J. HARRY WHALLEY

SEVEN ROCKS

String Quartet

2014

In seven short movements, for strings and spoken voice, in which the compositional form of the music represents the processes that each rock undertook in its formation (Slate, for example, is formed of large, fairly featureless slabs with very sharp edges, so this is reflected in the musical texture). This form is further moulded by a more abstract appreciation of the landscape or rock mediated through the poetry of Norman Nicholson.

Commissioned by the Norman Nicholson Society with support of the Britten Pears Foundation, first performed in Millom Cumbria in St Georges Church by the Gildas Quartet in July 2015

Second Performance by the Gildas Quartet in Coventry as part of the INTIME Symposium, October 2015 with generous support through Kickstarter by:

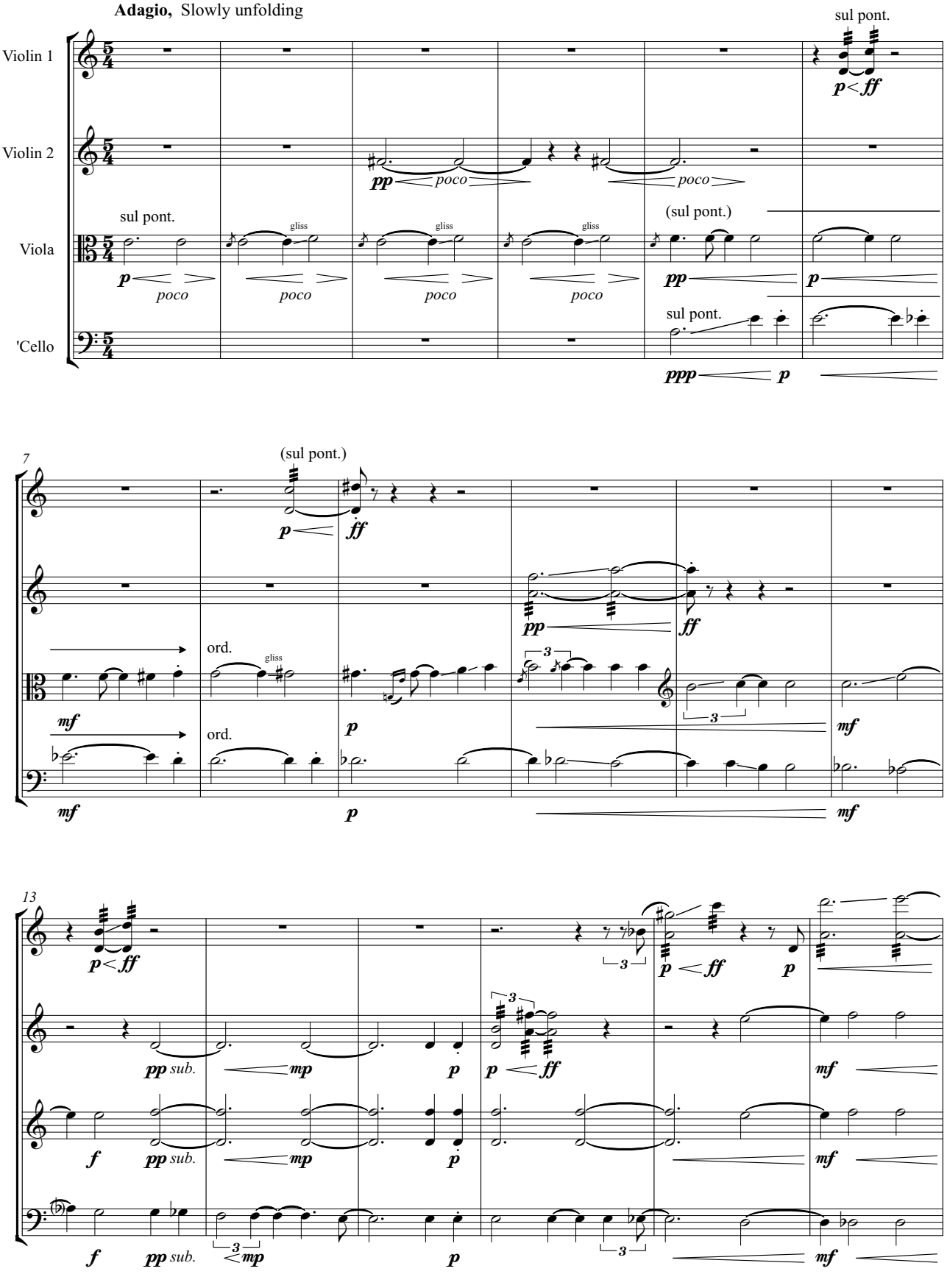
Aitor De Las Heras
Andrew Whalley
Andrew Wilson
Antoinette Fawcett
Charlie Lambert
Claire Blake
Gillian Boyd
Hilary Atkins
Joan Saywood
Kathleen Jones
Rosemary Watkins
Steven Alderidge
Susan Hughes
Willian Brian Whalley
Anon
Anon

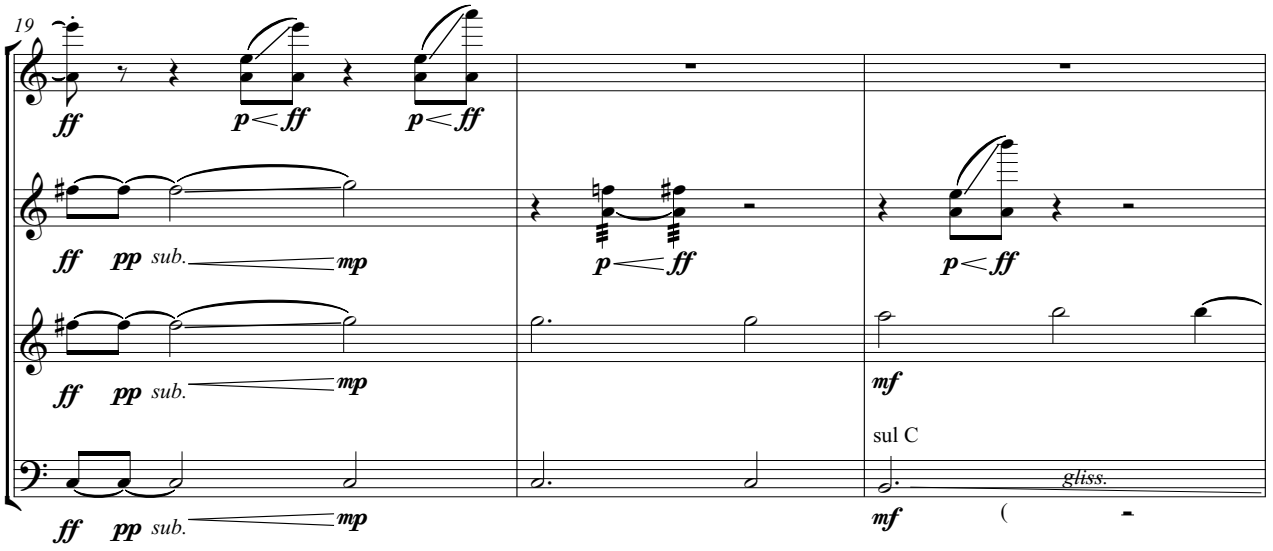
Seven Rocks

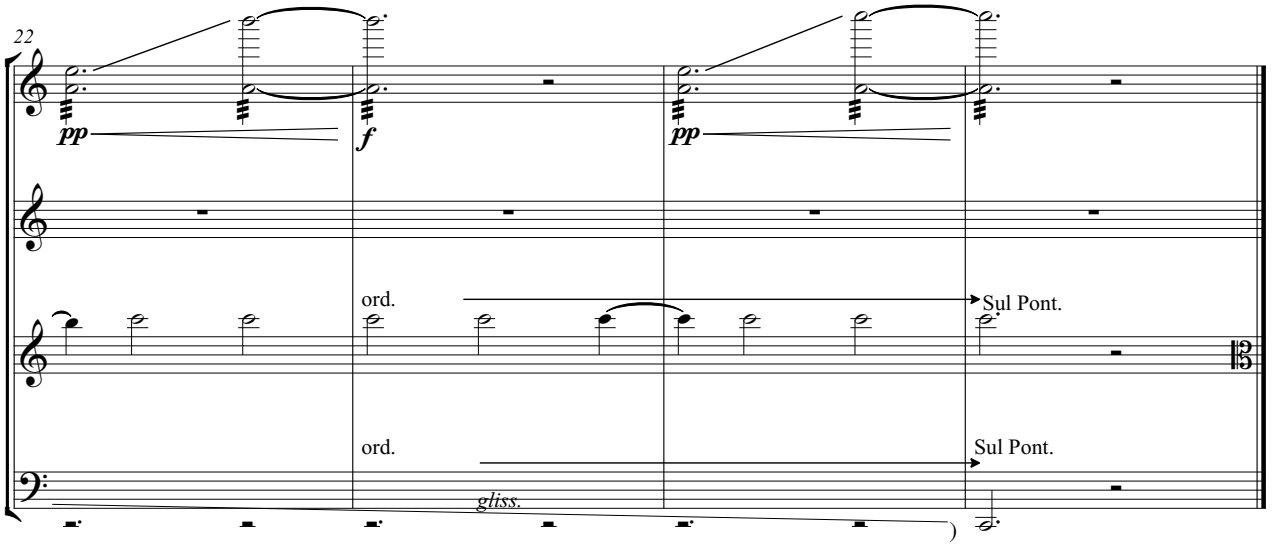
HARRY WHALLEY (2014)

1 SKIDDAW SLATE

Adagio, Slowly unfolding

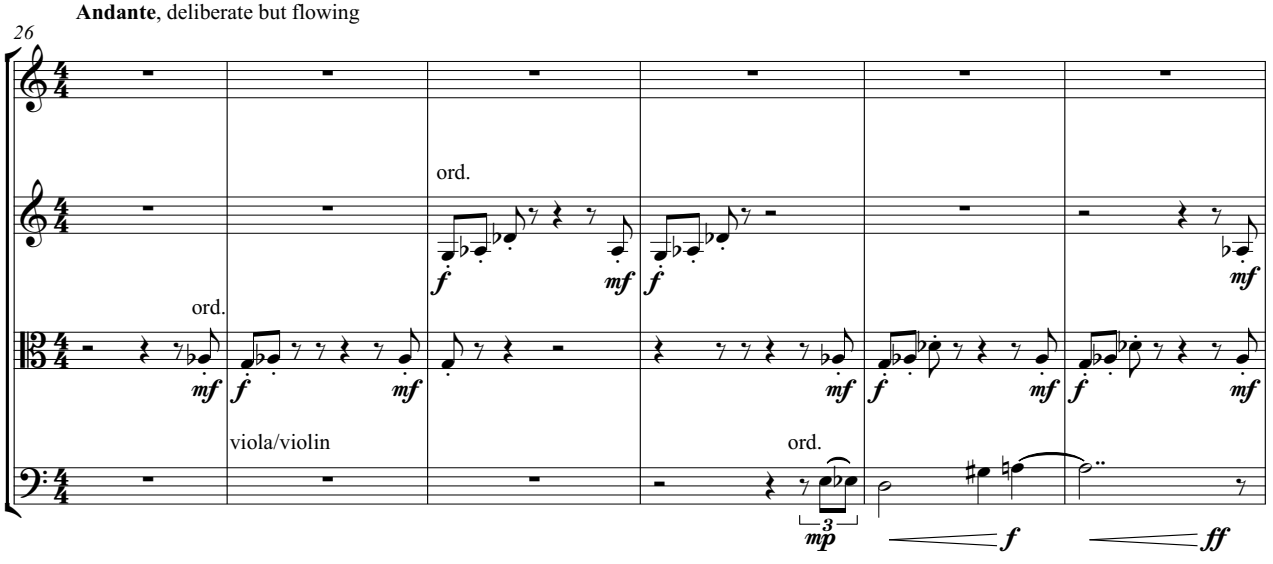


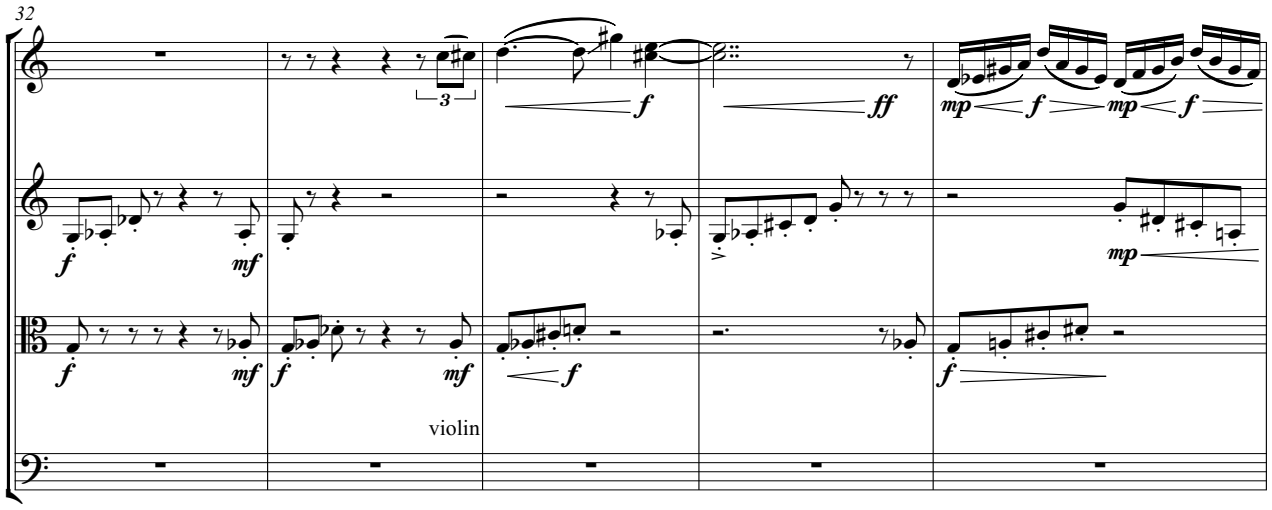


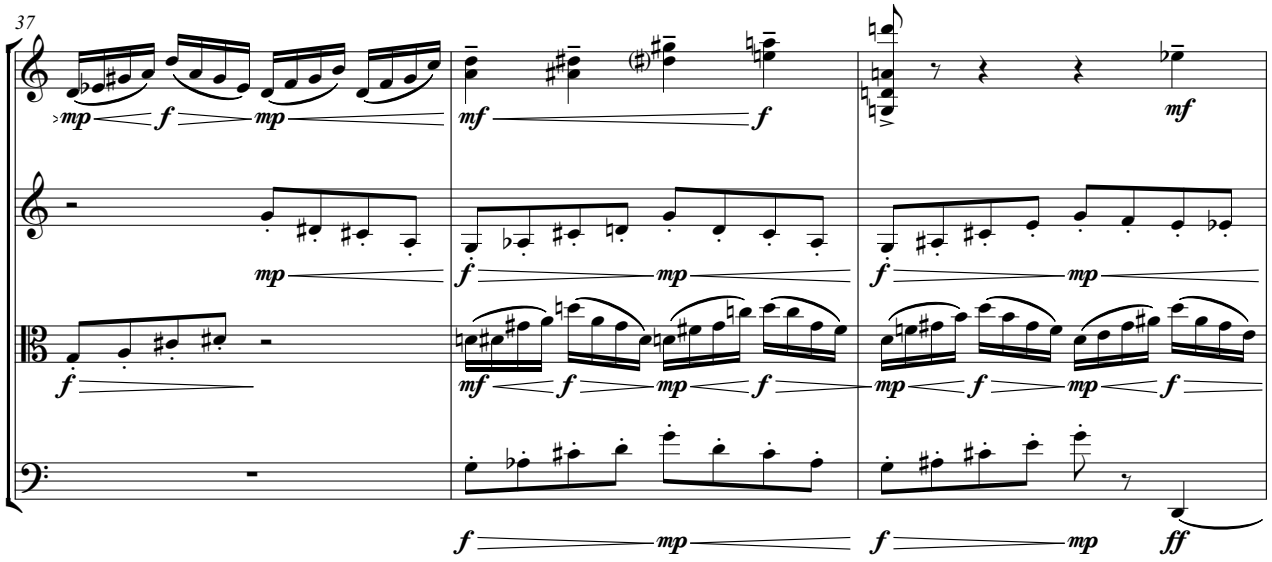


2 SKAFELL ASH

Andante, deliberate but flowing




32
violin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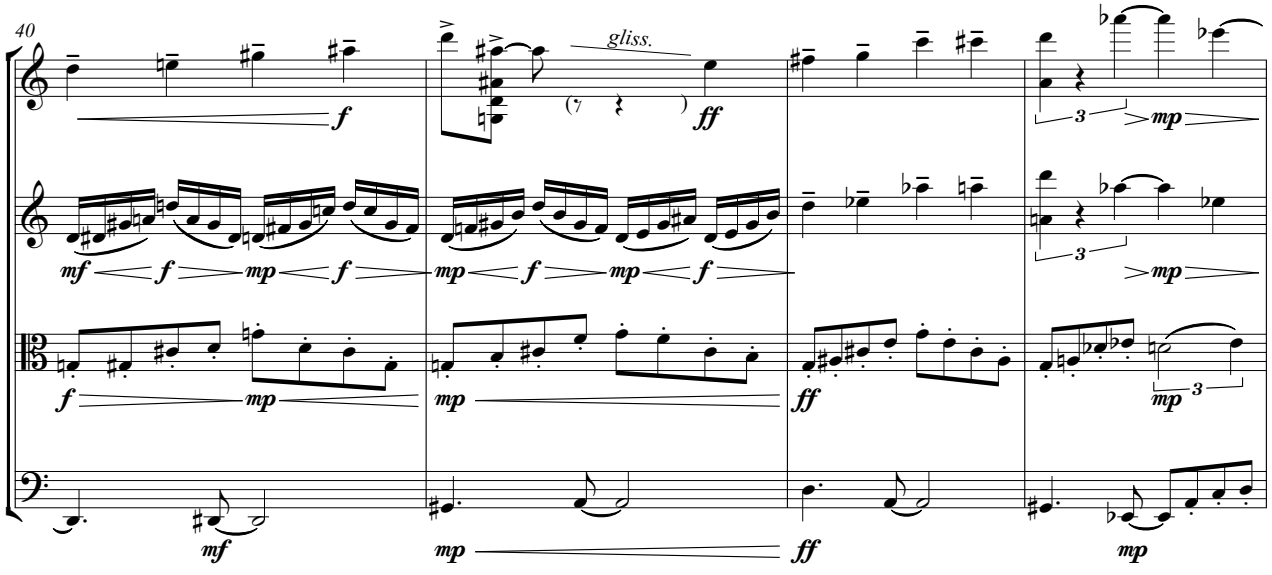
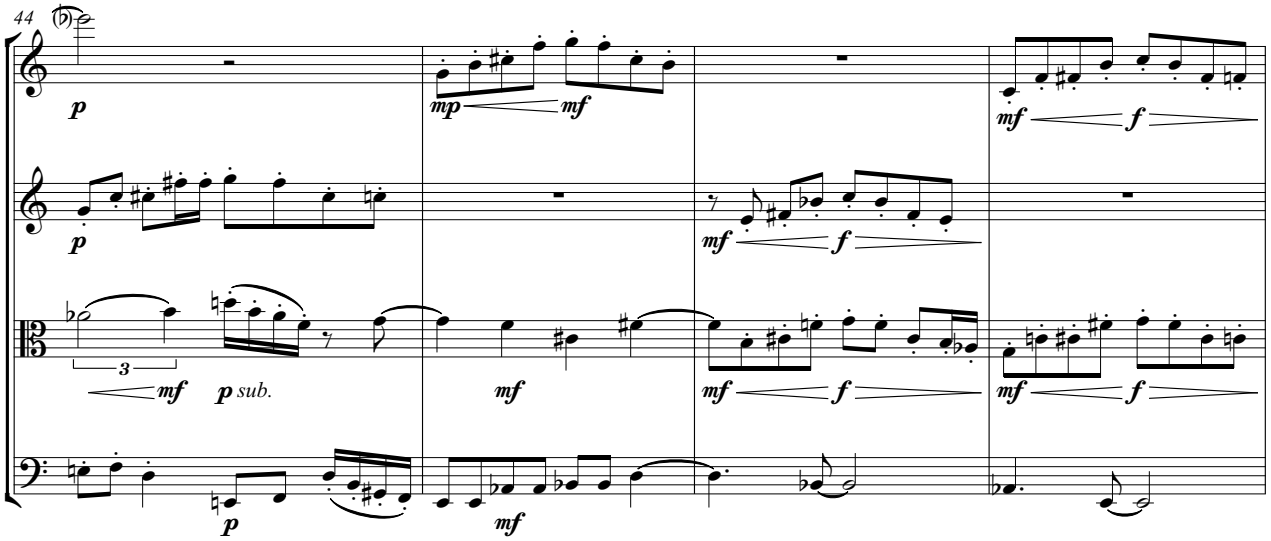
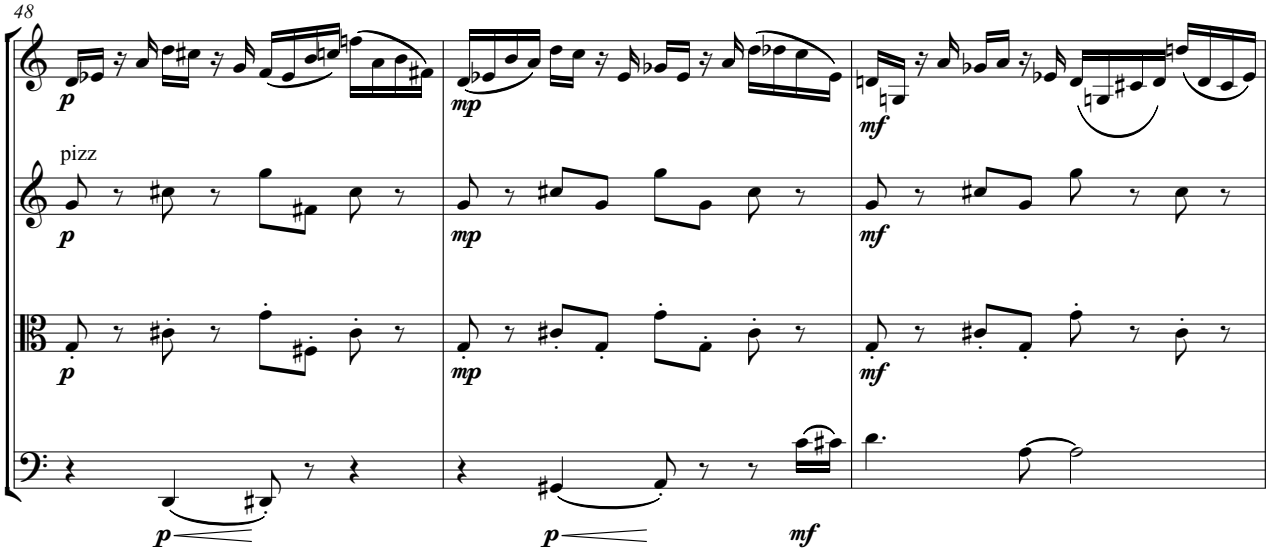
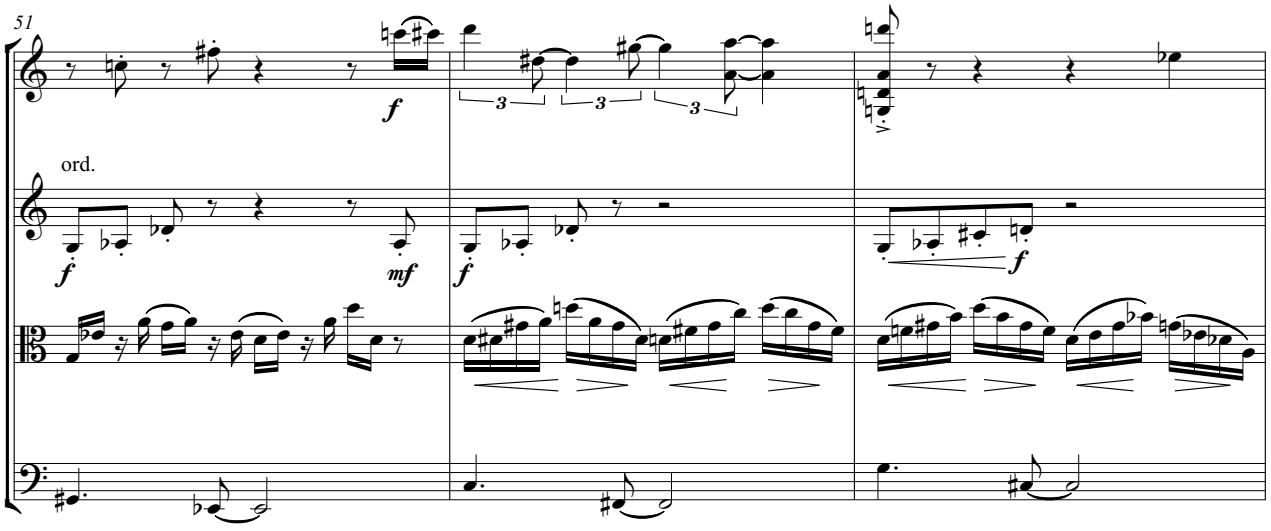
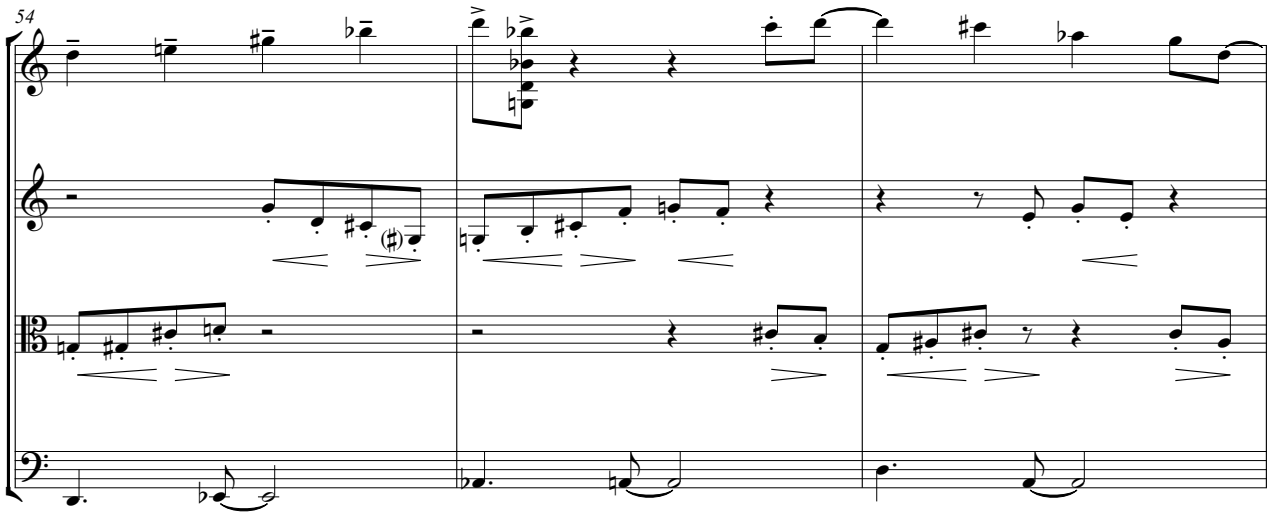
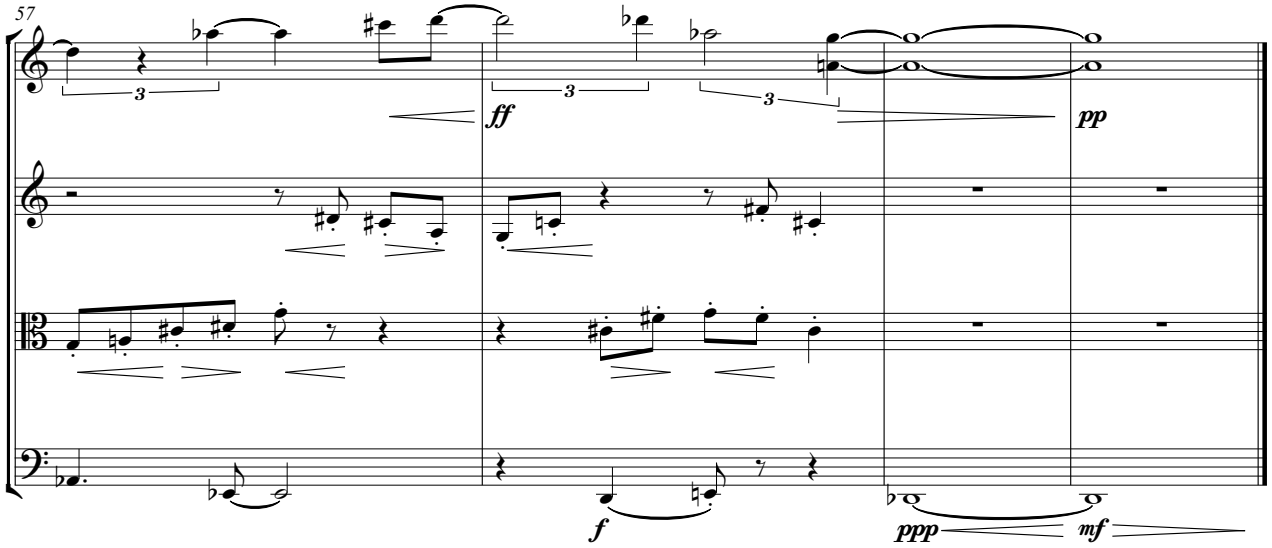

40
gliss.


44
p
mp
mf
f
p sub.


48
pizz
p
mp
mf

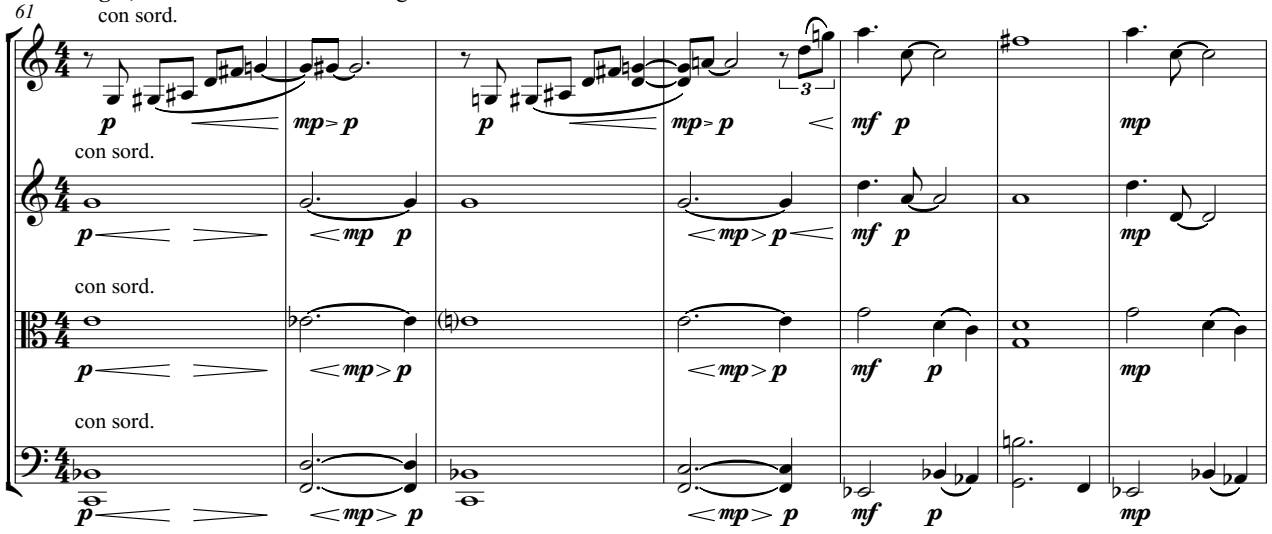

51
ord.
f
mf

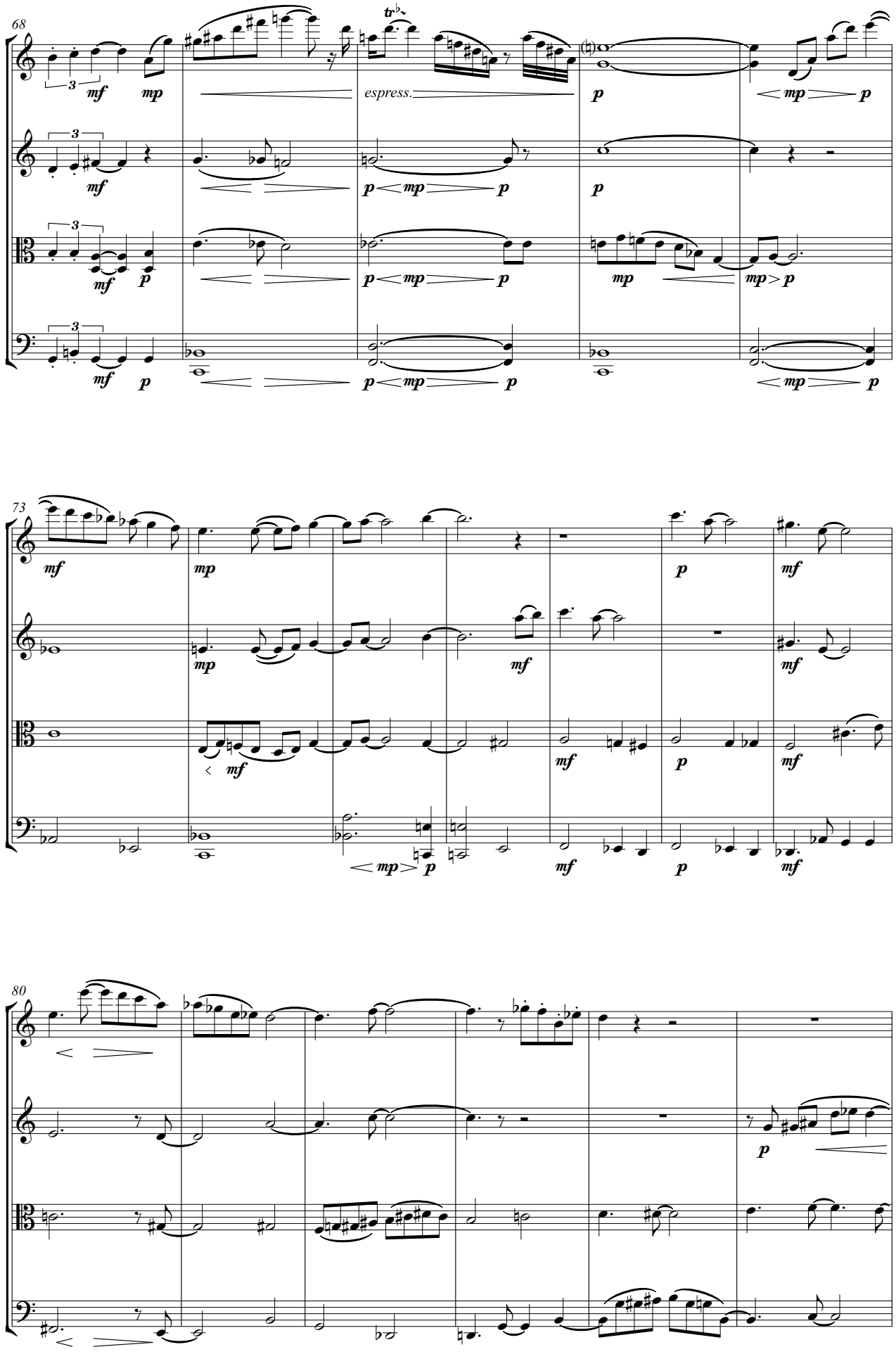


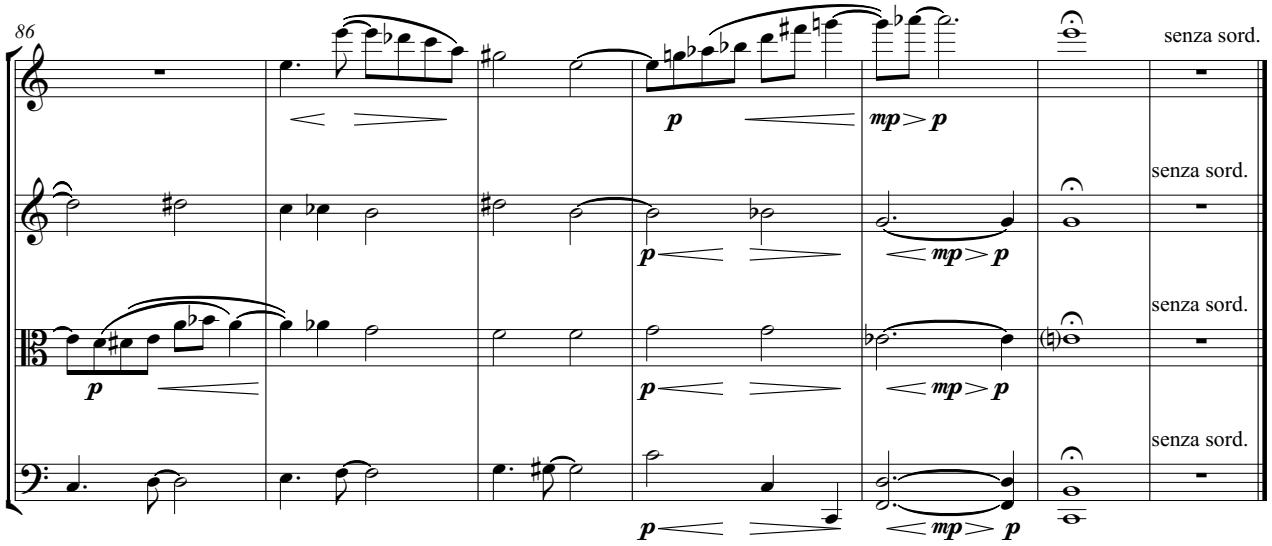


3 CONISTON FLAG

Adagio, warm and with rounded edges

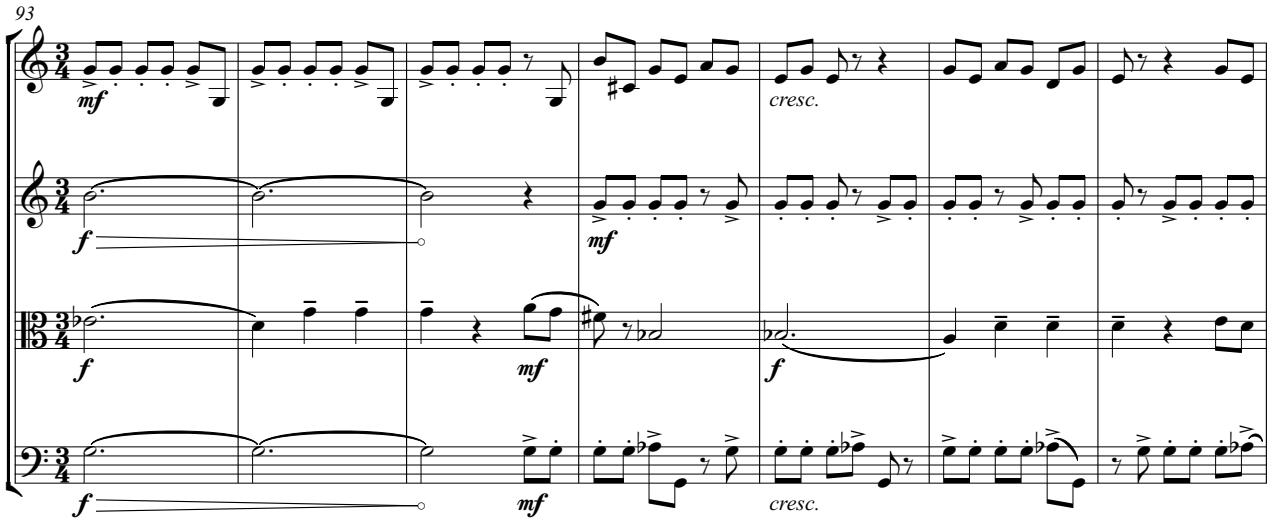


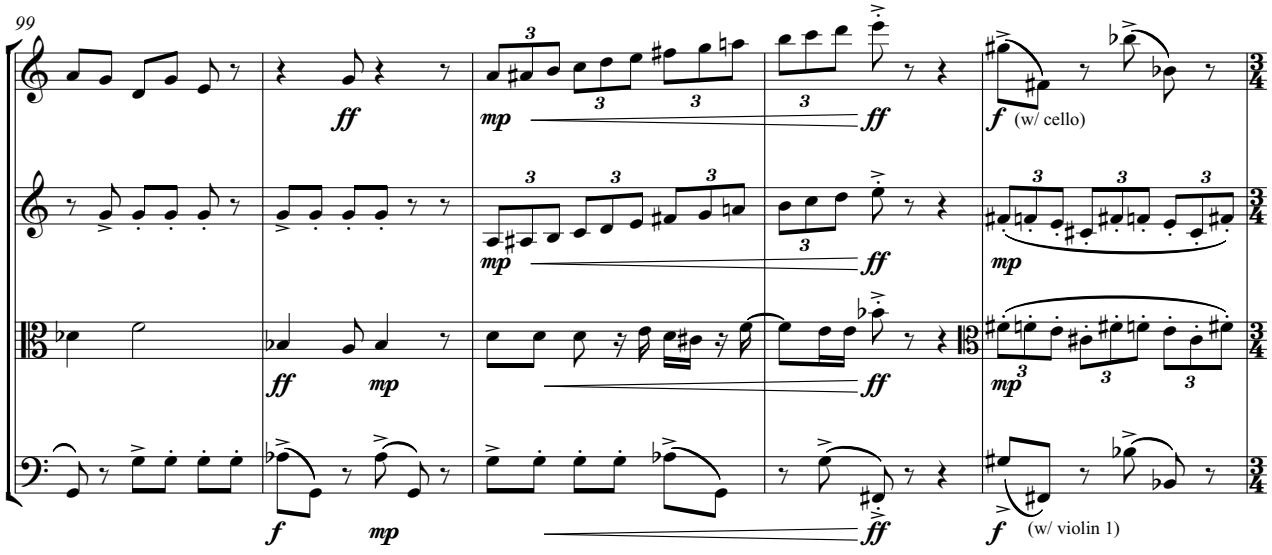

68
espress.
73
80

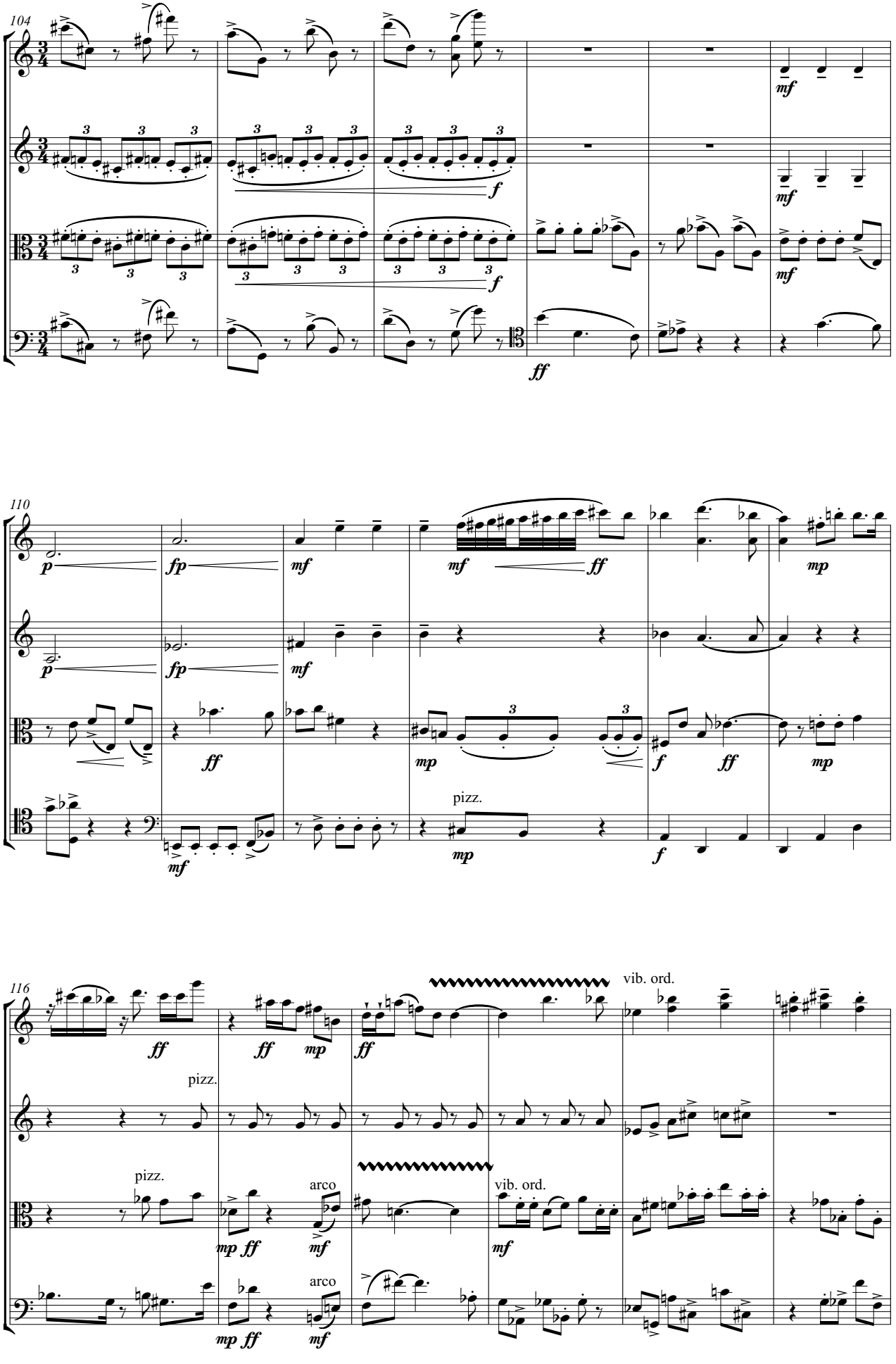


4 ESKDALE GRANITE

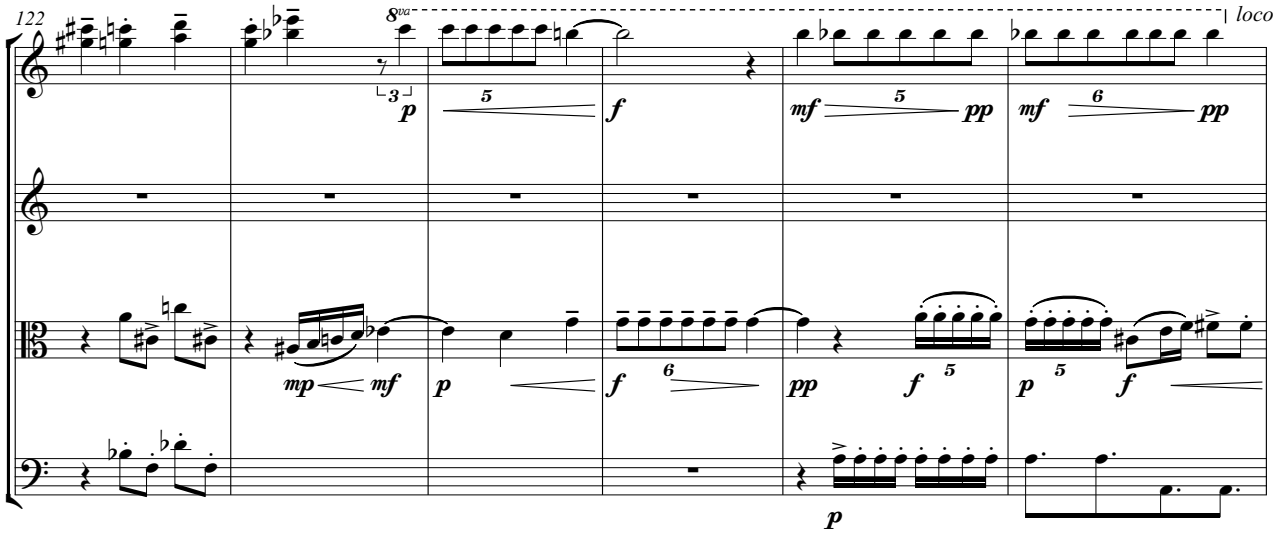
Moderato, hard and cold (c. ♩=110)

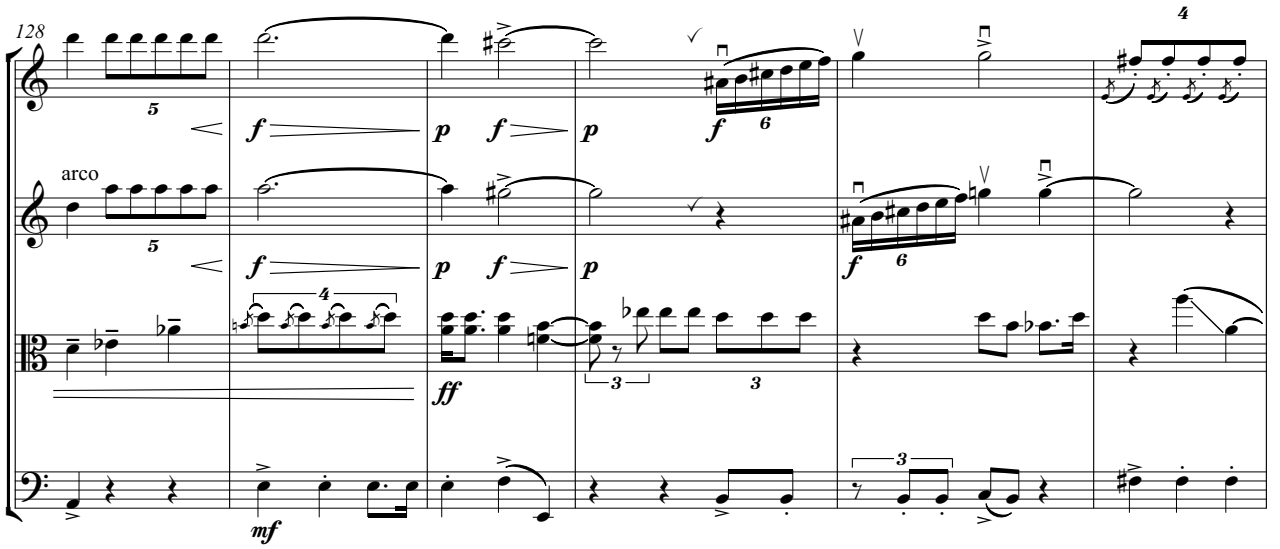




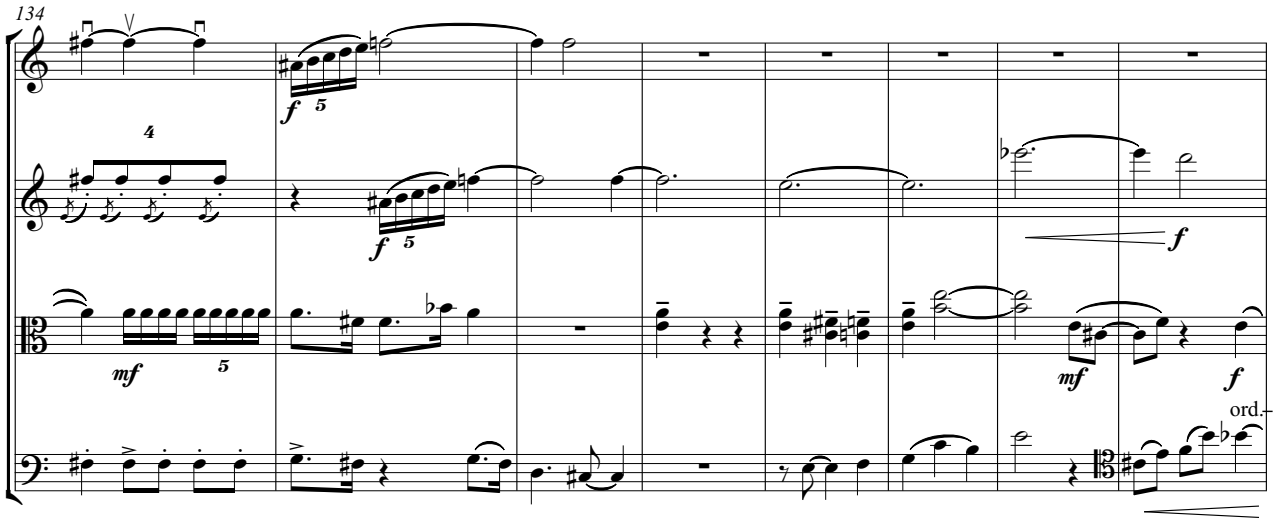

104
110
116
pizz.
arco
vib. ord.

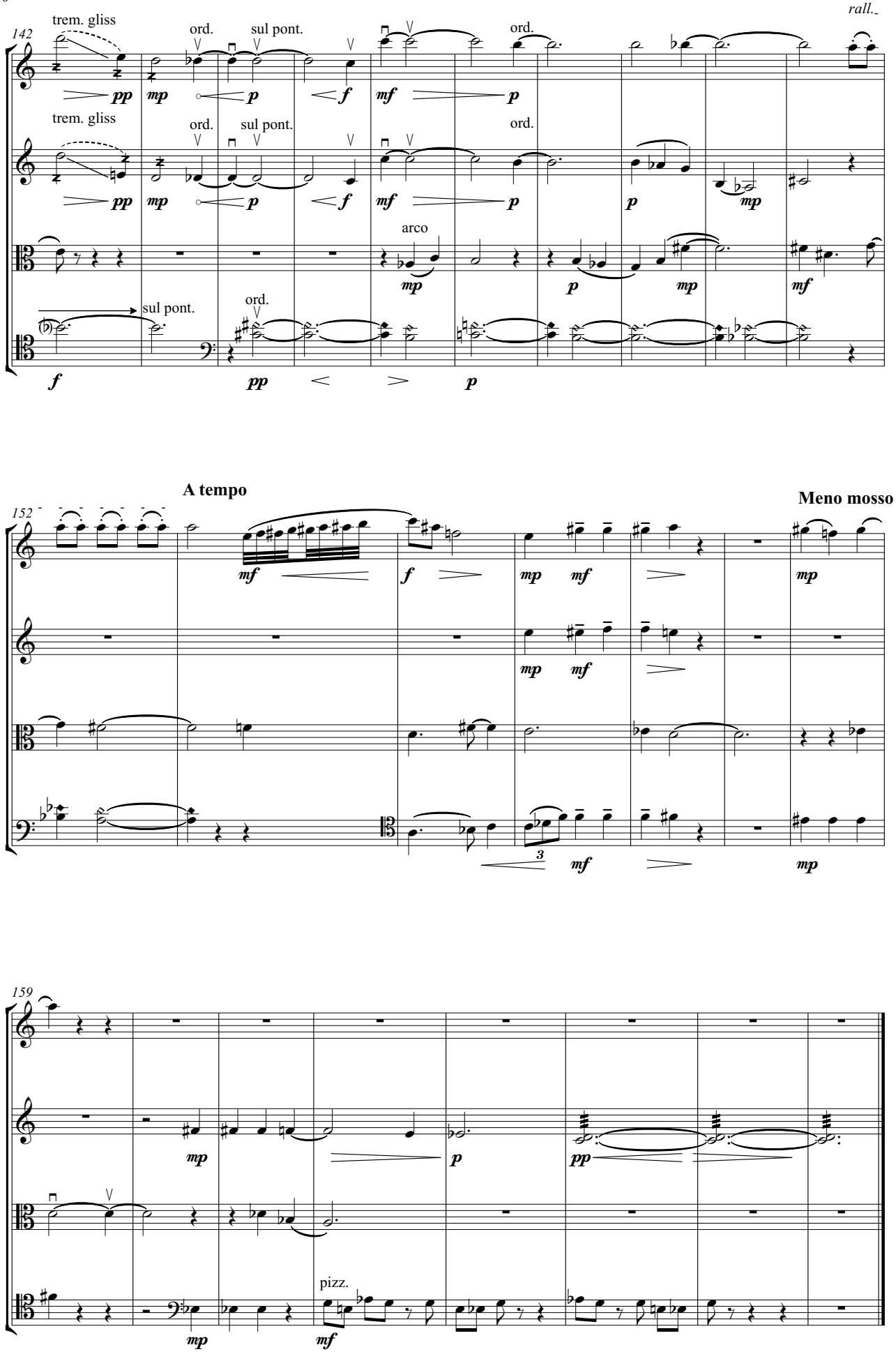
Meno mosso





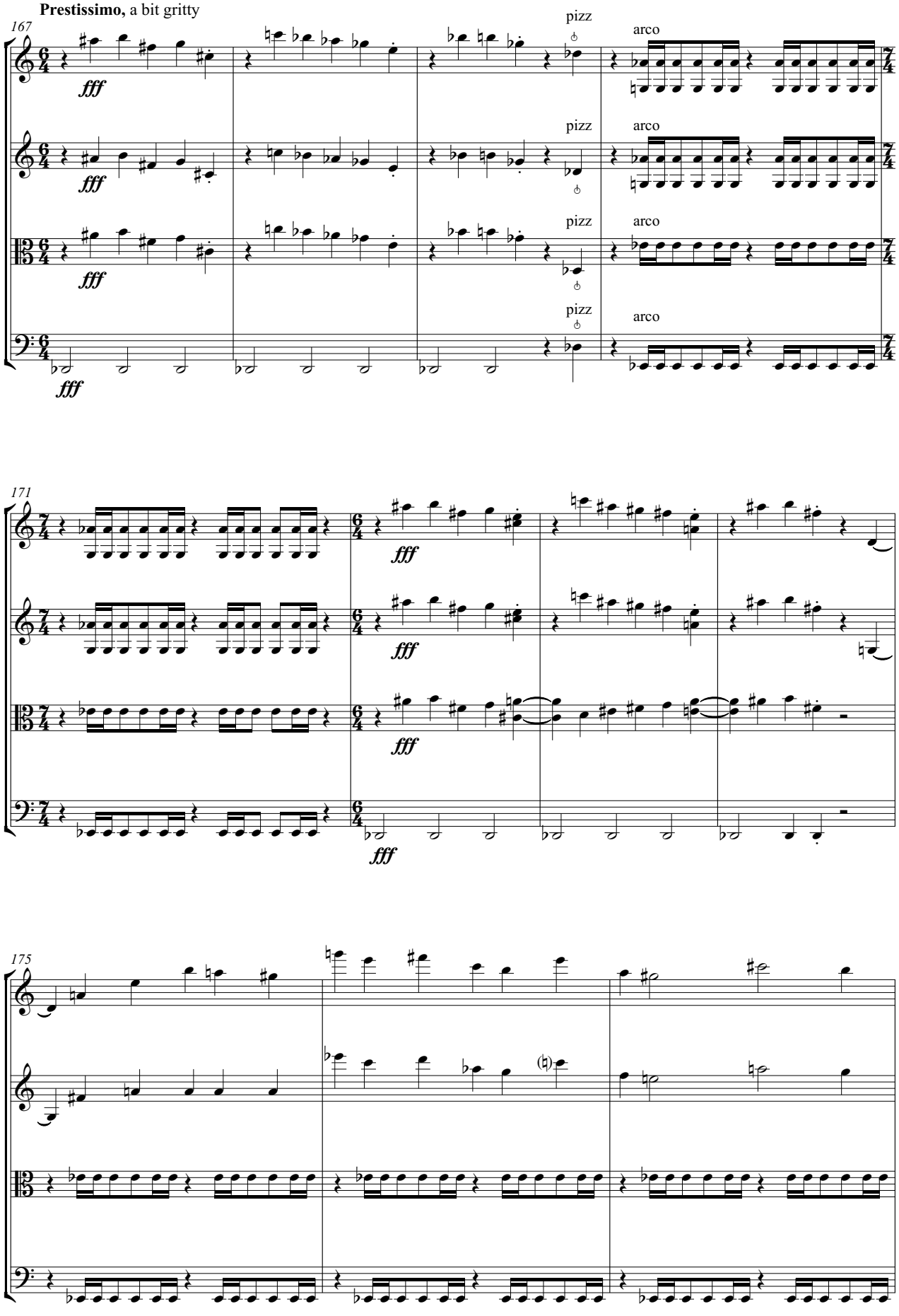
A tempo (♩=110)

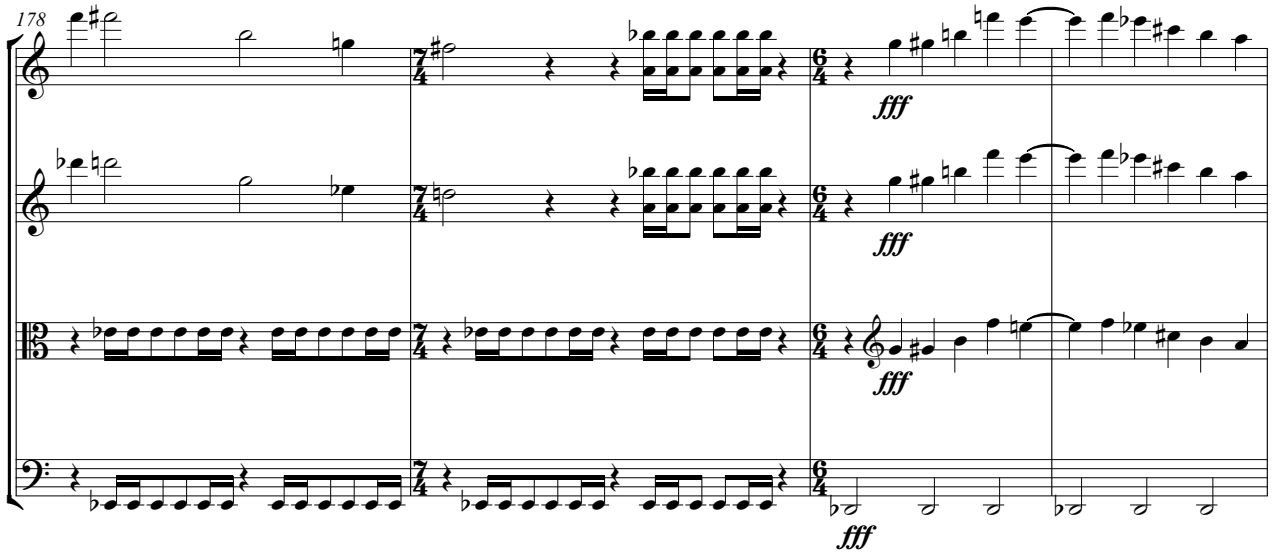


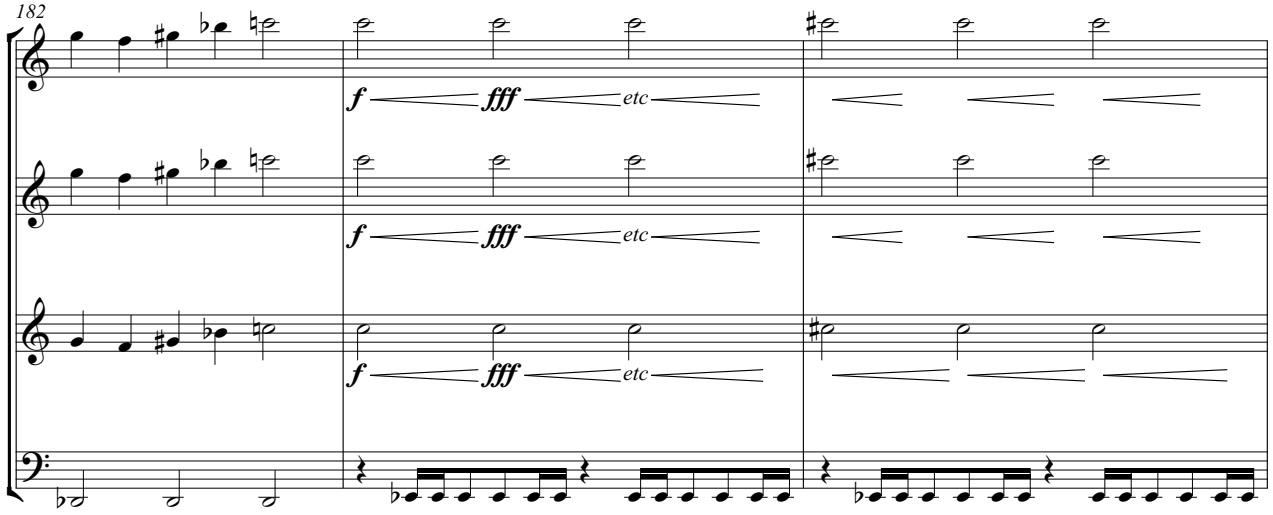

142
rall.
trem. gliss
ord.
sul pont.
arco
sul pont.
ord.
A tempo
Meno mosso
152
159
pizz.

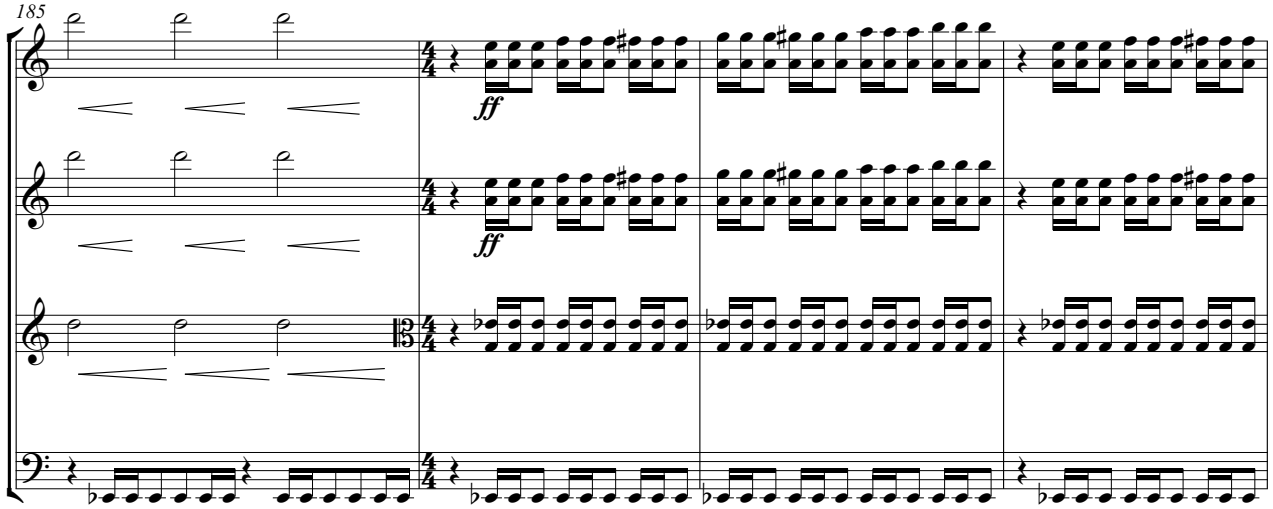
5 MOUNTAIN LIMESTONE

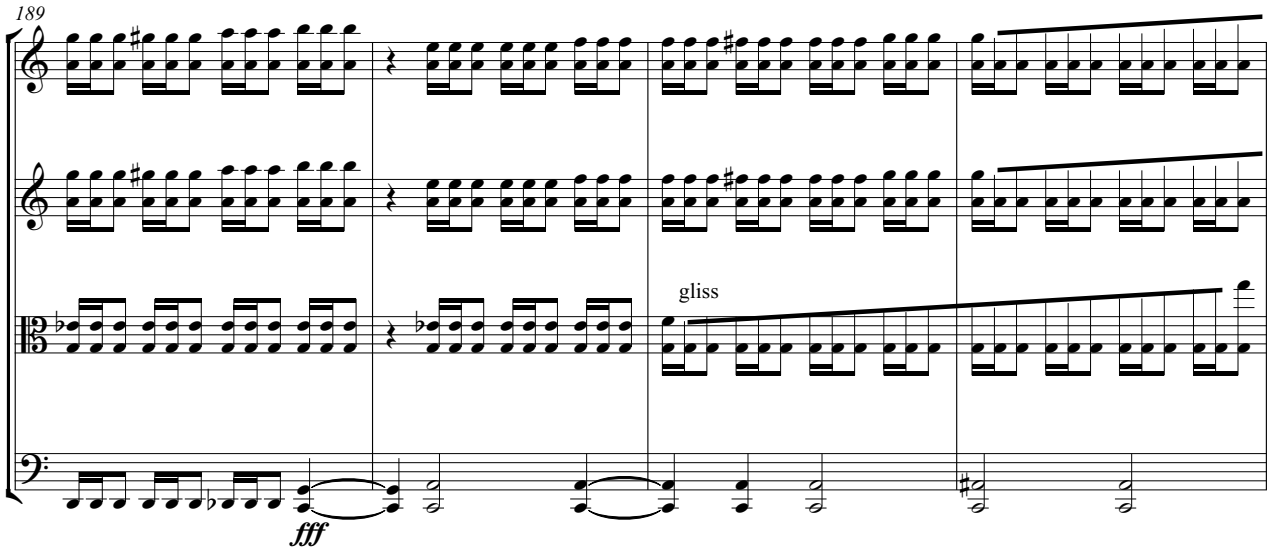
Prestissimo, a bit gritty

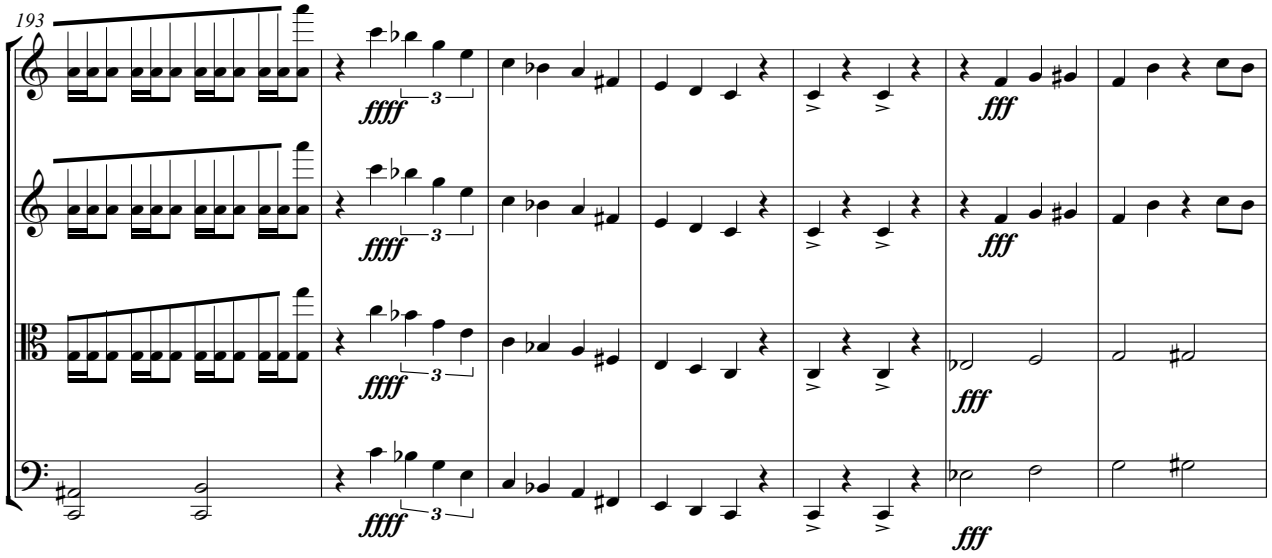


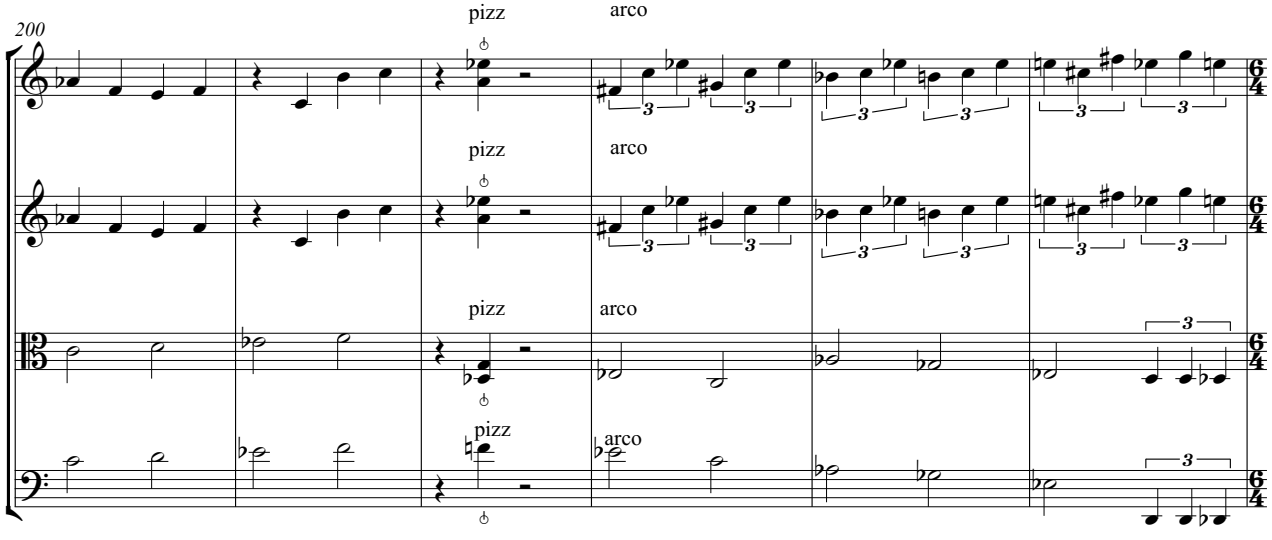

178
fff
fff
fff
fff


182
f
fff
etc
f
fff
etc
f
fff
etc

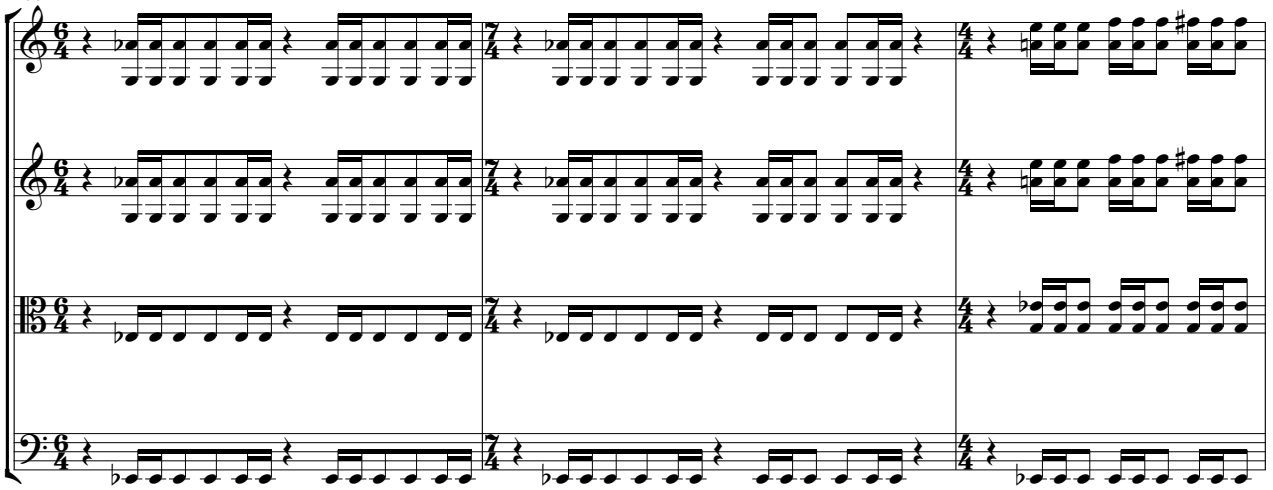

185
ff
ff


189
gliss
fff


193
ffff
3
fff


200
pizz
arco
6/4

206



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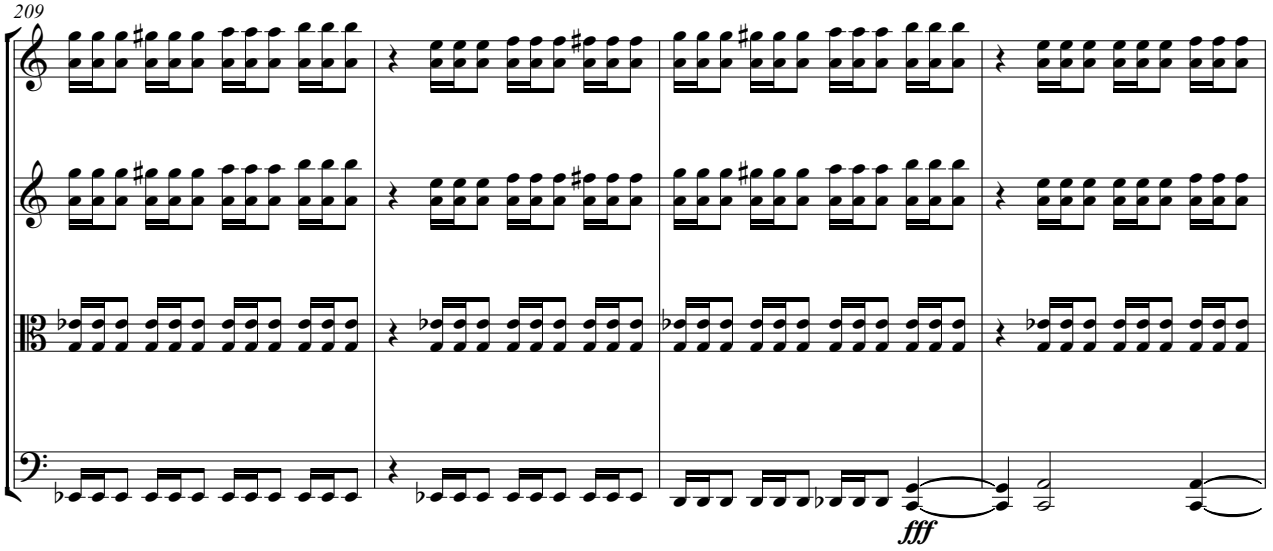

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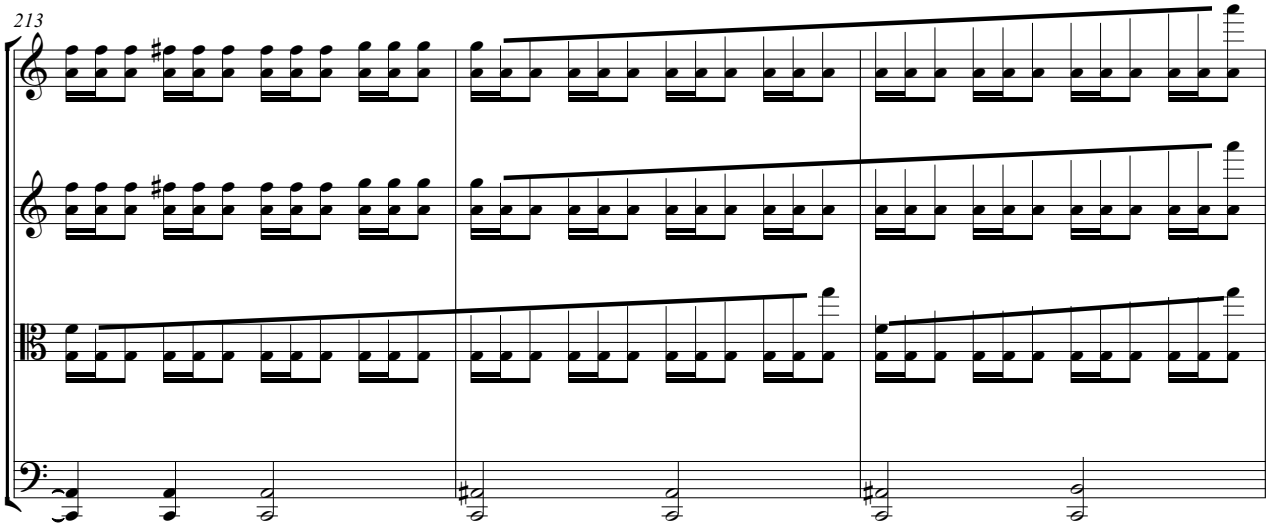
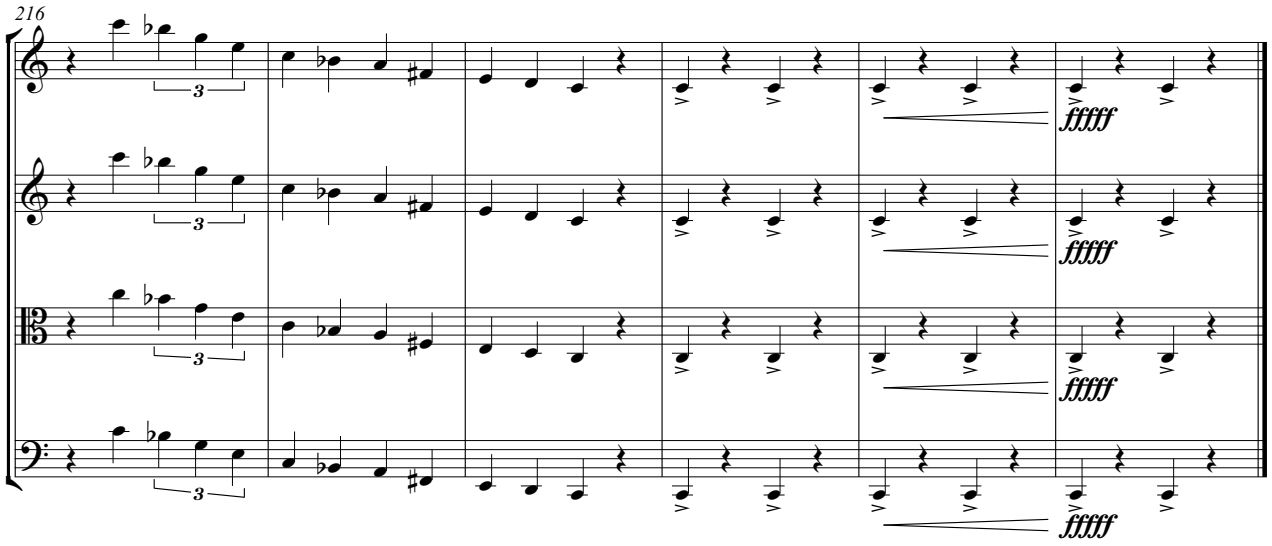
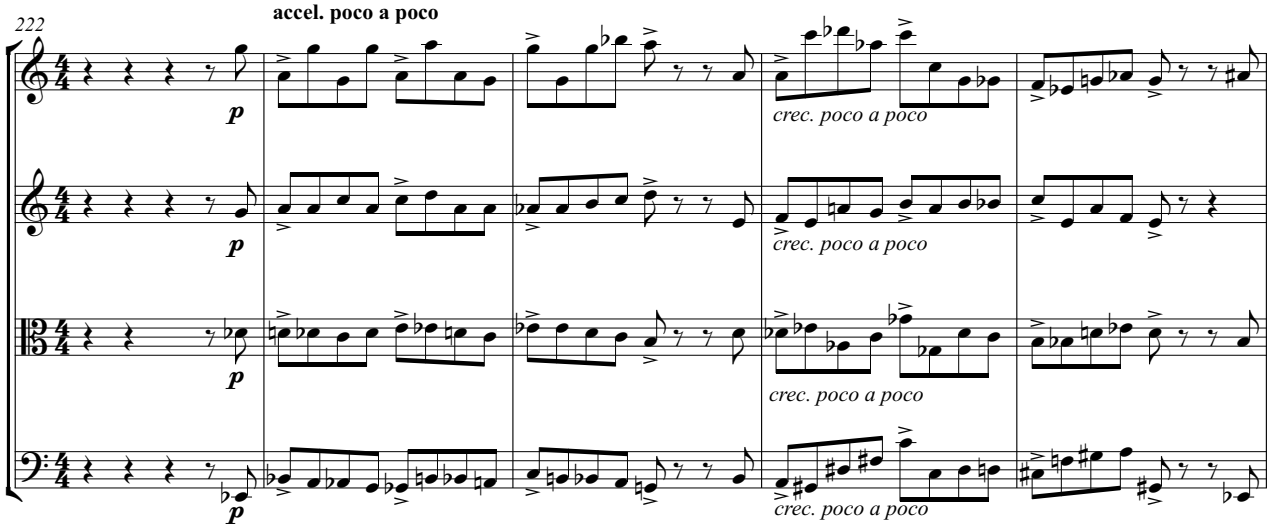
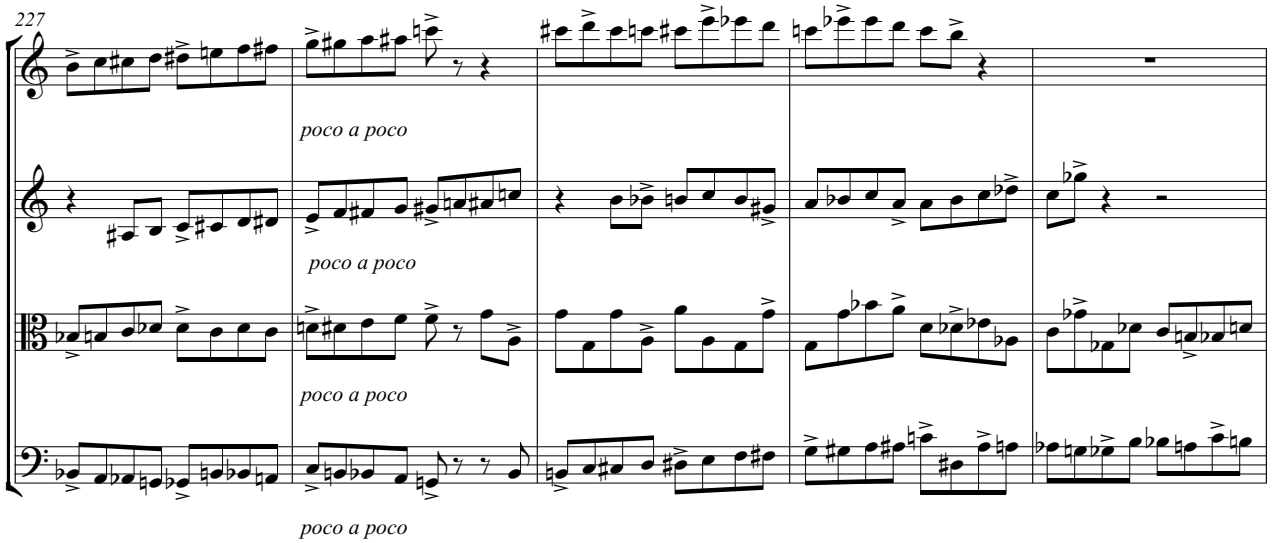


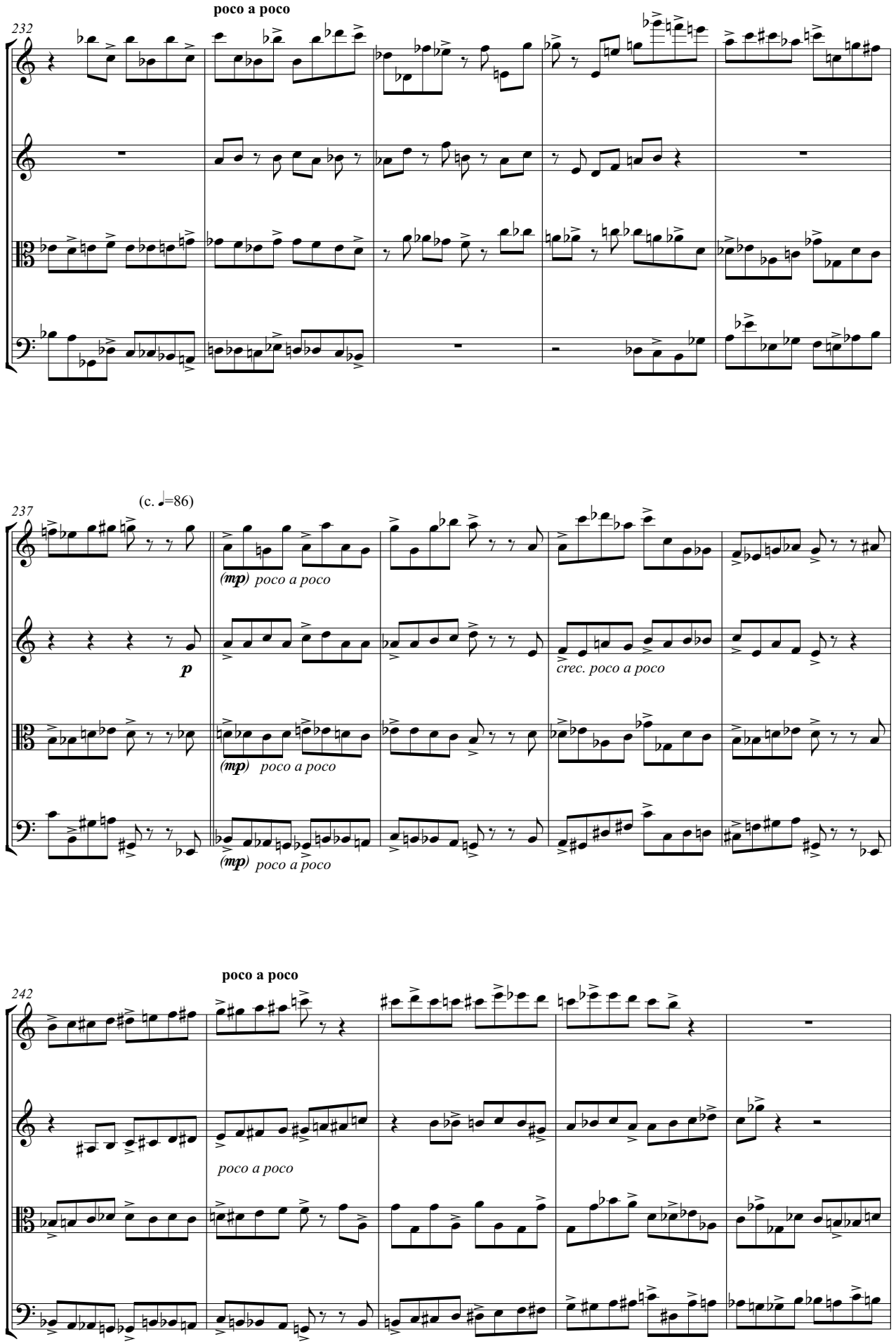


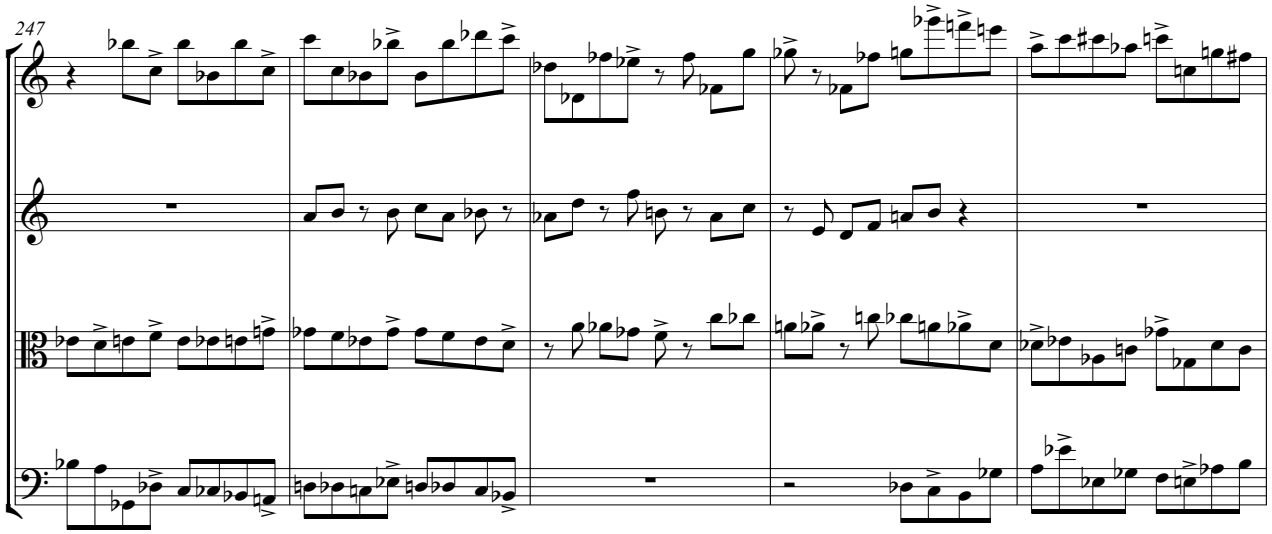
6 MARYPORT COAL

C. ♩=**60** Building and Compressing

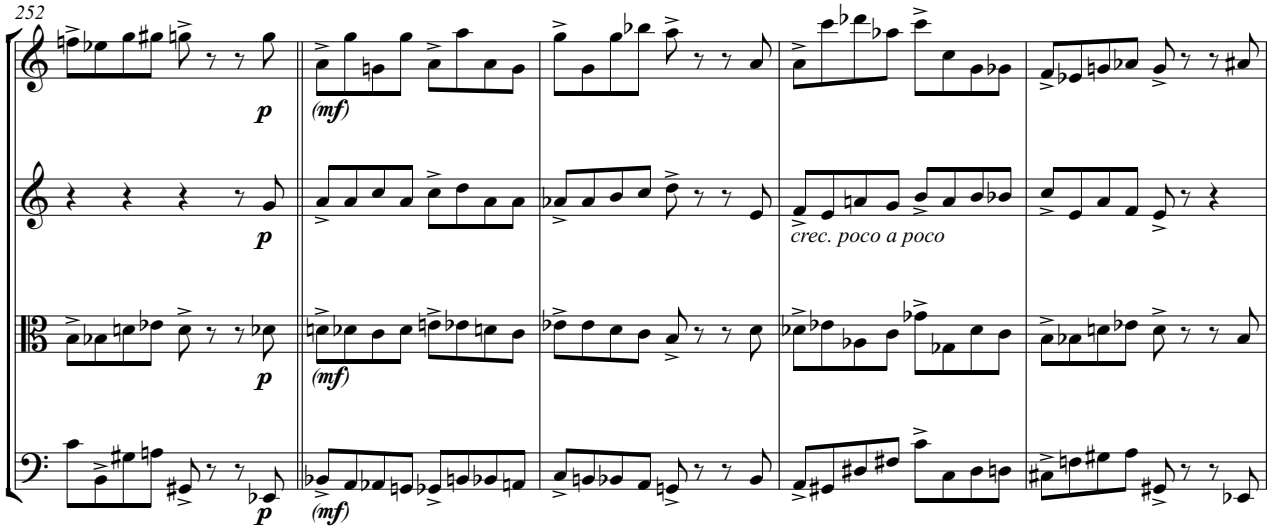


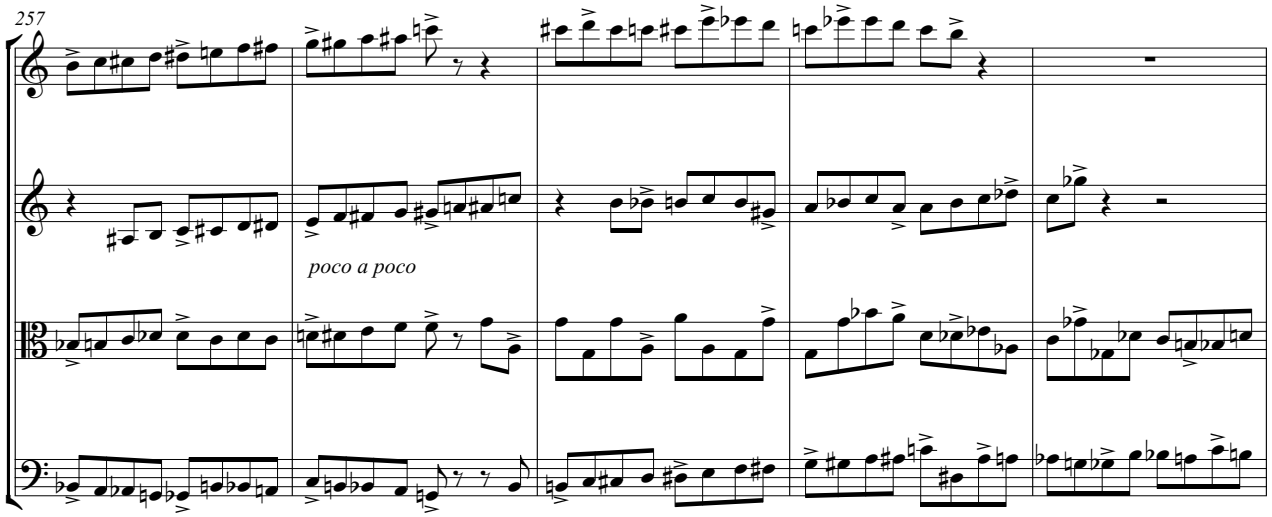


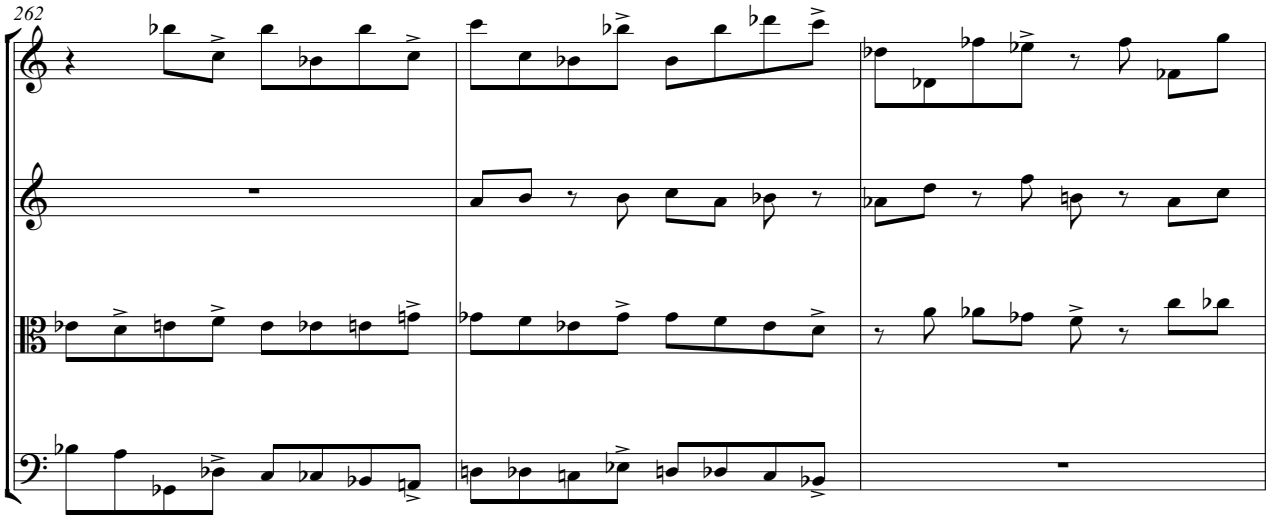

poco a poco
232
(c. ♩=86)
237
(mp) poco a poco
p
crec. poco a poco
(mp) poco a poco
(mp) poco a poco
poco a poco
242
poco a poco

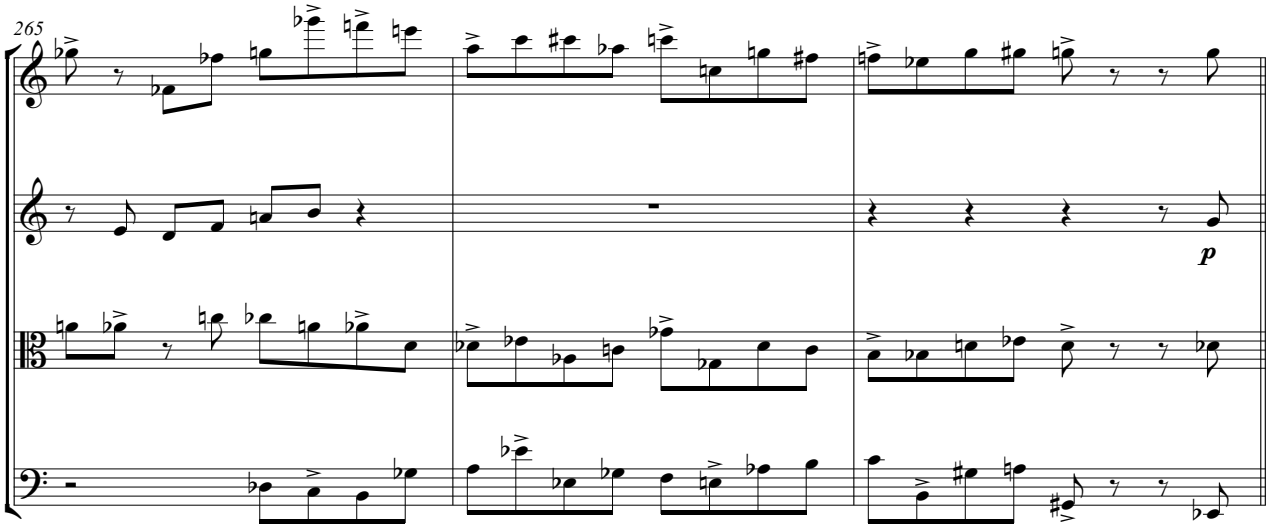


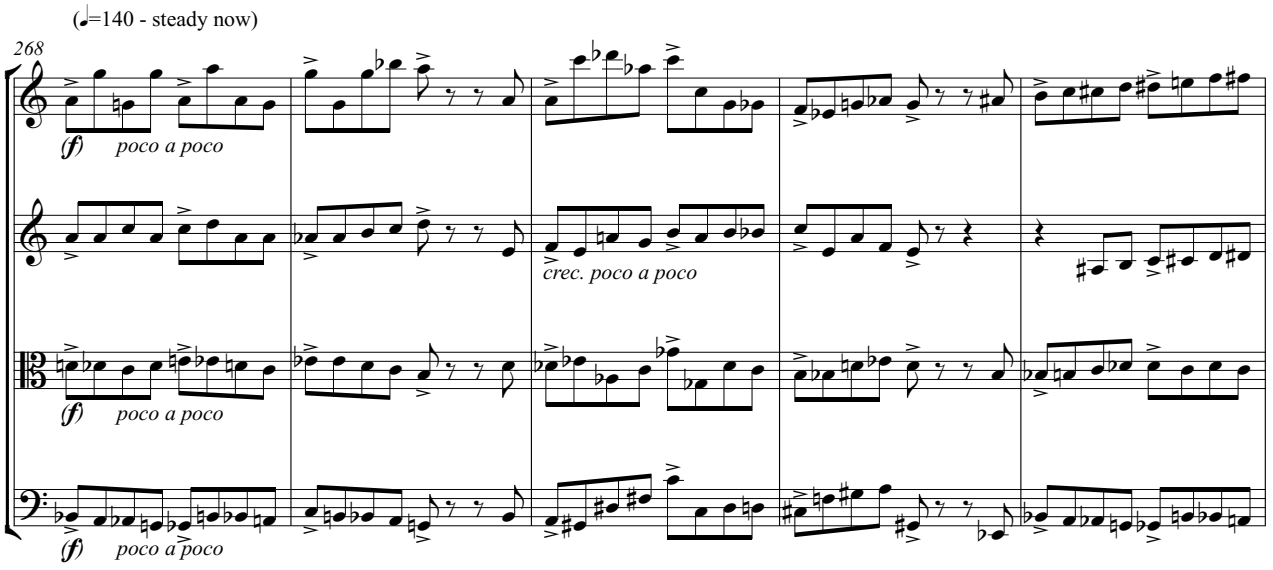
(c. ♩=110) **poco a poco**

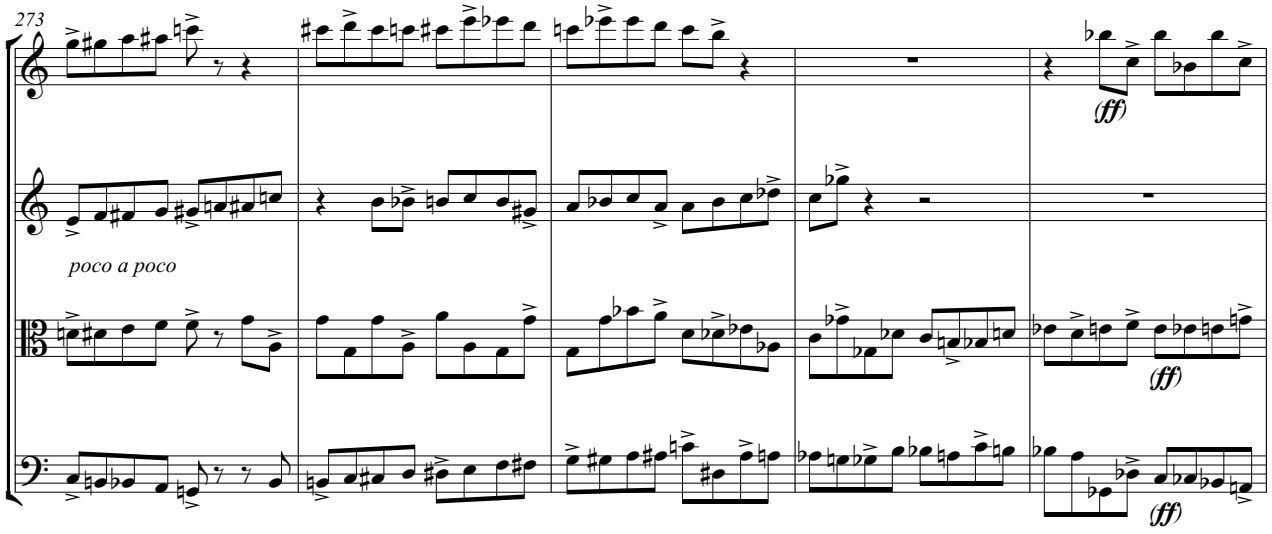


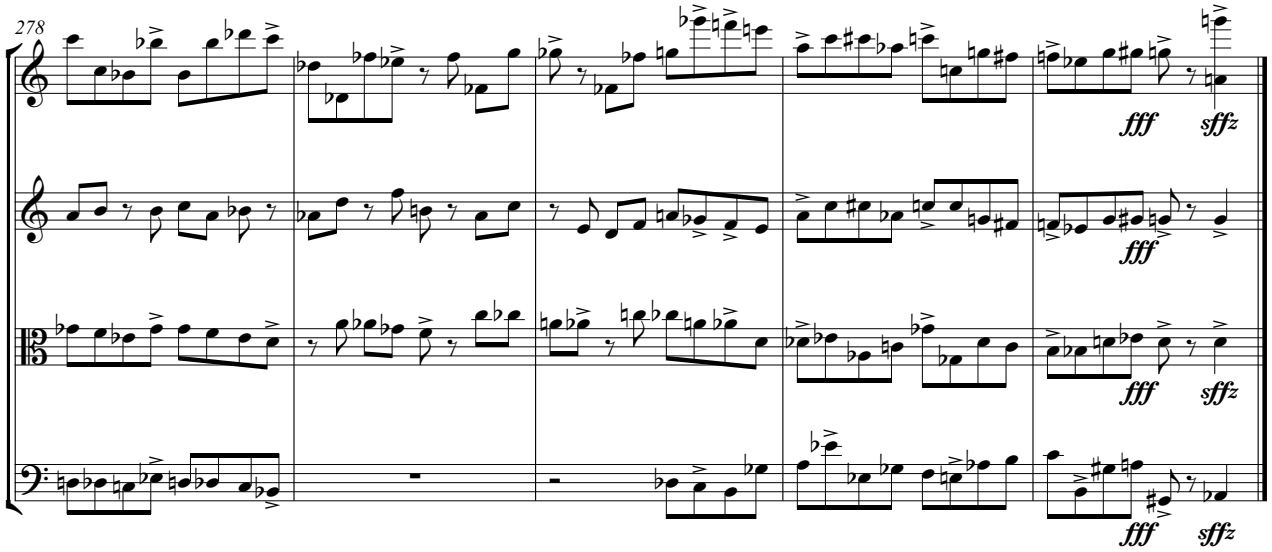



262


265
p

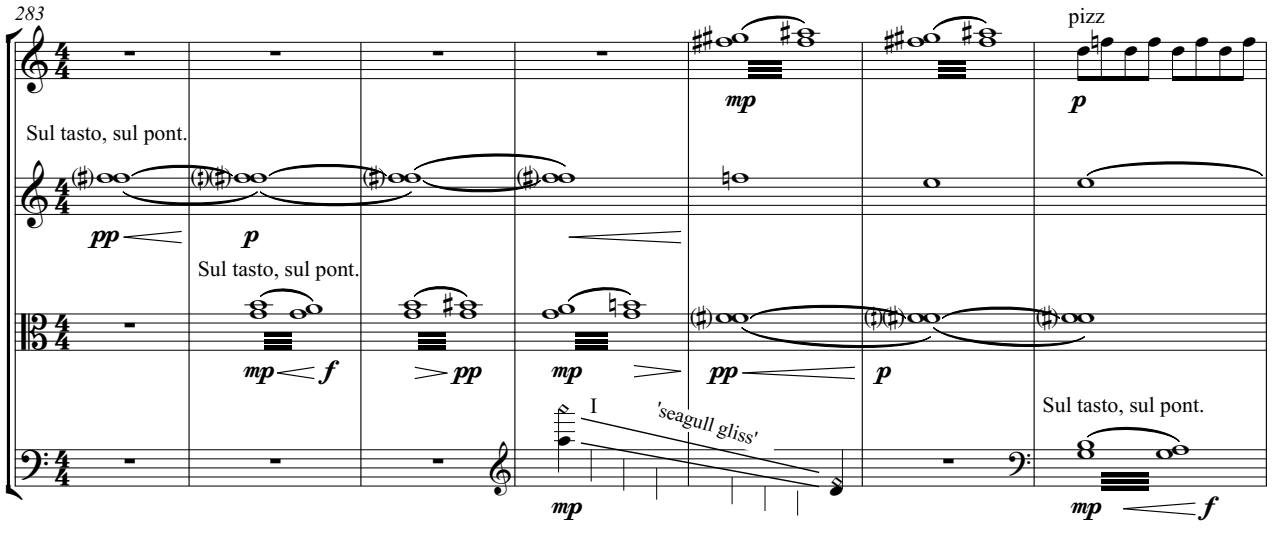

(♩=140 - steady now)
268
(f) poco a poco
crec. poco a poco
(f) poco a poco
(f) poco a poco

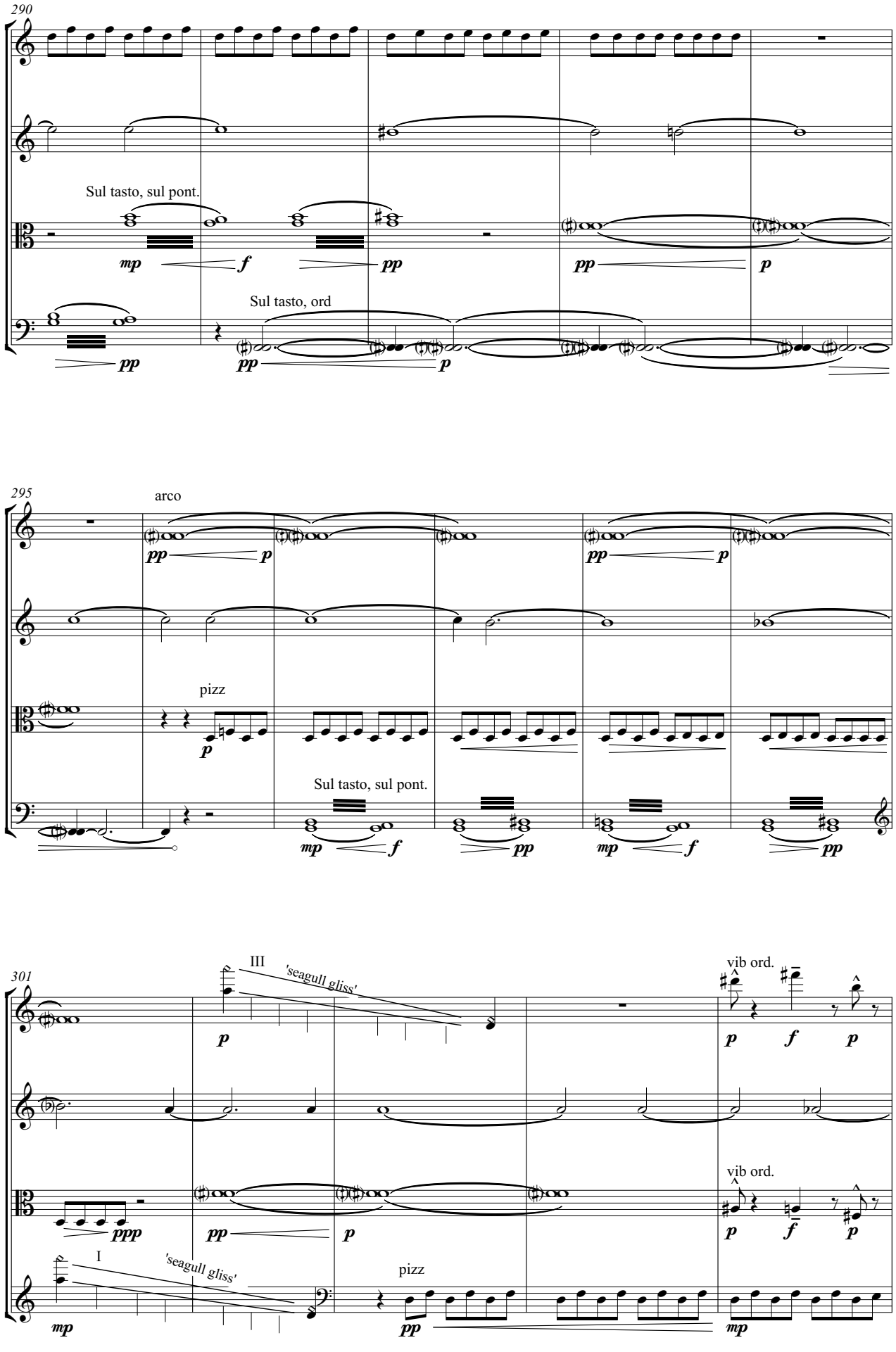


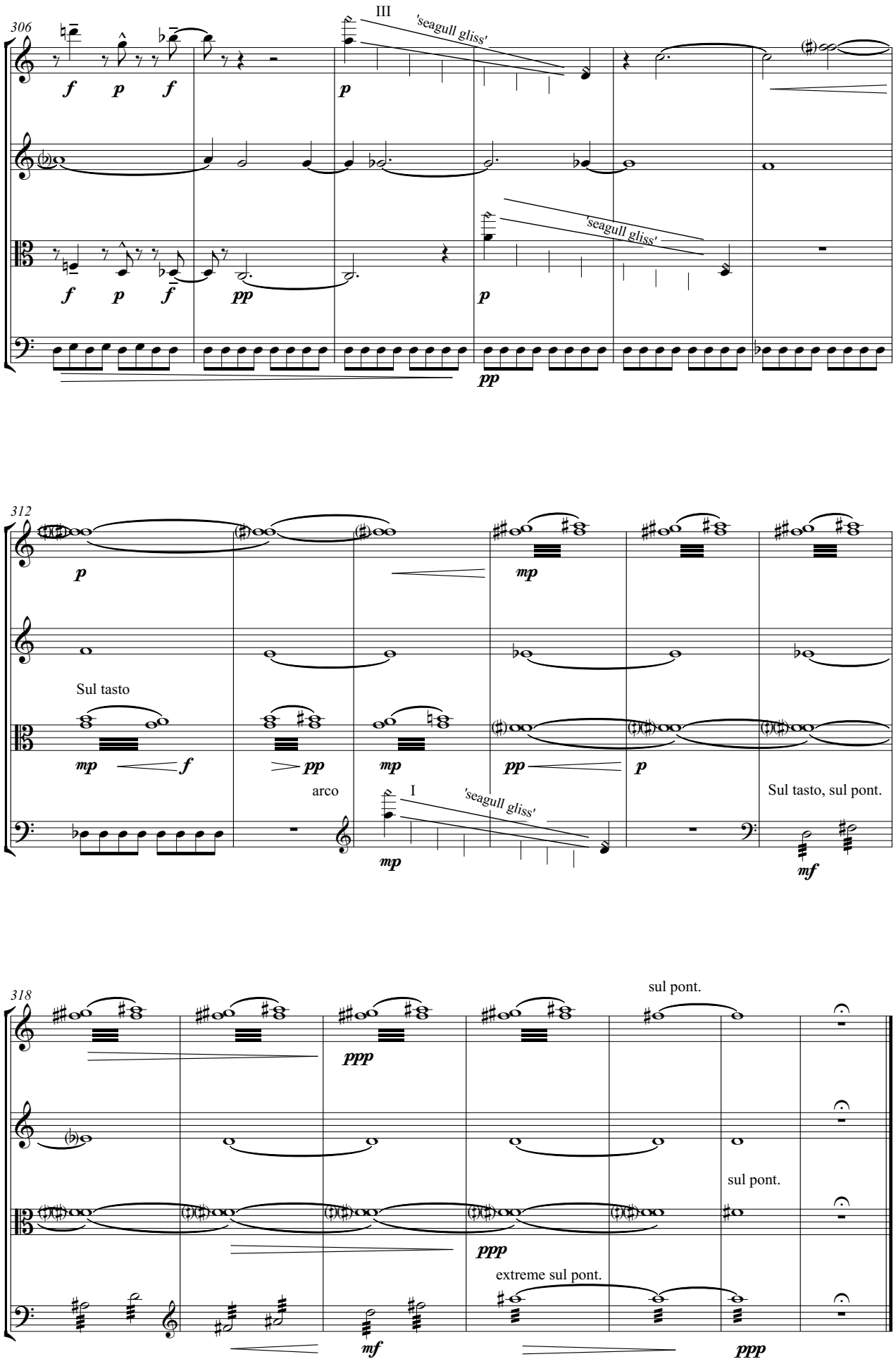


7 ST BEES SANDSTONE

Adagio, Delicate




290
Sul tasto, sul pont.
Sul tasto, ord
295
arco
pizz
Sul tasto, sul pont.
301
III
'seagull gliss'
vib ord.
vib ord.
I
'seagull gliss'
pizz


306
III
'seagull gliss'
'seagull gliss'
312
Sul tasto
arco
I
'seagull gliss'
Sul tasto, sul pont.
318
sul pont.
sul pont.
extreme sul pont.