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WHIP THE DEVIL ROUND THE STUMP

FOR VIOLIN AND PIANO

By Juhi Bansal

“To whip the devil round the stump”, verb. phr. (American).

- To enjoy the sweets of wickedness and yet escape the penalty.

Duration: 5'30"

This piece is dedicated to Panic Duo - Nic Gerpe and Pasha Tseitlin

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Performance notes:

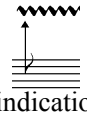
To both performers:

- All grace notes are to be played ON the beat.-
- The 16th note remains constant throughout.

Violin:

1) The opening of this piece through mm11 is purely gestural. Neither pitch nor rhythms given are exact. Exercise interpretive license in realizing these gestures, while keeping the character and ensemble effect intact. Similar points later in the piece are labelled "gestural".

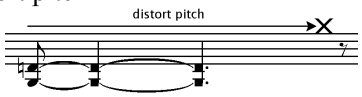
2) "Wide vibr" or graphic:



This indication asks for a dramatically wide vibrato which obscures the basic pitch. No single note should be clearly audible or defined.

When the vibrato gesture is at an angle, continue the wide vibrato while sliding down in a glissando. The slide should not be in a single smooth line, but instead exponential, speeding up as it reaches the culminating note.

4) Distort pitch



This effect uses an atypically slow bow speed and excessive bow pressure to create a noise effect (scratch tone). Occasionally an indication will be given to begin playing a note as normal, and add bow pressure to gradually alter the timbre. A square notehead may be used to indicate a rhythmic point by which the sound is already heavily distorted.

5) Sul pont

Where indicated, this asks for an extremely glassy effect, played very near or over the bridge. This should be a distinctly different, metallic sound compared to pitches played in the normal position.

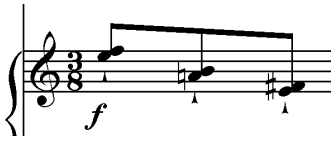
6) Martele

Where a martele articulation is combined with a tenuto mark, the effect should be of a strong, accented bow stroke held for full value. (A slight break or breath before the following note is acceptable.)

Piano:

1) Small notes (such as at mm28) indicate an ornamental gesture which should be played so as to be blurry and with an unclear rhythm.

2) A wedge articulation (see graphic below) indicates staccatissimo, as standard. (Please note that when seen in the violin part, the articulation is accented but NOT shortened. (See note on "Martele" bowing above.)



Fast and frenzied
♩. = 60

(Screaming, distorted, like an electric guitar)
wide vibr.

distort pitch

sul E

ff

ff

sempre staccato

8vb

3

4 (gestural)

jete

fff

8vb

9

(8)

distort pitch

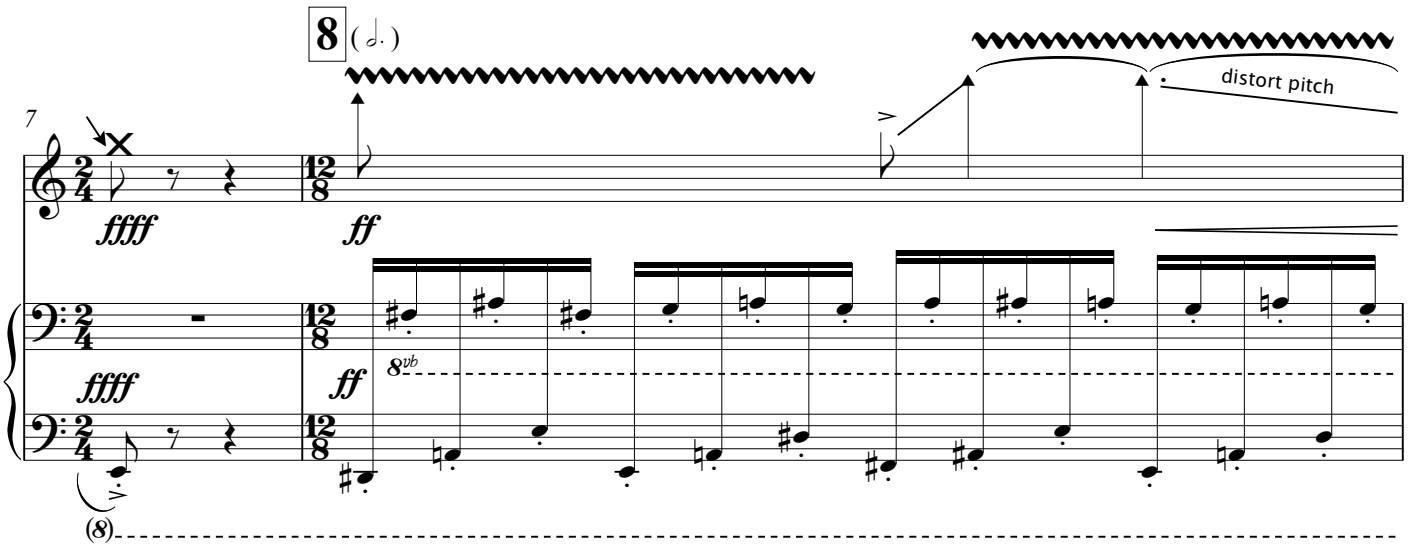
5

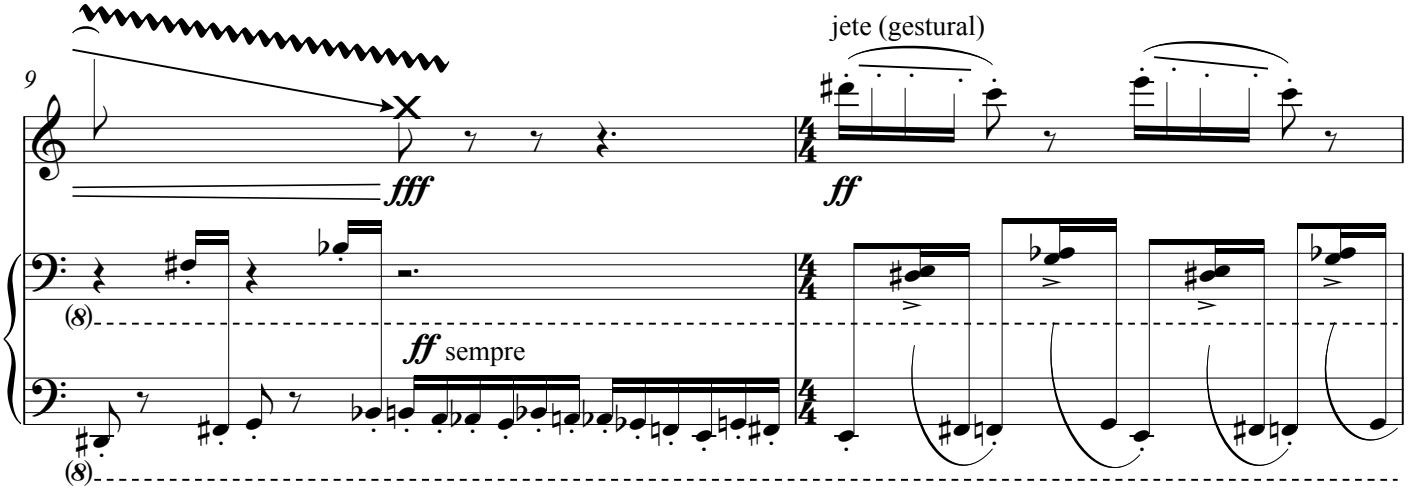
sul E

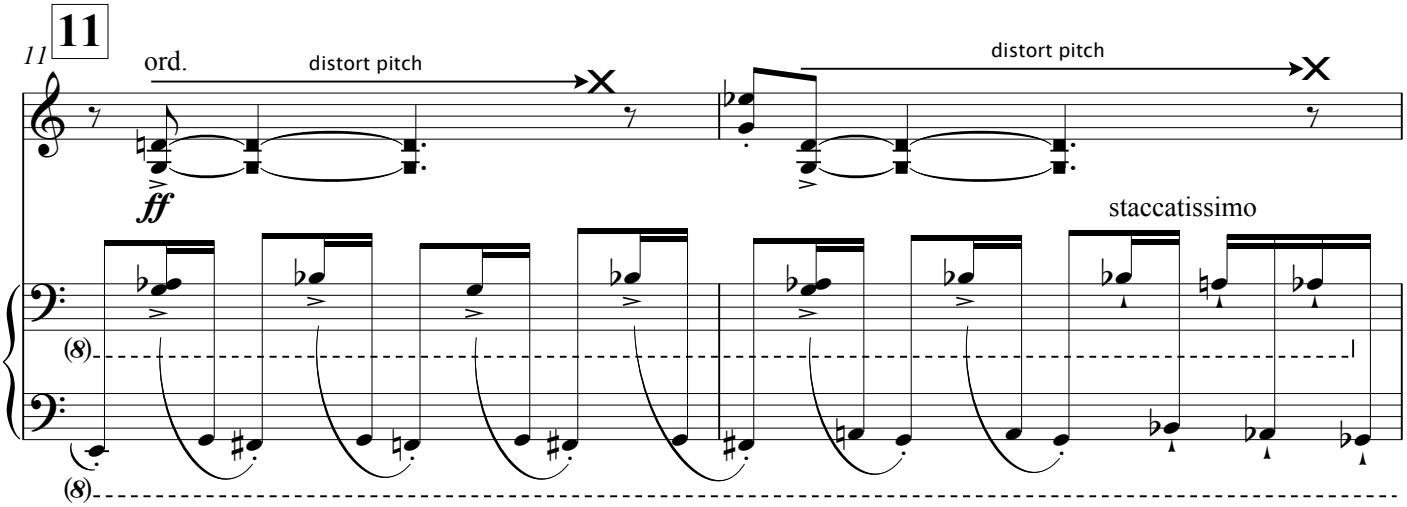
(8)

8vb

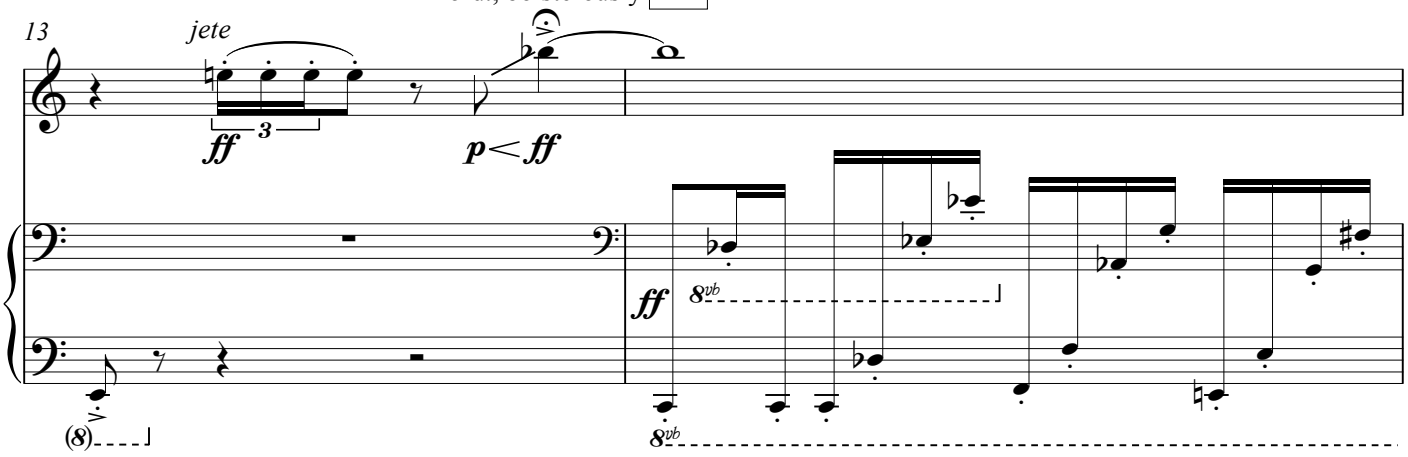
(8)

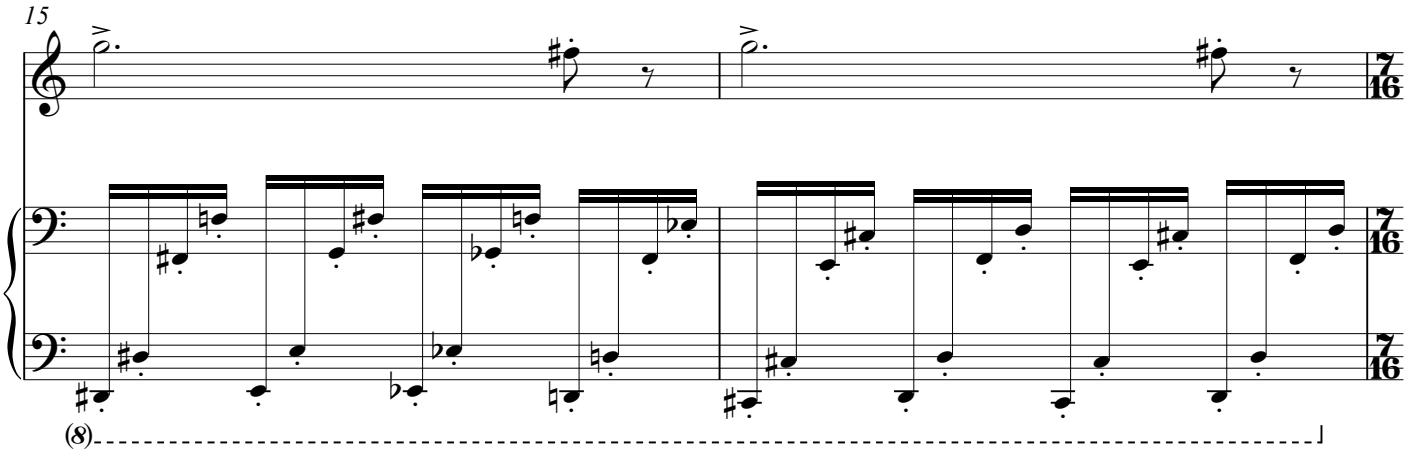

8 (𝅗𝅥.)
distort pitch
7
ffff
ff
ffff
ff
8vb
(8)


jete (gestural)
9
fff
ff
(8)
ff sempre
(8)


11
11
ord.
distort pitch
distort pitch
ff
staccatissimo
(8)
(8)

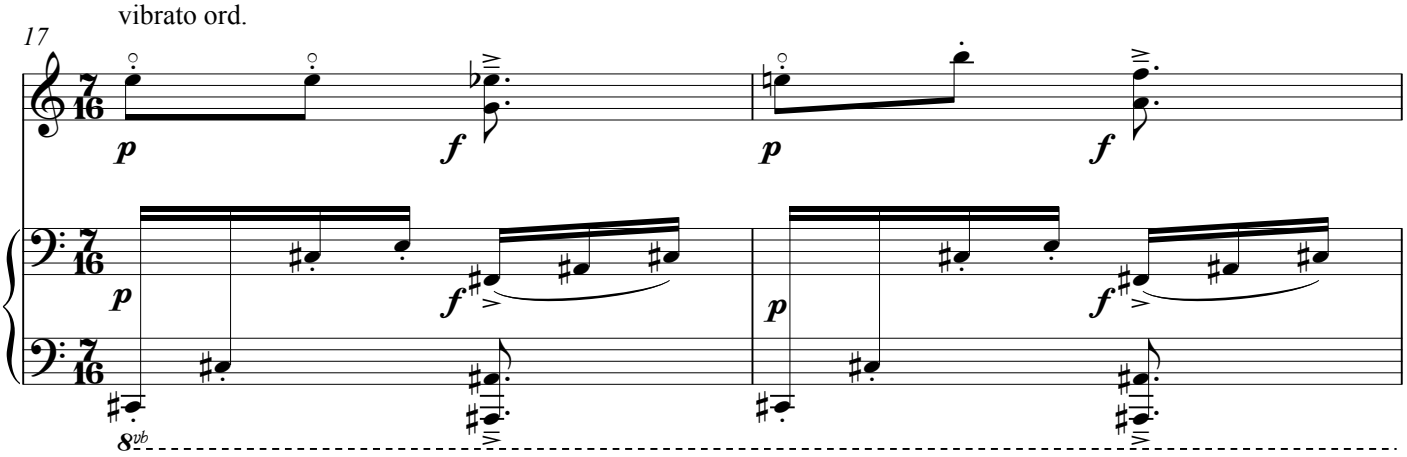
ord., boisterously **14**

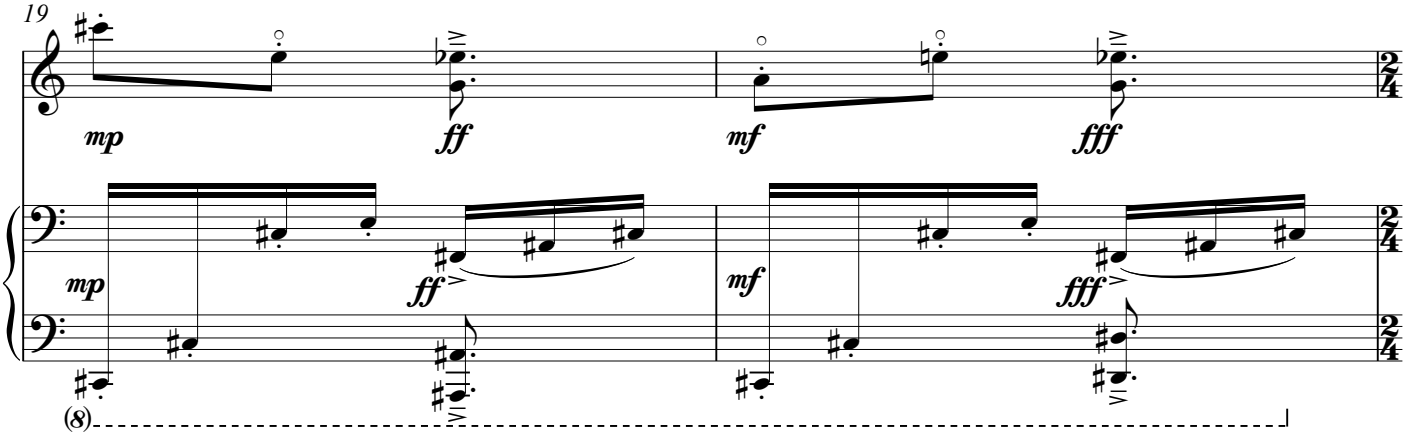


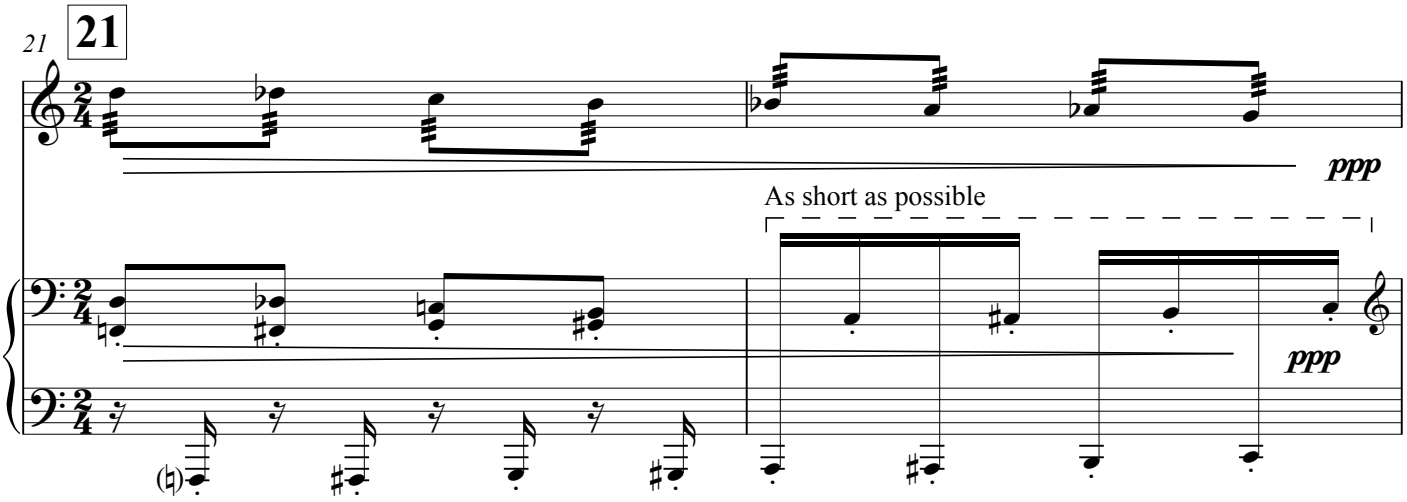


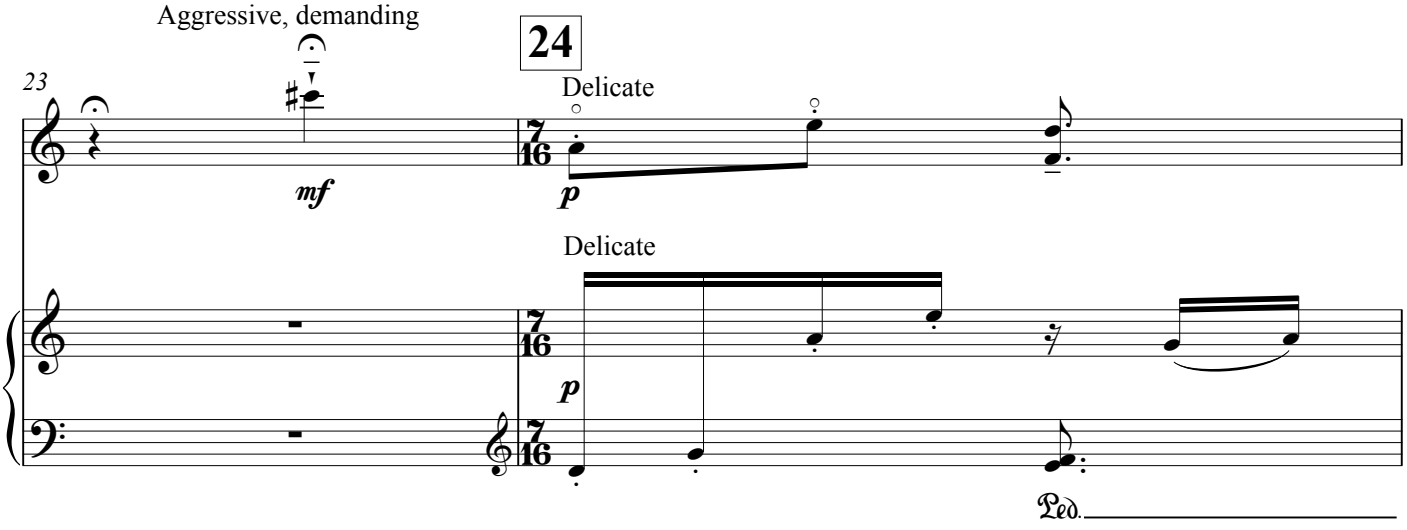
17

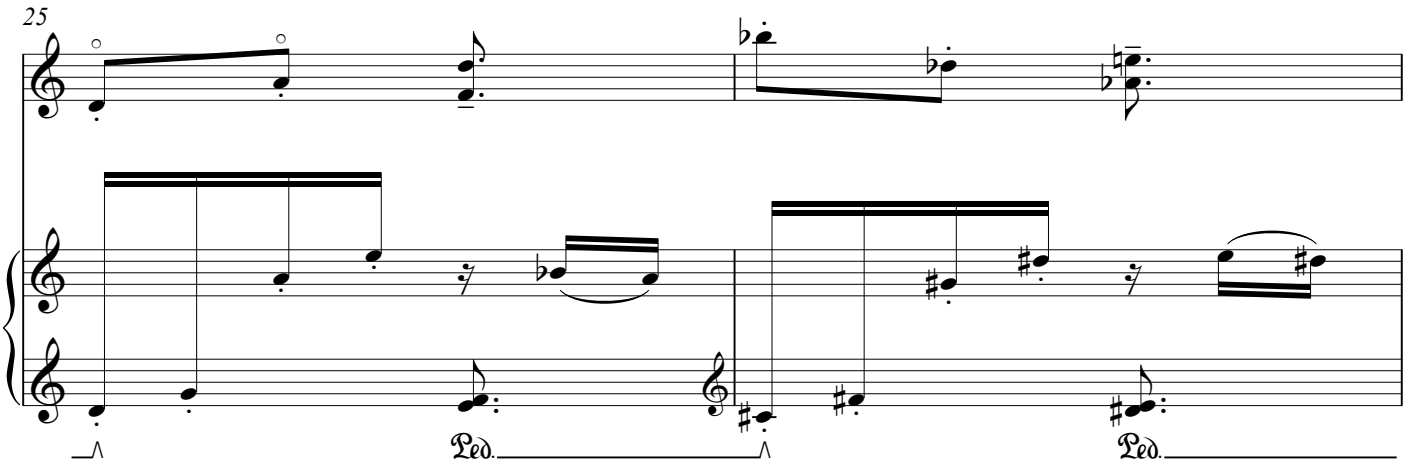
vibrato ord.




19
mp
ff
mf
fff
(8)

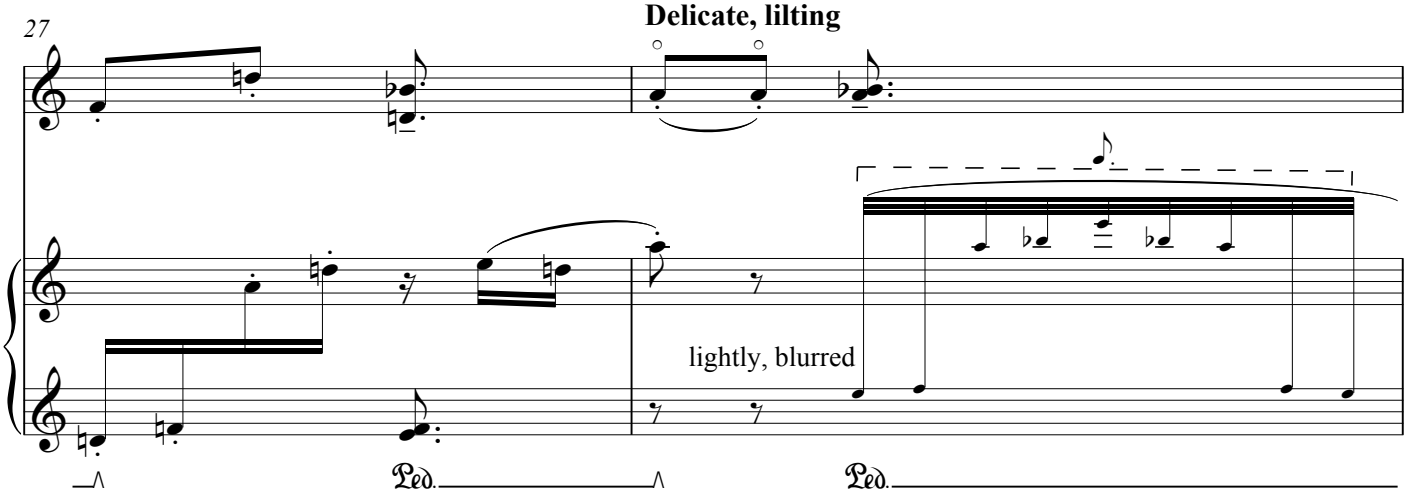

21
21
ppp
As short as possible
ppp

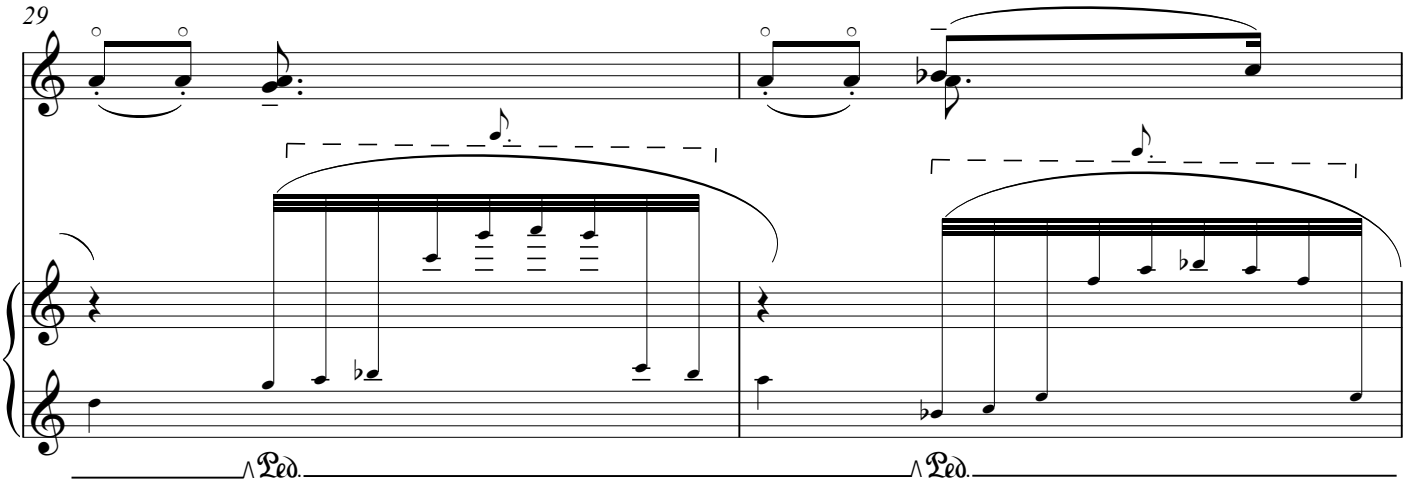

Aggressive, demanding
23
mf
24
Delicate
p
Delicate
p
Ped.

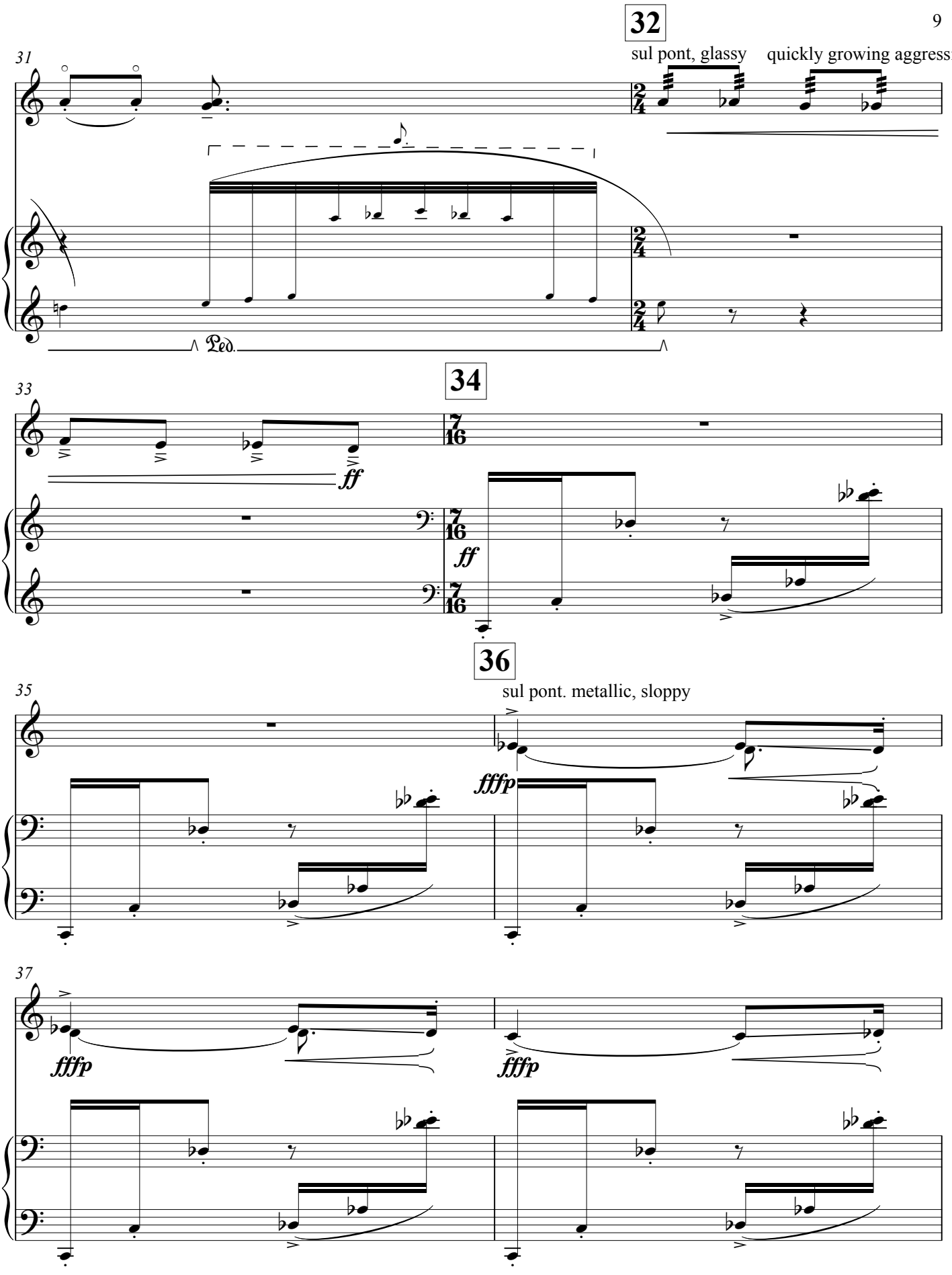


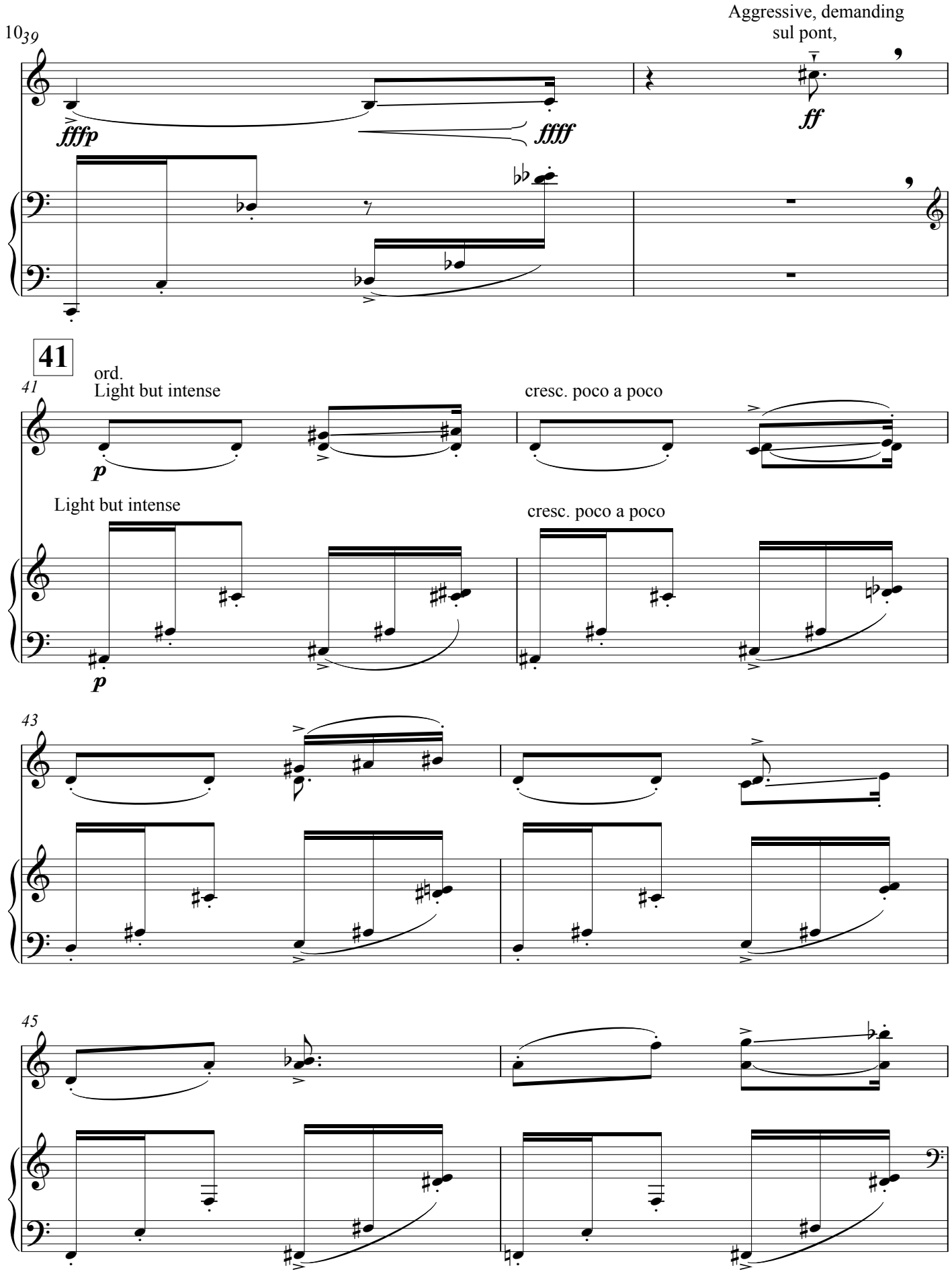
28

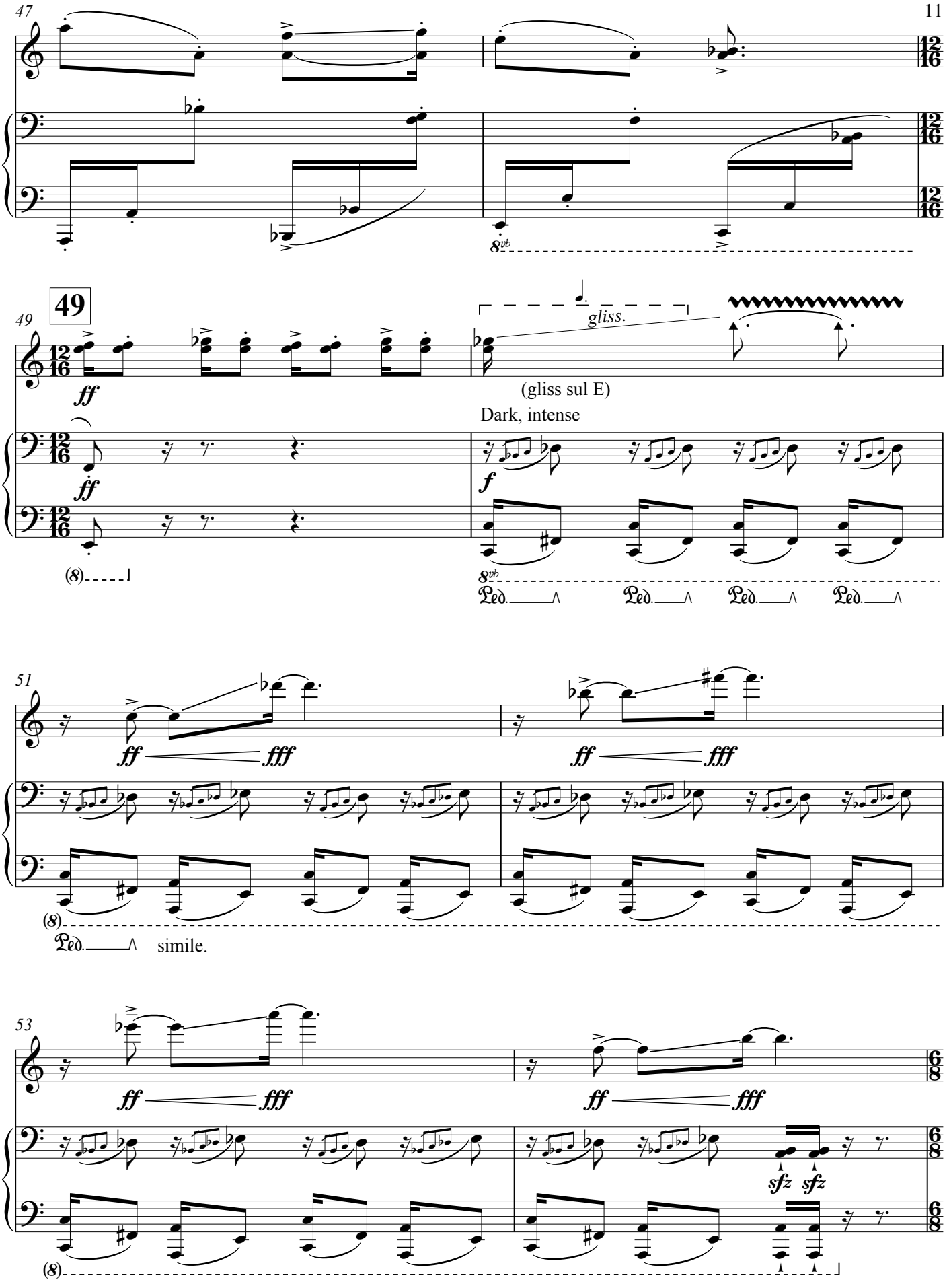
Delicate, lilting

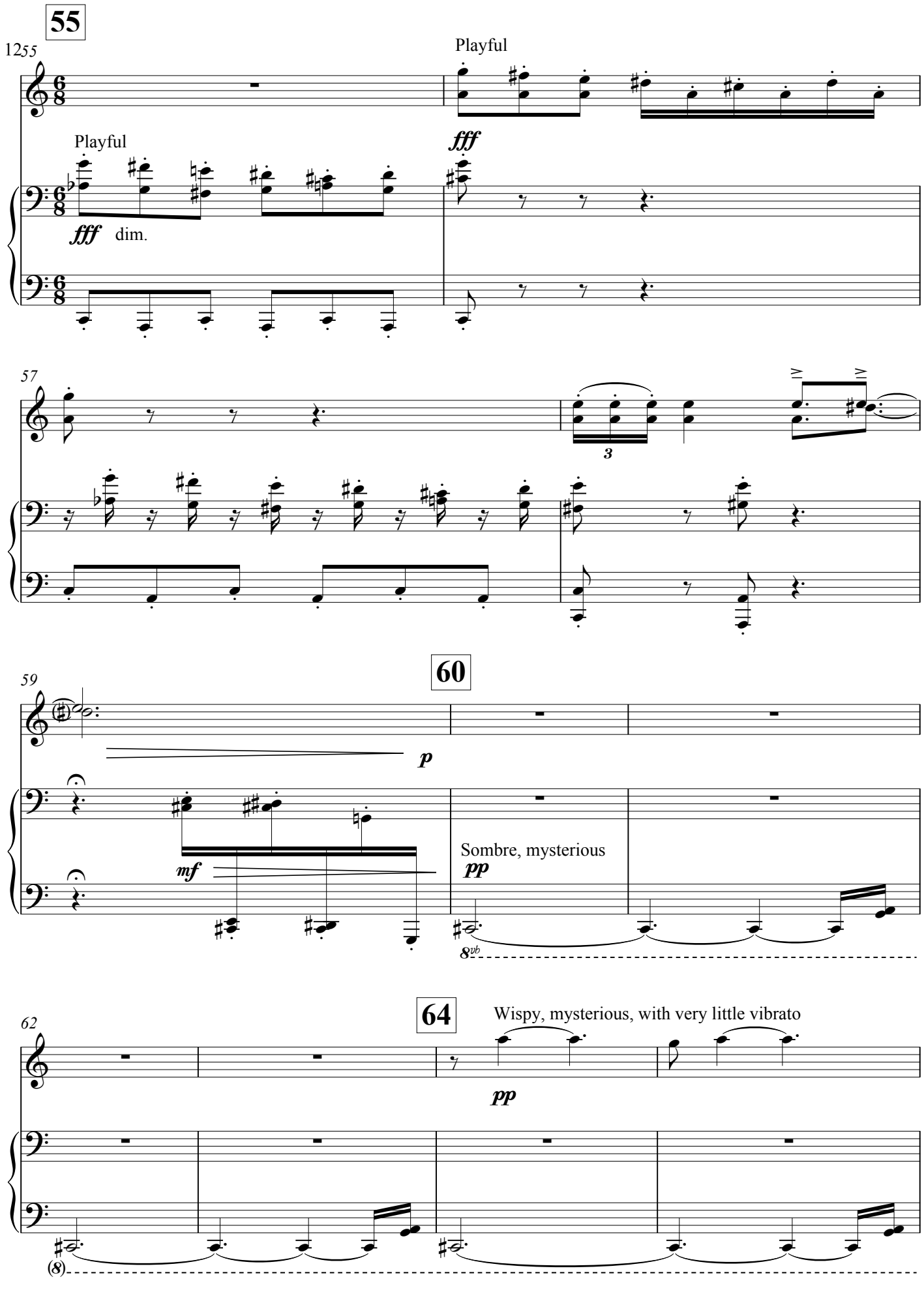


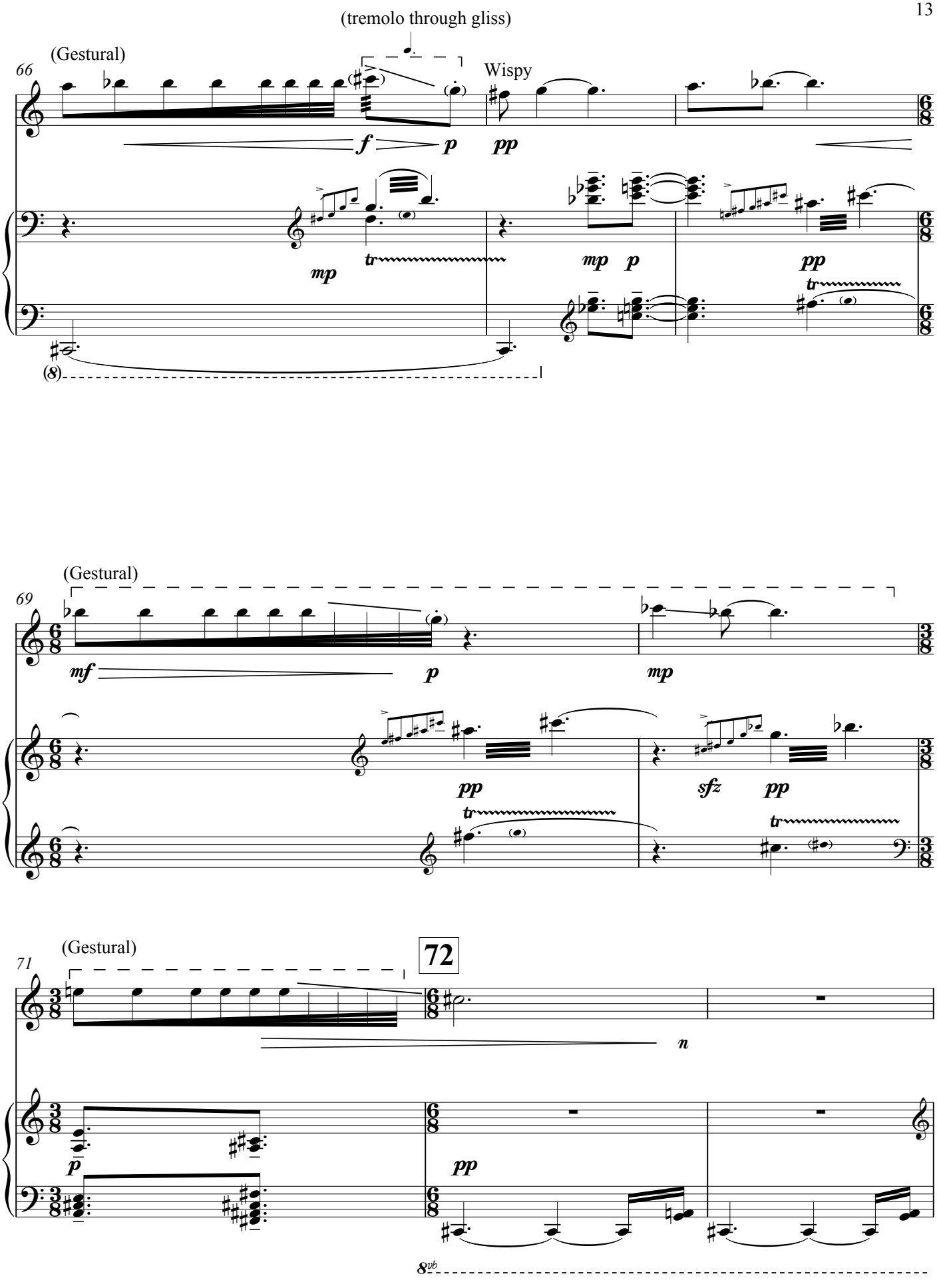


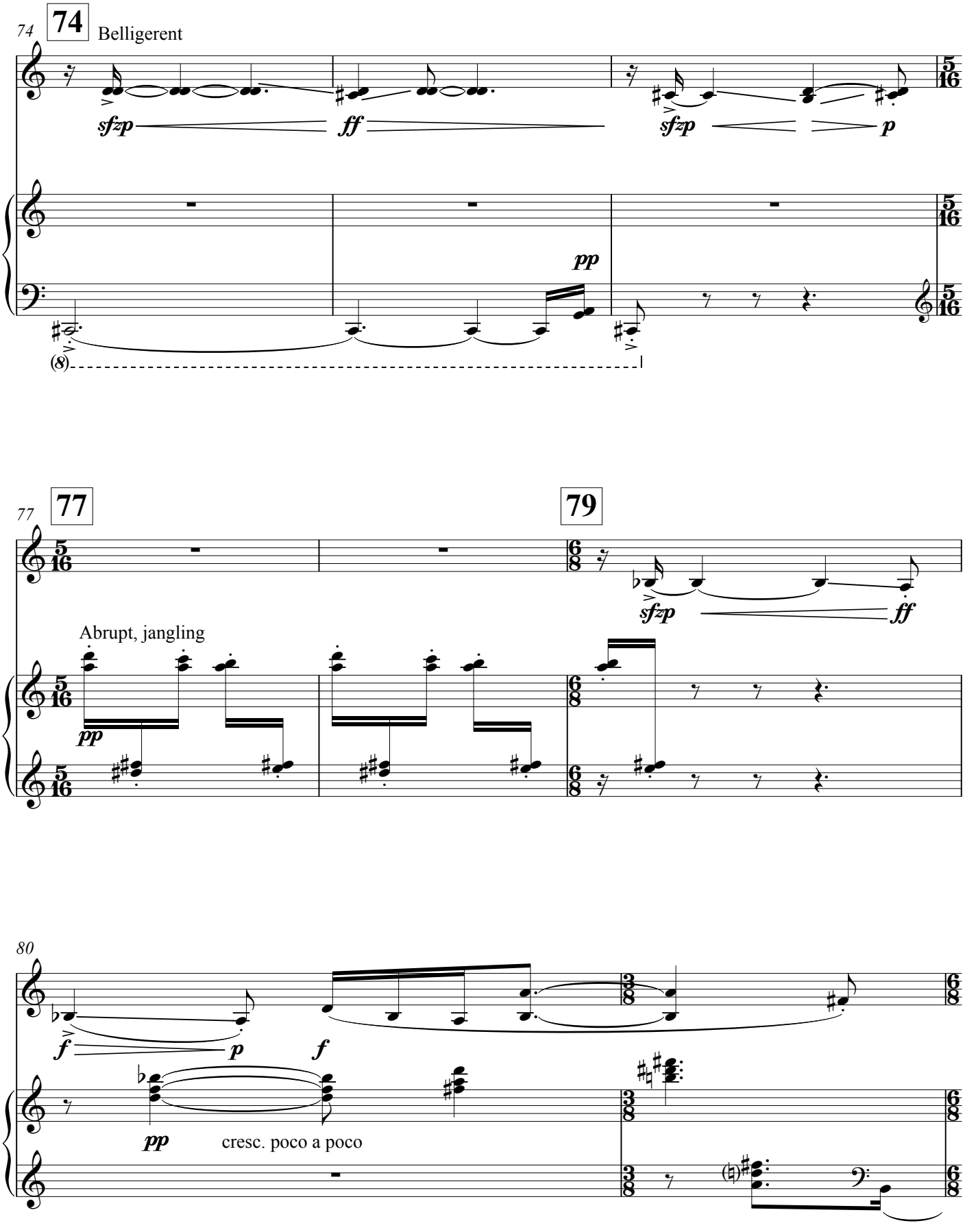

32
sul pont, glassy
quickly growing aggressive
31
Ped.
34
33
ff
ff
36
sul pont. metallic, sloppy
35
fffp
fffp
37
fffp
fffp

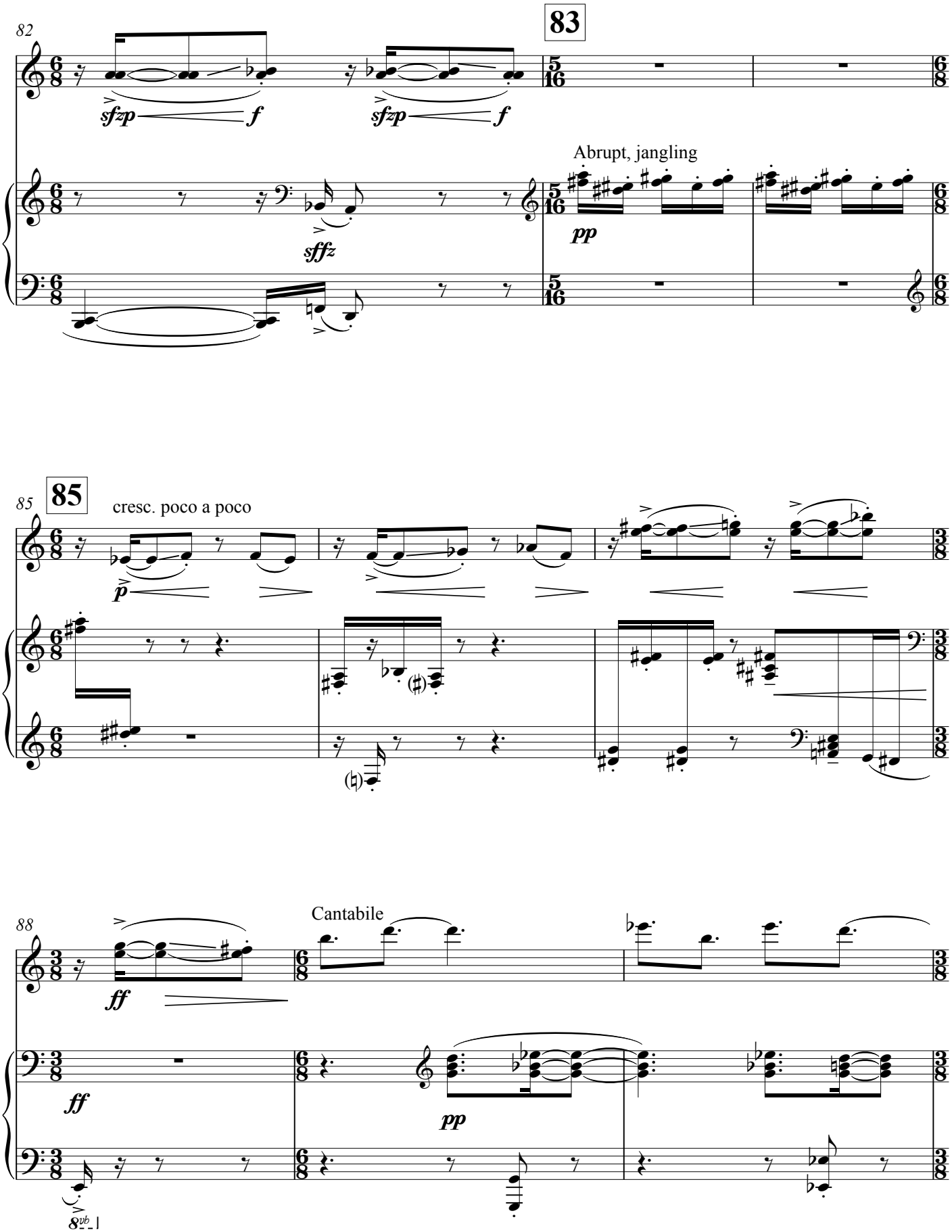

10 39
Aggressive, demanding
sul pont,
fffp
ffff
ff
41
ord.
Light but intense
cresc. poco a poco
p
Light but intense
cresc. poco a poco
p
43
45

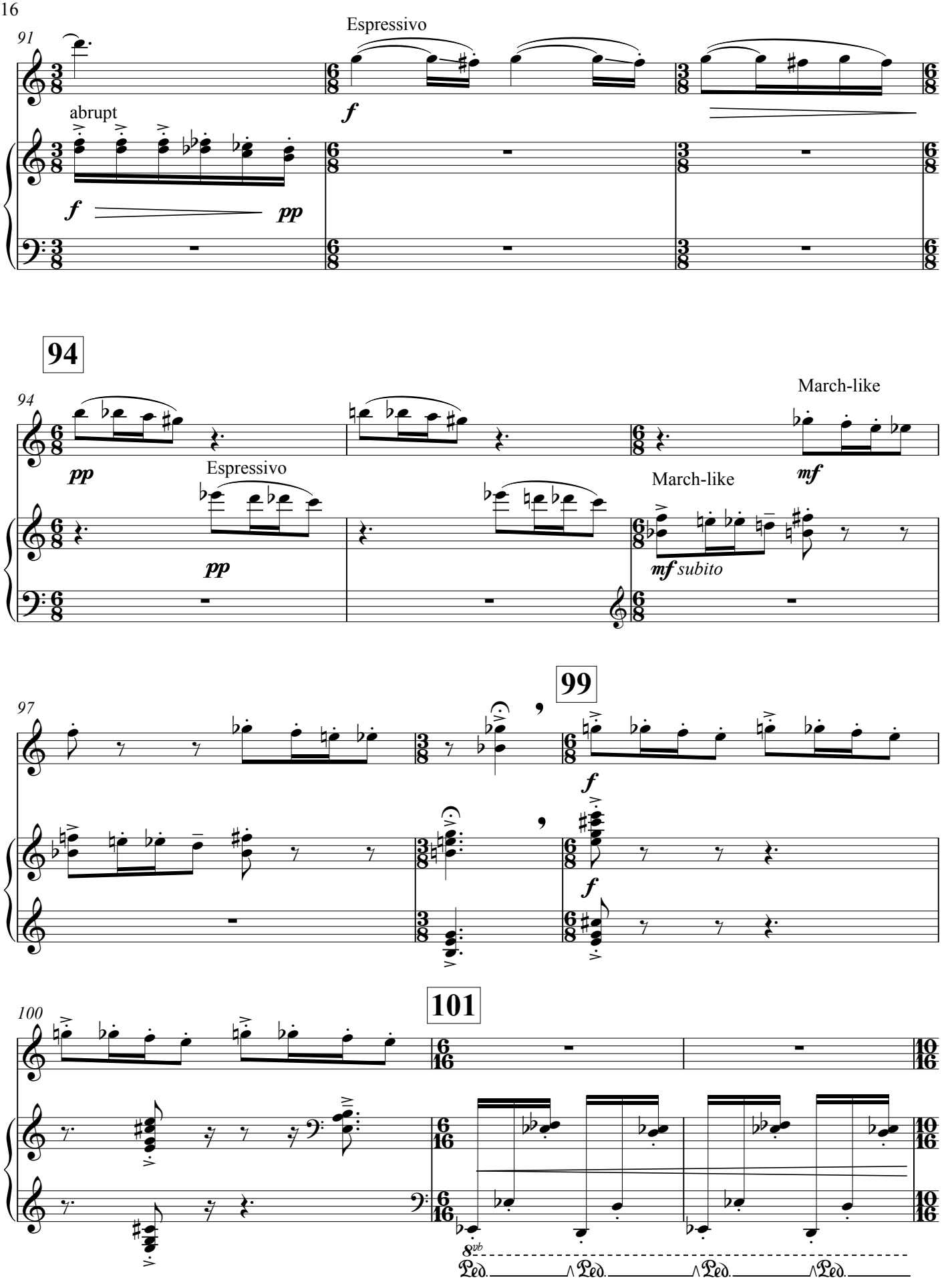

47
8vb
49
49
gliss.
ff
(gliss sul E)
Dark, intense
f
(8)
8vb
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
51
ff
fff
ff
fff
(8)
Ped.
simile.
53
ff
fff
ff
fff
sfz
sfz
(8)

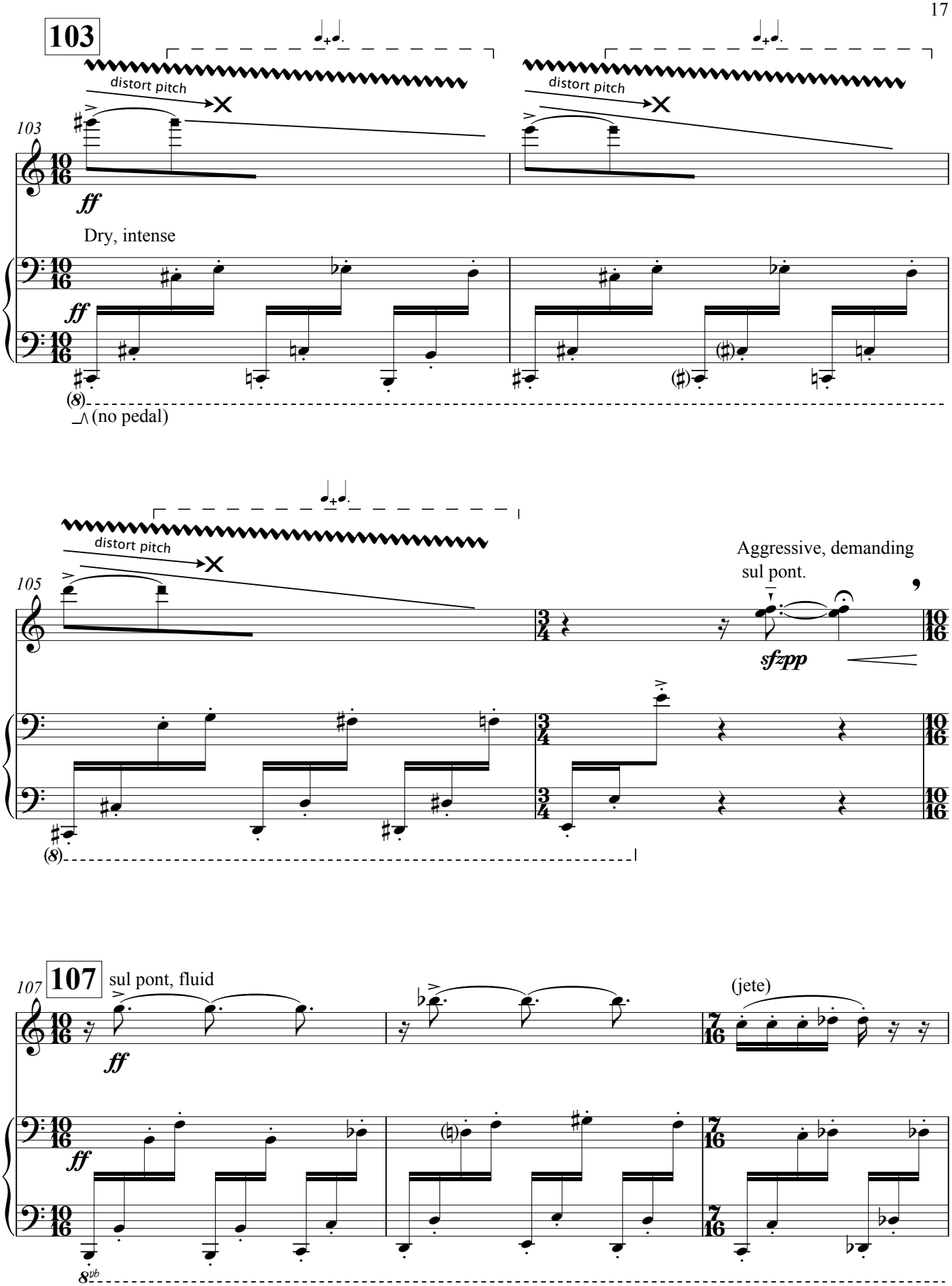

55
Playful
Playful
fff
fff dim.
57
3
60
59
p
mf
Sombre, mysterious
pp
8vb
64
62
Wispy, mysterious, with very little vibrato
pp
(8)

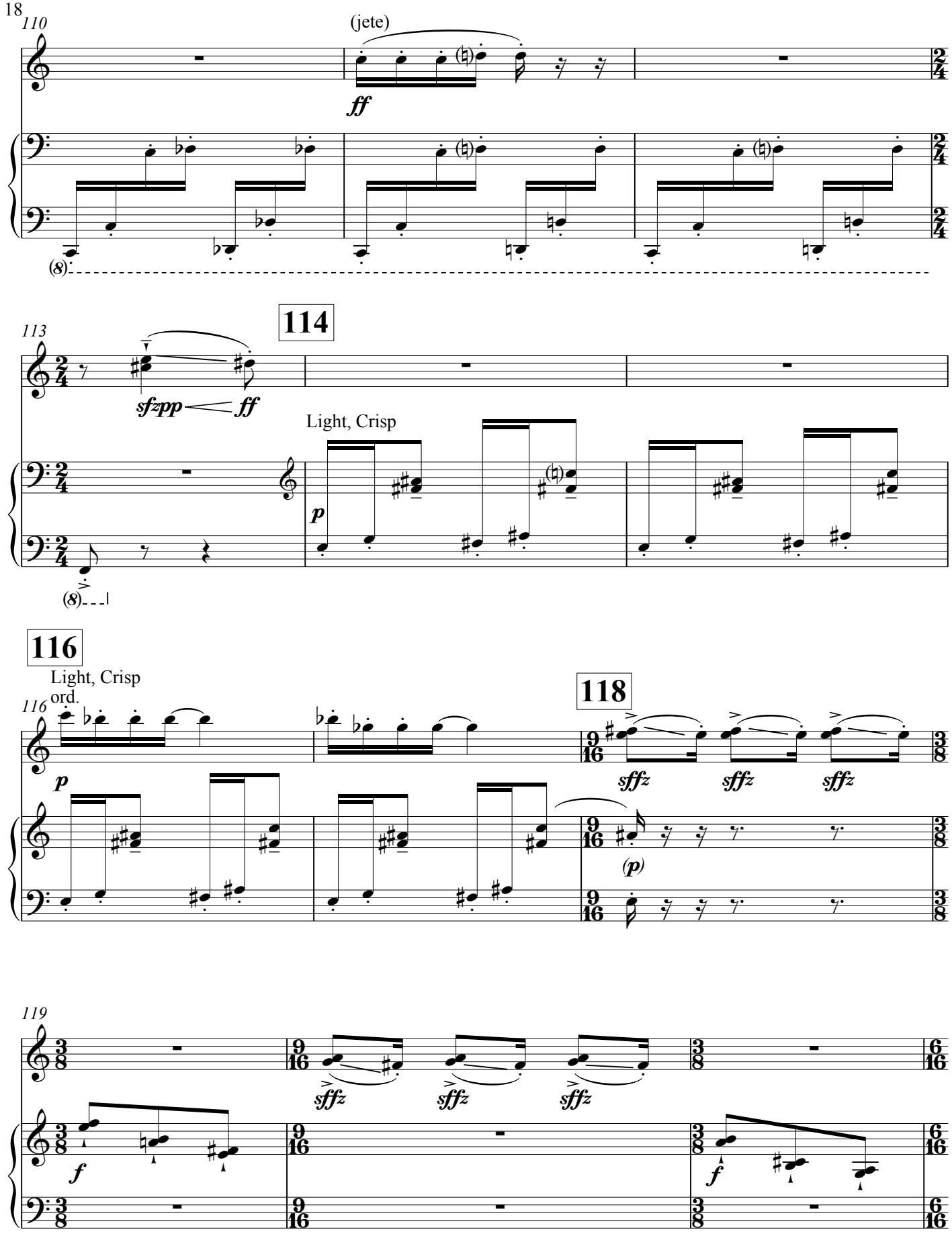

(tremolo through gliss)
(Gestural)
66
Wispy
f
p
pp
mp
tr
mp
p
pp
tr
(8)
(Gestural)
69
mf
p
mp
pp
tr
sfz
pp
tr
(Gestural)
71
72
n
p
pp
8vb


74
74
Belligerent
sfzp
ff
sfzp
p
pp
(8)
77
77
79
Abrupt, jangling
pp
sfzp
ff
80
f
p
f
pp
cresc. poco a poco


82
83
sfzp
f
sfzp
f
Abrupt, jangling
sffz
pp
85
85
cresc. poco a poco
p
88
Cantabile
ff
ff
pp
8vb


91
Espressivo
abrupt
f
pp
94
94
March-like
pp
Espressivo
mf
March-like
pp
mf subito
99
97
f
f
101
100
8vb
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.


103
distort pitch
distort pitch
103
ff
Dry, intense
ff
(8)
(no pedal)
distort pitch
105
Aggressive, demanding
sul pont.
sfzpp
(8)
107
107
sul pont, fluid
(jete)
ff
ff
8vb


110
(jete)
ff
(8)
113
114
sfzpp
ff
Light, Crisp
p
(8)
116
Light, Crisp
ord.
116
p
118
sffz
sffz
sffz
(p)
119
sffz
sffz
sffz
f
f

124

Light

122

f

p

p

127

126

f sub

f sub

cresc. poco a poco

legato

cresc. poco a poco

Ped.

Ped.

129

fff

Ped.

Ped.

Ped.

134

ord., fluid

132

Aggressive, sul pont

fff *p*

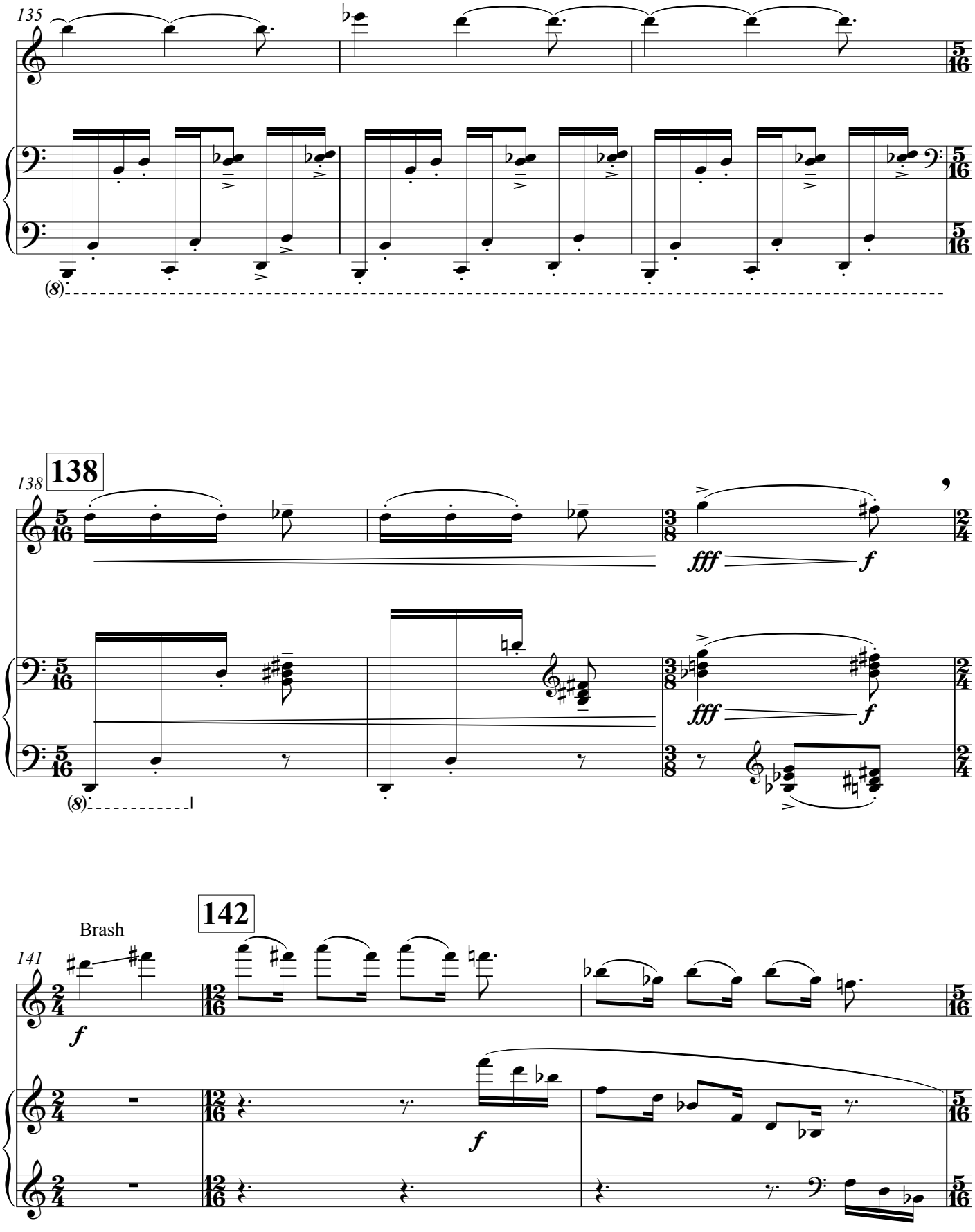
ff

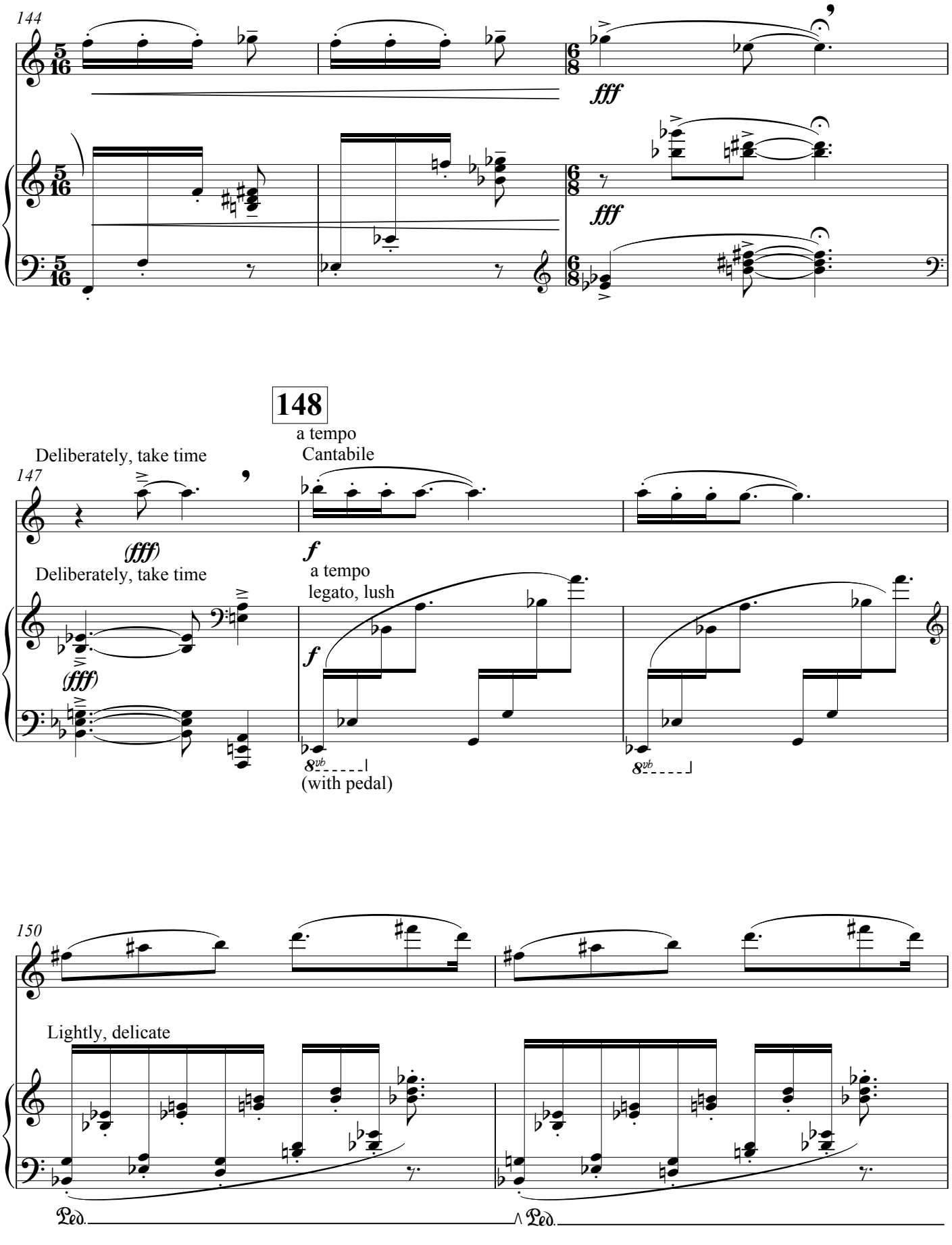
Brash

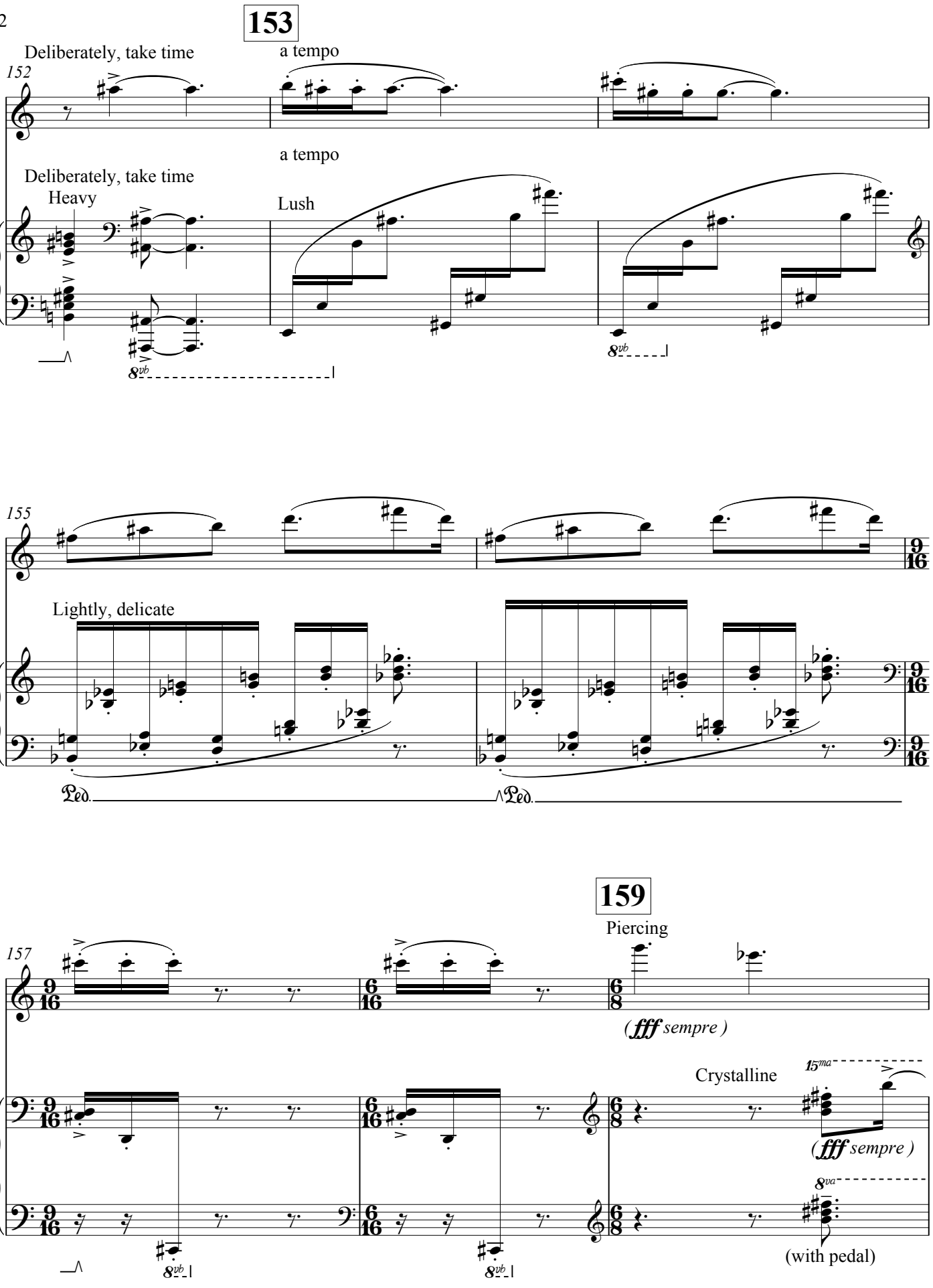
fff

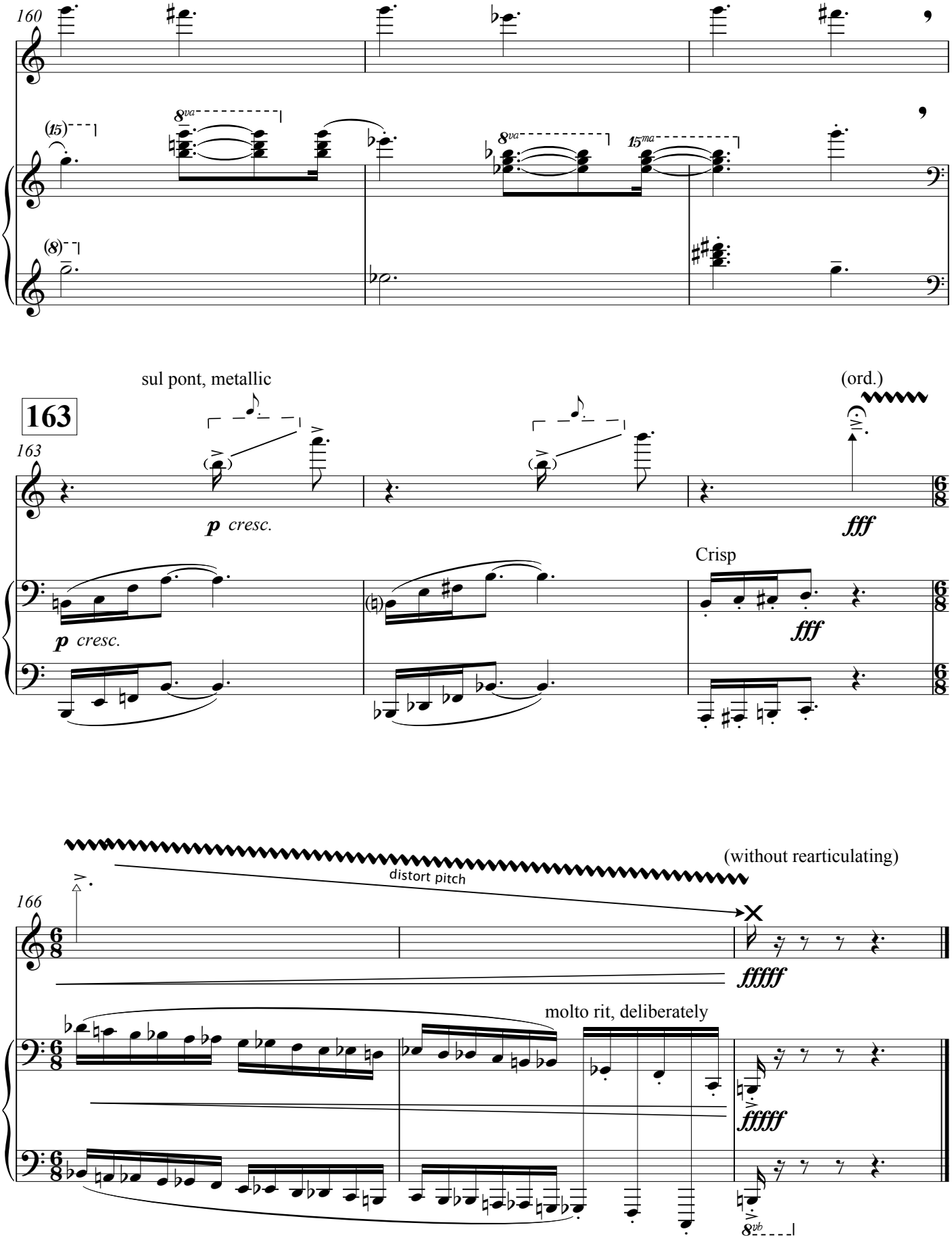
ff

8vb


135
138
138
fff
f
fff
f
142
Brash
141
f
f


144
fff
fff
148
a tempo
Cantabile
Deliberately, take time
147
(fff)
f
a tempo
legato, lush
Deliberately, take time
(fff)
f
8vb
(with pedal)
8vb
150
Lightly, delicate
Ped.
Ped.


153
Deliberately, take time
a tempo
152
a tempo
Deliberately, take time
Heavy
Lush
8vb
8vb
155
Lightly, delicate
Ped.
Ped.
159
Piercing
157
(fff sempre)
Crystalline
15ma
(fff sempre)
8va
8vb
8vb
(with pedal)


160
(15)
8va
8va
15ma
(8)
sul pont, metallic
(ord.)
163
163
p cresc.
fff
p cresc.
Crisp
fff
(without rearticulating)
distort pitch
166
fffff
molto rit, deliberately
fffff
8vb