Christopher Best

Isorhythms for String Quartet

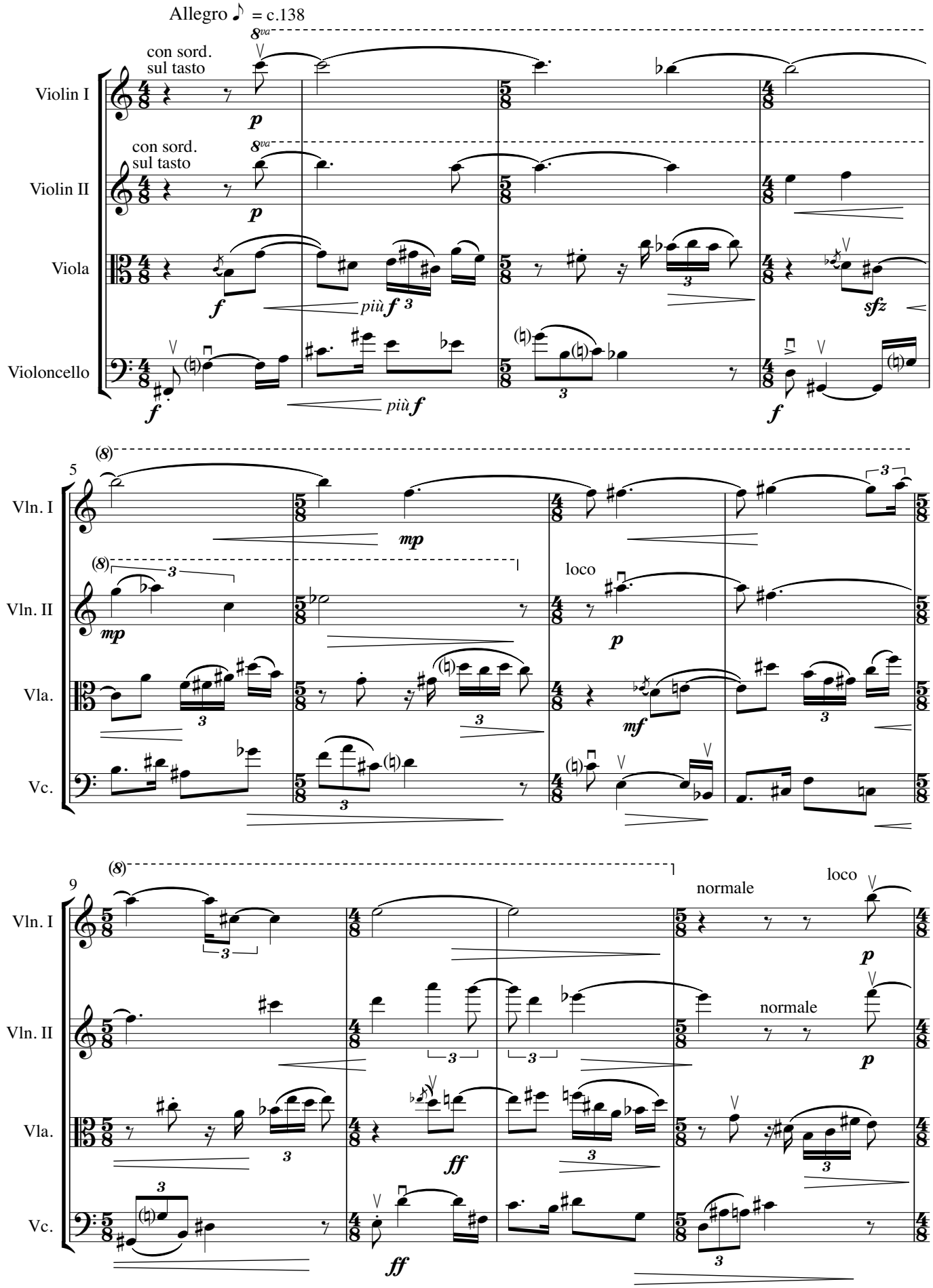
Op.4

1981

Isorhythms

for string quartet

Christopher Best



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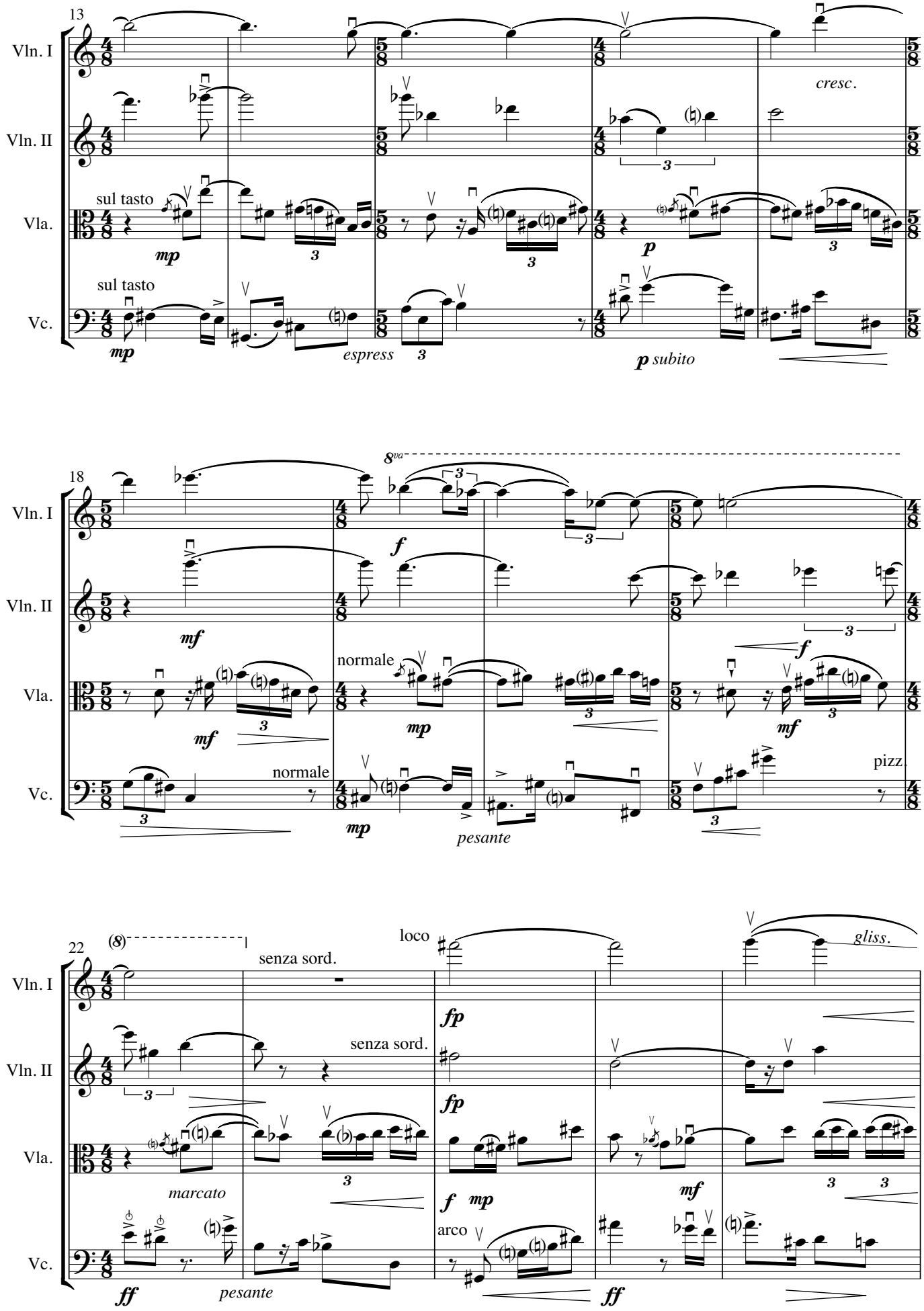
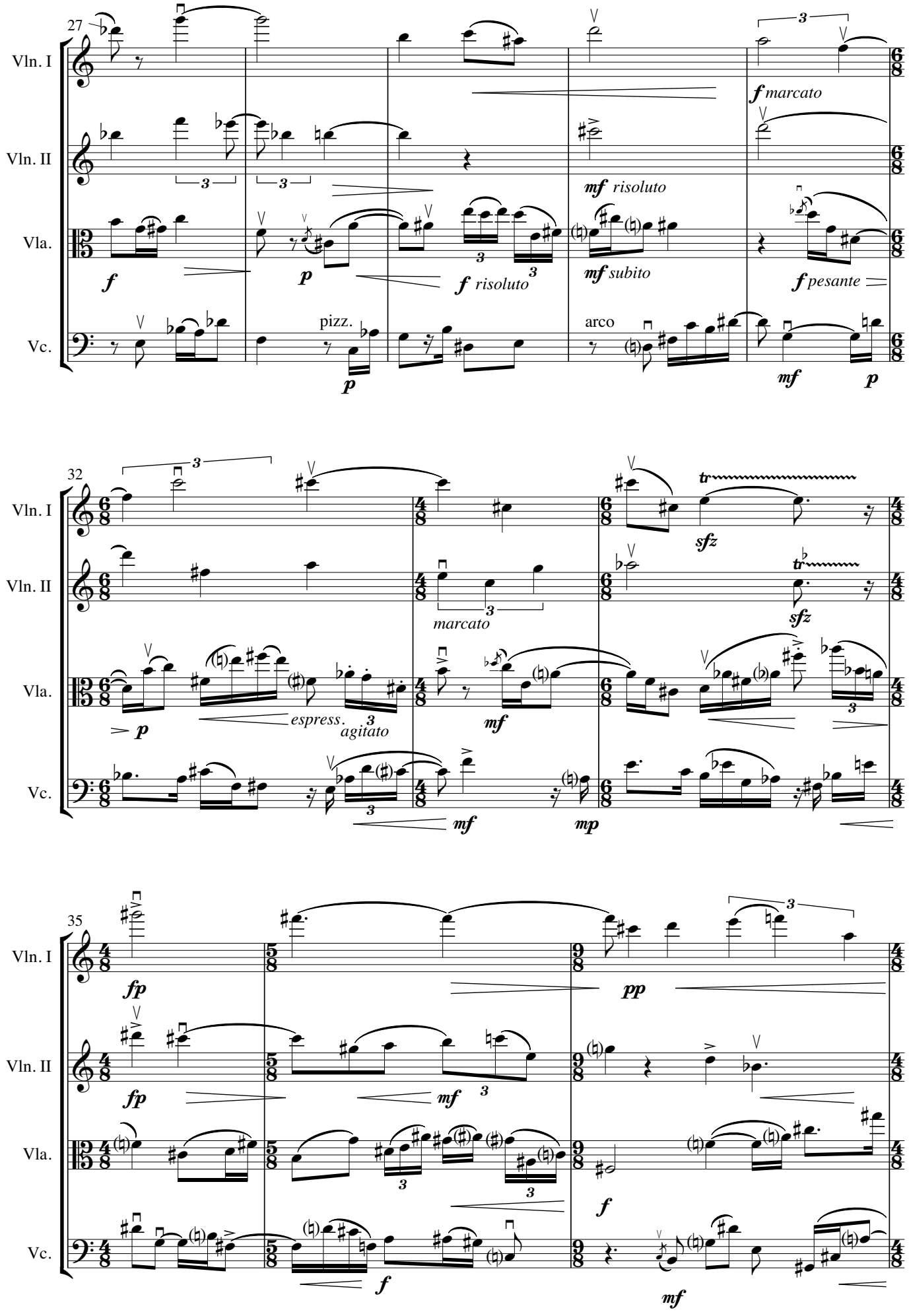
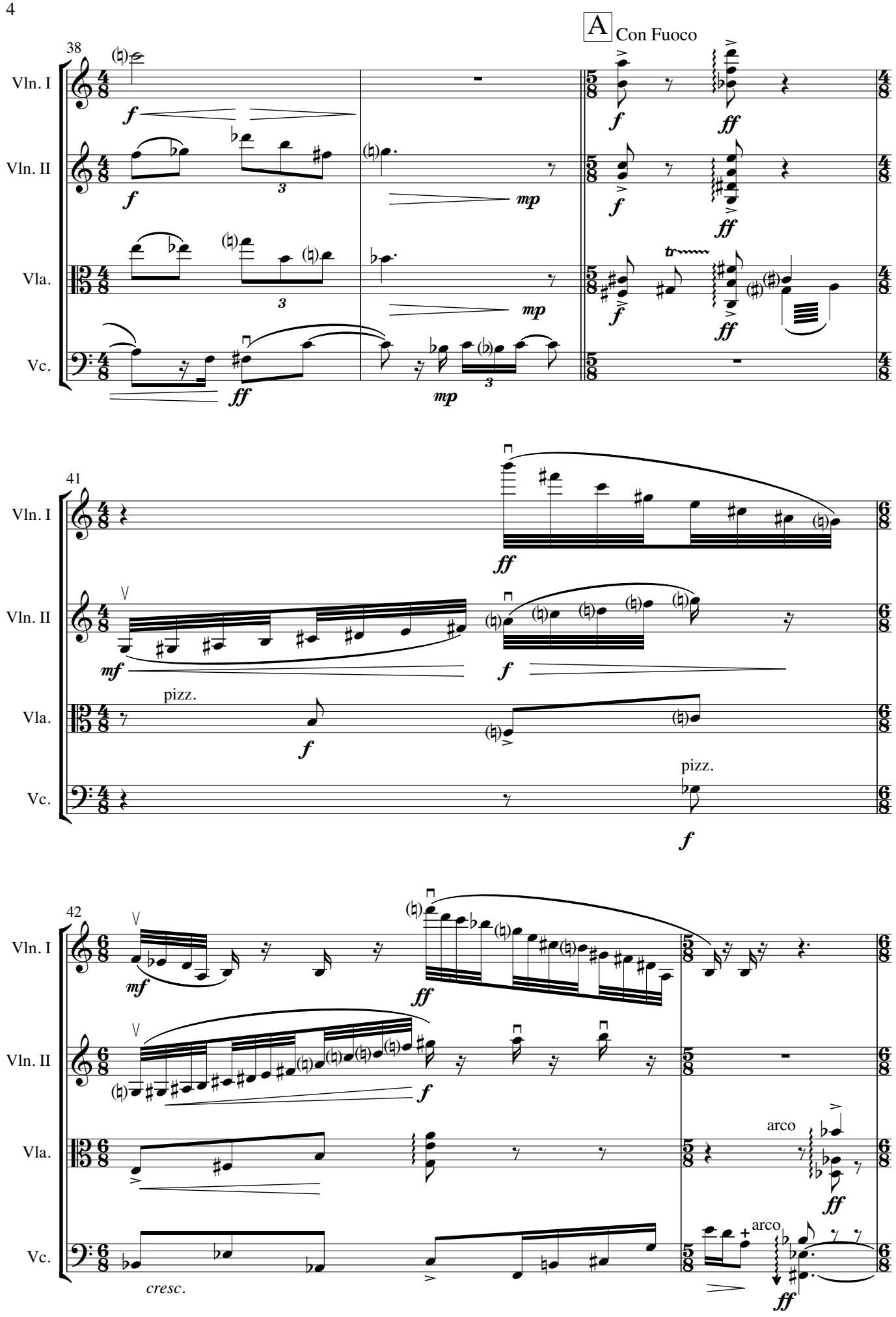
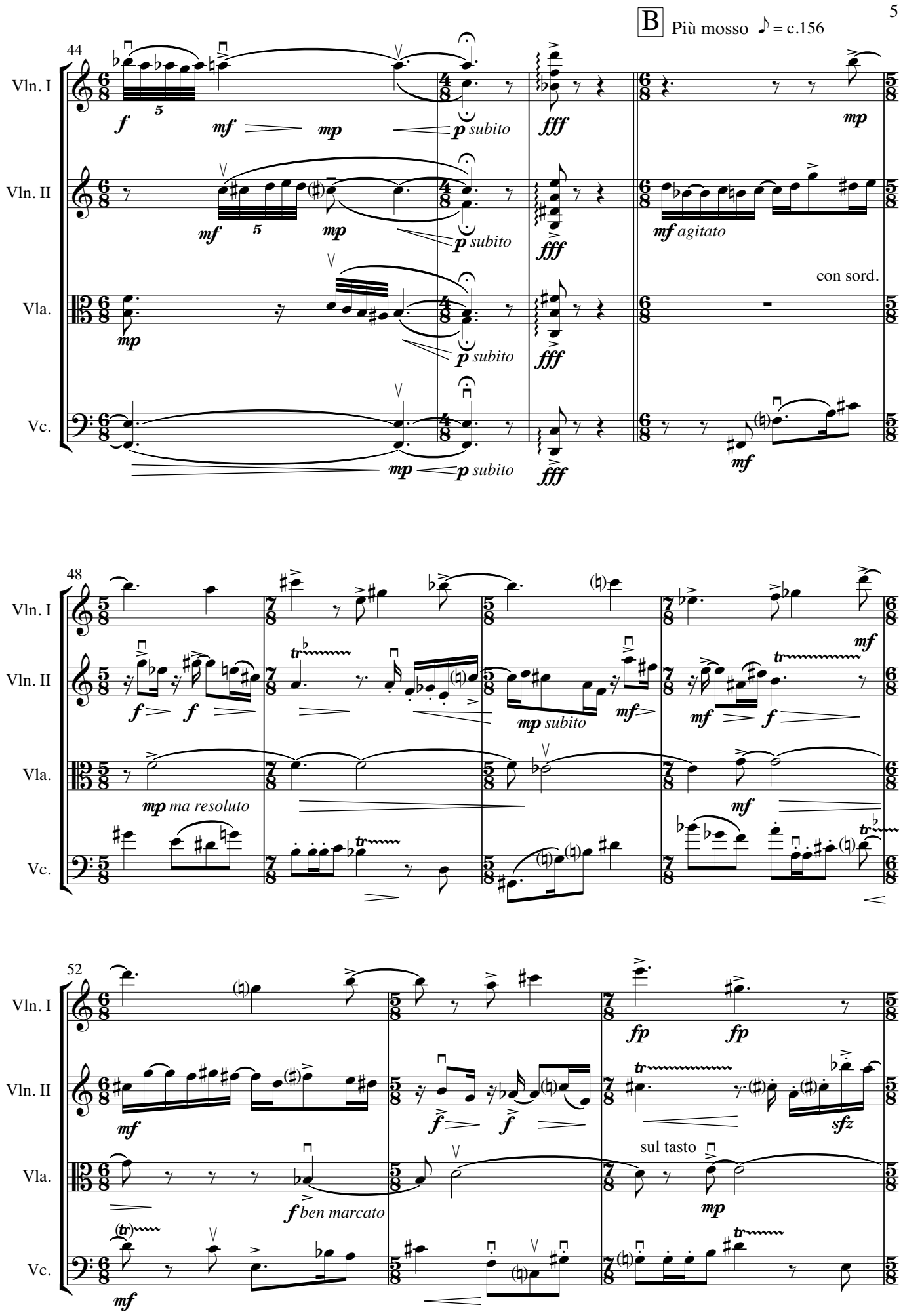
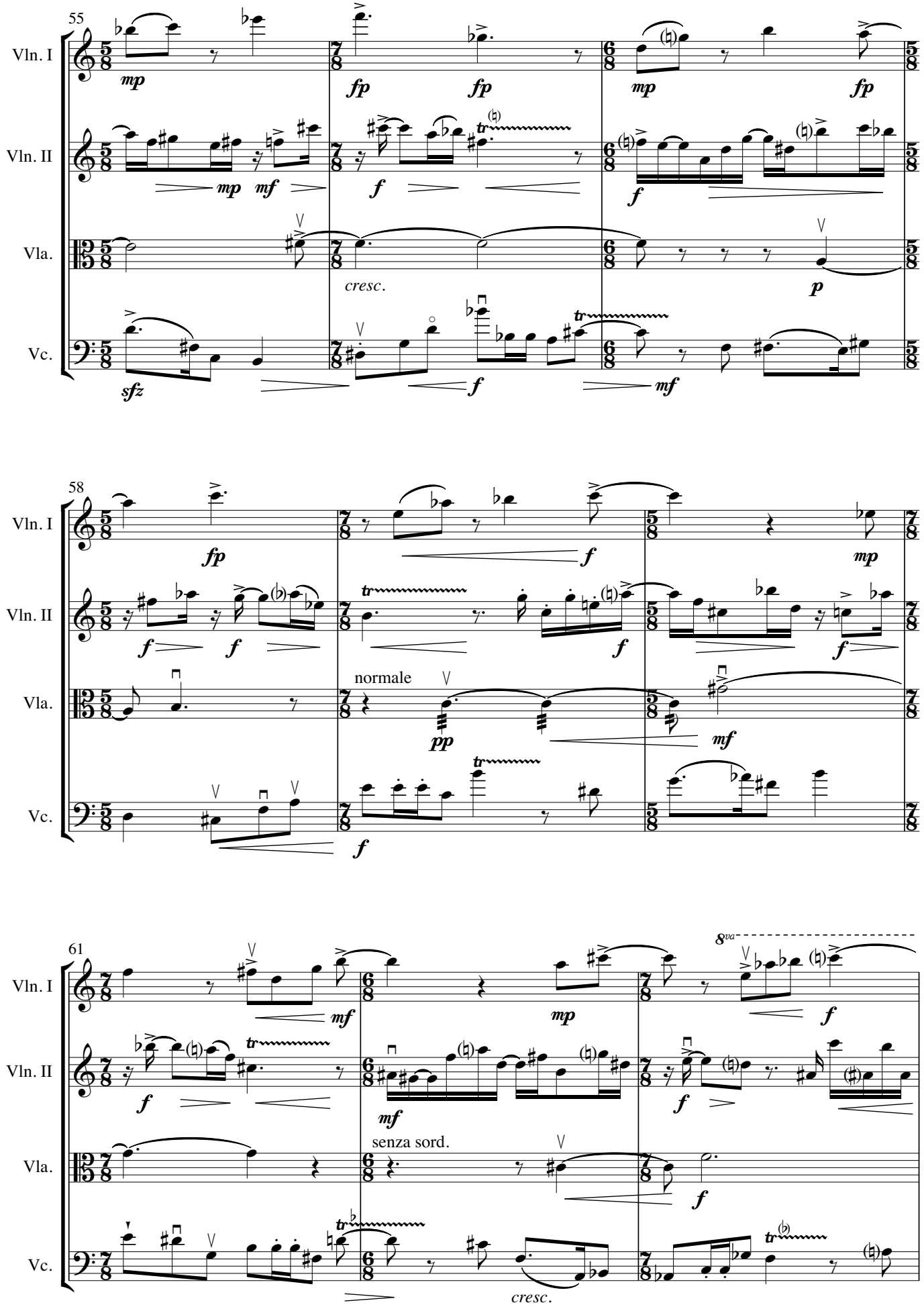
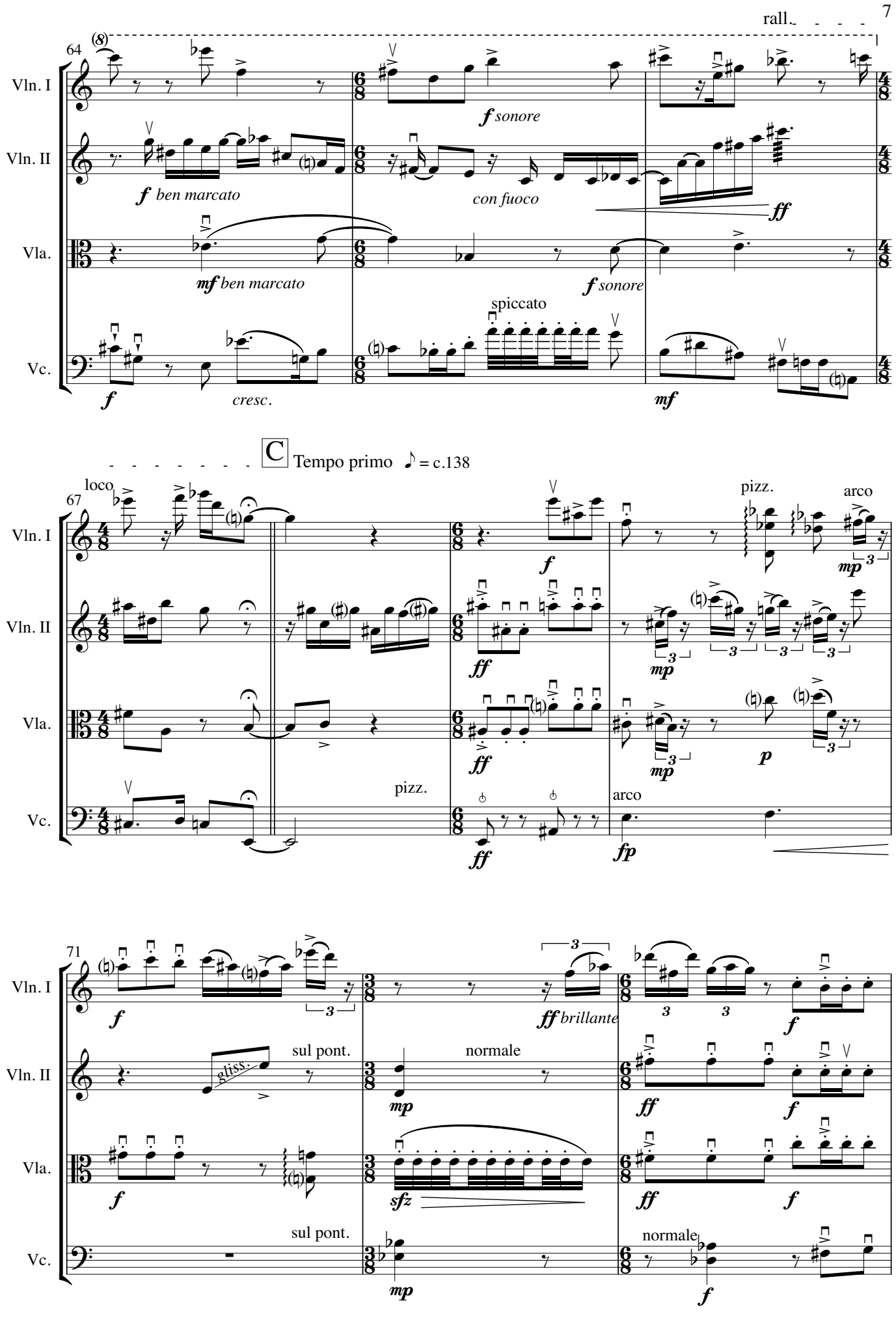

13
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
sul tasto
sul tasto
mp
cresc.
p
espress
p subito
18
8va
f
mf
normale
normale
mp
pesante
pizz.
22
(8)
senza sord.
senza sord.
loco
fp
fp
gliss.
marcato
f mp
arco
mf
ff
pesante
ff

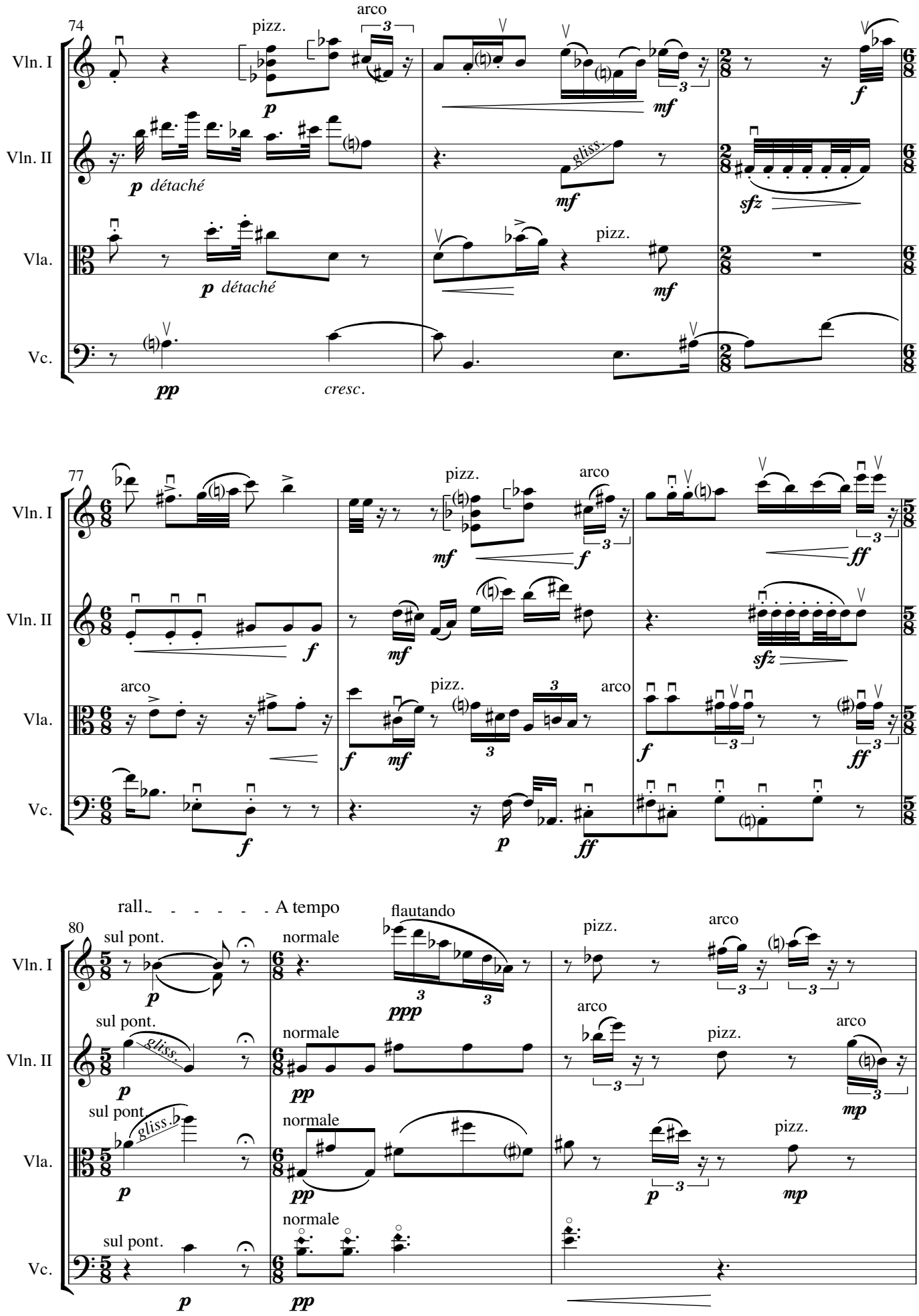

27
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
f marcato
mf risoluto
f
p
f risoluto
mf subito
f pesante
pizz.
arco
p
mf
p
32
sfz
sfz
marcato
espress.
agitato
p
mf
mf
mp
35
fp
fp
mf
pp
f
f
mf

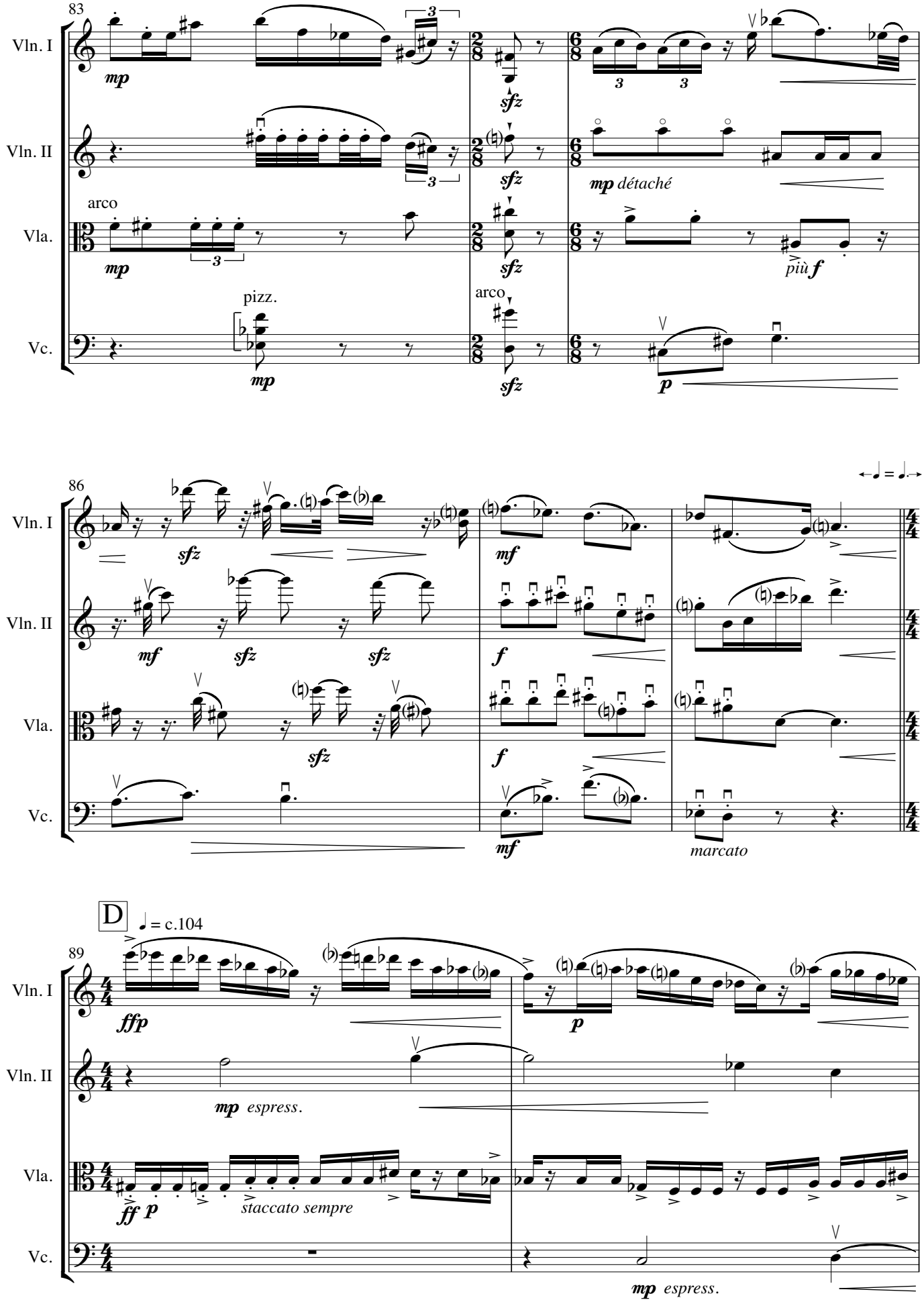

A
Con Fuoco
38
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
41
pizz.
pizz.
42
arco
arco
cresc.

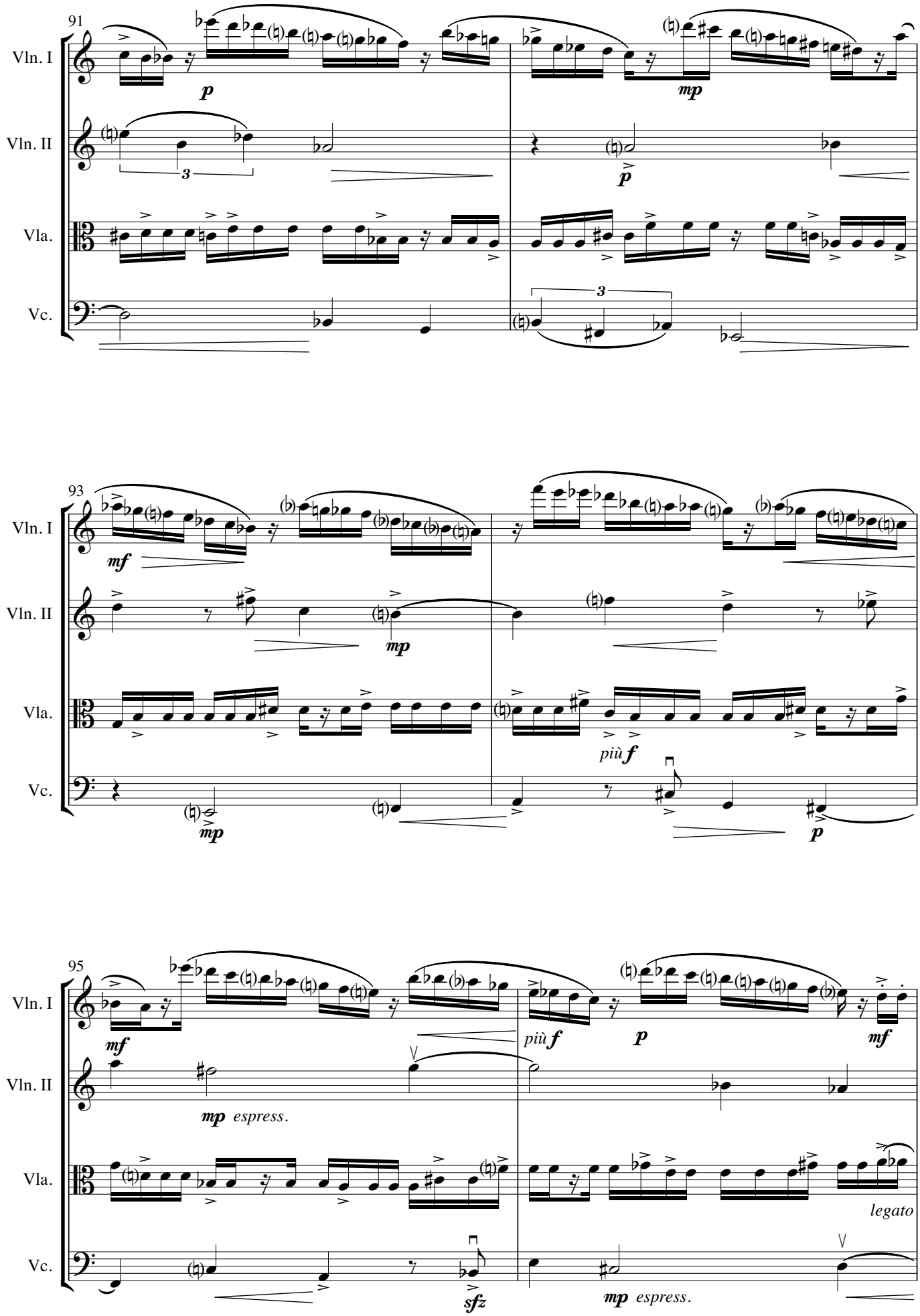

B Più mosso ♪ = c.156
44
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
f
mf
mp
p subito
fff
mf agitato
con sord.
48
mp ma resoluto
mp subito
fp
52
ben marcato
sul tasto
sfz

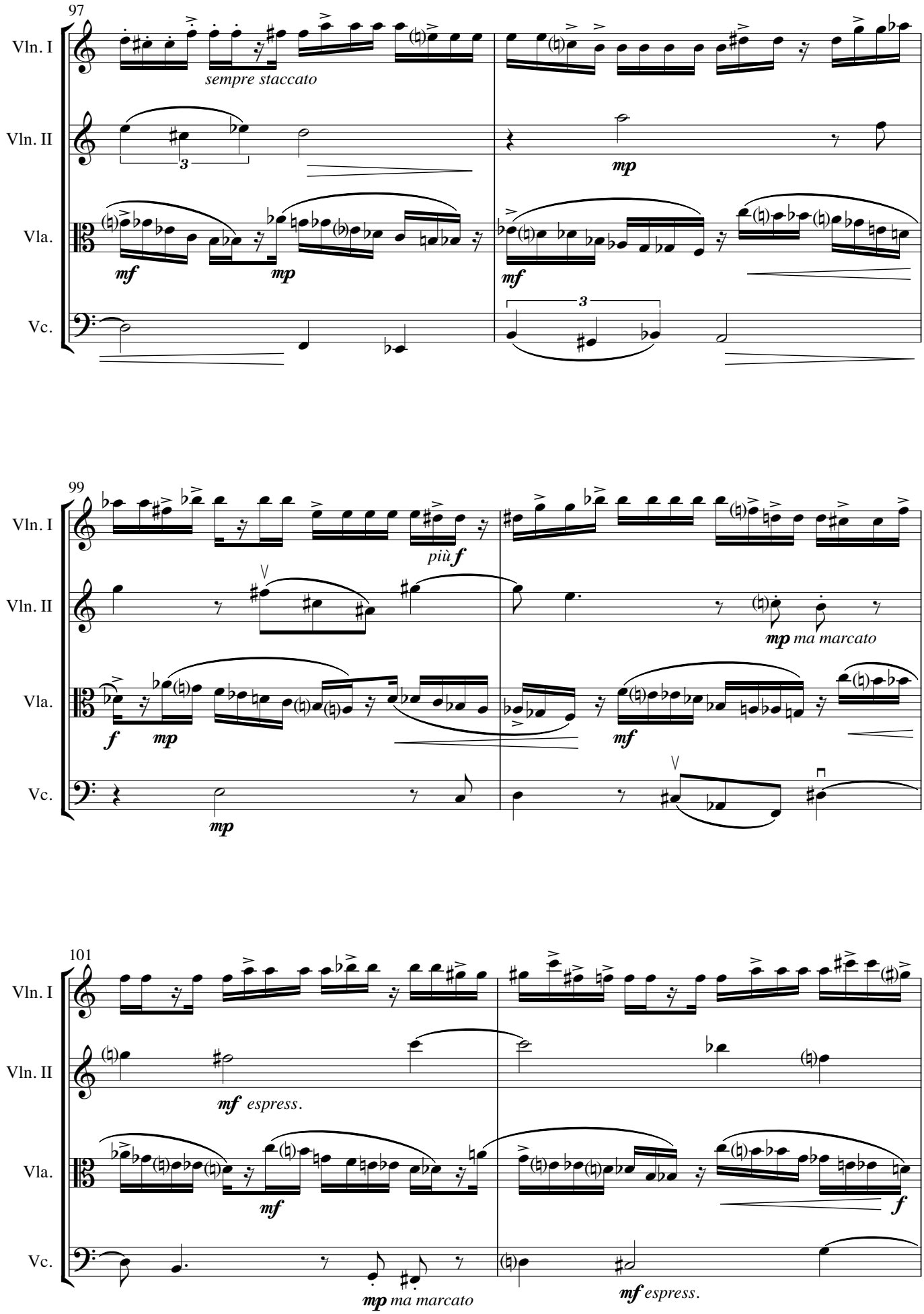

55
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mp
fp
fp
mp
fp
mp
mf
f
f
cresc.
p
sfz
f
mf
58
fp
f
mp
f
f
f
normale
pp
mf
f
61
mf
mp
f
8va
f
f
mf
f
senza sord.
f
cresc.

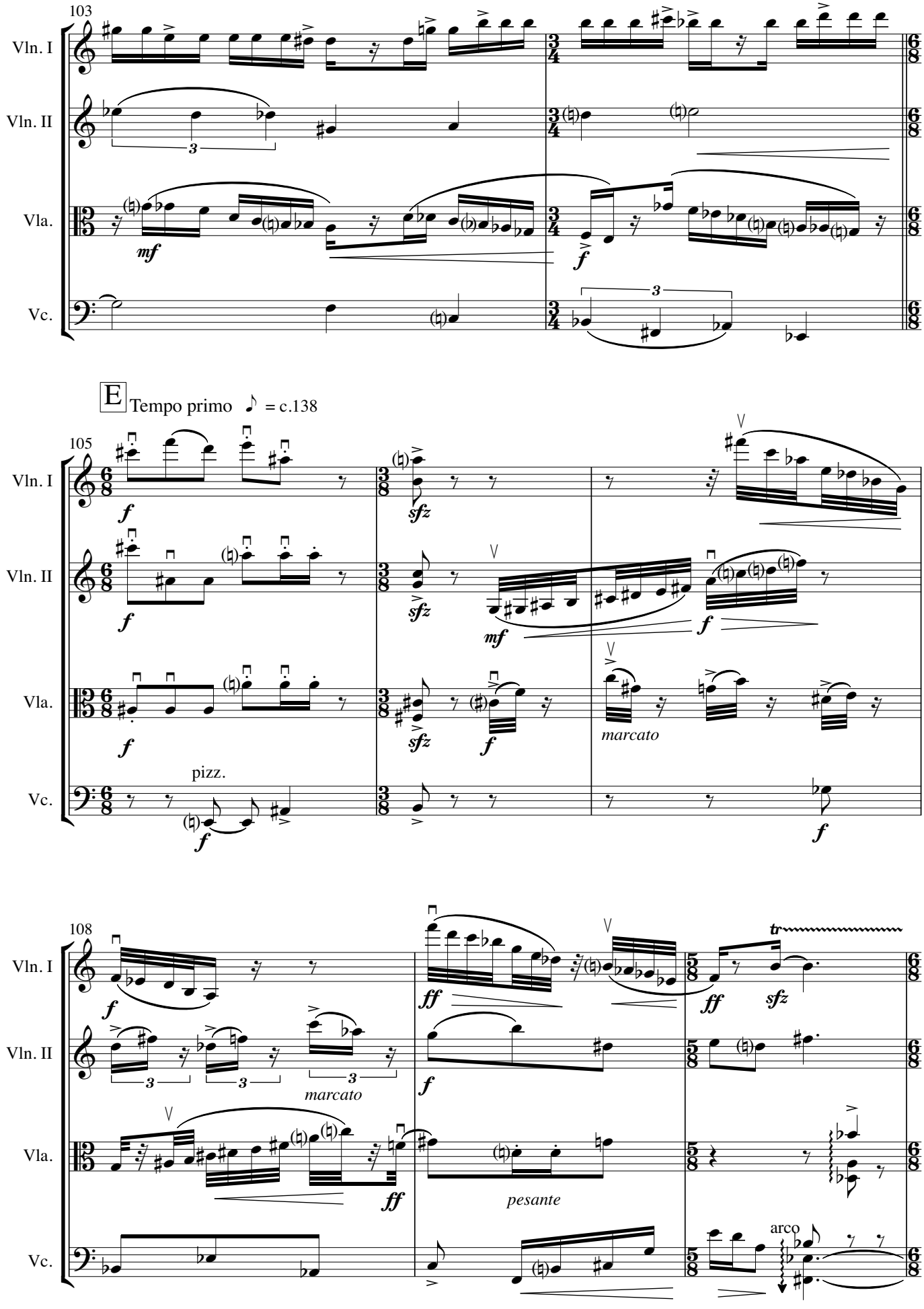

rall.
64
(8)
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
f sonore
f ben marcato
con fuoco
ff
mf ben marcato
f sonore
spiccato
f
cresc.
mf
C Tempo primo ♪ = c.138
67
loco
pizz.
arco
mp
ff
p
fp
71
brillante
sul pont.
normale
gliss.
sfz

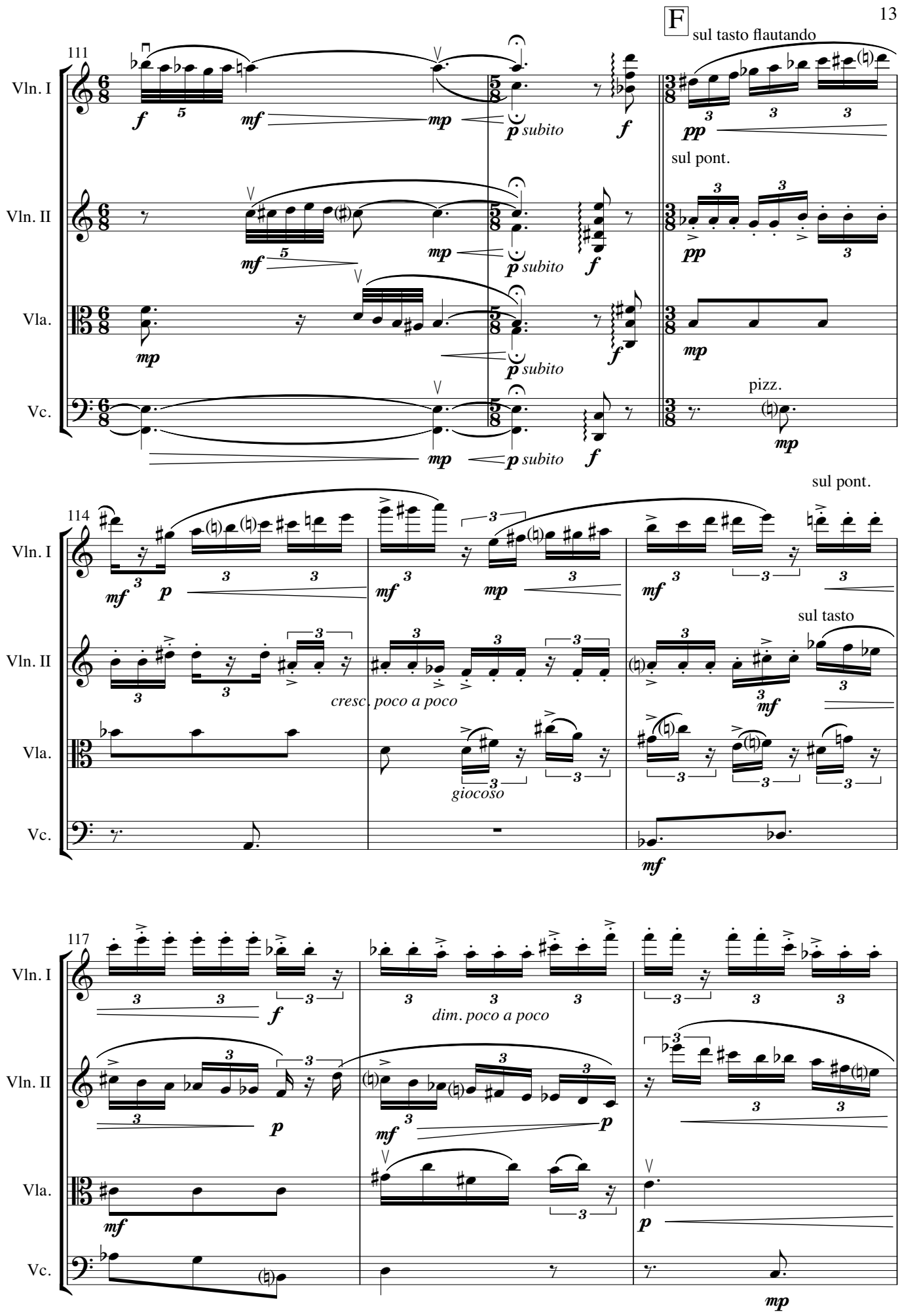

74
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
arco
p
mf
f
p détaché
gliss.
sfz
pp
cresc.
77
ff
80
rall.
A tempo
sul pont.
normale
flautando
ppp
mp

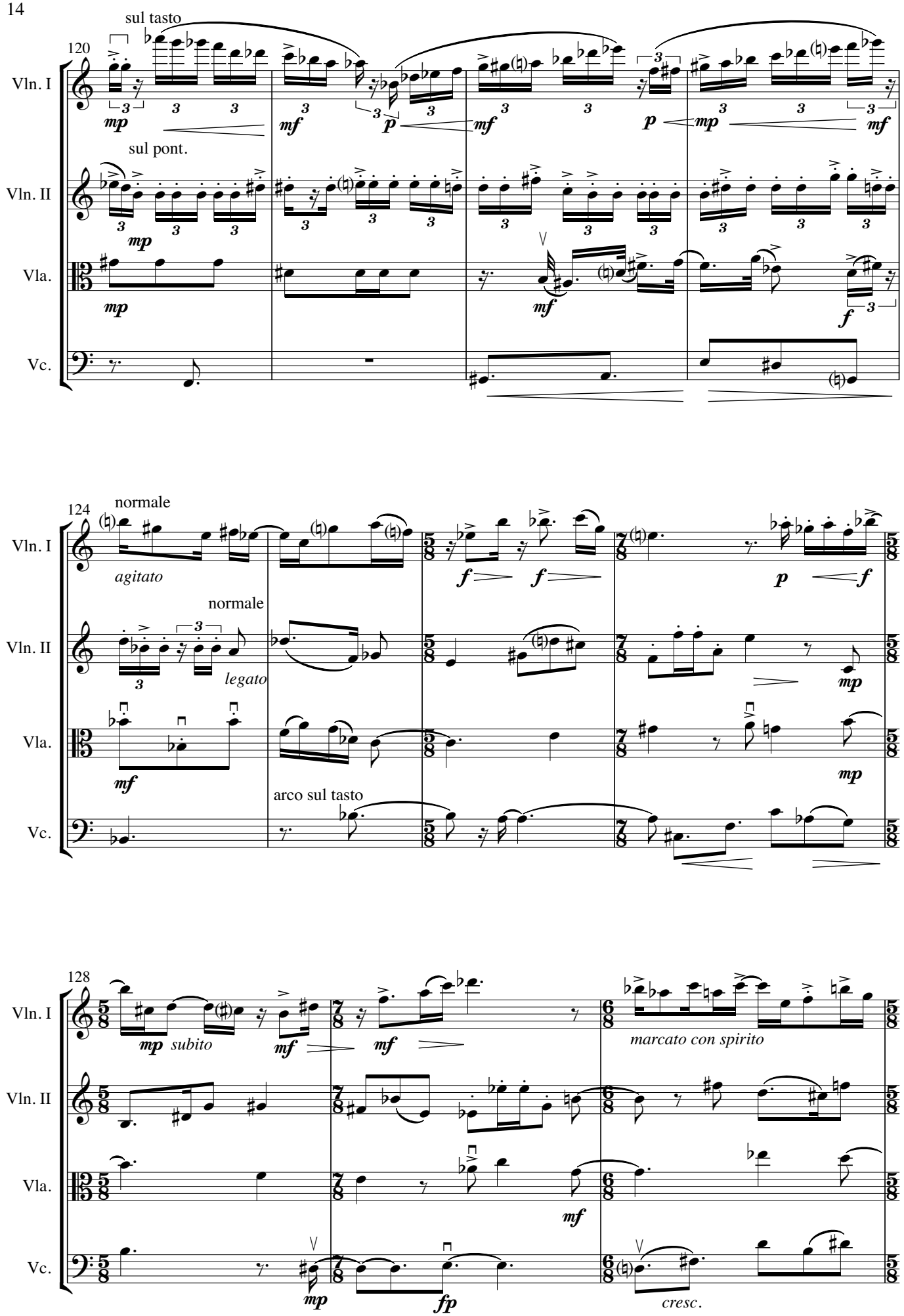

83
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mp
sfz
mp détaché
arco
pizz.
arco
più f
p
86
sfz
mf
sfz
sfz
f
f
sfz
mf
mf
marcato
D
♩ = c.104
89
ffp
p
mp espress.
ff p
staccato sempre
mp espress.

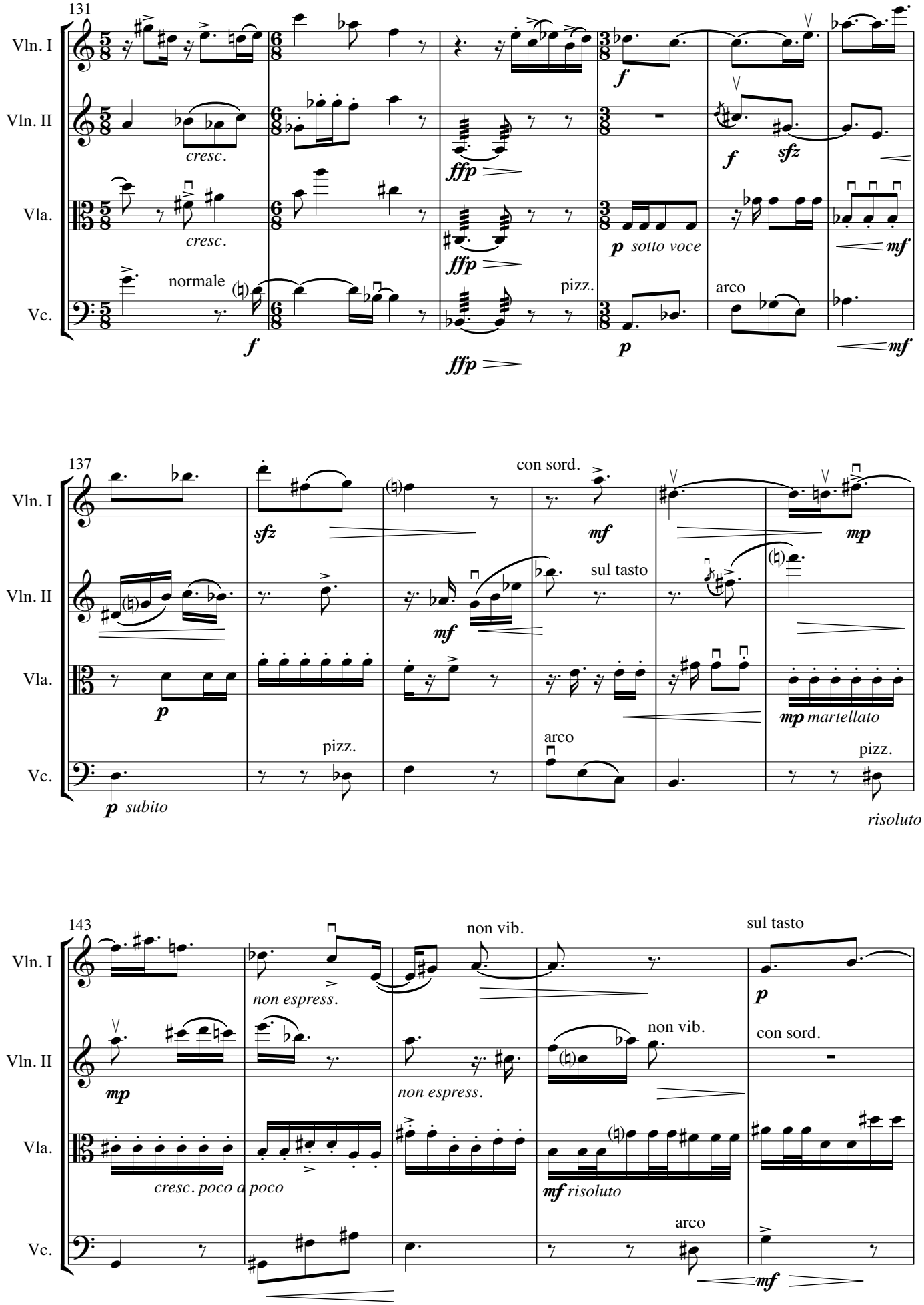

91
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p
mp
p
3
3
93
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mf
mp
più f
mp
p
95
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mf
più f
p
mf
mp espress.
legato
sfz
mp espress.

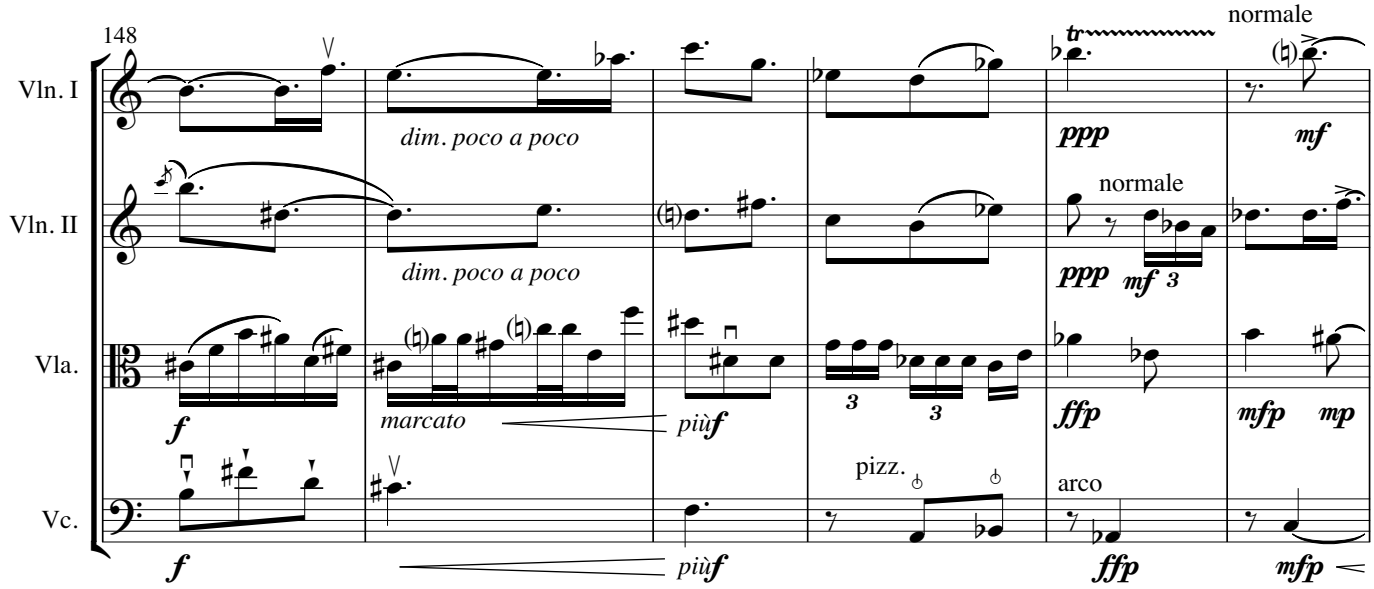

97
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
sempre staccato
mf
mp
mf
3
3
99
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
più f
mp ma marcato
f
mp
mf
mp
101
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mf espress.
mf
mp ma marcato
mf espress.
f

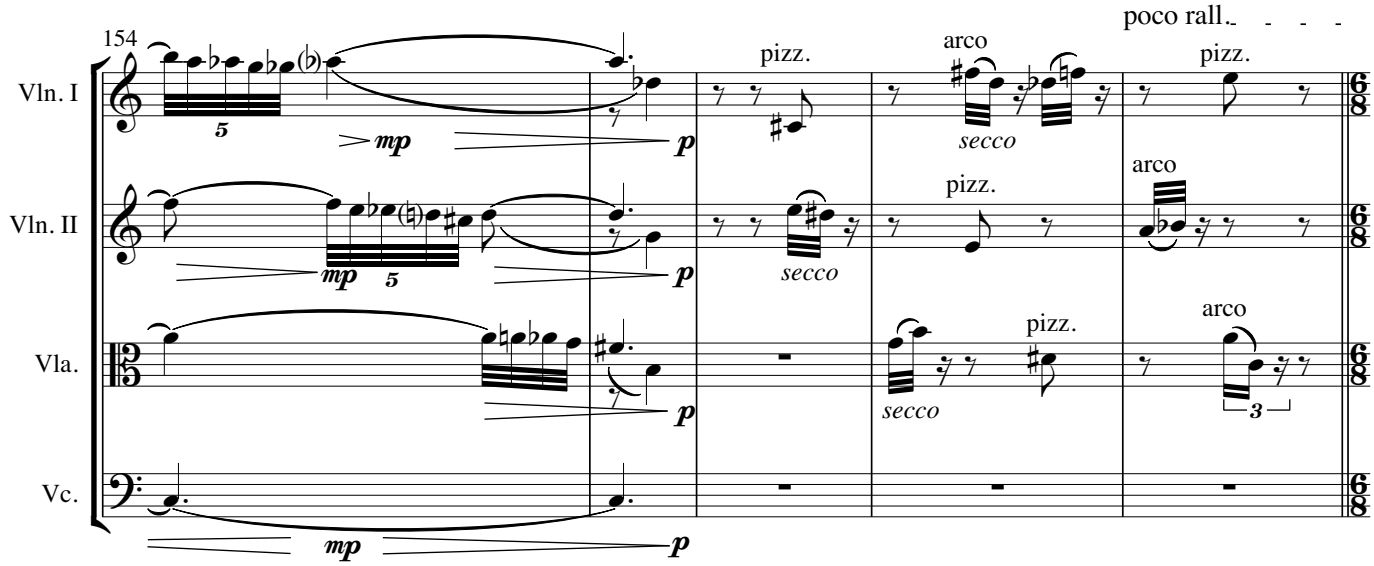

103
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mf
f
3
E
Tempo primo ♪ = c.138
105
sfz
mf
marcato
pizz.
108
ff
tr
pesante
arco

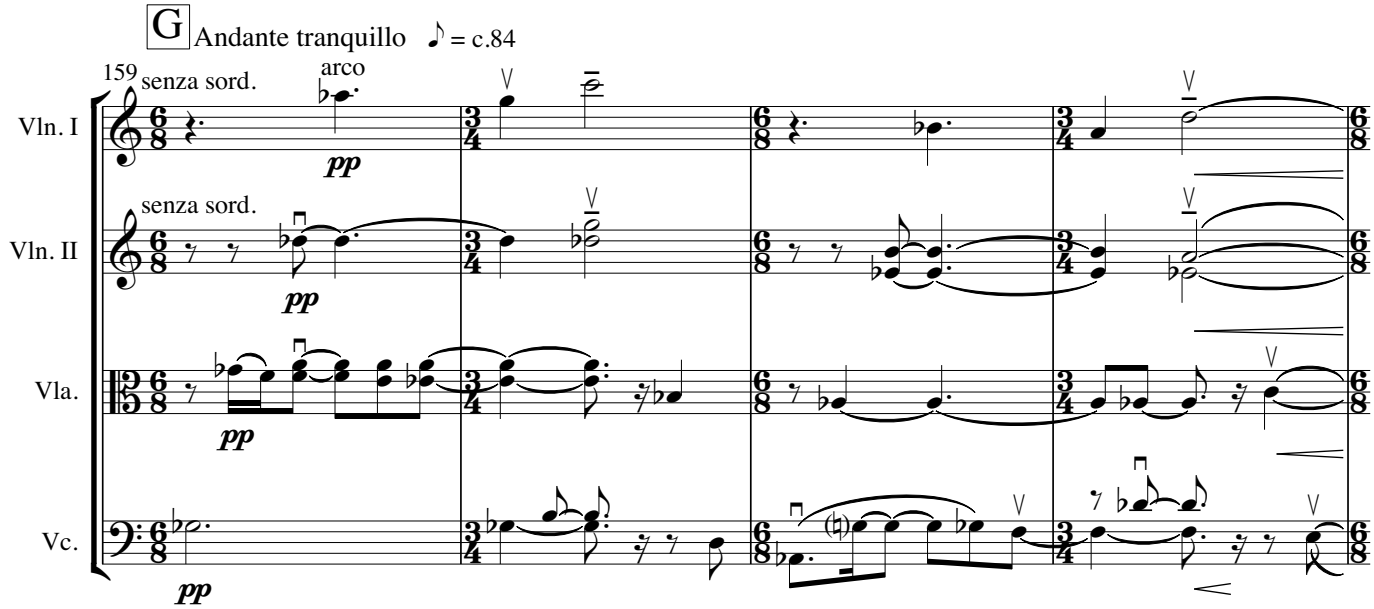

F
sul tasto flautando
111
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
sul pont.
pizz.
subito
114
sul pont.
sul tasto
cresc. poco a poco
giocoso
117
dim. poco a poco


120
sul tasto
sul pont.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mp
mf
p
f
124
normale
agitato
legato
arco sul tasto
128
subito
marcato con spirito
cresc.
fp


131
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
cresc.
cresc.
normale
f
ffp
ffp
ffp
pizz.
f
f
sfz
p sotto voce
arco
p
mf
mf
137
con sord.
sfz
mf
mp
sul tasto
mf
p
mp martellato
pizz.
arco
pizz.
p subito
risoluto
143
non vib.
sul tasto
non espress.
p
mp
non vib.
con sord.
non espress.
cresc. poco a poco
mf risoluto
arco
mf


148
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
dim. poco a poco
dim. poco a poco
marcato
più f
più f
pizz.
arco
normale
normale
ppp
ppp
mf
mf 3
ffp
ffp
mfp
mfp
mp
f
f


154
poco rall.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mp
mp
p
p
p
p
pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
pizz.
arco
arco
arco
secco
secco
secco
5
5
3
3


G
Andante tranquillo ♪ = c.84
159
senza sord.
senza sord.
arco
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
pp
pp
pp
pp

H Tempo primo ♪ = c.138

163

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

mf ppp ff mf f pizz. f

166

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

p mf pizz. arco

167

rall. A tempo

Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

mp sfz ff arco

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Christopher Best is a freelance composer based in the Southwest of England, writing mostly concert, stage and acousmatic music. Commissioning groups have included the Malta Philharmonic Orchestra, the Fisarchi Ensemble of Florence, Scottish Dance Theatre, Jamaican National Dance, Emilyn Claid & Co., and Bimba Dance Theatre. Works have also been written for ensembles such as Aquarius, Jane's Minstrels, Kokoro, the choir of Selwyn College Cambridge and Onyx Brass.

In making new work, Chris places particular emphasis on collaborating with performers, and is grateful for having had the opportunity to do so with such distinguished musicians as accordionist Miloš Milivojević, trumpeter Alan Thomas, cellist Rohan de Saram, flautist William Sleath, pianists Tim Carey, Raymond Clarke and Julian Hellaby, harpist Ruth Wall, guitarist Matthew Marshall and organists Simon Hogan and Daniel Moult. His music has received widespread critical acclaim and been performed and broadcast internationally.

Since 2010 Chris has held a senior lectureship at Falmouth University, having formerly been Reader in music composition at Dartington College of Arts in Devon. He has taught extensively throughout the UK and abroad, and co-directed residential music and dance exchanges in Devon, Manchester, London and Madrid.

Recent output includes the acousmatic **'Once It Is Over'** and extended cycle **'Worlds'**, **'Hawaiki - Six Conceptions'** for chorus and orchestra, **'Clarion Song'** for trumpet and organ, **'Odes and Episodes'** and **'Echoes of a Lost Music'**, both for electric guitar, **'They Fall, They Dance'** for flute and string quartet, **'Scending'** for flutes and accordion and **'Fragilities'** for flutes and cello.

For further information, scores, parts and recordings visit composer's website:

www.chrisbestmusic.com