Christopher Best

Moonlighting

Homages quasi una fantasia

Op39 no.3

for Bb clarinet and piano

Clarinet in Bb

2023

Performance notes

1. The performers should carefully observe instructions regarding pauses after movements. Where marked attacca, there should be only the briefest of breaks; where marked lunga, there should be a substantial pause, and where no marking is given, there should be a short silence as though mentally preparing the next phrase.

2. Movements 3 and 5 may be swapped around as an alternative playing order.

4. The homage to Schoenberg section of the third movement (bars 87-111 and 153-177) follows Schoenberg's practice of giving all notes accidentals. Elsewhere, accidentals should be assumed to last for the duration of the bar, though cautionaries are generously deployed.

Composer's Note

Whilst drawing extensively upon the slow movement of **Beethoven's Sonata Opus 27. No. 2**, this work pays additional homage to Igor Stravinsky (Petrouchka, The Rite of Spring and The Symphony of Psalms), to Béla Bartók (Music for Strings, Percussion and Celeste), to Arnold Schoenberg (Piano Suite Opus 25), to Steve Reich (Piano Phase), to Arvo Pärt (Spiegel Im Spiegel) and briefly to Serge Prokofiev (Symphony No. 5). While the individual voices of these composers can be heard in the music, *Moonlighting* remains essentially an expression of my own aesthetic.

Duration

c.31 minutes

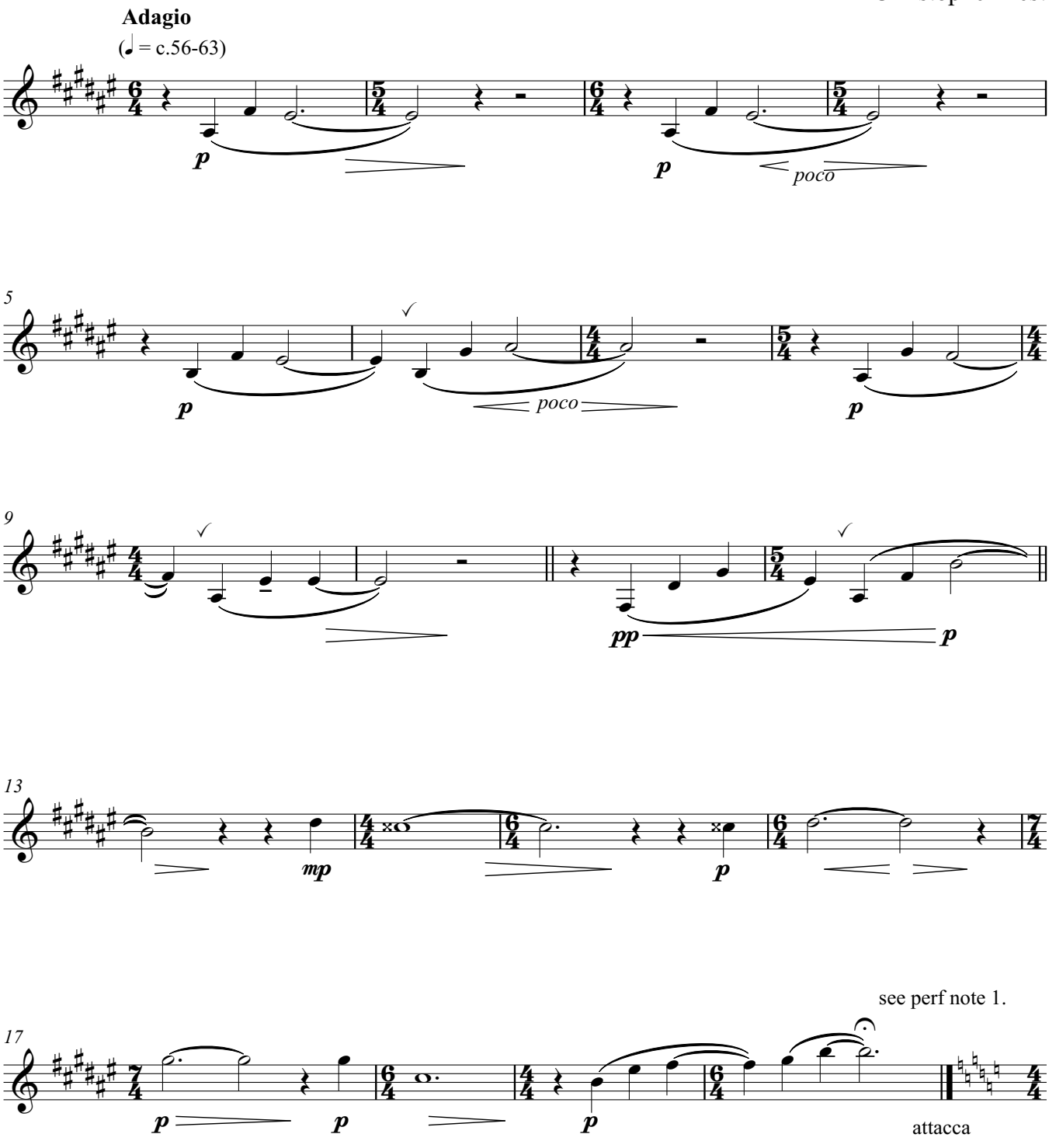
Clarinet in B♭

Moonlighting

Homages quasi una fantasia
for B♭ clarinet and piano

1: Mondschein (auf stillem Wasser)

Christopher Best



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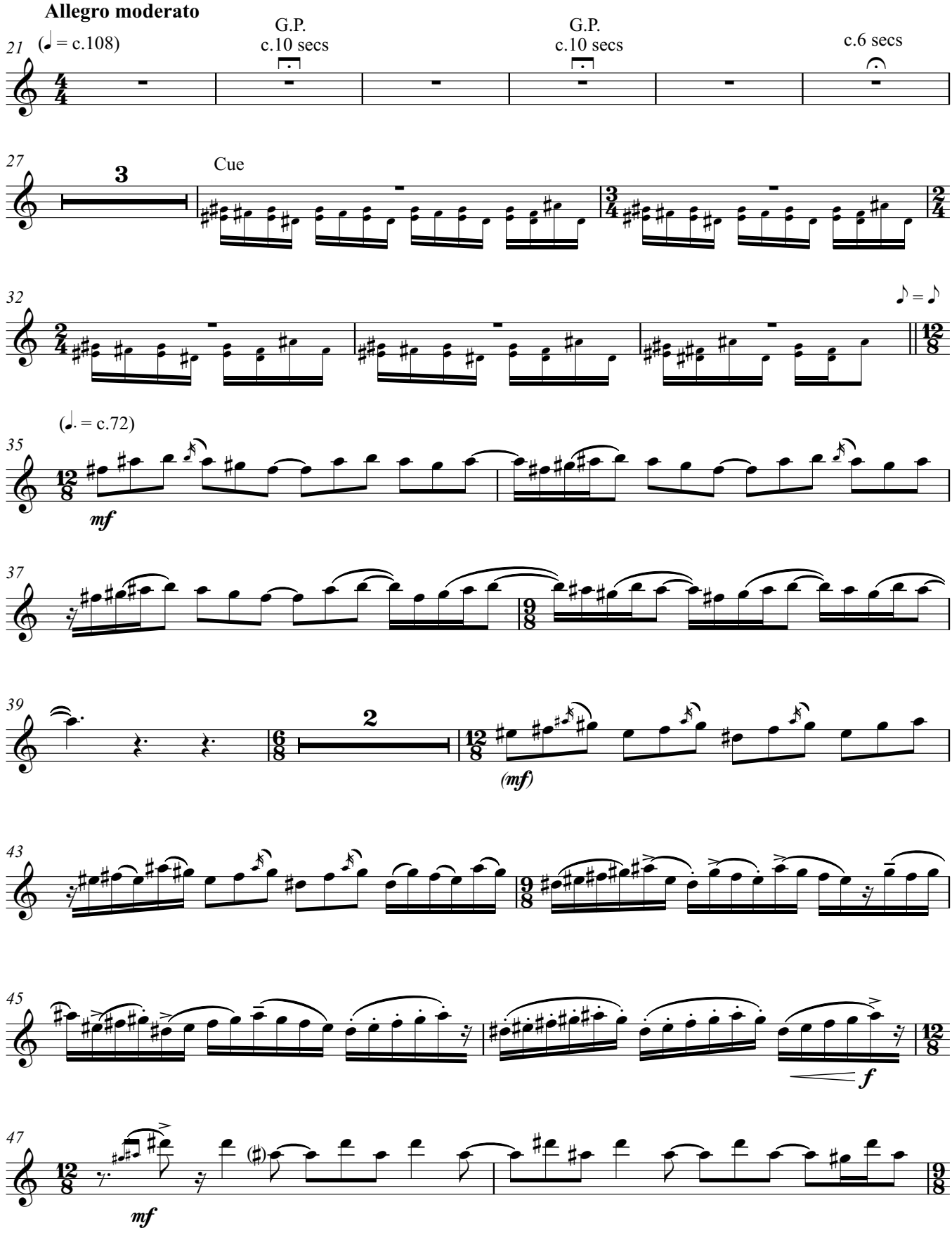
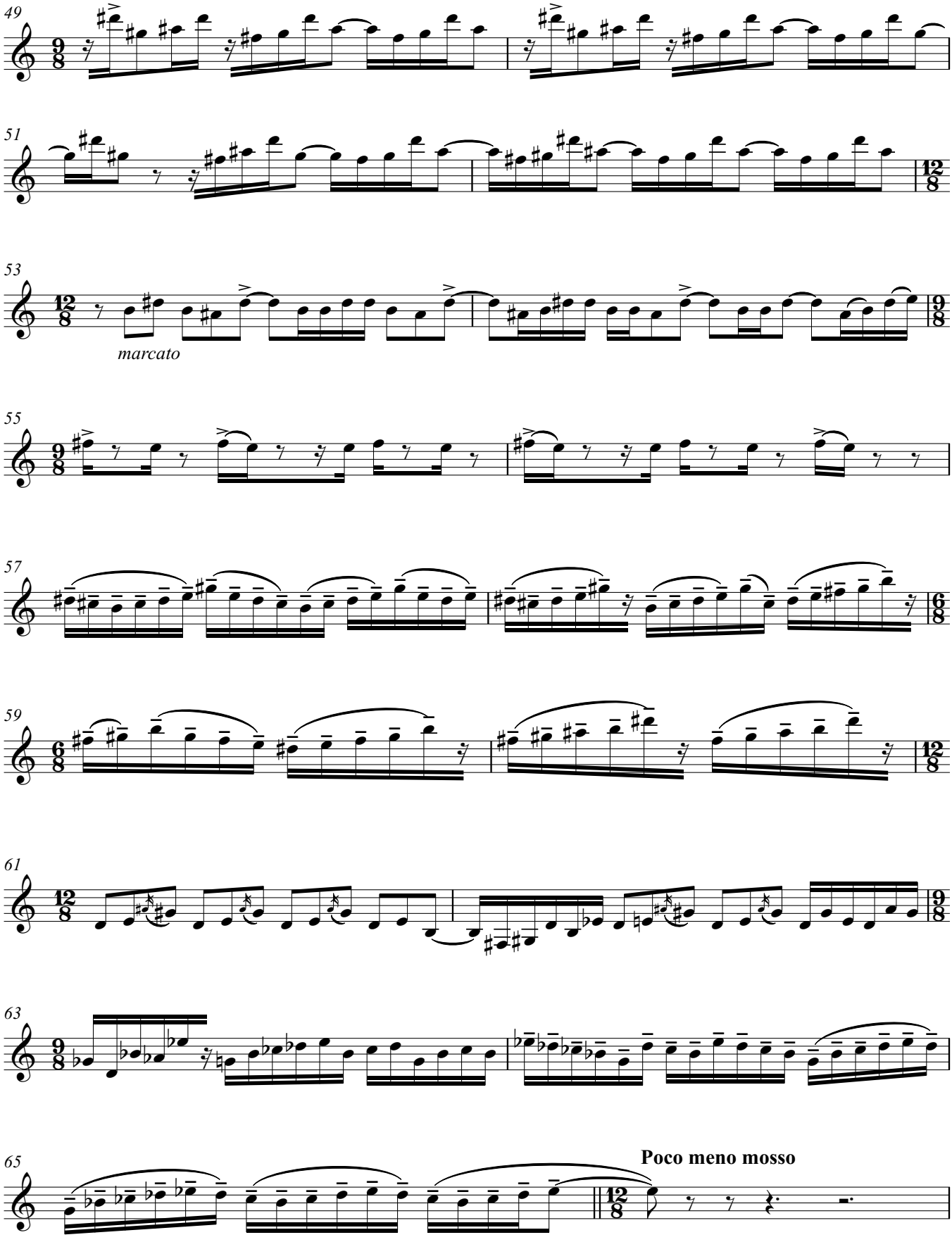
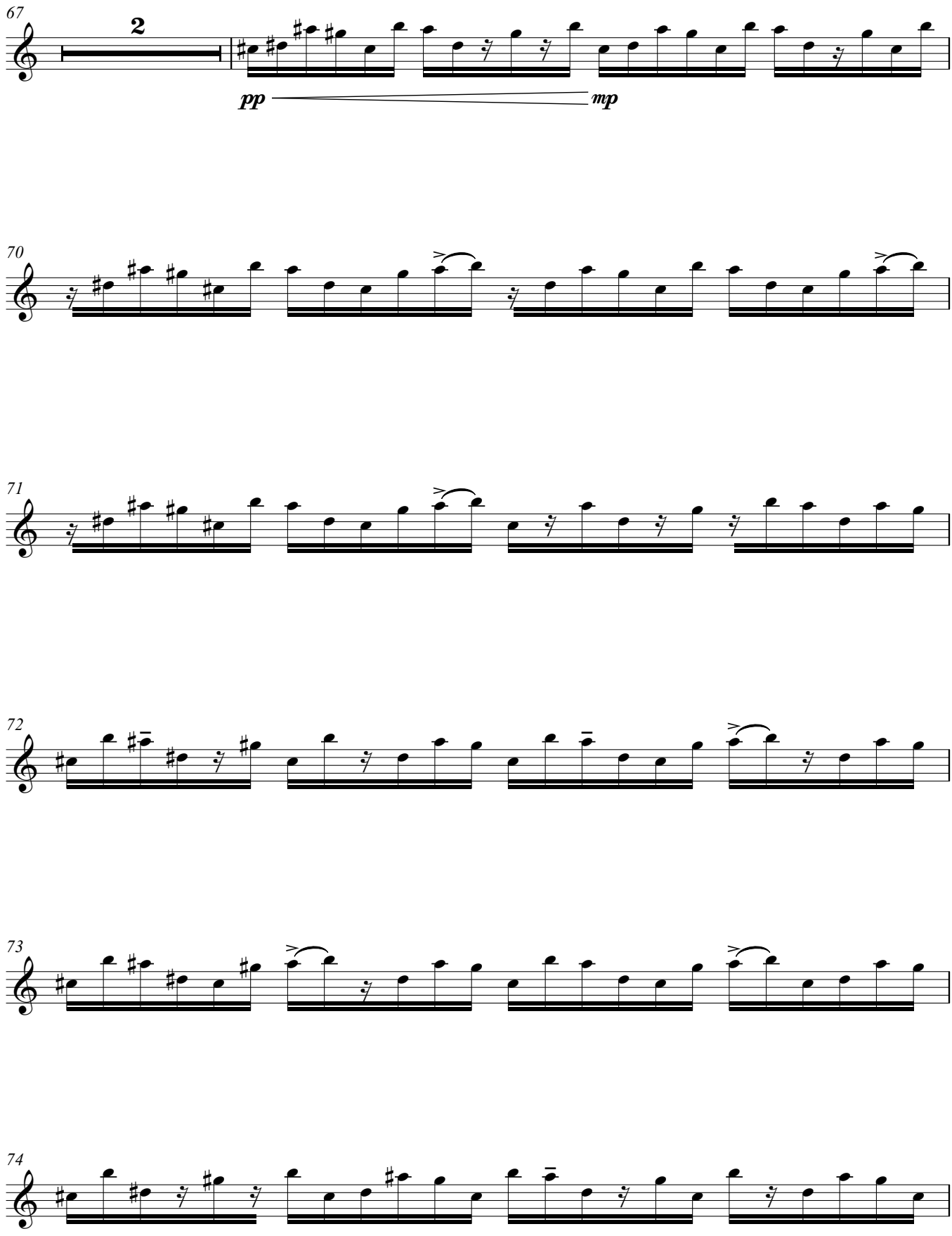
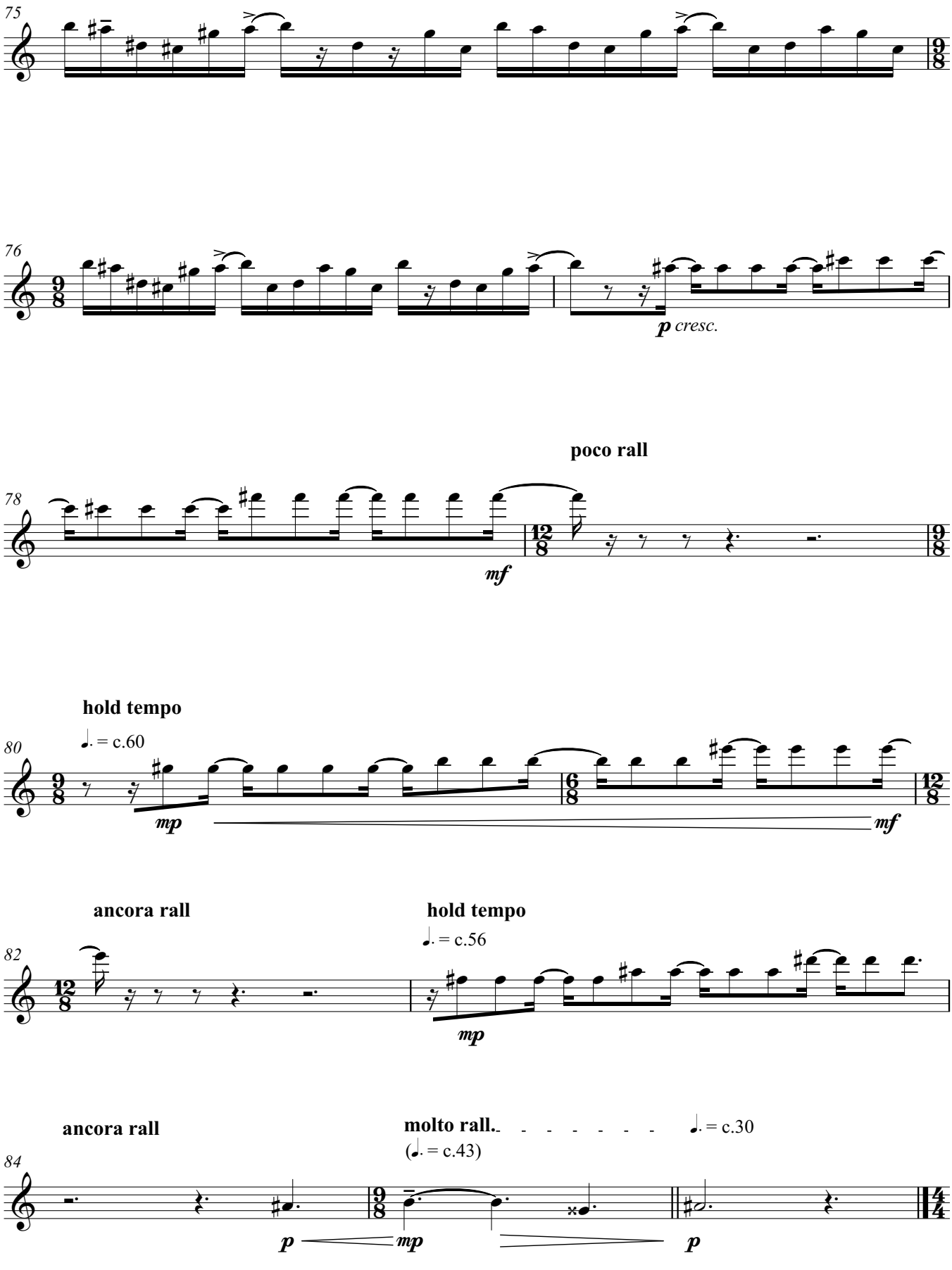
Clarinet in B♭

2: Moon-Phase
(after Reich)



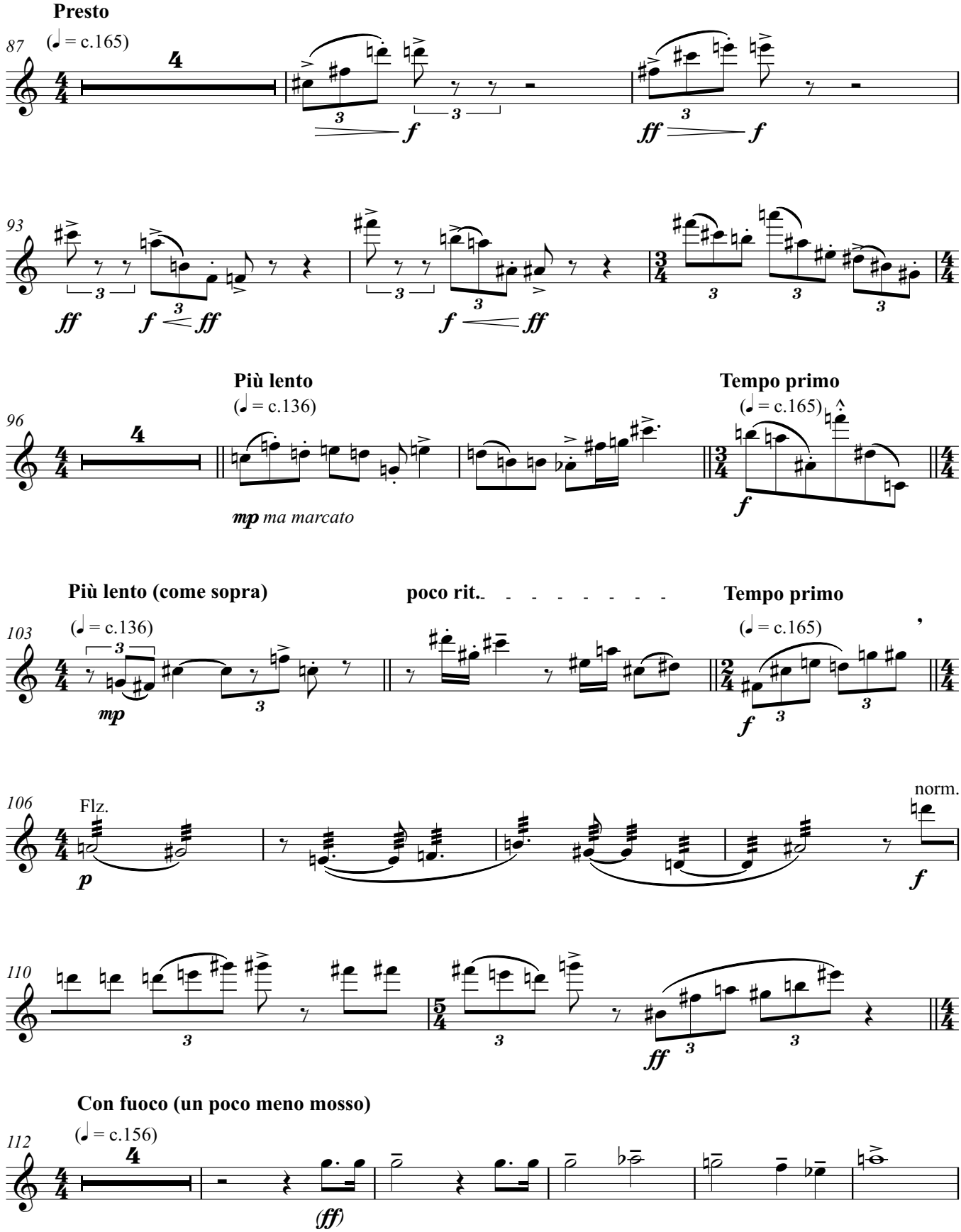

49
51
53
marcato
55
57
59
61
63
65
Poco meno mosso

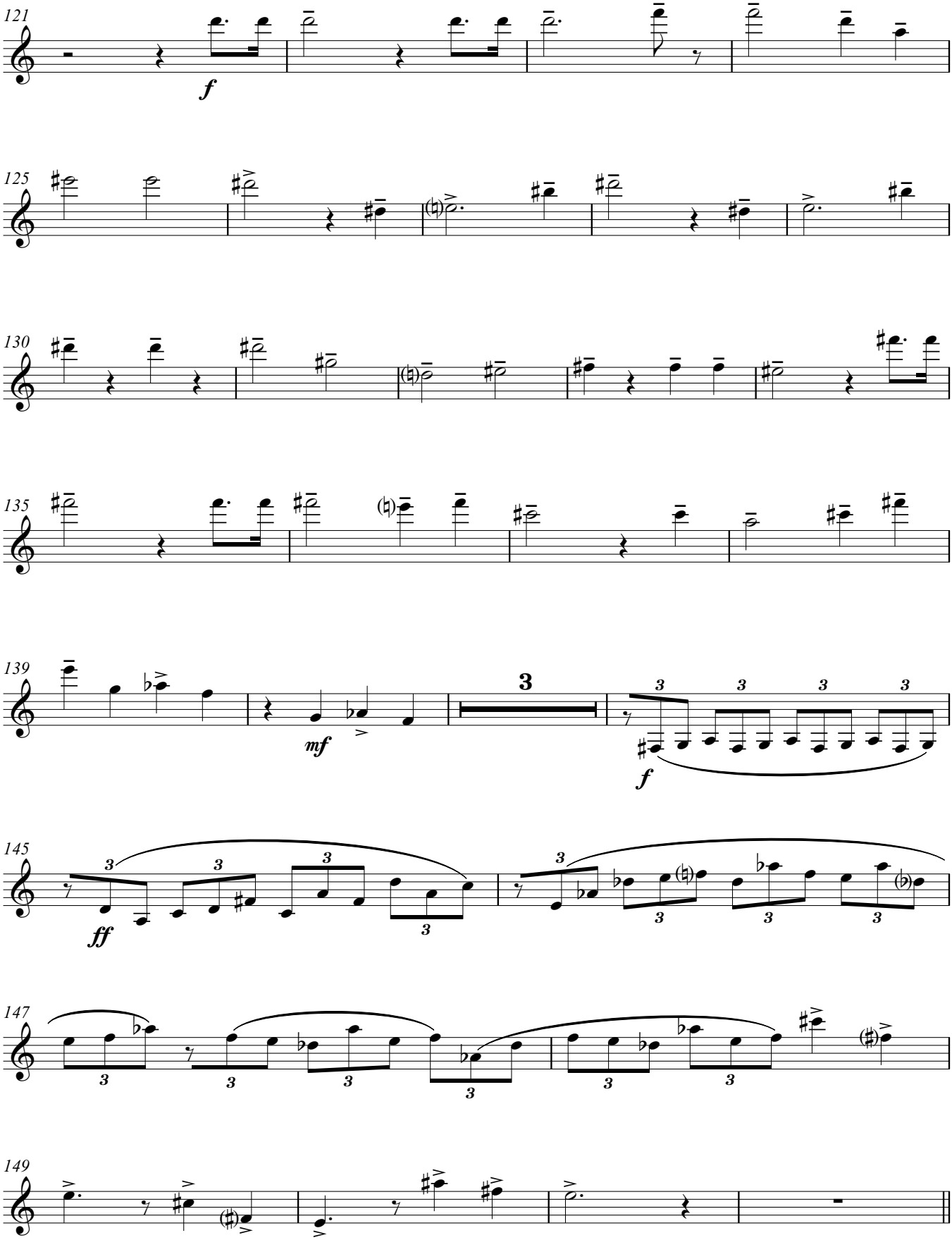

67
2
pp
mp
70
71
72
73
74

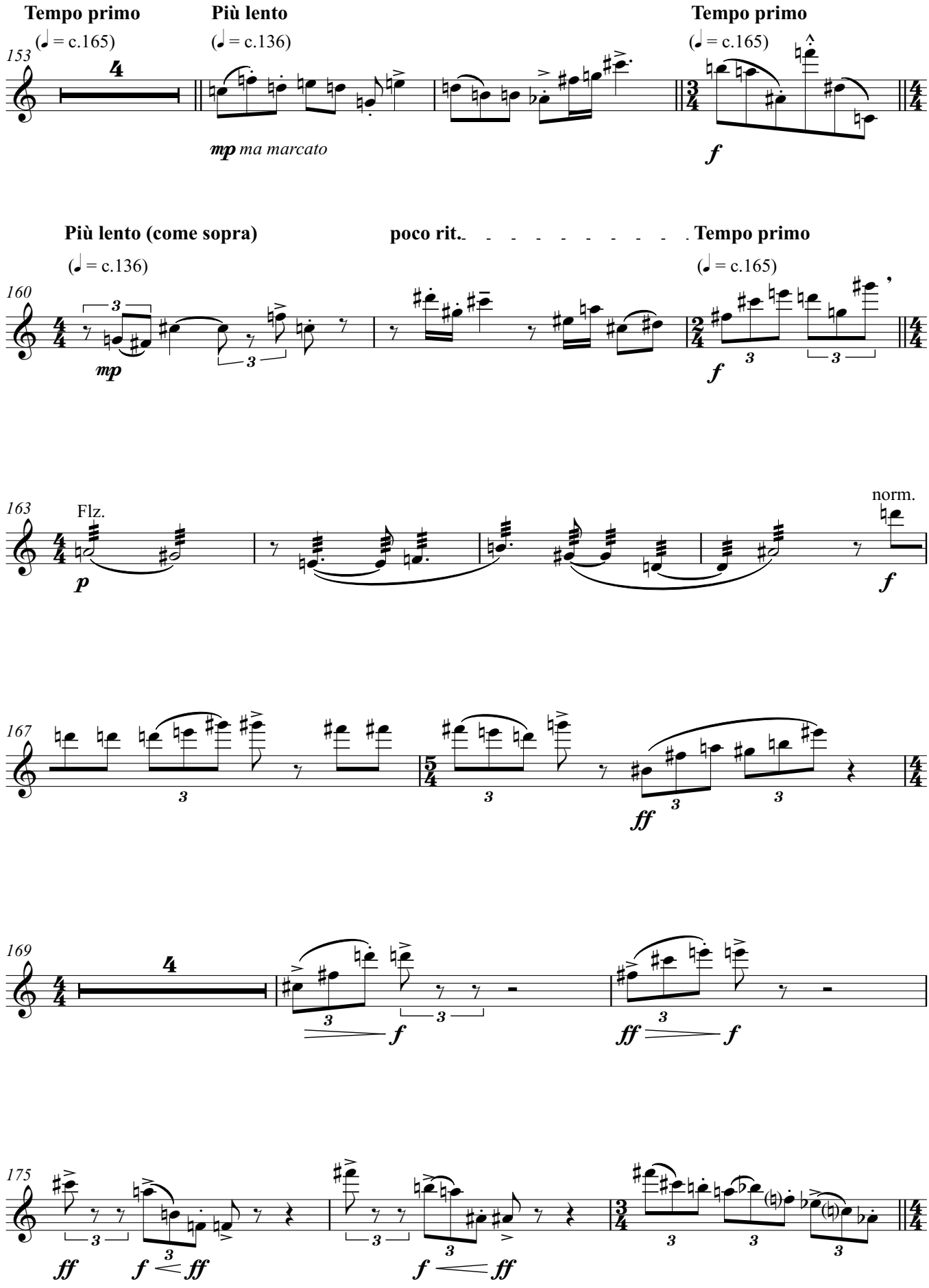

75
76
p cresc.
poco rall
78
mf
hold tempo
♩. = c.60
80
mp
mf
ancora rall
hold tempo
♩. = c.56
82
mp
ancora rall
molto rall.
♩. = c.30
(♩. = c.43)
84
p
mp
p

Clarinet in B♭

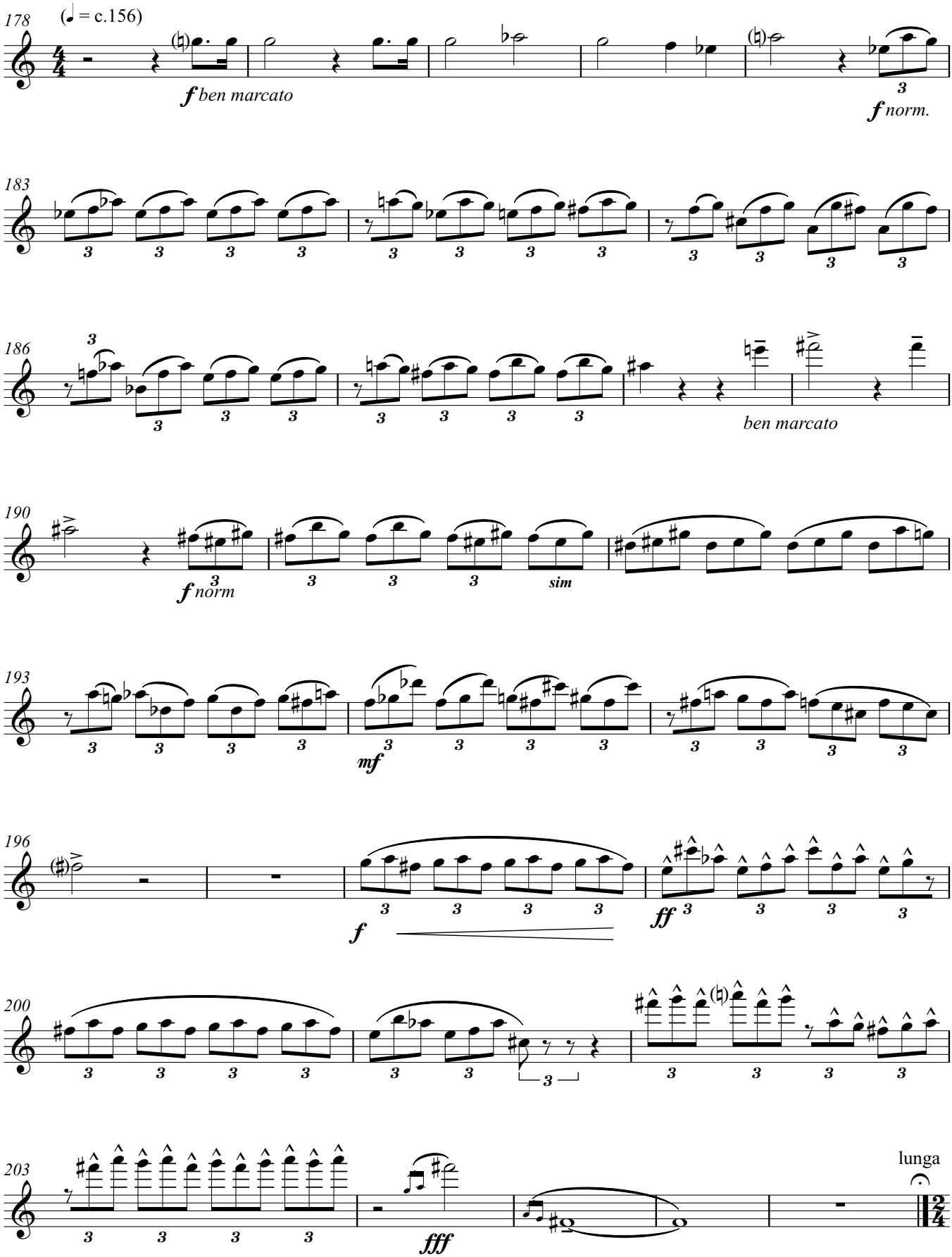
3: Serial Lunacy
(after Schoenberg)




121
f
125
130
135
139
mf
3
f
145
ff
147
149


Tempo primo
(♩ = c.165)
153
Più lento
(♩ = c.136)
mp ma marcato
Tempo primo
(♩ = c.165)
f
Più lento (come sopra)
(♩ = c.136)
160
mp
poco rit.
Tempo primo
(♩ = c.165)
f
163
Flz.
p
norm.
f
167
ff
169
f
ff
f
175
ff
f
ff
f
ff

Con fuoco (un poco meno mosso)

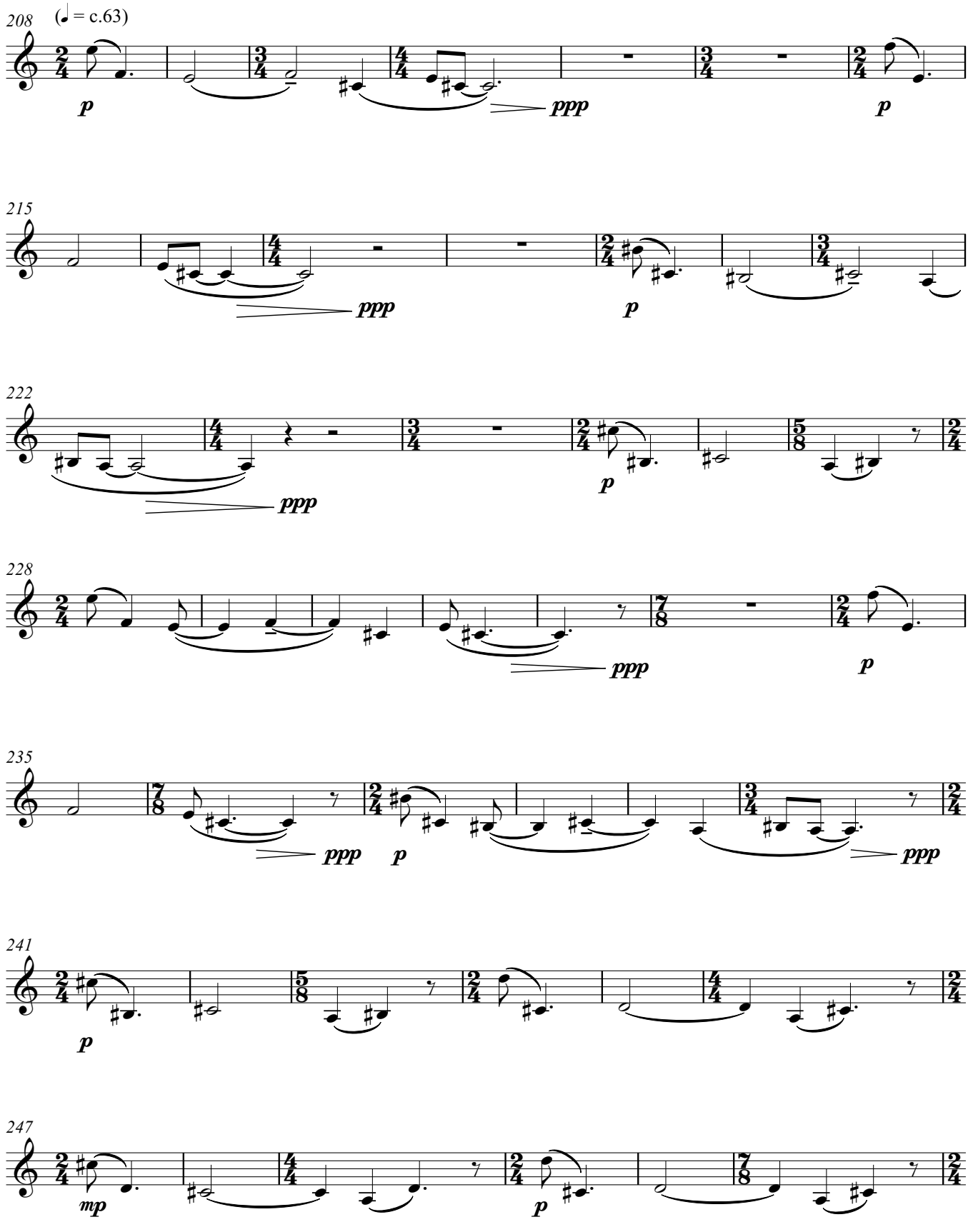


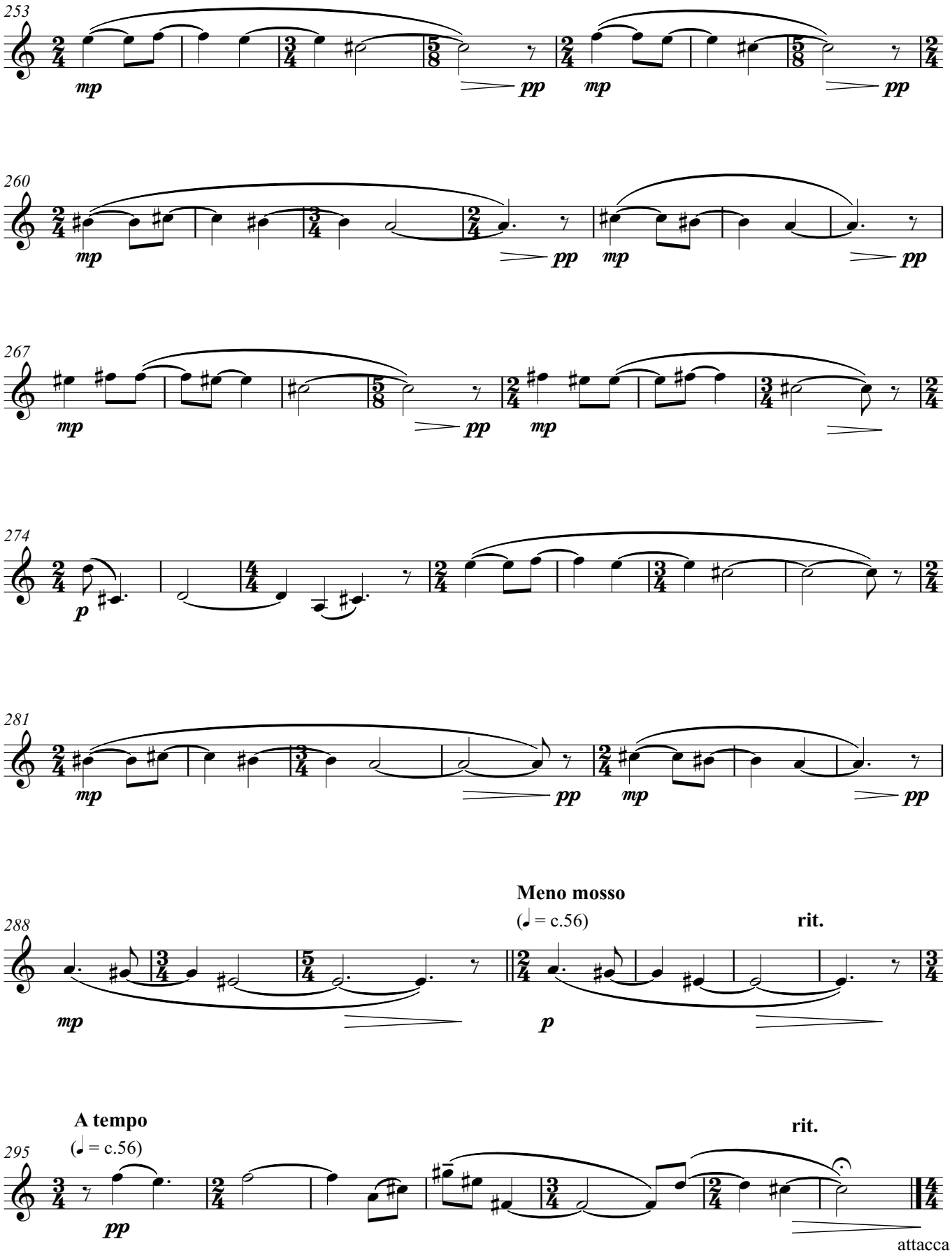
Clarinet in B♭

4: Solar Winds in Lunar Hollows
(Ventus Per Clavium)

Adagio ma non troppo

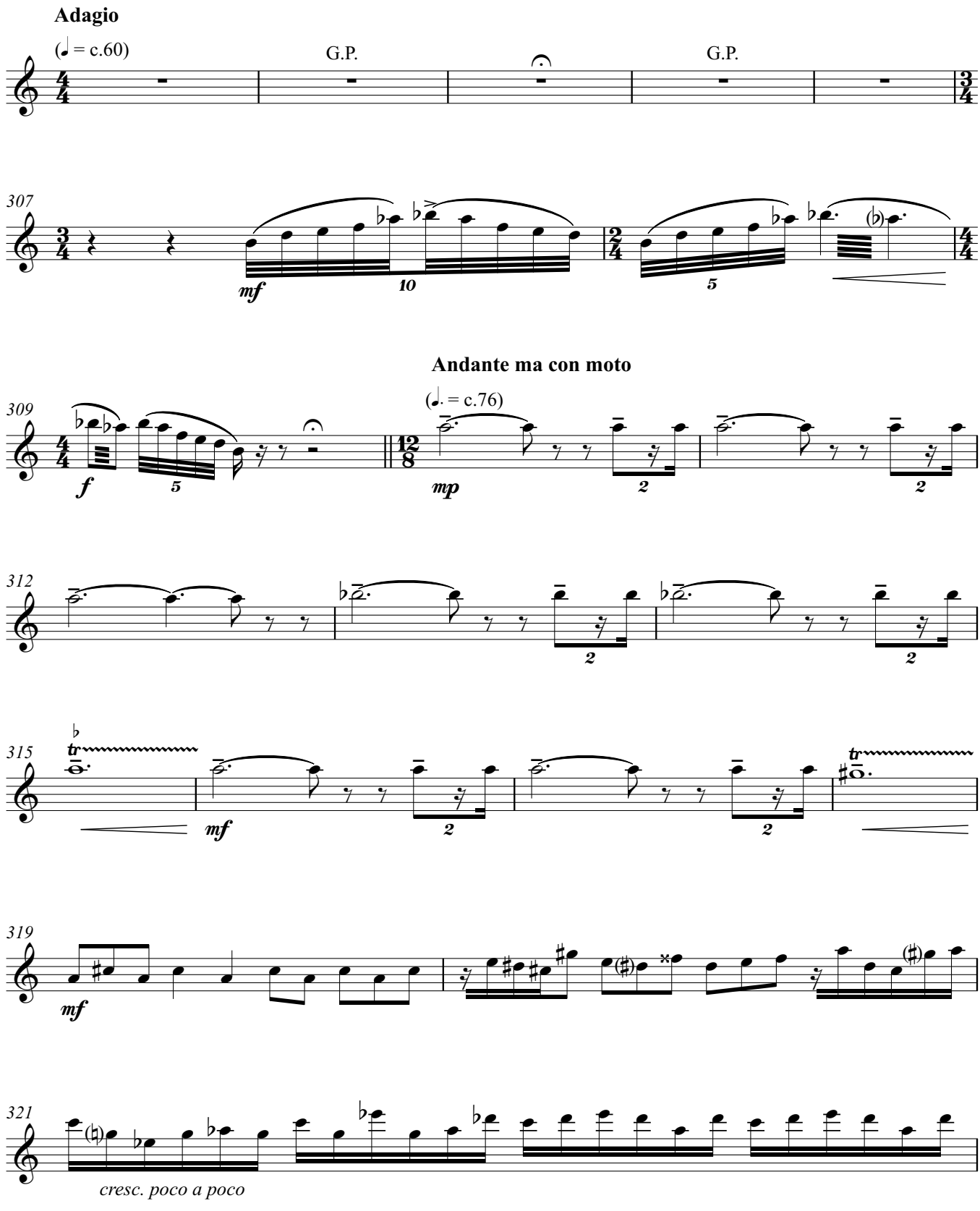
(♩ = c.63)

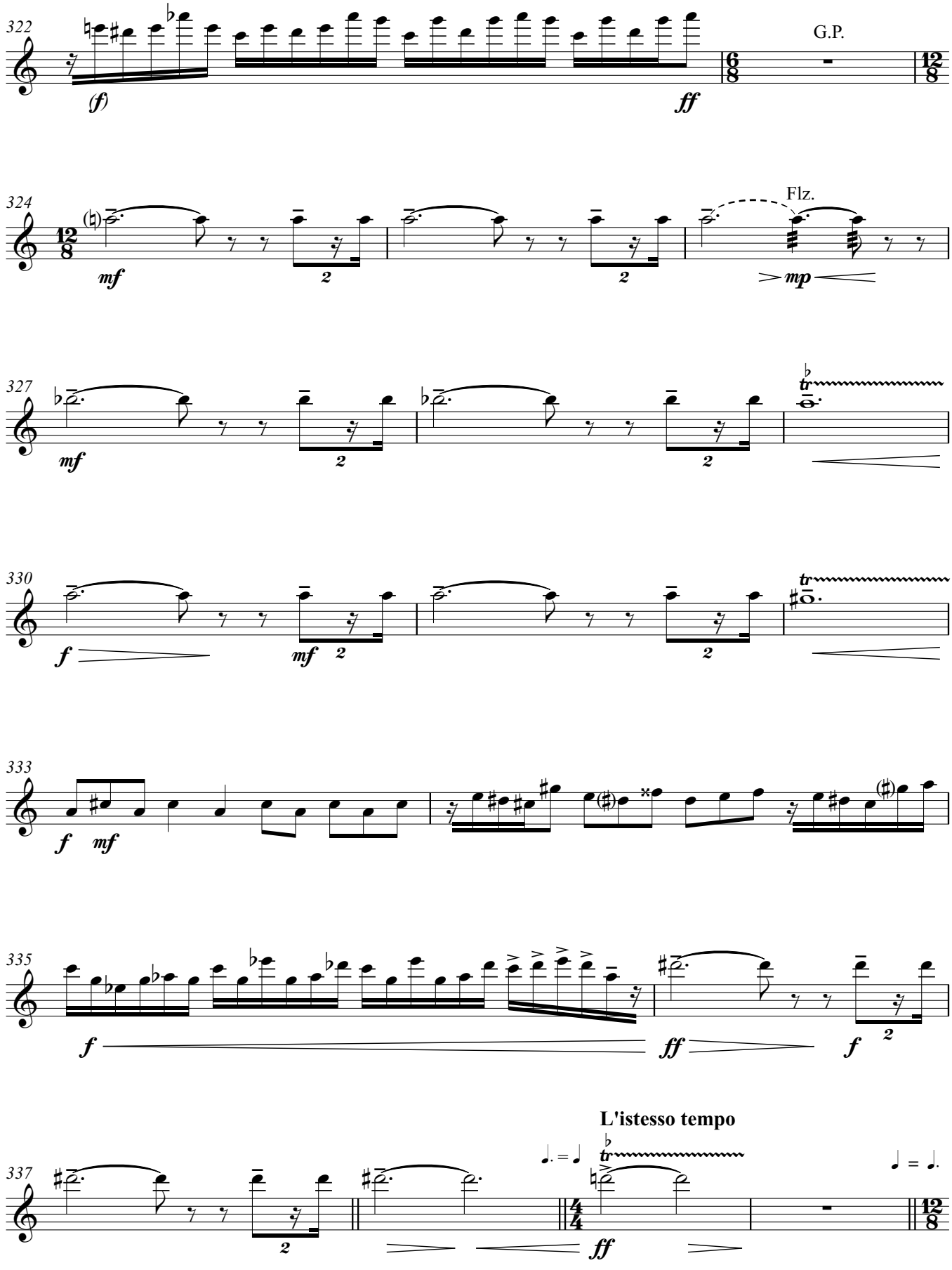


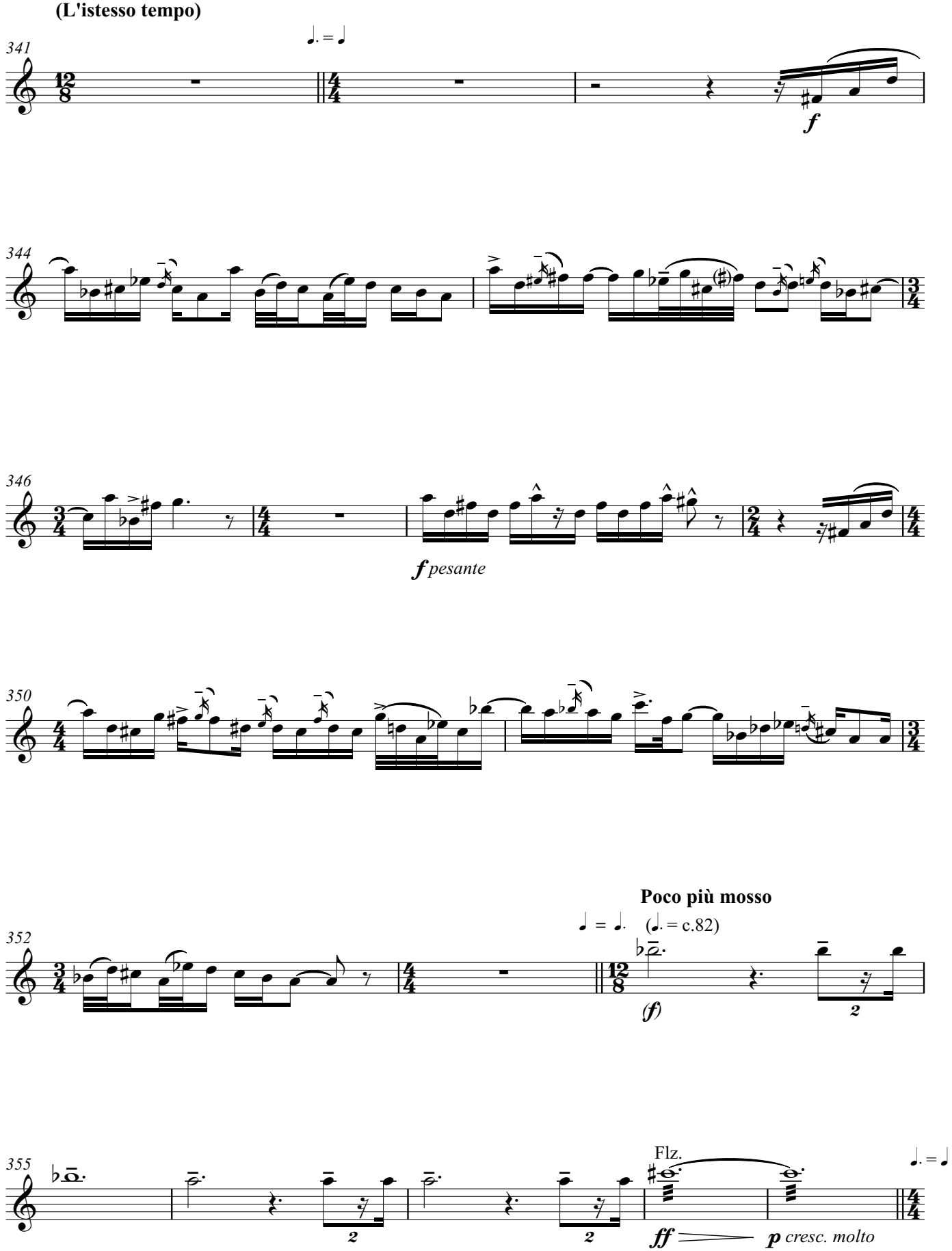

253
mp
pp
mp
pp
260
mp
pp
mp
pp
267
mp
pp
mp
274
p
281
mp
pp
mp
pp
288
Meno mosso
(♩ = c.56)
rit.
mp
p
295
A tempo
(♩ = c.56)
rit.
pp
attacca

Clarinet in B♭

5: Lune Sacrée I
(after Stravinsky)




322
(f)
ff
G.P.
324
mf
2
2
Flz.
mp
327
mf
2
2
tr
330
f
mf
2
2
tr
333
f
mf
335
f
ff
f
2
L'istesso tempo
337
2
ff
tr

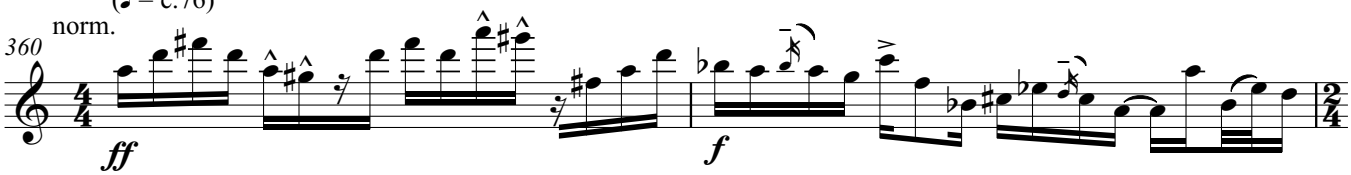

(L'istesso tempo)
341
344
346
f pesante
350
Poco più mosso
352
(f)
355
Flz.
ff
p cresc. molto

Tempo primo

(♩ = c.76)

norm.

360



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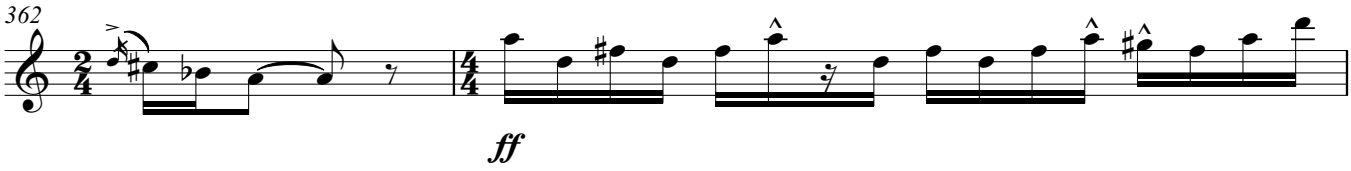

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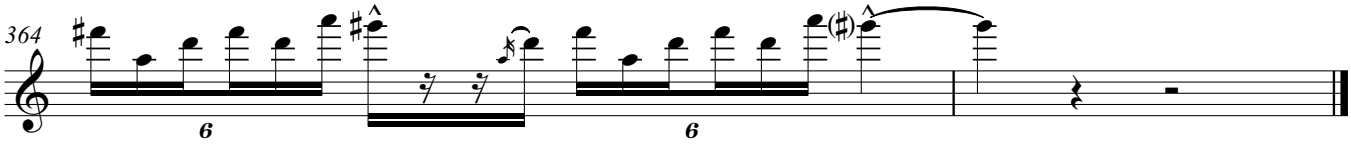
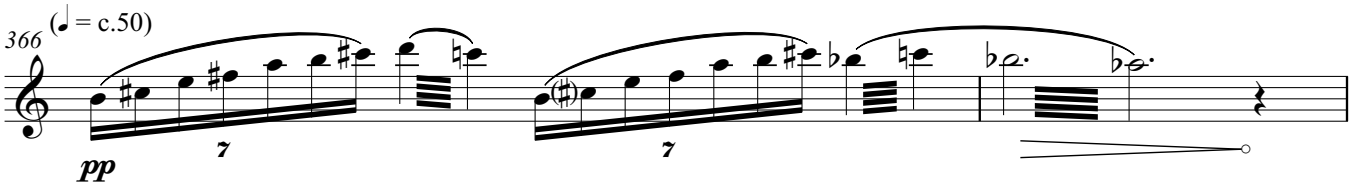


6: Night Celestial
(after Bartók)

Lento misterioso

(♩ = c.50)

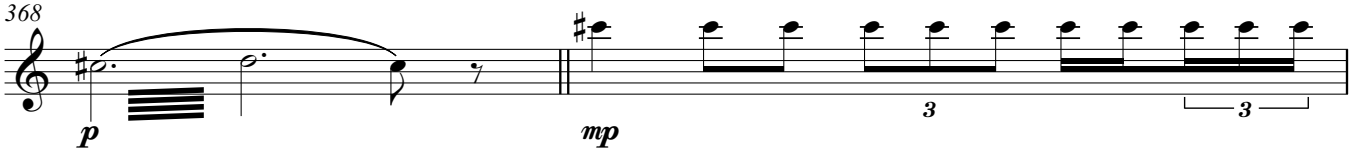
366



Poco più mosso

(♩ = c.58)

368



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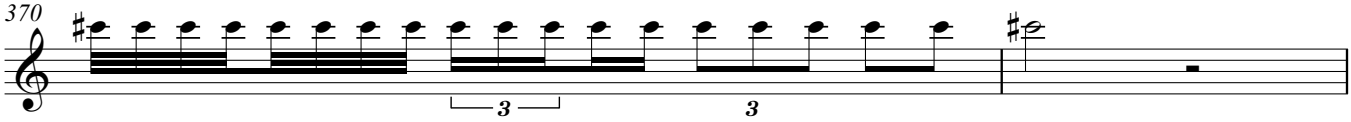
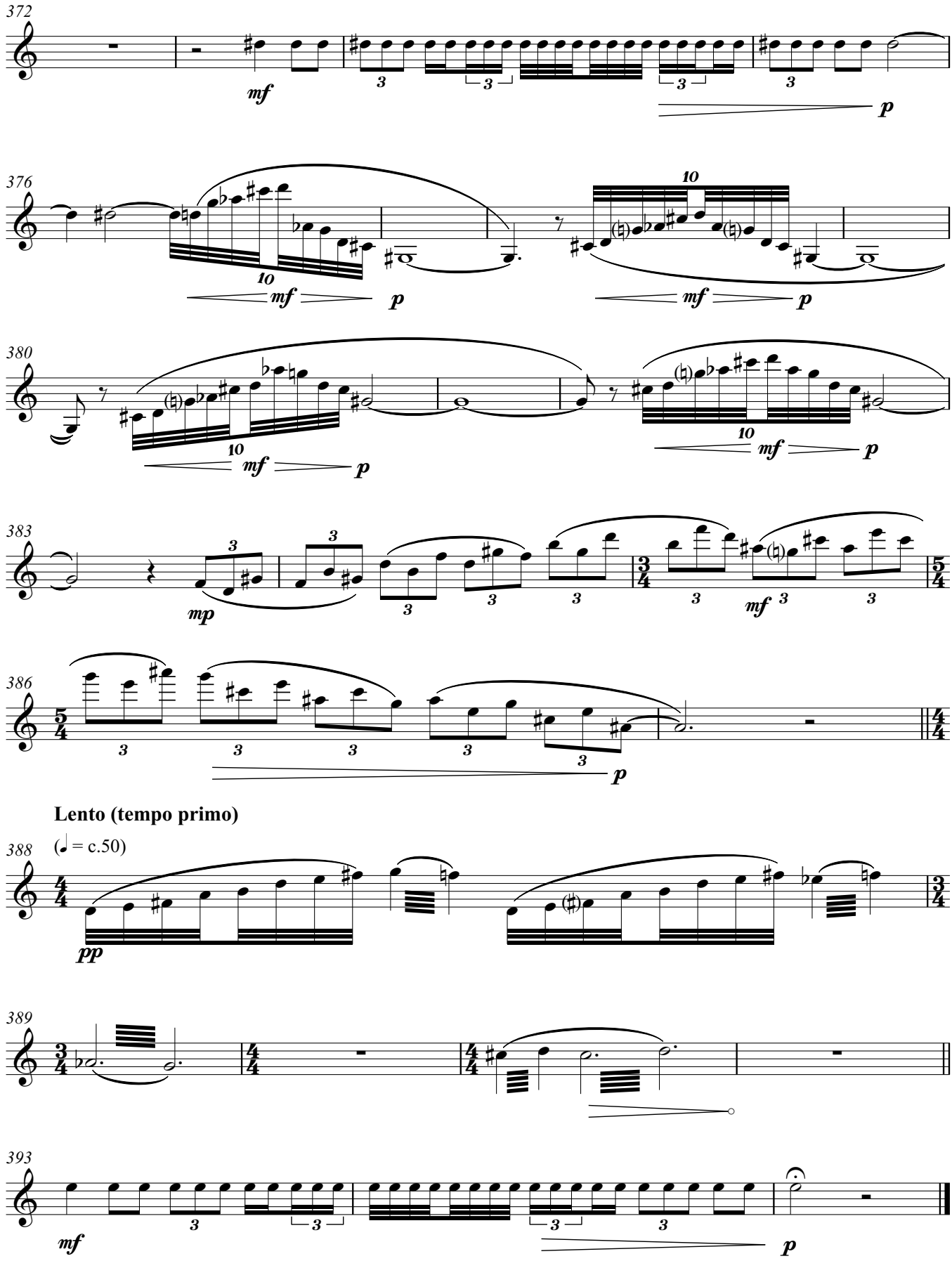
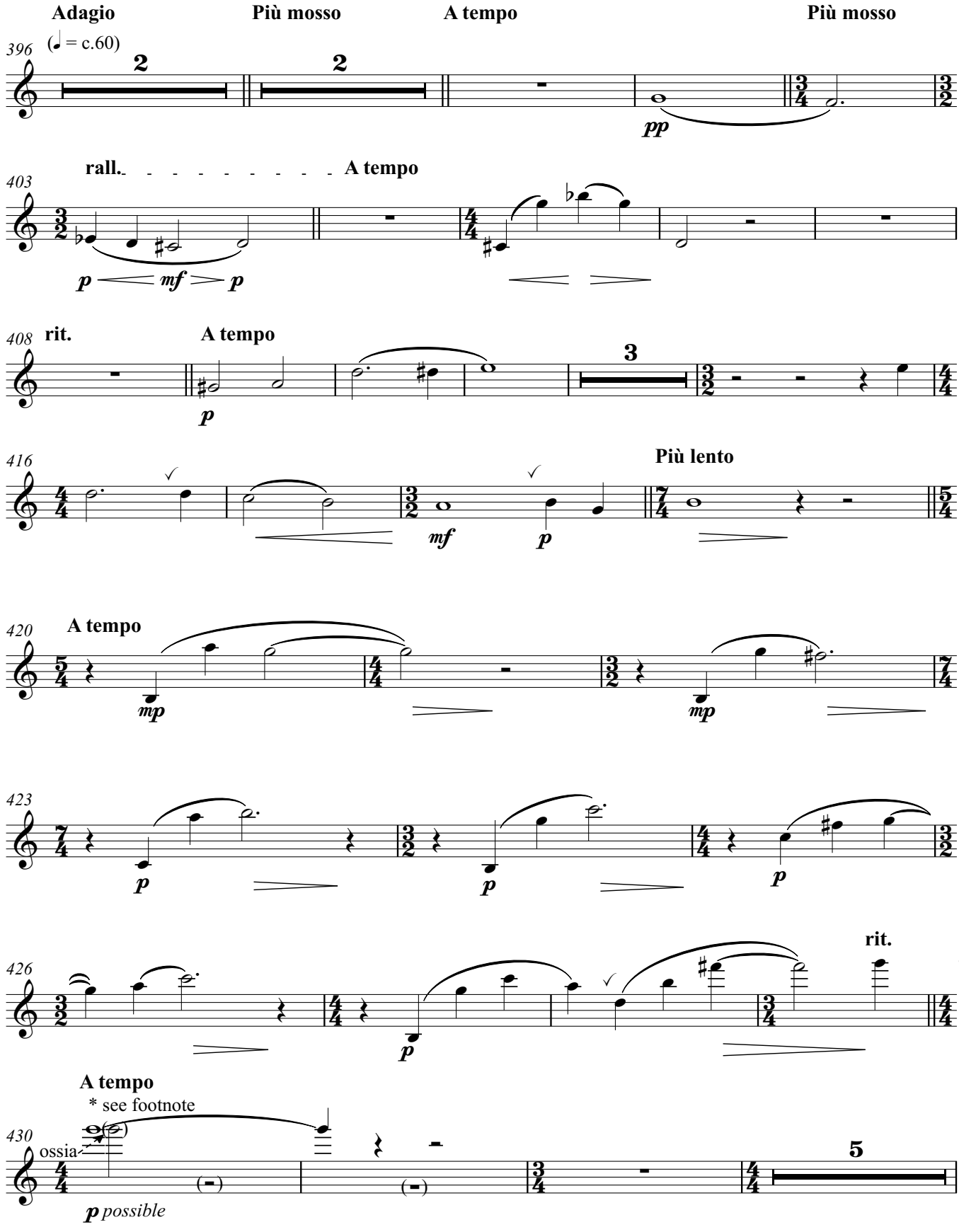


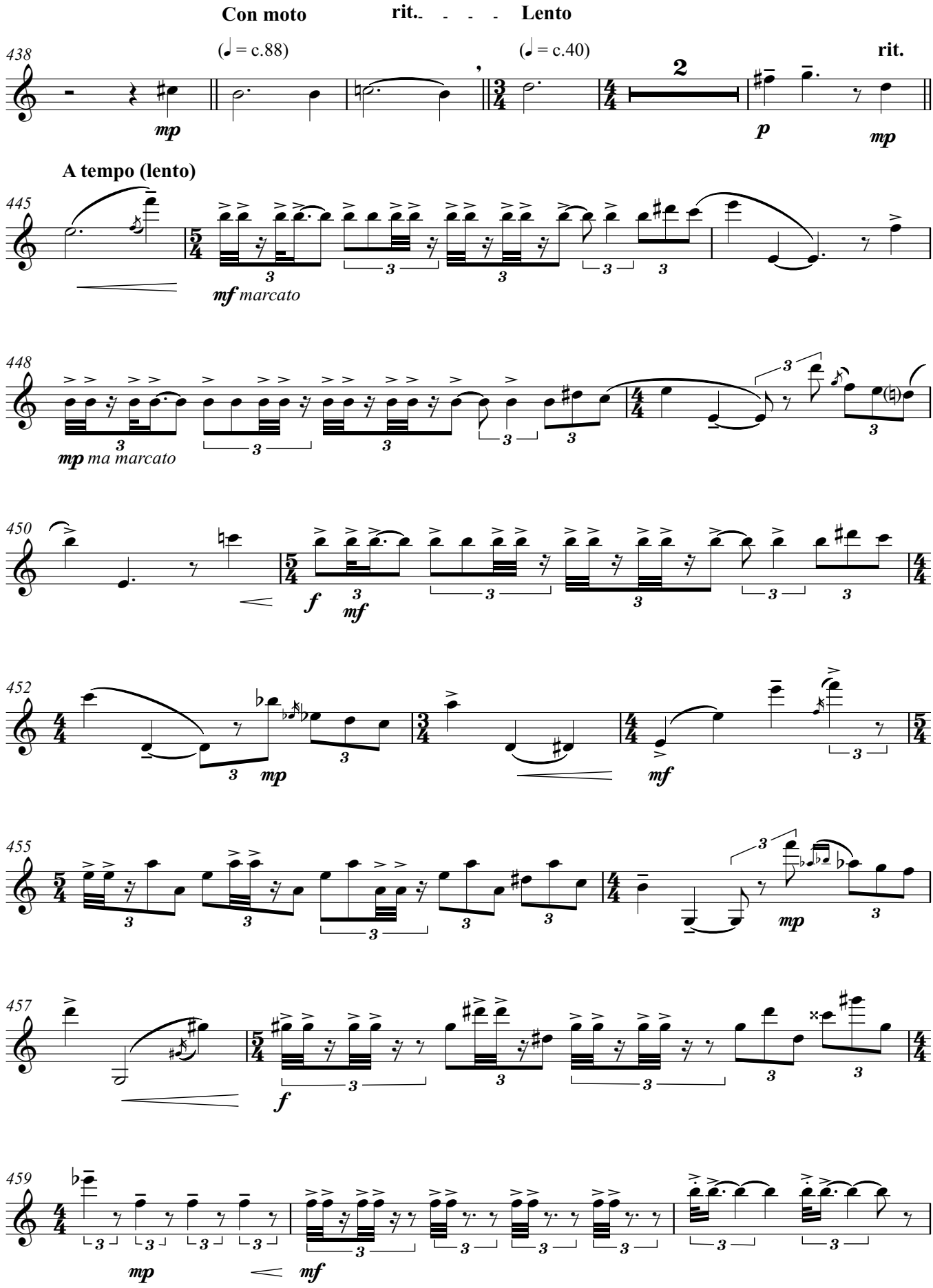

372
mf
p
376
10
mf
p
380
10
mf
p
383
mp
mf
386
p
Lento (tempo primo)
388
(♩ = c.50)
pp
389
393
mf
p

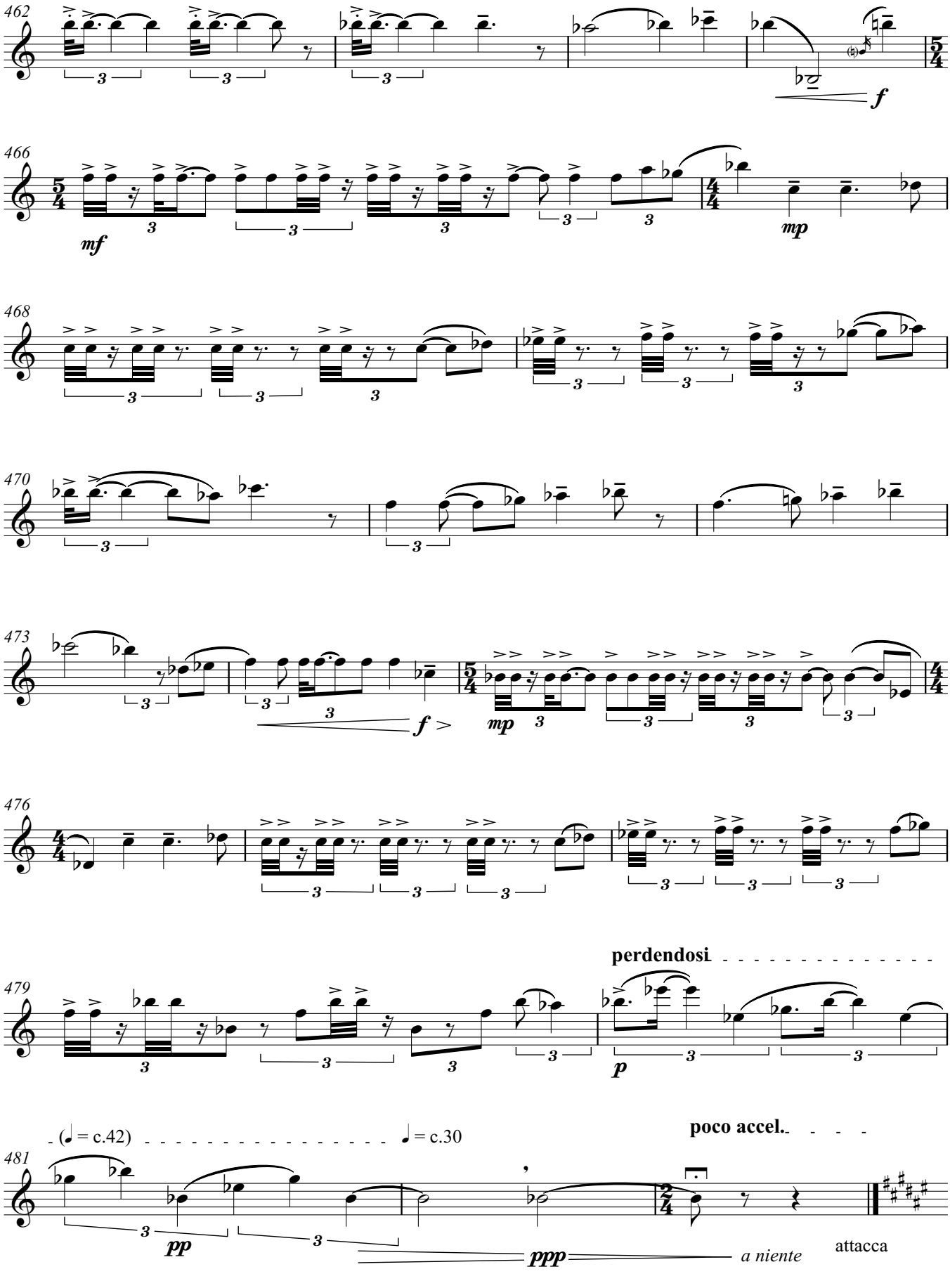
7: Lune Sacrée II

(after Stravinsky, Prokofiev looking on)



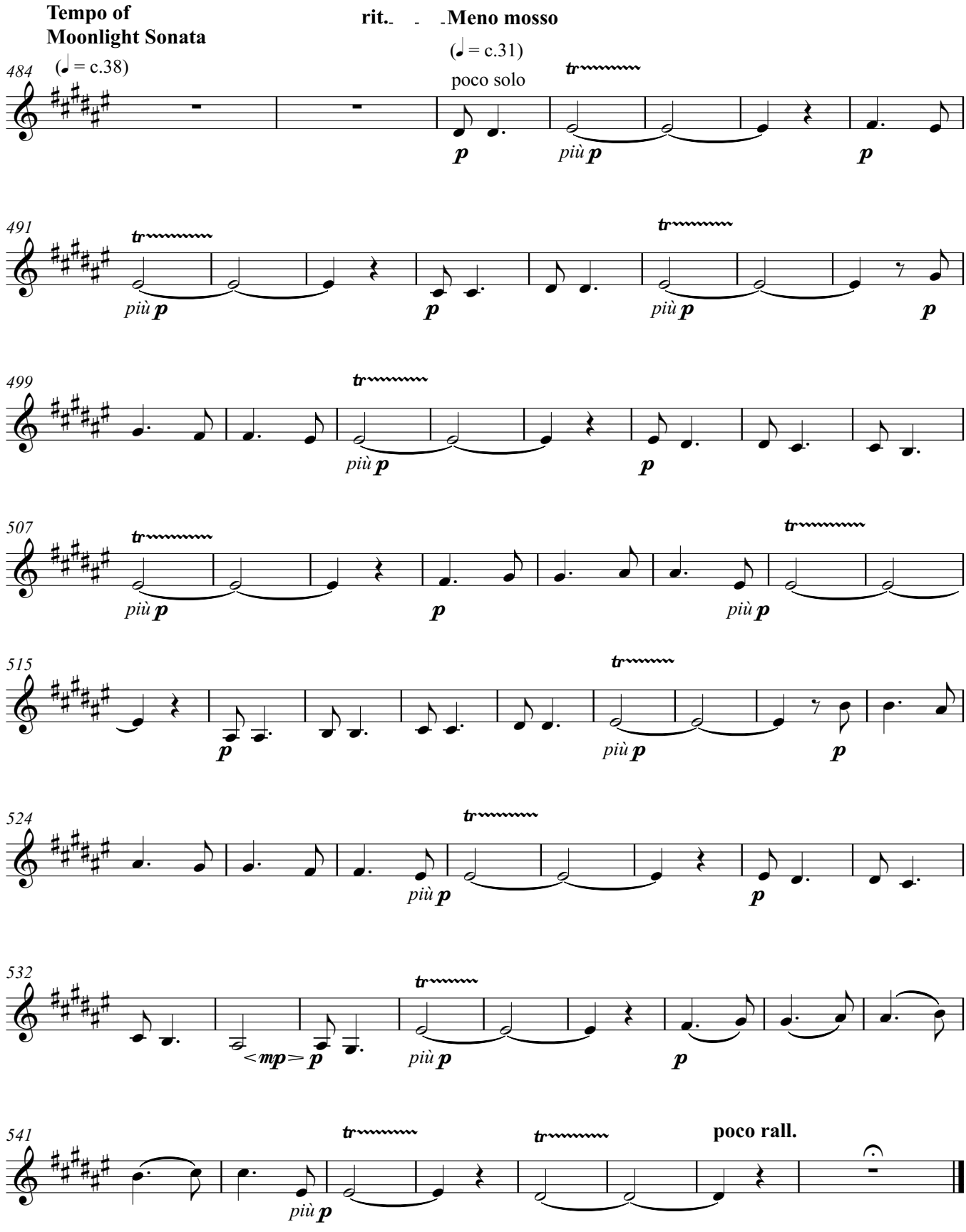
*play ossia if not possible to play extremely softly


Con moto
rit.
Lento
(♩ = c.88)
(♩ = c.40)
rit.
438
mp
2
p
mp
A tempo (lento)
445
mf marcato
448
mp ma marcato
450
f
mf
452
mp
mf
455
mp
457
f
459
mp
mf


462
f
466
mf
mp
468
470
473
f
mp
476
479
perdendosi
p
poco accel.
481
(♩ = c.42)
♩ = c.30
pp
ppp
a niente
attacca

Clarinet in B♭

8: Mirrored Moonlight
(after Pärt)



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