Autumnsongs

for Piano Trio

(Piano Trio No. 2)

Don Freund

Don Freund's ***Autumnsongs*** was commissioned in 2010 jointly by Indiana Music Teachers Association and Music Teachers National Association as part of the MTNA Commissioned Composer Program. The work was composed to be performed by a trio of fabulously talented pre-college musicians in the fall season, so it is touched by a sense of youthful discovery along with the feelings that arise as summer turns towards winter. There is some wordplay behind the narrative of the piece as well — "fall" suggests not only a time of year but also a descent from one world into another.

The first movement, "Fall from Grace," begins with only the purest of intervals and natural string harmonics, but as more pitches are added, a pentatonic scale and some faint allusions to "Amazing Grace" emerge. Adding still more pitches inevitably leads to the discovery of the tritone interval, that "devil in music." Along with that discovery comes a gradual transformation from the initial mysterious other-worldly atmosphere to the rough and violent music which ends the first movement.

The second movement, "Turning Colors/Harvest Hymn/ Harvest Dance," portrays a different kind of transformation. Material borrowed from Debussy's Prelude "Feuilles mortes" (fallen leaves) is presented with an aura of progressive change which leads to the Harvest Hymn, presented by the piano over the strings' color-shifting background. The strings respond with a Harvest Dance, a robust celebration spiked with bits of Vivaldian autumn. When the dance begins to careen out of control the hymn returns, mixed with echoes of the Debussy prelude and the pristine music of the spheres.

Duration: ca. 20 minutes

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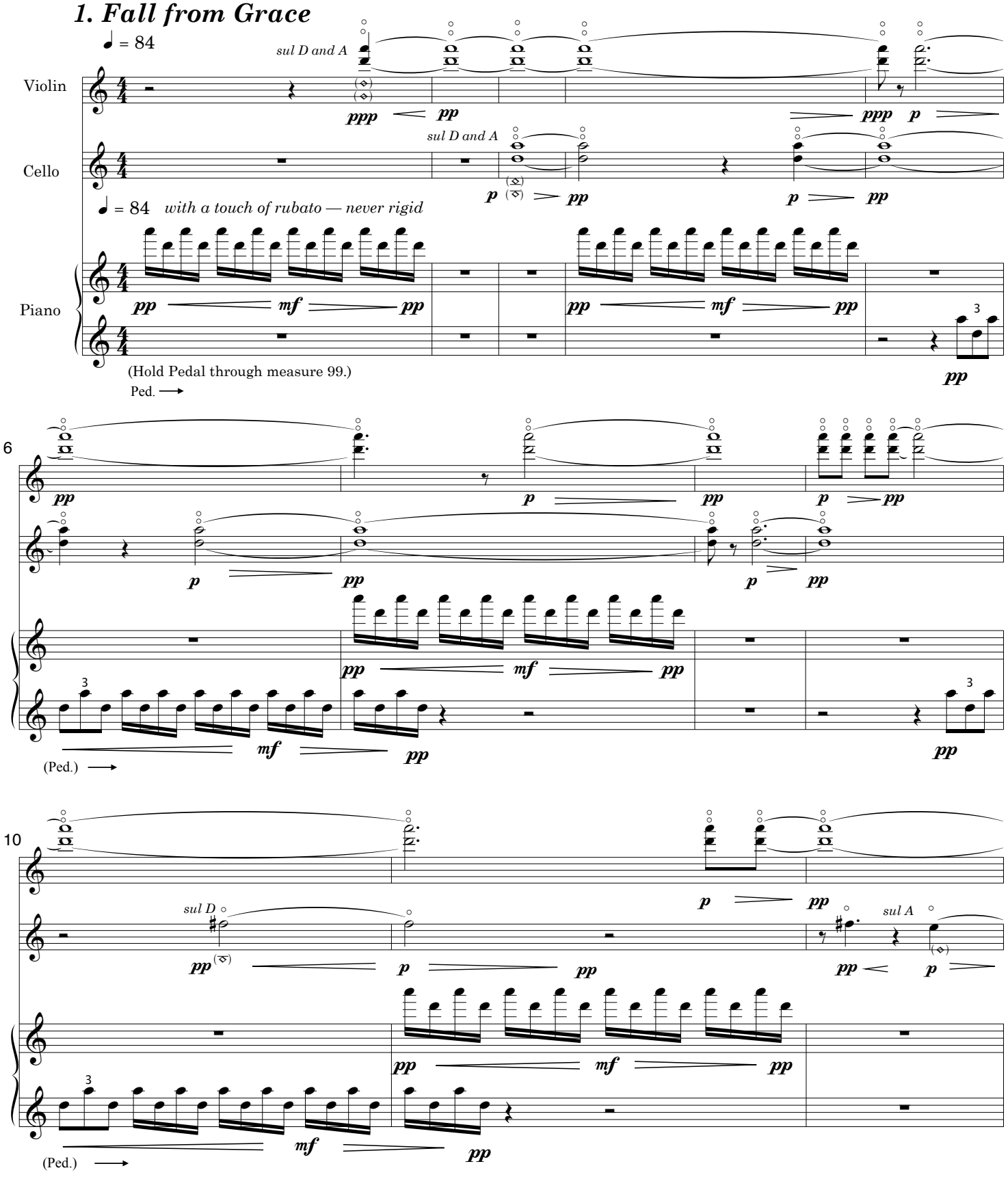
1. Fall from Grace



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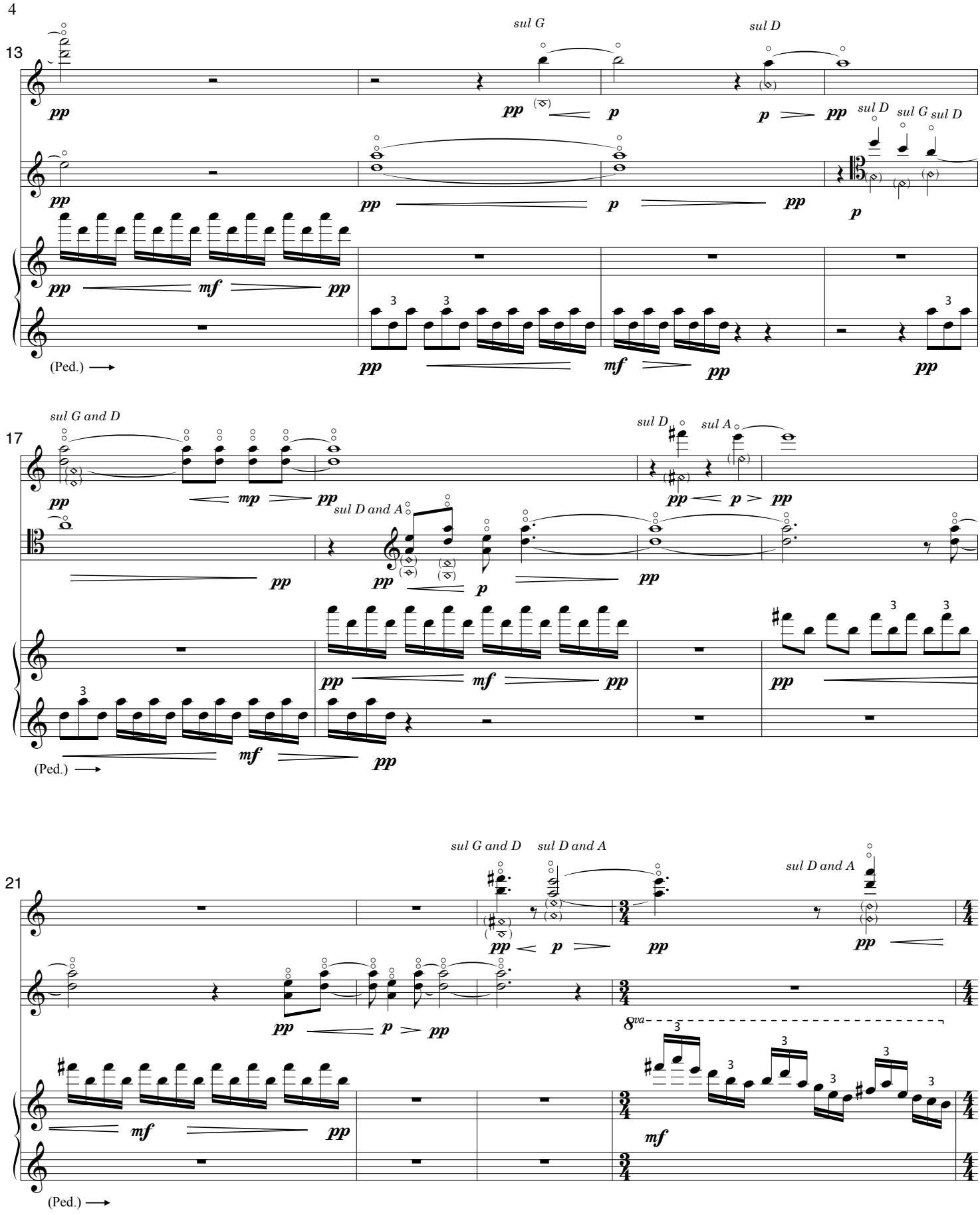
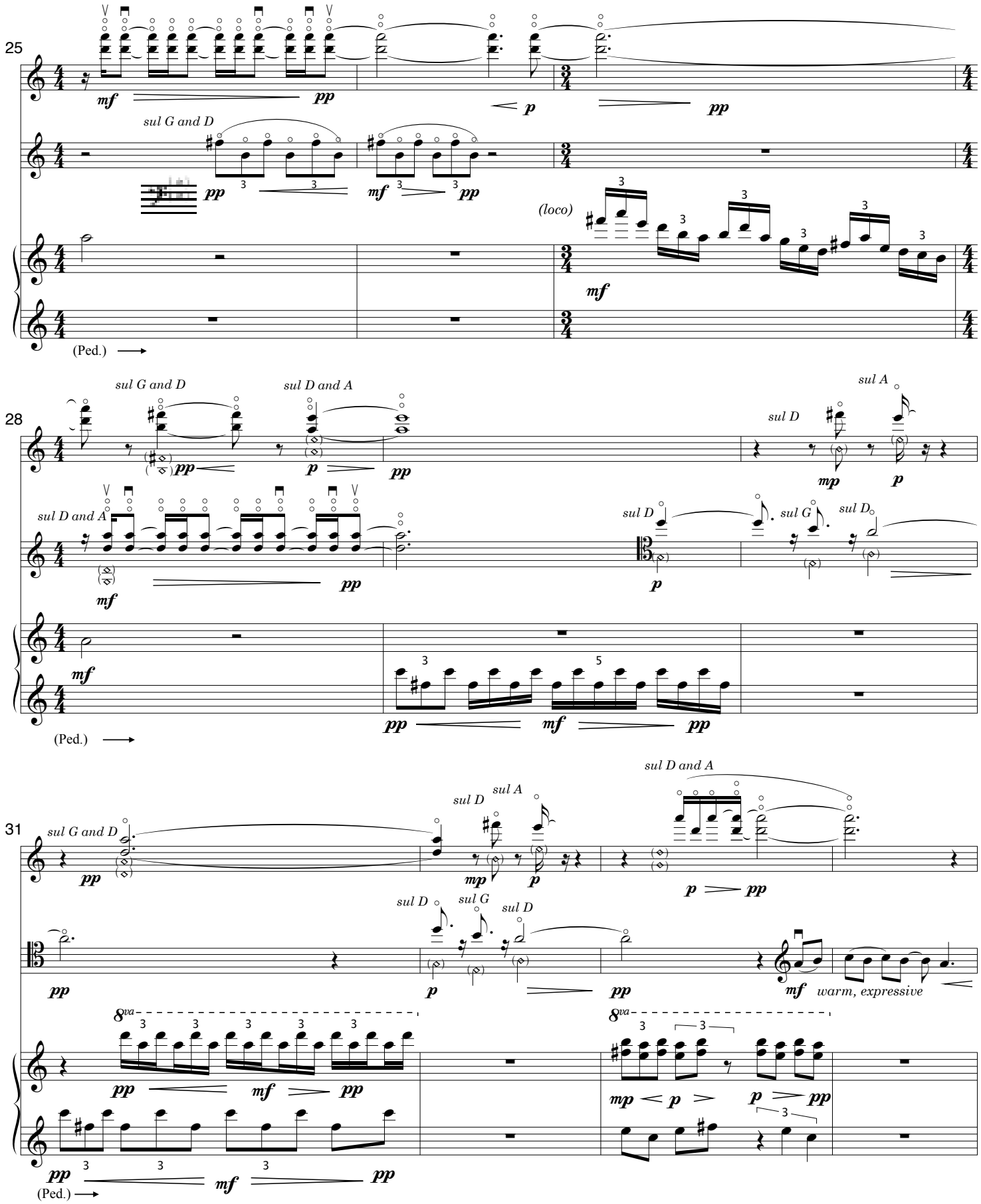
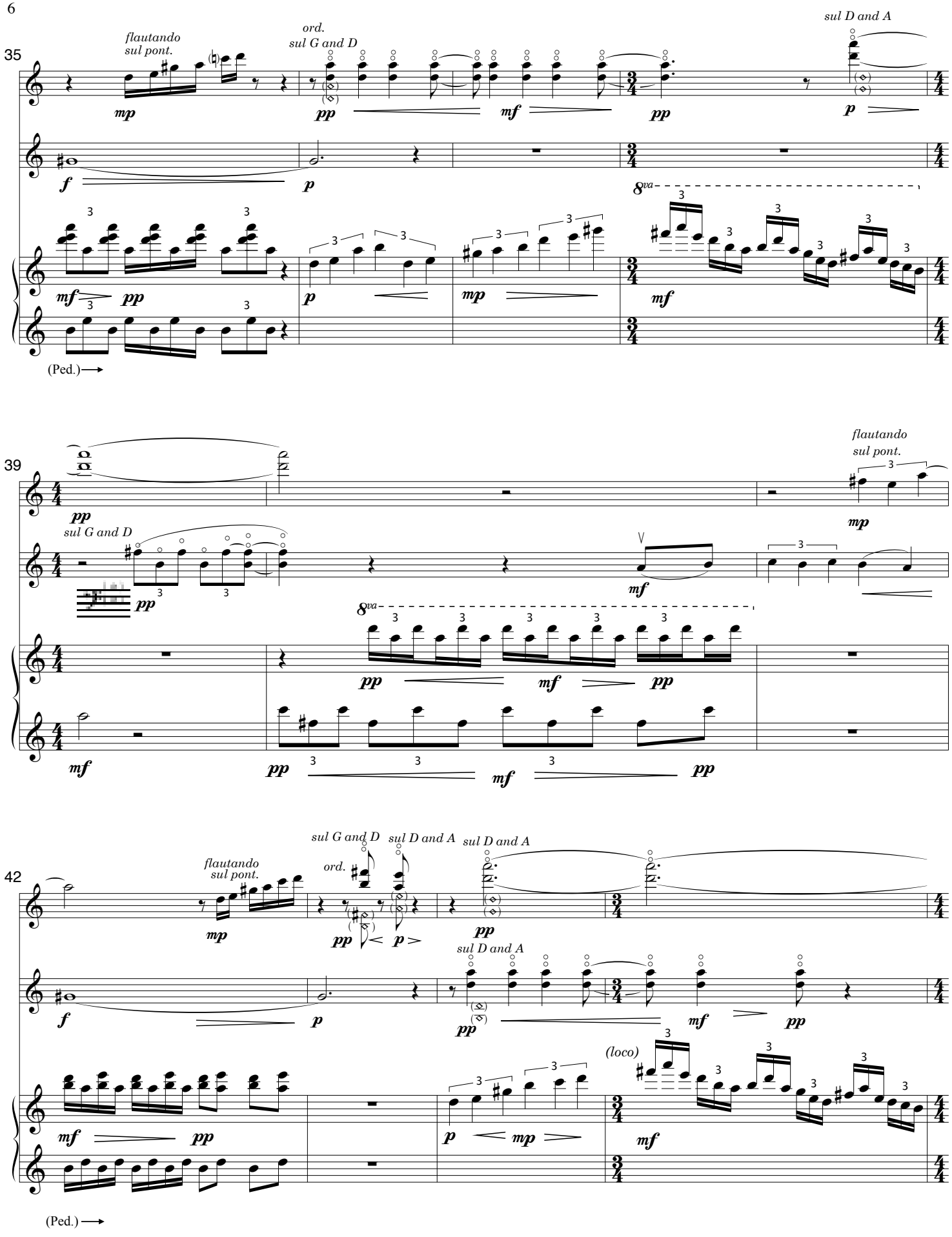
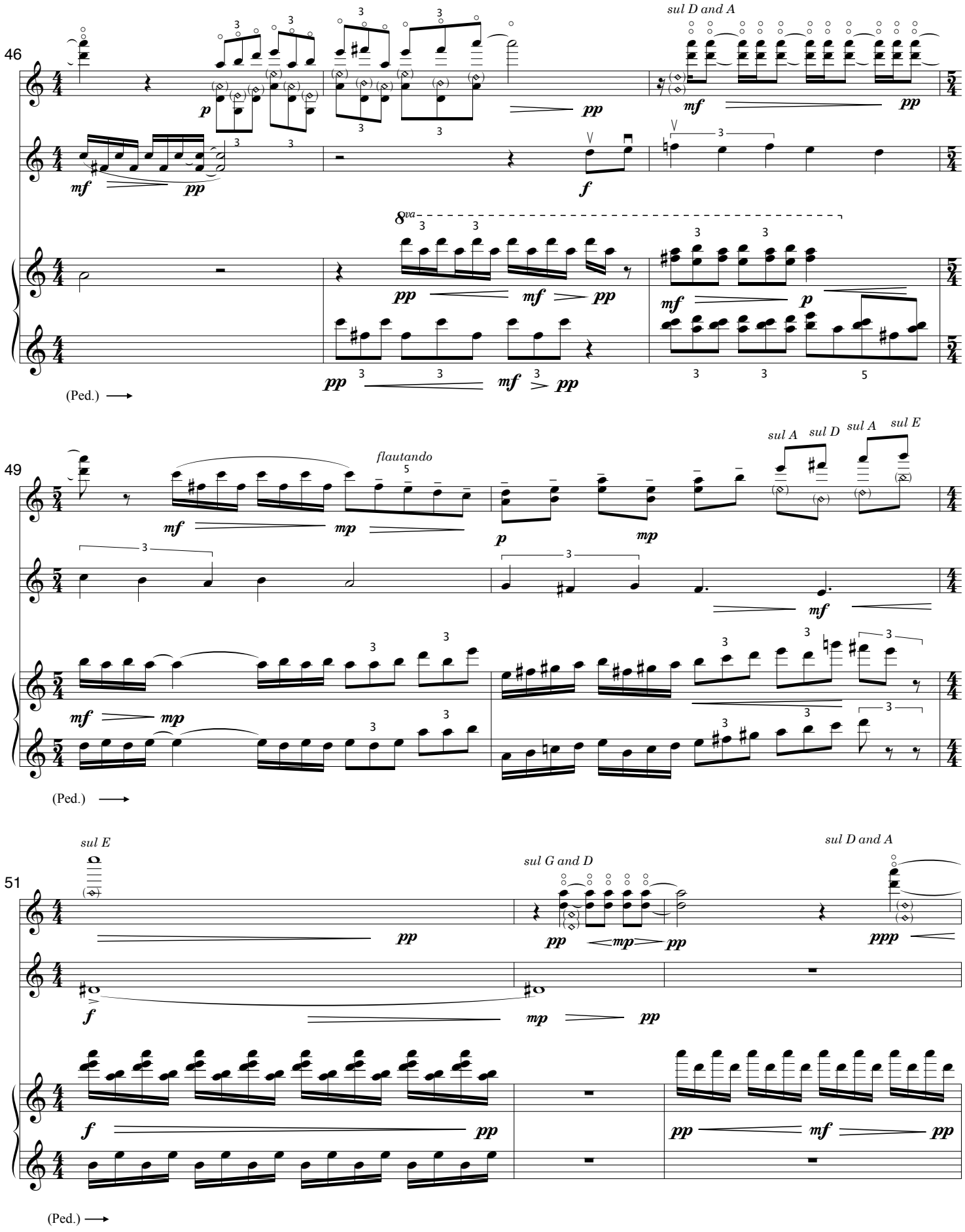
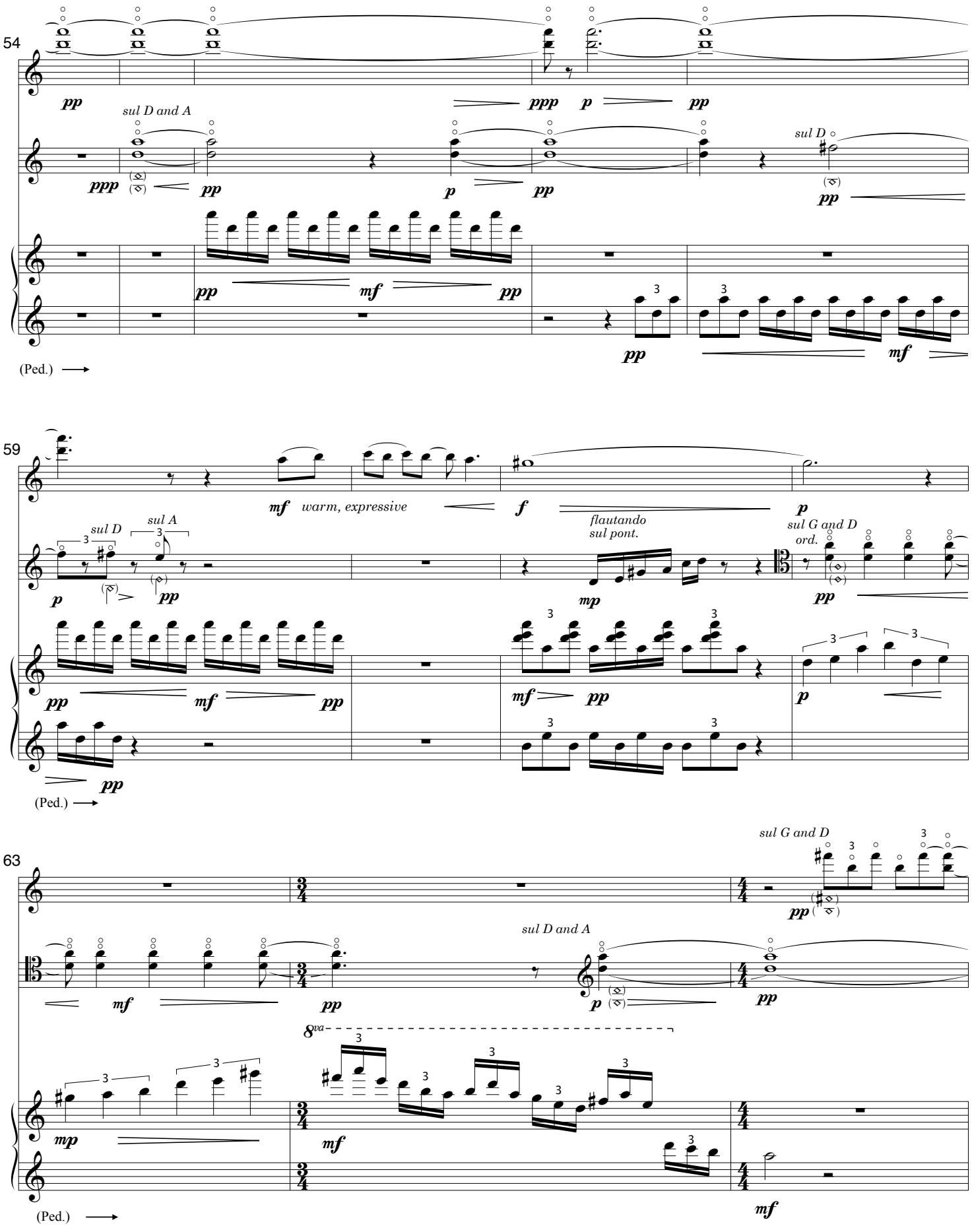
The composer should be notified of all performances. dfreund@indiana.edu

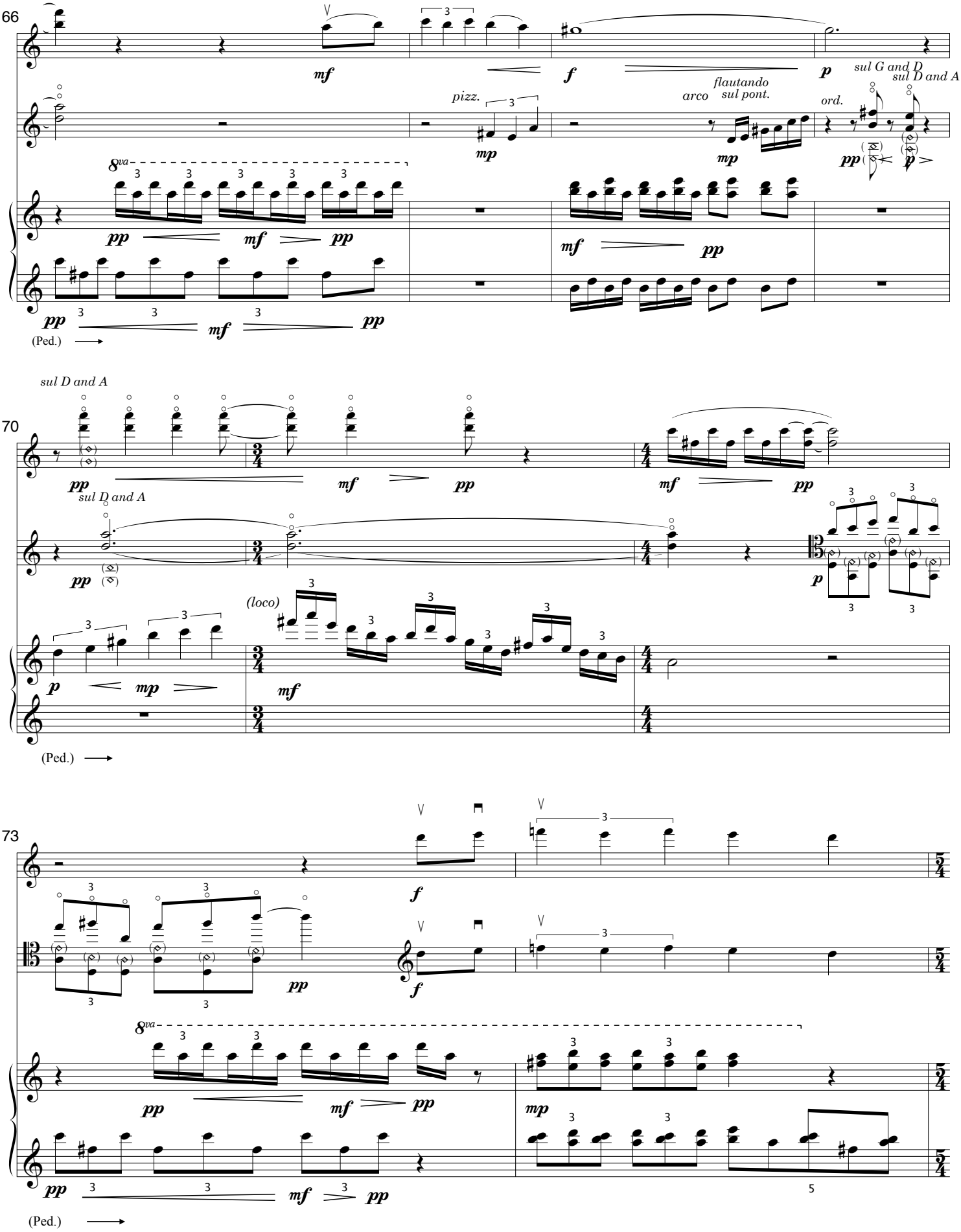

13
sul G
sul D
sul D
sul G
sul D
(Ped.)
17
sul G and D
sul D
sul A
sul D and A
(Ped.)
21
sul G and D
sul D and A
sul D and A
8va
(Ped.)

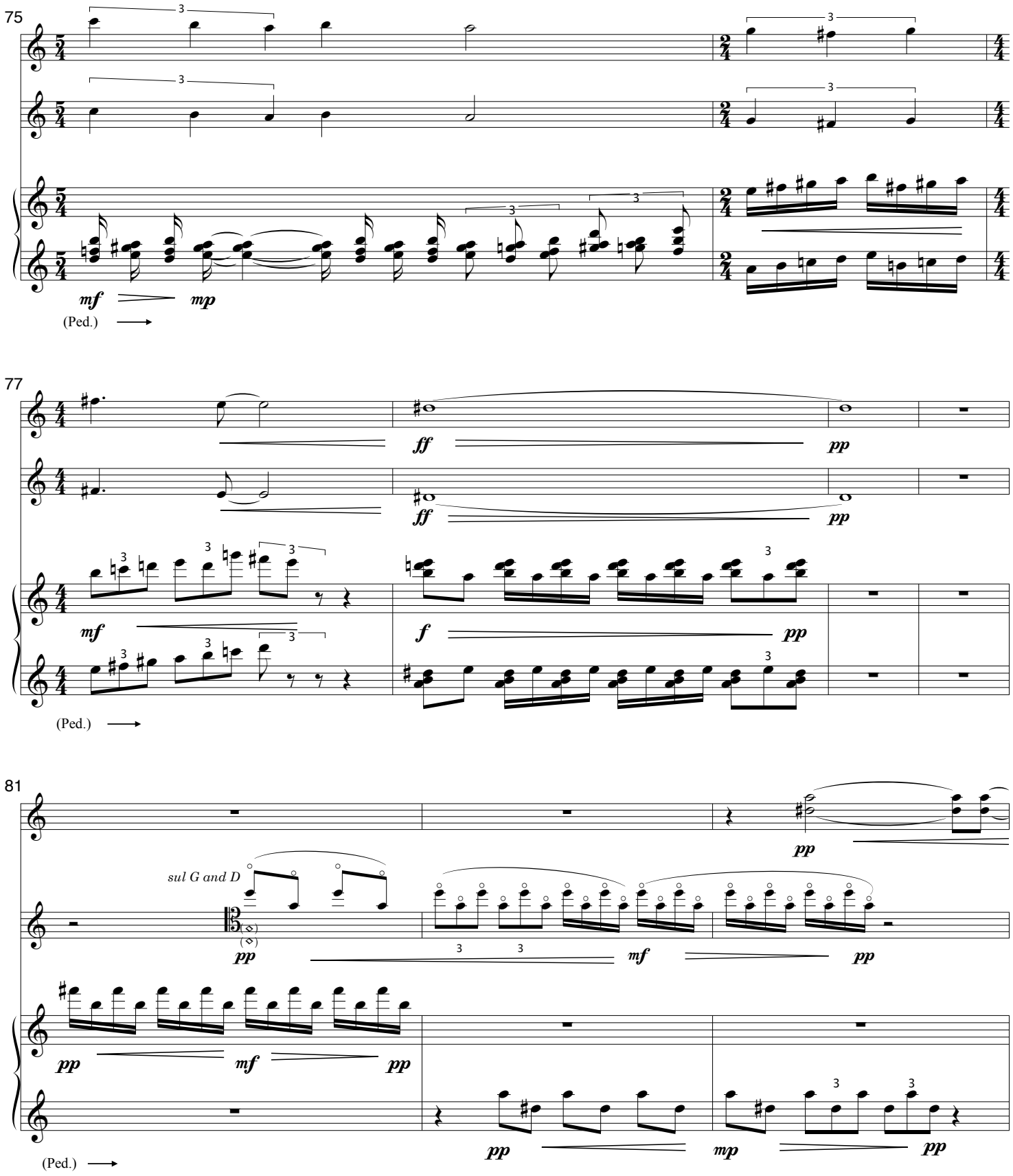

25
mf
pp
p
pp
sul G and D
pp
mf
pp
(loco)
mf
(Ped.)
28
sul G and D
sul D and A
pp
p
pp
sul A
sul D
mp
p
sul D and A
mf
pp
sul D
p
sul G
sul D
mf
pp
mf
pp
(Ped.)
31
sul G and D
pp
sul D
sul A
mp
p
sul D and A
p
pp
sul D
sul G
sul D
pp
p
pp
mf
warm, expressive
8va
pp
mf
pp
8va
mp
p
p
pp
pp
mf
pp
(Ped.)

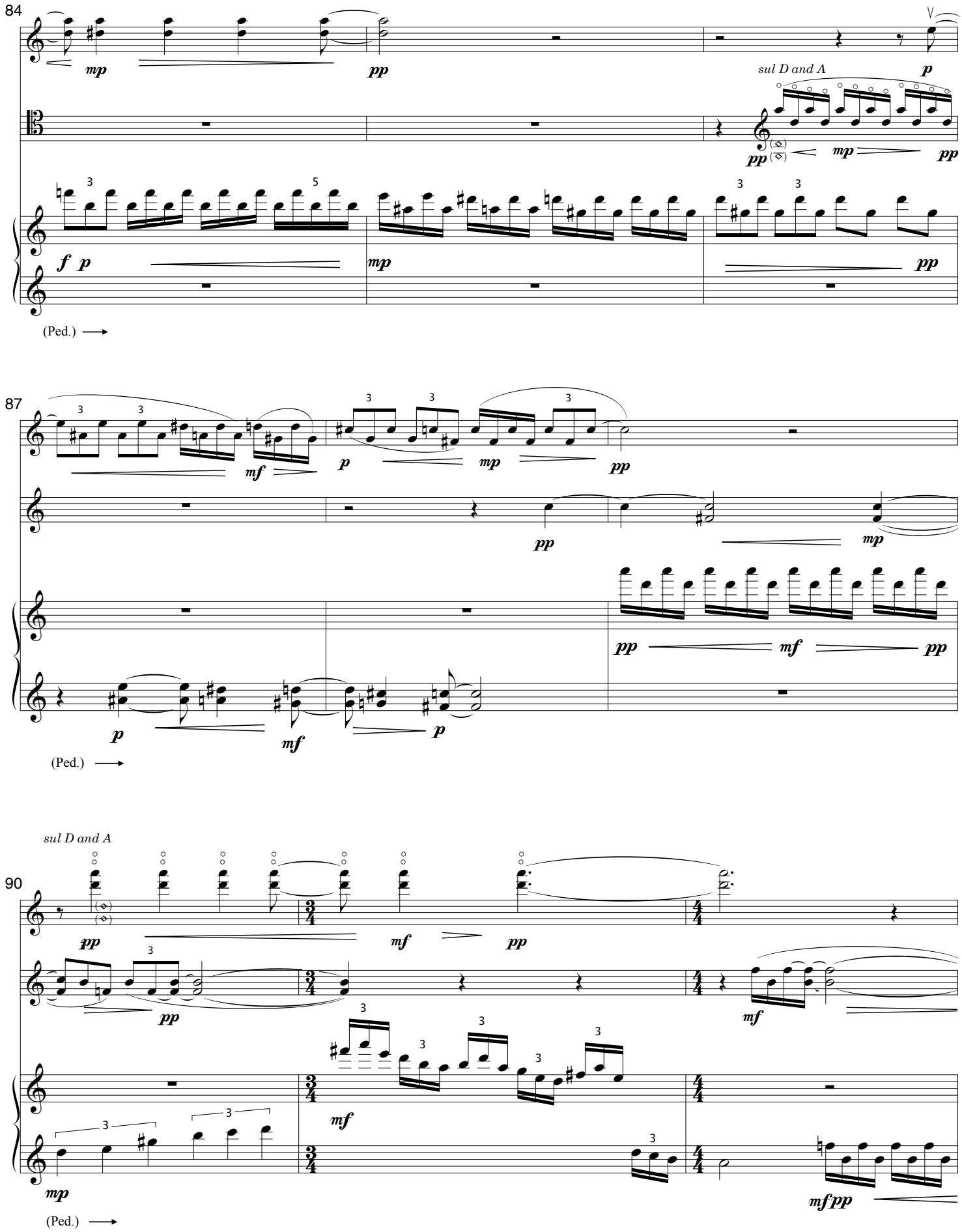

35
flautando
sul pont.
ord.
sul G and D
sul D and A
8va
(Ped.)
39
sul G and D
flautando
sul pont.
8va
42
flautando
sul pont.
ord.
sul G and D
sul D and A
sul D and A
sul D and A
(loco)
(Ped.)

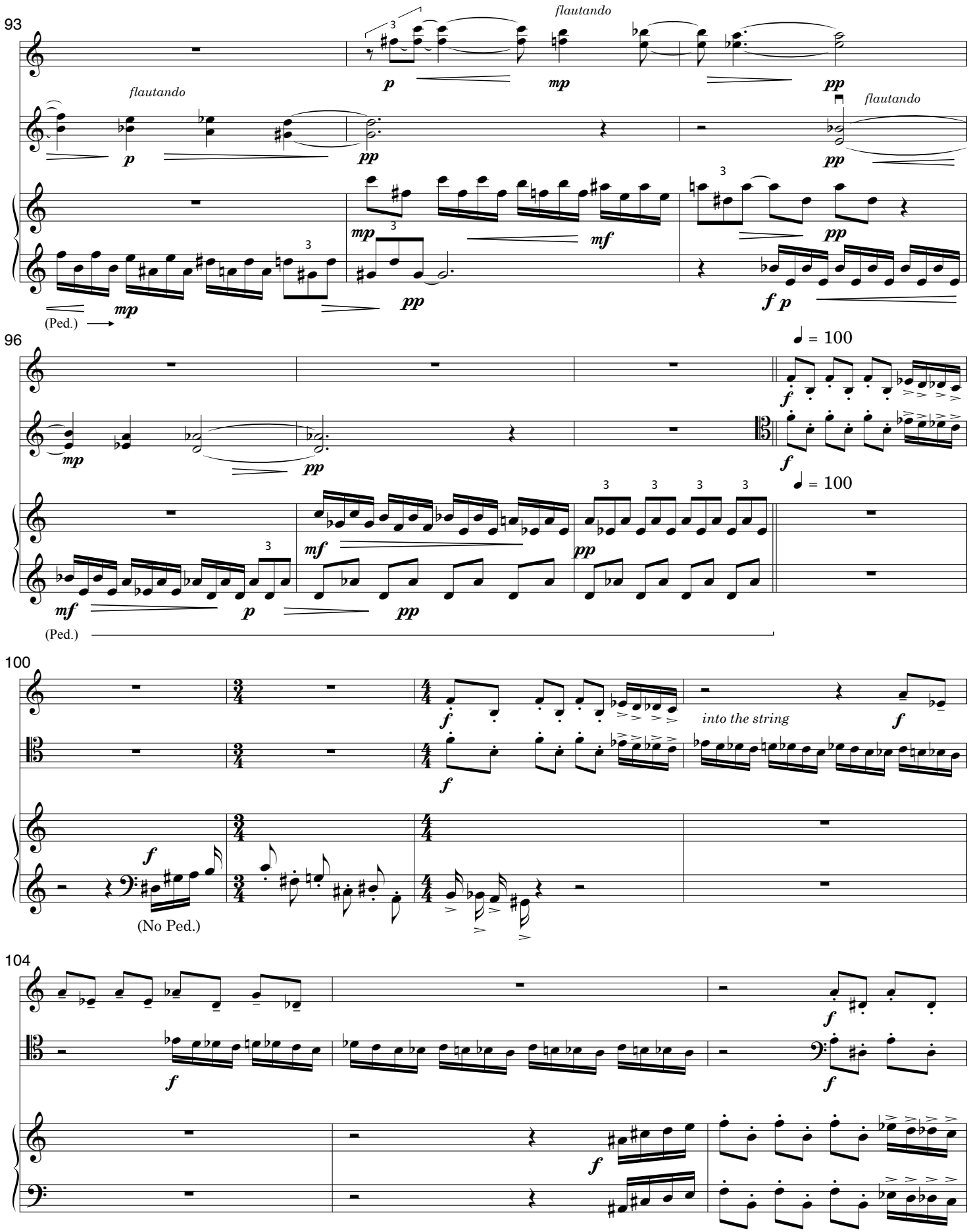

46
sul D and A
8va
(Ped.)
49
flautando
sul A
sul D
sul A
sul E
(Ped.)
51
sul E
sul G and D
sul D and A
(Ped.)

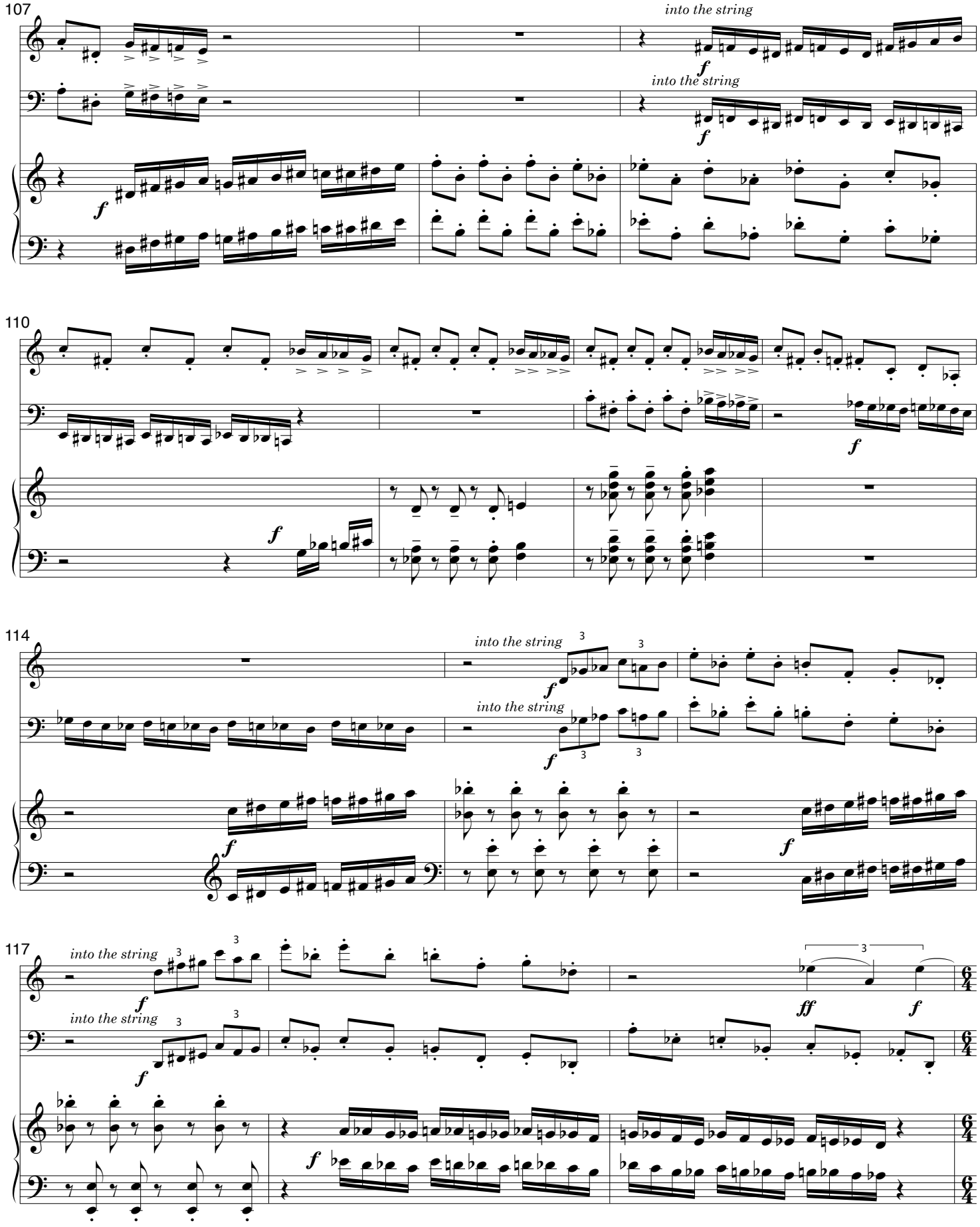

54
pp
sul D and A
ppp
pp
ppp
p
pp
sul D
pp
pp
mf
pp
pp
mf
(Ped.)
59
mf
warm, expressive
f
p
sul D
sul A
p
pp
flautando
sul pont.
mp
sul G and D
ord.
pp
pp
mf
pp
mf
pp
p
pp
(Ped.)
63
sul G and D
pp
mf
pp
sul D and A
p
pp
8va
mp
mf
mf
(Ped.)

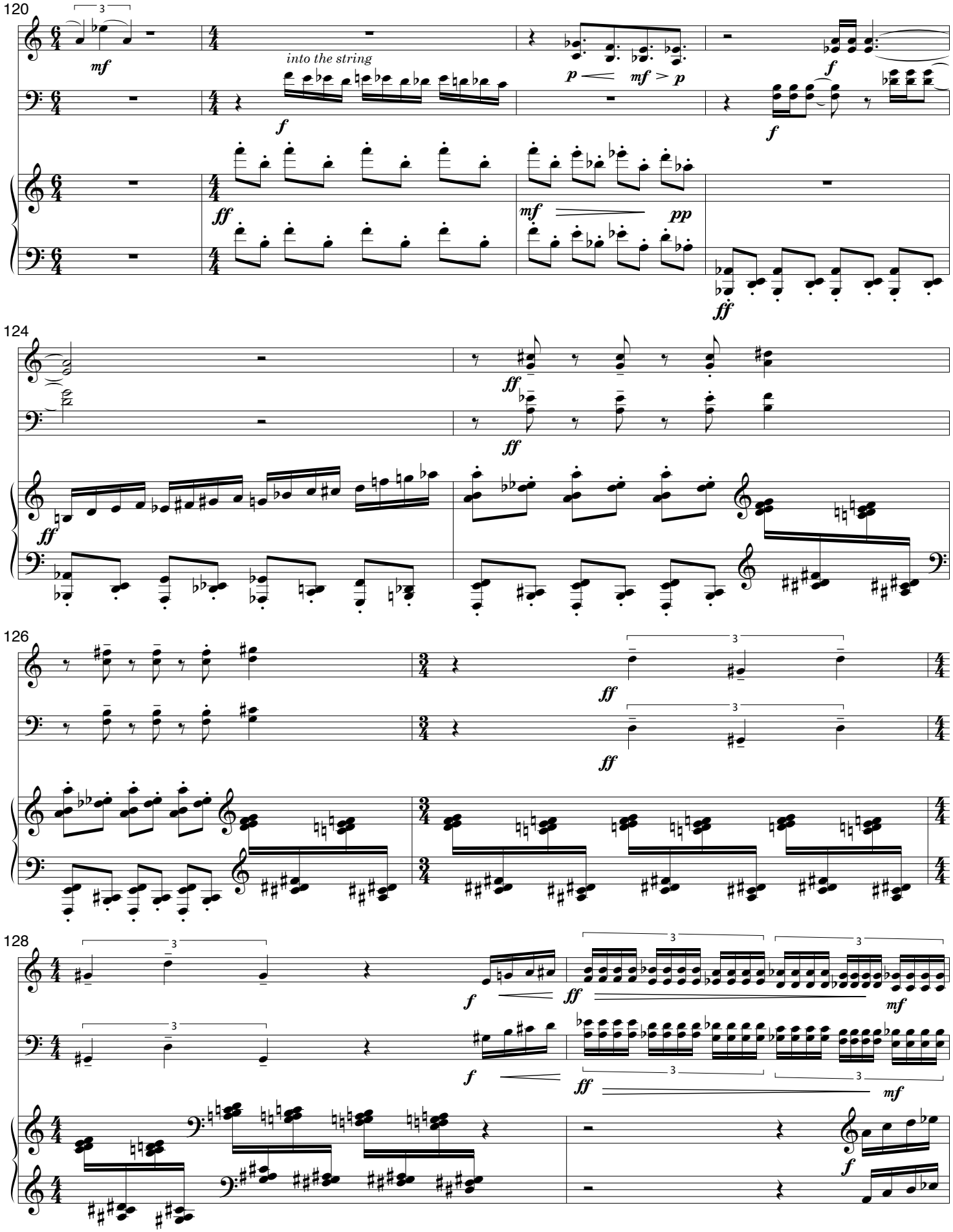

66
mf
f
p
pizz.
mp
arco
flautando
sul pont.
mp
ord.
sul G and D
sul D and A
pp
8va
pp
mf
pp
mf
pp
pp
mf
pp
(Ped.)
70
sul D and A
pp
mf
pp
mf
pp
sul D and A
pp
p
(loco)
p
mp
mf
(Ped.)
73
f
pp
f
8va
pp
mf
pp
mp
pp
mf
pp
5
(Ped.)

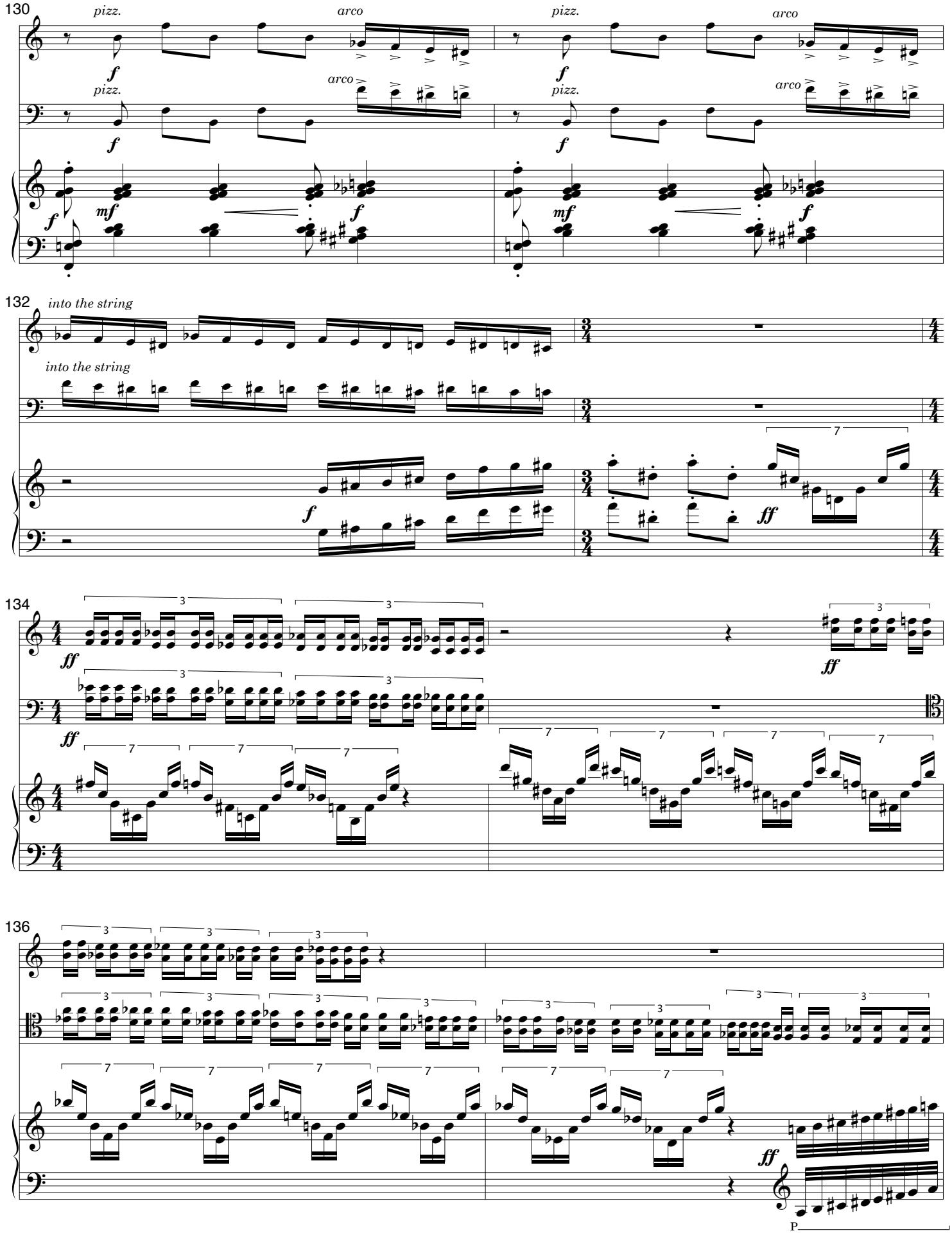

75
mf
mp
(Ped.)
77
ff
pp
mf
f
(Ped.)
81
pp
sul G and D
mf
(Ped.)

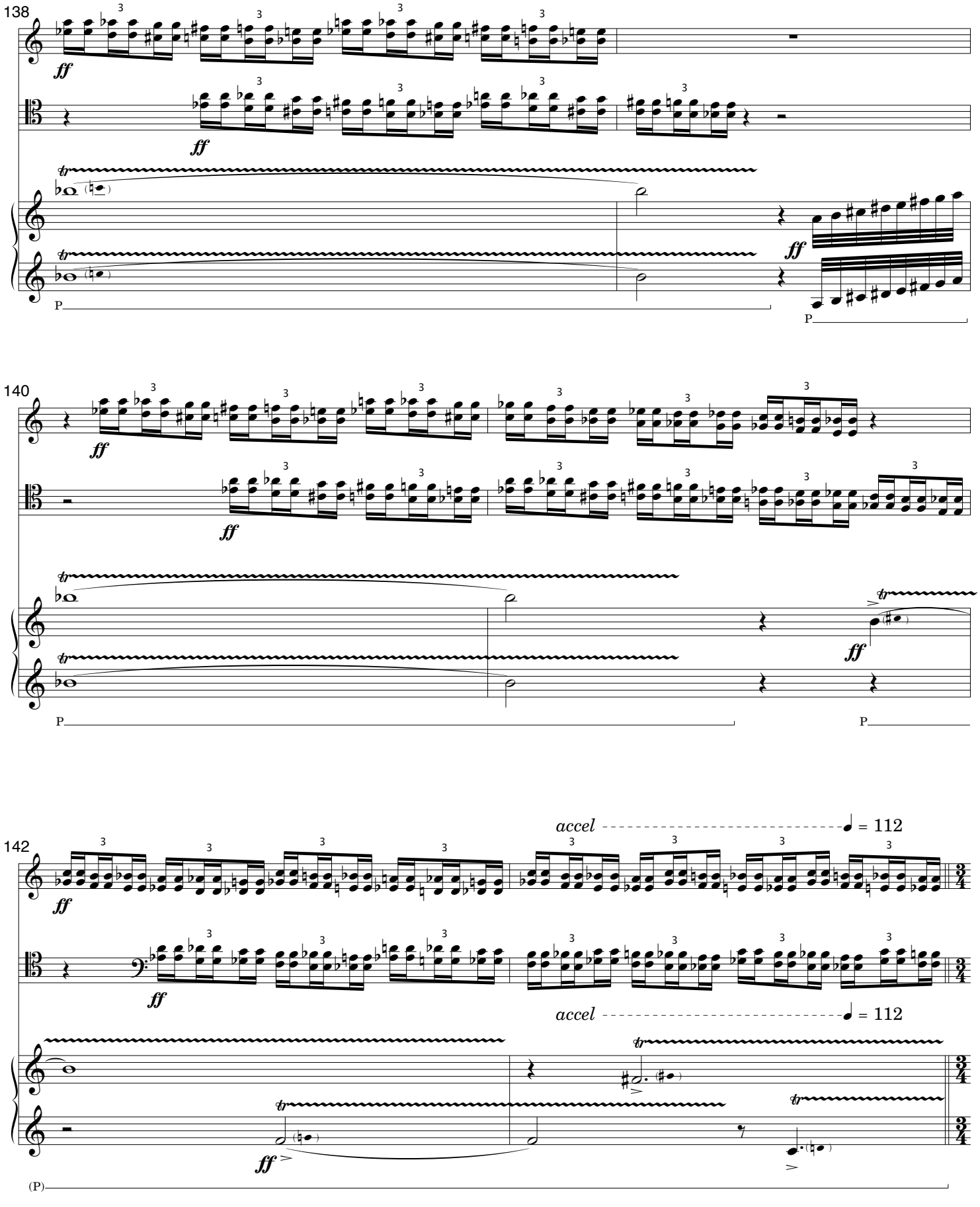

84
mp
pp
sul D and A
p
pp
mp
pp
f p
mp
pp
(Ped.)
87
mf
p
mp
pp
pp
mp
pp
mf
pp
p
mf
p
(Ped.)
sul D and A
90
pp
mf
pp
pp
mf
mf
mp
mfpp
(Ped.)

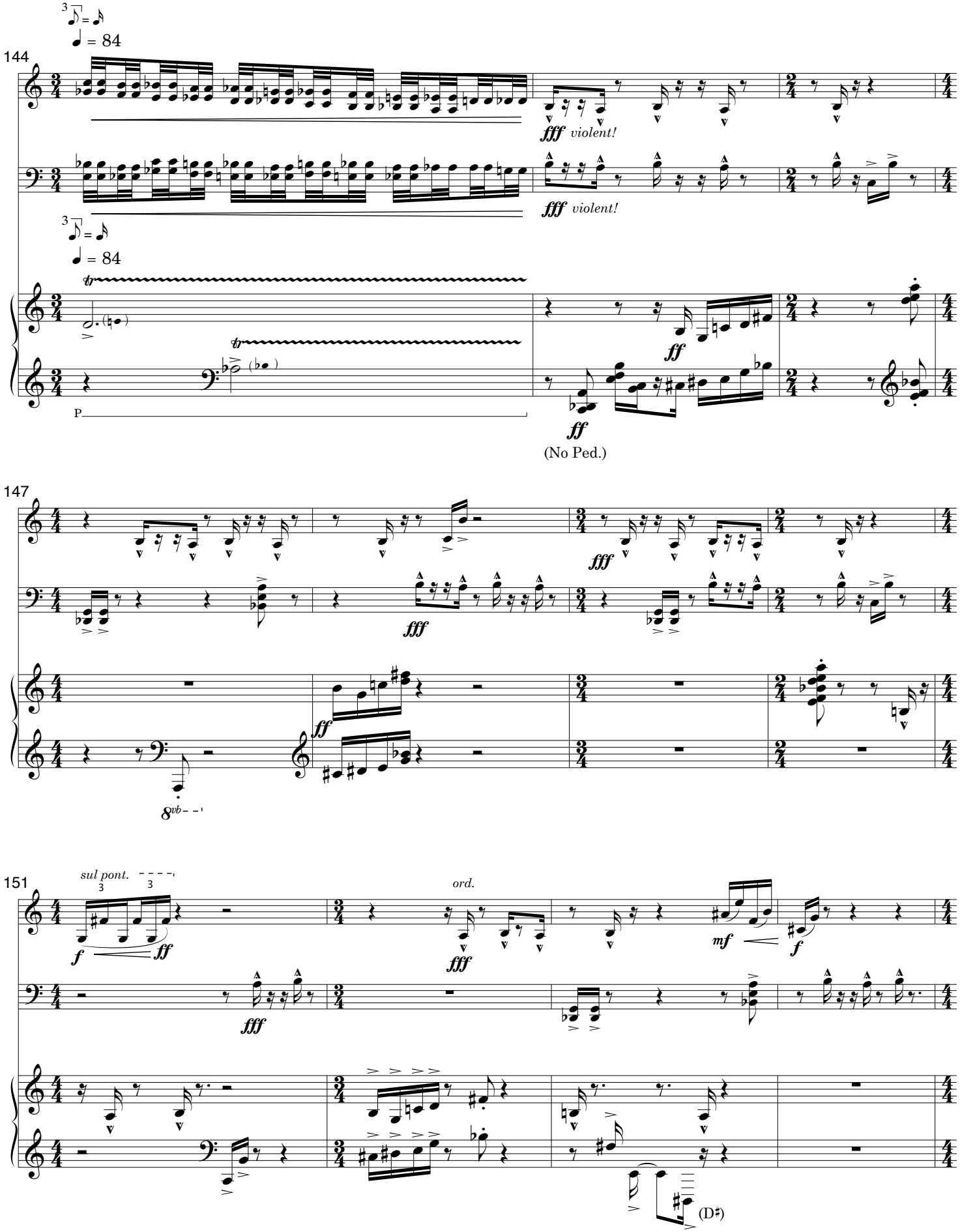

93
flautando
flautando
flautando
(Ped.)
96
= 100
= 100
(Ped.)
100
into the string
(No Ped.)
104

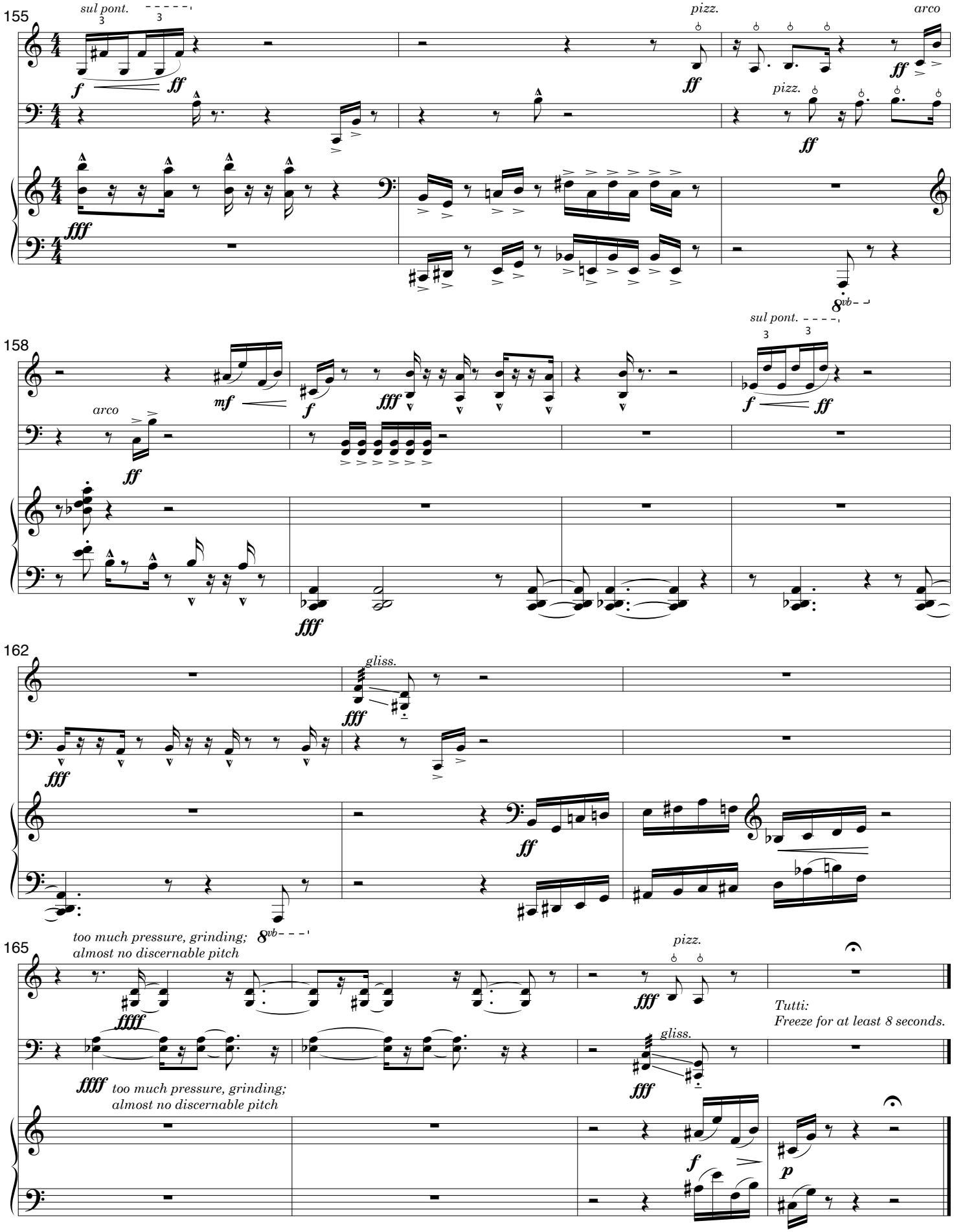

107
into the string
f
into the string
f
f
110
f
f
114
into the string
f
into the string
f
f
f
117
into the string
f
into the string
f
ff
f
f


120
mf
into the string
f
p
mf > p
f
f
ff
mf
pp
ff
124
ff
ff
ff
126
ff
ff
128
f
ff
mf
f
ff
mf
f

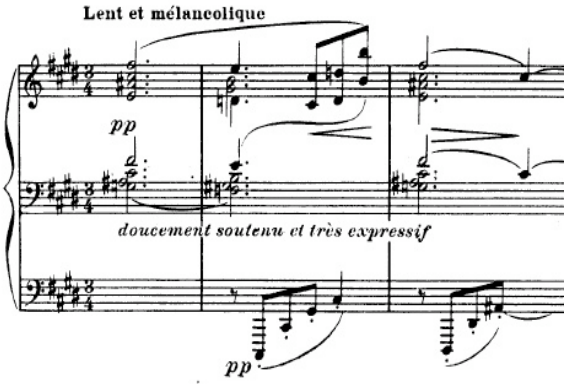

130
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
132
into the string
into the string
134
136
P

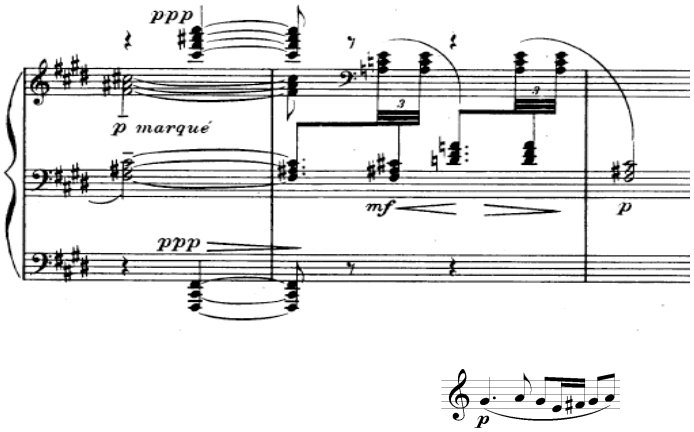

138
ff
tr
P
140
ff
tr
P
142
ff
accel
= 112
tr
(P)


144
3 = 84
fff violent!
fff violent!
3 = 84
tr
tr
P
ff
ff
(No Ped.)
147
fff
fff
ff
8vb
151
sul pont.
3
3
f
ff
ord.
fff
mf
f
fff
(D♯)

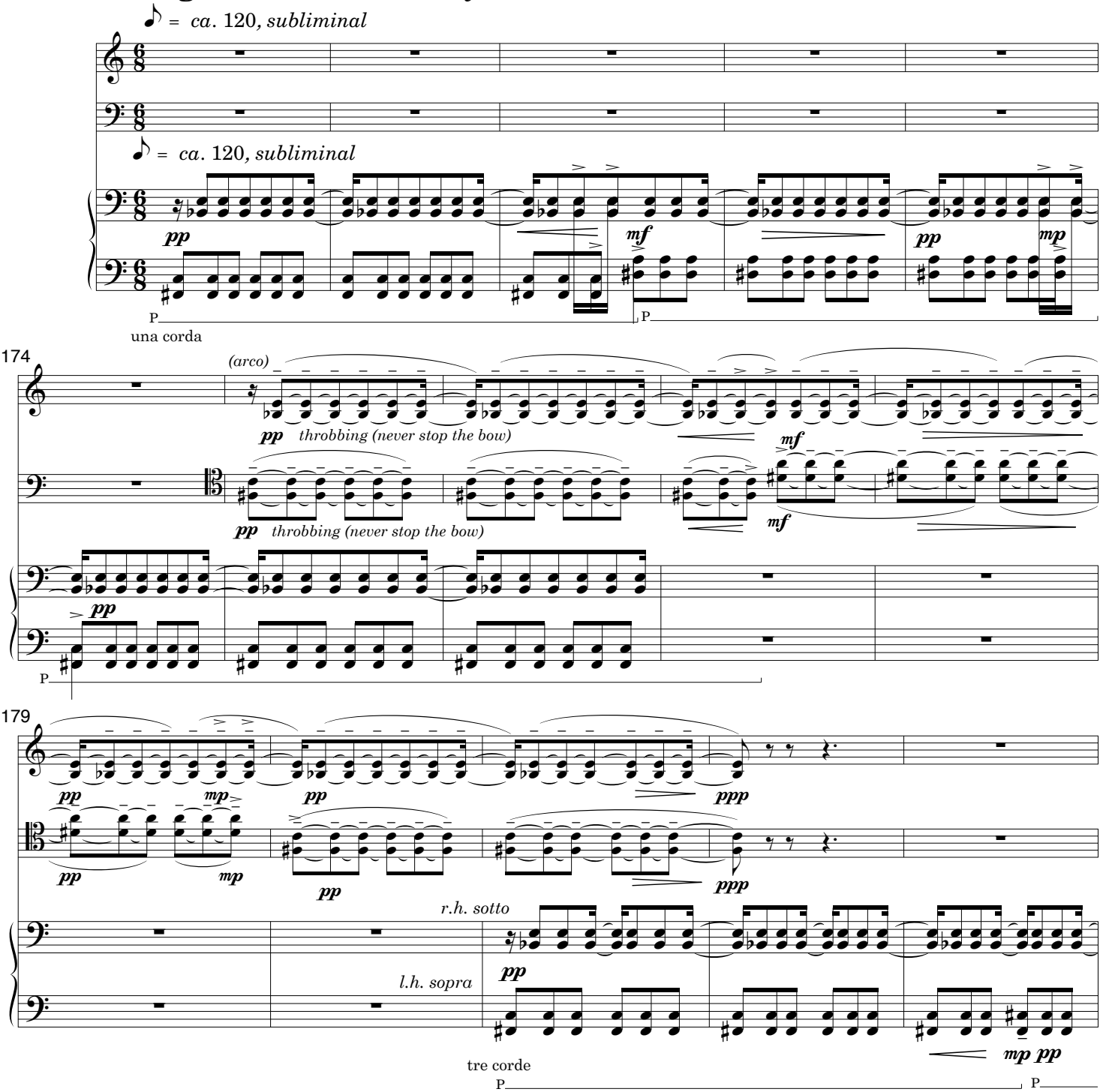

155
sul pont.
pizz.
arco
158
sul pont.
162
gliss.
too much pressure, grinding;
almost no discernable pitch
165
pizz.
Tutti:
Freeze for at least 8 seconds.
gliss.
too much pressure, grinding;
almost no discernable pitch

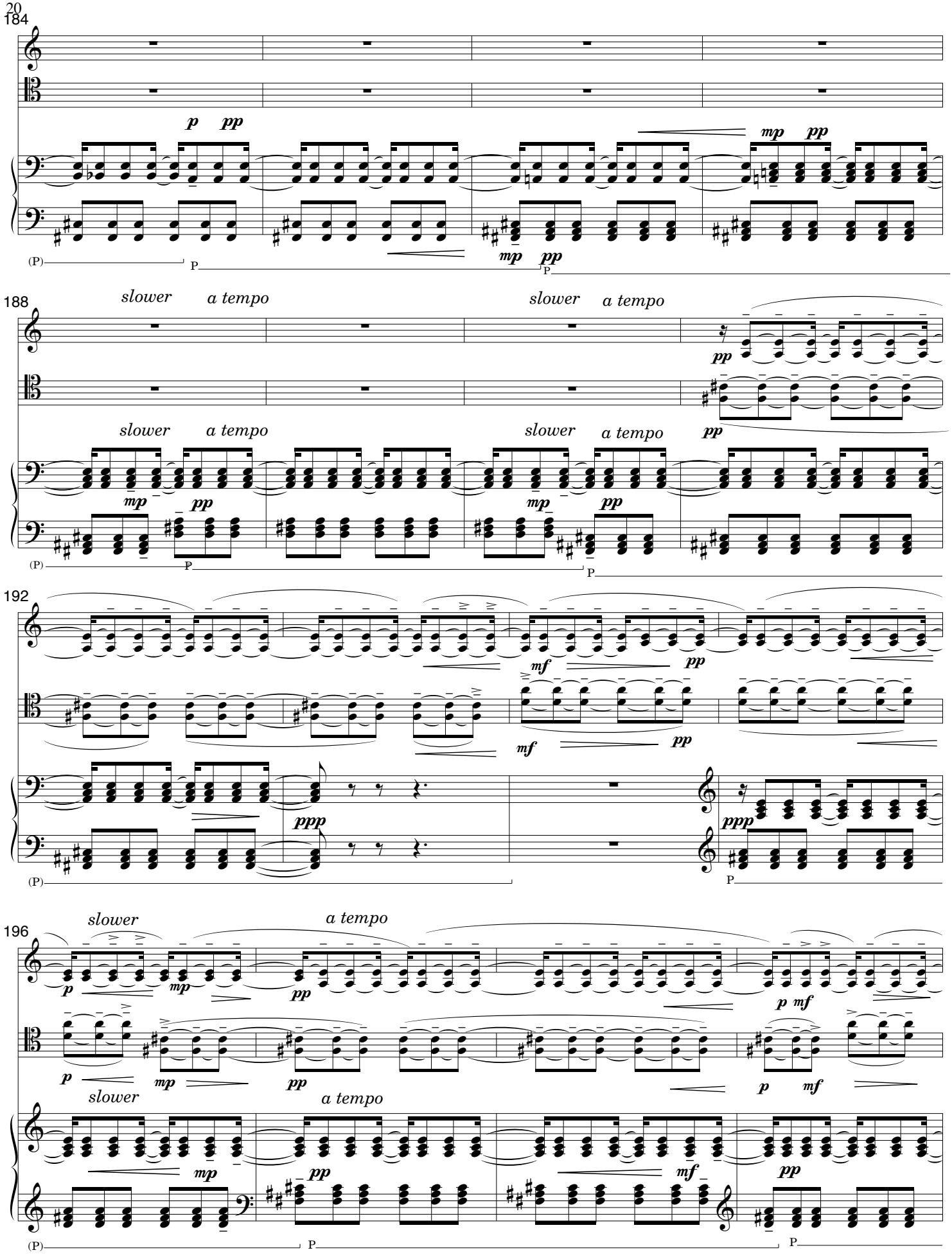
N. B. Much of the material in "Turning Colors" is derived from these three fragments from "Feuilles mortes" (fallen leaves) from Debussy Preludes, Book 2.

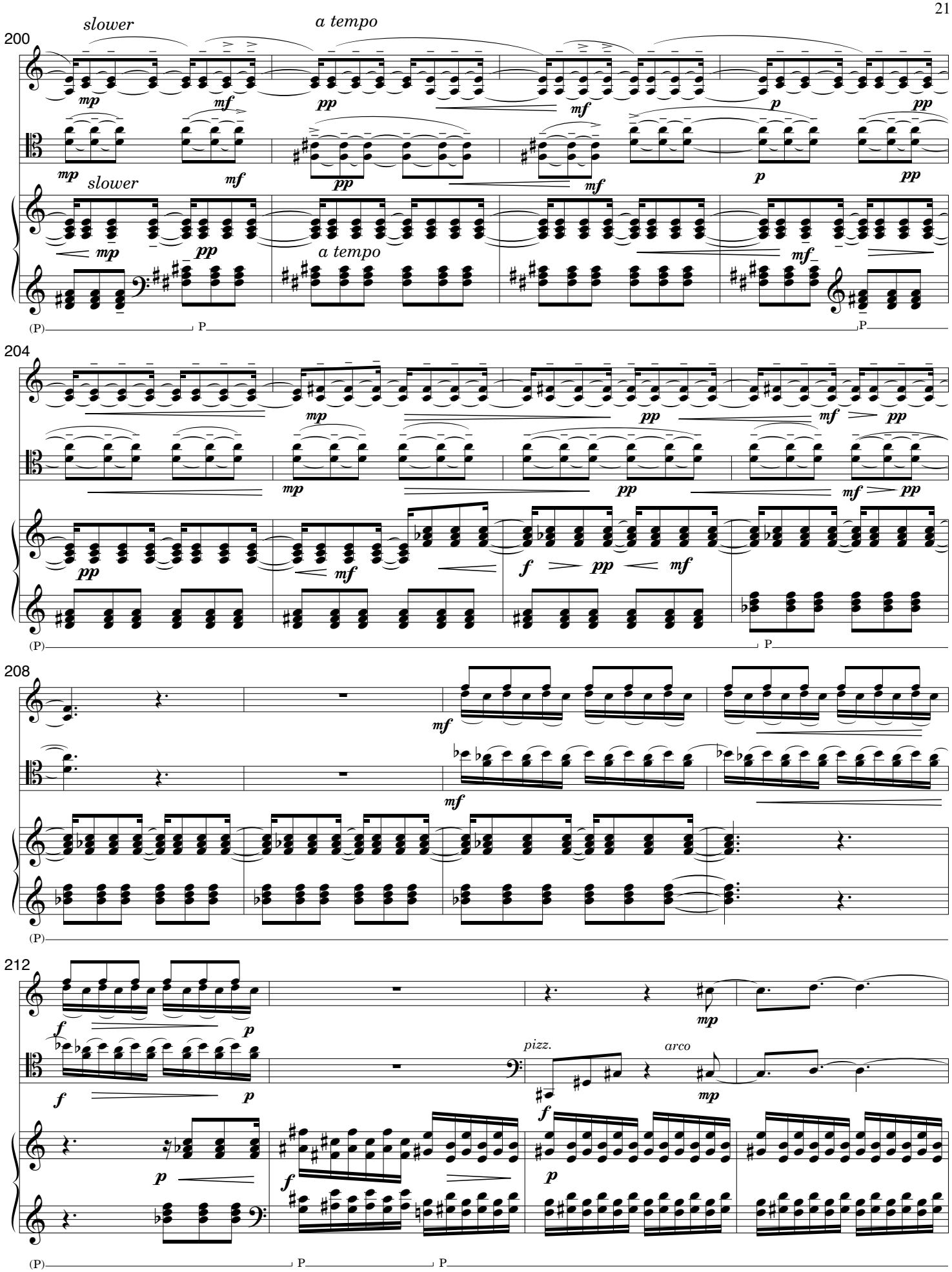


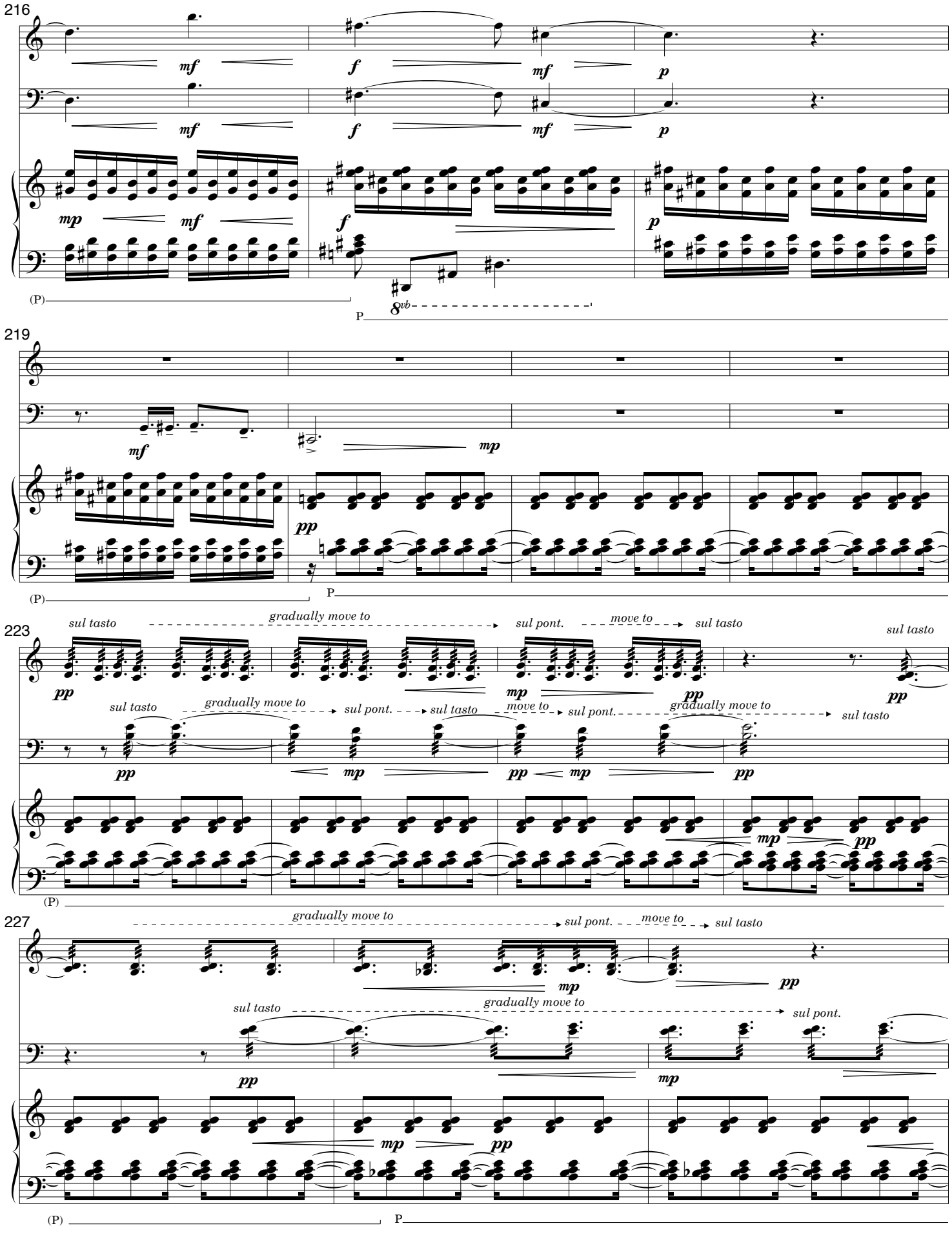


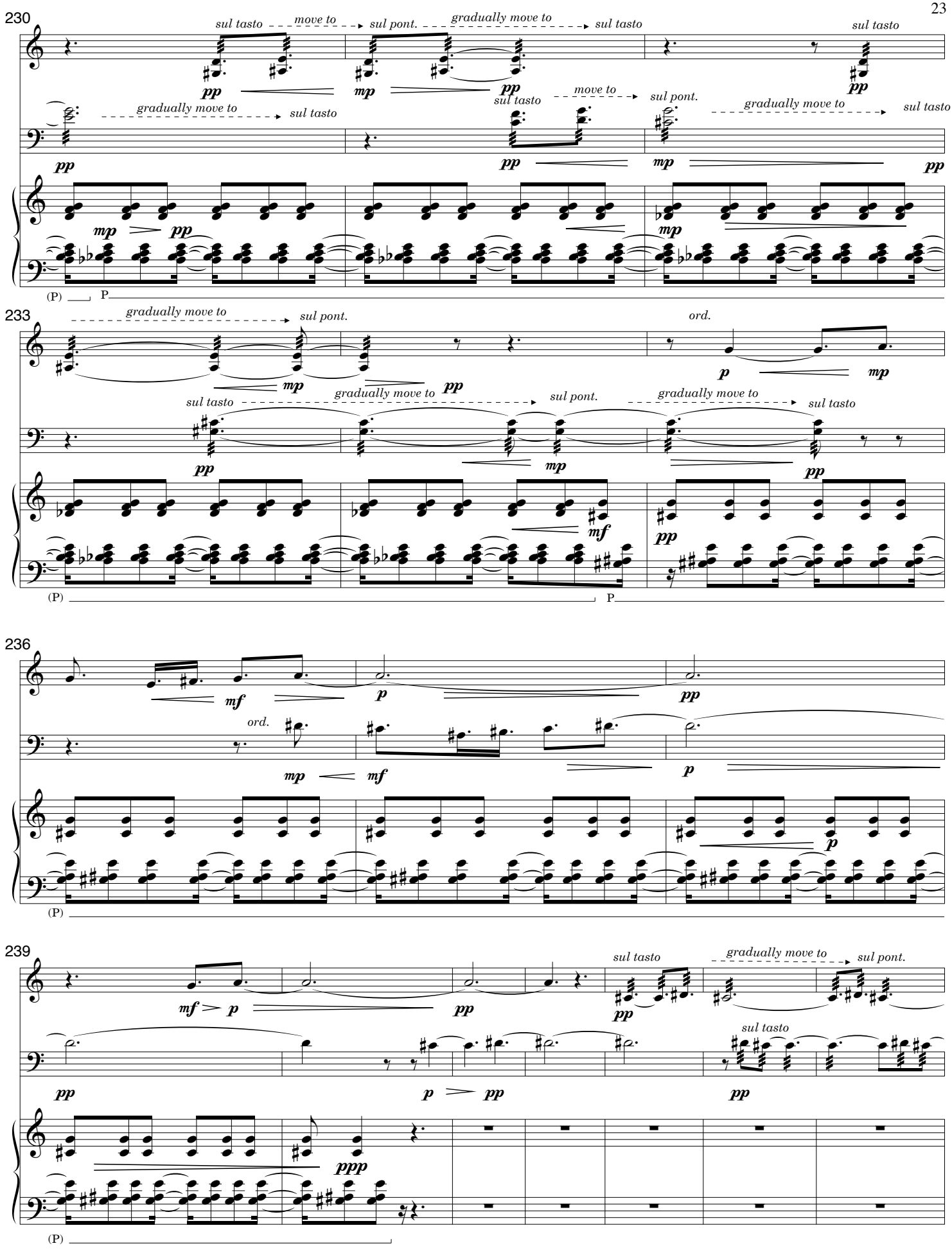
2. Turning Colors / Harvest Hymn / Harvest Dance




184
p pp
mp pp
mp pp
(P)
P
P
188
slower a tempo
slower a tempo
pp
pp
slower a tempo
slower a tempo
mp pp
mp pp
(P)
P
P
192
mf pp
mf pp
ppp
ppp
(P)
P
196
slower
a tempo
p mp pp
p mf
p mp
pp
p mf
slower
a tempo
mp
pp
mf pp
(P)
P
P


200
slower
a tempo
204
208
212
pizz.
arco


216
mf
f
mf
p
mp
mf
f
p
8vb
(P)
P
219
mf
mp
pp
(P)
P
223
sul tasto
gradually move to
sul pont.
move to
sul tasto
pp
mp
pp
sul tasto
sul tasto
gradually move to
sul pont.
sul tasto
move to
sul pont.
gradually move to
sul tasto
pp
mp
pp
mp
pp
mp
pp
(P)
227
gradually move to
sul pont.
move to
sul tasto
mp
pp
sul tasto
gradually move to
sul pont.
pp
mp
mp
pp
(P)
P


230
sul tasto
move to
sul pont.
gradually move to
sul tasto
sul tasto
pp
mp
pp
pp
gradually move to
sul tasto
sul tasto
move to
sul pont.
gradually move to
sul tasto
pp
pp
mp
pp
mp
pp
(P)
P
233
gradually move to
sul pont.
ord.
mp
pp
p
mp
sul tasto
gradually move to
sul pont.
gradually move to
sul tasto
pp
mp
pp
mf
pp
(P)
P
236
mf
p
pp
ord.
mp
mf
p
p
(P)
239
mf
p
pp
sul tasto
gradually move to
sul pont.
pp
sul tasto
pp
p
pp
pp
ppp
(P)

Repeat this material freely through measure 252.
Vary color from *sul pont.* to *sul tasto.*
Rhythm free — conversational dialog between strings.
Very quiet — subliminal, fading to silence.

246

gradually move to *sul tasto*

move to *sul pont.*

pp

247

♩ = *ca.* 72

Harvest Hymn

♩ = *ca.* 72

mf *mp* *mf*

Ped. for legato

254

f *mp* *mp* *mf*

mf *p*

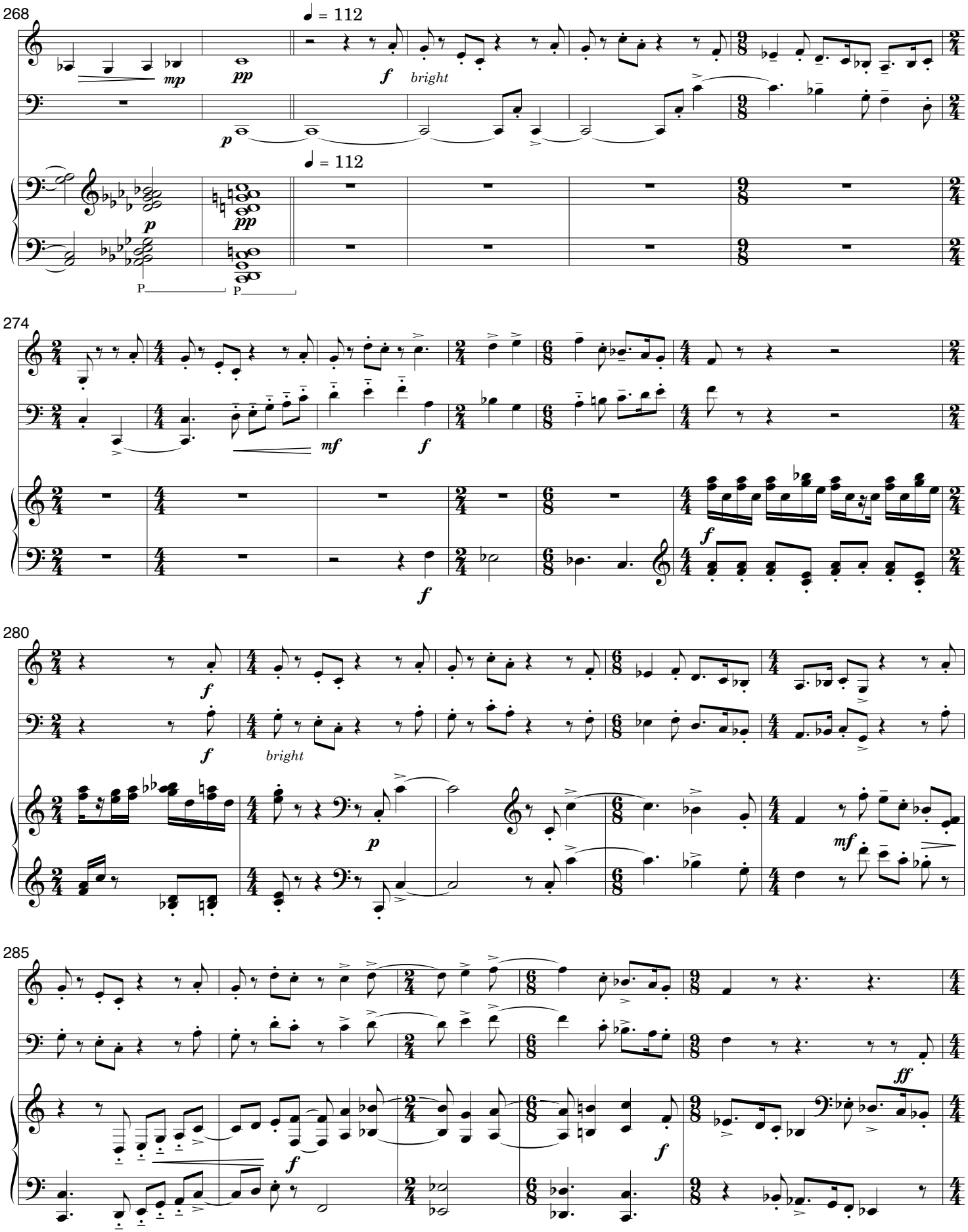
261

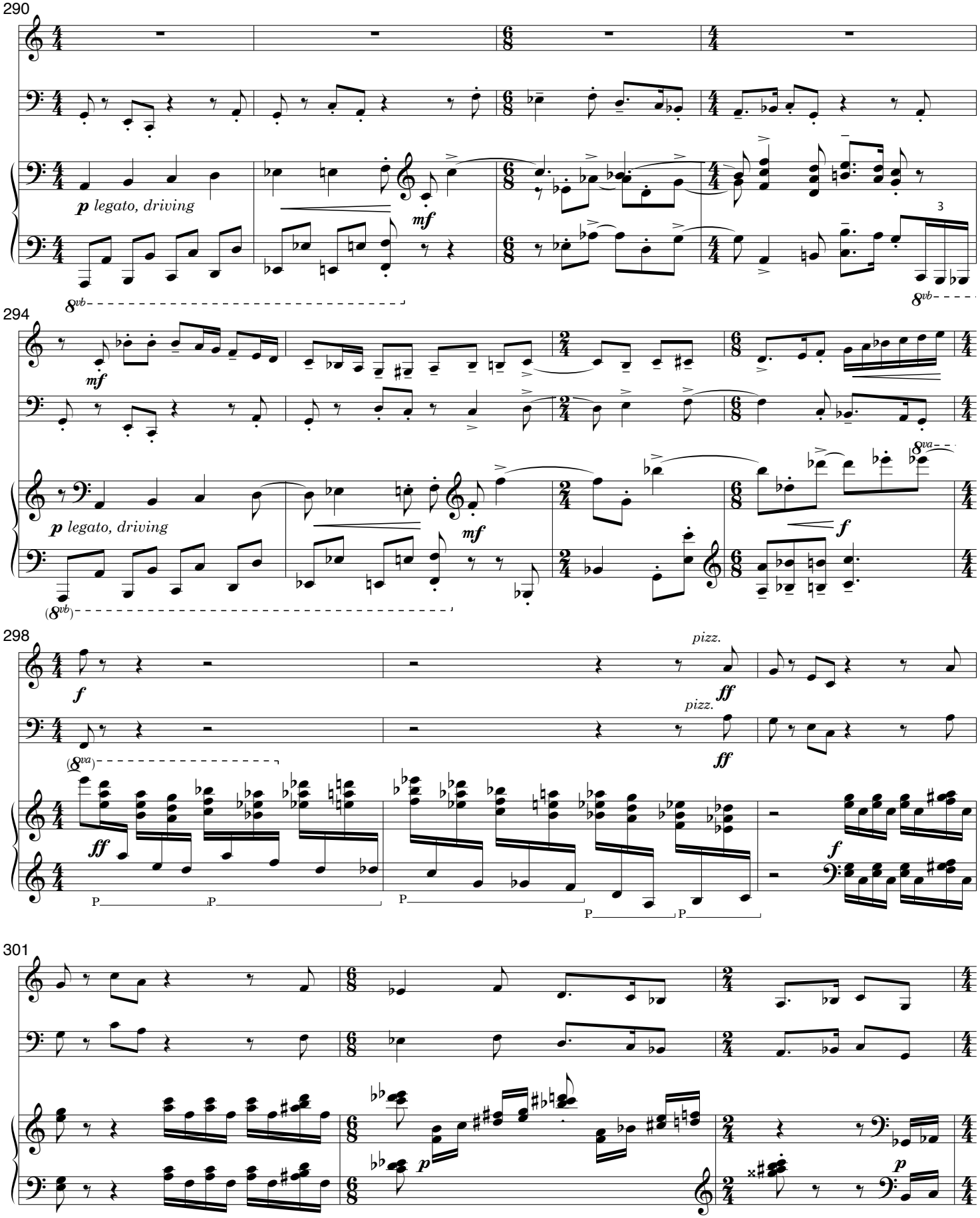
5

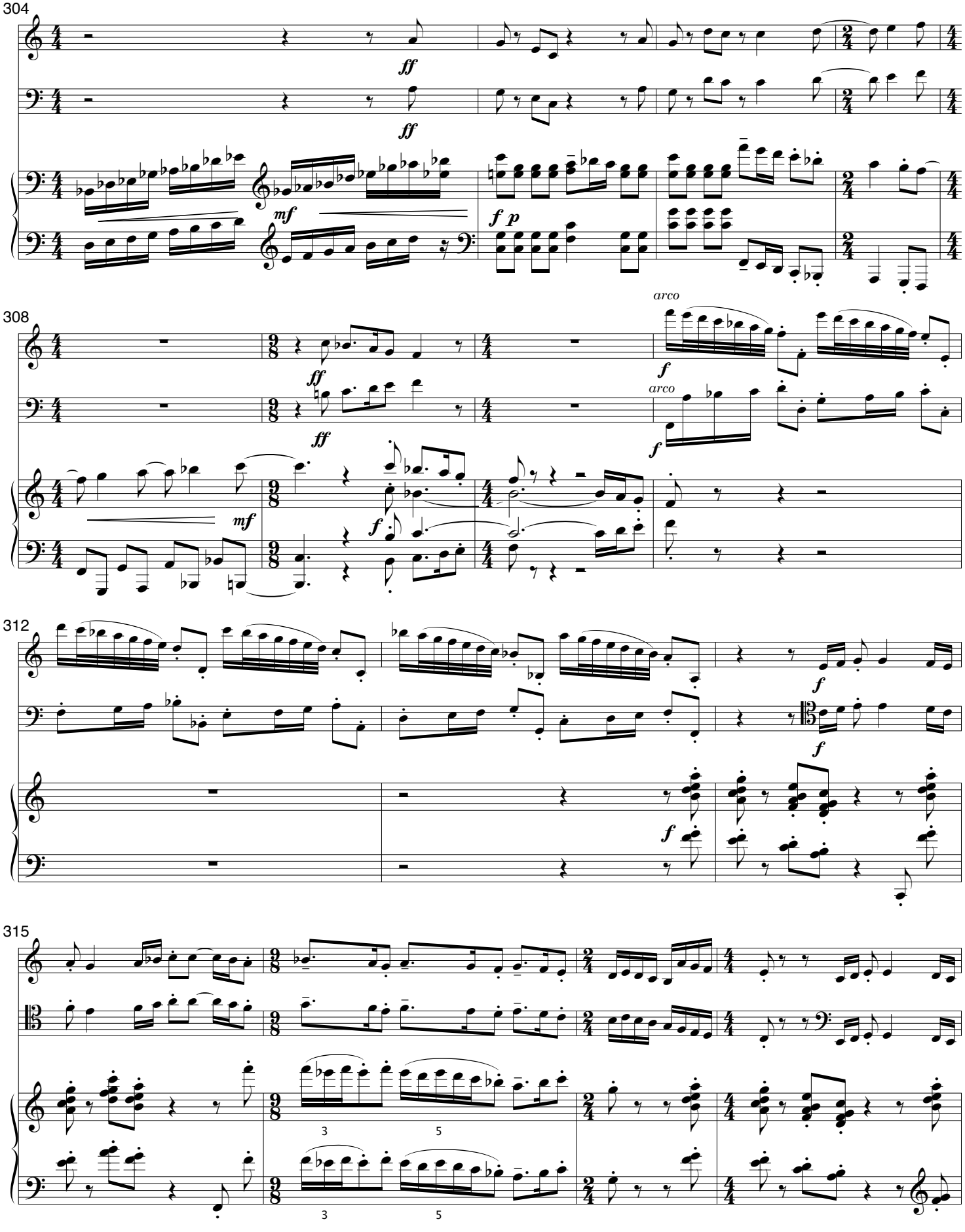
mf

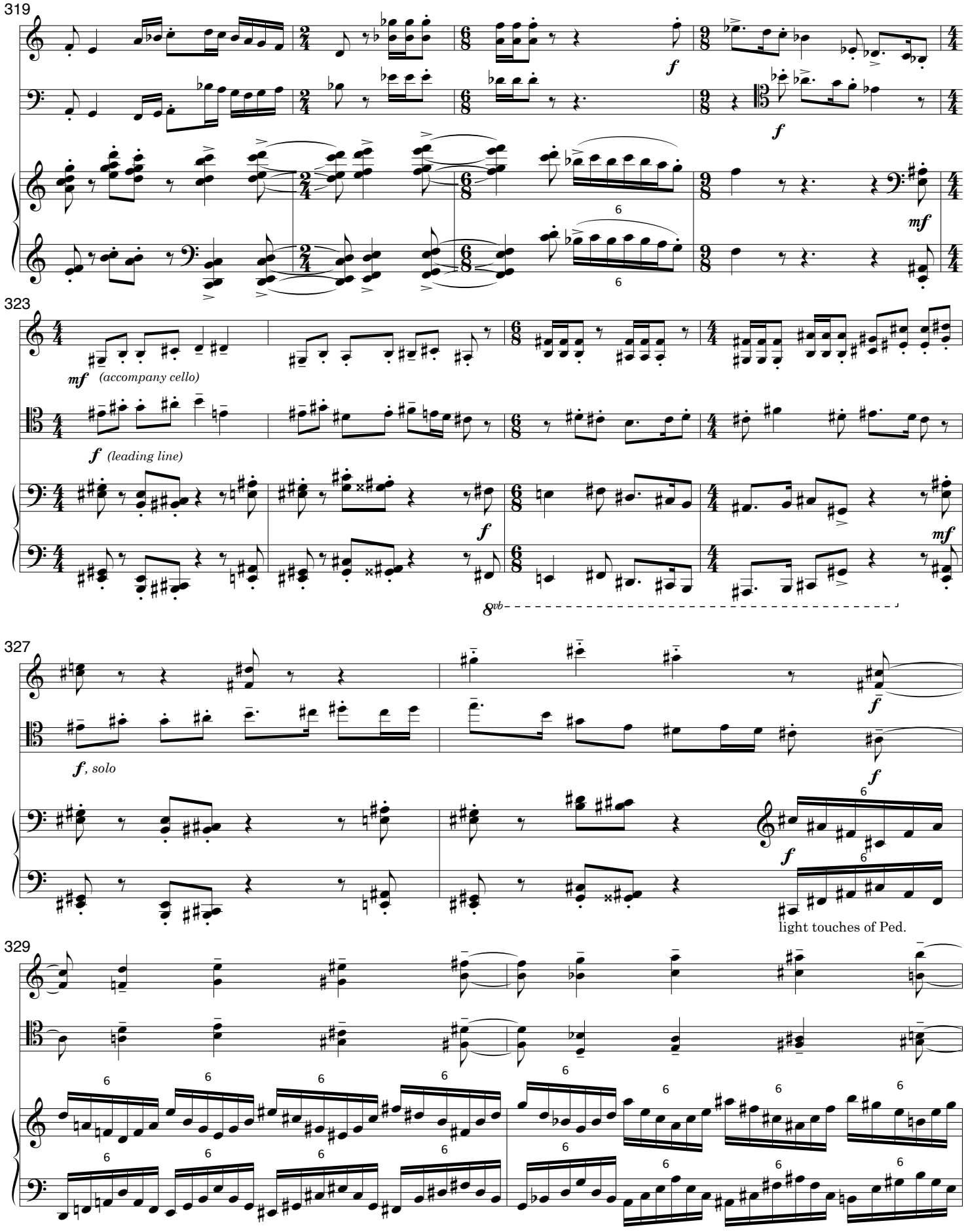
f *p* *mp* *mf*

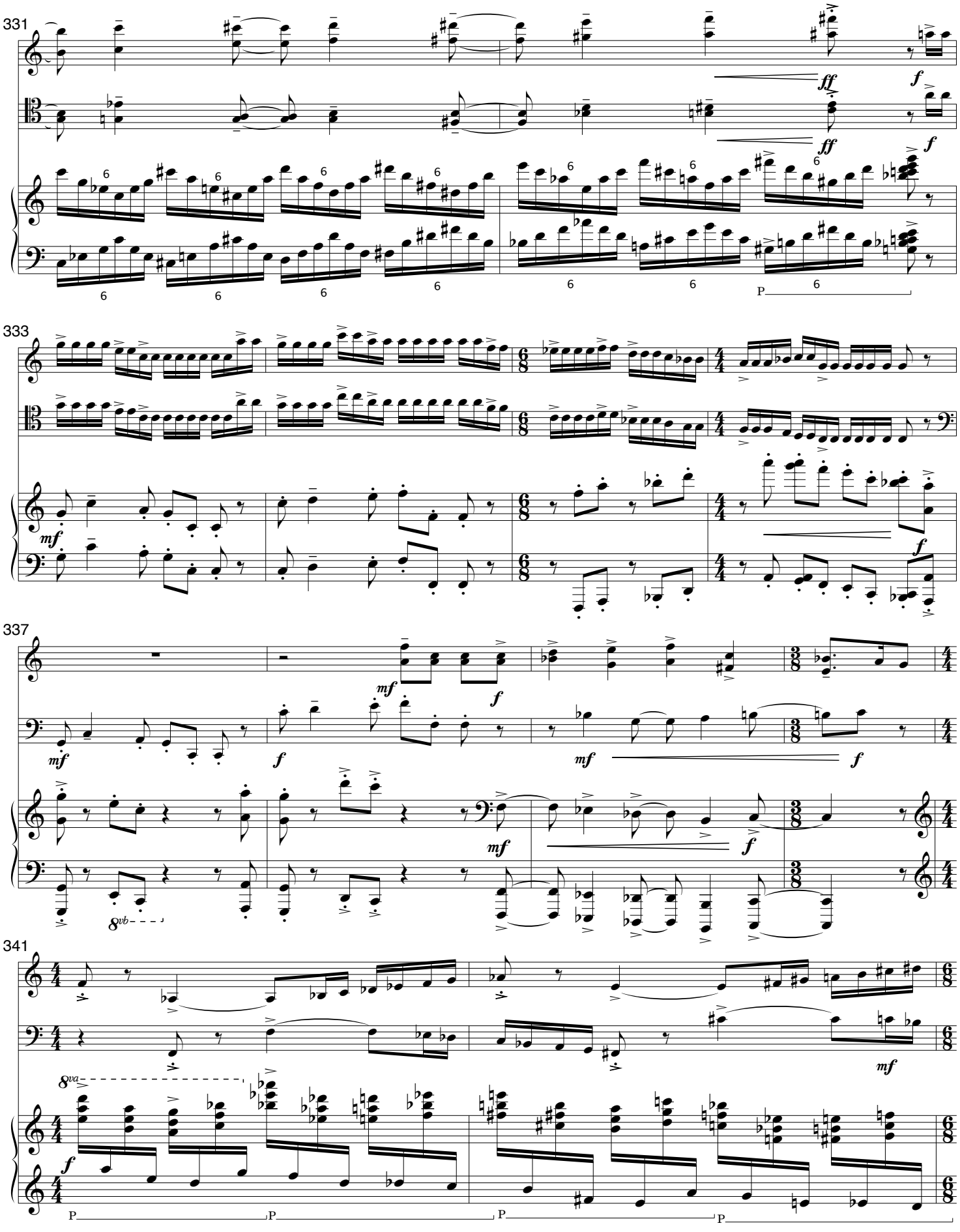
Harvest Dance

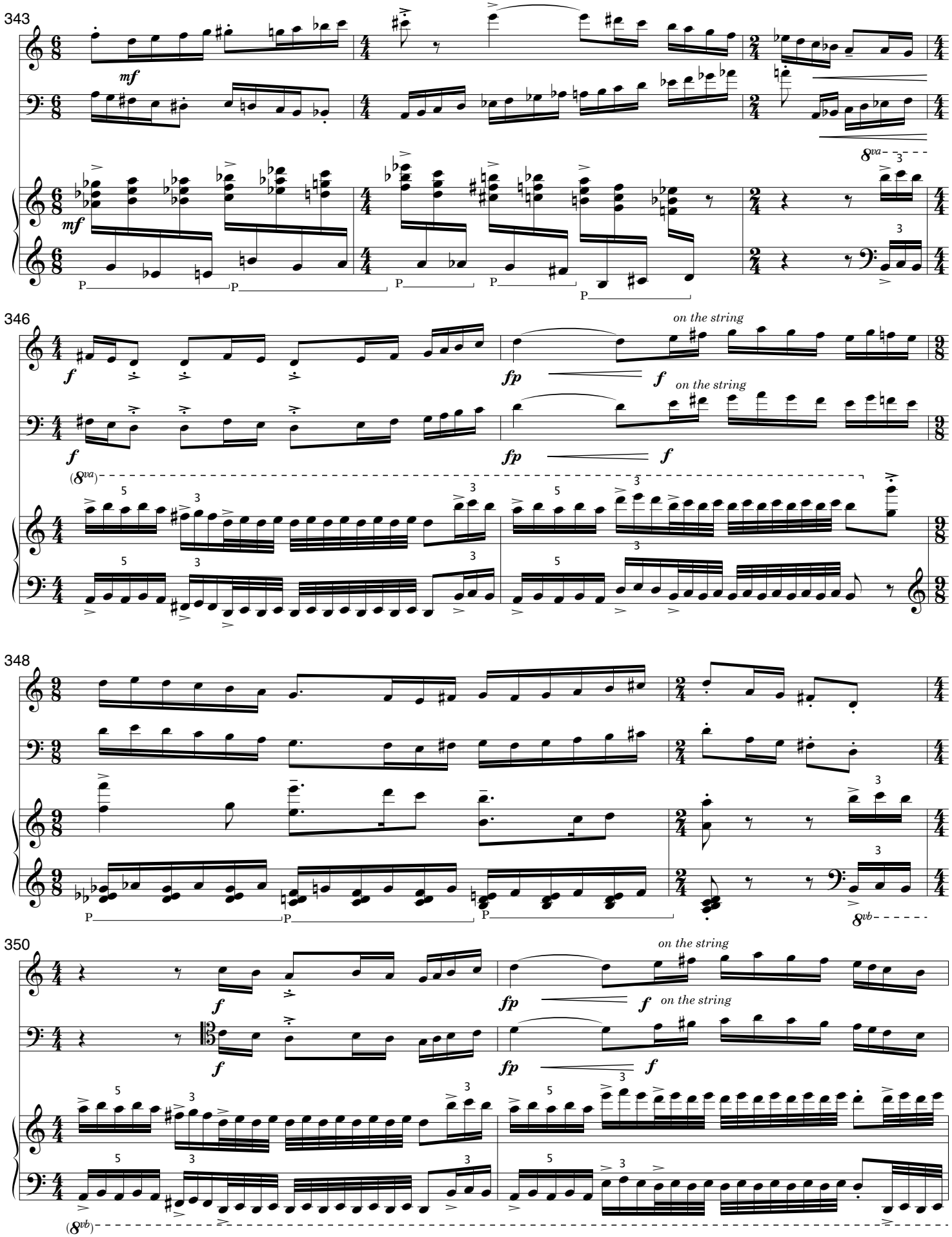


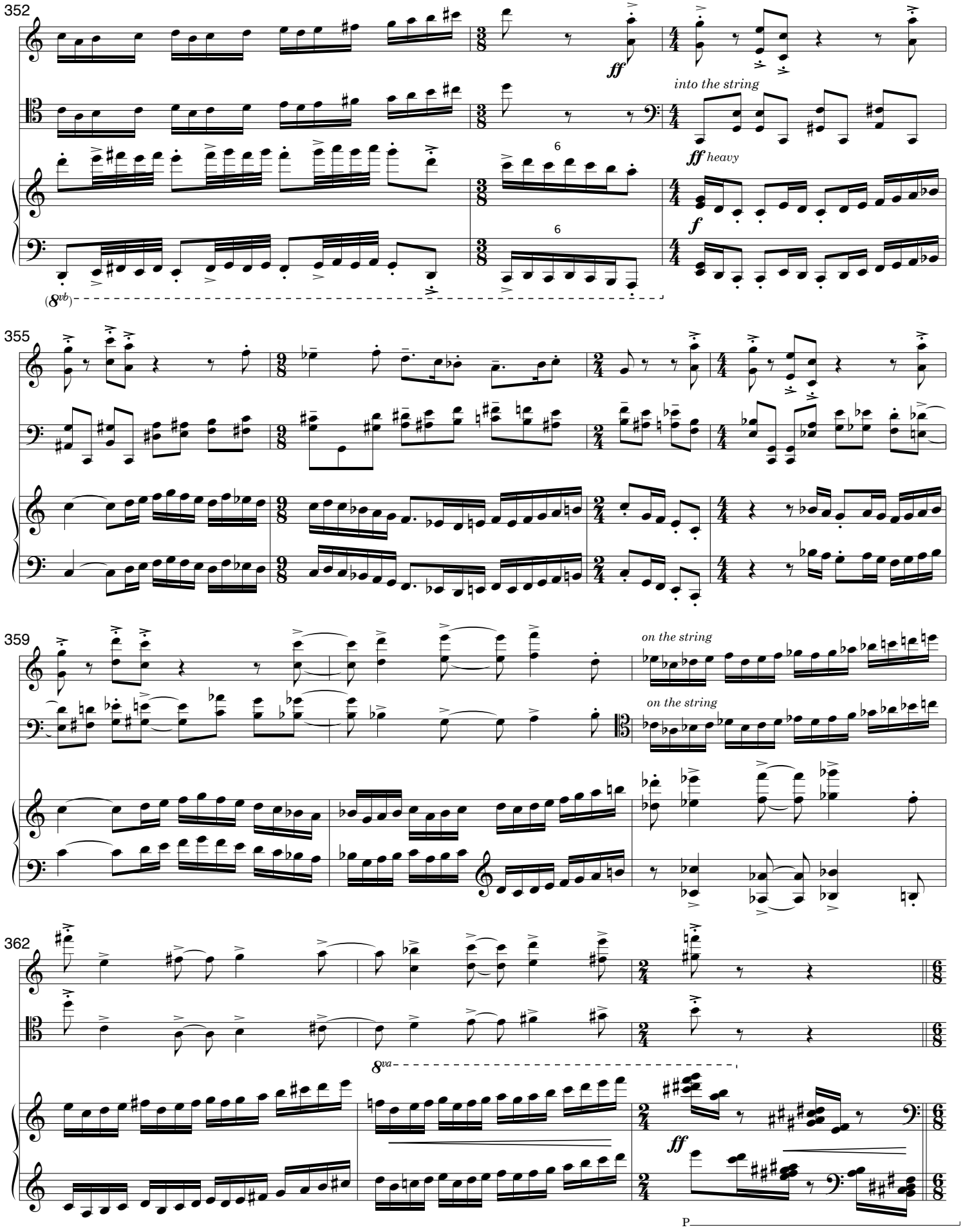

290
p legato, driving
mf
8vb
294
mf
p legato, driving
mf
8va
f
298
f
pizz.
ff
pizz.
ff
(8va)
ff
P
P
P
P
P
f
301
p
p

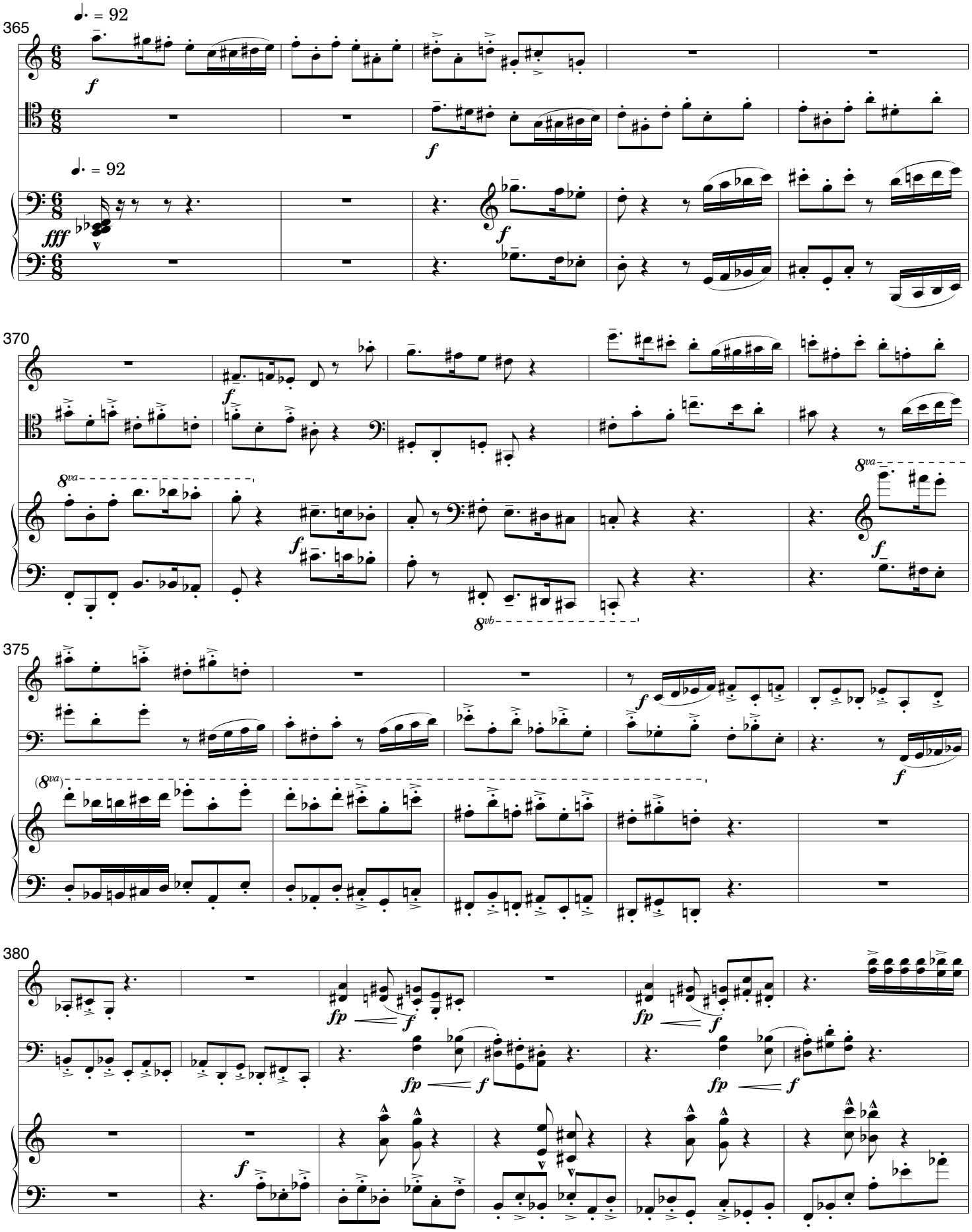

304
ff
ff
mf
f p
308
ff
ff
mf
f
arco
arco
f
312
f
f
f
315
3
5
3
5

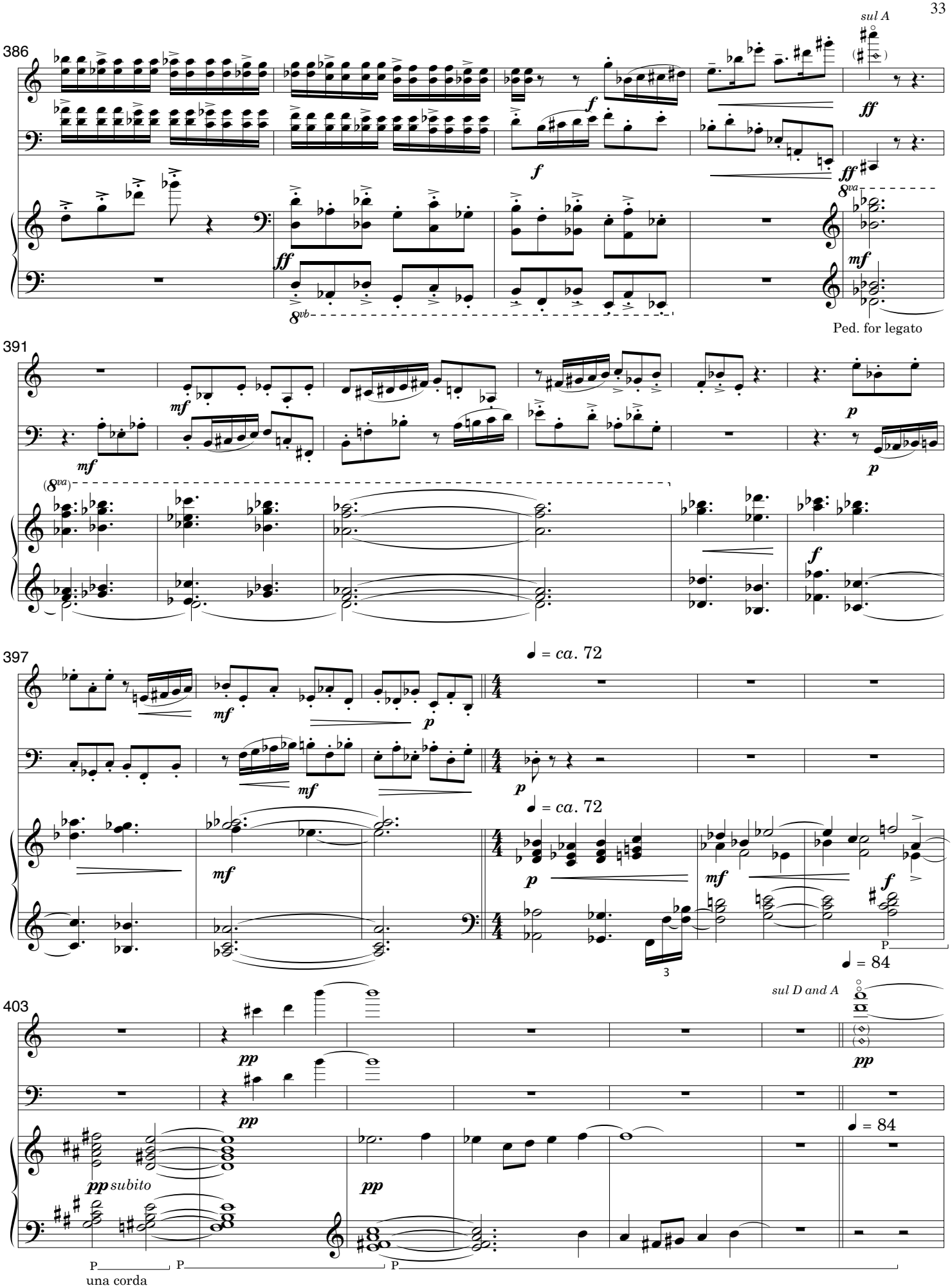

319
f
mf
323
mf (accompany cello)
f (leading line)
f
mf
8vb
327
f, solo
f
f
f
light touches of Ped.
329

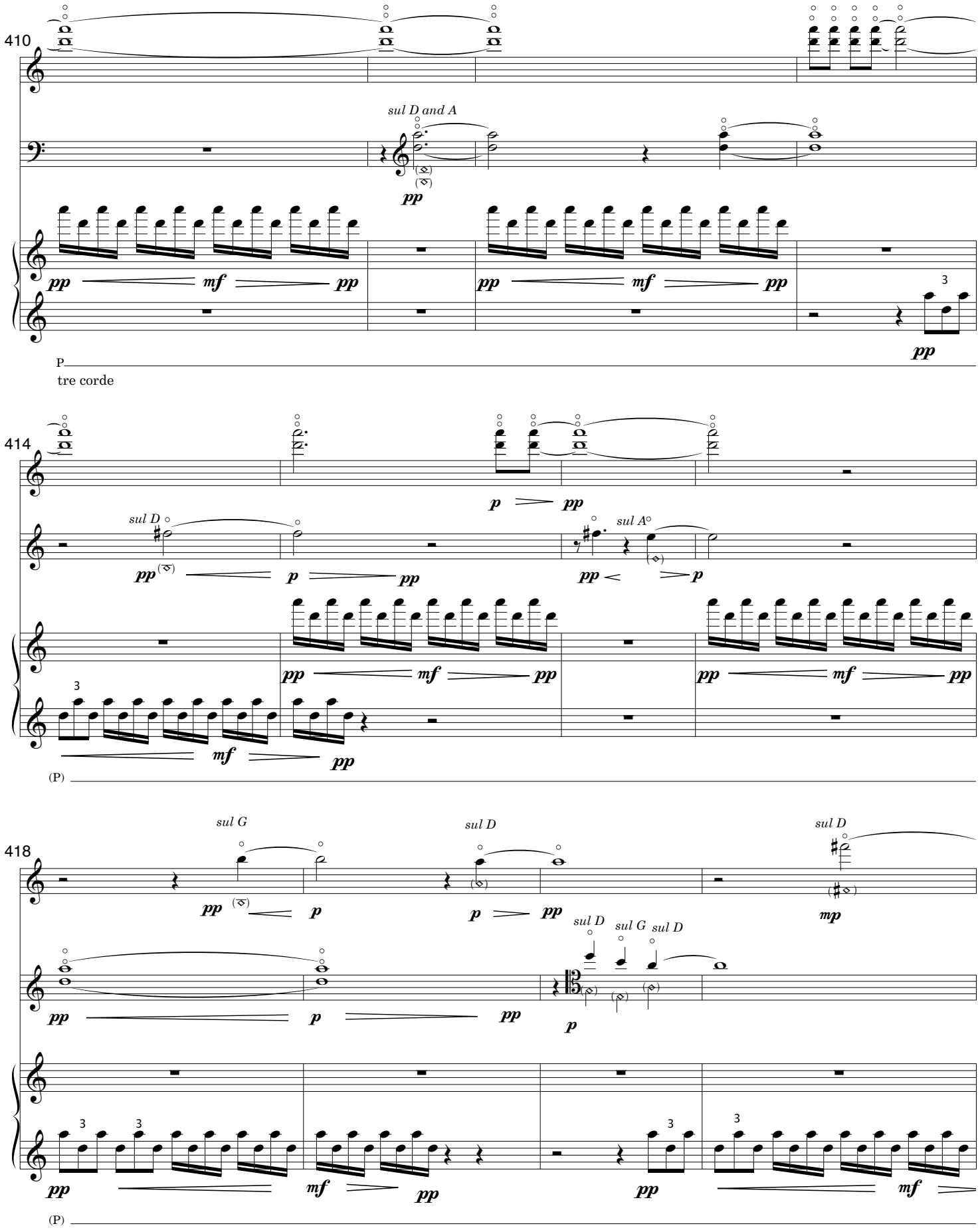

331
333
337
341
ff
f
mf
8vb
8va
P


343
mf
8va
346
f
fp
on the string
(8va)
348
8vb
350
(8vb)


352
ff
into the string
ff heavy
f
6
6
(8vb)
355
359
on the string
on the string
362
8va
ff
P


365
370
375
380
fff
f
fp
8va
8vb


386
sul A
ff
f
8va
mf
8vb
Ped. for legato
391
mf
p
(8va)
f
397
♩ = ca. 72
mf
p
♩ = ca. 72
mf
f
P
3
♩ = 84
403
sul D and A
pp
pp subito
♩ = 84
P
una corda


410
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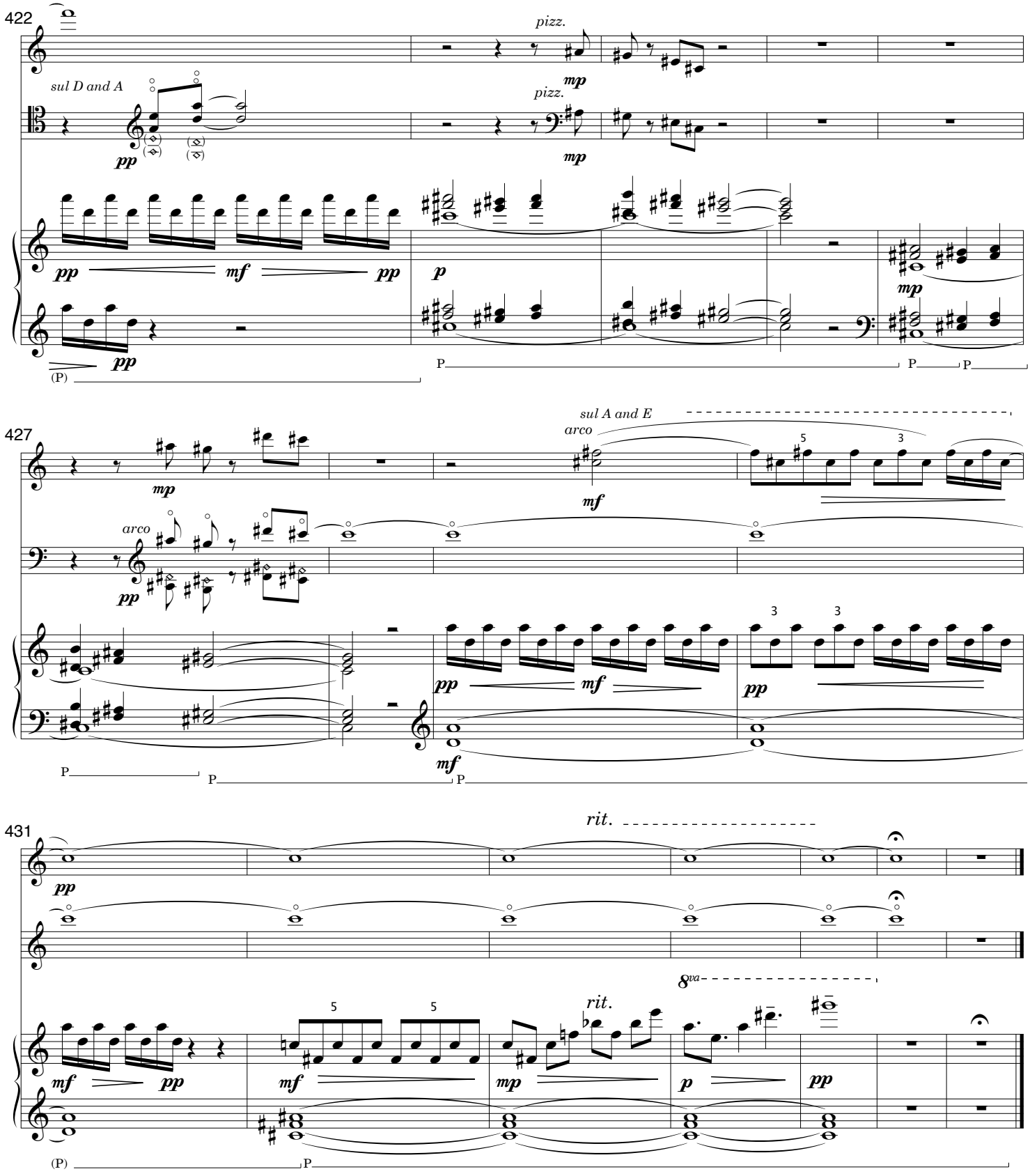

Bloomington, IN
July 13, 2010