Ellen Ruth Harrison

STRING QUARTET NO. 1,
SHIFTING LANDSCAPES

String Quartet No. 1, Shifting Landscapes

Landscapes of Sorrow
Landscapes Adrift
Shifting Landscapes

Ellen Ruth Harrison

2002

The two outer movements of *String Quartet No. 1, Shifting Landscapes*, juxtapose strongly contrasting ideas while the middle movement is more lyrical and continuous in nature. The first movement is a funeral march interspersed with sections of anguished frenzy and mournful resignation, composed in response to my mother's death. The second movement serves as a tranquil oasis between the two more dramatic outer movements. Like drifting swirls of fog, fragments of melody drift in and out of focus among the different voices, converging twice only to drift apart again. The third movement is a crazy dance with shifting, irregular meters that frames a tranquil otherworldly melodic section anchored by an ethereal ostinato that recalls the rhythm of the opening funeral march. The shifting, irregular meters of the dance sections propel the movement to an explosive climax after which wisps of melodic fragments appear as the piece comes to a close.

Duration: circa 16 minutes

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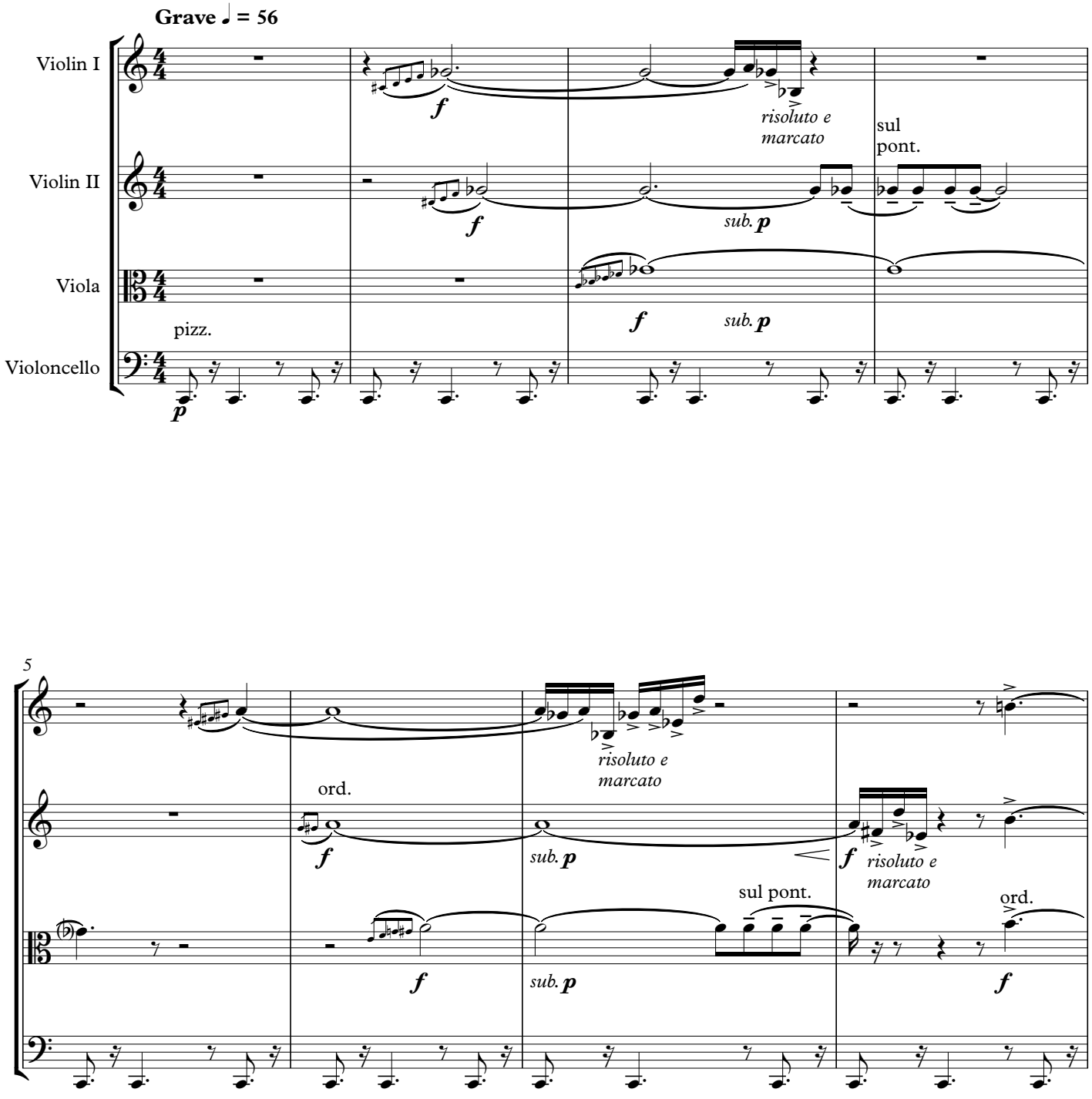
String Quartet No. 1, *Shifting Landscapes*

Landscapes of Sorrow

in memory of my mother

Ellen Ruth Harrison (2002)



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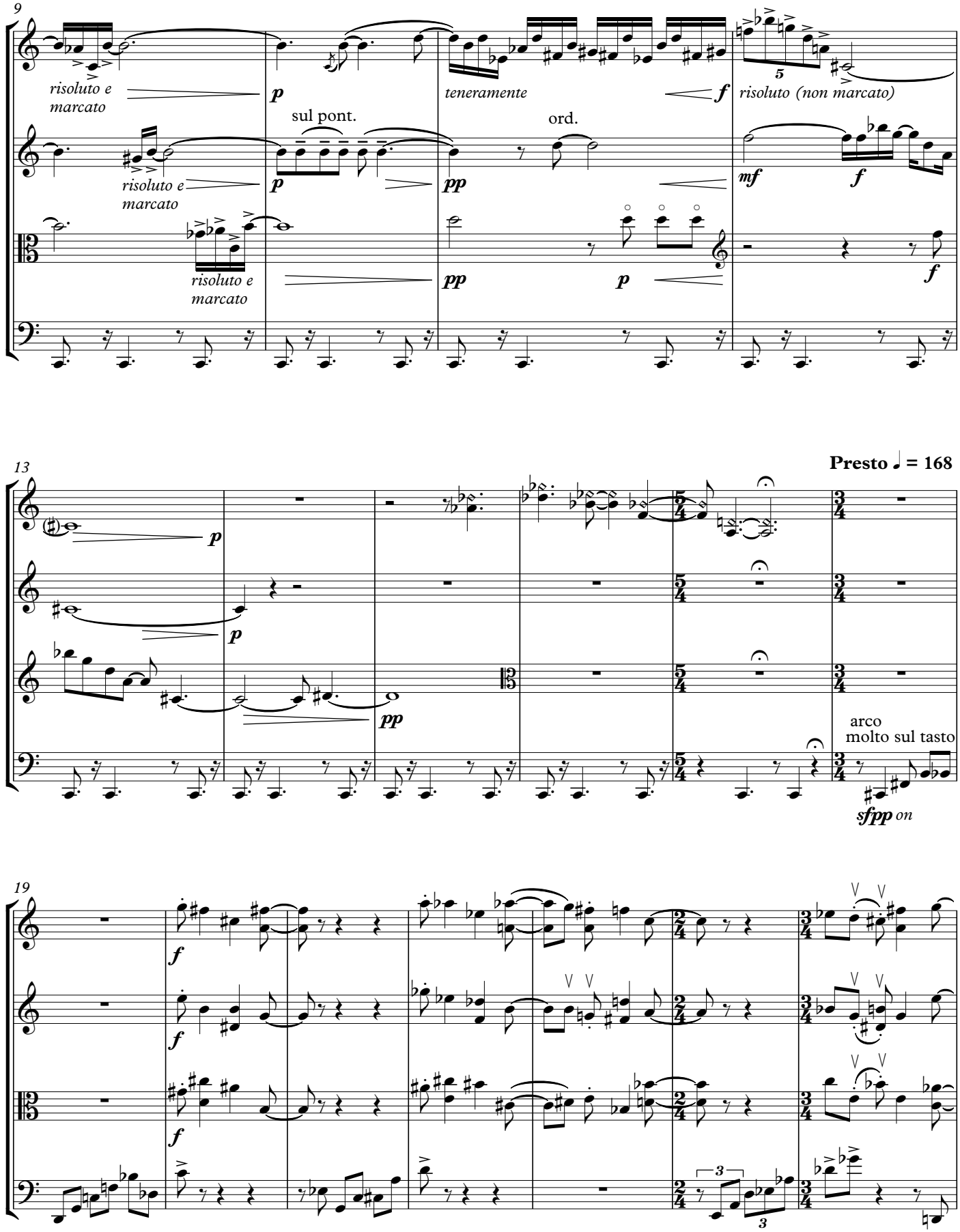
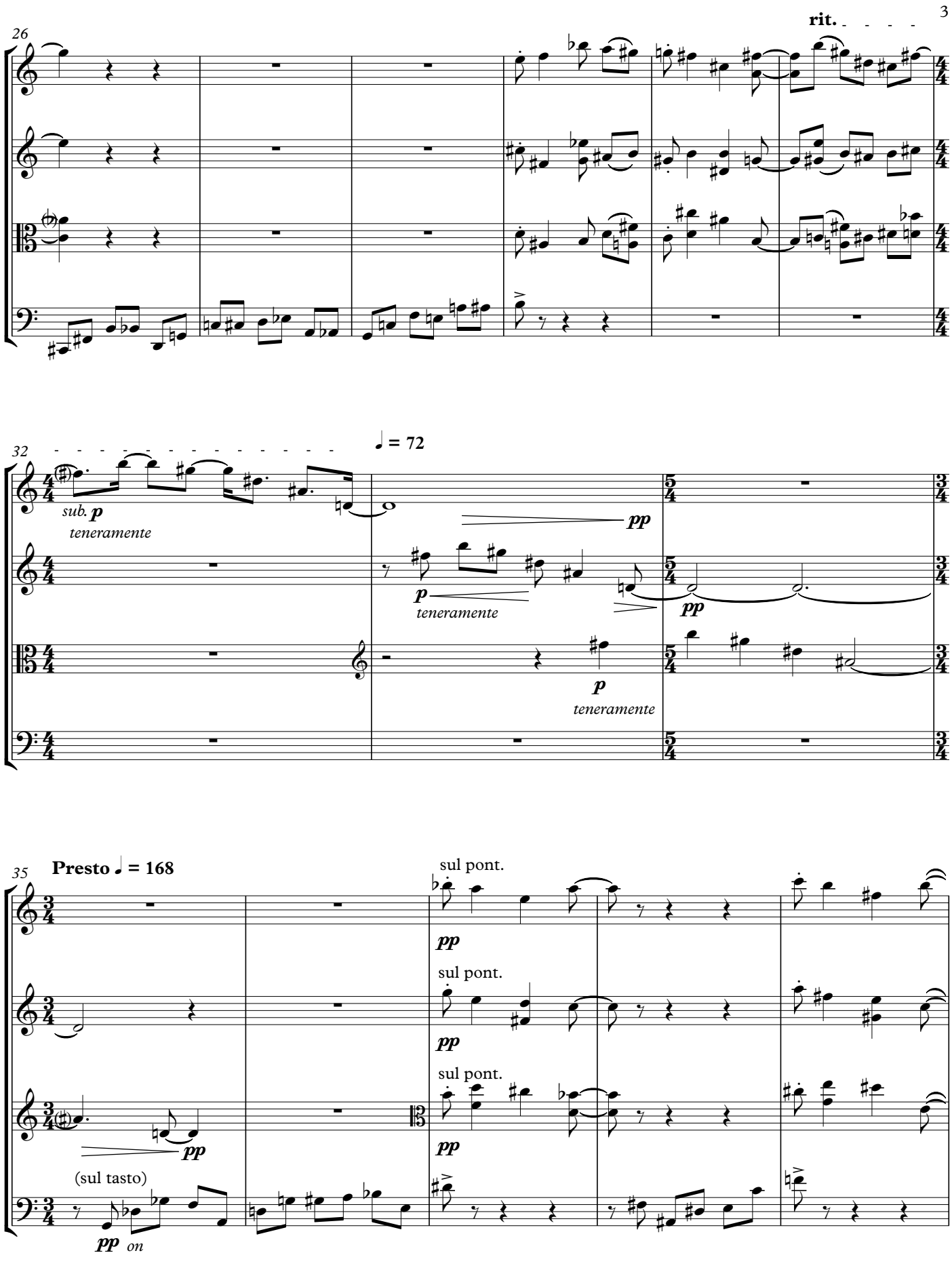
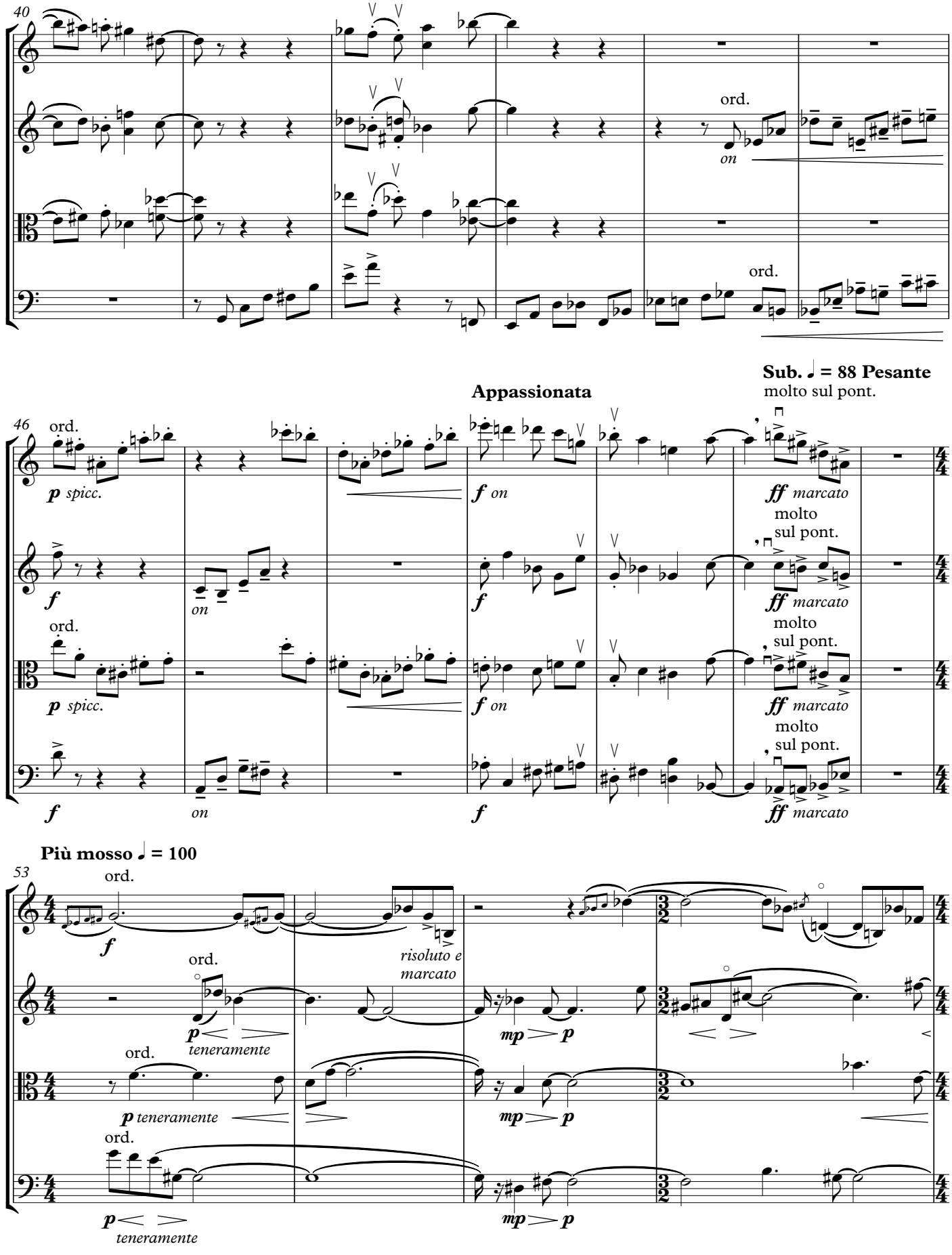
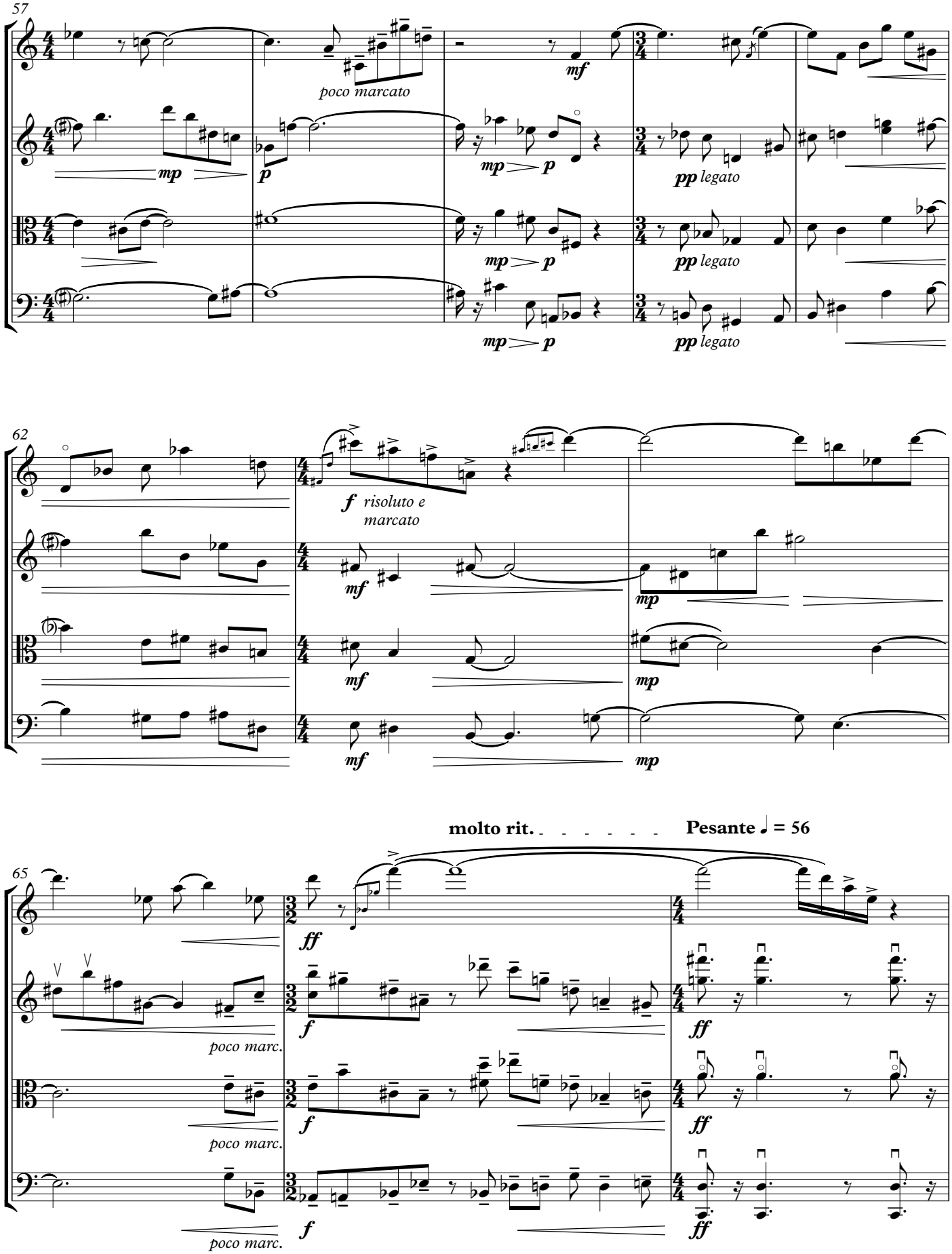
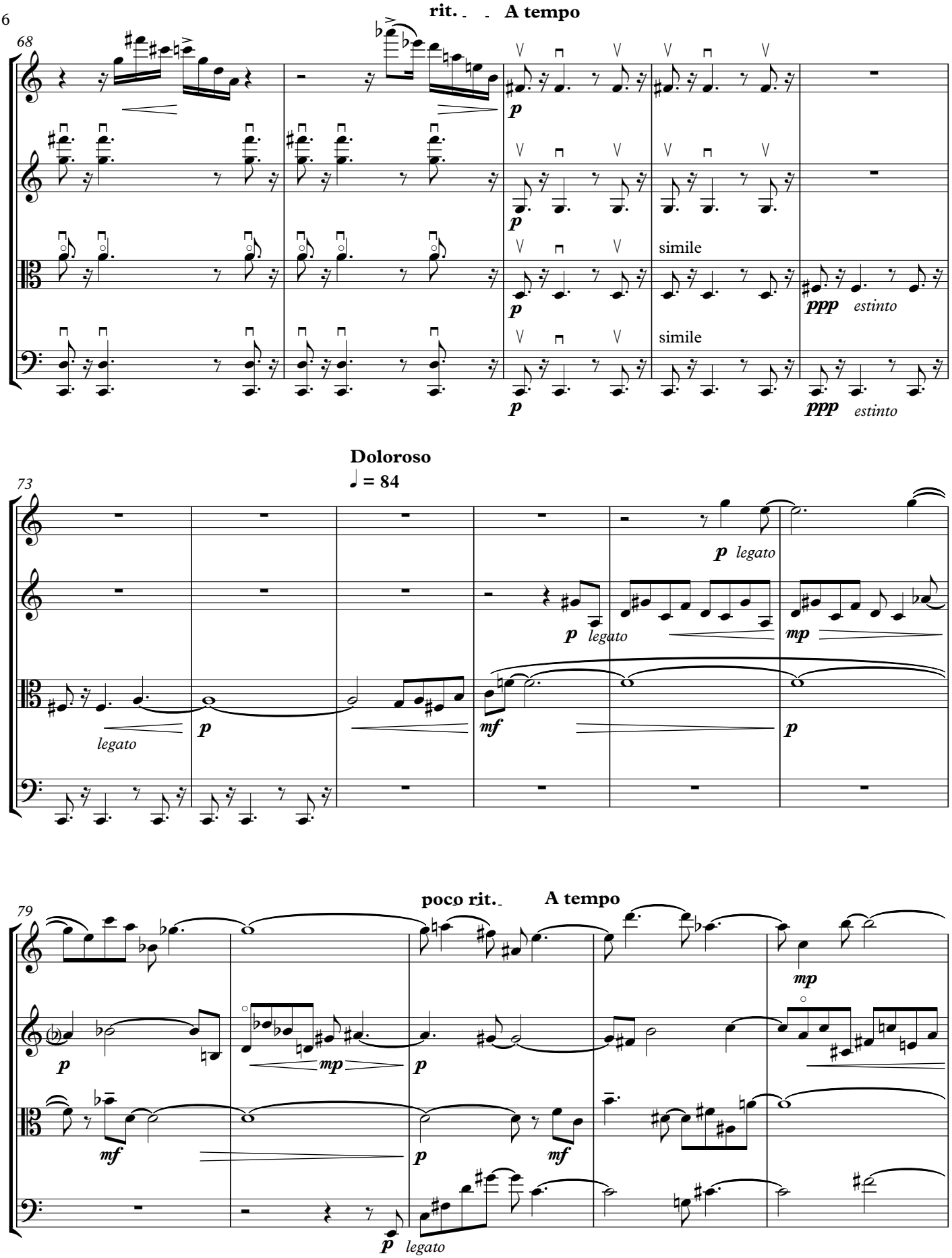
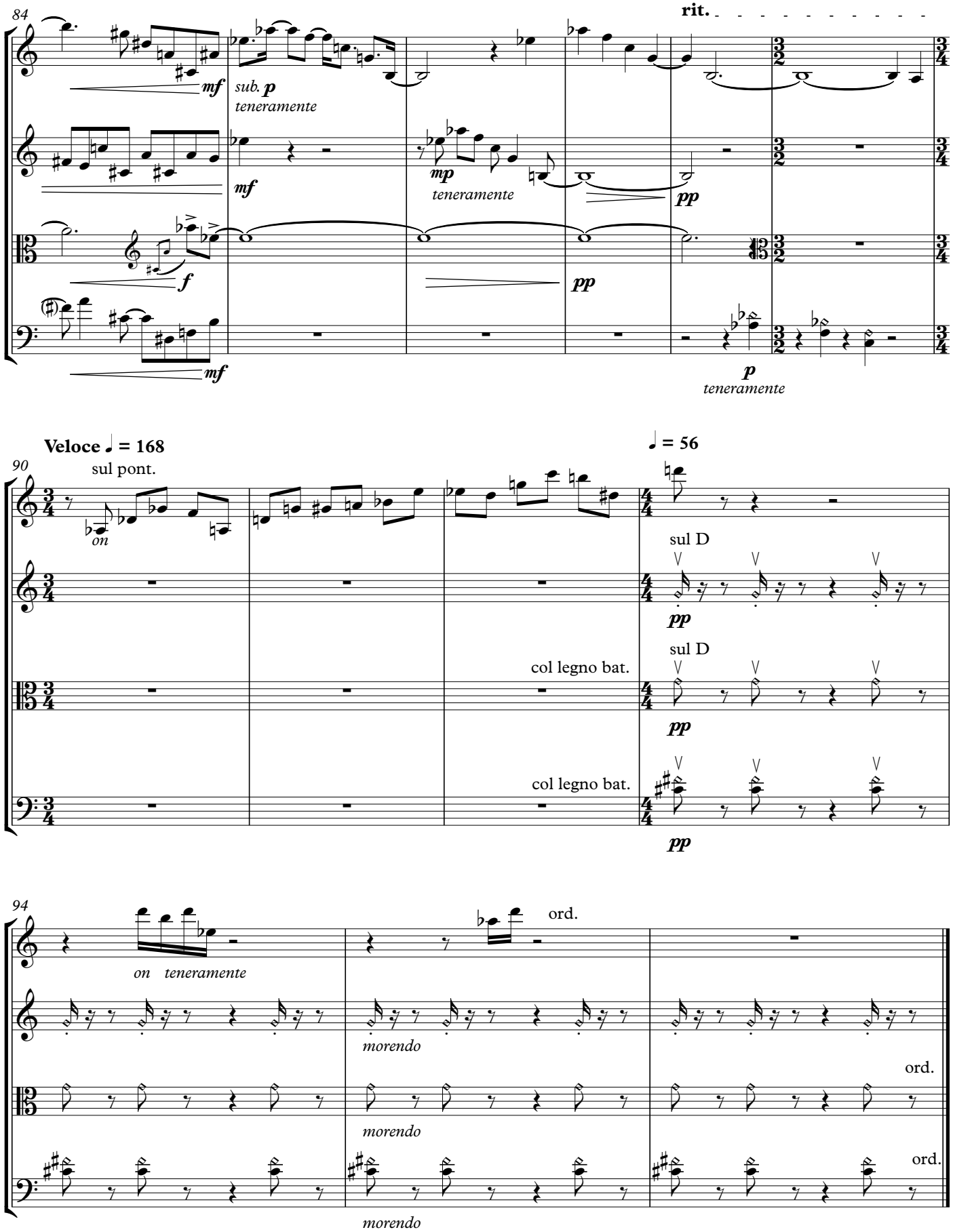

9
risoluto e marcato
p
sul pont.
teneramente
f
ord.
risoluto (non marcato)
mf
pp
13
Presto ♩ = 168
arco
molto sul tasto
sfpp on
19


26
rit.
32
sub. p
teneramente
♩ = 72
pp
p
teneramente
pp
p
teneramente
35
Presto ♩ = 168
sul pont.
pp
sul pont.
pp
sul pont.
pp
pp
(sul tasto)
pp on

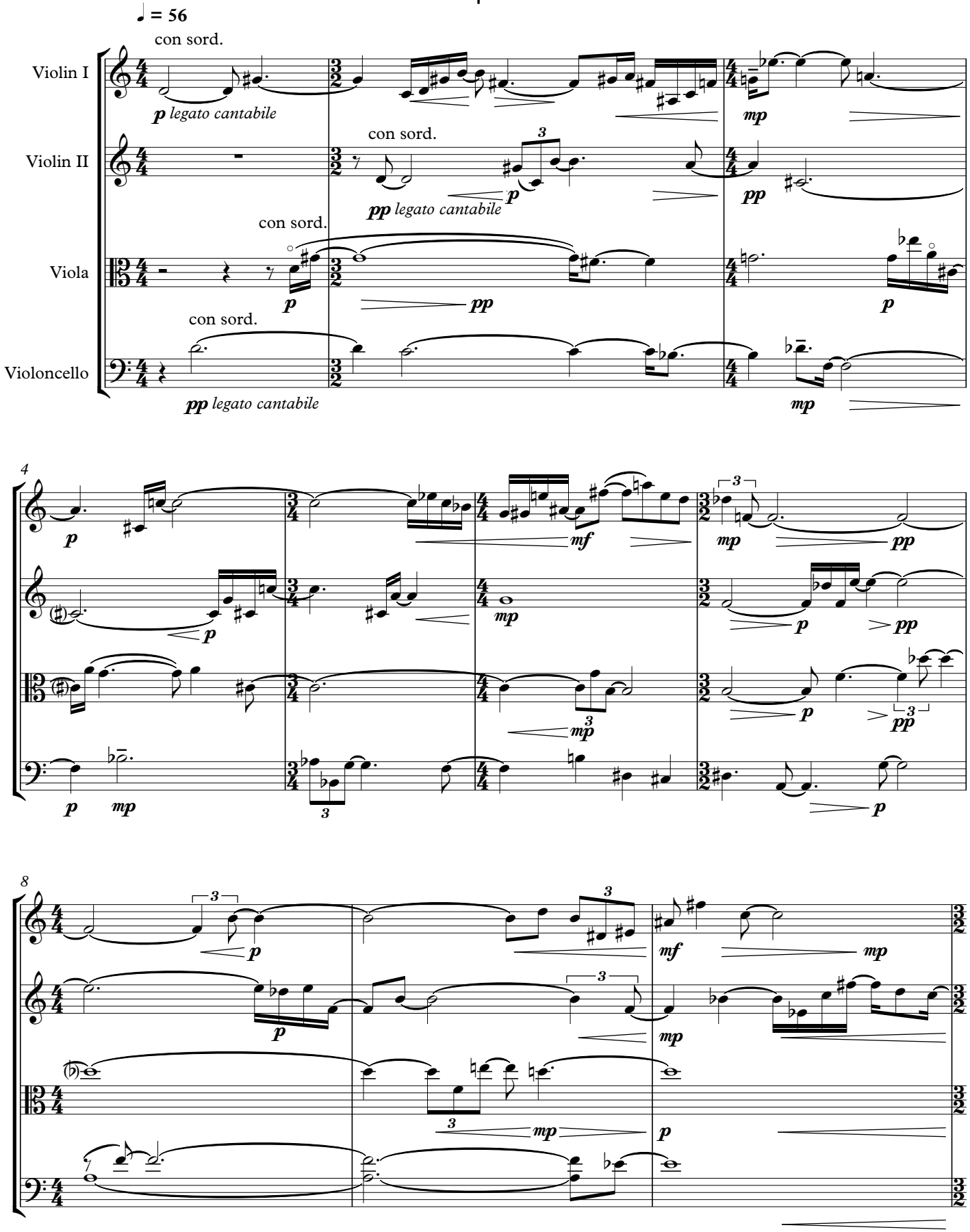

40
ord.
on
ord.
Appassionata
Sub. ♩ = 88 Pesante
molto sul pont.
46
ord.
p spicc.
on
f
f on
ff marcato
molto
sul pont.
53
Più mosso ♩ = 100
risoluto e
marcato
teneramente
mp
p

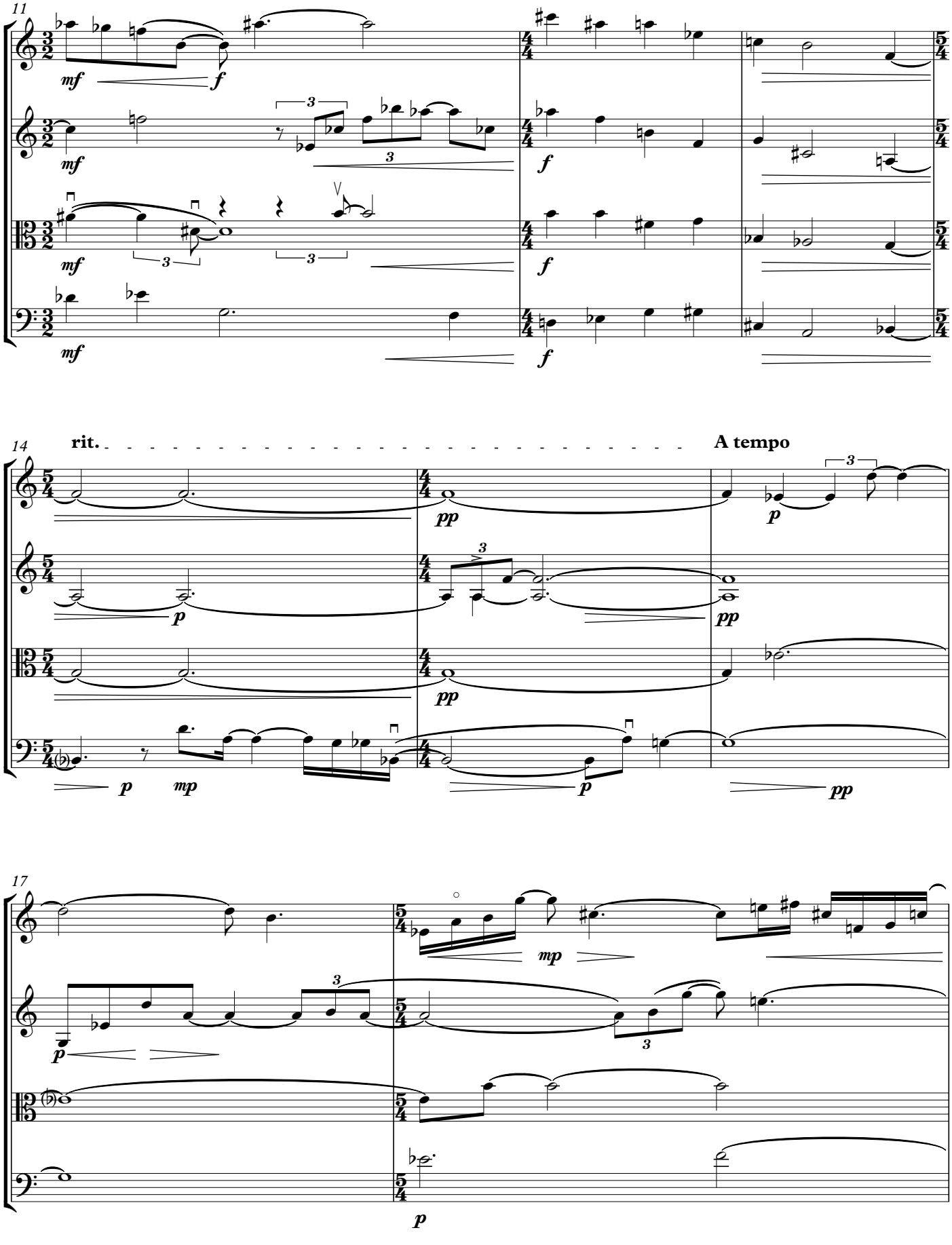

57
poco marcato
mf
mp
p
mp > p
pp legato
62
f risoluto e marcato
mf
mp
molto rit.
Pesante ♩ = 56
65
ff
f
poco marc.
ff

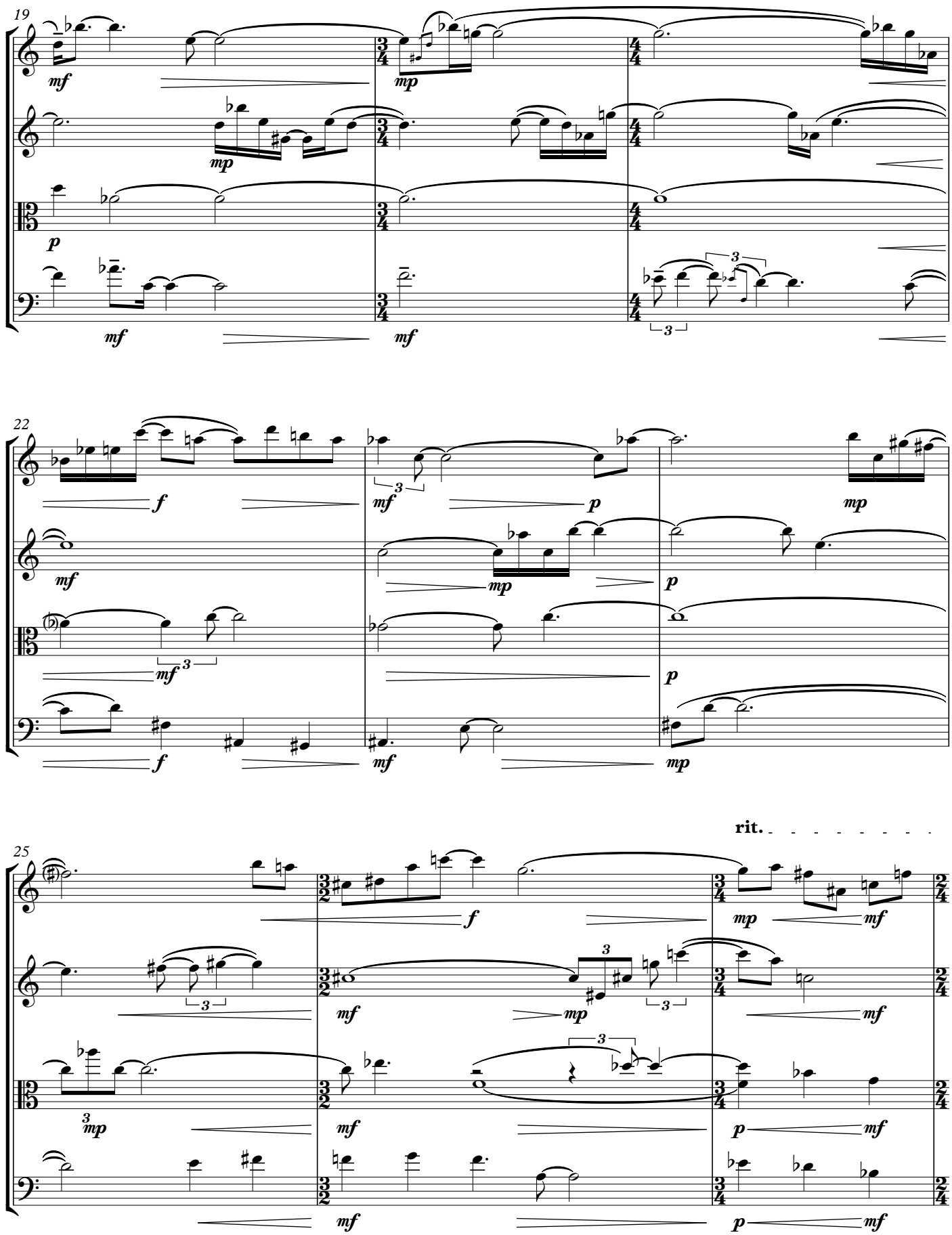

rit.
A tempo
68
p
simile
ppp
estinto
Doloroso
♩ = 84
73
legato
mf
mp
poco rit.
A tempo
79


84
rit.
mf
sub. p
teneramente
mf
mp
teneramente
pp
f
pp
mf
p
teneramente
Veloce ♩ = 168
♩ = 56
90
sul pont.
on
sul D
pp
col legno bat.
sul D
pp
col legno bat.
pp
94
on teneramente
ord.
morendo
ord.
morendo
ord.
morendo

Landscapes Adrift

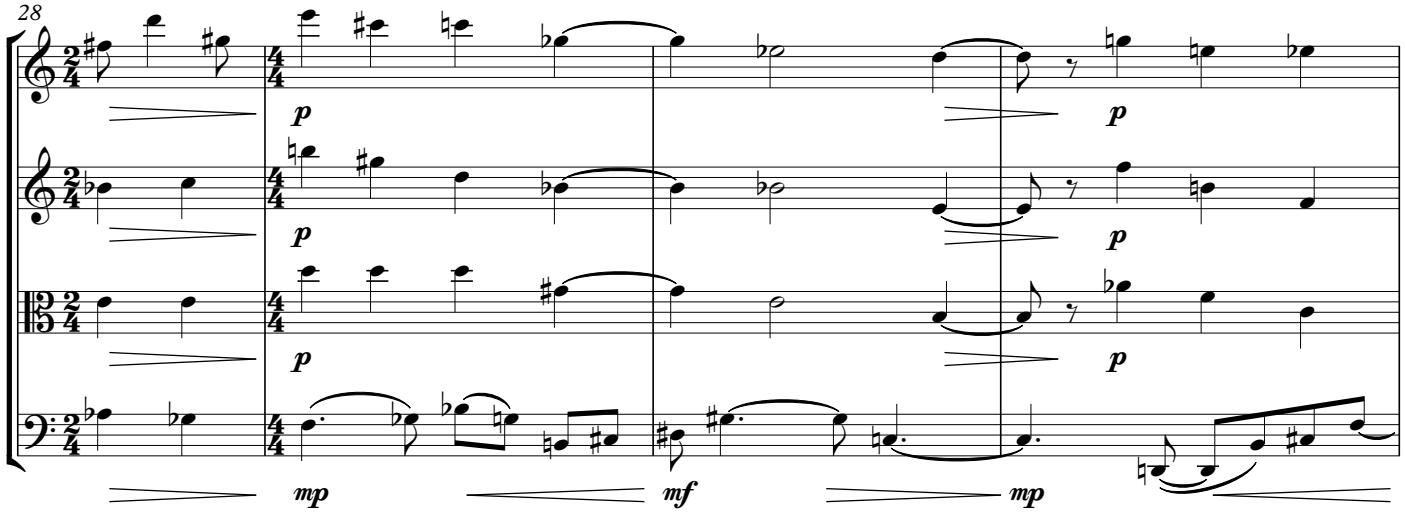



11
14
rit.
A tempo
17


19
22
25
rit.

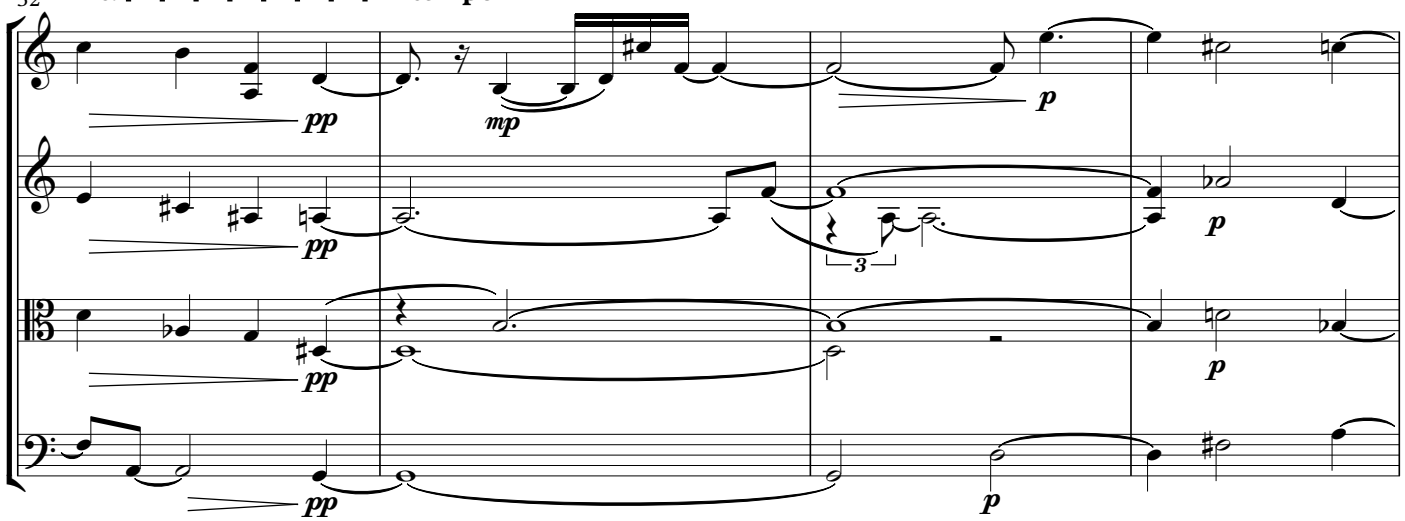
28

A tempo

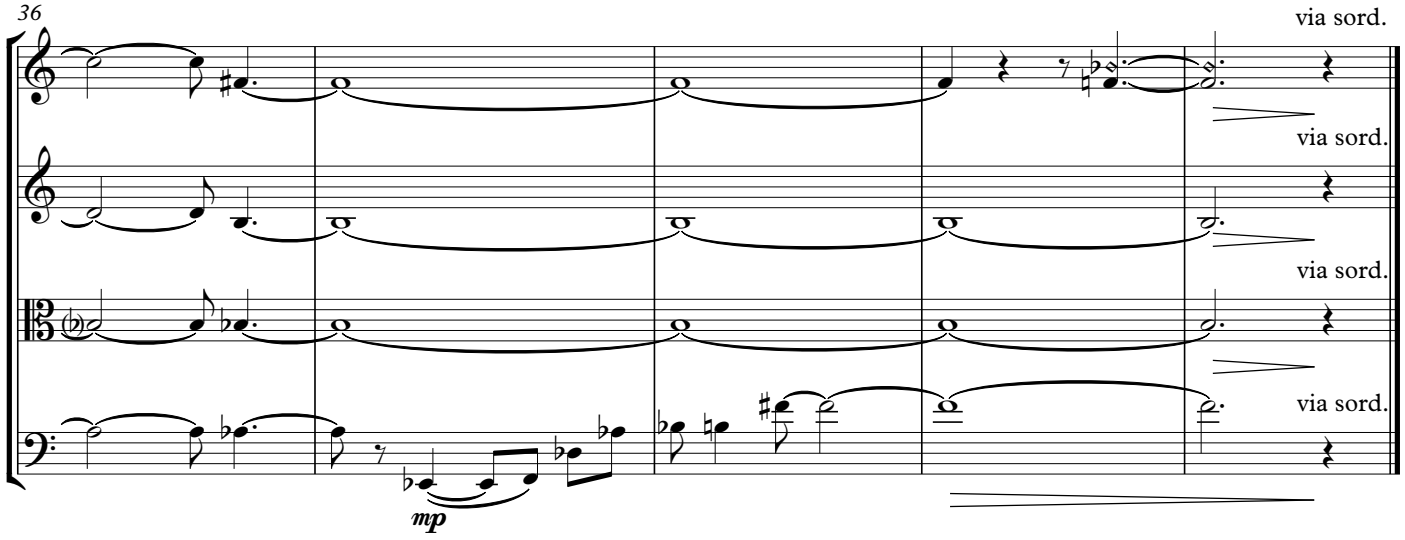


32

rit. A tempo



36

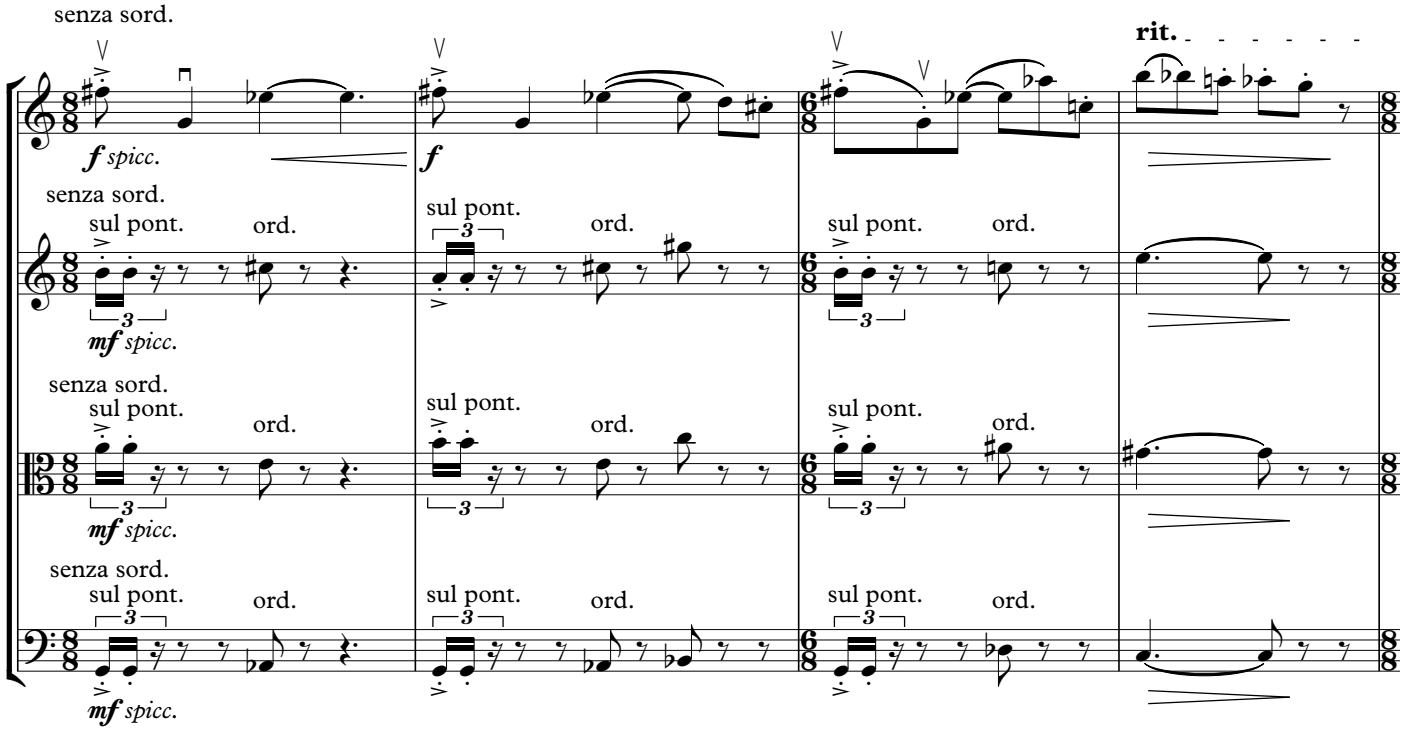


Shifting Landscapes

Scherzando capriccioso

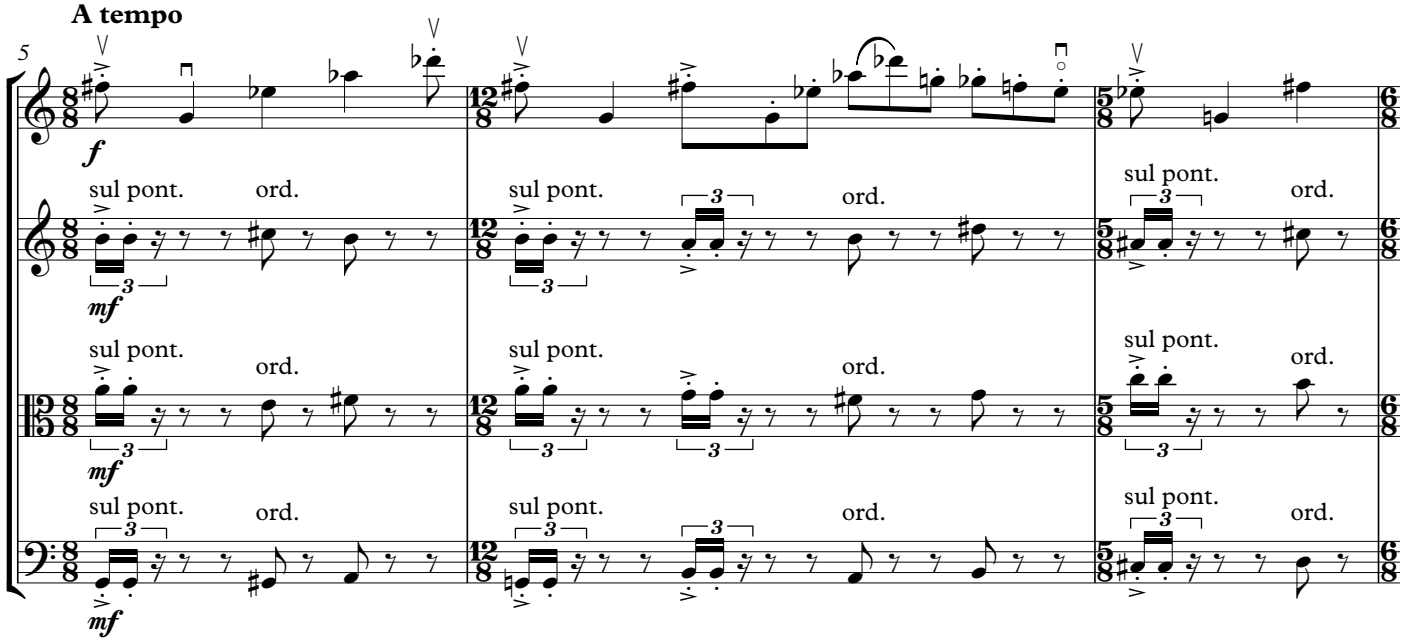
♩. = 88

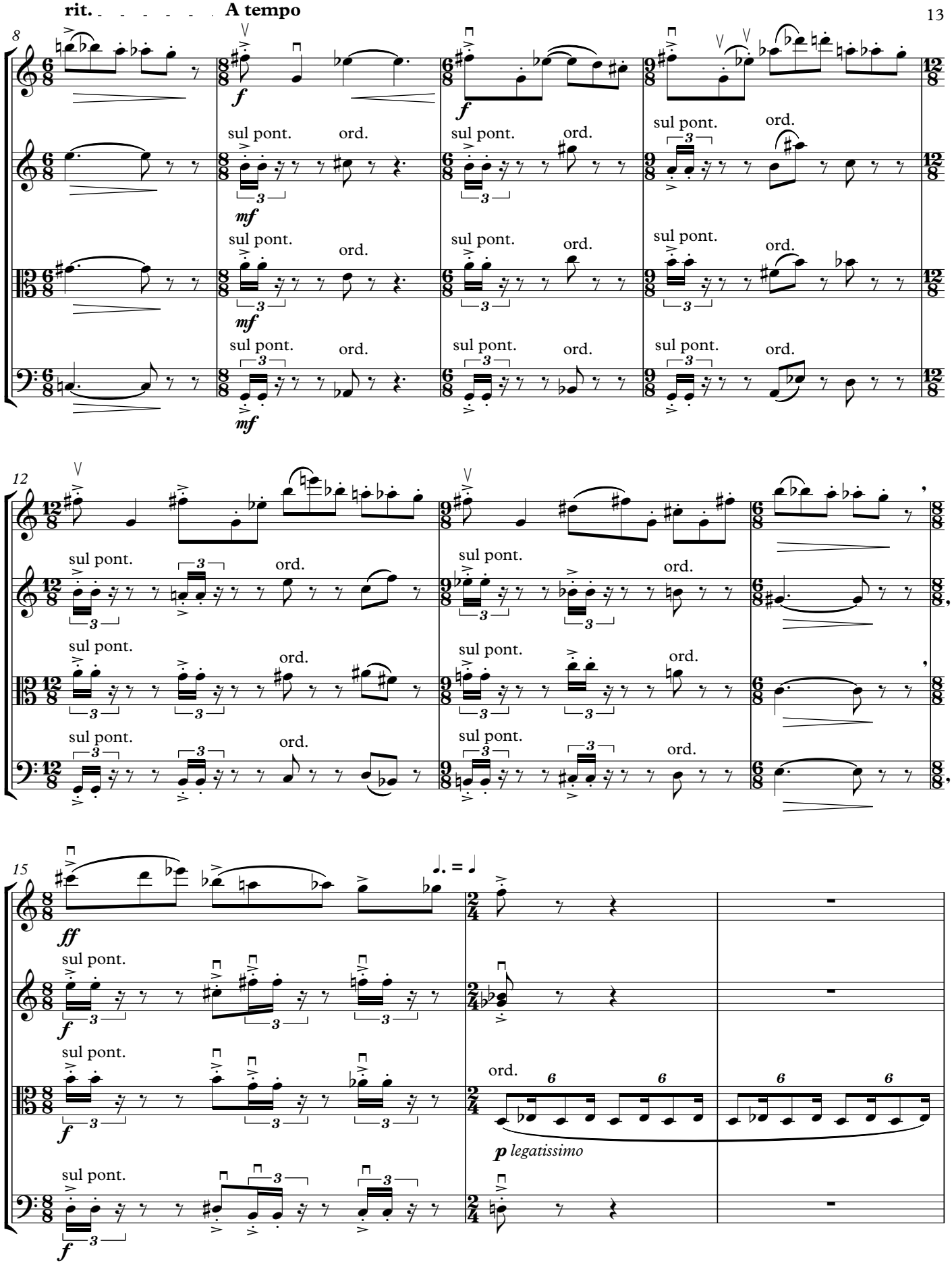
senza sord.

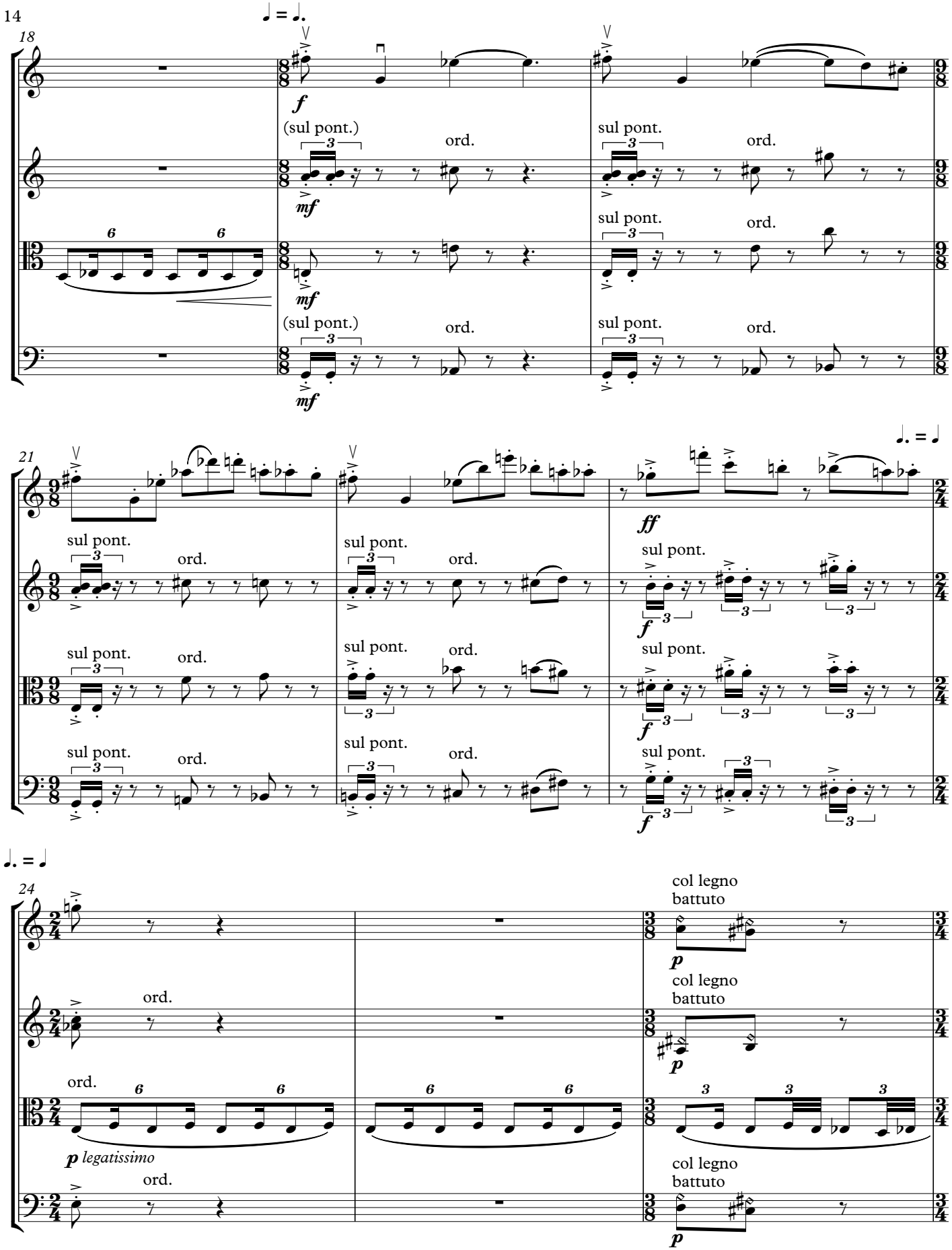


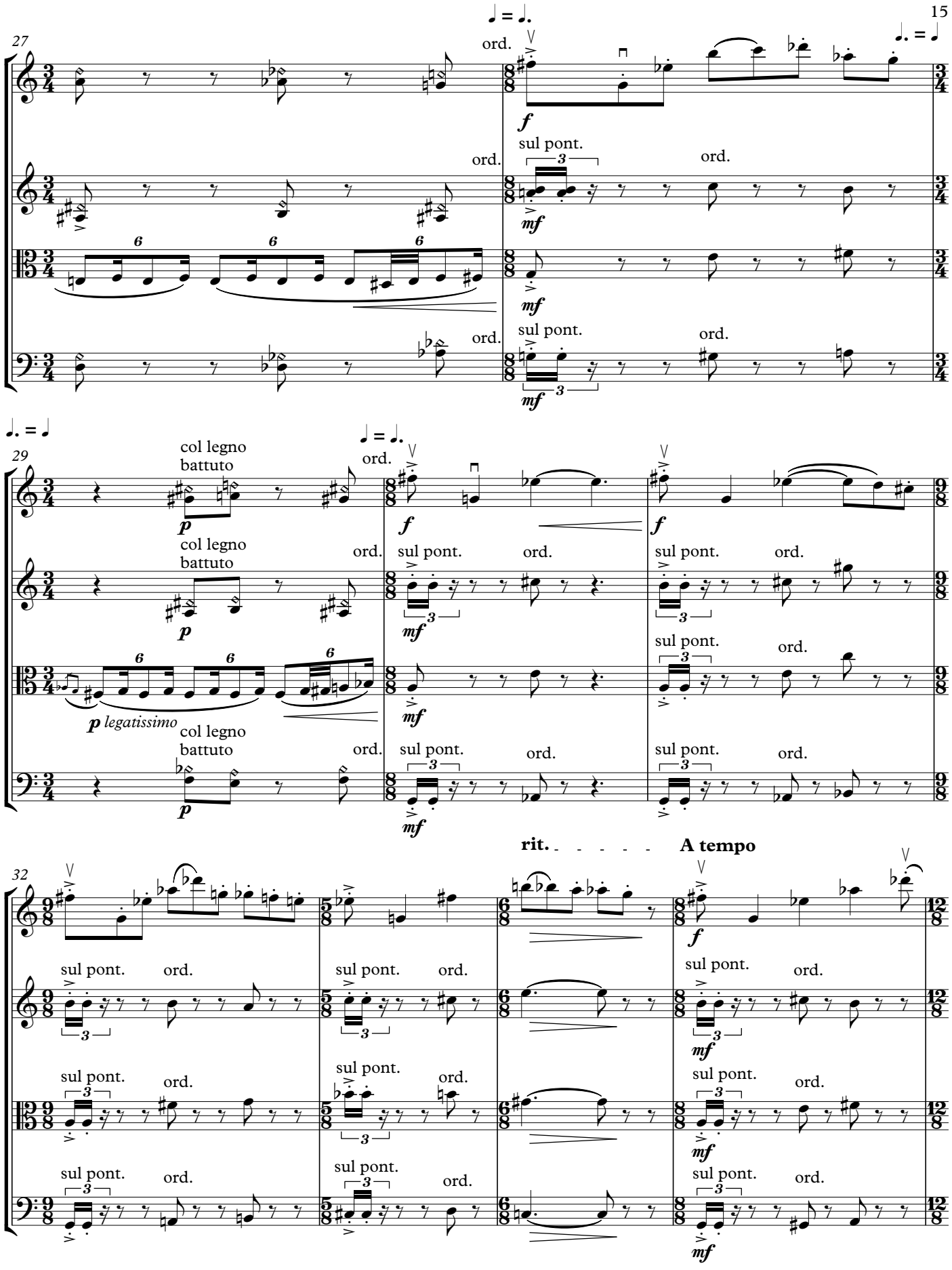
A tempo

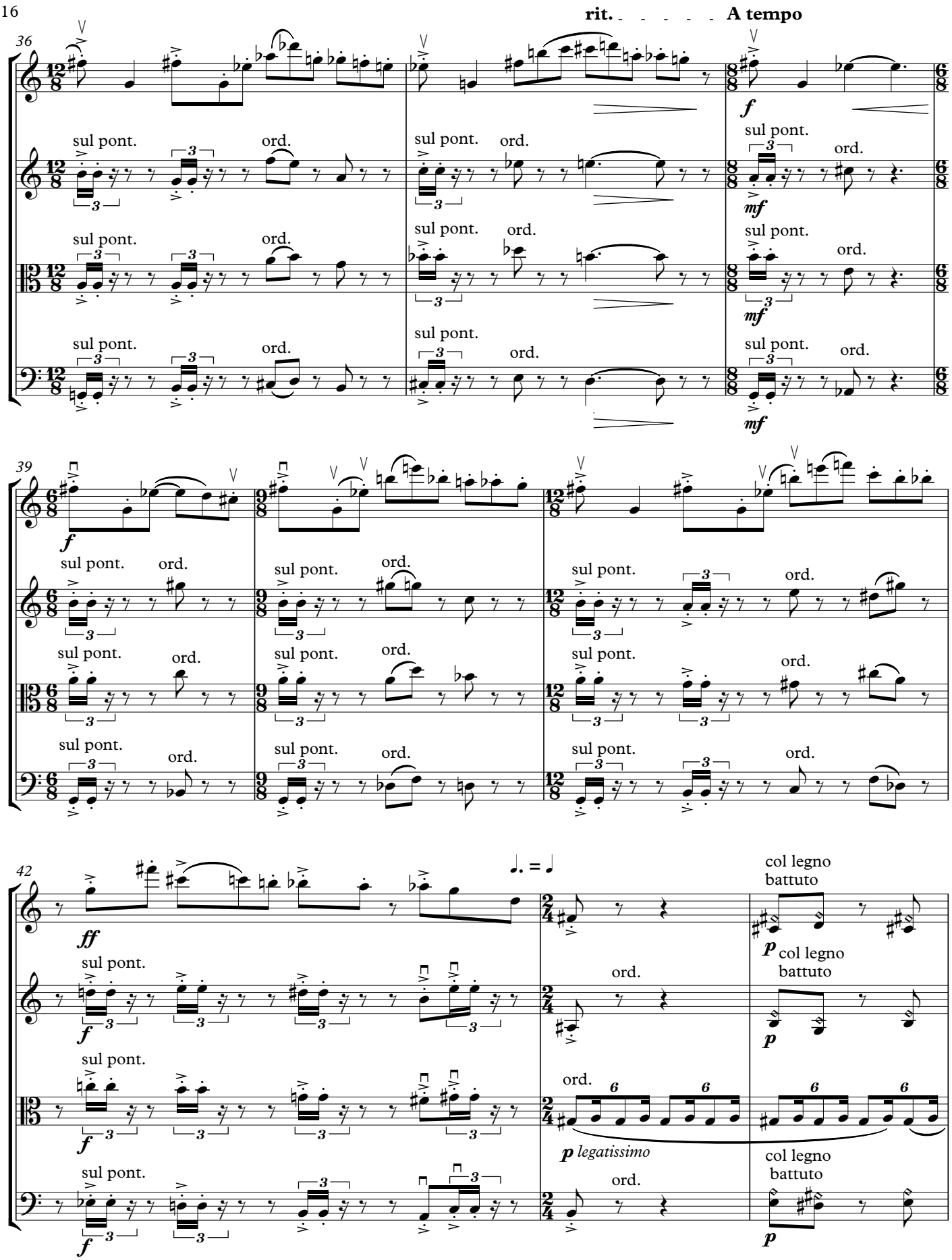
5

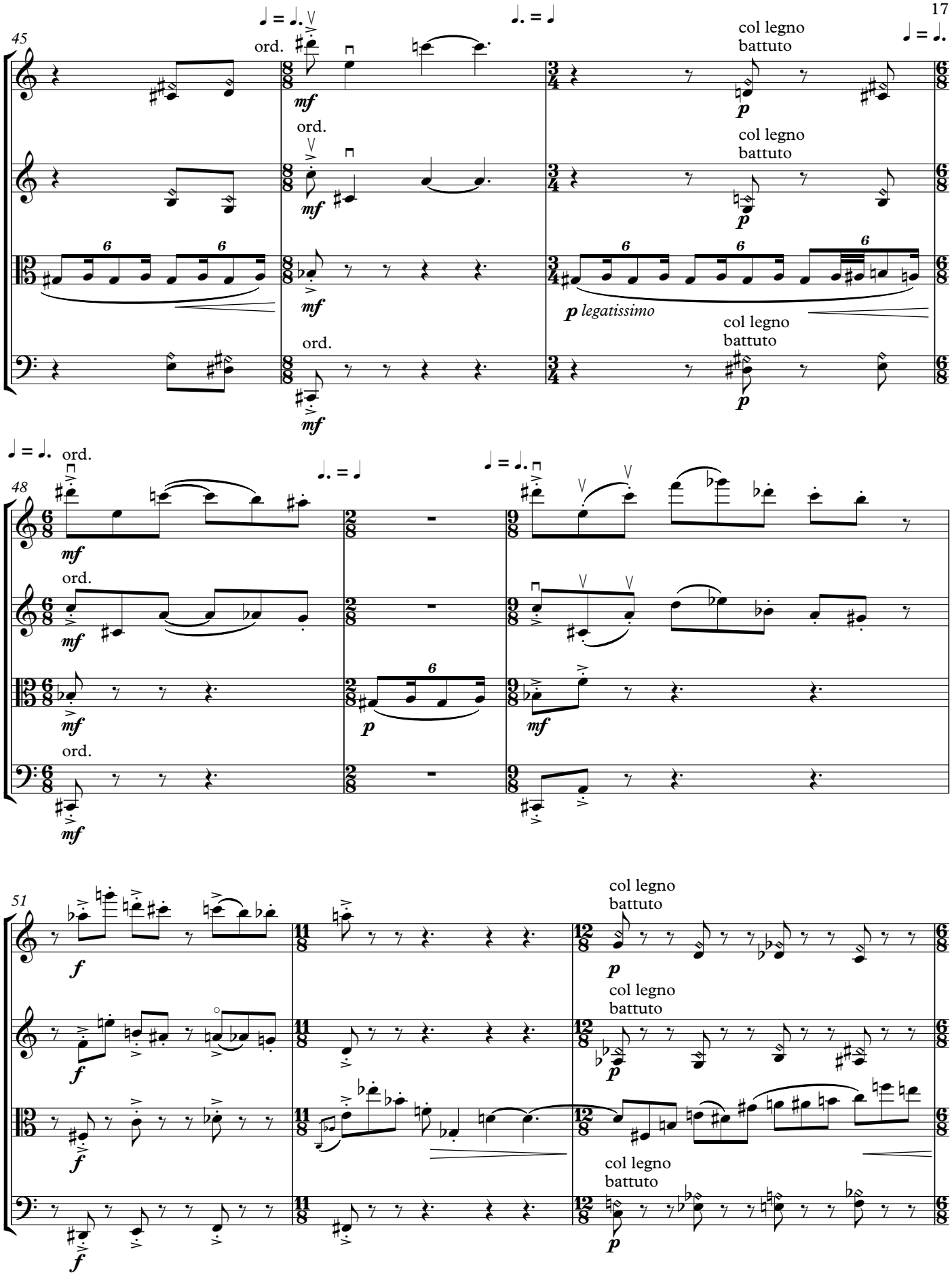


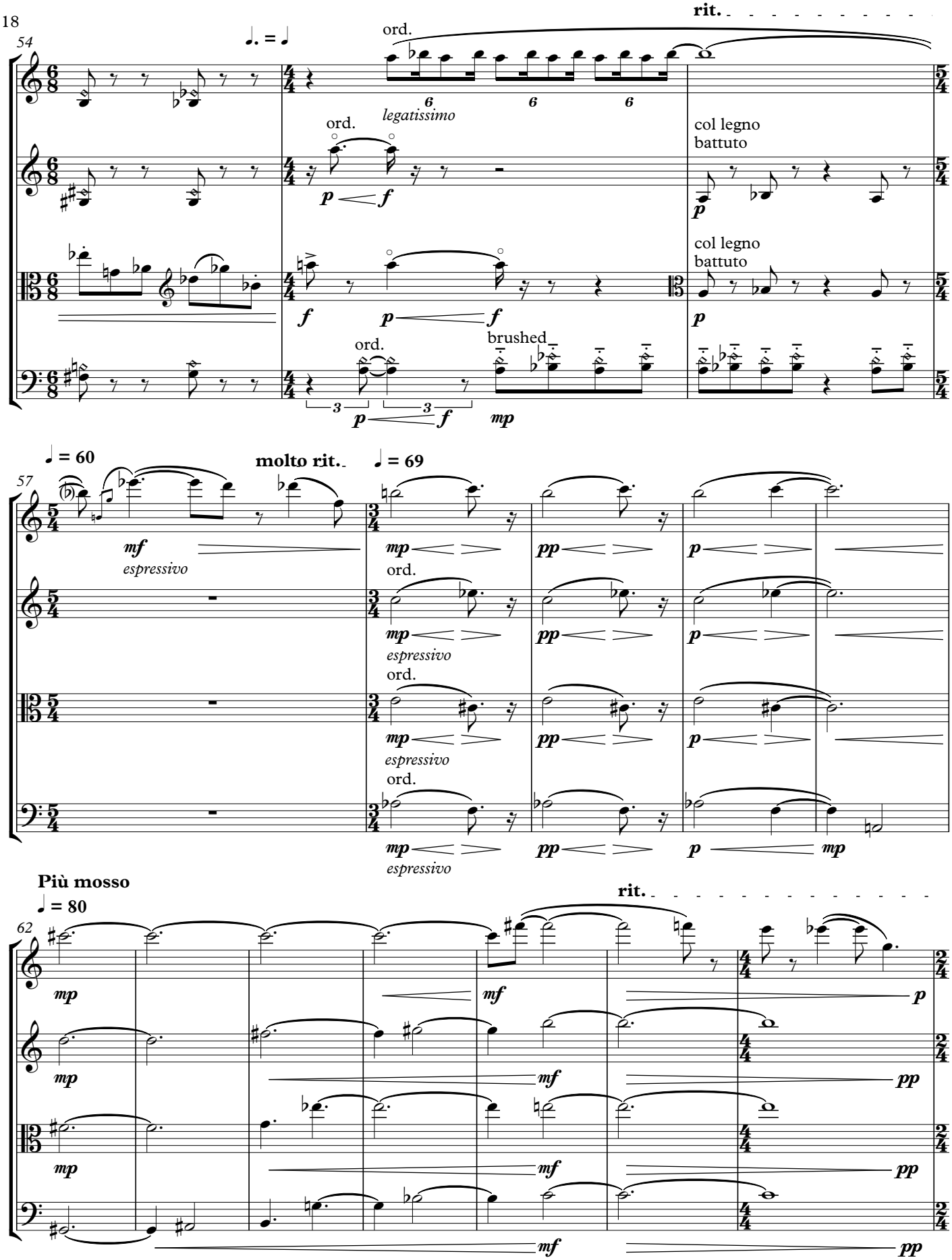

rit.
A tempo
8
12
15
sul pont.
ord.
f
mf
ff
p legatissimo

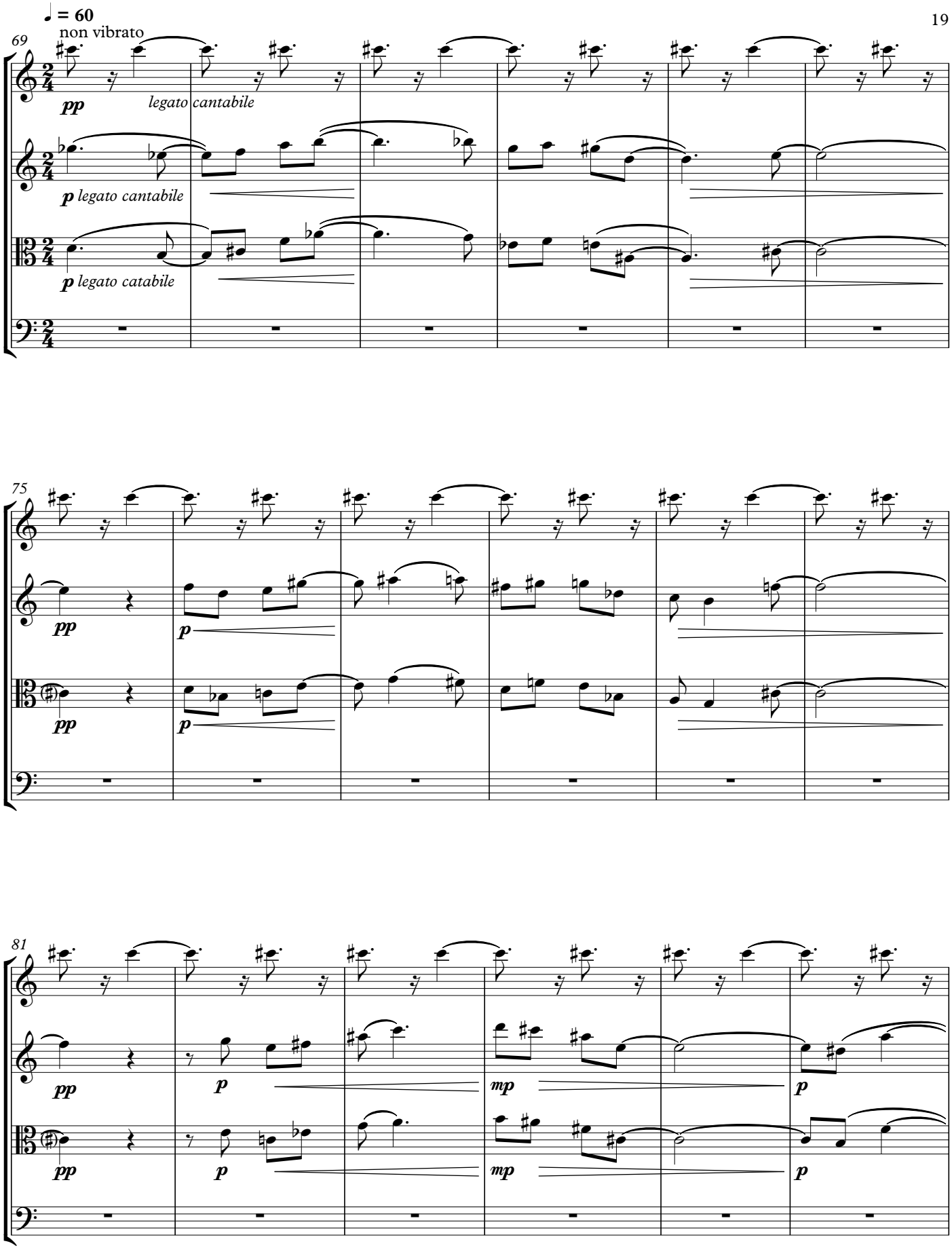

18
♩ = ♩.
f
(sul pont.)
ord.
mf
sul pont.
21
♩. = ♩
ff
24
p legatissimo
col legno battuto

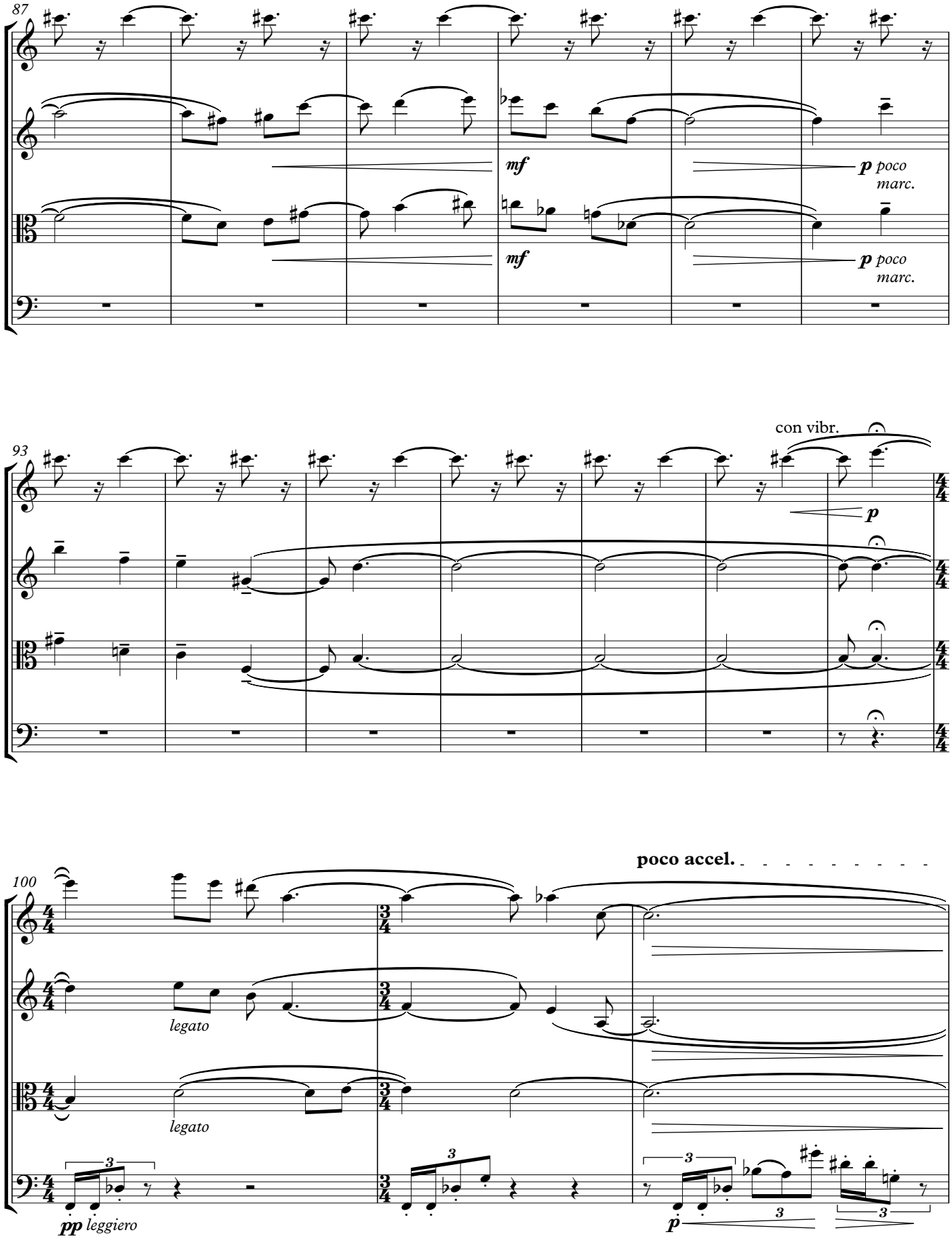

27
29
32
ord.
sul pont.
col legno battuto
legatissimo
rit.
A tempo

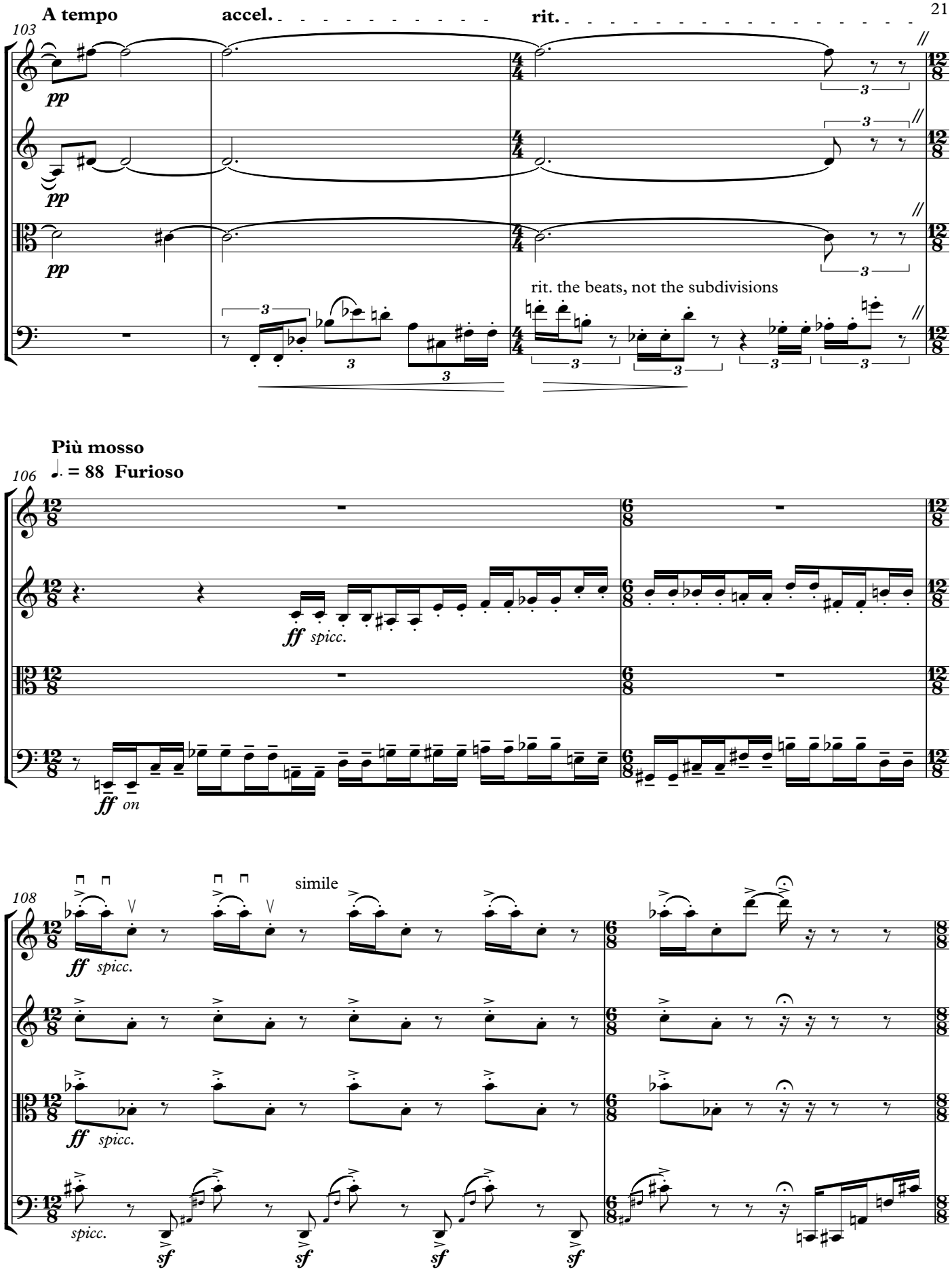

rit.
A tempo
36
sul pont.
ord.
f
mf
39
ff
42
col legno battuto
p
legatissimo

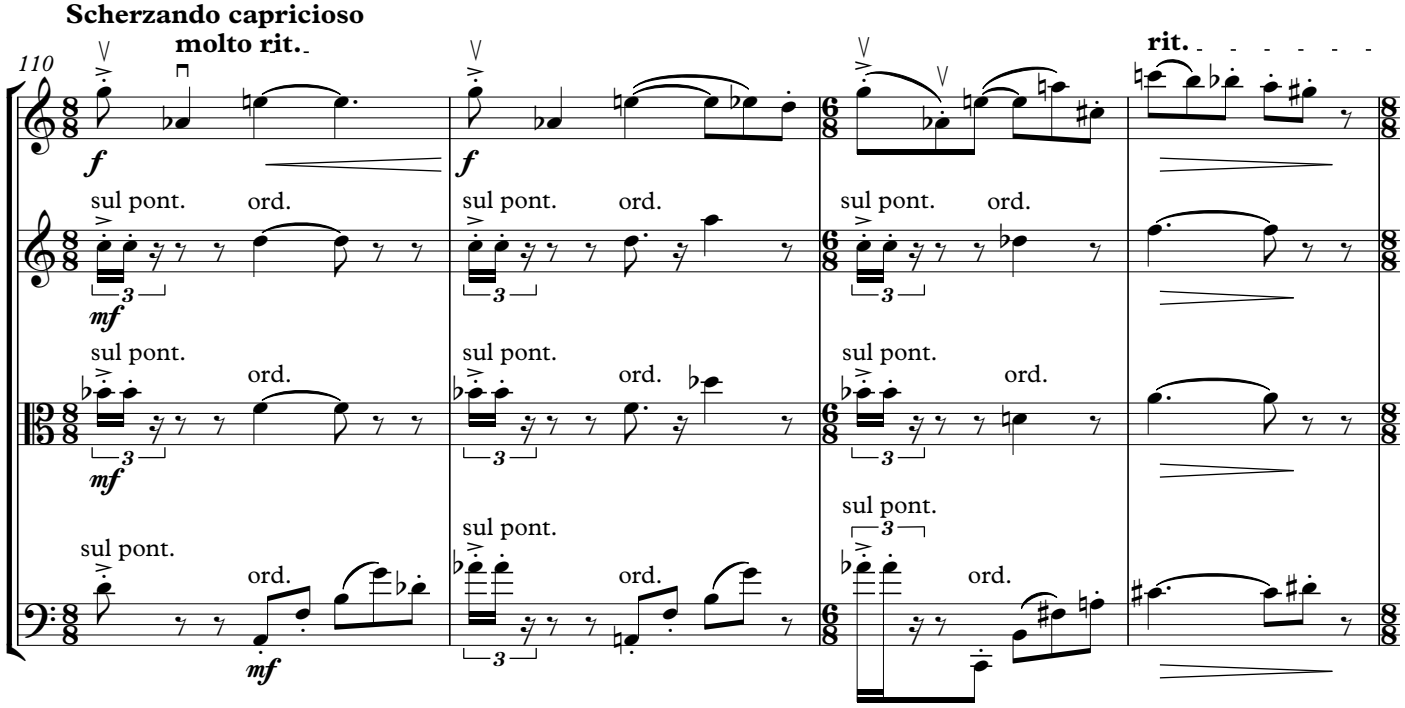

45
ord.
mf
col legno battuto
p
p legatissimo
48
51
f

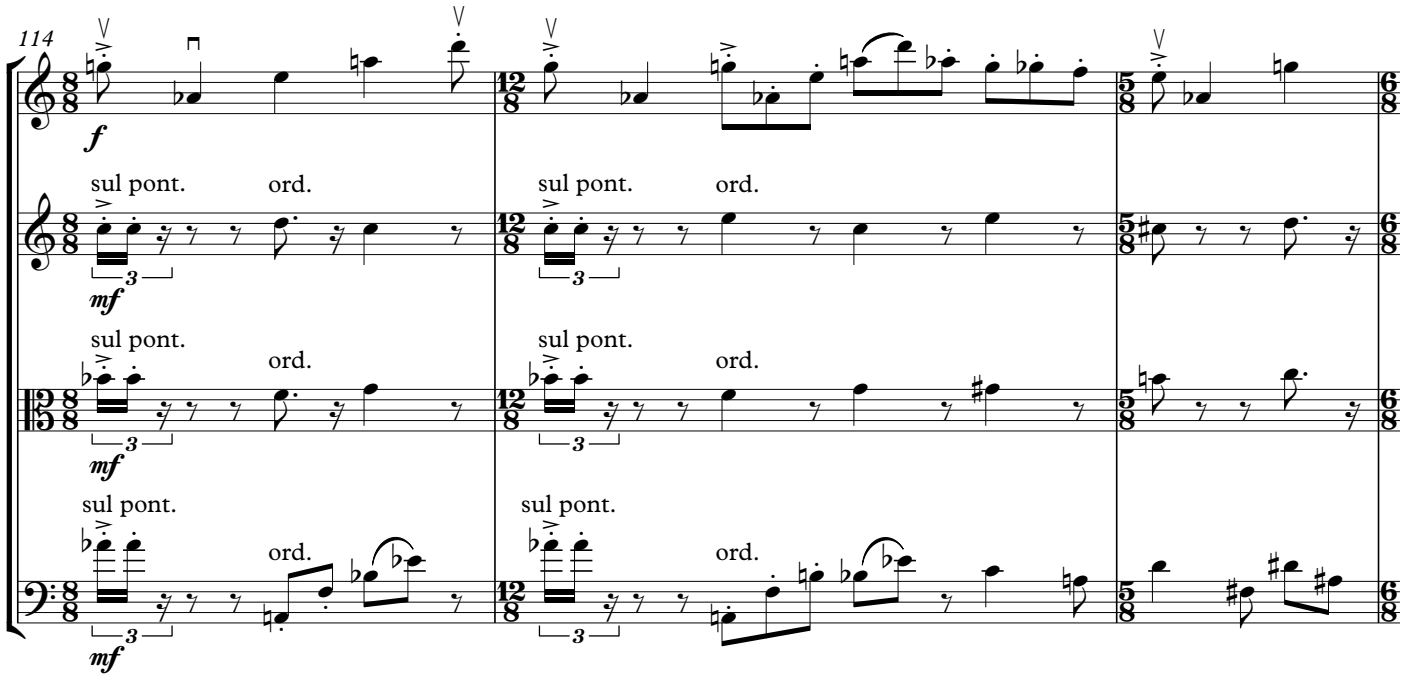

54
rit.
ord.
legatissimo
col legno battuto
brushed
57
molto rit.
espressivo
Più mosso
62

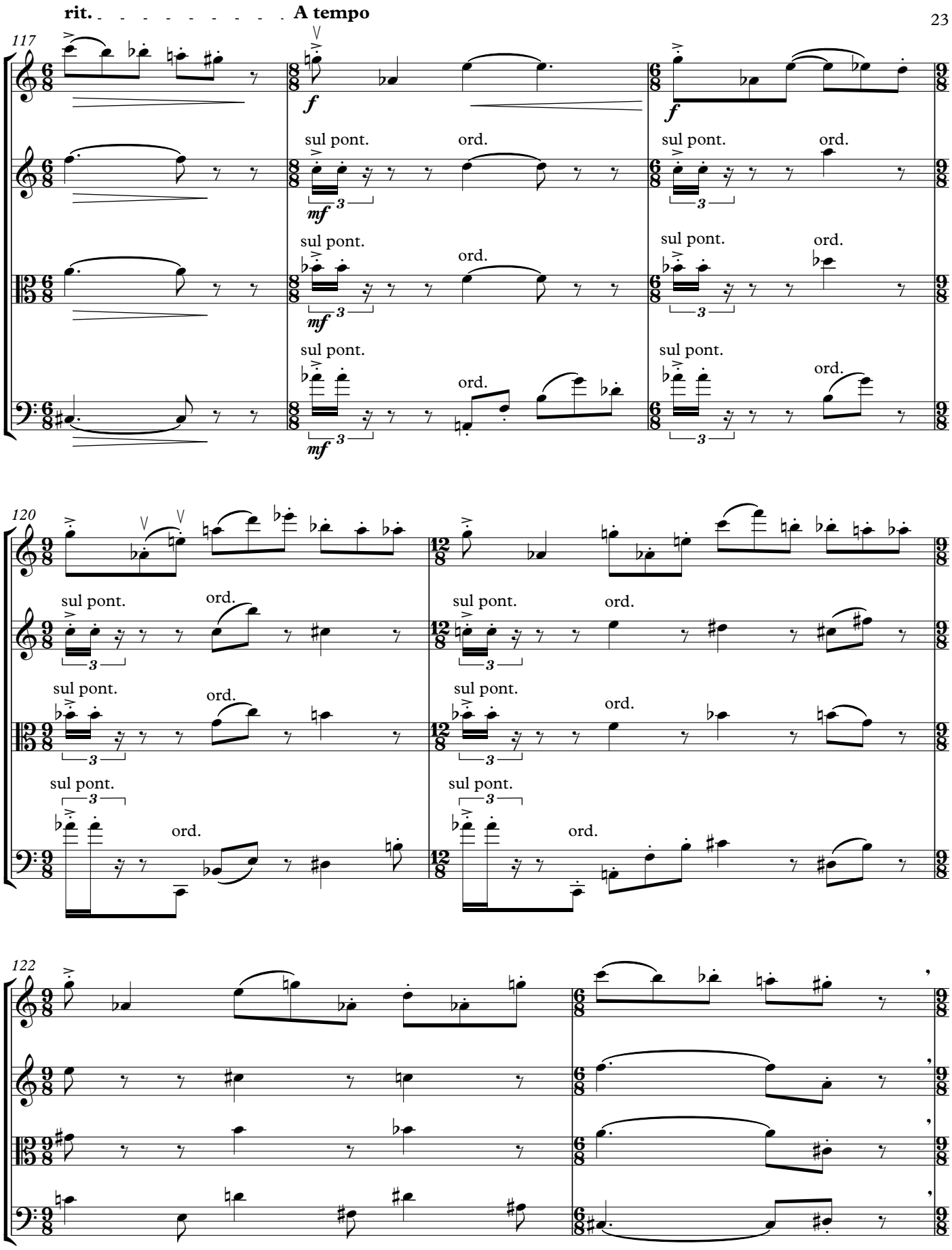

♩ = 60
non vibrato
69
pp
legato cantabile
p legato cantabile
p legato catabile
75
pp
p
pp
p
81
pp
p
mp
p
pp
p
mp
p

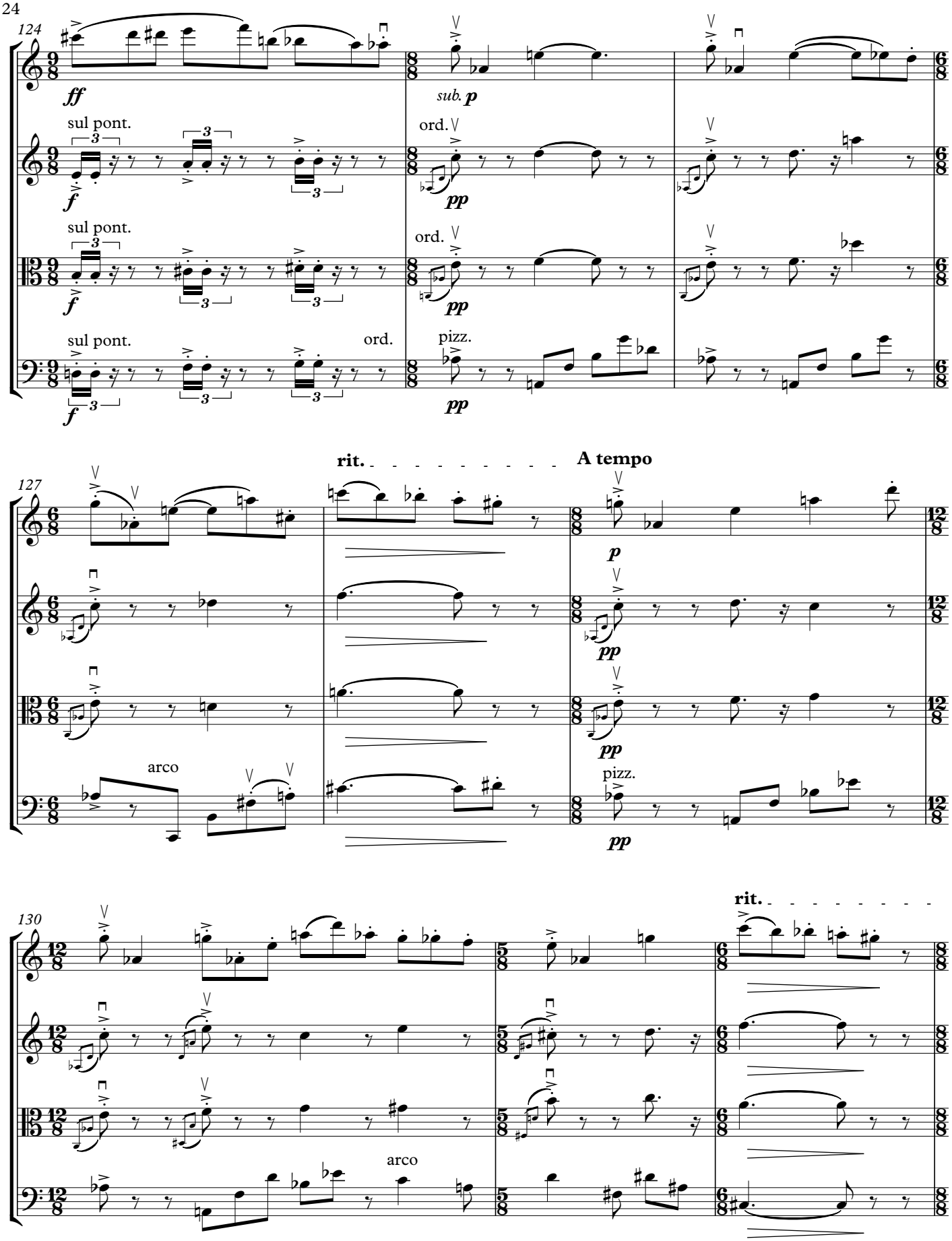

87
mf
p poco marc.
mf
p poco marc.
93
con vibr.
p
100
poco accel.
legato
legato
pp leggiero
p


A tempo
accel.
rit.
103
pp
pp
pp
rit. the beats, not the subdivisions
Più mosso
♩. = 88 Furioso
106
ff spicc.
ff on
simile
108
ff spicc.
ff spicc.
spicc.
sf
sf
sf
sf


Scherzando capricioso
molto rit.
rit.
110
f
mf
sul pont.
ord.
3


A tempo
114
f
mf
sul pont.
ord.
3


rit.
A tempo
117
f
sul pont.
ord.
mf
3
120
122


124
ff
sub. p
sul pont.
ord.
f
pp
pizz.
127
rit.
A tempo
p
arco
130
rit.

A tempo

133

f

mf

mf

mf

136

Poco più mosso

139

ff

molto sul pont.

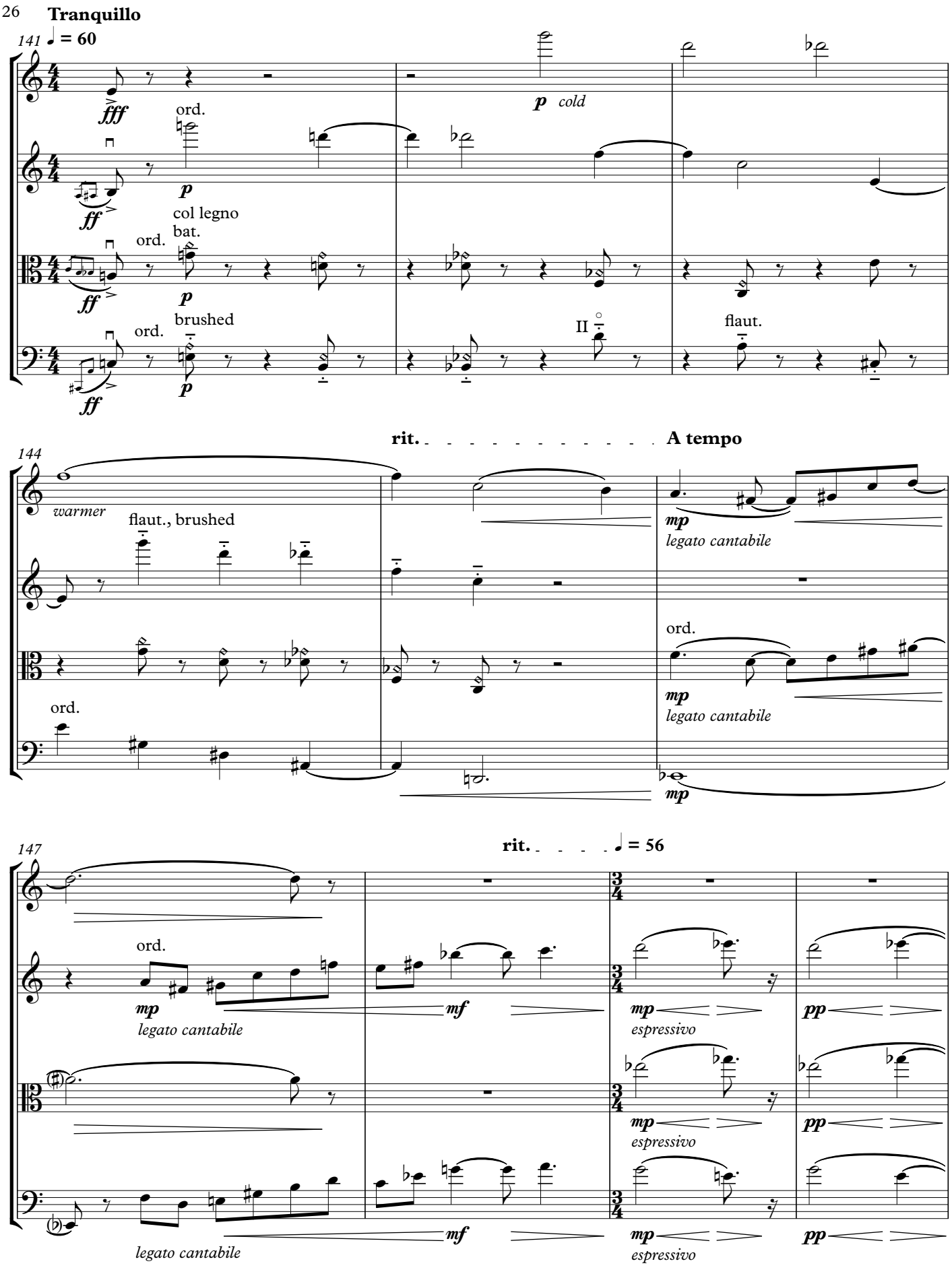
f

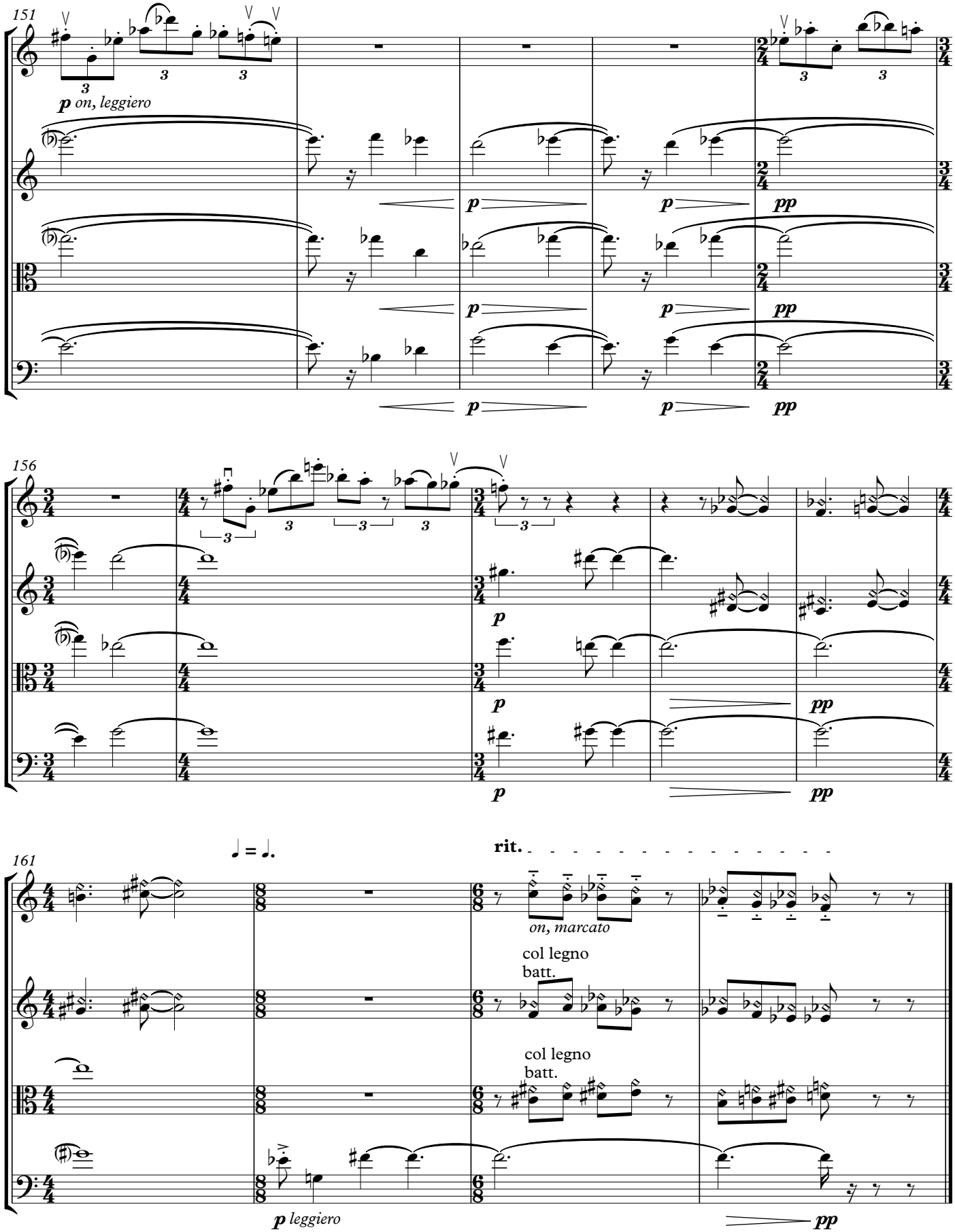
molto sul pont.

f

molto sul pont.

f


Tranquillo
141
♩ = 60
fff
ord.
p
cold
ff
col legno bat.
brushed
II
flaut.
144
rit.
A tempo
warmer
flaut., brushed
mp
legato cantabile
147
rit.
♩ = 56
mf
espressivo
pp


151
p on, leggiero
156
161
♩ = ♩.
rit.
on, marcato
col legno batt.
col legno batt.
p leggiero
pp