Edward Nesbit

Night Dances

for String Quartet

EDWARD NESBIT

NIGHT DANCES

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Edward Nesbit was the winner of the first Verbier Festival Academy Composer Prize supported by the Gianni Bergamo Classic Music Award. *Night Dances* was commissioned by the Verbier Festival for Quatuor Ebène.

Duration c. 9'

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Throughout the piece, tempo equivalences are used in order that more than one audible tempo can be incorporated into the same notated metre. In bars 239-292, for example, the cello plays music which is perceived to be in the same tempo as the passage which precedes it (bars 218-238). In all but the simplest of these passages (bars 78-137), square brackets above the stave are used to indicate the audible metre. To aid performance, all passages in which these square brackets are used are accompanied in the parts by a cue line which shows music in the other instruments which sounds in the notated tempo.

All players require practice mutes. When practice mutes are used, dynamics in inverted commas denote the force with which the player should play the instrument; it is understood that the resulting dynamic will be significantly lower than that marked.

Grace notes should be played before the beat; mordents should be played on the beat.

Ties after *pizzicato* notes indicate that the note should be made to ring on as long as possible by means of *vibrato* and a slightly raised dynamic.

PROGRAMME NOTE

Night Dances consists of four related but contrasting pieces of material. Two of these are generically specific dances, a habanera and a sarabande; the other two are more generally 'dance-like'. As the piece progresses, these come to be superimposed onto one another at an increasing level of density. At first only two are ever heard simultaneously, but after a time this number increases to three, and at the climax of the piece all four are heard together for the first time, one one each instrument, all moving at different speeds. The piece closes with a brief recollection of the habanera with which the piece opened, this time on its own again.

Night Dances

EDWARD NESBIT

♩ = 66

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

(≻) p alla habanera

sul tasto

sul tasto III

pp

gliss.

p

poco sfz

poco sfz

pizz.

p alla habanera

arco (pos. nat.)

sul tasto III IV

(≻) p pp

III

gliss.

p

sul tasto II

gliss.

p alla habanera

pp

p

pizz. (pos. nat)

p p

arco, sul tasto, senza vib.

p pp

(≻)

pizz. (pos. nat.)

p p

arco, sul tasto, senza vib.

p pp

pizz.

p alla habanera

mp p

arco, sul tasto IV

pp

7

(sul tasto)

(≻) p

II

gliss.

mp p

I

mp p

3 + 2

(≻)

gliss.

mp

pos. nat.

sul tasto

mp

pizz. (pos. nat.)

p

IV

p

IV

arco (pos. nat.)

mp p mp

gliss.

pp

IV

gliss.

p

(sempre sul tasto)

mp p mp p

II

mp p mp

gliss.

pp

pizz. (pos. nat.)

p

III

mp p

III

p

mp p mp

arco, sul tasto

pp

13

A

pizz. (pos. nat.)

p

arco, sul tasto

p pp

(≻)

p p

pizz. (pos. nat.)

p

arco, sul tasto

p pp

(≻)

p p

pizz. (pos. nat.)

p

arco (pos. nat.)

mp

sul tasto

sul tasto

mp p

poco

gliss.

p

gliss.

mp p

pizz.

p

pizz. (pos. nat.)

mp p

p

mp p

mp

mp p

II

gliss.

p

poco

mp p

B

19

3 + 2

pos. nat.

gliss.

sul tasto sub.

sub. p espress.

poco scherz.

arco, sul tasto

pizz. (pos. nat.)

arco, sul tasto, senza vib.

(pizz.)

arco sul tasto

25

mp scherz. 3

arco, sul tasto, senza vib.

pizz. (pos. nat.)

C

♩ = ♩ (♩ = 132)

sul tasto

31

sempre sim.

pizz.

SOLO
(pos. nat.)

41

f alla tzigane

gliss.

49

scherzando

D

ff

57

E

mf

f

sempre sim.

sempre sim.

65

scherzando

gliss.

72

F

non solo

sempre sim.

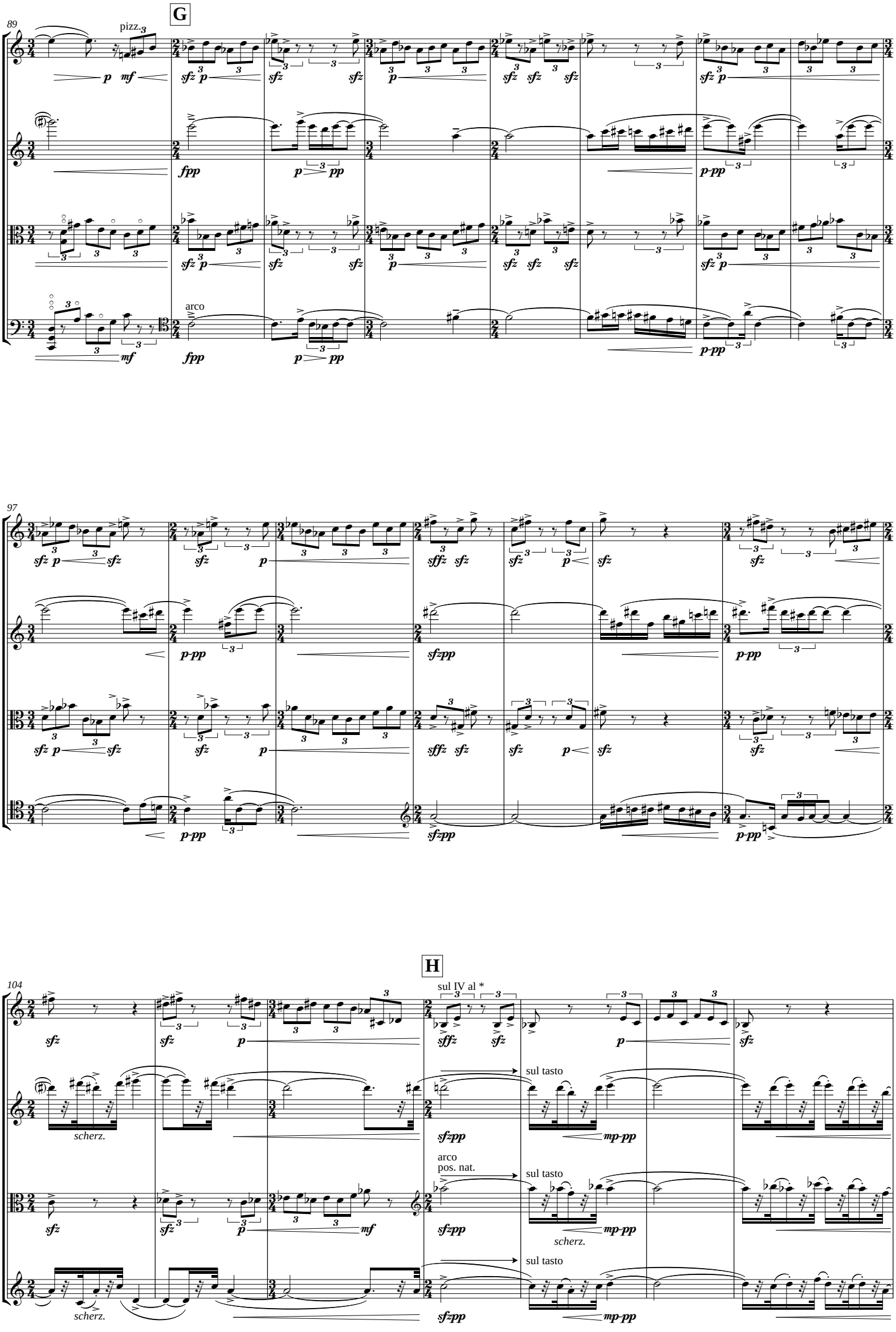
arco

80

gliss.

pizz.

arco


G
89
pizz.
arco
97
H
104
sul IV al *
sul tasto
arco
pos. nat.
scherz.

111

sfz sfz p ff sffz sffz

mfpp mp-pp sfzpp mp

pos. nat. sul tasto gliss.

119

I

ff sffz sffz sffz sffz p sffz sffz

sfzpp mp sfzpp mfpp mp-pp

sul tasto gliss. pos. nat.

pizz. (pos. nat.)

ff sffz p sffz sffz

128

p sffz sffz sffz sffz

mp-pp sfzpp

sul tasto

muted (practice mute) pos. nat.

p sffz

J

♩ = ♪ (♩. = 176)

138

muted (practice mute)
(pizz.)

p scorrevole

arco

mp *"f"* *mp*

pizz.

p

arco

"fff"

p scorrevole

"f"

p

pizz.

p

muted (practice mute)
(pizz.)

p scorrevole

arco

p *"f"* *p*

pizz.

p

arco

p

147

pizz.

"ff" *p*

2 + 3

arco

p

"fff" *"ff"* *p*

"f"

p

pizz.

p

arco

"fff" *"ff"* *p*

"f"

p

pizz.

p *p*

156

"fff"

arco

pizz.

"fff" *"ff"* *p*

"fff" *"ff"* *p*

arco

pizz.

"fff" *"ff"* *p*

164

K

arco

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

172

pizz.

arco

arco

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

pizz.

181

L

arco

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

arco

190

arco

pizz.

arco

2 + 3

pizz.

199

3 + 2

pizz.

208

M

10 ♩. ♩. = 𝅗𝅥 (𝅗𝅥 = c. 58)

218

without mute
arco
pp

pizz.
(>)
p

arco
p pp

without mute
pp

pizz.
(>)
p

arco
p pp

pizz.
(>)
p

without mute
p

without mute
arco
p espress.

8va

mp

224

pizz.
(>)
p

arco
p pp

arco
p pp

p pp

pizz.
(>)
p

arco
p

(8)

pp mf sub. p mf p

mf

p espress.

N

229

pizz.
II
(>)

arco
p pp

pizz.
(>)

arco
p pp

pizz.
(>)

arco
p pp

pizz.
II
(>)

arco
p pp

pizz.
(>)

arco
p pp

arco
p pp

pizz.
(>)
p

arco
p pp

arco
p pp

pizz.
(>)
p

arco
p pp

pizz.
(>)
p

arco
p pp

(8)

mp dolciss.

pochiss. f mp

gliss.

pochiss. f

O

←𝅗𝅥 = 𝅗𝅥.𝅘𝅥→ (𝅗𝅥. = 176)

234

pizz. (≻) arco pizz. (≻) arco pizz. (≻) arco pizz. IV pizz. pizz. pizz.

pp p p p pp p p pp p p p

258

P

267

276

285

f

p

f

(8)

p

mp

←♪ = ♪→ (♩ = 132)

Q

arco, sul tasto

pp

293

p

pp

p scherzando

sfz

arco, sul tasto, sul II

mp

arco, sul tasto

(8)

(sempre quasi in 3)

p

mp

p

R

302

p

mp

pp

p

pp

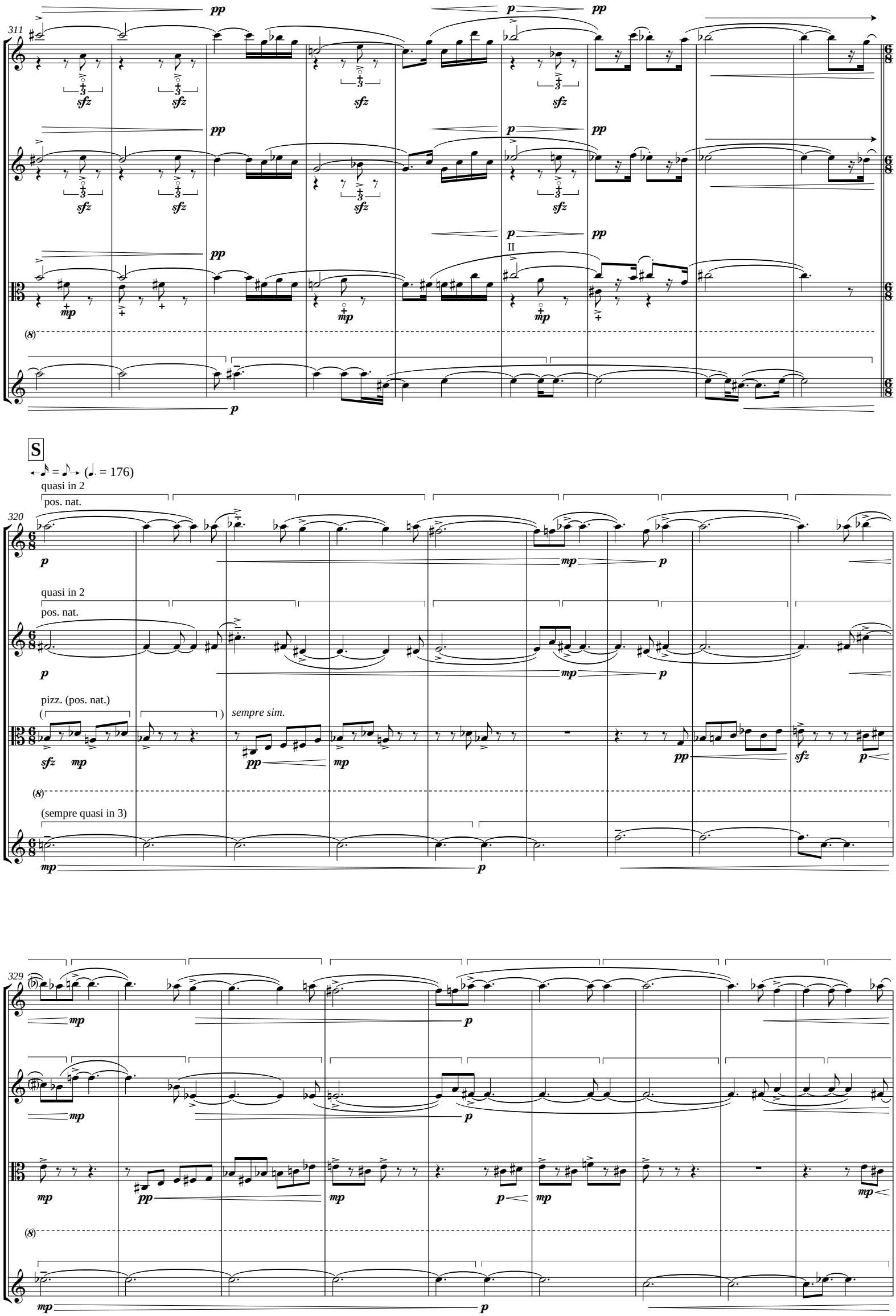
p

(8)

mp

p

mp


311
pp
p
sfz
mp
II
(8)
S
(♩. = 176)
quasi in 2
pos. nat.
320
pizz. (pos. nat.)
sempre sim.
(sempre quasi in 3)
329

T

338

pizz. *sempre sim.*

quasi in 2

arco

quasi in 2 1/2

pizz.

U

347

IV IV

quasi in 2

quasi in 2

sempre sim.

356

IV IV

V

quasi in 2

W

III

365

ff mp ff mp

mf-mp f mp mf

scherz.

mf mp mf mf-mp f mp f

ff mp ff mp

374

sfz mp sfz mp sfz

mf f mp f mp

mp f mf f-mp mf

mf mp mf mp mf

X

quasi in 3

382

arco

mp mf f

mf f mf f-mf f

f-mf f ff-f

mp f sfz sfz p

390

poco ff

ff f f scherzando

ff-f ff f

sfz p sfz f f sfz

Y

398

f ff

quasi in 3 quasi in 2

ff f f scherzando

quasi in 1 quasi in 2

ff f ff-f ff

p sfz sfz f f sfz sffz f

406

f ff f

quasi in 3

f ff f ff

ff-f ff ff-f ff f ff f ff ff-f

sfz f sfz f sfz f

414

quasi in 2

quasi in 1

Z

423

quasi in 2

AA

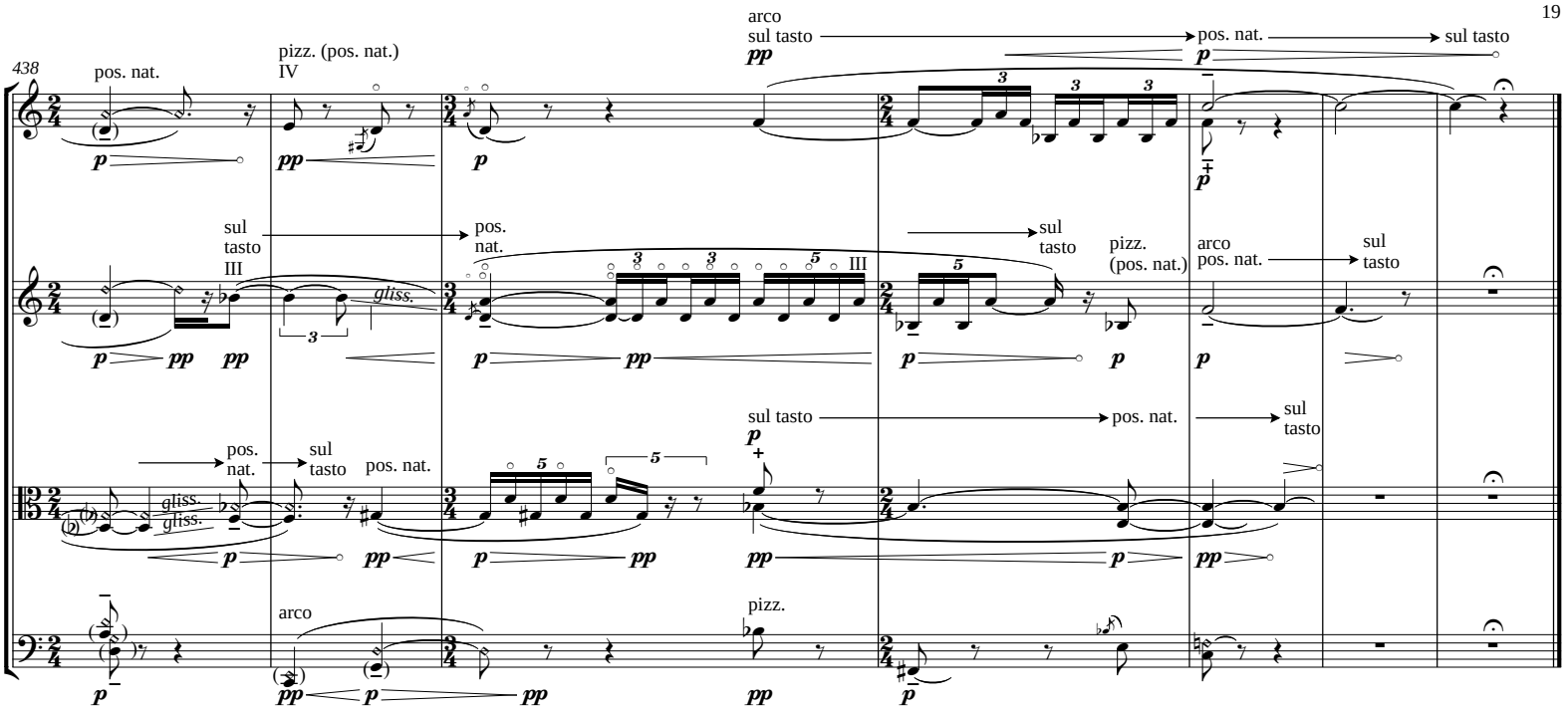
430

quasi in 3

sul tasto

pos. nat.

(pizz.)


438
pos. nat.
pizz. (pos. nat.)
IV
arco
sul tasto
pos. nat.
sul tasto
sul tasto
III
pos. nat.
gliss.
sul tasto
pizz.
(pos. nat.)
arco
pos. nat.
sul tasto
pos. nat.
gliss.
gliss.
sul tasto
pos. nat.
sul tasto
pos. nat.
sul tasto
arco
pizz.