IAN KEITH HARRIS

'PAW DE TROIS'

Three Dances for Canines

Woodwind Quintet

FULL SCORE

AMORIS INTERNATIONAL
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A CM 010

Ian Keith Harris

(1935-)

Australian composer, arranger, oboist, music educator, critic and eclectic musician, Ian Harris, was born in Melbourne in 1935, living there for the first 26 years of his life. He started the piano at the age of five and three years later was playing cornet in his school band. He took up the violin shortly after this, playing for several years, but relinquished it when he became his school pianist at thirteen. The oboe came next, and in 1953, he began his Bachelor of Music degree at Melbourne University Conservatorium of Music taking piano as chief study and oboe as second. National Service in the Army intervened and, this time, Ian Harris played the trombone in the University Regiment. The same year, he changed to oboe as his chief study. The trombone did not impress Jiři Tancibudek, his professor! This time, the piano was his second study and composition (Arthur Nickson) crept in too.

Not surprisingly he was soon in demand as a free-lance orchestral musician, arranger and copyist, working in a very eclectic mix of musical spheres from arranging for Eartha Kitt (television and various theatrical shows), to playing in opera, ballet, chamber music and symphony orchestras. He was a founding member of the *Glendenian Trio*, (flute, oboe, bassoon), which gave regular broadcasts over several years. The trio was another area in which his skills at arrangement were frequently employed.

Ian Harris moved to Hobart, Tasmania, in 1961 (Tasmanian Orchestra), was seconded to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra (cor anglais) for several months, returned to Tasmania only to be seconded again, this time to the Victorian Symphony Orchestra (oboe).

Back again in Tasmania, his next move was to Wellington, New Zealand (1965-1974) to join NZBCSO (the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation Symphony Orchestra) as Principal Cor anglais. During this time, in which he yo-yoed across Australasia, Harris tutored at the universities of Tasmania, Melbourne, and the Victoria University of Wellington. It was at the latter that he completed his degree in composition (with David Farquhar) in 1969. He was to return yet again to Tasmania at the end of 1974.

However, this time, he embraced a new career as a music educator with his move. His wealth of instrumental and orchestral experience was invaluable to his students. He also conducted the Tasmanian Junior Youth Orchestra for several years.

Harris was a dedicated member of policy committees, especially in Education and the Arts. A great listener to music and musicians, he served as music critic for *The Mercury,* Hobart's daily newspaper, for several years.

His *oeuvre* consists mainly of chamber music, much of which has been performed and broadcast: *Microsymphony for Cor anglais Quartet* (cor anglais, string trio), *Oboe Quartet* (oboe, string trio), *Essay for Bassoon and Strings*, *Sonata for Viola and Piano*, amongst many other pieces and numerous arrangements for broadcasts and concerts.

His sense of fun has shown in many of his compositions including, *A Piece with Strawberry Jam*, *The Little Dog's Day* (Rupert Brooke), *'Paw de trois'- Three Dances for Canines* (for Woodwind Quintet, with movements dedicated to his dogs by name), *The Whitebait Fishers* –

> *"**A sort of Donizetti-like spoof for harpsichord, string quartet and small choir, for which the producer of the hour-long national radio show penned the libretto for this, a special anniversary broadcast of the programme.**"*

Harris orchestrated songs for symphony concerts, including a version of *The Last Rose of Summer* for Rita Streich (1920-1987). He also wrote, directed and even performed in advertising jingles, playing celesta, oboe, cor anglais or whatever was required.

Ian Harris moved back to Sydney definitively in 2000 and has since devoted himself to composition and a considerable *entourage* of cats (10) and dogs (5). He is a keen gardener and chef and a passionate enthusiast of the oboe d'amore. A close friend of Jennifer Paull, he has written many works for her.

❖❖❖

'Paw de trois'

Three Dances for Canines

A CM 010

I **Sir Valentine's Pavan and Galliard**

The *Pavan* is a slow and stately dance, which was popular in the late XVI century. Its name is most probably derived from the city of Padua (*Padova* in Italian), or, perhaps, describing 'strutting like a peacock' (*pavoneggiarsi* [strut] and *pavone* [peacock]). It has four beats to the bar and was usually coupled, as here, with the more lively and cheerful *Galliard,* in which bars of 3/4 alternate with those of 6/8.

Biographical Sketch: Sir Valentine, the Lord Womble, was abandoned young. We came into his life four years ago on the day after his name-day. He is dignified, loyal, loving and courtly in manner. Nobility of soul, integrity, fidelity, gentleness of spirit and an entirely selfless beauty of nature are amongst his many attributes. Their nobility totally belies the obscurity of his origins.

II **Lady Blossom's Waltz**

The Waltz was first made popular in XIX century Vienna. Here, it is unusual in that each bar has three compound beats (comprising three triplet sub-divisions) and each 'phrase' is three bars long. There are also three main 'subjects'. Once upon a time, the time signature for such an example would have been a circle, signifying 'perfect time.'

***Biographical Sketch*:** Lady Blossom Darling has a curious combination of cuddliness, coyness, coquettishness and cuteness, which endears her to her intimate circle of admirers and strangers alike. She believes that maintaining careful grooming is one of life's necessities, eagerly anticipating her weekly visits to the 'beauty parlour'. Her two gentlemen friends give her due deference, constantly reassuring her of her charm and beauty.

III **Hairy Houdini's Quickstep**

This piece is fast, with two beats to a bar. The almost continuous quavers (eighth notes) represent little Hairy's quirky gait. This quickstep is a *rondo*, with a pause before the first subject's restatement. The instrumentation changes at each presentation and there follows a short *coda*: most appropriate as the word means 'tail!'

Biographical Sketch: Rescued from Death Row, Hairy Houdini is a brilliant, serial escapologist. He claims that there is no harness or enclosure from which he cannot set himself free. His outlook upon life is invariably joyful and he delights in copious amounts of almost any foodstuff (whenever he can). He particularly appreciates extended periods of sleep on forbidden beds and couches. However, his greatest delight is playing 'The Gingerbread Man', running away anywhere as fast as his mischievous little legs will carry him

Ian Keith Harris
2005

Other works by Ian Keith Harris can be found listed at

for Jennifer Paull

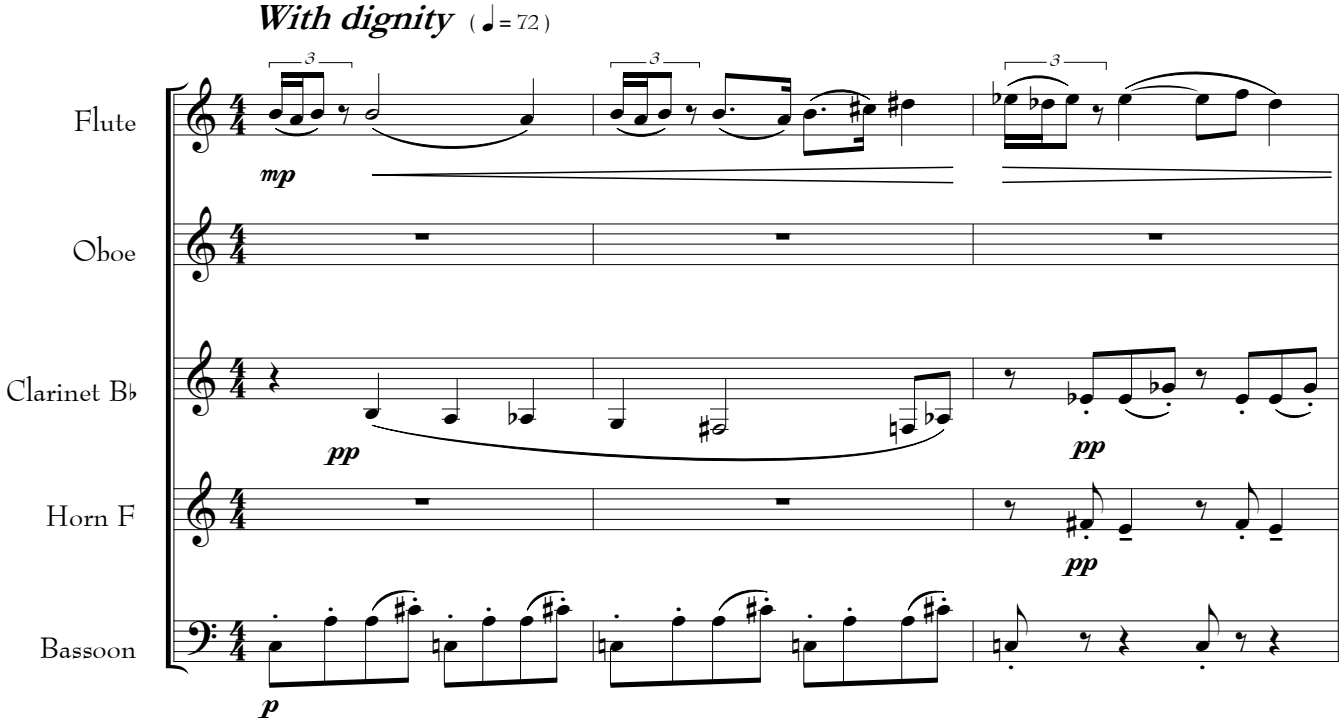
'PAW DE TROIS'

Three Dances for Canines

I

Sir Valentine's Pavan & Galliard

Ian Keith Harris
(1935 -)



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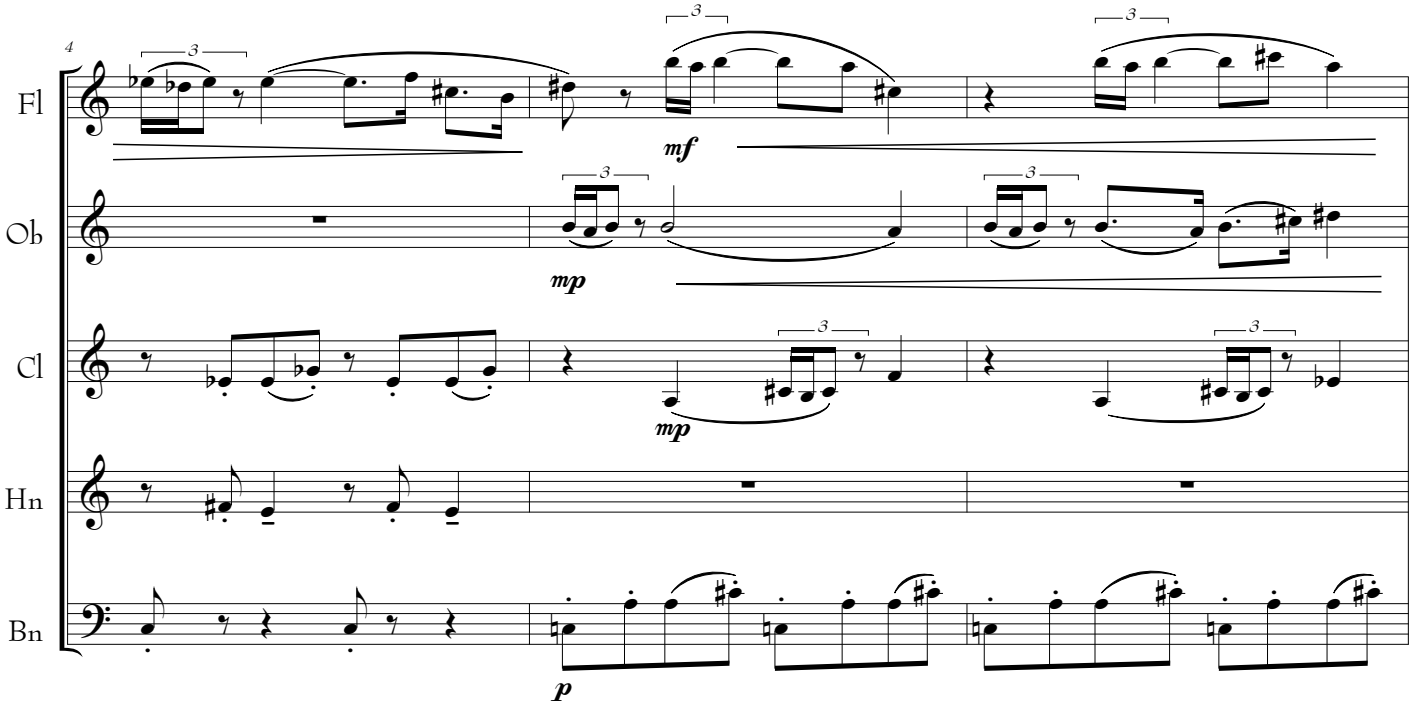
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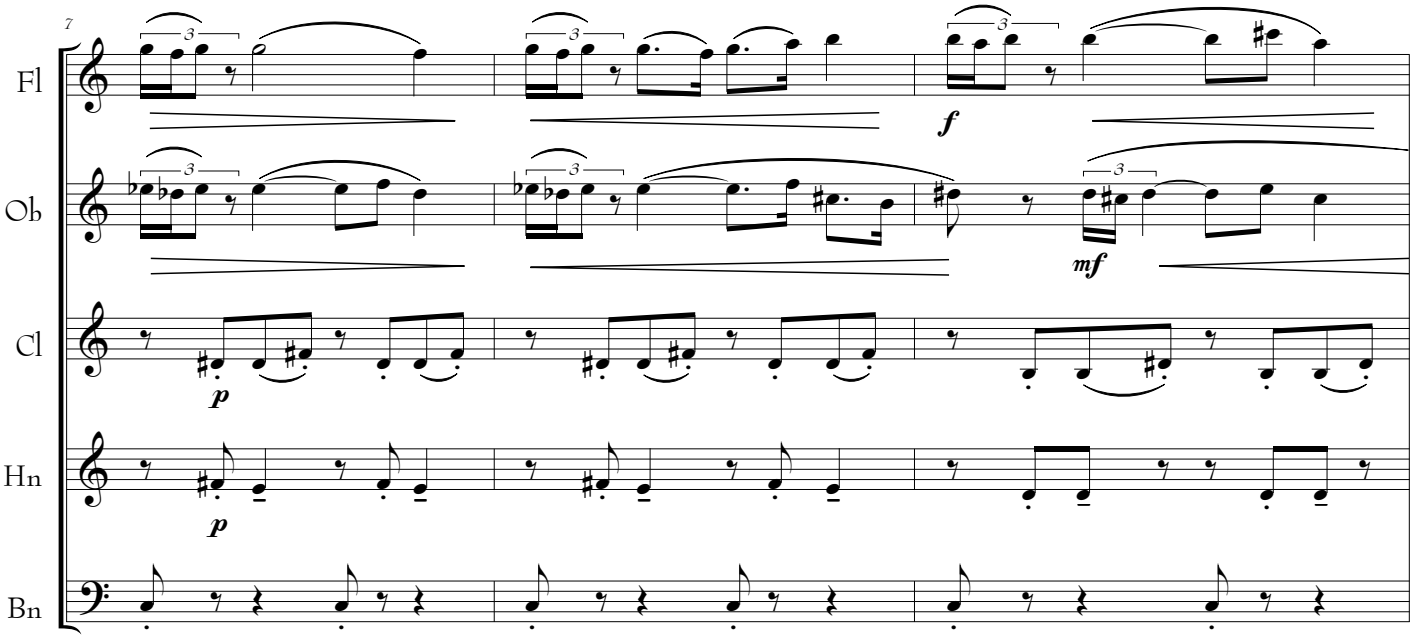
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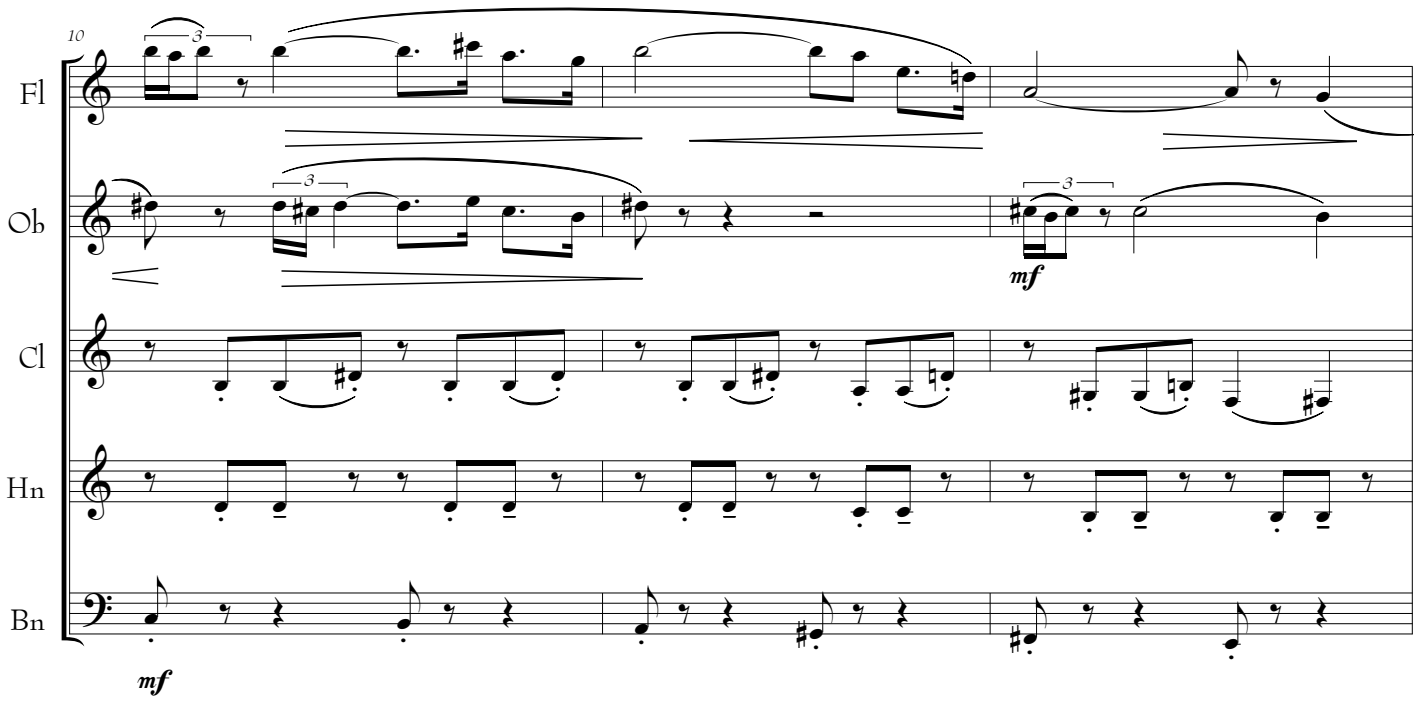
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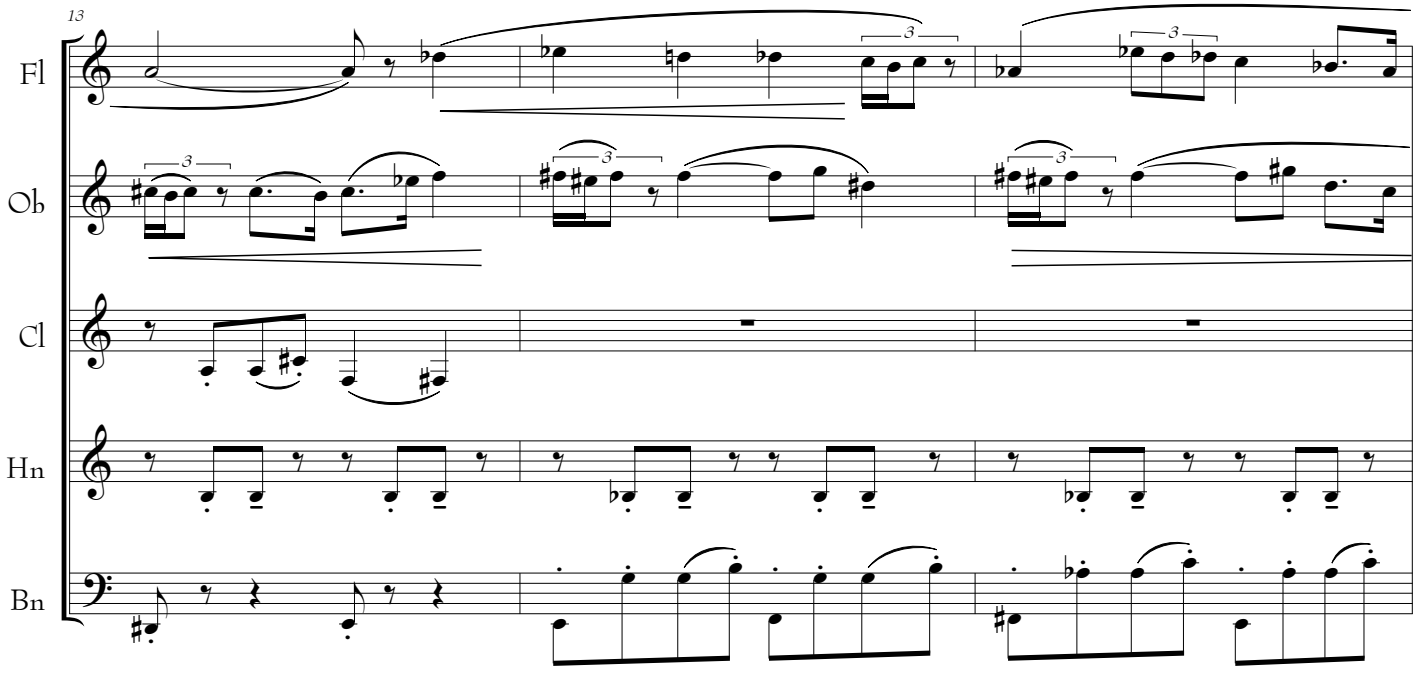
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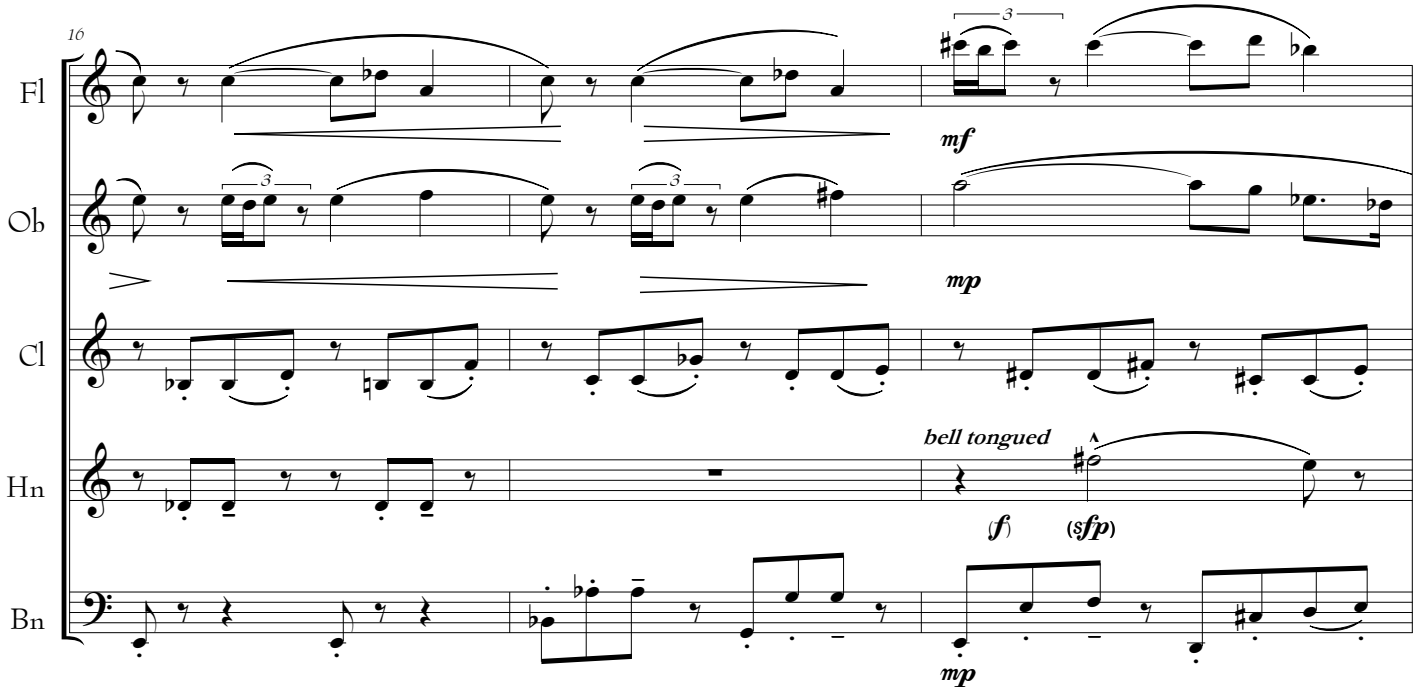
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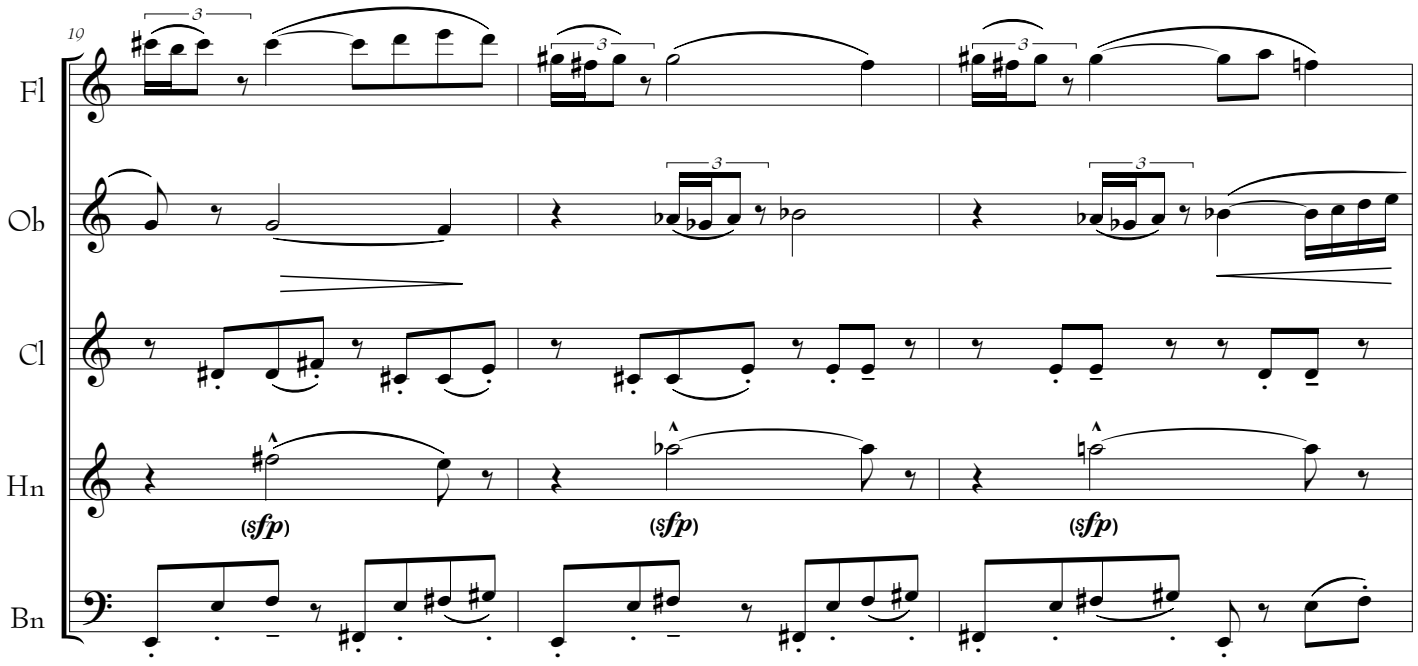
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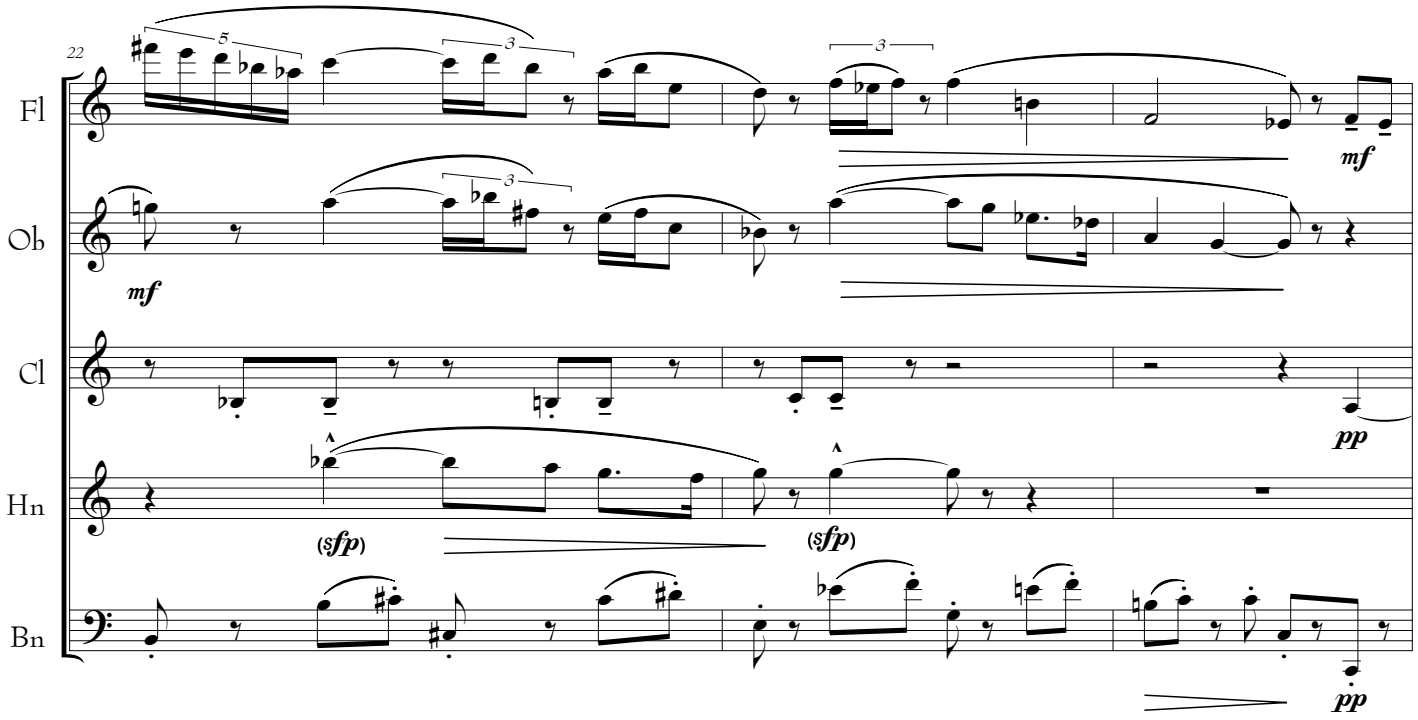
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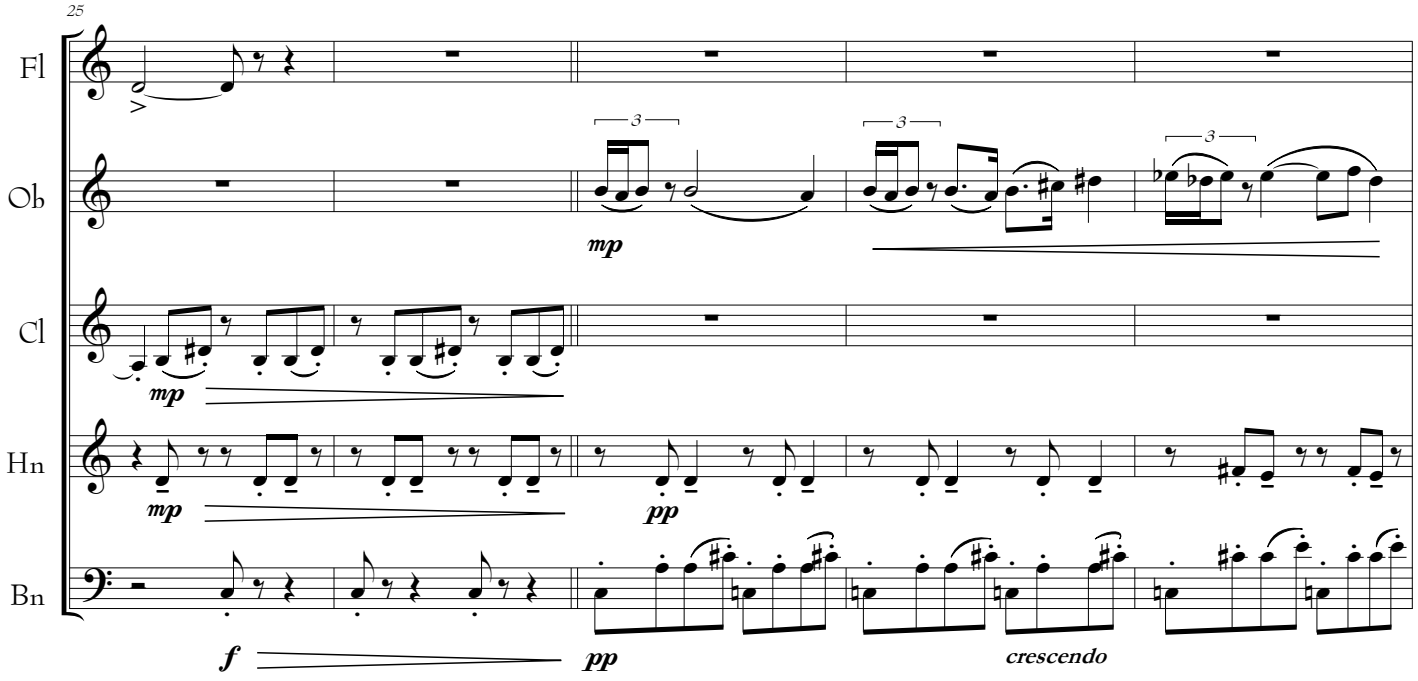
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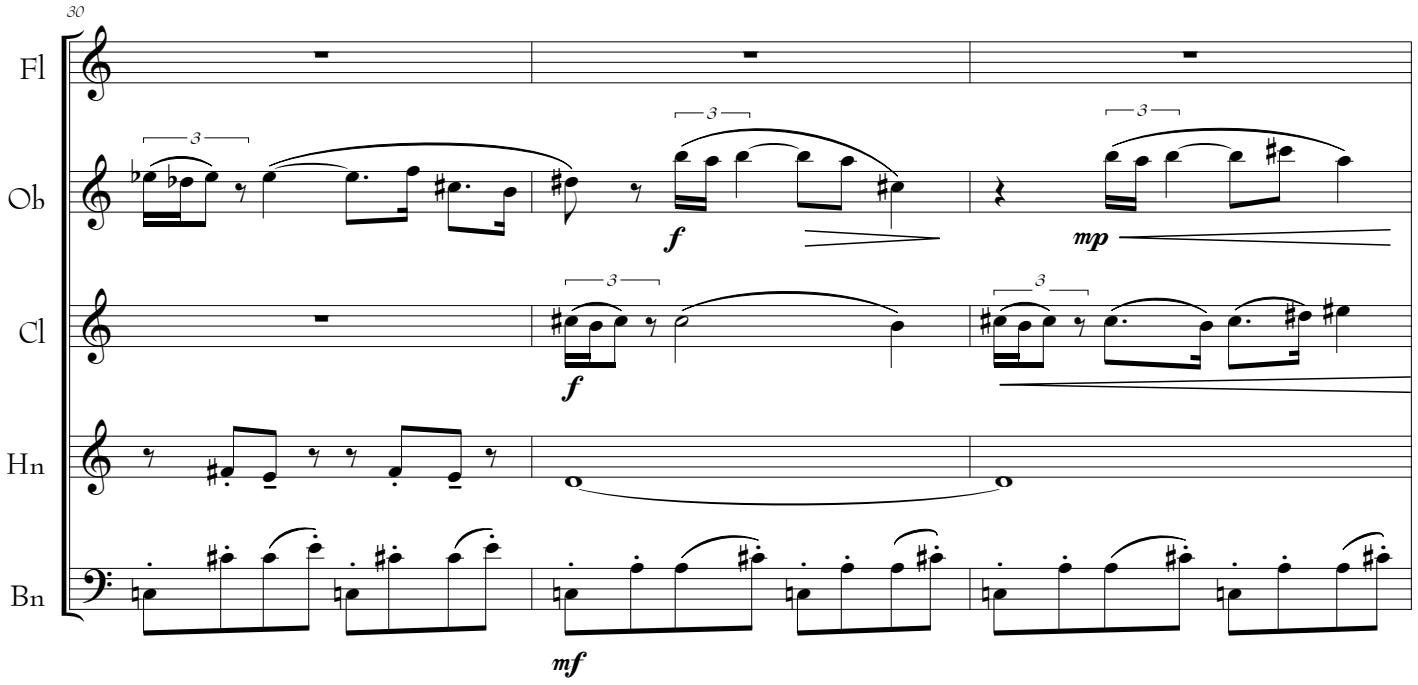
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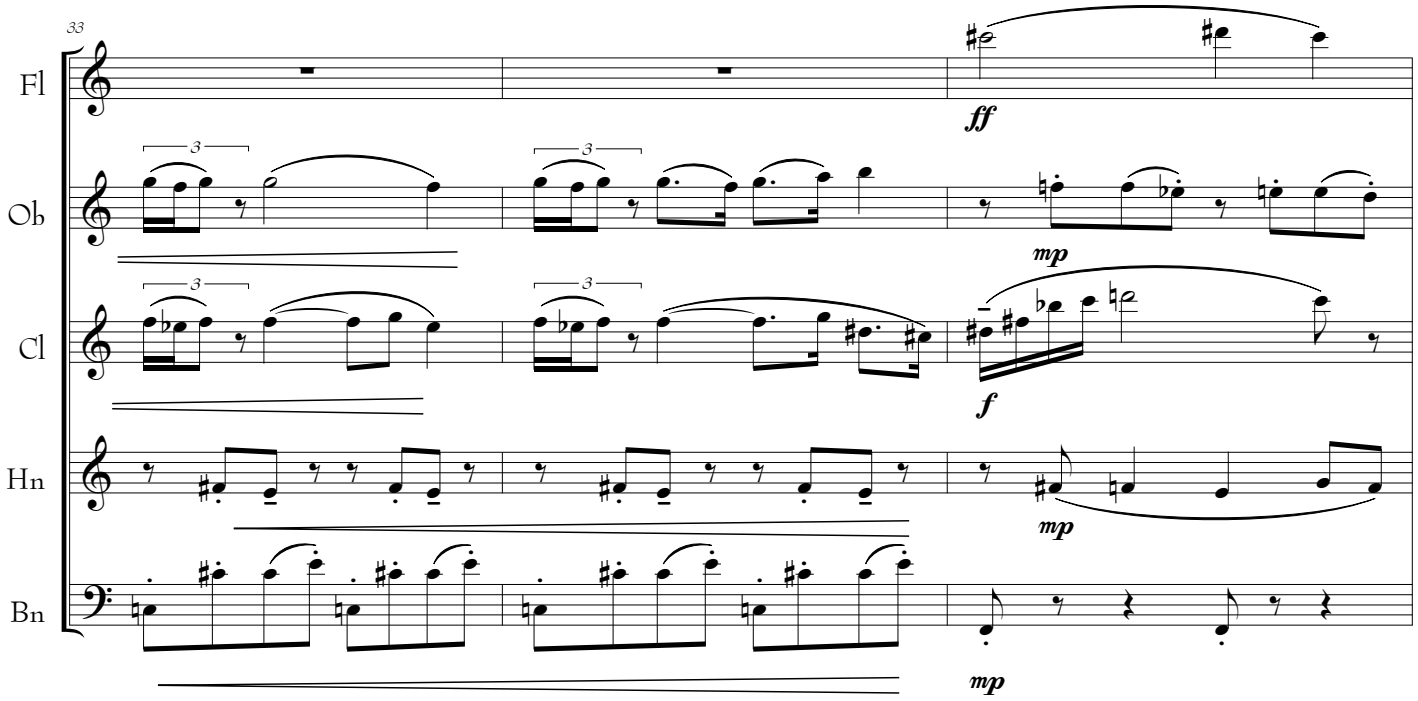
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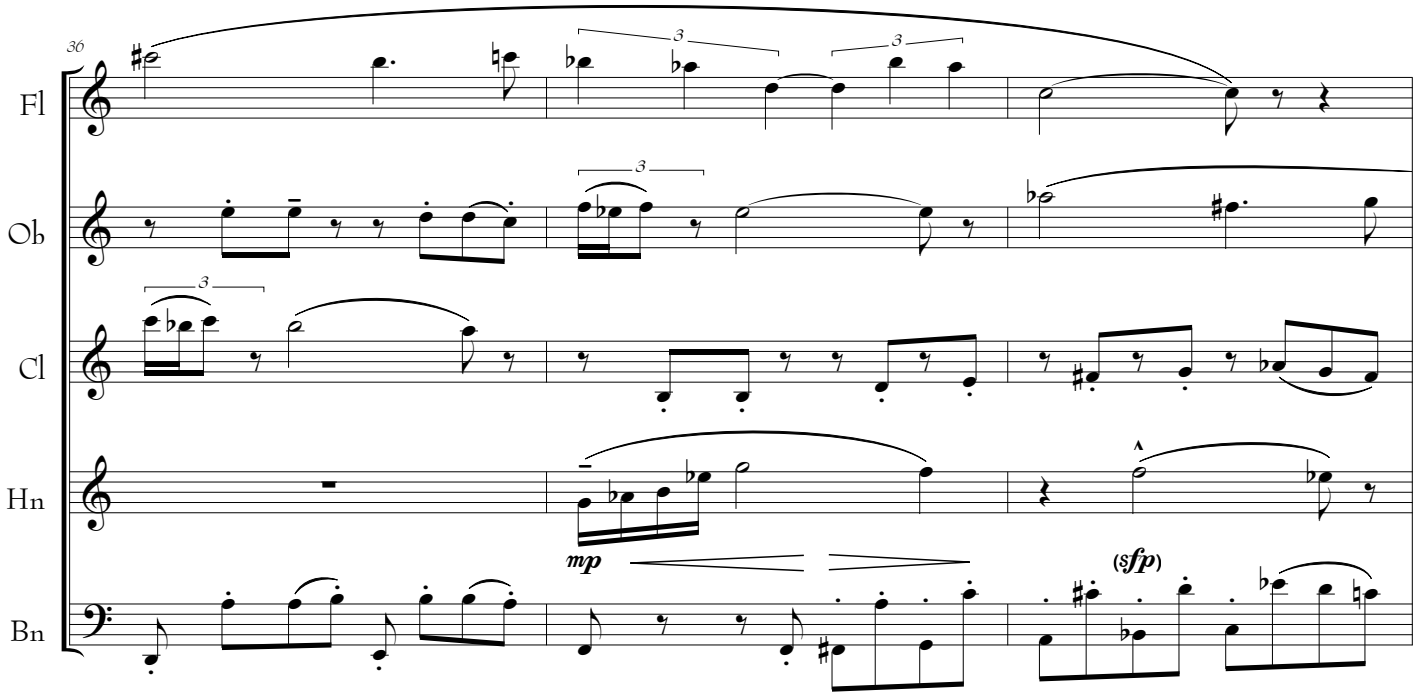
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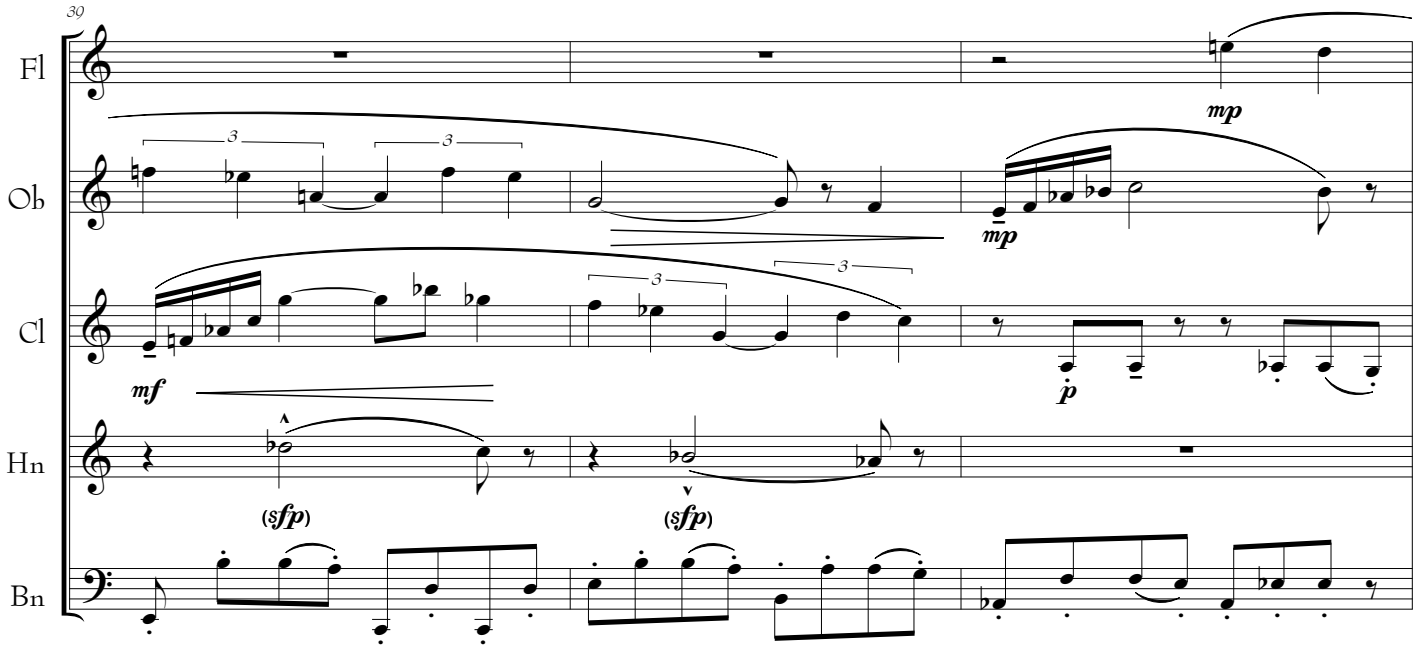
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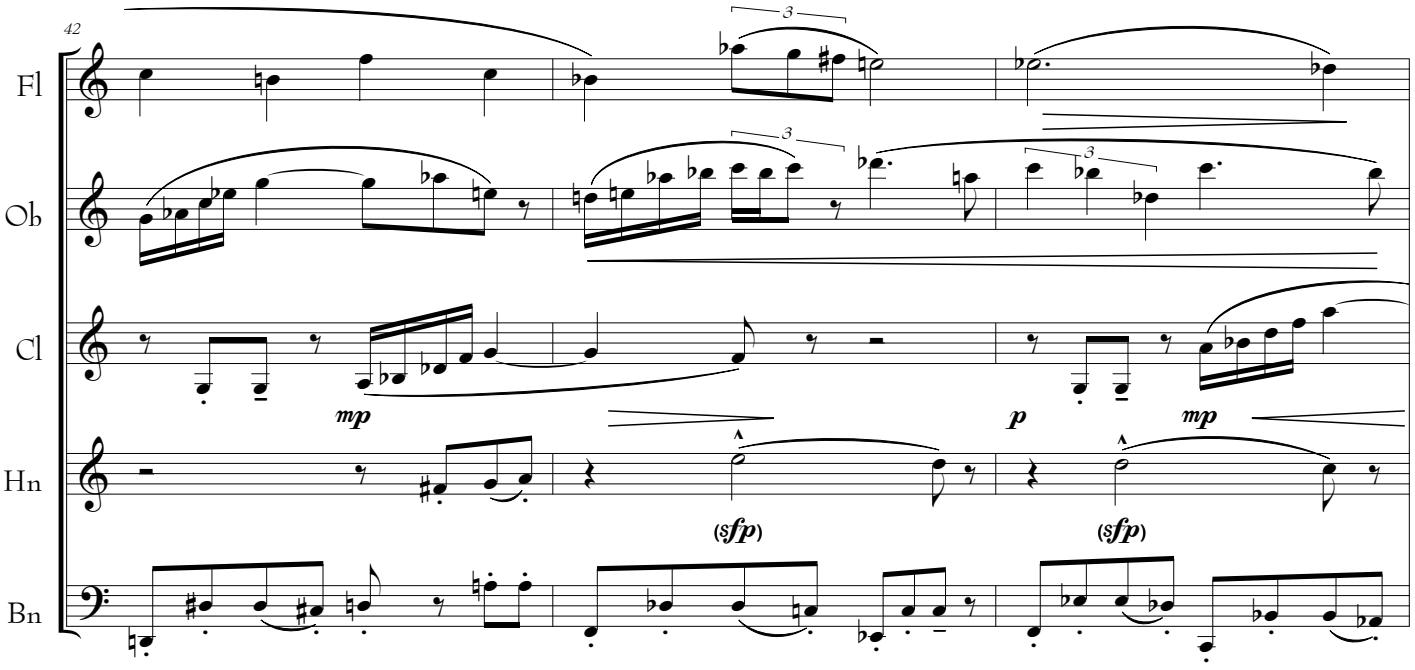
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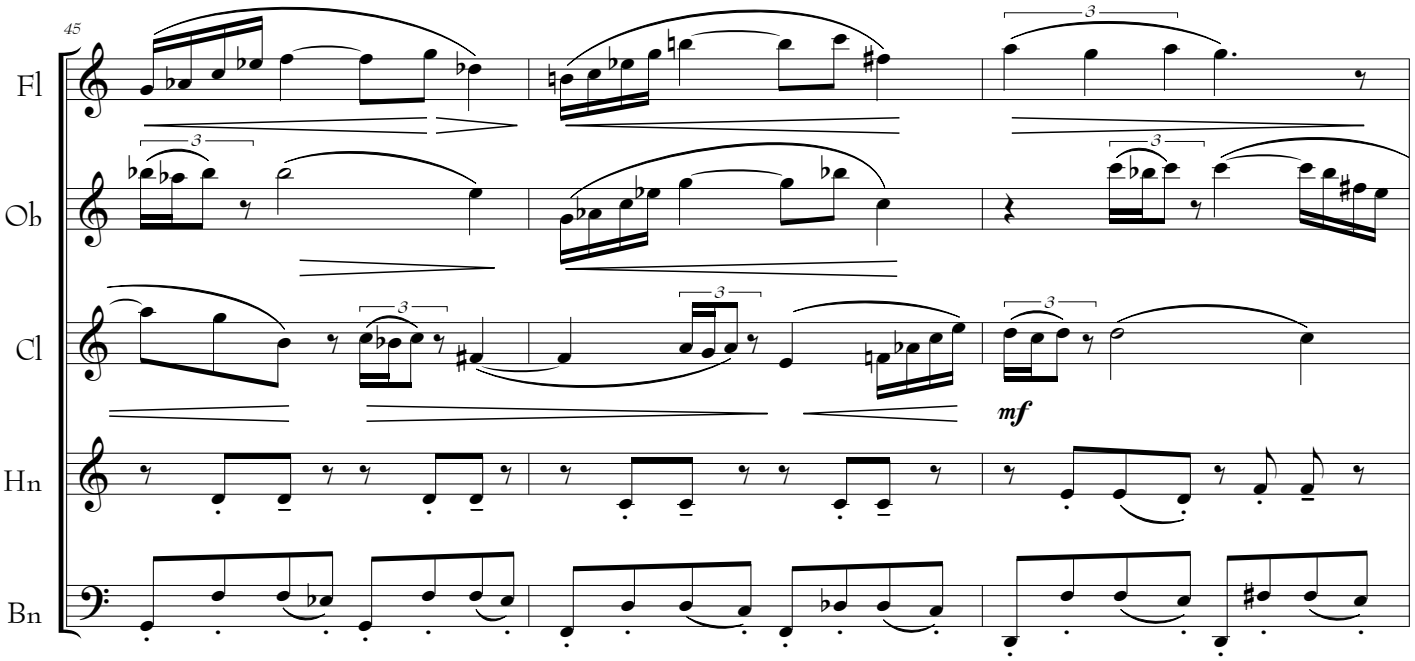
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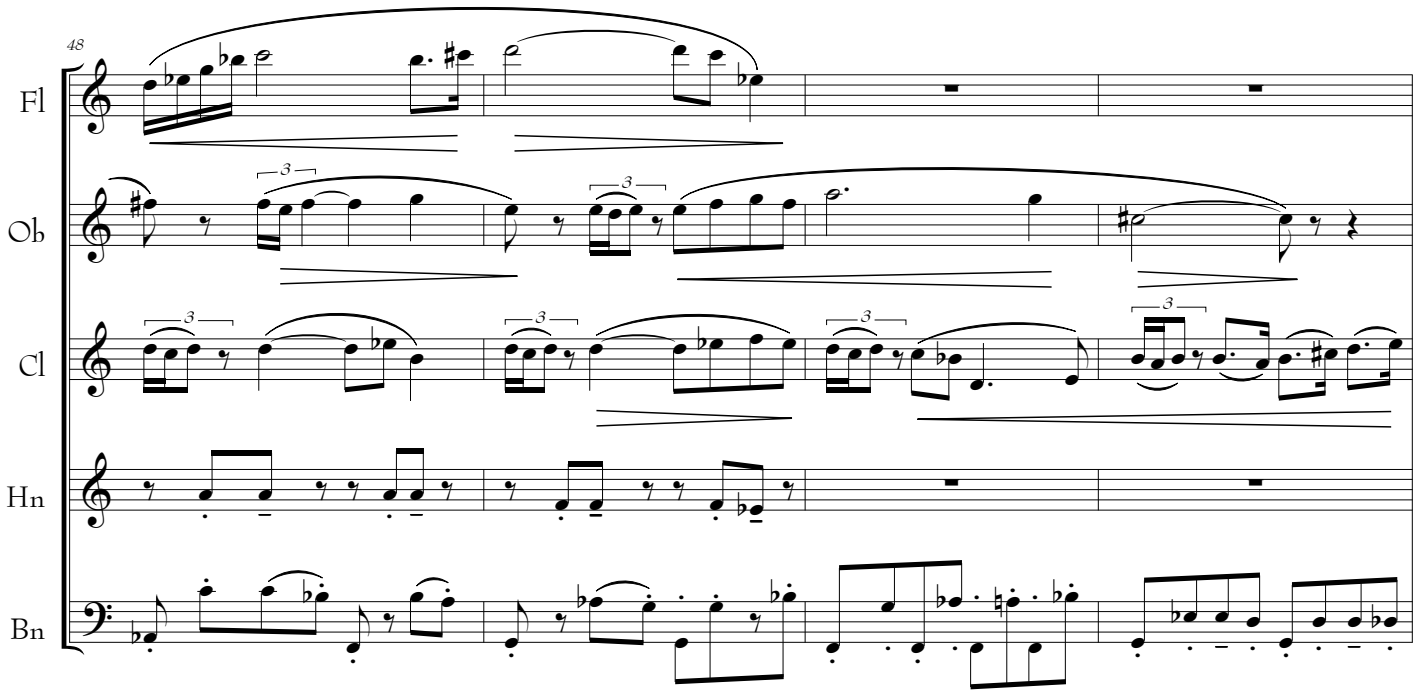
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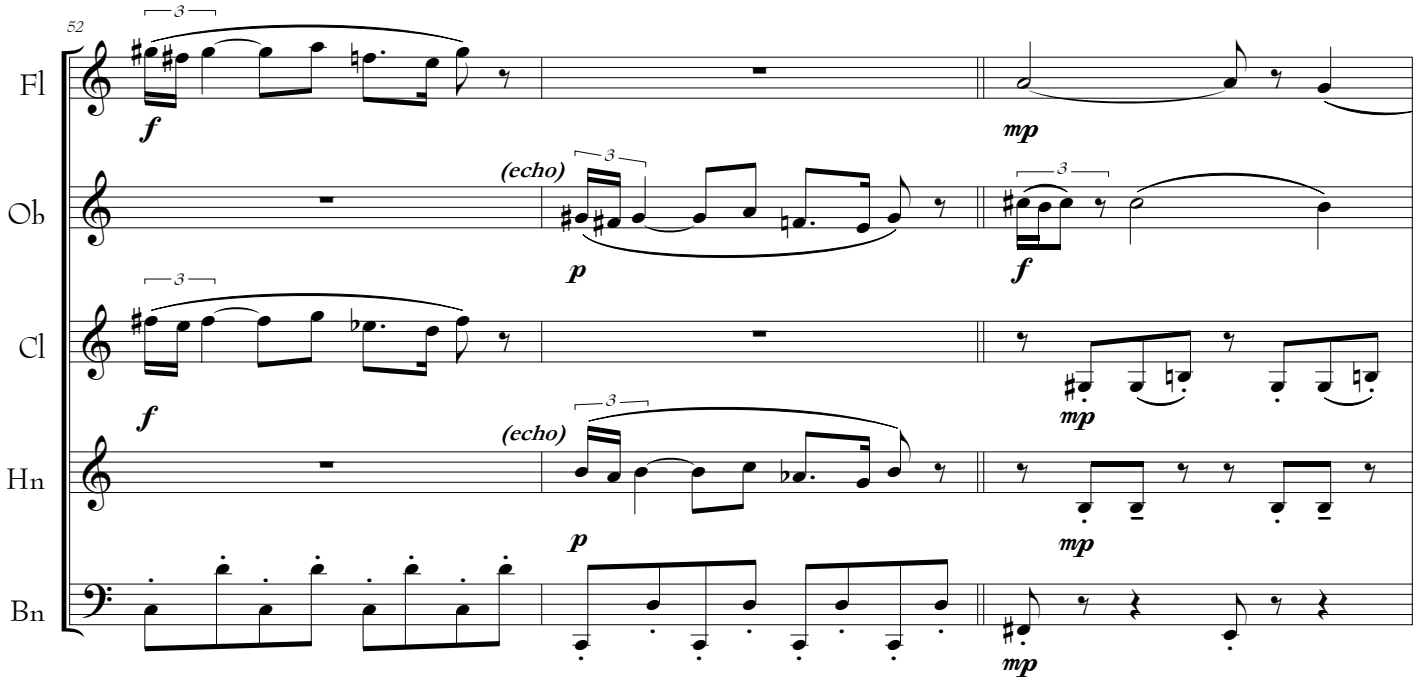
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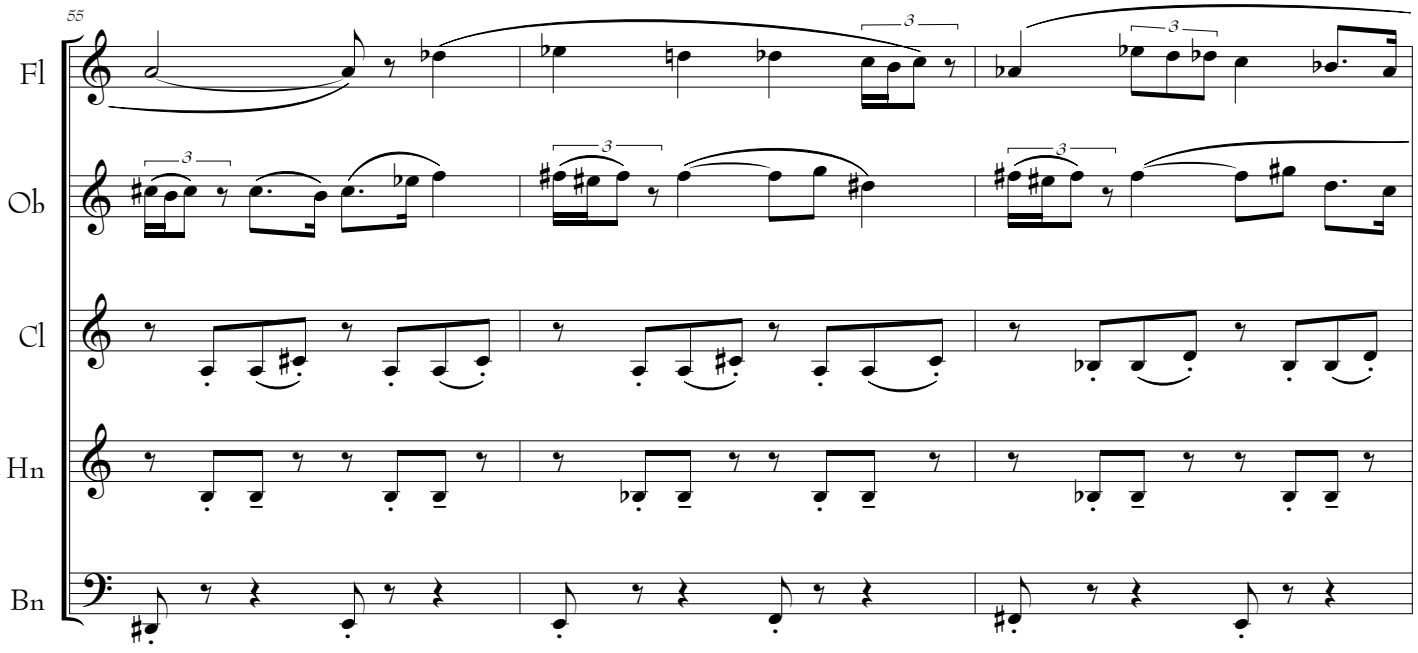
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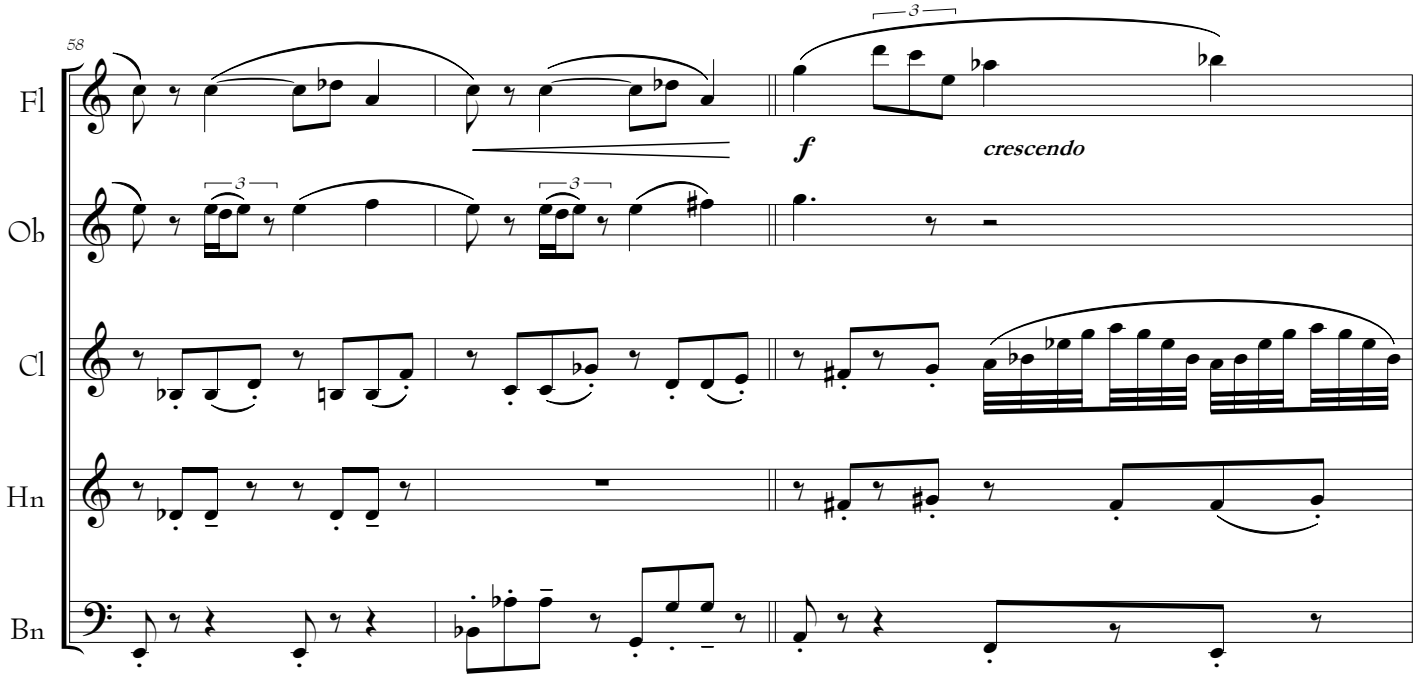
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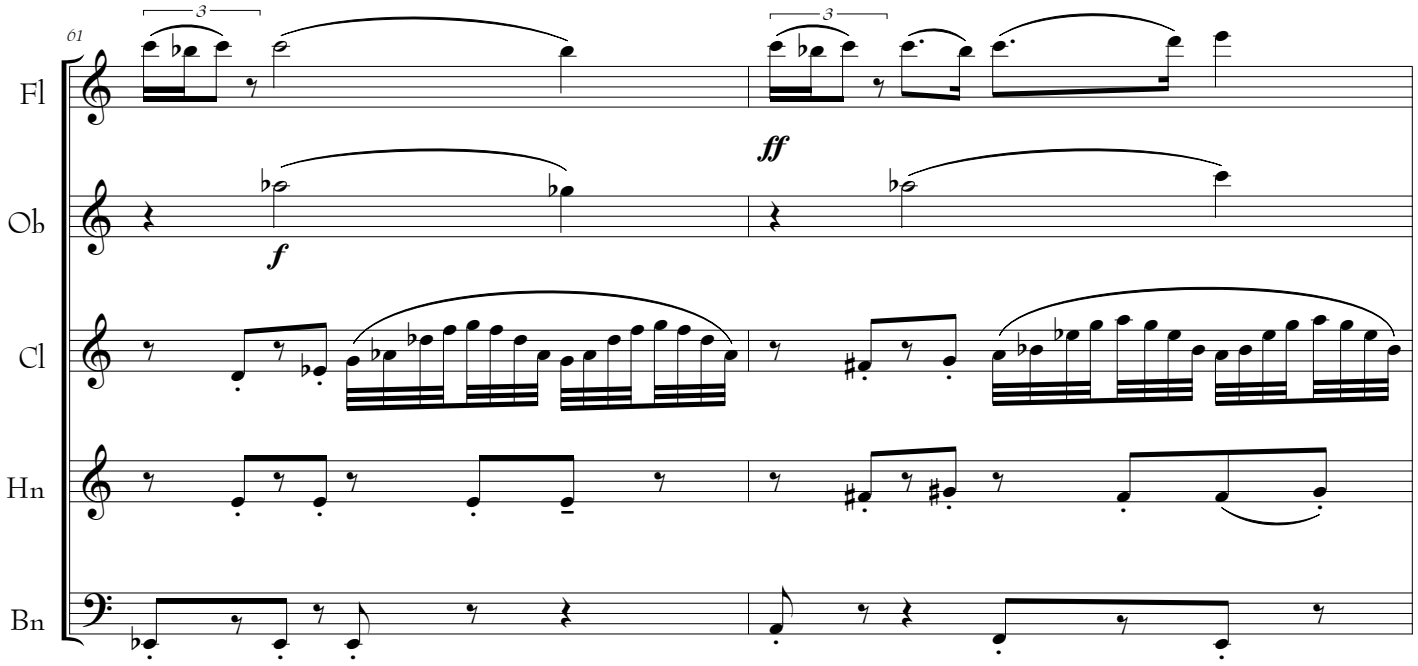
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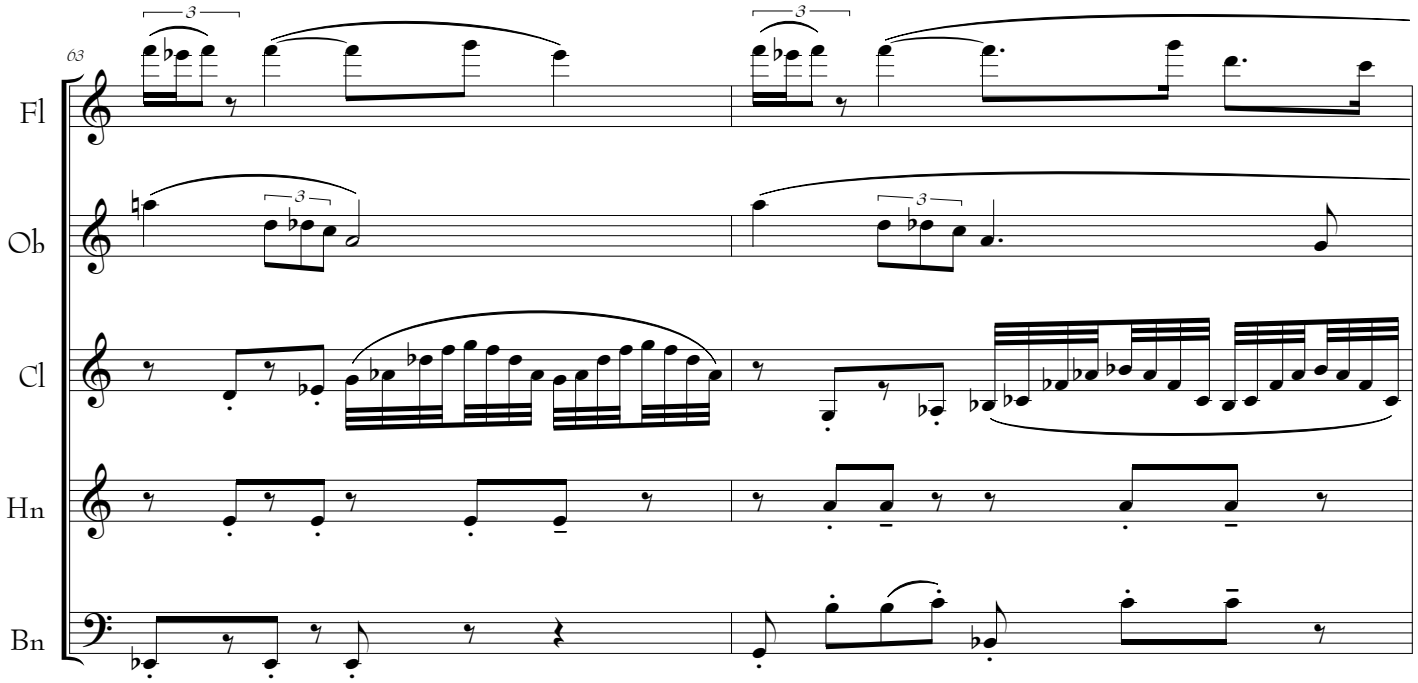
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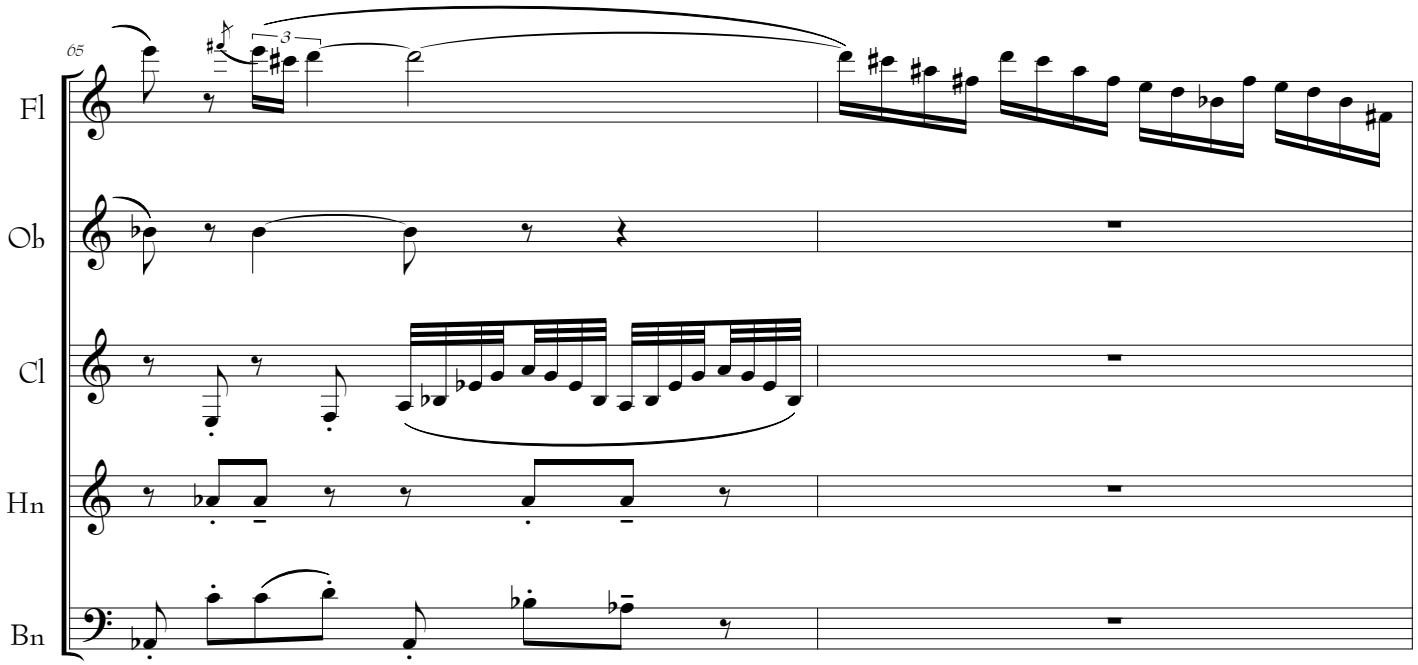
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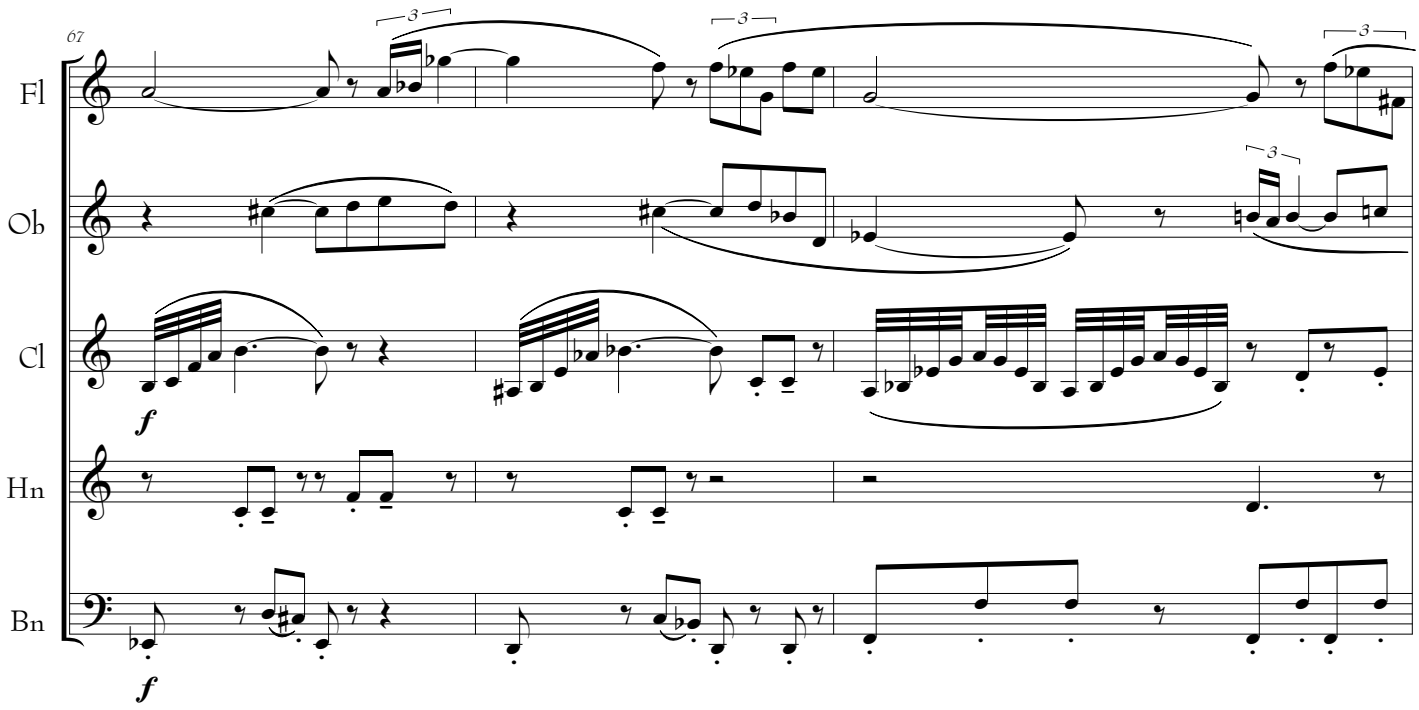
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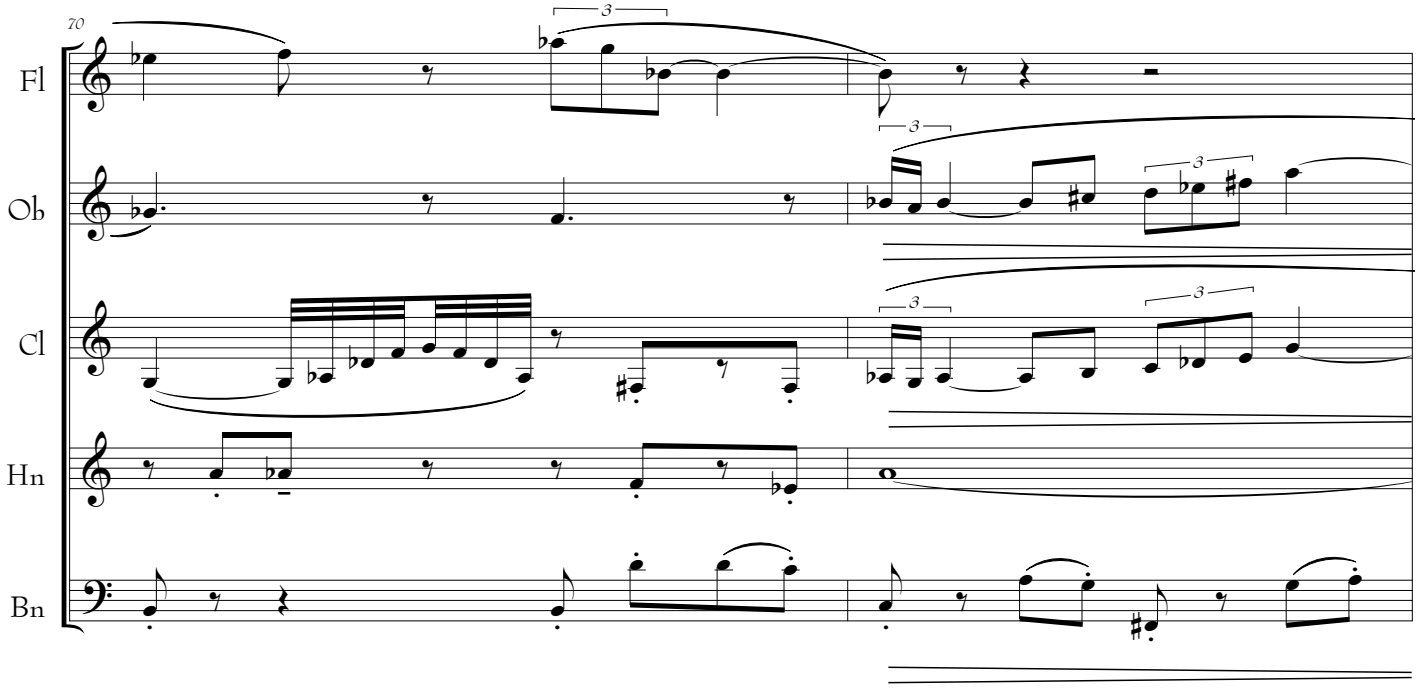
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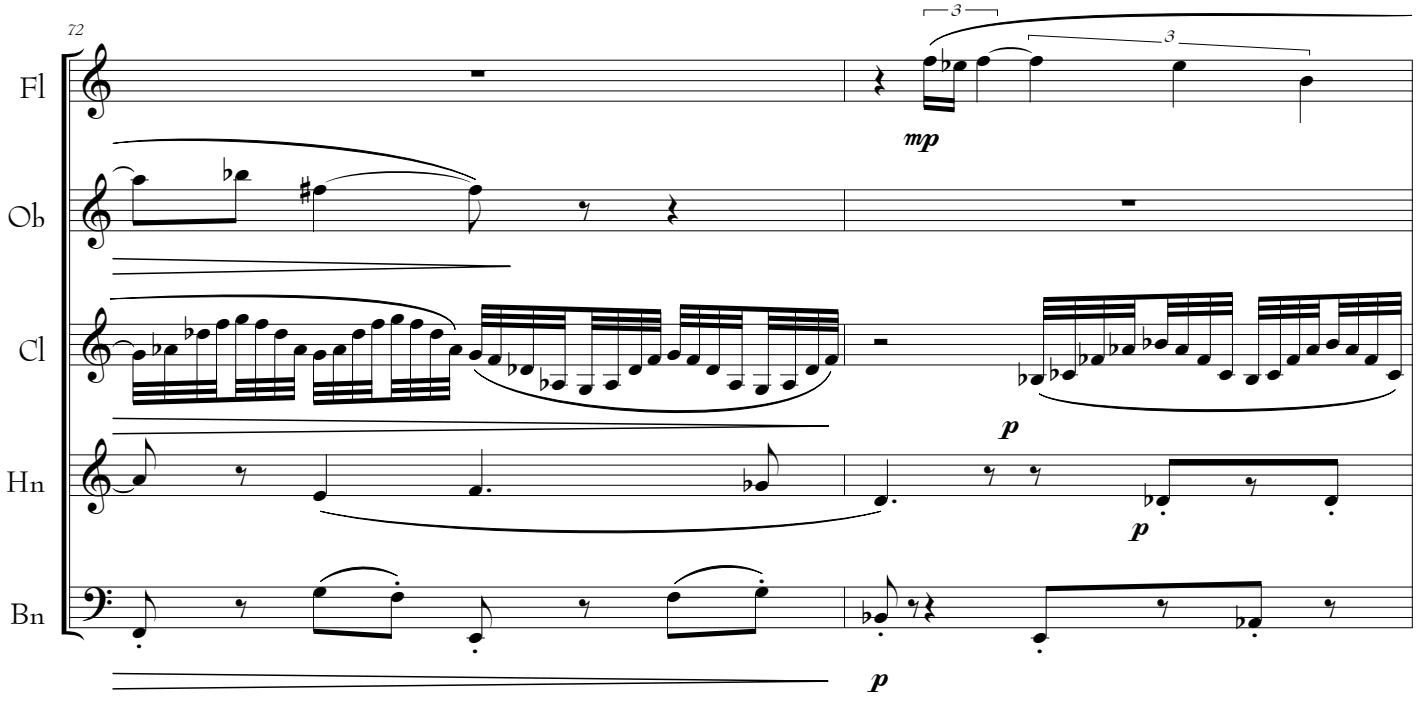
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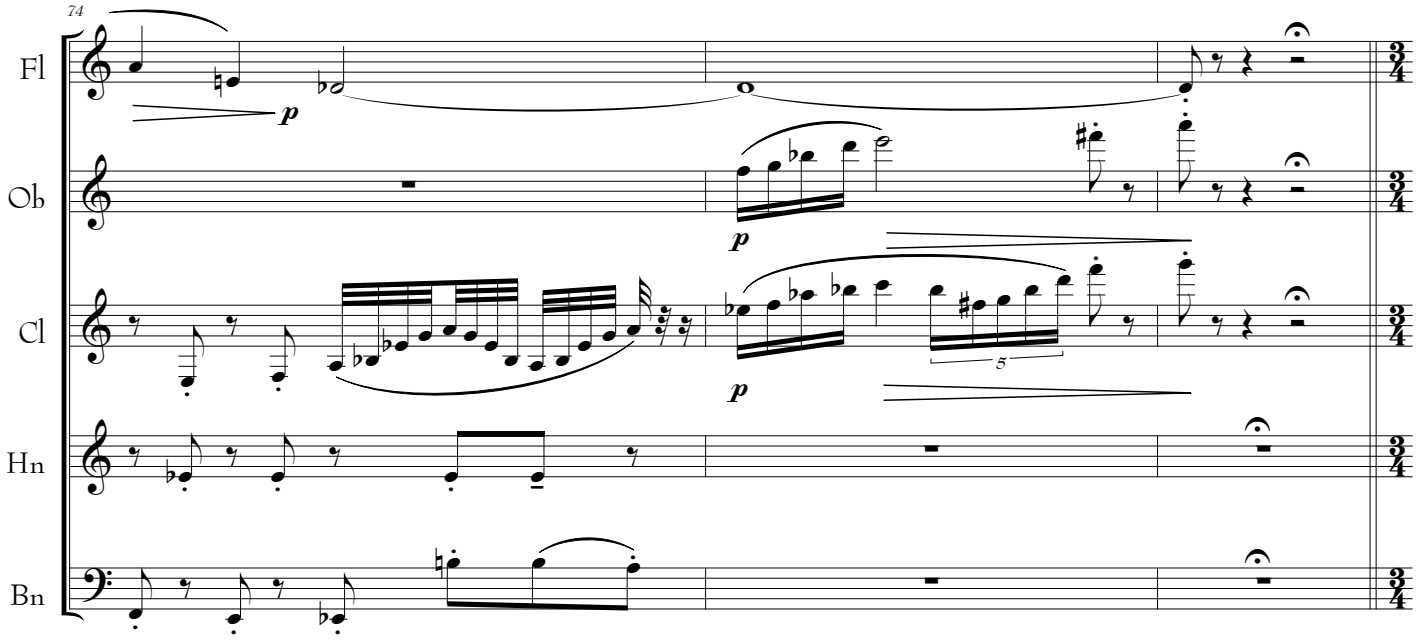
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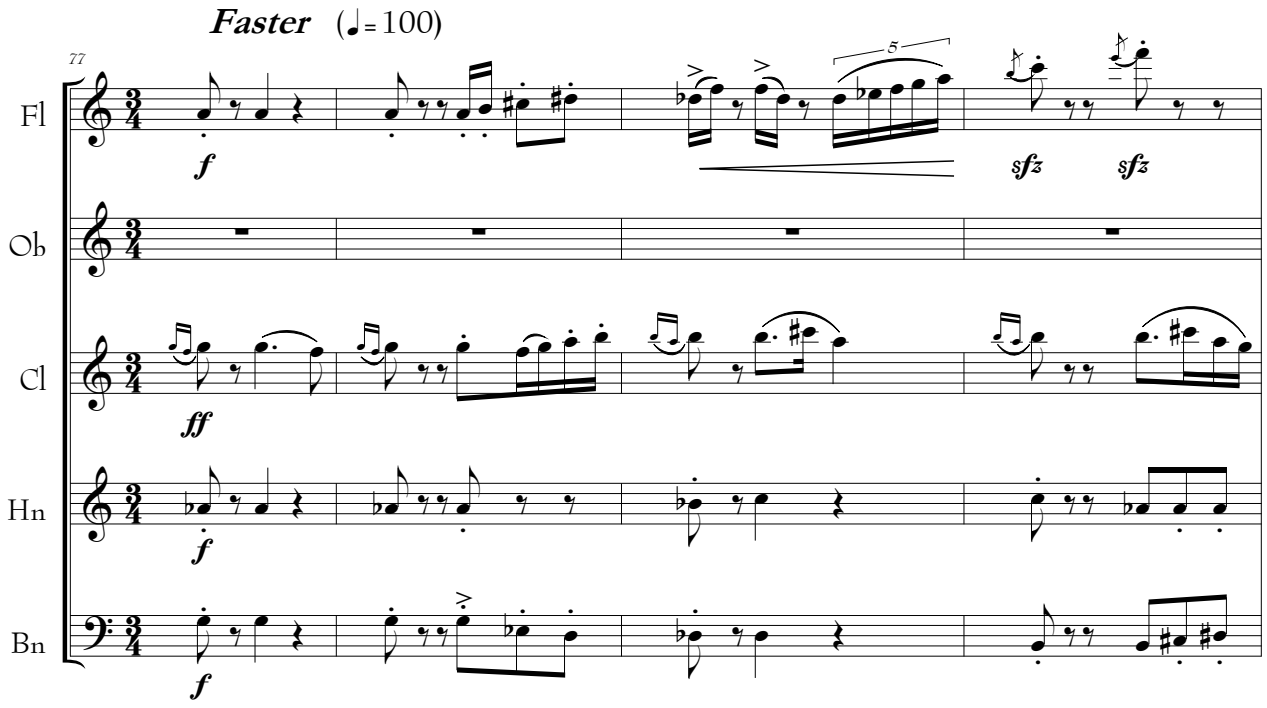
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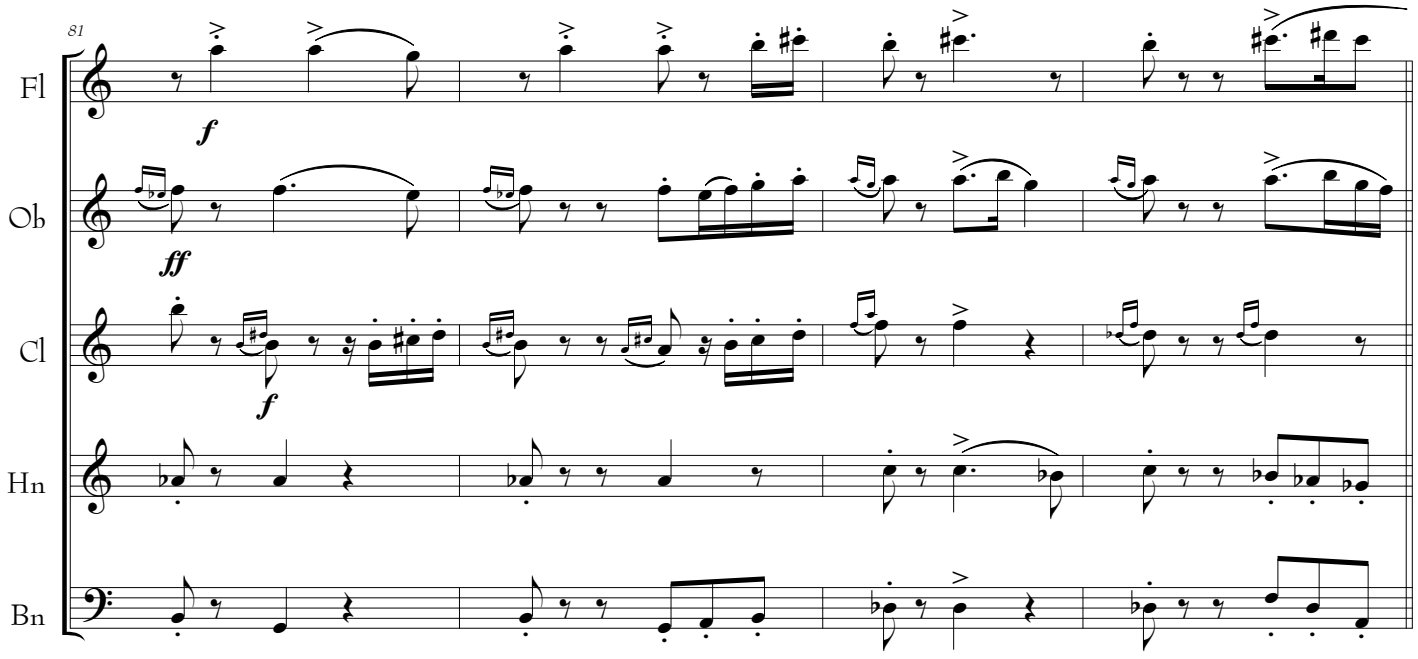
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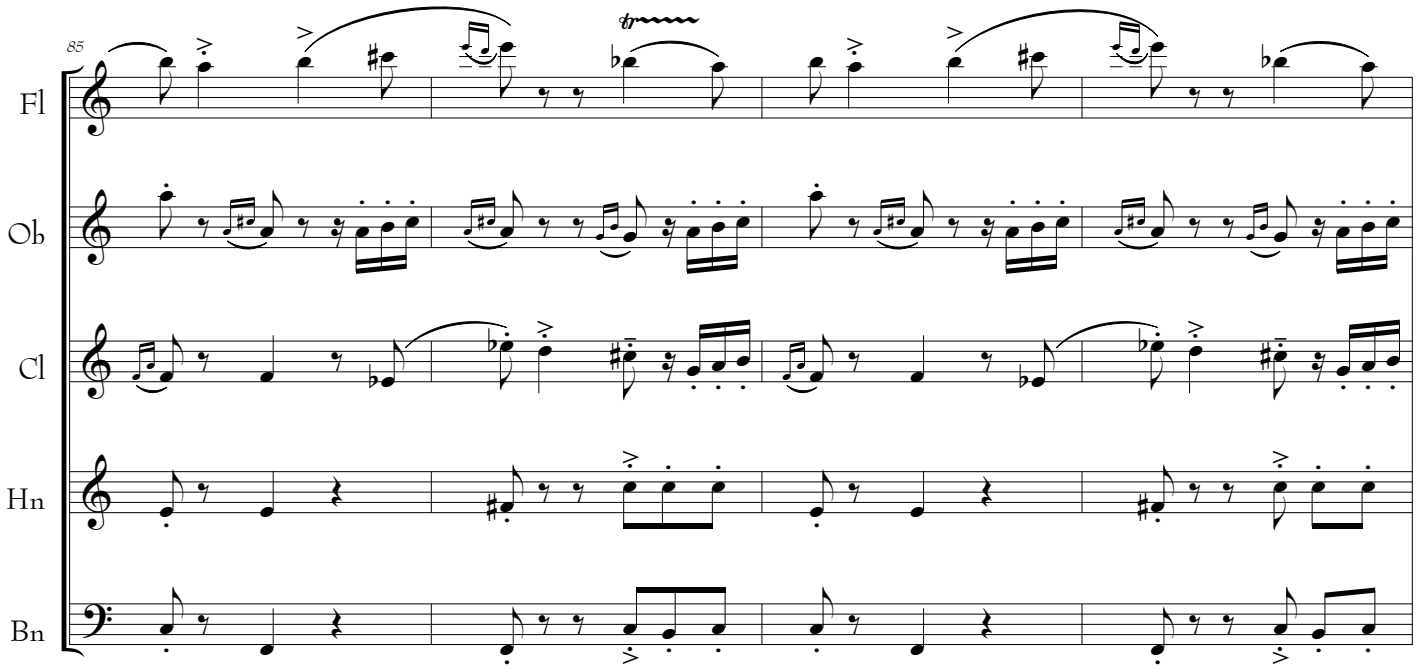
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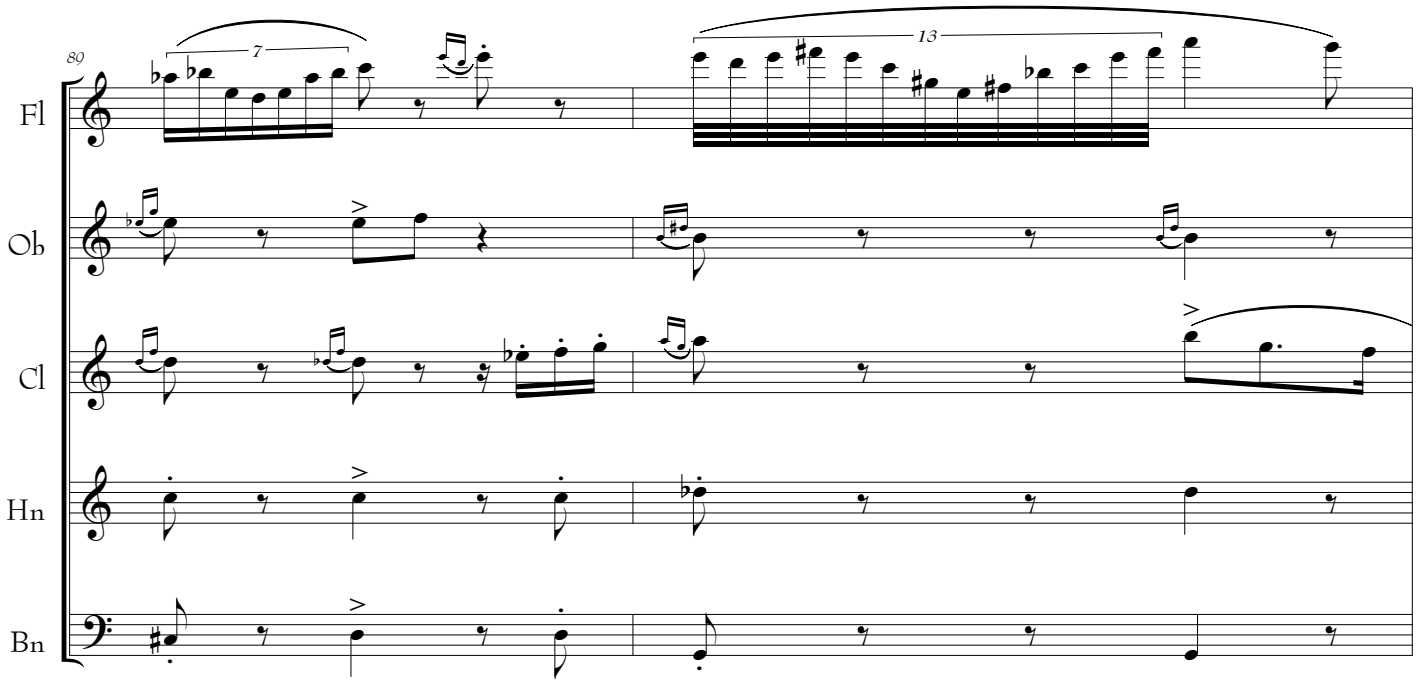
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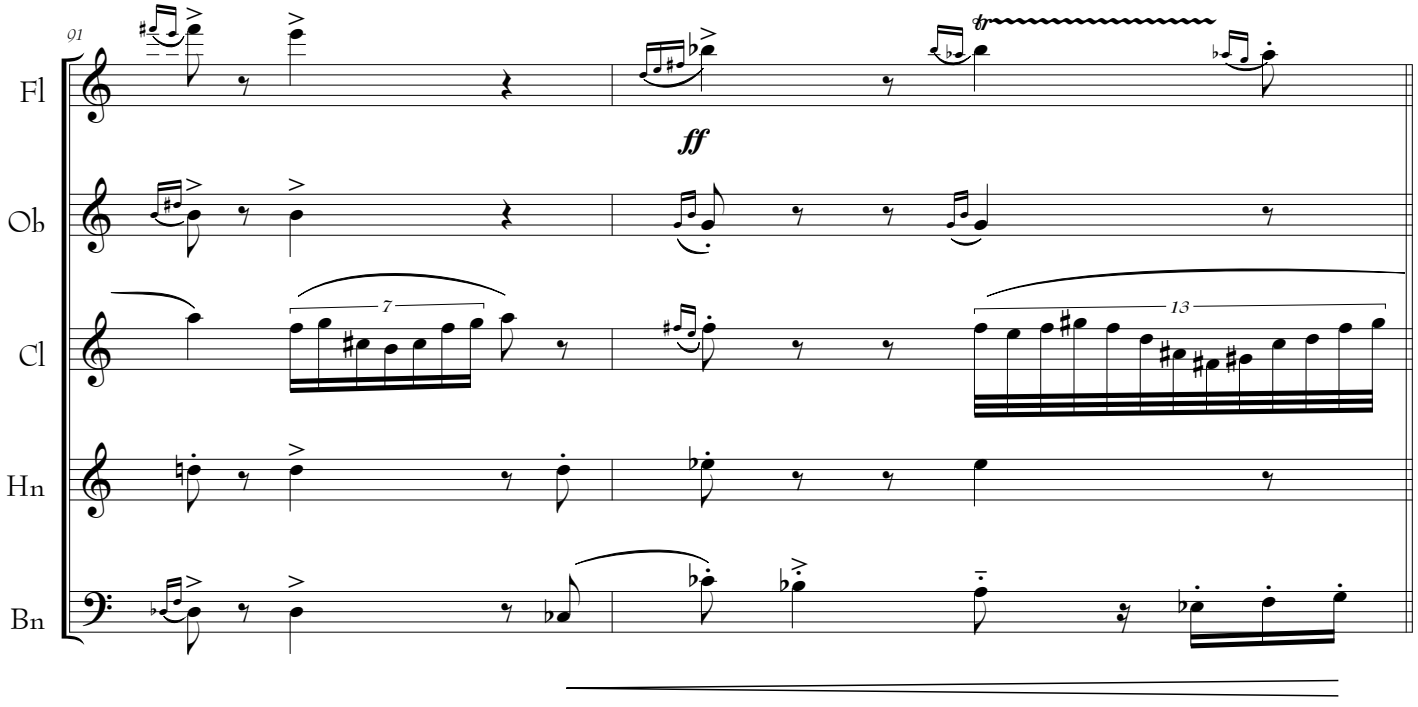
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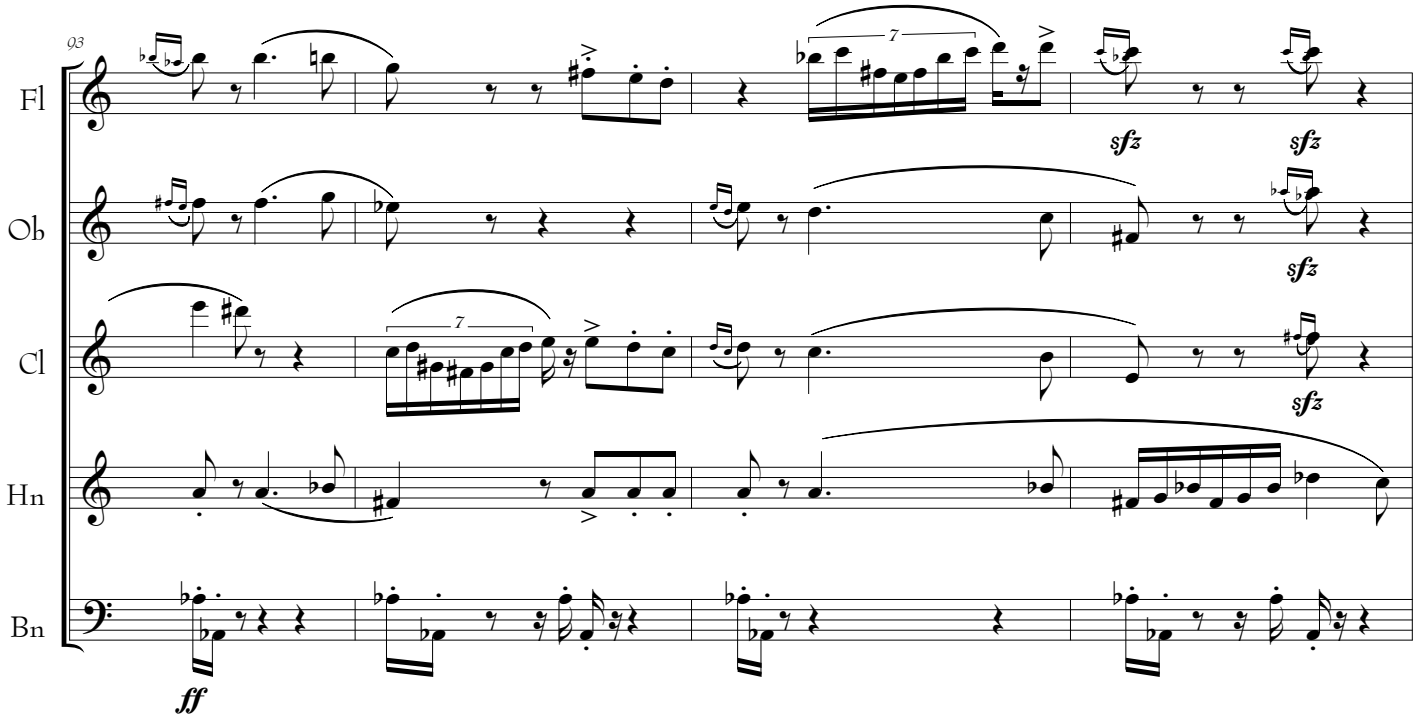
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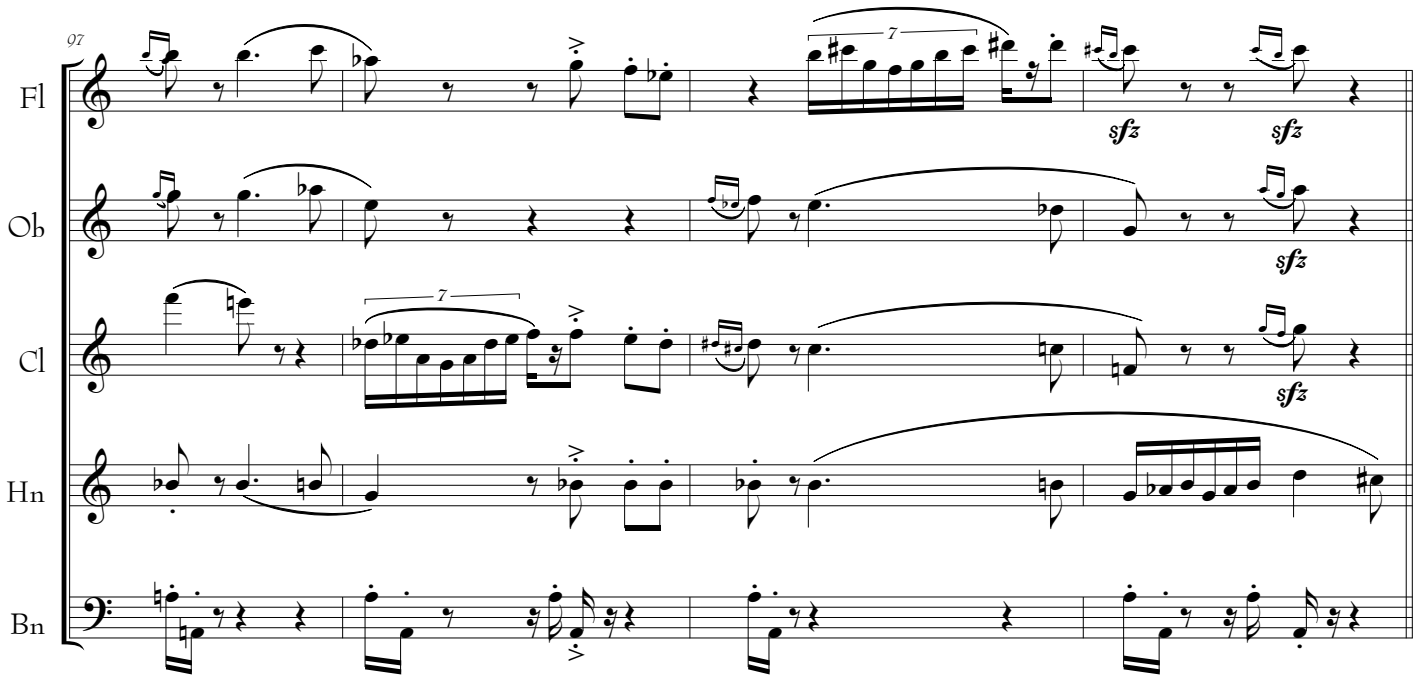
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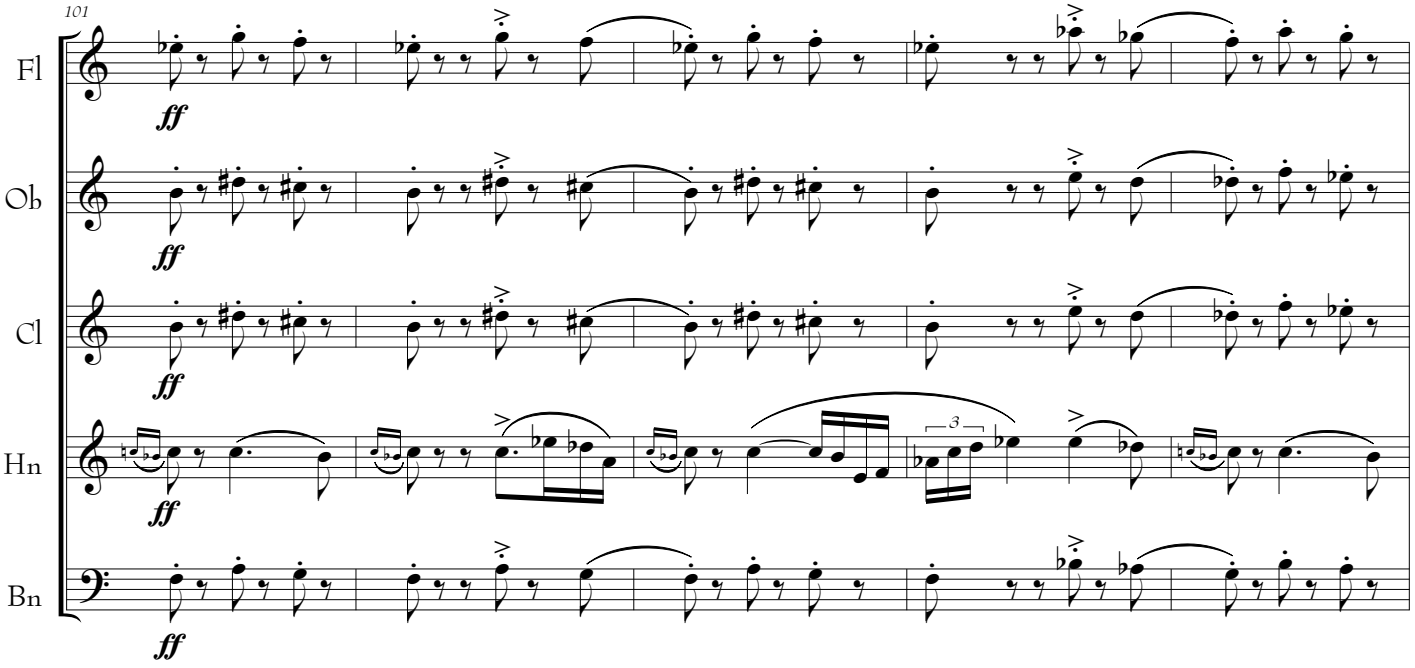
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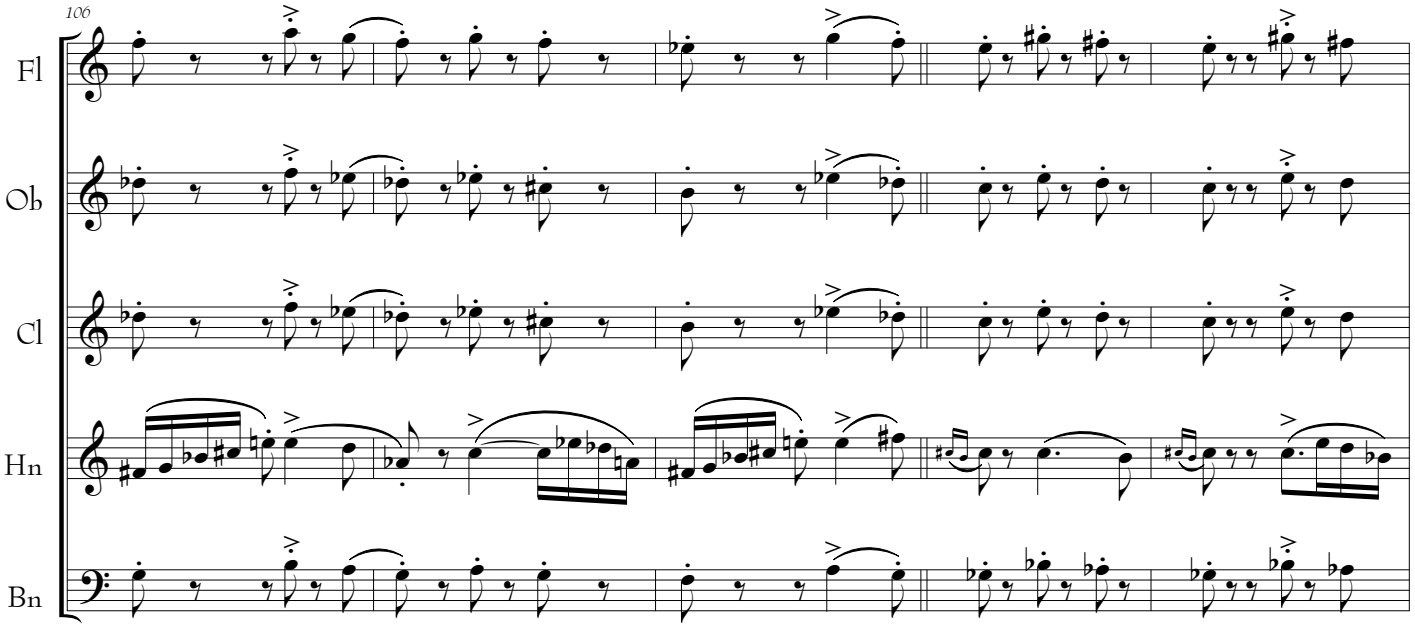
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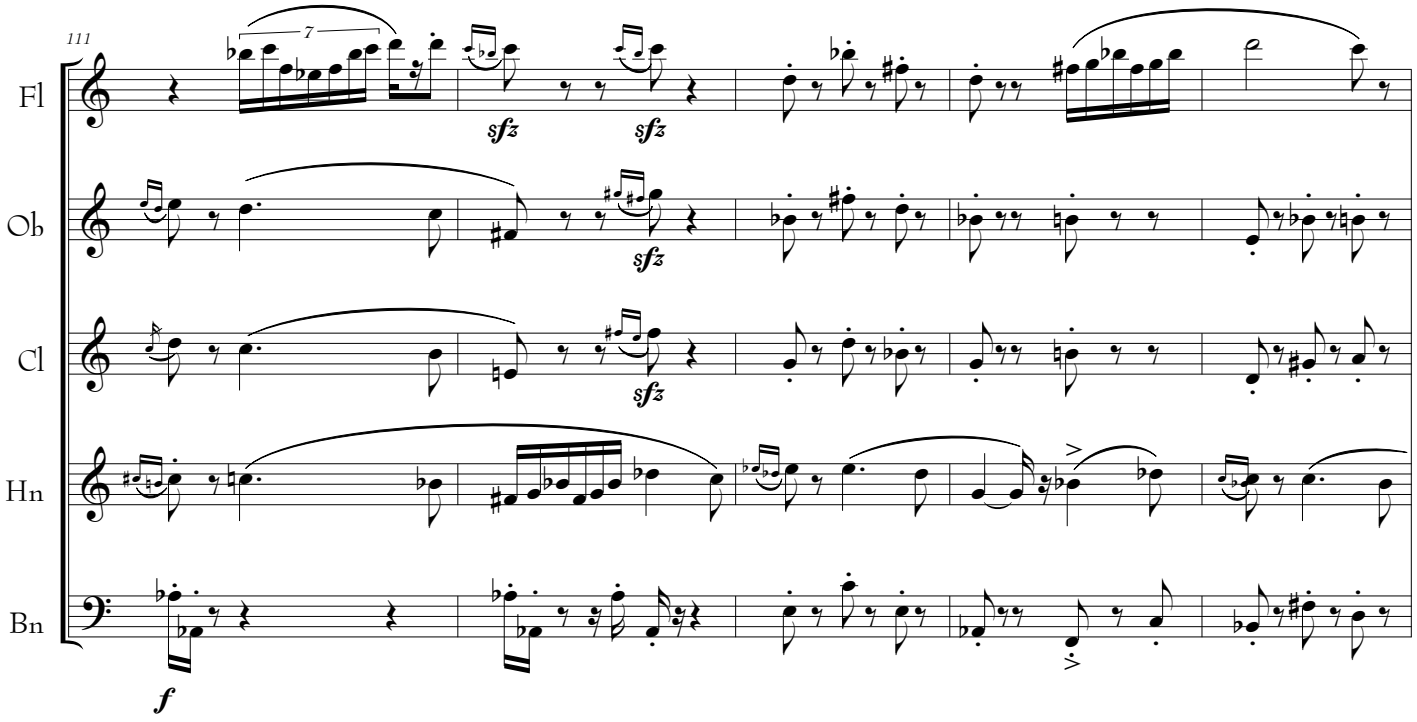
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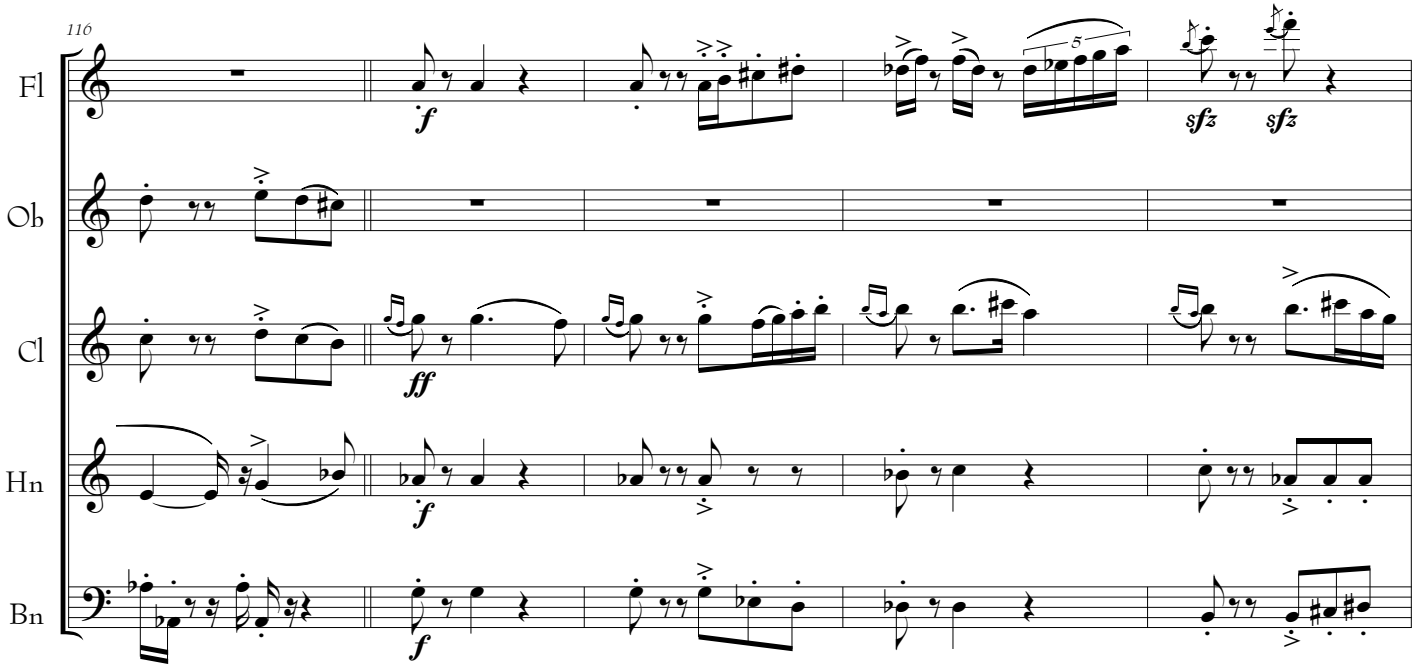
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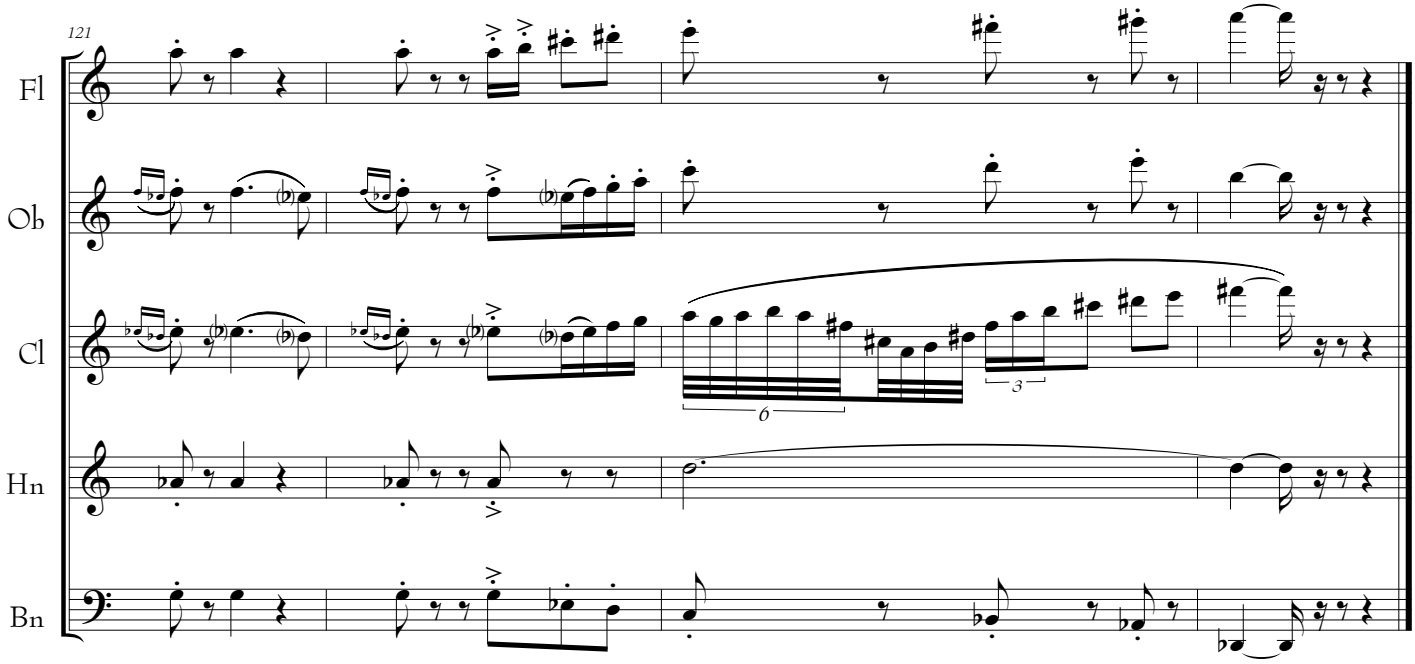
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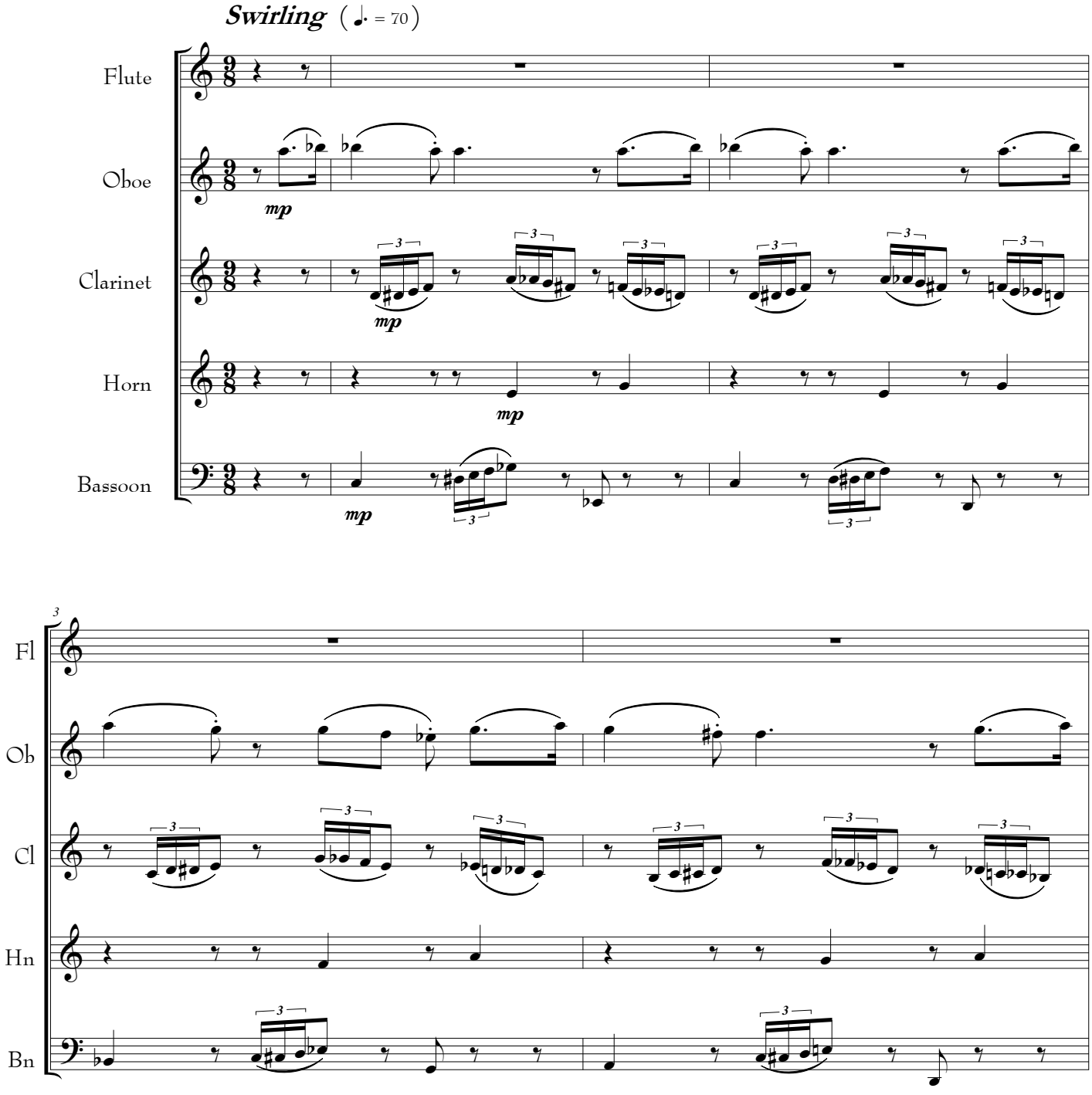
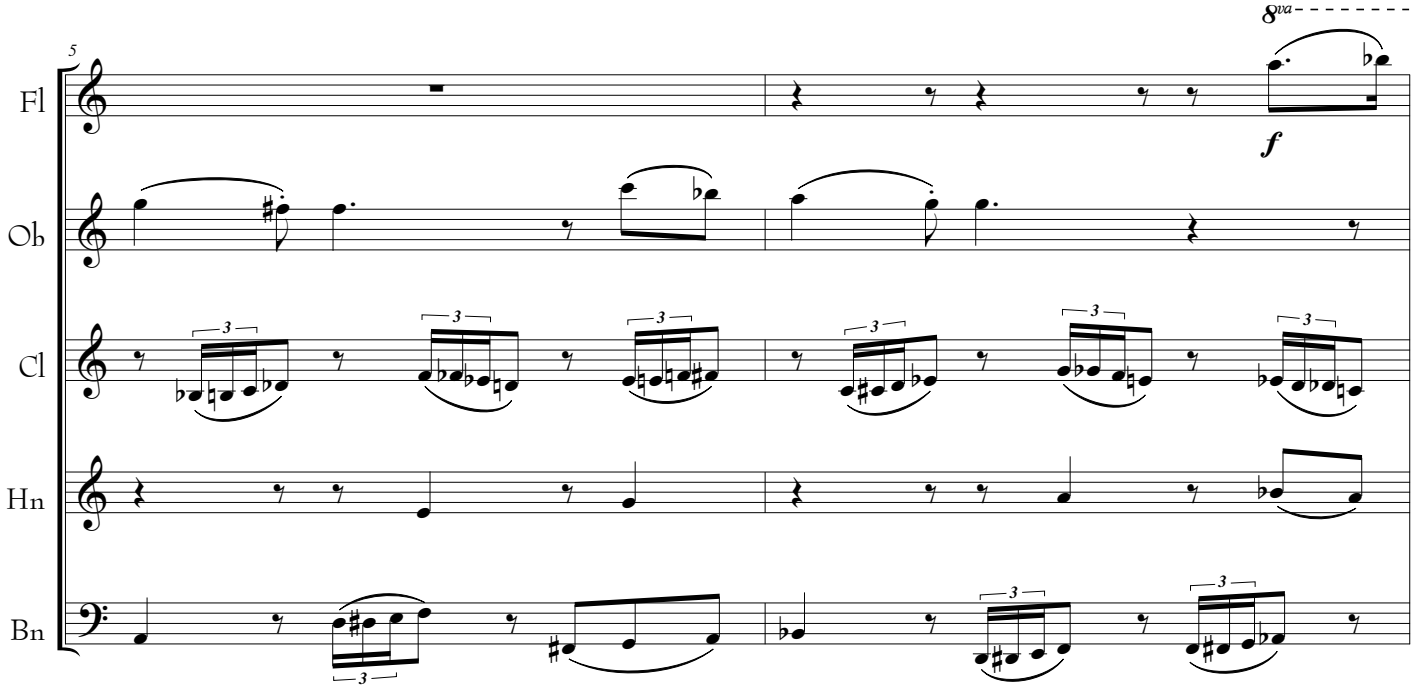
3

II

Lady Blossom's Waltz

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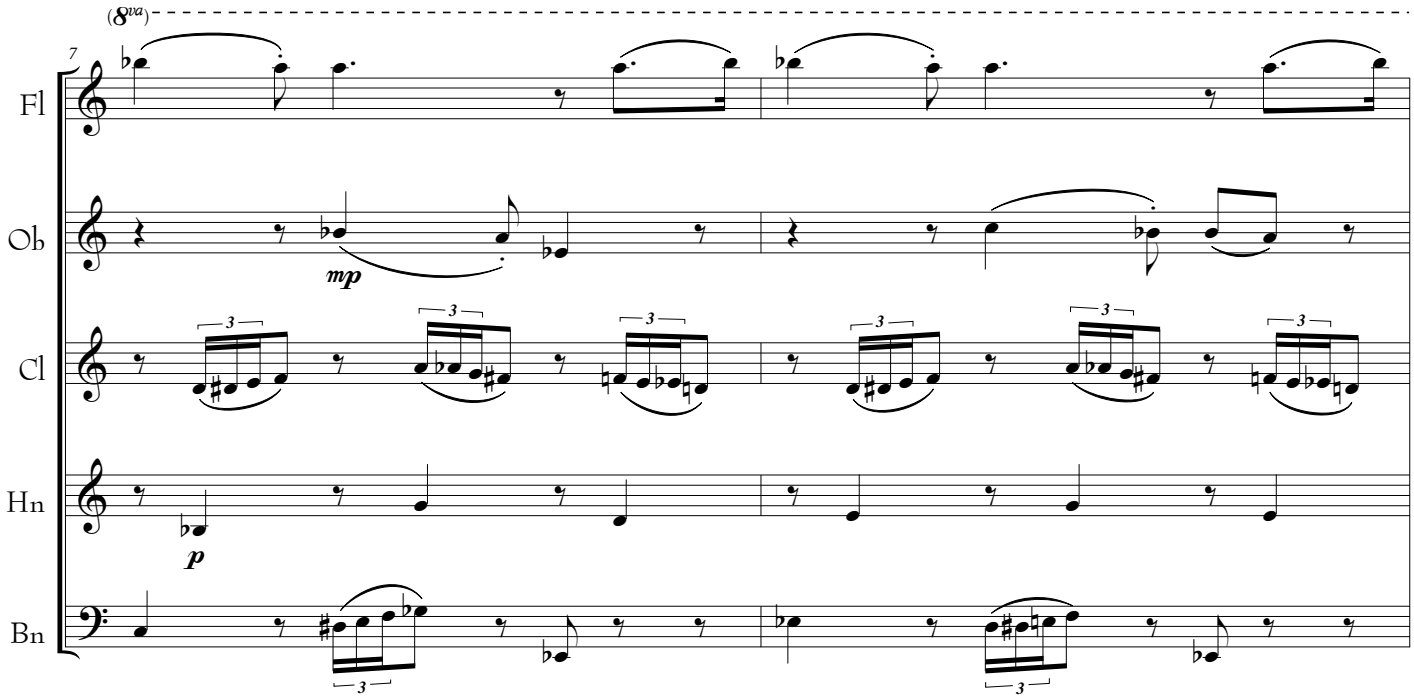
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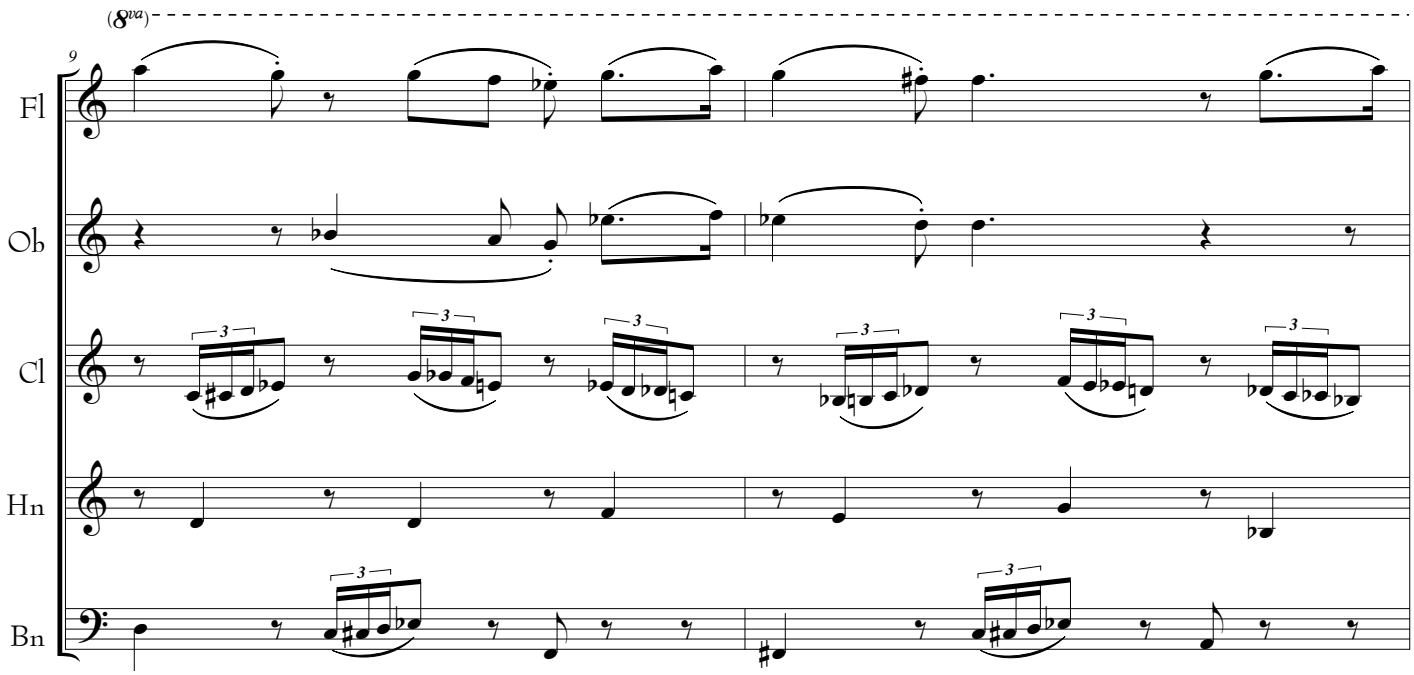
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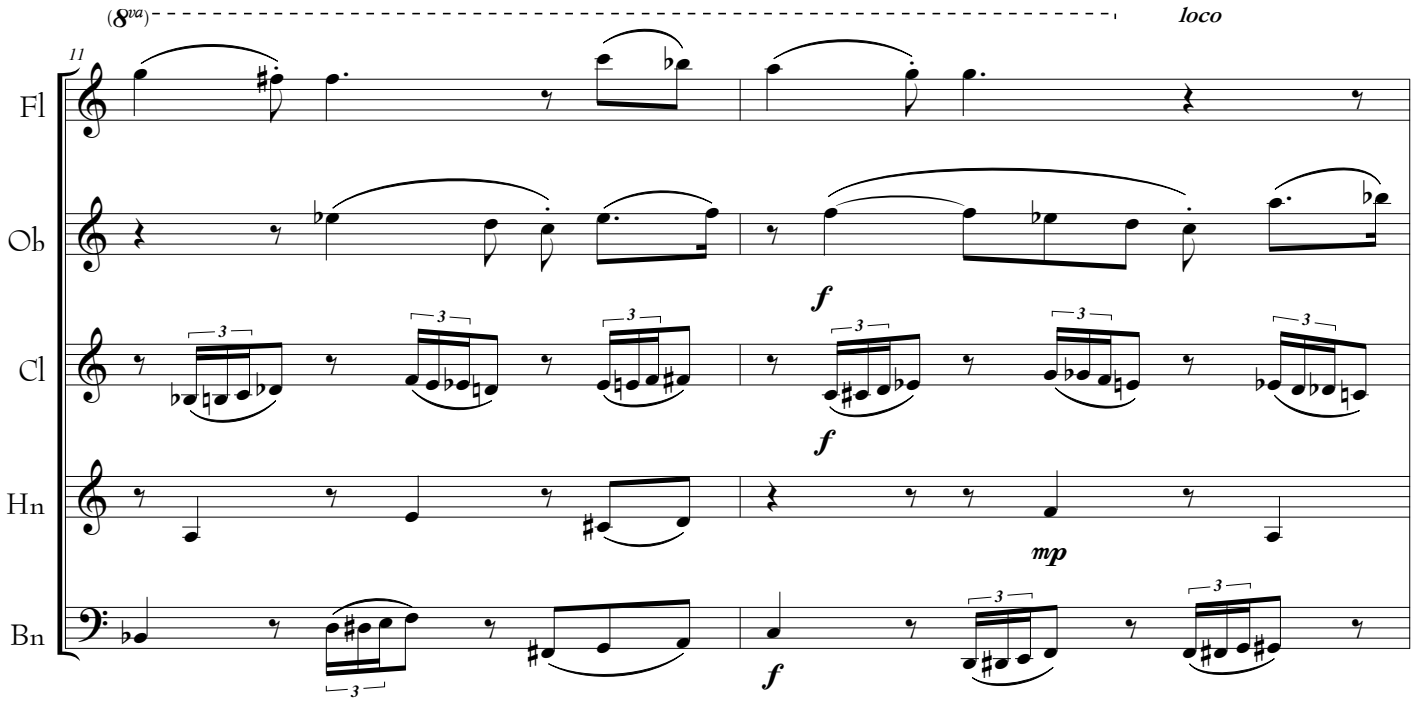
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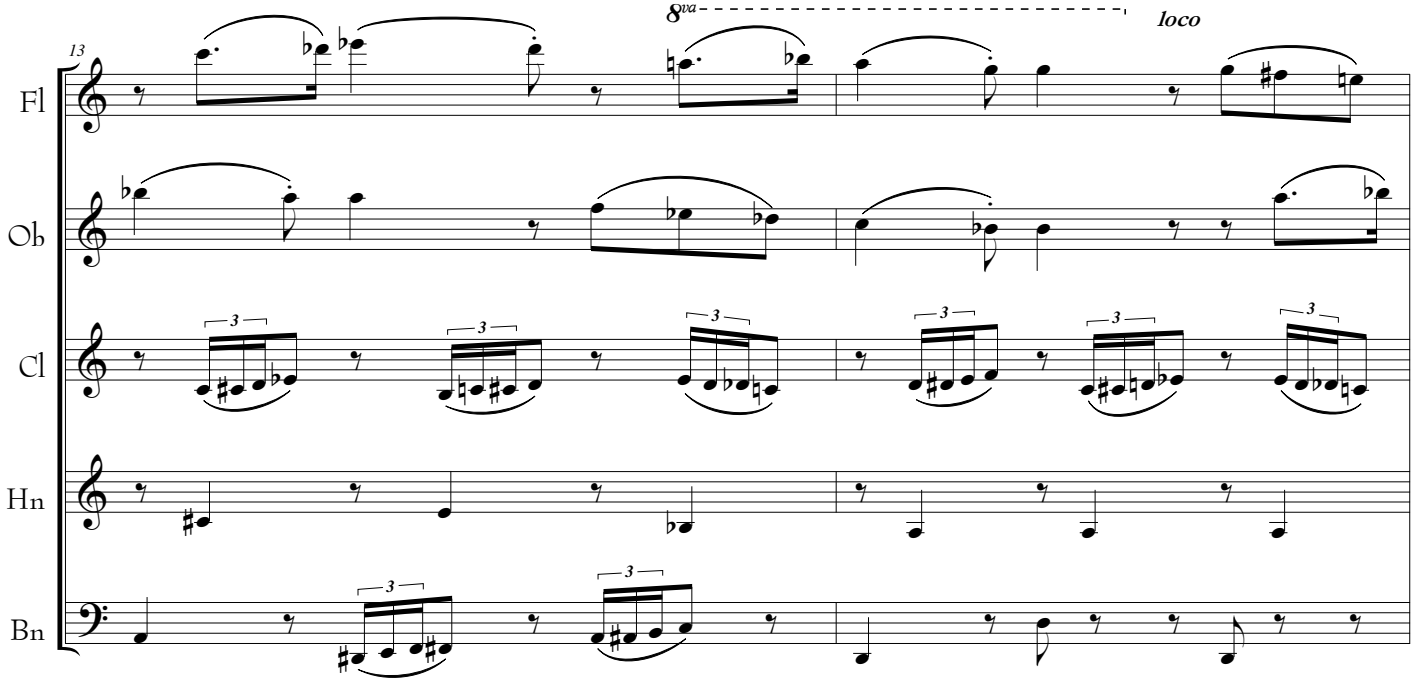
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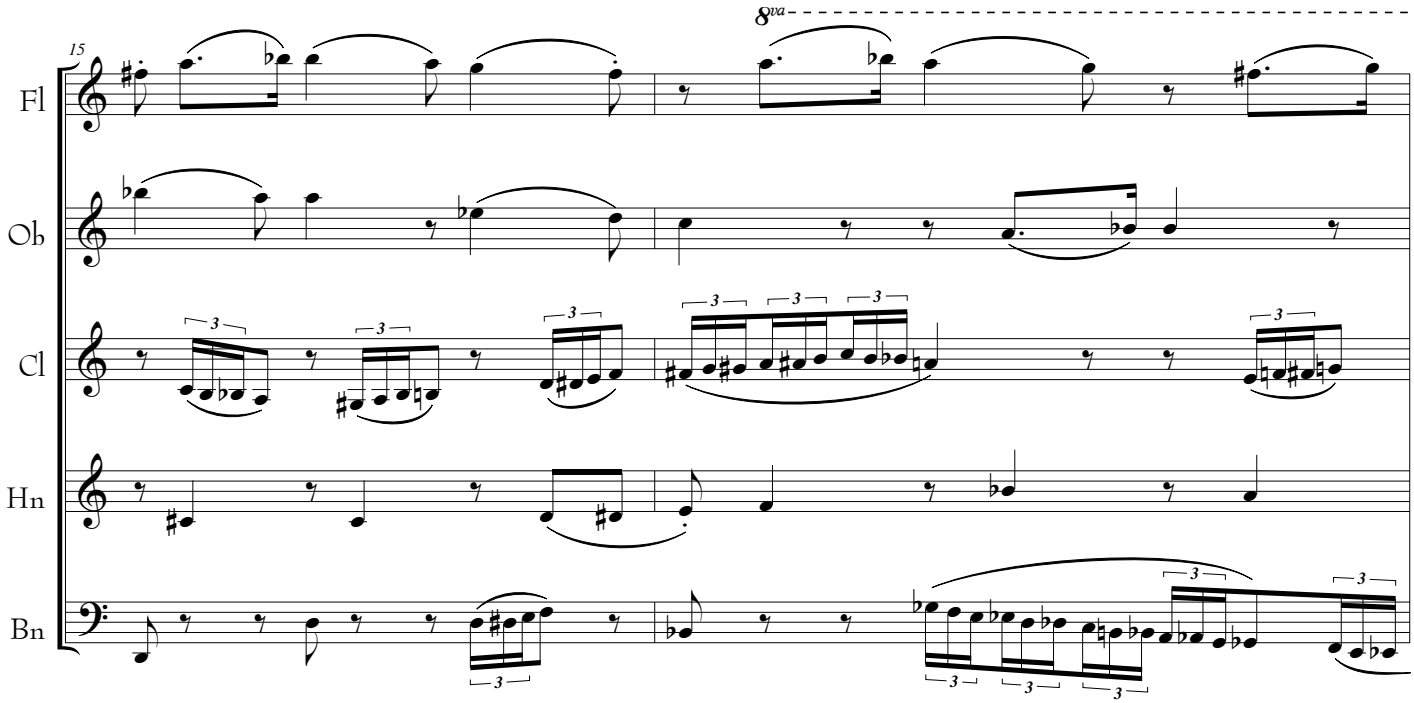
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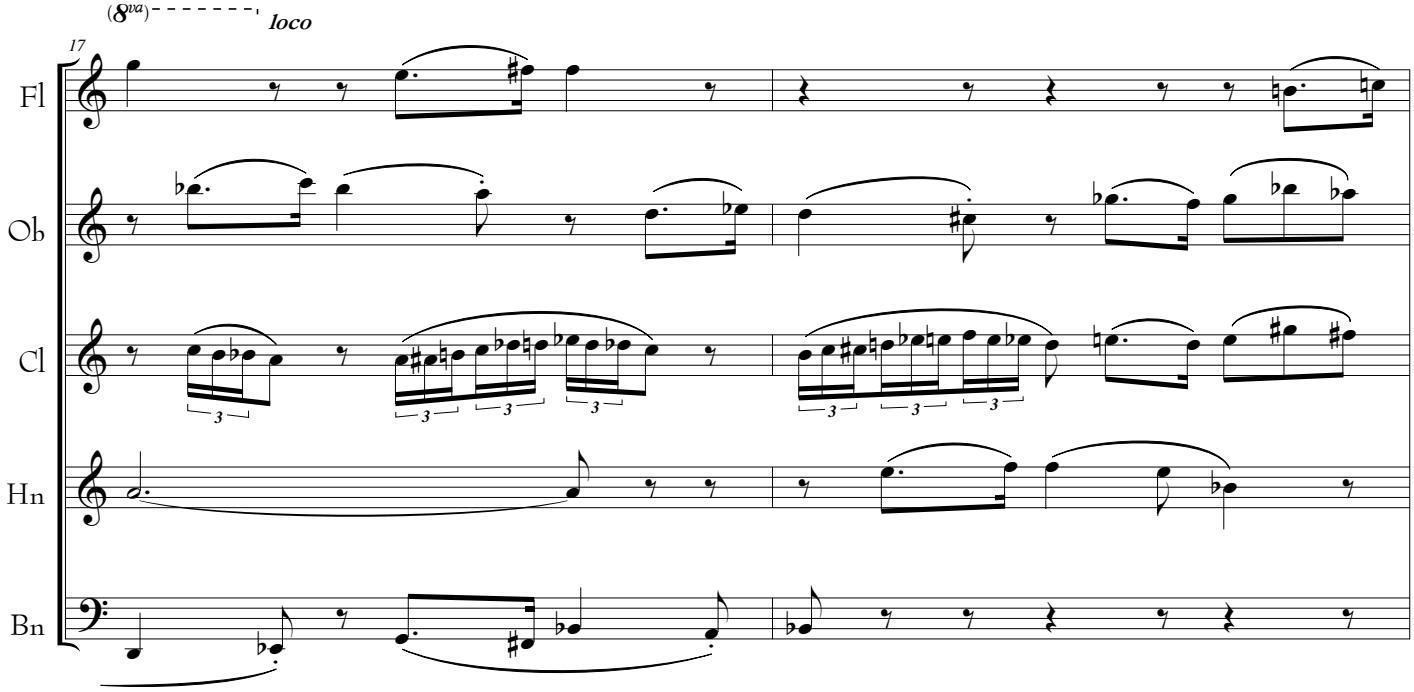
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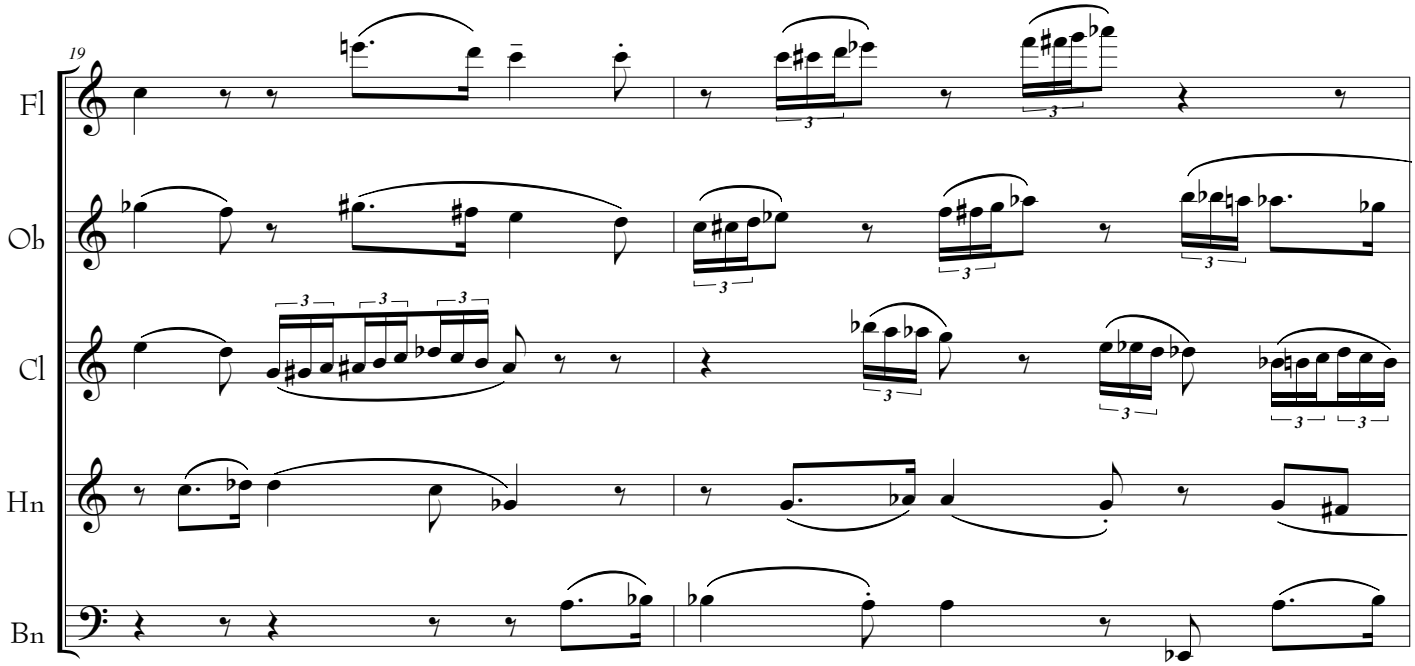
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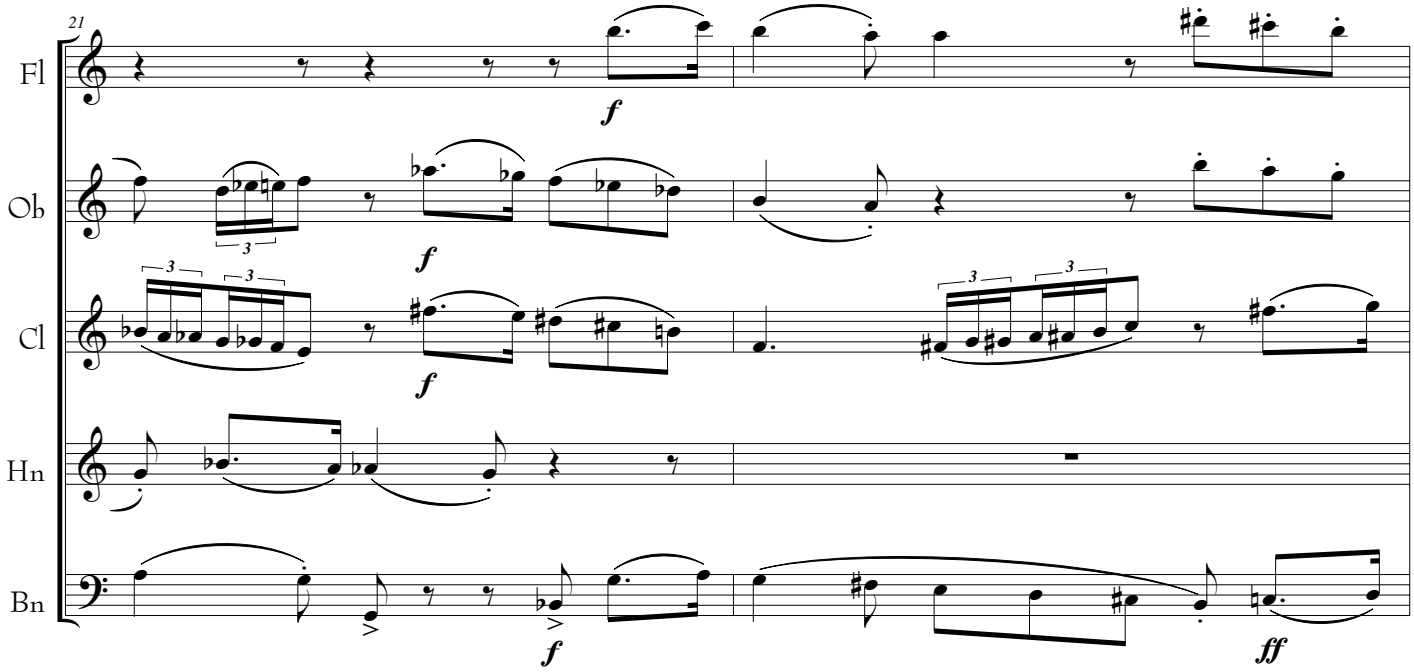
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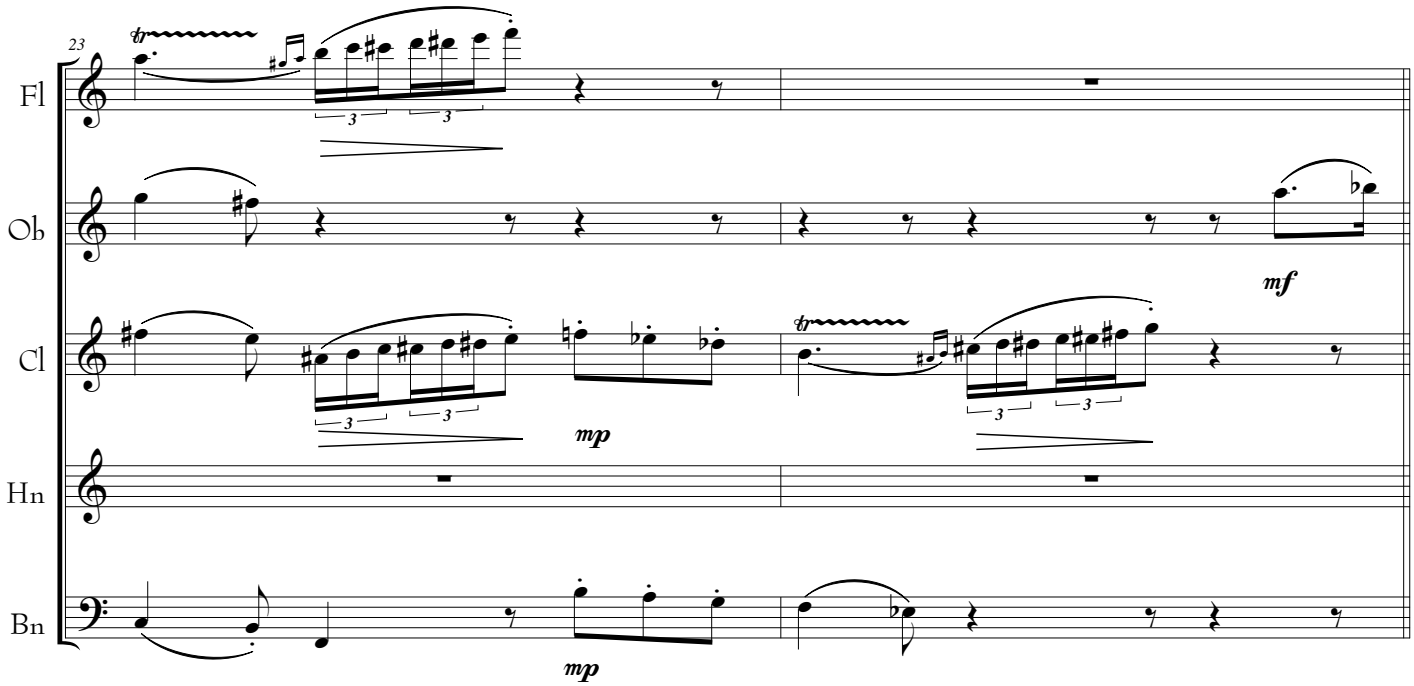
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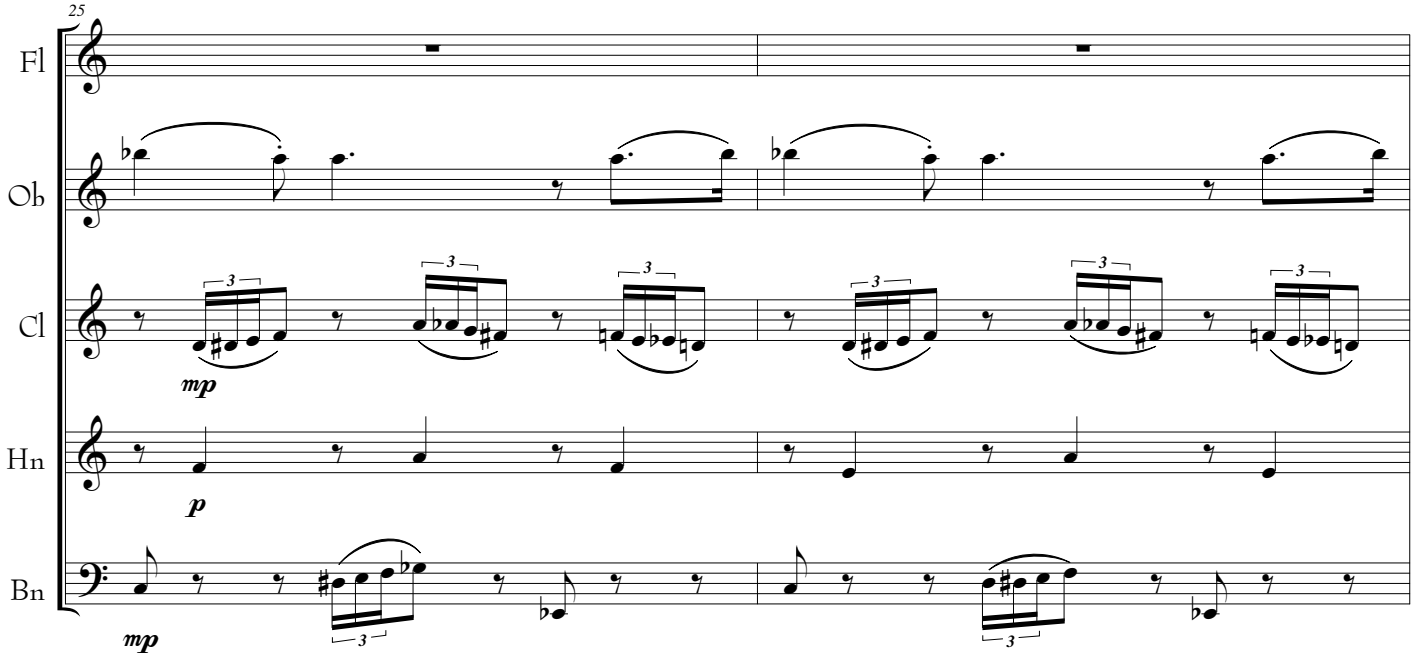
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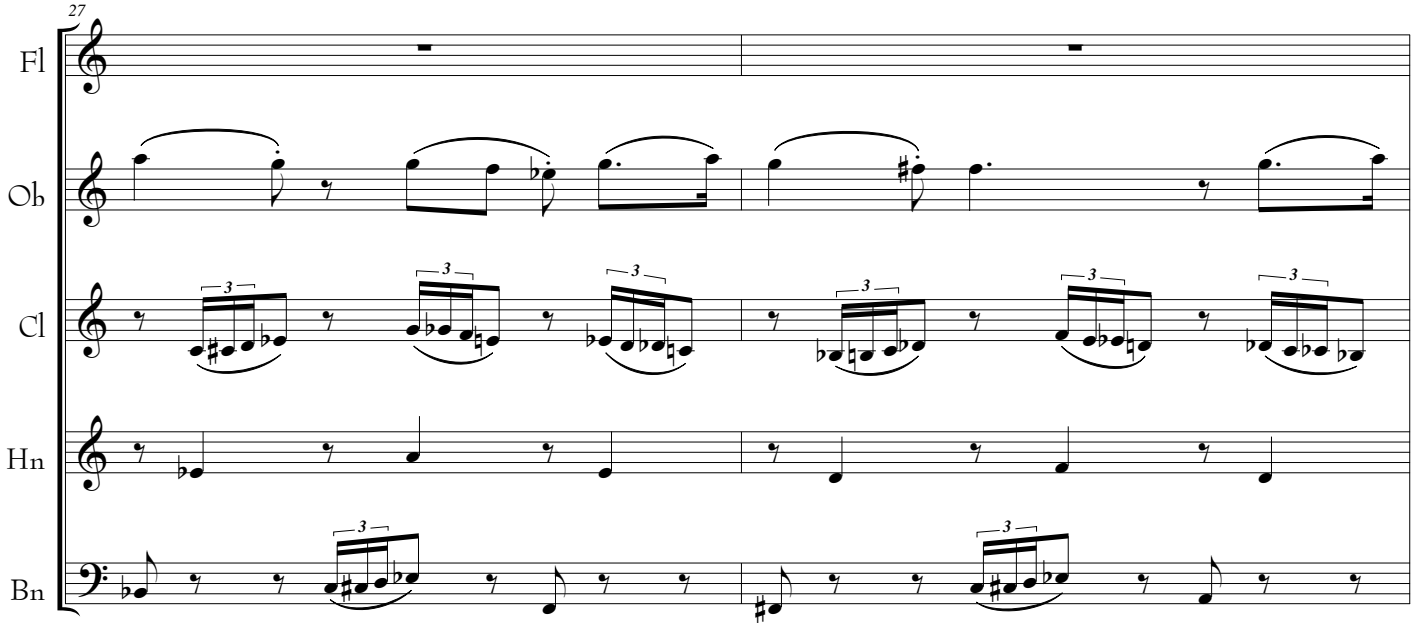
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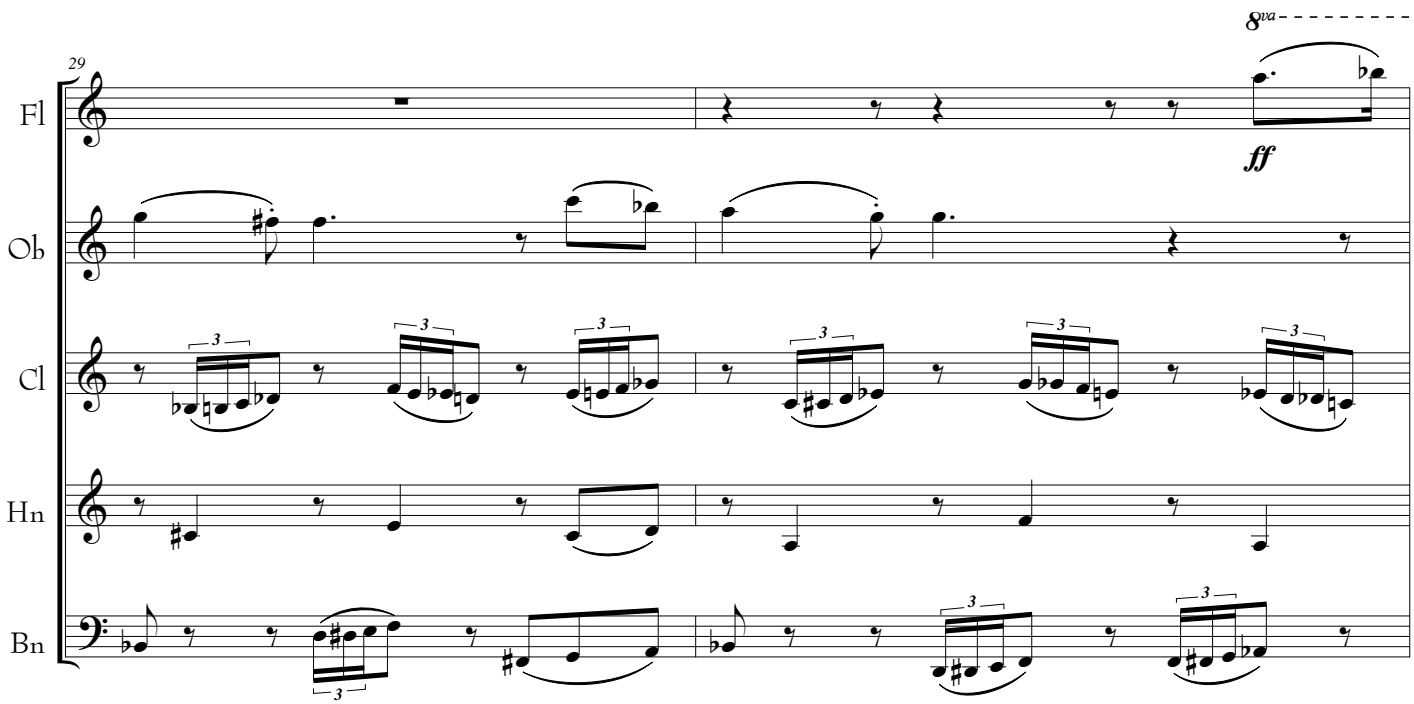
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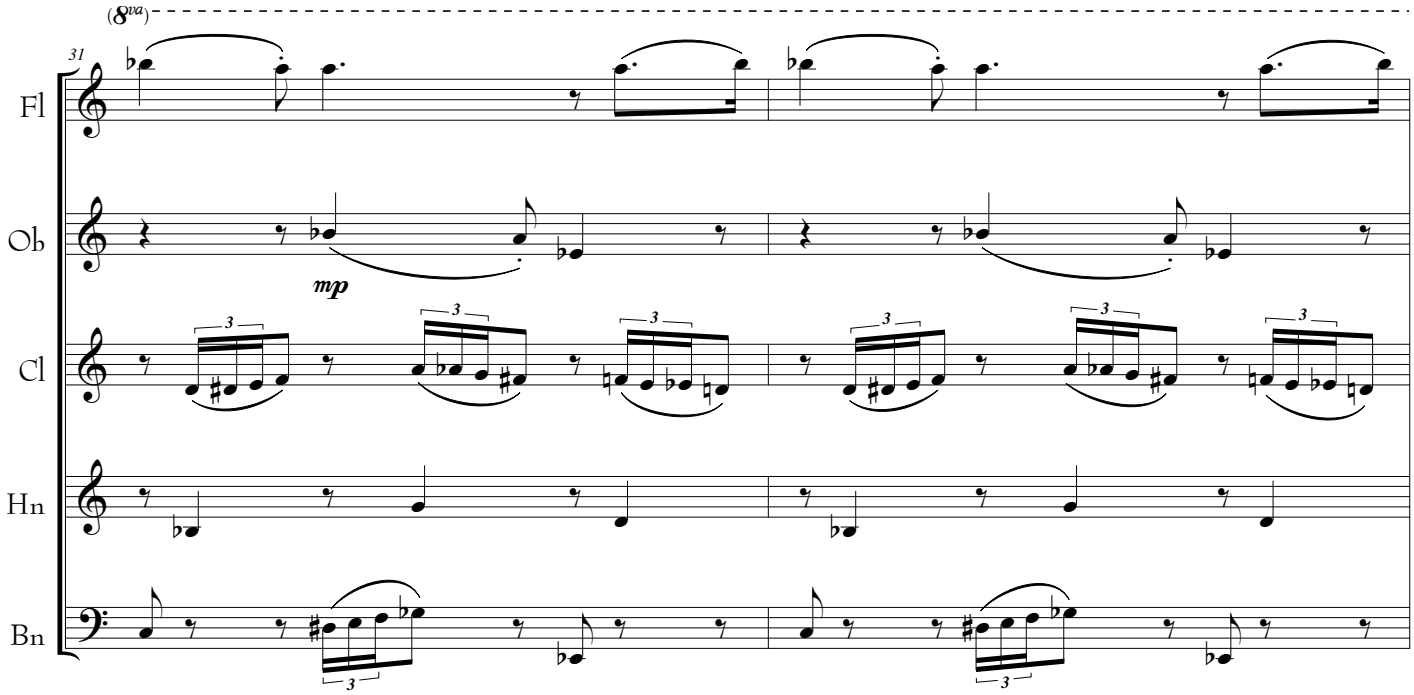
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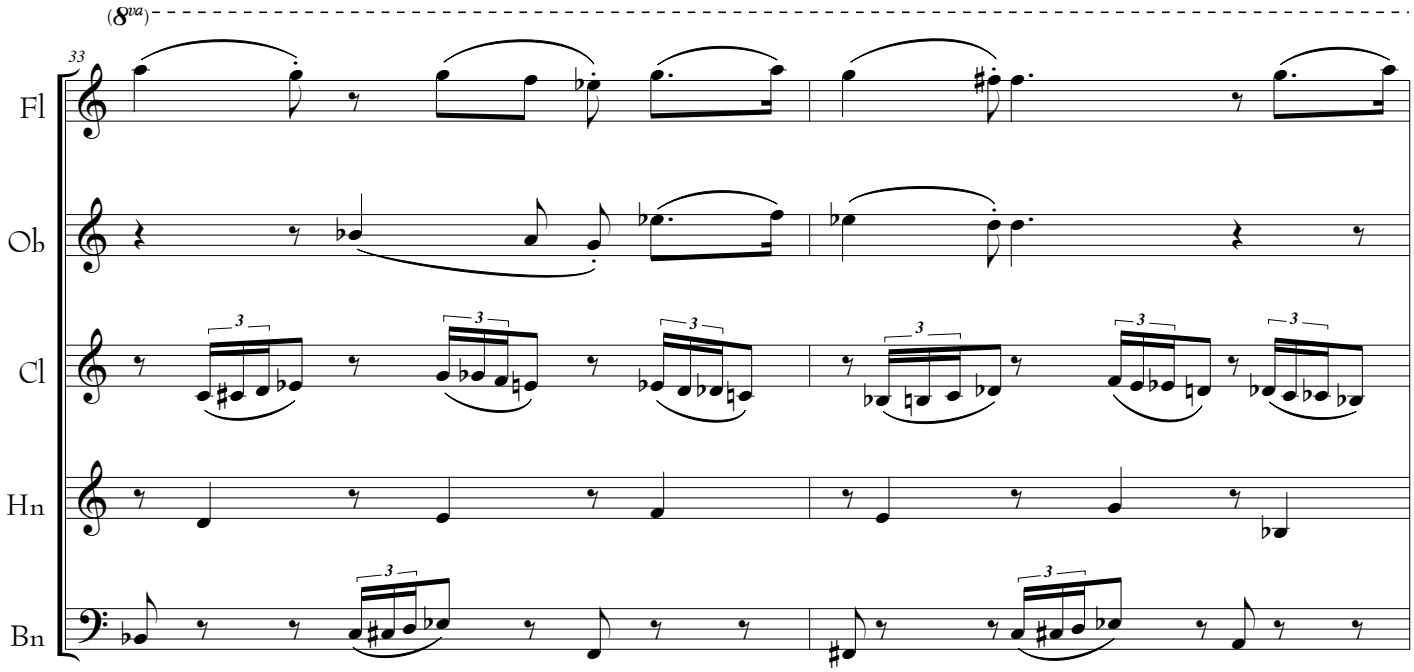
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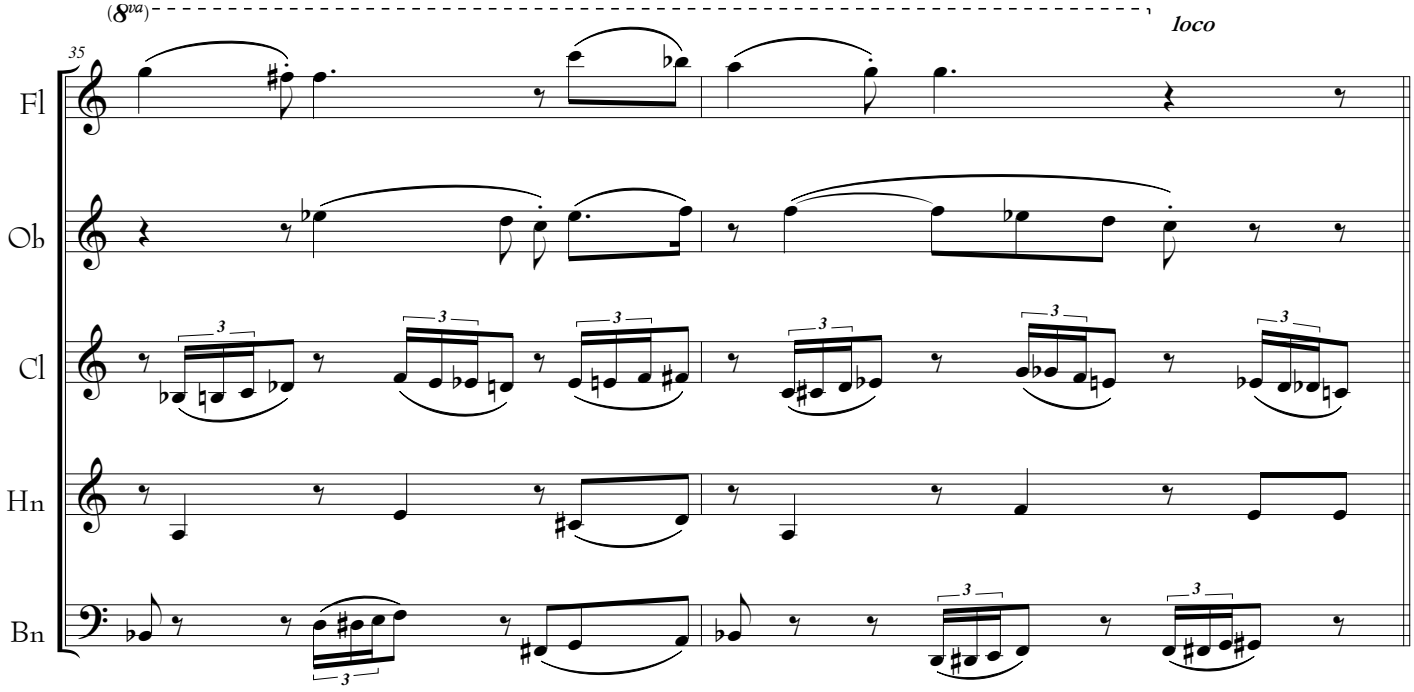
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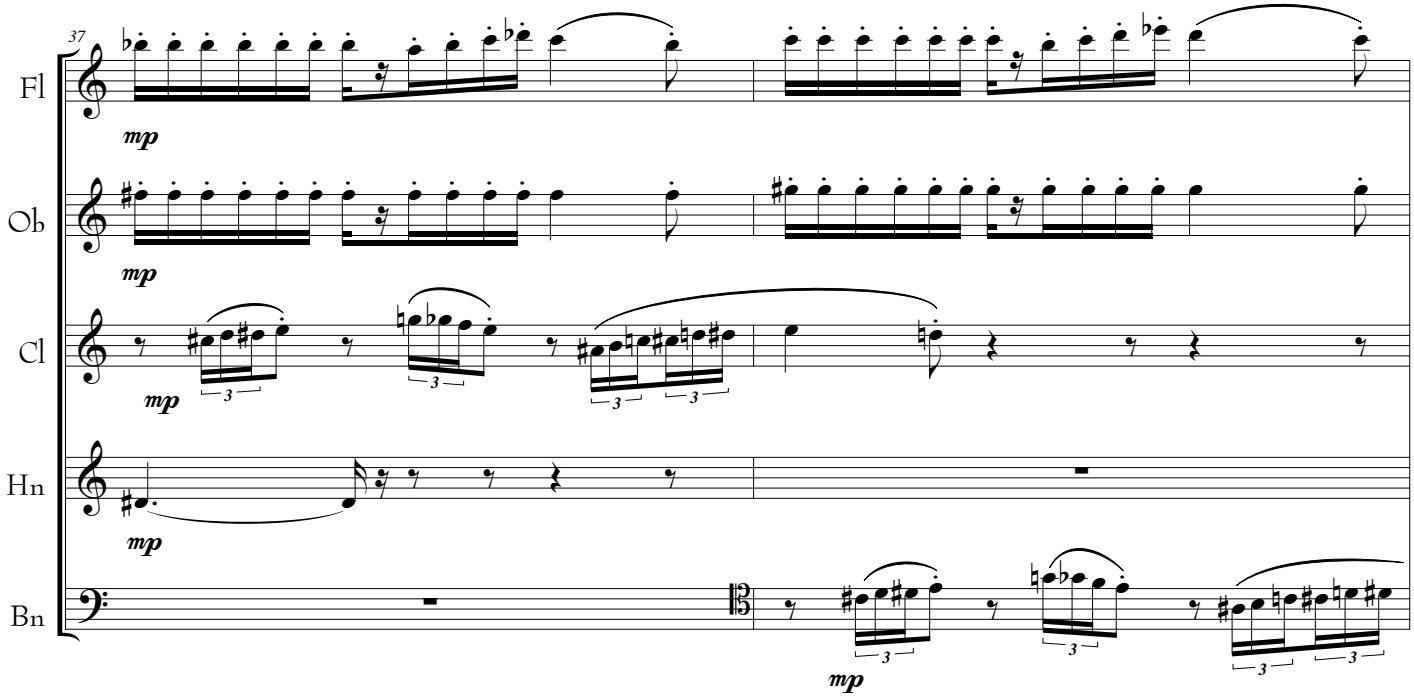
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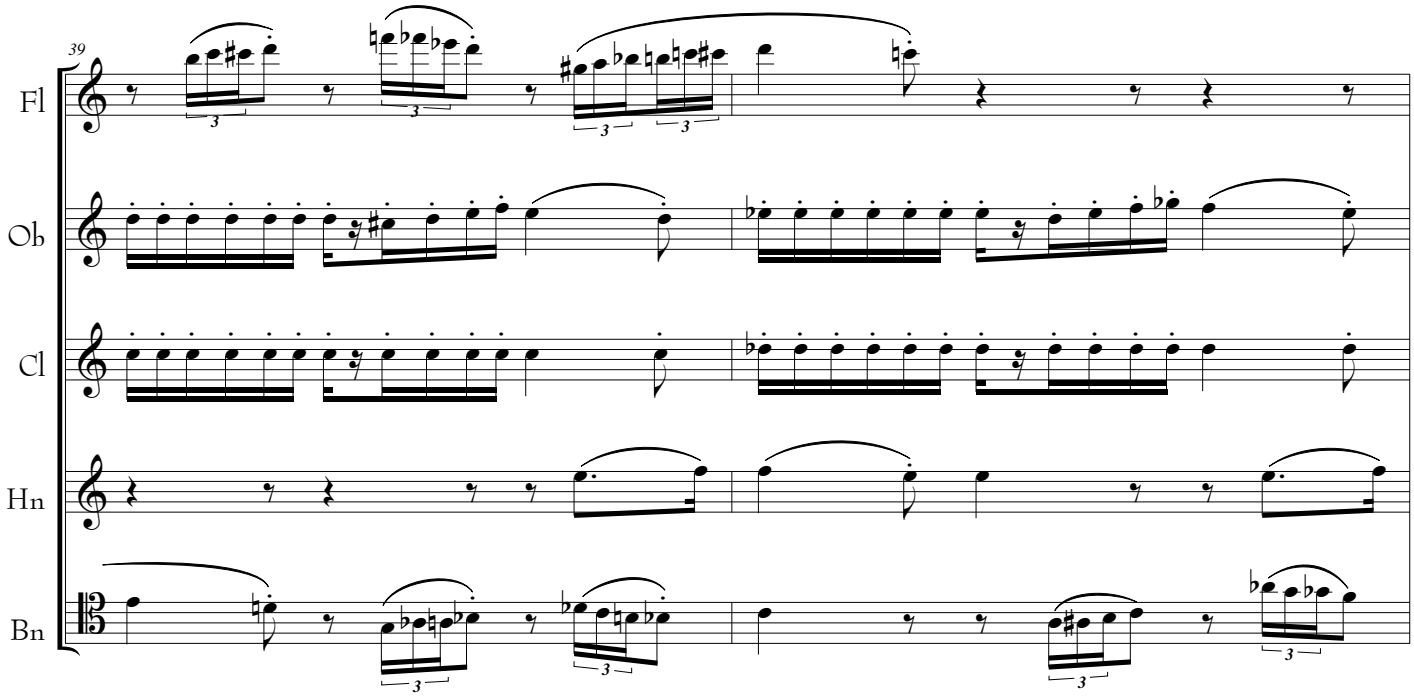
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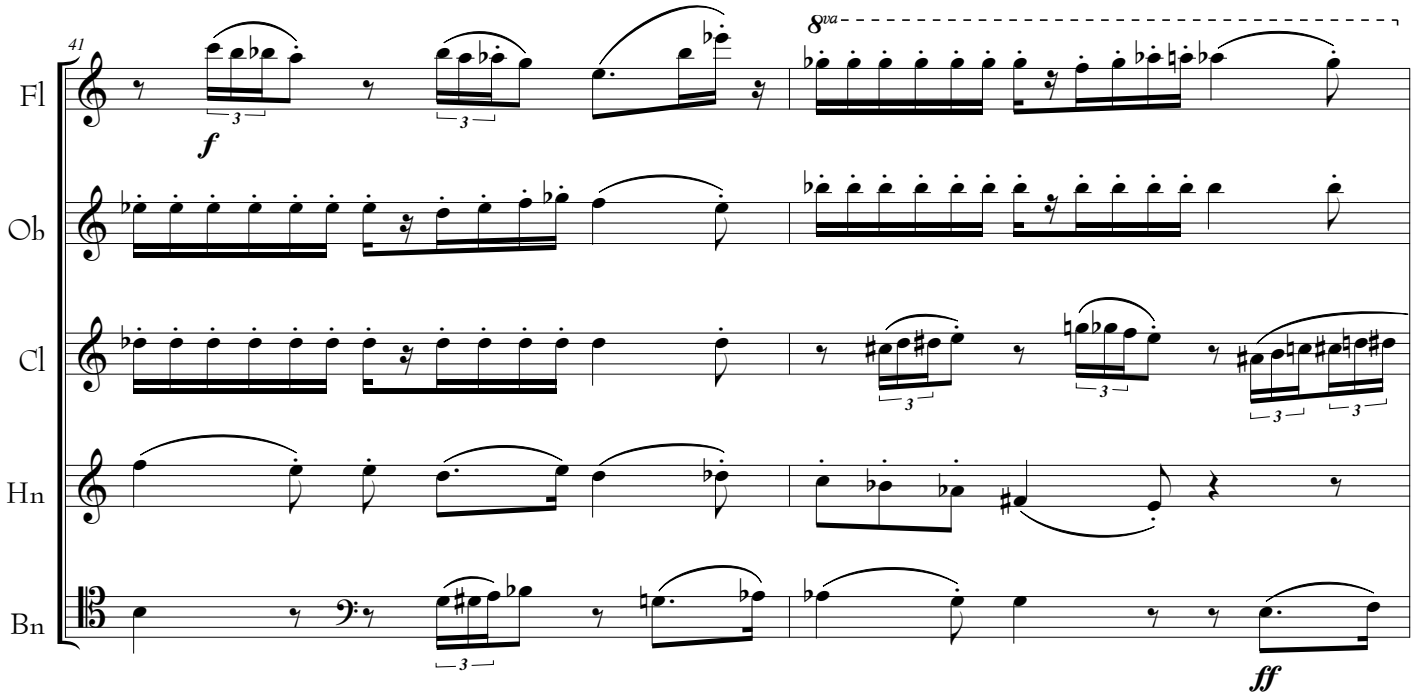
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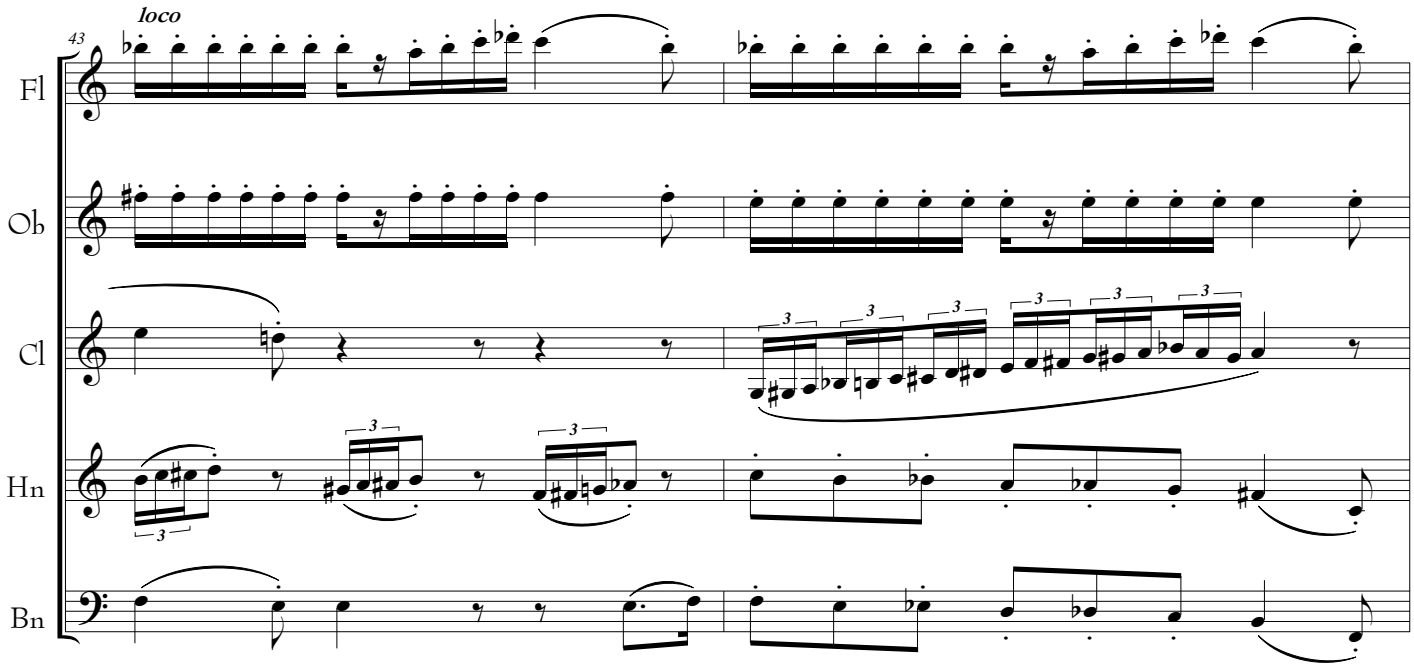
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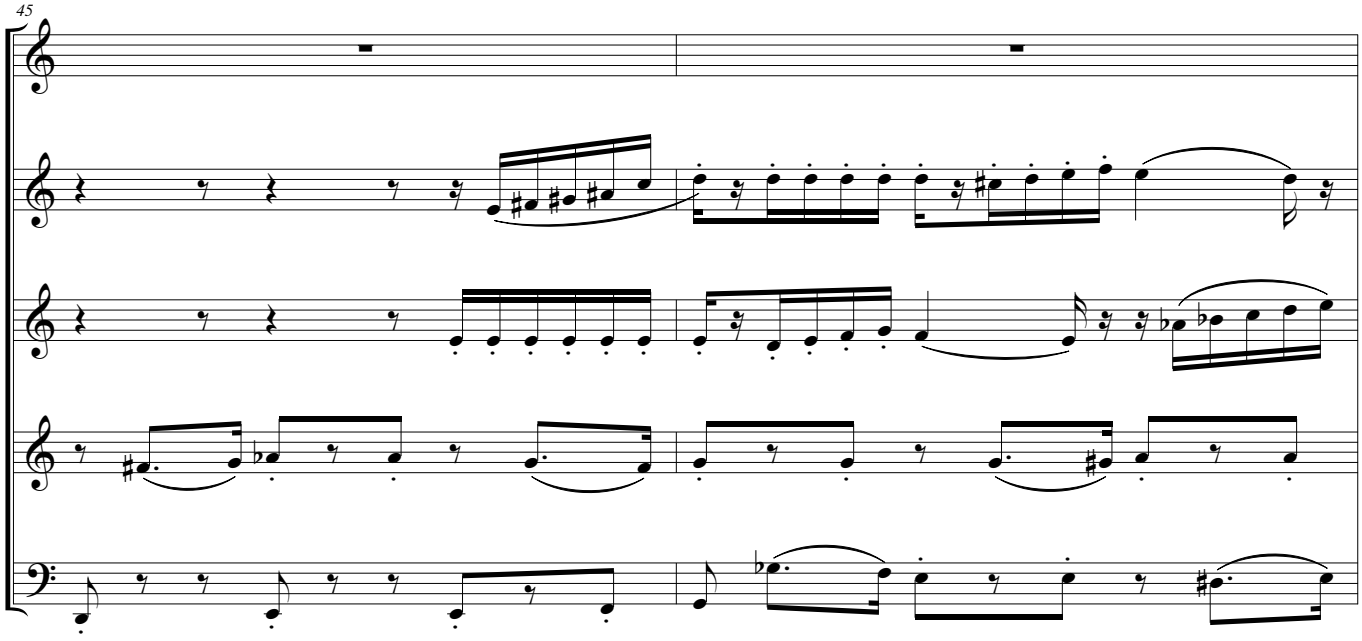
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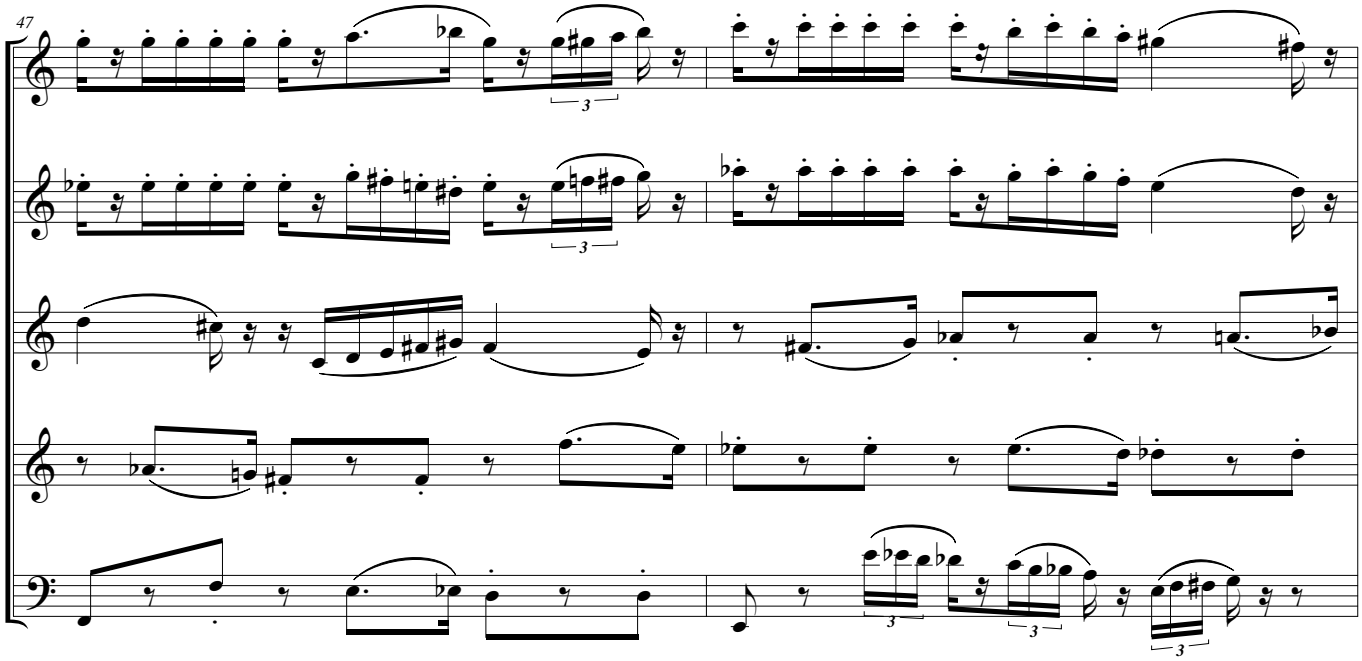
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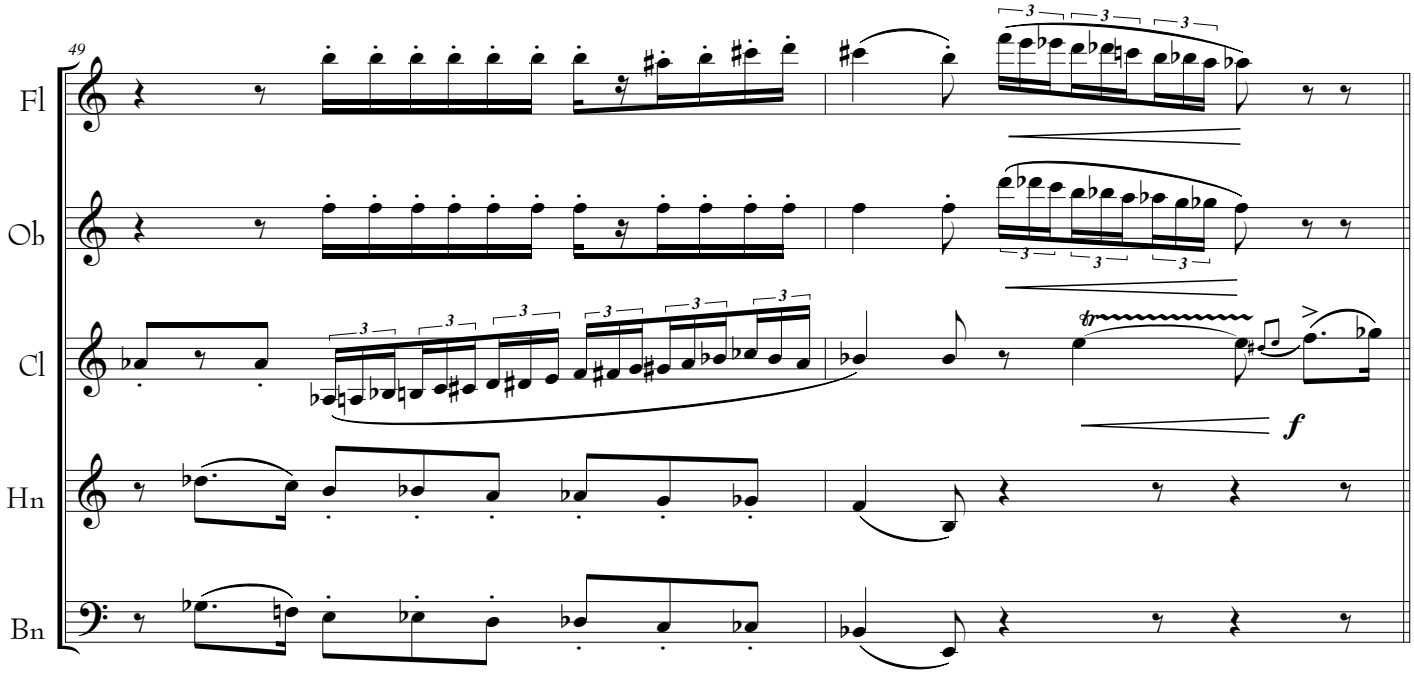
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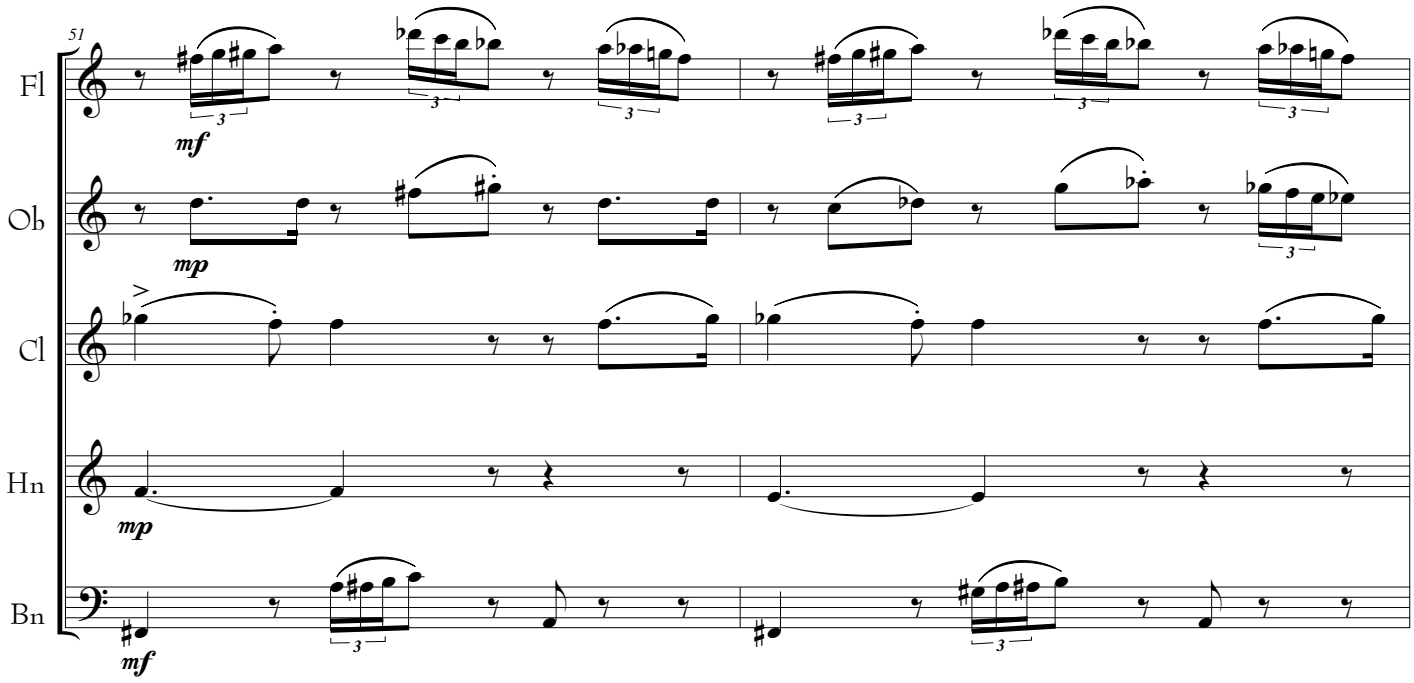
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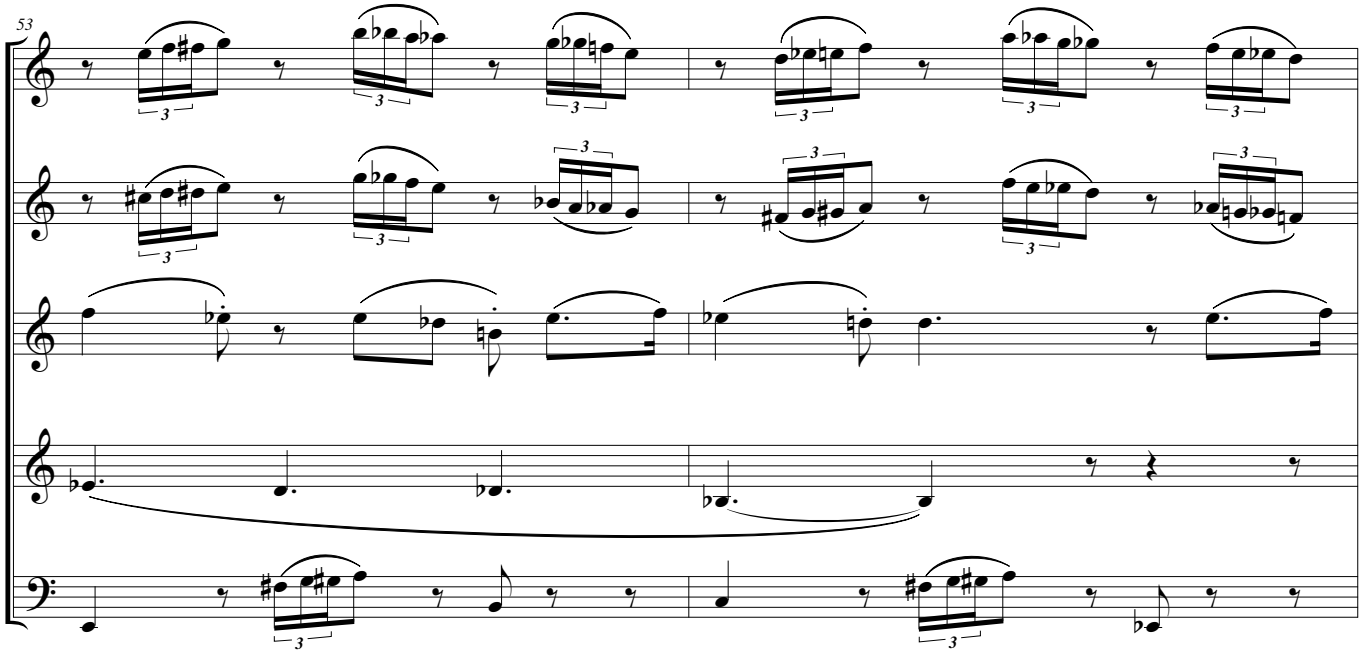
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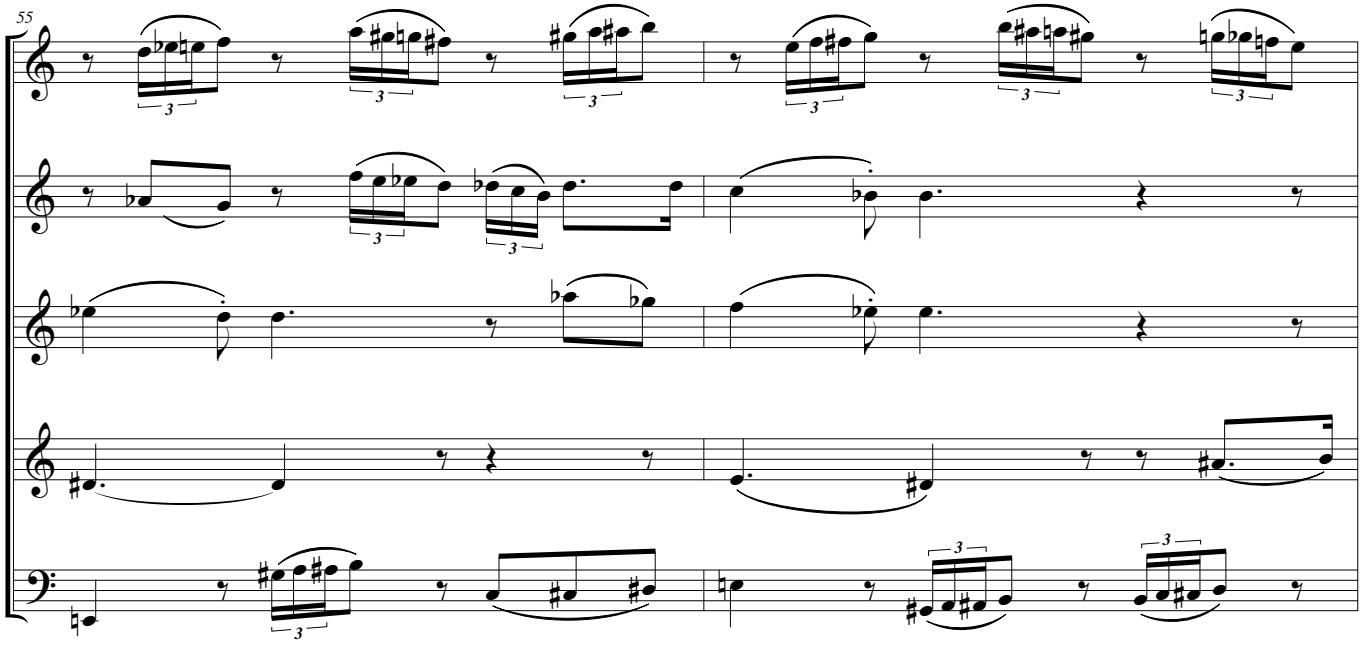
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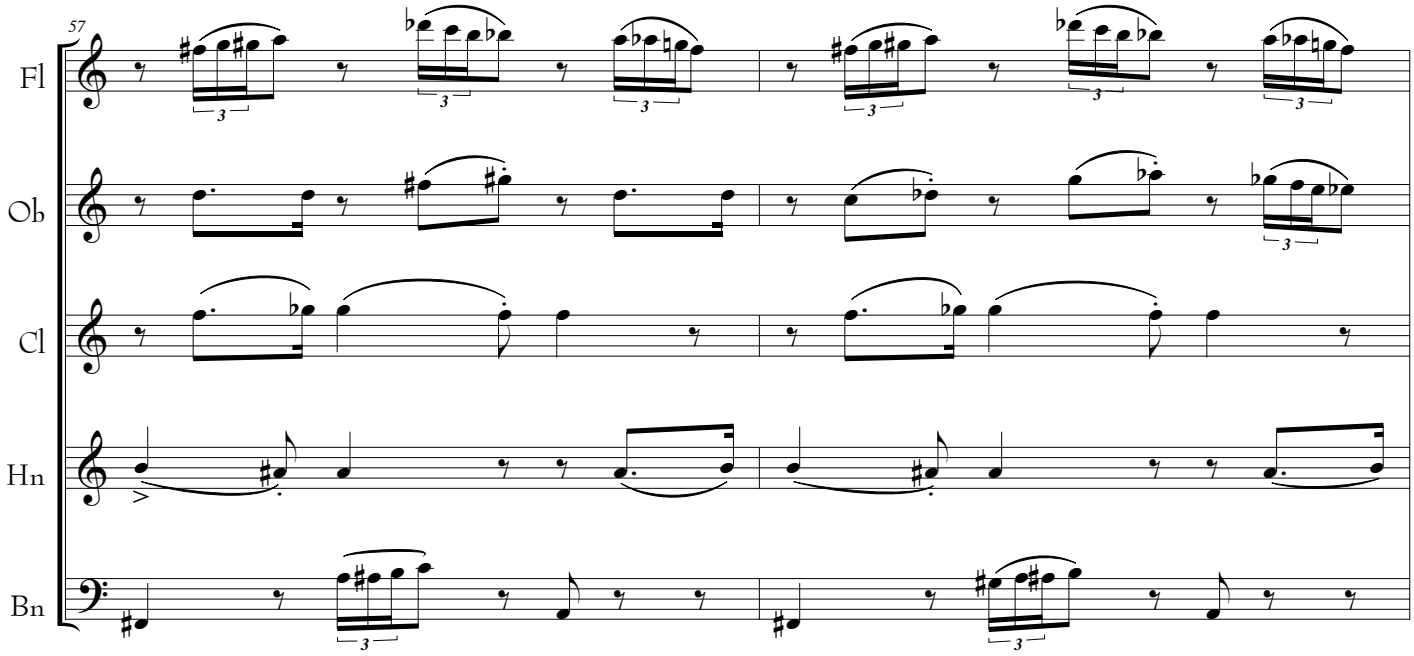
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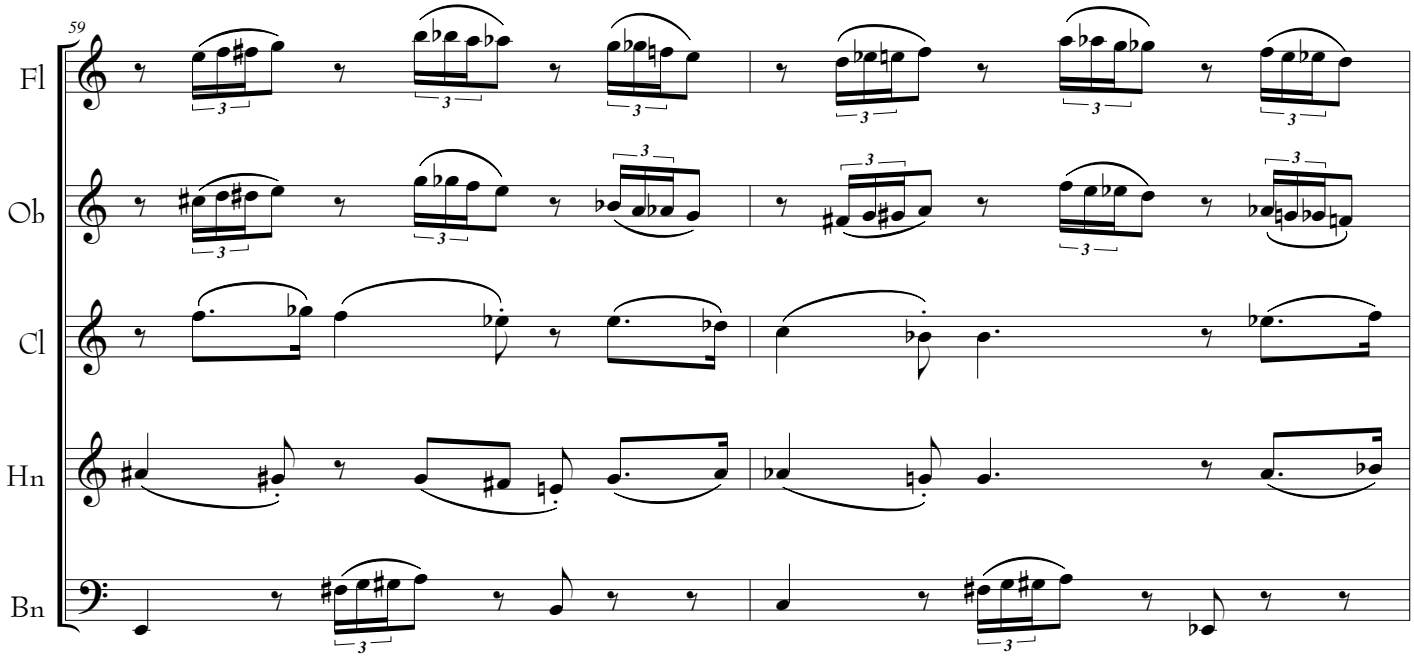
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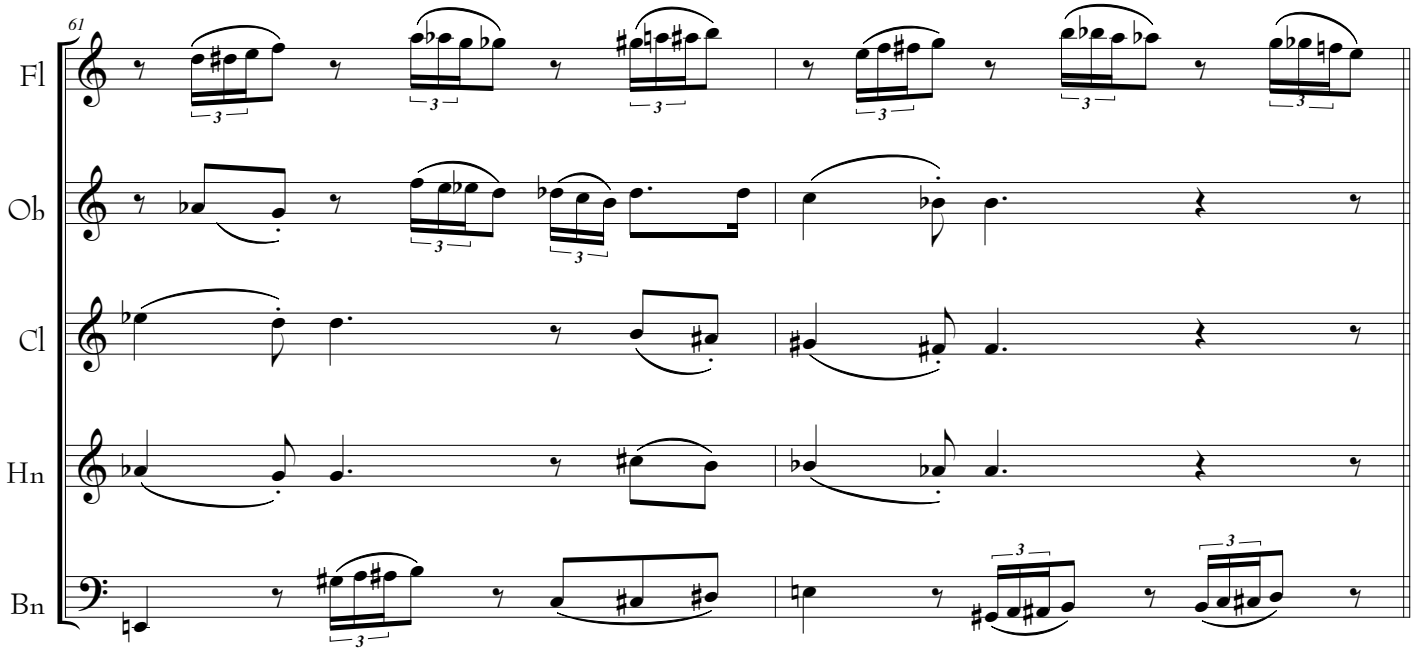
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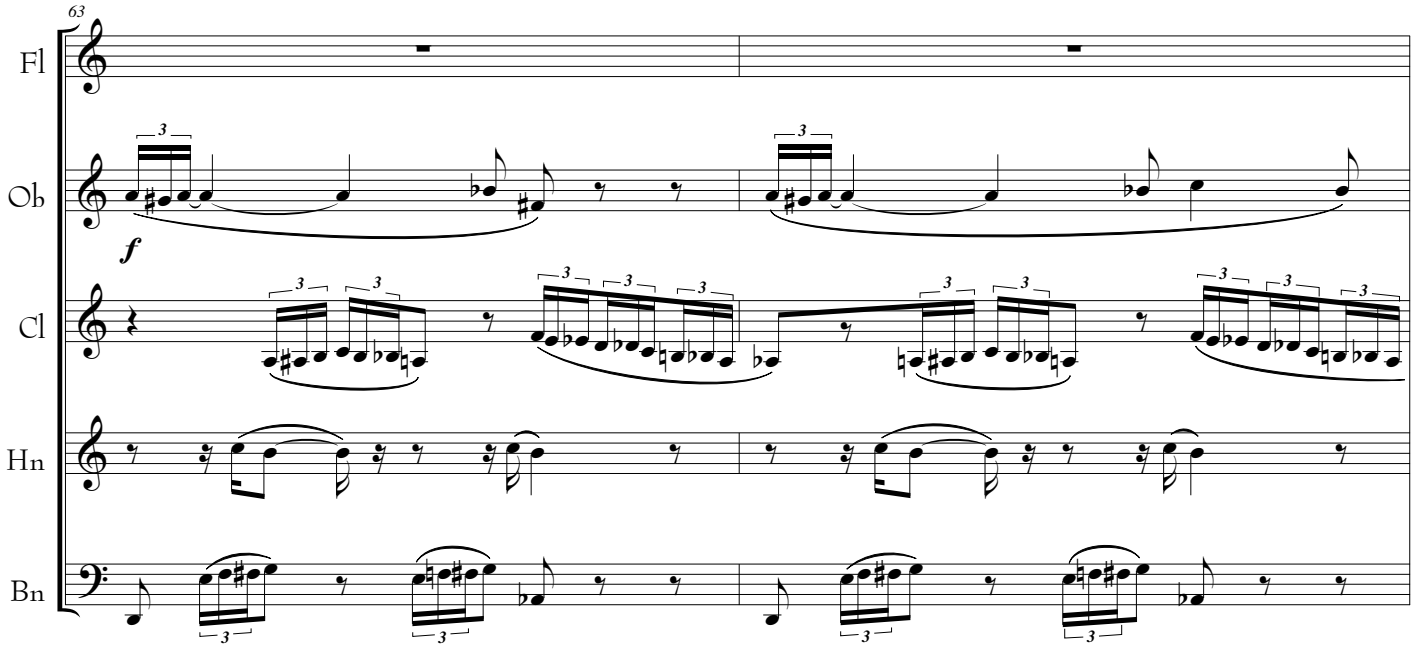
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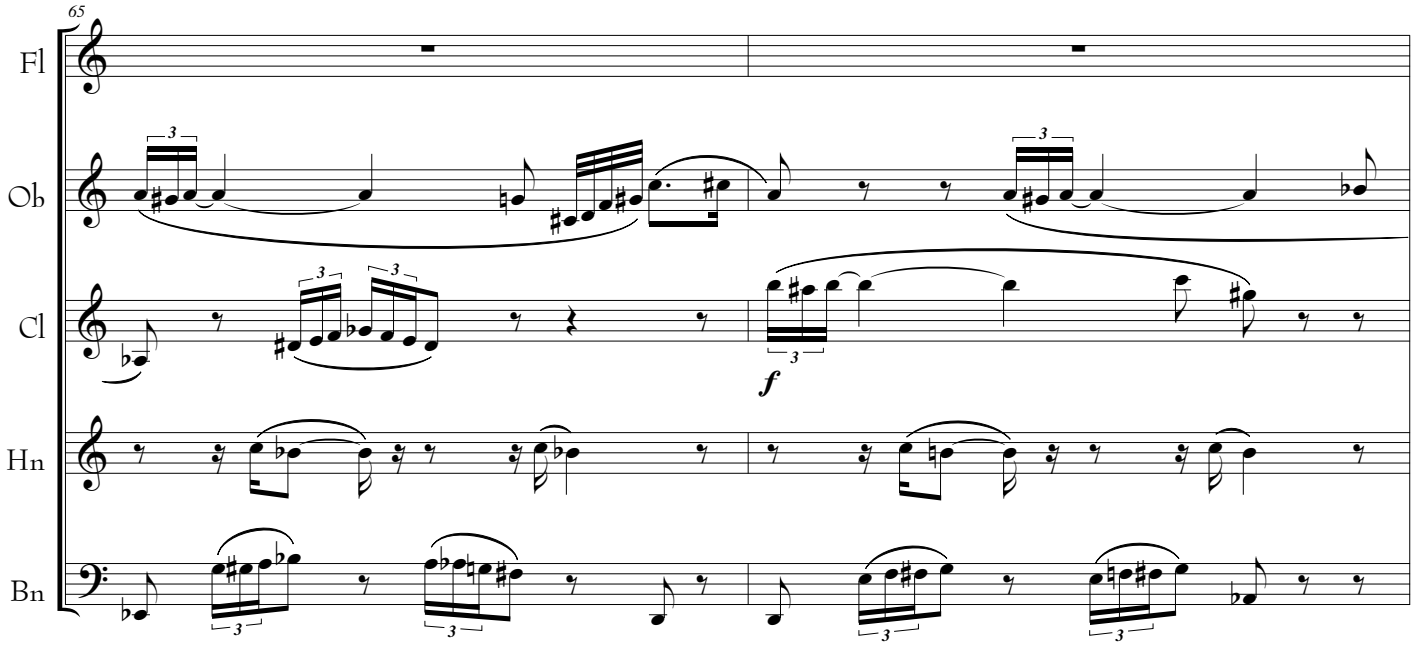
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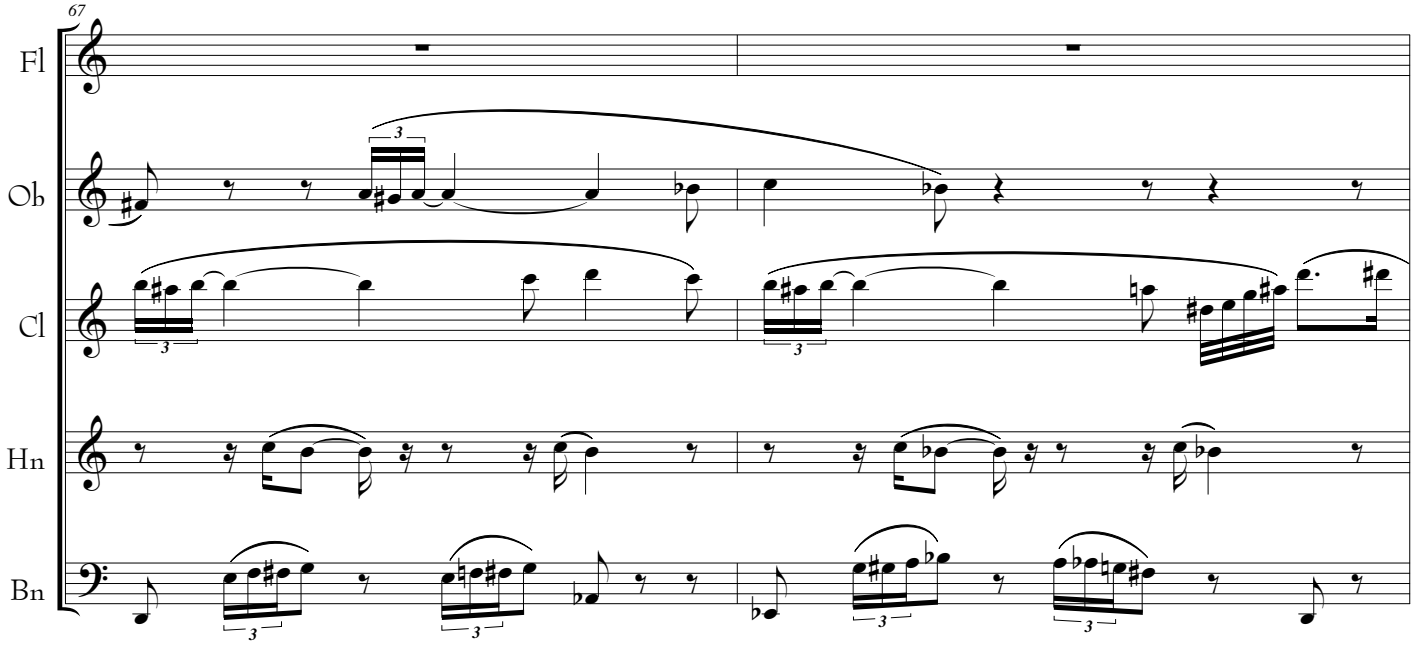
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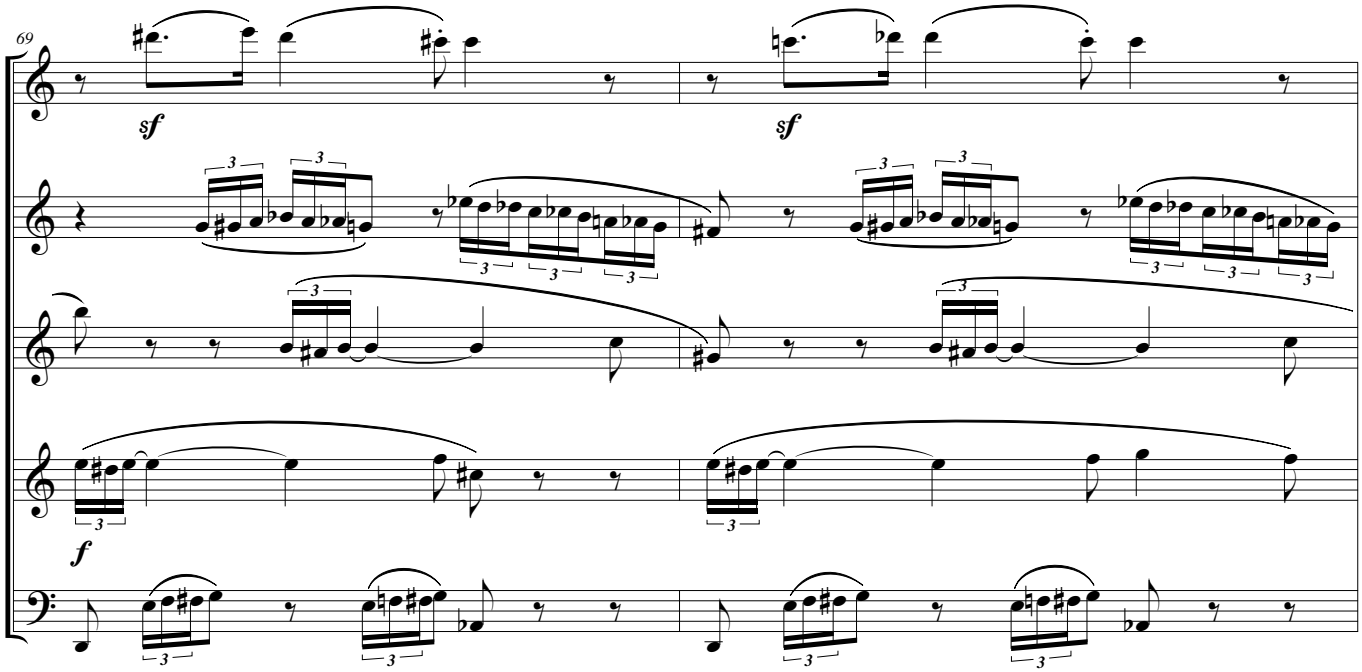
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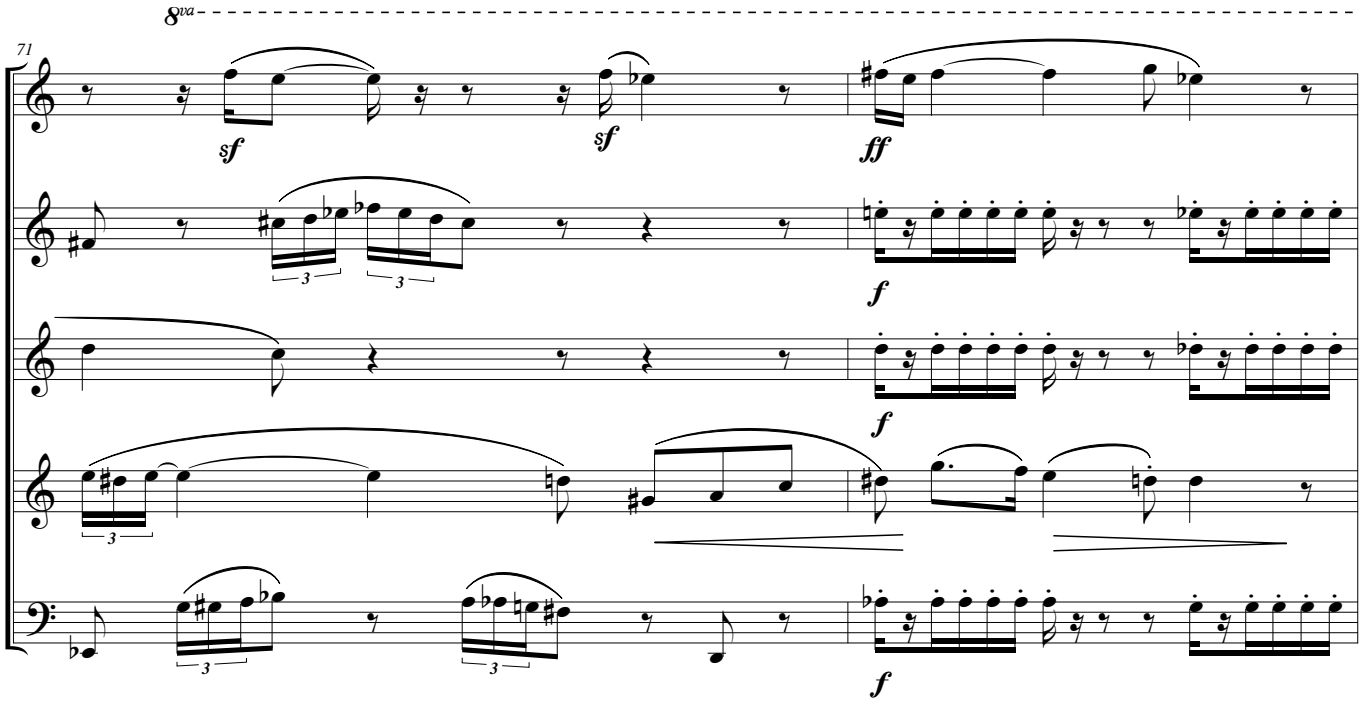
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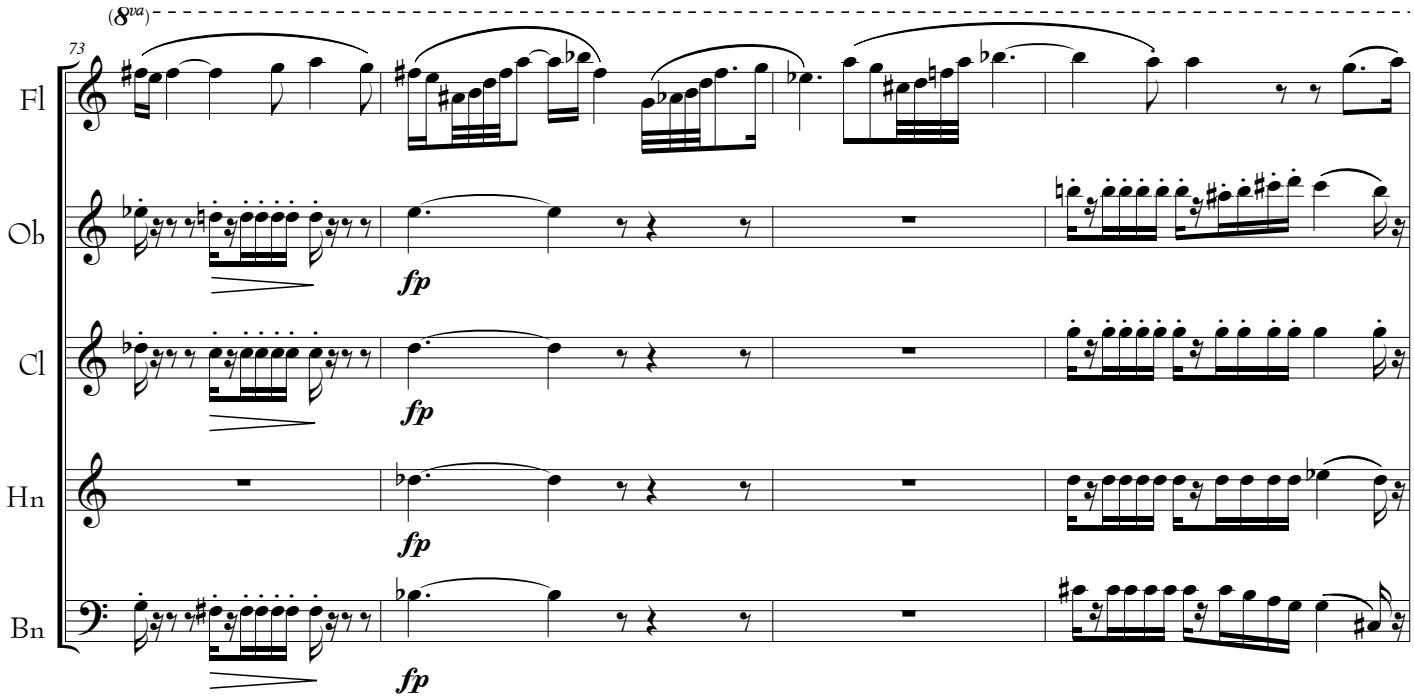
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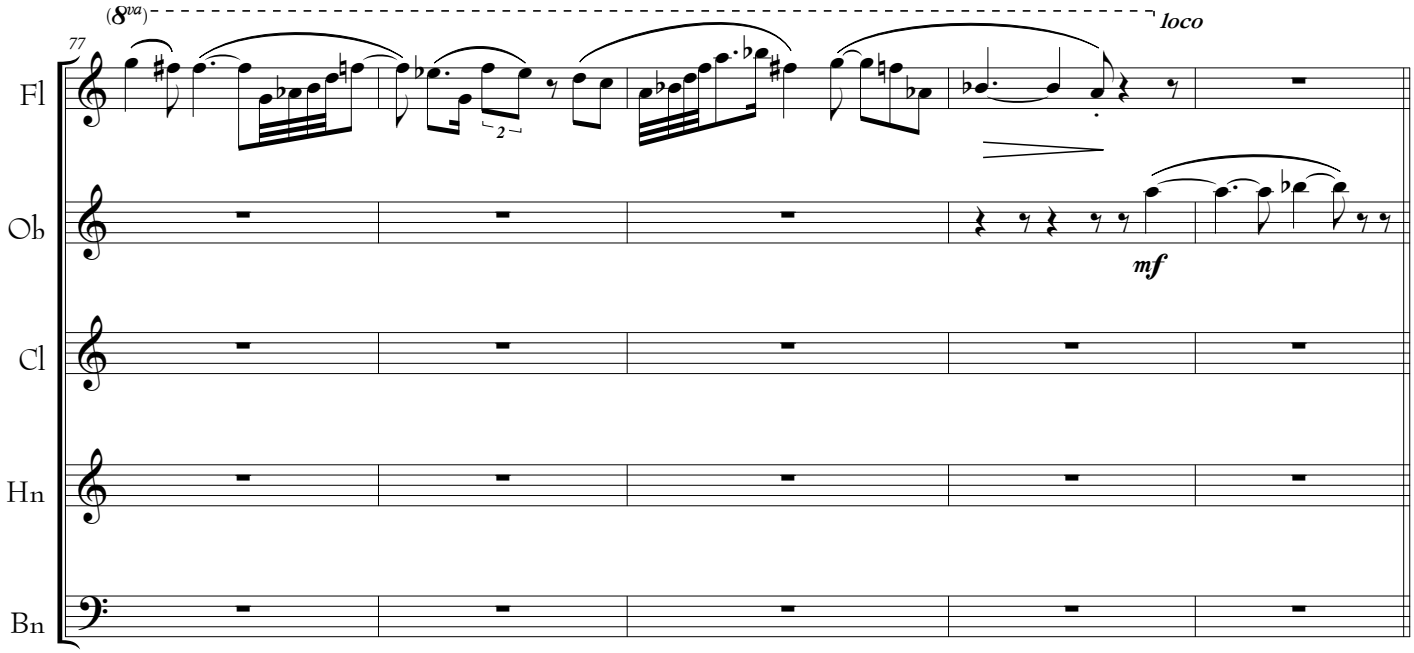
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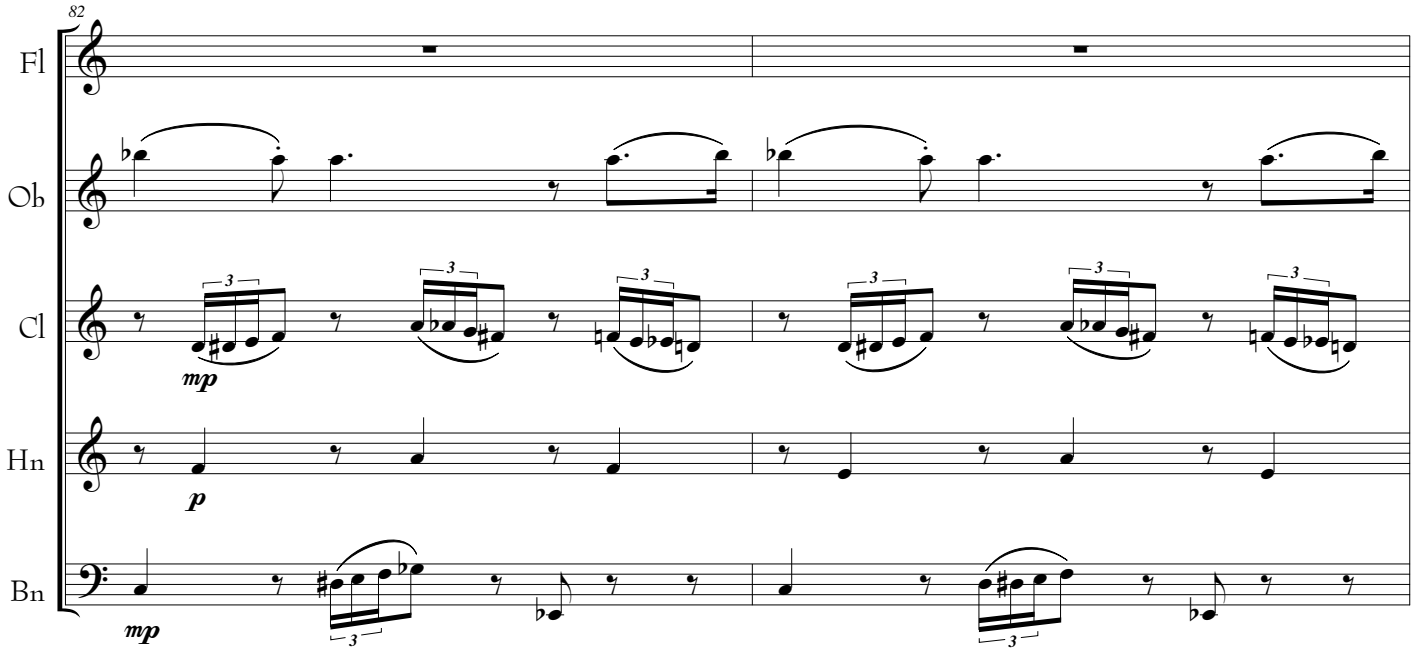
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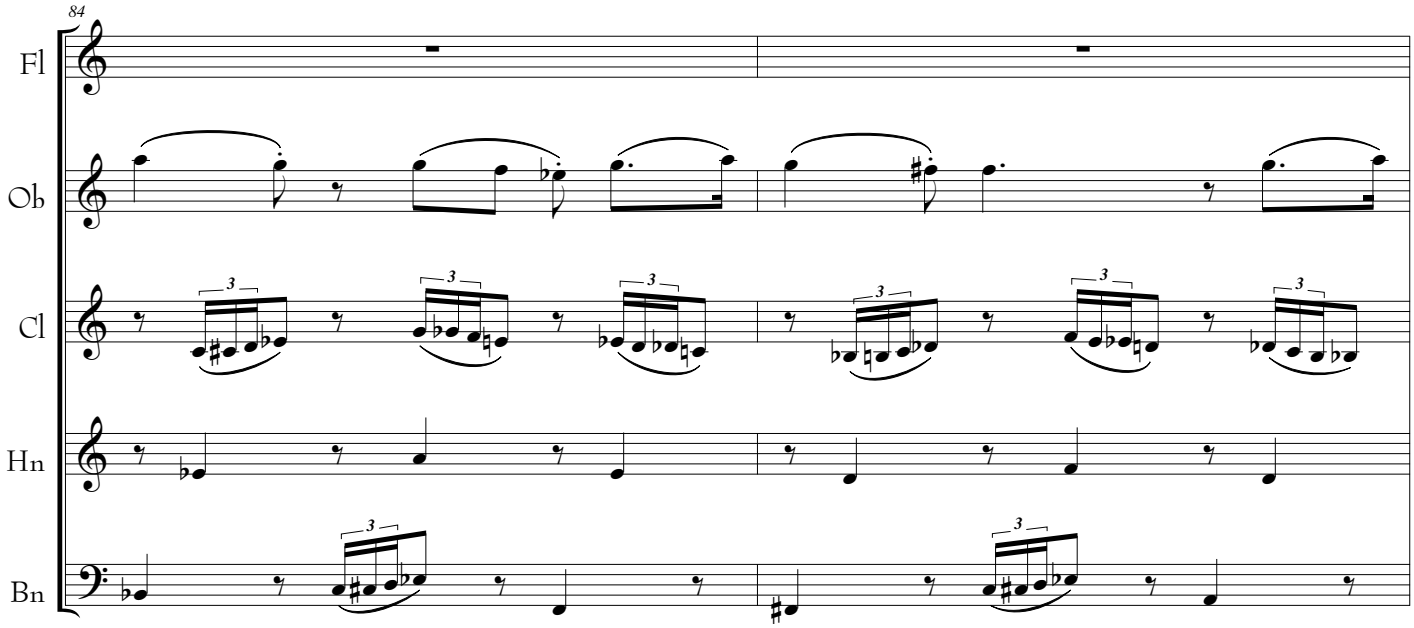
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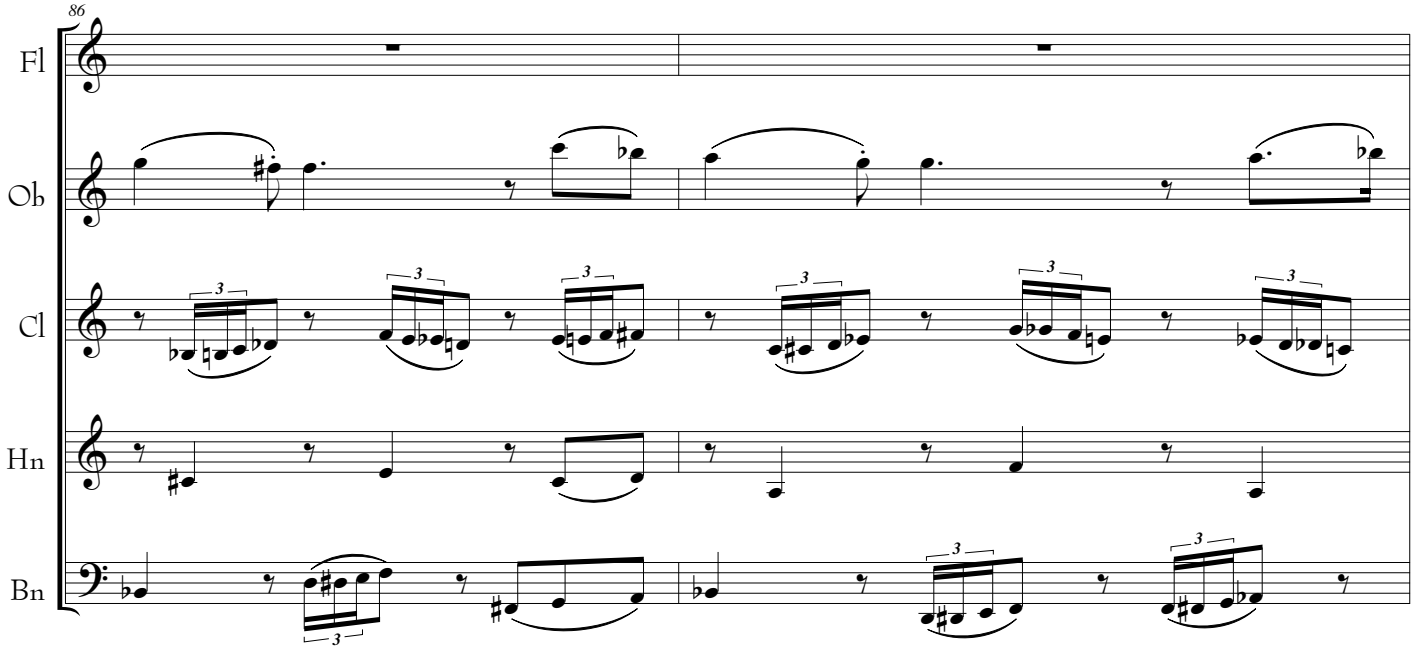
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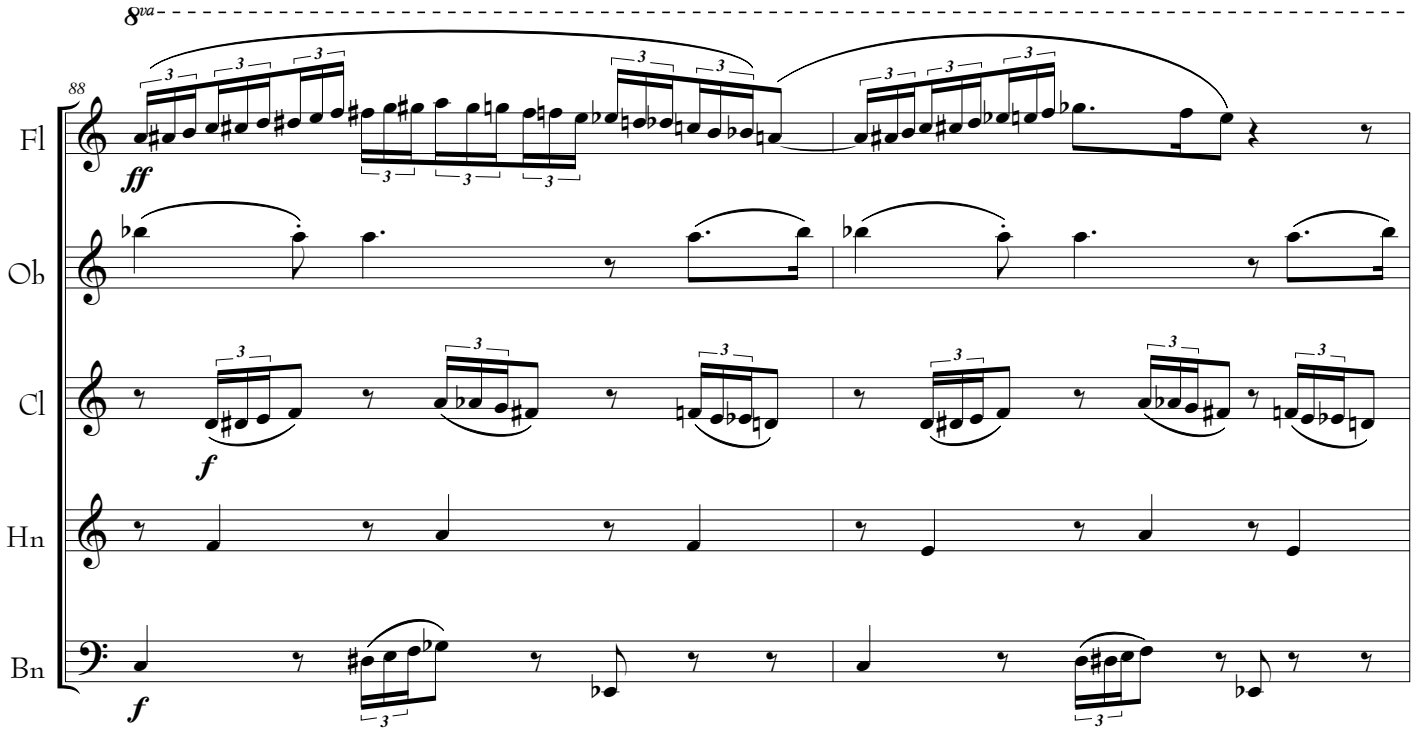
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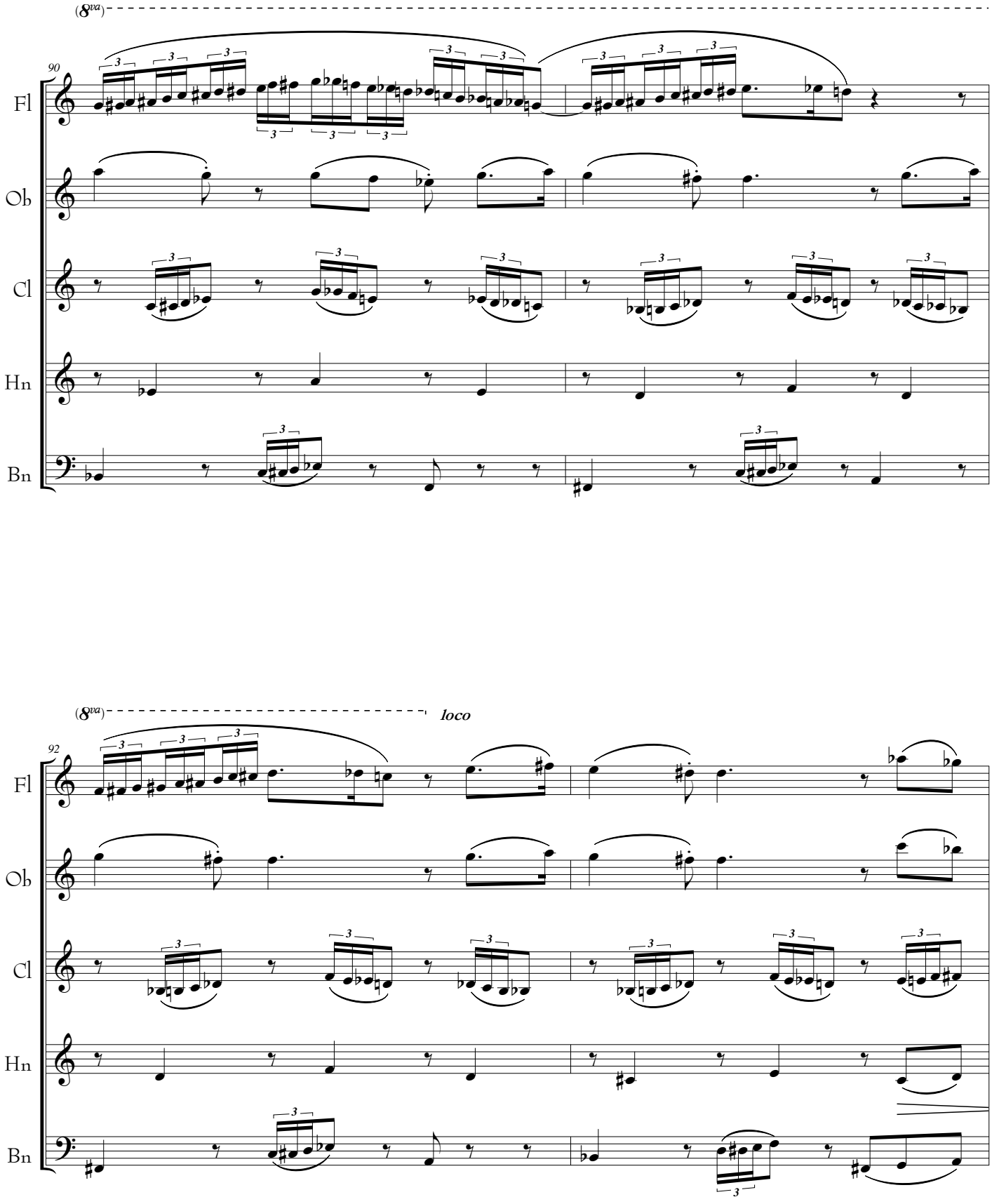
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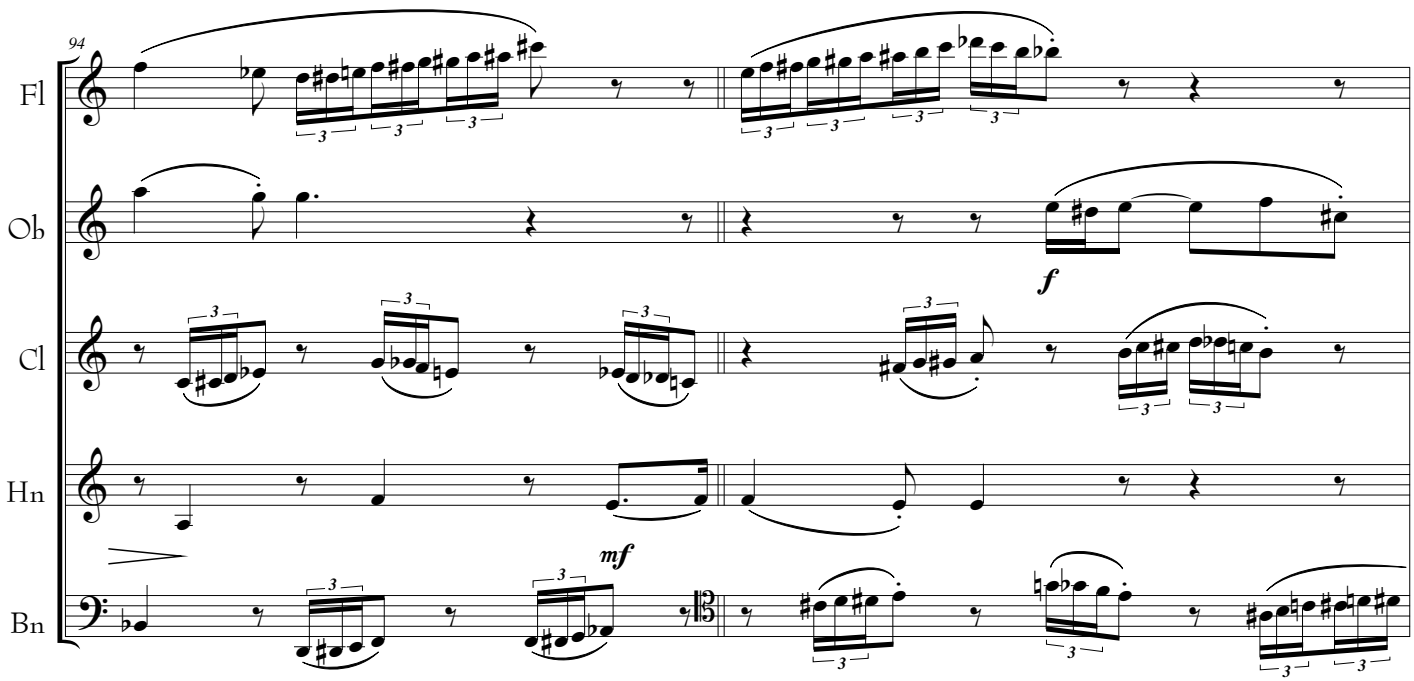
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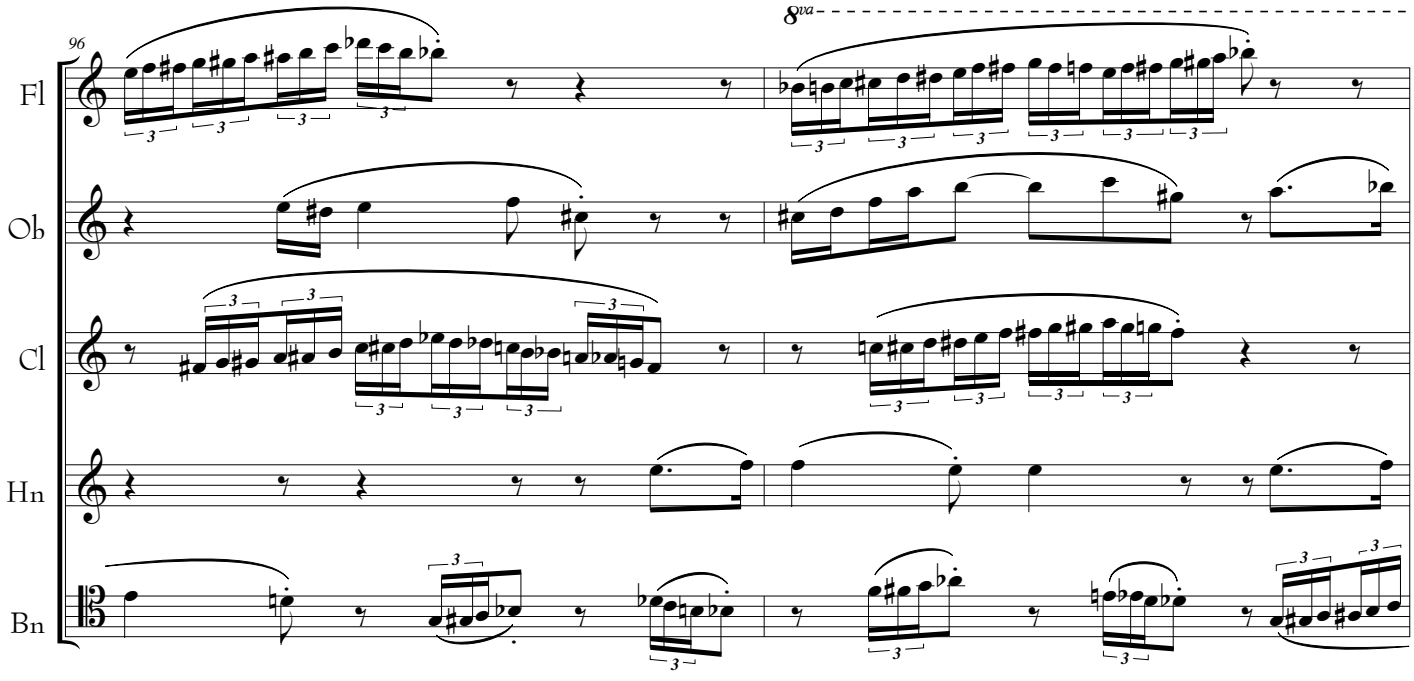
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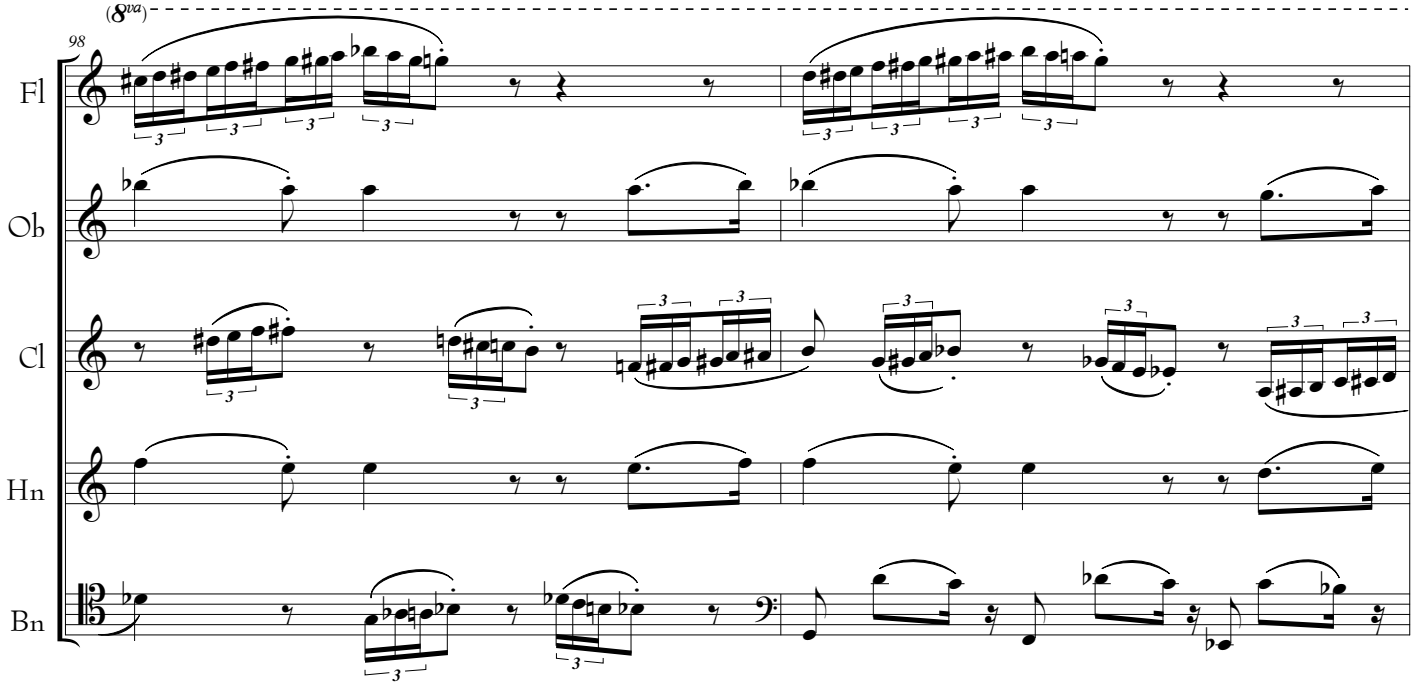
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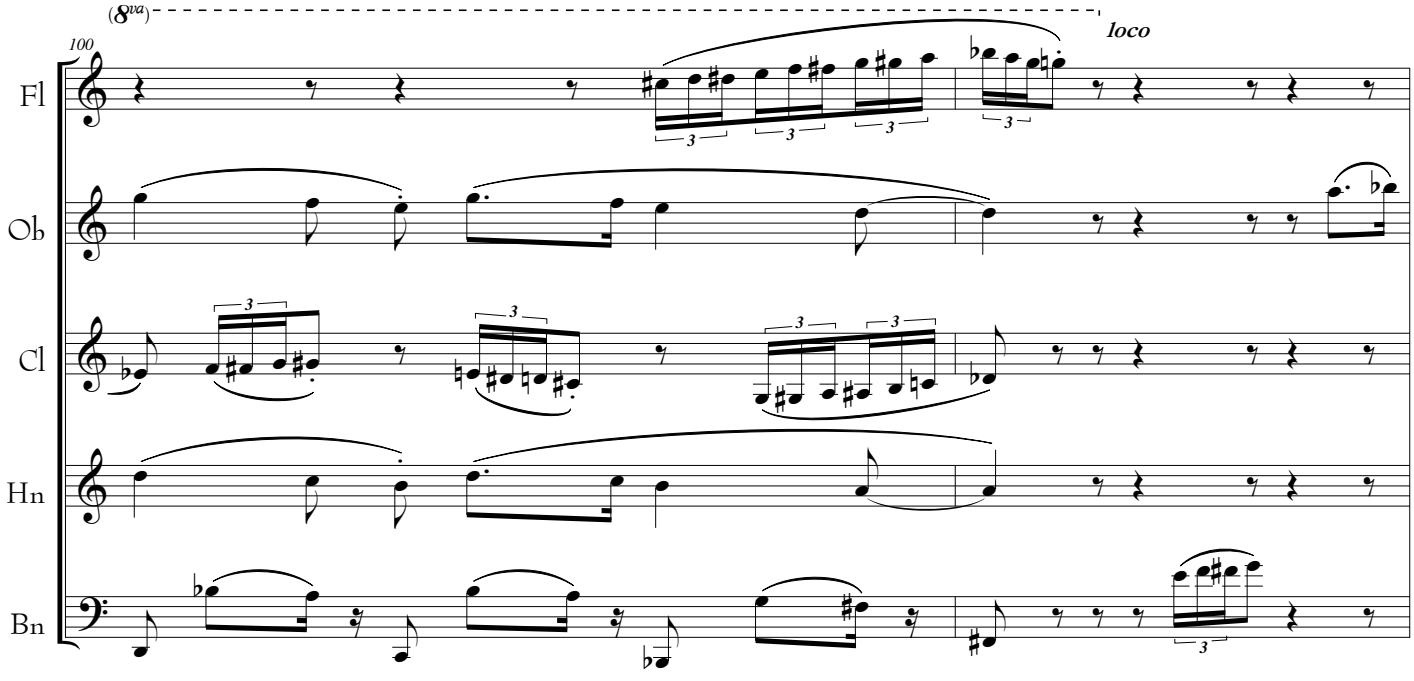
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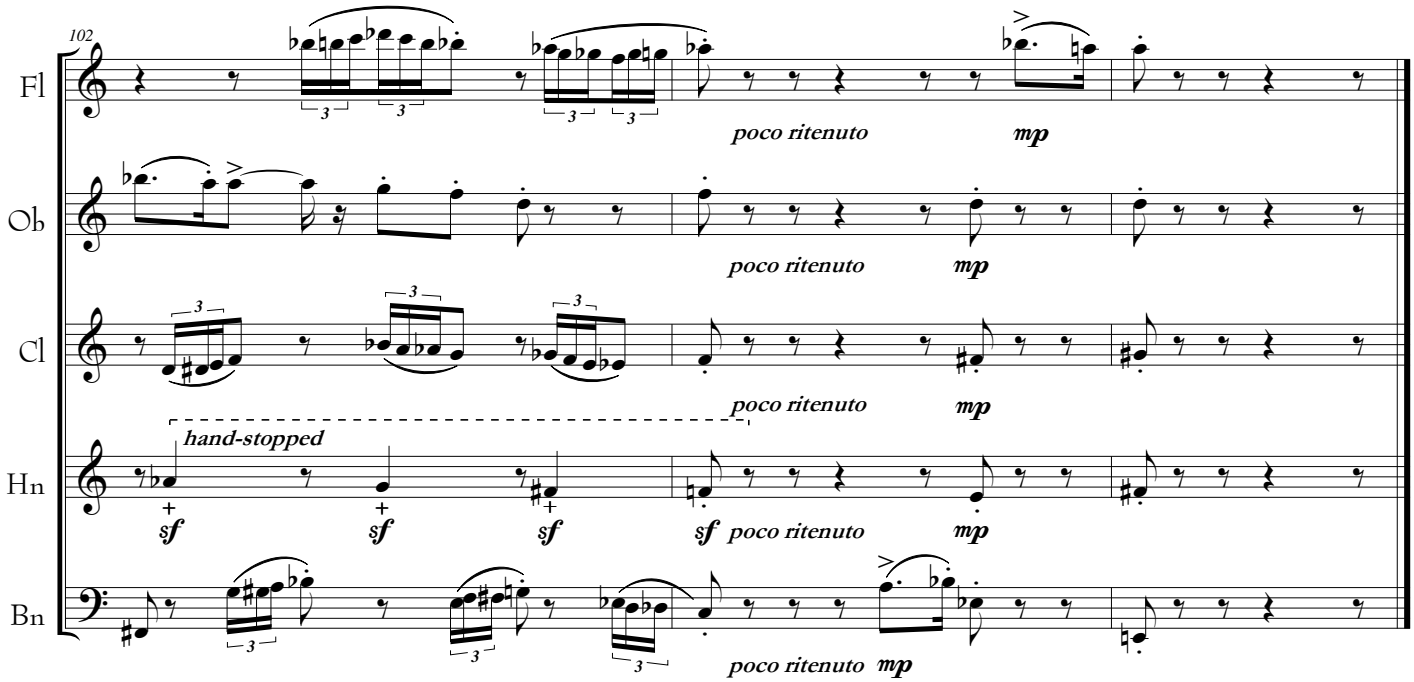
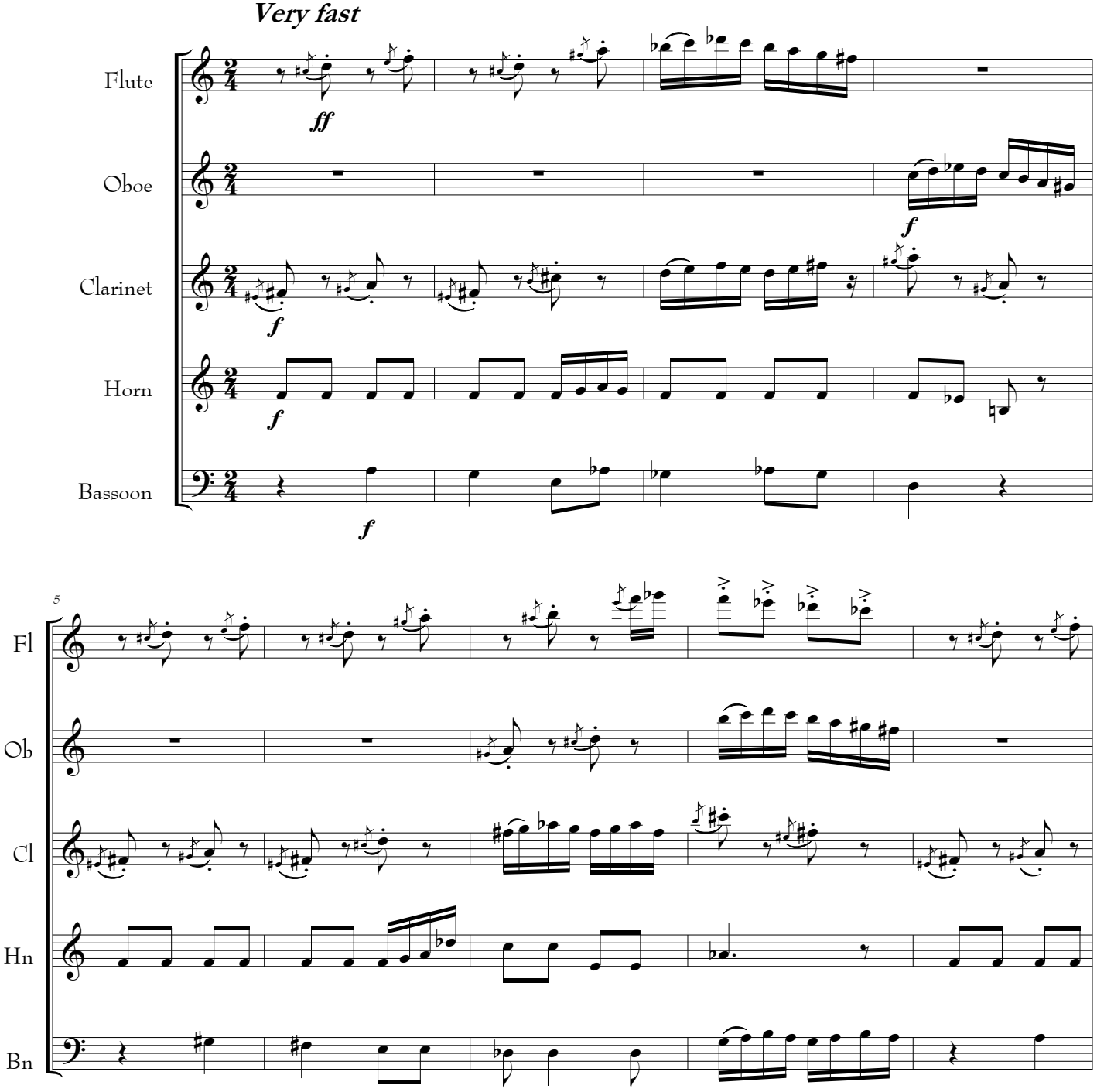
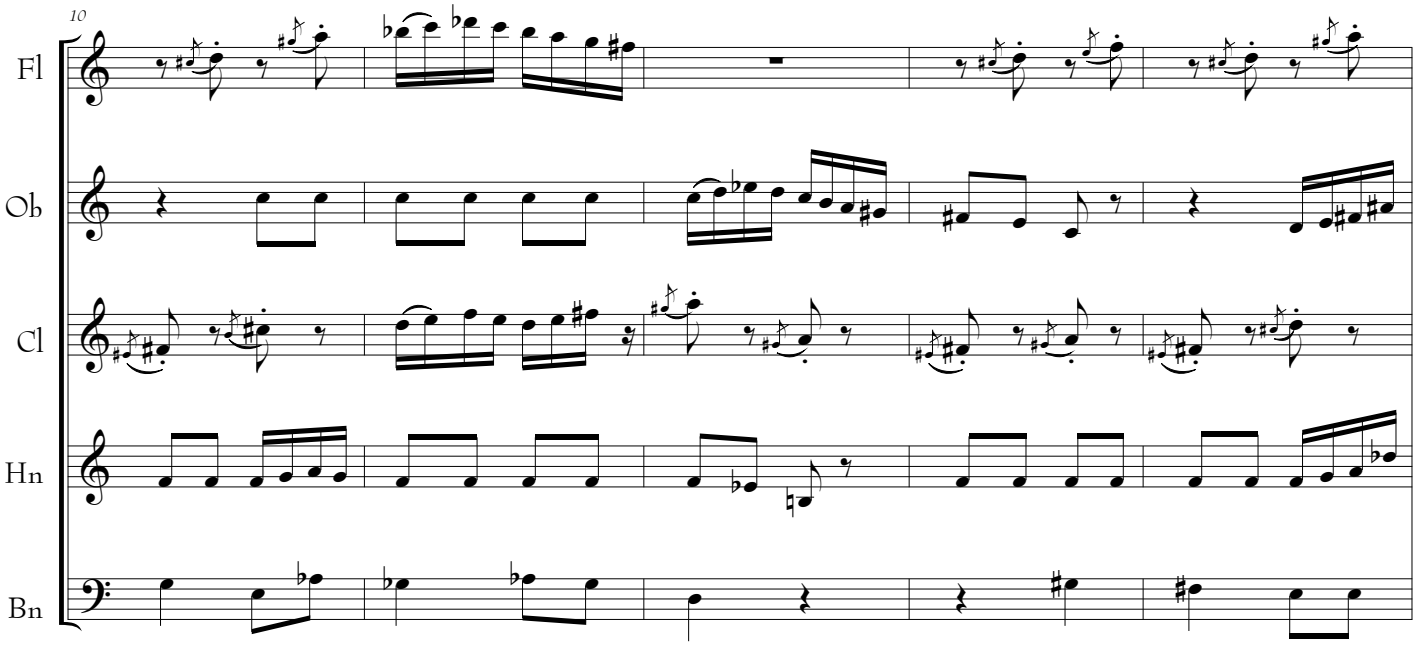
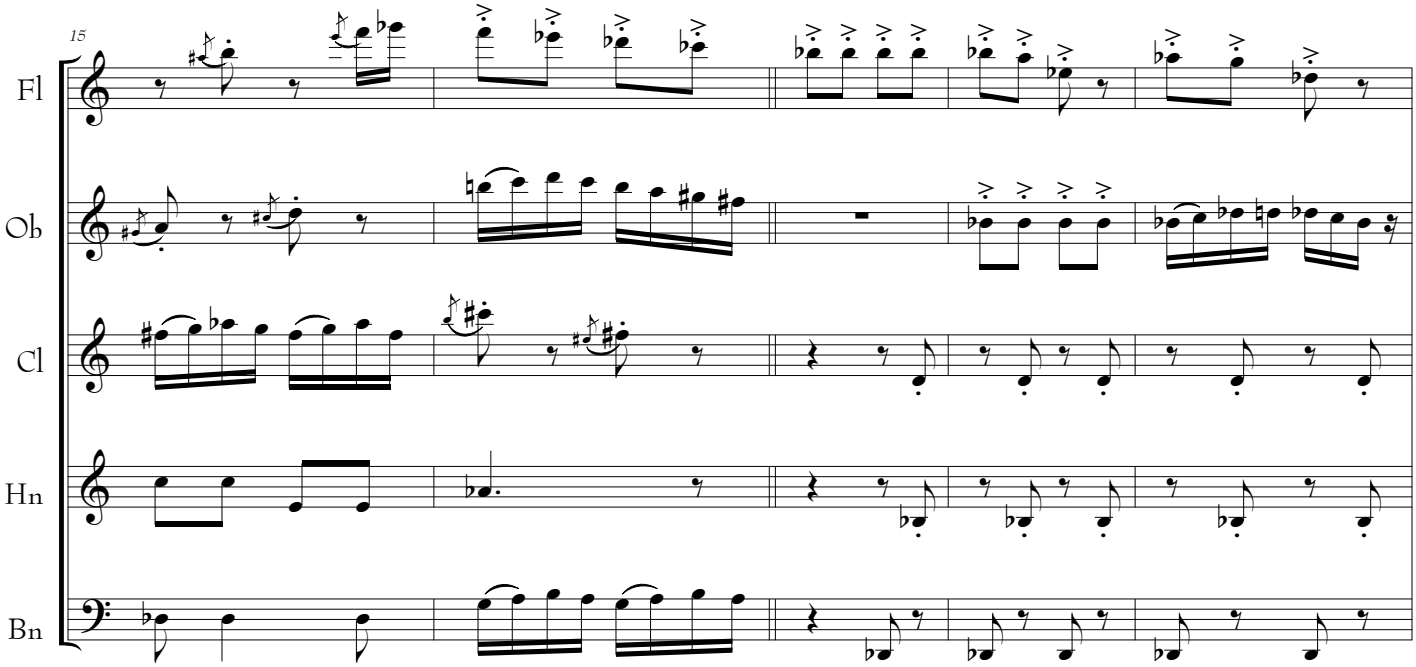

102
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
hand-stopped
poco ritenuto
mp
sf

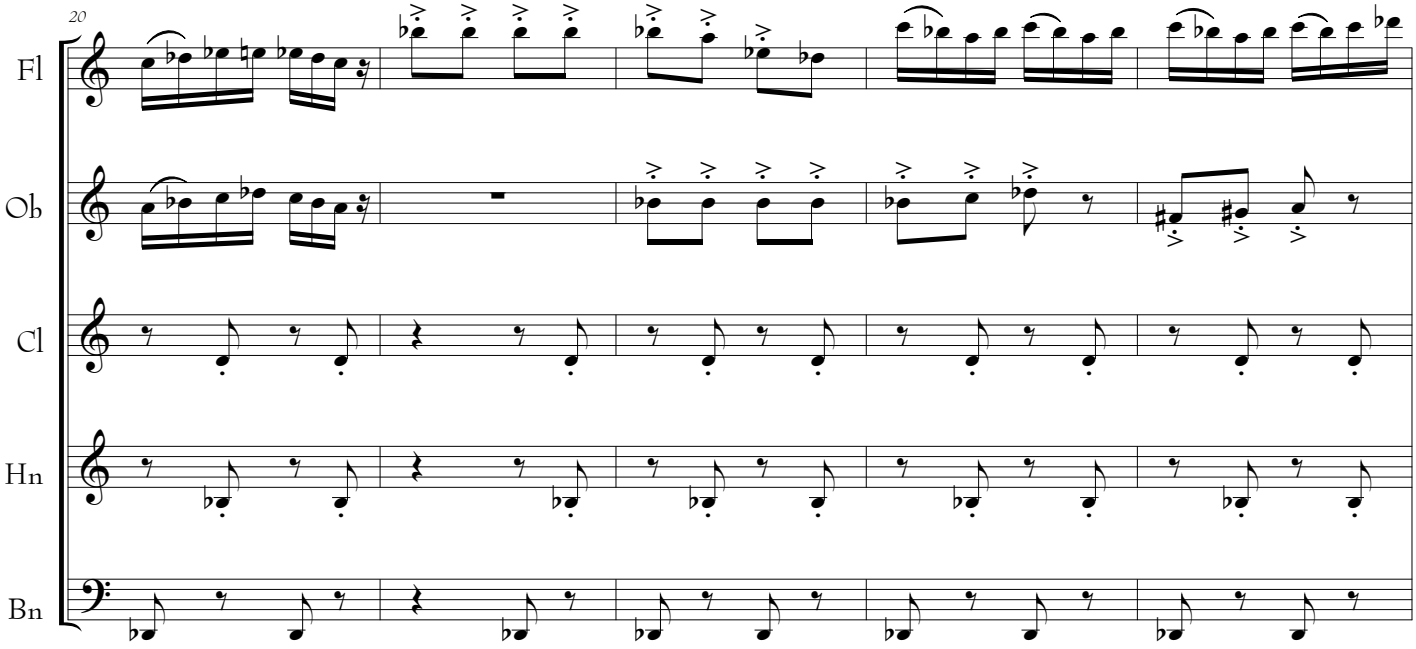
III

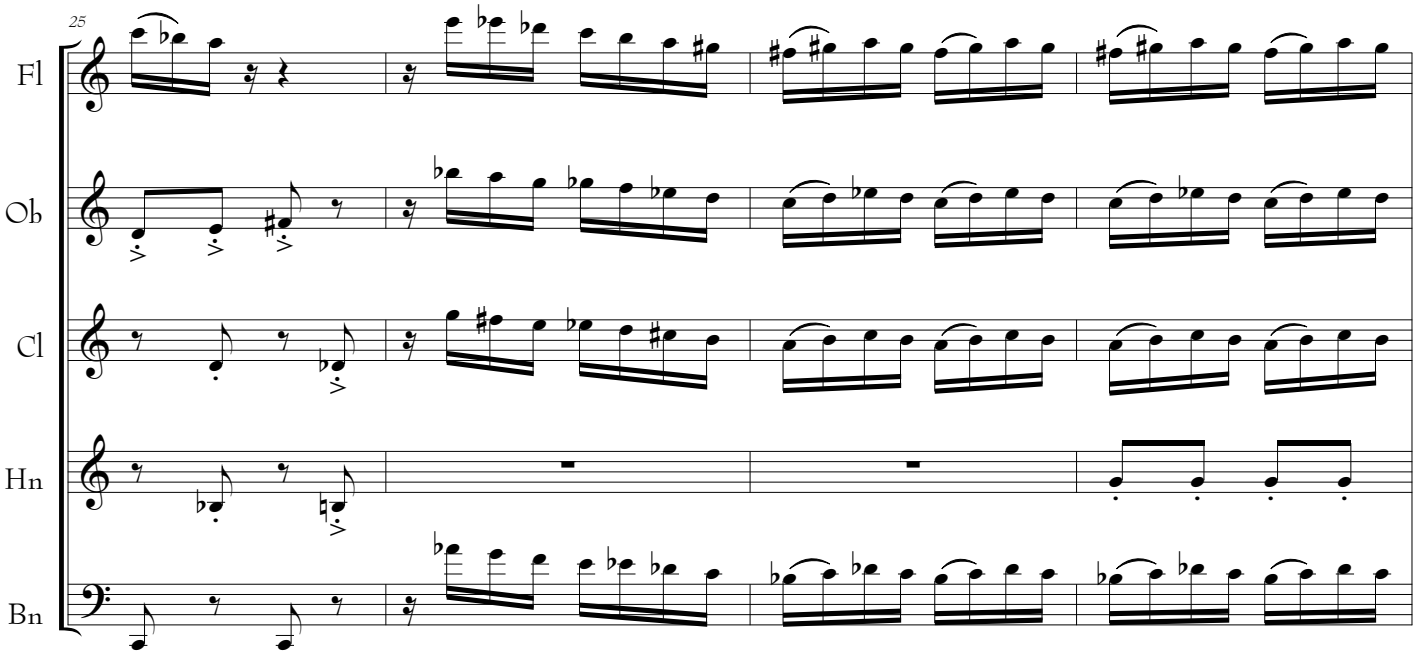
Hairy Houdini's Quickstep

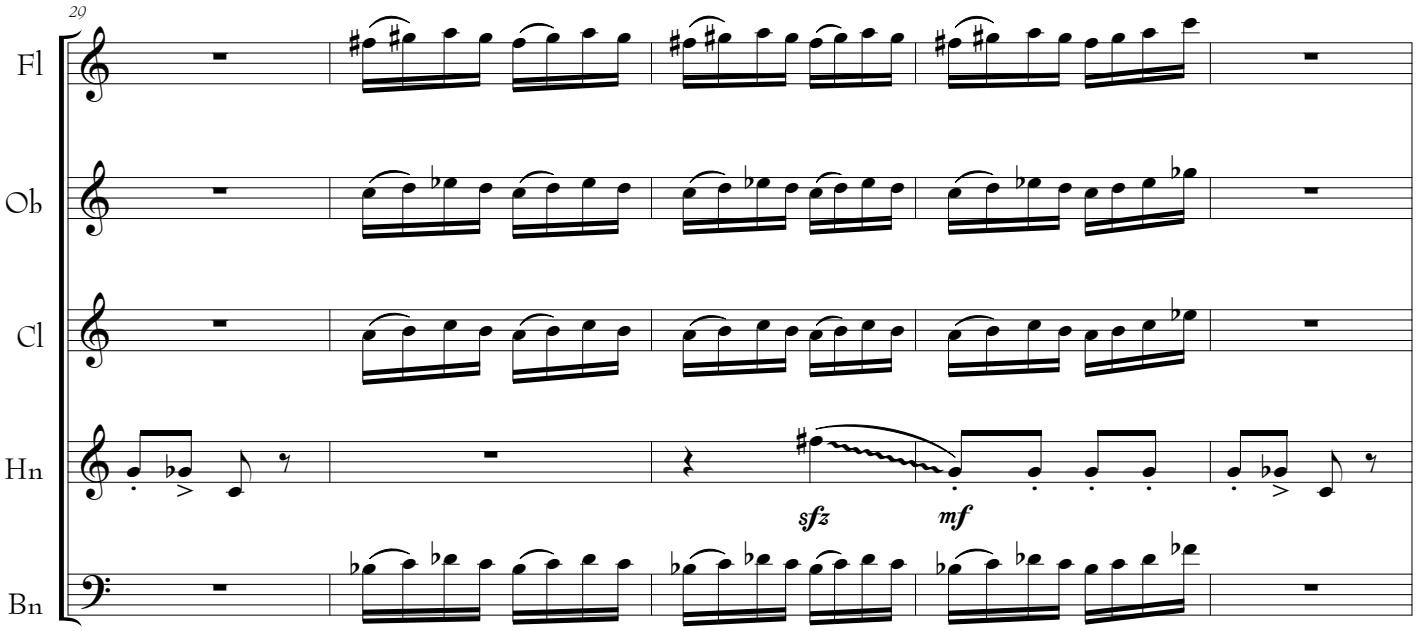


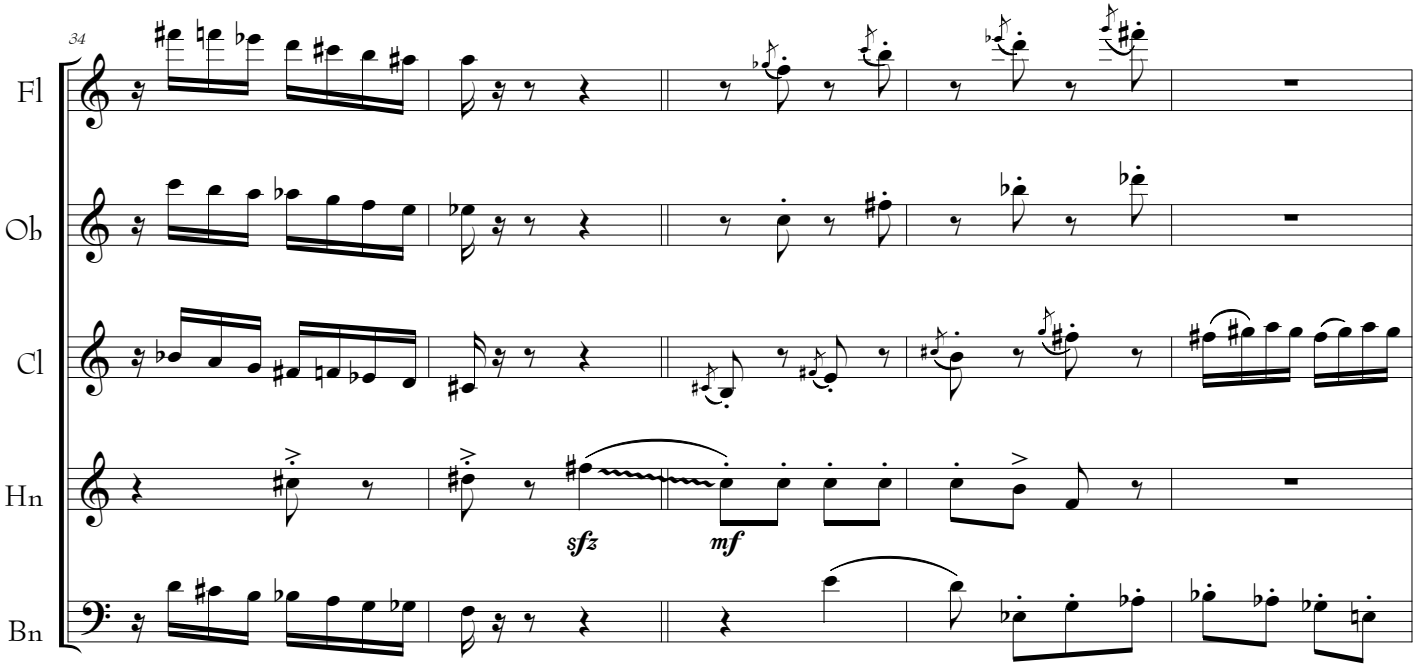

10
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

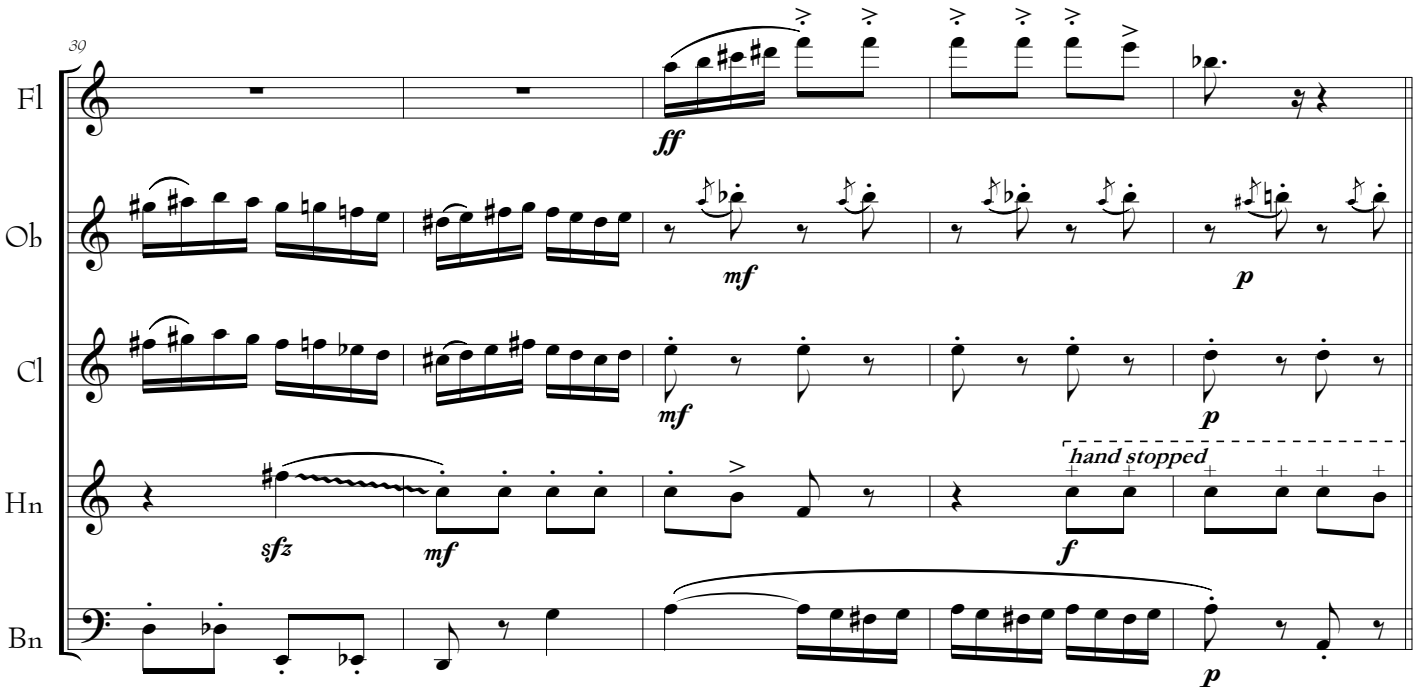

15
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

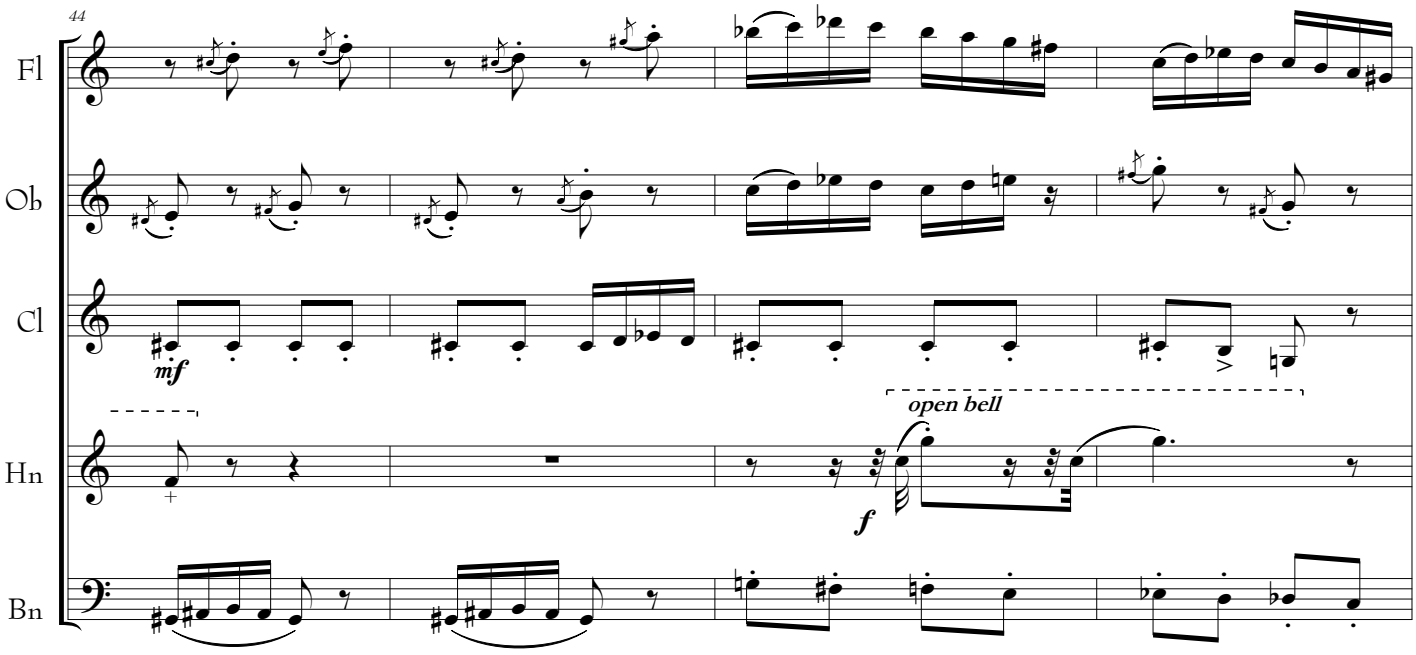

20
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

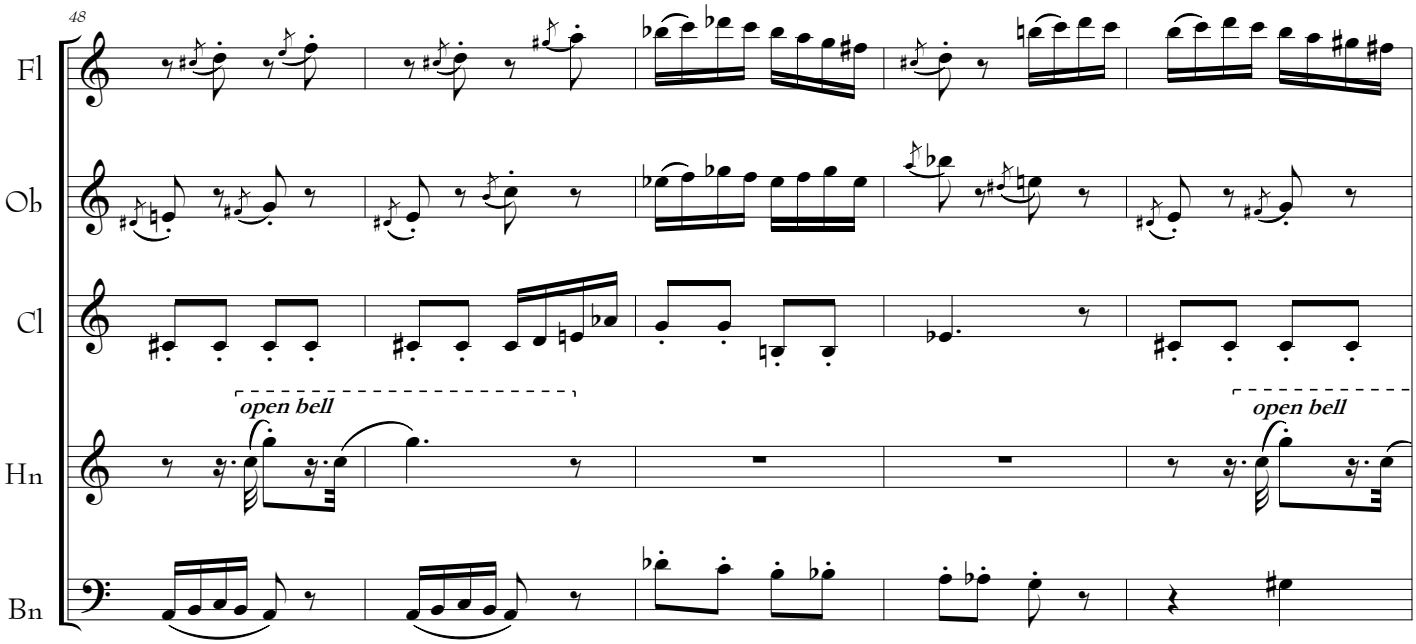

25
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

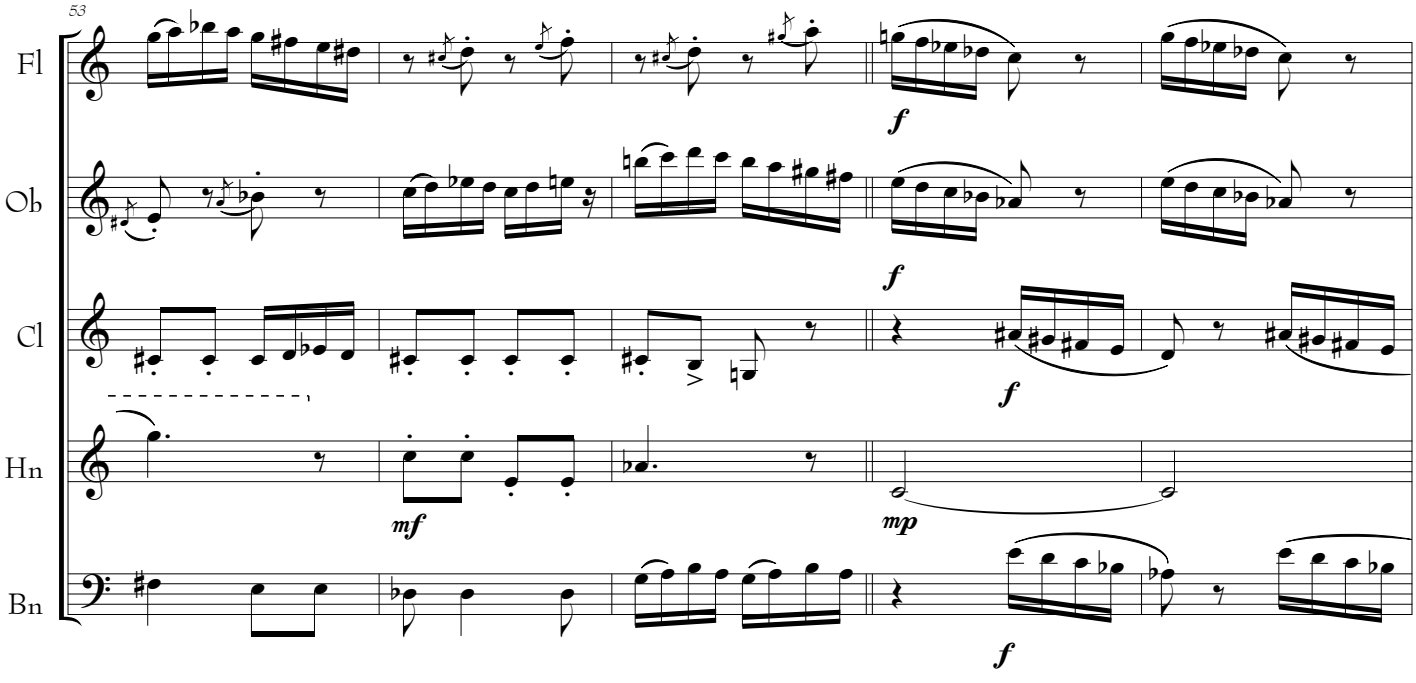

29
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
sfz
mf

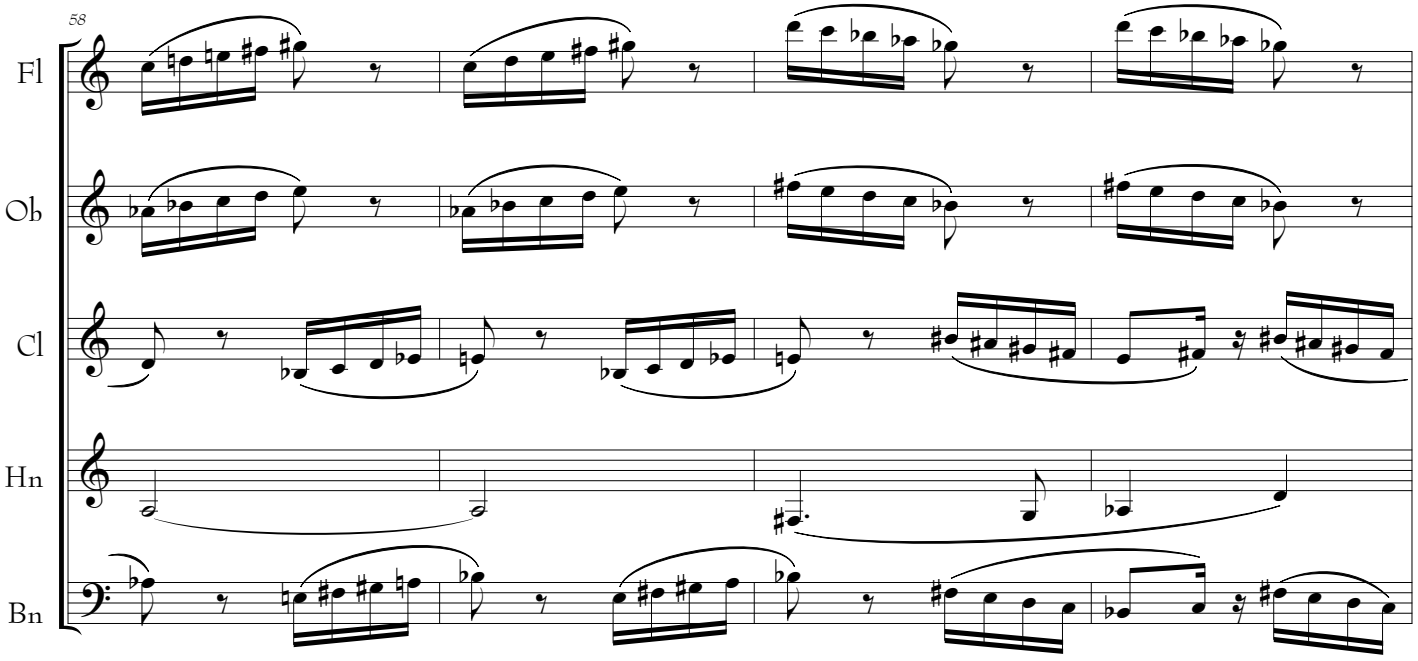

34
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
sfz
mf

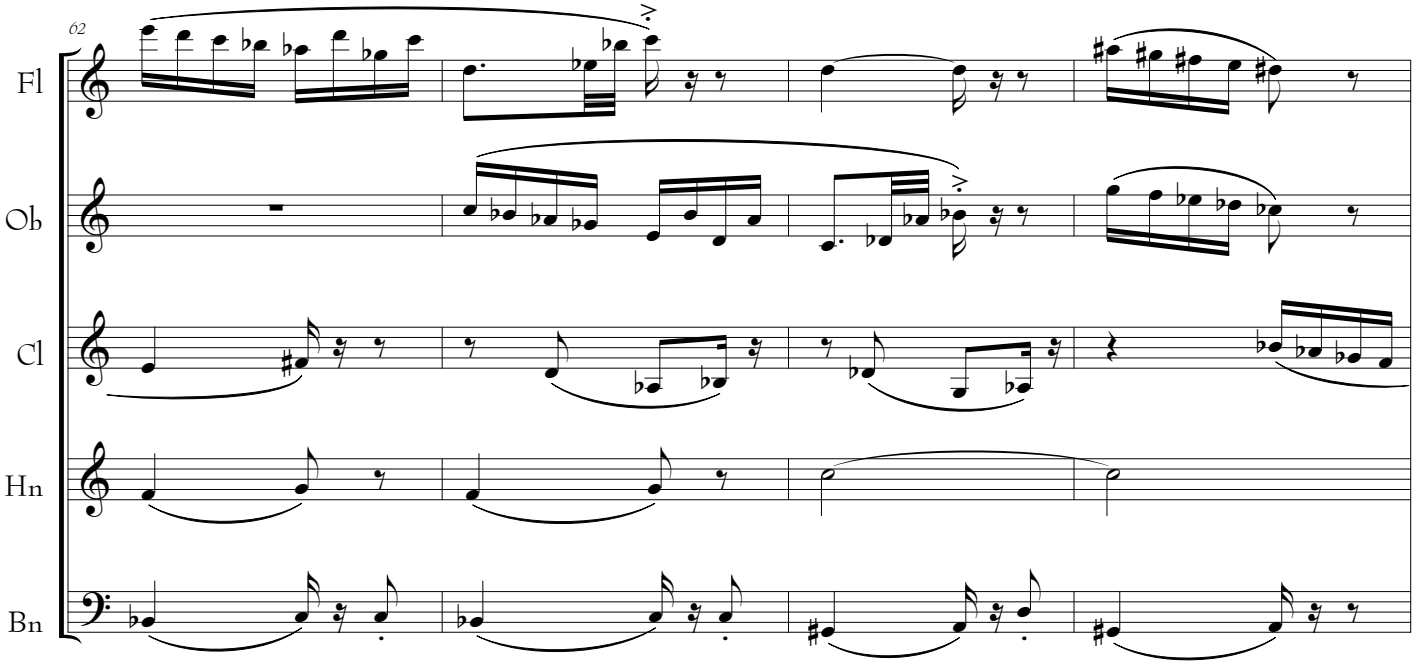

30
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
ff
mf
p
mf
p
sfz
mf
hand stopped
f
p

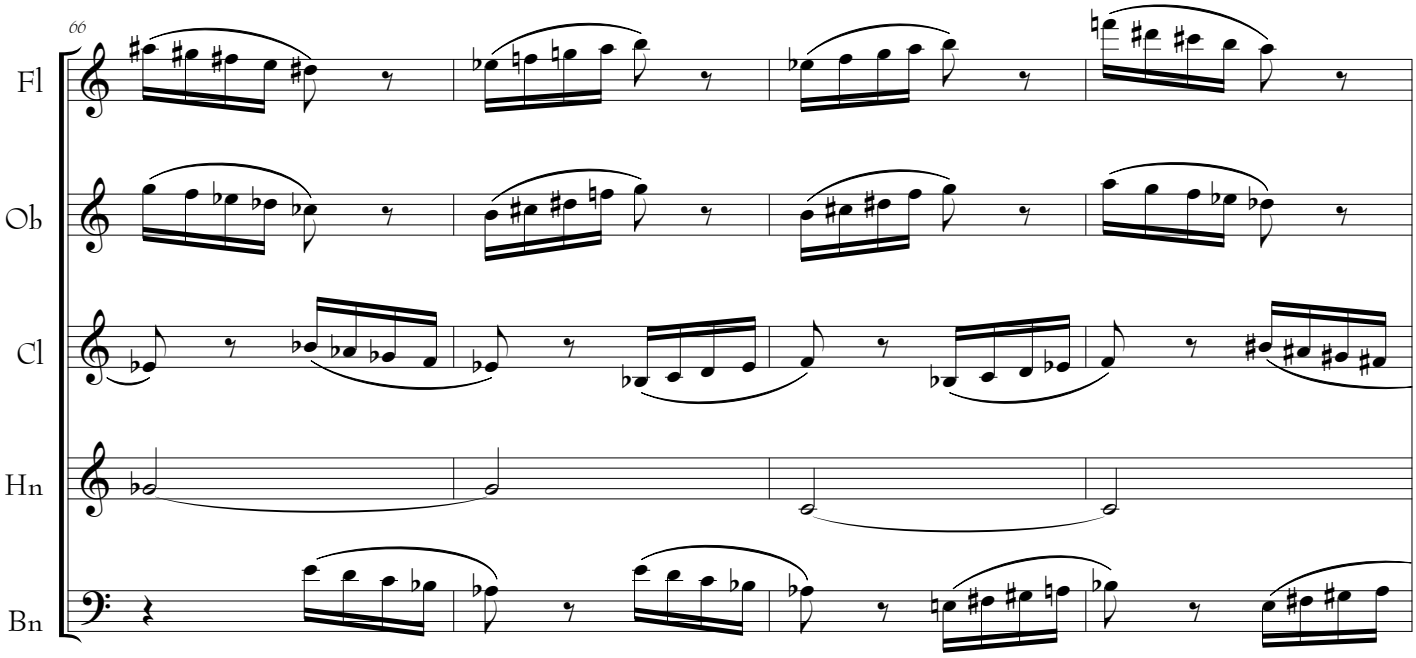

44
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
mf
open bell
f

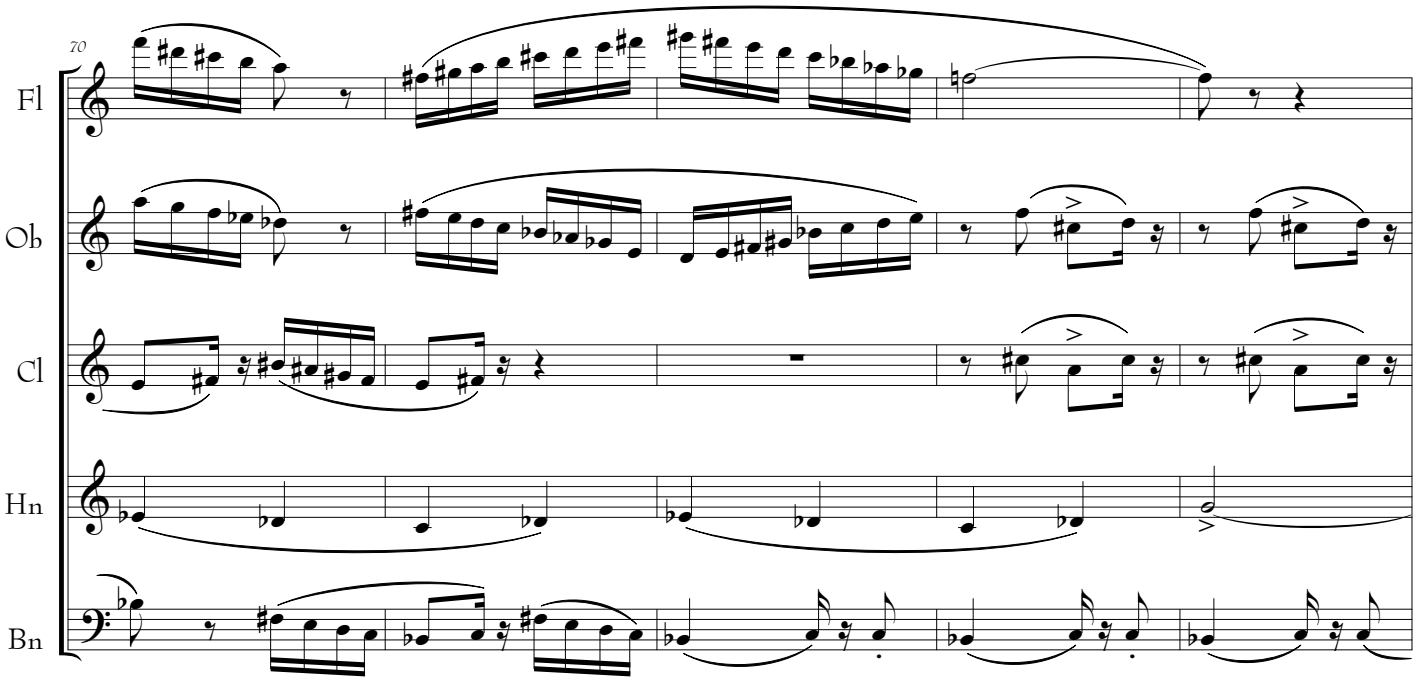

48
Fl
Ob
Cl
open bell
open bell
Hn
Bn

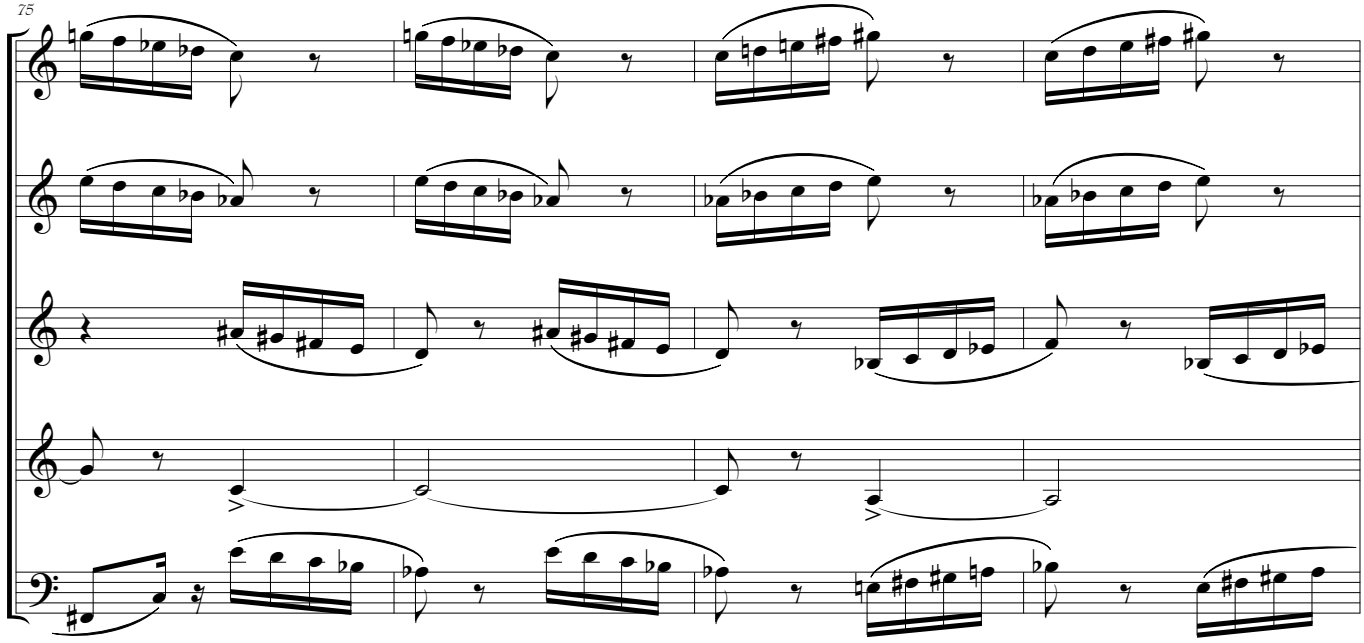

53
Fl
f
Ob
f
Cl
f
Hn
mf
mp
Bn
f

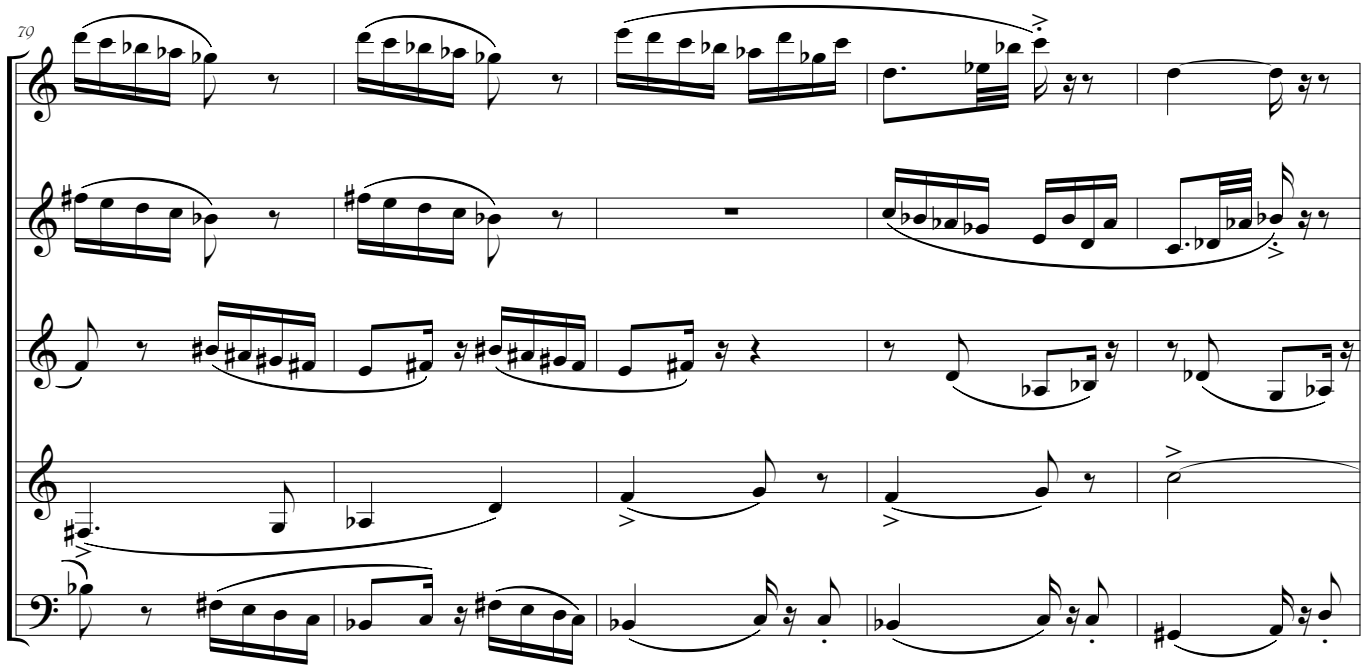

58
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

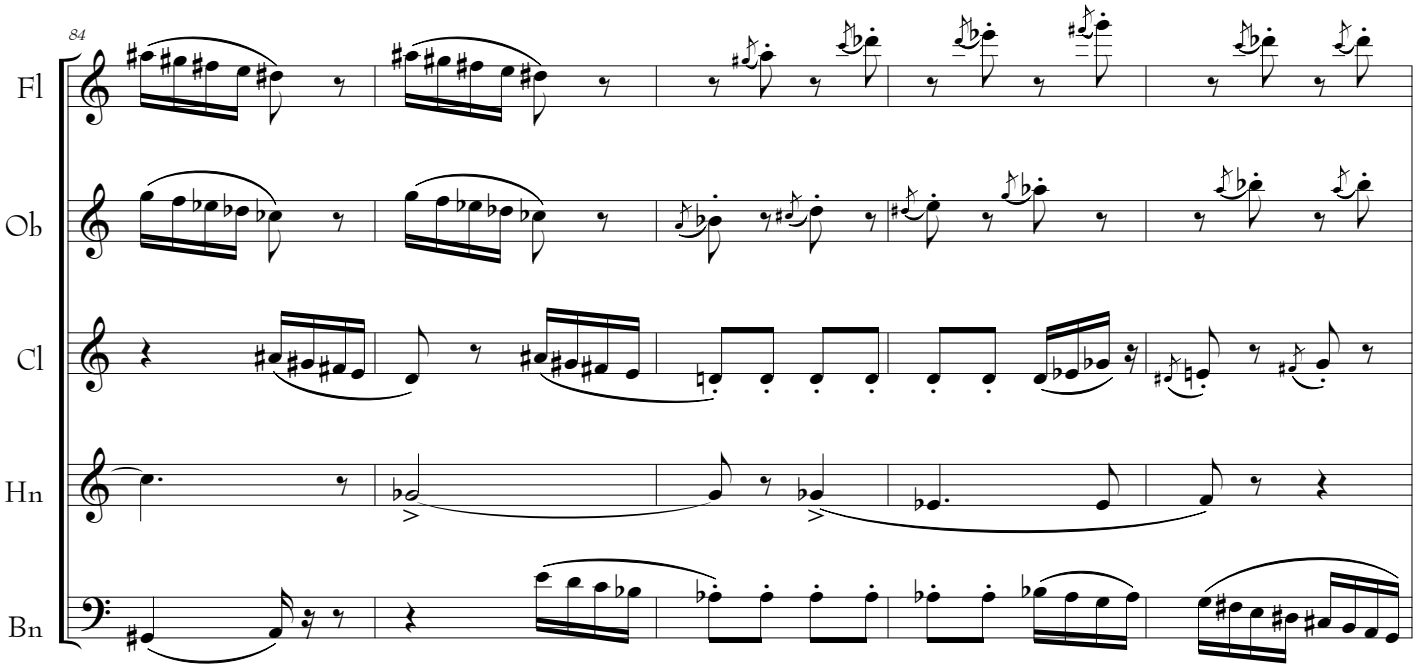

62
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

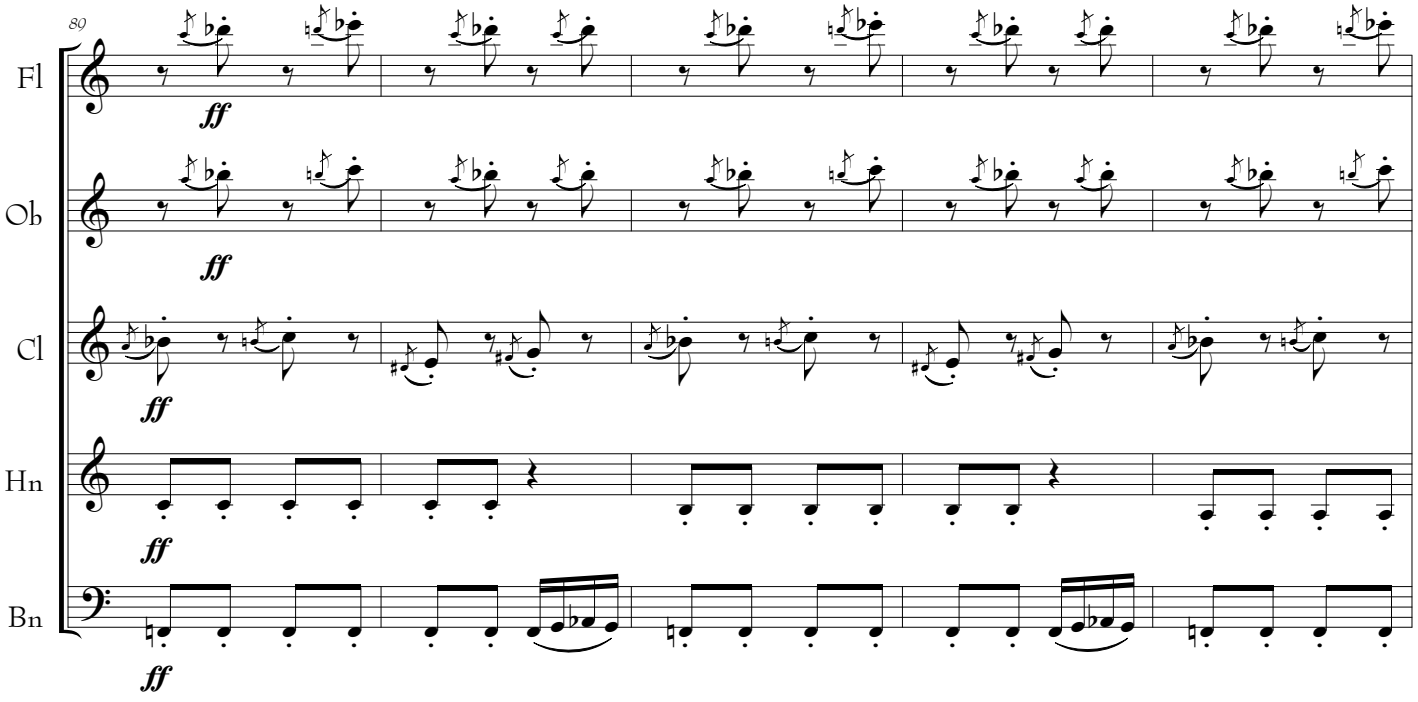

66
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

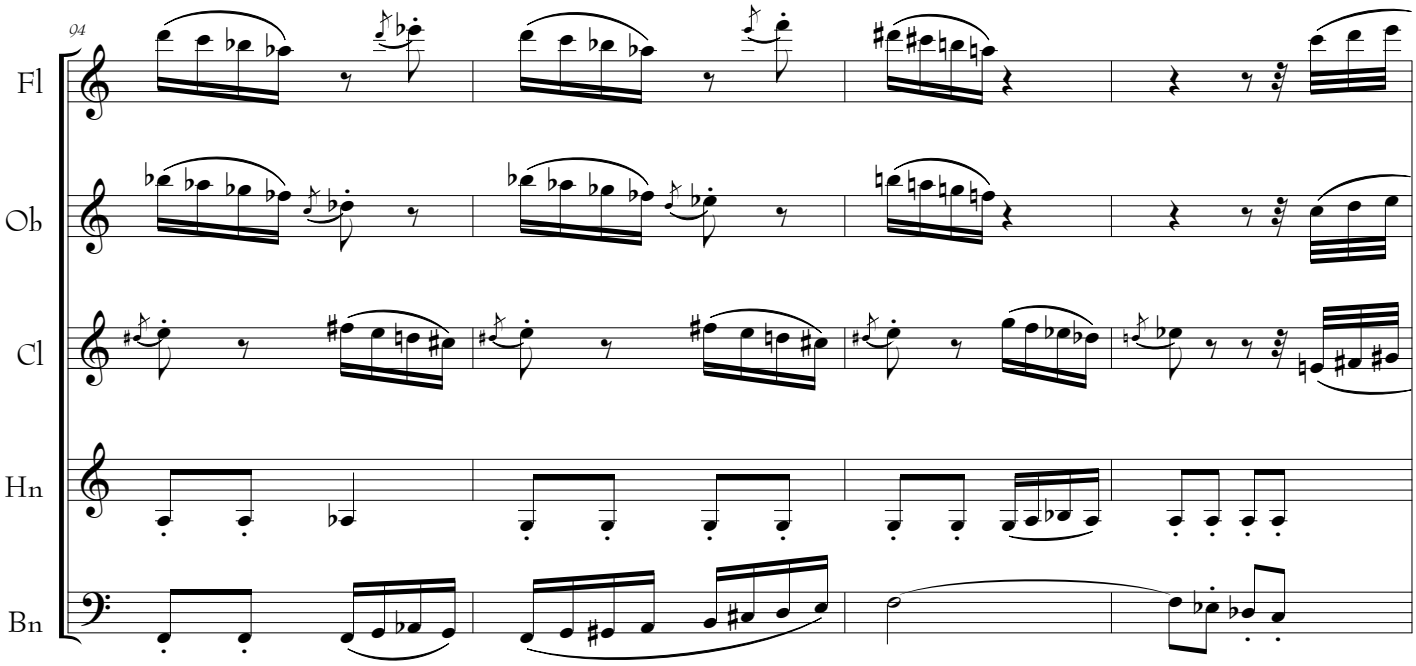

70
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

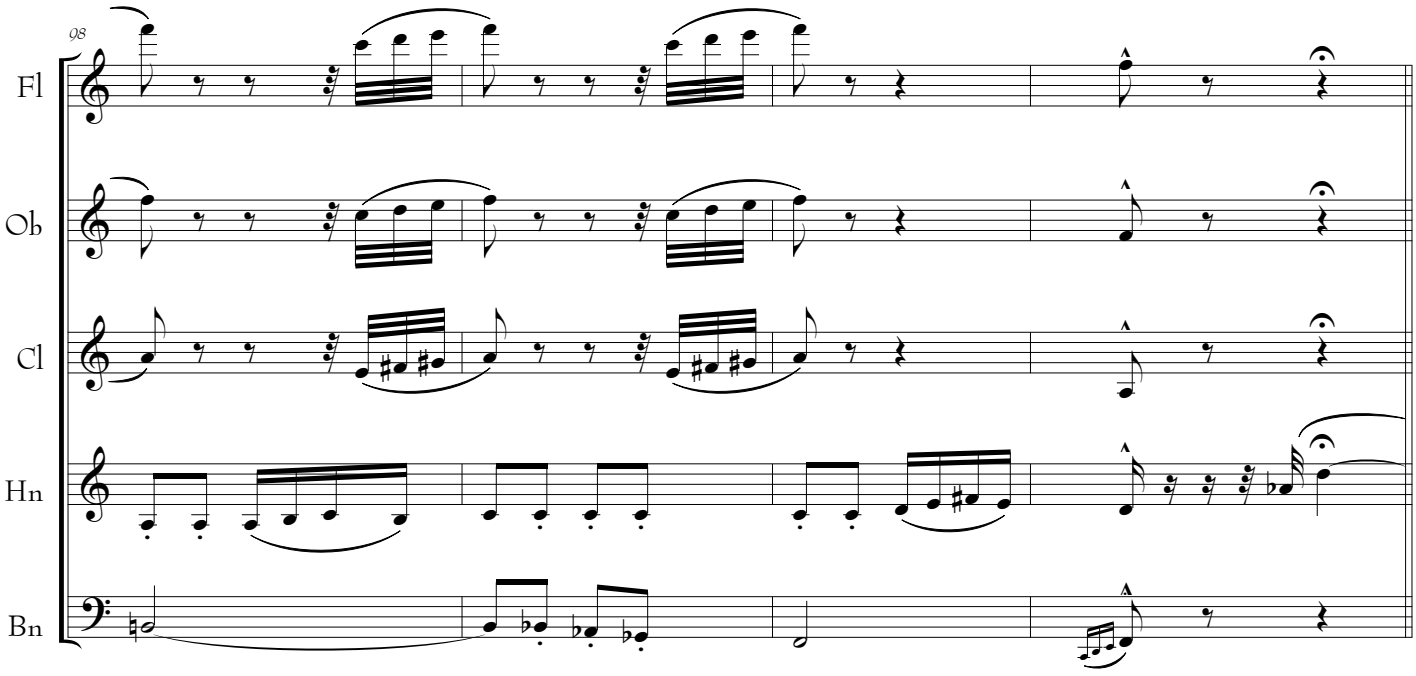

75
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

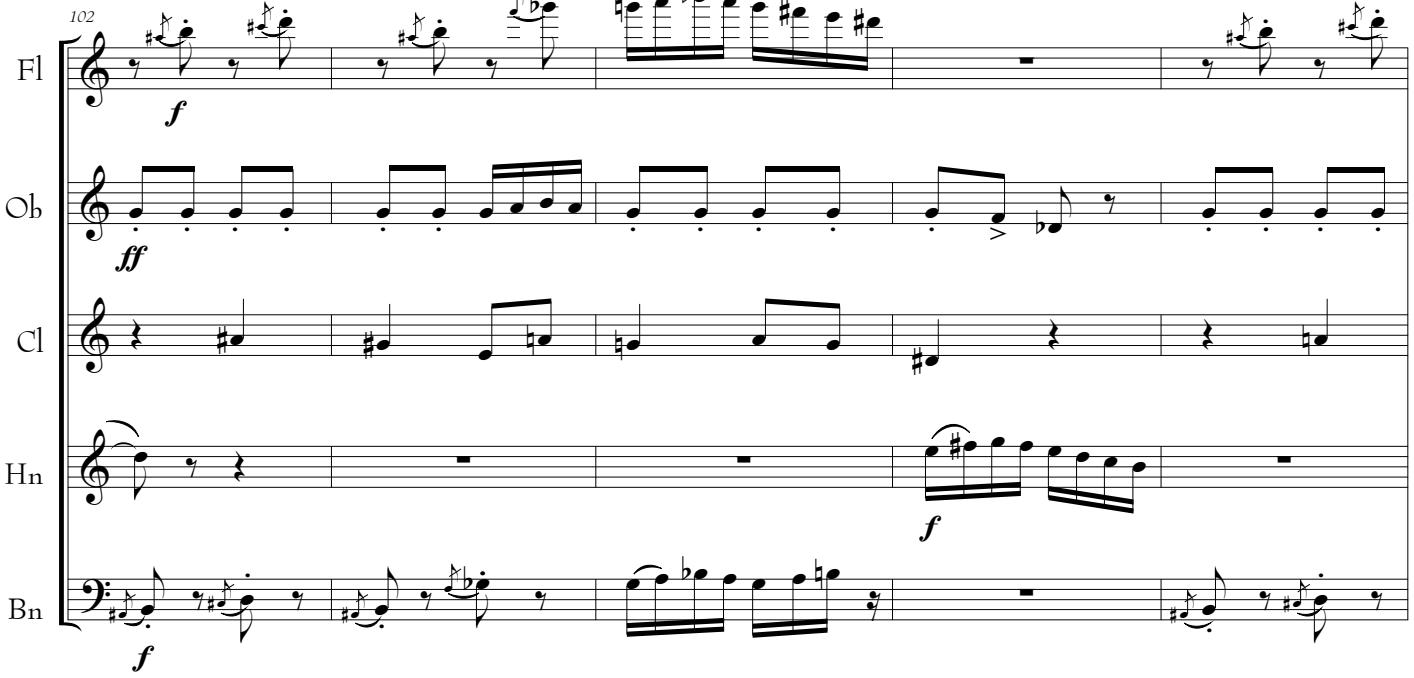

70
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn

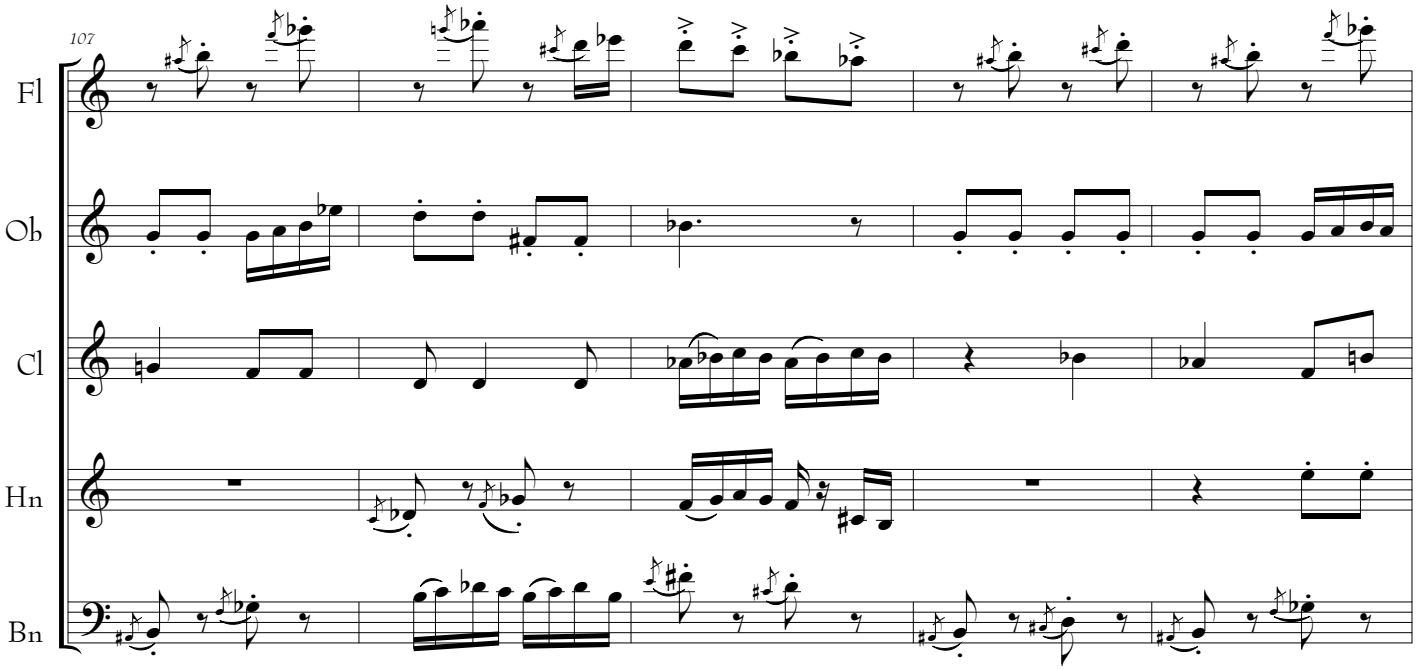

84
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


89
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
ff


94
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


98
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


102
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
f
ff
f
f


107
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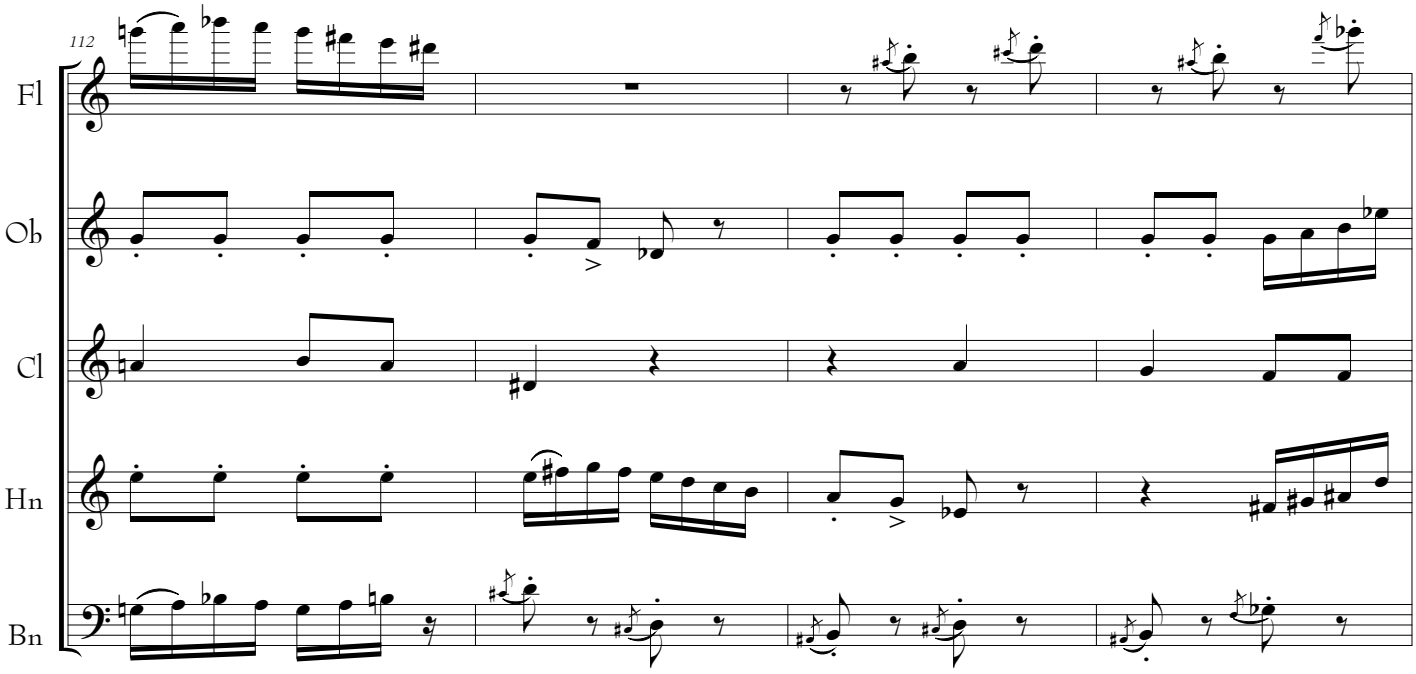
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


112
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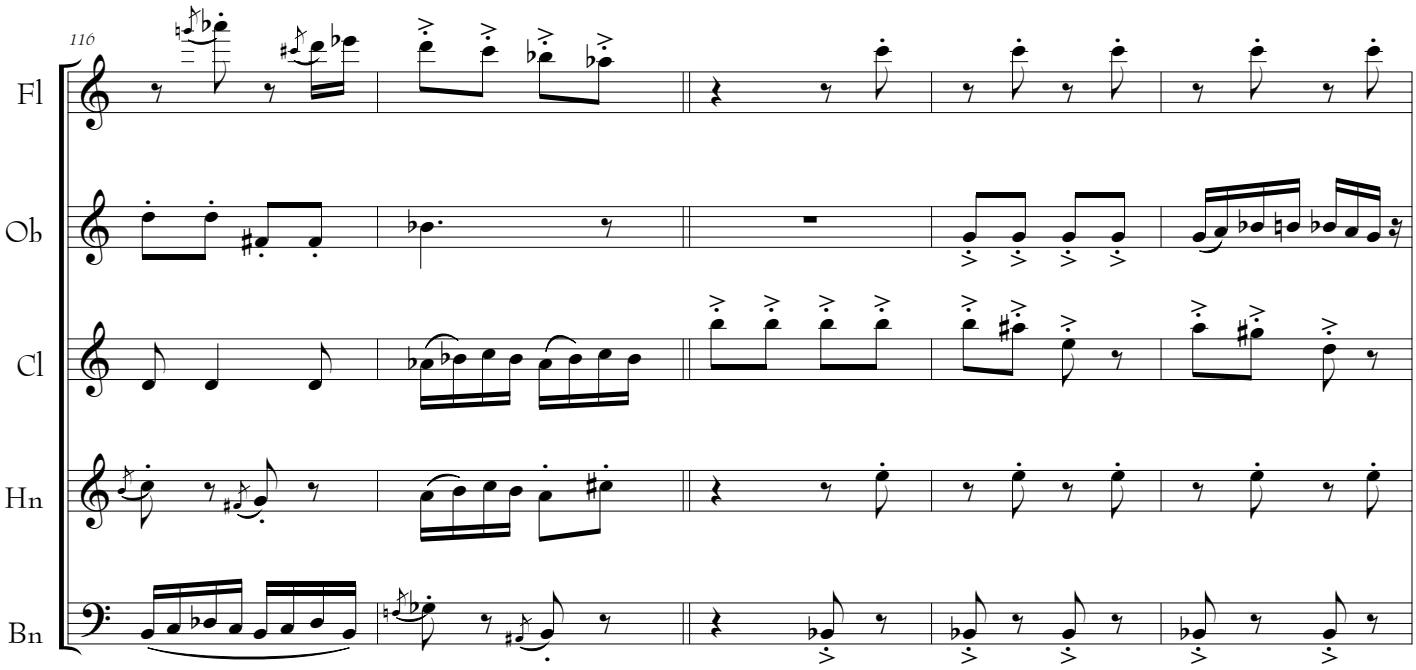
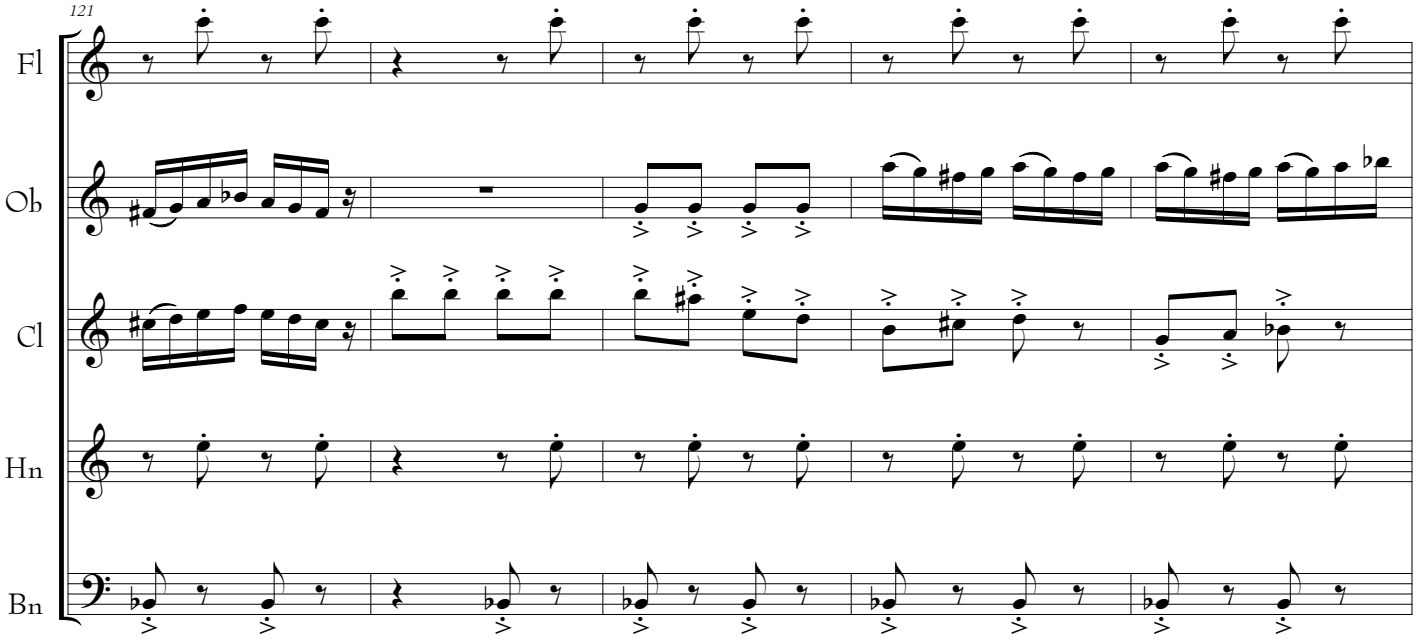
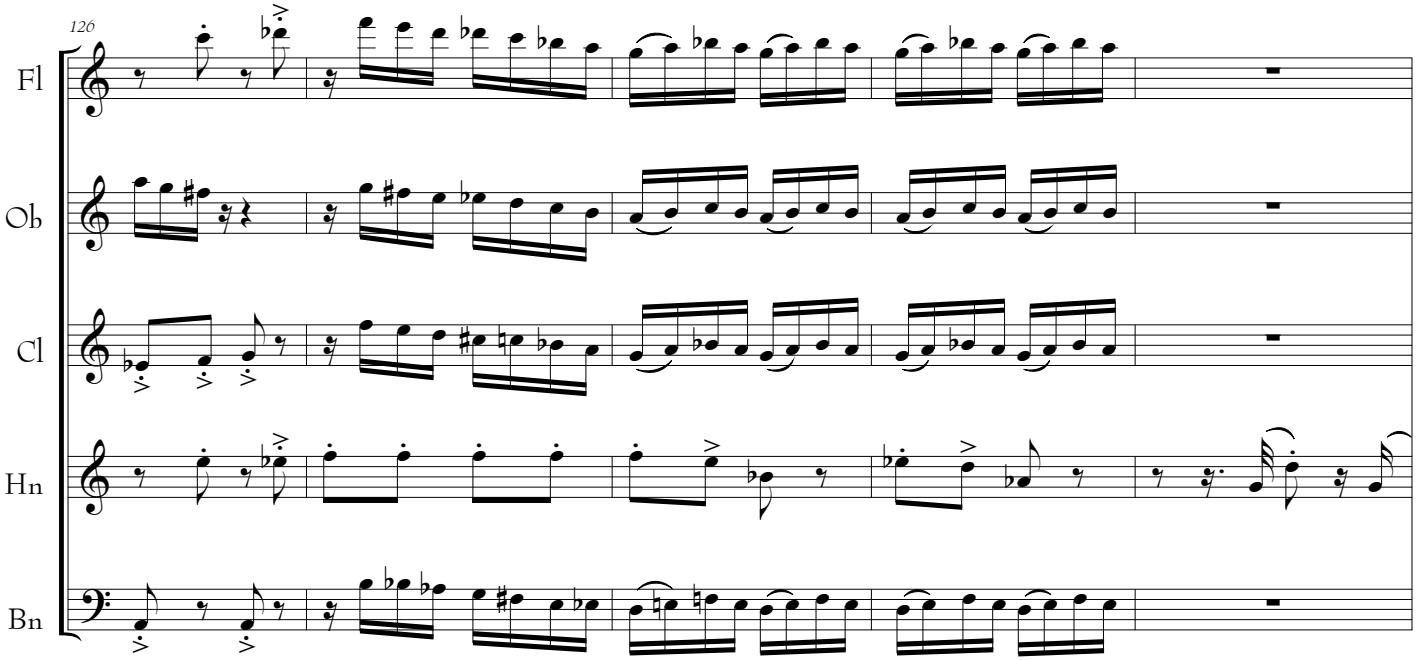
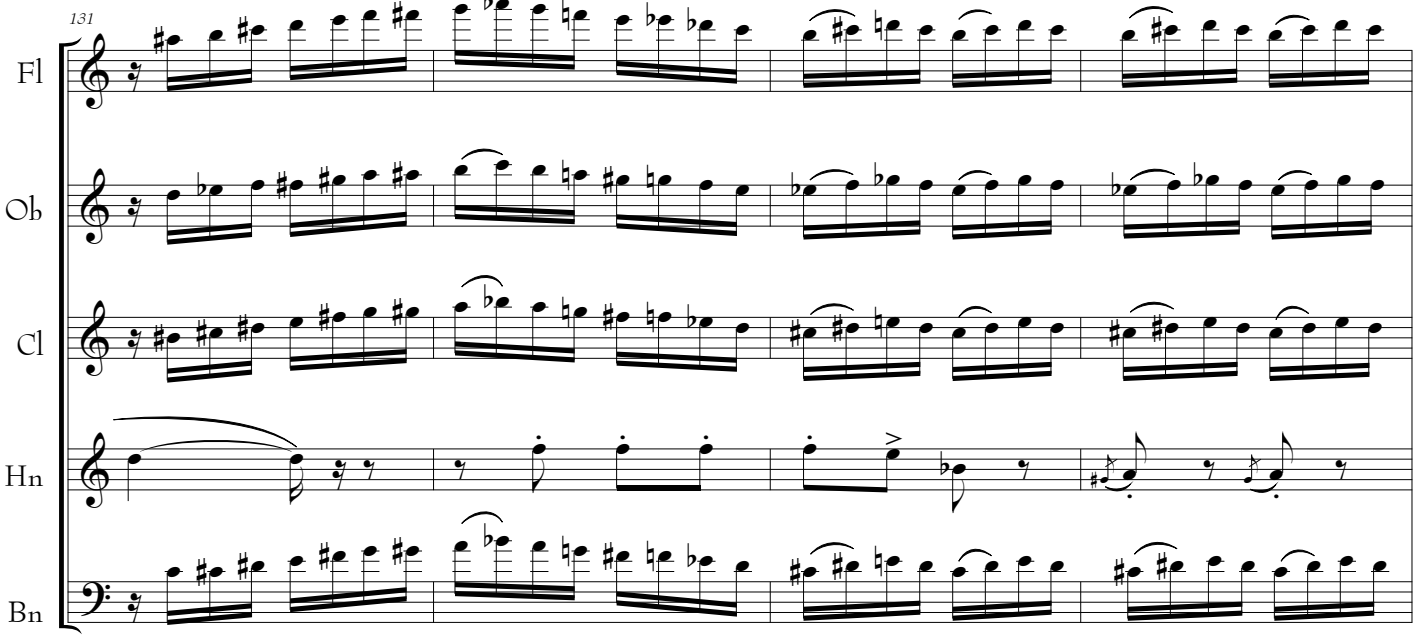
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


116
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


121
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


126
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


131
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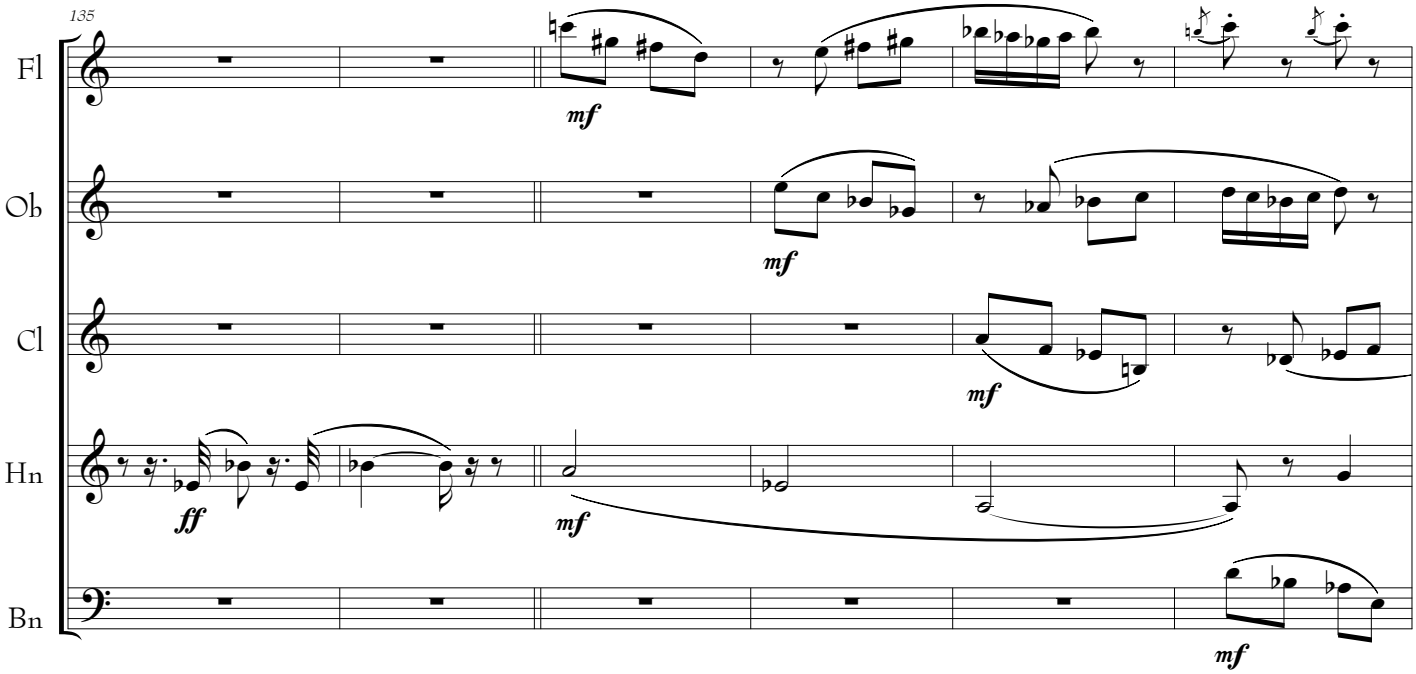
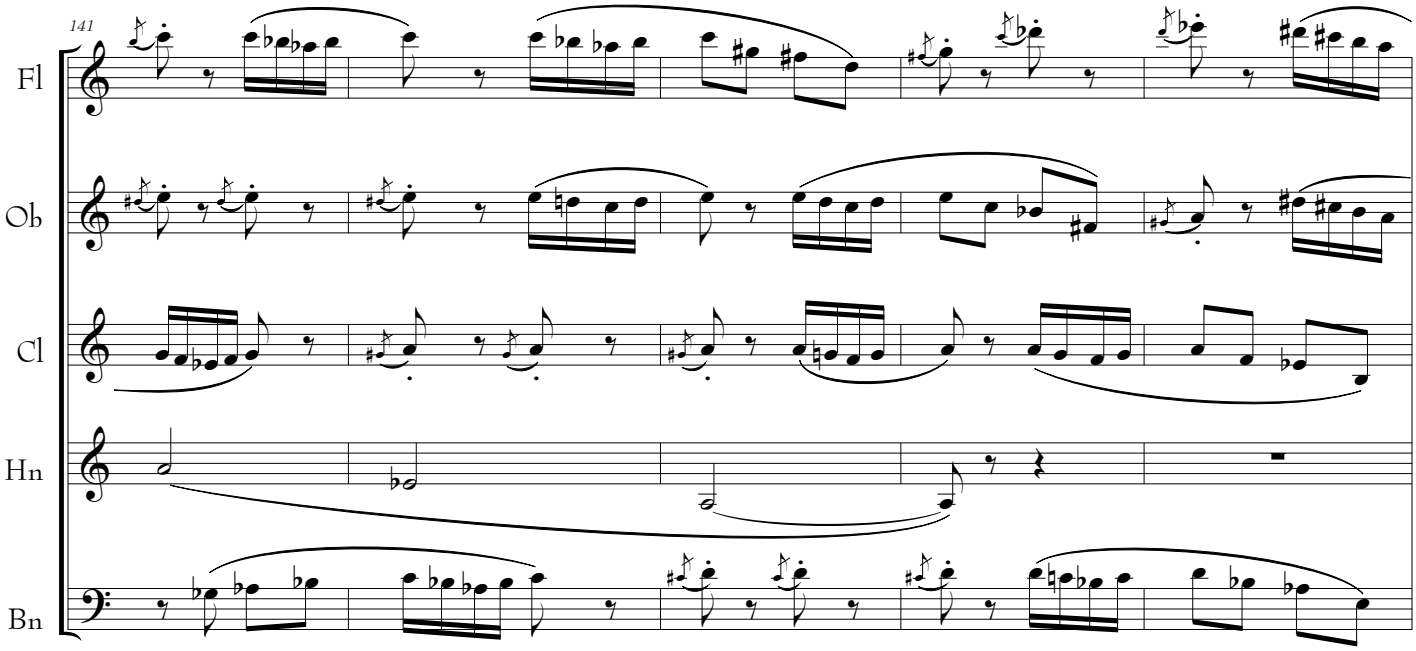
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


135
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
mf
mf
mf
ff
mf
mf


141
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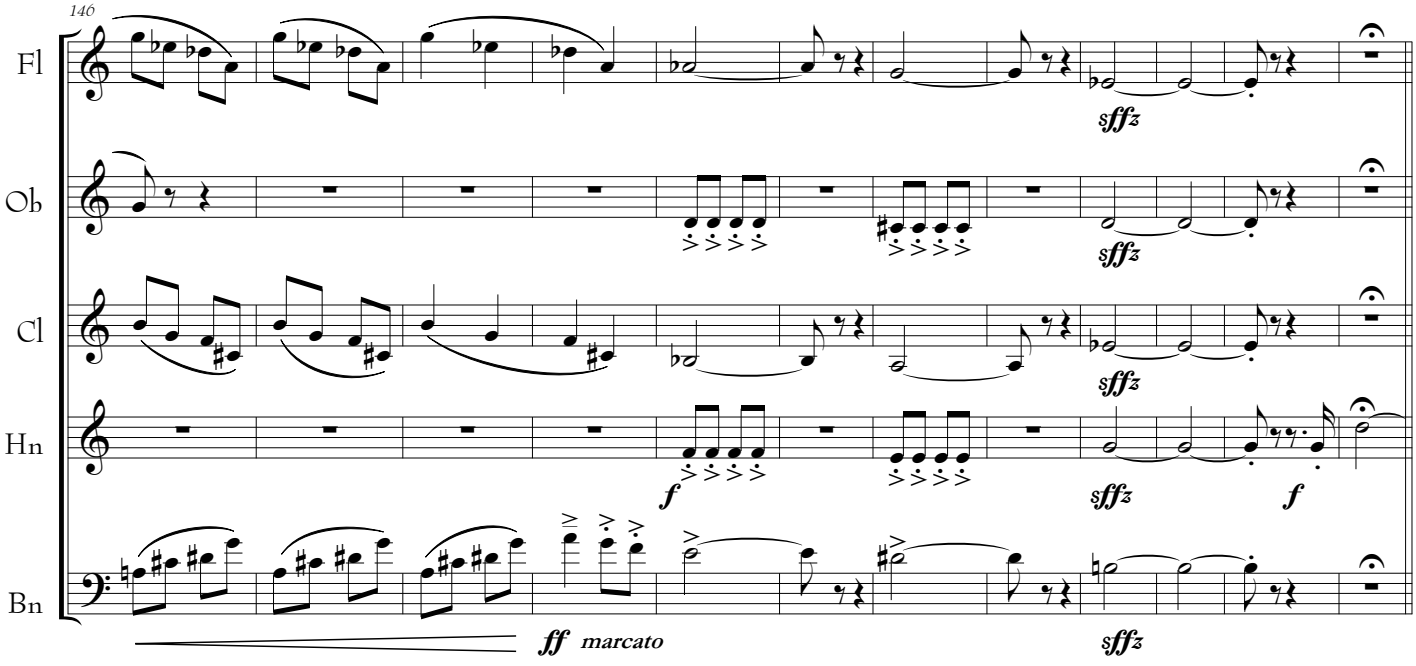
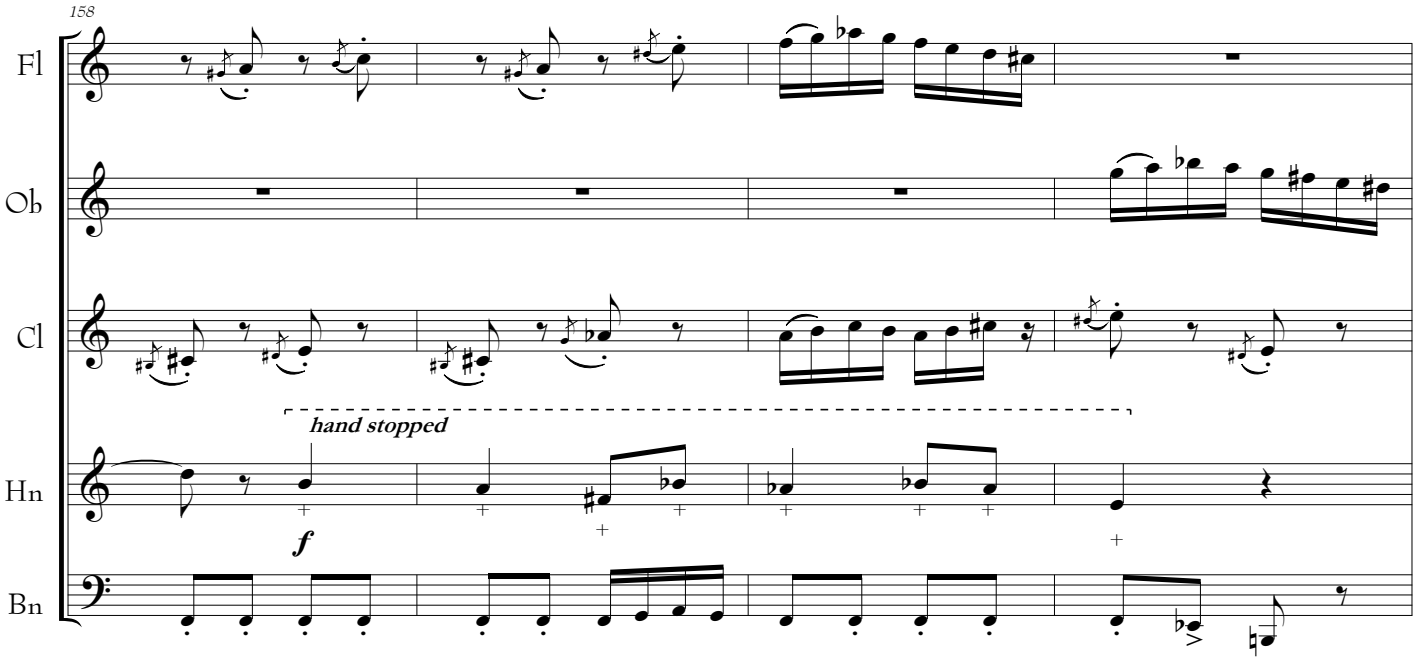
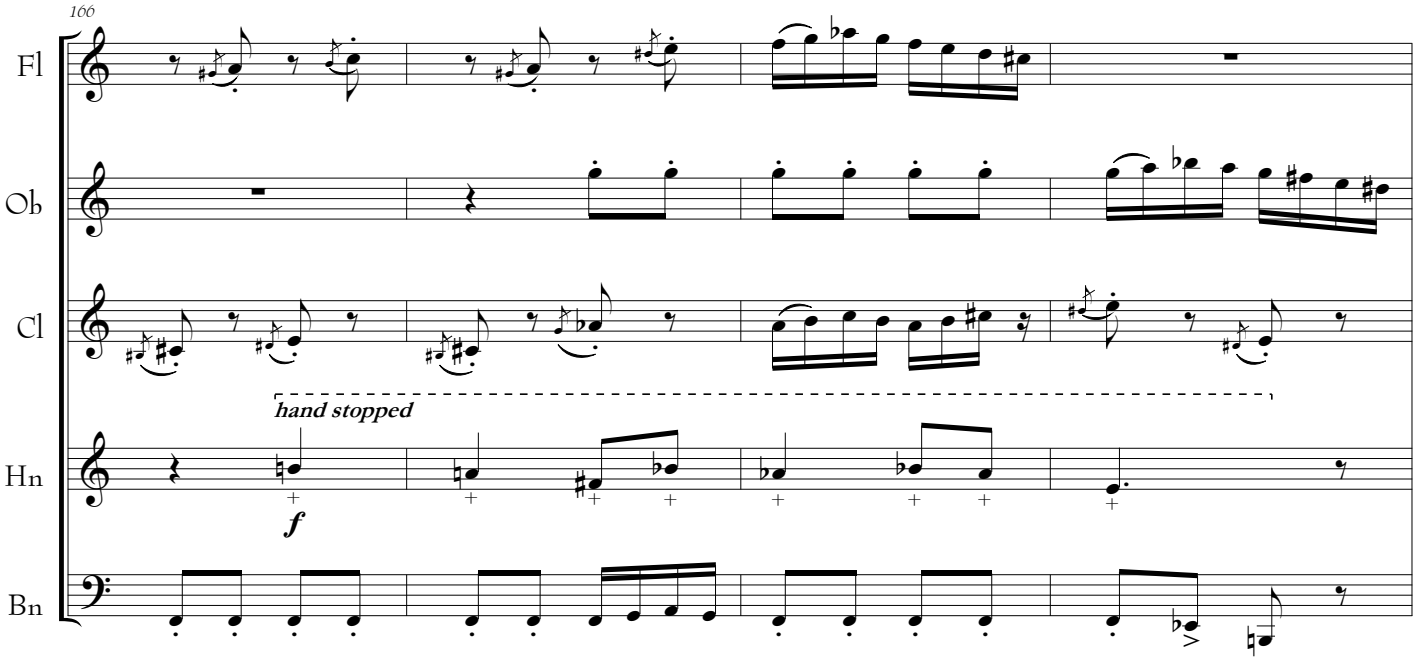
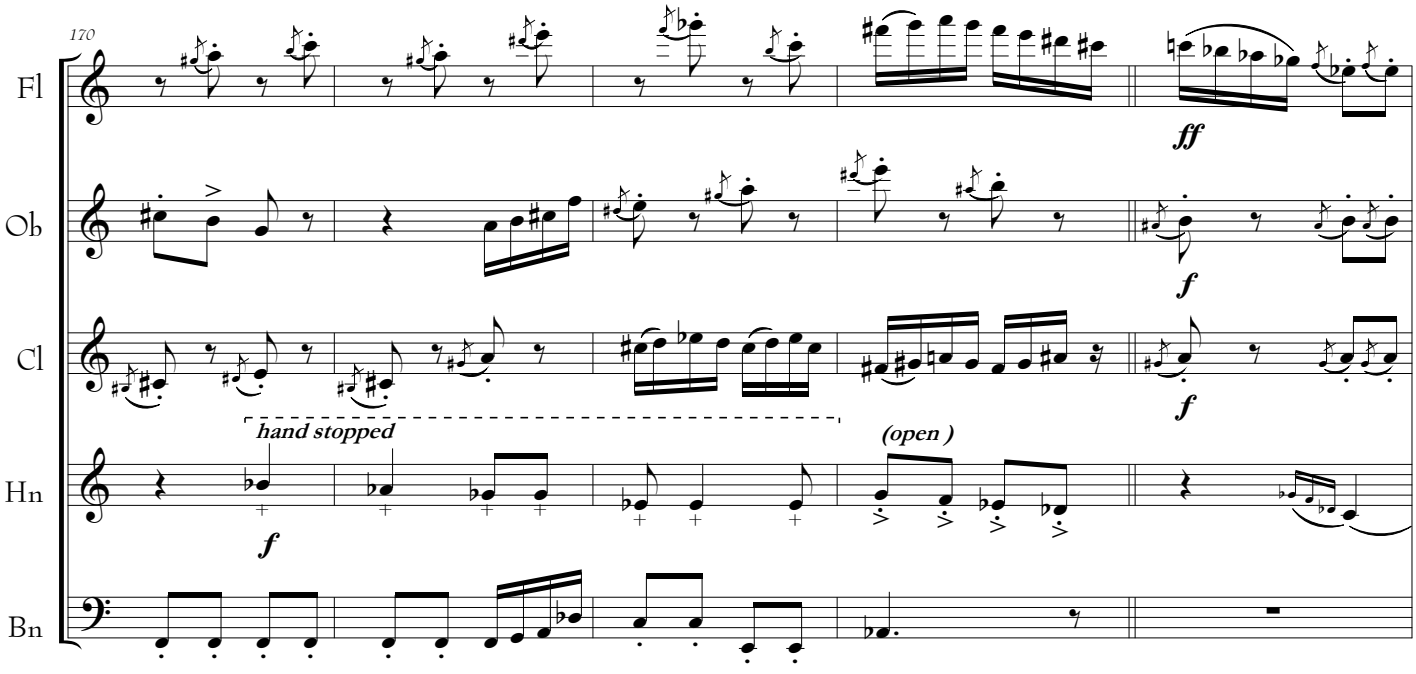
Hn
Bn

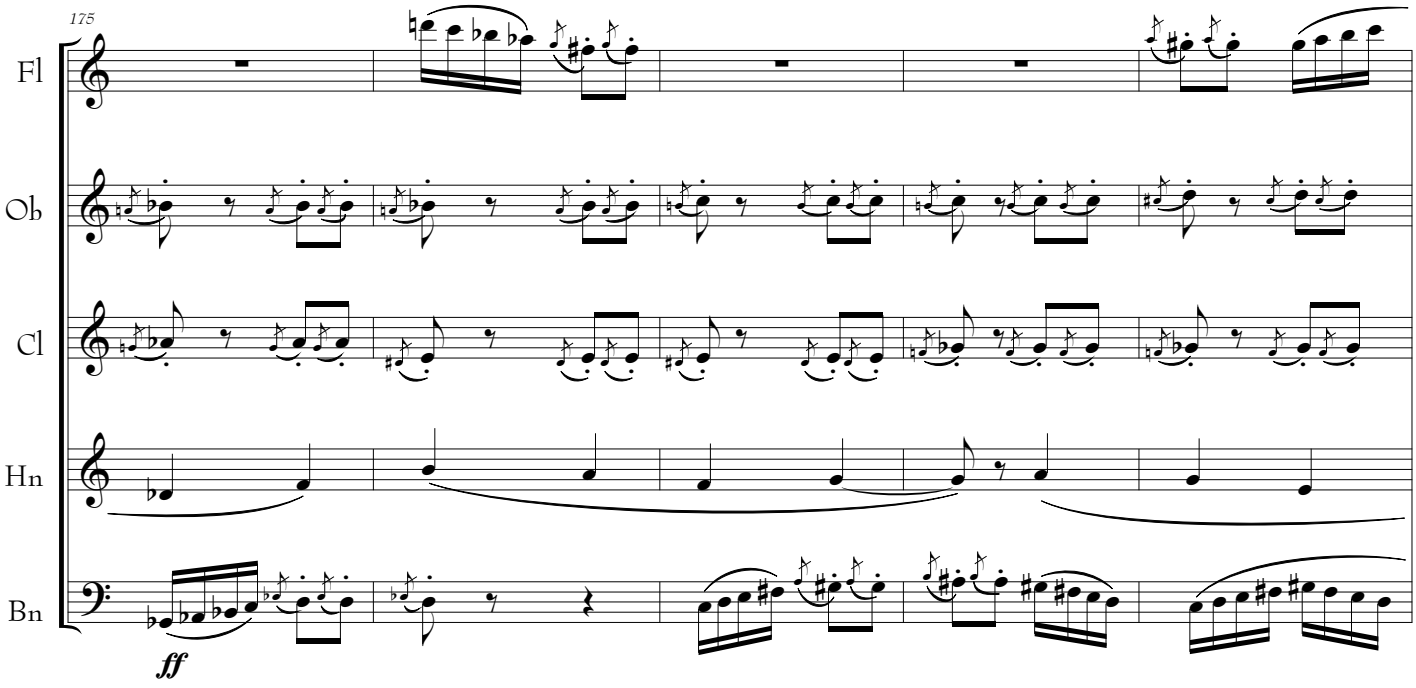

146
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
sfffz
f
ff marcato

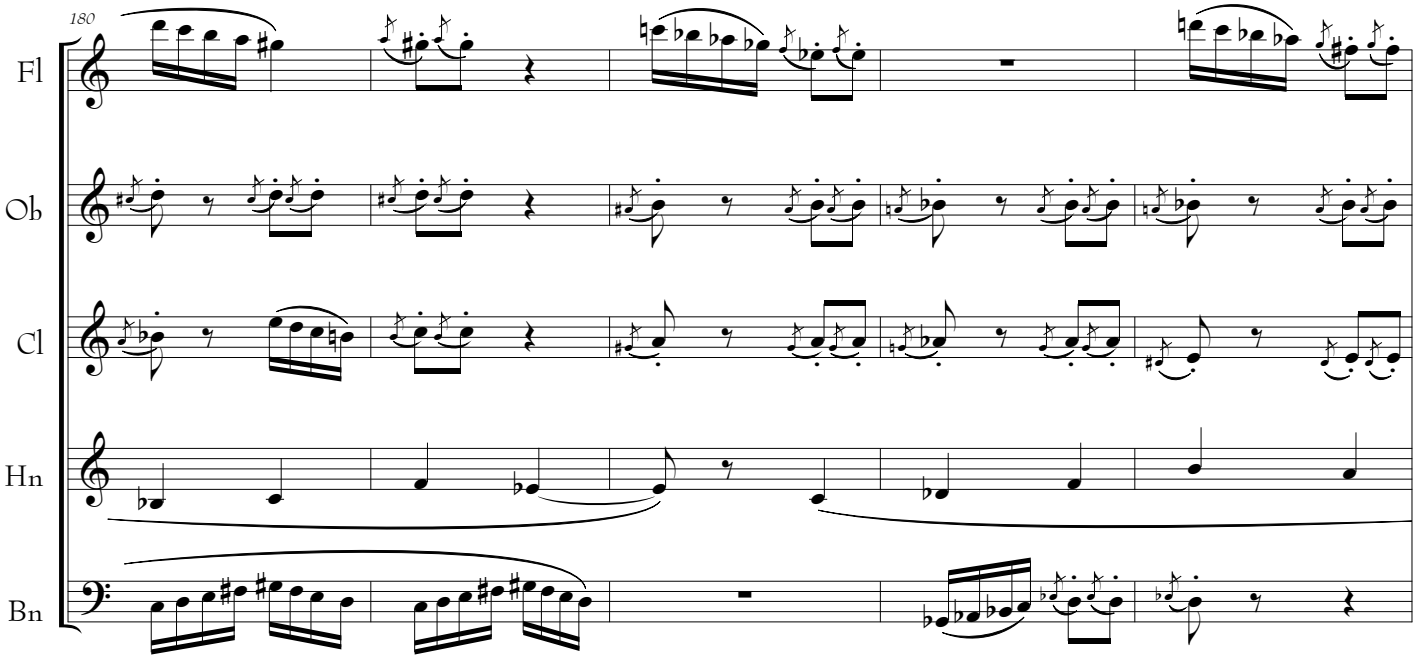

158
Fl
Ob
Cl
hand stopped
Hn
f
Bn

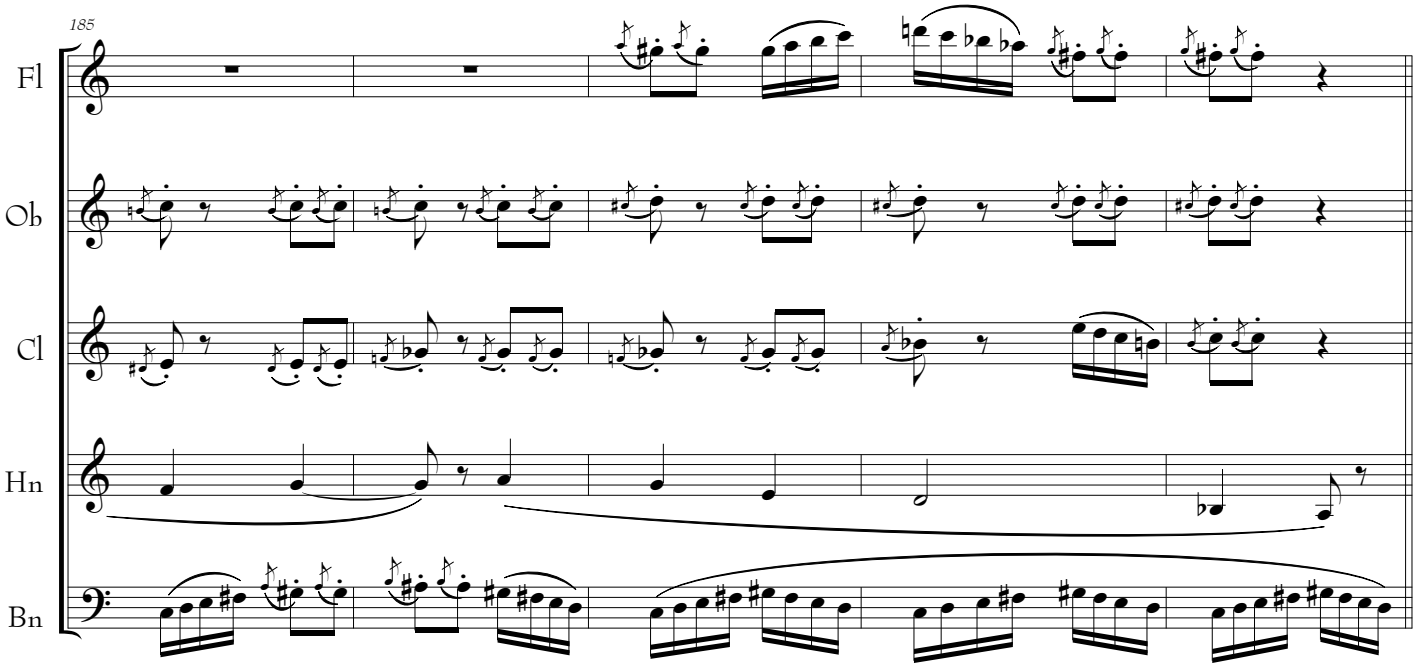
162
Fl
Ob
Cl
hand stopped
(open)
Hn
f
Bn

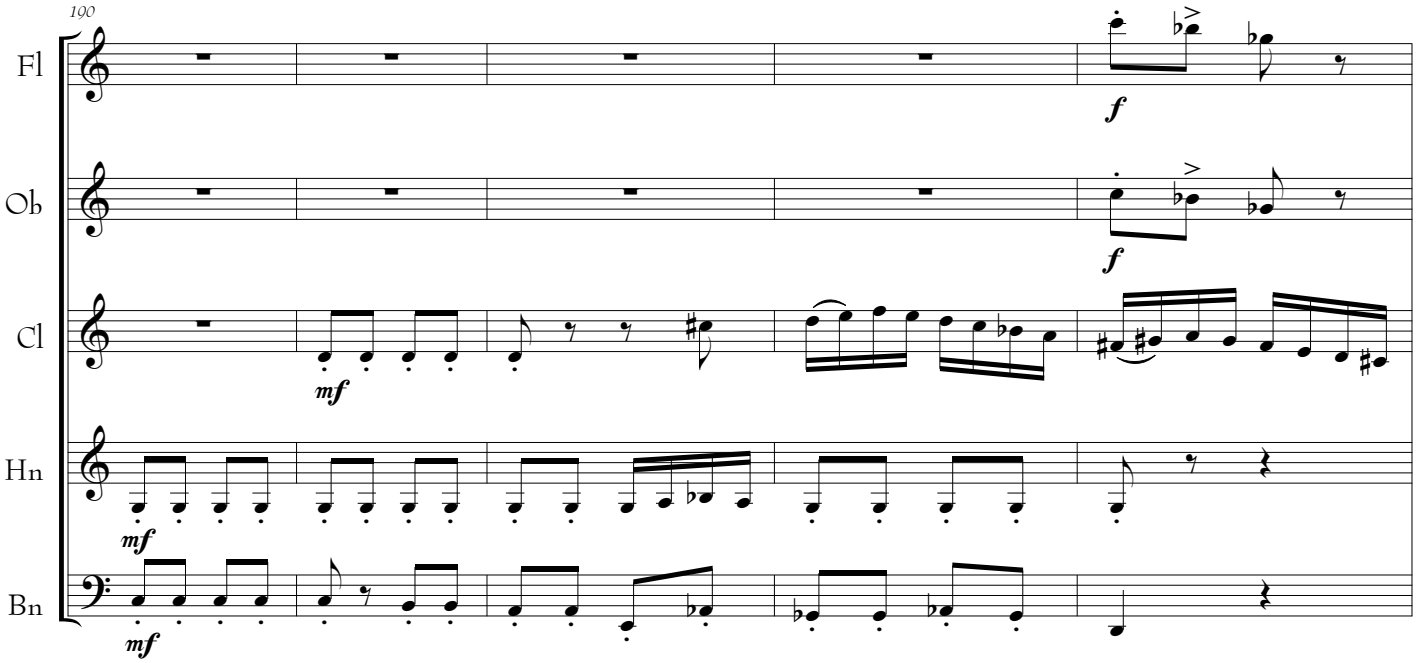

166
Fl
Ob
Cl
hand stopped
Hn
f
Bn

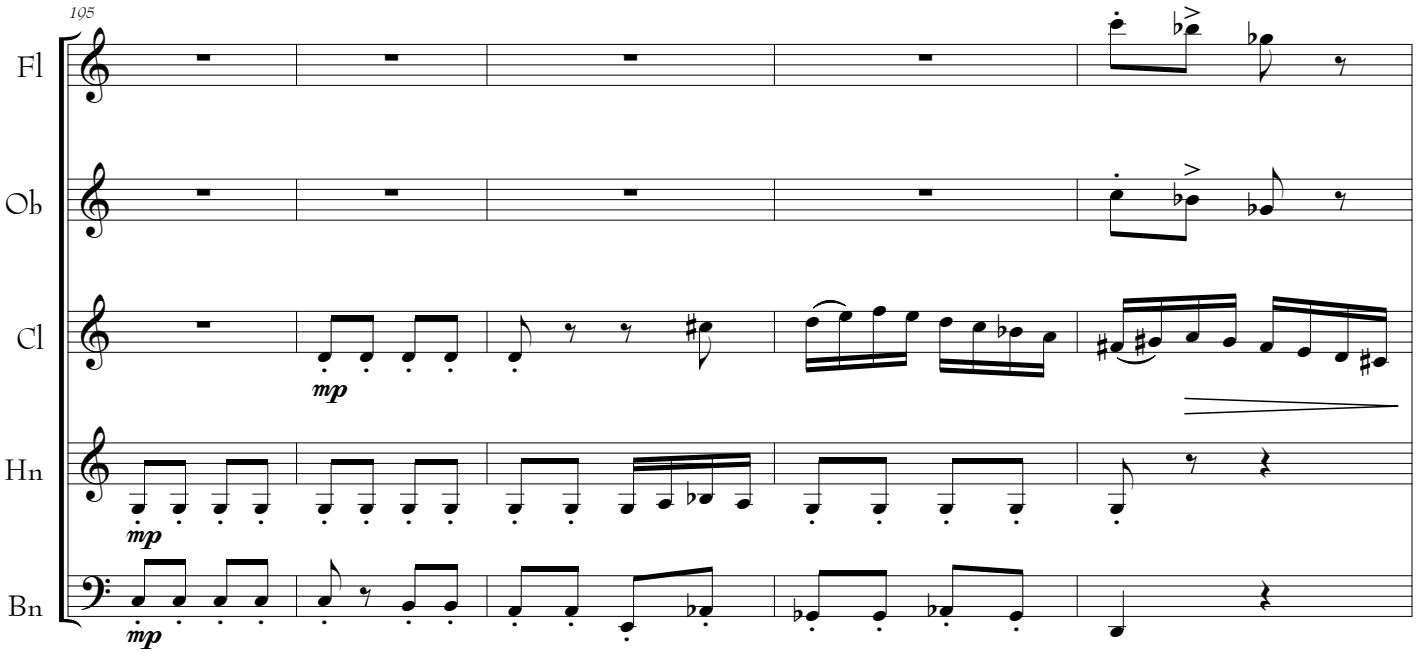

170
Fl
ff
Ob
f
Cl
f
hand stopped
(open)
Hn
f
Bn

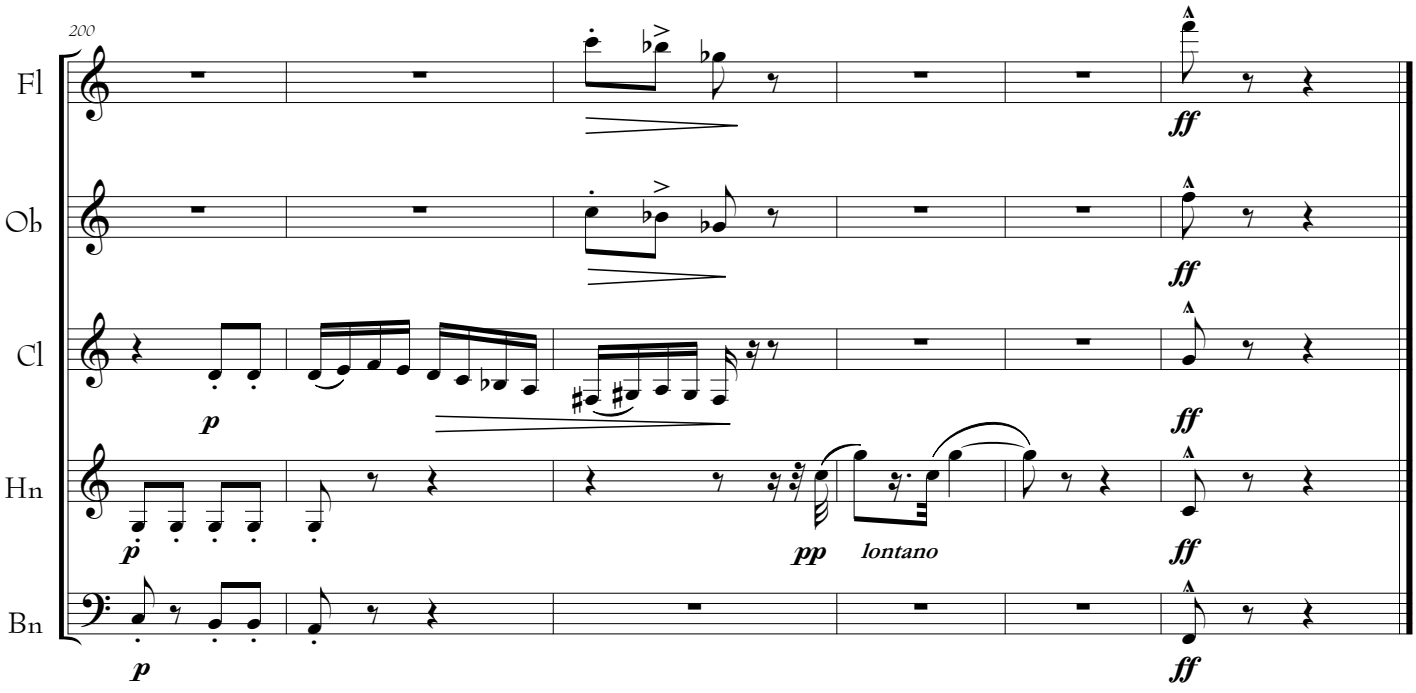

175
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
ff


180
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


185
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn


100
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
f
f
mf
mf
mf


195
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
mp
mp
mp


200
Fl
Ob
Cl
Hn
Bn
p
p
pp
lontano
ff
ff
ff
ff
ff