HPS 1130

ELLIOTT CARTER

STRING QUARTET NO. 4

HENDON MUSIC
BOOSEY & HAWKES

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PROGRAM NOTE

A preoccupation with giving each member of the performing group its own musical identity characterizes my *String Quartet No. 4;* thus mirroring the democratic attitude in which each member of a society maintains his or her own identity while cooperating in a common effort — a concept that dominates all my recent work. In this quartet, more than in others of my scores, a spirit of cooperation prevails. Each player's part has its own musical materials and expressive character, and each participates in its own way in the four-part ensemble. While there are many changes of mood and speed and frequent pauses, the work is in one long, constantly changing movement. In the background, however, there is a suggestion of the traditional four-movement plan of the classical string quartet — Appassionato, Scherzando, Lento, Presto.

String Quartet No. 4 is dedicated to the Composers String Quartet, who commissioned the score as one of a consortium made up of two others — the Sequoia and Thouvenel Quartets — that was financed in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. The score was composed during part of 1985-86 in New York City, Waccabuc, and at the American Academy in Rome. The Composers Quartet gave its premiere at Festival Miami on September 17, 1986.

— Elliott Carter

Principal Voice

Secondary Voice

In passages where neither mark exists the voices should be evenly balanced while following the dynamic indications.

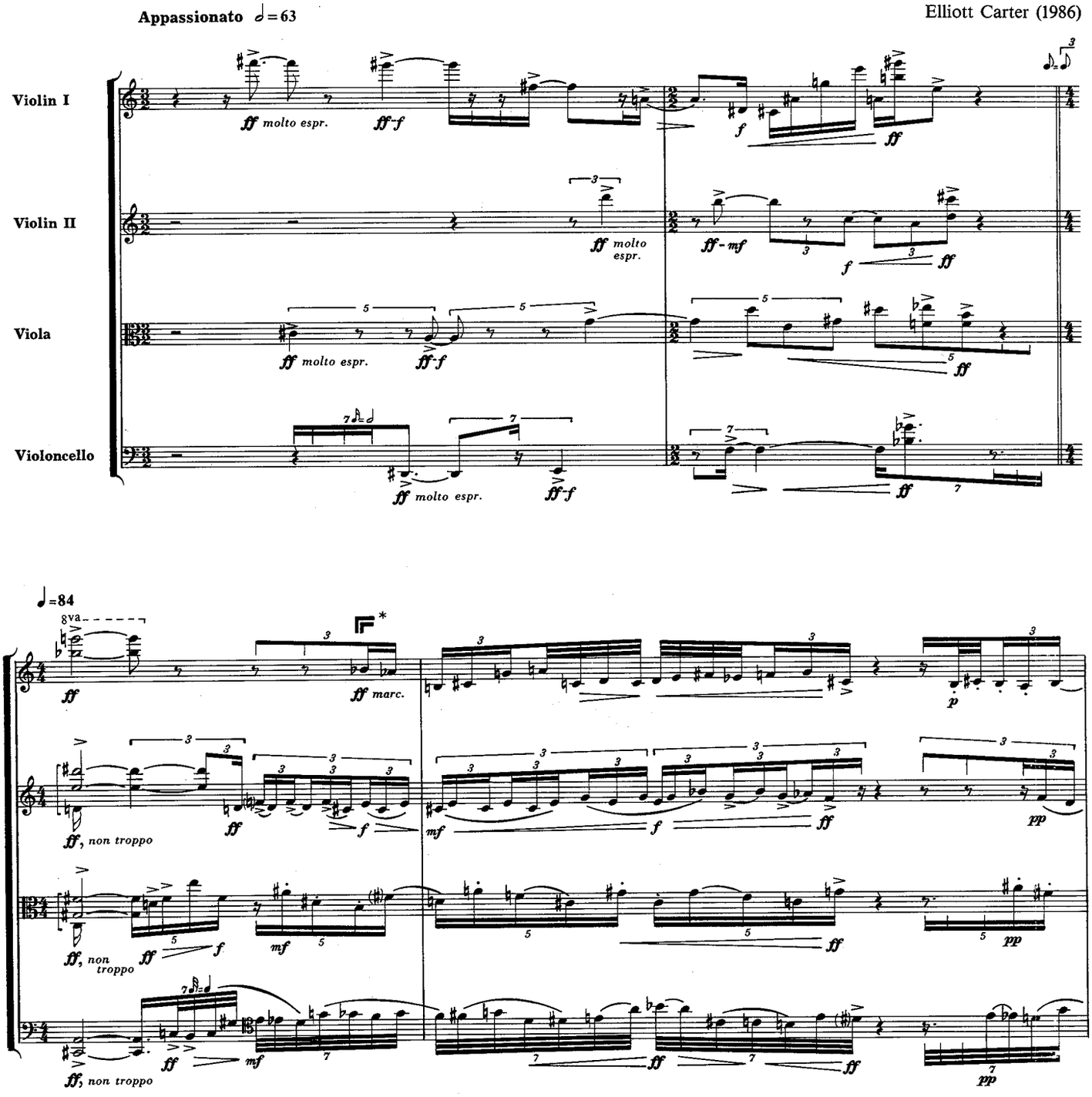
Duration: *ca.* 24½ minutes

Recorded by the Arditti Quartet on Etcetera Records KTC-1065

Parts are available on sale from the publisher (ENB-277)

To the Composers Quartet

STRING QUARTET NO. 4



*Violin I to the fore through measure 117.

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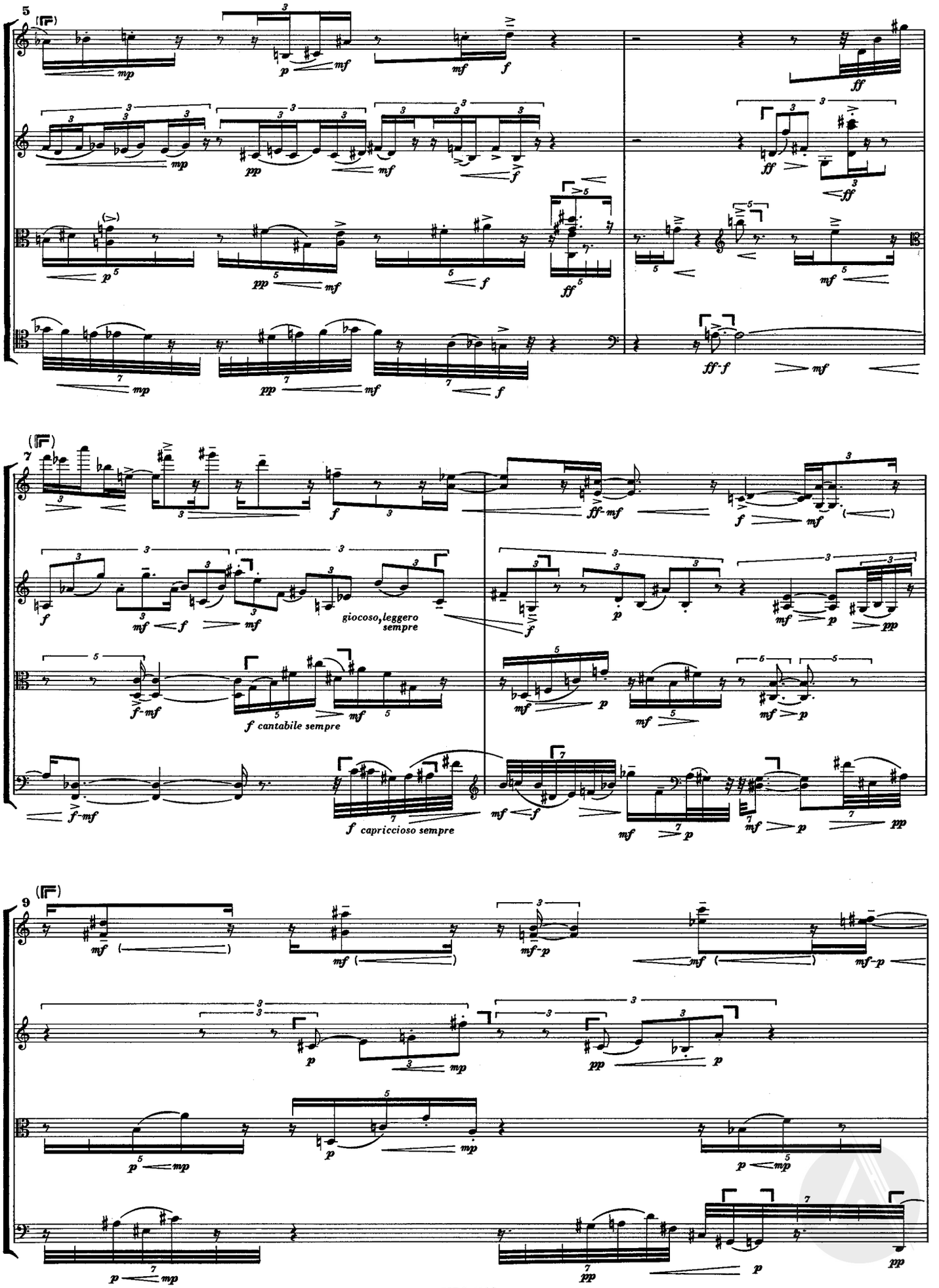
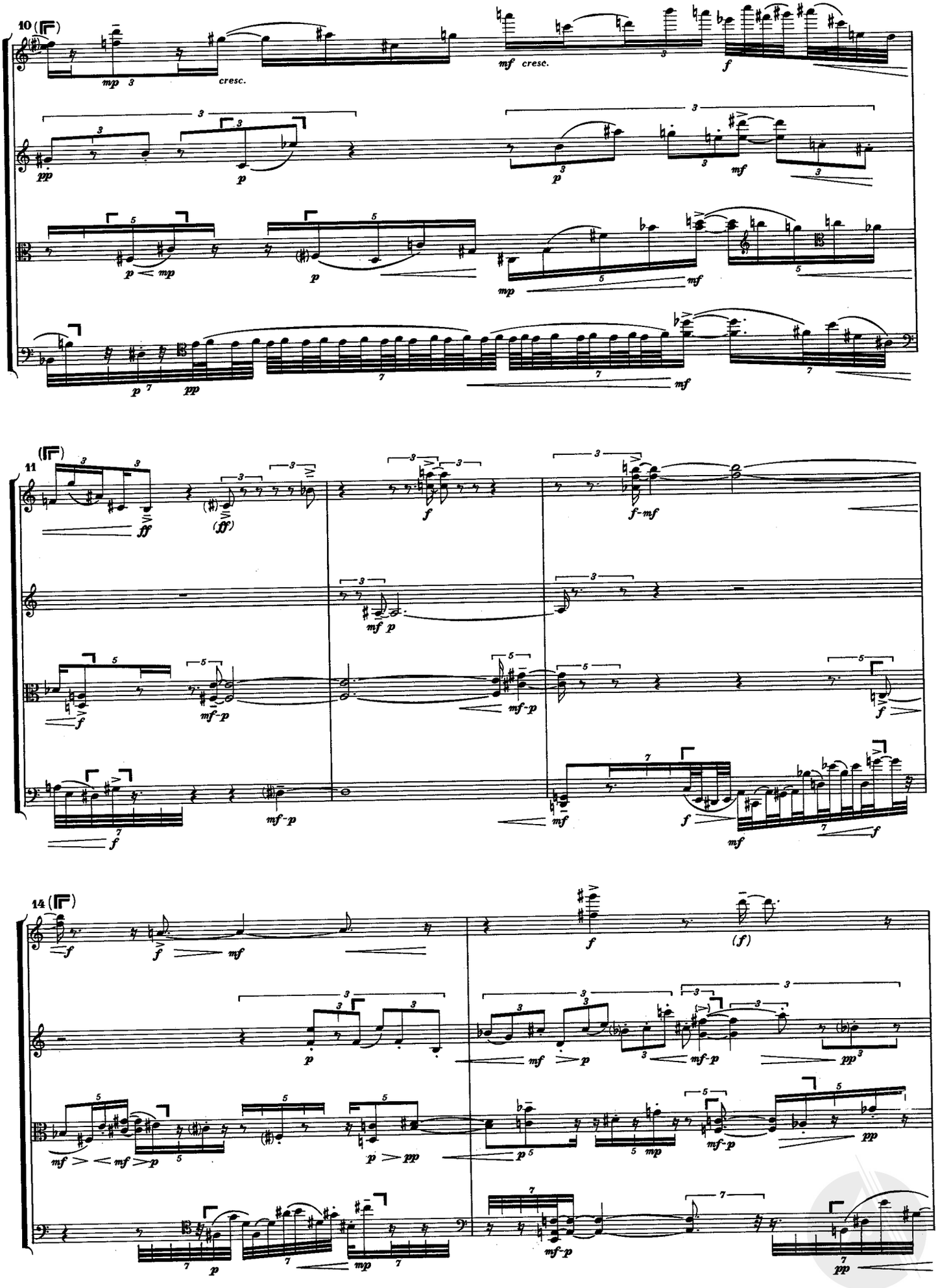
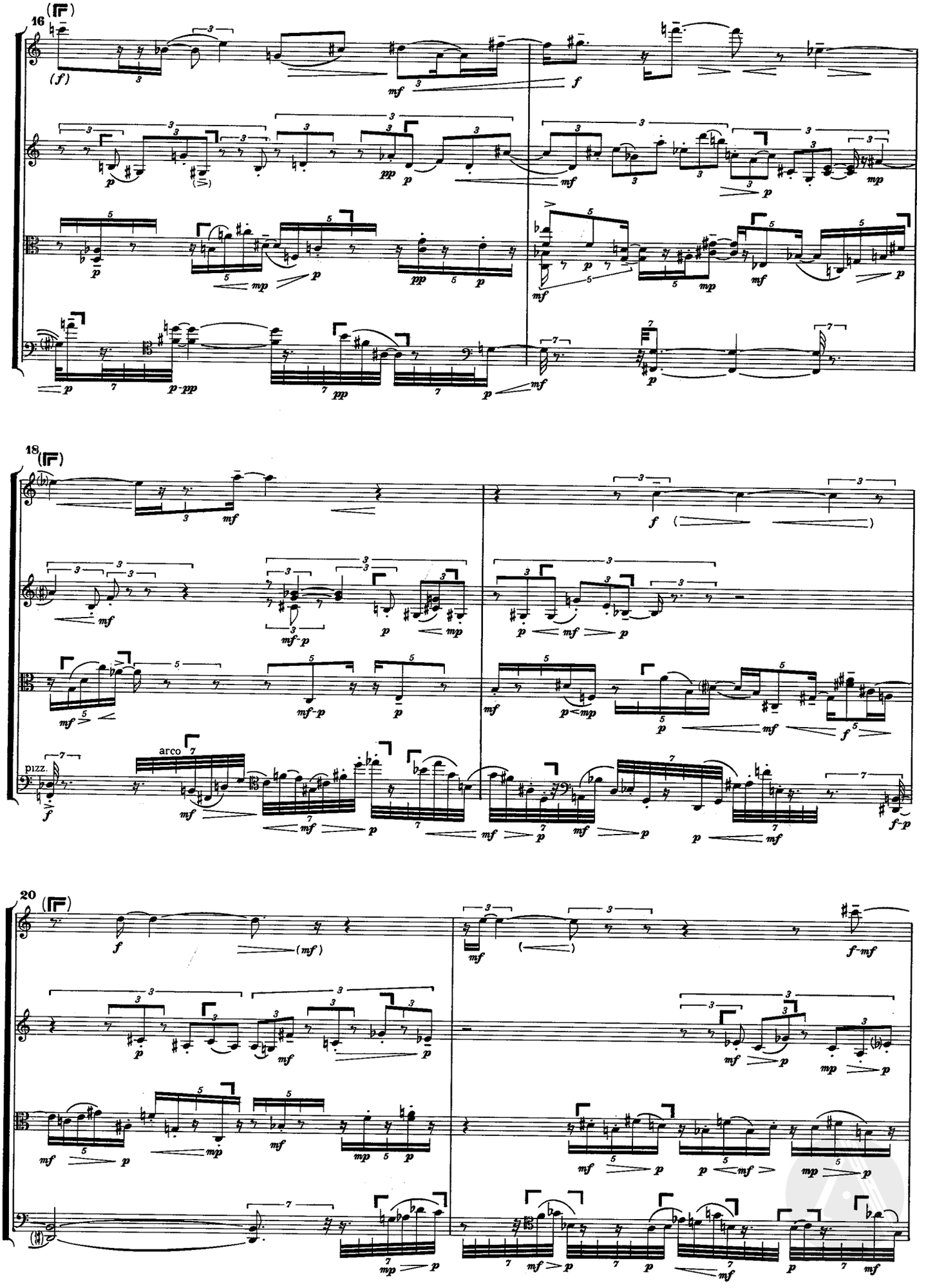
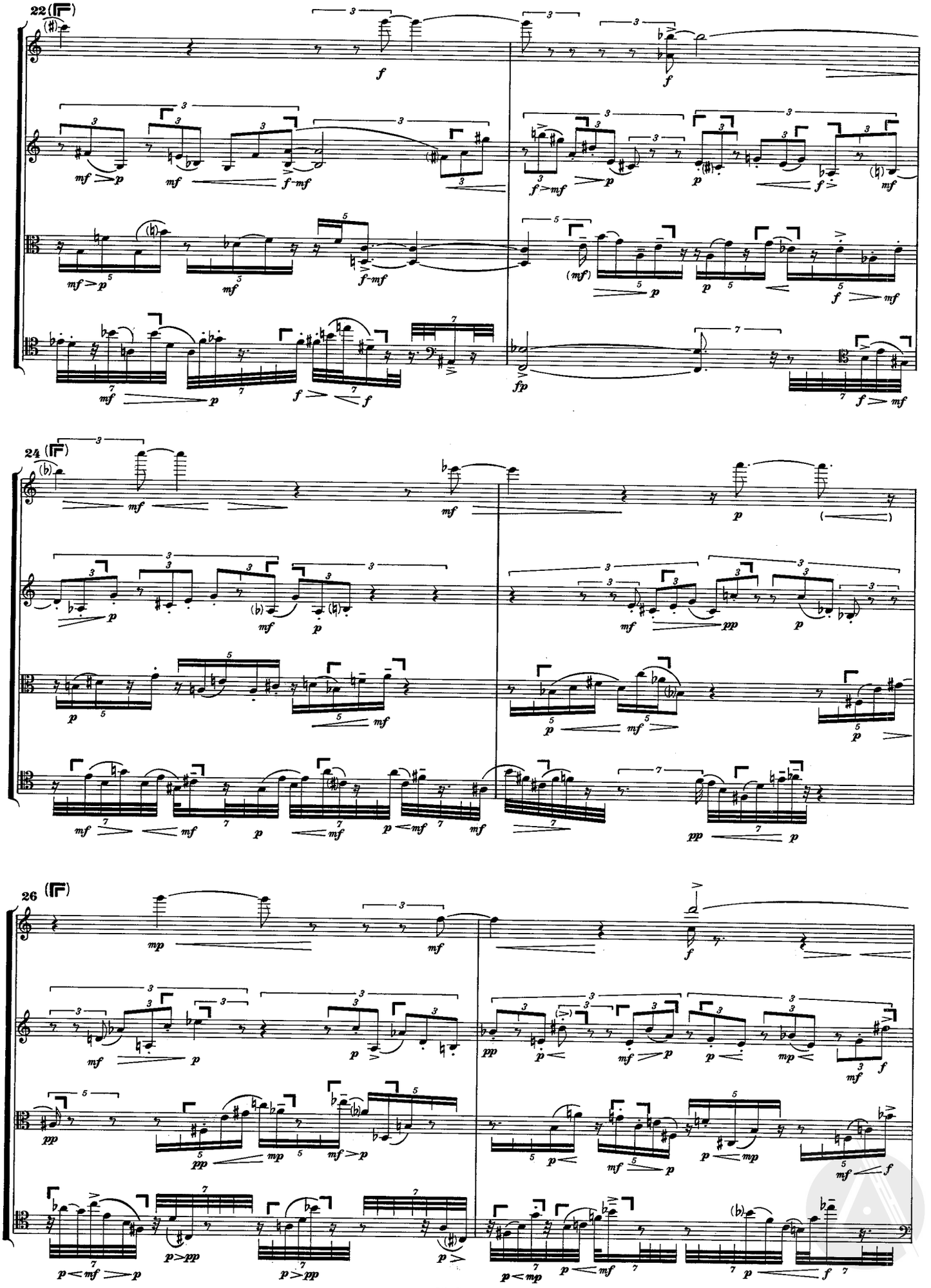
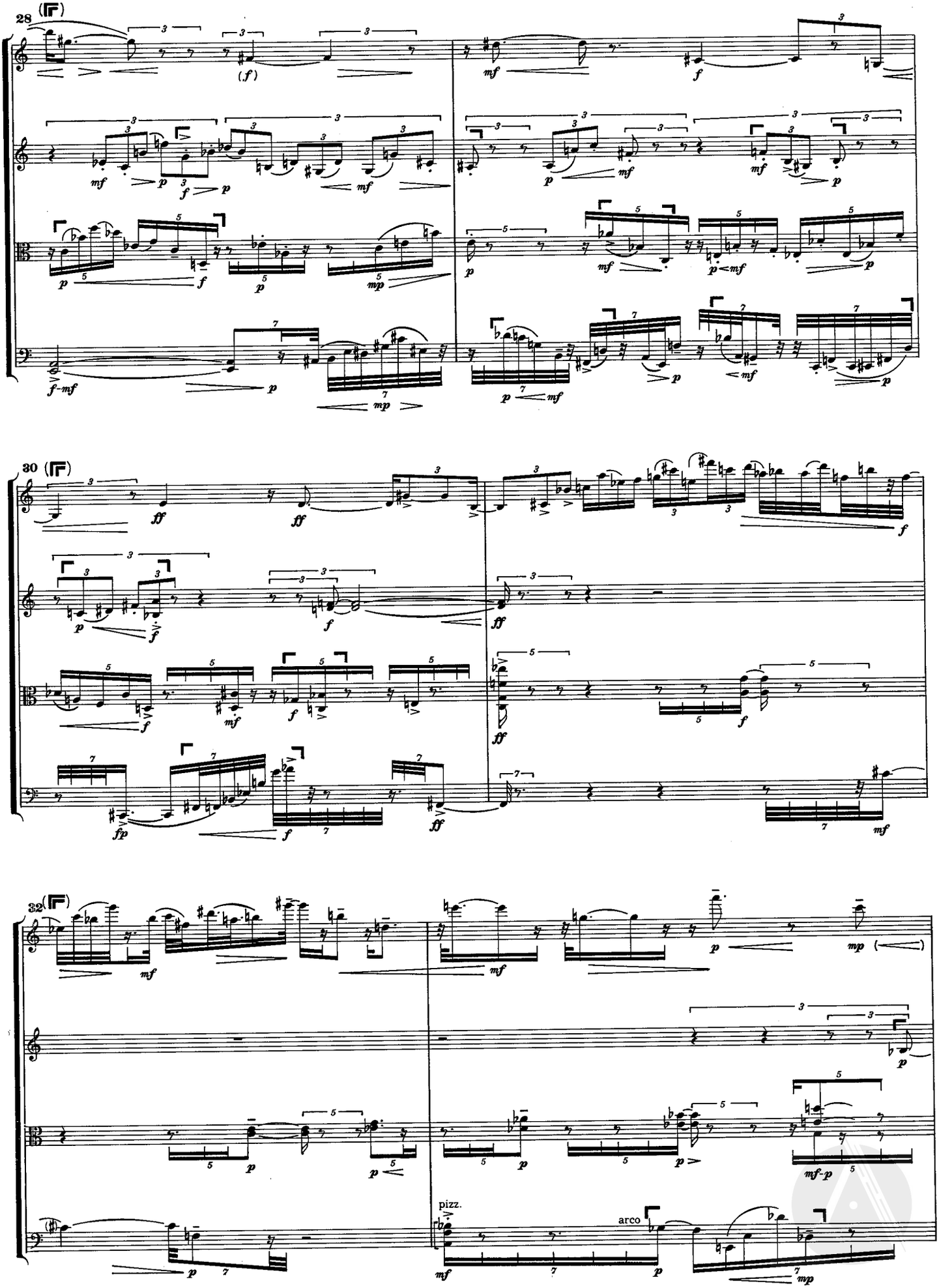
Printed in U.S.A. 1989

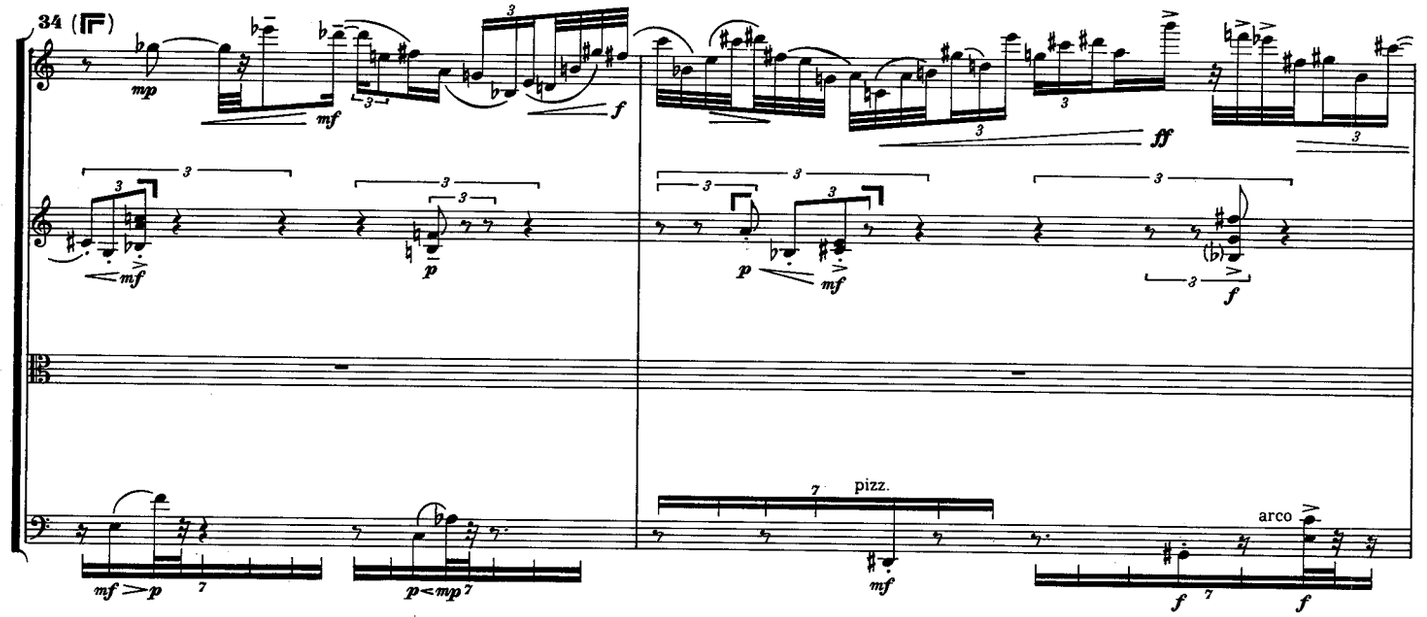

5
7
9
giocoso, leggero sempre
f cantabile sempre
f capriccioso sempre

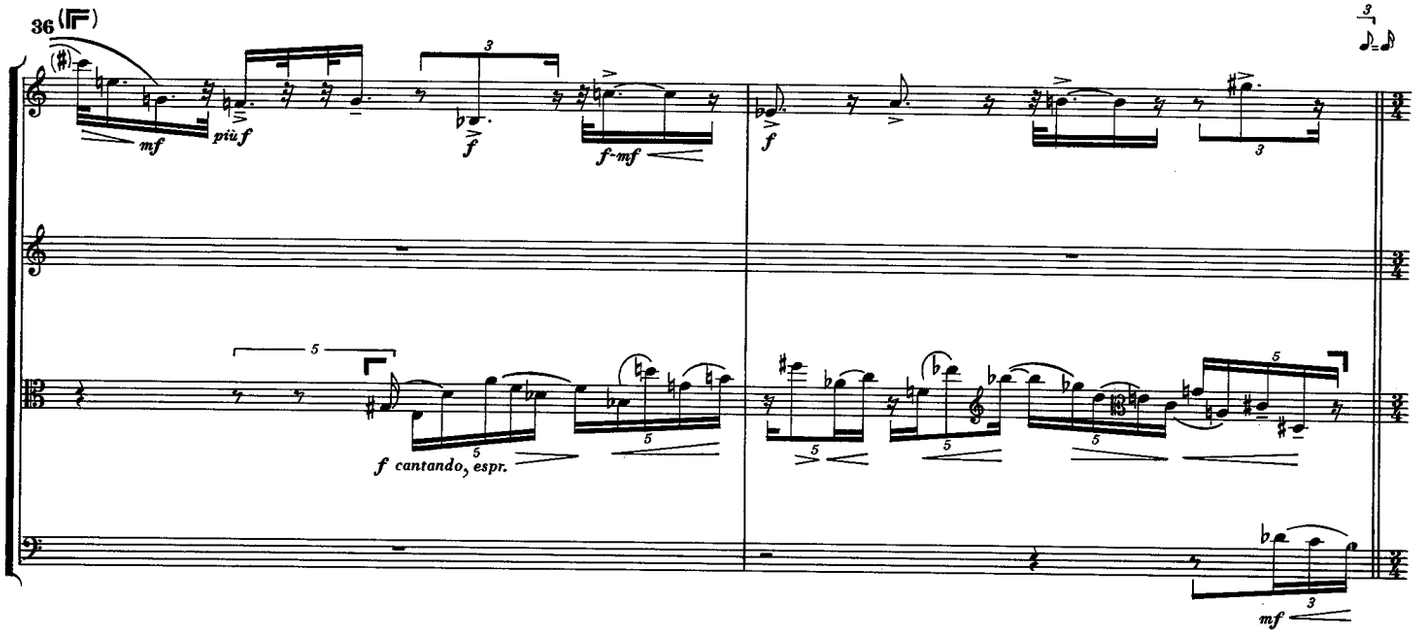

10
mp cresc.
mf cresc.
f
pp
p
mf
11
ff
(ff)
f-mf
mf p
mf-p
14
(f)
pp

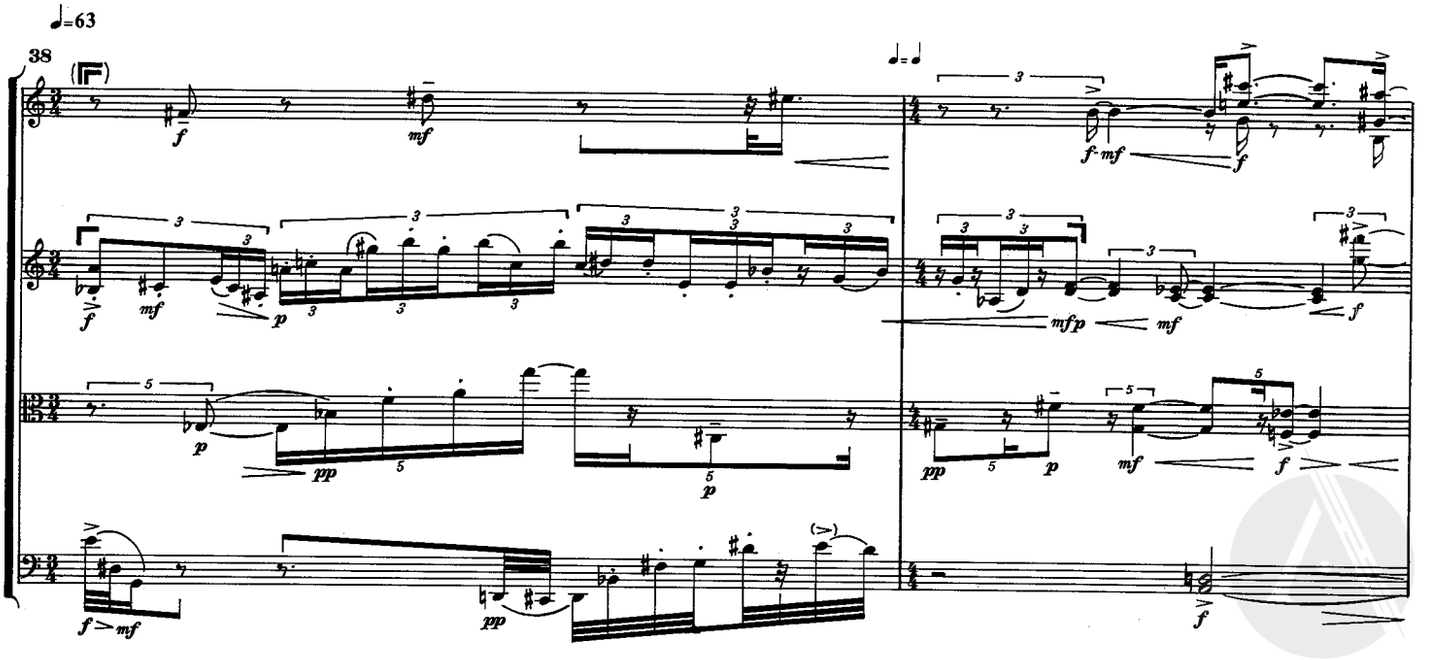

16
18
20
arco
pizz.

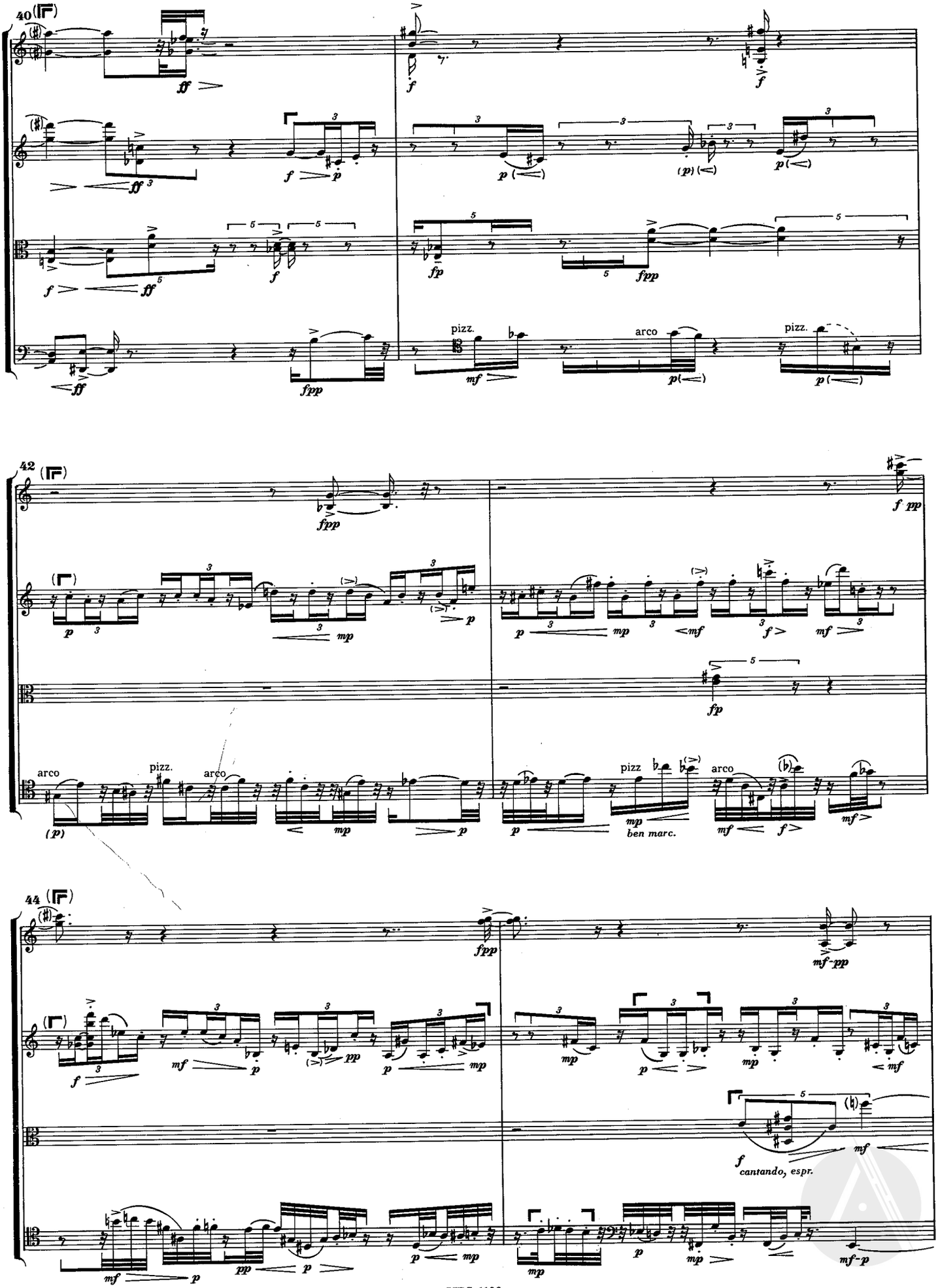

22
24
26

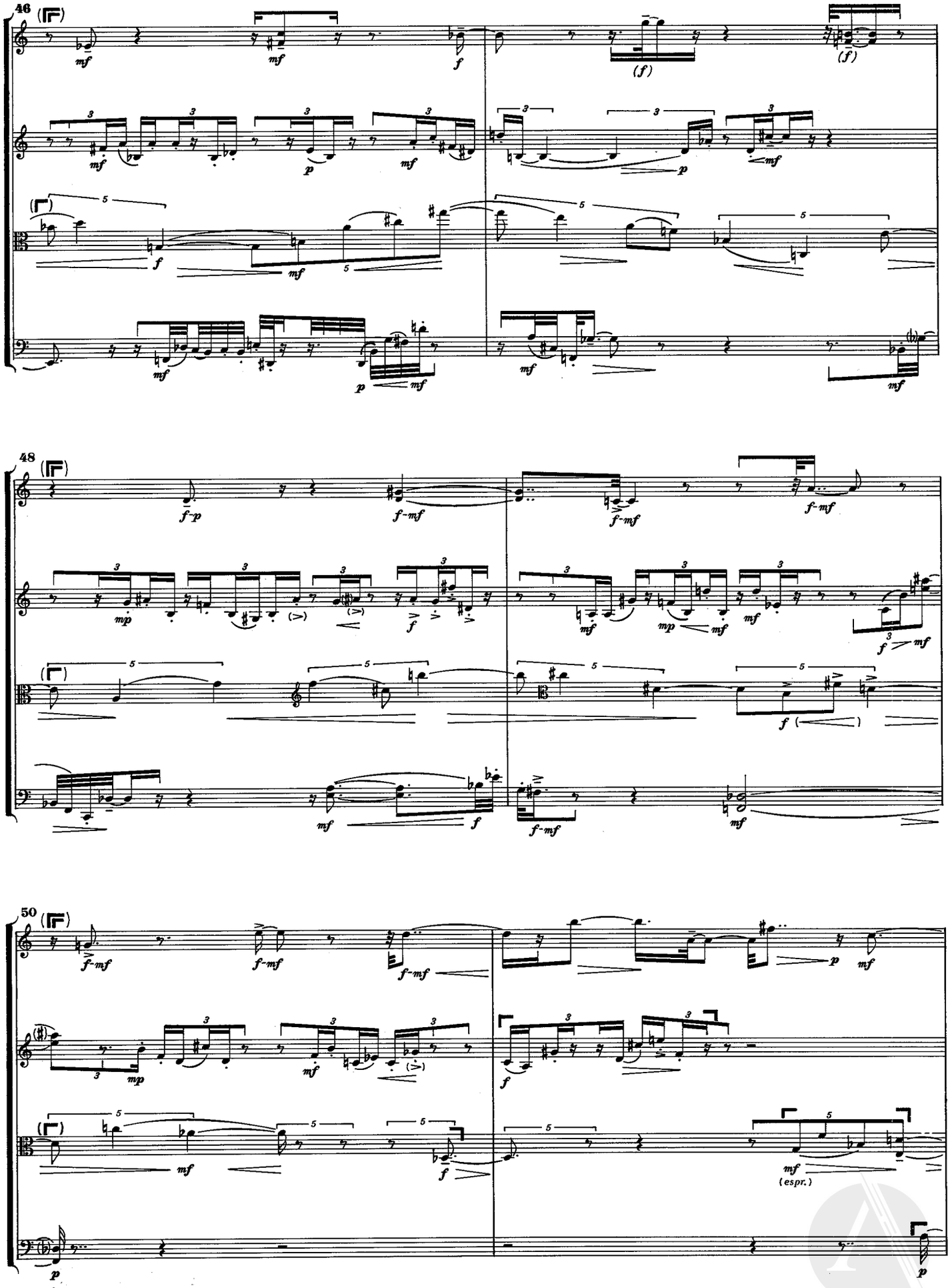

28
30
32
pizz.
arco

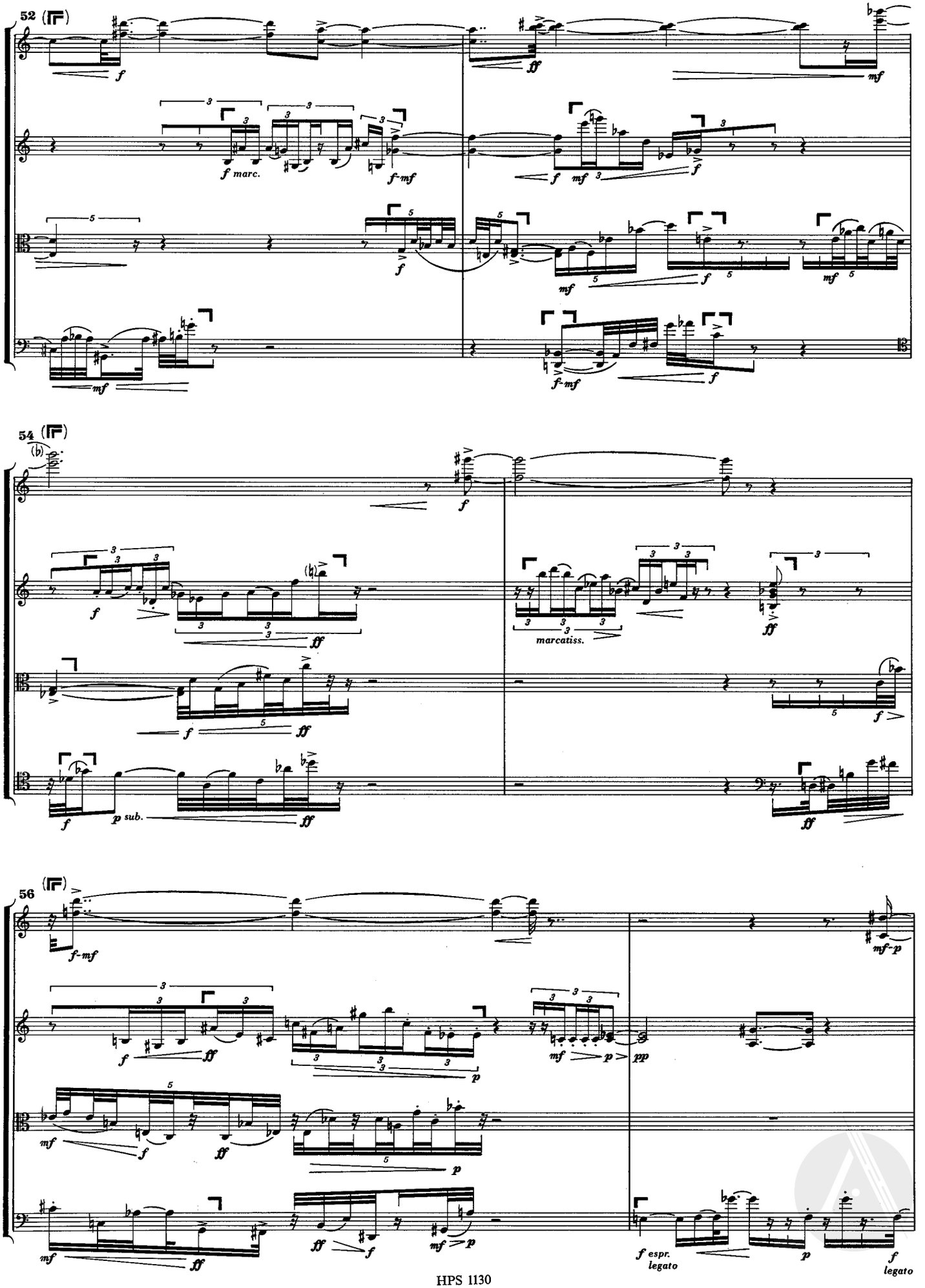

34
mp
mf
f
ff
mf
p
p
mf
f
mf > p
p < mp
pizz.
mf
arco
f
f

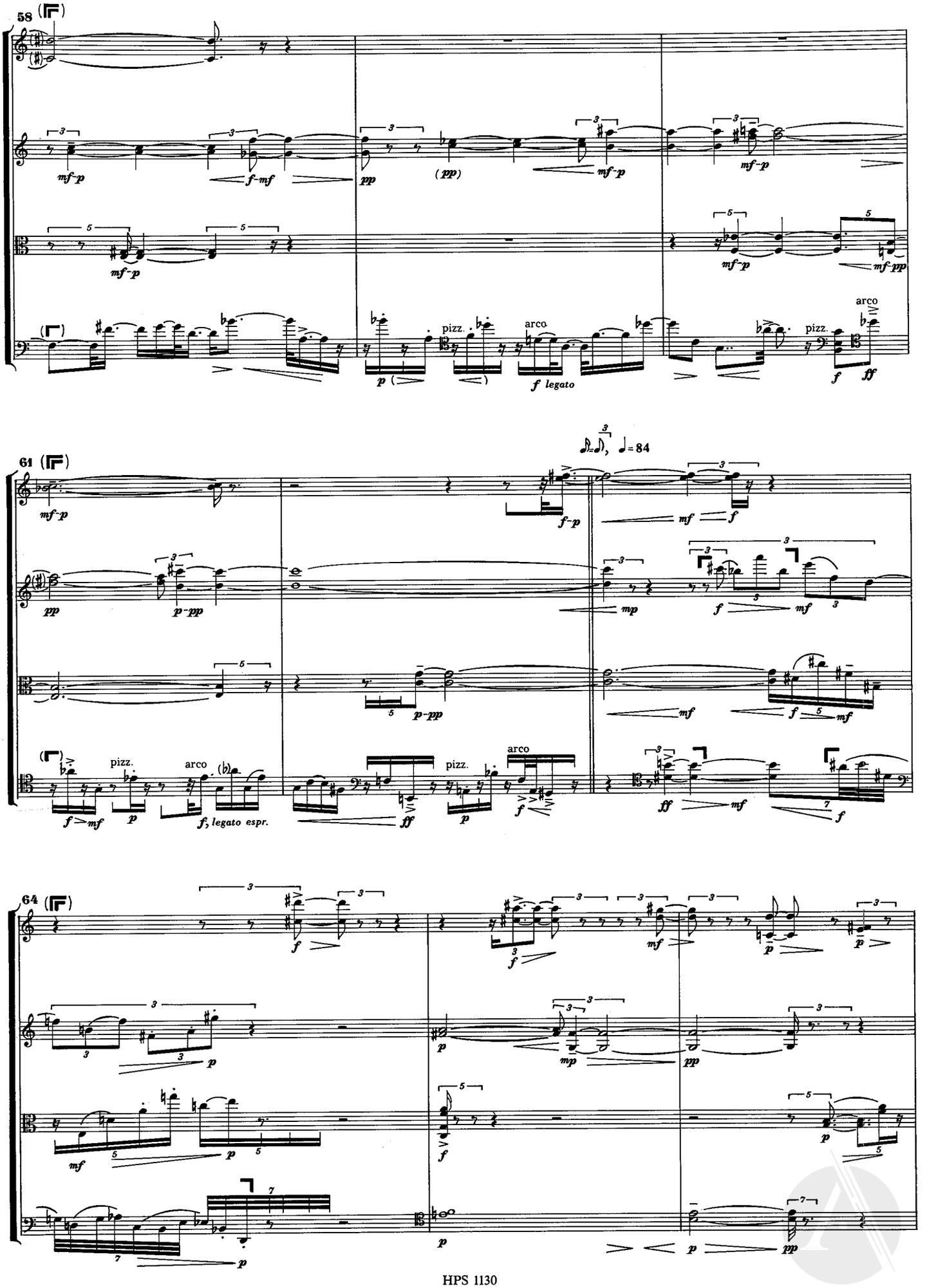

36
mf
più f
f
f - mf
f
f cantando, espr.
mf

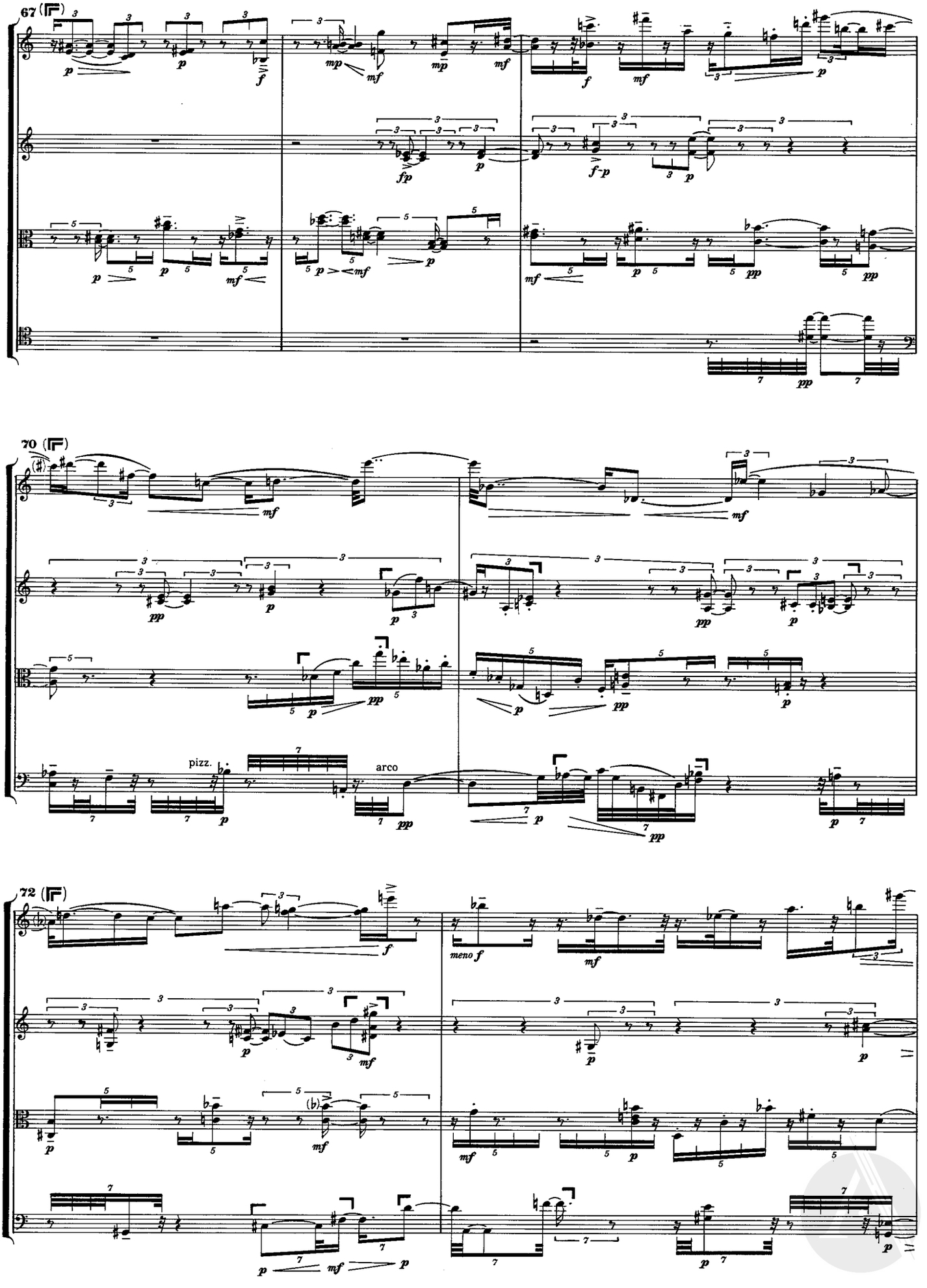

♩=63
38
f
mf
f - mf
f
mfp
mf
f
p
pp
p
pp
p
mf
f
f > mf
pp
f

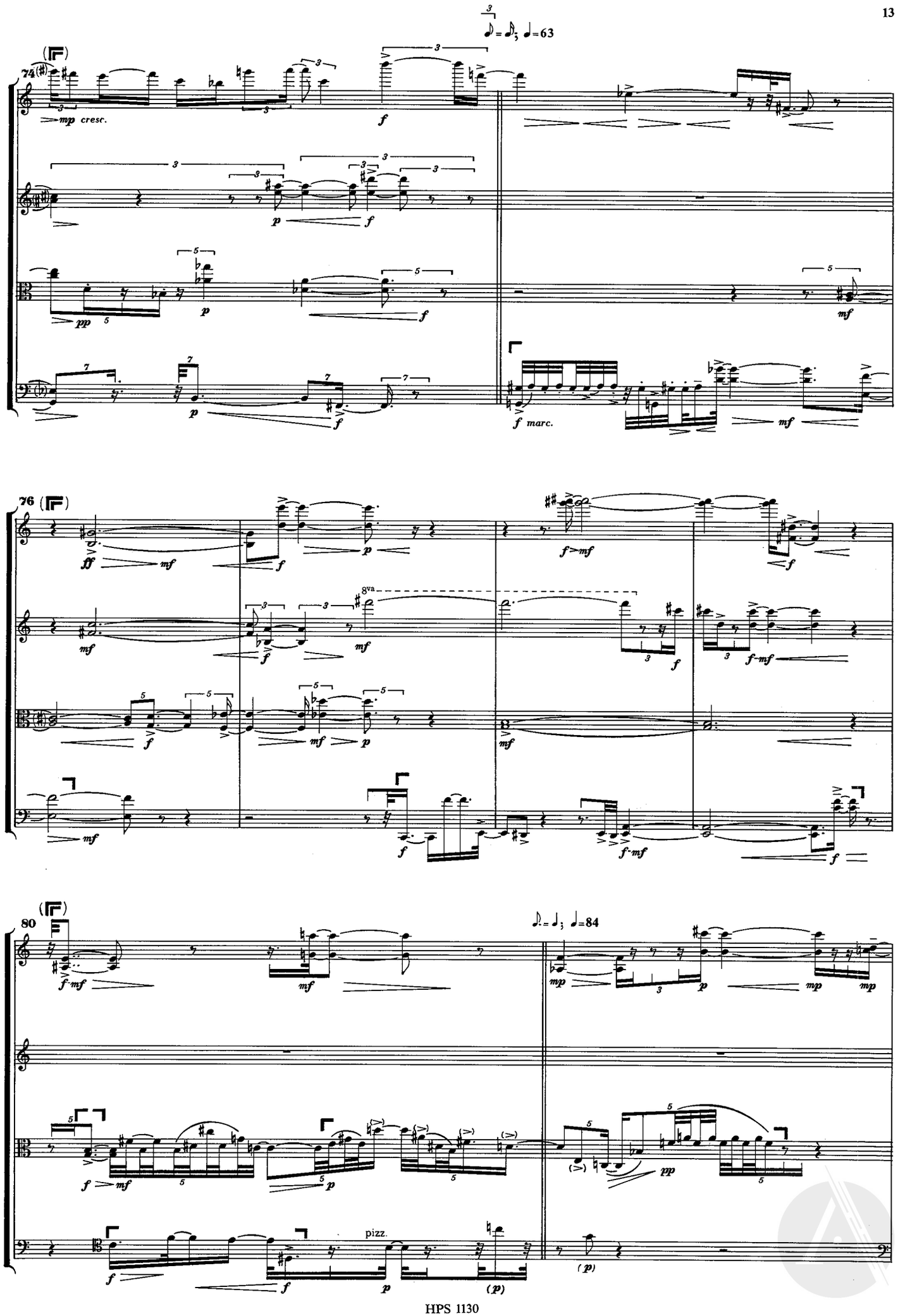

40
ff
f
p
fp
fpp
pizz.
arco
mf
42
mp
ben marc.
44
mf-pp
cantando, espr.
mf-p

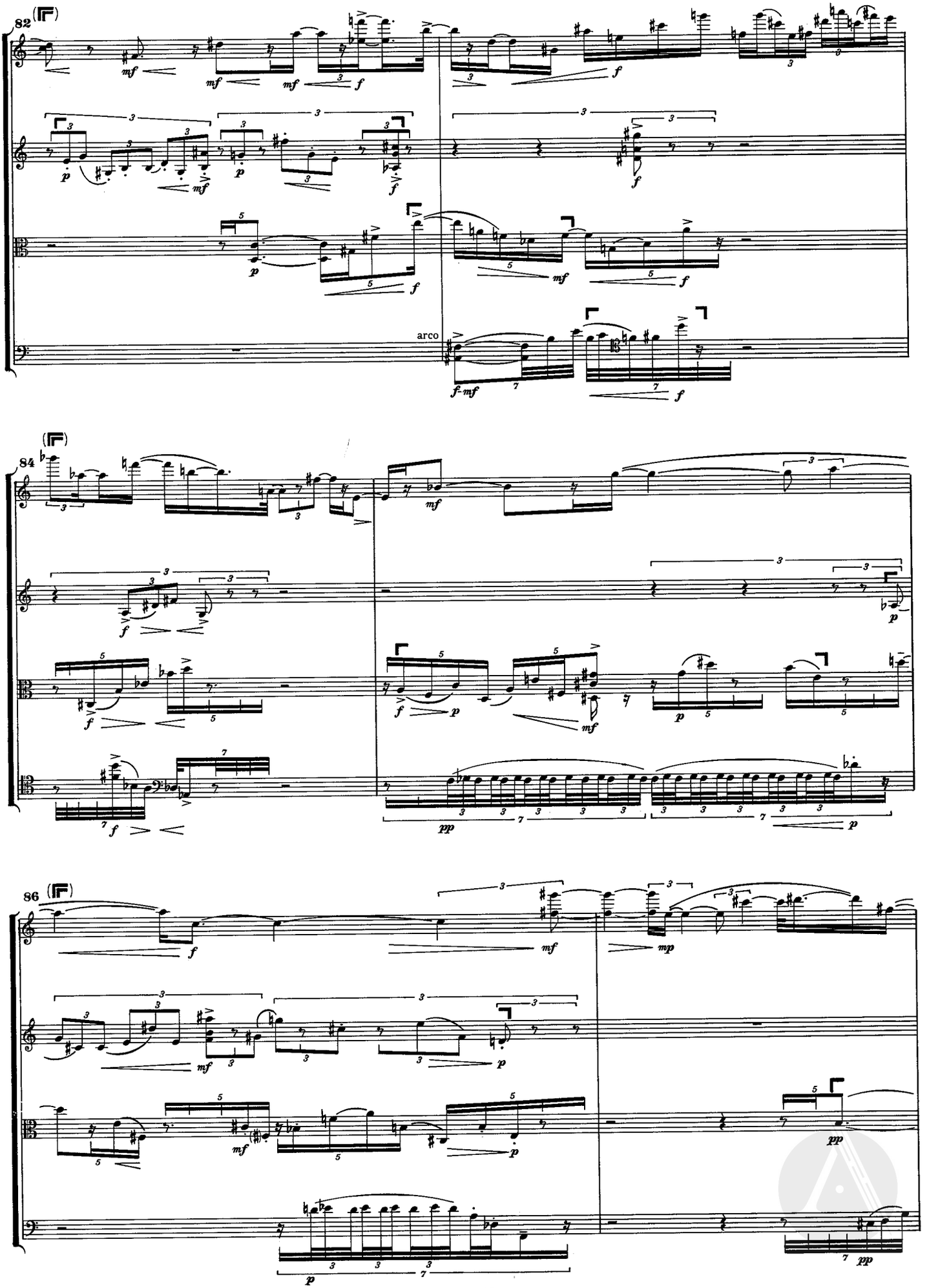

46
48
50
espr.

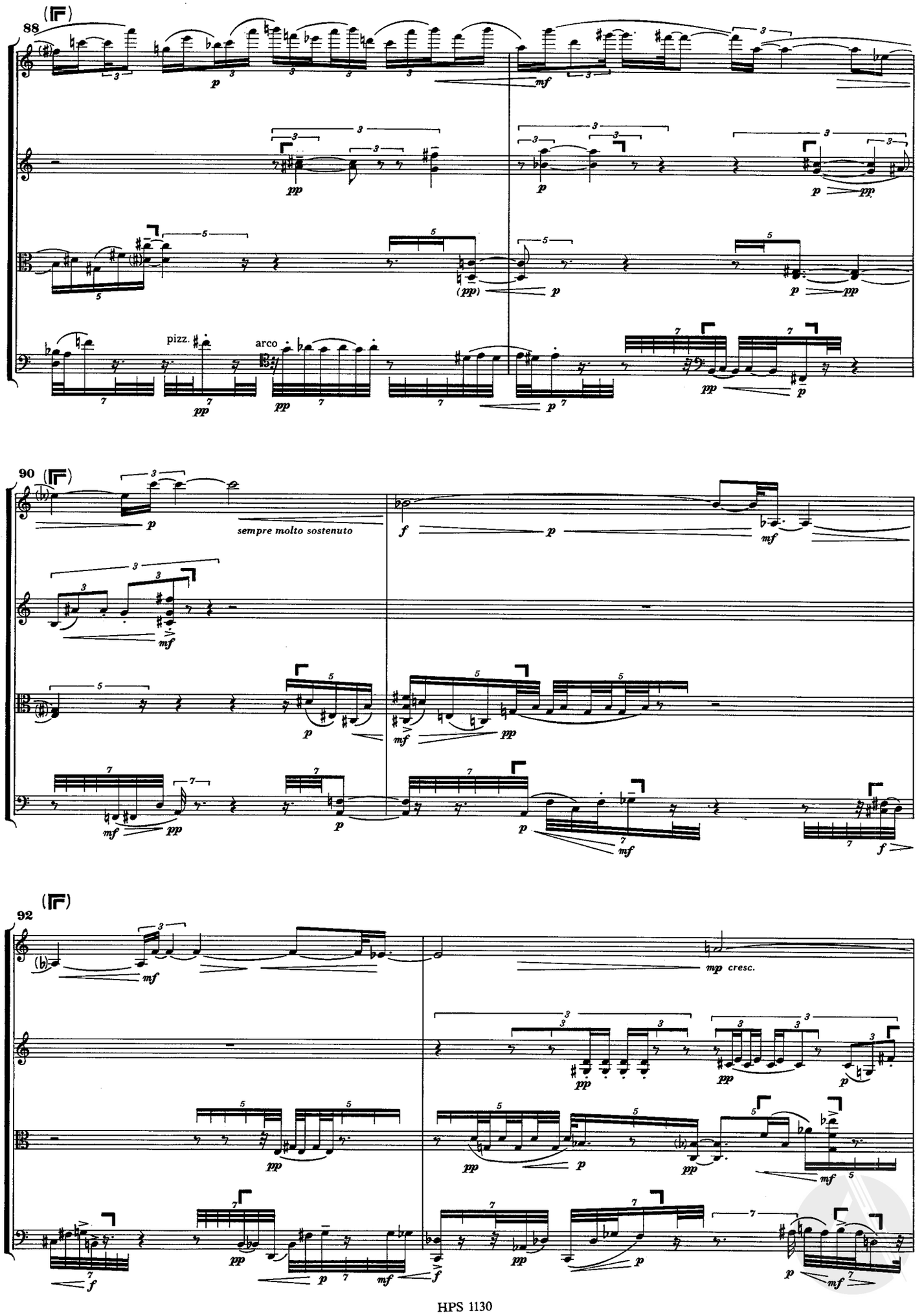

52
f
ff
mf
f marc.
f-mf
f
mf
f
mf
f
mf
f-mf
f
54
f
ff
marcatiss.
ff
f
ff
f
p sub.
ff
ff
56
f-mf
mf-p
f
ff
p
mf
p
pp
mf
f
ff
p
mf
ff
ff
f
mf
p
f espr.
legato
p
f
legato

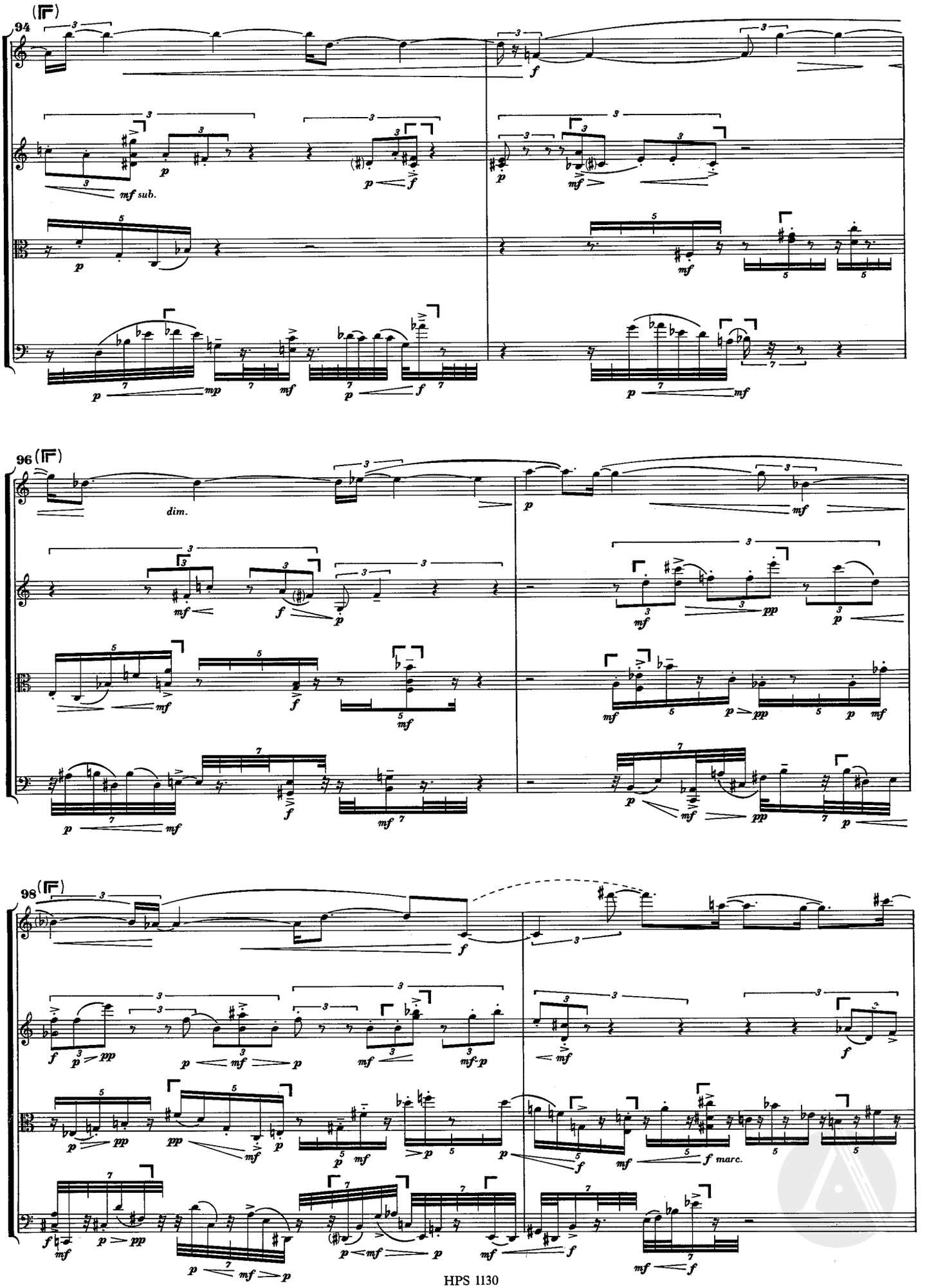

58
61
64
pizz.
arco
♩= 84

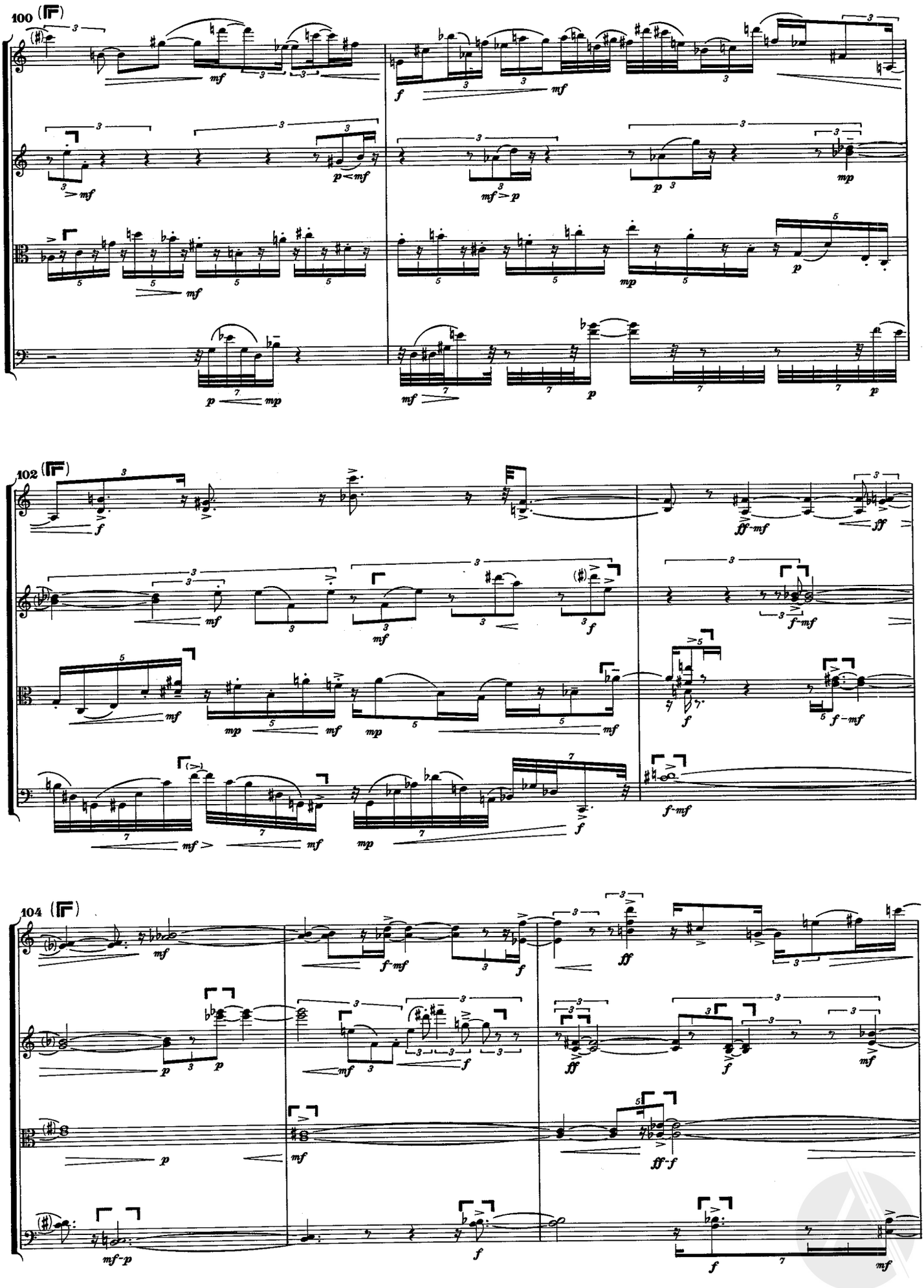

67
70
72
pizz.
arco

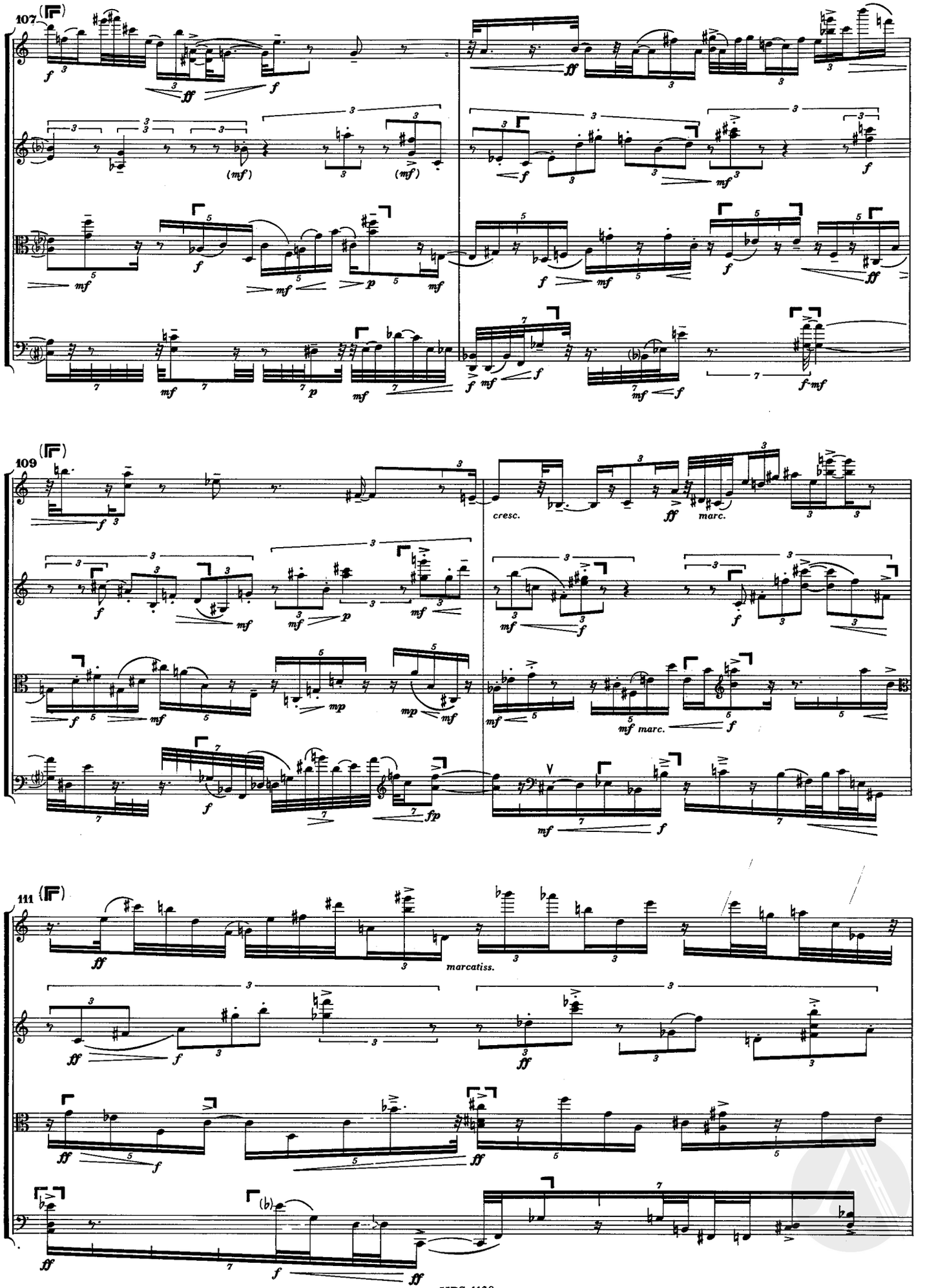

74
mp cresc.
f
p
f
pp
p
f
mf
f marc.
mf
76
ff
mf
f
p
f>mf
f
mf
8va
mf
f
3
f
f-mf
f
mf
p
mf
f
mf
f-mf
f
80
f-mf
mf
mp
p
mp
mp
f
mf
p
pp
pizz.
f
f
p
(p)
(p)

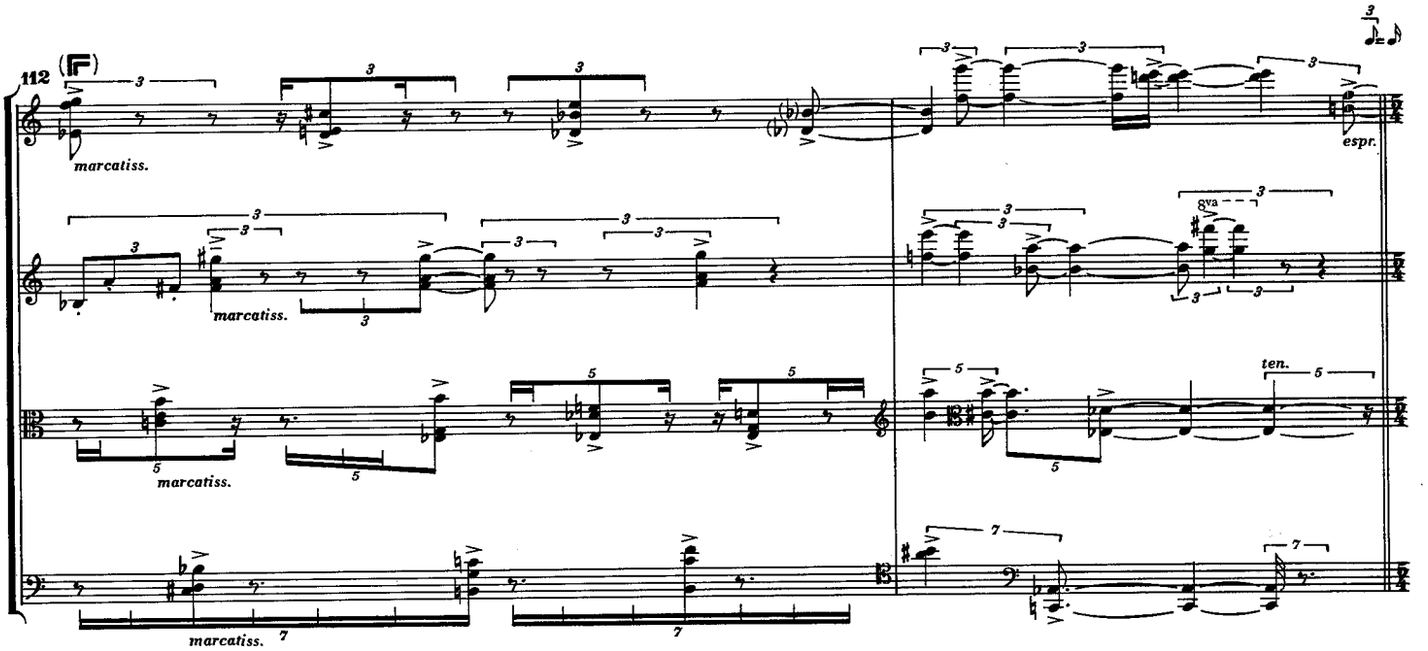

82
84
86
arco

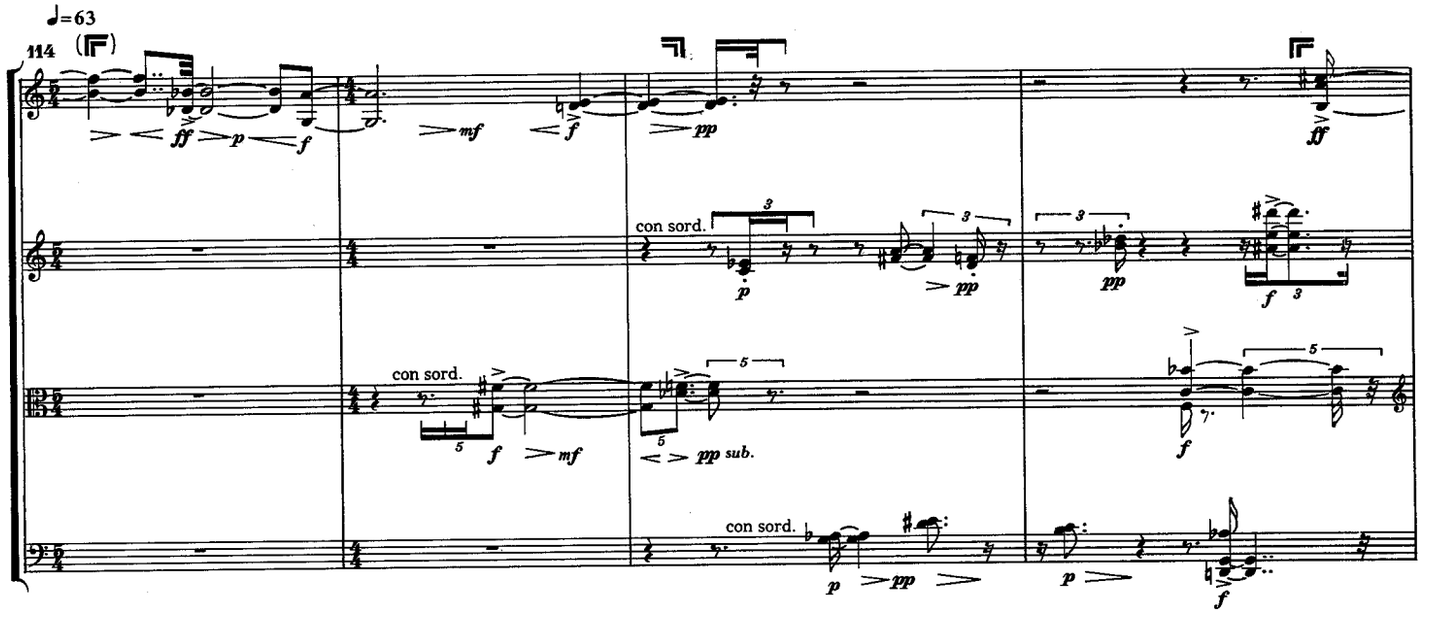

88
pizz.
arco
90
sempre molto sostenuto
92
mp cresc.

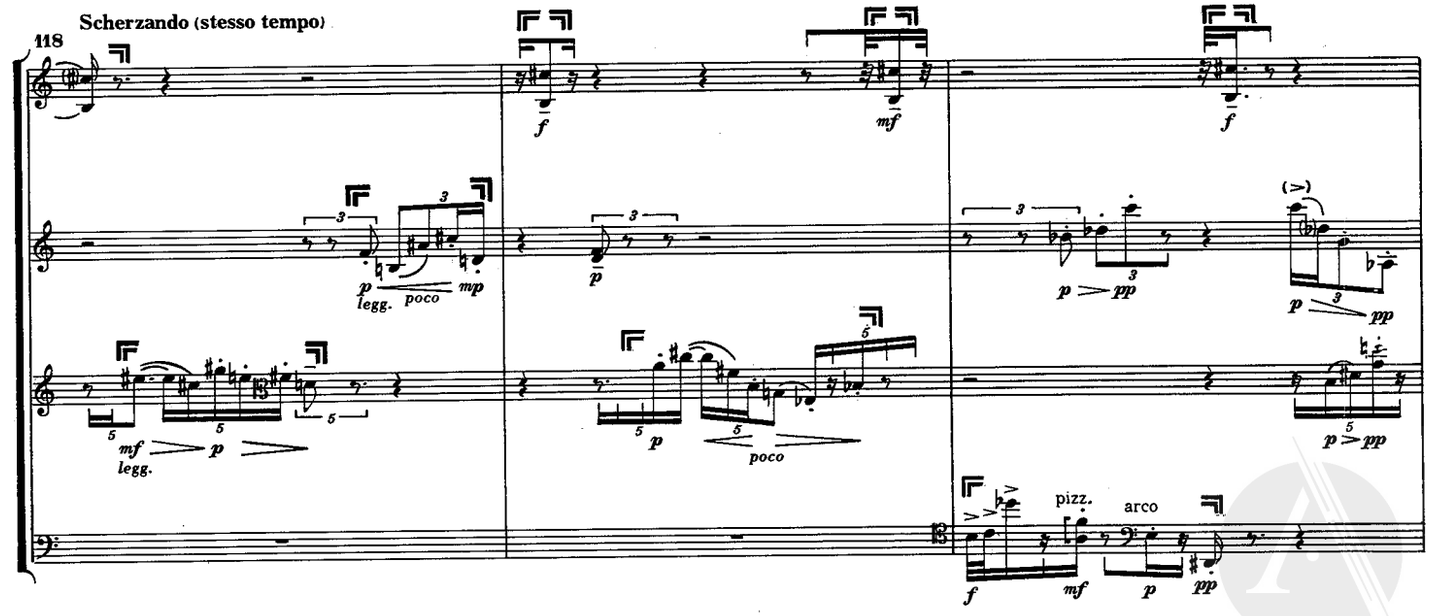

94
mf sub.
96
dim.
98
f marc.

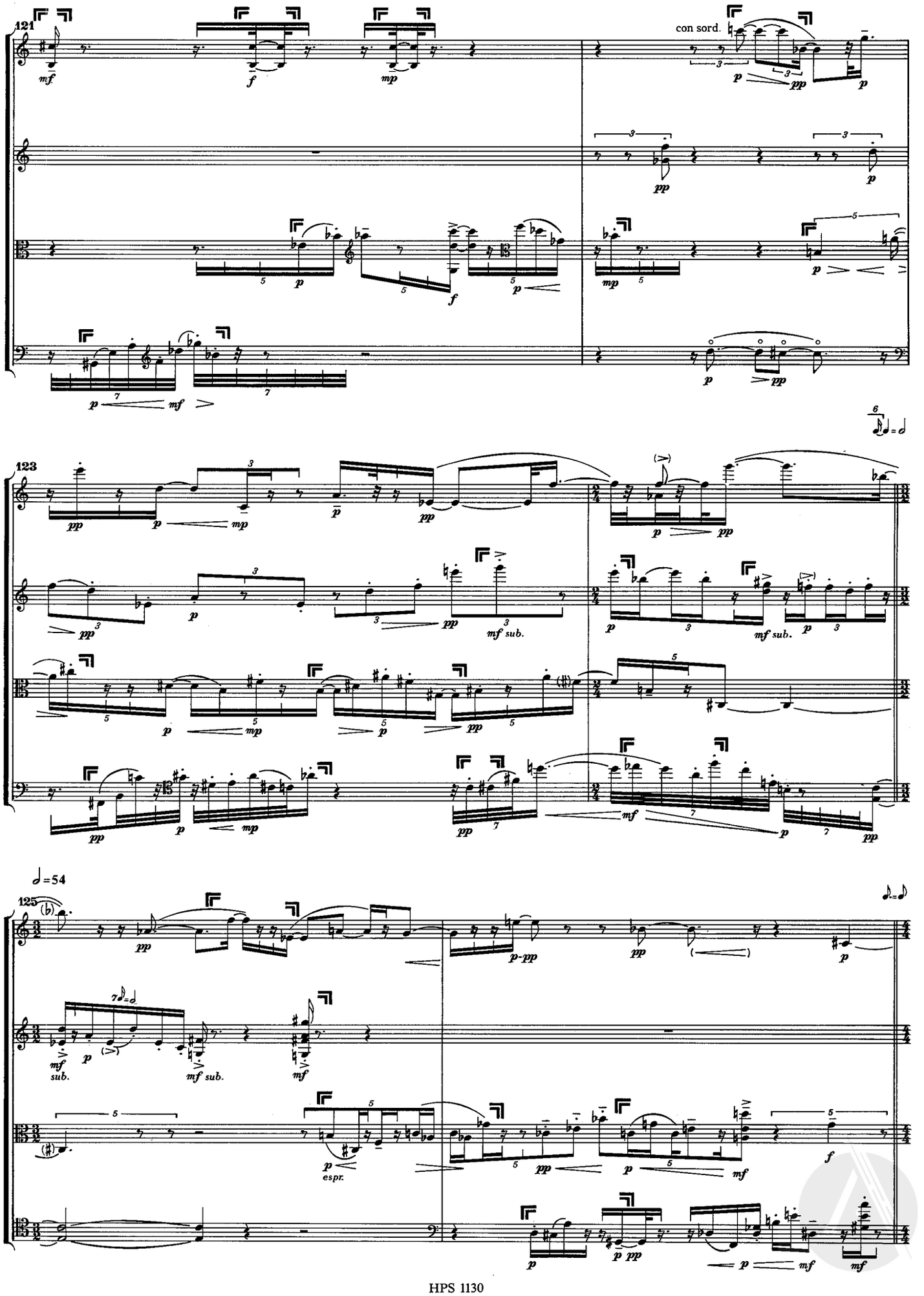

100
102
104

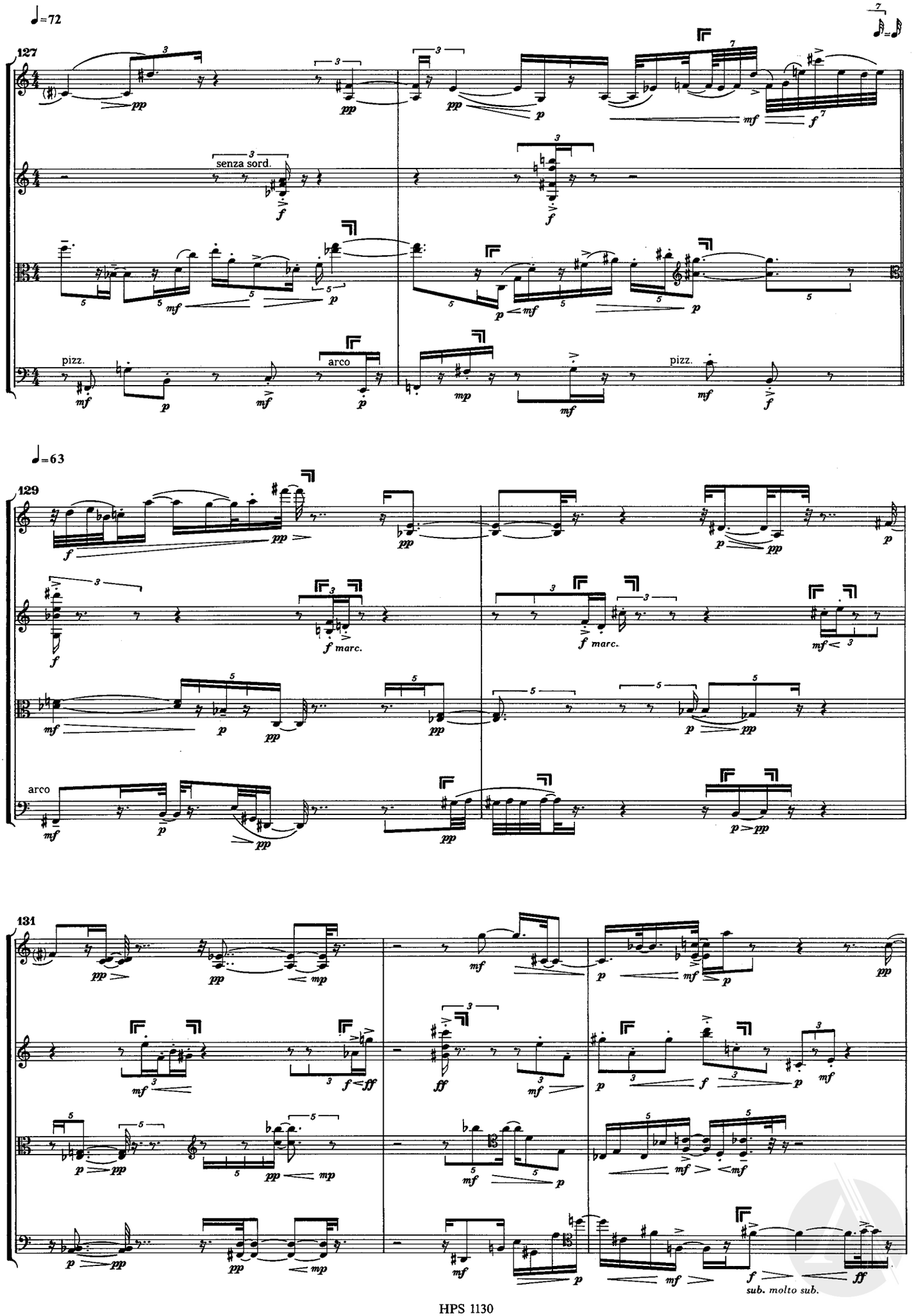

107
109
111
cresc.
marc.
marcatiss.

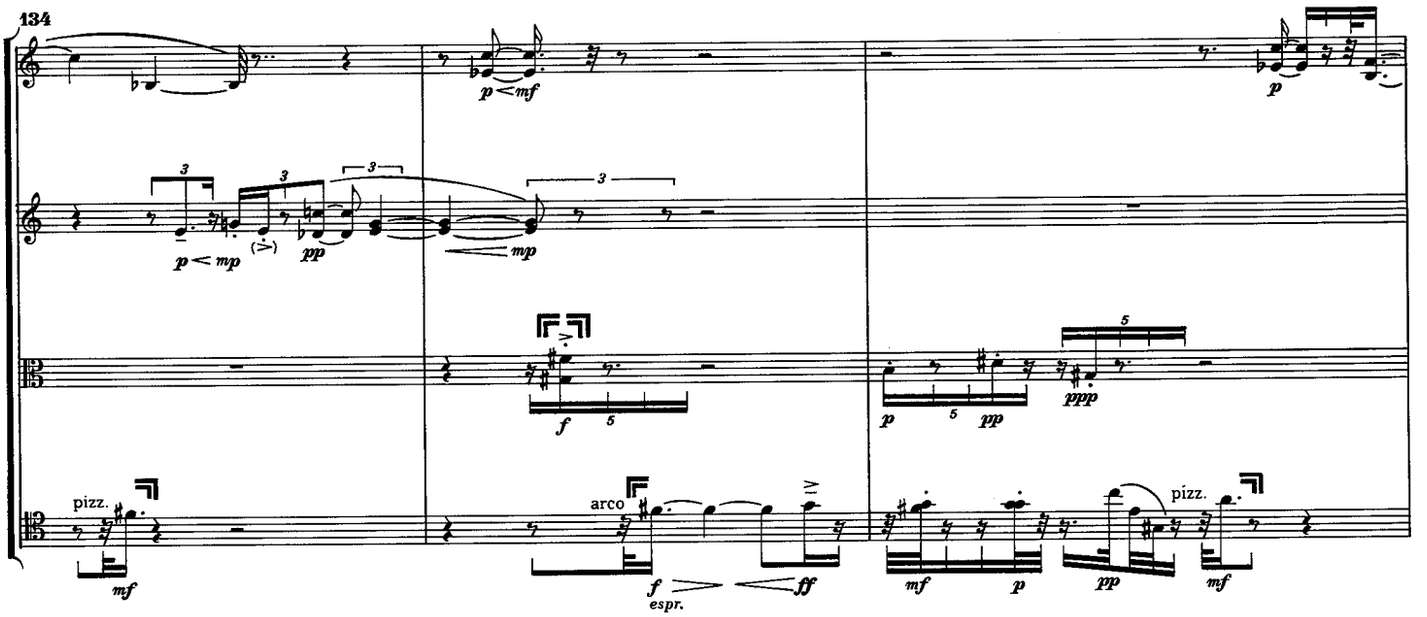

112
marcatiss.
espr.
8va
ten.

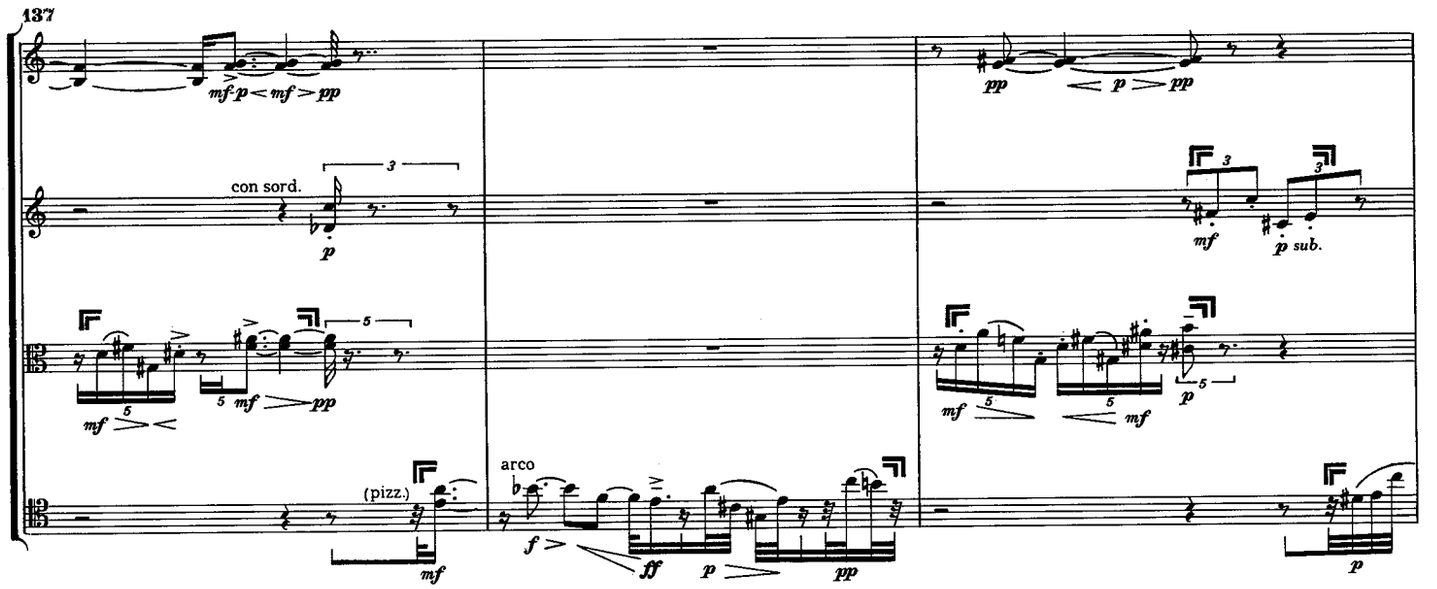

♩=63
114
con sord.
pp sub.

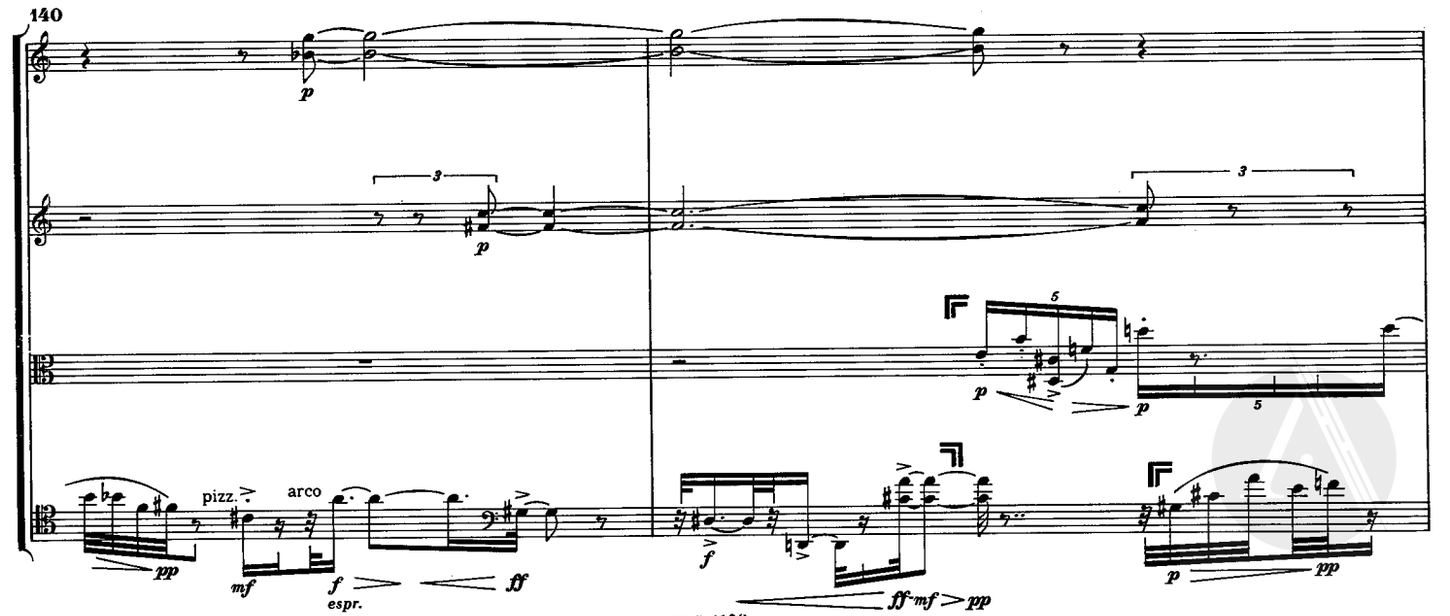

Scherzando (stesso tempo)
118
legg.
poco
pizz.
arco

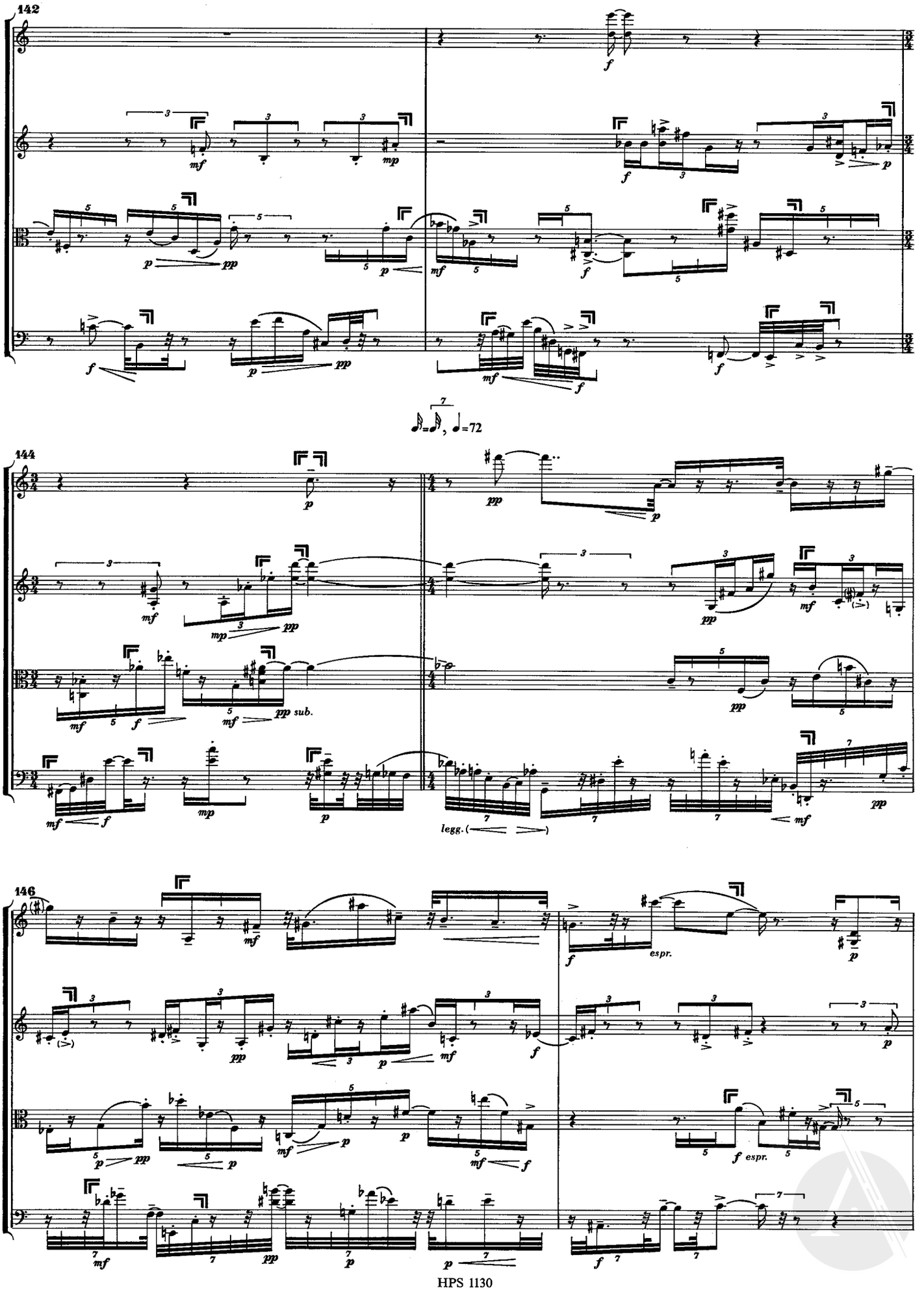

121
con sord.
123
125
espr.

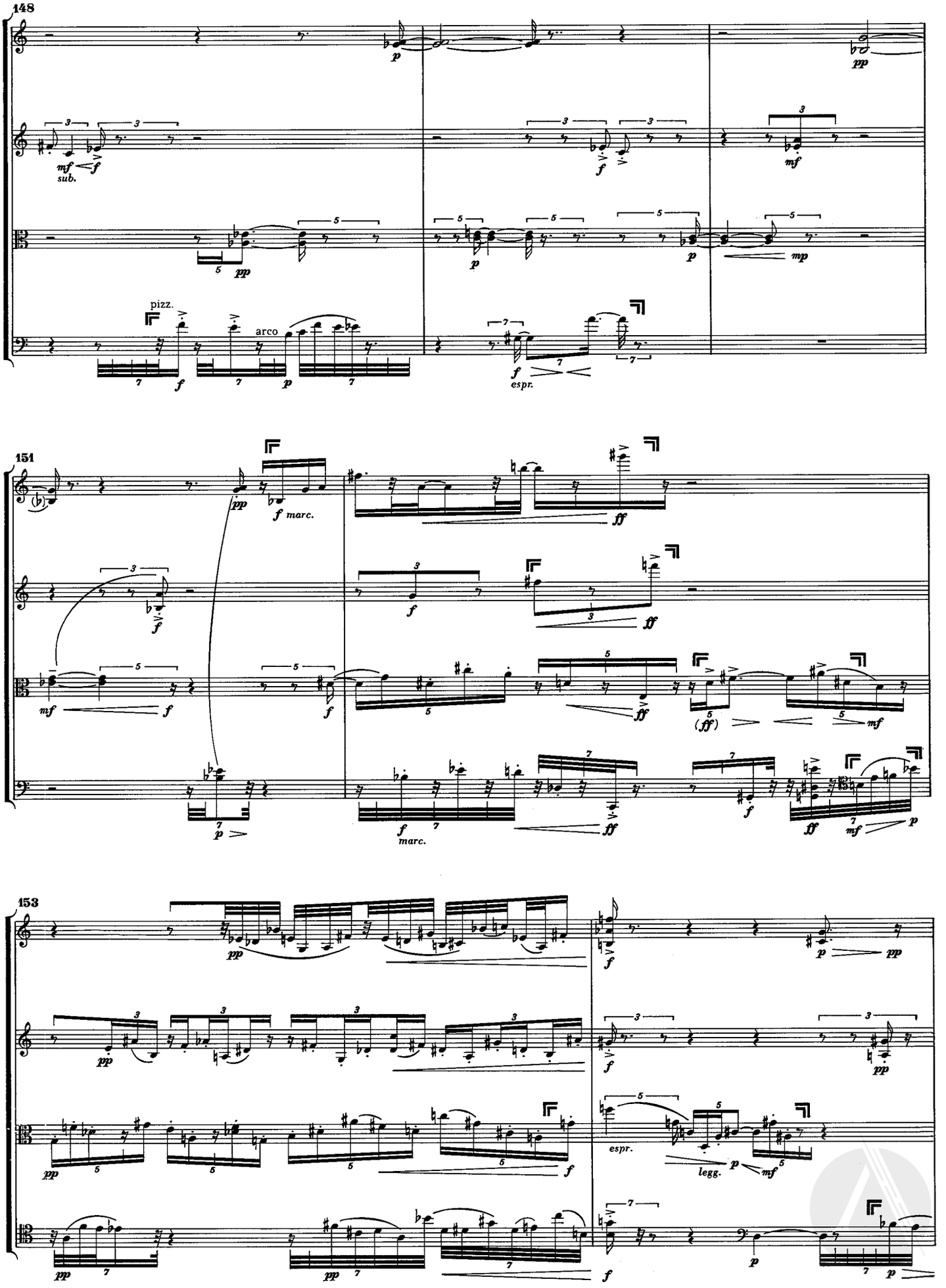

♩=72
127
senza sord.
pizz.
arco
pizz.
♩=63
129
f marc.
f marc.
arco
131
sub. molto sub.

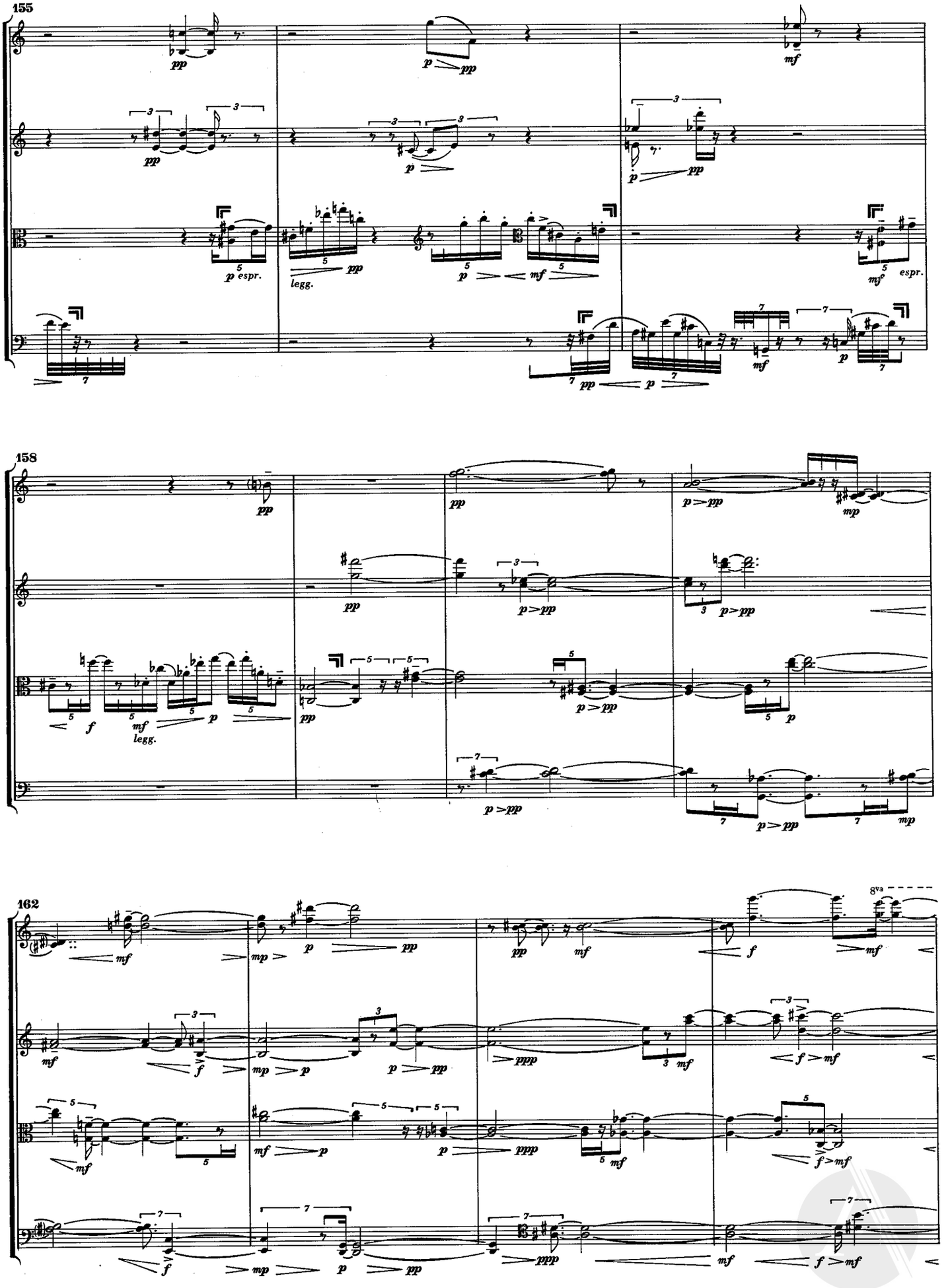

134
pizz.
arco
espr.
pizz.

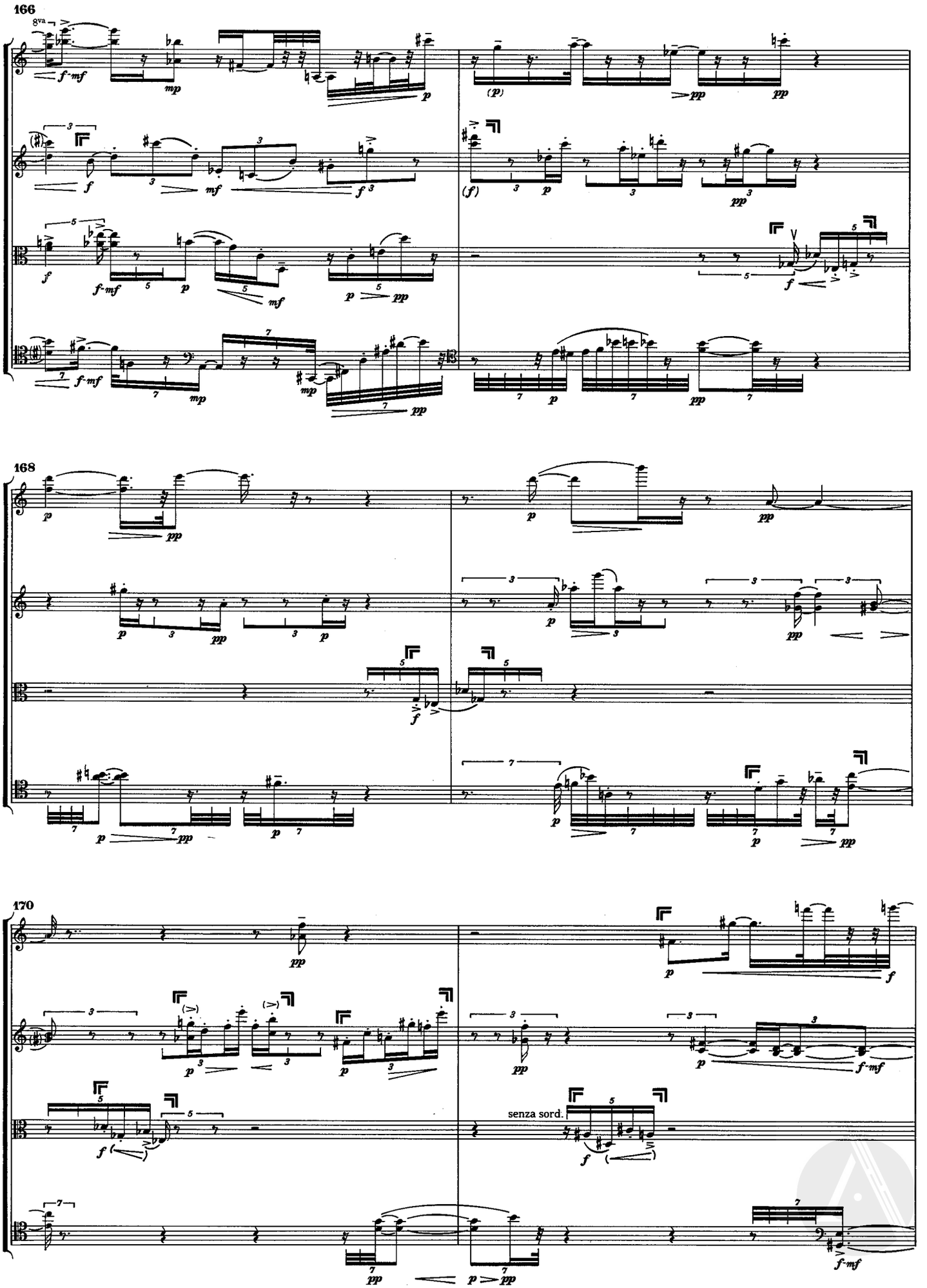

137
con sord.
(pizz.)
arco

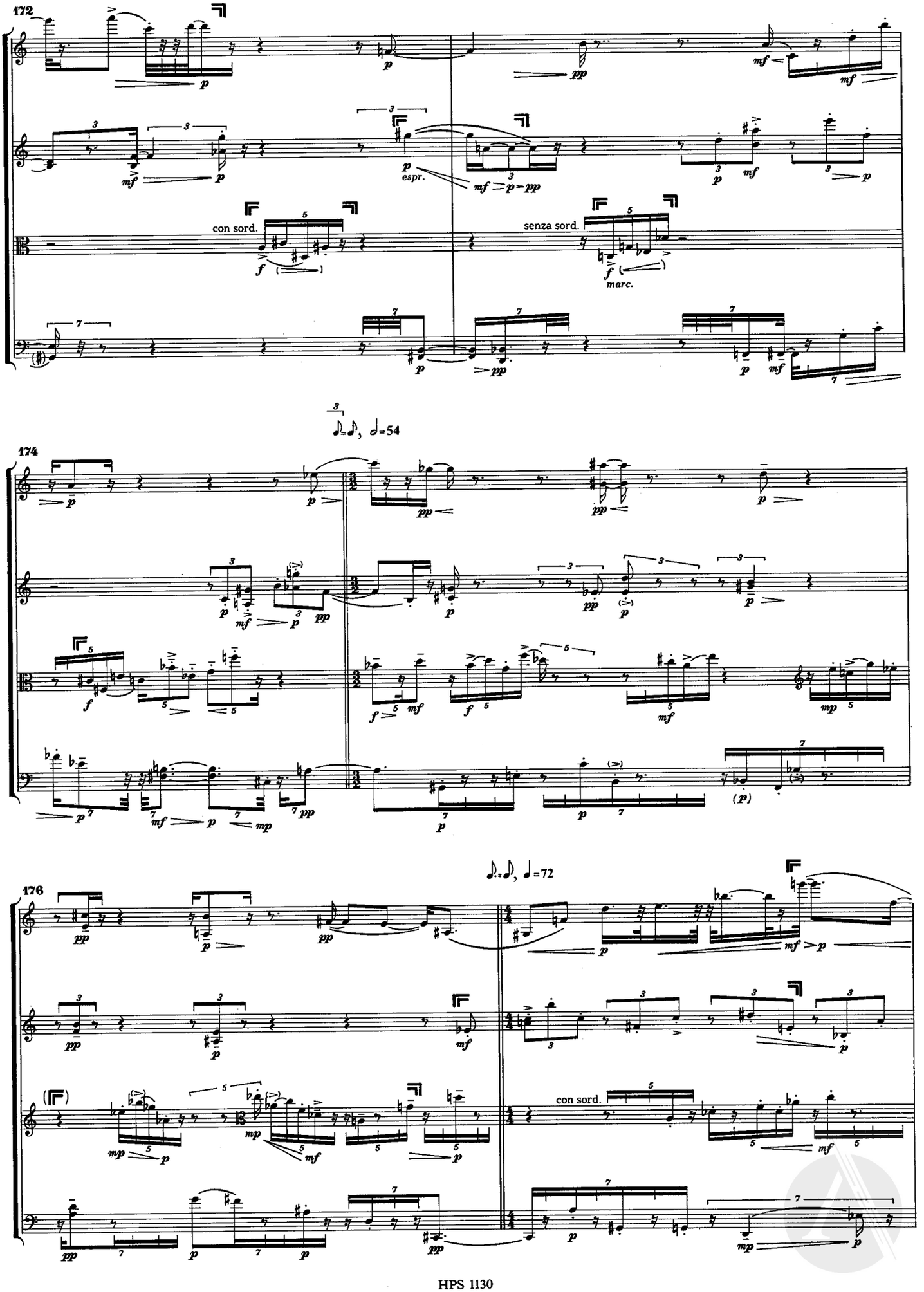

140
pizz.
arco
espr.

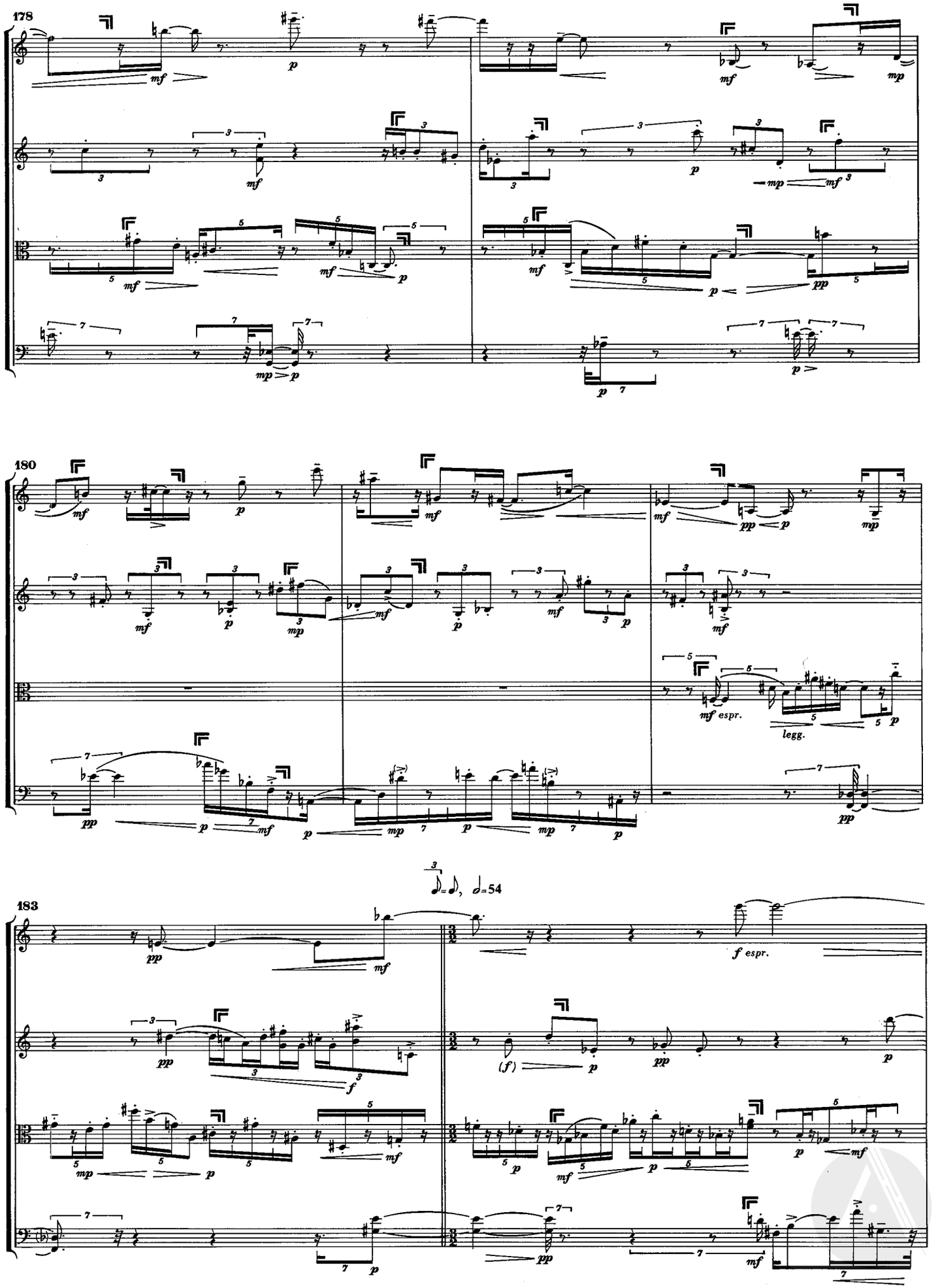

142
144
146
espr.
legg.
sub.

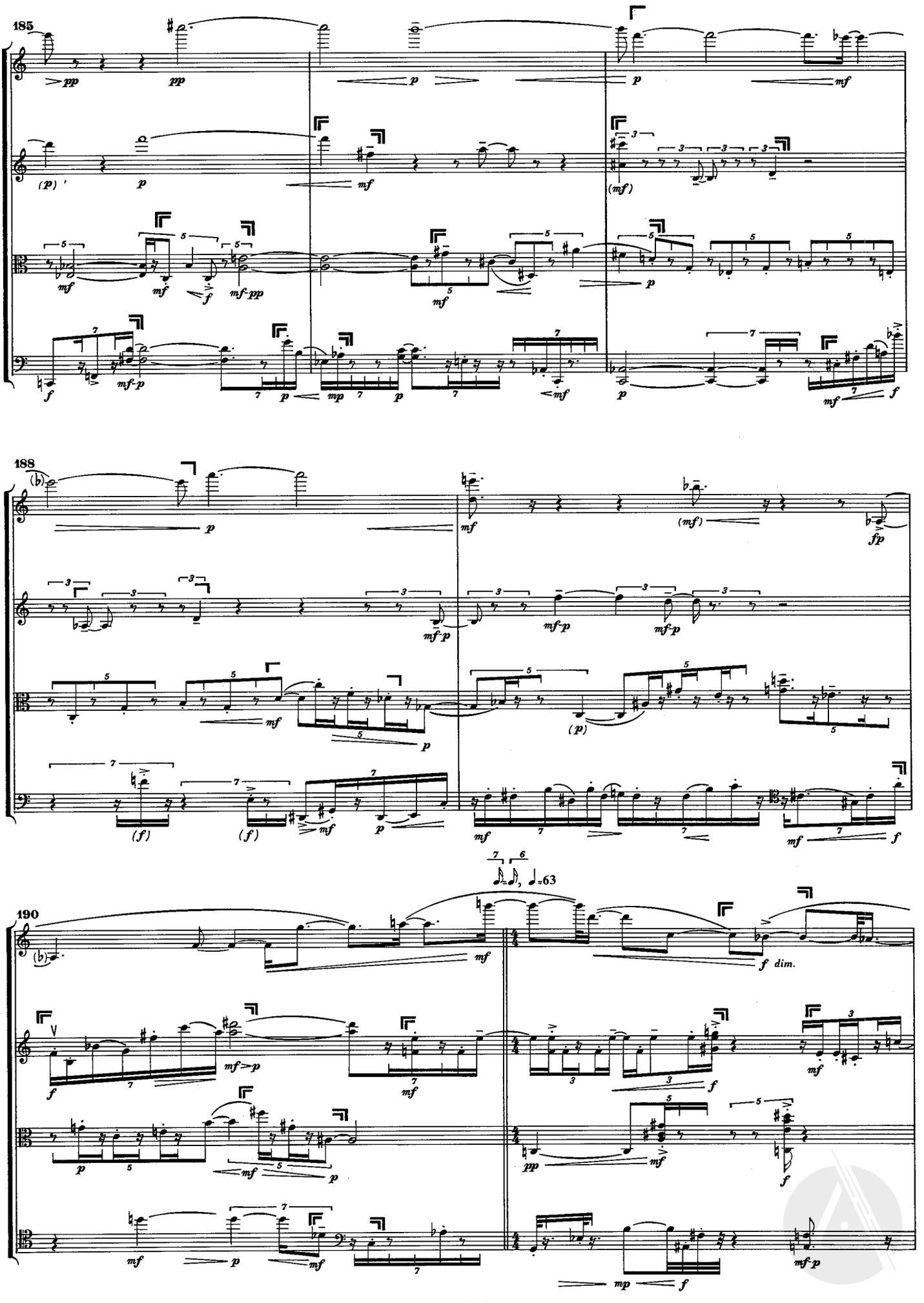

148
pizz.
arco
151
marc.
153
espr.
legg.

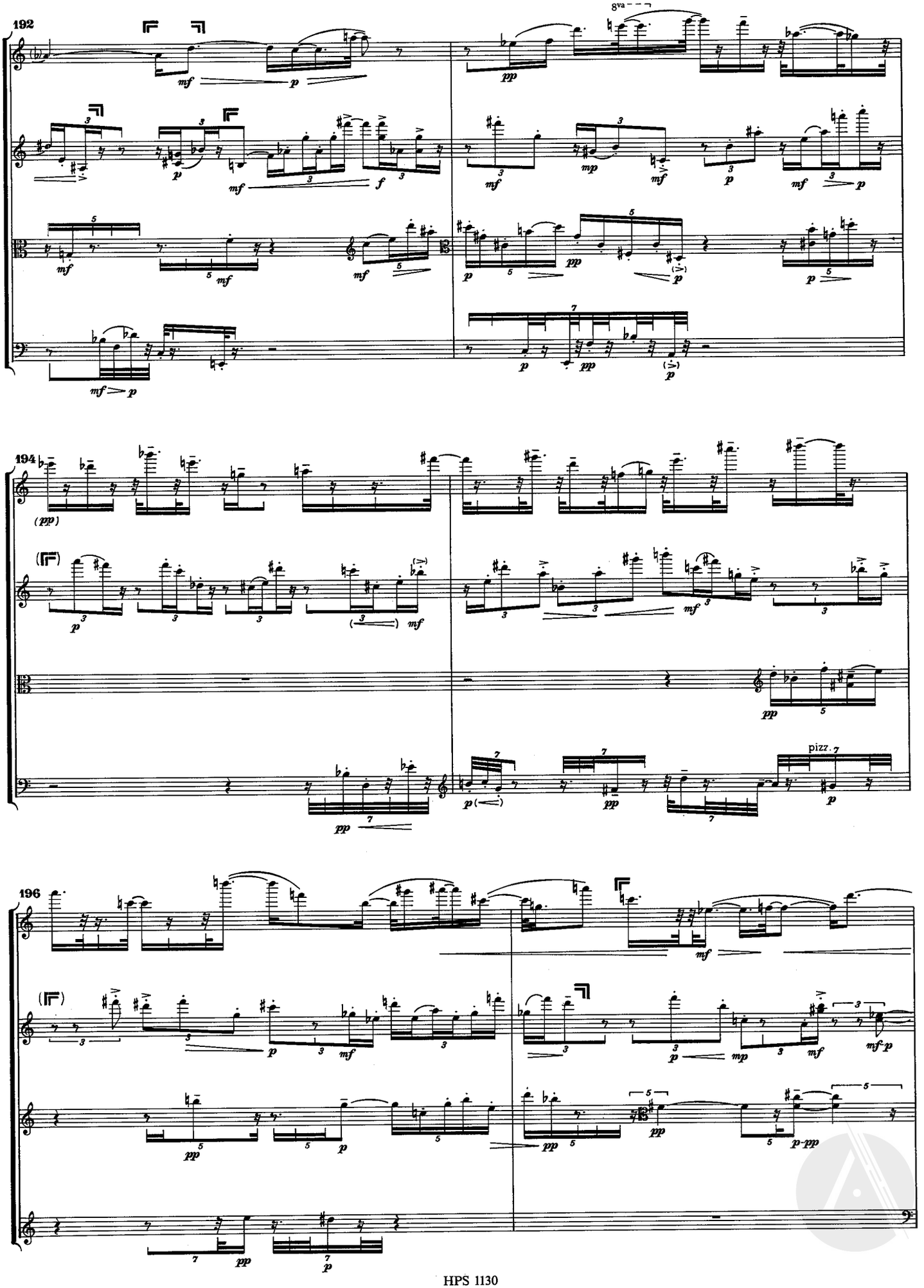

155
158
162
8va
legg.
espr.

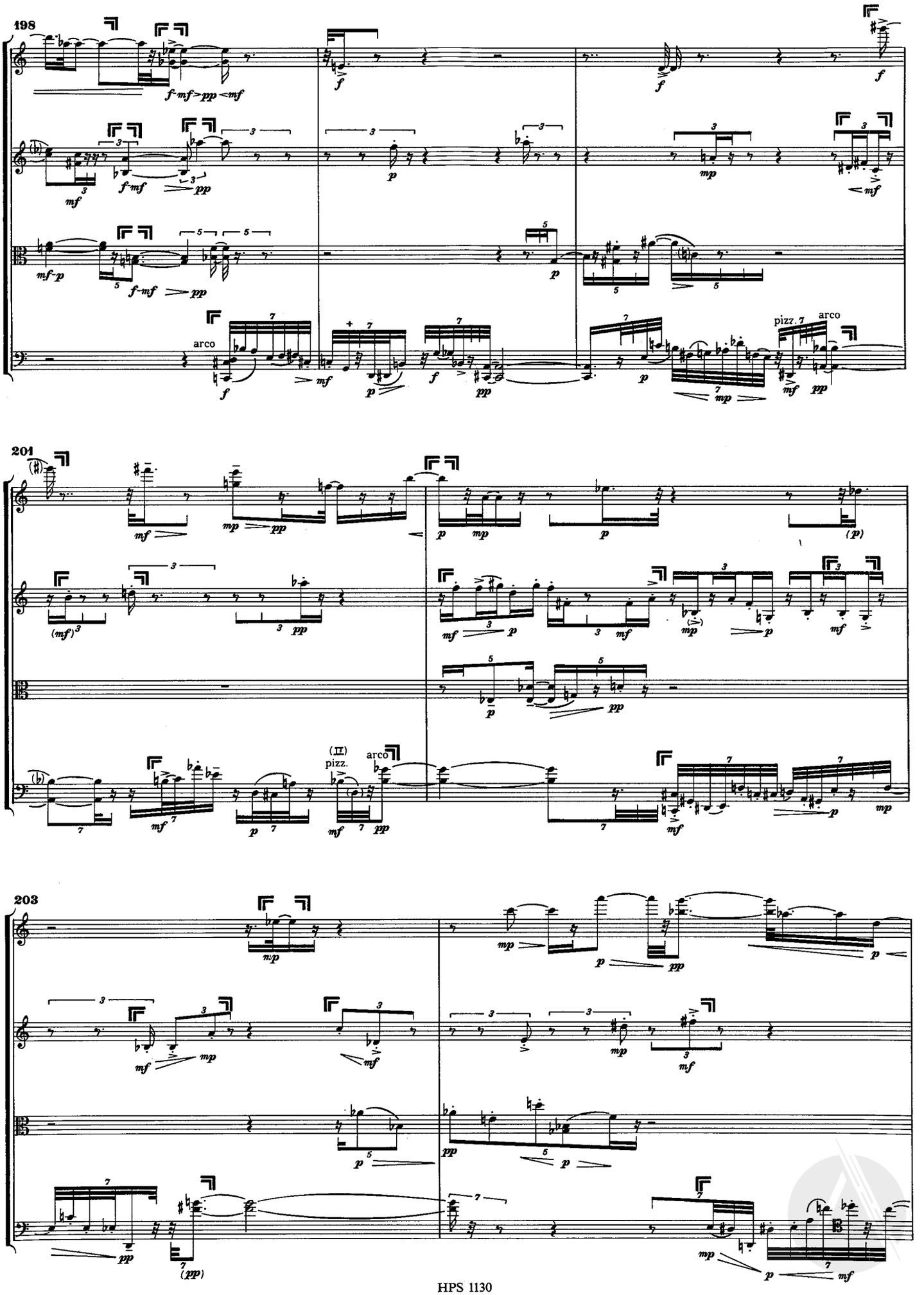

166
168
170
senza sord.

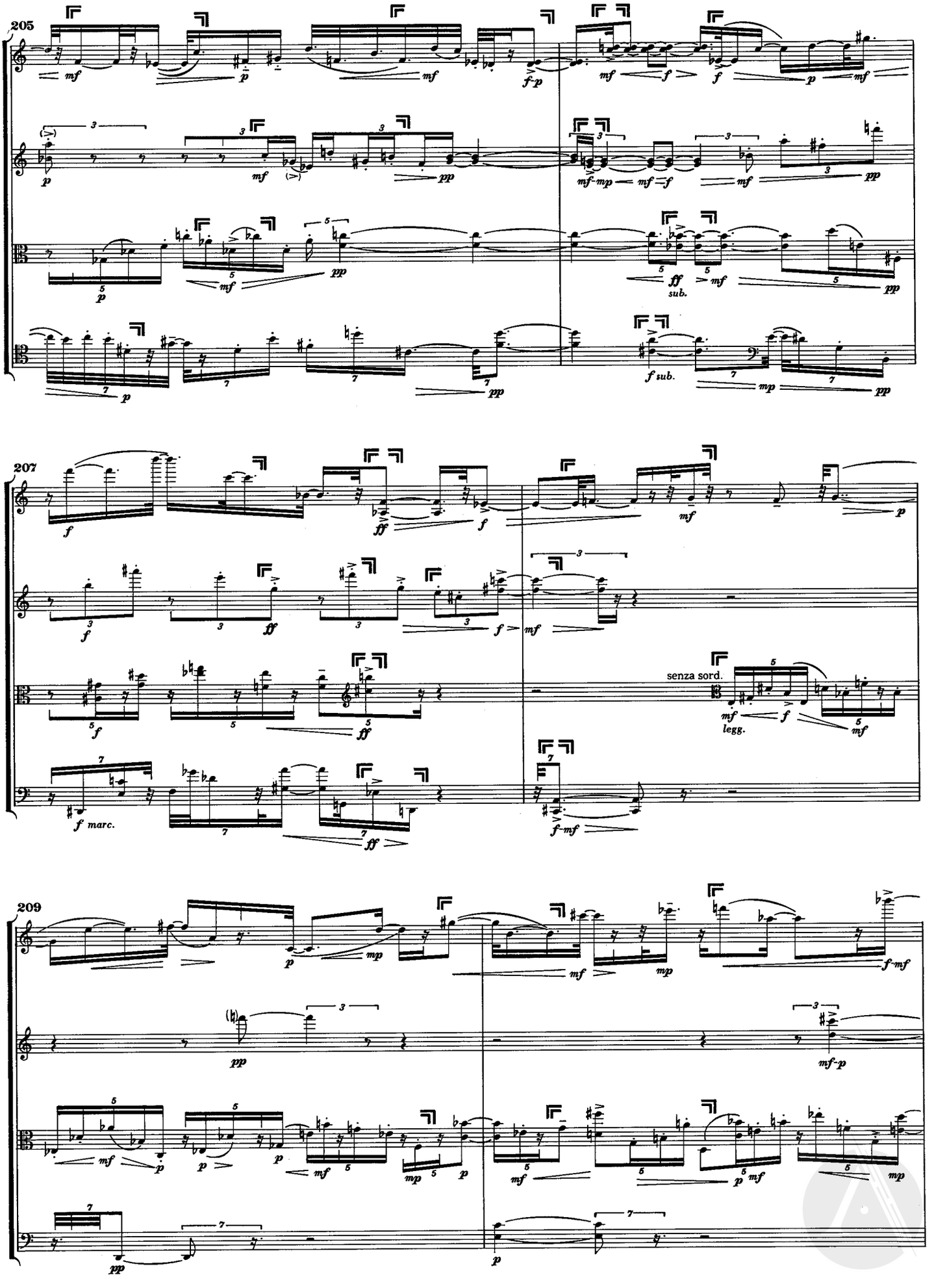

172
con sord.
senza sord.
espr.
marc.
174
176
con sord.

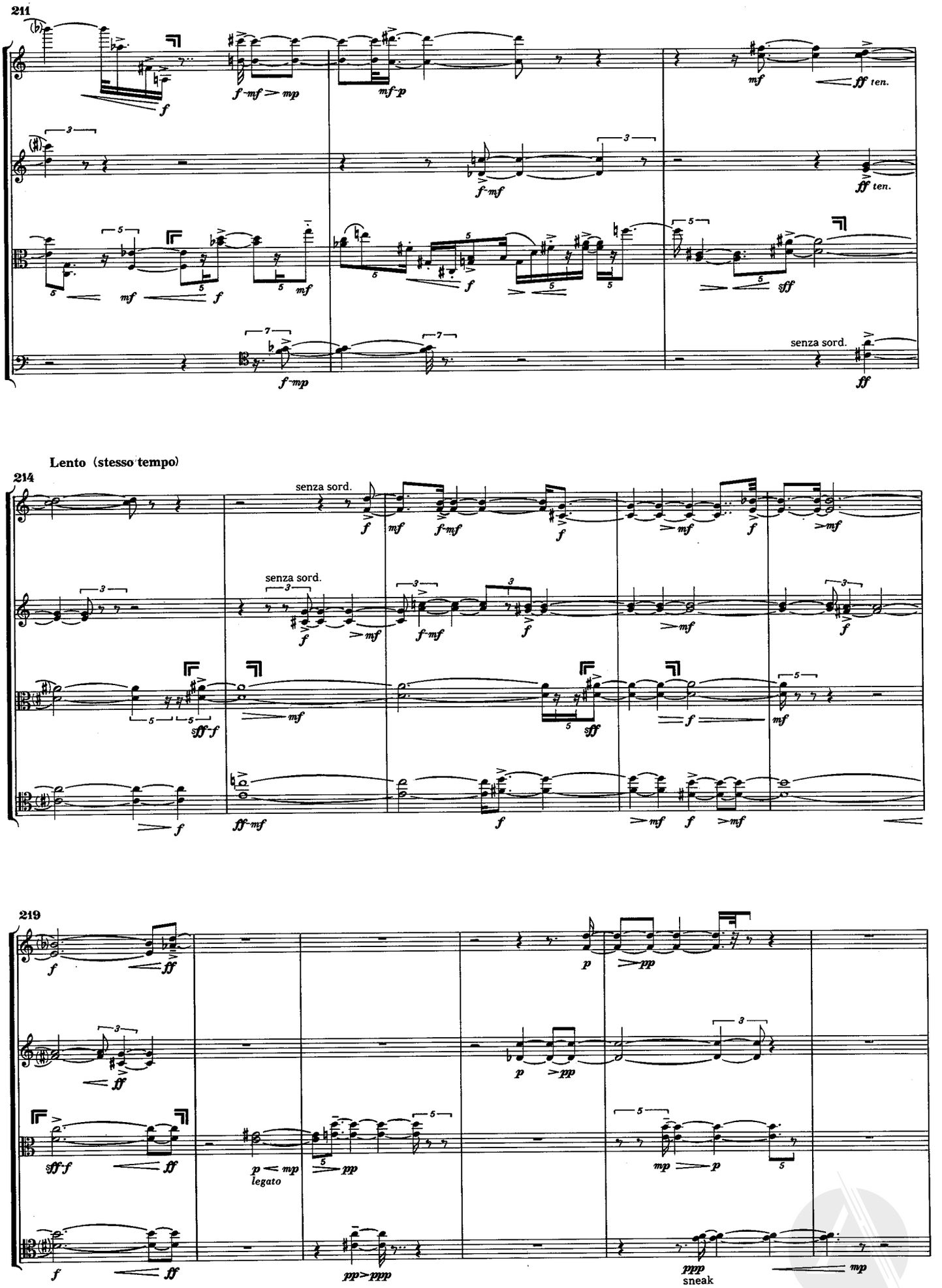

178
180
183
mf espr.
legg.
f espr.

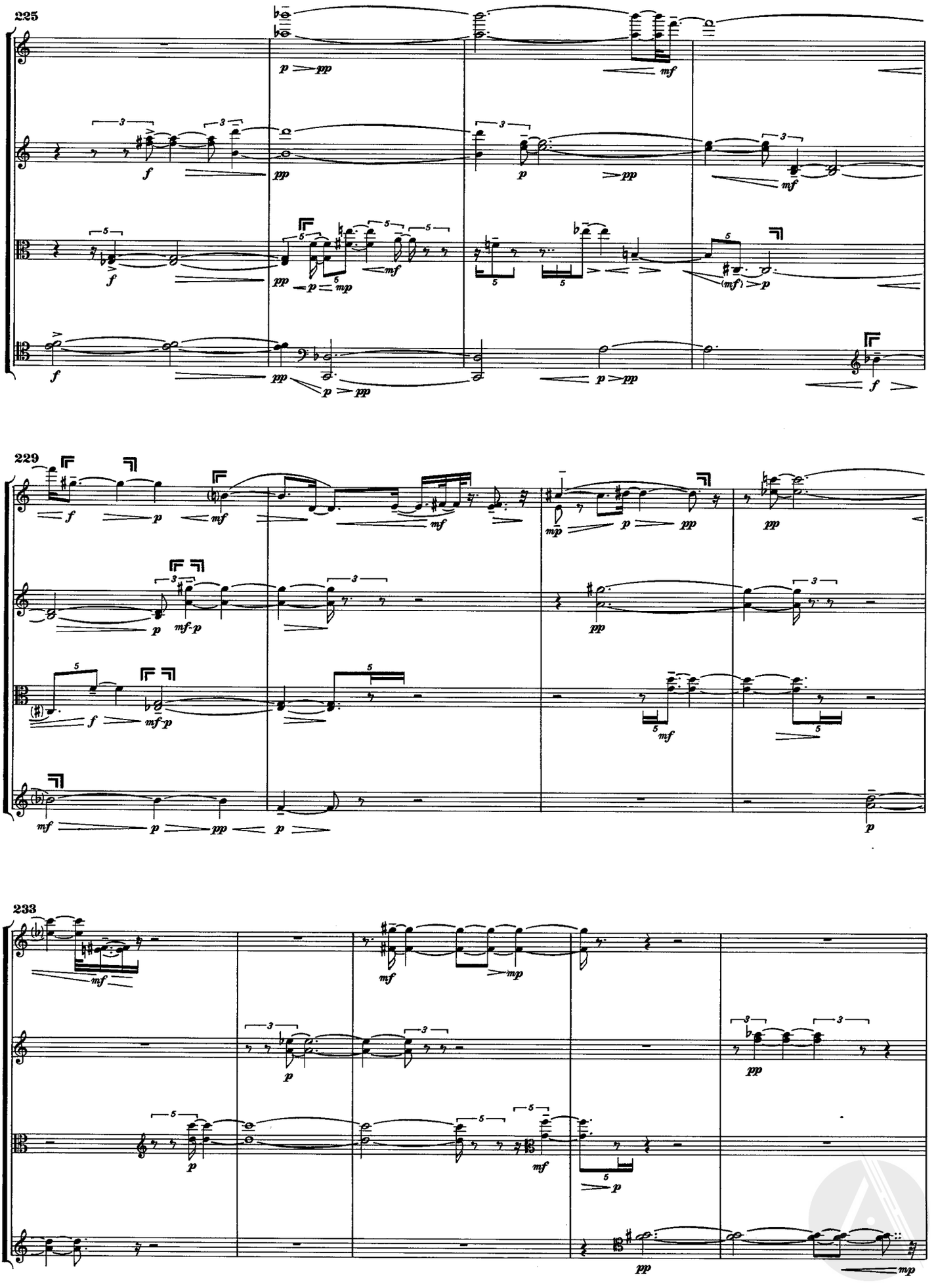

185
188
190
♩=63
dim.

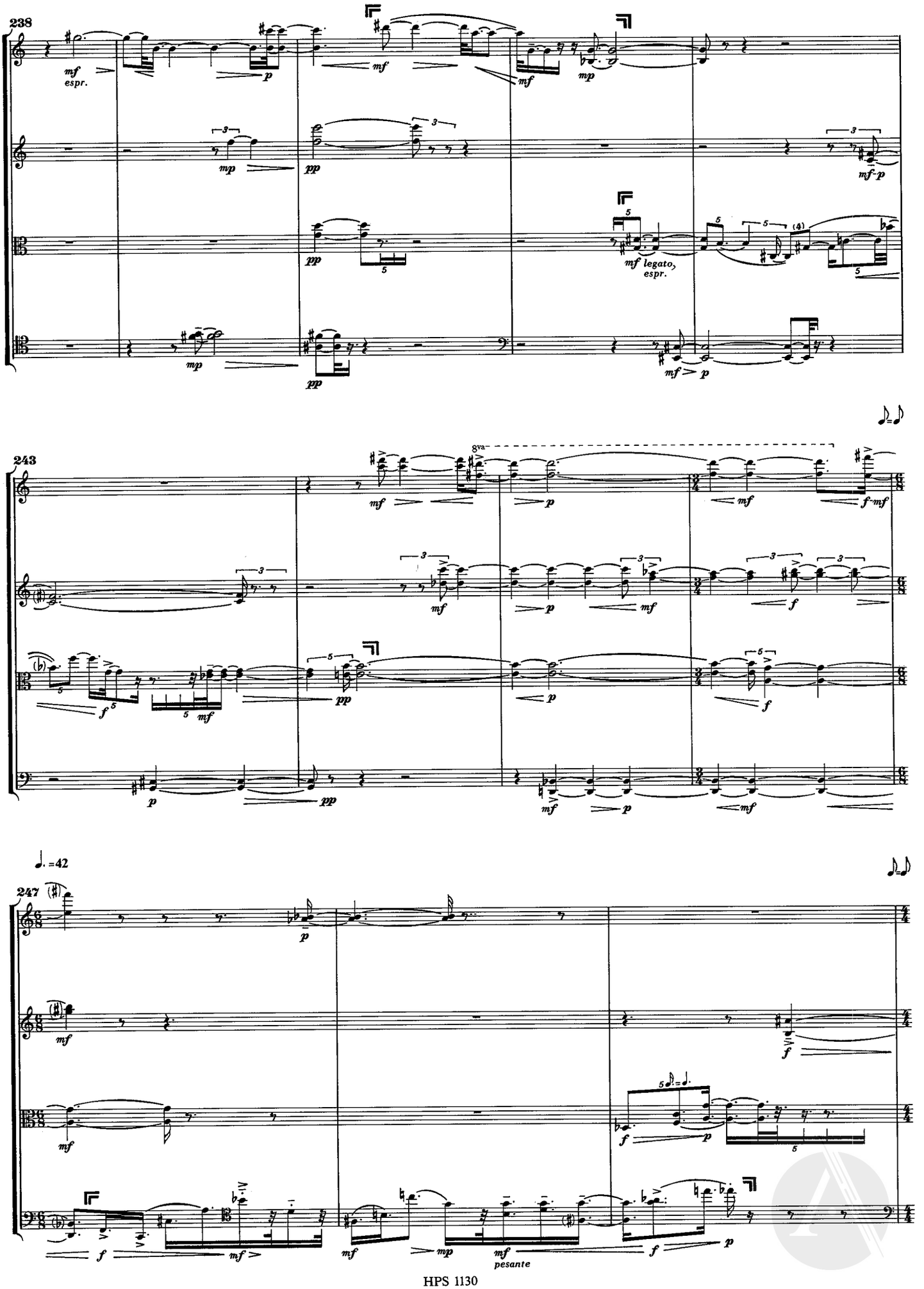

192
8va
194
196
pizz.

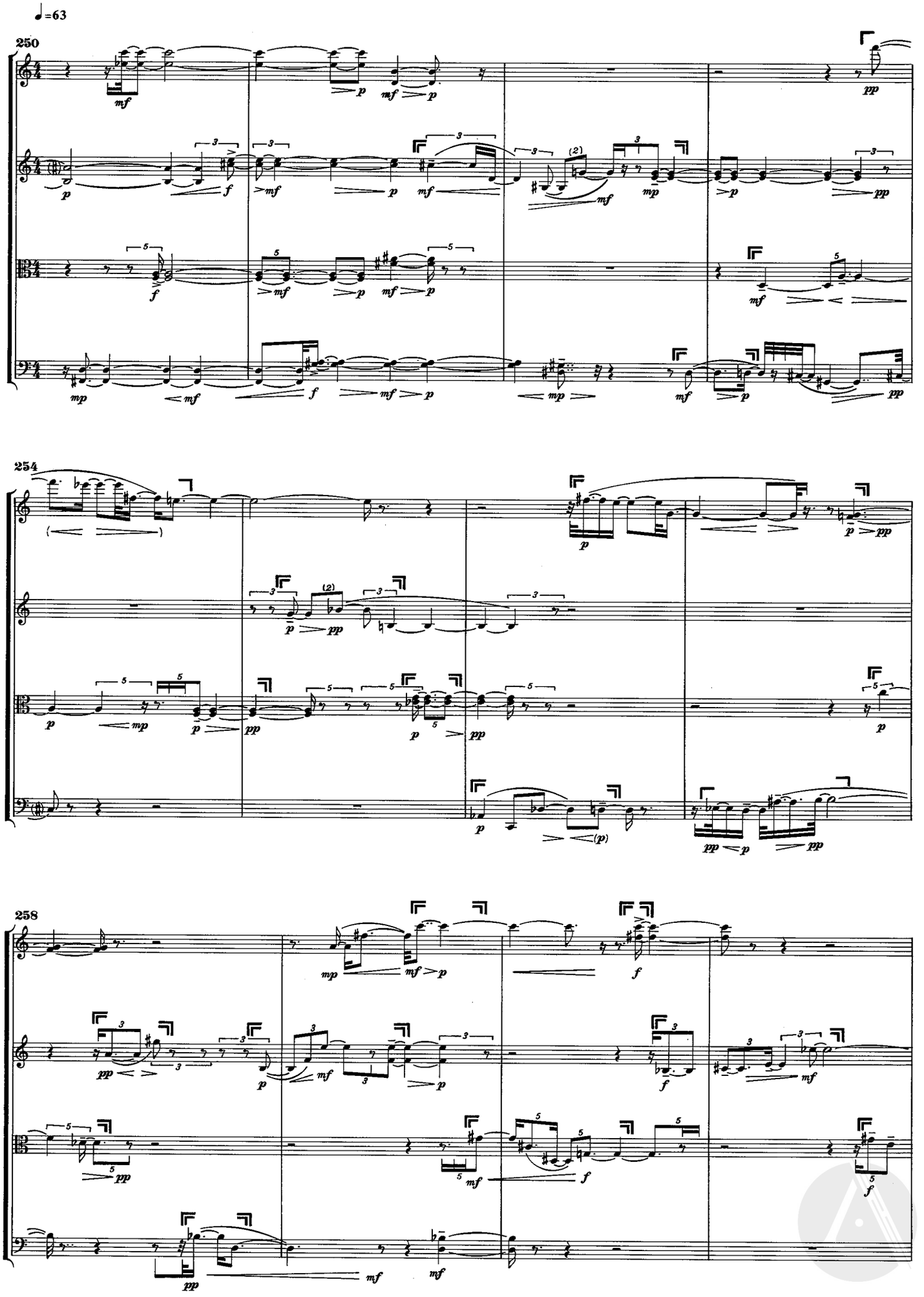

198
arco
pizz.
arco
201
(II)
pizz.
arco
203

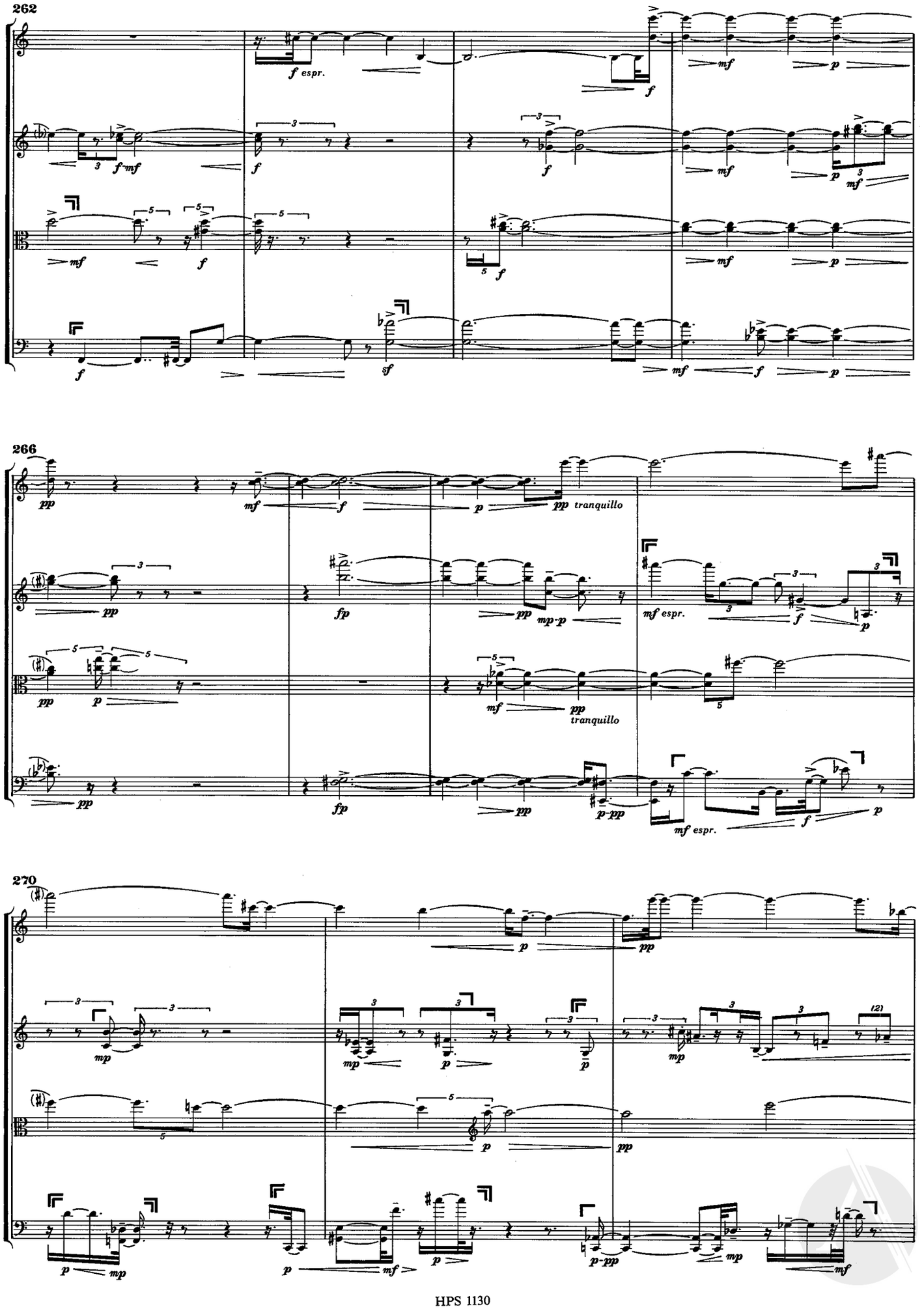

205
207
209
senza sord.
legg.
sub.
marc.

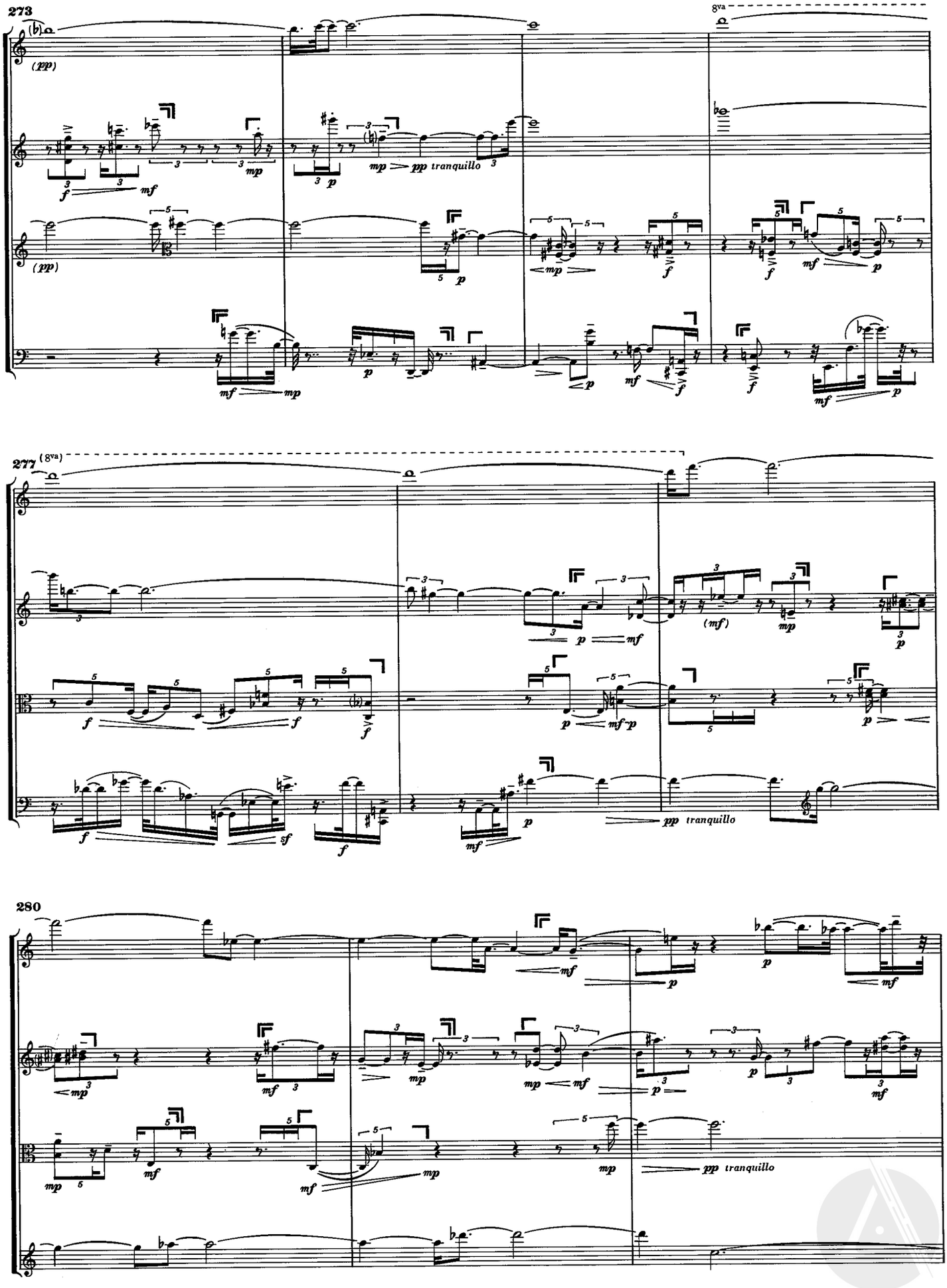

211
senza sord.
Lento (stesso tempo)
214
senza sord.
senza sord.
219
legato
sneak

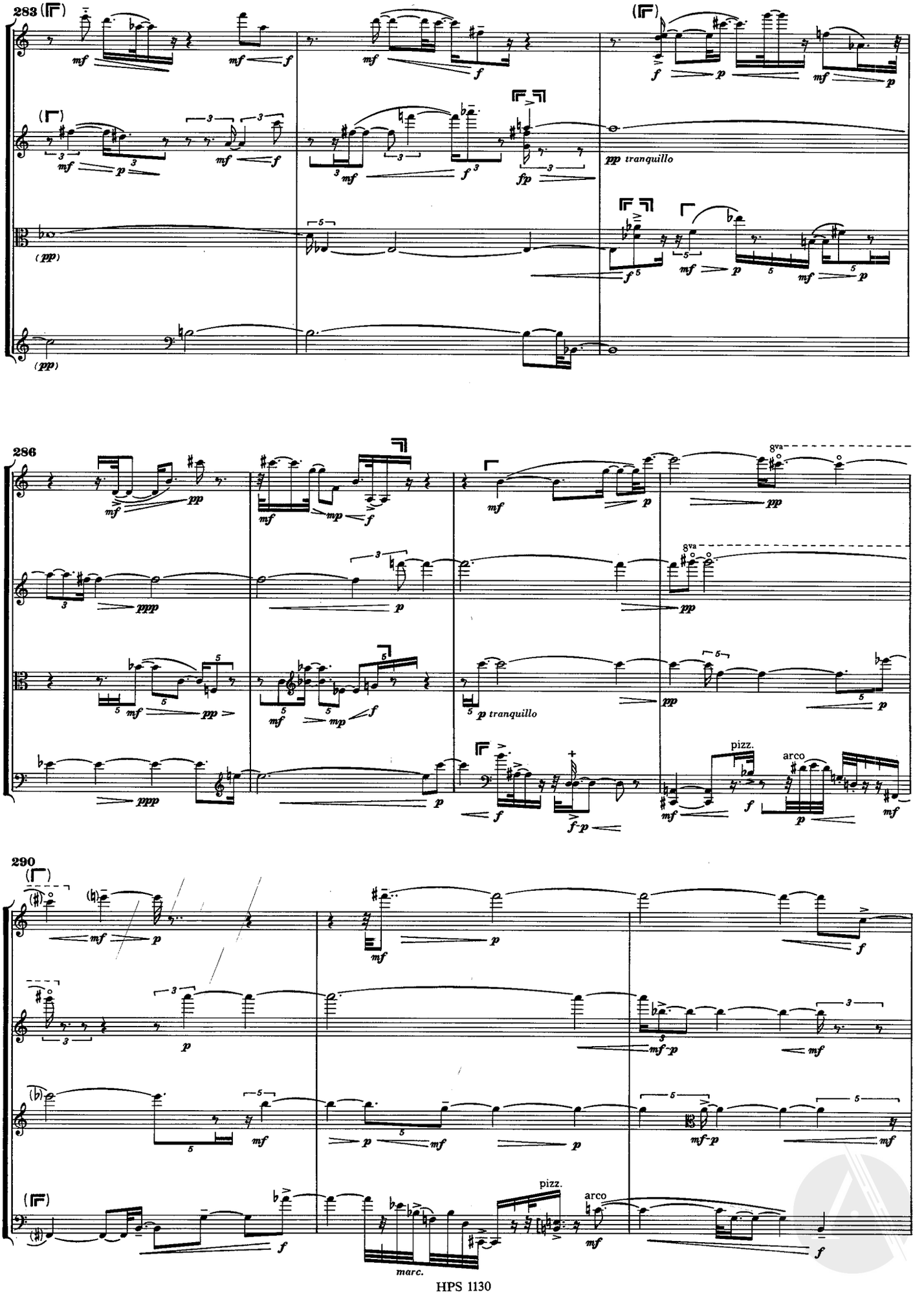

225
229
233

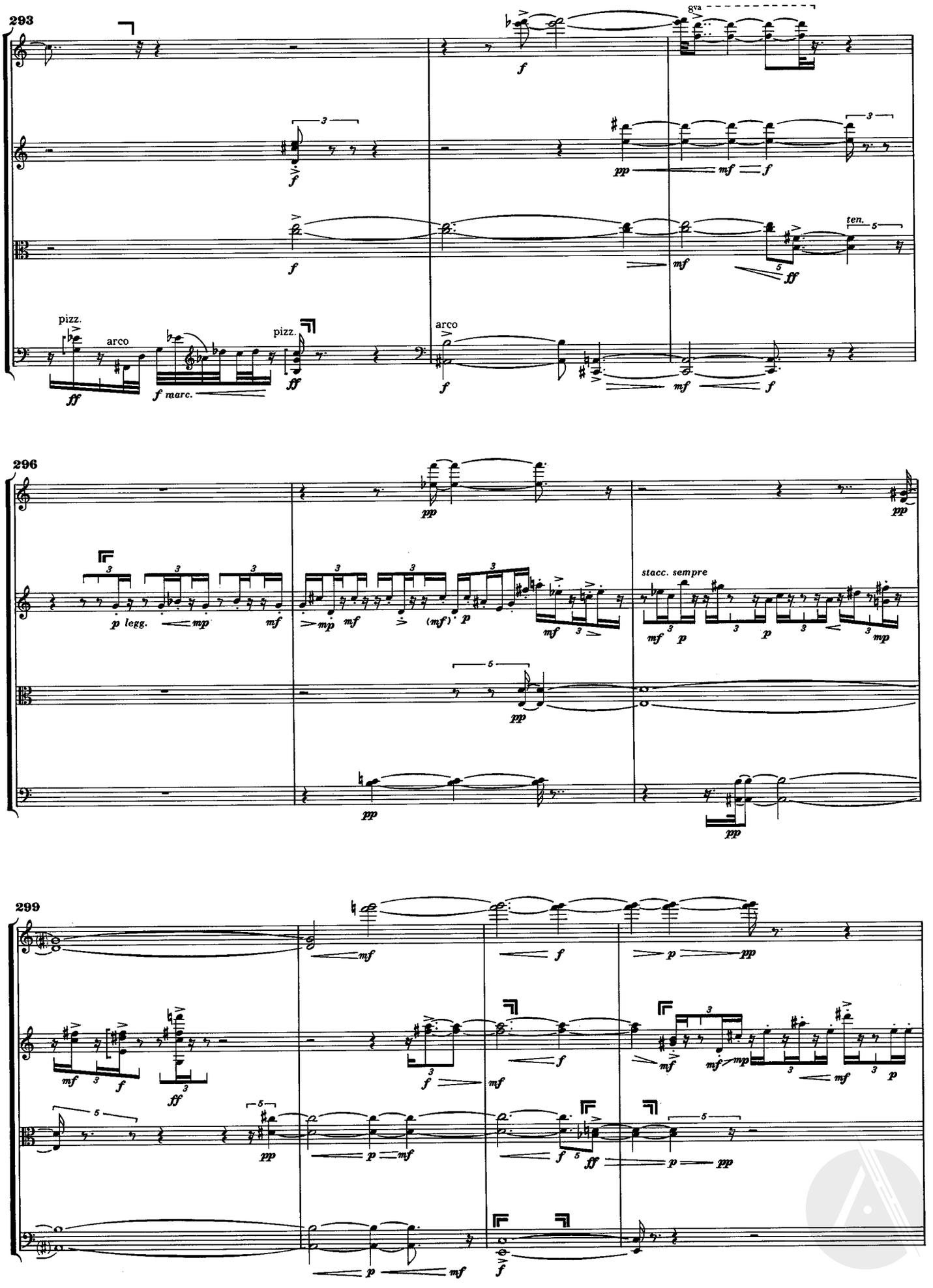

238
mf espr.
p
mf
mf
mp
mp
pp
mf-p
pp
mf legato, espr.
mp
pp
mf > p
243
8va
mf
p
mf
f-mf
mf
p
mf
f
f
pp
p
pp
mf
p
mf
247
p
mf
f
f
mf
f
p
mf
mp
mf pesante
f
p

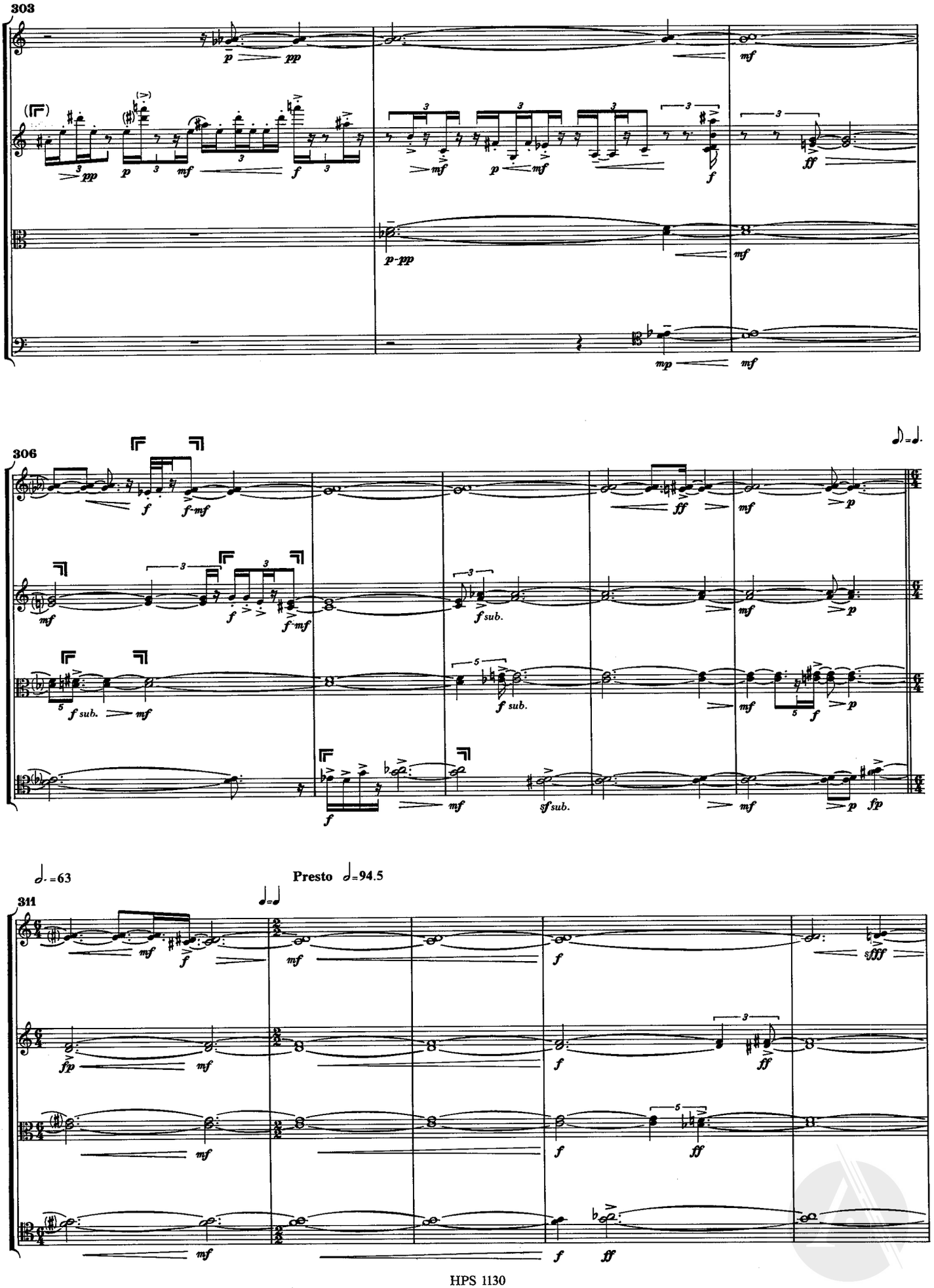

♩=63
250
254
258

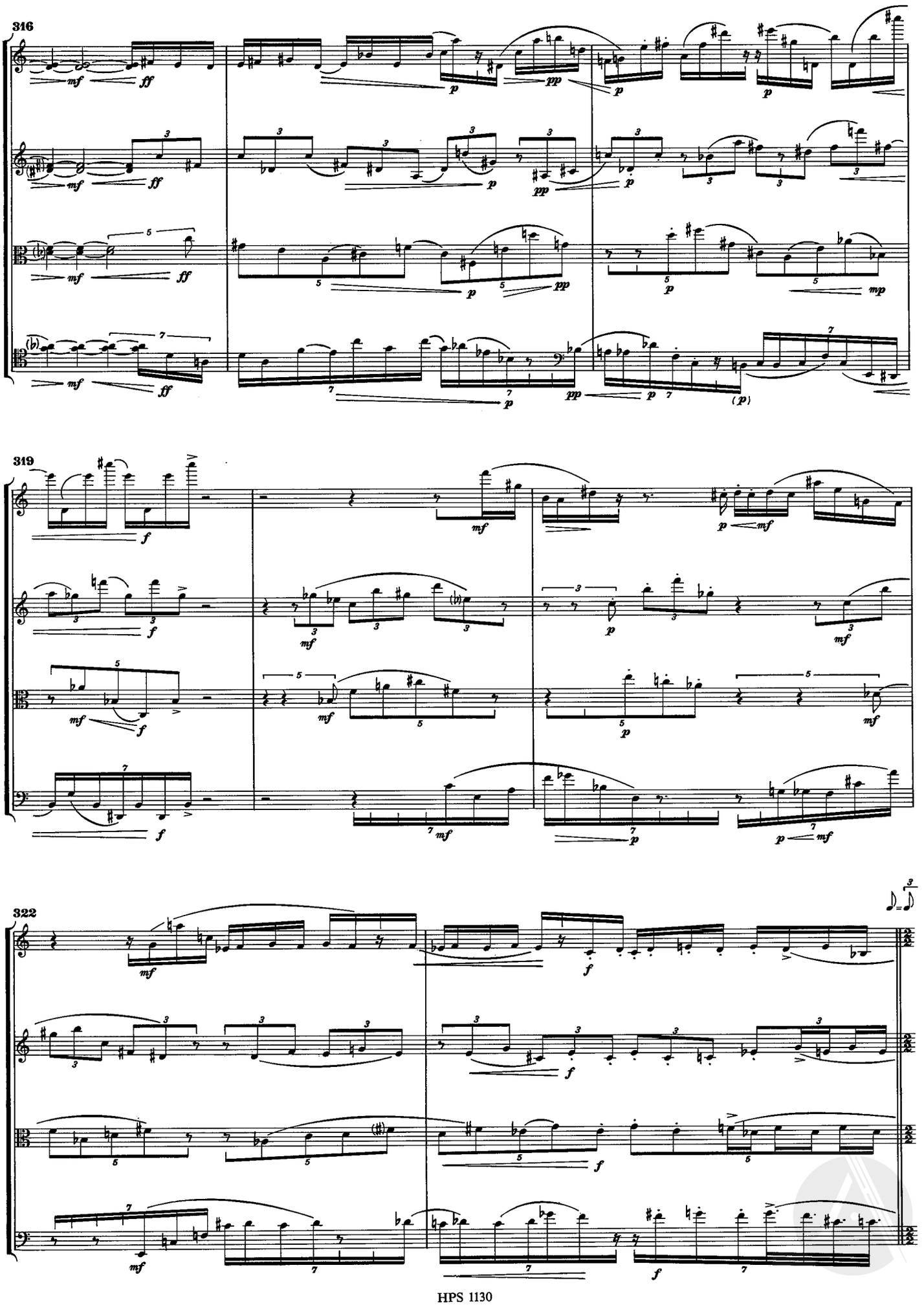

262
f espr.
mf
p
f
mf
p
mf
f
f
mf
p
f
sf
mf
f
p
266
pp
mf
f
p
pp
tranquillo
pp
fp
pp
mp-p
mf espr.
f
p
pp
p
mf
pp
tranquillo
pp
fp
pp
p-pp
mf espr.
f
p
270
p
pp
mp
mp
p
p
mp
(12)
p
pp
p
mf
p
p-pp
mp
mf

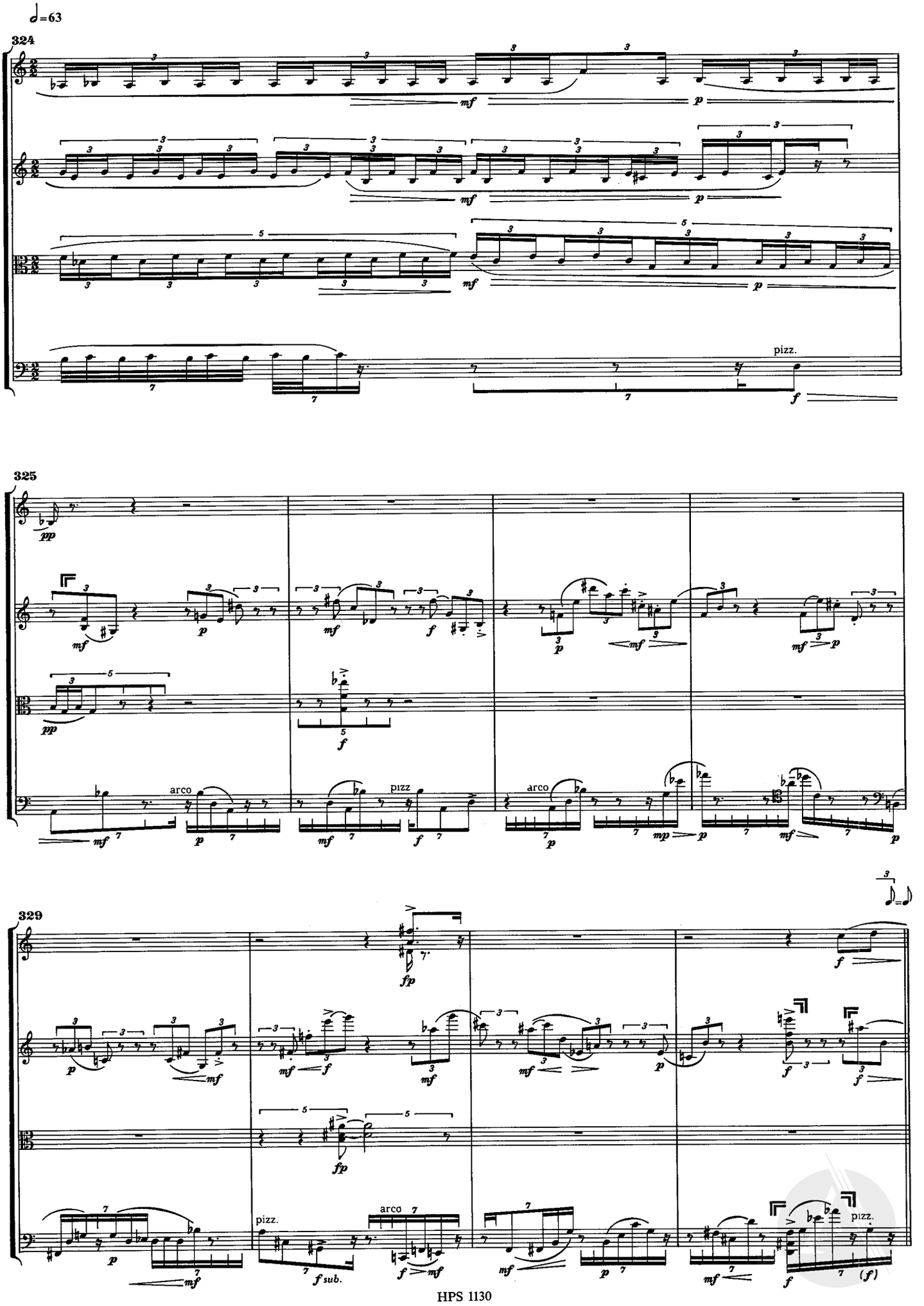

273
8va
(pp)
mf
mp
p
mp pp tranquillo
277 (8va)
(mf)
pp tranquillo
280
pp tranquillo

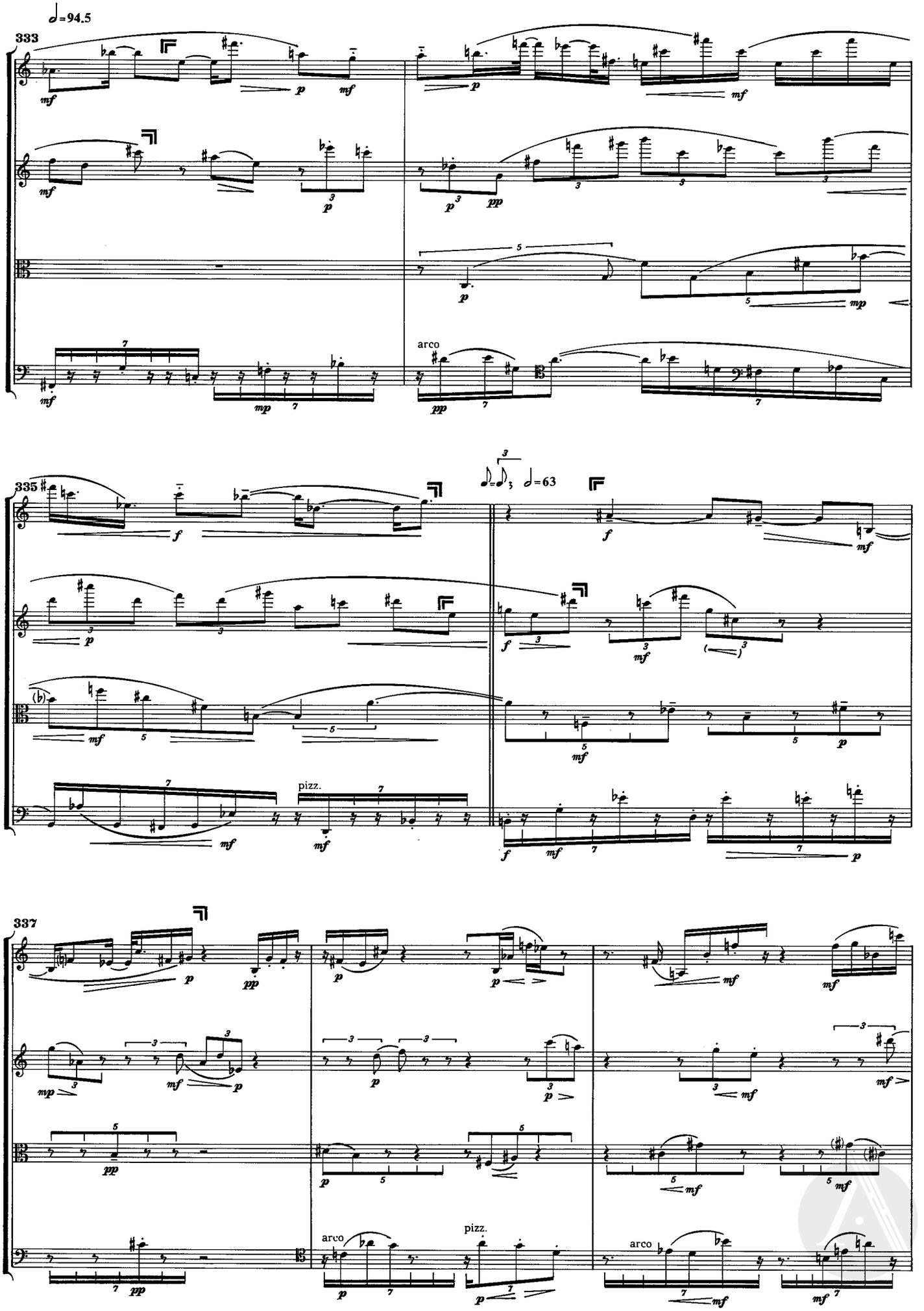

283
286
290
pp tranquillo
p tranquillo
pizz.
arco
marc.

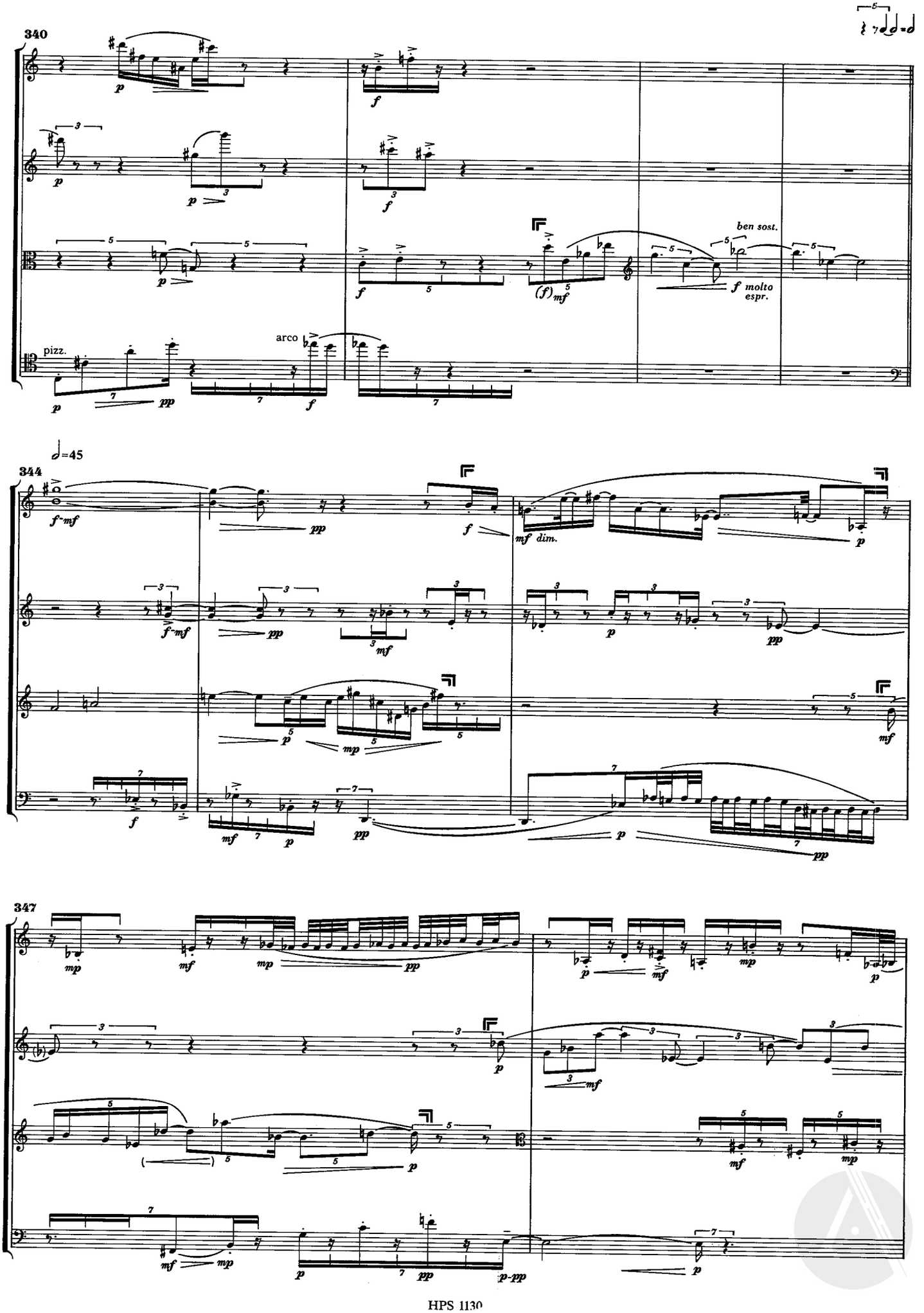

293
8va
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
ten.
296
stacc. sempre
299

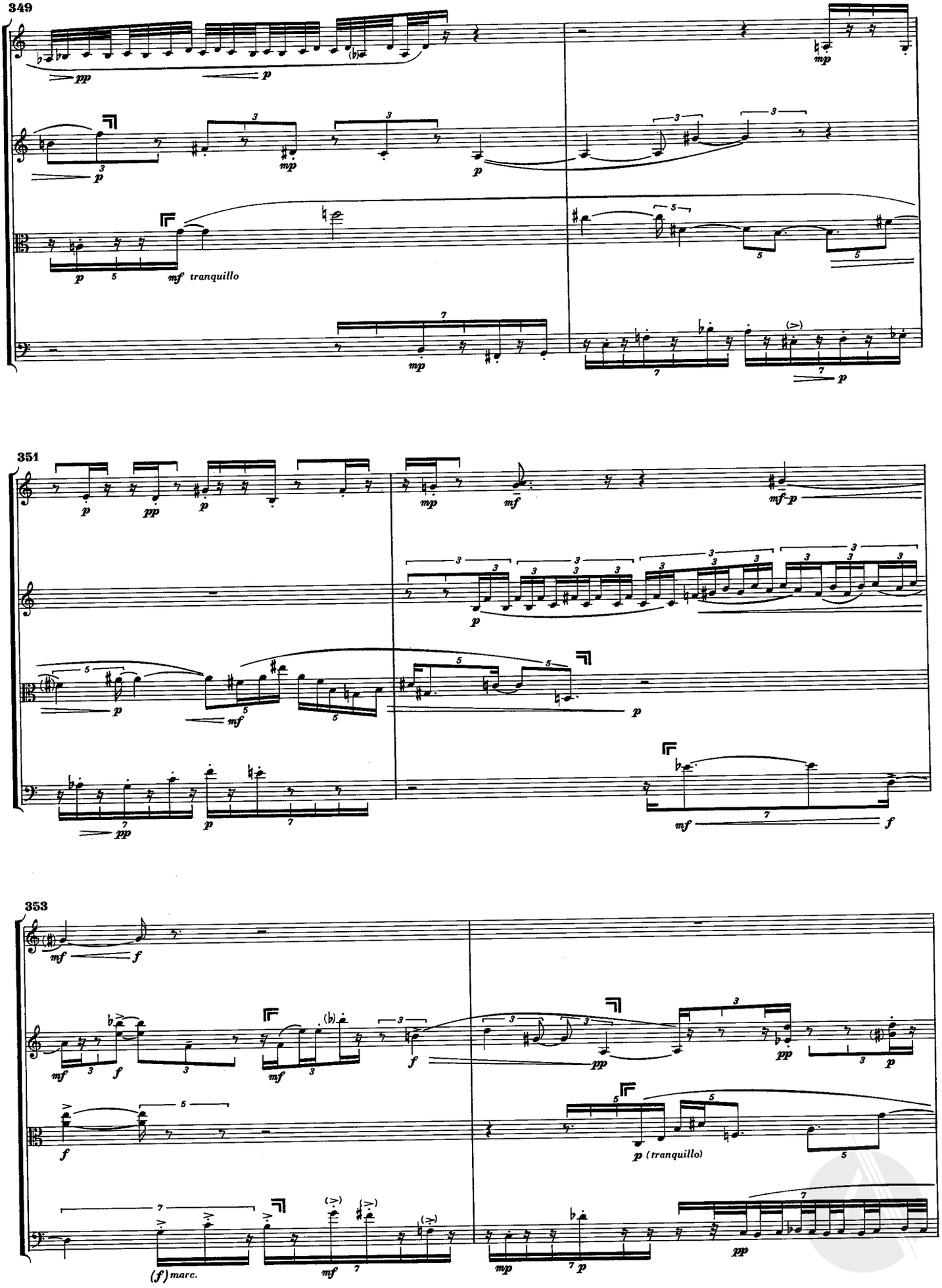

303
306
311
Presto ♩=94.5

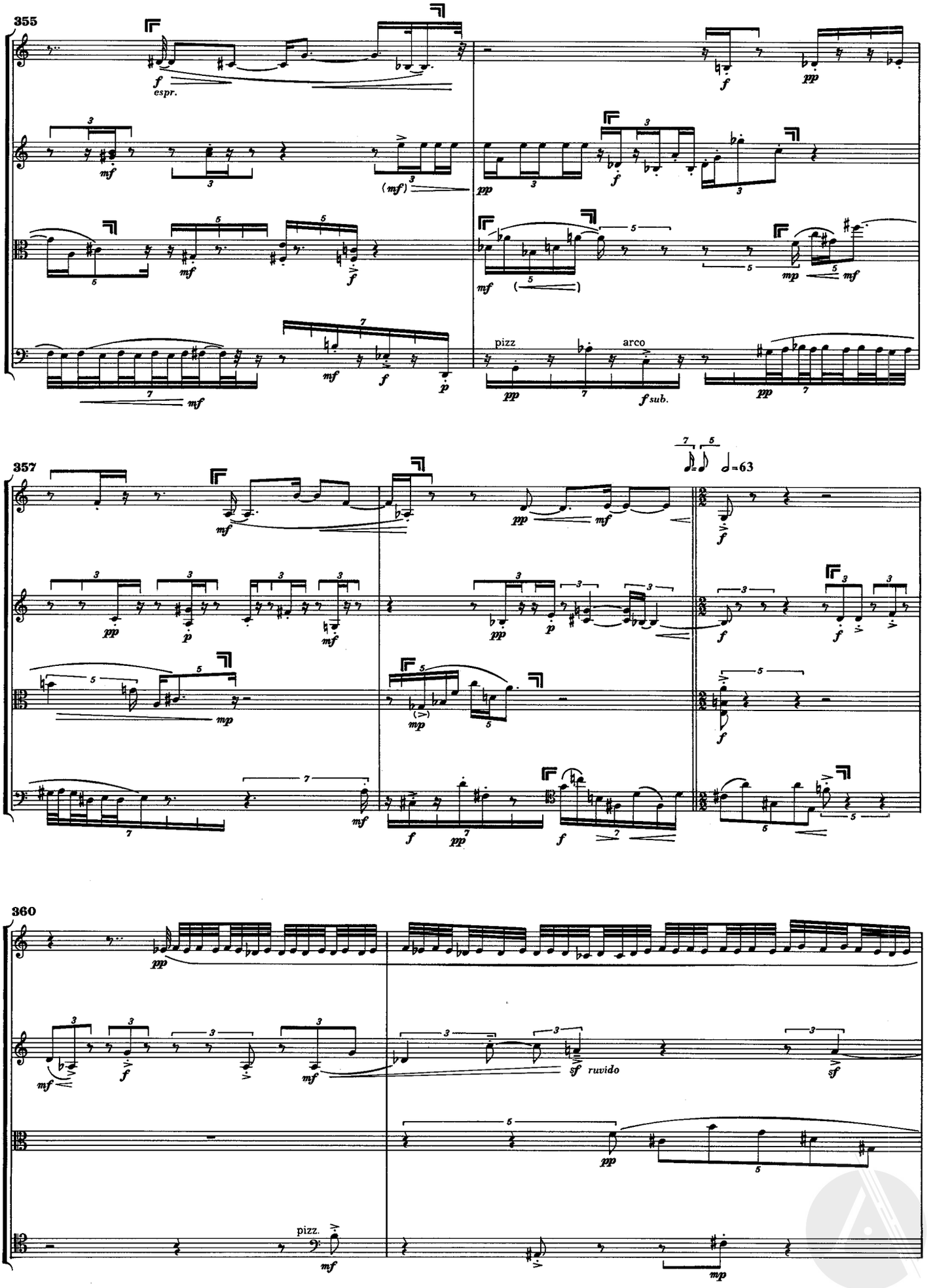

316
319
322

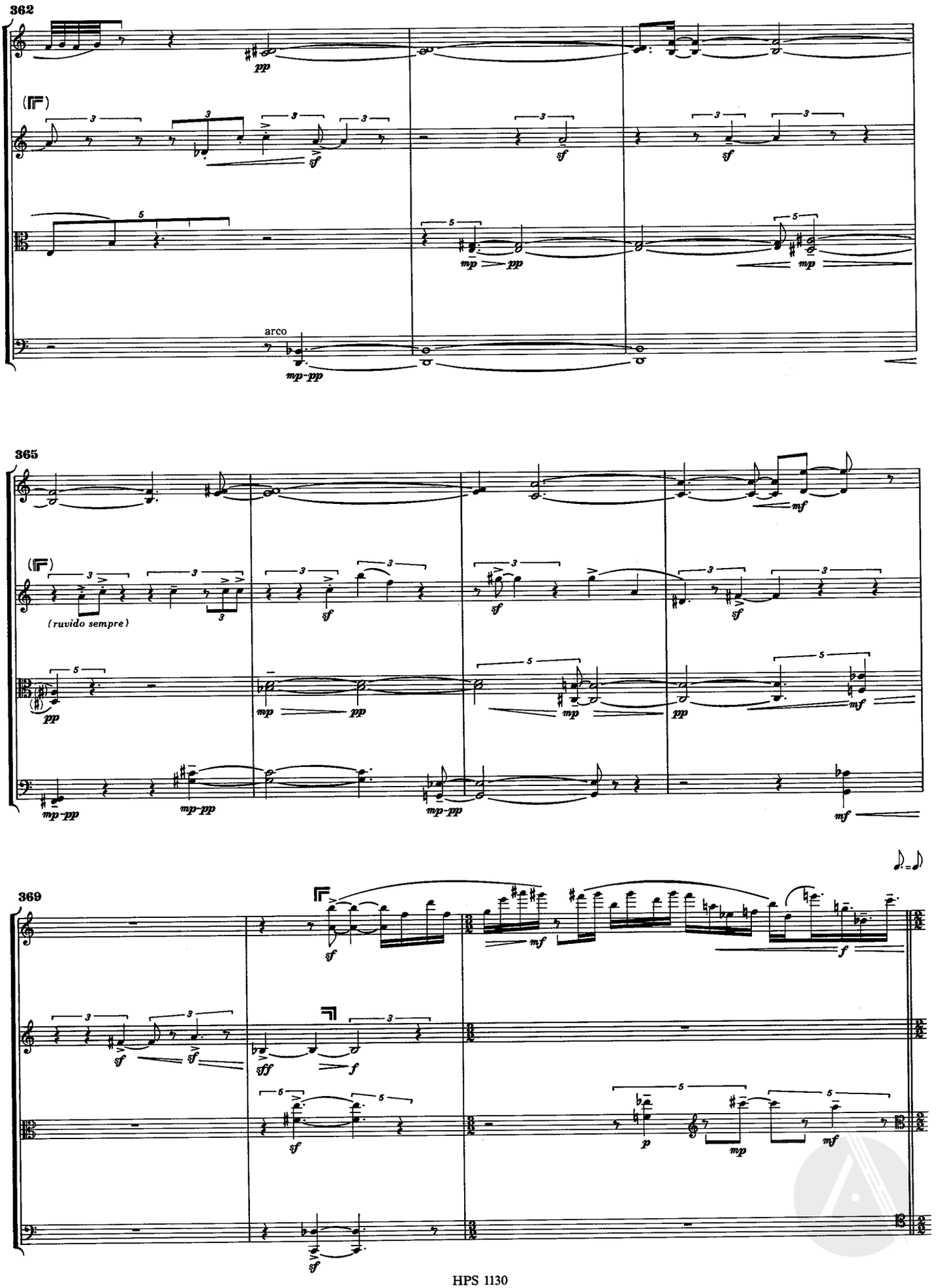

♩=63
324
pizz.
325
arco
pizz
arco
329
pizz.
arco
pizz.

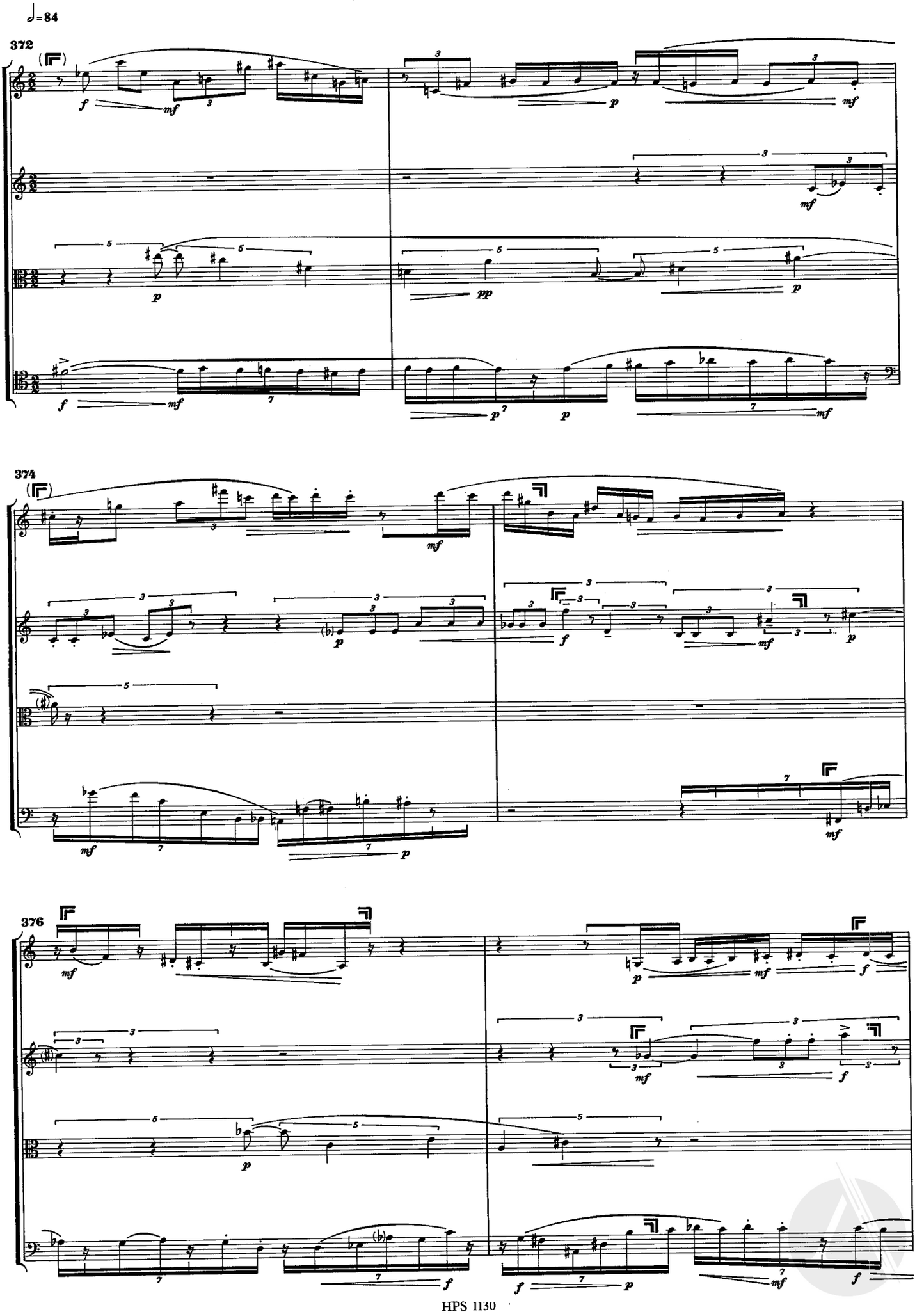

♩=94.5
333
arco
335
♪=♪; ♩=63
pizz.
337
arco
pizz.
arco

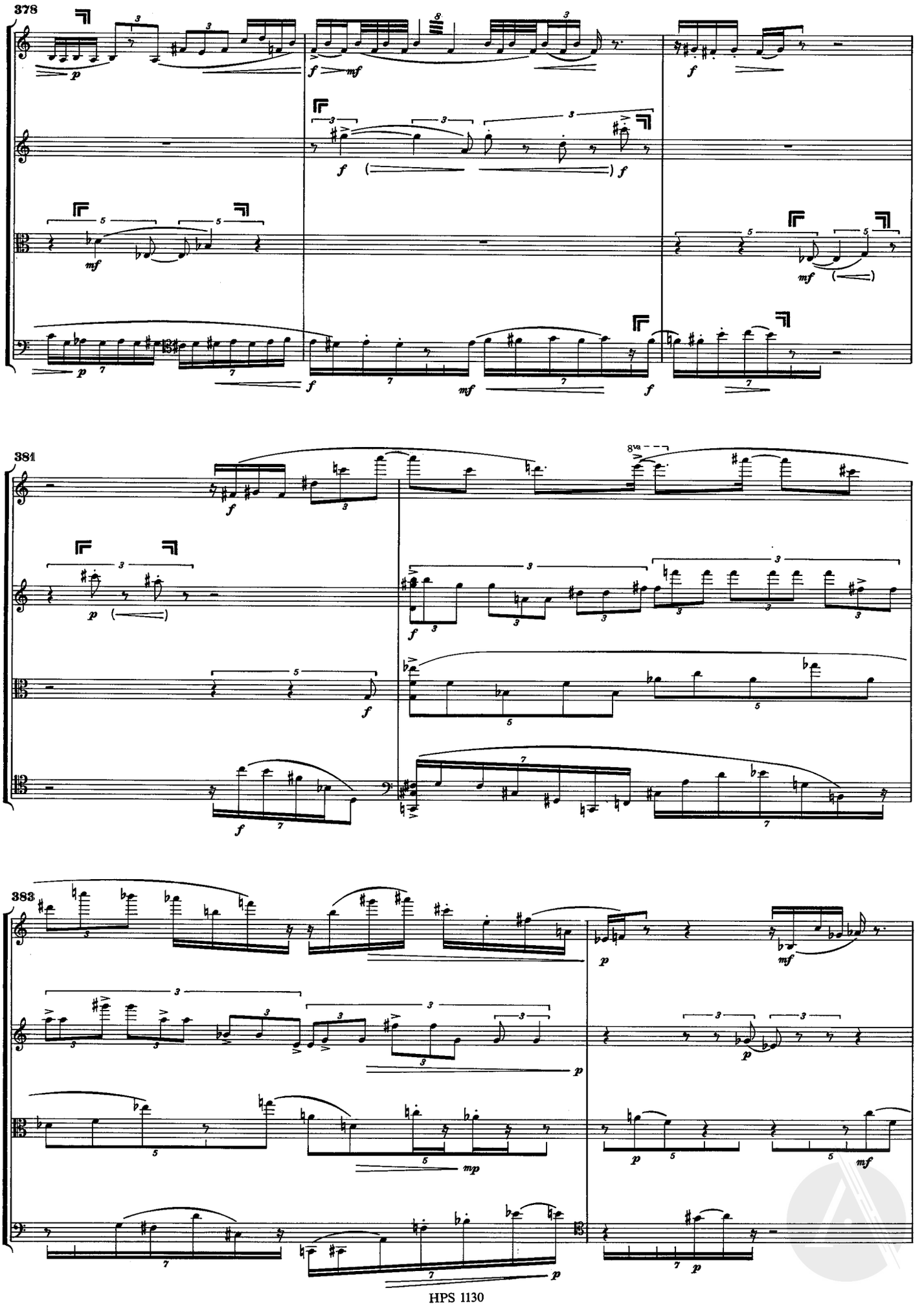

340
pizz.
arco
ben sost.
f molto espr.
344
♩=45
347

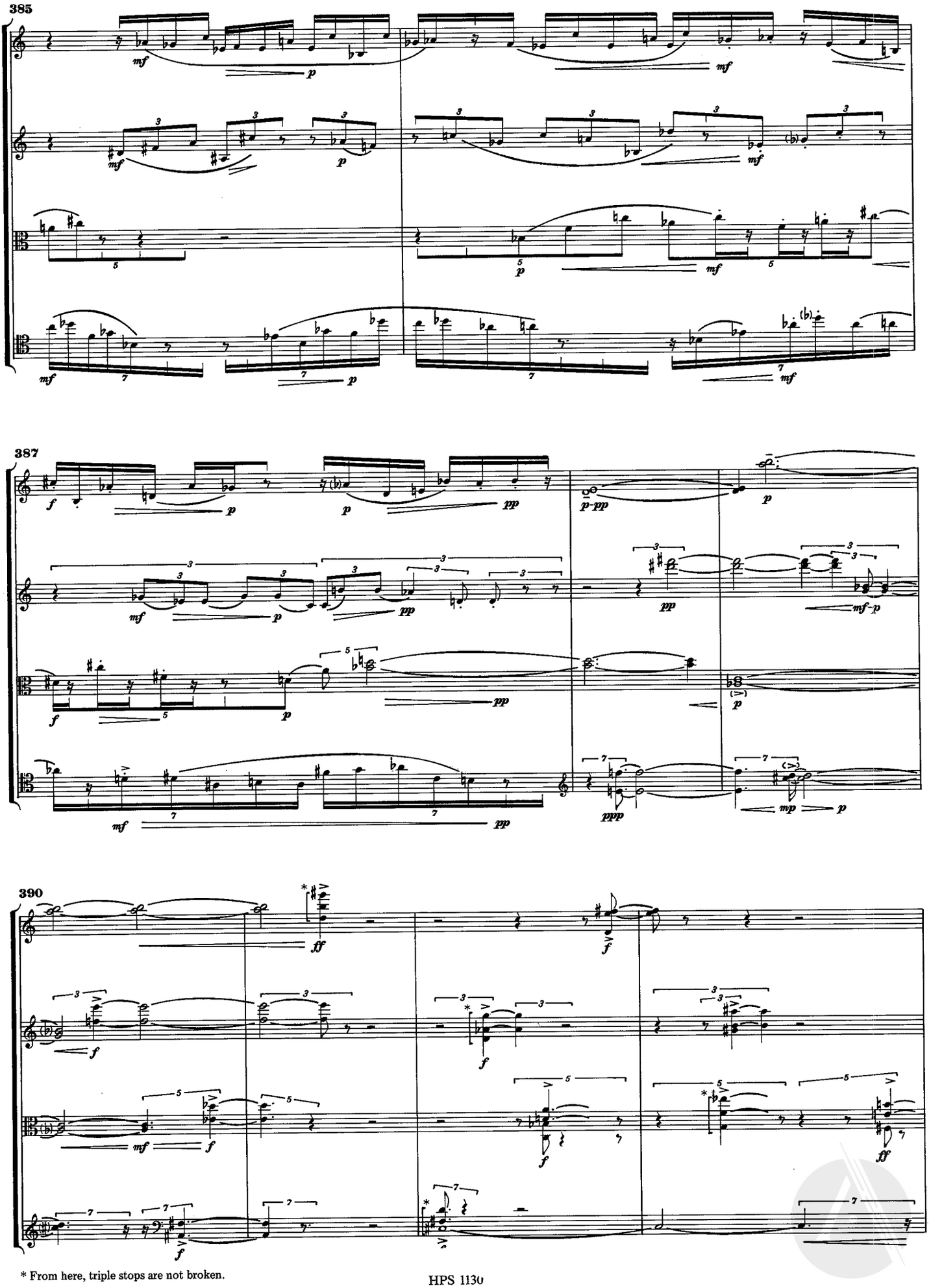

349
pp
p
mp
p
mf tranquillo
mp
p
351
p
pp
p
mp
mf
mf-p
p
mf
p
pp
p
mf
f
353
mf
f
mf
f
pp
pp
f
p (tranquillo)
(f) marc.
mf
mp
p
pp

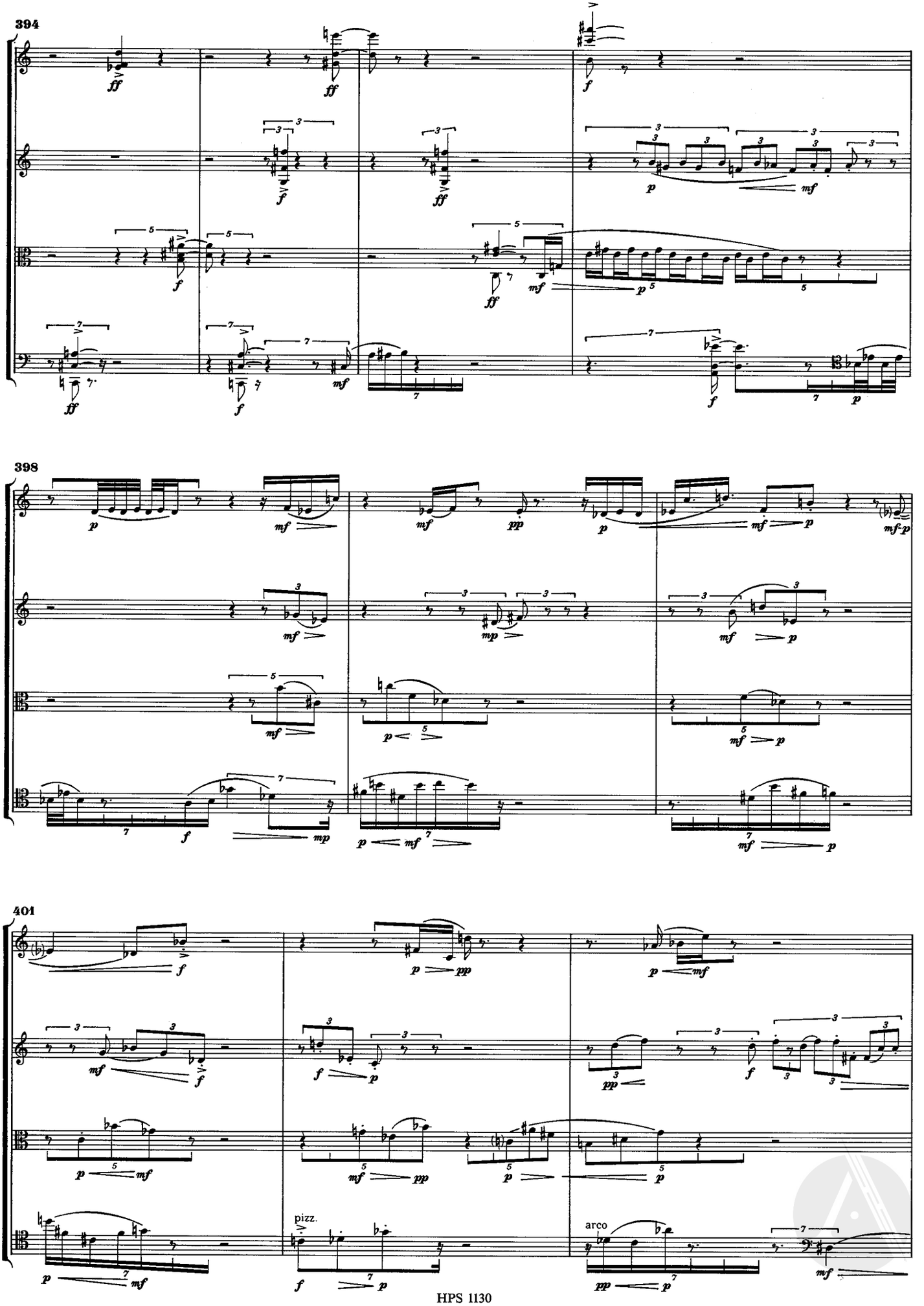

355
357
360
pizz
arco
ruvido
pizz.
HPS 1130

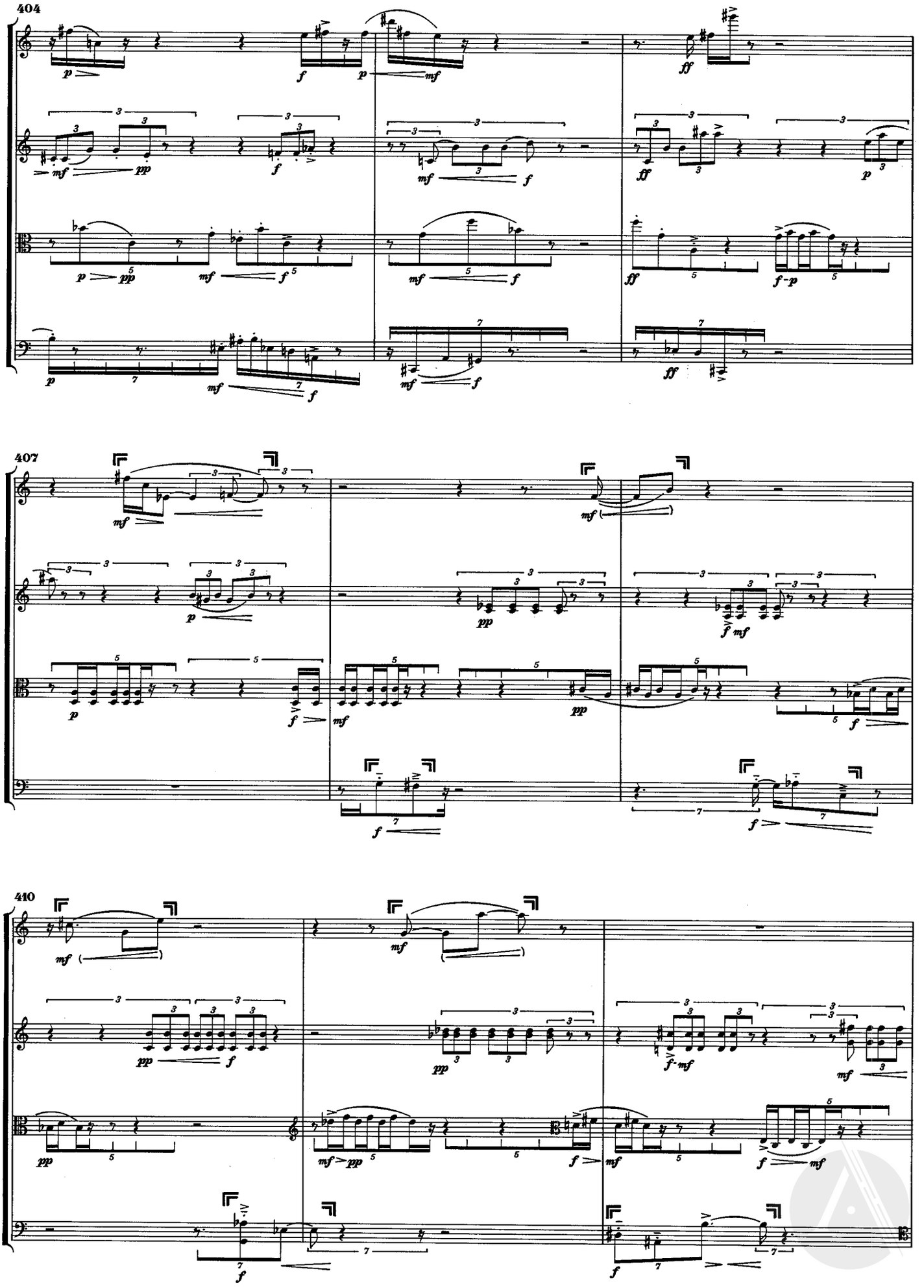

362
365
369
arco
(ruvido sempre)

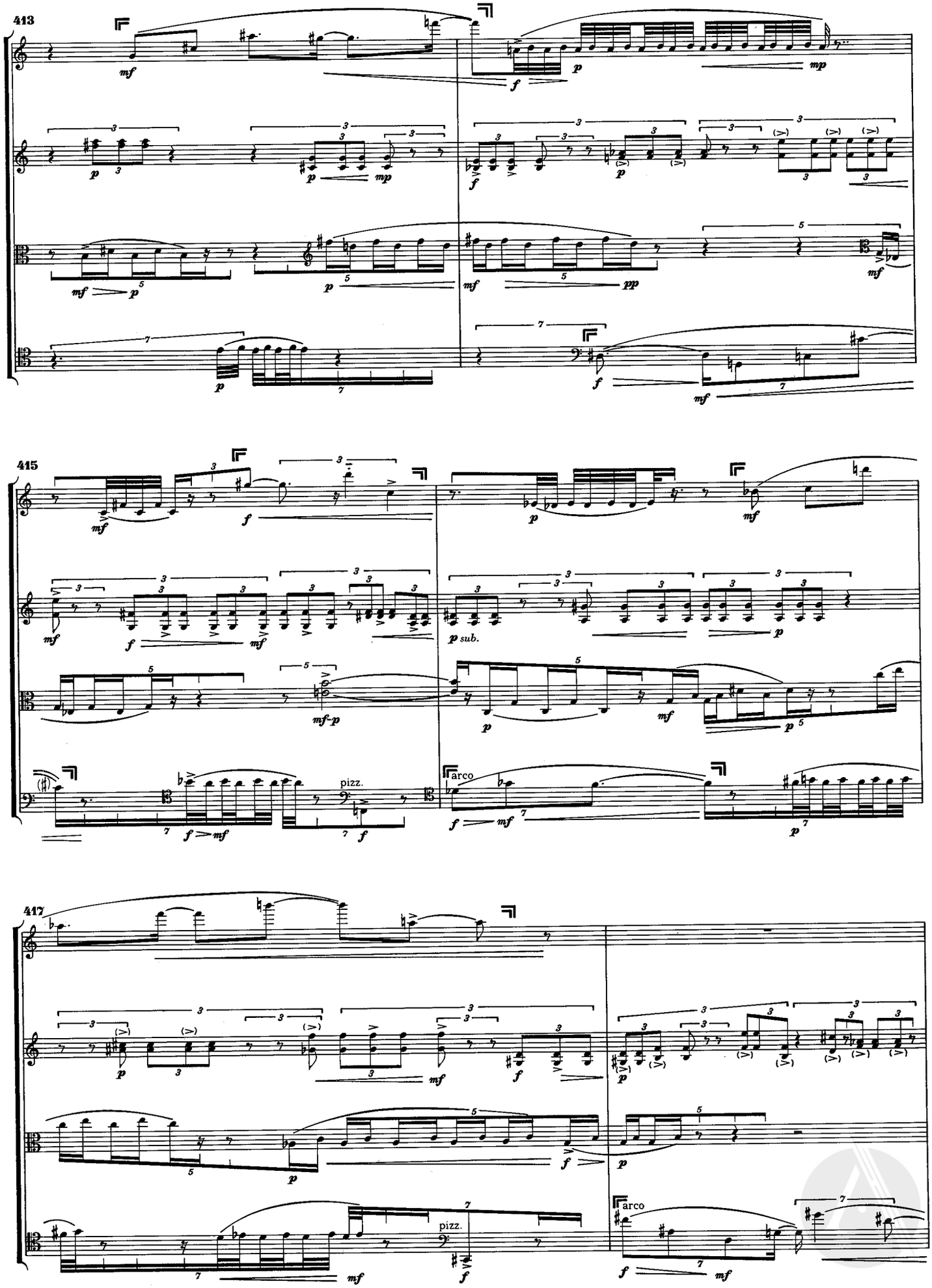

♩=84
372
374
376

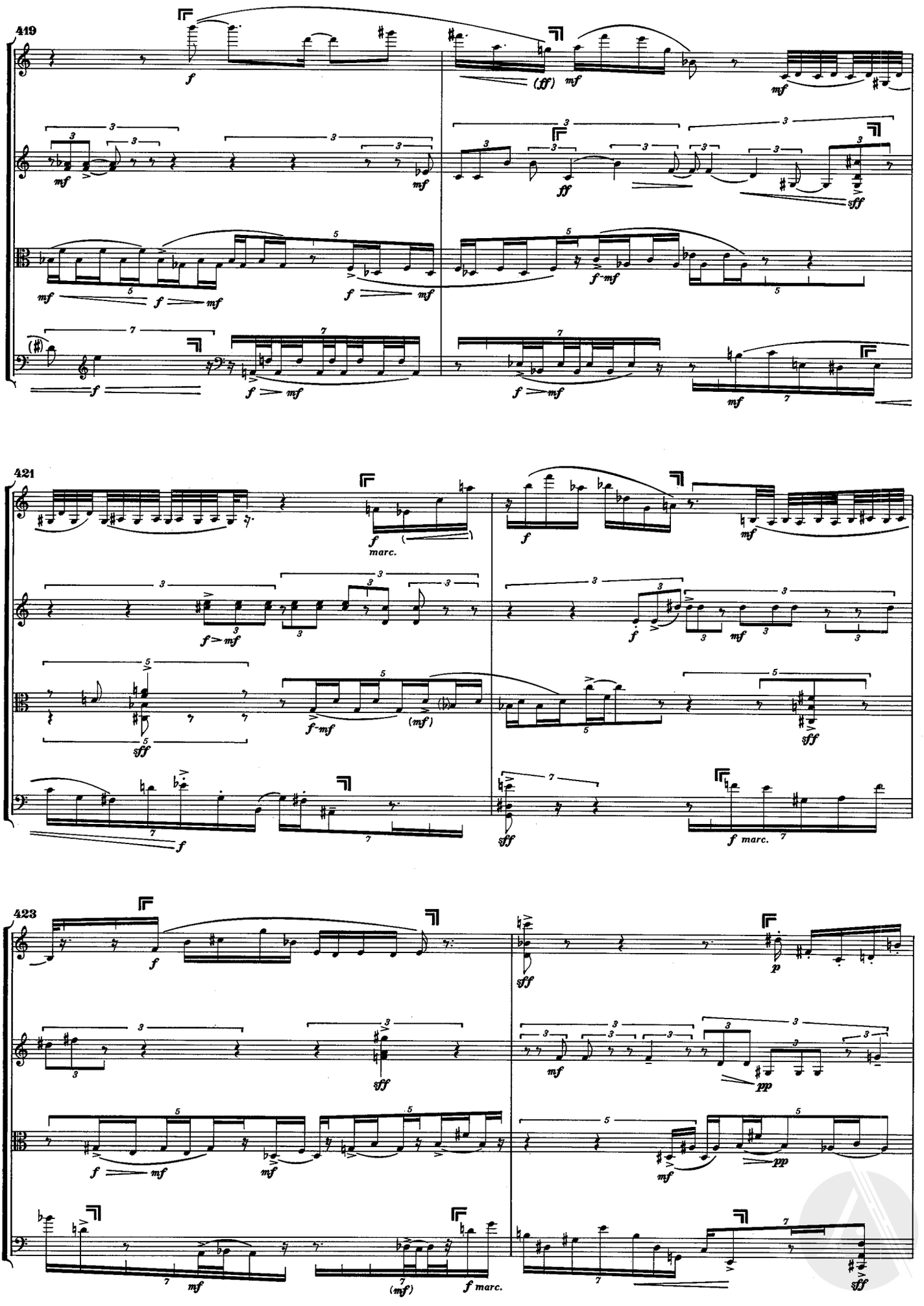

378
381
383
8va
HPS 1130

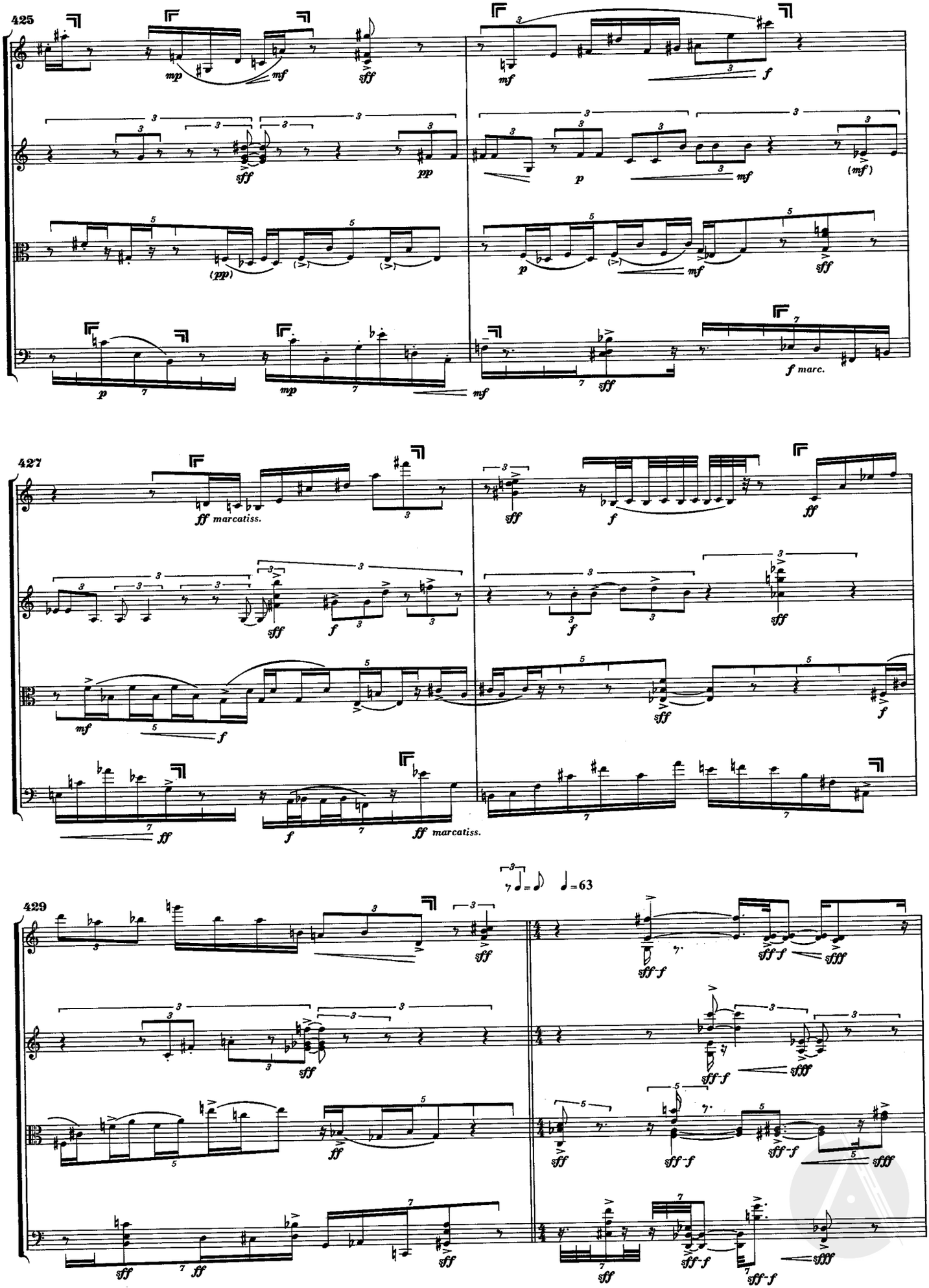

385
387
390
* From here, triple stops are not broken.

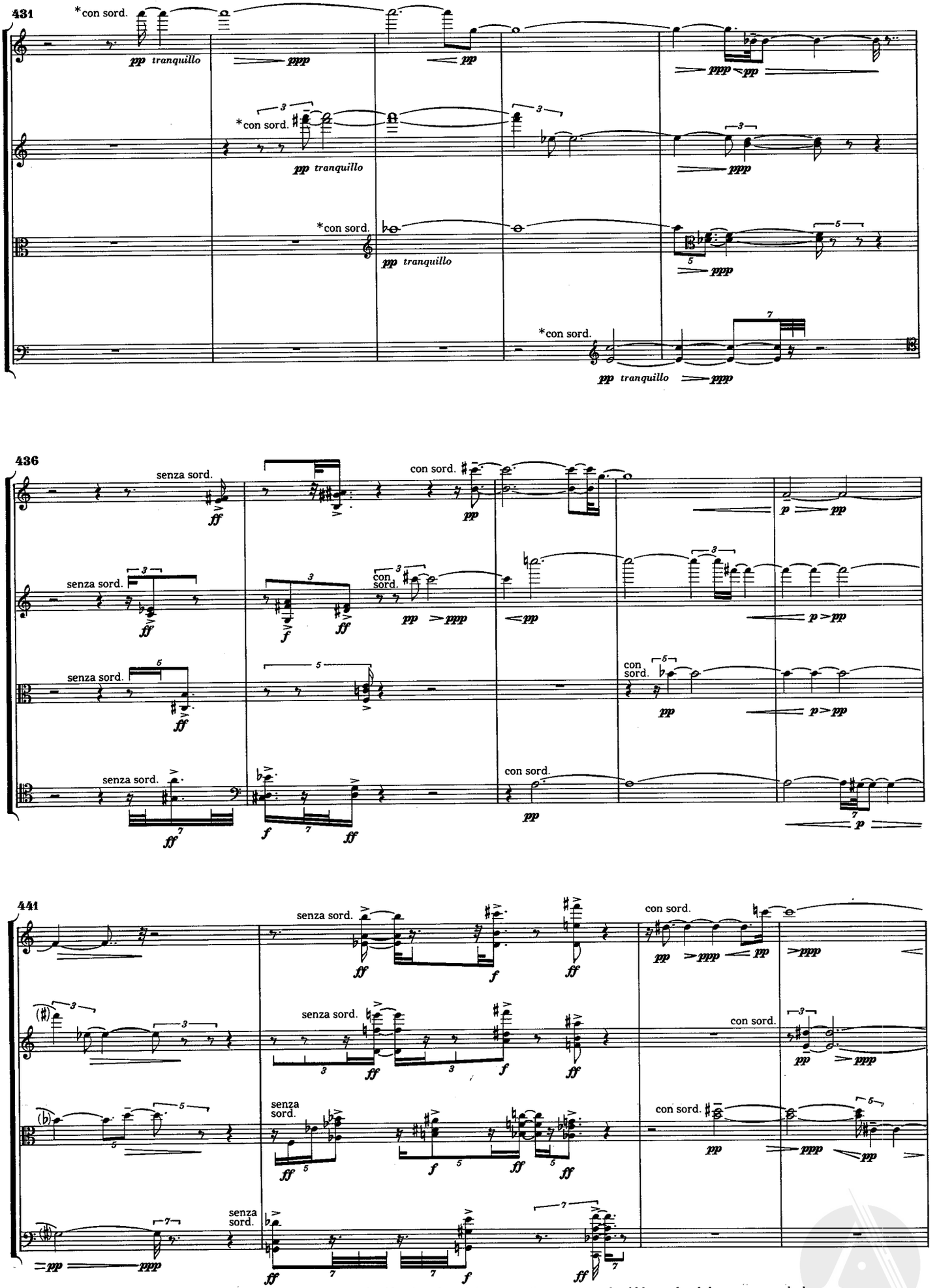

394
398
401
pizz.
arco


404
407
410

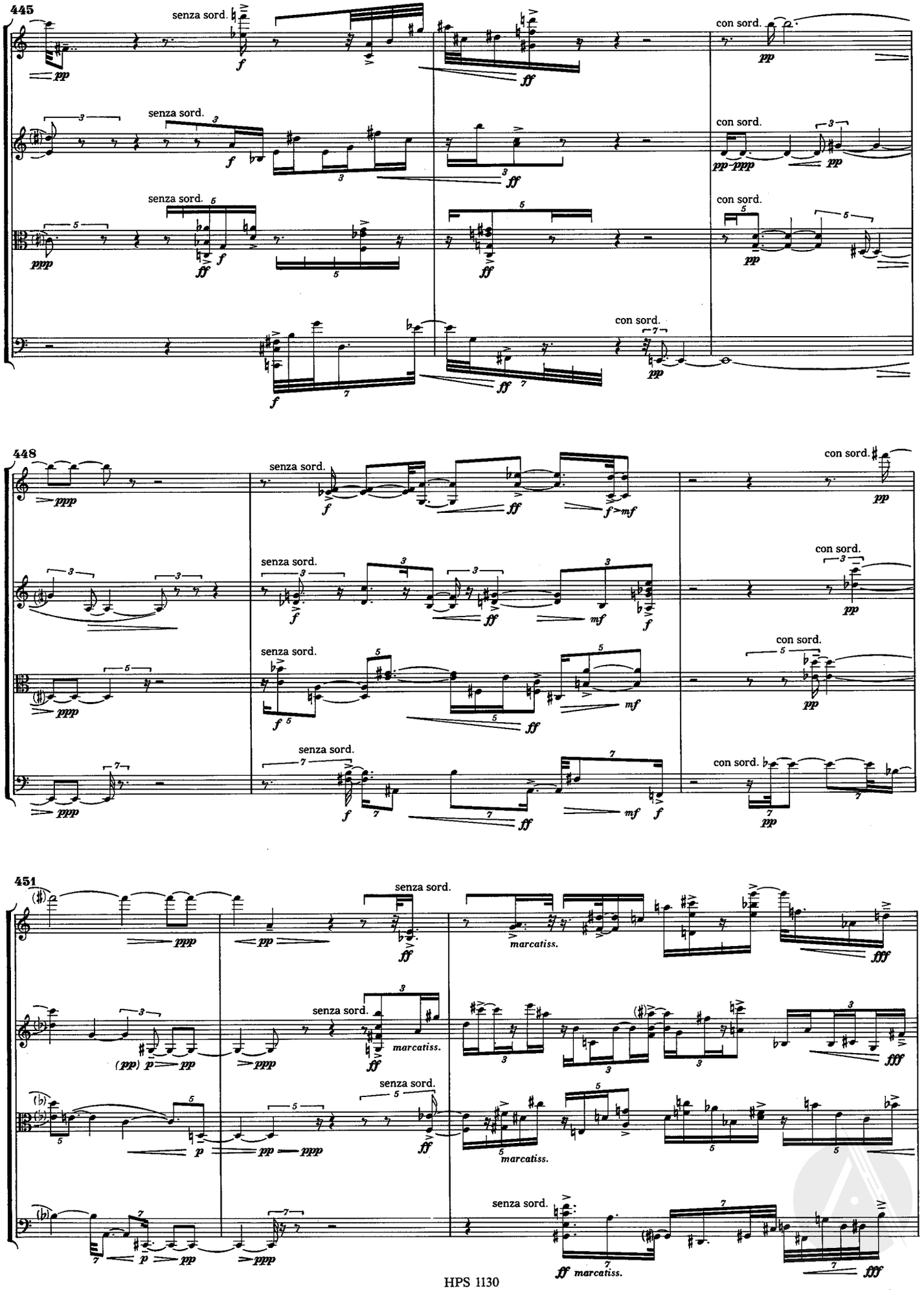

413
415
417
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco

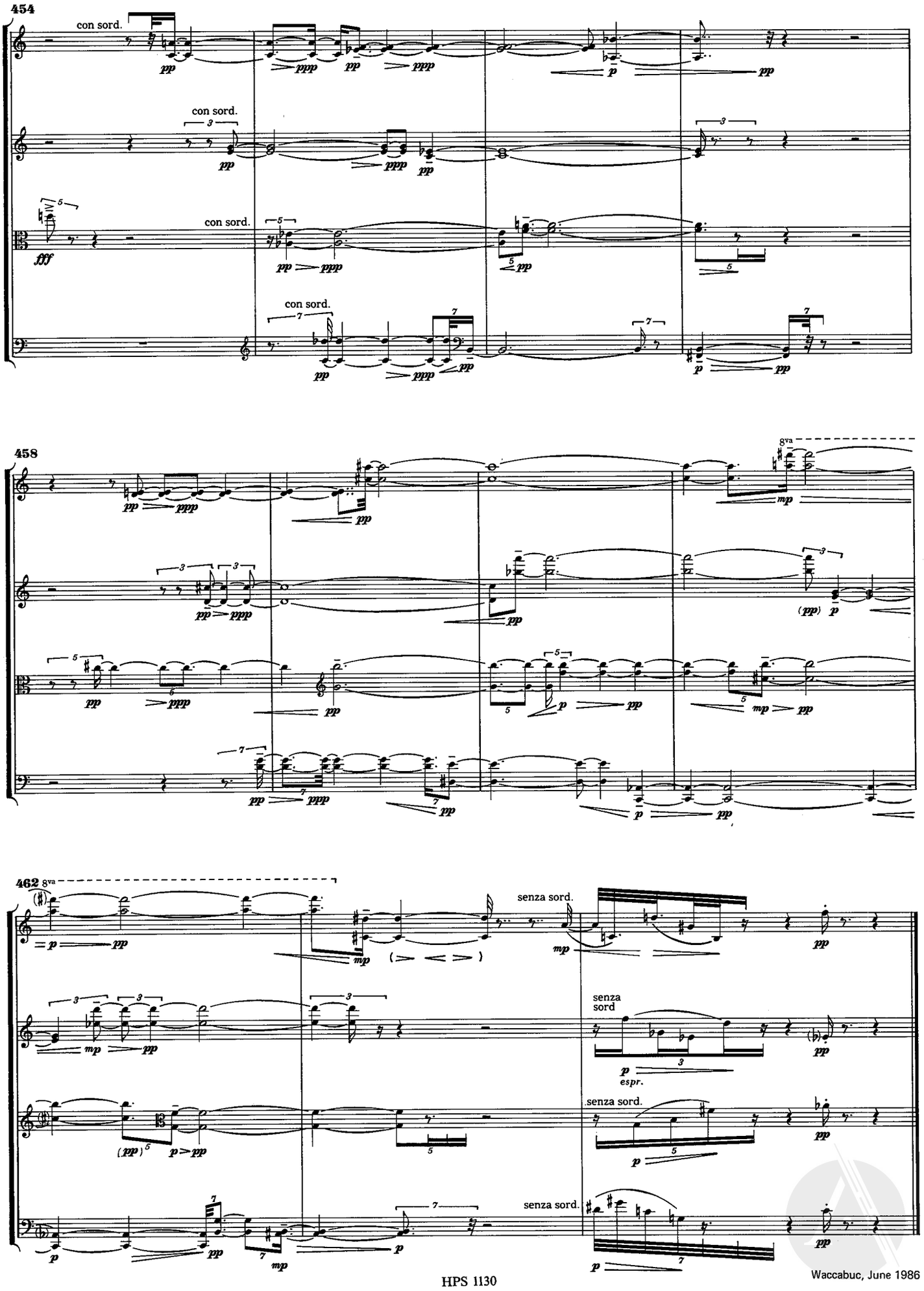

419
421
423


425
427
429
ff marcatiss.
f marc.
ff marcatiss.
= 63



* From 431 to end: If placing and removing of mutes requires considerable relaxation of the tempo, then no mutes should be used and the passages marked *con sordino* should be performed *sul tasto* and those marked *senza sordino* in the normal bow position.


445
senza sord.
con sord.
448
451
marcatiss.



Waccabuc, June 1986

ELLIOTT CARTER

IN SLEEP, IN THUNDER (1981) Six Poems of Robert Lowell *for tenor and 14 instruments*	21′
TRIPLE DUO (1983) *for flute (doubling piccolo), clarinet (doubling E-flat and bass clarinets), percussion, piano, violin and cello*	20′
CHANGES (1983) *for guitar*	7′
CANON FOR 4 (1984) "Homage to William" *for flute, bass clarinet, violin and cello*	4′
RICONOSCENZA PER GOFFREDO PETRASSI (1984) *for solo violin*	4′
ESPRIT RUDE / ESPRIT DOUX (1984) Pour Pierre Boulez *for flute and B-flat clarinet*	4′
PENTHODE (1985) *for five groups of four instrumentalists*	18′
STRING QUARTET NO. 4 (1986)	24′
THREE OCCASIONS *for orchestra*	16′
A Celebration of Some 100 x 150 Notes (1986)	3′
Remembrance (1988)	7′
Anniversary (1989)	6′
OBOE CONCERTO (1987)	20′
ENCHANTED PRELUDES (1988) *for flute and cello*	6′
BIRTHDAY FLOURISH (1988) *for five trumpets or brass quintet*	1′
VIOLIN CONCERTO (1990)	26′
CON LEGGEREZZA PENSOSA (1990) Omaggio a Italo Calvino *for B-flat clarinet, violin and cello*	5′
SCRIVO IN VENTO (1991) *for flute alone*	5′
QUINTET (1991) *for piano and winds*	20′
TRILOGY (1992)	15′
Bariolage *for solo harp*	5′
Inner Song *for solo oboe*	5′
Immer Neu *for oboe and harp*	5′

BOOSEY & HAWKES