Isolarion II

for Brass Quintet

(2012)

Christian Mason

Instrumentation

Trumpet 1 in C (doubling Flugelhorn in B-flat)
Trumpet 2 in C (doubling Flugelhorn in B-flat)
Horn in F
Trombone
Tuba

Straight mutes are required for both trumpets and trombone

Duration: c. 7'30''

Commissioned for the LSO Brass Quintet tour to Japan in April 2012

In his book "The Wild Places" (Granta, 2007), Robert Macfarlane explains that "Fifteenth-century map makers developed the concept of the 'isolarion': the type of map that describes specific areas in detail, but does not provide a clarifying overview of how these places are related to one another". This resonated with my desire to compose music that reveals the richness and depth to be found even in such elementary materials as the drones and long, slow melodic lines which define this piece. As the melody (initially heard very low in the tuba at the opening) recurs, we experience the 'same place' from many perspectives.

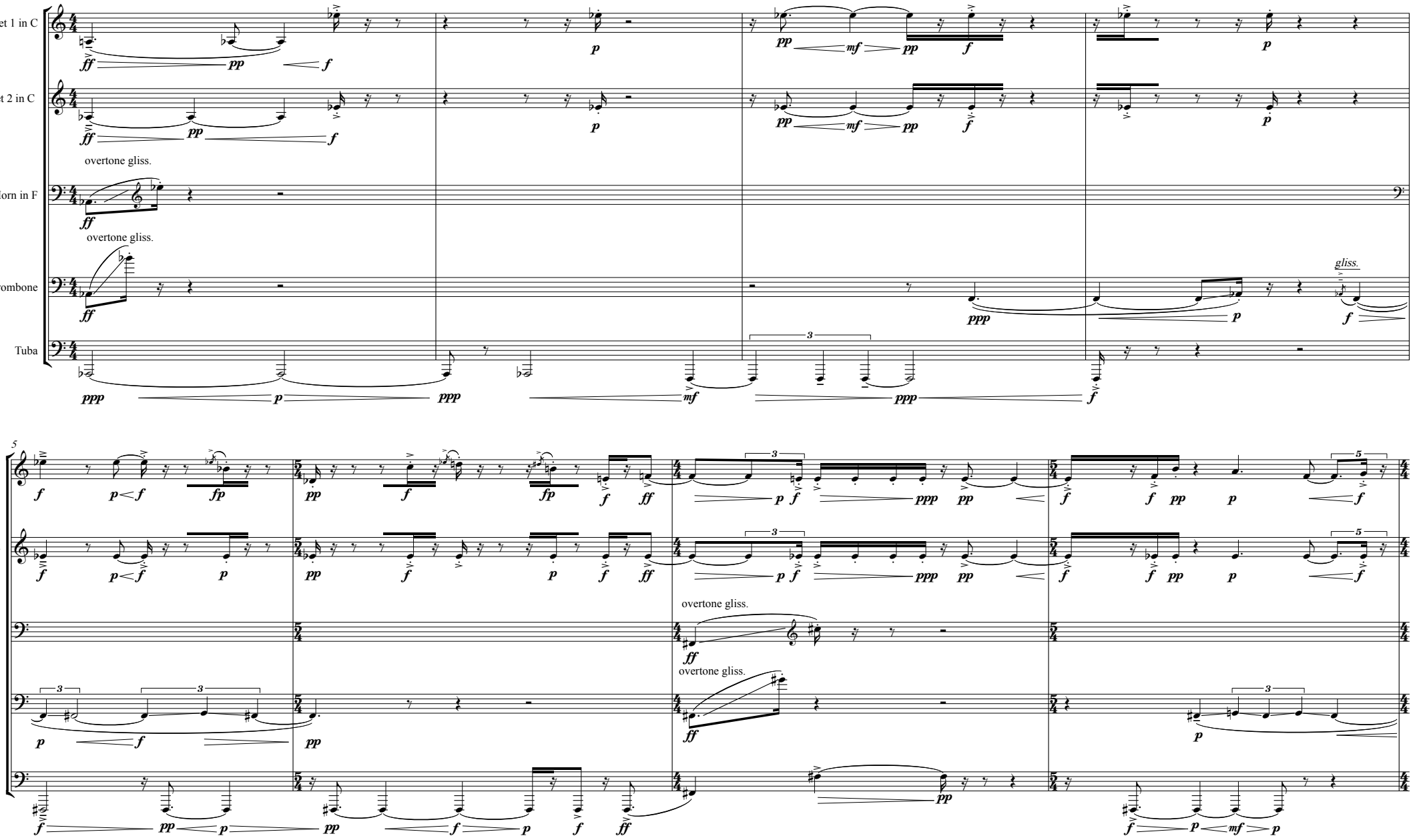
Isolarion II

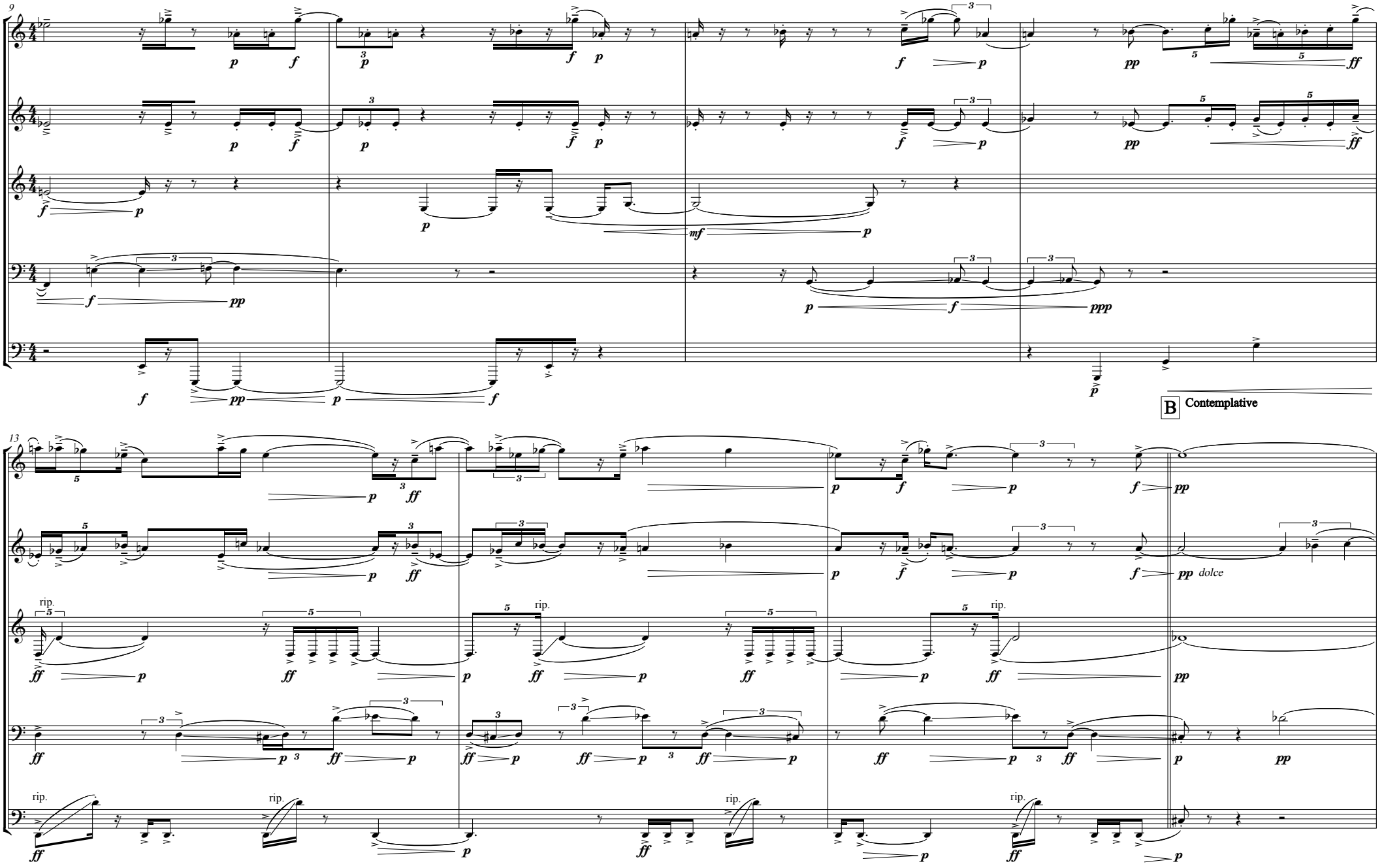
- Brass Quintet -

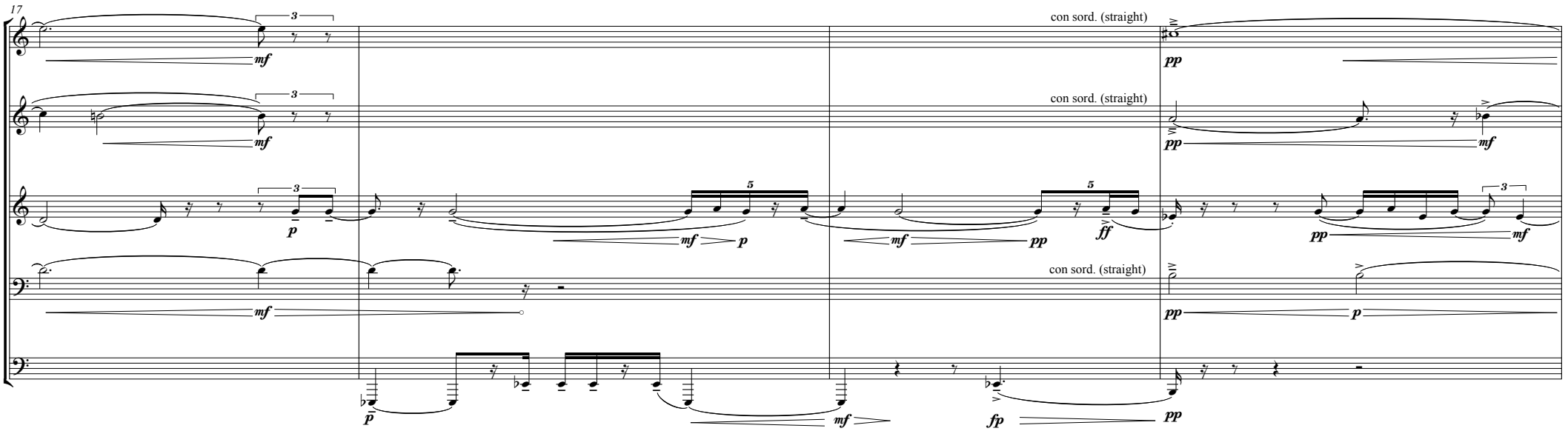
Christian Mason (February/March 2012)

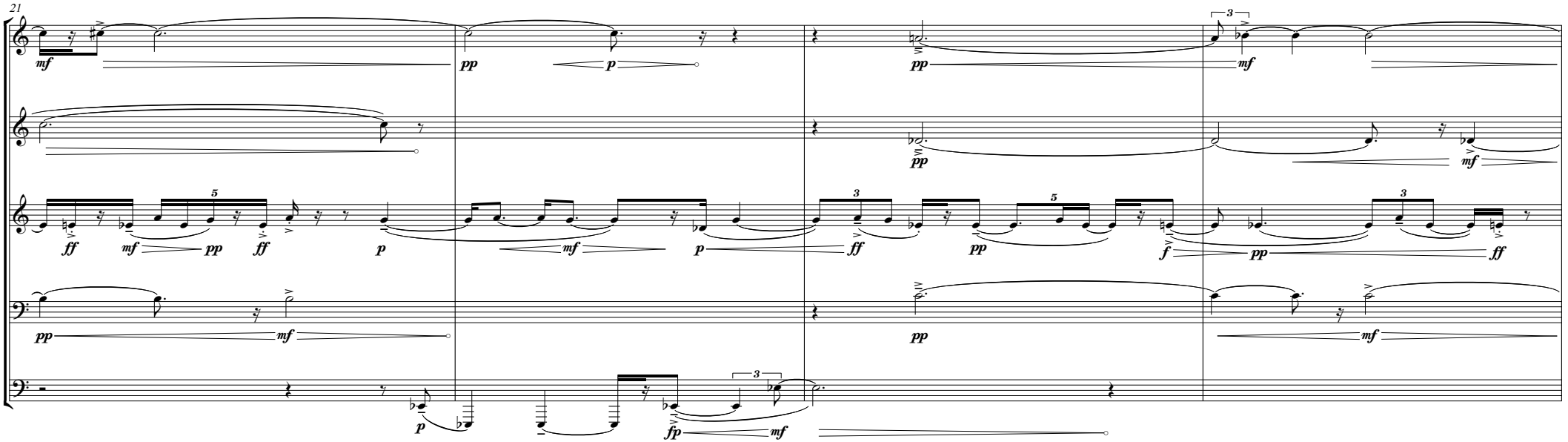
A **Ceremonial, Ritualistic**

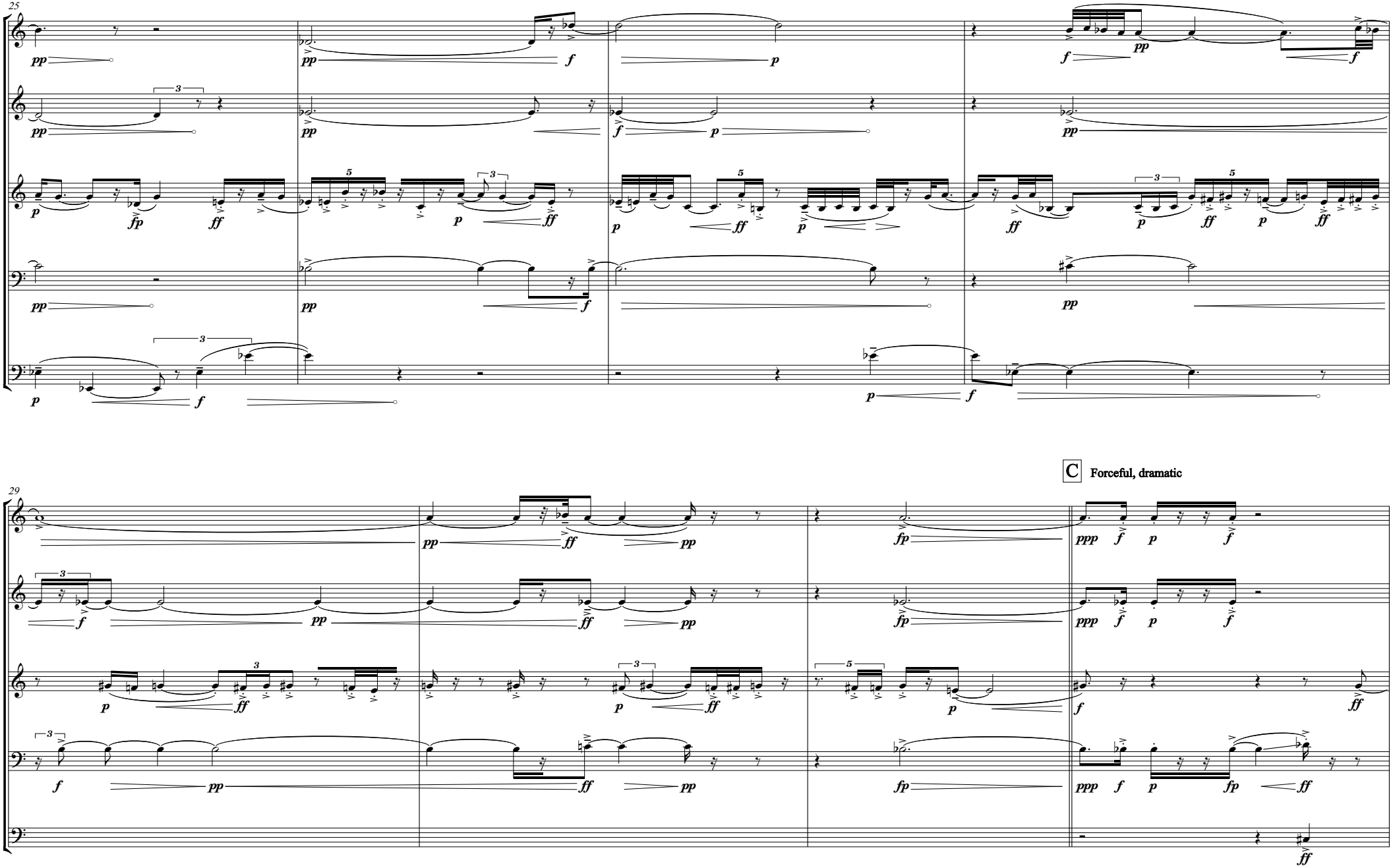
♩ = 45

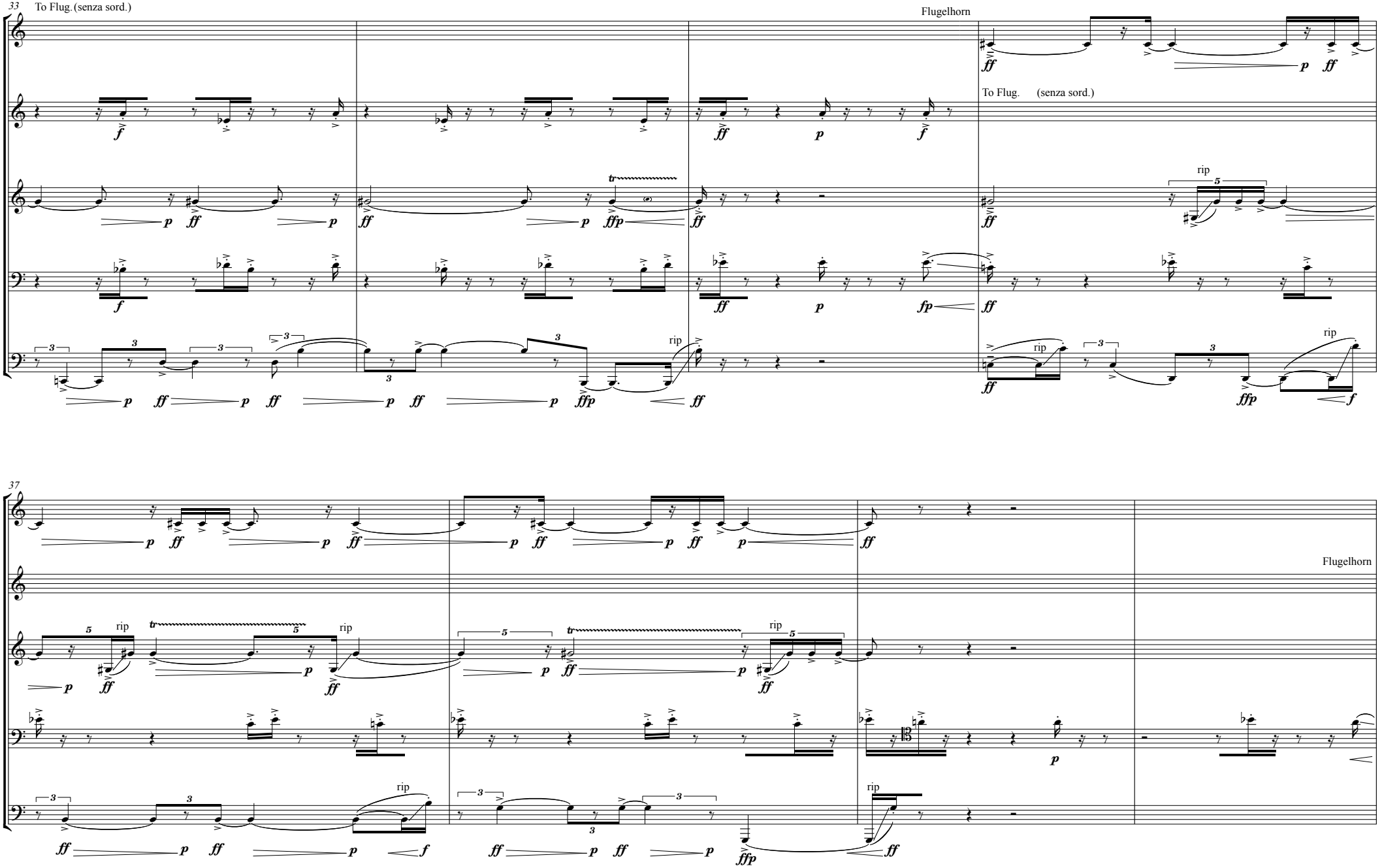


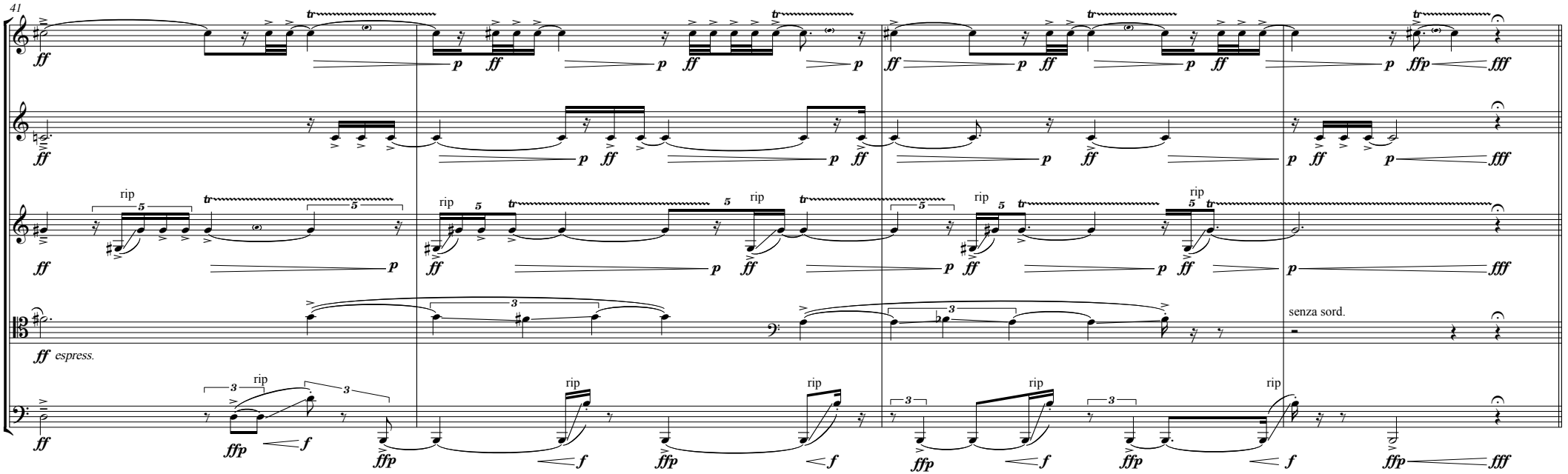

9
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.
B Contemplative
13
rip.
dolce


17
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.
con sord. (straight)
con sord. (straight)
con sord. (straight)

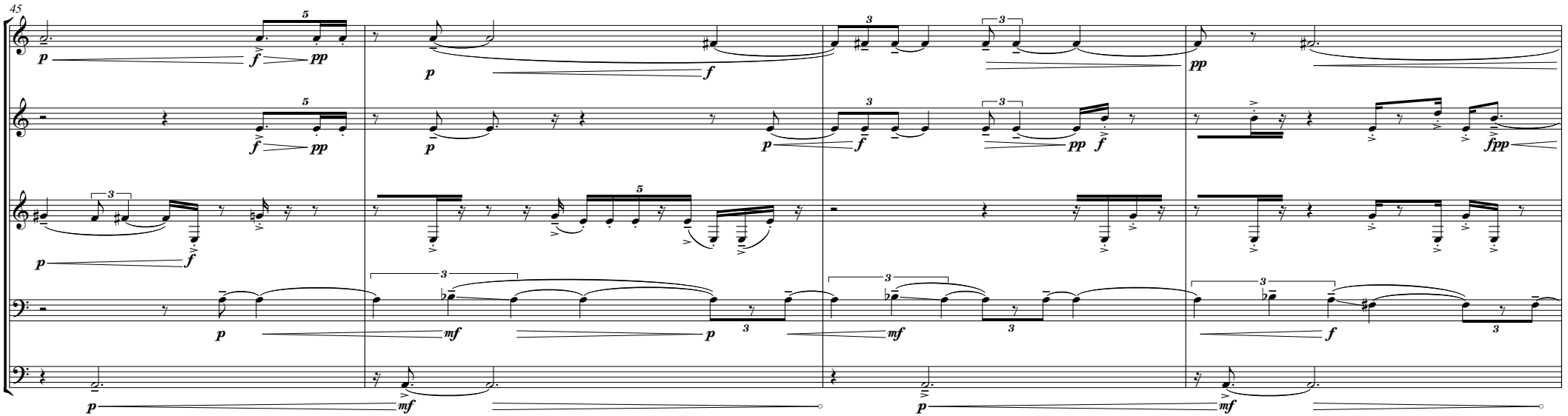

21
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.

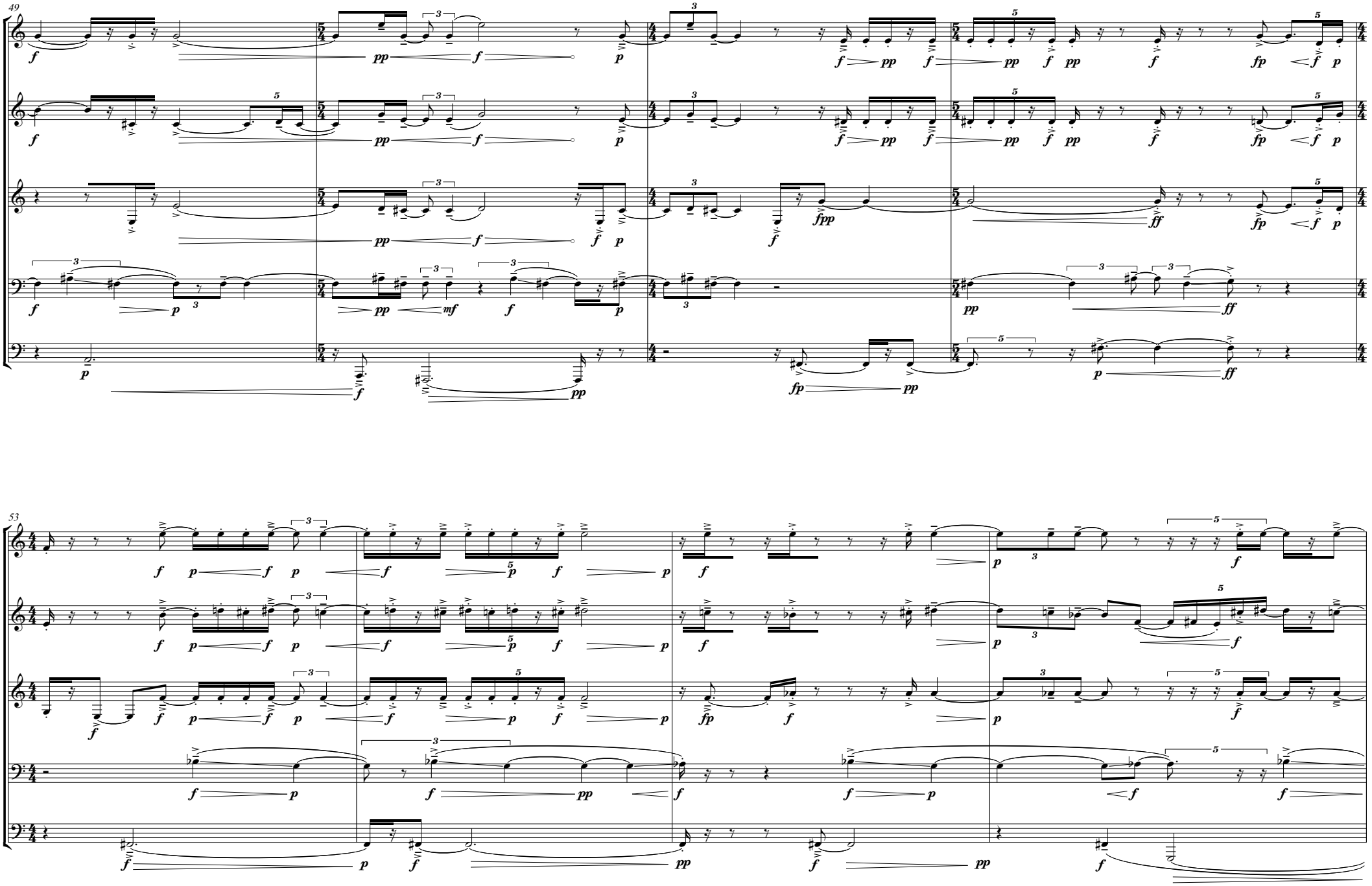

25
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.
29
C
Forceful, dramatic

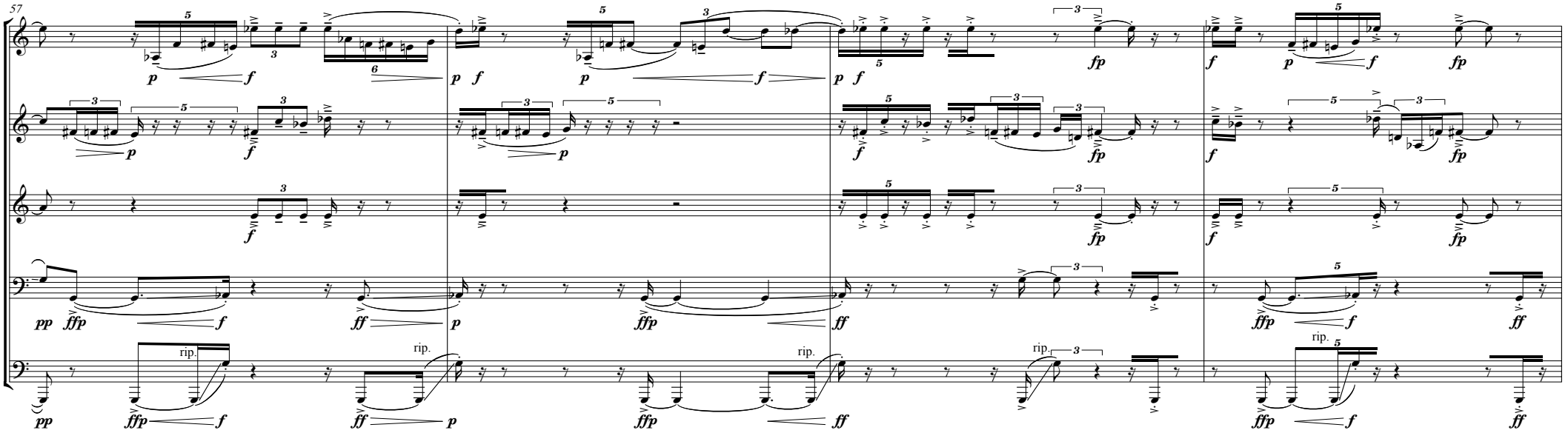

33
To Flug. (senza sord.)
Flugelhorn
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
To Flug. (senza sord.)
Hn.
rip
Tbn.
Tba.
rip
37
Flug. 1
Tpt. 2
Flugelhorn
Hn.
rip
Tbn.
Tba.
rip

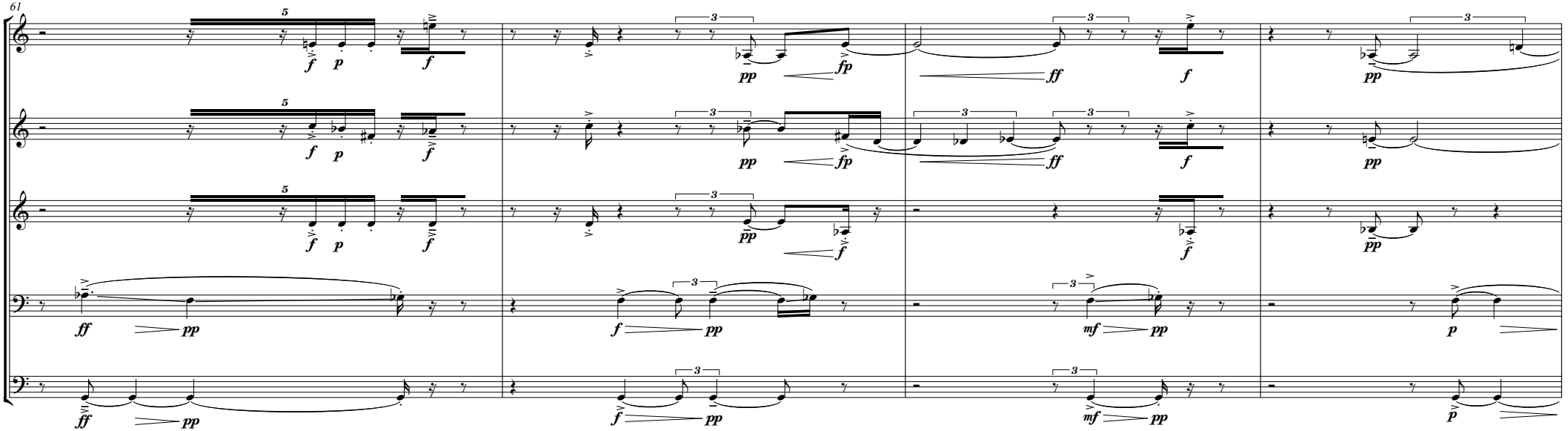


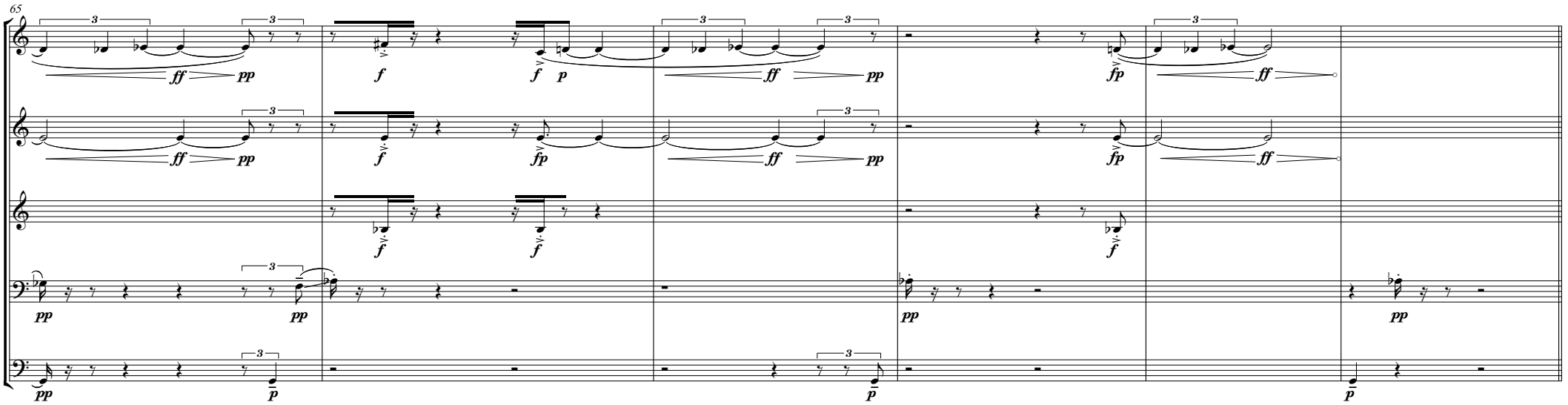
D **Warm, calm, somewhat melancholy**



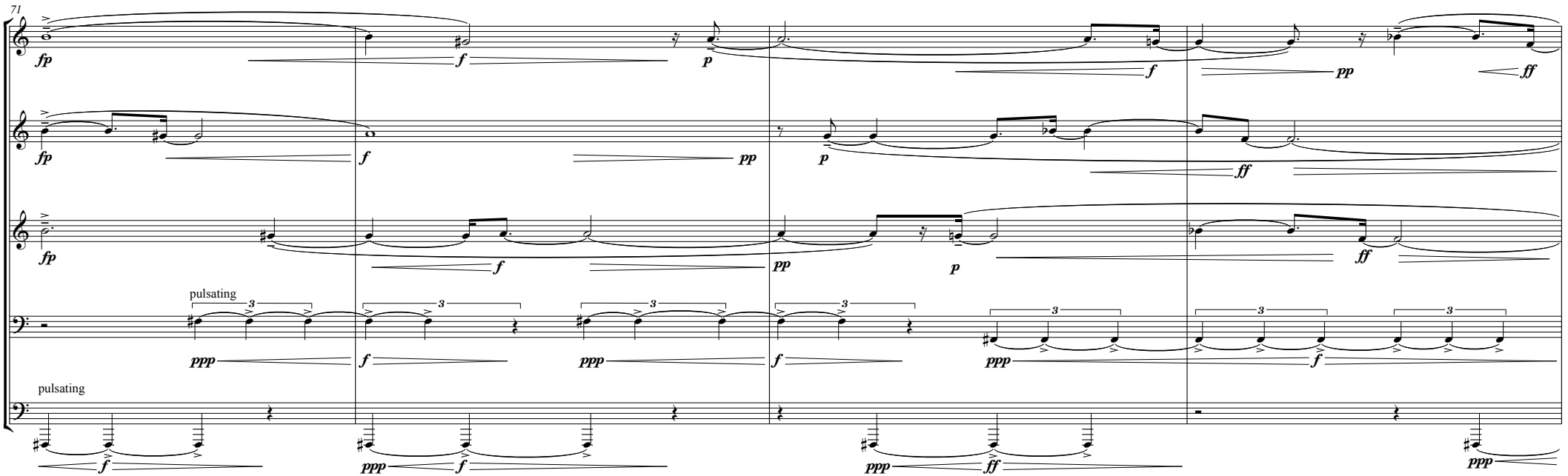

49
Flug. 1
Flug. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.
53
Flug. 1
Flug. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.

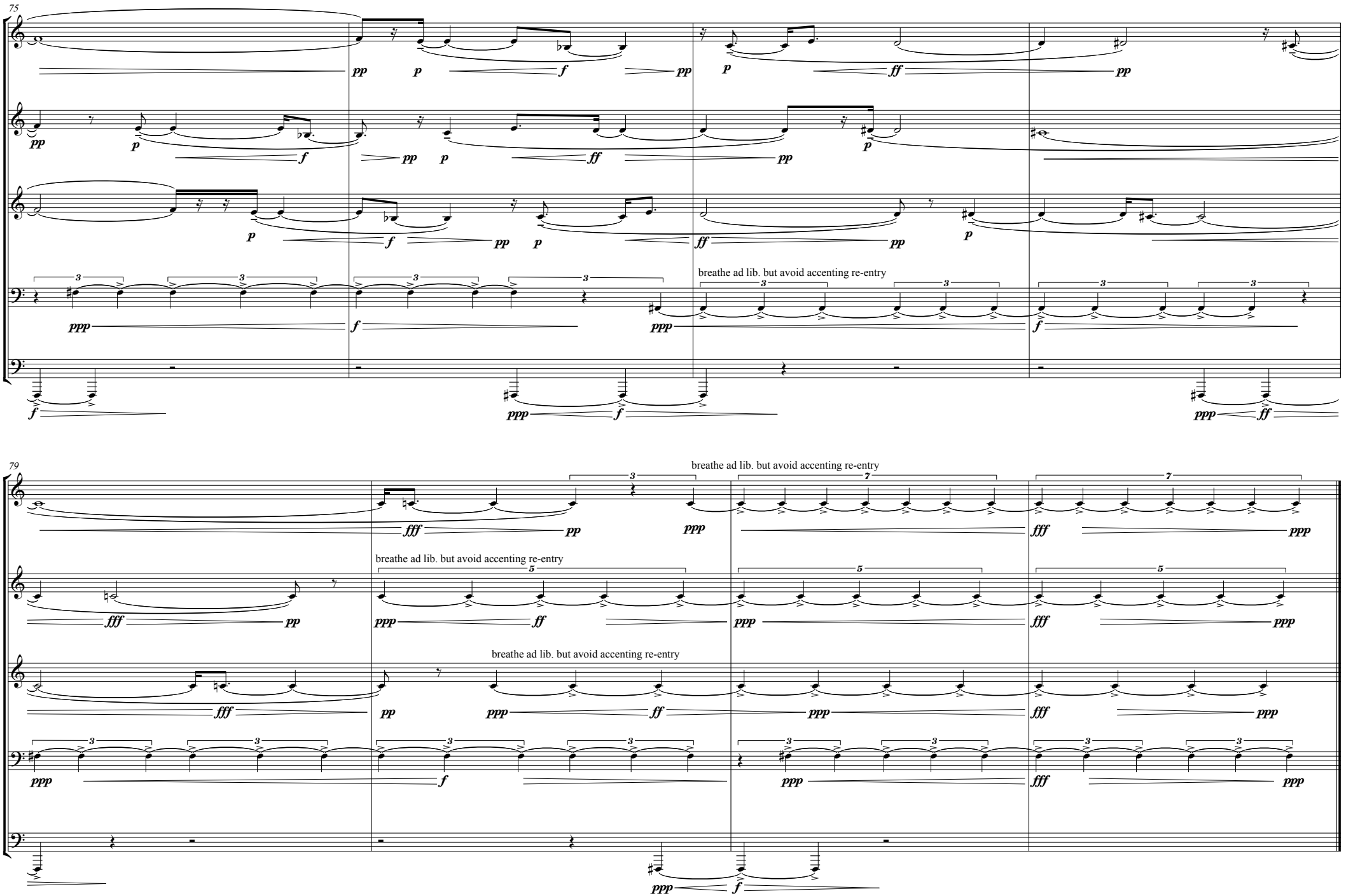

57
Flug. 1
Flug. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.
rip.


61
Flug. 1
Flug. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.



E **Mellifluous, flowing**




75
Flug. 1
Flug. 2
Hn.
Tbn.
Tba.
breathe ad lib. but avoid accenting re-entry
79
breathe ad lib. but avoid accenting re-entry
dur.