Clarinet Quintet

Sea-change (2016)

for multiple clarinets and string quartet
post CD REVISIONS

by

Liz Johnson

Clarinet Quintet
Sea-change (2016)

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for
Clarinet in E♭, Clarinet in D, Clarinet in B♭, Bass Clarinet in B♭
and Contrabass Clarinet in B♭

Violin 1 with egg shaker, claves and Swannee whistle
Violin 2 with egg shaker, claves and Swannee whistle
Viola with egg shaker, claves and Swannee whistle
Cello with egg shaker, claves and Swannee whistle

by
Liz Johnson

dedicated to Ronald Woodley

duration c. 28 minutes

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Each player has a number of instruments. [If the string players do not have access to the small handheld percussion, substitute similar sounds using the string instrument, e.g. egg shaker = bow/tremolo behind the bridge/on the body; claves = col legno battuto; Swannee whistle = fingered harmonics glissandi], or similar.

Vocal sounds: as marked by the square bracket, make vocal shushing, sssss and tutting sounds.

Material in boxes: repeat the material within the box, following the instructions. The arrow indicates how long the box is repeated for, or a square bracket gives the duration in seconds. Rests have been kept in the parts to show clearly where the bar lines occur.

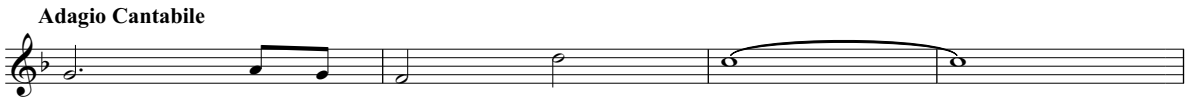
Cues: all clarinet cues on a separate stave in the string parts are transposed. Any cues written in the string staff itself are in C.

Multiple Tempi: in some sections there is no or little vertical alignment of material. Cues are clearly marked and each player should be aware of where they give others a clear cue to begin the next bar together, as marked.

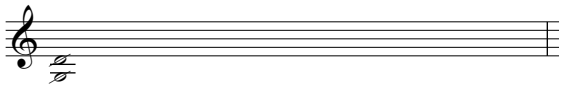
Headings and quotations: section headings *By Candlelight, Morlo, Smerkling Dragon, Gwennol* refer to the poem *Crag Inspector* (2002) by David Hart, from which the text quotations are taken.

Seal song contour:

The seal song is taken from a melody described in *People of the Sea* by David Thomas (1954) recounting the experience of Mrs. Kennedy-Fraser who heard this phrase sung back to her by a seal:



This melody appears several times, often at extreme registers and sometimes altered. The Swannee whistles are asked to play this contour, at any pitch.



place the bow on the bridge to produce a non-pitched, unstable white noise

PROGRAMME NOTE

Sea-change was commissioned by clarinettist Ronald Woodley to feature five of his different clarinets. The opening of the music explores notes played by each of the five instruments centred around the G below middle C, interspersed with breath sounds and glowing chords.

The piece is an exploration of how the mind behaves when 'following the breath', as in a meditation. Often, at the beginning of a meditation my mind is settled and clear, but I often find this is hard to maintain. Thoughts, dreams or fantasies can take over. In this piece, my mind keeps coming back to the poetry of David Hart's *Crag Inspector.* Fragments of the poem are included in the score, hinting at the wild landscape of Bardsey Island, on which the poem is set. The Welsh words included are from the poem: Morlo = seal, Gwennol = swallow.

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Clarinet Quintet
- Sea-change -

TRANSPOSING SCORE

Liz Johnson

Meditative, Calm
♩ = c.50-60

Clarinet in B♭

B♭ Cl.

breath only

+ other quiet sounds: key clicks etc. ad lib.

air whoosh

slide tongue

Cl.

Vln.1

on the bridge (breath sound, no pitch)
retake bow as necessary

+ vocal sounds shhh ssss, etc.

ord.

Vln.

on the bridge (breath sound, no pitch)
retake bow as necessary

sim.

+ vocal sounds shhh ssss, etc.

ord.

sul pont.

Vla.

on the bridge (breath sound, no pitch)
retake bow as necessary

+ vocal sounds shhh ssss, etc.

ord.

Vc.

sul tasto

on the bridge (breath sound, no pitch)
retake bow as necessary

sul tasto

ord.

8

To B. Cl.

+ reed sucks, key clicks
vocal 't' 'shh' *ad lib.*

Bass Clarinet
in B♭

Clarinet in D
To D Cl.

Cl.

wait for clarinet
to be ready before
moving to next bar

+ vocal sounds 'shhh' 'ssss' 't'
breathe *ad lib.*

sul pont.

ord.

poco sul pont.

col legno *ad lib.*

repeat box
ad lib.

Vln.1

wait for clarinet
to be ready before
moving to next bar

move between sul pont.
and ord. *ad lib.*

ord.

poco sul pont.

col legno *ad lib.*

repeat box
ad lib.

Vln.

Egg Shaker

wait for clarinet
to be ready before
moving to next bar

Viola sul pont.

ord.

wait for
clarinet

E.S.

+ vocal sounds 'shhh' 'ssss' 't'
breathe *ad lib.*

wait for clarinet
to be ready before
moving to next bar

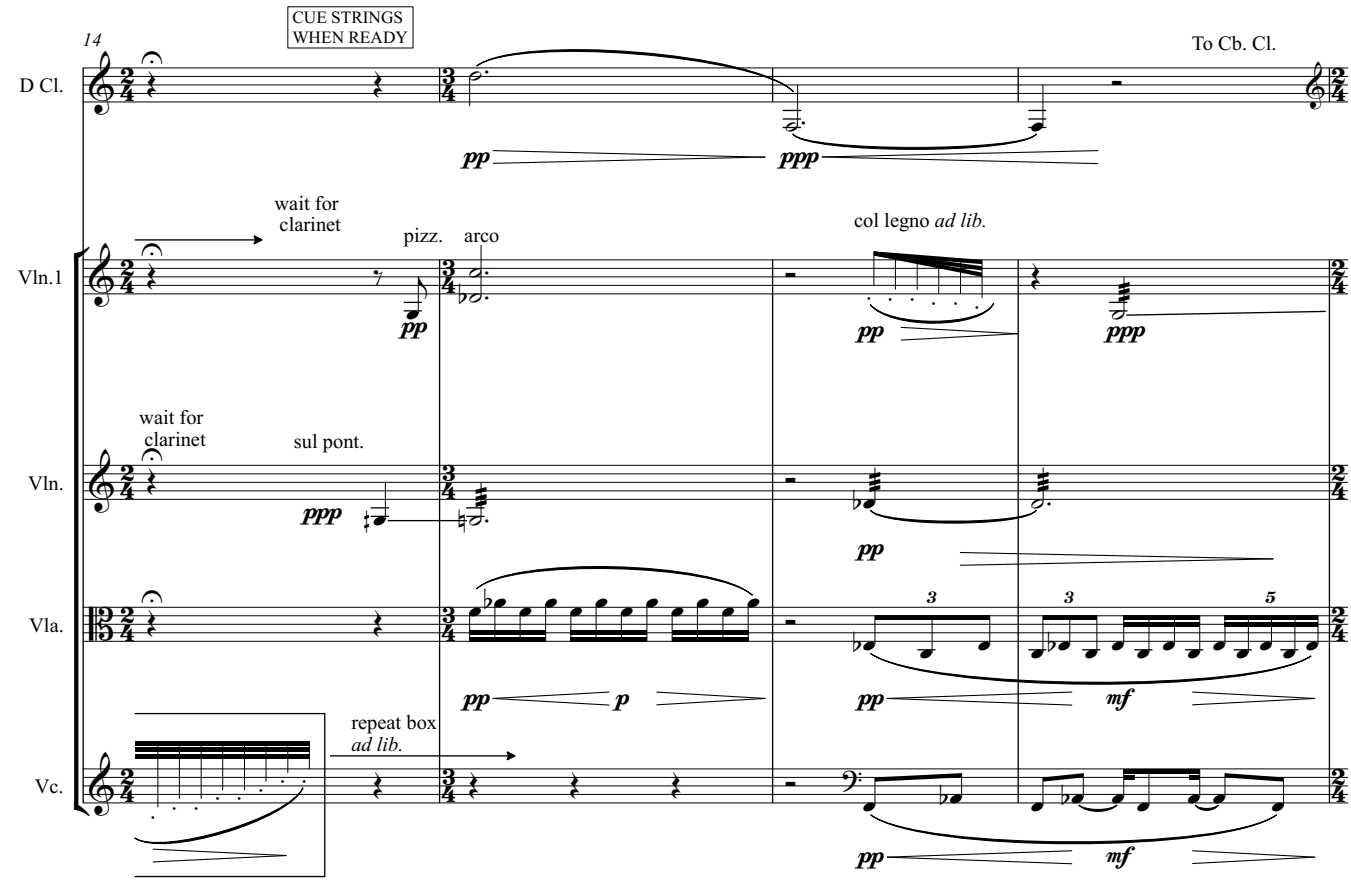
sul pont.

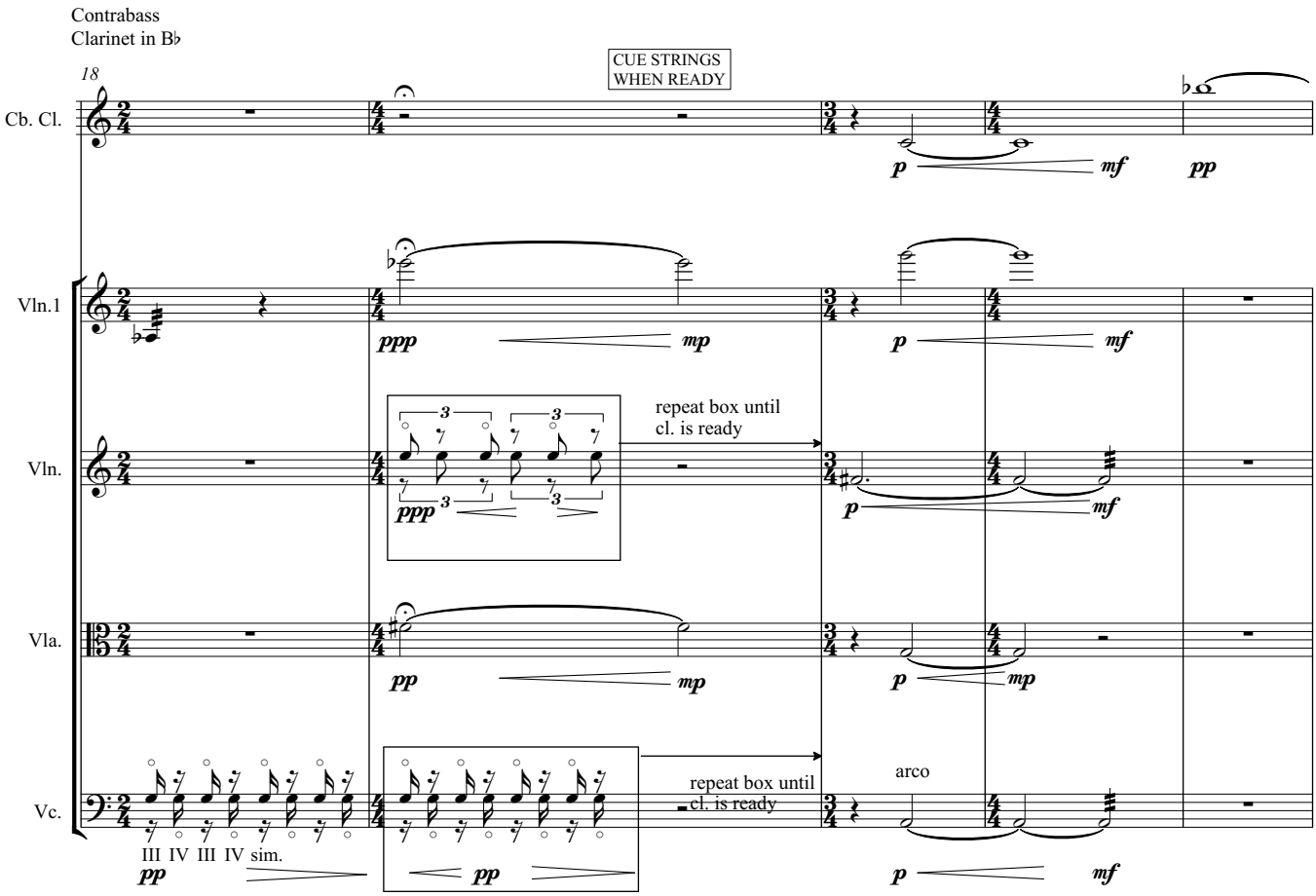
ord.

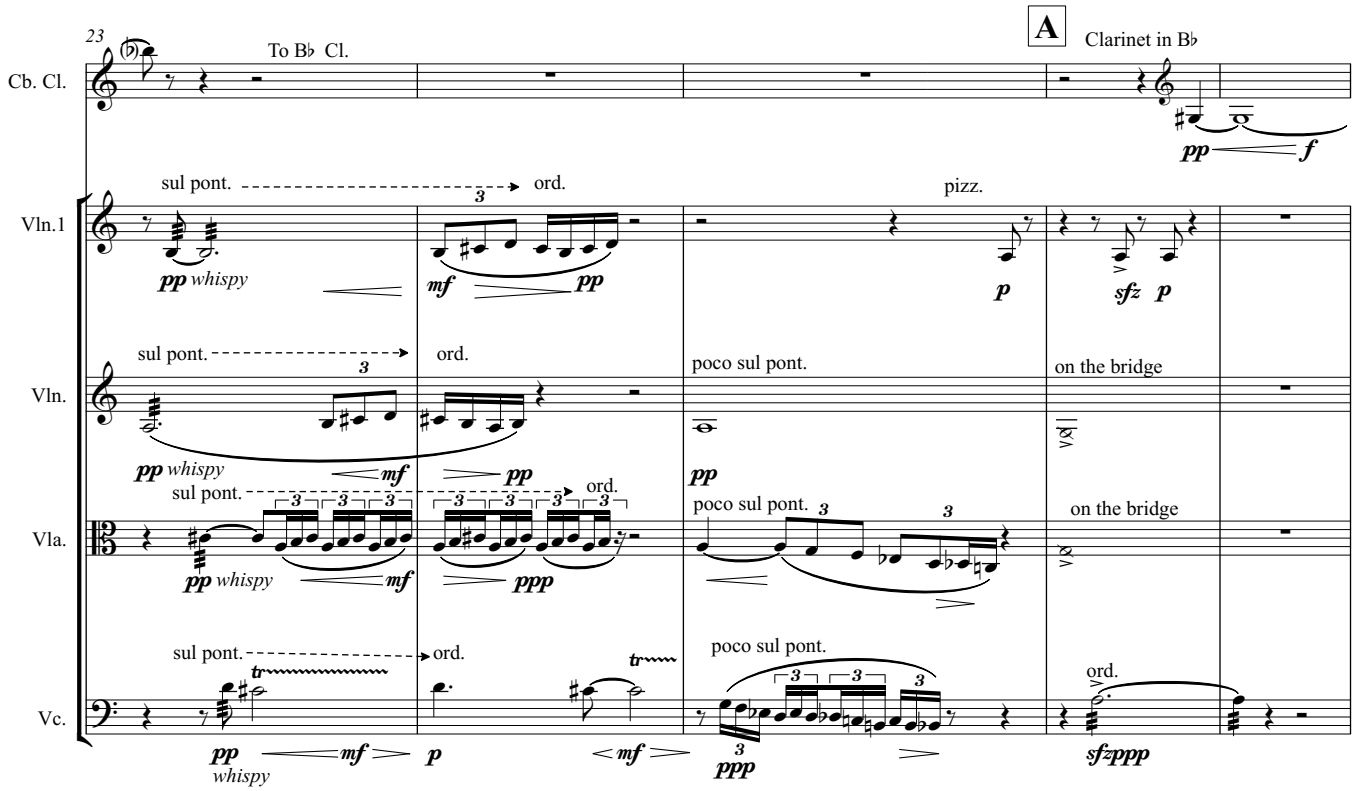
poco sul pont.

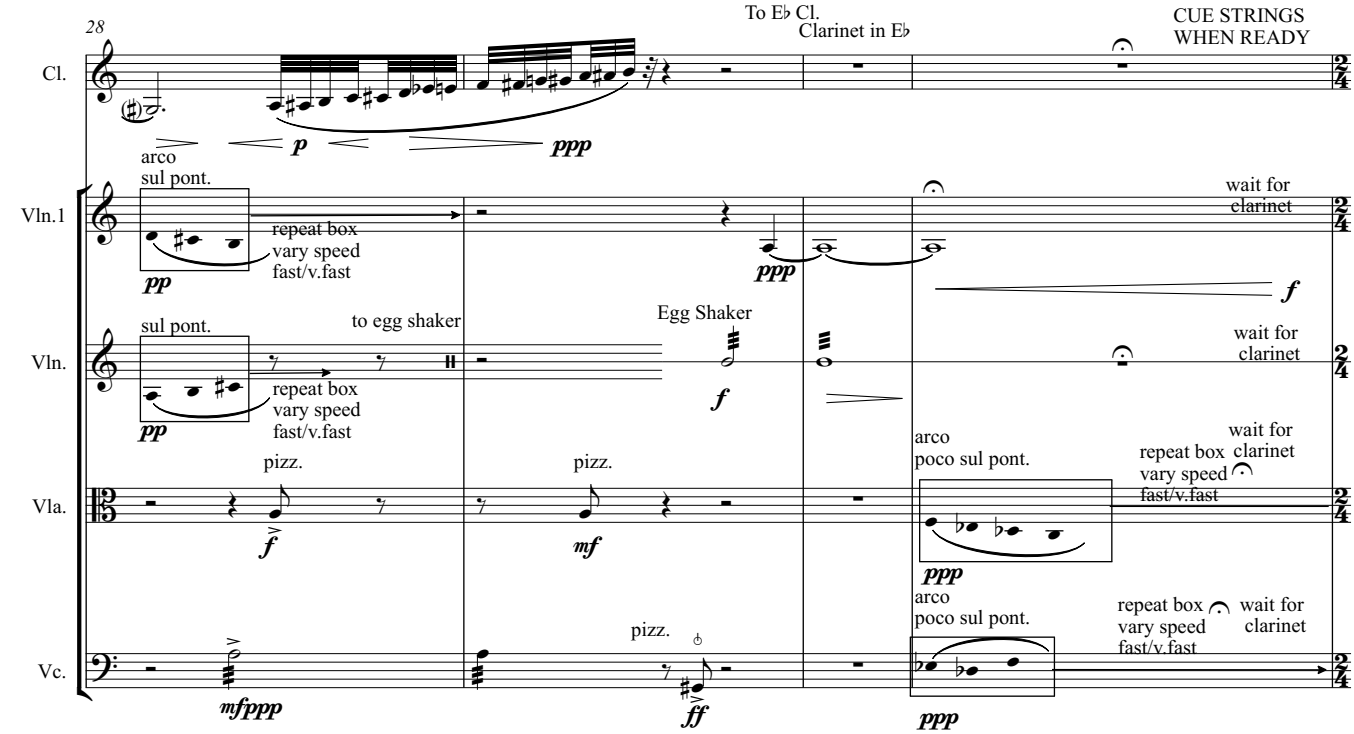
col legno *ad lib.*

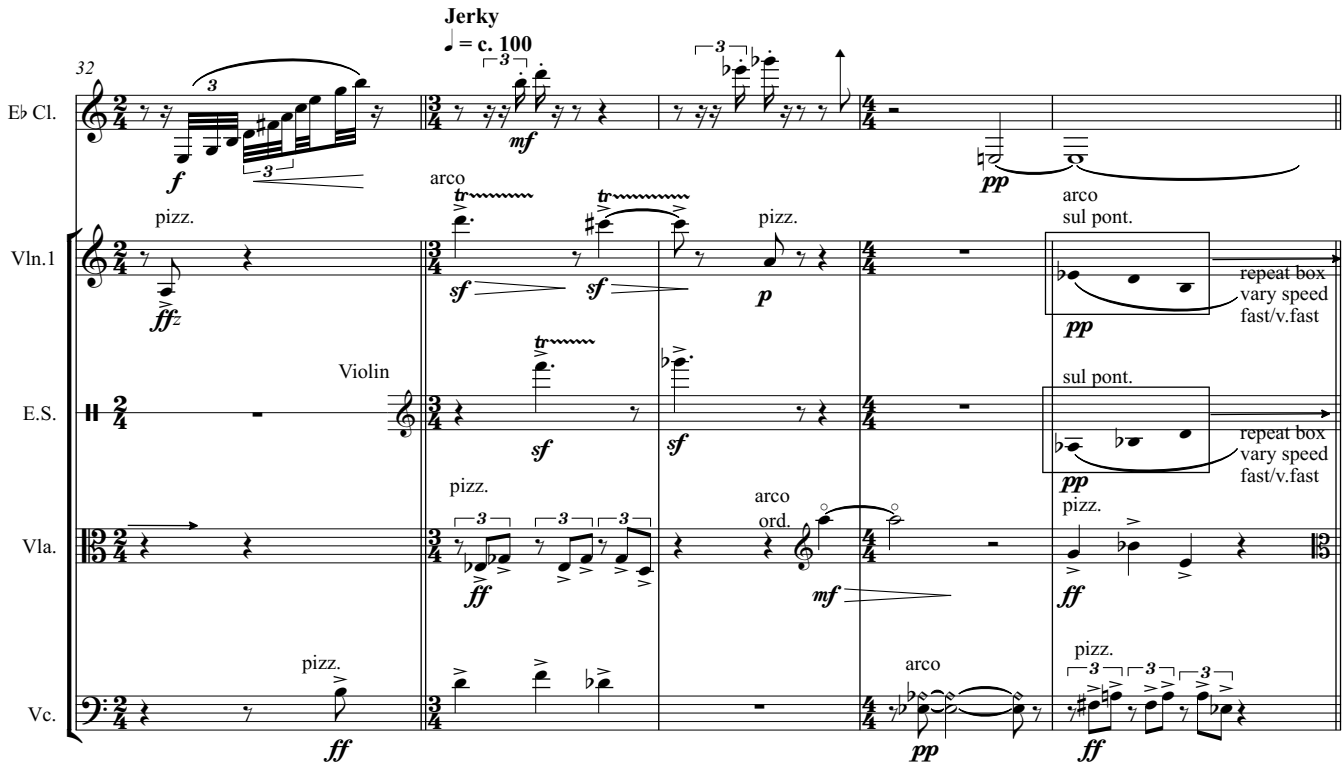
Vc.

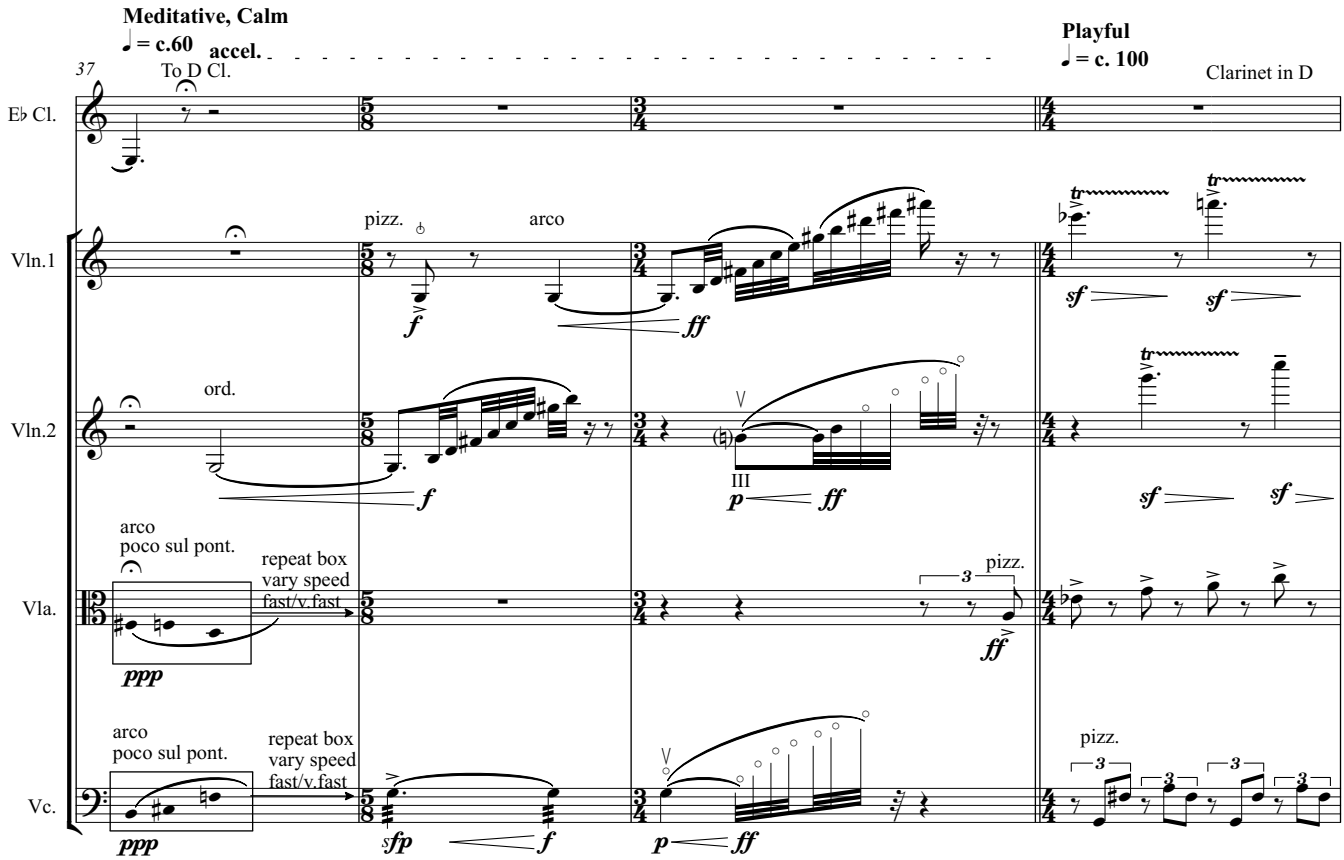

14
CUE STRINGS WHEN READY
To Cb. Cl.
D Cl.
pp
ppp
wait for clarinet
pizz.
arco
col legno ad lib.
Vln.1
pp
ppp
wait for clarinet
sul pont.
Vln.
ppp
pp
Vla.
pp
p
pp
mf
repeat box ad lib.
Vc.
pp
mf

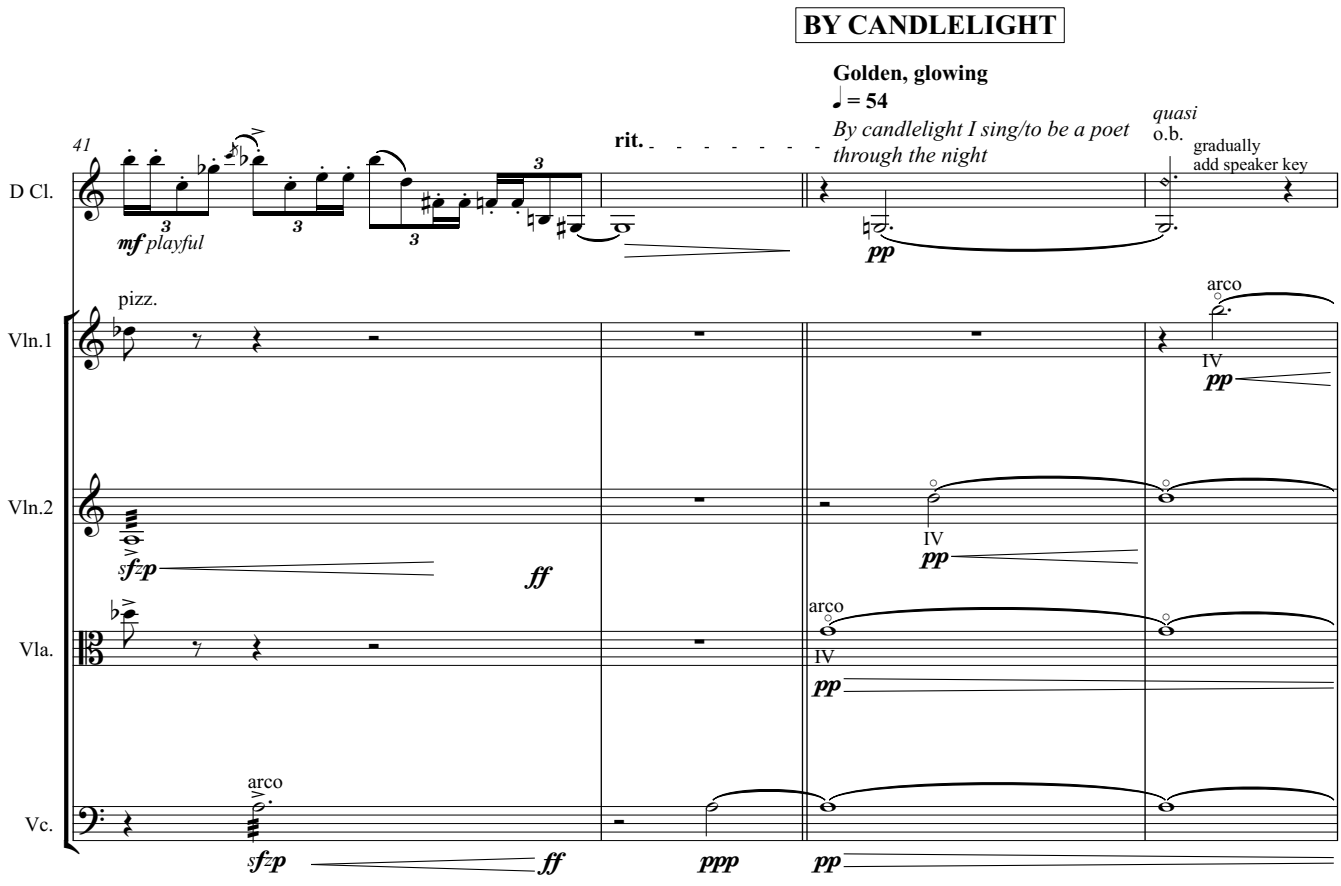

Contrabass
Clarinet in B♭
18
CUE STRINGS WHEN READY
Cb. Cl.
p
mf
pp
Vln.1
ppp
mp
p
mf
repeat box until cl. is ready
Vln.
ppp
p
mf
Vla.
pp
mp
p
mp
repeat box until cl. is ready
arco
Vc.
III IV III IV sim.
pp
pp
p
mf

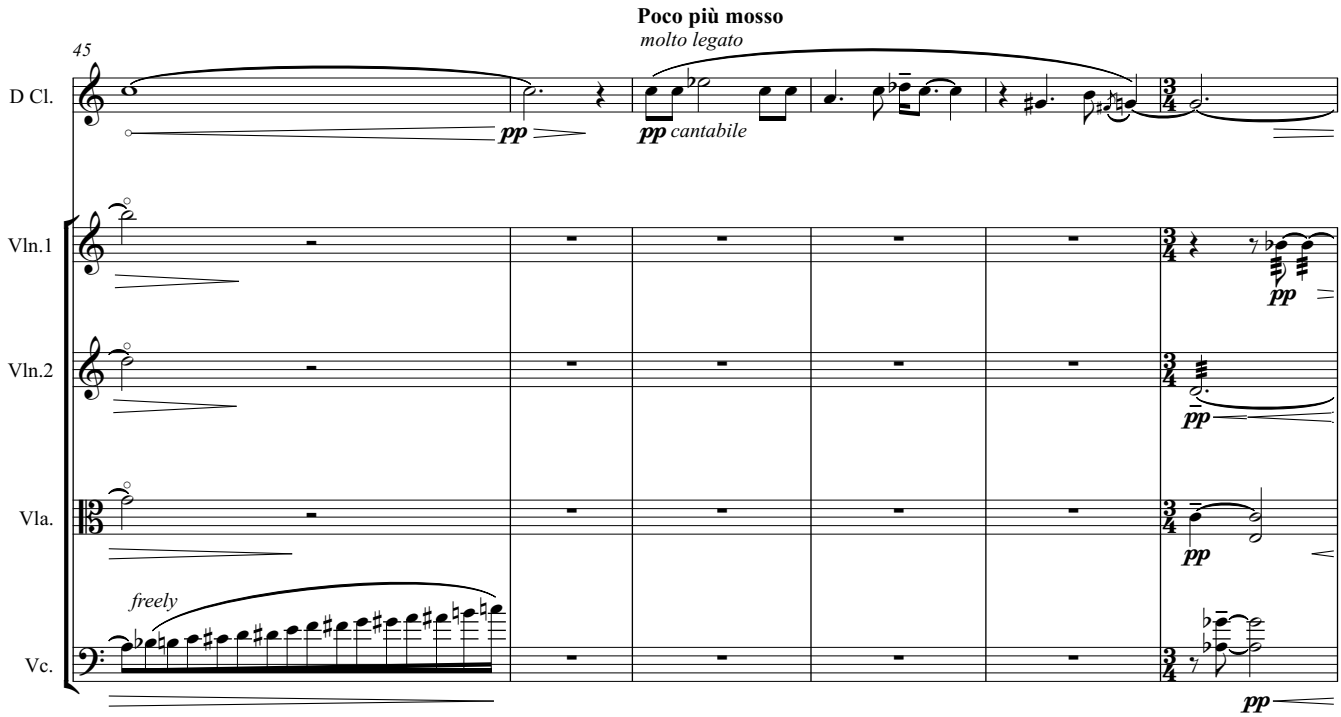

23
A
To B♭ Cl.
Clarinet in B♭
Cb. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
sul pont.
ord.
pizz.
poco sul pont.
on the bridge
pp whispy
mf
pp
p
sfz
ppp
sfzppp
tr

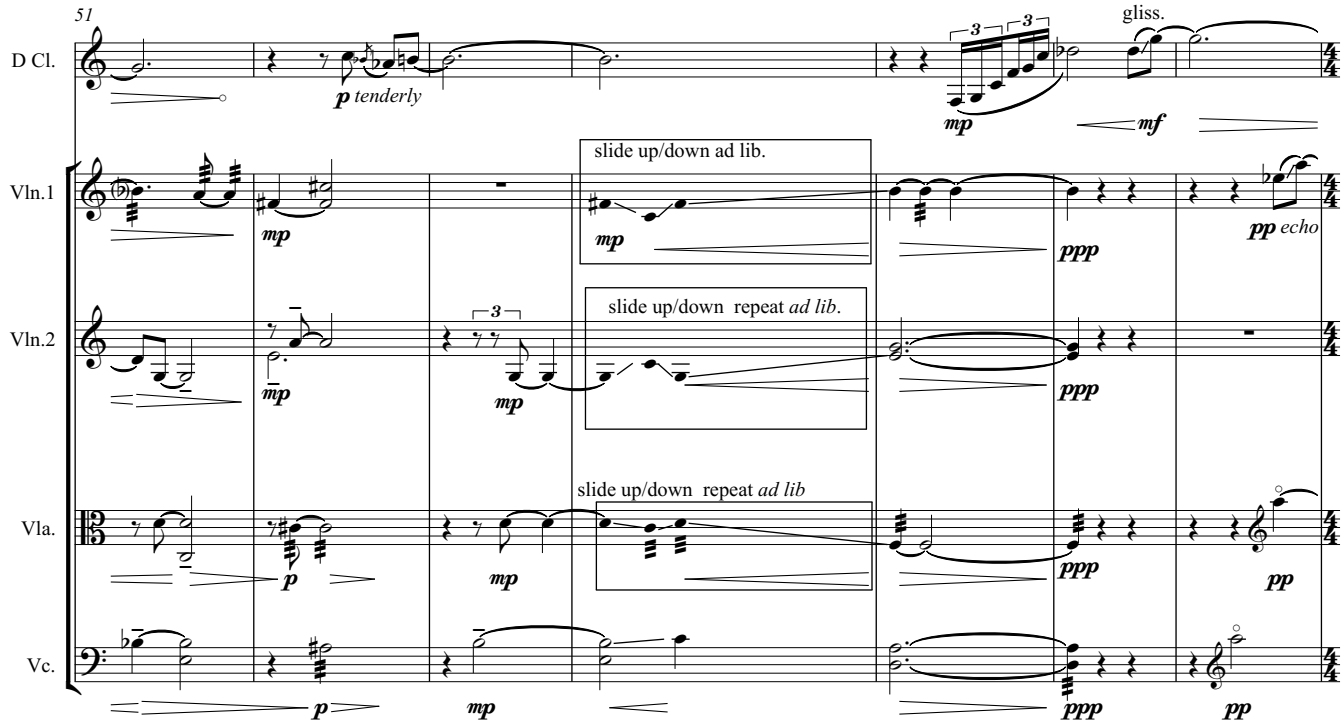

28
To E♭ Cl.
Clarinet in E♭
CUE STRINGS
WHEN READY
Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
arco
sul pont.
repeat box
vary speed
fast/v.fast
to egg shaker
Egg Shaker
wait for
clarinet
pizz.
poco sul pont.
p
pp
ppp
f
mf
ff
mfppp

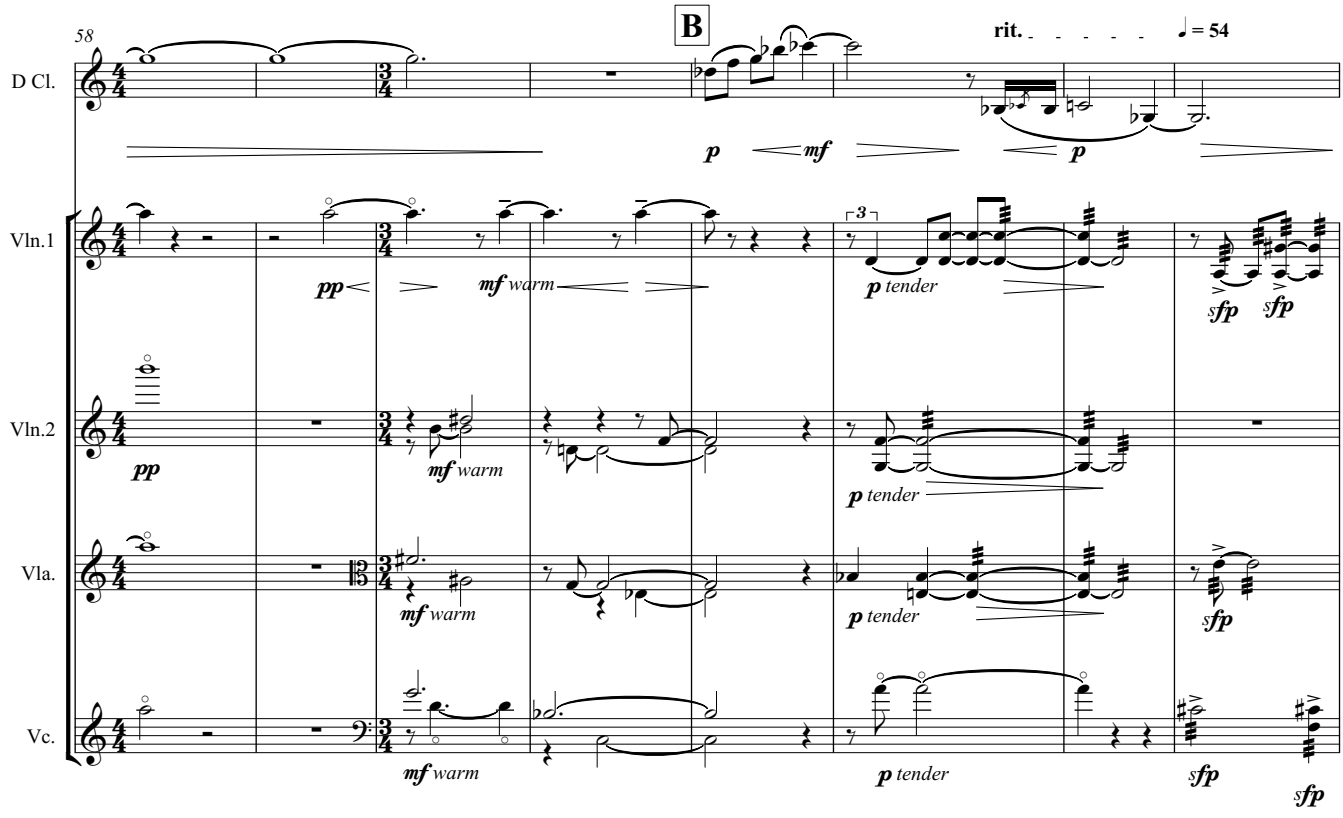

Jerky
♩ = c. 100
32
E♭ Cl.
Vln.1
E.S.
Vla.
Vc.
Violin
pizz.
arco
sul pont.
repeat box
vary speed
fast/v.fast
ord.

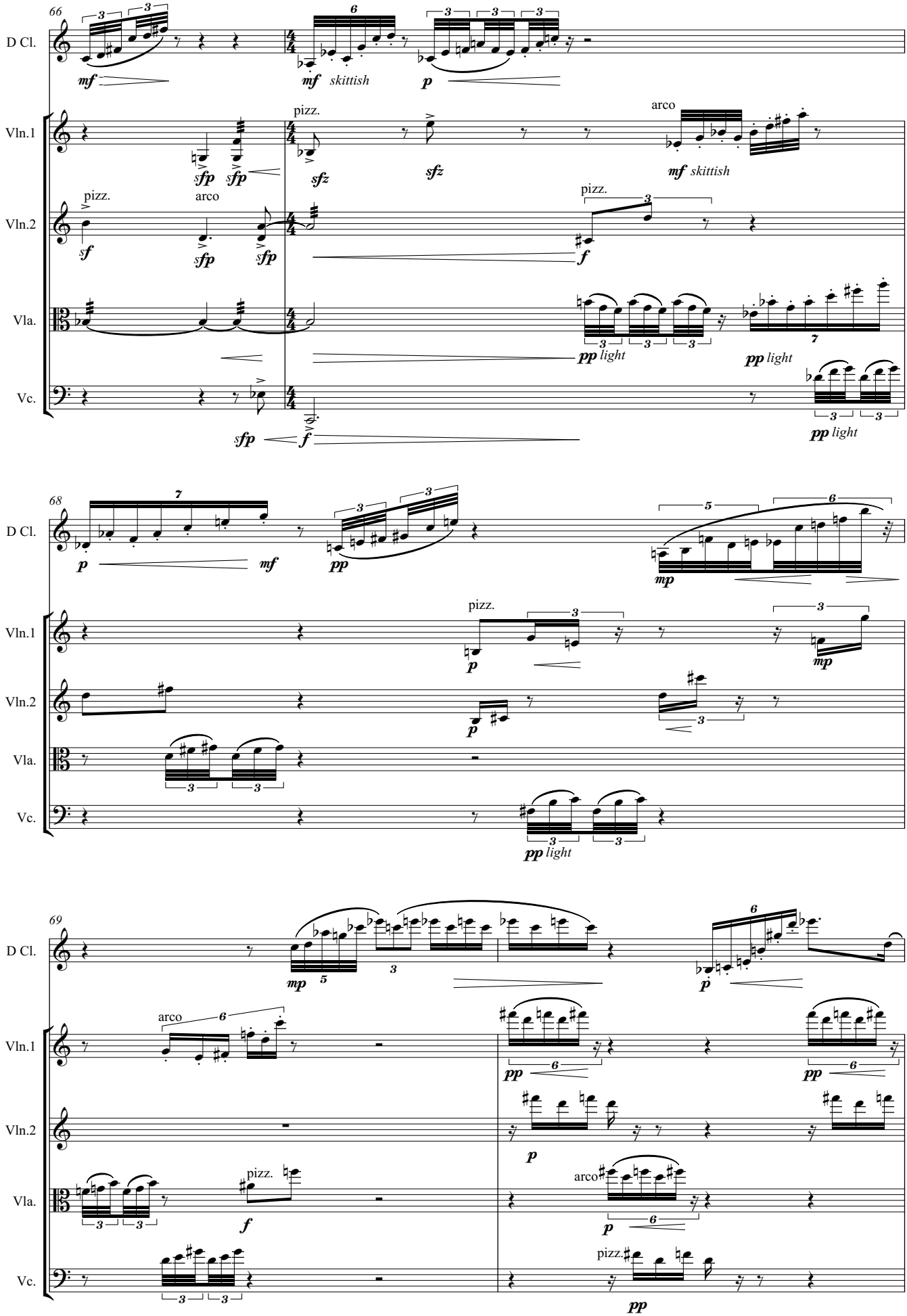

Meditative, Calm
♩ = c.60
accel.
37
To D Cl.
Playful
♩ = c. 100
Clinet in D
E♭ Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
arco
ord.
arco
poco sul pont.
repeat box
vary speed
fast/v.fast

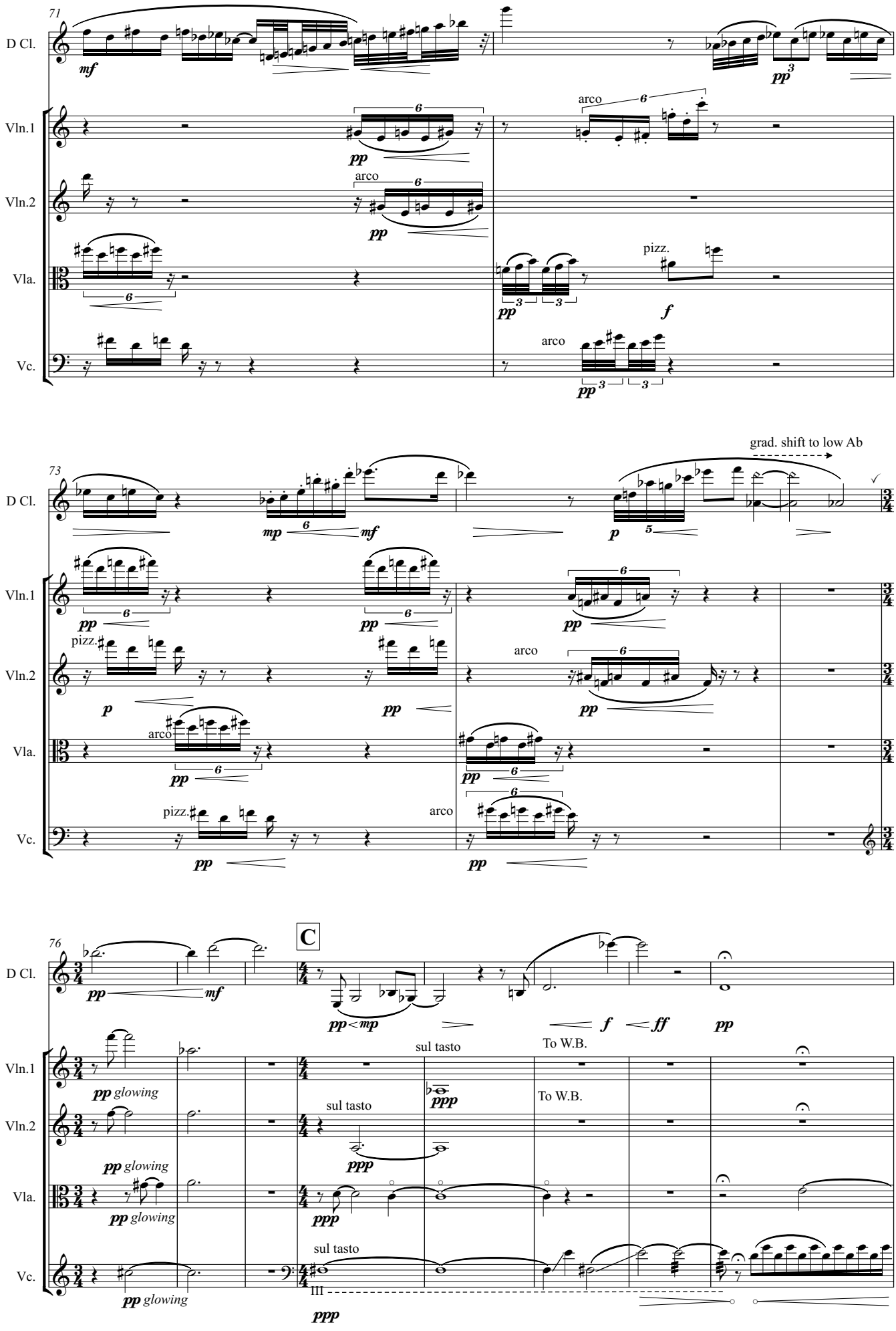

BY CANDLELIGHT
Golden, glowing
♩ = 54
By candlelight I sing/to be a poet through the night
41
rit.
quasi o.b.
gradually add speaker key
D Cl.
mf playful
pp
Vln.1
pizz.
arco
IV
pp
Vln.2
sfzp
ff
IV
pp
Vla.
arco
IV
pp
Vc.
arco
sfzp
ff
ppp
pp


Poco più mosso
molto legato
45
D Cl.
pp
pp cantabile
Vln.1
pp
Vln.2
pp
Vla.
pp
freely
Vc.
pp


51
D Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
p tenderly
gliss.
mf
slide up/down ad lib.
slide up/down repeat ad lib.
slide up/down repeat ad lib
pp echo


58
B
rit.
♩ = 54
D Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
p tender
mf warm
sfp


66
D Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
mf
mf skittish
p
pizz.
arco
sfp
sfz
sf
f
pp light
68
mp
69


71
D Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
mf
pp
arco
pizz.
f
73
grad. shift to low Ab
mp
p
76
C
ff
sul tasto
To W.B.
ppp
pp glowing
III

Dancing, rough *But here's Dai now/ on the red tractor*

♩ = c. 100

84

gradually speed up

D Cl.

p *mp*

Vln.1

Claves

f

Vln.2

Claves

f

Vla.

pizz.

f pizz.

Vc.

mp *f*

87

♩. = c. 100

To B. Cl.

Bass Clarinet in B♭

lip smacks, reed sucks ad lib.

D Cl.

Clv.

Violin

pizz.

arco

mp cresc. *f*

Clv.

Violin

Vla.

mp cresc. *mf*

Vc.

mp cresc. *mf*

93

B. Cl.

Vln.1

mf *ff*

Vln.2

pizz.

arco

f *fz* *ff*

Vla.

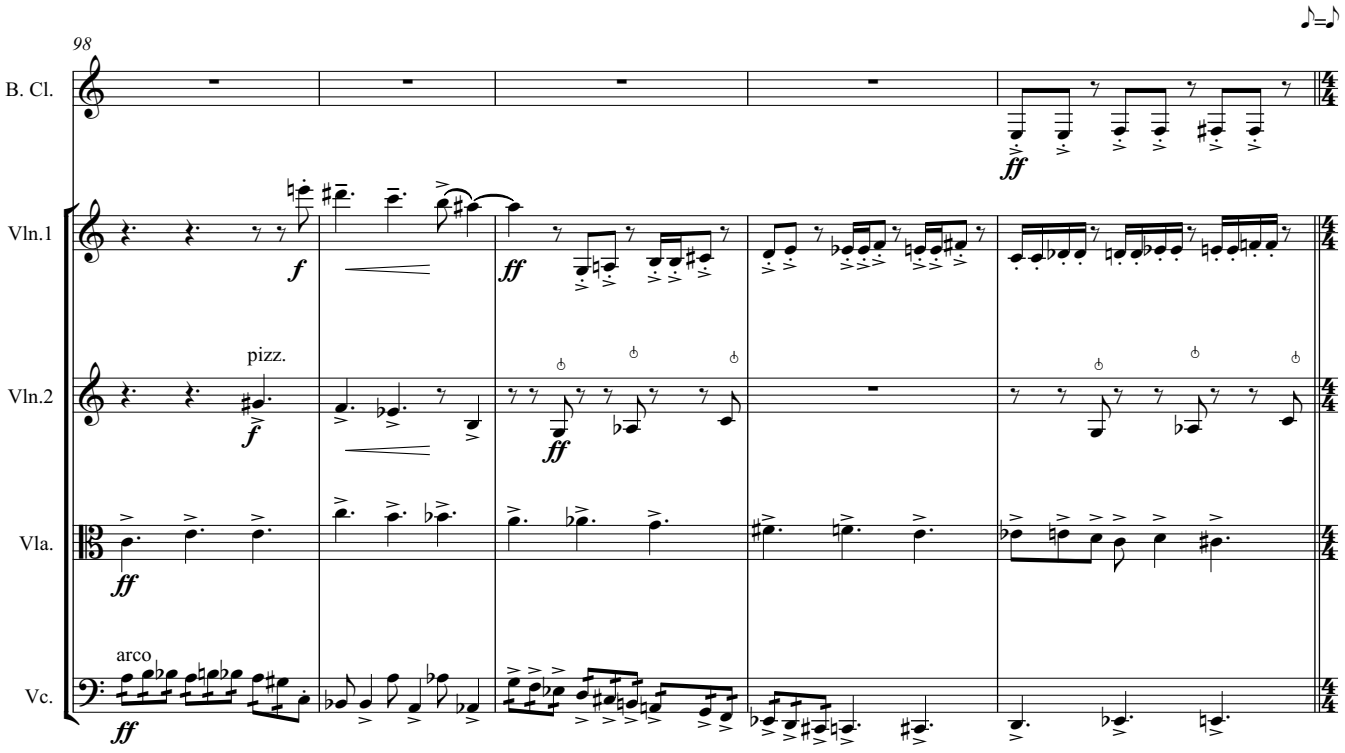
f *mf*

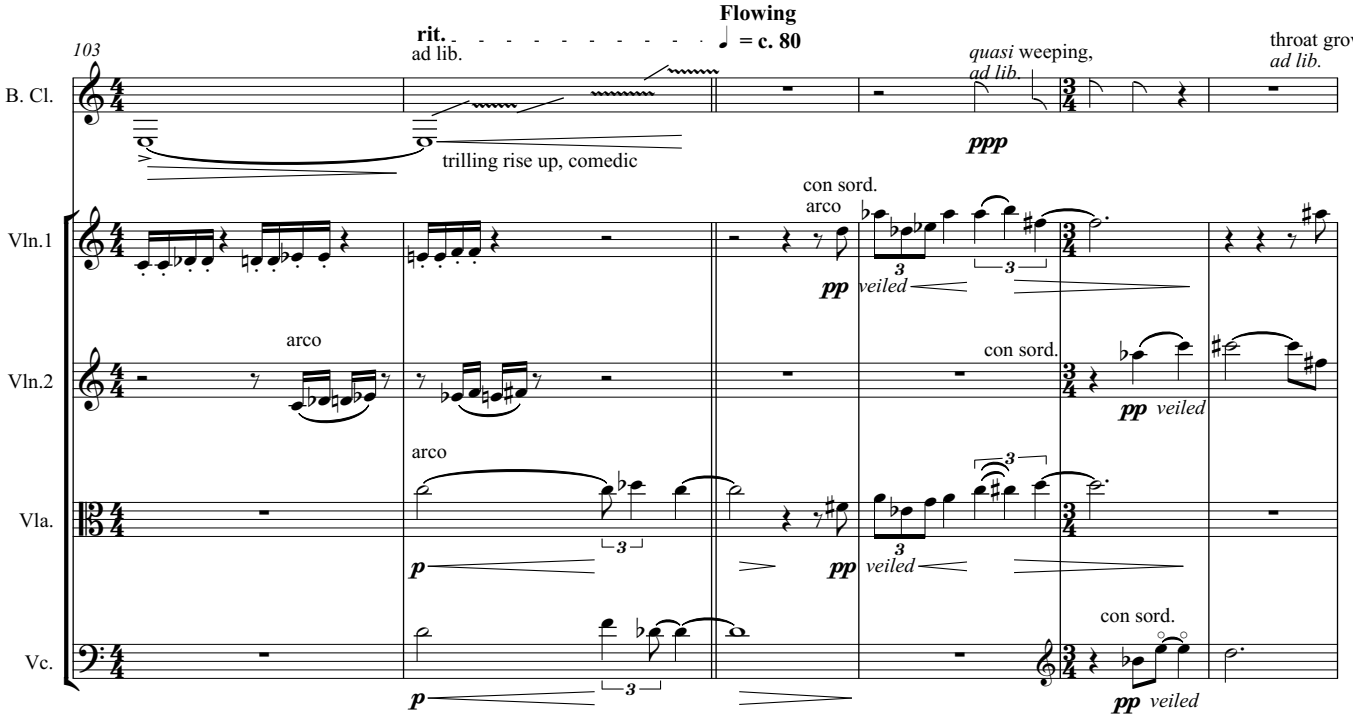
Vc.

arco

pizz.

f *mf*


98
B. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
arco


103
B. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
rit.
ad lib.
Flowing
= c. 80
trilling rise up, comedic
quasi weeping,
ad lib.
throat growls/flutter to
ad lib.
con sord.
arco
veiled
pizz.

CANTUS

I should have been sea

109

B. Cl.

Vln.1

Vln.2

Vla.

Vc.

p lyrical

8va

sul pont.

pp

con sord.

pp

p lyrical

pp

117

rit.

mp rich

sul pont.

sfz pp

pizz.

mp

sul pont.

sfp

ppp

p lyrical

ppp

Piu Lento (♩ = c. 66)

take time

124

arco

p

p

p

mf

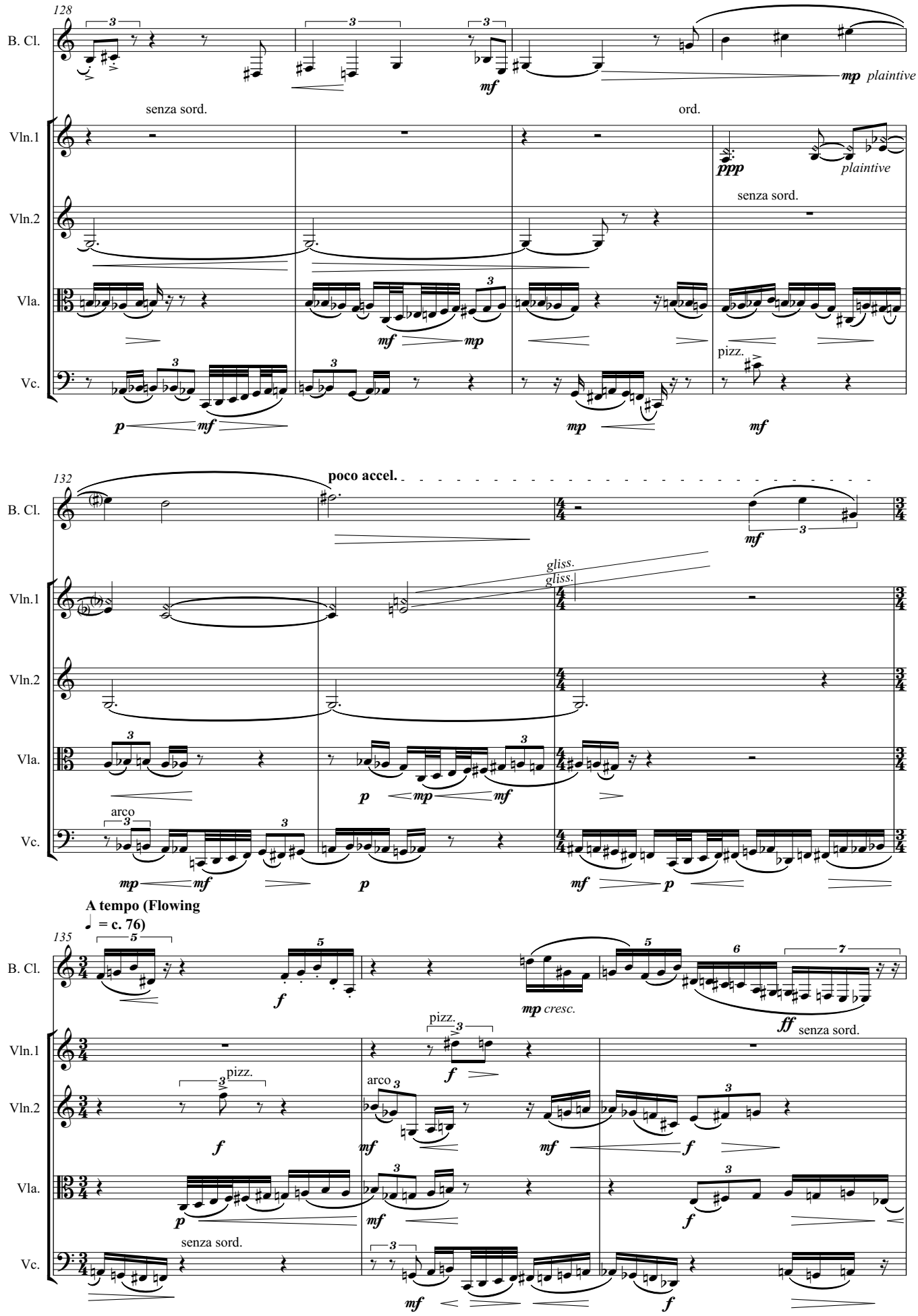
pp

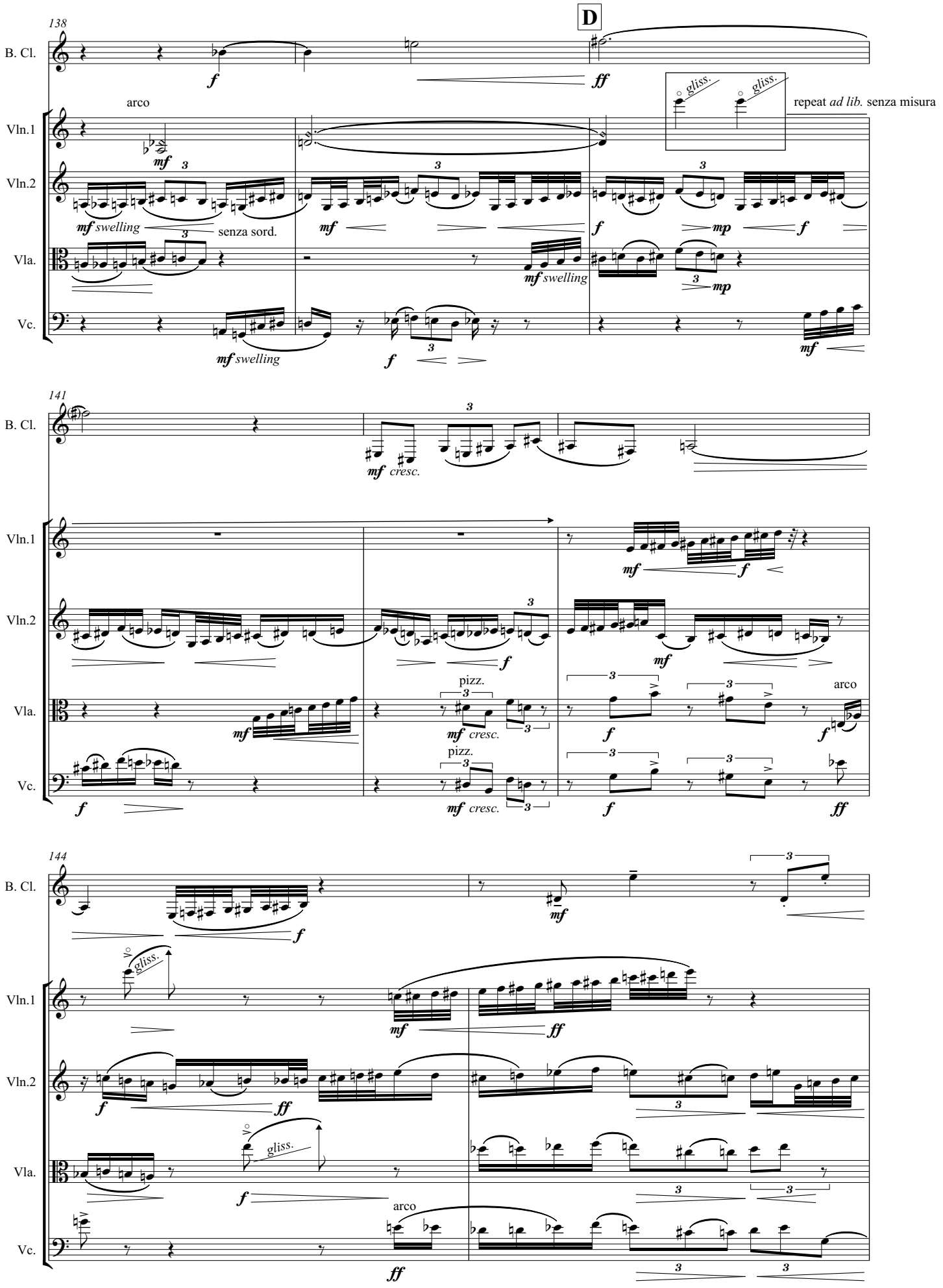
p

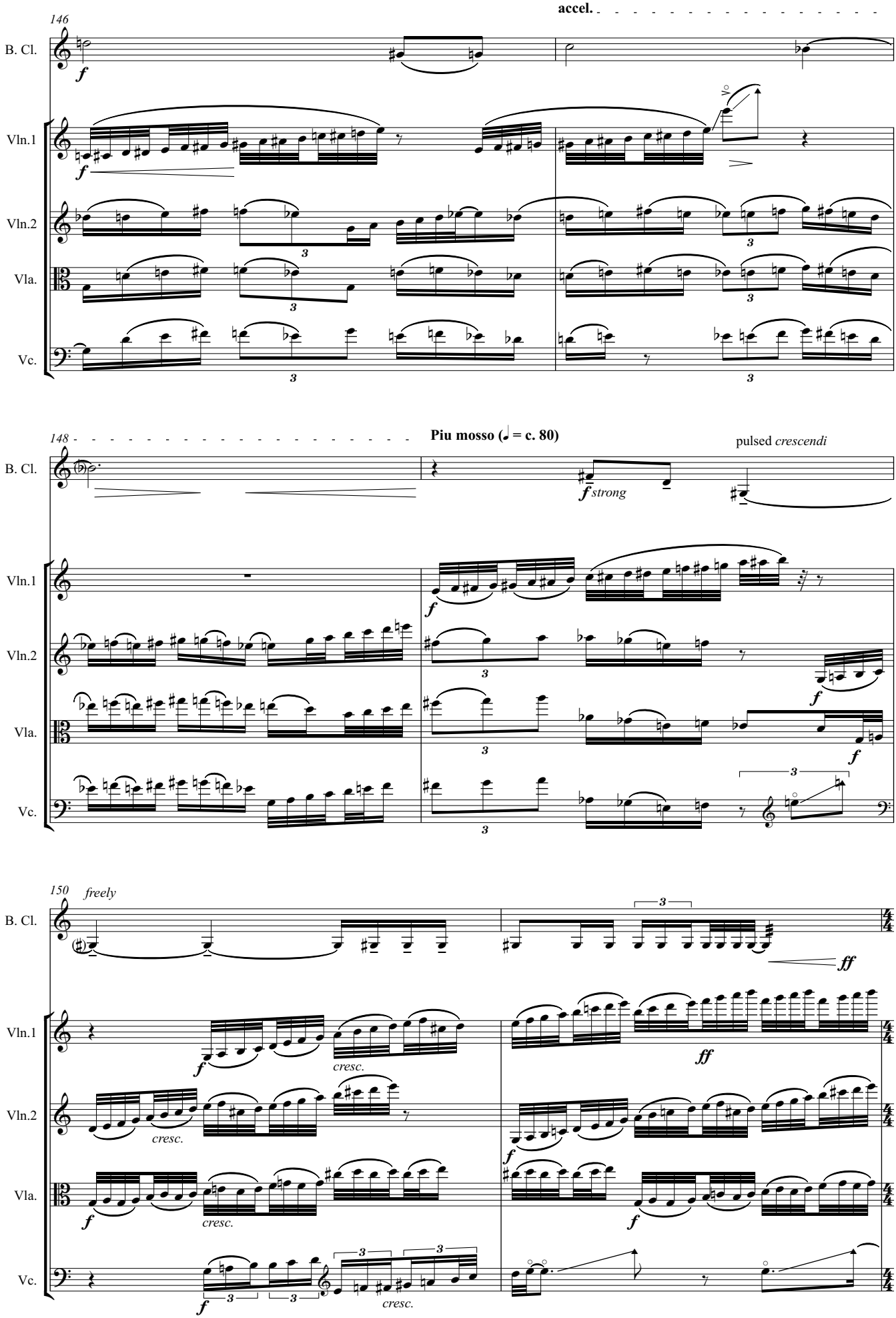
pp

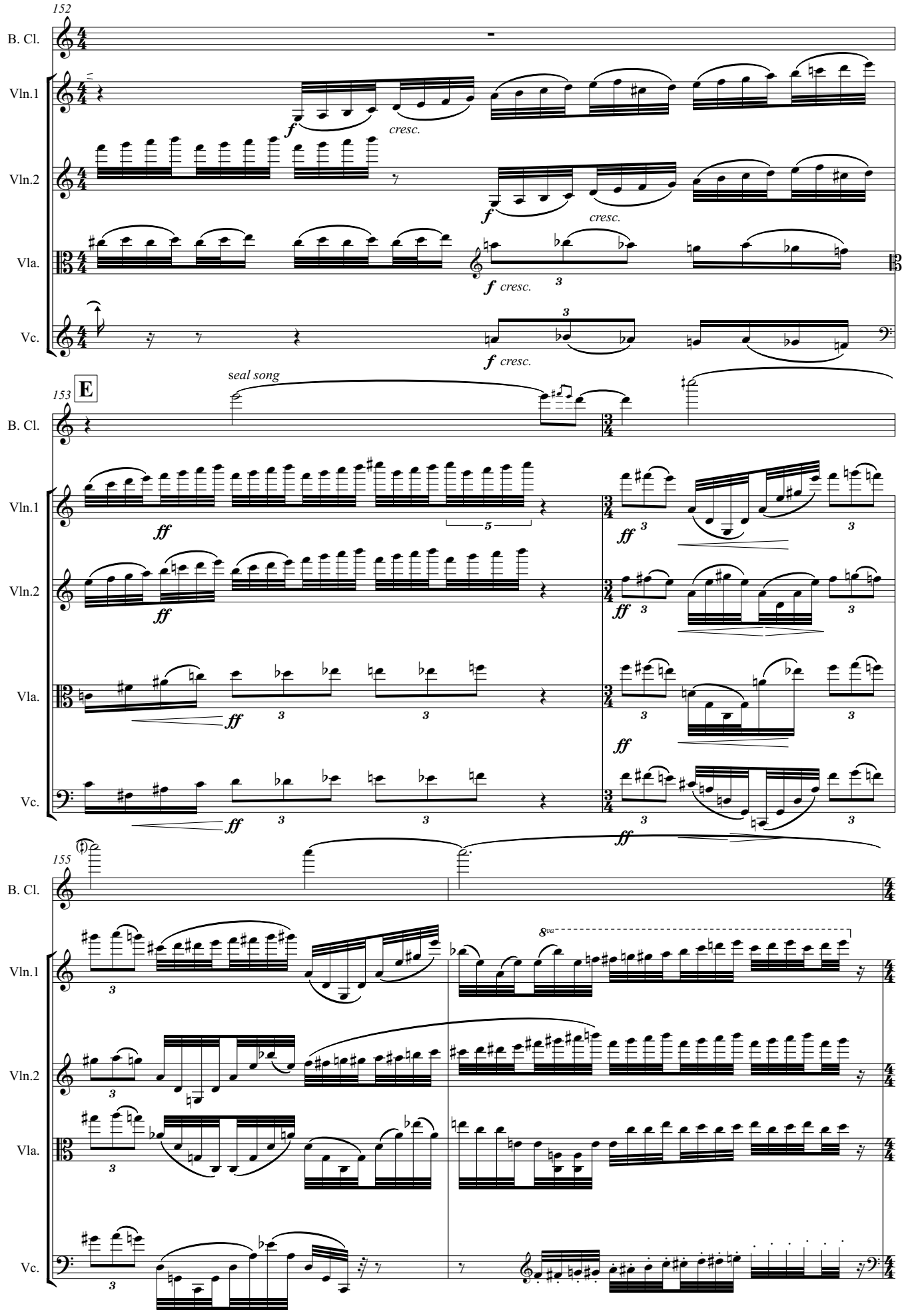
p

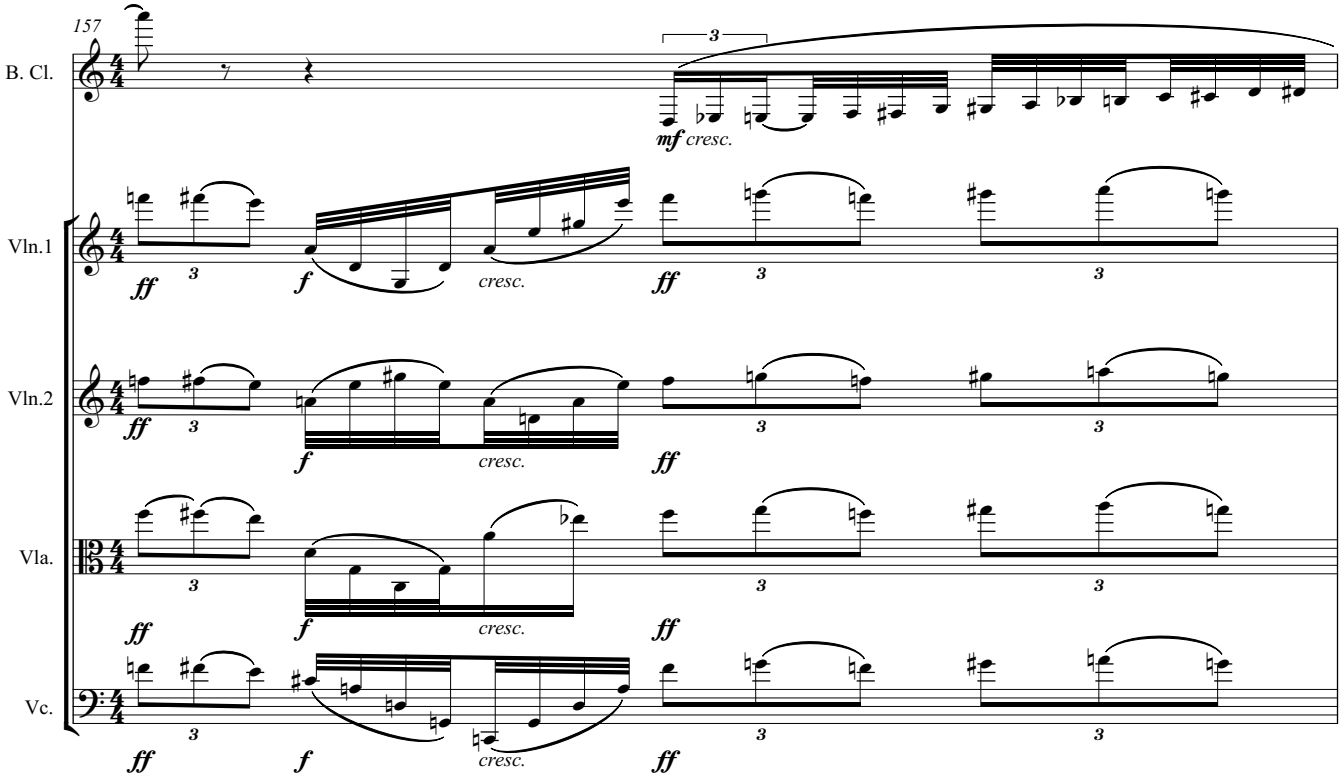
p

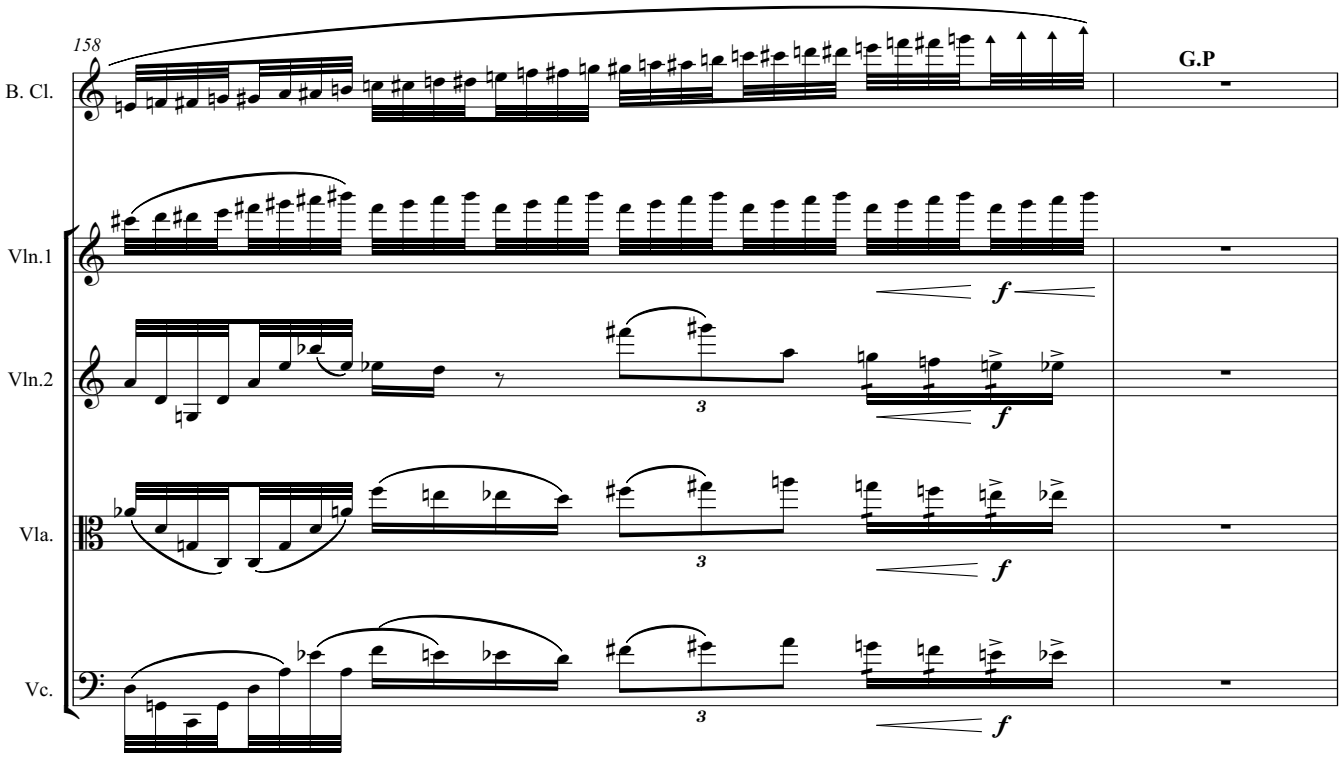

128
B. Cl.
mf
mp plaintive
senza sord.
ord.
Vln.1
ppp
plaintive
Vln.2
senza sord.
Vla.
mf mp
Vc.
pizz.
p mf
mp
mf
132
poco accel.
B. Cl.
mf
Vln.1
gliss.
gliss.
Vln.2
Vla.
p mp mf
Vc.
arco
mp mf
p
mf p
A tempo (Flowing
♩ = c. 76)
135
B. Cl.
f
mp cresc.
ff senza sord.
Vln.1
pizz.
f
Vln.2
pizz.
f
arco
mf
mf f
Vla.
p
mf
f
Vc.
senza sord.
mf
f

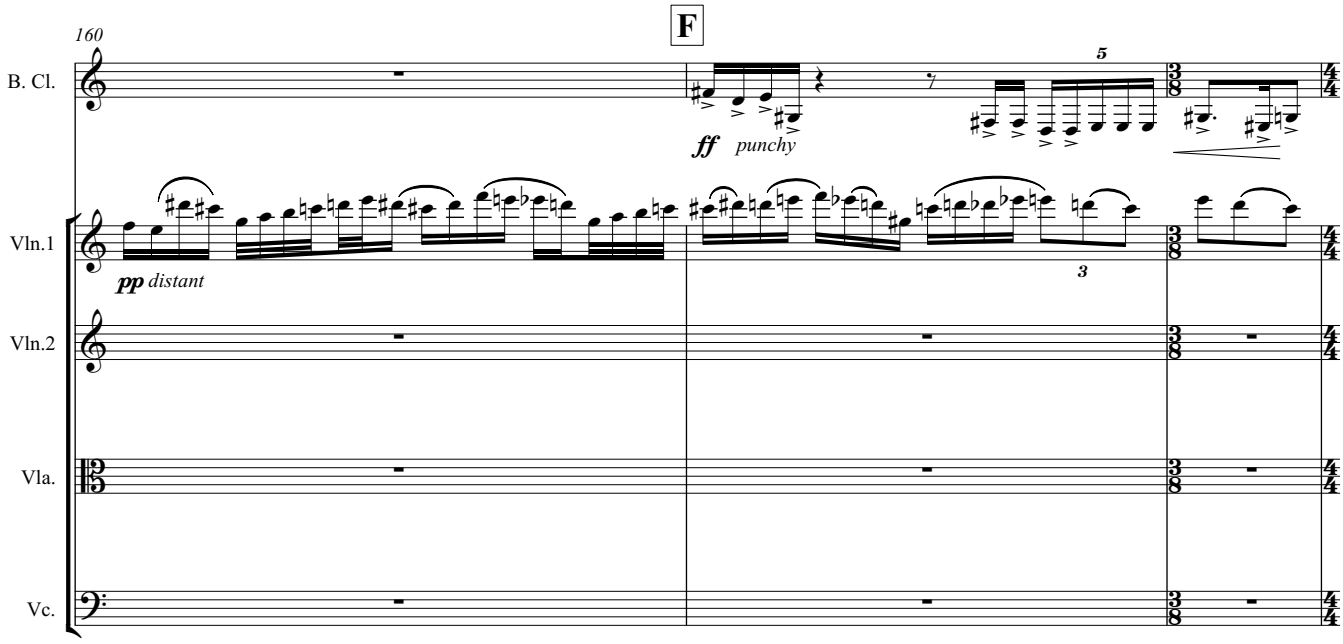

138
D
B. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
arco
senza sord.
gliss.
repeat ad lib. senza misura
141
pizz.
arco
144

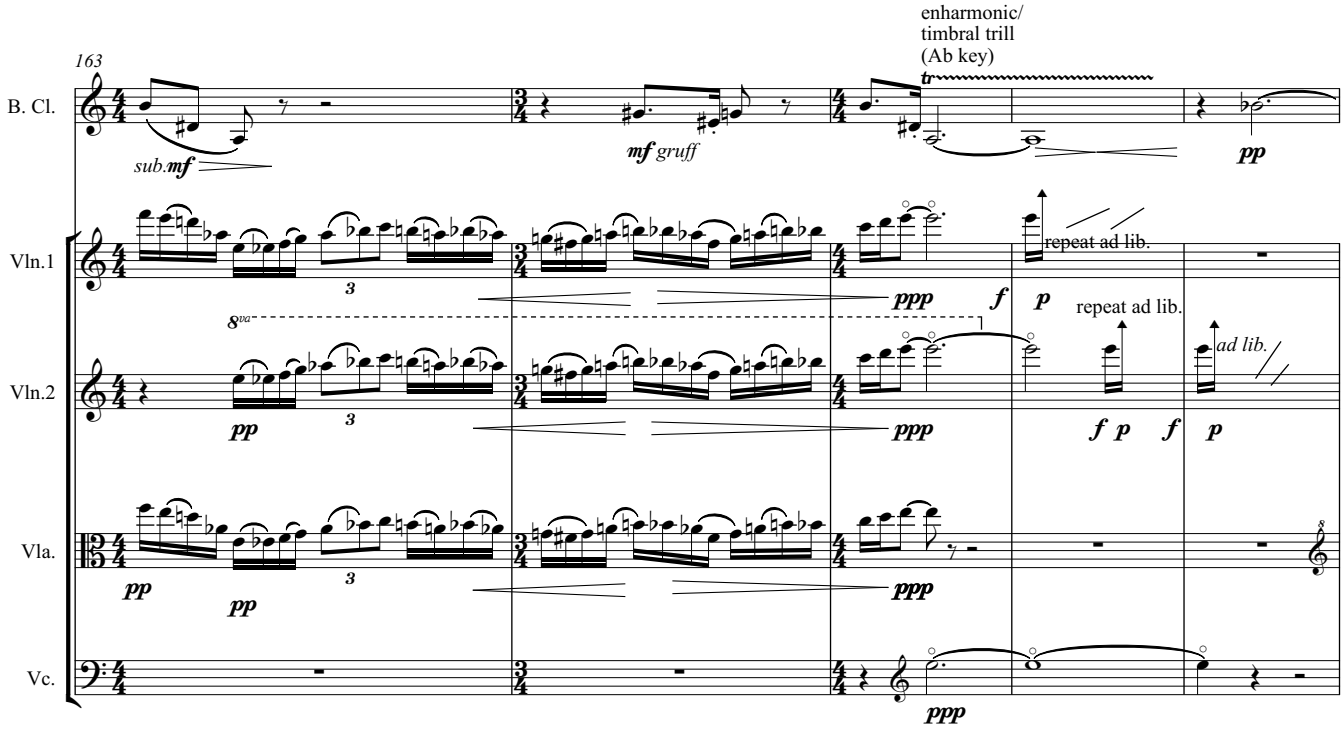

146
accel.
B. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
f
148
Piu mosso (♩ = c. 80)
pulsed crescendi
f strong
150
freely
ff
cresc.

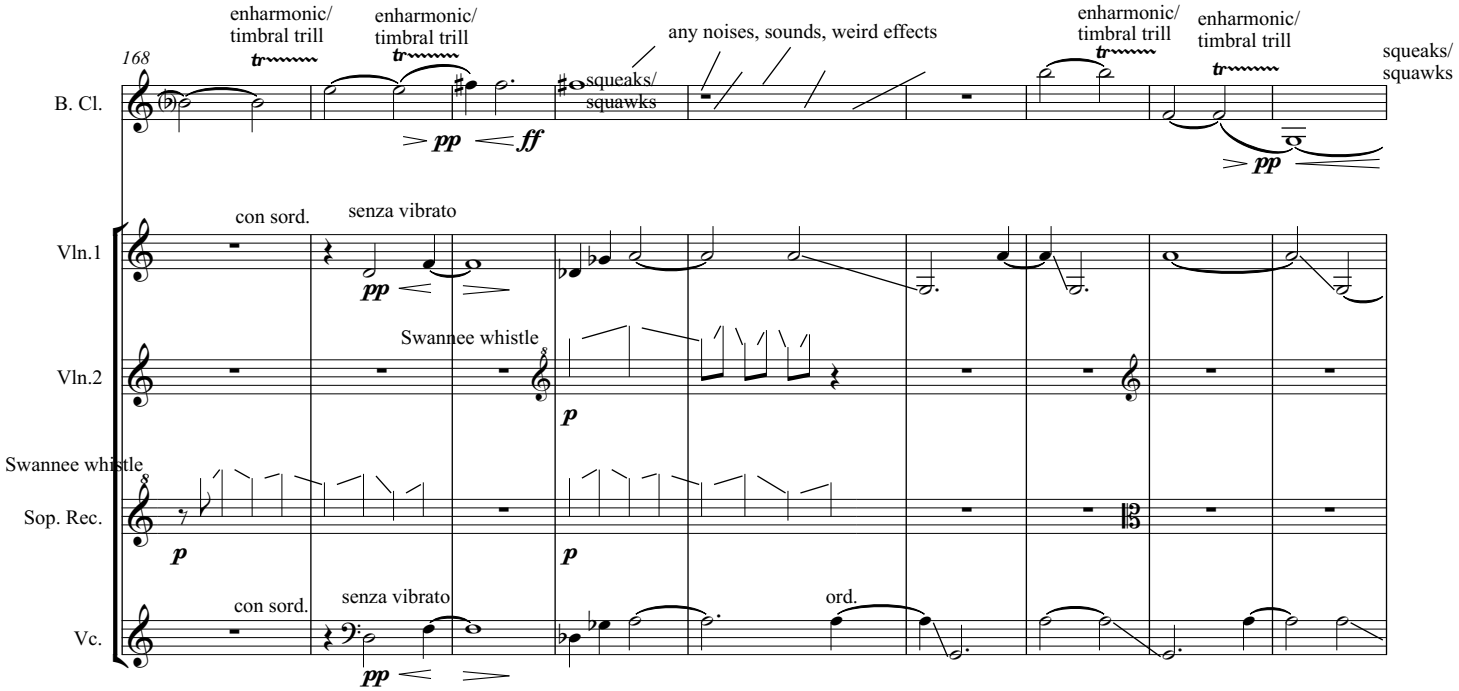

152
B. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
f
cresc.
f cresc.
153
E
seal song
ff
155
8va

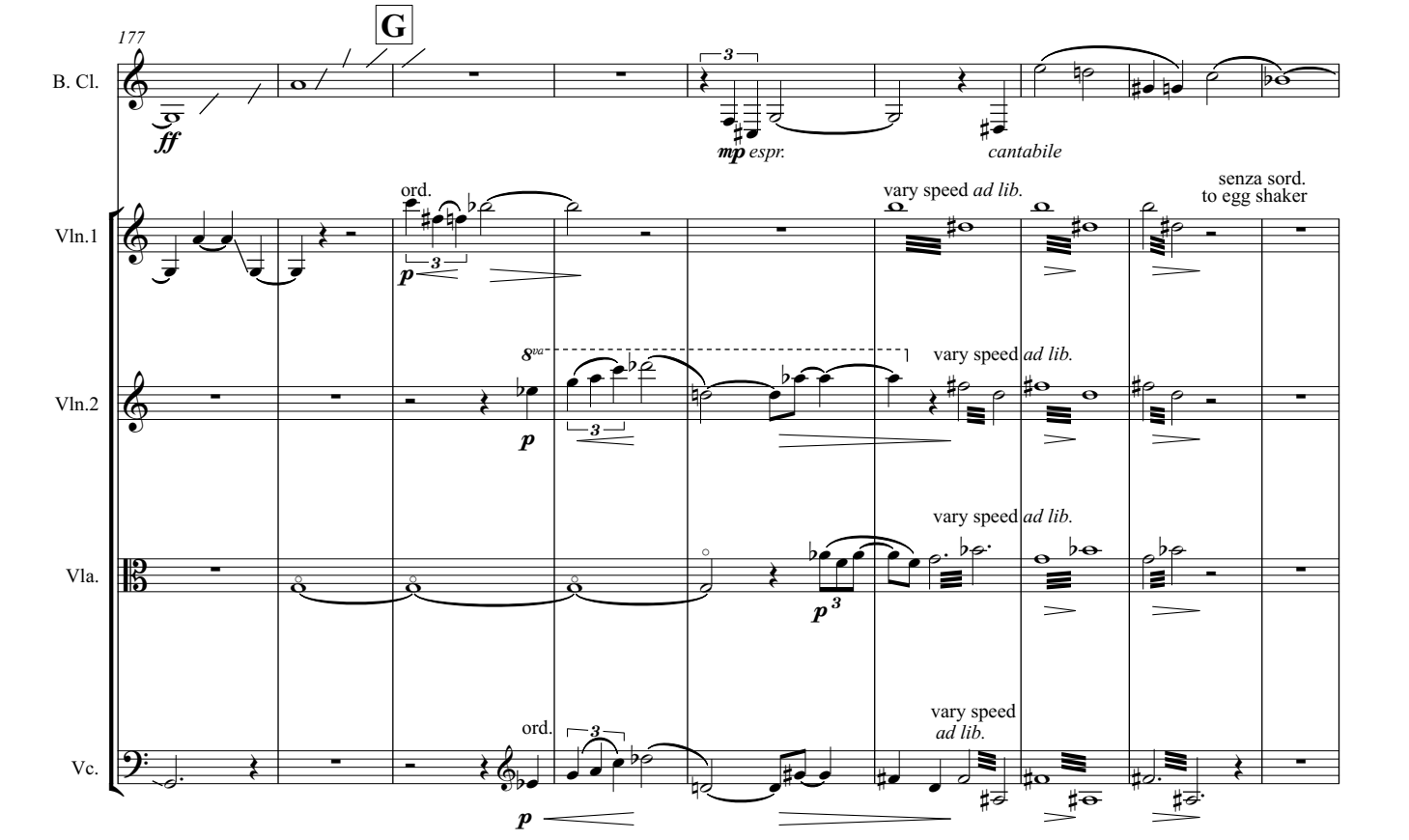

157
B. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
mf cresc.
ff
f
cresc.
3

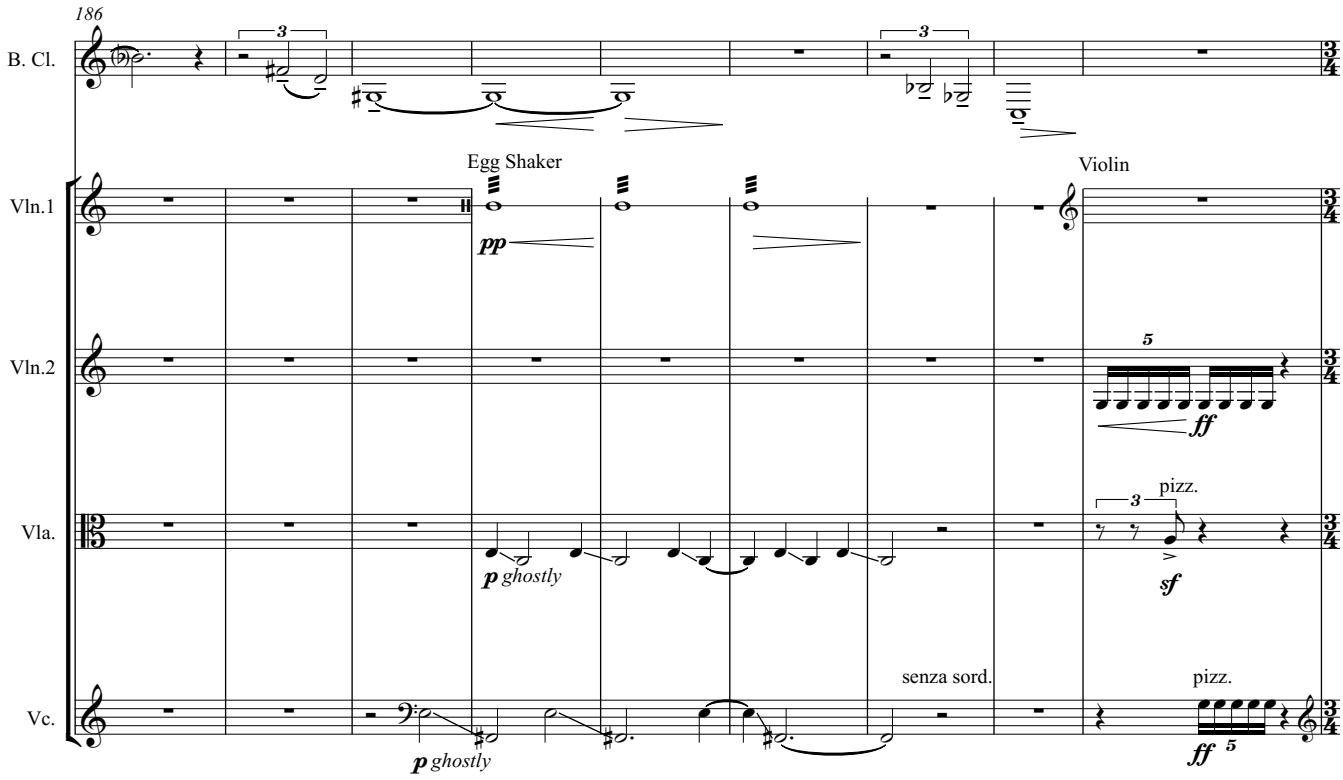

158
B. Cl.
Vln.1
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.
G.P
f
3

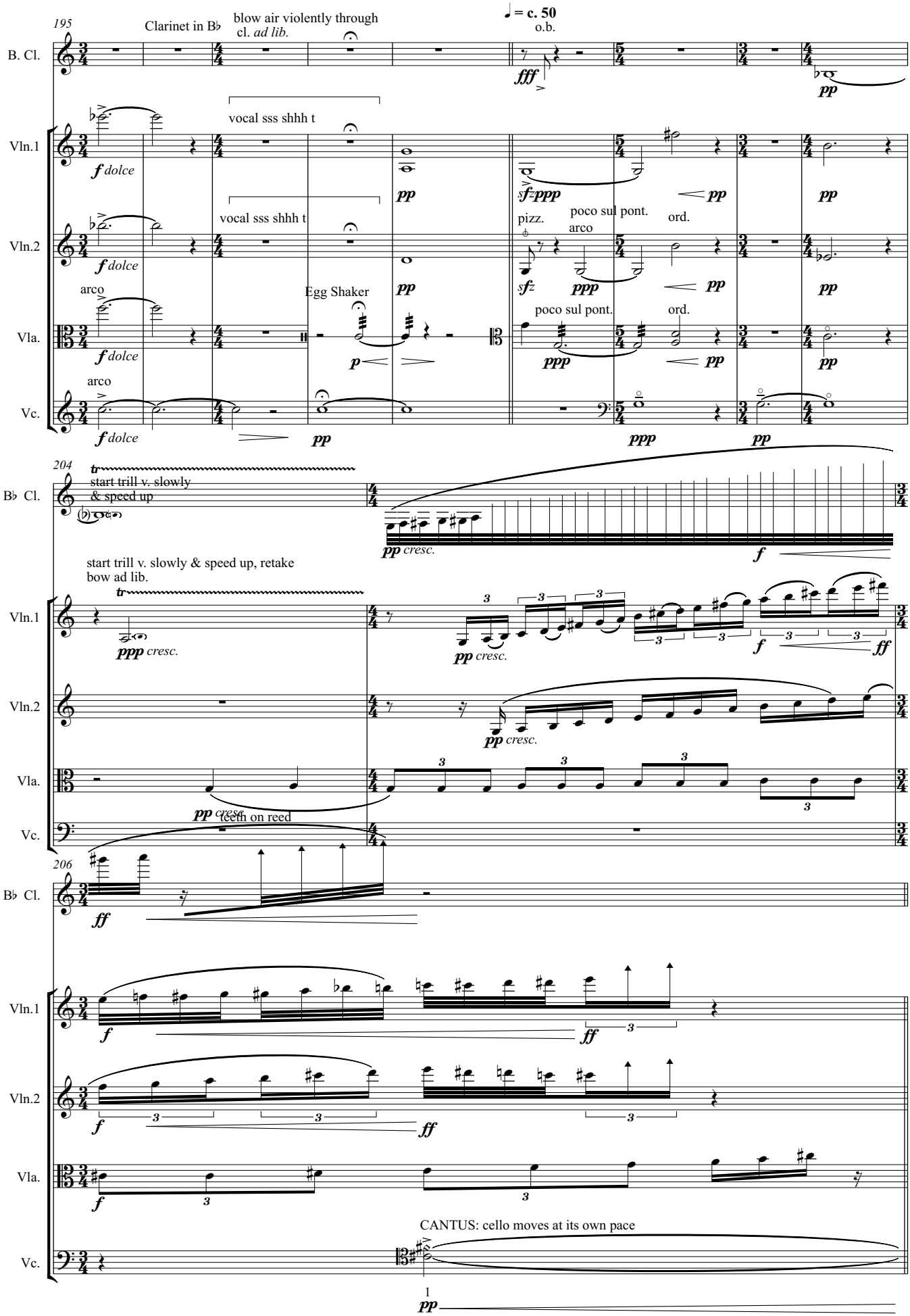

160
F
B. Cl.
ff punchy
5
Vln.1
pp distant
3
Vln.2
Vla.
Vc.


163
enharmonic/
timbral trill
(Ab key)
B. Cl.
sub.mf
mf gruff
pp
Vln.1
repeat ad lib.
ppp
f
p
repeat ad lib.
8va
Vln.2
pp
ad lib.
f p f p
Vla.
pp
pp
ppp
Vc.
ppp


168
B. Cl.
enharmonic/ timbral trill
enharmonic/ timbral trill
squeaks/ squawks
any noises, sounds, weird effects
enharmonic/ timbral trill
enharmonic/ timbral trill
squeaks/ squawks
pp
ff
pp
Vln.1
con sord.
senza vibrato
pp
Vln.2
Swannee whistle
p
Swannee whistle
Sop. Rec.
p
p
Vc.
con sord.
senza vibrato
pp
ord.


177
G
B. Cl.
ff
mp espr.
cantabile
Vln.1
ord.
p
vary speed ad lib.
senza sord.
to egg shaker
Vln.2
8va
p
vary speed ad lib.
Vla.
p
vary speed ad lib.
Vc.
ord.
p
vary speed
ad lib.

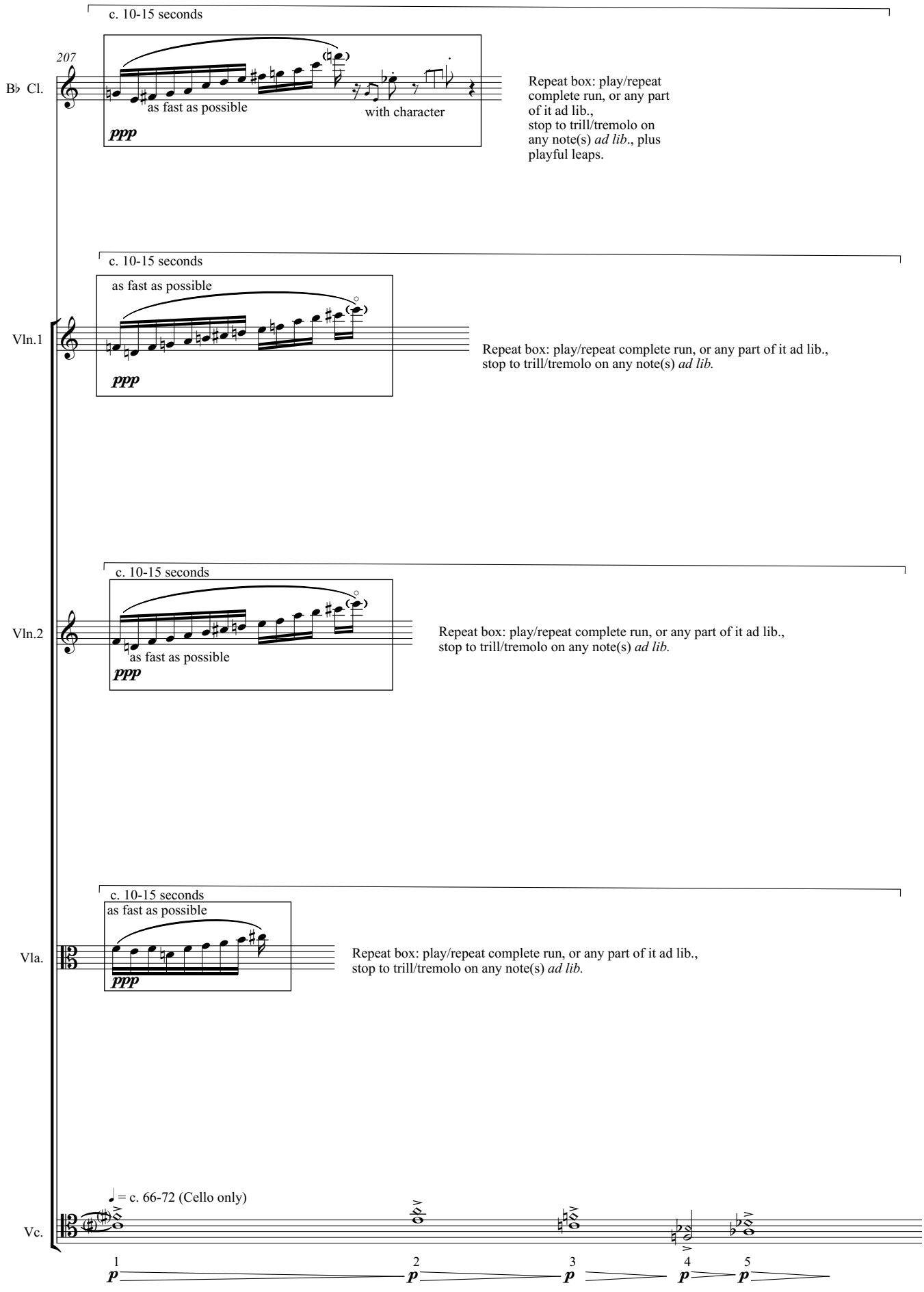

186
B. Cl.
Egg Shaker
Violin
Vln.1
pp
Vln.2
ff
Vla.
pizz.
p ghostly
sf
senza sord.
pizz.
Vc.
p ghostly
ff


195
Clarinet in B♭
blow air violently through
cl. ad lib.
♩ = c. 50
o.b.
B. Cl.
fff
pp
vocal sss shhh t
Vln.1
f dolce
pp
sfz ppp
pp
pp
vocal sss shhh t
pizz.
poco sul pont.
ord.
arco
Vln.2
f dolce
pp
sfz
ppp
pp
pp
arco
Egg Shaker
poco sul pont.
ord.
Vla.
f dolce
p
ppp
pp
pp
arco
Vc.
f dolce
pp
ppp
pp
204
tr
start trill v. slowly
& speed up
B♭ Cl.
pp cresc.
f
start trill v. slowly & speed up, retake
bow ad lib.
tr
Vln.1
ppp cresc.
pp cresc.
f
ff
Vln.2
pp cresc.
Vla.
pp cresc.
teeth on reed
Vc.
206
B♭ Cl.
ff
Vln.1
f
ff
Vln.2
f
ff
Vla.
f
CANTUS: cello moves at its own pace
Vc.
1
pp

MORLO During this section there is no vertical alignment between parts until cello: note 18 (with viola) then strings at b.221 Letter M.

Playful

Clear , long, seal song



H

c.10 seconds

208

Cl.

start anywhere in box

vary dynamics ad lib. ***f*** *to* ***pp***

Repeat box: play/repeat complete run, or any part of it ad lib., stop to trill/tremolo on any note(s) *ad lib.*

c.10 seconds

Vln. I

start anywhere in box

vary dynamics ad lib. ***f*** *to* ***pp***

Repeat box: play/repeat complete run, or any part of it *ad lib.*, stop to trill/tremolo on any note(s) *ad lib.*

c.10 seconds

Vln. II

start anywhere in box

vary dynamics ad lib. ***f*** *to* ***pp***

Repeat box: play/repeat complete run, or any part of it *ad lib.*, stop to trill/tremolo on any note(s) *ad lib.*

c.10 seconds

Vla.

start anywhere in box

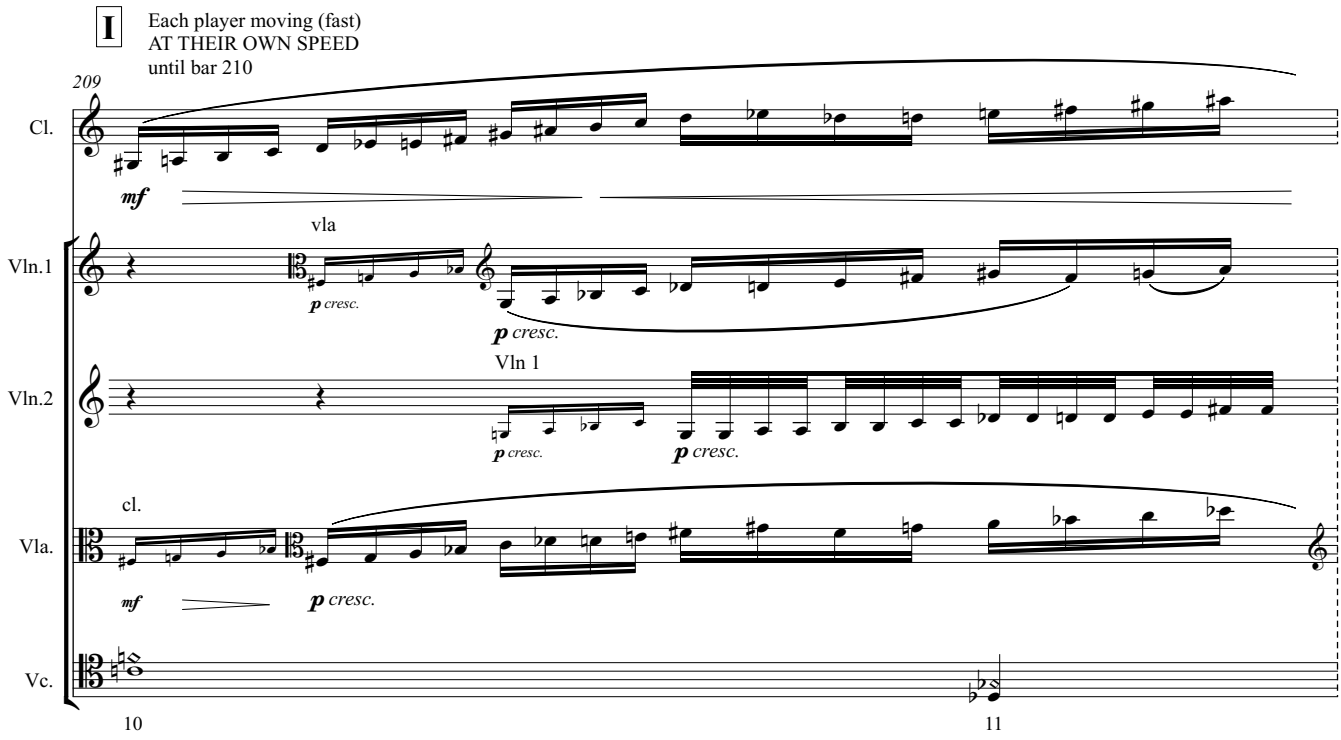
vary dynamics ad lib. ***f*** *to* ***pp***

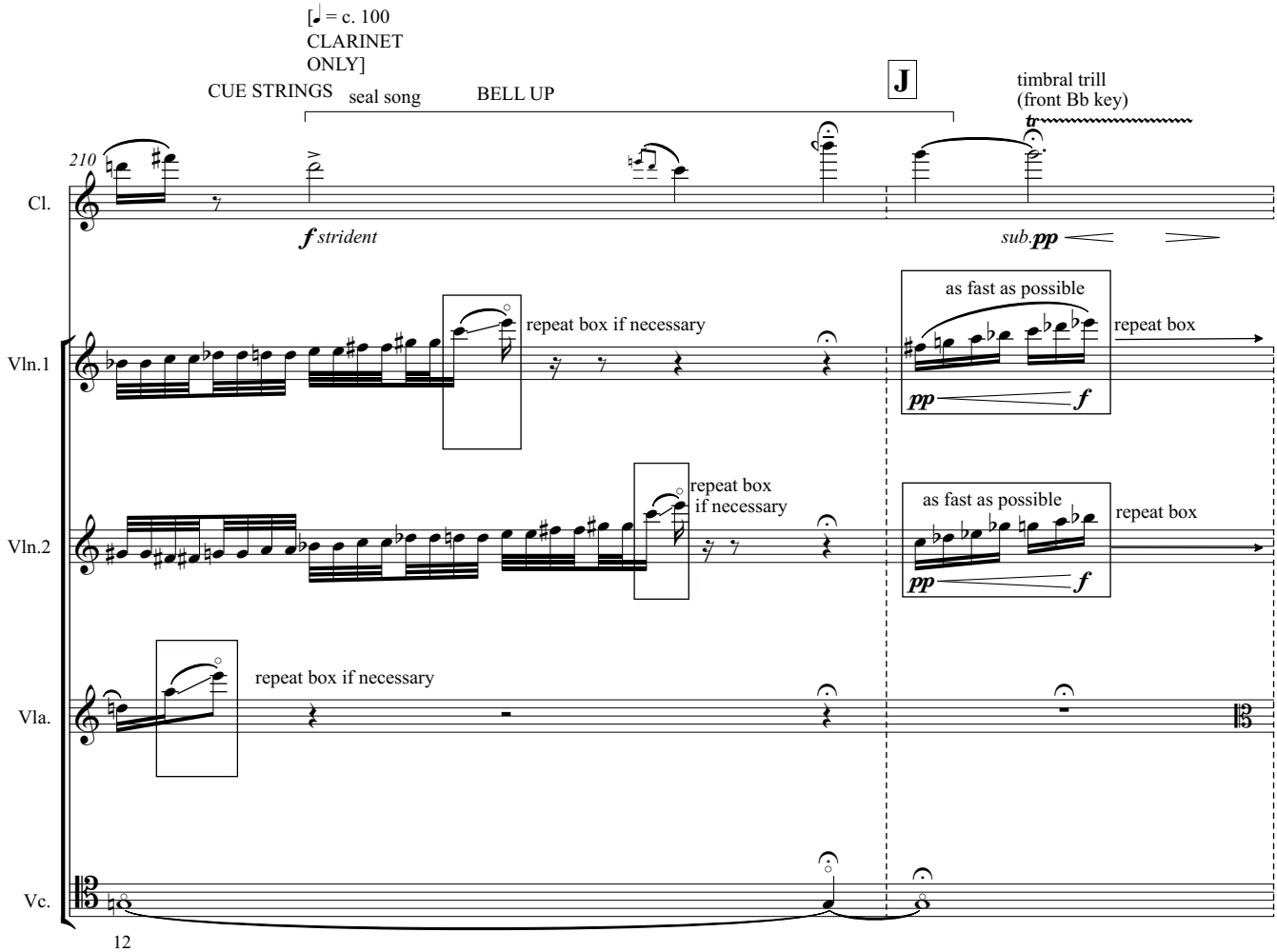
Repeat box: play/repeat complete run, or any part of it *ad lib.*, stop to trill/tremolo on any note(s) *ad lib.*

Vc.

6 7 8 9

p *sim.*


I
Each player moving (fast)
AT THEIR OWN SPEED
until bar 210
209
Cl.
mf
vla
Vln.1
p cresc.
p cresc.
Vln 1
Vln.2
p cresc.
p cresc.
cl.
Vla.
mf
p cresc.
Vc.
10
11


[♩ = c. 100
CLARINET
ONLY]
CUE STRINGS
seal song
BELL UP
J
timbral trill
(front Bb key)
tr
210
Cl.
f strident
sub.pp
as fast as possible
repeat box if necessary
repeat box
Vln.1
pp
f
repeat box
if necessary
as fast as possible
repeat box
Vln.2
pp
f
repeat box if necessary
Vla.
Vc.
12