W. Jay Sydeman

Sonata No. 5 “Miha”

for Violin and Piano

(1985)

Arts Aeternum

Miha Pogačnik, a quite extraordinary Yugoslavian violinist, kept appearing on programs in which my music was being performed (or vice versa). So whether he was the cart and I was the horse (or vice versa), it seemed destined that we shared some kind of cosmic interaction – so (naturally) I wrote him a piece. He is an artist who eschews the recording medium, but others (fortunately for me) do not share this proclivity, thus recordings are available.

The language of the piece is somewhat reminiscent of Alban Berg, with dark moods alternating with lively sections, the piano particularly occasionally becoming somewhat raucous. The piece ends with an intensely lyrical section with a "fluff" of a coda in the violin. I believe to be one of my more significant works, both musically and technically.

– W. Jay Sydeman, July 2012

W. Jay Sydeman's life mirrors the breadth and variety of his music. Born in New York in 1928 and educated at Manhattan's Mannes School of Music, he quickly became one of the most sought-after and honored composers of his generation, receiving commissions from such prestigious groups as the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, the Tanglewood Music Center, and the Boston Symphony, which premiered his orchestral work in memory of John F. Kennedy in 1966. "Sydeman uses a whole battery of far out techniques," wrote the *New York Times*, "but he has an uncanny ability to throw in the whole avant-garde machinery as if it were the simplest, most normal way of making music in the world ... More than many of his colleagues, he seems to know what will sound well, and he works for some remarkably attractive, pure textures. His sounds seem to grow from a physical sense of exactly what material is right."

In 1970, after a heady period that included awards from the National institute of Arts and Letters, the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Library of Congress, Sydeman left New York – and composition – to begin a journey of personal and artistic exploration.

"Around 1980," he has written, "I returned to composition – at first a large number of choral works which reconnected me to the source of all music – the human voice. Out of this new lyric impulse have evolved all of my works since that time – more romantic, more accessible. I create music for the musician."

– Howard Hersh,
Artistic Director of "Music Now"

Sydeman is part of a composers' group in Nevada City annually producing the "Wet Ink Festival of New Music." He now lives in Mendocino and hosts a bi-weekly program on KZYX, "The Mind of a Composer," 10 am to noon on Mondays, introducing and commenting on contemporary music.

Duration: circa 9:00

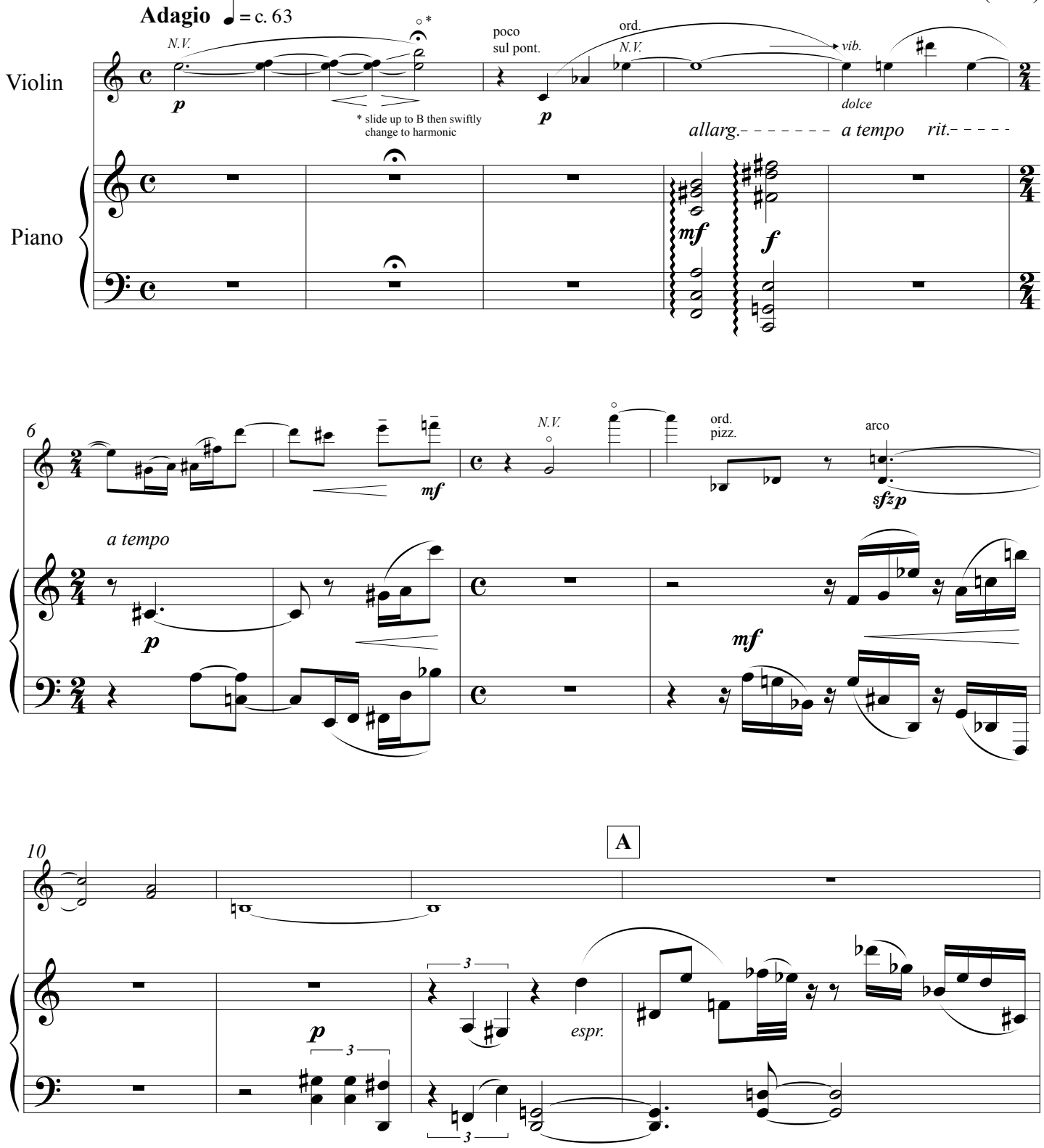
To contact the composer:
Jeanne Duncan, Sydeman Archive Publications
707-962-0394
www.williamjaysydeman.com

Edited and engraved by Rick Shinozaki (Albany, CA), consulting with the composer.

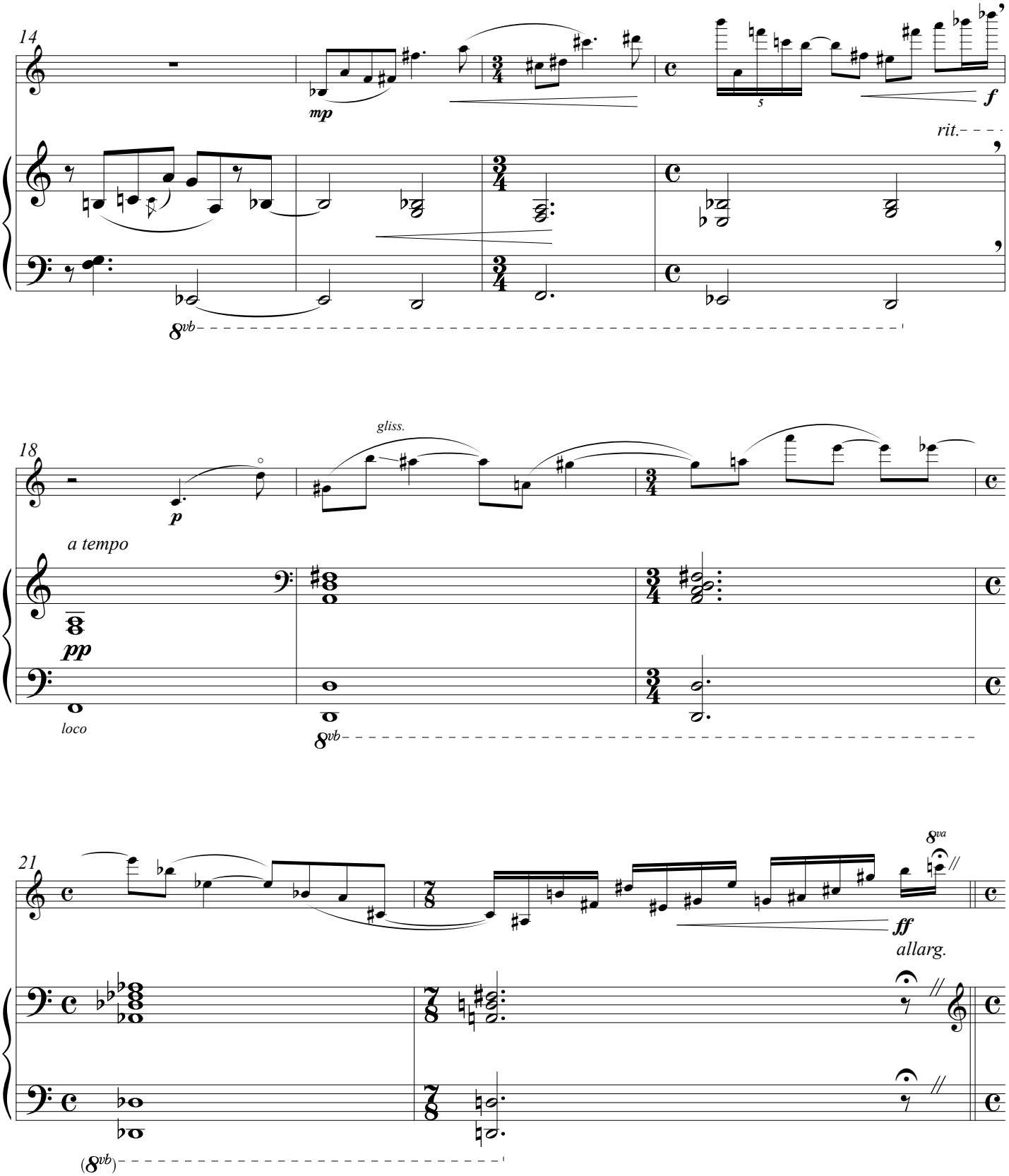
Sonata No. 5 "Miha"

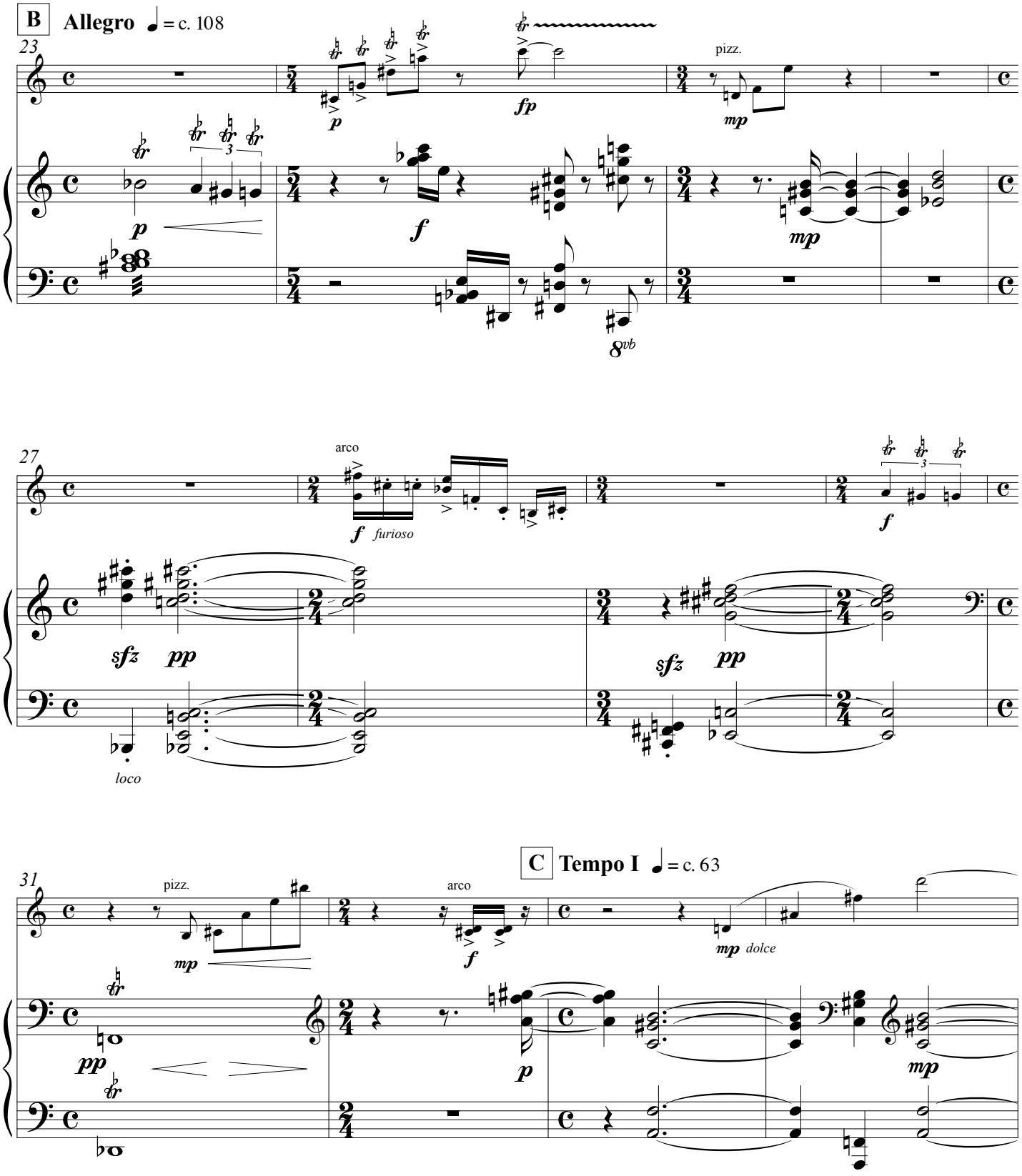
for Violin and Piano

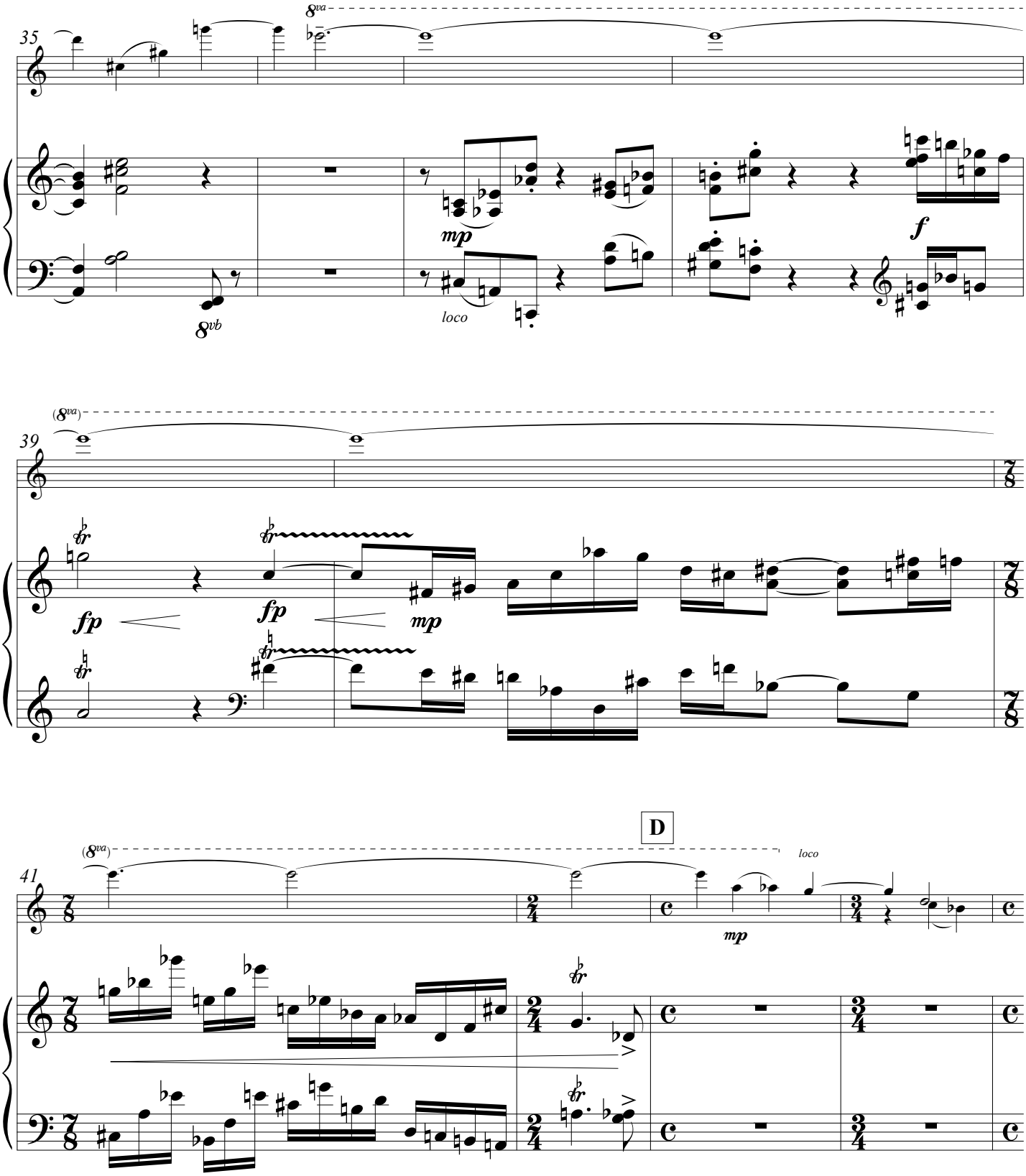
W. Jay Sydeman
(1985)

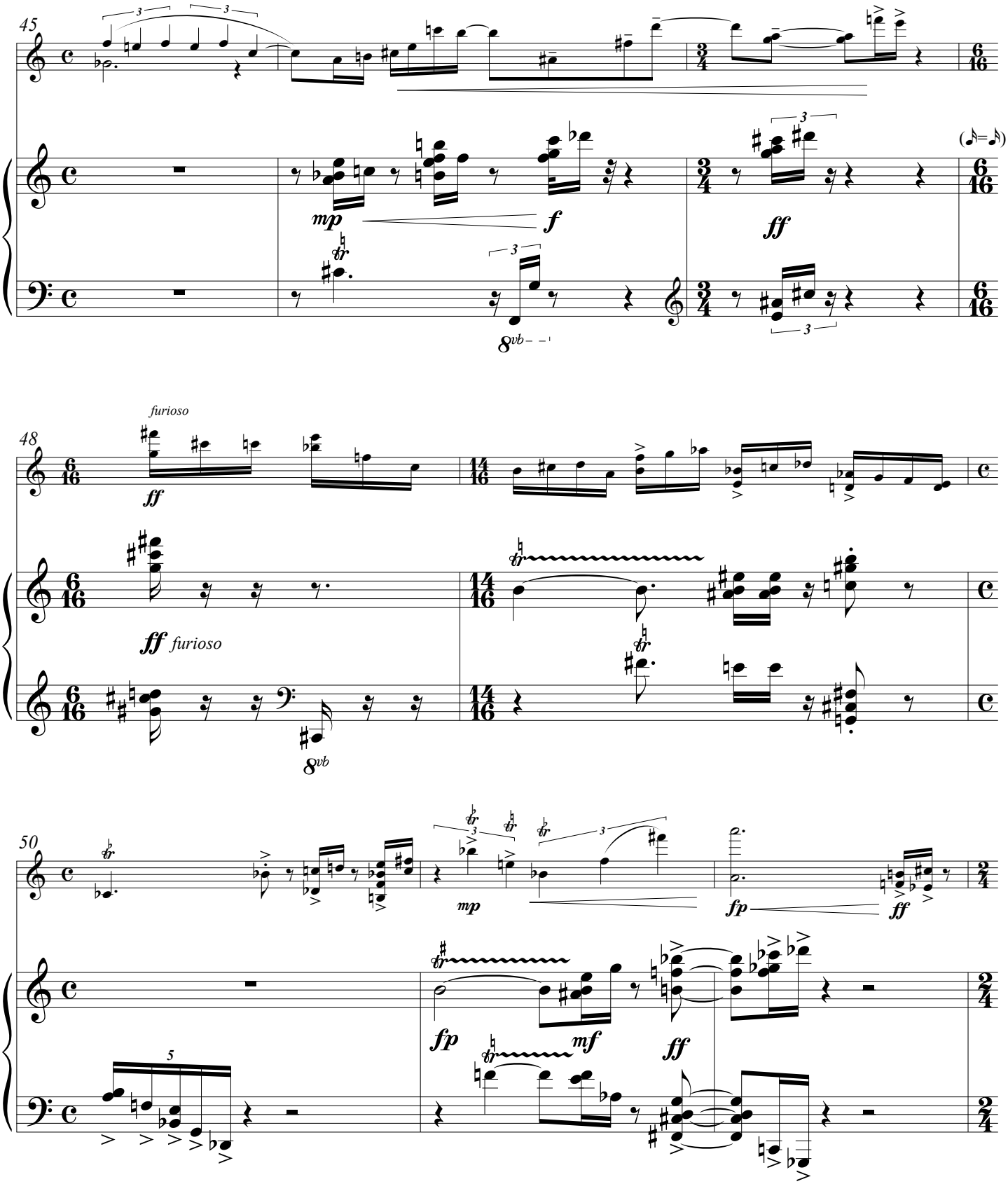


© 2014 Arts Aeturnum Productions. All rights reserved. v.2019-09-01

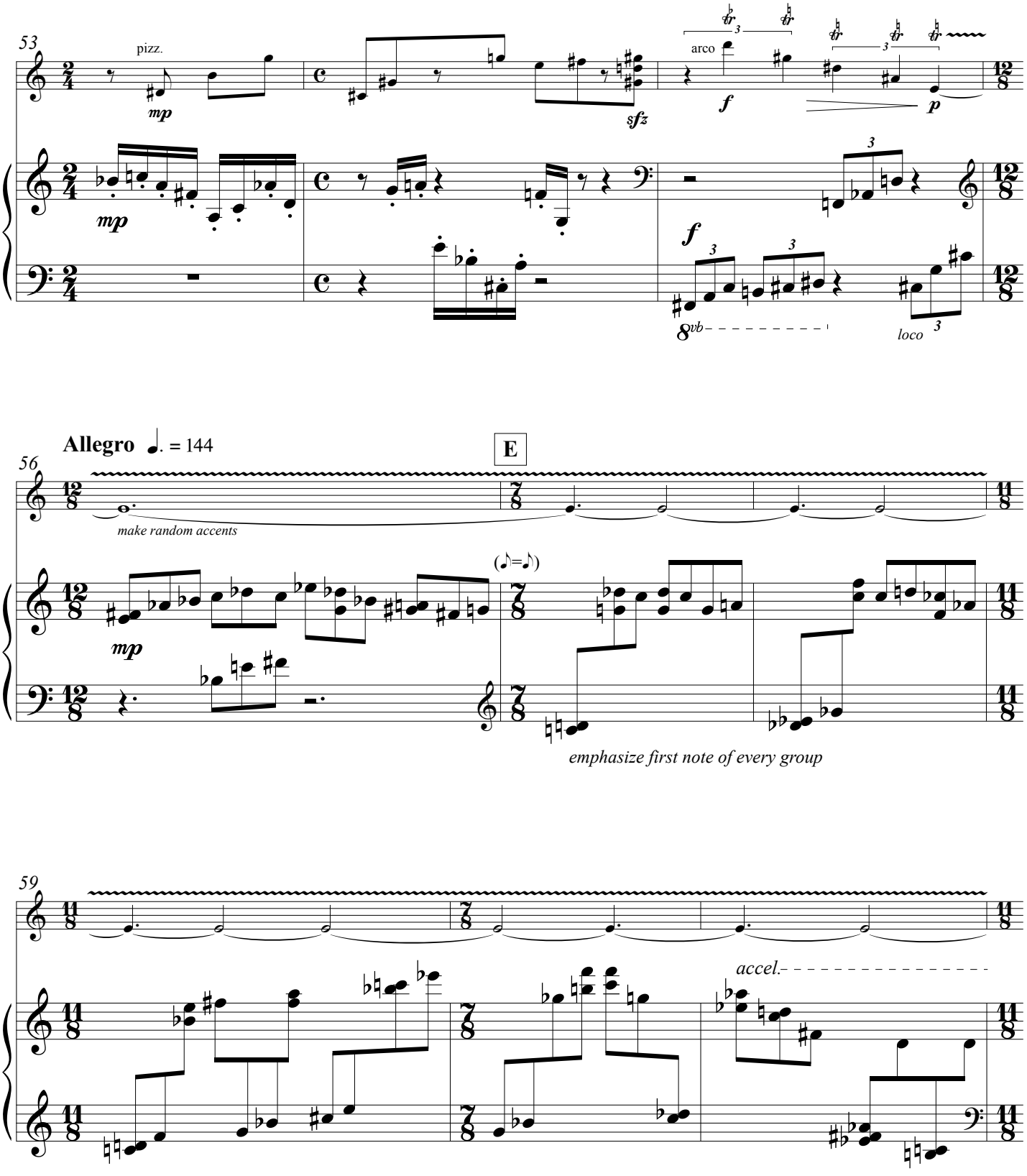

14
mp
f
rit.
8vb
18
gliss.
p
a tempo
pp
loco
8vb
21
8va
ff
allarg.
(8vb)

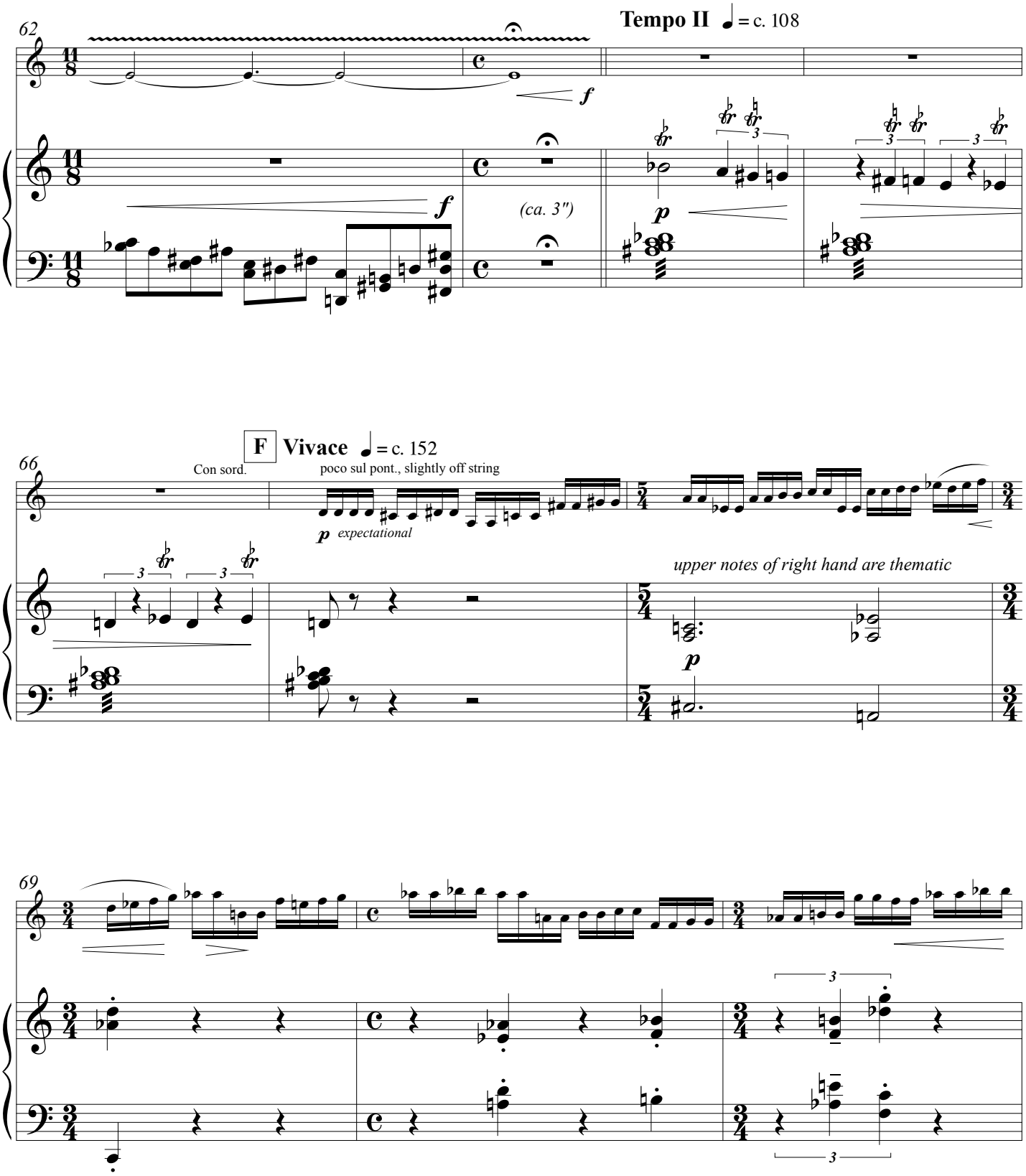

B
Allegro ♩ = c. 108
23
pizz.
8vb
27
arco
furioso
loco
C
Tempo I ♩ = c. 63
31
pizz.
arco
dolce

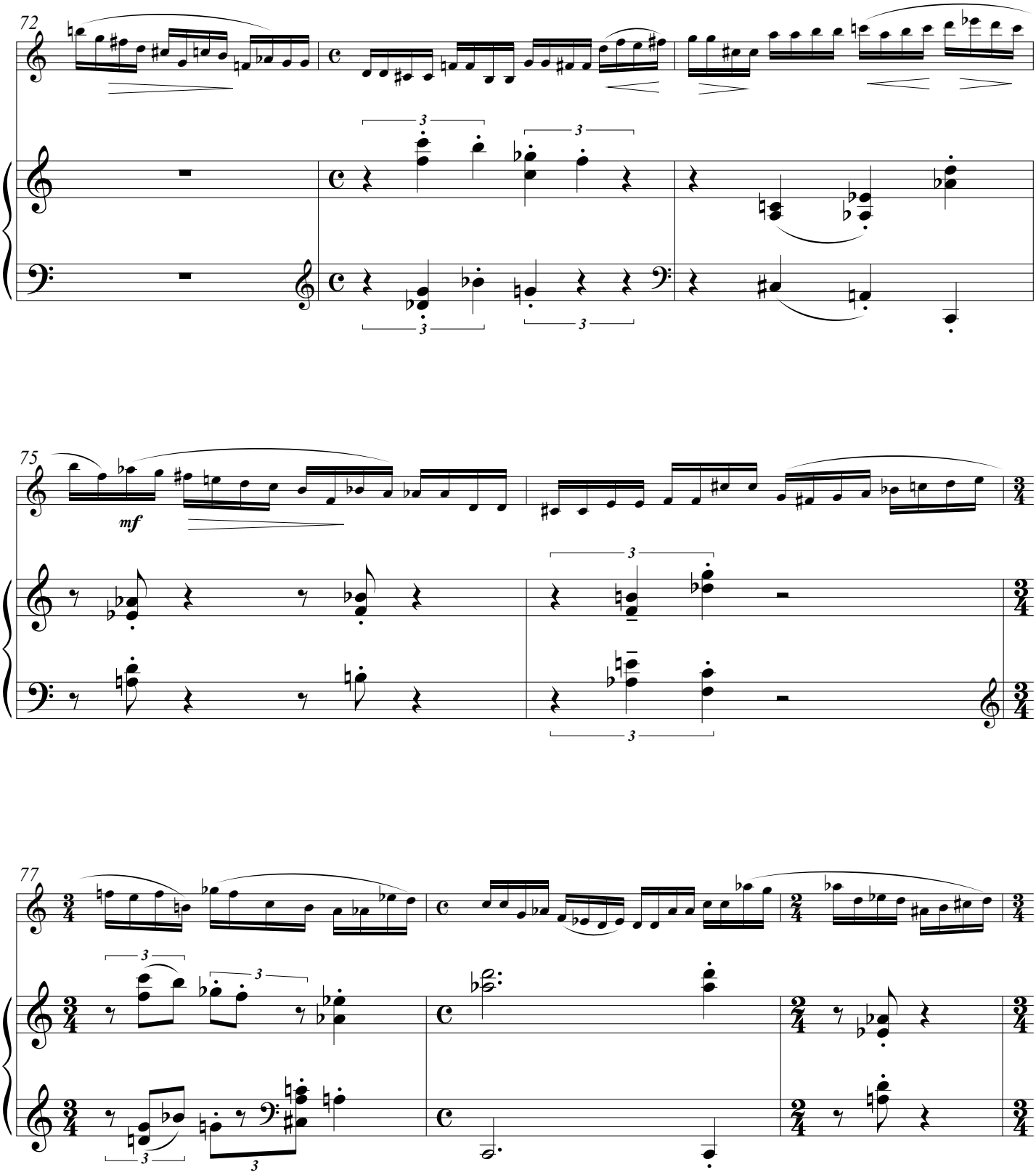

35
8va
8vb
mp
loco
f
39
(8va)
fp
fp
mp
41
(8va)
D
loco
mp

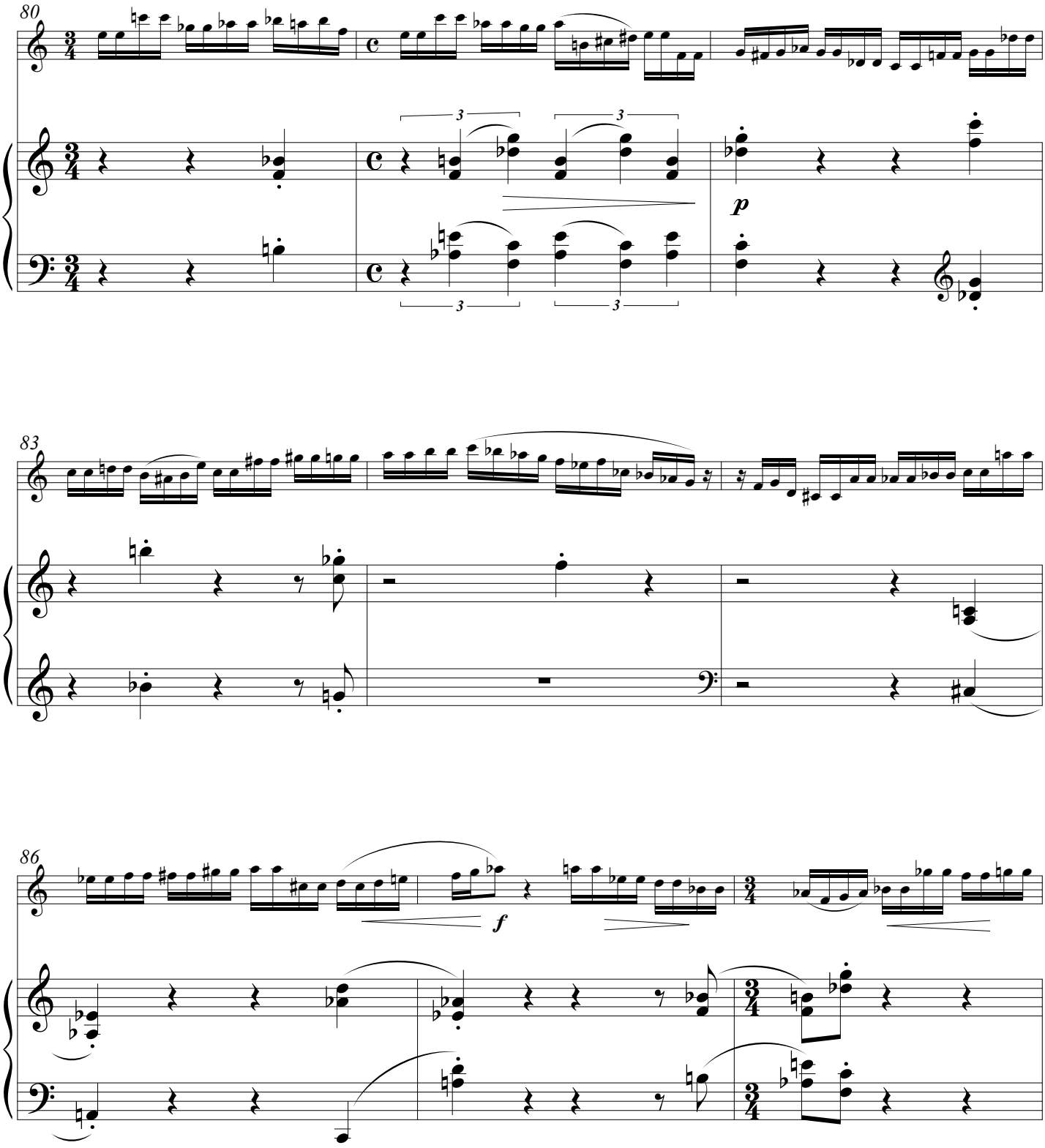

45
mp
f
ff
8vb
48
furioso
ff
ff furioso
8vb
50
mp
fp
ff
fp
mf
ff

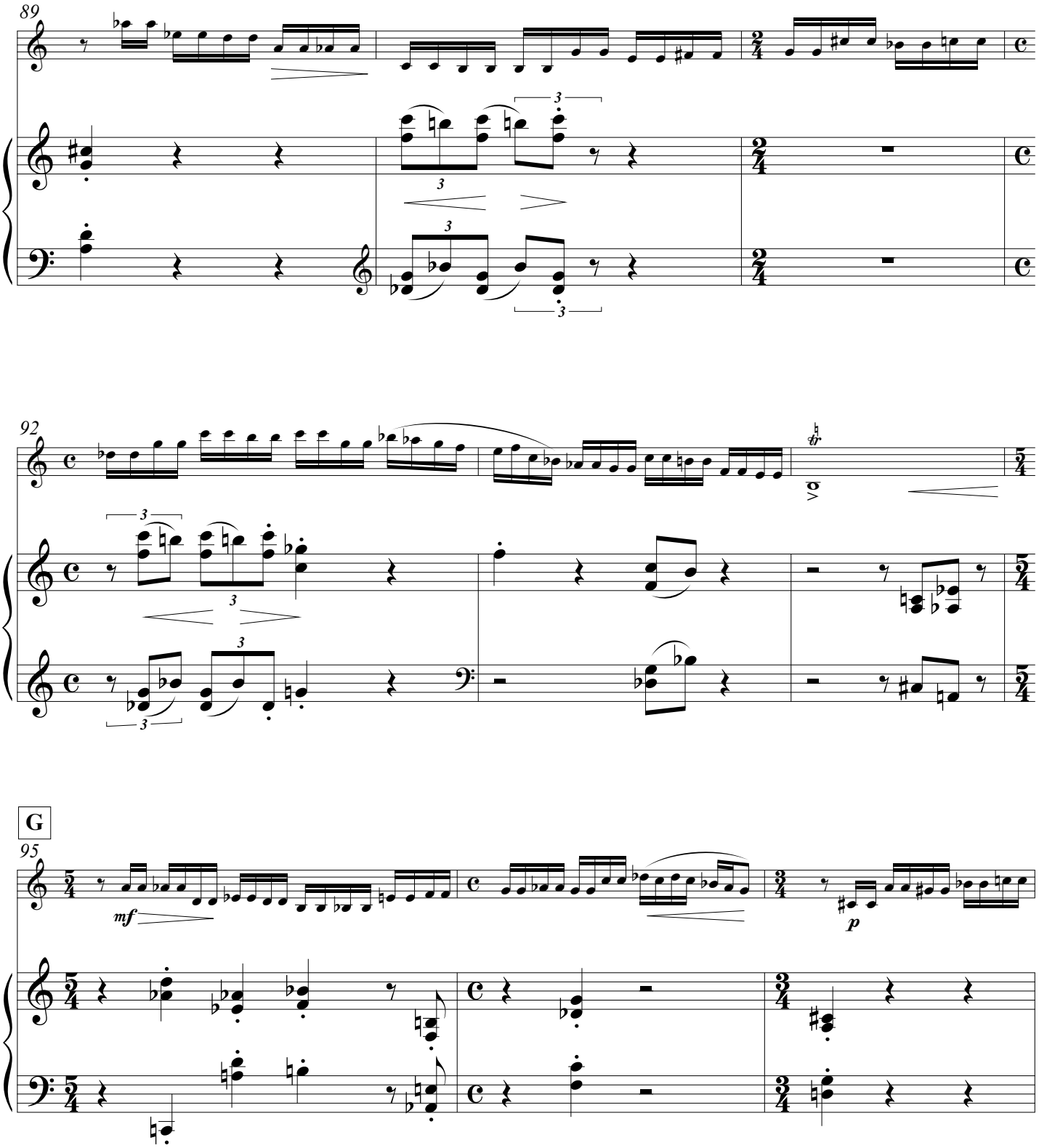
This page is blank to facilitate page turns.

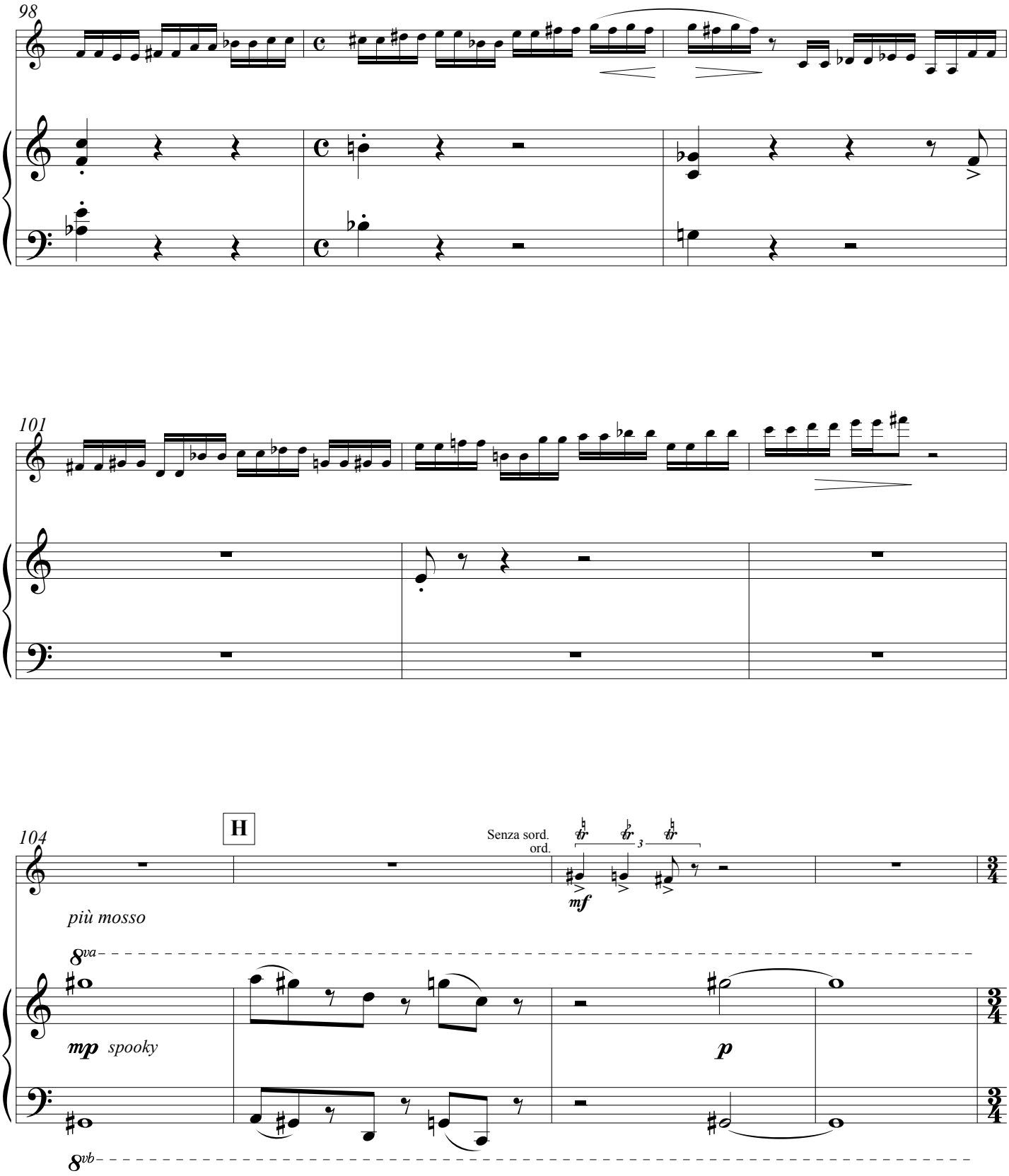

53
pizz.
mp
sfz
arco
f
p
mp
f
8vb
loco
Allegro ♩. = 144
E
56
make random accents
(♪=♪)
mp
emphasize first note of every group
59
accel.

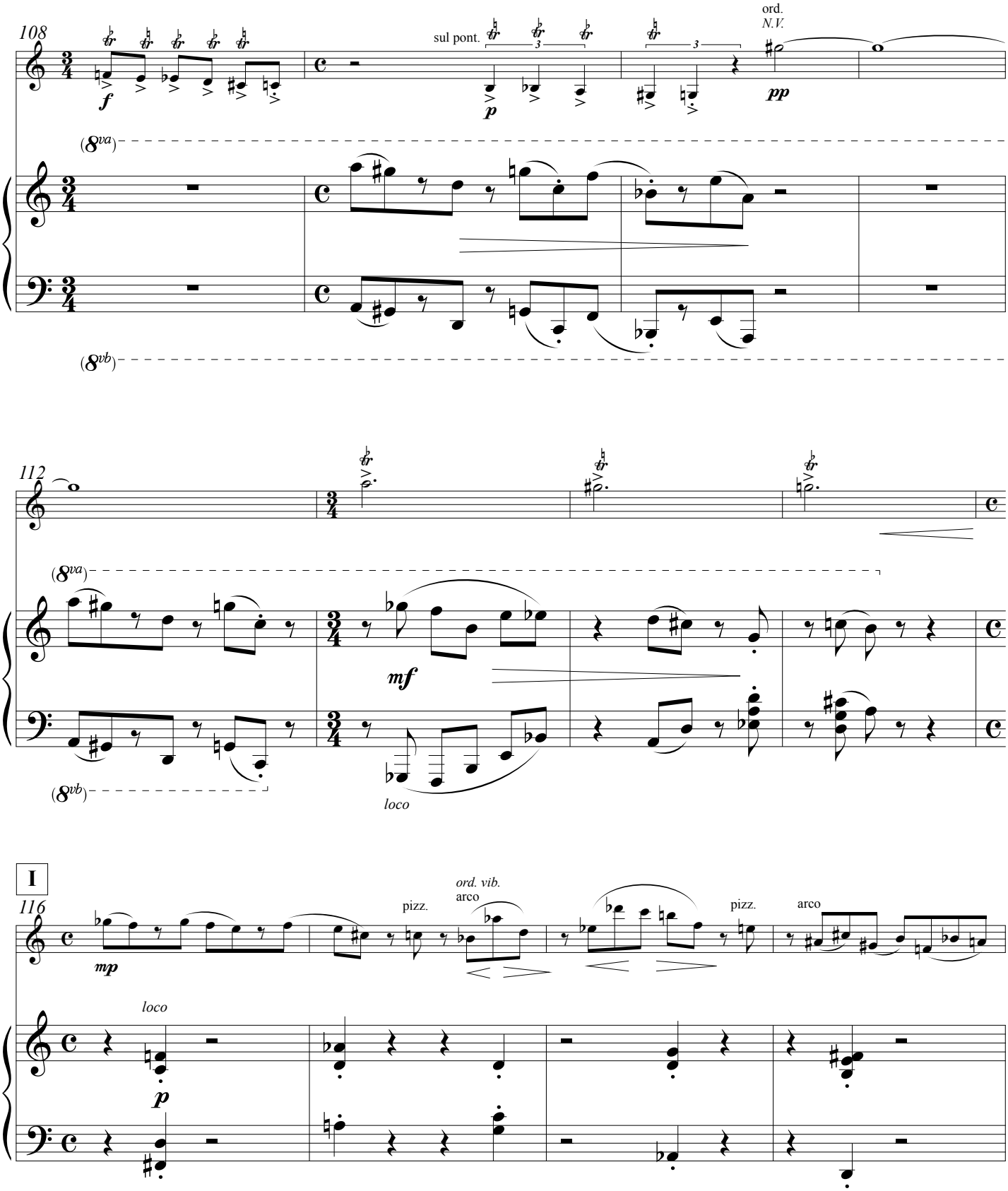

62
Tempo II ♩ = c. 108
f
f
(ca. 3")
p
66
F
Vivace ♩ = c. 152
Con sord.
poco sul pont., slightly off string
p expectational
upper notes of right hand are thematic
p
69

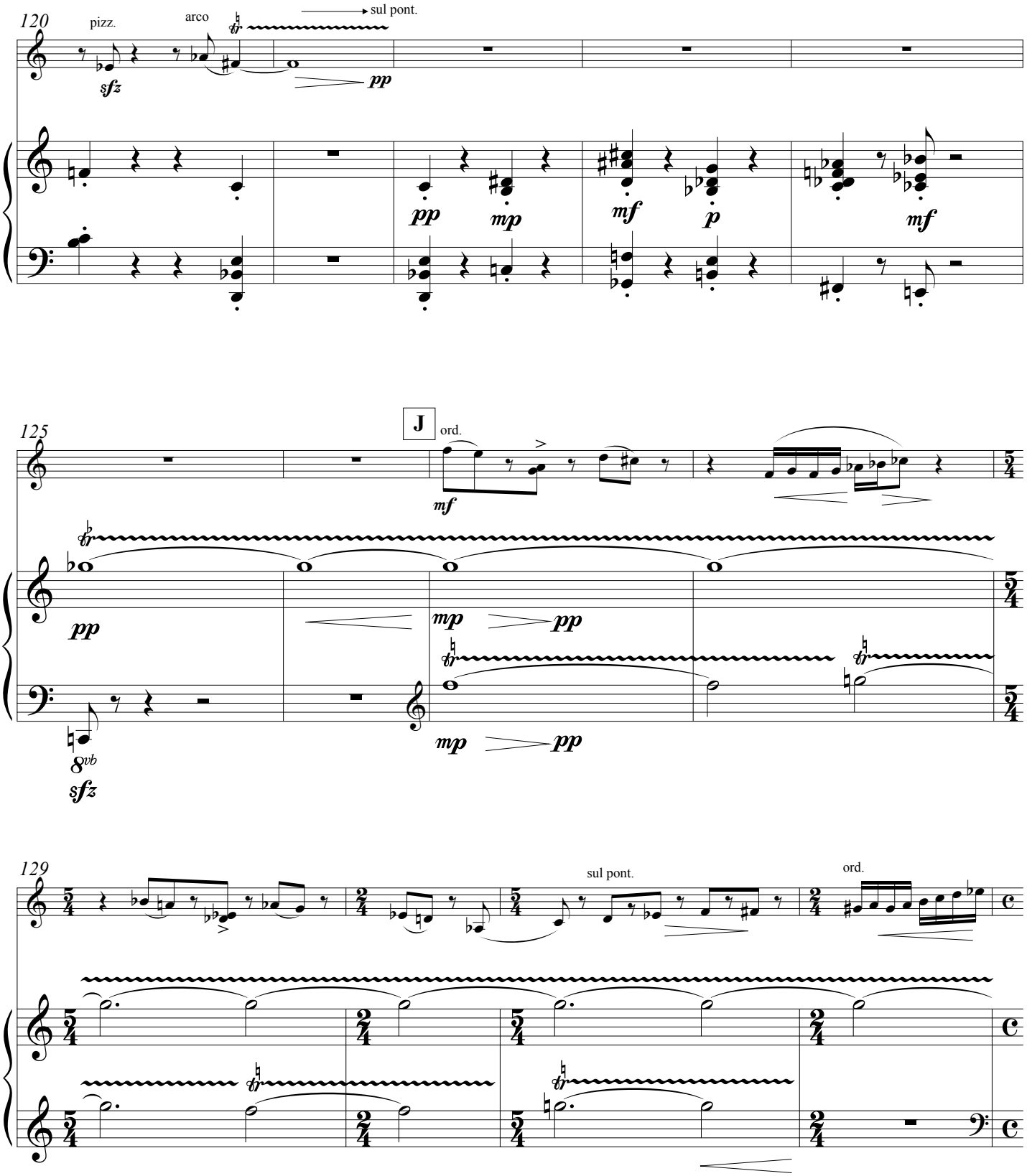

72
75
mf
77

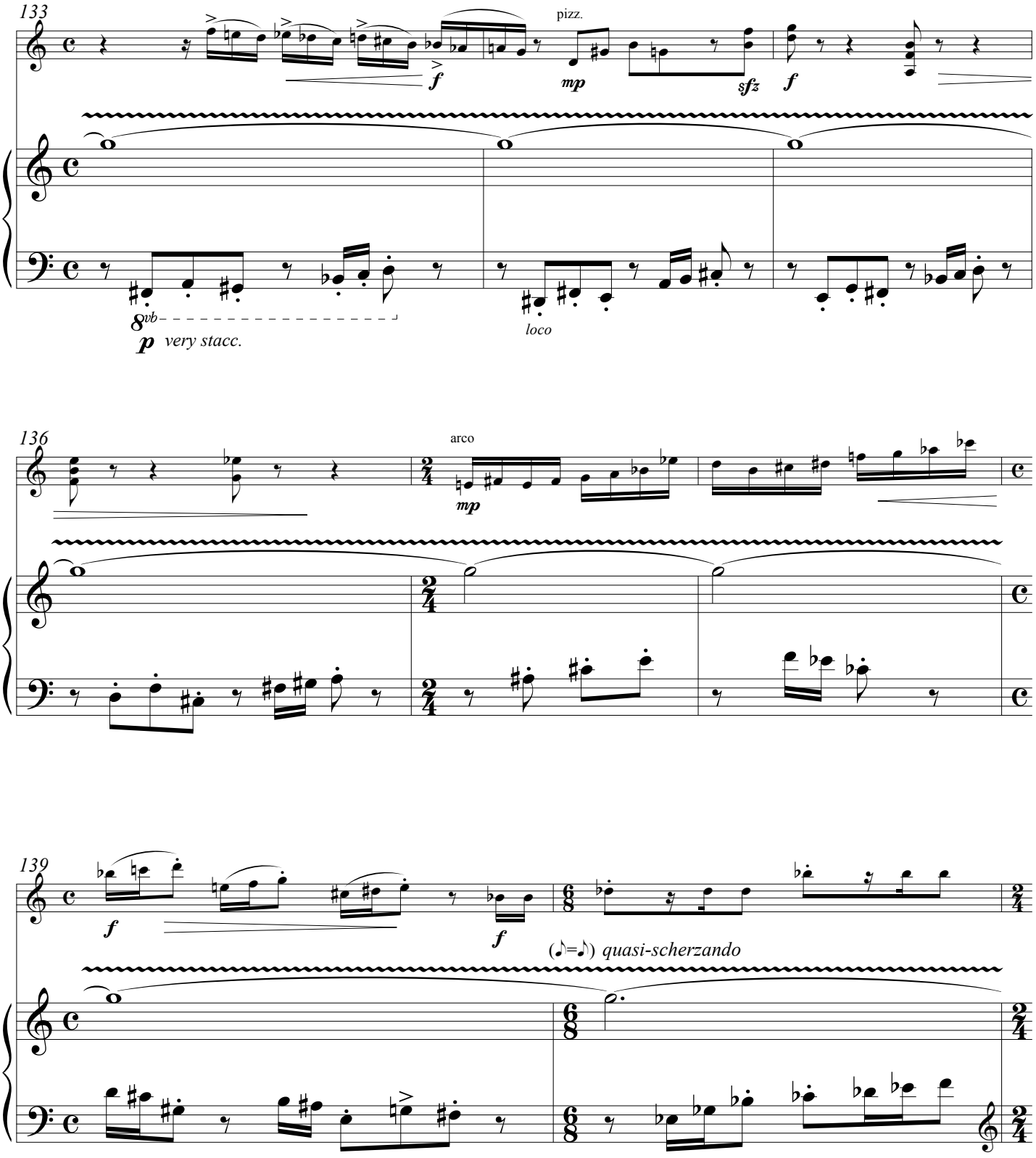

80
3
3
p
83
86
f

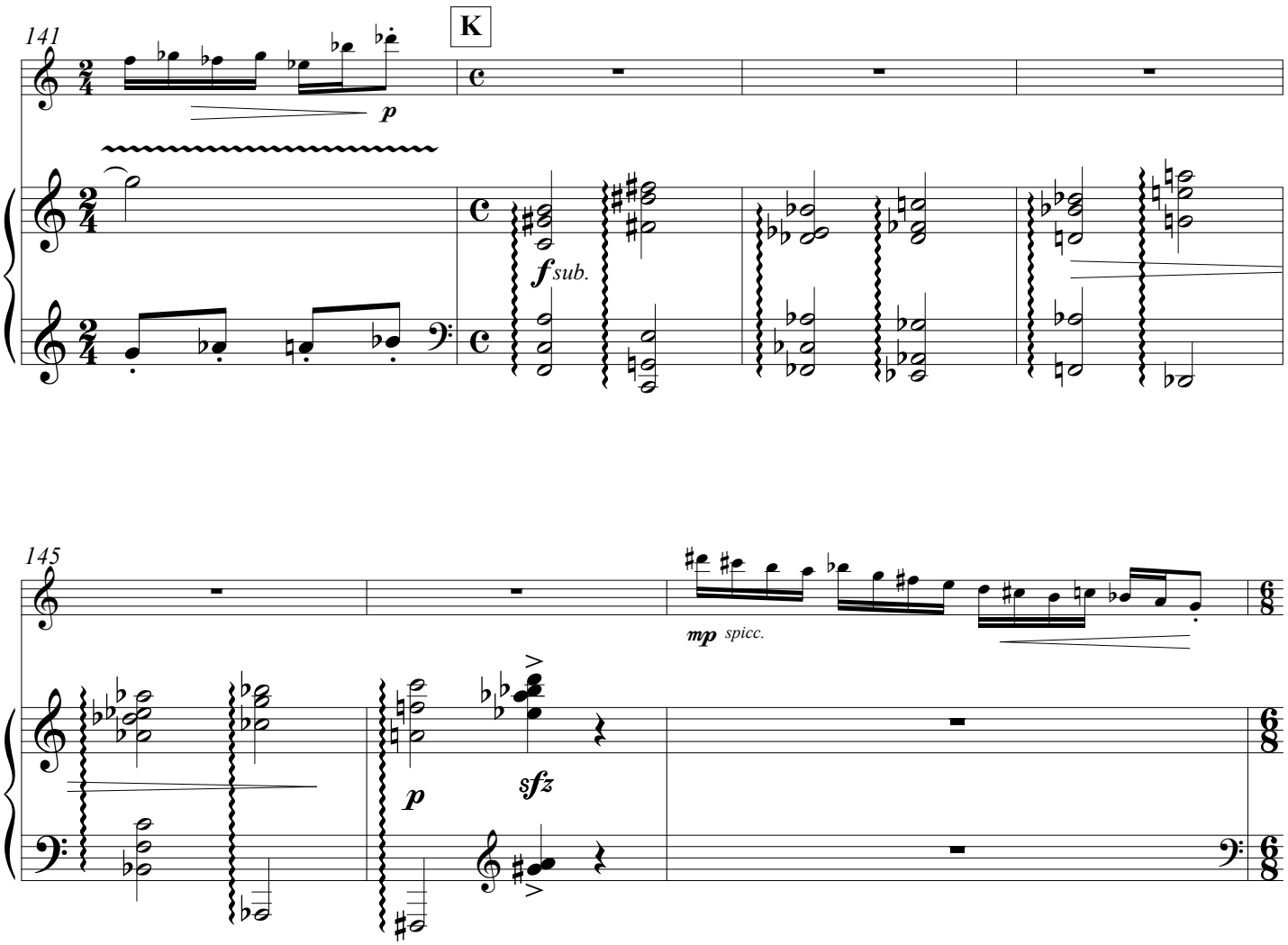

89
92
G
95
mf
p

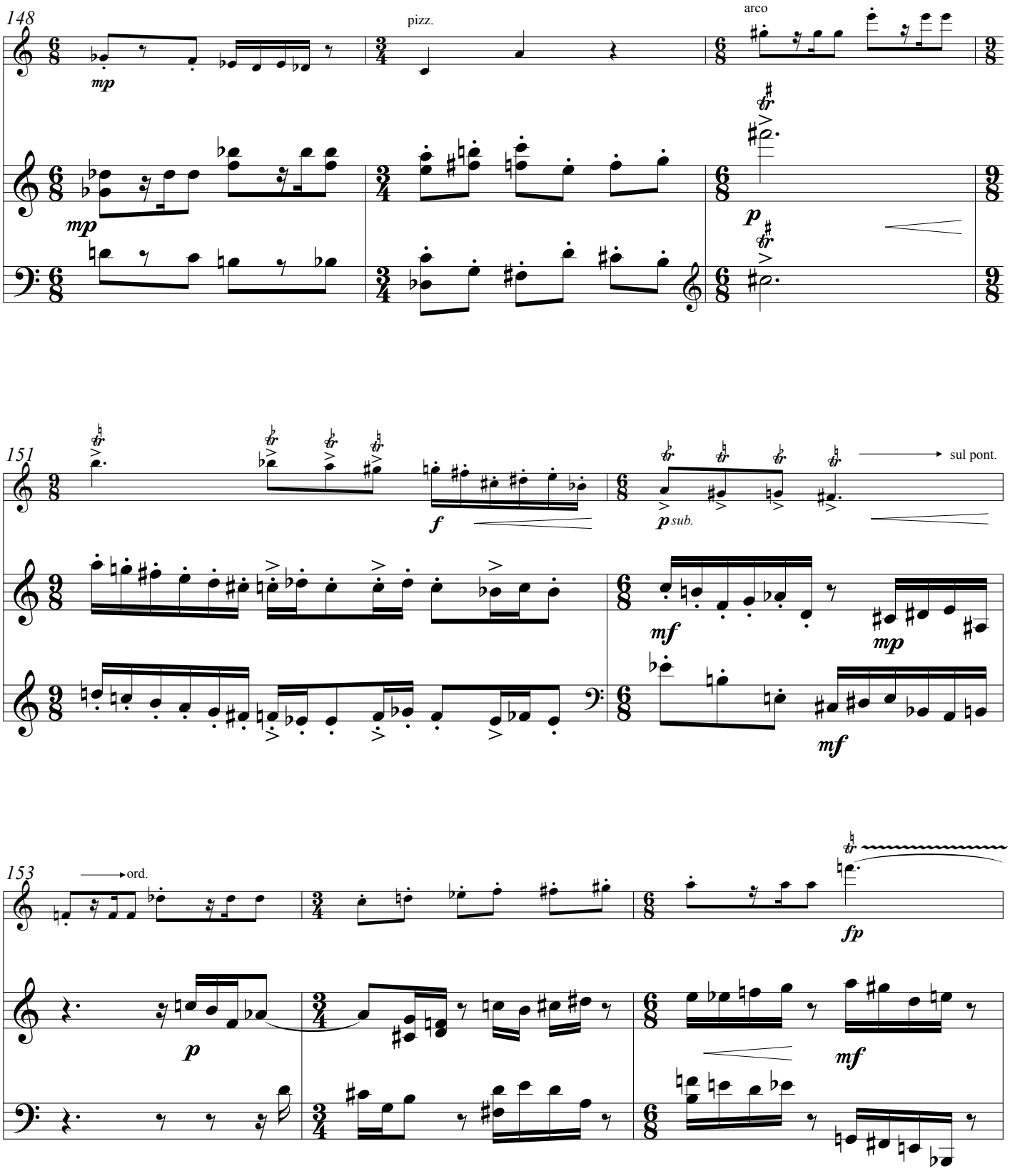

98
101
104
H
Senza sord.
ord.
mf
più mosso
8va
mp spooky
p
8vb

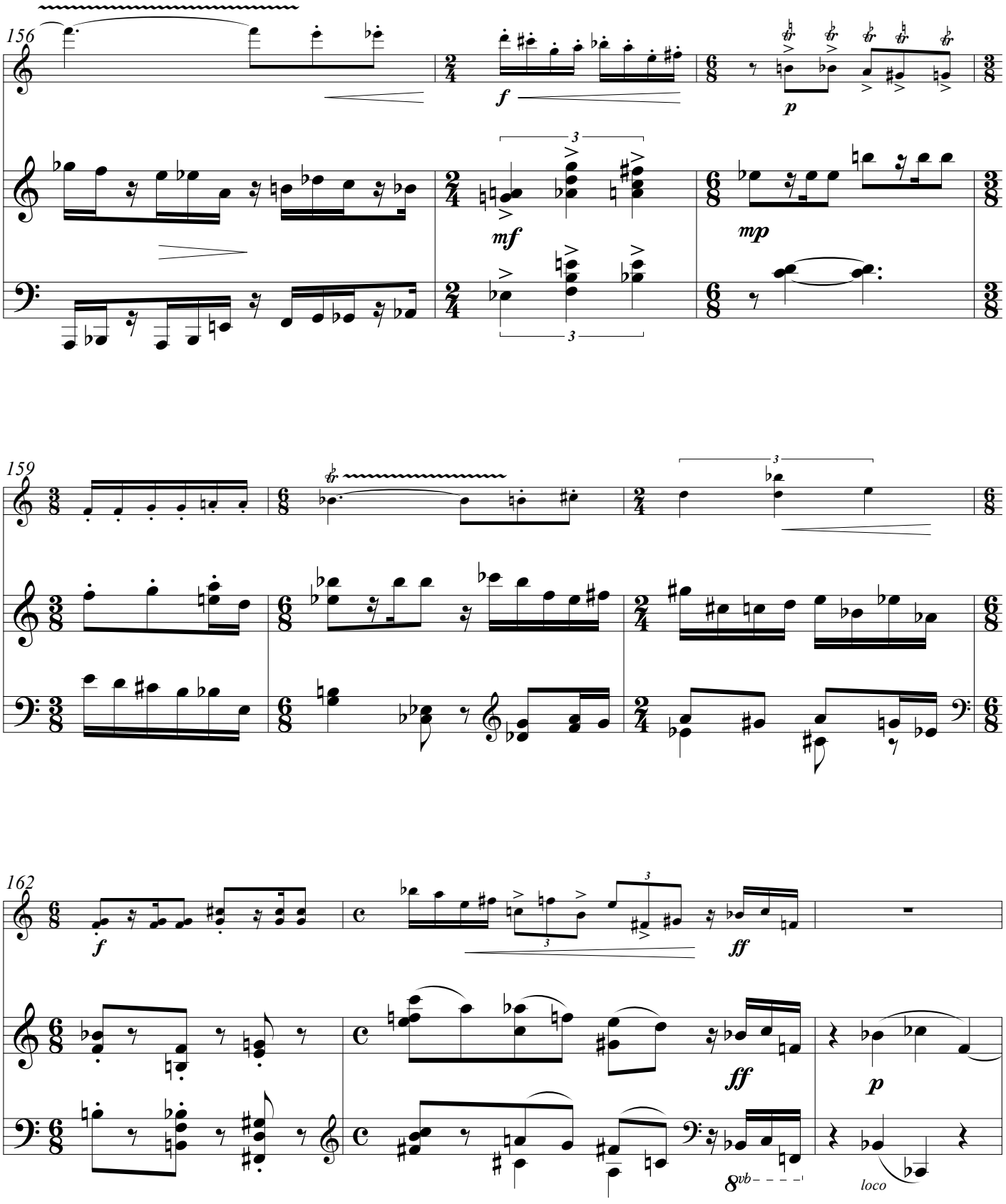

108
f
sul pont.
p
ord.
N.V.
pp
(8va)
(8vb)
112
mf
loco
(8va)
(8vb)
I
116
mp
pizz.
ord. vib.
arco
pizz.
arco
loco
p

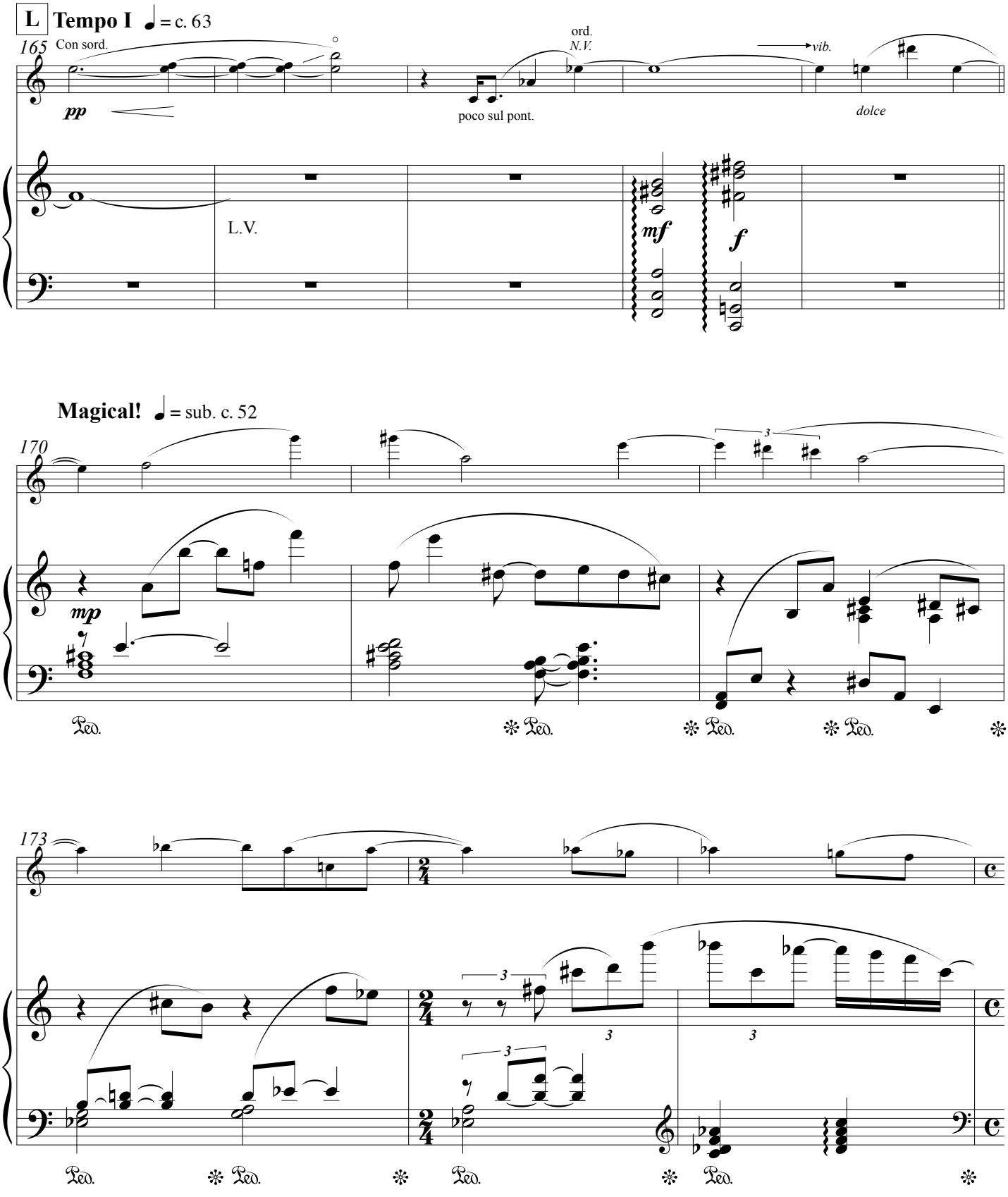

120
pizz.
arco
sul pont.
sfz
pp
pp
mp
mf
p
mf
125
J
ord.
mf
pp
mp
pp
8vb
sfz
mp
pp
129
sul pont.
ord.

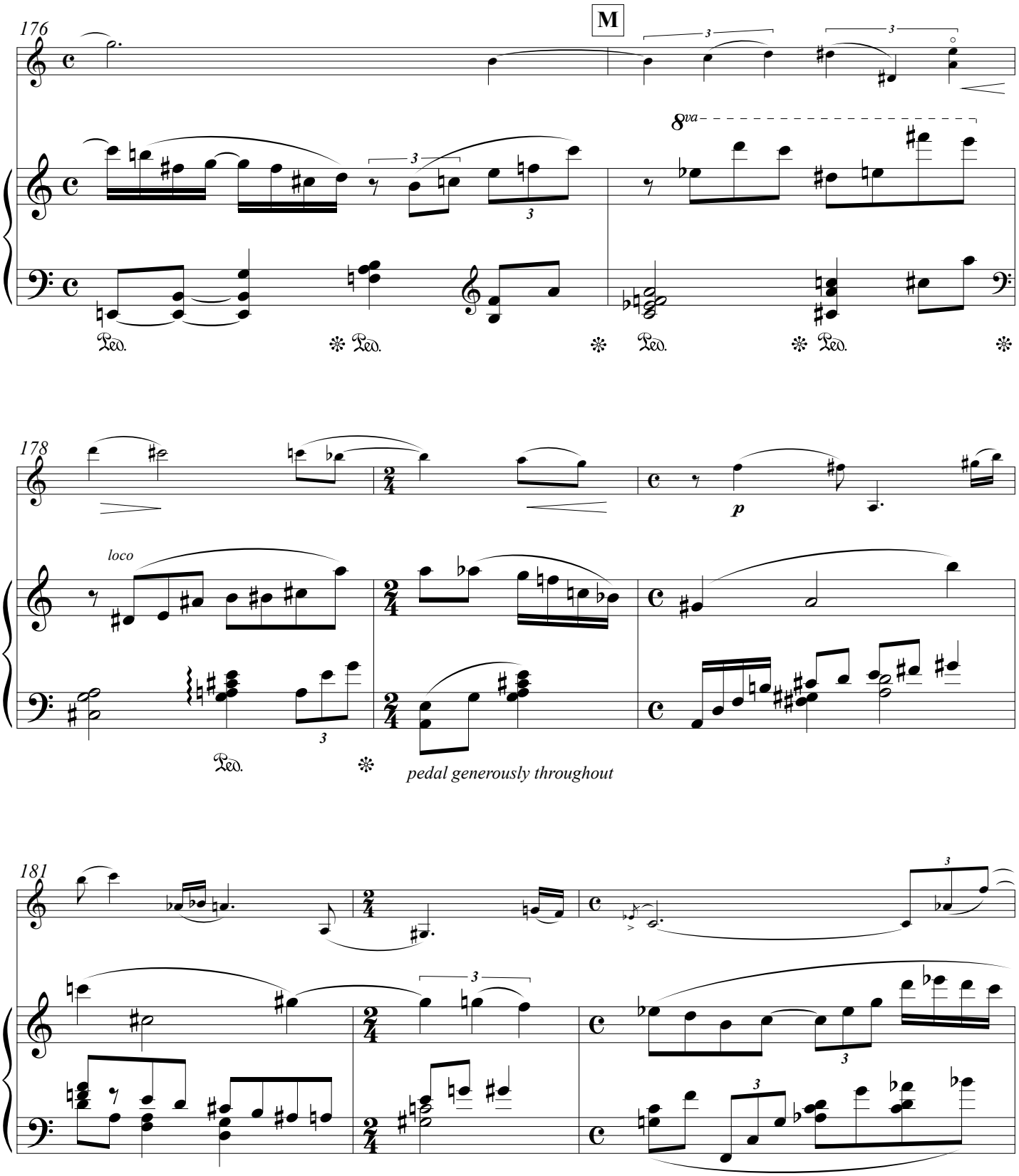

133
pizz.
f
mp
sfz
f
8vb
p very stacc.
loco
136
arco
mp
139
f
f
(♪=♪) quasi-scherzando

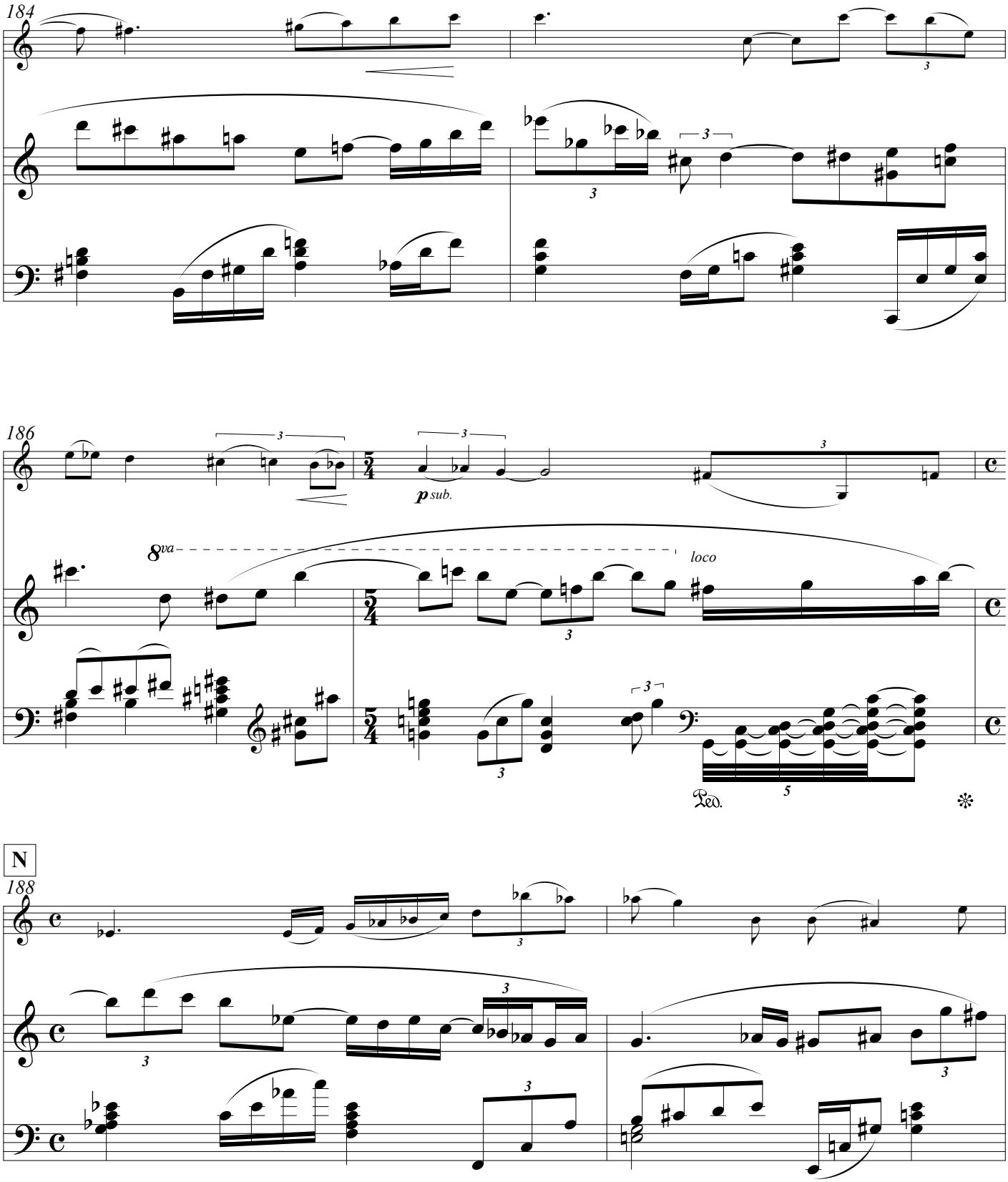

141
K
p
f sub.
145
mp spicc.
p
sfz

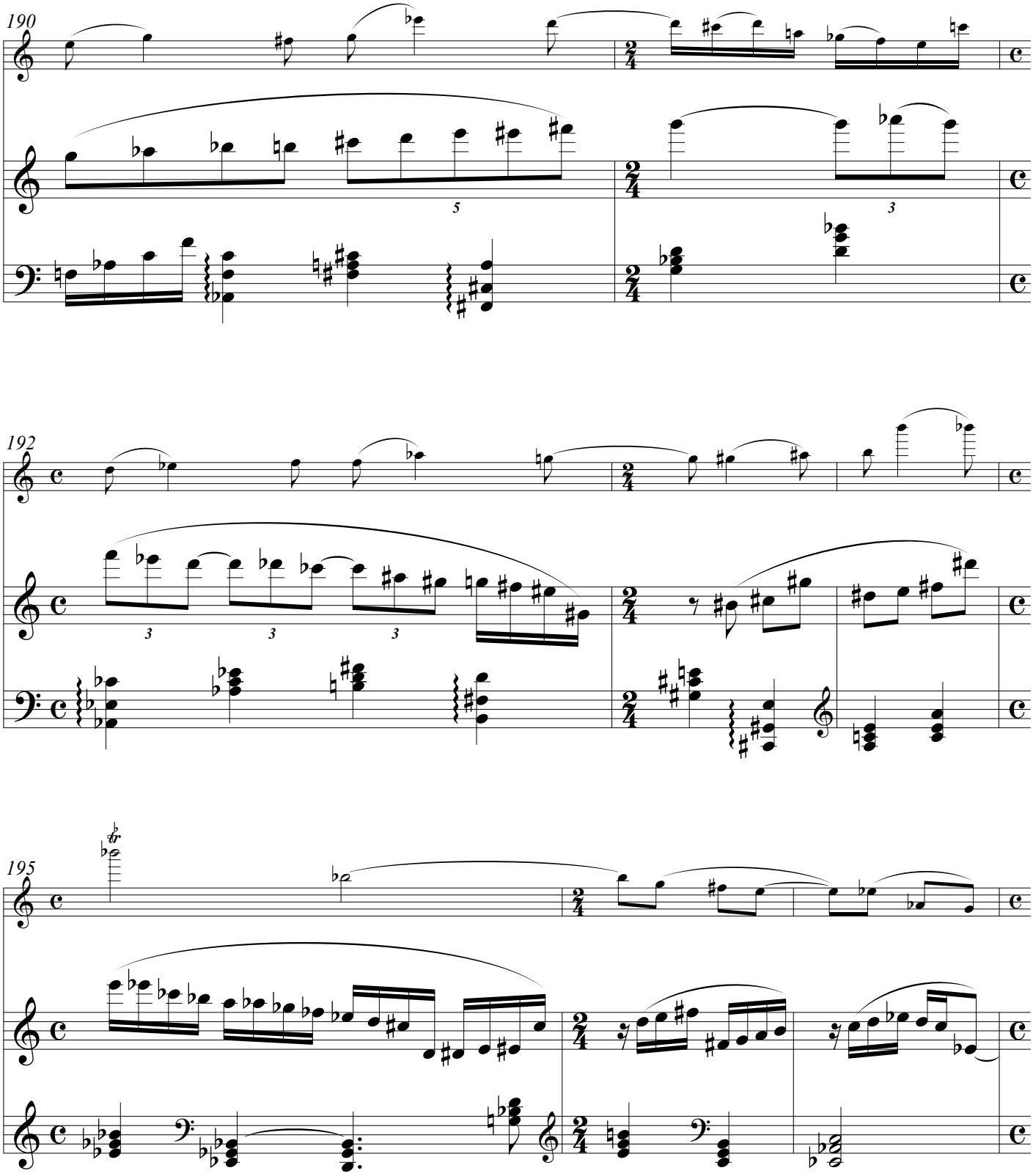

148
pizz.
arco
mp
mp
p
151
f
p sub.
sul pont.
mf
mp
mf
153
ord.
p
fp
mf

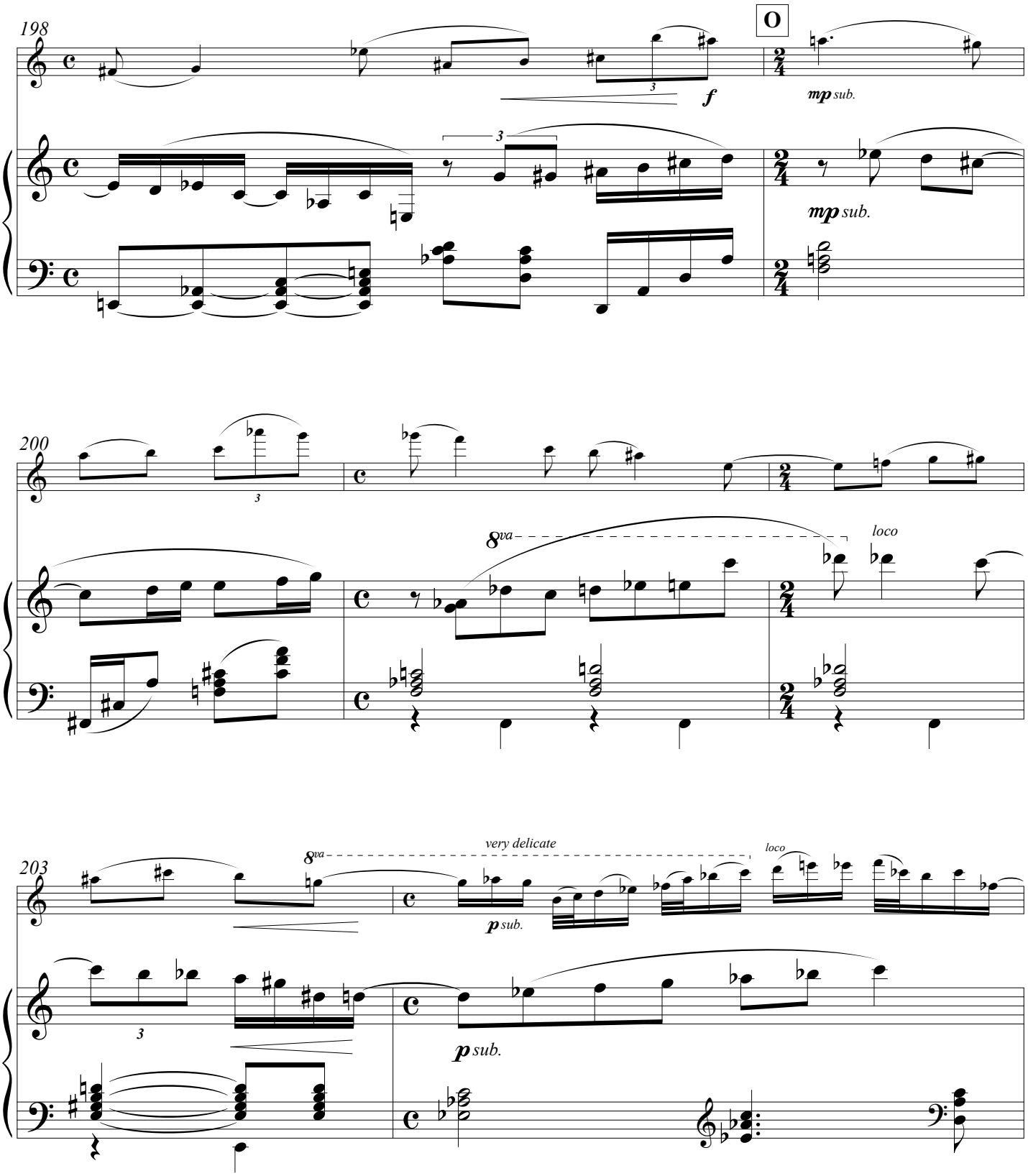

156
f
p
mf
mp
159
162
f
ff
ff
p
8vb
loco

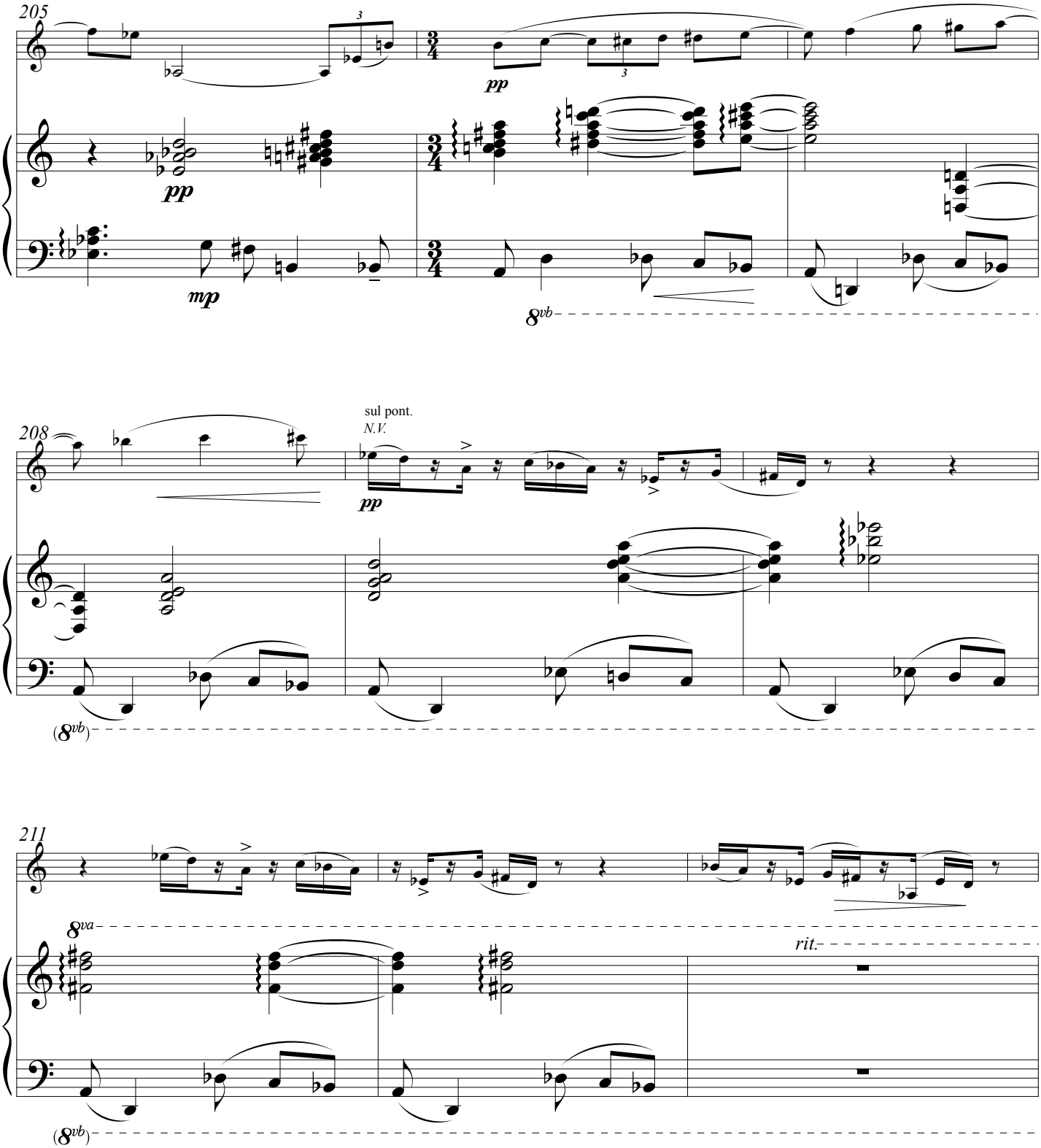

L
Tempo I ♩ = c. 63
165
Con sord.
pp
poco sul pont.
ord.
N.V.
vib.
dolce
L.V.
mf
f
Magical! ♩ = sub. c. 52
170
mp
3
Ped.
173
2/4
c
3

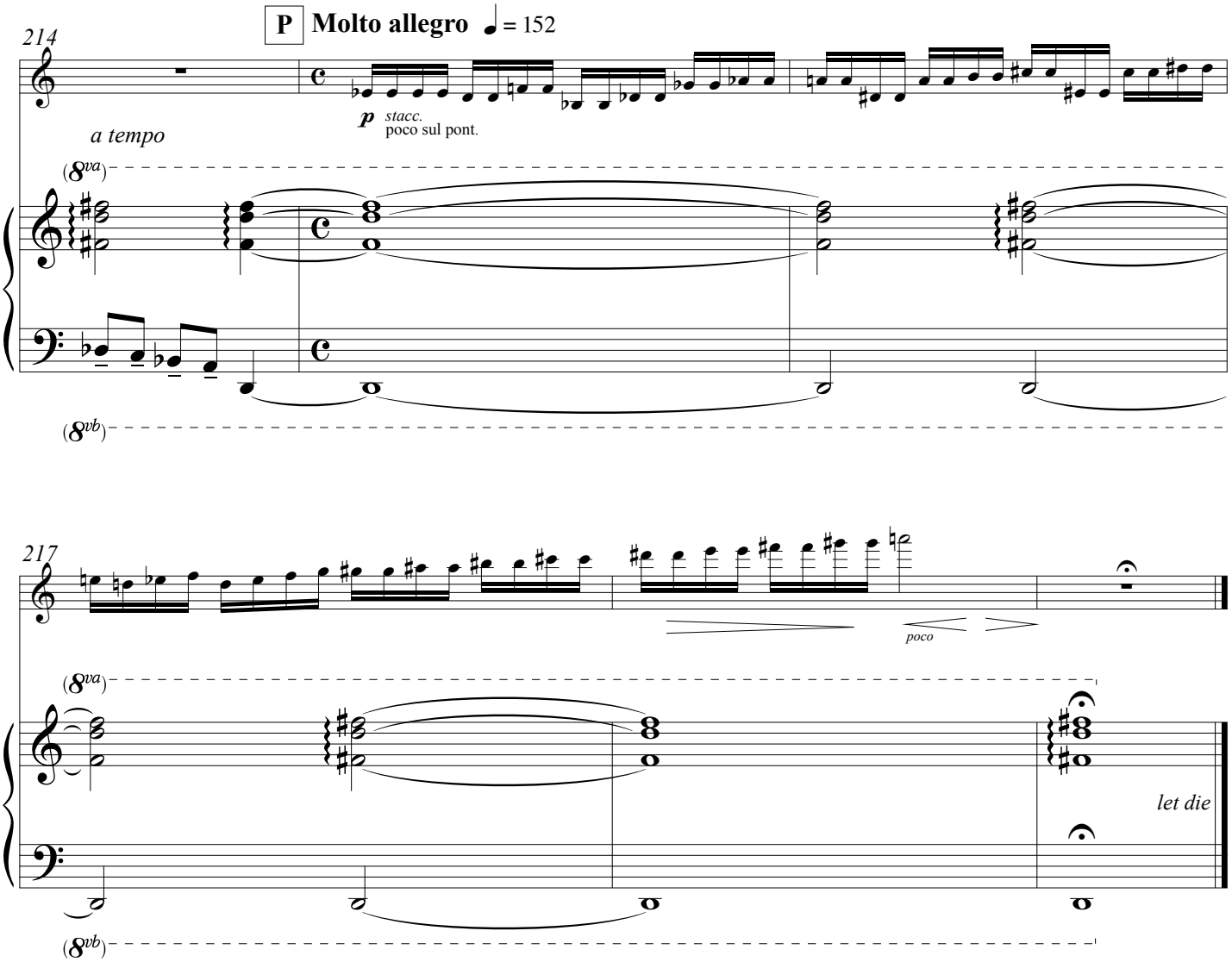

176
M
8va
Ped.
178
loco
p
Ped.
pedal generously throughout
181


184
186
8va
loco
p sub.
Ped.
N
188


190
192
195


198
O
f
mp sub.
mp sub.
200
8va
loco
203
very delicate
8va
loco
p sub.
p sub.


205
pp
pp
mp
8vb
208
sul pont.
N.V.
pp
(8vb)
211
8va
rit.
(8vb)


P
Molto allegro
= 152
214
p
stacc.
poco sul pont.
a tempo
(8va)
(8vb)
217
poco
let die
(8va)
(8vb)