LEONARD SALZEDO

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Opus 135

Oboe d'amore (Bassoon or Bass Oboe) and String Quartet

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A EN 003

Leonard Salzedo

(1921-2000)

Leonard Salzedo, the most Spanish of British composers, was born in London in 1921. He began the violin at the age of six and started to compose when he was twelve.

He was awarded the Cobbett Prize (1942) after only two years as a student at the Royal College of Music (London) for his first string quartet: he would eventually compose ten. Again, during his studies, he was commissioned to write the score for a ballet, *The Fugitive* (1944), which was performed more than four hundred times by Ballet Rambert.

The most renowned of Salzedo's seventeen ballet scores, *The Witch Boy*, received its première in Amsterdam (1956). Since then, ballet companies around the world have given in excess of three thousand performances in more than thirty-three countries. *The Witch Boy* has featured on television in many of these including Germany, Japan and New Zealand.

From 1947 - 1950 Leonard Salzedo was a member of the London Philharmonic Orchestra. He then moved to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (until 1966). Its illustrious conductor, Sir Thomas Beecham, gave the premières of two of Salzedo's compositions at the Royal Festival Hall. As well as playing violin in the orchestra, Leonard Salzedo became his assistant conductor. In 1964 he joined the London Soloists Ensemble and composed *Concerto Fervido* especially for it.

In 1967, Salzedo abandoned the violin to become Musical Director of Ballet Rambert (now the Rambert Dance Company), a post he held until 1972. The same year, he moved to Scottish Ballet as their Principal Conductor (-1974). He was later to become Music Director of London City Ballet (1982 -1986).

Thereafter, until his death in May 2000, Leonard Salzedo devoted himself almost entirely to prolific composition. Although performing continuously for many years, he composed more than 160 works including two symphonies.

The opening six bar fanfare of his *Divertimento for Three Trumpets and Three Trombones* (1959) was used by the BBC as the theme music for all Open University educational programmes broadcast on radio and television (1970s -1990s). He composed eighteen film scores including Hammer's *The Revenge of Frankenstein* (1959).

Leonard Salzedo was a wine connoisseur and member of the *Confrèrie des Chevaliers du Sacavin*, a Loire-based wine brotherhood with a London Chapter. For many years he was their *Chef des Beaux Arts* and wrote fanfares, which were performed at dinners and inductions.

Canto de la Sibila

Opus 135

Oboe d'amore (Bassoon or Bass Oboe) and String Quartet

AEN 003

I wrote this work for Jennifer Paull during the summer of 1996. The *Canto*, a liturgical drama dating back to the X century, was very eminent in the Middle Ages.

Originally, the *Canto de la Sibila* (Sibylline Verse) was set in Latin, but, from the XIII century, in either Castilian or Catalan. Until the XV century it was sung by a single voice. However, from that time onwards, it was written in four vocal parts. The usual date for this observance was Christmas Night. Whilst the choir sang the words of the Sibyl (oracle), an elaborate ceremony was enacted.

Initially, a group of six would emerge in highly-embroidered, oriental, feminine costumes. Behind these figures (representing the Sibyl) there followed a further four. Of these, two were dressed with albs (long white vestments representing purity) adorned with wide stoles to symbolise angels' wings. In their hands they carried daggers brandished aloft. Clad in choir robes, the remaining pair held burning torches. The four formed a smaller procession close to the *presbytery* (the priest's residence). During this time the original six sang the *canto*. When it was completed, the smaller group's members flourished their daggers on high. Meanwhile, the choir responded with a refrain that was repeated several times.

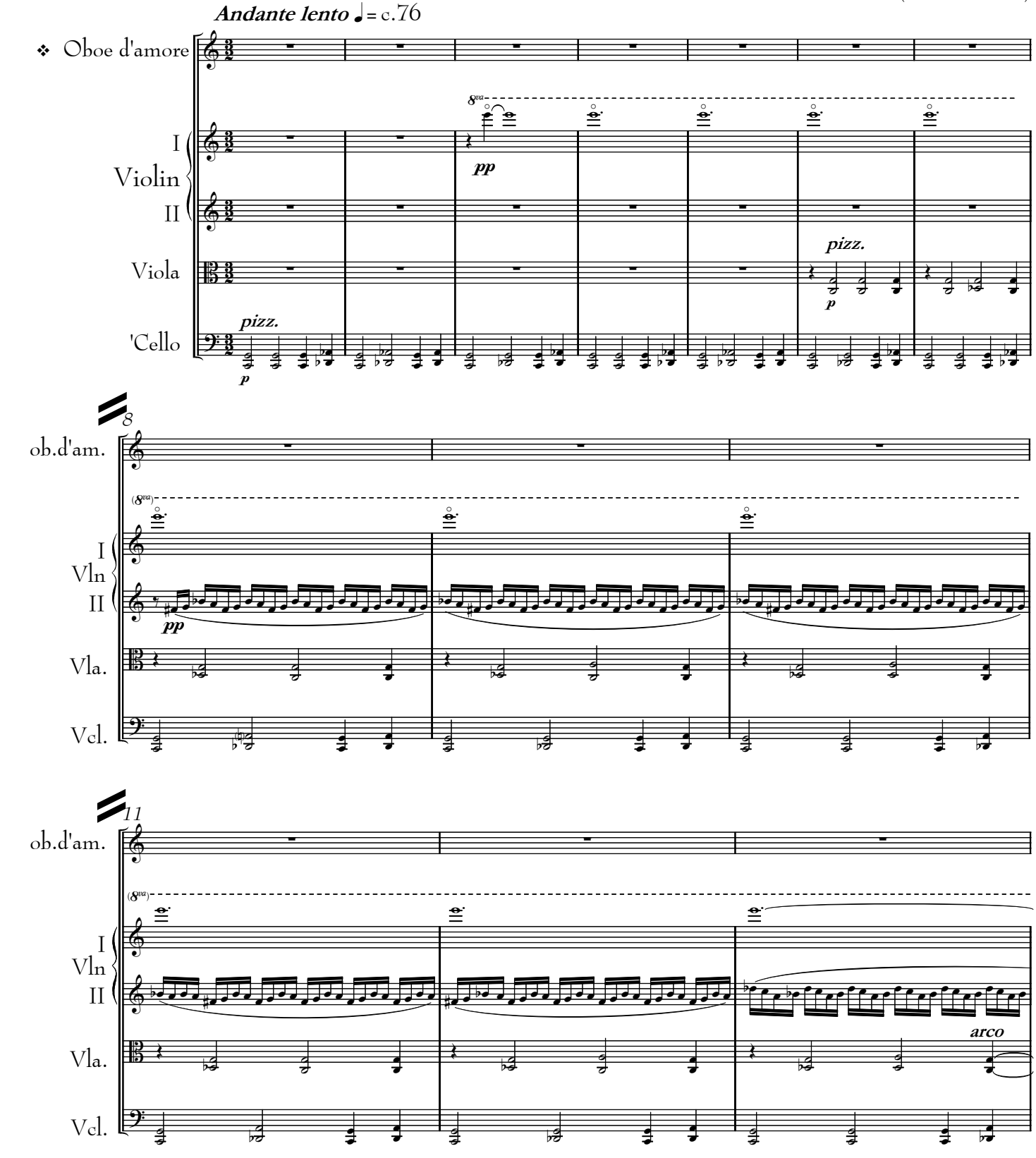
In this piece I have represented the atmosphere of this ancient ceremony paraphrasing one of the old plainsong melodies. Written for Jennifer Paull to perform on oboe d'amore, at her suggestion I conceived this work as my only composition equally intended for solo bassoon - although the bassoon is an alternative instrument for my *Iberian Improvisations.* In the same way, *Canto de la Sibila* is well suited to the rich timbre of the bass oboe; an instrument I employed in my *Bailables* suite of dances for oboe consort.

Leonard Salzedo
1997

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo
(1921 - 2000)



❖ In Concert Pitch

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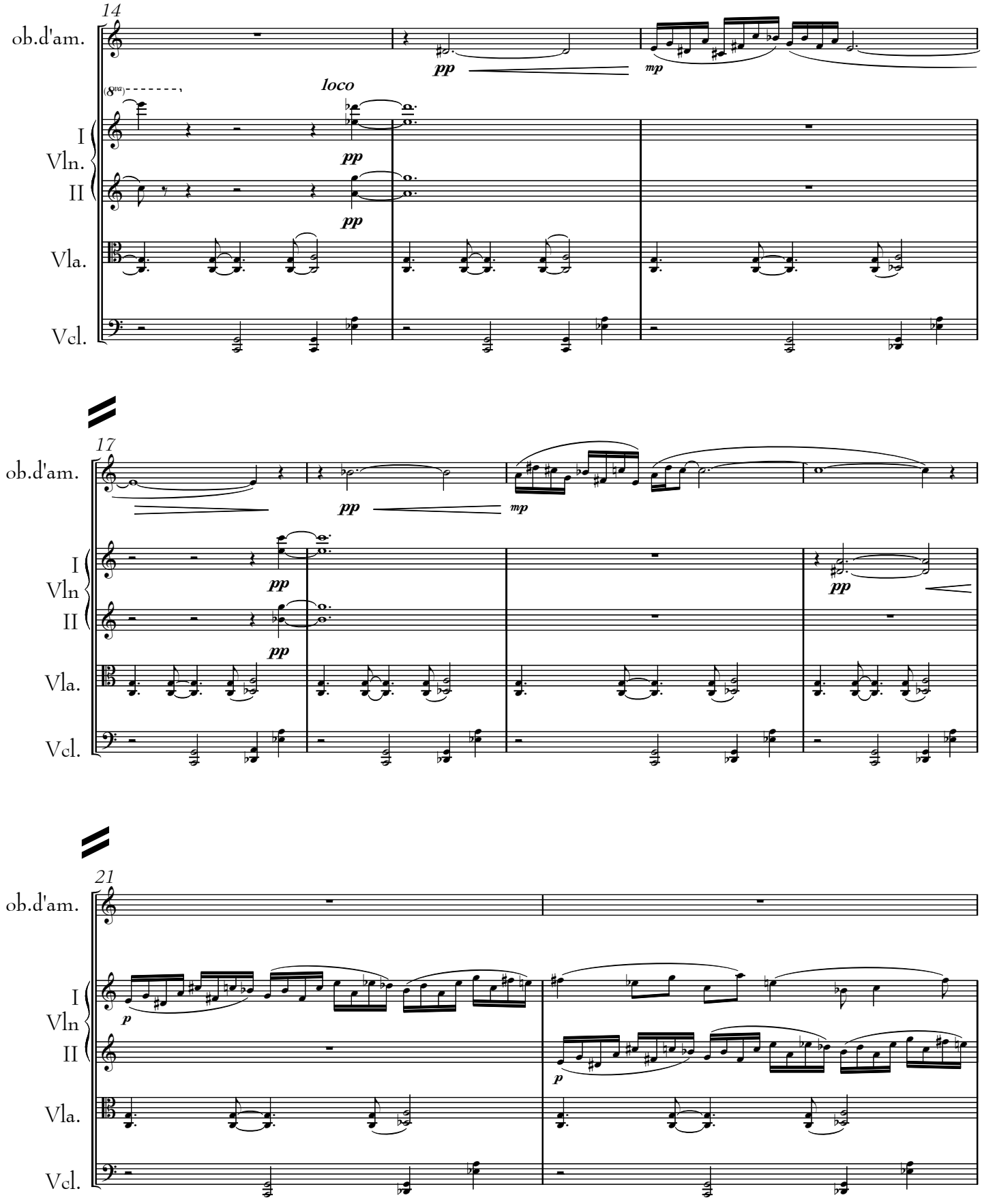
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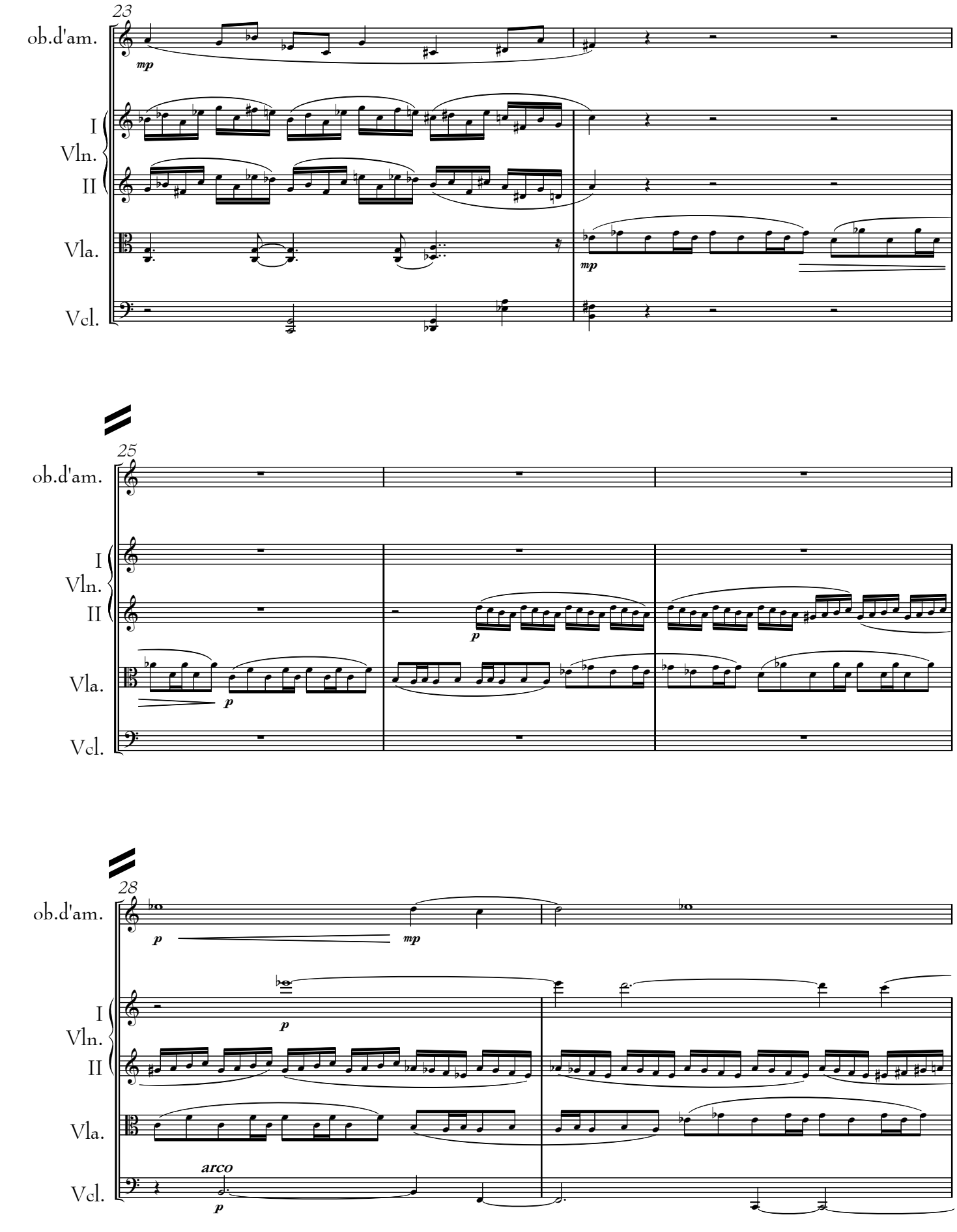
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
loco
pp
mp
17
21
p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mp
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II
Vla.
mp
Vcl.
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ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
p
Vla.
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Vcl.
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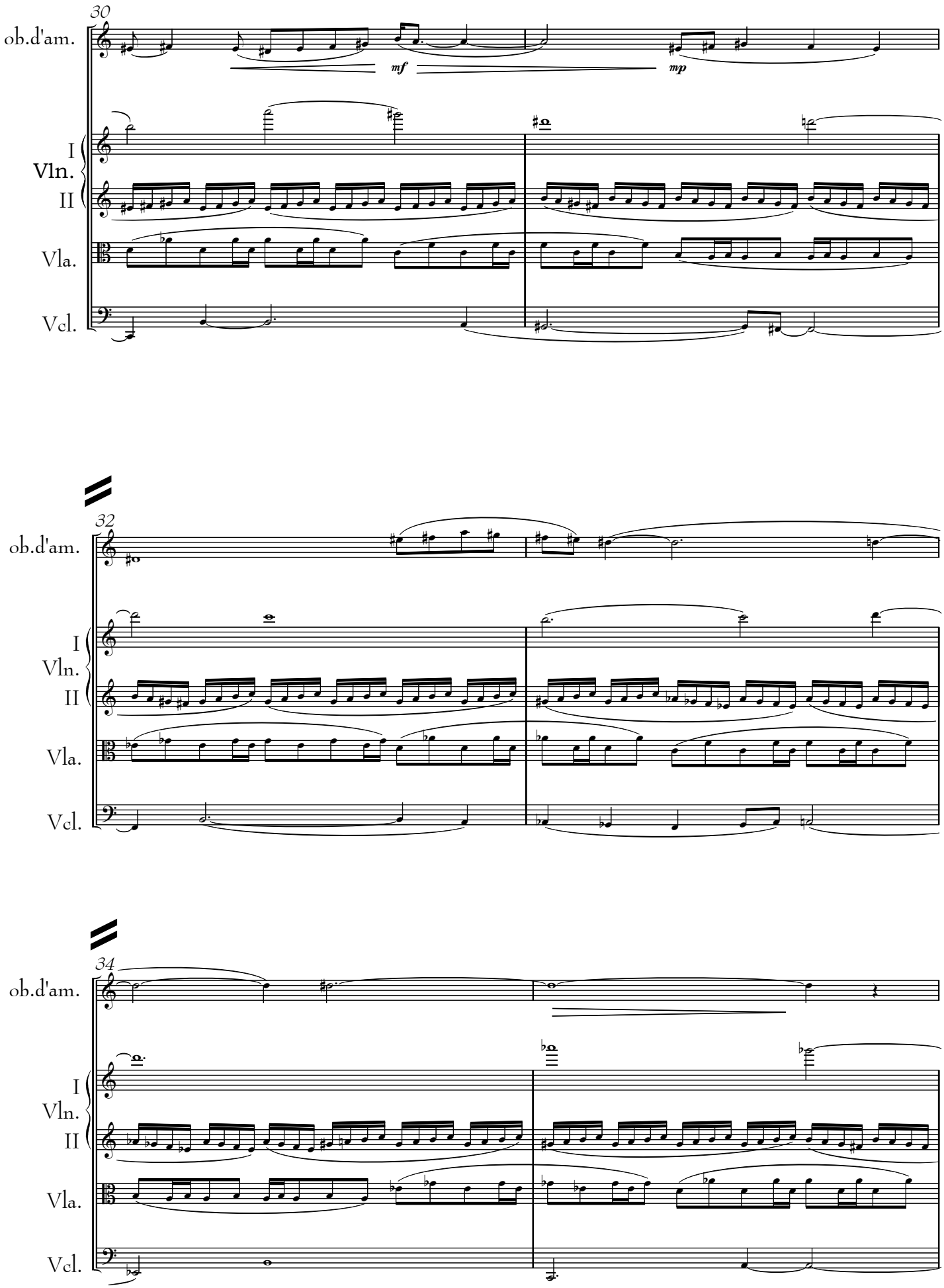
p
mp
I
Vln.
II
p
Vla.
arco
Vcl.
p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mf
mp
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
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ob.d'am.
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Vla.
Vcl.
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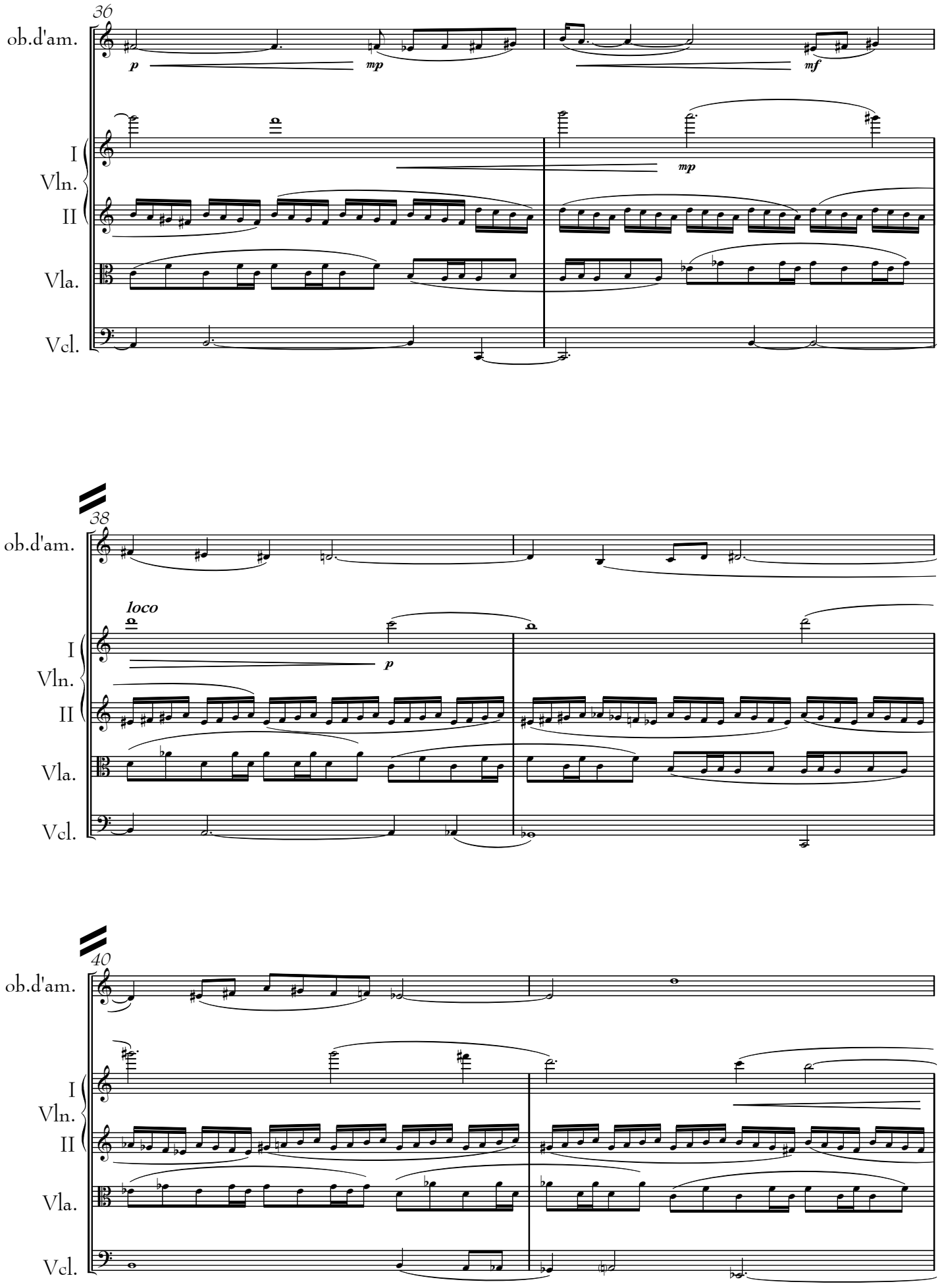
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.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ob.d'am.
p
mp
mf
I
Vln.
II
mp
Vla.
Vcl.
38
ob.d'am.
loco
p
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Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
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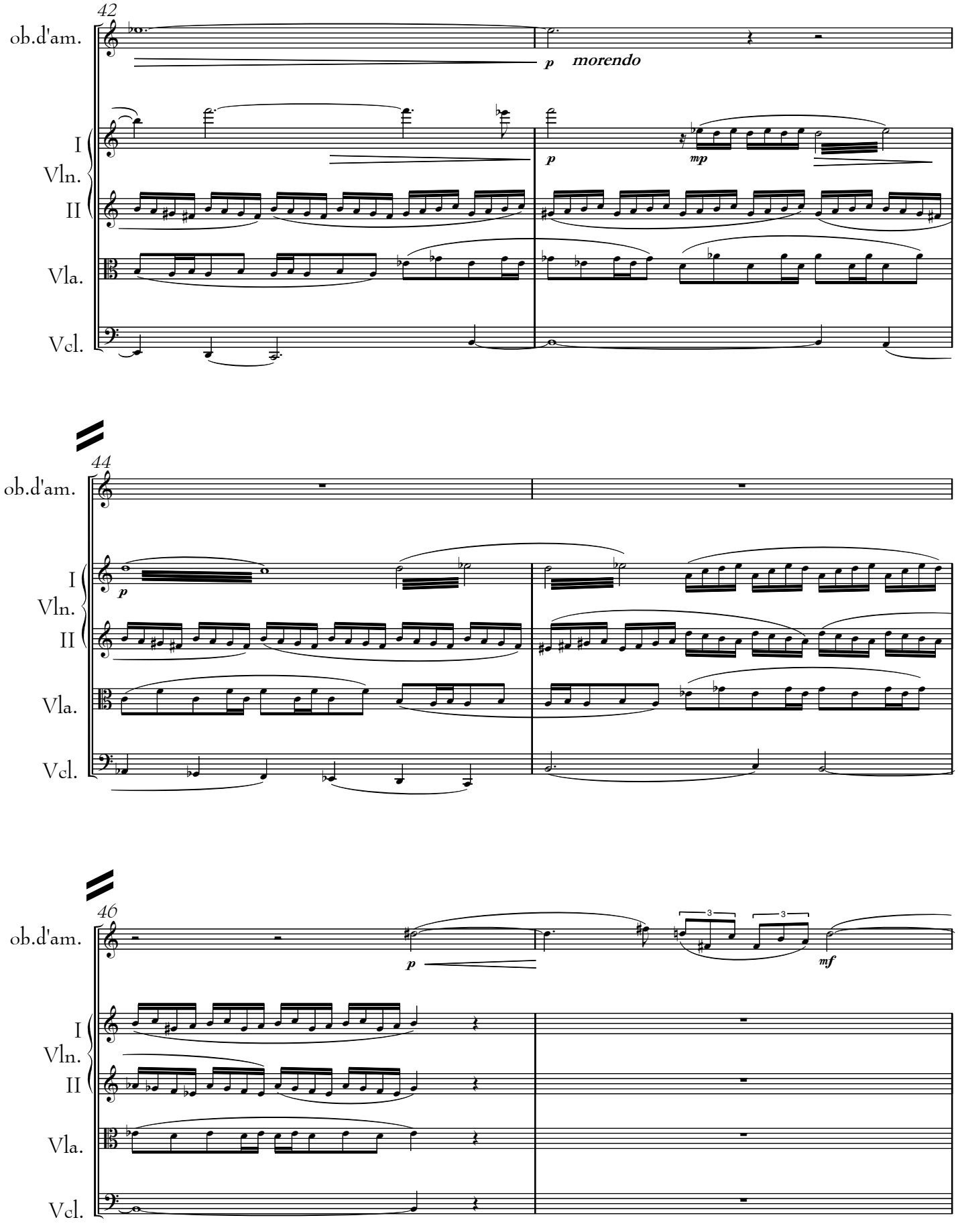
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.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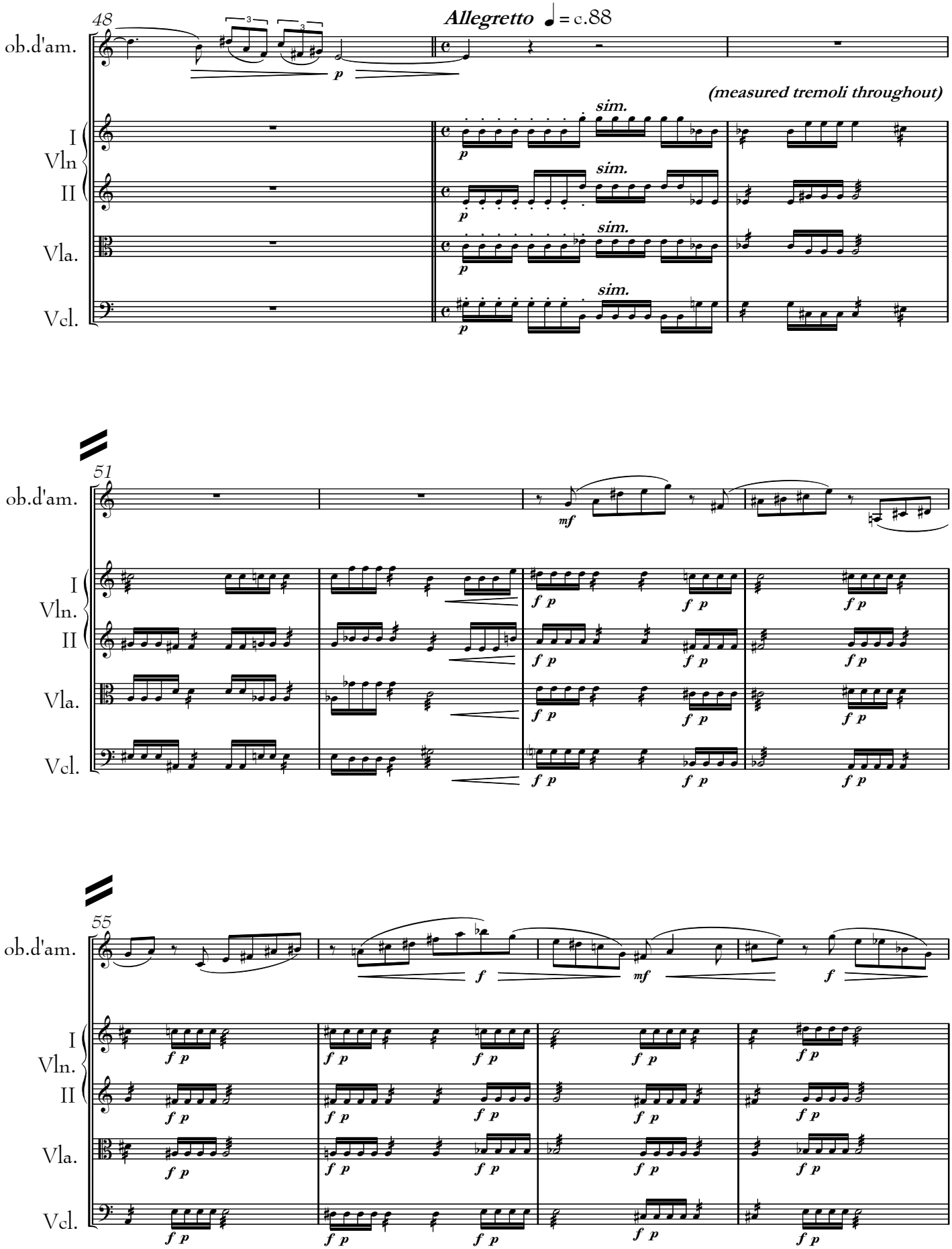
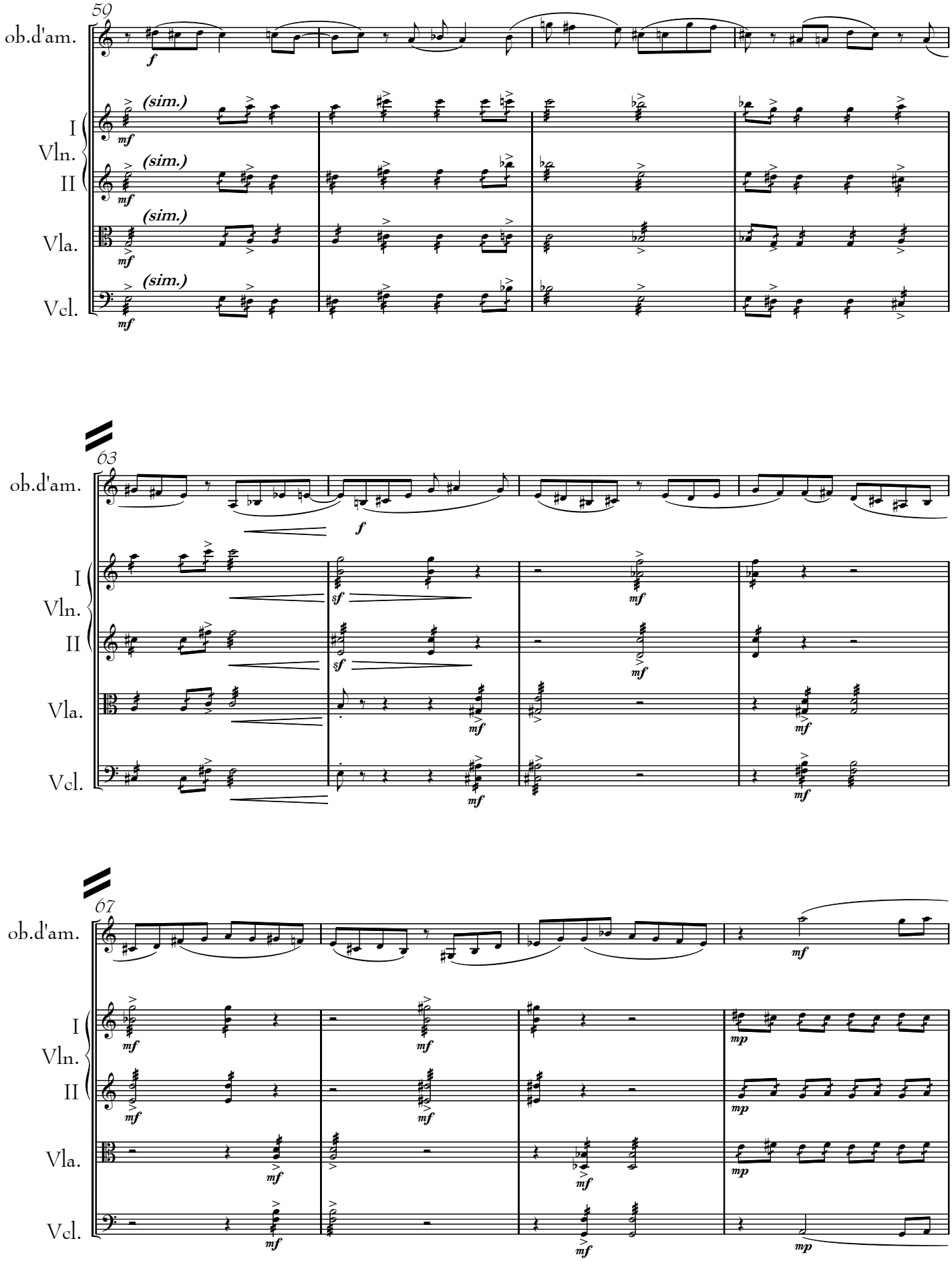
ob.d'am.
p
morendo
I
Vln.
II
p
mp
Vla.
Vcl.
44
ob.d'am.
p
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
46
ob.d'am.
p
3
3
mf
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.


48
Allegretto ♩ = c.88
ob.d'am.
I
Vln
II
Vla.
Vcl.
(measured tremoli throughout)
sim.
51
55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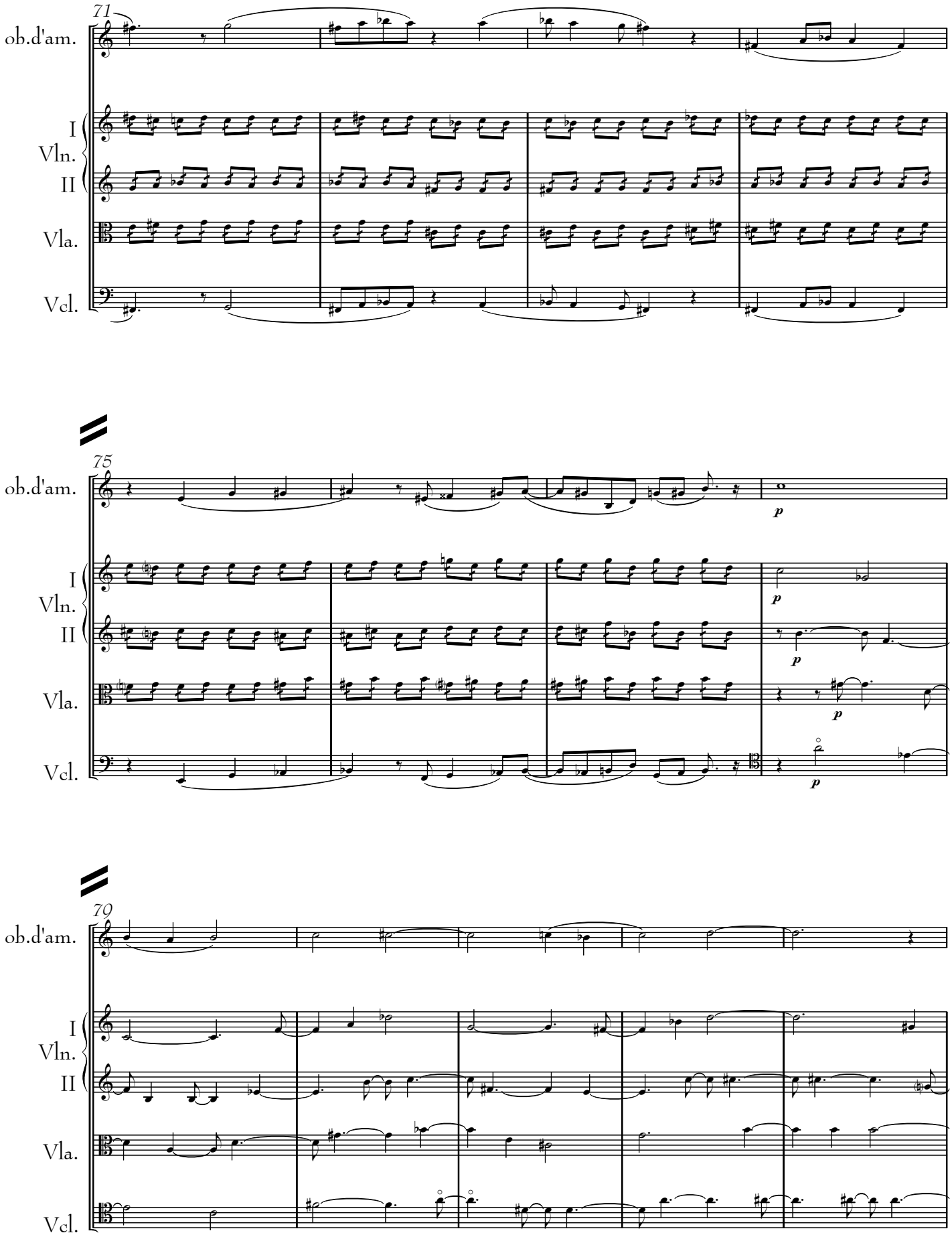
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
(sim.)
63
67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II
Vla.
Vcl.
75
ob.d'am.
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Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
p
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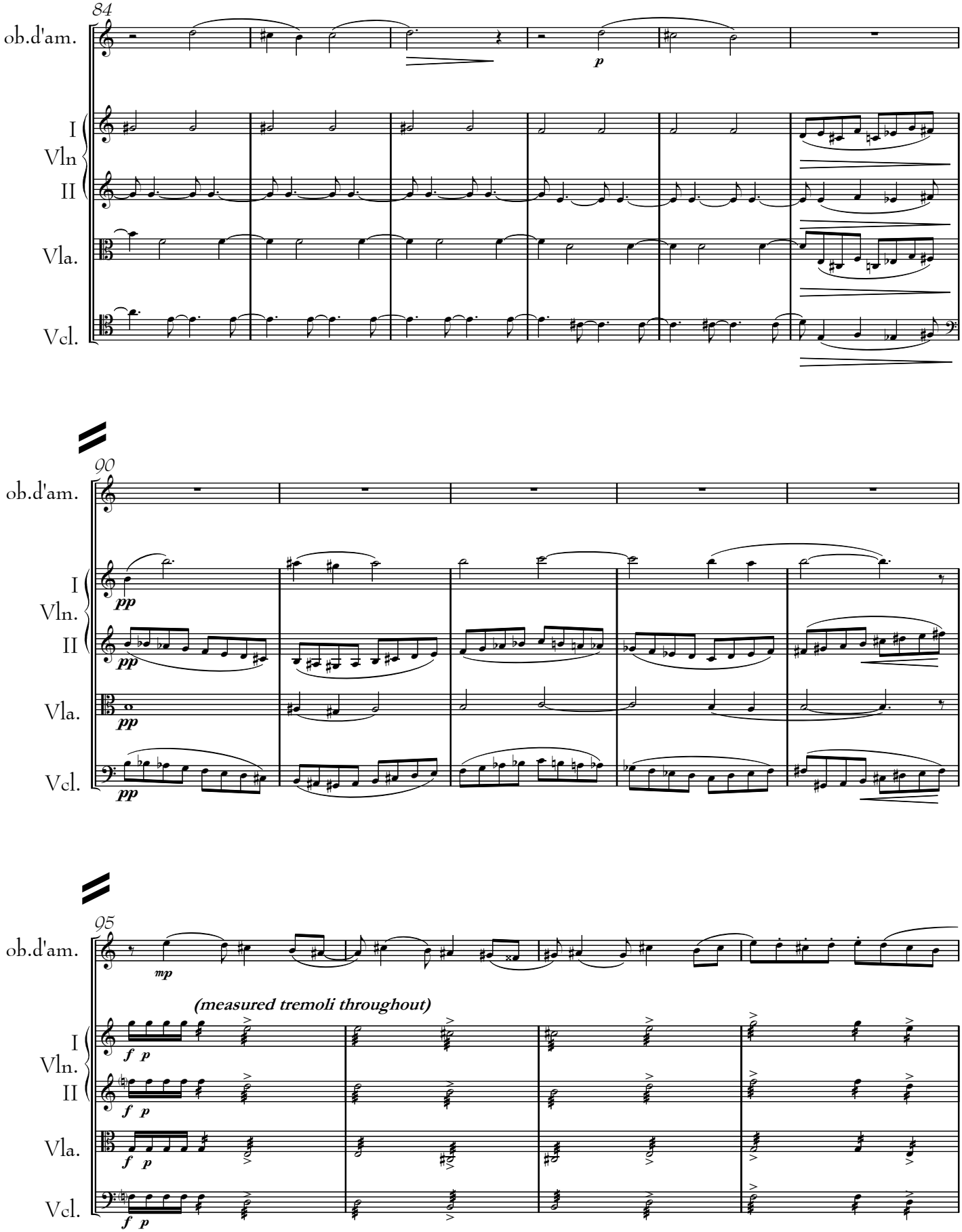
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.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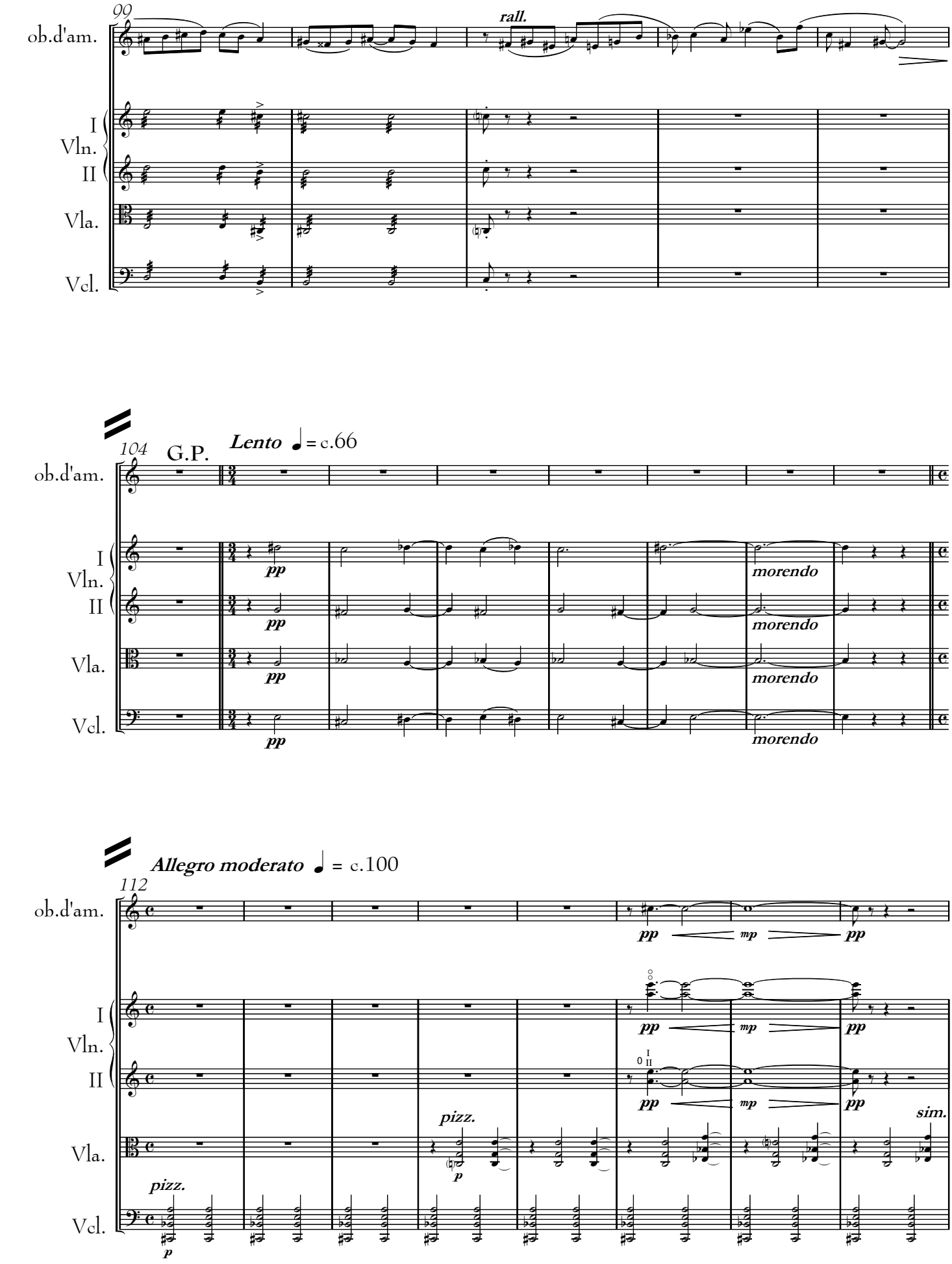
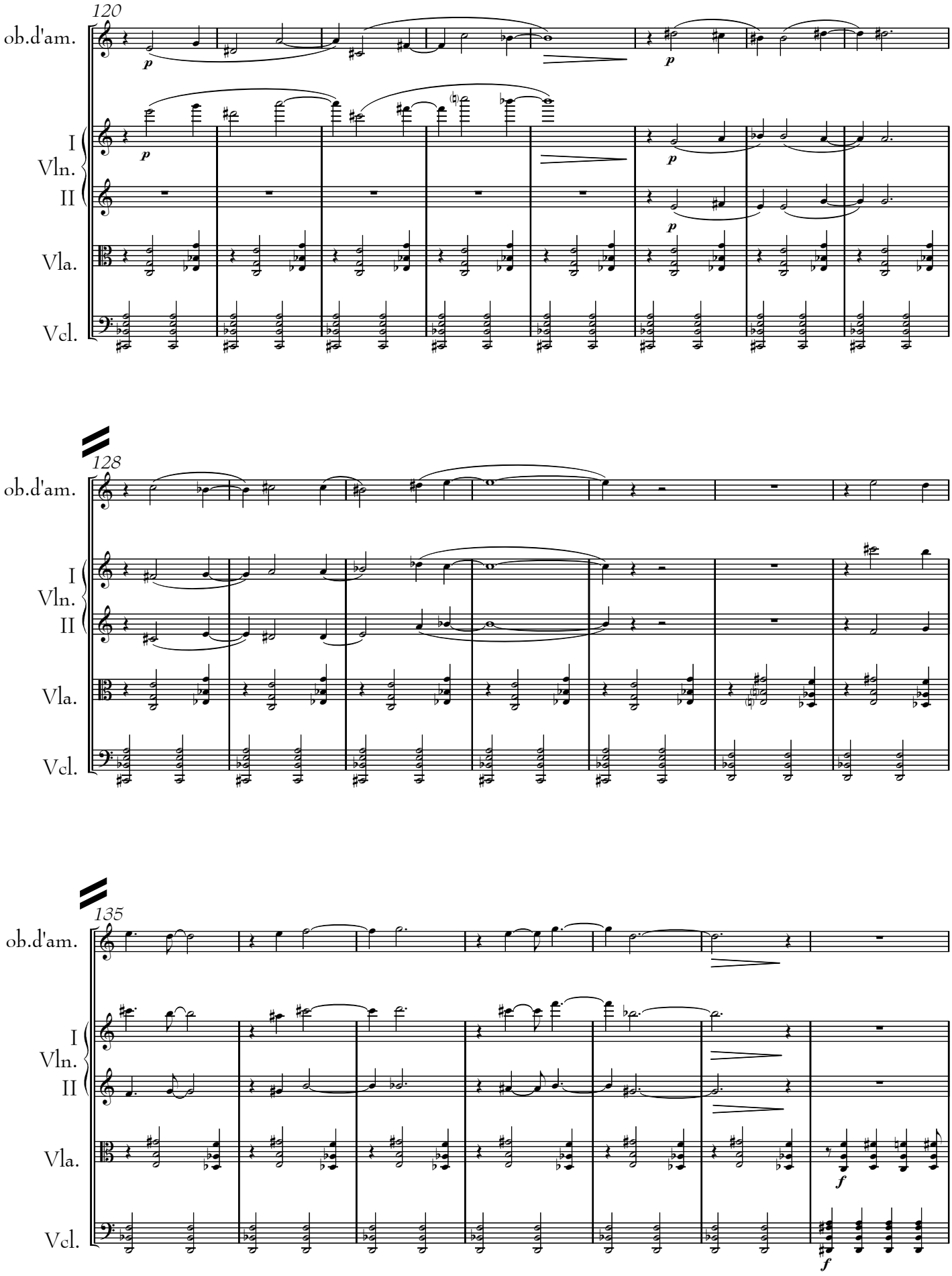
ob.d'am.
I
Vln
II
Vla.
Vcl.
p
90
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
pp
95
ob.d'am.
mp
(measured tremoli throughout)
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
f p


99
rall.
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
104
G.P.
Lento ♩= c.66
pp
morendo
112
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
mp
pizz.
sim.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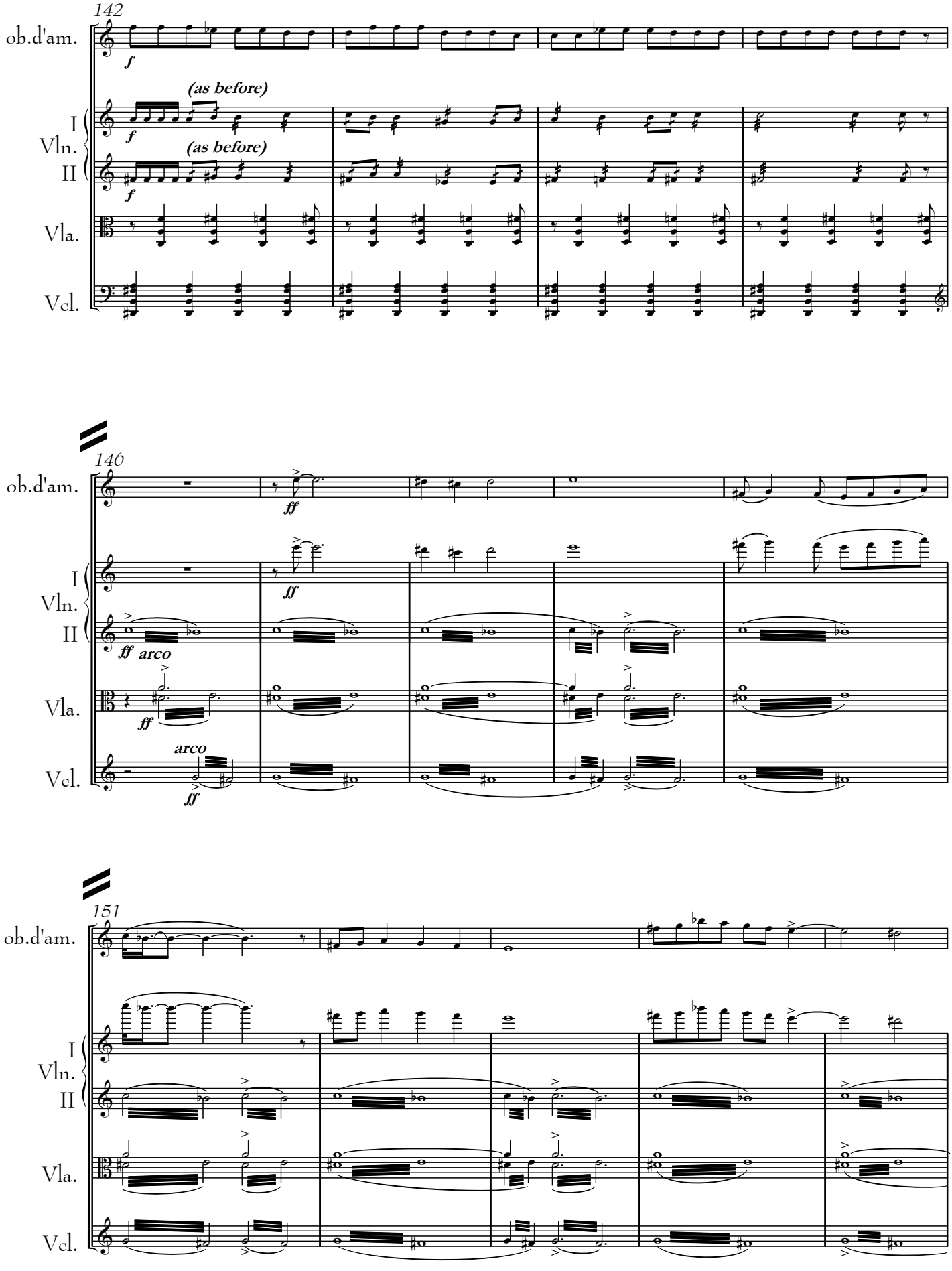
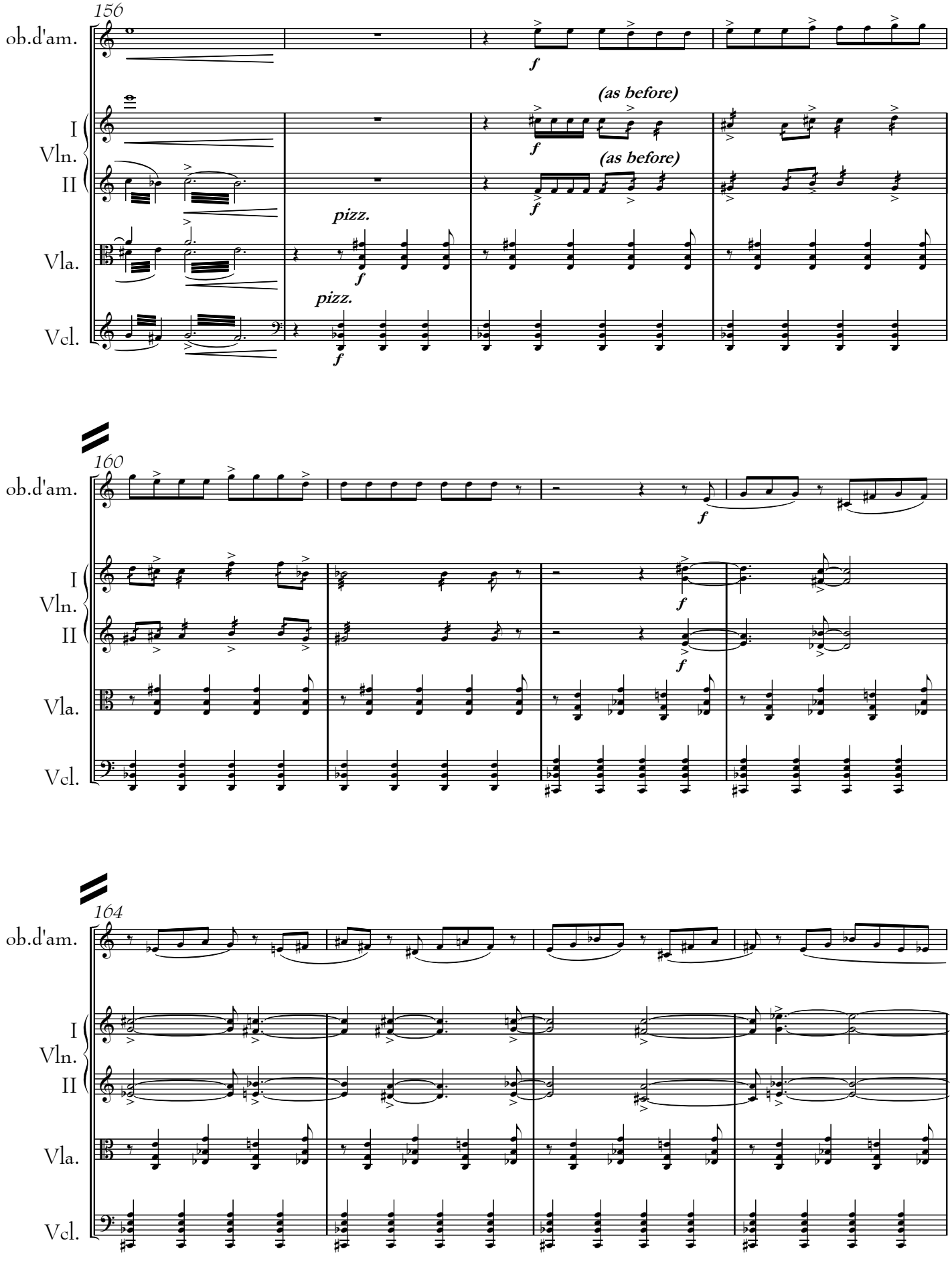
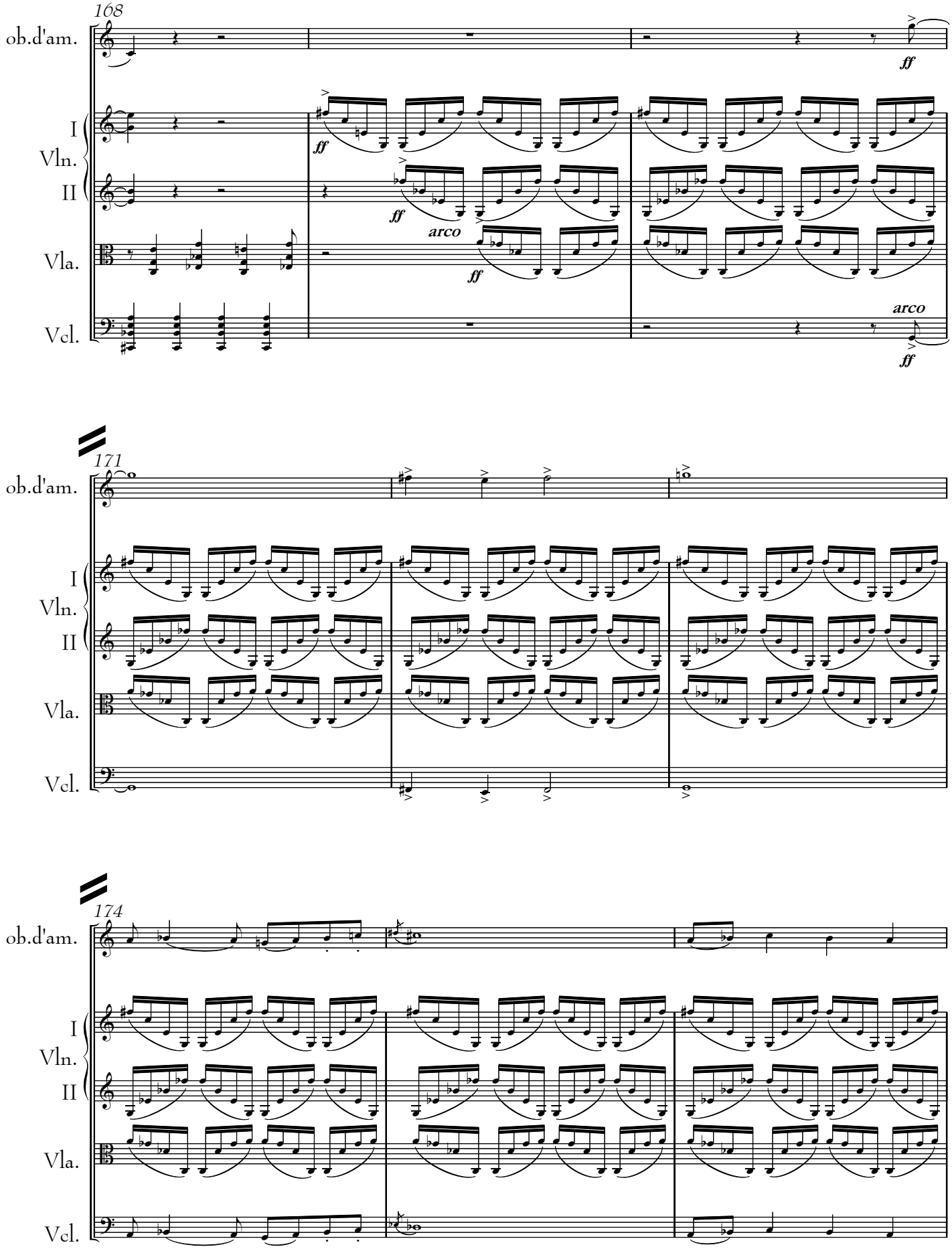
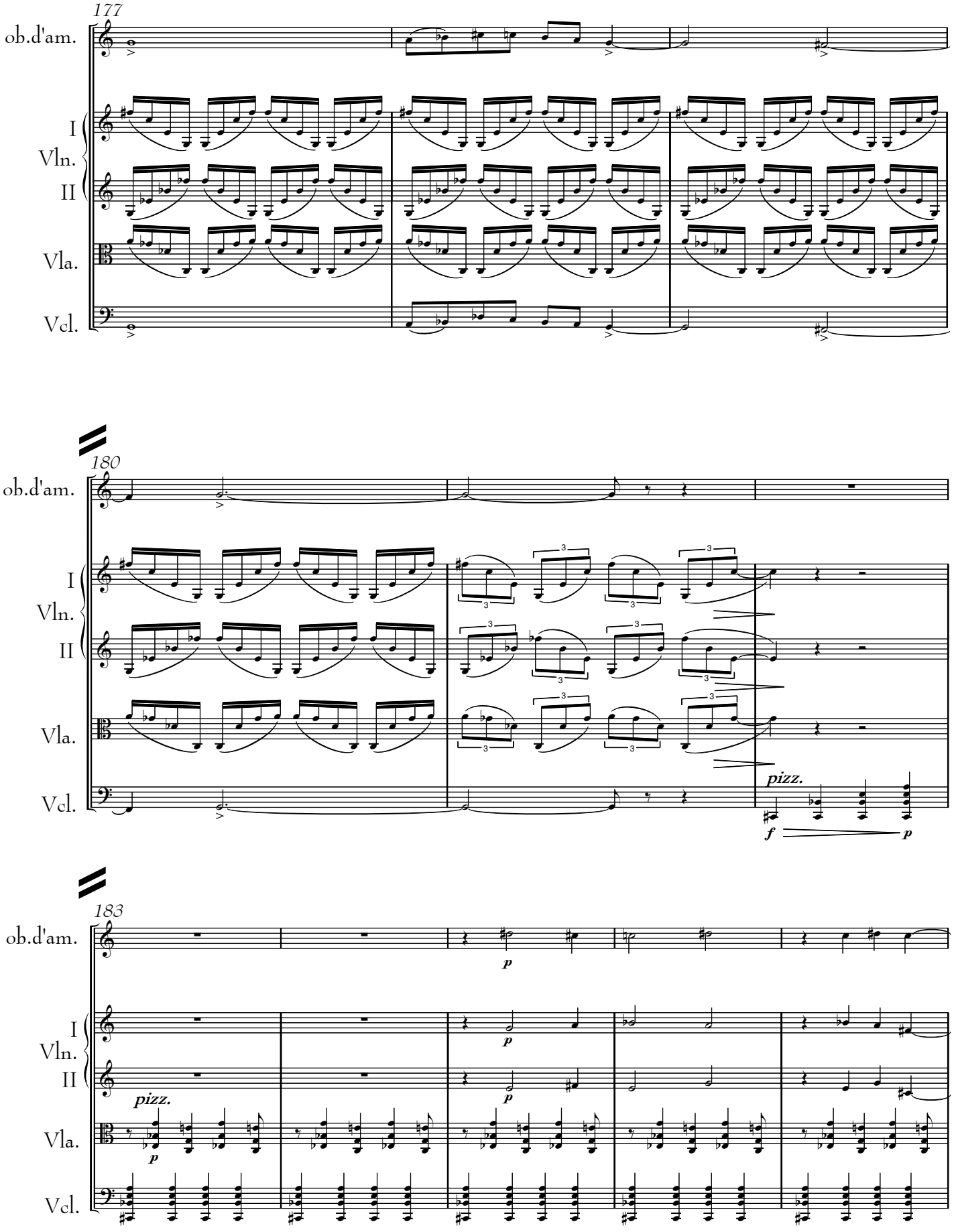
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
p
128
135
f


142
ob.d'am.
f
I
Vln.
II
(as before)
f
(as before)
f
Vla.
Vcl.
146
ob.d'am.
ff
I
Vln.
II
ff
arco
Vla.
ff
arco
Vcl.
ff
151
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.


156
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
f
(as before)
pizz.
160
164


168
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
ff
arco
171
174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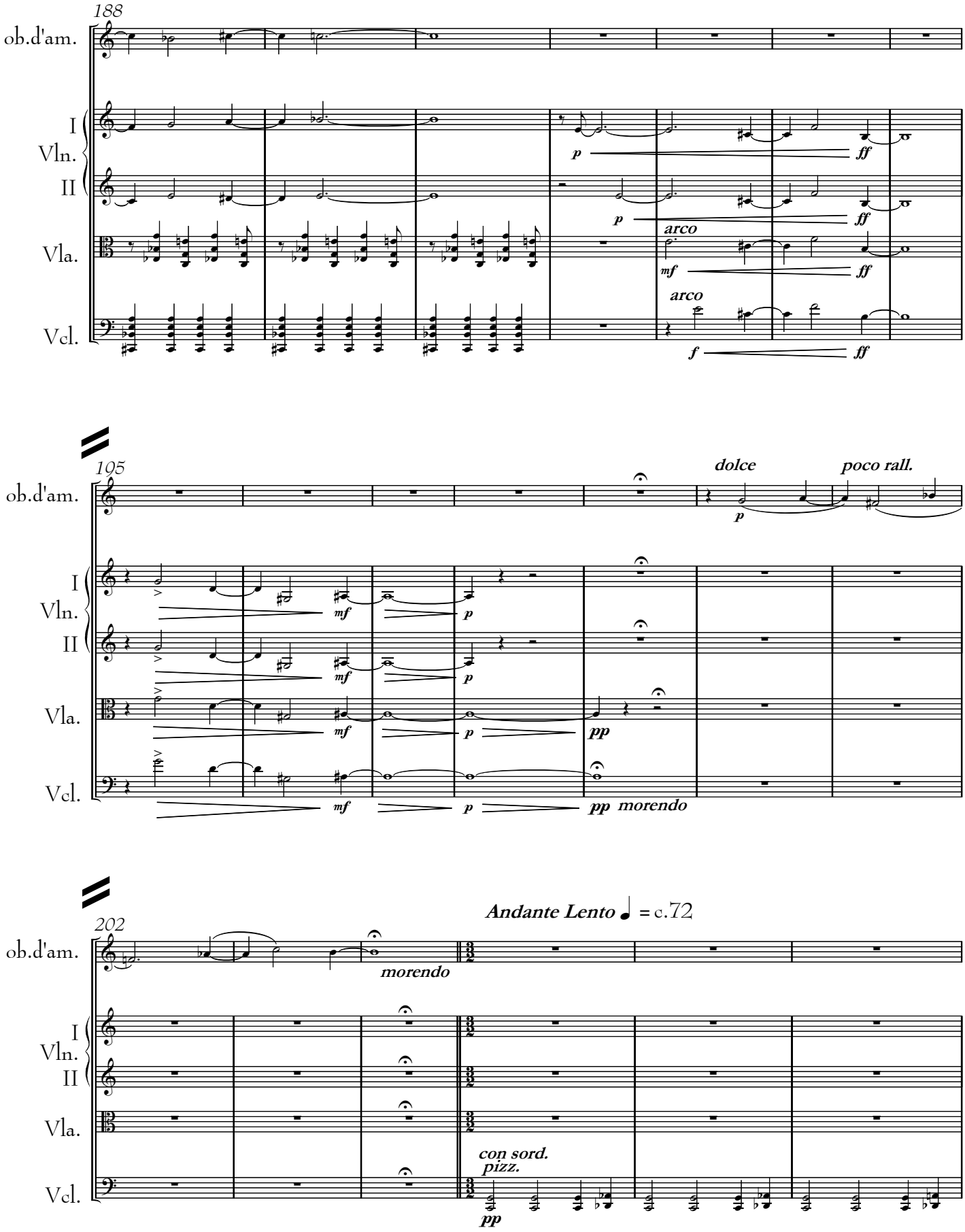
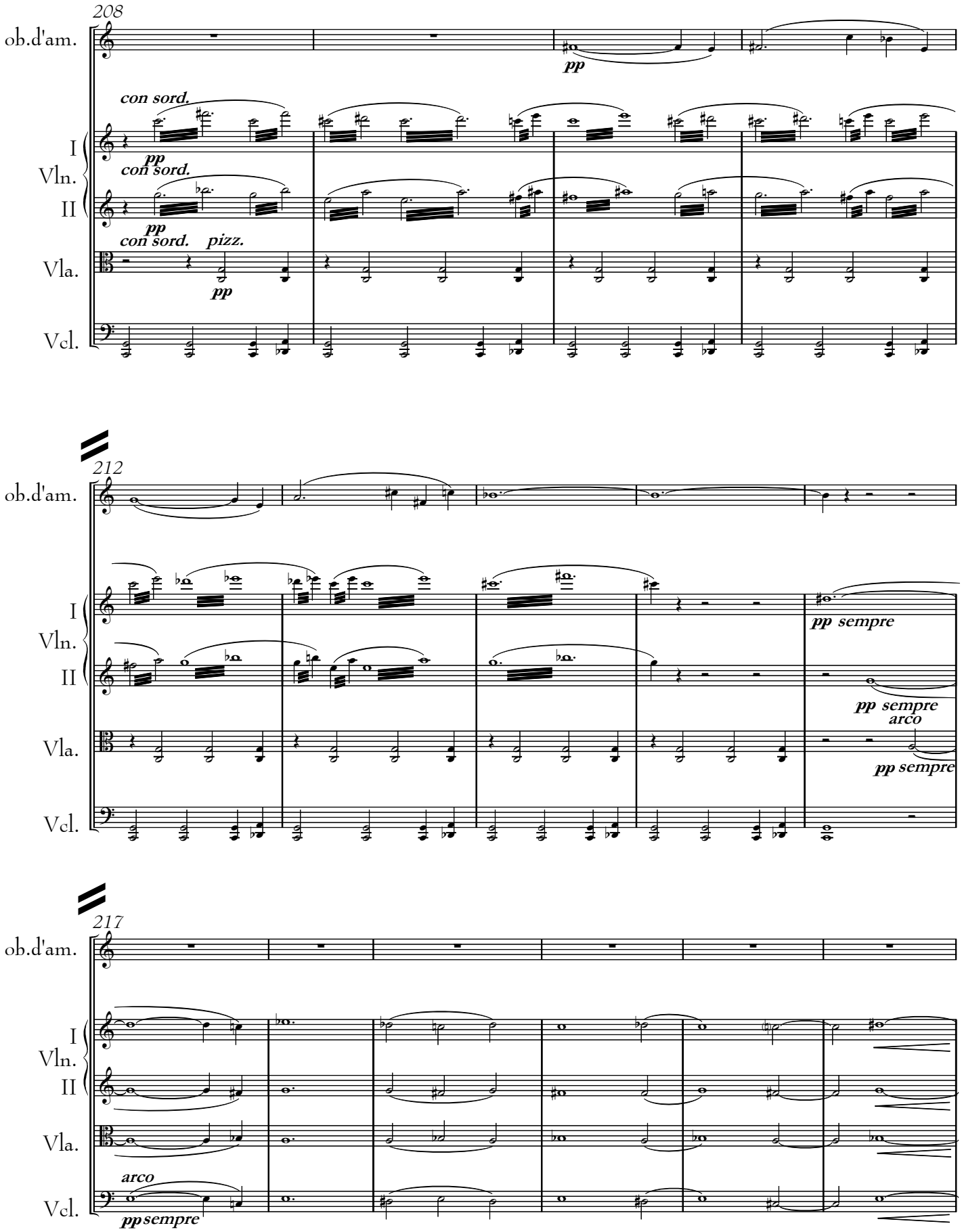
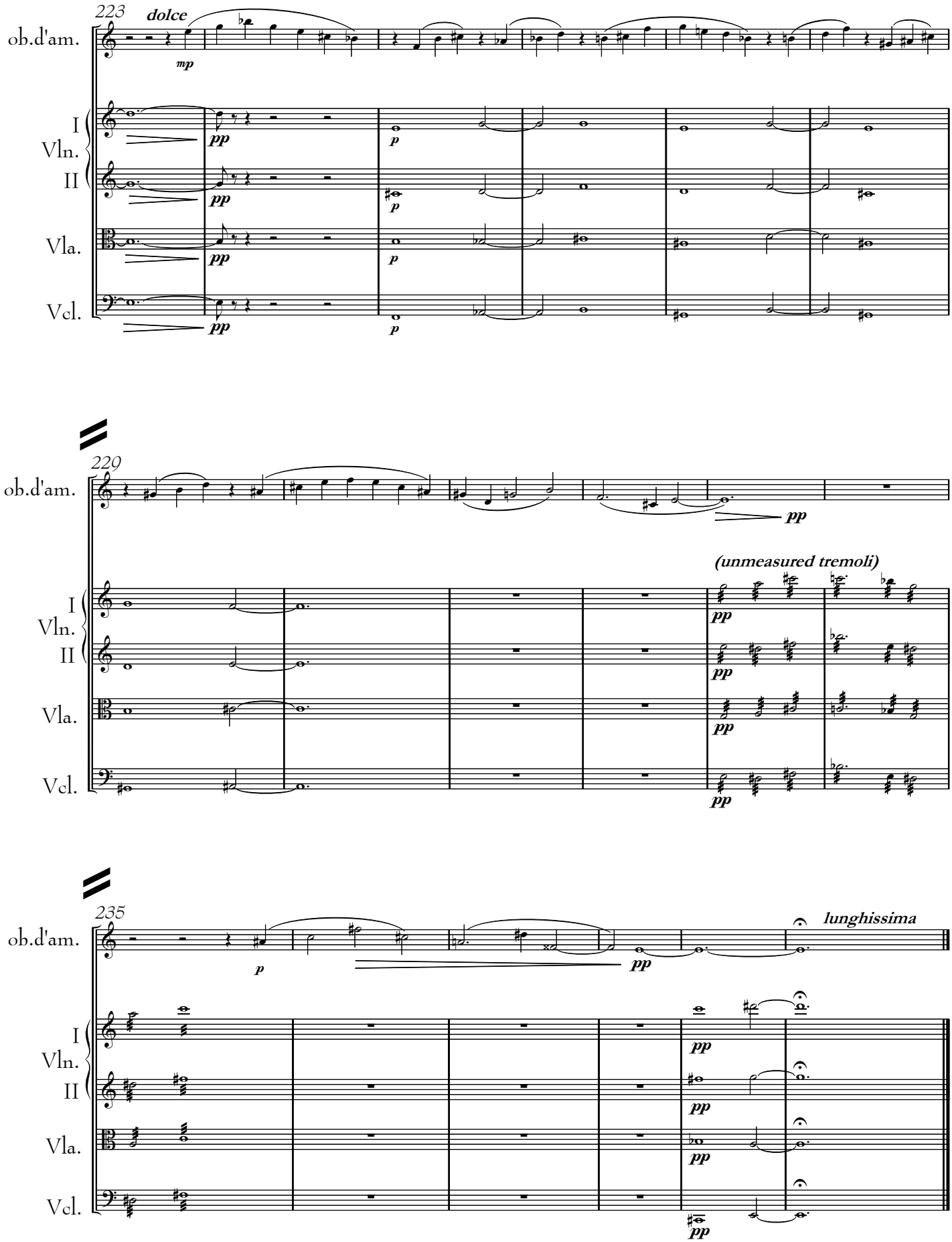
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
180
pizz.
f
p
183
p
pizz.


188
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
p
ff
arco
mf
f
105
dolce
poco rall.
pp
morendo
202
Andante Lento ♩ = c.72
con sord.
pizz.


208
ob.d'am.
pp
con sord.
I
Vln.
pp
con sord.
II
pp
con sord.
pizz.
Vla.
pp
Vcl.
212
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
pp sempre
pp sempre
arco
Vla.
pp sempre
Vcl.
217
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
arco
Vcl.
pp sempre


223
dolce
ob.d'am.
I
Vln.
II
Vla.
Vcl.
229
(unmeasured tremoli)
235
lunghissima

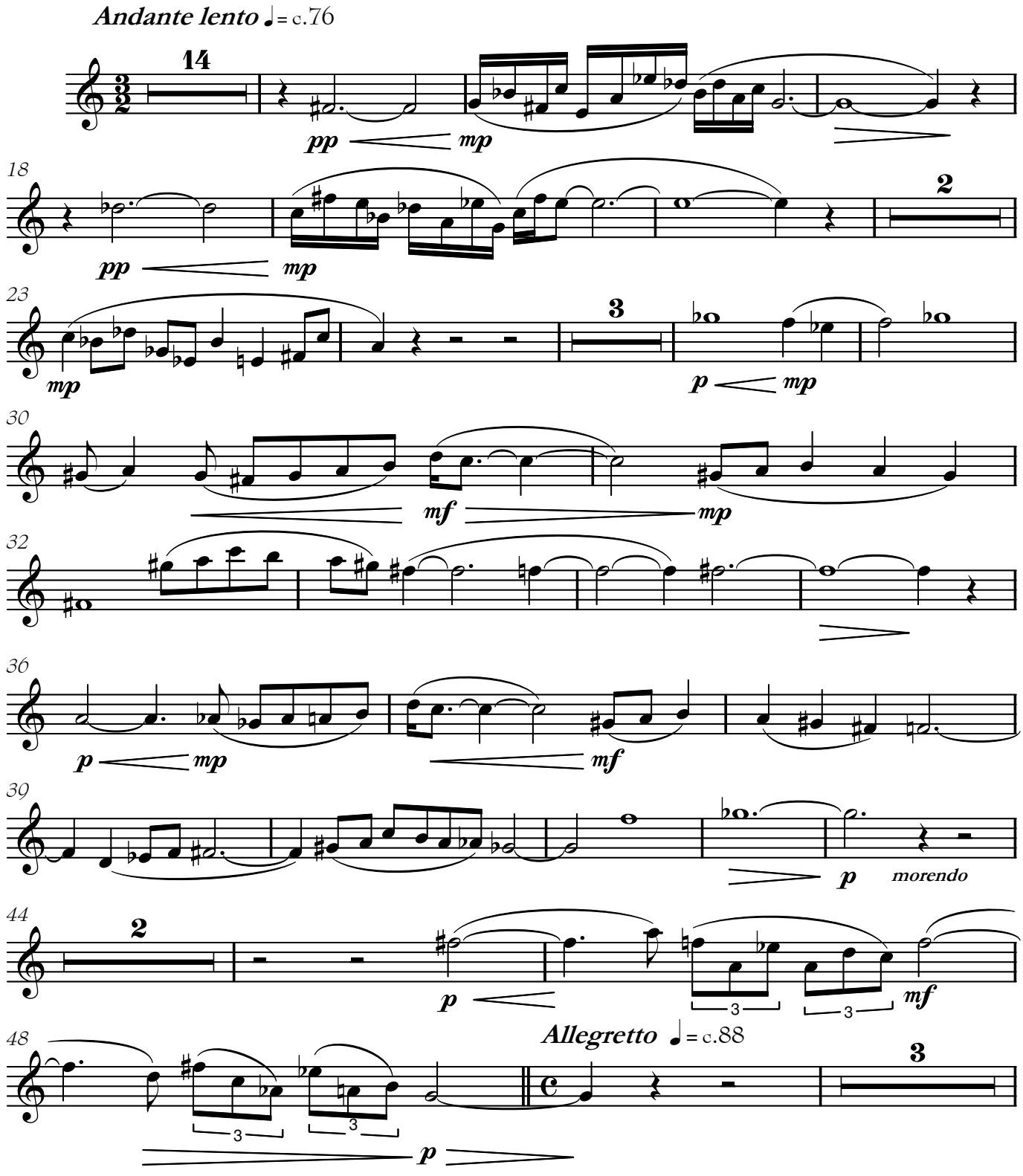
Oboe d'amore

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo

(1921 - 2000)



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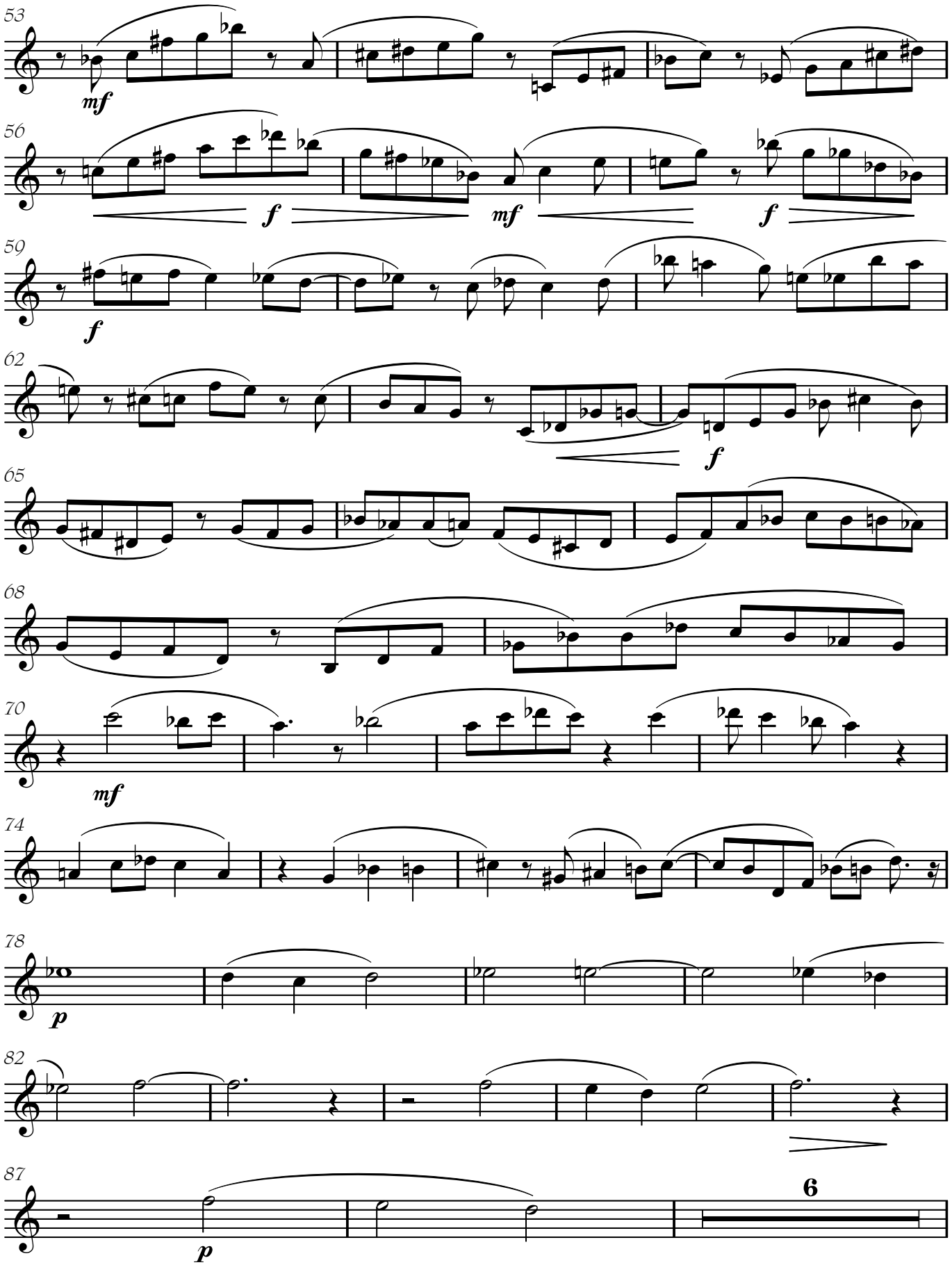
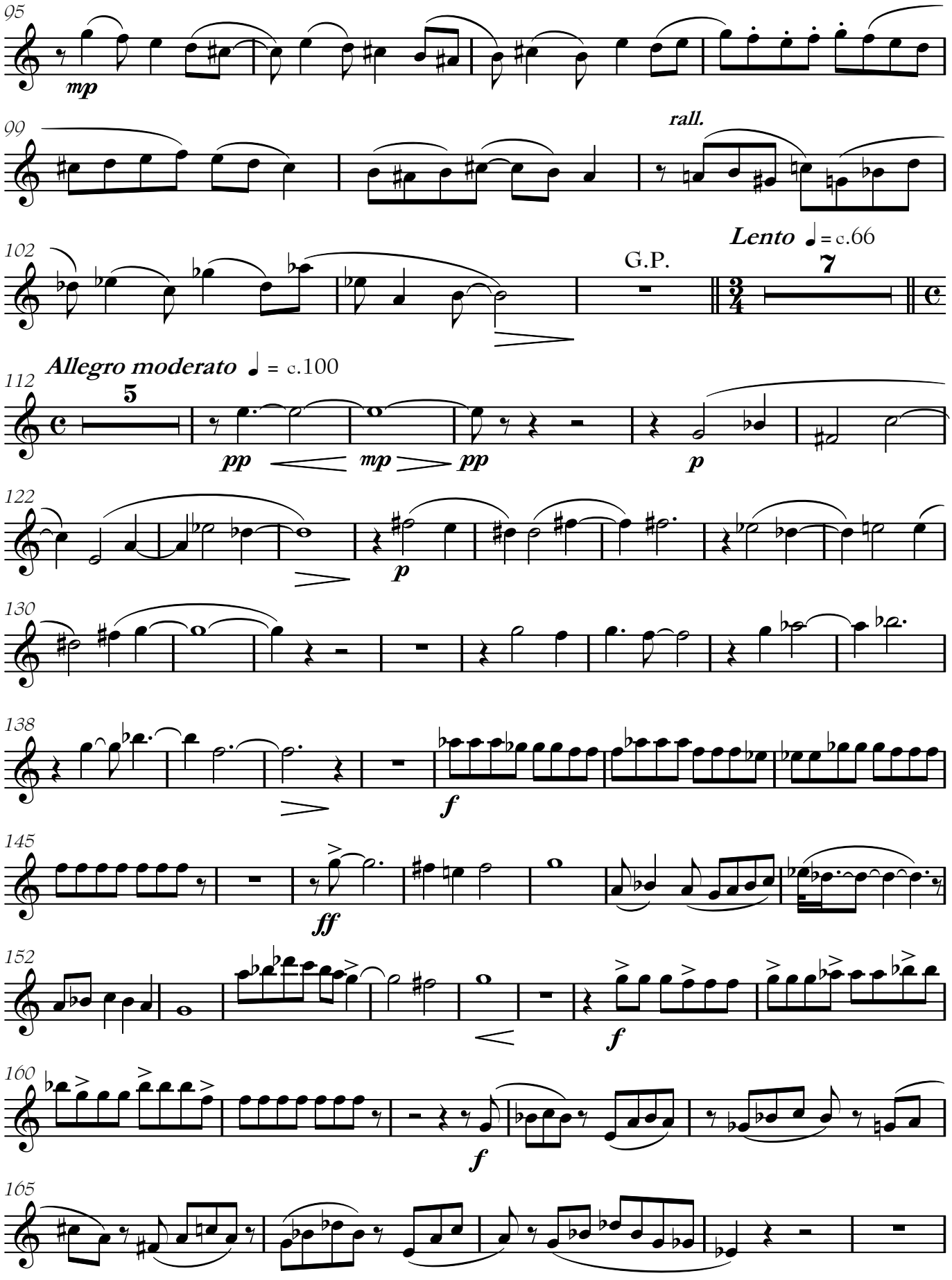
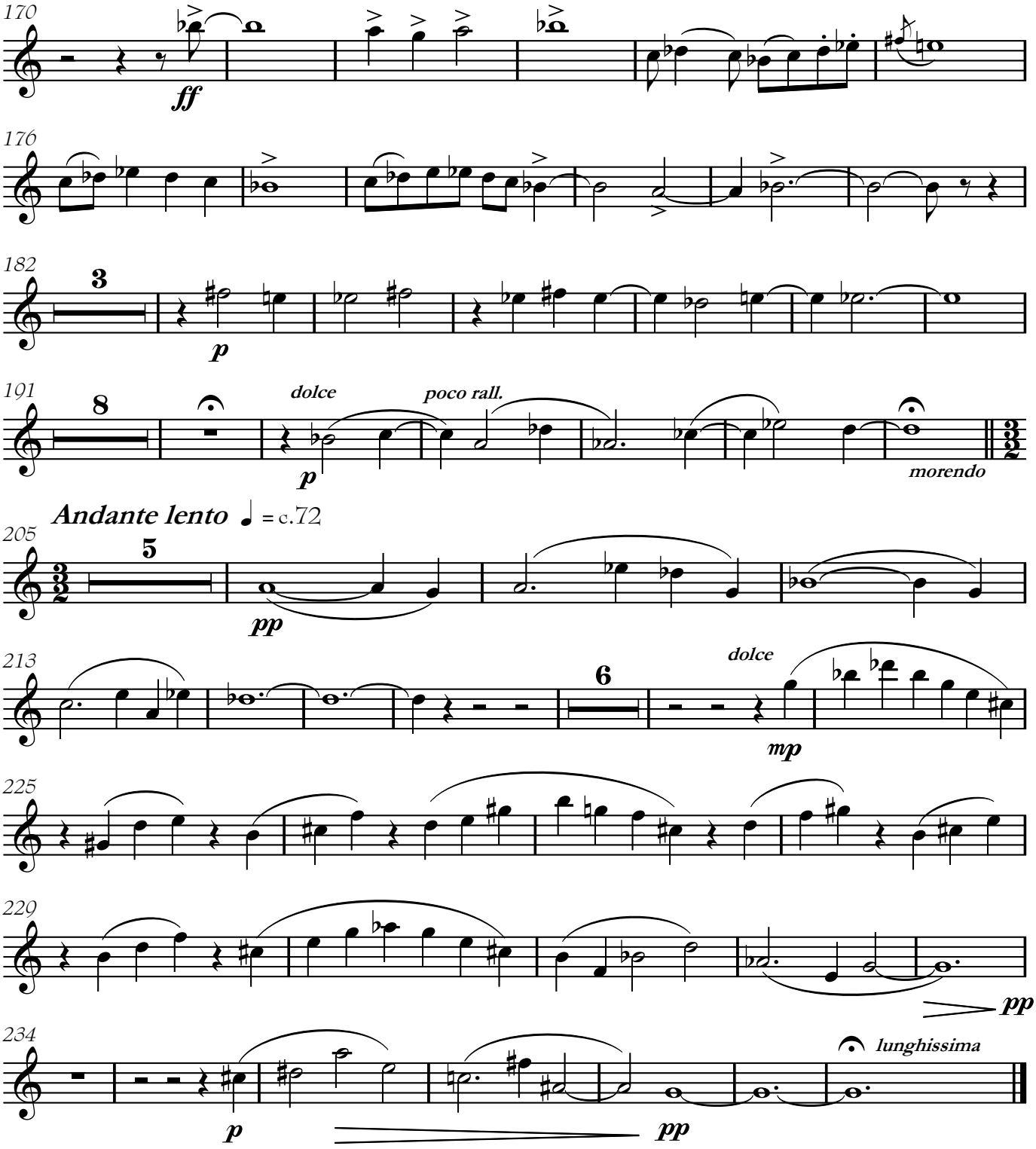
Oboe d'amore




95
mp
99
rall.
102
G.P.
Lento ♩ = c.66
7
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
112
5
pp
mp
pp
p
122
p
130
138
f
145
ff
152
f
160
f
165


170
ff
176
182
3
p
191
8
dolce
poco rall.
p
morendo
Andante lento ♩ = c.72
205
5
pp
213
6
dolce
mp
225
229
pp
234
p
pp
lunghissima

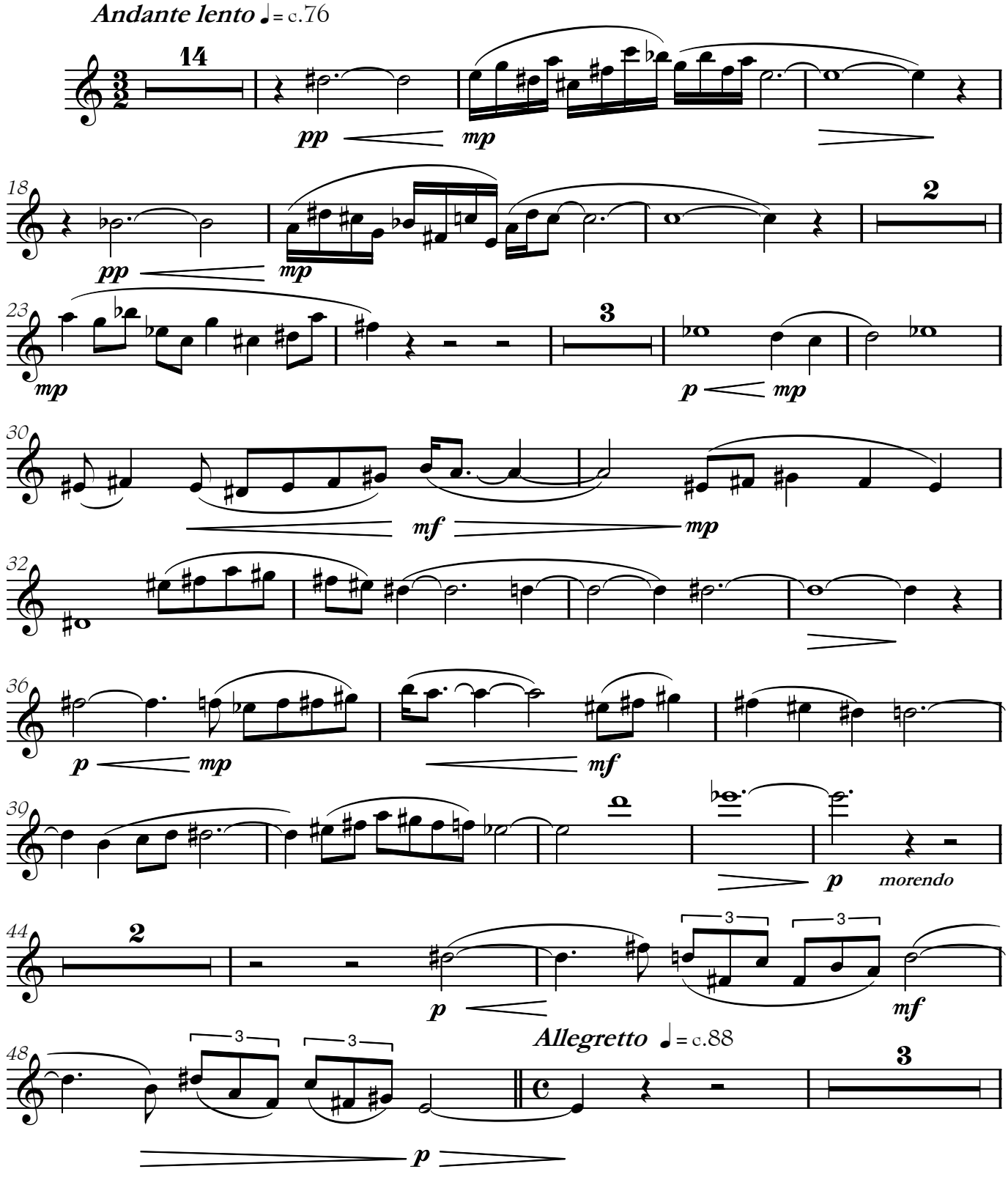
Bass Oboe

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo

(1921 - 2000)



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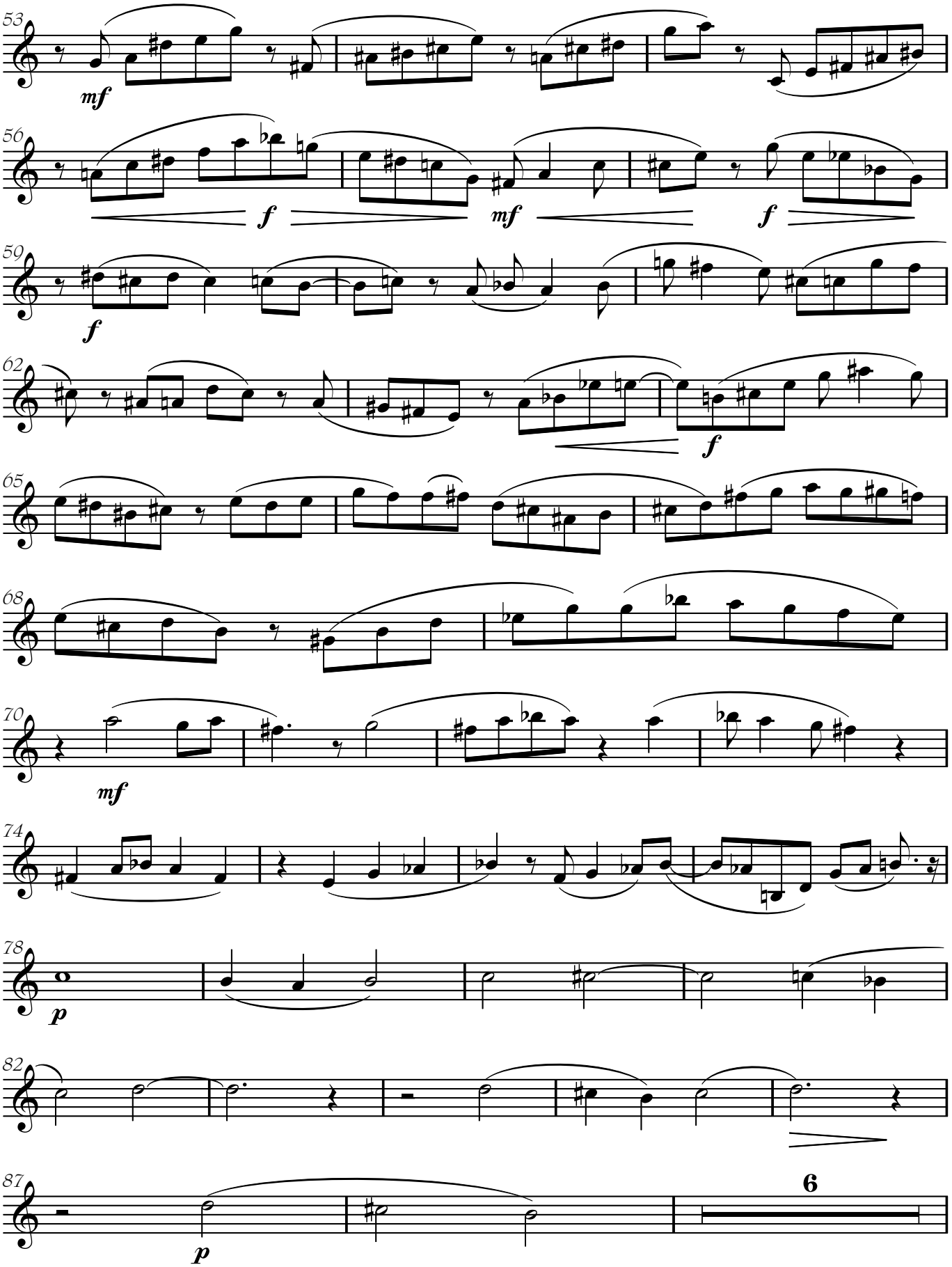
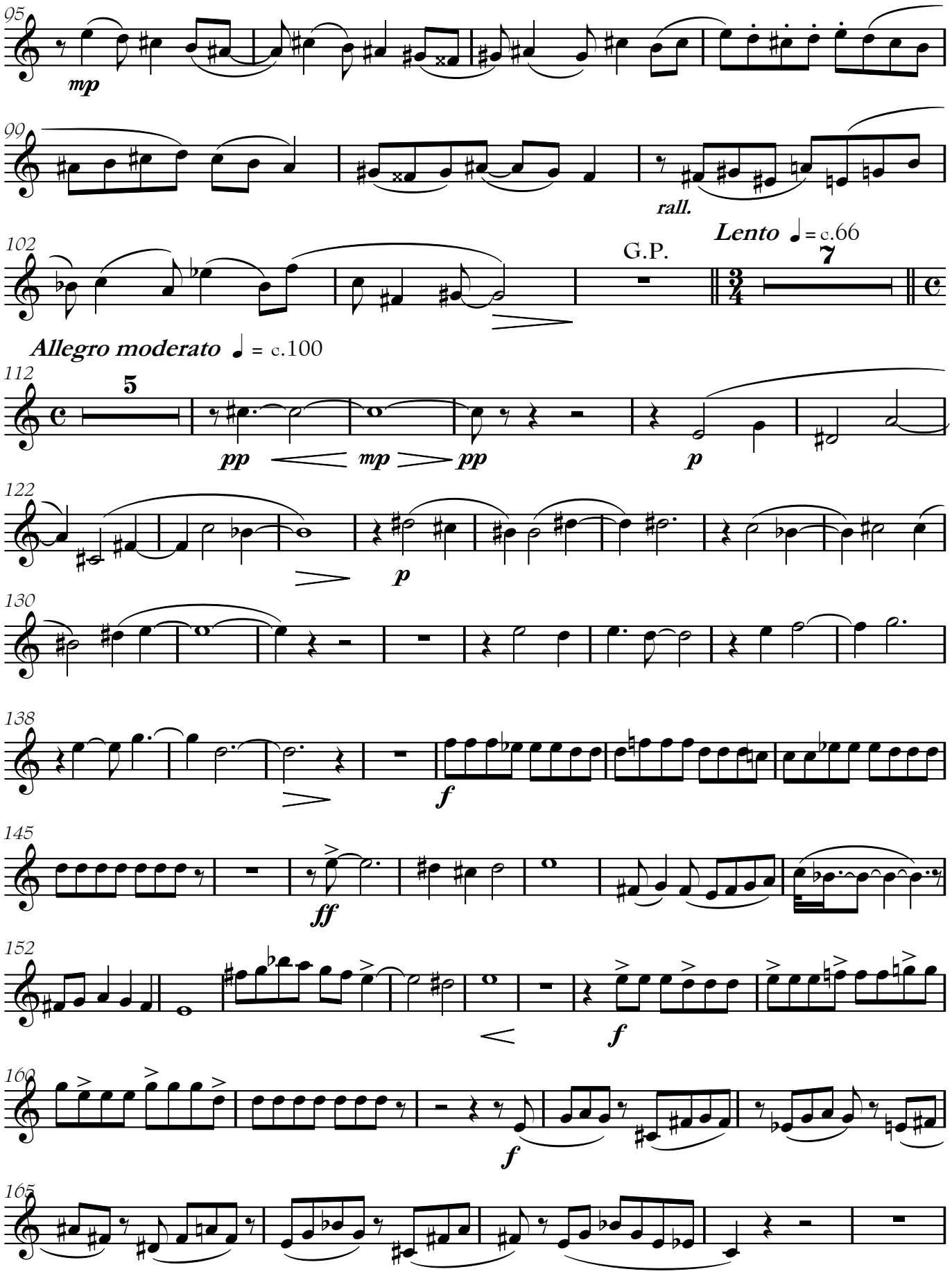
Bass Oboe

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102
G.P.
Lento ♩= c.66
7
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
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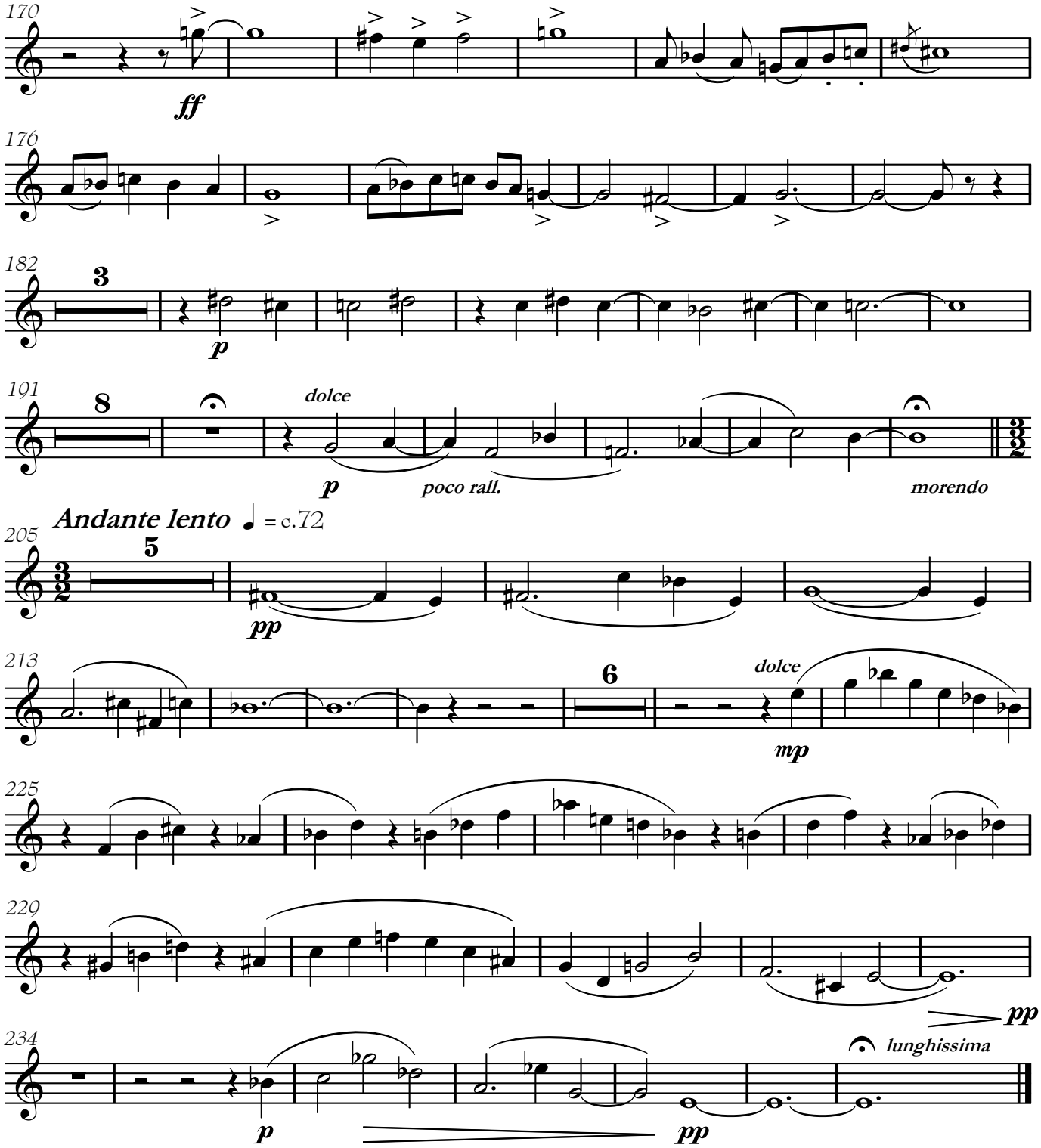
pp
p
122
p
130
138
f
145
ff
152
f
160
f
165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ff
176
182
3
p
191
8
dolce
p
poco rall.
morendo
Andante lento ♩ = c.72
205
5
pp
213
6
dolce
mp
225
229
pp
234
p
pp
lunghissima

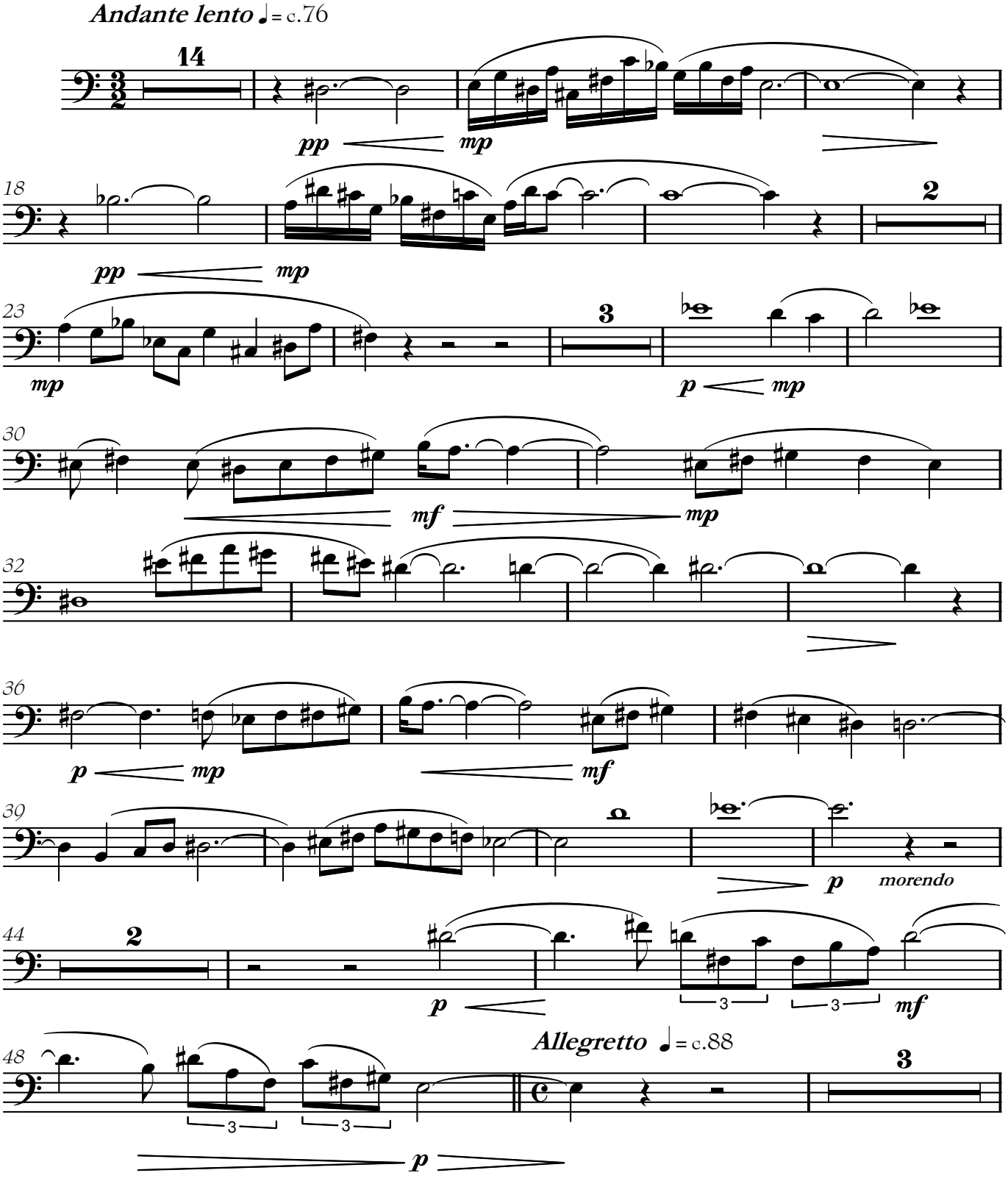
Bassoon

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo

(1921 - 2000)



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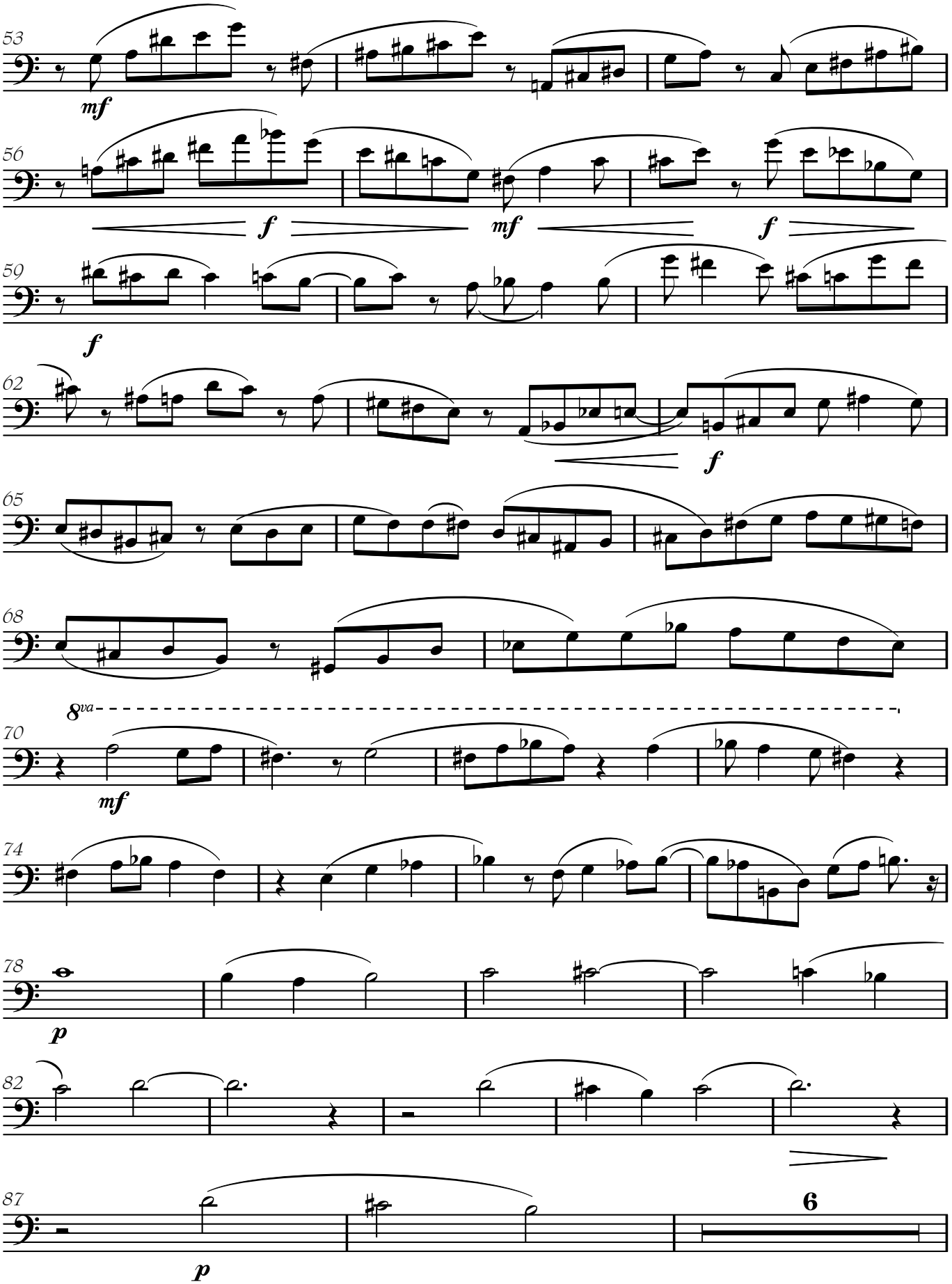
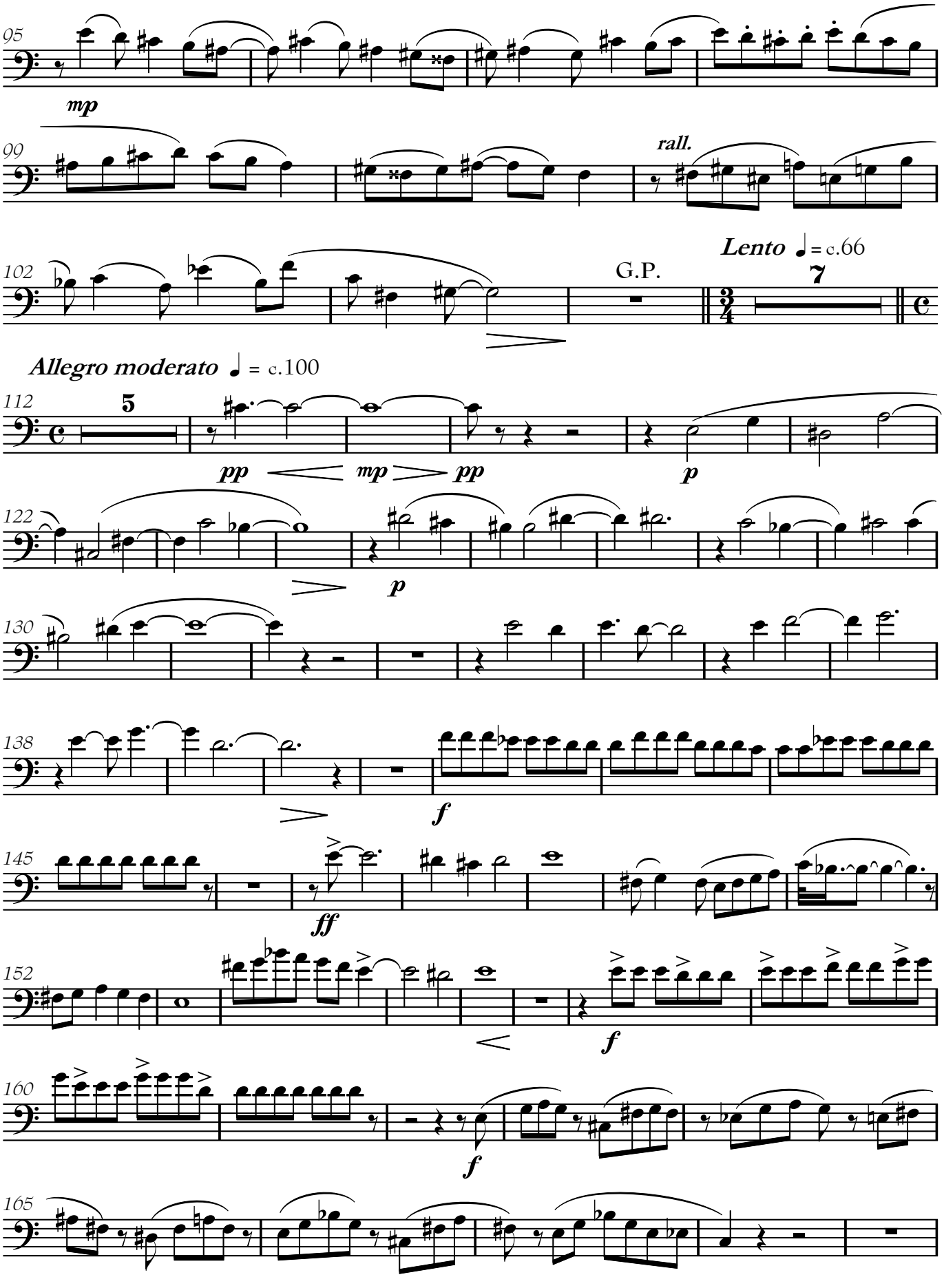
Bassoon

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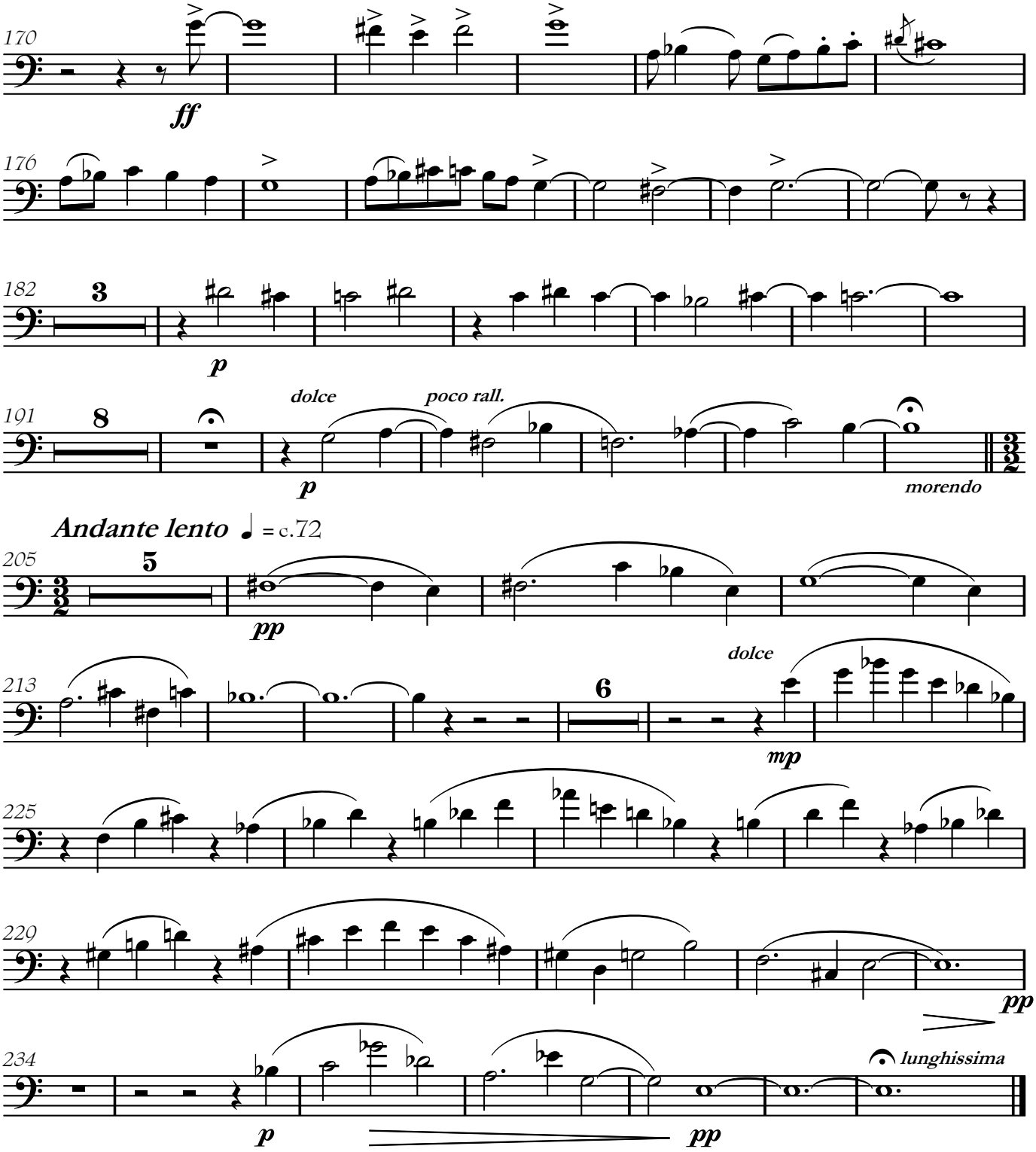
mp
99
rall.
102
G.P.
Lento ♩ = c.66
7
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
112
5
pp
mp
pp
p
122
p
130
138
f
145
ff
152
f
160
f
165


170
ff
176
182
3
p
191
8
dolce
poco rall.
p
morendo
Andante lento ♩ = c.72
205
5
pp
213
dolce
6
mp
225
229
pp
234
p
pp
lunghissima

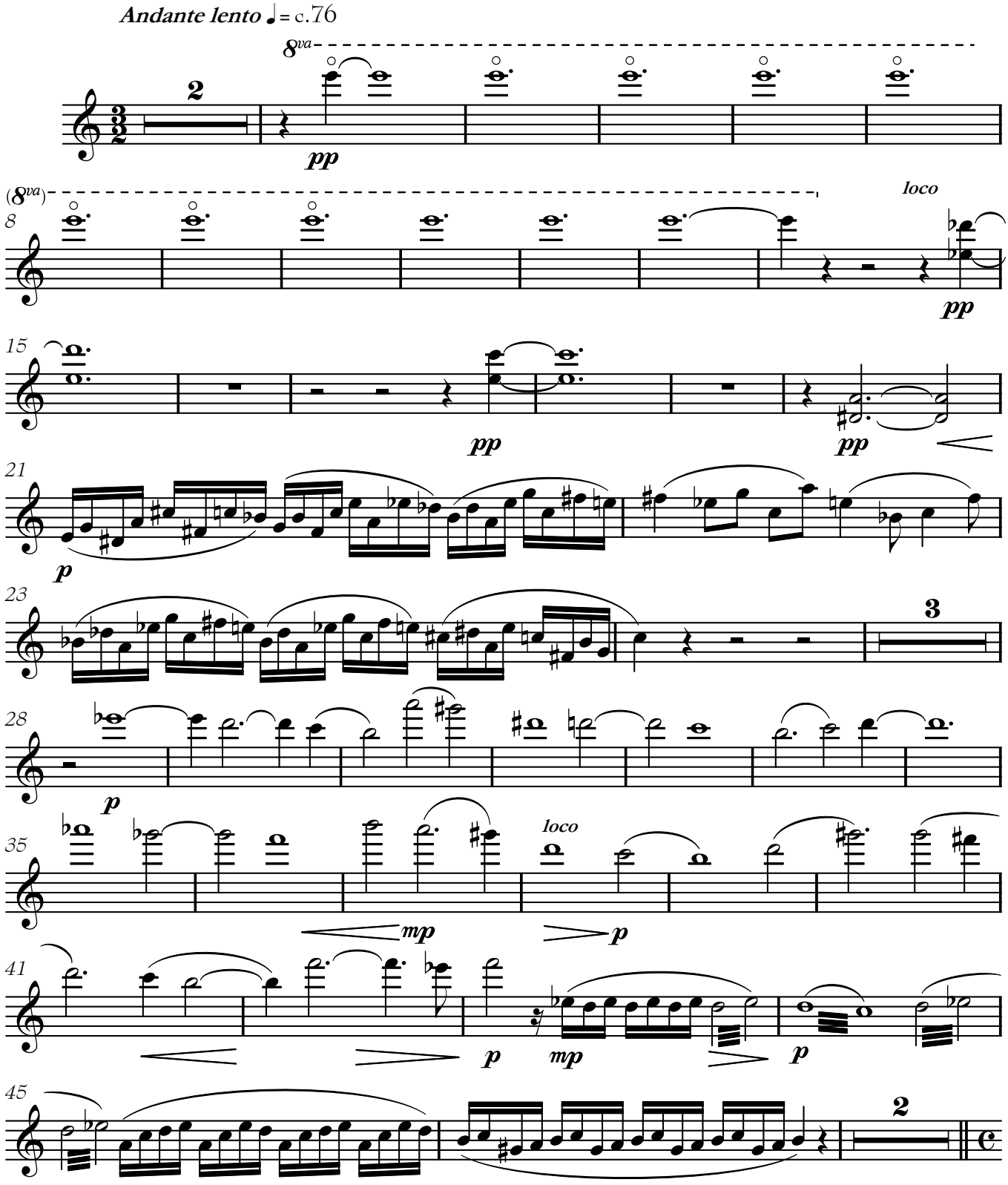
Violin I

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo

(1921 - 2000)



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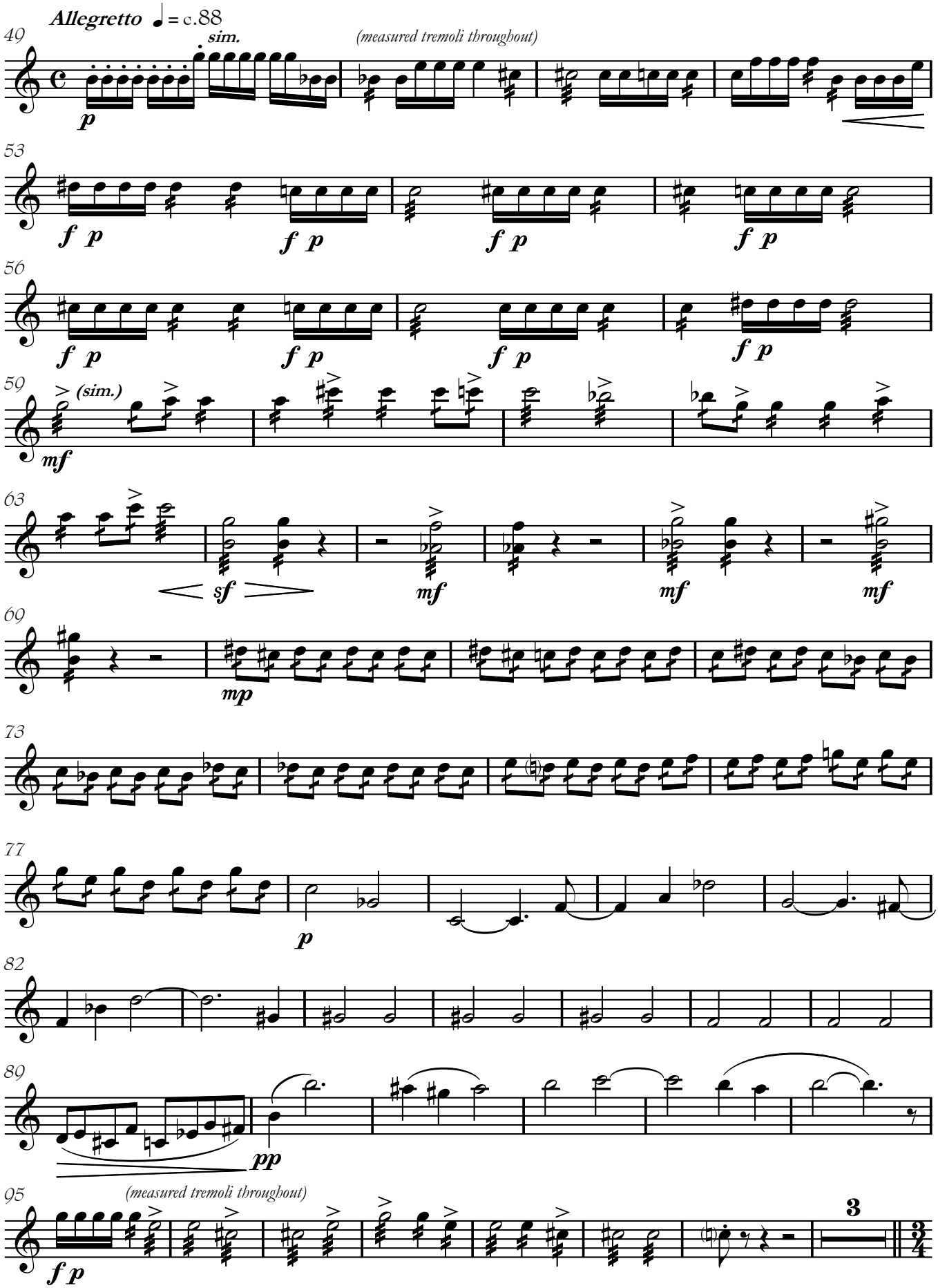
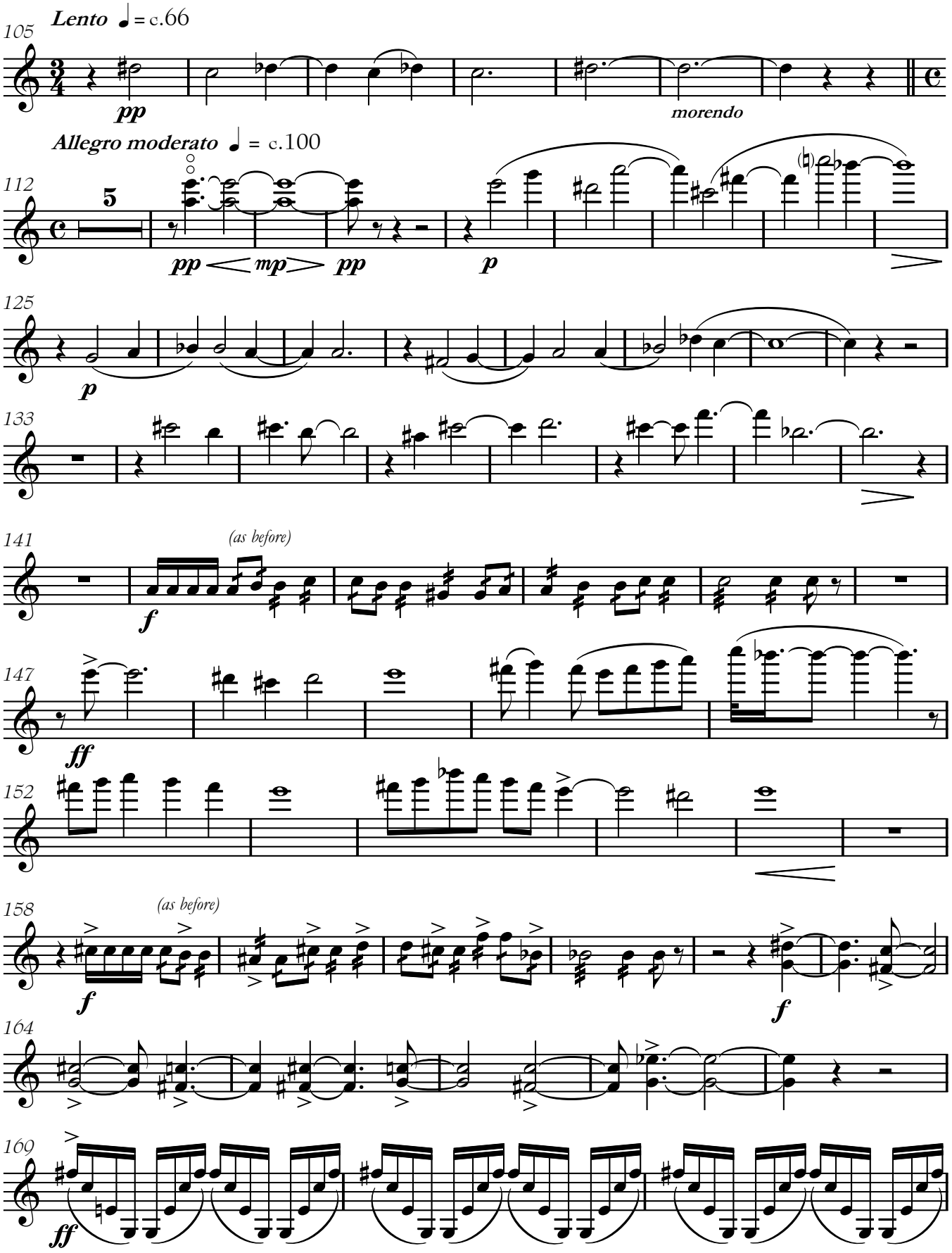
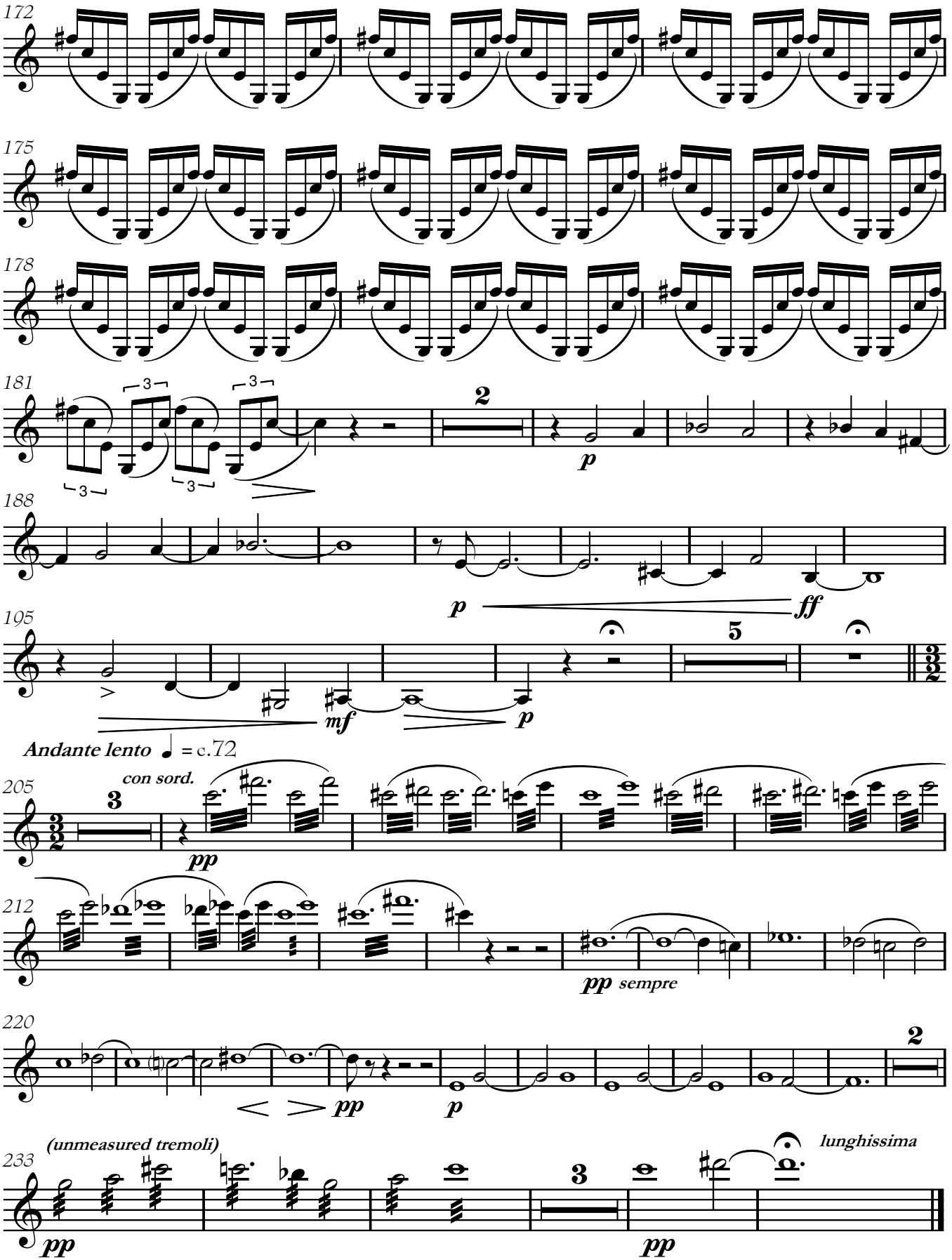
Violin I


Allegretto ♩ = c.88
sim.
(measured tremoli throughout)
(sim.)
(measured tremoli throughout)
3


105
Lento ♩ = c.66
pp
morendo
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
112
5
pp mp pp
p
125
p
133
141
(as before)
f
147
ff
152
158
(as before)
f
f
164
169
ff


172
175
178
181
188
105
Andante lento ♩ = c.72
205
con sord.
212
pp sempre
220
(unmeasured tremoli)
233
lunghissima

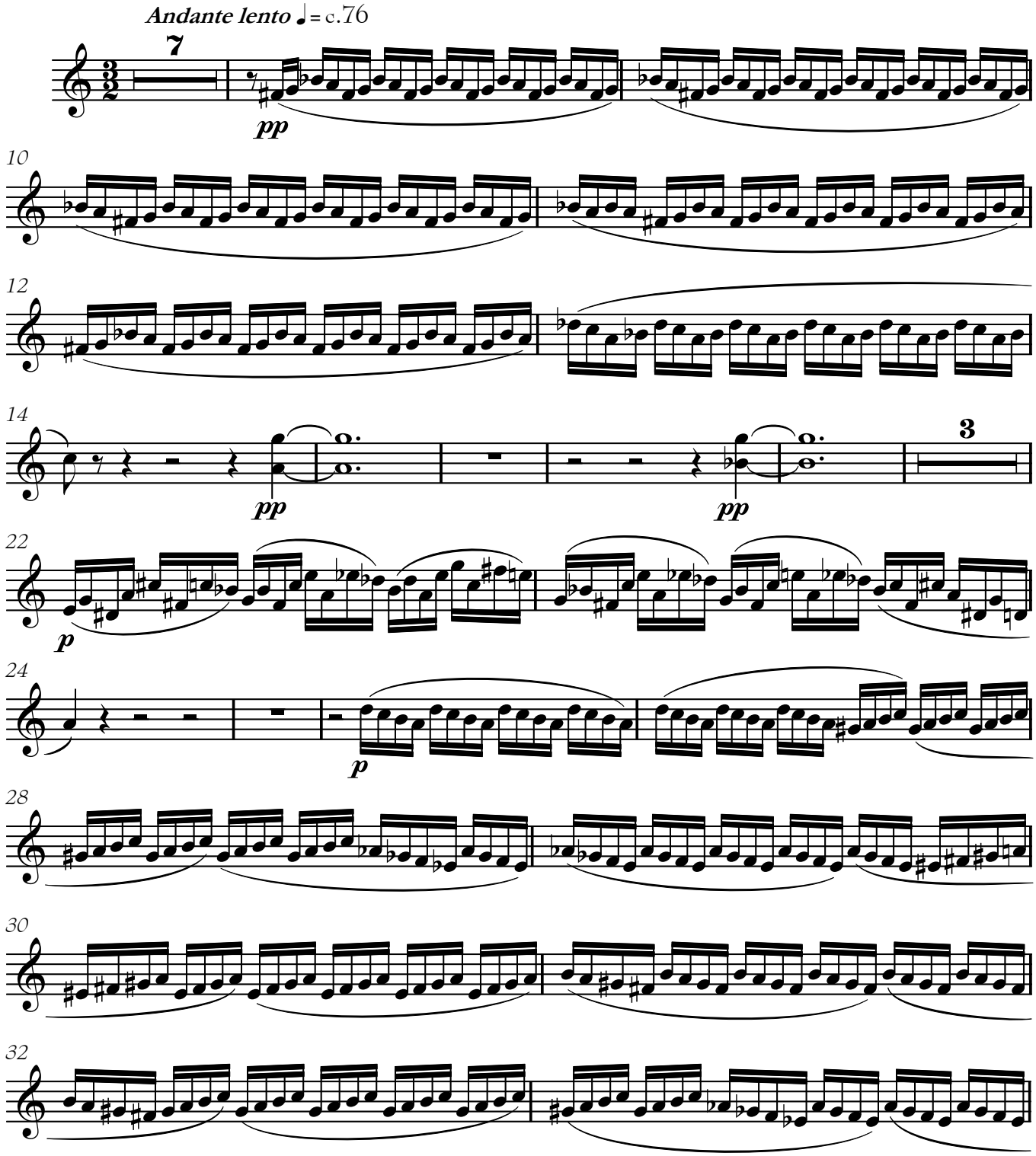
Violin II

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo

(1921 - 2000)



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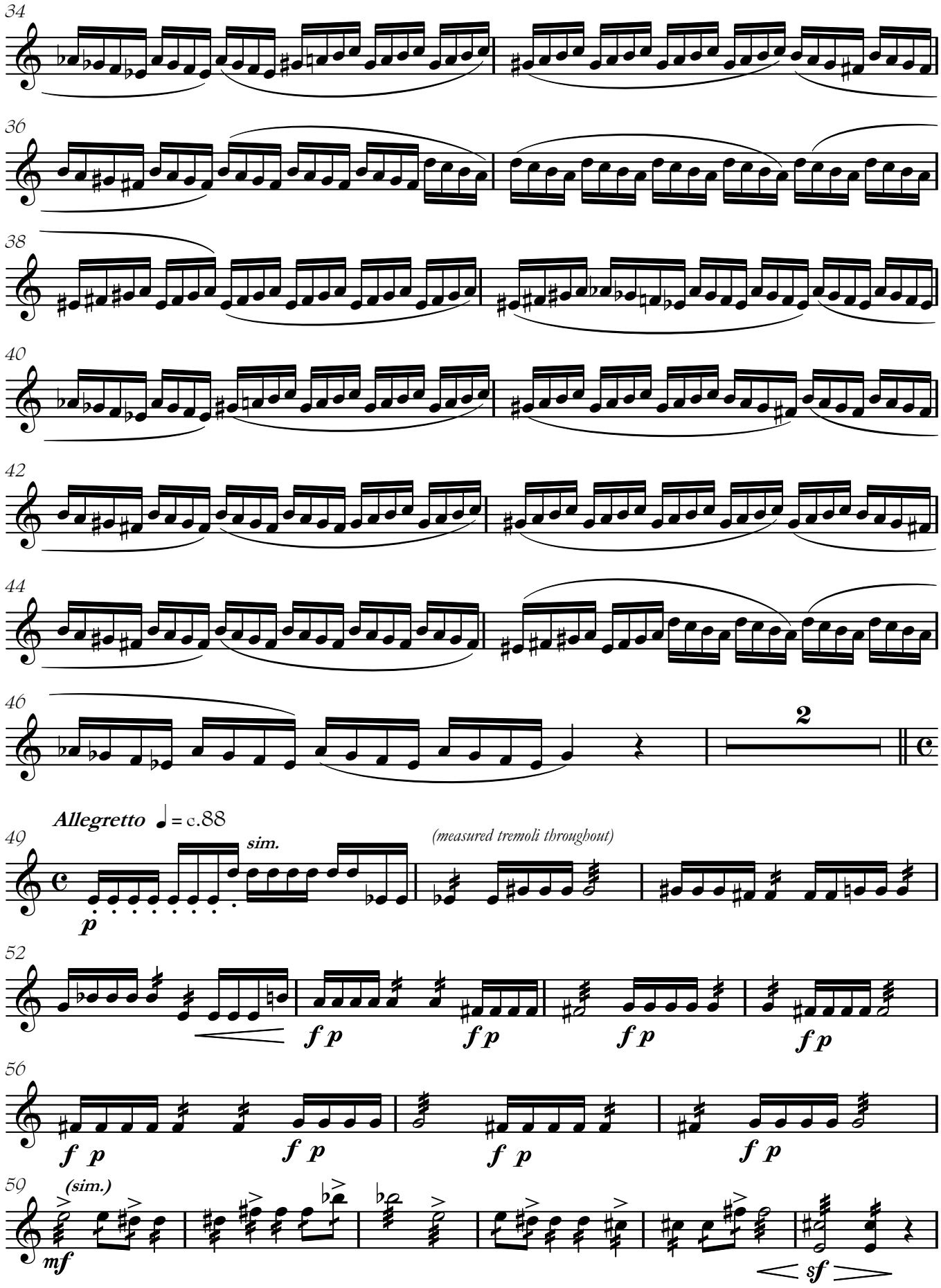
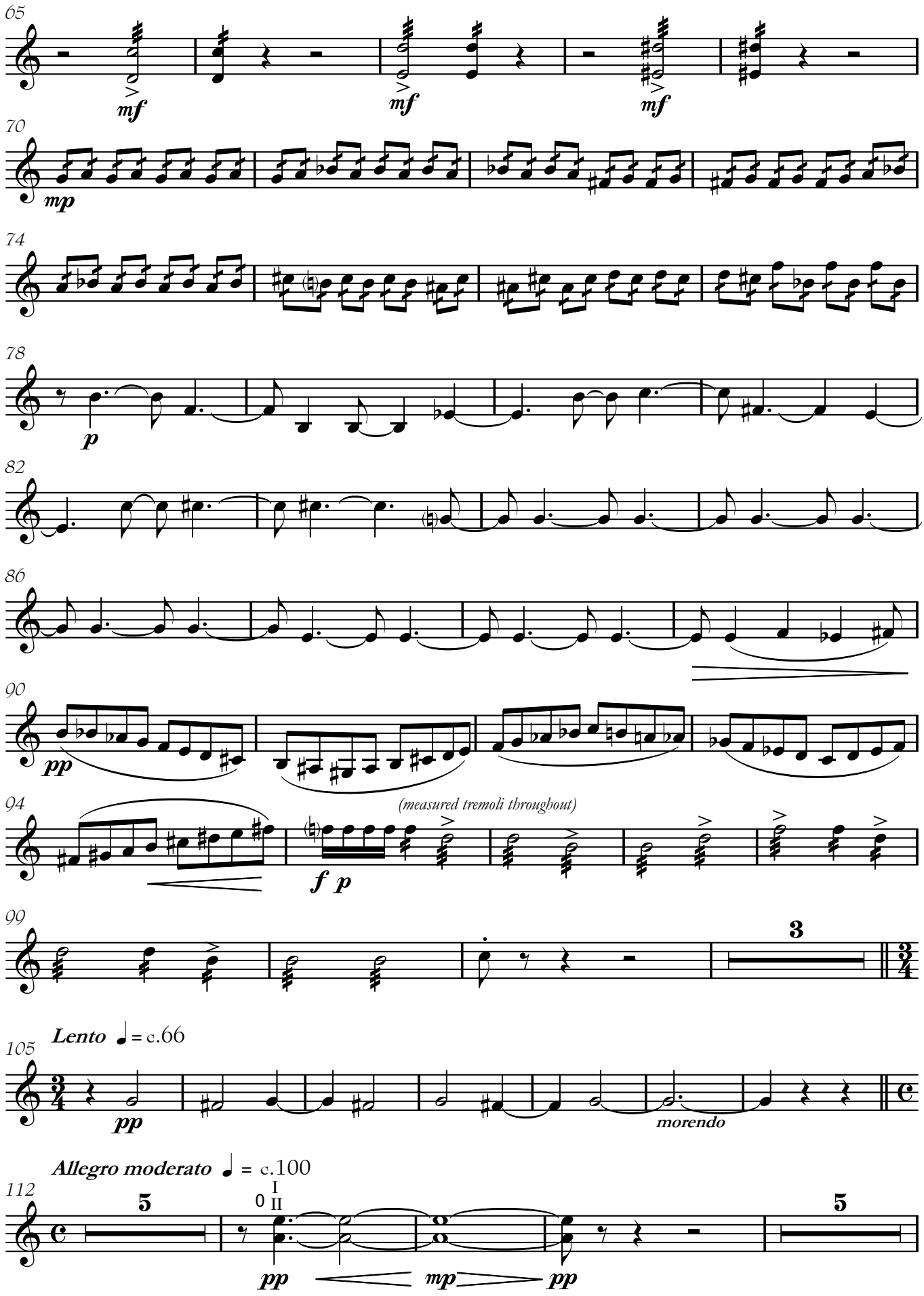
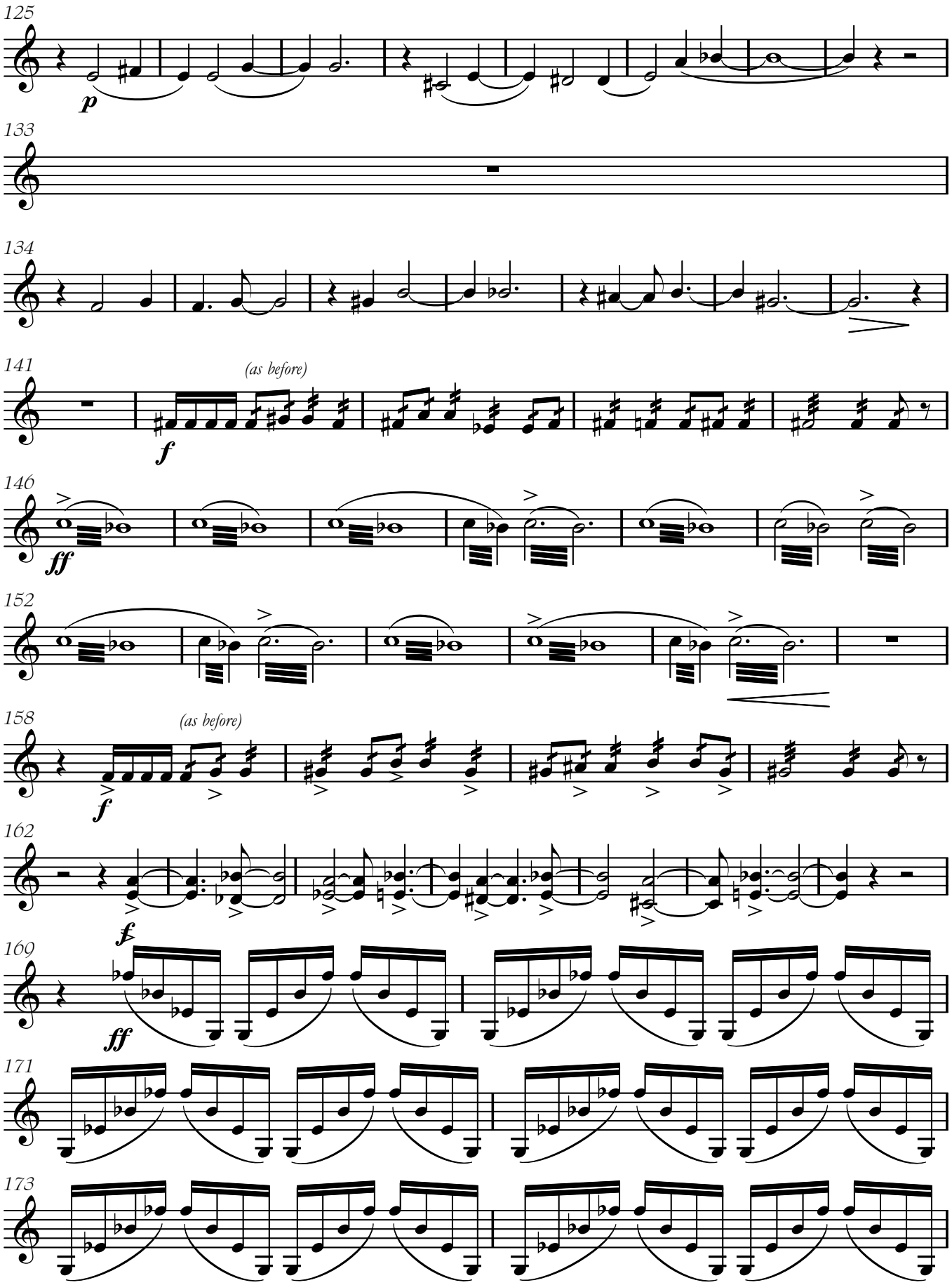
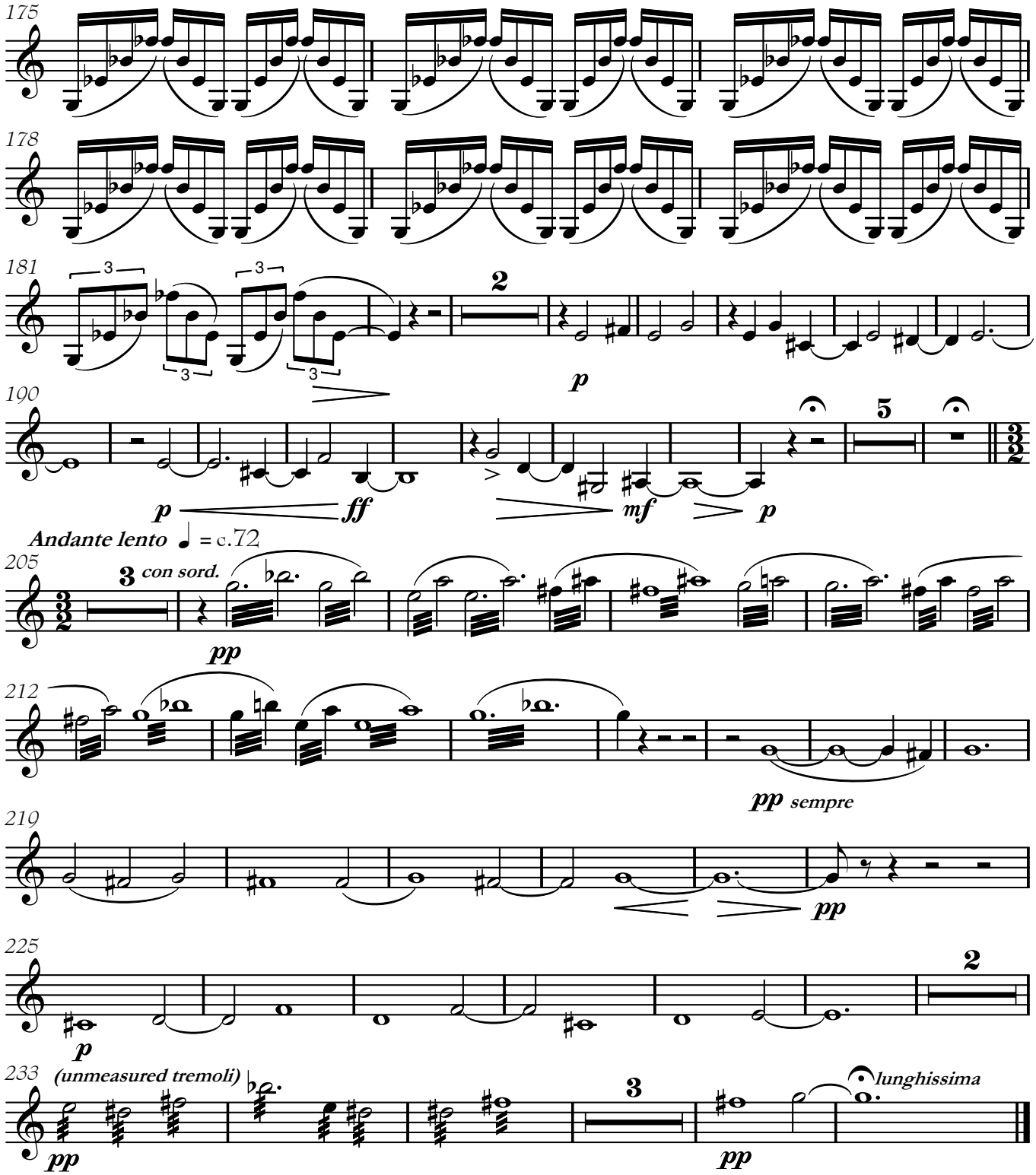

34
36
38
40
42
44
46
2
Allegretto ♩ = c.88
49
sim.
(measured tremoli throughout)
52
56
59
(sim.)


65
mf
mf
mf
70
mp
74
78
p
82
86
90
pp
94
(measured tremoli throughout)
f p
99
3
105
Lento ♩ = c.66
pp
morendo
112
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
5
I
II
pp
mp
pp
5


125
p
133
134
141
(as before)
f
146
ff
152
158
(as before)
f
162
ff
169
ff
171
173


175
178
181
3
3
3
2
p
190
p
ff
mf
p
5
Andante lento ♩ = c.72
205
3 con sord.
pp
212
pp sempre
219
pp
225
p
2
233
(unmeasured tremoli)
pp
3
pp
lunghissima

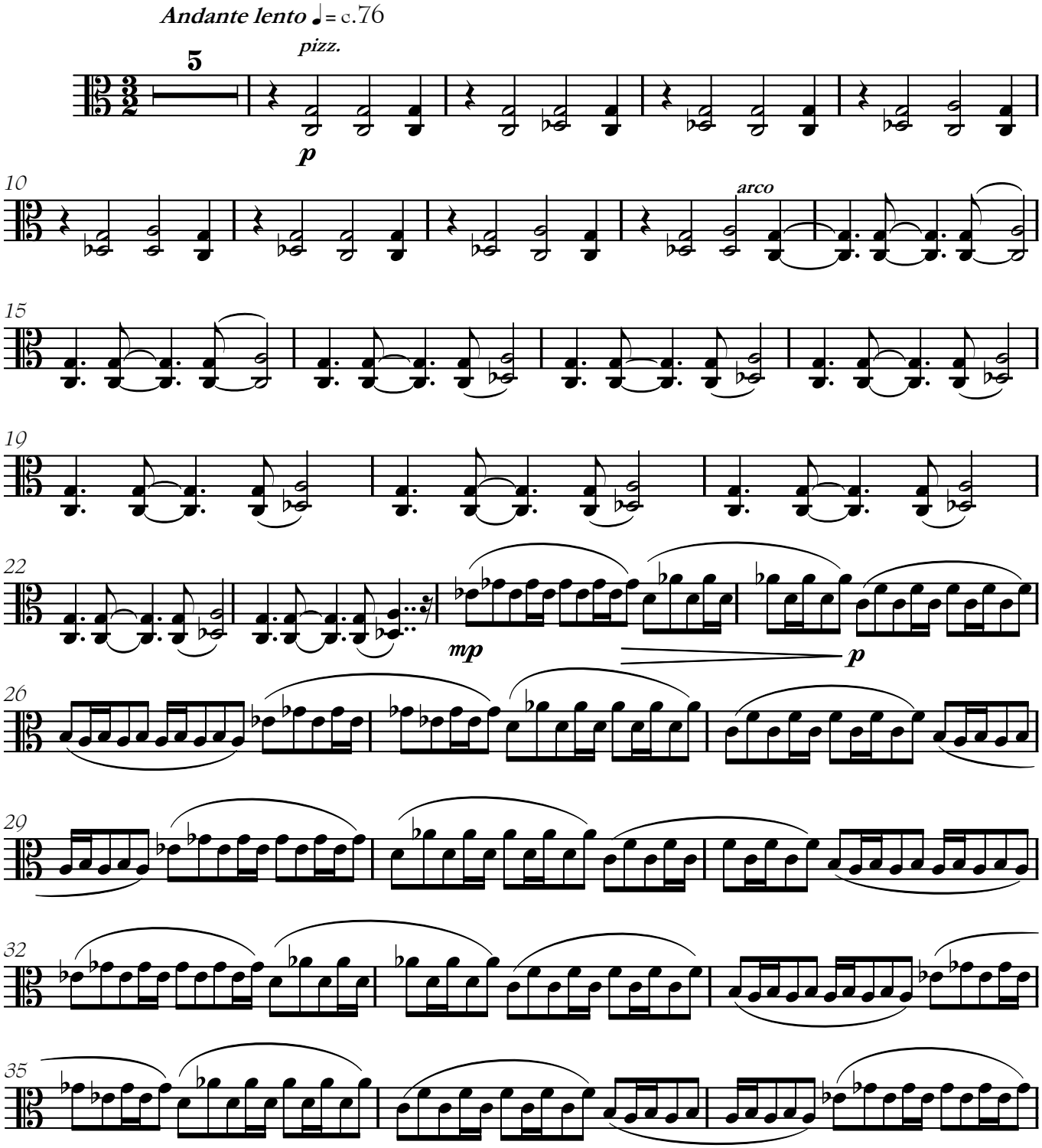
Viola

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo

(1921 - 2000)



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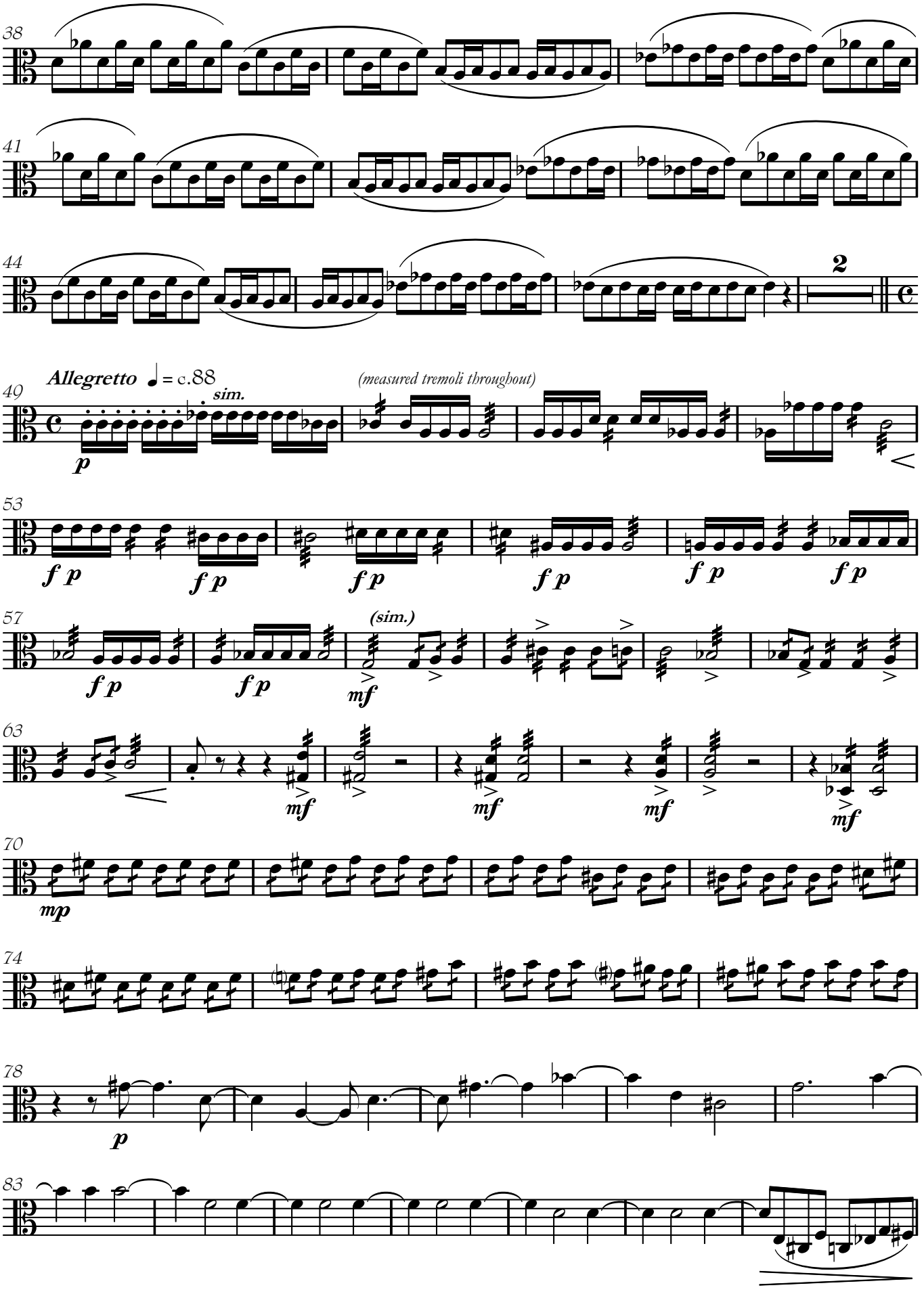
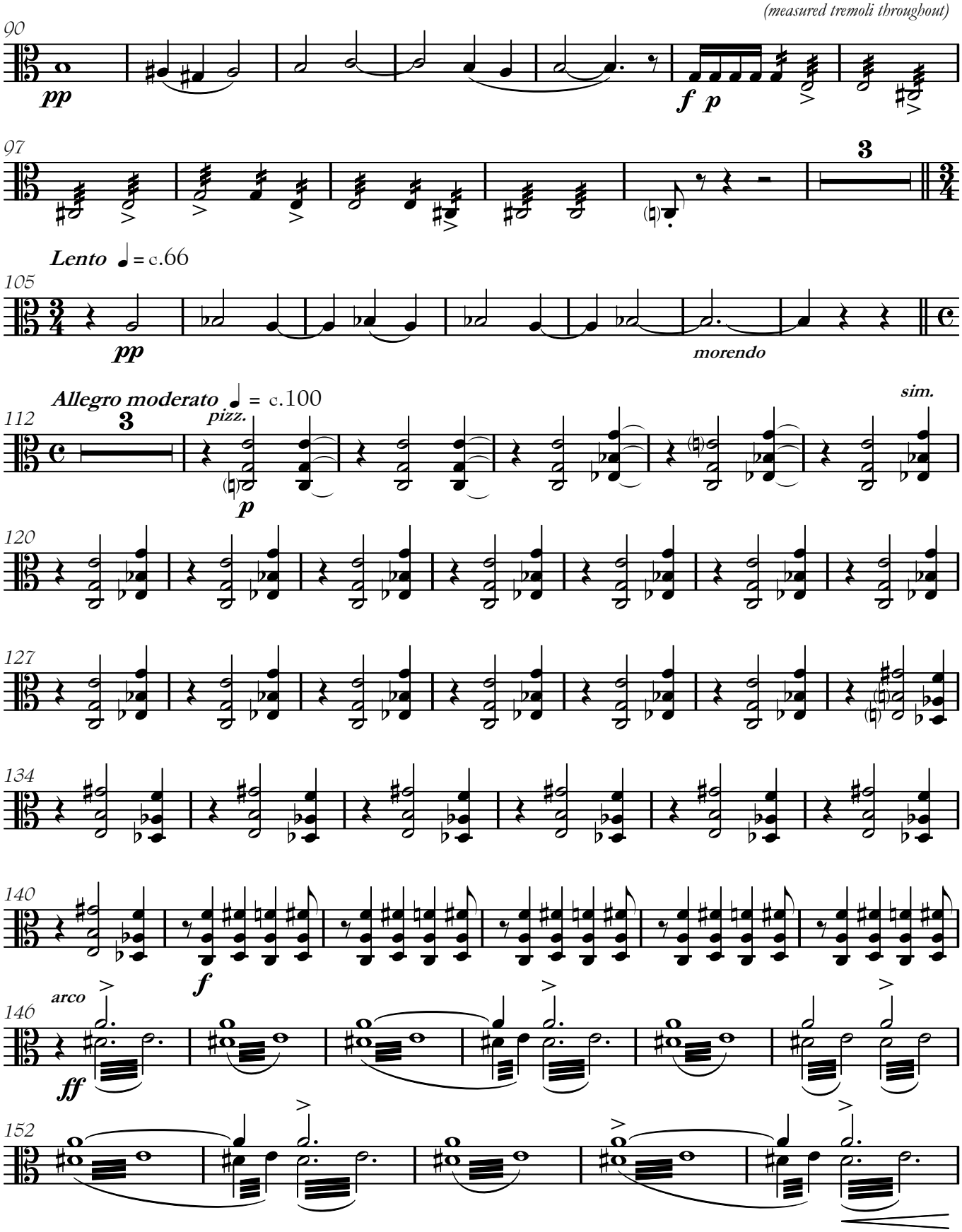
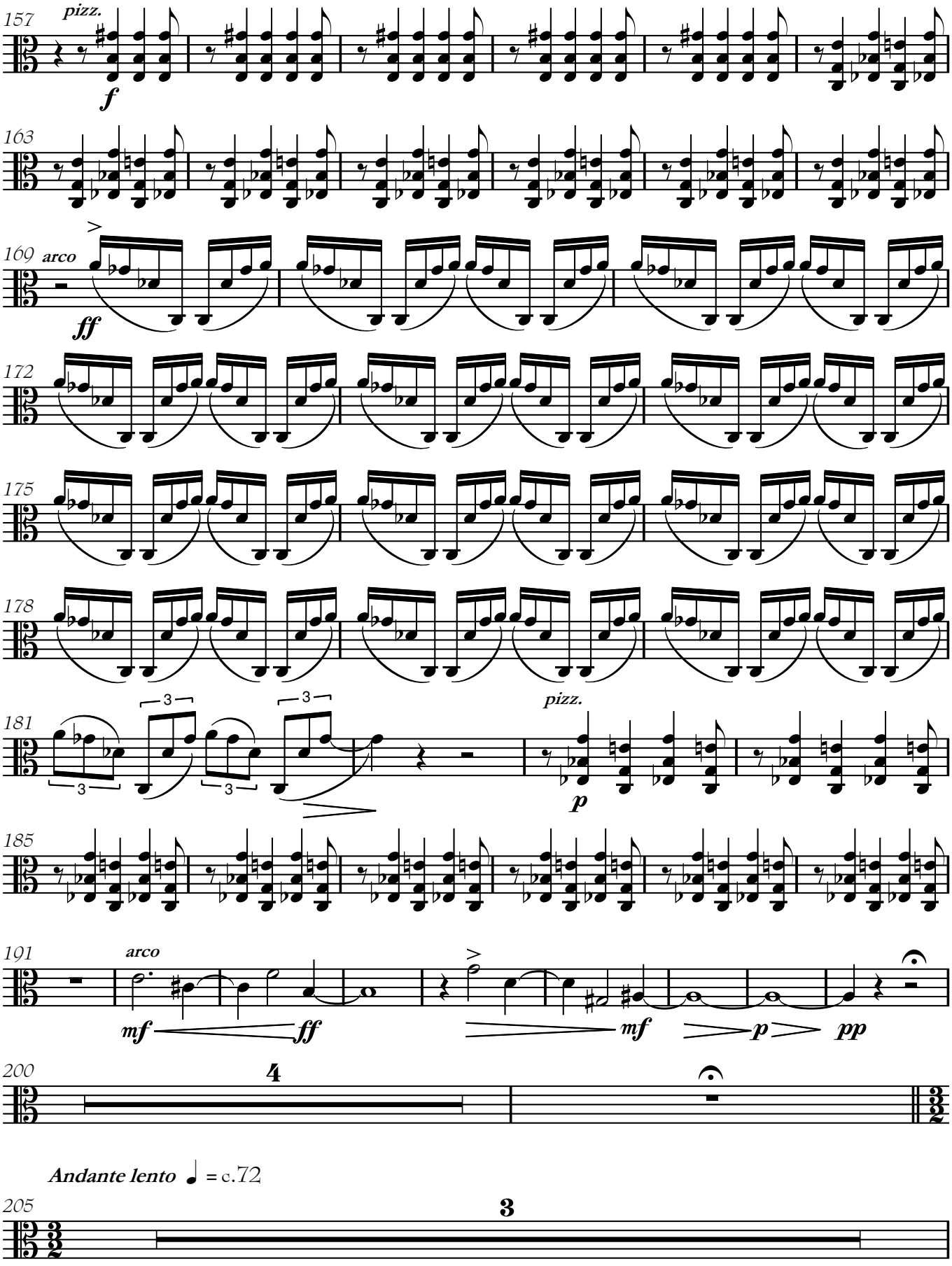
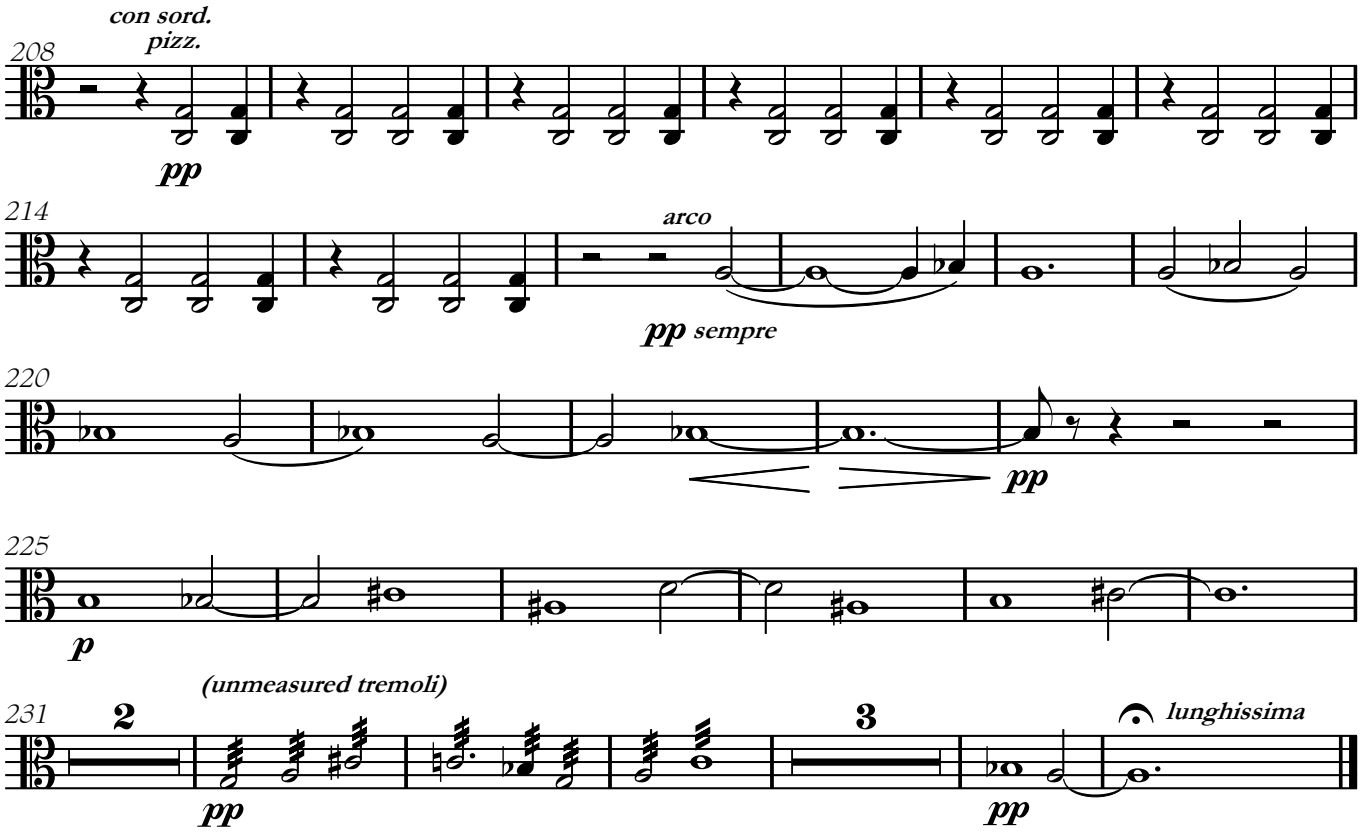

38
41
44
2
Allegretto ♩ = c.88
sim.
(measured tremoli throughout)
49
53
57
(sim.)
63
70
74
78
83


(measured tremoli throughout)
90
pp
f p
97
3
Lento ♩ = c.66
105
pp
morendo
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
112
3
pizz.
p
sim.
120
127
134
140
f
arco
146
ff
152


157
pizz.
f
163
169
arco
ff
172
175
178
181
3
3
pizz.
p
185
191
arco
mf
ff
mf
p
pp
200
4
Andante lento ♩ = c.72
205
3


con sord.
pizz.
208
pp
214
arco
pp sempre
220
pp
225
p
231
2
(unmeasured tremoli)
pp
3
pp
lunghissima

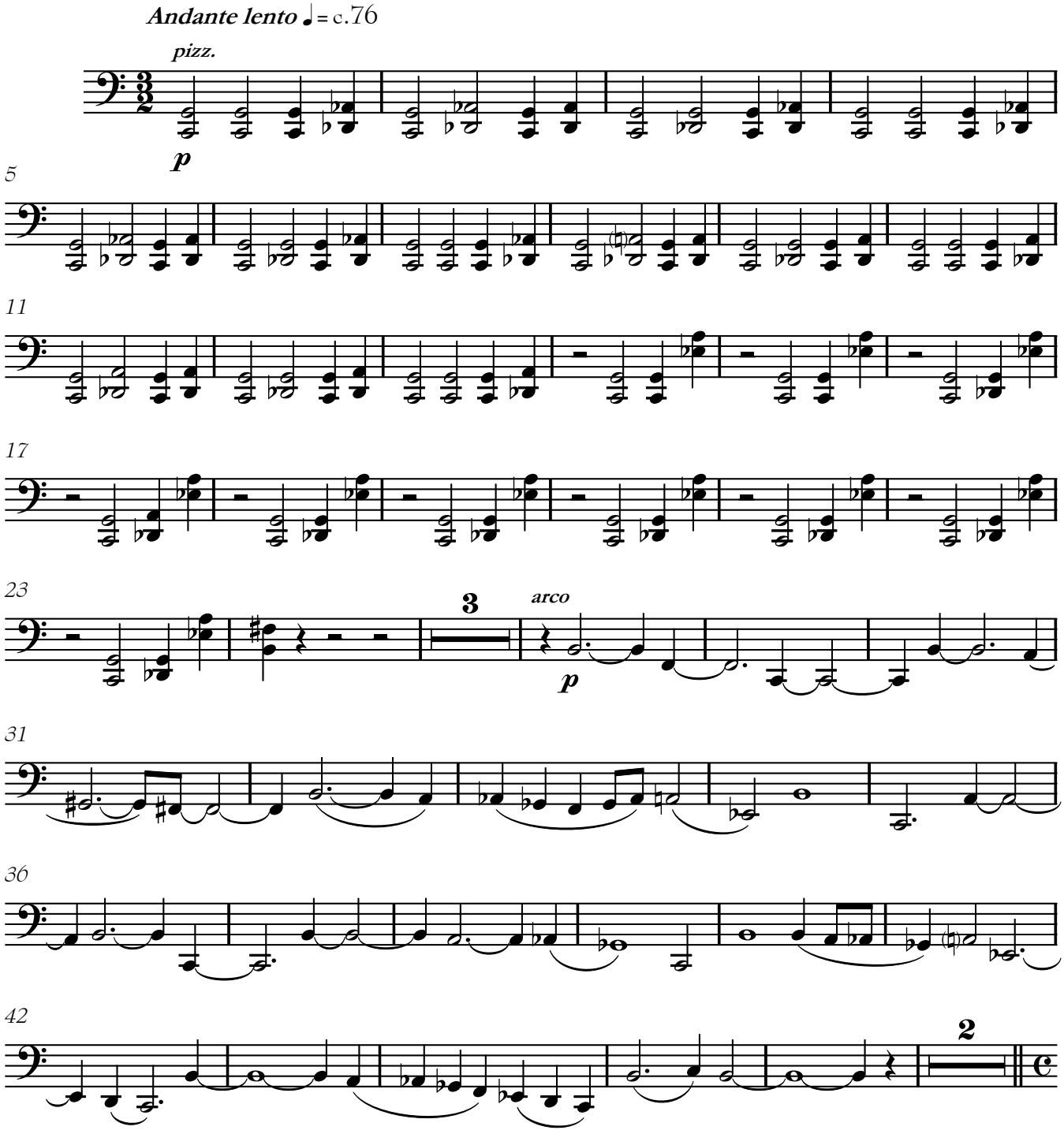
'Cello

CANTO DE LA SIBILA

Op. 135

Leonard Salzedo

(1921 - 2000)



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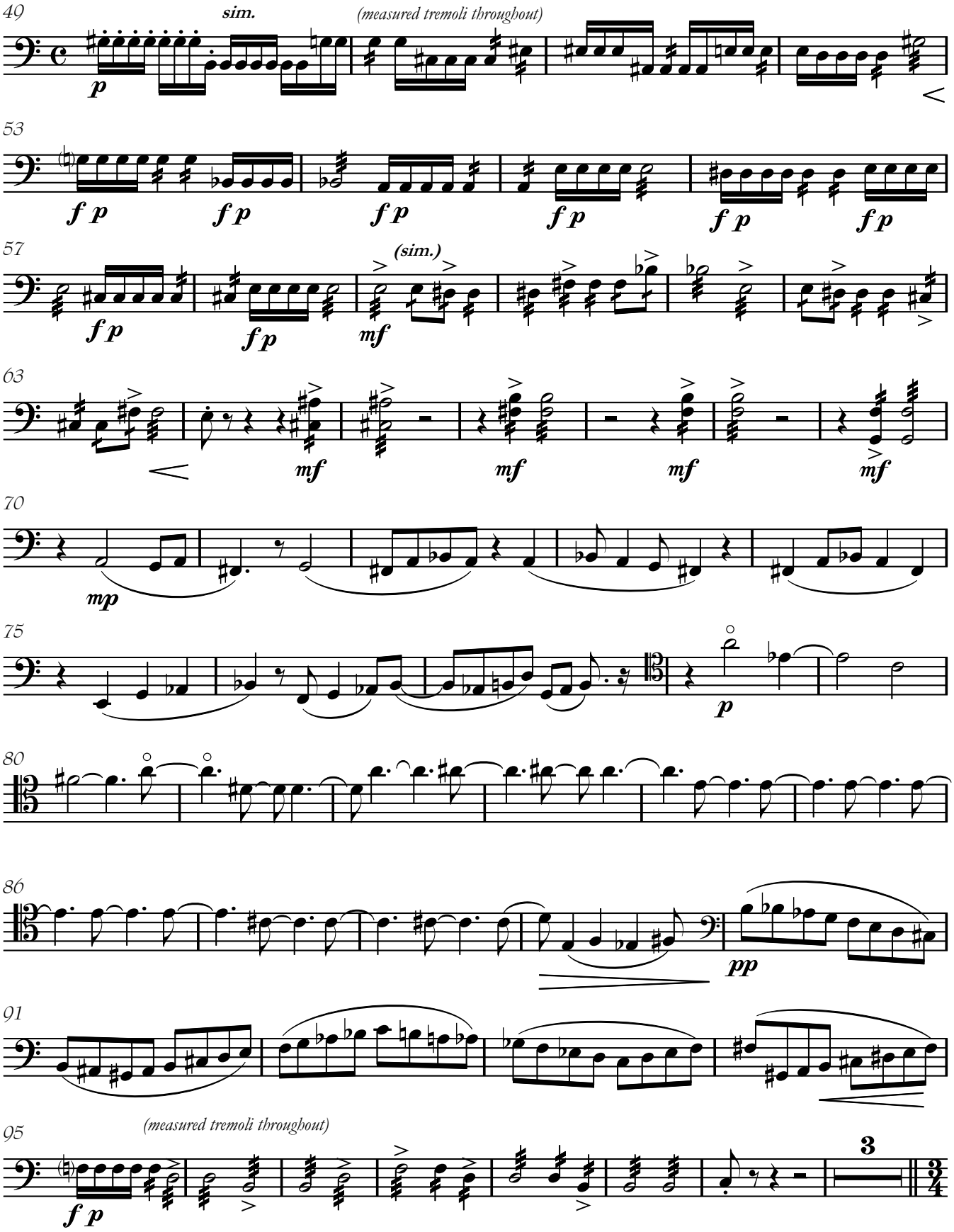
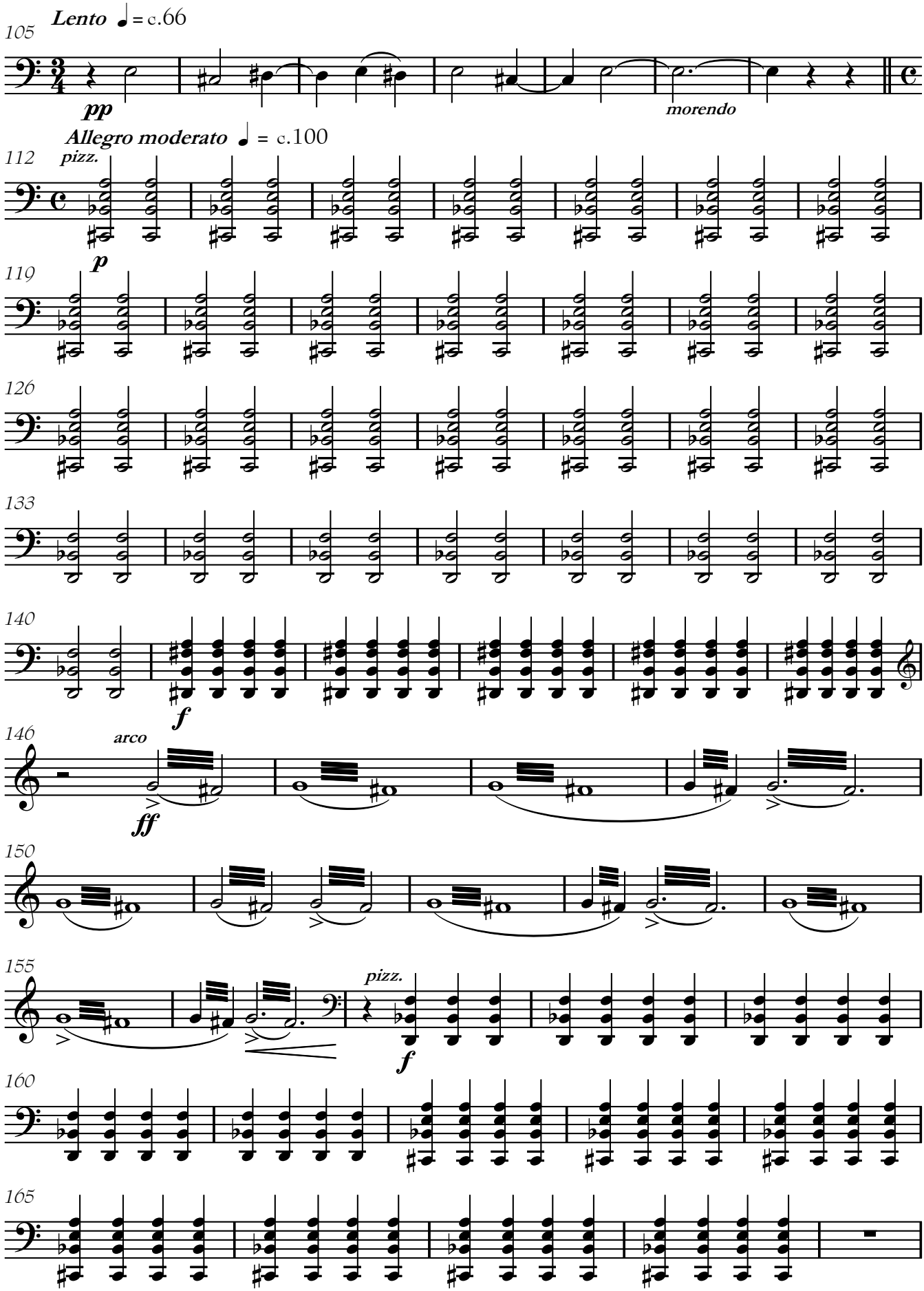
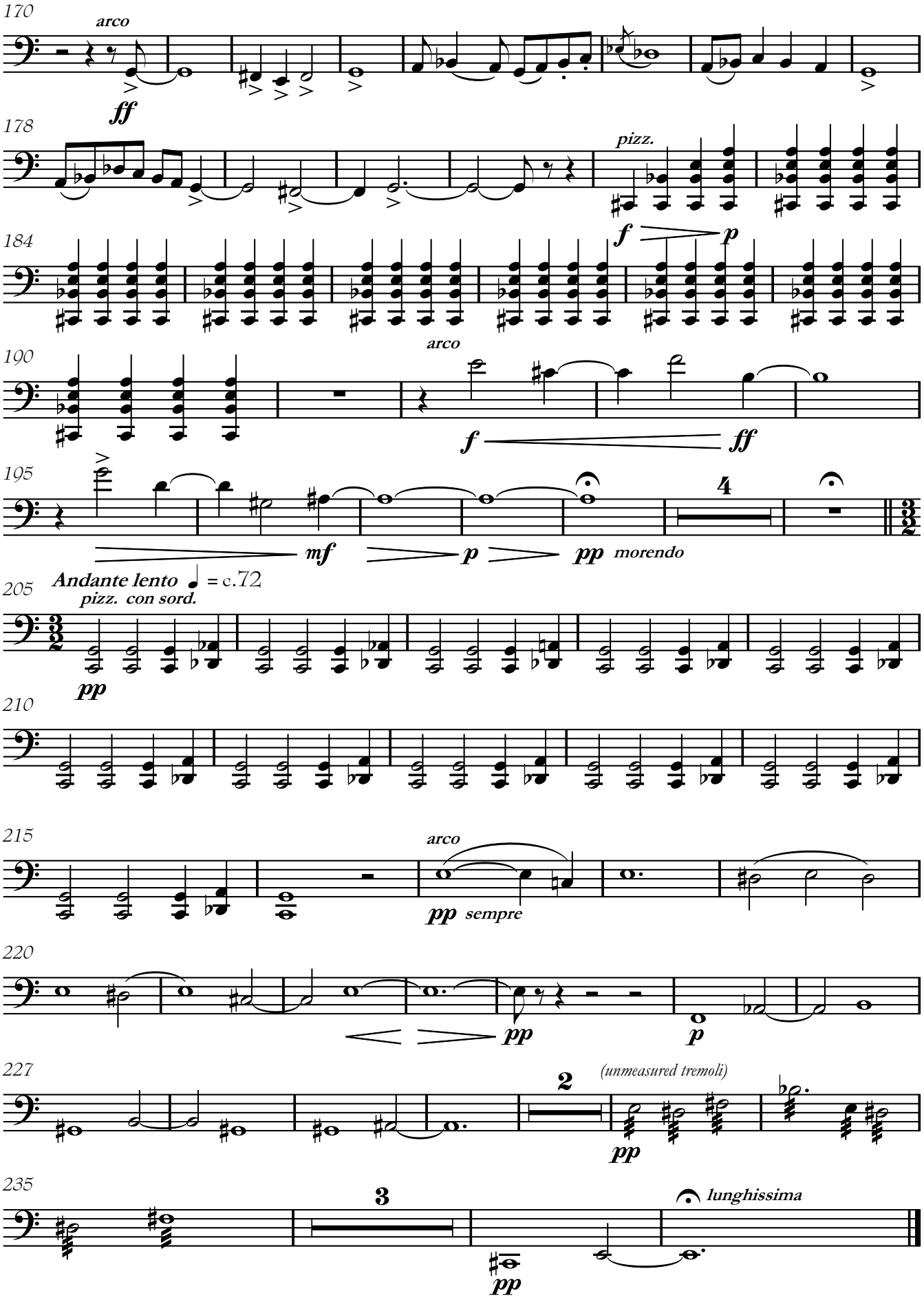
'Cello

Allegretto ♩ = c.88




Lento ♩ = c.66
105
pp
morendo
Allegro moderato ♩ = c.100
112
pizz.
p
119
126
133
140
f
146
arco
ff
150
155
pizz.
f
160
165

'Cello


170
arco
ff
178
pizz.
184
f
p
190
arco
f
ff
195
mf
p
pp morendo
4
Andante lento ♩ = c.72
205
pizz. con sord.
pp
210
215
arco
pp sempre
220
pp
p
227
2
(unmeasured tremoli)
pp
235
3
lunghissima
pp