IAN KEITH HARRIS

# FUNFARE

Woodwind Quartet in One Movement

AMORIS INTERNATIONAL
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AEN 009

# Ian Keith Harris

(1935-)

Australian composer, arranger, oboist, music educator, critic and eclectic musician, Ian Harris, was born in Melbourne in 1935, living there for the first 26 years of his life. He started the piano at the age of five and three years later was playing cornet in his school band. He took up the violin shortly after this, playing for several years, but relinquished it when he became his school pianist at thirteen. The oboe came next, and in 1953, he began his Bachelor of Music degree at Melbourne University Conservatorium of Music taking piano as chief study and oboe as second. National Service in the Army intervened and, this time, Ian Harris played the trombone in the University Regiment. The same year, he changed to oboe as his chief study. The trombone did not impress Jiři Tancibudek, his professor! This time, the piano was his second study and composition (Arthur Nickson) crept in too.

Not surprisingly he was soon in demand as a free-lance orchestral musician, arranger and copyist, working in a very eclectic mix of musical spheres from arranging for Eartha Kitt (television and various theatrical shows), to playing in opera, ballet, chamber music and symphony orchestras. He was a founding member of the *Glendenian Trio*, (flute, oboe, bassoon), which gave regular broadcasts over several years. The trio was another area in which his skills at arrangement were frequently employed.

Ian Harris moved to Hobart, Tasmania, in 1961 (Tasmanian Orchestra), was seconded to the Sydney Symphony Orchestra (cor anglais) for several months, returned to Tasmania only to be seconded again, this time to the Victorian Symphony Orchestra (oboe).

Back again in Tasmania, his next move was to Wellington, New Zealand (1965-1974) to join NZBCSO (the New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation Symphony Orchestra) as Principal Cor anglais. During this time, in which he yo-yoed across Australasia, Harris tutored at the universities of Tasmania, Melbourne, and the Victoria University of Wellington. It was at the latter that he completed his degree in composition (with David Farquhar) in 1969. He was to return yet again to Tasmania at the end of 1974.

However, this time, he embraced a new career as a music educator with his move. His wealth of instrumental and orchestral experience was invaluable to his students. He also conducted the Tasmanian Junior Youth Orchestra for several years.

Harris was a dedicated member of policy committees, especially in Education and the Arts. A great listener to music and musicians, he served as music critic for *The Mercury,* Hobart's daily newspaper, for several years.

His *oeuvre* consists mainly of chamber music, much of which has been performed and broadcast: *Microsymphony for Cor anglais Quartet* (cor anglais, string trio), *Oboe Quartet* (oboe, string trio), *Essay for Bassoon and Strings*, *Sonata for Viola and Piano*, amongst many other pieces and numerous arrangements for broadcasts and concerts.

His sense of fun has shown in many of his compositions including, *A Piece with Strawberry Jam*, *The Little Dog's Day* (Rupert Brooke), *'Paw de trois'- Three Dances for Canines* (for Woodwind Quintet, with movements dedicated to his dogs by name), *The Whitebait Fishers* –

> *"**A sort of Donizetti-like spoof for harpsichord, string quartet and small choir, for which the producer of the hour-long national radio show penned the libretto for this, a special anniversary broadcast of the programme**."*

Harris orchestrated songs for symphony concerts, including a version of *The Last Rose of Summer* for Rita Streich (1920-1987). He also wrote, directed and even performed in advertising jingles, playing celesta, oboe, cor anglais or whatever was required.

Ian Harris moved back to Sydney definitively in 2000 and has since devoted himself to composition and a considerable *entourage* of cats (10) and dogs (5). He is a keen gardener and chef and a passionate enthusiast of the oboe d'amore. A close friend of Jennifer Paull, he has written many works for her.

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## FunFare

Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon

AEN 009

***Luna Park*** is Melbourne's iconic amusement park located on the foreshore of Port Philip Bay. It was established in 1912 by the American showman, J.D. Williams, in partnership with the Phillips brothers (also American), who stayed on to run it until their deaths in the 1950s. Williams returned to the United States the following year (1913) to help establish First National Films, which later became Warner Brothers. The attraction park was designed and built by the English engineer, T.H. Eslick and is still in operation today.

In this piece I have attempted to depict some attractions that I recall from the 1950s, In form, *FunFare* is a little like Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, with the first-heard Fairground music used as a link between musically unrelated episodes, as follows:

I *The Fairground*
II *Aunt Sally* (one shies balls at a row of moving tin ducks).
III *The Unicyclist and the Clown on Stilts* (who wove unsteadily through the crowd).
IV *The Hall of Mirrors* (the classic maze of distortion mirrors).
V *The Dodgem Cars* (small single-seater electric powered bump-cars).
IV *The Geriatric Merry-Go-Round* (a large carousel built in 1913).
VII *The Big Dipper* (reputedly the oldest continuously running roller coaster in the world - demolished in 1989).

Ian Keith Harris
2010

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*Works by Ian Keith Harris published by* ***Amoris International*** *include the following*

A Summer Idyll *A* SI 018

An Album of Aquarelles *A* SI 019
*Syrinx and Pan*
*Aurora Australis*
*West of The Winter Wind*

Autumnal Interlude *A* SI 020

Sonatina *A* SI 021

Tasmanian Ants *A* SI 023

The Dark Tower - *Childe Roland to the Dark Tower Came* *A* SI 028

Reflections *A* SI 029

Divertissement *A* EN 006

Sonata - *Les Amours* *A* CM 007

A Consort of Carols *A* EN 008

'Paw de trois'- Three Dances for Canines *A* EN 010

The White Rose *A* OR 003 (String Orchestra etc.) & *A* EN 007 (String Quartet etc.)

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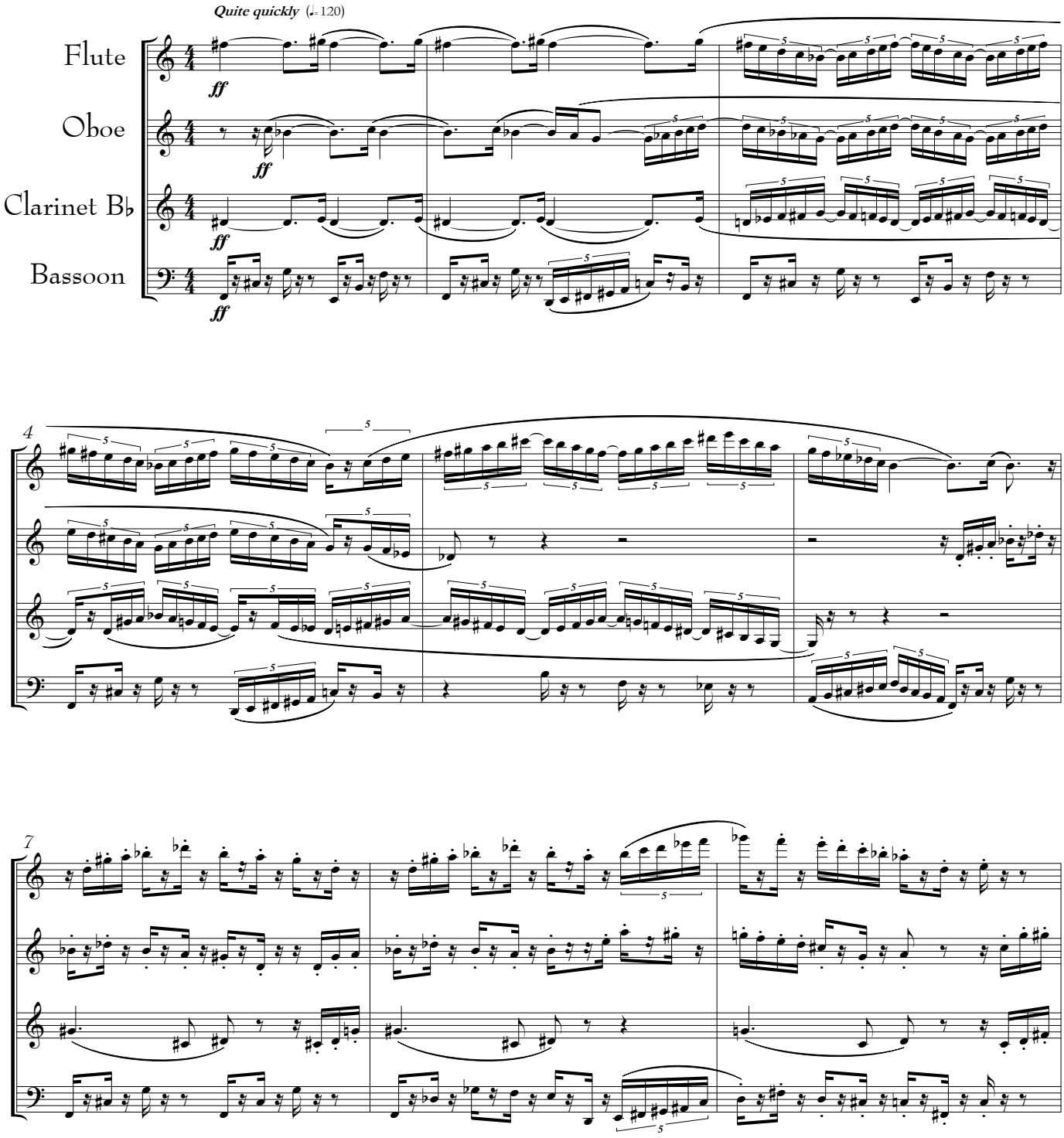
# FUNFARE

**Ian Keith Harris**
(1935 - )

## I The Fairgound





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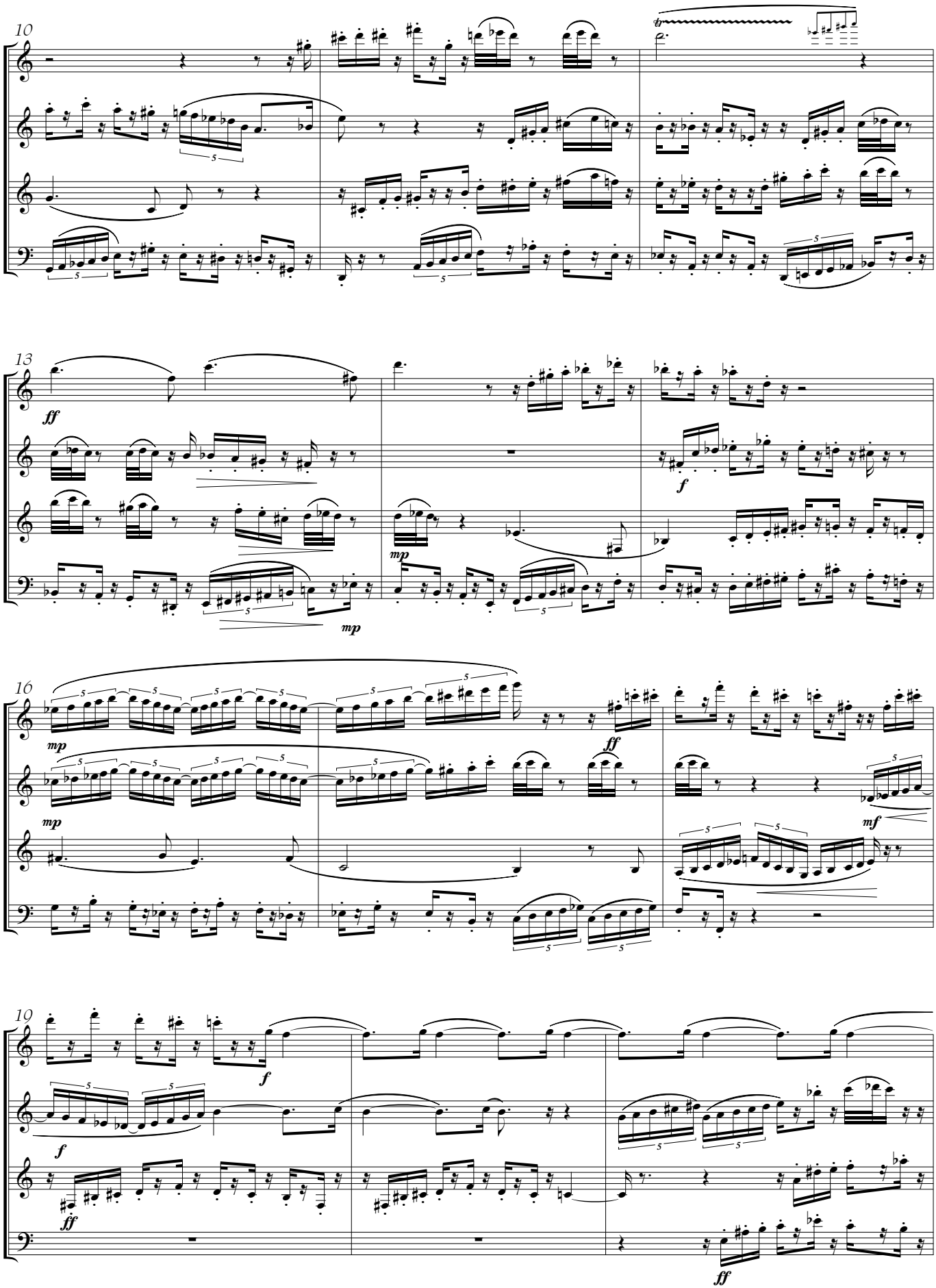
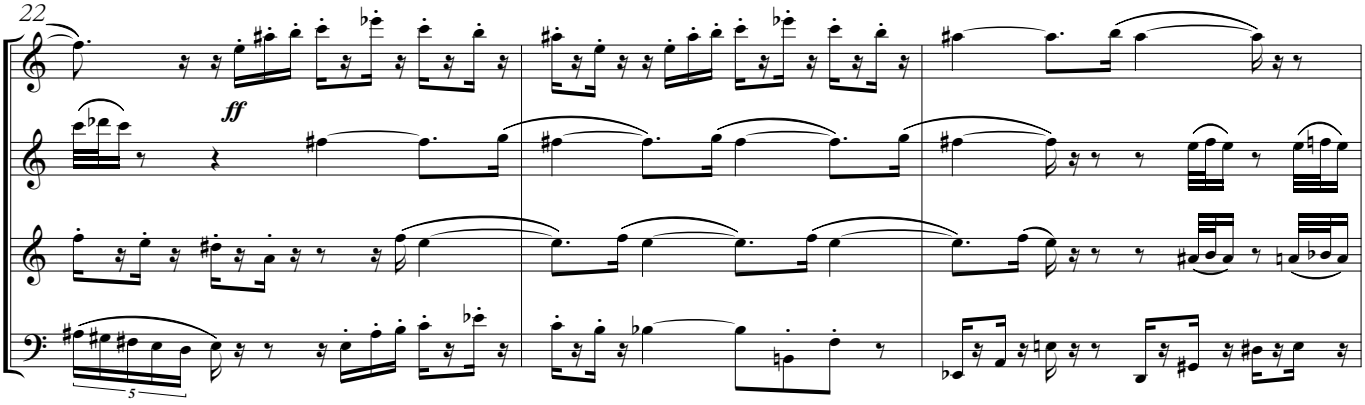
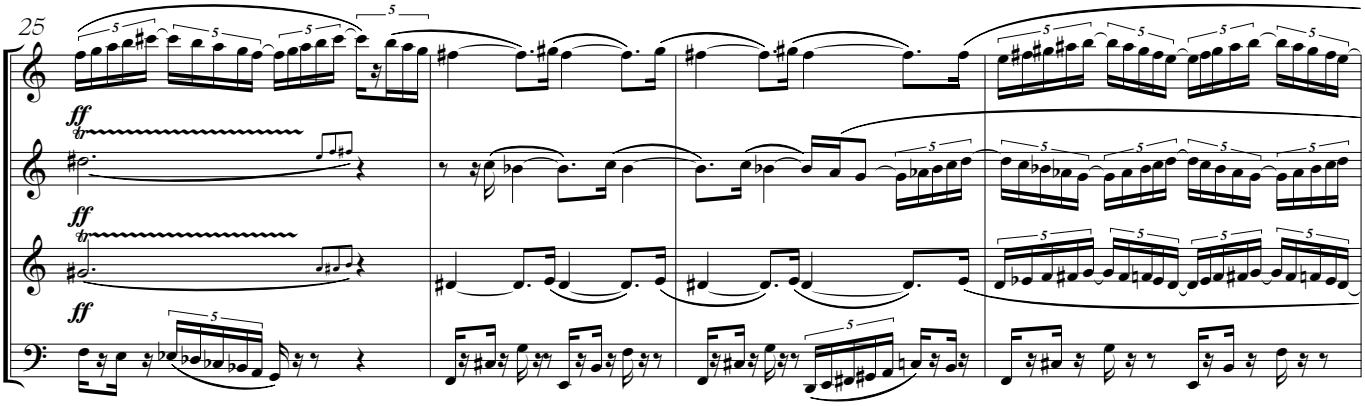
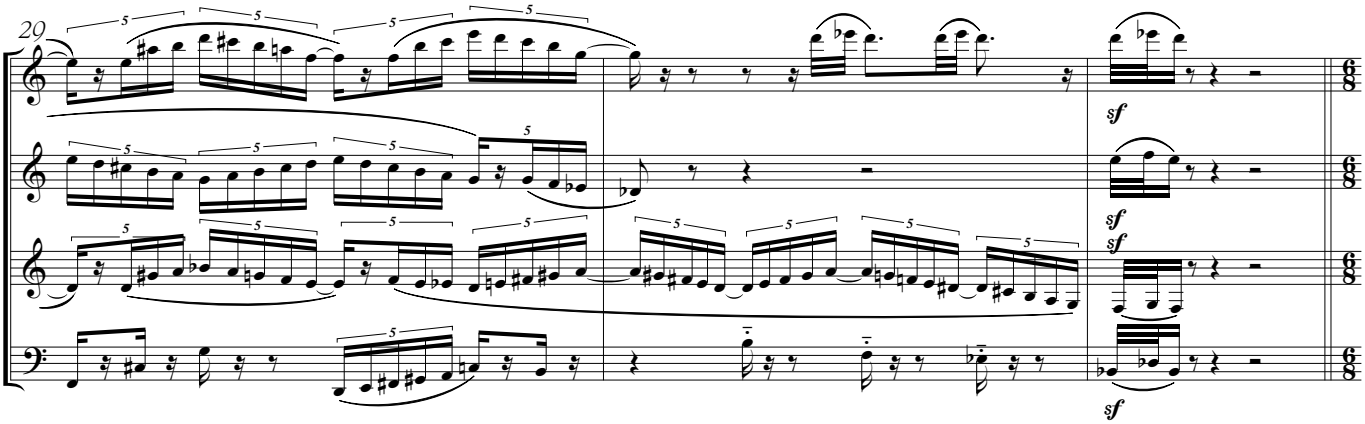
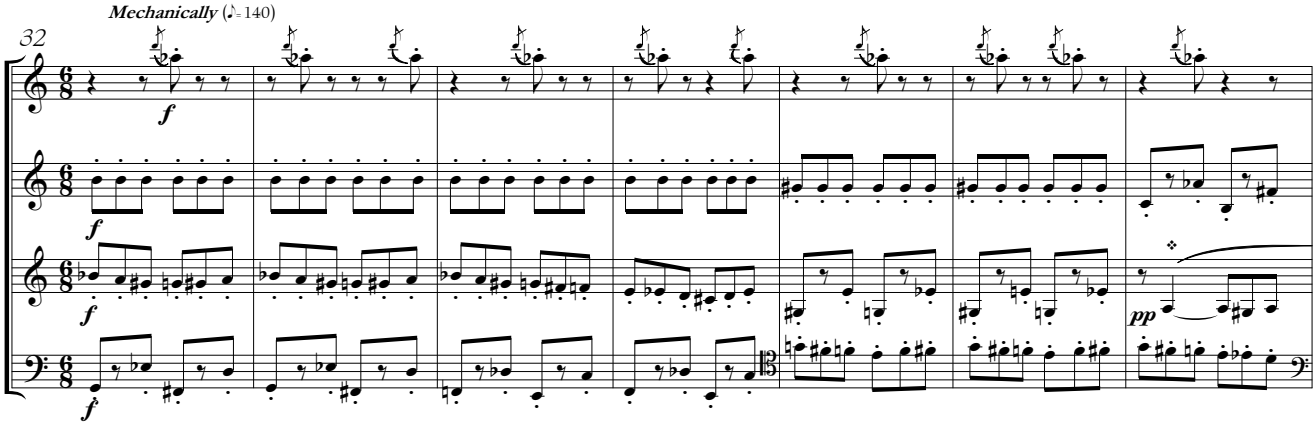

10
13
16
19



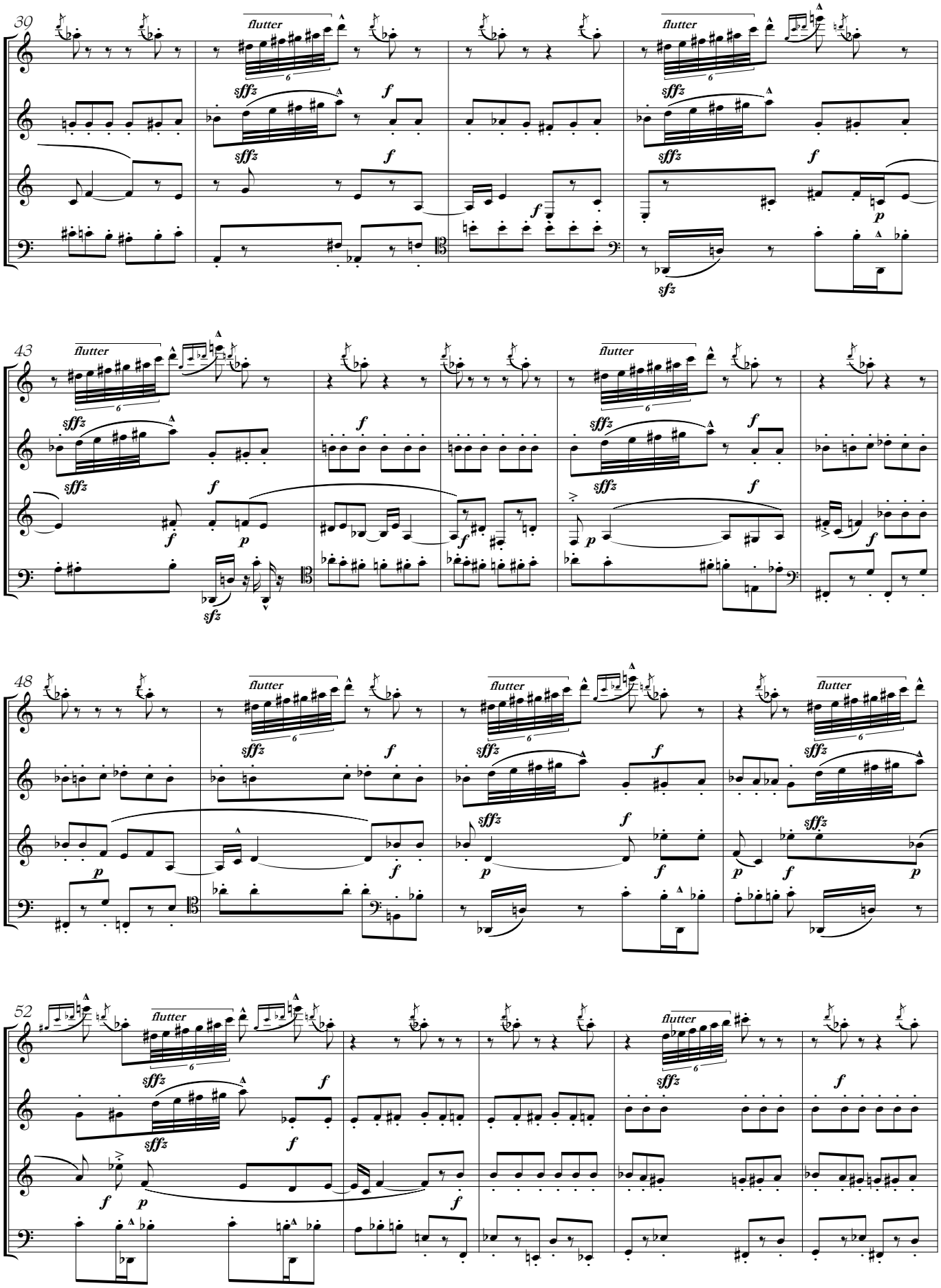



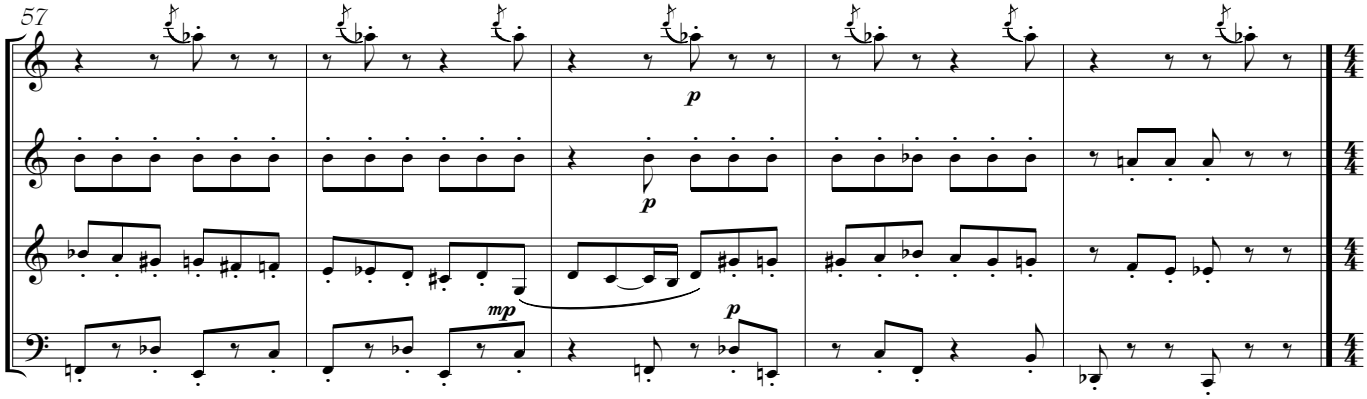



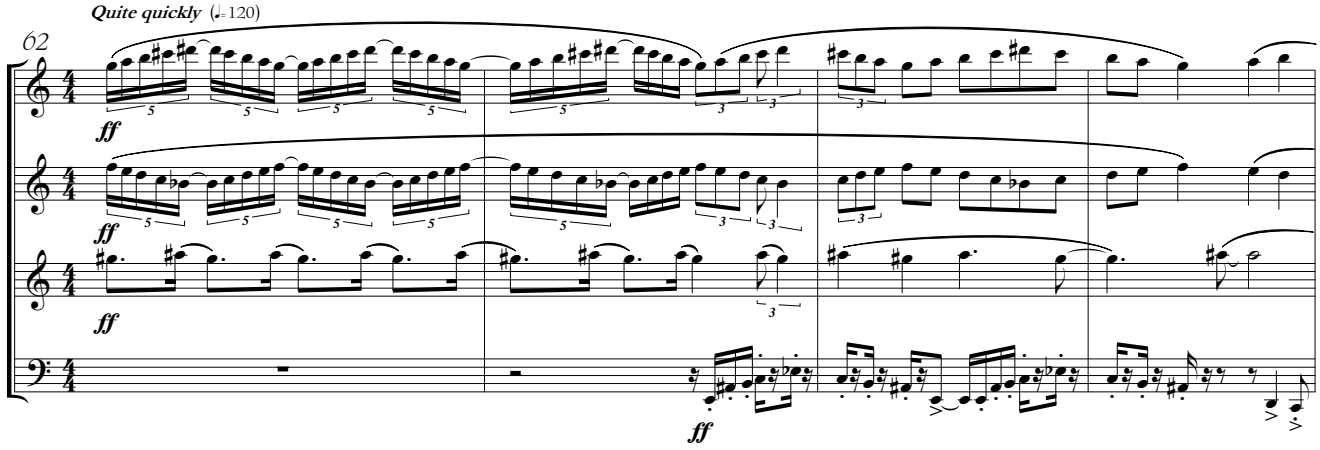

## II Aunt Sally

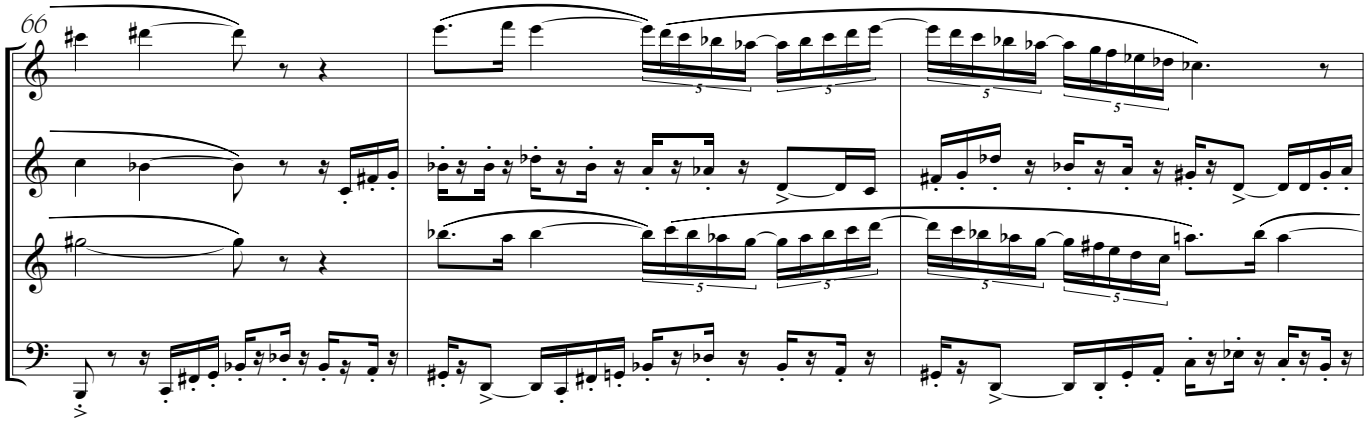



❖ ***'Sobre las olas'*** ( 'Over the Waves'), a well-known waltz by Juventino Rosas (1868 -94), heard in the distance.


30
flutter
sffz
f
sfz
p
43
48
52


57
p
p
mp
p


Quite quickly (♩= 120)
62
ff
ff
ff
ff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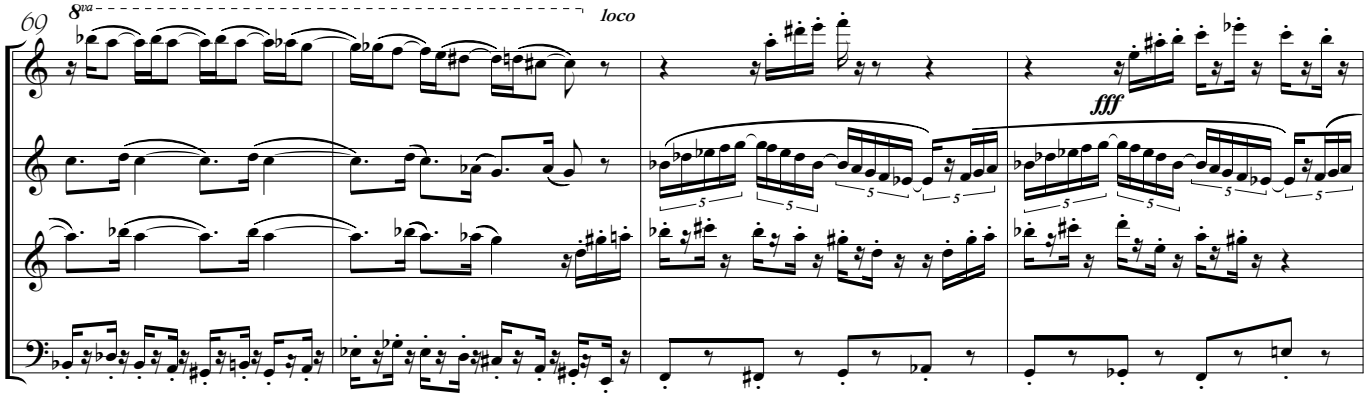
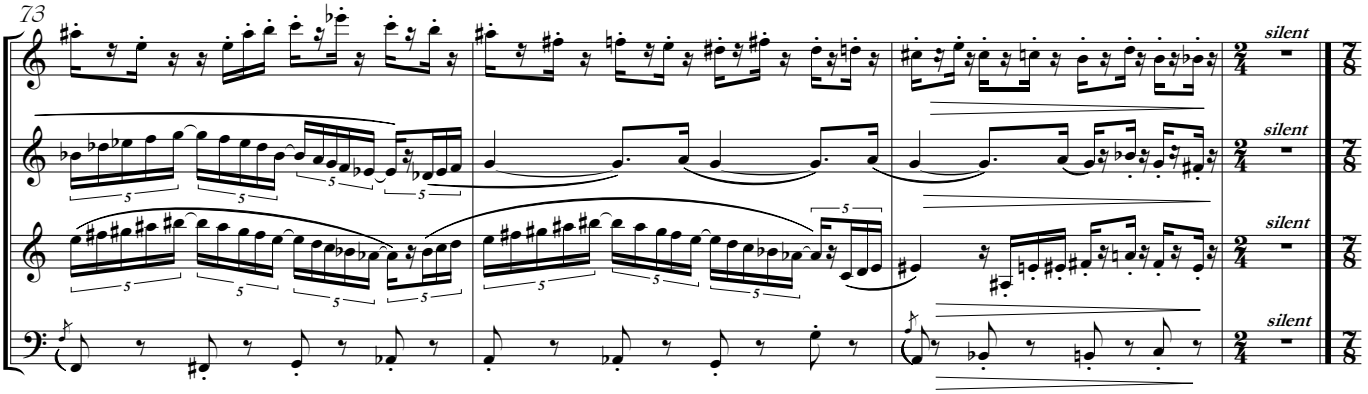
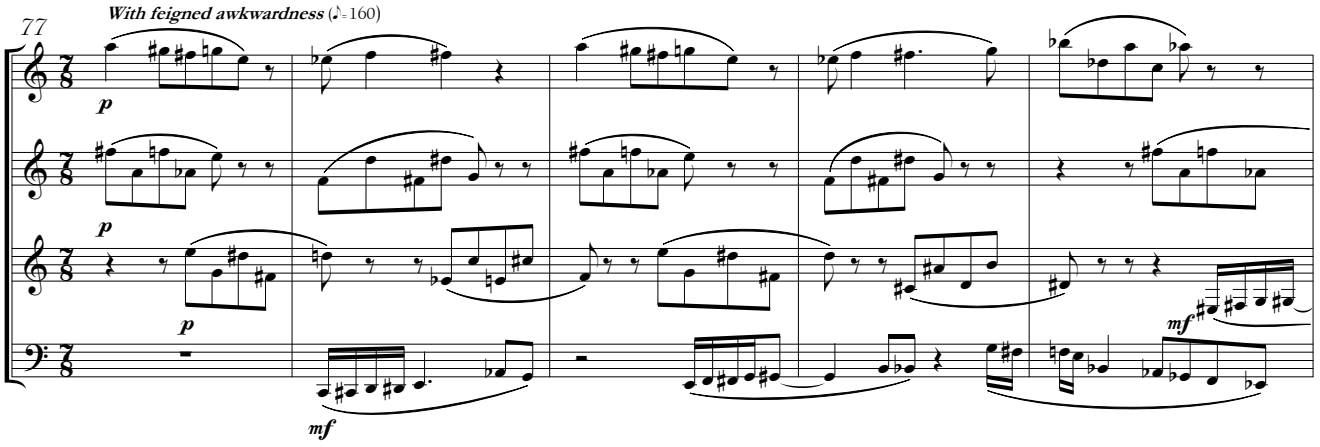
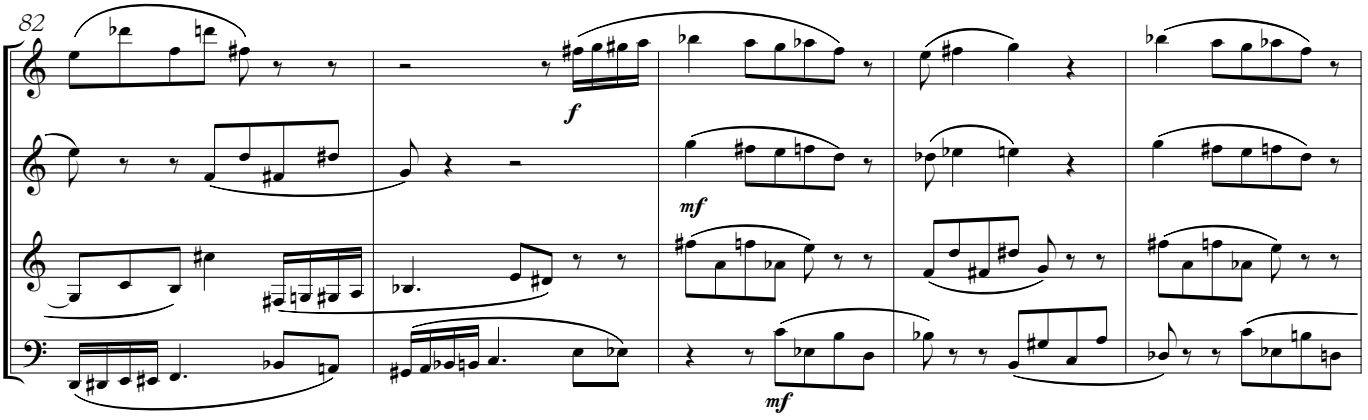
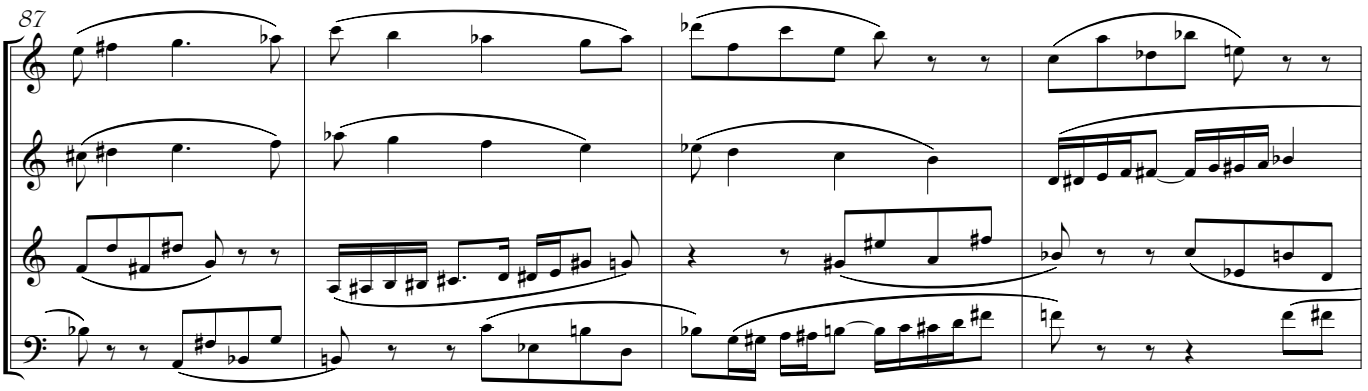

69
8va
loco
fff

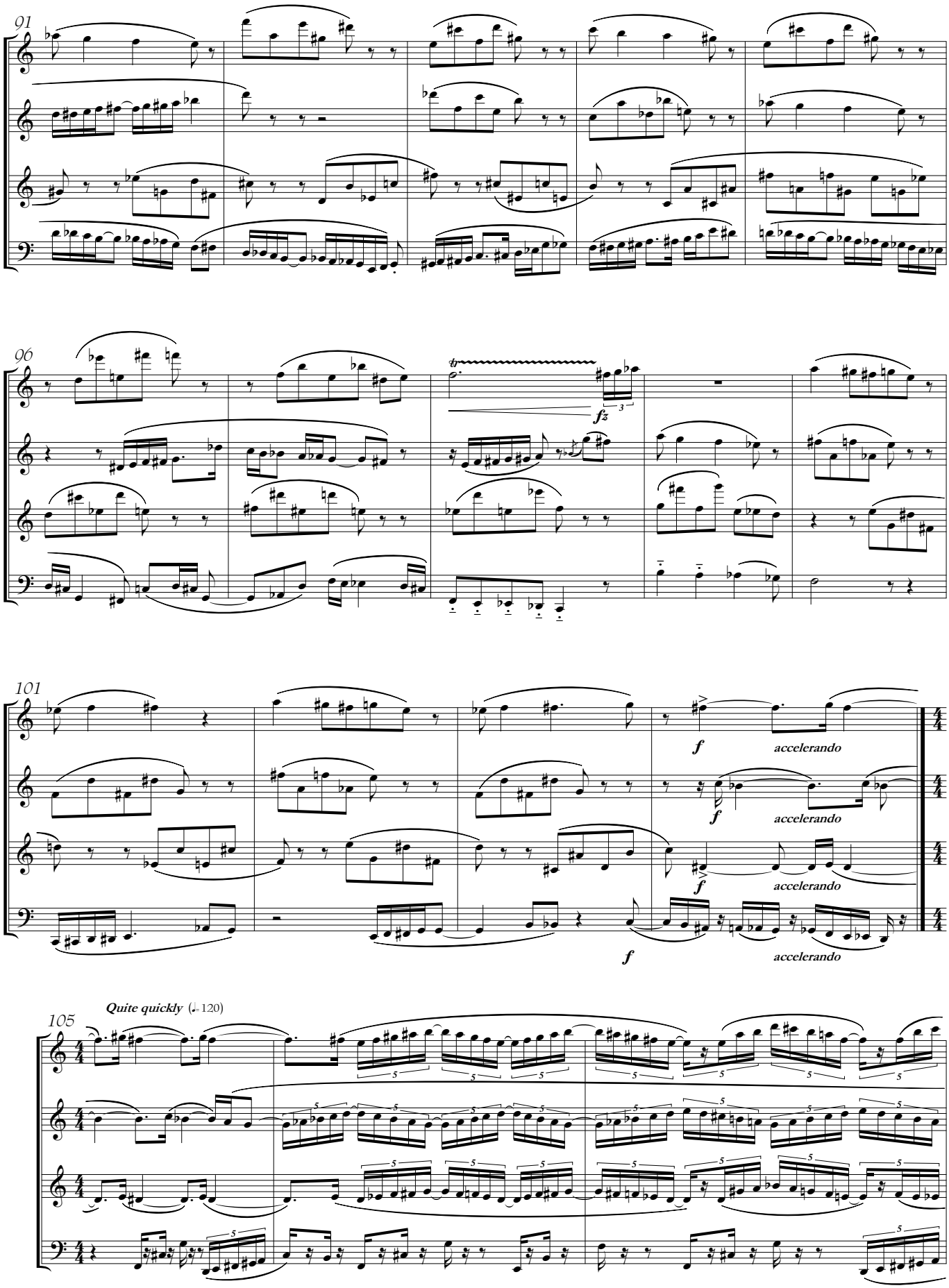



## III The Unicyclist & the Clown on Stilts

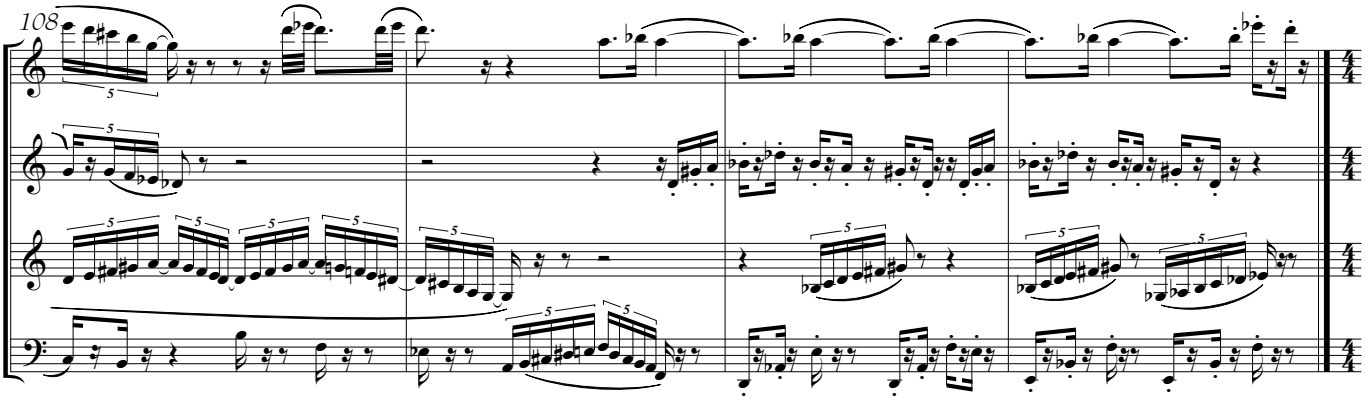


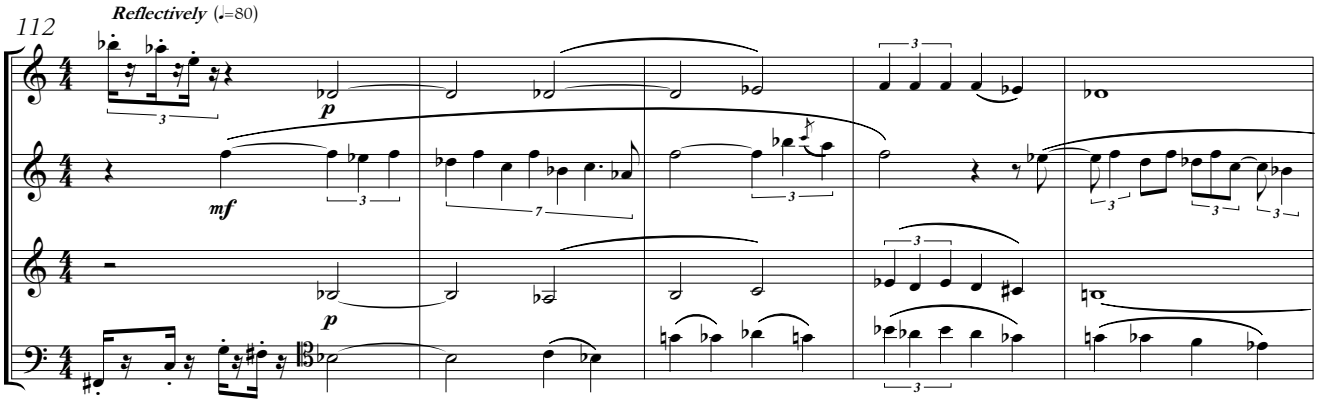

91
96
101
105
tr
fz
f
accelerando
Quite quickly (♩= 120)

108



## IV The Hall of Mirrors

112

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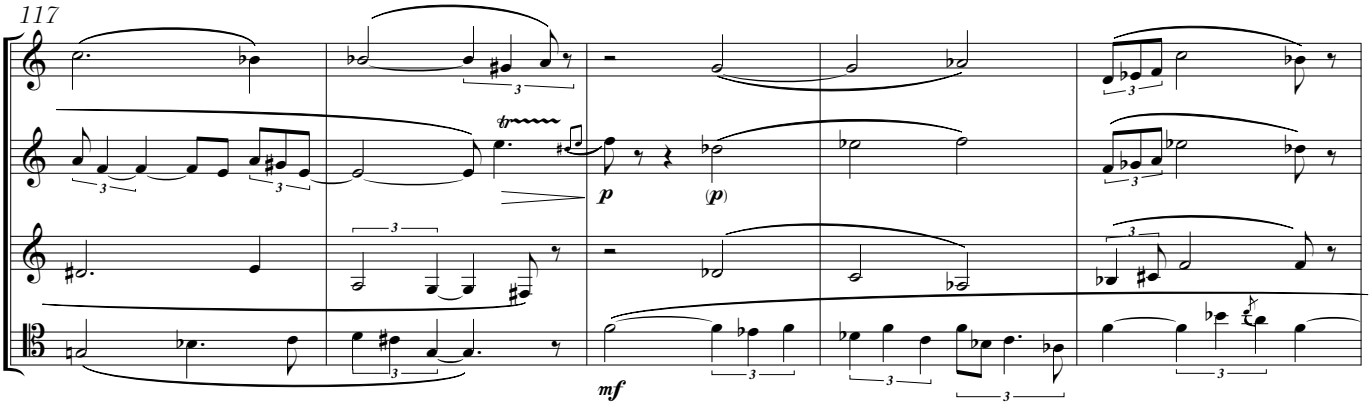


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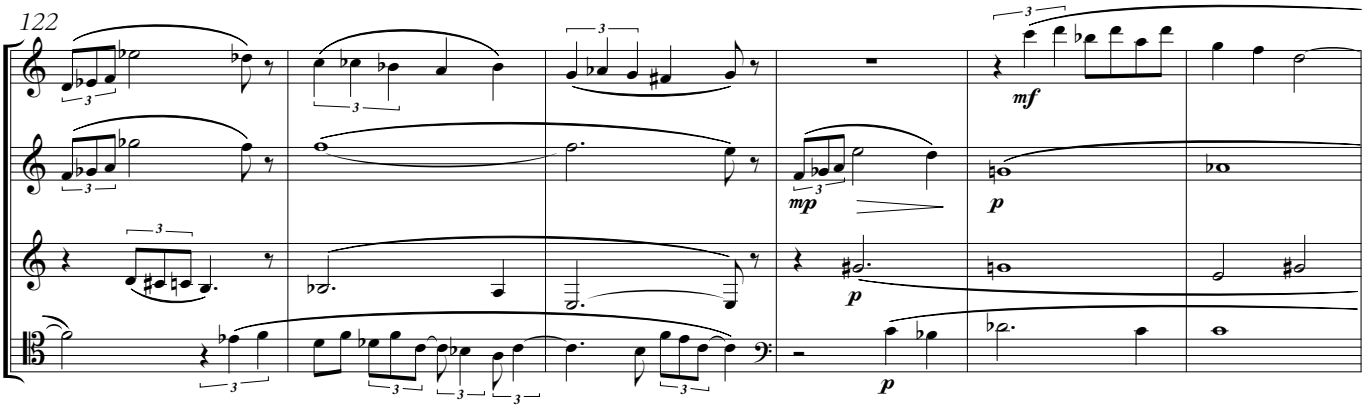
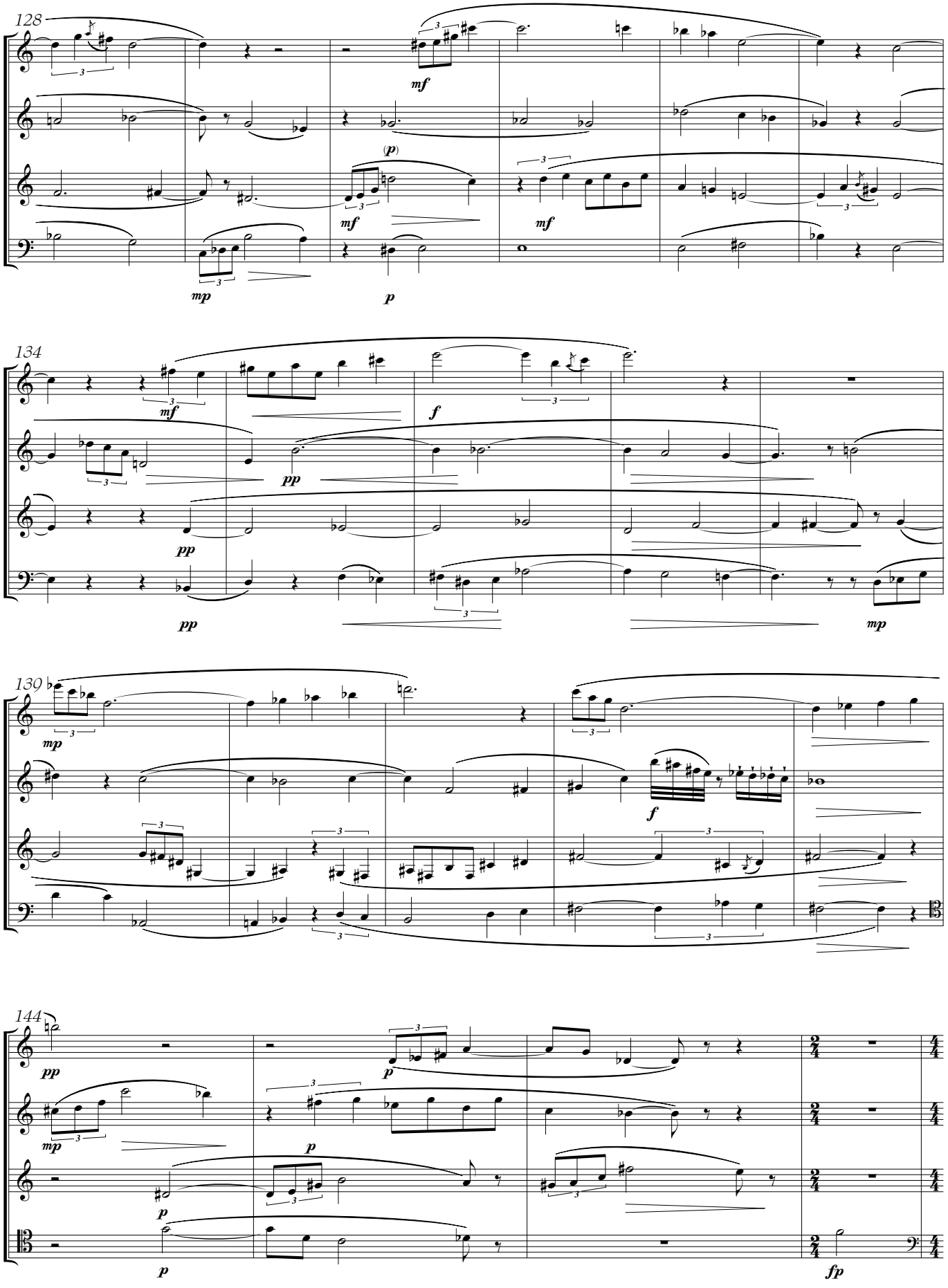
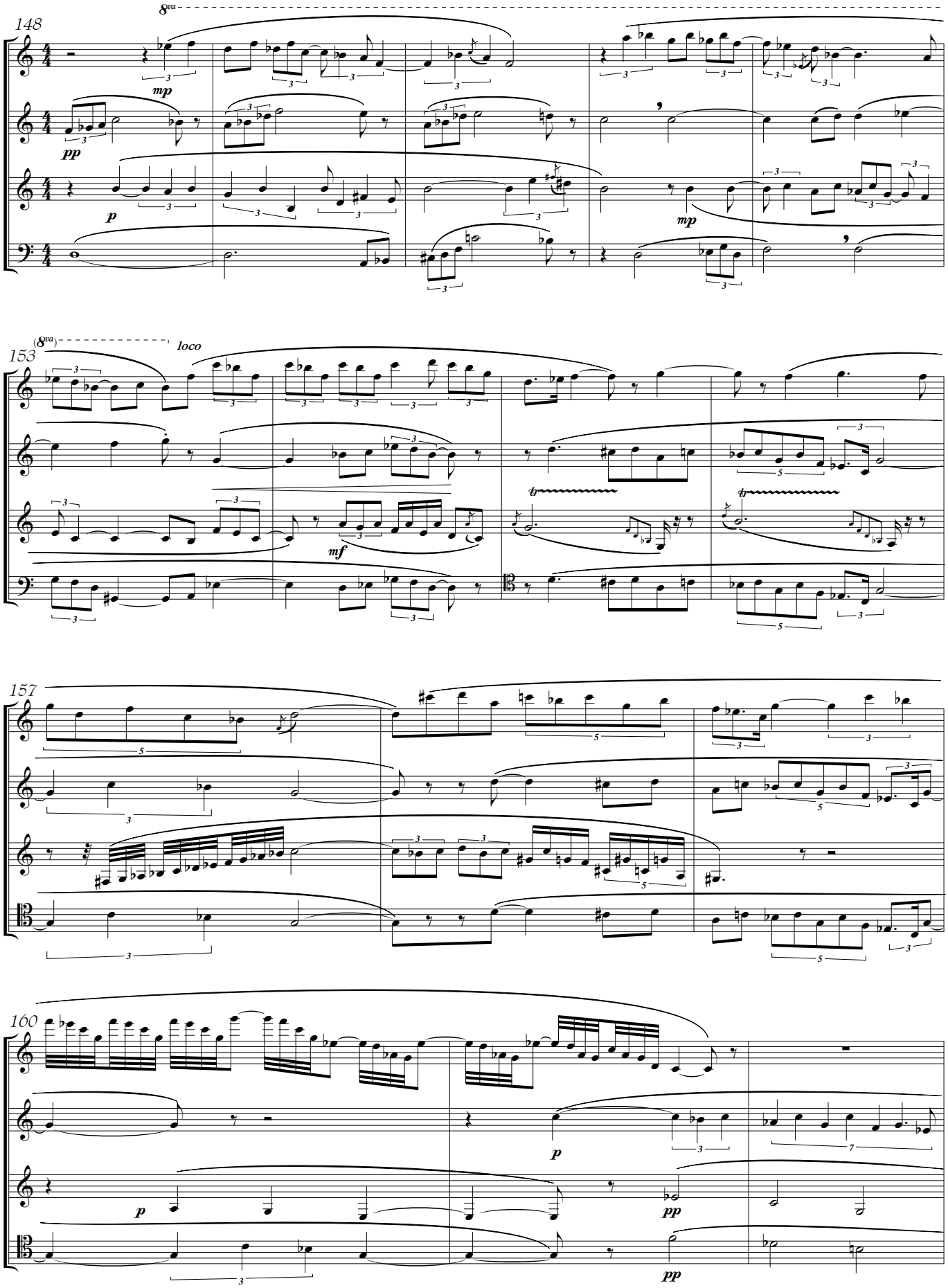
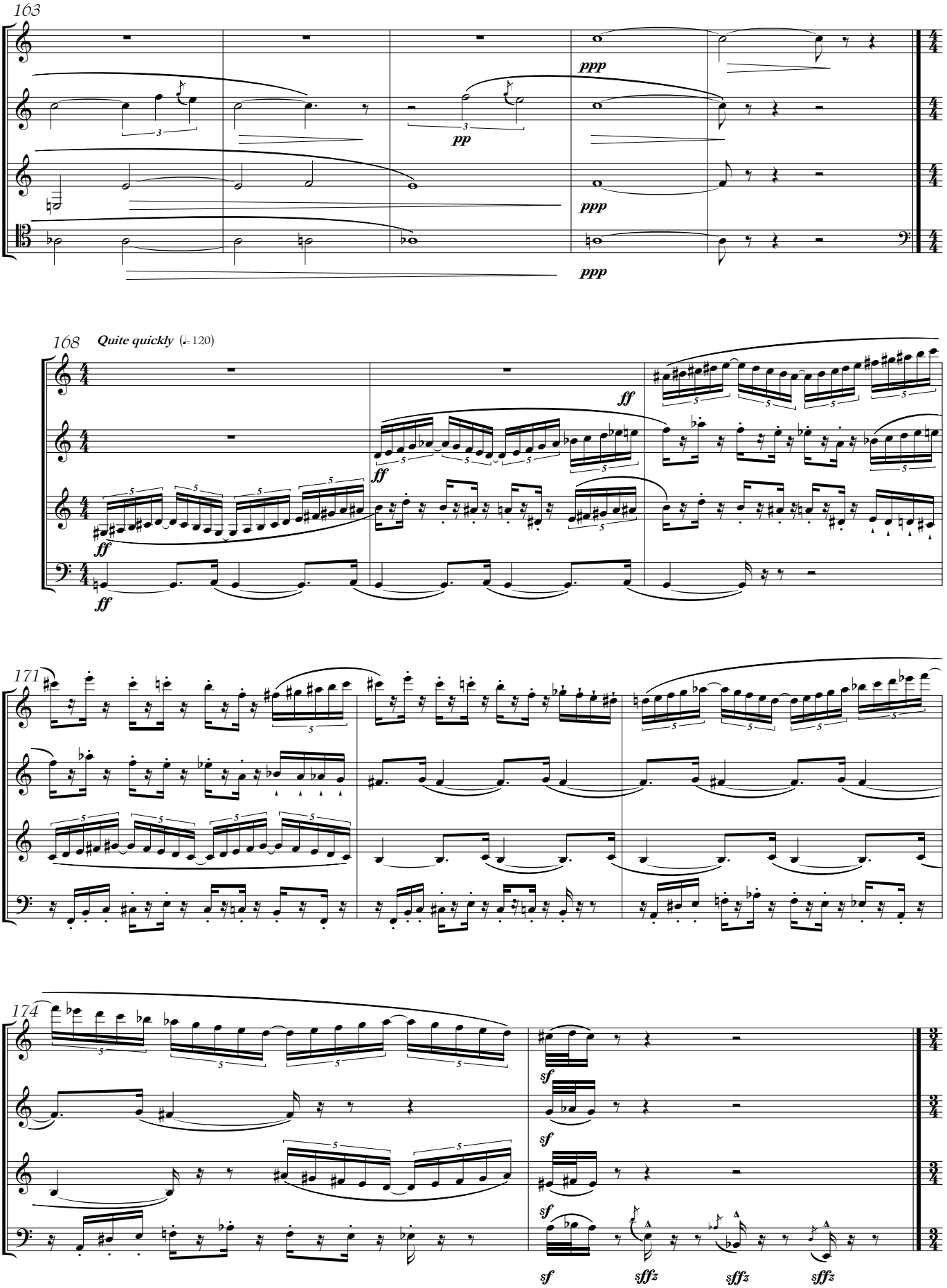
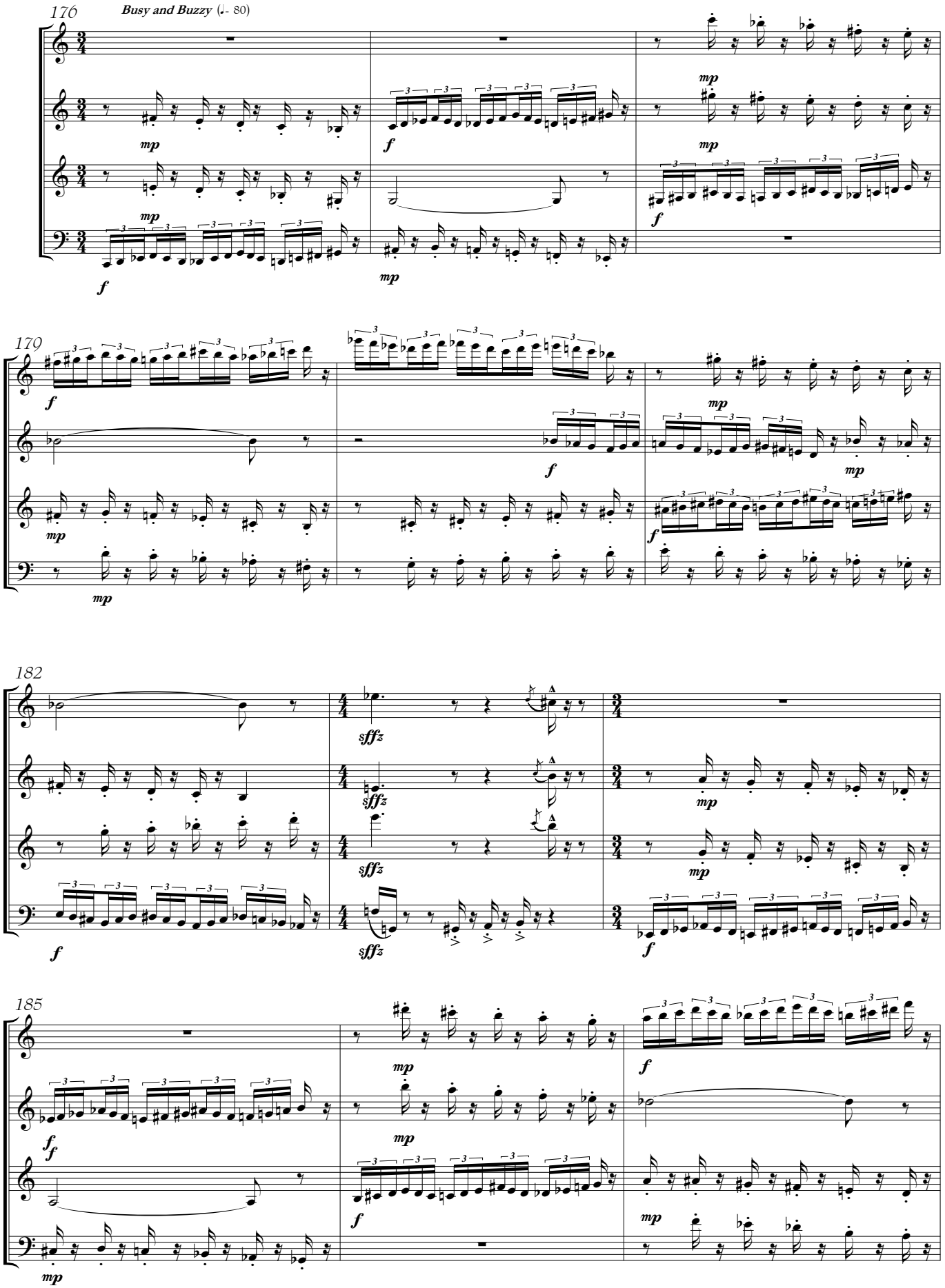


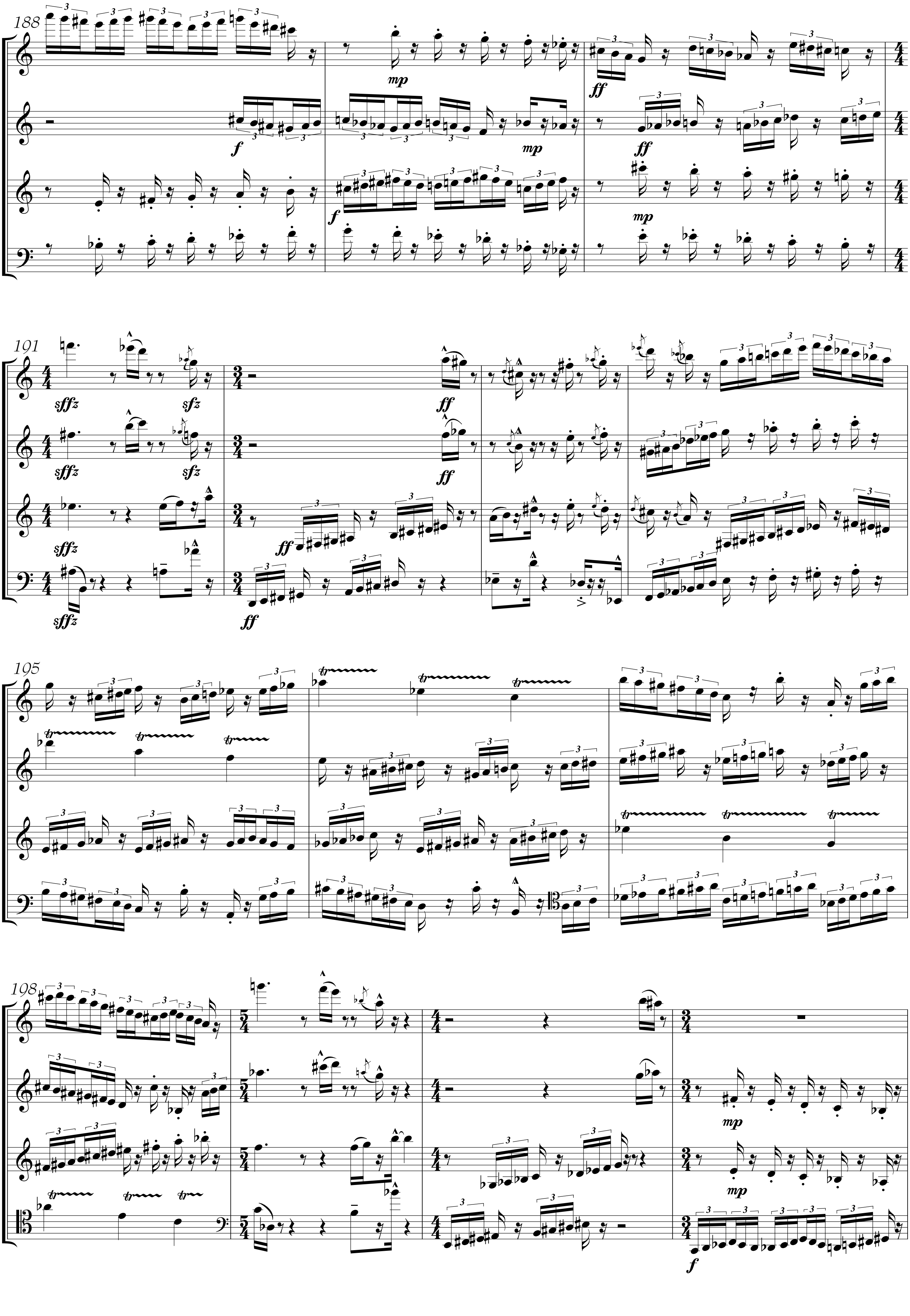

128
mf
(p)
mf
mf
mp
p
134
mf
f
pp
pp
pp
mp
130
mp
f
144
pp
p
mp
p
p
p
fp


148
8va
mp
pp
p
mp
153
(8va)
loco
mf
157
160
p
pp
pp


163
ppp
pp
ppp
ppp
168
Quite quickly (♩= 120)
ff
ff
ff
ff
171
174
sf
sf
sf
sf
sffz
sffz
sffz

# V The Dodgem Cars

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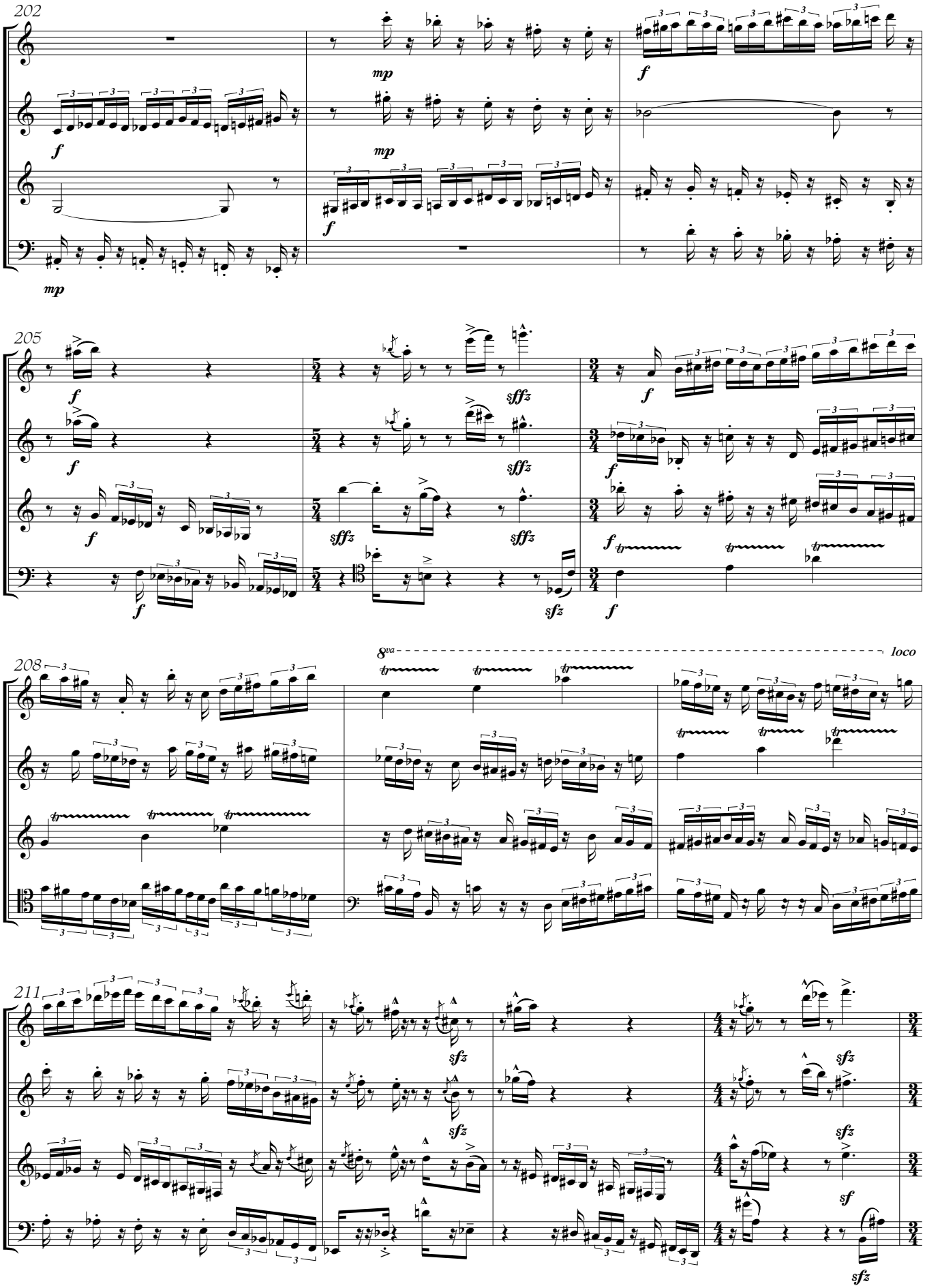
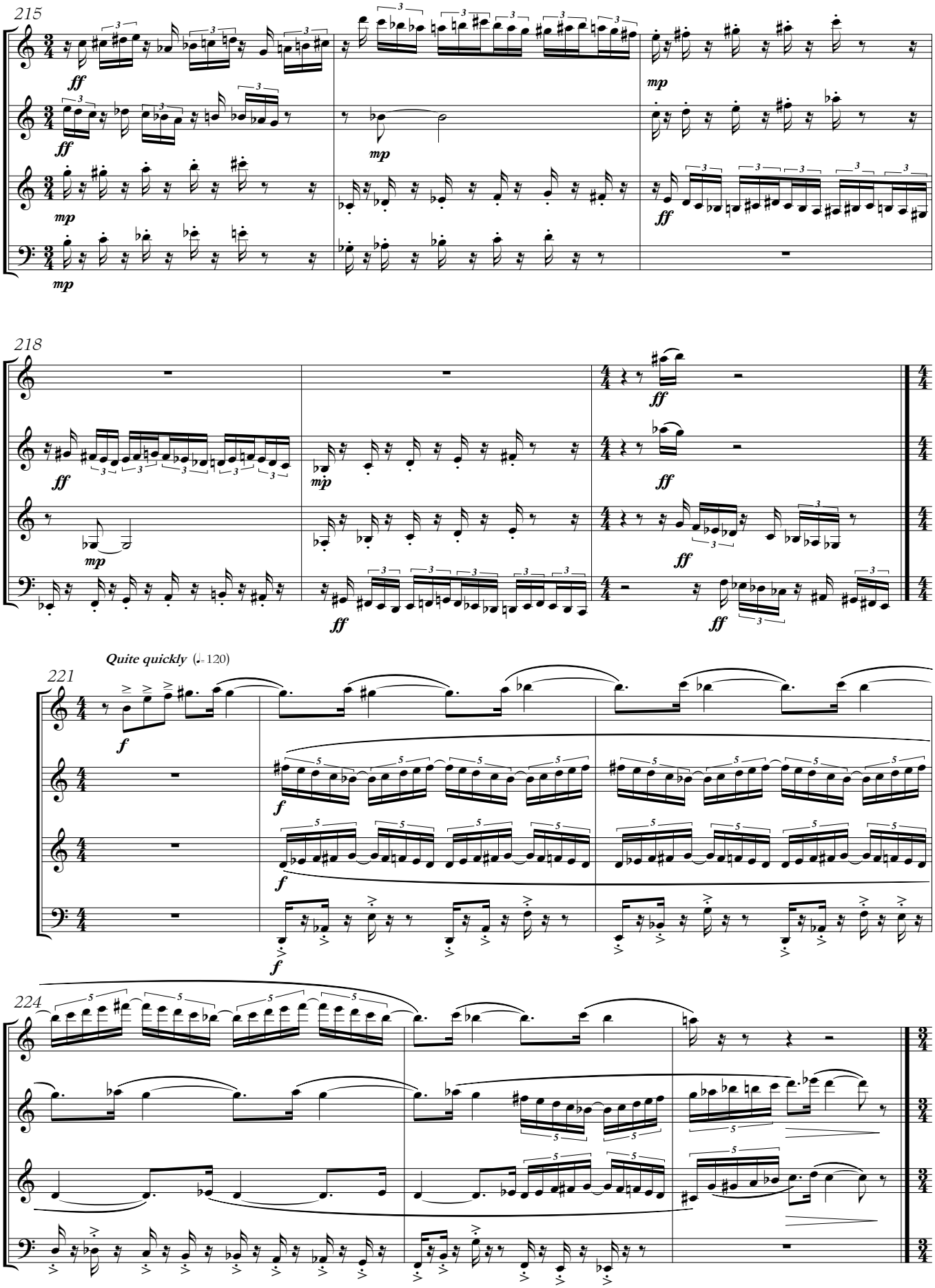
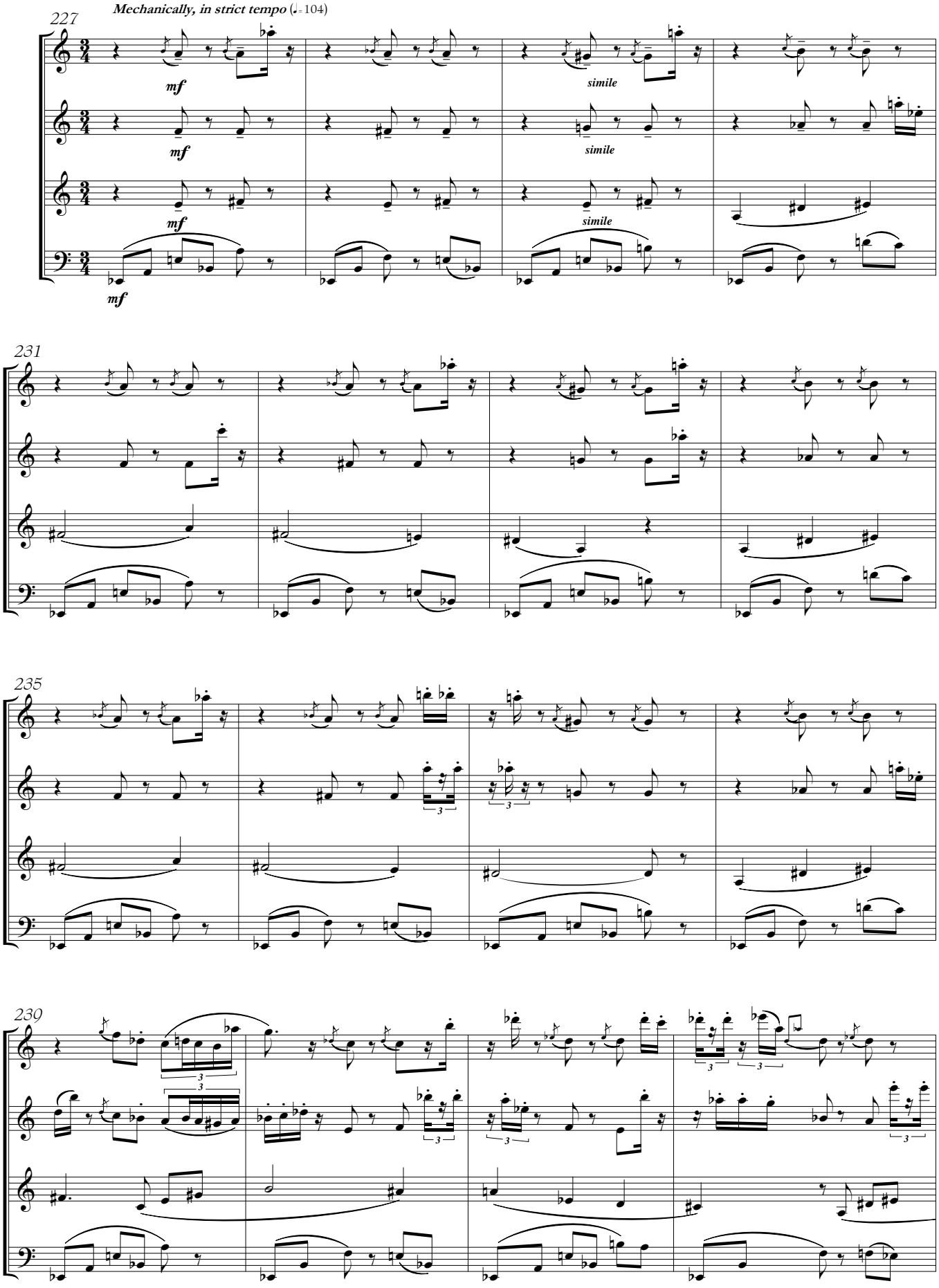
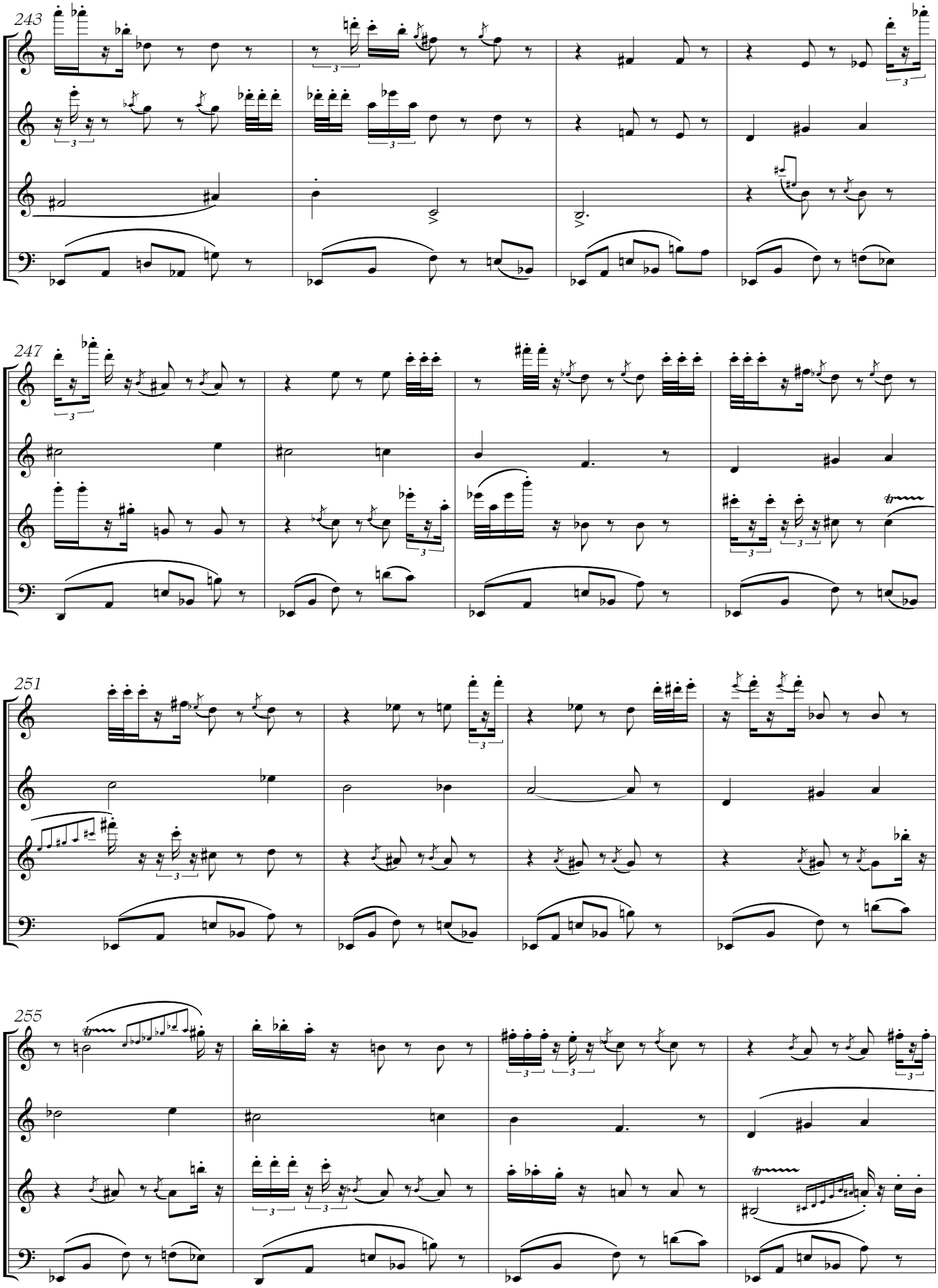
mp
f
ff
191
sffz
sfz
ff
195
198
mp
f


202
205
208
211
8va
loco


215
218
Quite quickly (♩= 120)
221
224

## VI The Geriatric Merry-Go-Round

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247
251
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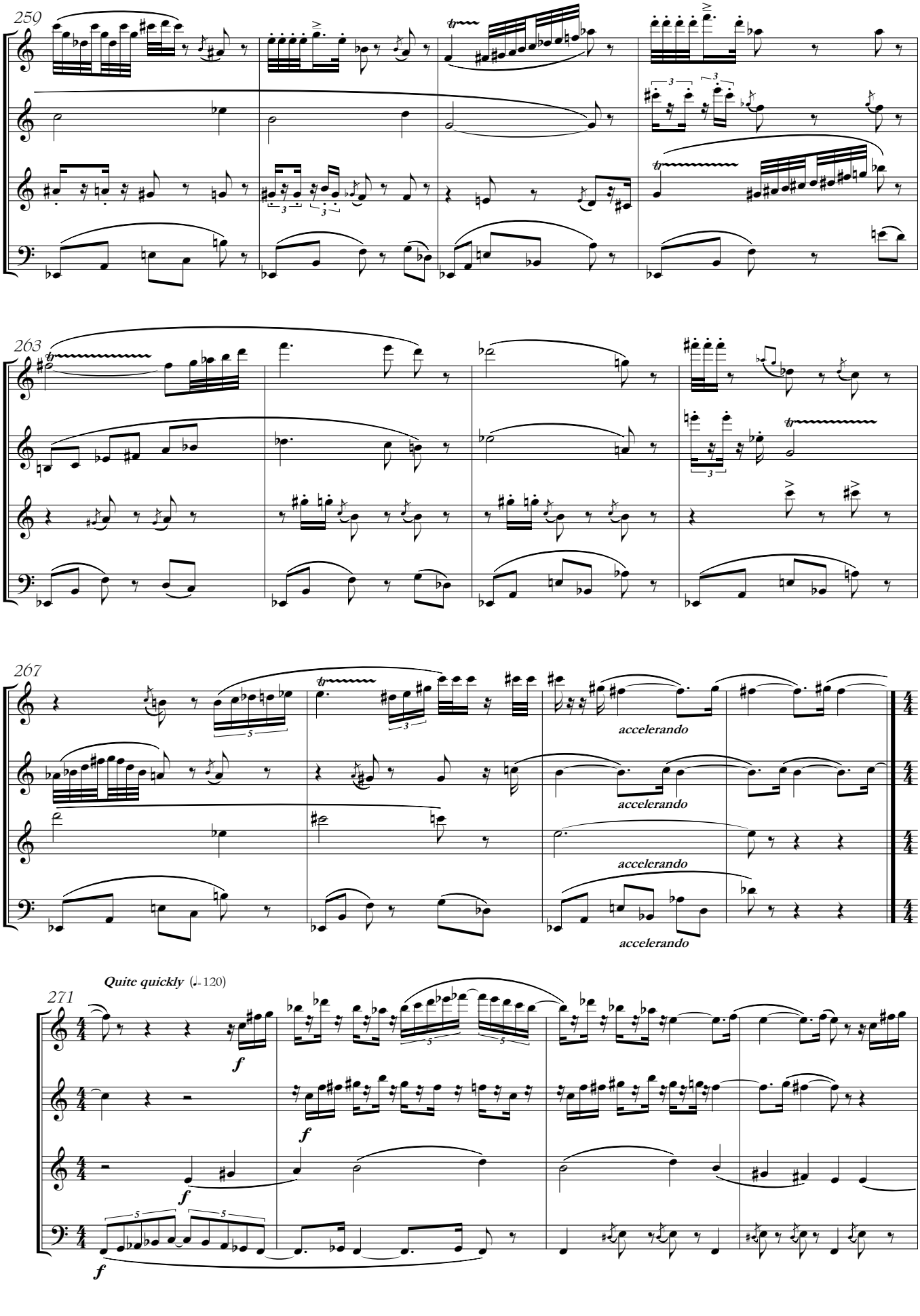
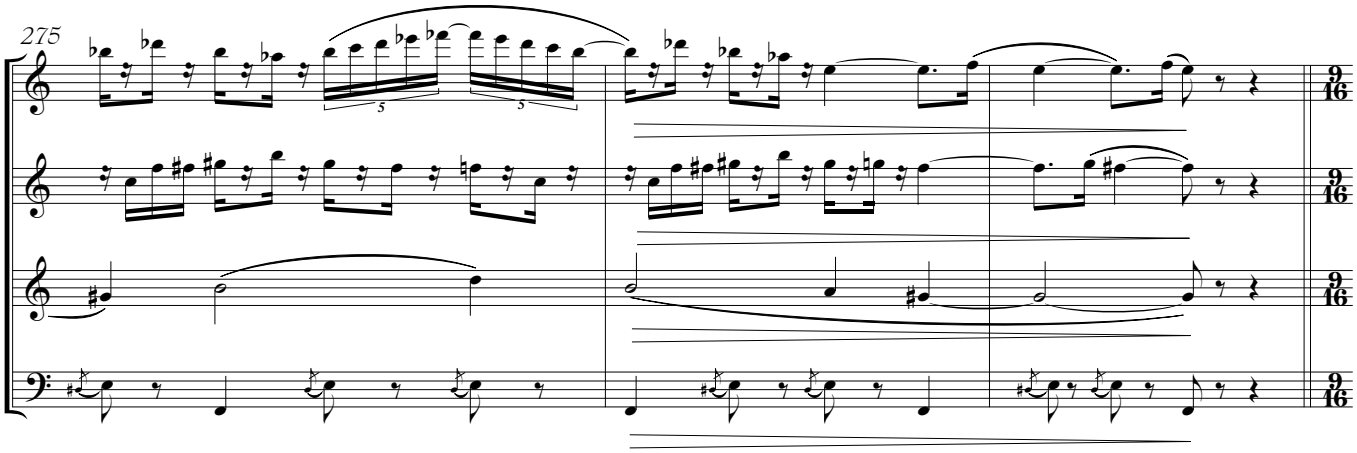

259
263
267
accelerando
accelerando
accelerando
accelerando
271
Quite quickly (♩= 120)
f
f
f
f

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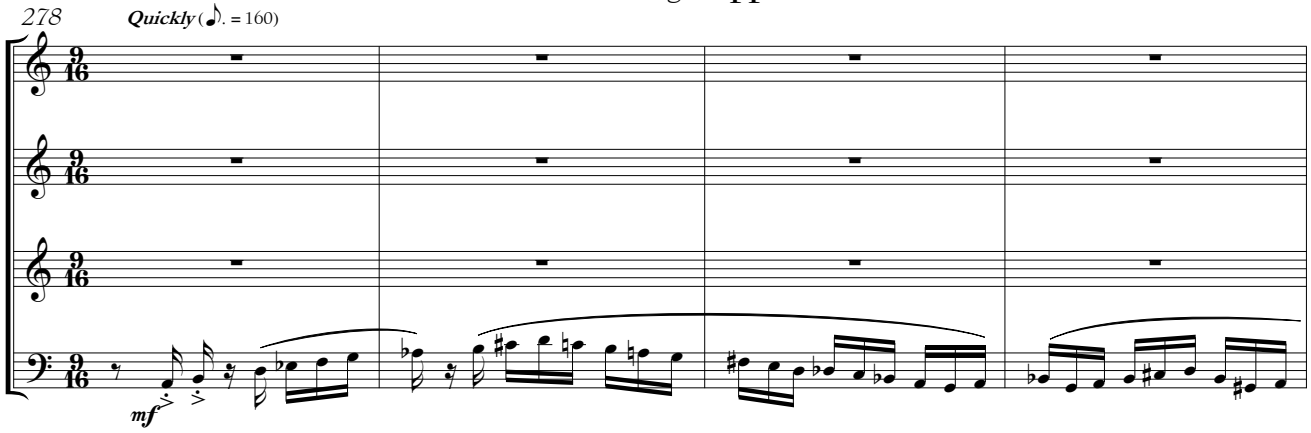


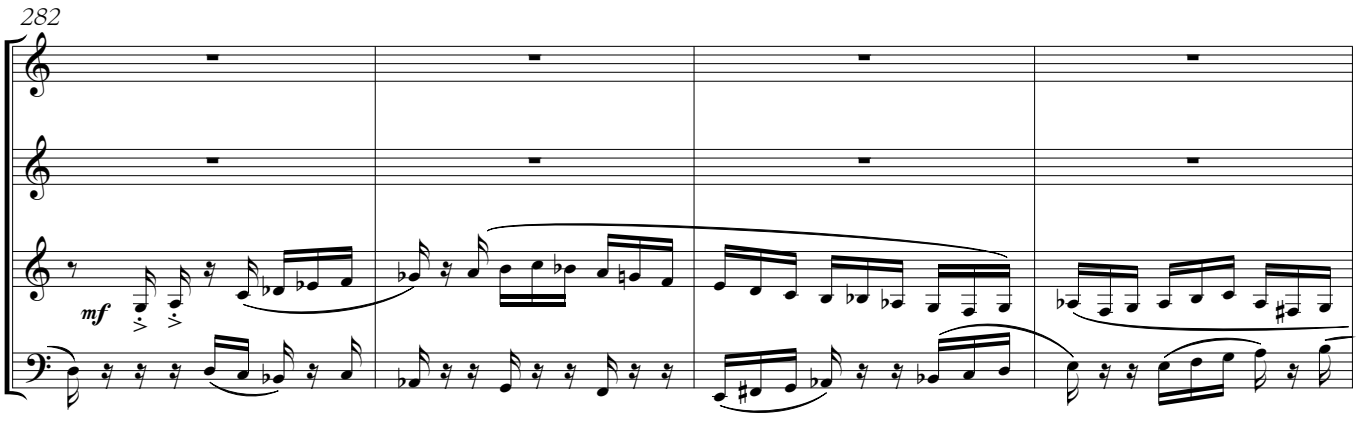


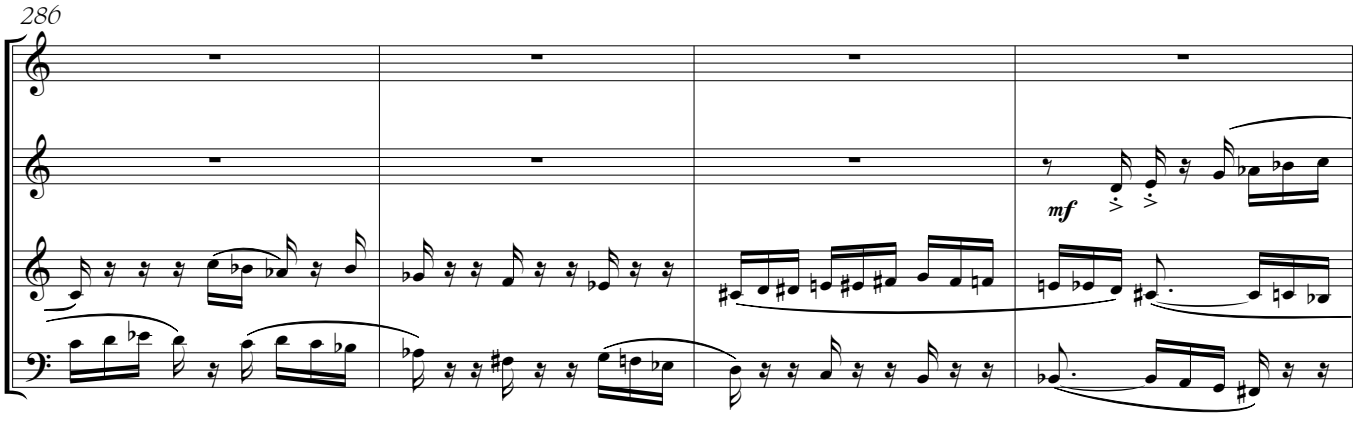

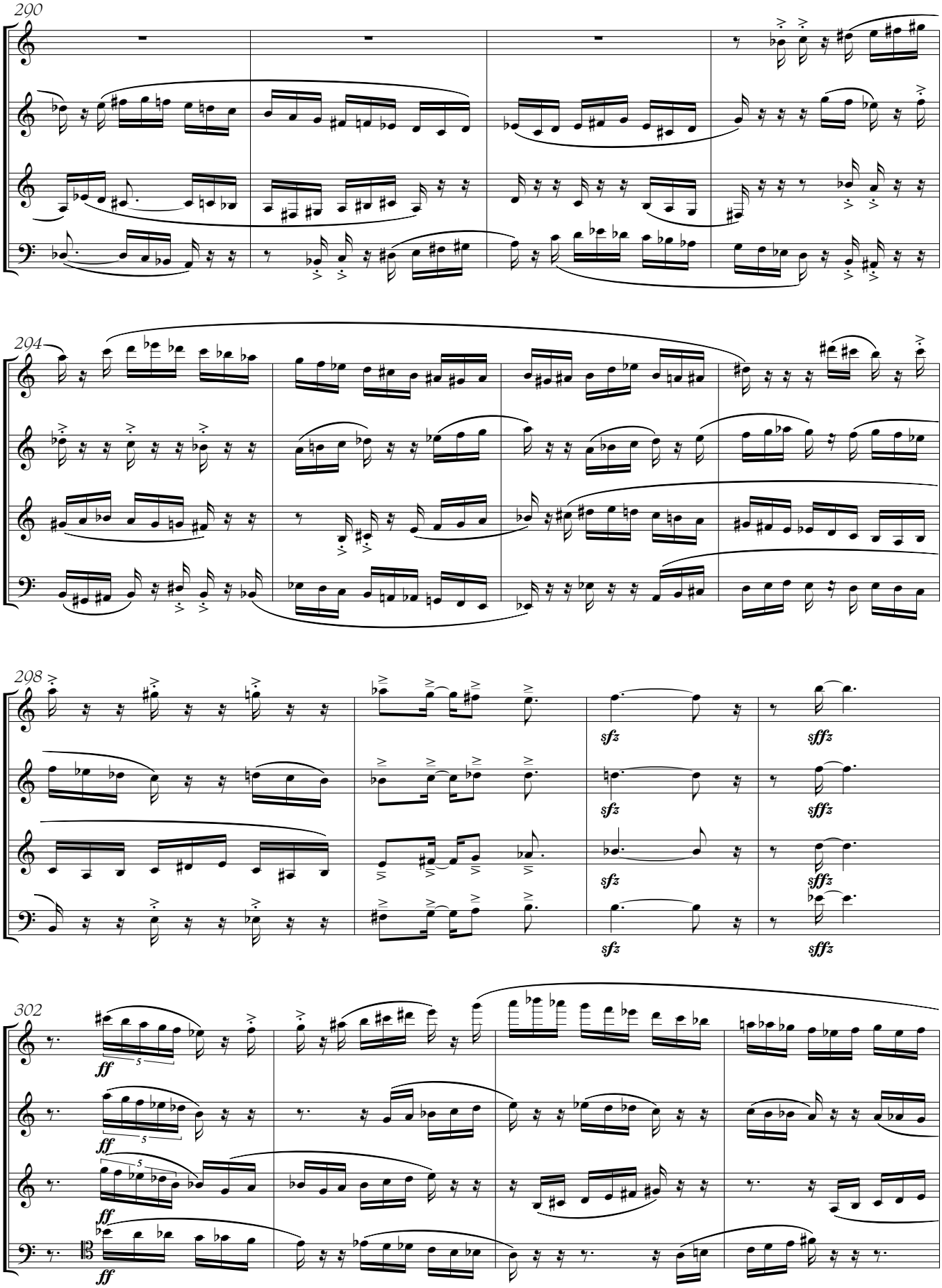
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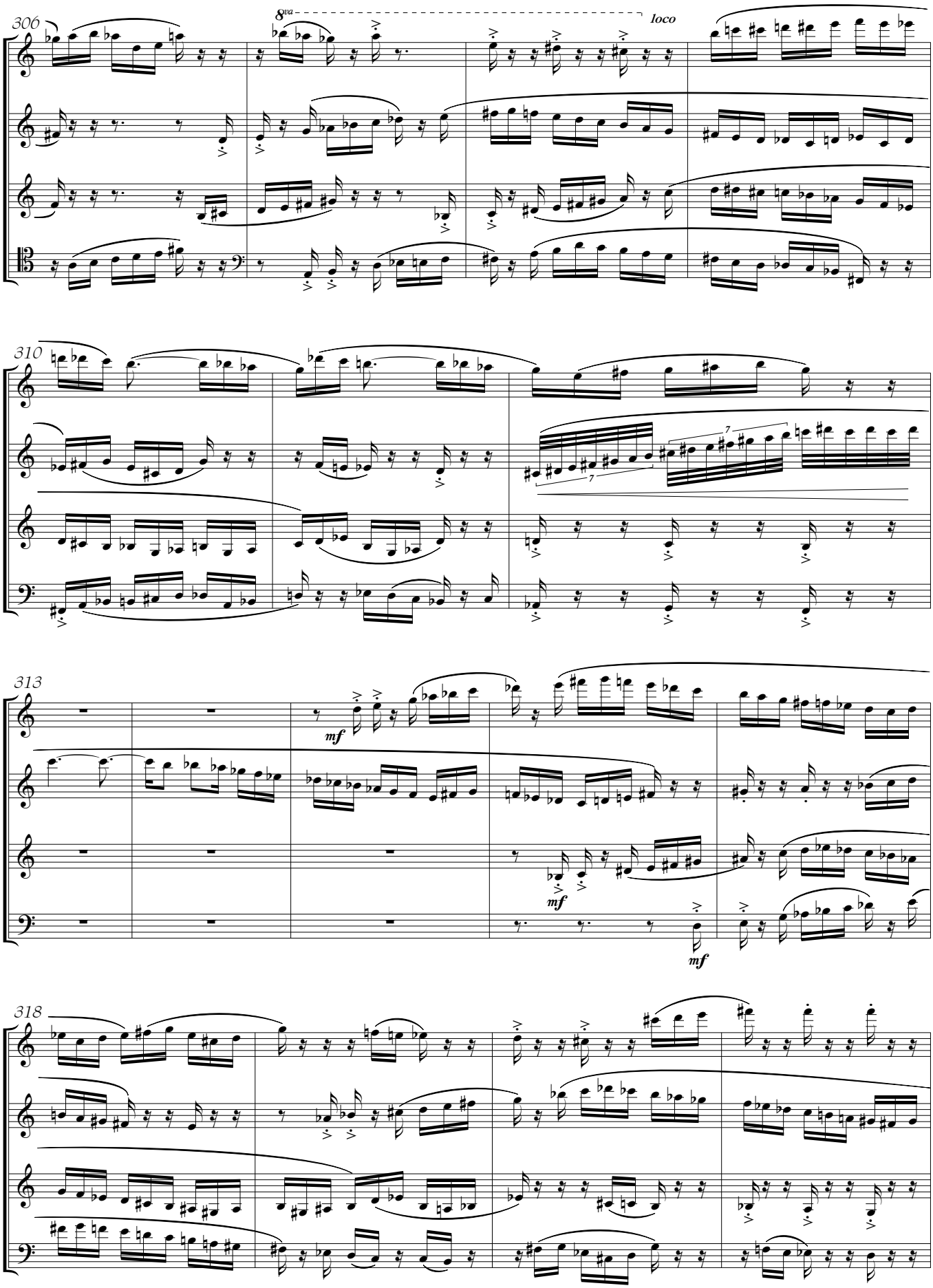
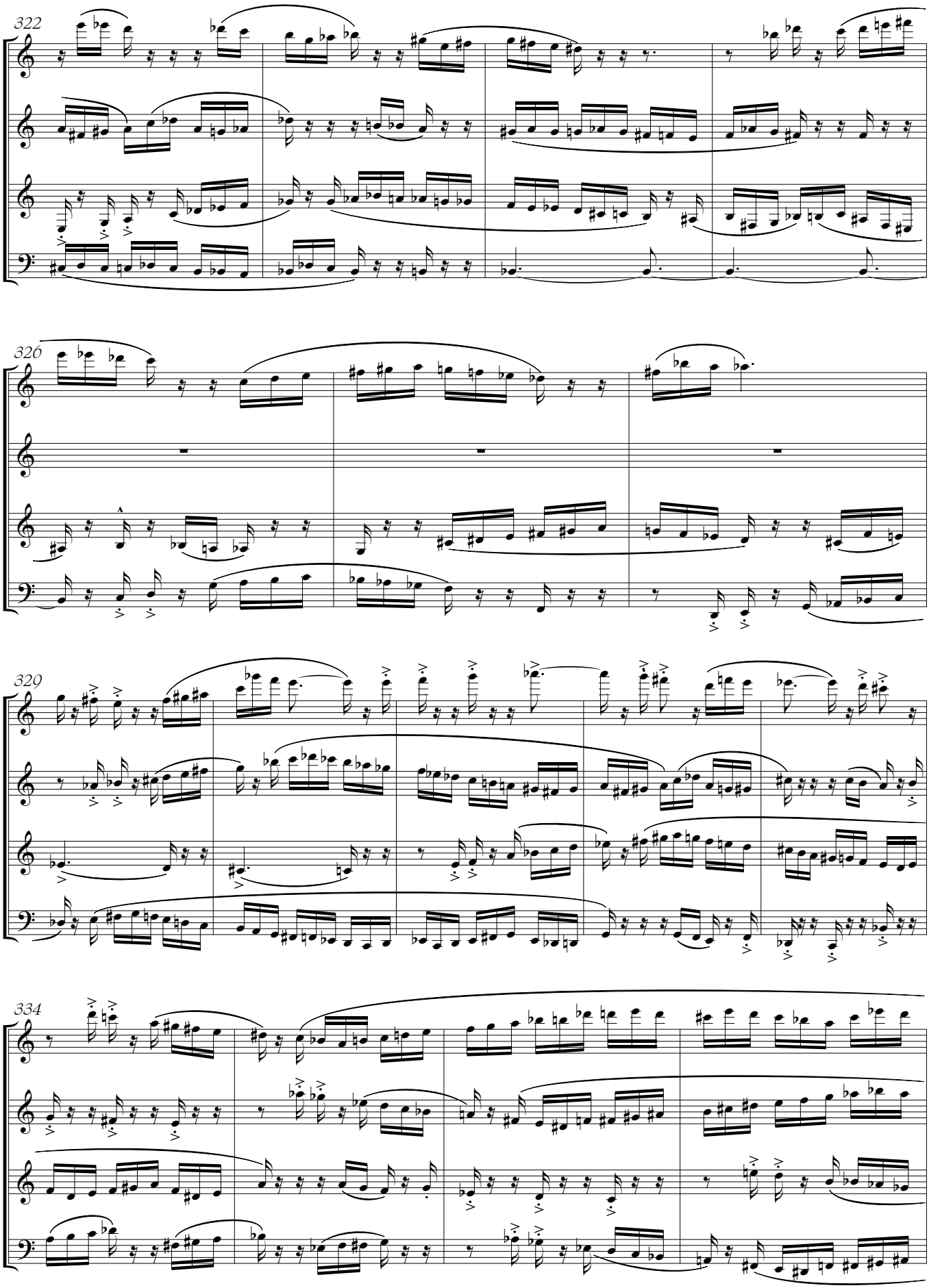
294
sfz
sfffz
302
ff


306
8va
loco
310
7
313
mf
mf
mf
318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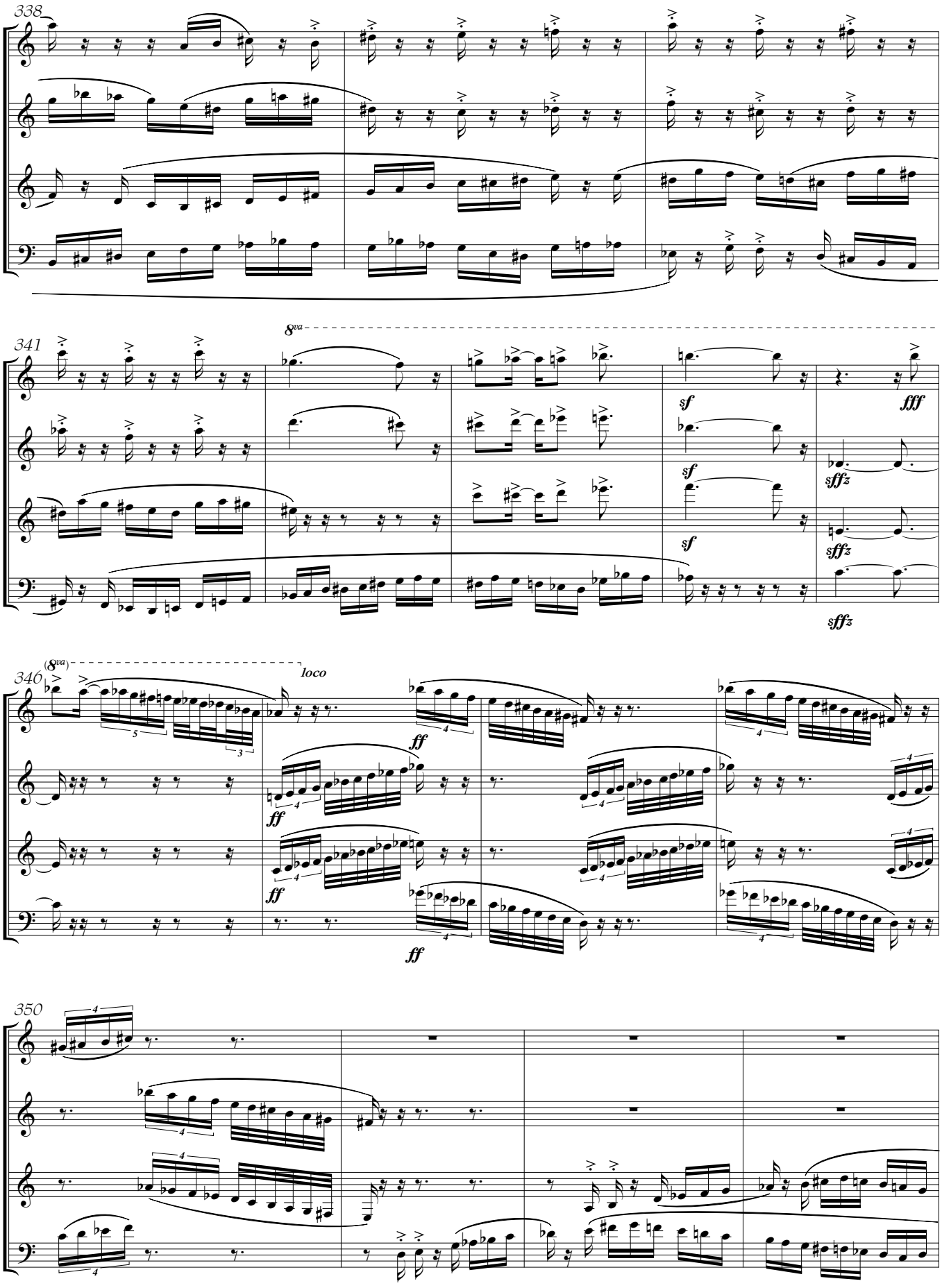
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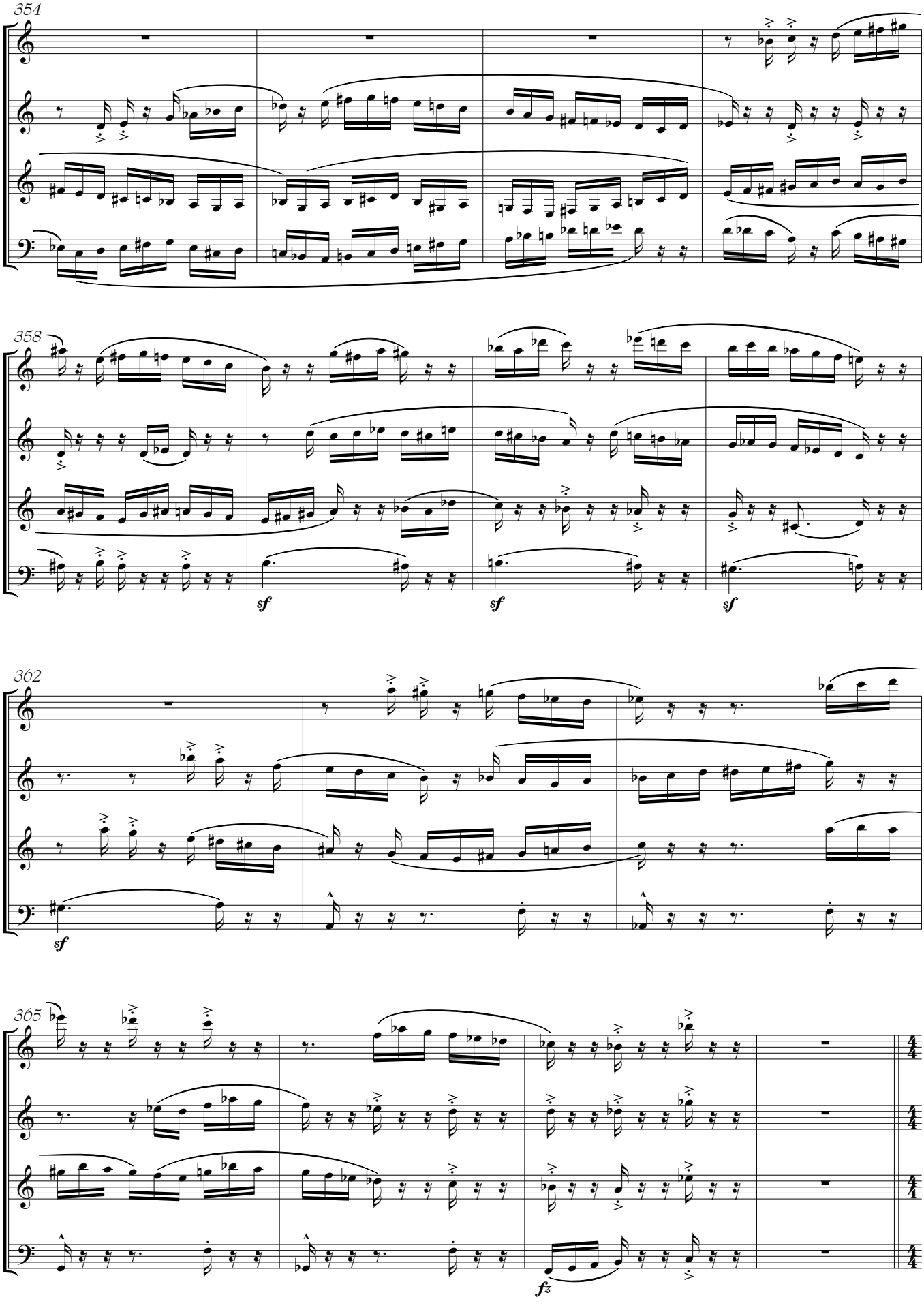
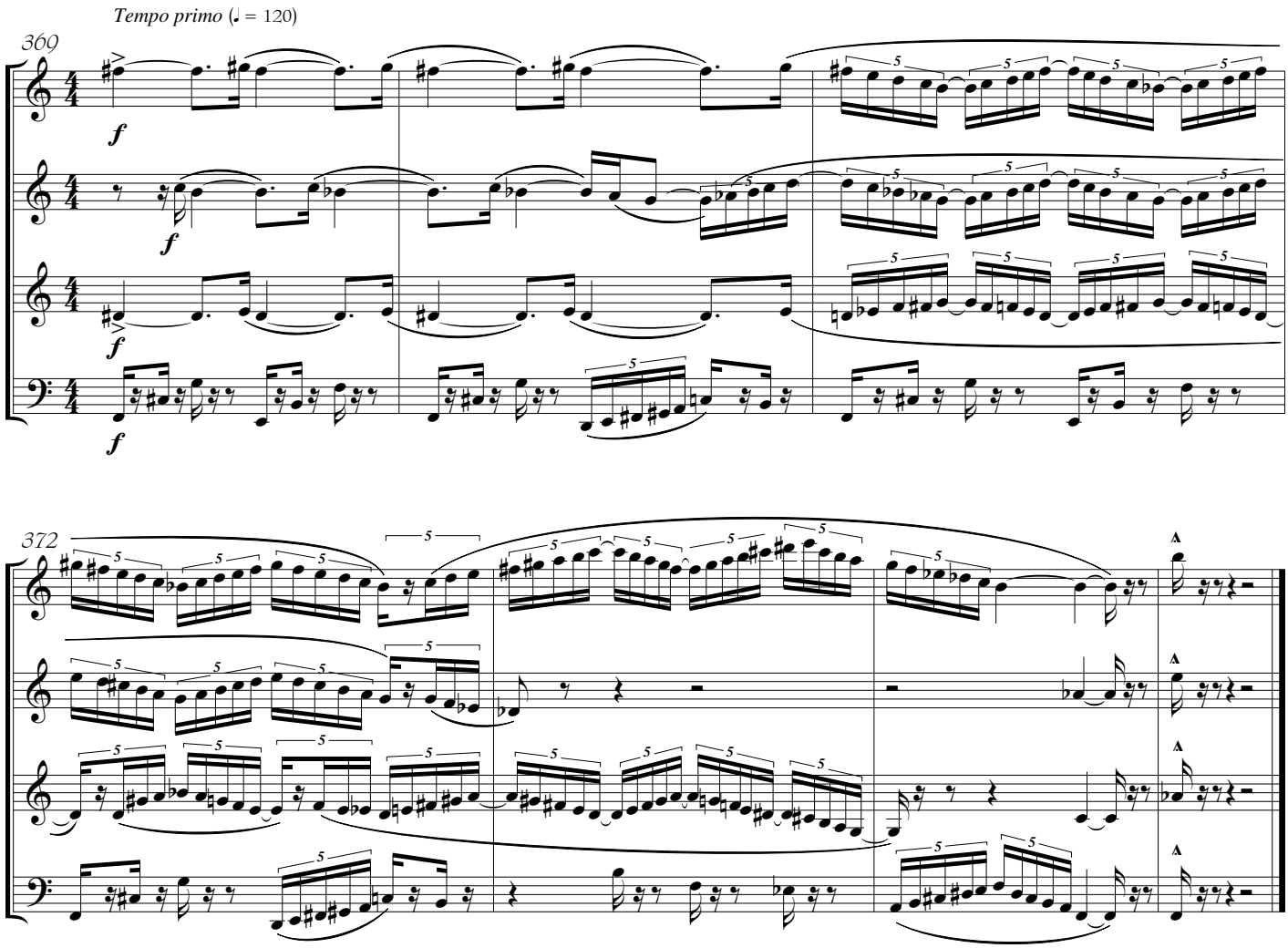
341
8va
sf
fff
sfz
346
(8va)
loco
ff
350


354
358
sf
sf
sf
362
sf
365
fz

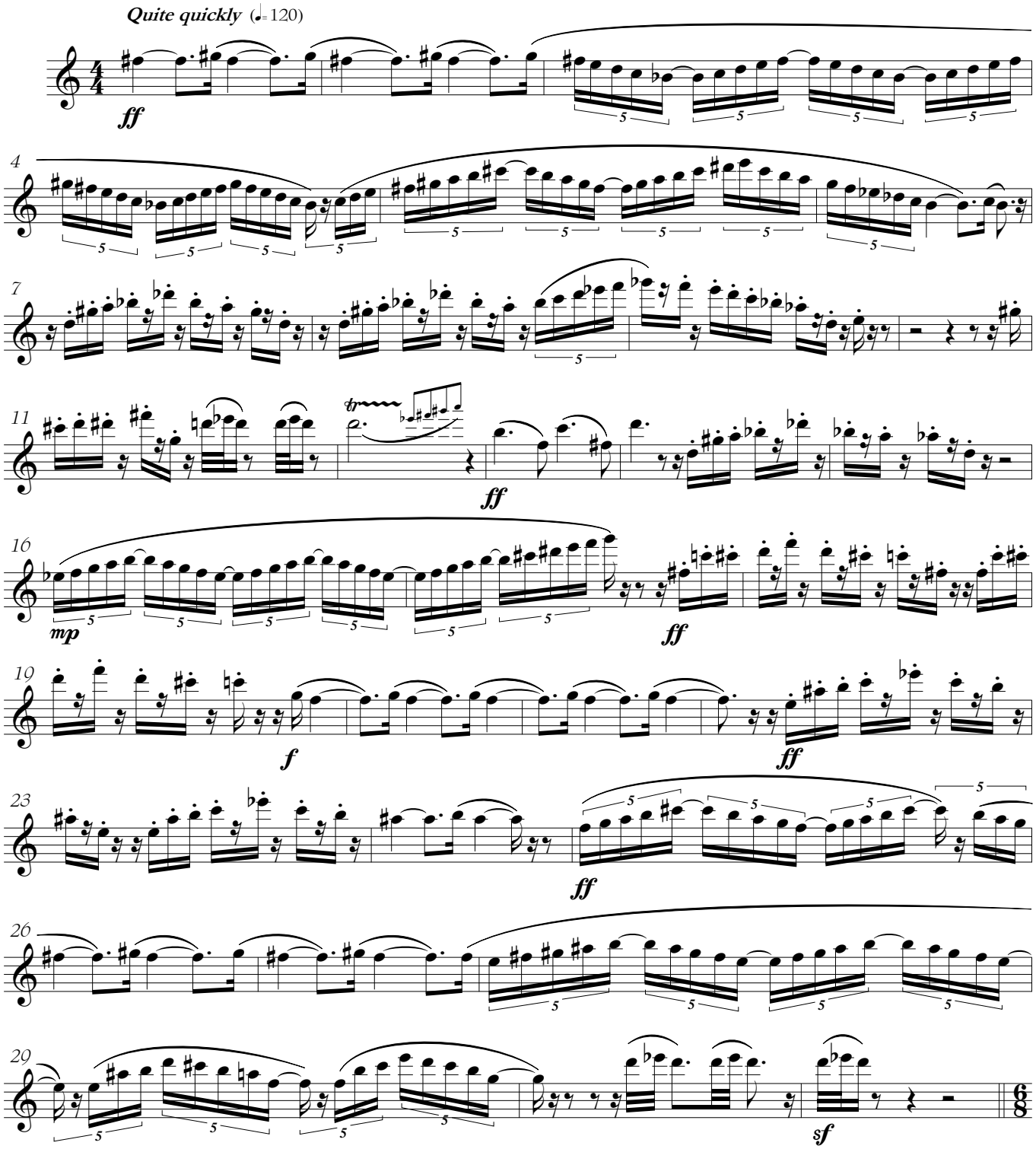

Tempo primo (♩. = 120)
369
372

# FUNFARE

Flute

Ian Keith Harris
(1935 - )

## I The Fairgound



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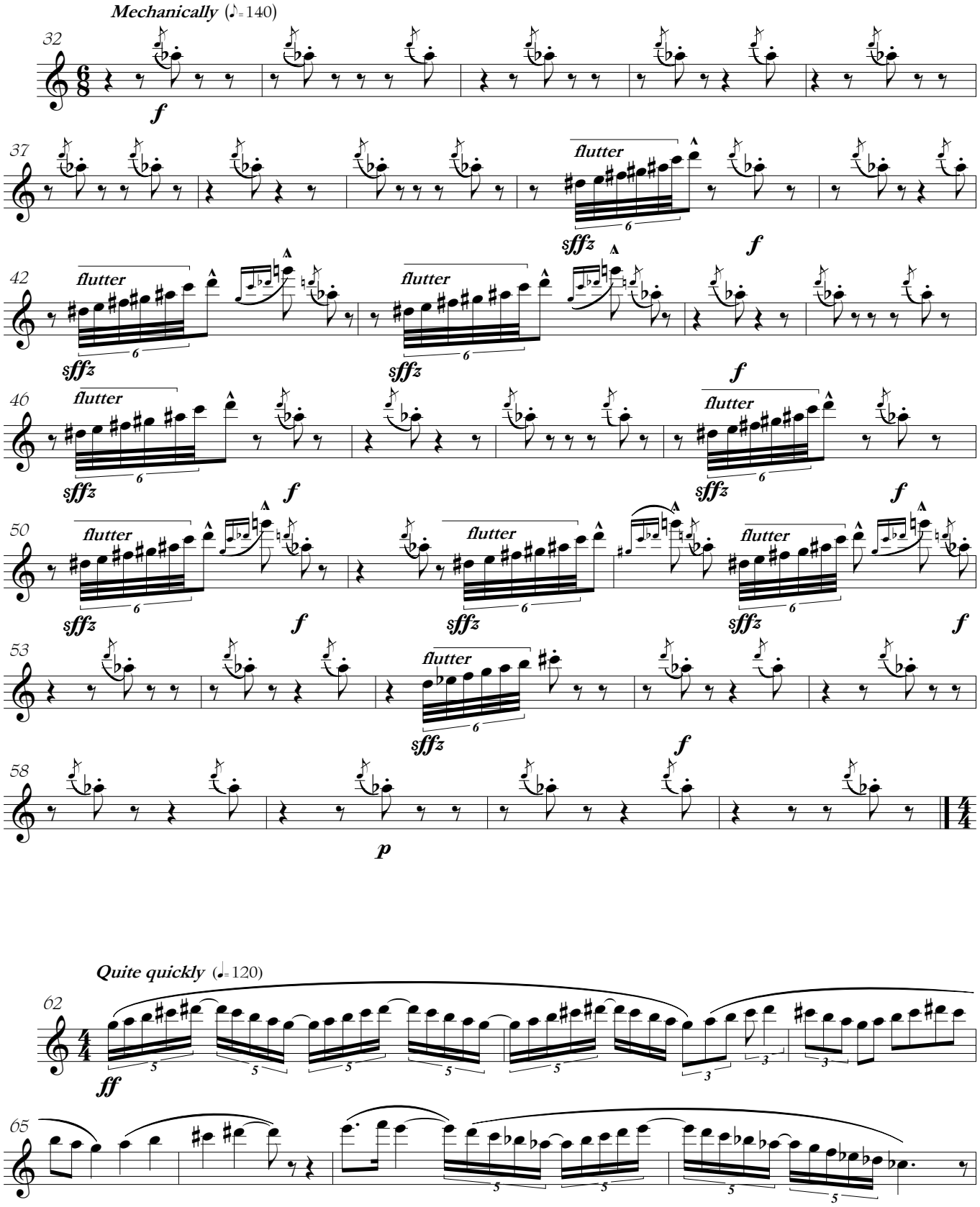
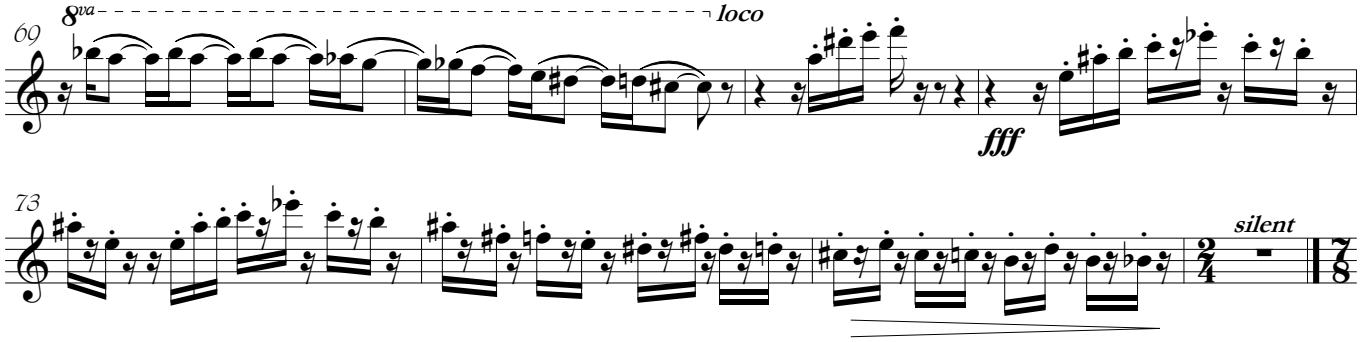
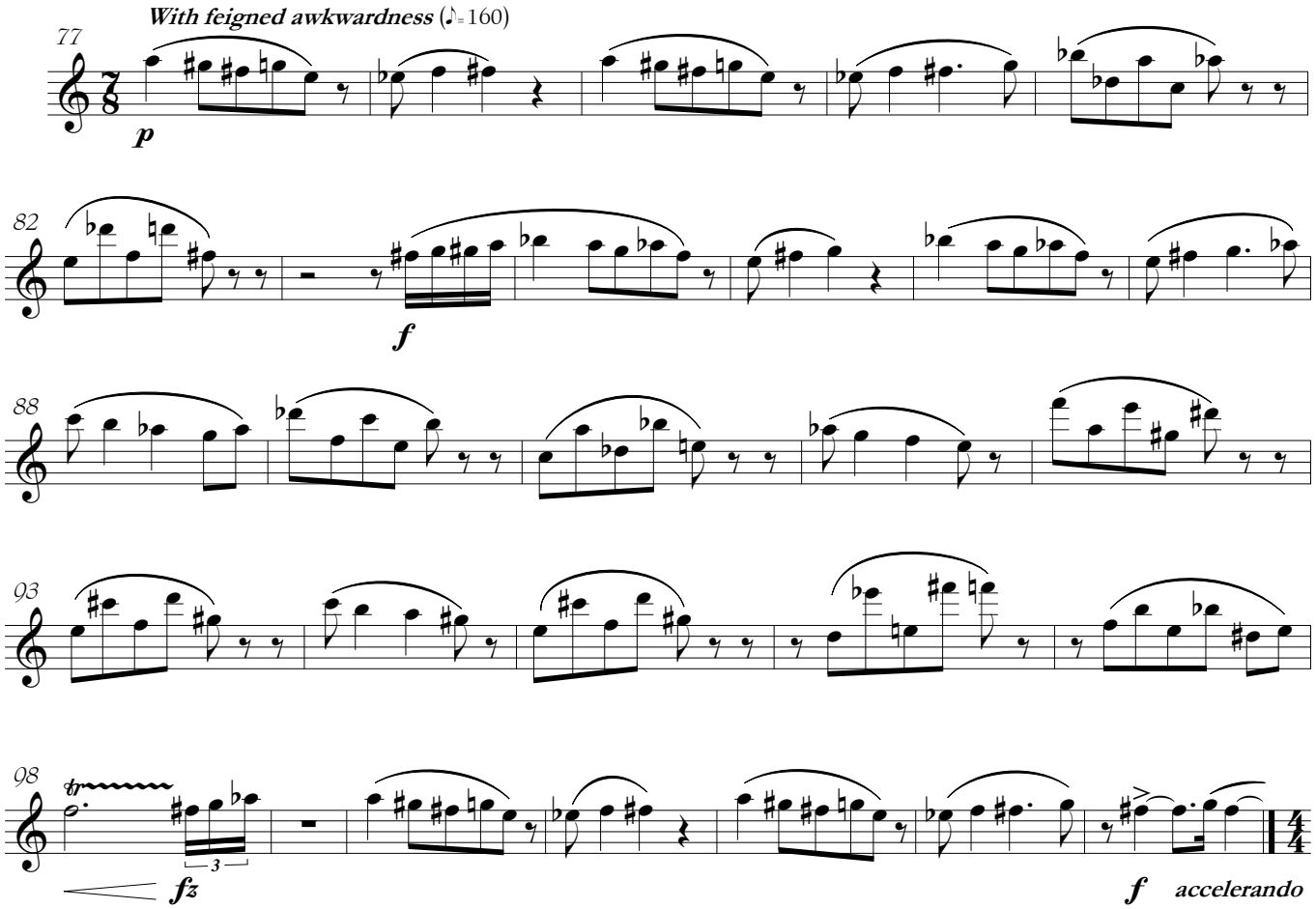
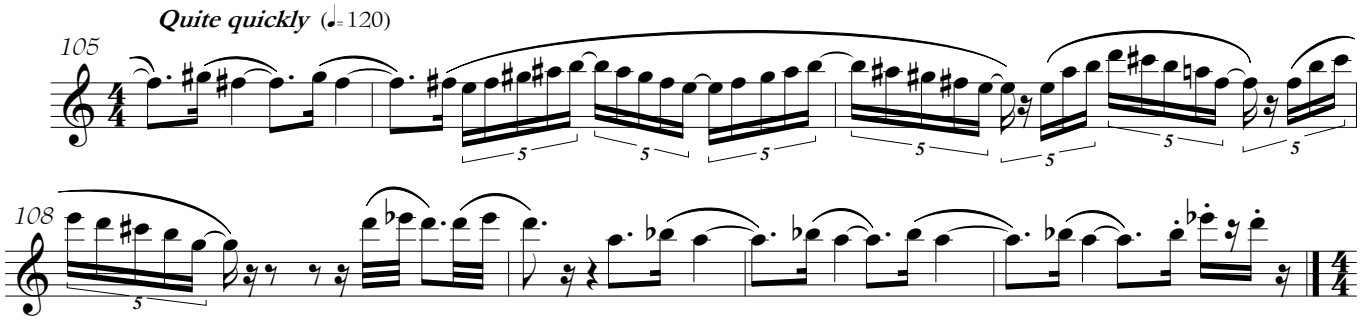
## II Aunt Sally



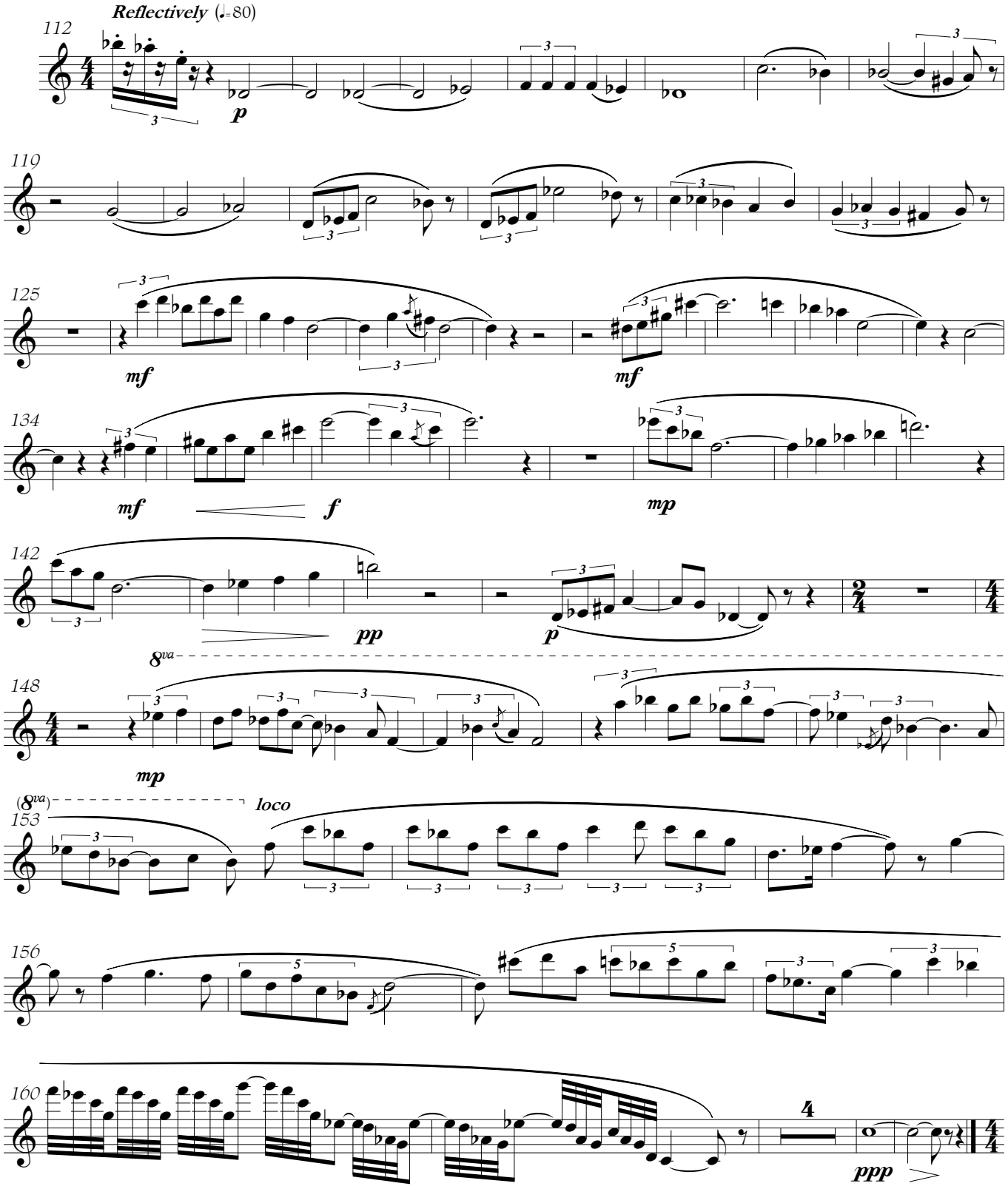


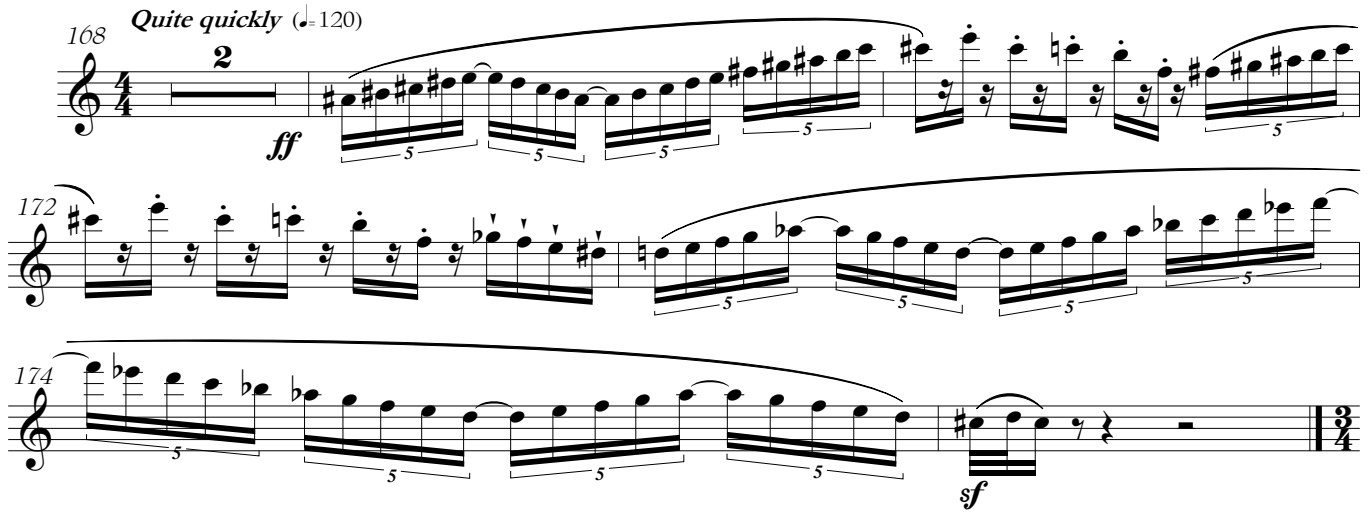

## III The Unicyclist & the Clown on Stilts



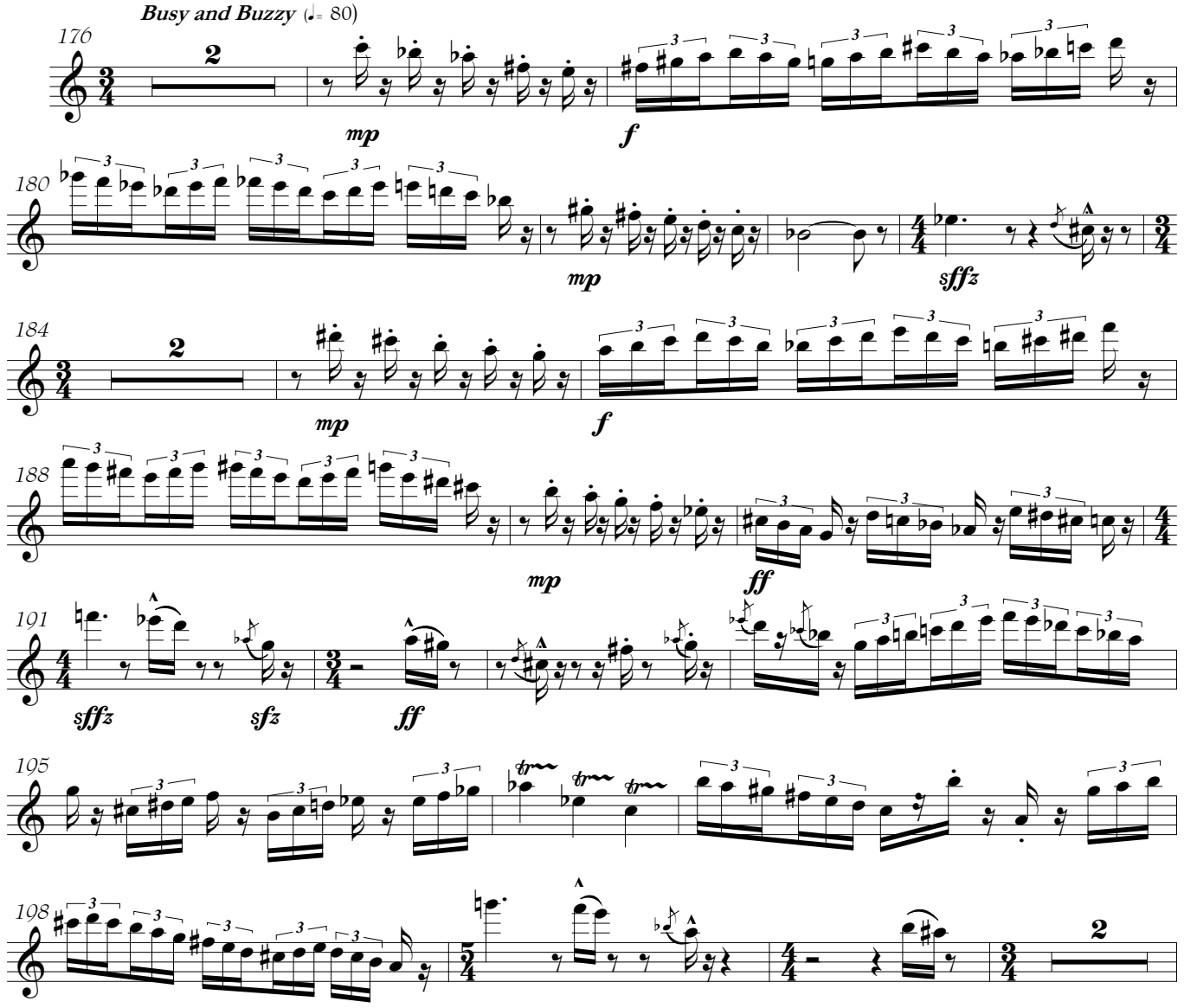



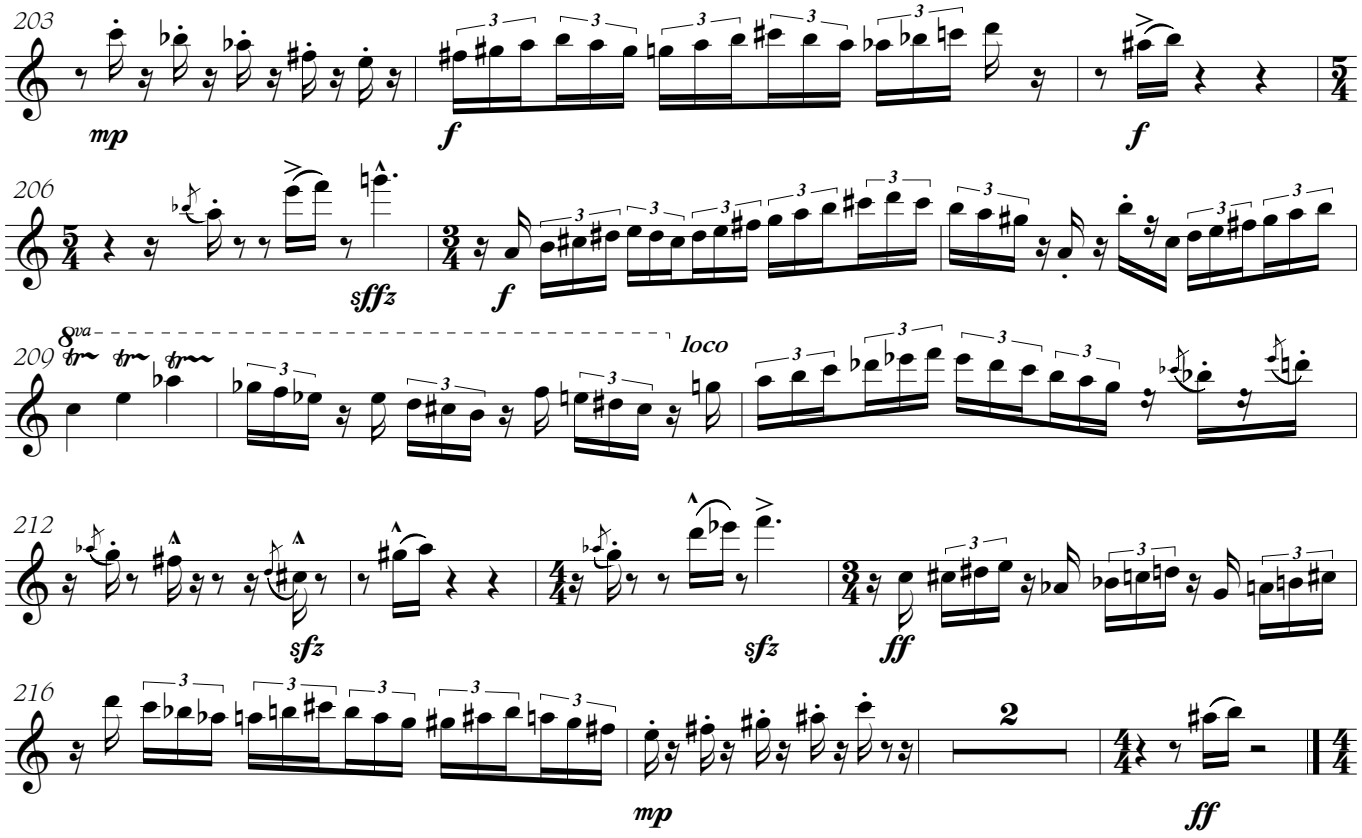
## IV The Hall of Mirrors

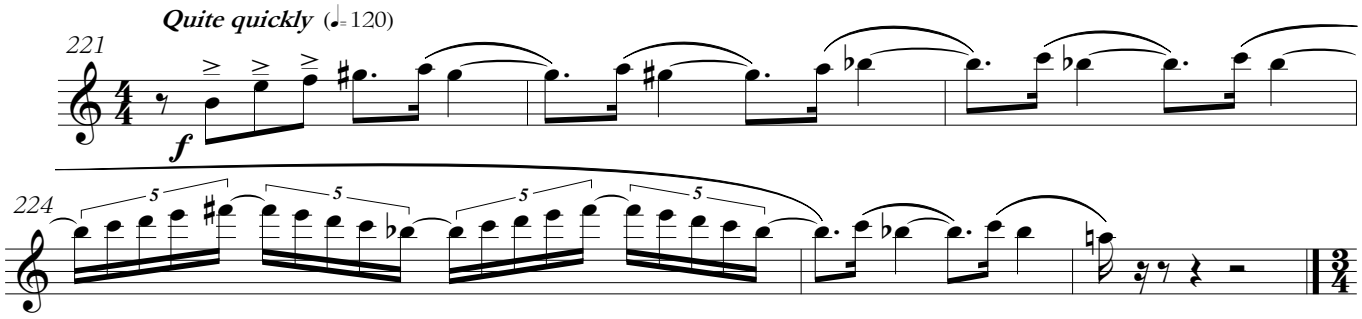




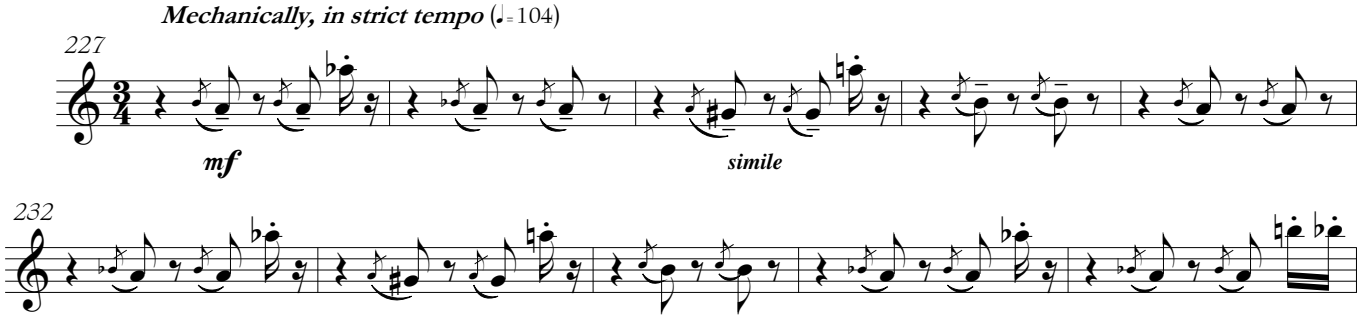

## V The Dodgem Cars

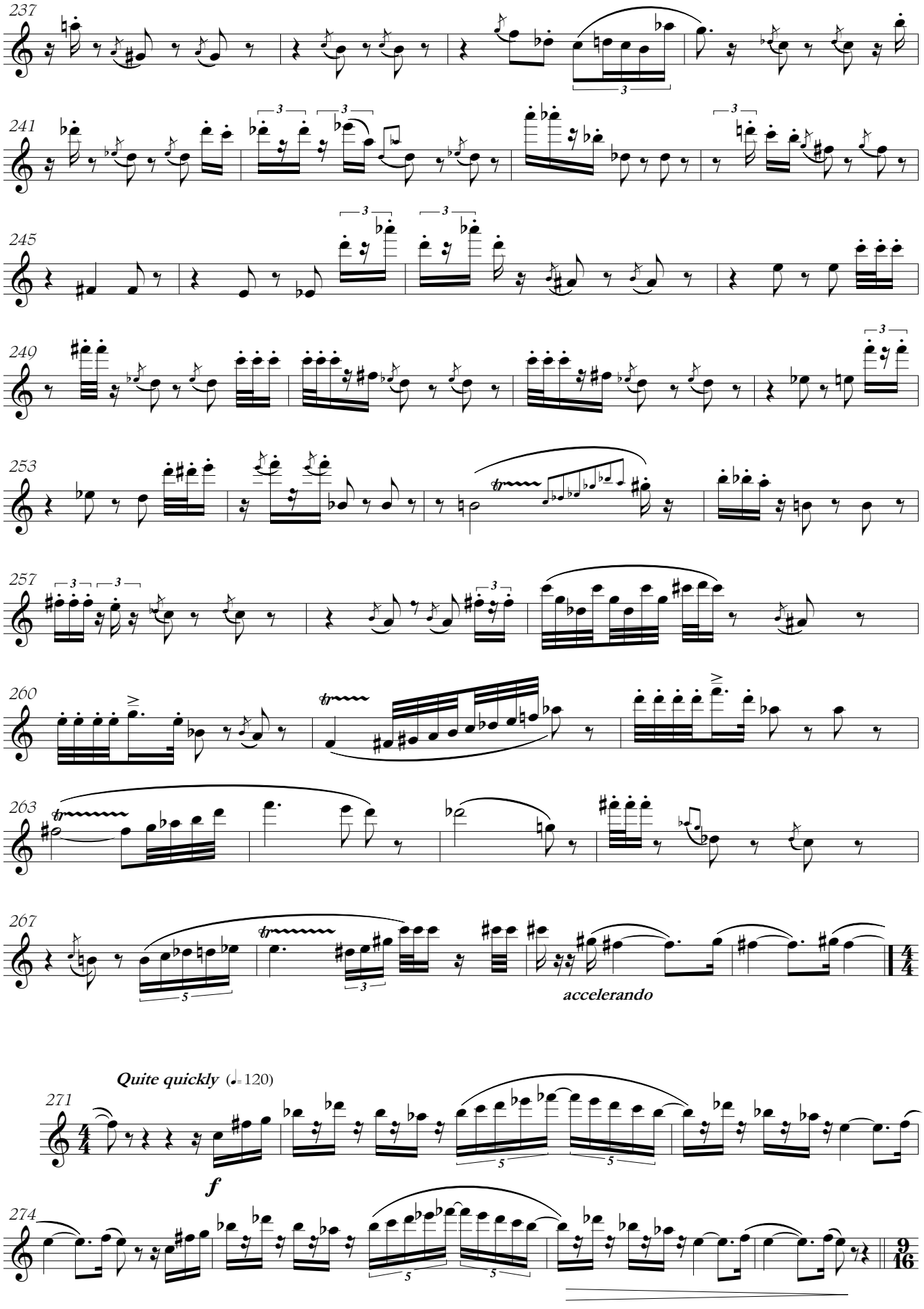




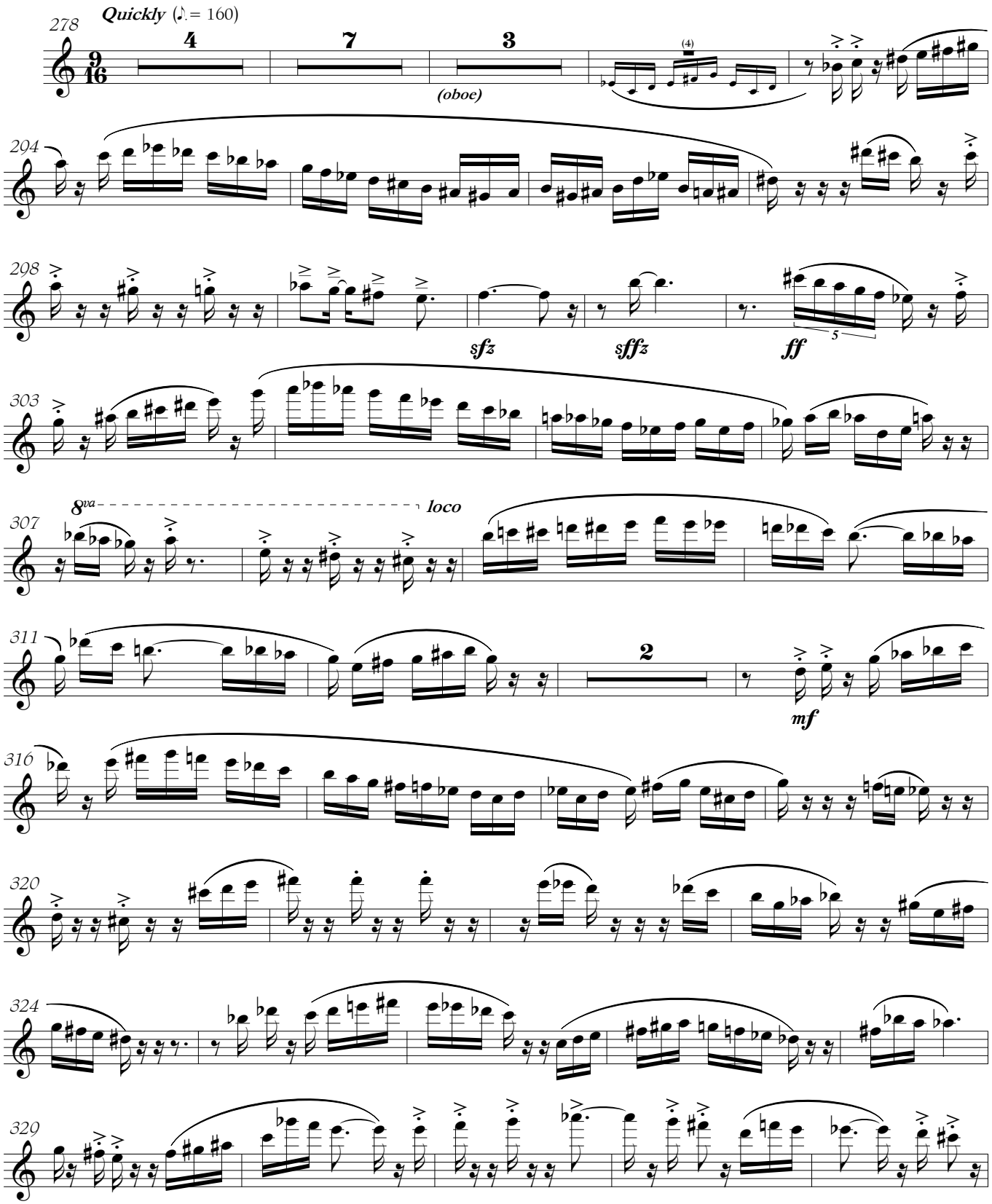



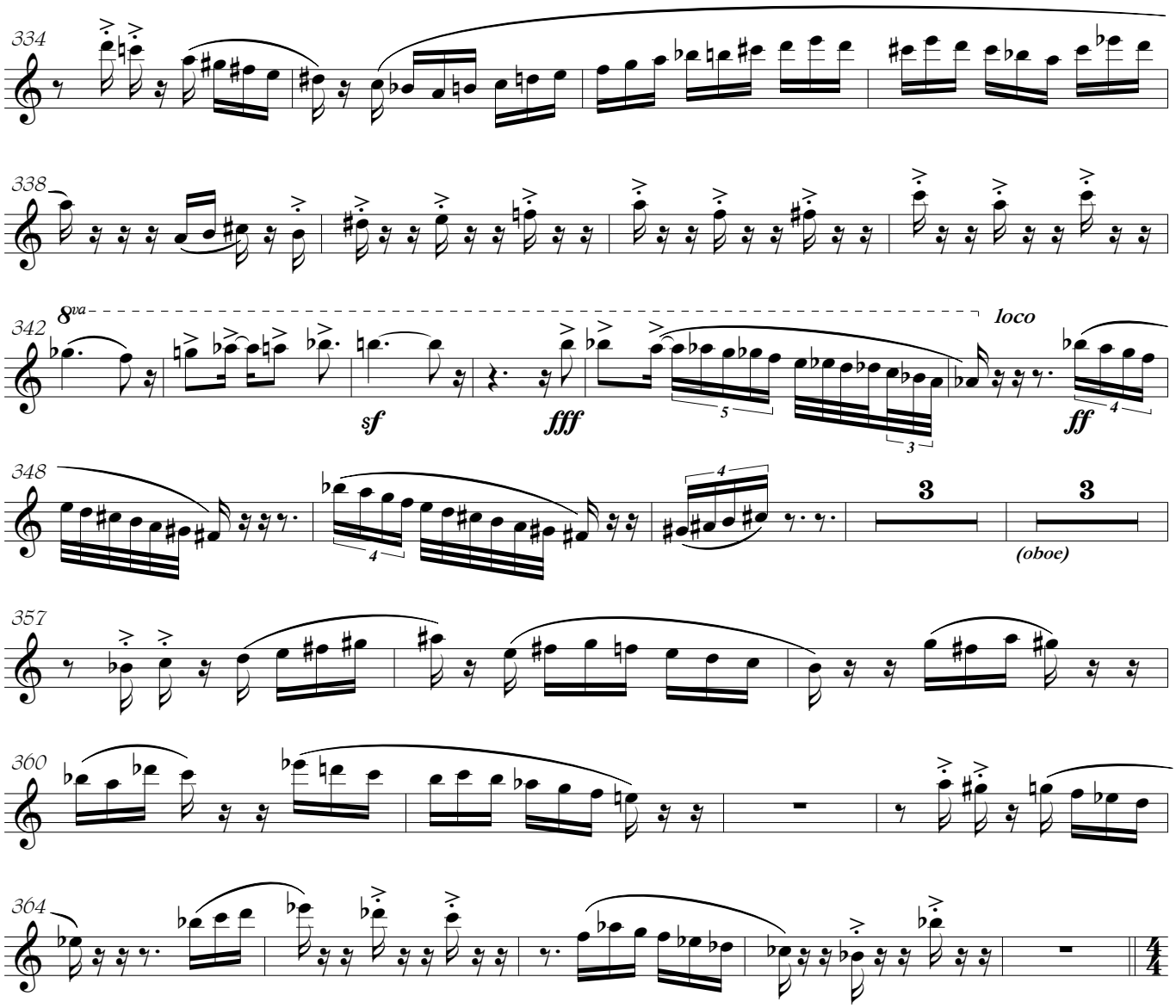

## VI The Geriatric Merry-Go-Round

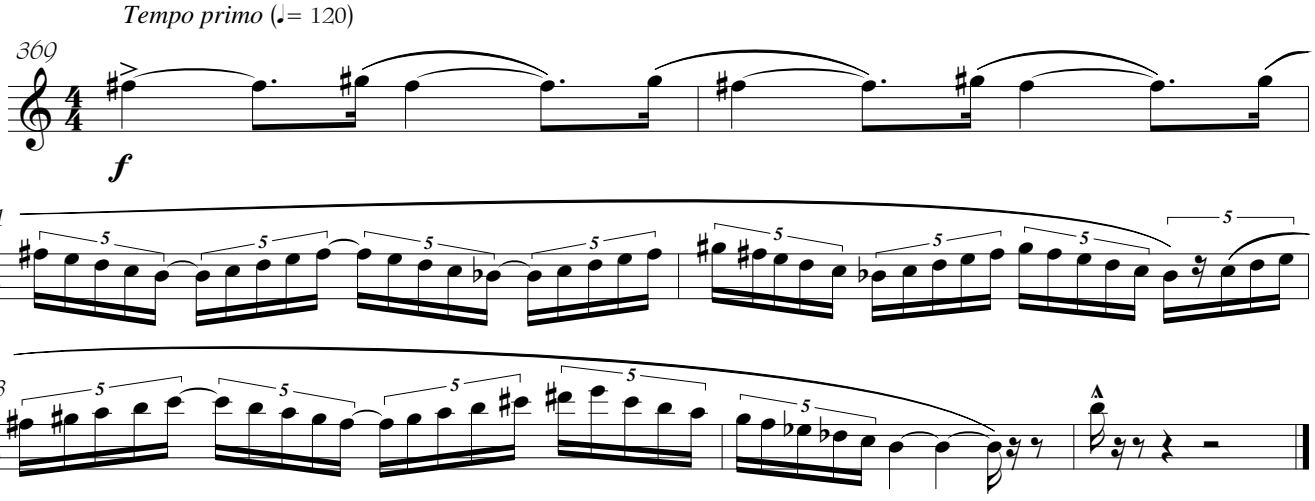



237
241
245
249
253
257
260
263
267
accelerando
Quite quickly (♩= 120)
271
f
274

## VII The Big Dipper




334
338
342
8va
loco
sf
fff
ff
348
3
3
(oboe)
357
360
364

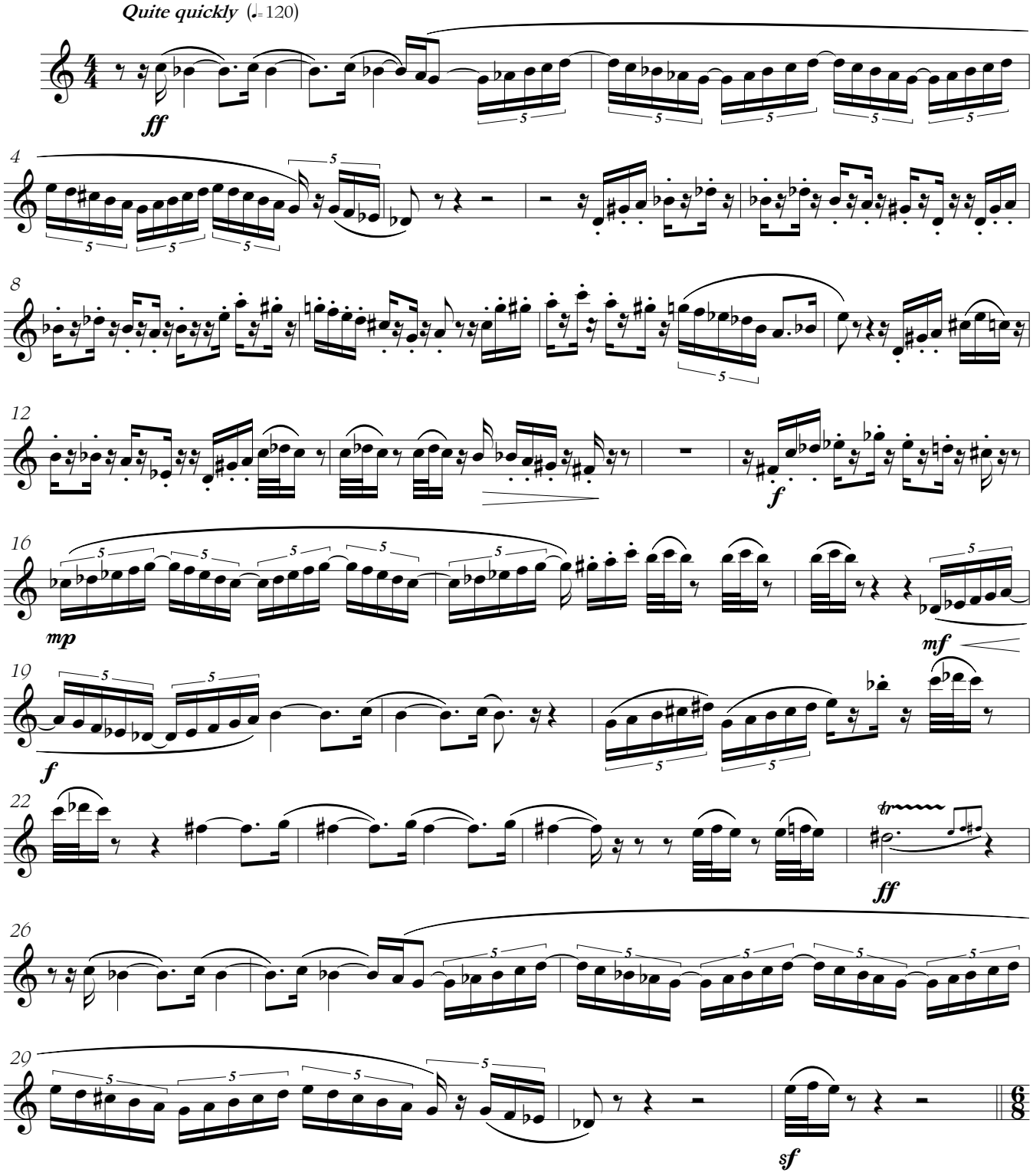

Tempo primo (♩= 120)
369
f
371
373

# FUNFARE

**Oboe**

**Ian Keith Harris**
(1935 - )

## I The Fairgound

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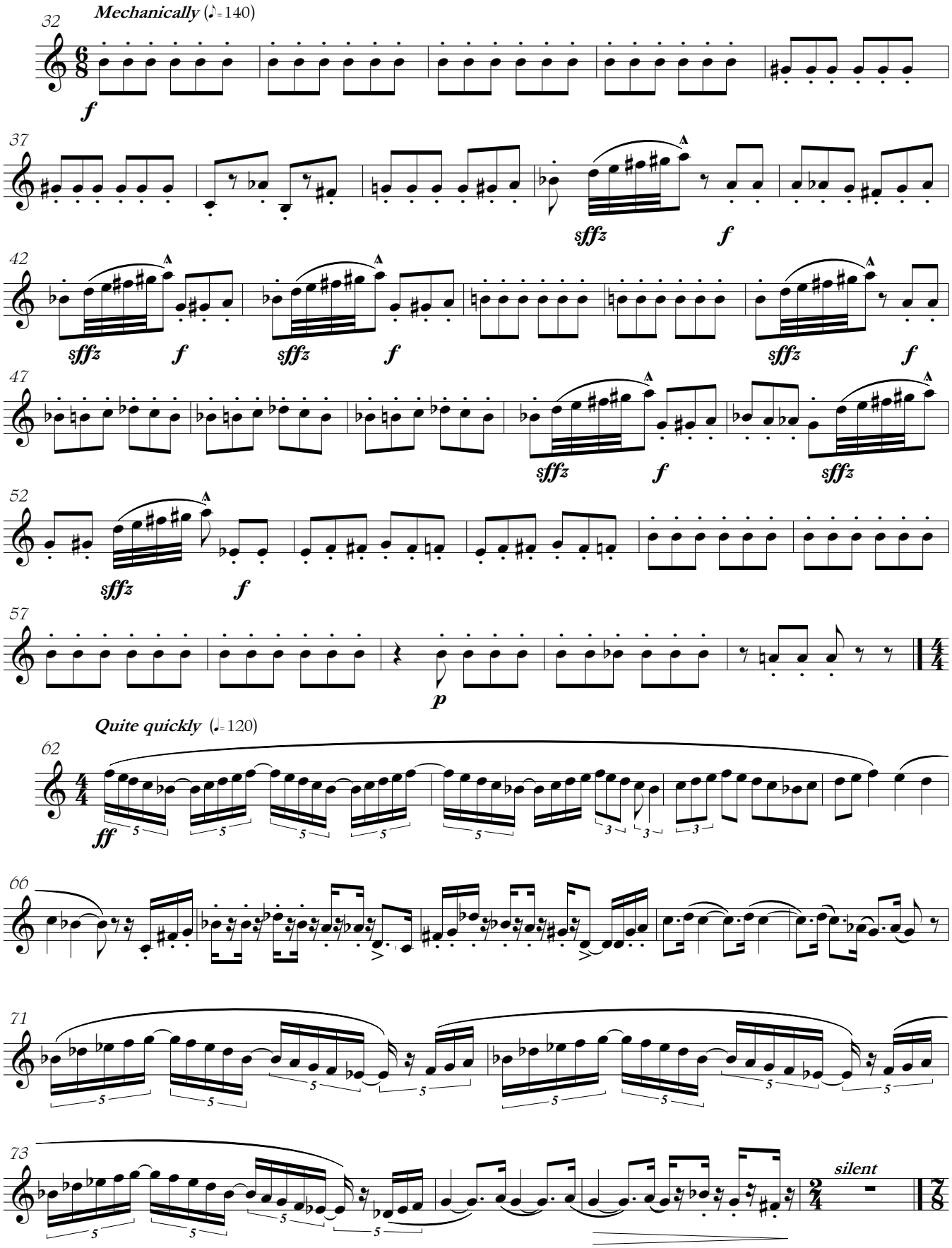
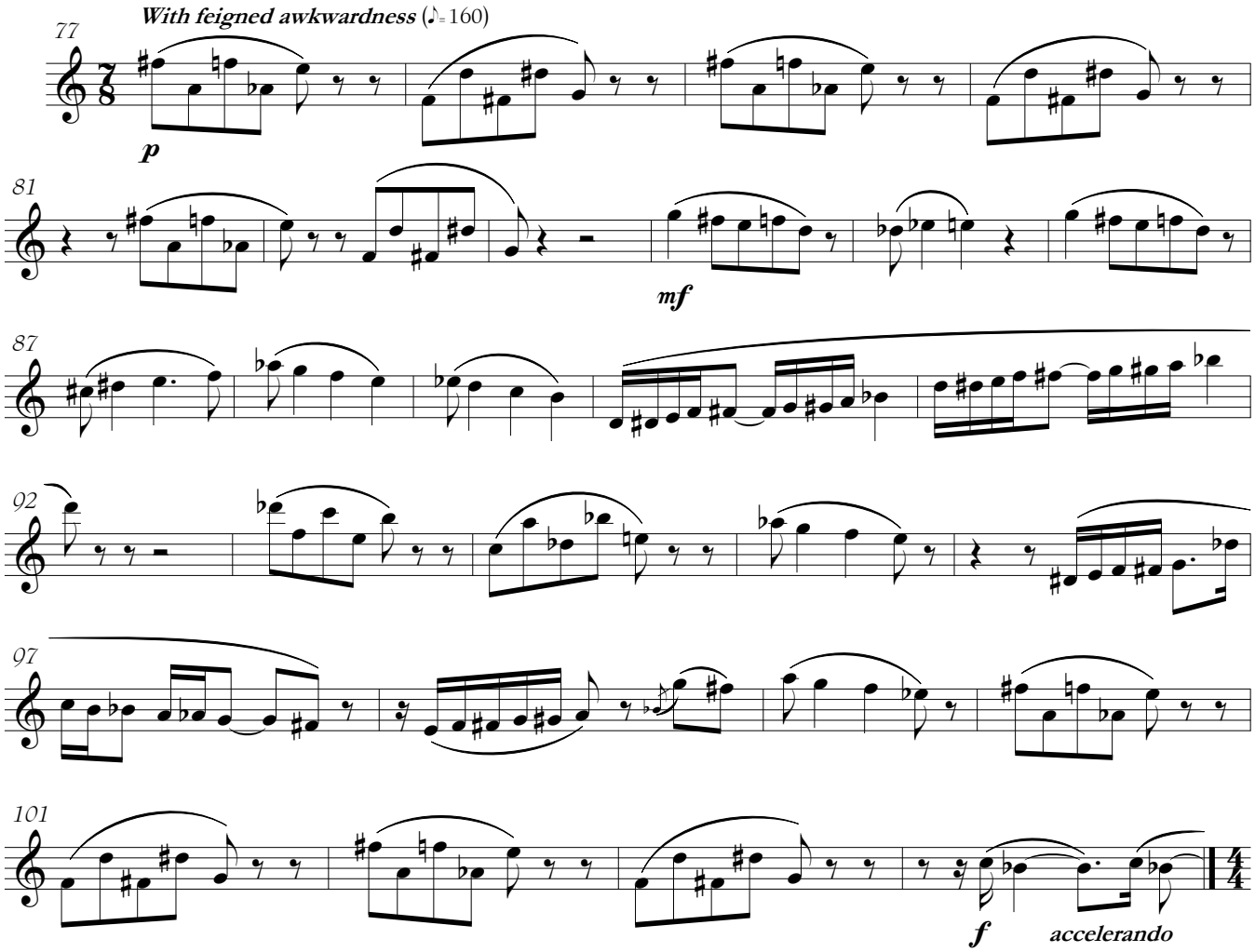
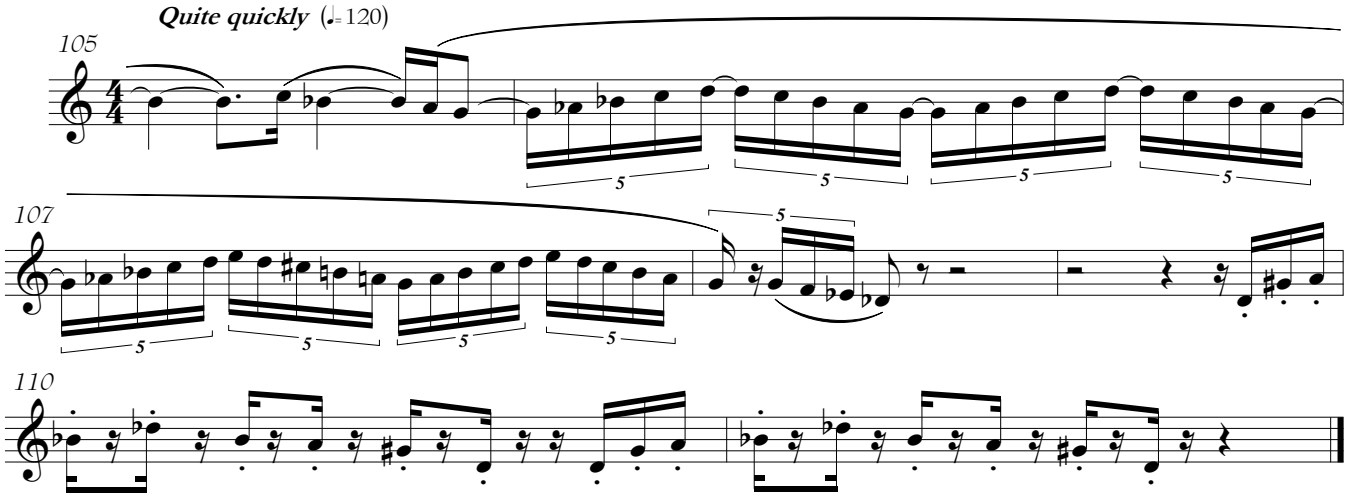
## II Aunt Sally

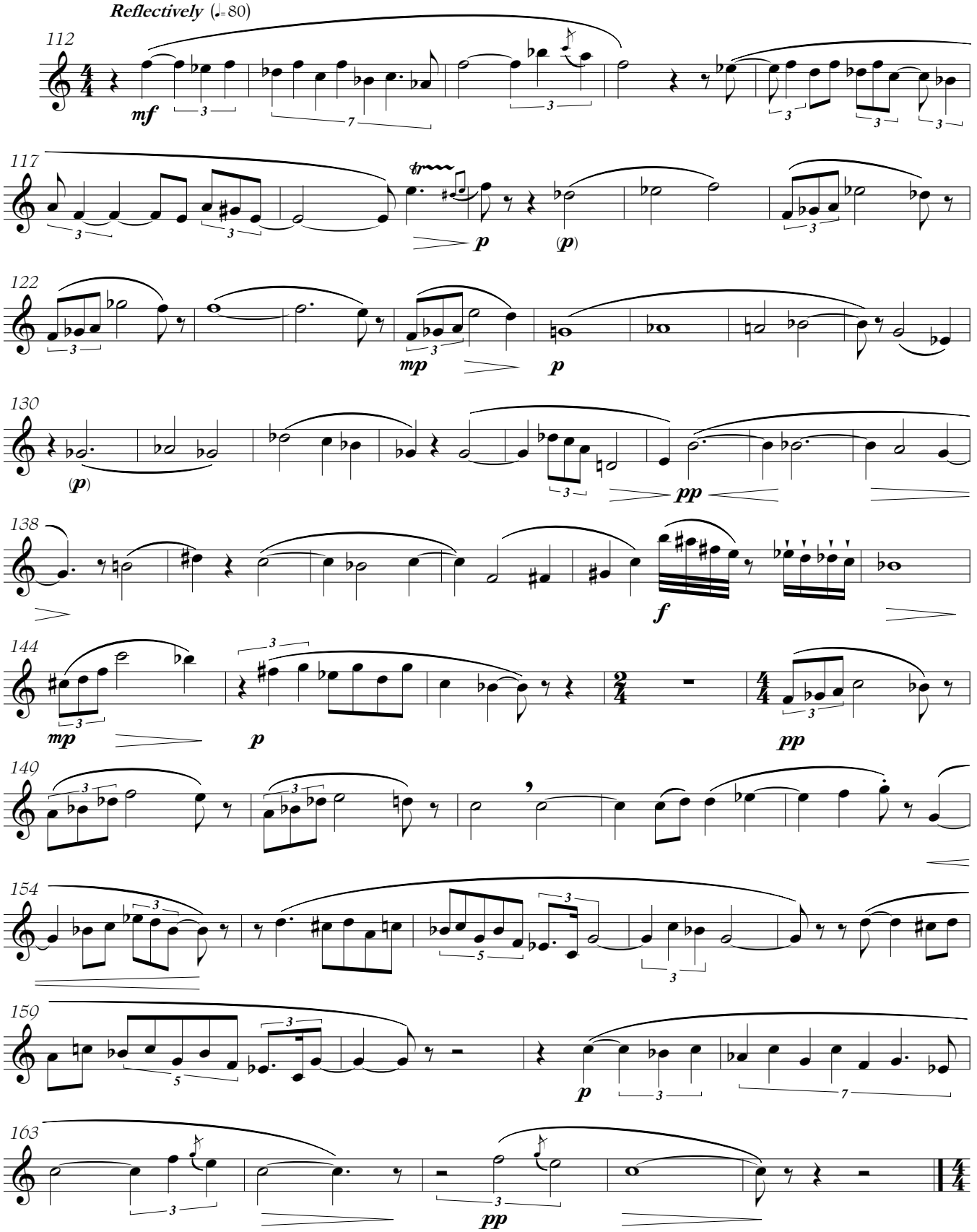


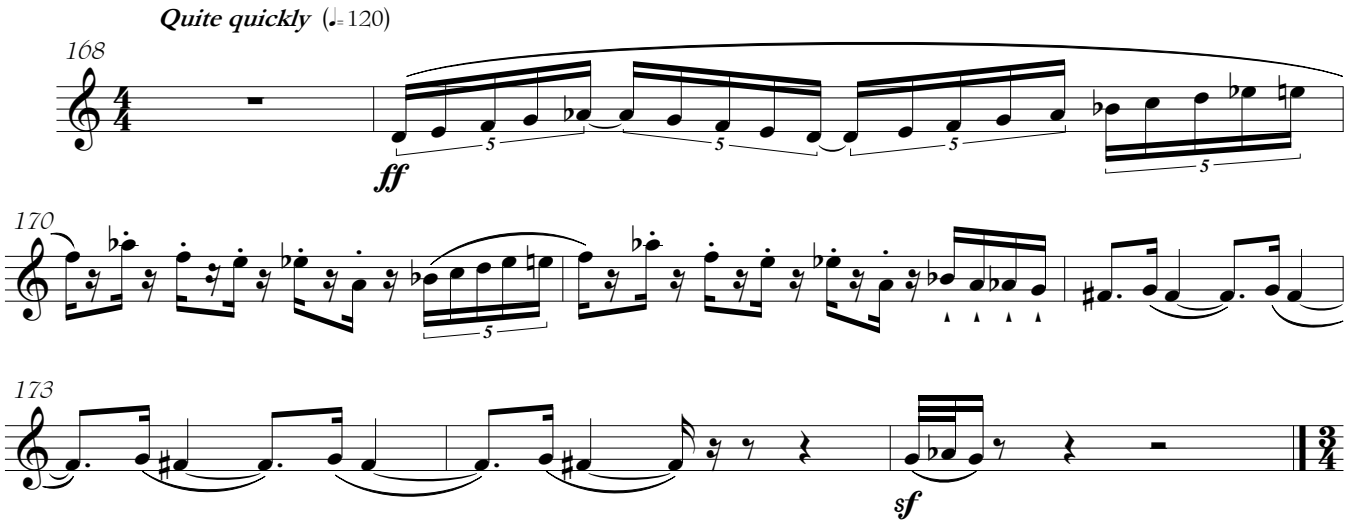
## III The Unicyclist & The Clown on Stilts



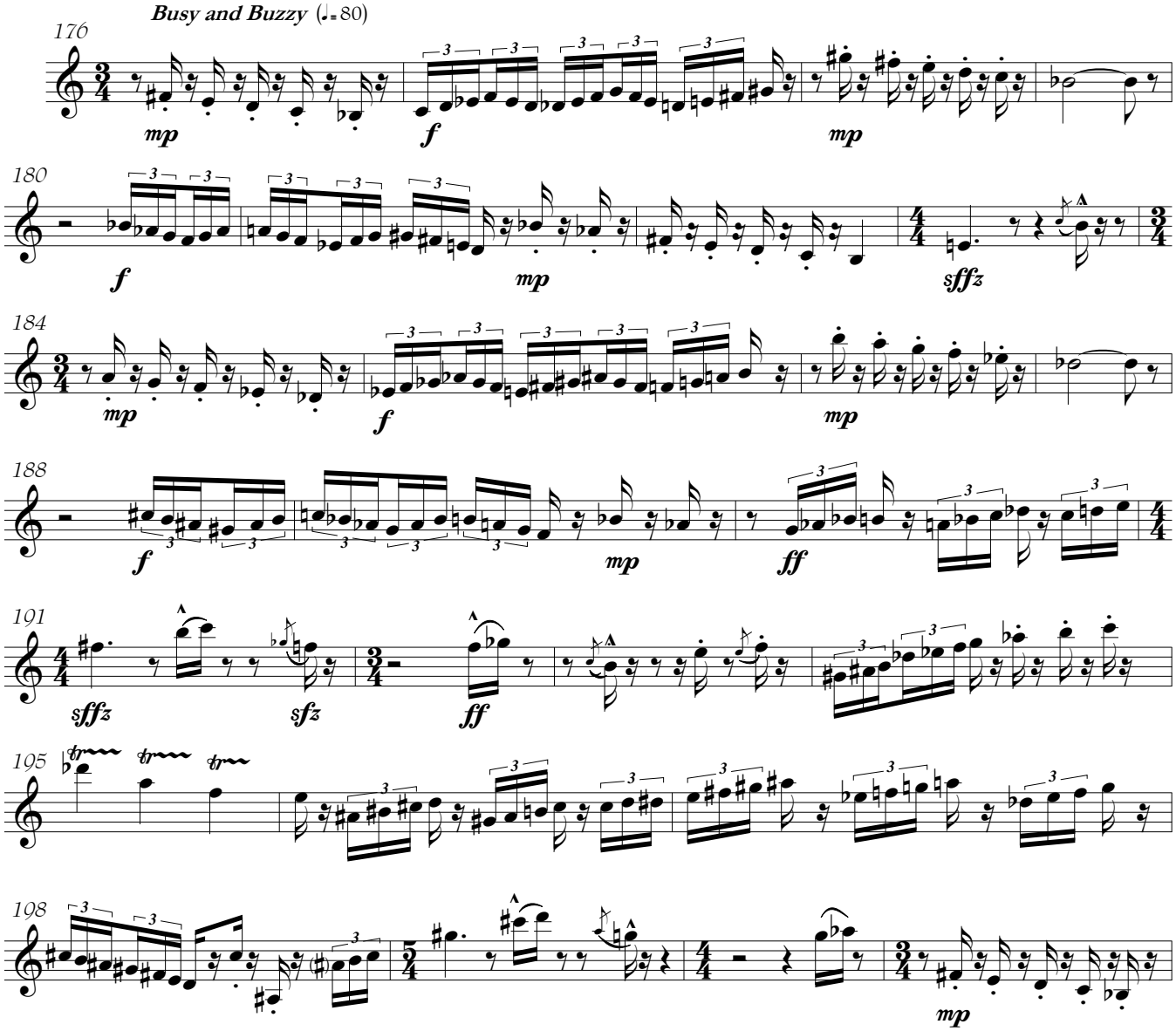



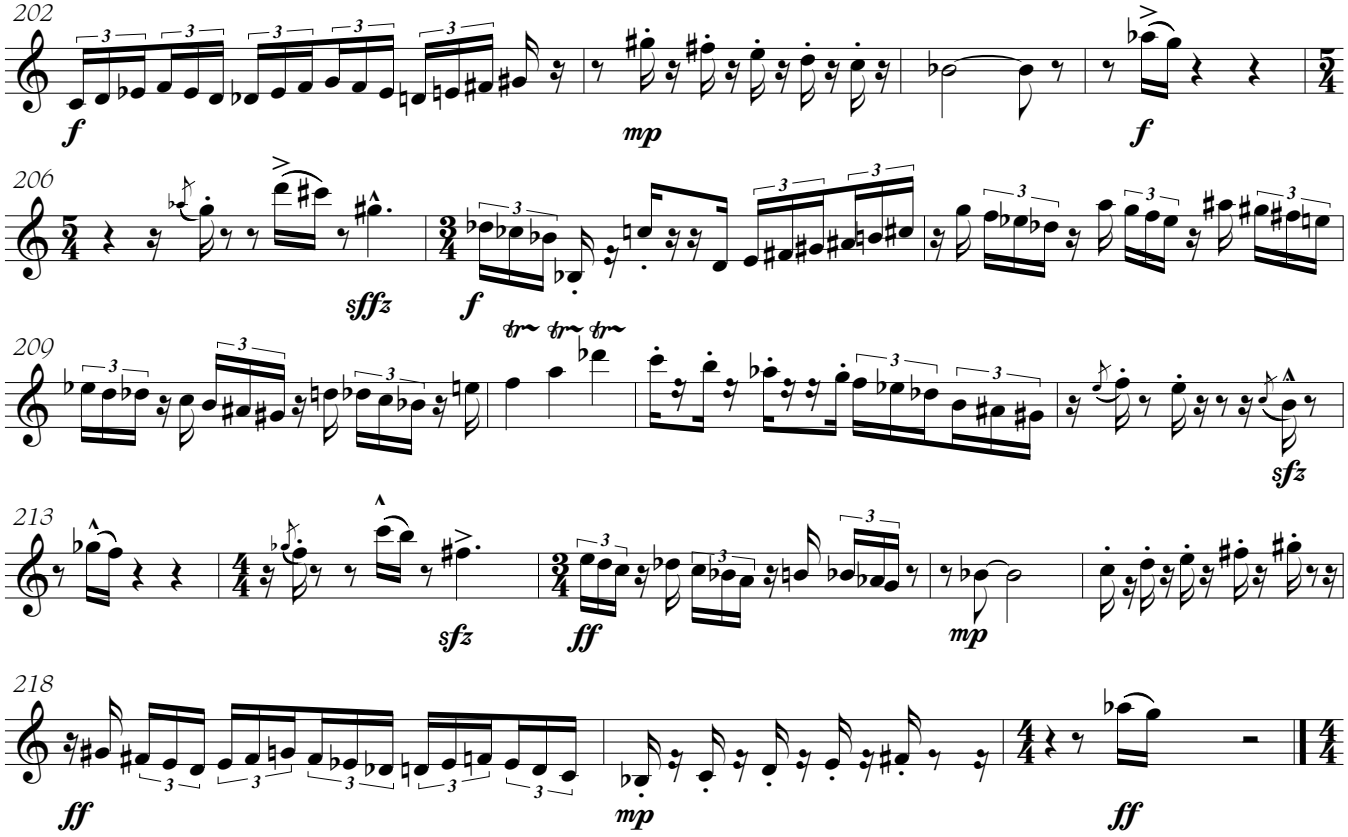
## IV The Hall of Mirrors

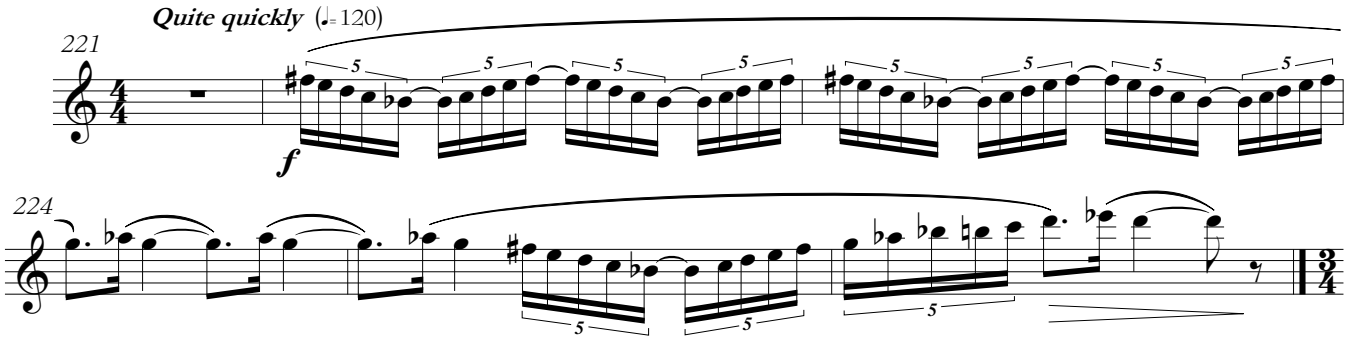




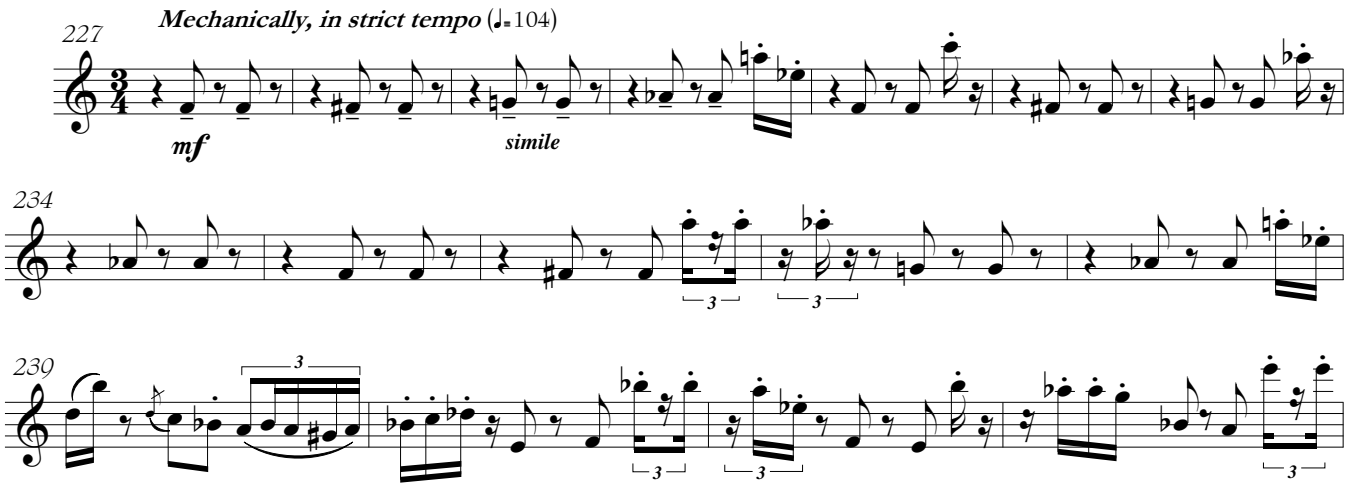

## V The Dodgem Cars

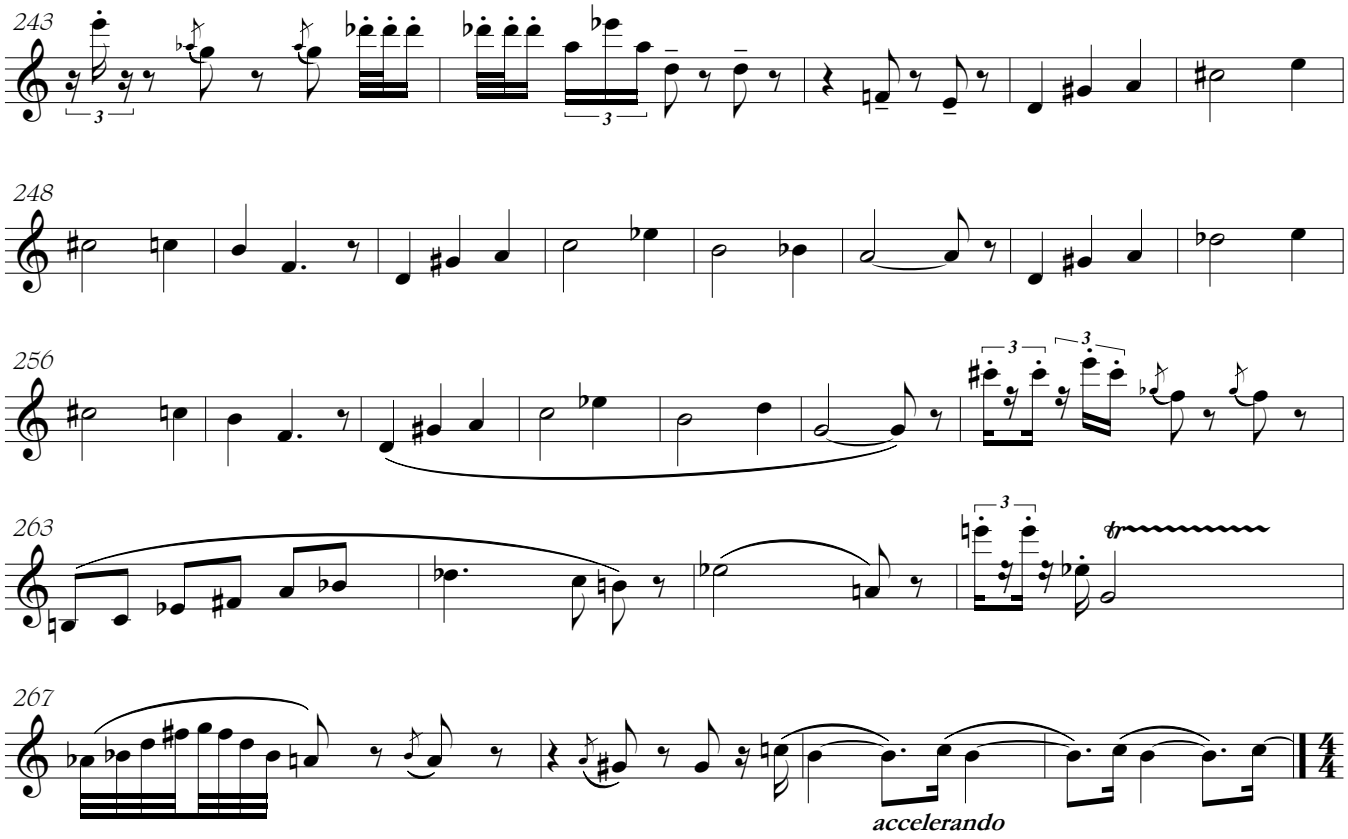


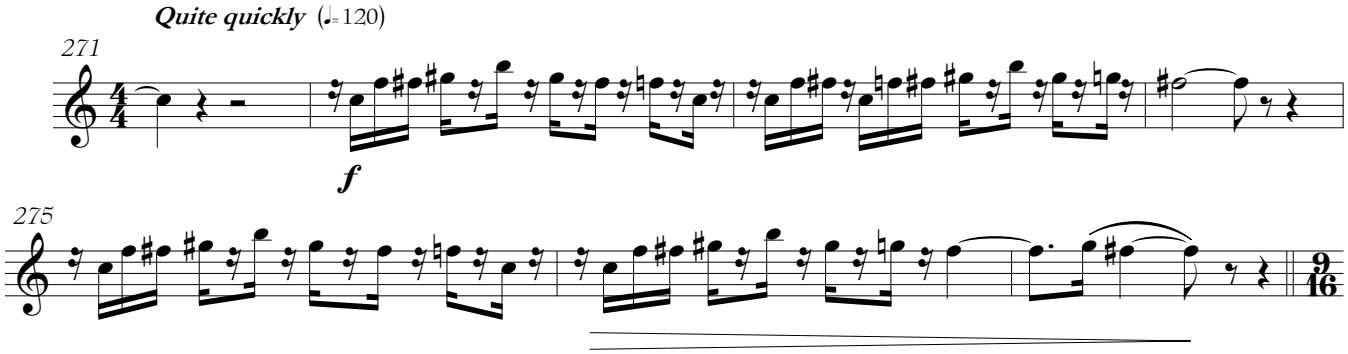


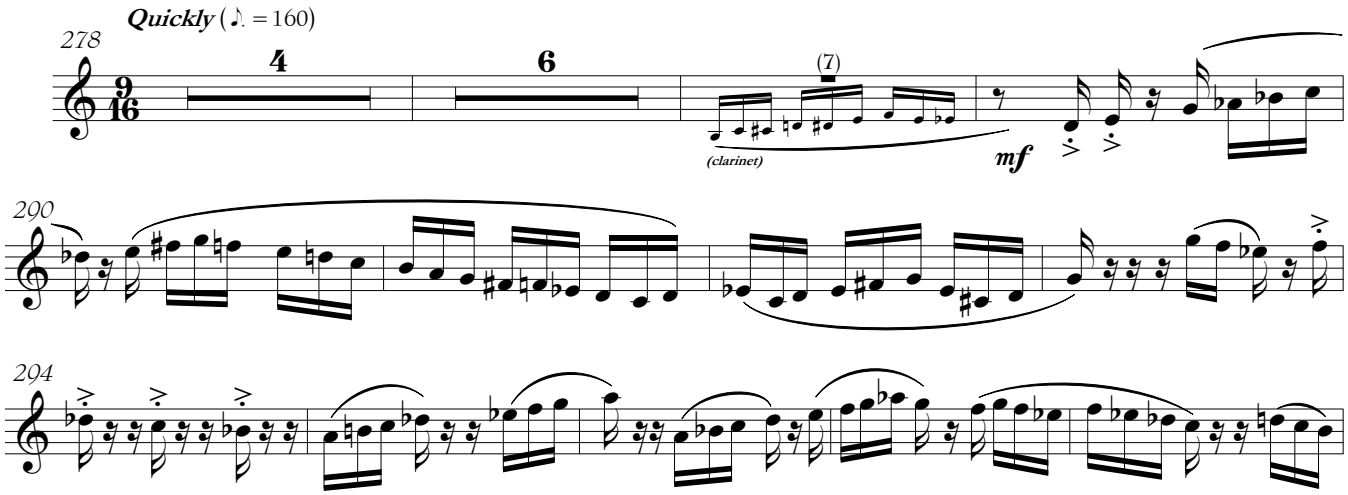

## VI The Geriatric Merry-Go-Round



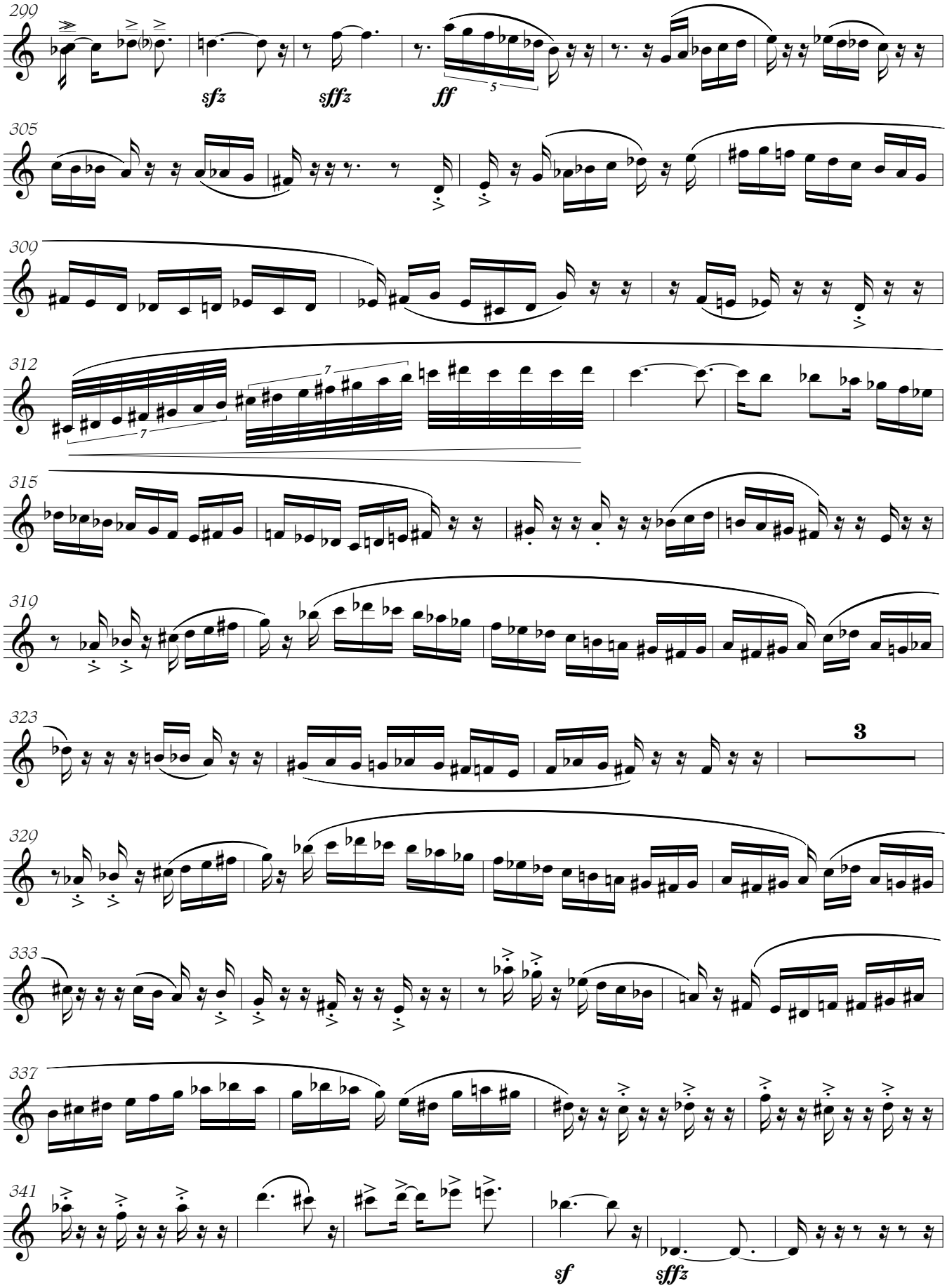


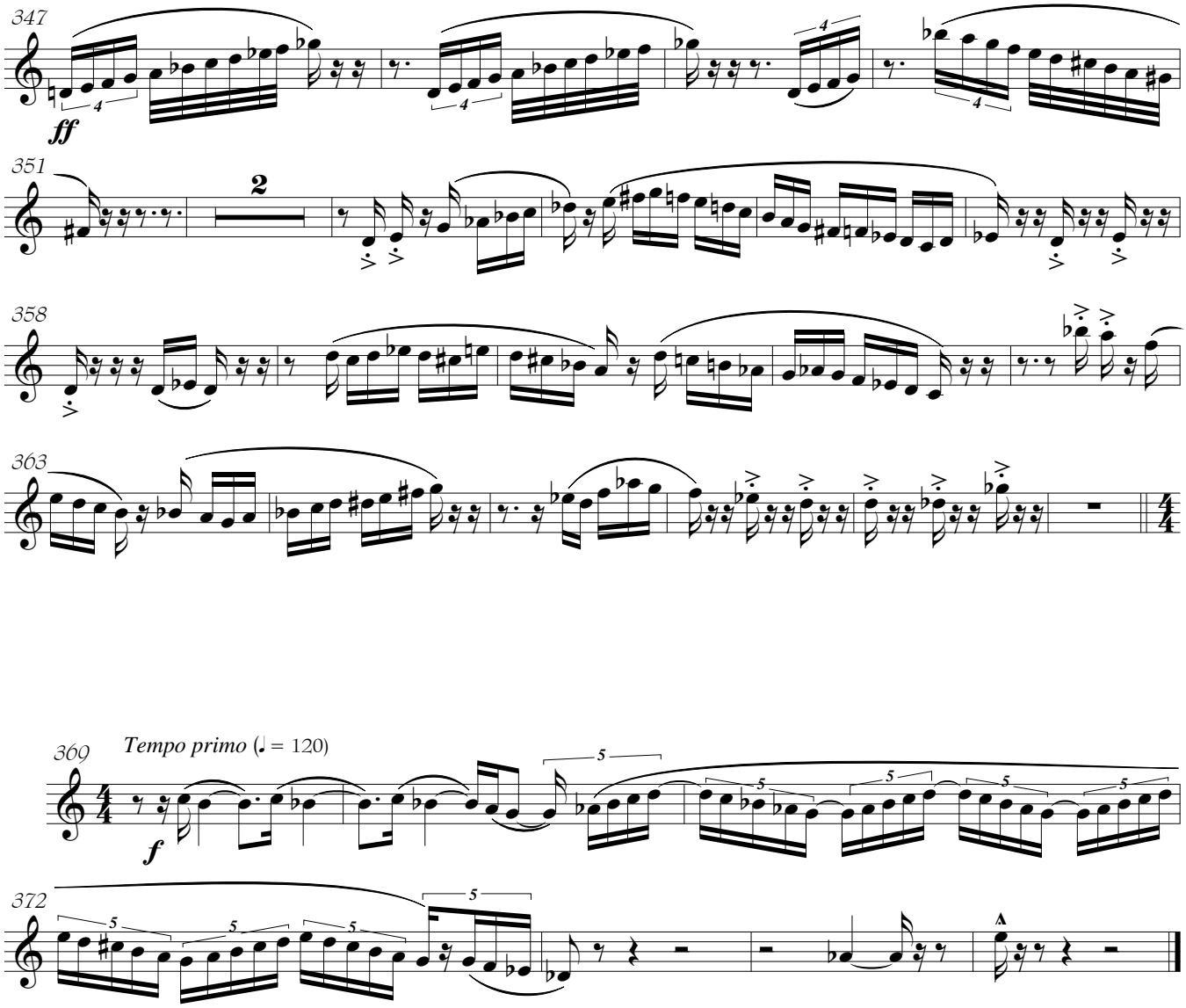




## VII The Big Dipper



# Oboe


209
sfz
sfffz
ff
305
309
312
315
319
323
3
329
333
337
341
sf
sfffz

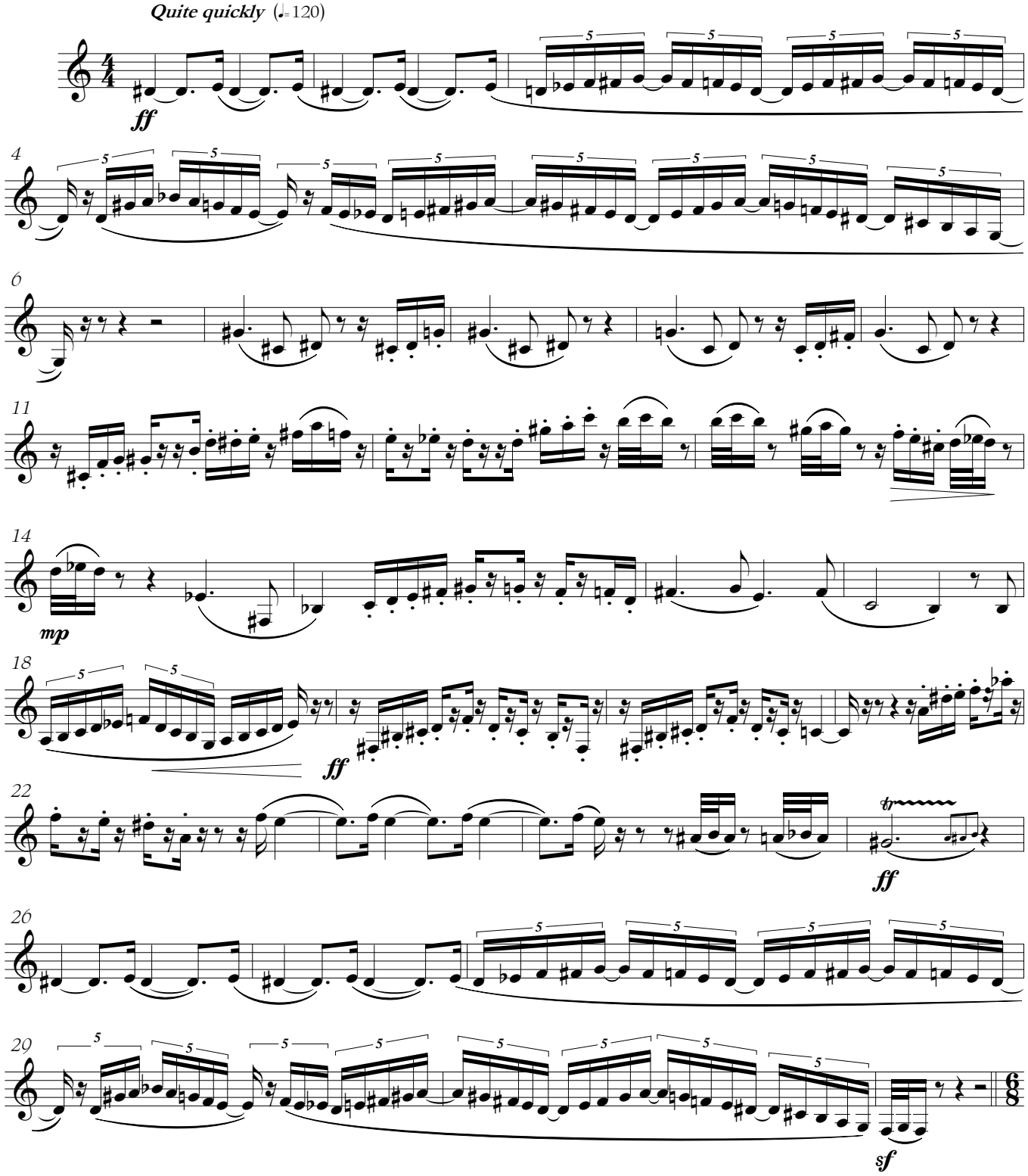

347
ff
351
2
358
363
369
Tempo primo (♩ = 120)
f
372

# FUNFARE

**Clarinet in B♭**

**Ian Keith Harris**
(1935 - )

## I The Fairground



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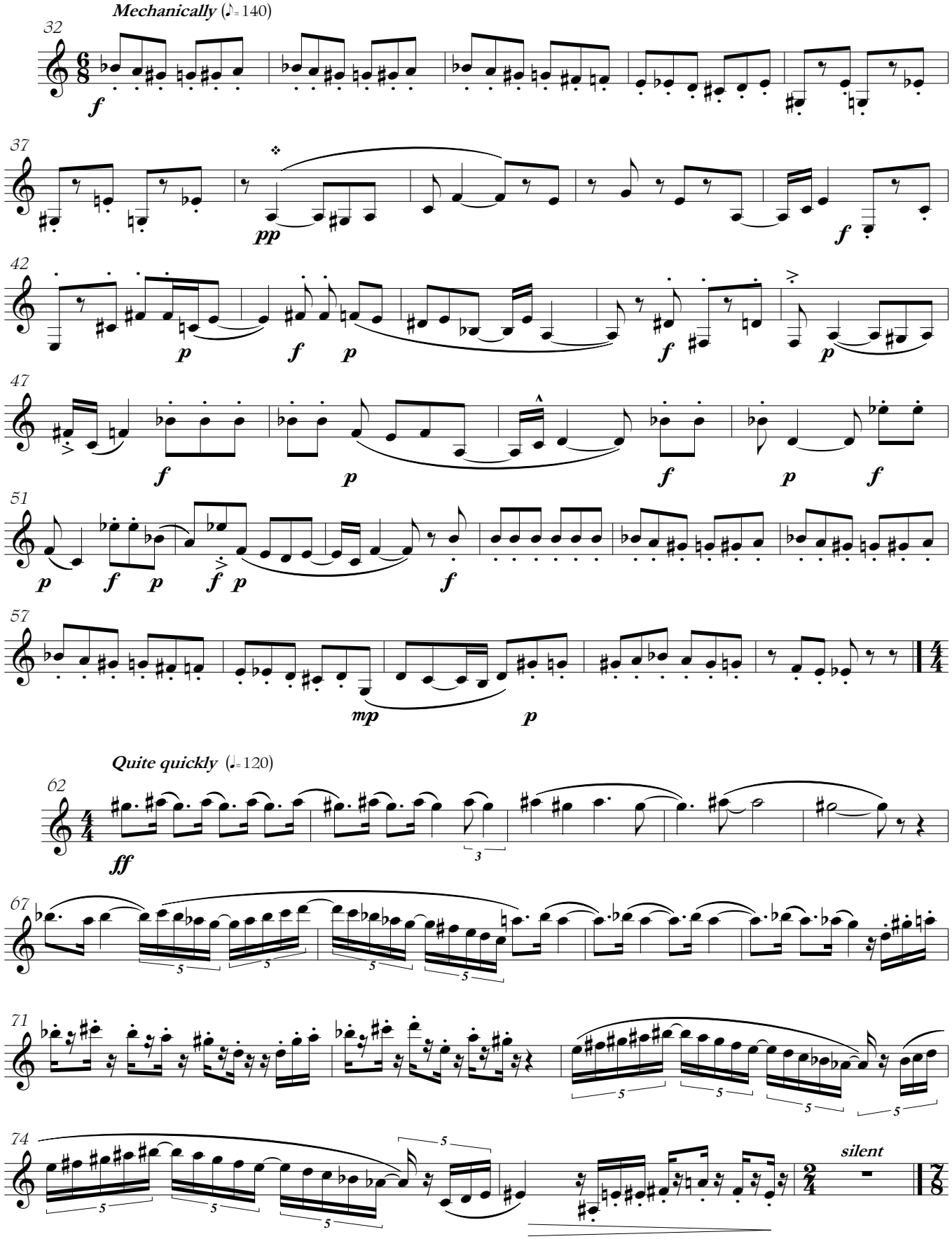
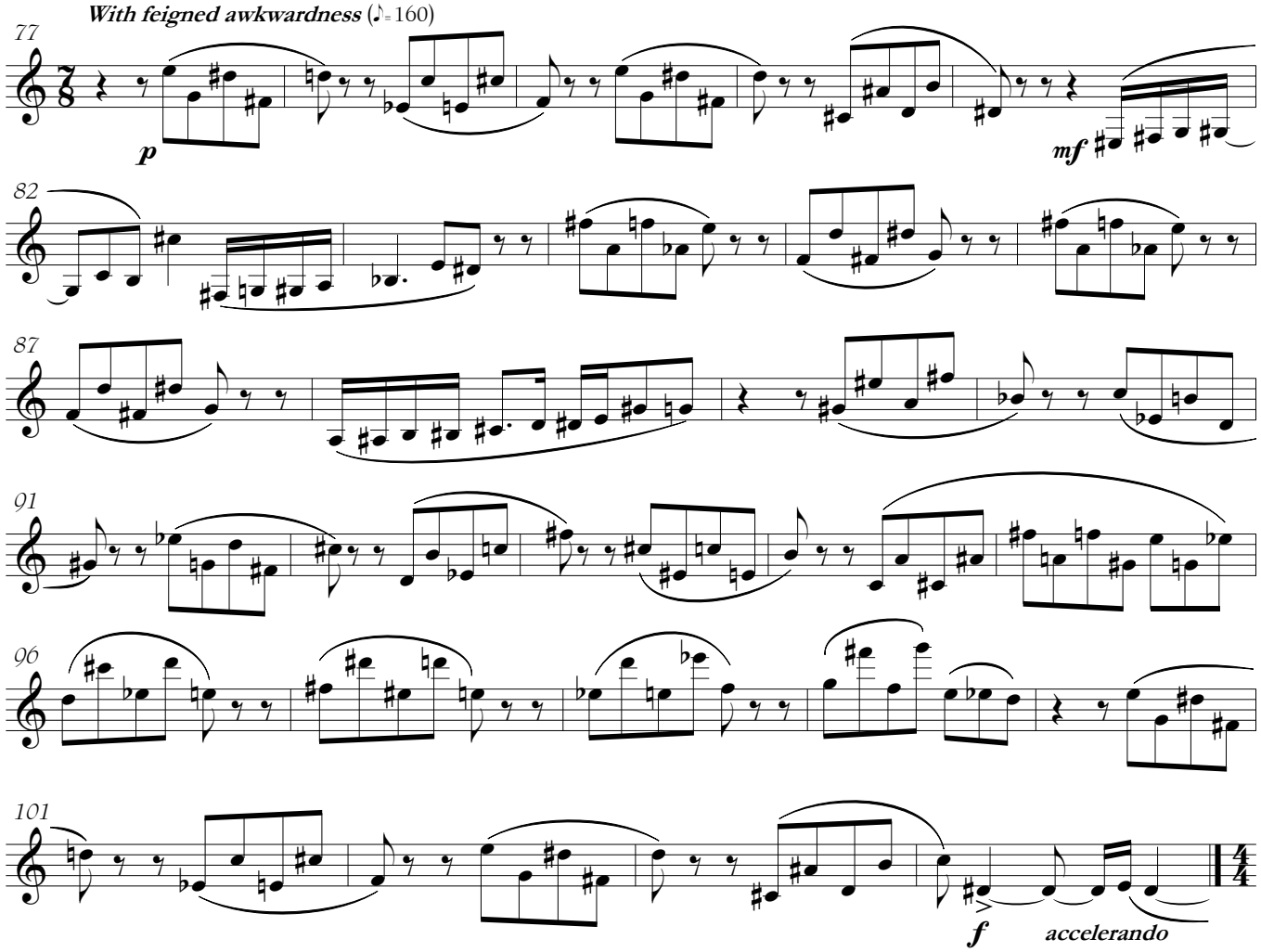
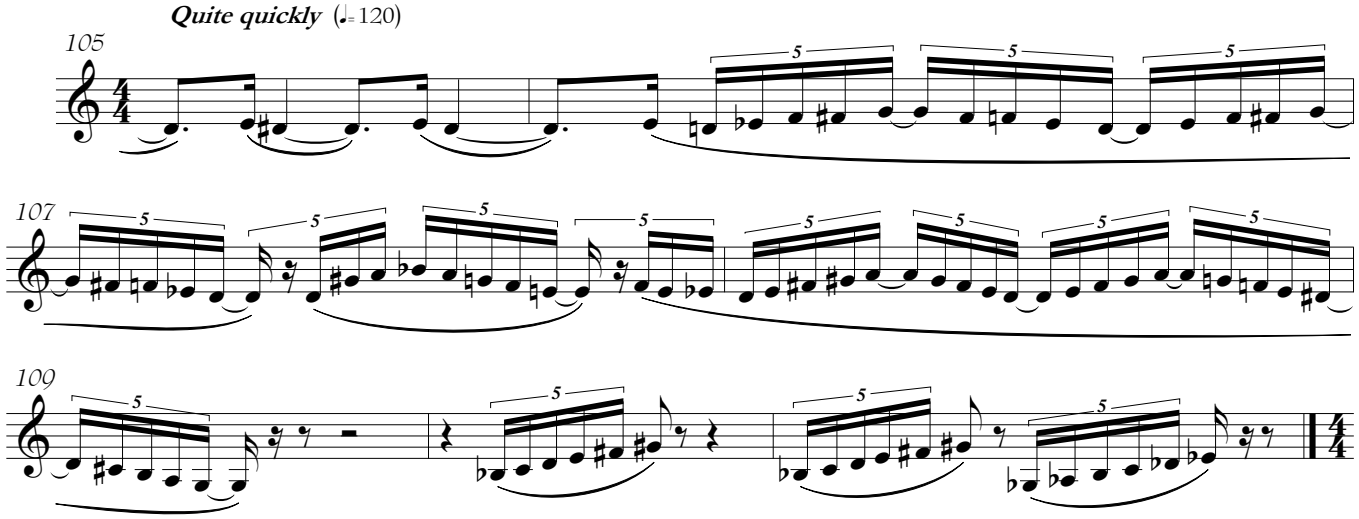
## II Aunt Sally



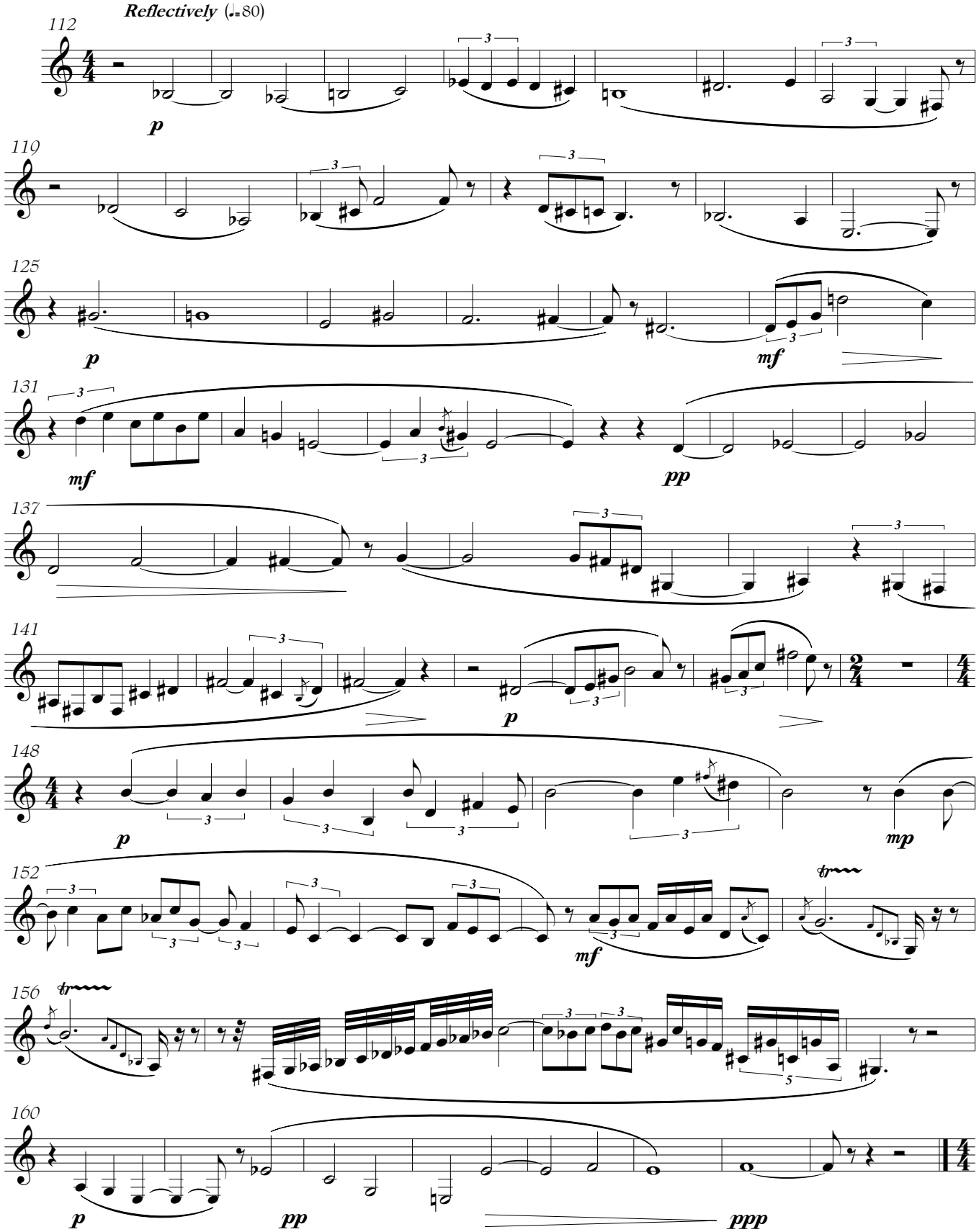

❖ *' Sobre las olas '* ( 'Over the Waves' ), a well-known waltz by Juventino Rosas (1868 - 94), heard in the distance.

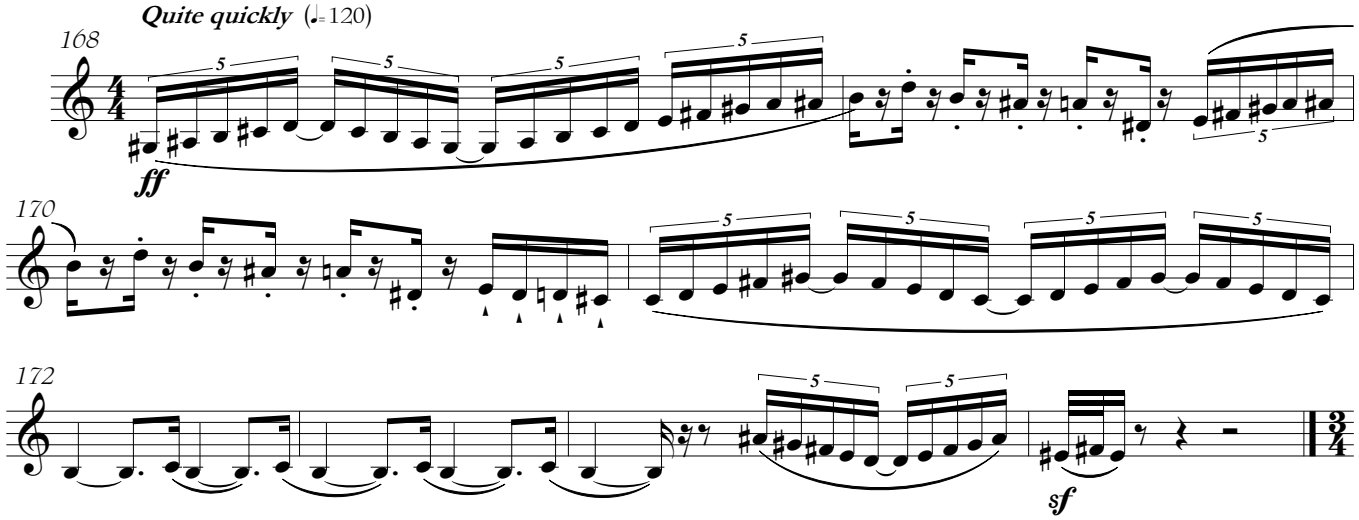
## III The Unicyclist & the Clown on Stilts



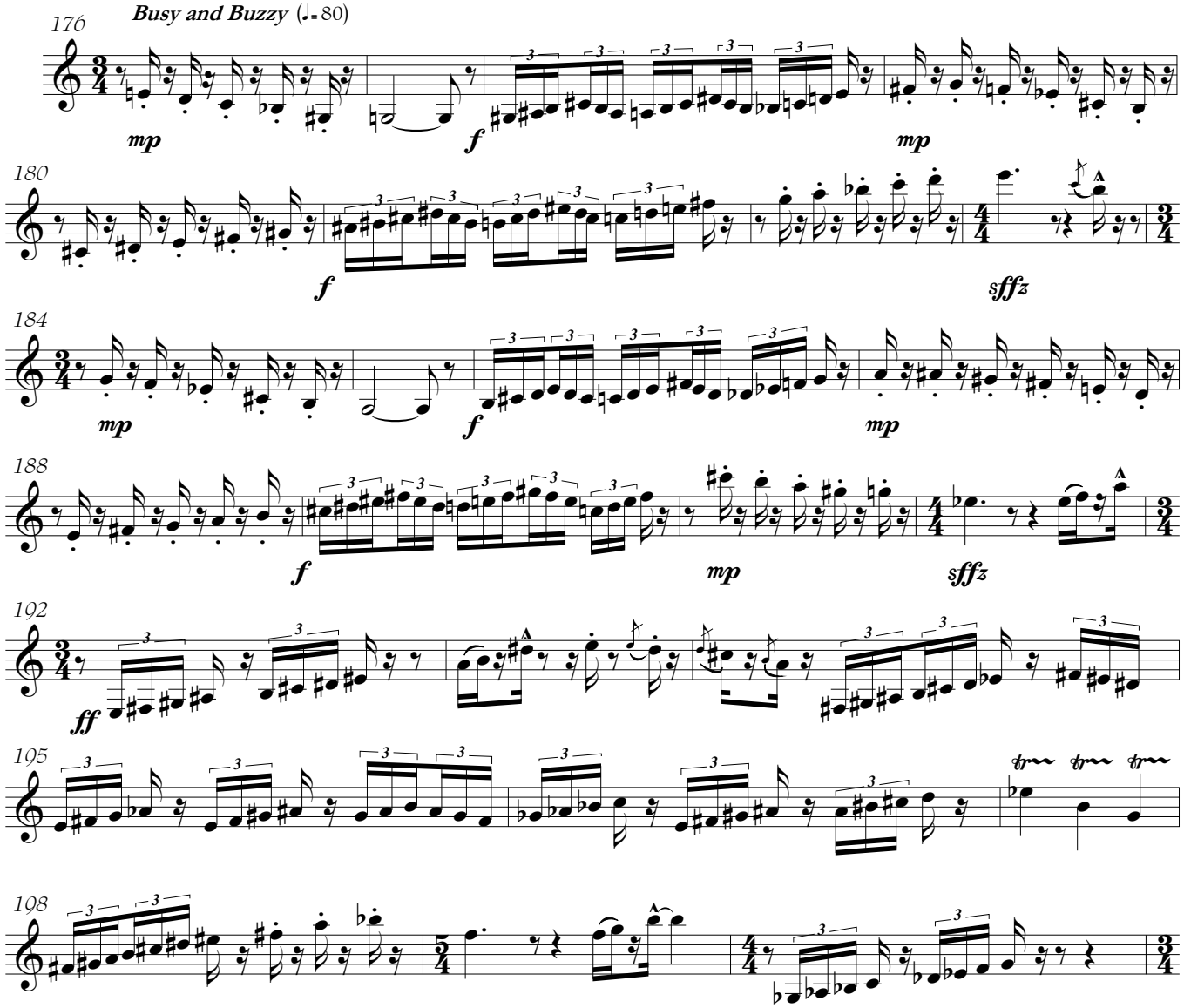



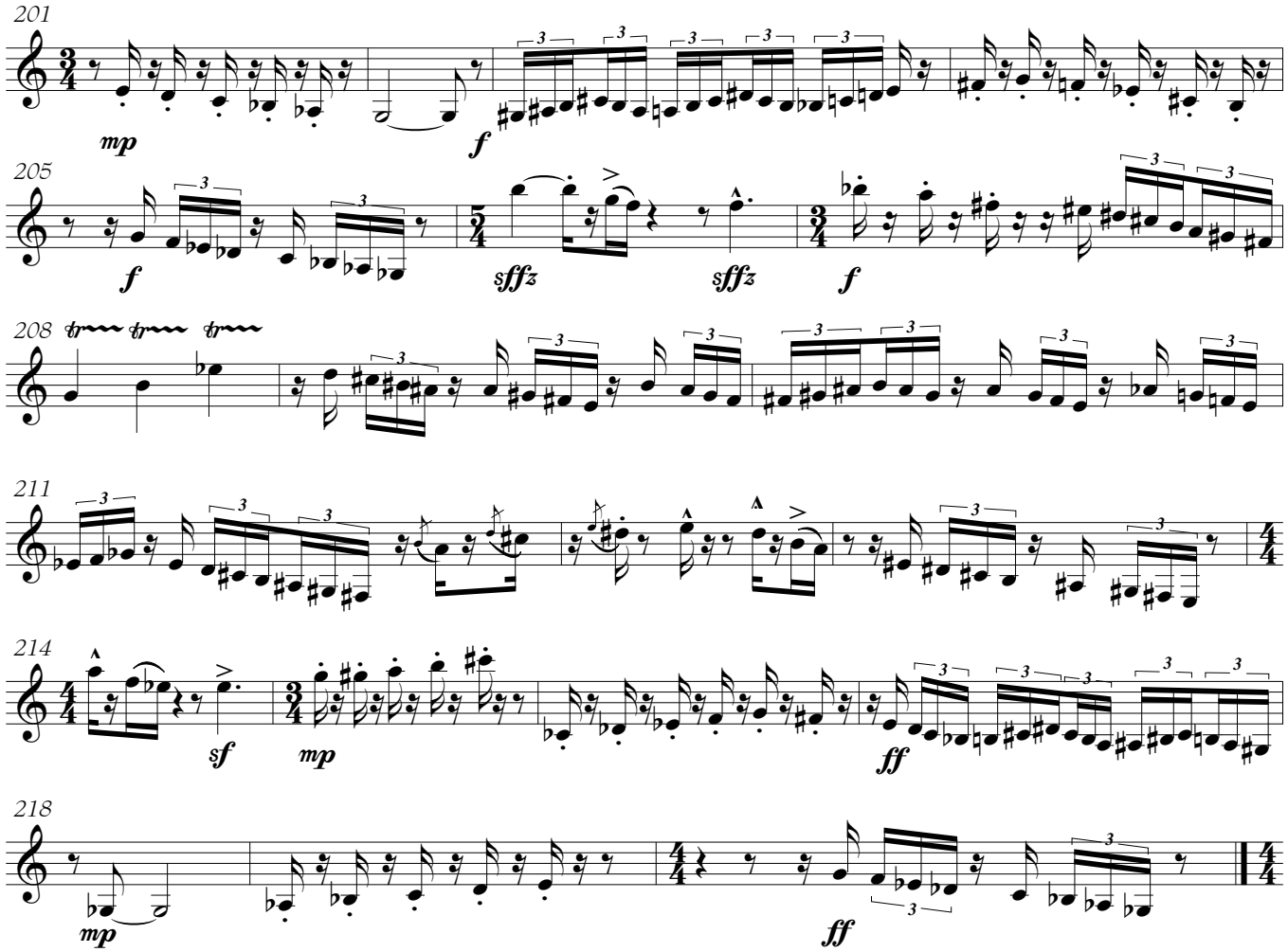
## IV The Hall of Mirrors

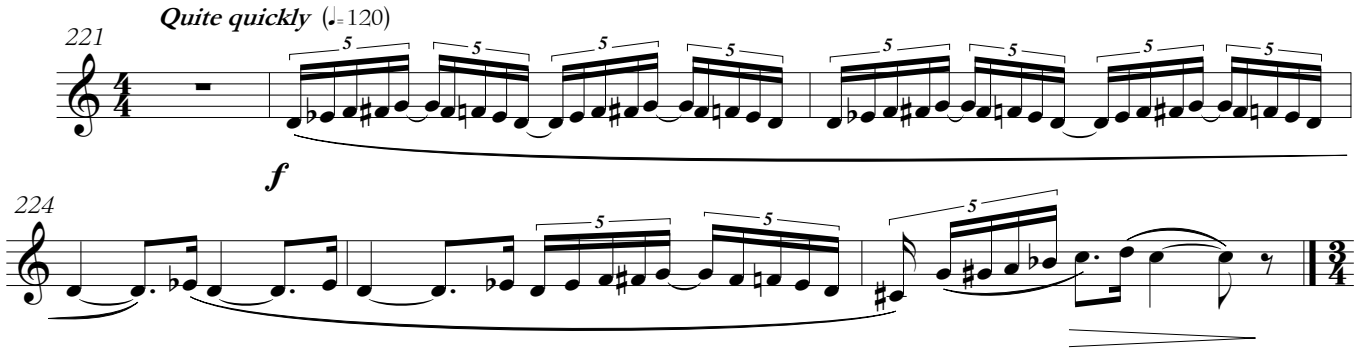




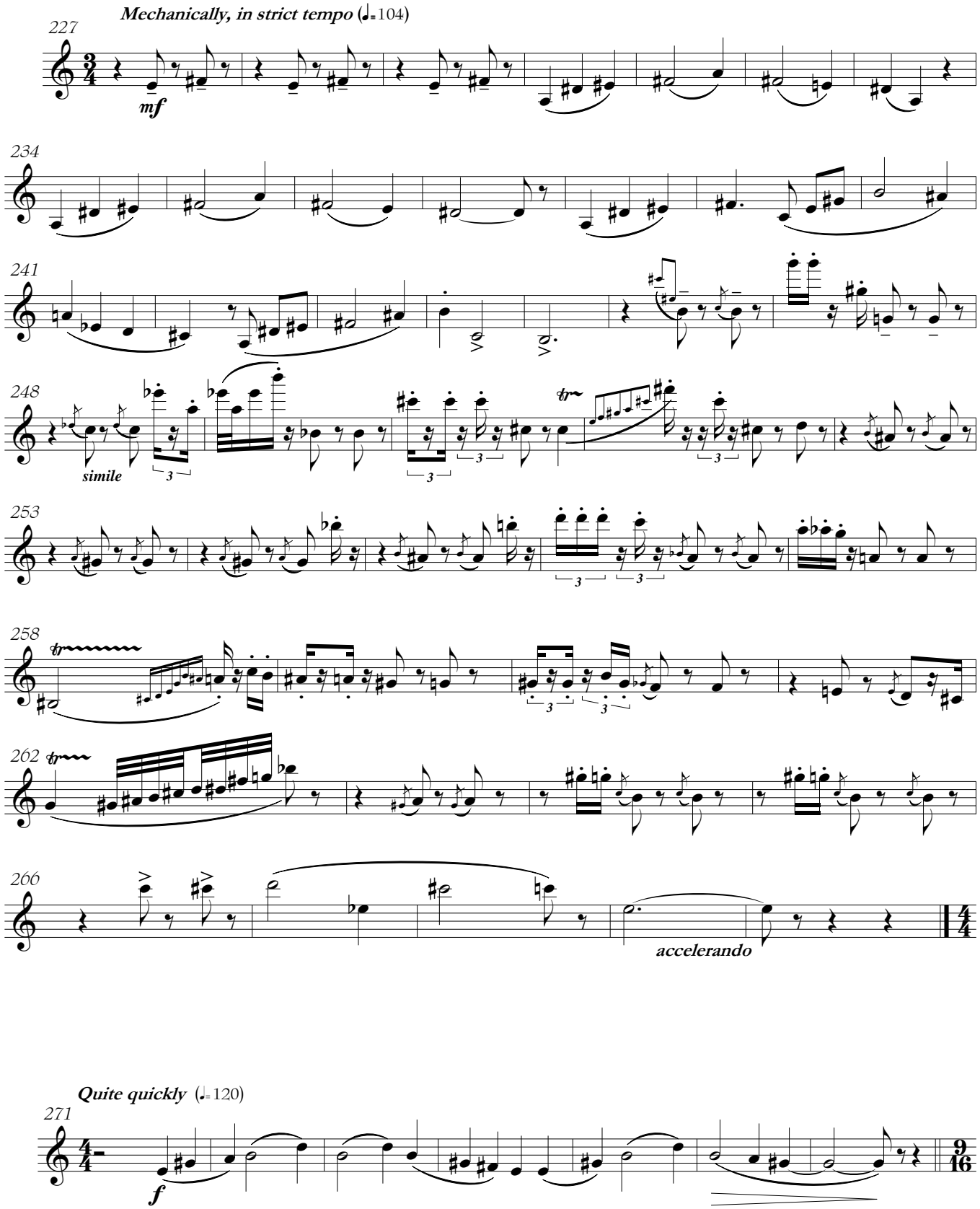

## V The Dodgem Cars



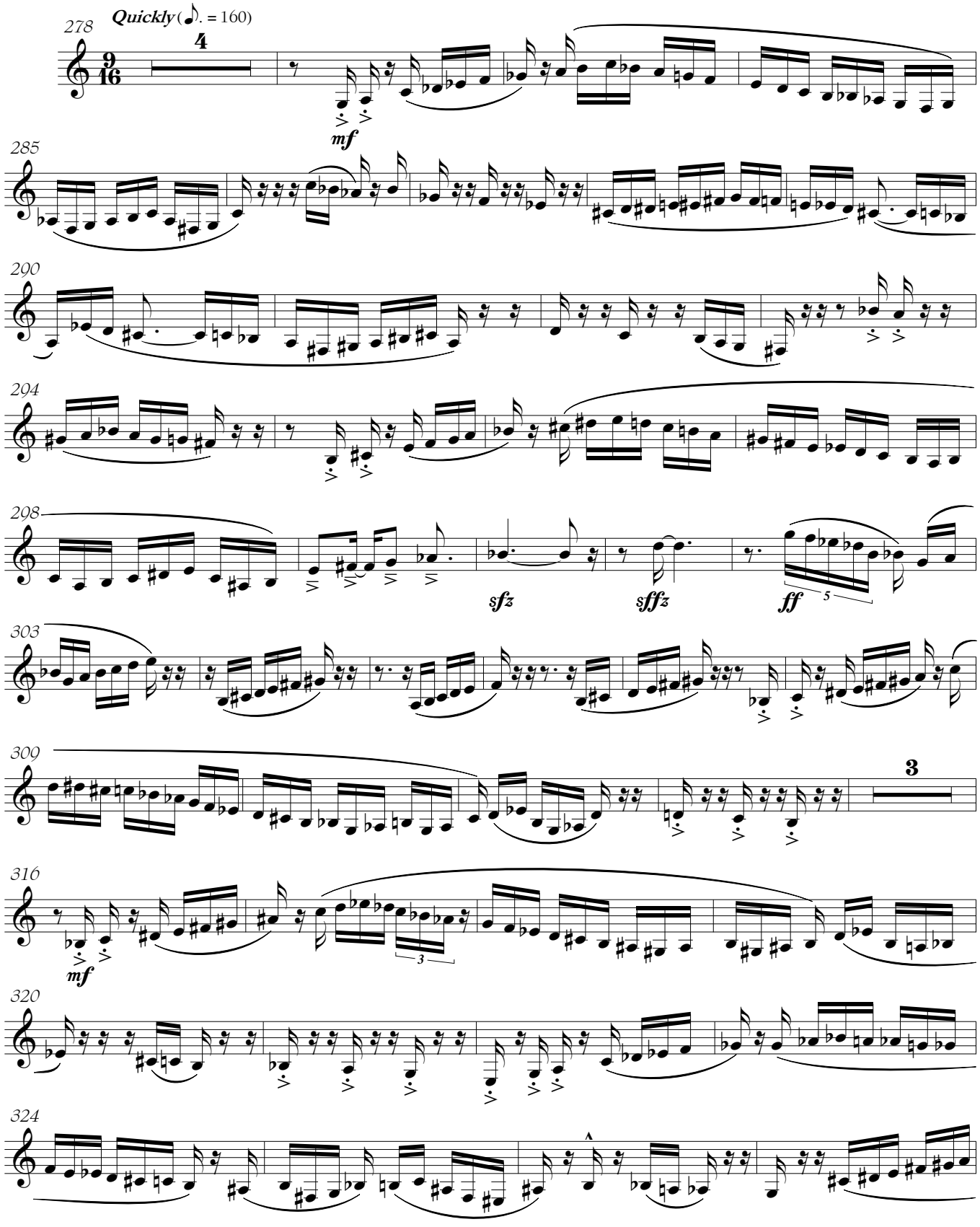

201
mp
f
205
f
sfffz
sfffz
f
208
211
214
sf
mp
ff
218
mp
ff

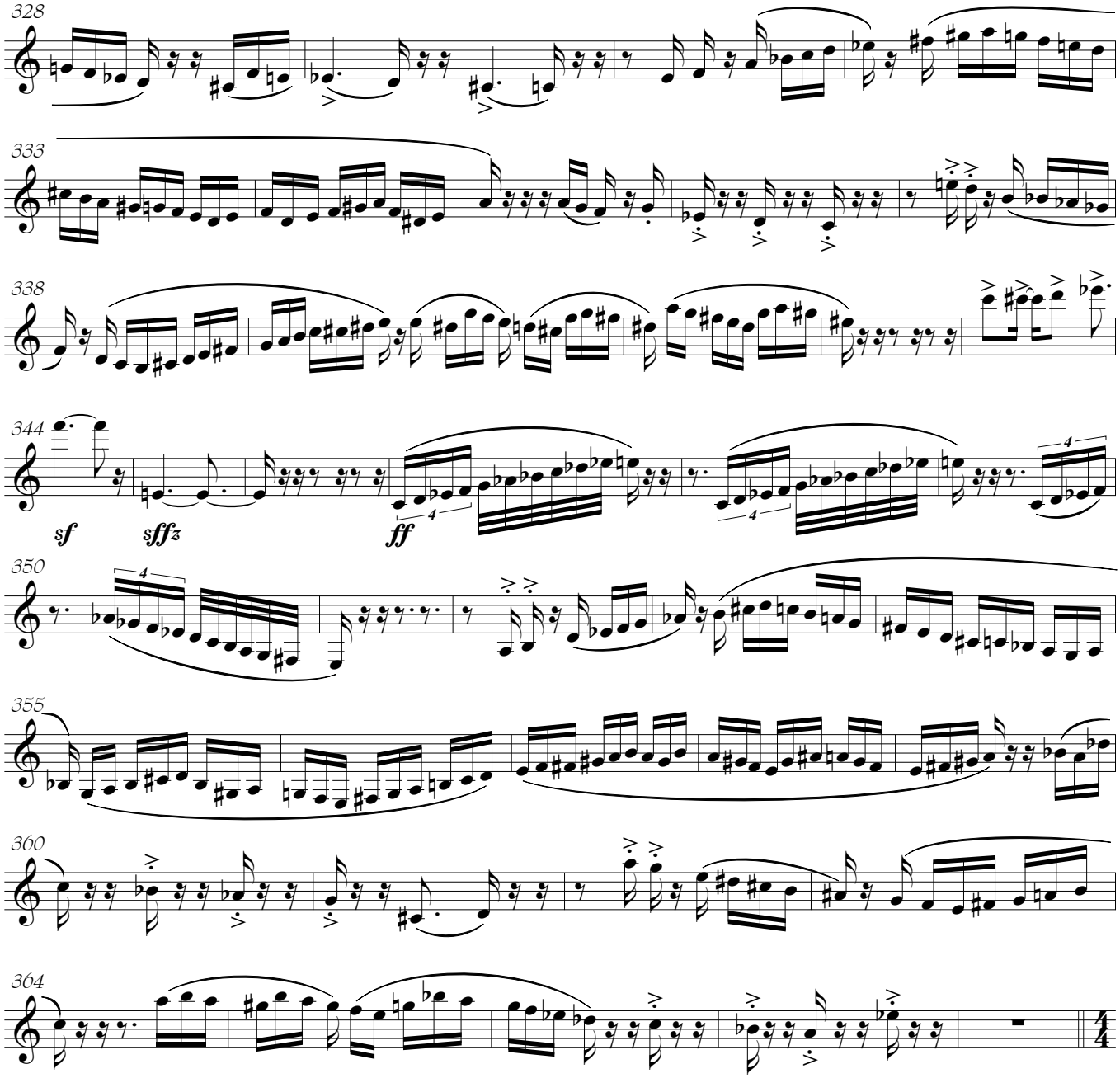

Quite quickly (♩= 120)
221
f
224

## VI The Geriatric Merry-Go-Round

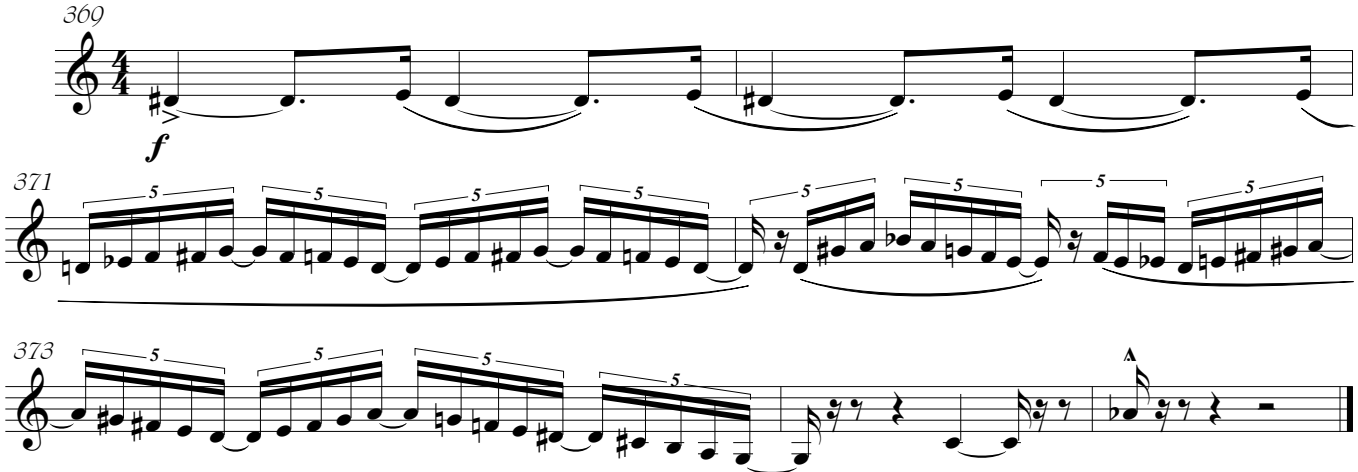


## VII The Big Dipper






*Tempo primo* (♩ = 120)

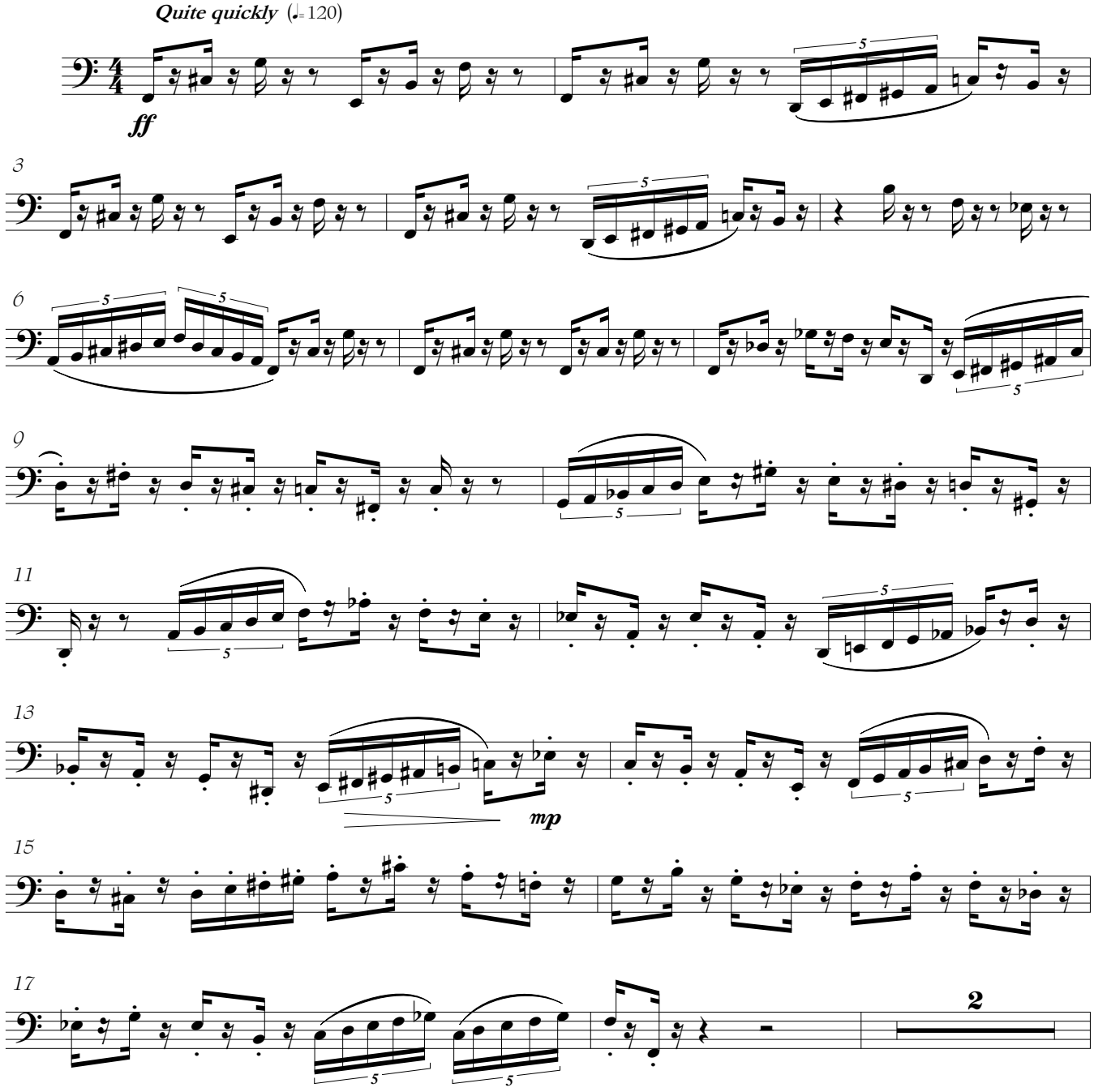


# FUNFARE

**Bassoon**

**Ian Keith Harris**
(1935 - )

## I The Fairground

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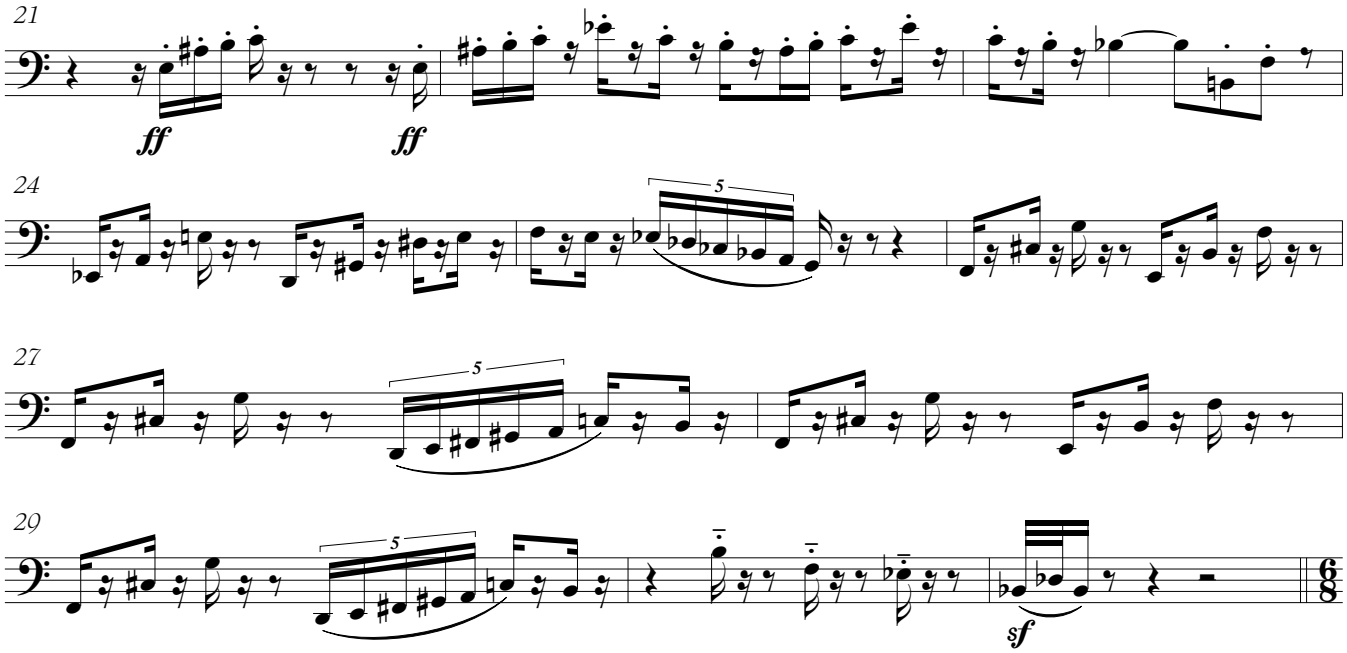
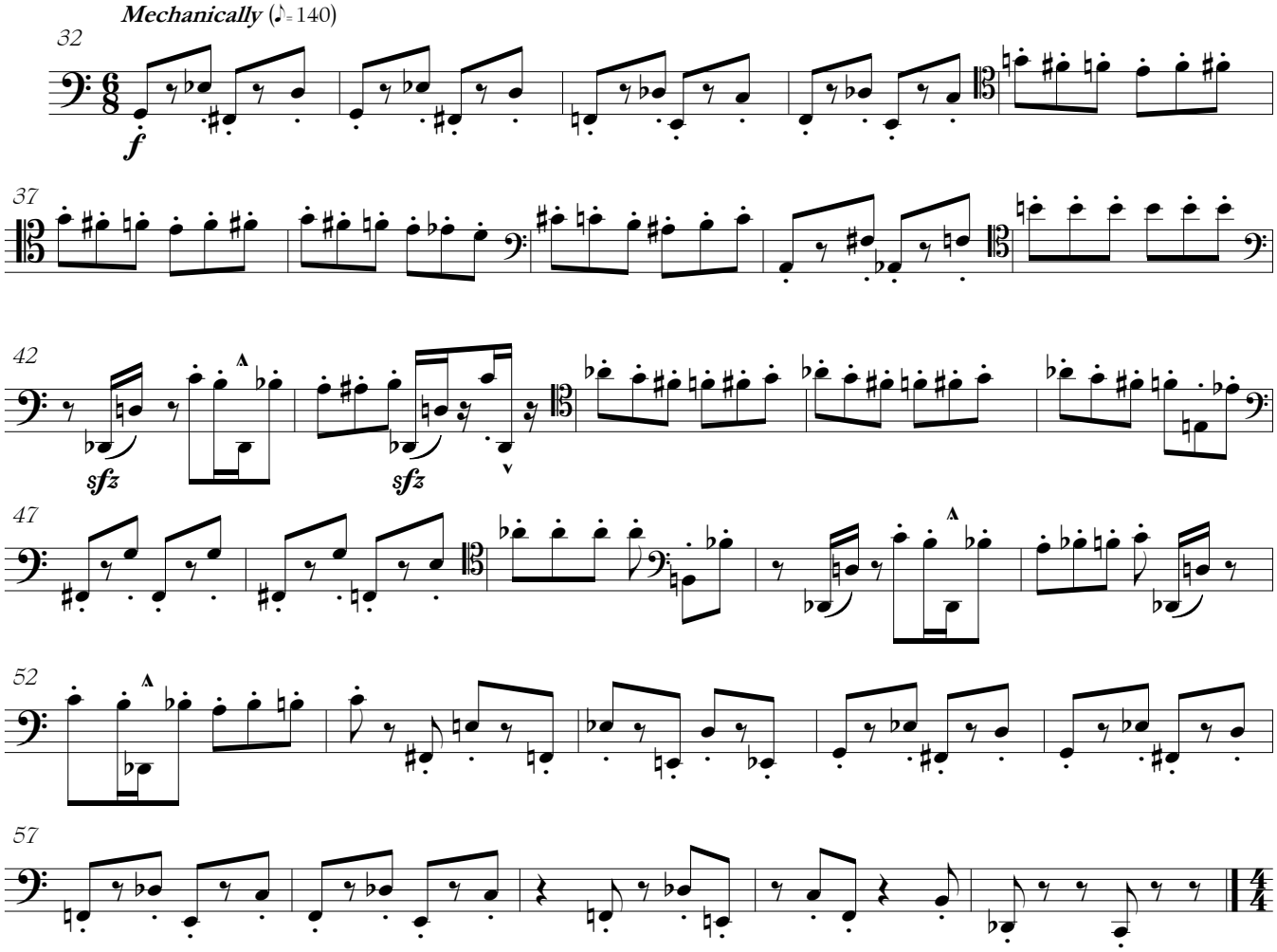
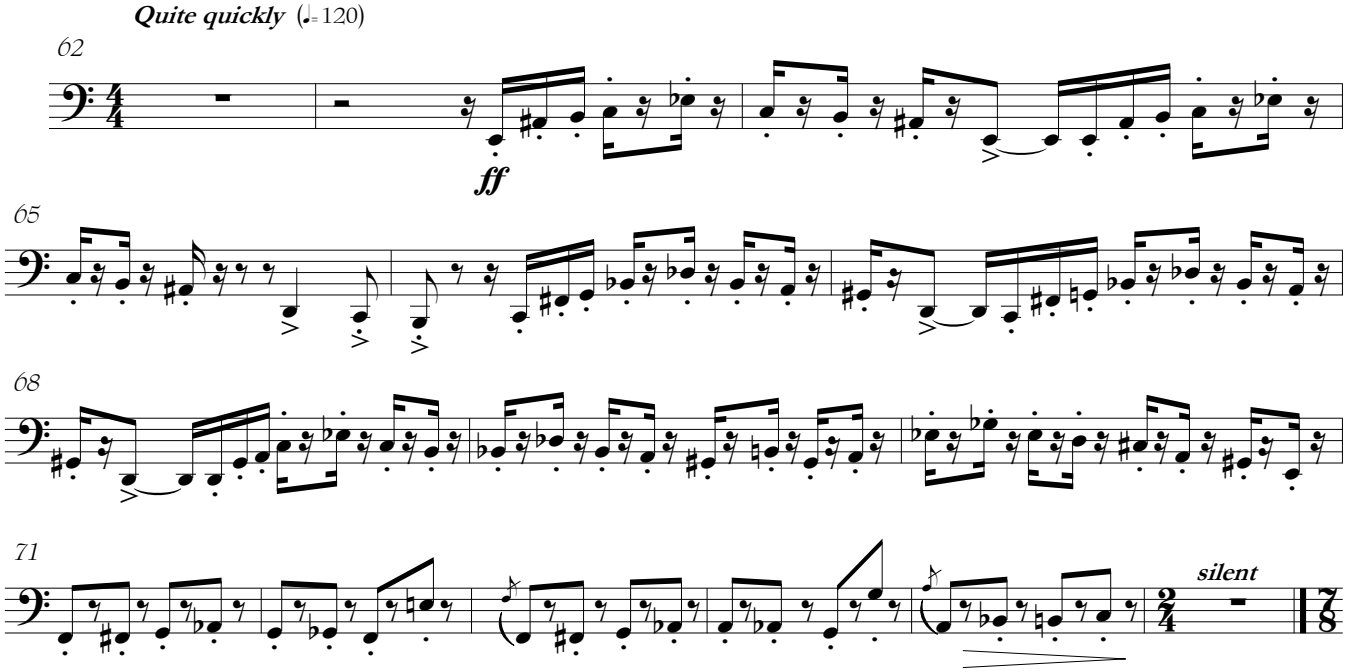
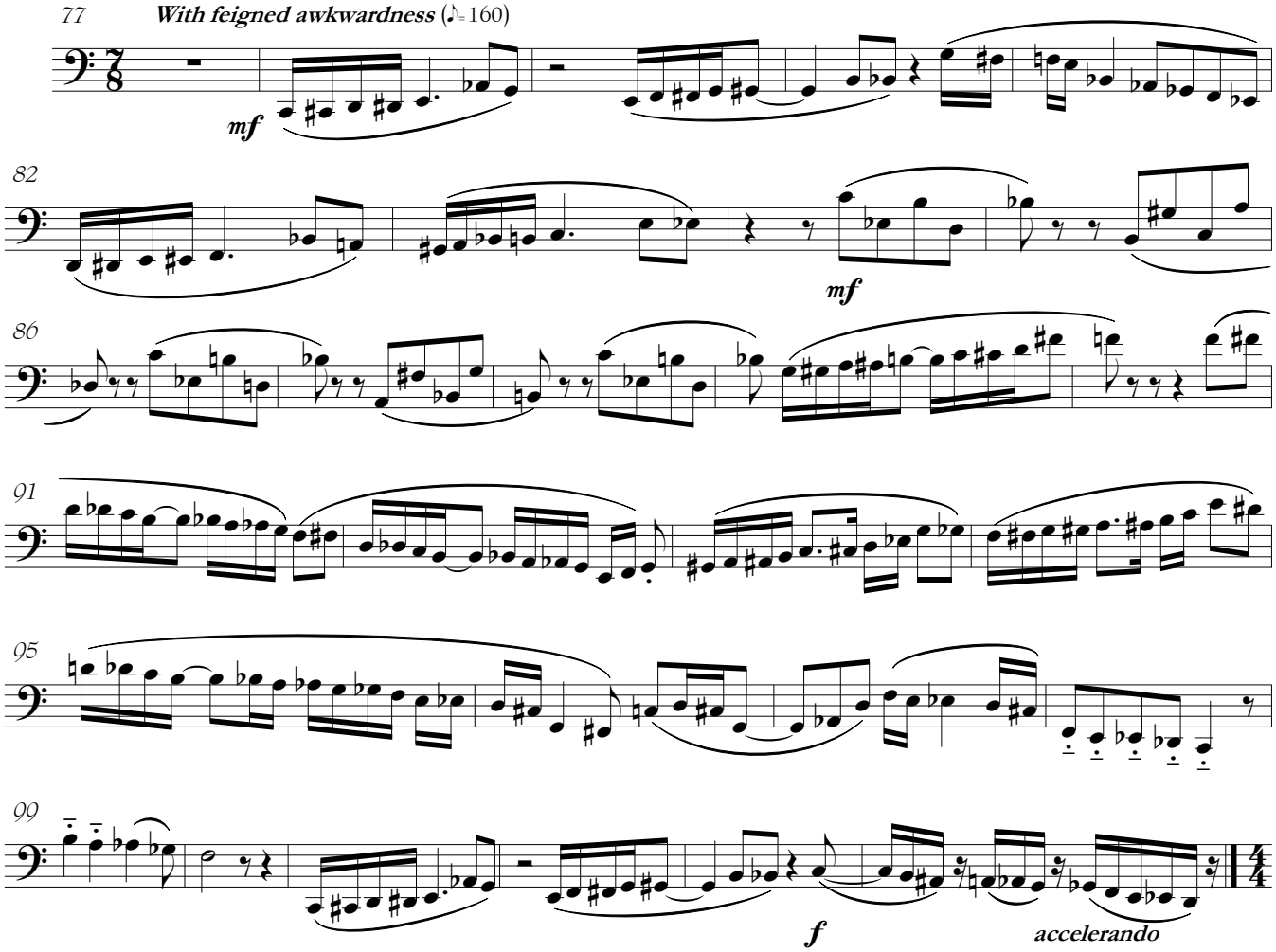


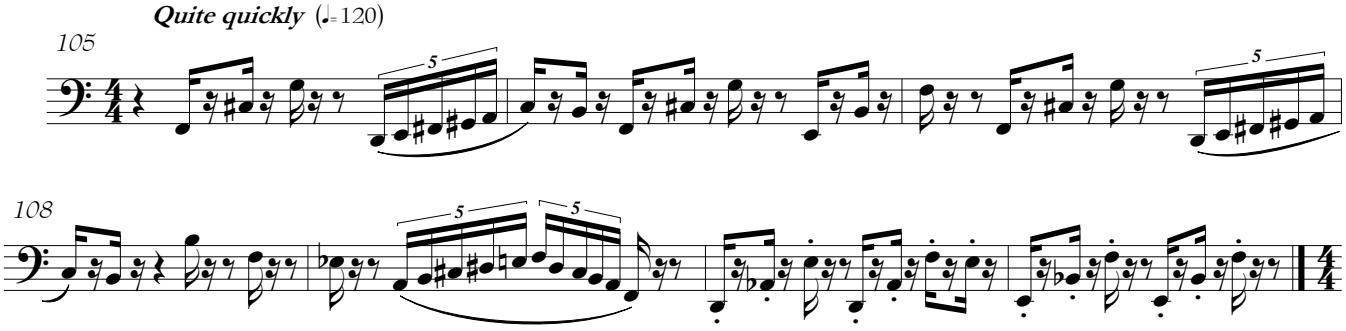

## II Aunt Sally



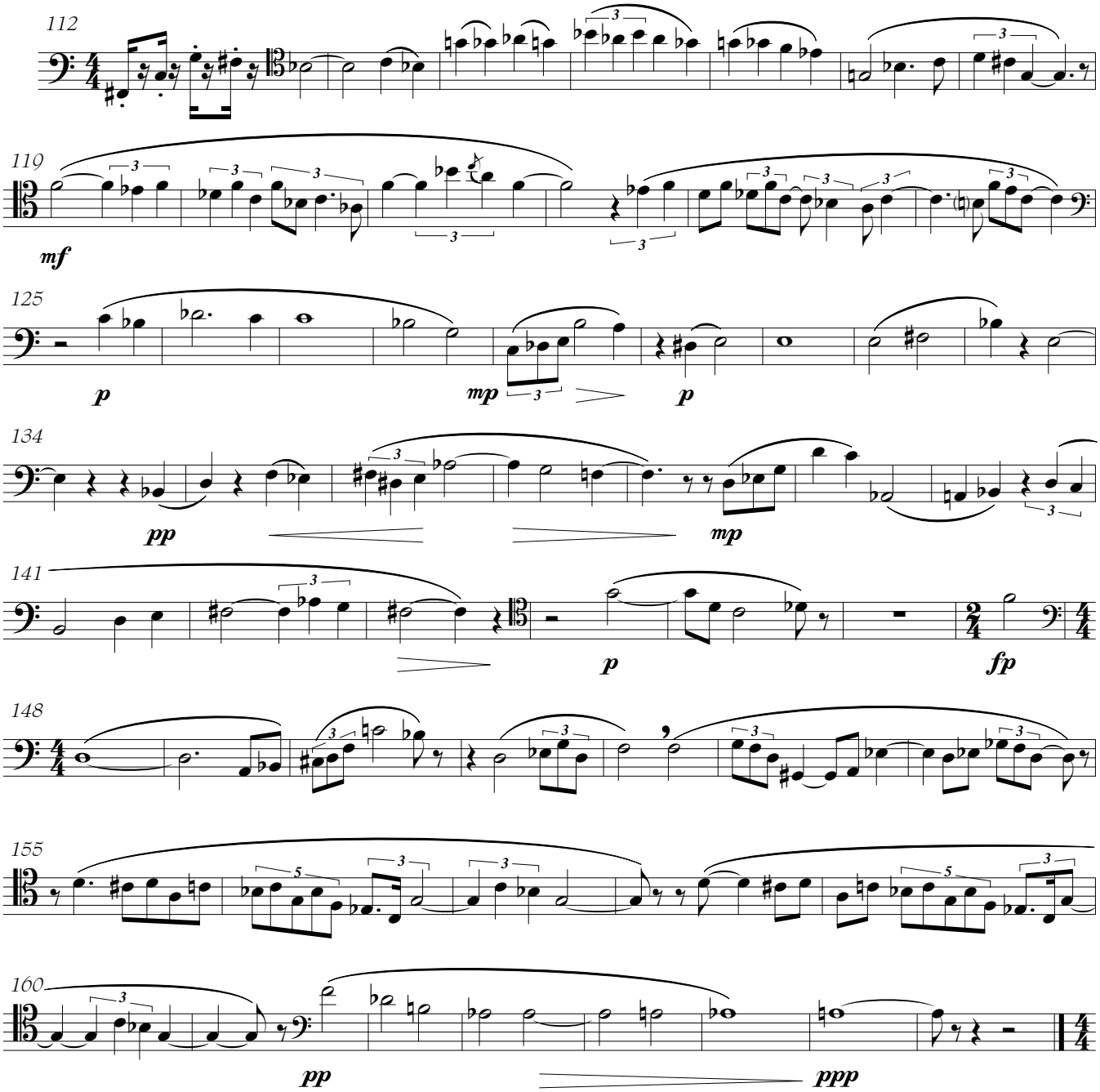


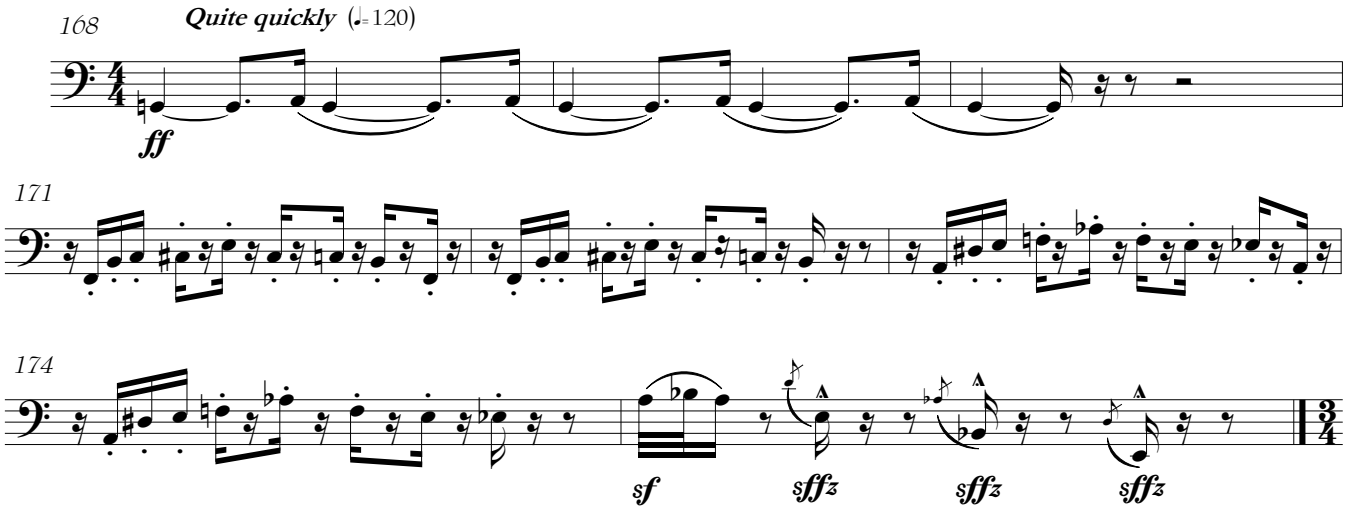

## III The Unicyclist & the Clown on Stilts



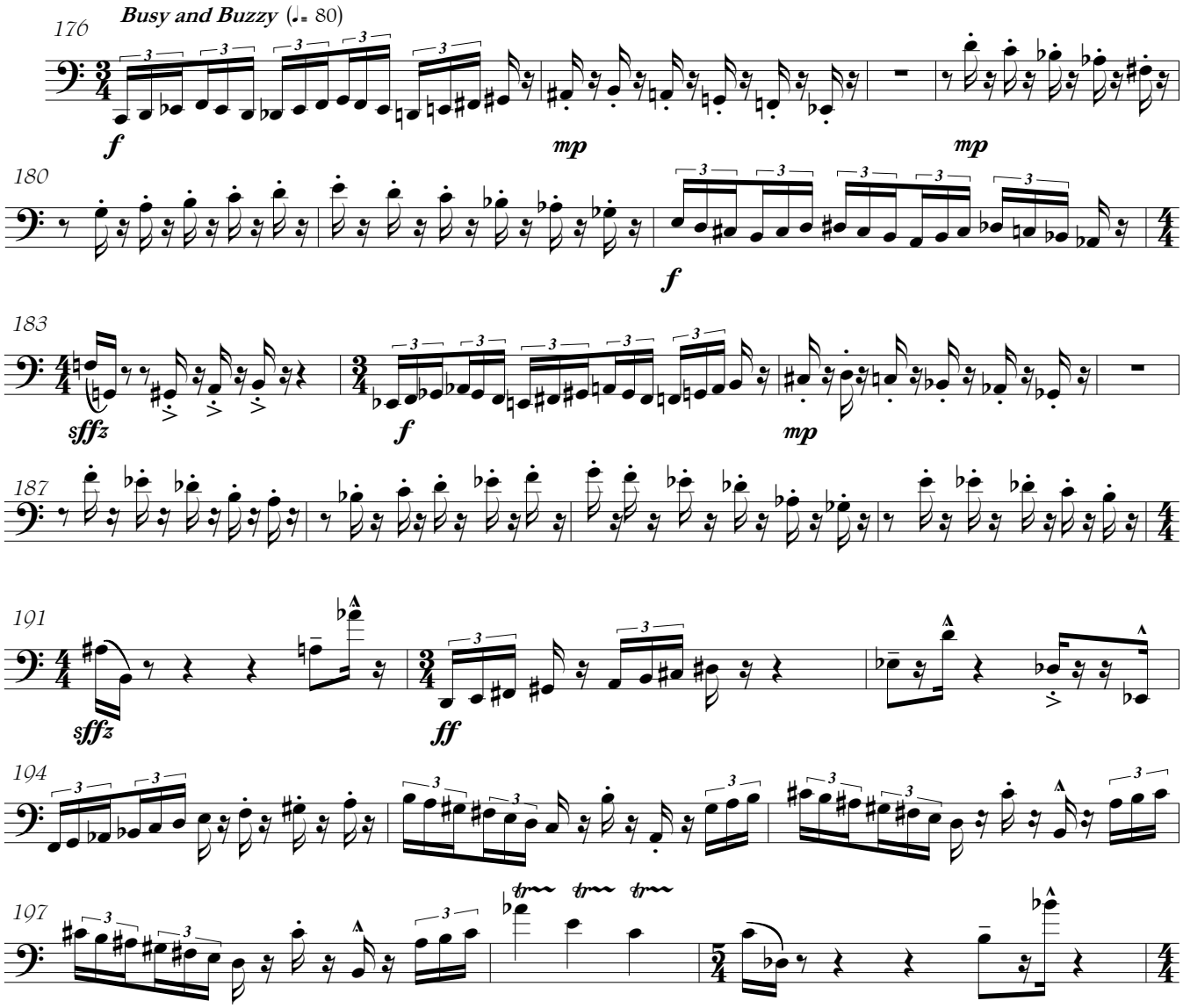


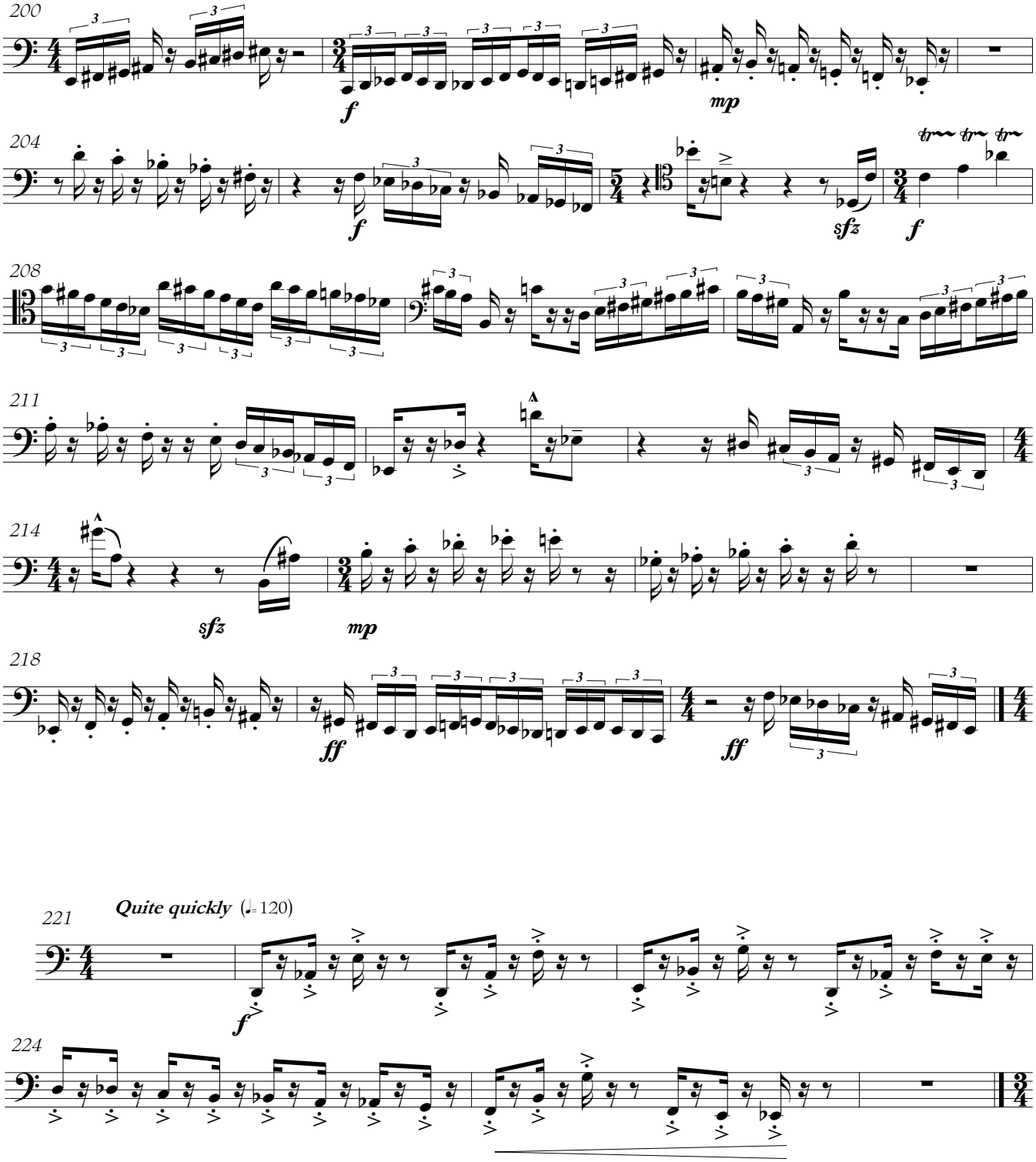

## IV The Hall of Mirrors



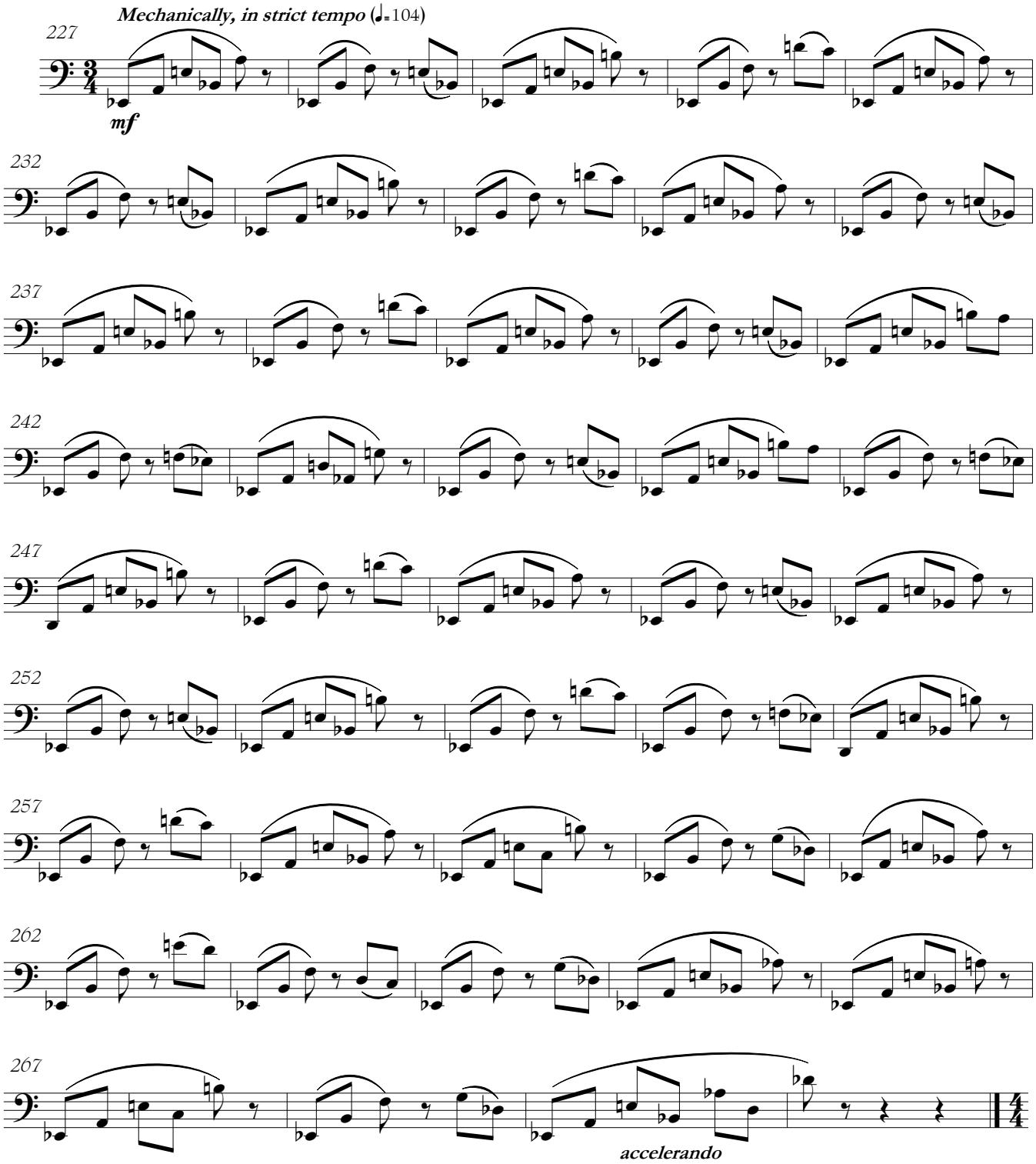


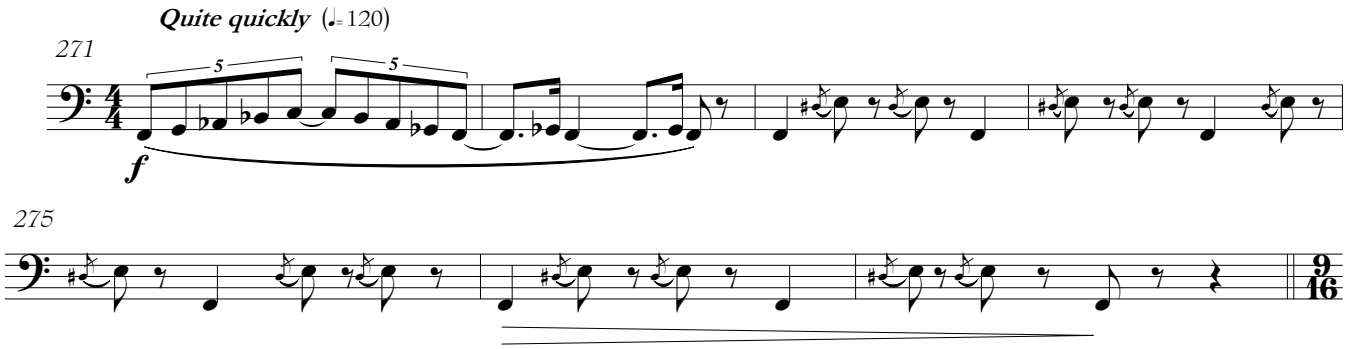

## V The Dodgem Cars



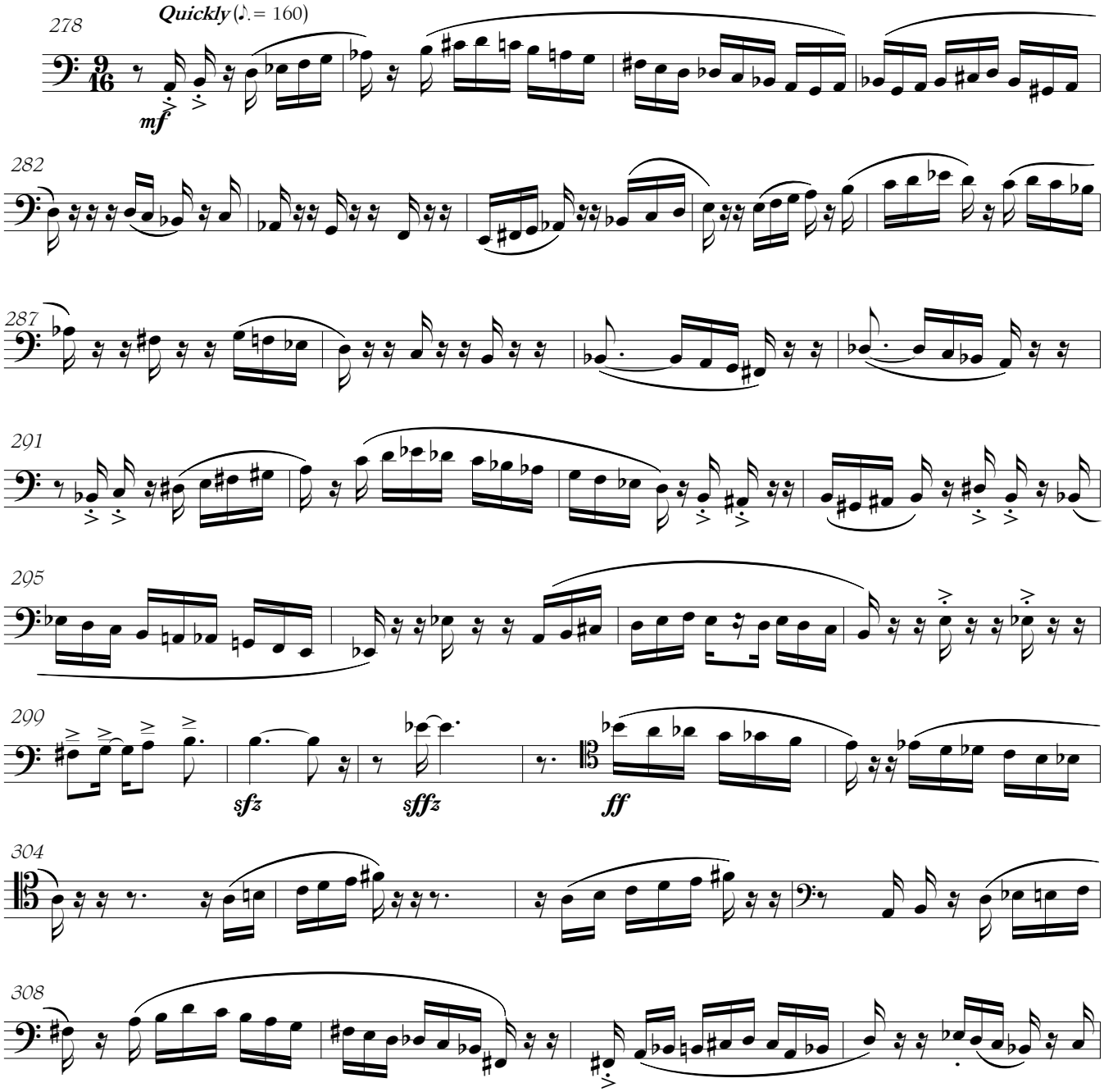

200
f
mp
204
f
sfz
f
208
211
214
sfz
mp
218
ff
ff
221
Quite quickly (♩=120)
f
224

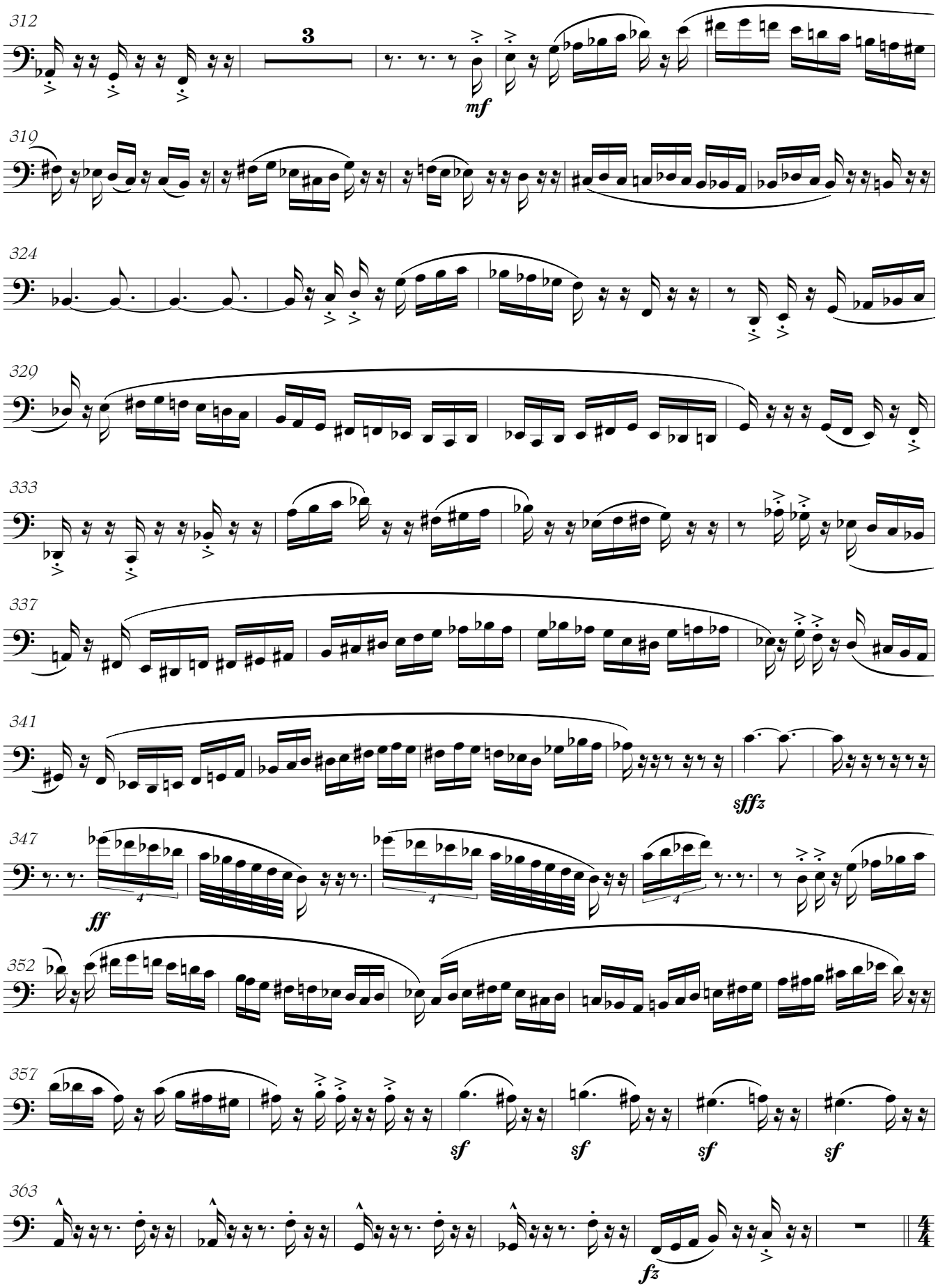
## VI The Geriatric Merry-Go-Round

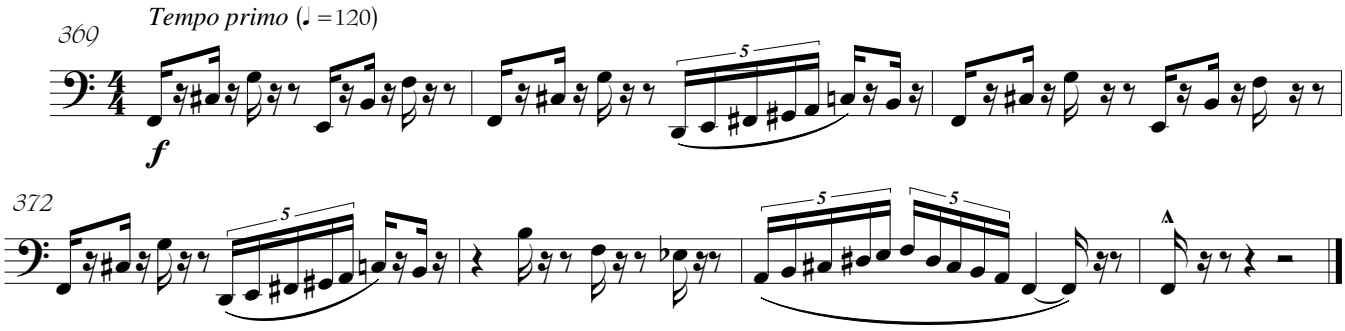





## VII The Big Dipper




312
3
mf
319
324
329
333
337
341
sffz
347
ff
4
352
357
sf
363
fz


369
Tempo primo (♩.=120)
f
372