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Five Facets

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Nick Ray

Five Facets

(2016)

for wind quintet

FIVE FACETS for wind quintet

I wrote the first two movements of this work in 2014 but laid the work aside for two years to work on other projects. I resumed it in the summer of 2016 and wrote the last three movements in quick succession.

The first movement is a kind of prologue, being short and concerned with the exposition of the material rather than development. The principal theme appears in varied form in the second (slow) movement and is used as a *cantus firmus* around which other layers of counterpoint accumulate.

The scherzo (third movement) is preoccupied with a six-semiquaver motif that appears on its own and as an accompaniment to a more lyrical theme. The character of this movement is mercurial but there are interruptions from sadder and more introspective material which arrest the flow but do not ultimately prevail, and the movement closes as whimsically as it began.

The fourth movement ('*Infinite Distance*') is very short and deliberately inconclusive.

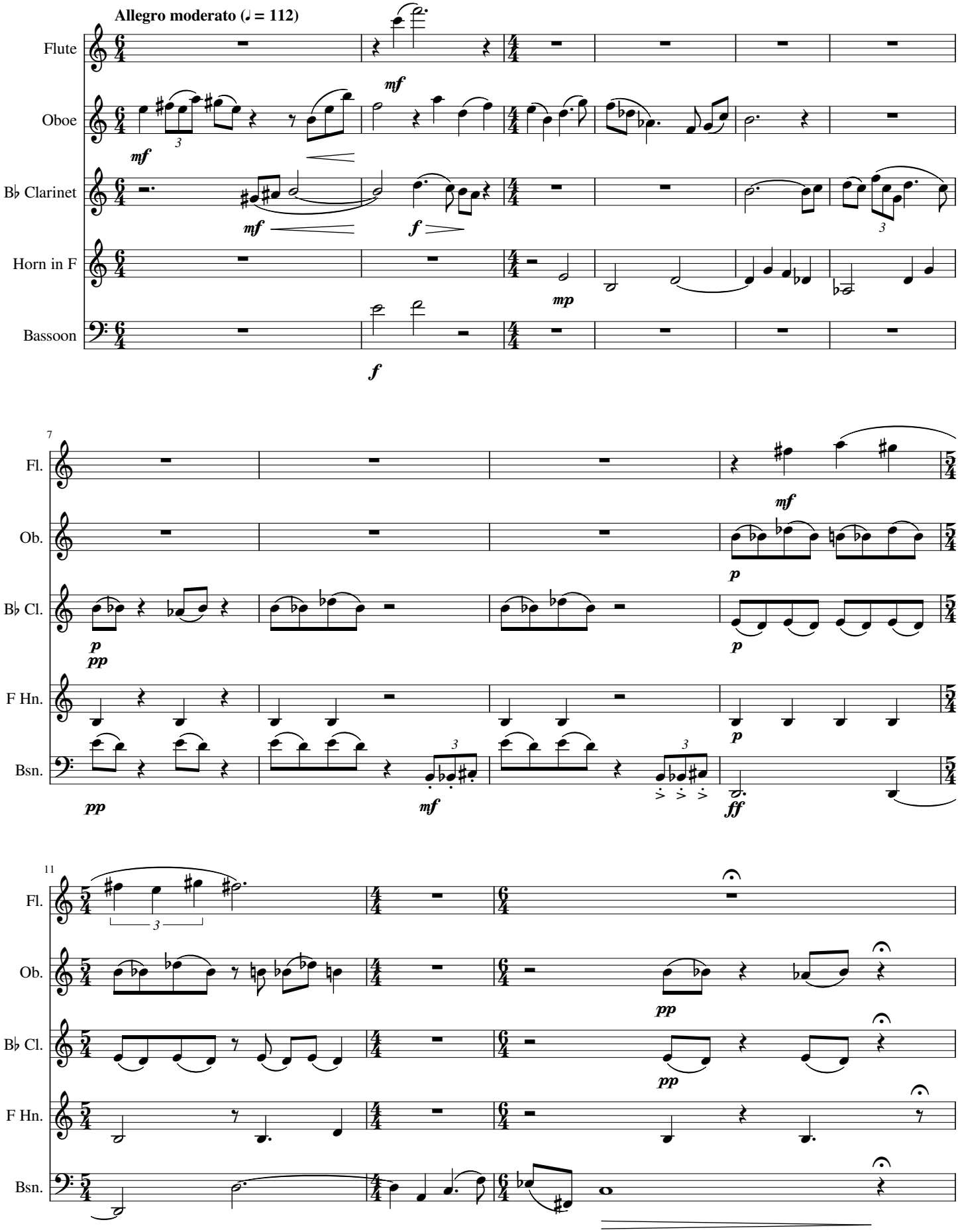
The final movement is the longest. It introduces no new material but brings into review all the previous themes, developing them both singly and in combination. The final coda connects them all together before a decisive close in E major.

Nick Ray
November 2016

Five Facets

for wind quintet

Nick Ray



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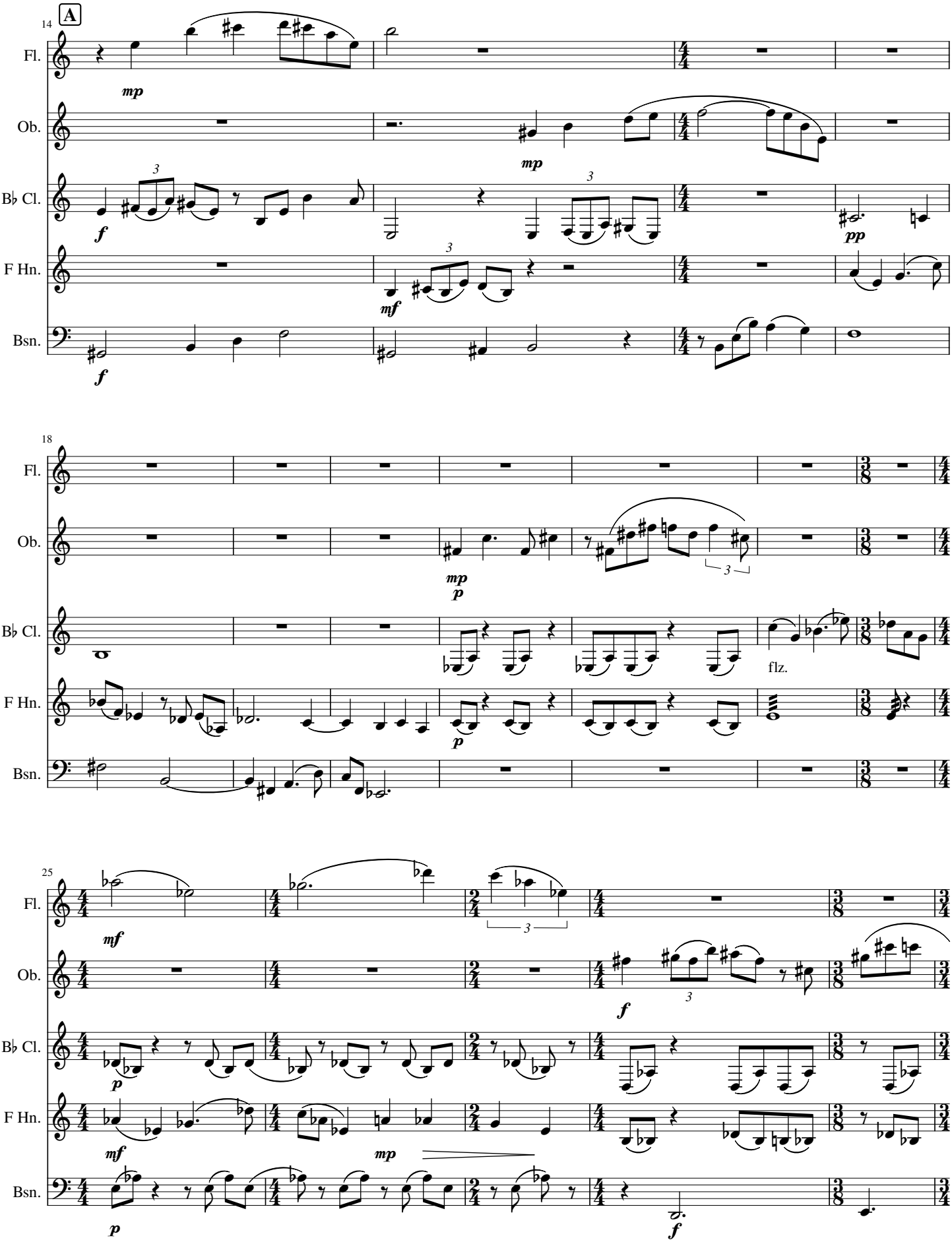

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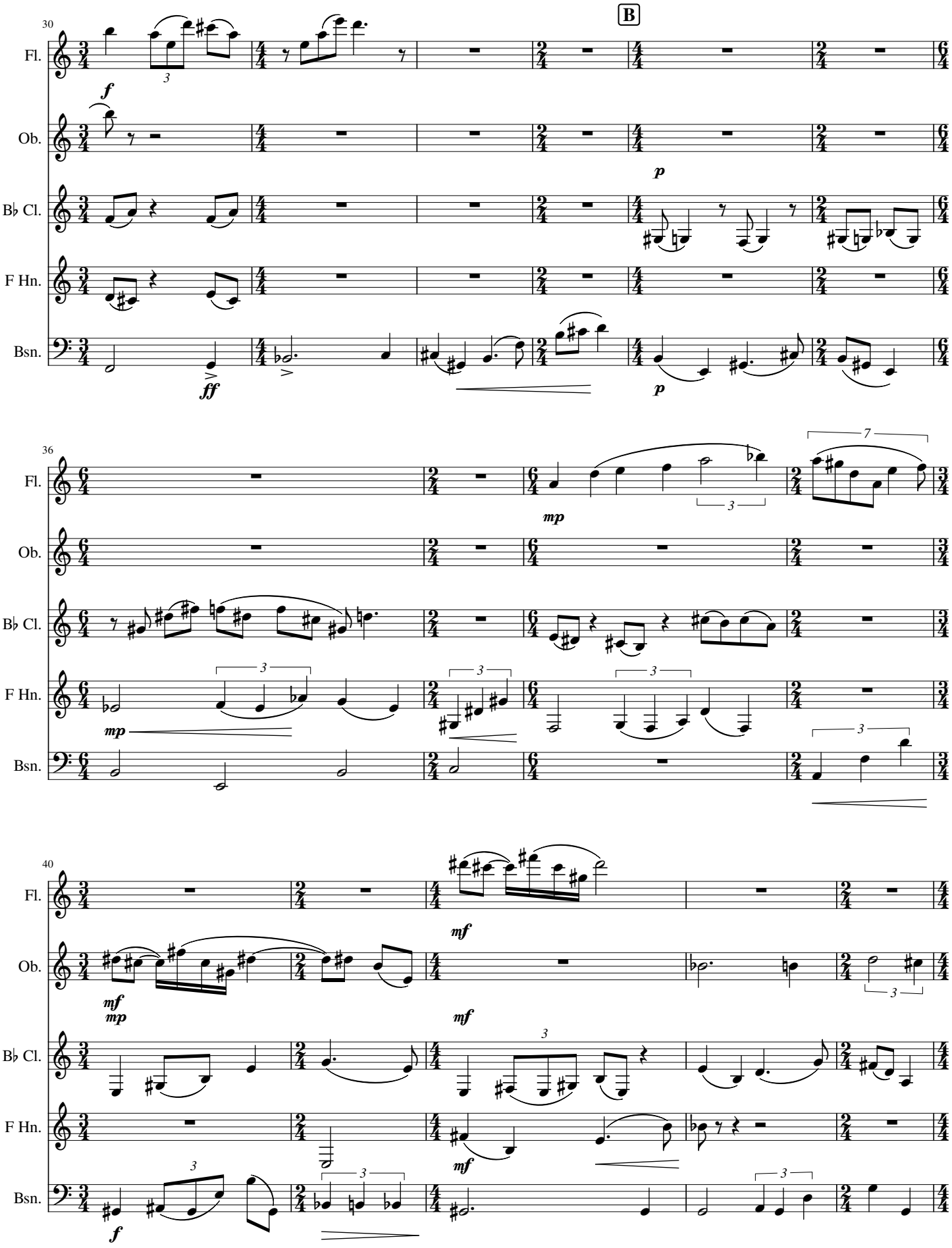

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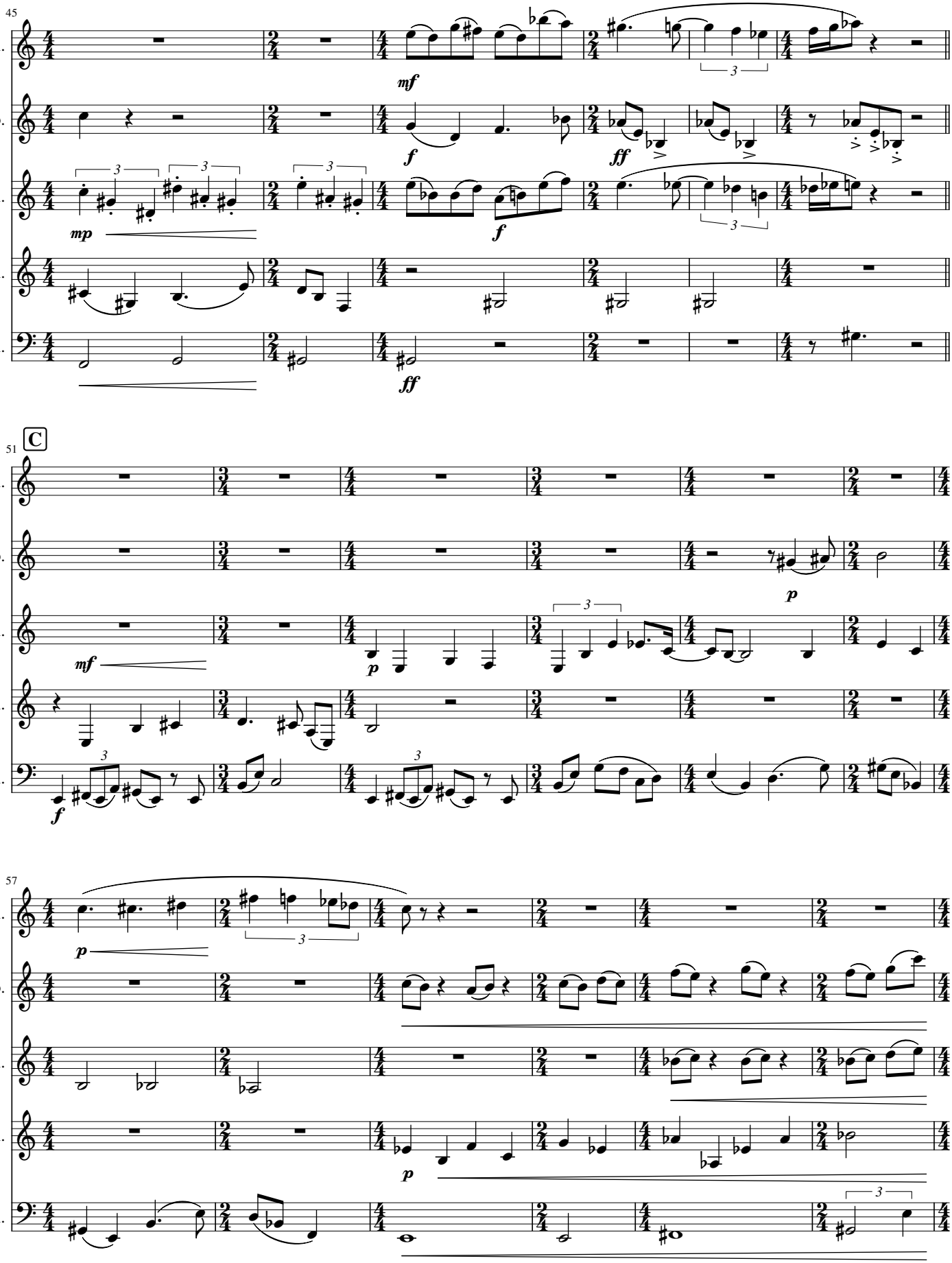

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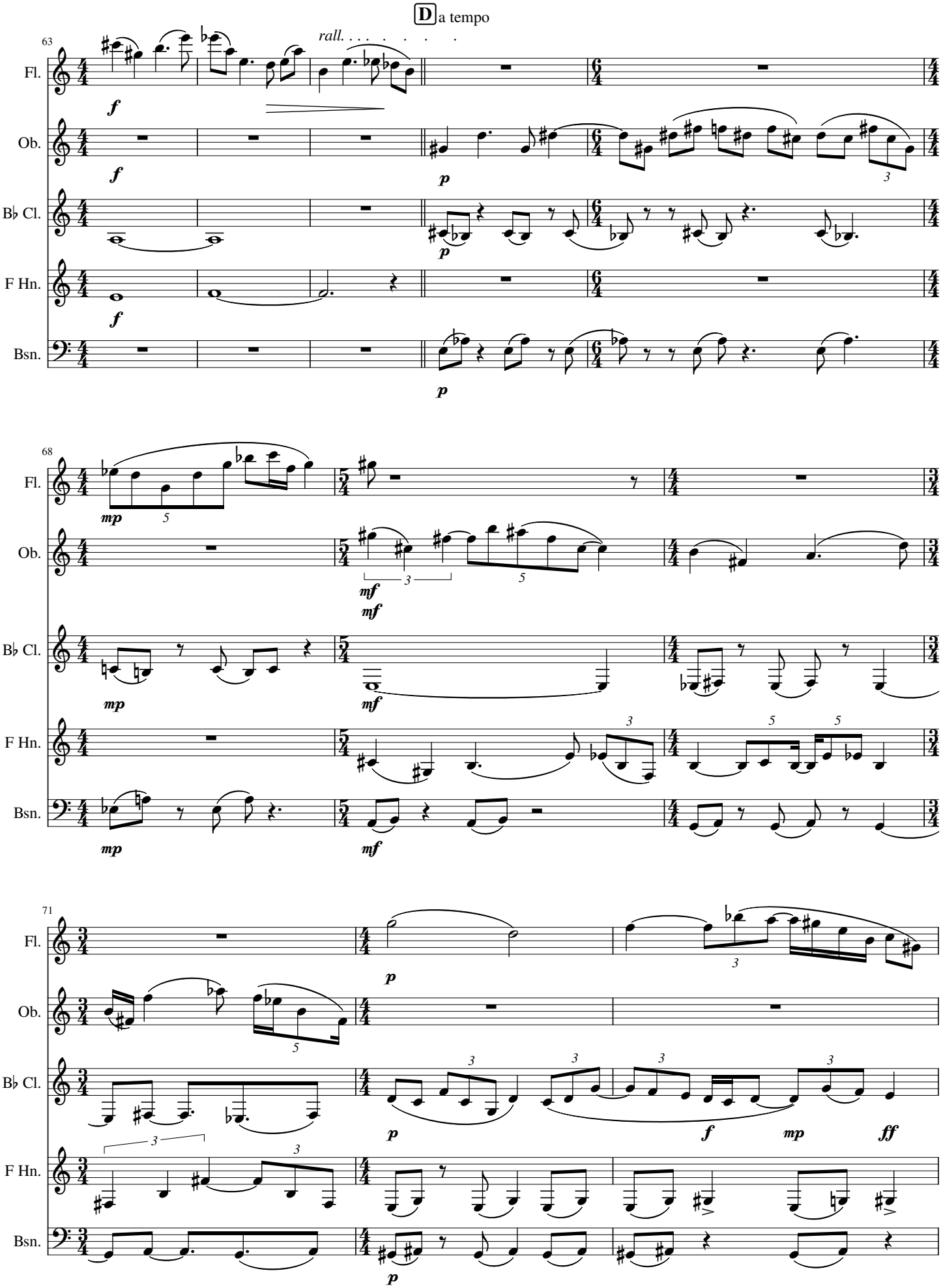

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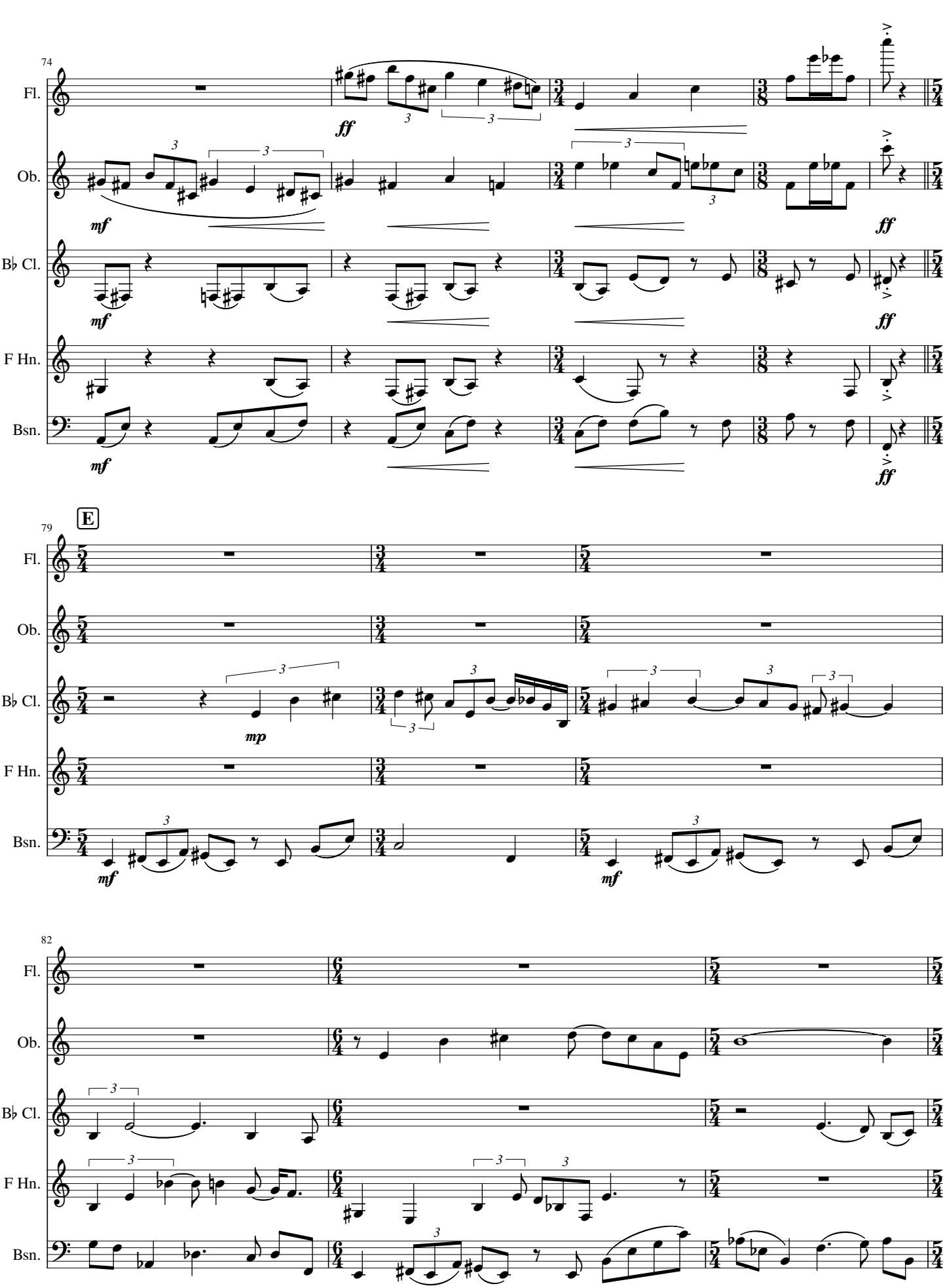

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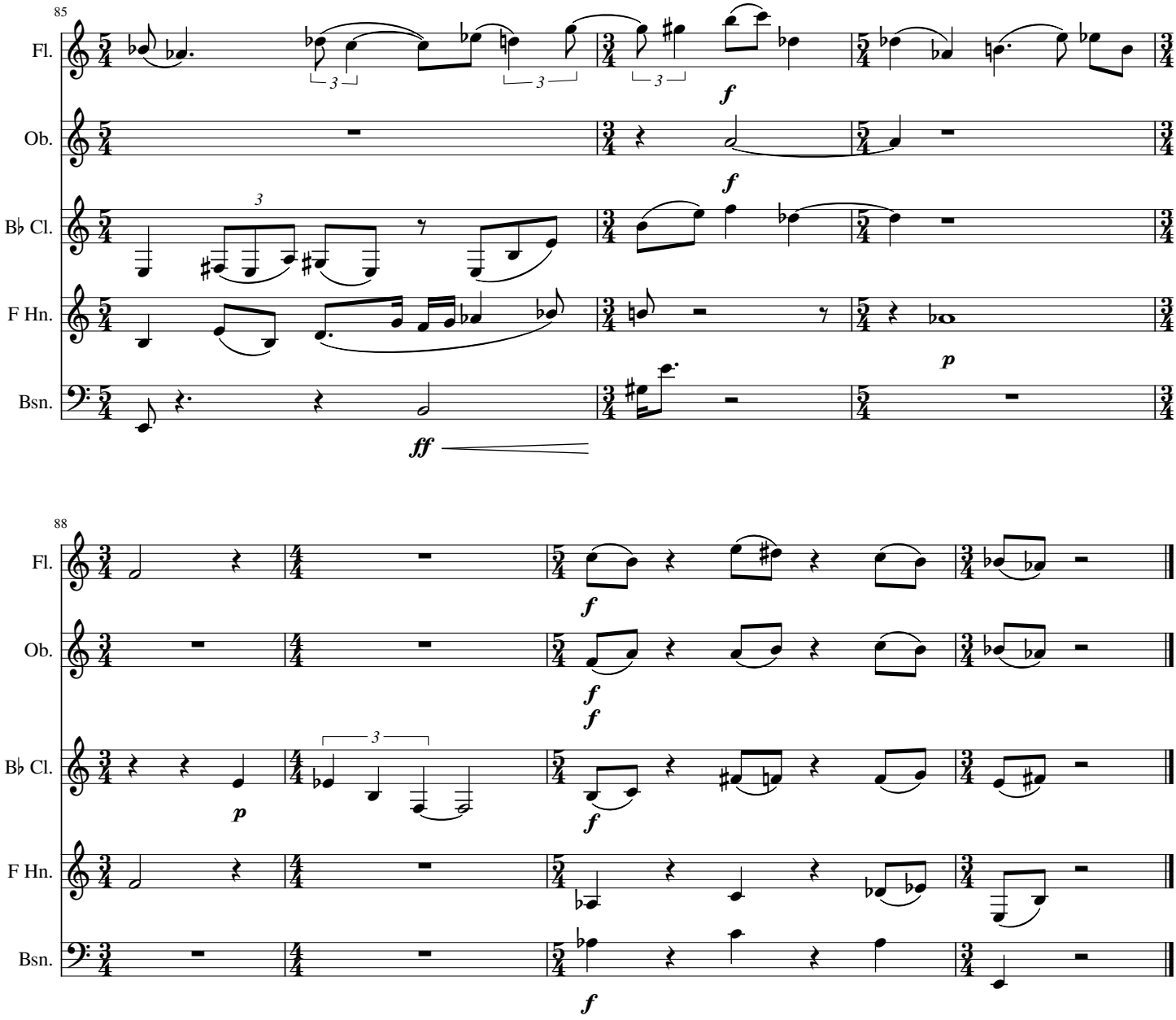

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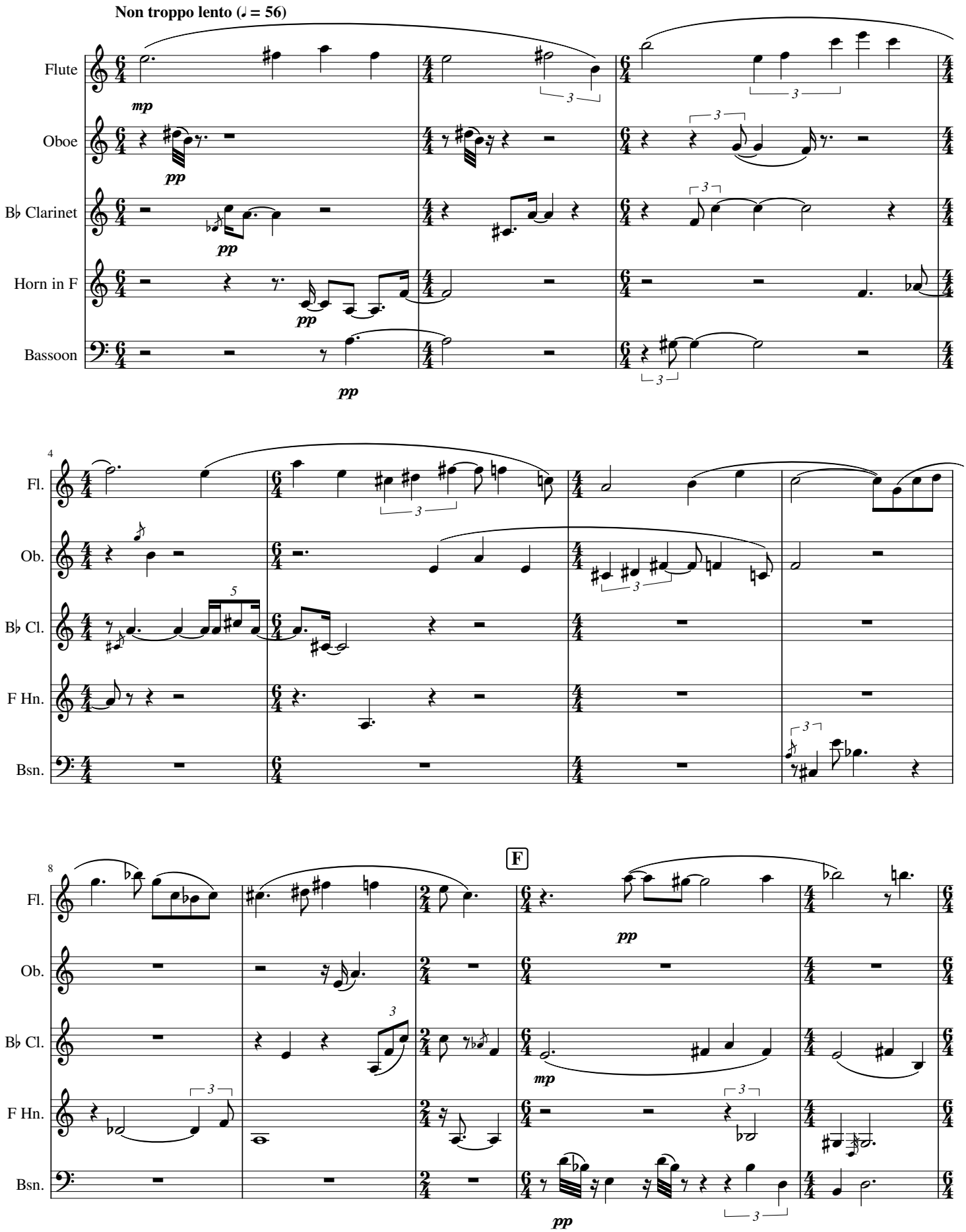

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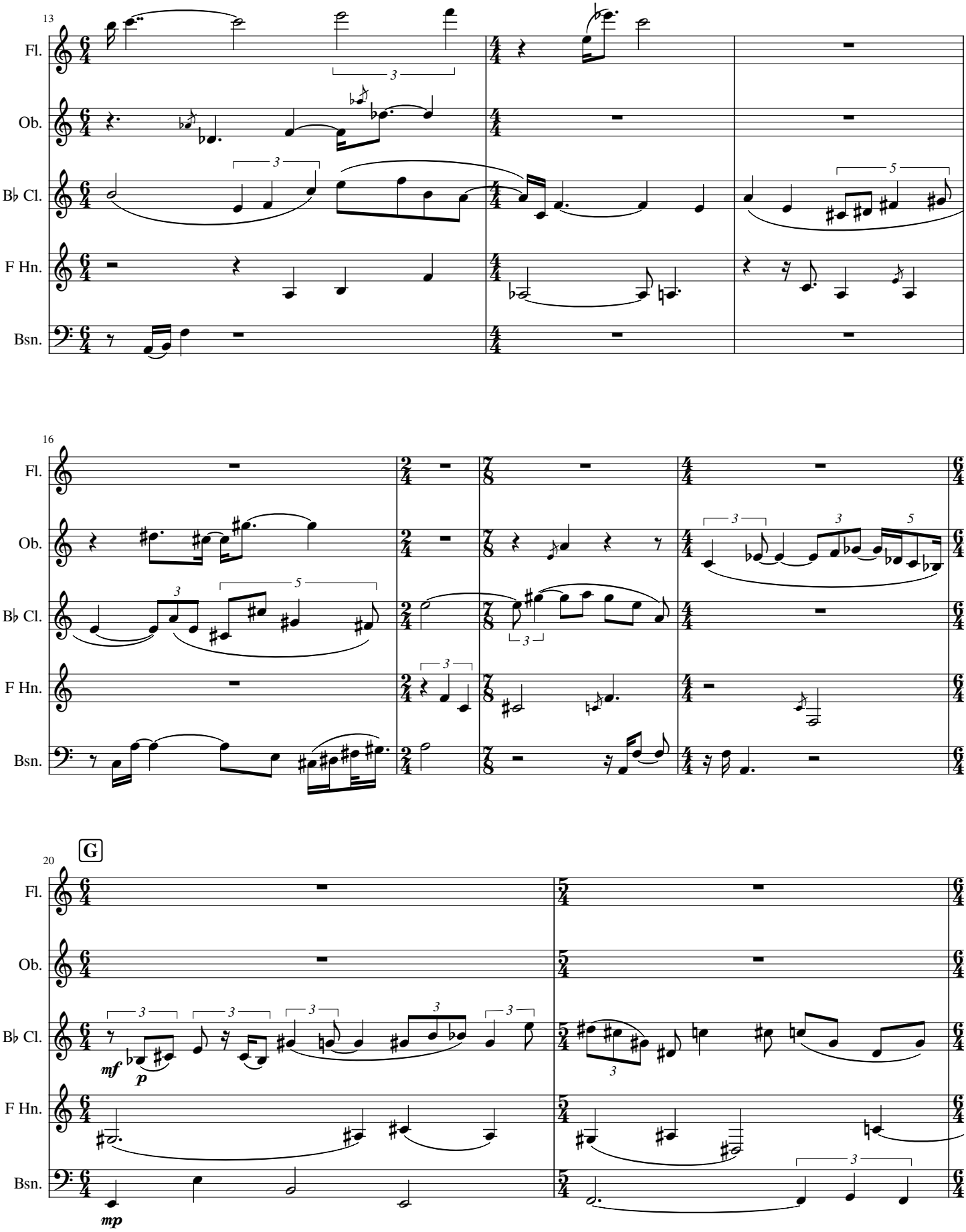

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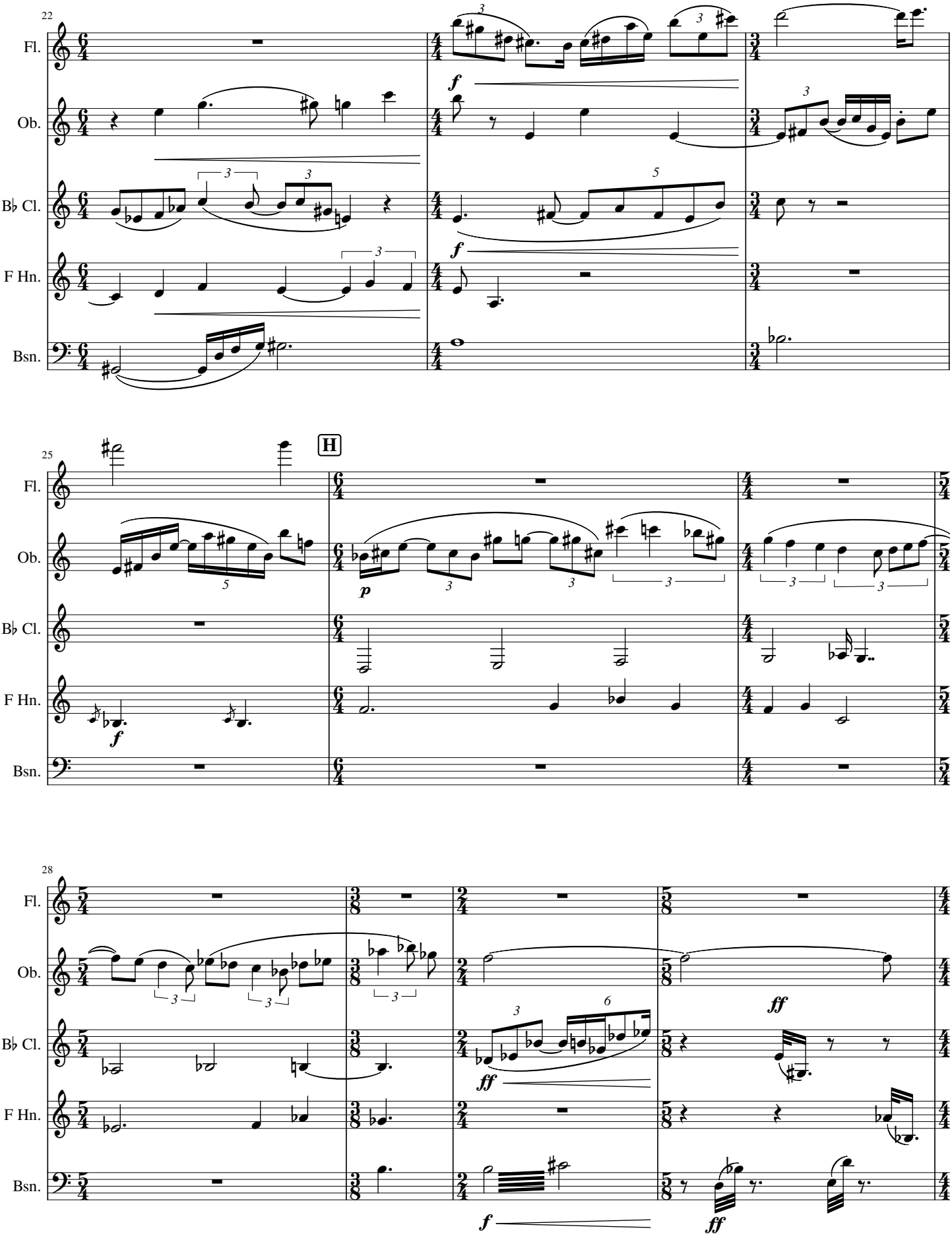

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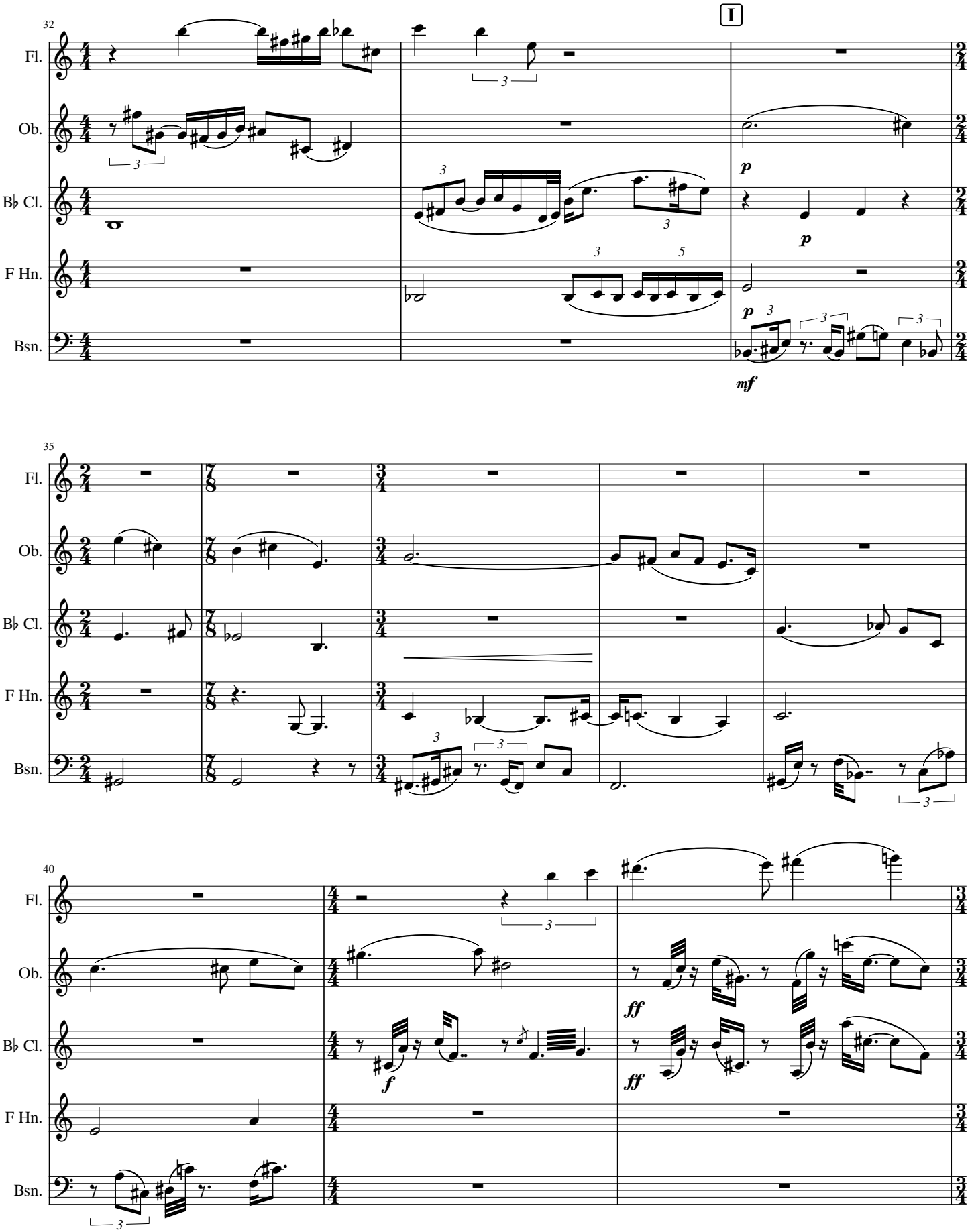

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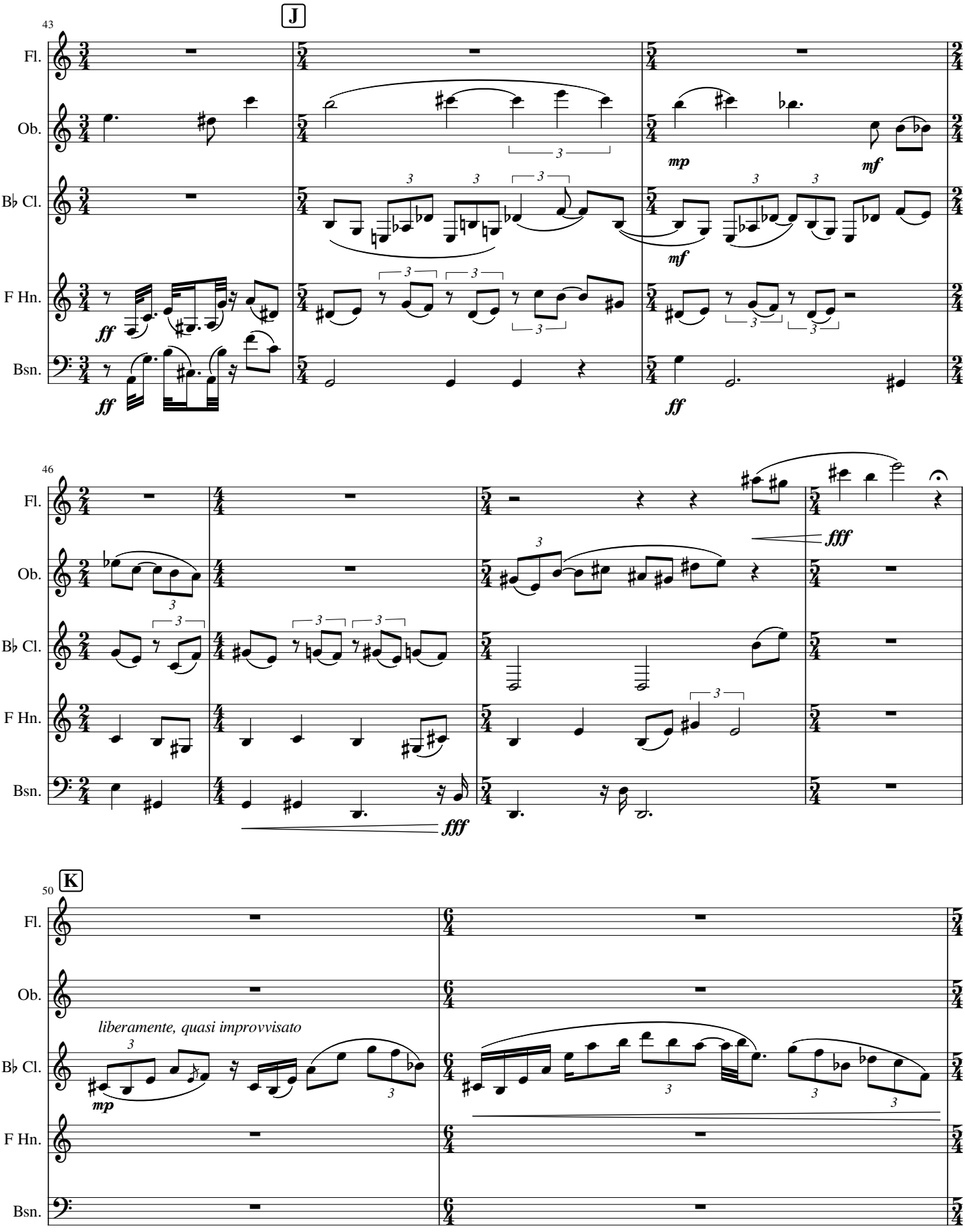

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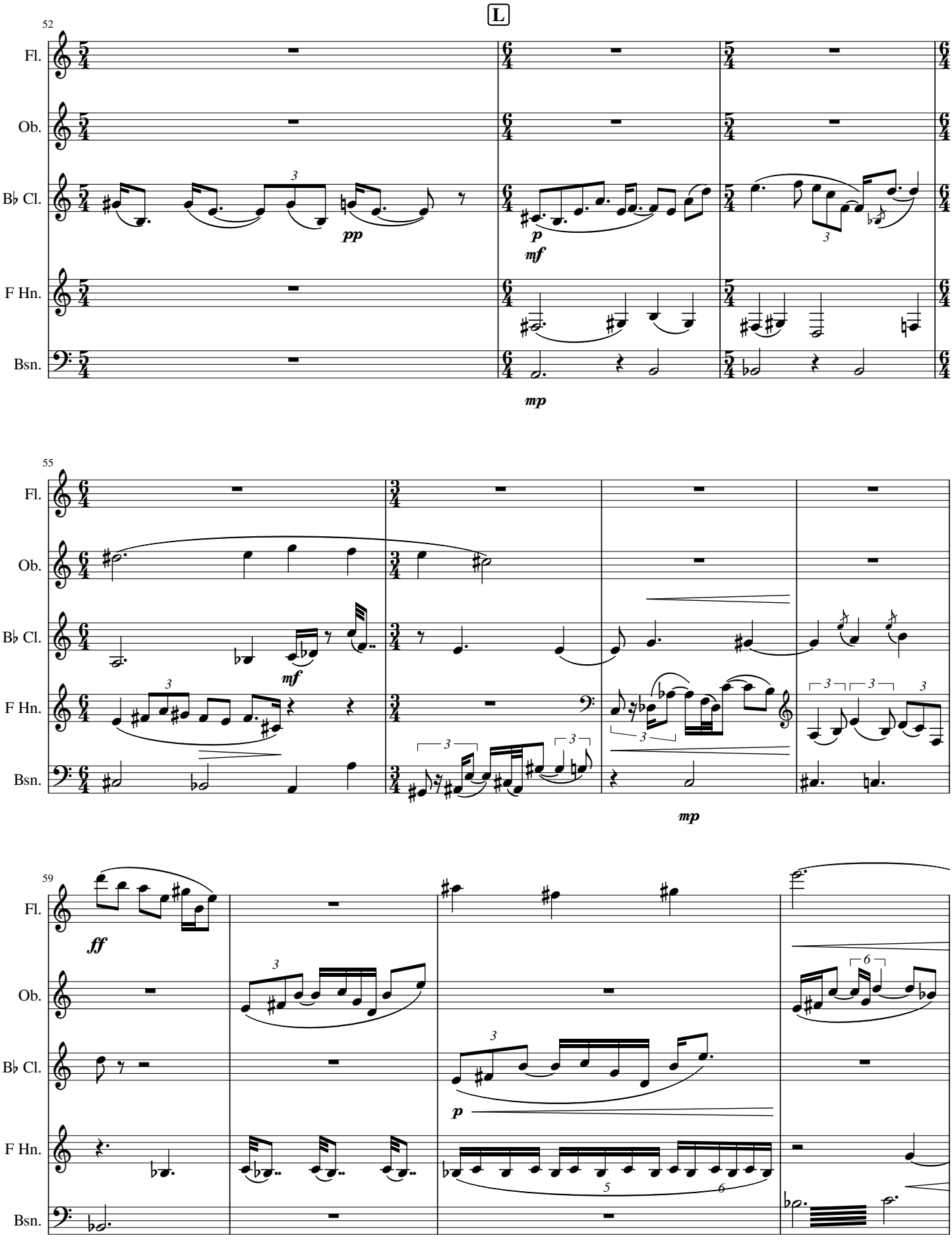

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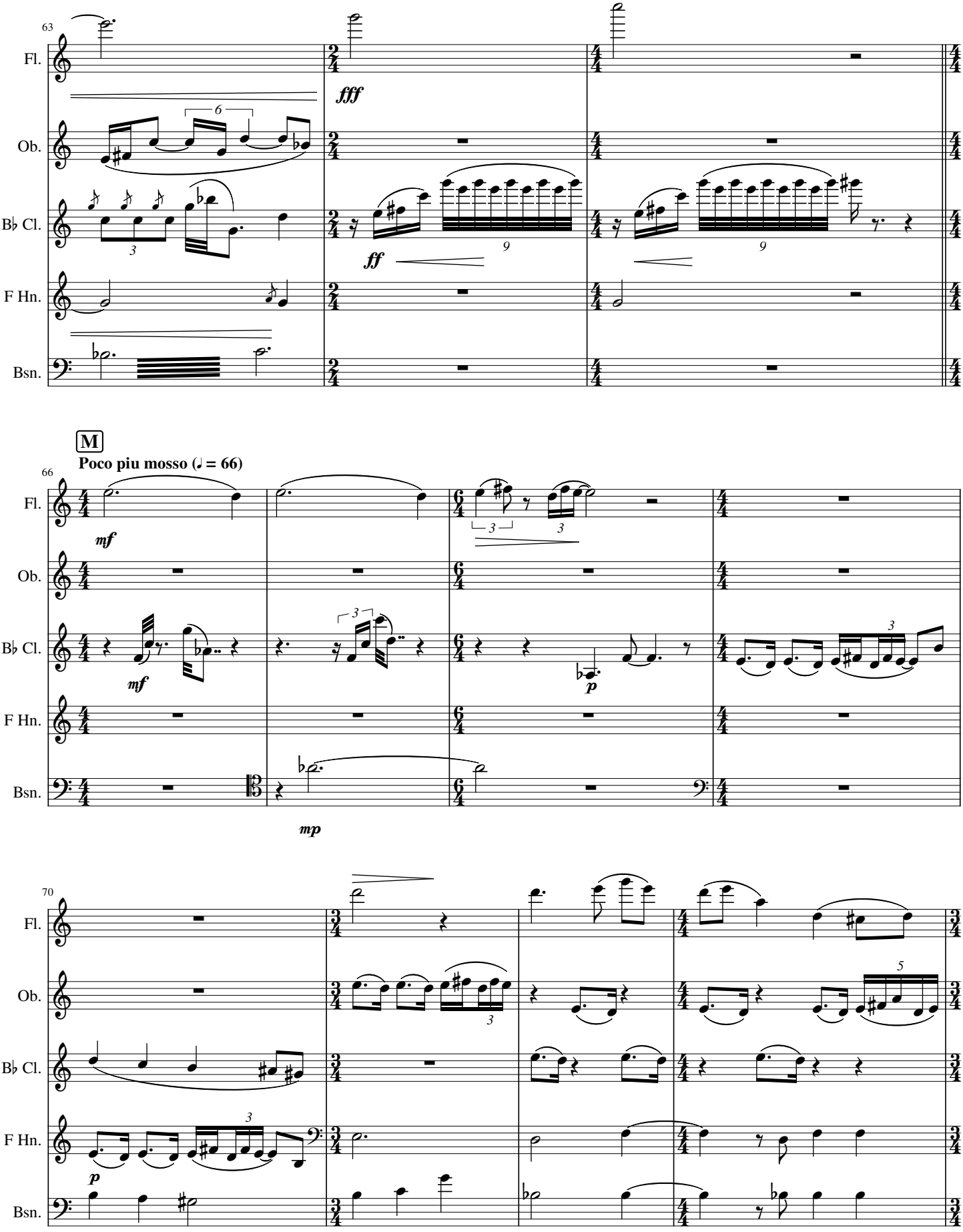

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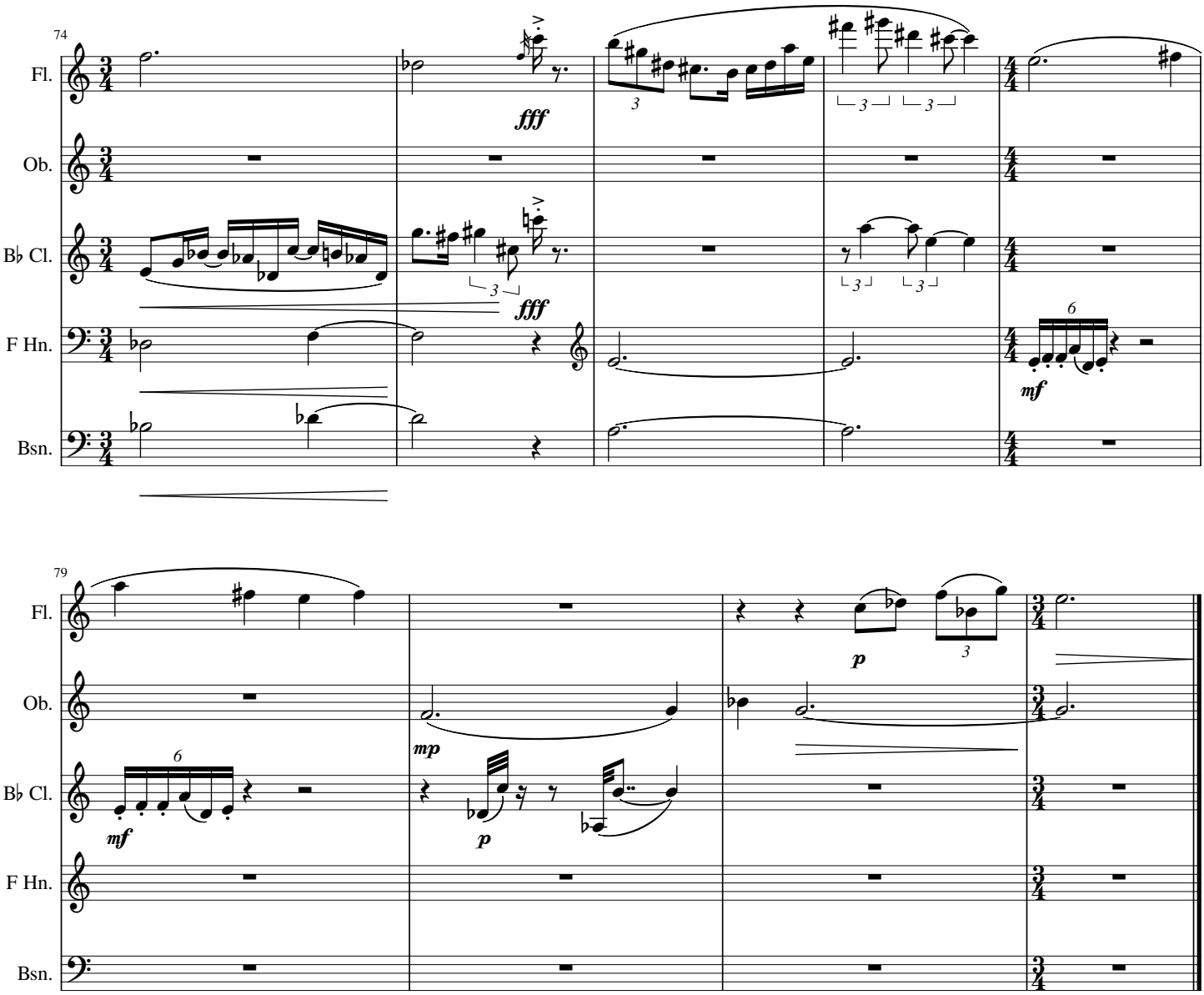

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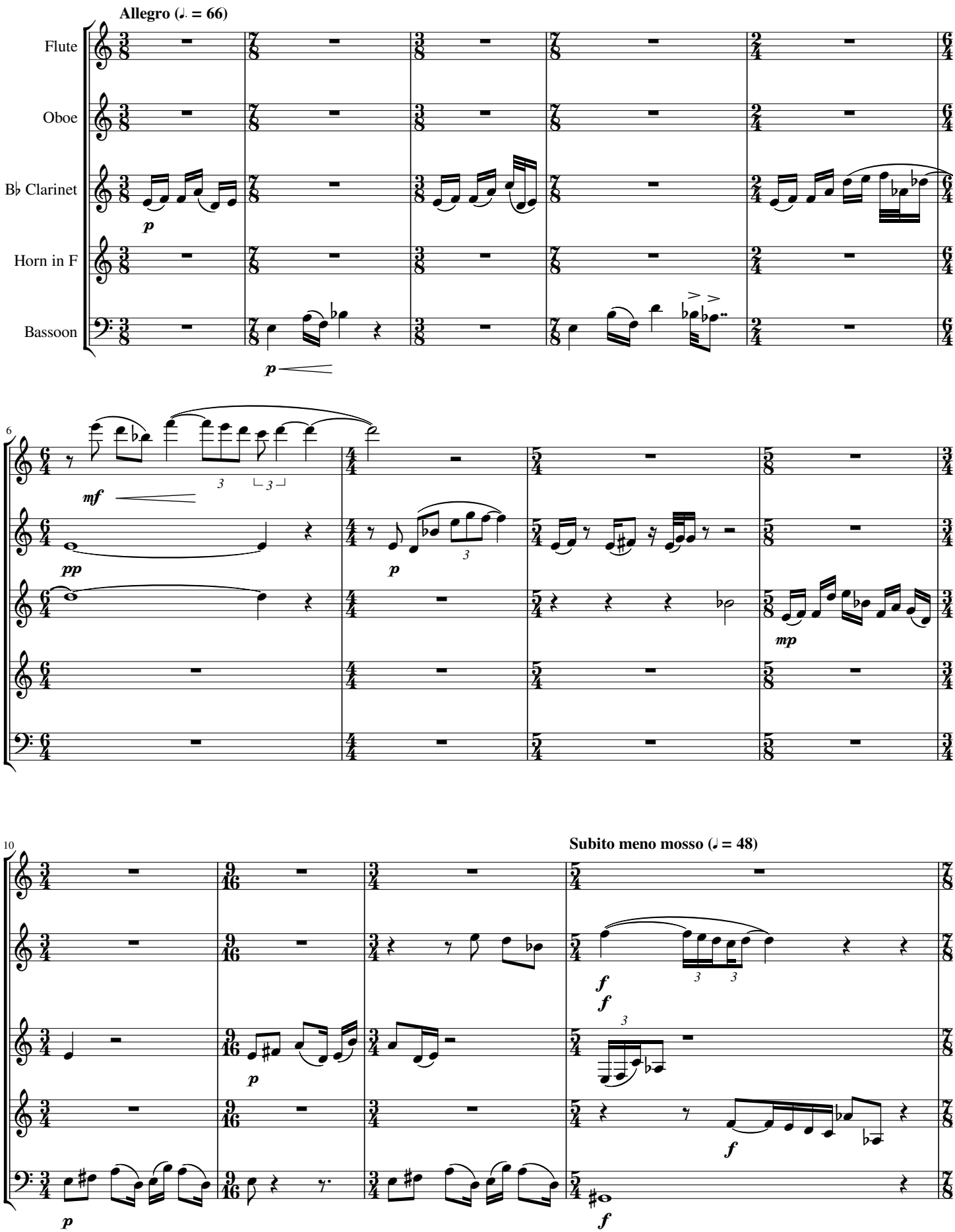
III

Nick Ray



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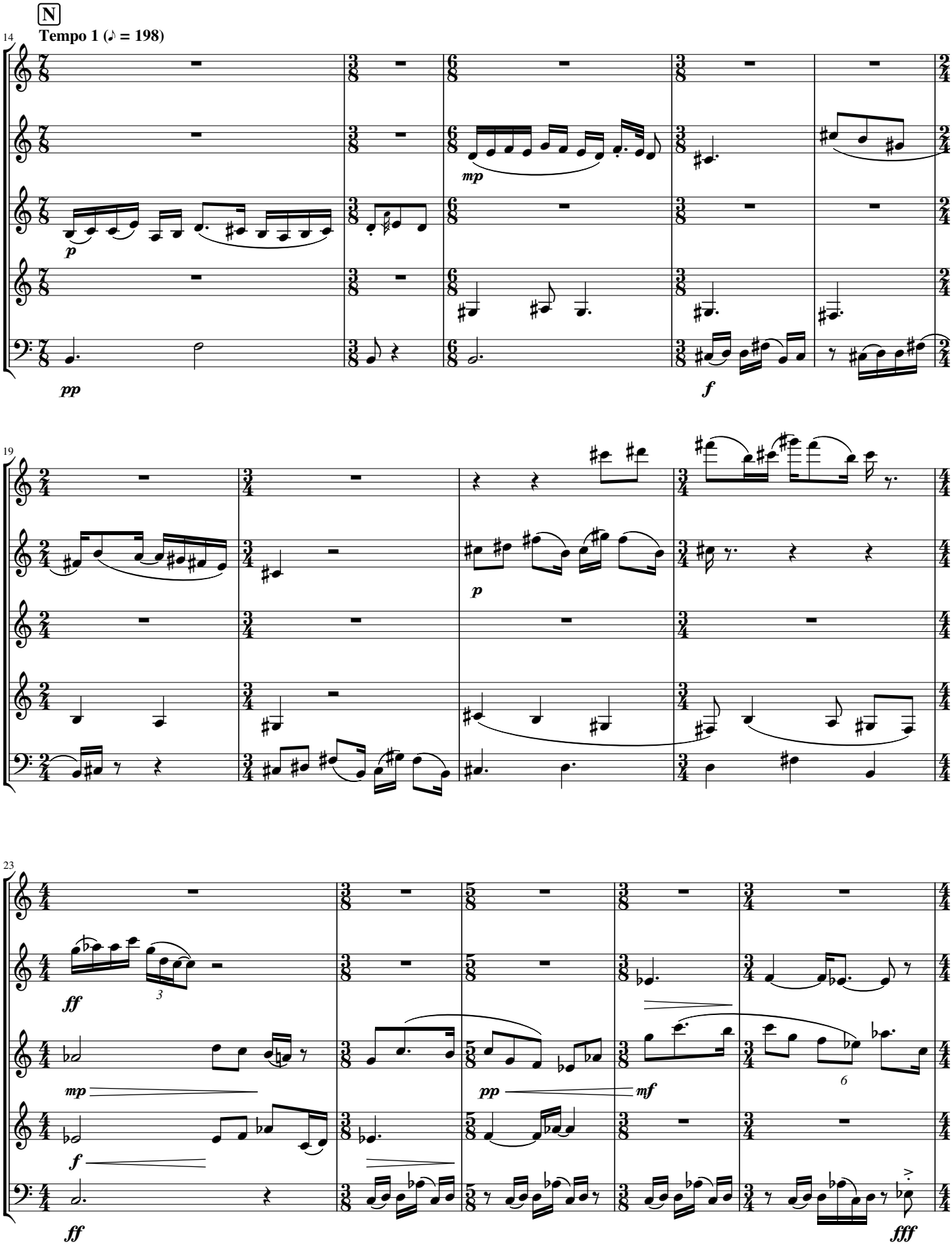

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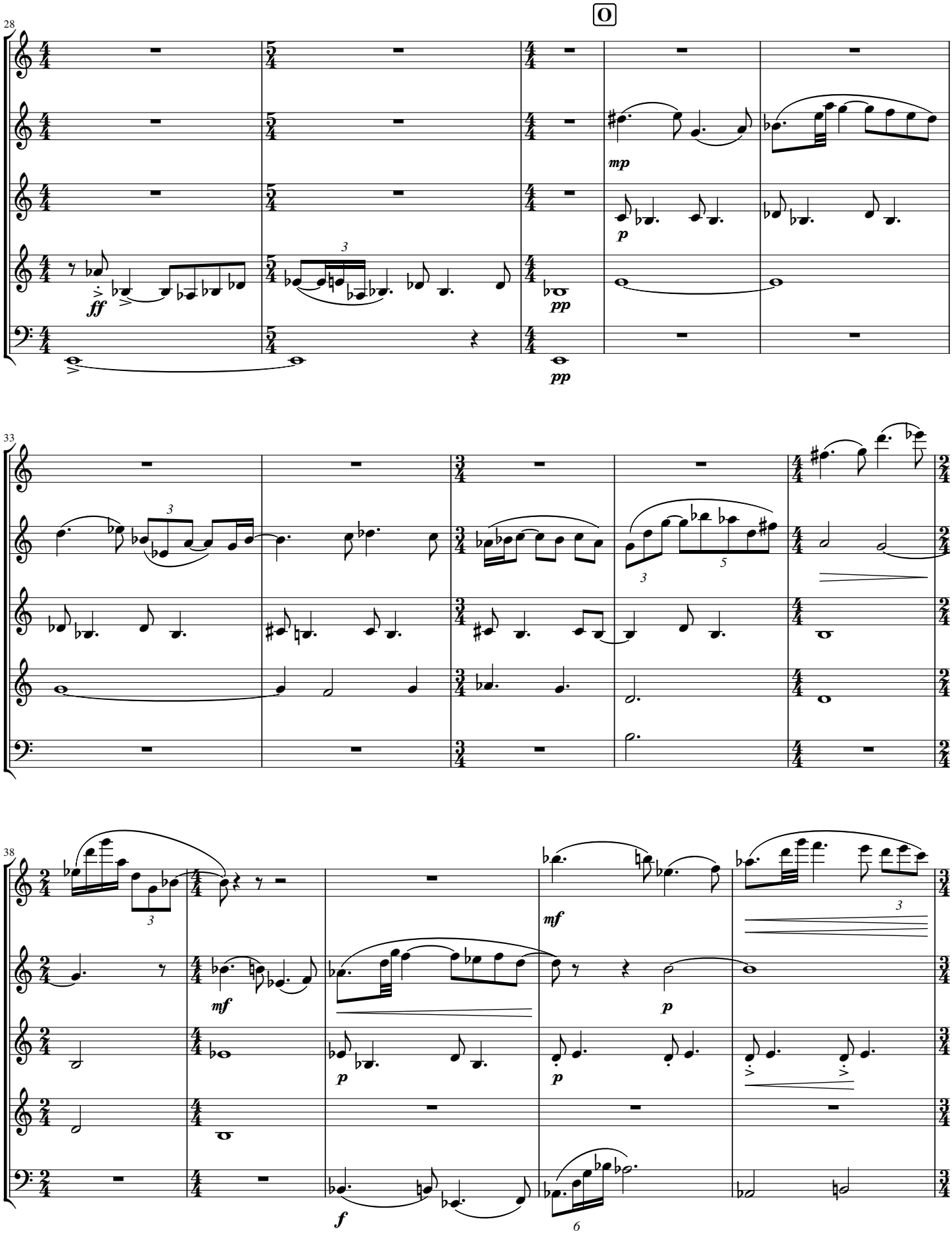

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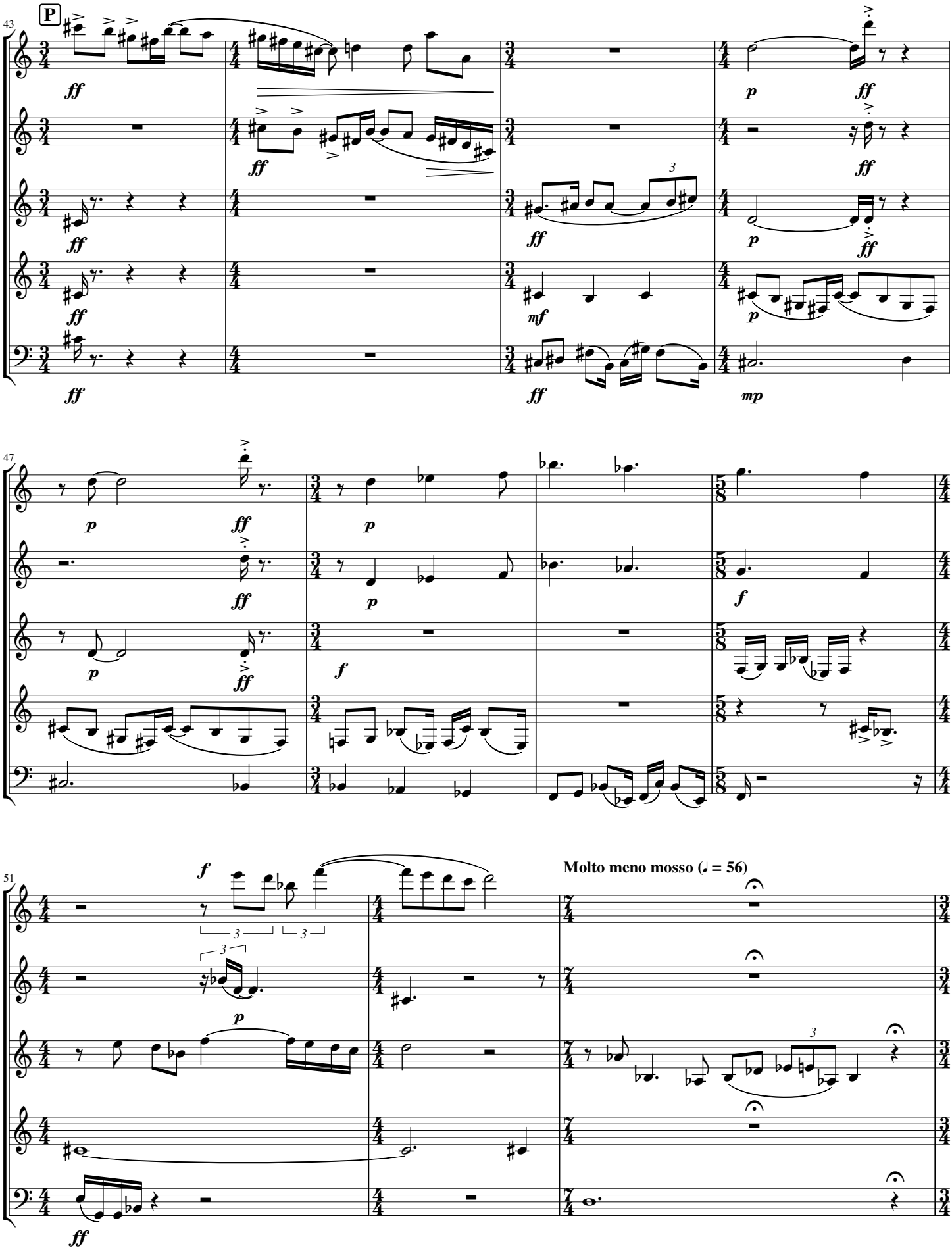

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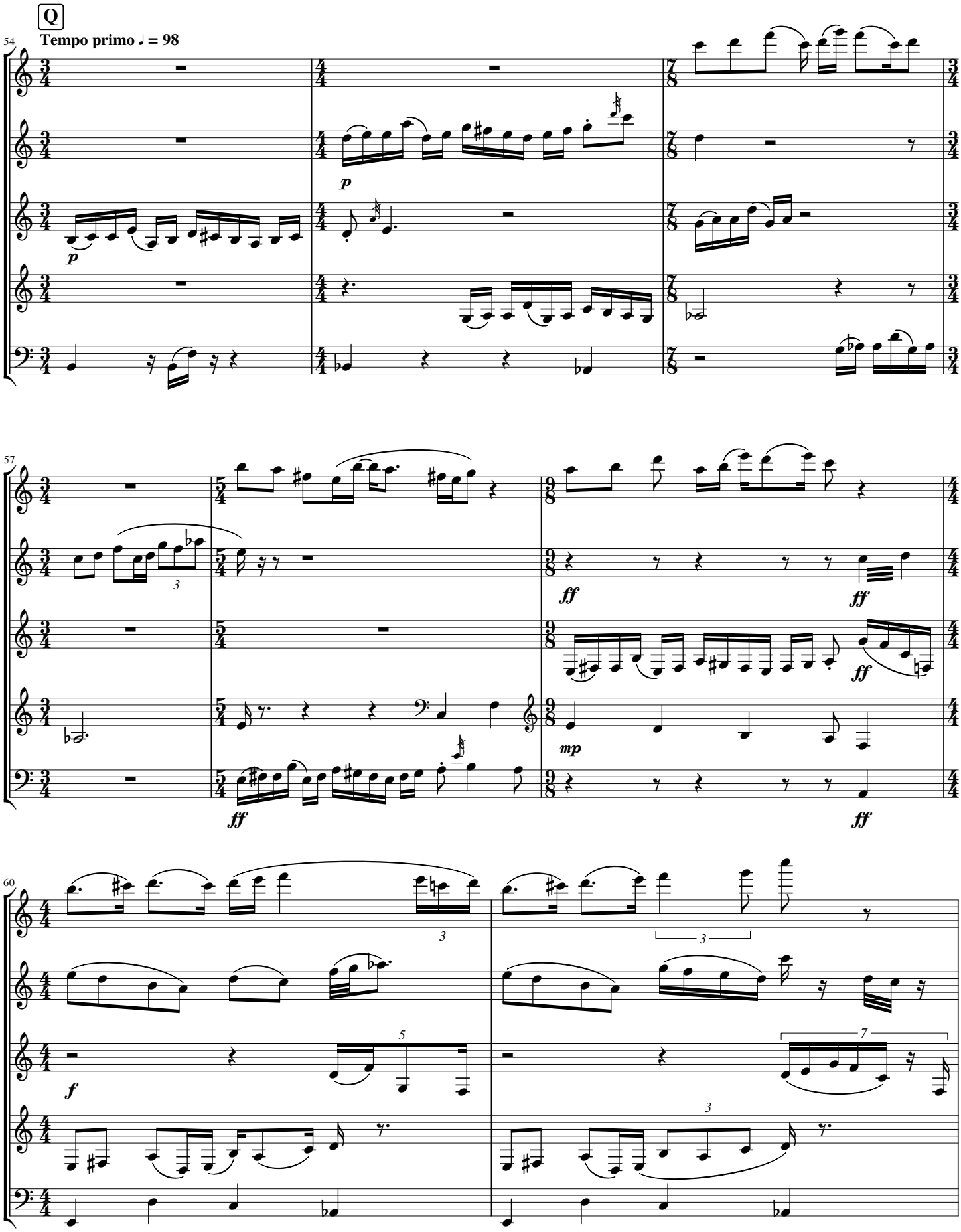

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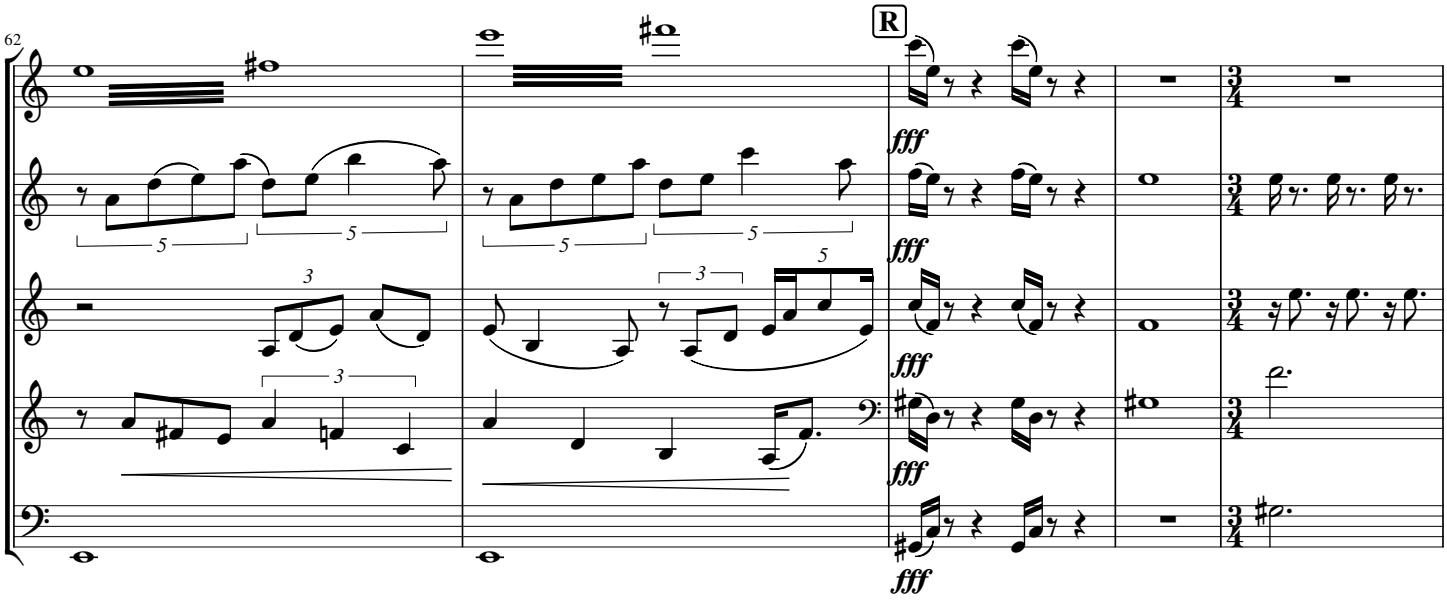

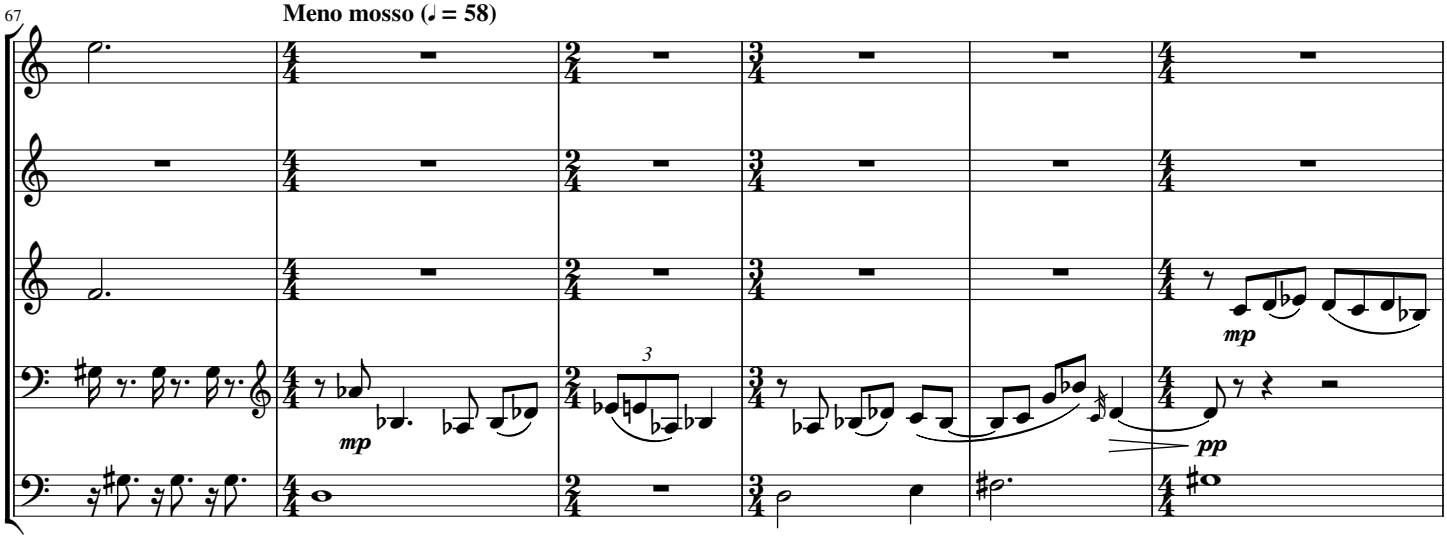

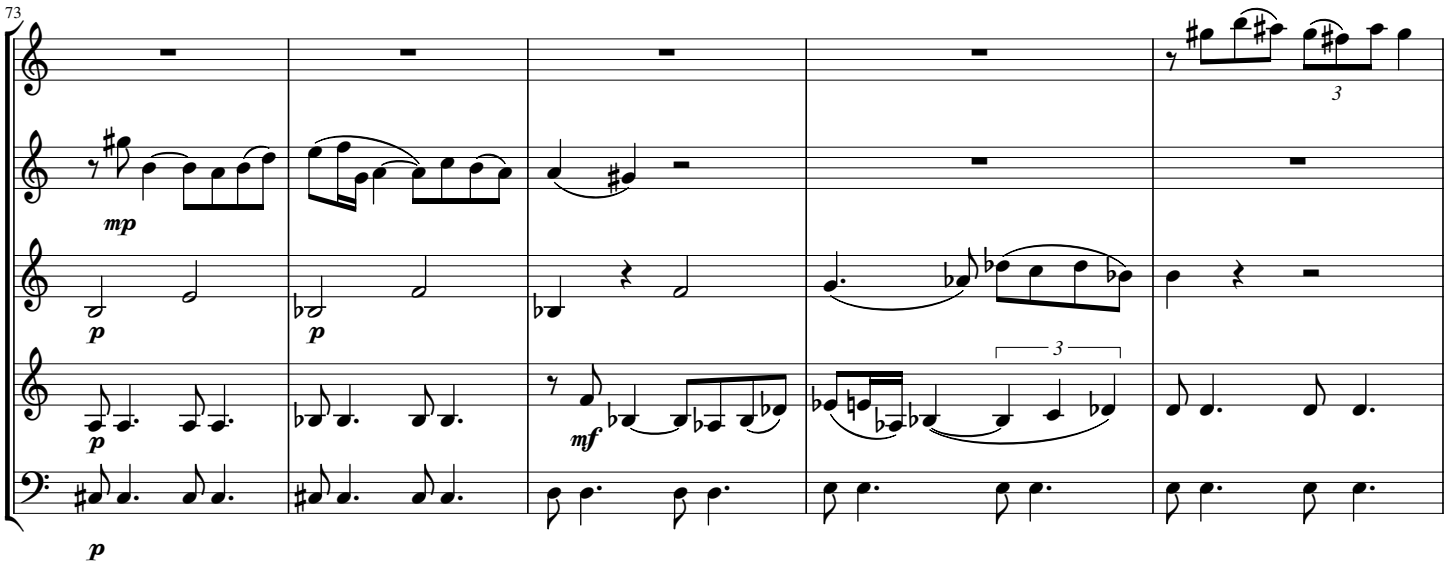

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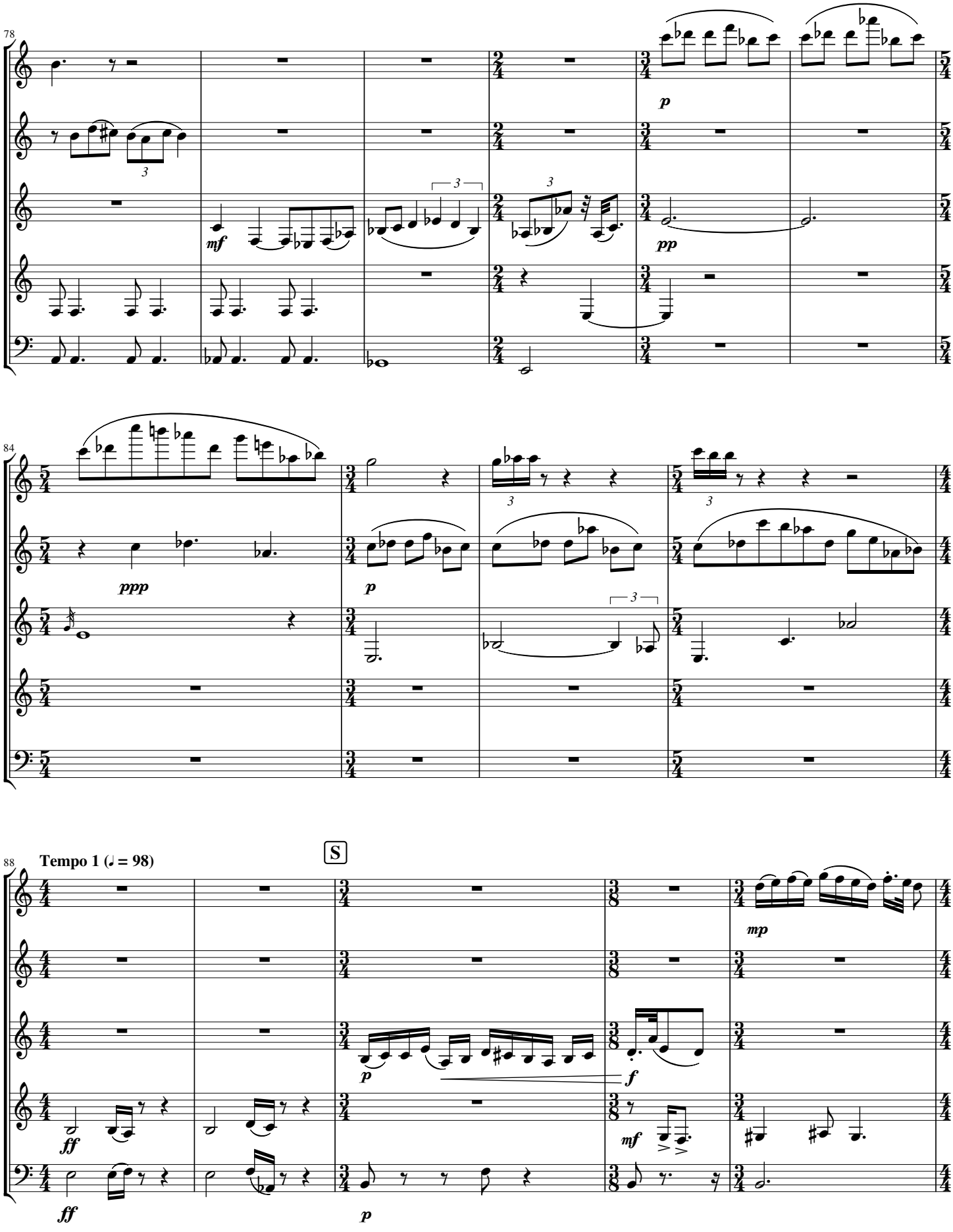

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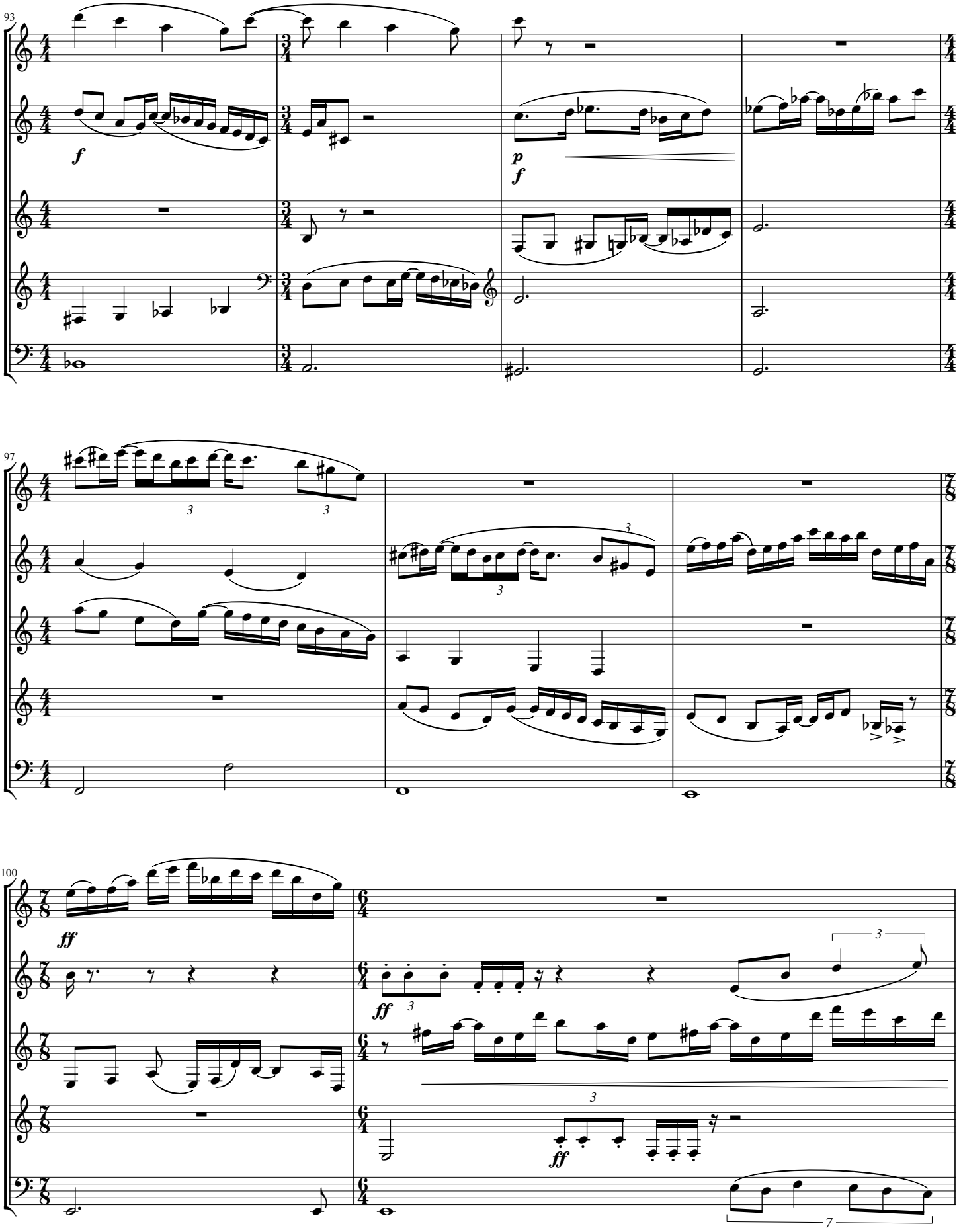

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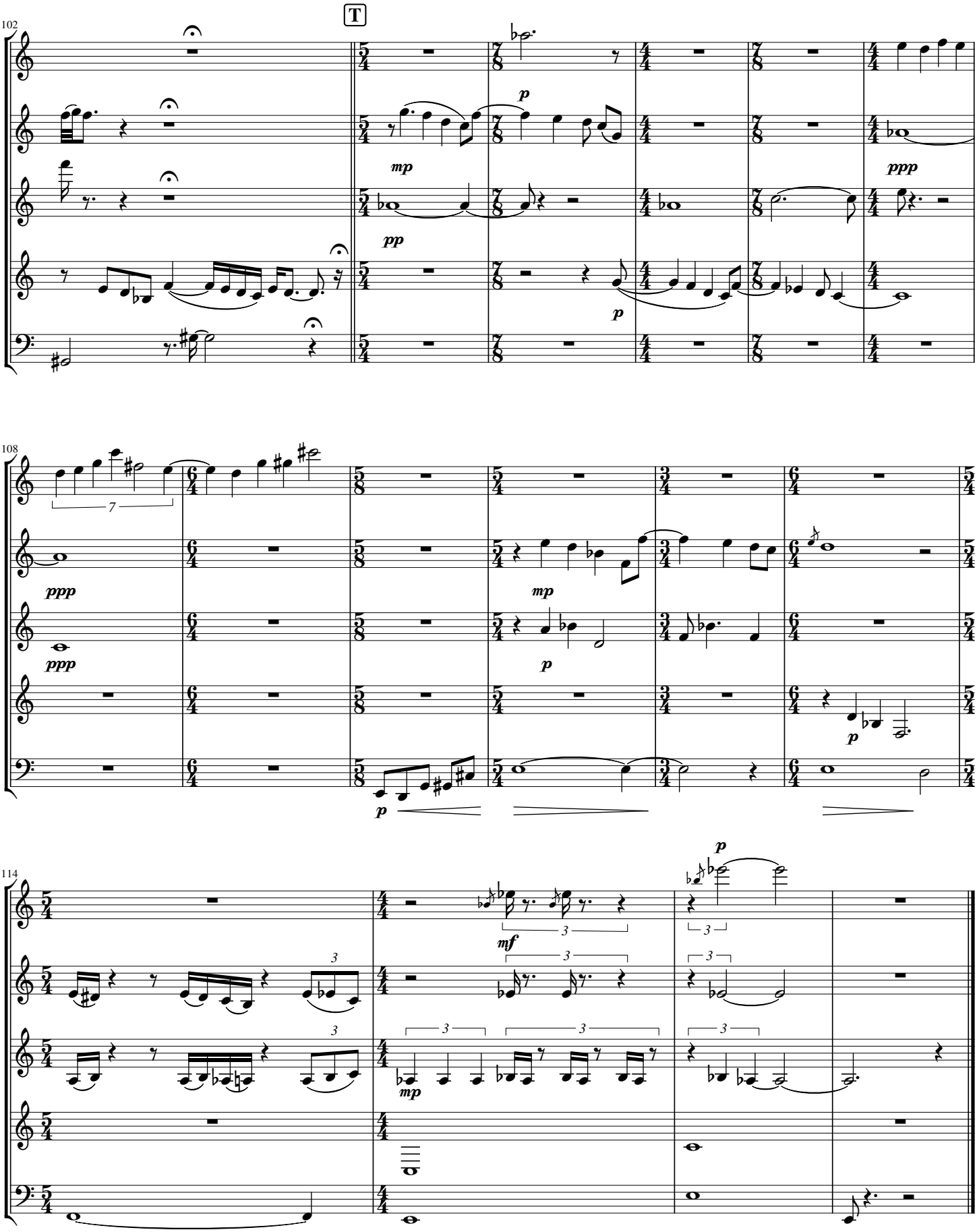

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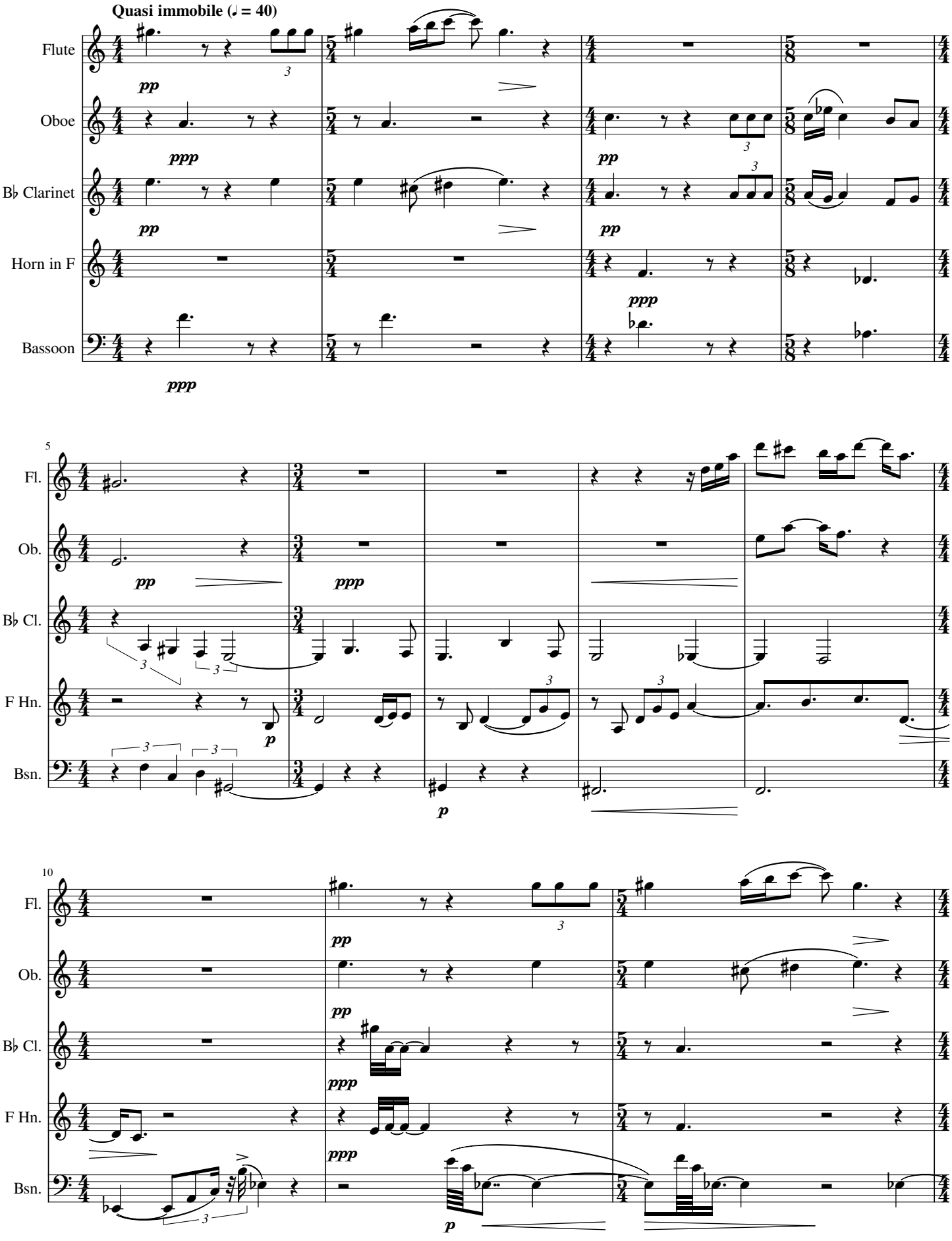
IV

(Infinite Distance)



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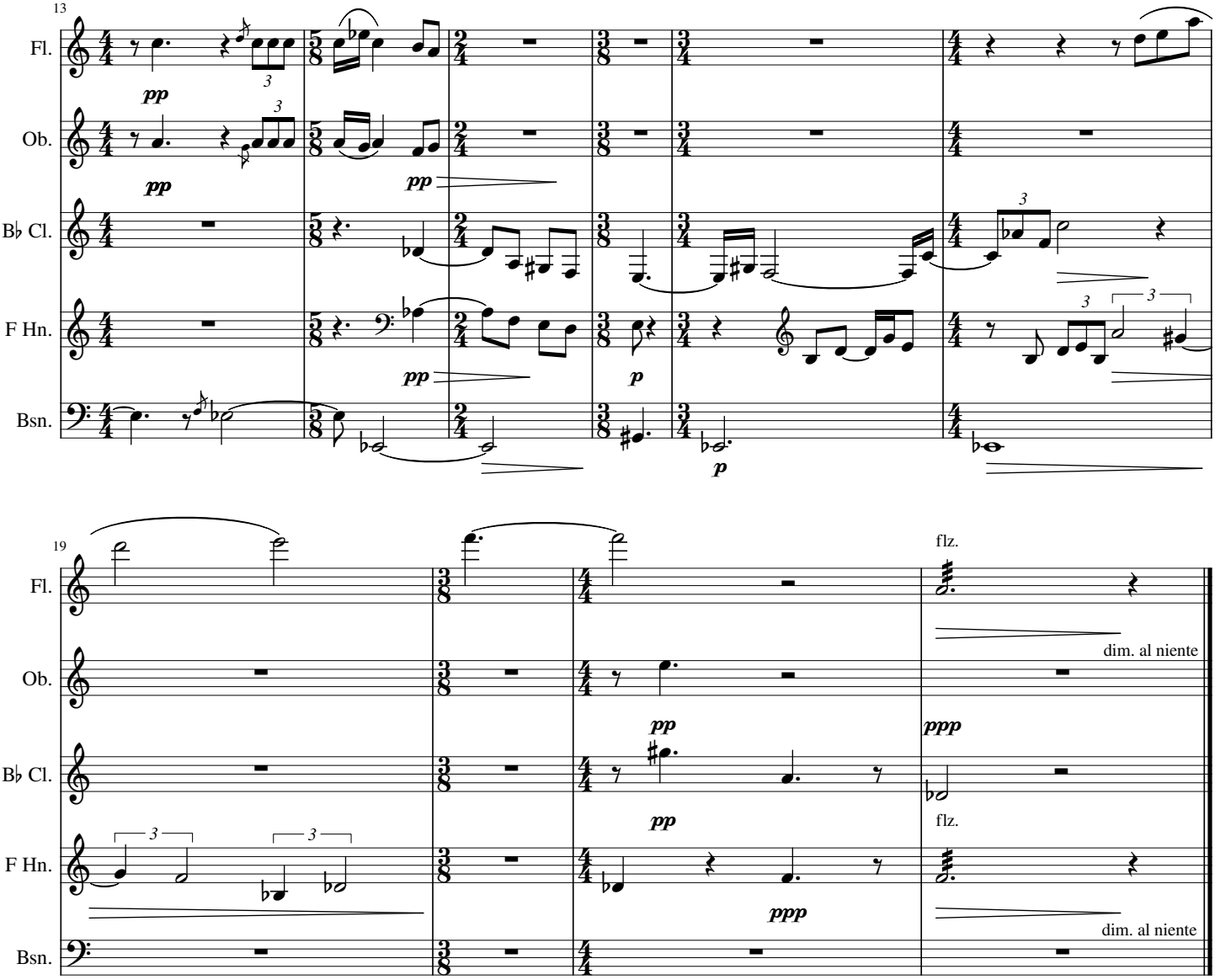

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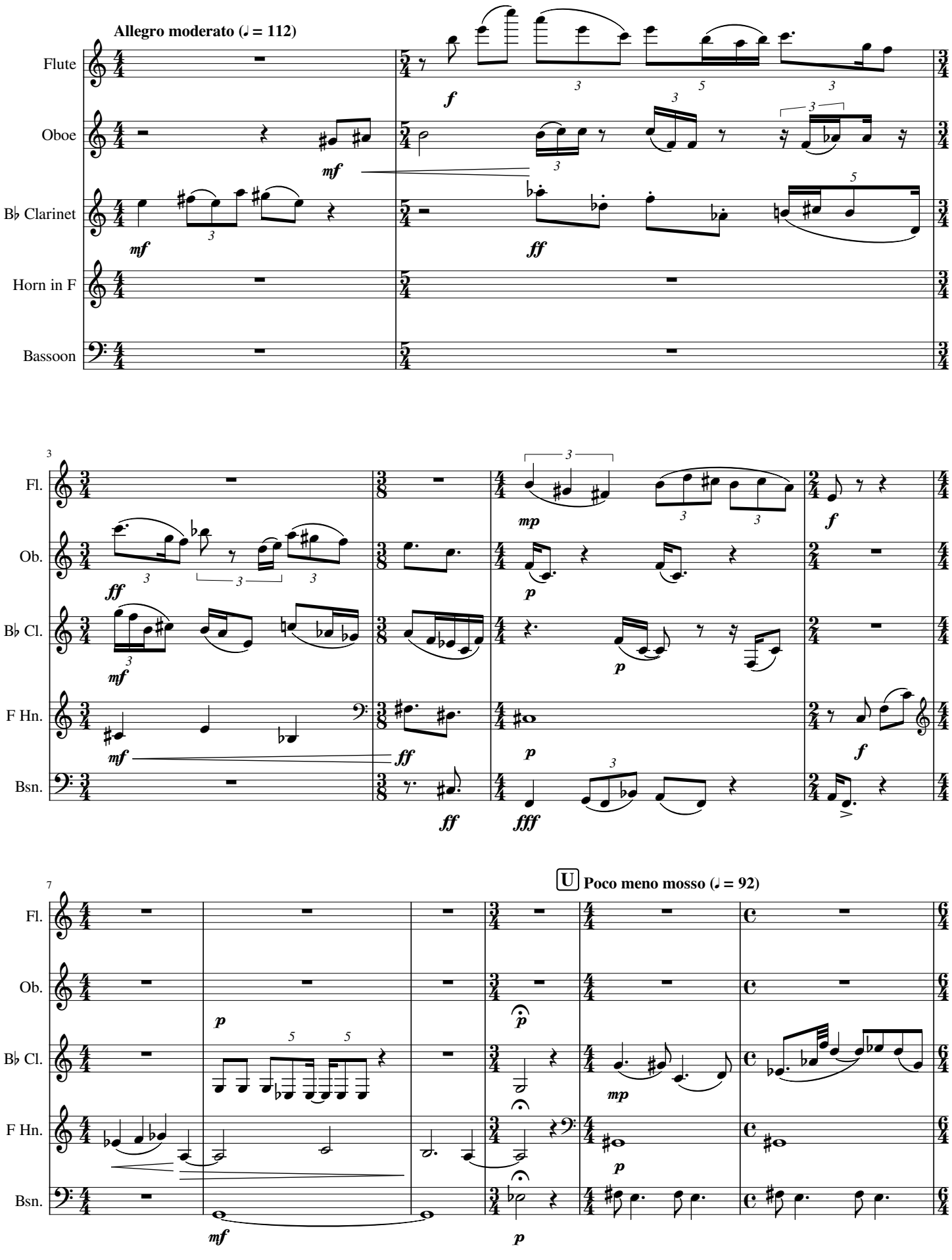

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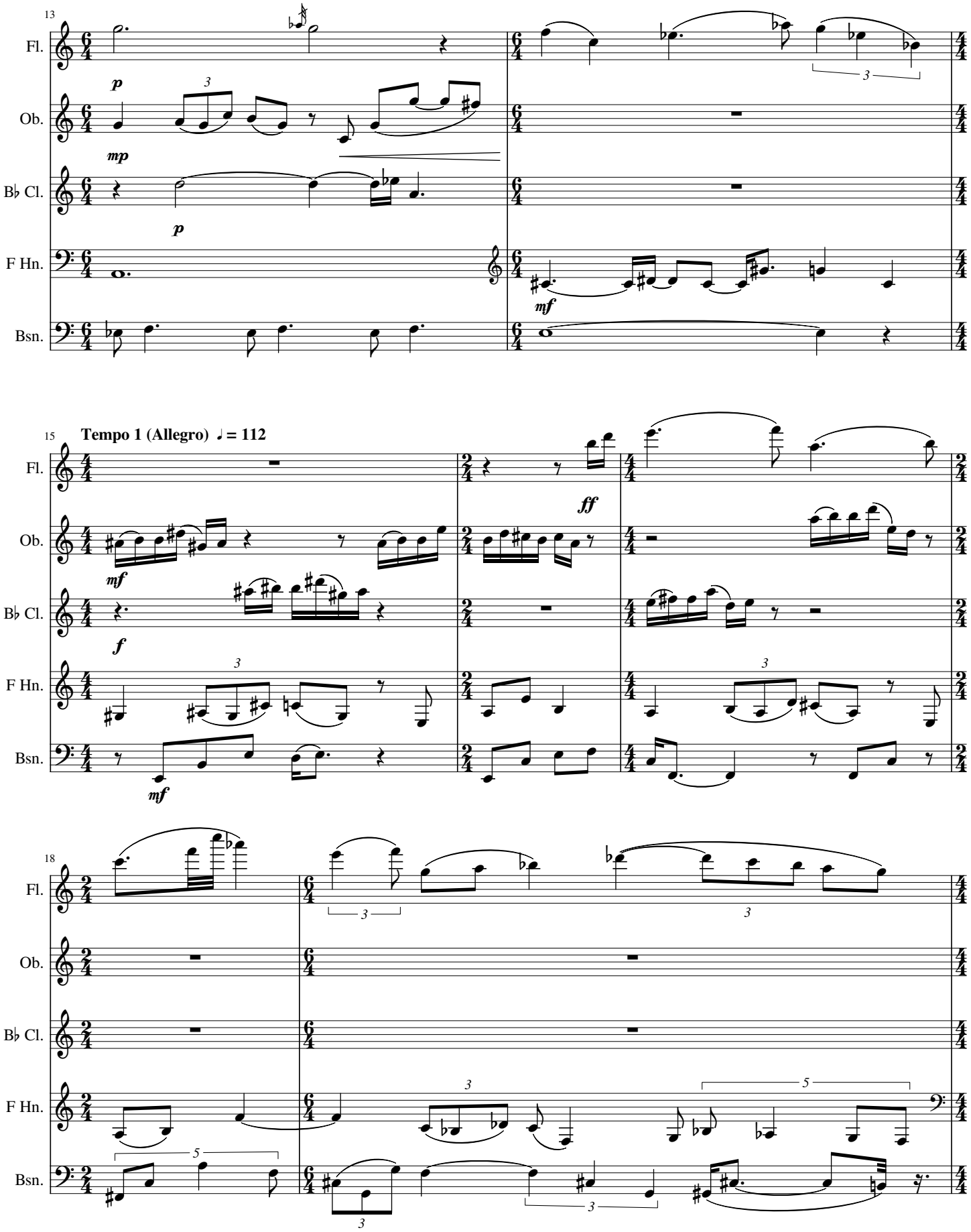

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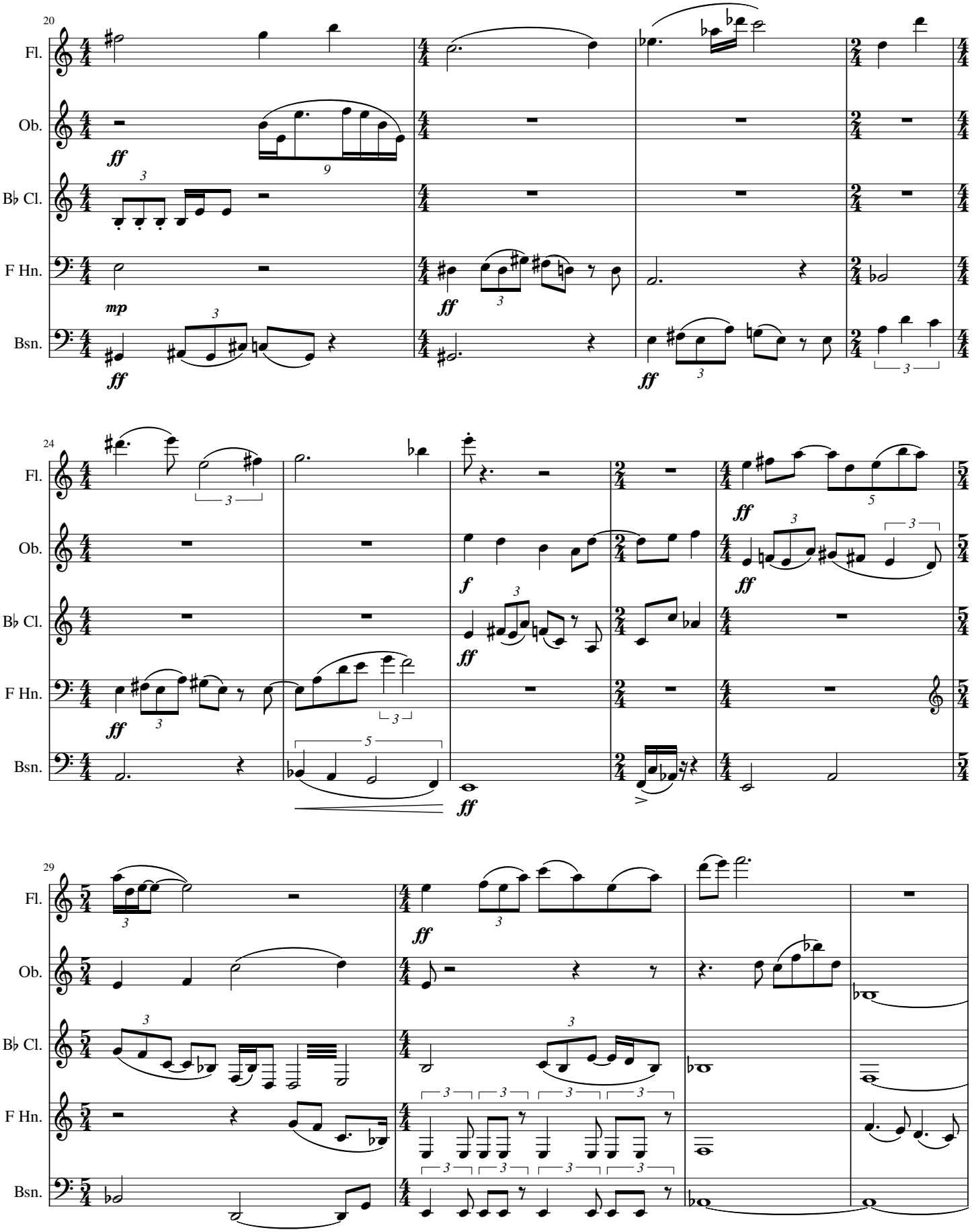

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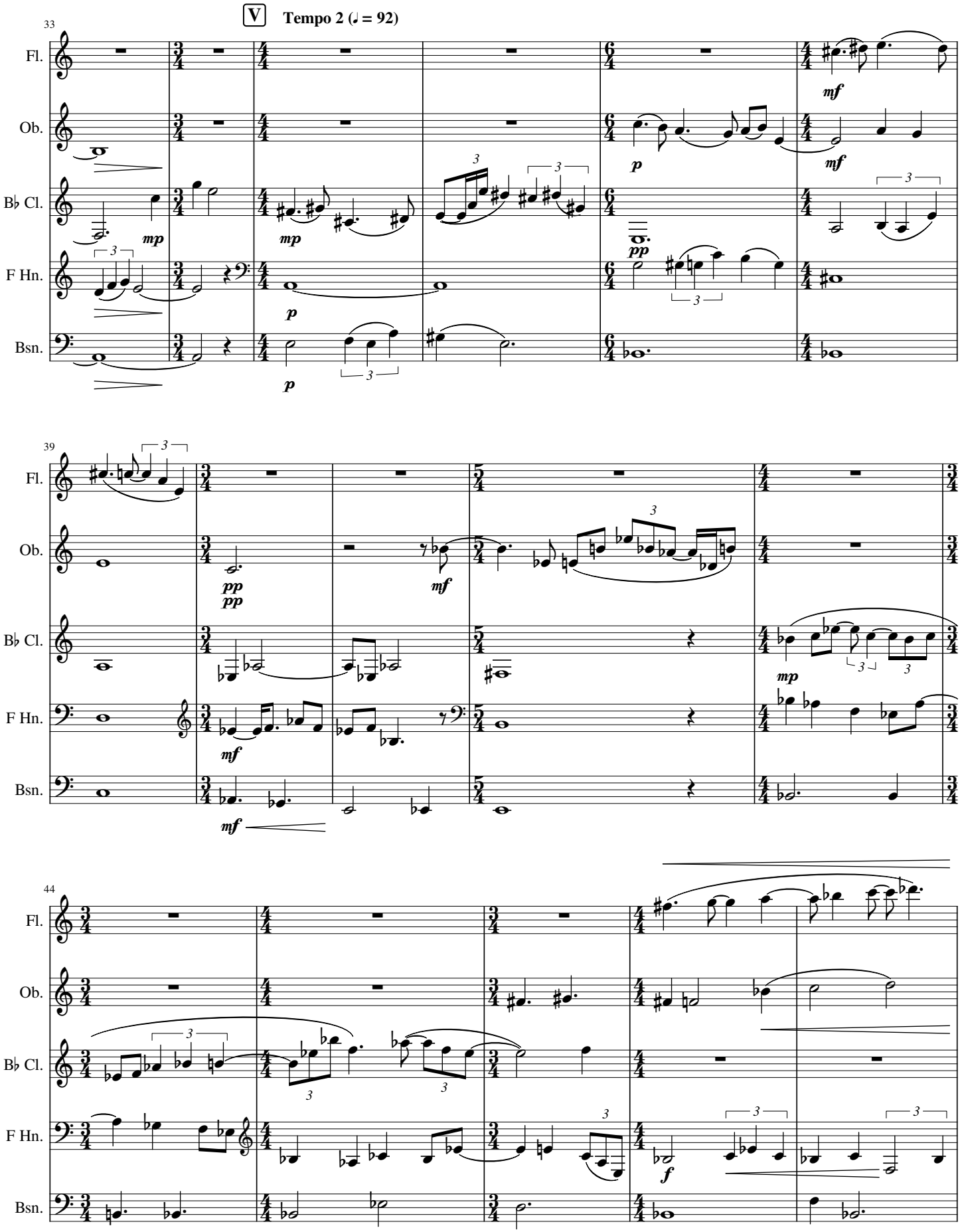

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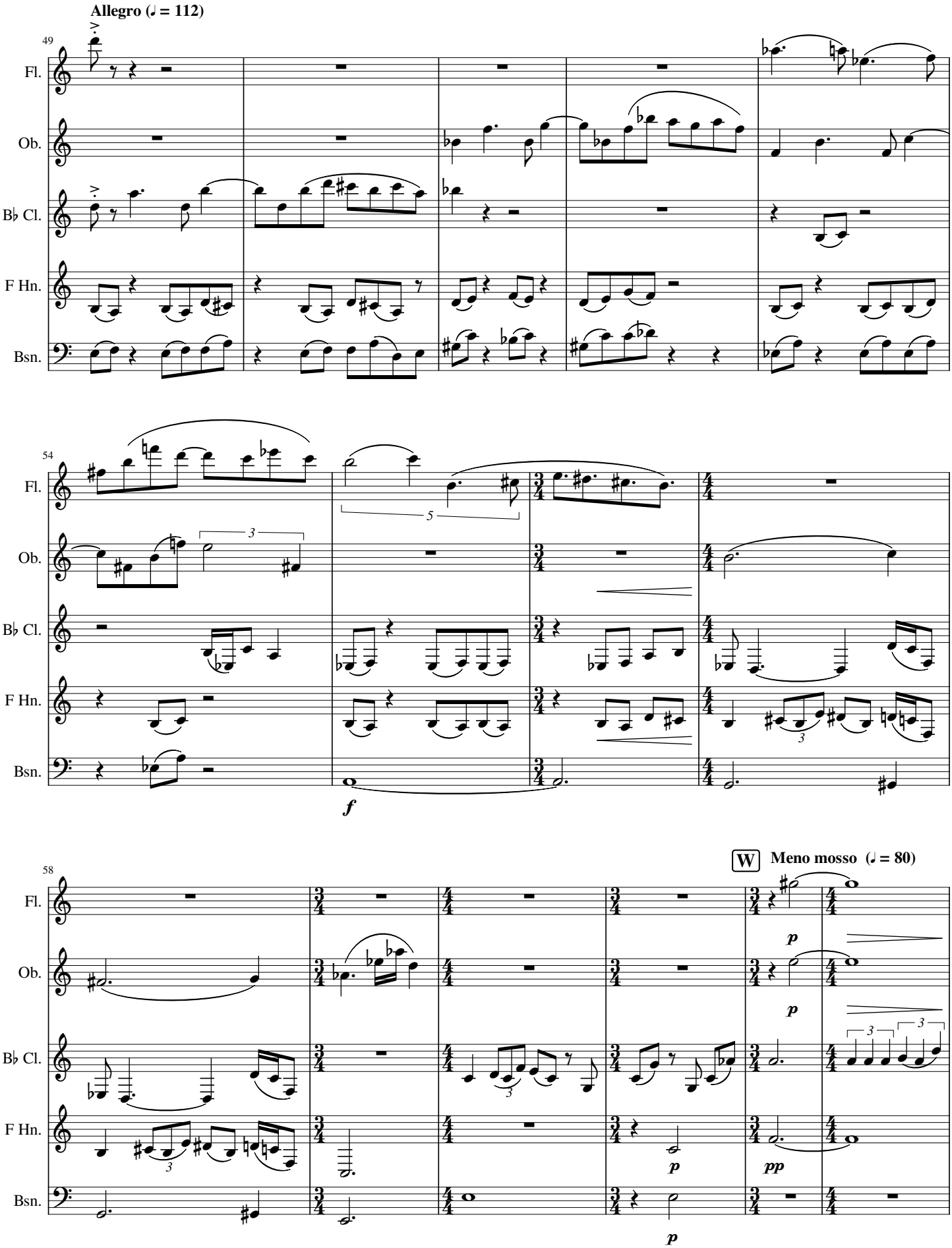

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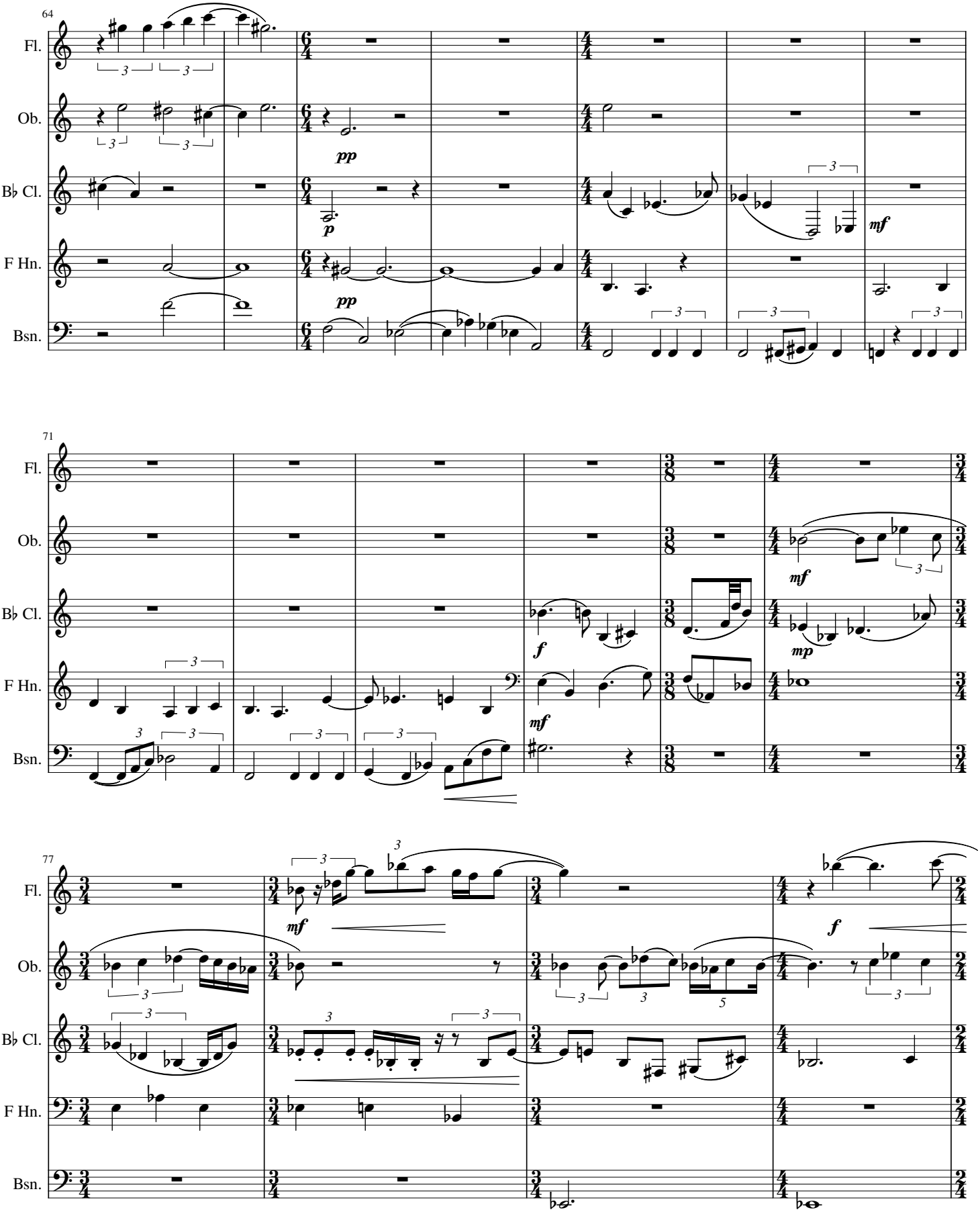

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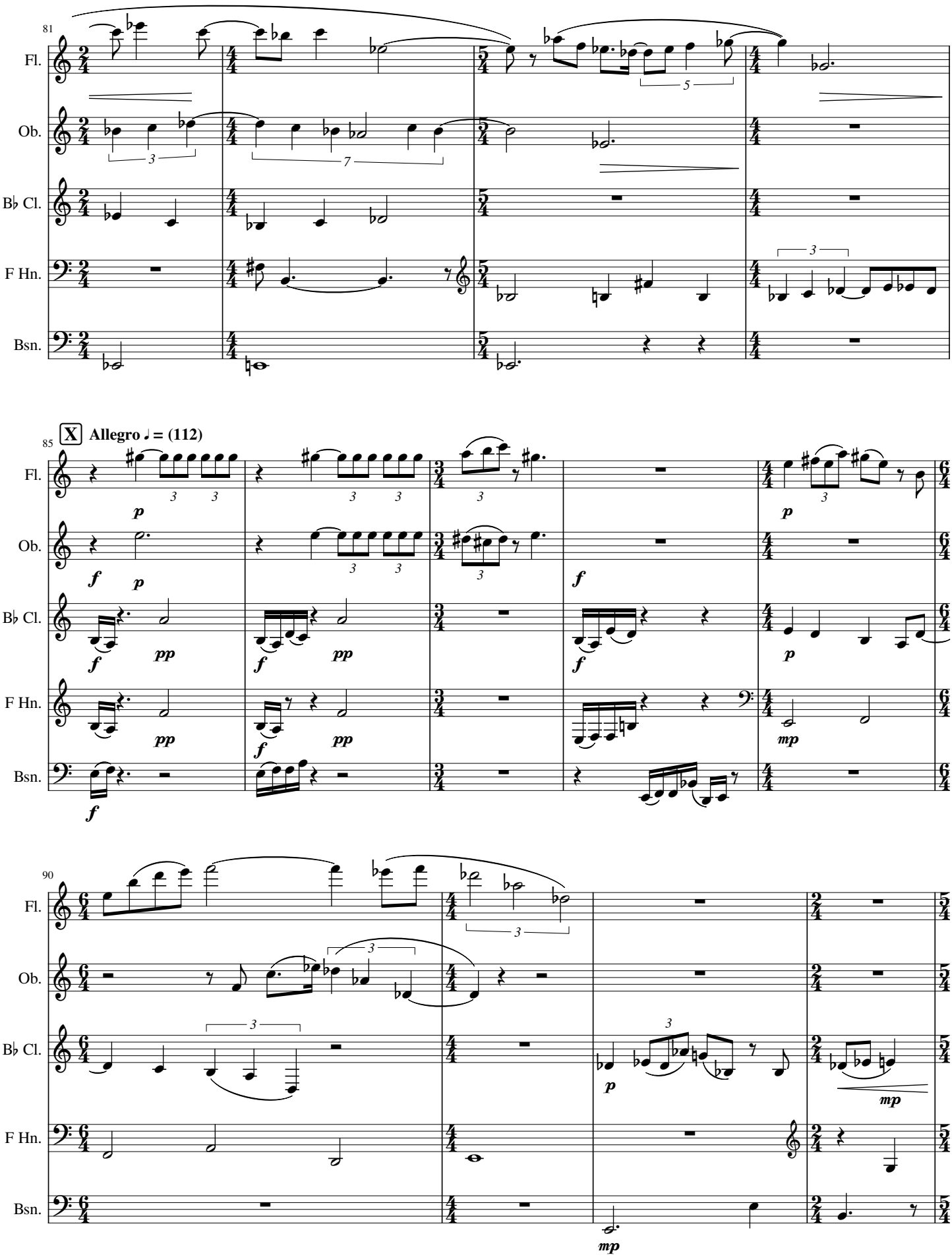

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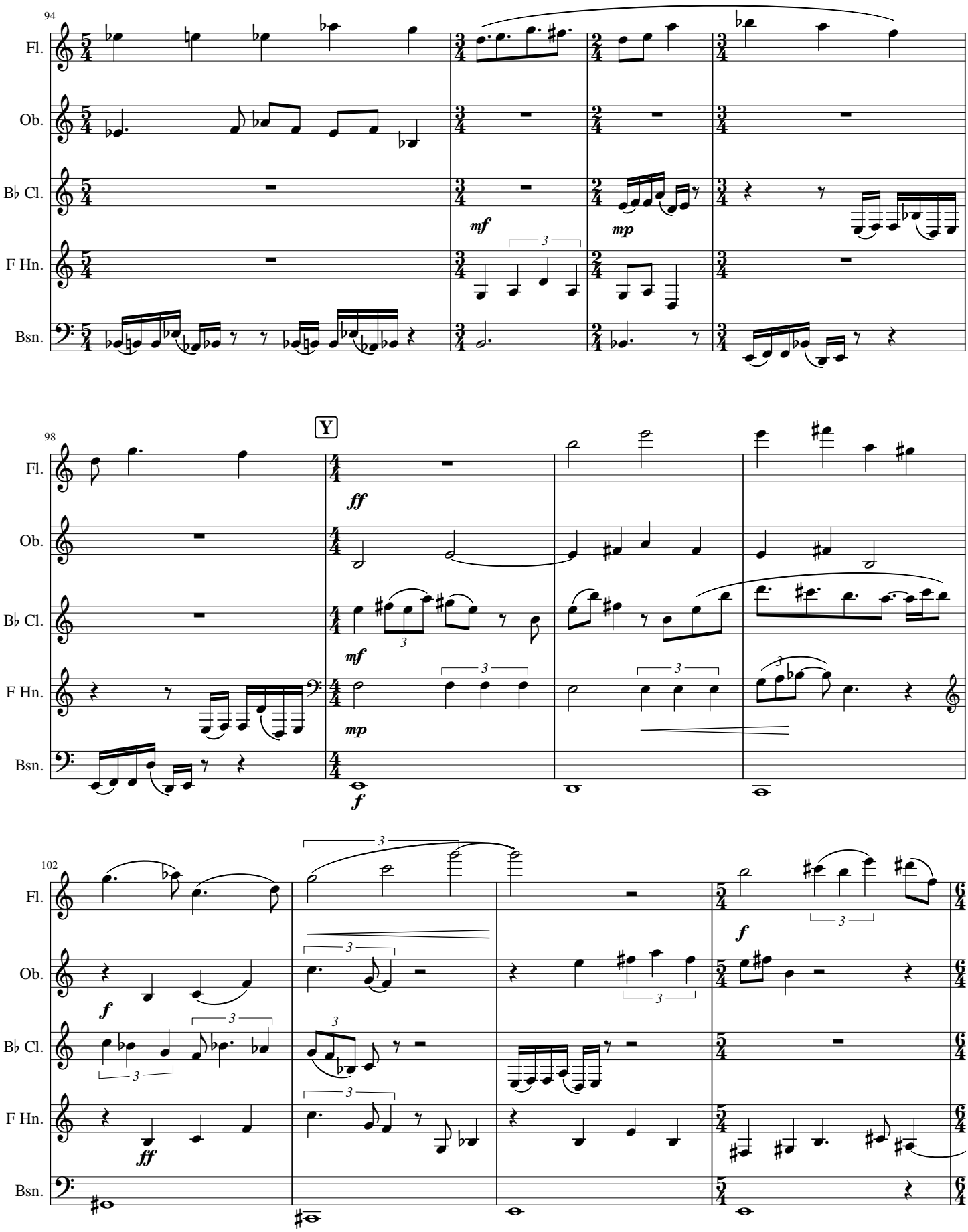

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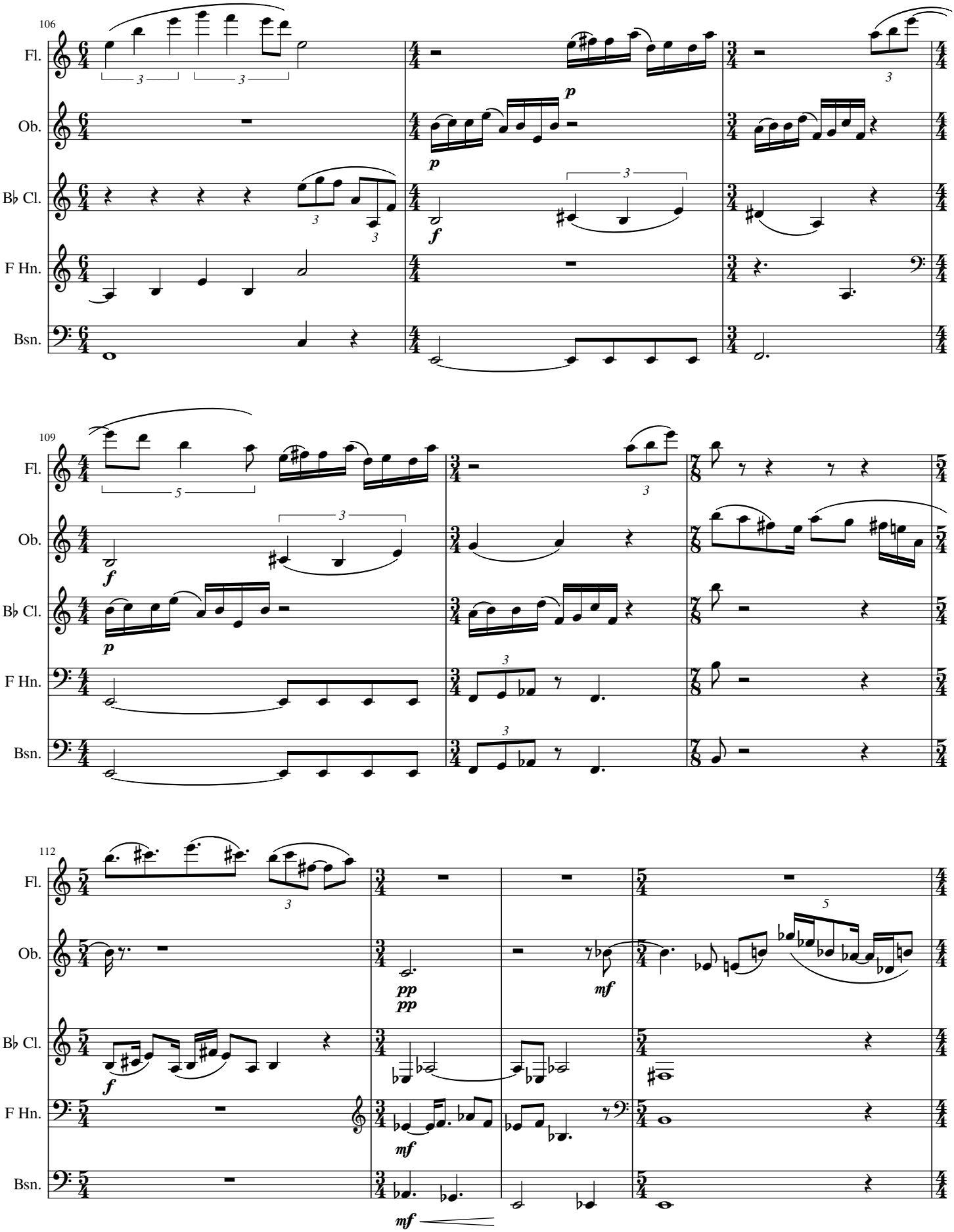

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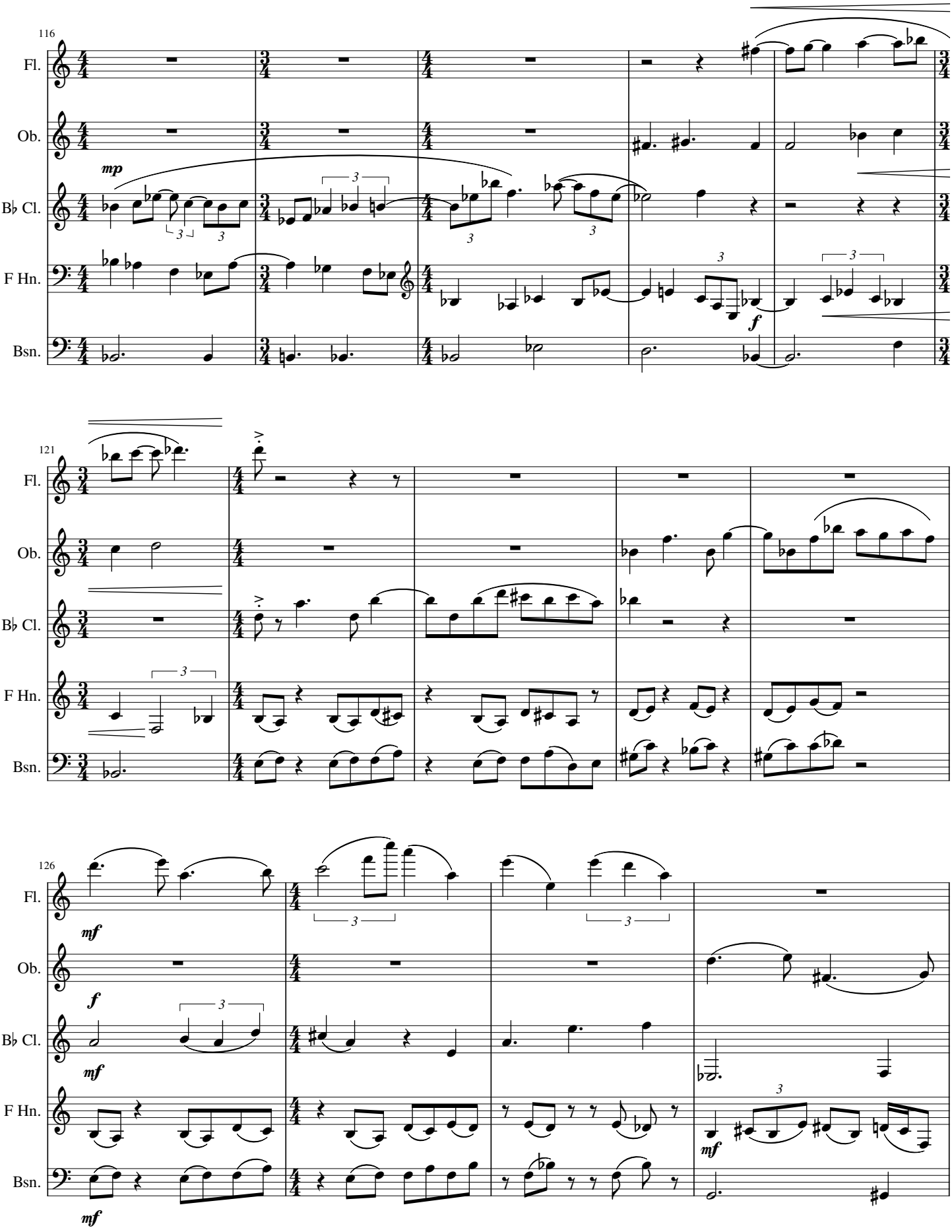

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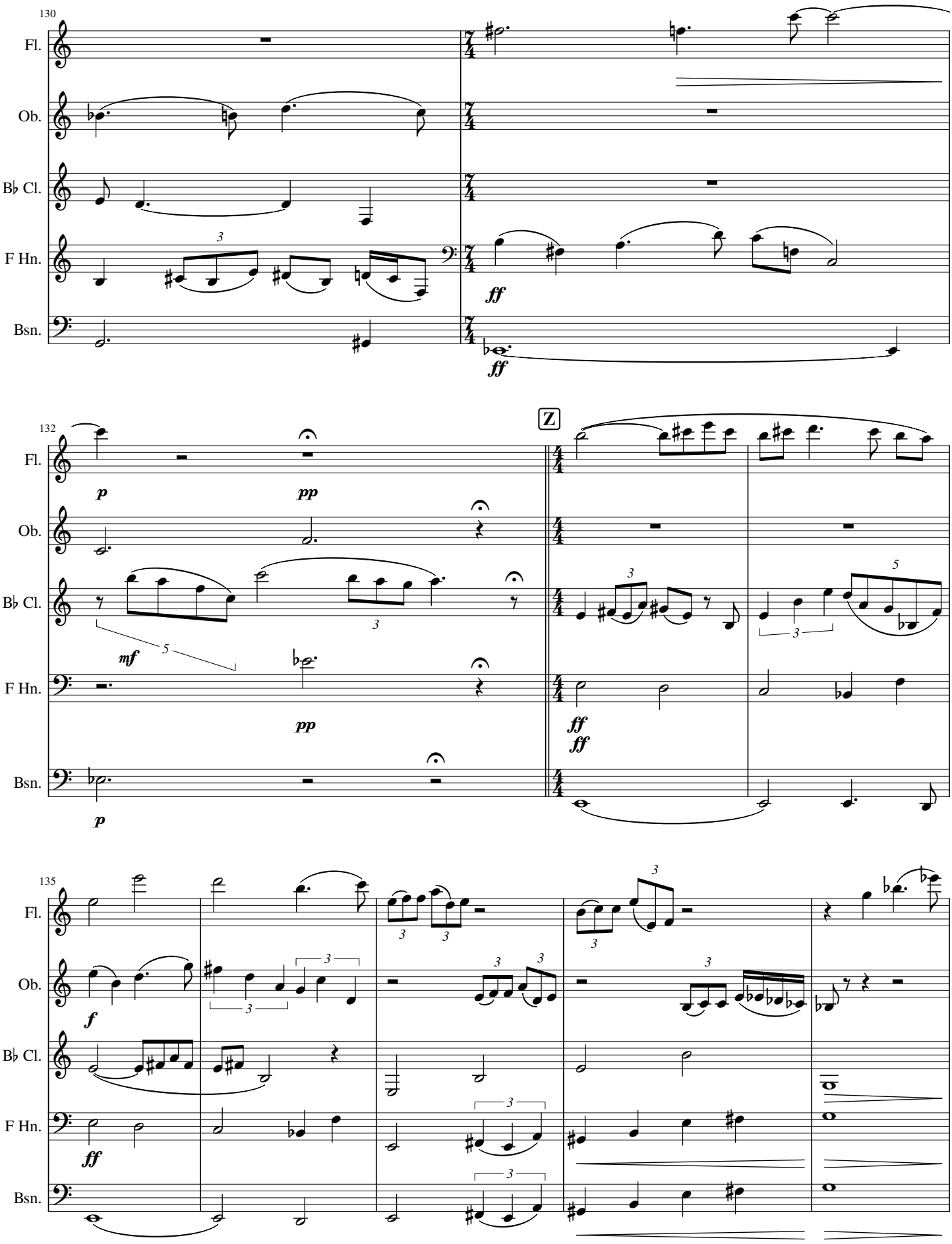

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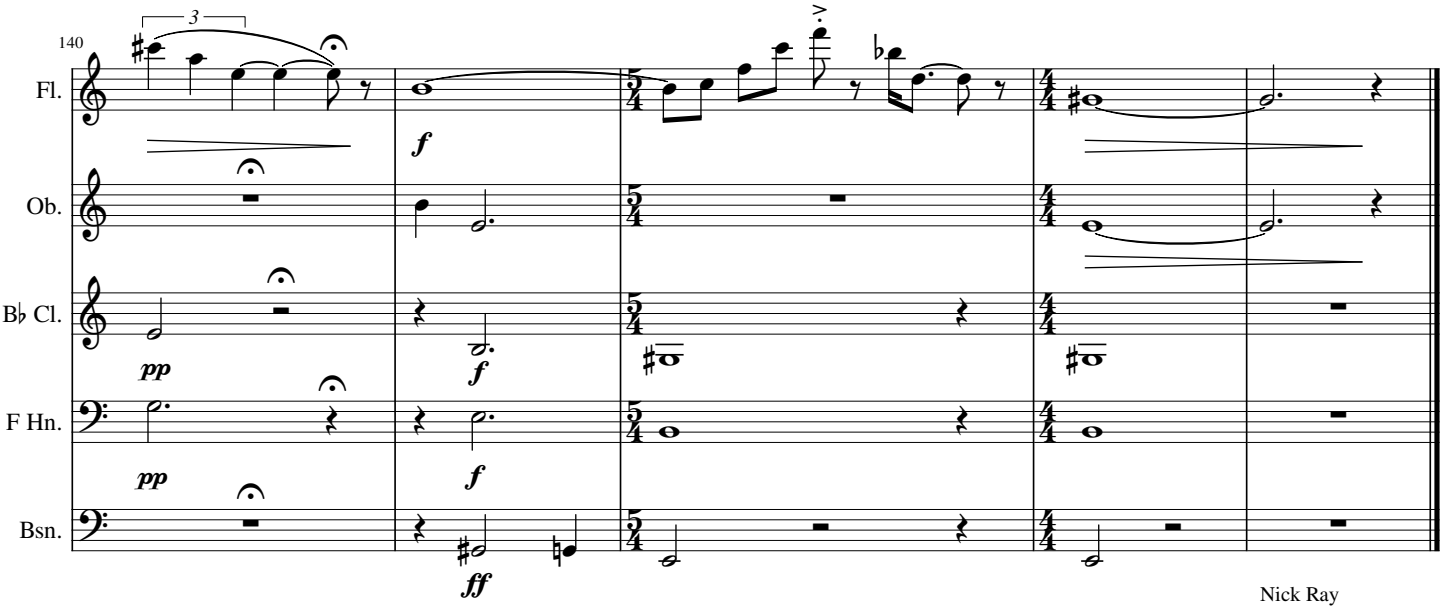

Nick Ray
30 Nov 2016
Paignton

(c) Nick Ray 2016

Nick Ray was born in 1973 in Gillingham, Kent. He studied piano and composition at Trinity College of Music, where he won prizes for both. He continued his study of composition at St John's College, Cambridge University as a pupil of Alexander Goehr and gained his MPhil in 1999.

Selected works list (2020)

Piano solo
Three Preludes (1997)
Mirror Variations (2003)
Two Localities (2003)
Sonatina (2006)
Variations and Finale on a theme by Anthony Green (2008)
Recollections Book 1 (2009)
Recollections Book 2 (2013)
Recollections Book 3 (2015)
Sonata (2015)
Panegyric for Anthony Green (2016)
Phoenix (2017)
Recollections Book 4 (2017)
Recollections Book 5 (2020)

Solo instrument and piano
Resonant Blackness (2006) [vibraphone and piano]
Bren Tor (2007) [clarinet and piano]
Epitaph for Michael Tippett (2007) [double bass and piano]
Antic Murmurs (2007) [double bass and piano]
Rough Edges I and II (2010-12) [clarinet and piano]
Two pieces (2011) [vibraphone and piano]

Solo instrument (other than piano)
London Stone (2008) ['cello]

Vocal with piano
Four Poems of Elizabeth Daryush (1999) [soprano and piano]
Dirge (Kenneth Fearing) (2000) [tenor and piano]
Two Longfellow songs (2017) [SATB, piano]

Vocal with ensemble
Songs of Collision – Twelve Poems of Stephen Crane (2004/16) [tenor, horn, clarinet, vibraphone, string quartet]
Three Walter de la Mare Songs (2008) [baritone, clarinet and 'cello]

Chamber/Instrumental
String Quartet (2008-10/revised 2017)
Five Facets for Wind Quintet (2016)

Orchestral
Symphony (2014)
Concerto (2019) [piano and orchestra]

For further information see page on composition today website; also nickray55 on soundcloud.com

Contact details: 4 Wortley Road, Highcliffe, Christchurch, Dorset BH23 5DT. 01425 271449 or mobile 07434 191829. Email: nickray55@hotmail.com