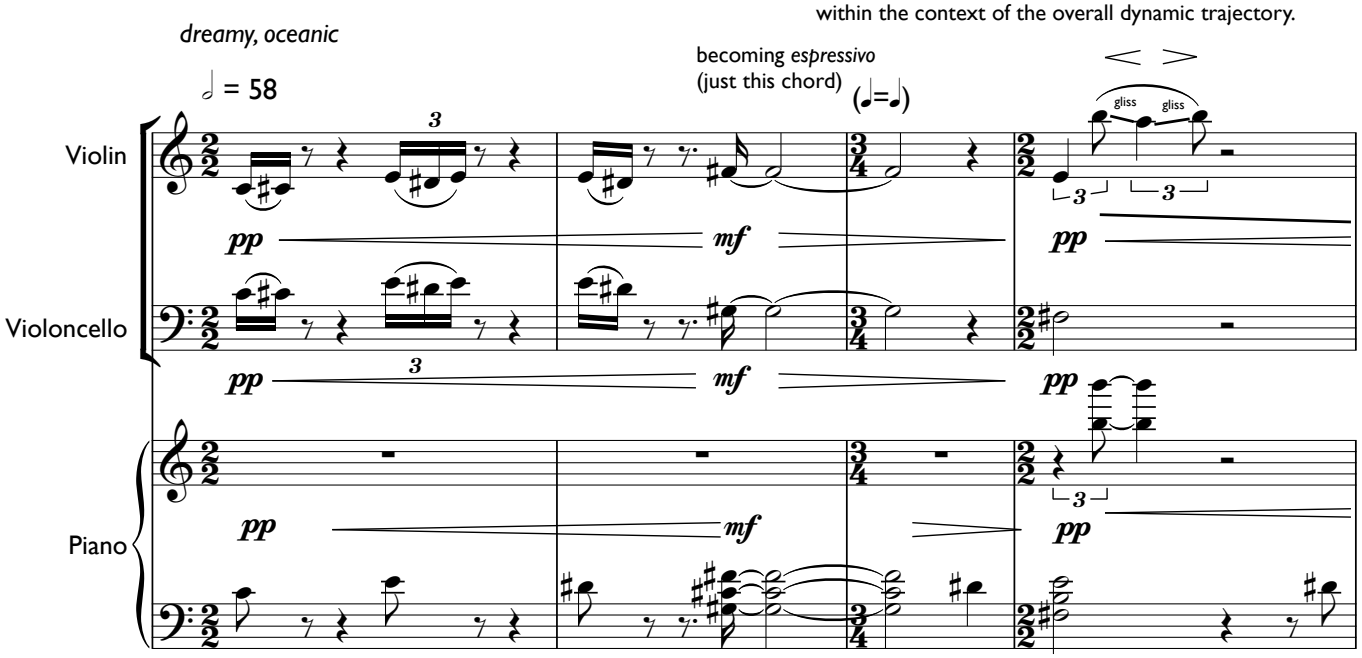
Bowheads

commissioned for the Kapten Trio
by Enterprise Music Scotland

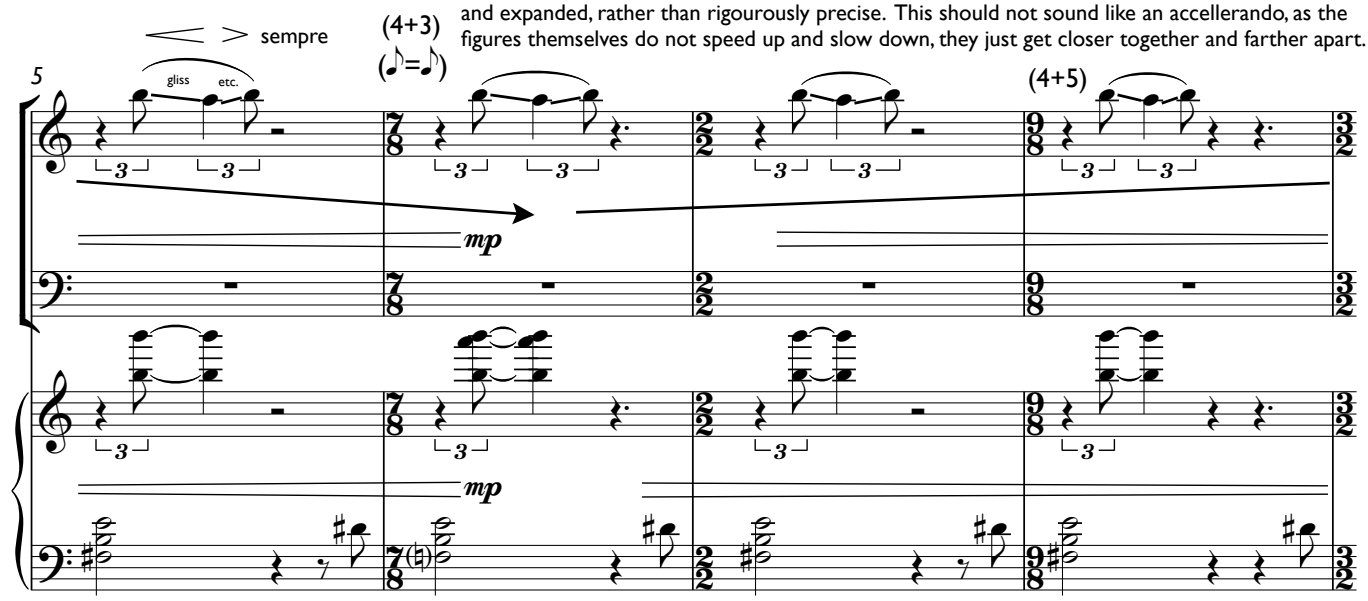
I. dreamy, oceanic

Emily Doolittle, 2019

The B is always a B (though can waver a bit.). The first note written as A is a bit sharp (even an A# or higher), getting gradually flatter with each repetition until the A in m. 6 (which can be an in-tune A or lower), and coming back up towards m. 9. The B-A-B figure so it has a slight cresc./decresc. shape within the context of the overall dynamic trajectory.



The diminishing and augmenting measure lengths should sound like time is being compressed and expanded, rather than rigourously precise. This should not sound like an accellerando, as the figures themselves do not speed up and slow down, they just get closer together and farther apart.



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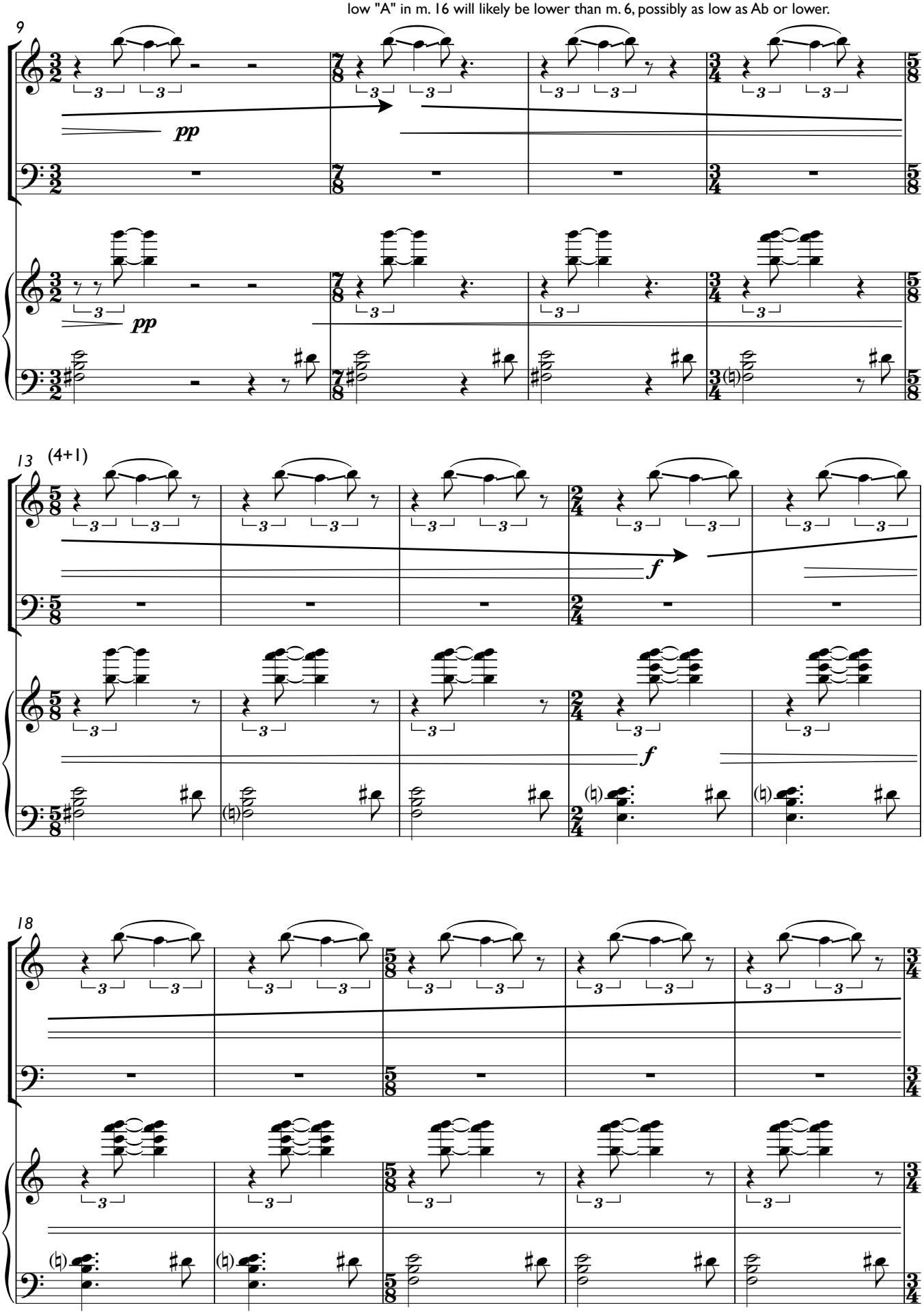
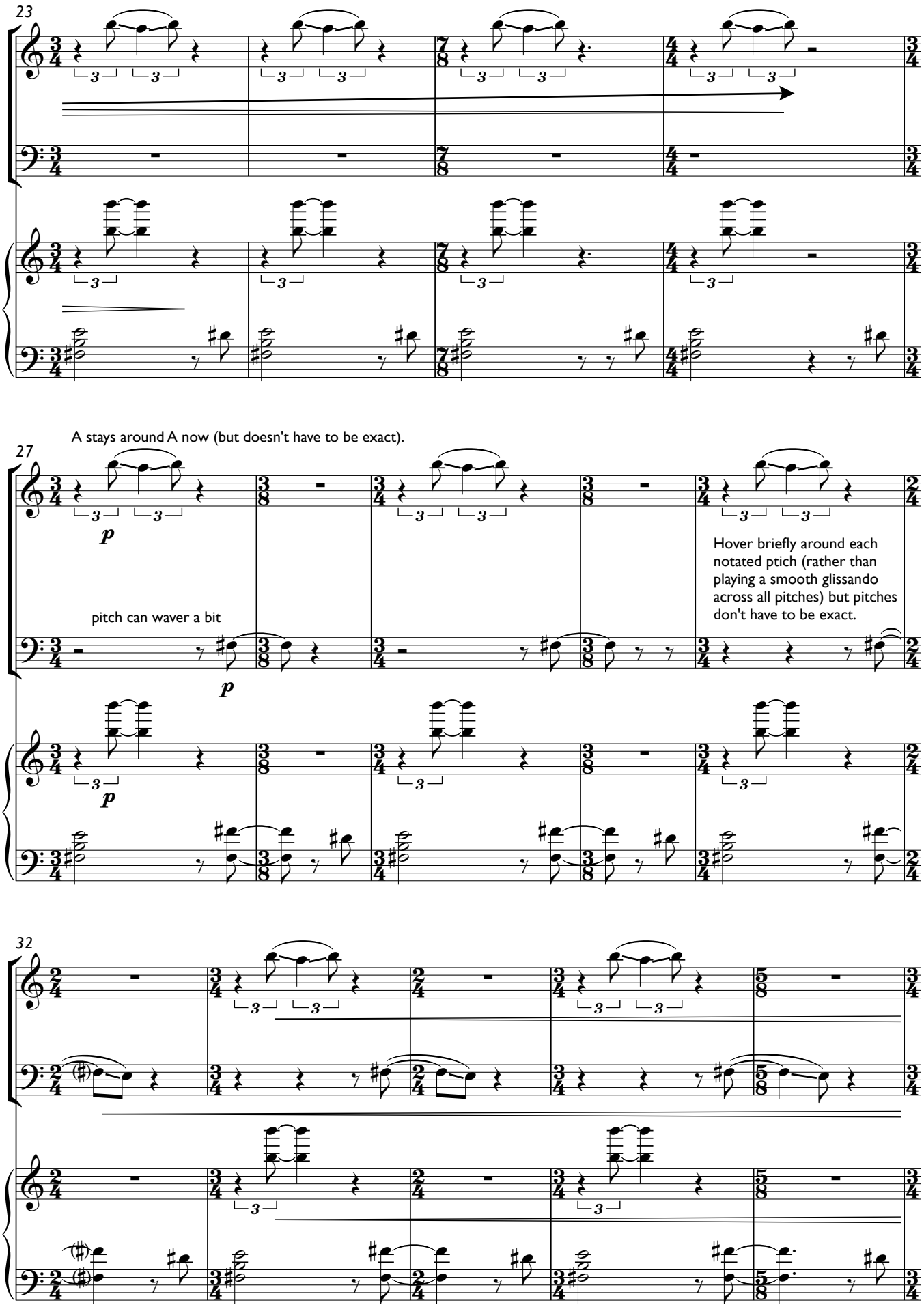
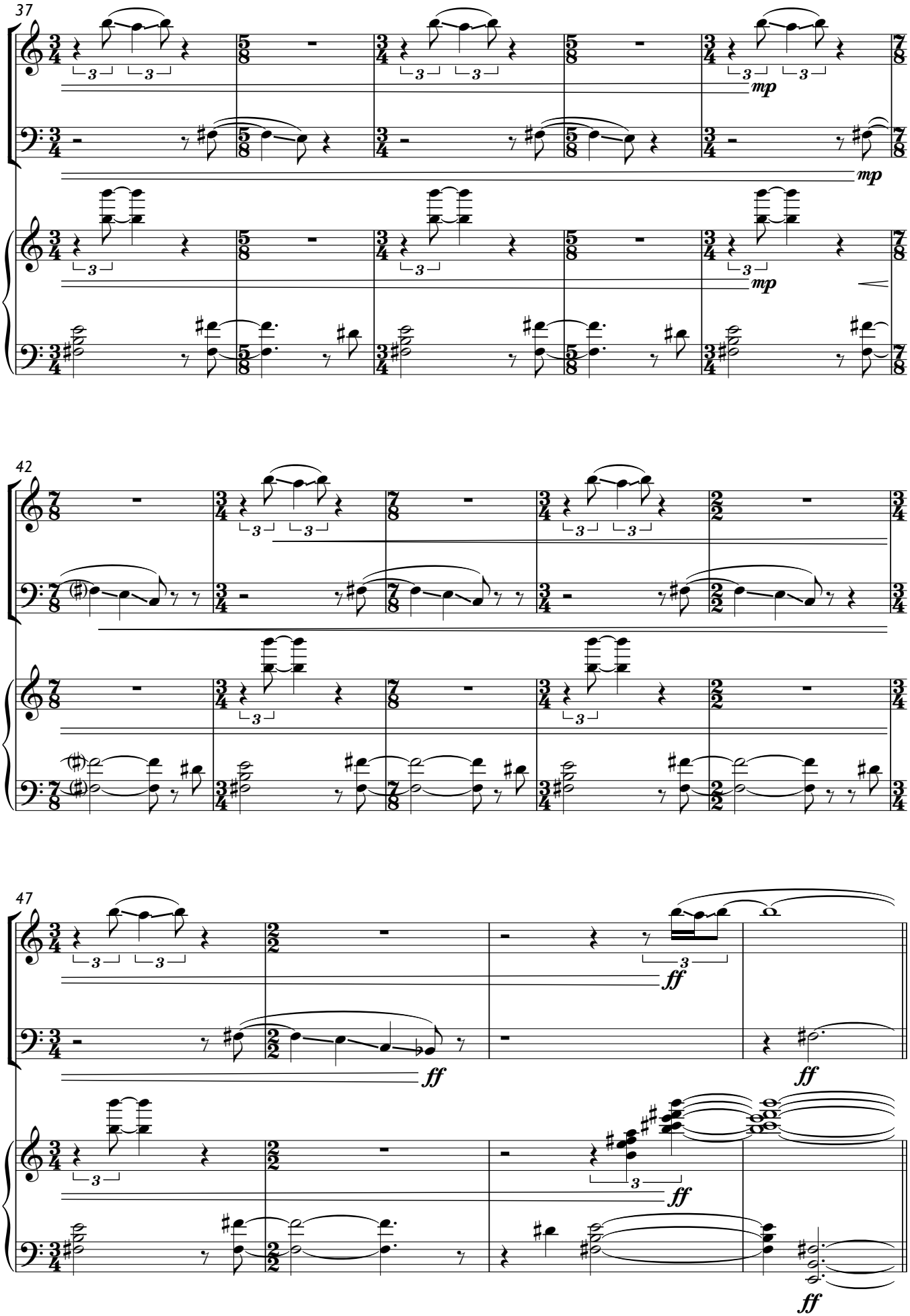
The "A" starts high flattens towards m. 16, and then comes back up until m. 26. The low "A" in m. 16 will likely be lower than m. 6, possibly as low as Ab or lower.

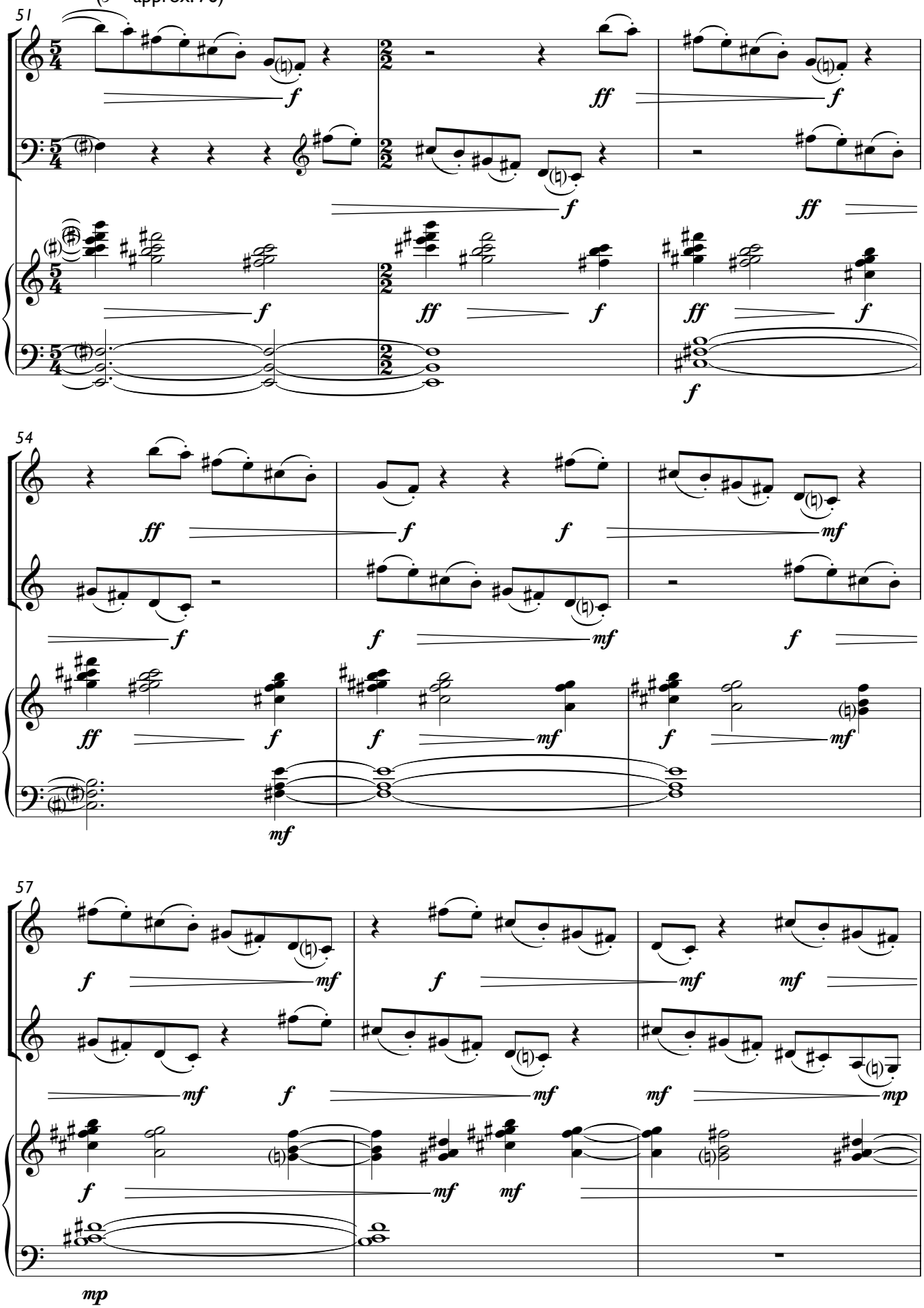


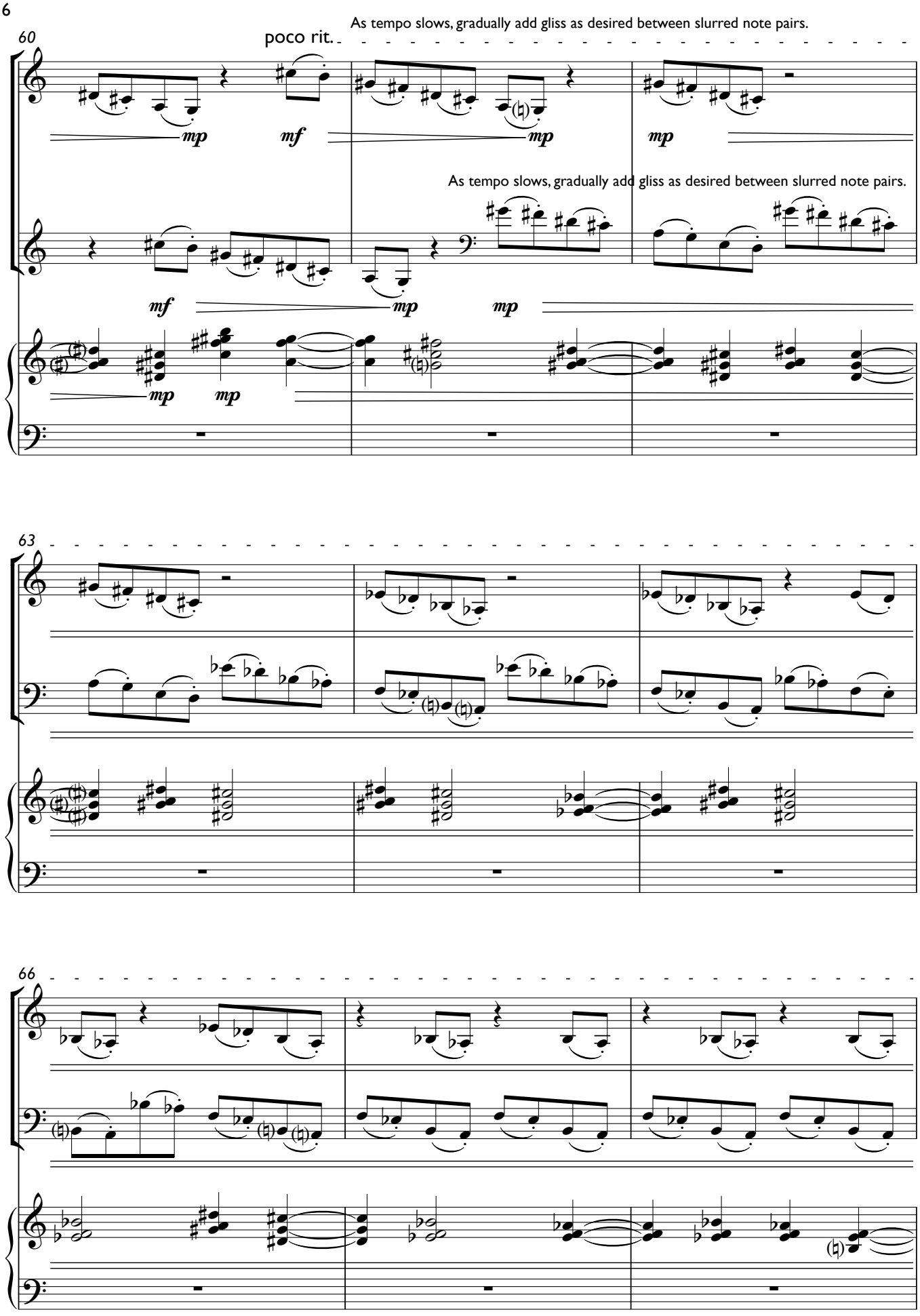

23
A stays around A now (but doesn't have to be exact).
27
p
pitch can waver a bit
Hover briefly around each notated ptich (rather than playing a smooth glissando across all pitches) but pitches don't have to be exact.
32

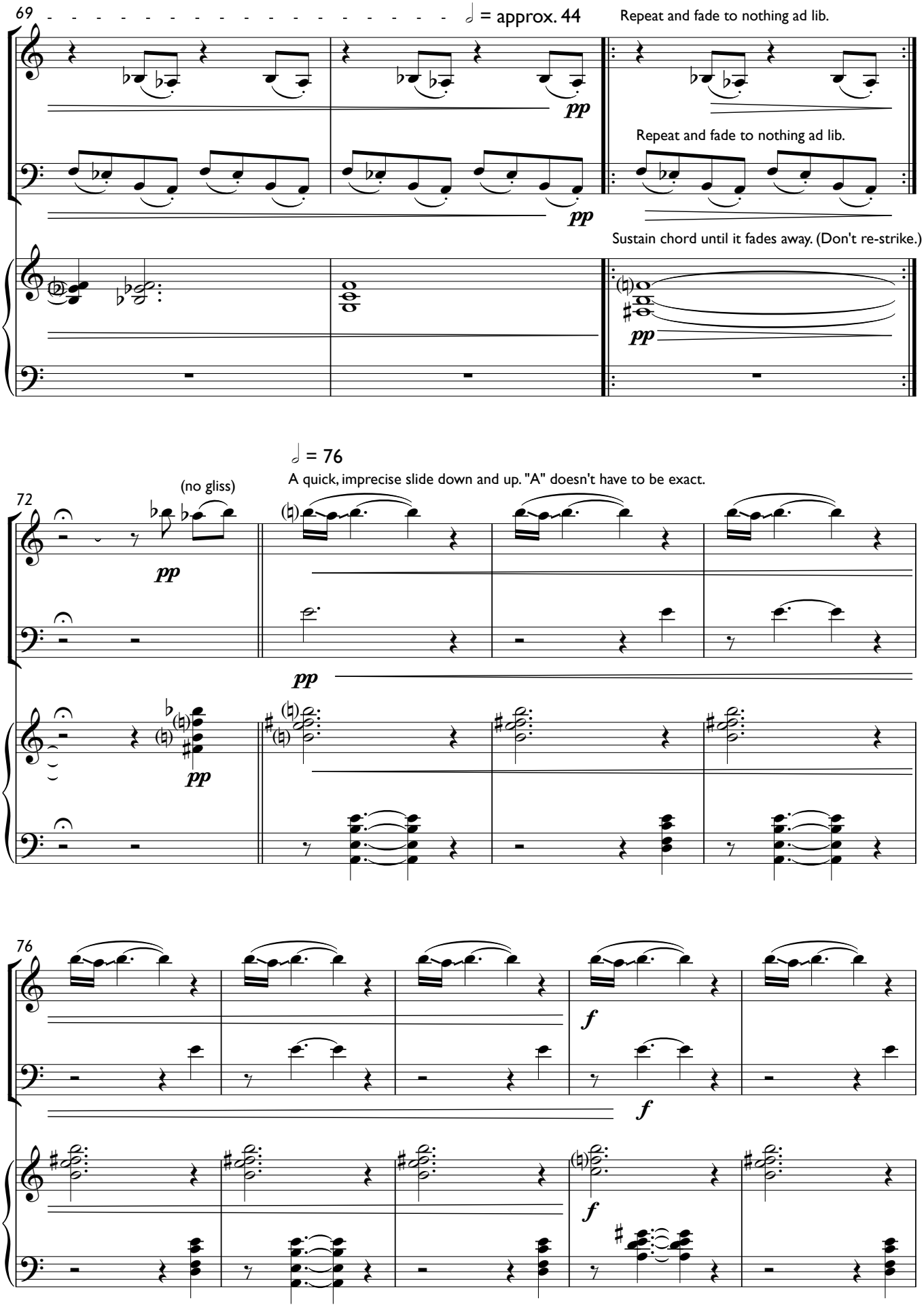

37
mp
mp
mp
42
47
ff
ff
ff
ff
ff

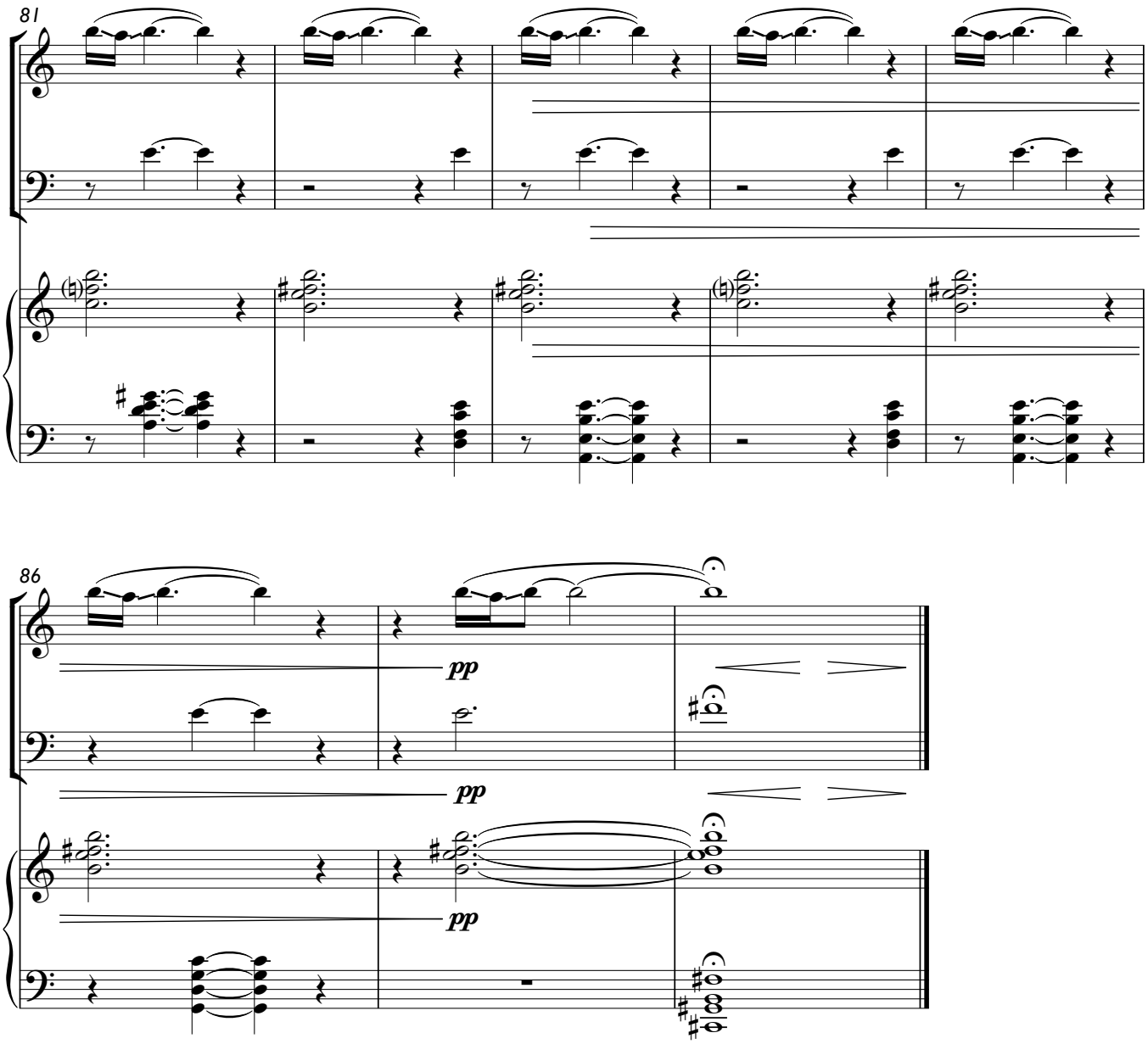
a bit faster

(𝅗𝅥 = approx. 76)




As tempo slows, gradually add gliss as desired between slurred note pairs.
60
poco rit.
mp
mf
mp
mp
As tempo slows, gradually add gliss as desired between slurred note pairs.
mf
mp
mp
mp
mp
63
66

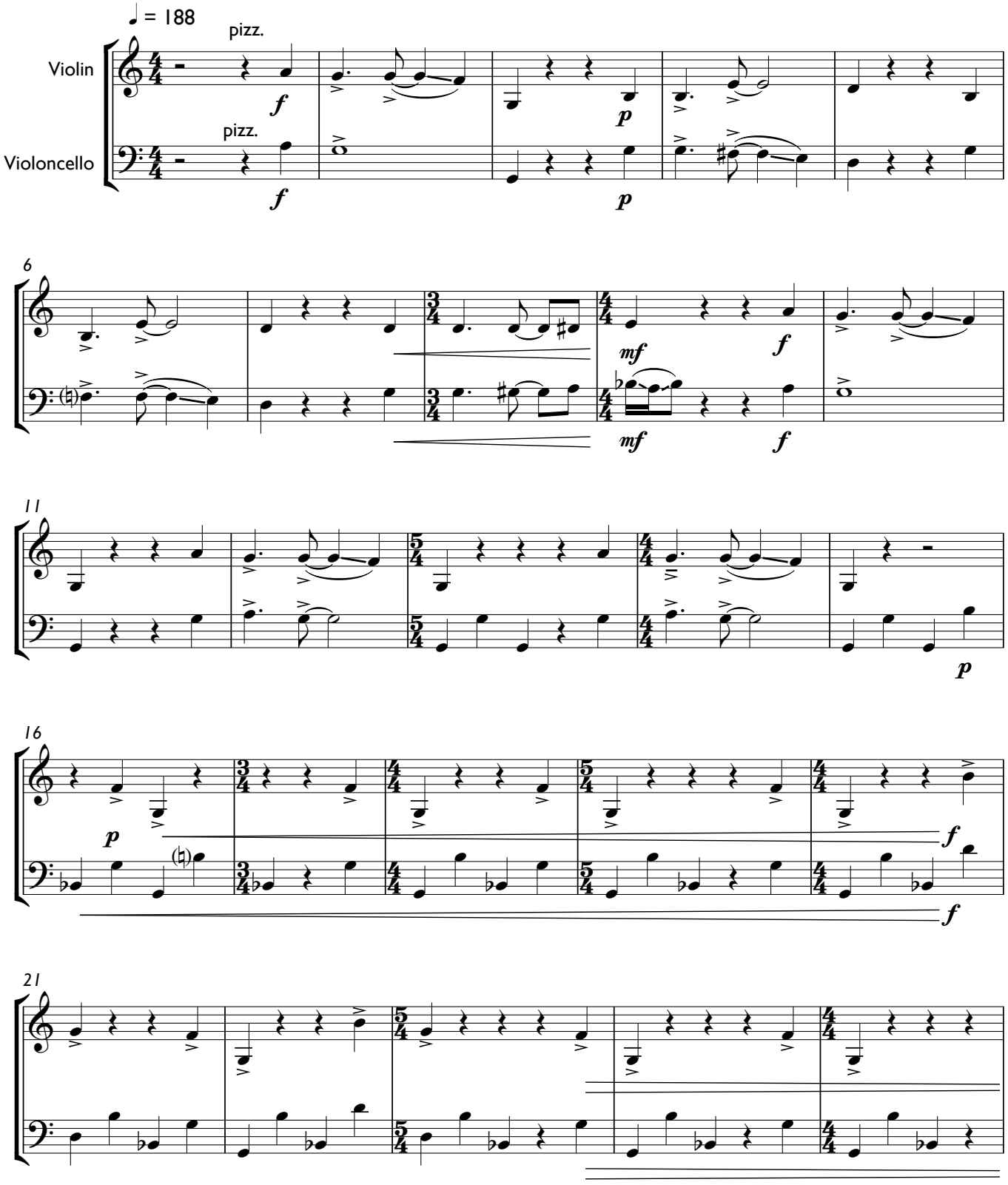

69
𝅗𝅥 = approx. 44
Repeat and fade to nothing ad lib.
pp
Repeat and fade to nothing ad lib.
pp
Sustain chord until it fades away. (Don't re-strike.)
pp
𝅗𝅥 = 76
A quick, imprecise slide down and up. "A" doesn't have to be exact.
72
(no gliss)
pp
pp
pp
76
f
f
f

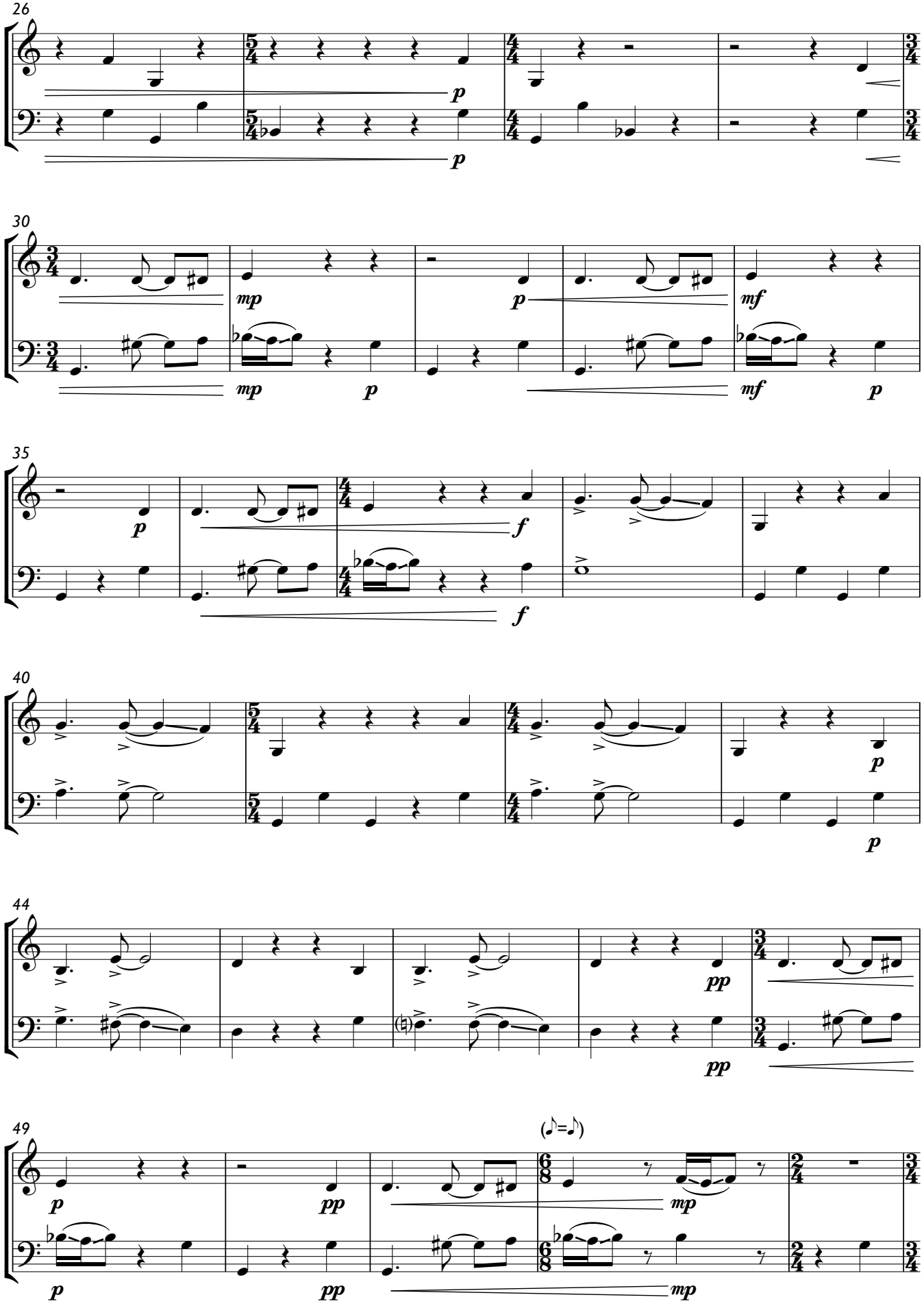

81
86
pp
pp
pp

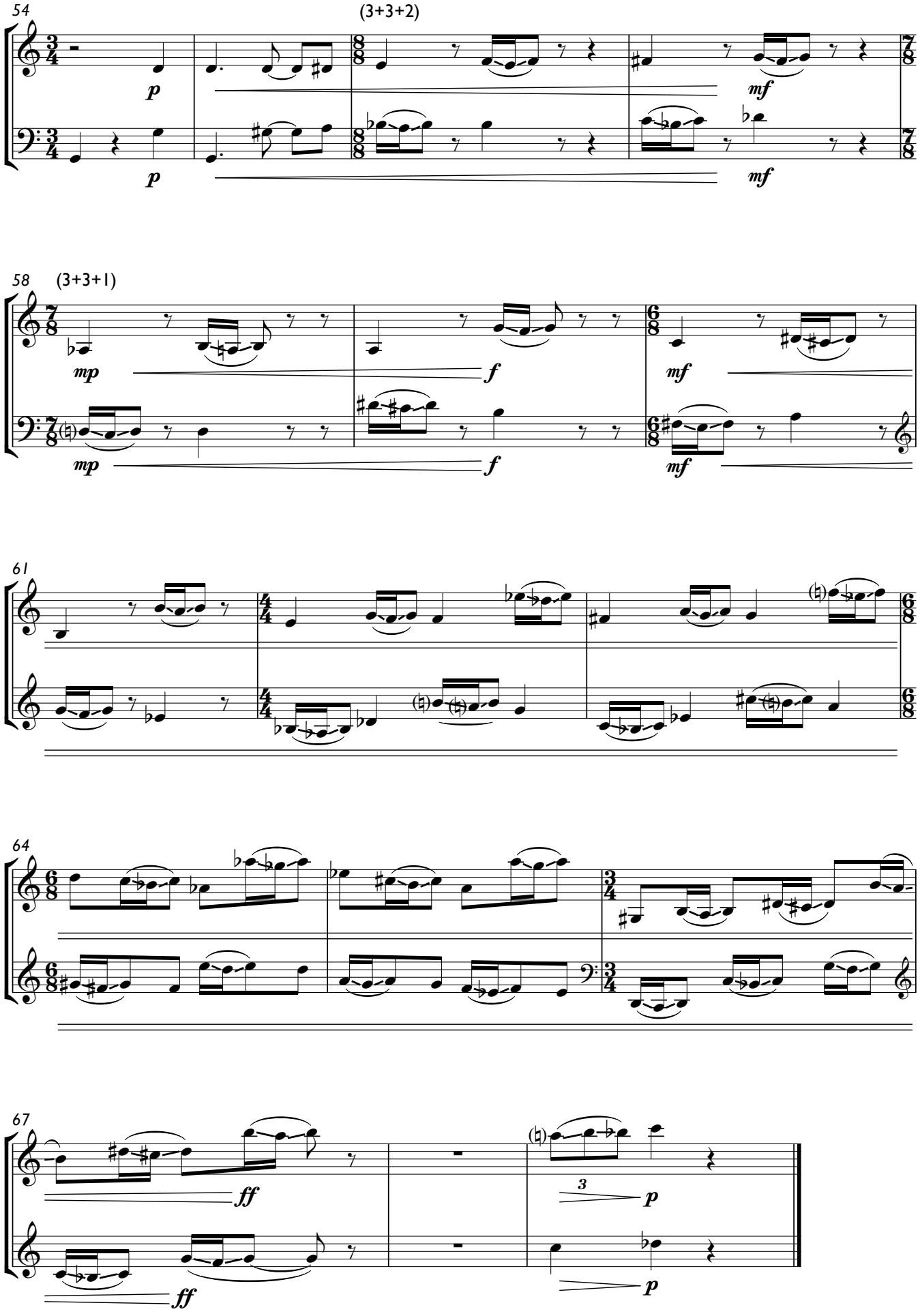
II. playful, physical

playful, physical (like a ball rebounding)

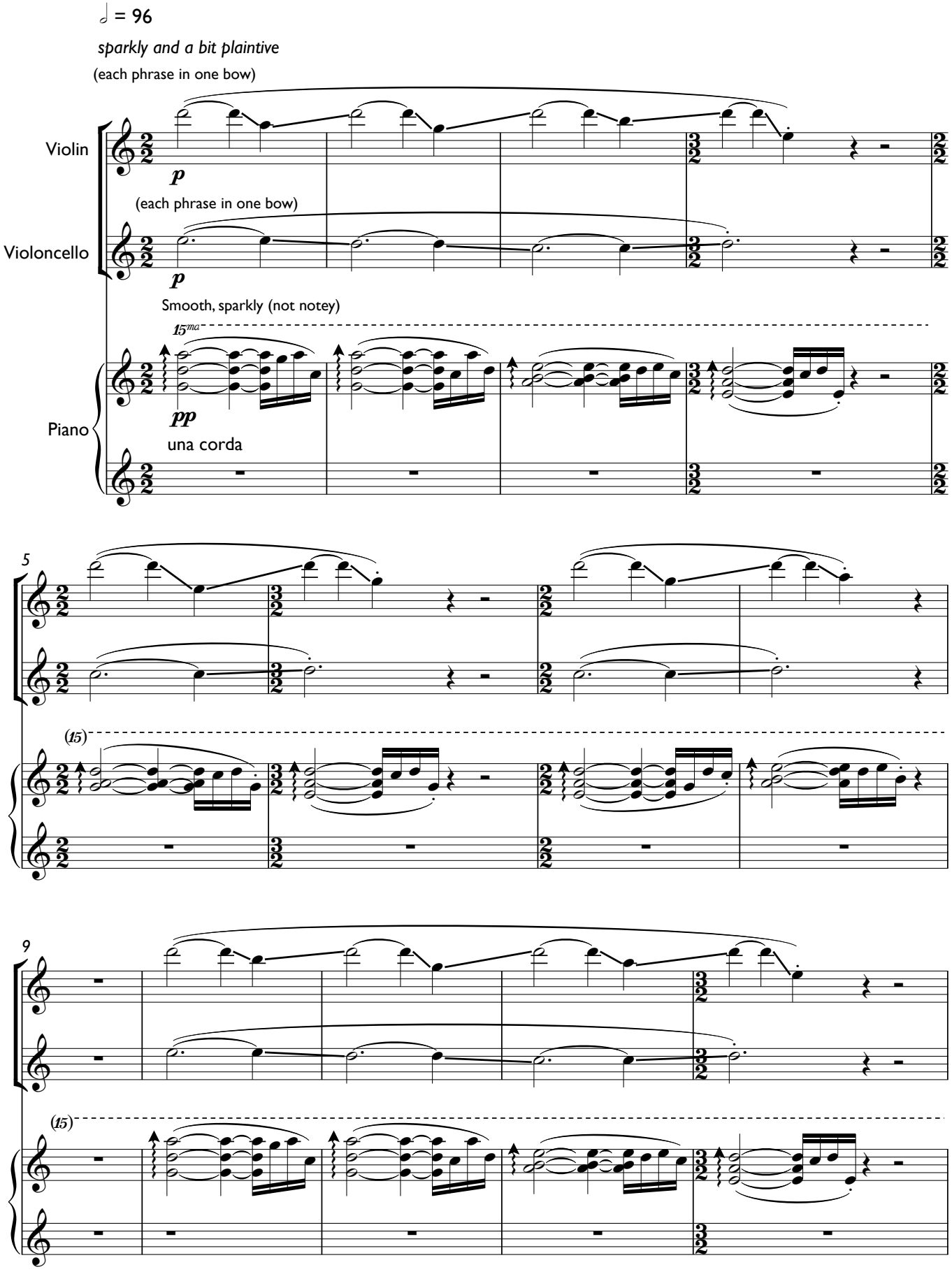
slurred notes indicate a gliss pizz

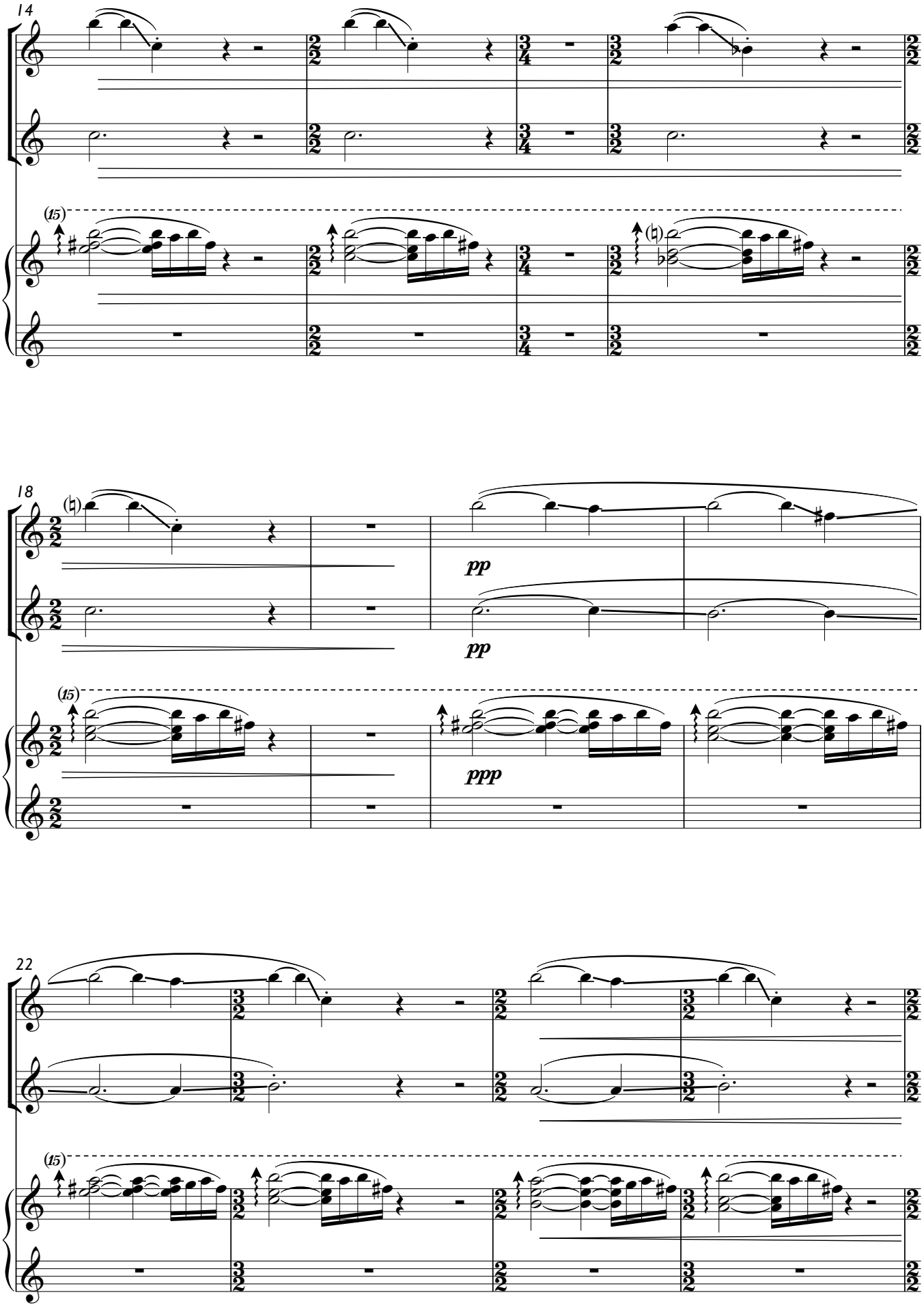


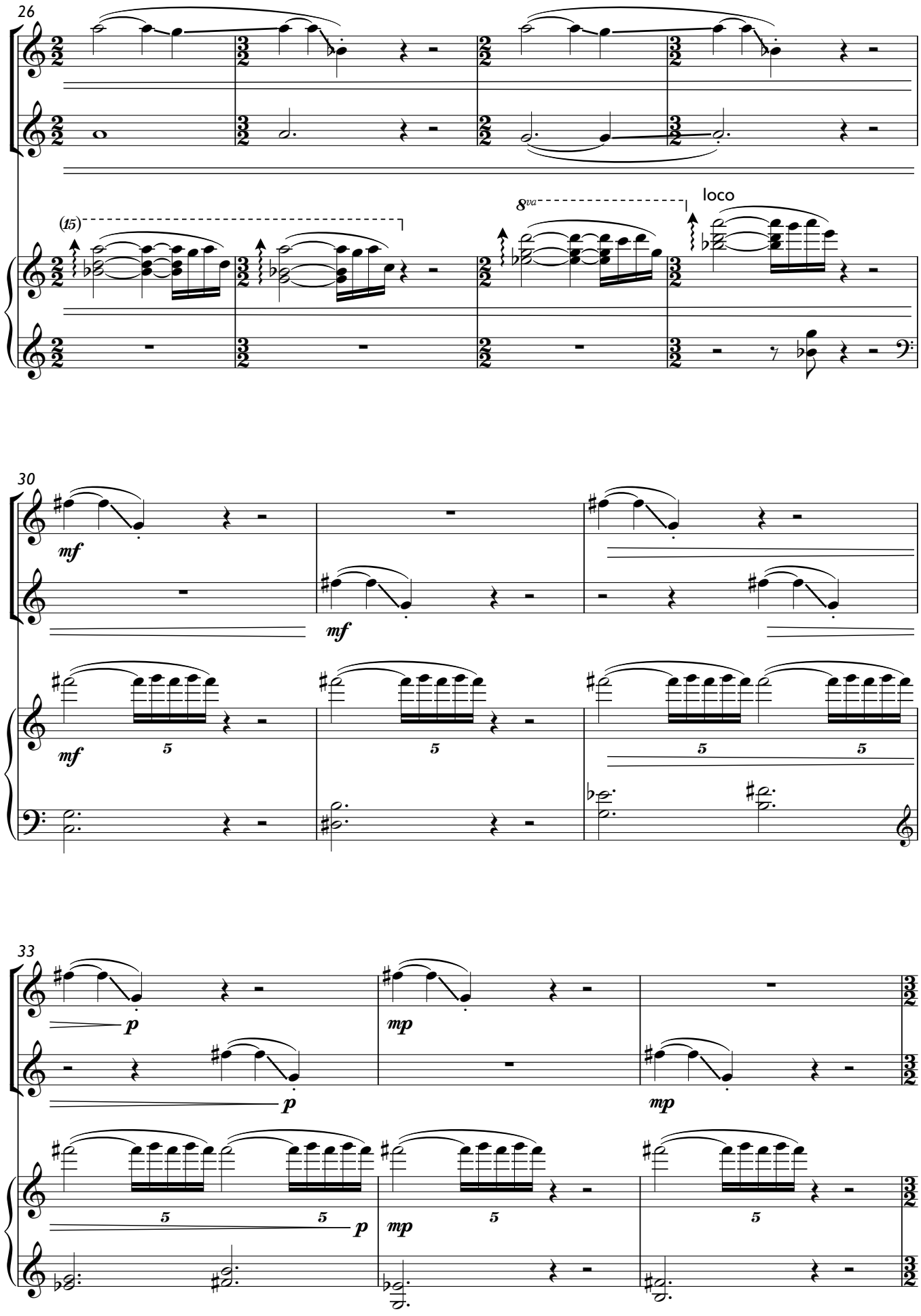

26
30
35
40
44
49
(♪=♪)

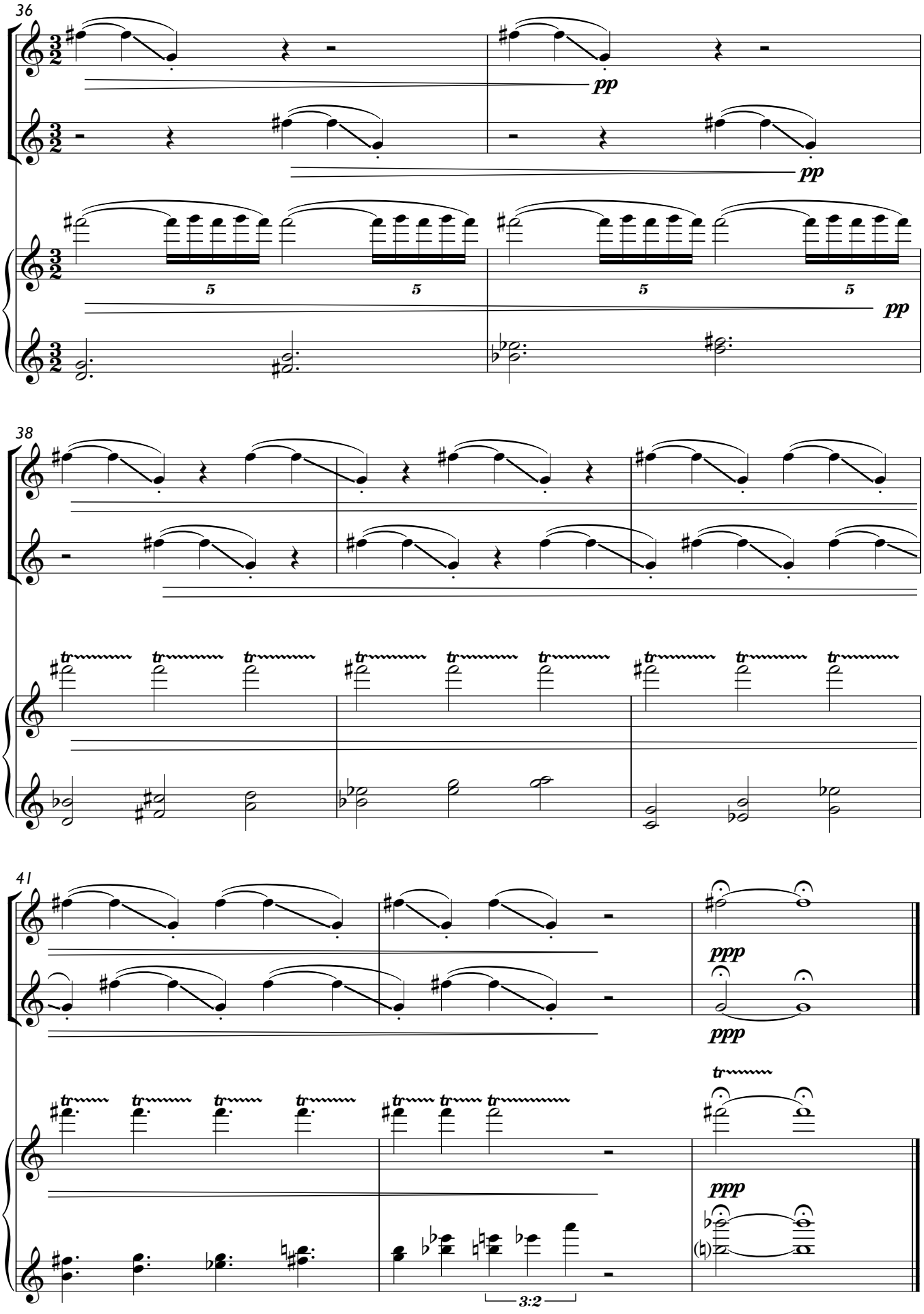

54
(3+3+2)
p
p
mf
mf
58
(3+3+1)
mp
mp
f
f
mf
mf
61
64
67
ff
ff
3
p
p

III. sparkly, plaintive

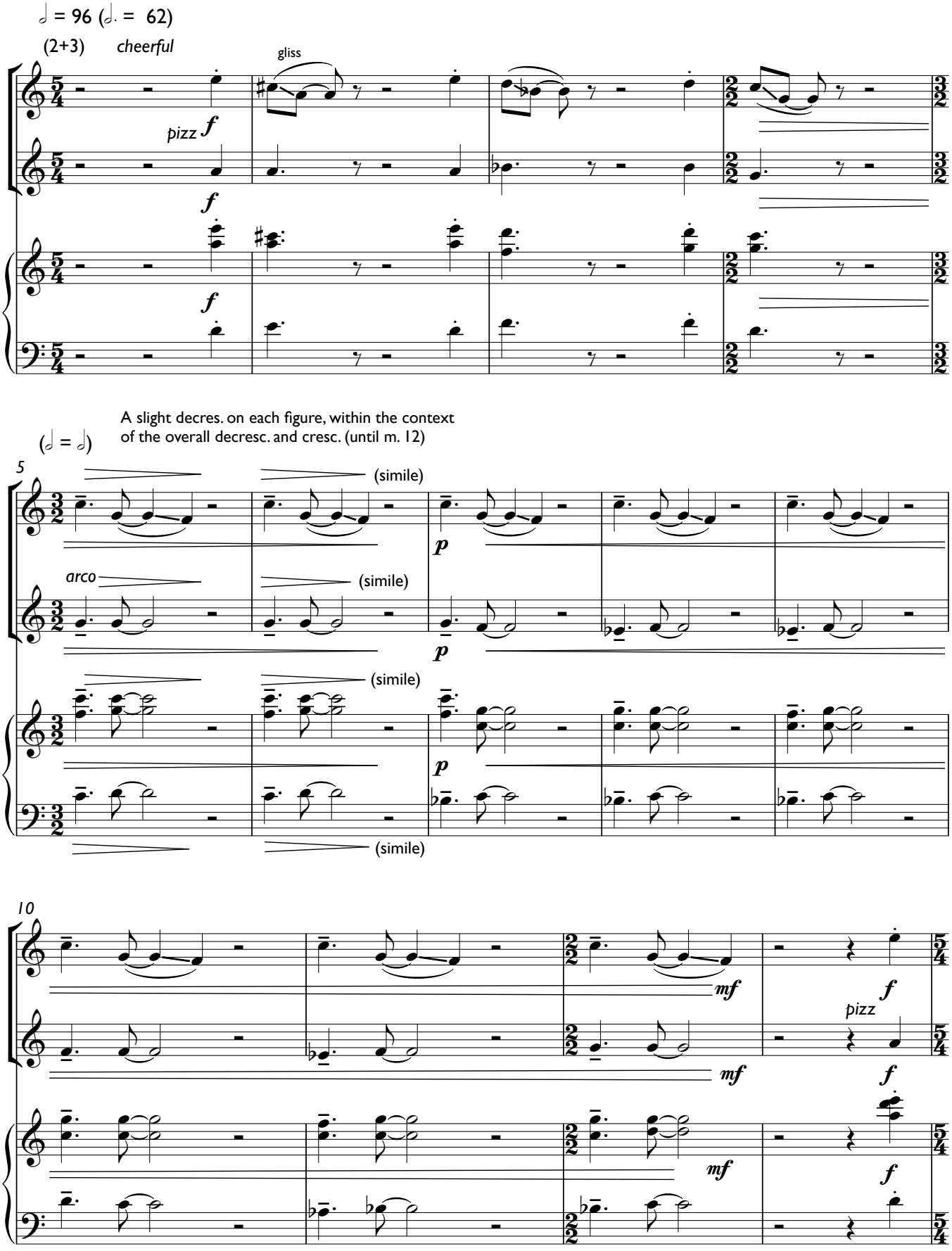


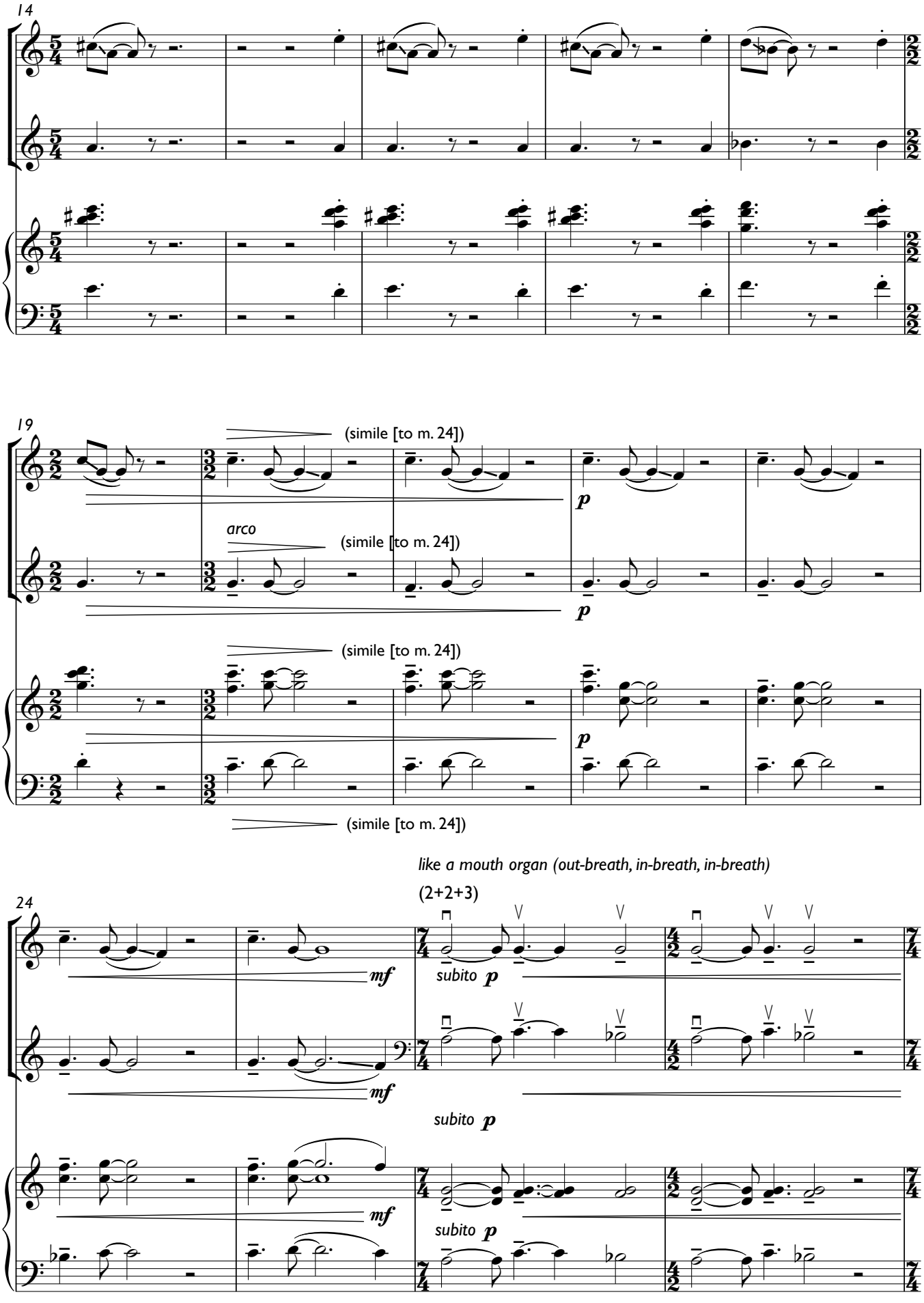

14
(15)
18
(15)
pp
pp
ppp
22
(15)

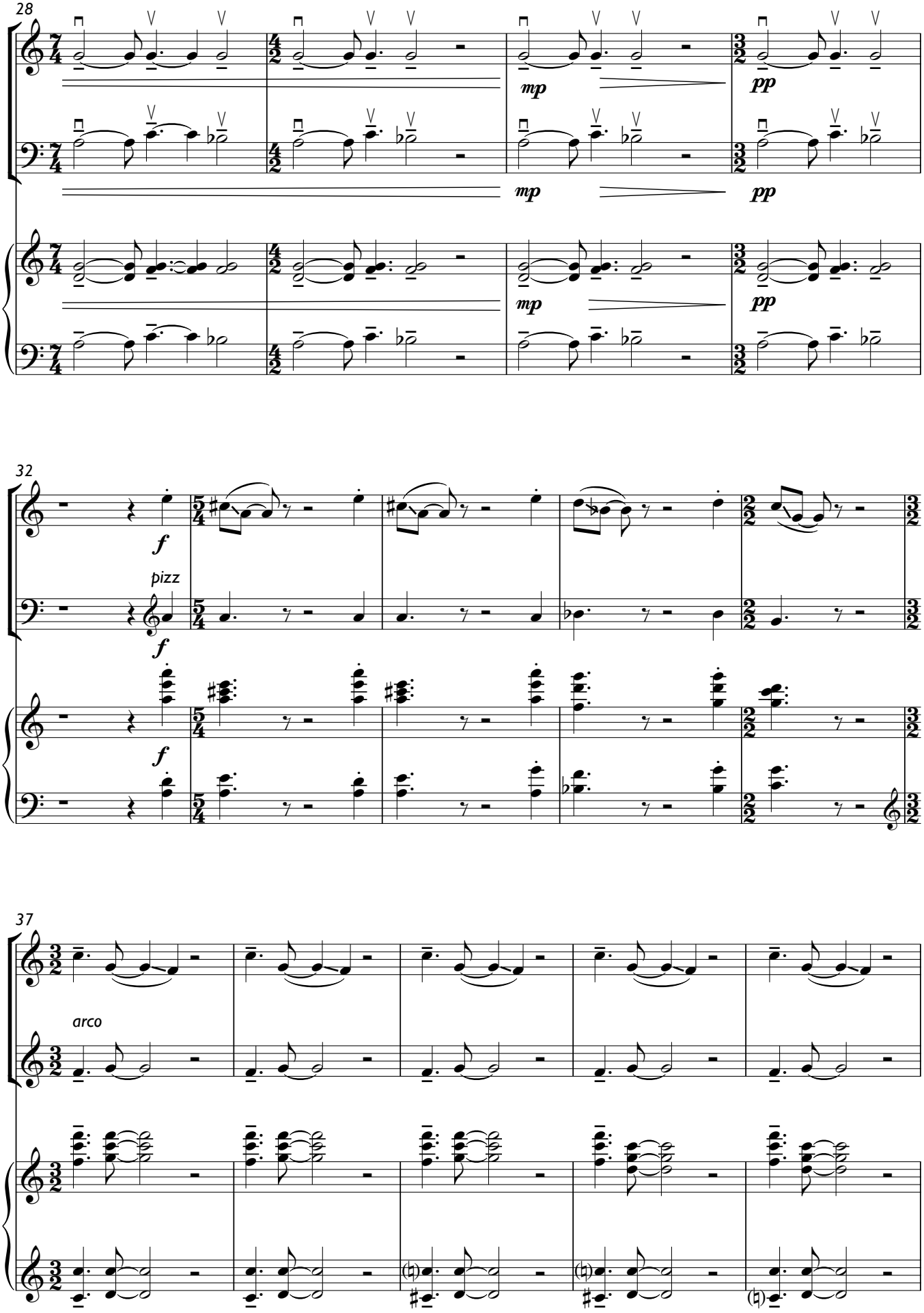

26
(15)
8va
loco
30
mf
mf
mf
5
5
5
5
33
p
p
mp
mp
p
mp
5
5
5
5


36
pp
pp
5
5
5
5
pp
38
tr
41
ppp
ppp
tr
ppp
3:2

IV. hypnotic


♩ = 96 (♩. = 62)
(2+3)
cheerful
gliss
pizz
A slight decres. on each figure, within the context of the overall decresc. and cresc. (until m. 12)
(♩ = ♩)
5
(simile)
arco
10
mf
pizz


14
19
(simile [to m. 24])
arco
(simile [to m. 24])
p
(simile [to m. 24])
p
(simile [to m. 24])
like a mouth organ (out-breath, in-breath, in-breath)
(2+2+3)
24
mf
subito p
mf
subito p
mf
subito p


28
mp
pp
32
f
pizz
37
arco

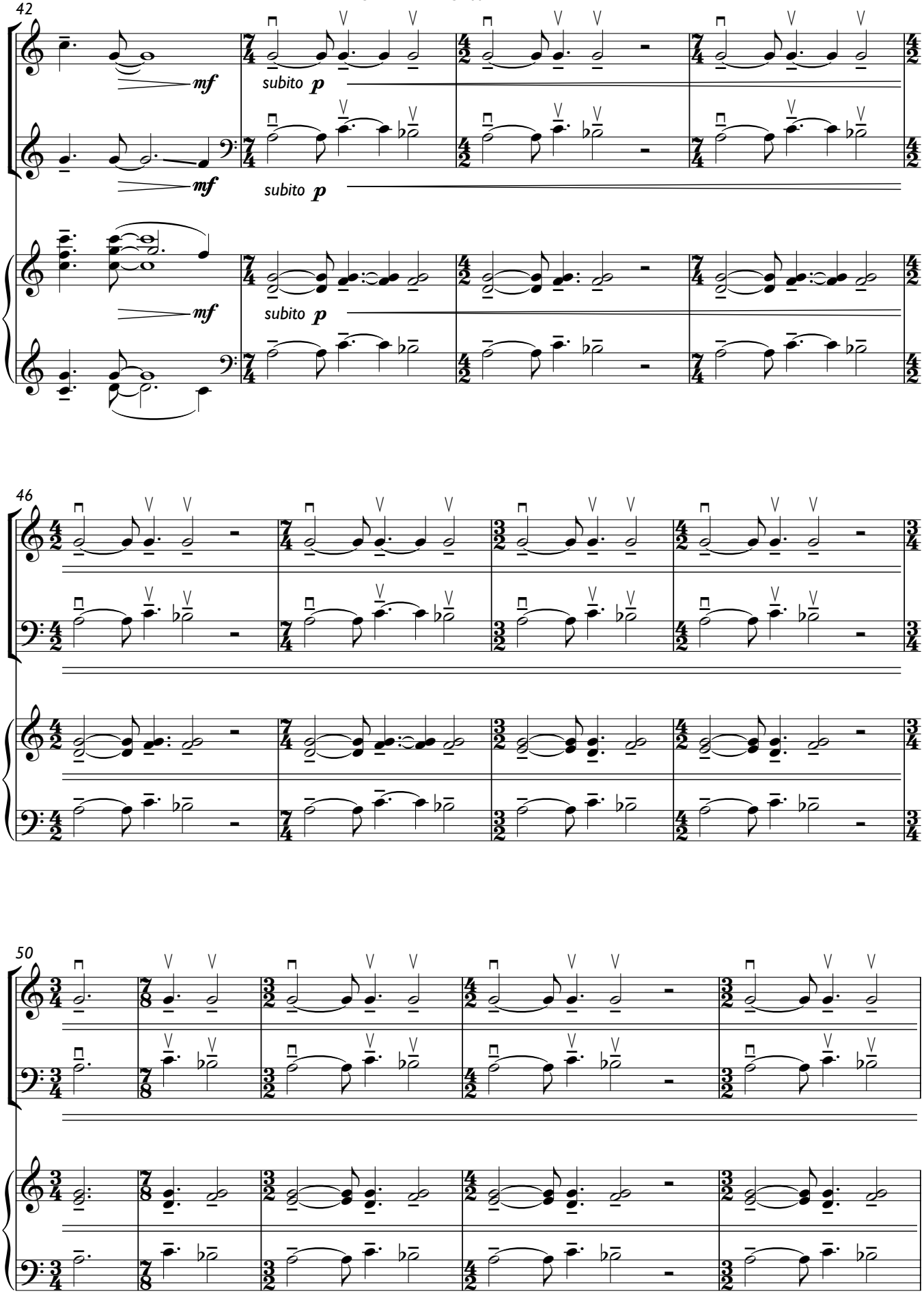
like a mouth organ; becoming hypnotic

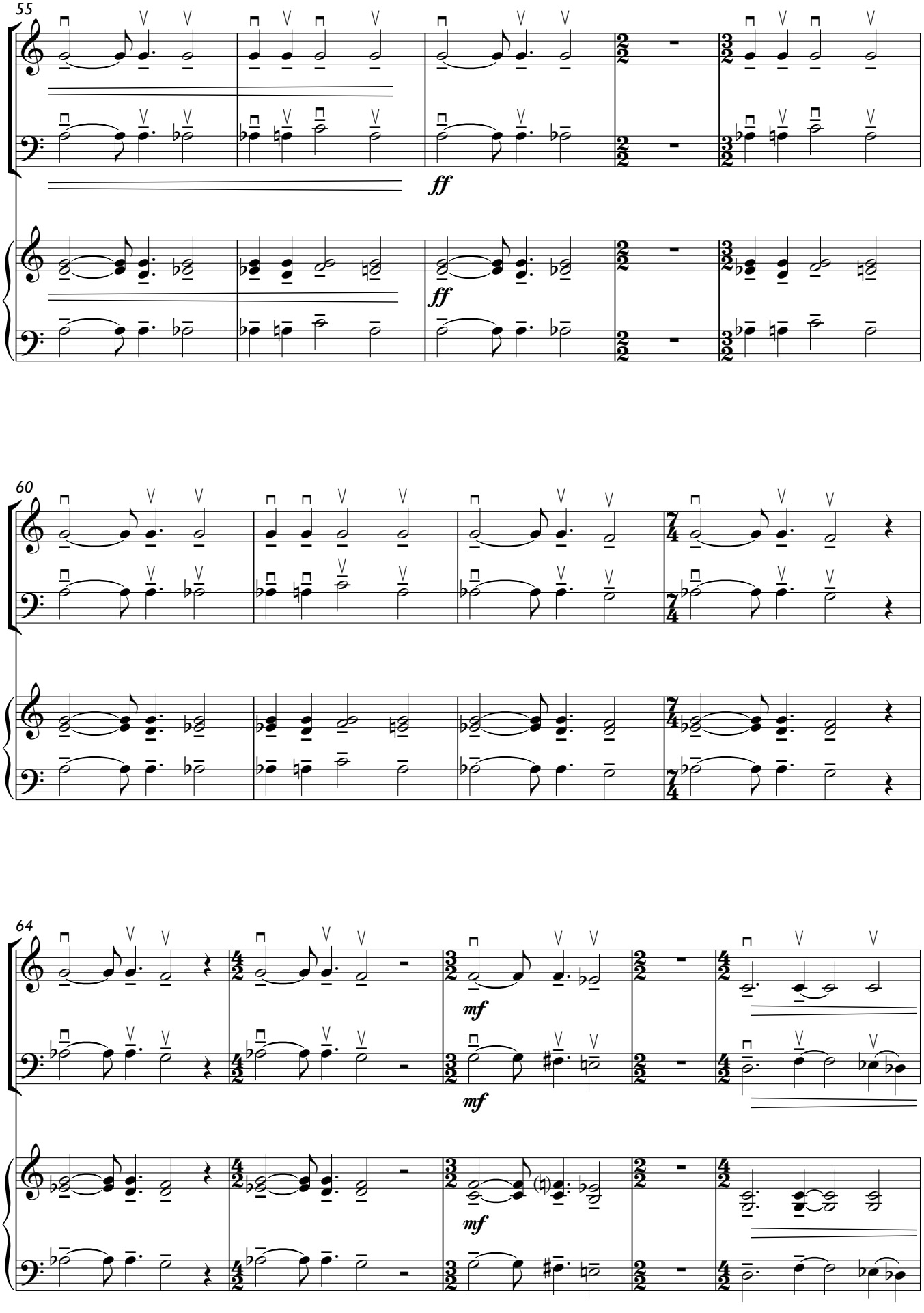
42

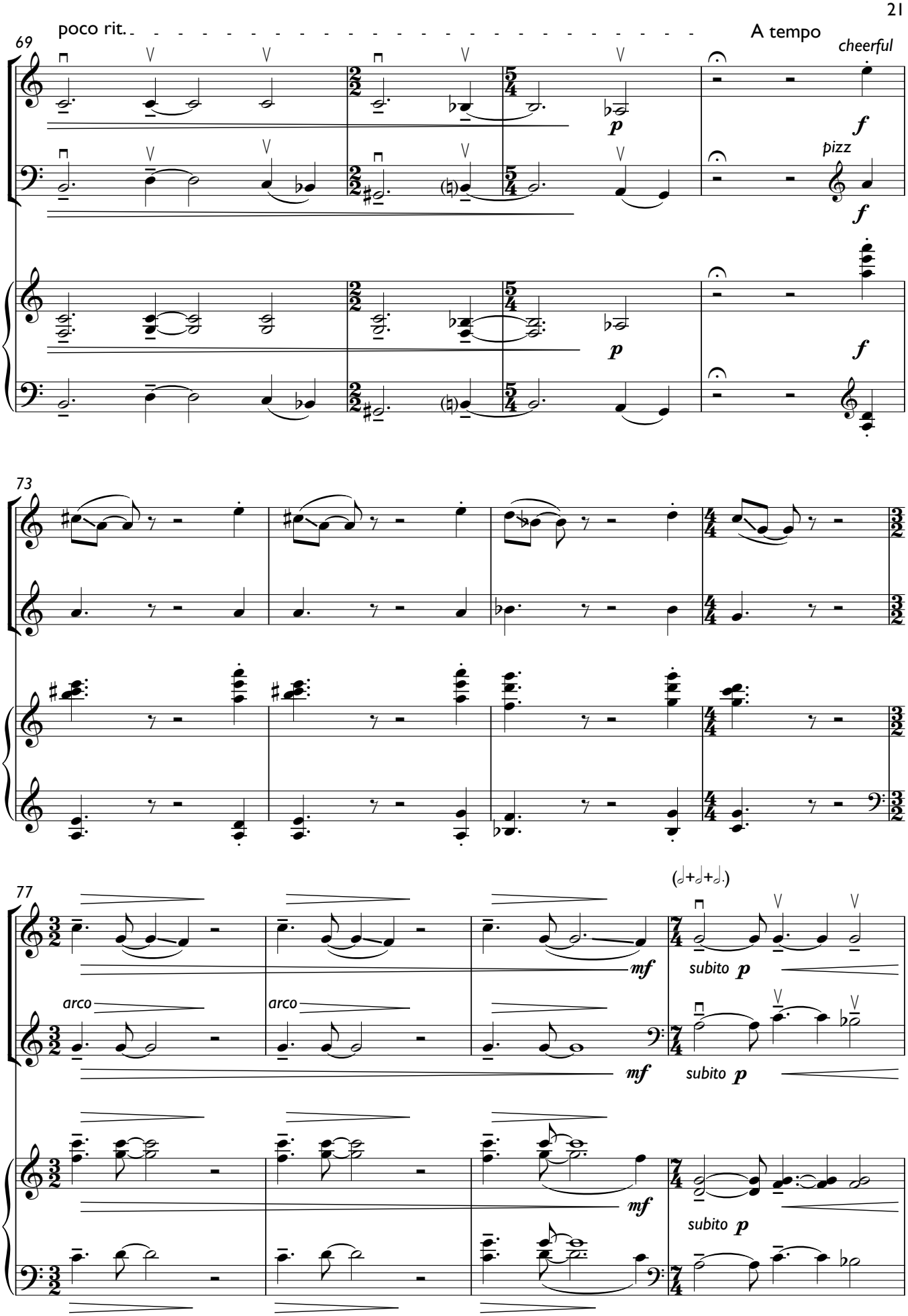
mf *subito* ***p***

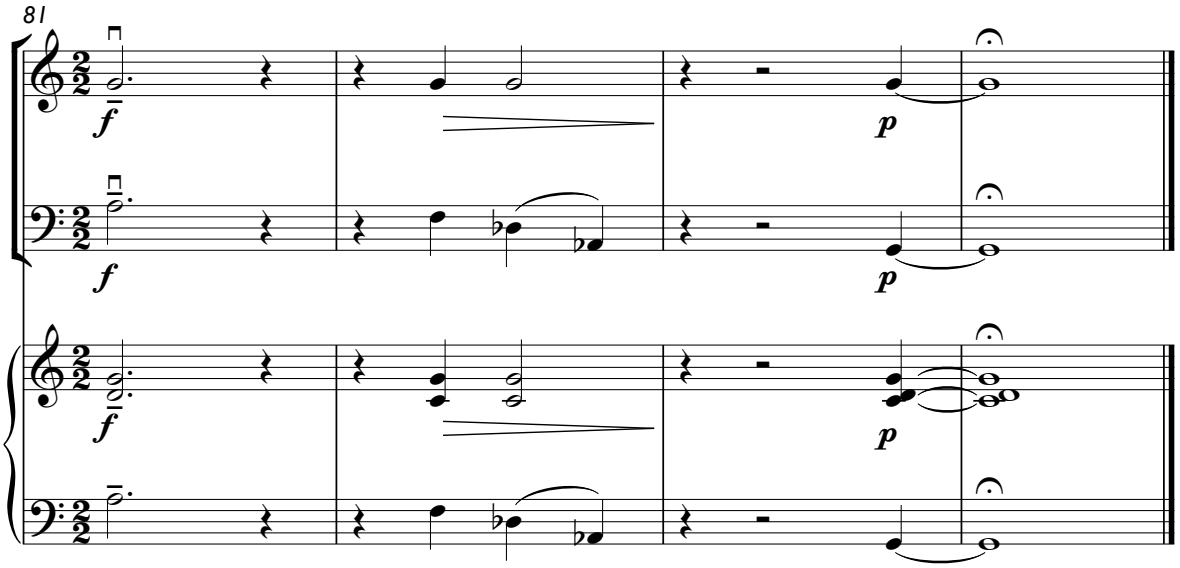
46

50




55
ff
ff
60
64
mf
mf
mf


poco rit.
A tempo
69
cheerful
pizz
73
77
(𝅗𝅥+𝅗𝅥+𝅗𝅥.)
arco
arco
subito
subito
subito


8l
f
p