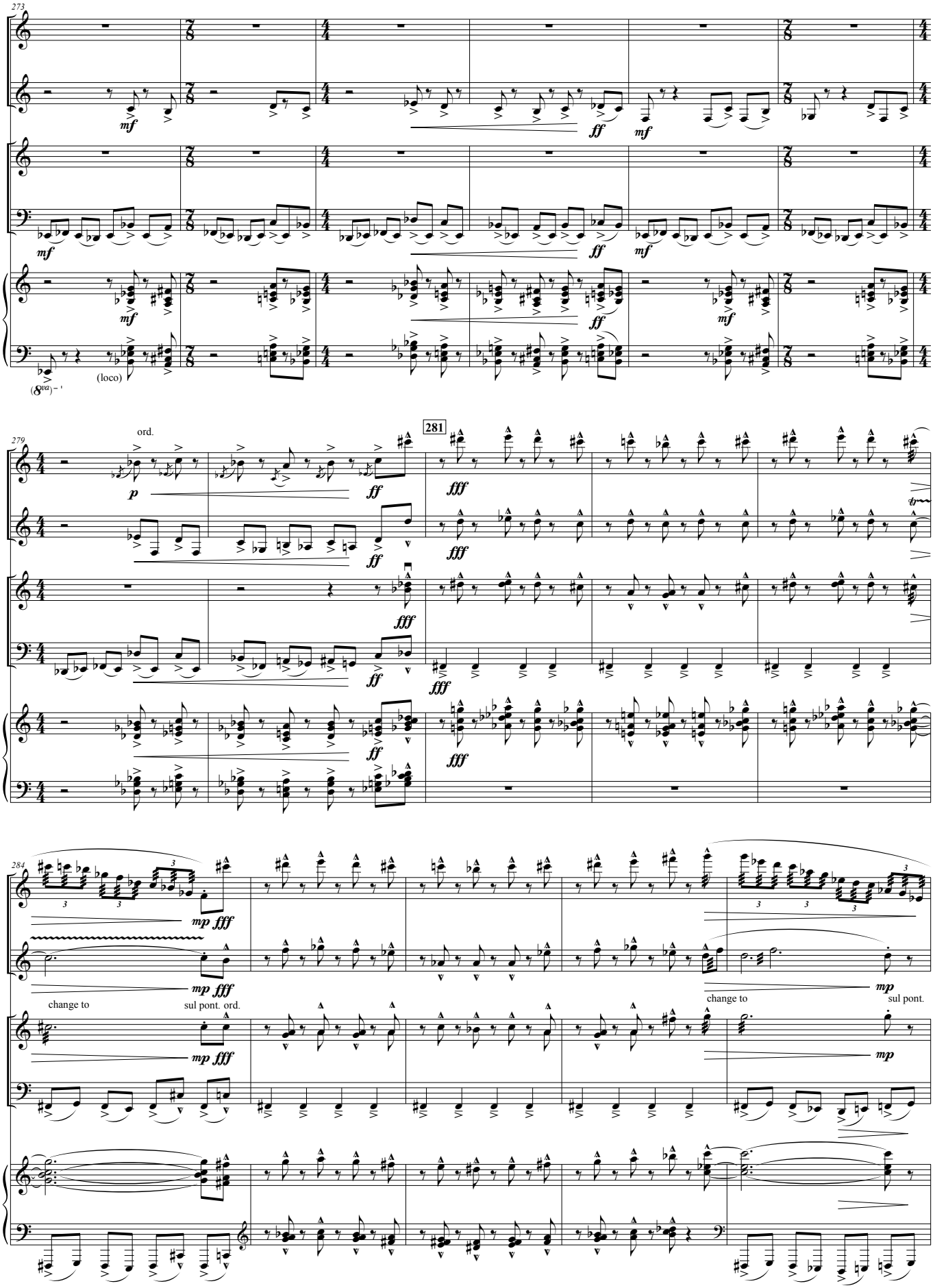

199
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
ppp
con sord.
205
rit.
slightly faster
209 ♩ = 54 steady
mp
molto vib.
increase vibrato
f
(quasi pizzicato)
211
mf
ord.
senza sord.
pizz.

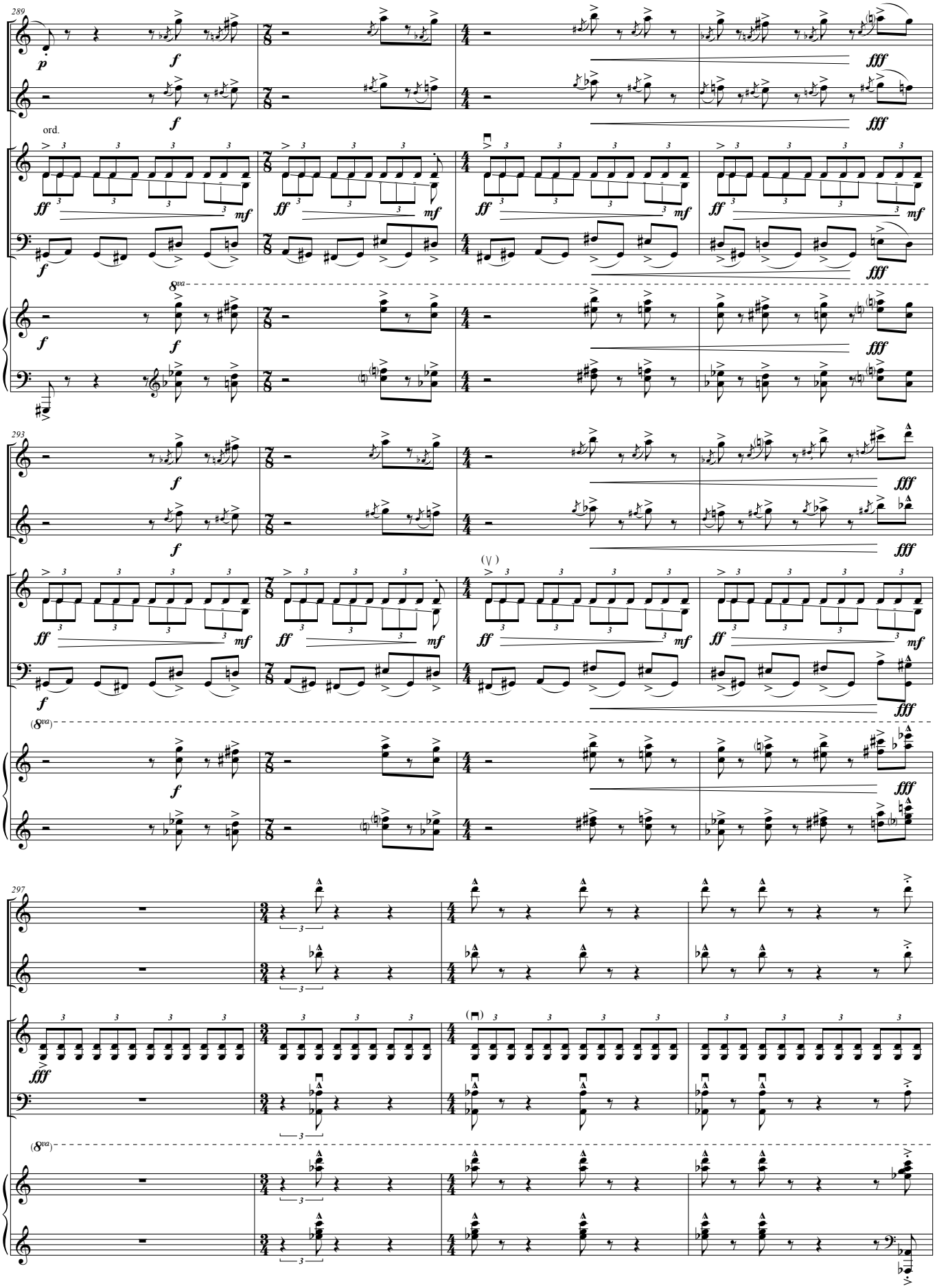

218 dirge
217
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
poco sul tasto
gliss.
mf espr.
poco sul tasto
arco
p
222
(*hold note, discontinue trill)
rit.
ff
fff
ffp
ord.
226 ♩. = 160 mercurial
f

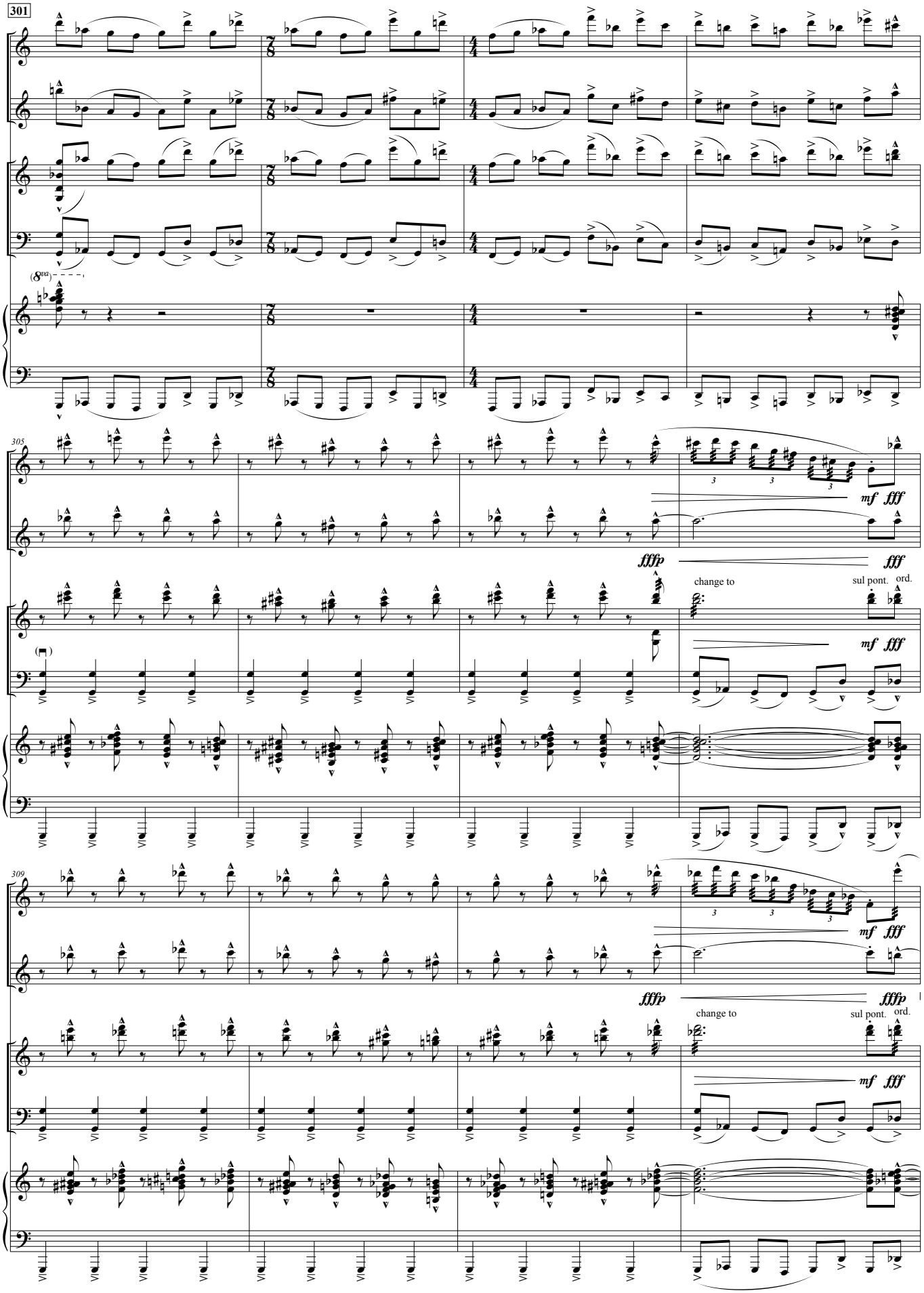

230
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
235
arco
239
arco

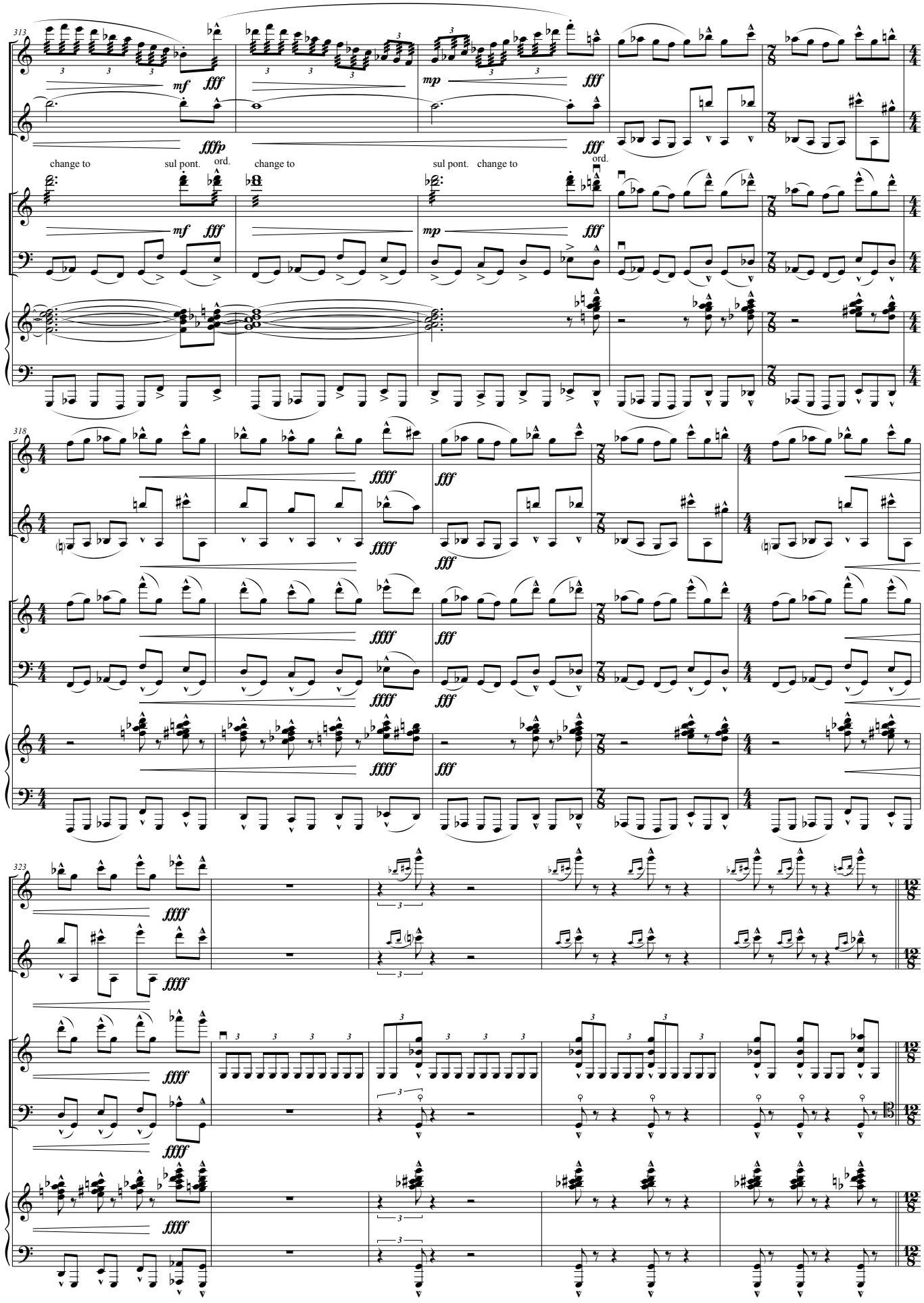

244
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
f
mf
249
ff
253
wild!
fff
arco

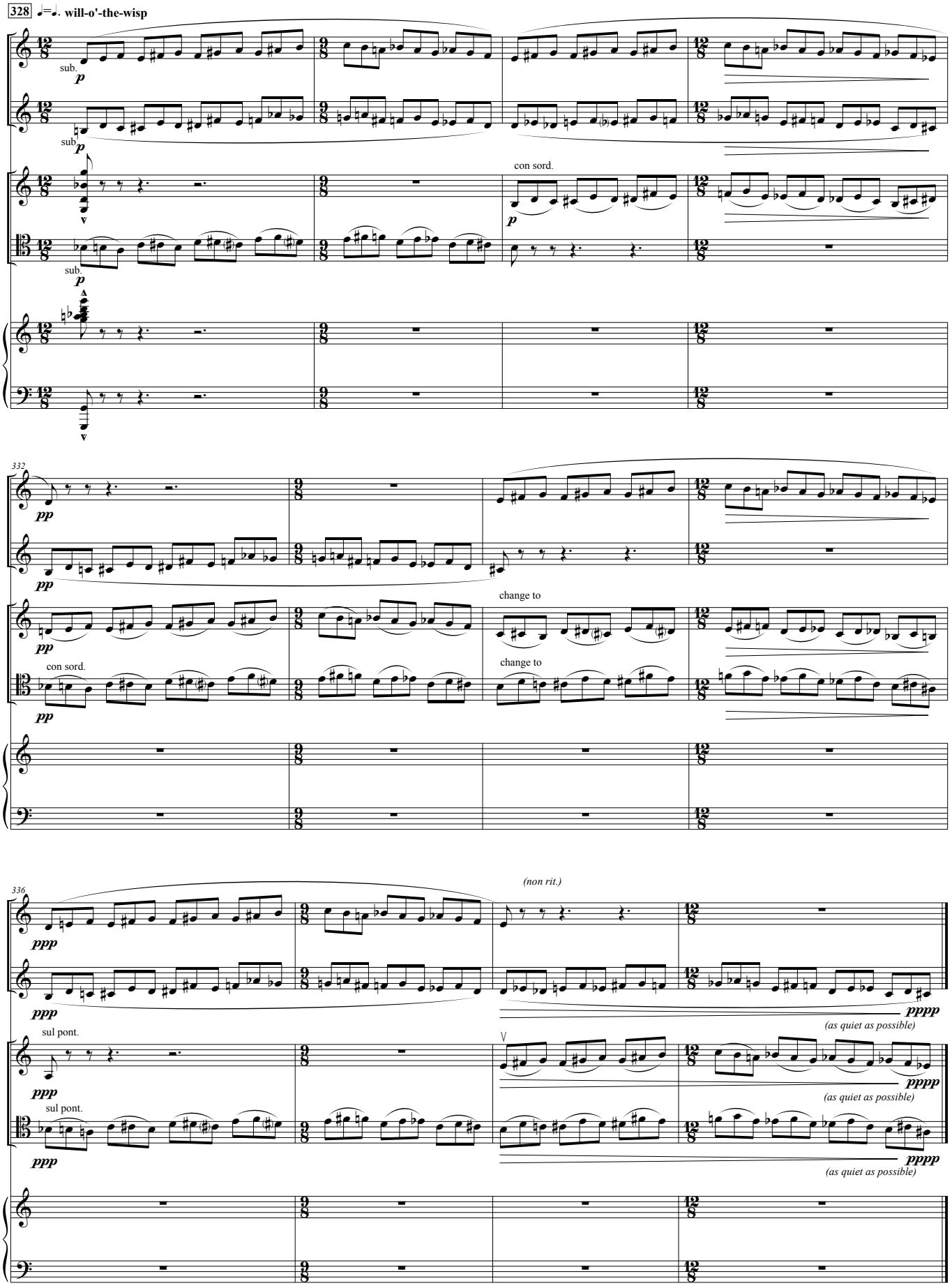

256
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mf
ff
fff
261 fiery
spit tongue
poco sul tasto
pizz.
arco
sub.
8va
267
change to
ord.
(8va)


273
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
(loco)
279
ord.
281
284
change to
sul pont. ord.
change to
sul pont.


289
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
ord.
Vln.
Vc.
8va
Pno.
293
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
(8va)
Pno.
297
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
(8va)
Pno.


301
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
(8va)
305
mf fff
fffp fff
change to
sul pont.
ord.
309


313
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
change to
sul pont.
ord.
change to
sul pont.
change to
ord.
318
323


328 ♩=♩. will-o'-the-wisp
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
sub.
p
con sord.
332
pp
change to
con sord.
336
(non rit.)
ppp
pppp
(as quiet as possible)
sul pont.