Stuff Smith & Dave Soldier

Stuff Smith's Unfinished Concerto

Music Starts When Words Leave Off

Solo Violin and Orchestra

2 flutes, 2 oboes, 2 clarinets, 2 bassoons
2 horns, 2 trumpets, 2 trombones
tympani
strings

single movement, about 14 minutes

Dave Soldier opus 35

The great jazz violinist Stuff Smith home recorded a sketch for an unfinished violin concerto in Los Angeles around 1963 or 1964. For safe-keeping, he sent a poorly recorded tape to his friends Mary Lee and Don Hester of Arlington who sent it to Anthony Barnett in the 1990s. Receiving the recording from Anthony, I transcribed his violin part, and reasoning that some ideas were meant to be expanded, wrote what I imagine he would have liked.

"Music starts when words leave off" is an old saying that Stuff mentioned in an interview with Anthony.

N.B. for soloists: the bouncing glissando at the start of the cadenza is Stuff's transformation of a phrase from *Tambourin Chinois* by his friend, Fritz Kreisler. Stuff's message to us is to play your own way. Listen to his phrasing of his solo part on my website on the scores page, and then find a way to play this that YOU would want to listen to. It is fine to edit and alter the cadenza as freely as you like for your own tastes and style.

-Dave Soldier, June 17, 2022, New York City

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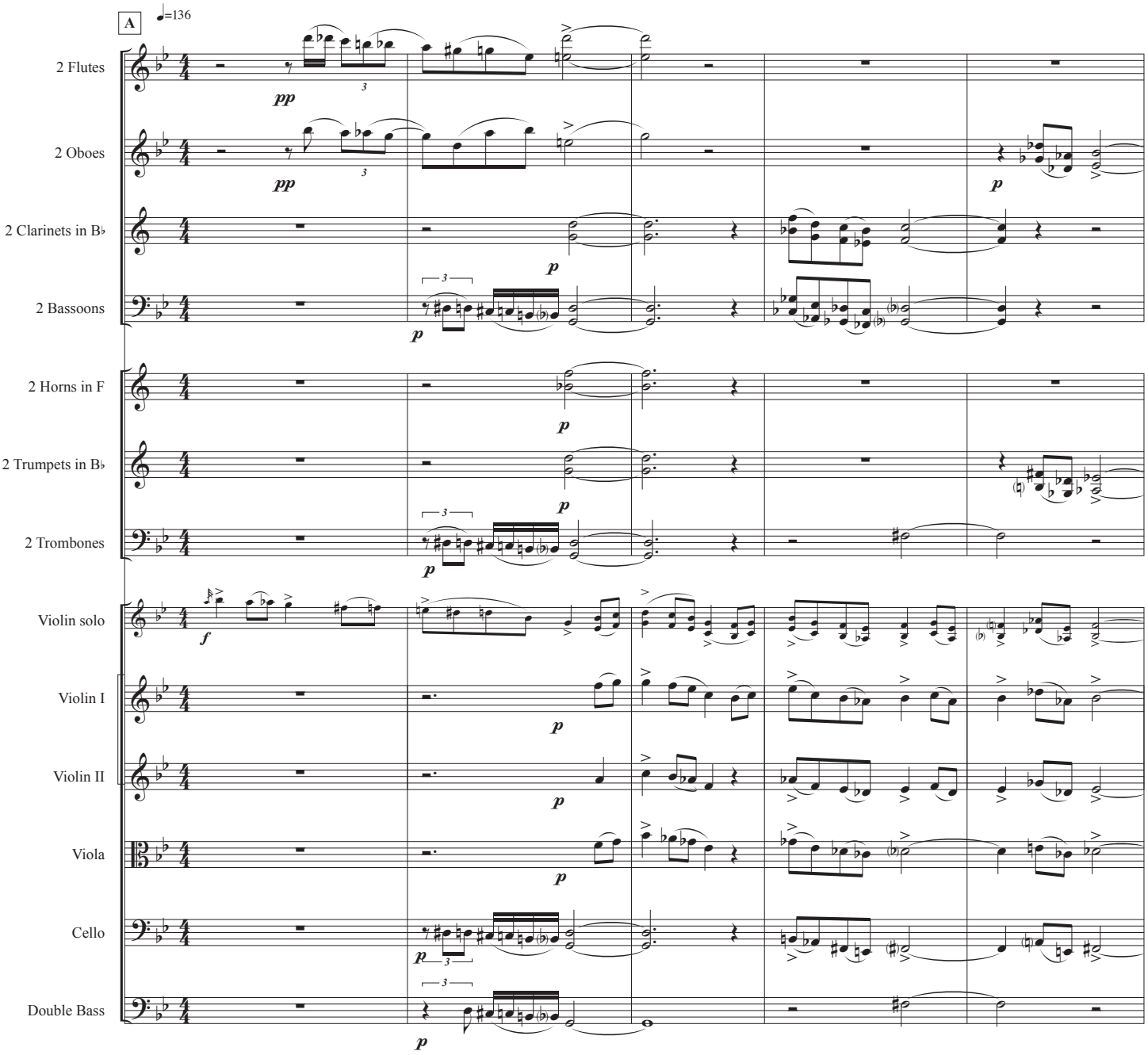
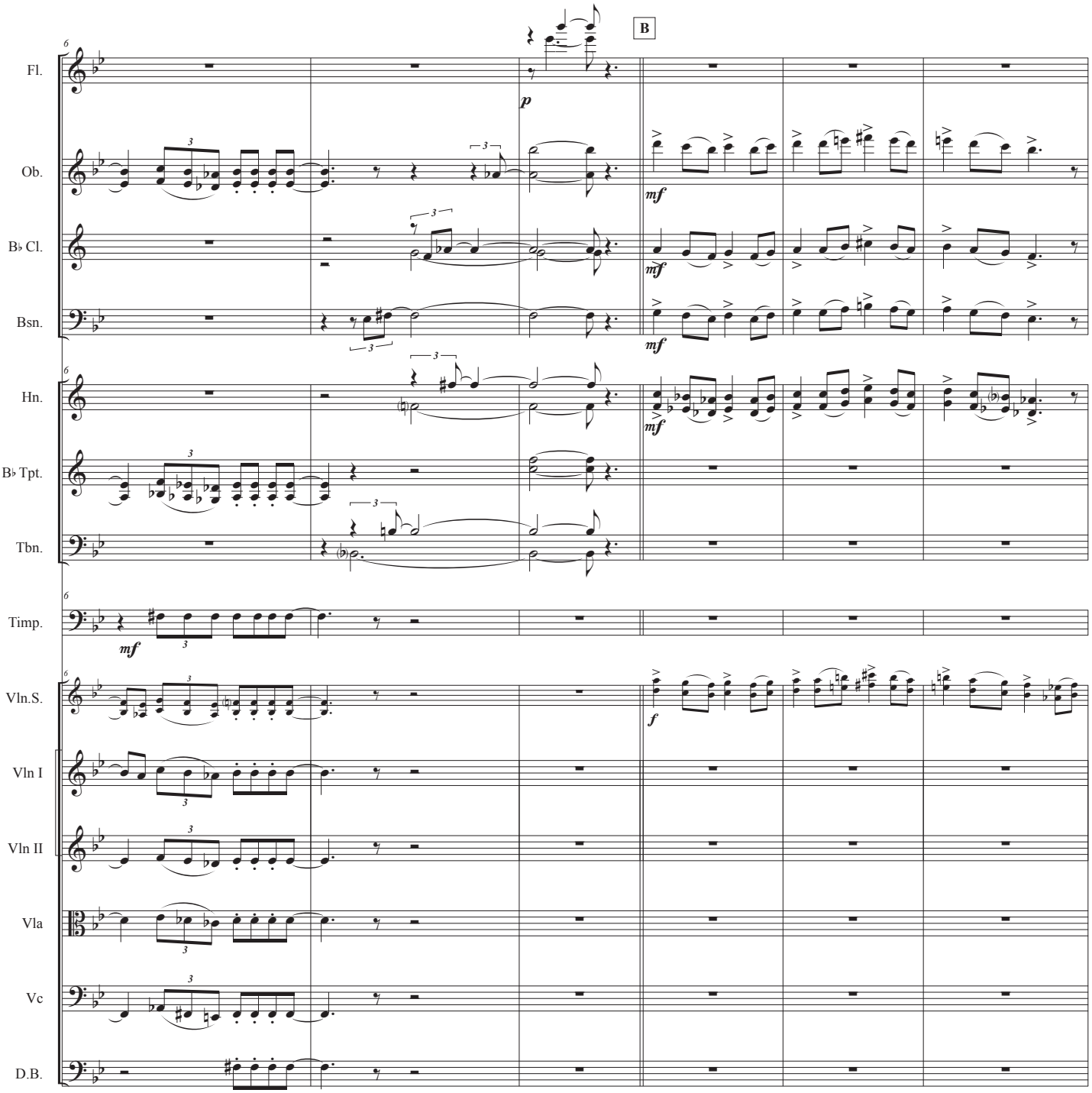
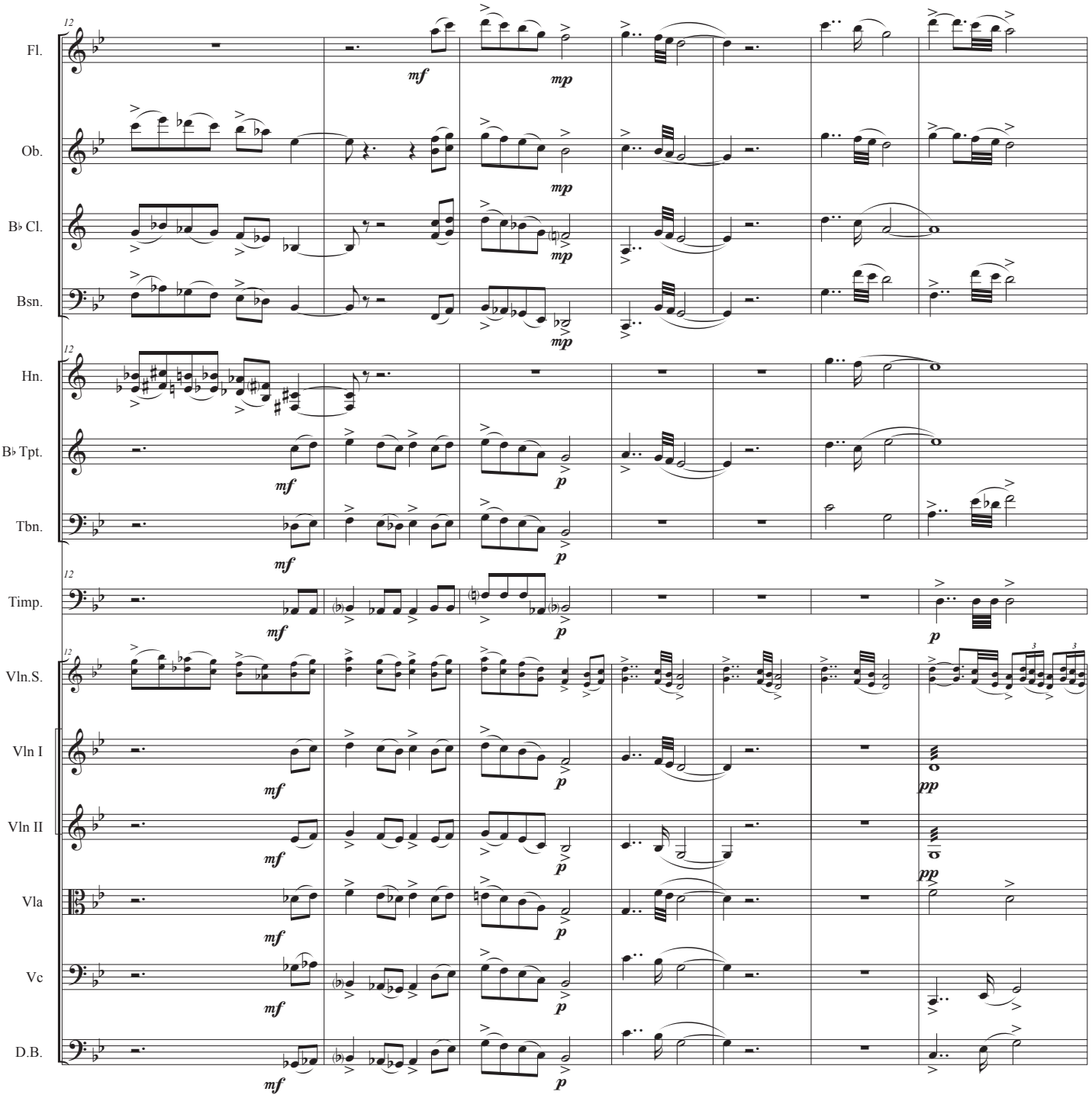
Music Starts When Words Leave Off

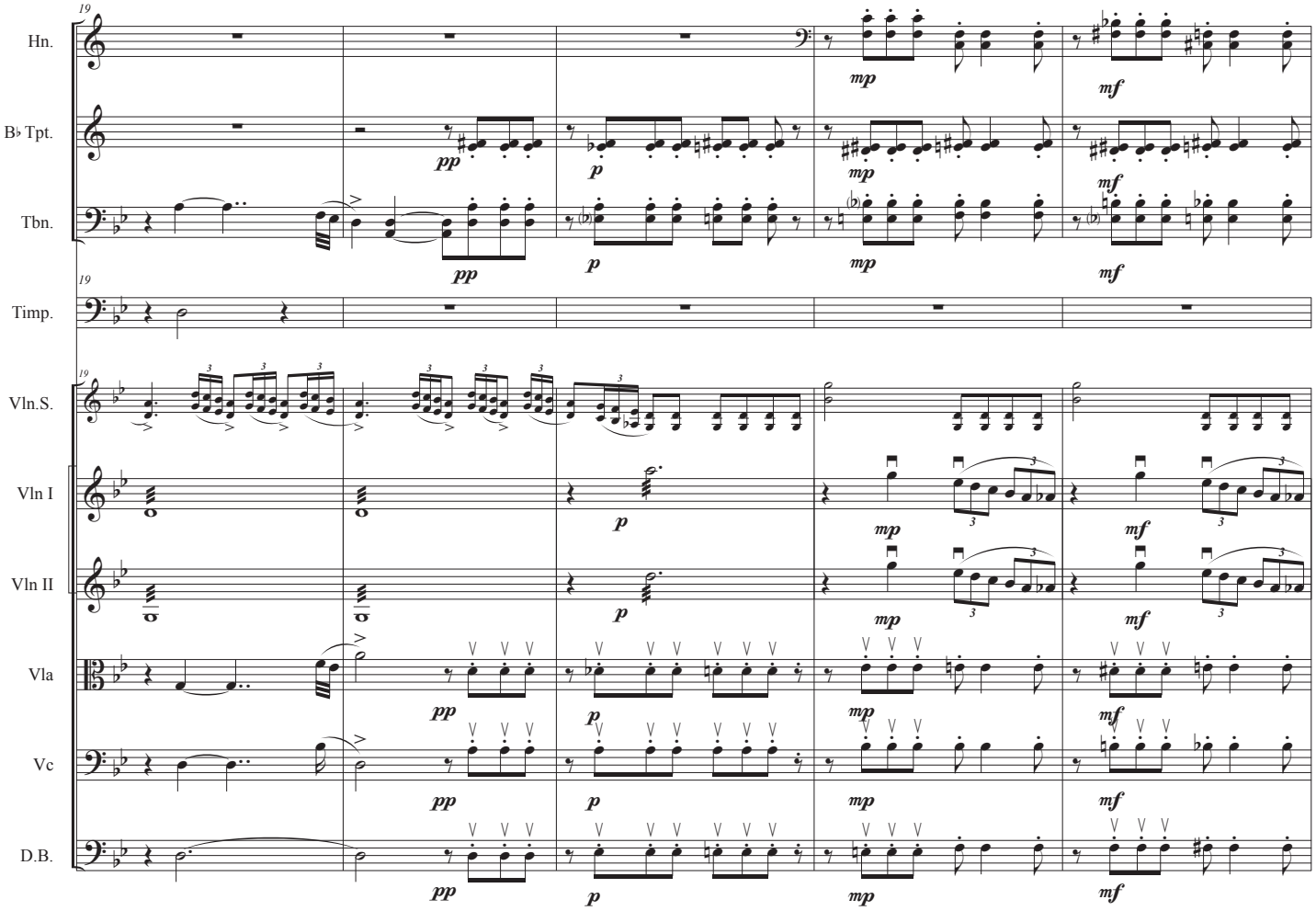
Stuff Smith's Unfinished Violin Concerto

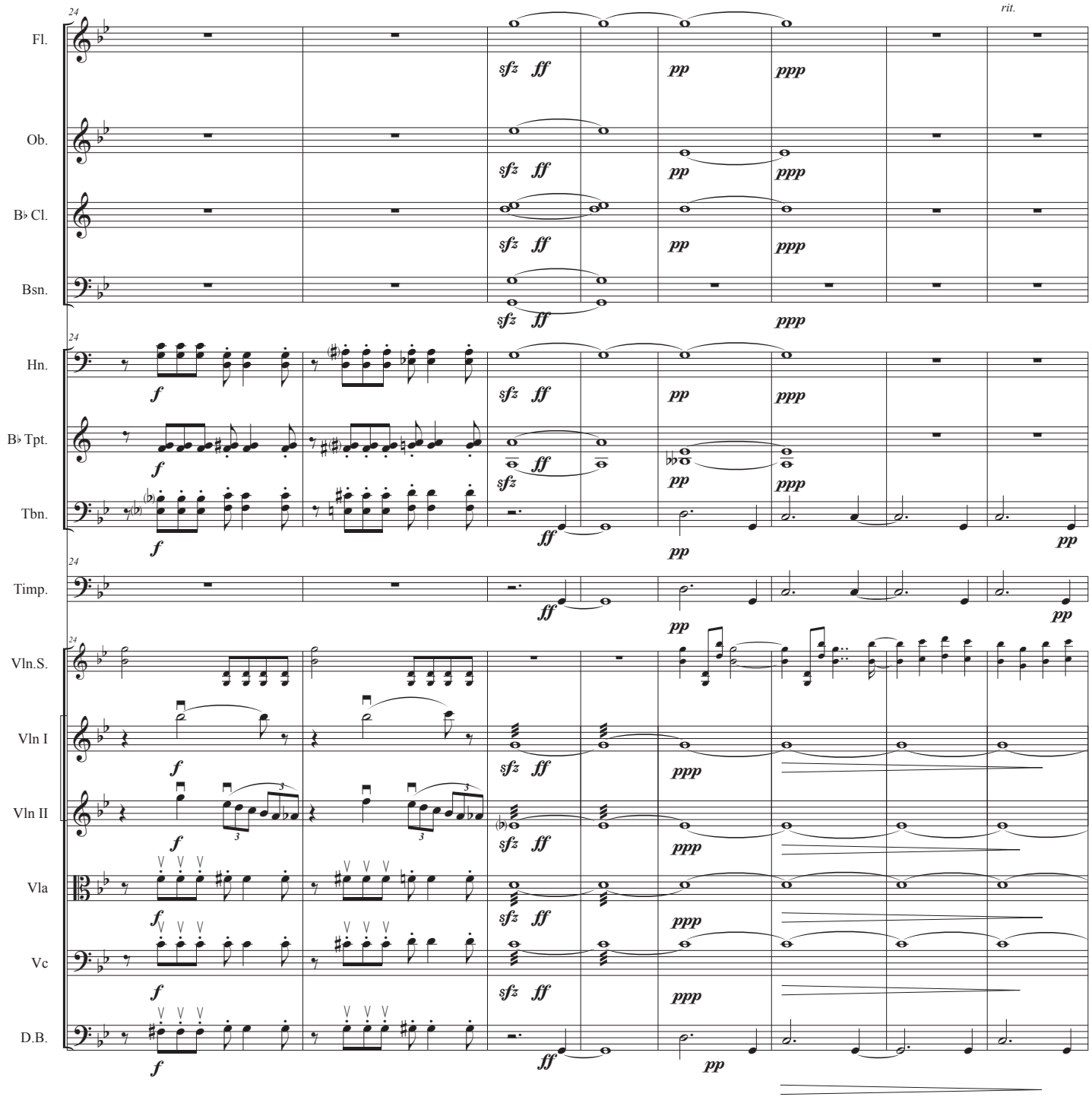
Stuff Smith, violin
Dave Soldier, orchestra

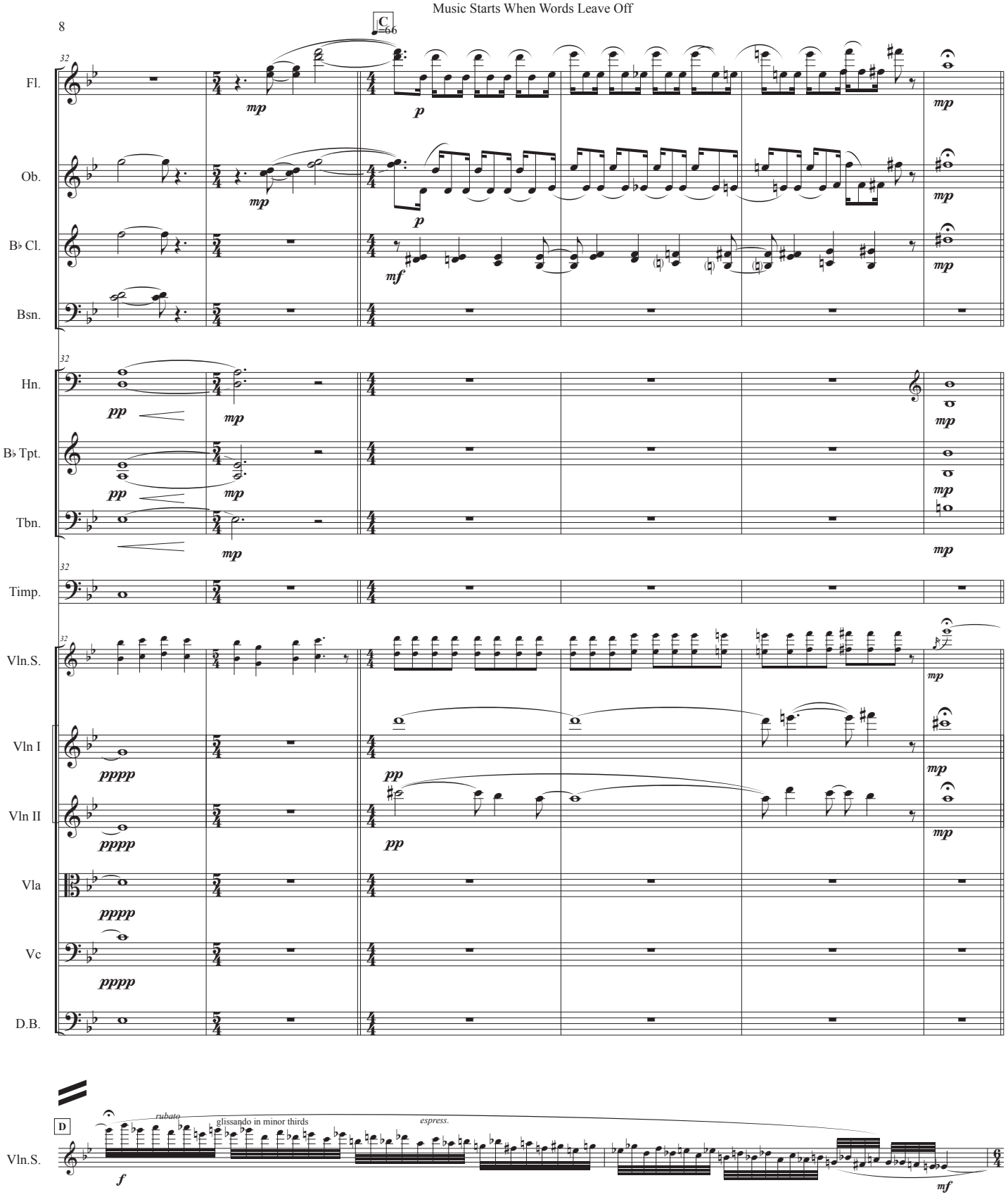


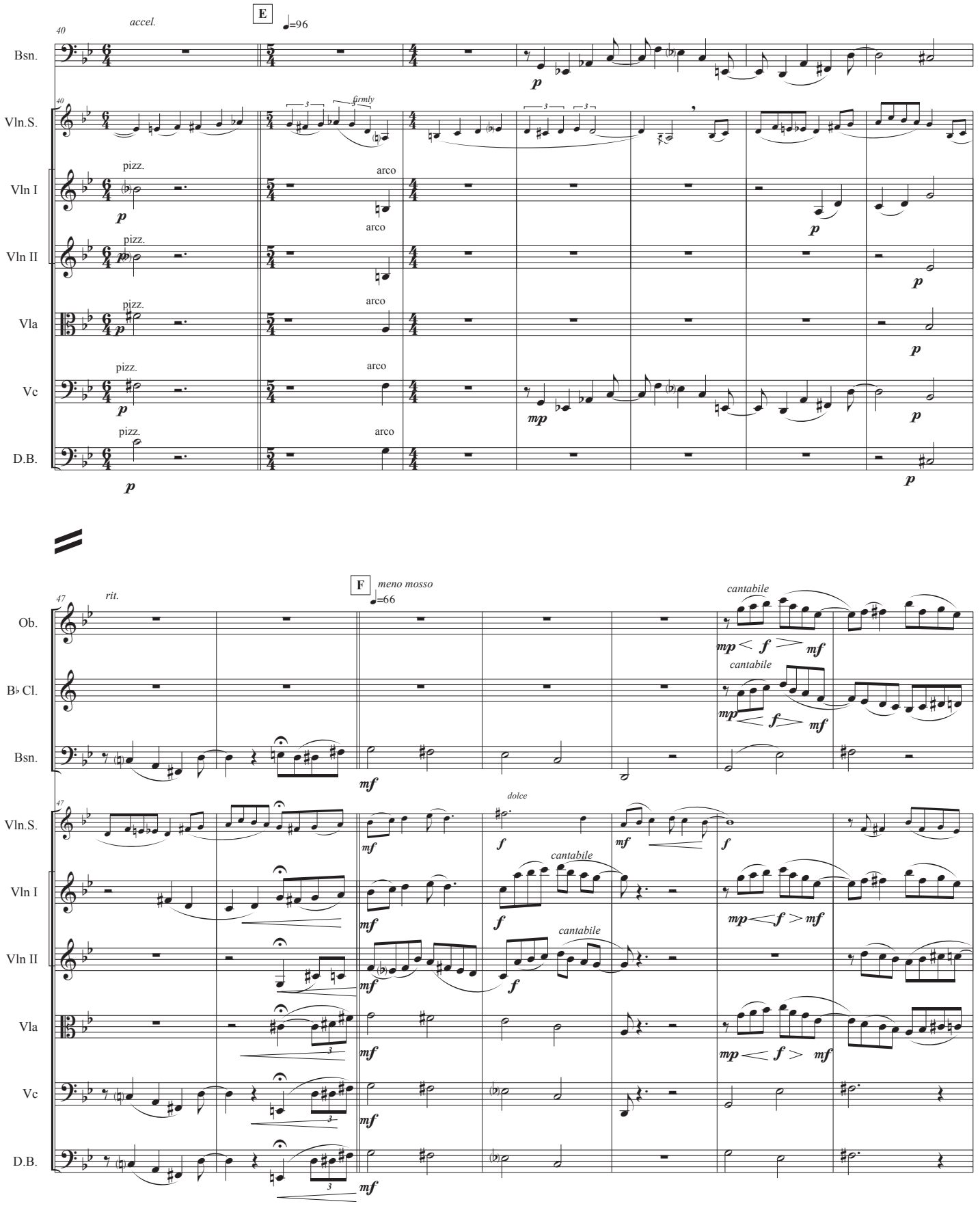

B
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
p
mf
f

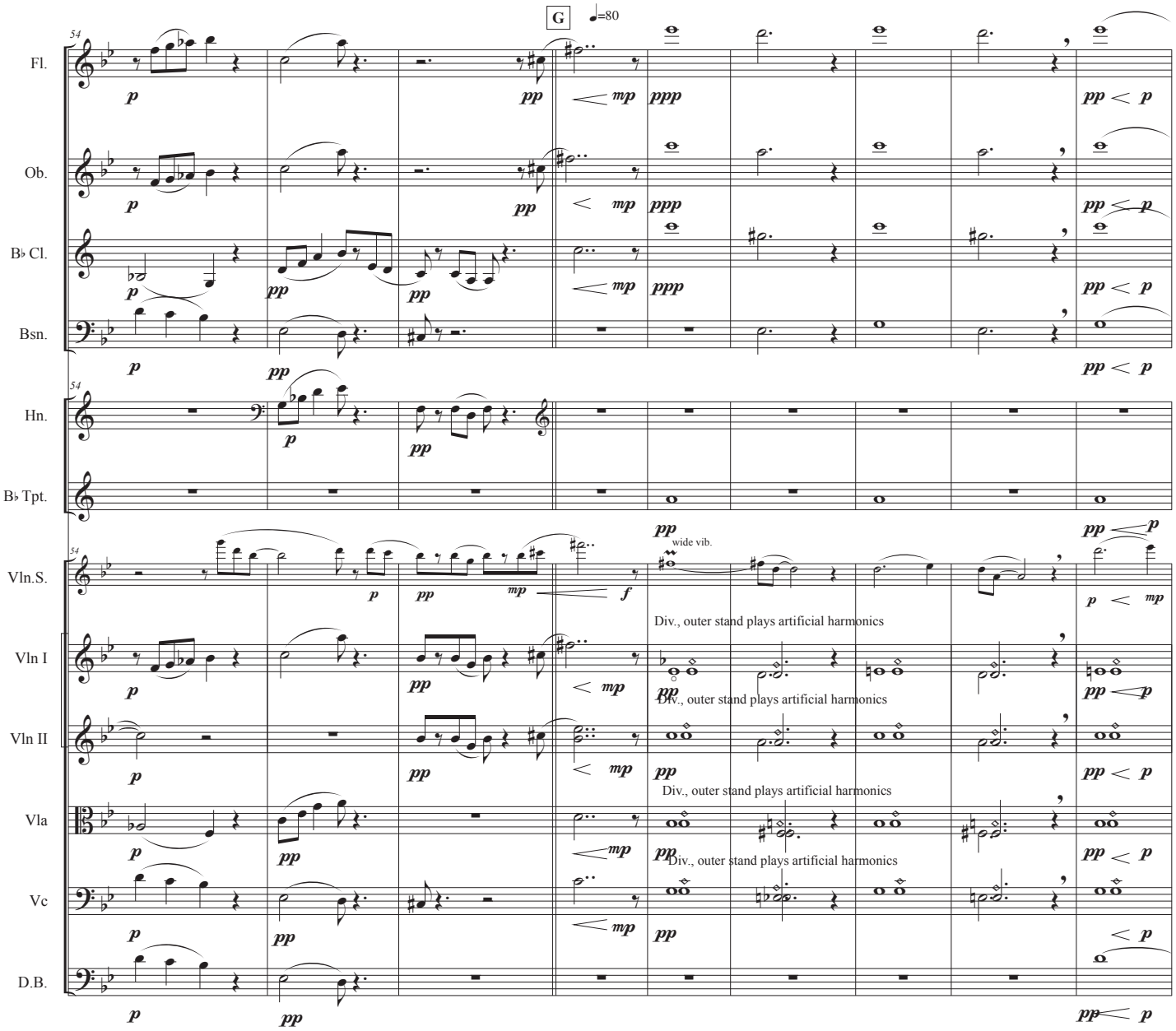

Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
12
mf
mp
p
pp

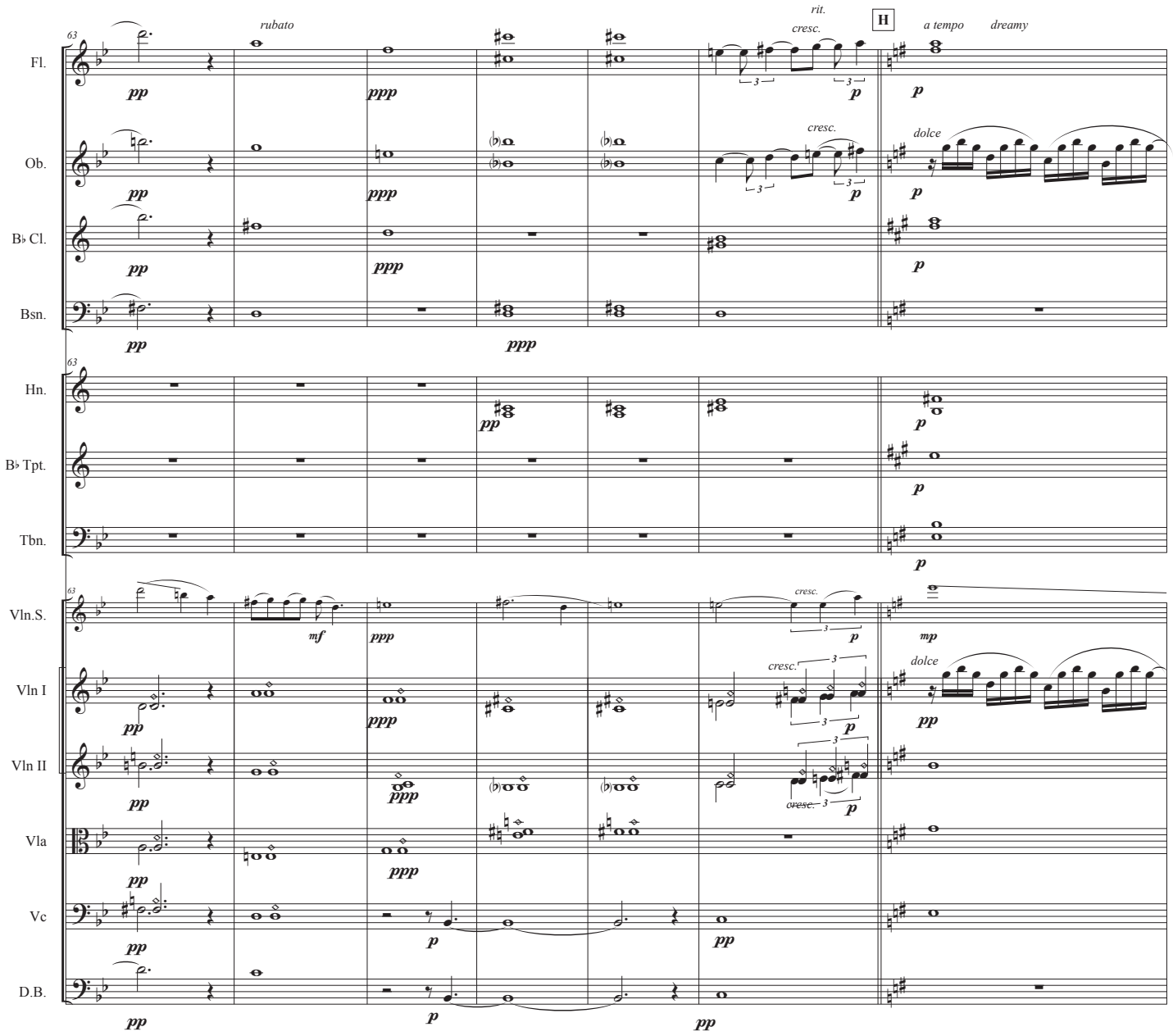

19
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
pp
p
mp
mf

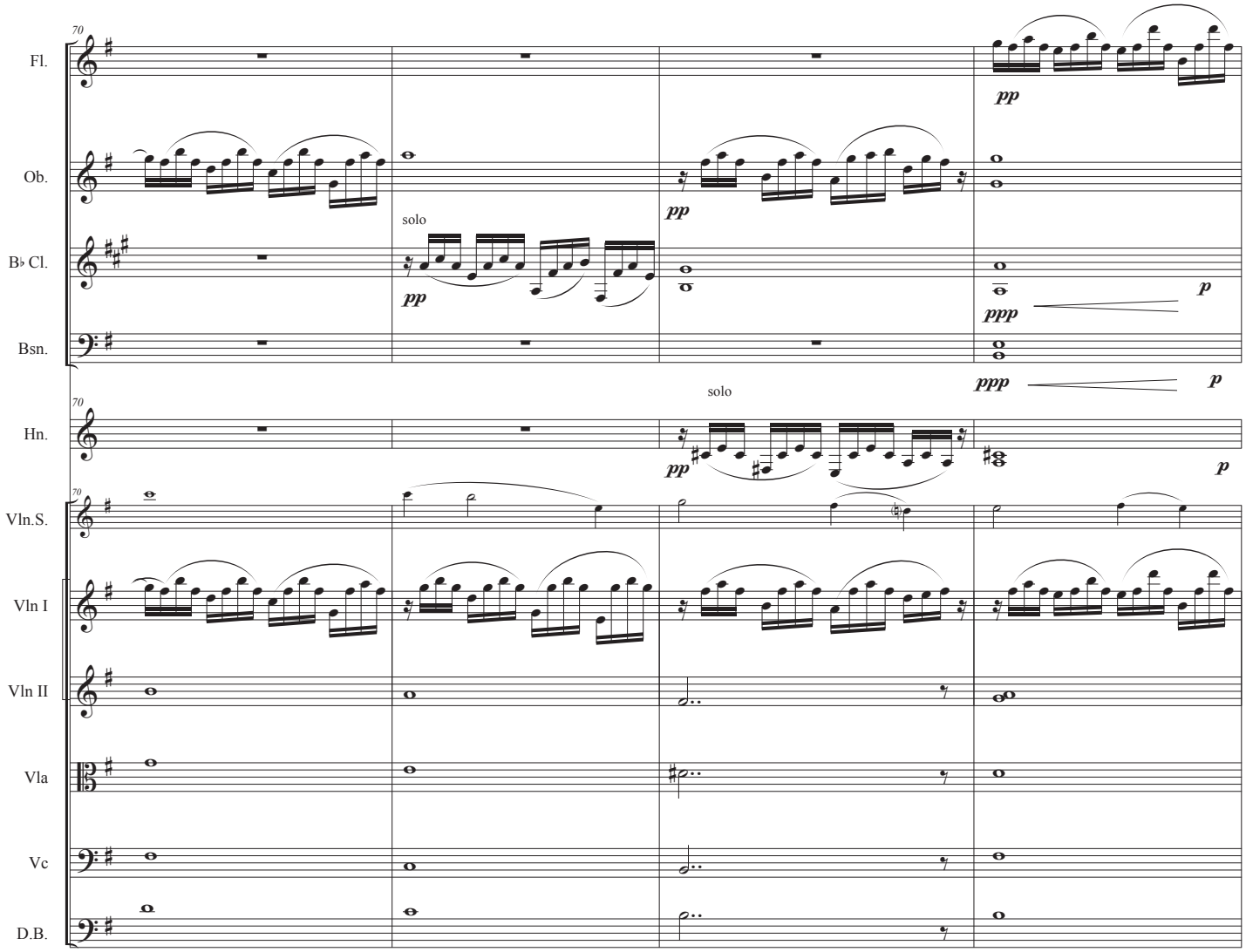

24
rit.
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
sfz ff
pp
ppp
f

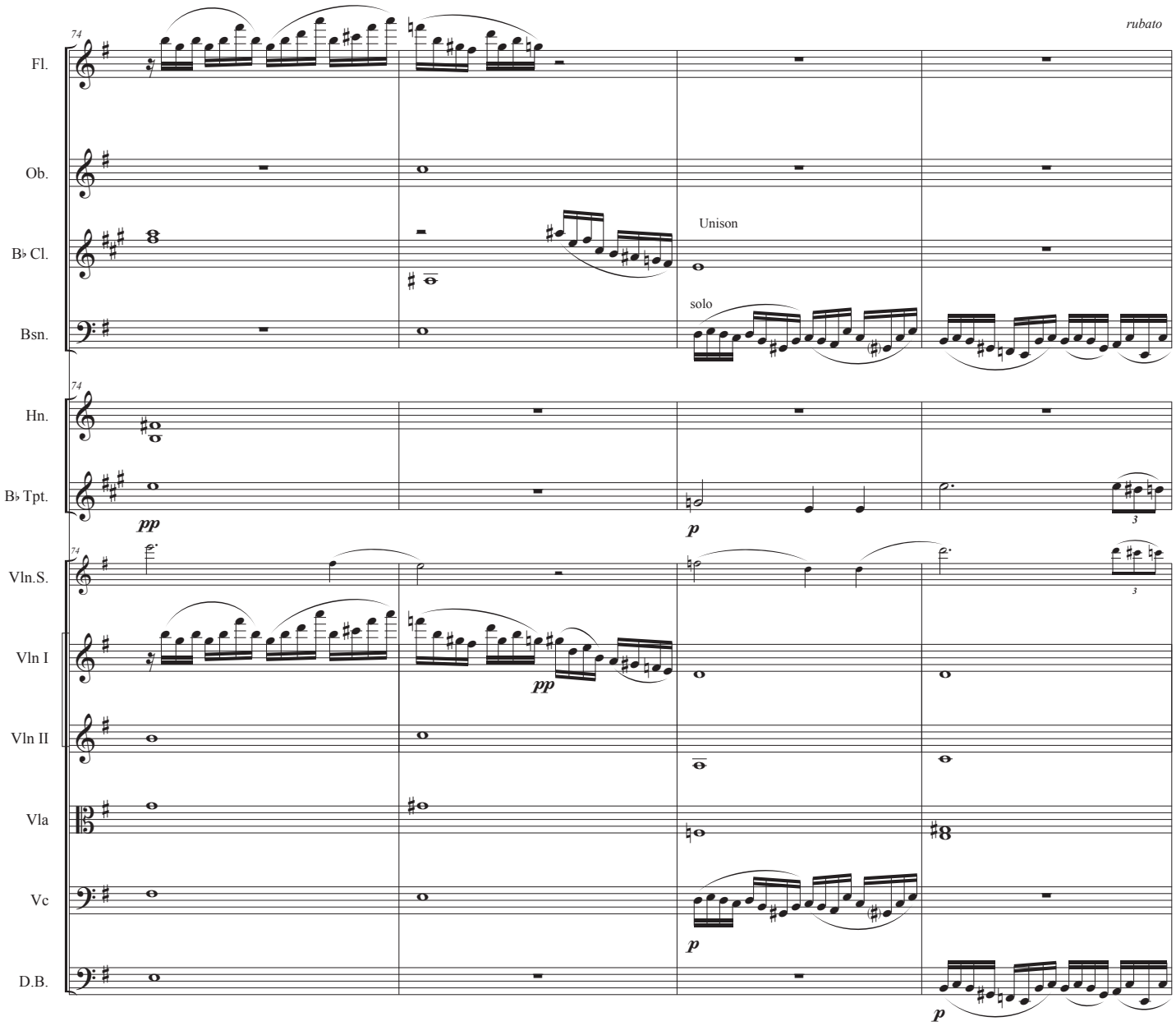

C
♩=66
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
D
Vln.S.
rubato
glissando in minor thirds
espress.

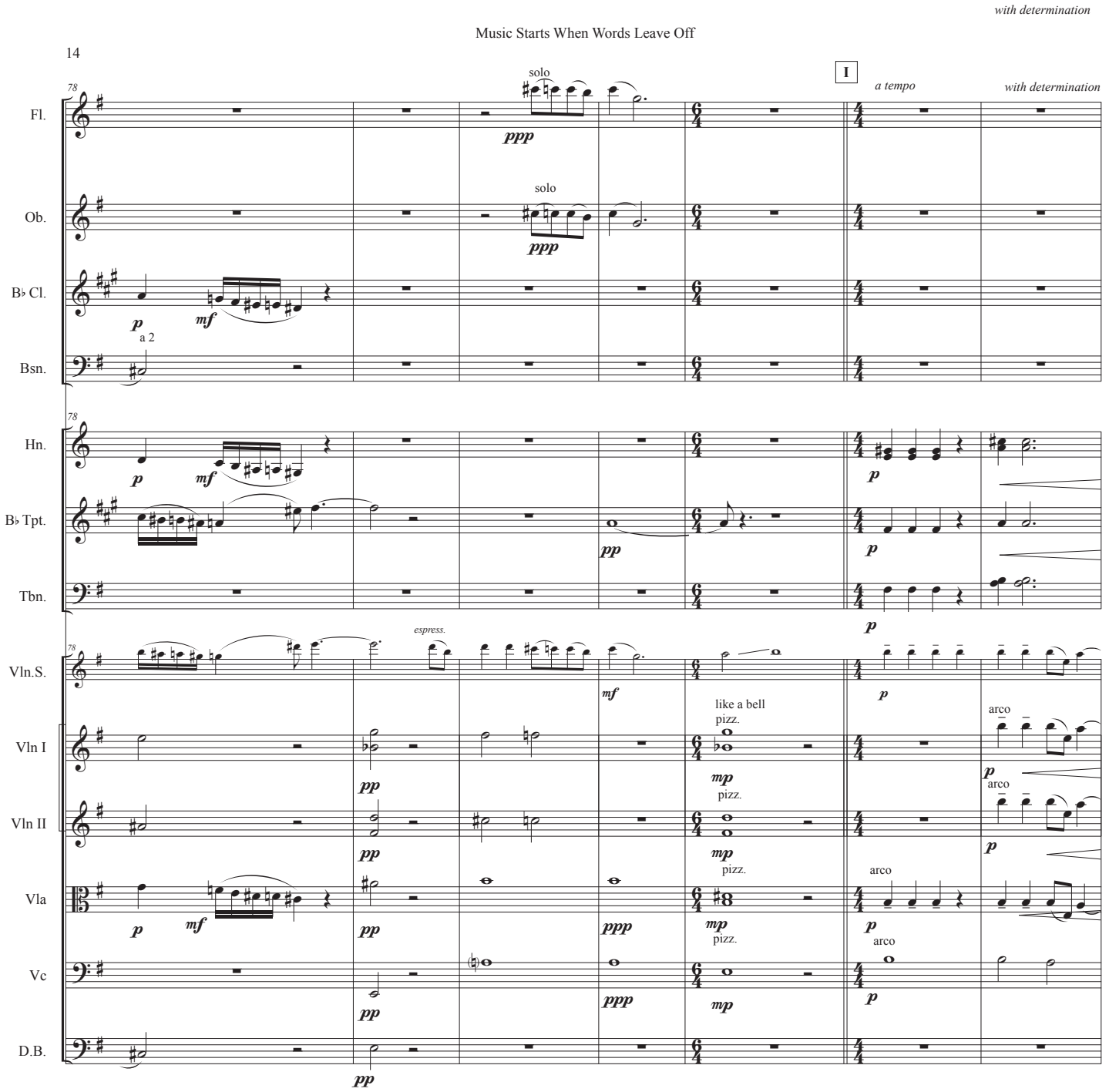

40
accel.
E
♩=96
Bsn.
Vln.S.
firmly
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
pizz.
arco
p
mp
47
rit.
F
meno mosso
♩=66
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
cantabile
mf
f
dolce

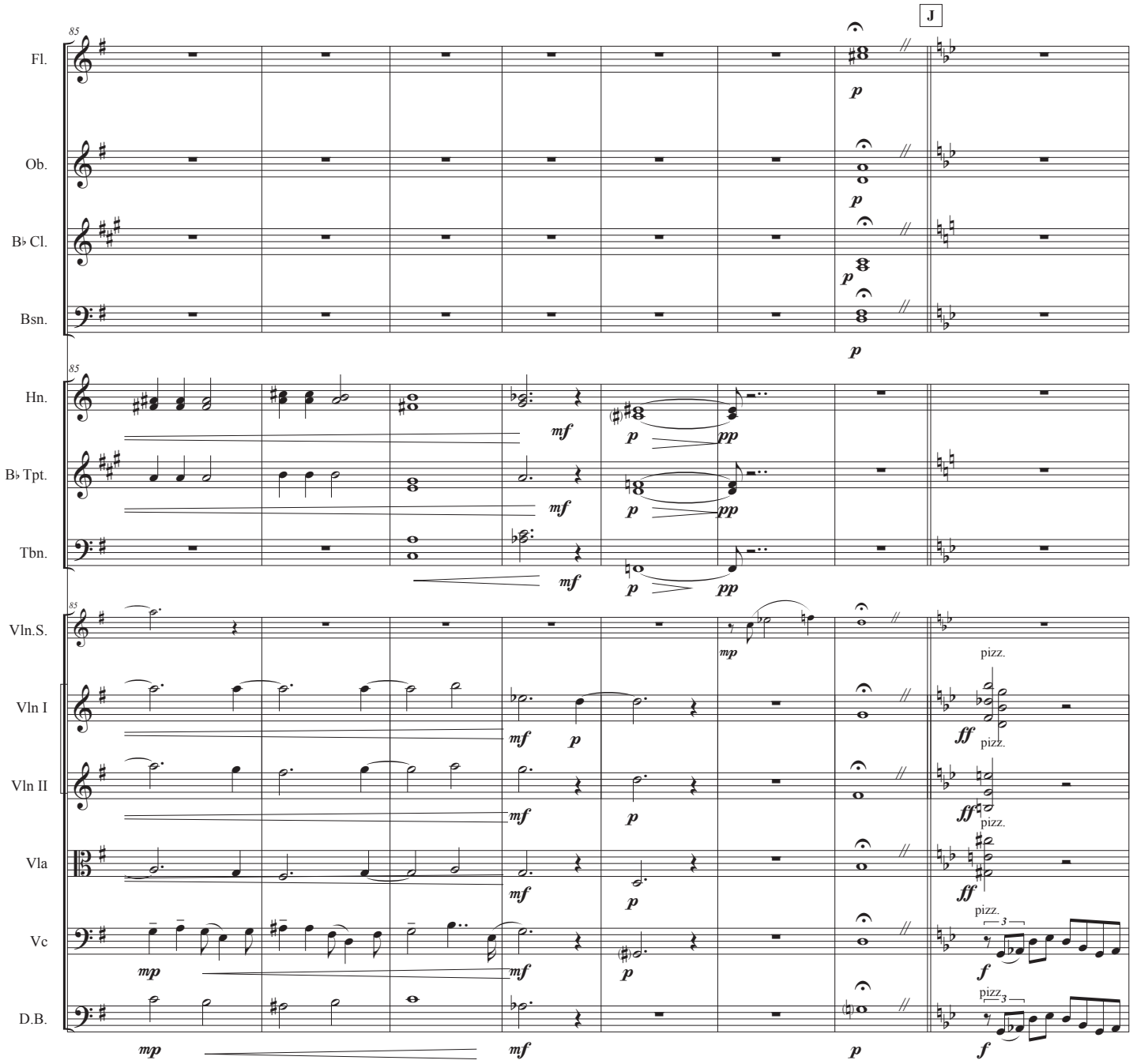

G
♩=80
54
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
wide vib.
Div., outer stand plays artificial harmonics
Div., outer stand plays artificial harmonics
Div., outer stand plays artificial harmonics
Div., outer stand plays artificial harmonics

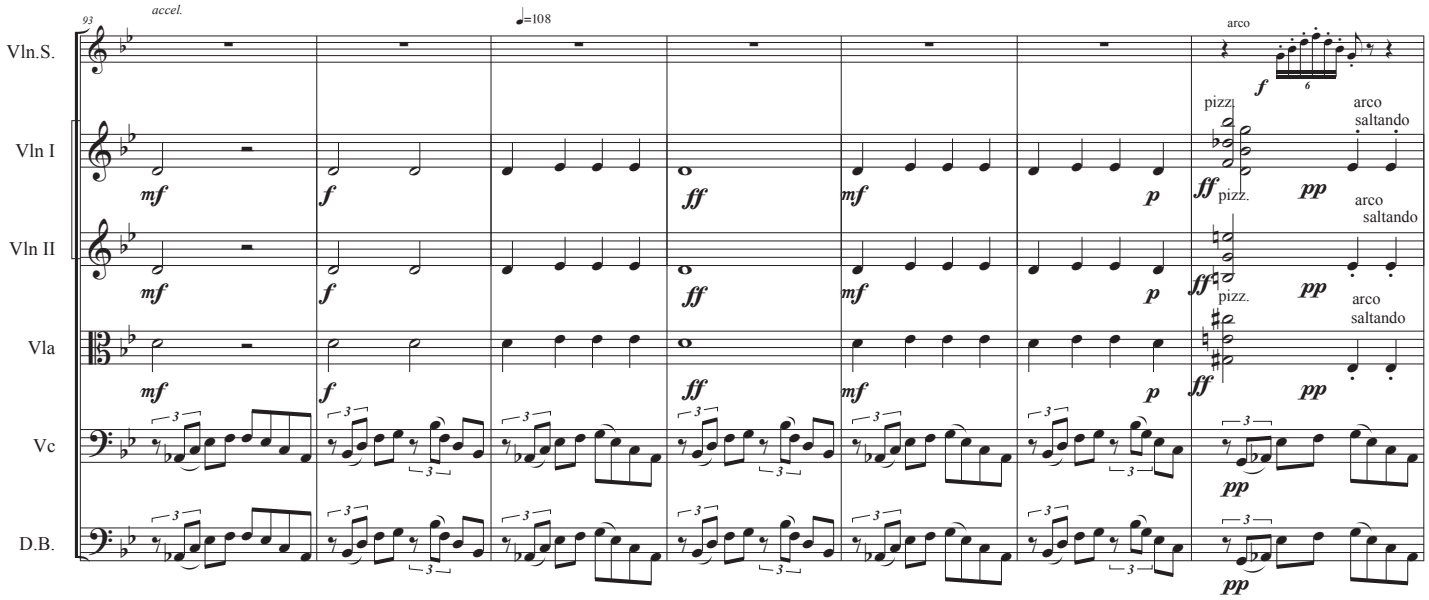

63
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
rubato
rit.
cresc.
H
a tempo
dreamy
dolce
pp
ppp
p
mf
mp

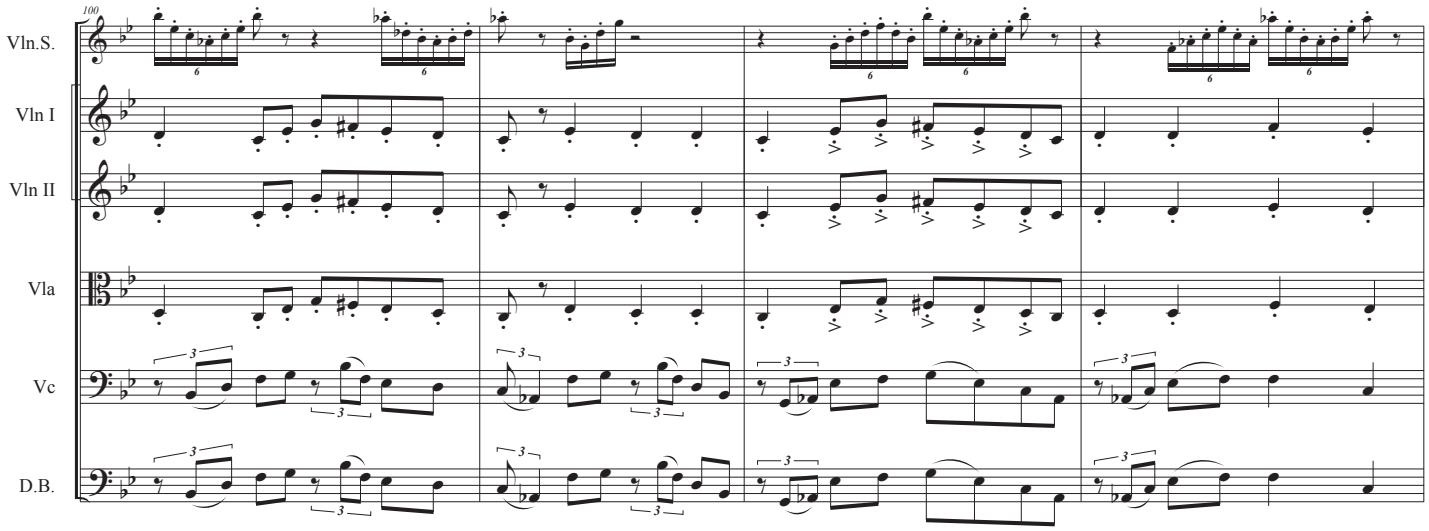

70
Fl.
pp
Ob.
pp
solo
B♭ Cl.
pp
ppp
p
Bsn.
ppp
p
70
solo
Hn.
pp
p
70
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.

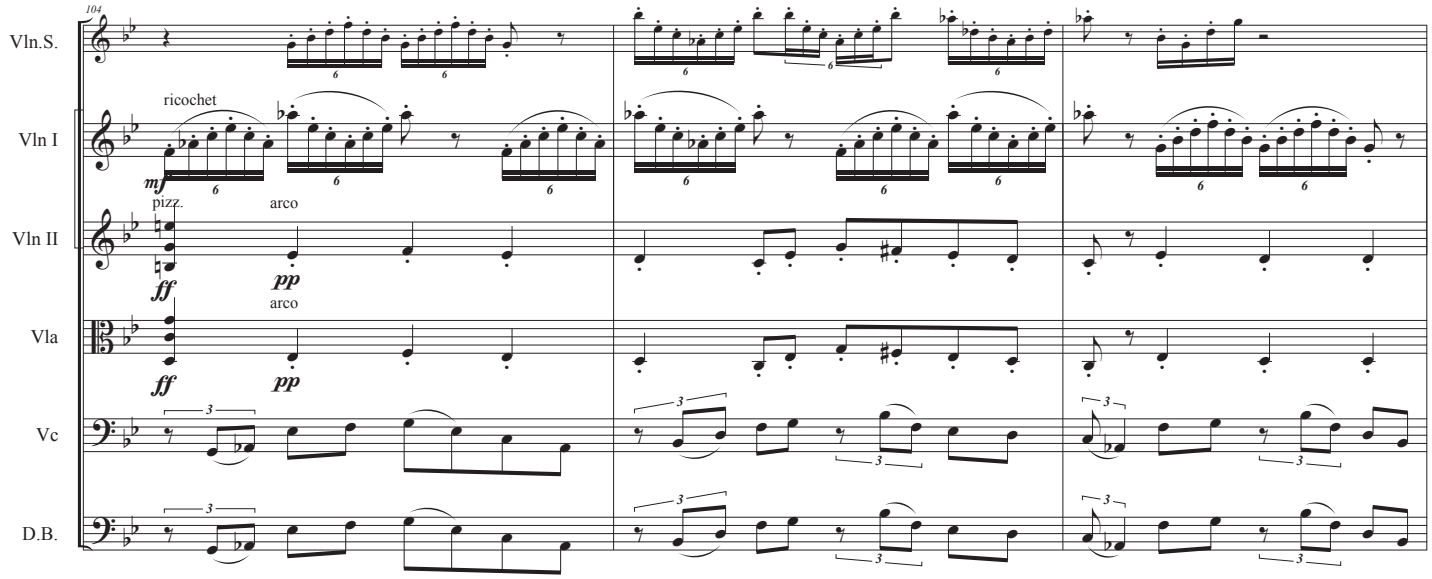

74
rubato
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Unison
Bsn.
solo
74
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
pp
p
74
Vln.S.
Vln I
pp
Vln II
Vla
Vc
p
D.B.
p

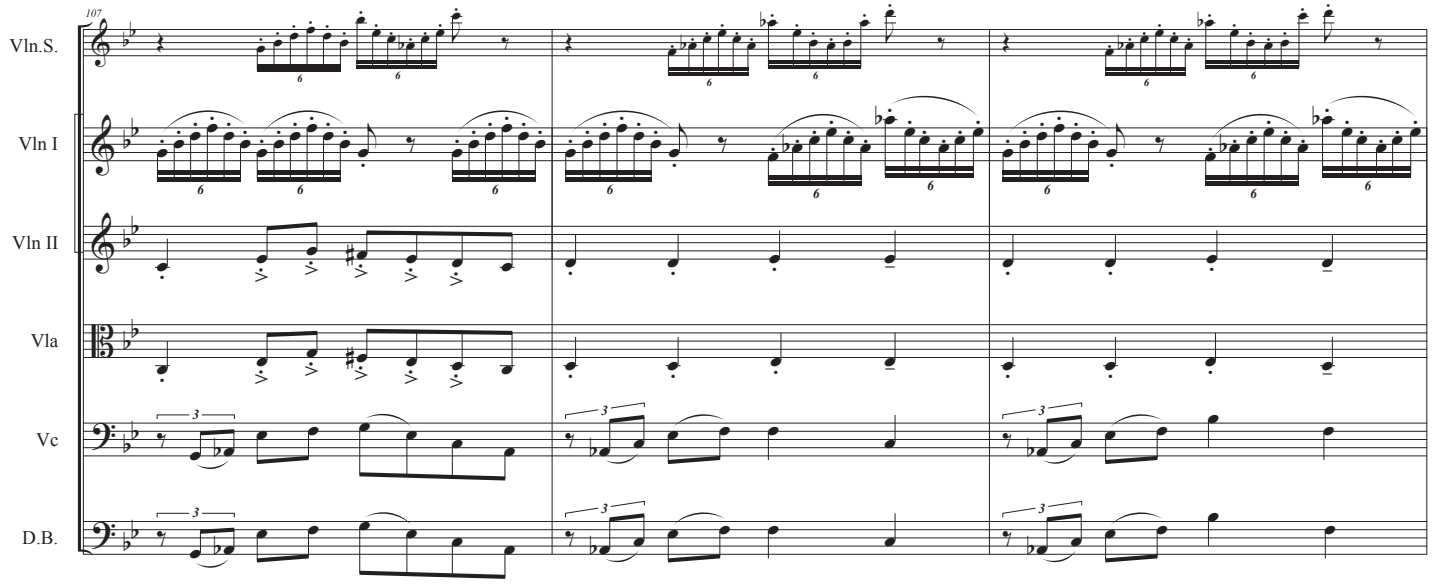

with determination
I
a tempo
with determination
Fl.
solo
ppp
Ob.
solo
ppp
B♭ Cl.
p
mf
Bsn.
a 2
Hn.
p
mf
p
B♭ Tpt.
pp
p
Tbn.
p
Vln.S.
espress.
mf
p
Vln I
like a bell
pizz.
mp
arco
p
pp
Vln II
pizz.
mp
arco
p
pp
Vla
pizz.
mp
arco
p
mf
pp
ppp
Vc
pizz.
mp
arco
p
pp
ppp
D.B.
pp

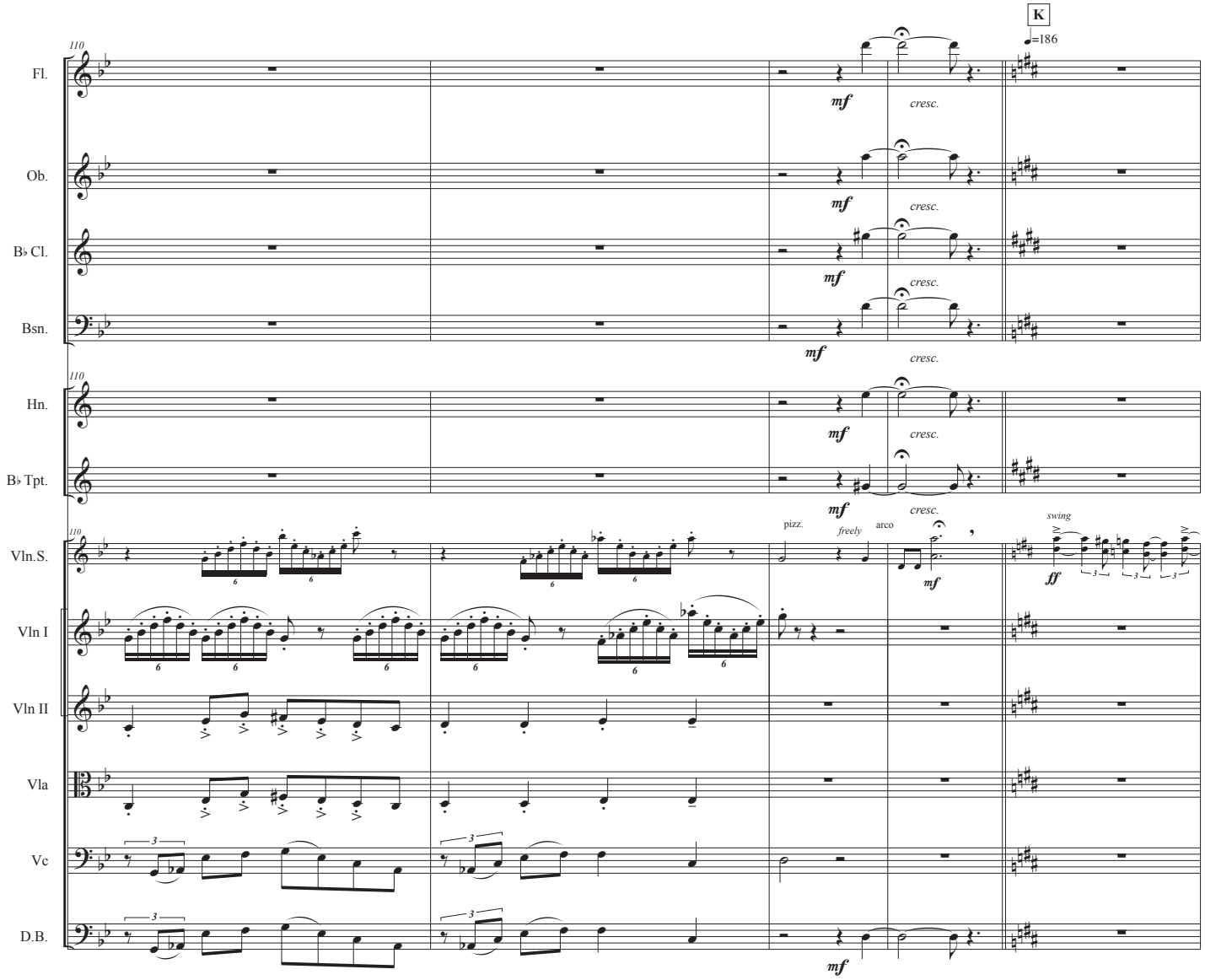

J
85
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
p
mf
pp
mp
ff
f
pizz.

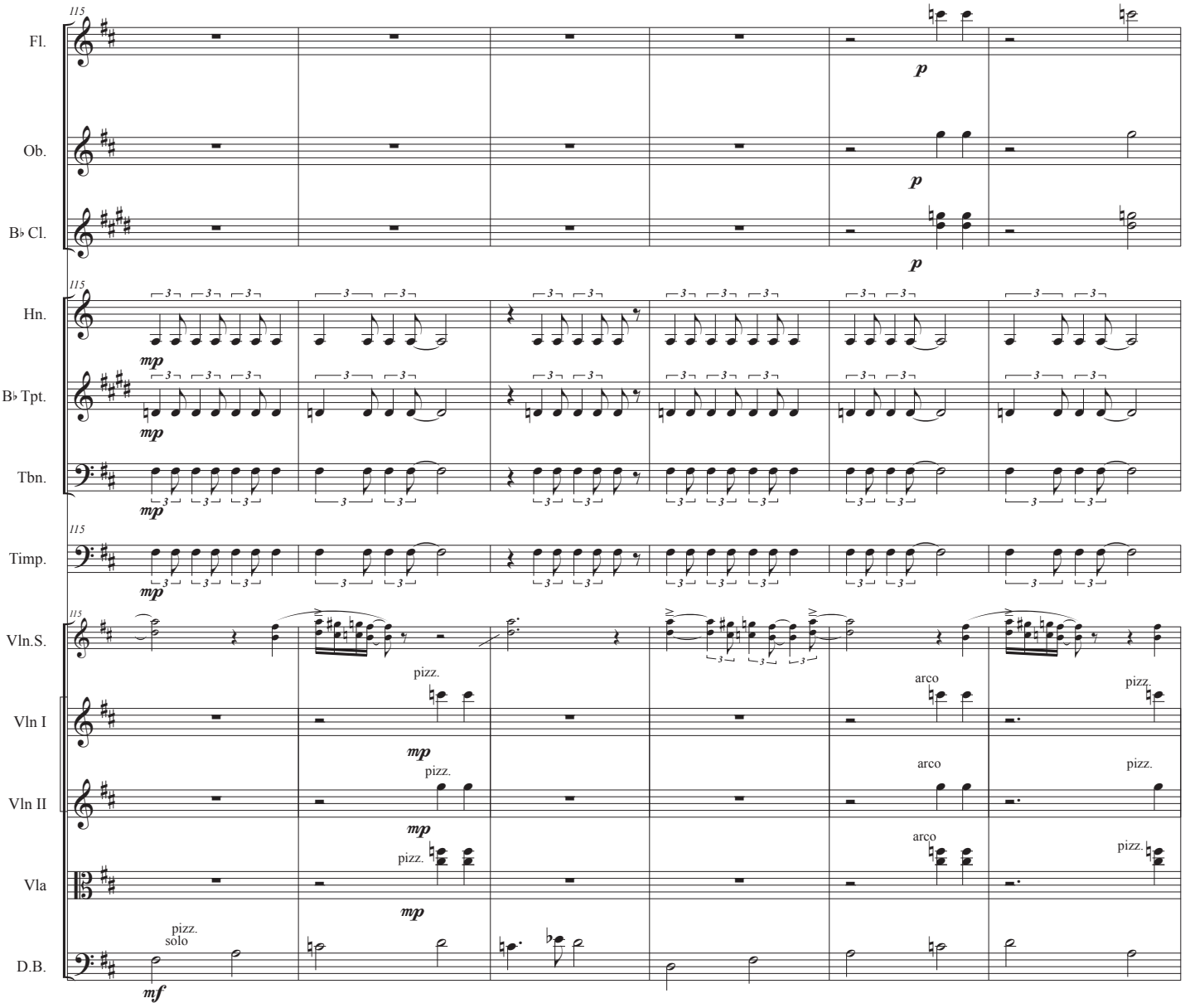

93
accel.
♩=108
arco
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
pizz.
arco
saltando

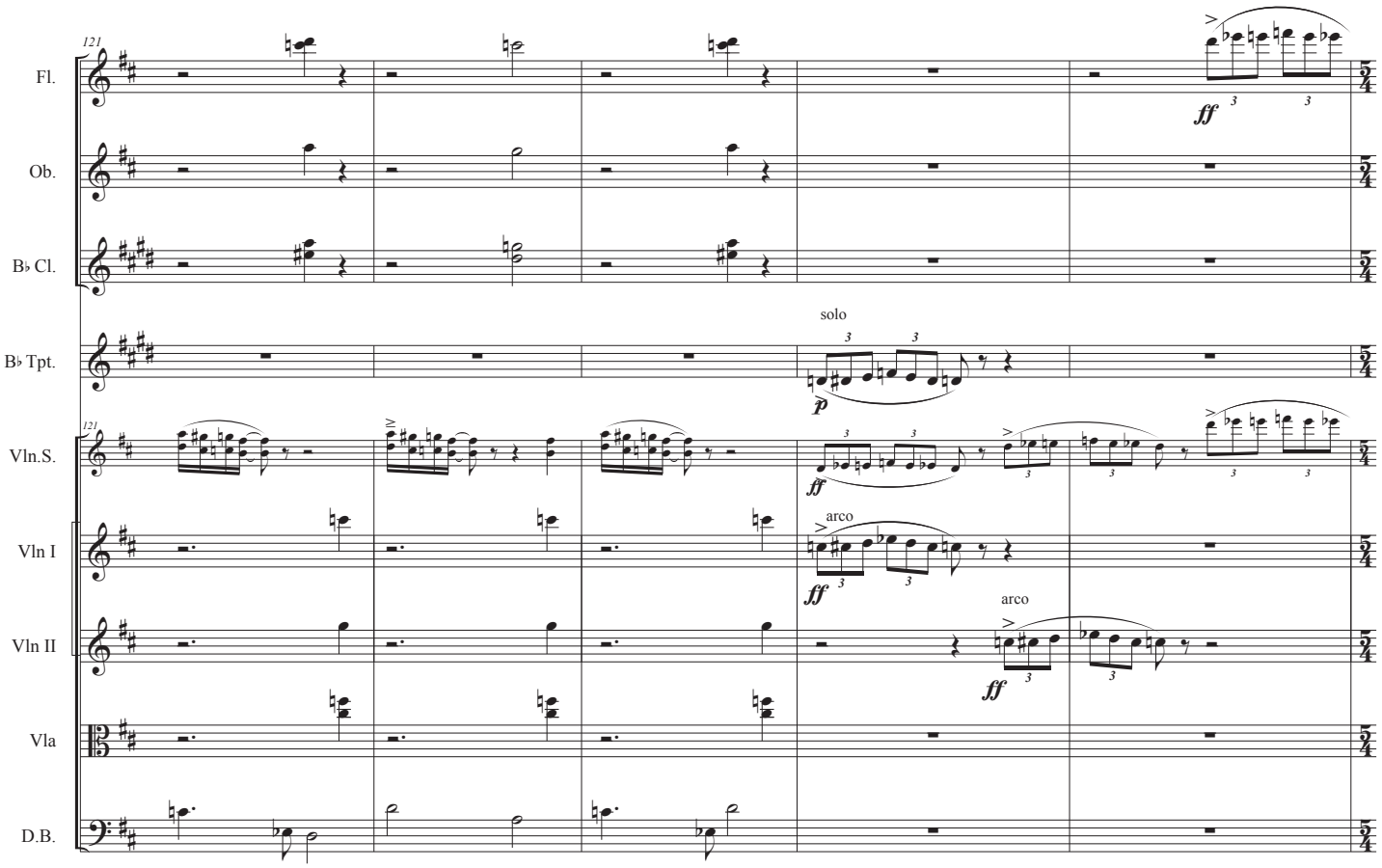

100
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.

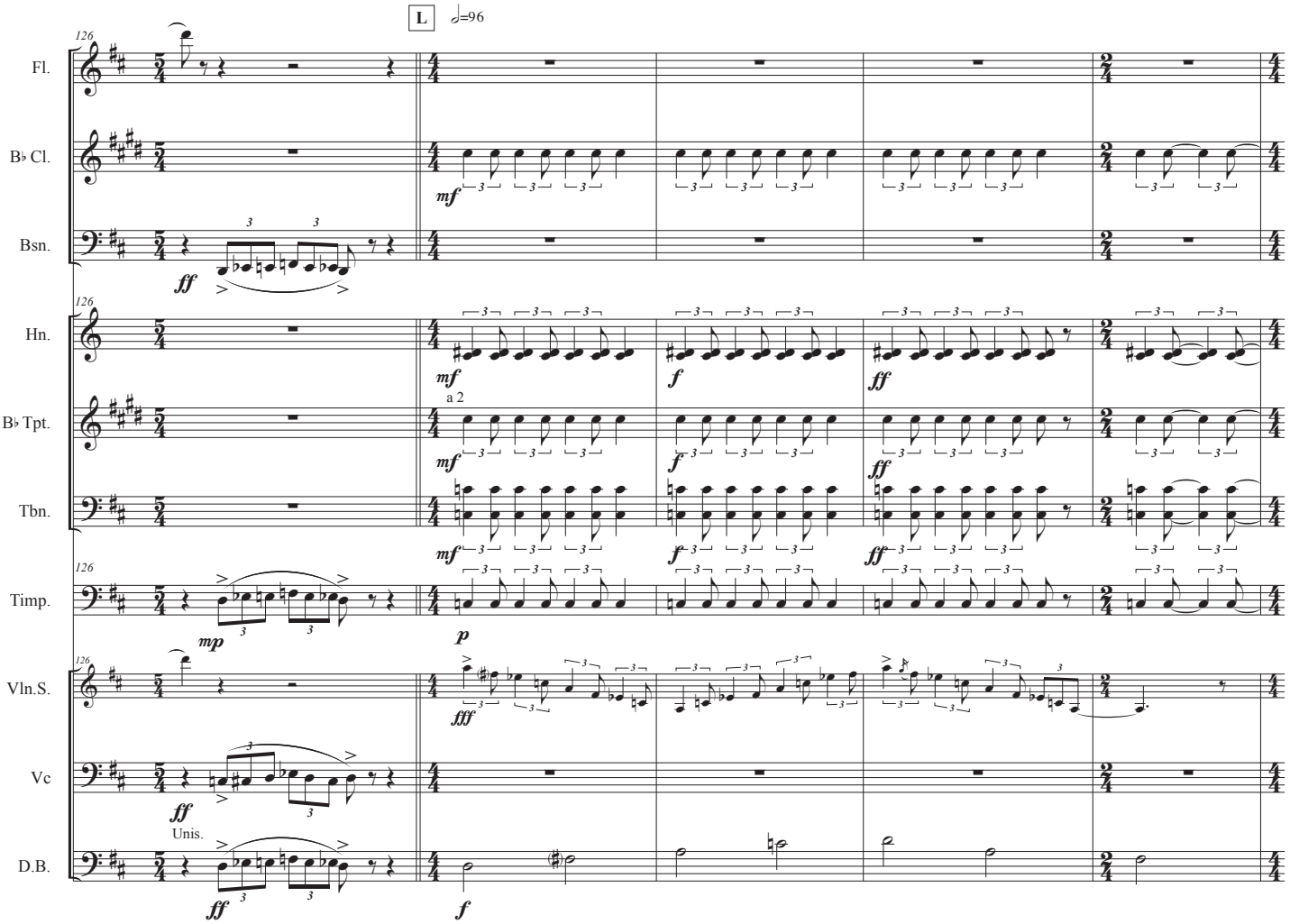

104
Vln.S.
Vln I
ricochet
mf
Vln II
pizz.
ff
arco
pp
Vla
ff
arco
pp
Vc
D.B.

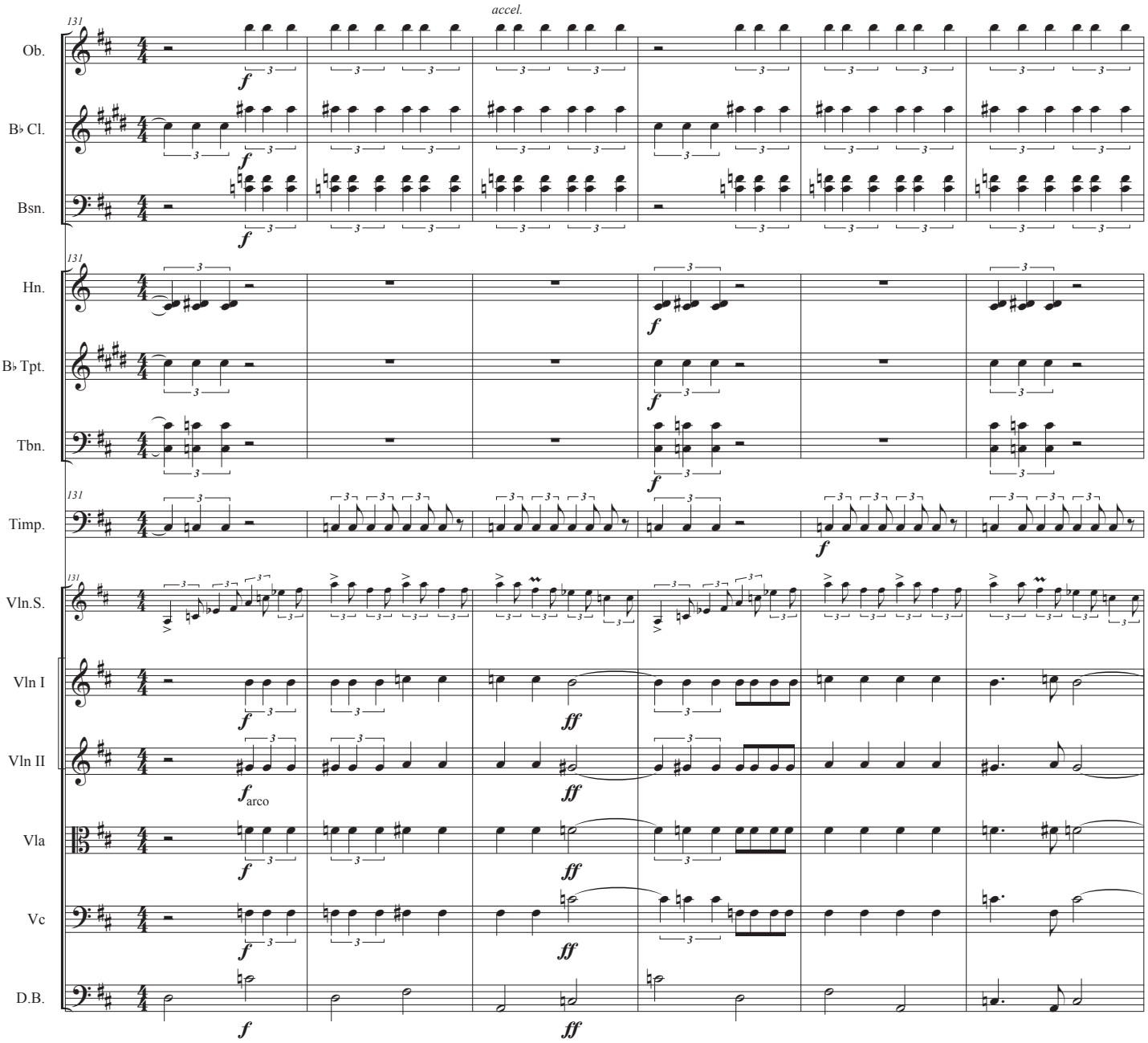

107
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.

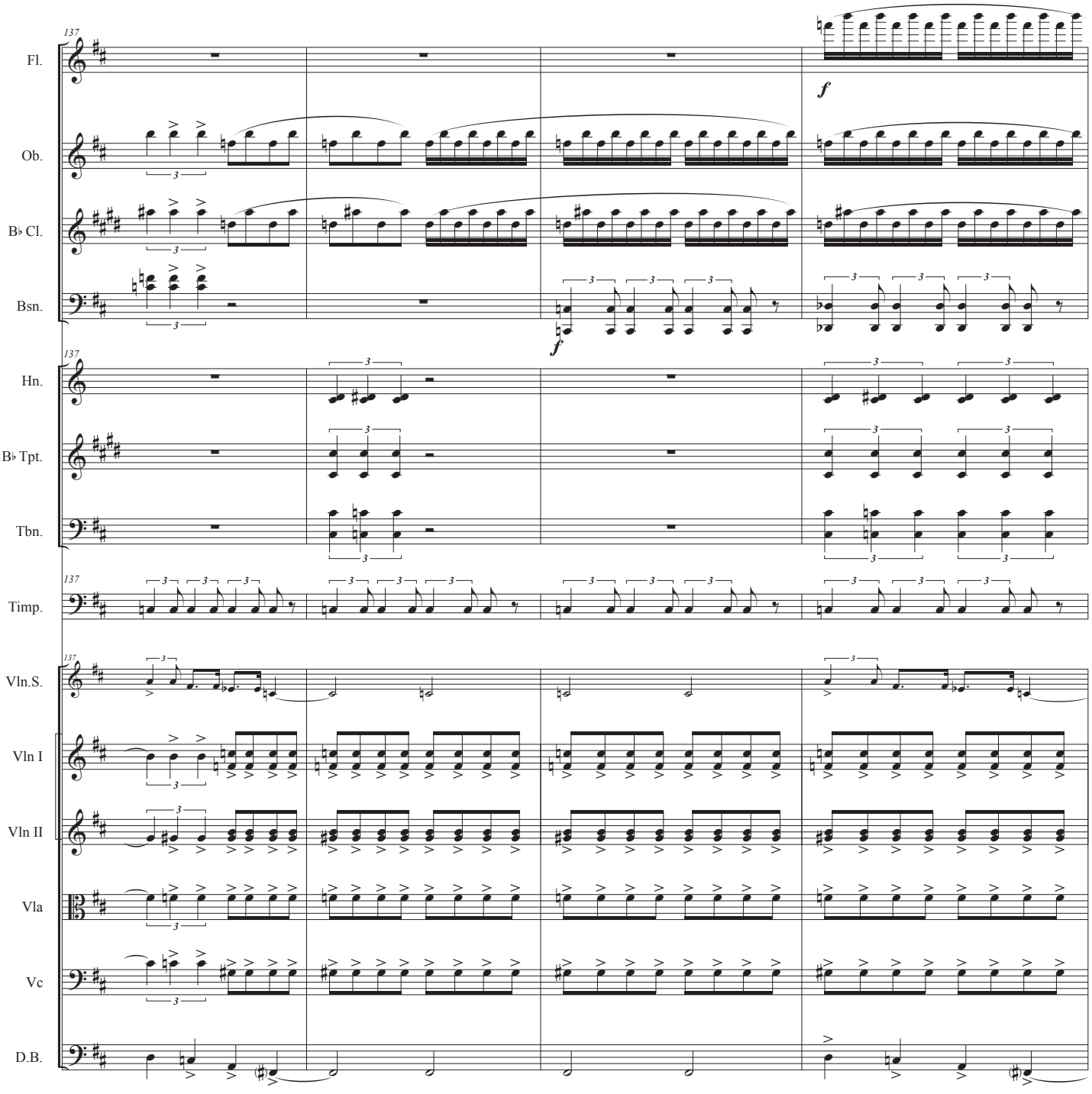

K
♩=186
110
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
mf
cresc.
pizz.
freely
arco
swing
ff

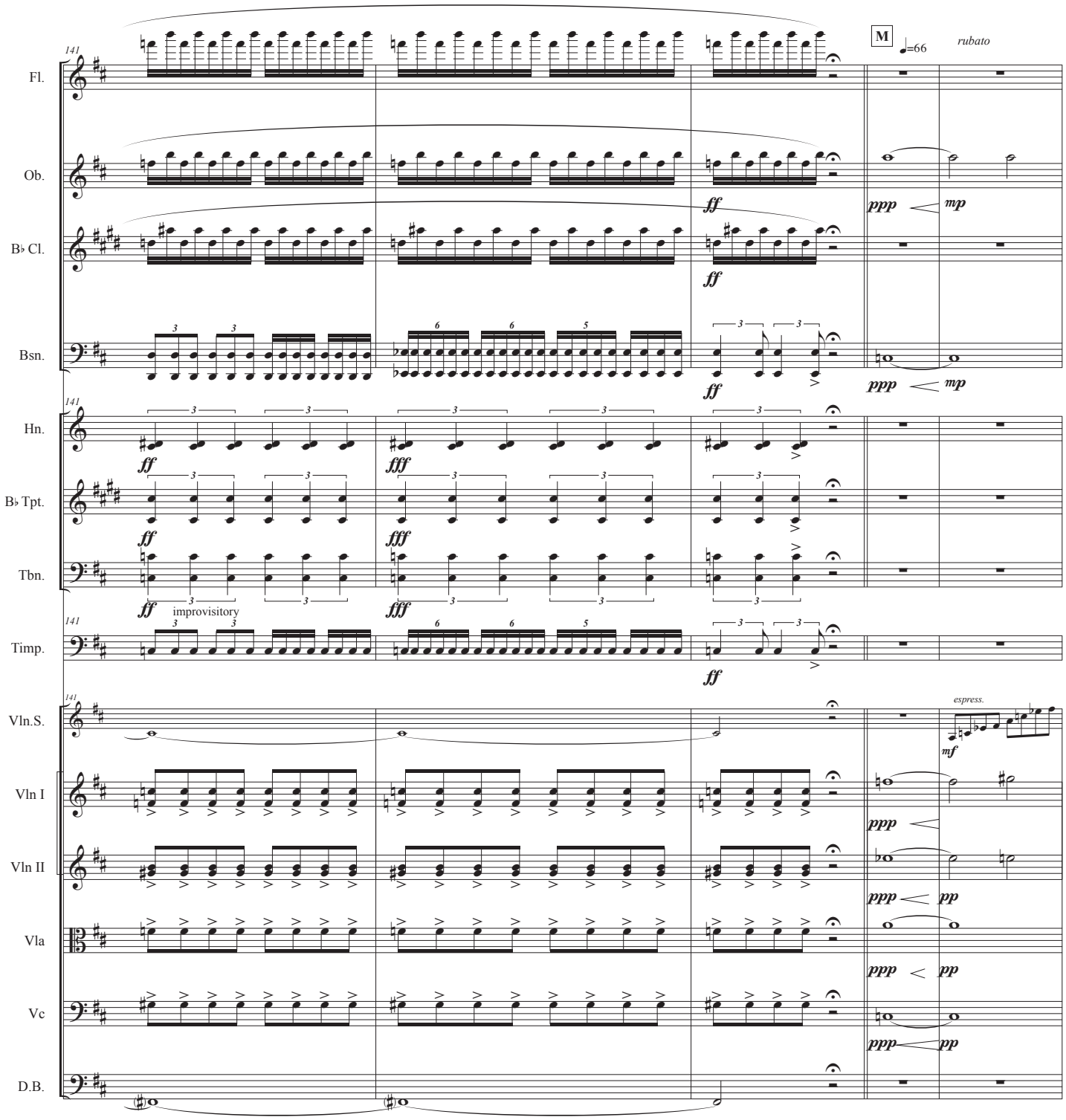

115
Fl.
p
Ob.
p
B♭ Cl.
p
Hn.
mp
B♭ Tpt.
mp
Tbn.
mp
Timp.
mp
Vln.S.
Vln I
pizz.
mp
arco
pizz.
Vln II
pizz.
mp
arco
pizz.
Vla
pizz.
mp
arco
pizz.
D.B.
pizz.
solo
mf

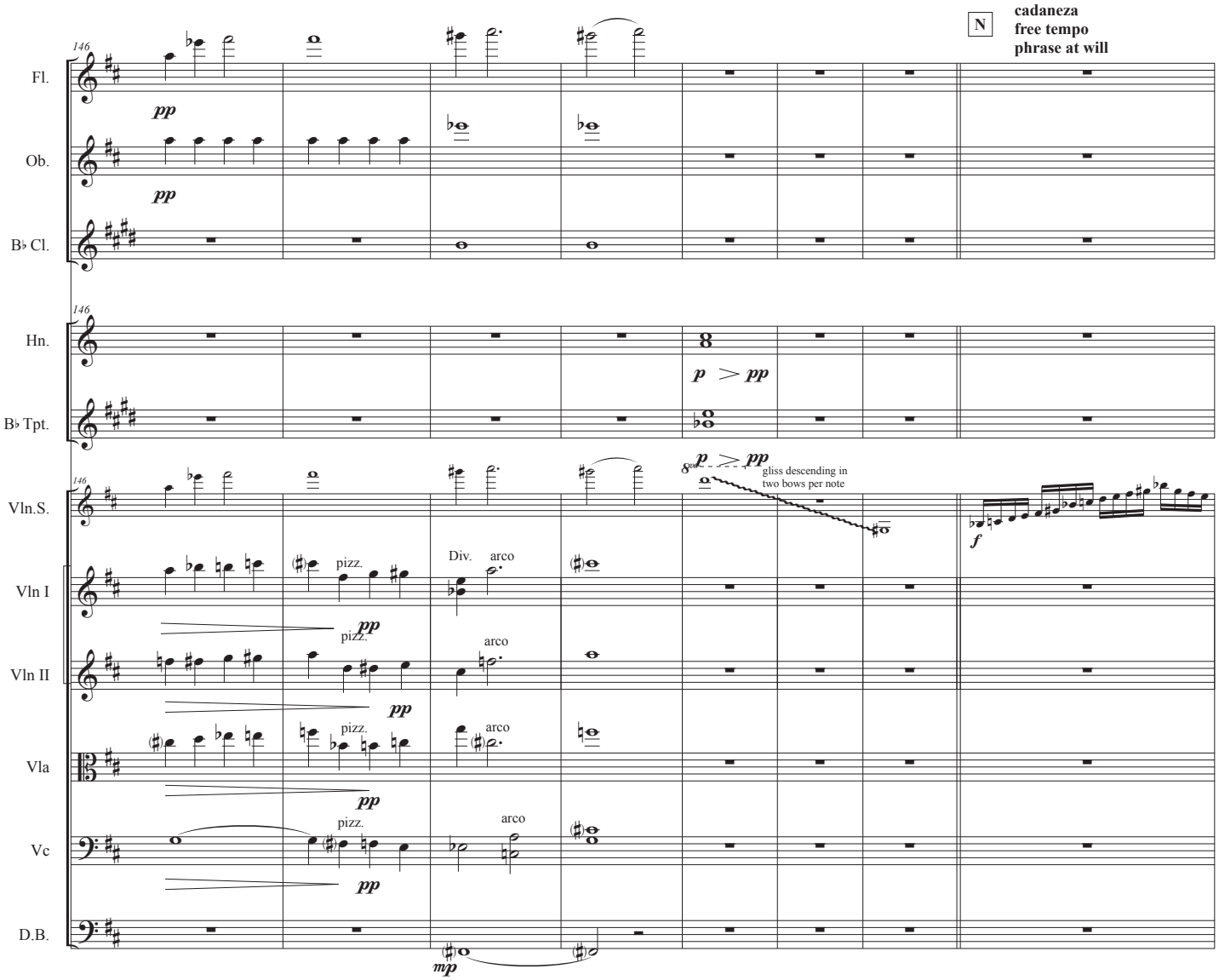

121
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
B♭ Tpt.
solo
Vln.S.
Vln I
arco
Vln II
arco
Vla
D.B.
ff
p

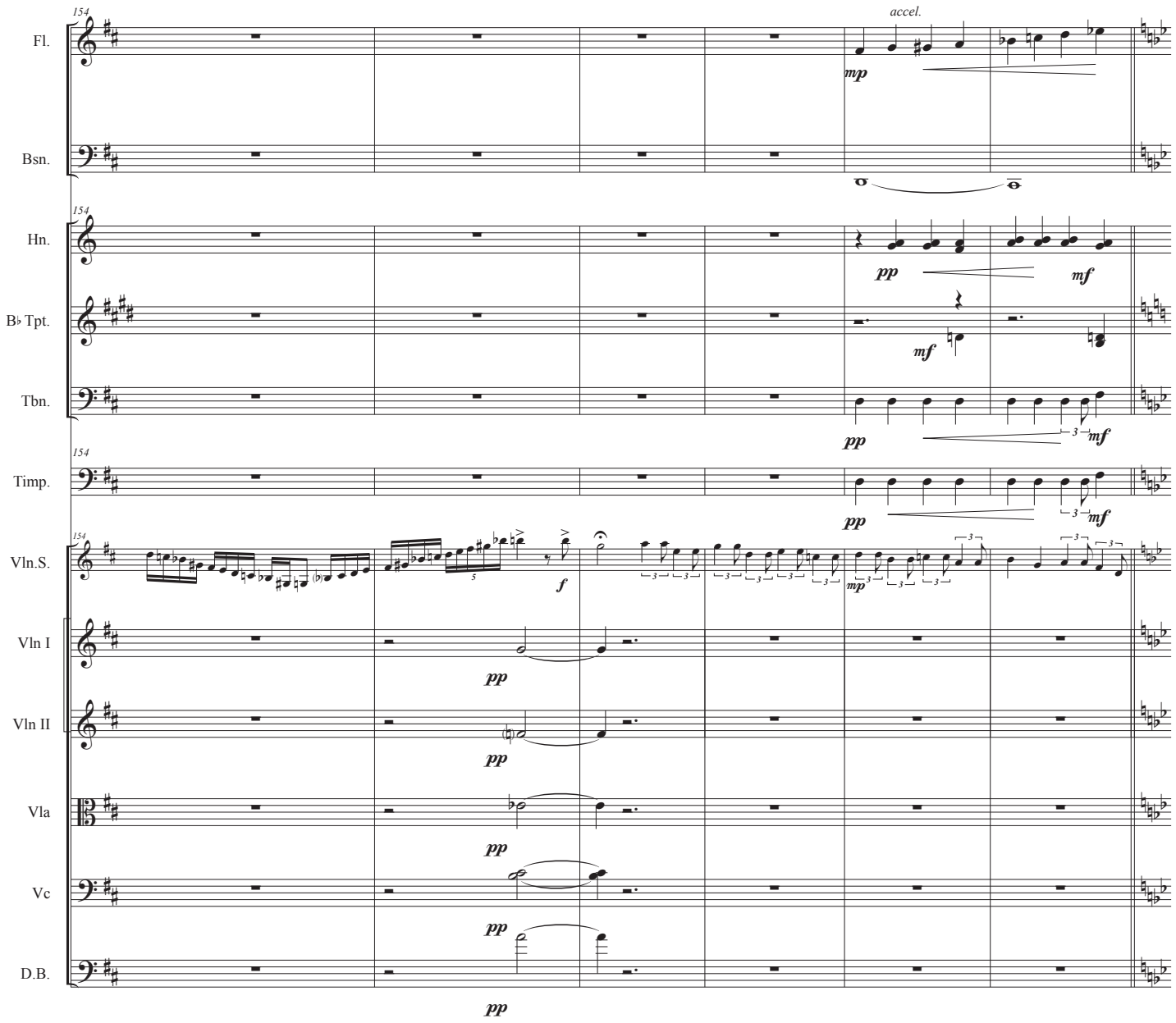

L
♩=96
126
Fl.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vc
D.B.
a 2
Unis.

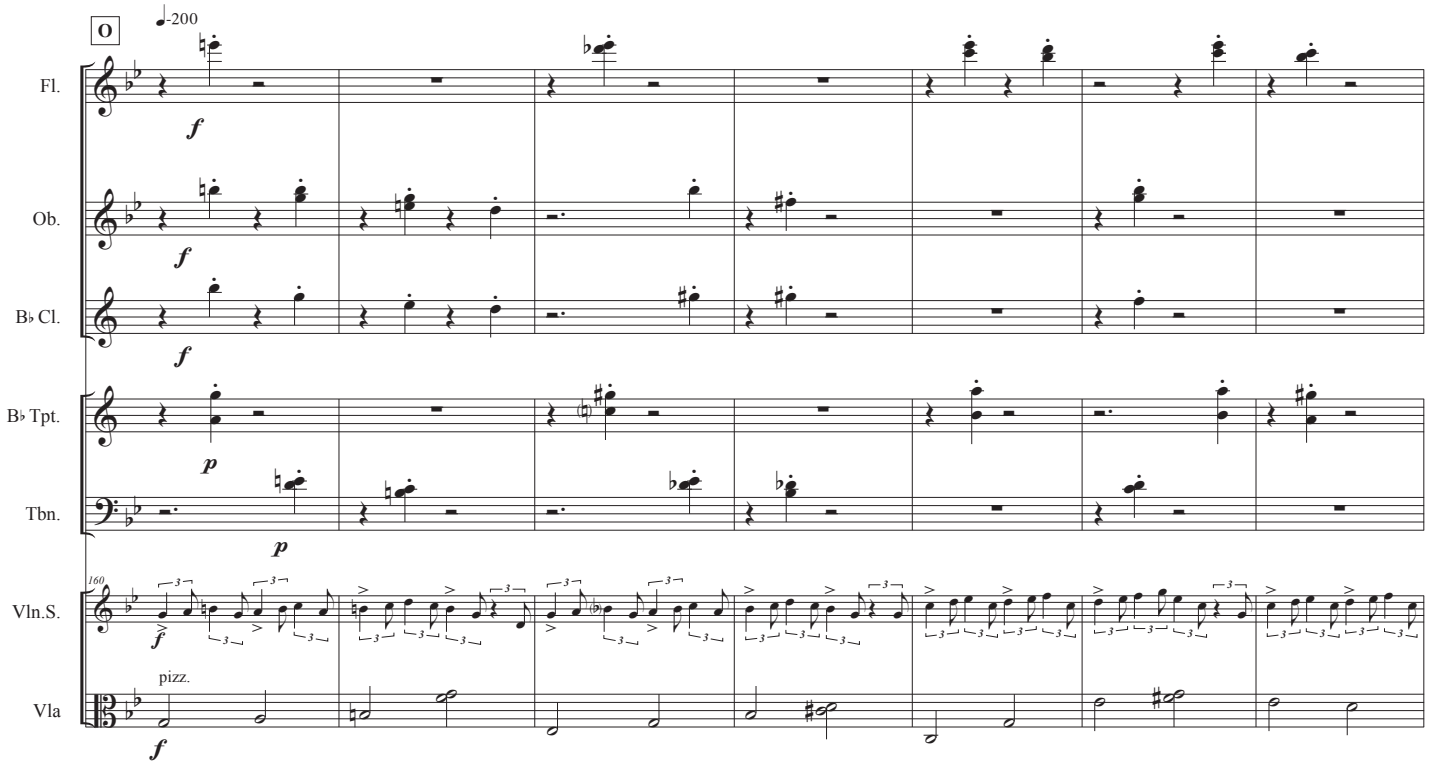

accel.
131
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
arco
Vla
Vc
D.B.

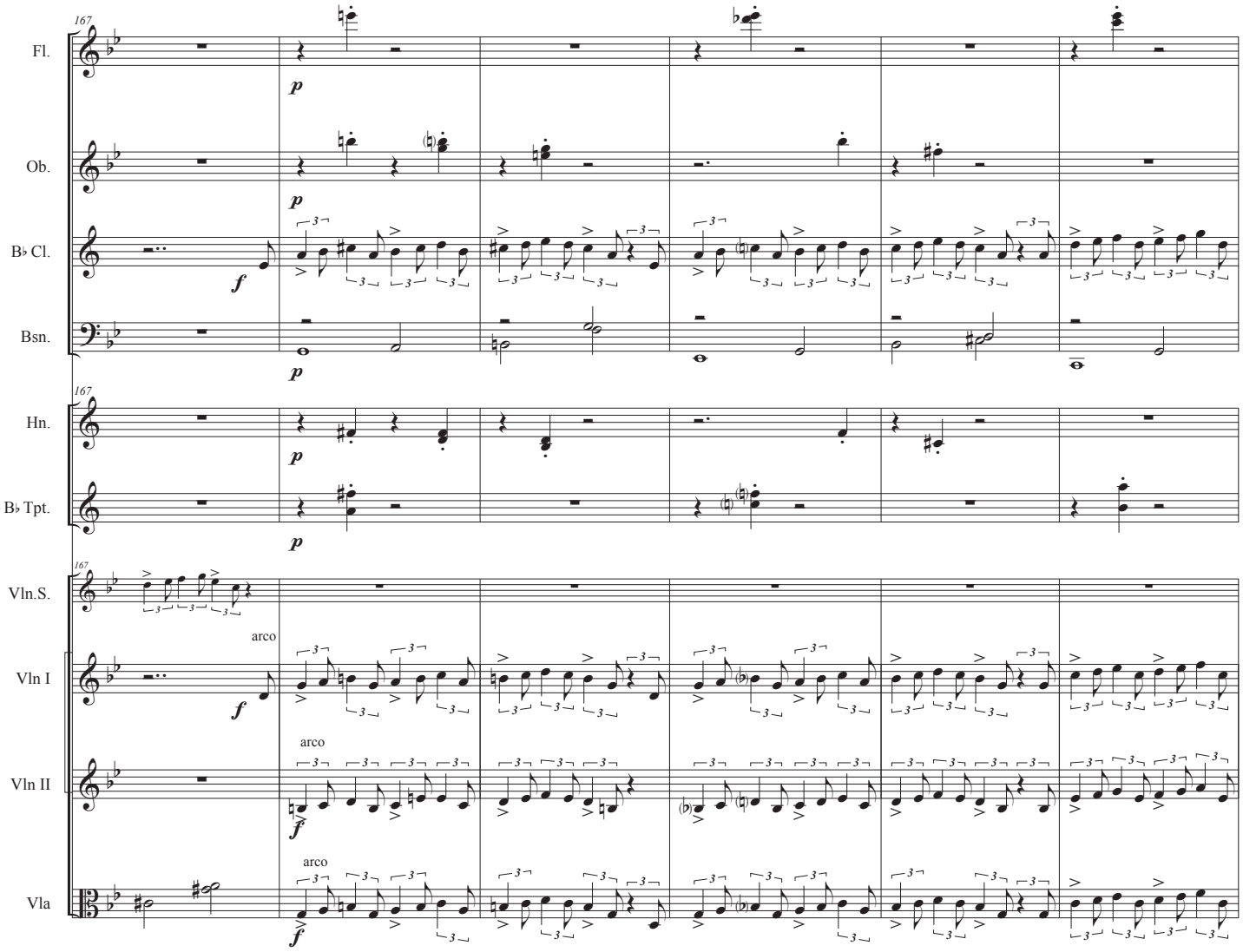

137
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
f

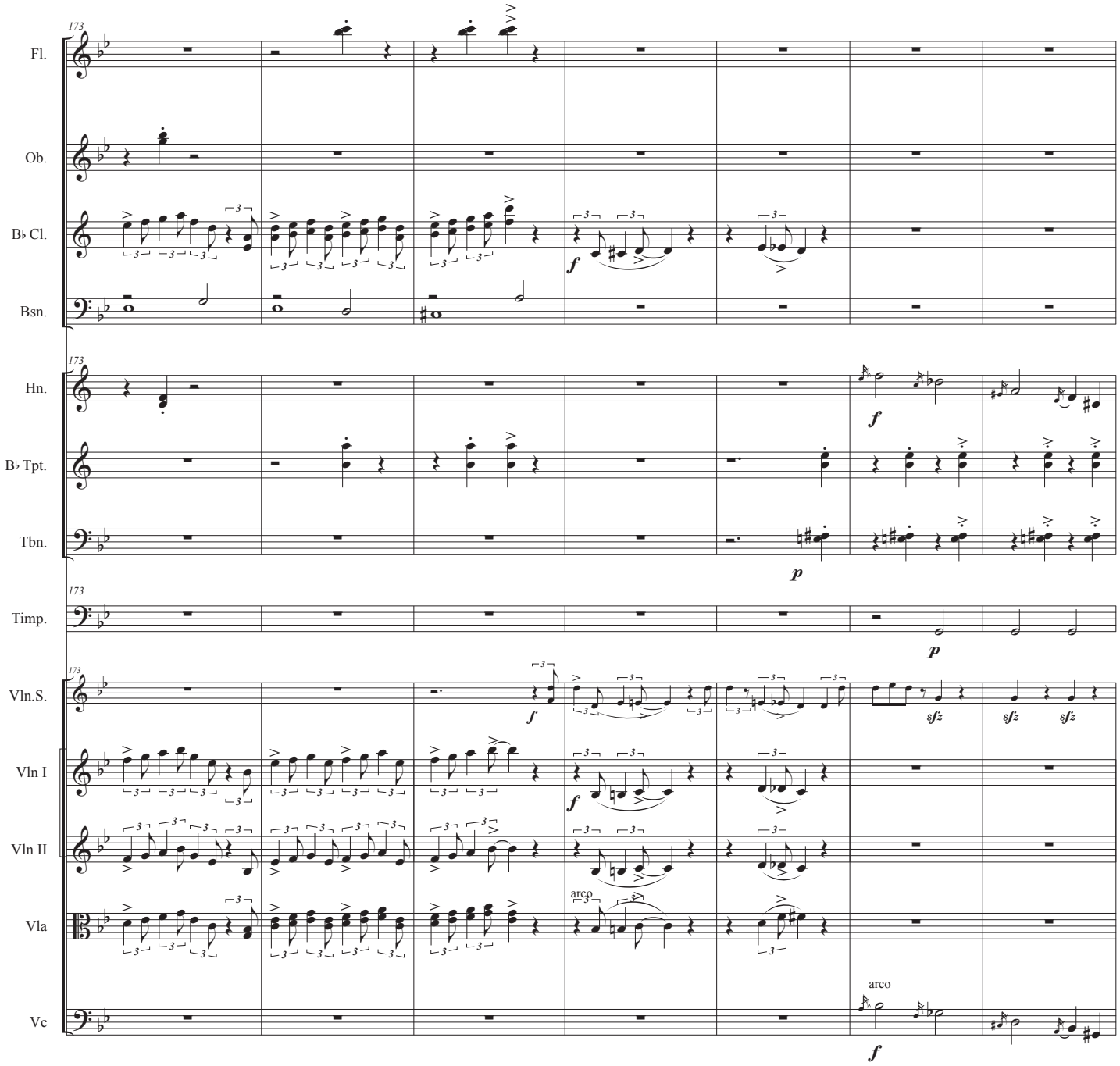

141
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
M
♩=66
rubato
ff
ppp
mp
fff
improvisitory
espress.
mf
pp

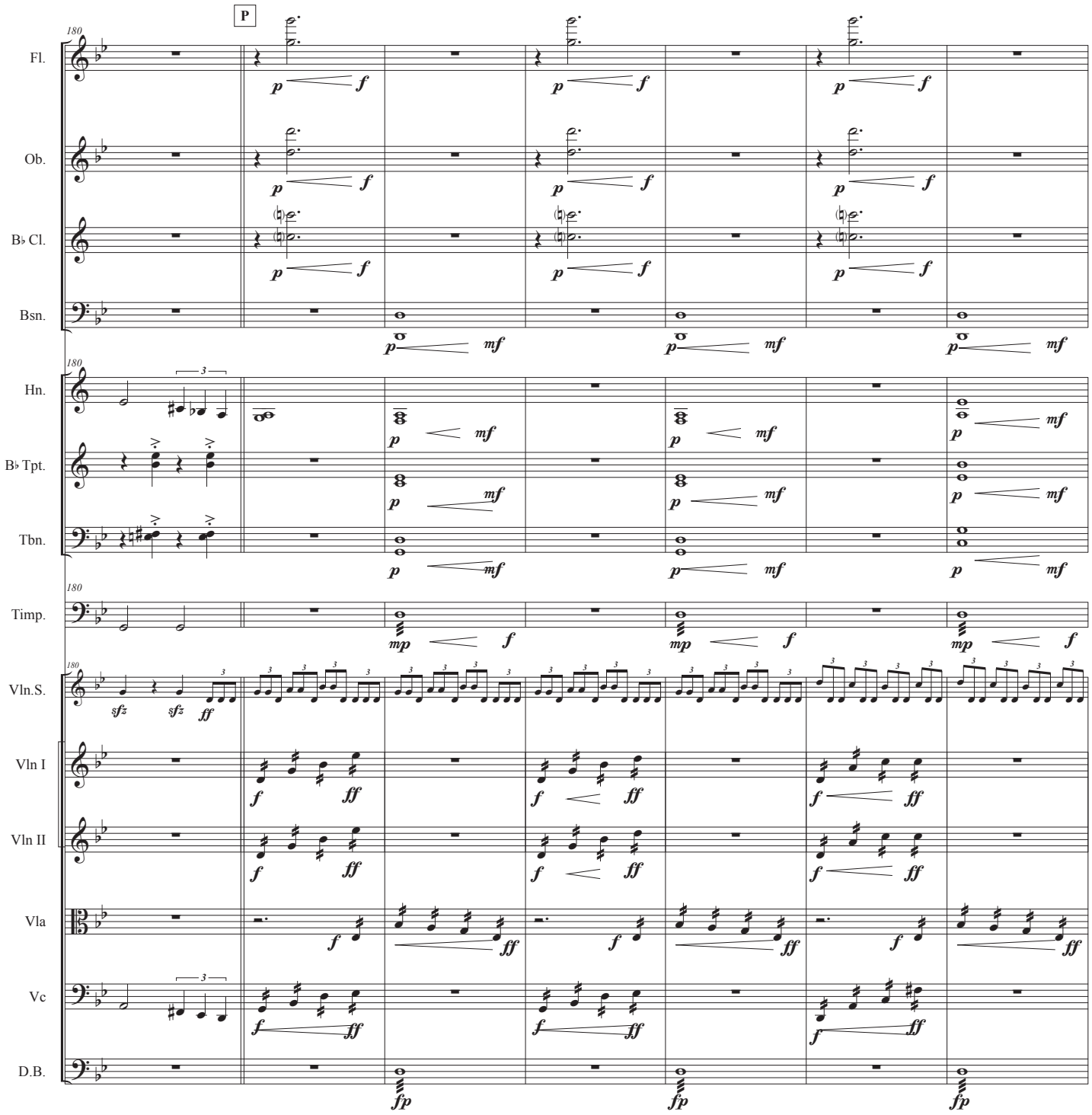

146
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
N
cadaneza
free tempo
phrase at will
pp
p
pp
gliss descending in
two bows per note
f
pizz.
Div.
arco
mp

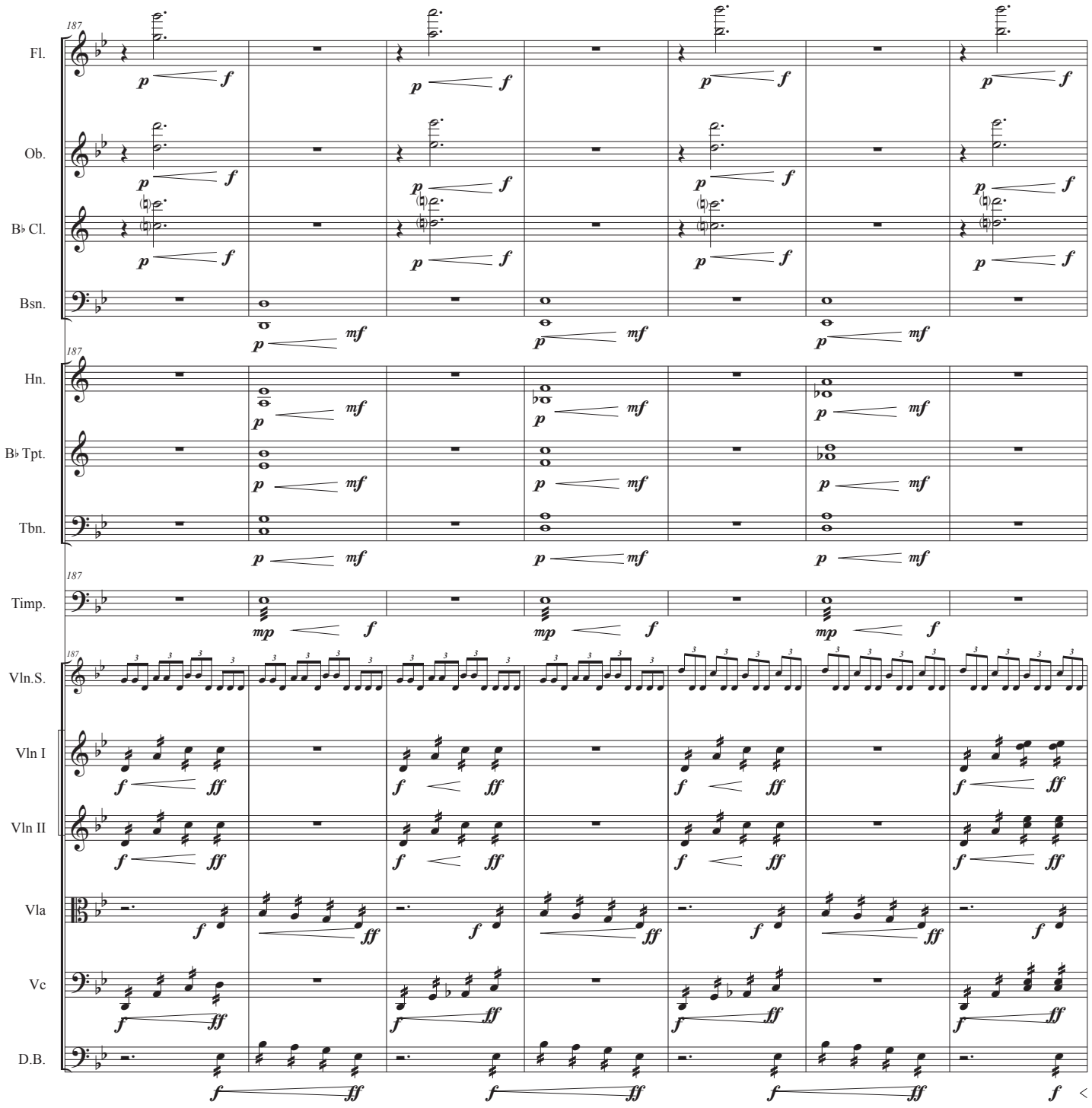

154
Fl.
accel.
mp
Bsn.
Hn.
pp
mf
B♭ Tpt.
mf
Tbn.
pp
mf
Timp.
pp
mf
Vln.S.
f
mp
Vln I
pp
Vln II
pp
Vla
pp
Vc
pp
D.B.
pp

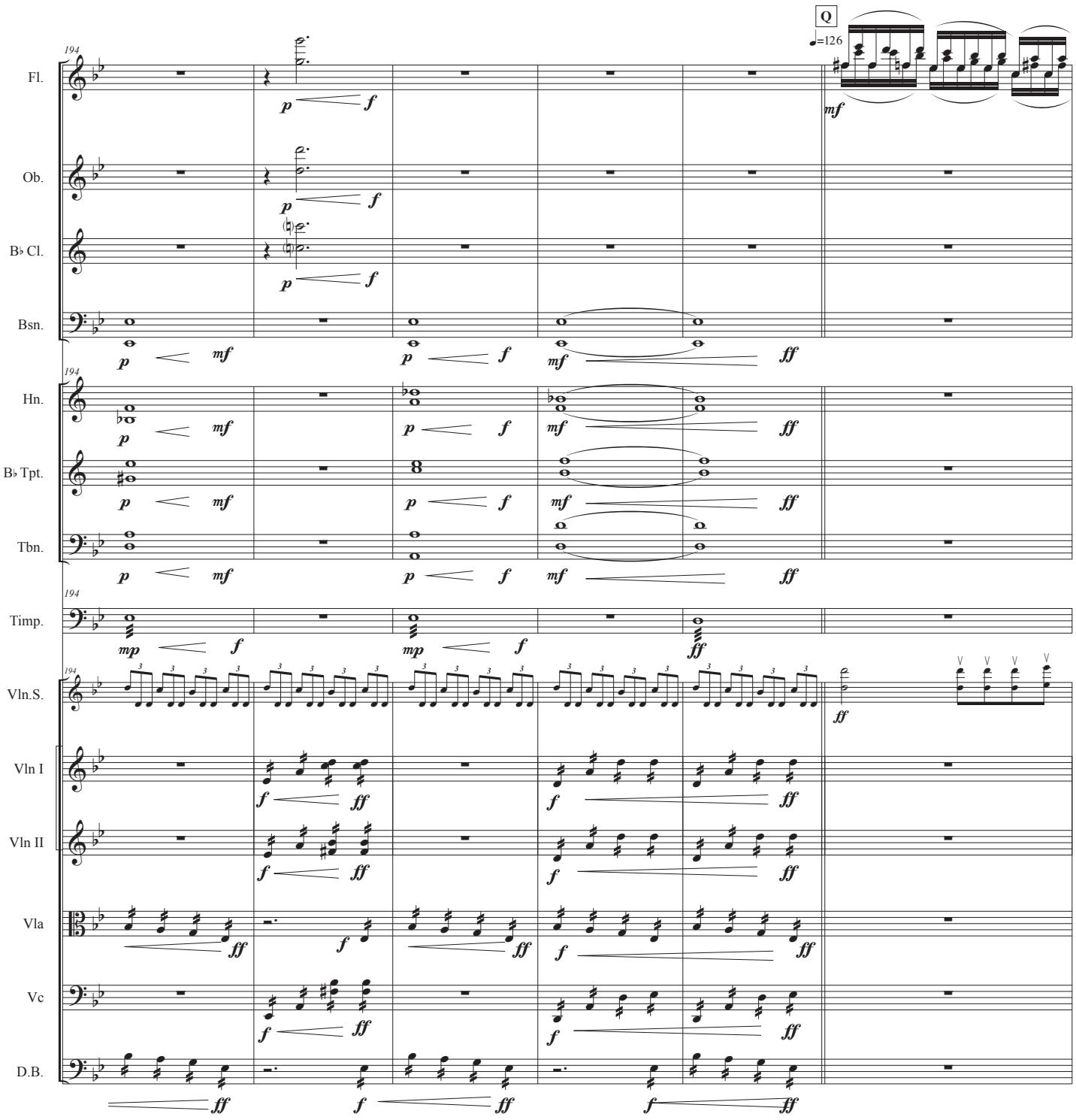

O
♩-200
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
160
Vln.S.
pizz.
Vla

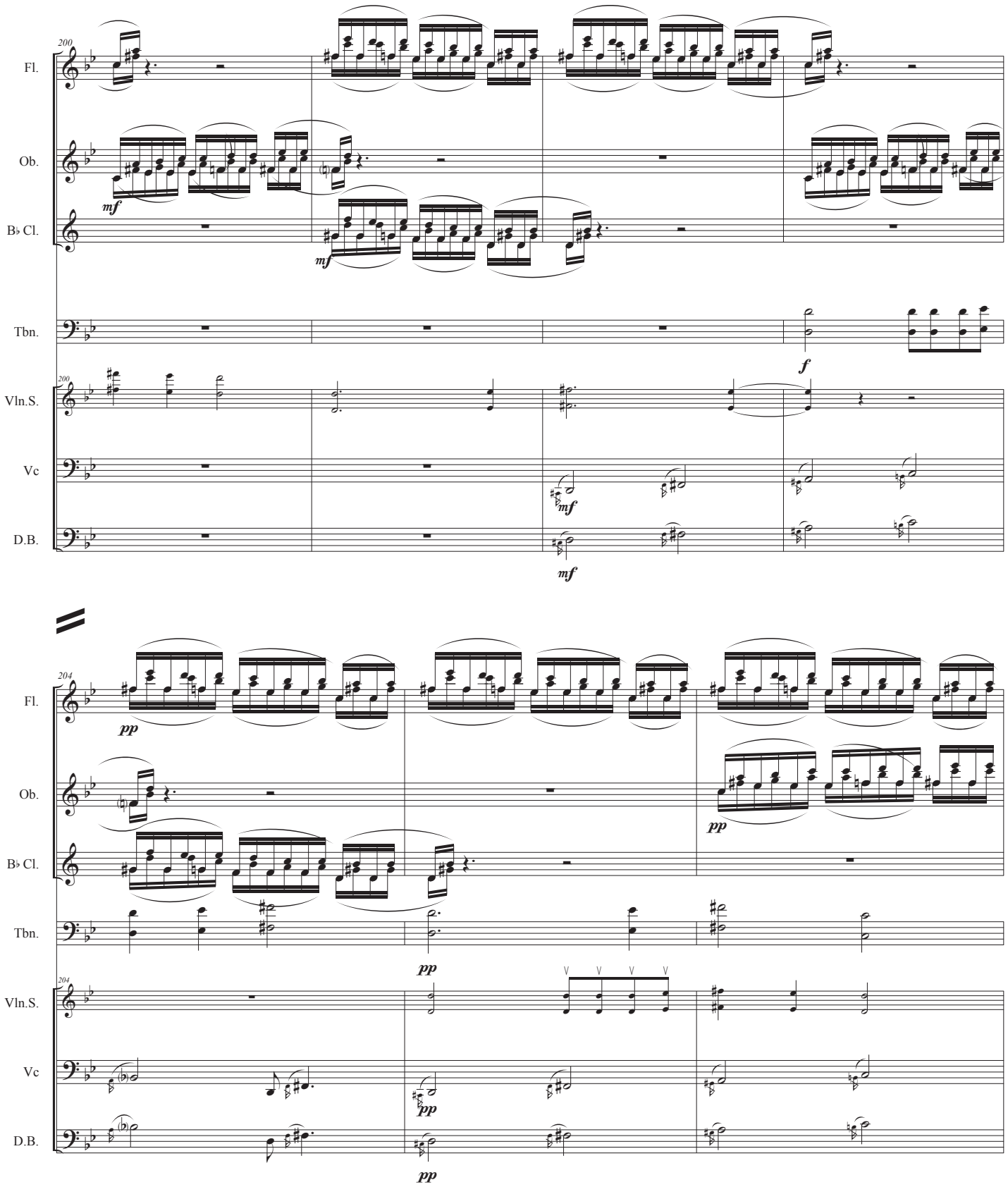

167
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
arco
arco
arco

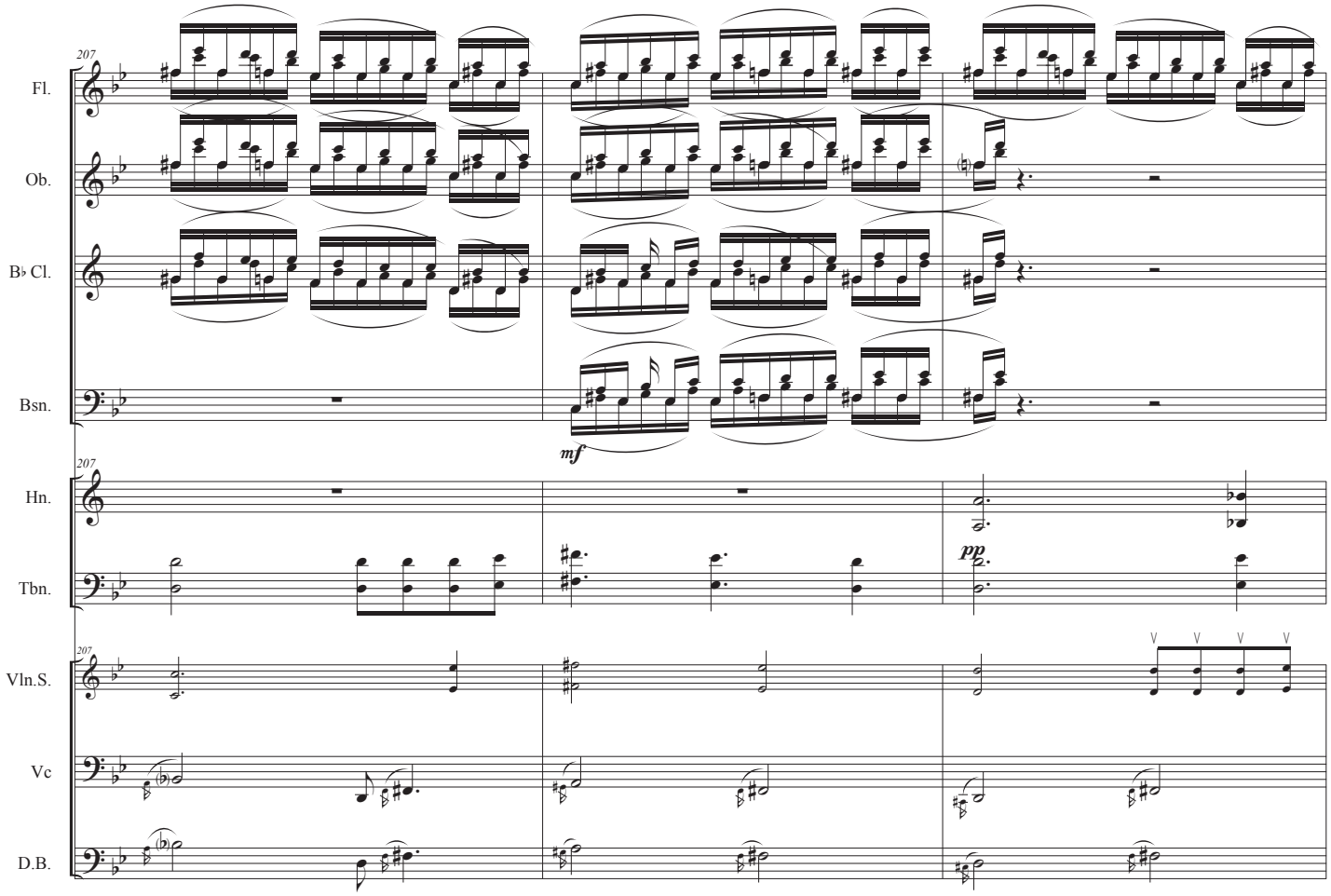

173
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
f
p
sfz
arco

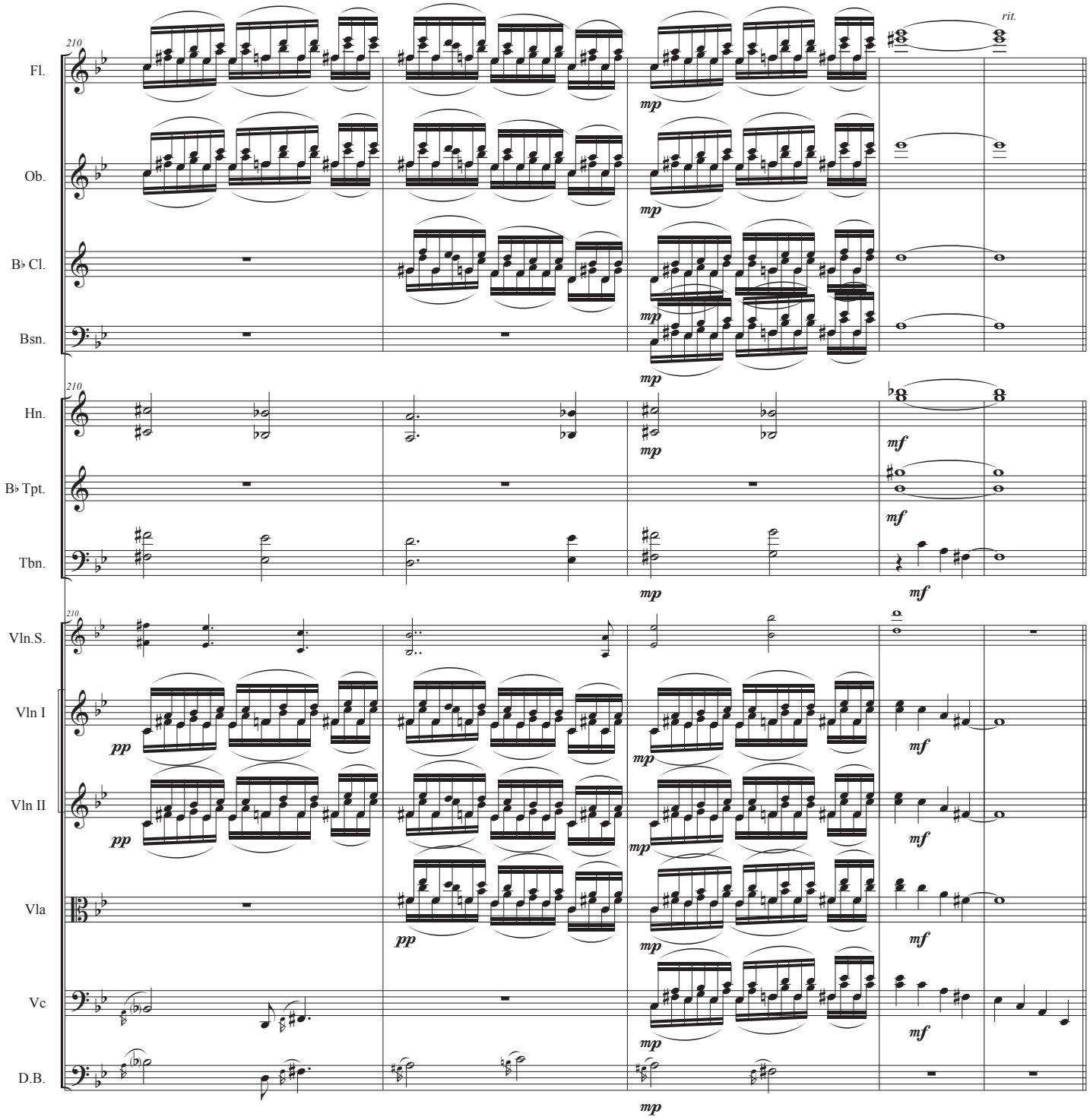

P
180
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.

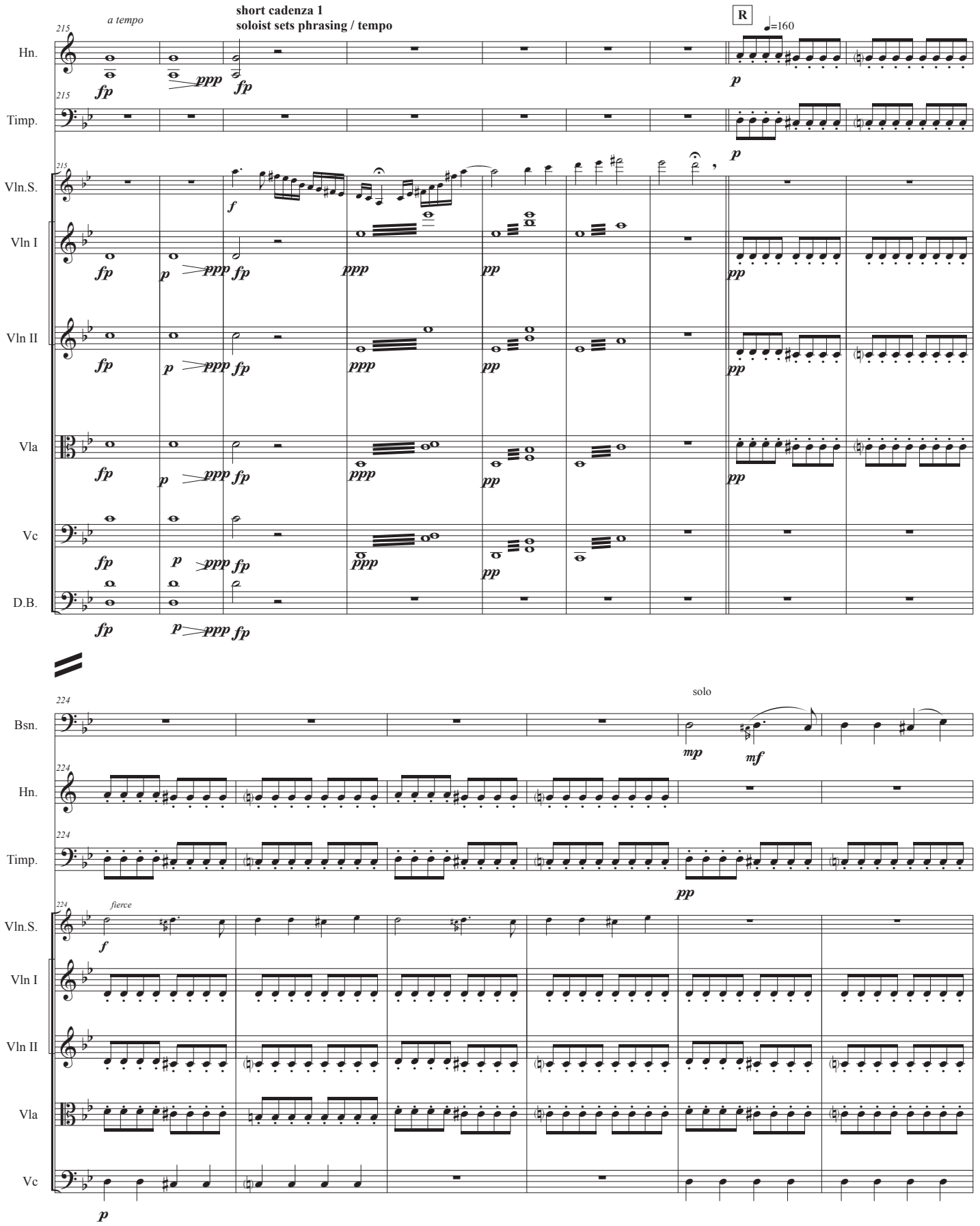

187
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.

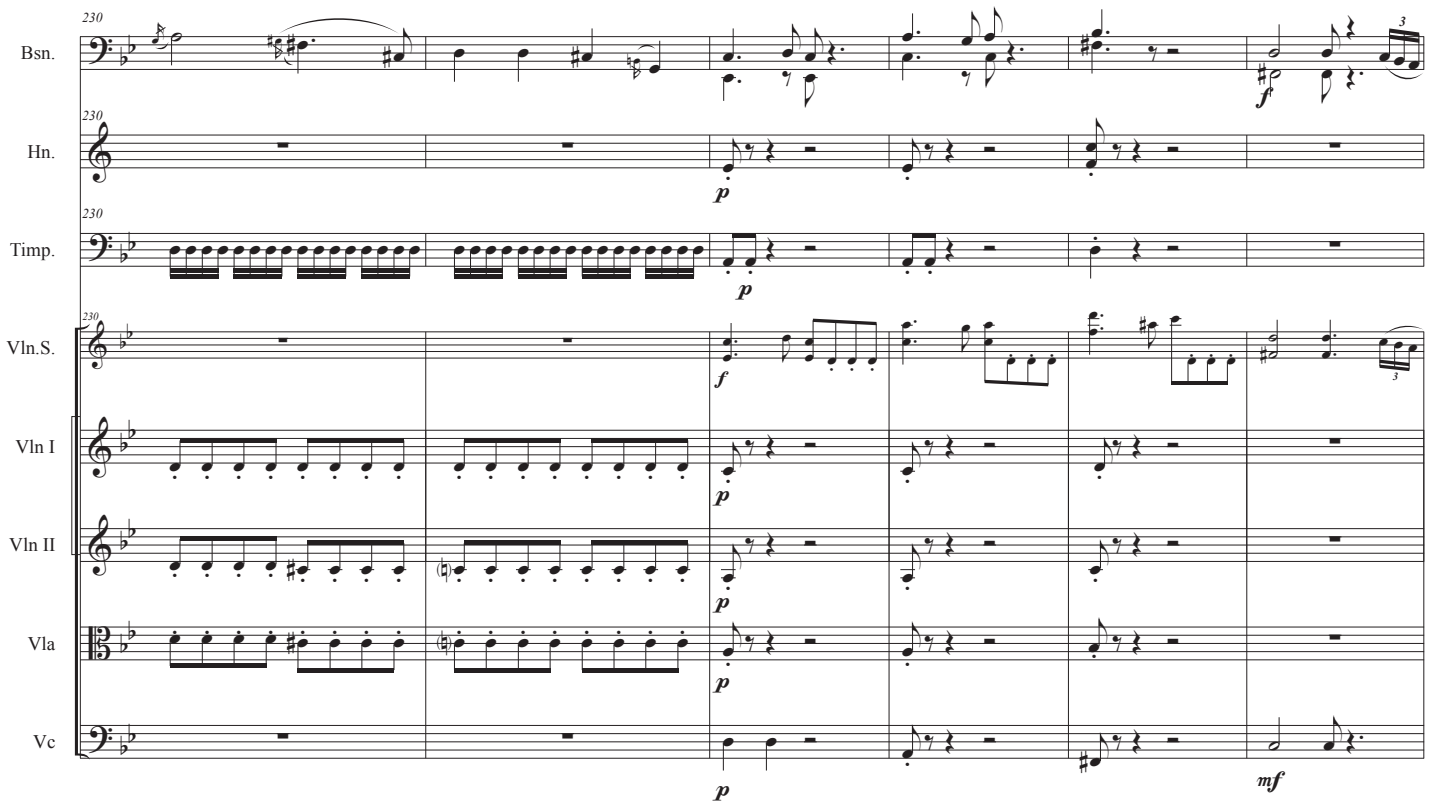

Q
♩=126
194
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.

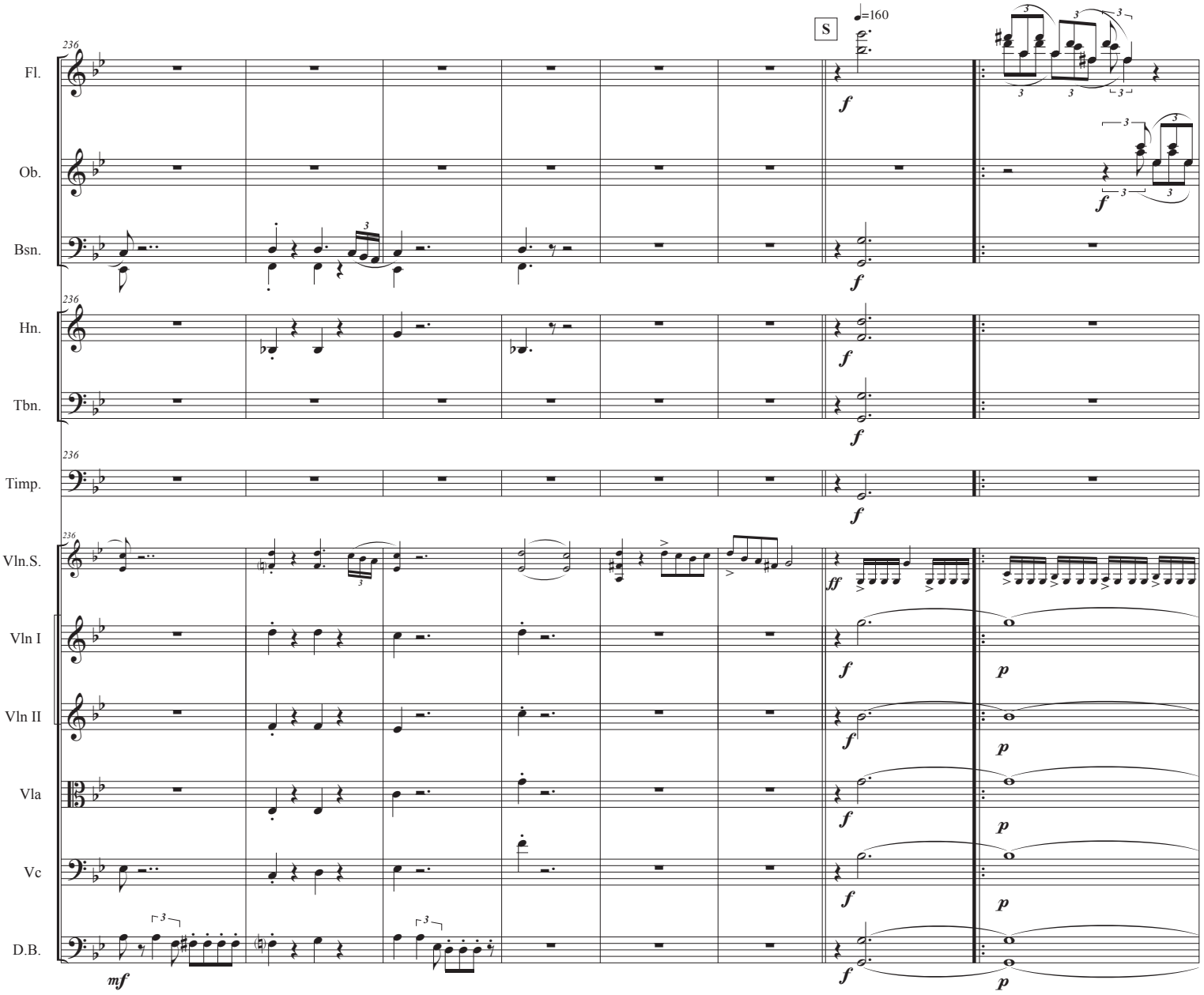

200
Fl.
Ob.
mf
B♭ Cl.
mf
Tbn.
f
200
Vln.S.
Vc
mf
D.B.
mf
204
Fl.
pp
Ob.
pp
B♭ Cl.
Tbn.
pp
204
Vln.S.
Vc
pp
D.B.
pp

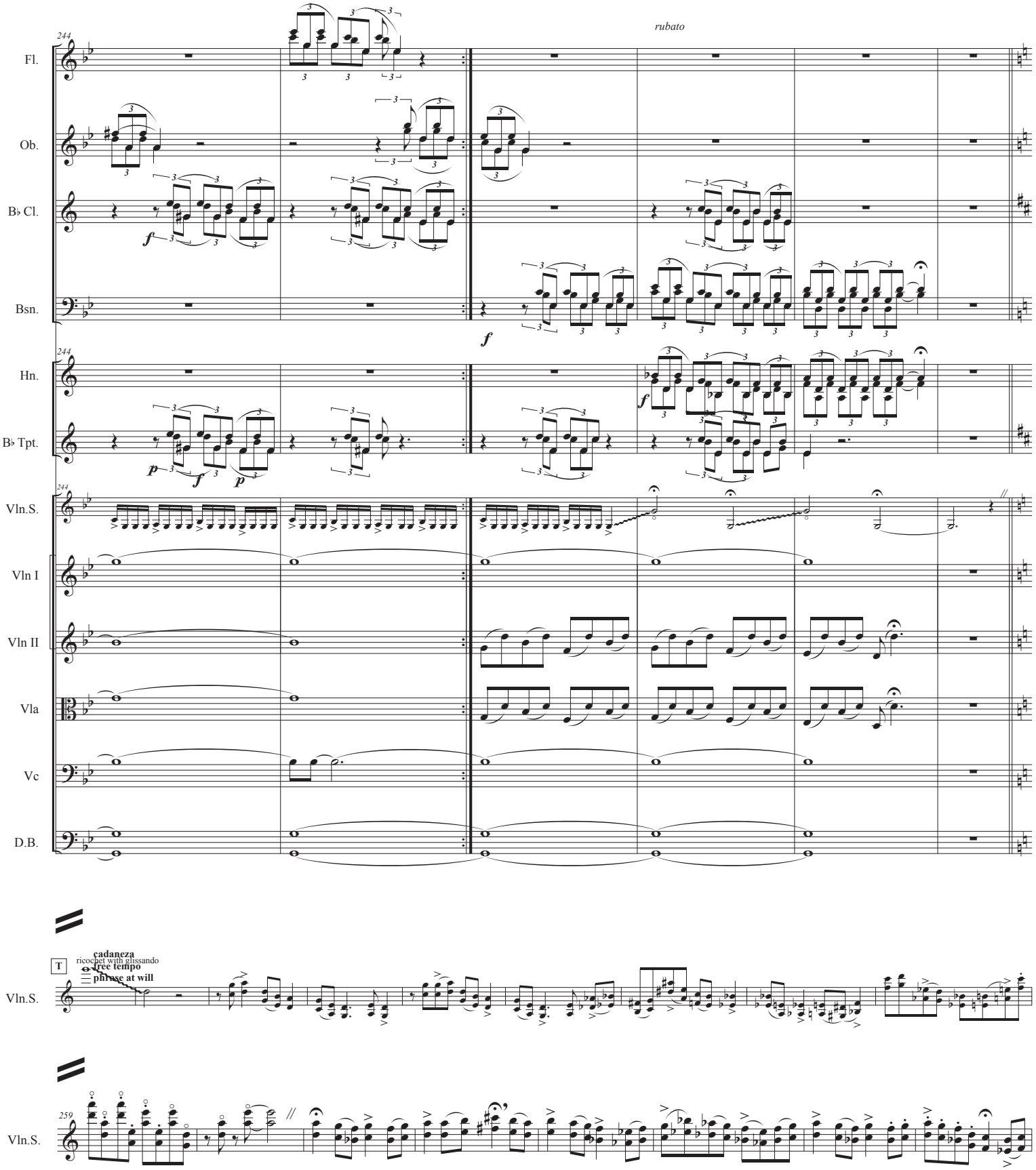

207
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
mf
207
Hn.
Tbn.
pp
207
Vln.S.
Vc
D.B.

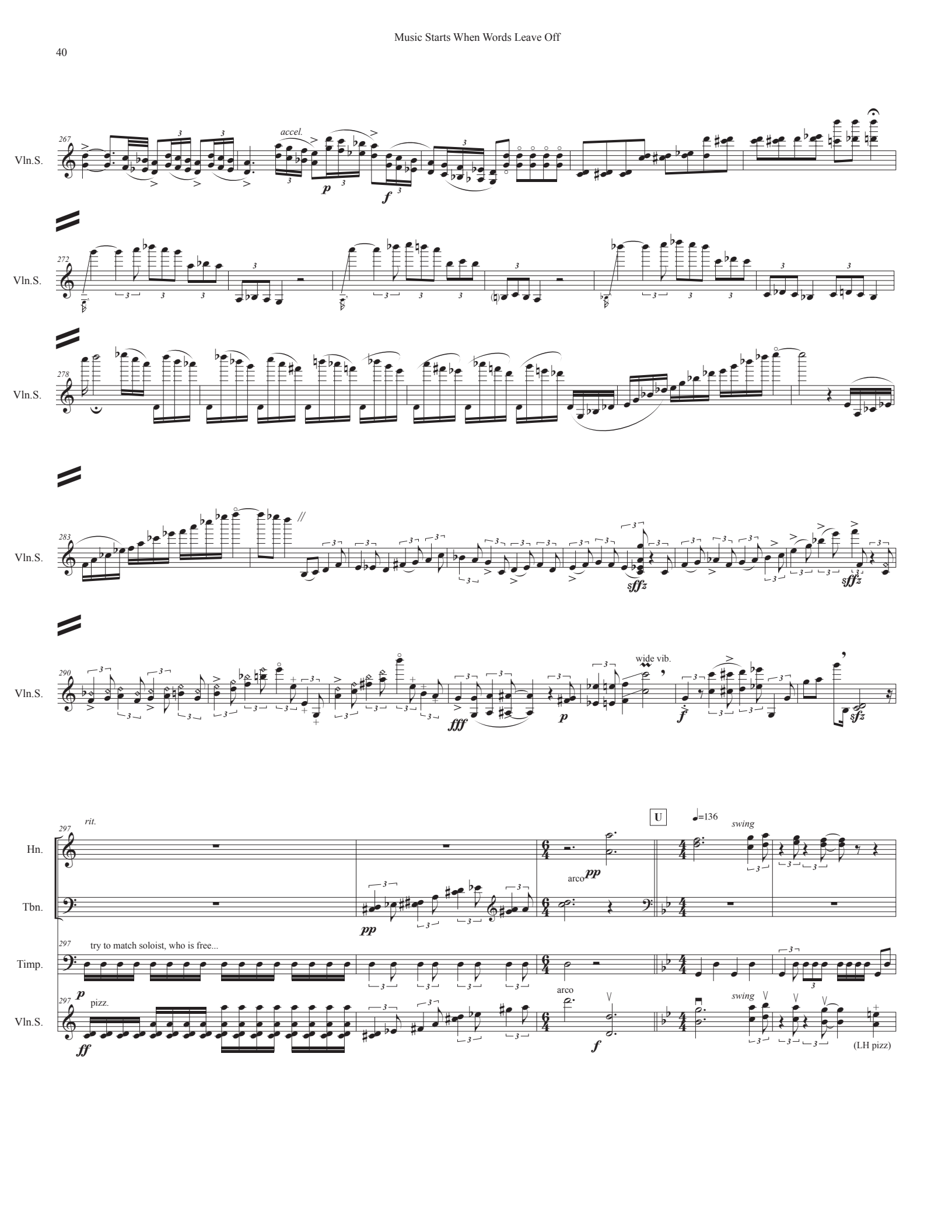

210
rit.
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
pp
mp
mf

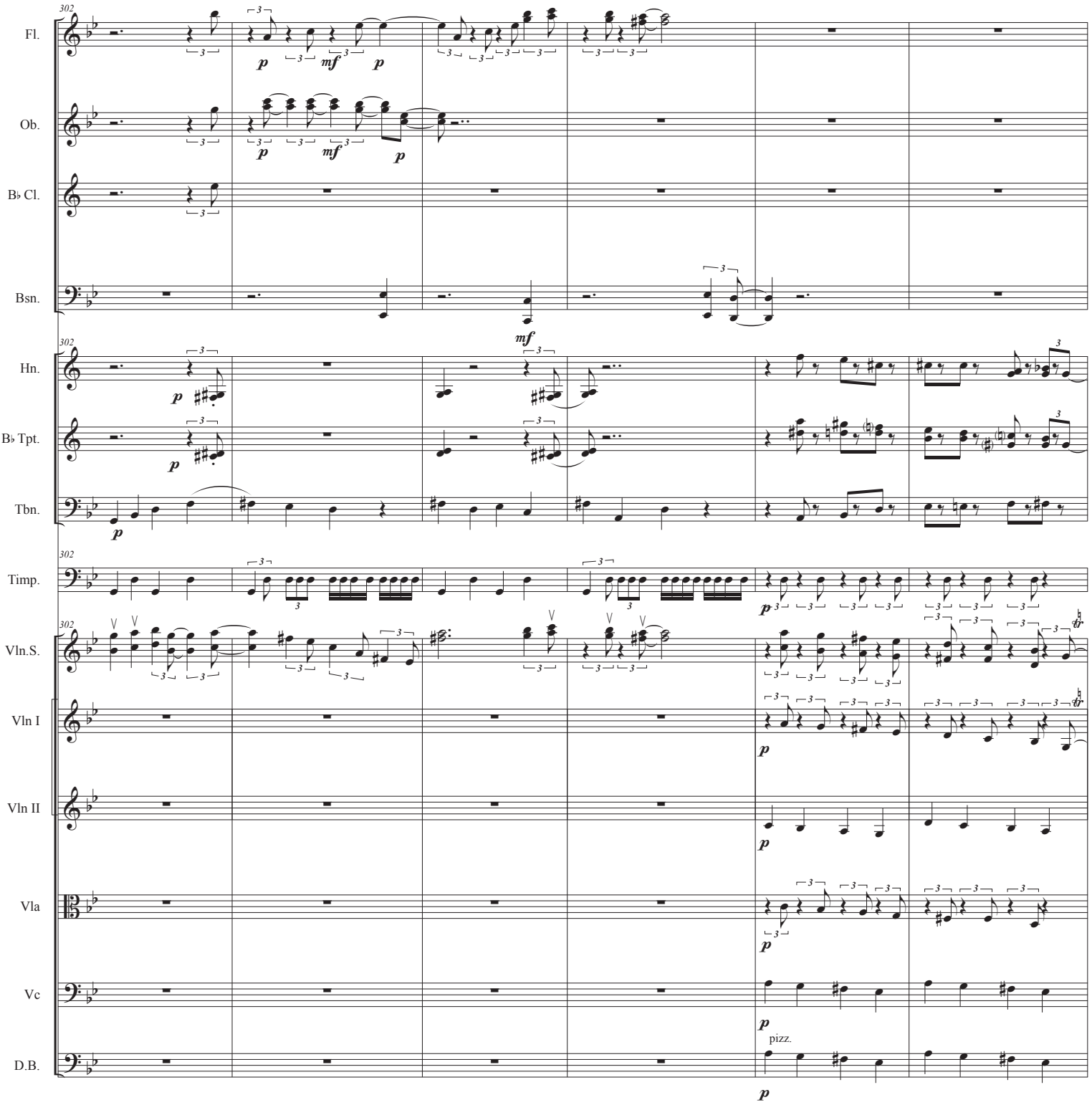

a tempo
short cadenza 1
soloist sets phrasing / tempo
R
=160
Hn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
Bsn.
solo
fierce

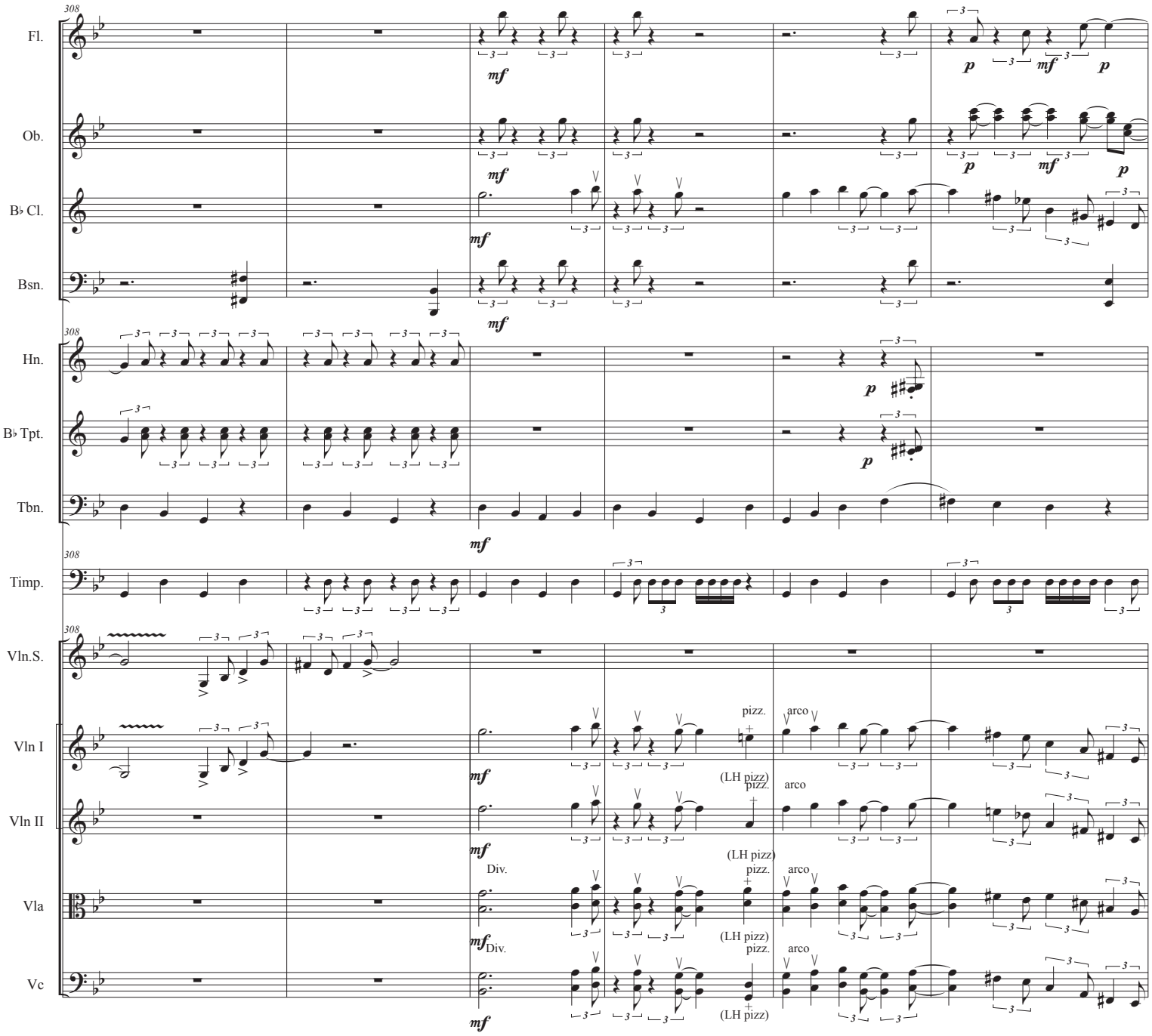

230
Bsn.
Hn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
p
f
mf

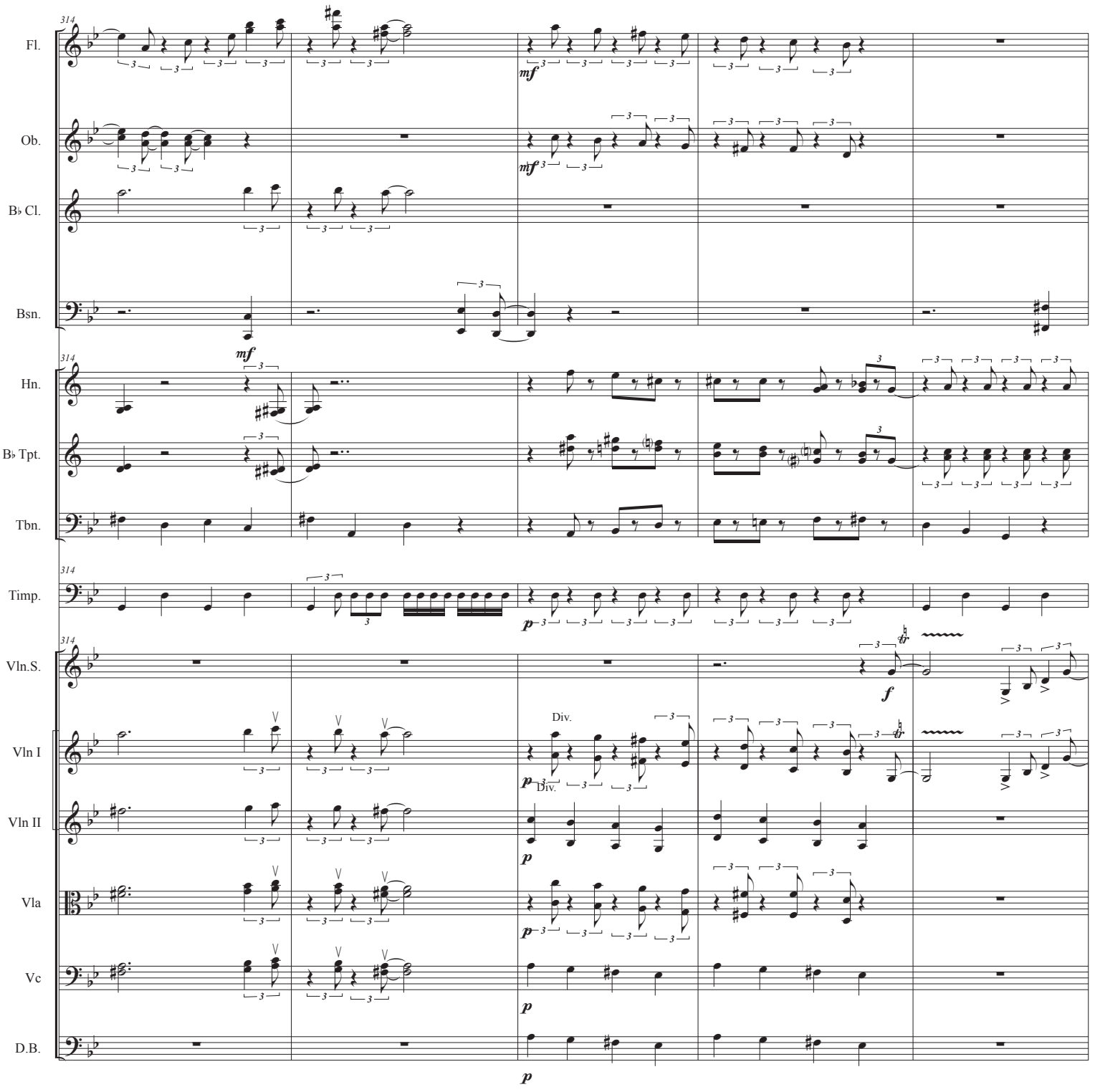

236
Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
Hn.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
S
♩=160
f
ff
p
mf

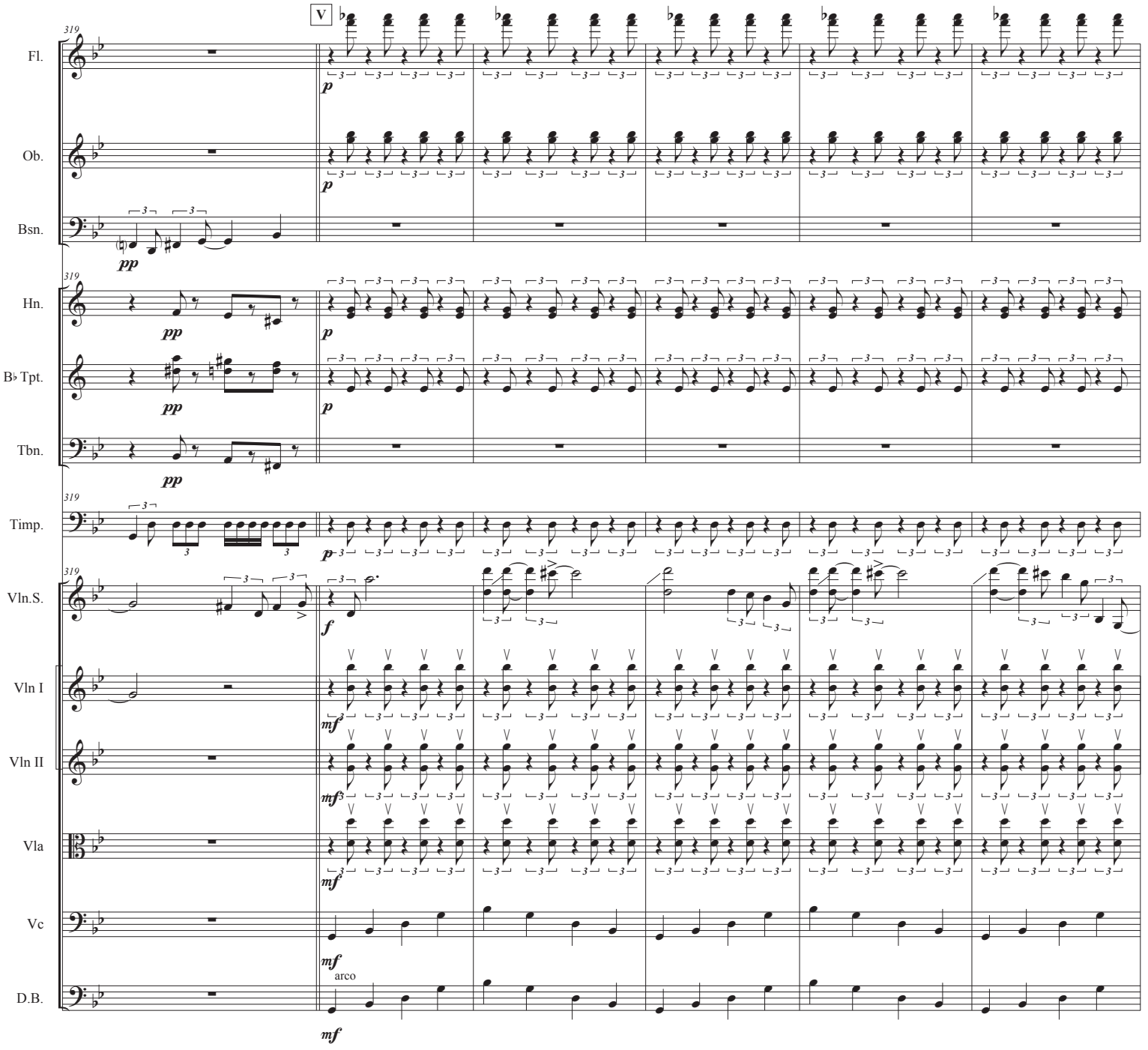

244
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
rubato
f
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
p
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
T
cadanza
ricochet with glissando
free tempo
phrase at will
259

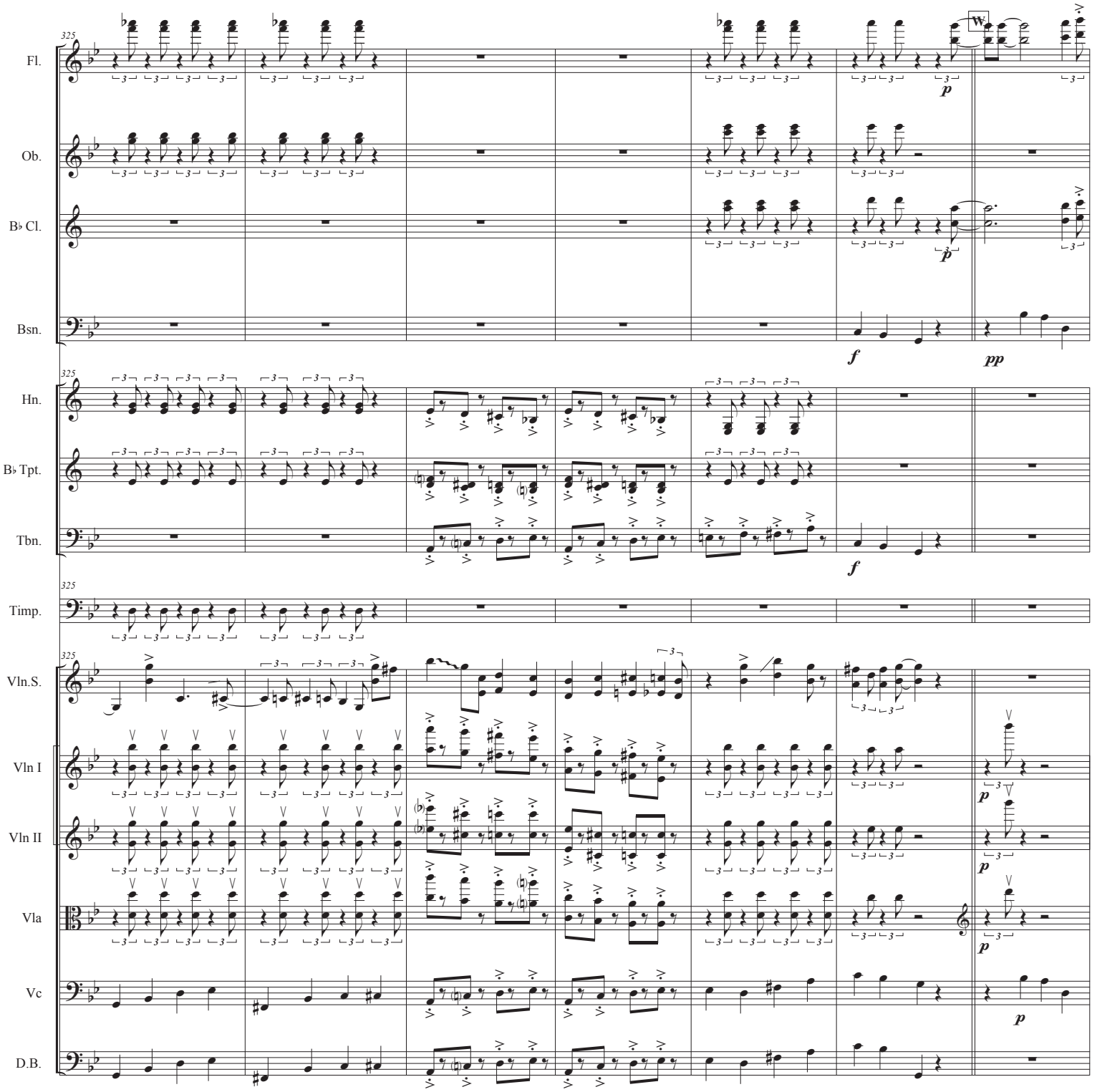

Vln.S.
accel.
p
f
sffz
wide vib.
fff
U
=136
swing
rit.
Hn.
Tbn.
arco
pp
Timp.
try to match soloist, who is free...
pizz.
ff
(LH pizz)

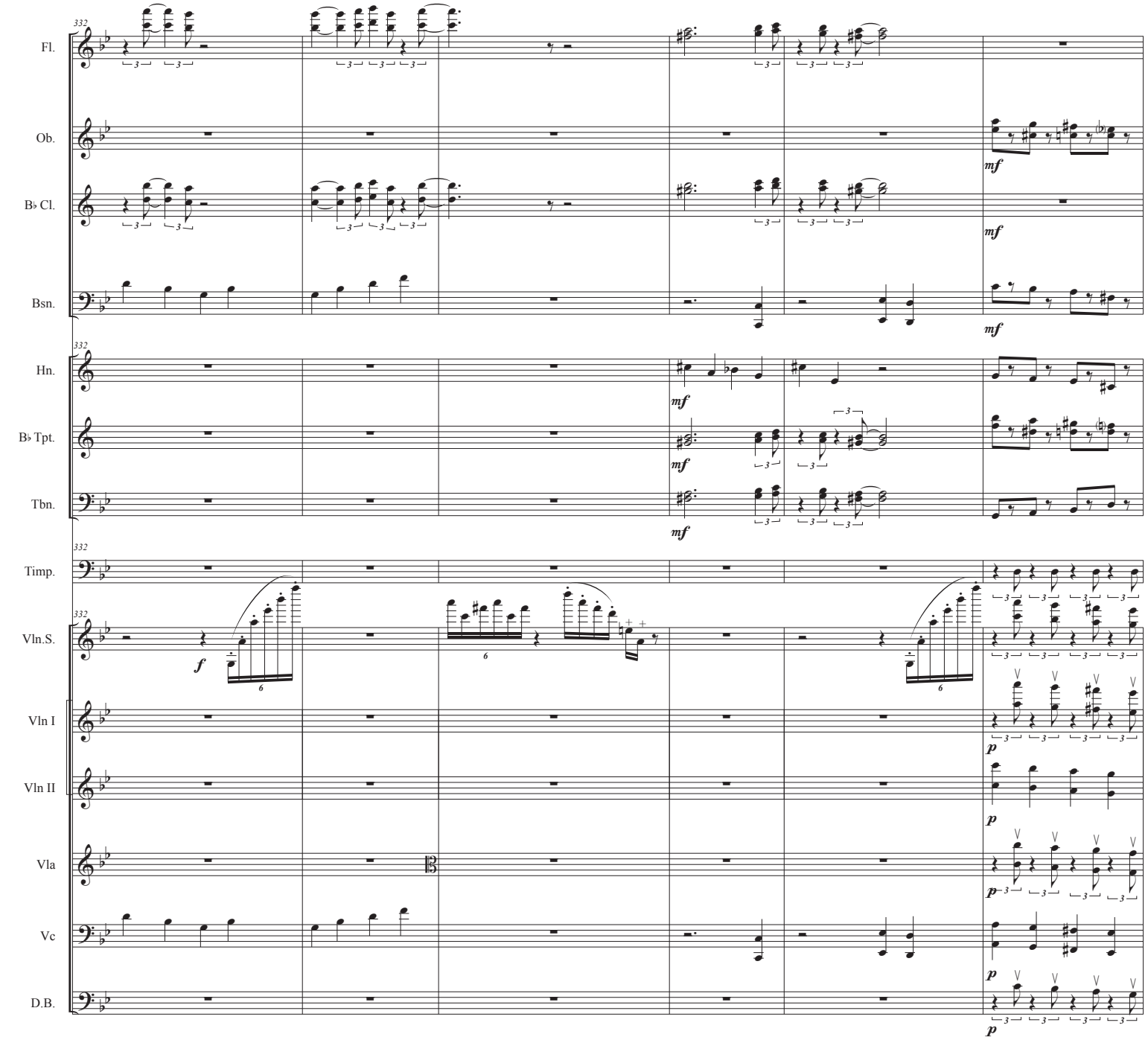

302
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
pizz.

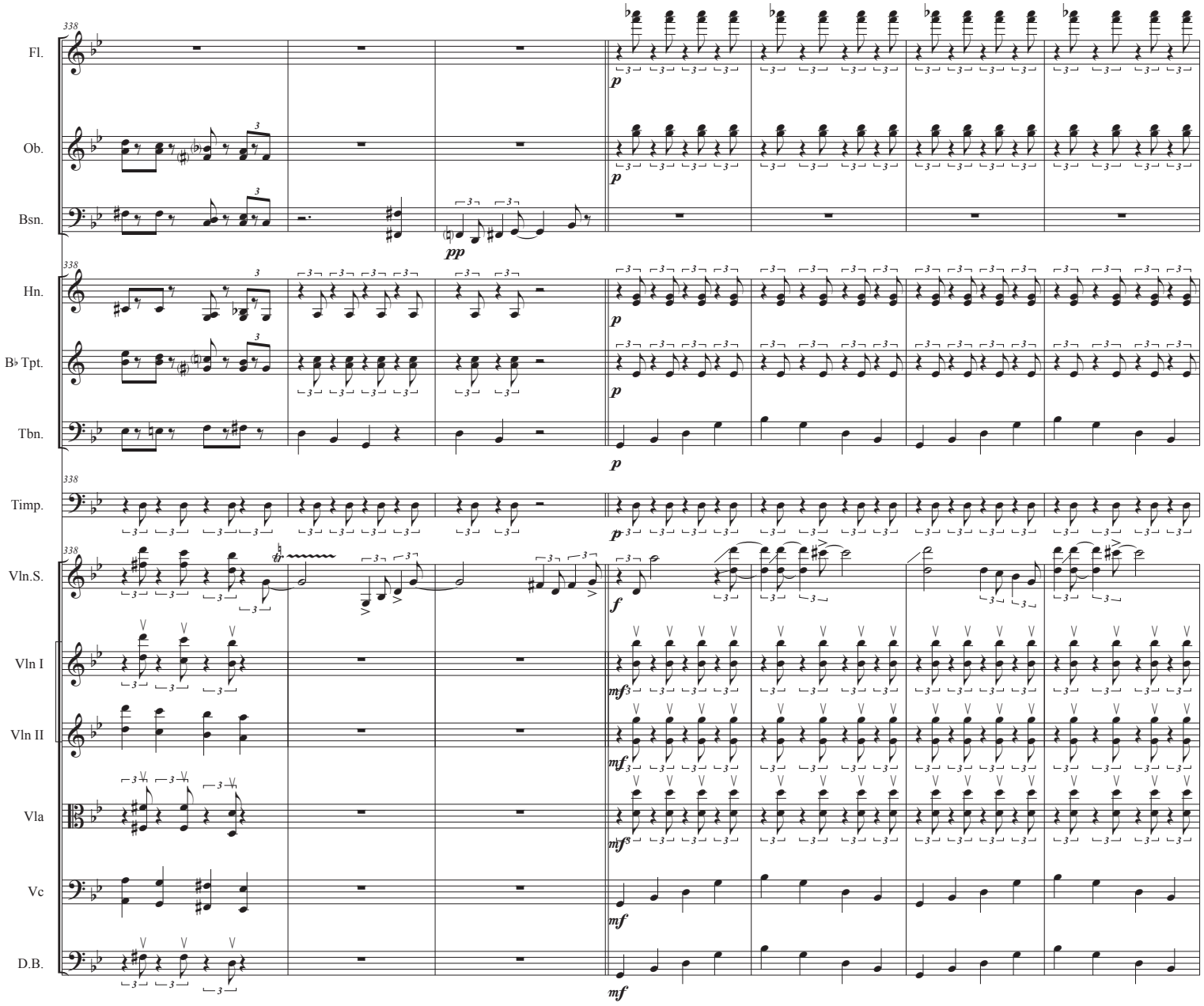

308
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
mf
p
pizz.
arco
(LH pizz)
Div.

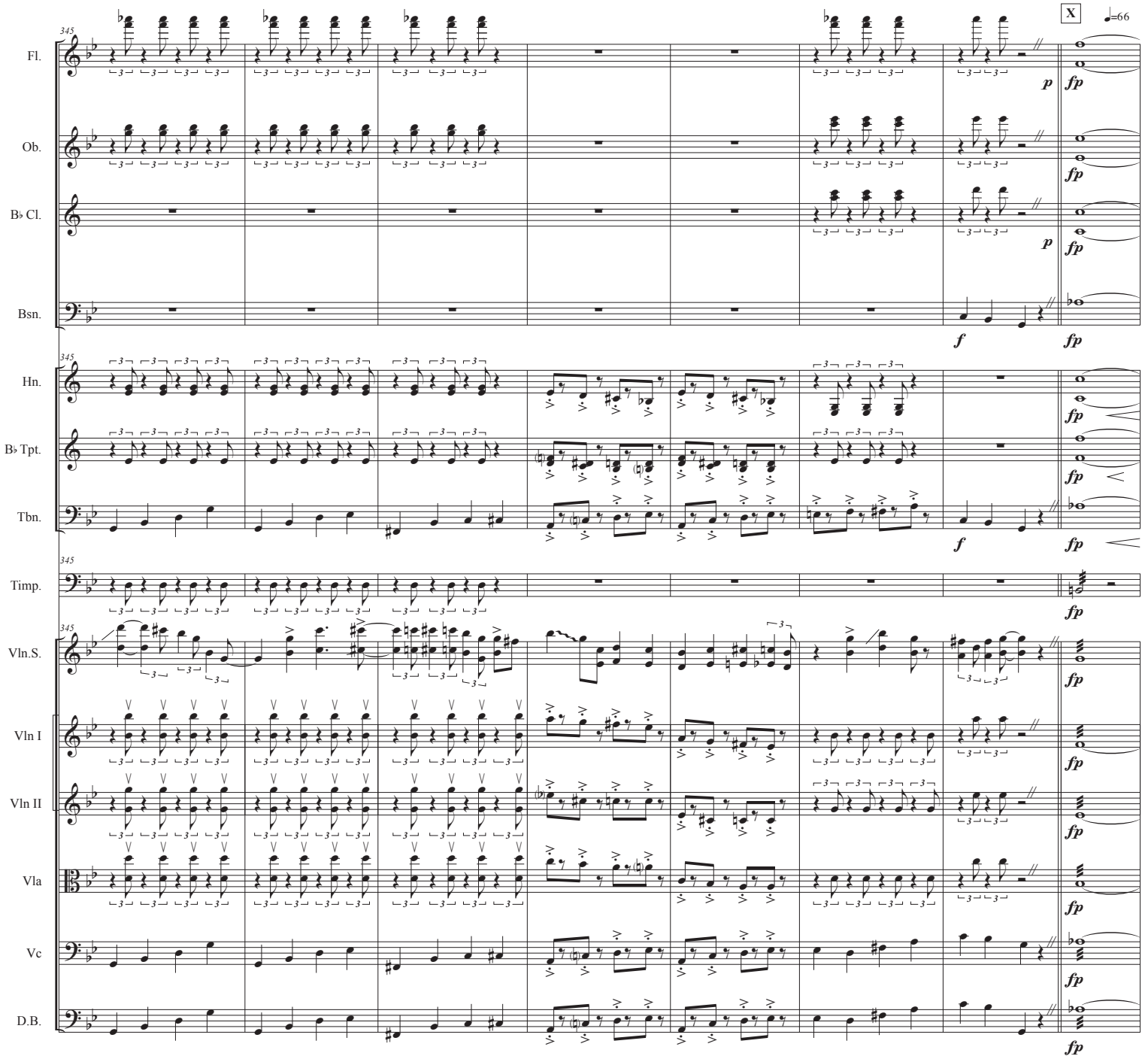

314
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
Div.
Div.
mf
p
f

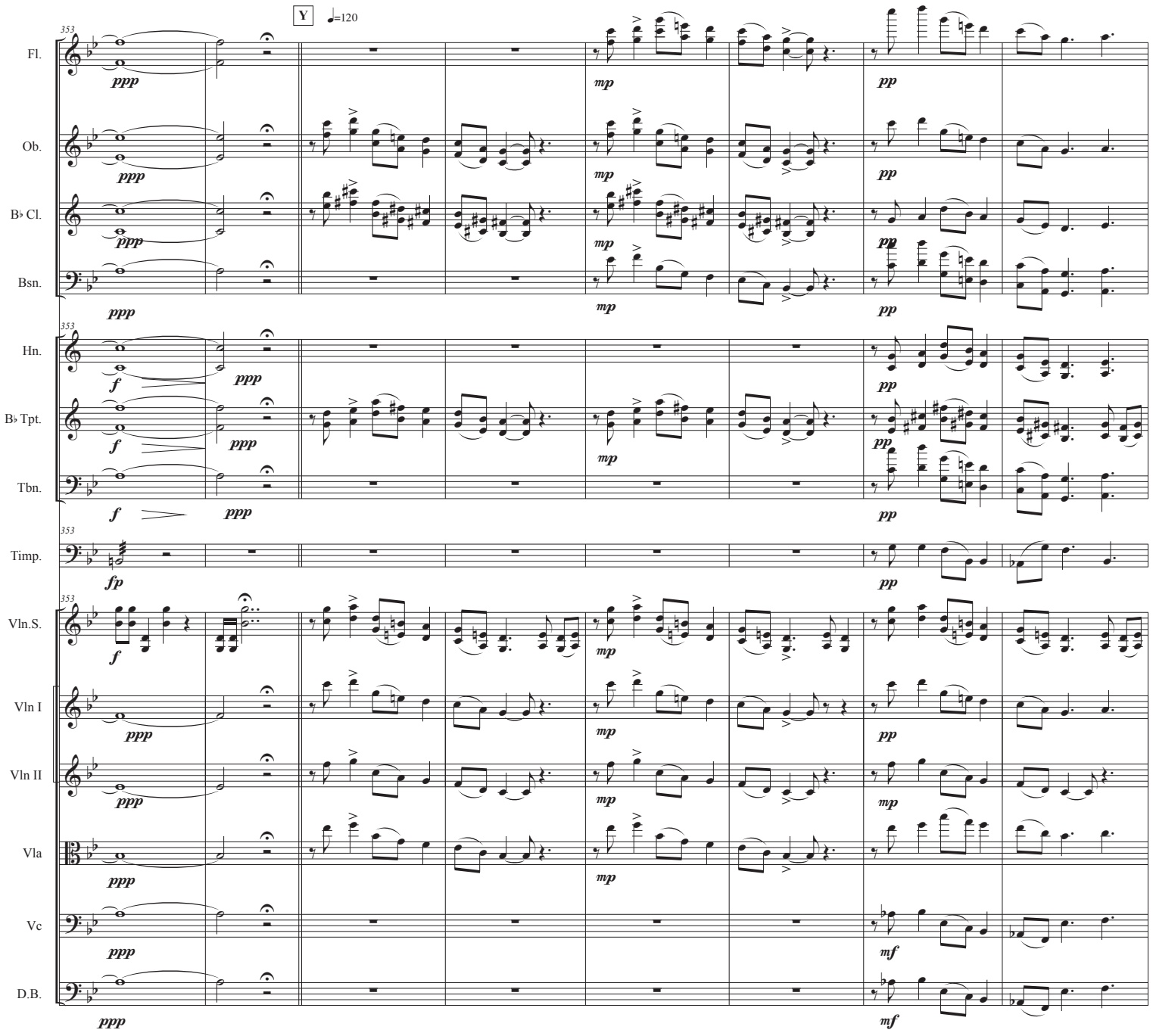

V
319
Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
p
pp
f
mf
arco

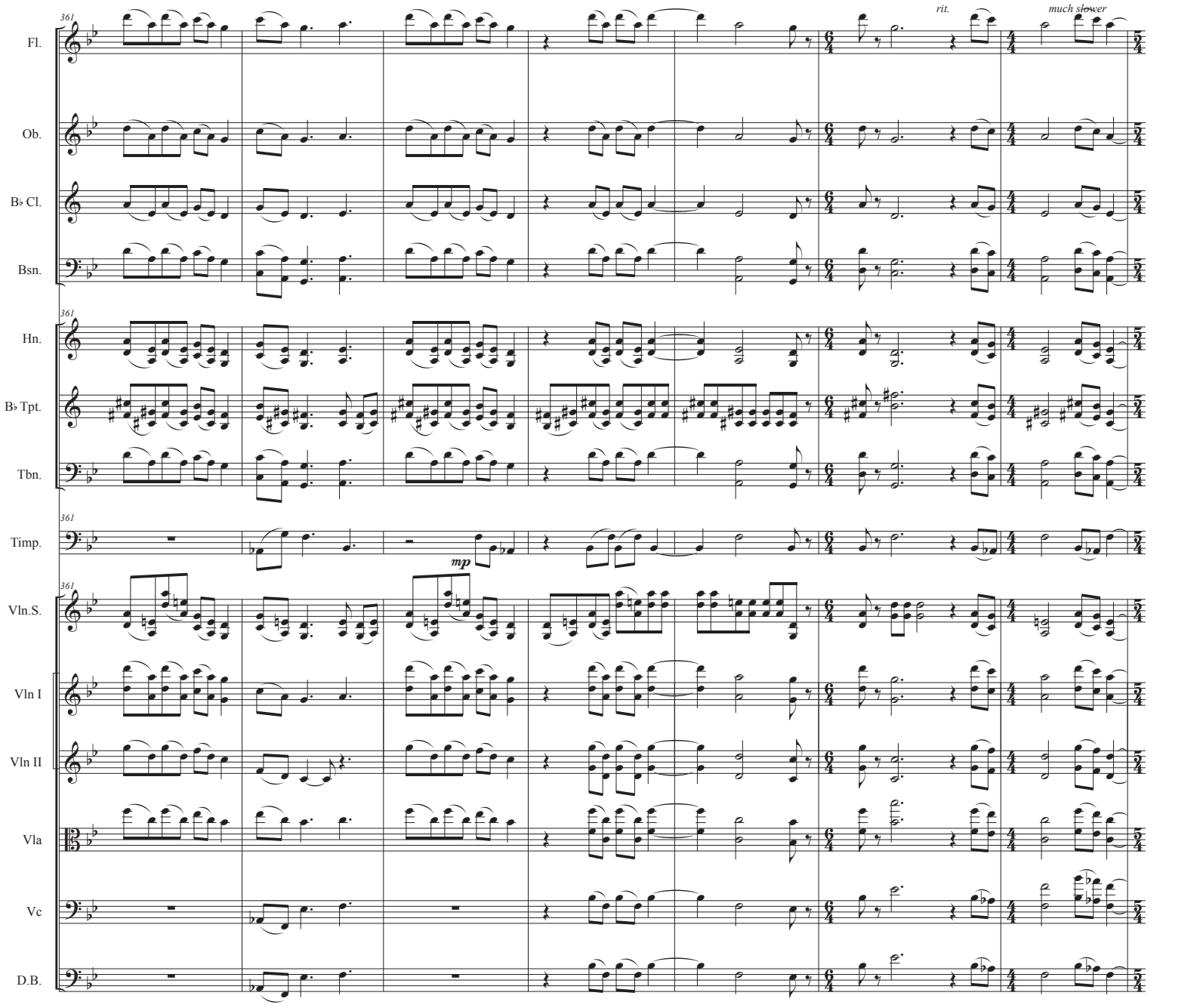

325
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
W
p
f
pp

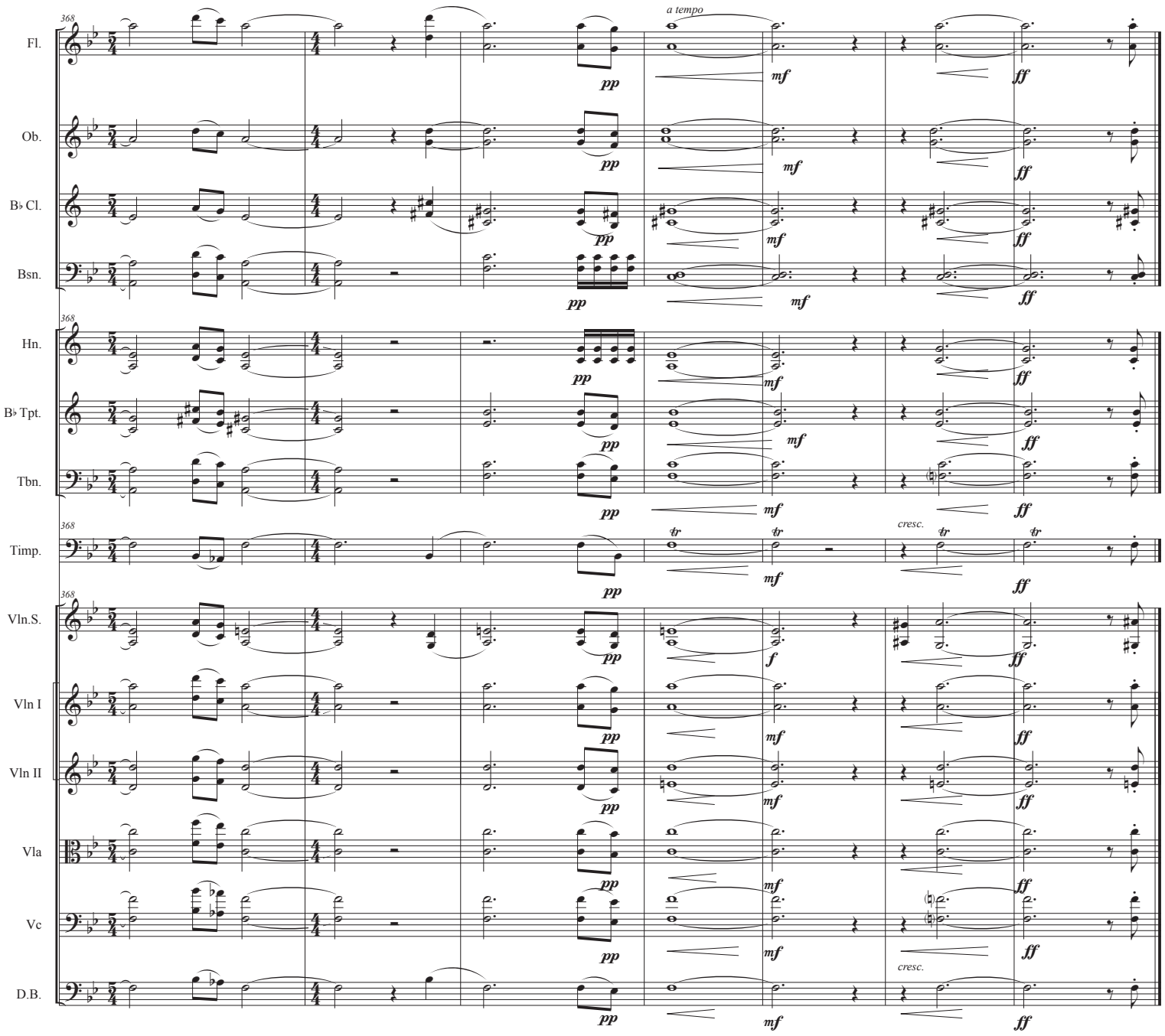

332
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
mf
f
p


338
Fl.
Ob.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
p
pp
f
mf


X
♩=66
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
p
f
fp


Y
♩=120
353
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
ppp
mp
pp
f
fp
mf


361
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
rit.
much slower
mp


368
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl.
Bsn.
Hn.
B♭ Tpt.
Tbn.
Timp.
Vln.S.
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc
D.B.
a tempo
cresc.
pp
mf
ff
f
tr