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Nellie Juan's Scratchiti

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CHRISTOPHER NORTH

Nellie Juan's Scratchiti

from GLACIER (was) HERE

Boy From Texas Tunes, BMI
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Nellie Juan's Scratchiti from "GLACIER (was) HERE"

Composing in the Wilderness 2019
Kayaking in Prince William Sound
For Corvus at Federal Hall November 22nd, 2019

Instrumentation

Flute / Piccolo
Alto Saxophone
Violin
Violoncello
Percussion: Vibraphone F-F with bow, Standing drumkit (kick, snare, floor tom, small splash cymbal)

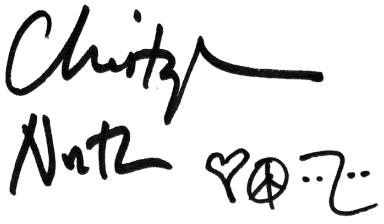
Regarding the non-metered measures (m68, m88, m125), it is expected the repeat bars will not end at the exact same time. Note the breath mark (into m69) and fermate in m69, m82 bt1, and m126, for brigning ensemble back into metered.

At the center of my piece is the cognitive dissonance I experienced, seeing something so beautiful and knowing something is terribly wrong: every map ever made said we should have been "in" Nellie Juan, not "on" its glacial lake. Most poignantly, our AK Geo guide William stopped a half mile (maybe more) away from the crumbling roar, and said "this is where Nellie was 3 years ago."

Humankind has left its many marks in and all over Prince William Sound (the Valdez oil spill, trash we found, and climate change's omnipresent effects), though some are not easily seen. The Nellie Juan Glacier has carved its way through mountains for millenia. As a New Yorker (and subway commuter), I see Scratchiti daily and I understand the pull to leave something behind, as well as to see the message and art in it.

Composing in the Wilderness left its deep mark on me. I am changed in so many ways, and perhaps the smallest but nevertheless significant example is that I'm aware of microtrash at every step and, wherever possible (be it Boston's South Station, Prospect Park or a beach in Maine), I'm really trying to leave no trace...except of course for making music, moving air molecules and forming dots on paper.

With this experience as inspiration, I know there's a larger work in me - GLACIER (was) HERE. This agitato movement (with references to alarm sounds and Vivaldi's "Impetuoso d'Estate") composed for this ensemble does hint at, and eventually resonate in, the magical monumental beauty of "The Last Frontier" that touched my soul. Specifically, there is a coda steeped in that amazingly alluring blue revealed by crumbling glaciers, at which I stared, almost like the entranced gaze into a campfire. (I'll forever cherish my kayakmate's fires on Prince William Sound and throwing rocks, noting the sounds of their landings, with my P Willy friends.)



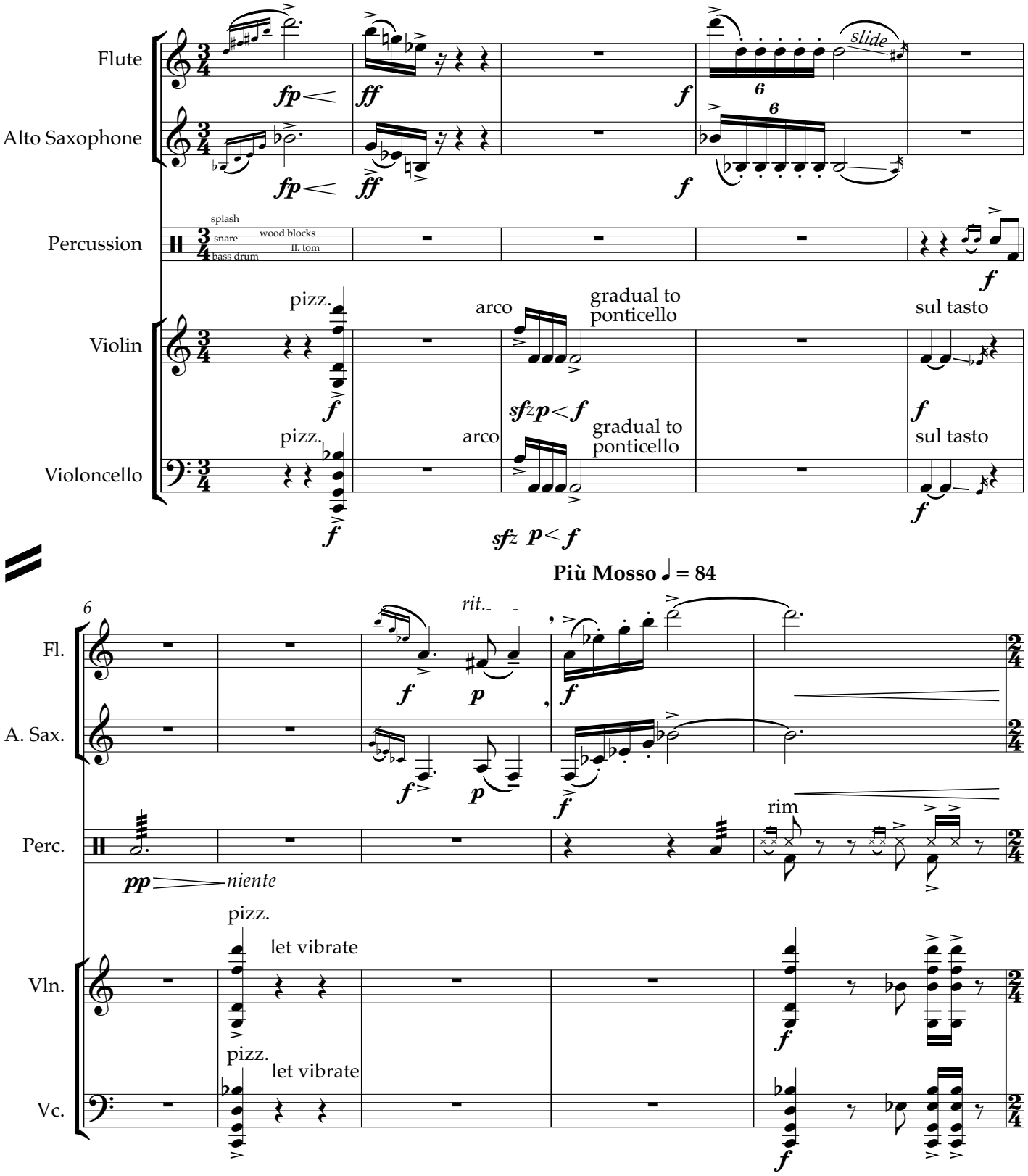
CONCERT SCORE

Nellie Juan's Scatchiti

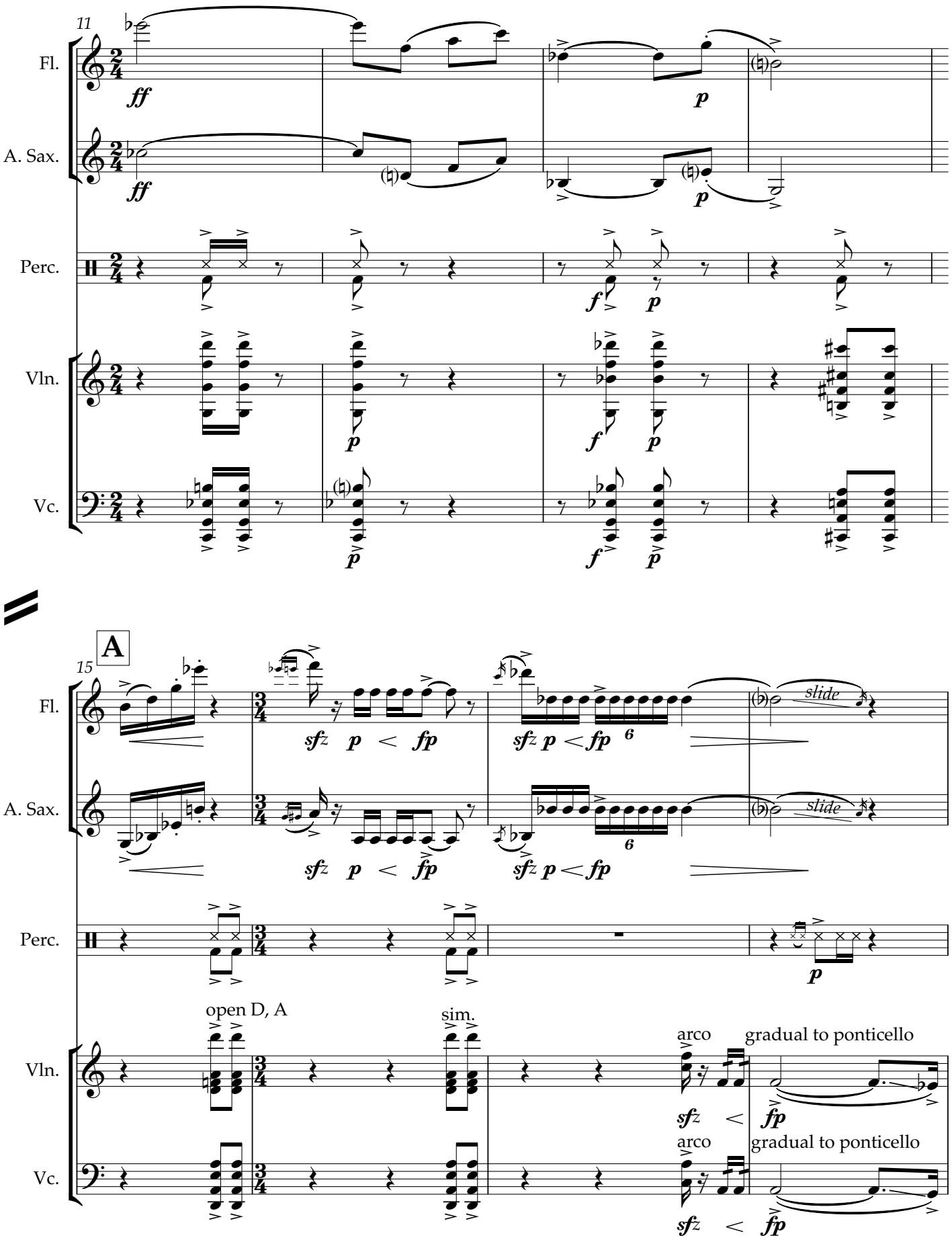
from "GLACIER (was) HERE"

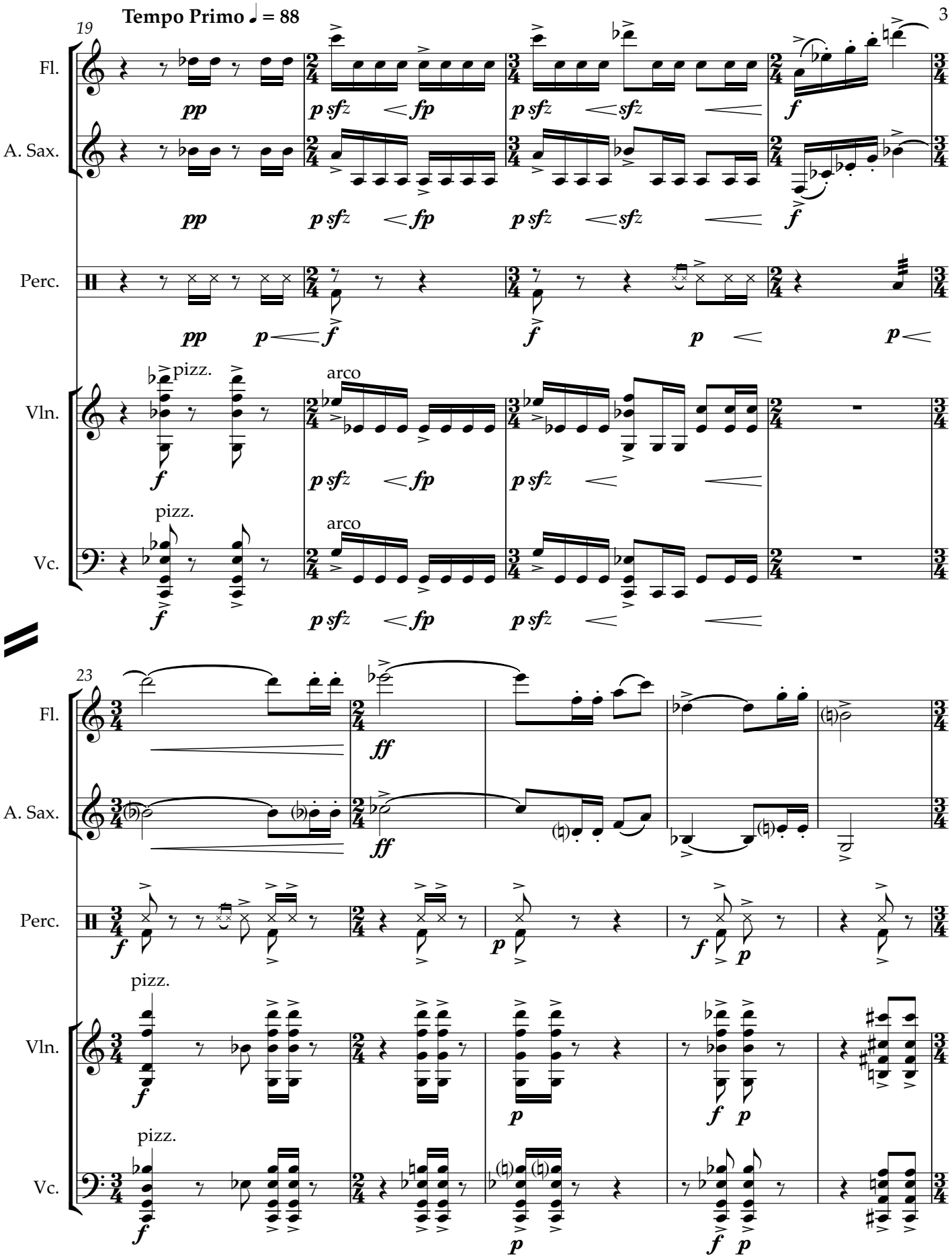
Christopher North

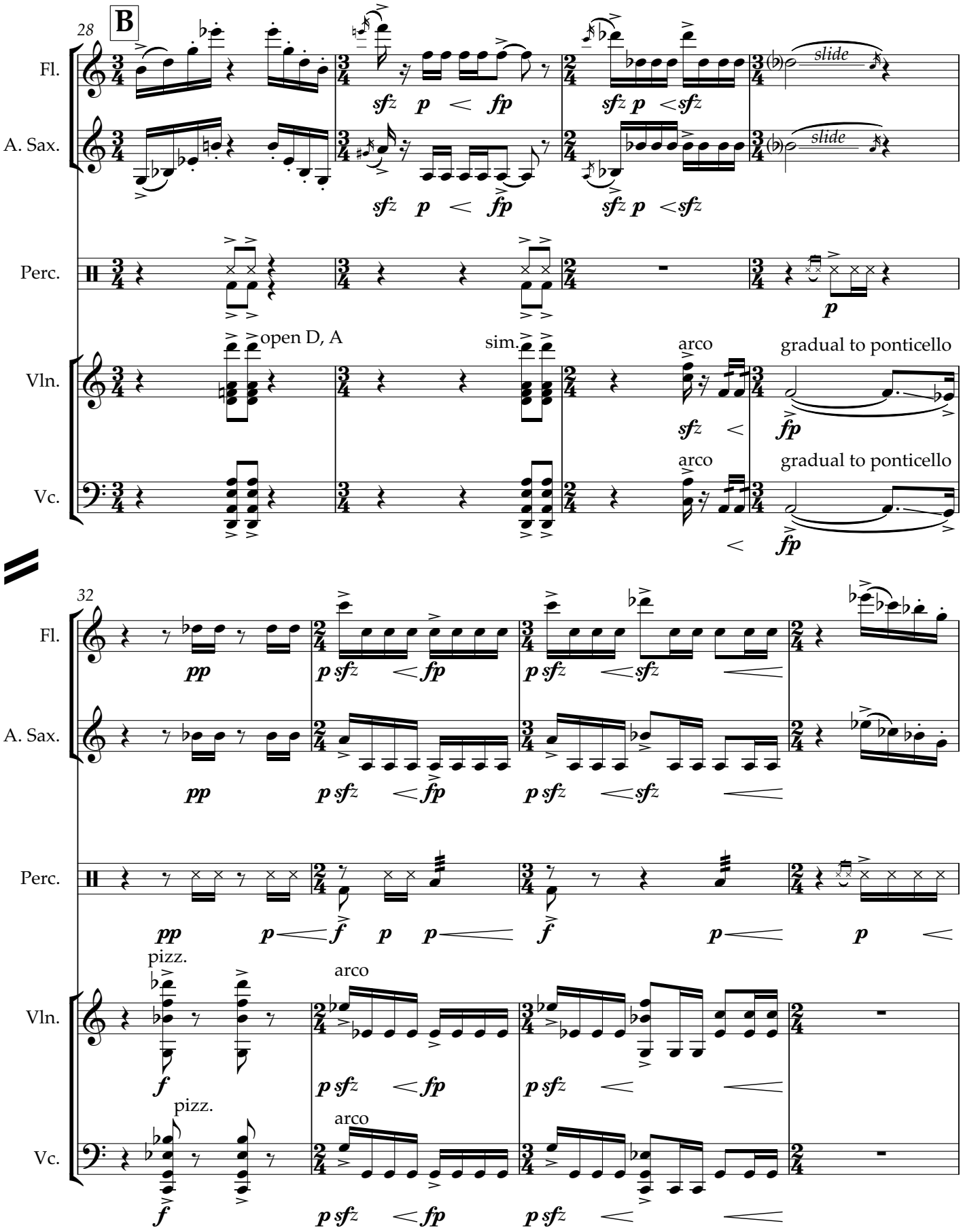
Allegretto Agitato ♩ = 88

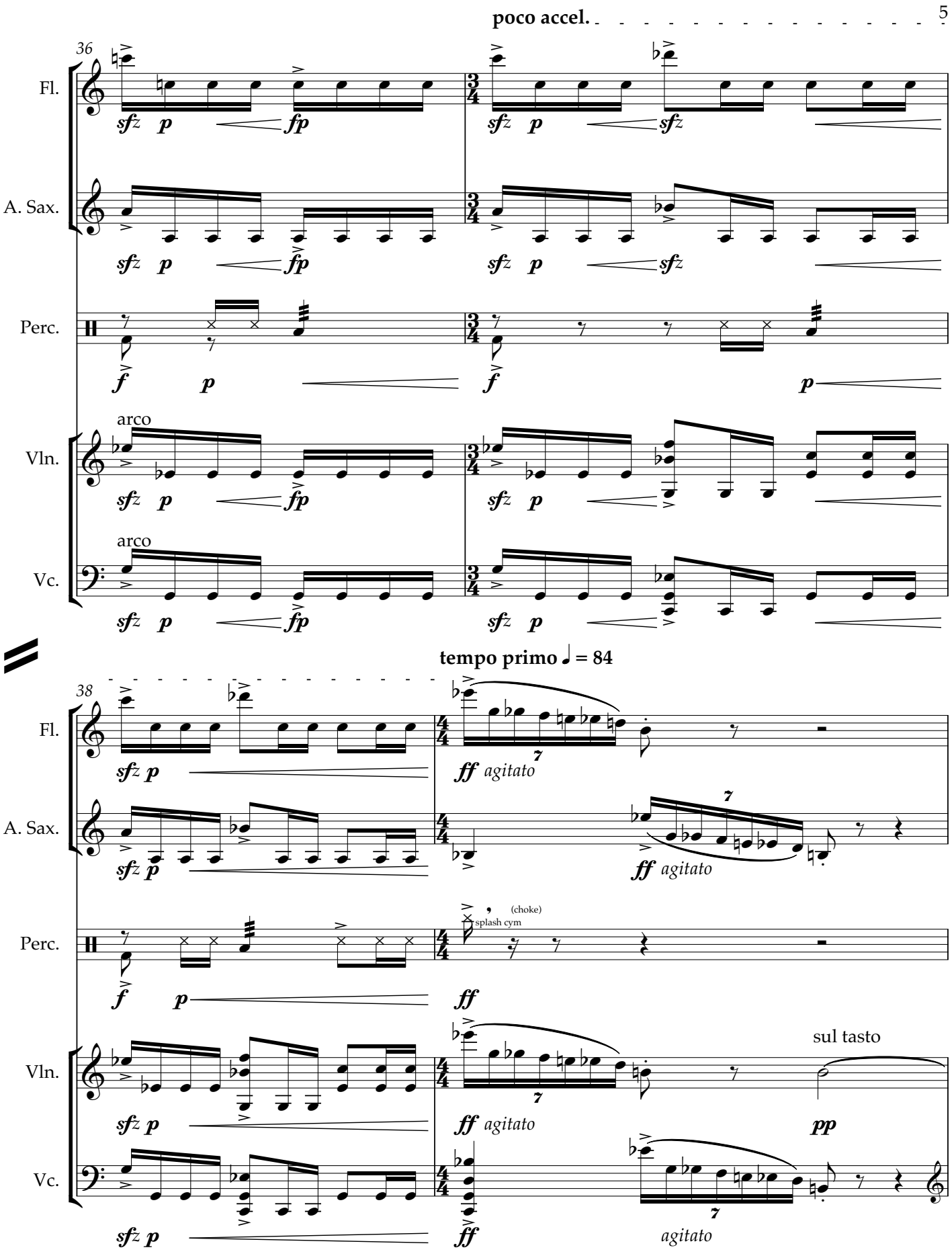


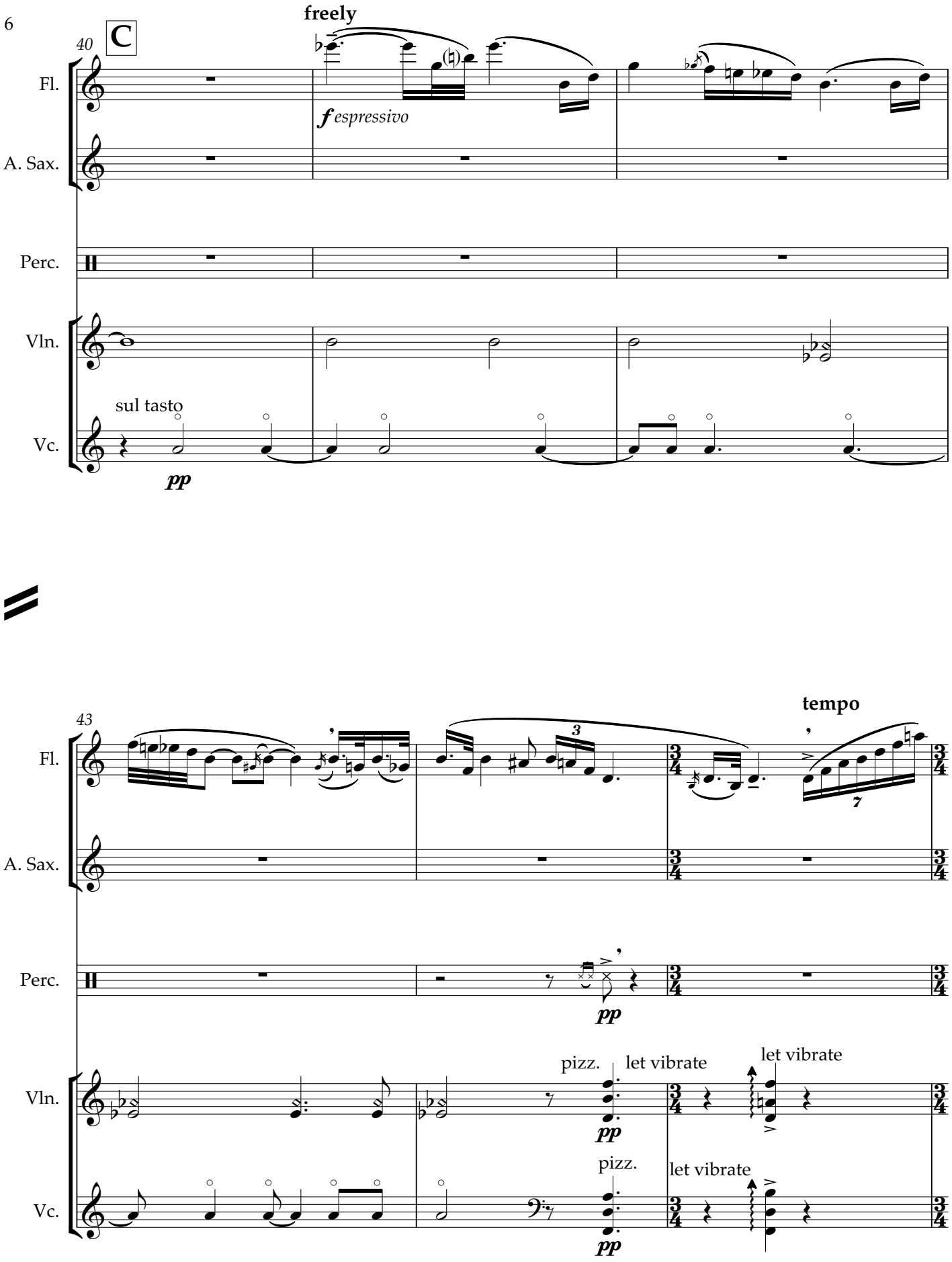
2019 Boy From Texas Tunes BMI (v9.7so

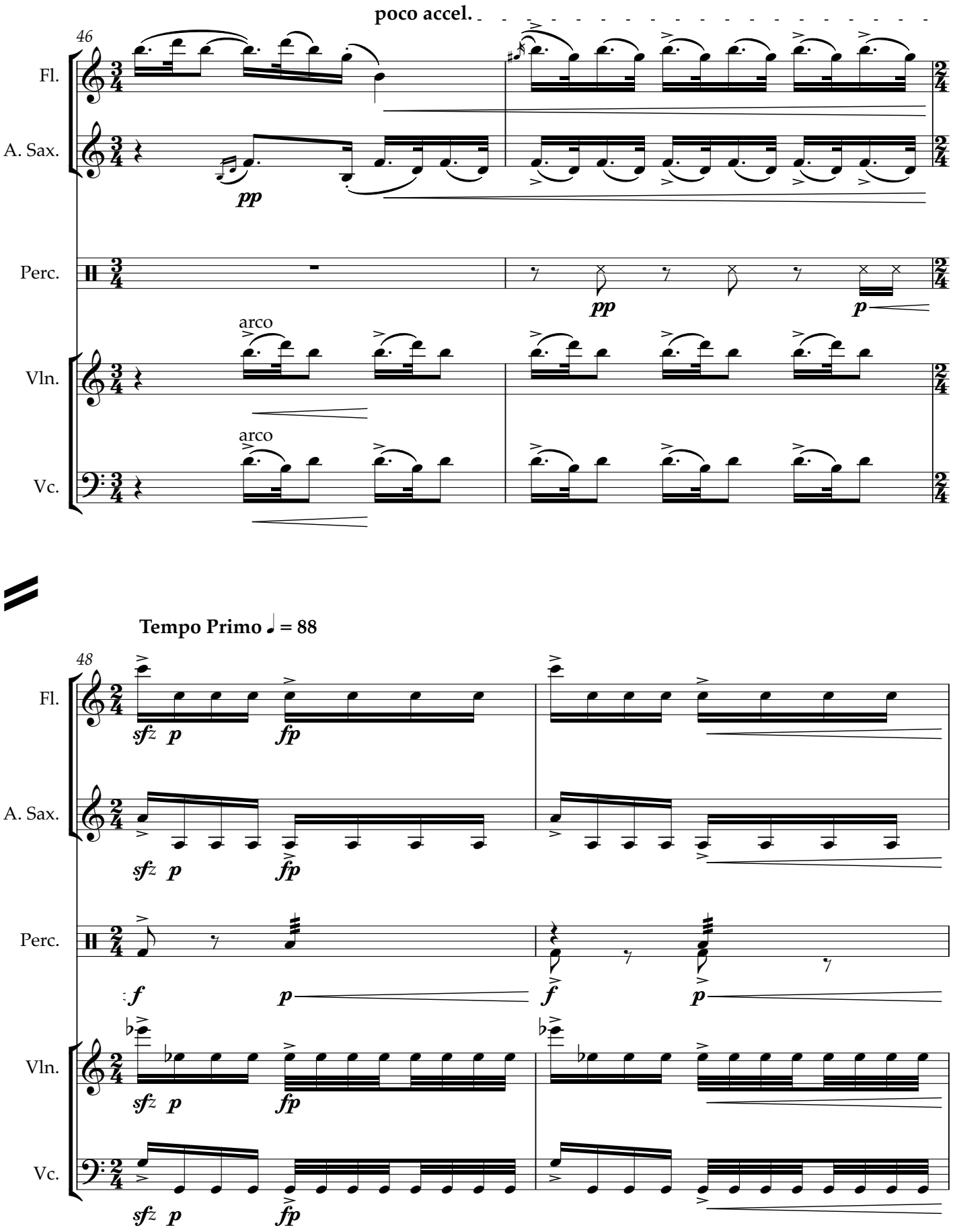

11
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
ff
p
f
A
15
sfz
fp
slide
6
open D, A
sim.
arco
gradual to ponticello

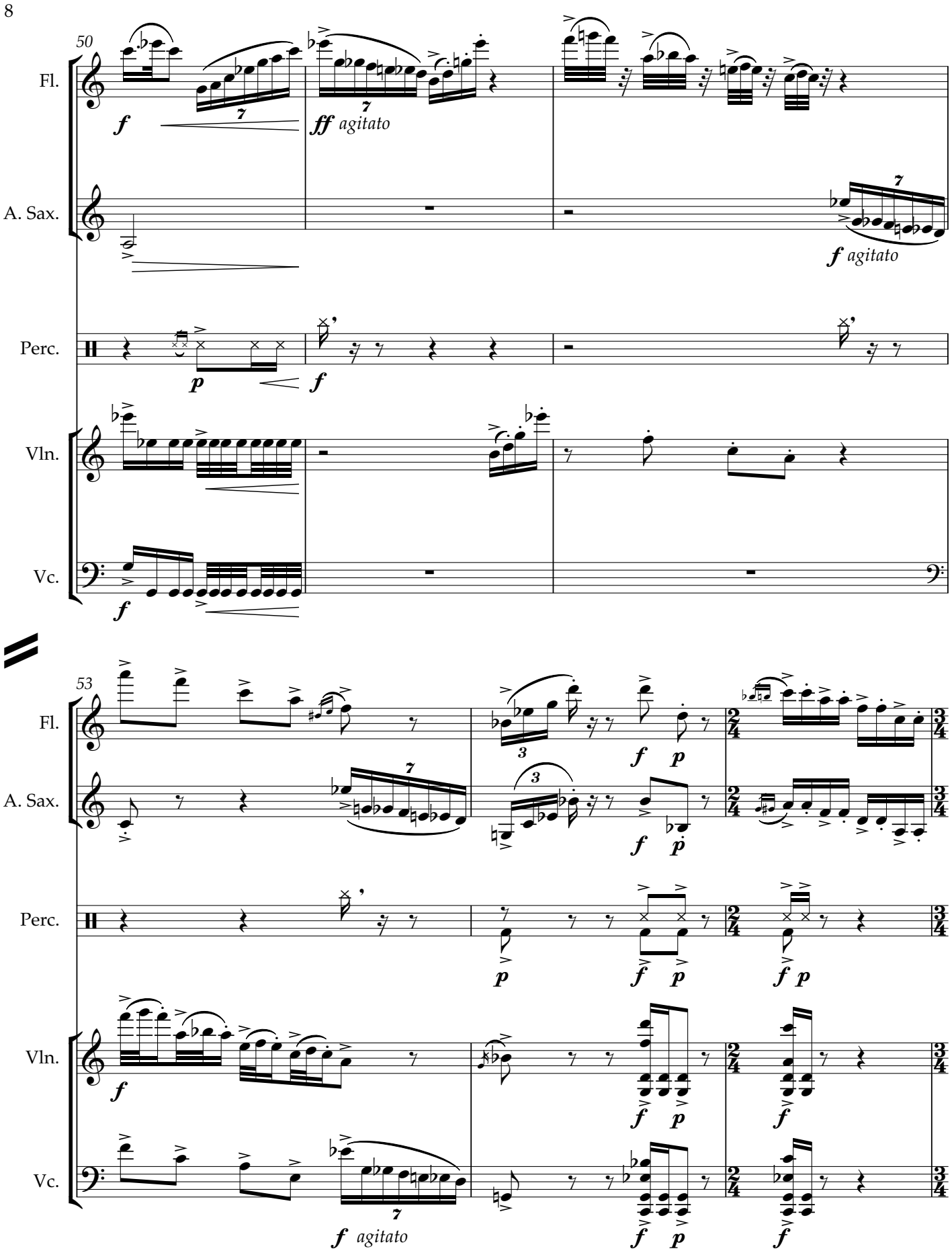

Tempo Primo ♩ = 88
19
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
pizz.
arco
23
ff

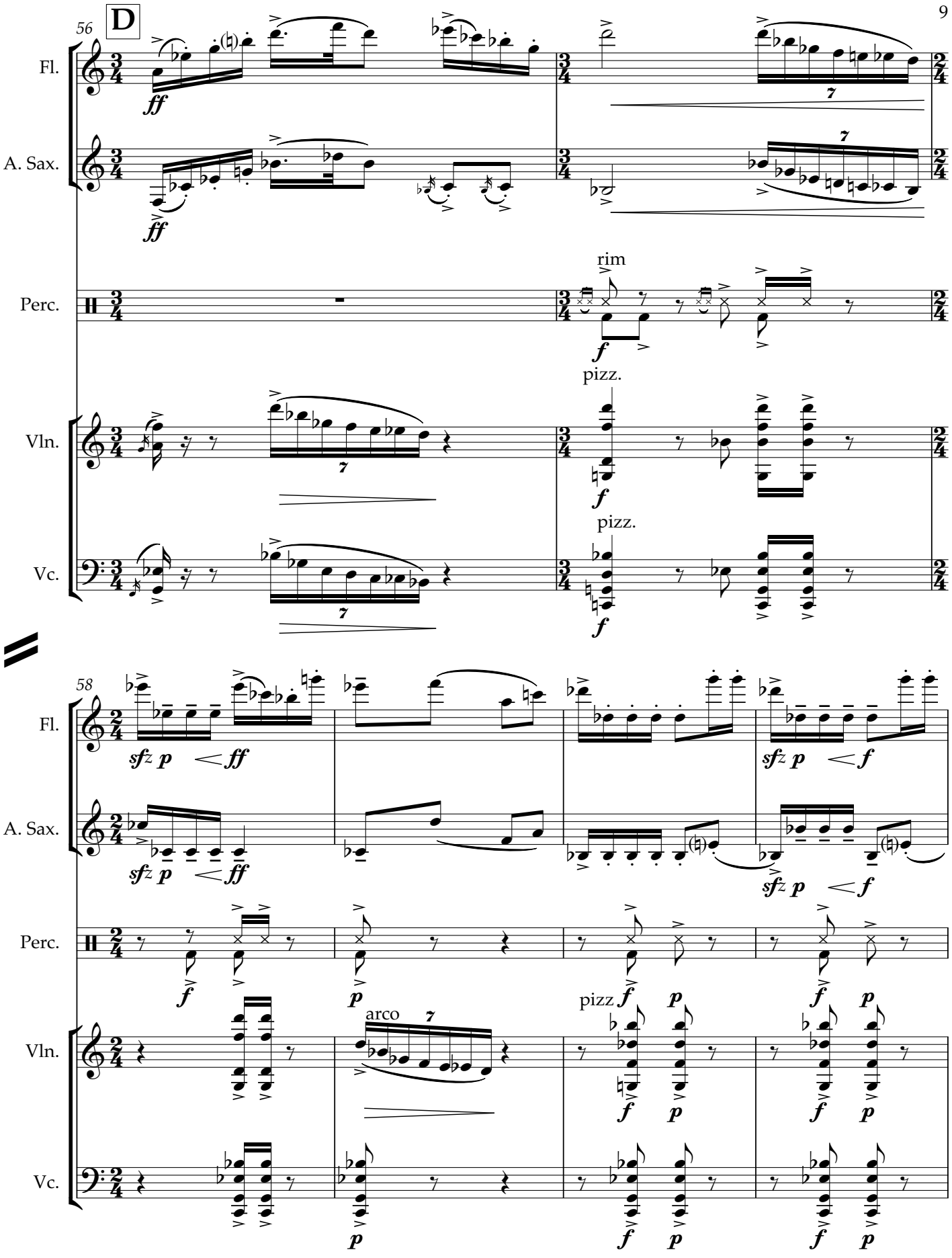

28
B
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
slide
slide
open D, A
sim.
arco
gradual to ponticello
arco
gradual to ponticello
32
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco

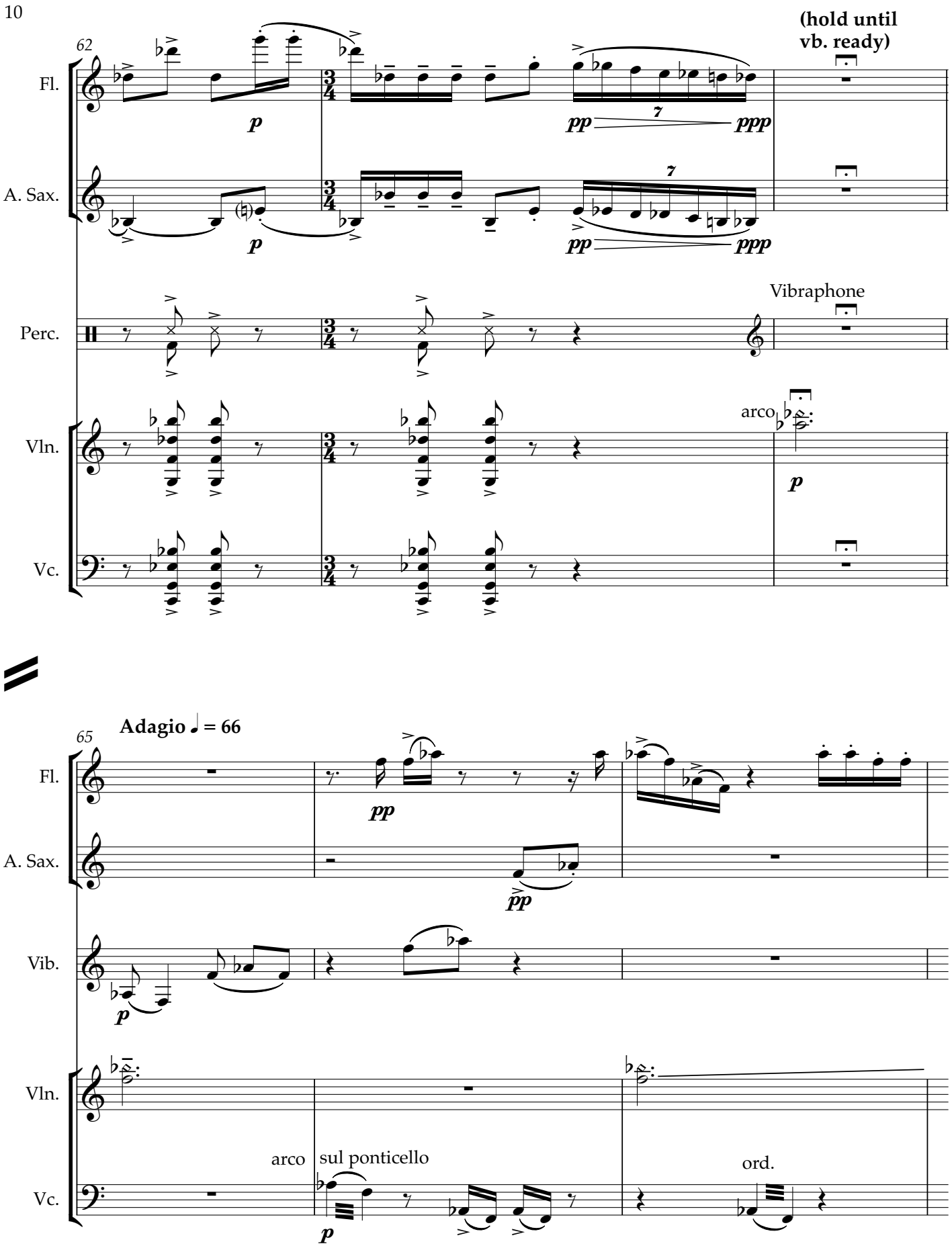

poco accel.
36
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
arco
arco
tempo primo ♩ = 84
38
agitato
(choke)
splash cym
sul tasto
pp


40
C
freely
Fl.
f espressivo
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
sul tasto
Vc.
pp
43
tempo
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
pp
Vln.
pizz.
let vibrate
pp
let vibrate
Vc.
pizz.
pp
let vibrate


poco accel.
46
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
pp
arco
arco
pp
p
Tempo Primo ♩ = 88
48
sfz p fp
sfz p fp
f p
f p
sfz p fp
sfz p fp


50
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
f
ff agitato
f agitato
p
53
2/4
3/4


56
D
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
rim
pizz.
pizz.
58
arco
pizz


62
(hold until vb. ready)
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vibraphone
Vln.
arco
Vc.
65
Adagio ♩ = 66
Fl.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
arco
sul ponticello
ord.
Vc.

Allegretto Agitato ♩ = 88

68

Fl.

A. Sax.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

Repeat 4 X

approx. 14"

Repeat 4 X

Repeat 5 X

Repeat 3 X

Repeat 3 X

p

f

fp

subito ***f*** *agitato*

71

Fl.

A. Sax.

Vib.

Vln.

Vc.

gradual to ponticello

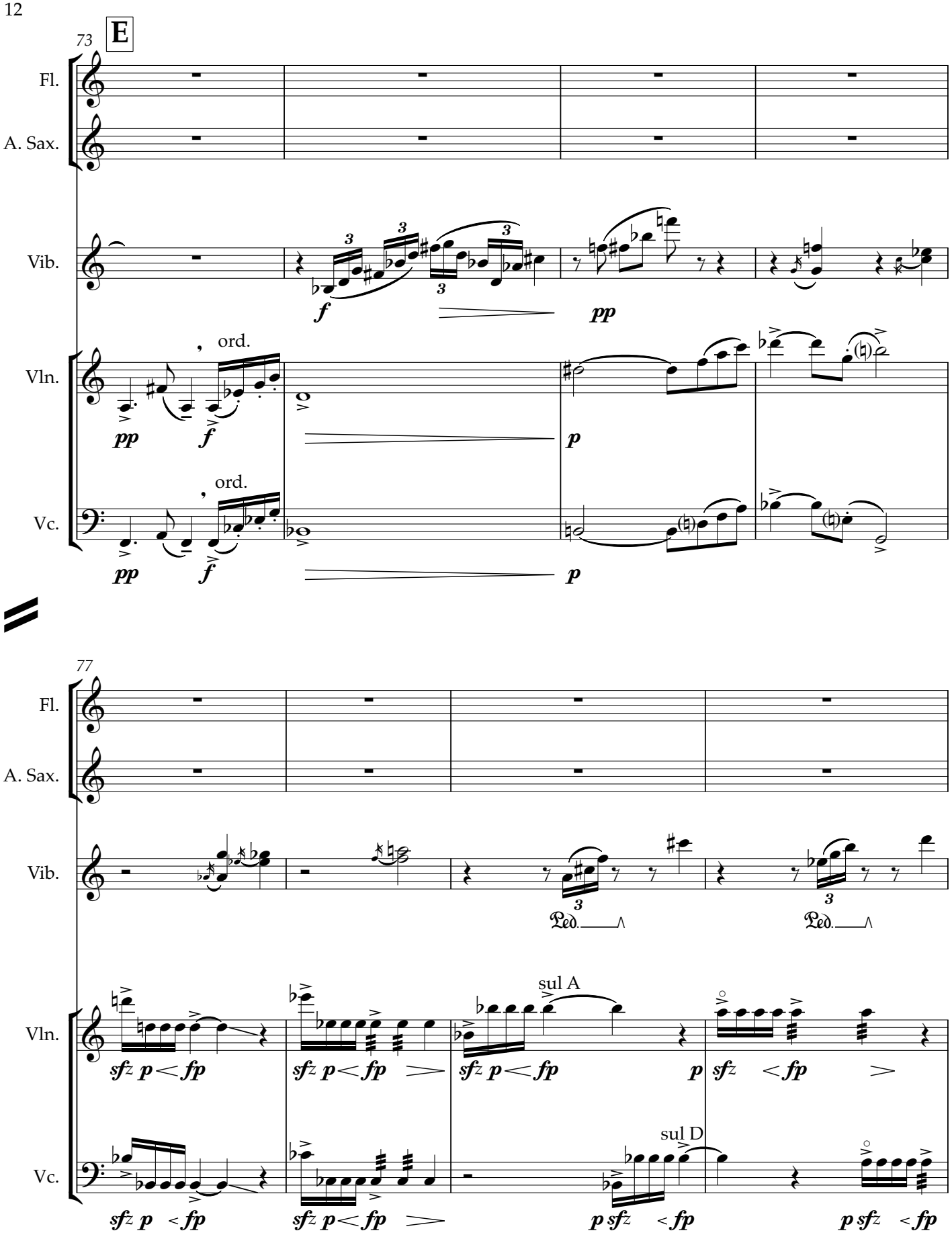
sul tasto

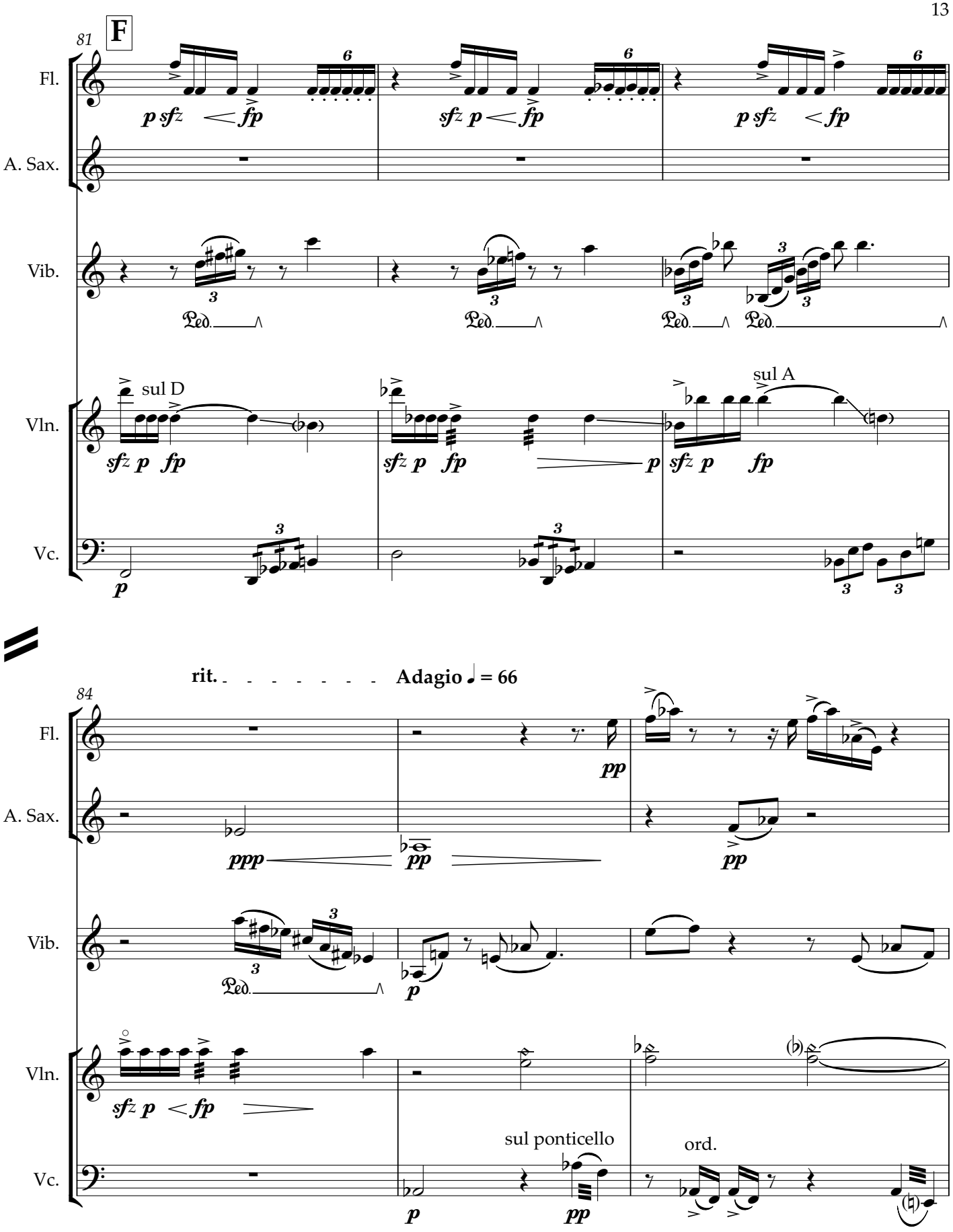
gradual to ponticello

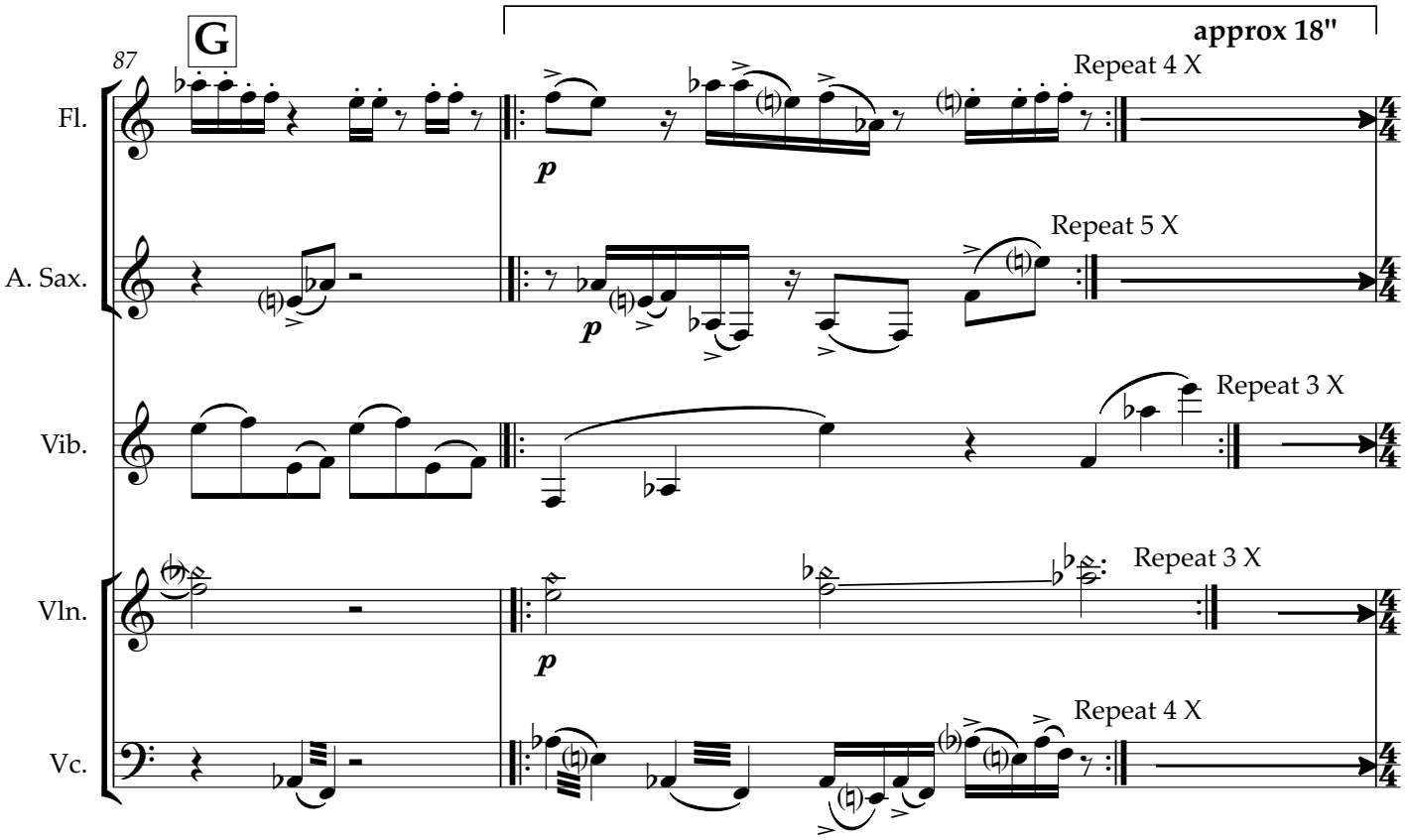
sul tasto

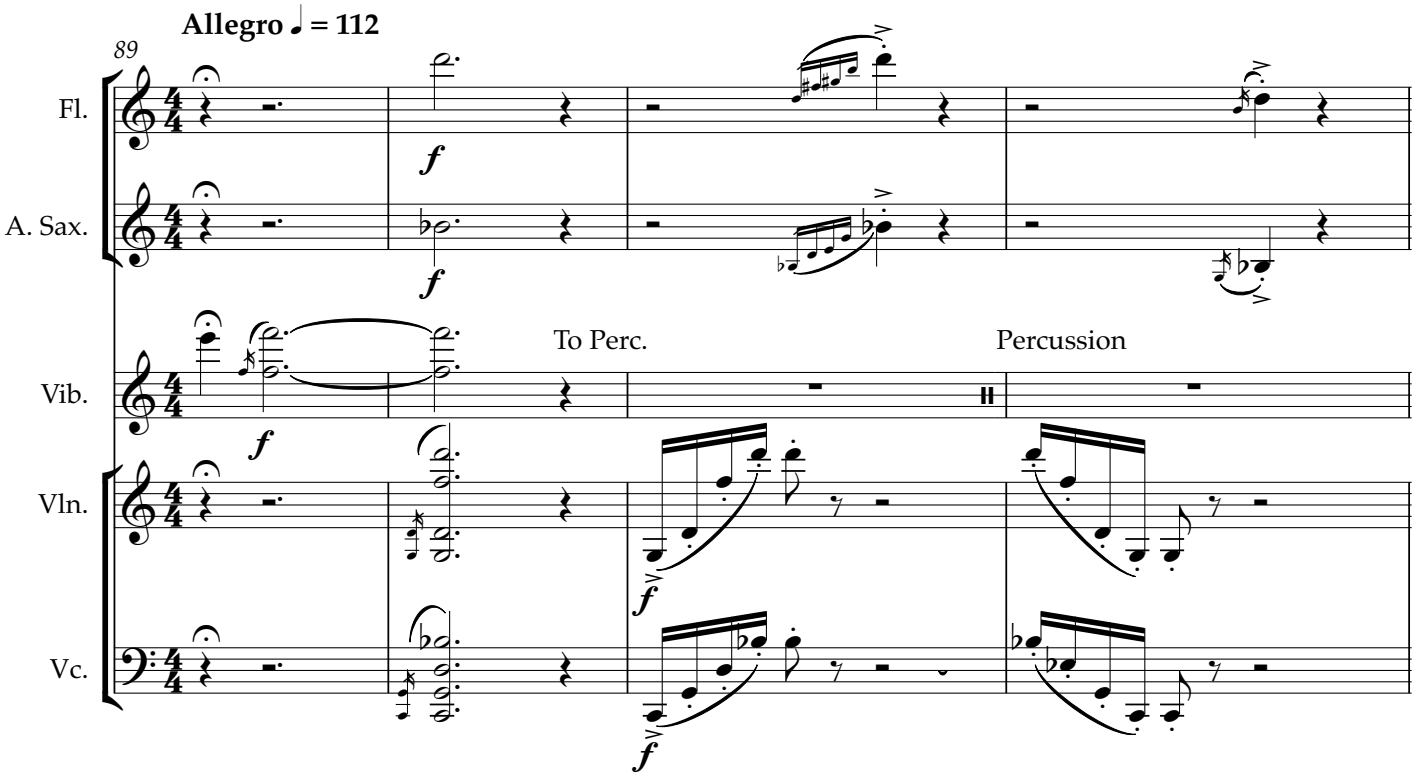
fp

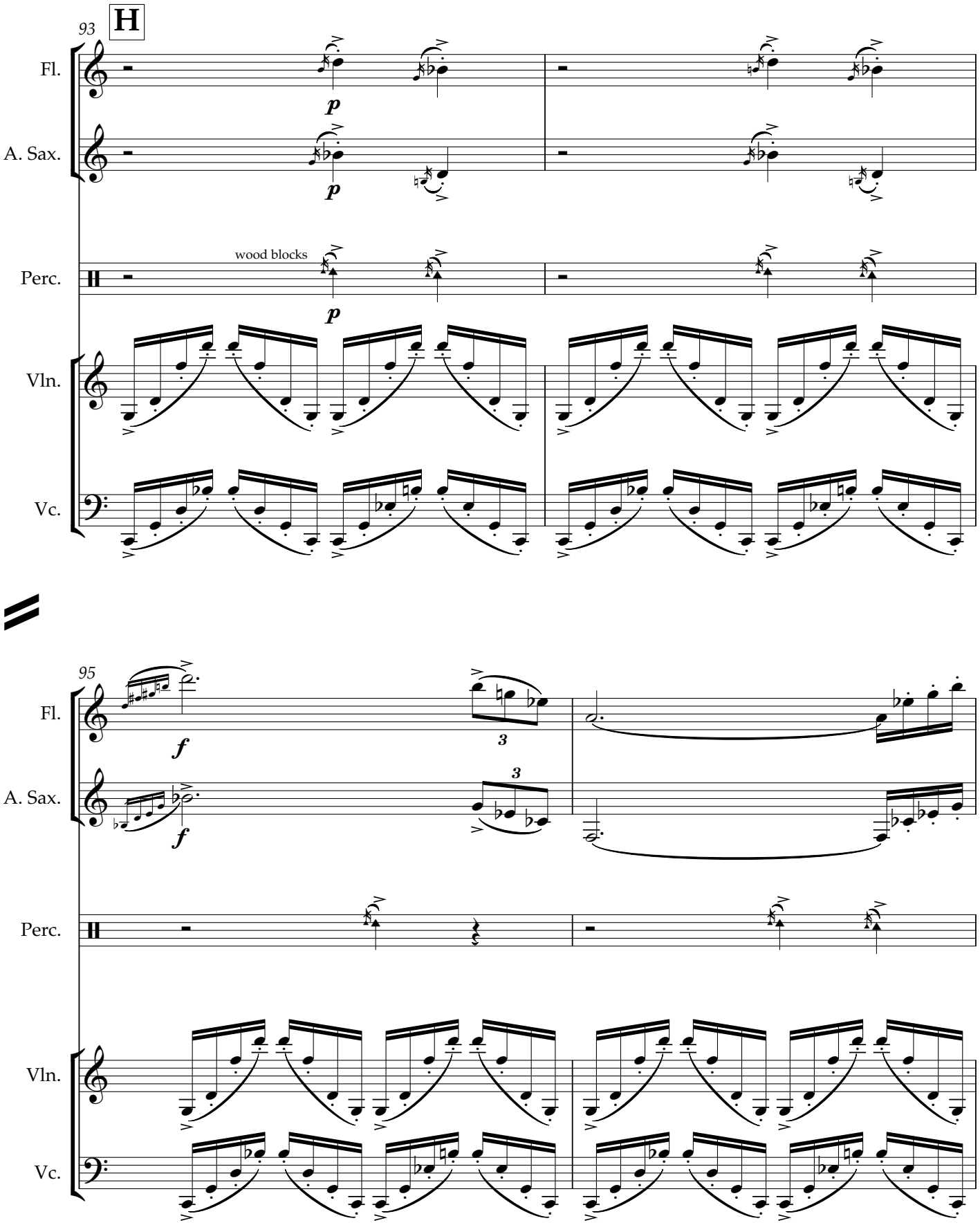
p

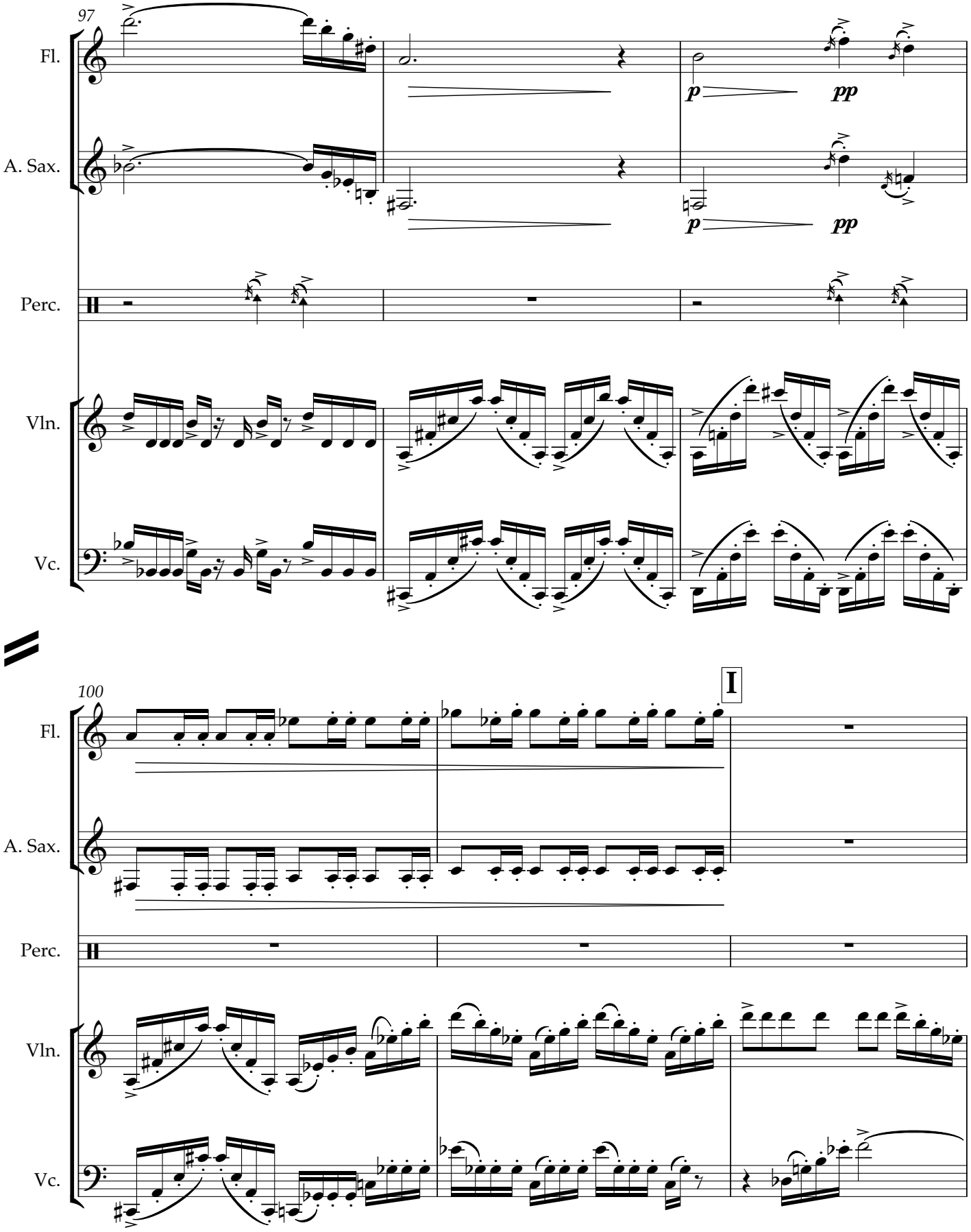

73
E
Fl.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
ord.
ord.
77
sul A
sul D
Ped.
Ped.

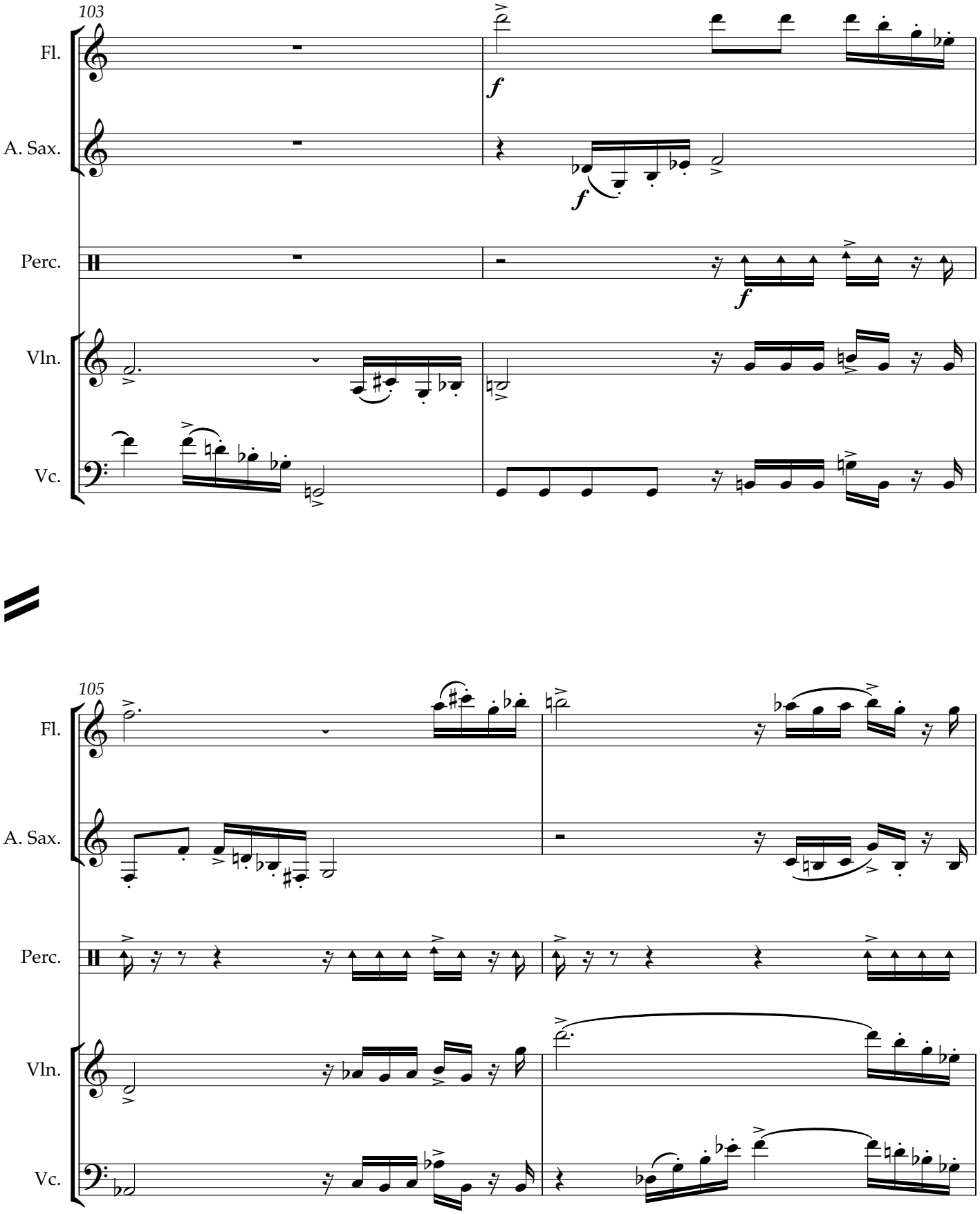

81
F
Fl.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
sul D
sul A
rit.
Adagio ♩ = 66
84
sul ponticello
ord.

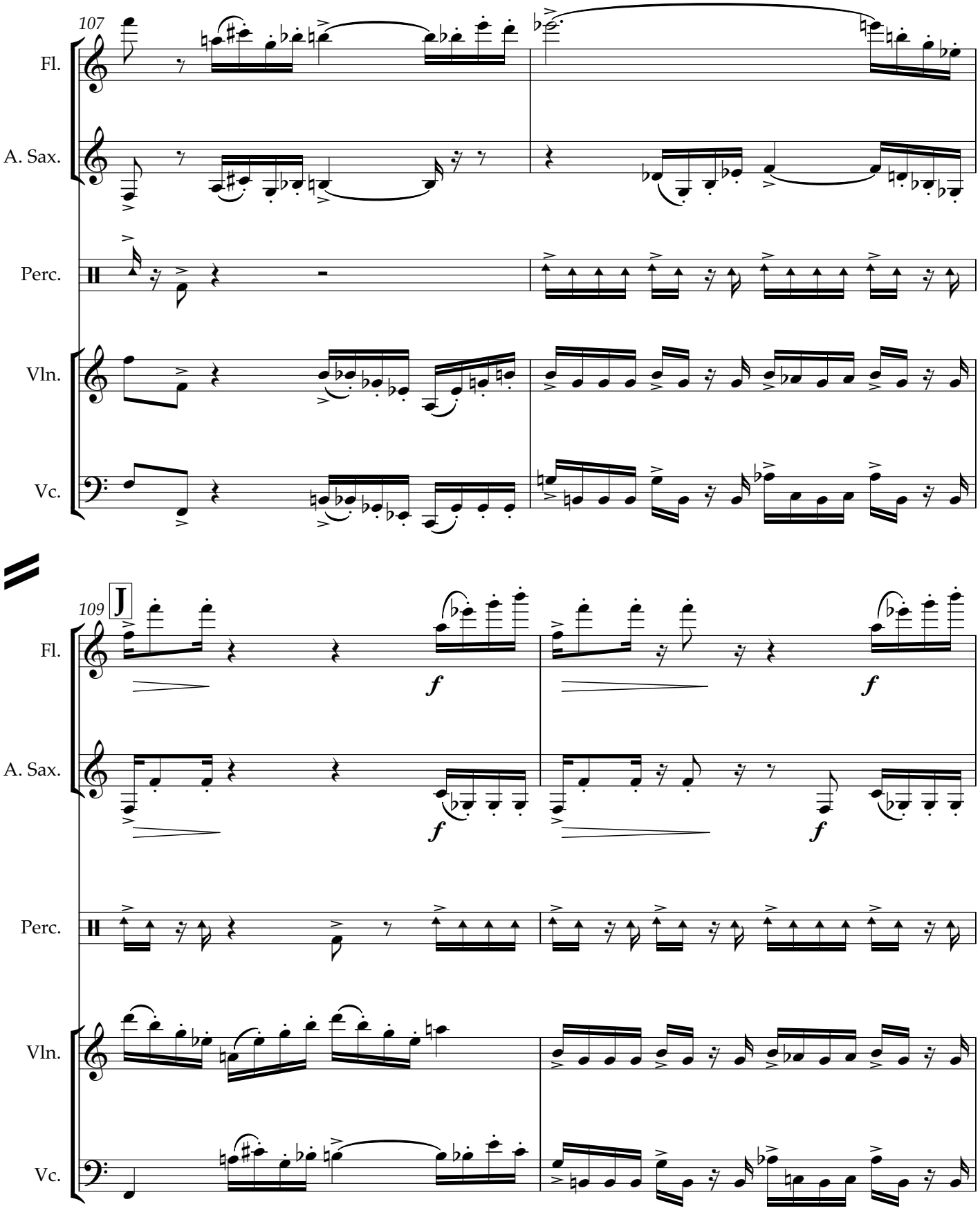

G
87
approx 18"
Repeat 4 X
Repeat 5 X
Repeat 3 X
Repeat 3 X
Repeat 4 X
Fl.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
p

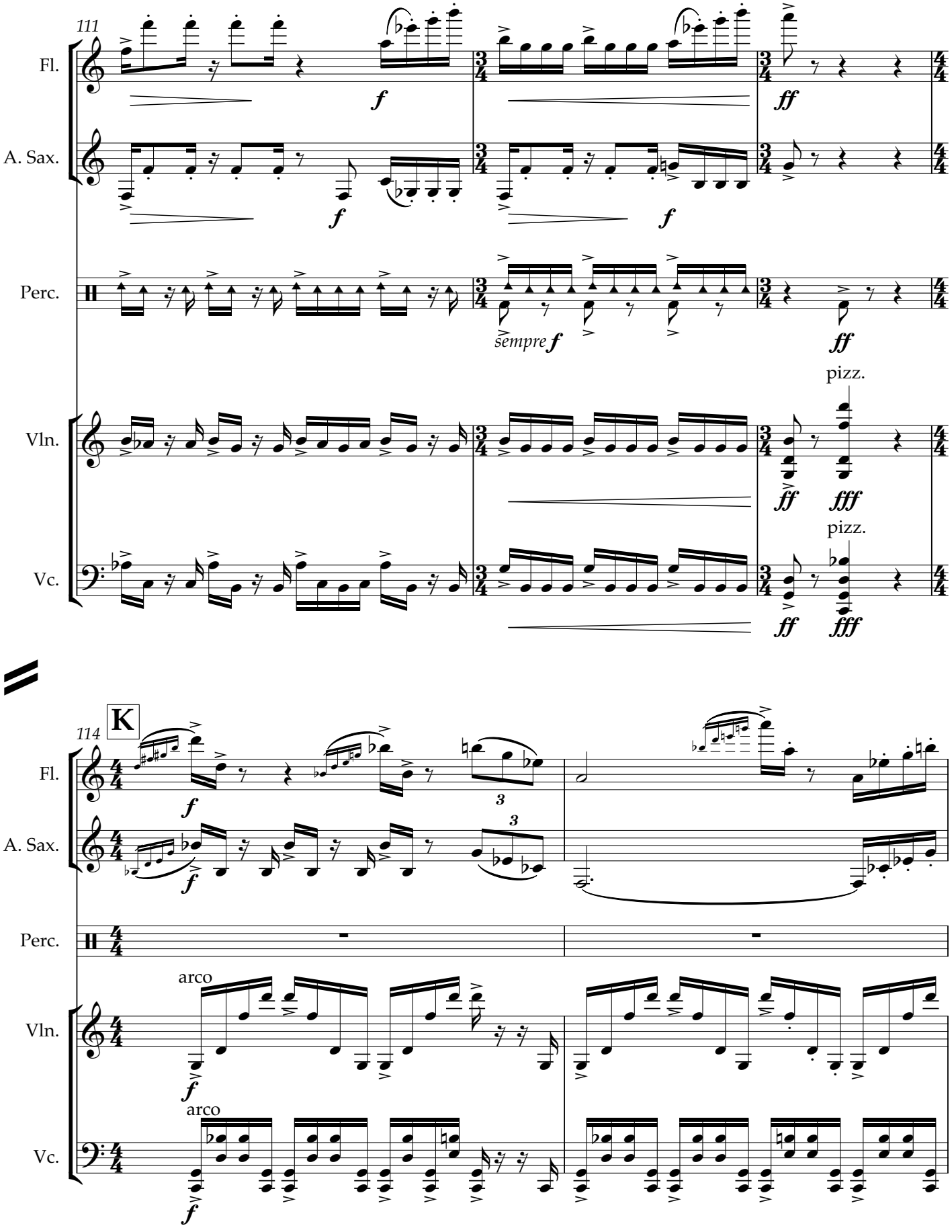

Allegro ♩ = 112
89
To Perc.
Percussion
Fl.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
f

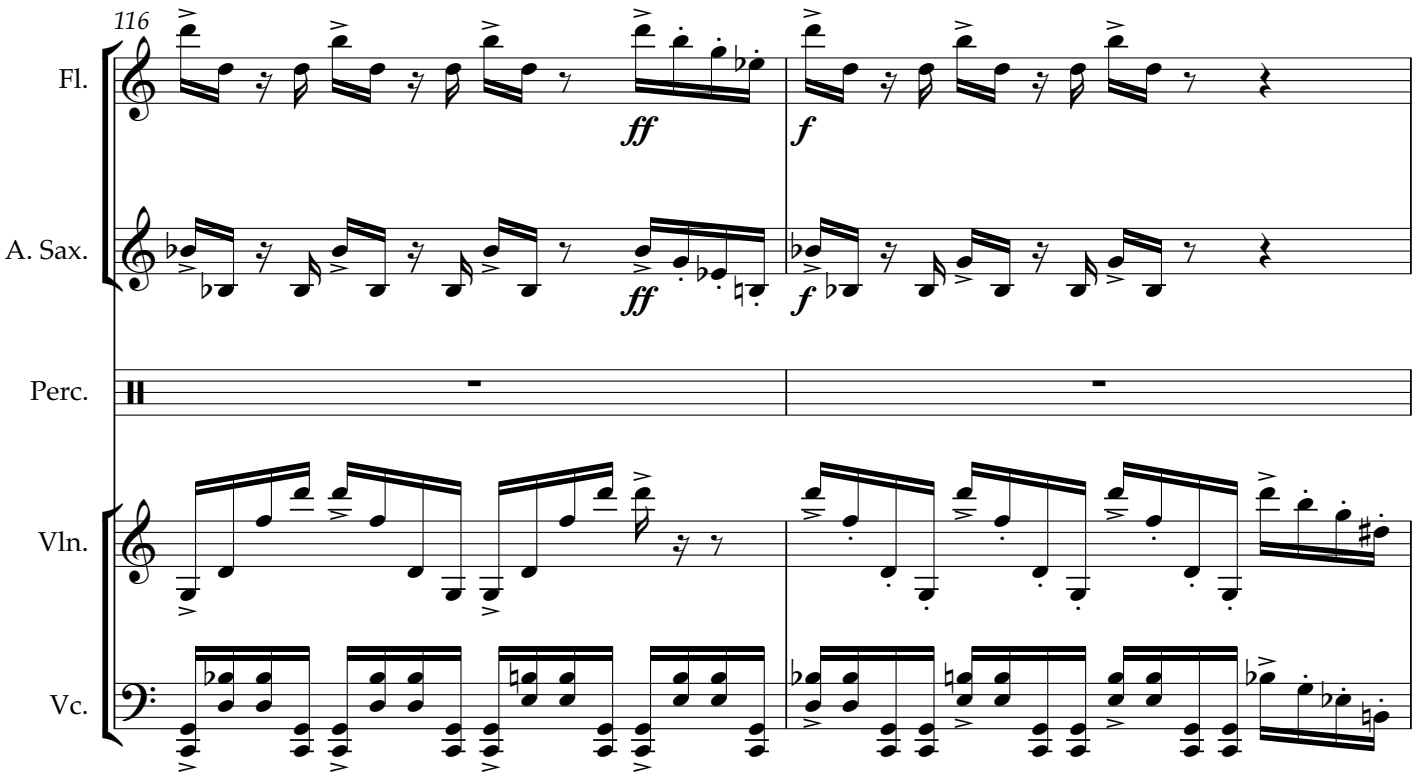

93
H
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
wood blocks
Vln.
Vc.
p
95
f
3

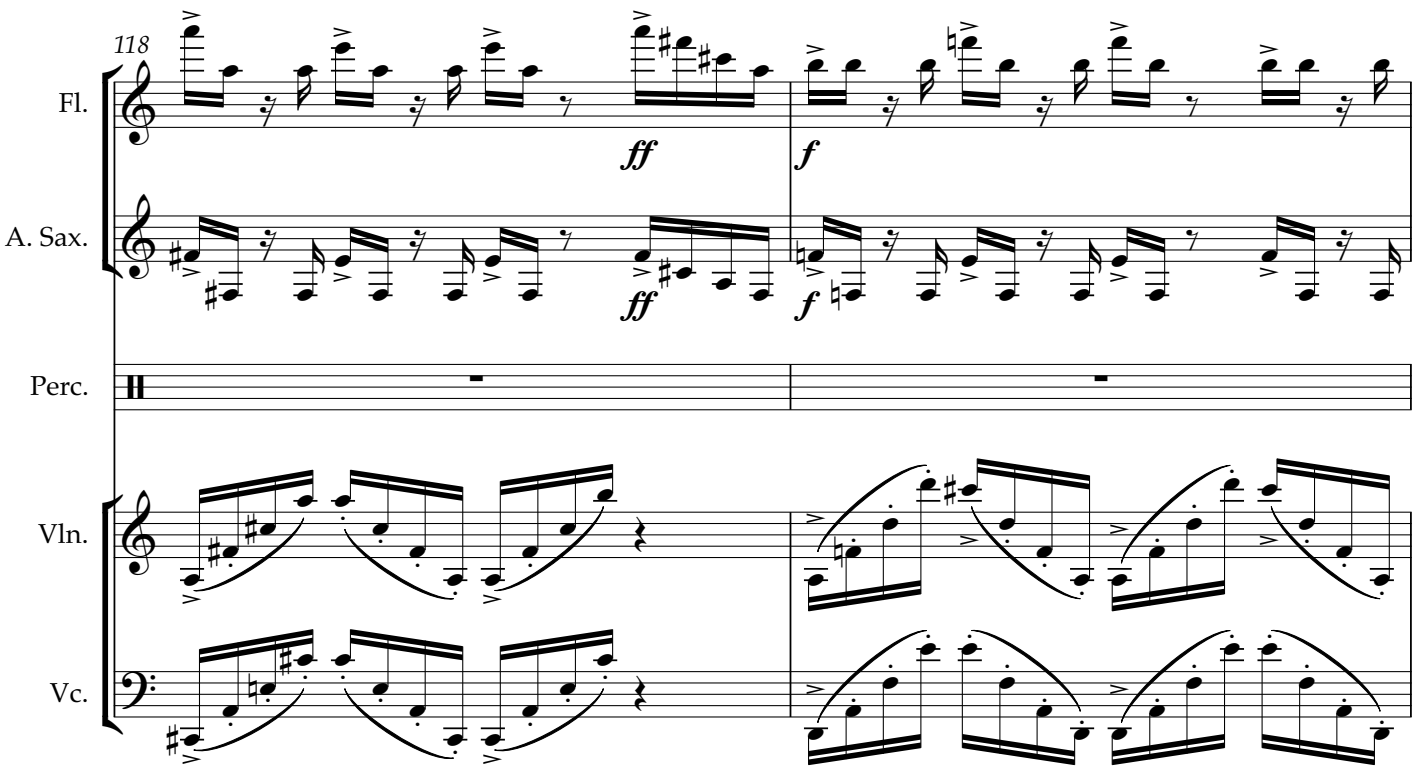

97
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
p
pp
100
I

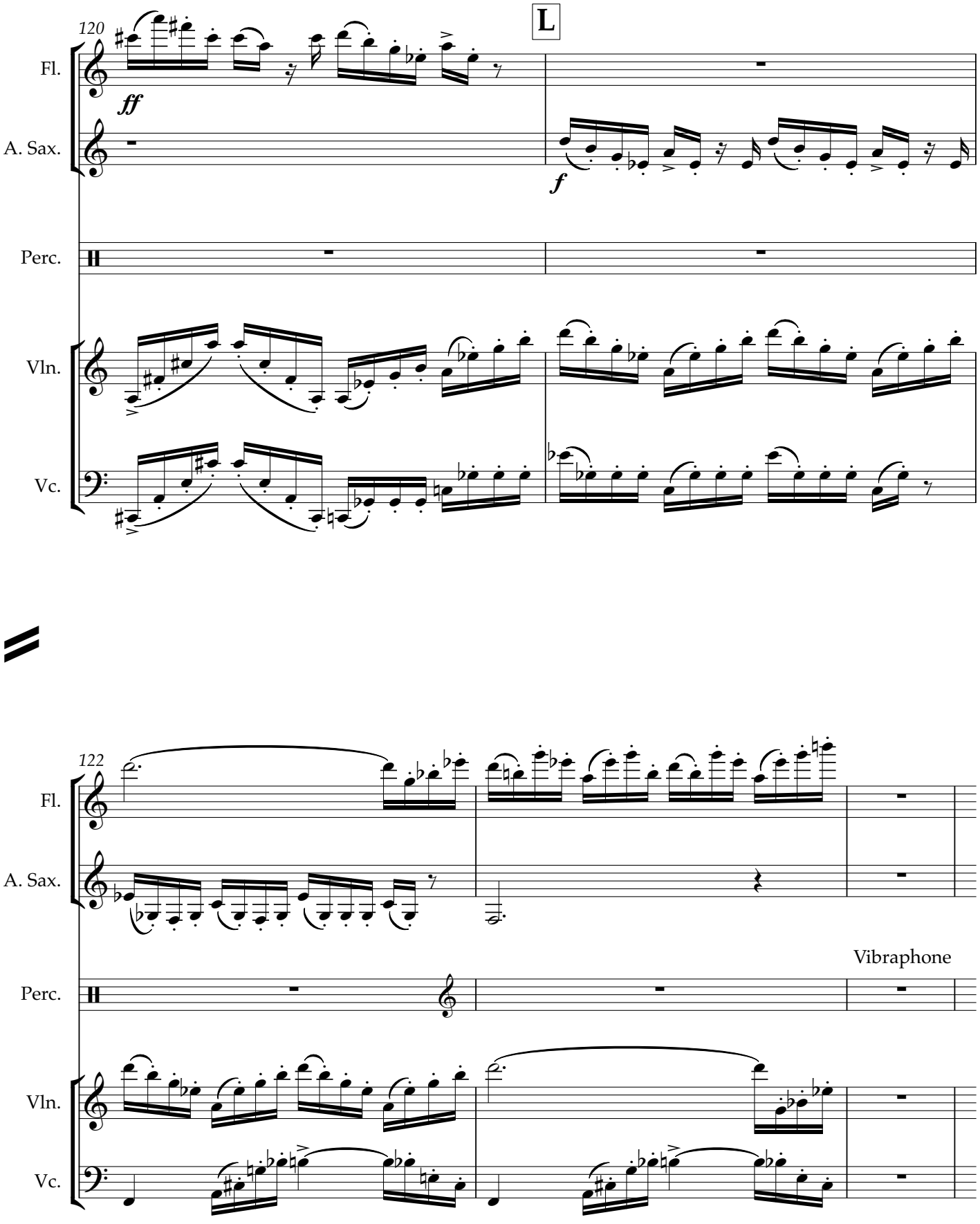

103
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
105
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.

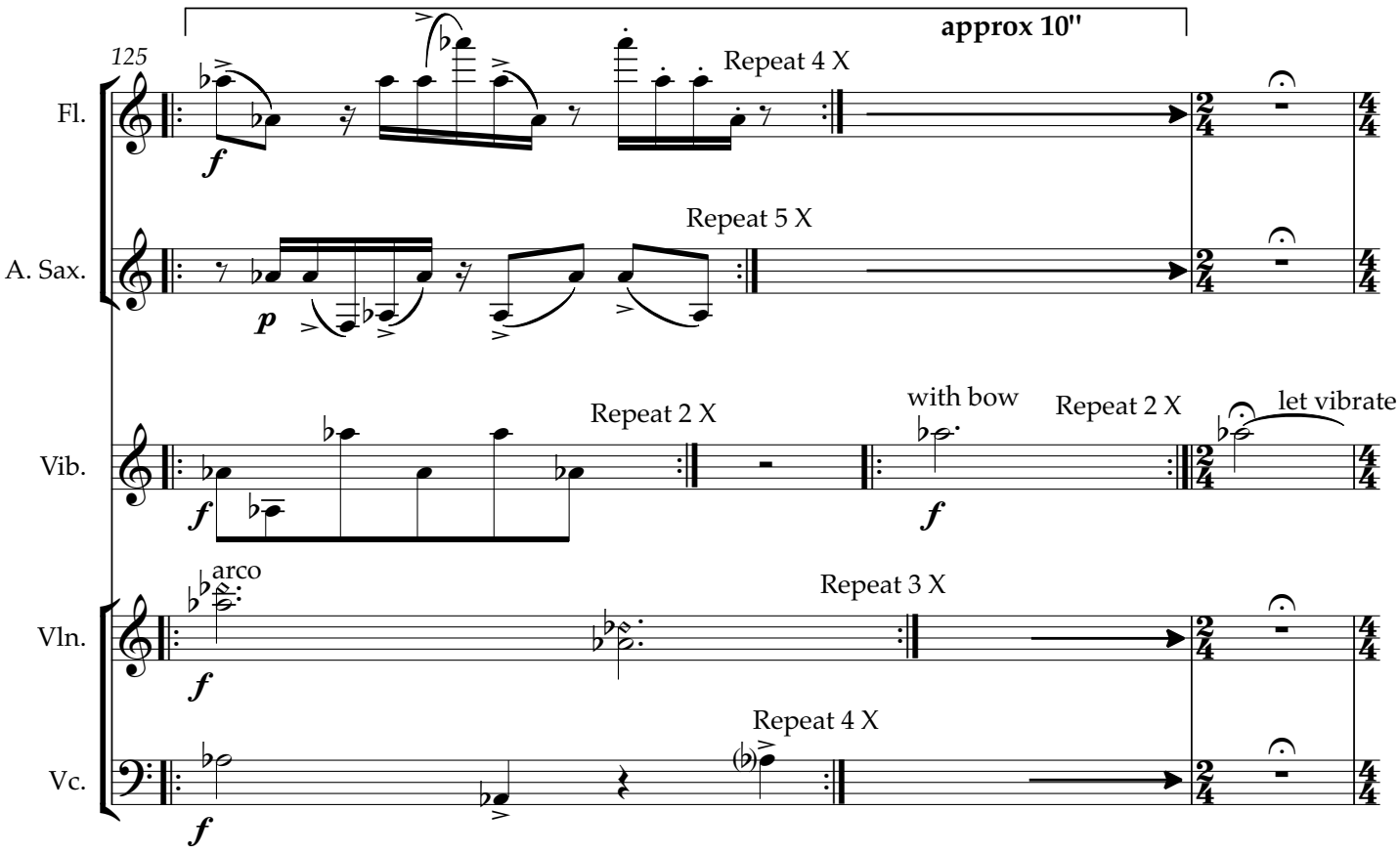

107
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
109
J
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
f
f
f
f

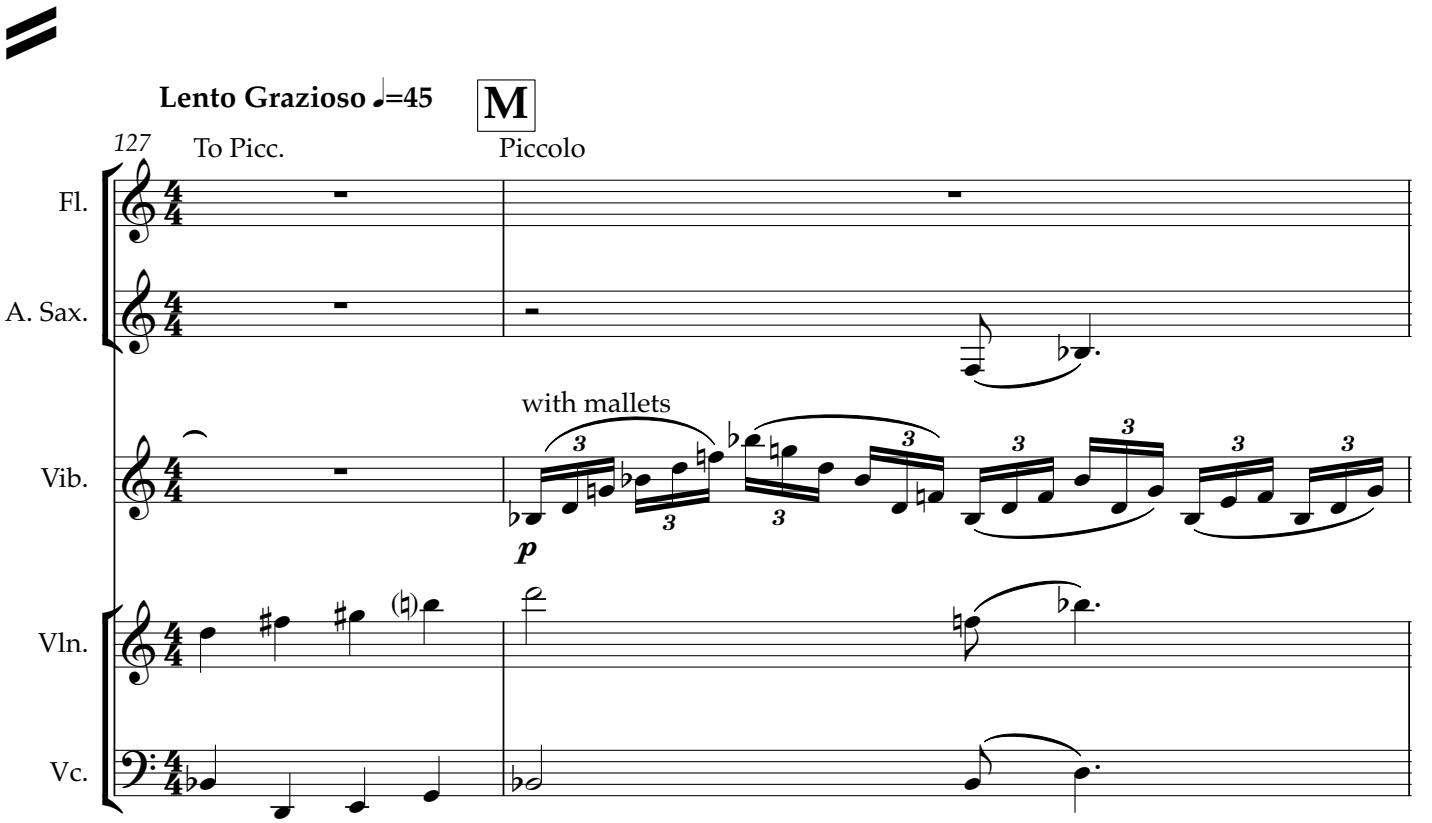

111
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
f
ff
sempre f
pizz.
fff
K
114
arco

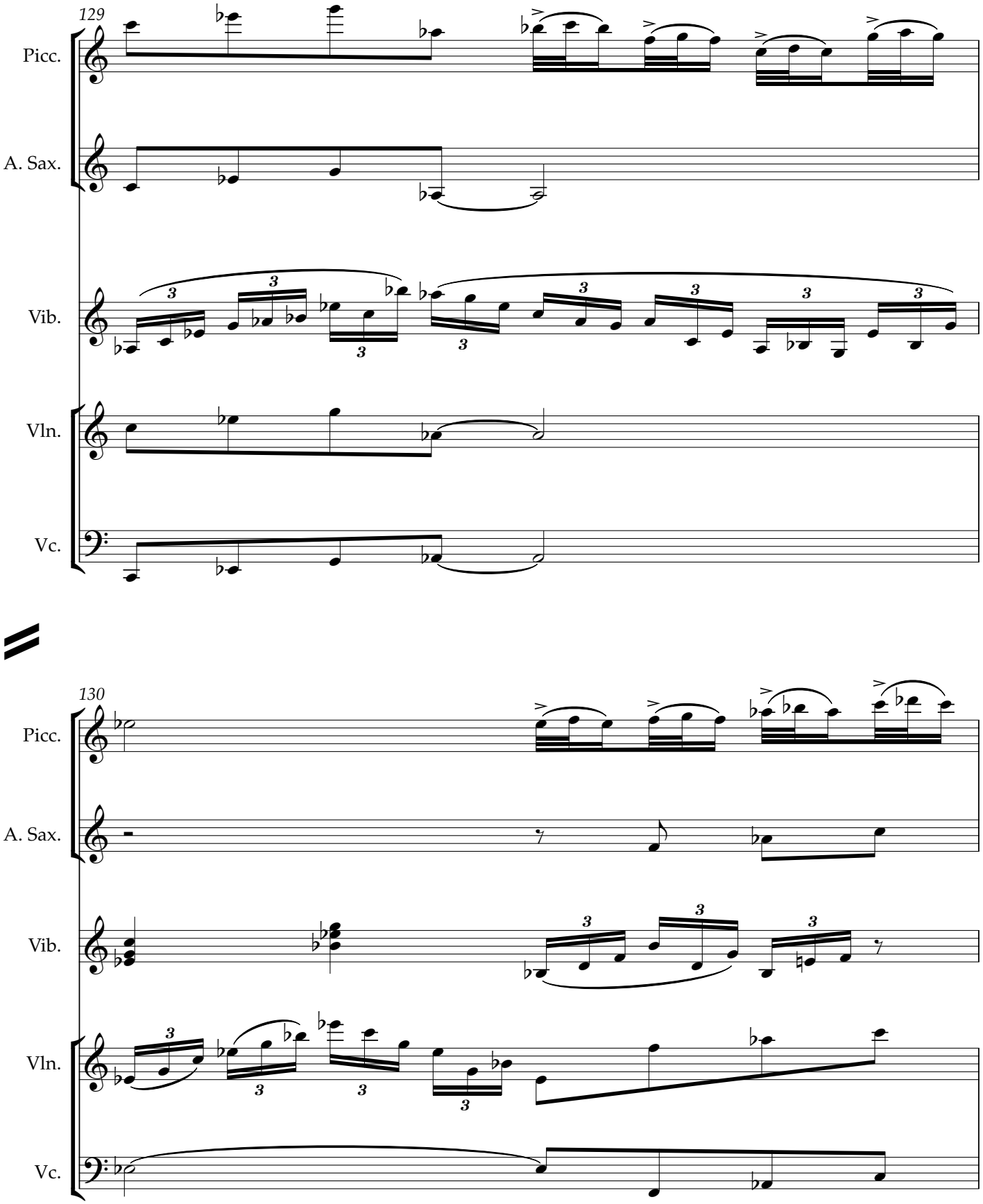

116
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
ff
f

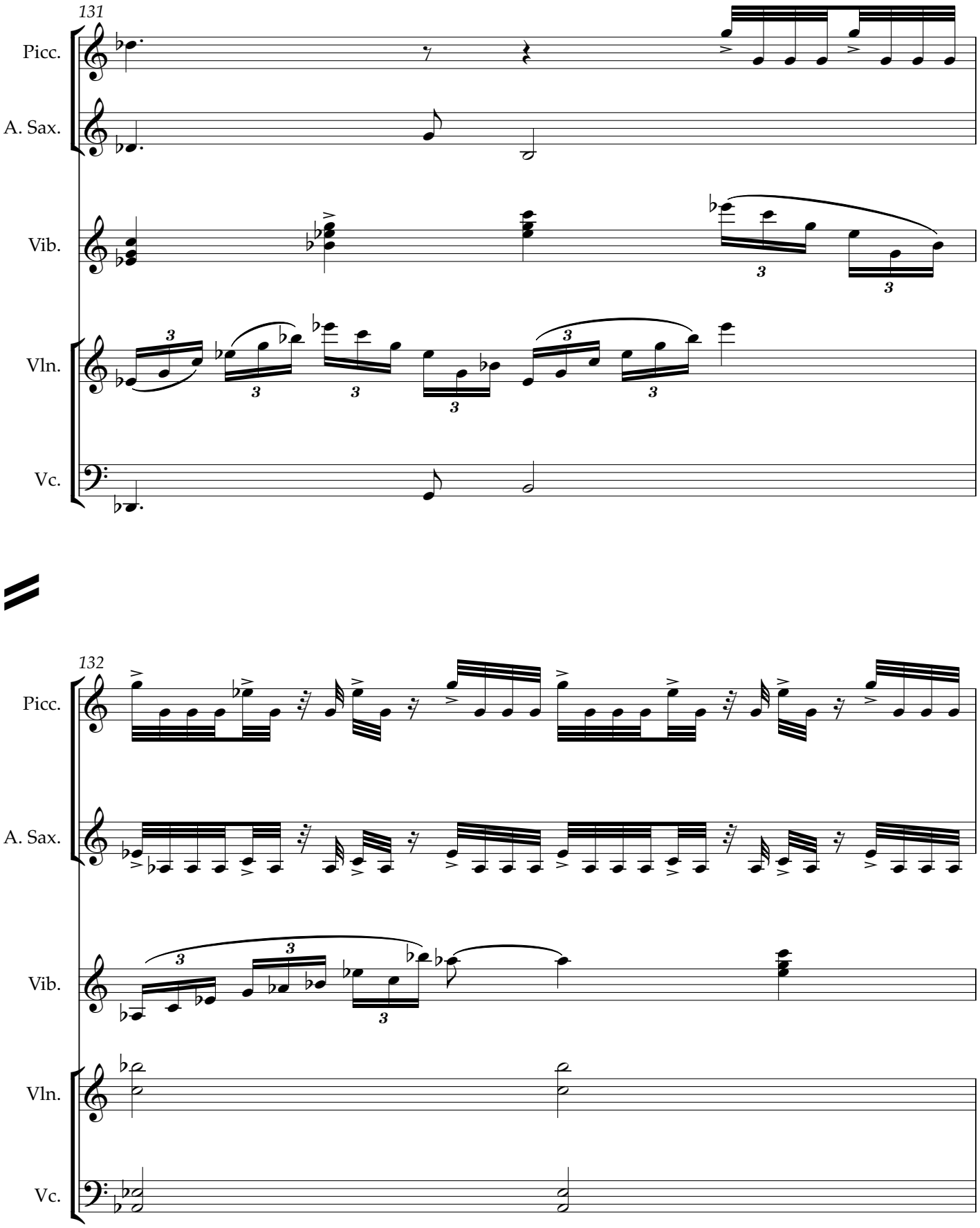

118
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
ff
f

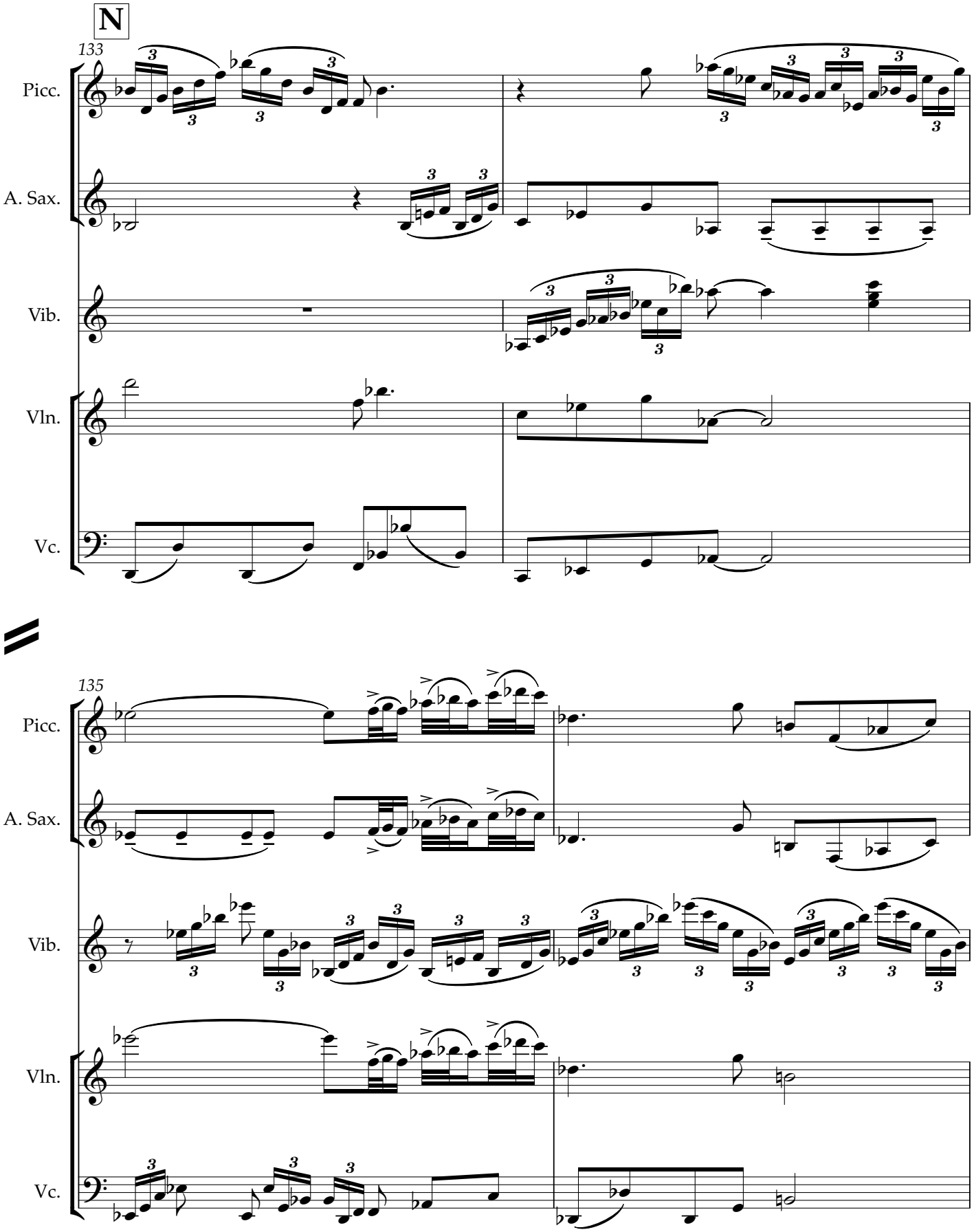

120
L
Fl.
A. Sax.
Perc.
Vln.
Vc.
ff
f
122
Vibraphone

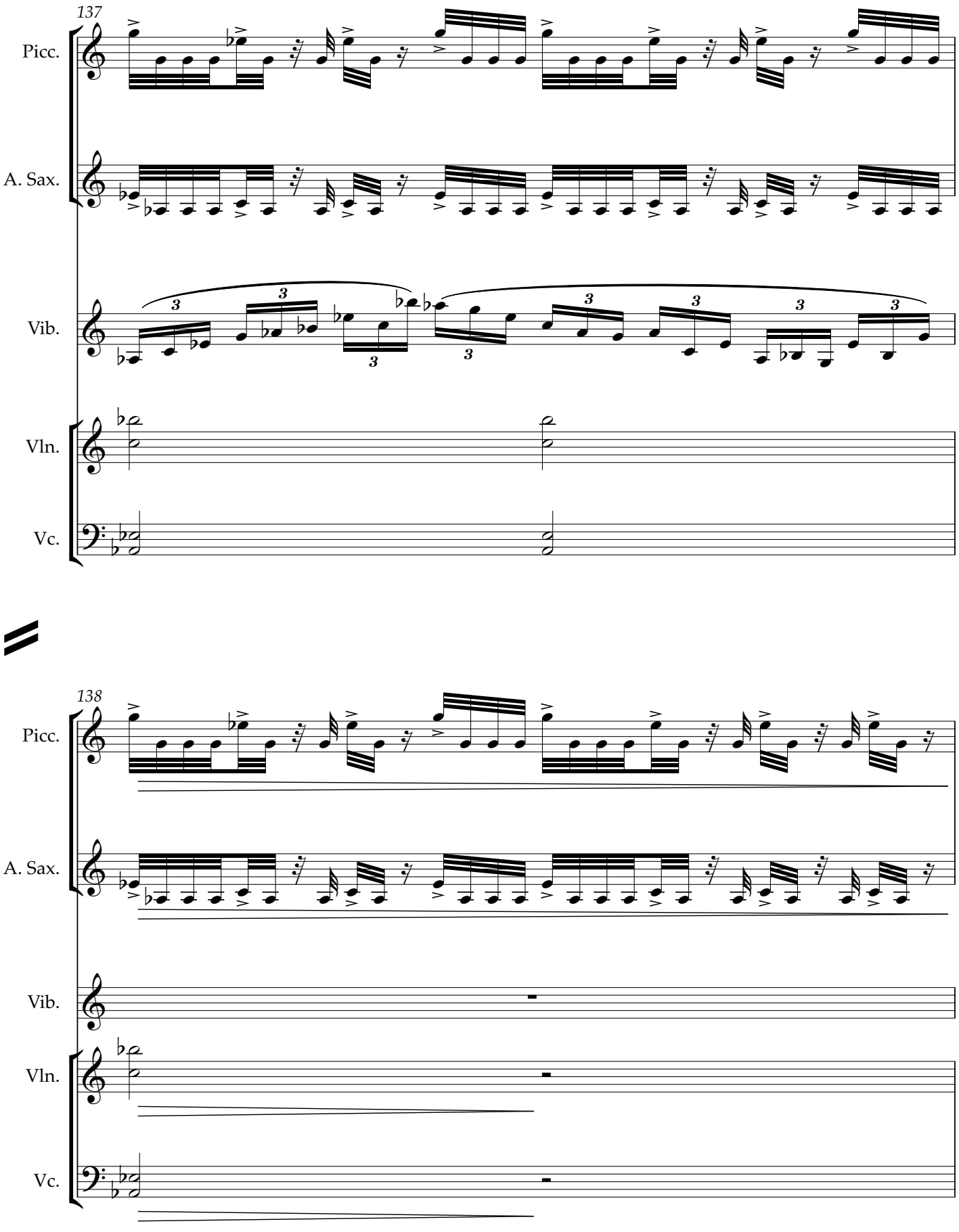

approx 10"
125
Fl.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
Repeat 4 X
Repeat 5 X
Repeat 2 X
with bow
Repeat 2 X
let vibrate
arco
Repeat 3 X
Repeat 4 X

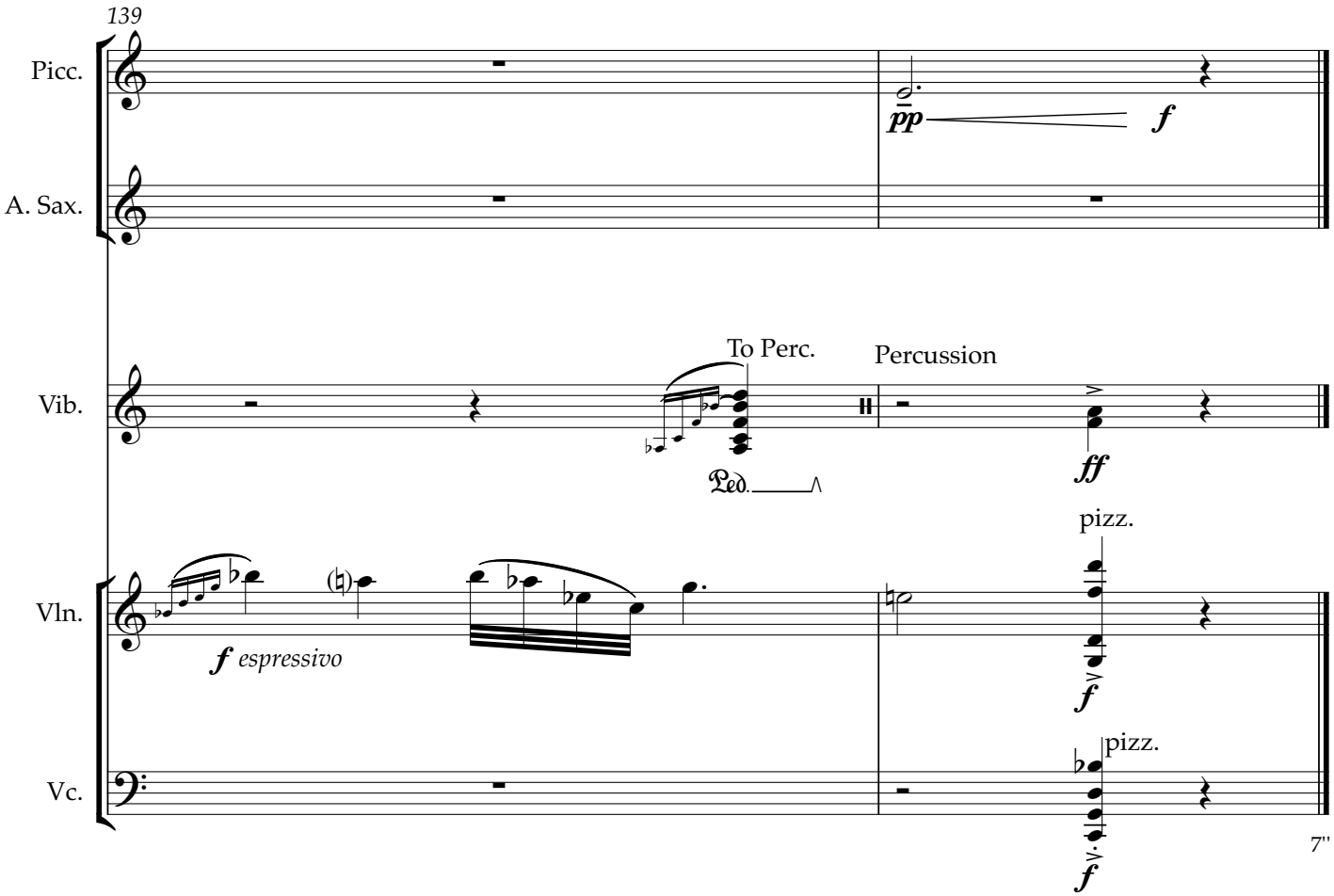

Lento Grazioso ♩=45
M
127
To Picc.
Piccolo
Fl.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
with mallets


129
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
130
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.


131
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
132
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.


N
133
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
135
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.


137
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
138
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.


139
Picc.
A. Sax.
Vib.
Vln.
Vc.
pp
f
To Perc.
Percussion
ff
Ped.
pizz.
f espressivo
f
pizz.
f
7''