Score

James M. Stephenson

Scenes from New England

for Trombone, Percussion and Piano

Chamber Music

www.stephensonmusic.com

Scenes from New England - Program Notes

for Trombone, Percussion and Piano

What fun it was to write this piece!

My old New England Conservatory colleague (I'm to the point where I don't mention graduation years anymore!), Dave Begnoche, contacted me in late 2007 with an idea to compose a brand new piece for him, his brother and his wife; the instrumentation being trombone, percussion and piano. It is always intriguing for me to write for unusual combinations, and this piqued my curiosity immediately.

Shortly thereafter, Dave sent me some sketched thoughts about potential figurative ideas for the various movements. The main ingredient connecting all of us, he said, was our New England ties. He insisted that I was free to compose whatever I wanted, but I found his suggestions inspiring, and took it from there. The six movements are:

I. Mystic, CT (*trio*)
2. Lenox, MA (*trombone & piano*)
3. *Chin Music (*trombone & percussion, + opt. Piano*)
4. Watch Hill, RI - "Winter" (*percussion & piano*)
5. Quick-Step and Blues (*trio*)
6. *Concord Hymn (*trombone & percussion*)

The first movement, entitled "Mystic, CT," opens with an unresolved rocking motif, suggesting life before Dave and Elvia met. Many motifs are put forward to be used later throughout the movement, and entire piece. The tense rocking eventually gives way to a more tonal setting, where the trombone/piano join in their mutual 'love' theme. Finally a scherzo ensues, where the percussion gets the tune, loosely based on "We Gather Together" - a well-known Thanksgiving Hymn, which symbolizes the time when they all met. All themes merge together and drive forward toward the end of the movement.

Movements 2-4 are all shorter, sandwiched between the two more substantial outer movements. "Lenox, MA" was inspired Dave & Elvia's time at Tanglewood; I chose not to write a "love-theme," but rather to draw on a thunderstorm-accompanied Mahler 3 they heard together. "Chin Music" stems from the brother Begnoches' love of the Red Sox, and two Latino pitchers in particular (Luis Tiant and Pedro Martinez). Hidden in the middle of the movement is a quote from the Boston Americans' (the early 1900s Red Sox) theme song. "Watch Hill, RI" depicts a winter beach scene that Dave explained can be 'eerie but stunning'. I also wanted to highlight the set of crotales Steve Begnoche had been given by composer John LaMontaine.

The fifth movement is the only departure I took from Dave's suggestions. I felt the need to write a rollicking addition to these scenes from New England. The motifs, as is often the case with my style, are mostly borrowed from earlier material. While the blues-y mid-section isn't necessarily vintage "New-England" - I simply wanted to give them a chance to sit back a little before the frenetic conclusion.

The last movement is a variation on the famous "Concord Hymn". The spoken text is optional.

Jim Stephenson, Composer; November, 2008 www.stephensonmusic.com

Cover Photo ©Mark S. Cox. www.ettustudio2.com

*Concord Hymn, added later, can be switched with #3, which can become an encore, if desired.

Though the piece is certainly dedicated to David, Elvia & Steve Begnoche, I think it's worth adding a dedication to Matteo Donald Begnoche (son to Dave & Elvia), who was born almost exactly as I was putting the final notes on the last pages of this new work.

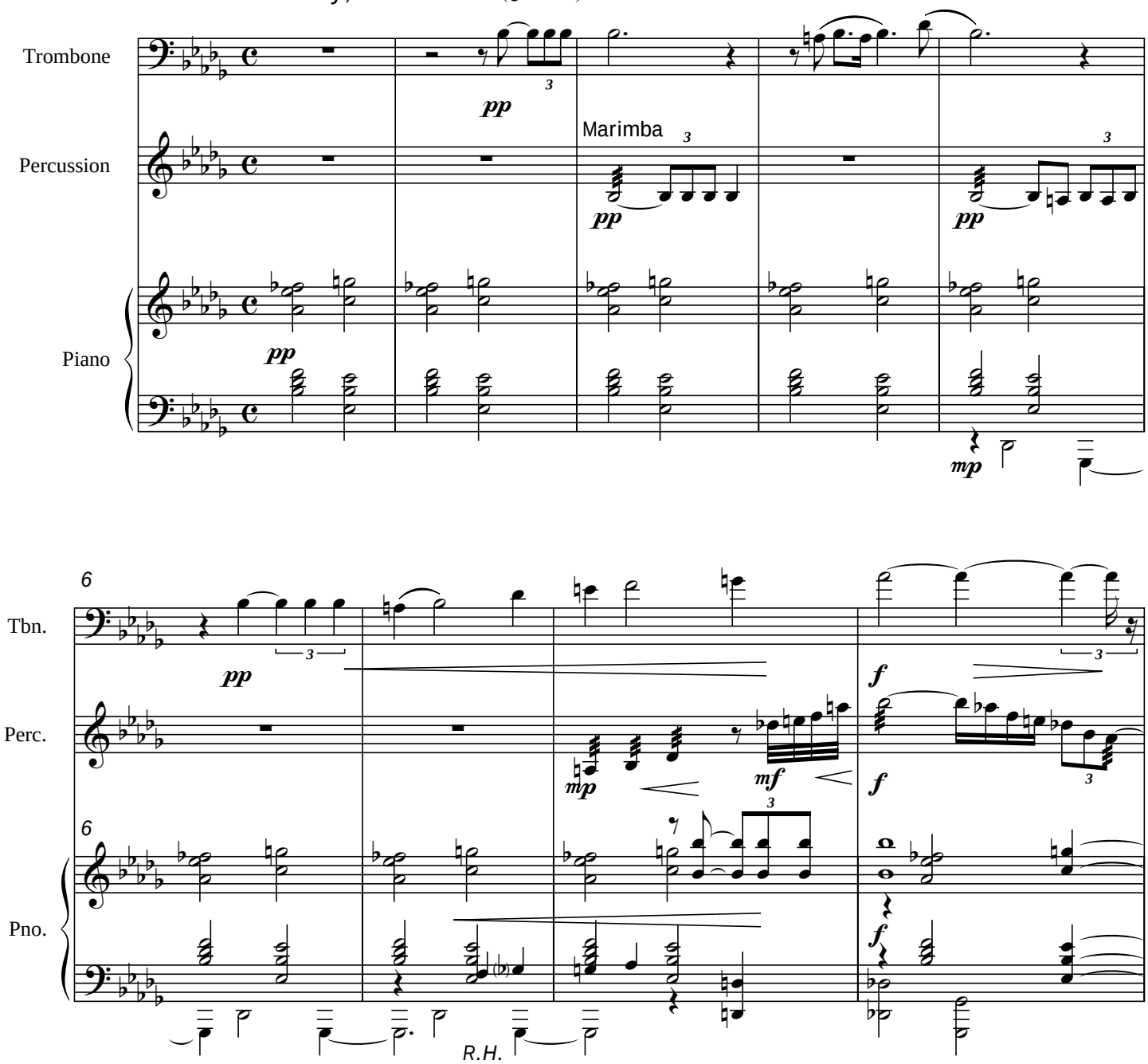
Score

for David Begnoche, Elvia Puccinelli and Steve Begnoche

Scenes from New England

I.
Mystic, CT

James M. Stephenson
2008



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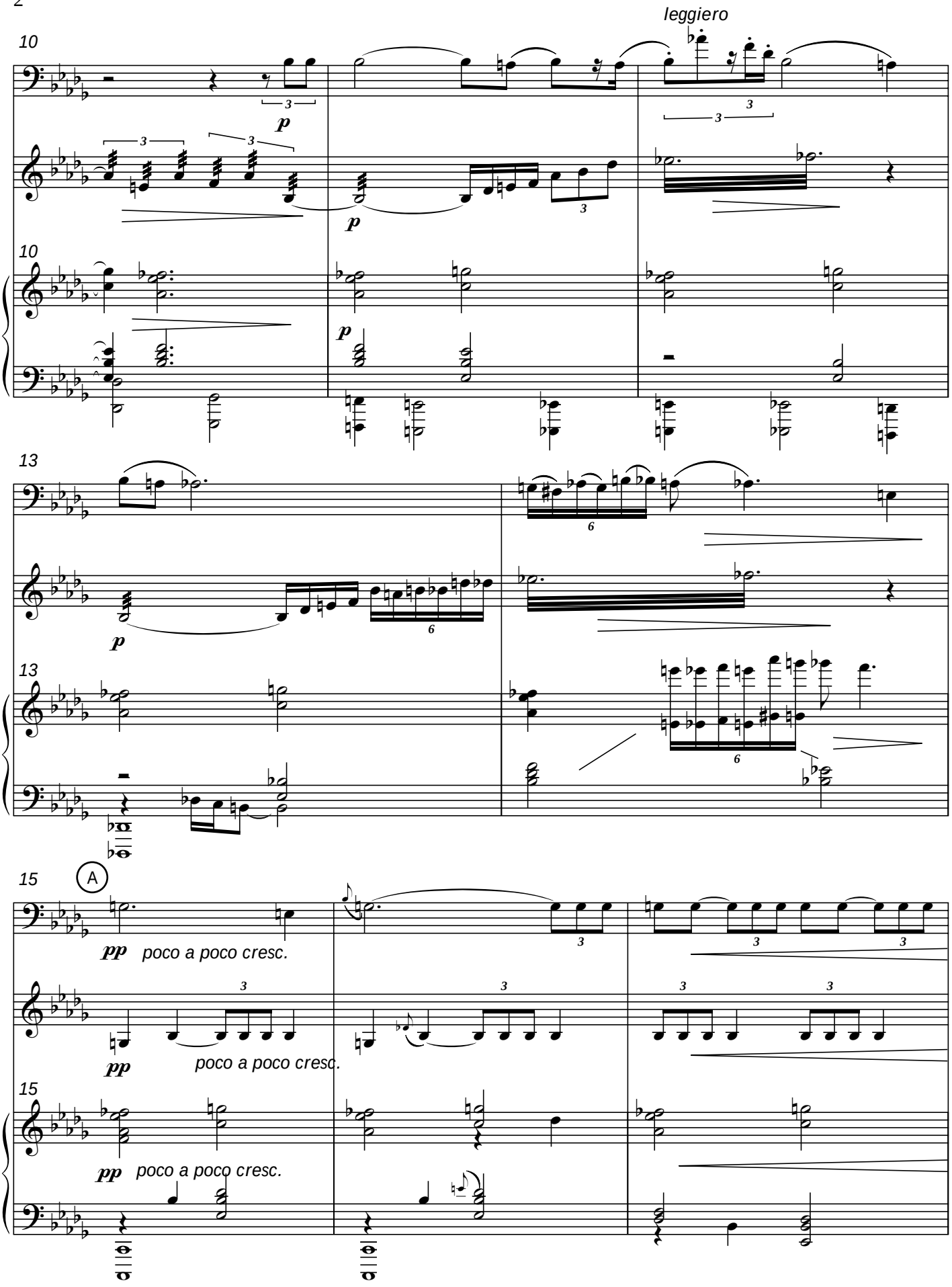
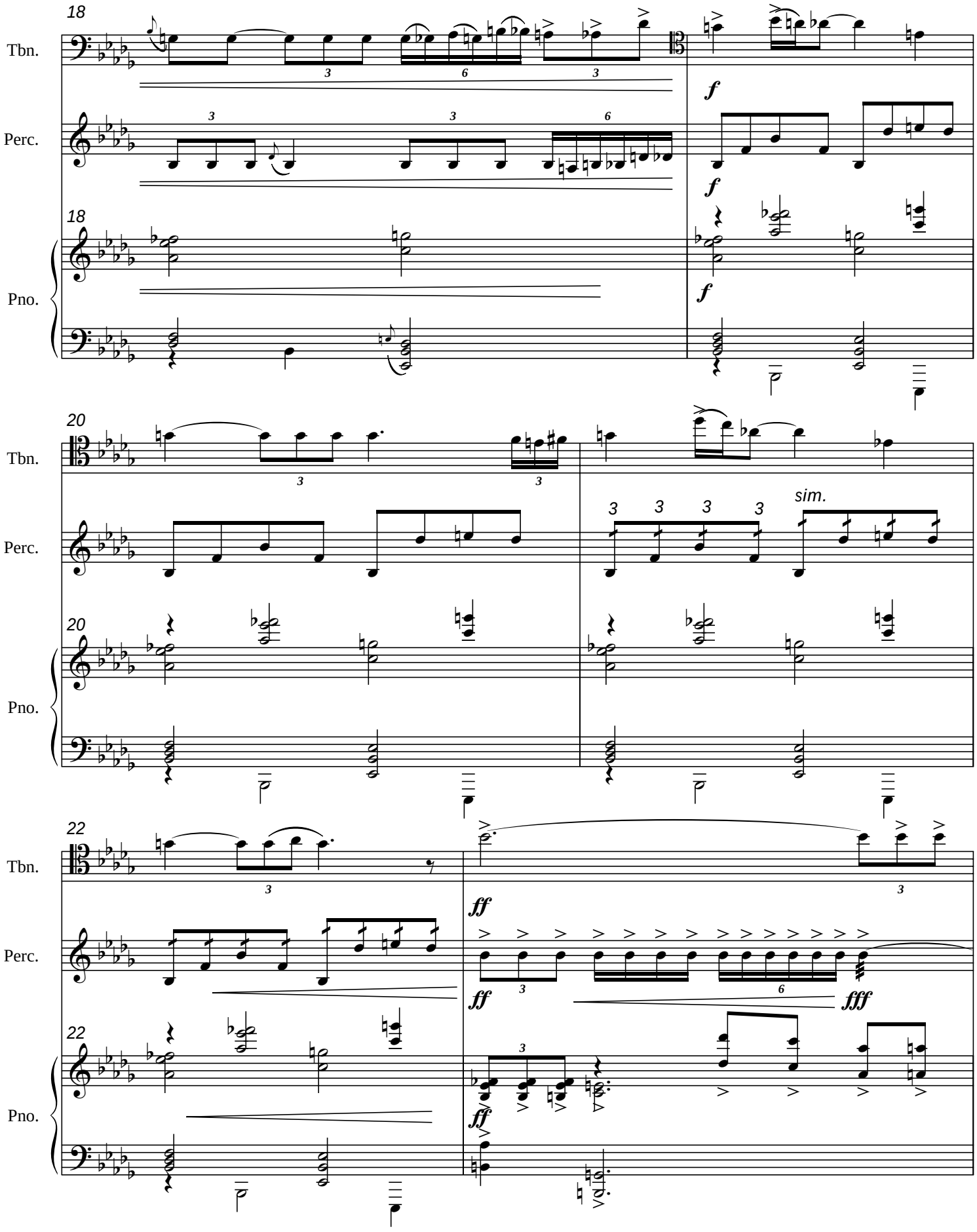
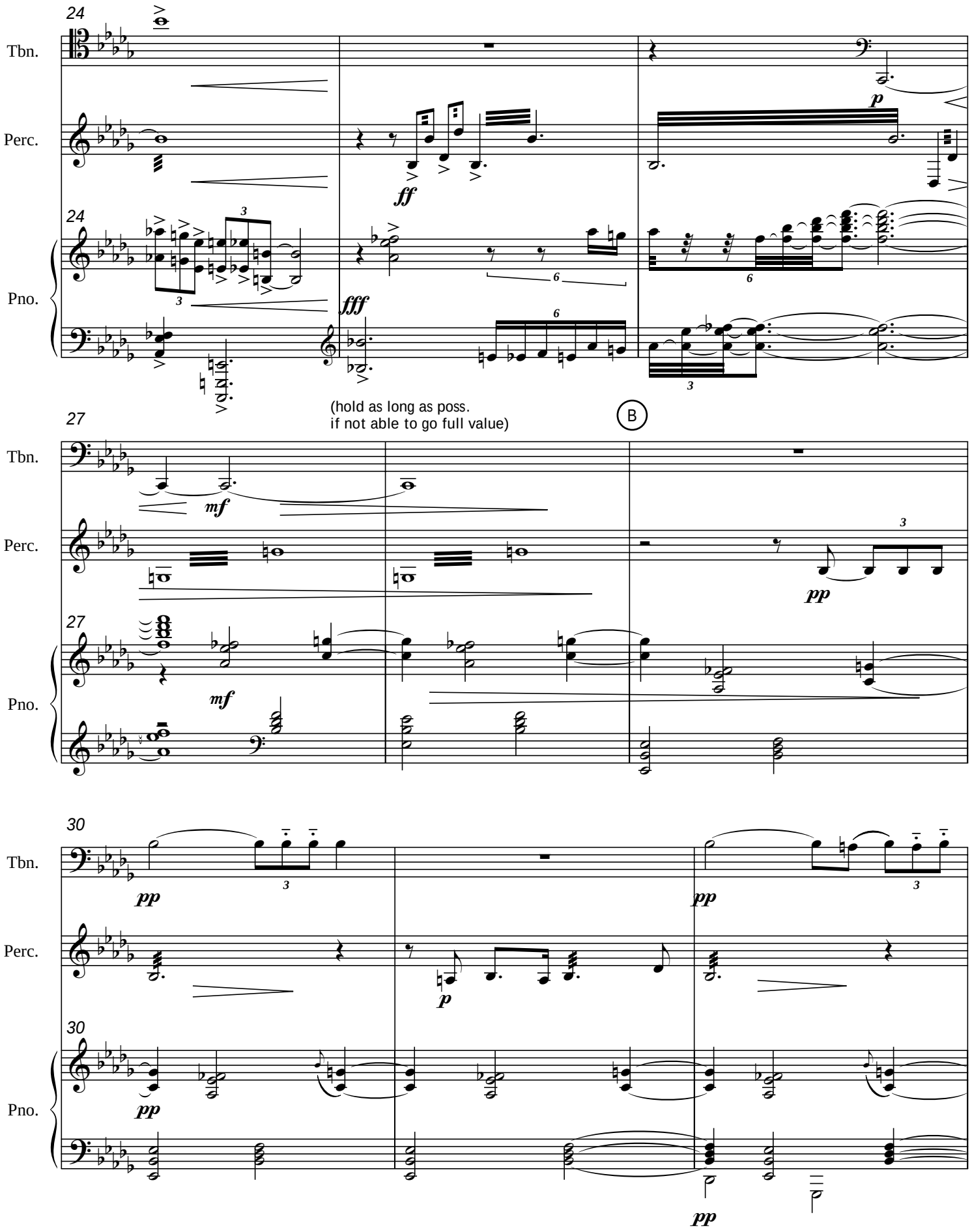
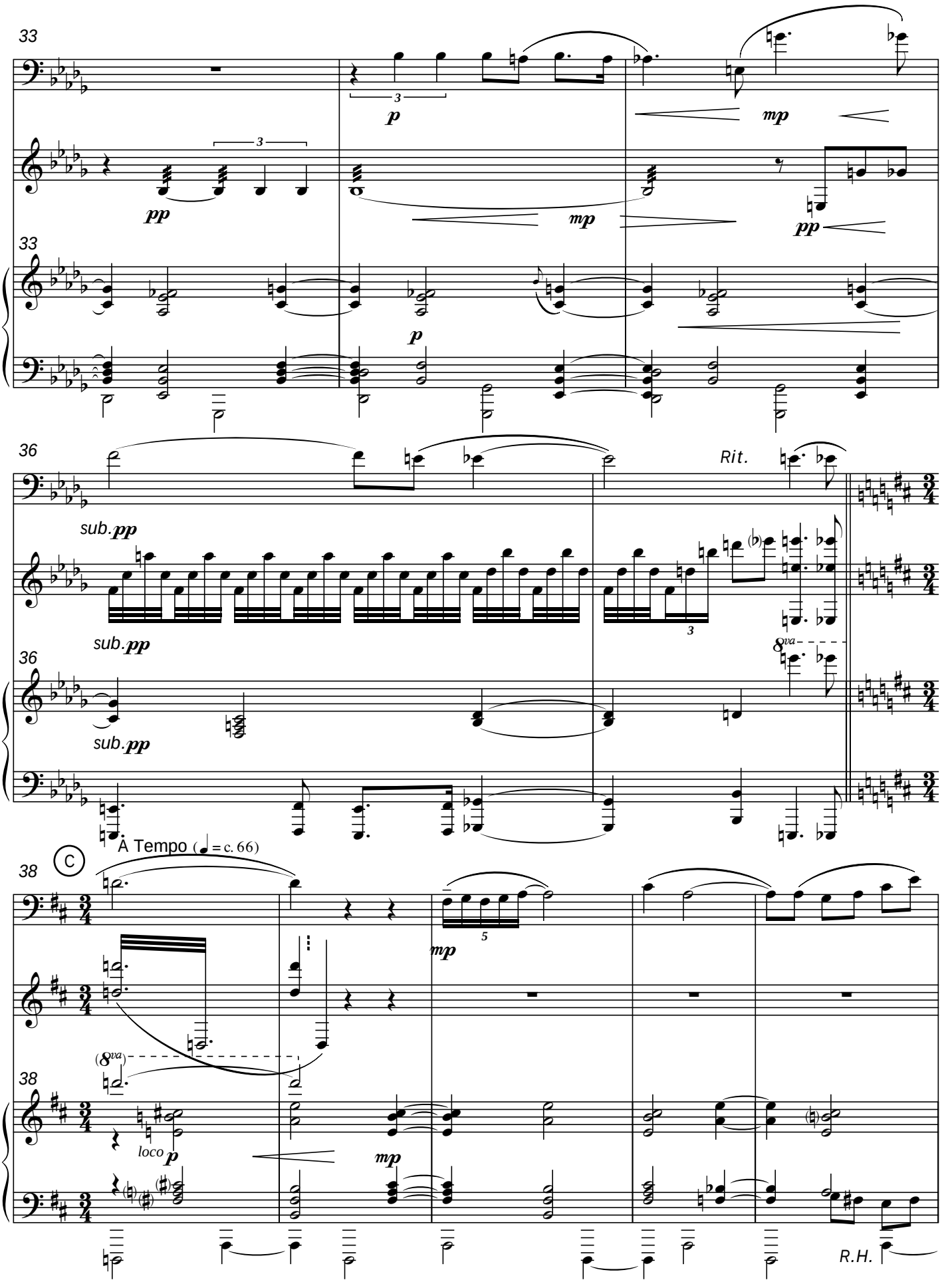
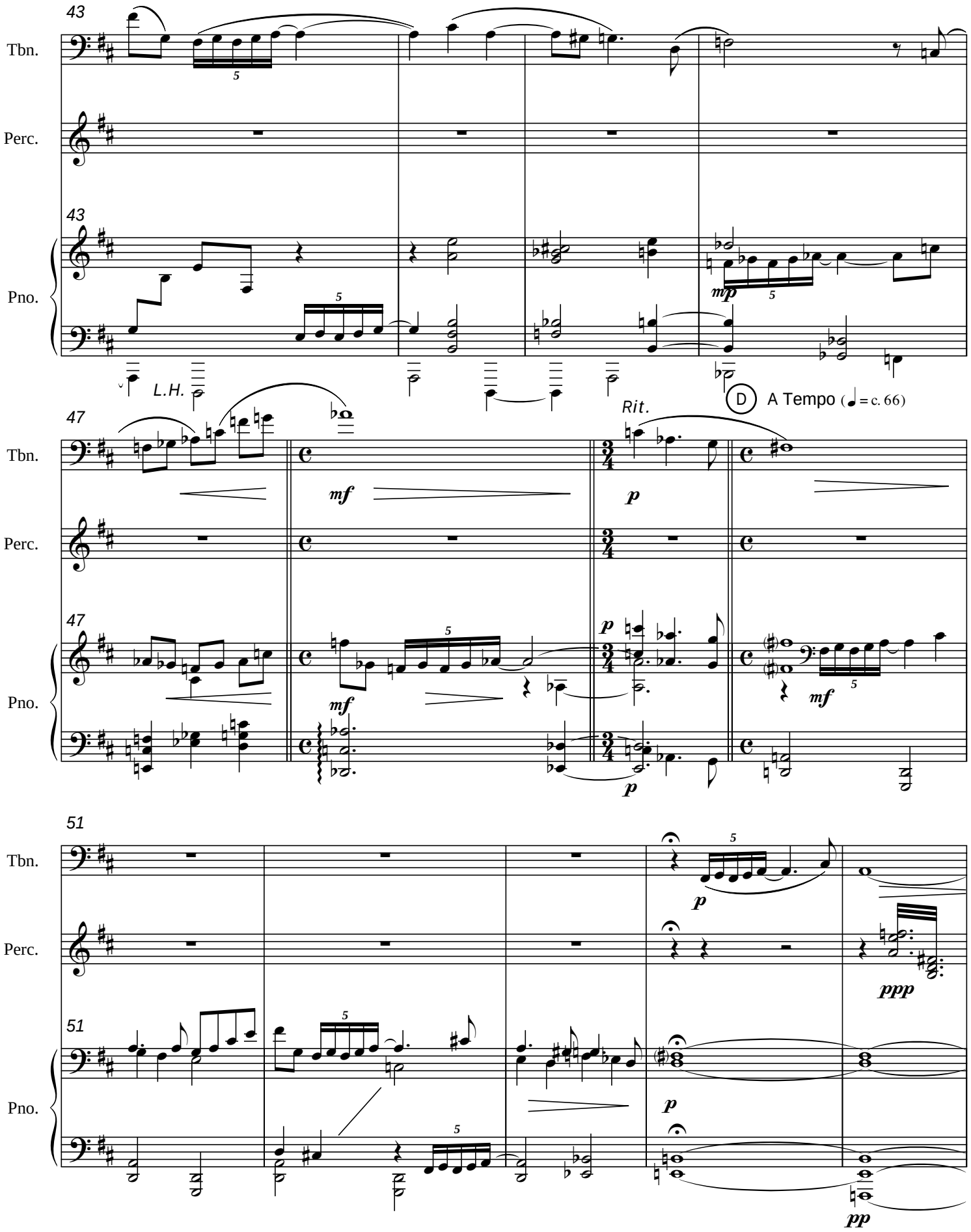
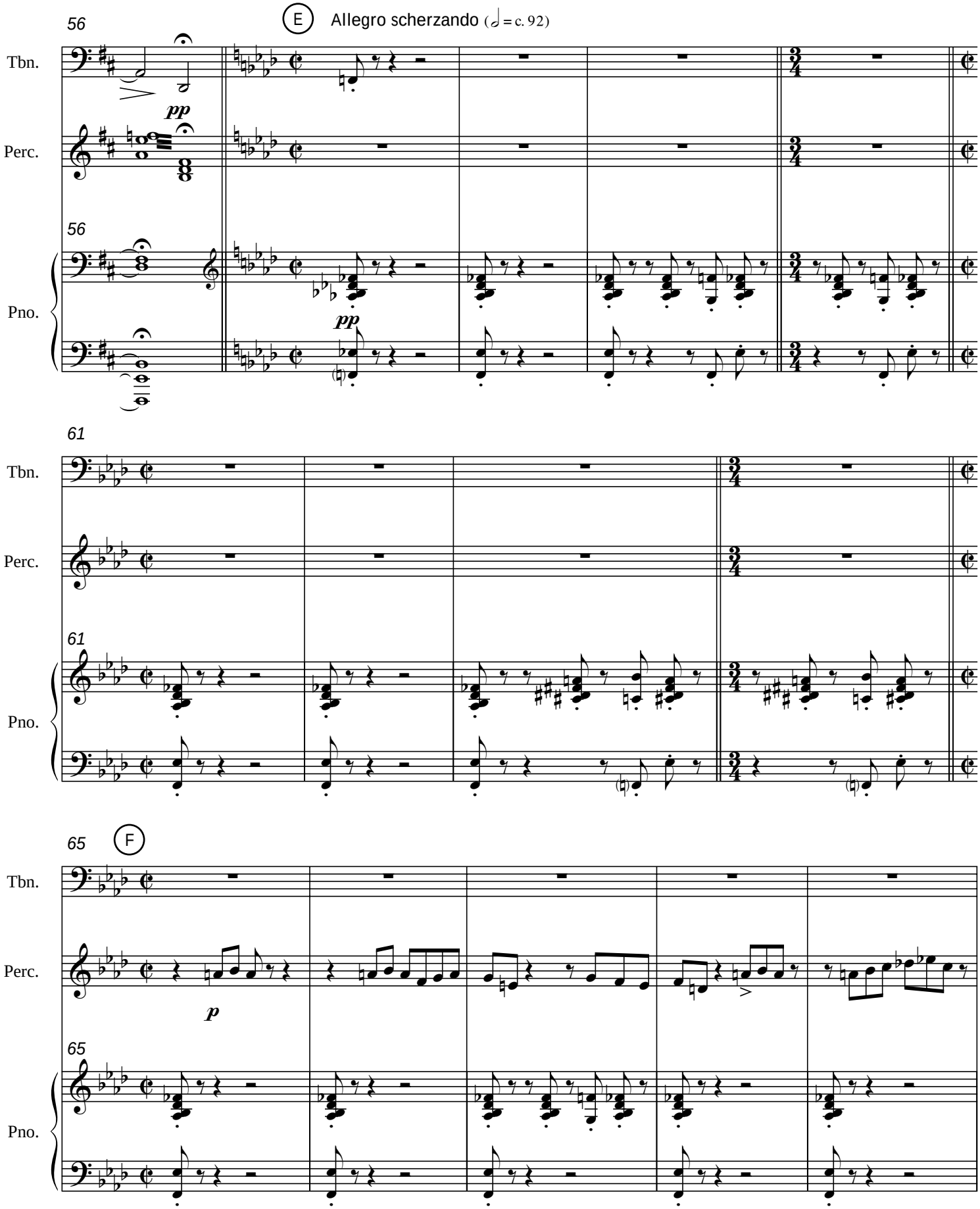

leggiero
10
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
p
13
6
A
15
pp
poco a poco cresc.

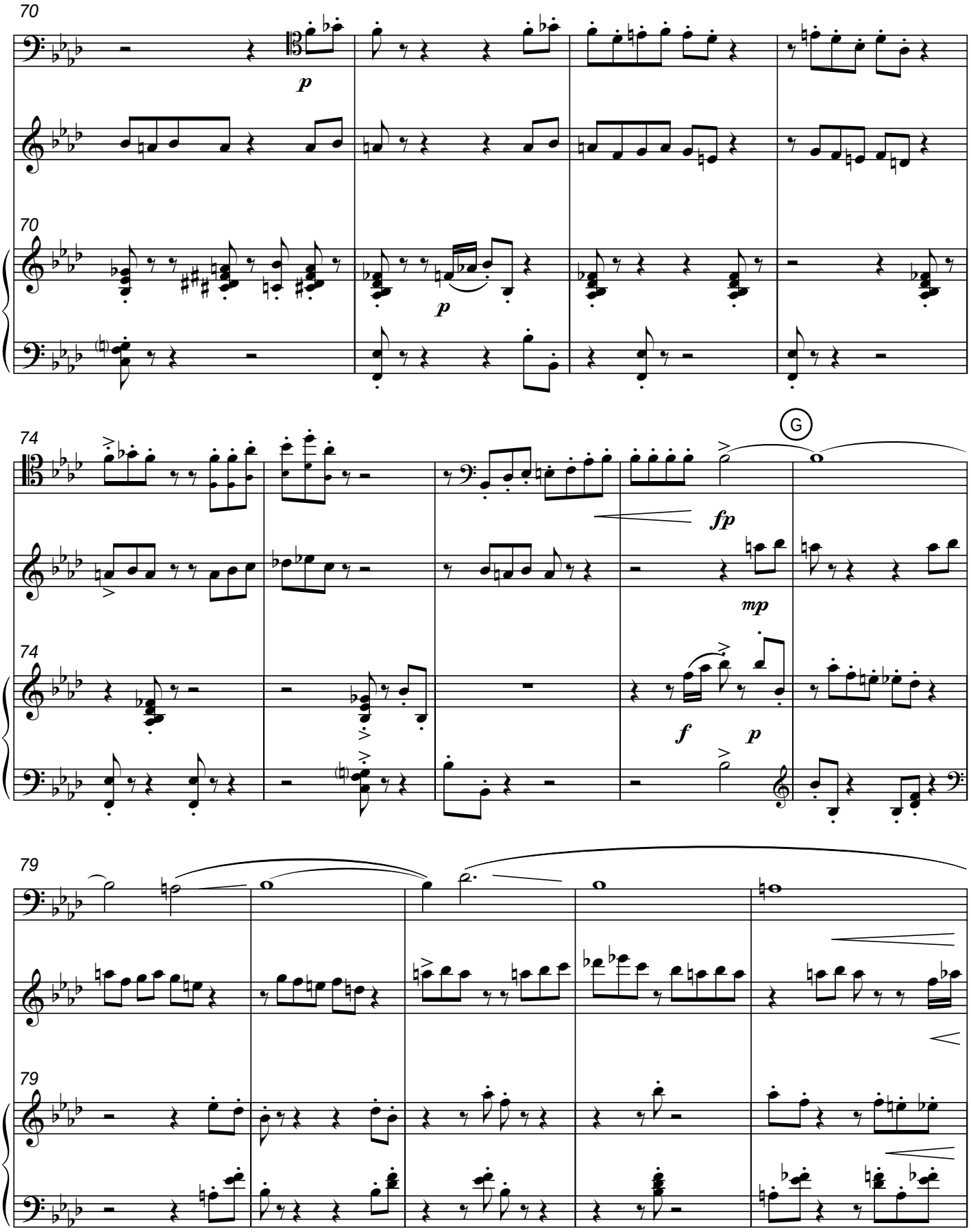

18
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
f
20
sim.
22
ff
fff

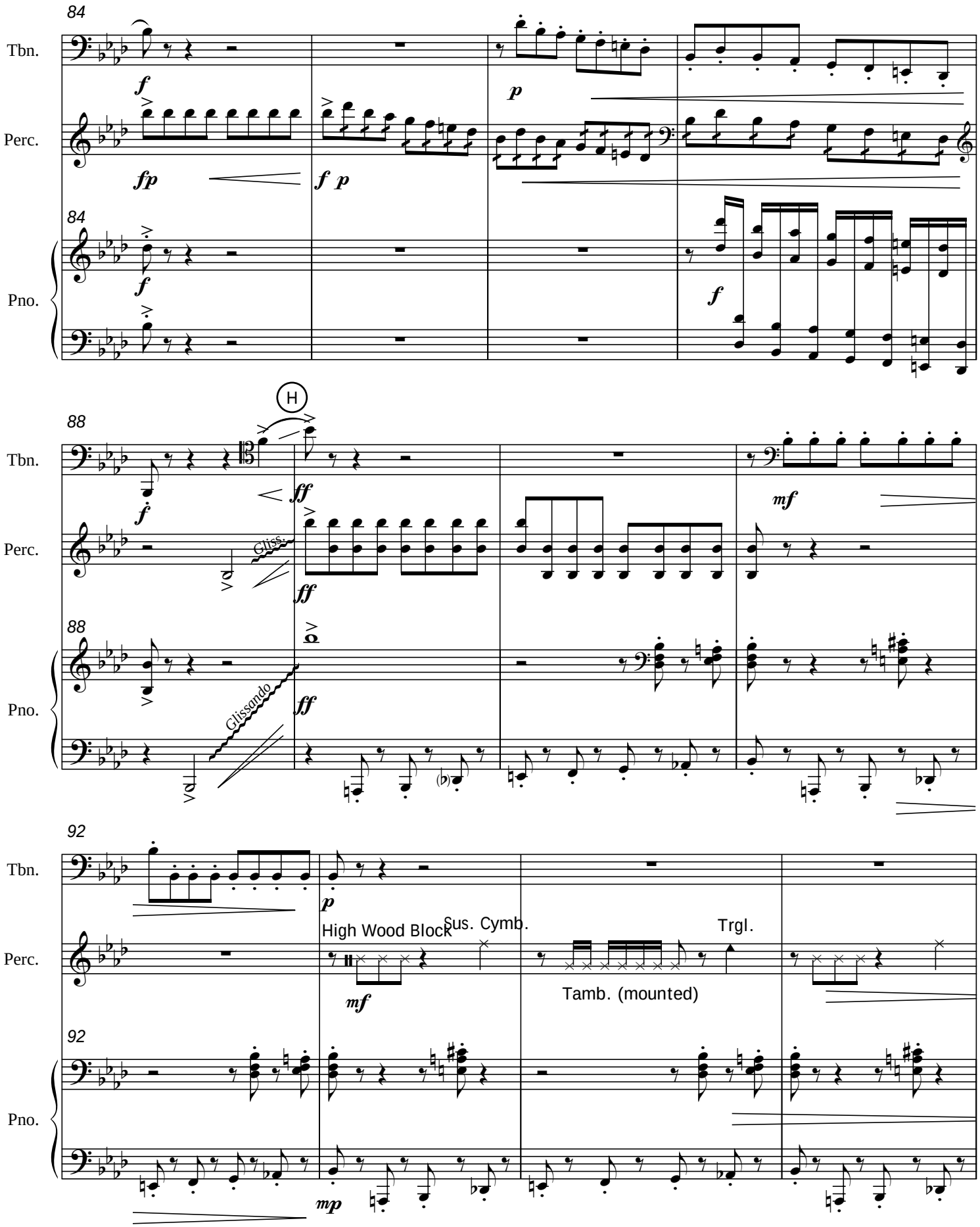

24
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
ff
fff
p
(hold as long as poss.
if not able to go full value)
B
27
mf
pp
30
pp

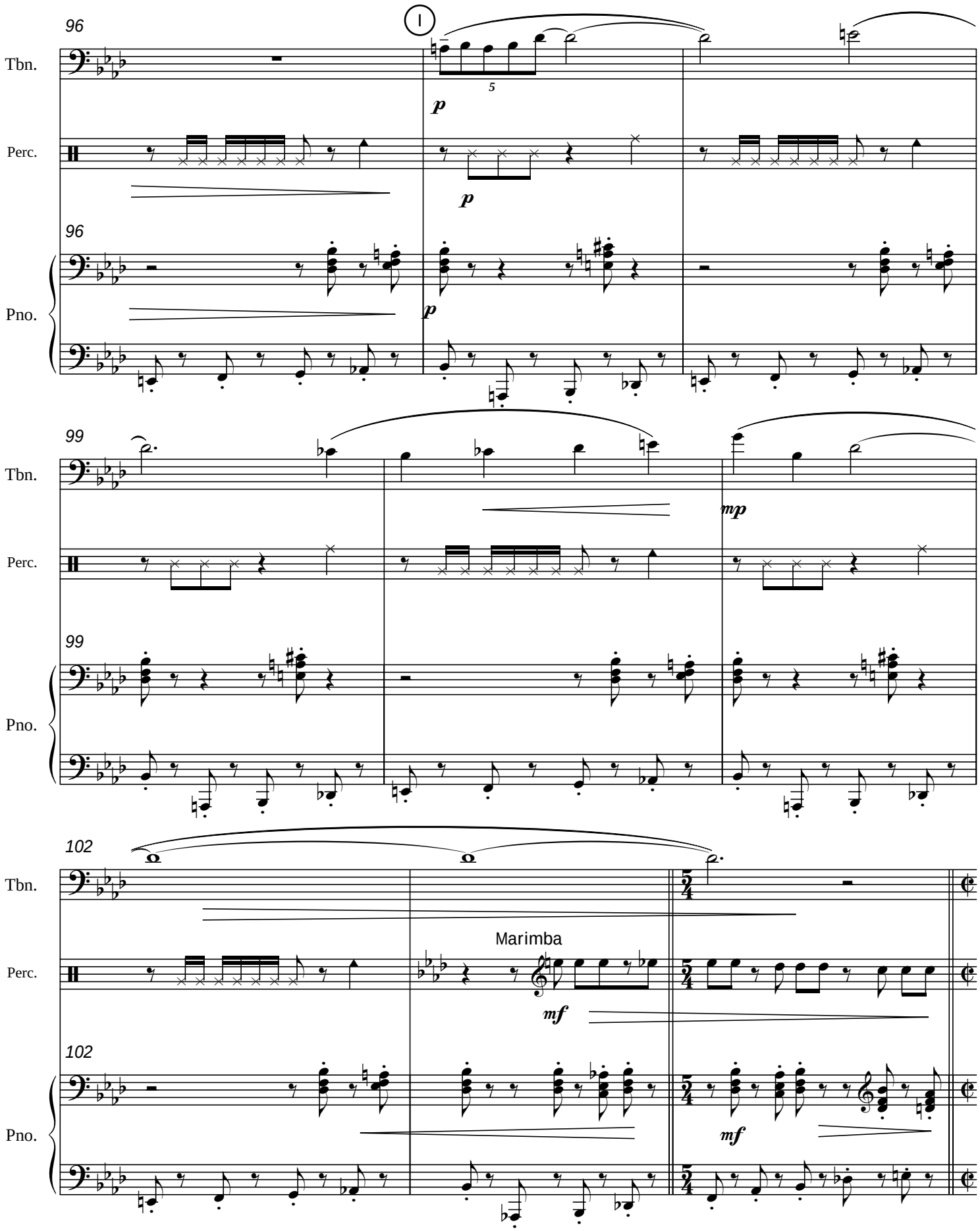

33
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
p
mp
pp
Rit.
sub. pp
36
A Tempo (♩= c. 66)
C
38
loco
R.H.

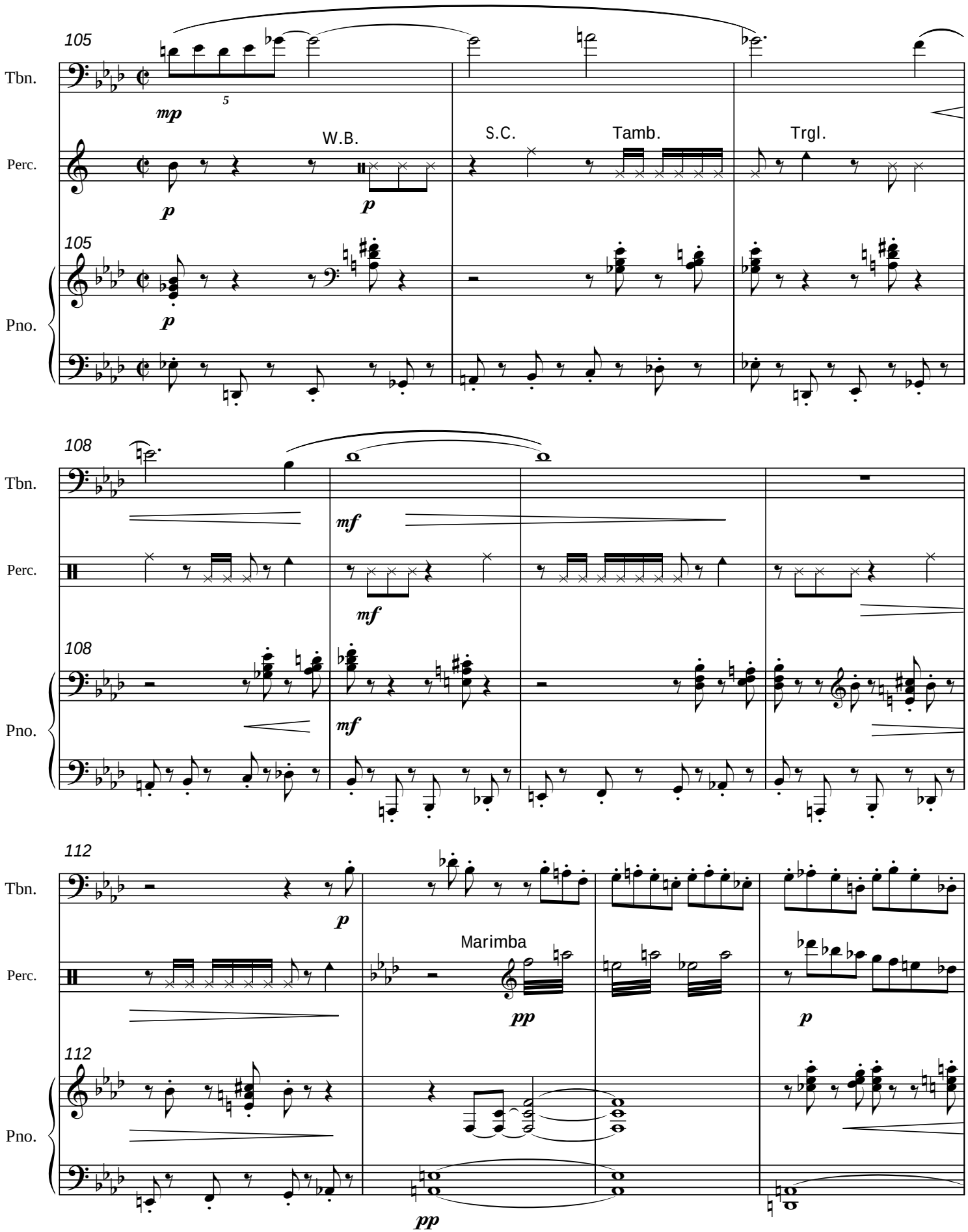

43
Tbn.
Perc.
43
Pno.
mp
L.H.
D
A Tempo (♩ = c. 66)
47
Tbn.
mf
Rit.
p
Perc.
47
Pno.
mf
p
mf
51
Tbn.
p
Perc.
ppp
51
Pno.
p
pp

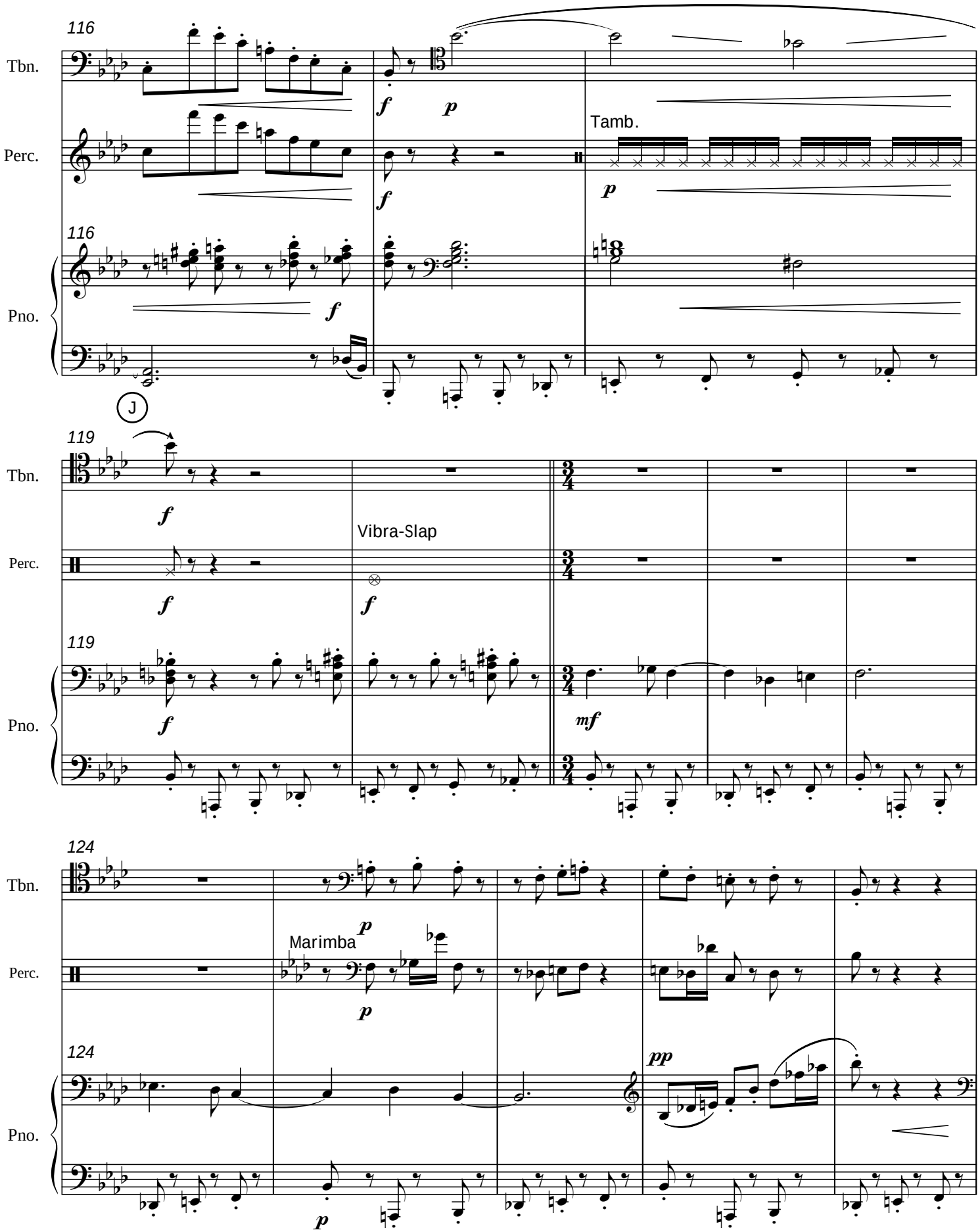

56
E
Allegro scherzando (𝅗𝅥 = c. 92)
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
pp
pp
61
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
61
65
F
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
65
p

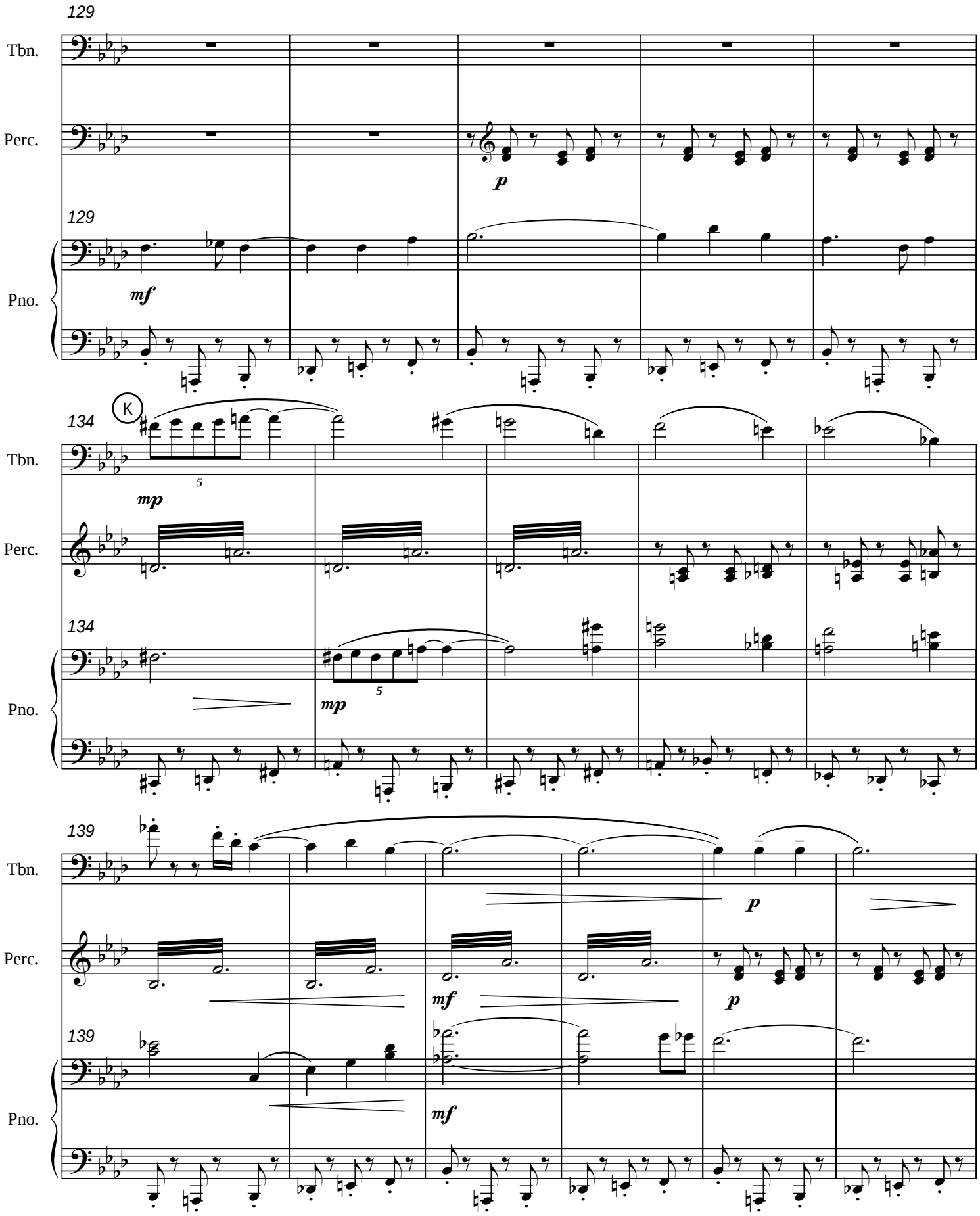

70
Tbn.
p
Perc.
70
Pno.
p
74
Tbn.
G
fp
Perc.
mp
74
Pno.
f
p
79
Tbn.
Perc.
79
Pno.

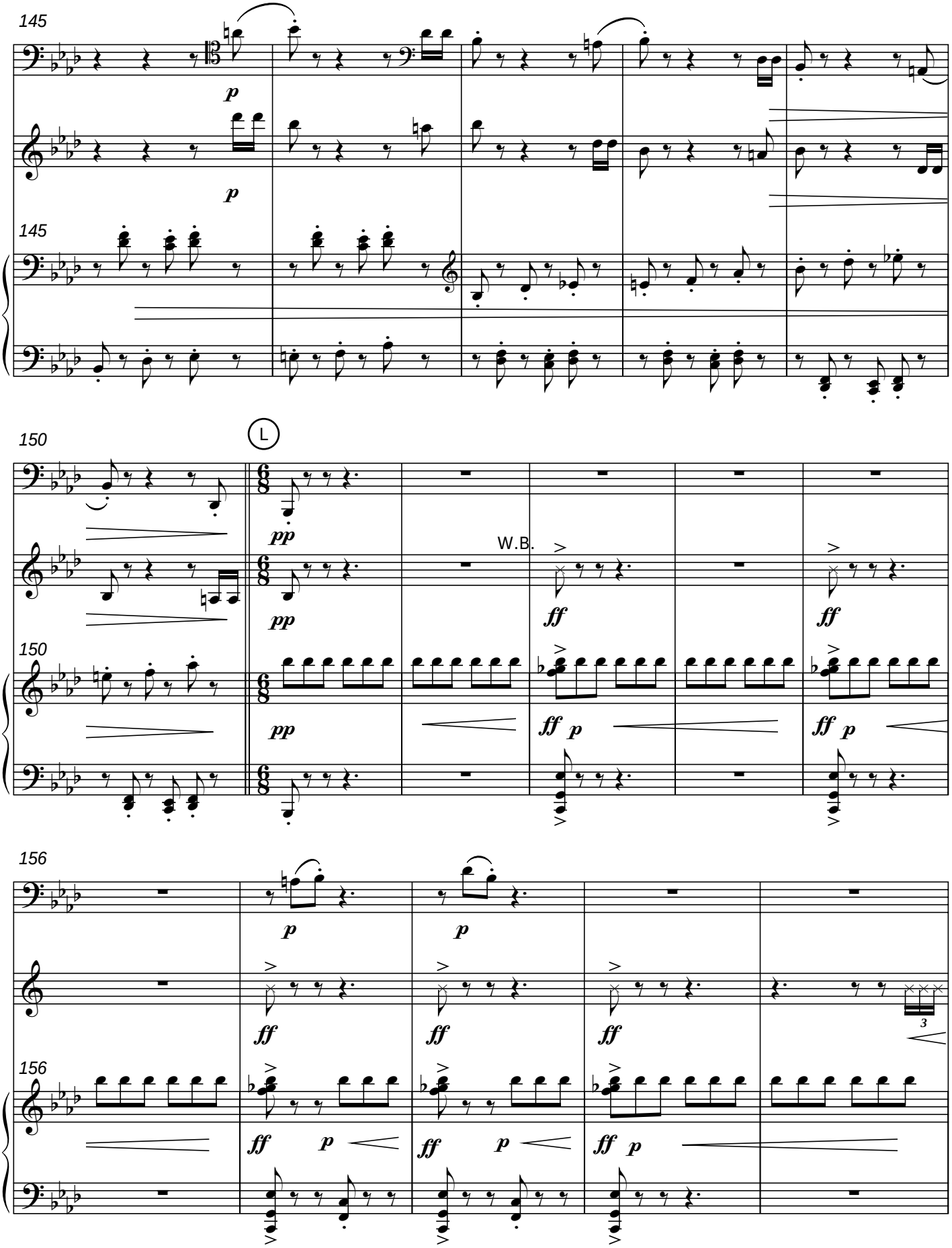

84
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
f
fp
f p
p
f
84
88
H
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
ff
Gliss.
Glissando
mf
88
92
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
p
High Wood Block
Sus. Cymb.
Trgl.
mf
Tamb. (mounted)
92
mp

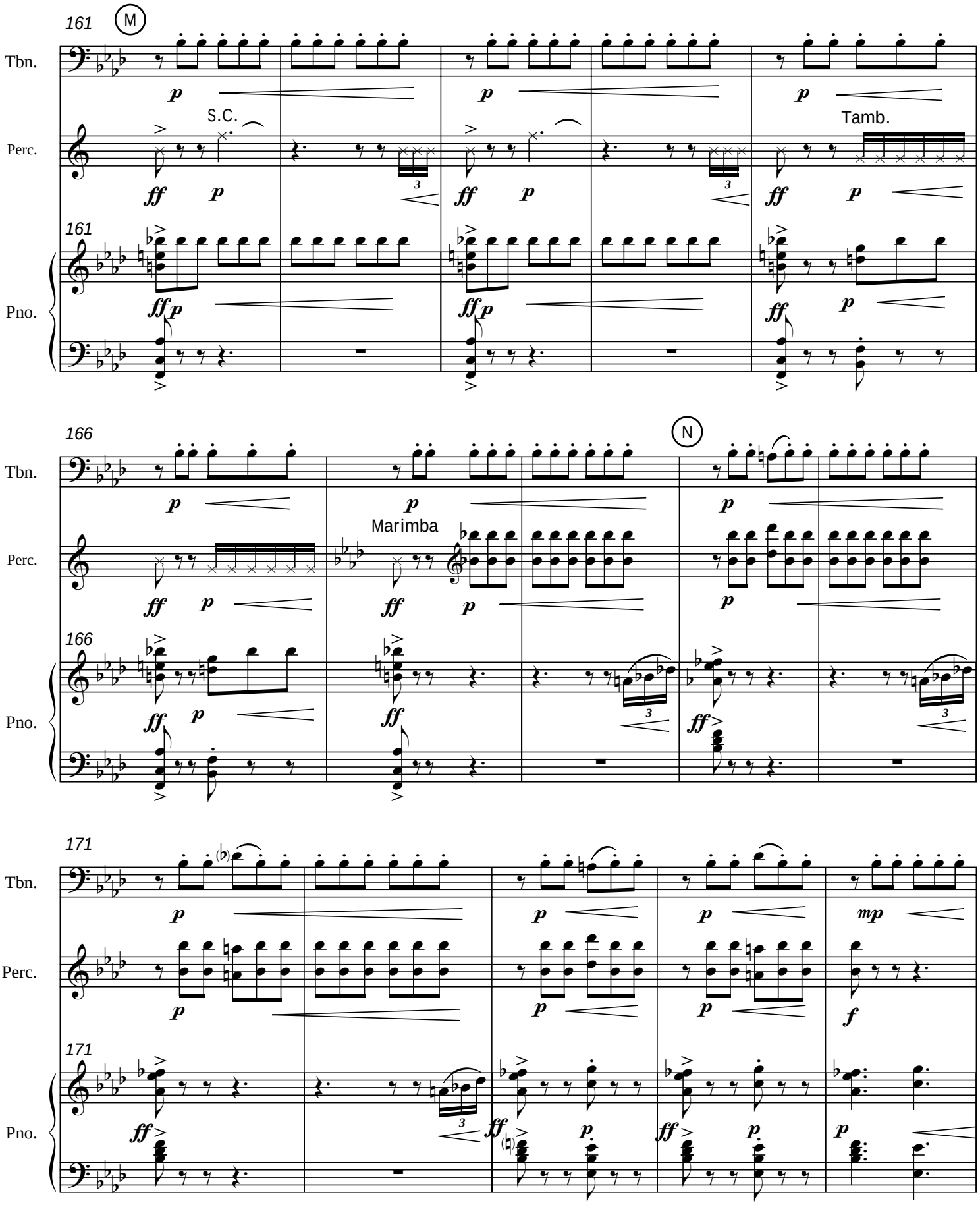

96
I
Tbn.
5
p
Perc.
p
96
Pno.
p
99
Tbn.
mp
Perc.
99
Pno.
102
Tbn.
Marimba
Perc.
mf
102
Pno.
mf

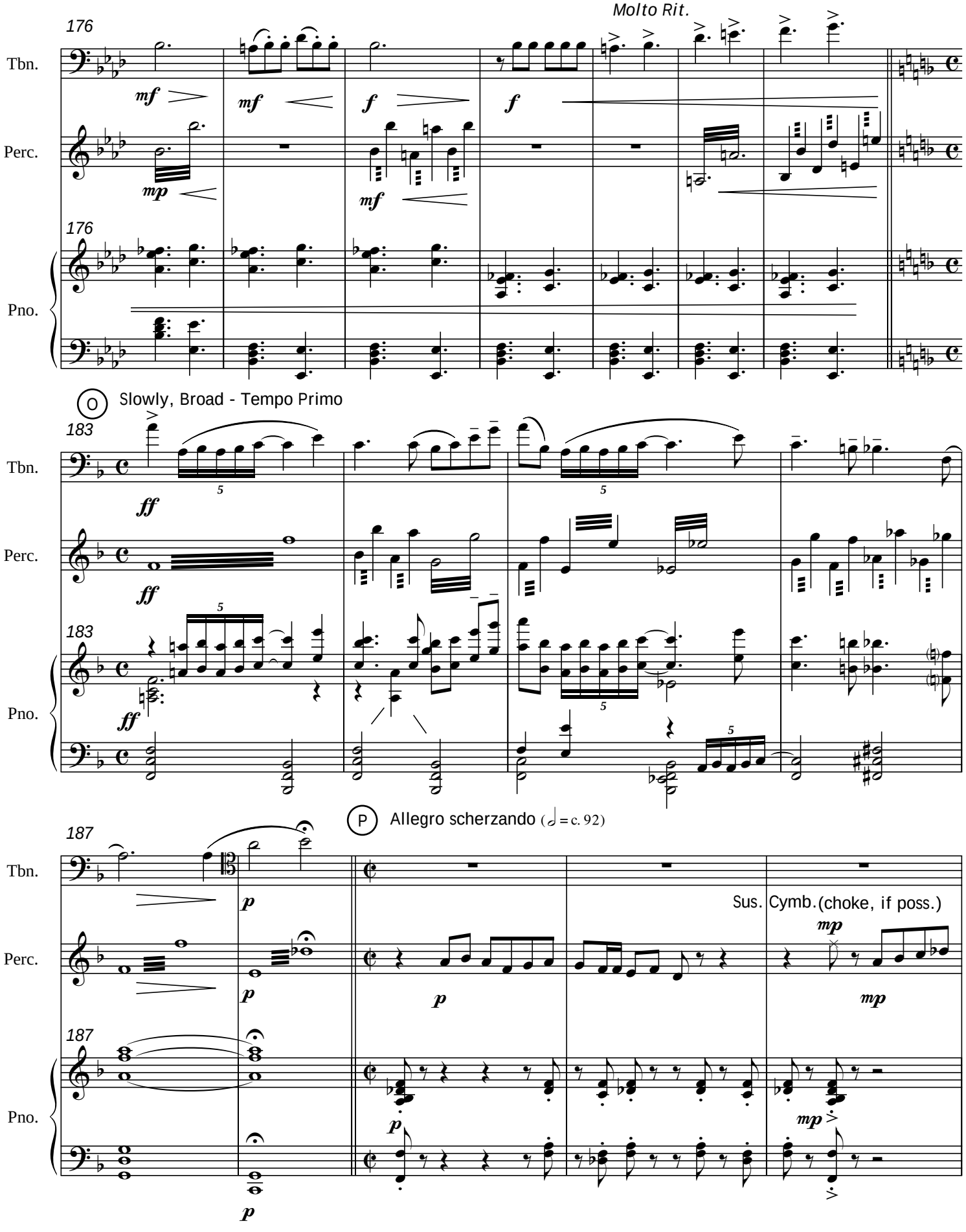

105
Tbn.
mp
5
Perc.
W.B.
S.C.
Tamb.
Trgl.
p
p
105
Pno.
p
108
Tbn.
mf
Perc.
mf
108
Pno.
mf
112
Tbn.
p
Perc.
Marimba
pp
p
112
Pno.
pp

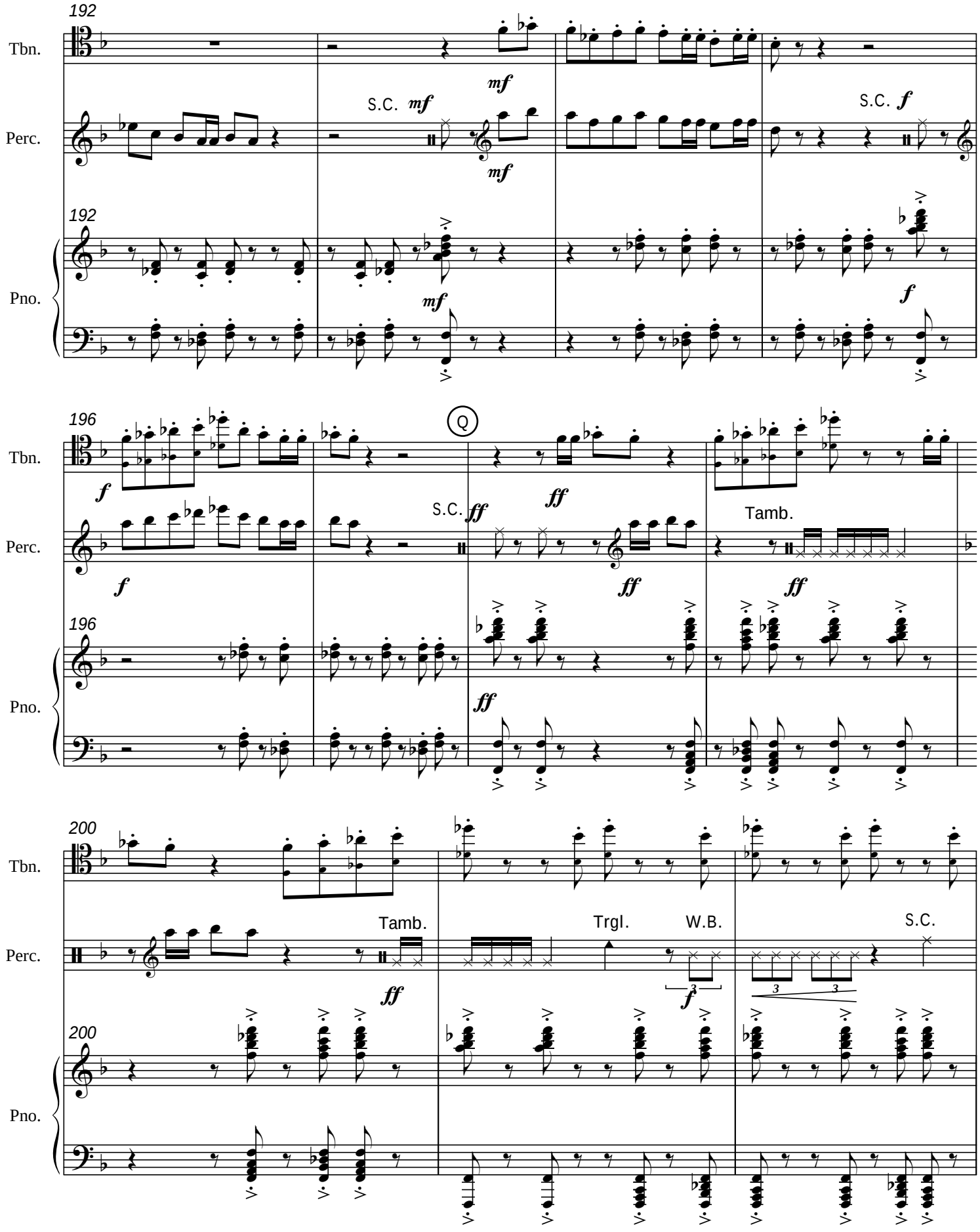

116
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
Tamb.
J
119
Vibra-Slap
124
Marimba

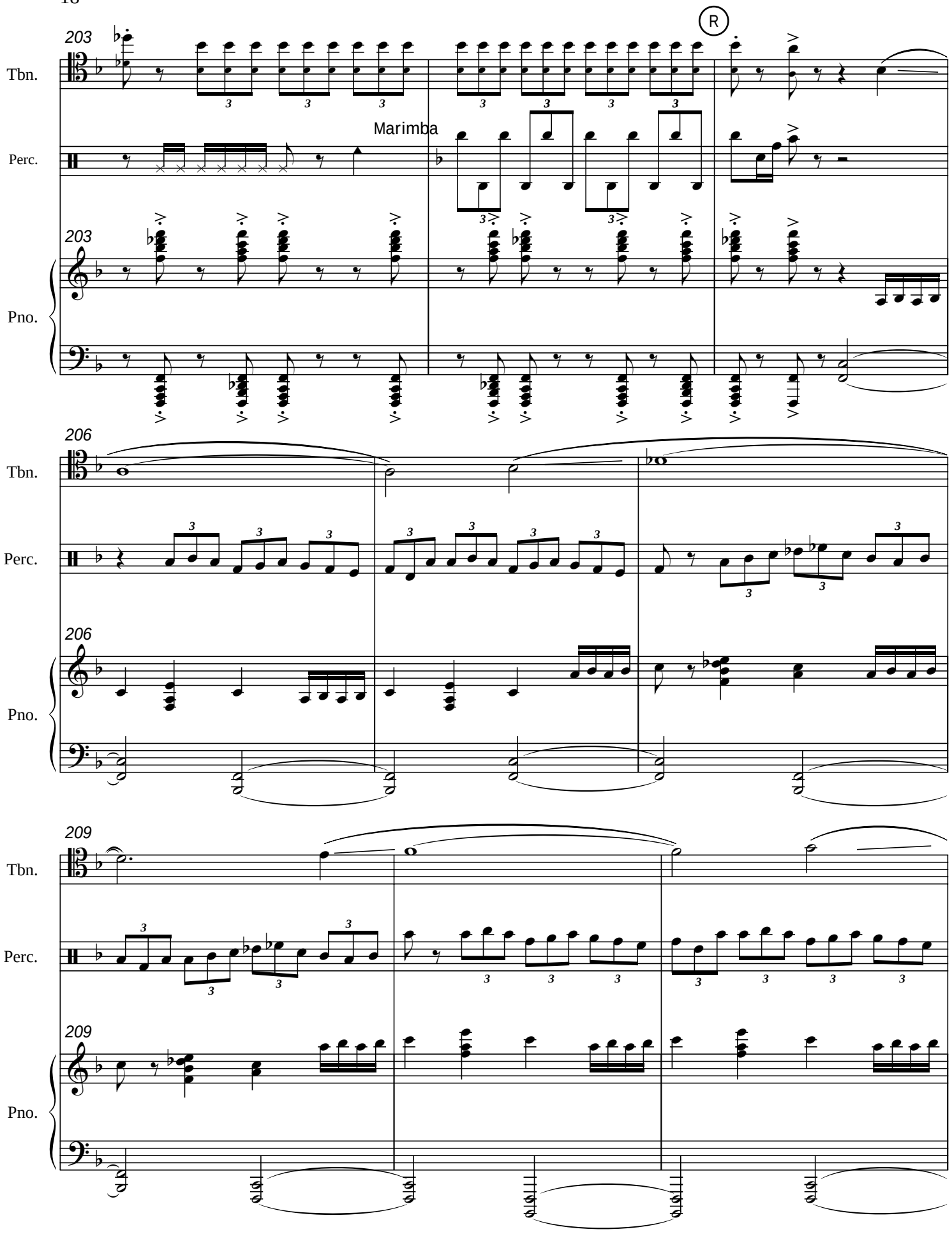

129
Tbn.
Perc.
p
129
Pno.
mf
K
134
Tbn.
5
mp
Perc.
134
Pno.
5
mp
139
Tbn.
p
Perc.
mf
p
139
Pno.
mf

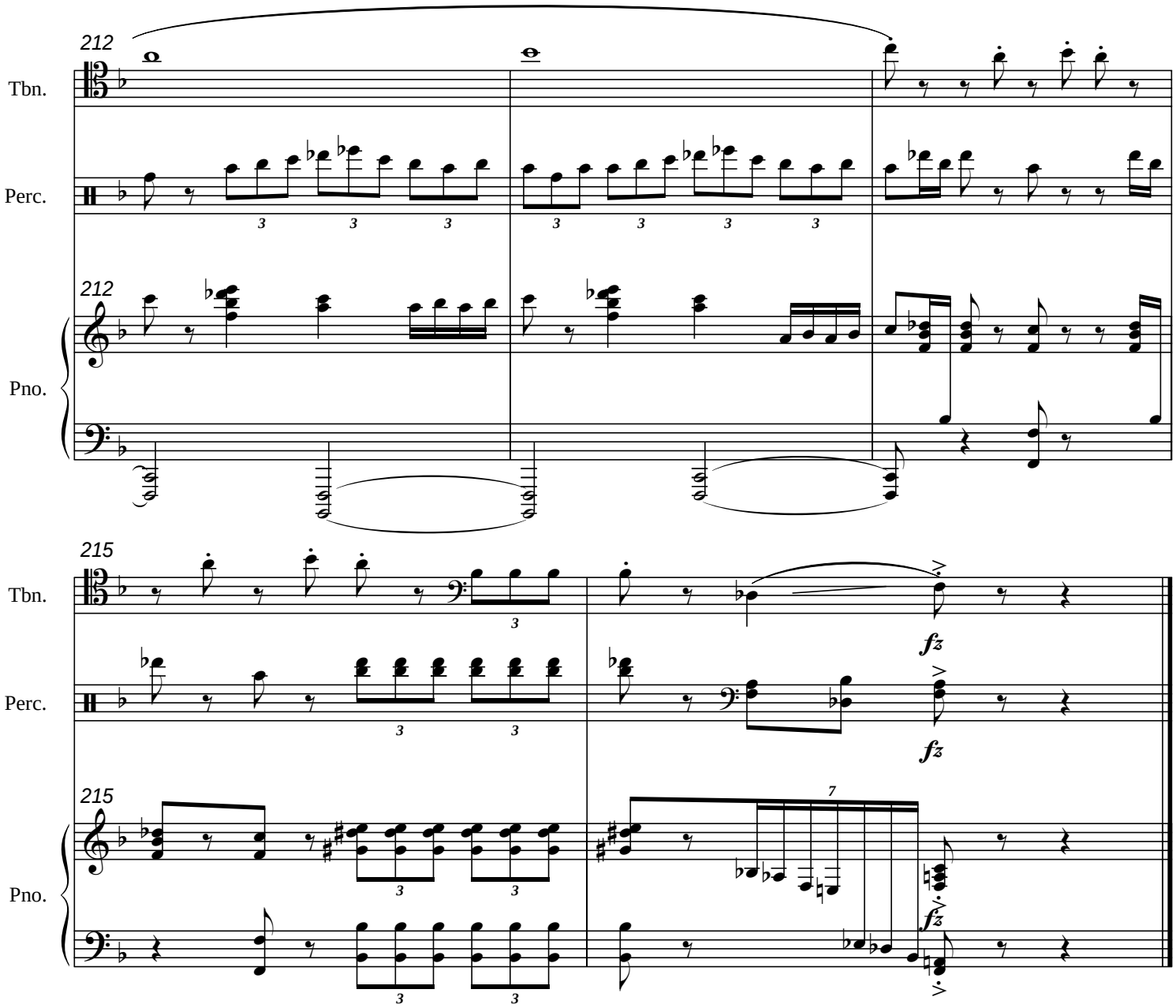

145
Tbn.
p
Perc.
p
145
Pno.
150
L
Tbn.
pp
Perc.
pp
W.B.
ff
ff
150
Pno.
pp
ff p
ff p
156
Tbn.
p
p
Perc.
ff
ff
ff
3
156
Pno.
ff p
ff p
ff p


161
M
Tbn.
Perc.
S.C.
Tamb.
Pno.
166
N
Marimba
171
mp

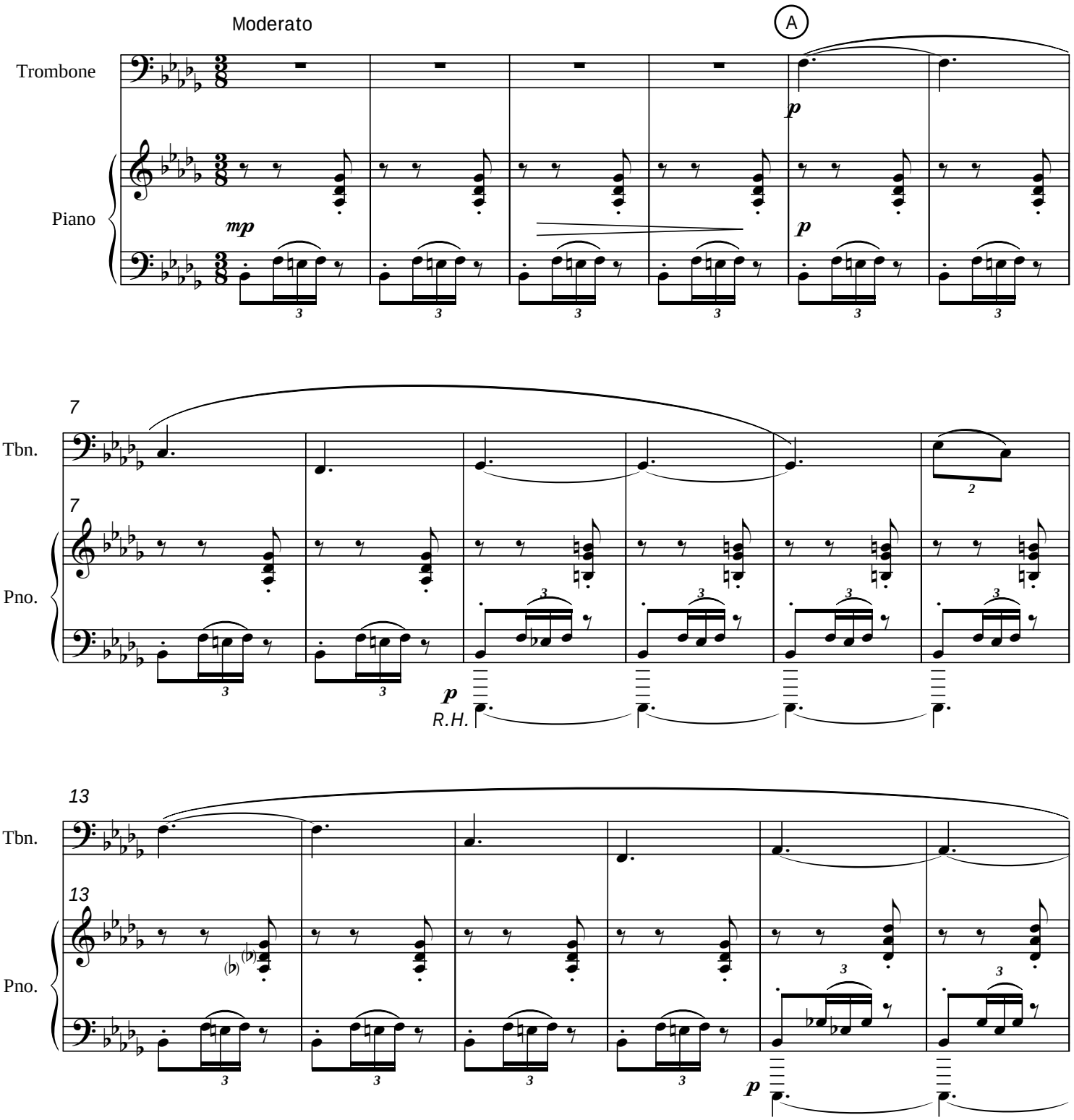

Molto Rit.
176
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
mf
f
mp
O Slowly, Broad - Tempo Primo
183
ff
P Allegro scherzando (𝅗𝅥 = c. 92)
187
p
Sus. Cymb. (choke, if poss.)
mp

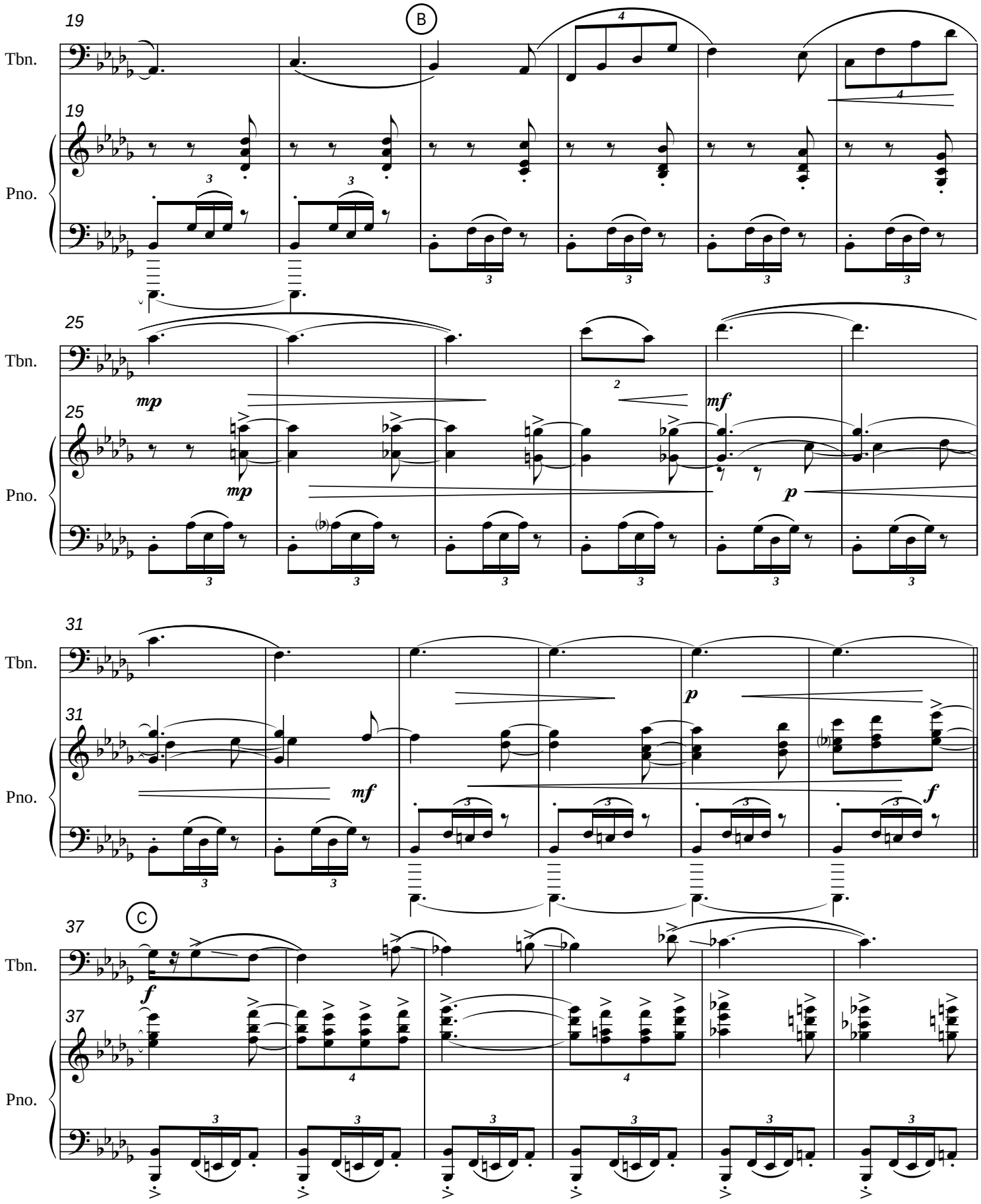

192
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
S.C.
mf
f
196
Q
ff
Tamb.
200
Trgl.
W.B.

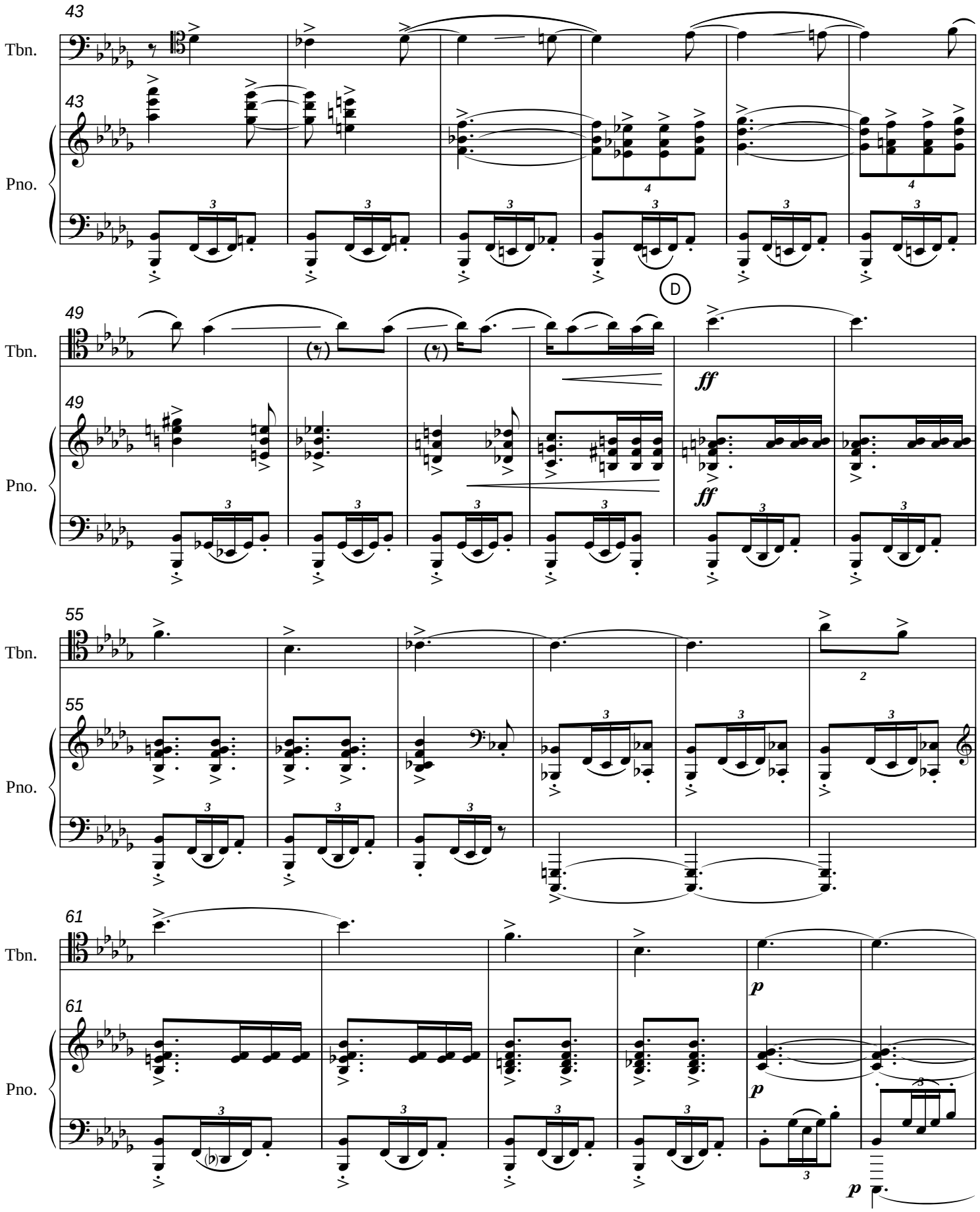

203
Tbn.
Marimba
Perc.
203
Pno.
206
Tbn.
Perc.
206
Pno.
209
Tbn.
Perc.
209
Pno.

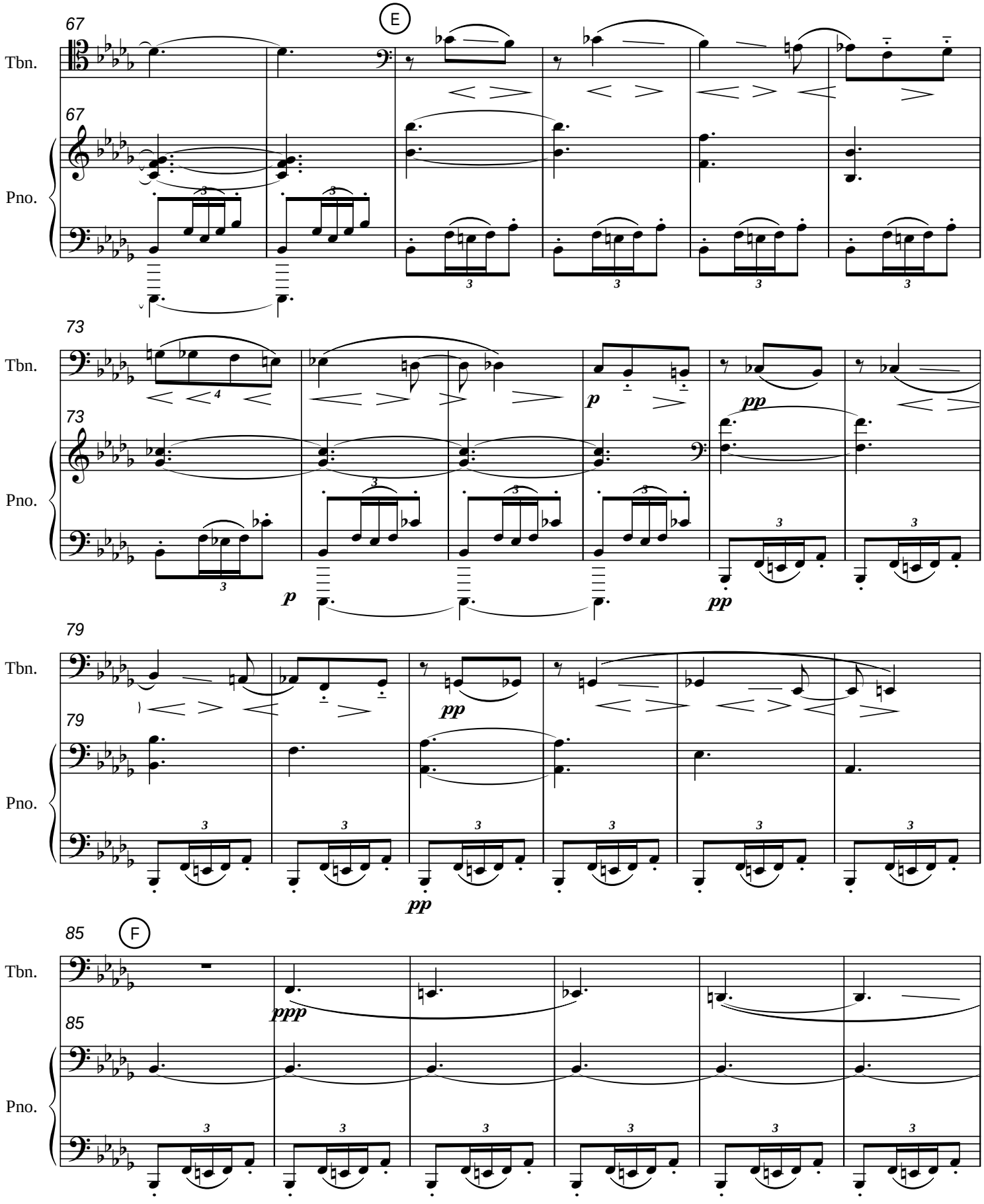

212
Tbn.
Perc.
212
Pno.
215
Tbn.
fz
Perc.
fz
215
Pno.
fz

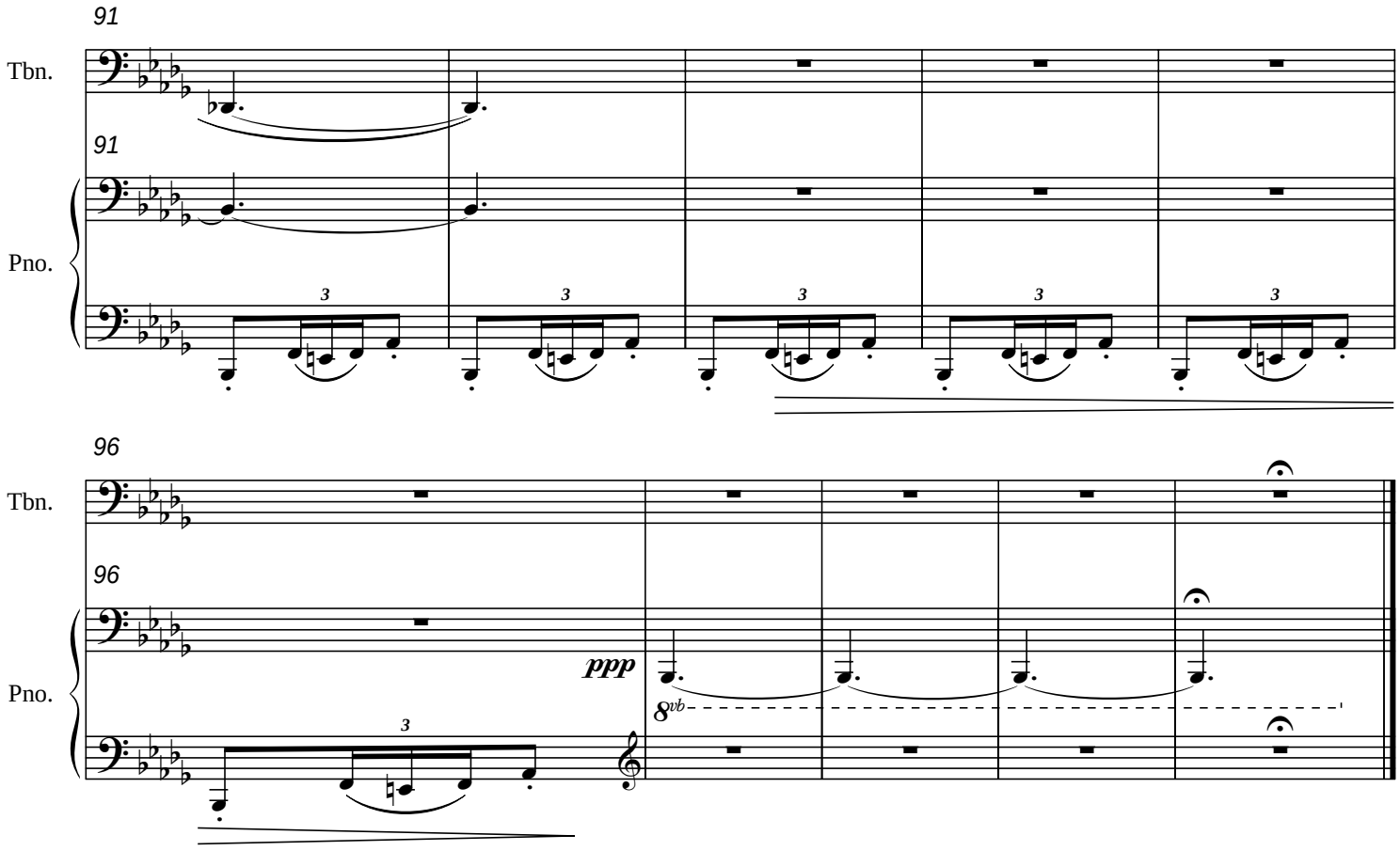
II.
Lenox, MA



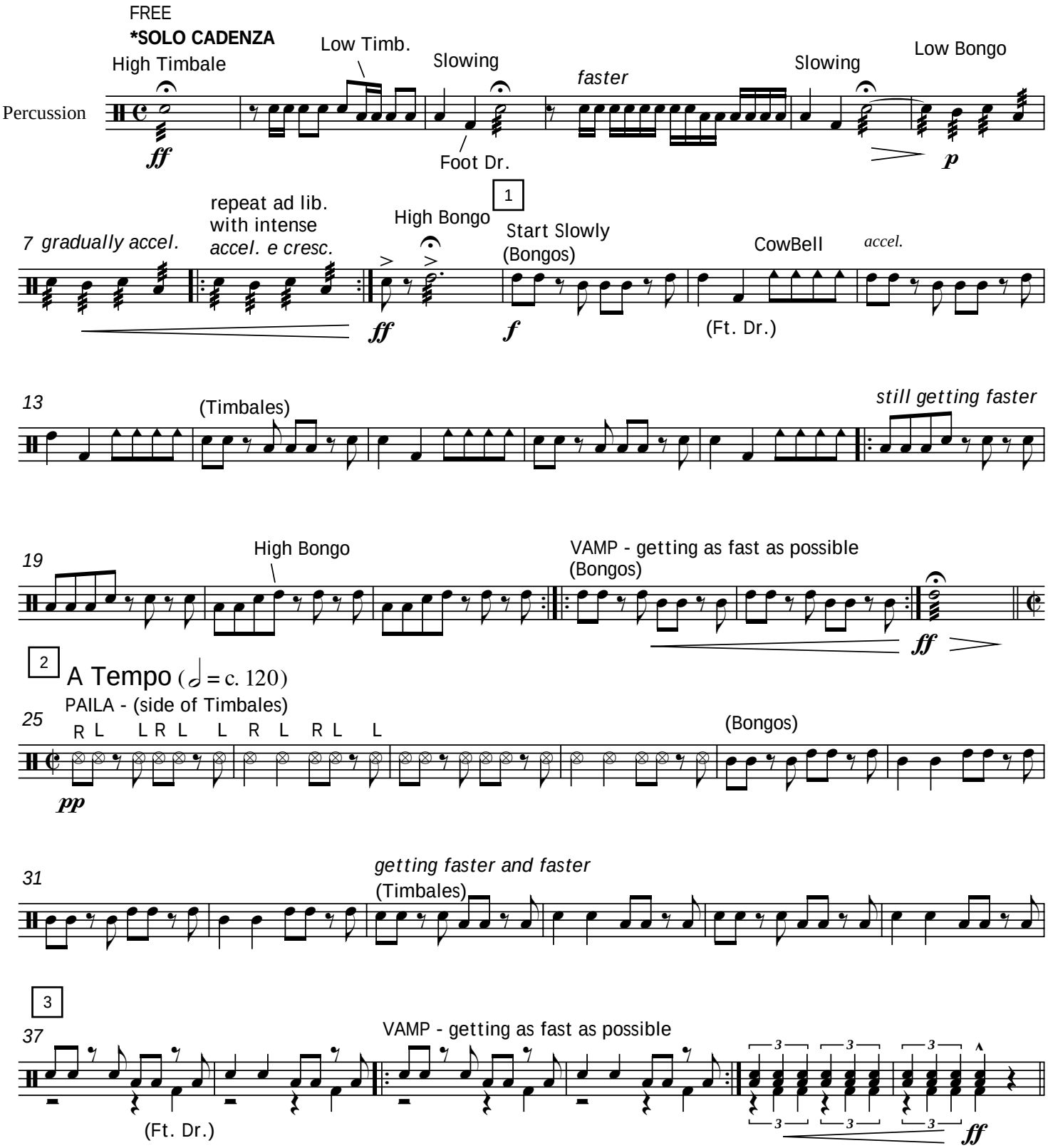

19
B
Tbn.
Pno.
25
mp
mp
mf
p
31
mf
p
f
37
C
f


43
Tbn.
43
Pno.
D
49
Tbn.
ff
49
Pno.
ff
55
Tbn.
55
Pno.
61
Tbn.
p
61
Pno.
p
p


67
E
Tbn.
67
Pno.
73
Tbn.
73
Pno.
p
pp
79
Tbn.
79
Pno.
pp
85
F
Tbn.
85
Pno.
ppp

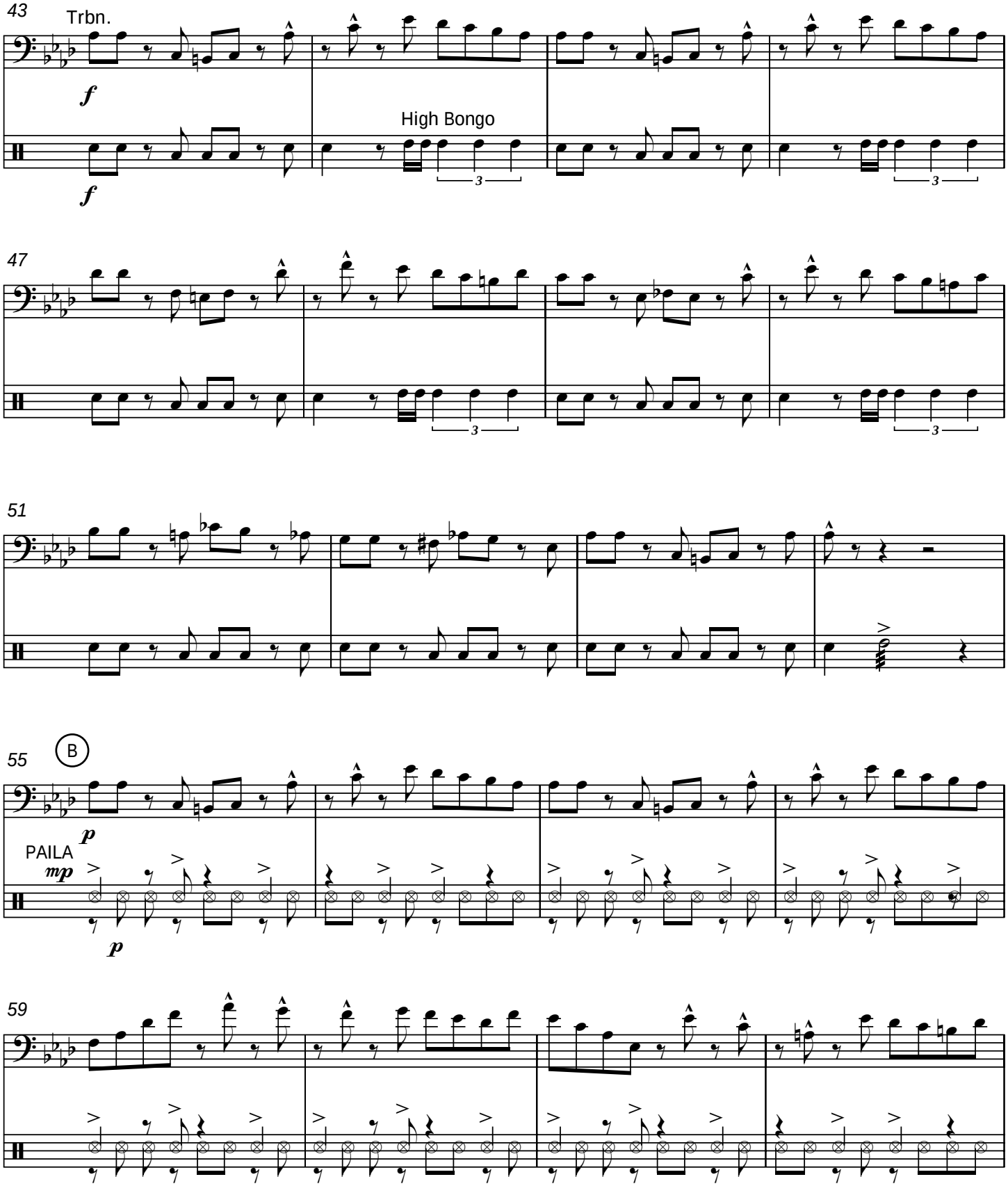

91
Tbn.
91
Pno.
3
3
3
3
3
96
Tbn.
96
Pno.
ppp
8vb
3

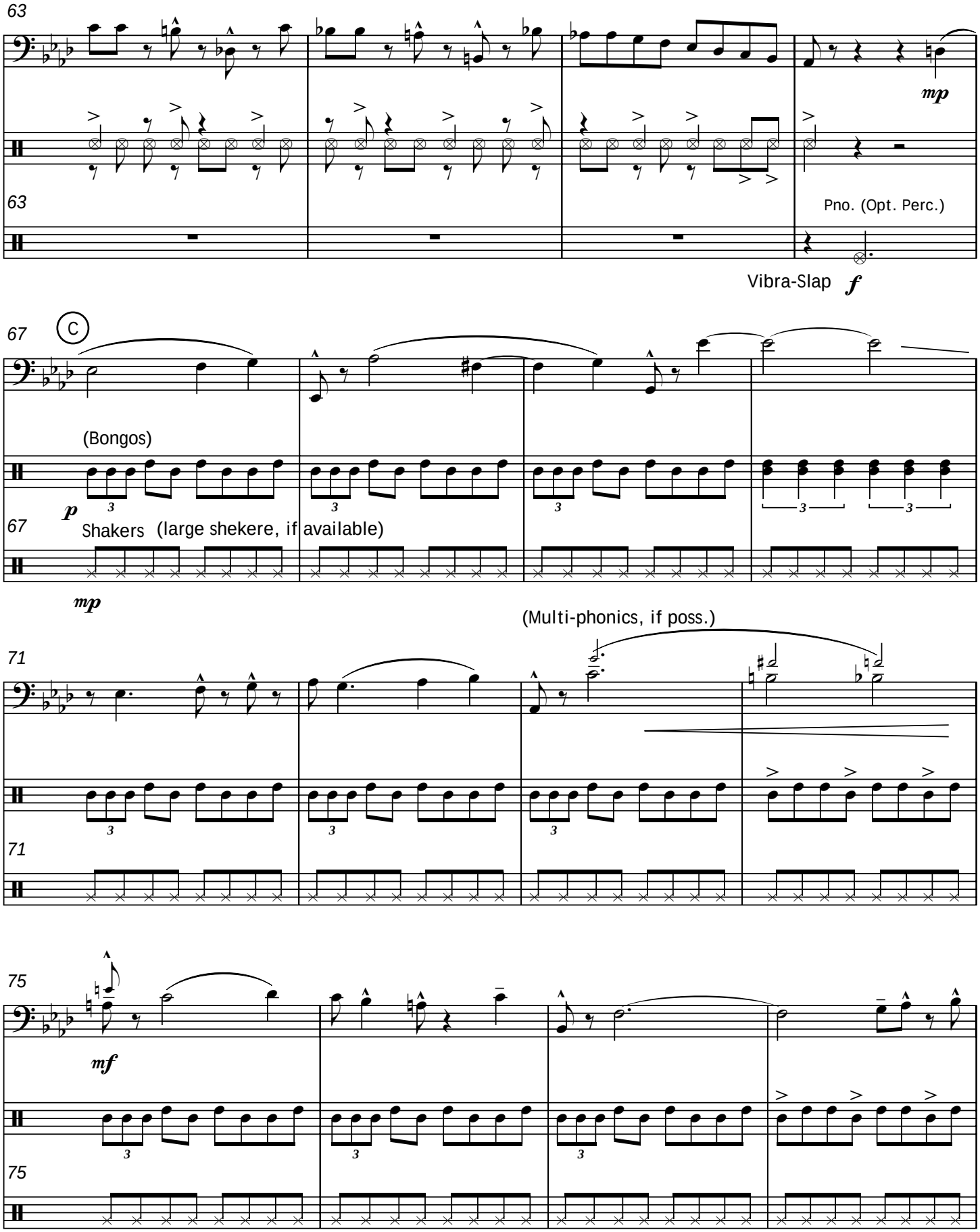
III.
"Chin Music"

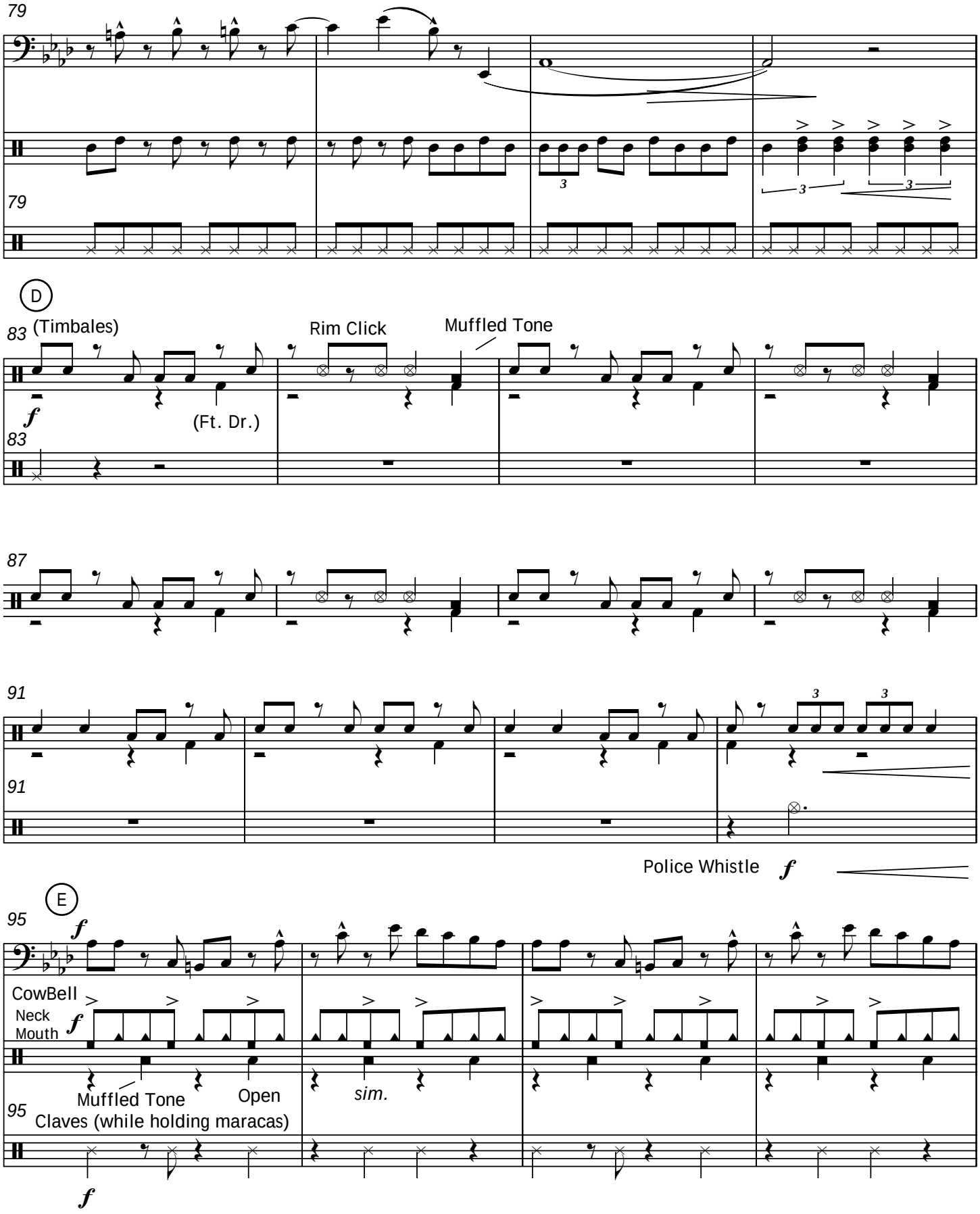


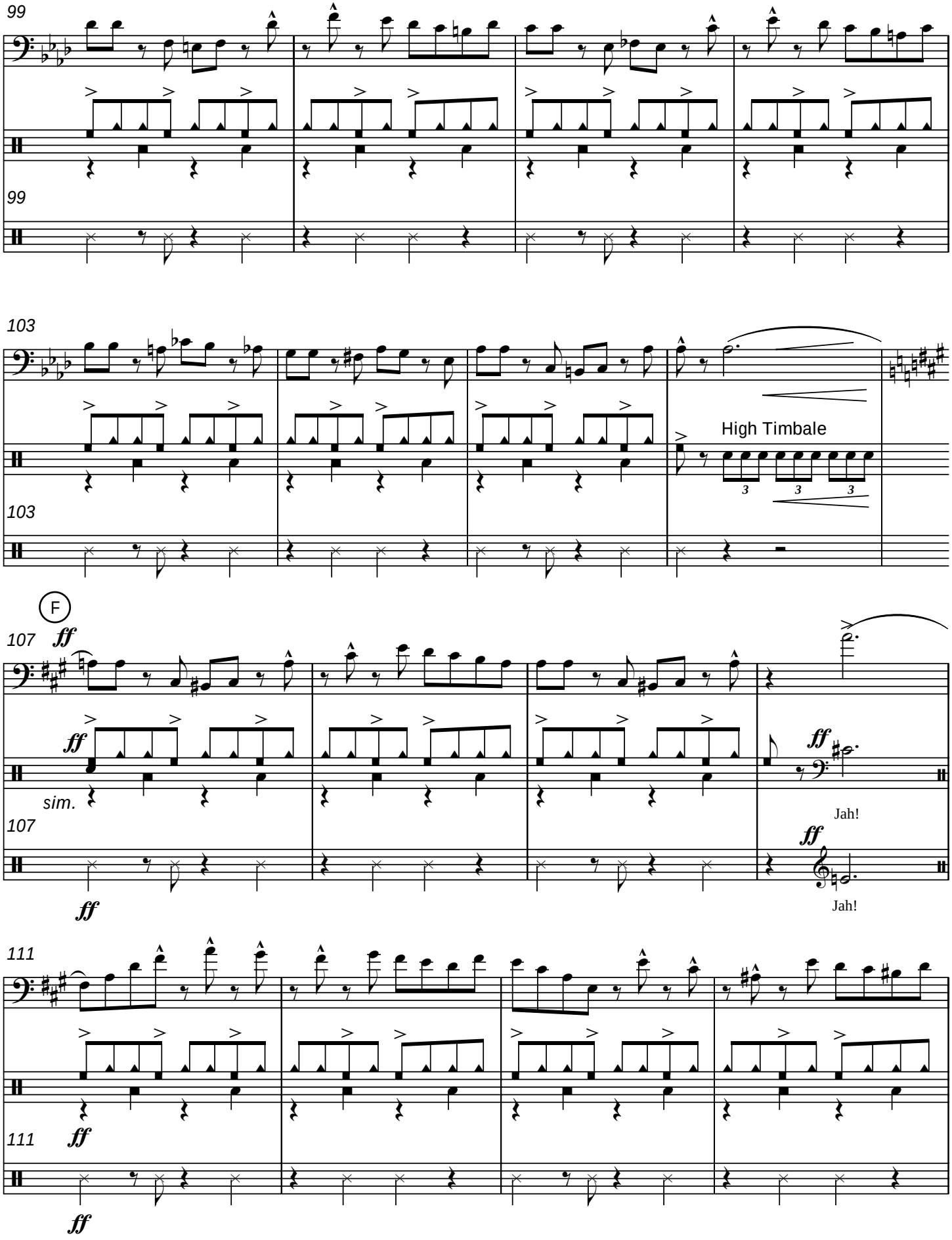
* If desired - this written Cadenza may be replaced by an ad lib. solo Cadenza at the player's discretion.

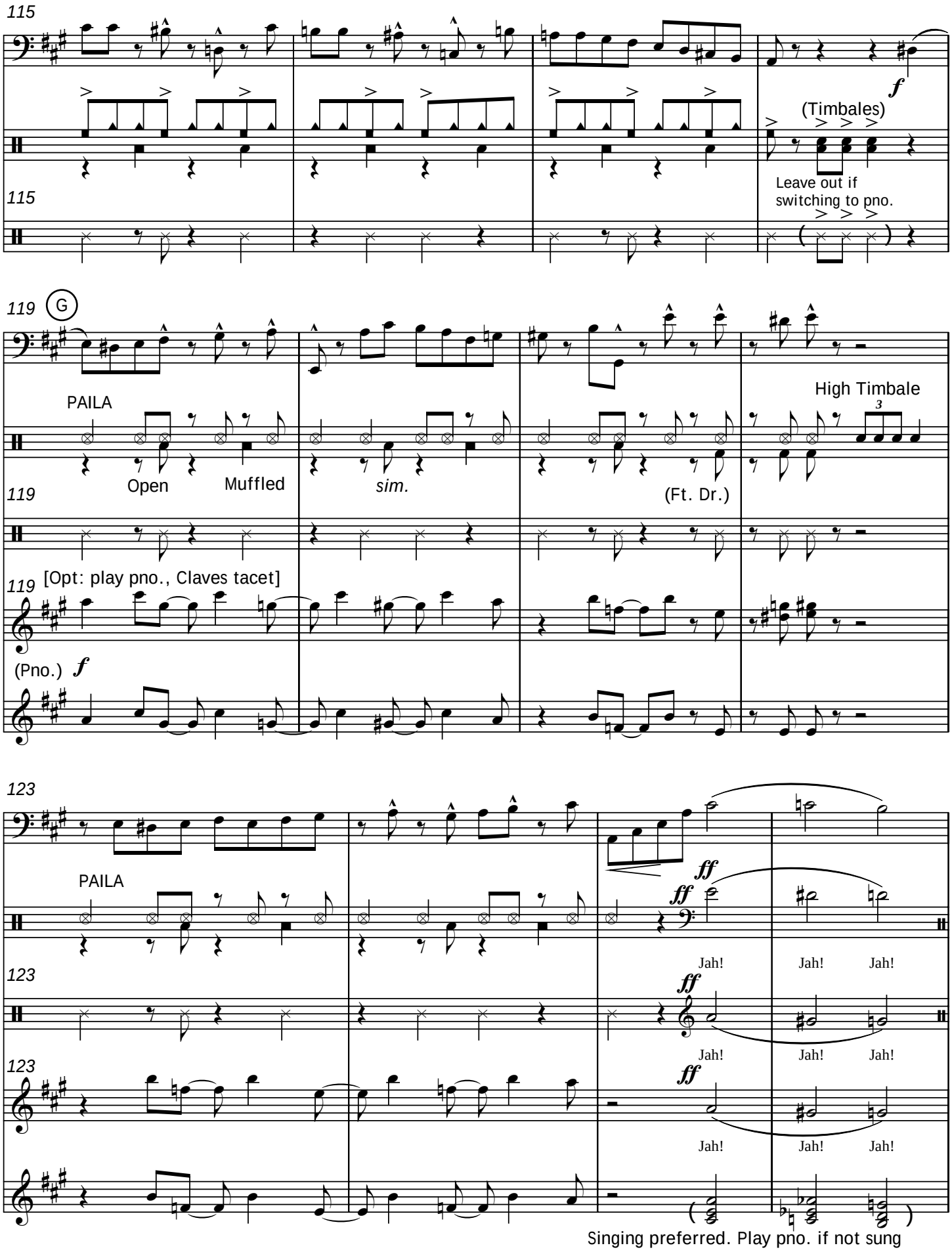
Ⓐ Latin groove (𝅗𝅥 = c. 120)

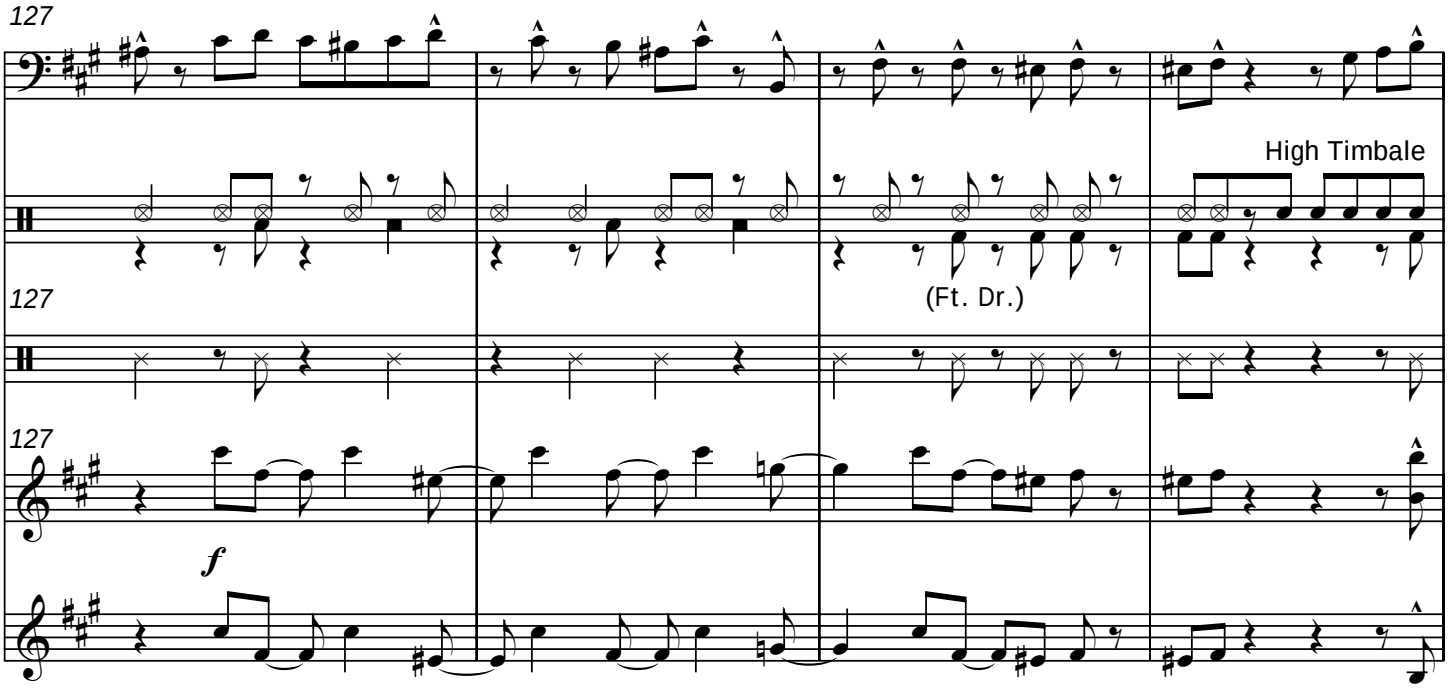


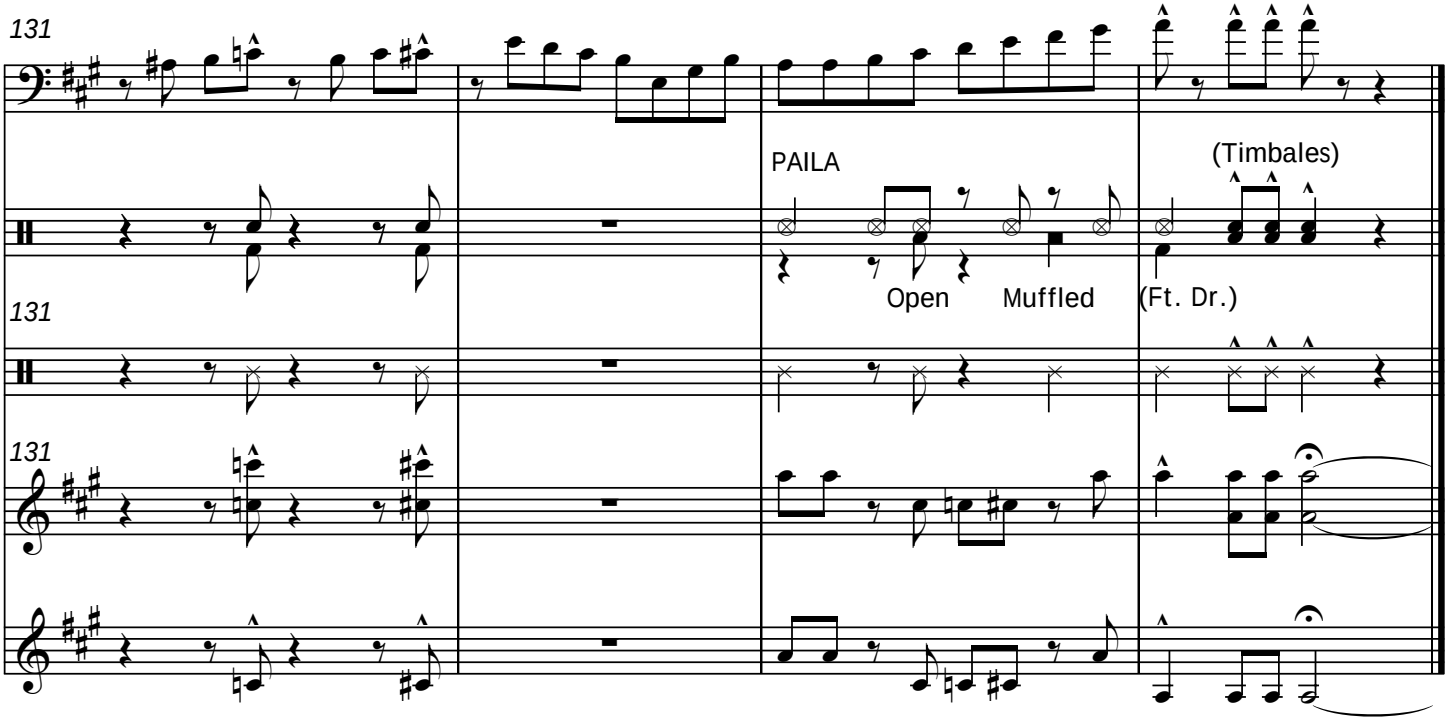

63
mp
63
Pno. (Opt. Perc.)
Vibra-Slap
f
67
C
(Bongos)
p
67
Shakers (large shekere, if available)
mp
(Multi-phonics, if poss.)
71
71
75
mf
75


79
79
D
83
(Timbales)
Rim Click
Muffled Tone
f
(Ft. Dr.)
83
87
91
3
3
91
Police Whistle
f
E
95
f
CowBell
Neck
Mouth
f
Muffled Tone
Open
sim.
95
Claves (while holding maracas)
f


99
99
103
High Timbale
103
F
107
ff
ff
sim.
107
ff
ff
Jah!
ff
Jah!
111
ff
111
ff
ff


115
f
(Timbales)
Leave out if switching to pno.
119
G
PAILA
Open
Muffled
sim.
(Ft. Dr.)
High Timbale
[Opt: play pno., Claves tacet]
(Pno.)
f
123
PAILA
ff
Jah!
Singing preferred. Play pno. if not sung





Sustain w/ pedal
VERY LONG
for attacca

IV.
Watch Hill, RI - Winter

Calm, refelective ♩ = 72

Crotales (*sempre*)

Percussion

Piano

ppp

p

3

(*attacca* from mvmt. 3)

ppp

7

7

A *start slowly* *accel.* *rit.* *a tempo*

12

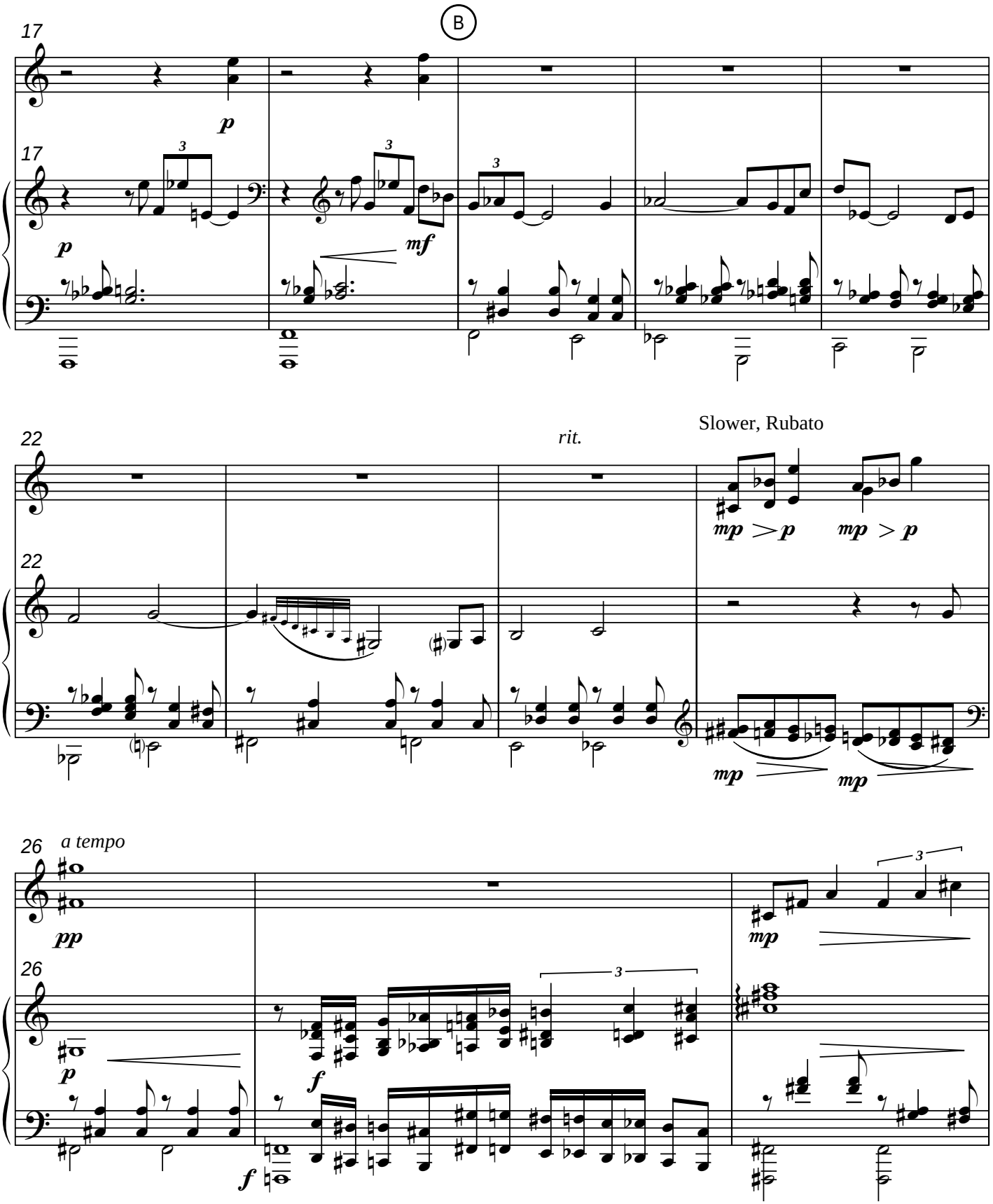
12

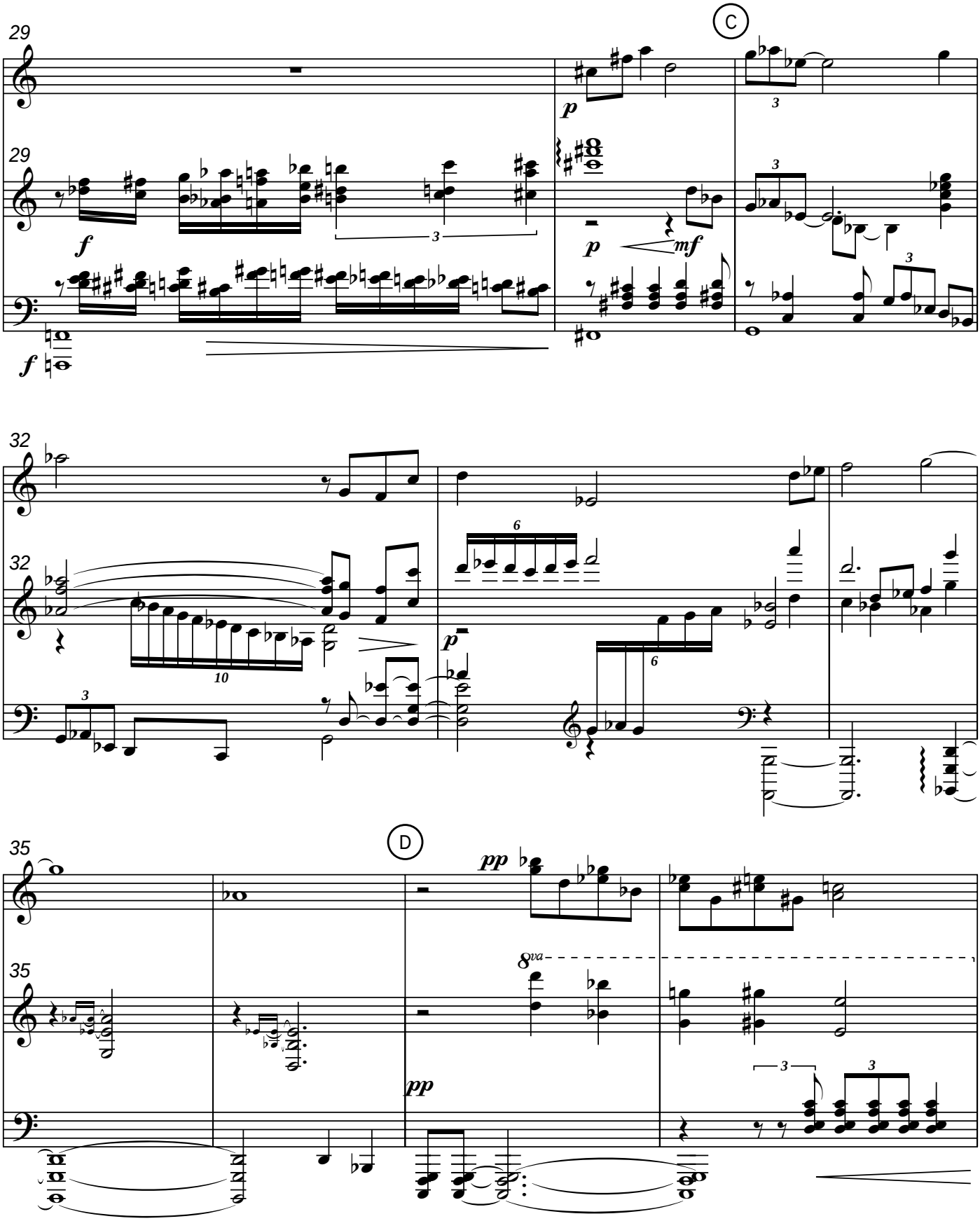
ppp

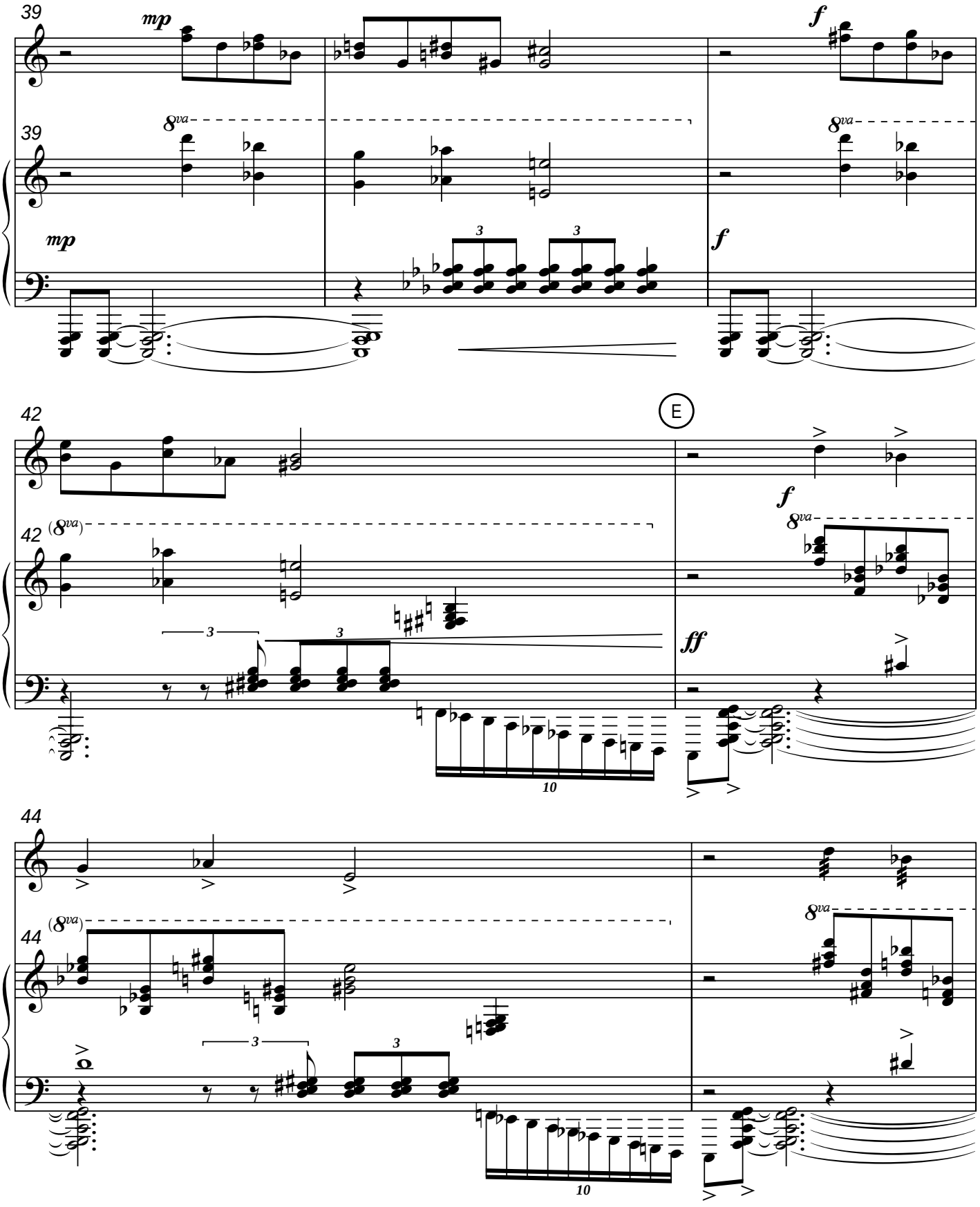
p

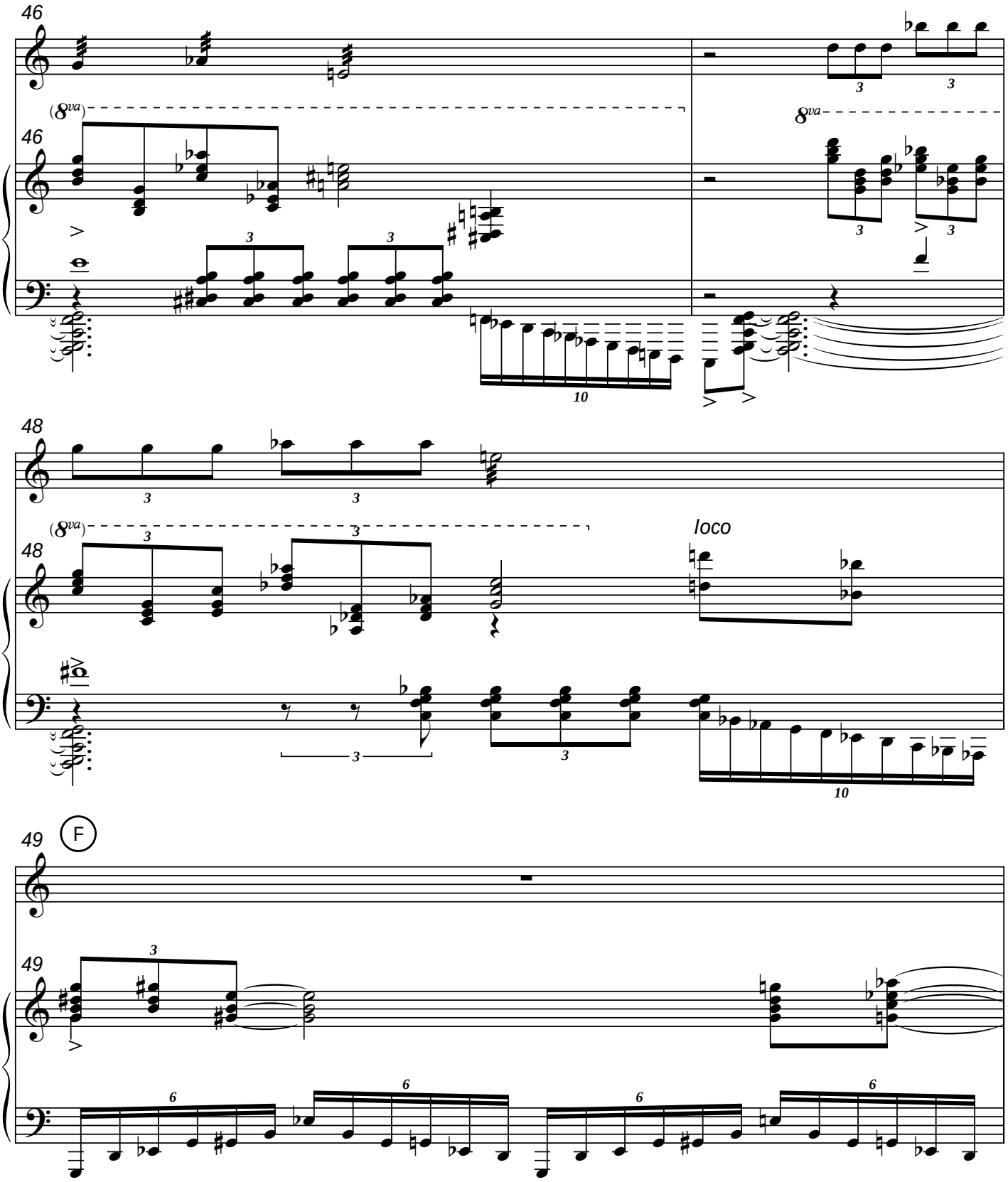
p

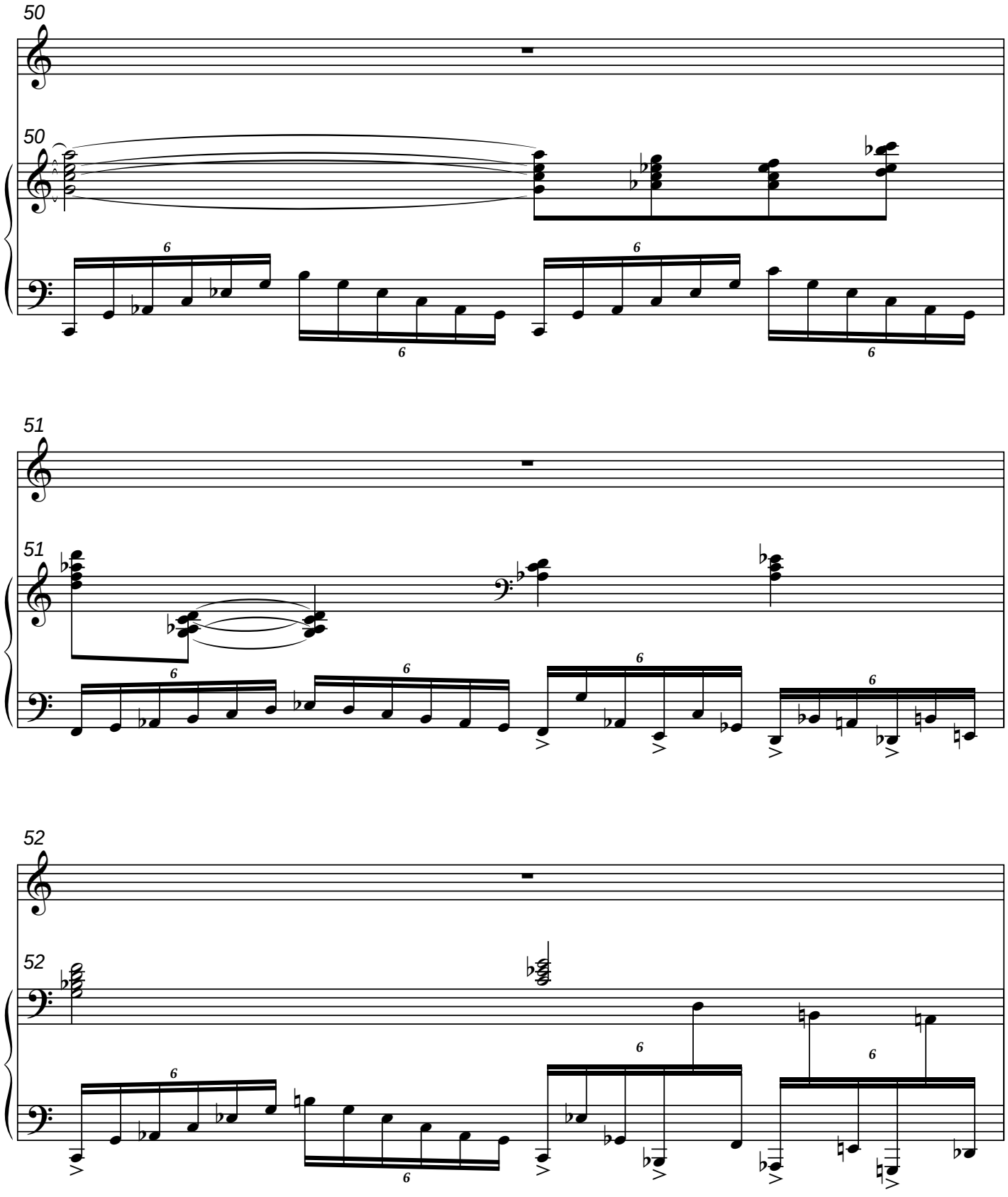
ppp

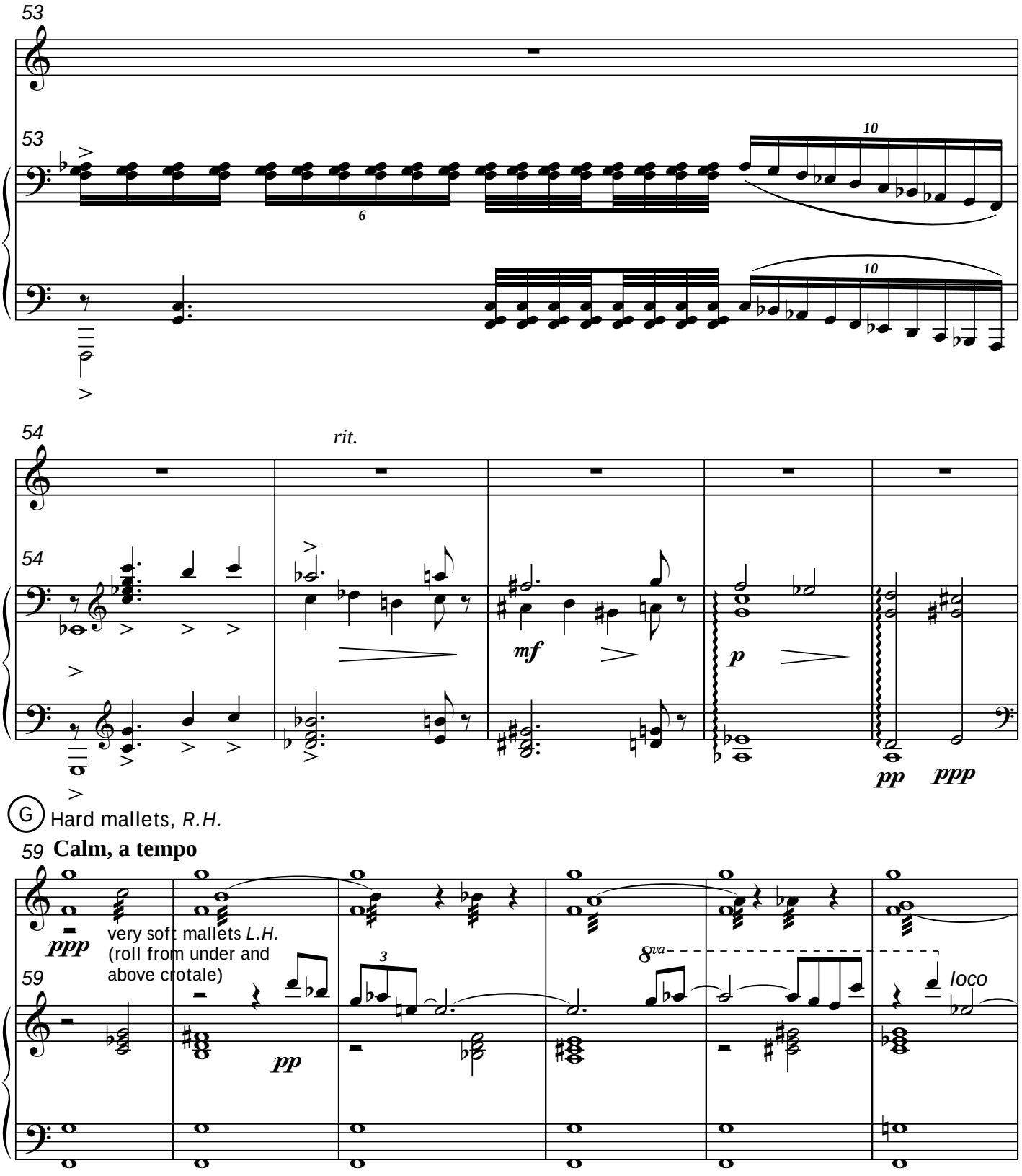

B
17
p
17
p
mf
22
rit.
Slower, Rubato
22
mp > p
mp > p
mp
mp
26
a tempo
pp
26
p
f
f
mp

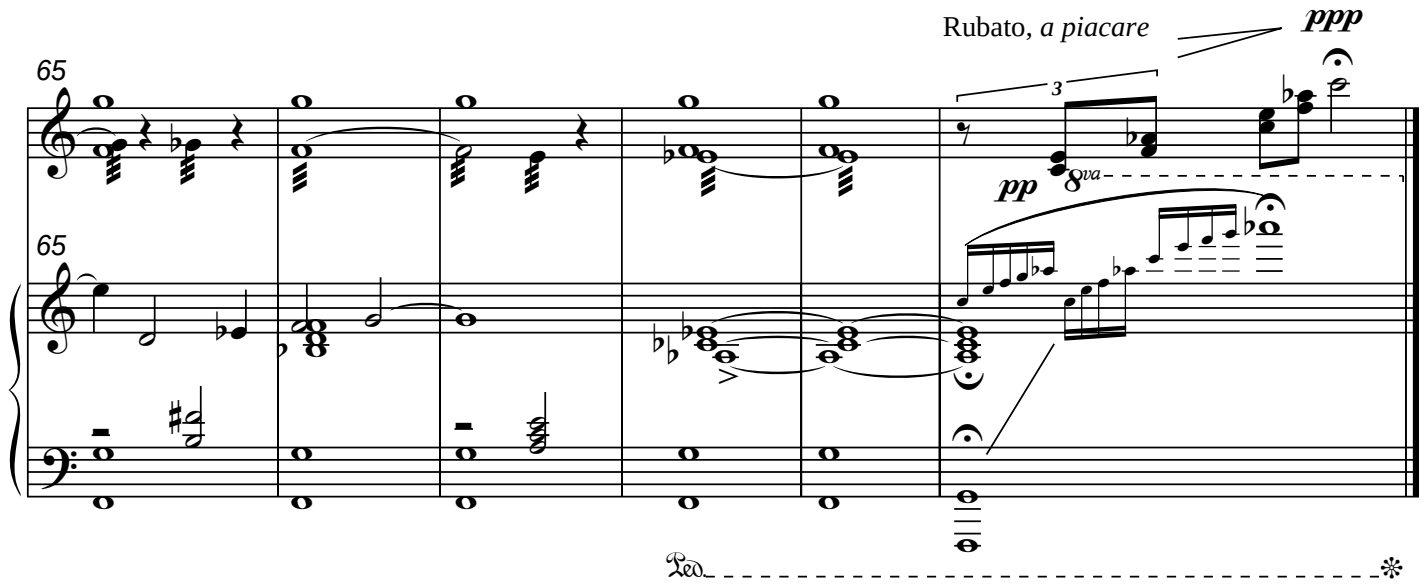

29
C
f
p
mf
32
10
6
35
D
pp
8va


39
mp
f
8va
3
42
(8va)
E
ff
10
44


46
(8va)
8va
loco
48
49
F

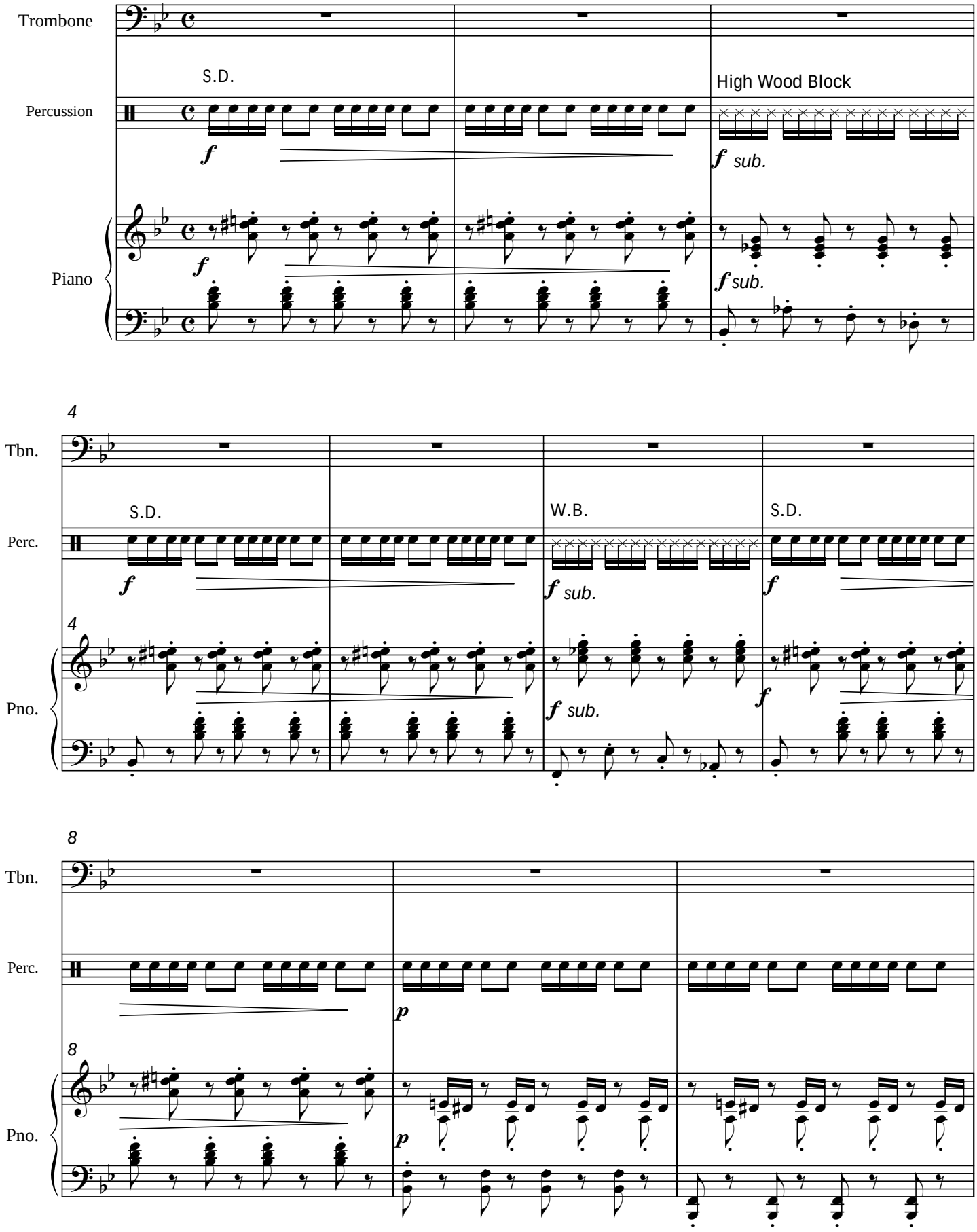

50
50
6
6
6
6
51
51
6
6
6
6
52
52
6
6
6
6

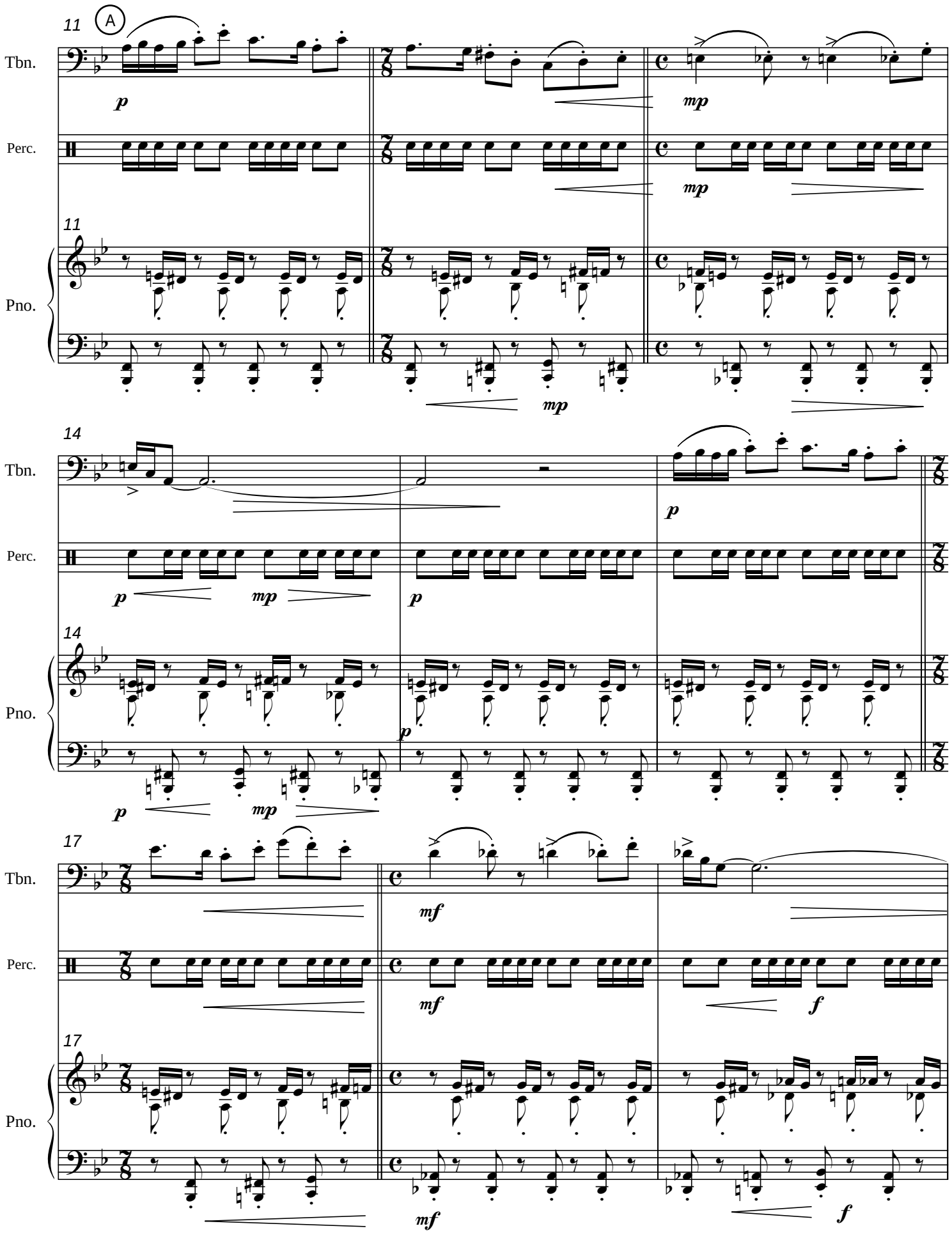

53
53
10
6
10
54
rit.
54
mf
p
pp
ppp
G Hard mallets, R.H.
59 Calm, a tempo
ppp
very soft mallets L.H.
(roll from under and
above crotale)
59
3
pp
8va
loco

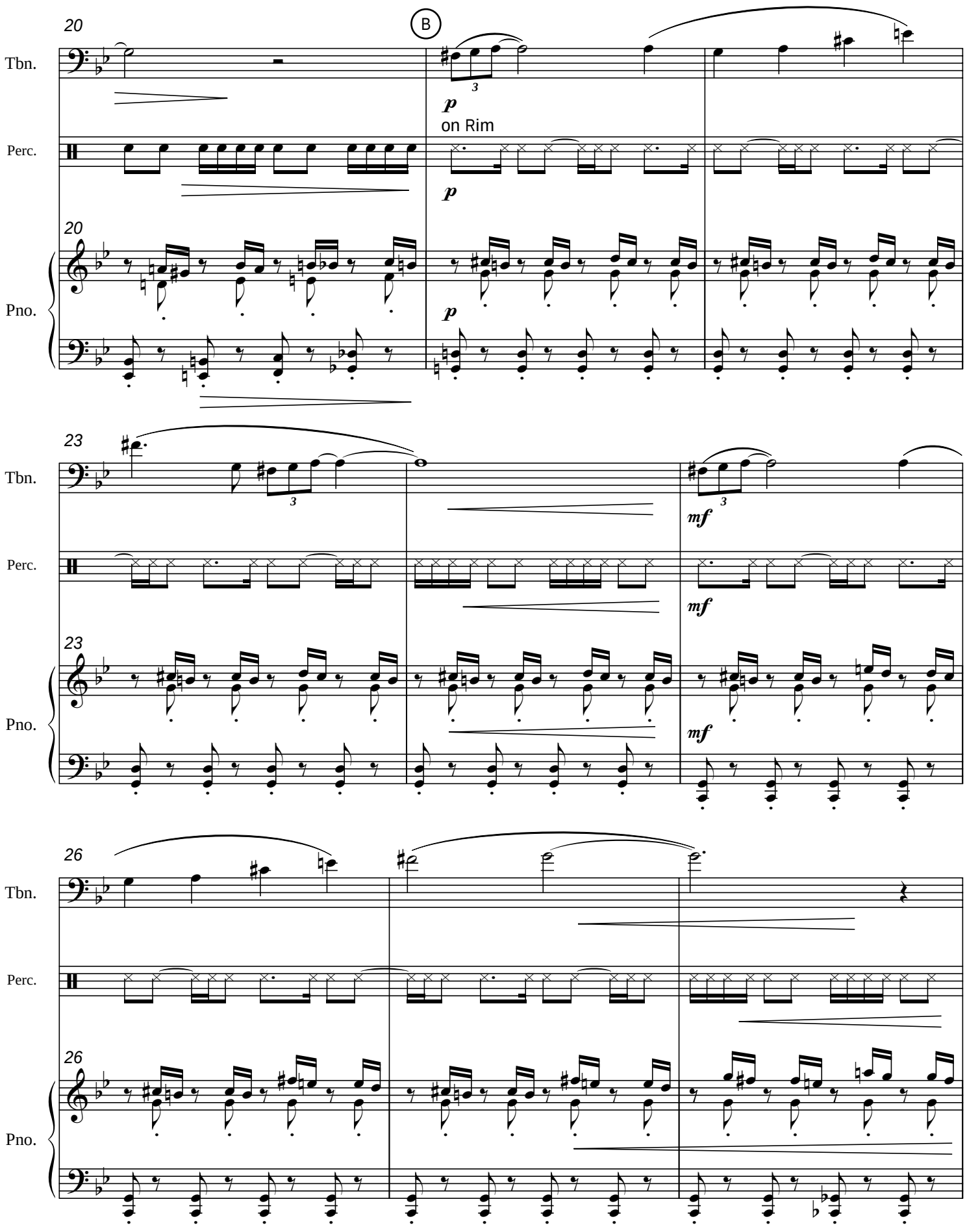

Rubato, *a piacare*
ppp
65
65
3
pp
8va
Ped.

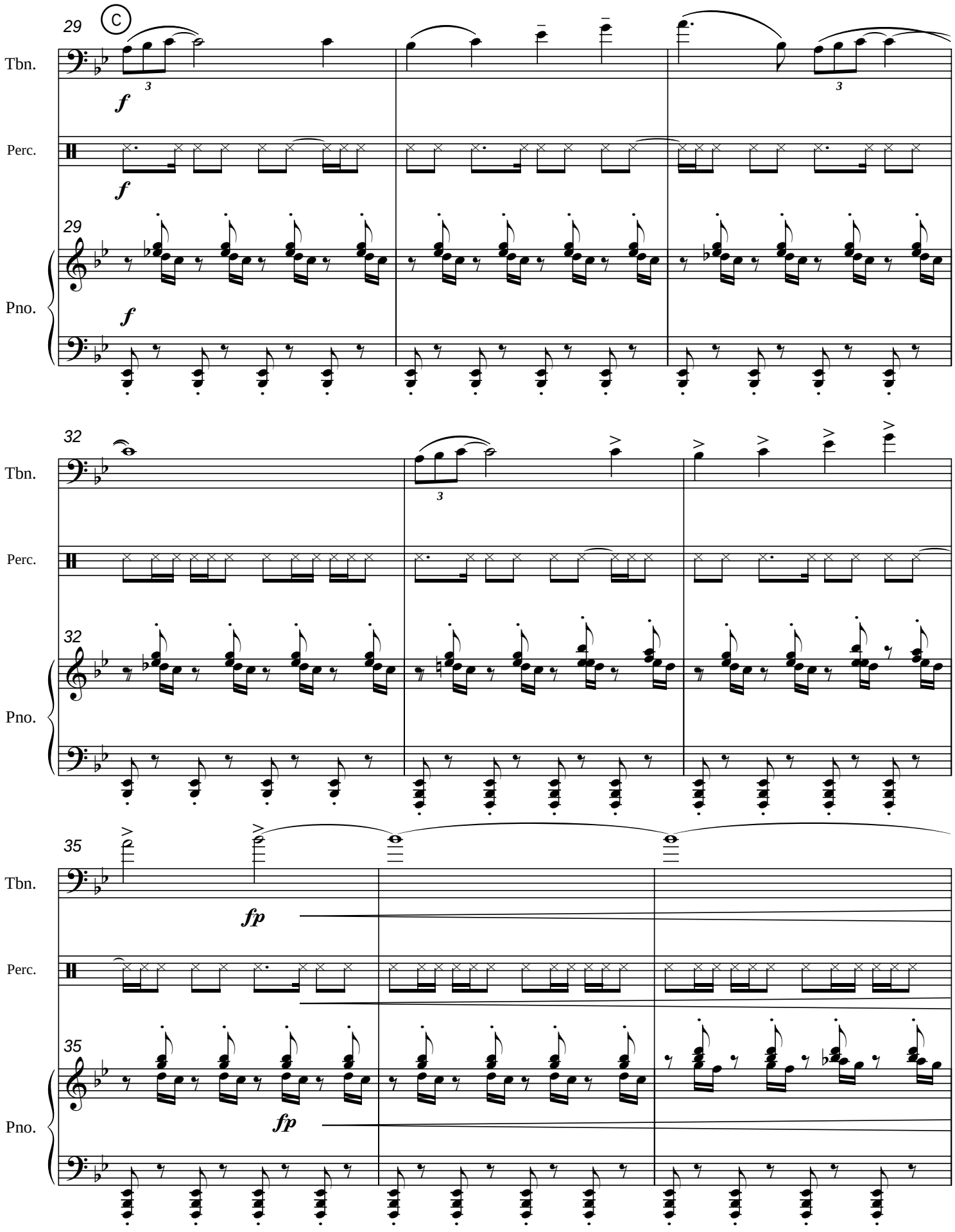
V.
Quick-Step and Blues

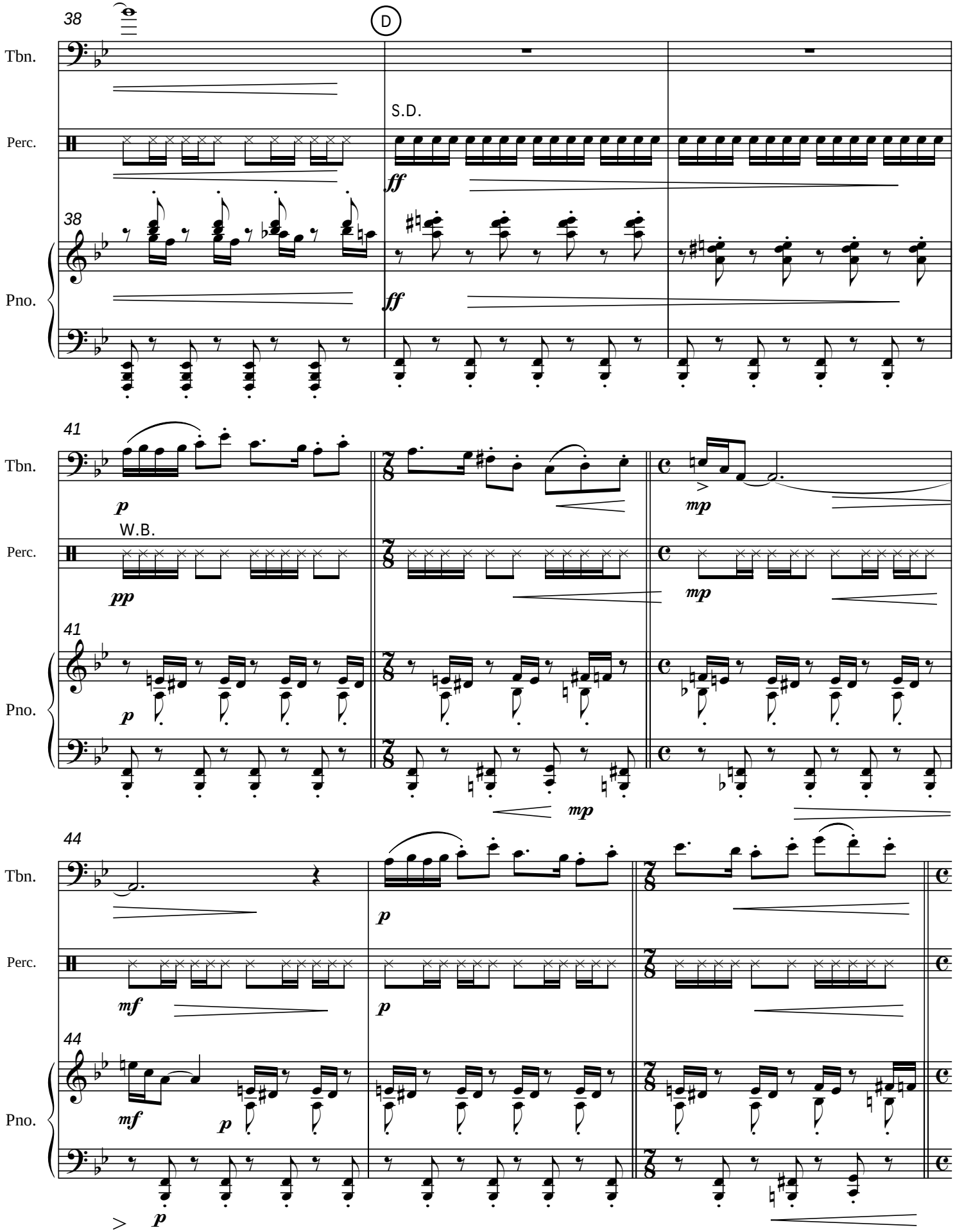
Allegro (♩ = c. 160)

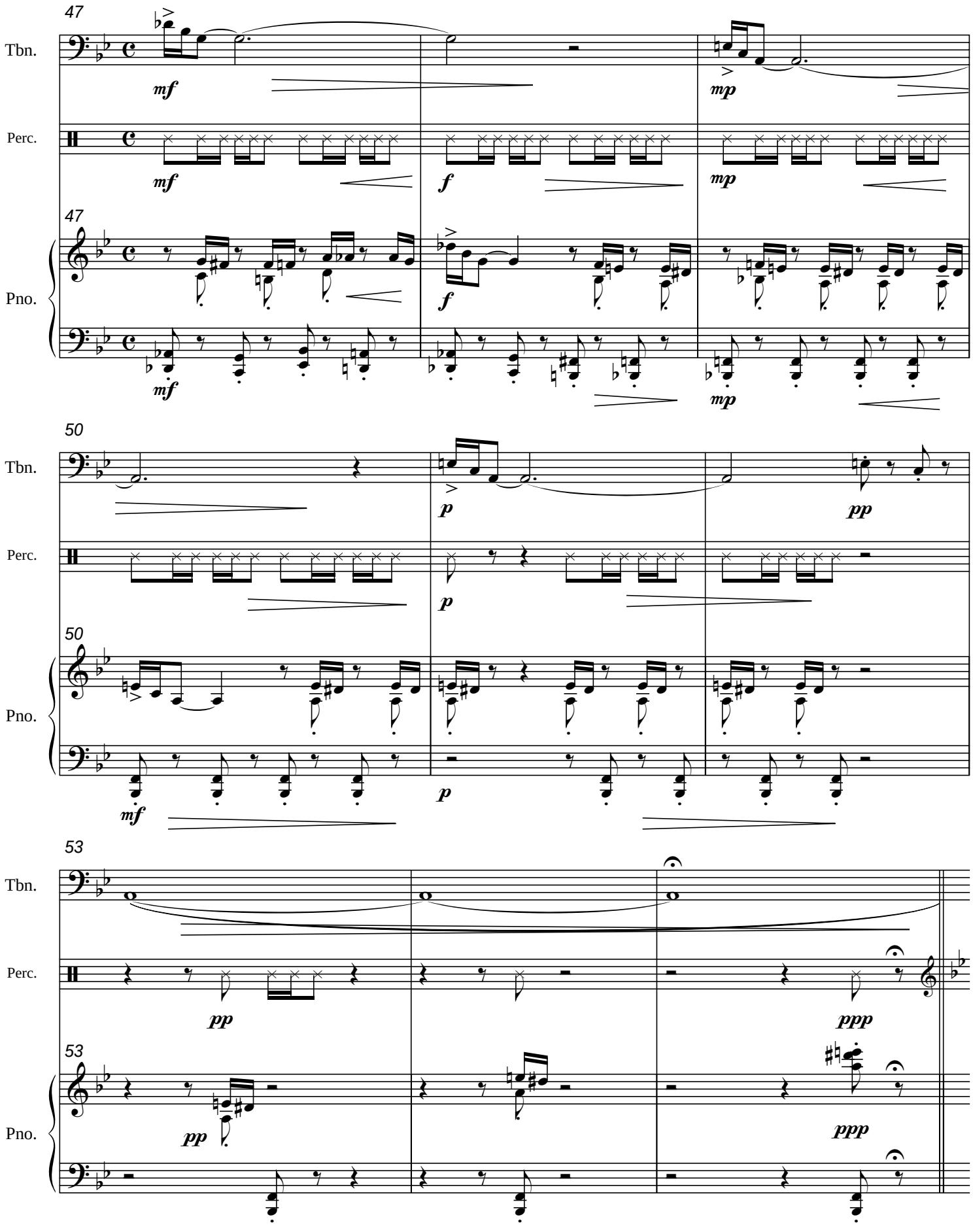


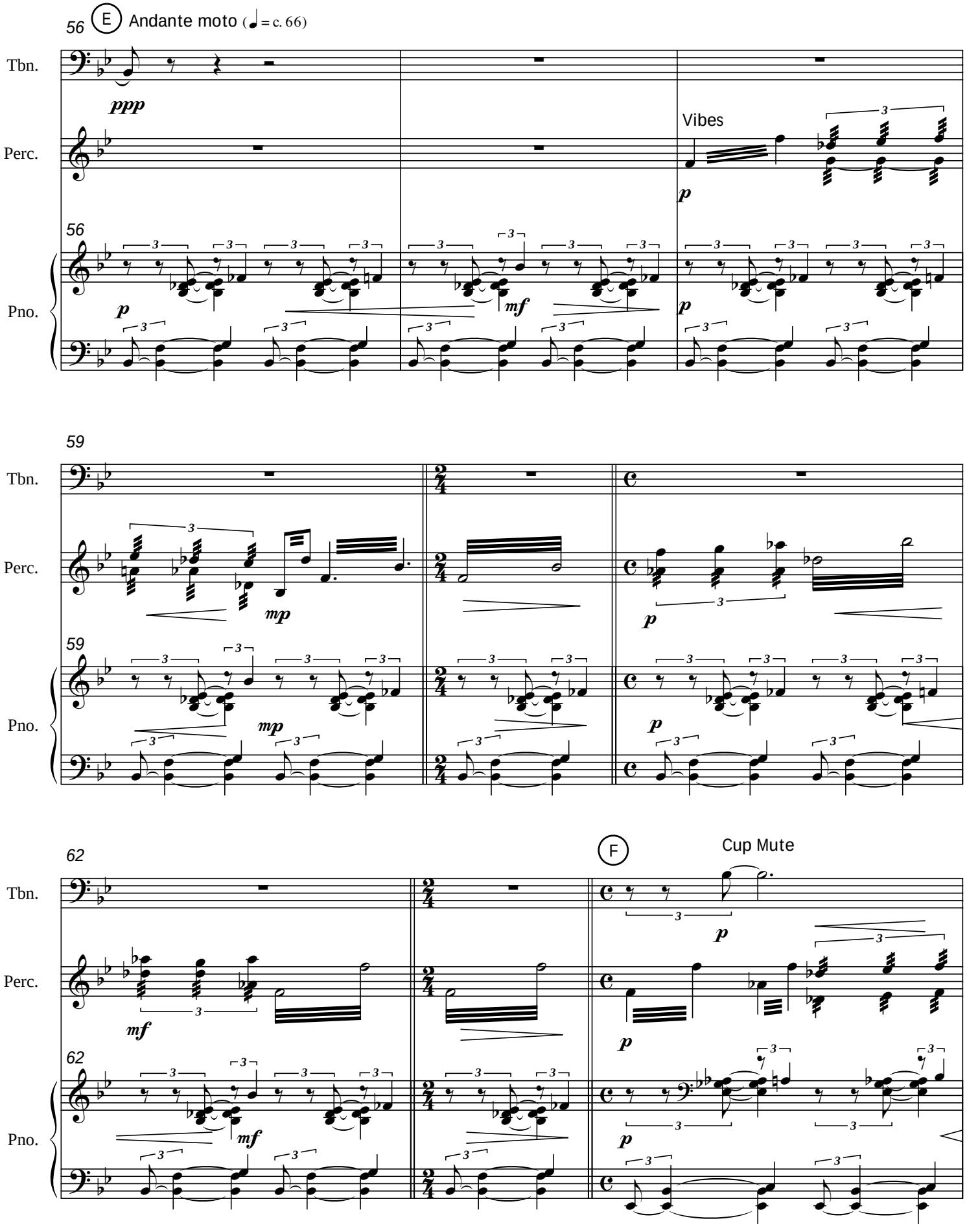

11
A
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
p
mp
14
17
mf
f

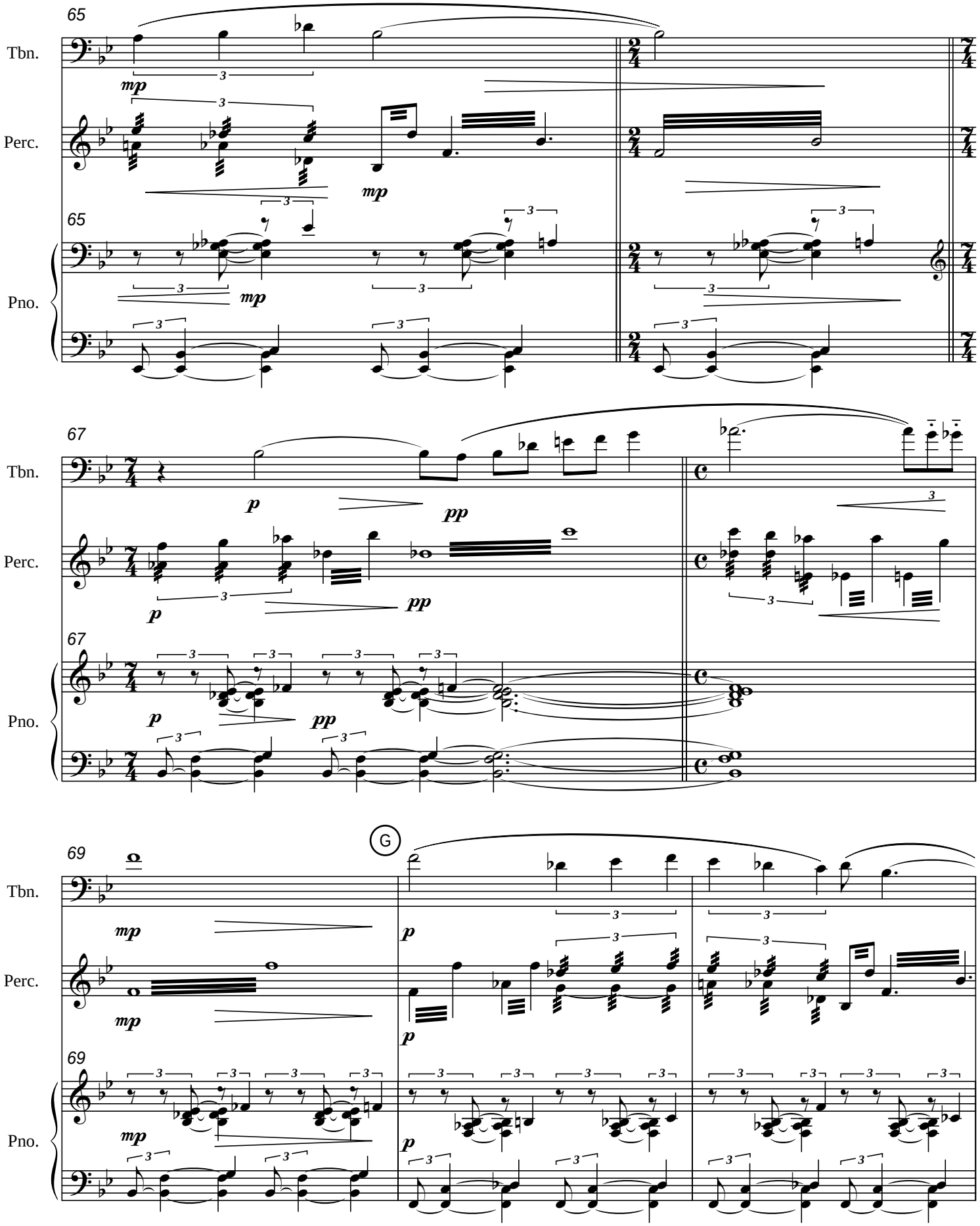

20
B
Tbn.
3
p
on Rim
Perc.
p
20
Pno.
p
23
Tbn.
3
3
mf
Perc.
mf
23
Pno.
mf
26
Tbn.
Perc.
26
Pno.

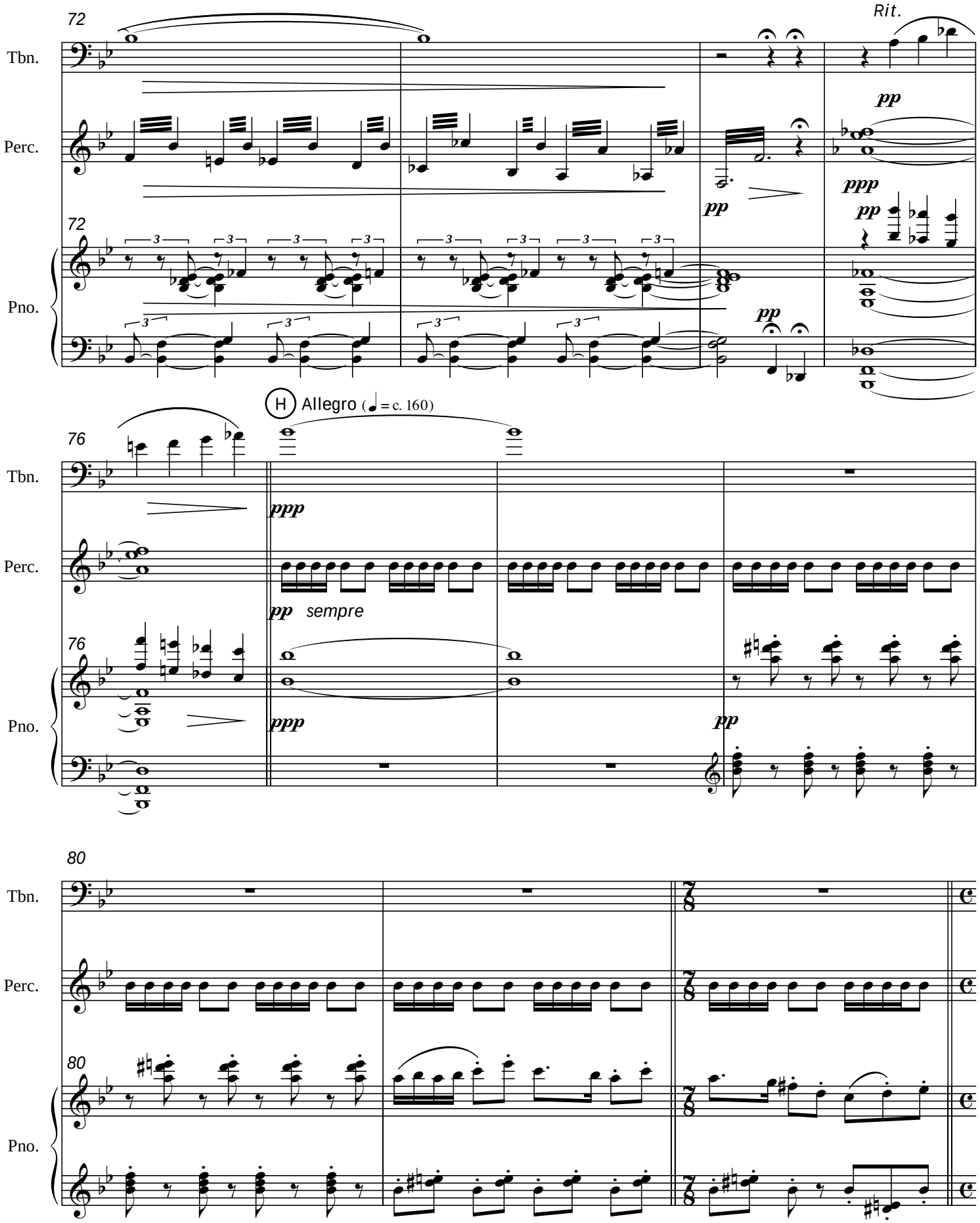

29
C
Tbn.
f
Perc.
f
29
Pno.
f
32
Tbn.
Perc.
32
Pno.
35
Tbn.
fp
Perc.
35
Pno.
fp

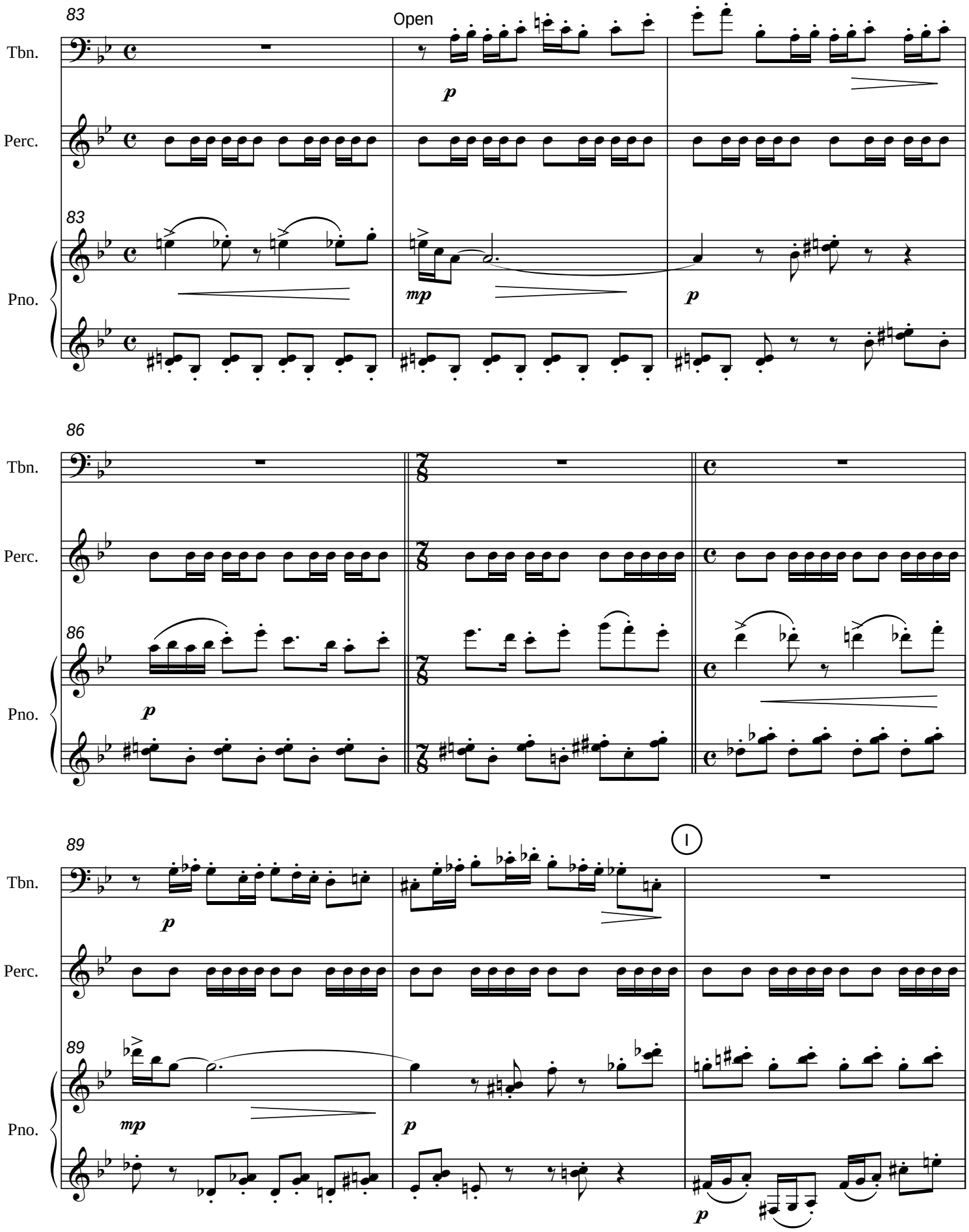

38
D
Tbn.
S.D.
Perc.
ff
38
Pno.
ff
41
Tbn.
p
W.B.
pp
mp
Perc.
mp
41
Pno.
p
mp
44
Tbn.
p
Perc.
mf
p
44
mf
Pno.
p
p

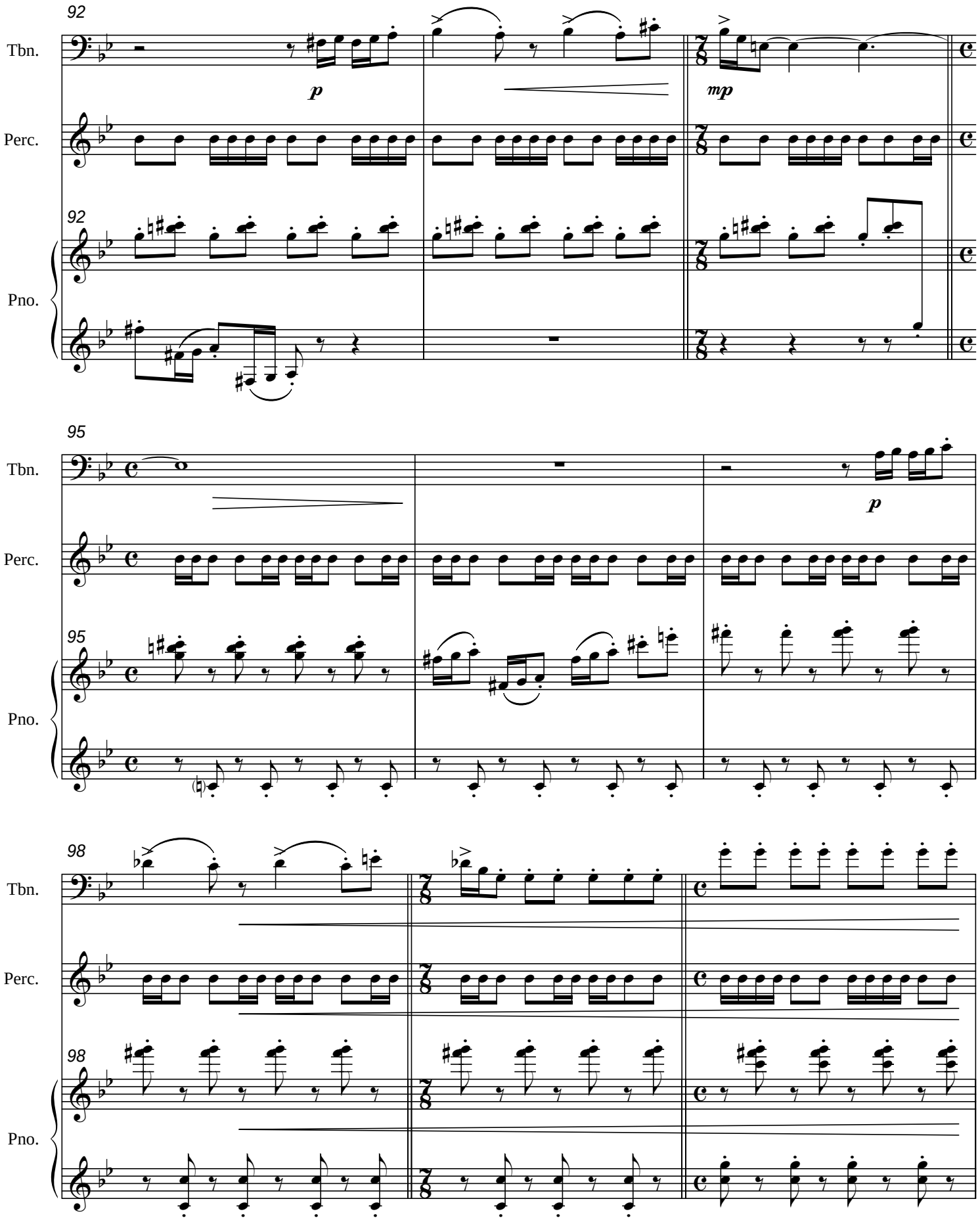

47
Tbn.
mf
mp
Perc.
mf
f
mp
47
Pno.
f
mf
mp
50
Tbn.
p
pp
Perc.
p
50
Pno.
mf
p
53
Tbn.
Perc.
pp
ppp
53
Pno.
pp
ppp

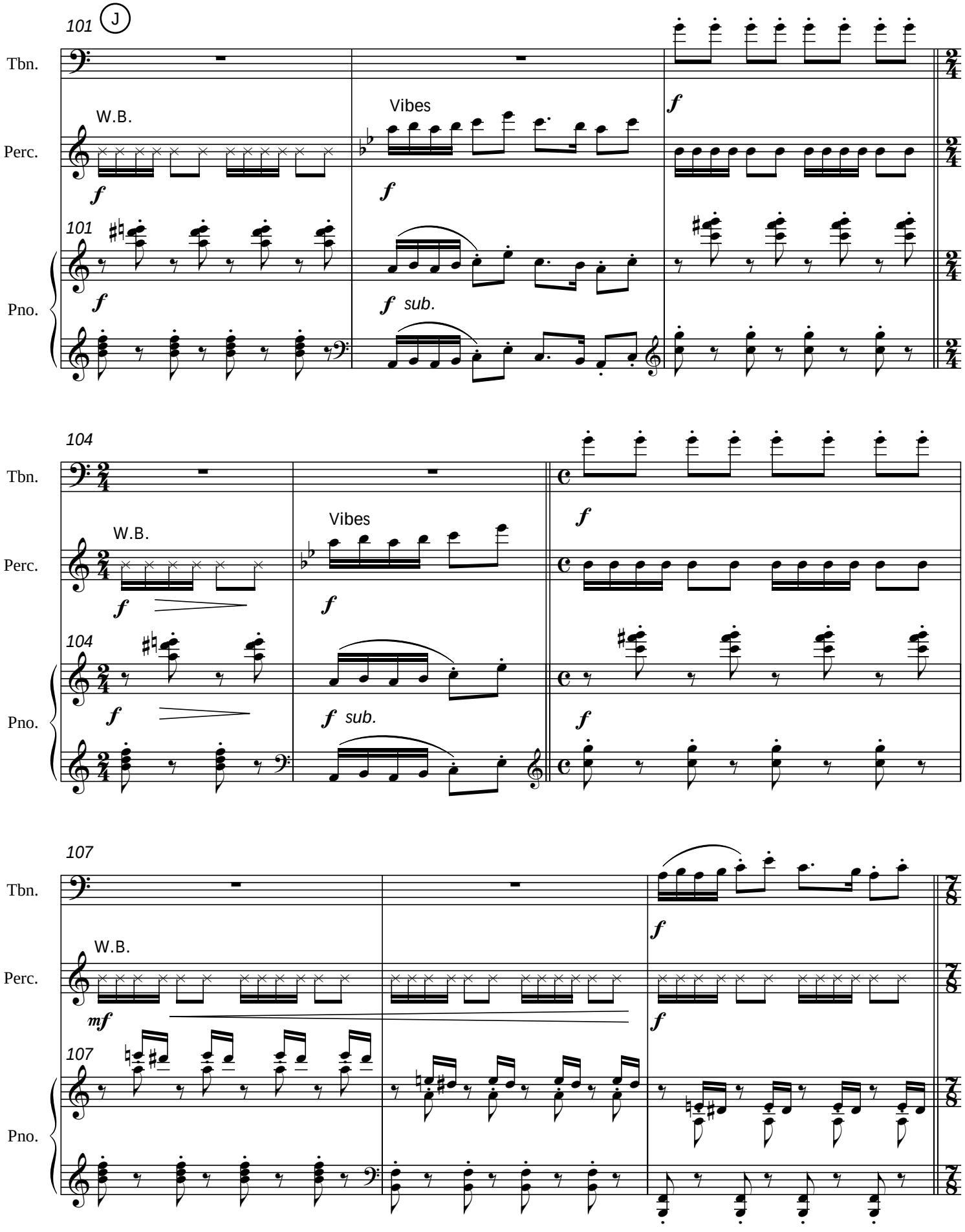

56
E
Andante moto (♩ = c. 66)
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
ppp
Vibes
p
mf
59
mp
62
F
Cup Mute

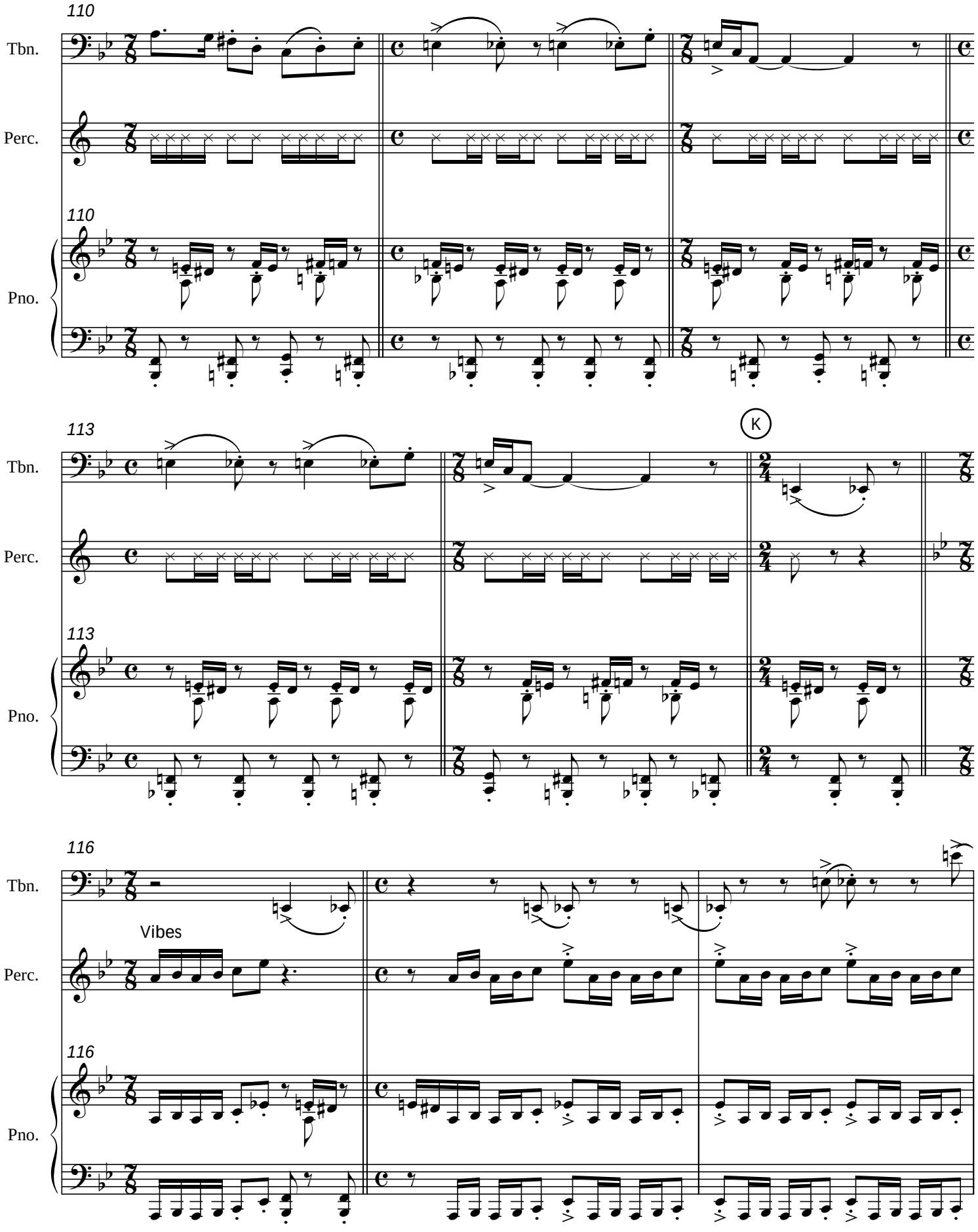

65
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
mp
67
p
pp
69
G

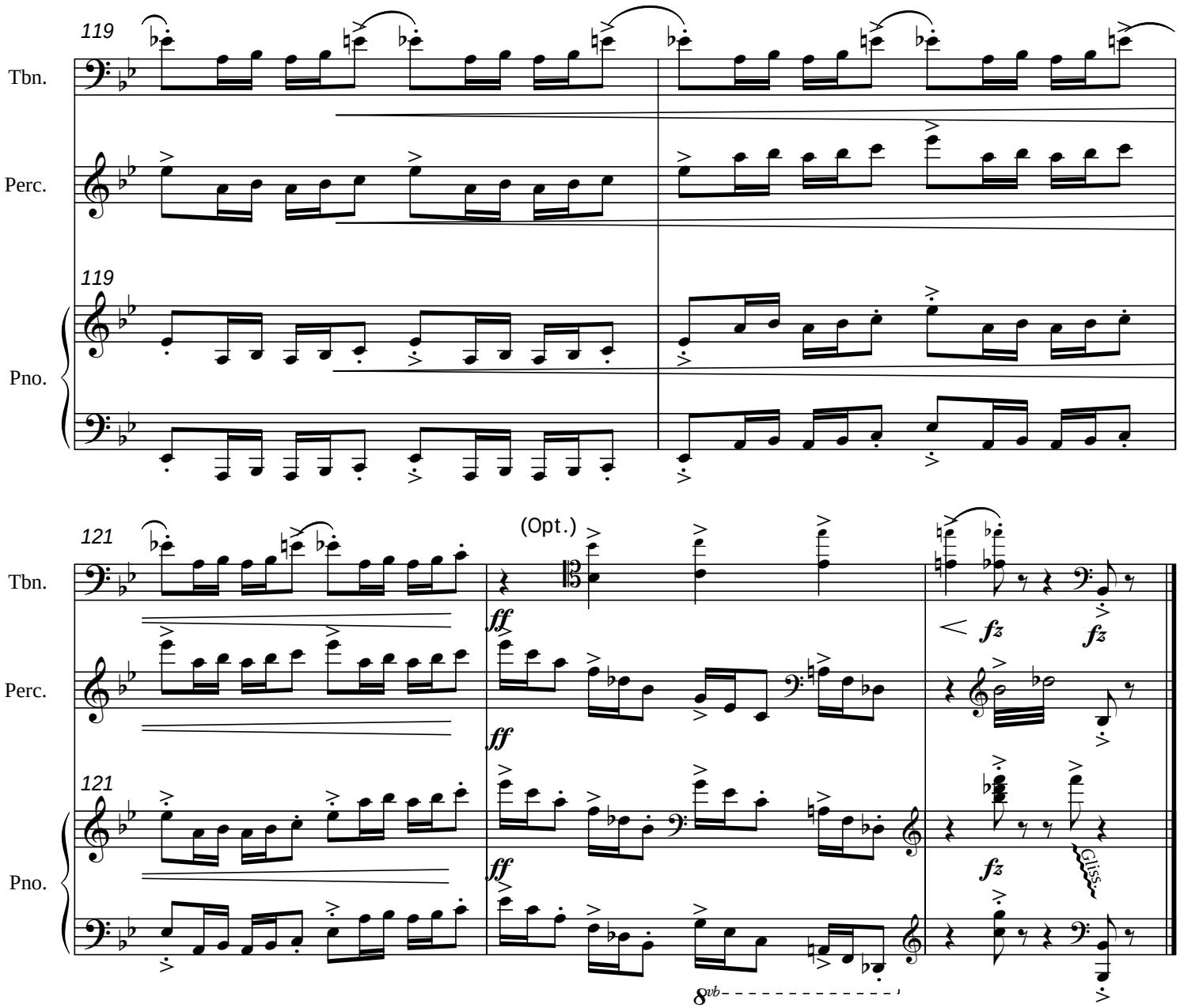

72
Rit.
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
pp
ppp
H Allegro (♩ = c. 160)
76
ppp
pp sempre
80


83
Open
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
p
mp
p
86
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
p
89
I
Tbn.
Perc.
Pno.
p
mp
p
p


92
Tbn.
p
mp
Perc.
92
Pno.
95
Tbn.
p
Perc.
95
Pno.
98
Tbn.
Perc.
98
Pno.


101
J
Tbn.
W.B.
Vibes
Perc.
f
f
f
101
Pno.
f
f sub.
104
Tbn.
W.B.
Vibes
Perc.
f
f
f
104
Pno.
f
f sub.
f
107
Tbn.
W.B.
f
Perc.
mf
f
107
Pno.

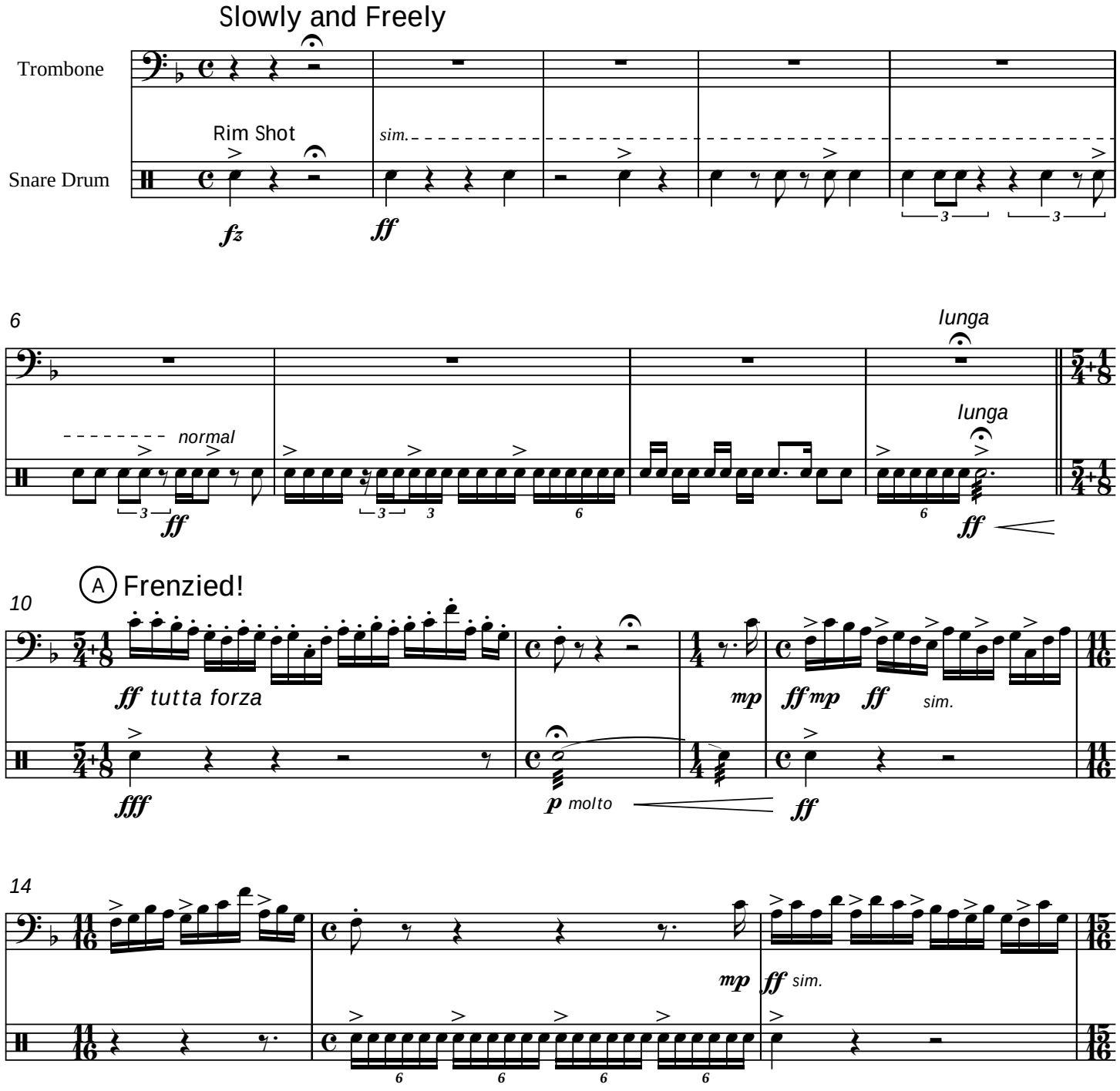

110
Tbn.
Perc.
110
Pno.
113
K
Tbn.
Perc.
113
Pno.
116
Tbn.
Vibes
Perc.
116
Pno.

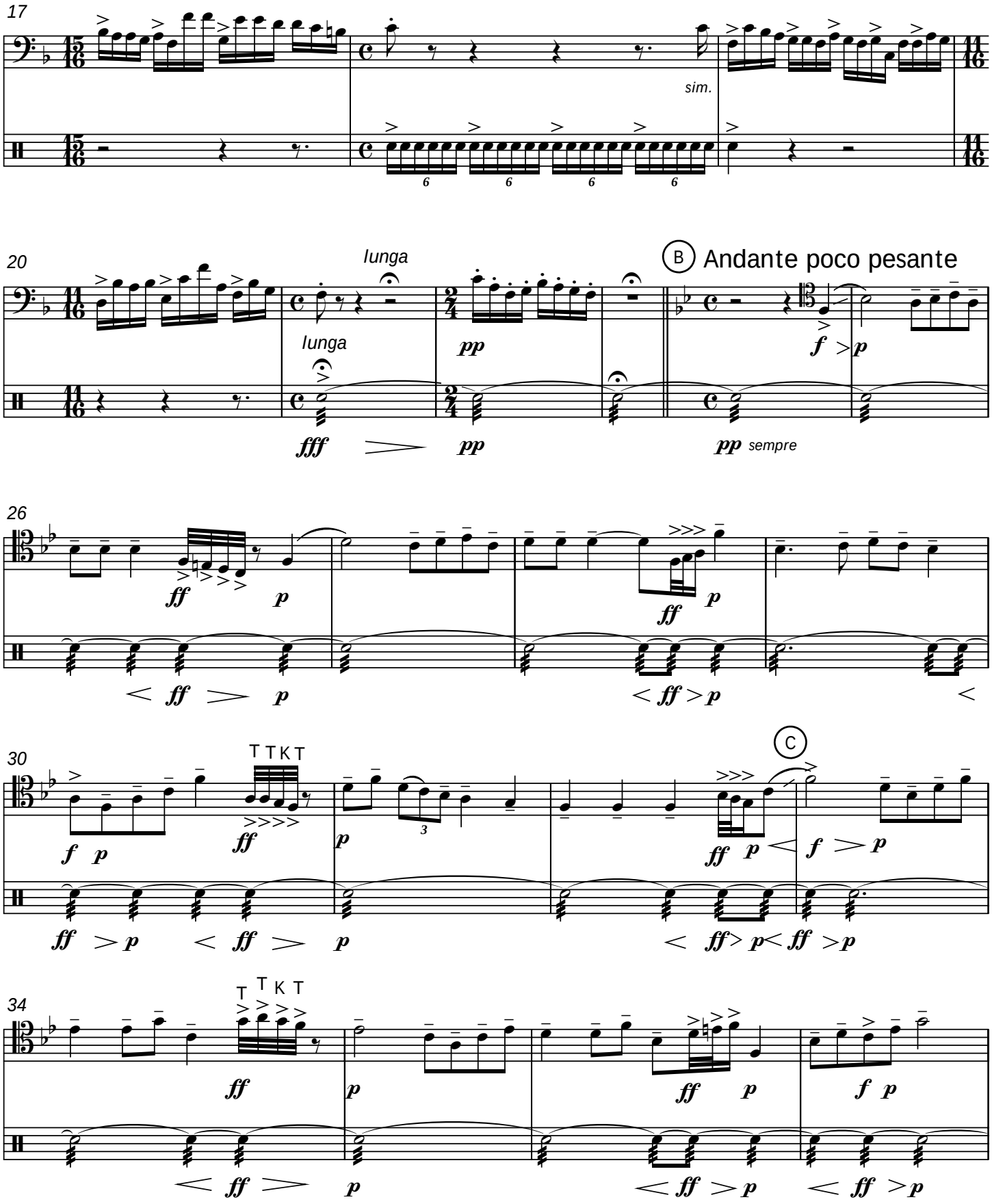

119
Tbn.
Perc.
119
Pno.
121
(Opt.)
Tbn.
ff
fz
fz
Perc.
ff
121
Pno.
ff
fz
Gliss.
8vb

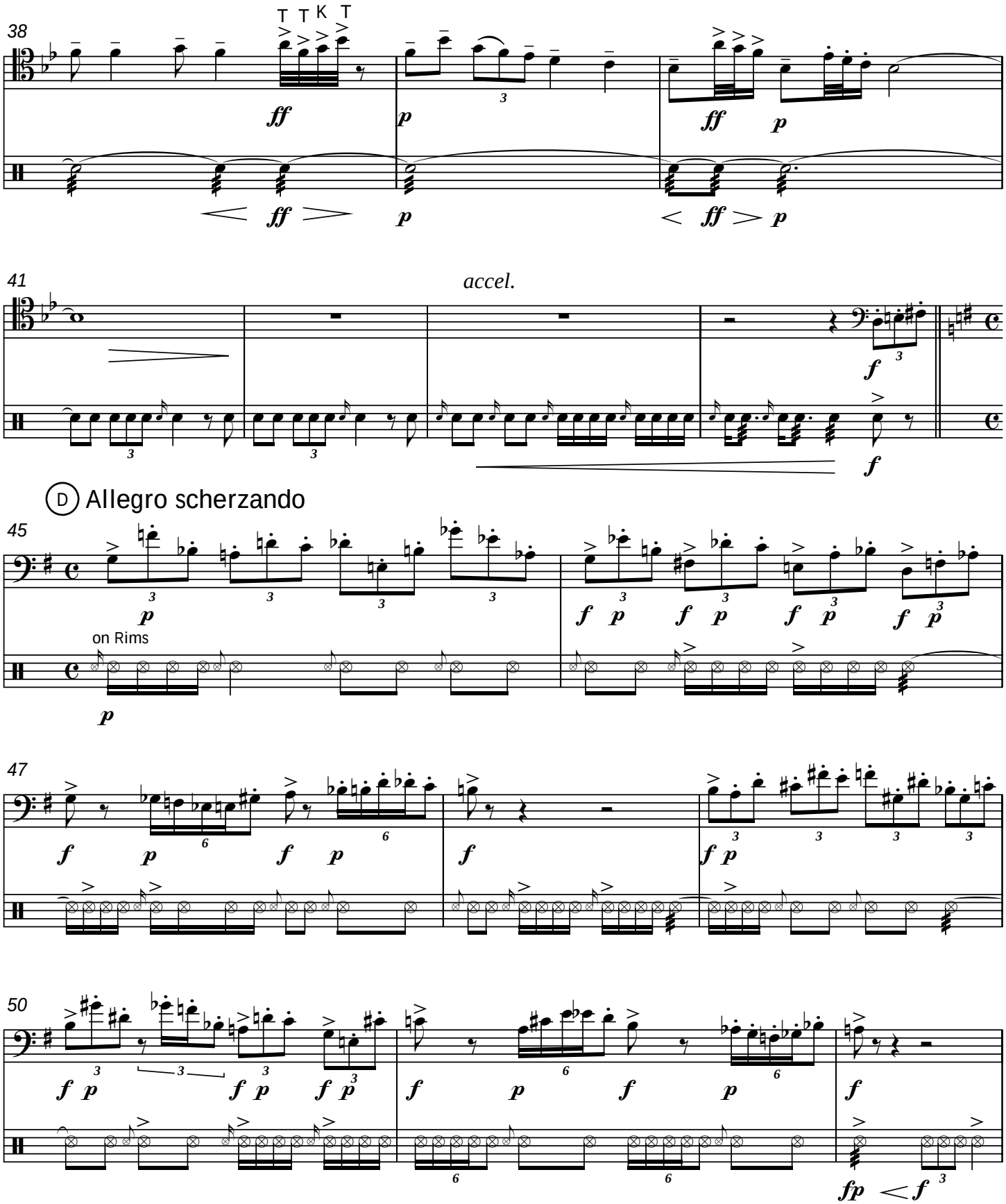
Left Blank for Page Turns.

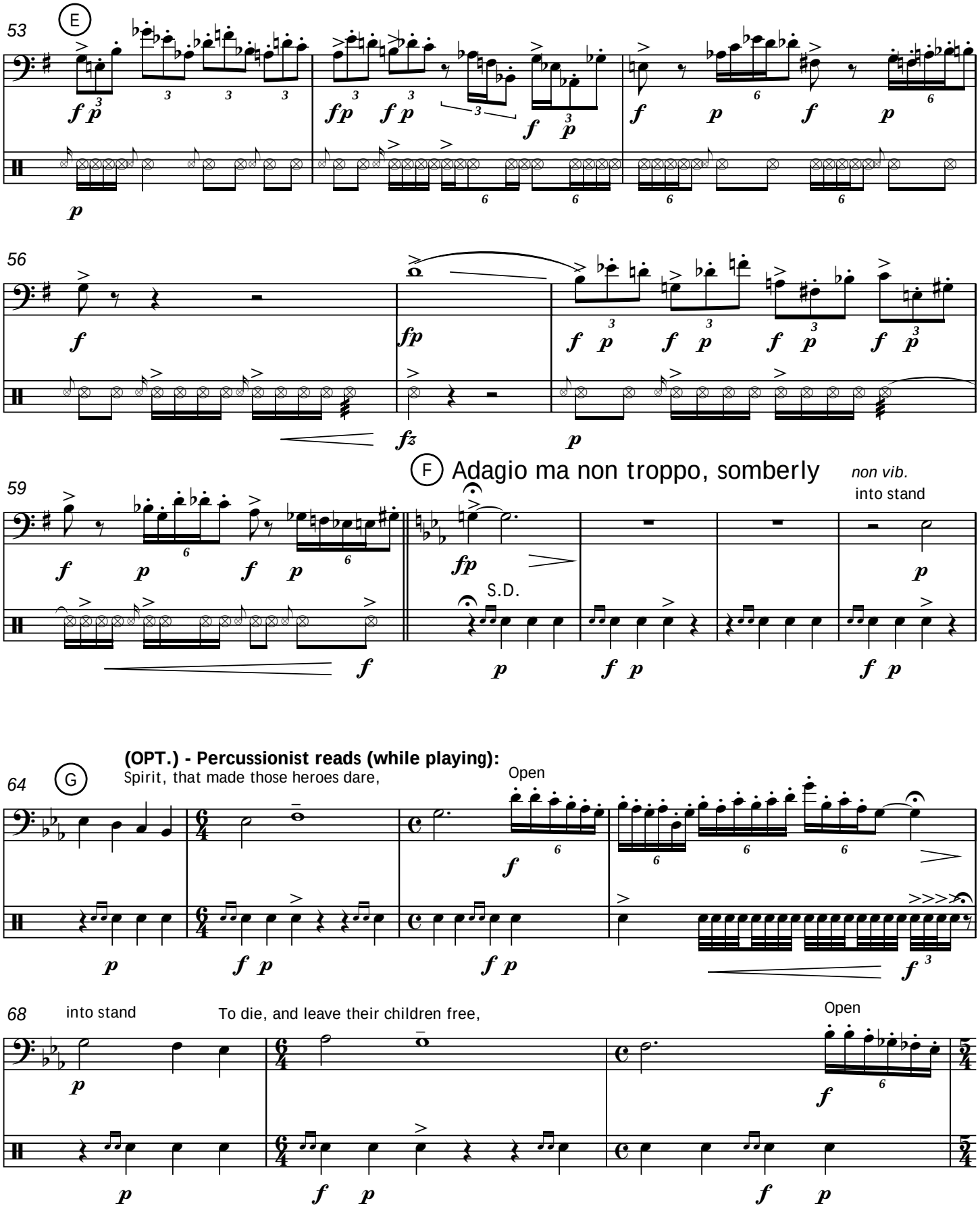
OPTIONAL - Solo Trbn reads:
By the rude bridge that arched the flood,
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,
Here once the embattled farmers stood,
And fired the shot heard round the world.

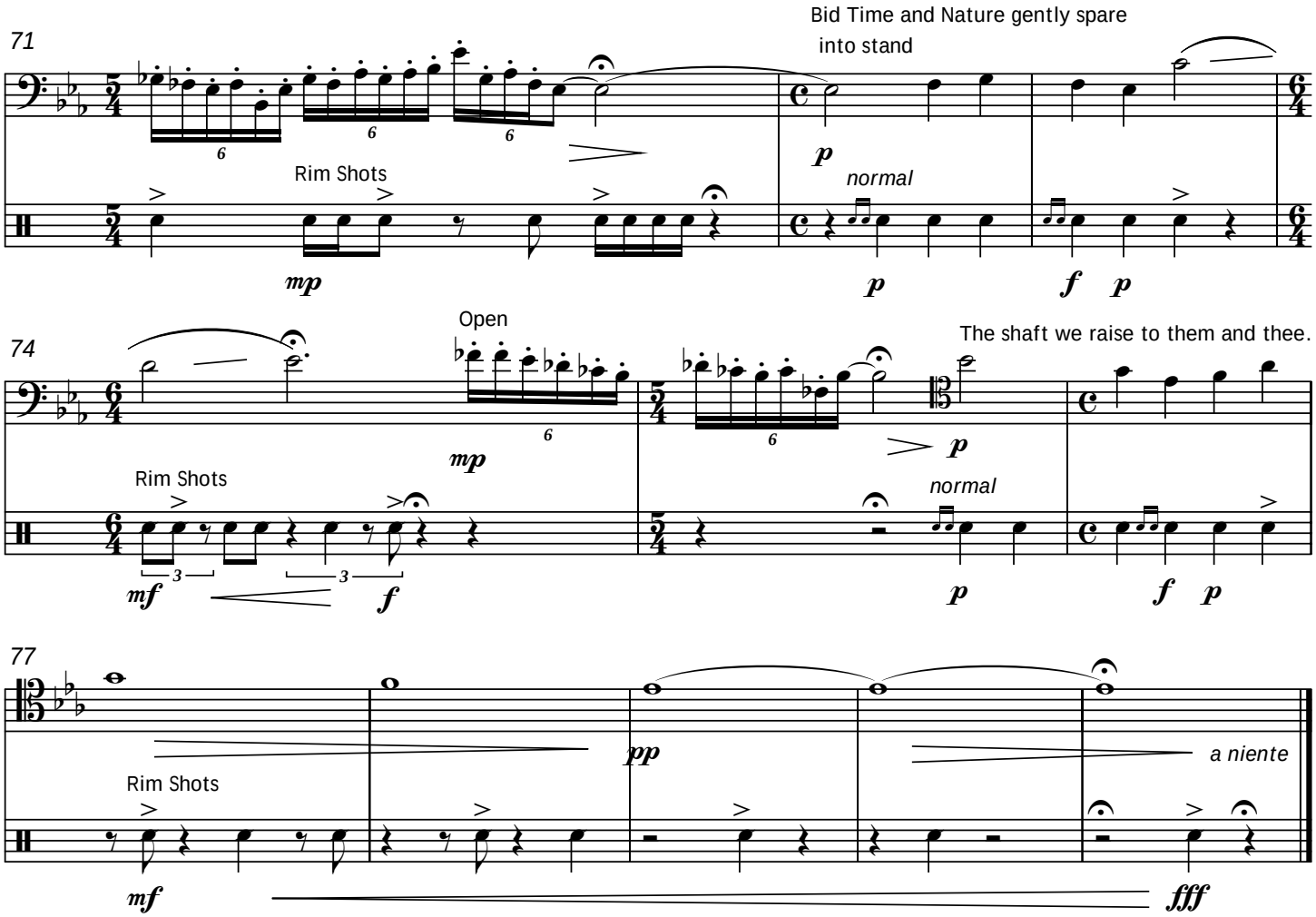
VI.
"Concord Hymn"




17
sim.
20
lunga
lunga
B Andante poco pesante
pp
f p
fff pp pp sempre
26
ff p
ff p
< ff > p
< ff > p
30
T T K T
f p
ff
p
ff p
C
f > p
ff > p < ff > p
< ff> p< ff >p
34
T T K T
ff
p
ff p
f p
< ff > p
< ff > p
< ff >p


38
T T K T
ff
p
ff p
ff
p
< ff > p
41
accel.
f
f
D Allegro scherzando
45
p
on Rims
p
f p f p f p f p
47
f p f p
f
f p
50
f p f p f p
f p f p
f
fp < f


53
E
56
59
F Adagio ma non troppo, somberly
non vib.
into stand
S.D.
64
G
(OPT.) - Percussionist reads (while playing):
Spirit, that made those heroes dare,
Open
68
into stand
To die, and leave their children free,
Open


71
Bid Time and Nature gently spare
into stand
Rim Shots
normal
74
Open
The shaft we raise to them and thee.
Rim Shots
normal
77
Rim Shots
a niente

More music by Jim for Trombone:

Concerto 'Braziliano' for Trombone and Orchestra [2007] 18 minutes (*for Nitzan Haroz*)

Wind Ensemble version available in 2010.

Sonata for Trombone/Piano [2006] 13 minutes (*Commissioned/Recorded by Mark Hetzler*)

Scenes from New England for Trombone, Percussion and Piano [2008] 16 minutes
Commissioned/Premiered by David Begnoche

Trombone Quartet (Name TBA) [2010]
Commissioned by the St. Louis Symphony Trombone Quartet

for Bass Trombone:

Road Not Taken - Concerto with Trombone Ensemble [2010] 16 minutes
Commissioned/Premiered by Matthew Guilford & the Washington Trombone Ensemble

Sonata [2010] (*Commissioned by Gerry Pagano*)

- Many Brass Quintet arrangements and compositions
  For more information, please visit www.stephensonmusic.com

James Stephenson, Composer
264 Park Ave. • Lake Forest, IL • 60045
www.stephensonmusic.com