Cecilia Damström

Op.53

# Minna

String quartet and piano

25'

2017

My first piano quintet “Minna” is also the first quintet out of a trilogy consisting of three large form works with the theme “Woman’s Destiny”. The trilogy is a commission by the Kokonainen Festival and the upcoming works will be premiered on the festivals of 2018 and 2019.

The first quintet “Minna - Pictures from the life of Minna Canth" got its world premiere on the 20th of August 2017 at the Kokonainen Festival. It was played by the incredible musicians Linda Suolahti, Anna Husgafvel, Mari Viluksela, Sara Viluksela and Tiina Karakorpi. As the name says, it is a selection of images from the turbulent and fascinating life of the first famous Finnish feminist Minna Canth (1844-1897).

The first movement “Alku” (“Beginning”) is about Minna Canth’s happy youth - she was a very bright girl full of life. Her father wanted her to get the best education he could afford, and she was one of the first women to begin her studies at Jyväskylä Teachers Seminary, which was the first school in Finland to offer higher education for women. “I could once again dedicate myself to intellectual occupations and did so with great pleasure and joy. It was as though I had begun to live again.” She however interrupted her studies and married her former teacher Johan Ferdinand Canth. Within the next fourteen years she bore seven children while helping the poor, and working as a journalist.

The second movement “Pysähdys” (“Pause”) is about the despair I can imagine Minna felt, when her husband died in 1889 while she was pregnant with their seventh child. She was exhausted both physically and mentally. After the birth of her seventh child she was very depressed and wrote in her memoir “— — an awful force tried to overwin me to kill my youngest child”.

The third movement “Tahto” (“Volition”) is about the inner thrive of Minna. “My biggest joy and sweetest pleasure is writing. I can’t imagine how I could live anymore, if I wouldn’t be allowed to write,” Minna wrote in a letter in 1883. Tirelessly she wrote both articles and theatre plays during the whole of her life. She was always a very idealistic woman who fought for the rights of the poor, sick and those in need. She worked for laws to regulate alcohol consumption, and for laws that would permit women to own property even after having got married. She questioned the idea that poor people were poor due to God’s will, and instead she implied peoples’ obligation to help the ones in need. She was also a very well read woman who kept herself very well informed about the literature of her time. She writes in one letter “What a great war hero I would have been, had I been born a man in a time of war!”. Due to her fighting spirit and her critical texts, she also managed to get many enemies. But her impact on society was probably greater than that of any other woman at any time in Finland. She is the only woman who has an own flag day in Finland - March 19th, the day of equality.

Minna Canth died due to heart failure on the 12th of May 1897 and the word about her death spread fast around Finland. Her funeral was held three days later and was so well attended that the whole cemetery outside the church was filled with people. The last movement “Muisto” (“Memory”) describes the void she had left in society through her death, but also how she has been the beginning of a new society where people have more equal opportunities. The women’s right activist Lucina Hagman, whom Minna much appreciated, writes about her friend Minna: “You, you taught us to feel humanity, taught us to look for humanity and to find it even there, where the world didn’t want to see it nor recognise it existed. This inexhaustible love is the greatest gift you could give your people; you fulfilled by your acts the greatest eternal command; love one another.”

Title: Minna
Movements: I. Alku II. Pysähdys III. Tahto IV. Muisto
Composer: Cecilia Damström
Instrumentation: violin, violin, viola, cello and piano
also required to sing and whistle
Composed: March to June 2017
Duration: 25 min
For more information please contact
cecilia.damstrom(at)gmail.com

# Minna

*Kuvia Minna Canthin elämästä*

Op.53

I. Alku

II. Pysähdys

III. Tahto

IV. Muisto

*Omistettu kaikille vahvoille naisille*
*jotka ovat taisteluillaan ja työllään tehneet tästä maailmasta paremman*

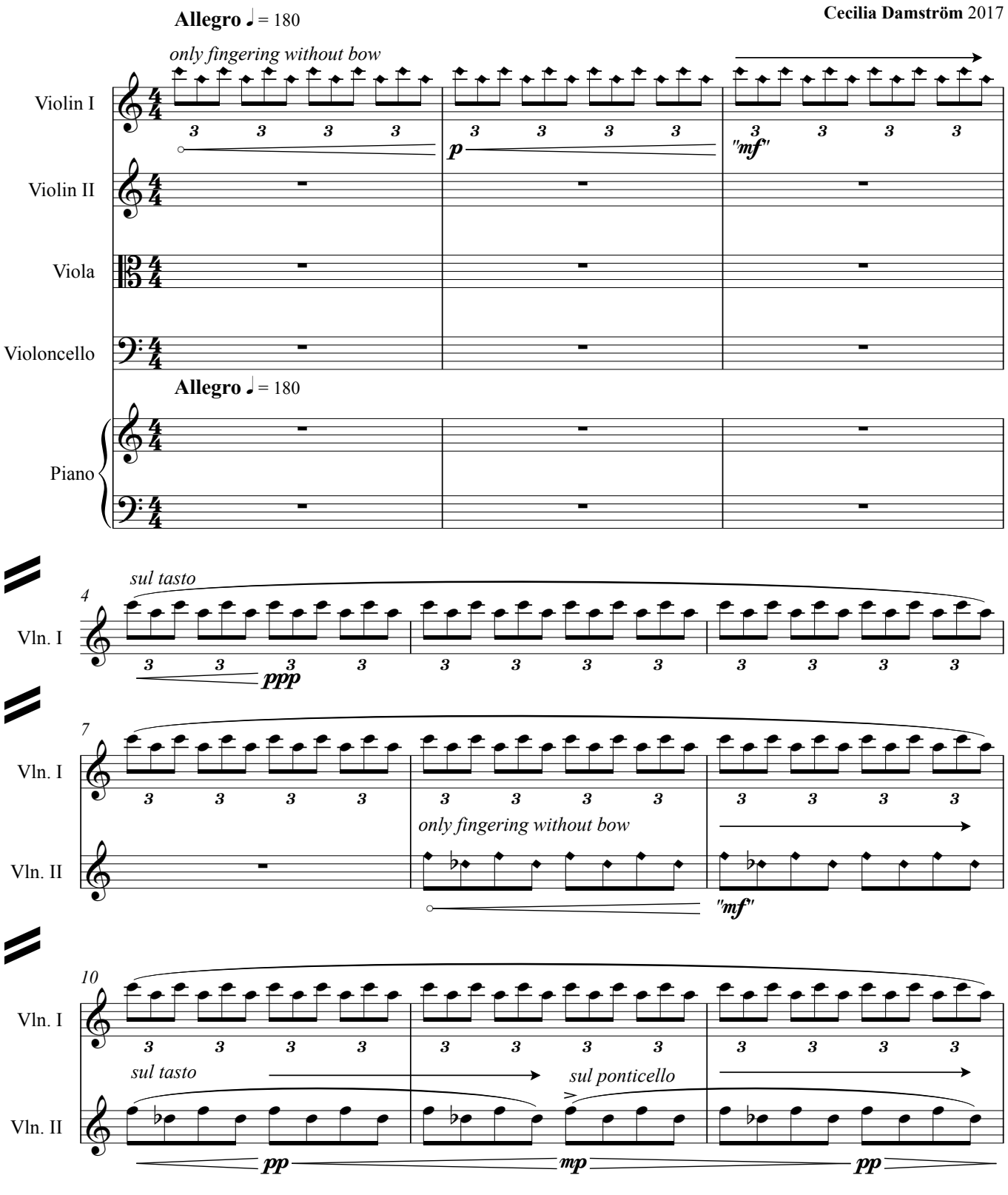
# Minna

*Kuvia Minna Canthin elämästä*

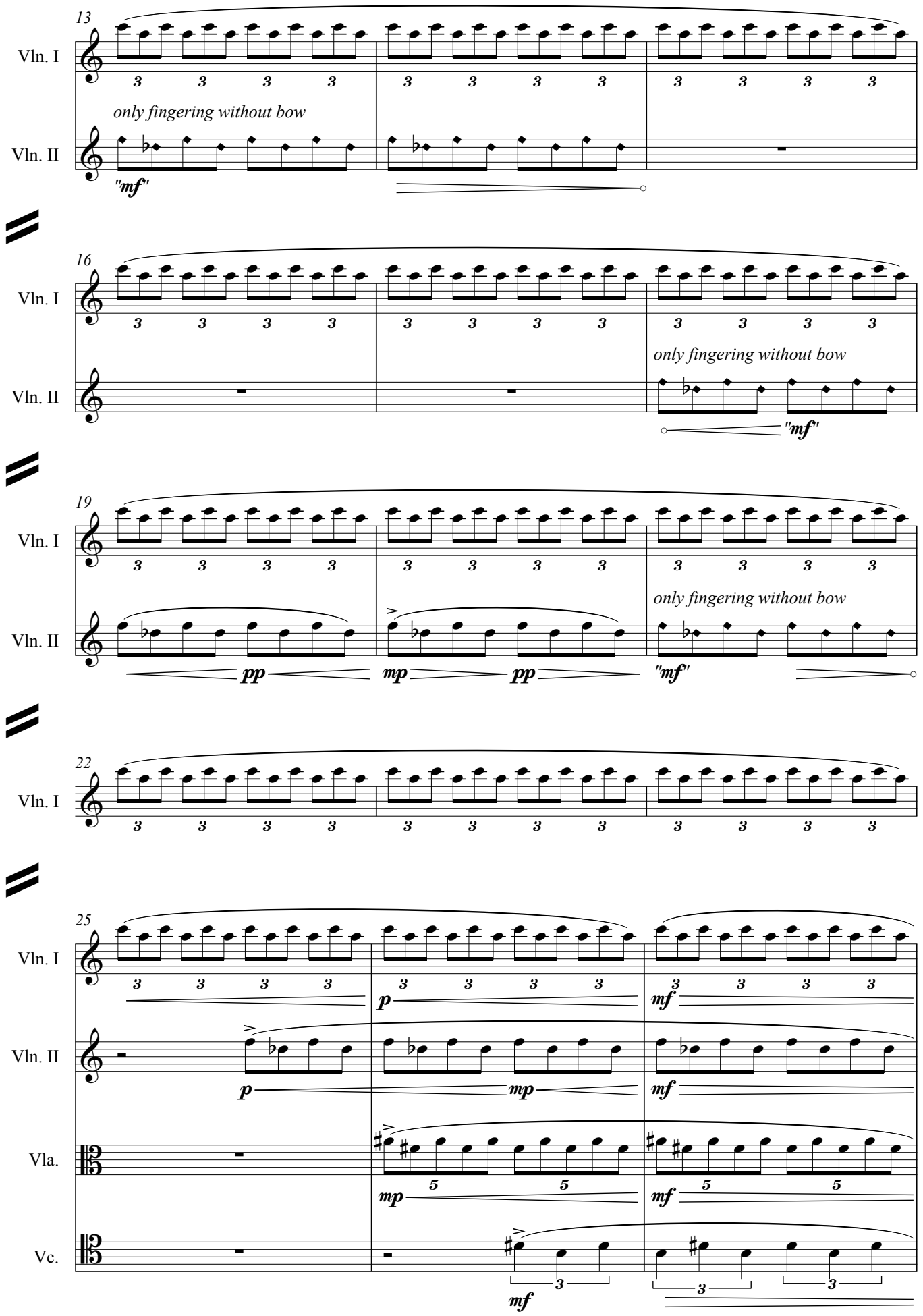
*"Sain taaskin antautua älylliseen askarteluun ja tein sen ilolla ja riemulla.*
*Oli kuin olisin uudelleen alkanut elää."*

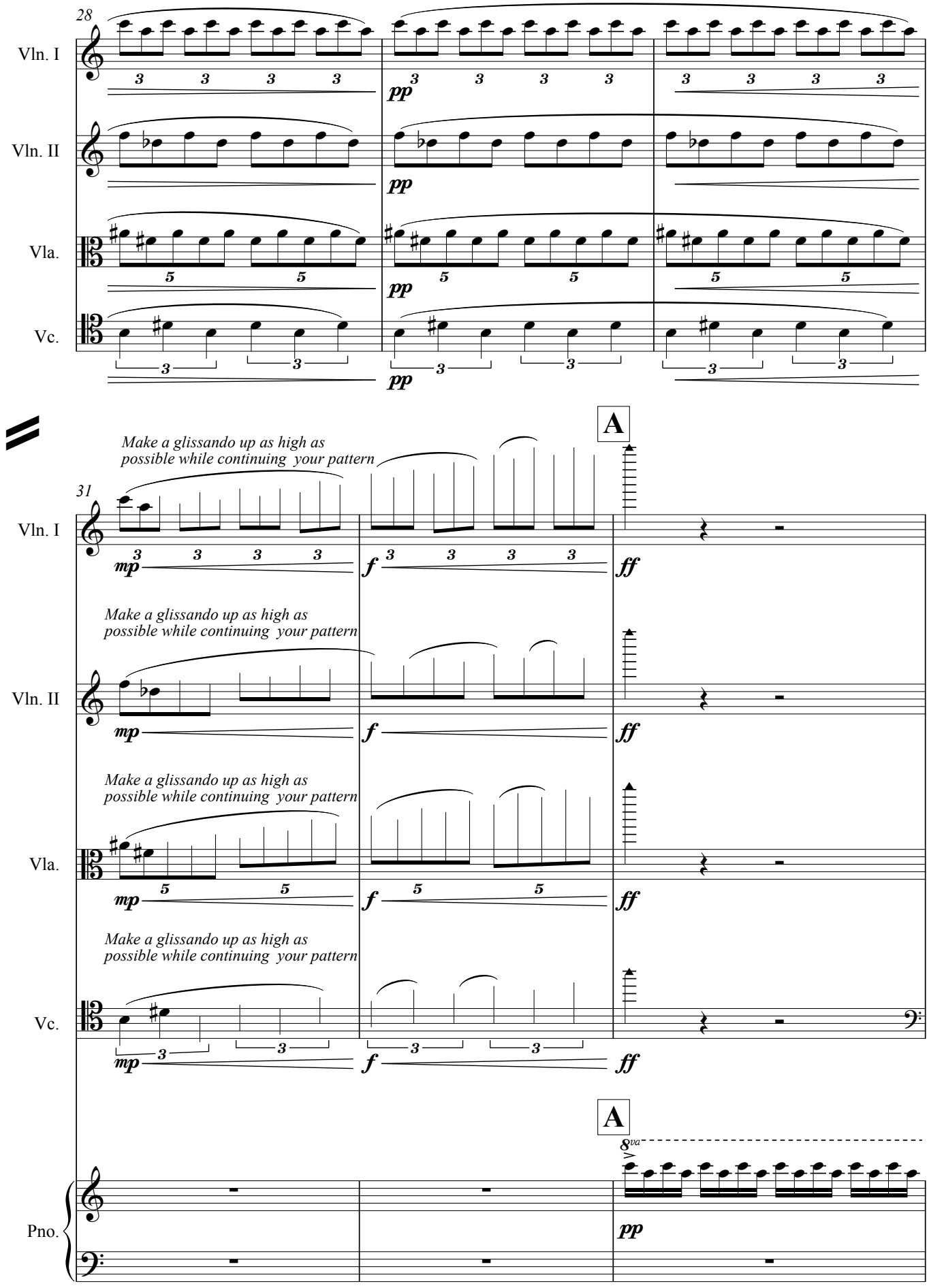
## I. Alku

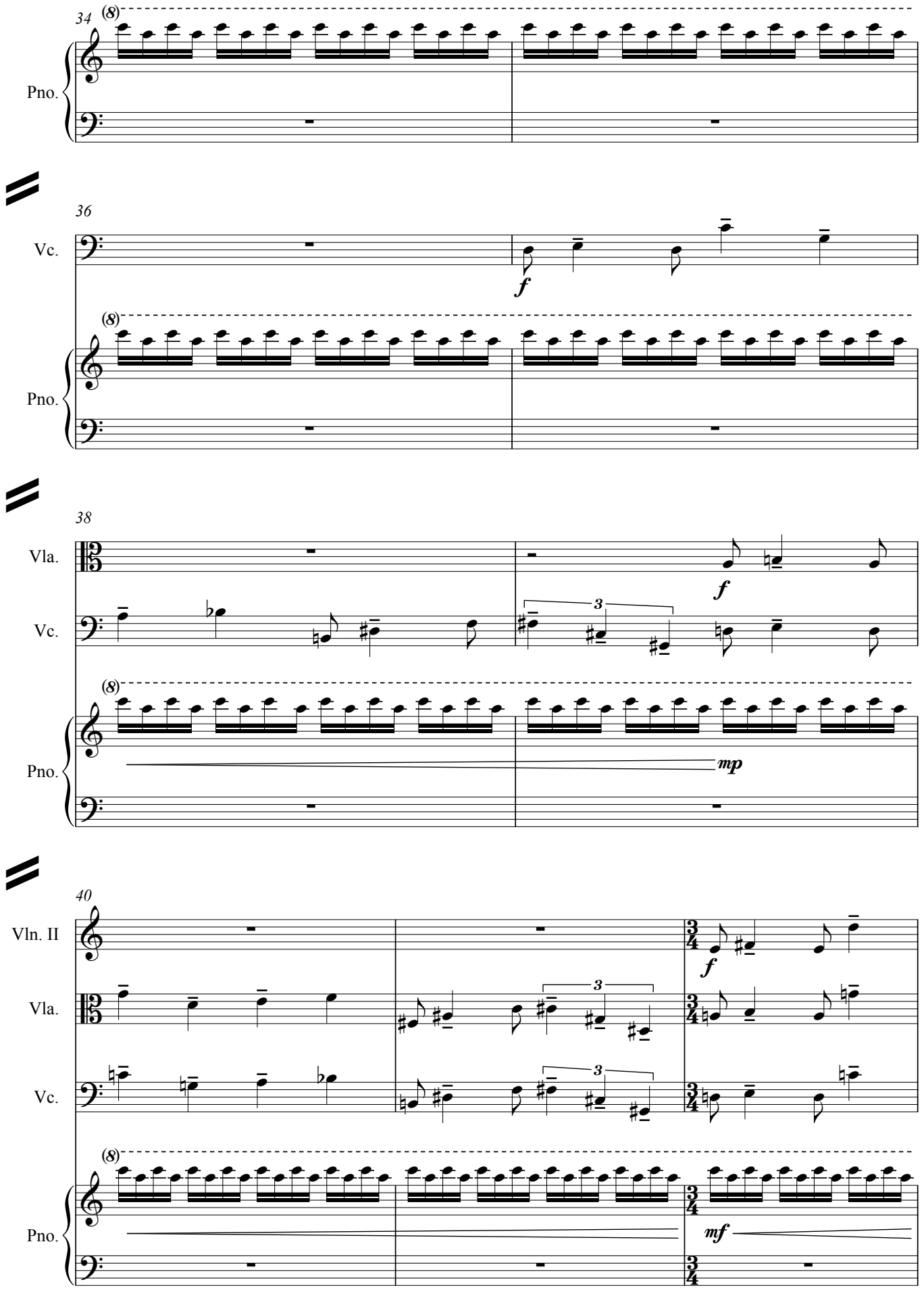
**Cecilia Damström** 2017

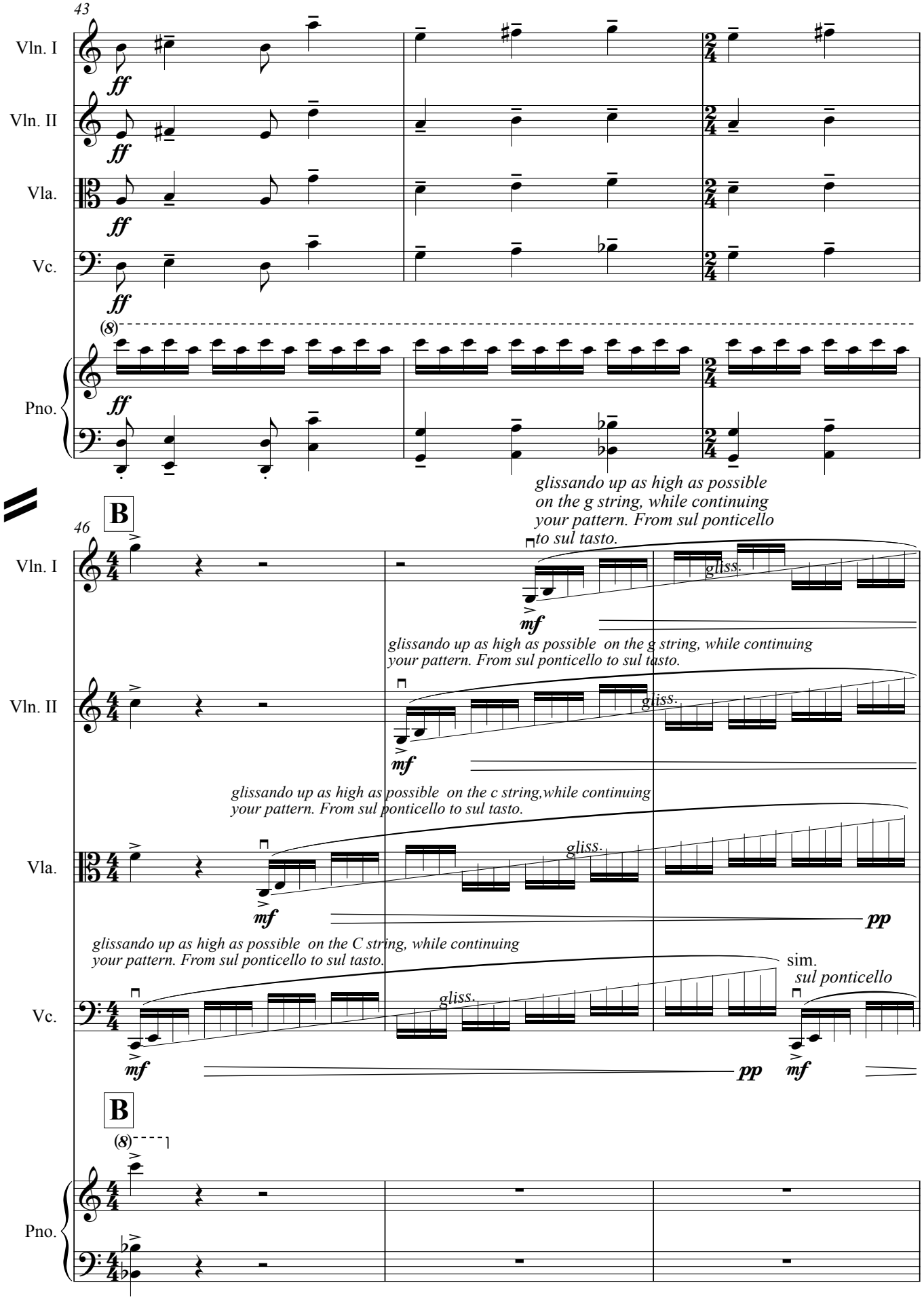


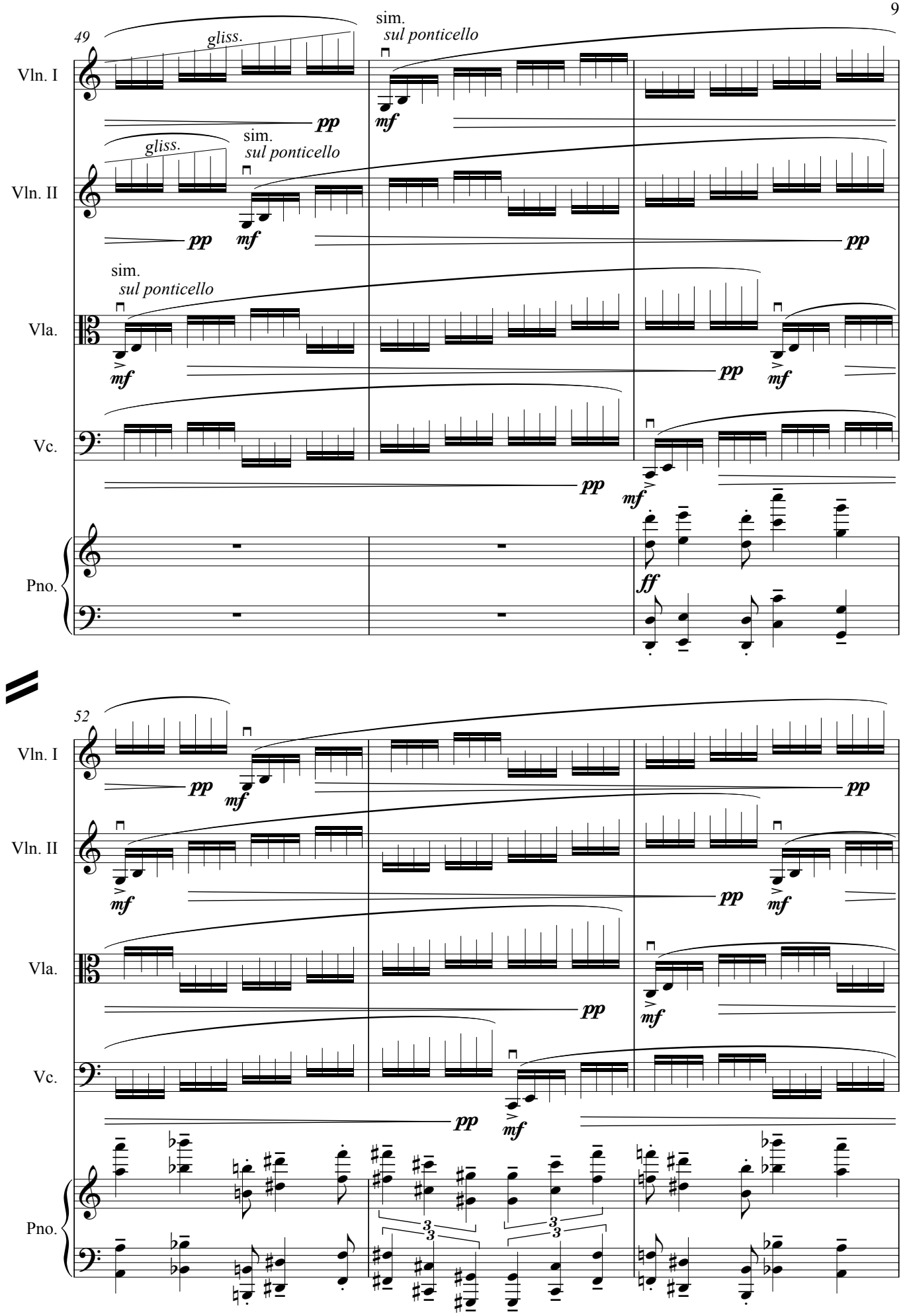

Copyright © Damström

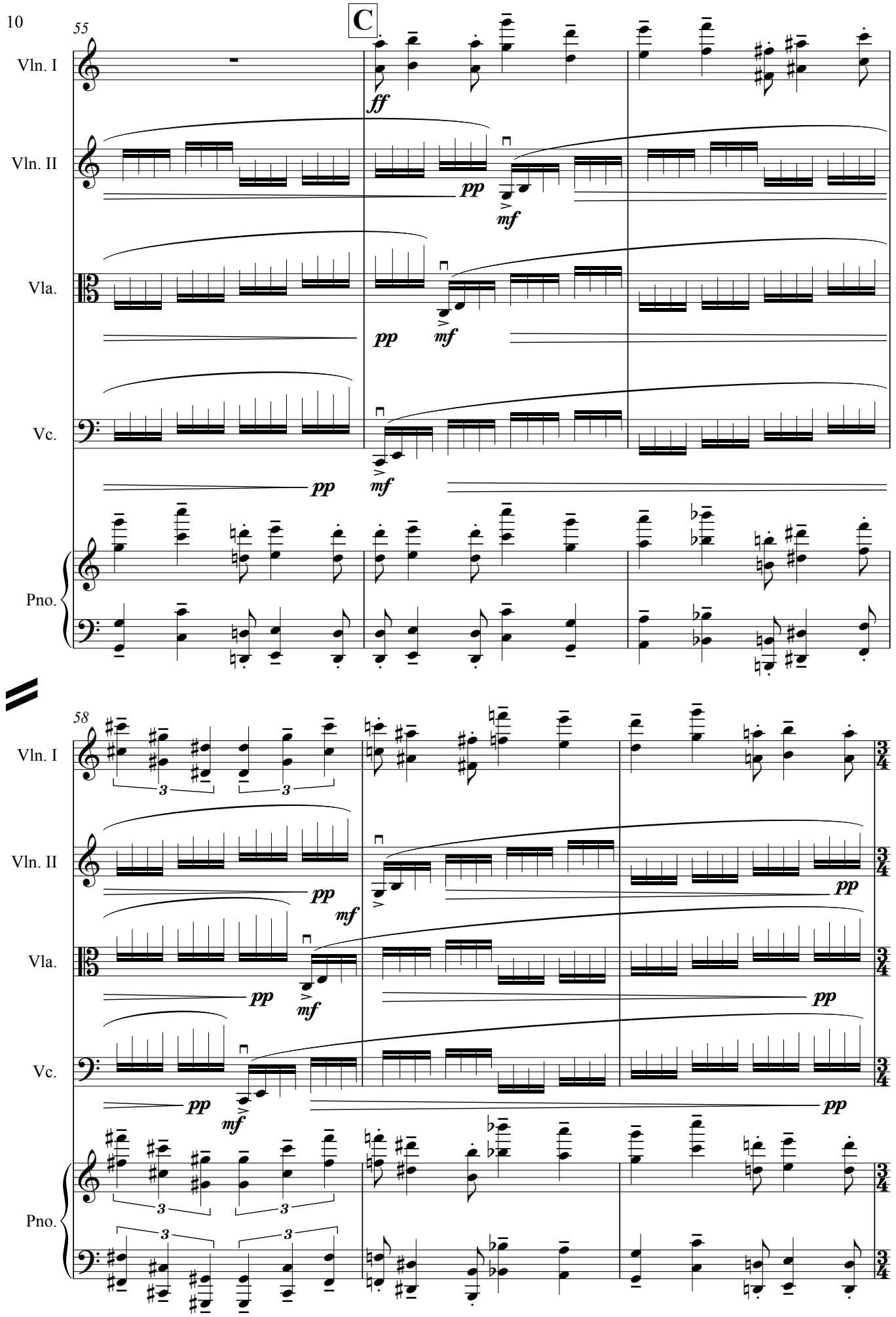

13
Vln. I
Vln. II
only fingering without bow
"mf"
16
Vln. I
Vln. II
only fingering without bow
"mf"
19
Vln. I
Vln. II
only fingering without bow
pp
mp
pp
"mf"
22
Vln. I
25
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p
mf
mp
mf

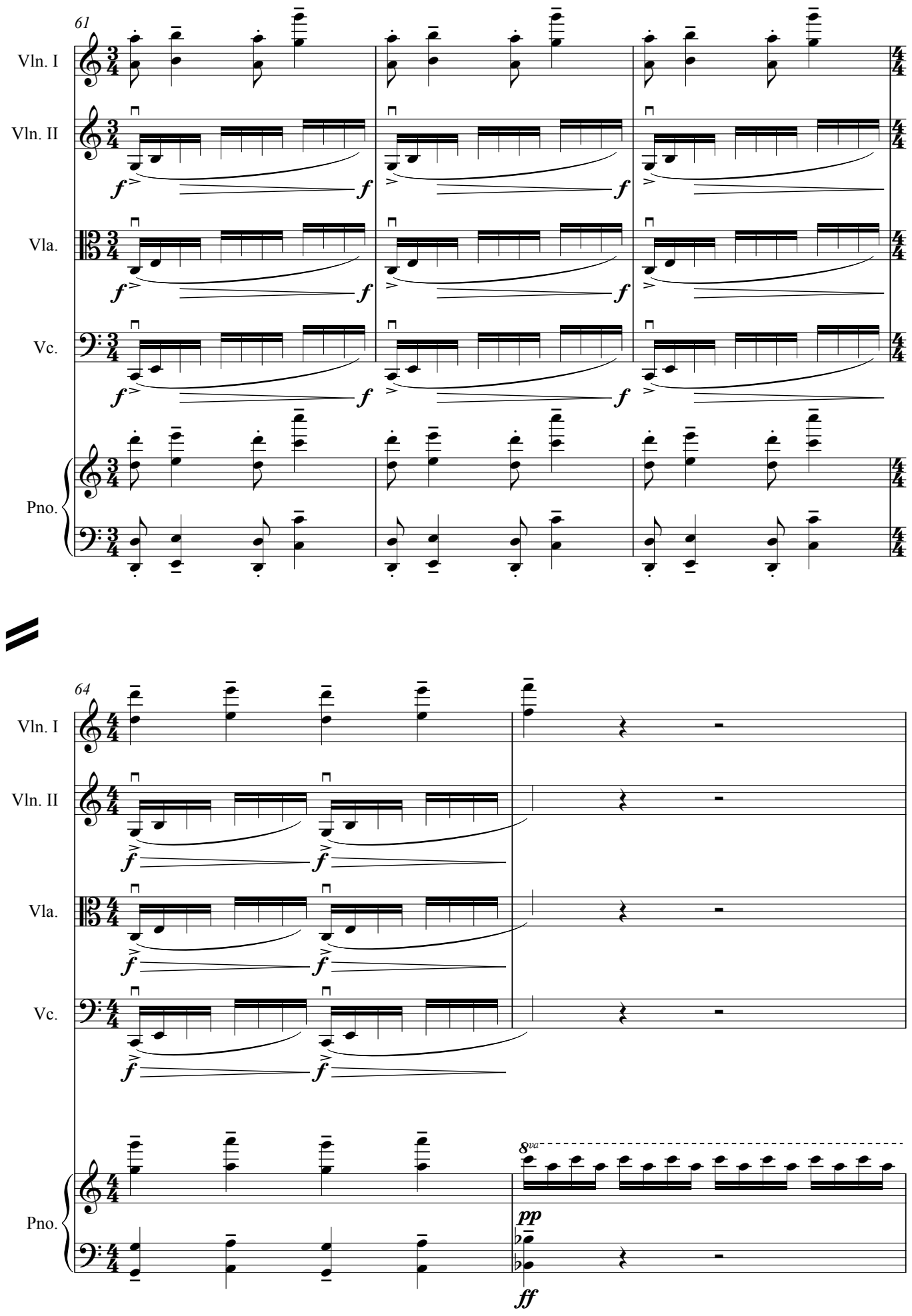

28
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
pp
A
Make a glissando up as high as possible while continuing your pattern
31
mp
f
ff
Pno.
8va

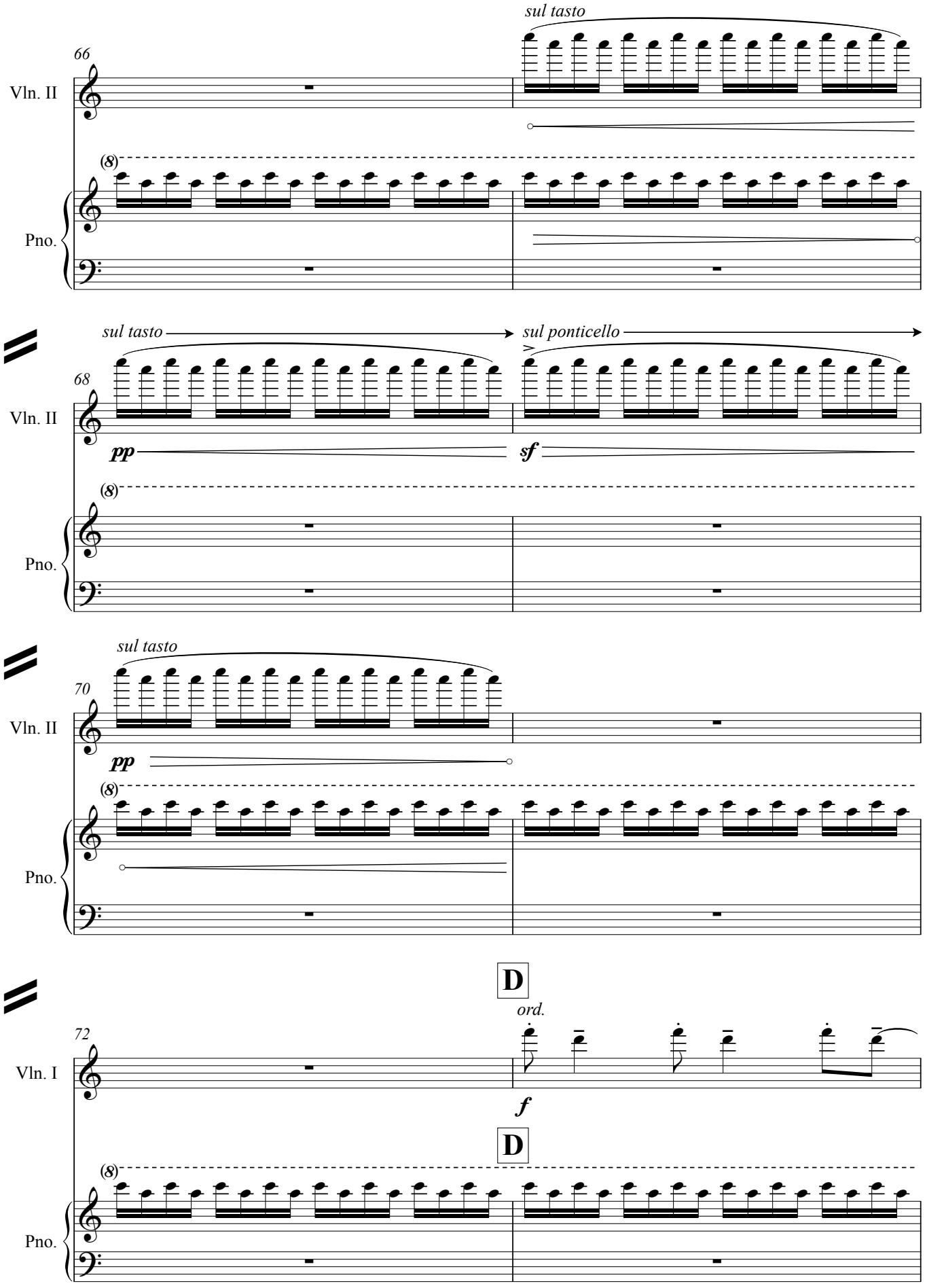

34
Pno.
36
Vc.
f
Pno.
38
Vla.
Vc.
f
3
Pno.
mp
40
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
f
3
Pno.
mf

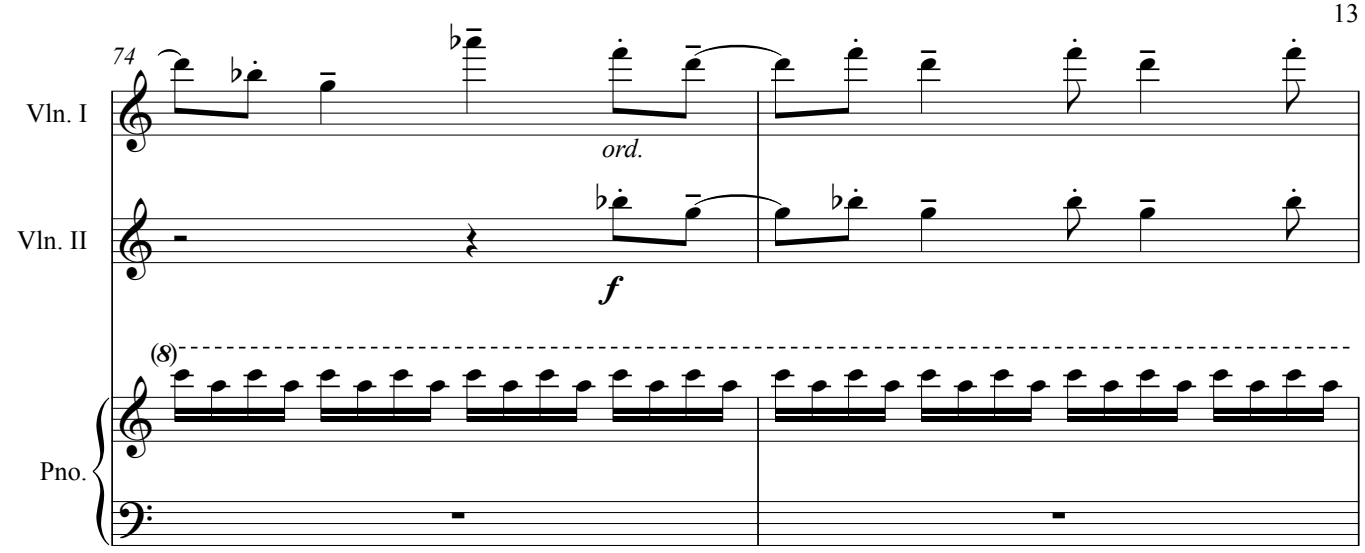

43
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
(8)
B
46
glissando up as high as possible on the g string, while continuing your pattern. From sul ponticello to sul tasto.
gliss.
mf
glissando up as high as possible on the g string, while continuing your pattern. From sul ponticello to sul tasto.
glissando up as high as possible on the c string,while continuing your pattern. From sul ponticello to sul tasto.
pp
glissando up as high as possible on the C string, while continuing your pattern. From sul ponticello to sul tasto.
sim.
sul ponticello

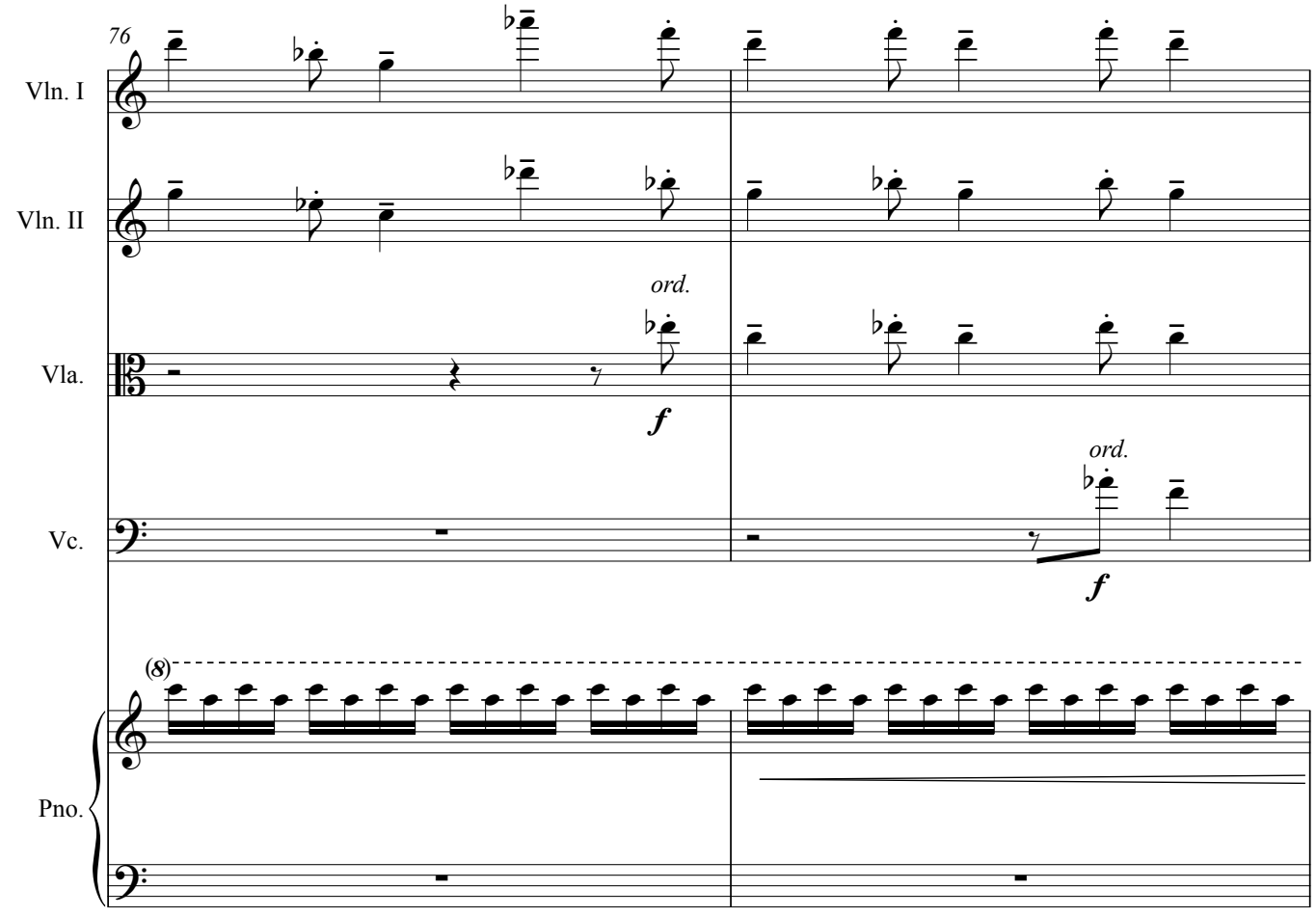

49
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.
sim.
sul ponticello
pp
mf
ff
52

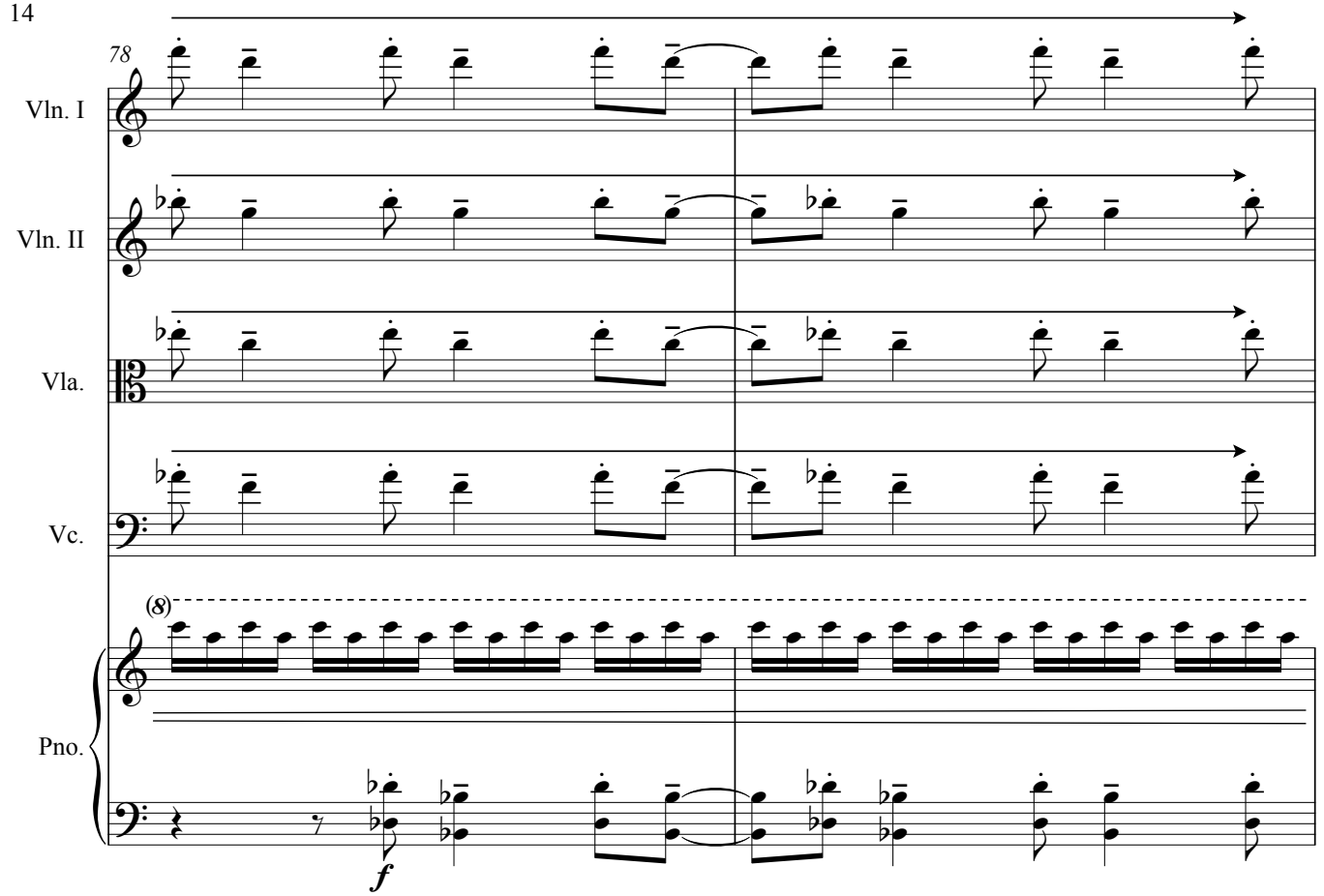

55
C
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
pp
mf
58
3/4

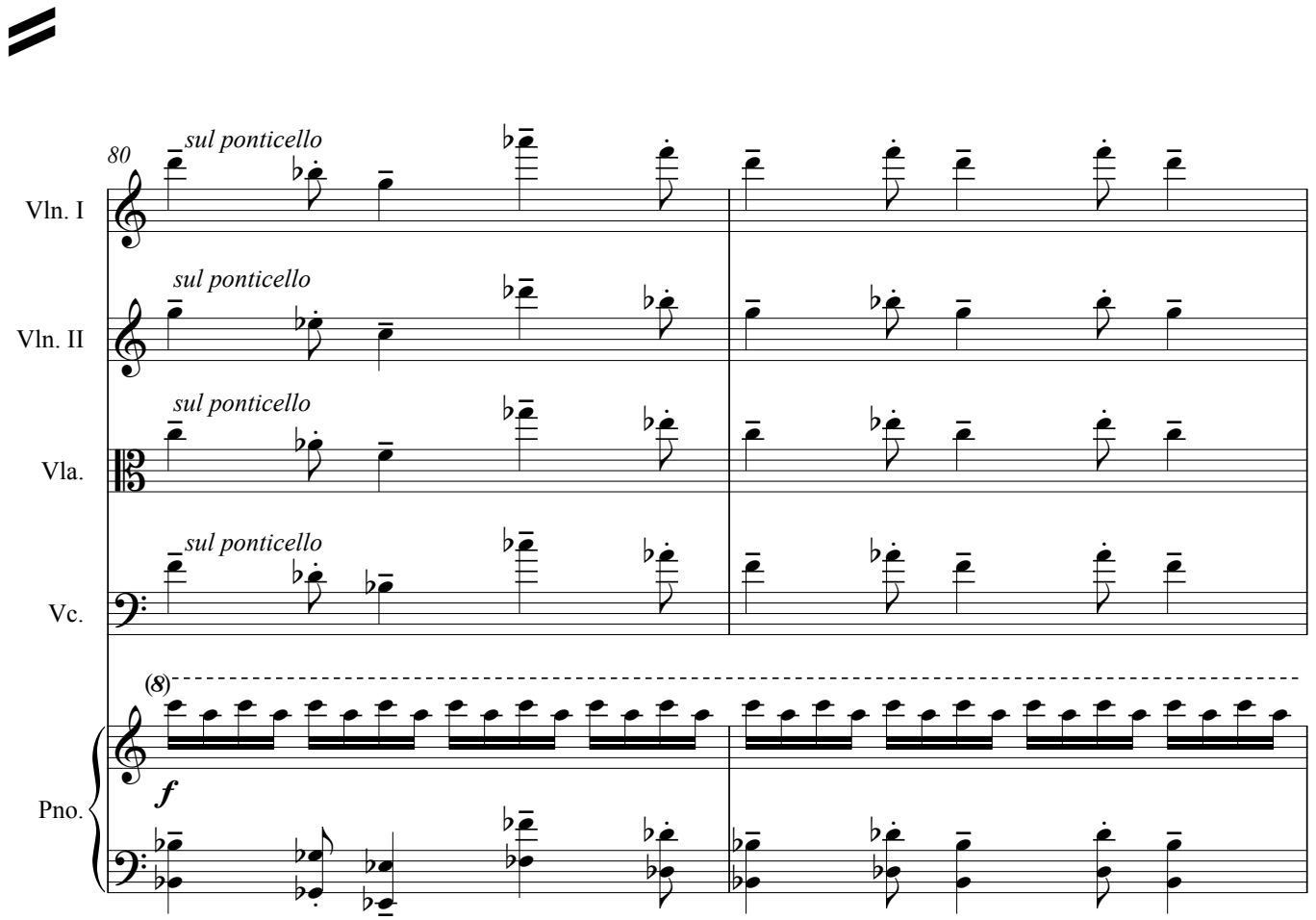

61
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
f
64
8va
pp
ff

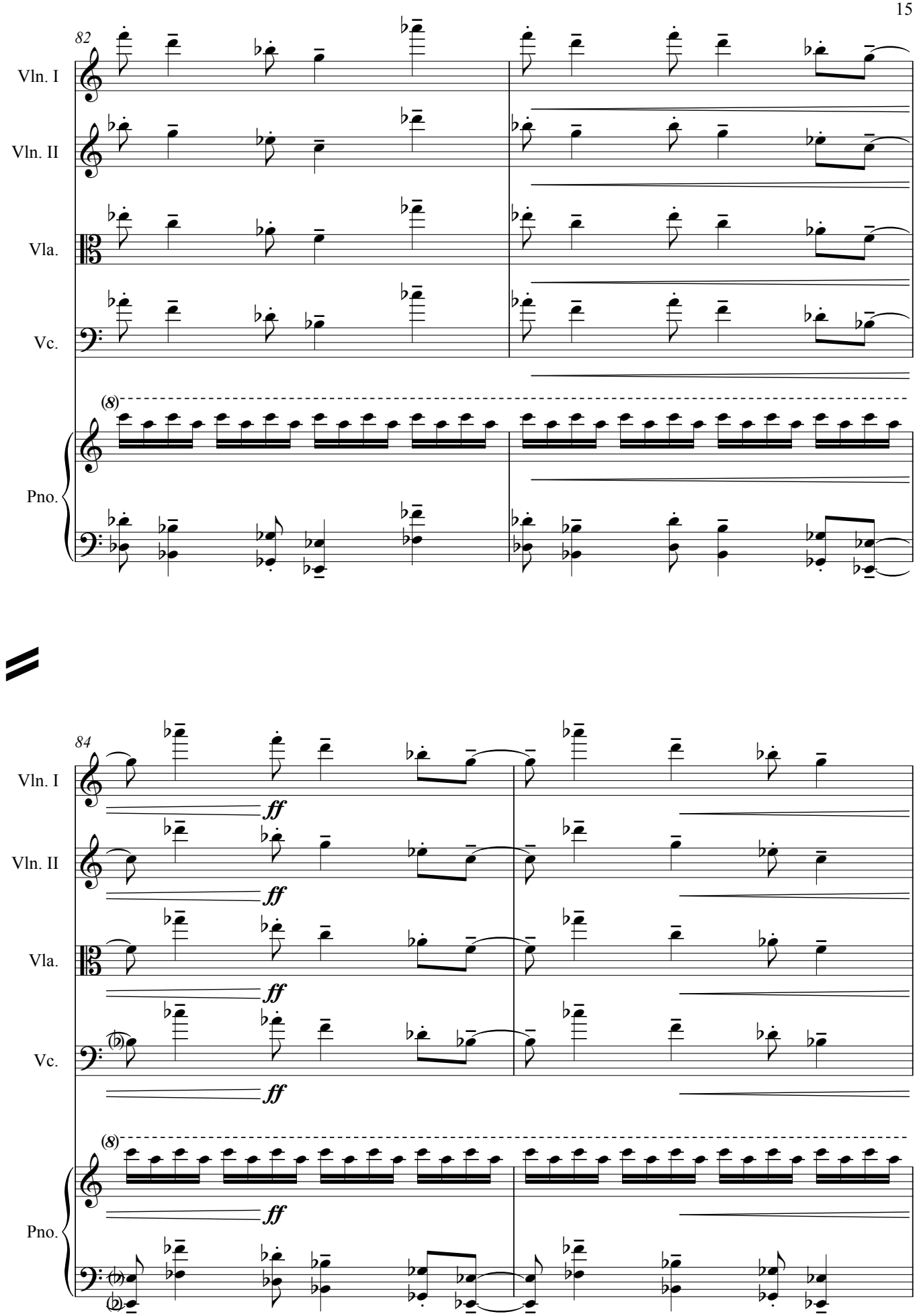

sul tasto
66
Vln. II
(8)
Pno.
sul tasto
sul ponticello
68
Vln. II
pp
sf
(8)
Pno.
sul tasto
70
Vln. II
pp
(8)
Pno.
D
ord.
72
Vln. I
f
D
(8)
Pno.

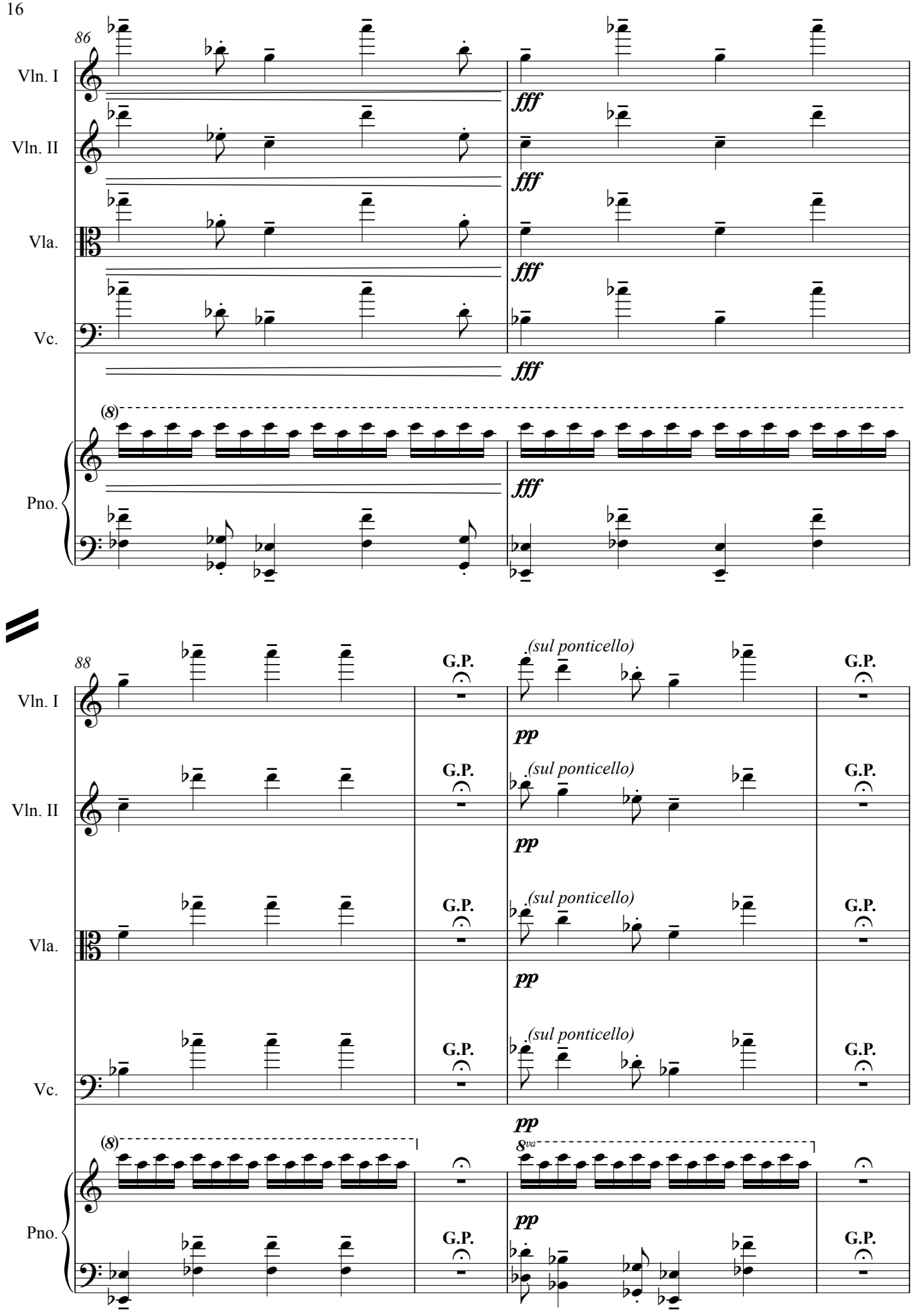

74
Vln. I
ord.
Vln. II
f
(8)
Pno.

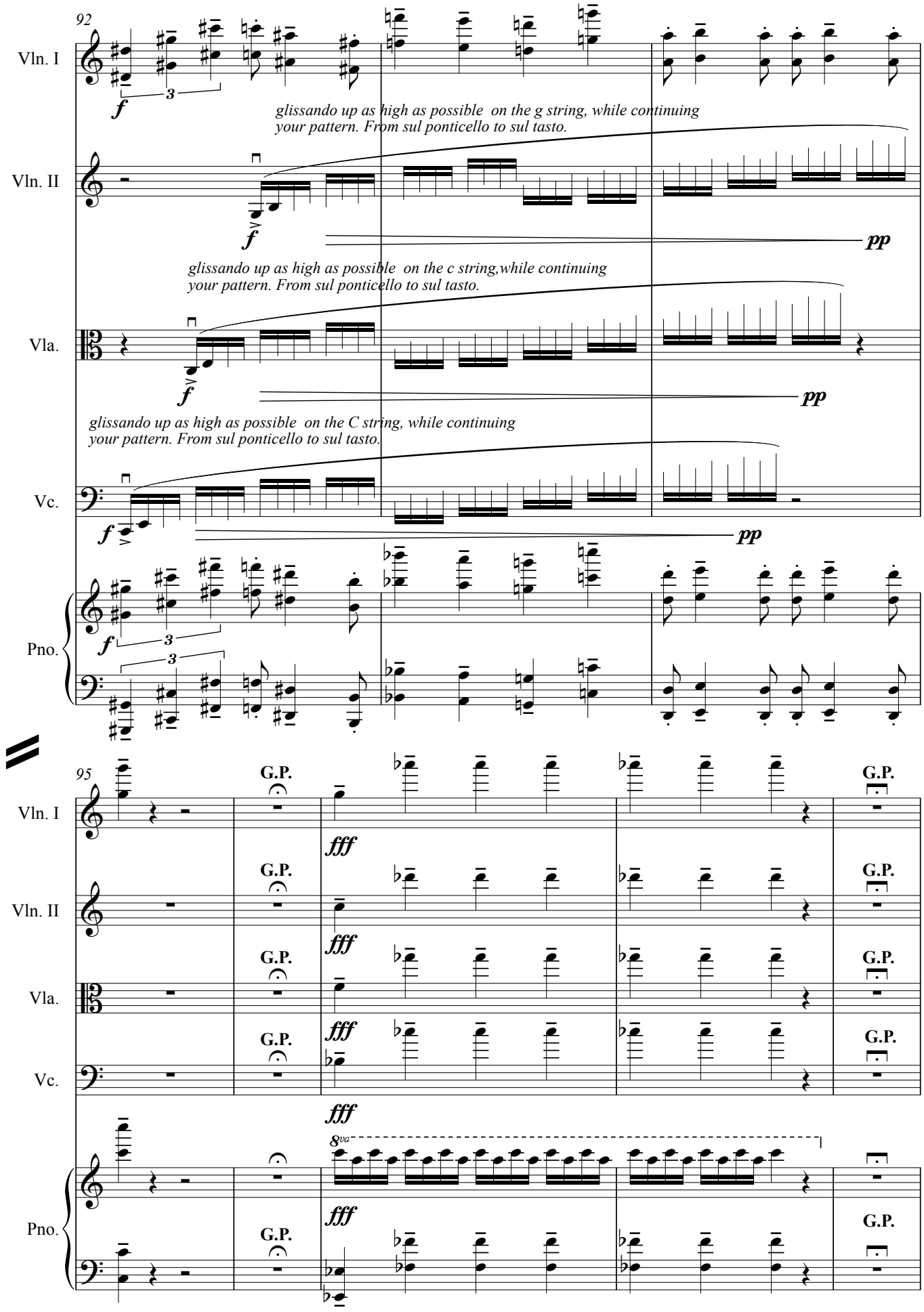

76
Vln. I
Vln. II
ord.
Vla.
f
ord.
Vc.
f
(8)
Pno.


78
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
(8)
f


80
sul ponticello
Vln. I
sul ponticello
Vln. II
sul ponticello
Vla.
sul ponticello
Vc.
(8)
f
Pno.


82
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
(8)
Pno.
84
ff
(8)


86
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
fff
(8)
88
G.P.
(sul ponticello)
pp
8va


92
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
f
3
glissando up as high as possible on the g string, while continuing your pattern. From sul ponticello to sul tasto.
pp
glissando up as high as possible on the c string,while continuing your pattern. From sul ponticello to sul tasto.
glissando up as high as possible on the C string, while continuing your pattern. From sul ponticello to sul tasto.
95
G.P.
fff
8va

**E**

*glissando from as high as possible down to as low as possible on the g string, while continuing your pattern. Go from sul tasto pp to sul ponticello ff. Not slurred.*

100

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Pno.

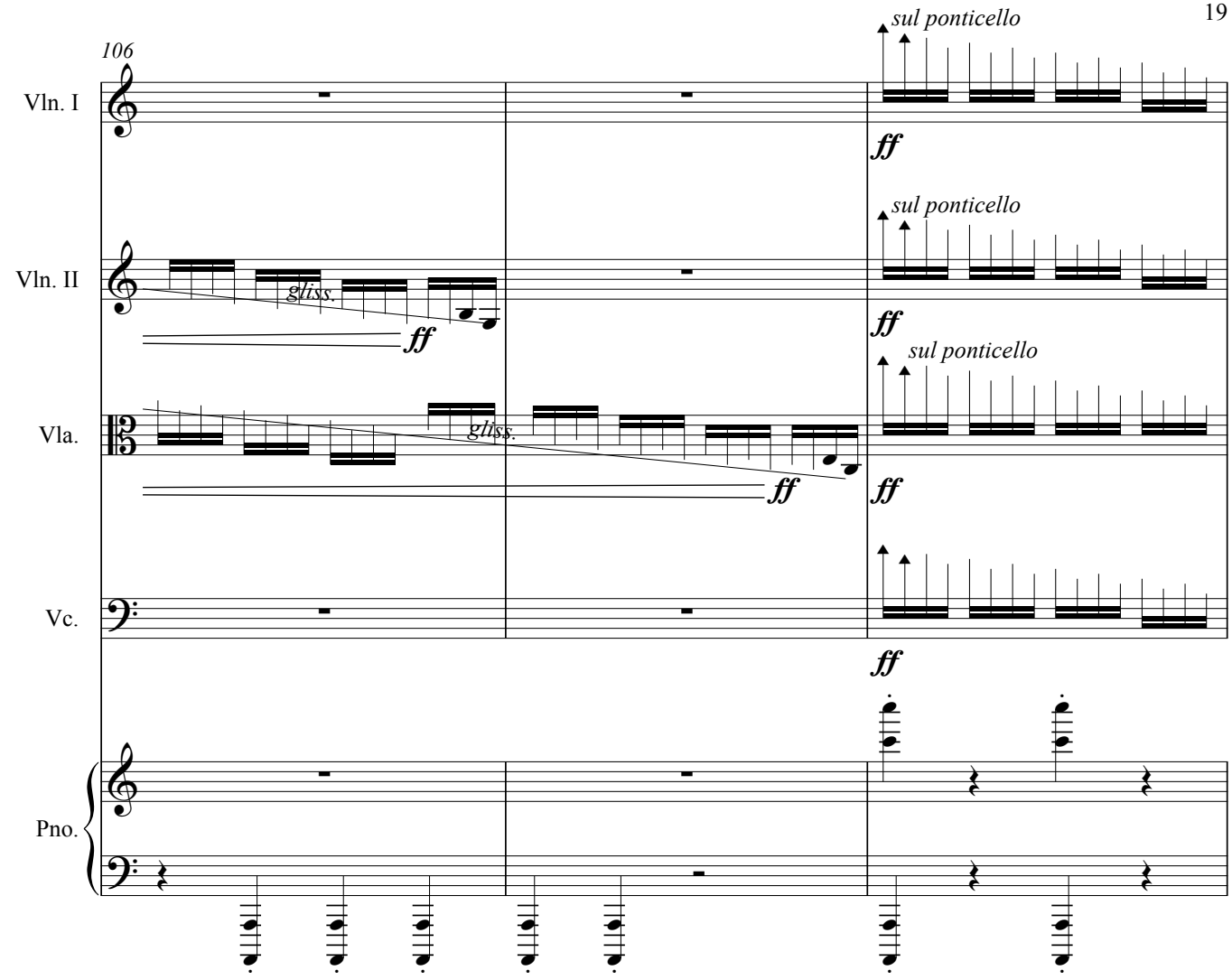
*gliss.*

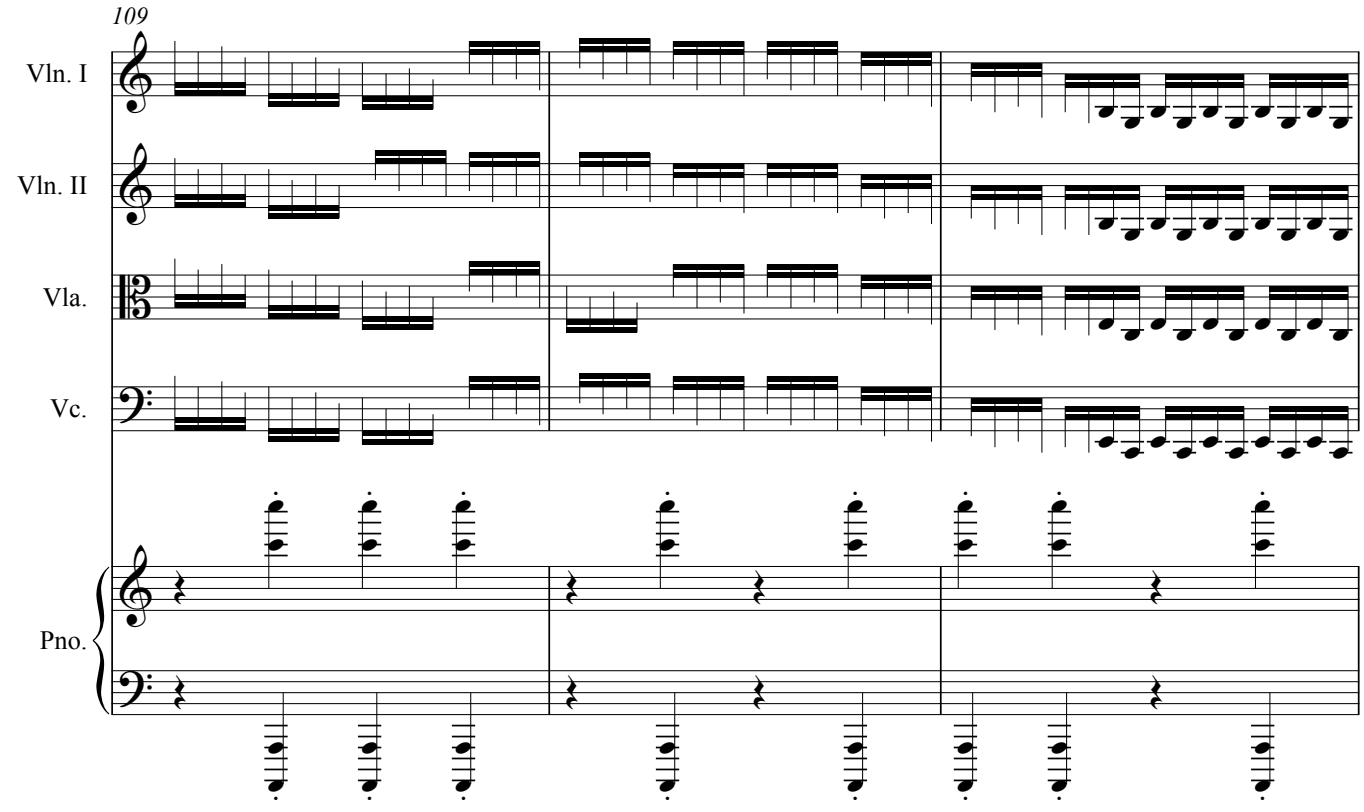
***pp*** ***ff***

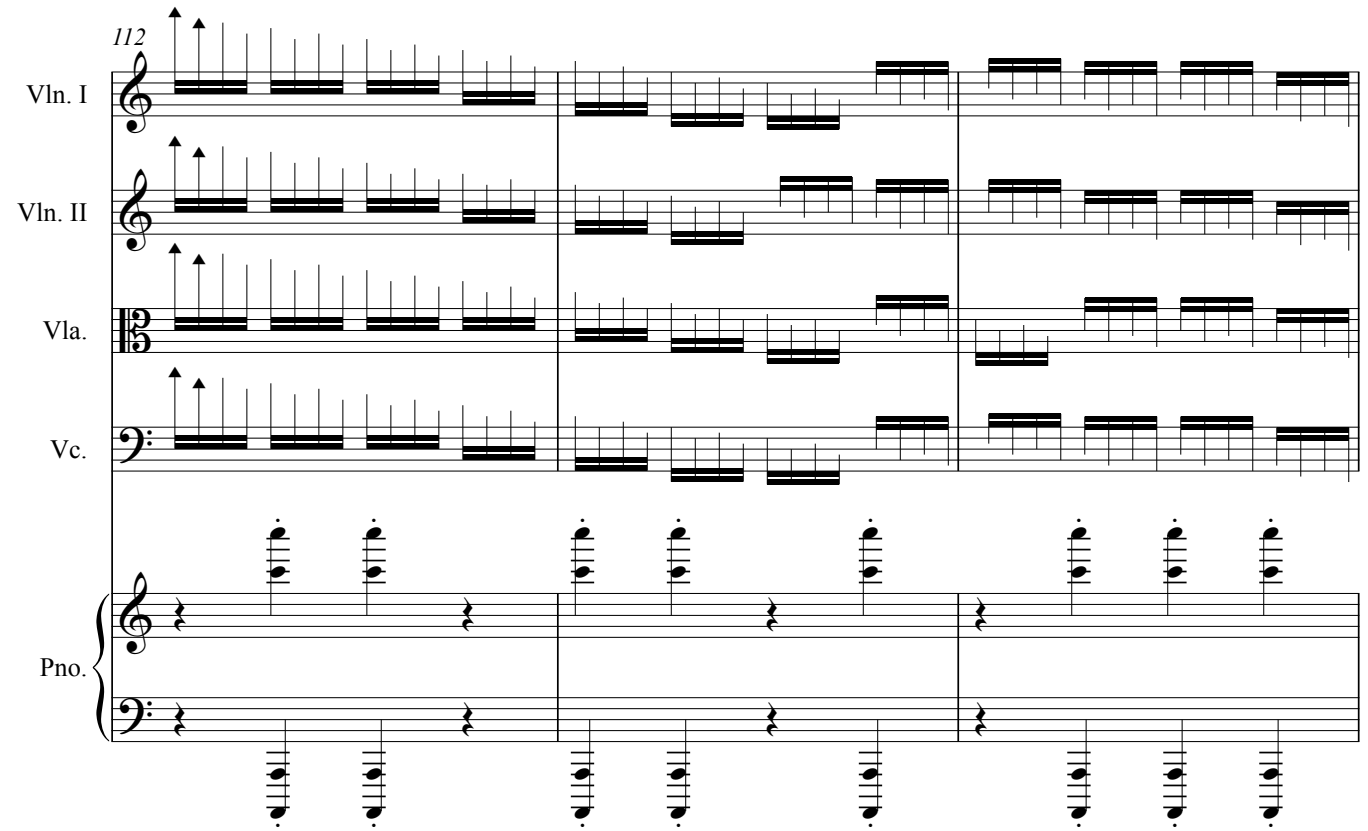
***fff***

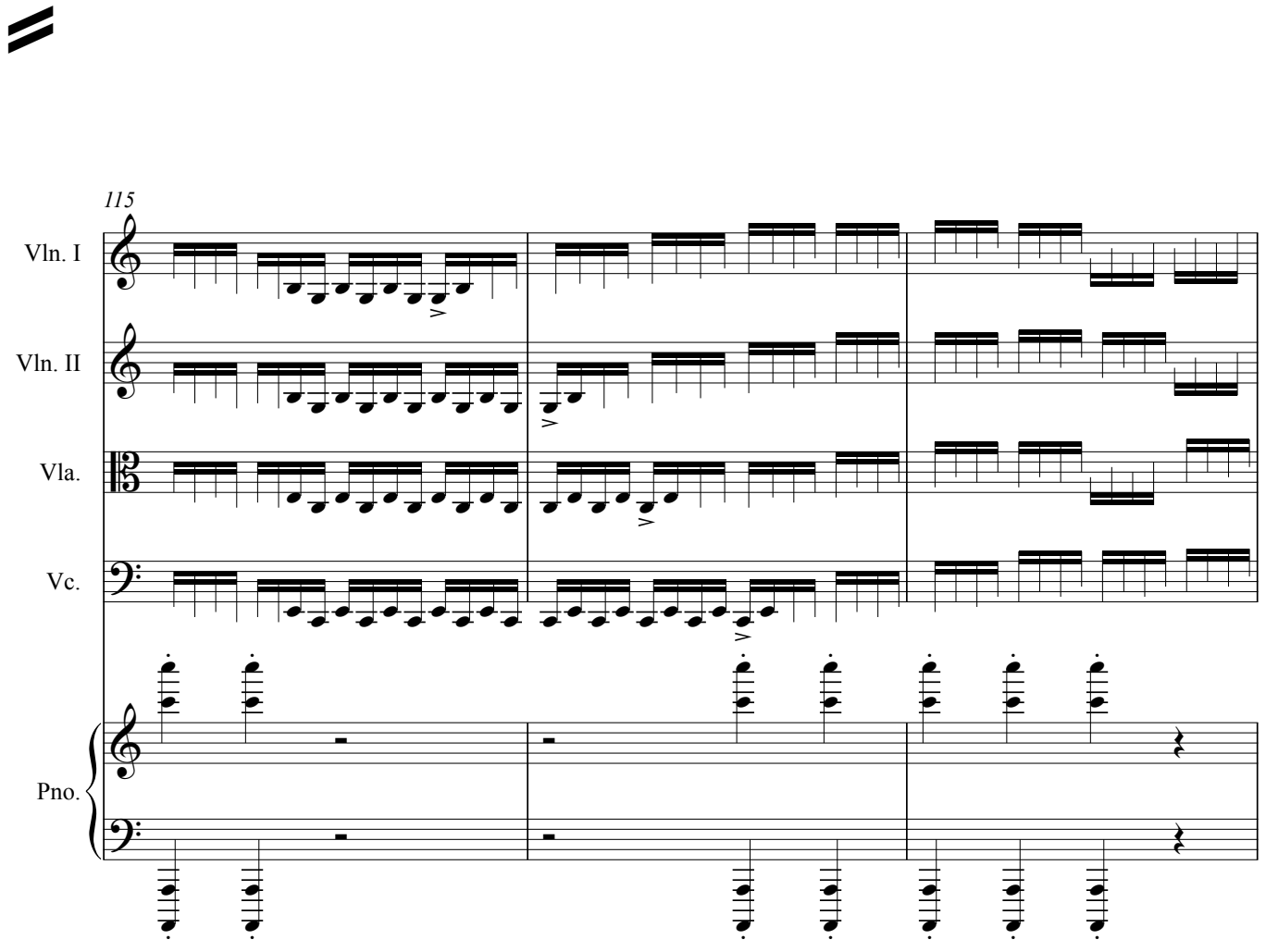
sim.

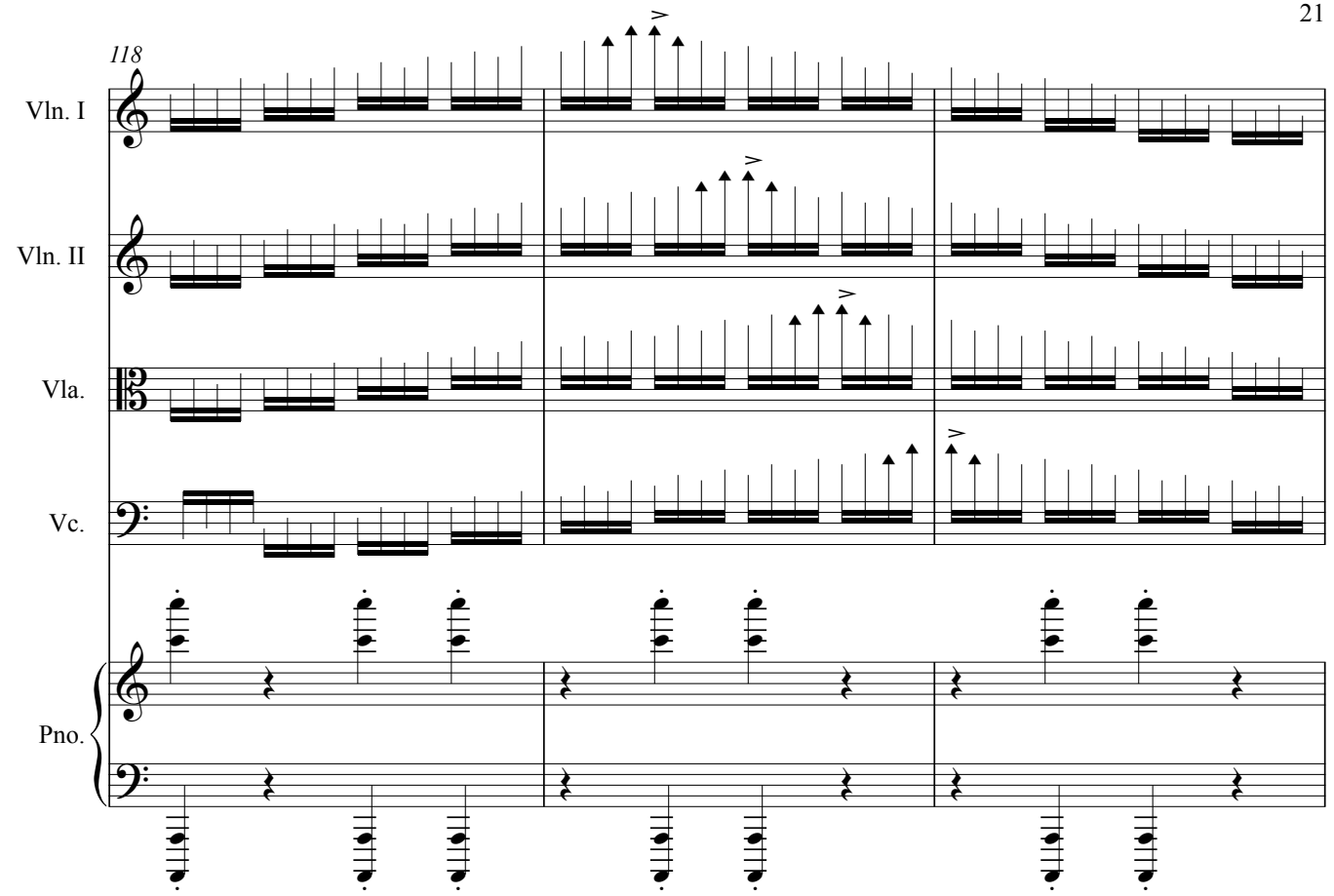
103

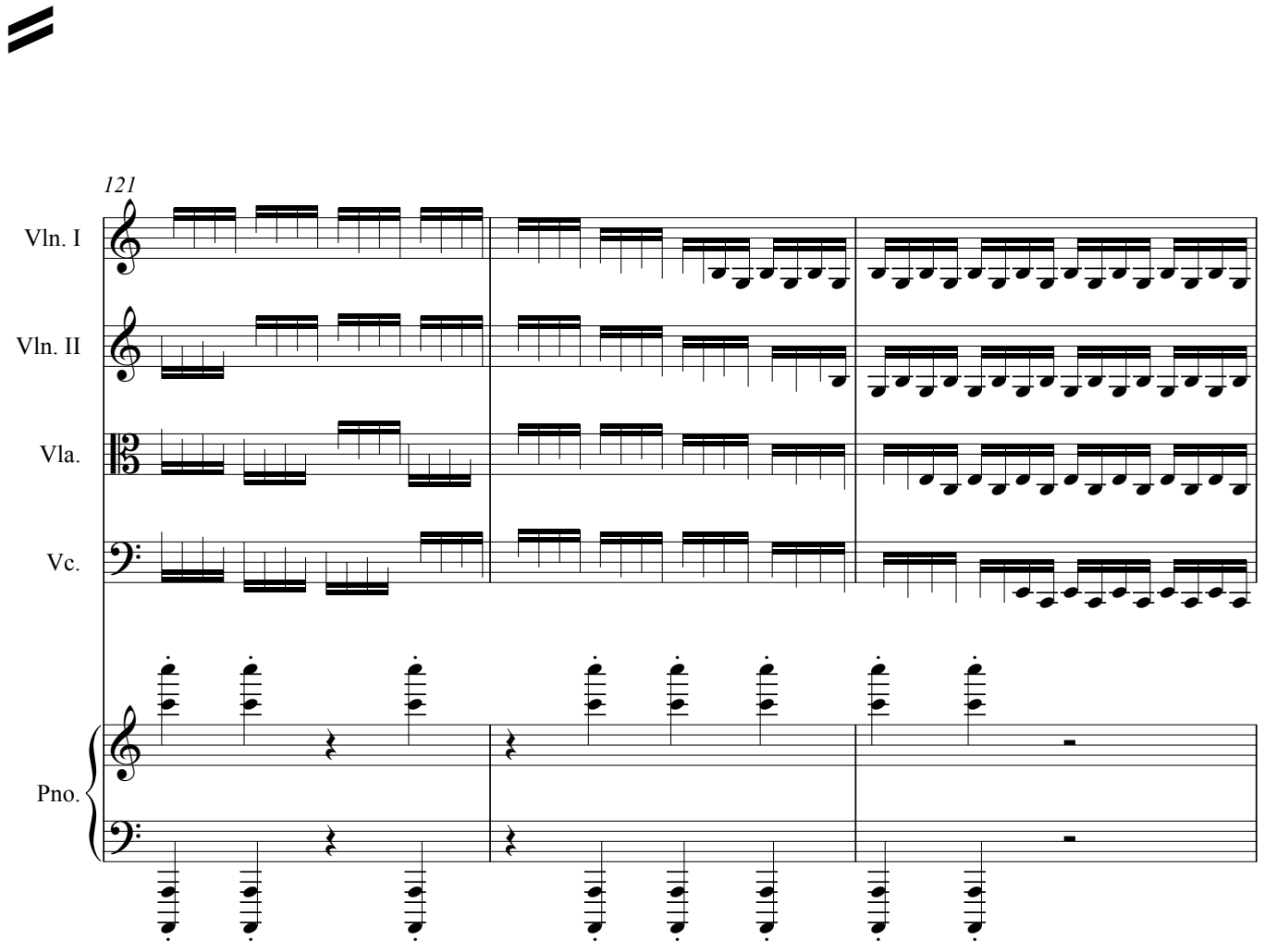

106
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
sul ponticello
ff
gliss.

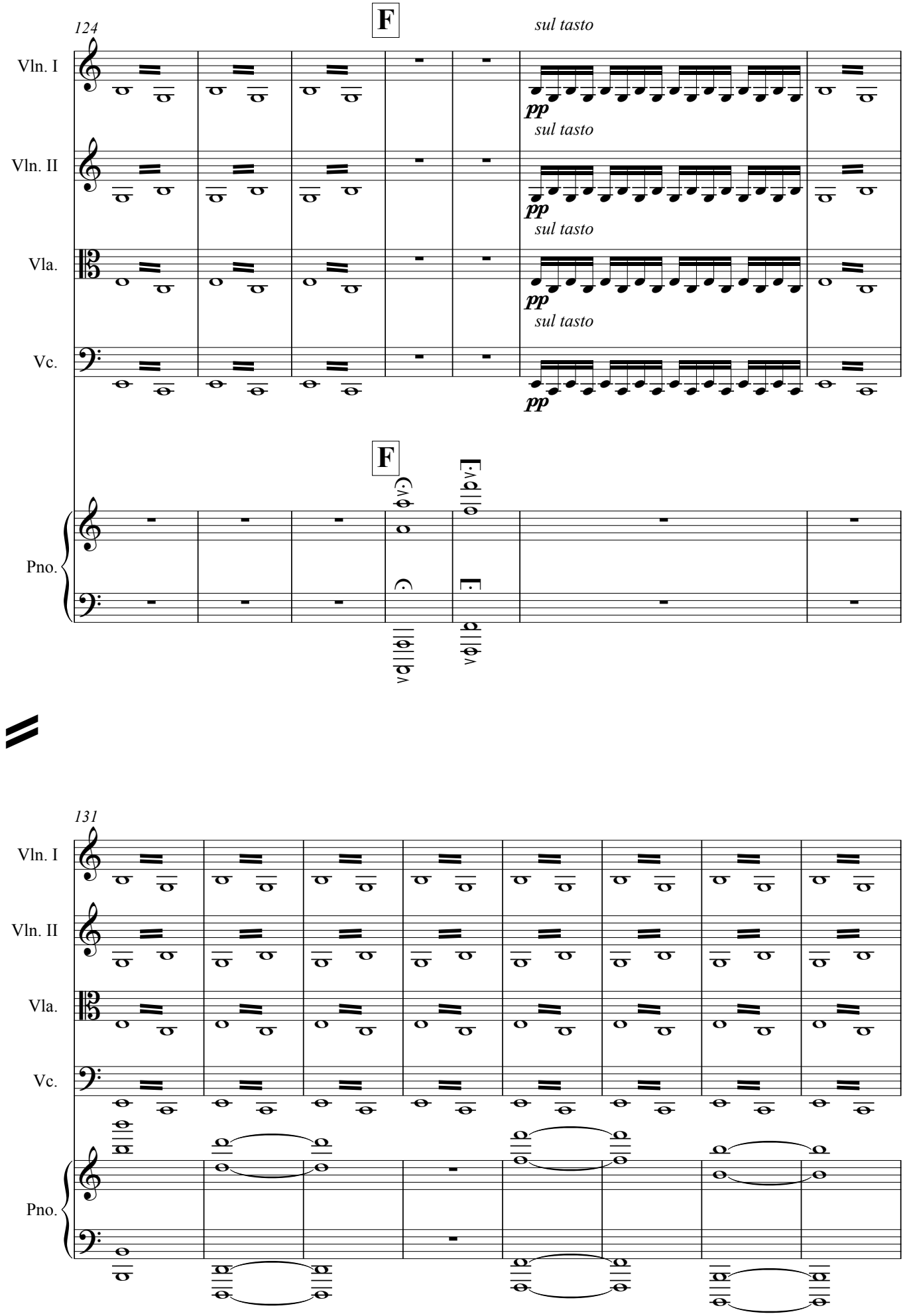

109
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

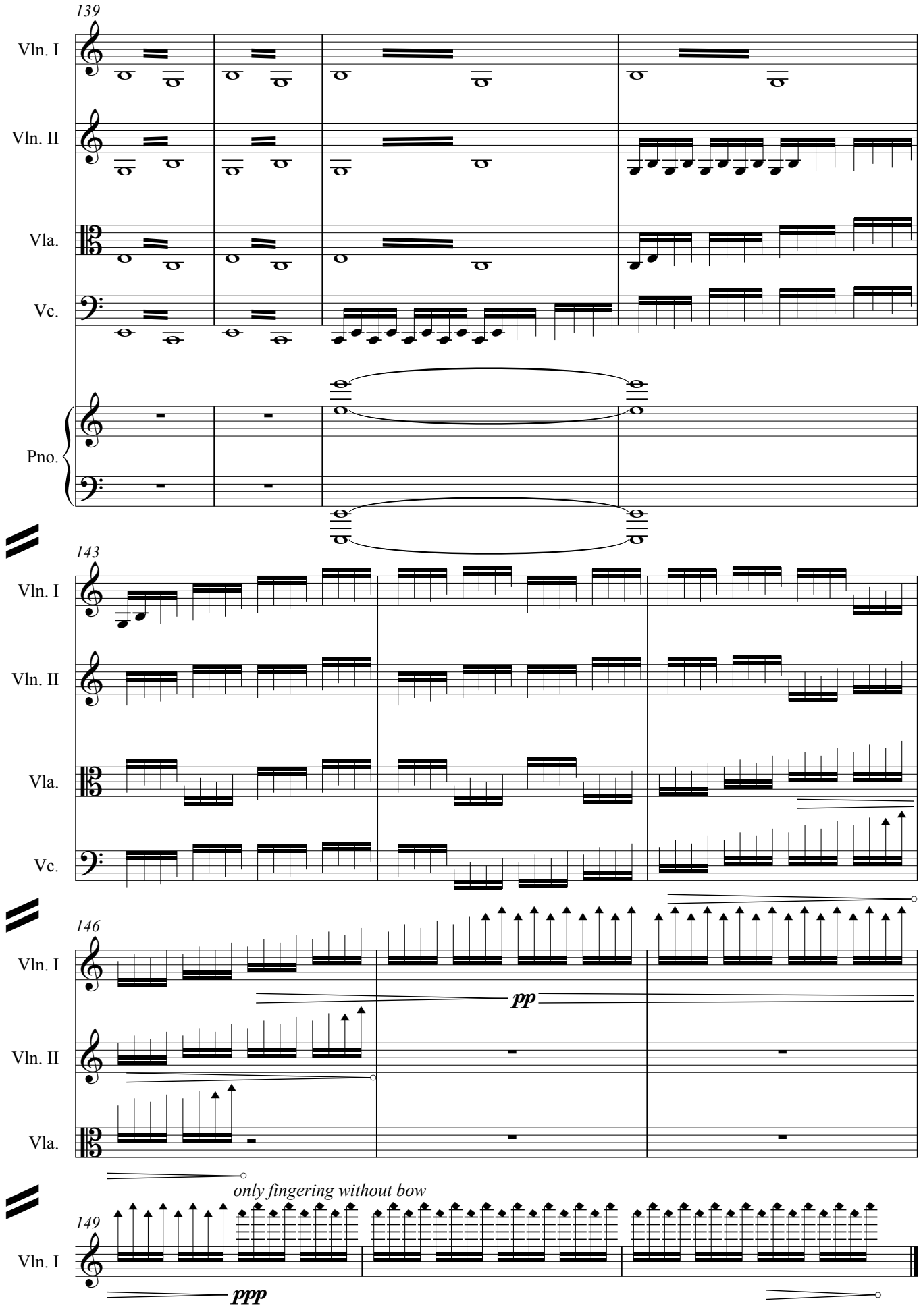

112
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.


115
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.


118
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

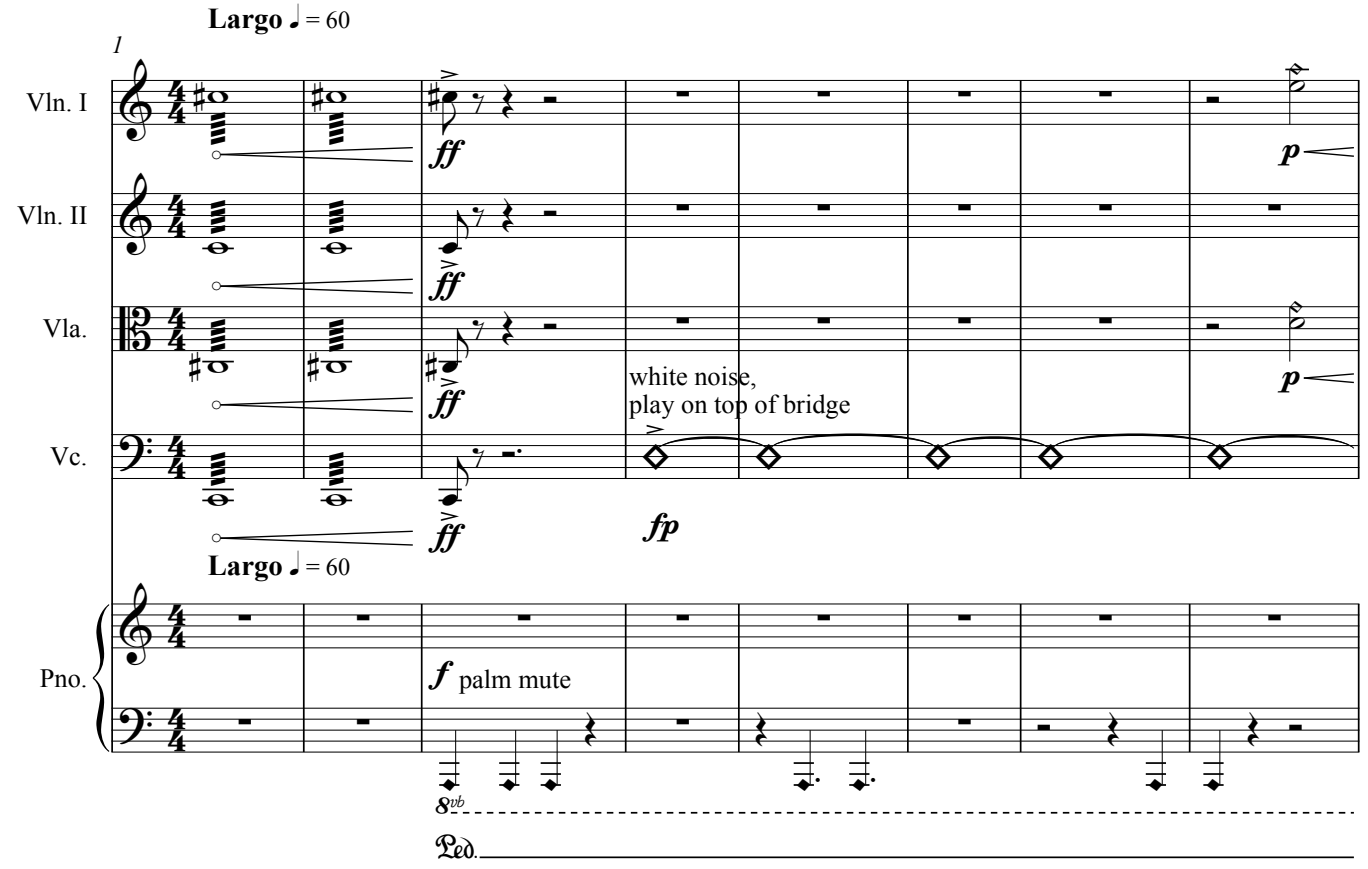

121
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

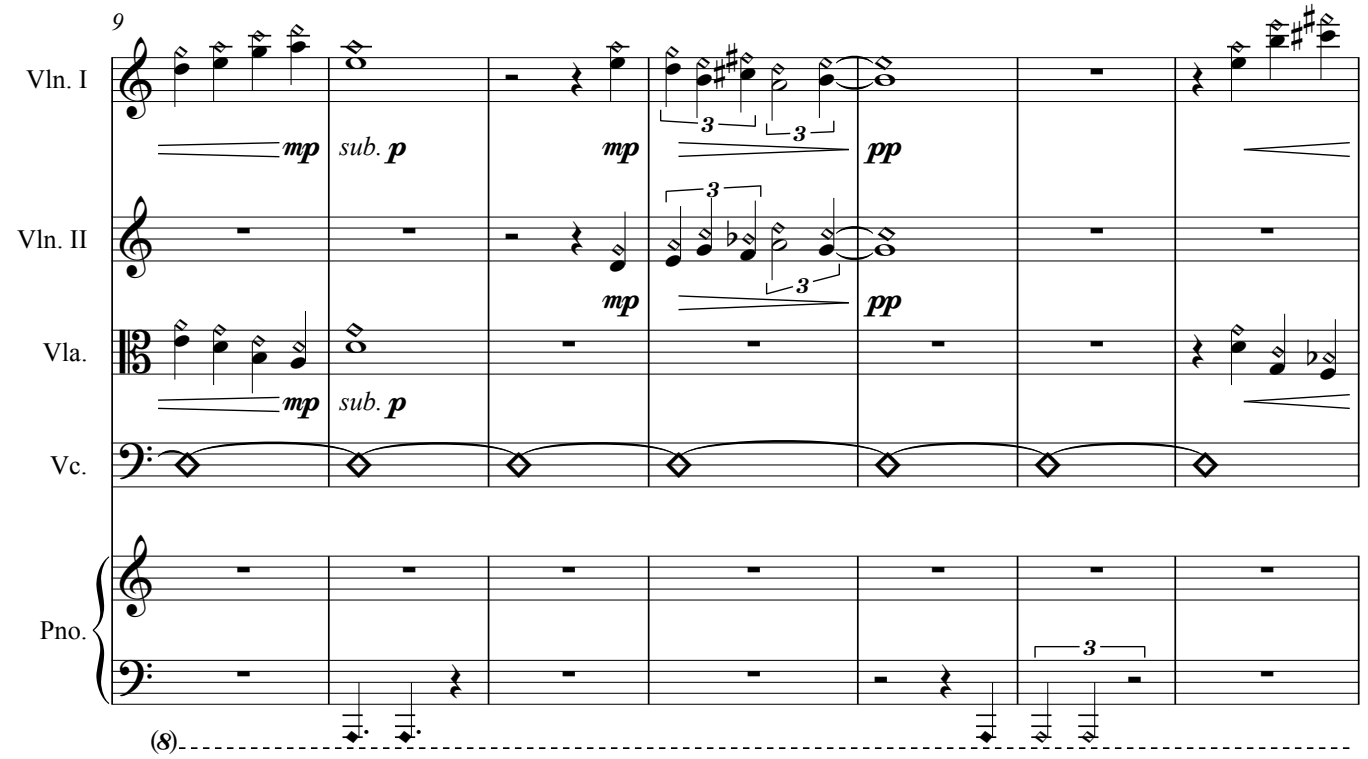

124
F
sul tasto
Vln. I
pp
sul tasto
Vln. II
pp
sul tasto
Vla.
pp
sul tasto
Vc.
pp
F
Pno.
131
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

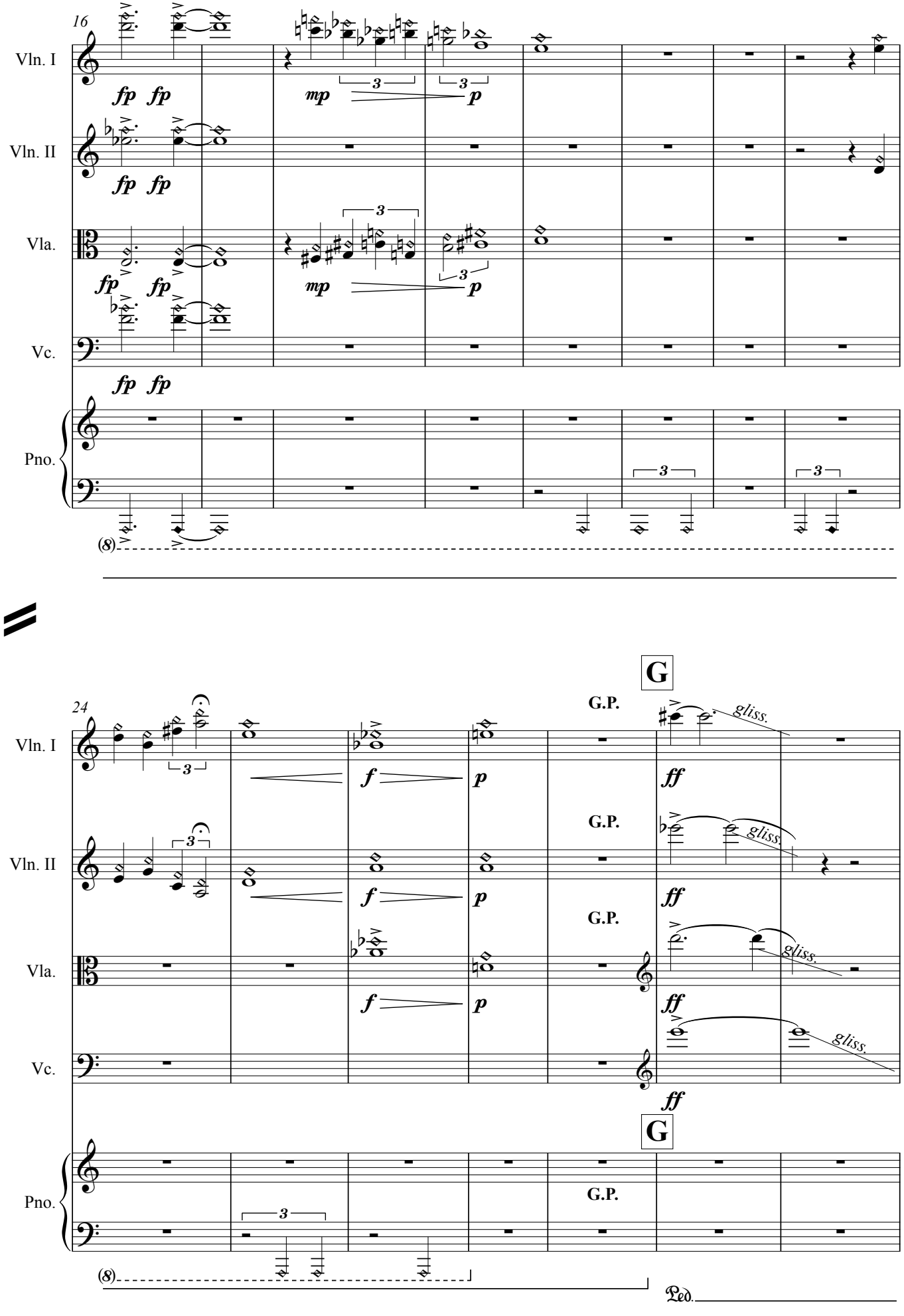

139
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
143
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
146
Vln. I
pp
Vln. II
Vla.
only fingering without bow
149
Vln. I
ppp

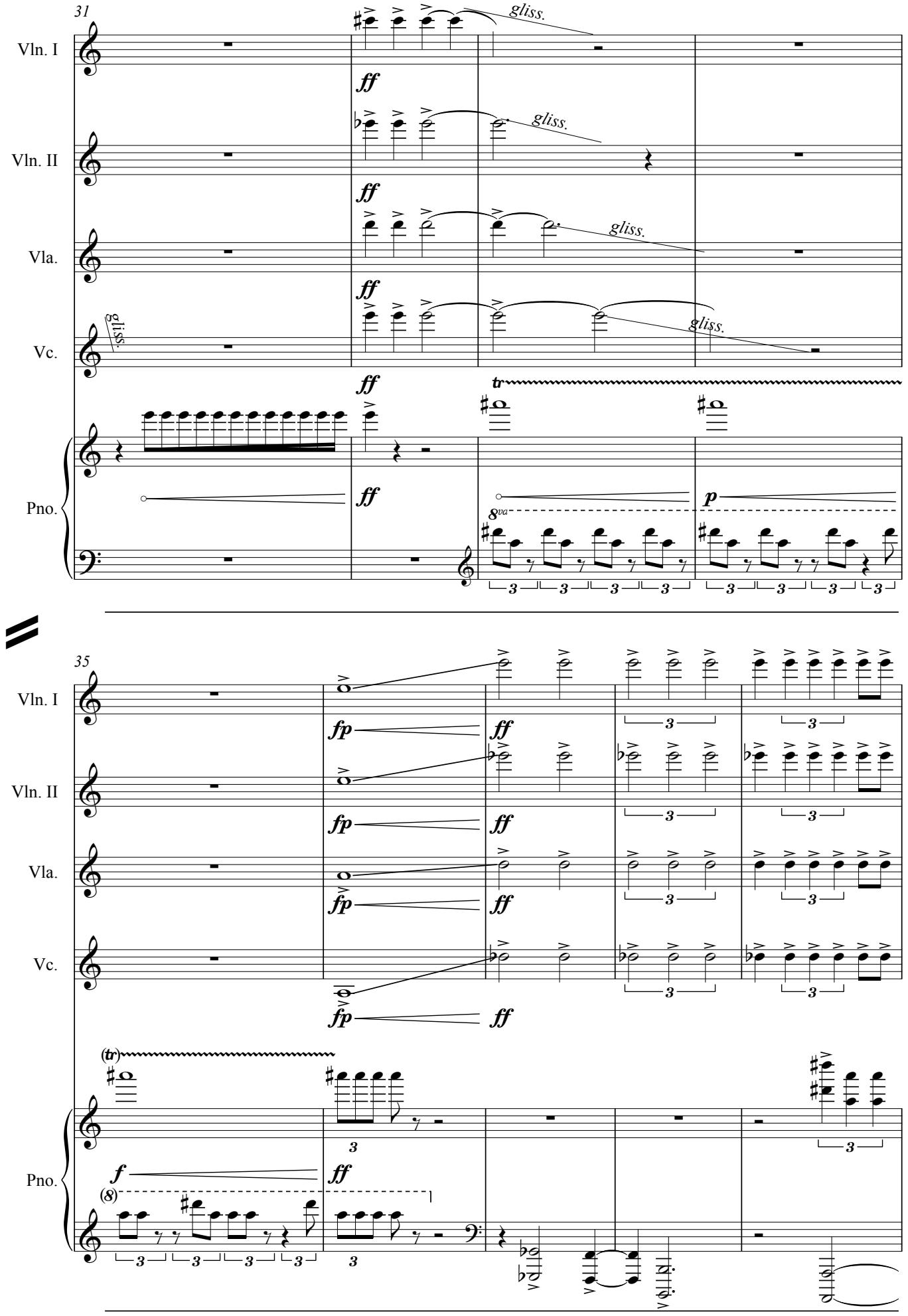
*"Ihmeellinen voima väkisin tahtoi saada minut ottamaan nuorimman lapseni hengiltä"*

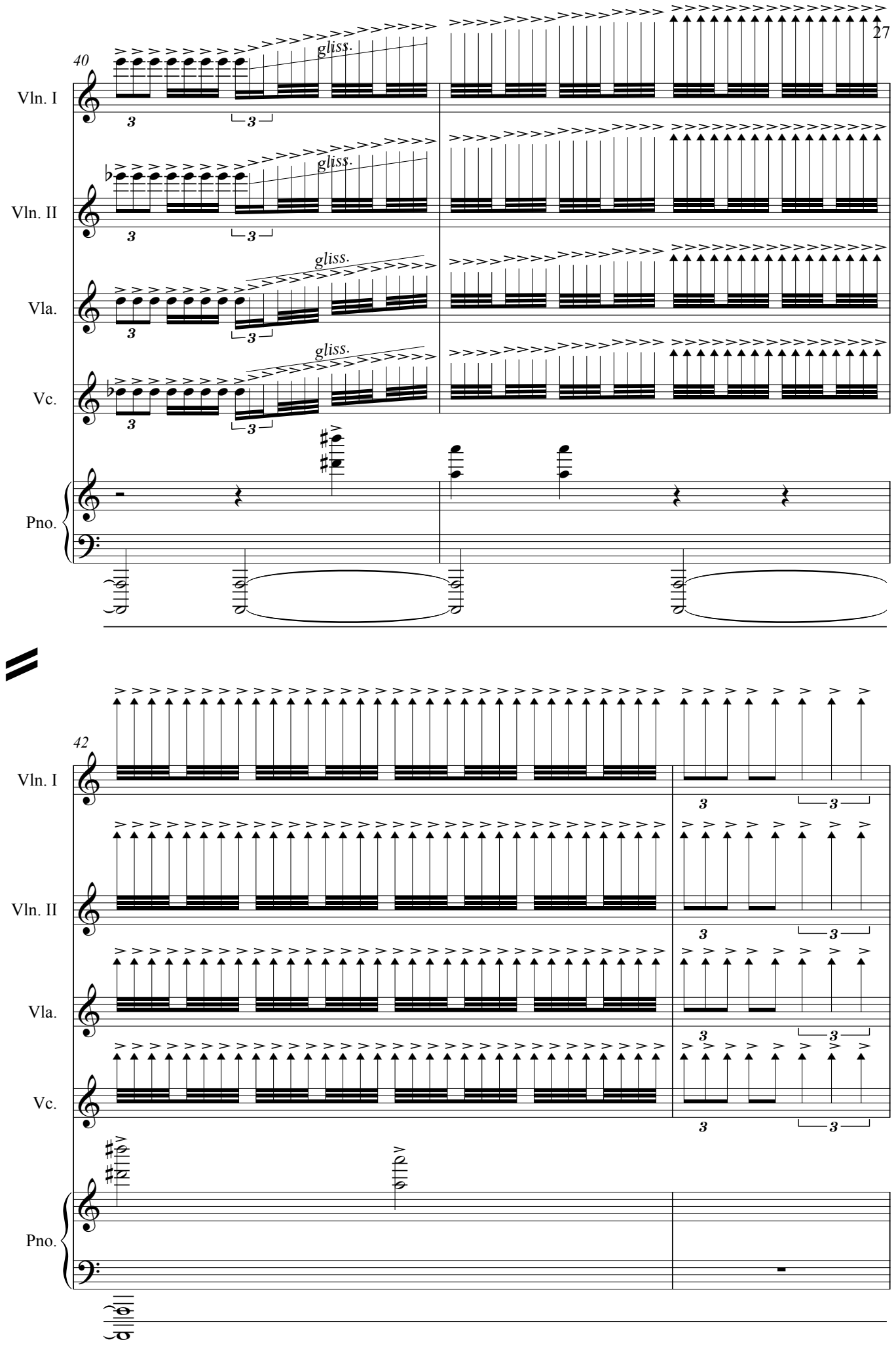
## II. Pysähdys

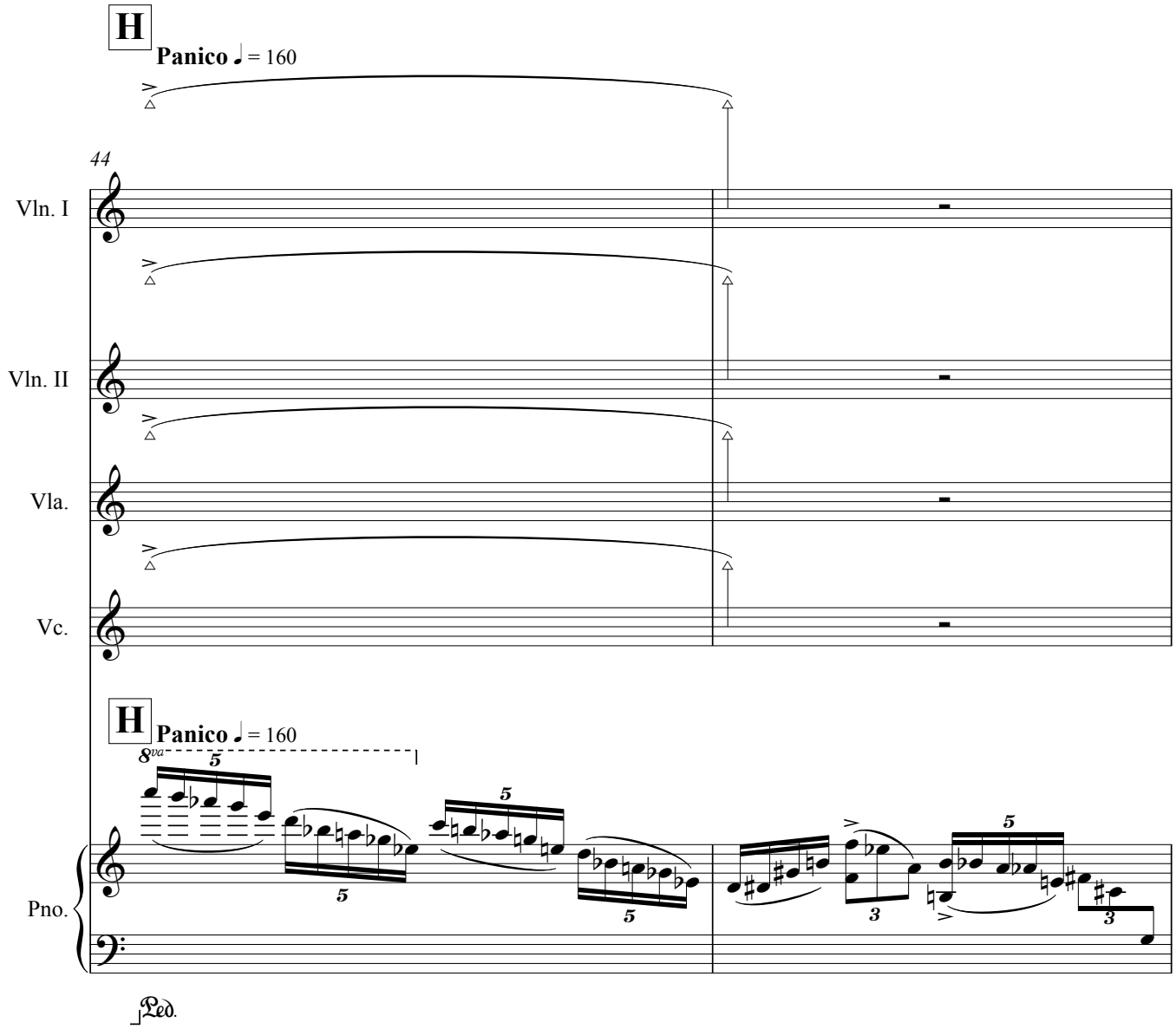


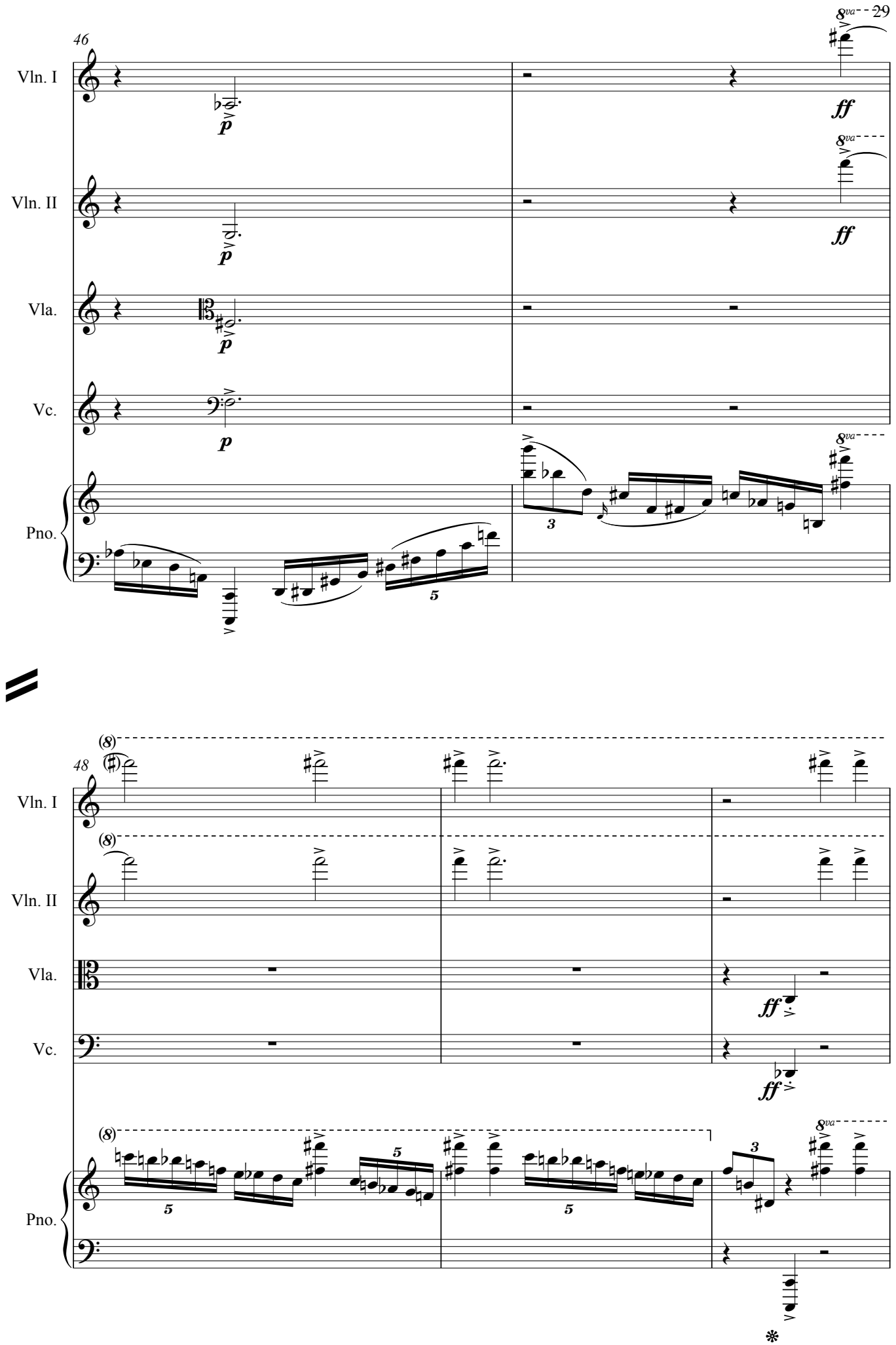



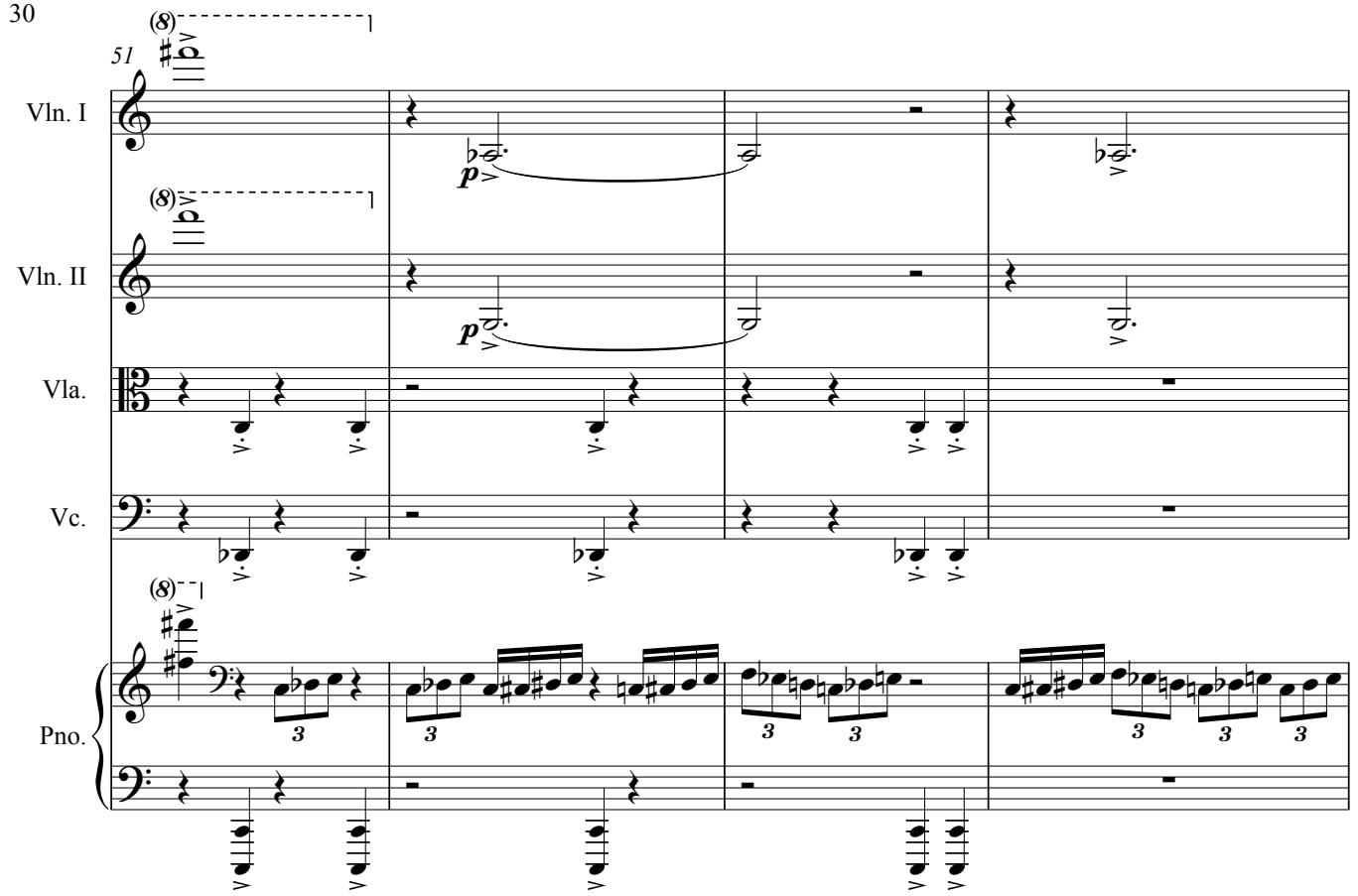

16
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
fp fp
mp
p
3
(8)
24
G
G.P.
f
ff
gliss.
Ped.

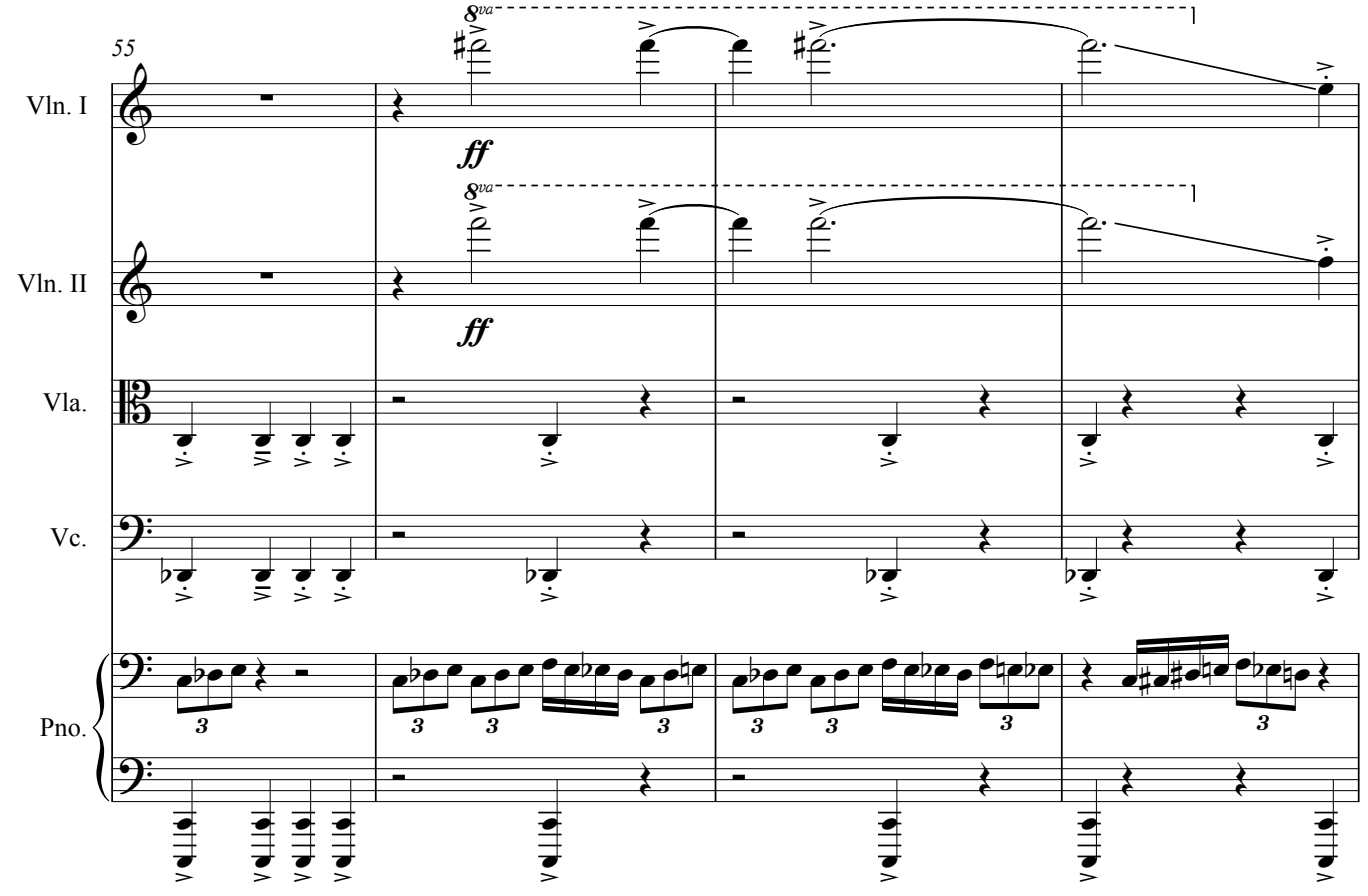

31
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.
ff
tr
p
8va
35
fp
f
(tr)
(8)

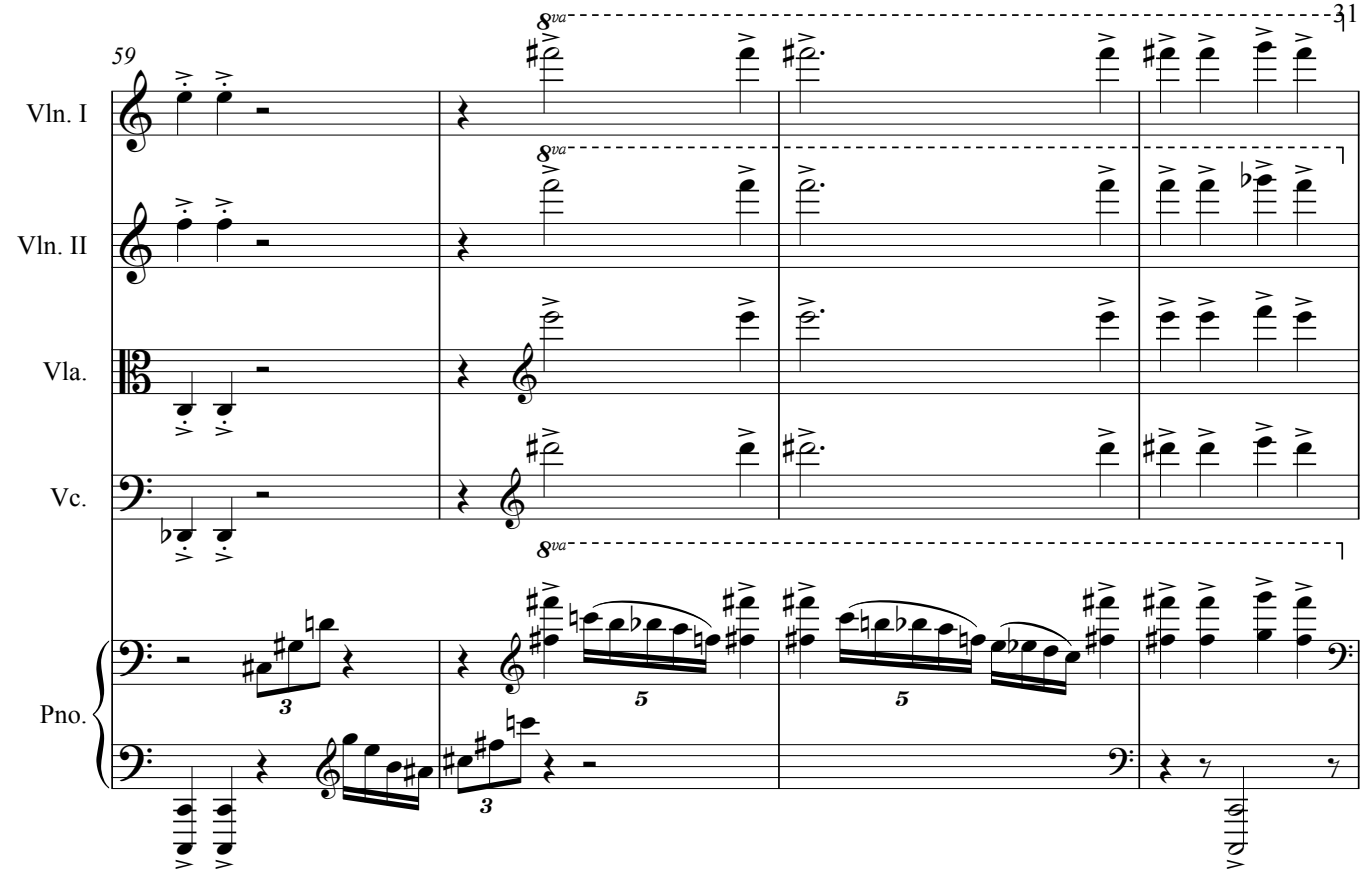

40
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.
42

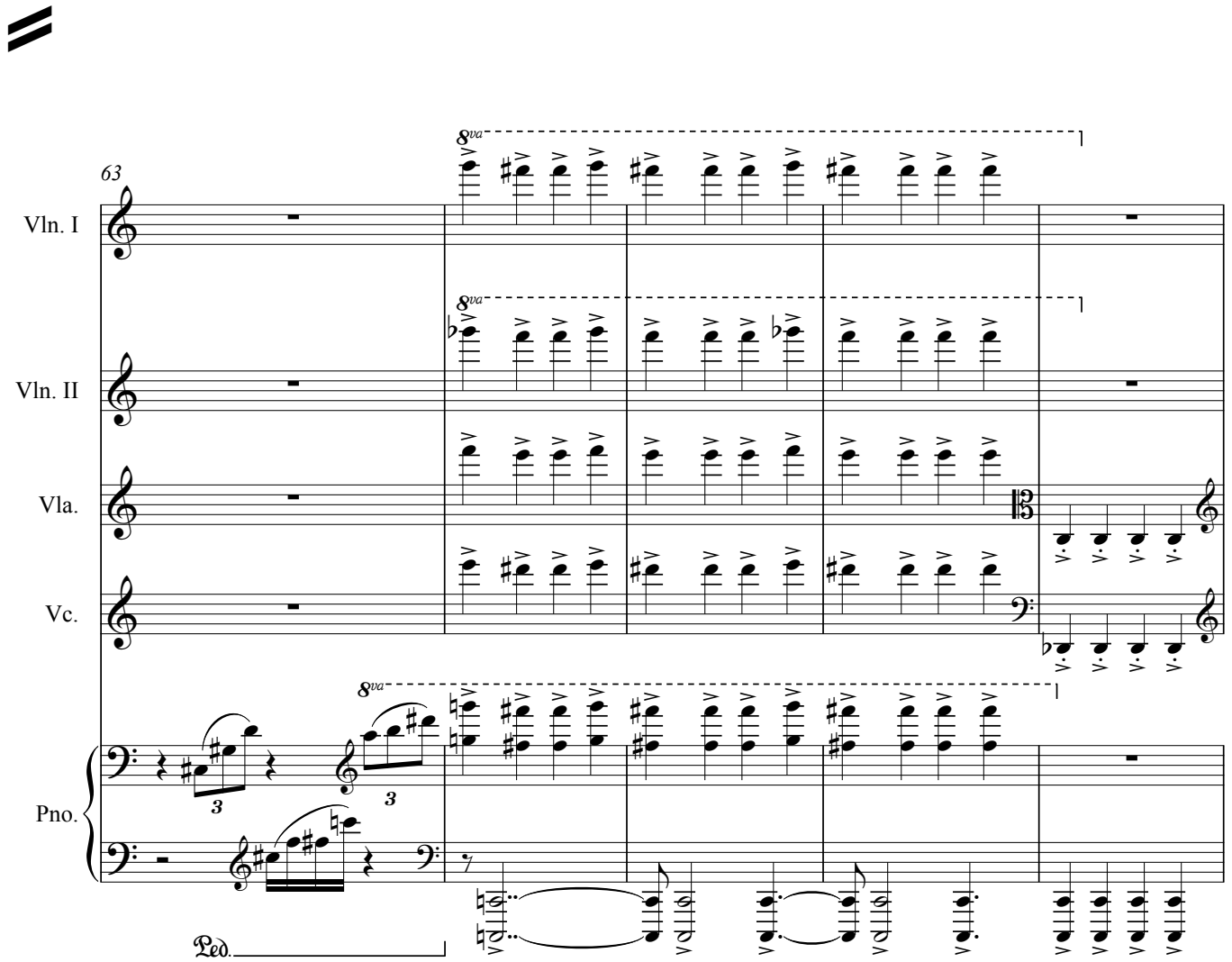

H
Panico ♩ = 160
44
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
H
Panico ♩ = 160
8va
Pno.
Ped.

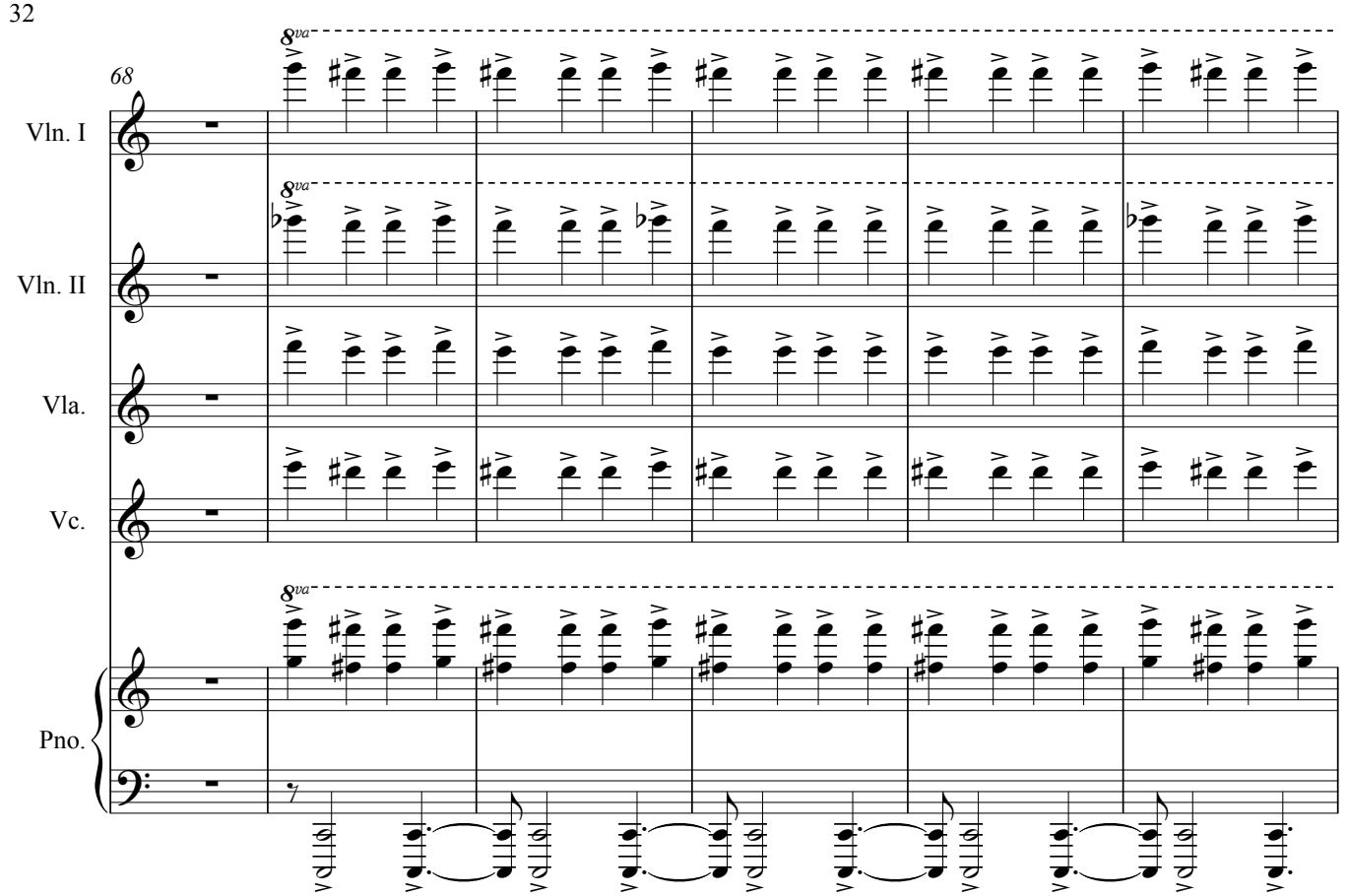

46
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
p
ff
8va
3
5
48
(8)
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
5
3
8va

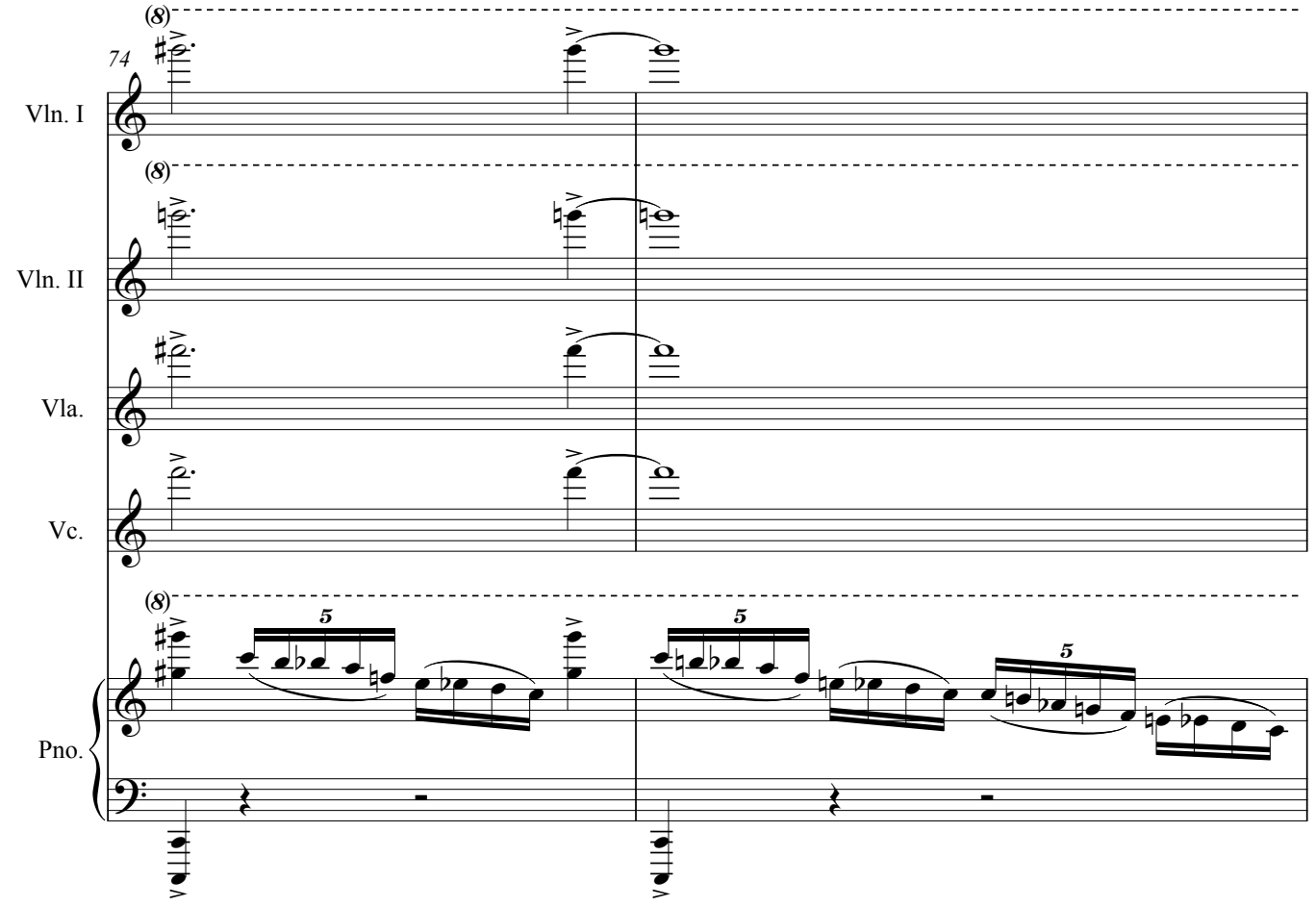

51
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
p
p

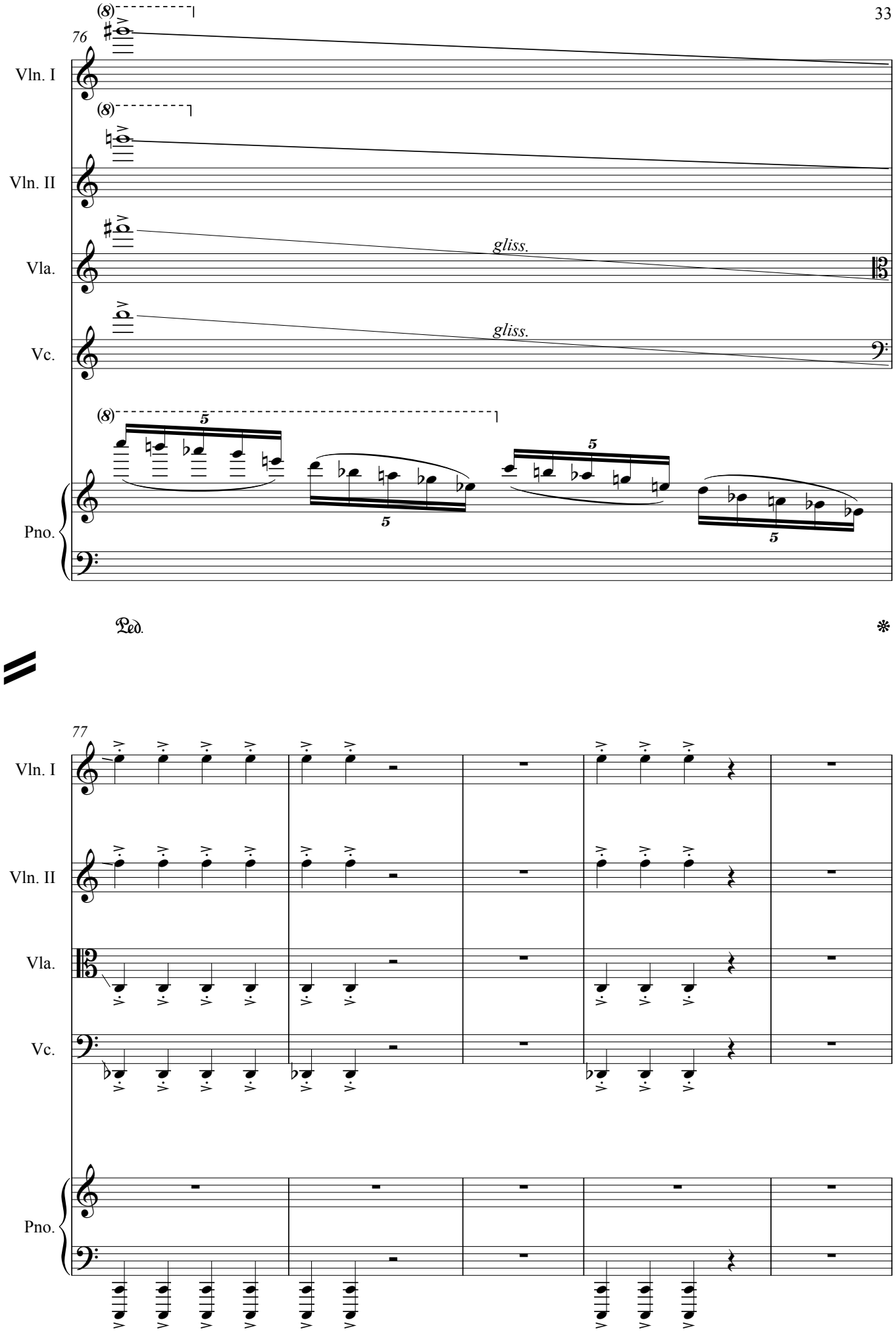

55
8va
8va
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
ff

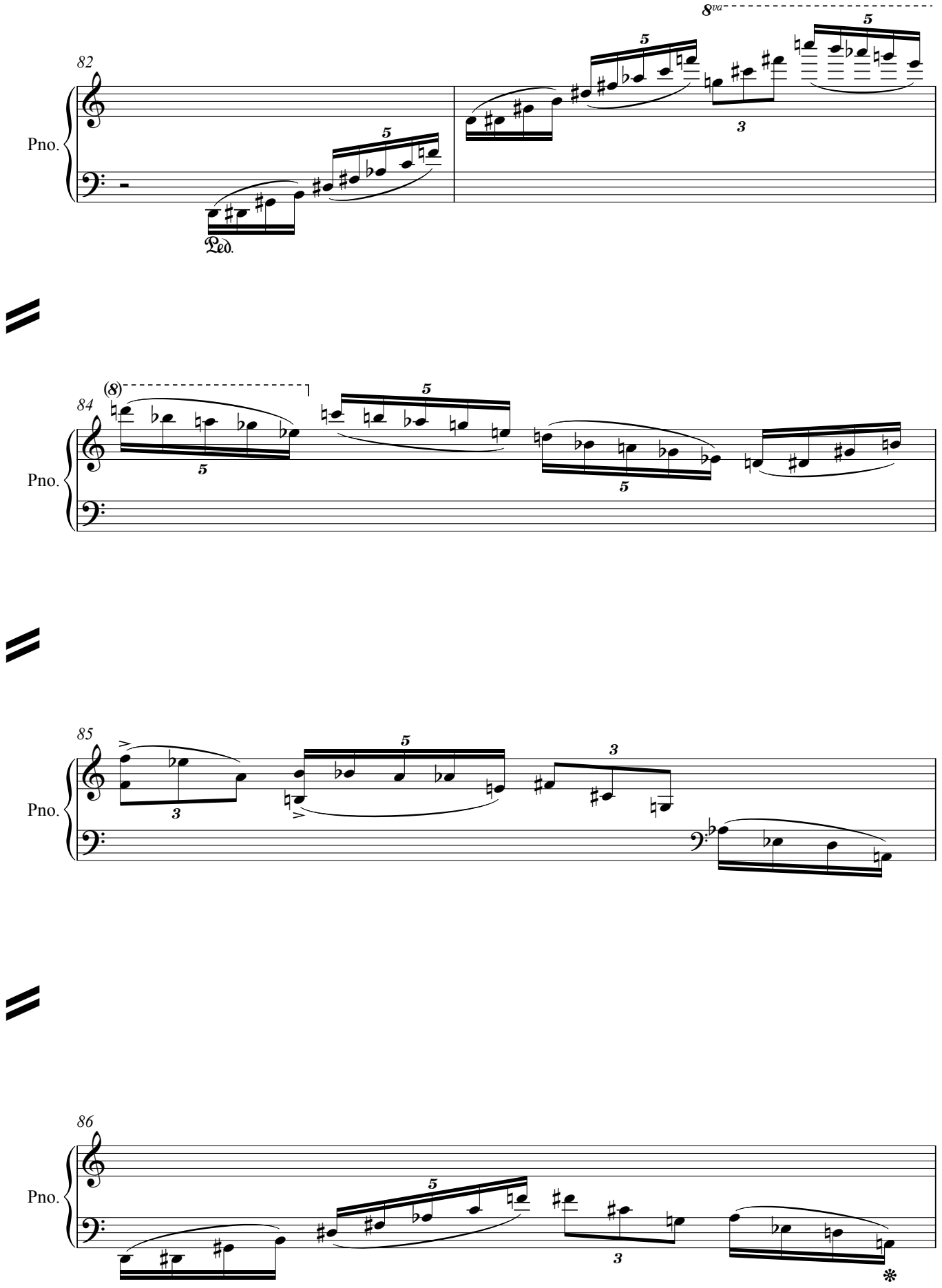

59
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
8va
3
5

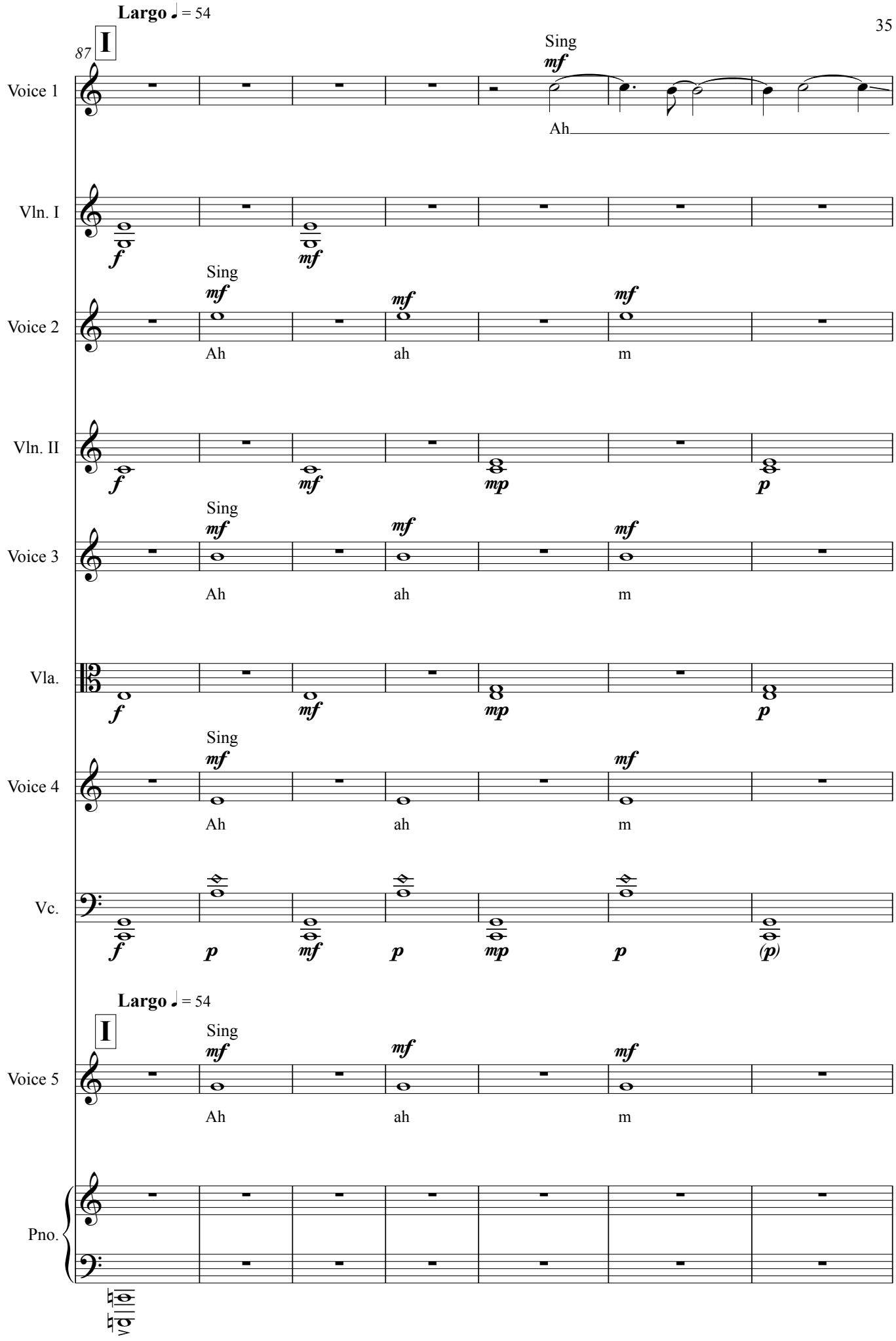

63
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
8va
3
Ped.

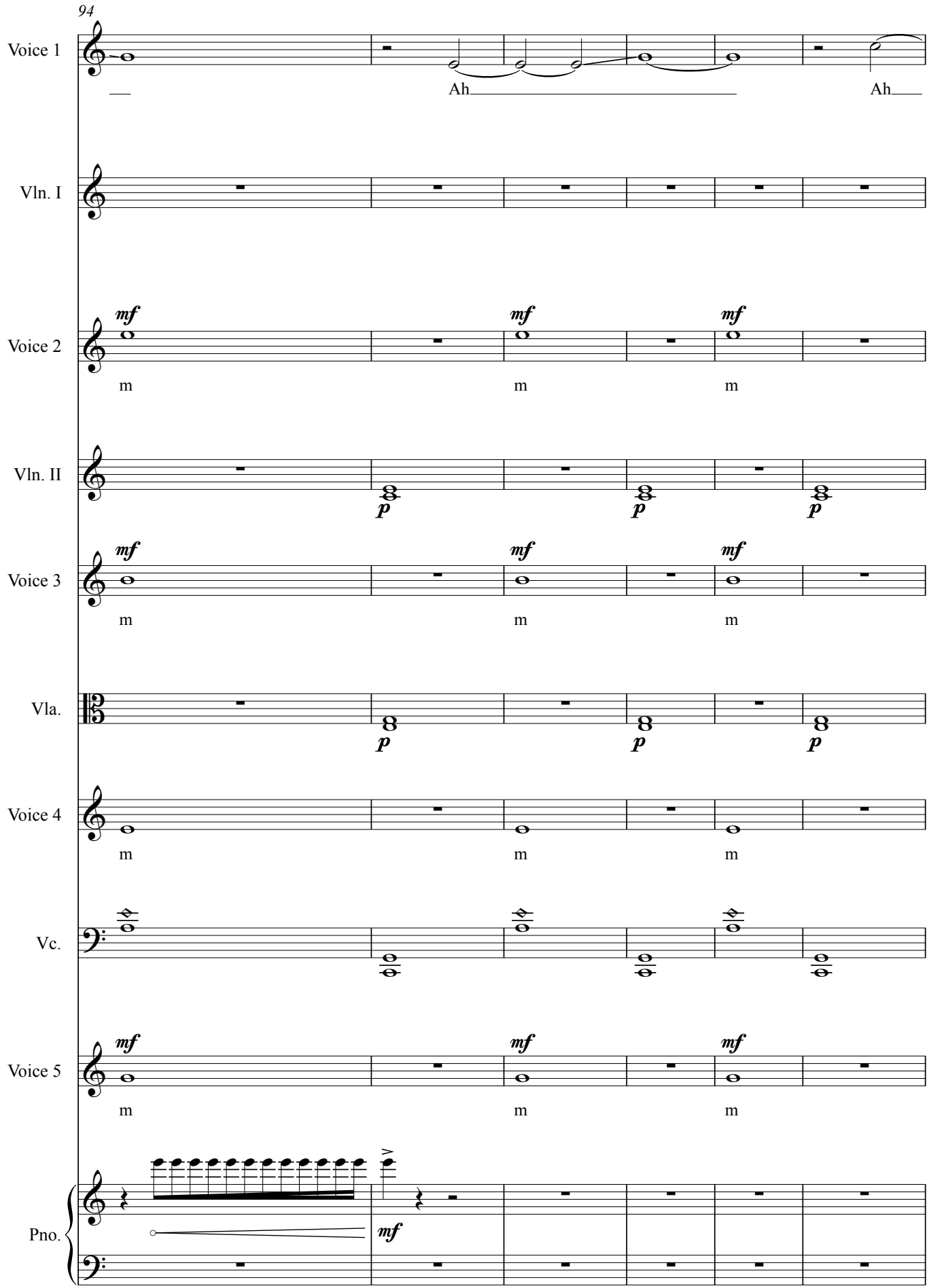

68
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
8va

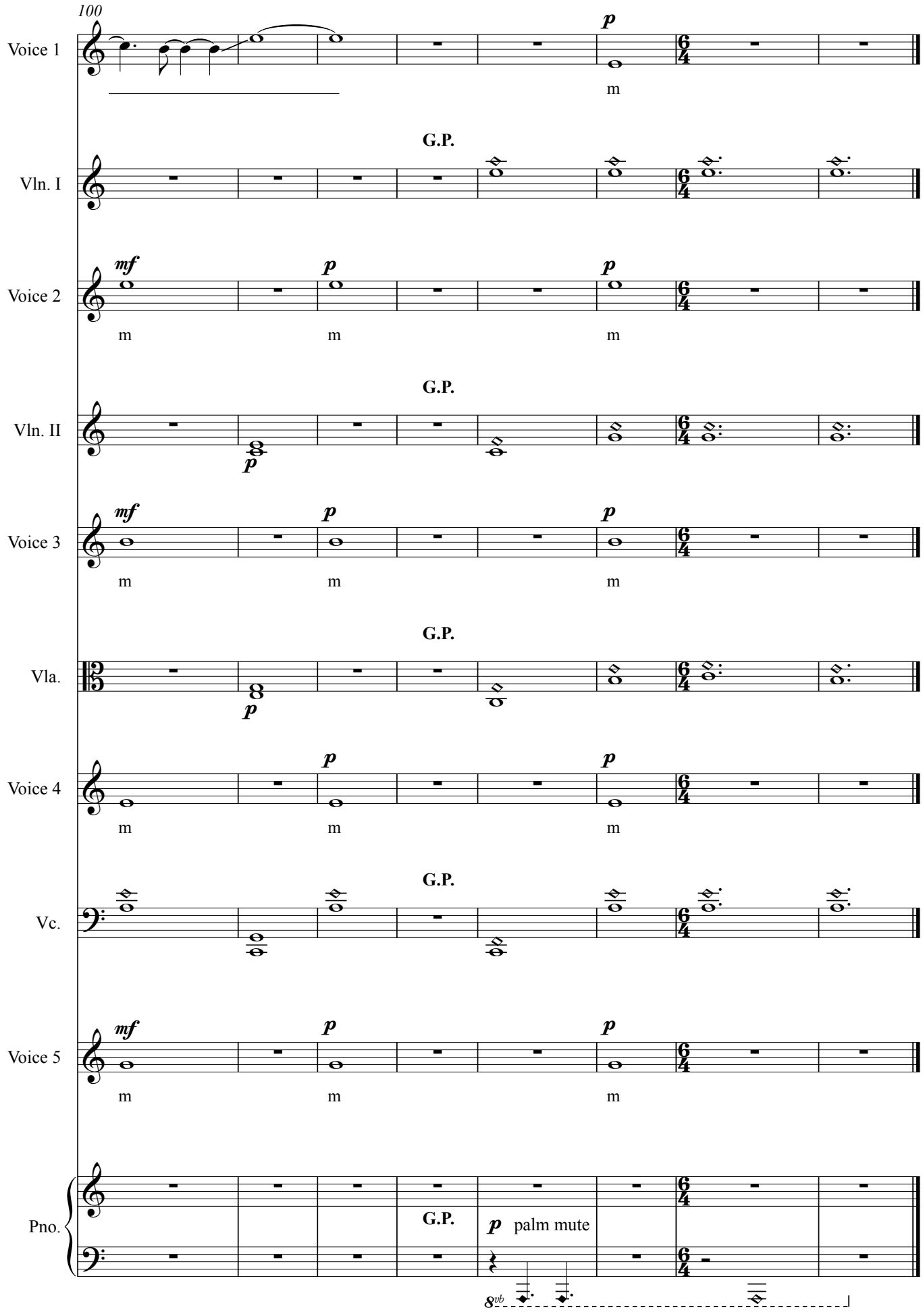

74
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
(8)
5


76
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.
gliss.
Ped.
77


82
Pno.
8va
5
3
Ped.
84
(8)
Pno.
85
Pno.
86
Pno.


Largo ♩ = 54
87
I
Sing
mf
Ah
Voice 1
Vln. I
Voice 2
Vln. II
Voice 3
Vla.
Voice 4
Vc.
Largo ♩ = 54
I
Voice 5
Pno.


94
Voice 1
Ah
Ah
Vln. I
Voice 2
mf
m
Vln. II
p
Voice 3
Vla.
Voice 4
Vc.
Voice 5
Pno.


100
Voice 1
p
m
G.P.
Vln. I
mf
p
p
Voice 2
m
m
m
G.P.
Vln. II
p
mf
p
p
Voice 3
m
m
m
G.P.
Vla.
p
p
p
Voice 4
m
m
m
G.P.
Vc.
mf
p
p
Voice 5
m
m
m
Pno.
G.P.
p palm mute
8vb

*"Suurin iloni, oikein mitä suloisin nautintoni on tuo kirjoittaminen.*
*En ymmärrä kuinka enää voisin elää, ellen sitä saisi tehdä"*

## III. Tahto

**Mecanico ♩ = 180**

*1*

Vln. I — night mute — ***ff***

Vln. II — night mute — ***ff***

Vla. — night mute — ***ff***

Vc.

**Mecanico ♩ = 180**

Pno.

*6*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. — noise (slow bow, much preassure)

Vc. — ***f***

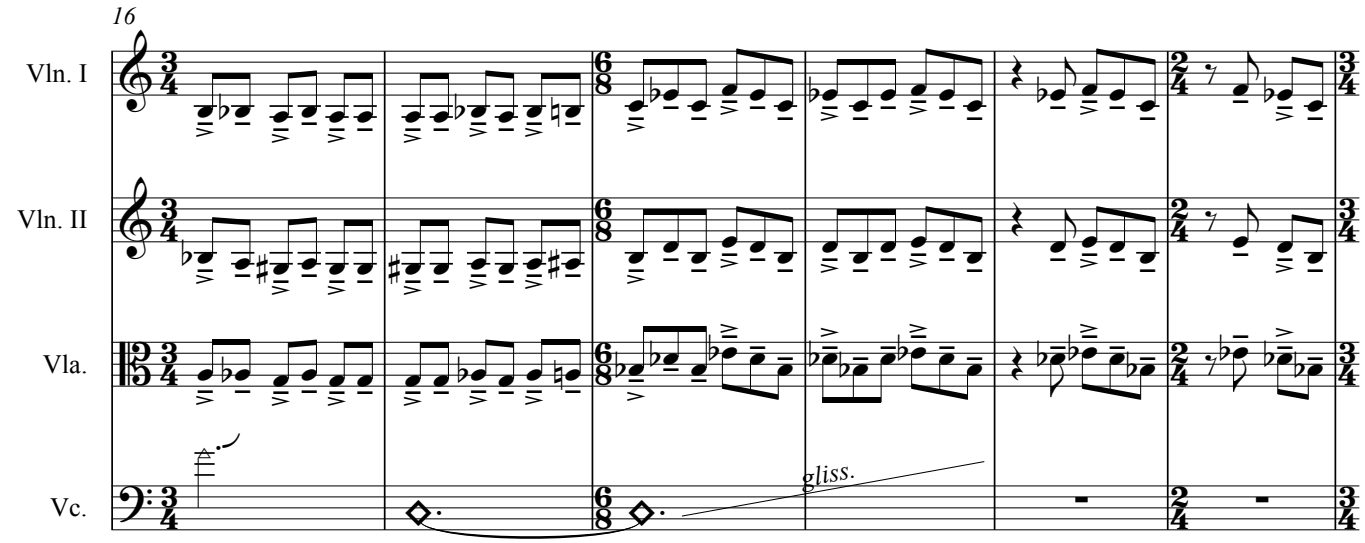
*11*

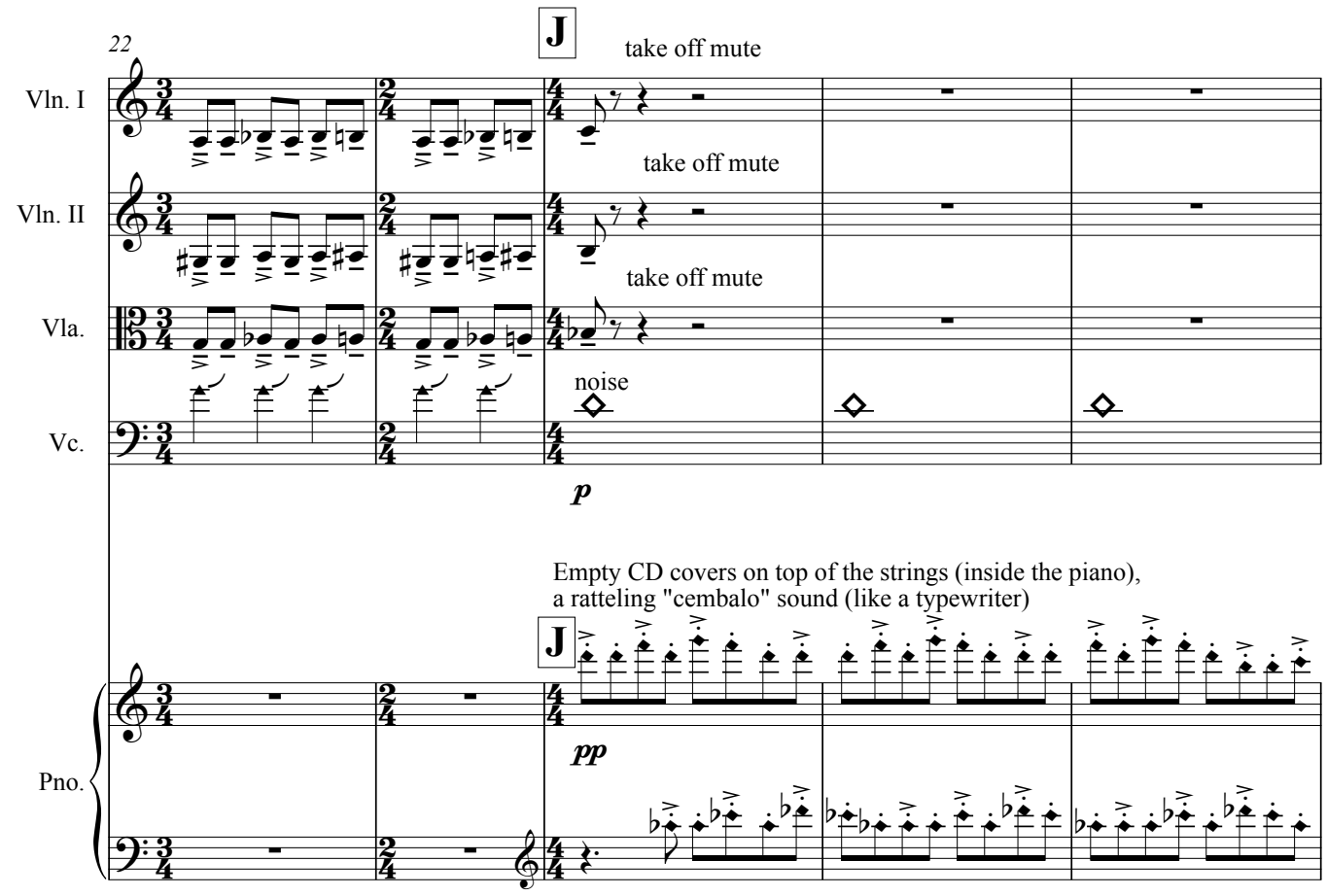
Vln. I

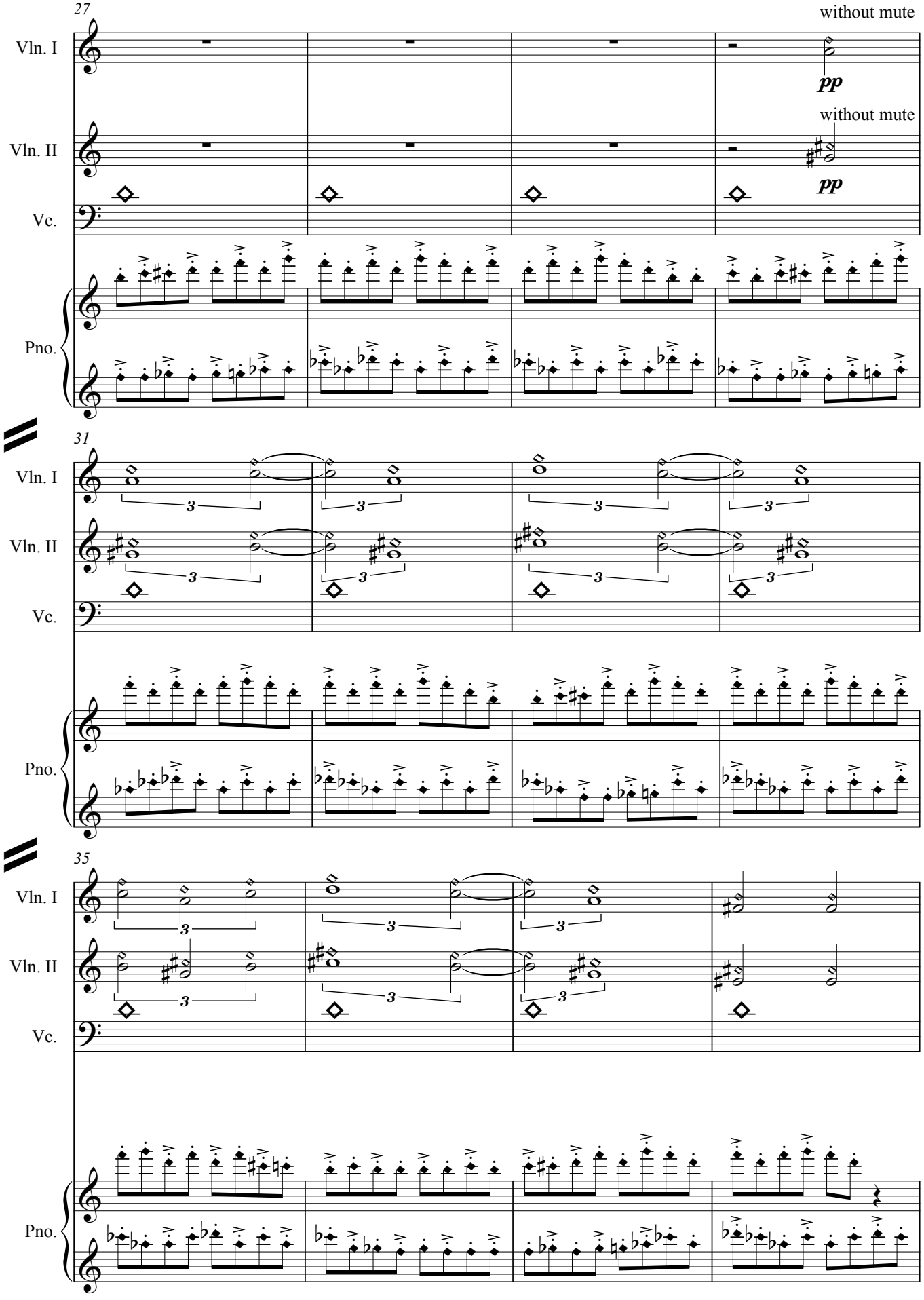
Vln. II

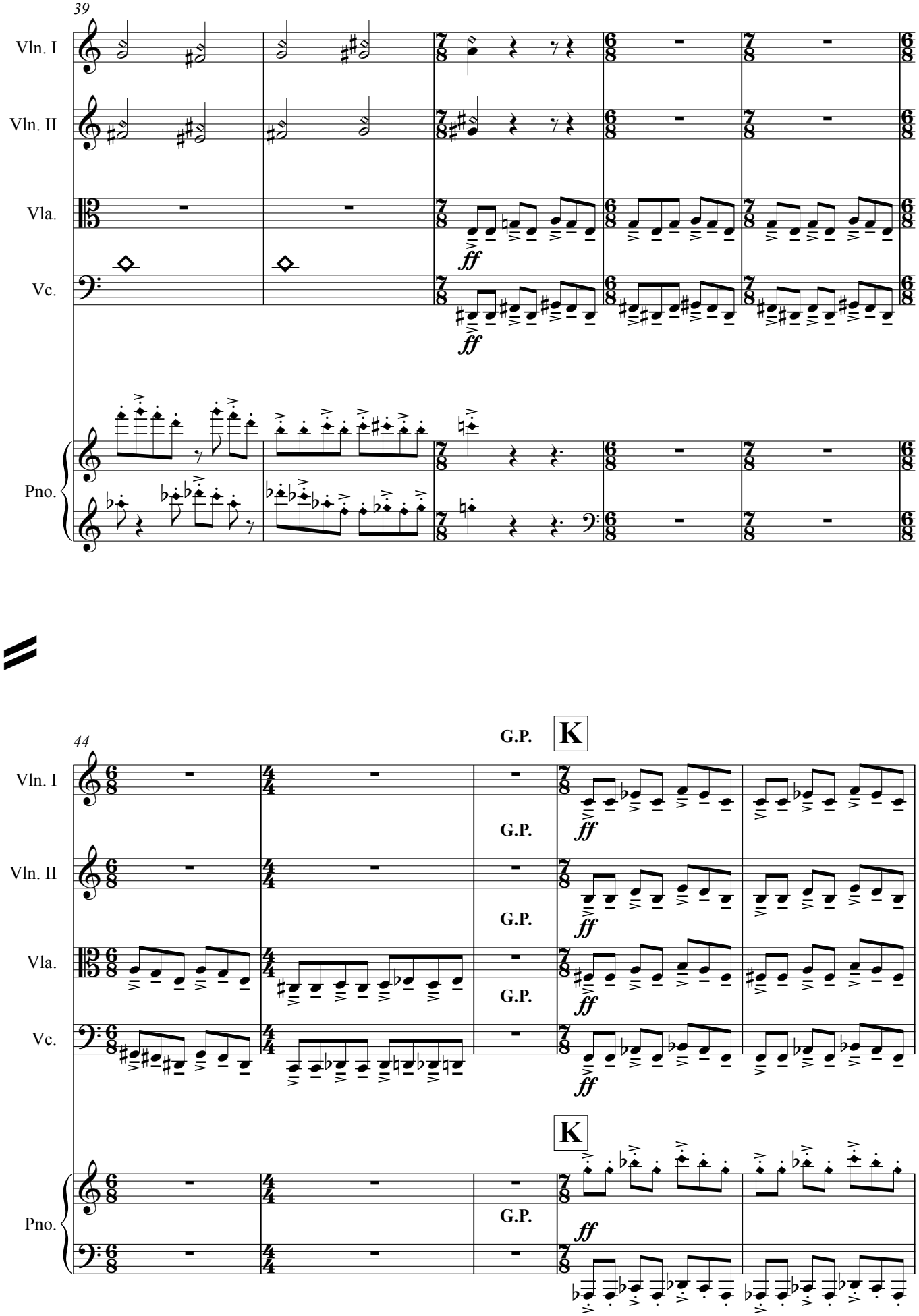
Vla.

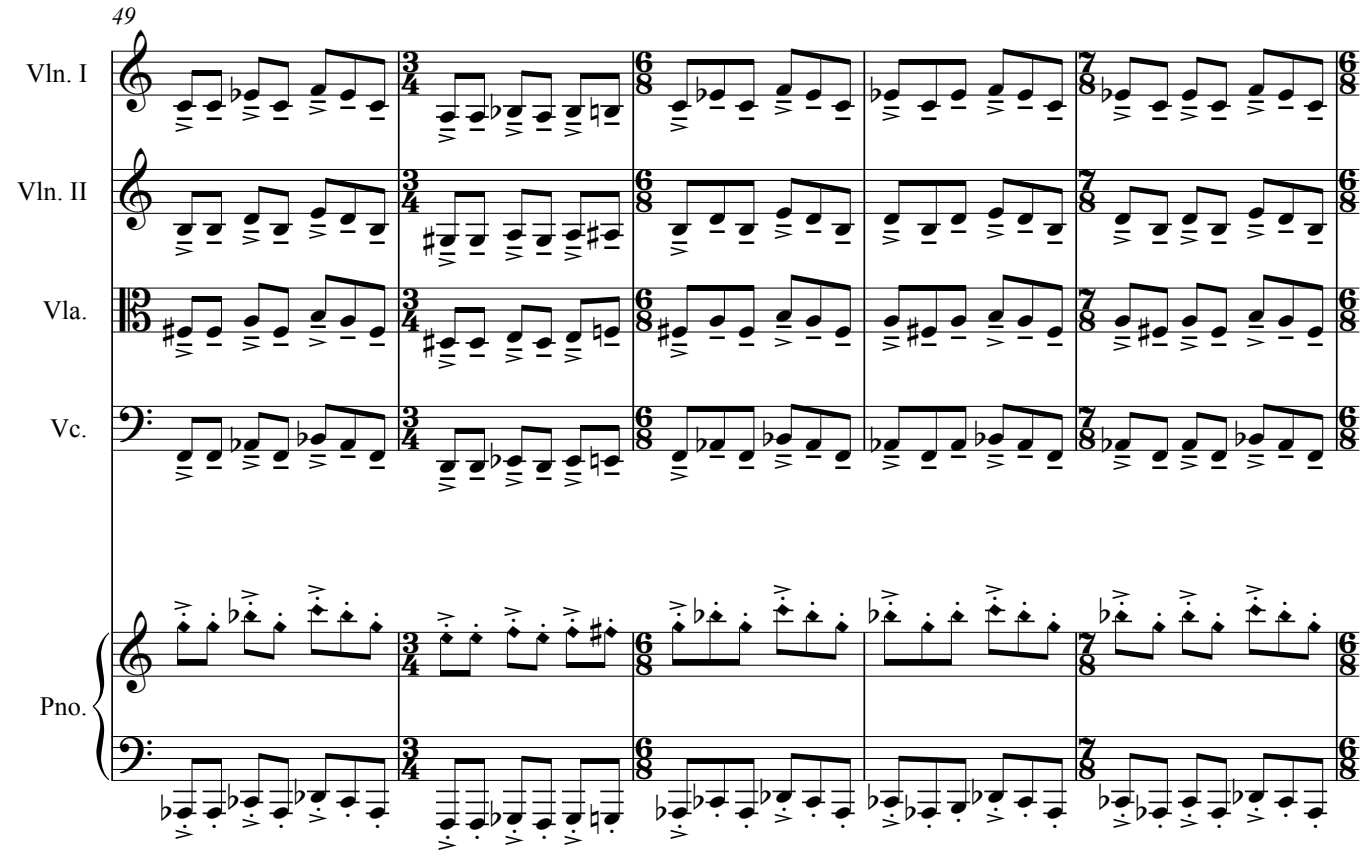
Vc. — *gliss.*

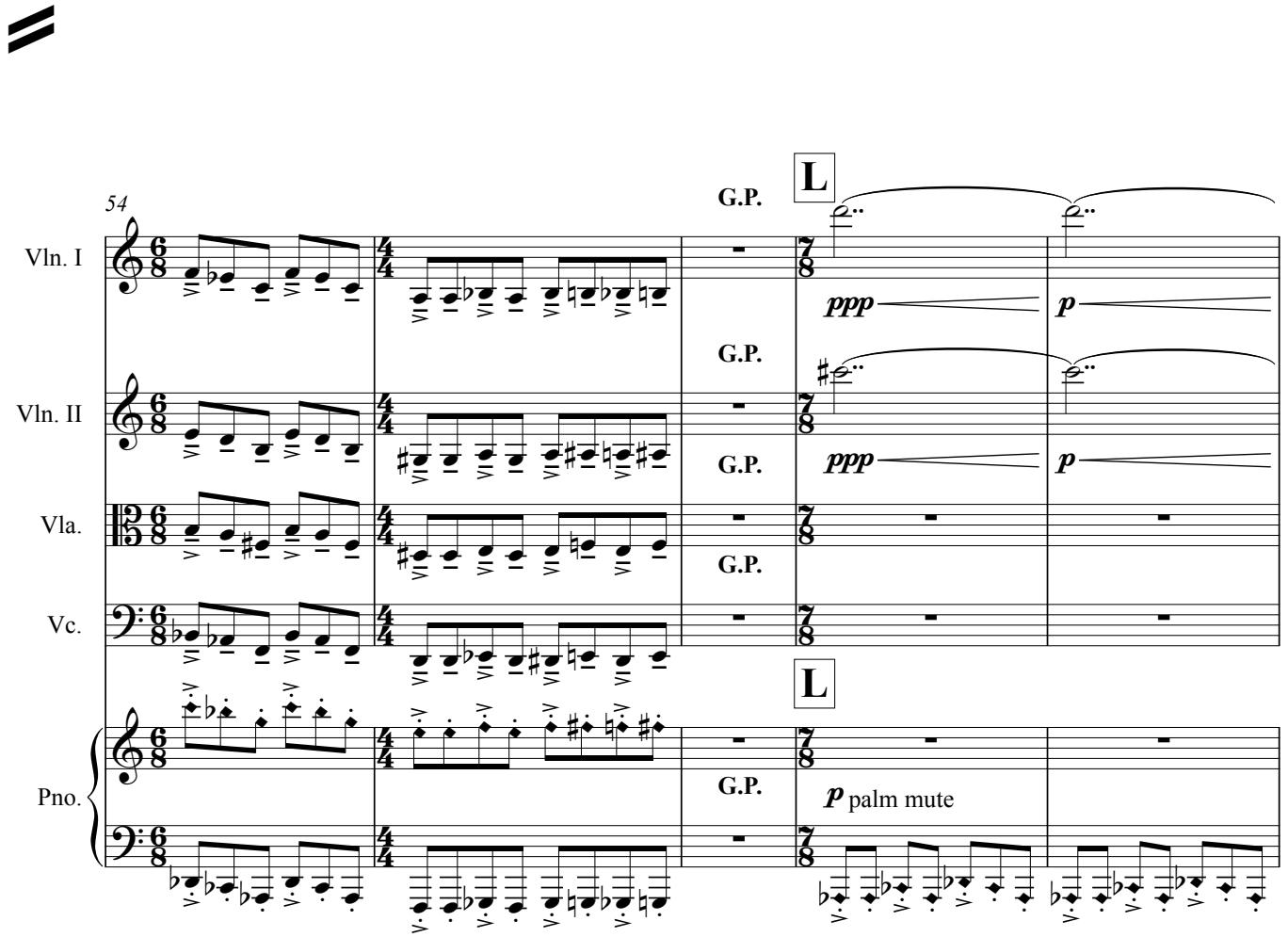

16
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
gliss.

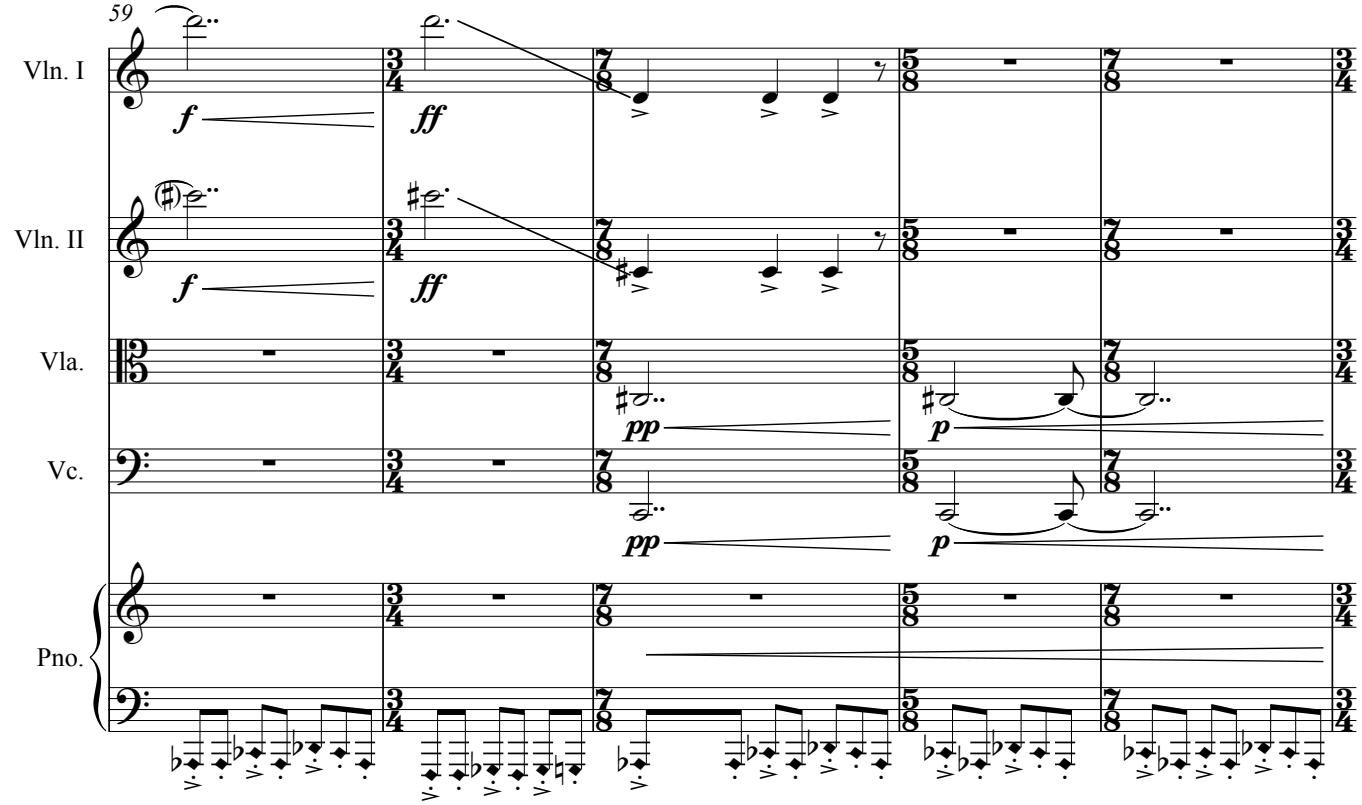

22
J
take off mute
Vln. I
take off mute
Vln. II
take off mute
Vla.
noise
Vc.
p
Empty CD covers on top of the strings (inside the piano),
a ratteling "cembalo" sound (like a typewriter)
J
Pno.
pp

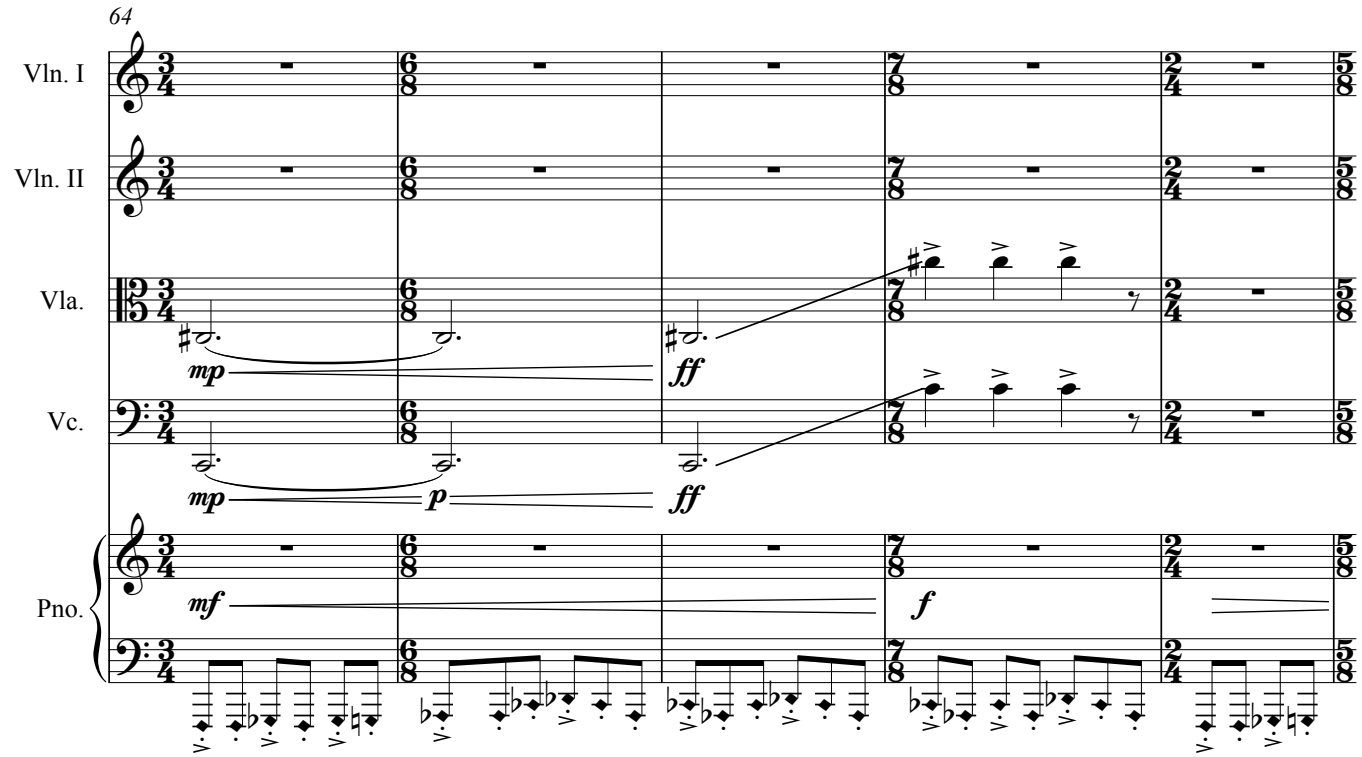

27
without mute
Vln. I
pp
without mute
Vln. II
pp
Vc.
Pno.
31
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Pno.
35
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vc.
Pno.

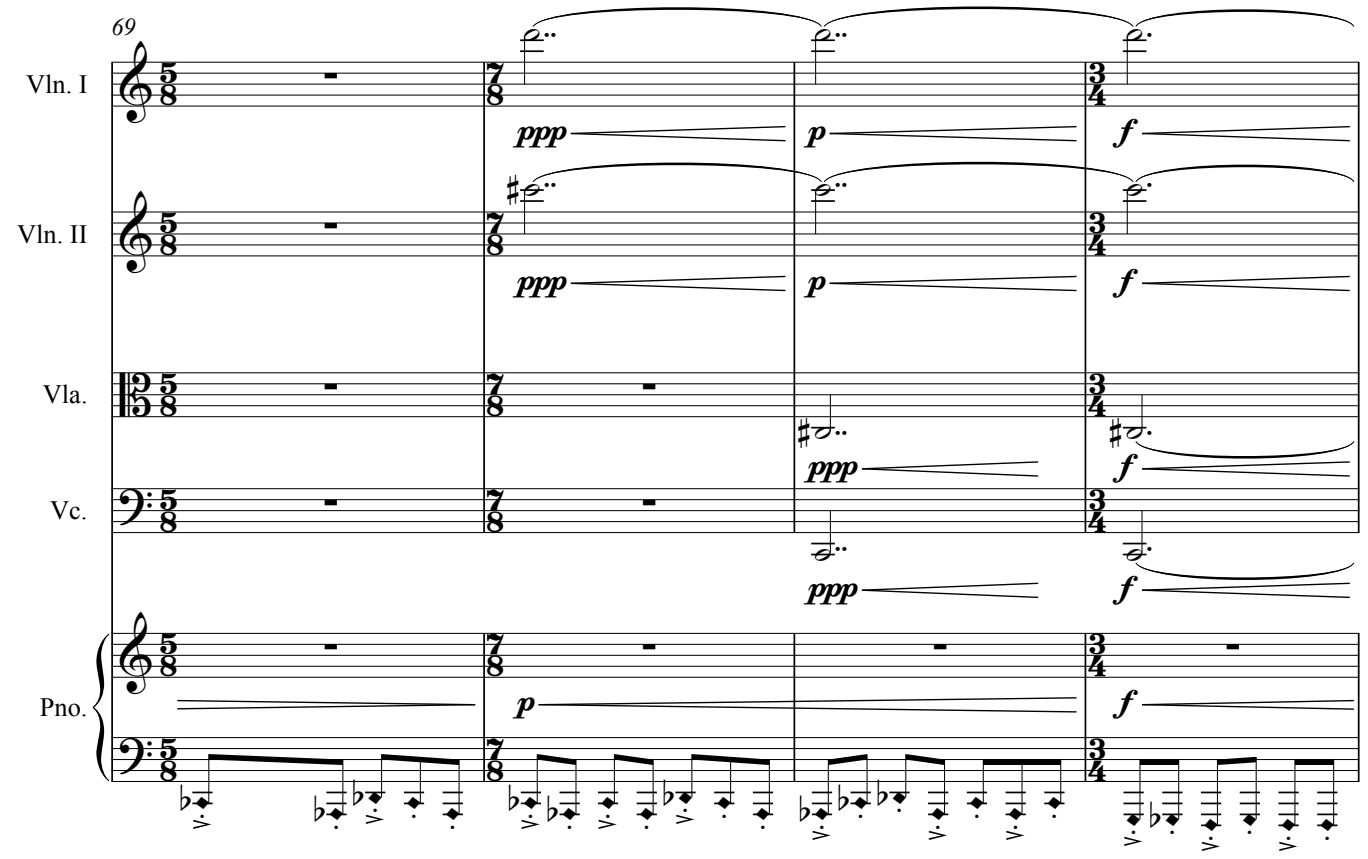

39
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
ff
44
G.P.
K
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
G.P.
G.P.
G.P.
G.P.
ff
ff
ff
ff
K

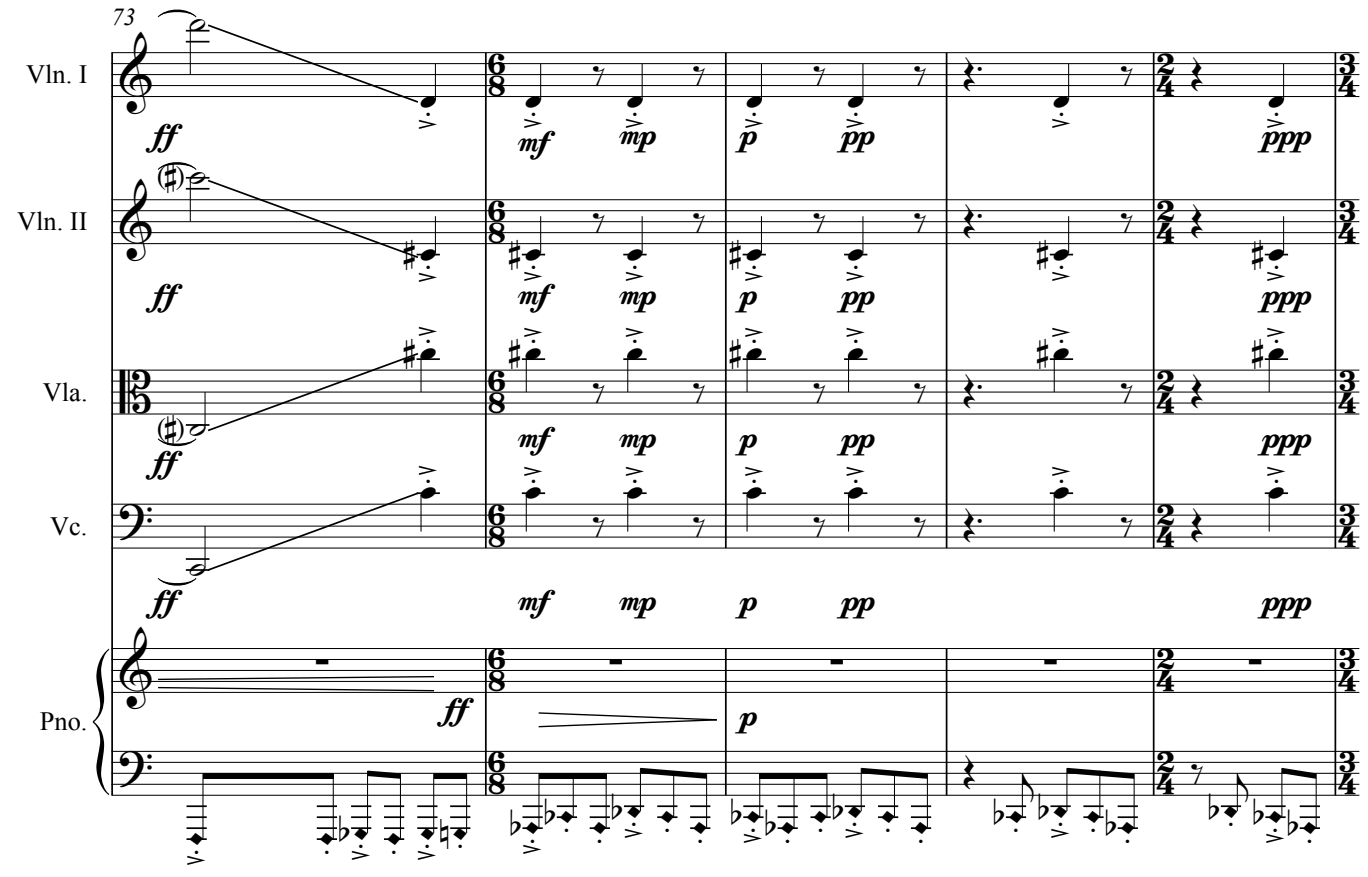

49
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

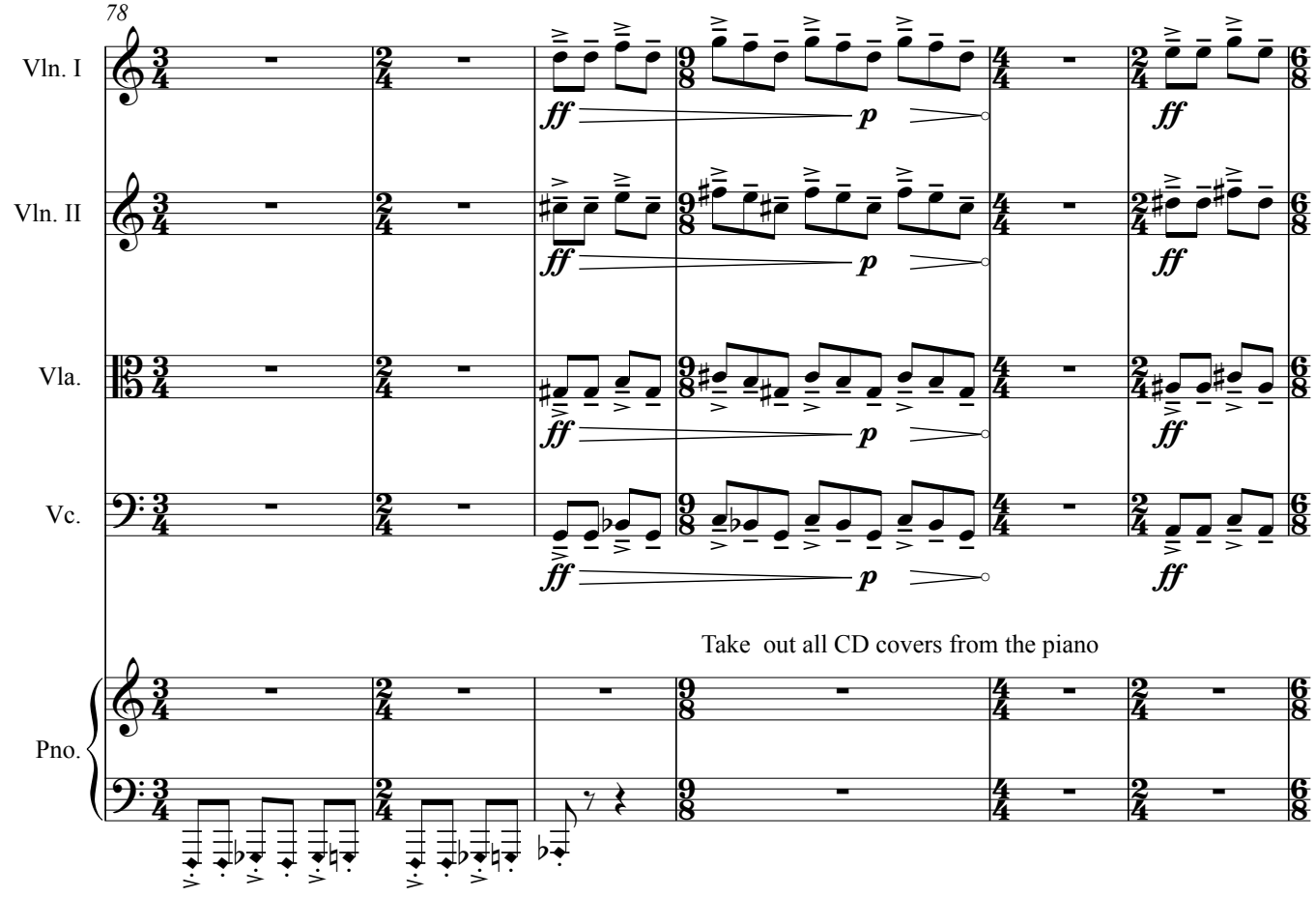

54
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
G.P.
L
ppp
p
palm mute

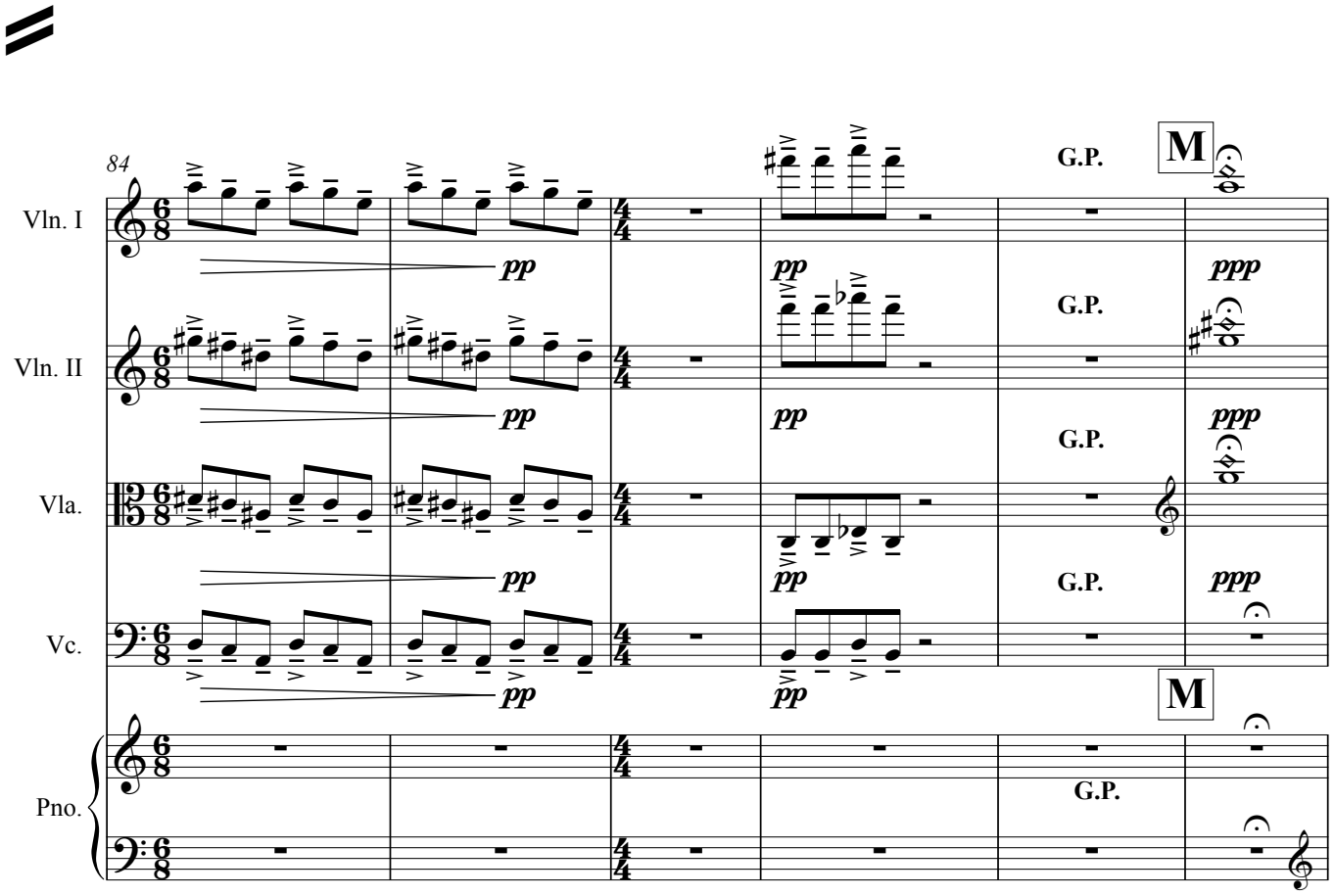

59
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
f
ff
pp
p

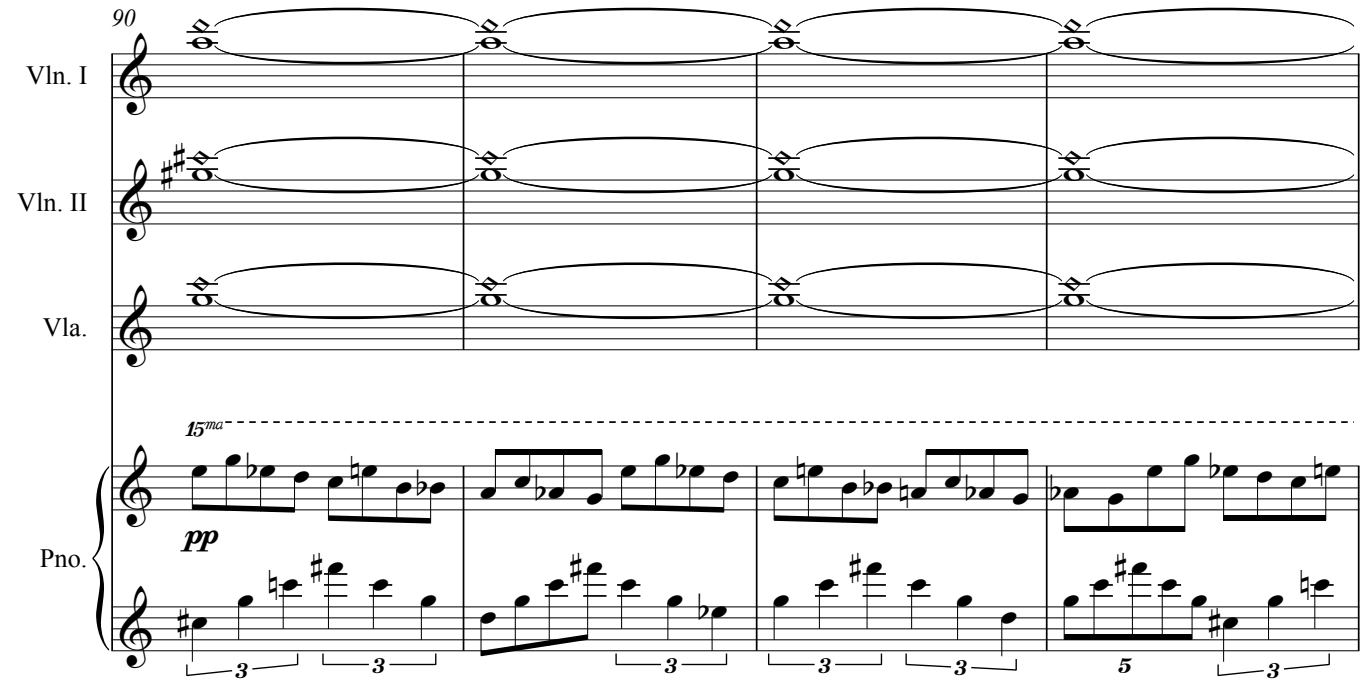

64
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
p
ff
mf
f

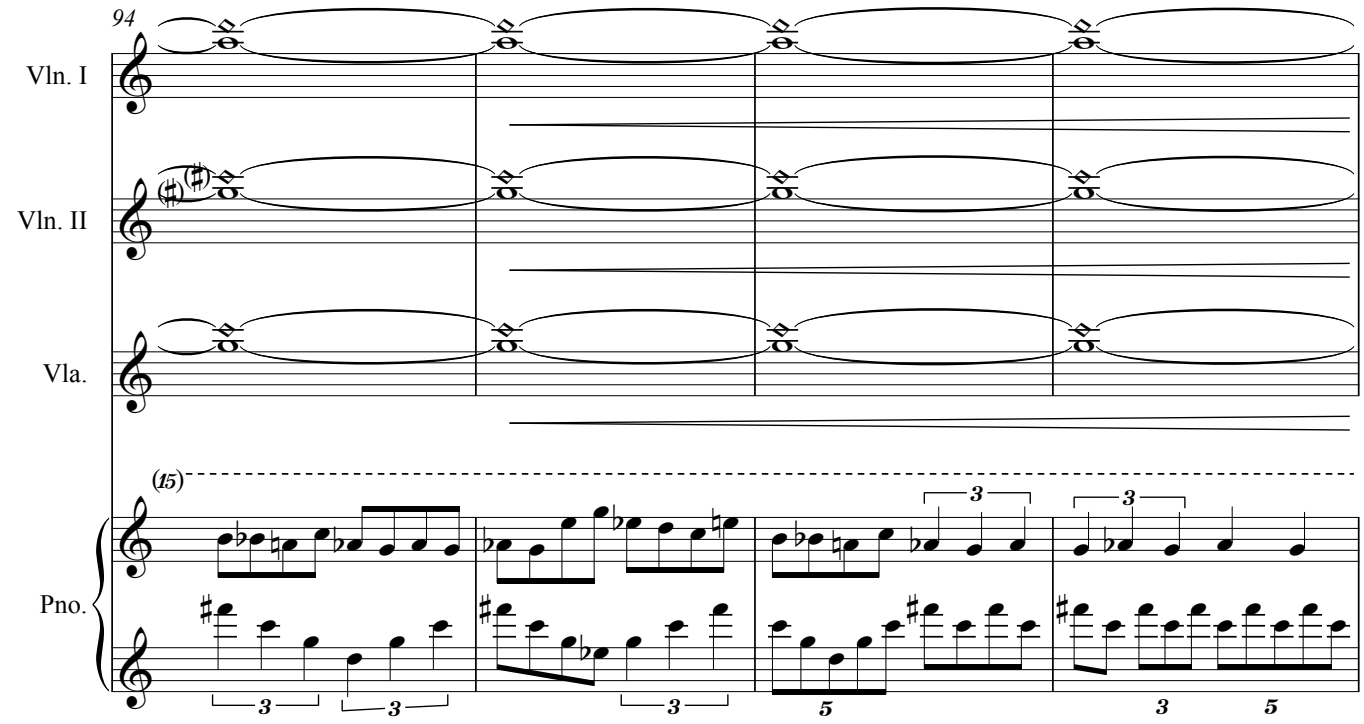

69
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ppp
p
f

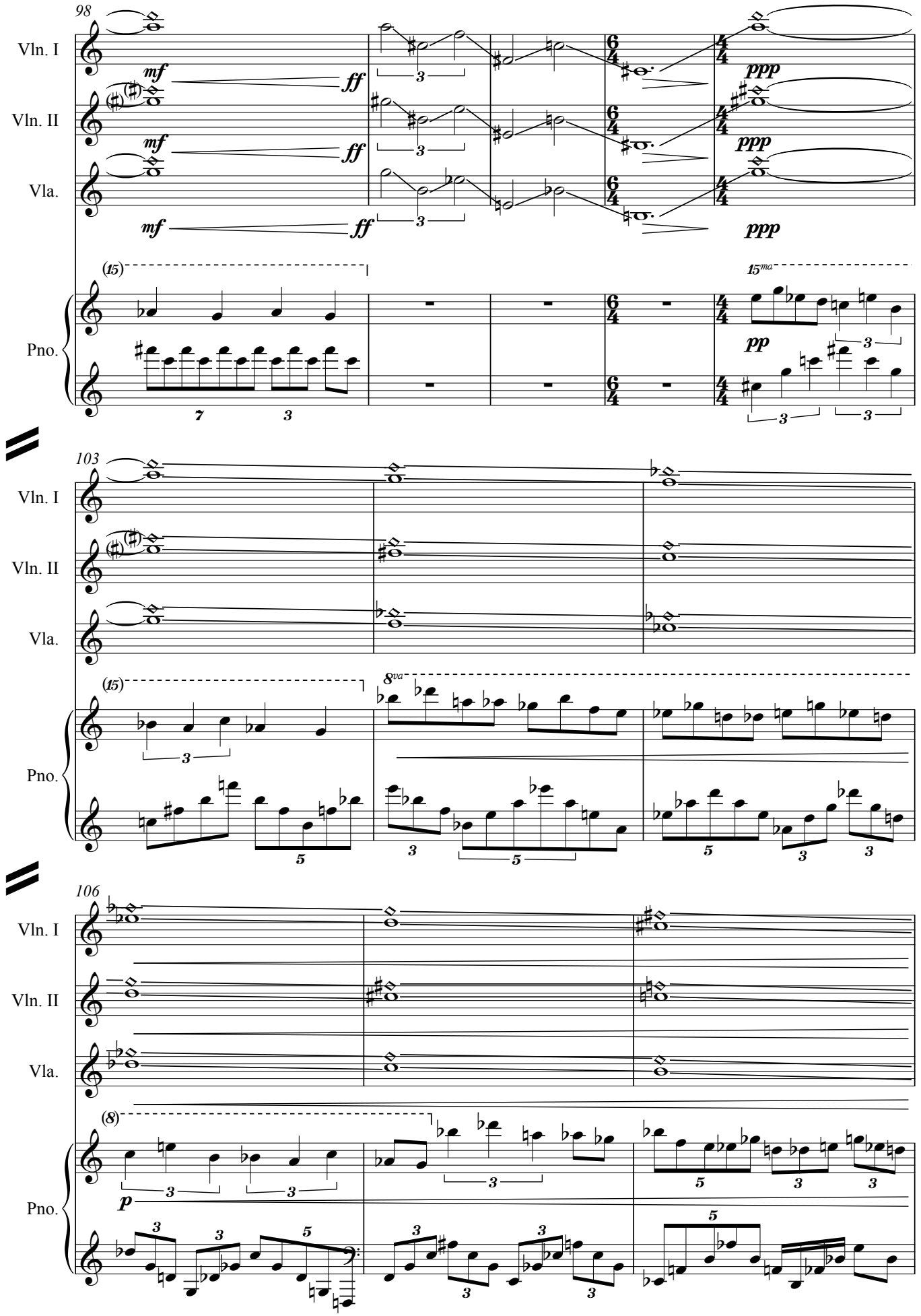

73
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
mf
mp
p
pp
ppp

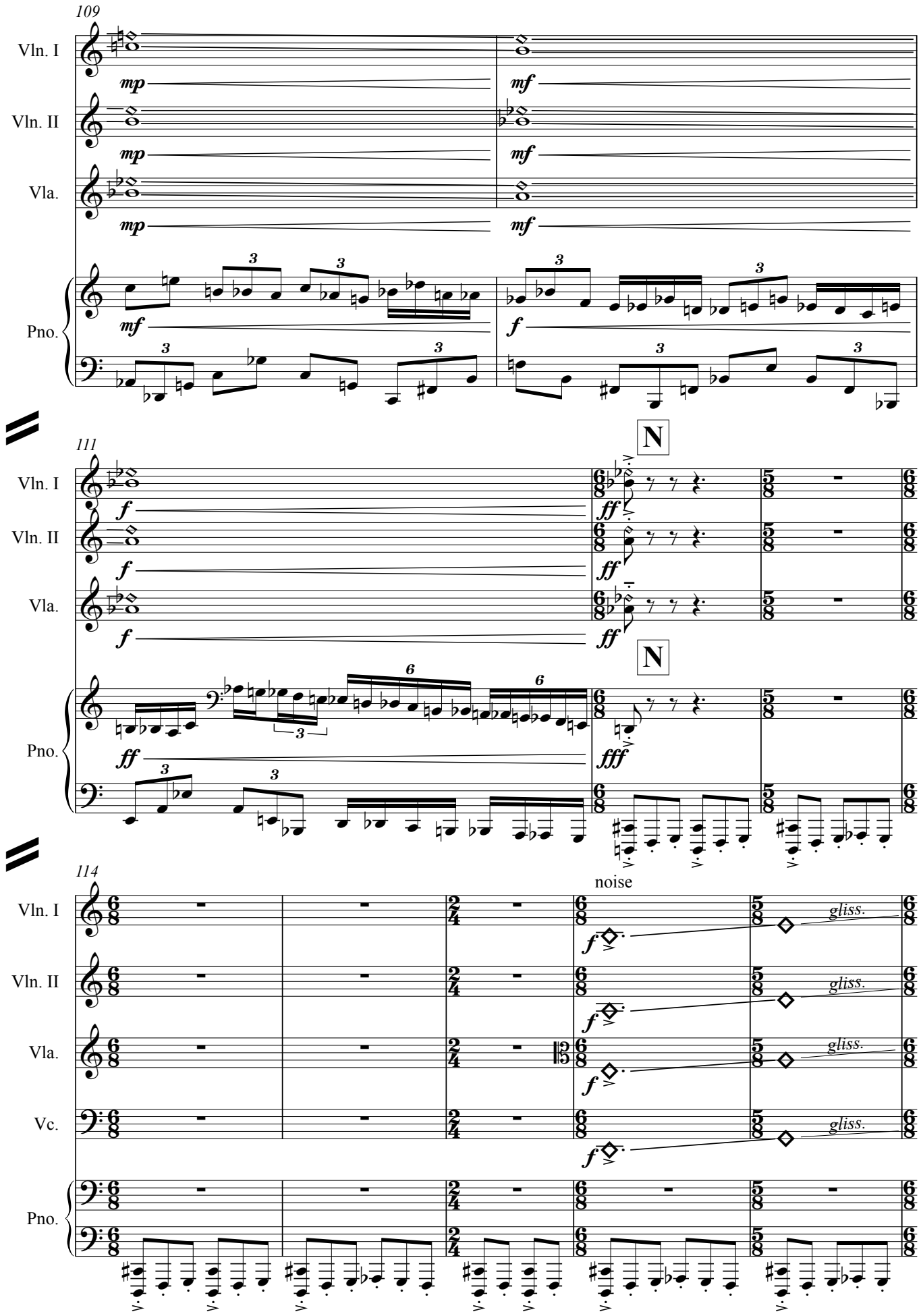

78
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
p
Take out all CD covers from the piano

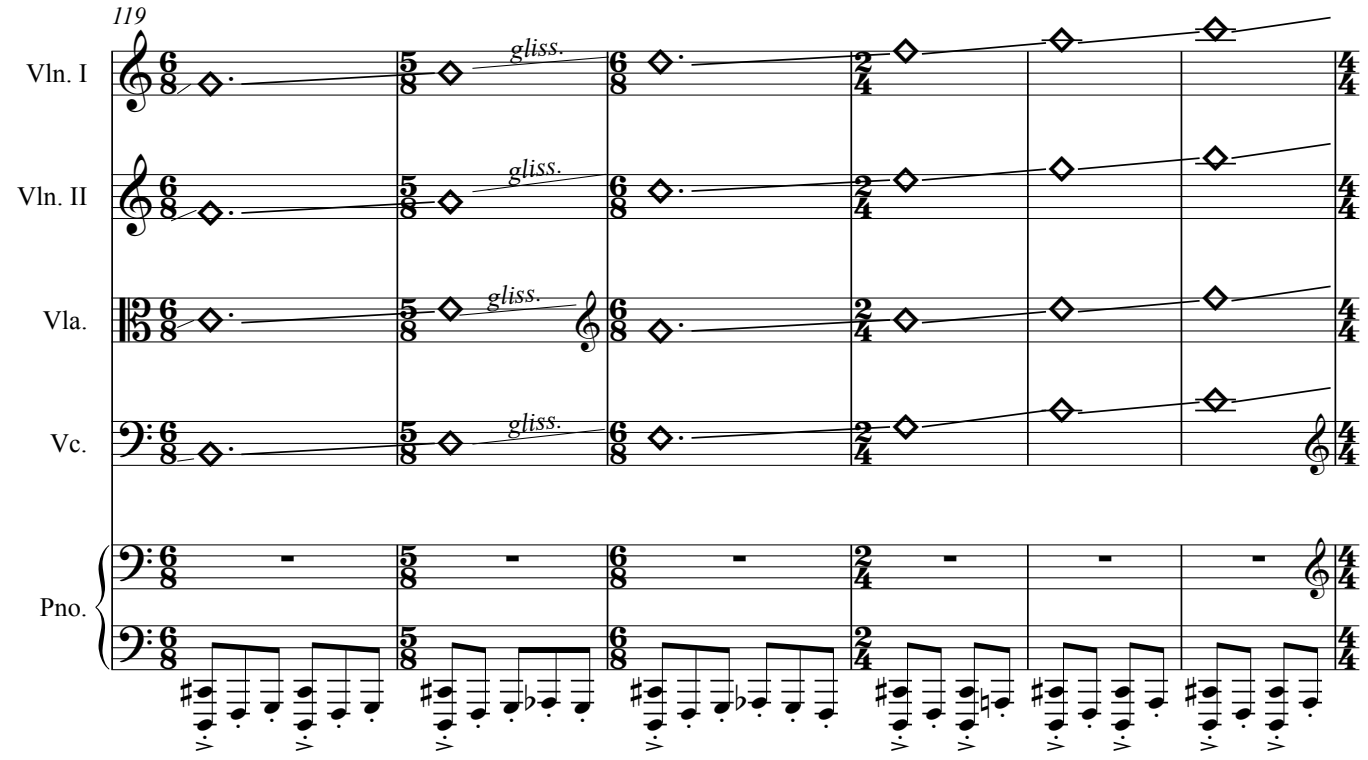

84
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
ppp
G.P.
M

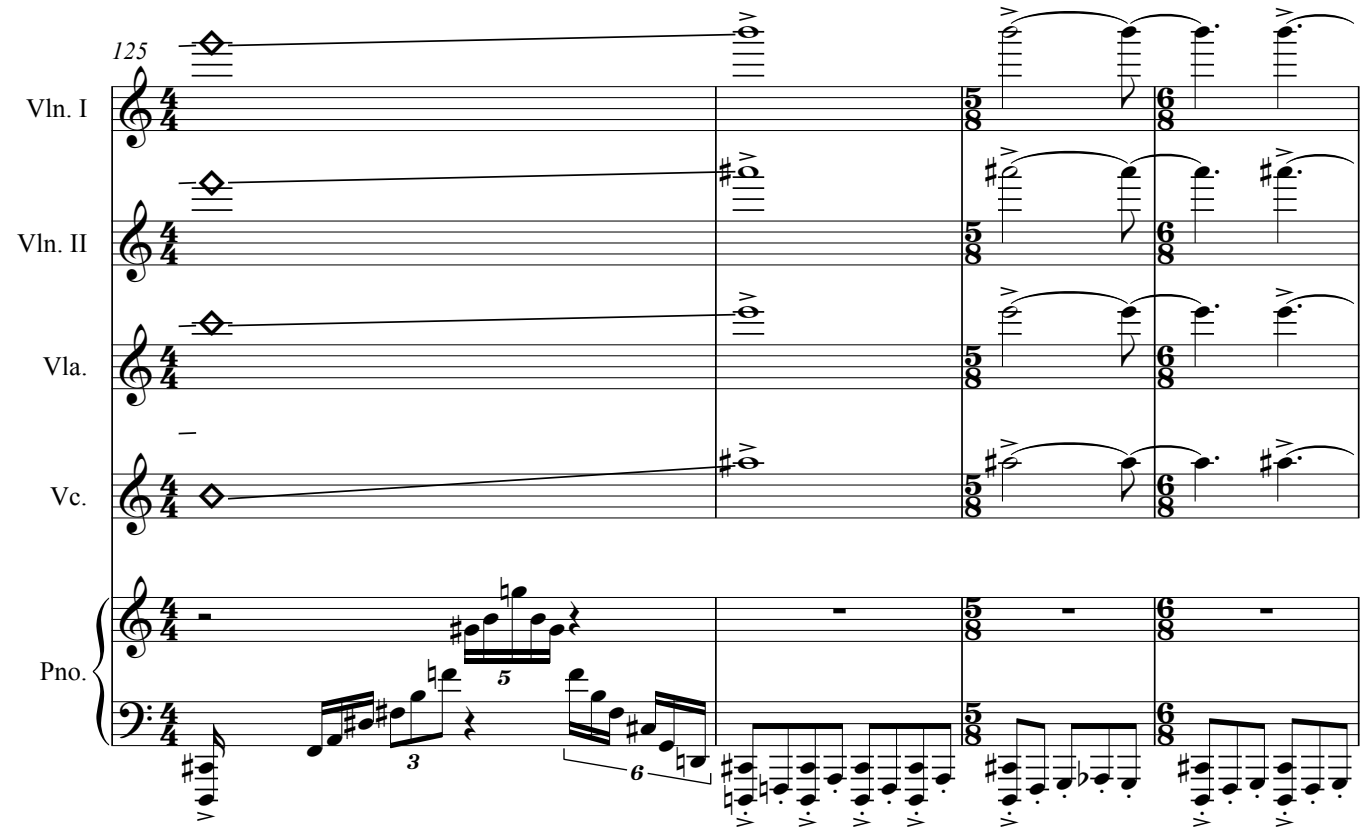

90
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
15ma
Pno.
pp

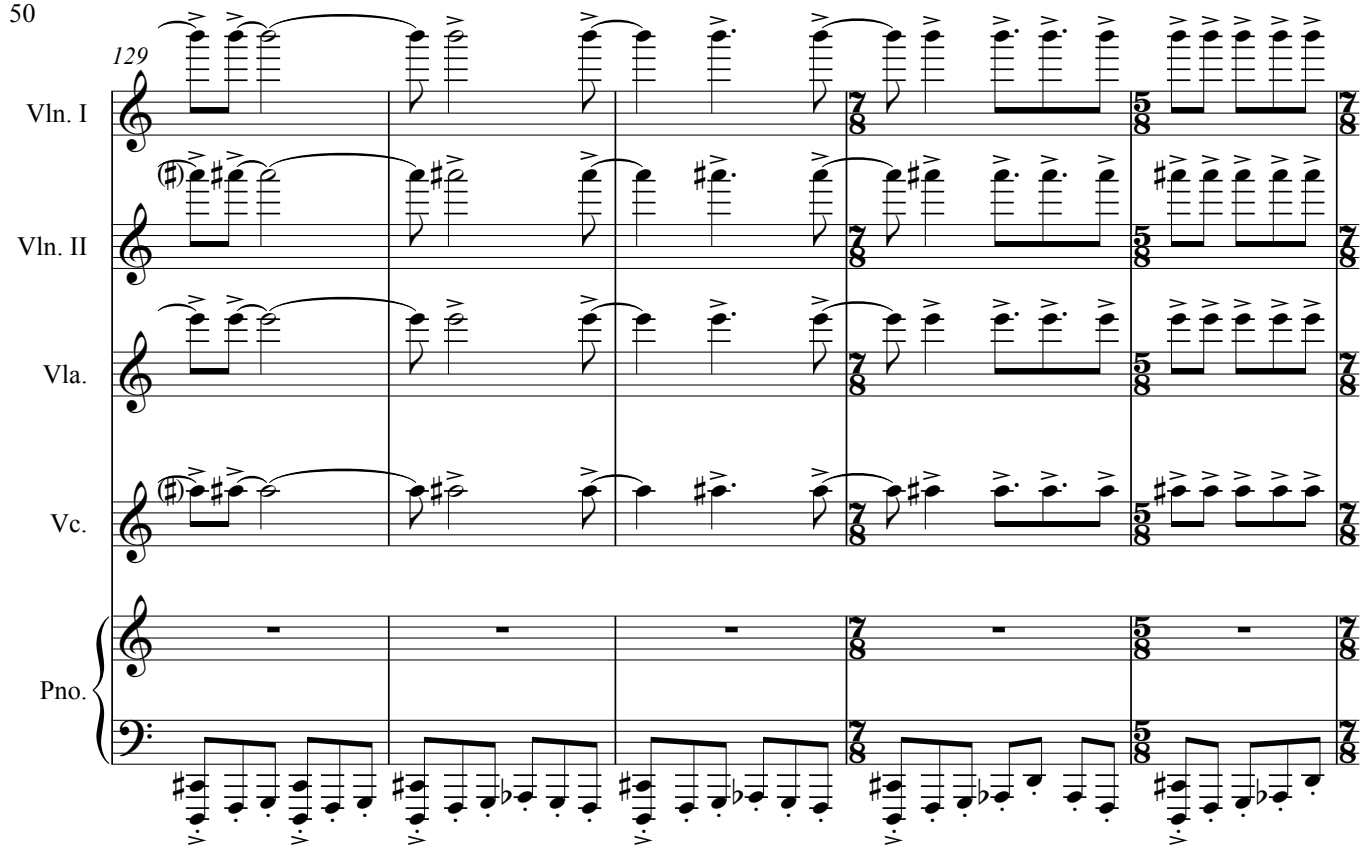

94
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
(15)
Pno.

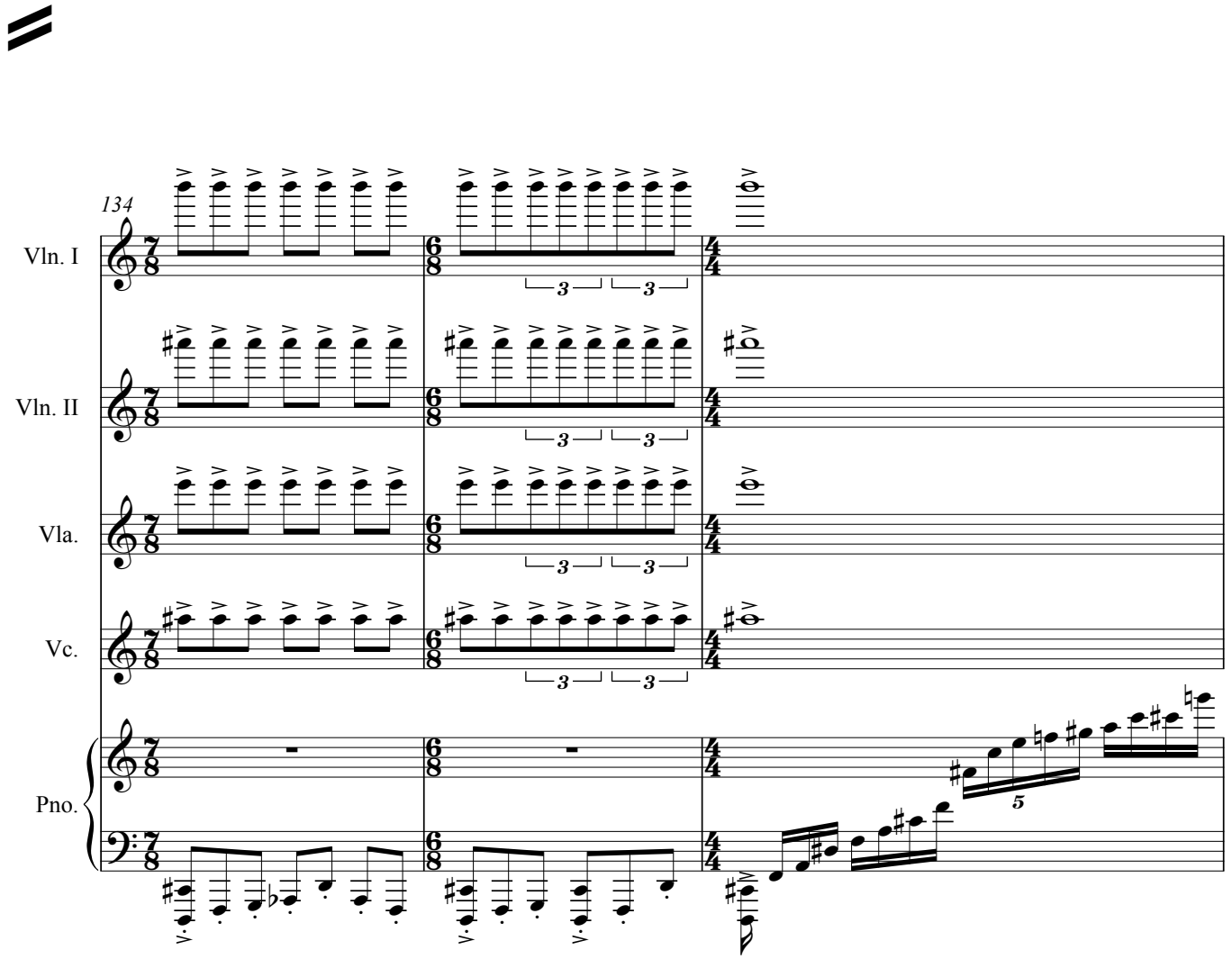

98
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Pno.
mf
ff
ppp
pp
(15)
15ma
103
8va
106
(8)
p

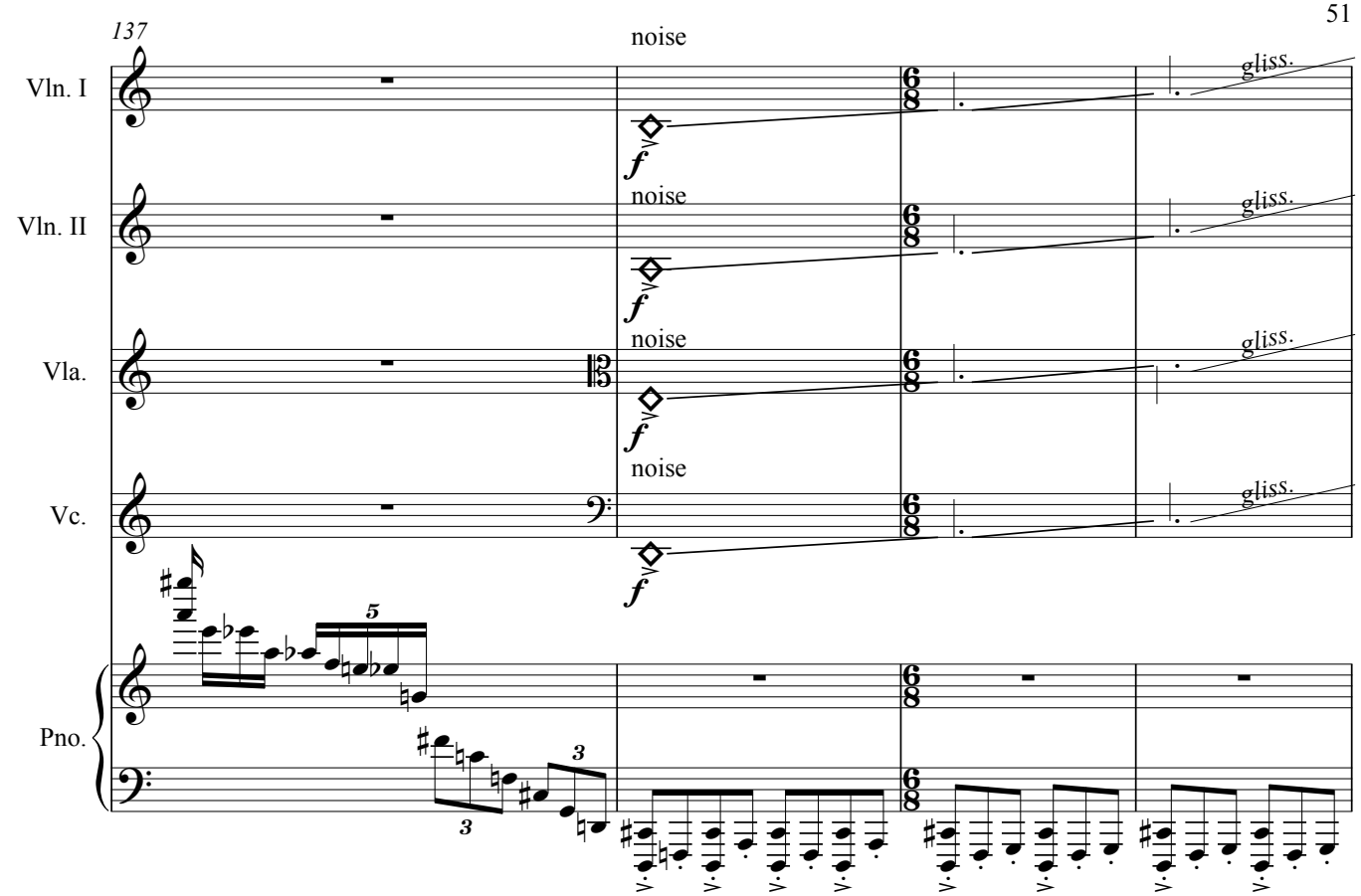

109
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Pno.
mp
mf
f
111
N
ff
fff
114
noise
Vc.
gliss.

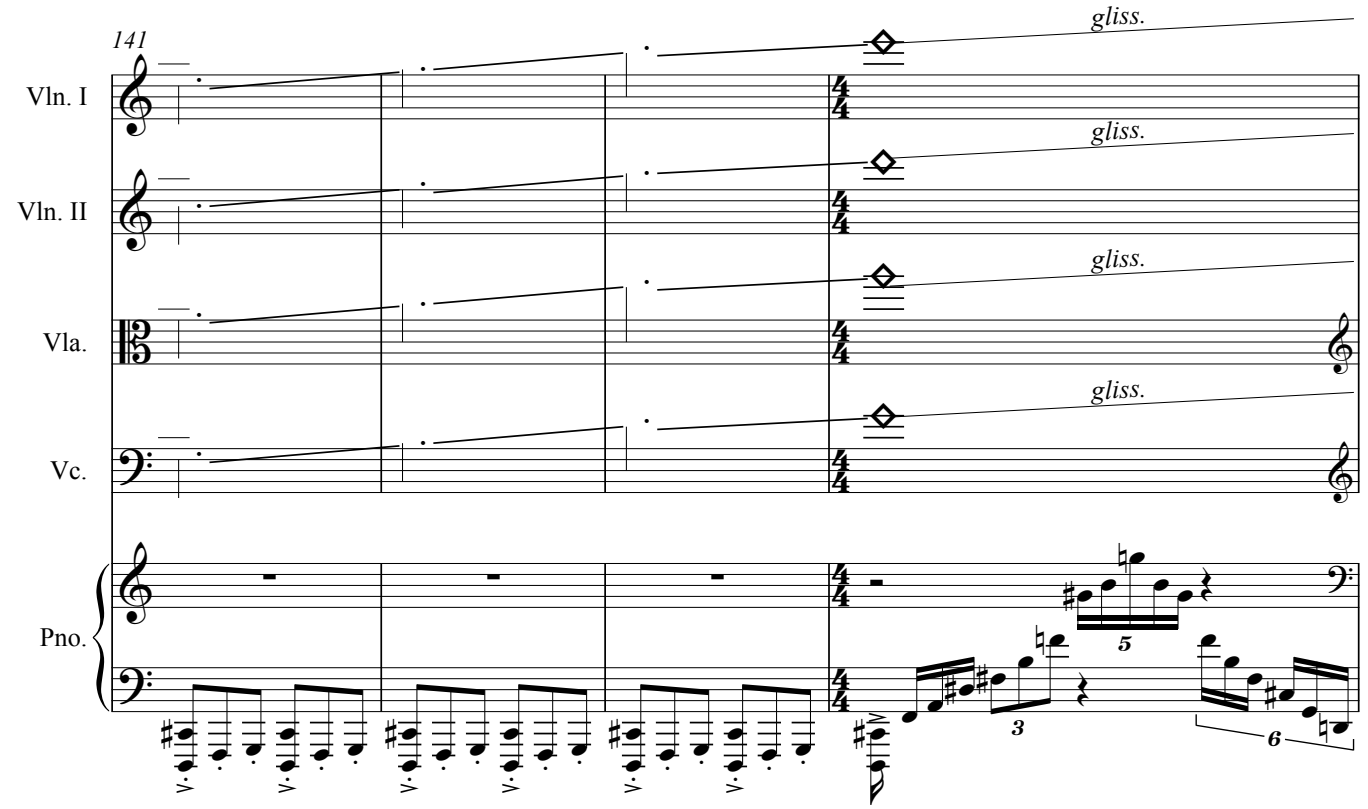

119
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.

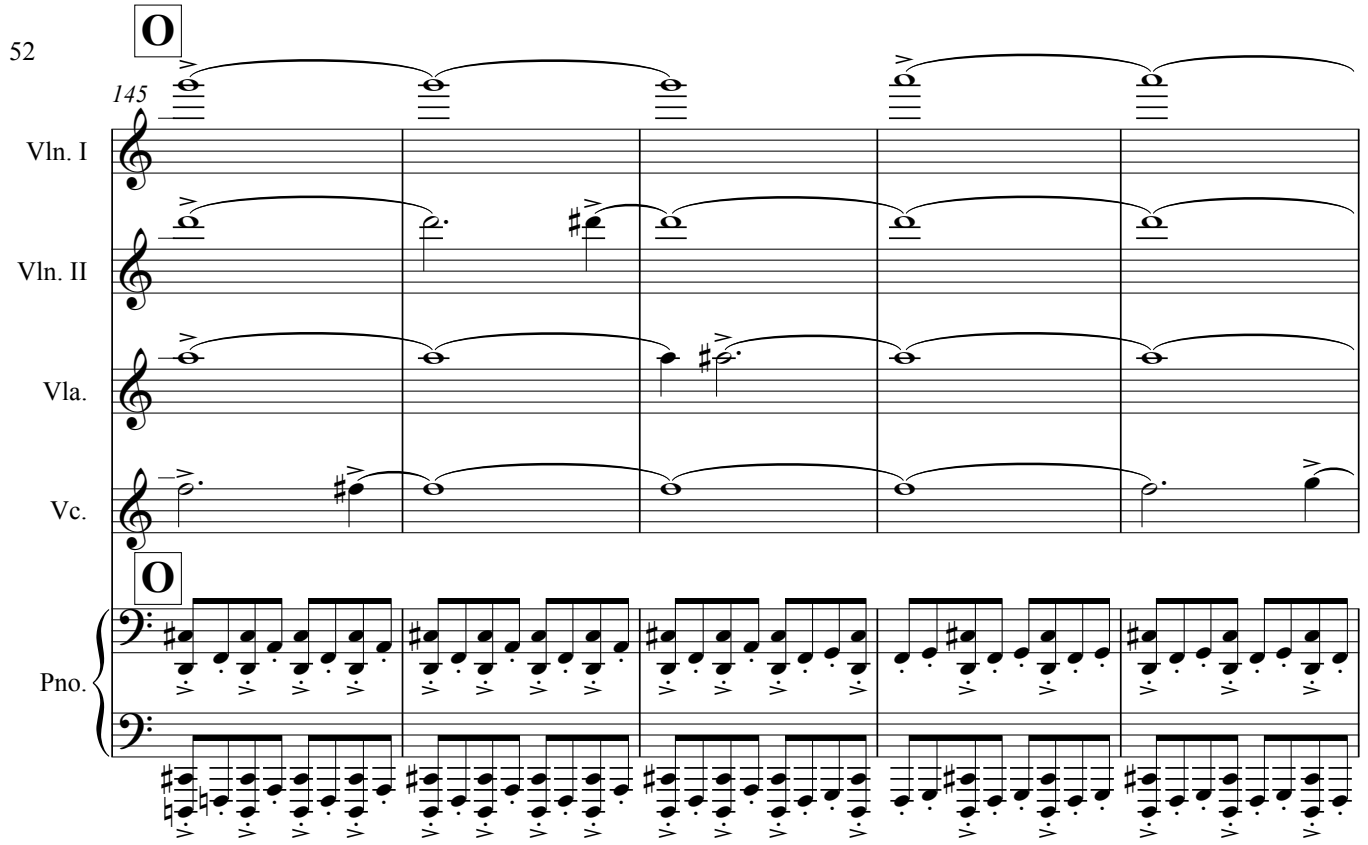

125
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
5
3
6

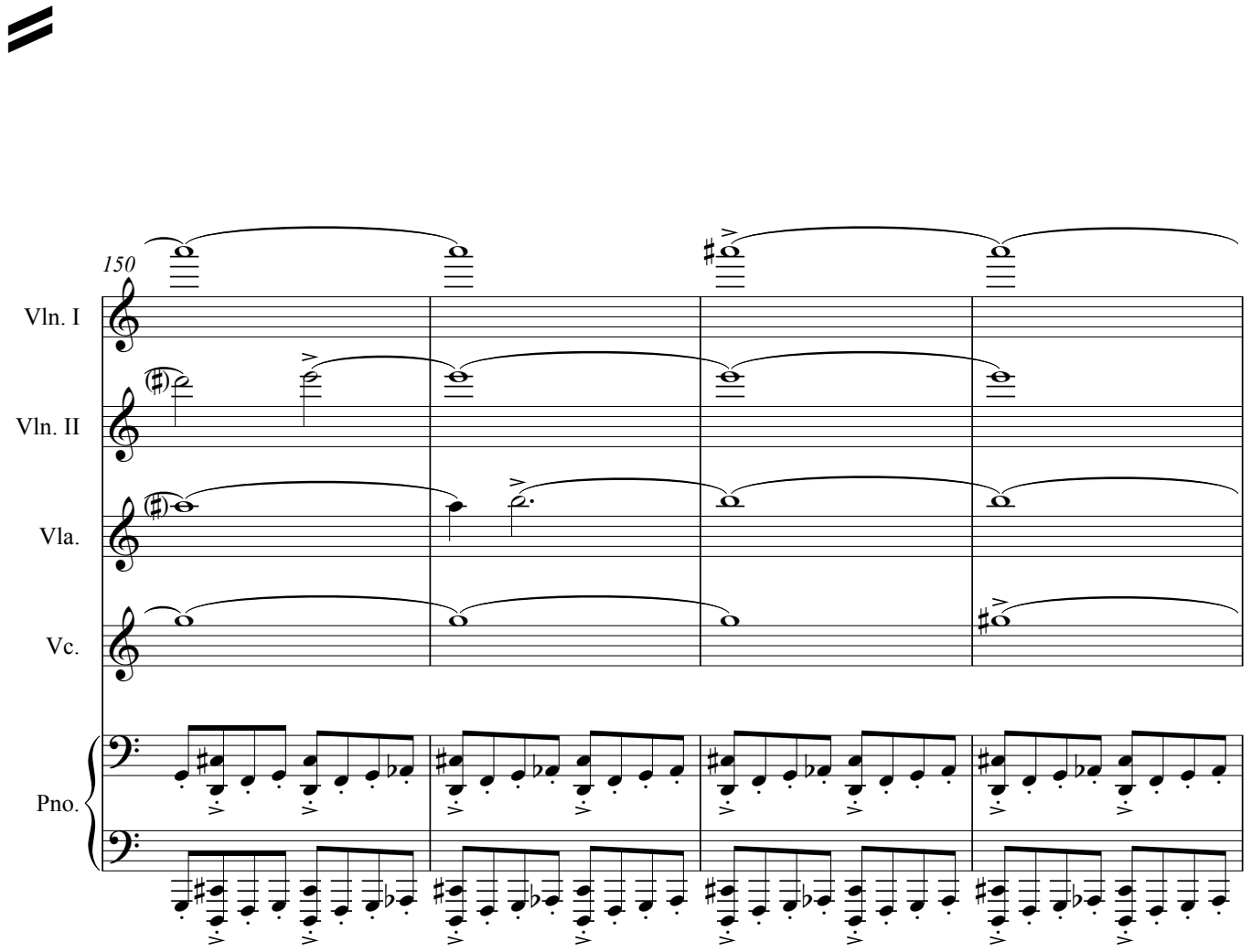

129
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

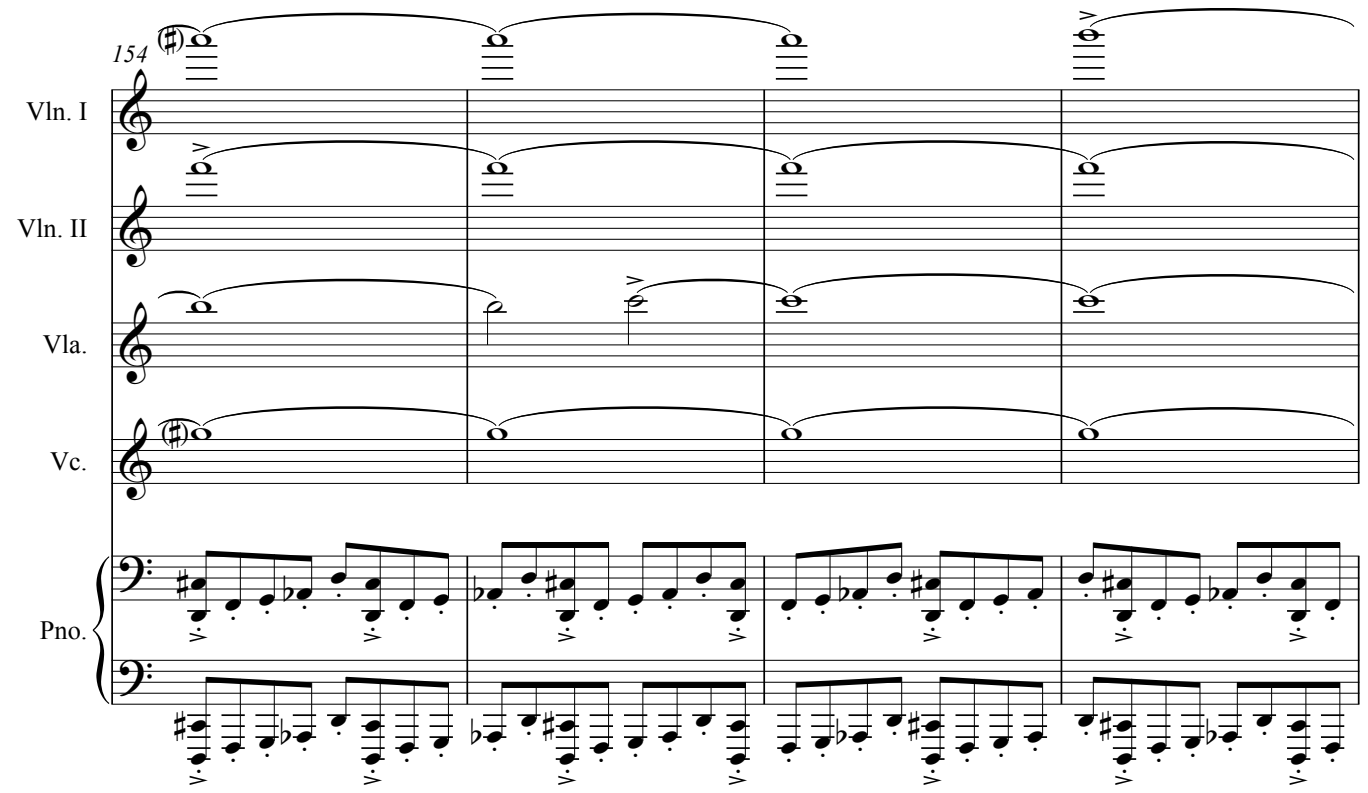

134
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

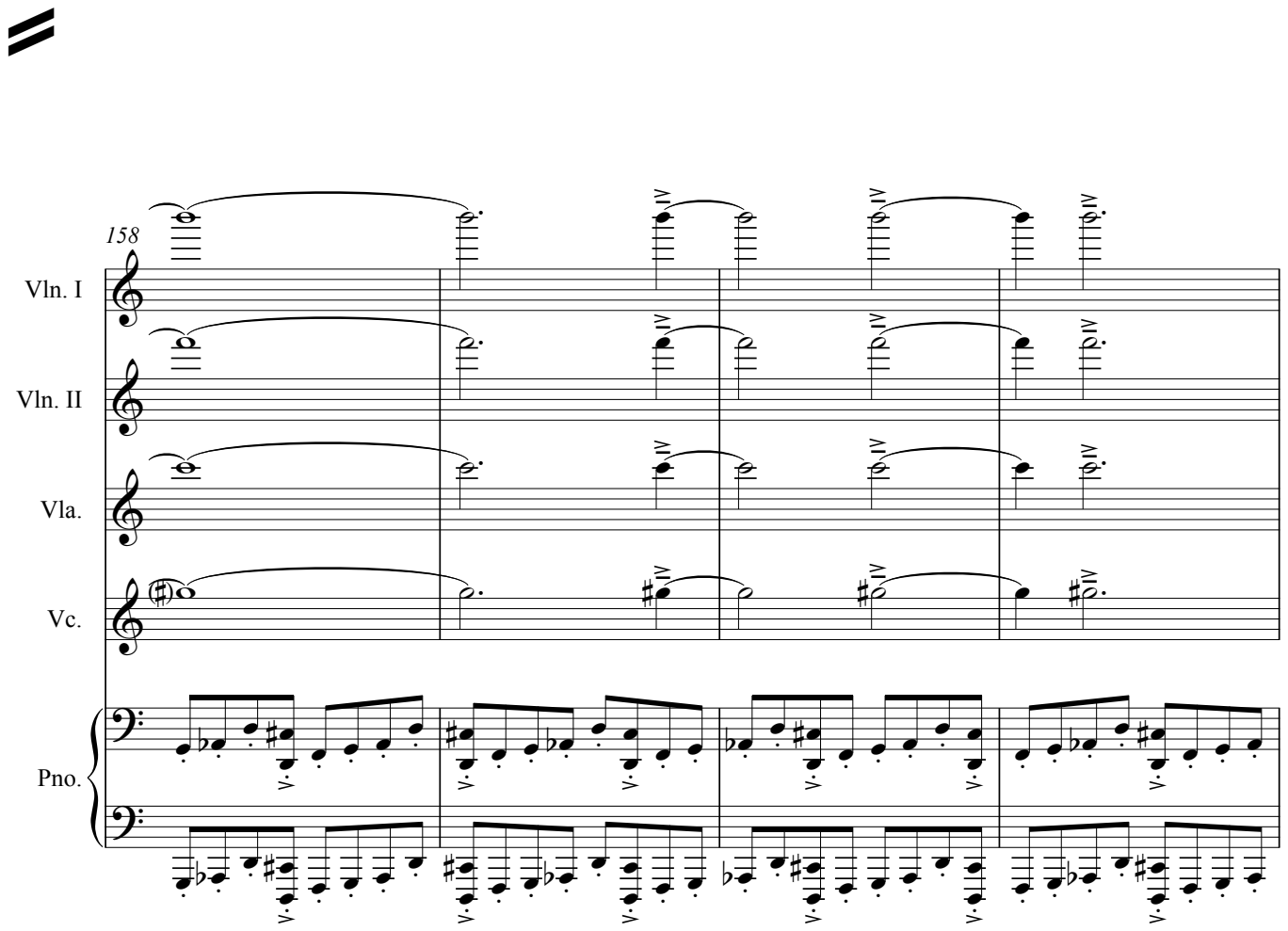

137
noise
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.

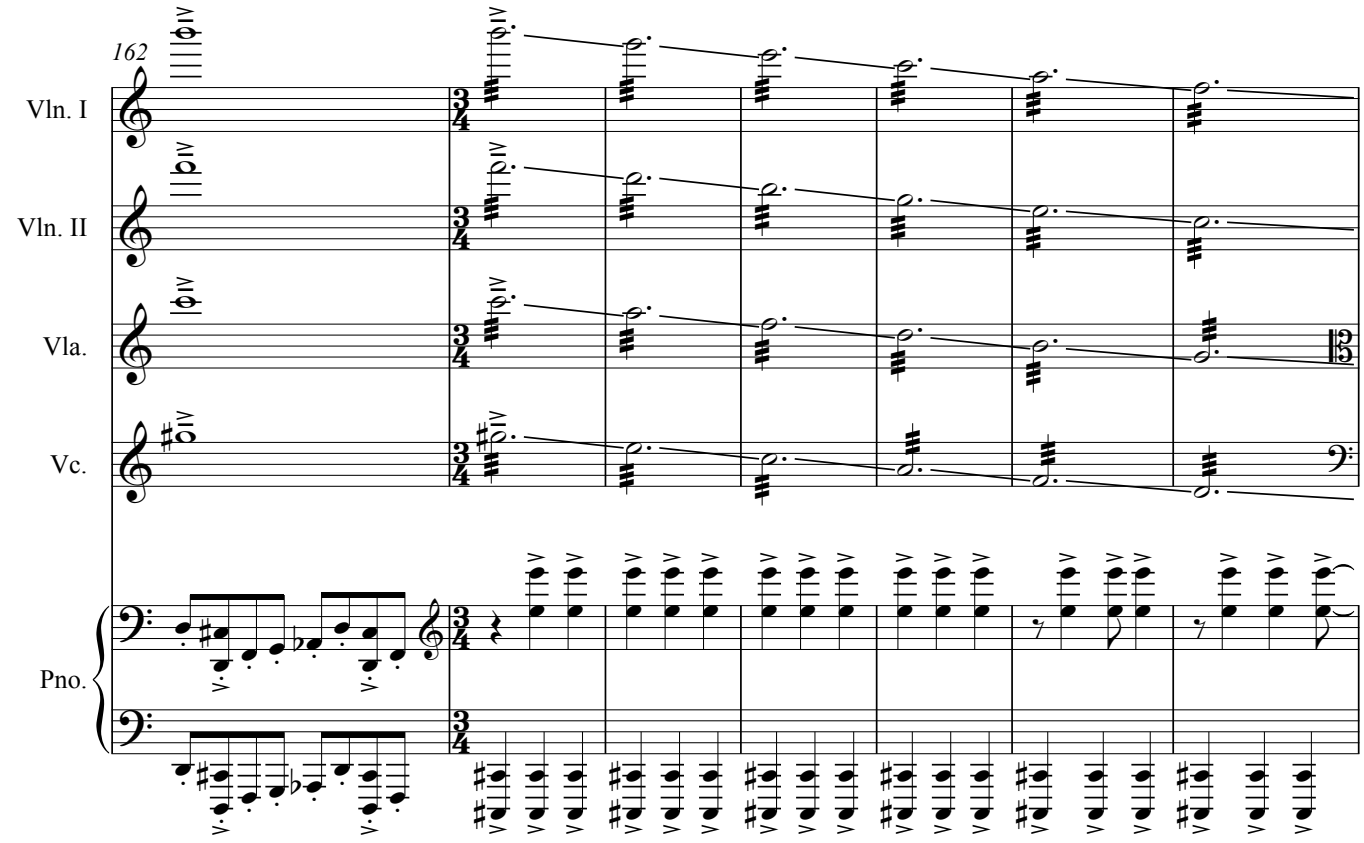

141
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.

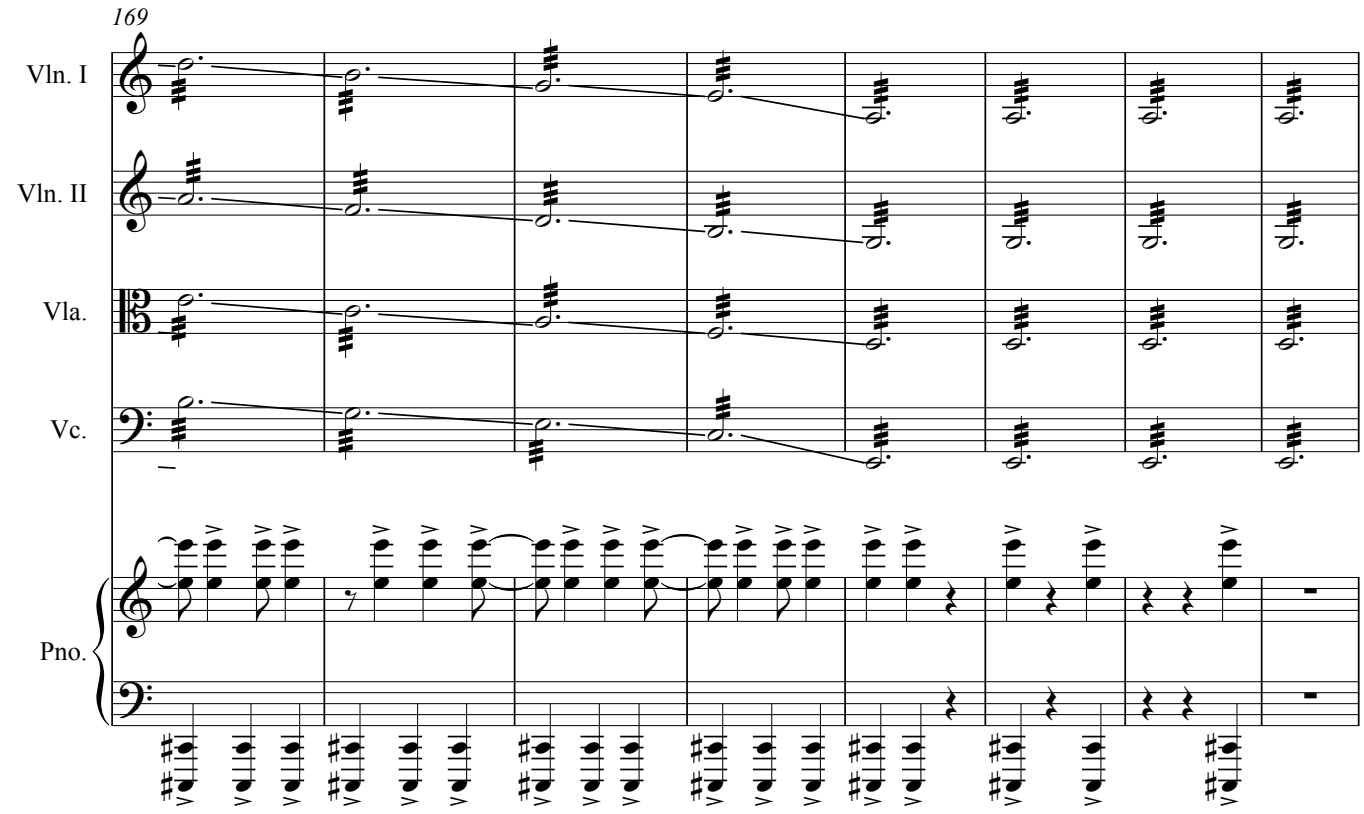

145
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

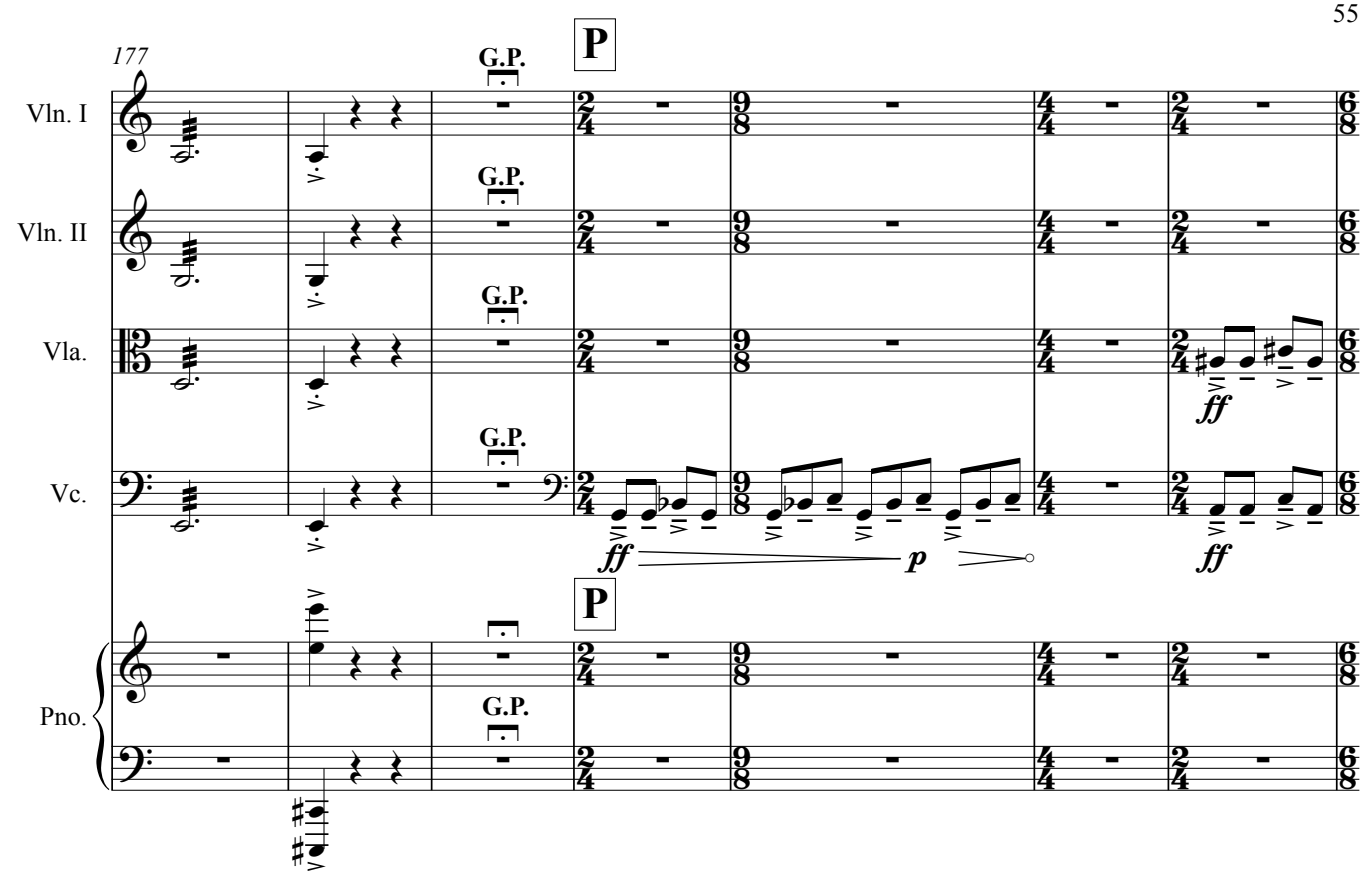

150
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

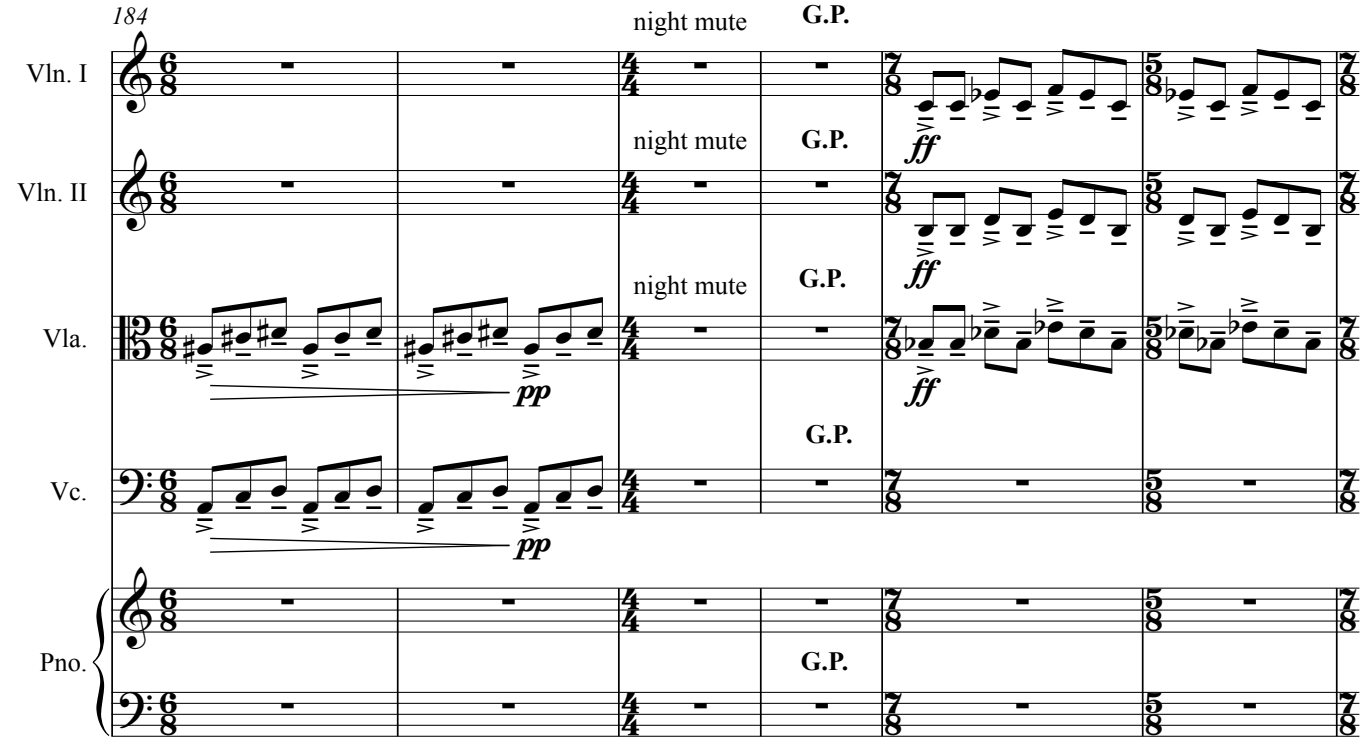

154
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

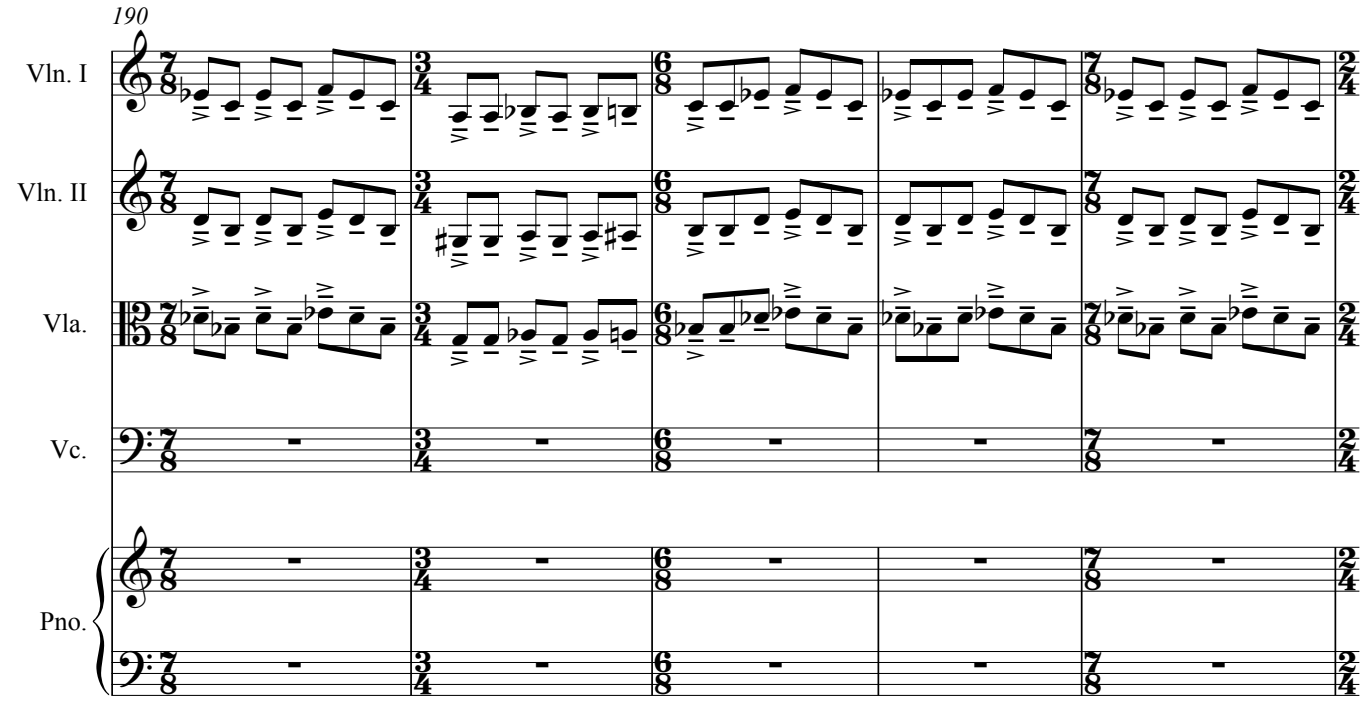

158
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

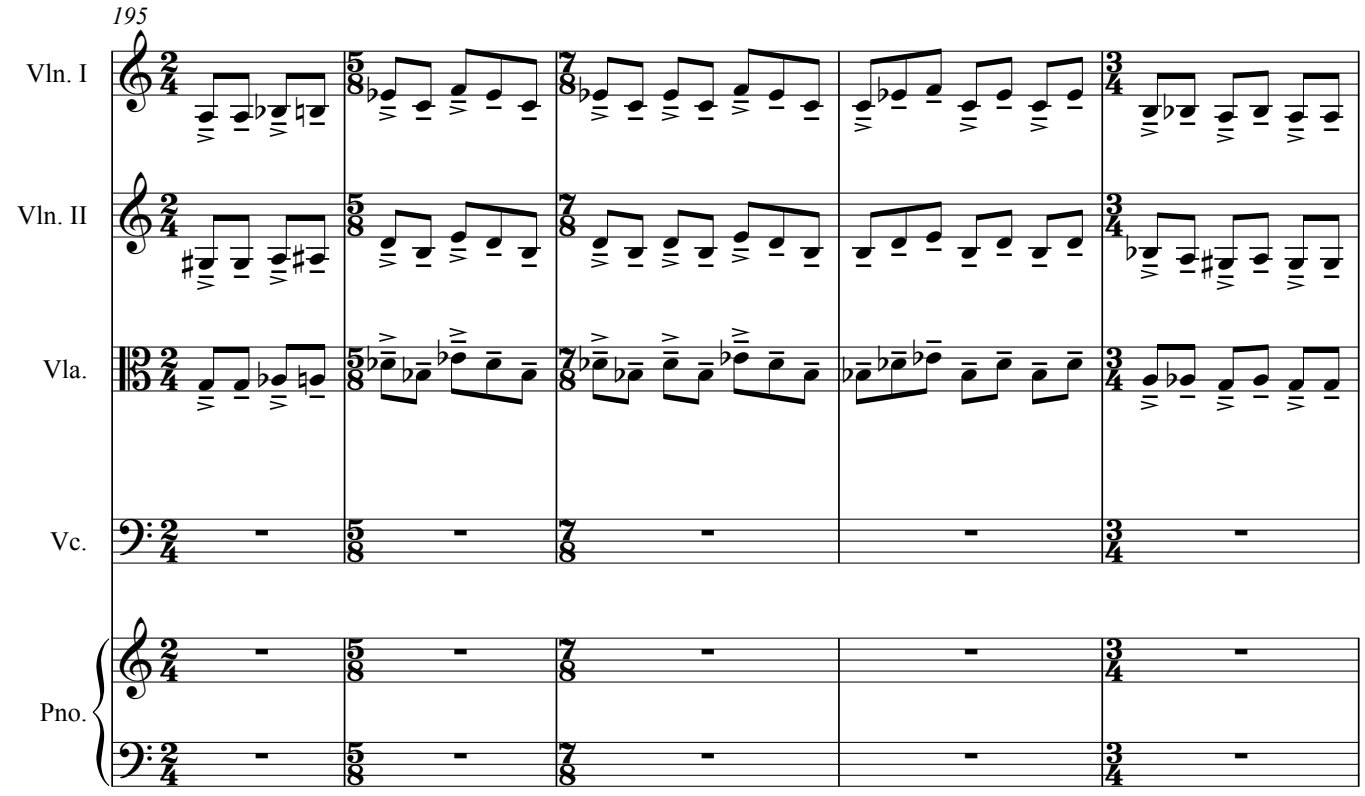

162
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

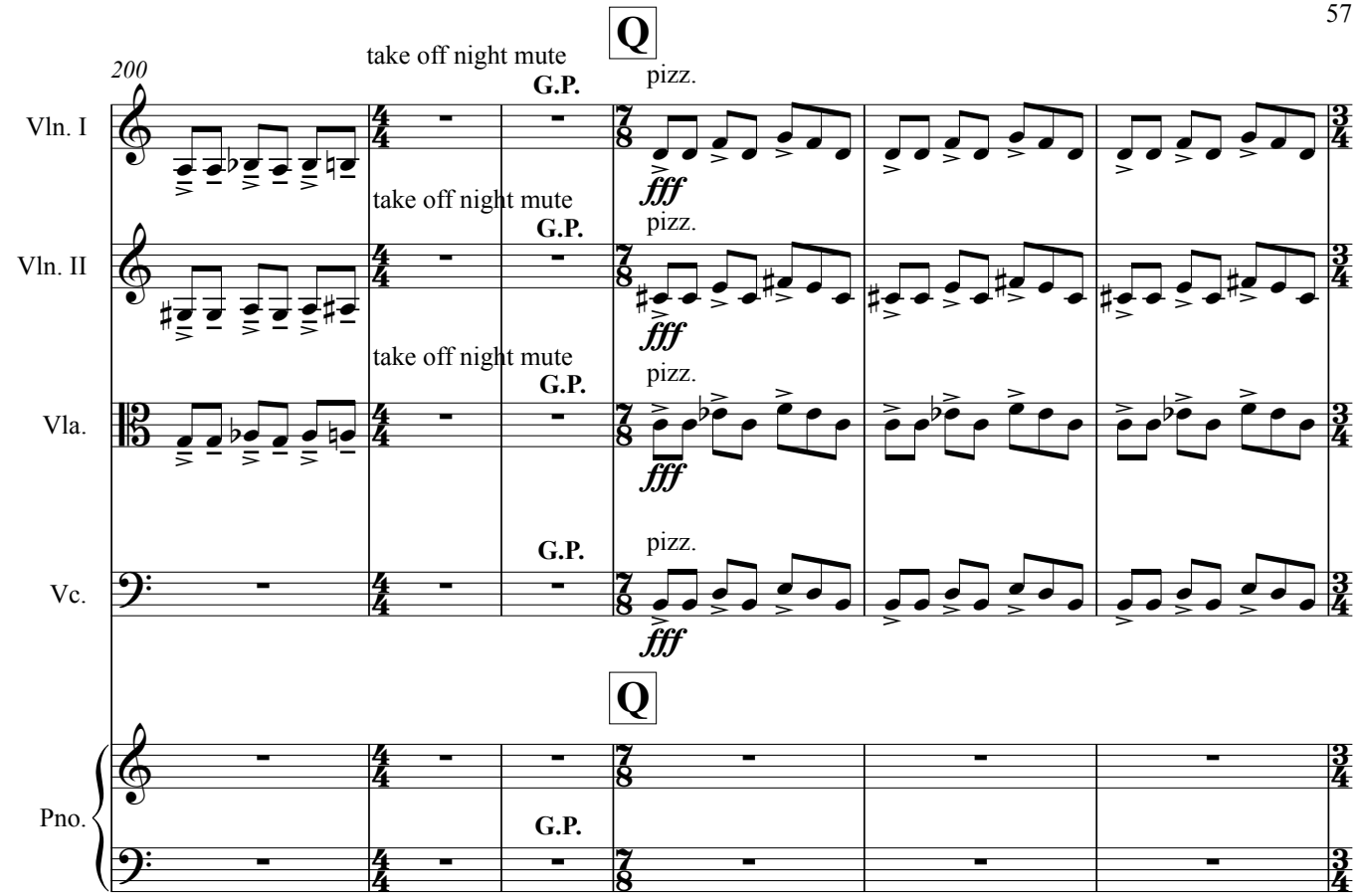

169
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

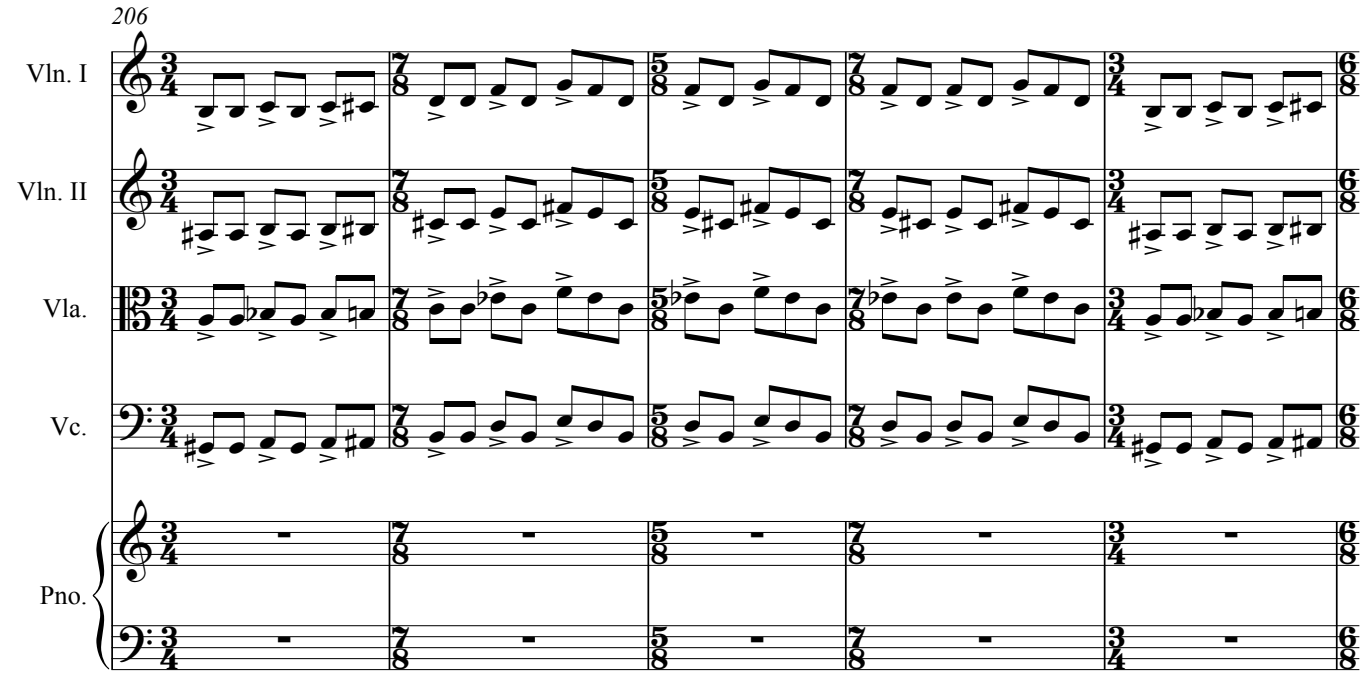

177
P
G.P.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
p
ff

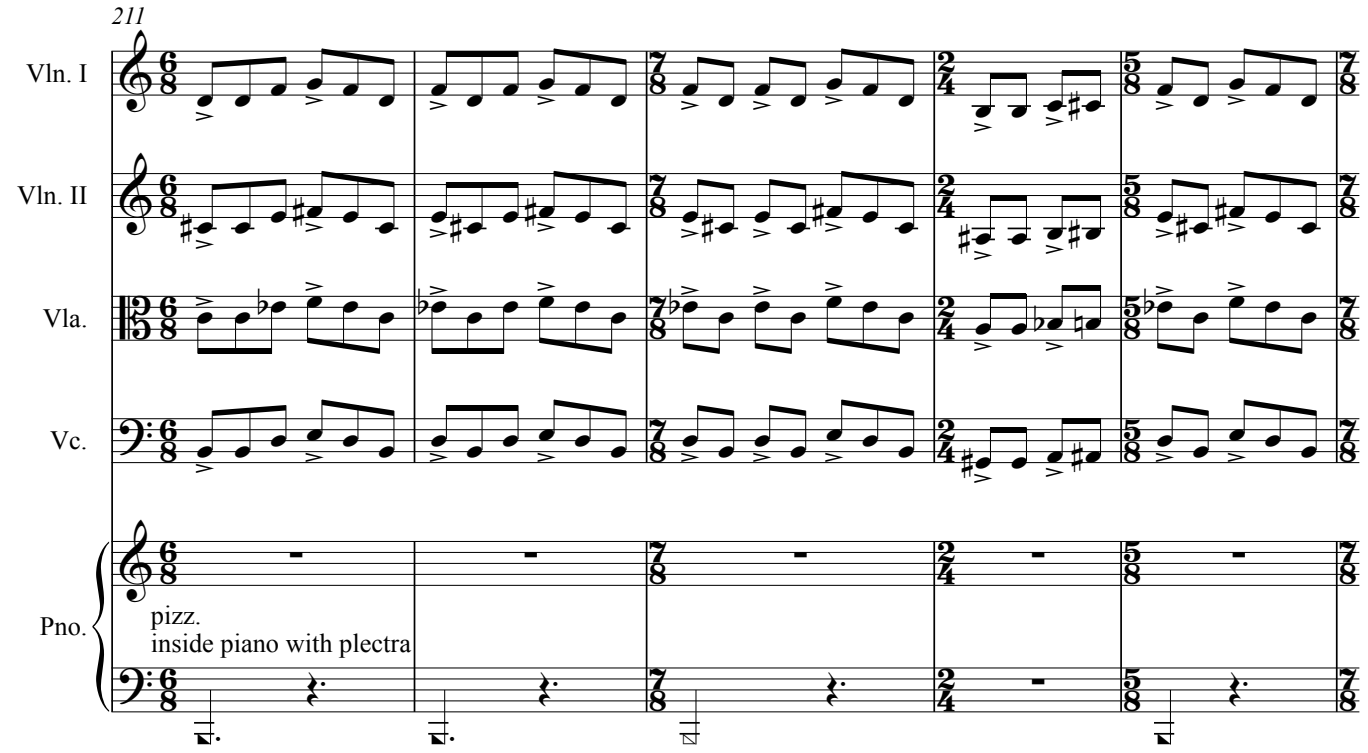

184
night mute
G.P.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
pp

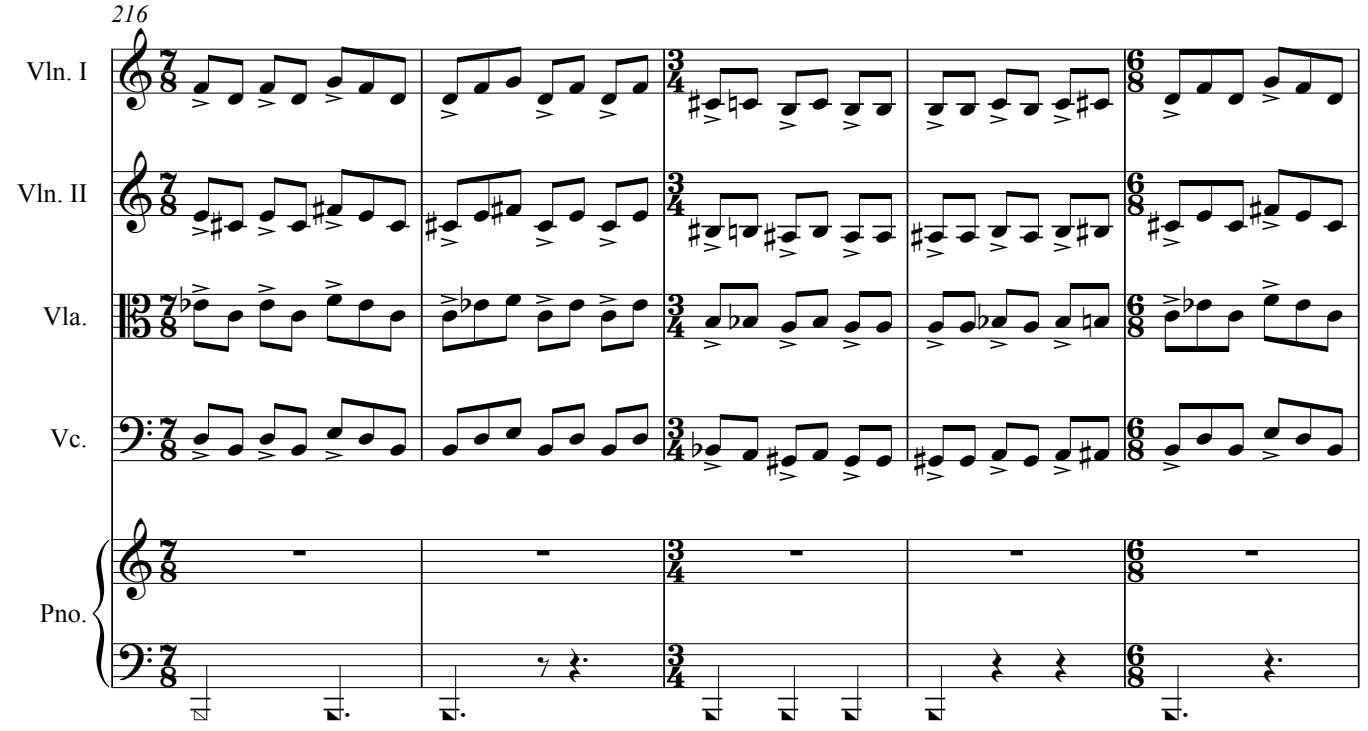

190
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

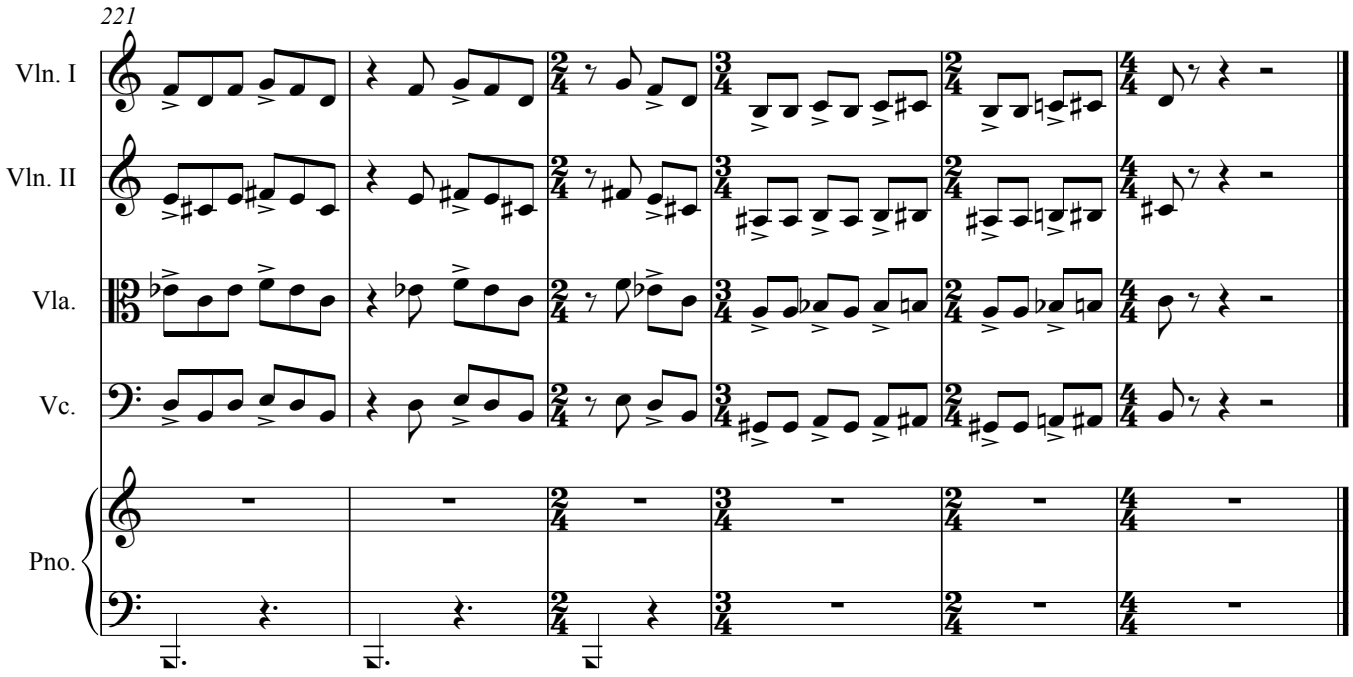

195
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.


200
Q
take off night mute
G.P.
pizz.
fff
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.


206
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

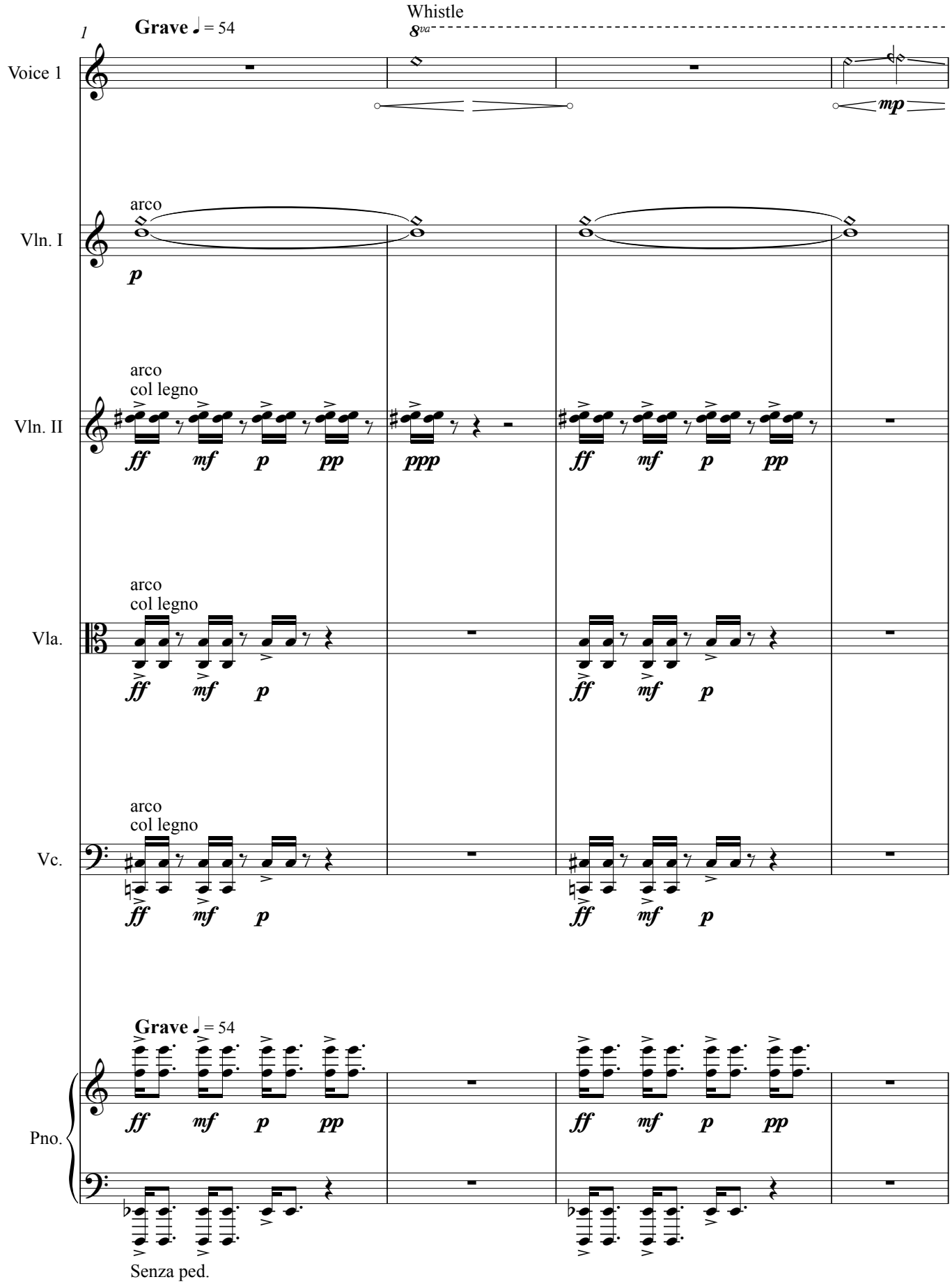

211
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
inside piano with plectra

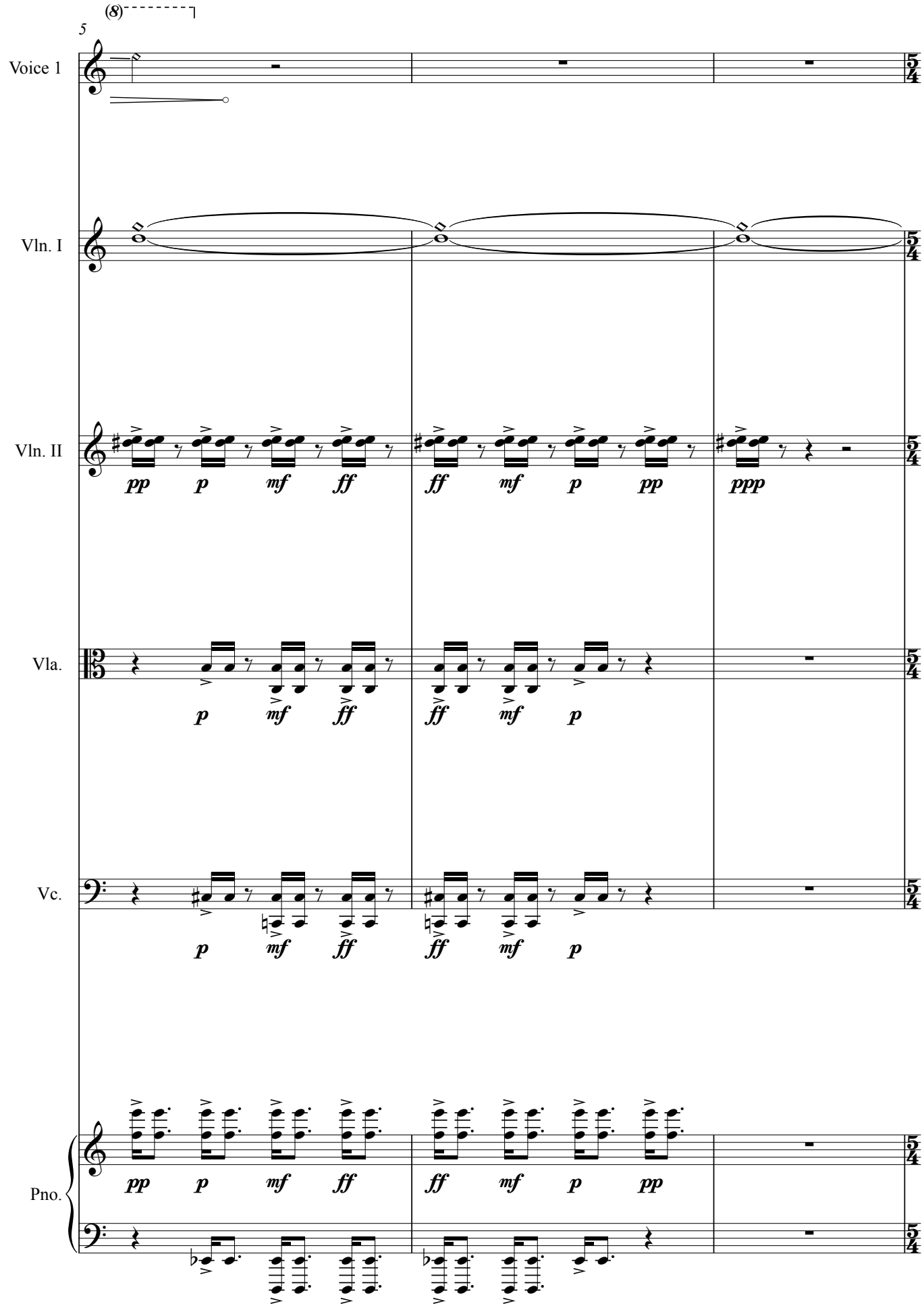

216
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

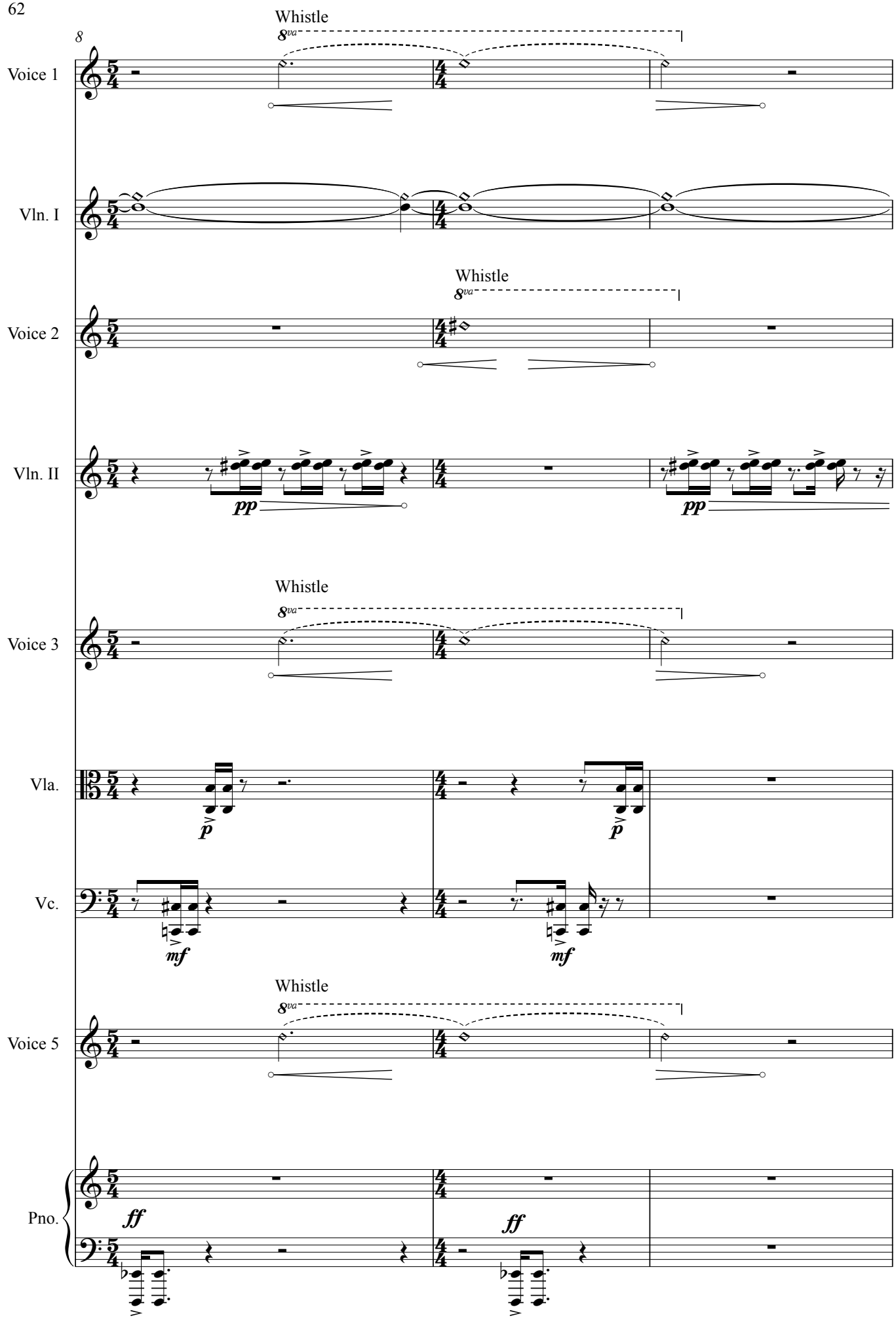

221
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

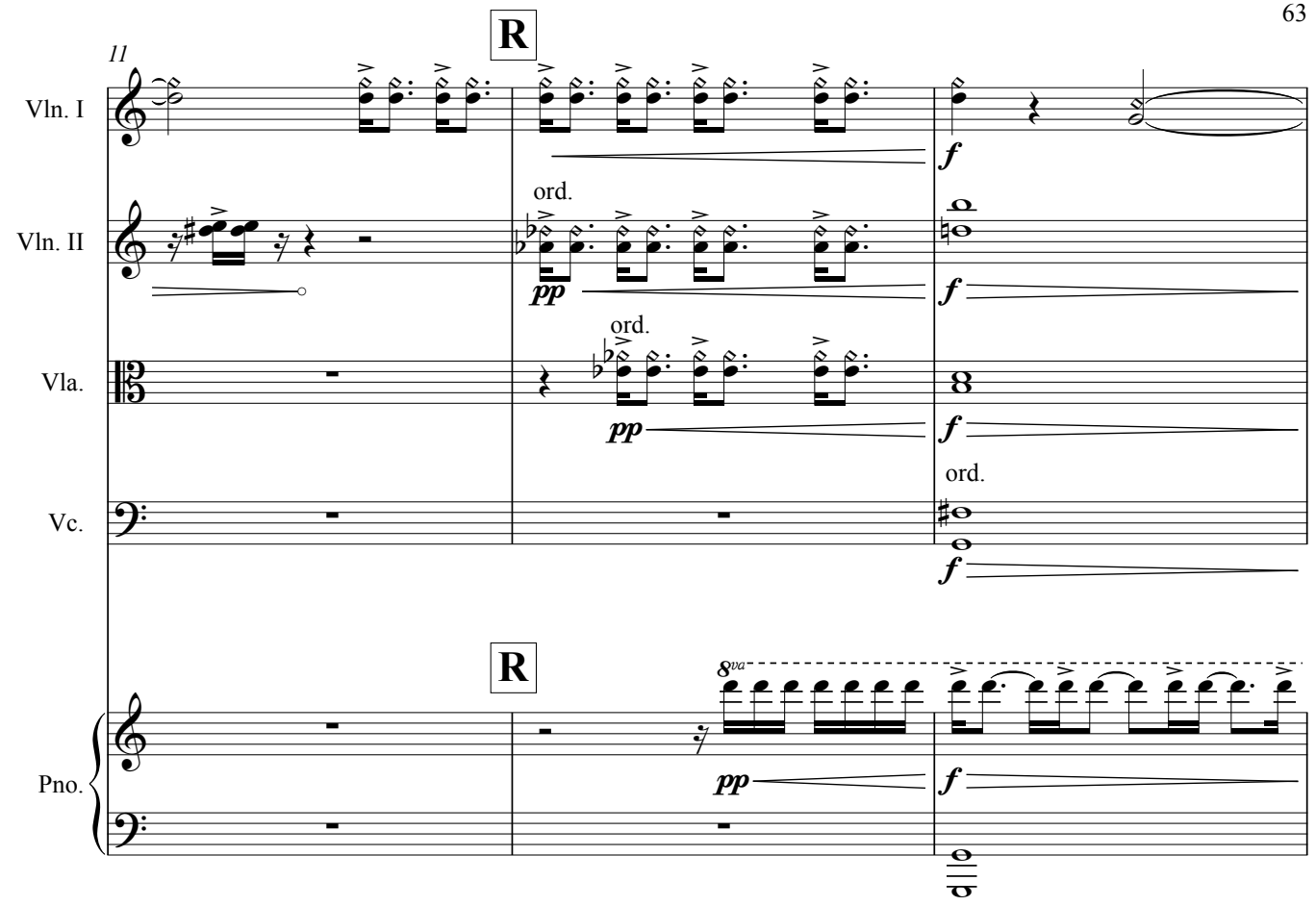
*"Sinä teossa toteutit tuota suurinta ikuista käskyä; rakasta lähimmäistäsi"*

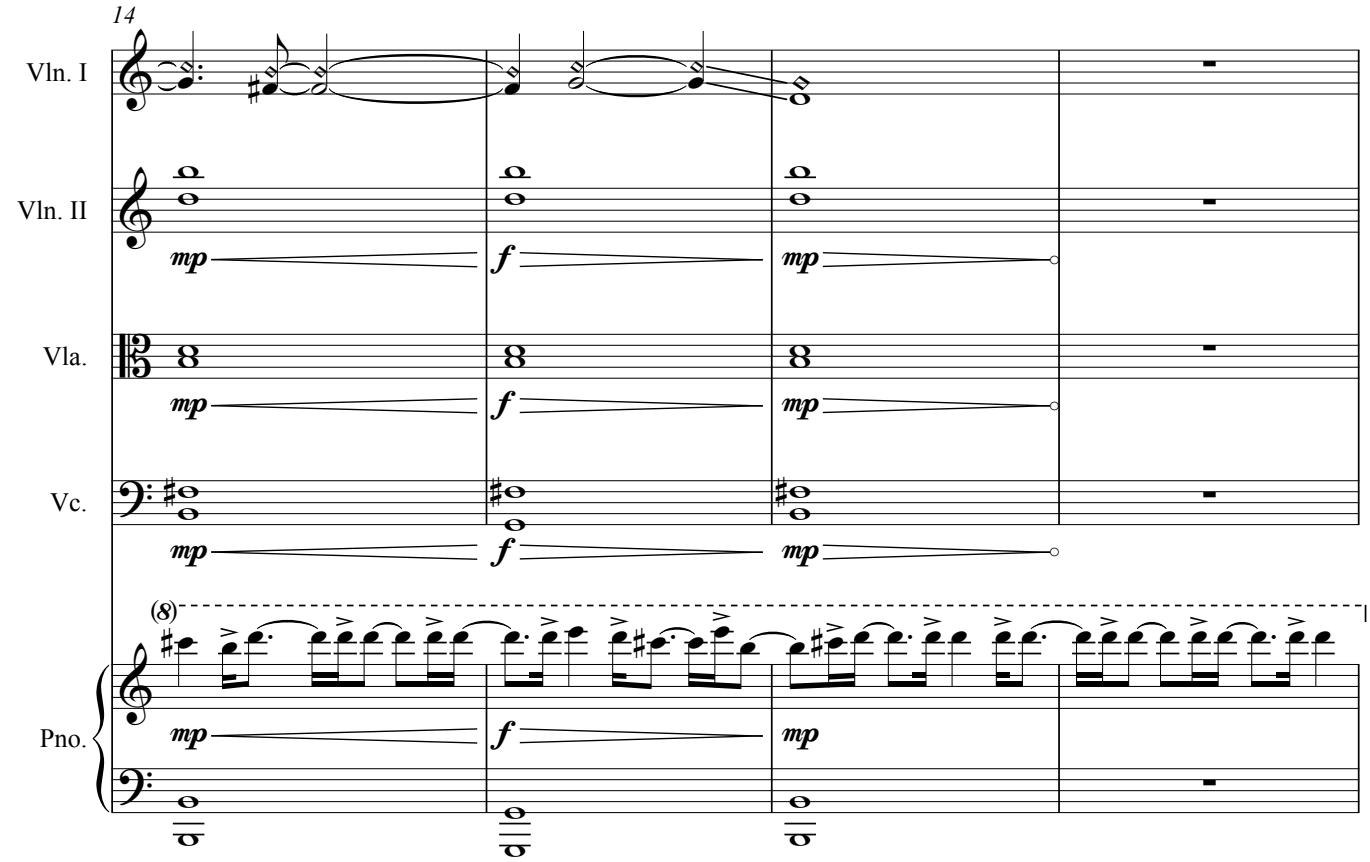
## IV. Muisto

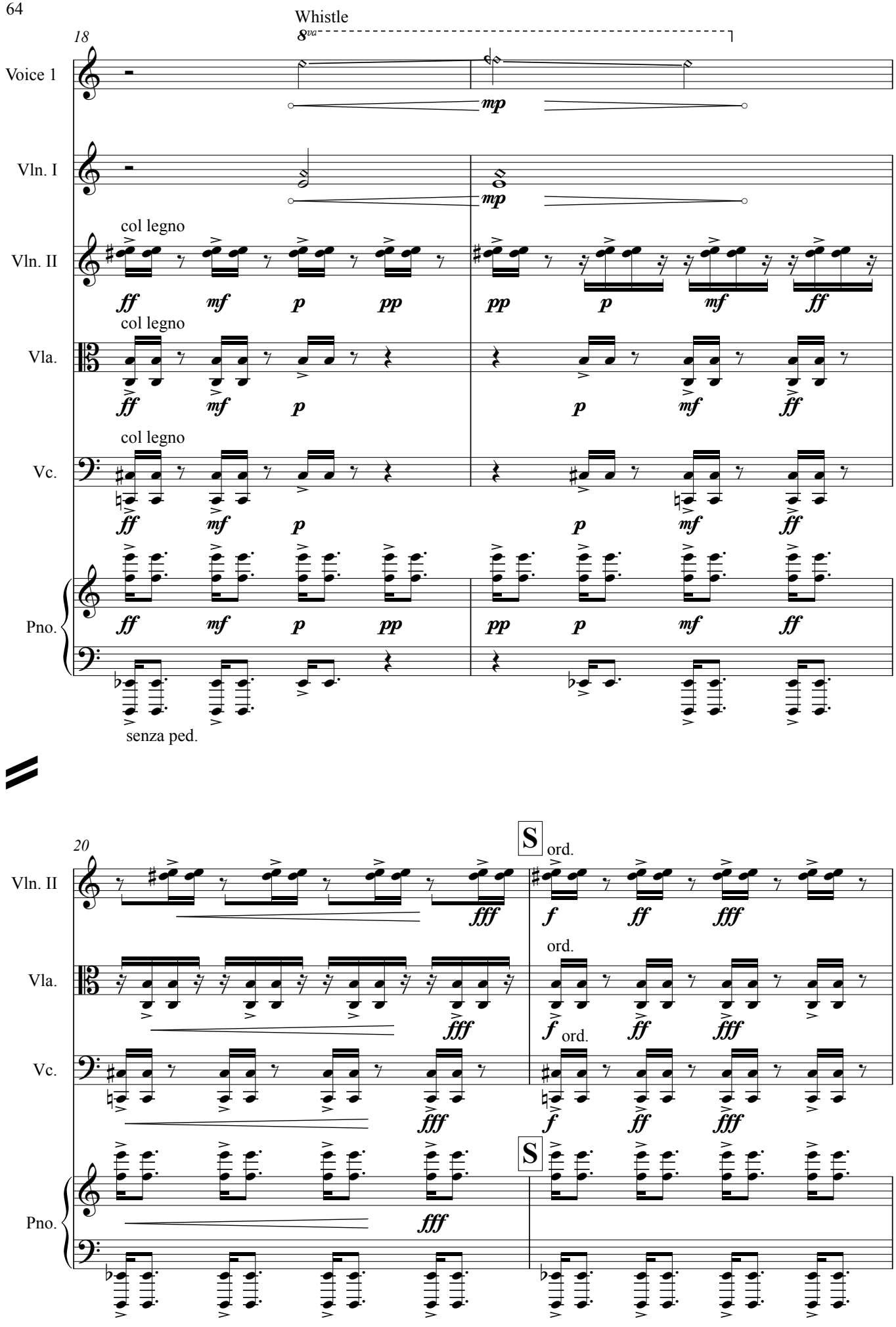


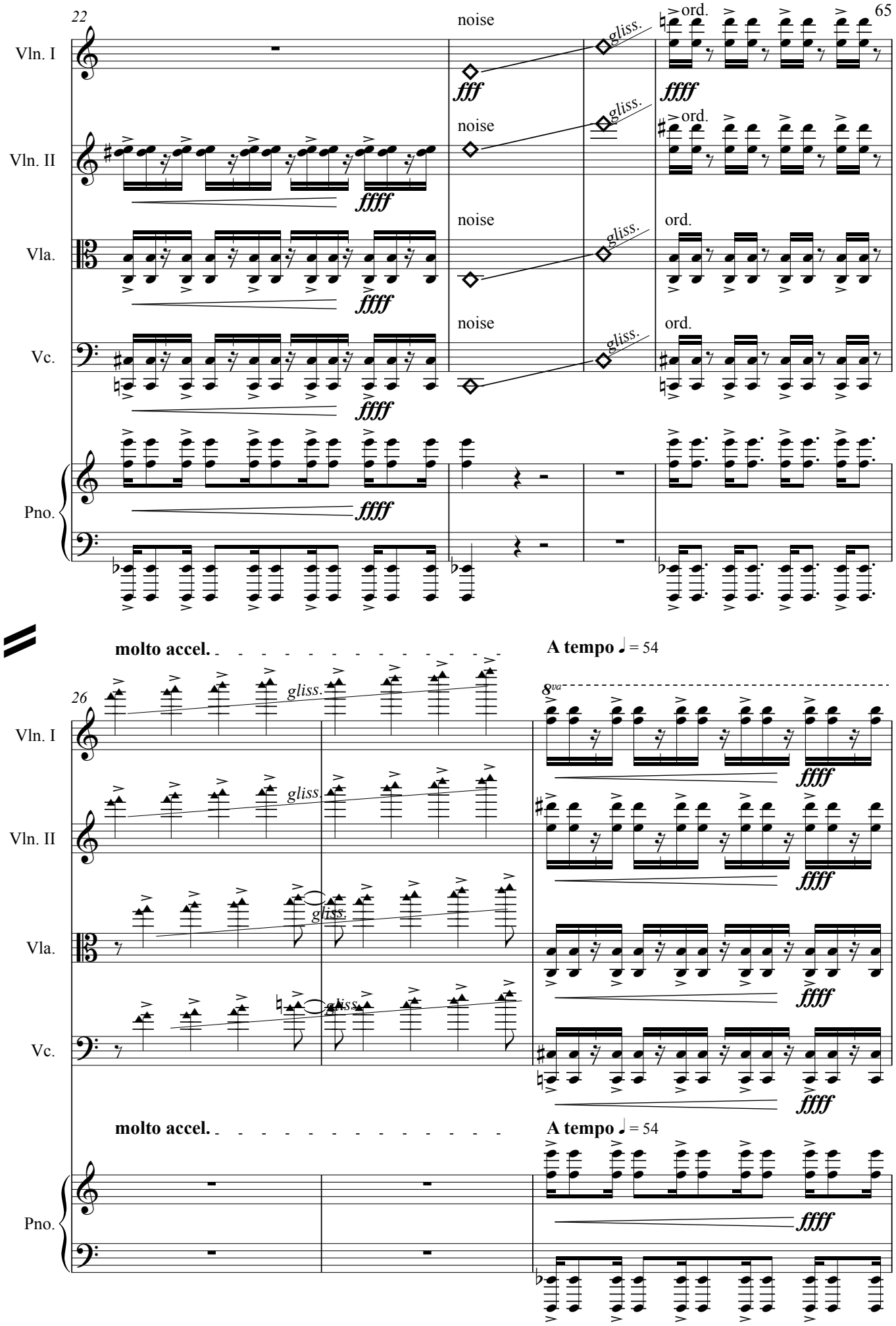

(8)
5
Voice 1
Vln. I
Vln. II
pp p mf ff ff mf p pp ppp
Vla.
p mf ff ff mf p
Vc.
p mf ff ff mf p
Pno.
pp p mf ff ff mf p pp

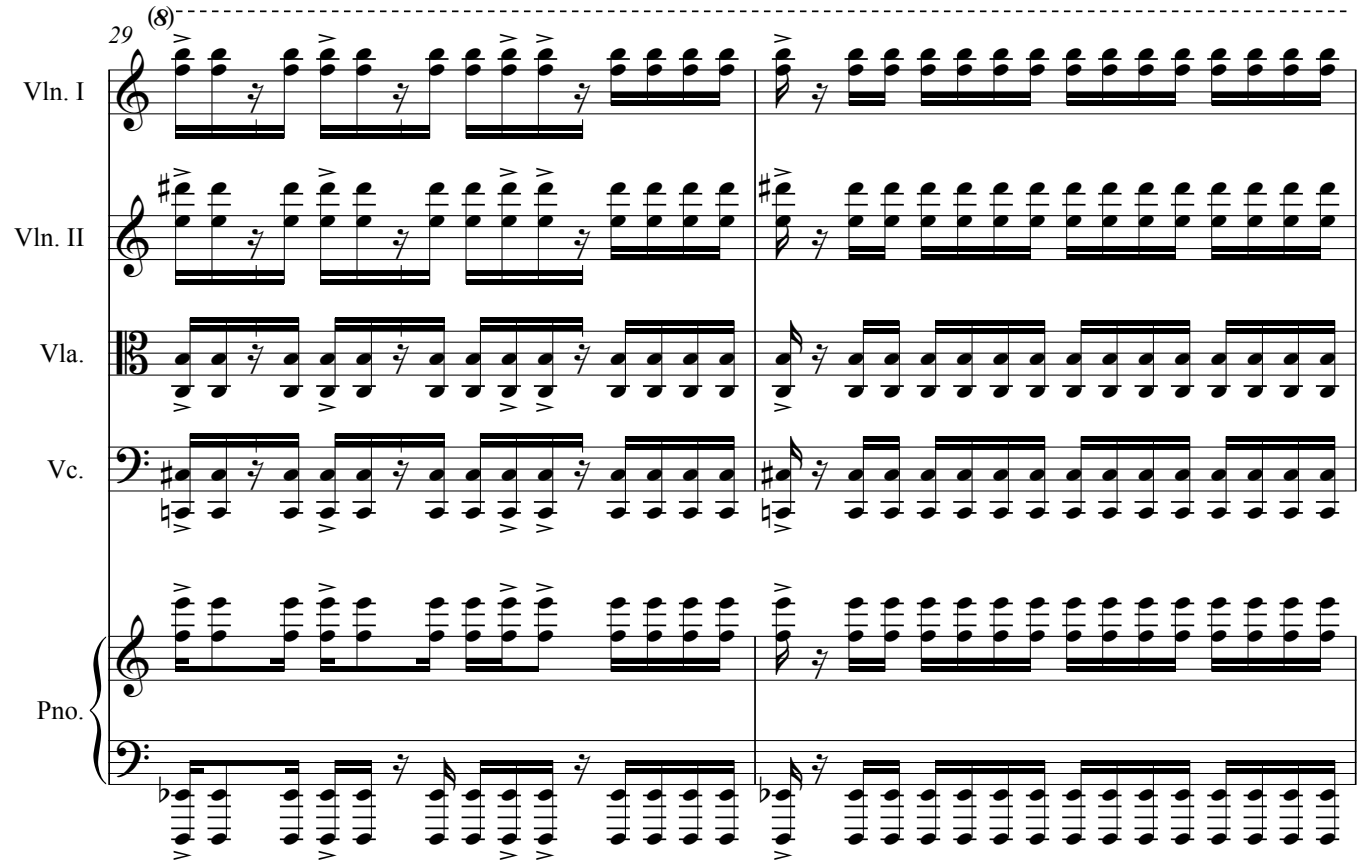

Whistle
8va
Voice 1
Vln. I
Whistle
8va
Voice 2
Vln. II
pp
pp
Whistle
8va
Voice 3
Vla.
p
p
Vc.
mf
mf
Whistle
8va
Voice 5
Pno.
ff
ff

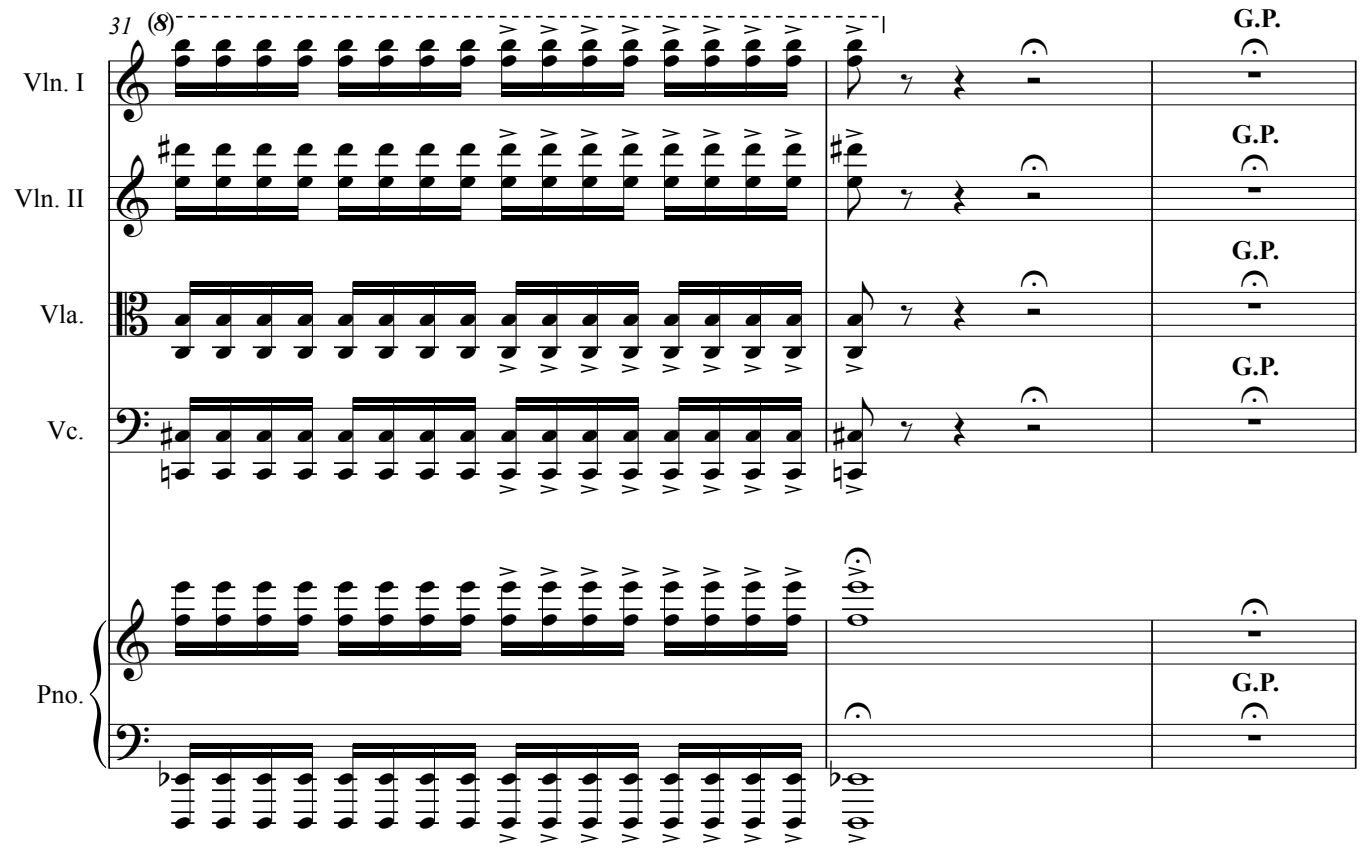

11
R
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
ord.
ord.
ord.
pp
f
8va
Ped. (ad lib.)

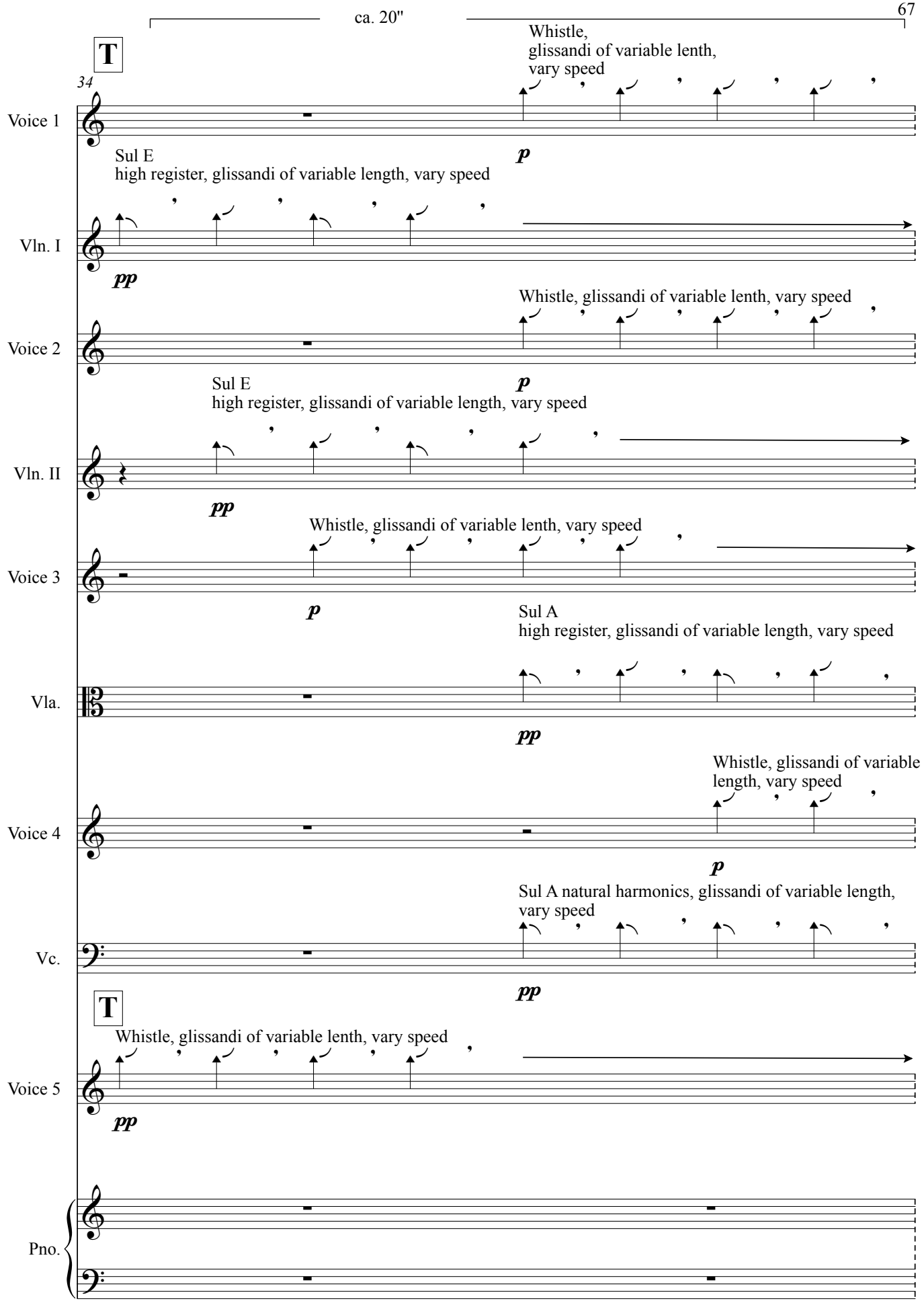

14
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
f
(8)

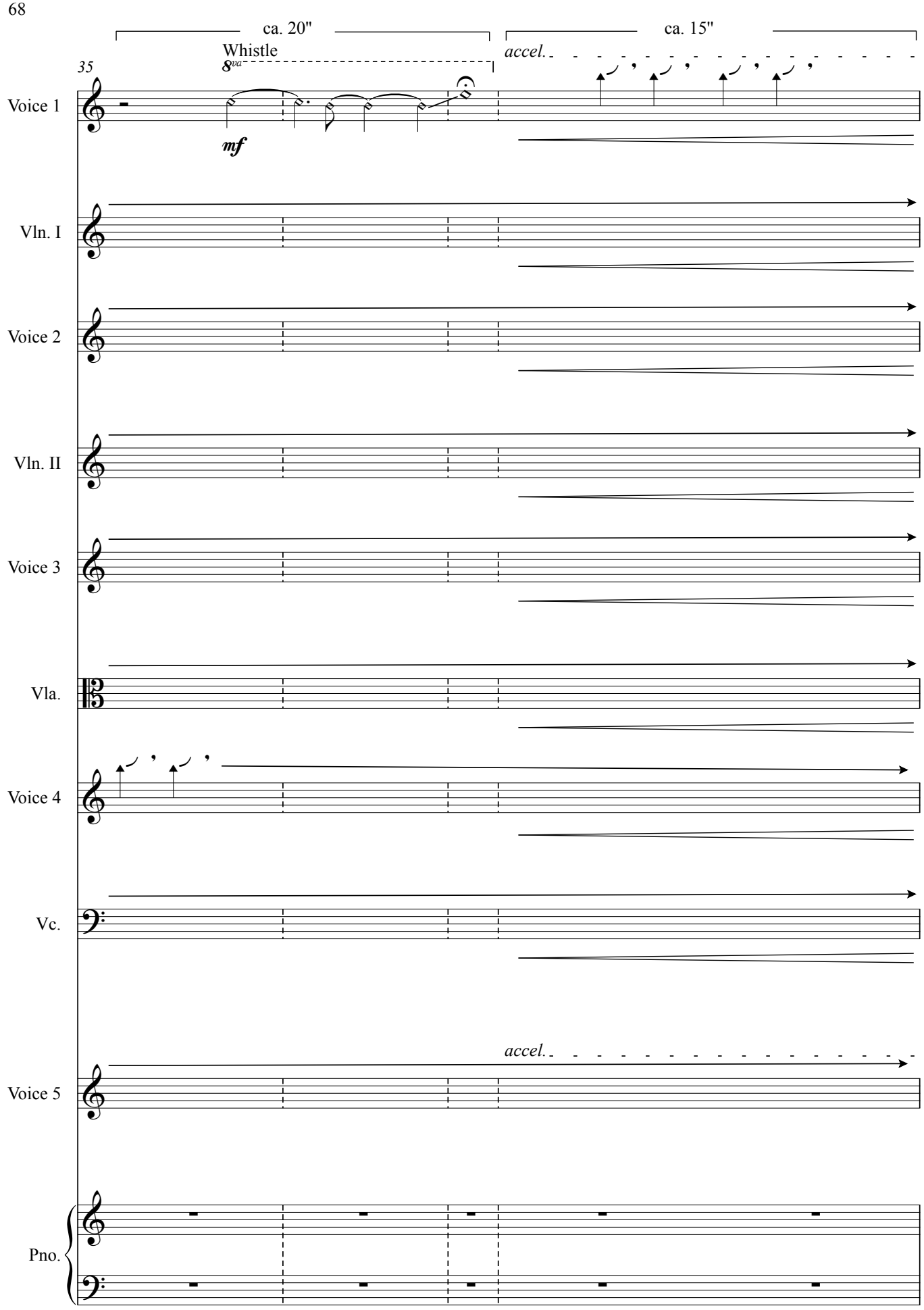

18
Whistle
8va
Voice 1
mp
Vln. I
mp
col legno
Vln. II
ff mf p pp pp p mf ff
col legno
Vla.
ff mf p p mf ff
col legno
Vc.
ff mf p p mf ff
Pno.
ff mf p pp pp p mf ff
senza ped.
20
S
ord.
Vln. II
fff f ff fff
ord.
Vla.
fff f ord. ff fff
Vc.
fff f ff fff
S
Pno.
fff

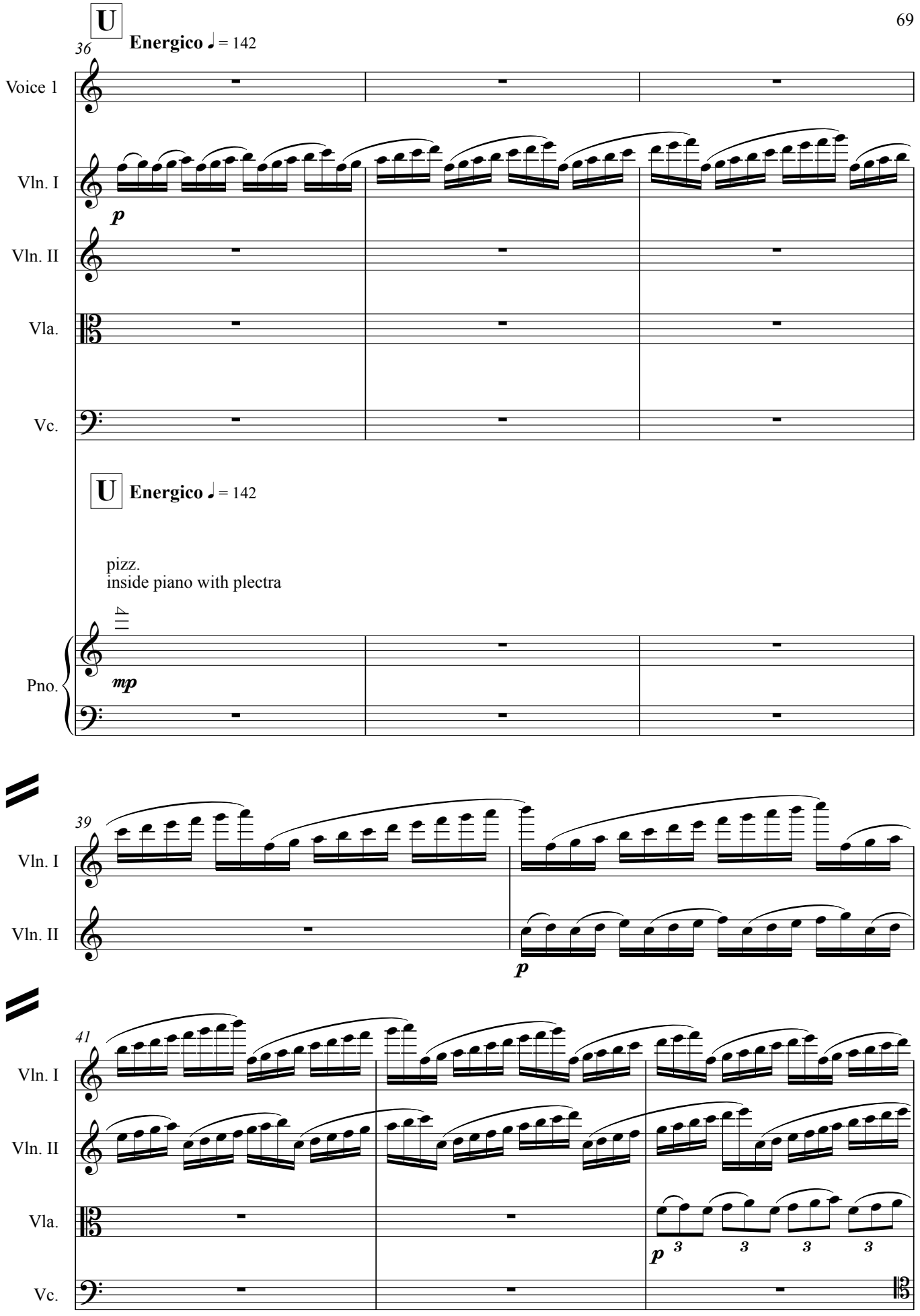

22
65
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.
noise
gliss.
ord.
fff
ffff
molto accel.
A tempo ♩ = 54
26
8va
gliss

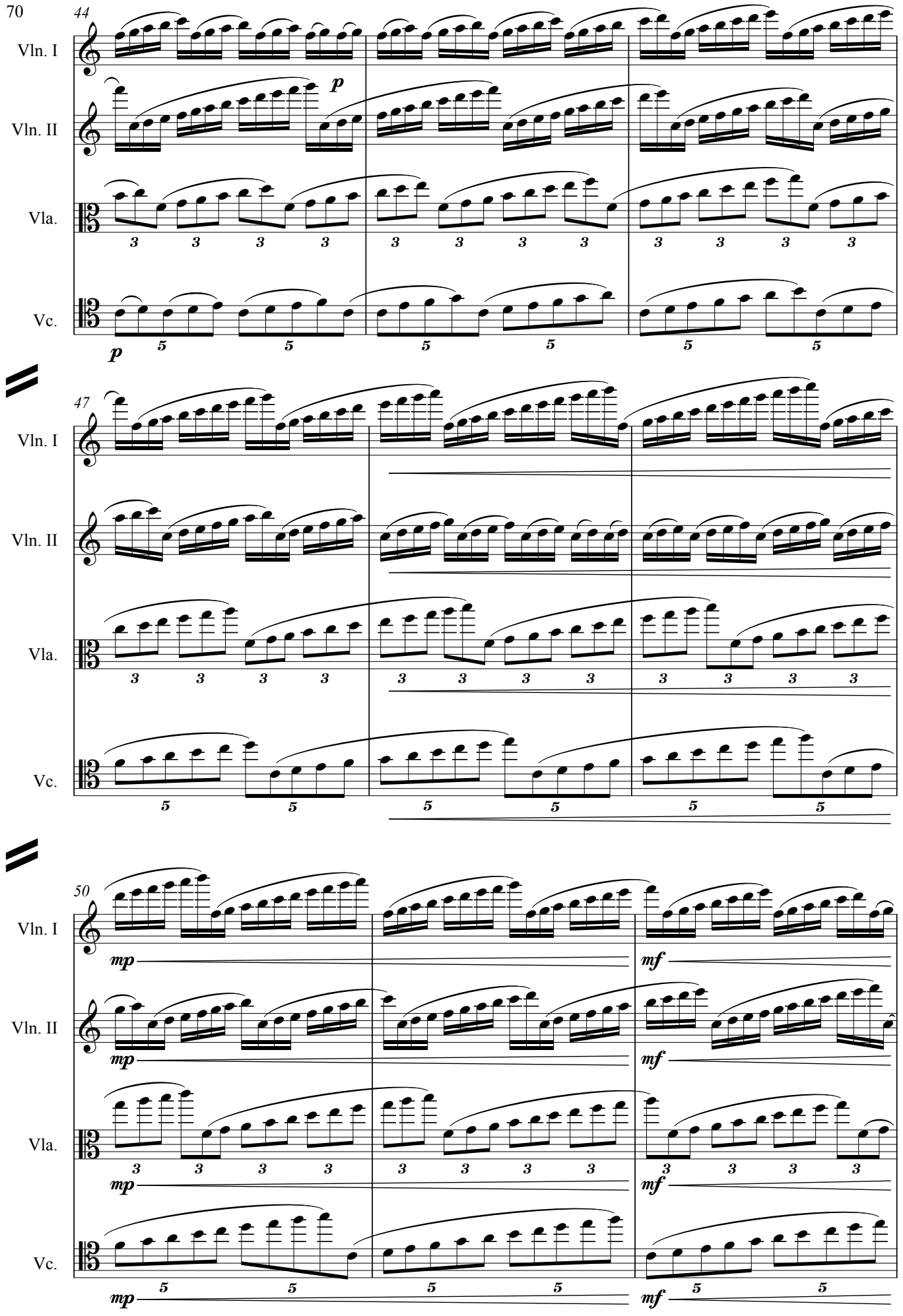

29
(8)
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.

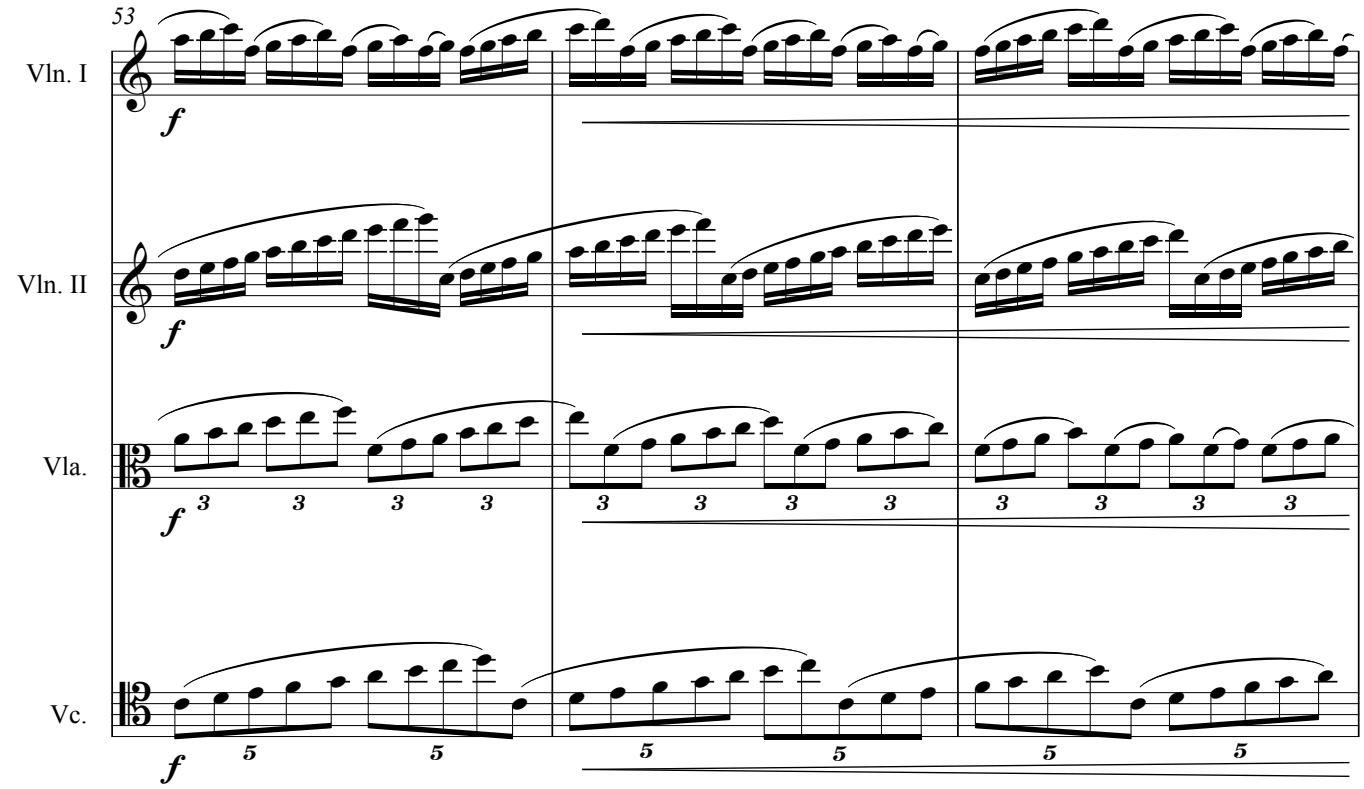

31
(8)
G.P.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Pno.


ca. 20"
T
34
Whistle,
glissandi of variable lenth,
vary speed
Voice 1
p
Sul E
high register, glissandi of variable length, vary speed
Vln. I
pp
Whistle, glissandi of variable lenth, vary speed
Voice 2
p
Sul E
high register, glissandi of variable length, vary speed
Vln. II
pp
Whistle, glissandi of variable lenth, vary speed
Voice 3
p
Sul A
high register, glissandi of variable length, vary speed
Vla.
pp
Whistle, glissandi of variable
length, vary speed
Voice 4
p
Sul A natural harmonics, glissandi of variable length,
vary speed
Vc.
pp
T
Whistle, glissandi of variable lenth, vary speed
Voice 5
pp
Pno.

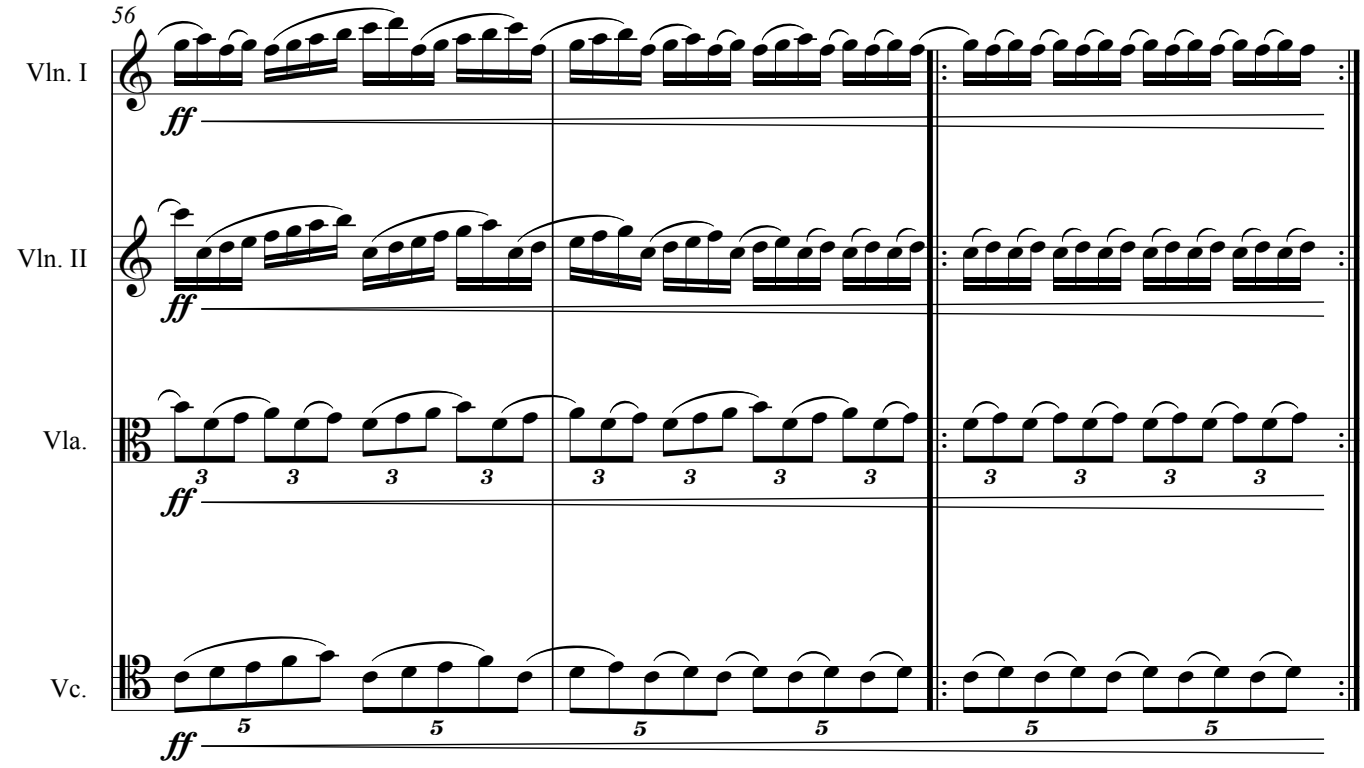

ca. 20"
ca. 15"
Whistle
accel.
35
8va
mf
Voice 1
Vln. I
Voice 2
Vln. II
Voice 3
Vla.
Voice 4
Vc.
accel.
Voice 5
Pno.

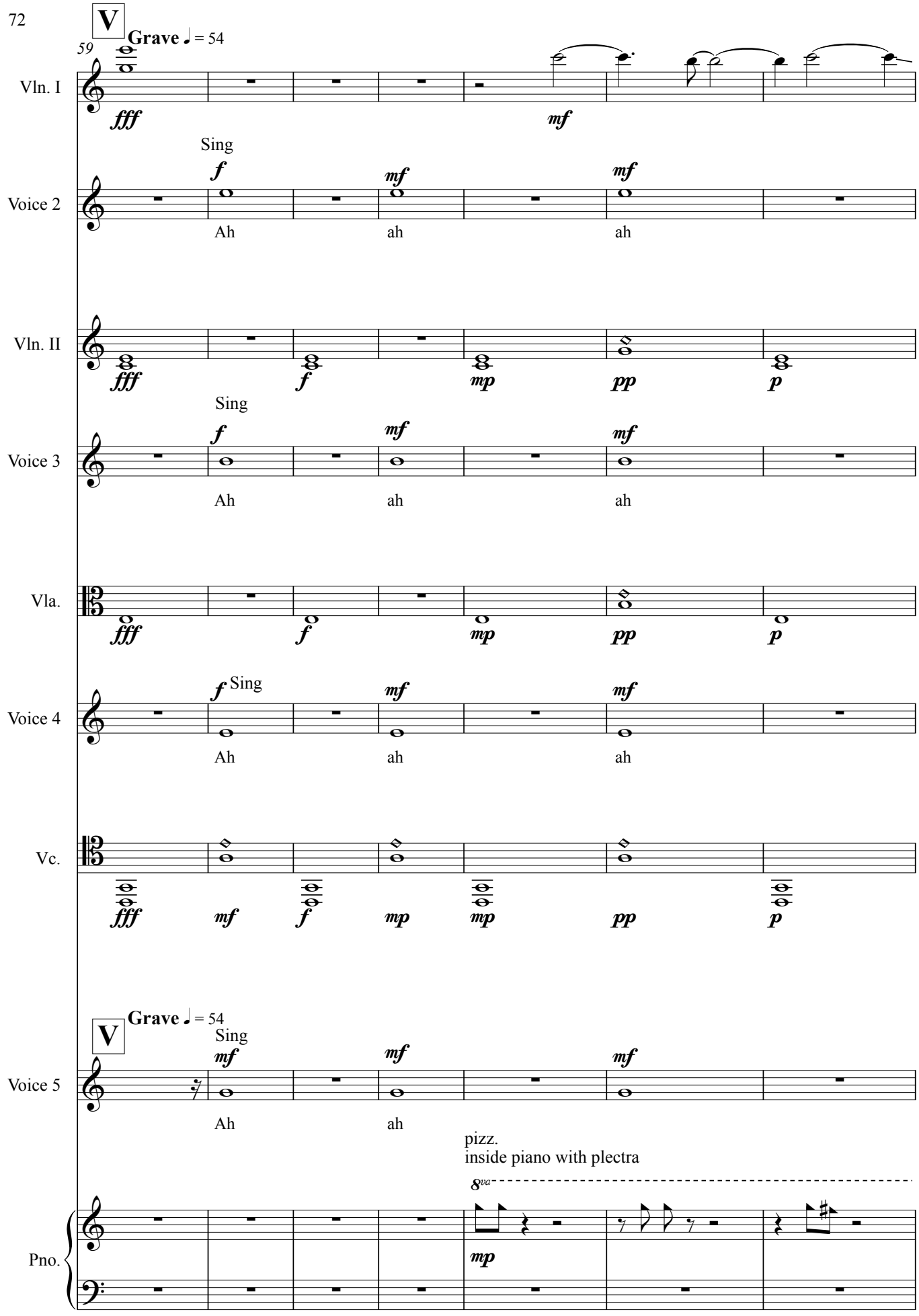

U
Energico ♩ = 142
36
Voice 1
Vln. I
p
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
U
Energico ♩ = 142
pizz.
inside piano with plectra
Pno.
mp
39
Vln. I
Vln. II
p
41
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
p
3
3
3
3
Vc.

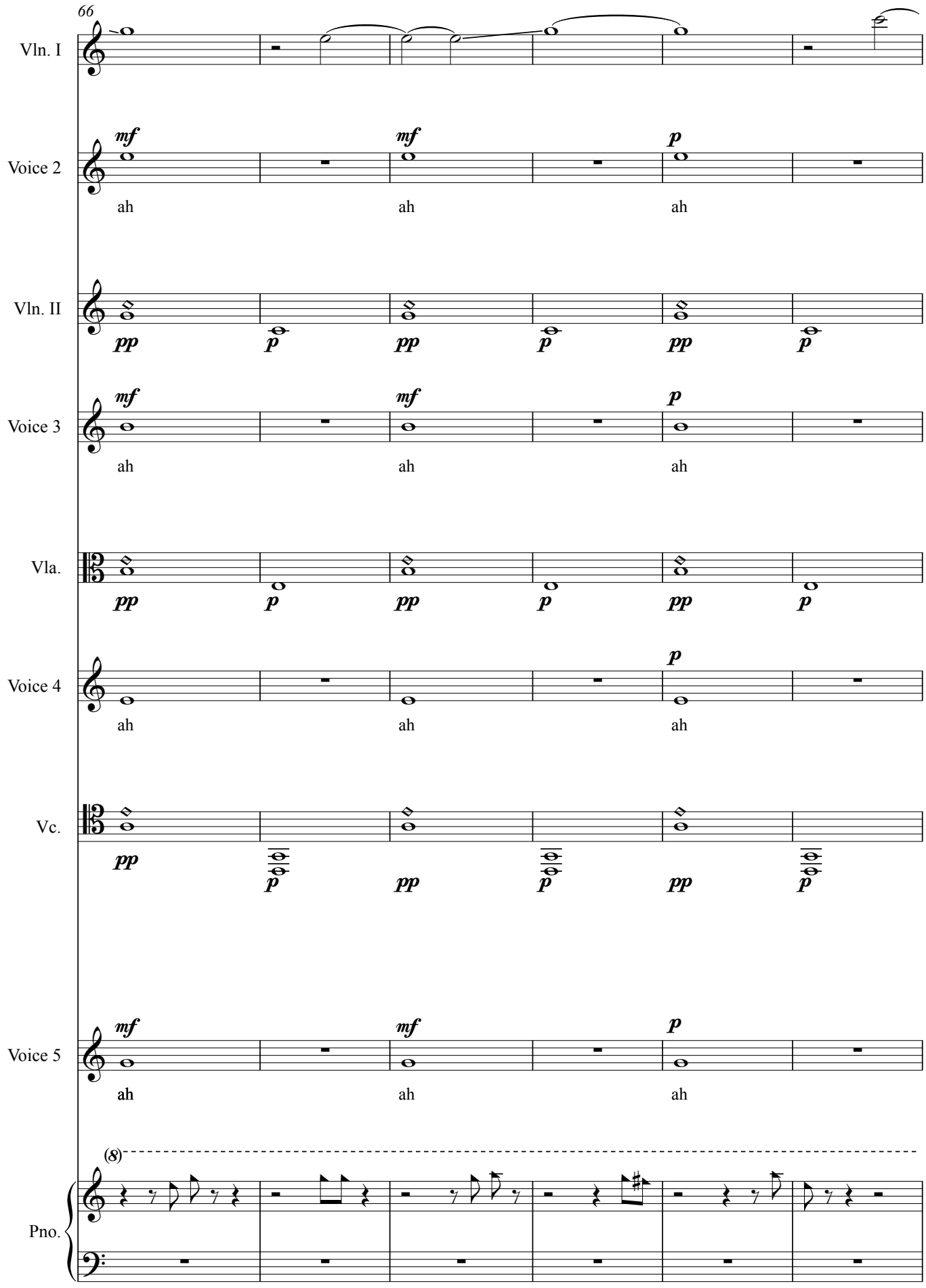

44
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p
p
47
50
mp
mf

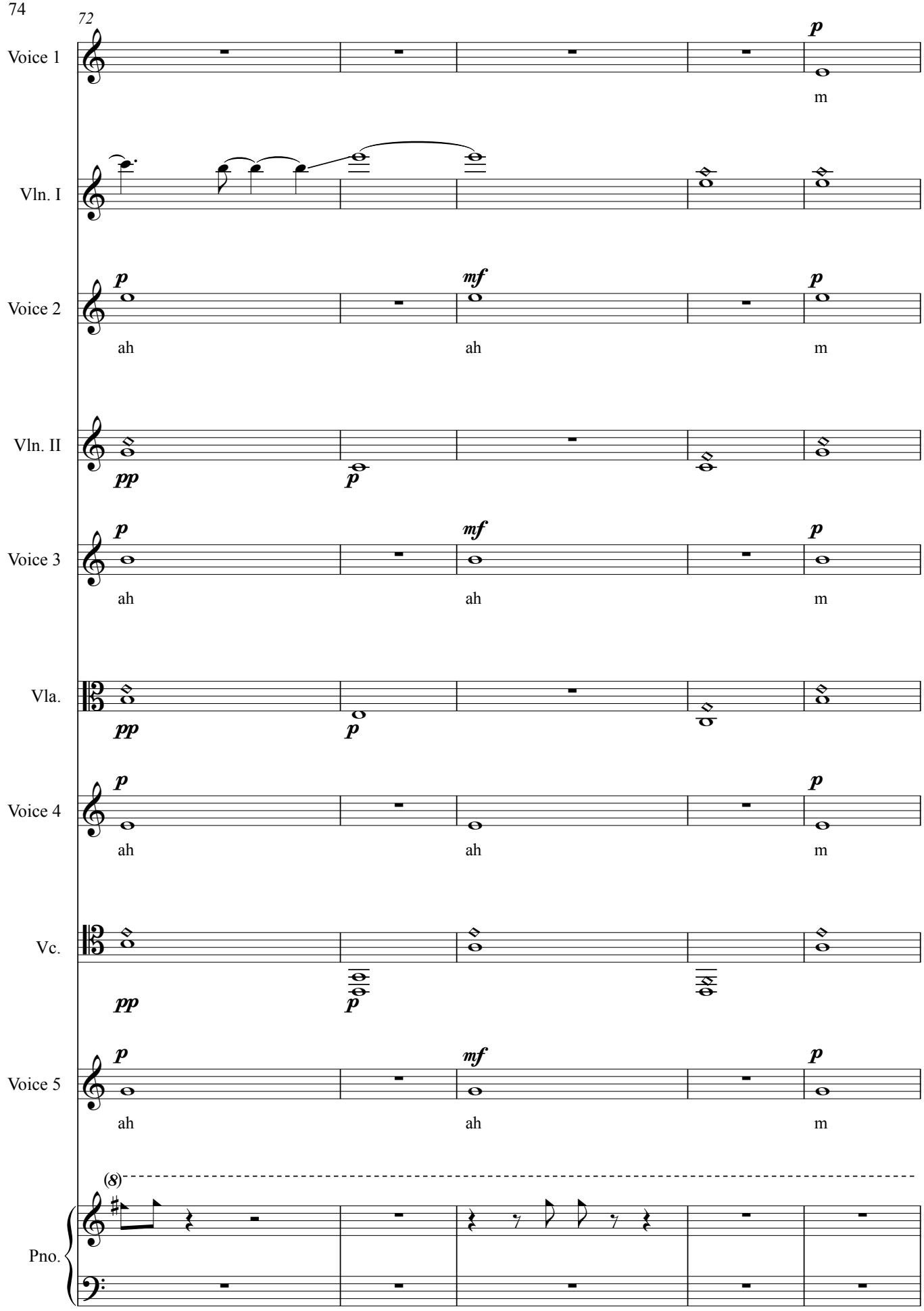


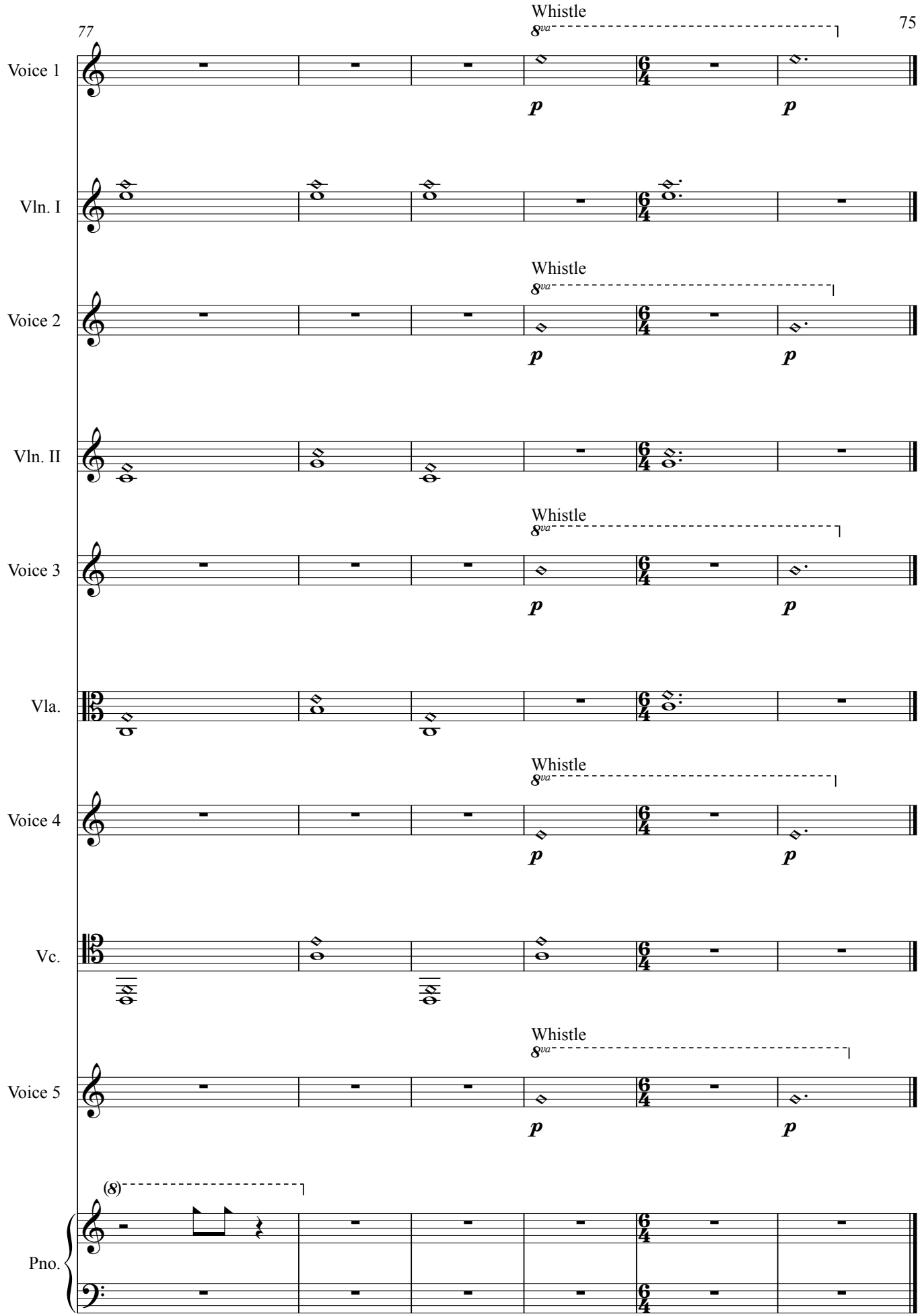

Repeat as many times as you like,
as many times as you feel the crescendo needs. (Follow one leader fow coming together to V.)




V
Grave ♩ = 54
59
Vln. I
fff
mf
Sing
Voice 2
f
mf
mf
Ah
ah
ah
Vln. II
fff
f
mp
pp
p
Sing
Voice 3
f
mf
mf
Ah
ah
ah
Vla.
fff
f
mp
pp
p
Voice 4
f Sing
mf
mf
Ah
ah
ah
Vc.
fff
mf
f
mp
mp
pp
p
V
Grave ♩ = 54
Sing
Voice 5
mf
mf
mf
Ah
ah
pizz.
inside piano with plectra
8va
Pno.
mp


66
Vln. I
Voice 2
mf
mf
p
ah
ah
ah
Vln. II
pp
p
pp
p
pp
p
Voice 3
mf
mf
p
ah
ah
ah
Vla.
pp
p
pp
p
pp
p
Voice 4
p
ah
ah
ah
Vc.
pp
p
pp
p
pp
p
Voice 5
mf
mf
p
ah
ah
ah
(8)
Pno.


72
Voice 1
p
m
Vln. I
Voice 2
p
mf
p
ah
ah
m
Vln. II
pp
p
Voice 3
p
mf
p
ah
ah
m
Vla.
pp
p
Voice 4
p
p
ah
ah
m
Vc.
pp
p
Voice 5
p
mf
p
ah
ah
m
(8)
Pno.


77
Whistle
8va
Voice 1
p
p
Vln. I
Whistle
8va
Voice 2
p
p
Vln. II
Whistle
8va
Voice 3
p
p
Vla.
Whistle
8va
Voice 4
p
p
Vc.
Whistle
8va
Voice 5
p
p
(8)
Pno.