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Jan Sandström

Don Quixote

Trombone Concerto No 2

1994

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TITN 395135

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Don Quixote

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madrid
VICTOR ESPINÓS

Trombone Concerto No 2

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Jan Sandström

Don Quixote

Trombone Concerto No 2

1994

commissioned for
Christian Lindberg
&
Norrbotten Chamber Orchestra

by
Norrbottensmusiken

World première in Luleå October 30 1994

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Jan Sandström Don Quixote de la Mancha
Programme notes by Christian Lindberg

"Halt! No more any note, until you´re admitting Dulcinea, most beautiful on earth".

This, roughly, is what Don Quixote says in Chapter Four when he meets a band of strangers. And this is the opening for the trombone concerto *Don Quixote*, a tribute to the ridiculous, intuitive and emotional human being who is engaged in his impossible fight against rationalism and the intellect. For Sandstrom himself, the composition work on *Don Quixote* has in a sense been a final therapeutic settlement of the issue of restrictive rules, impediments and decrees in contemporary art music. The titles of the movements --

"to walk where the bold man makes a halt",
"to row against a rushing stream",
"to believe in an insane dream", and
"and yet when you succumb, try to reach this star in the sky"

-- speak for themselves. It is not a question of succeeding, but rather of daring to lose one´s foothold for a while, of being carried away by one´s feelings even if punishment follows. And punished Don Quixote was, time and again, but he nonetheless believed in his insane dream and held his lance high!

Everything that happens in the trombone concerto has a symbolic value beyond the music itself -- very much in a realm of pure ideas, but also in the form of manifestly physical transfers from the stories in the book.

1. Introduction -- A windmill ride

2. To walk where the bold man makes a halt
The composer´s playful fight against his own windmills, and the presentation of Don Quixote as "the victor of all battles".

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3. To row against a rushing stream

The story of Zoraida, the daughter of a rich Muslim king in Algeria. The beautiful Zoraida secretly pushes into a prison yard, to some imprisoned slaves, a pipe containing a message. Only at the fourth attempt does the message reach the right man, the slave she has fallen in love with. The message reads:

"When I was a girl my father had a woman slave, who taught me the Christian prayers in my own tongue and spoke to me often about Lela Marien (Virgin Mary). She told me to go to Christian lands and see Lela Marien, who loved me very much. I am young and beautiful, and have much money to take with me. See if you cannot find a way for us to go; and you shall be my husband, if you will. I wrote this; be careful to whom you give it to read. If my father finds out he will immediately throw me down a well and cover me with stones. May Lela Marien and Allah protect you."

4. To believe in an insane dream

In Sierra Morena, Don Quixote meets a man called Cardenio who, driven out of his mind by an unhappy love affair, is running around naked among the bushes. Don Quixote transfers the whole story to himself and asks Sancho Panza to inform Dulcinea of Toboso that his master is running around with a bare rump because of his boundless desire for her. While awaiting Sancho's return he passes the time by composing and inscribing, on the bark of trees and on the fine sand, numerous verses that are all in tune with his mournfulness. Of these verses, only the following two were fully legible when he was found:

Ye plants, ye herbs and ye trees, That flourish in this pleasant site, In lofty and verdant degrees, If my harms do you not delight, Hear my holy plaints, which are these, And let not my grief you molest, Though it ever so f eelingly went, Since here for to pay your rest, Don Quixote his tears hath addressed Dulcinea's lack to lament del Toboso.
In this very place doth abide, The loyallest lover and true, Who himself from his lady did hide, But yet felt his sorrows anew, Not knowing whence they might proceed, Love doth him cruelly wrest, With a passion of evil descent, Which robbed Don Quixote of his rest, Till a keg with his tears was full pressed,
Dulcinea's lack to lament del Toboso.

5. To smile despite unbearable pain

Don Quixote meets a goatherd who insults him by calling him *"a gentleman who must have some of the rooms in his brain vacant".*
" --You are a very great rascal," replies Don Quixote, *"and I am a good deal fuller than ever that whore's daughter, the whore that bore you, was."*
What ensues is, for Don Quixote, a singularly humiliating battle that ends with him lying, bloody and beaten, on the ground. All the spectators laugh until they choke, except for Sancho Panza who is in utter despair.

6. And yet when you succumb, try to reach this star in the sky.

A sorrowful tribute to Don Quixote, "the victor...and the loser...of all battles".

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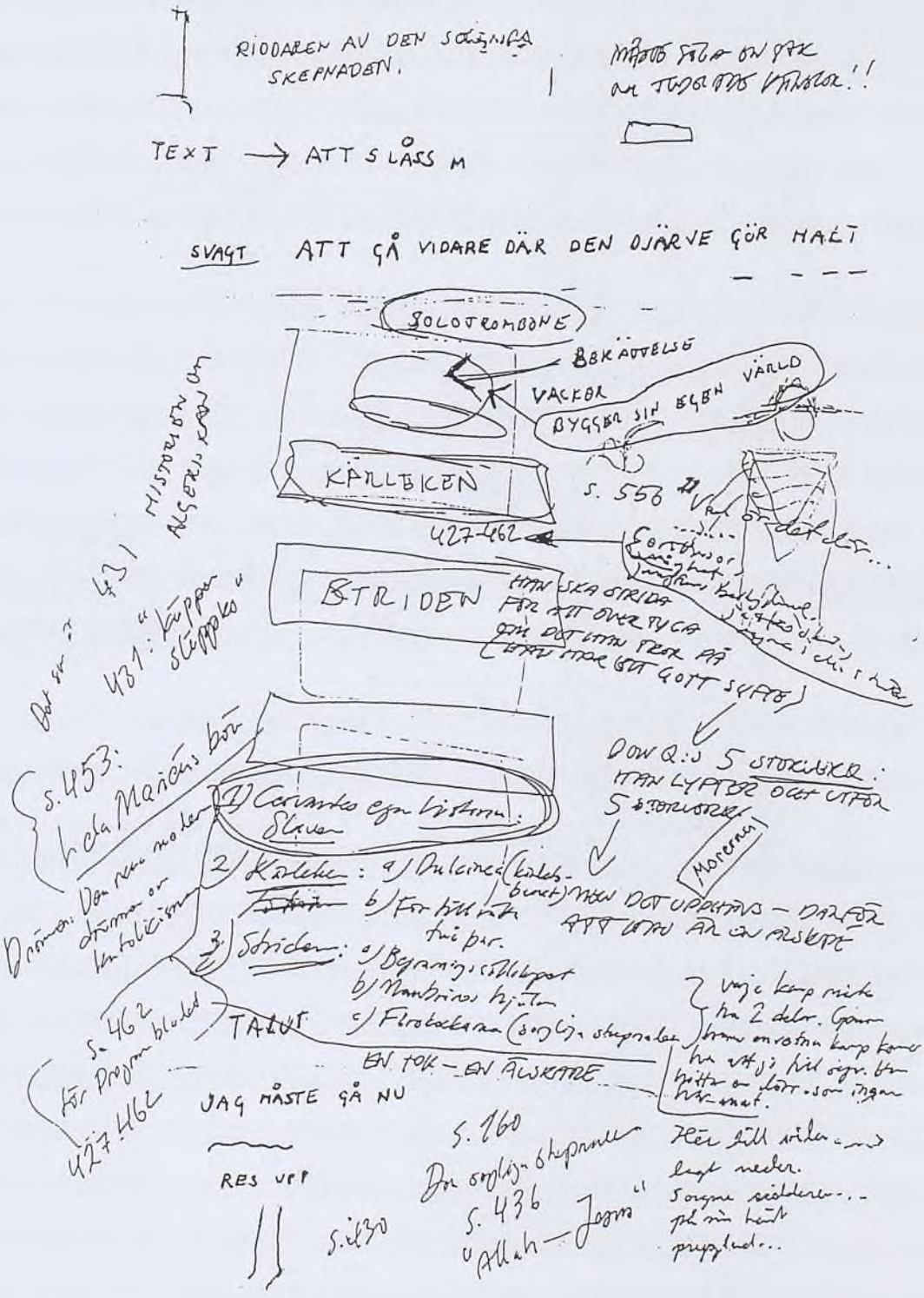
Christian Lindberg´s and Jan Sandström´s first sketches for
Don Quixote de la Mancha At Night 16/17 June 1994



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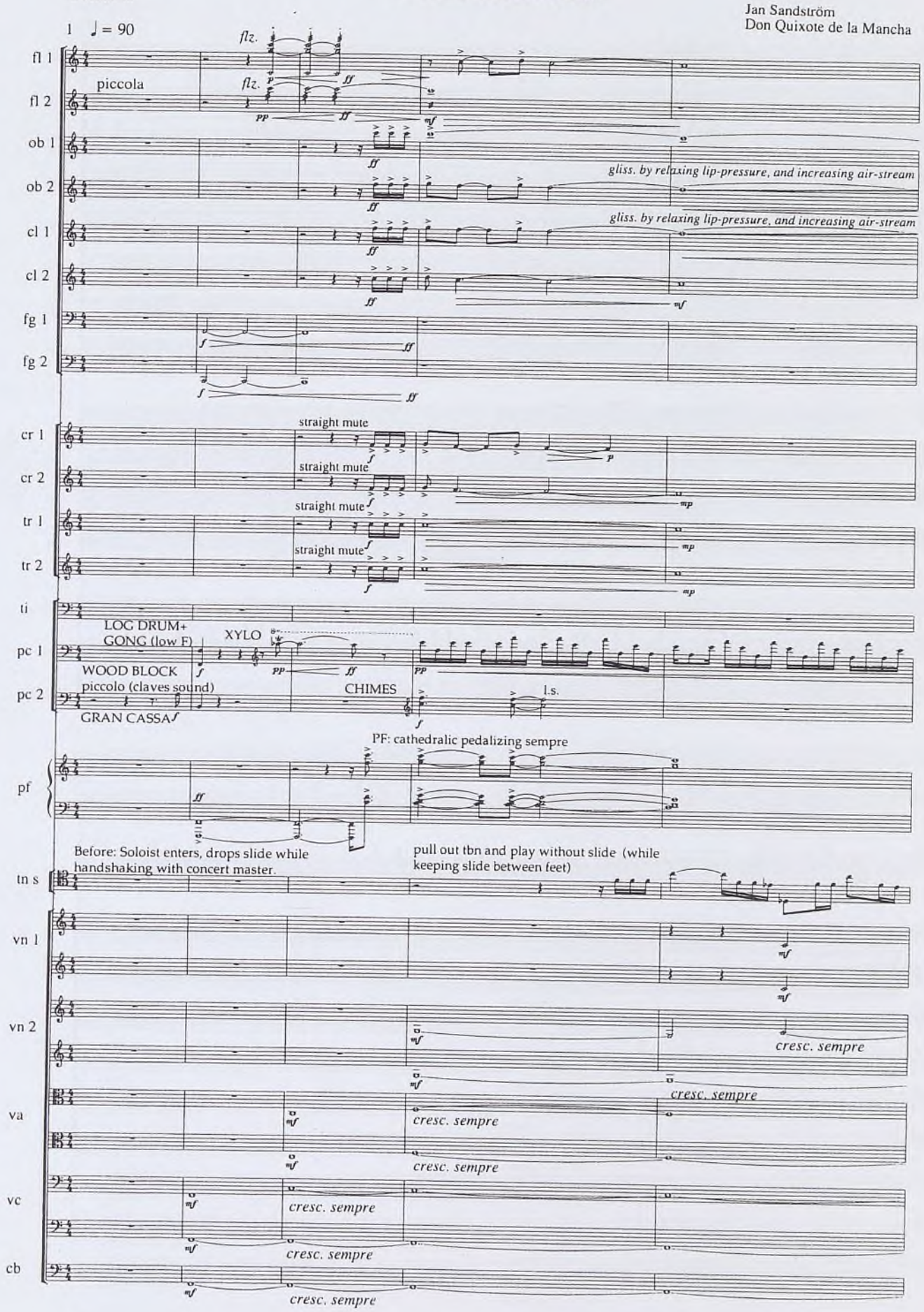
SCORE IN C
(fl p 8a bassa, cb 8a)
Durata 35´

Introduction

Jan Sandström
Don Quixote de la Mancha



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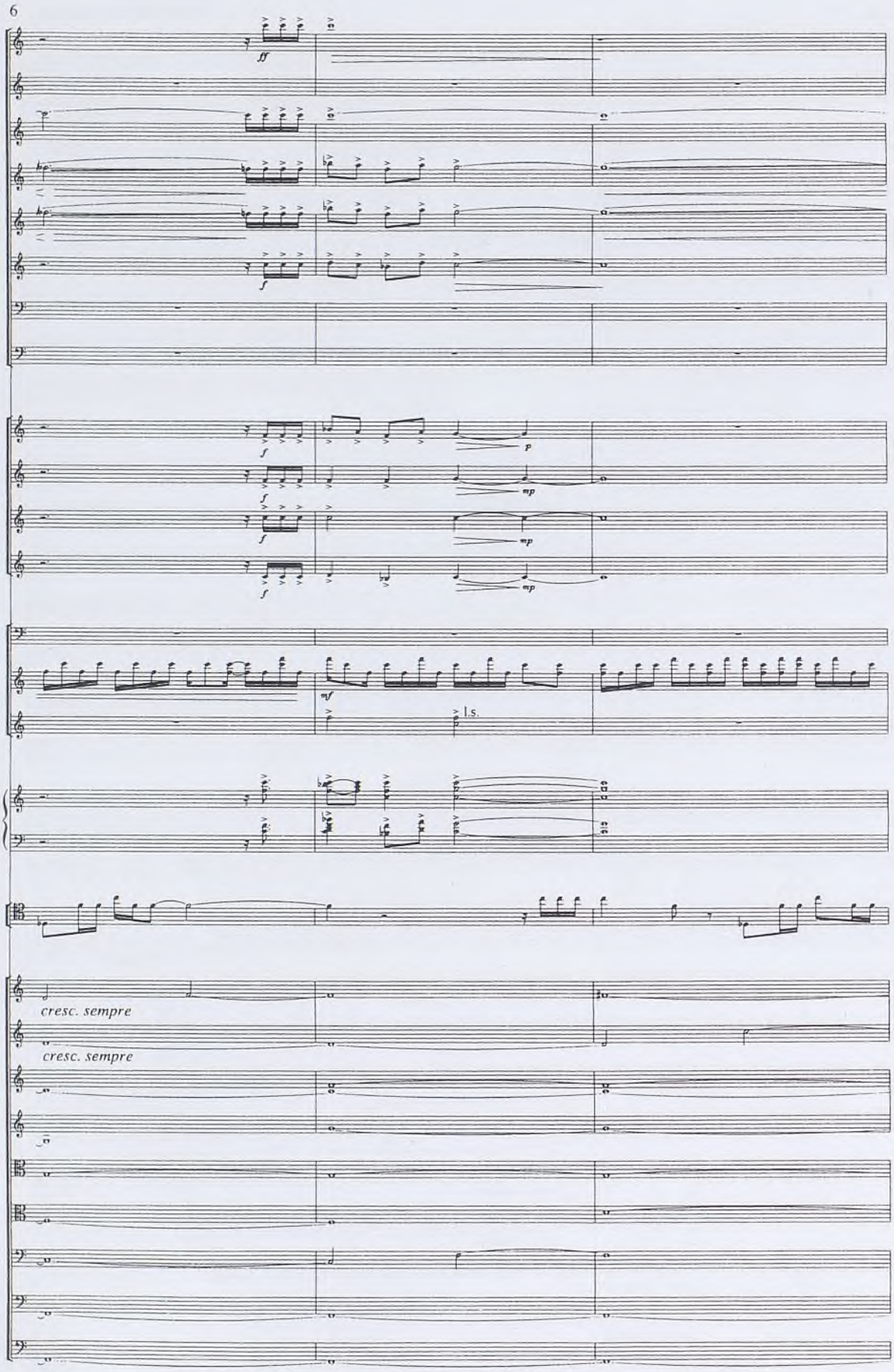

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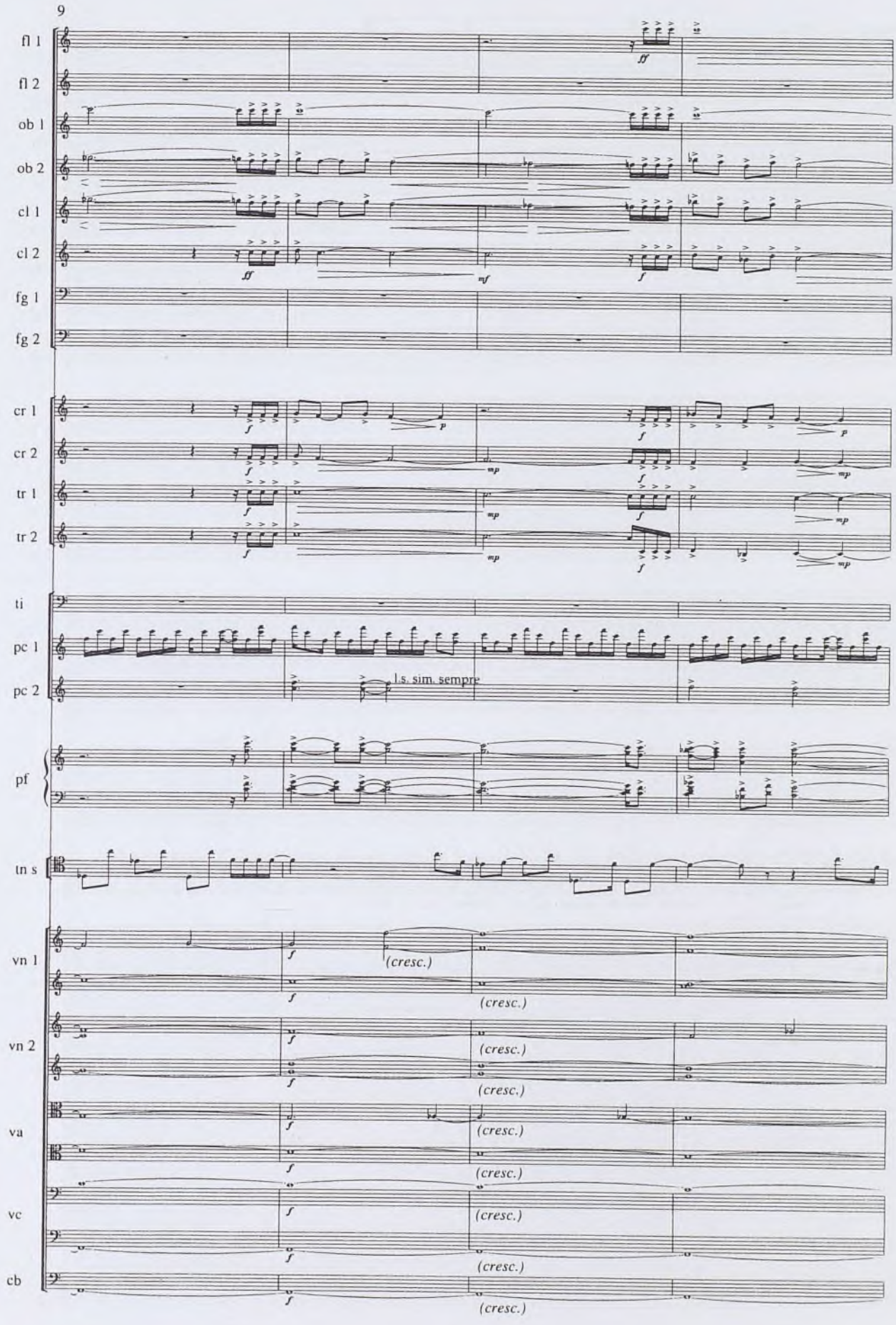

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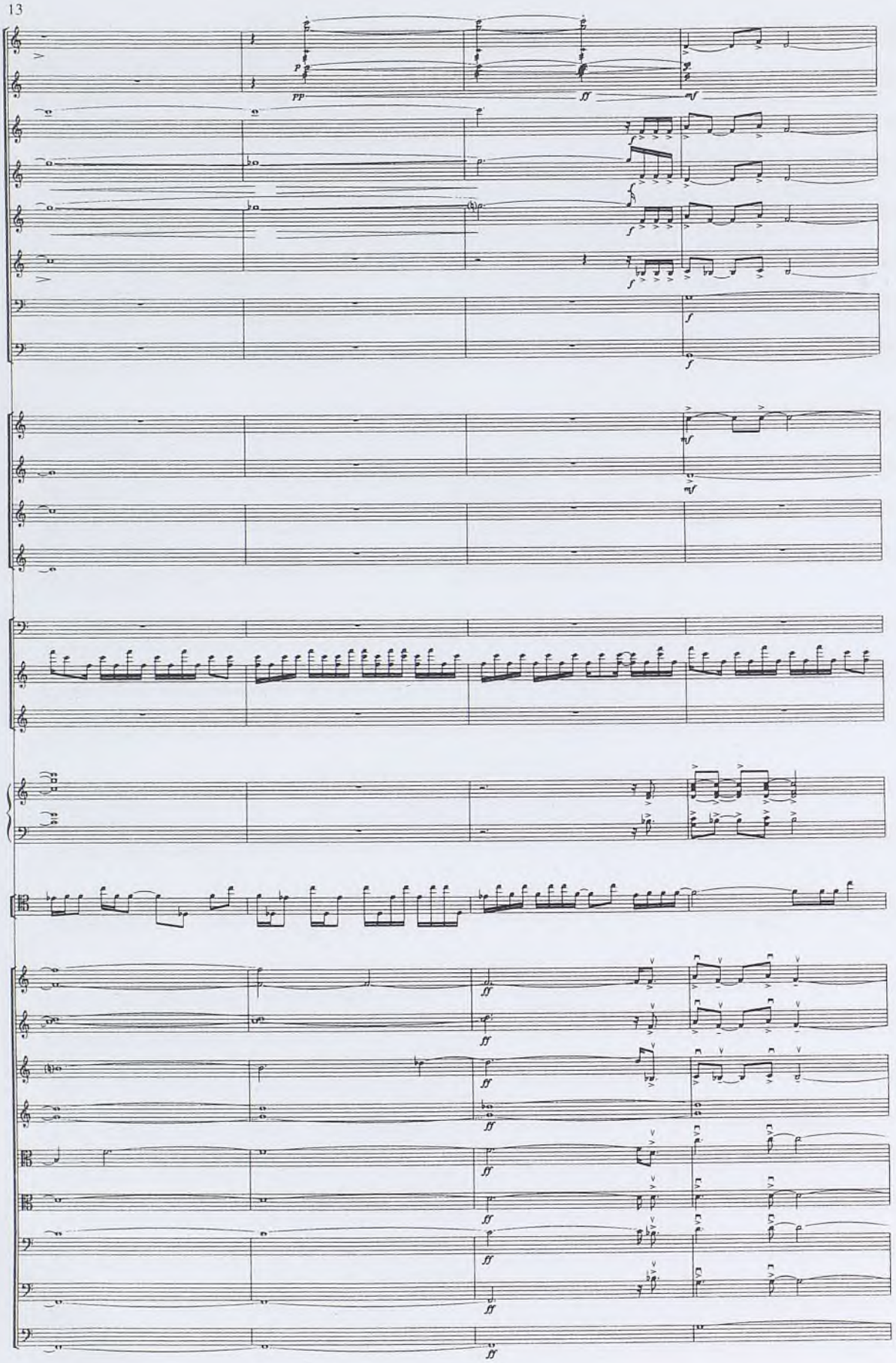

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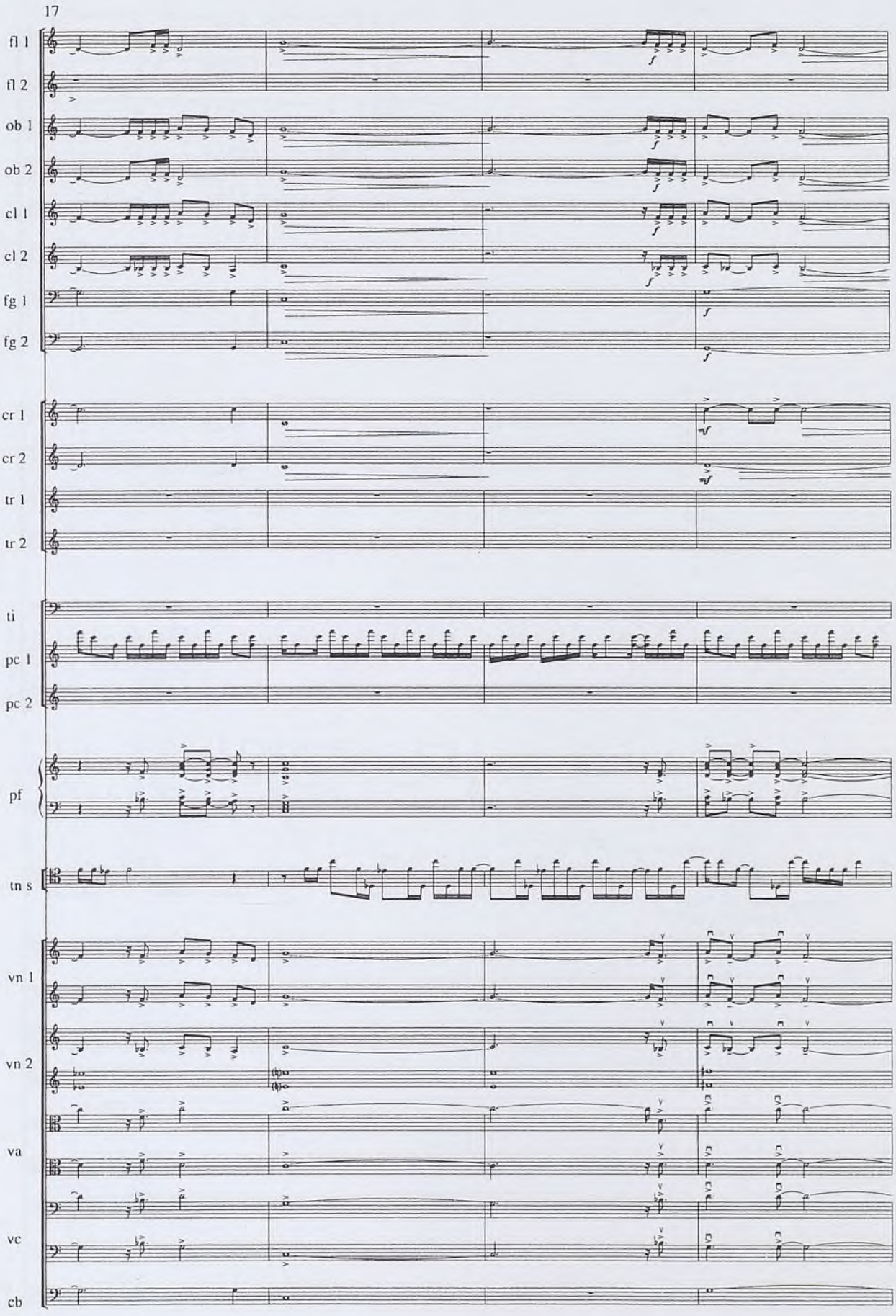

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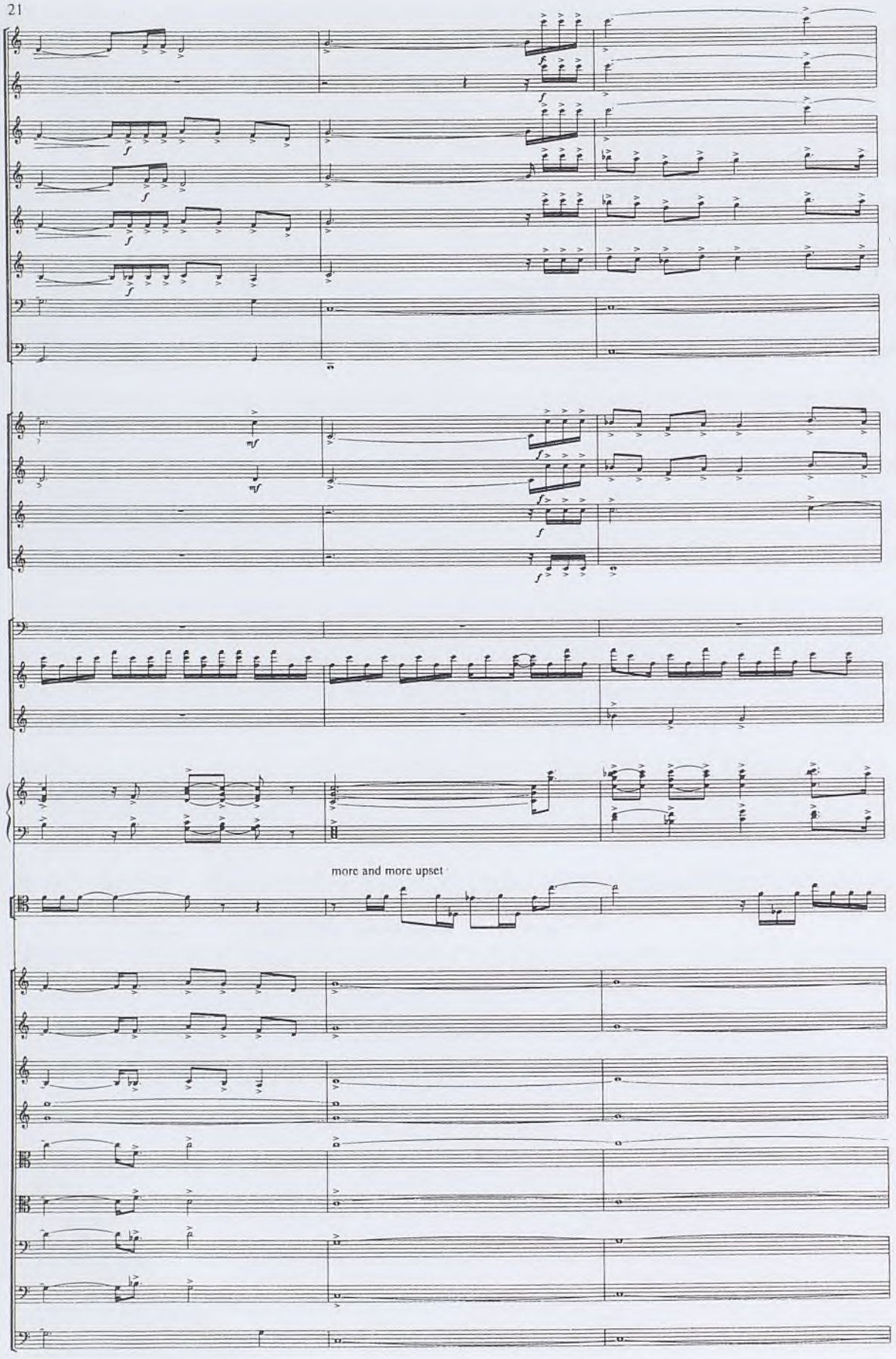

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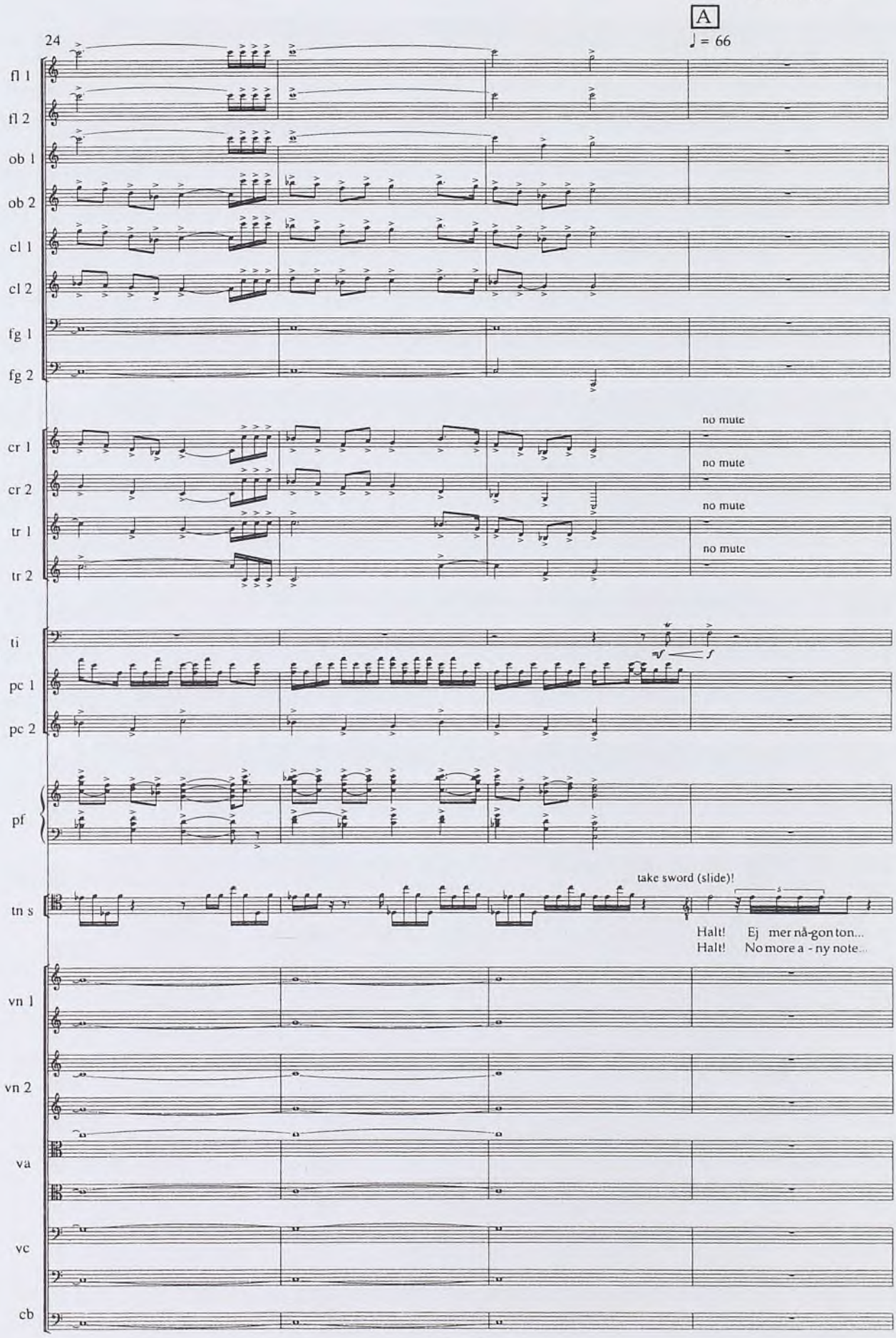

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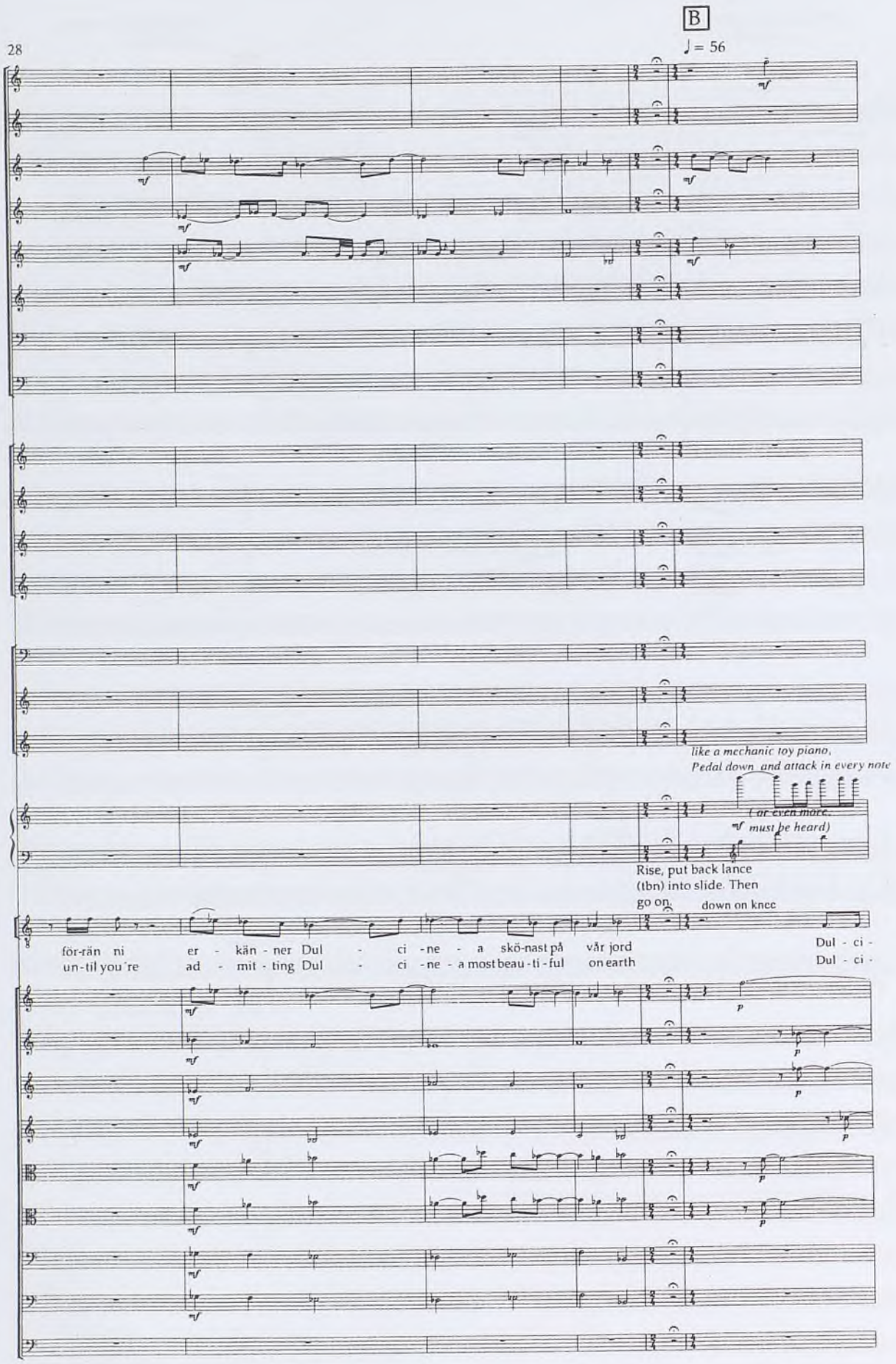

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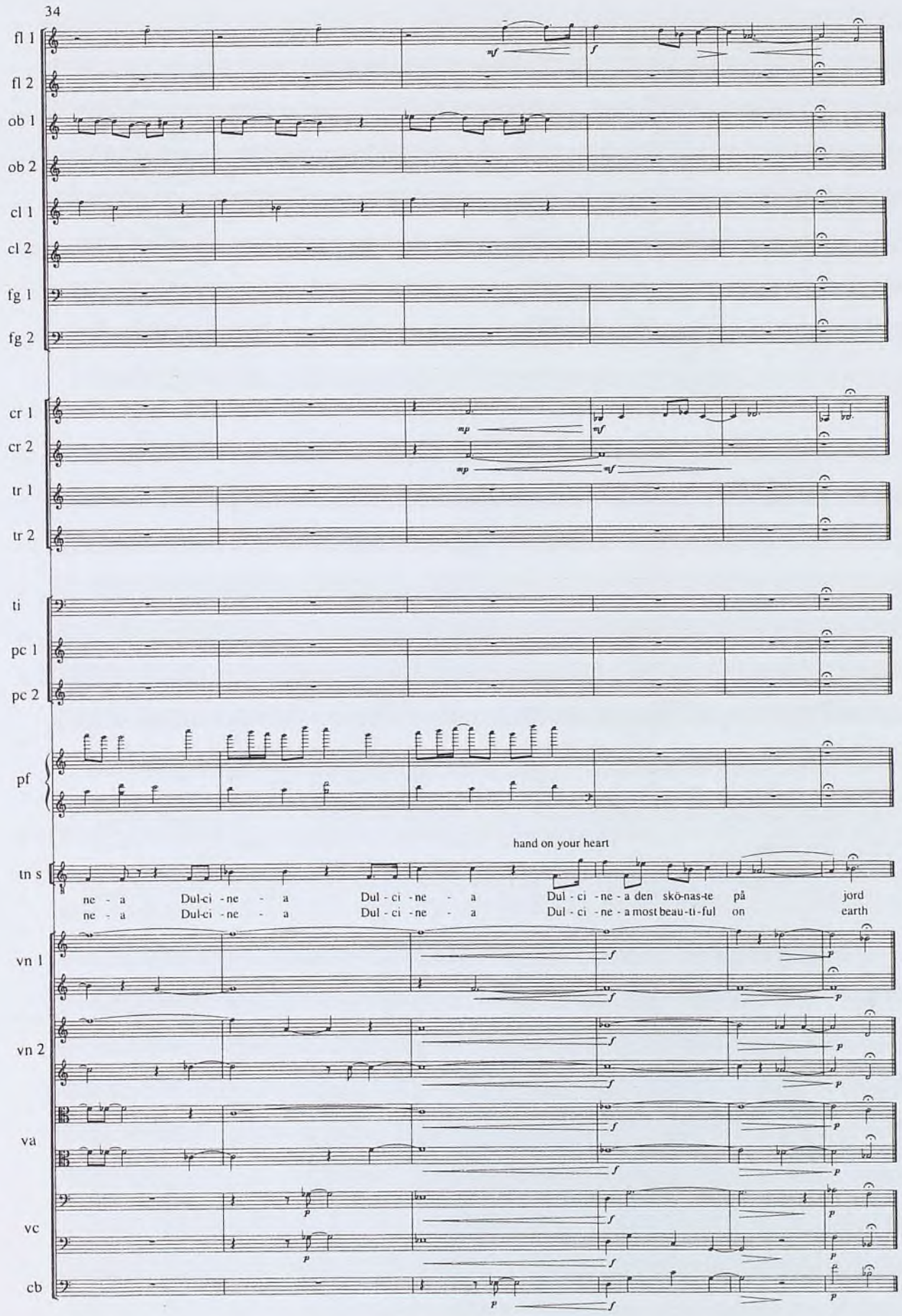

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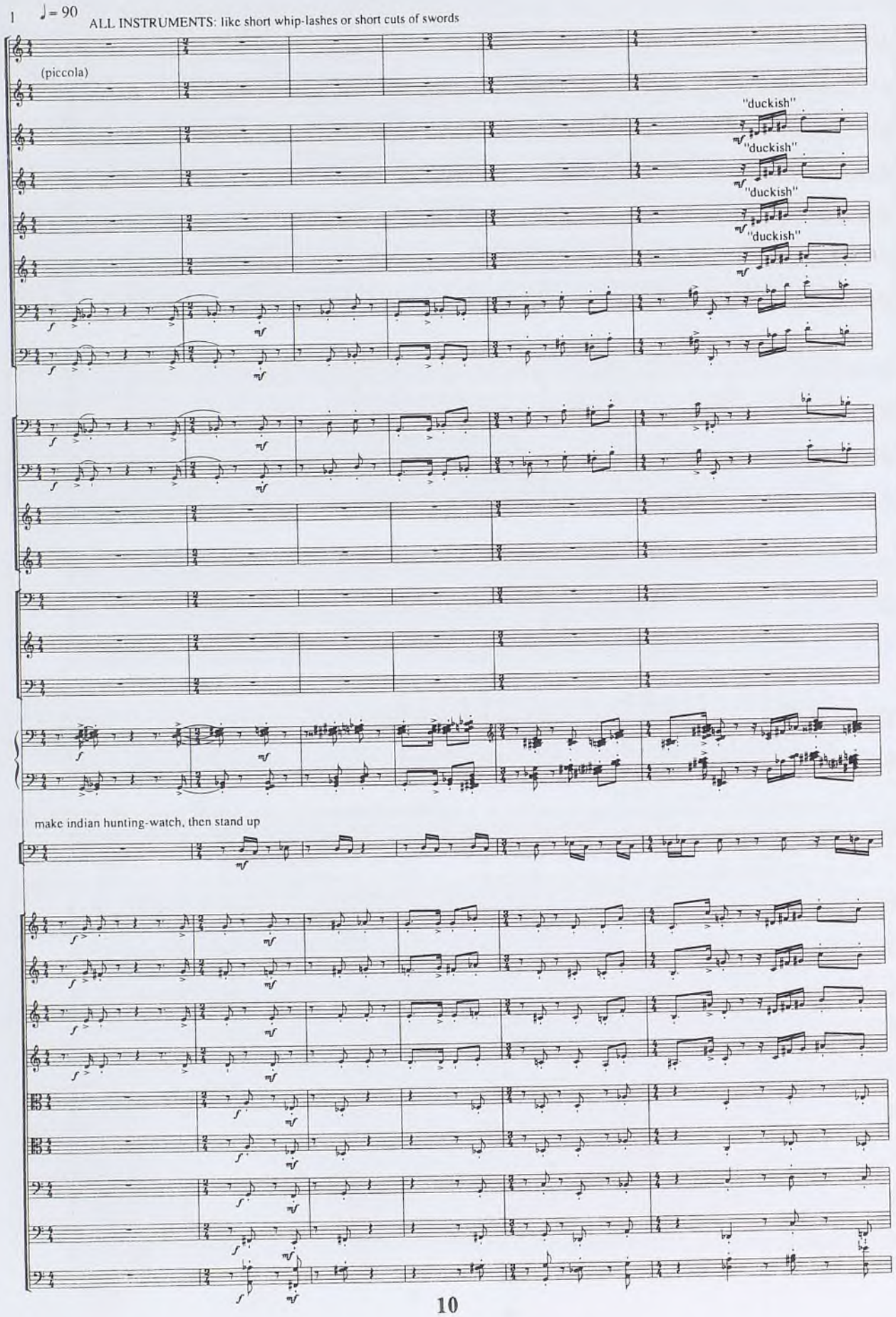
Intro 2: A Windmill Ride



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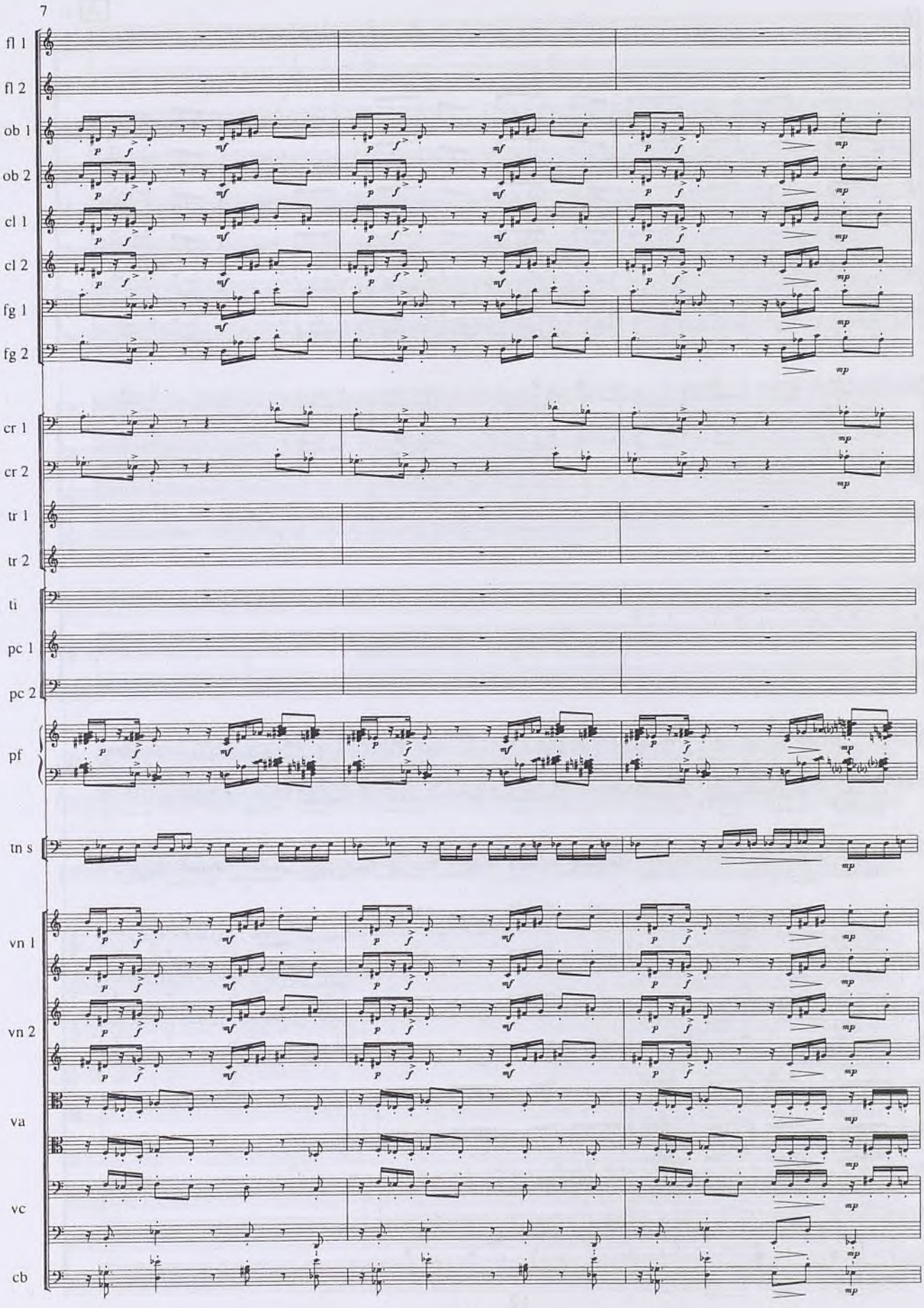

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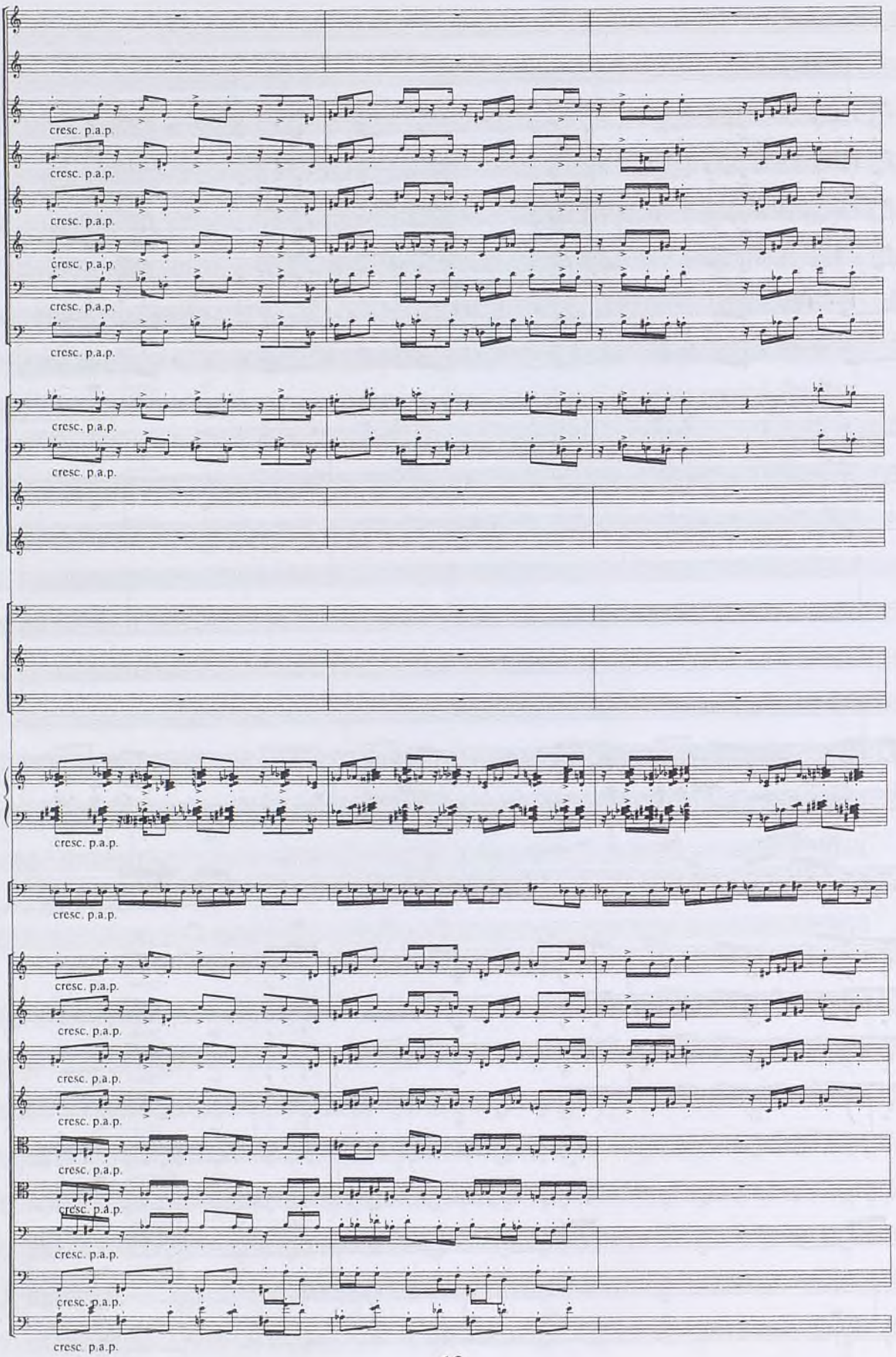

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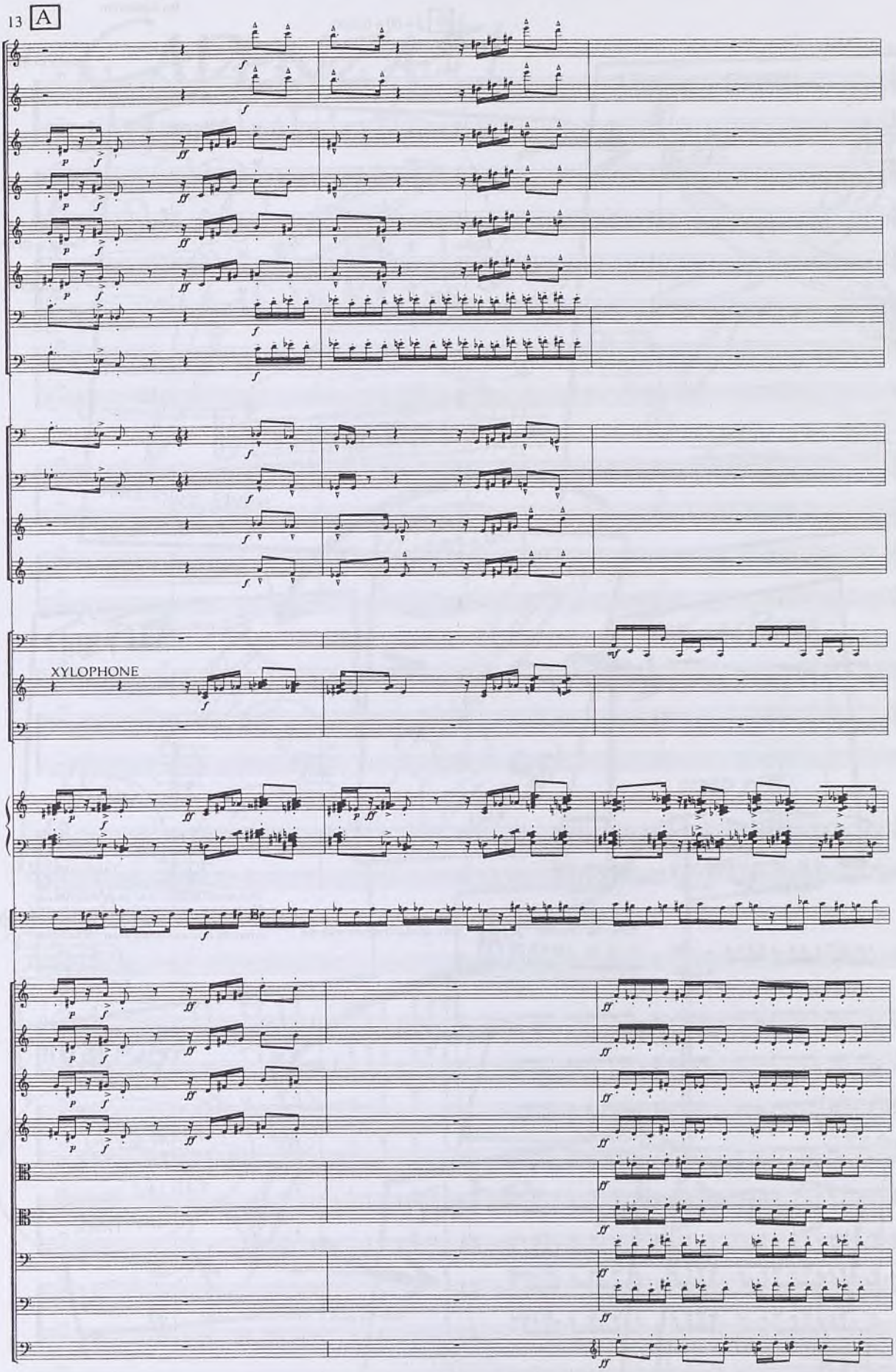

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B ♩ = 60 a tempo

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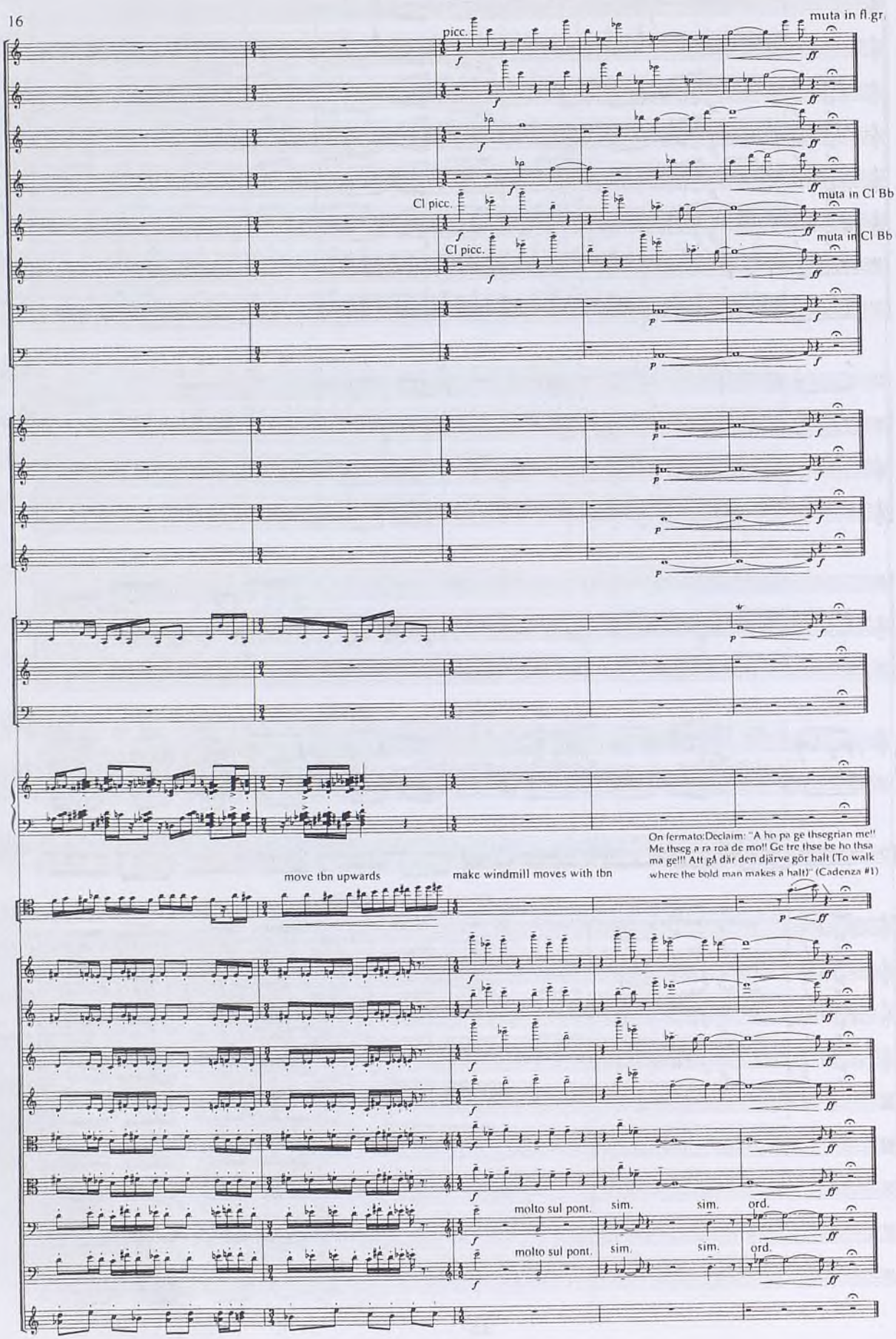

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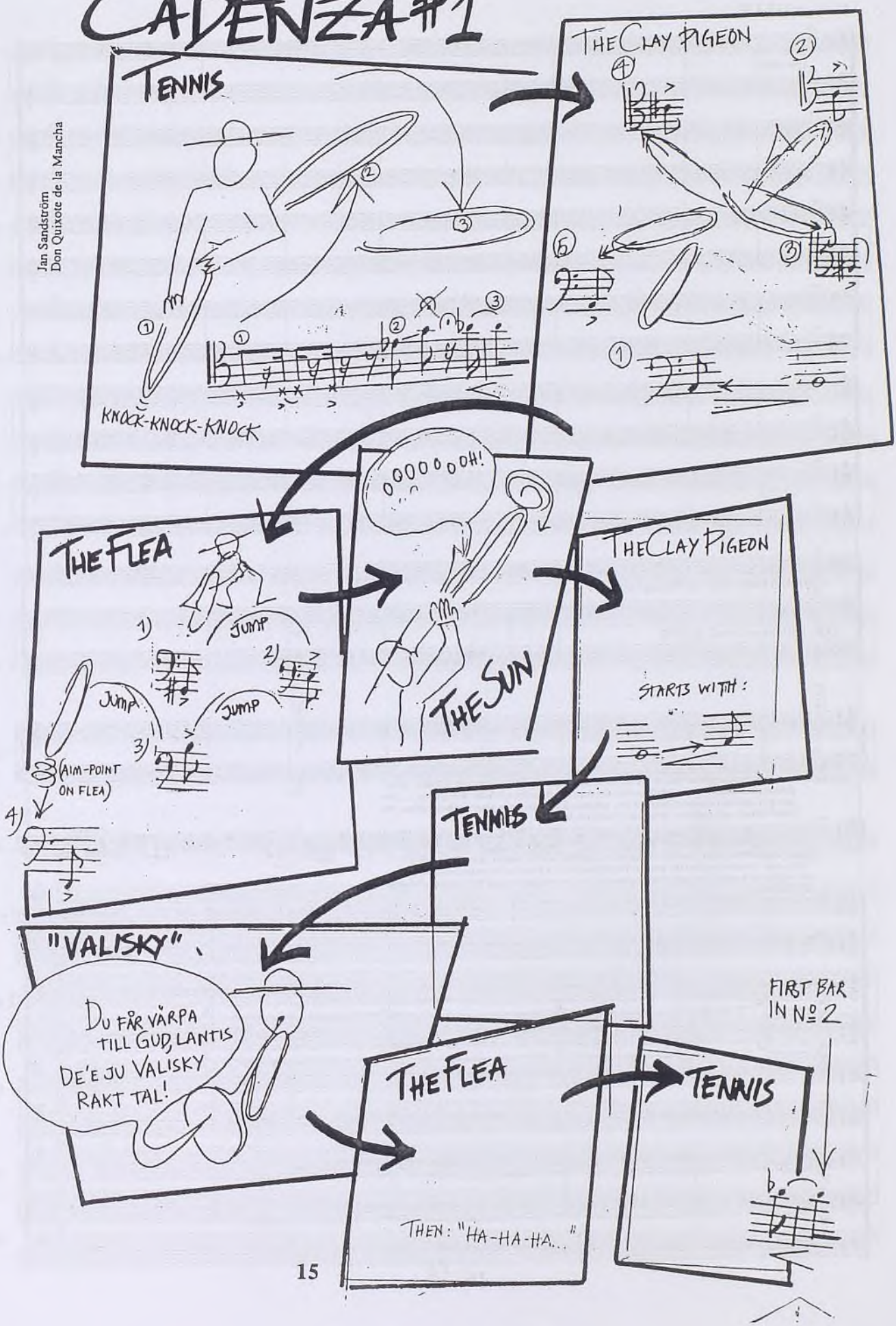
Jan Sandström
Don Quixote de la Mancha



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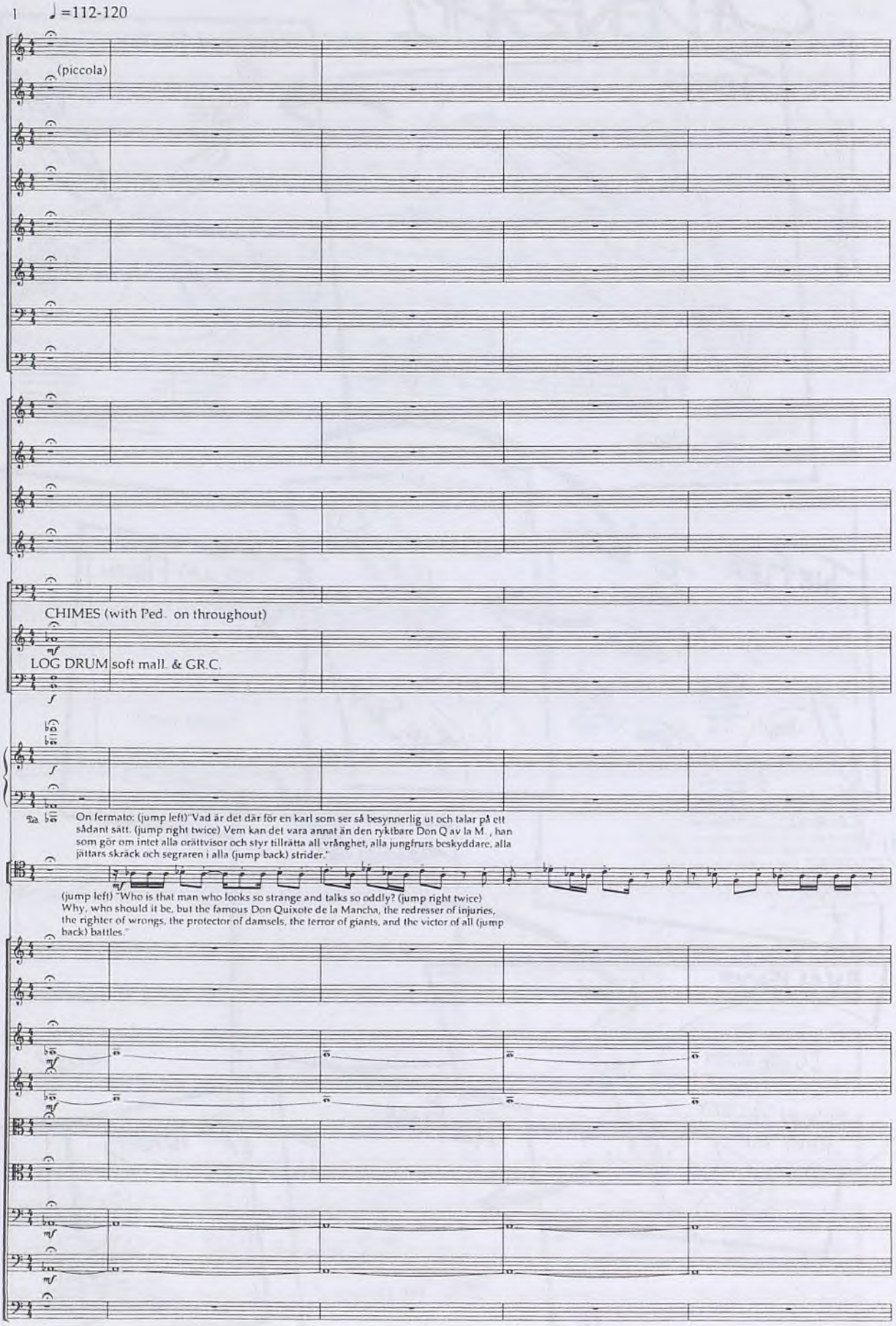
2. To walk where the bold man makes a halt

(Tongue in Cheek)



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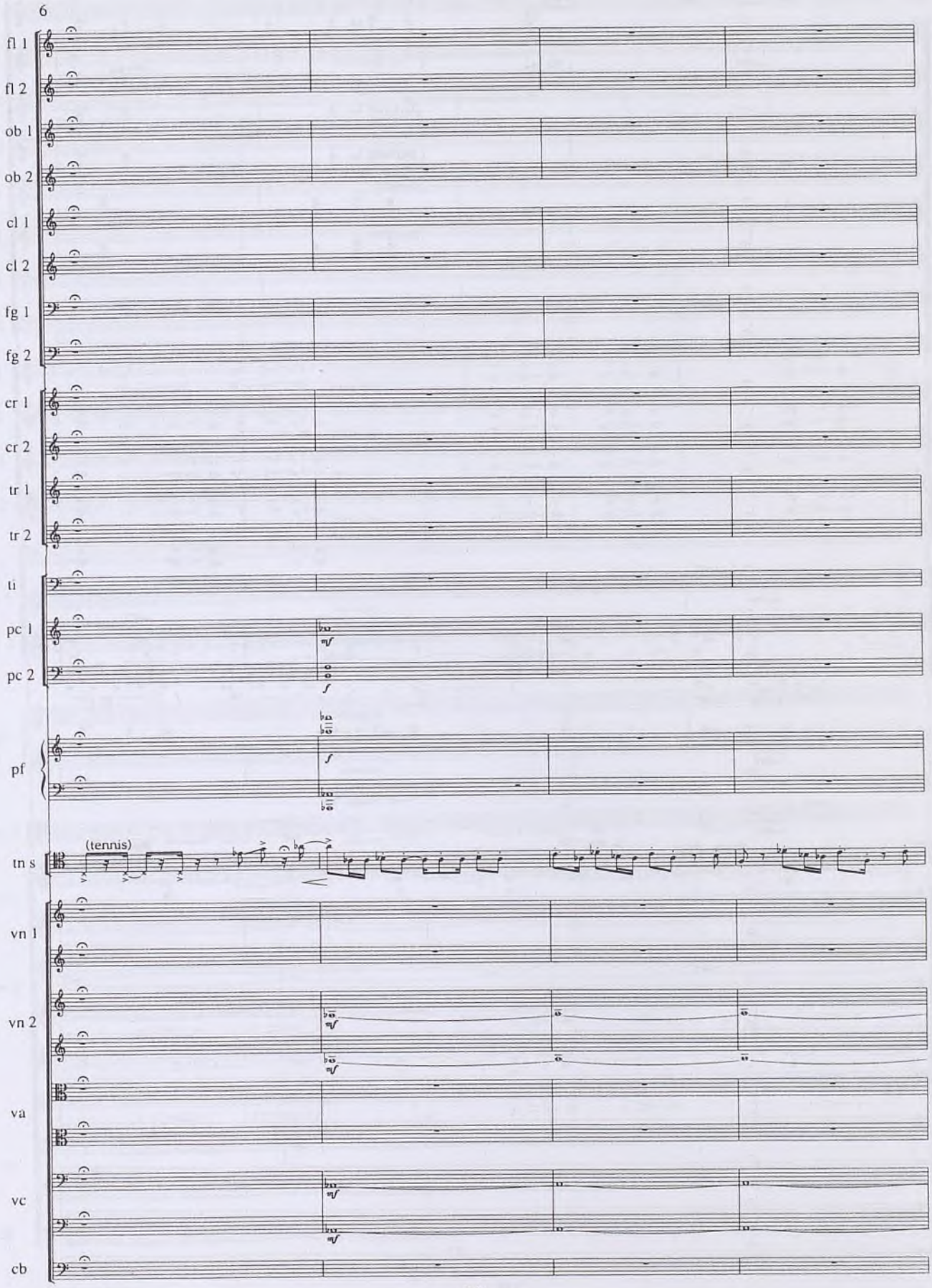

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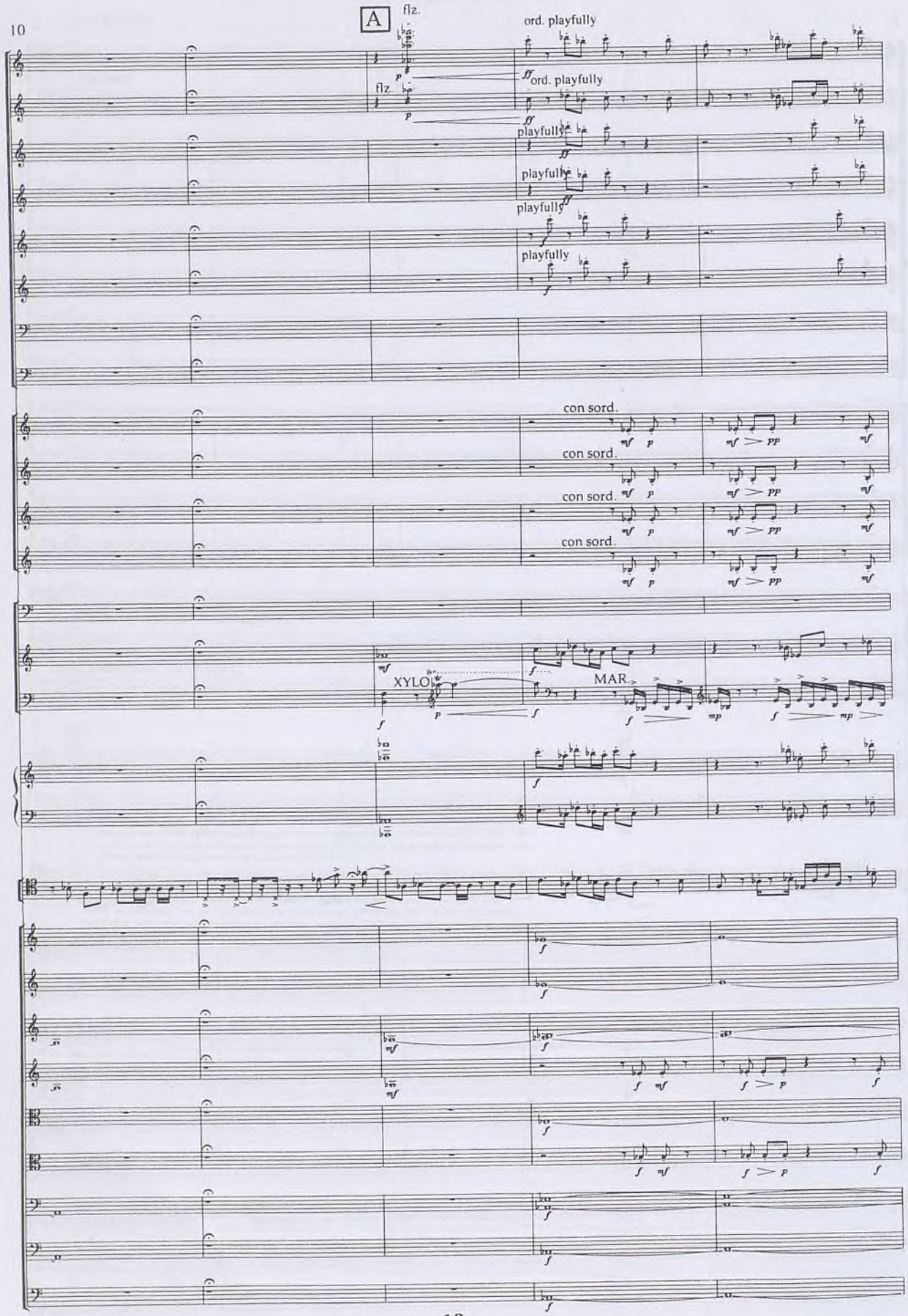

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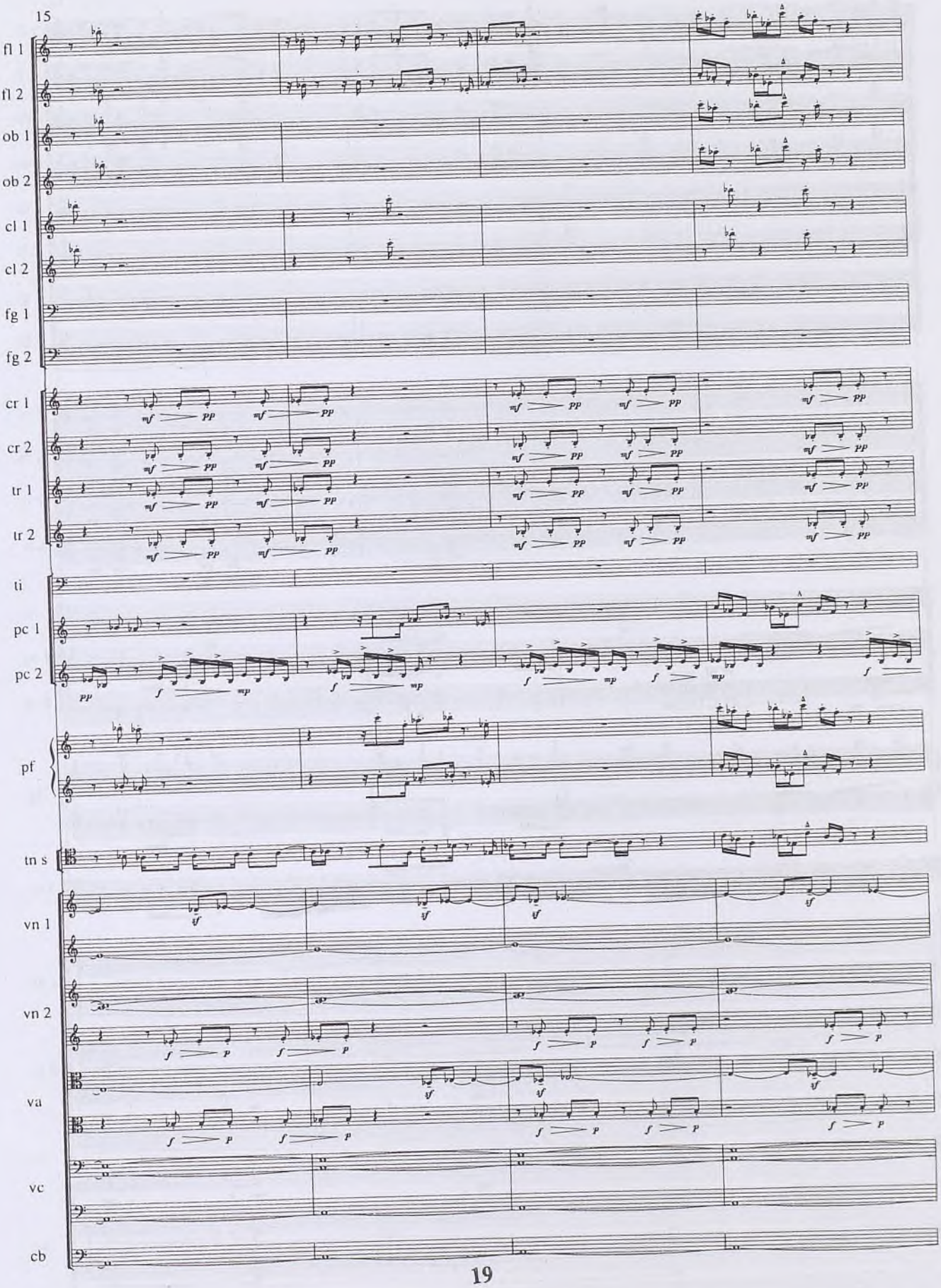

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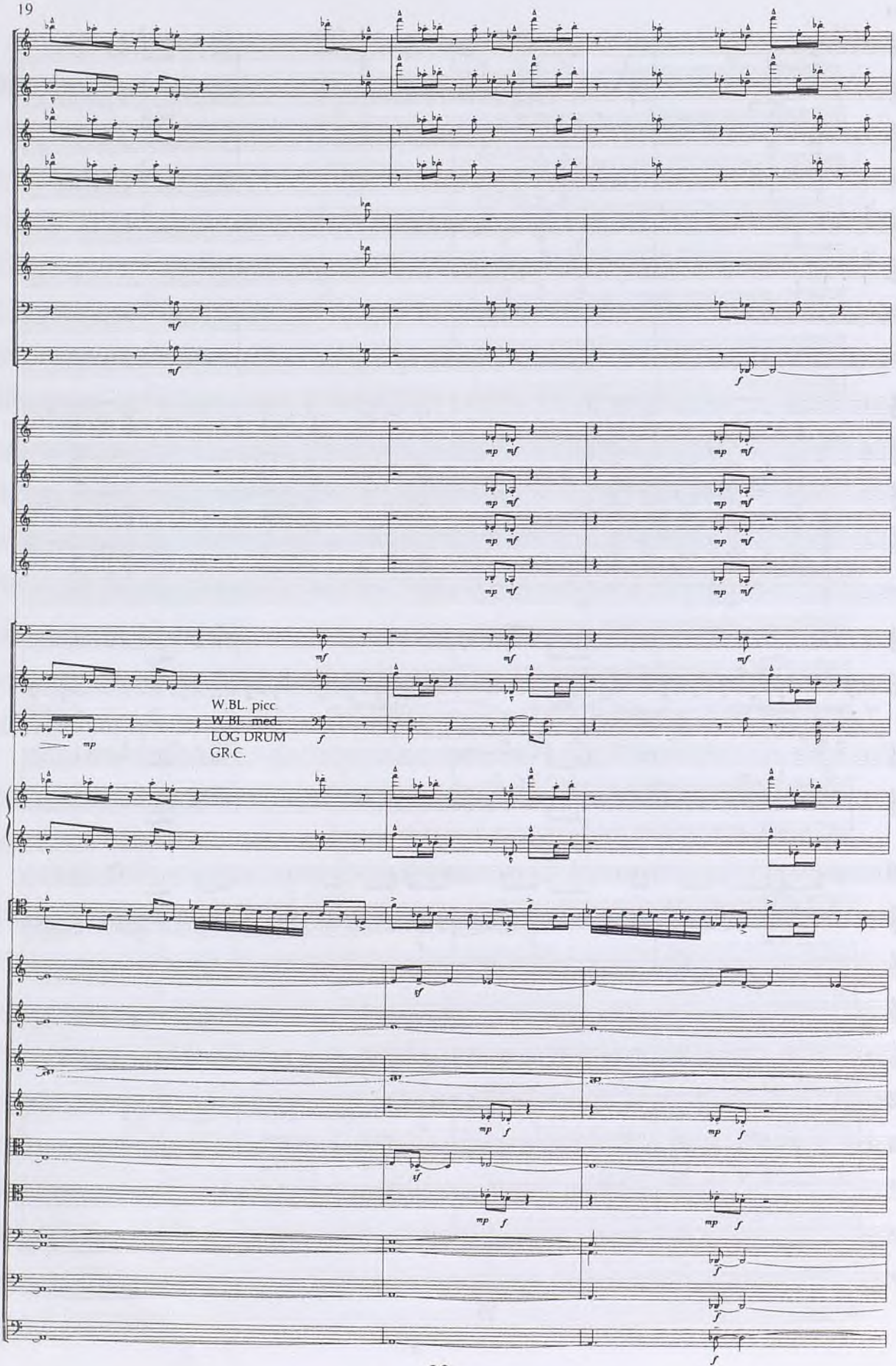

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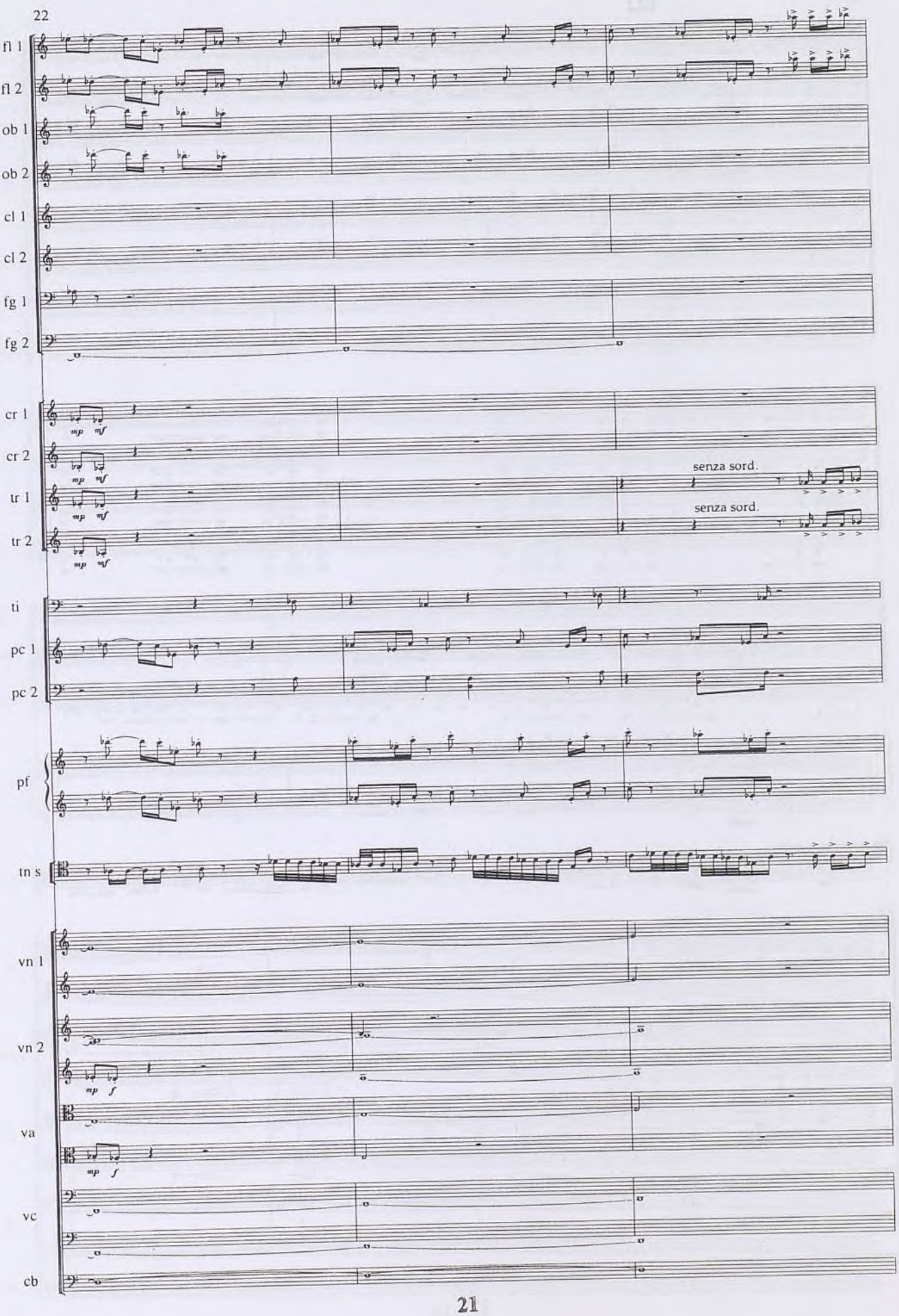

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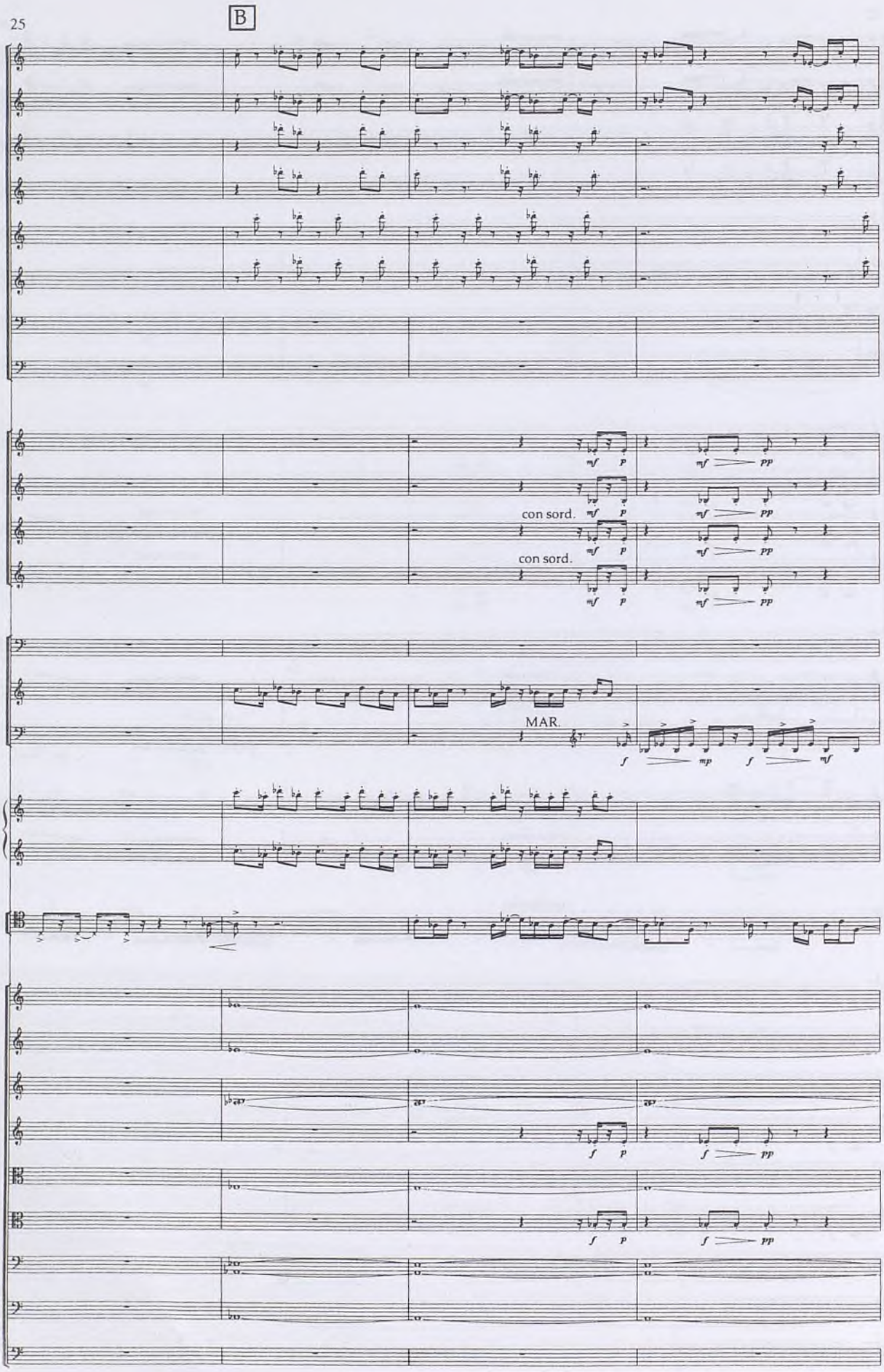

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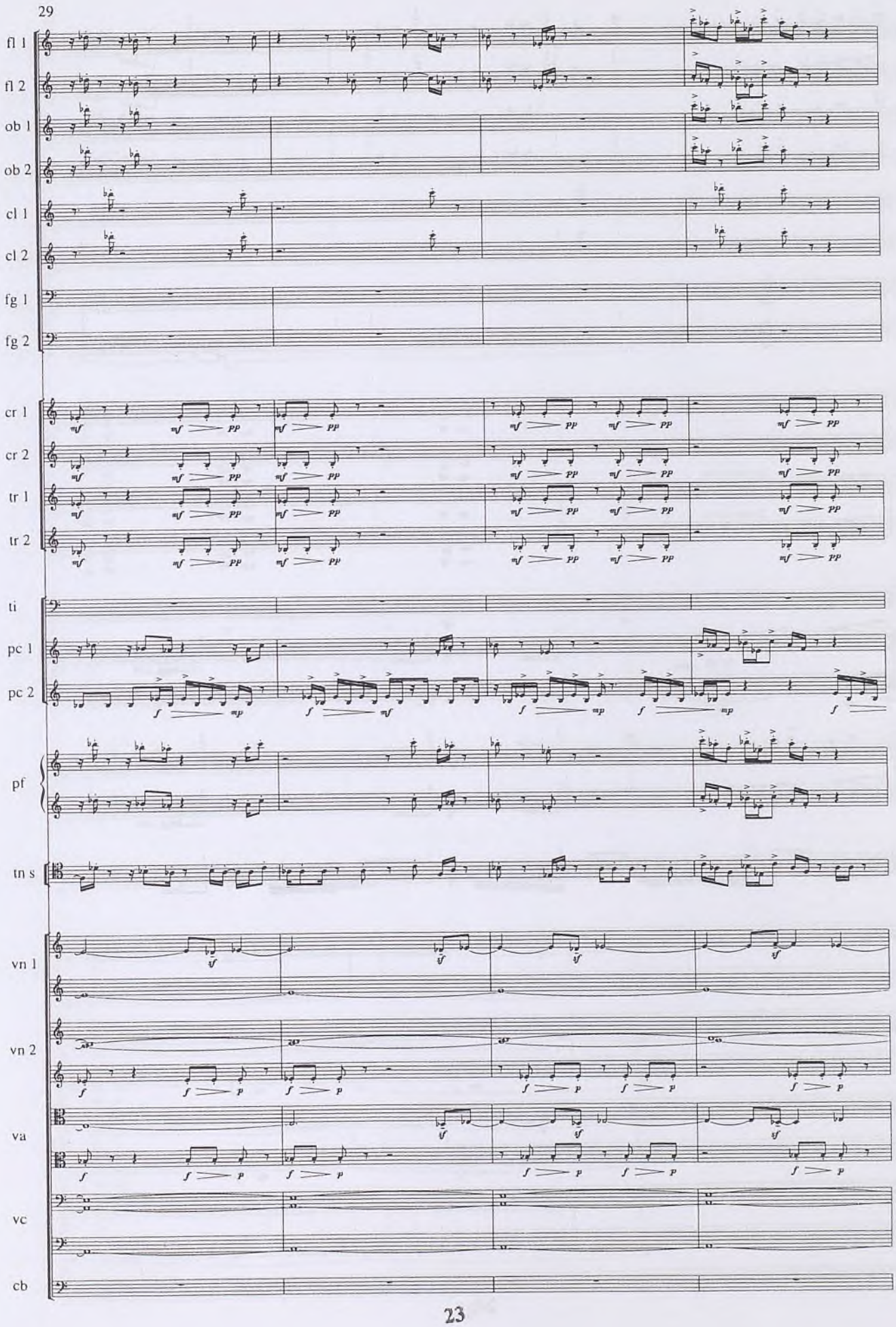

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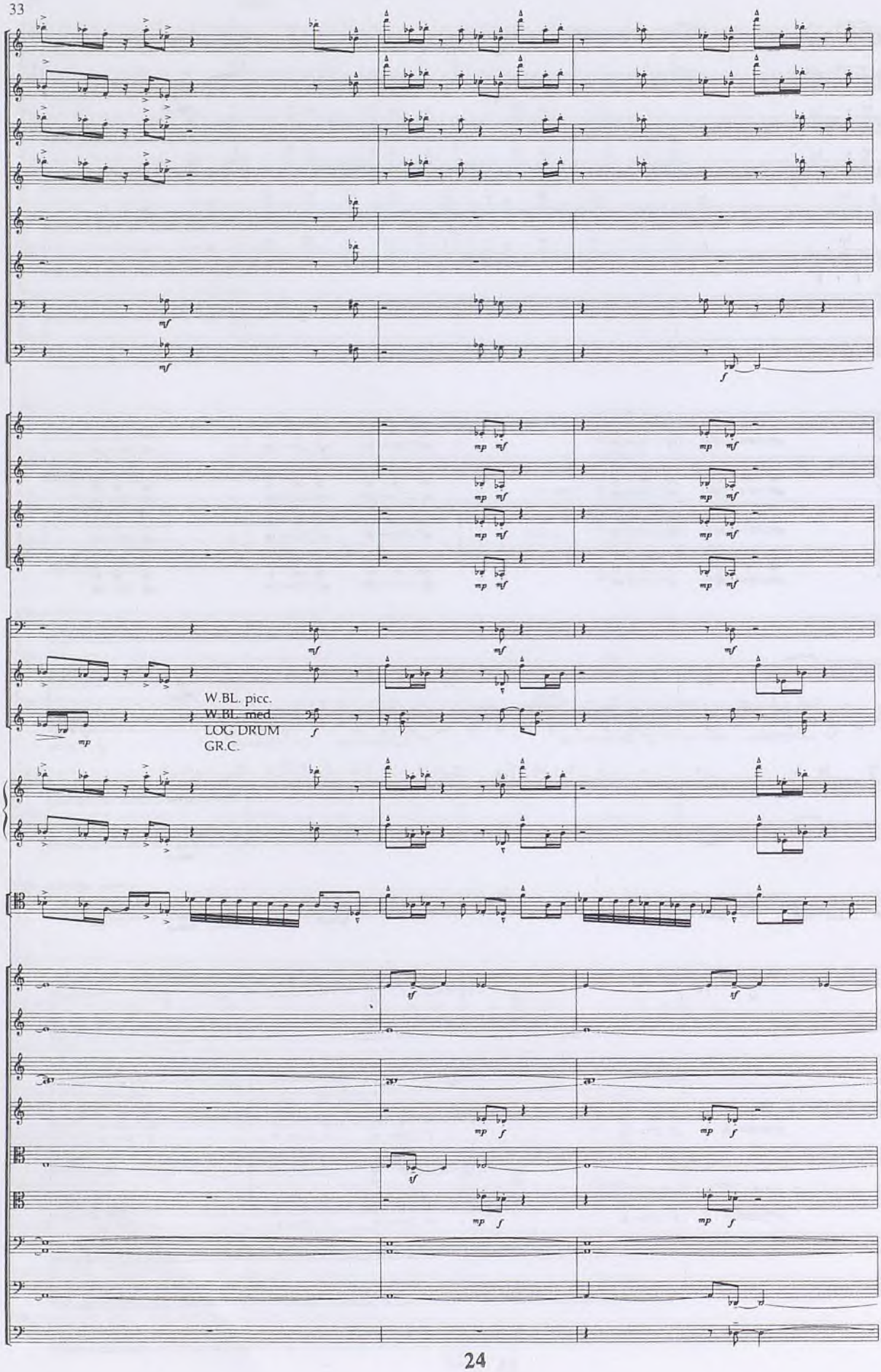

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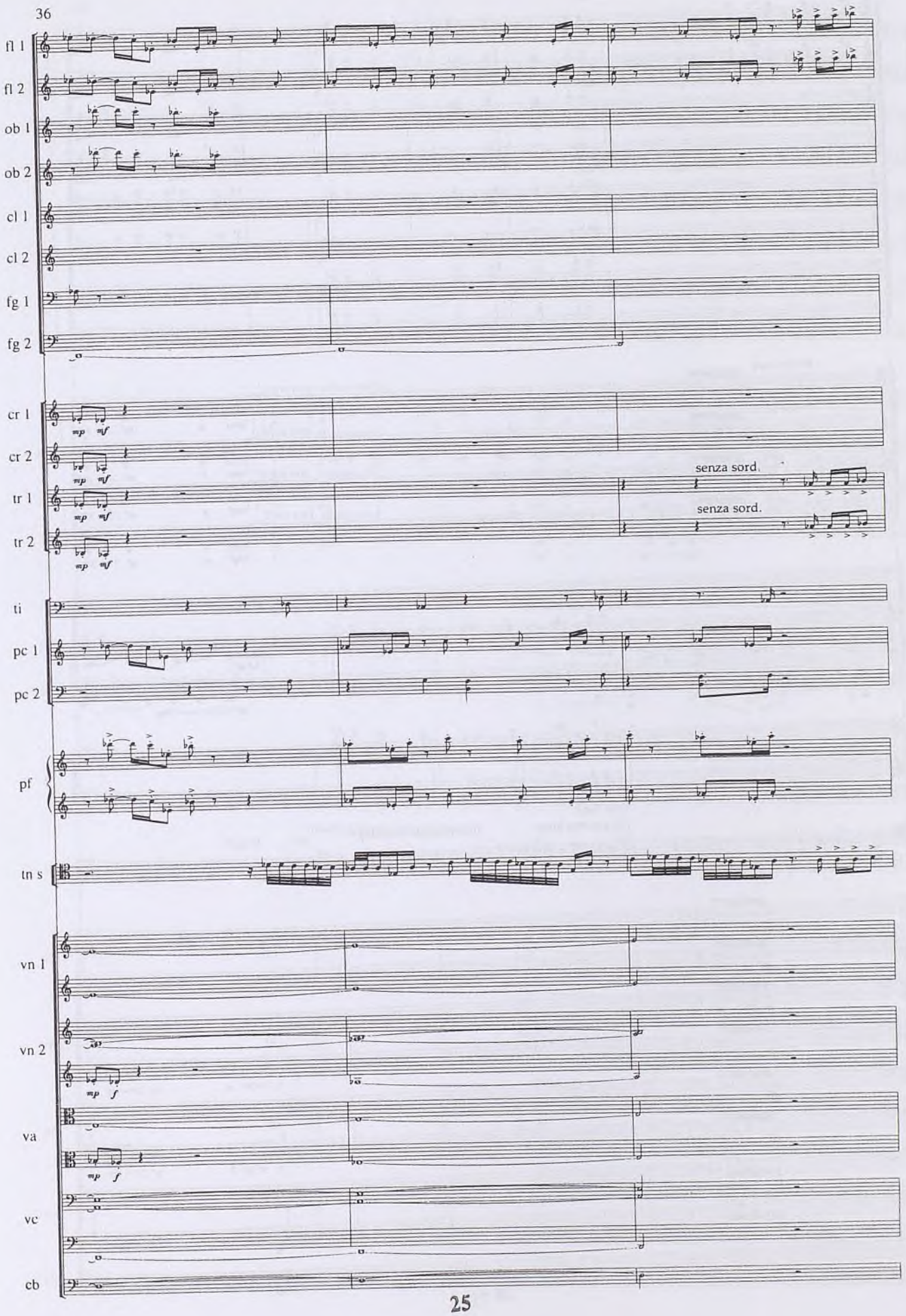

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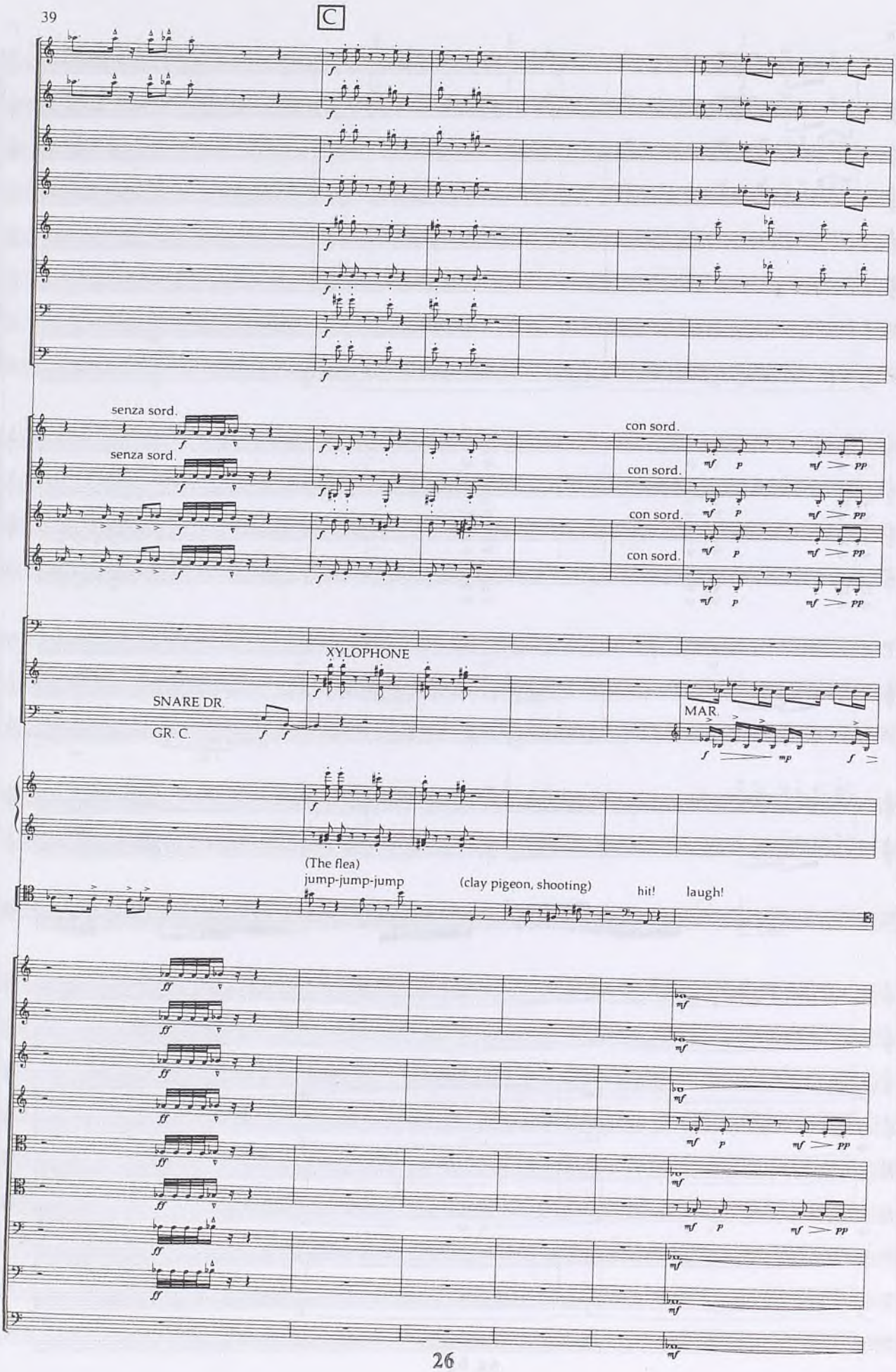

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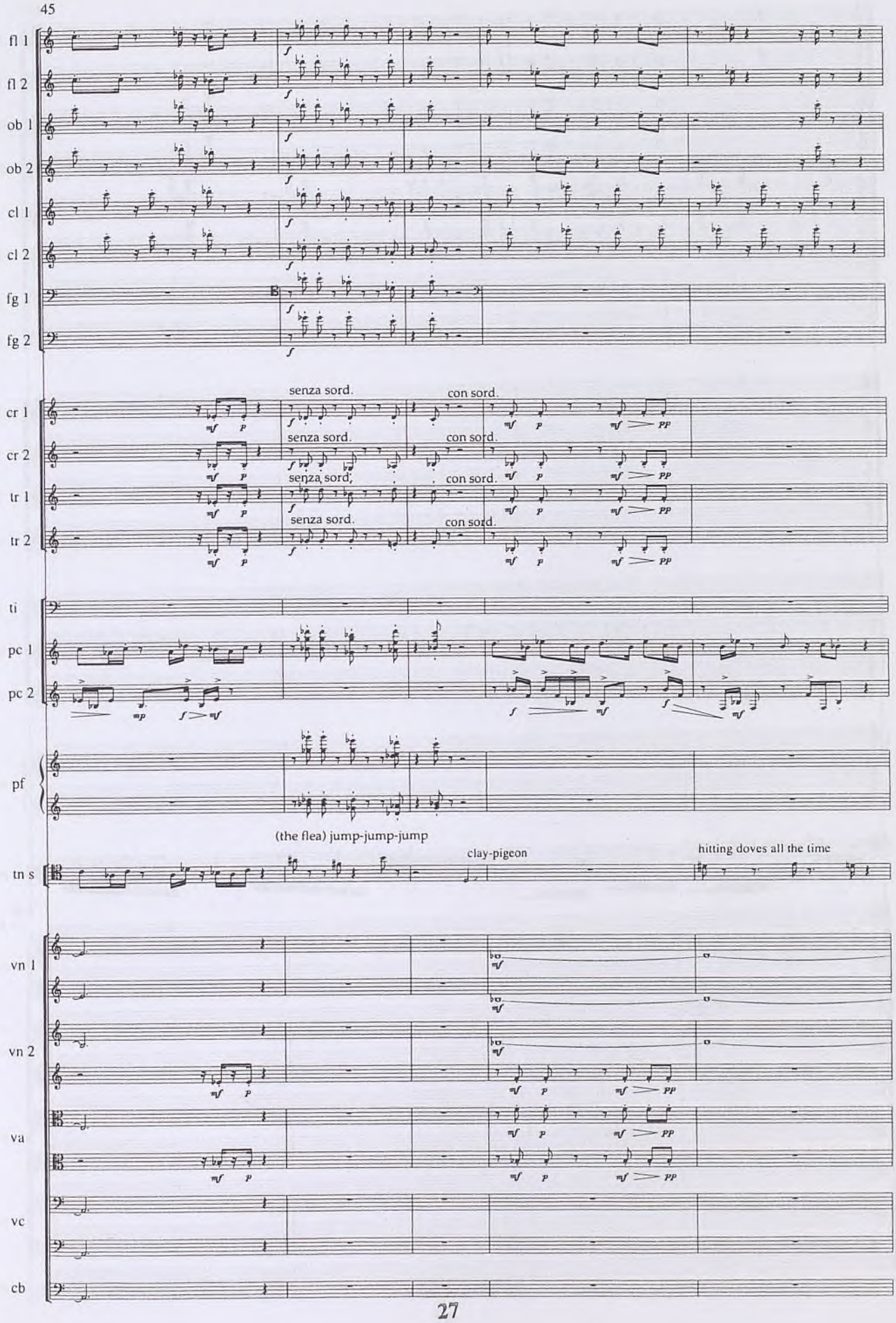

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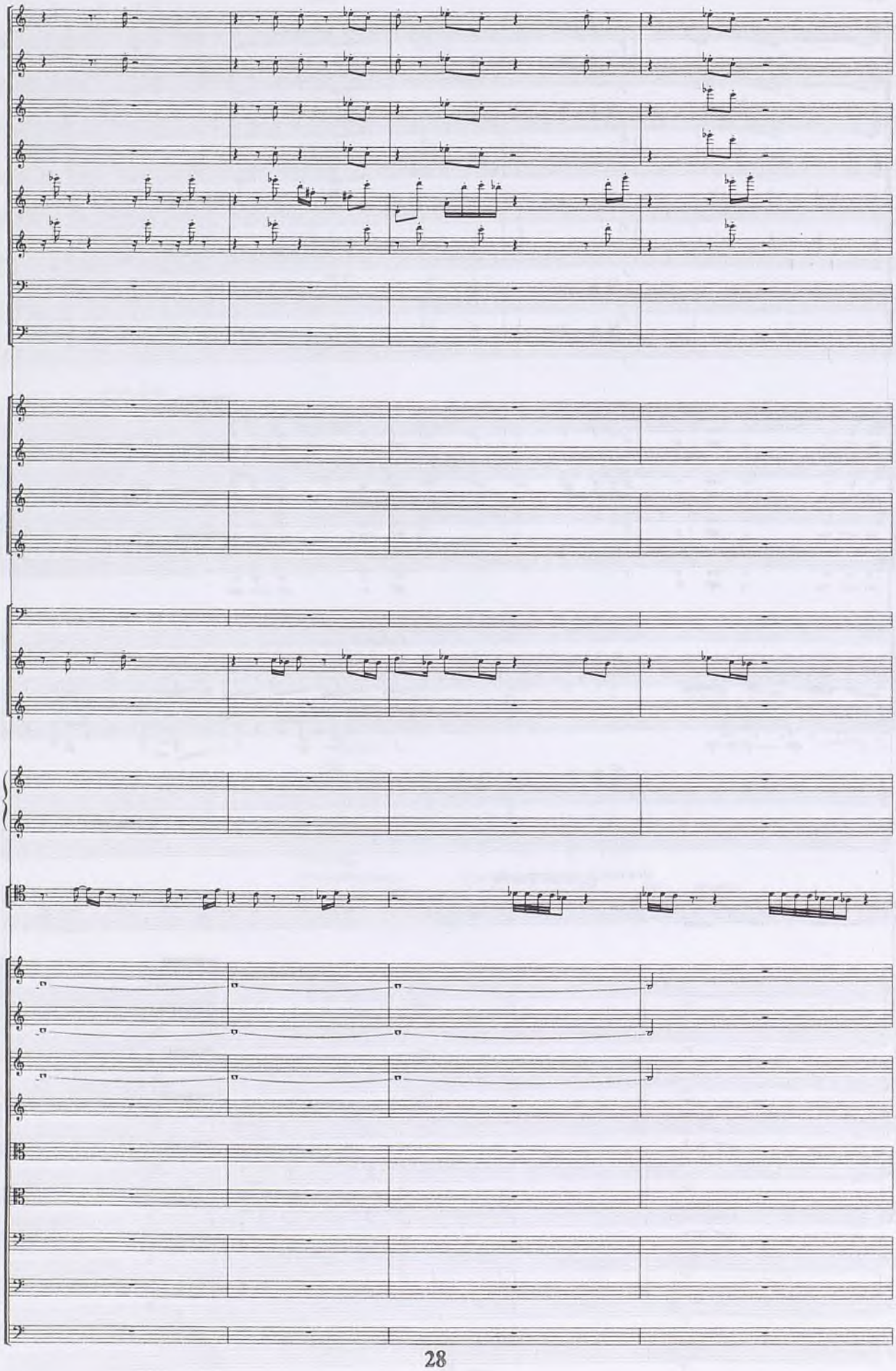

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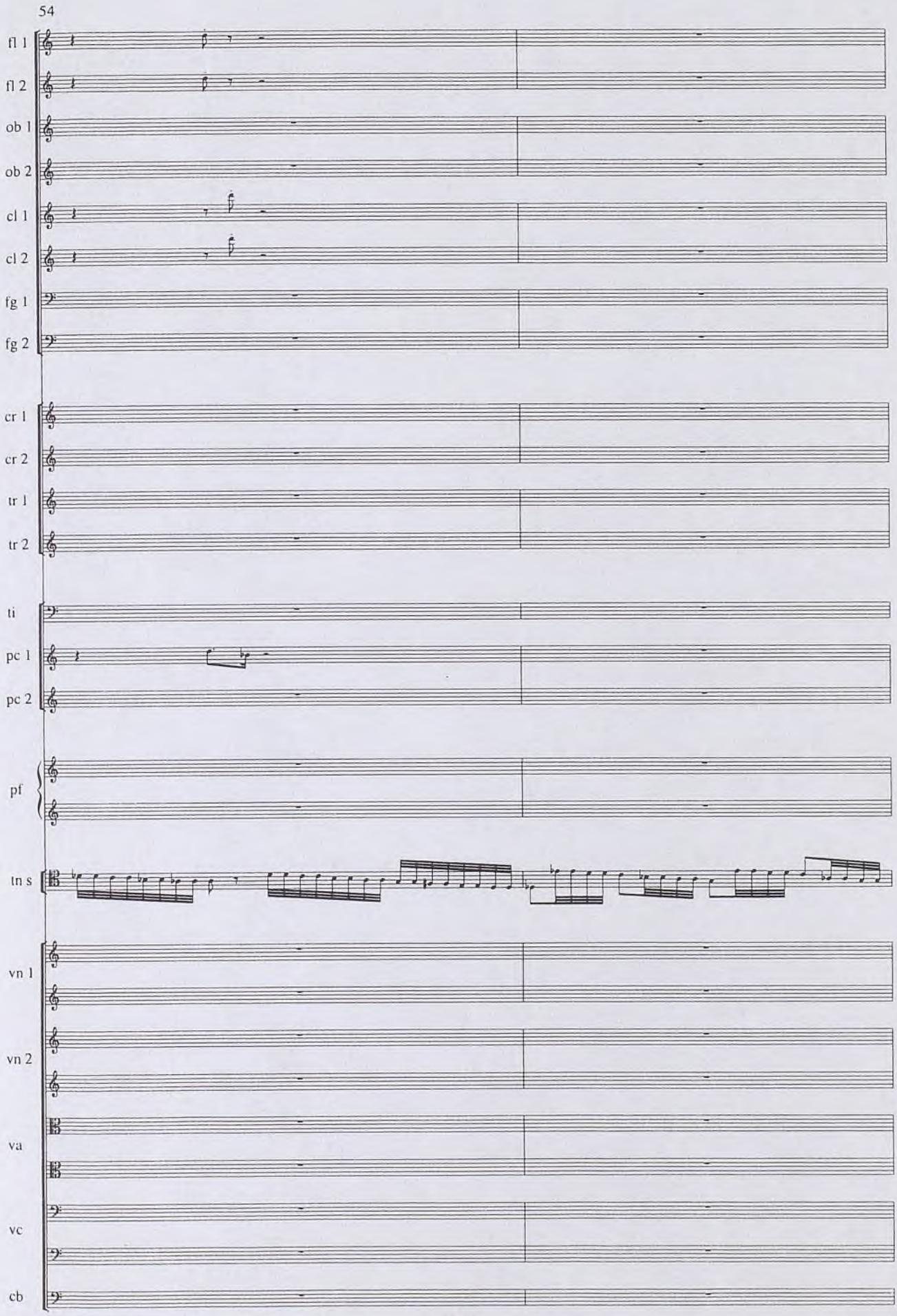

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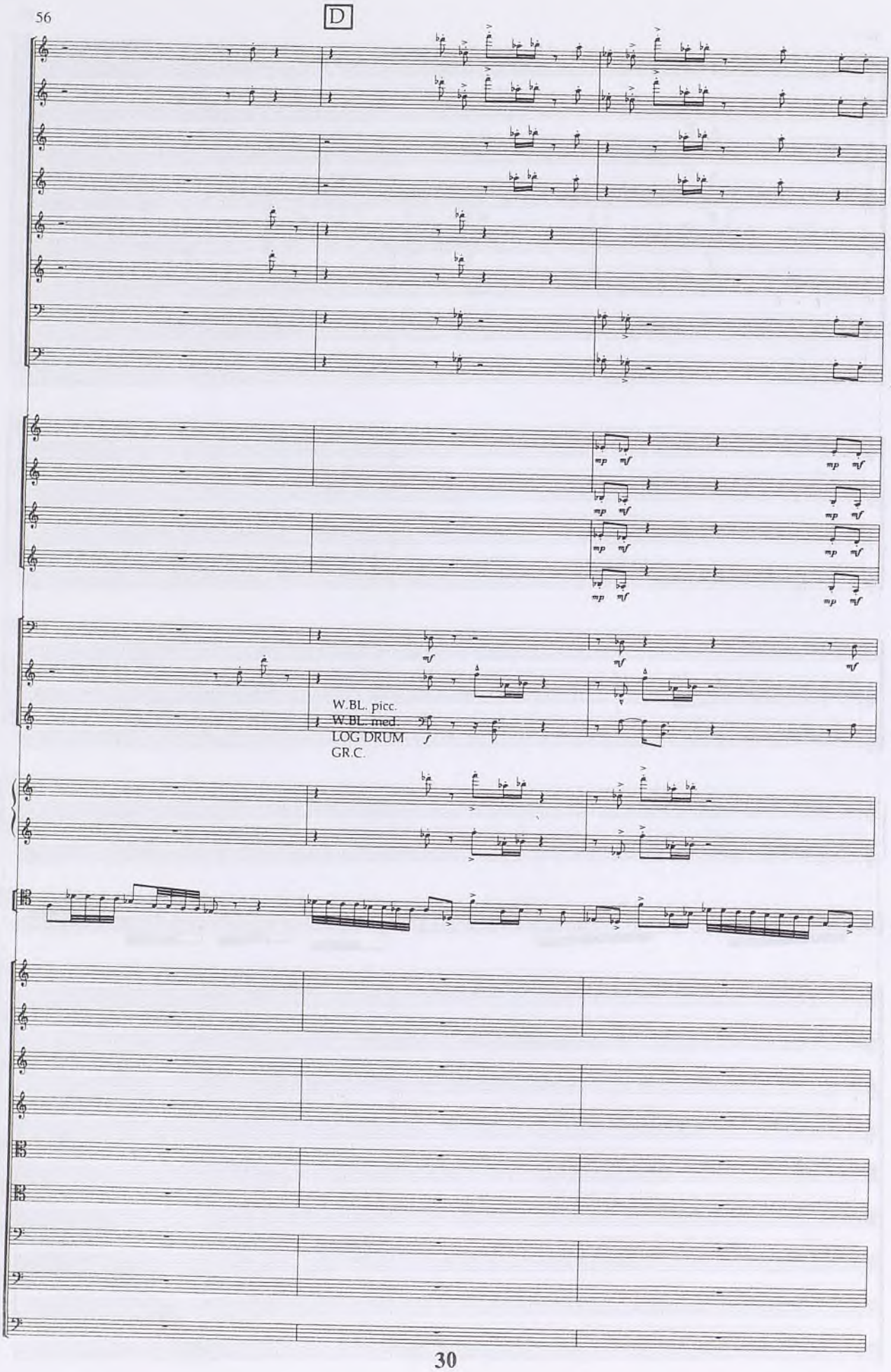

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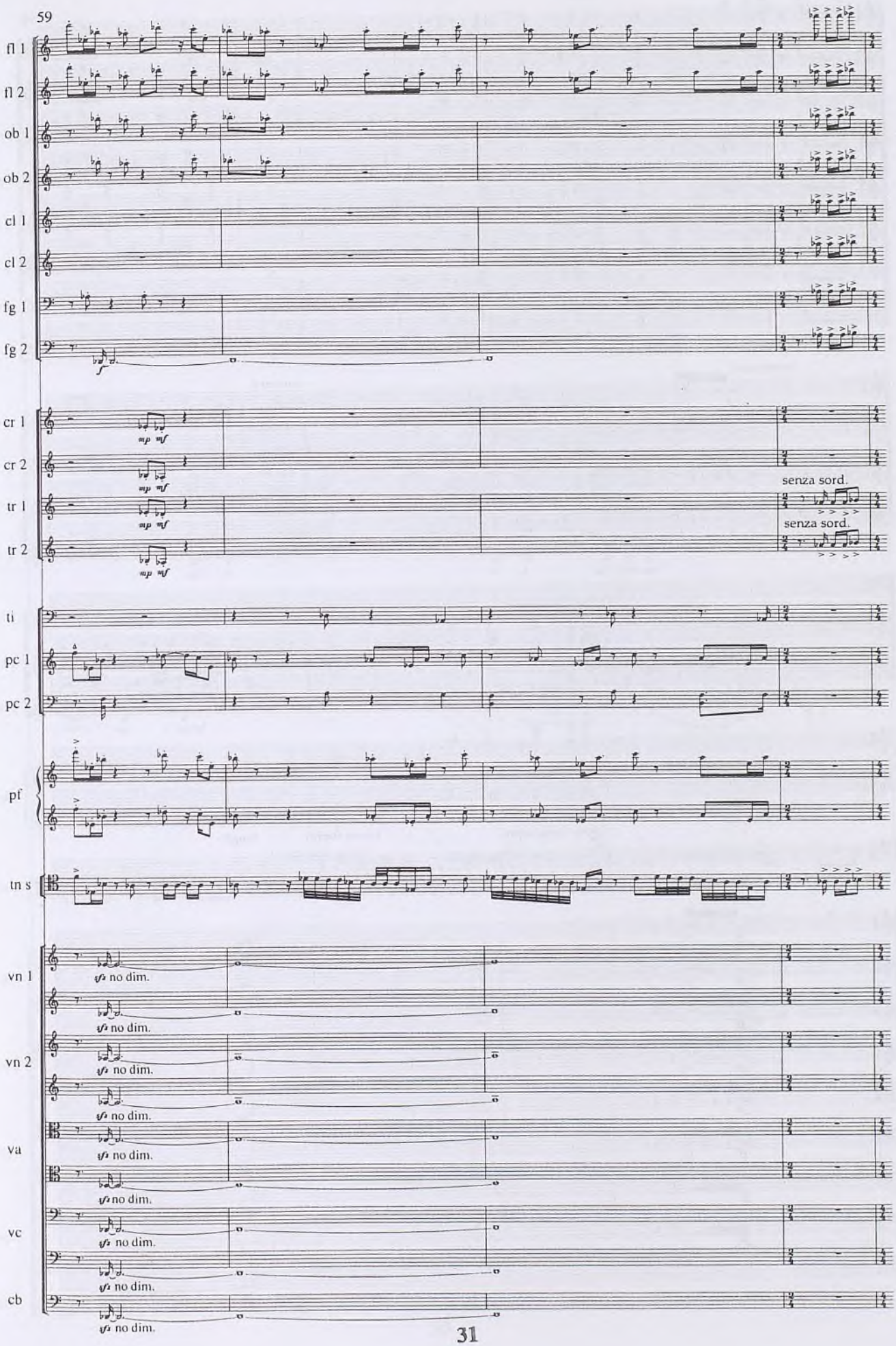

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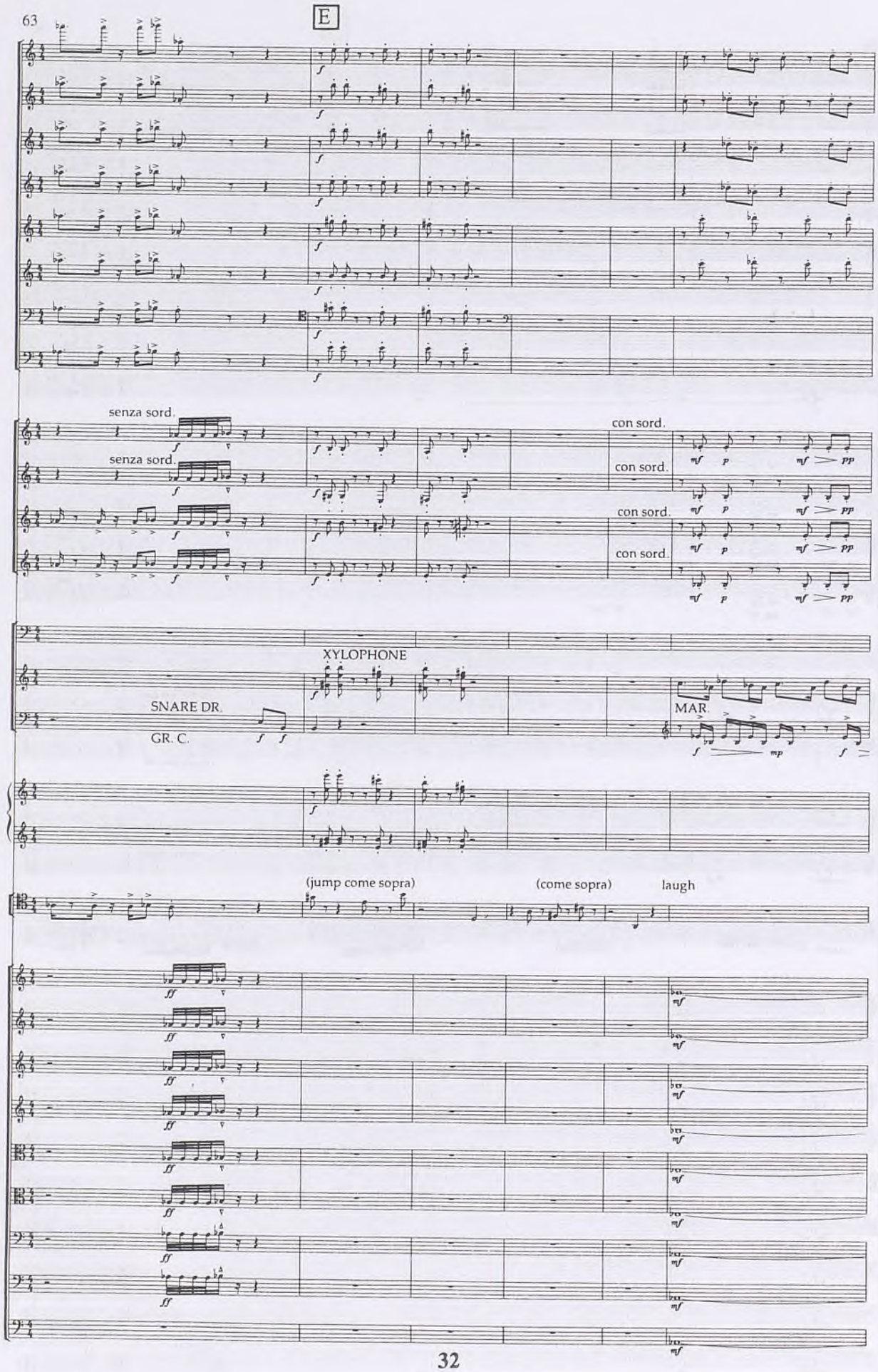

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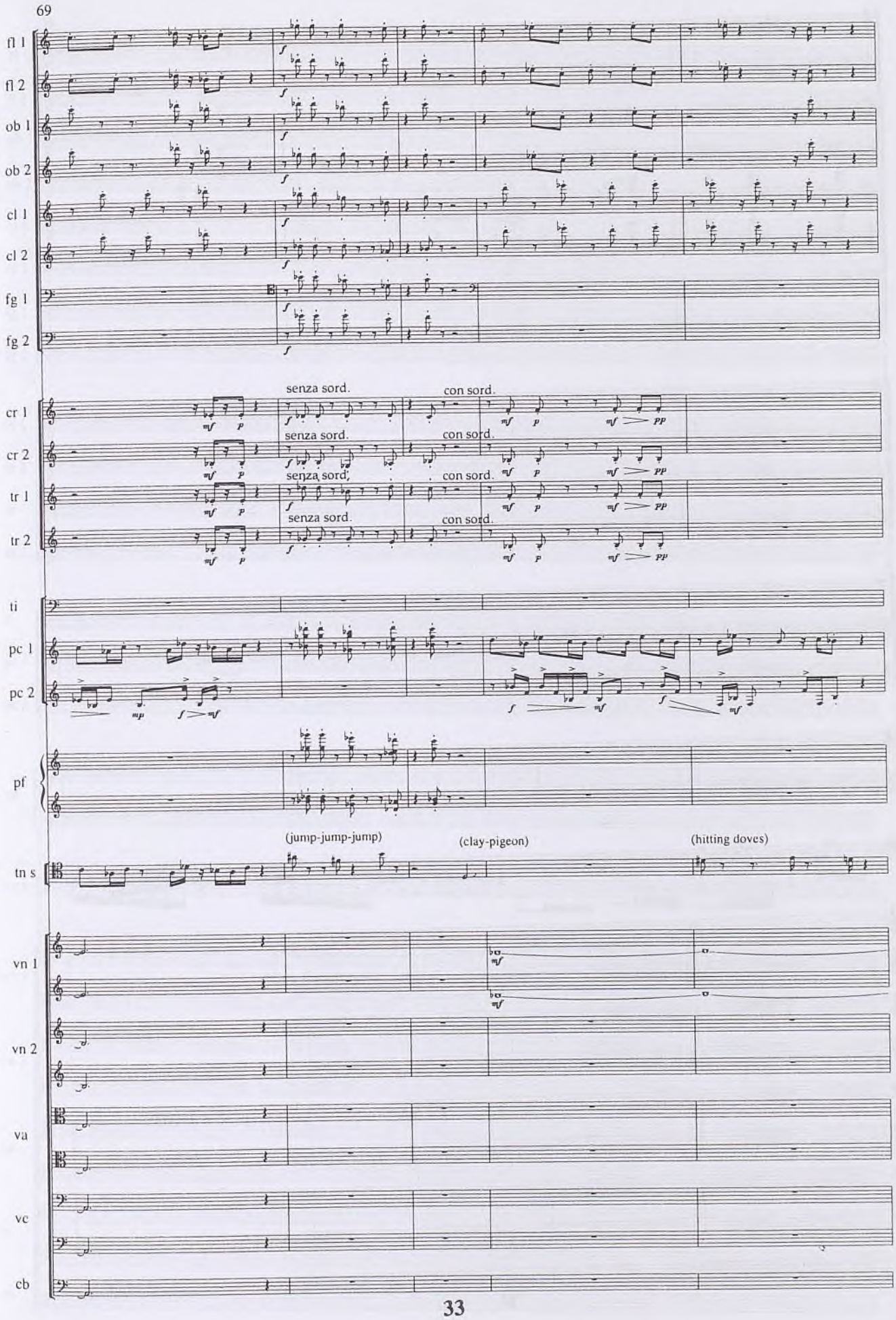

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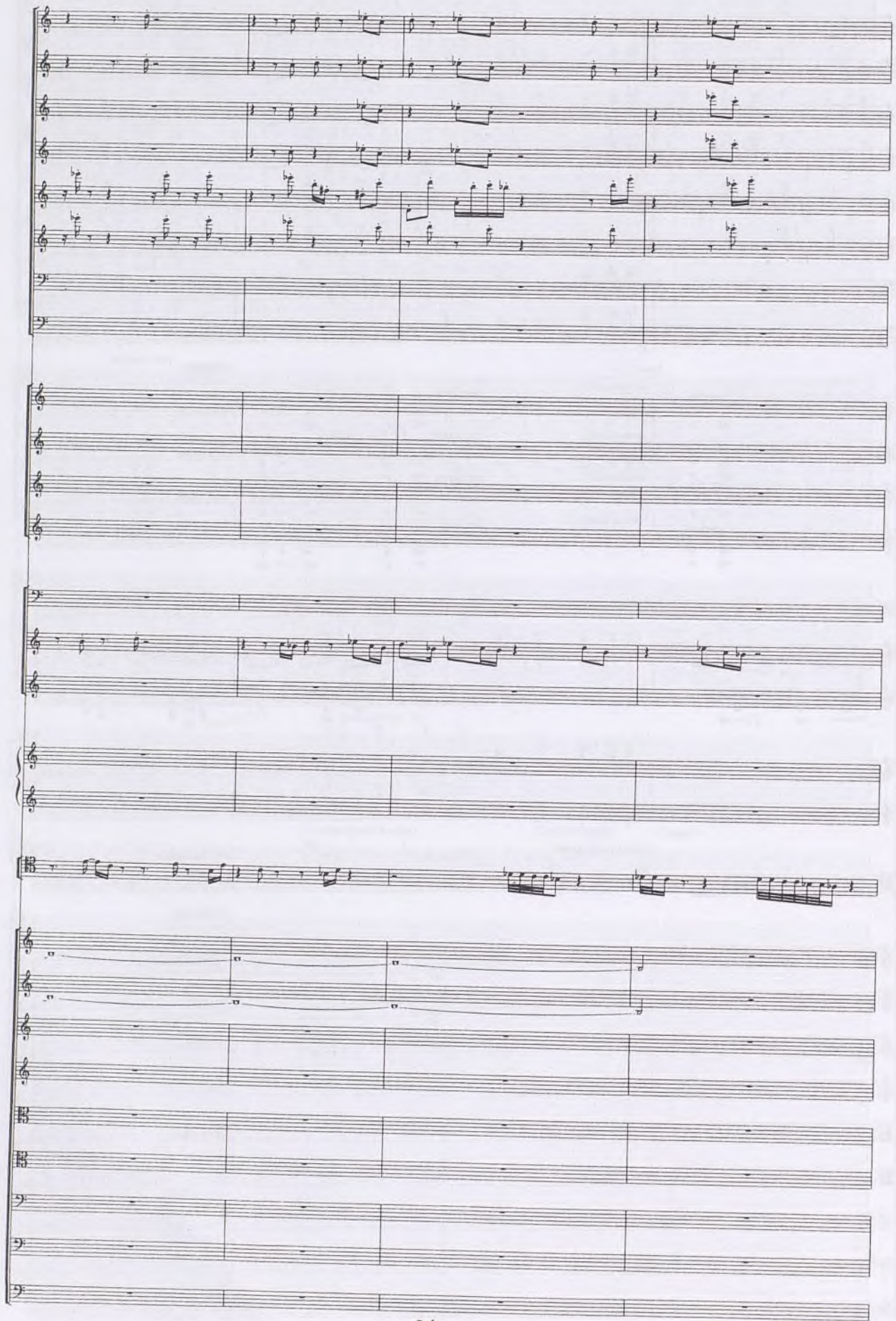

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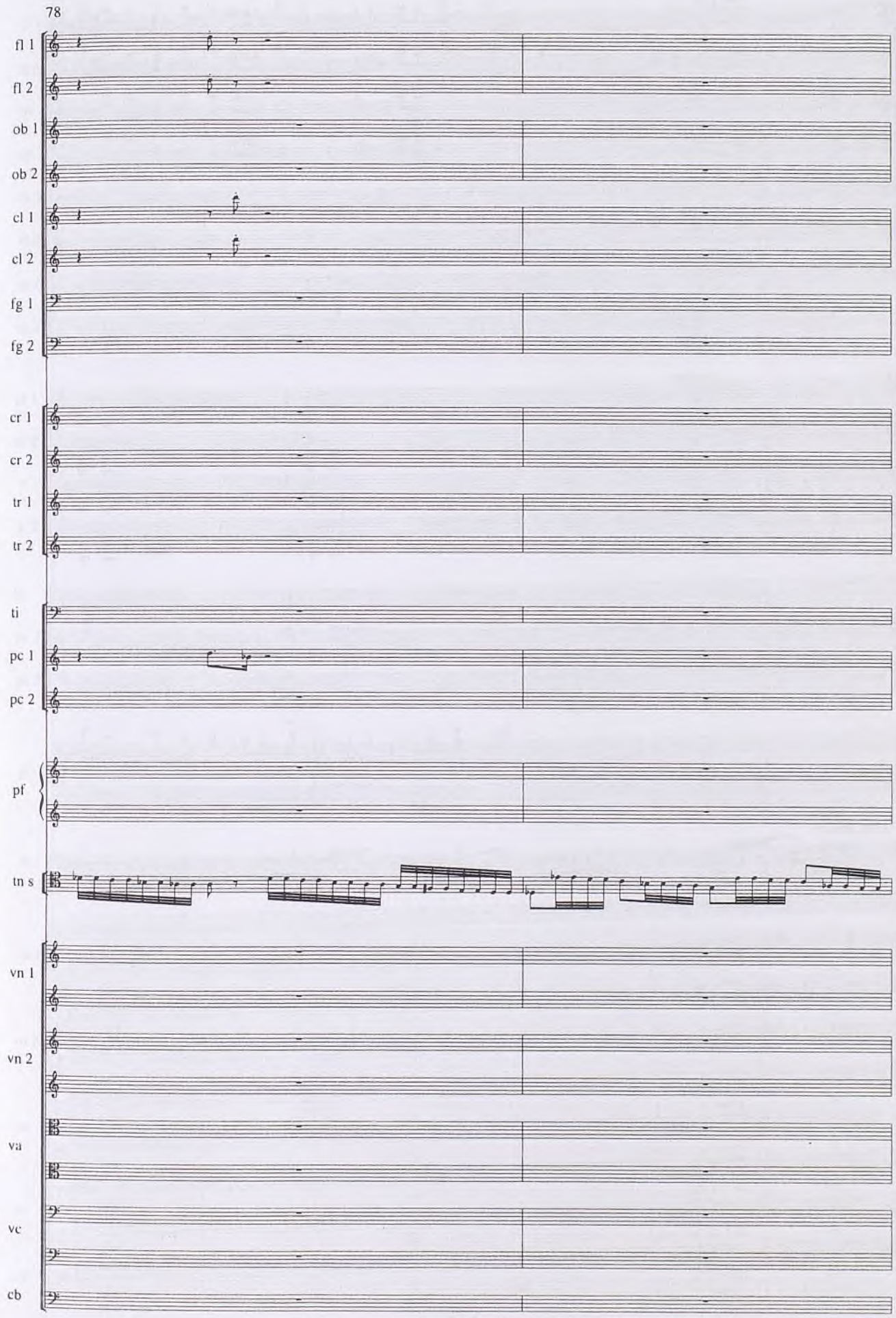

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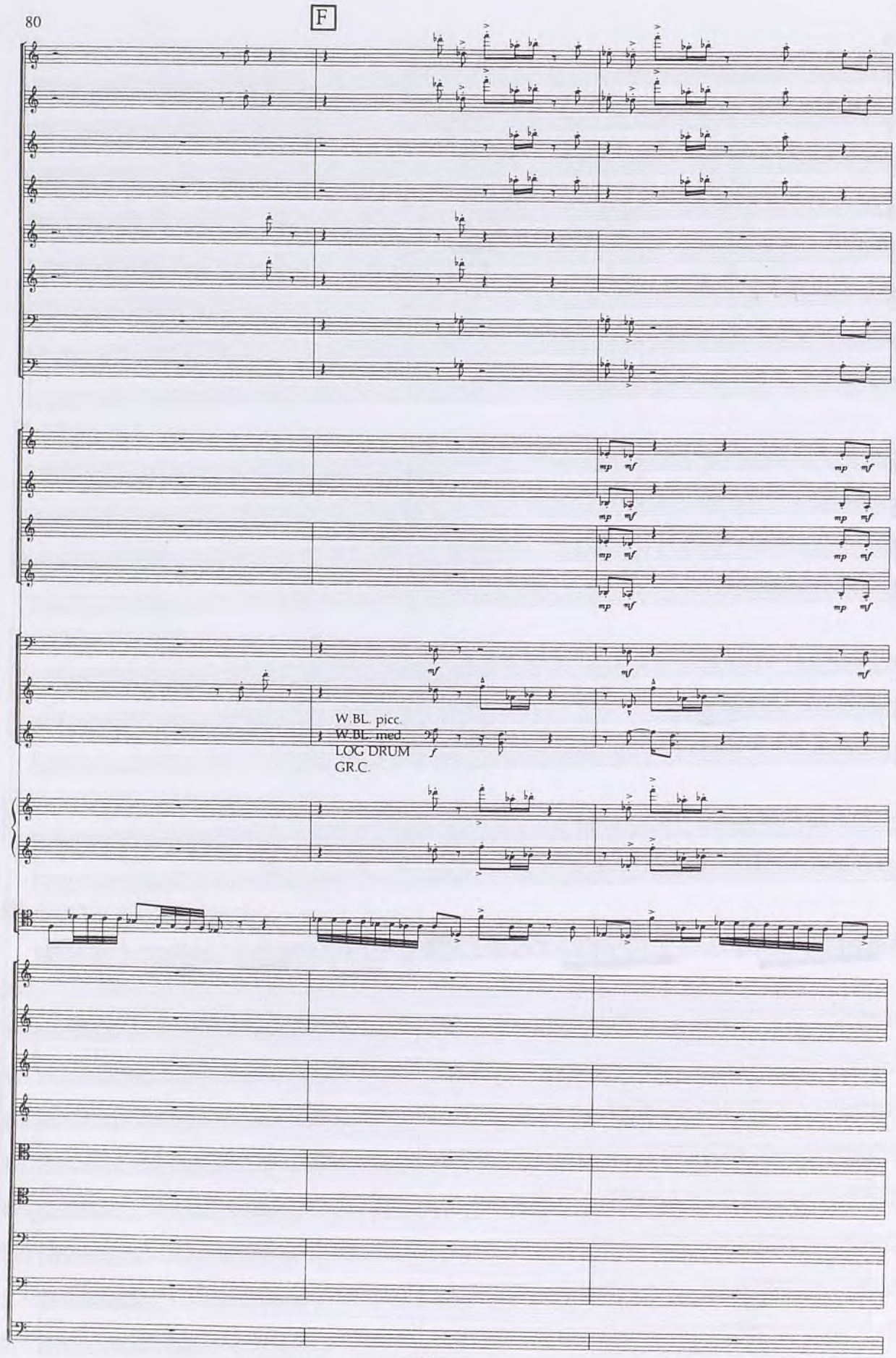

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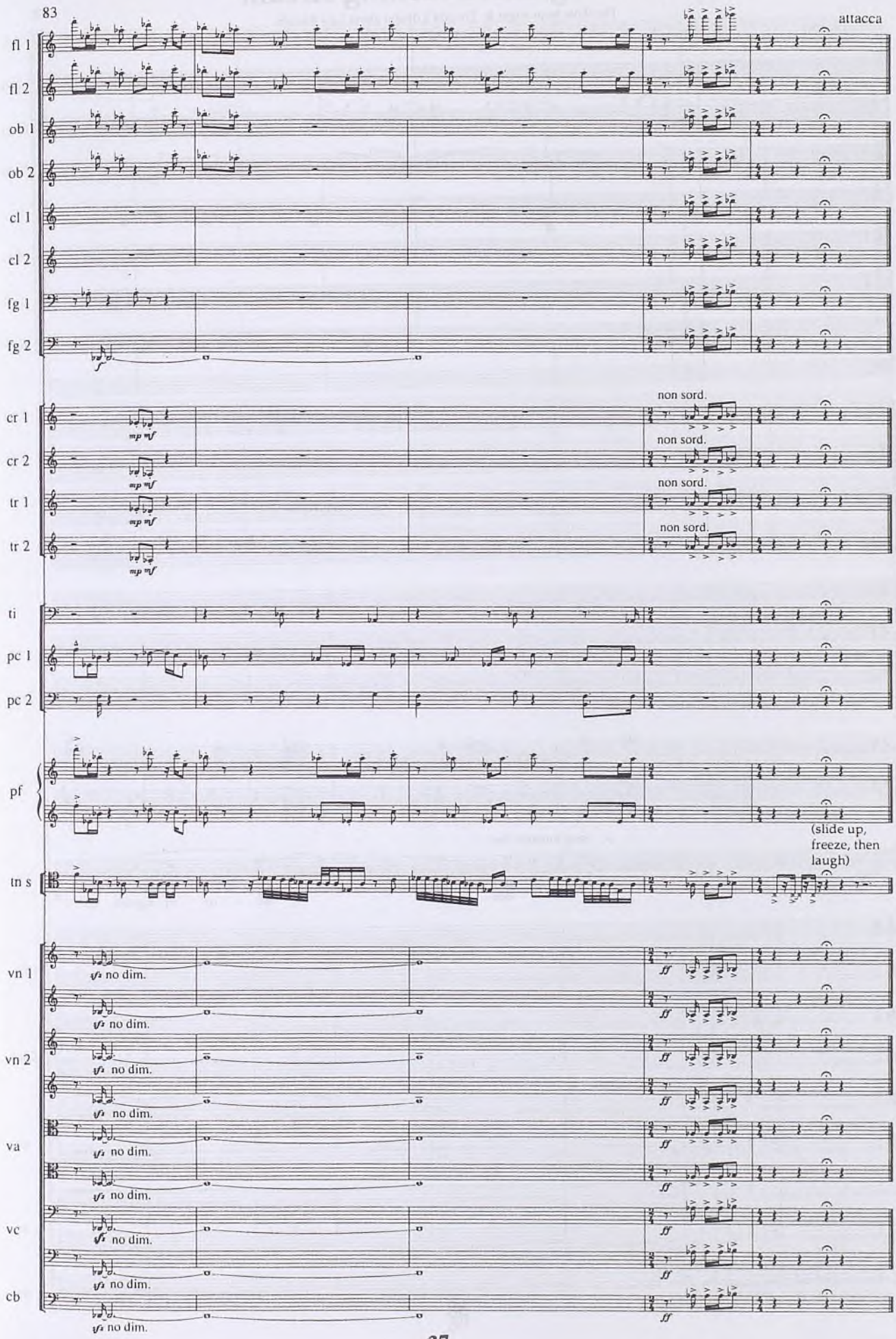

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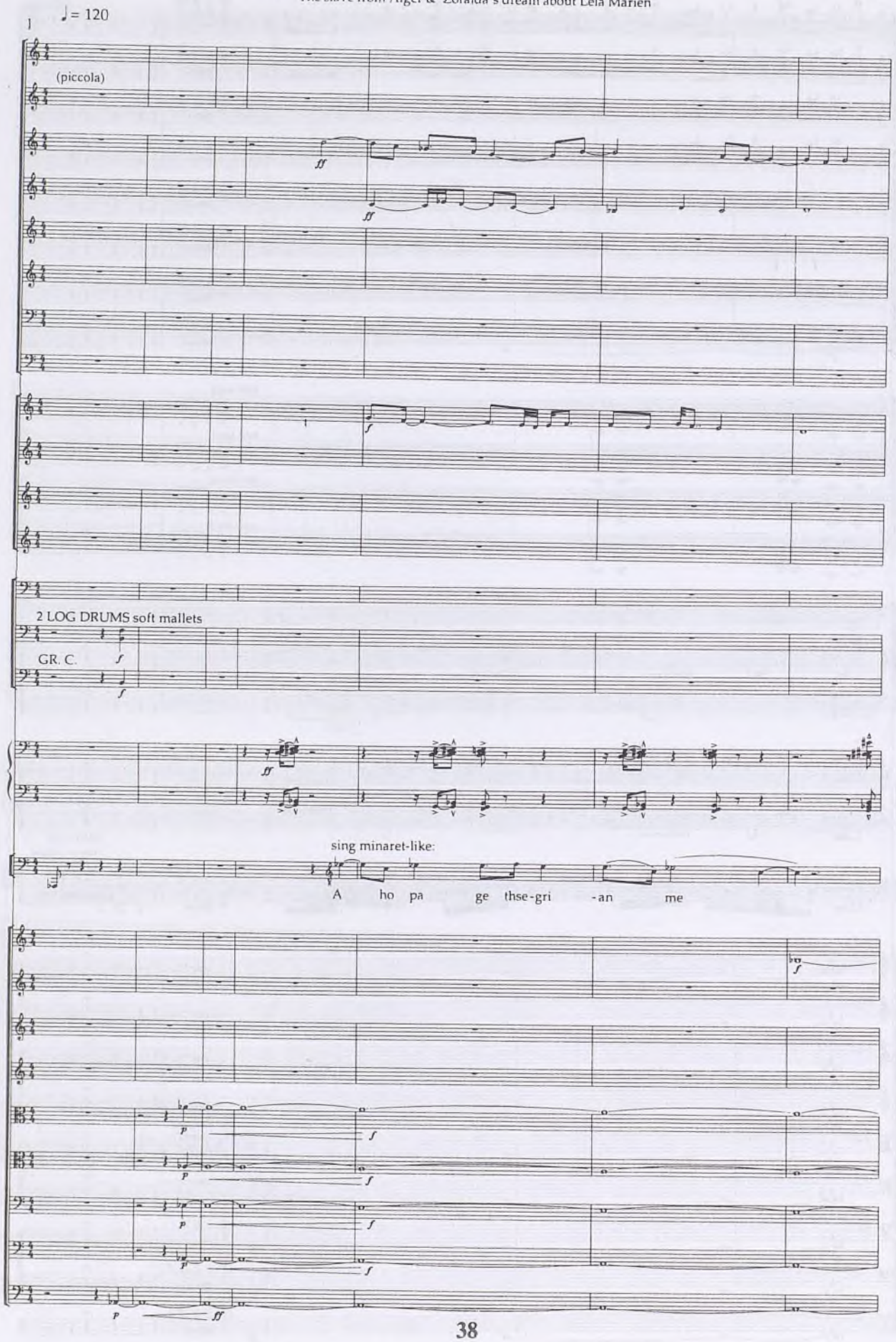
3. "To row against a rushing stream"

The slave from Alger & Zoraida´s dream about Lela Marién



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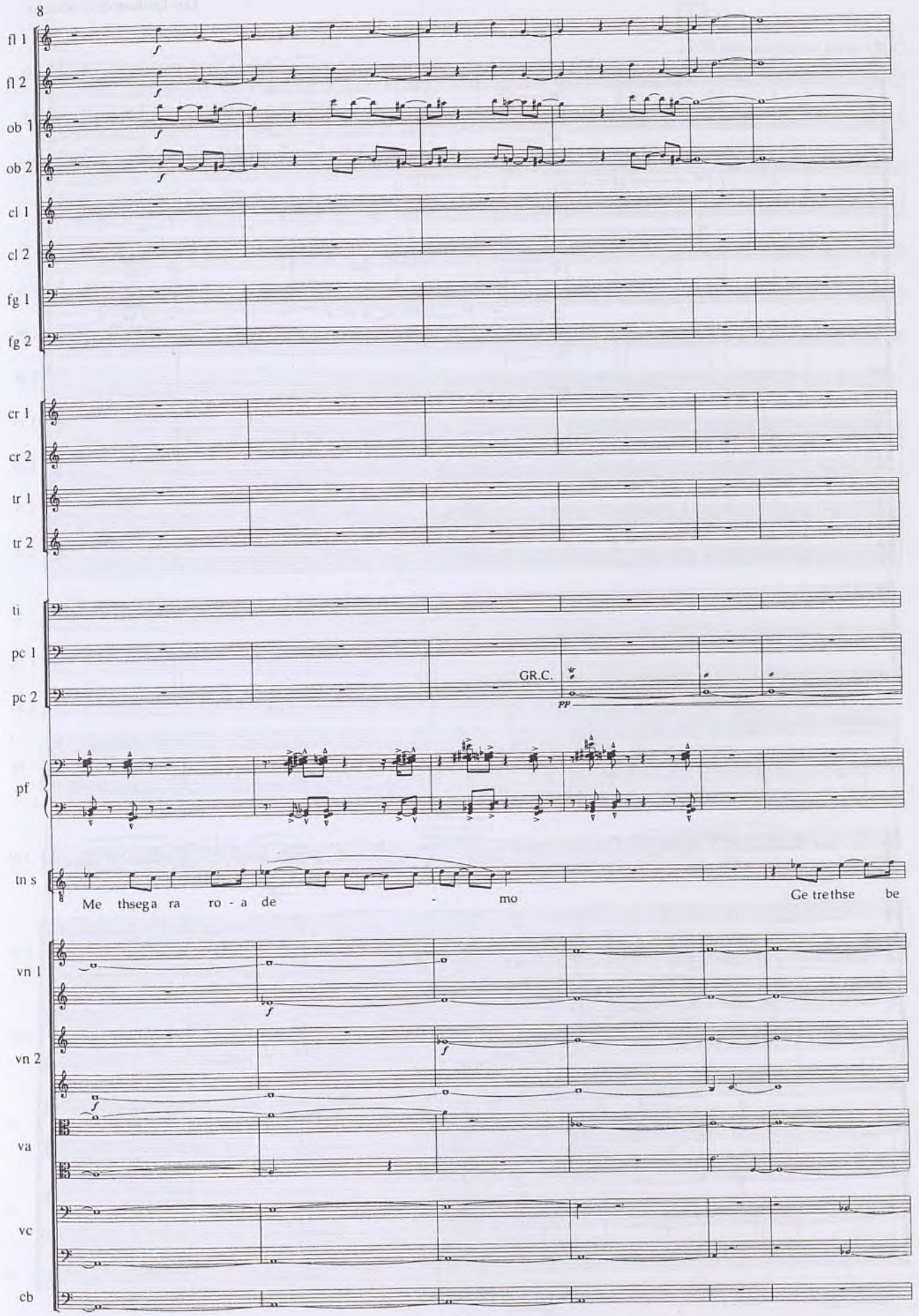

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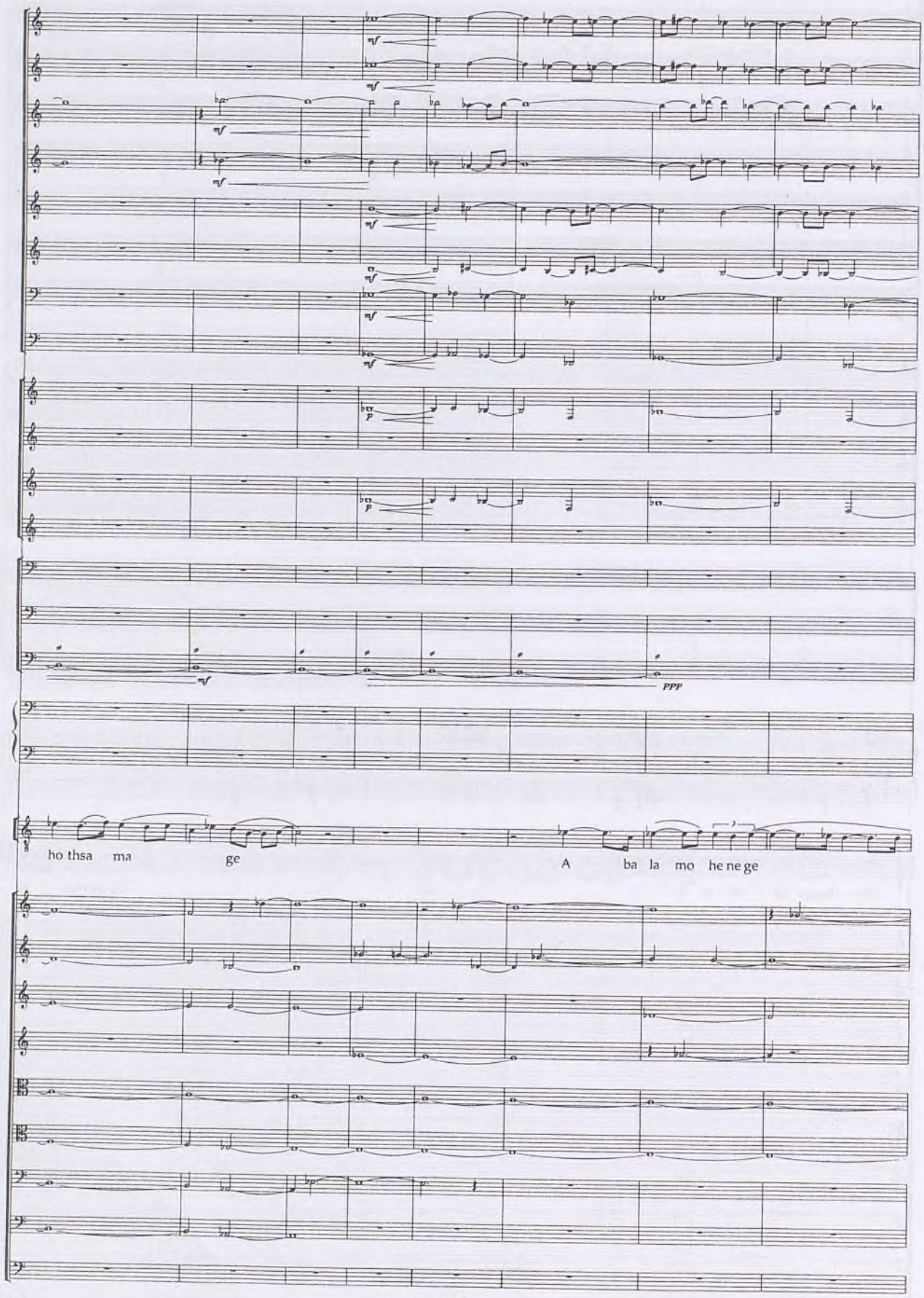

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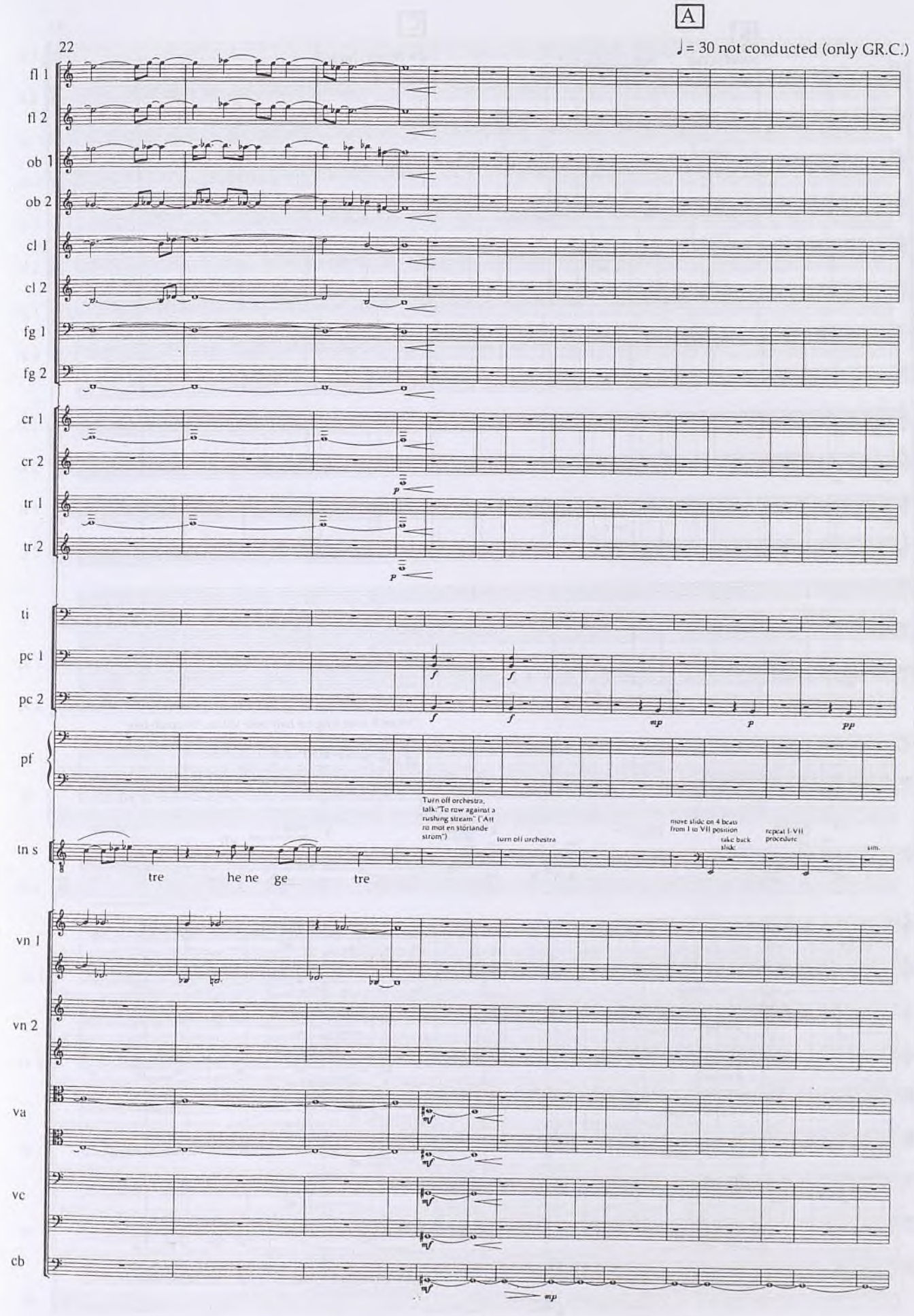

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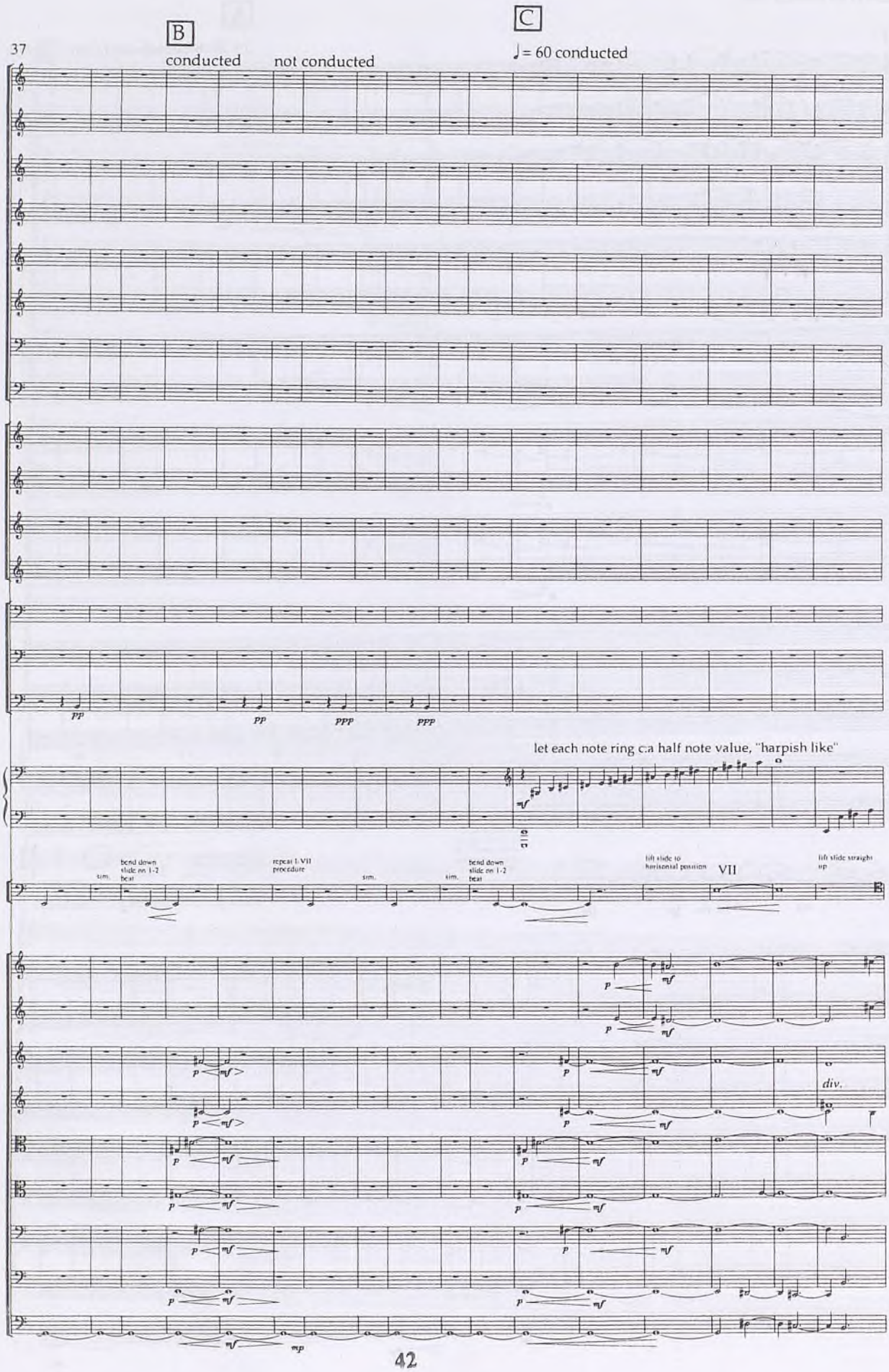

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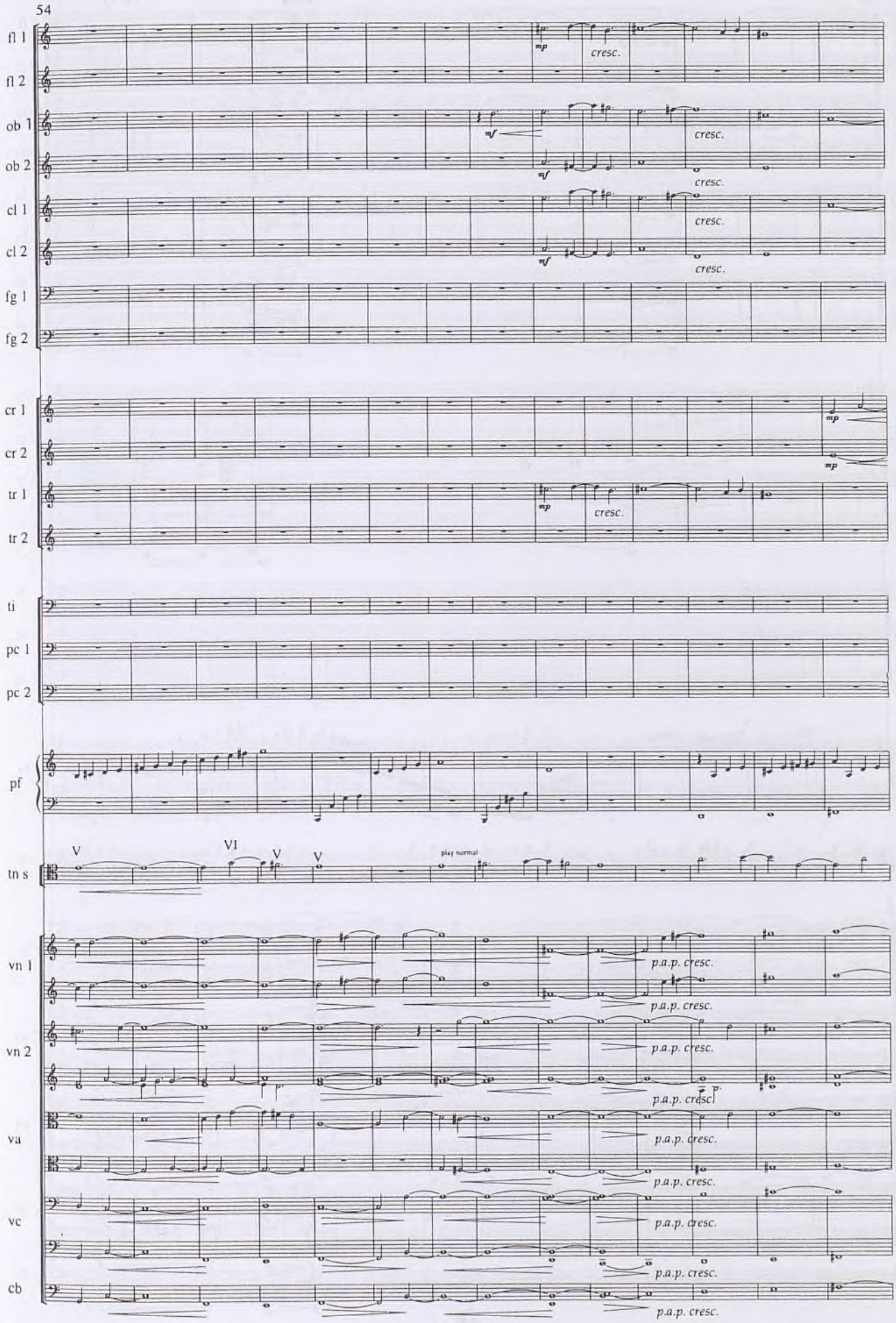

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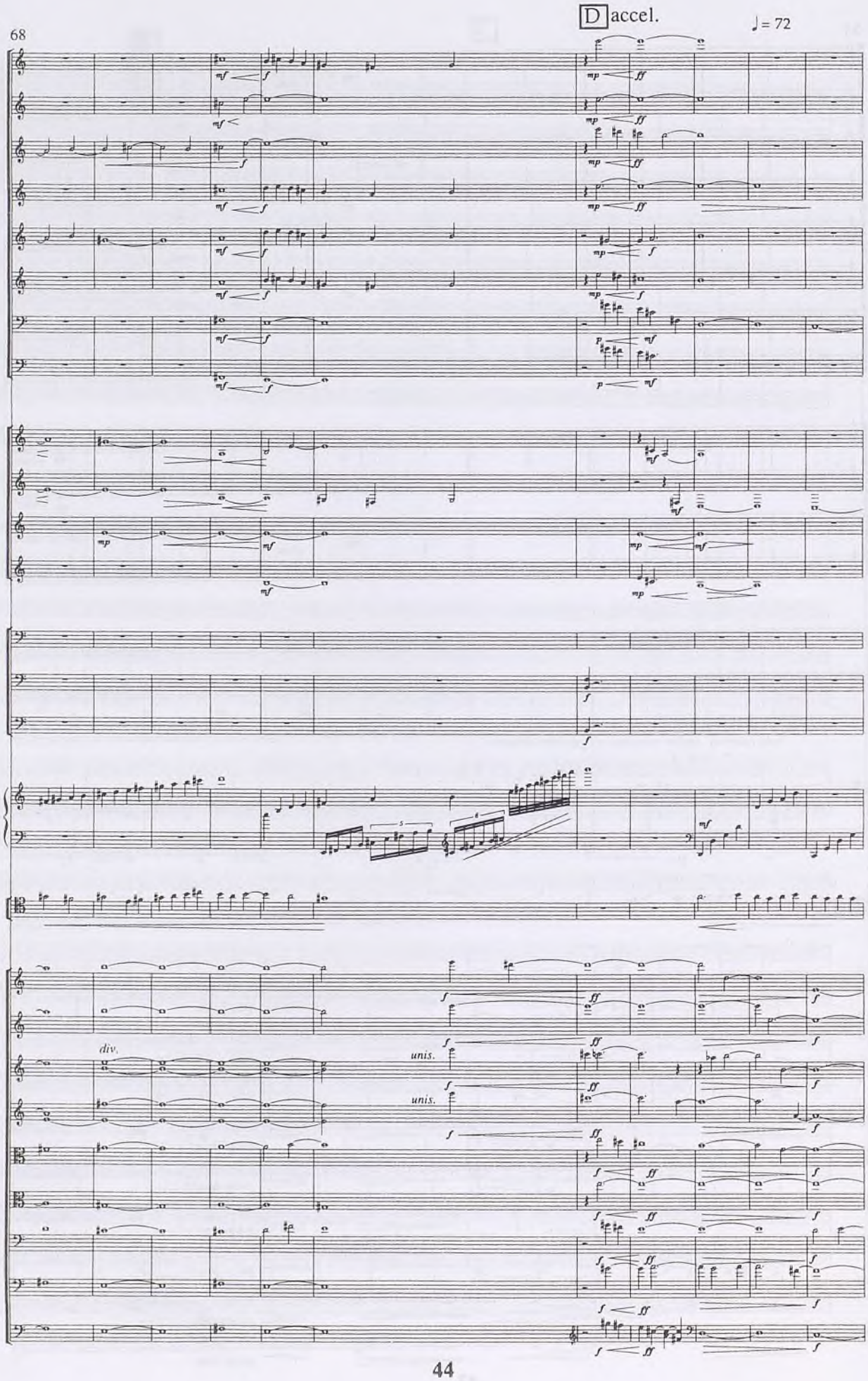

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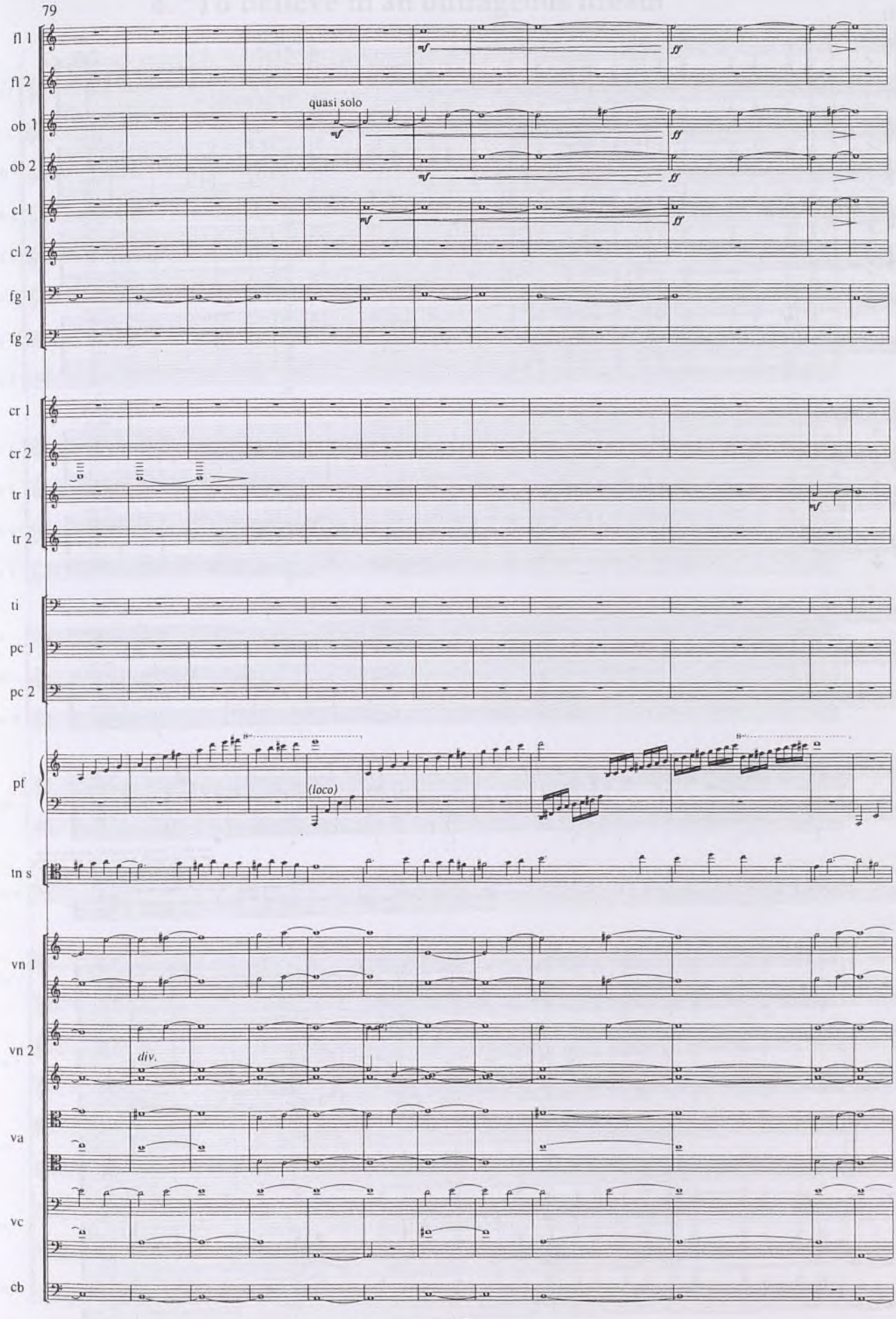

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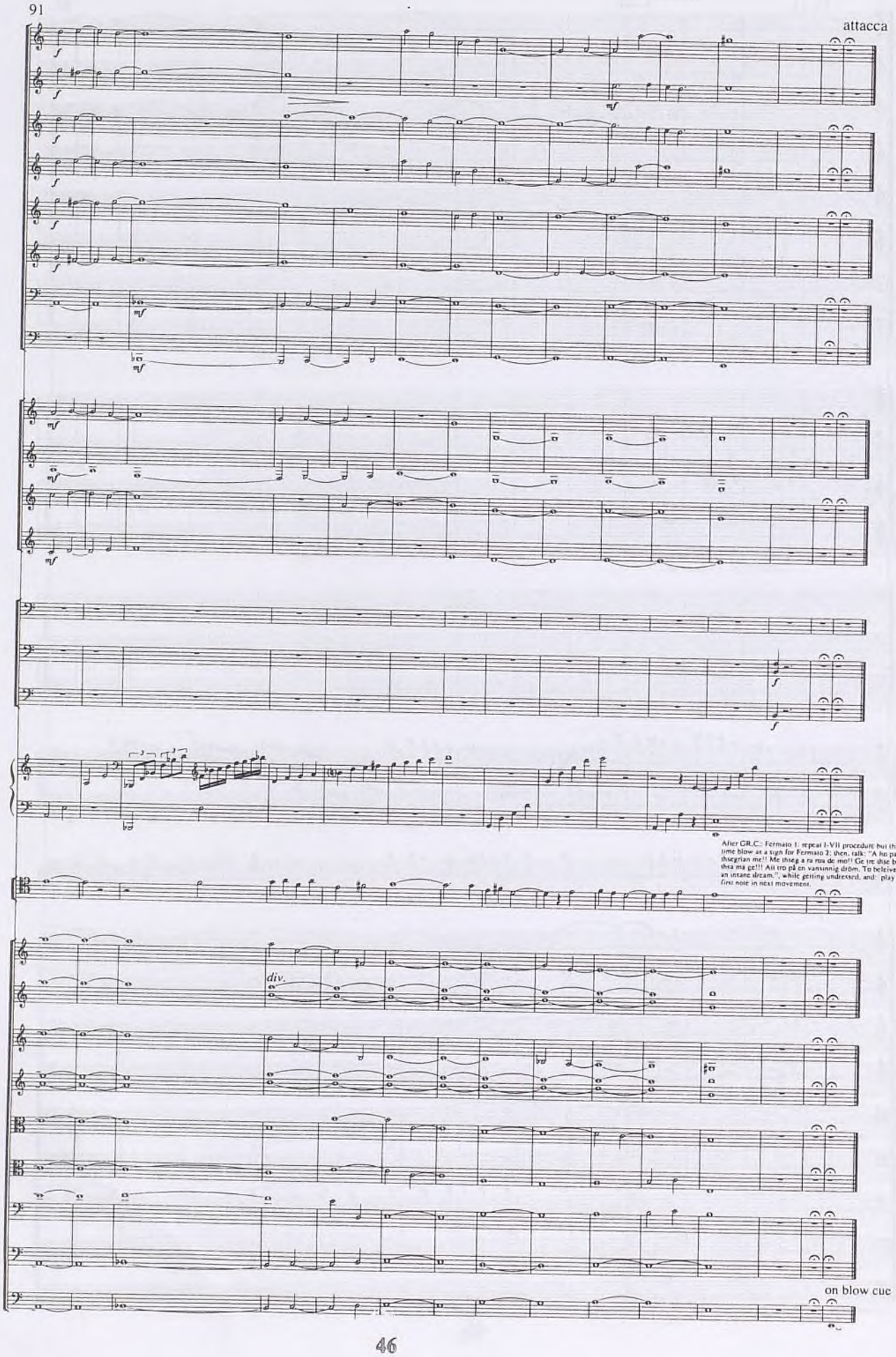
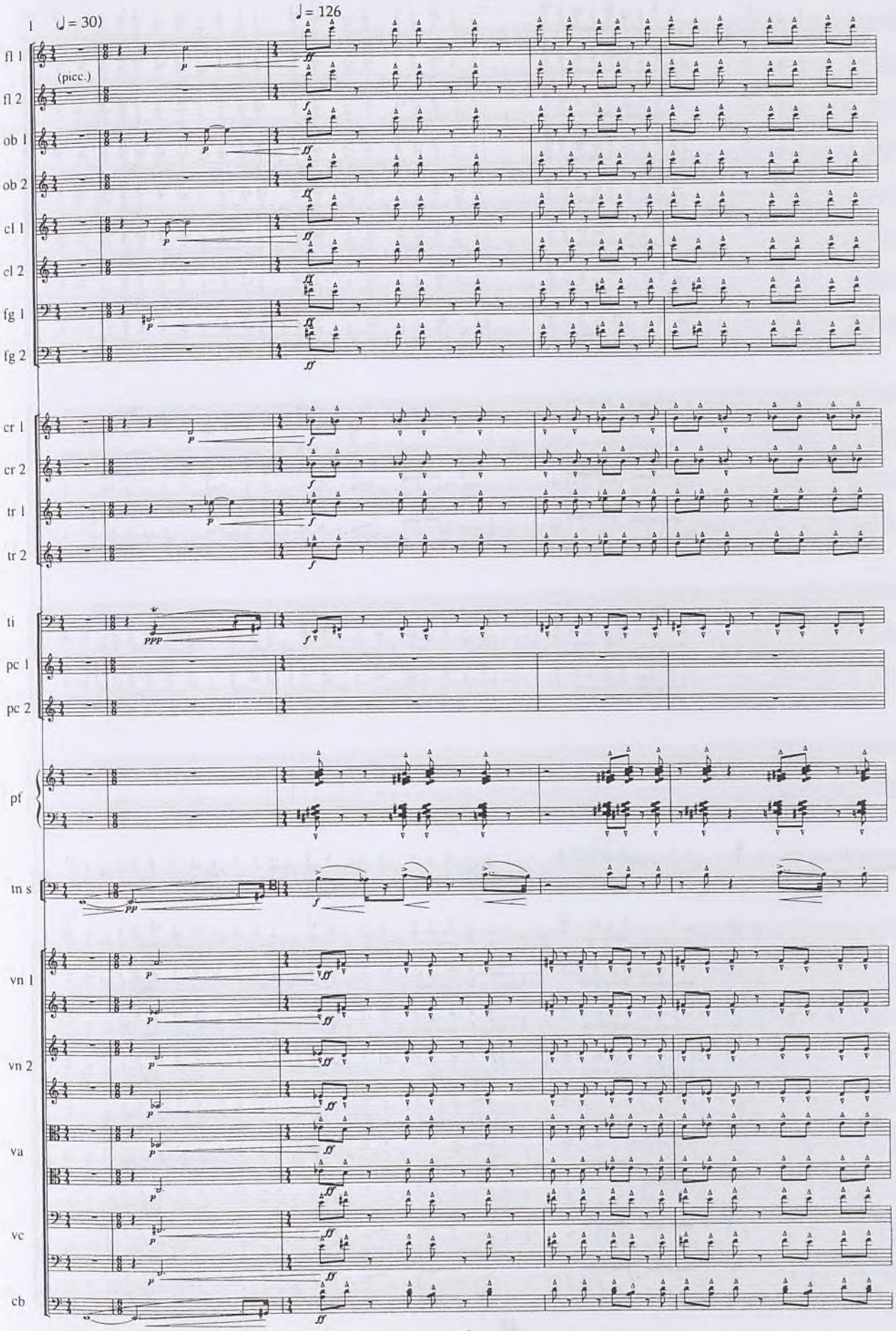


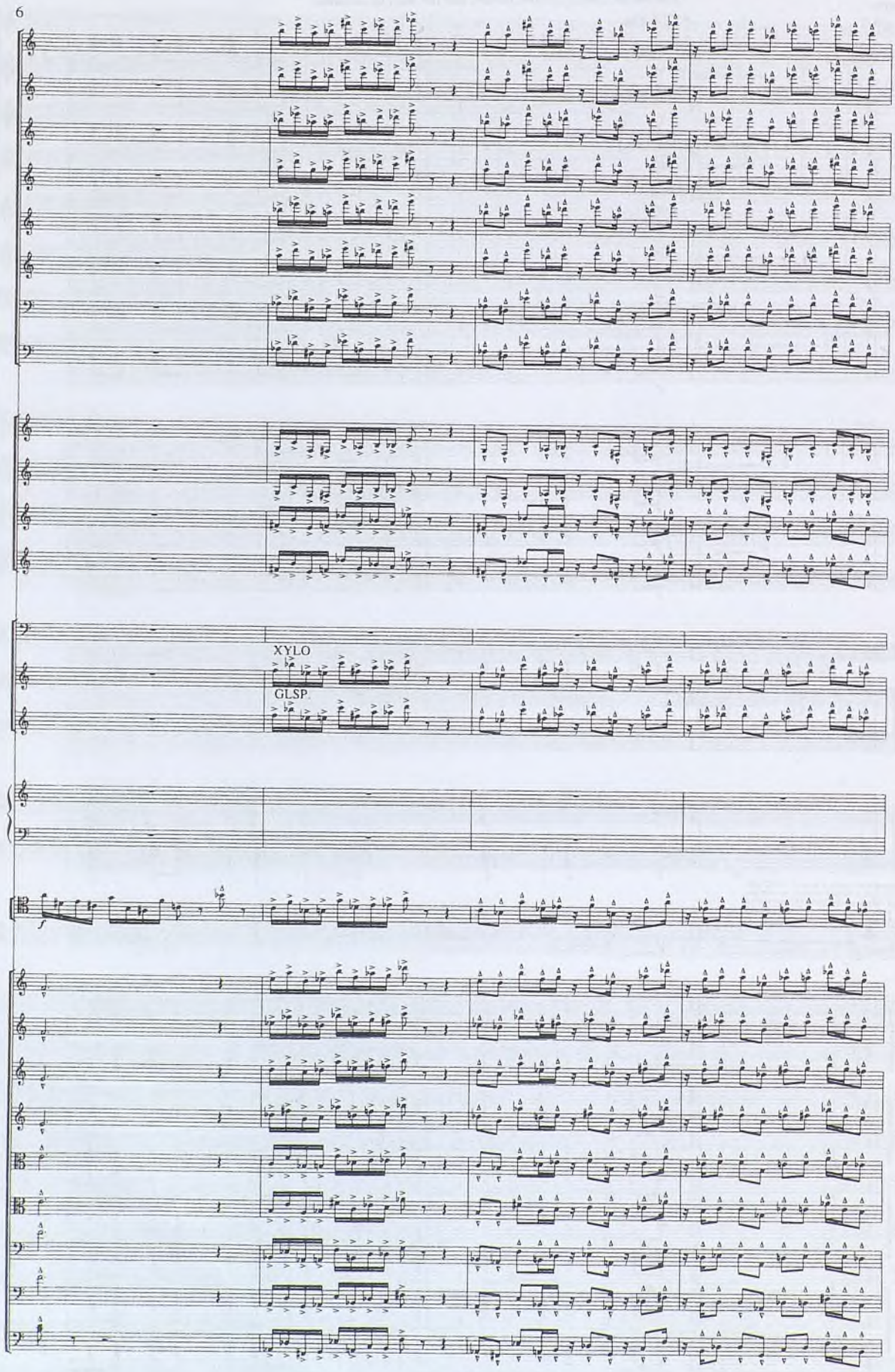
Ayuntamiento de Madrid

4. "To believe in an outrageous dream"

(The mental disease of Don Quixote, and the letter to Dulcinea)



Ayuntamiento de Madrid



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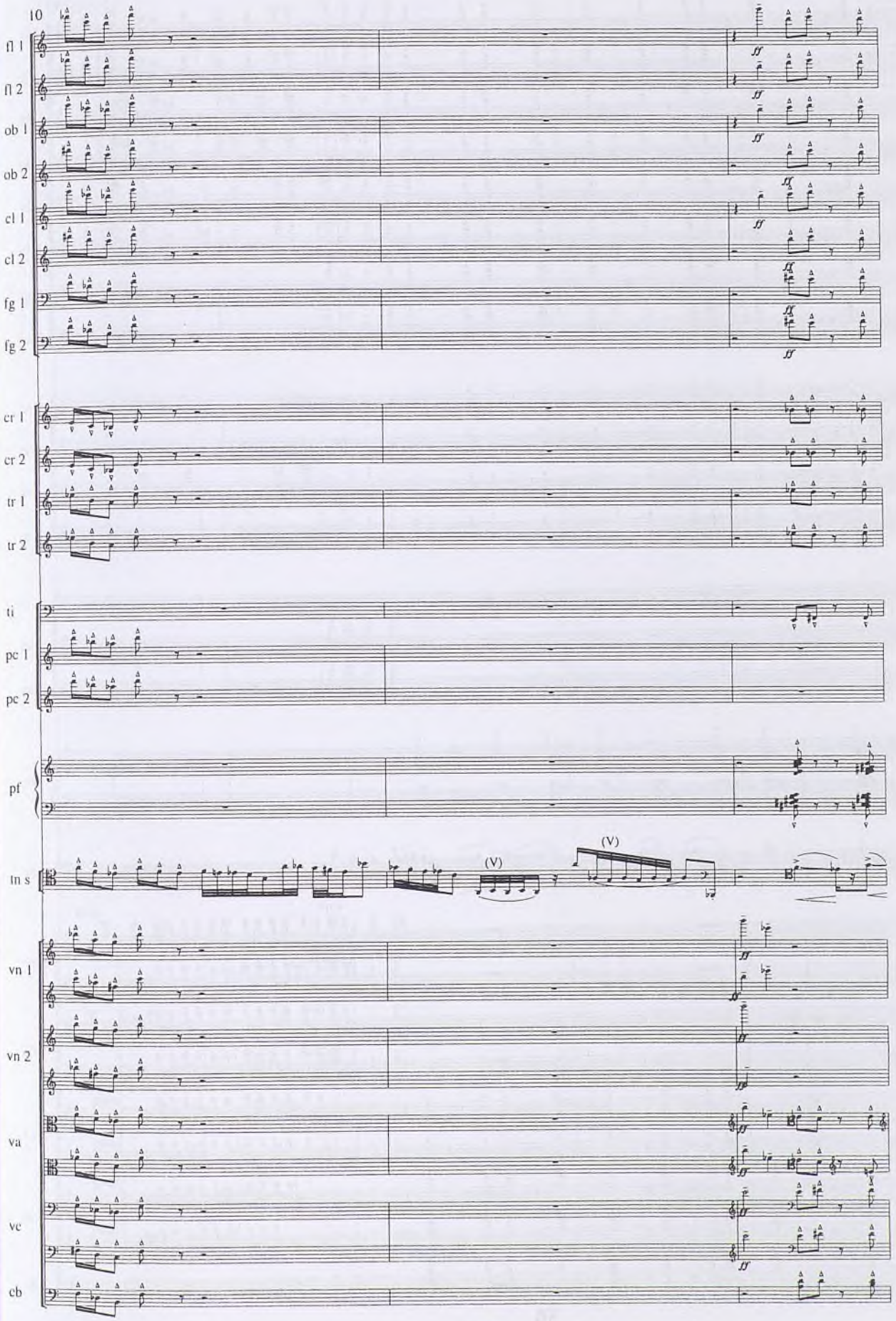

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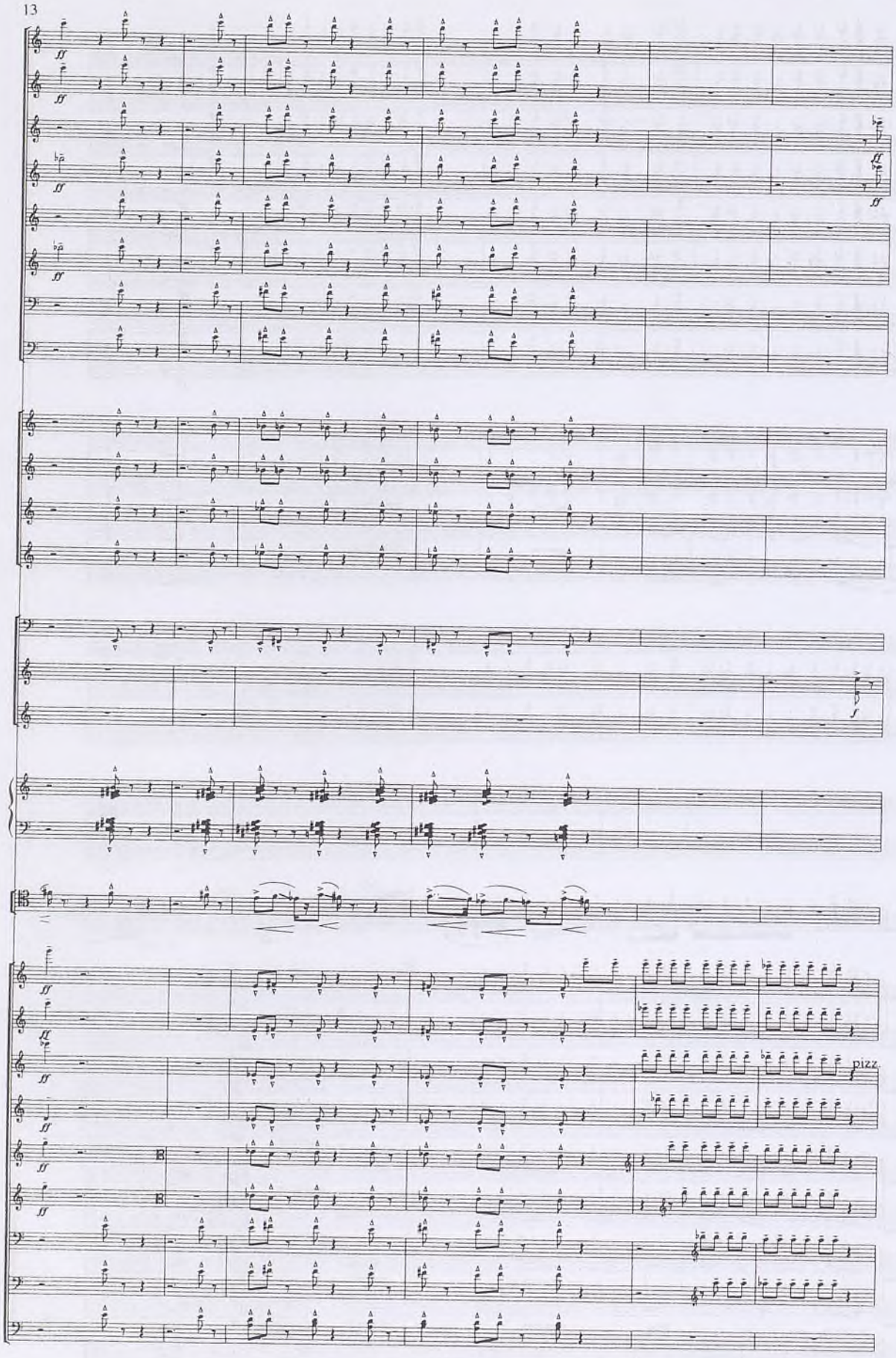

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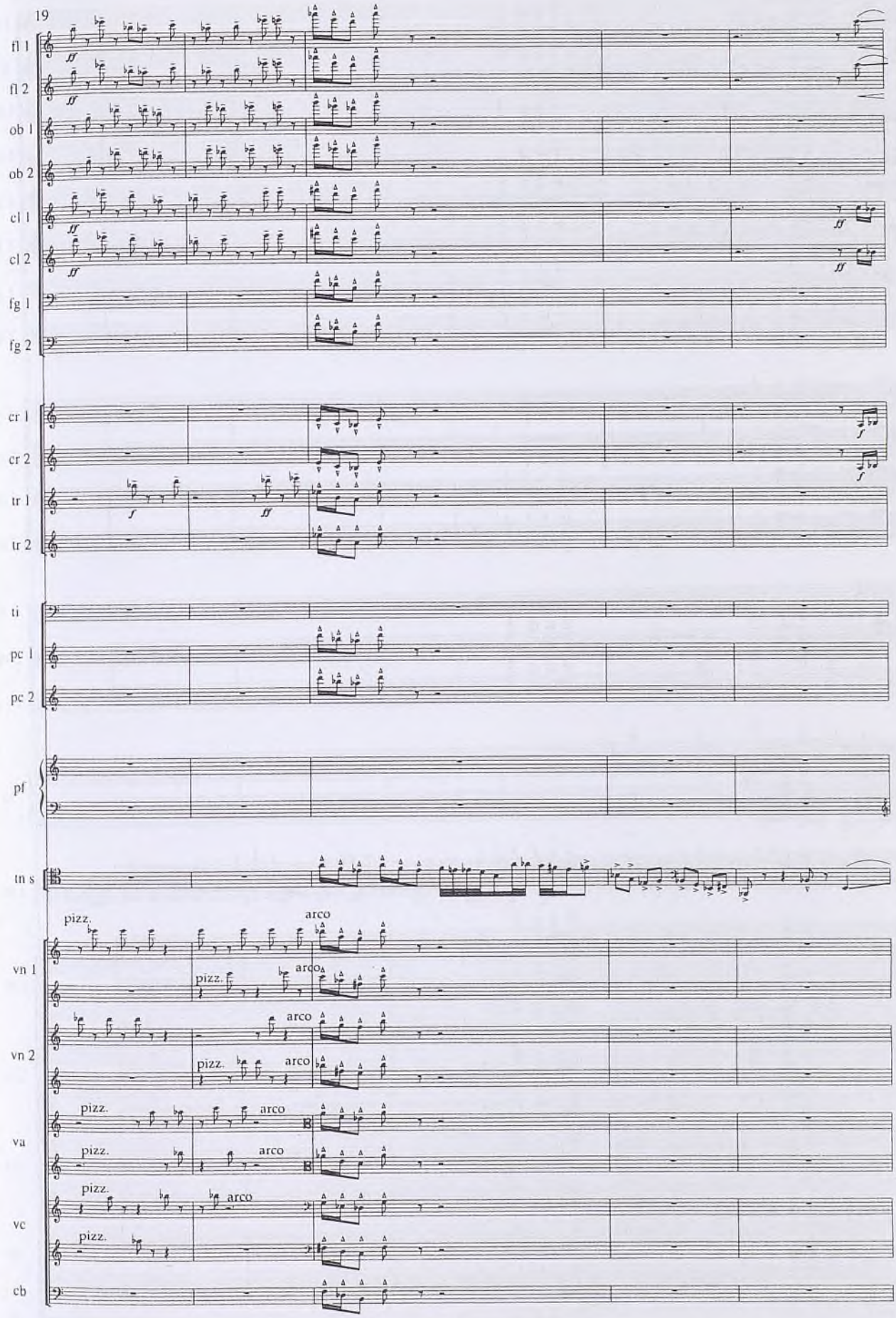

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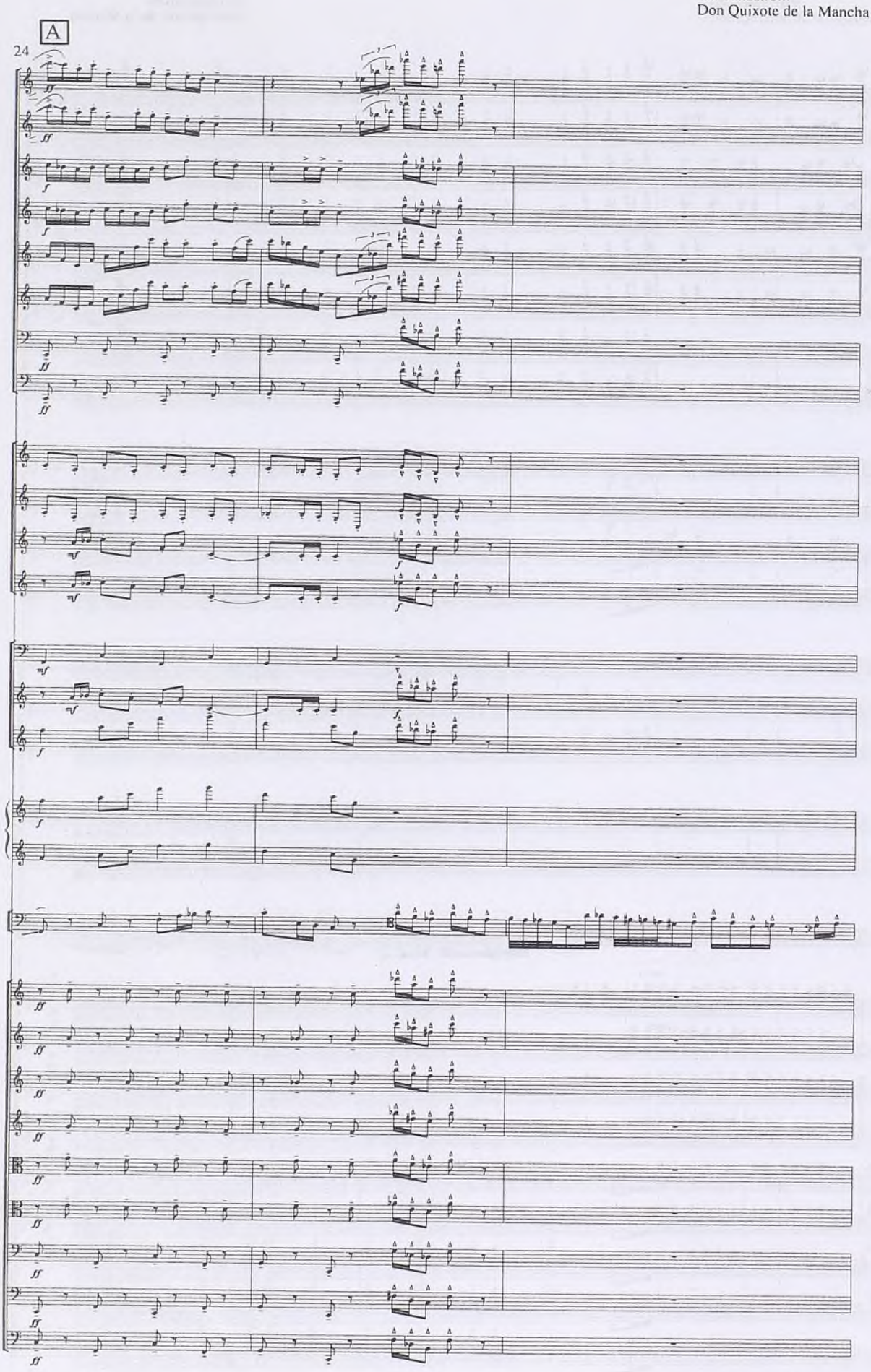

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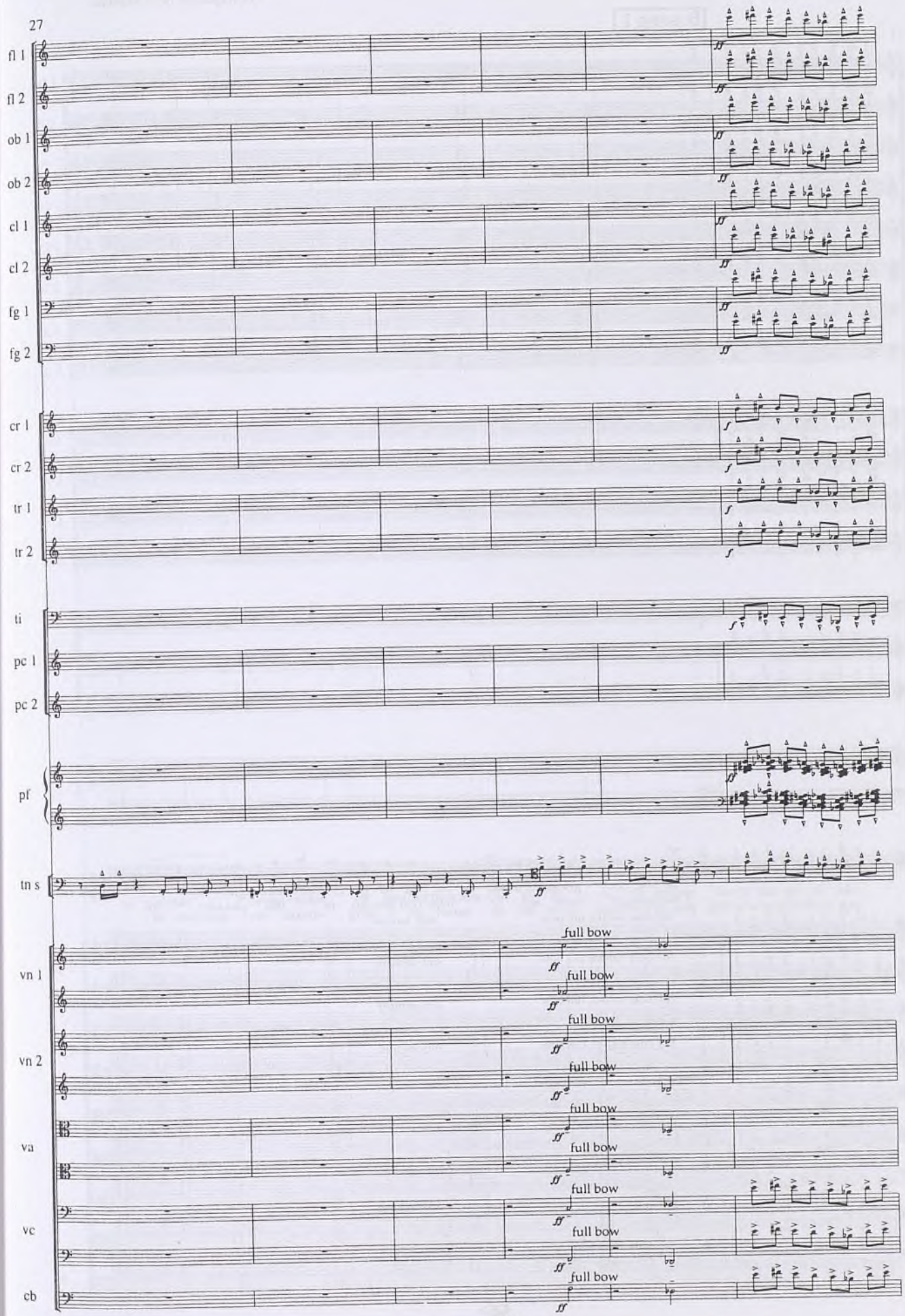

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B: song 1

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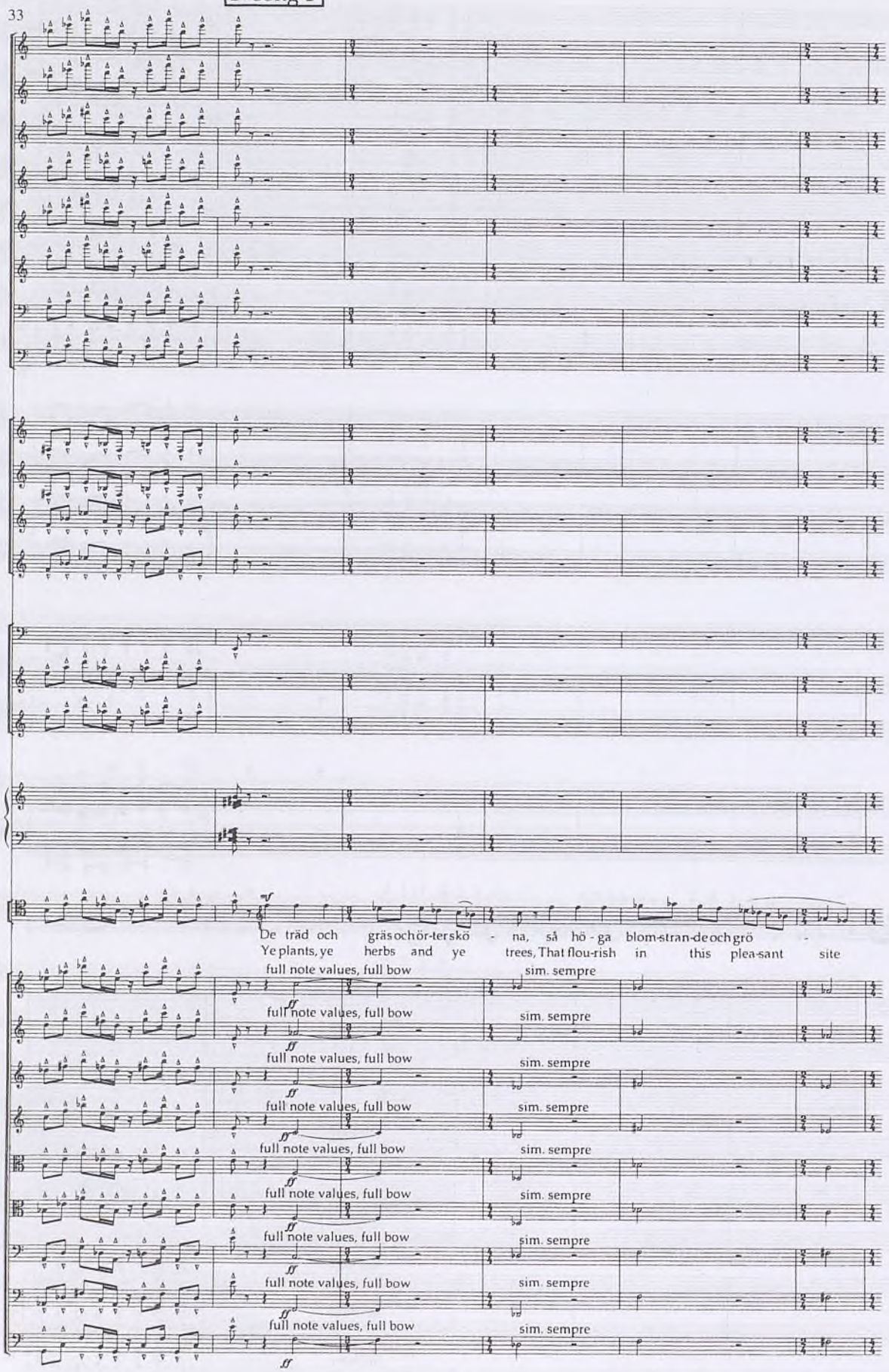

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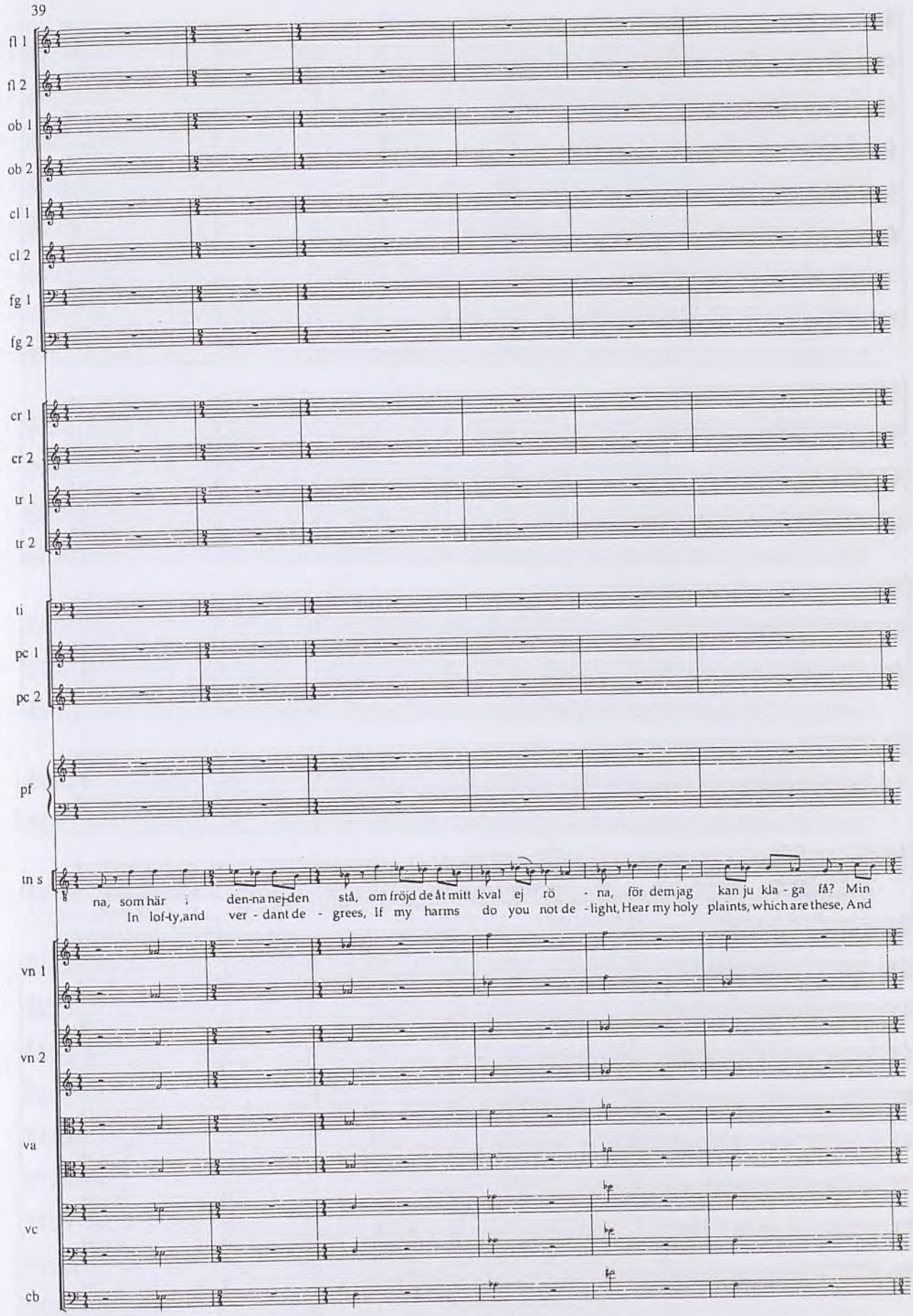

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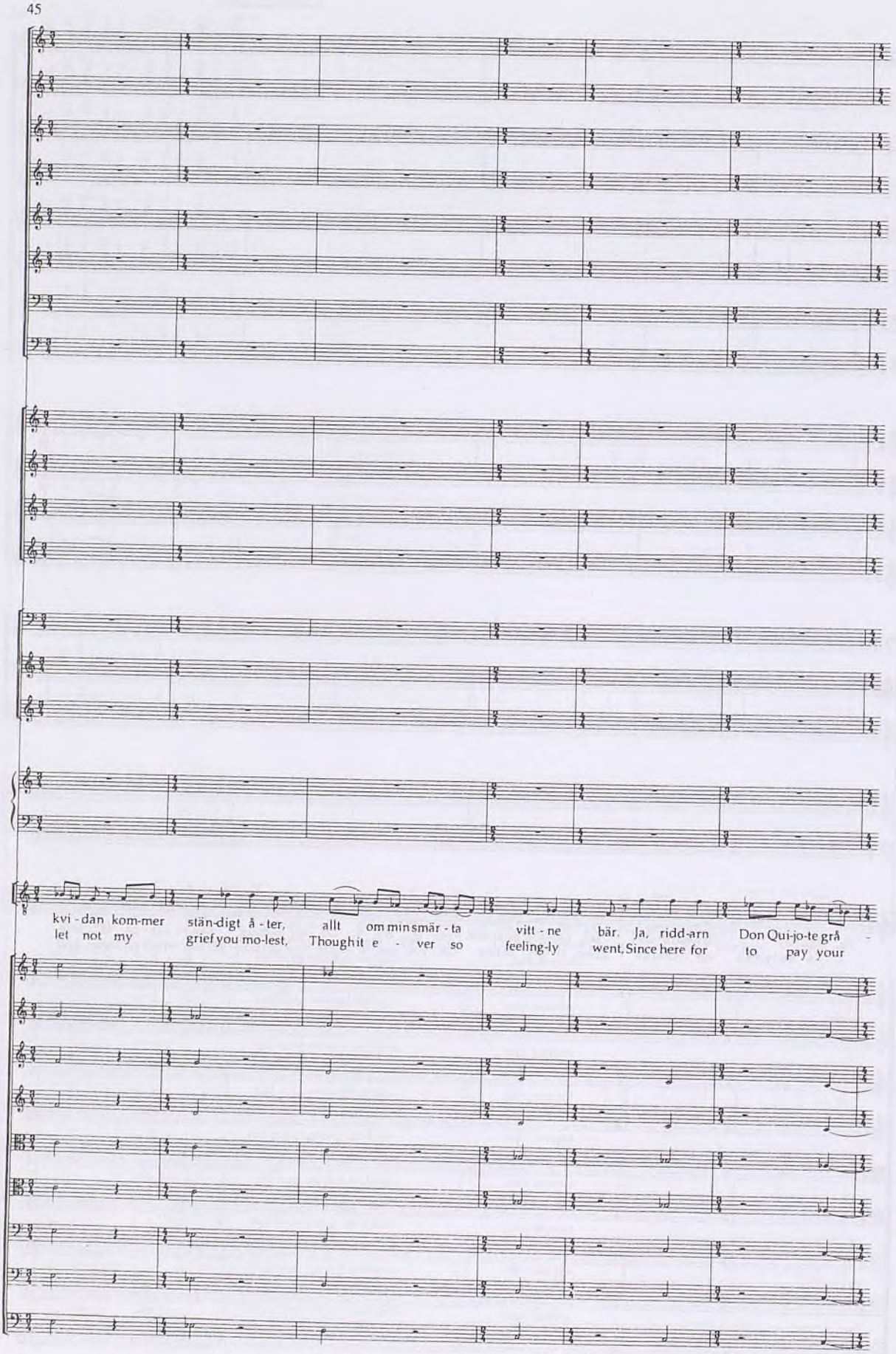

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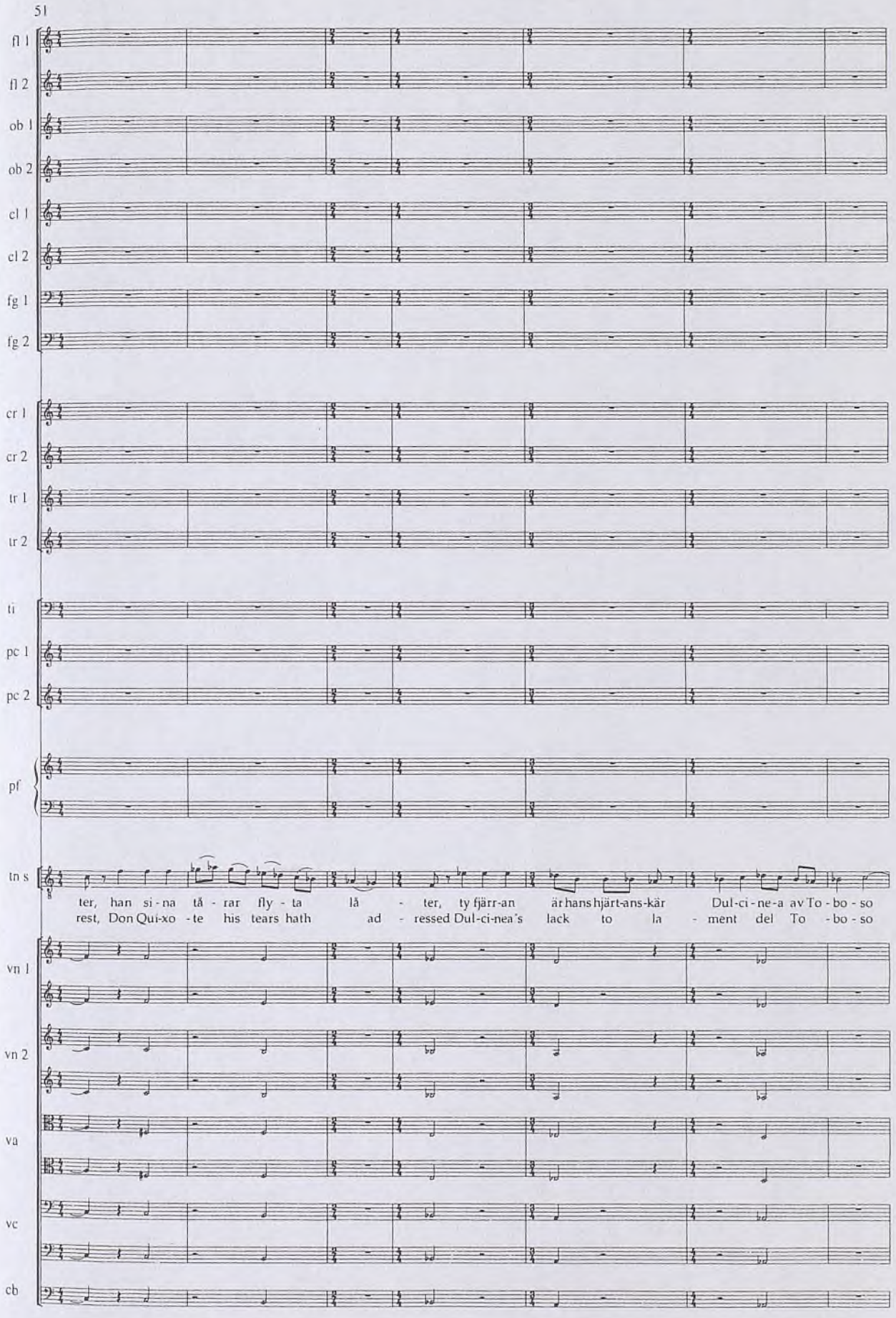

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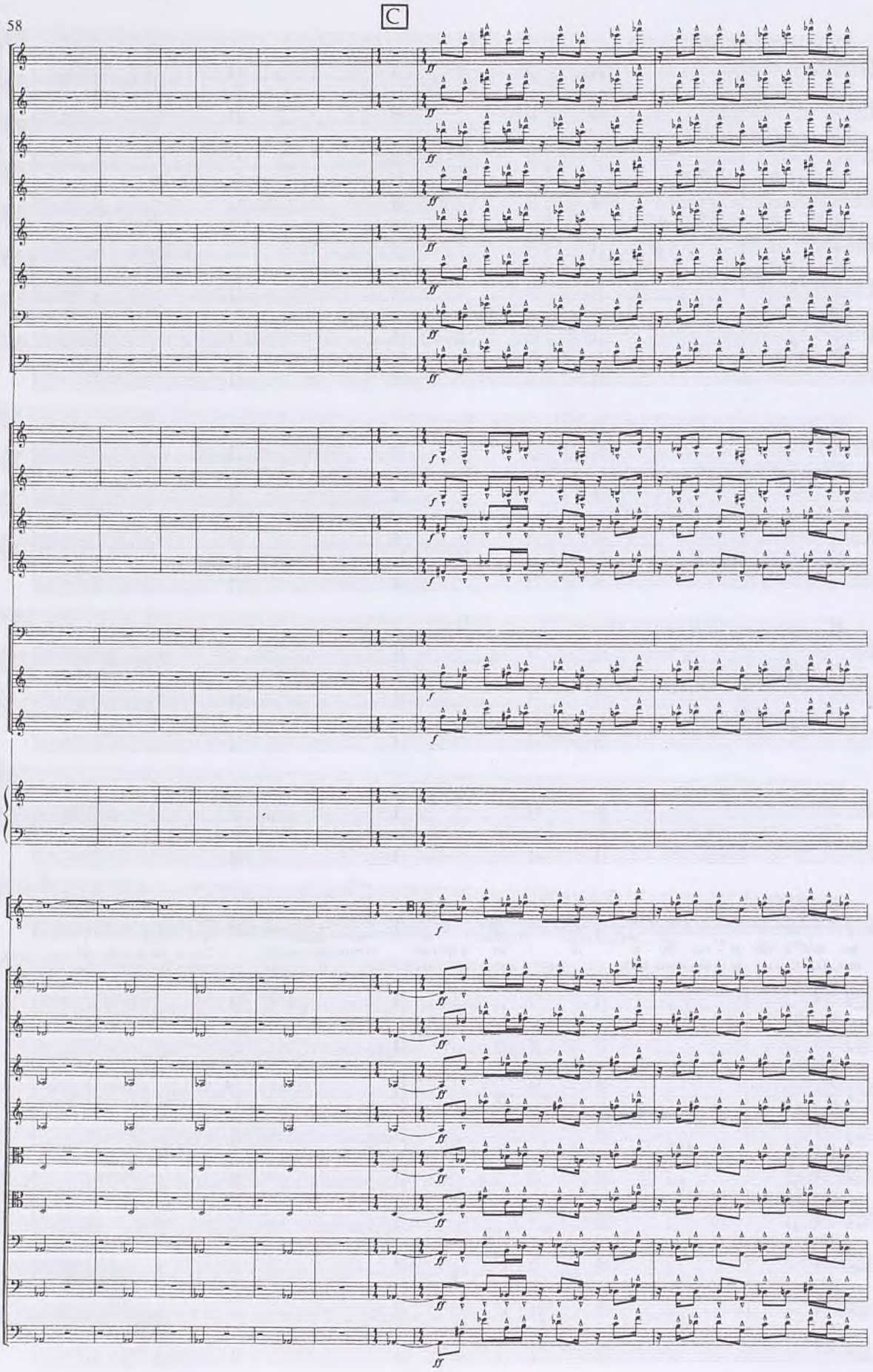

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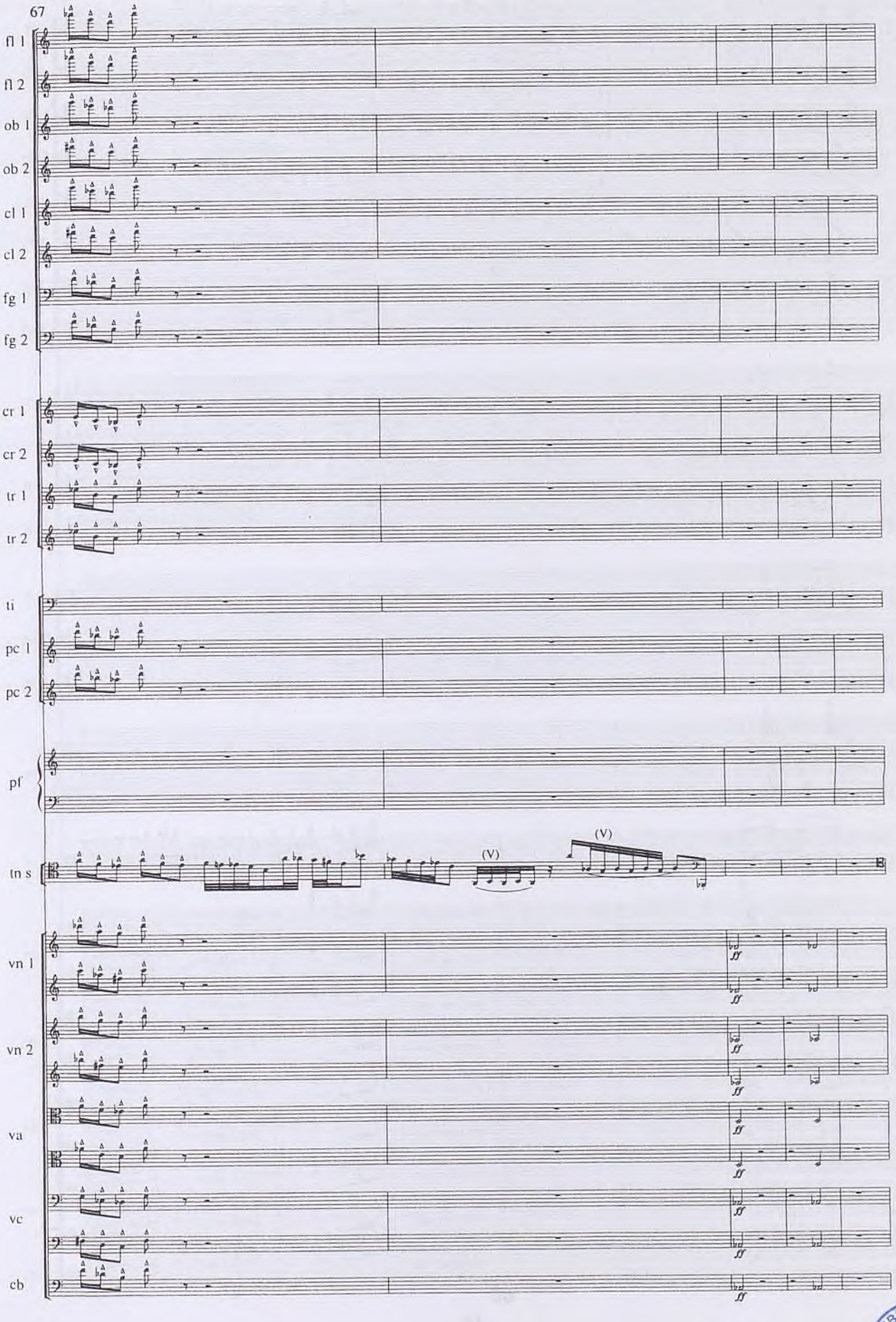

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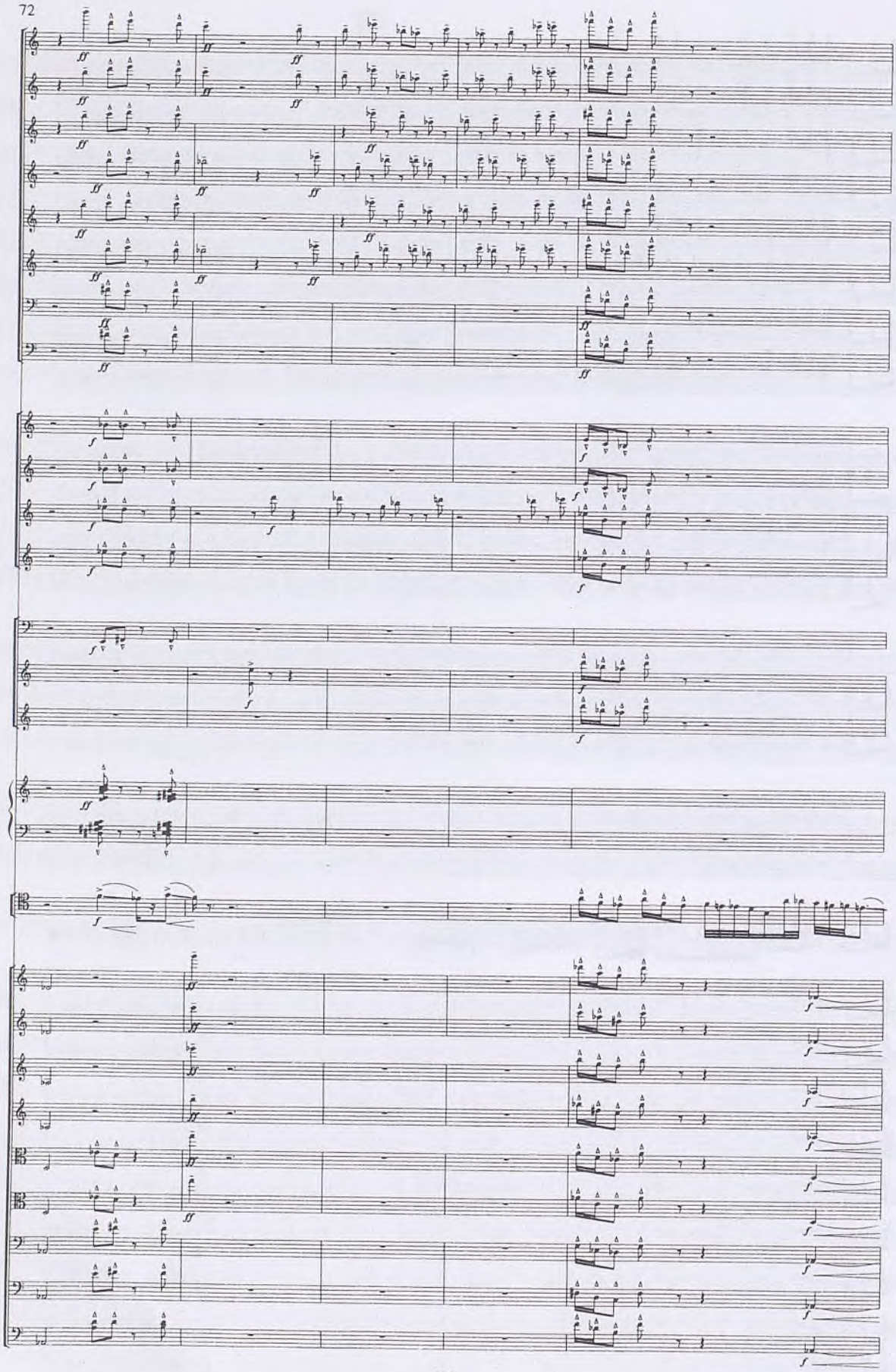
BIBLIOTECA VICTOR ESPINÓS



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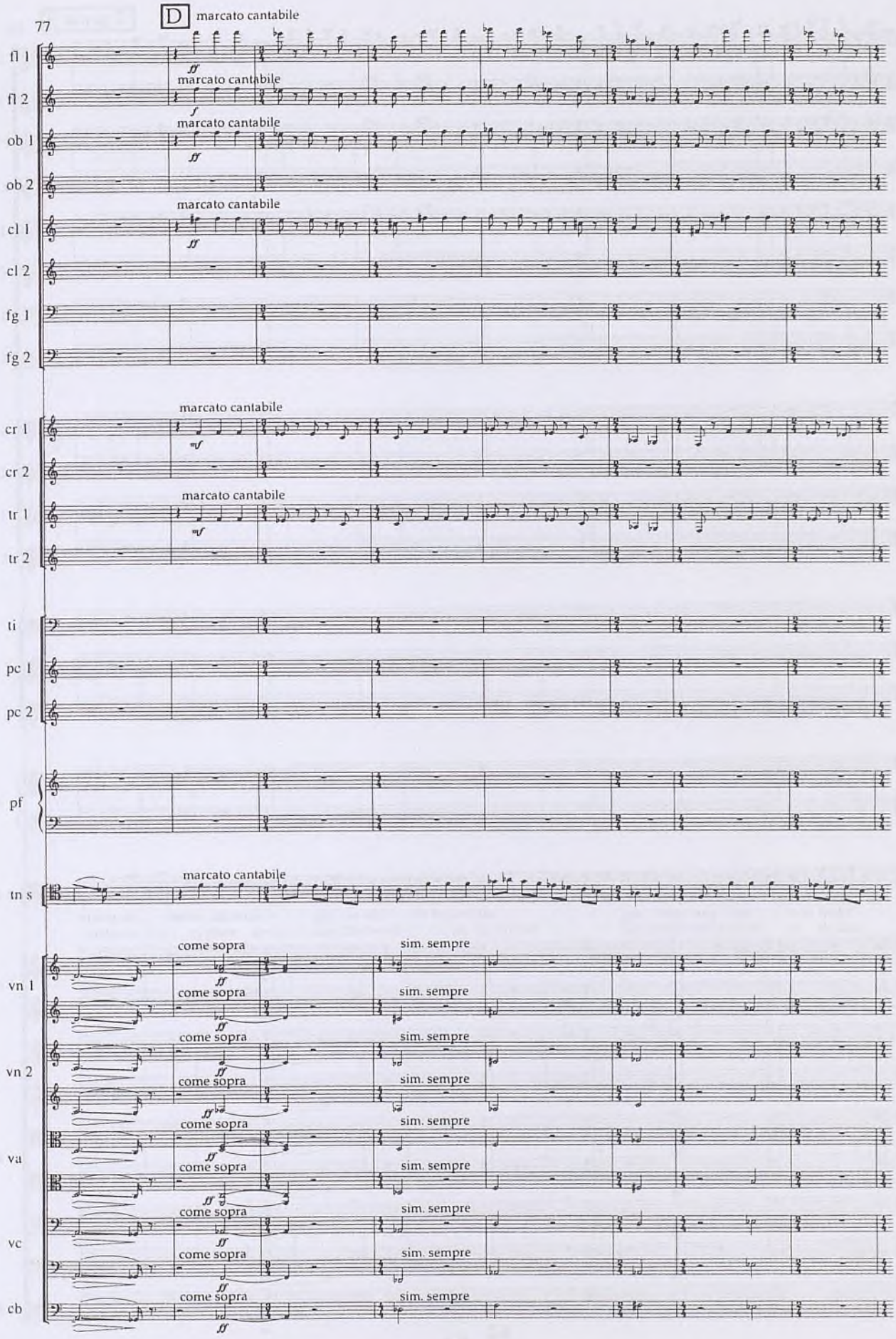

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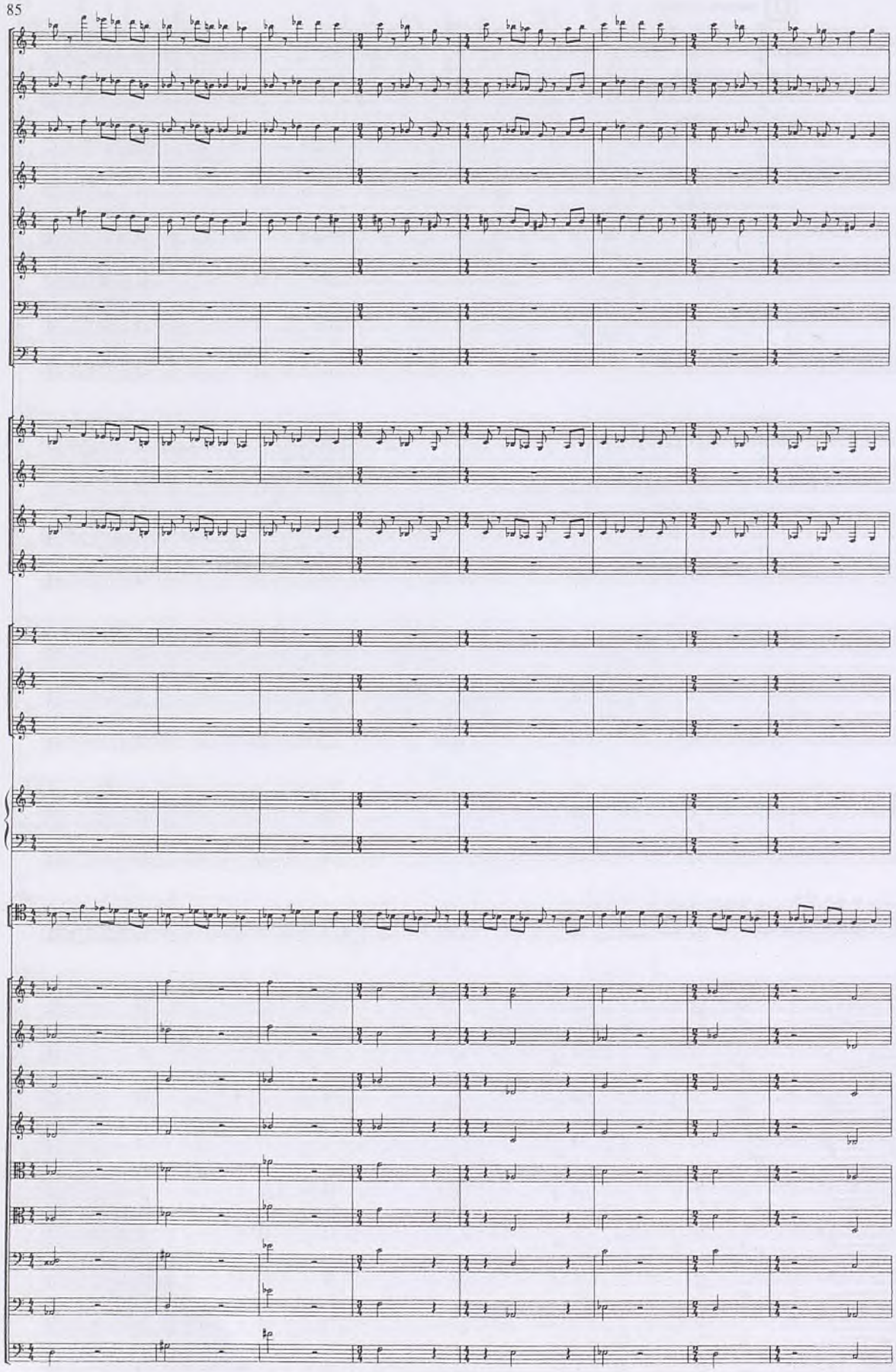

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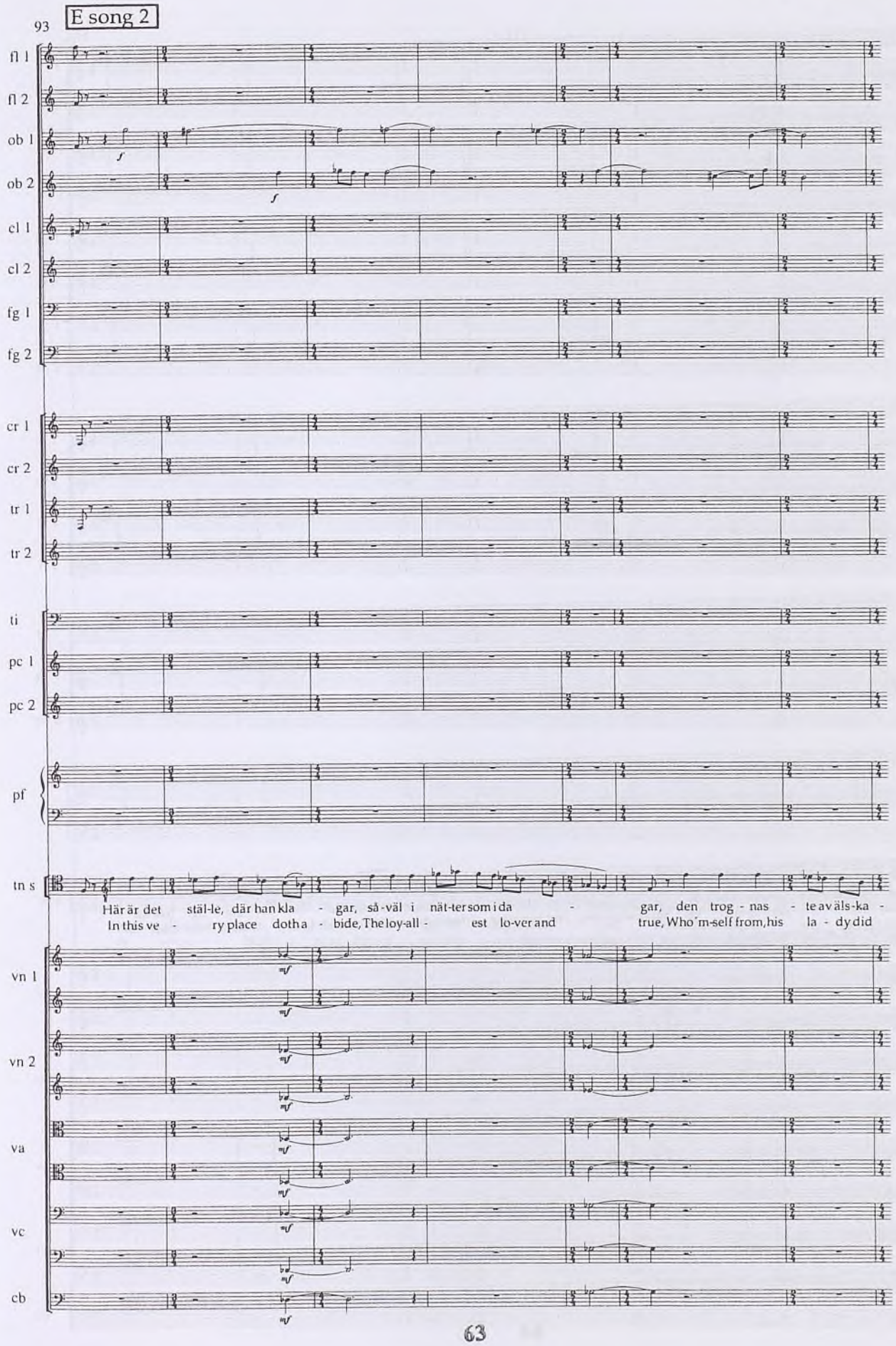

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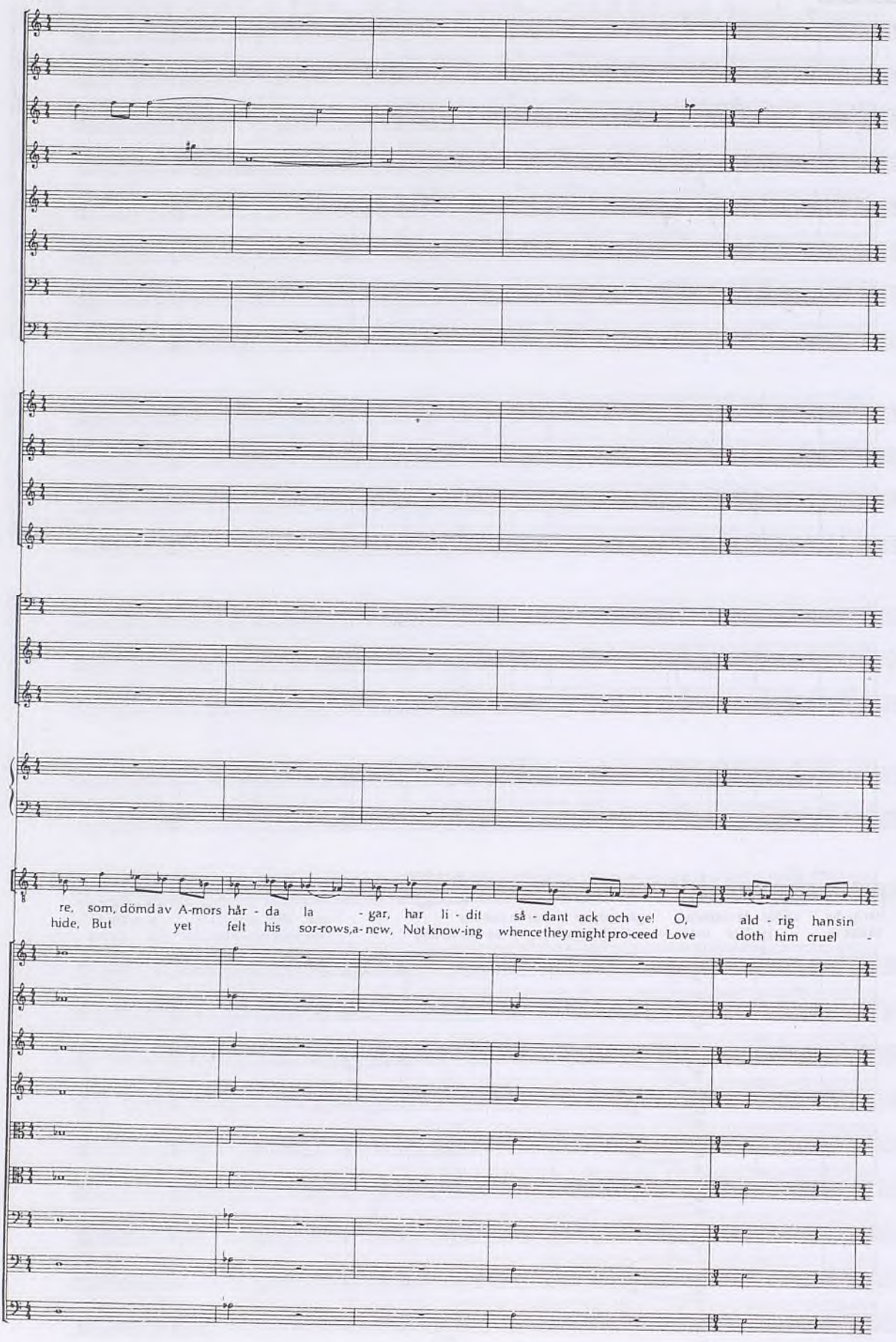

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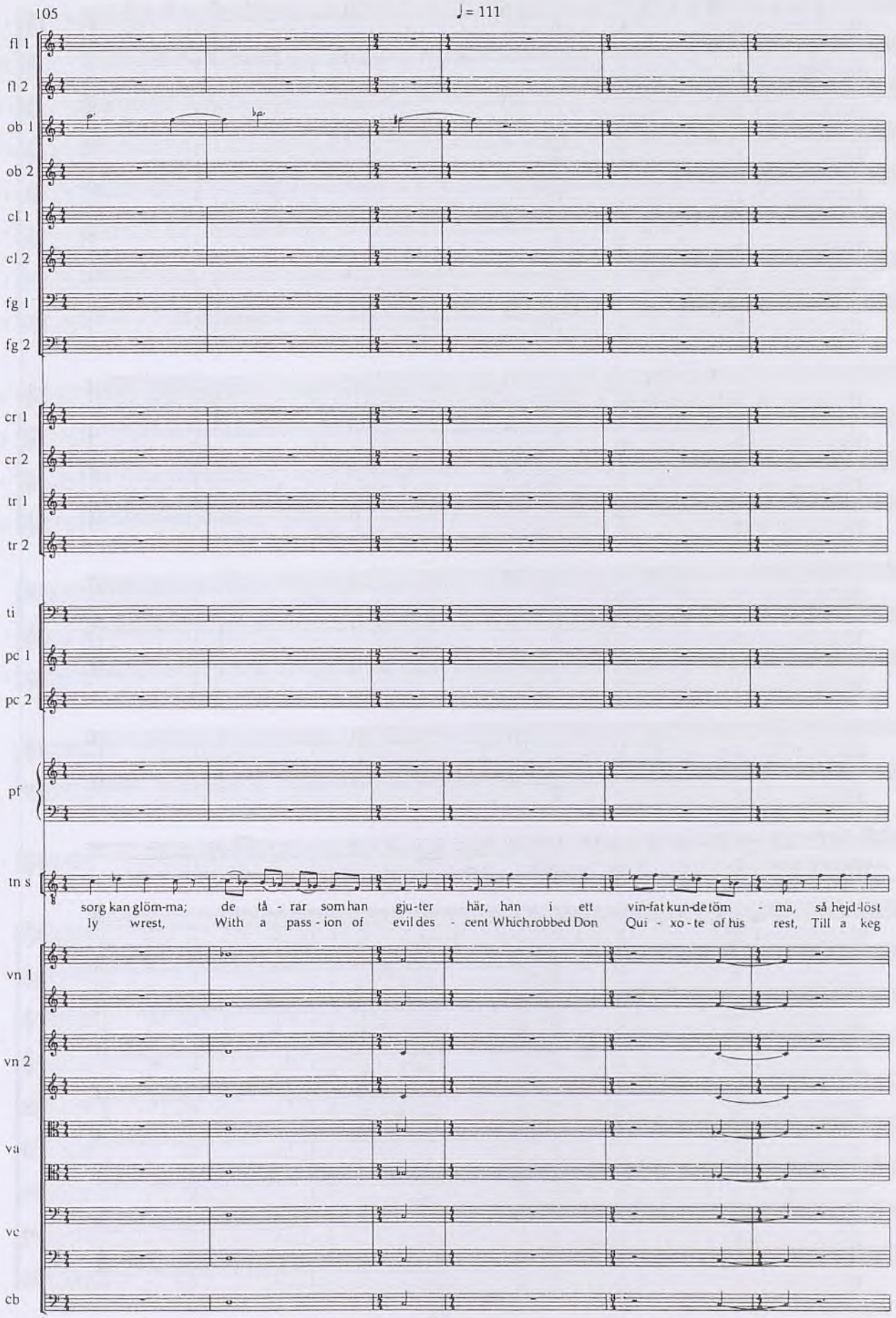

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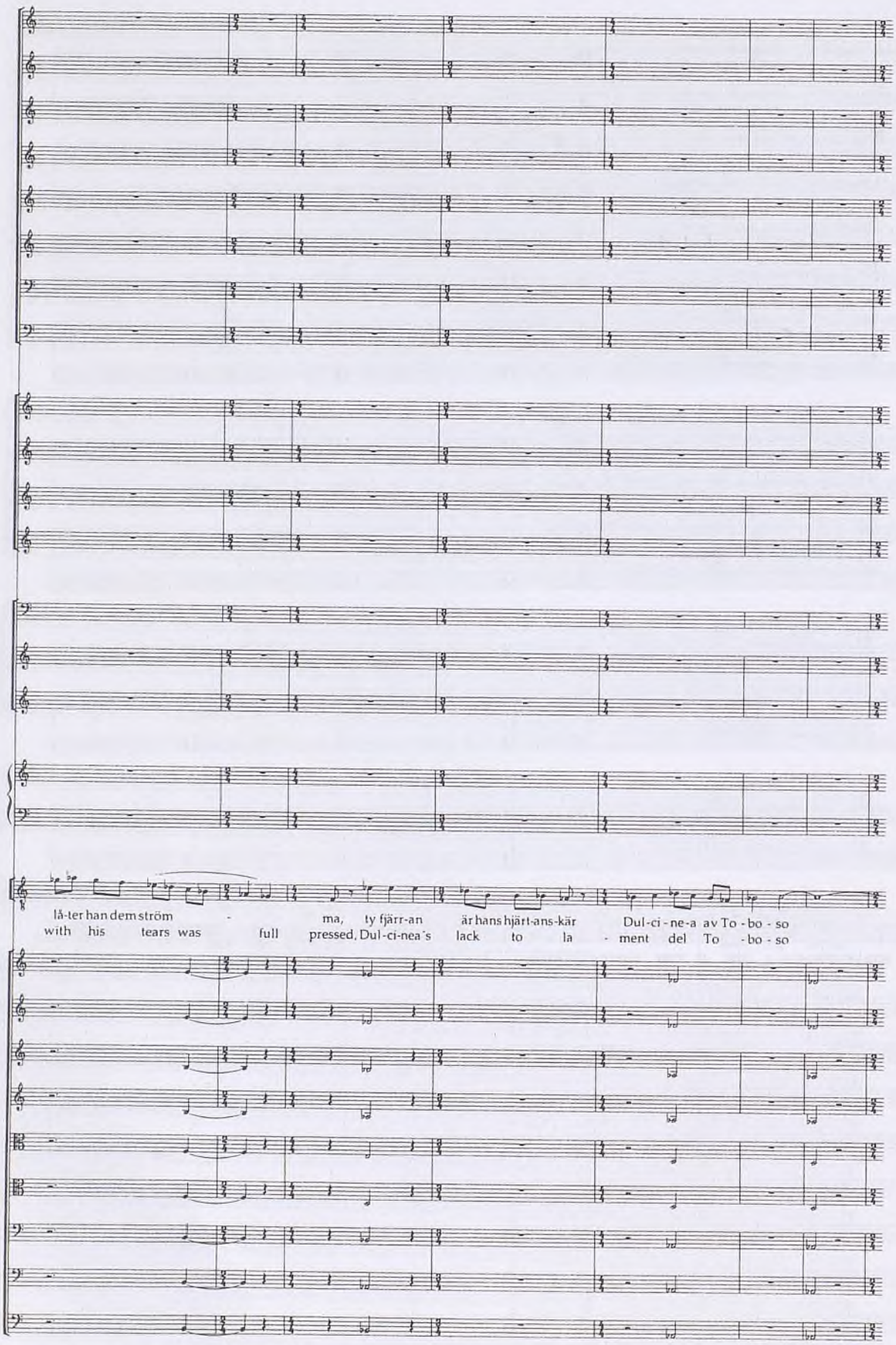

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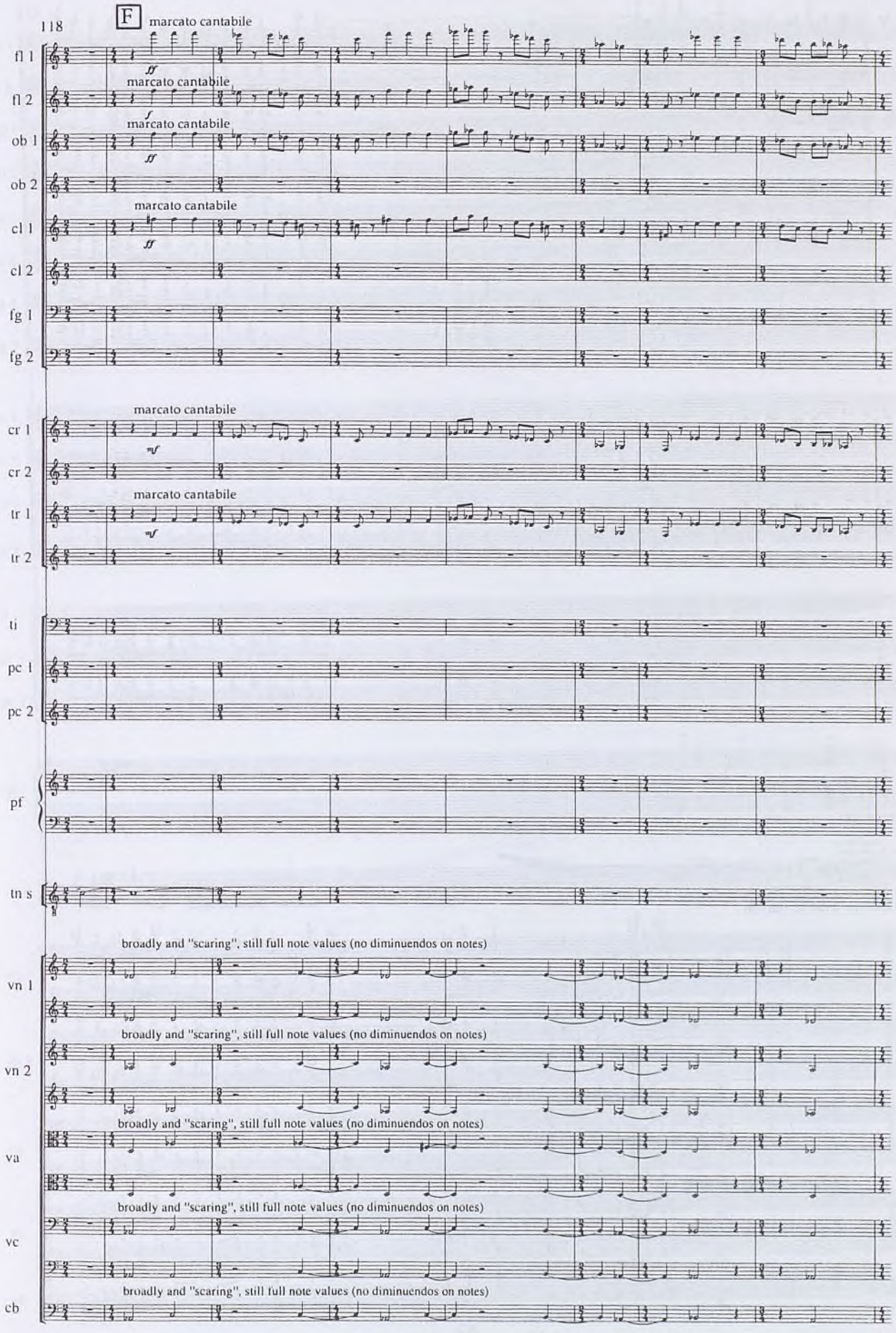

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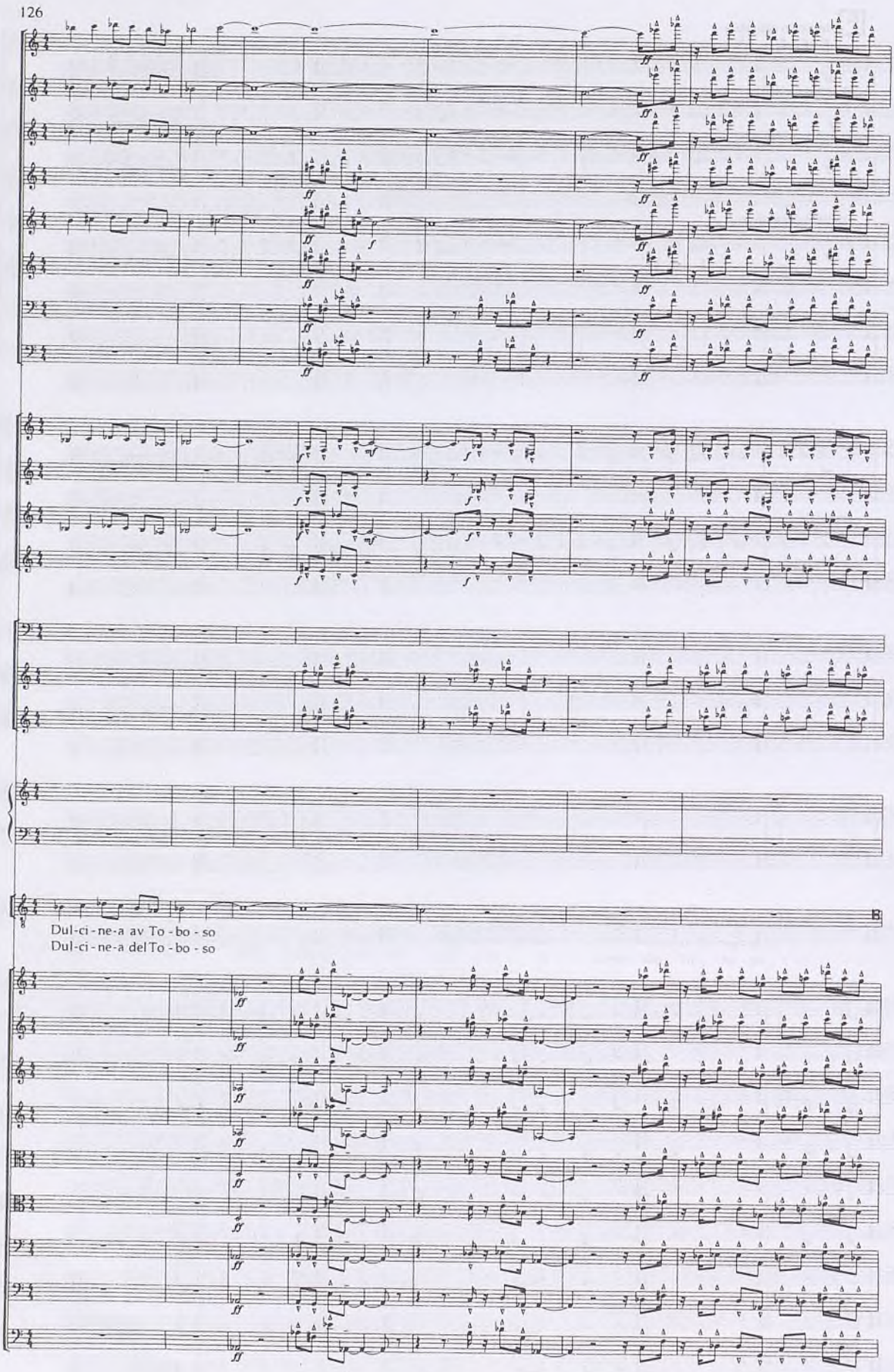

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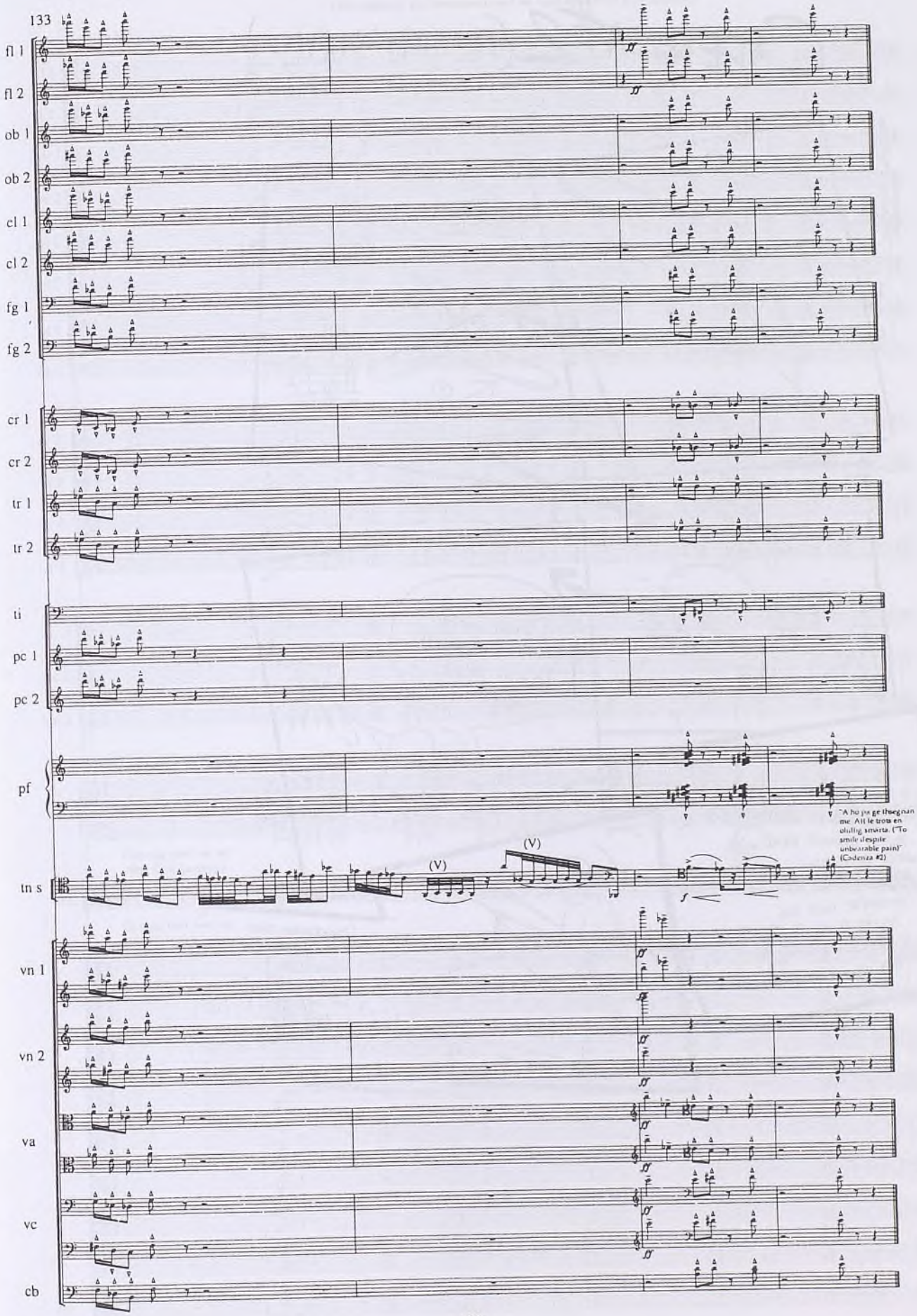

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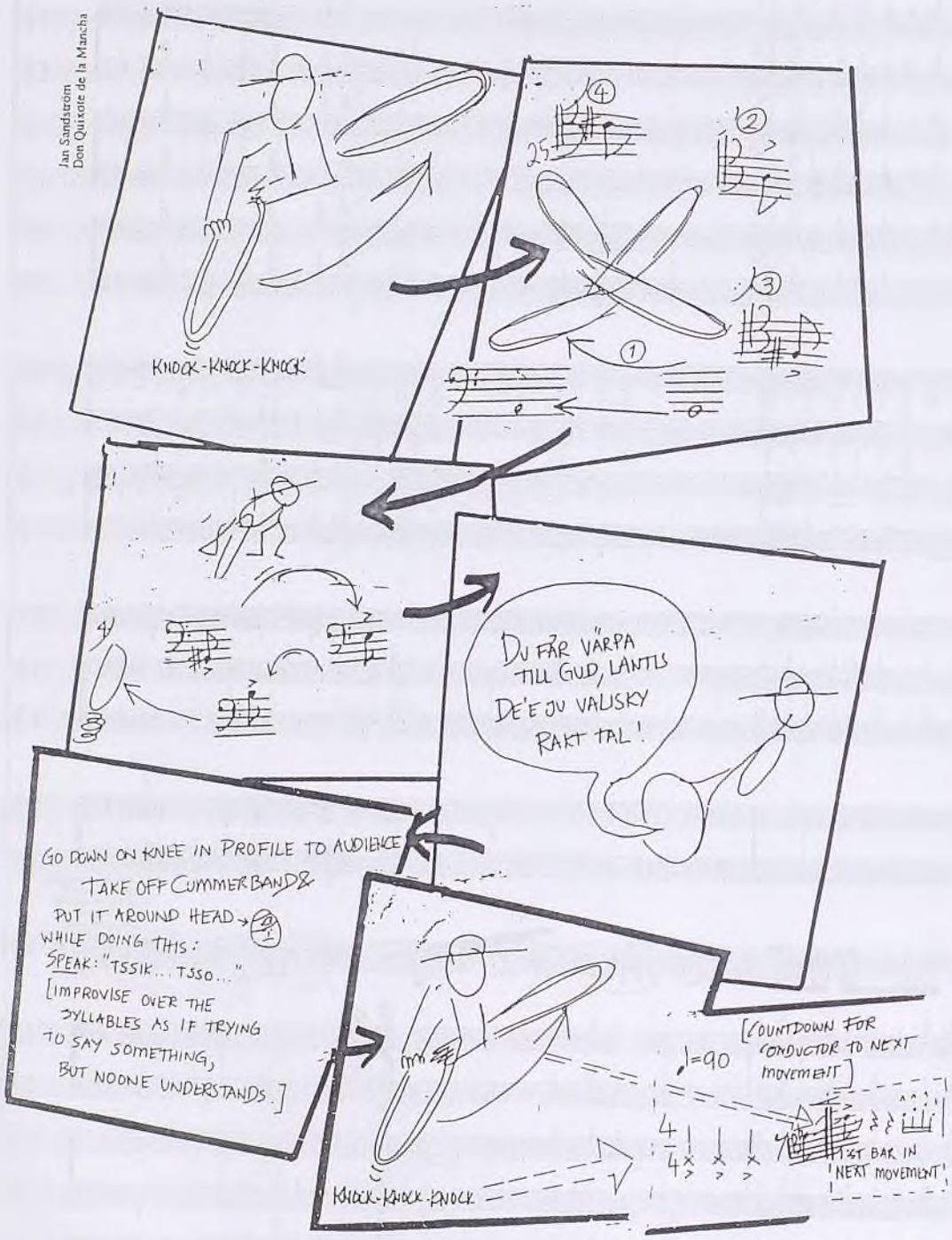
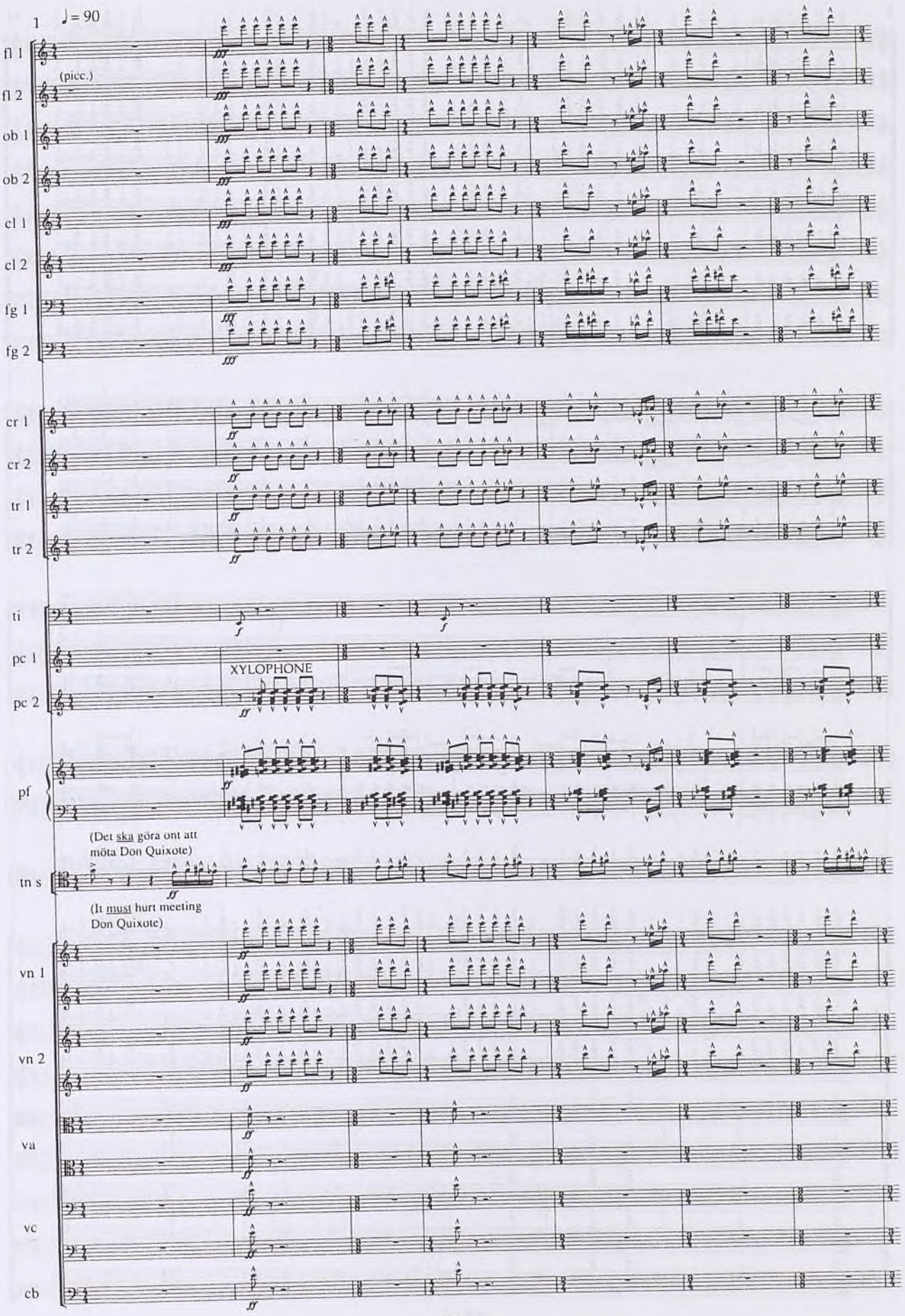
CADENZA #2 (FRAGMENTARILY)



Ayuntamiento de Madrid

5. "To smile despite unbearable pain"

(The captivity, the bewitchment and the fight against the goat shepherd)



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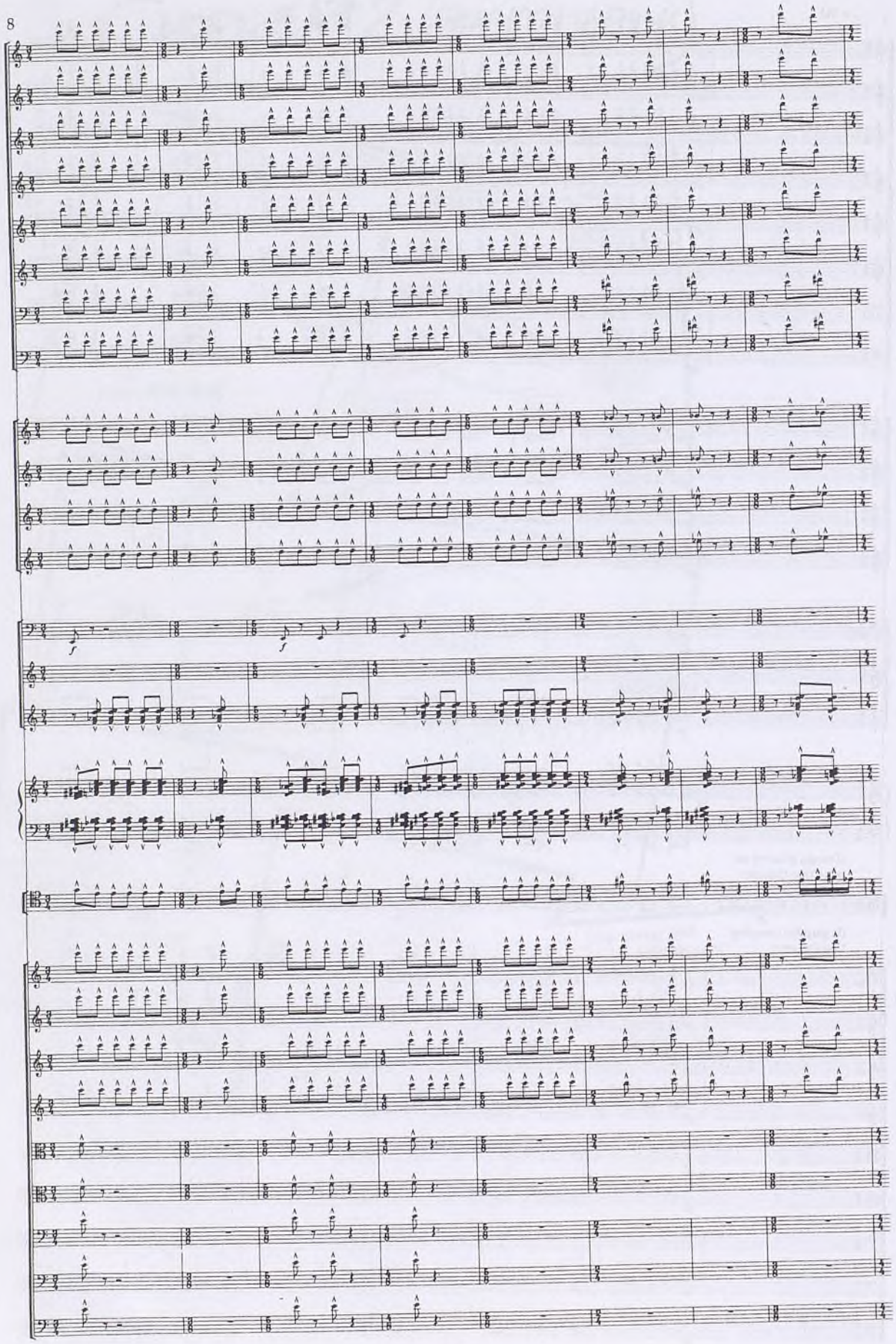

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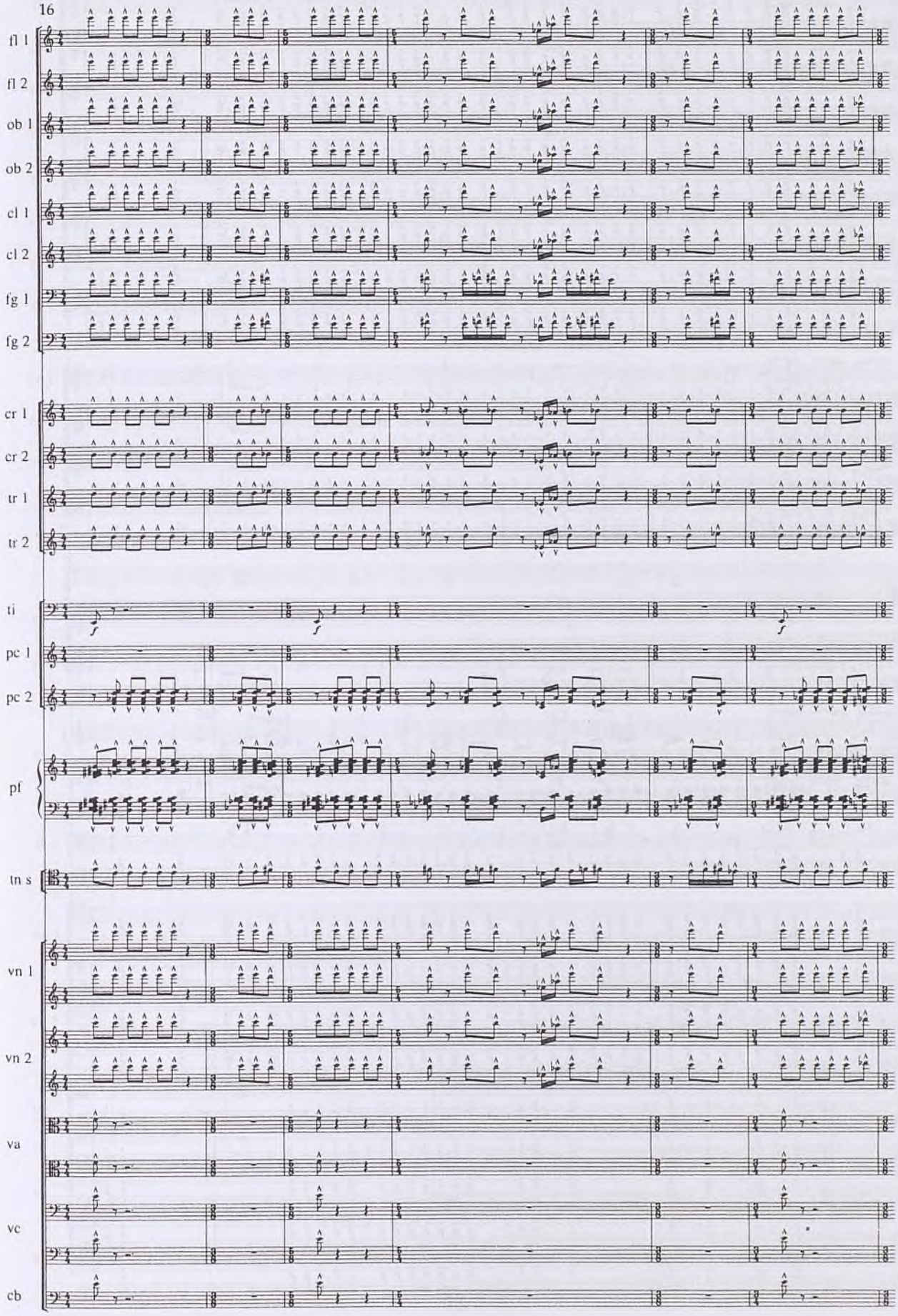

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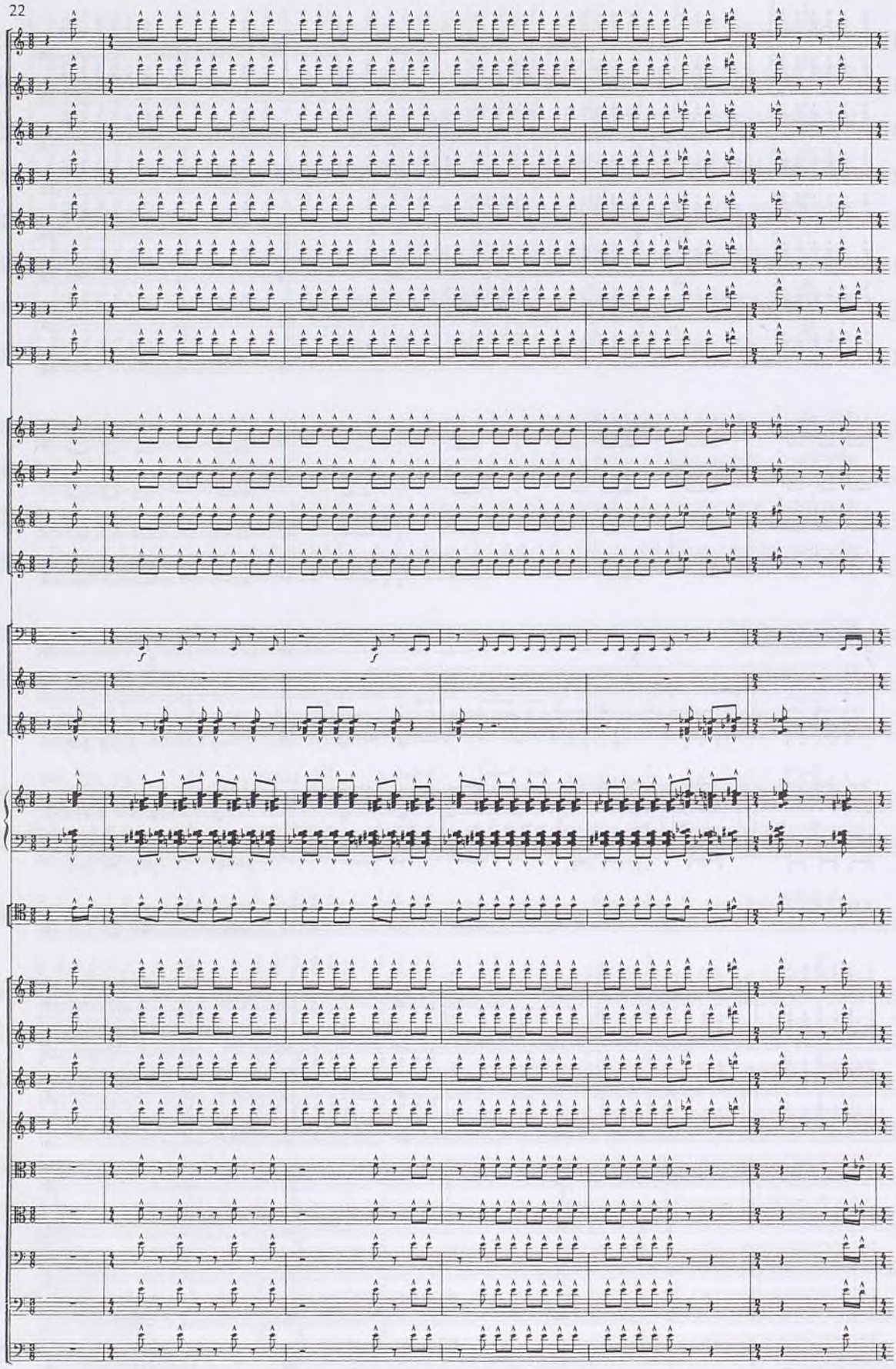

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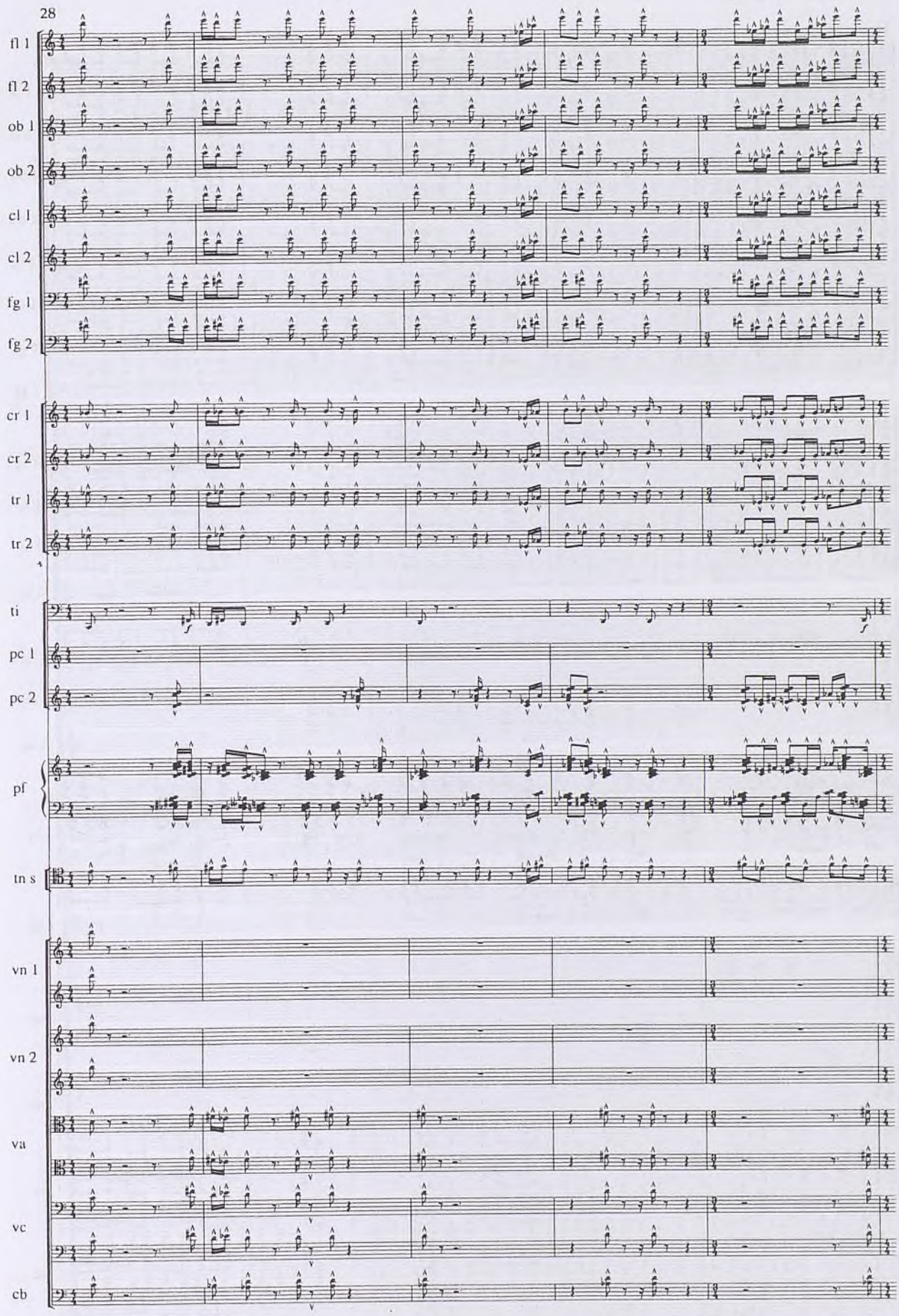

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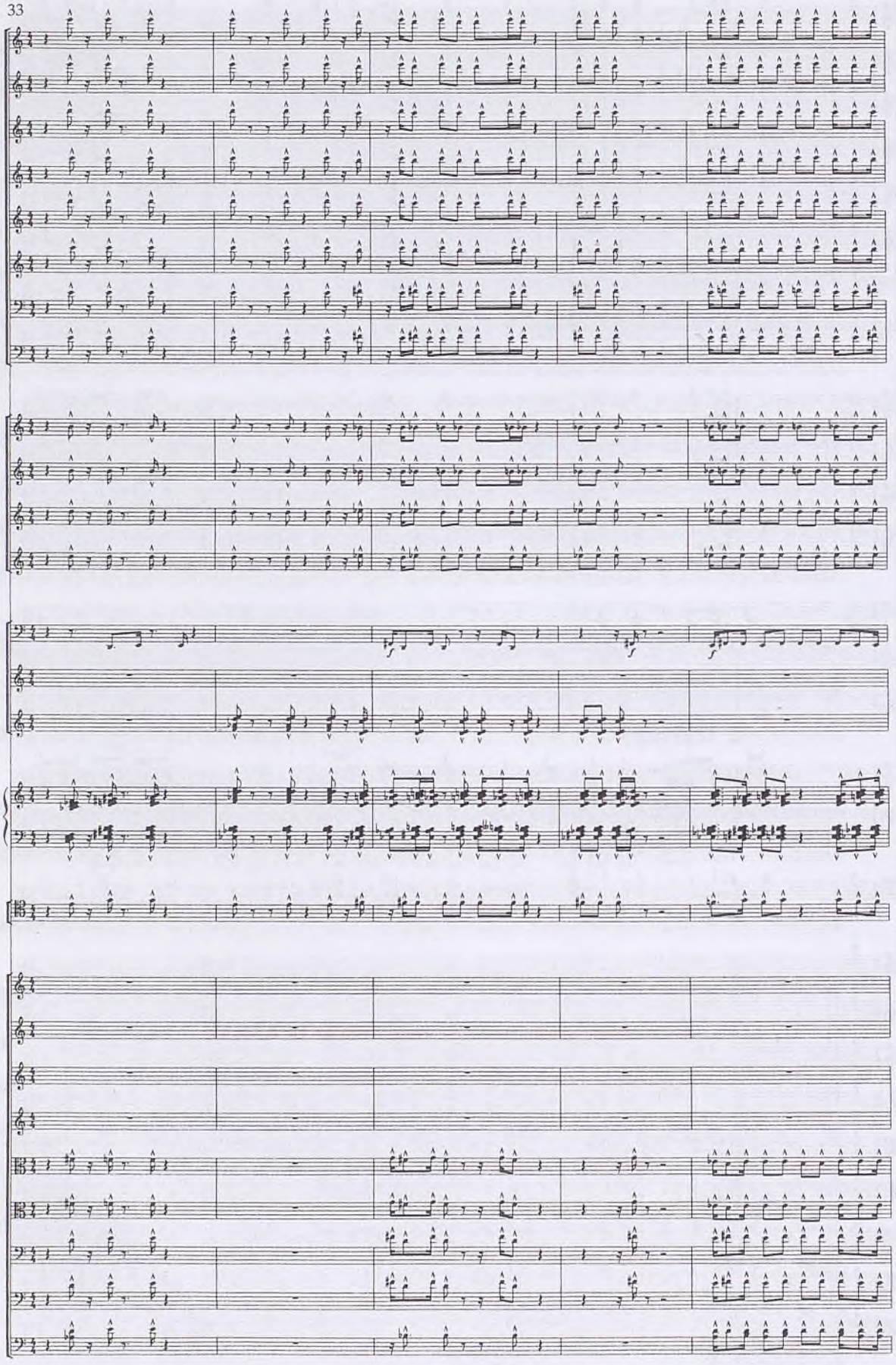

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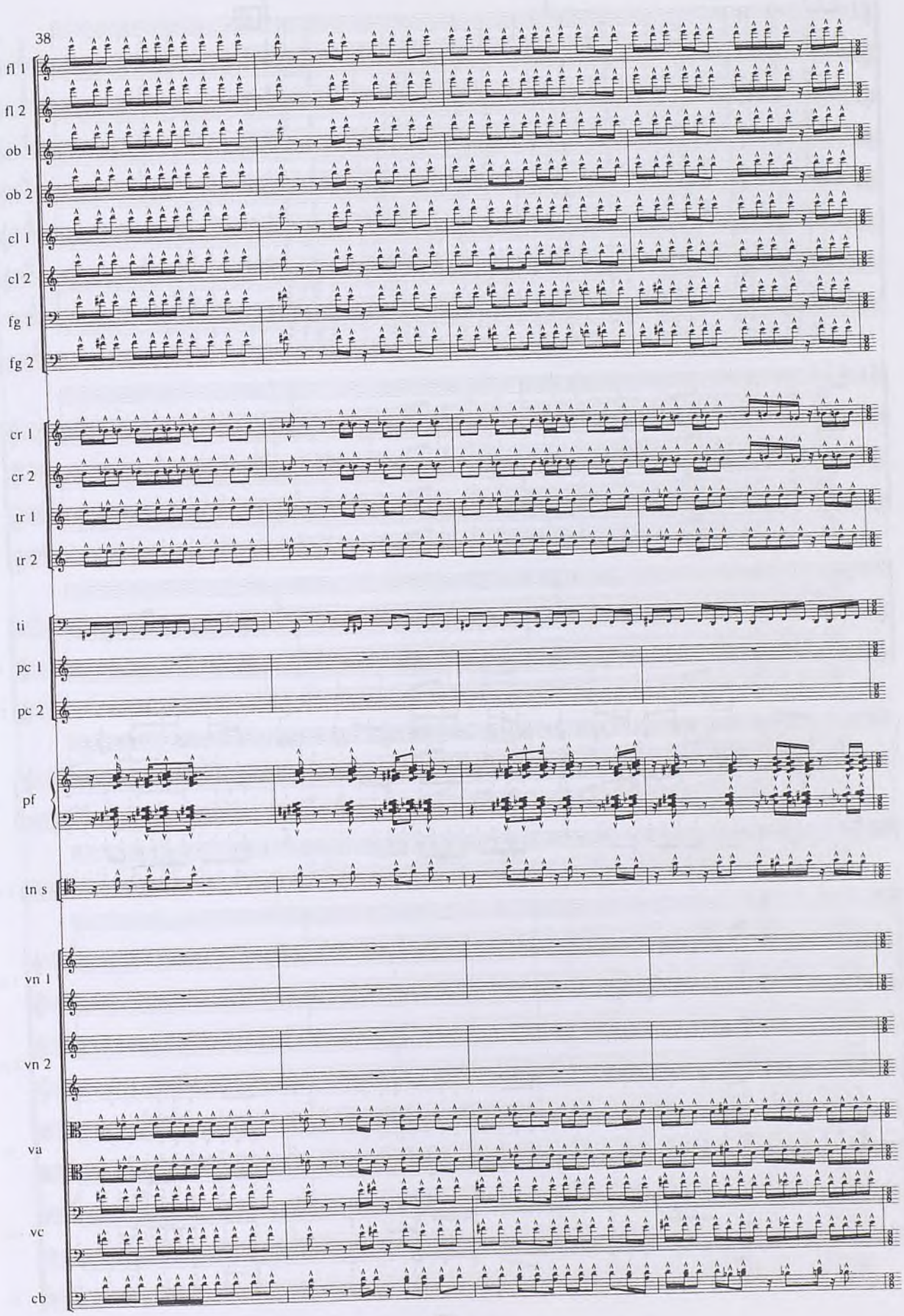

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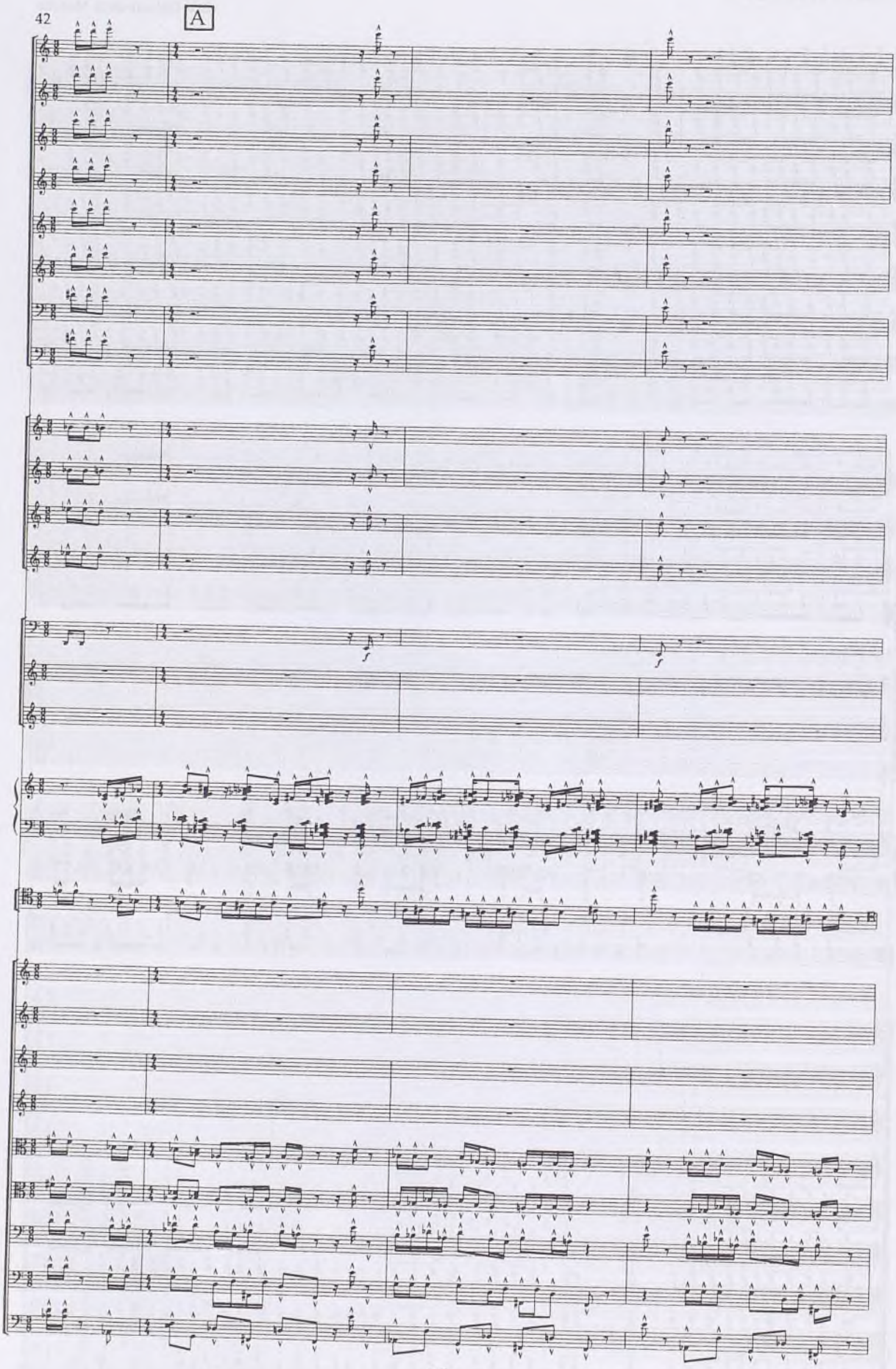

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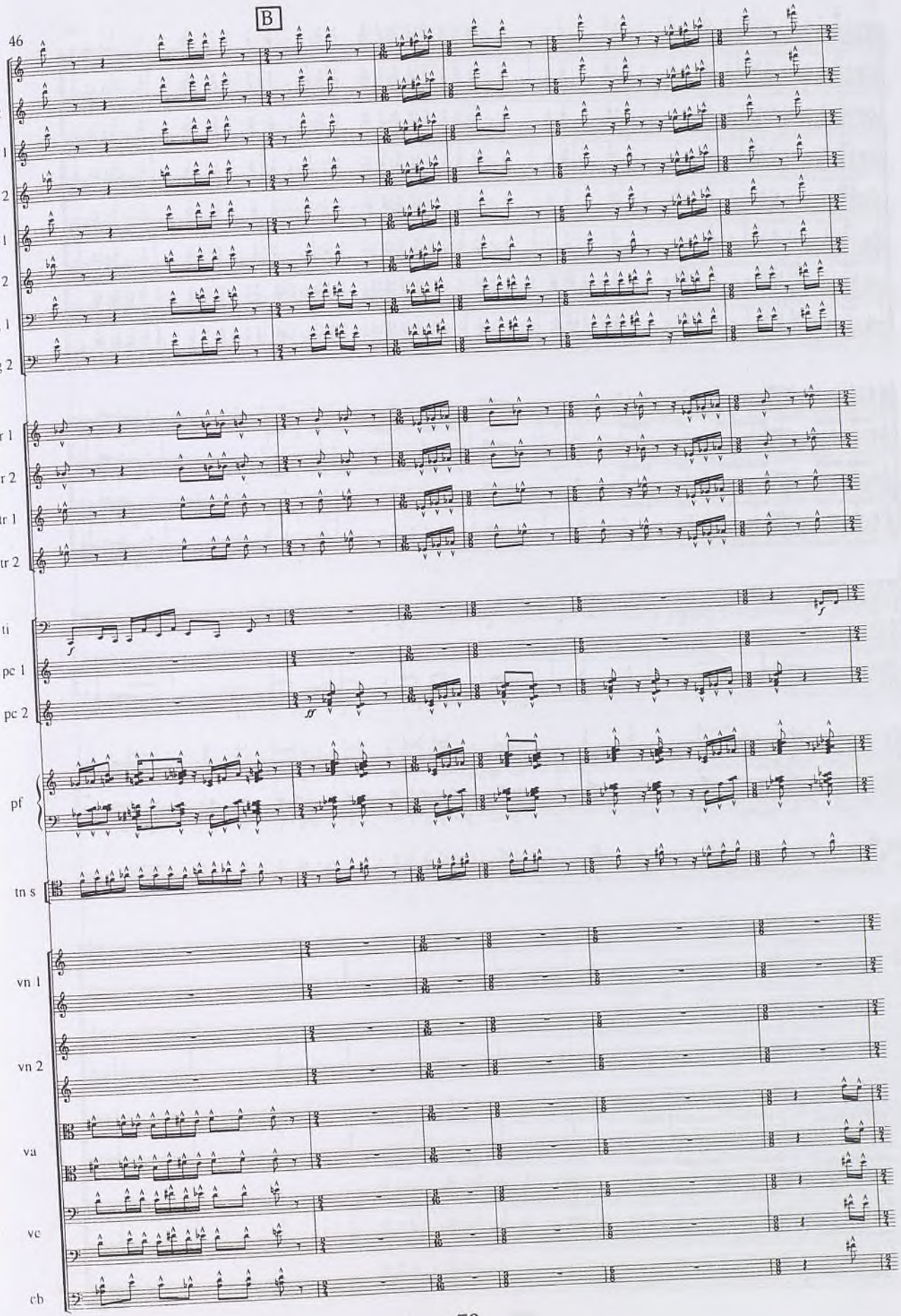

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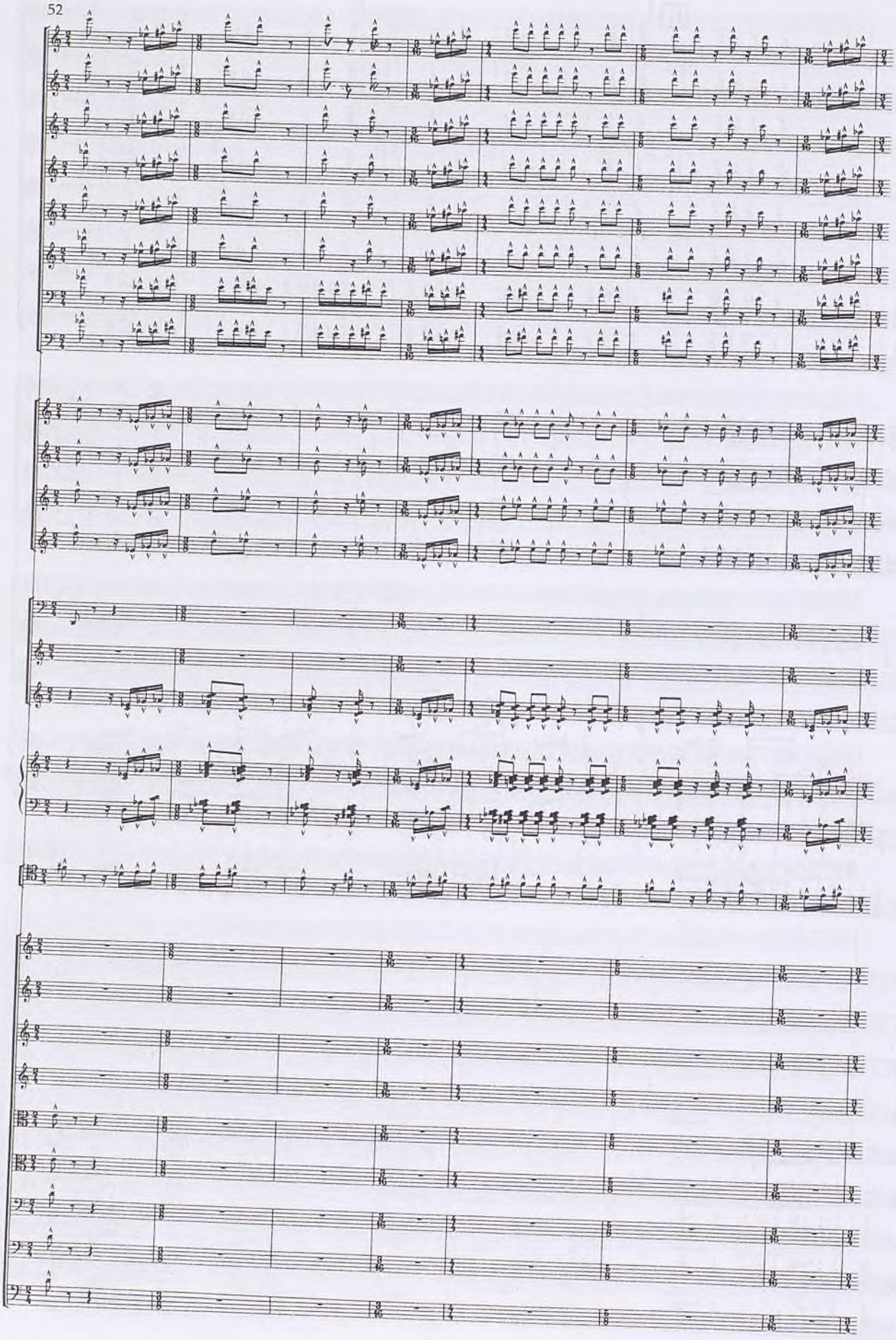

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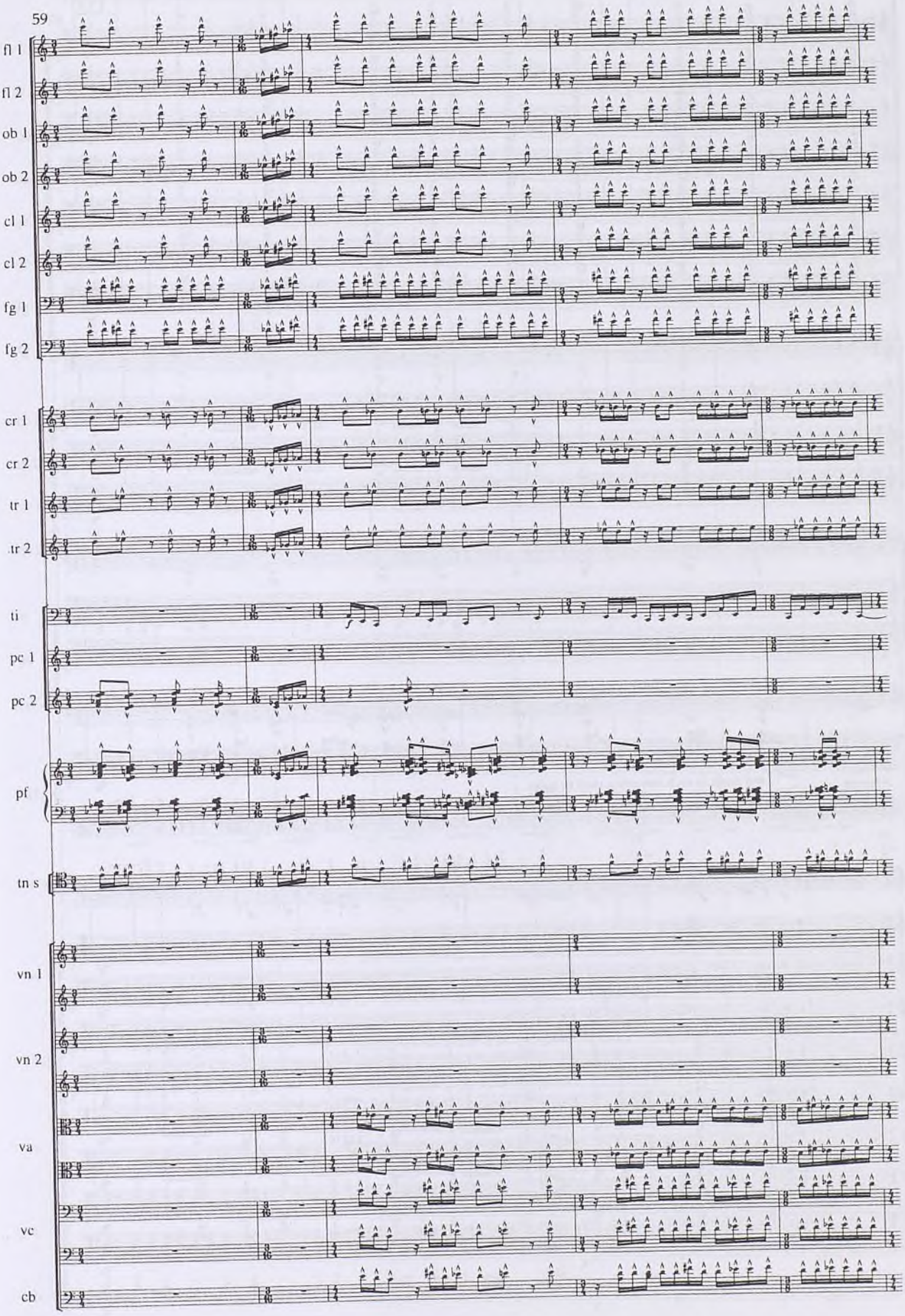

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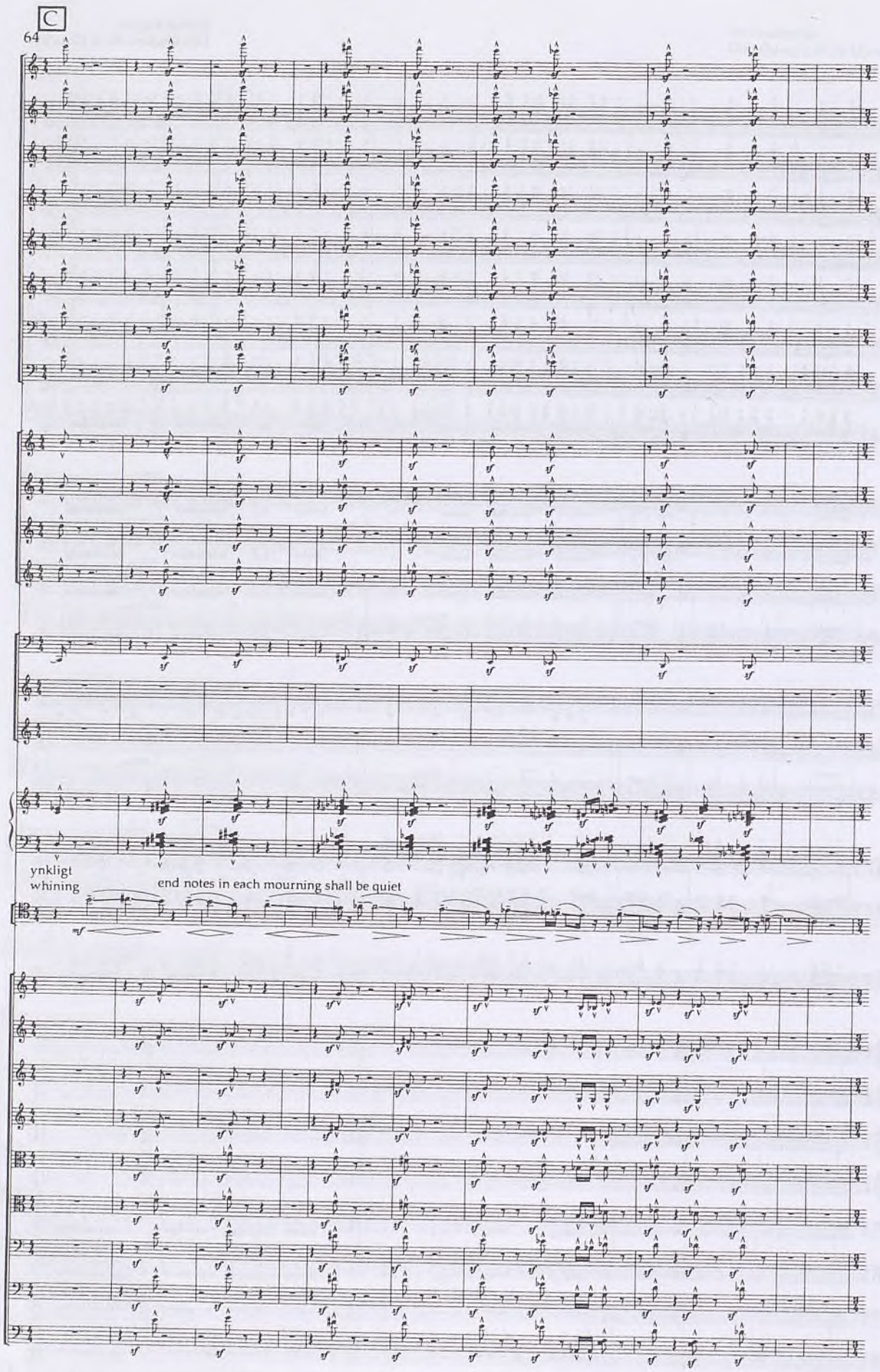

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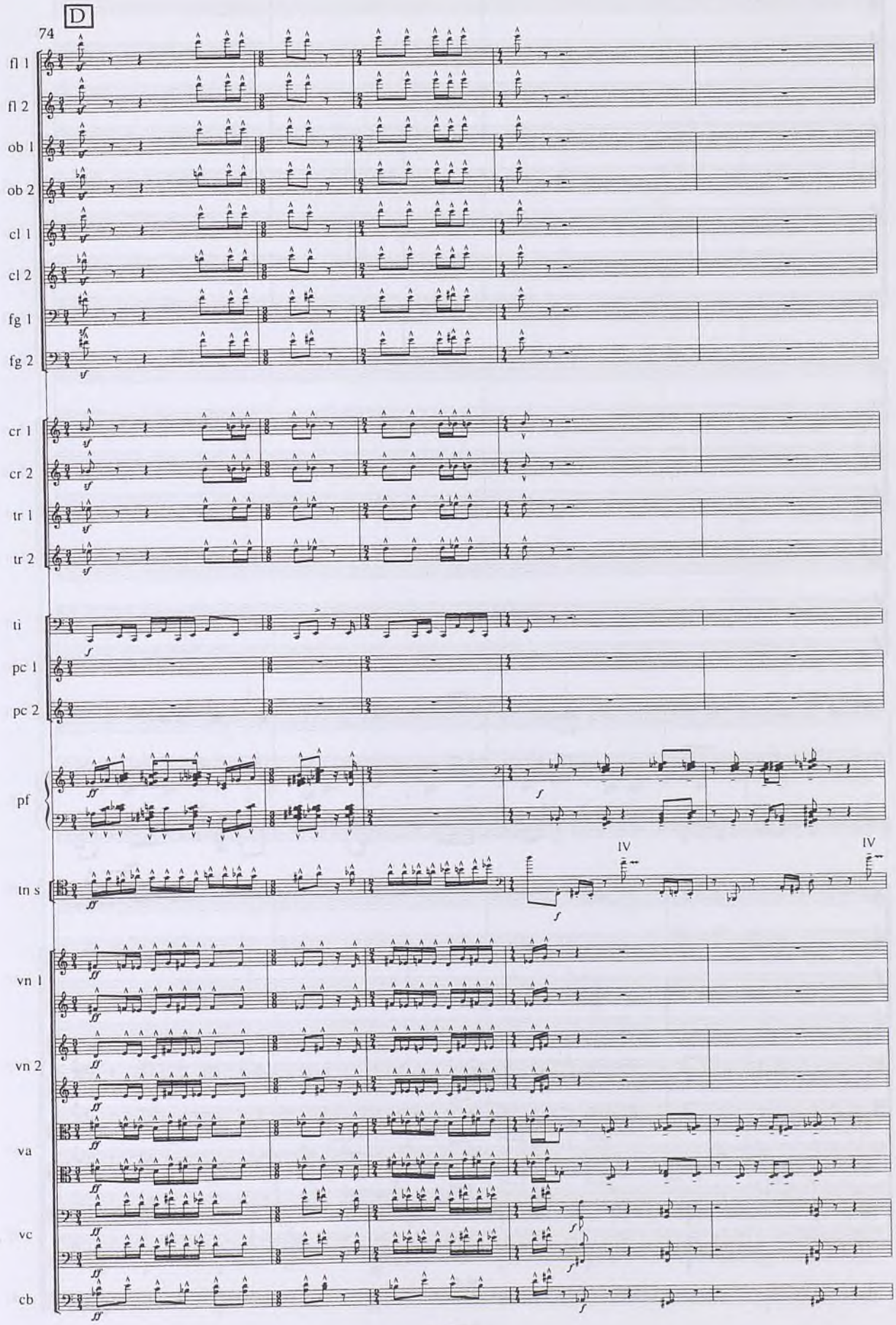

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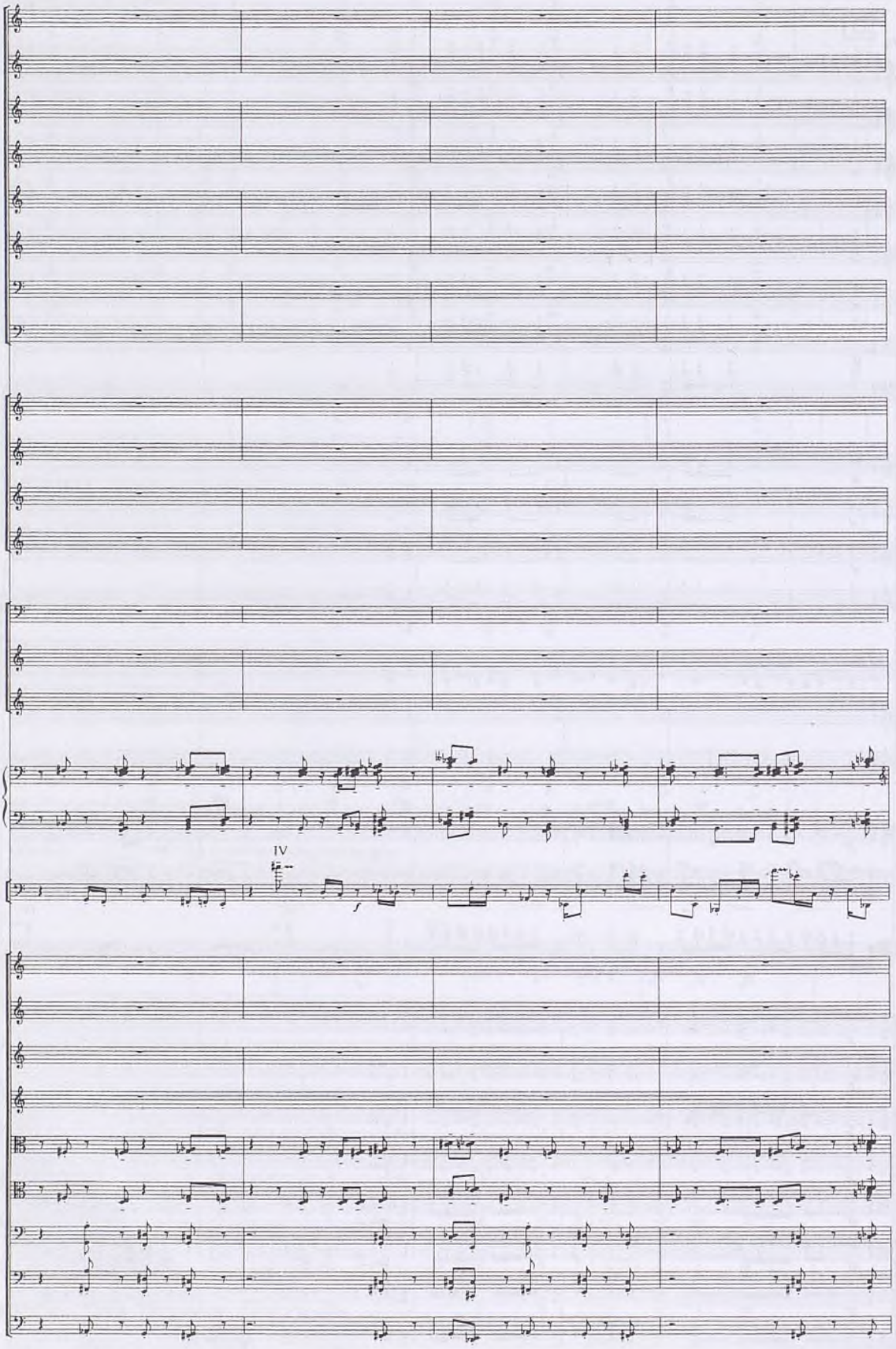

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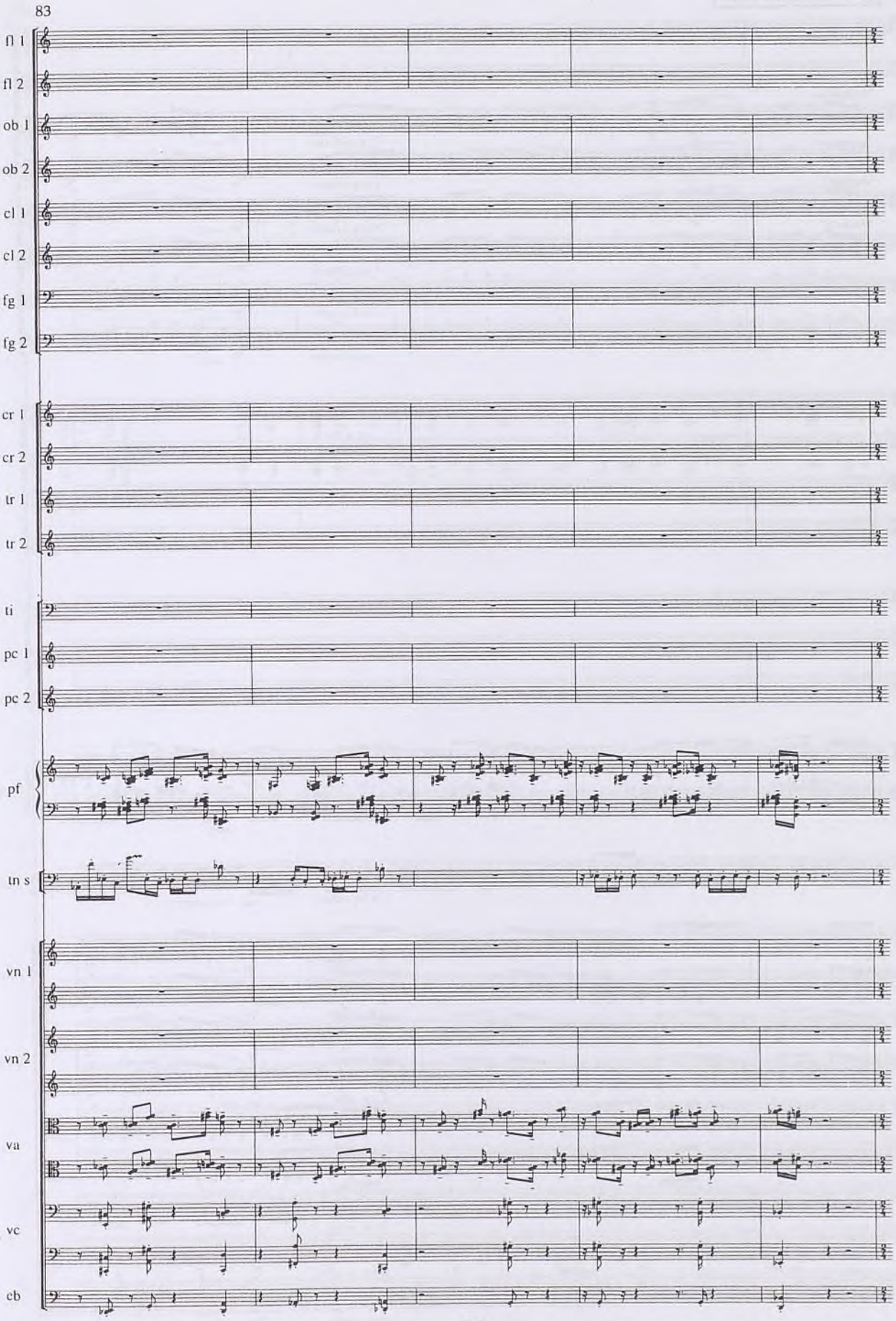

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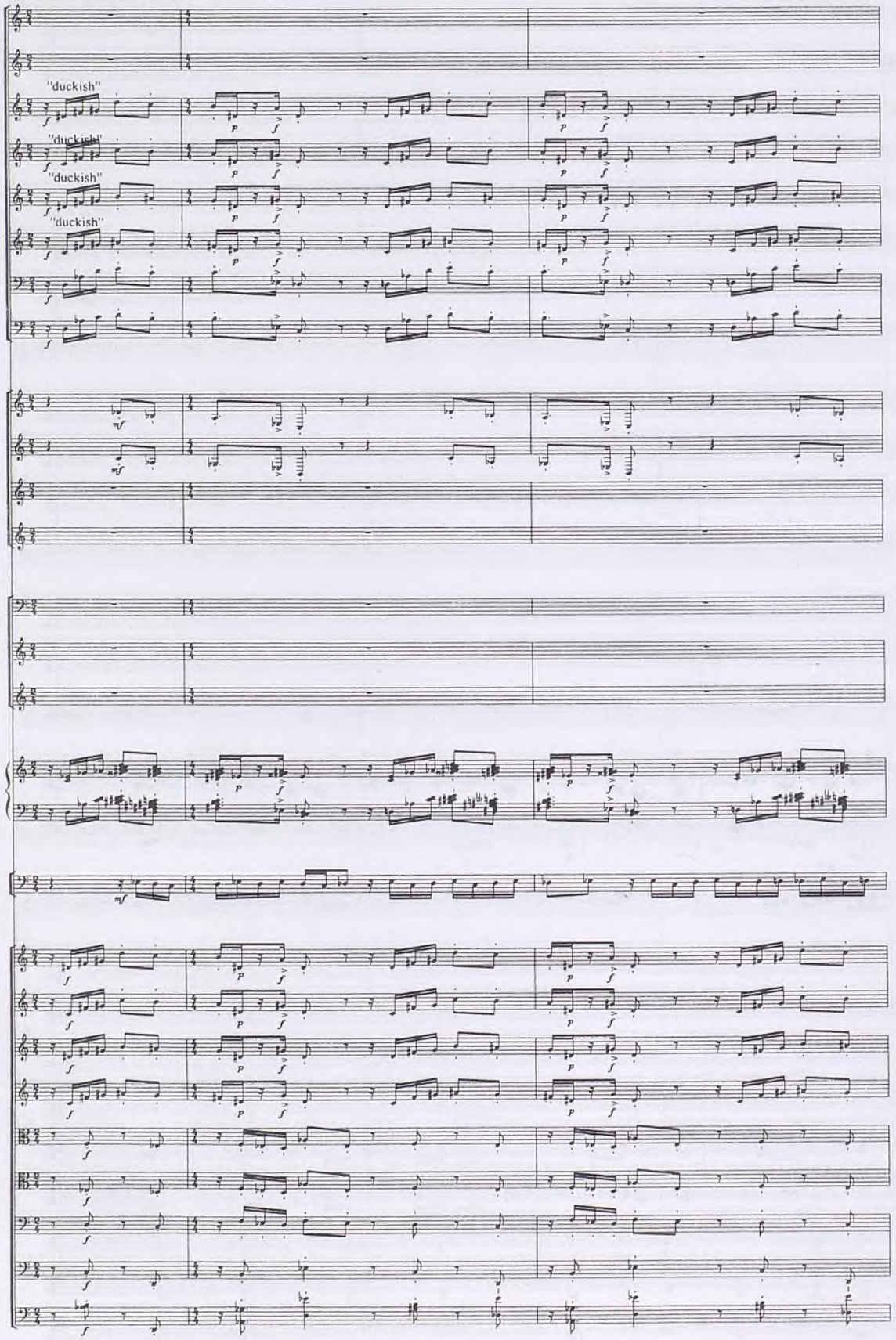
88 E Windmill ride



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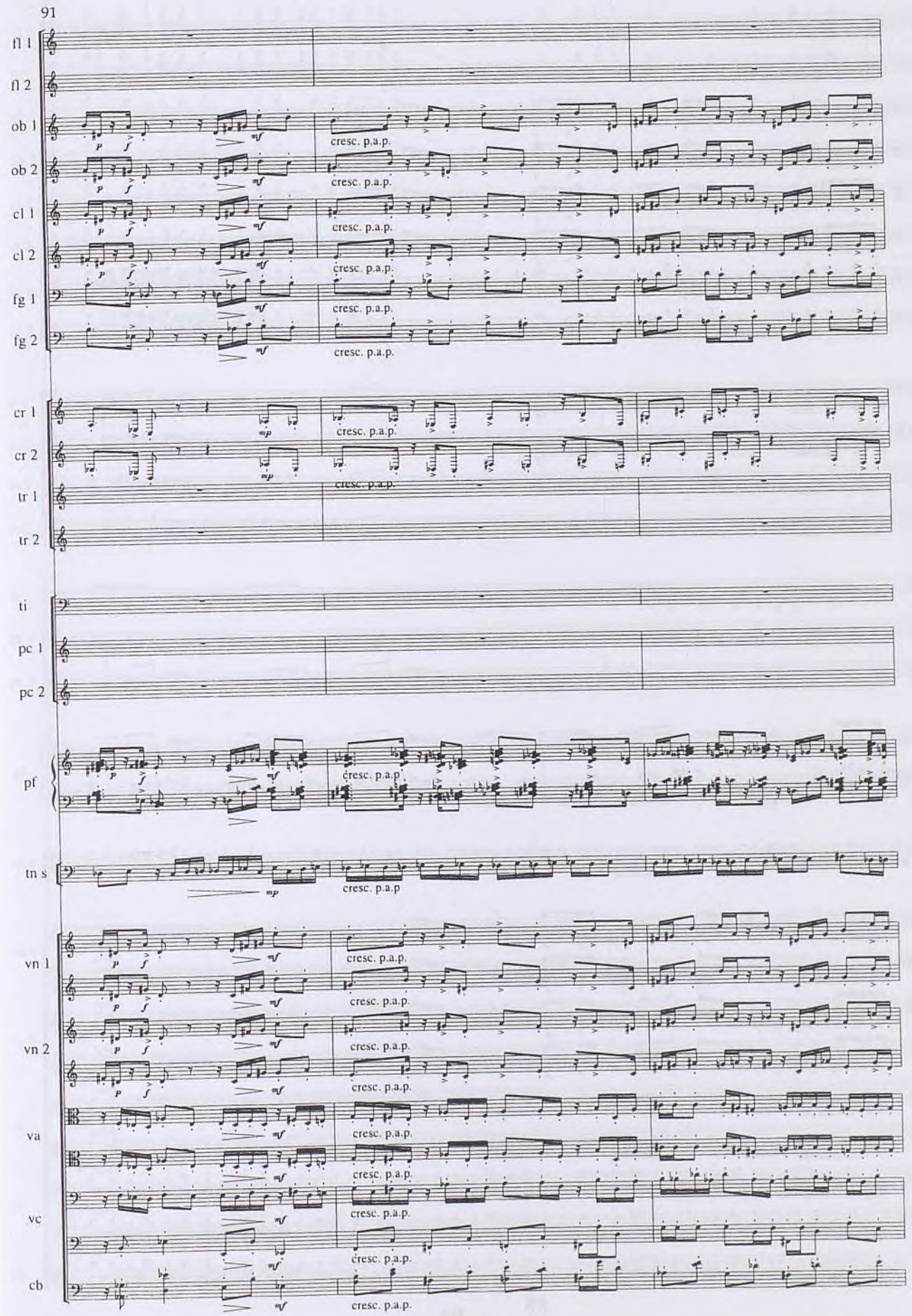

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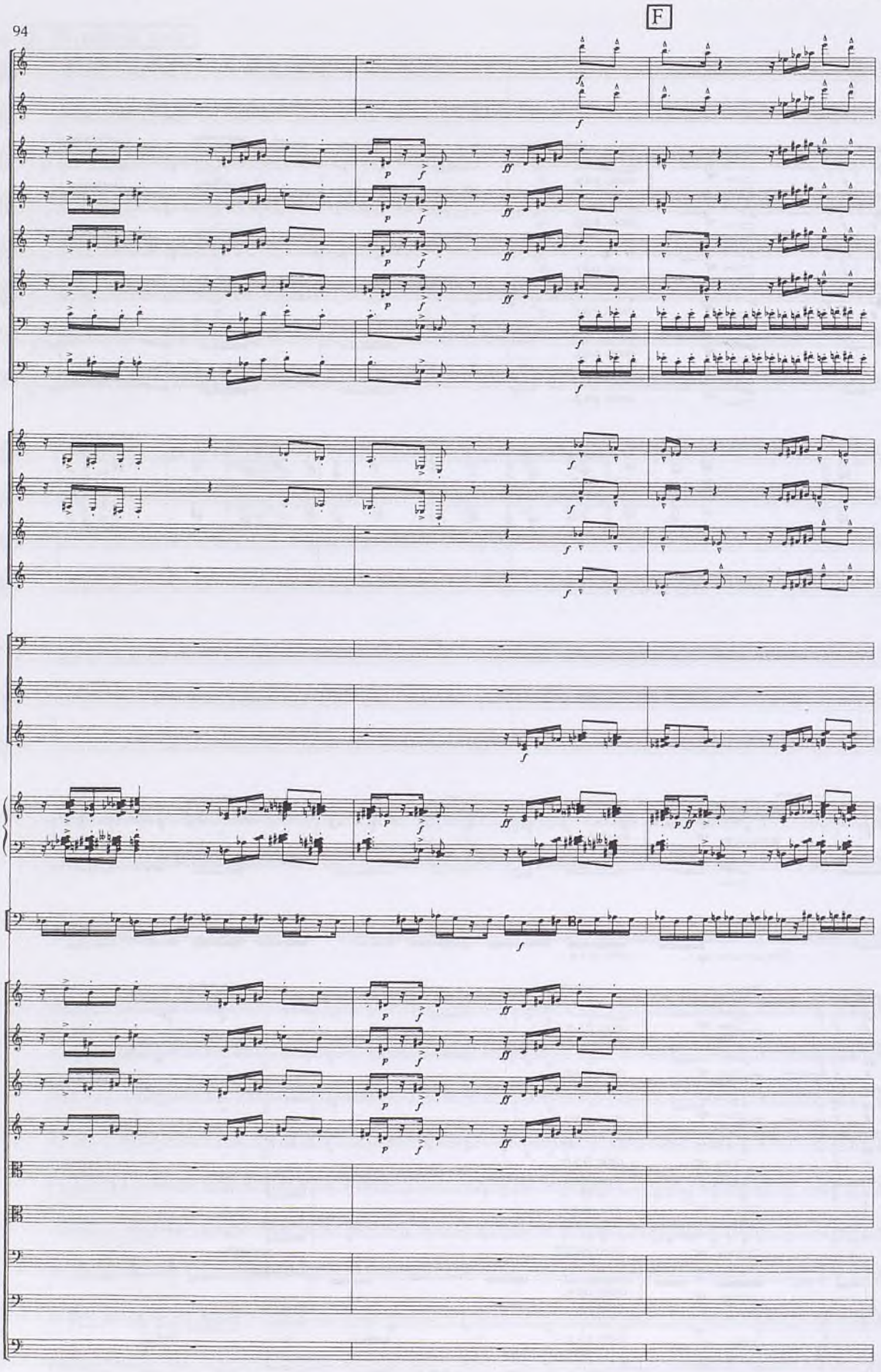

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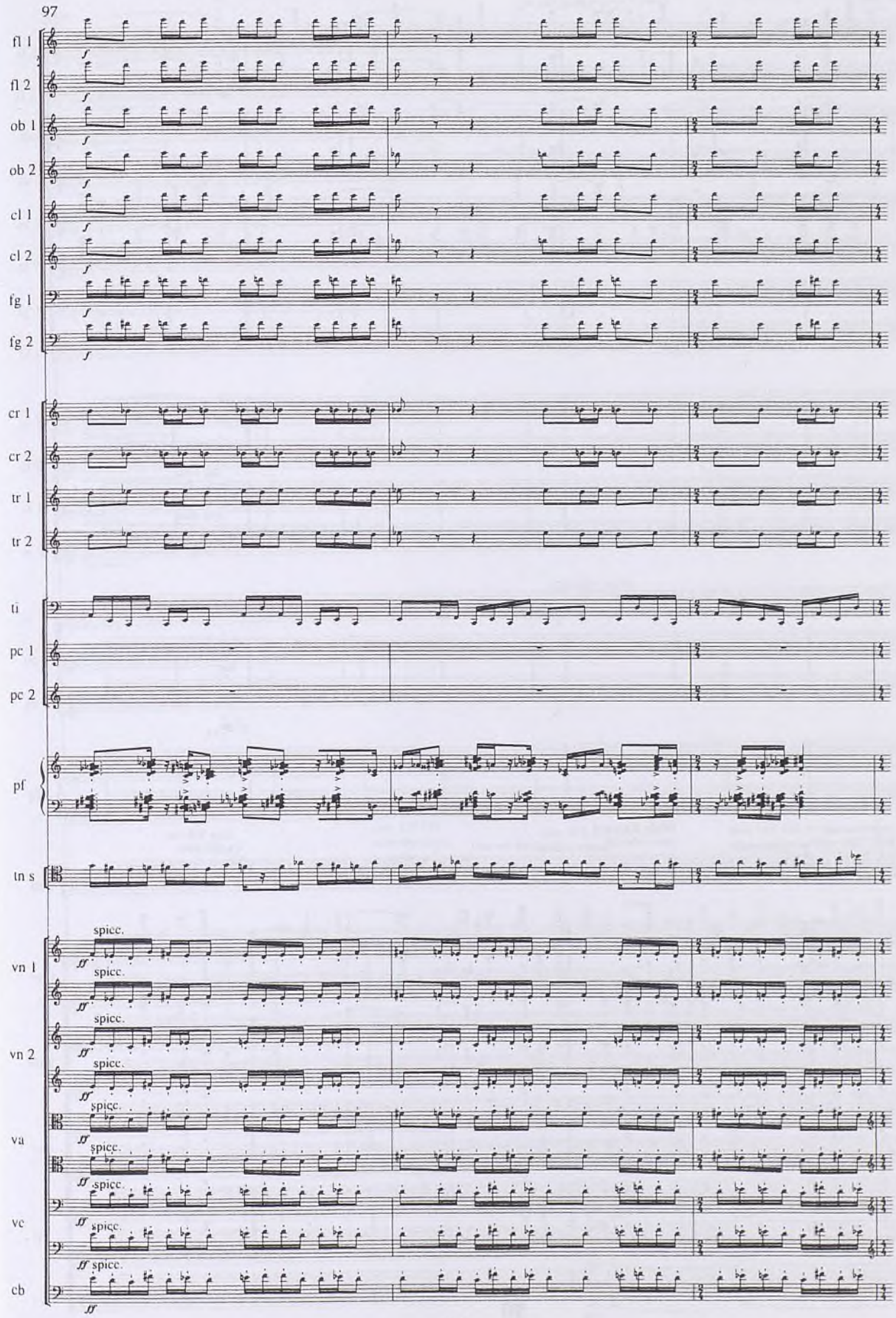

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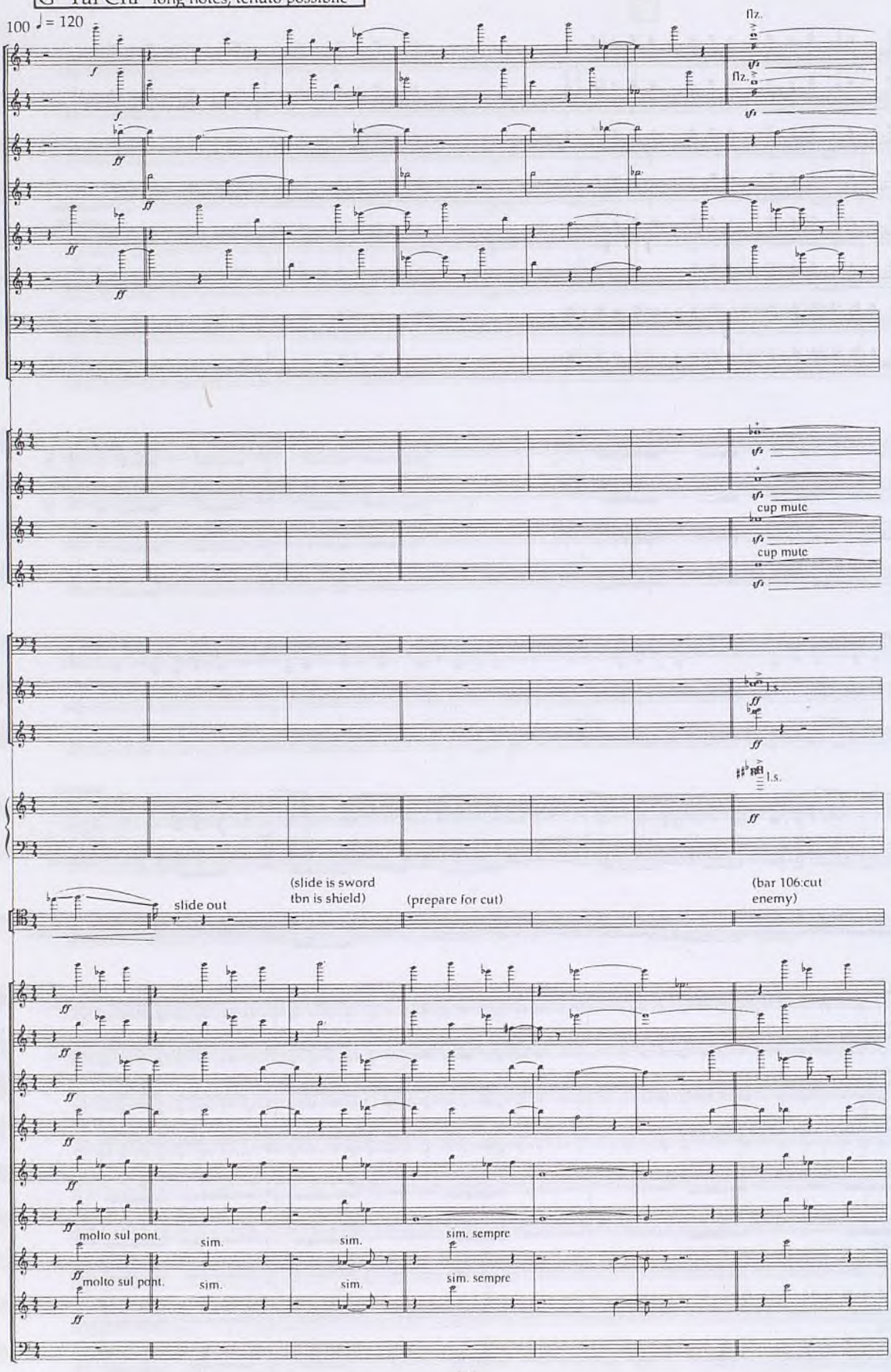

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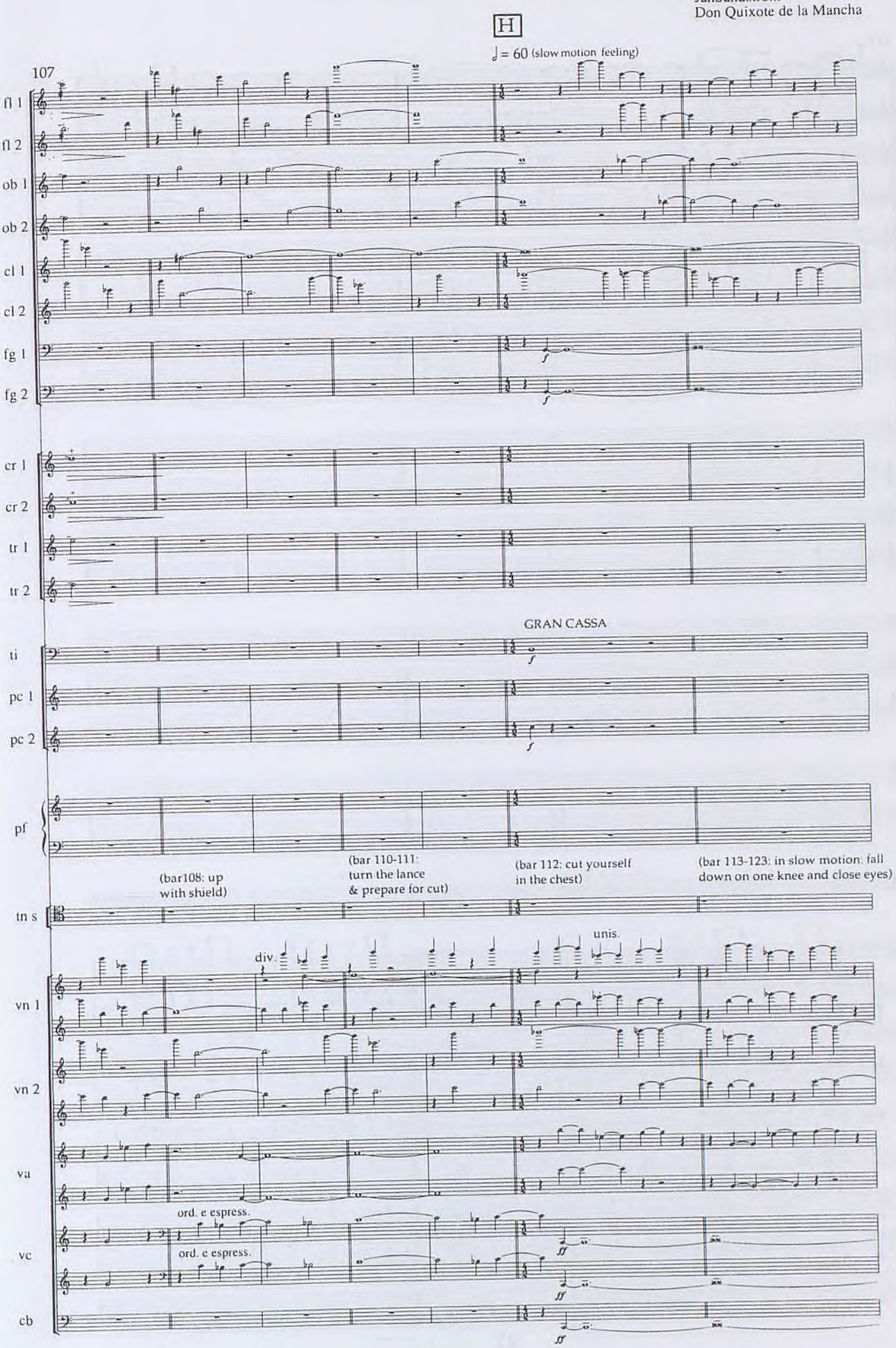

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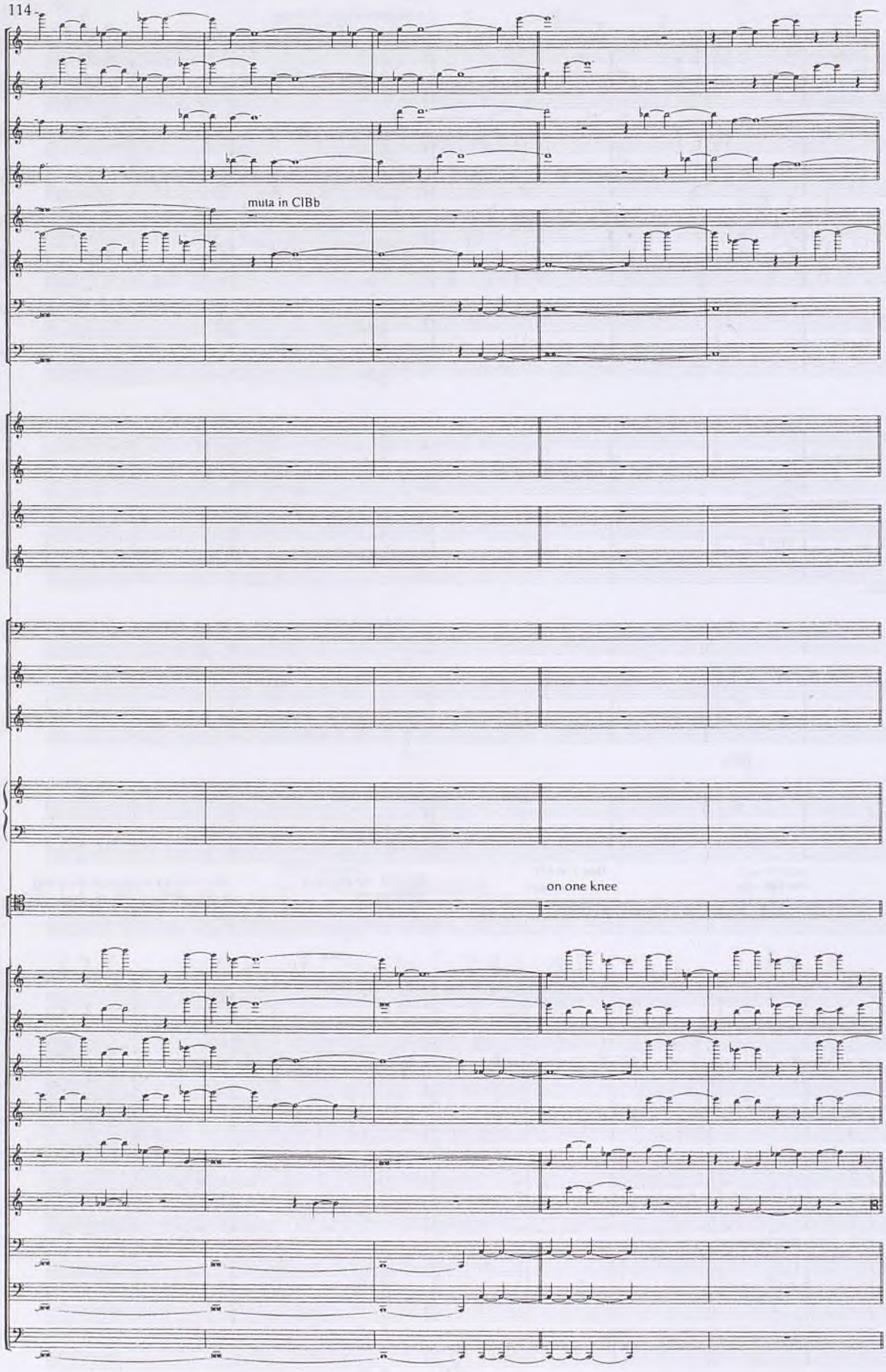

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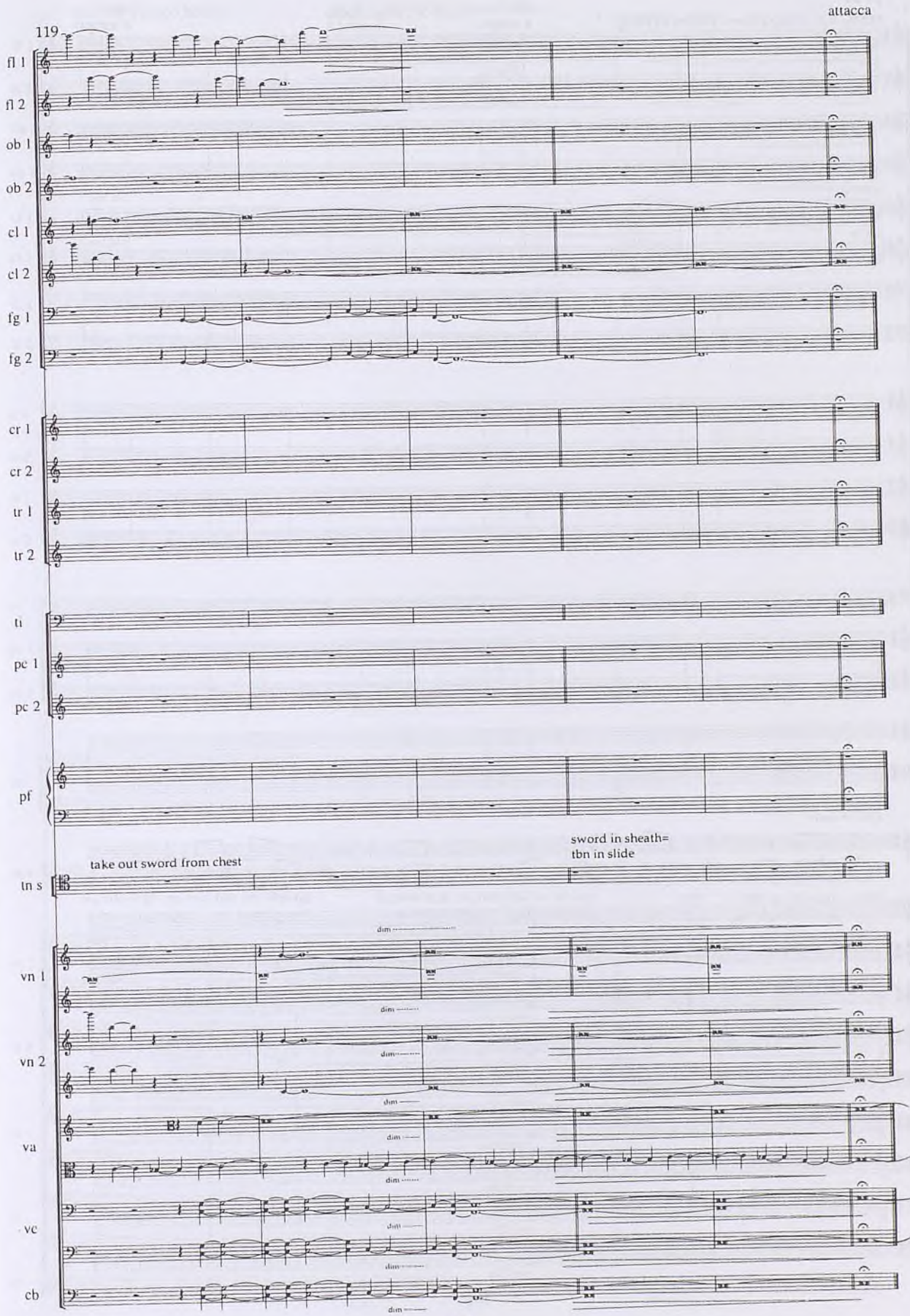
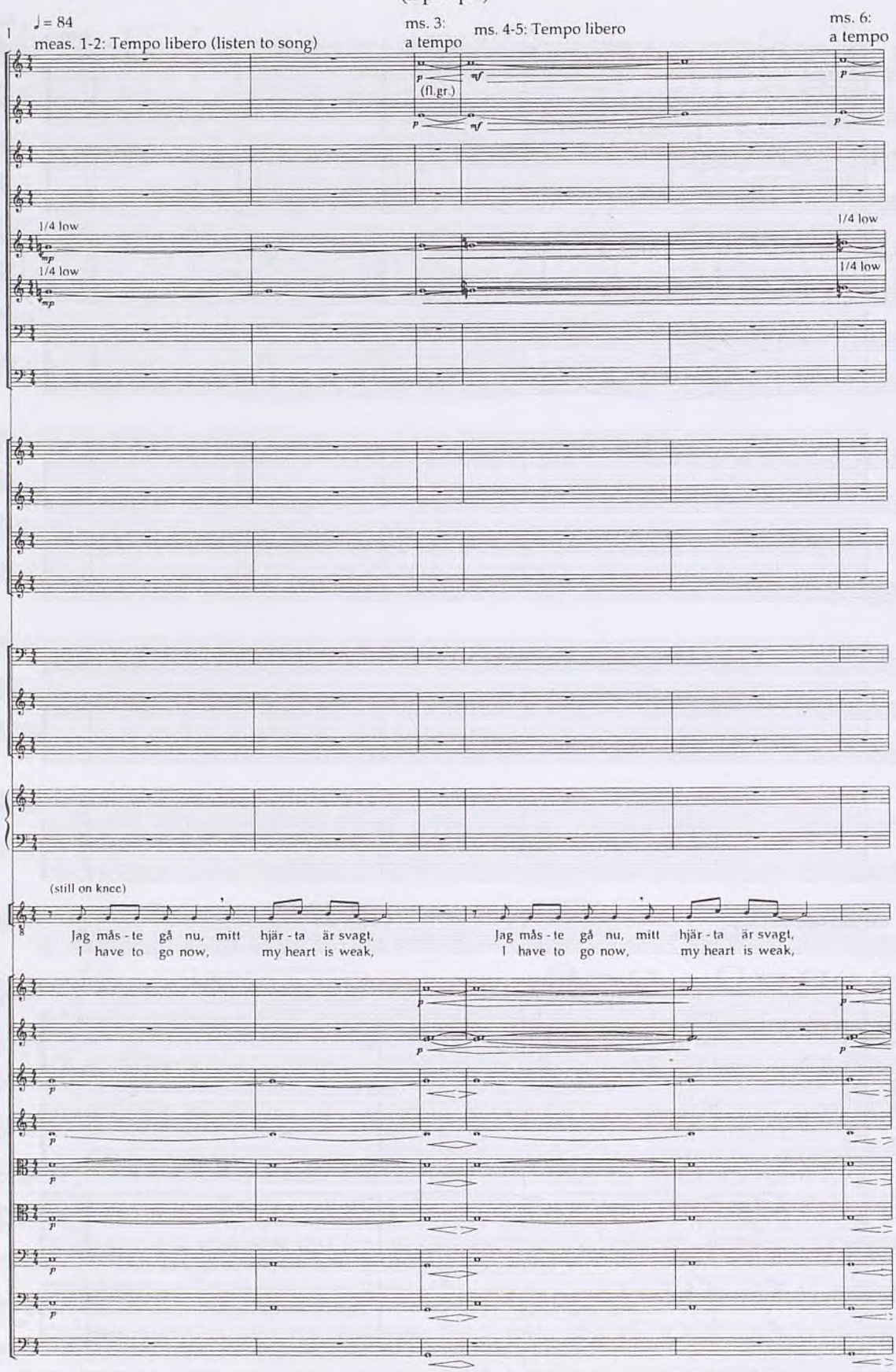


Ayuntamiento de Madrid

6: "..and when you succumb, try to reach this star in the sky"

(Epitaph)



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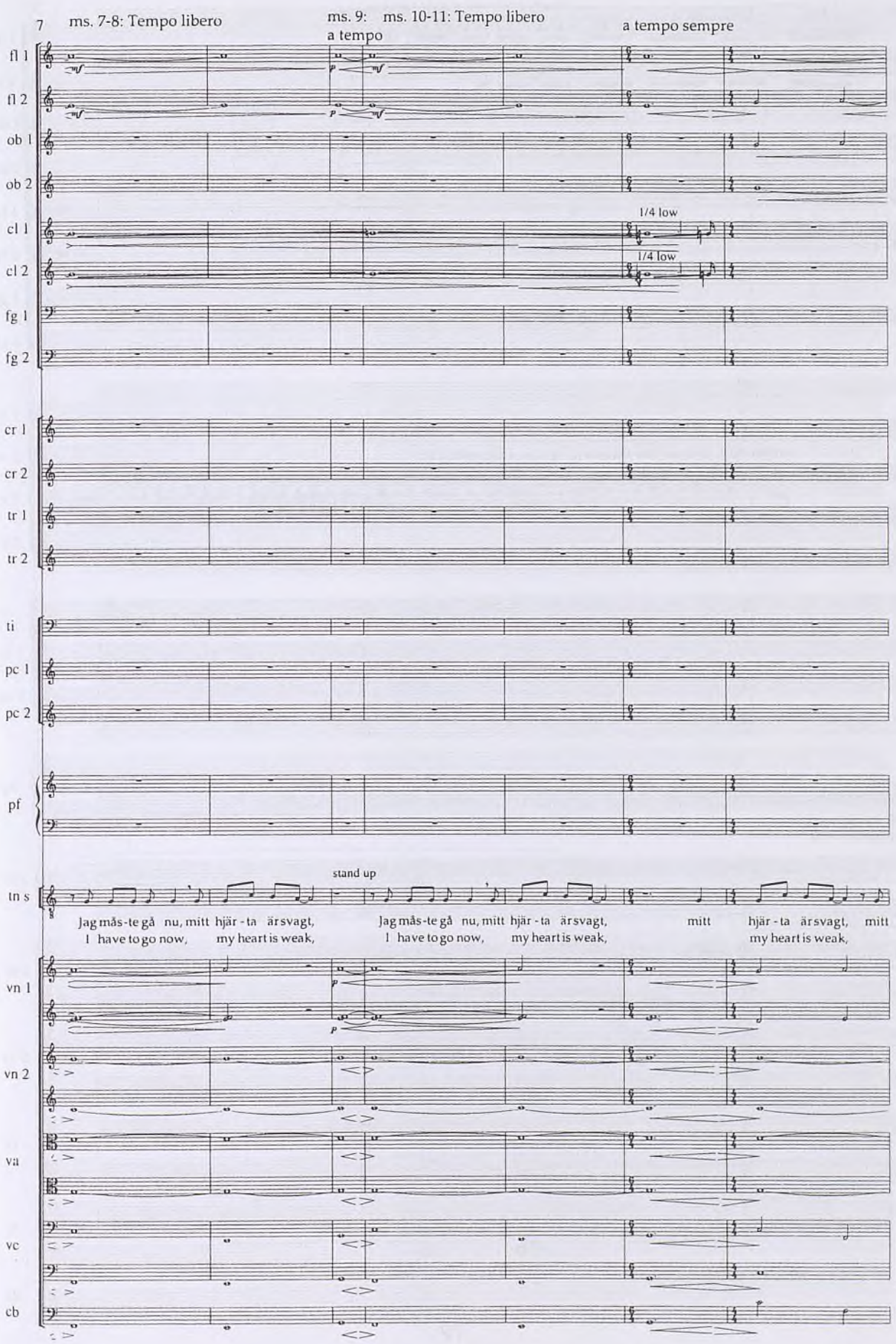

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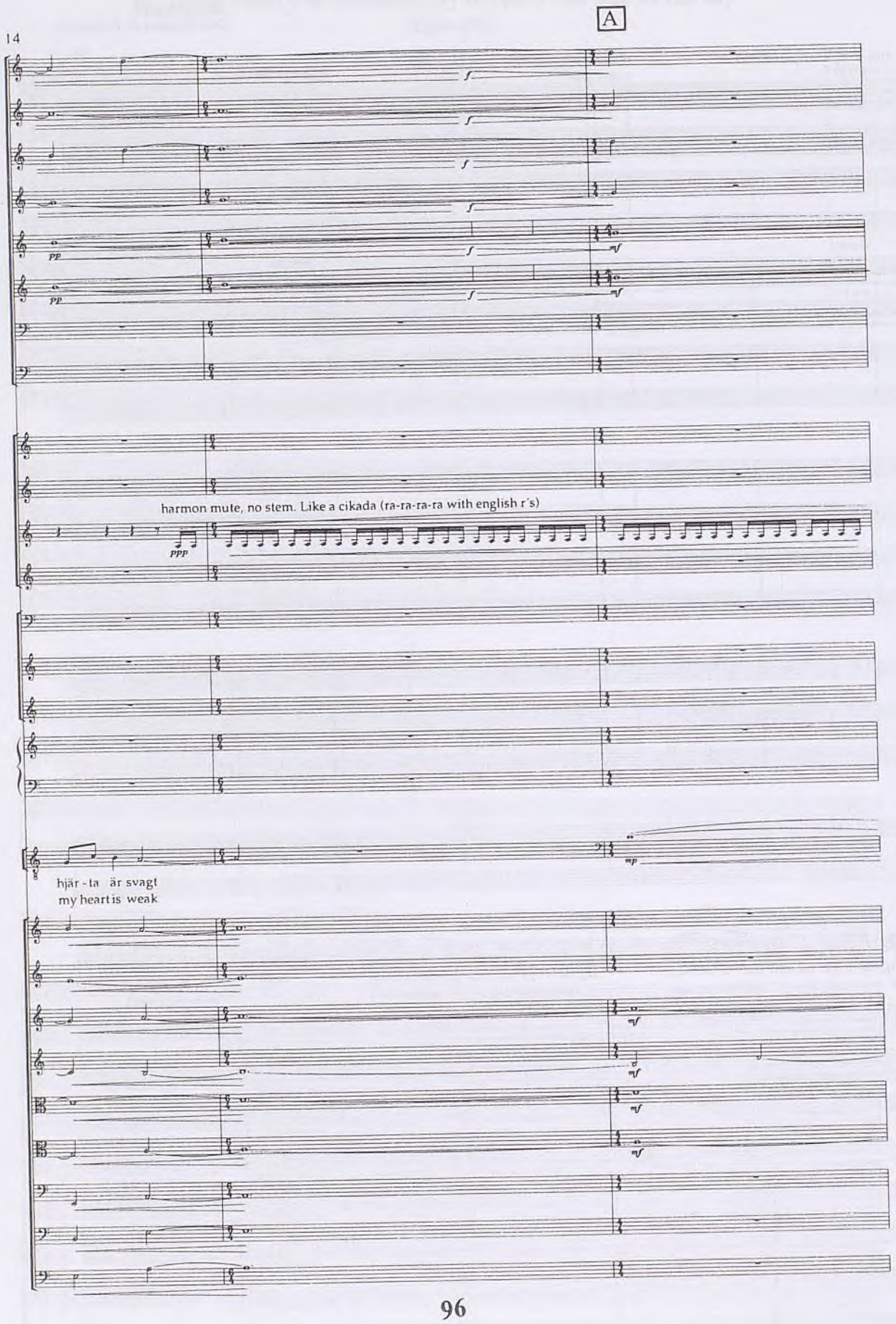
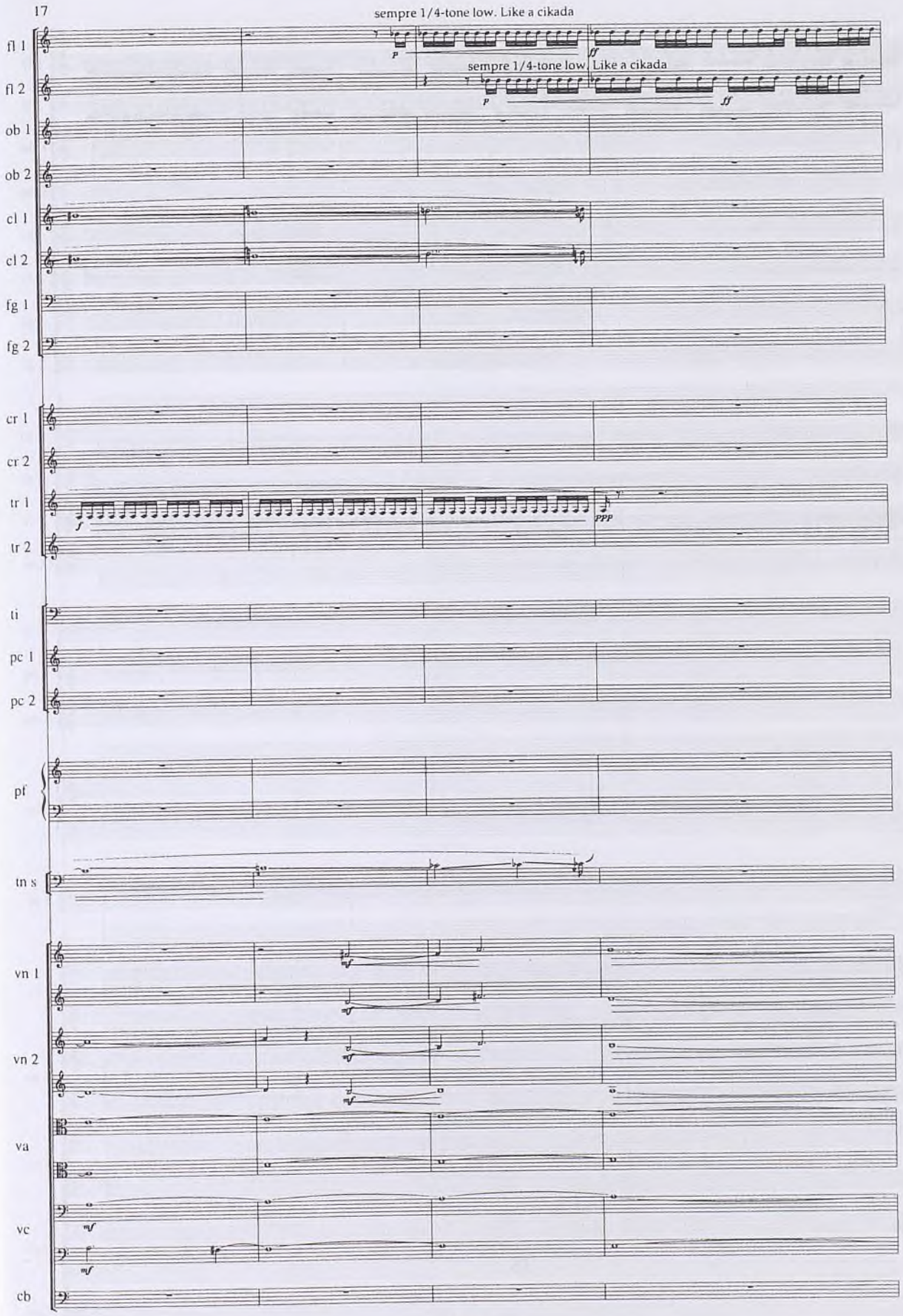


Ayuntamiento de Madrid



Ayuntamiento de Madrid

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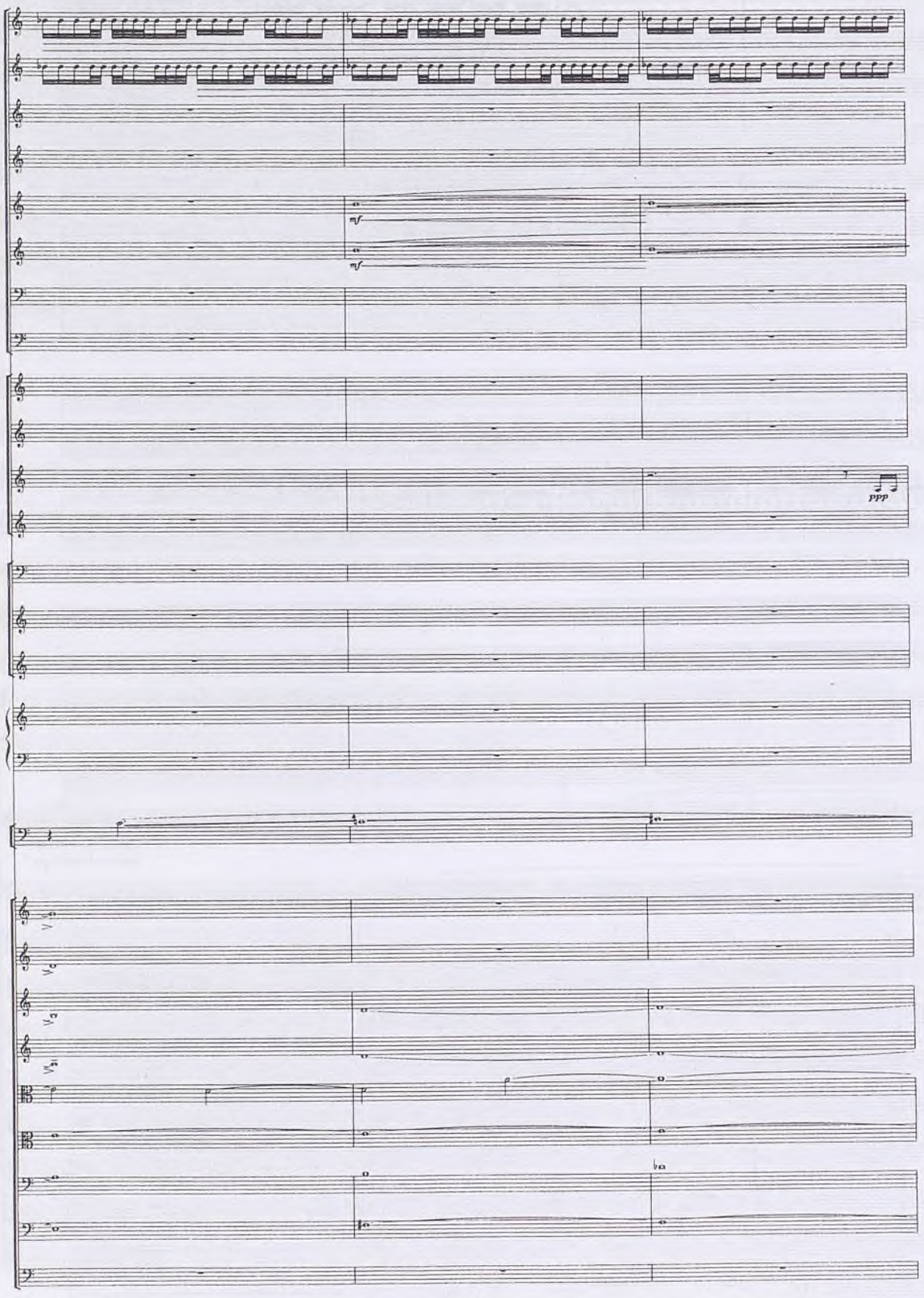

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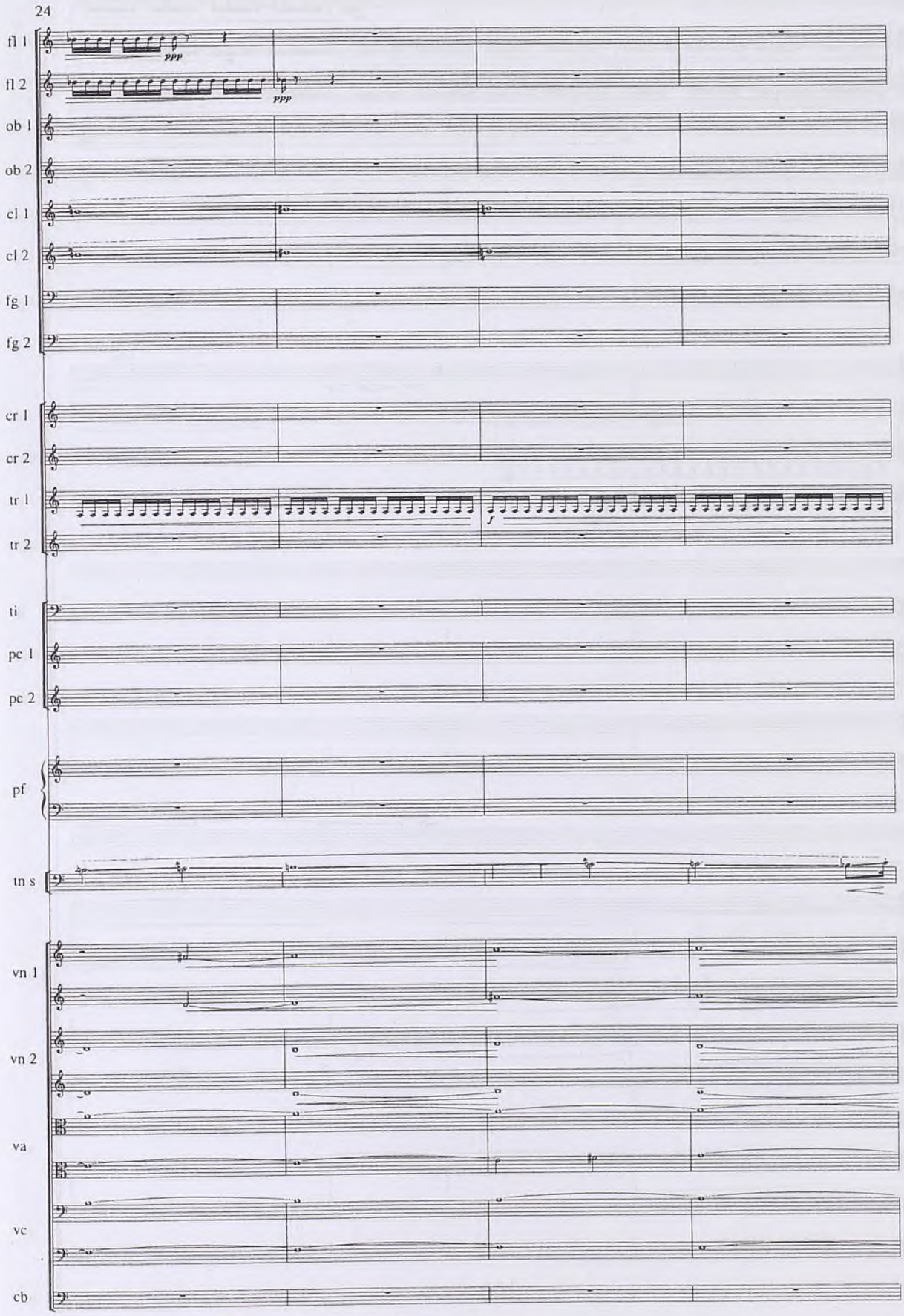

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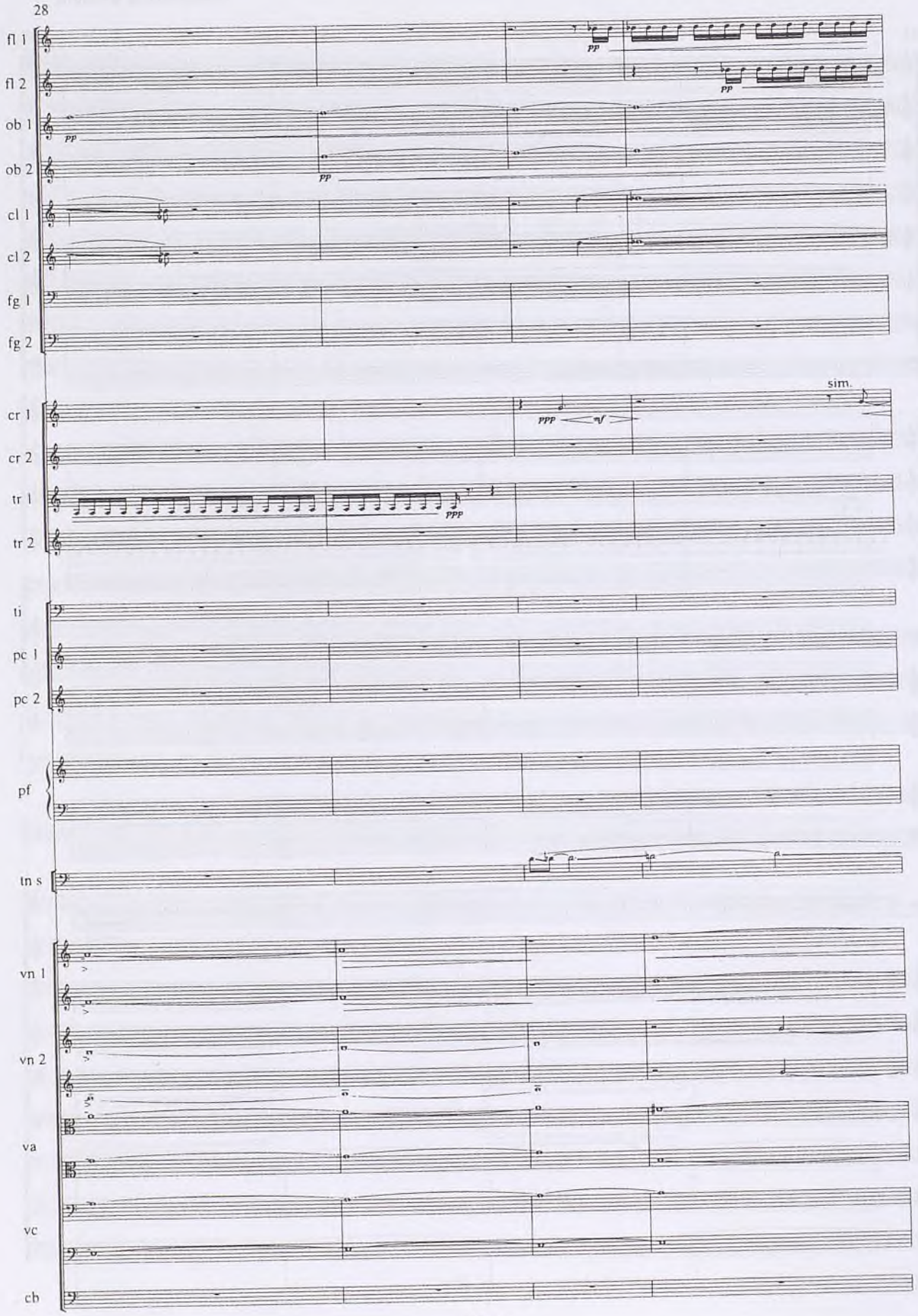

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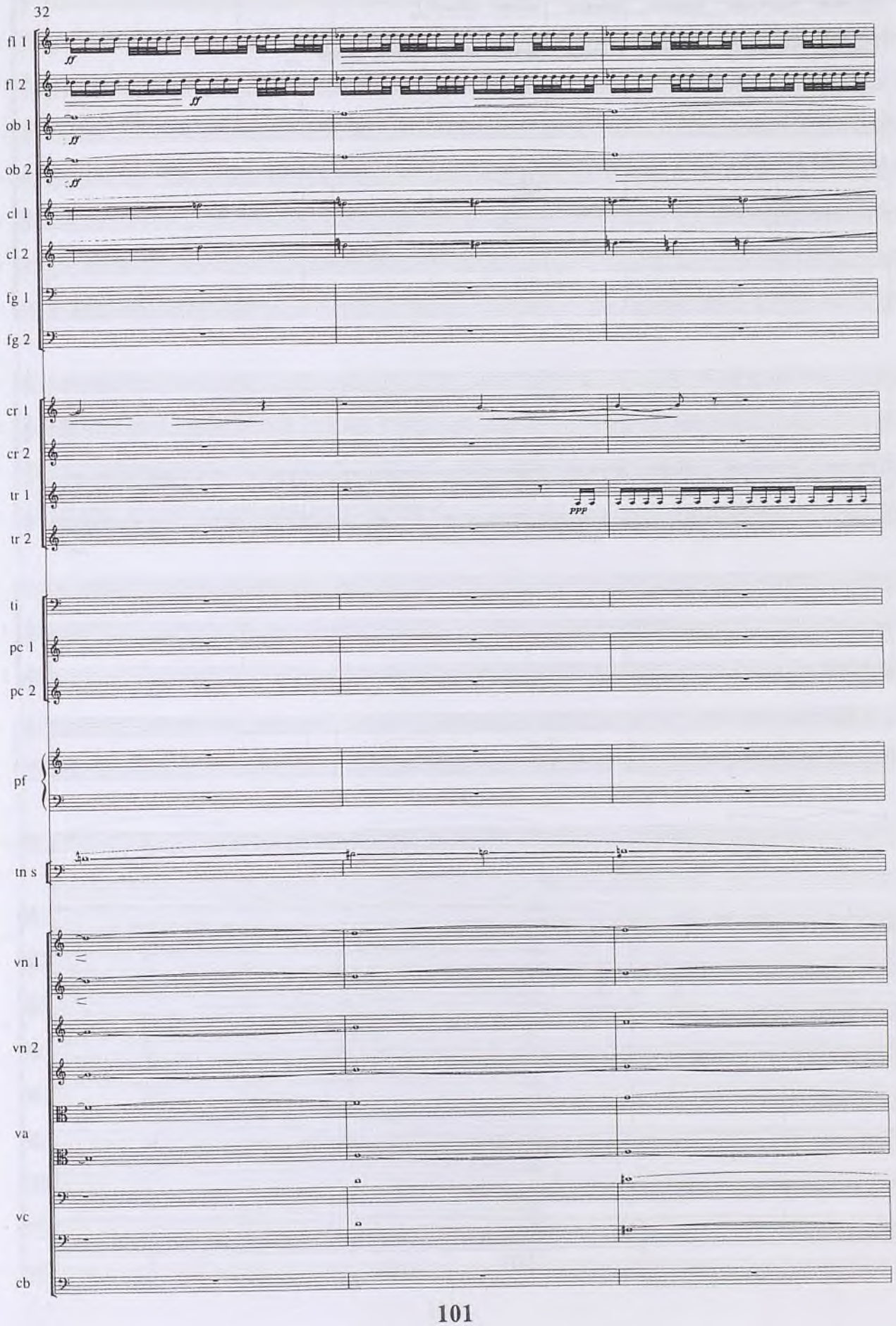

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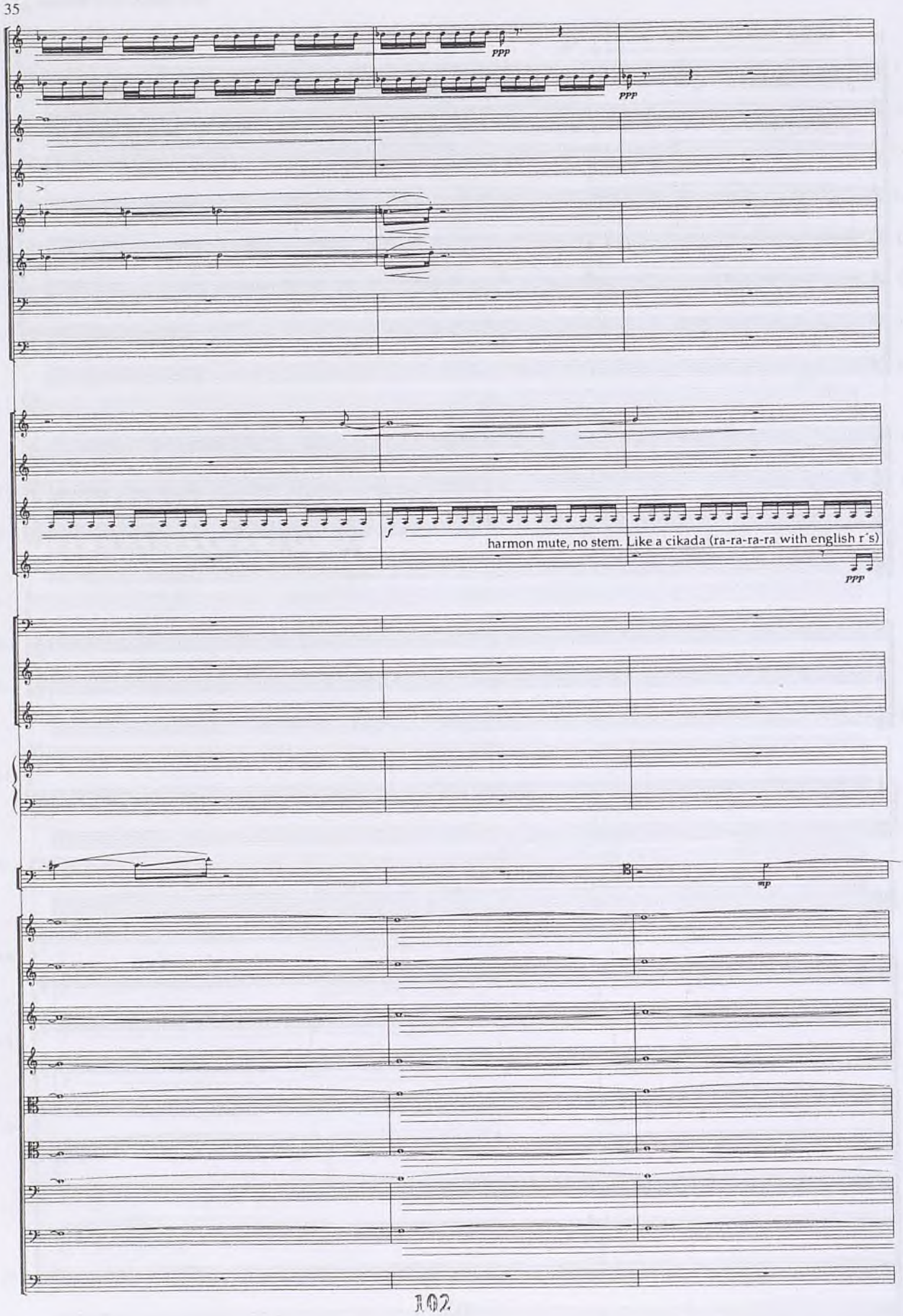

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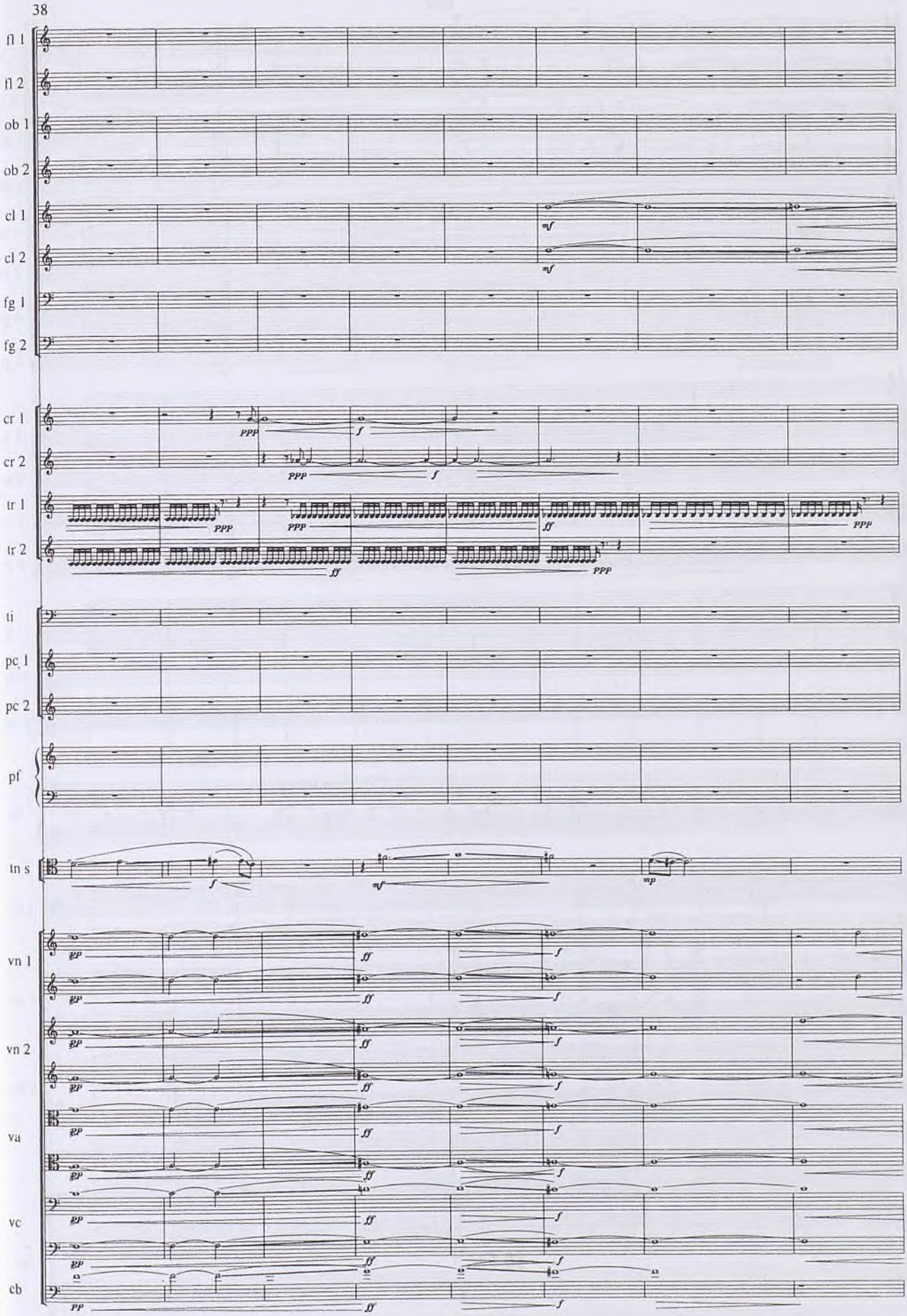
Ayuntamiento de Madrid



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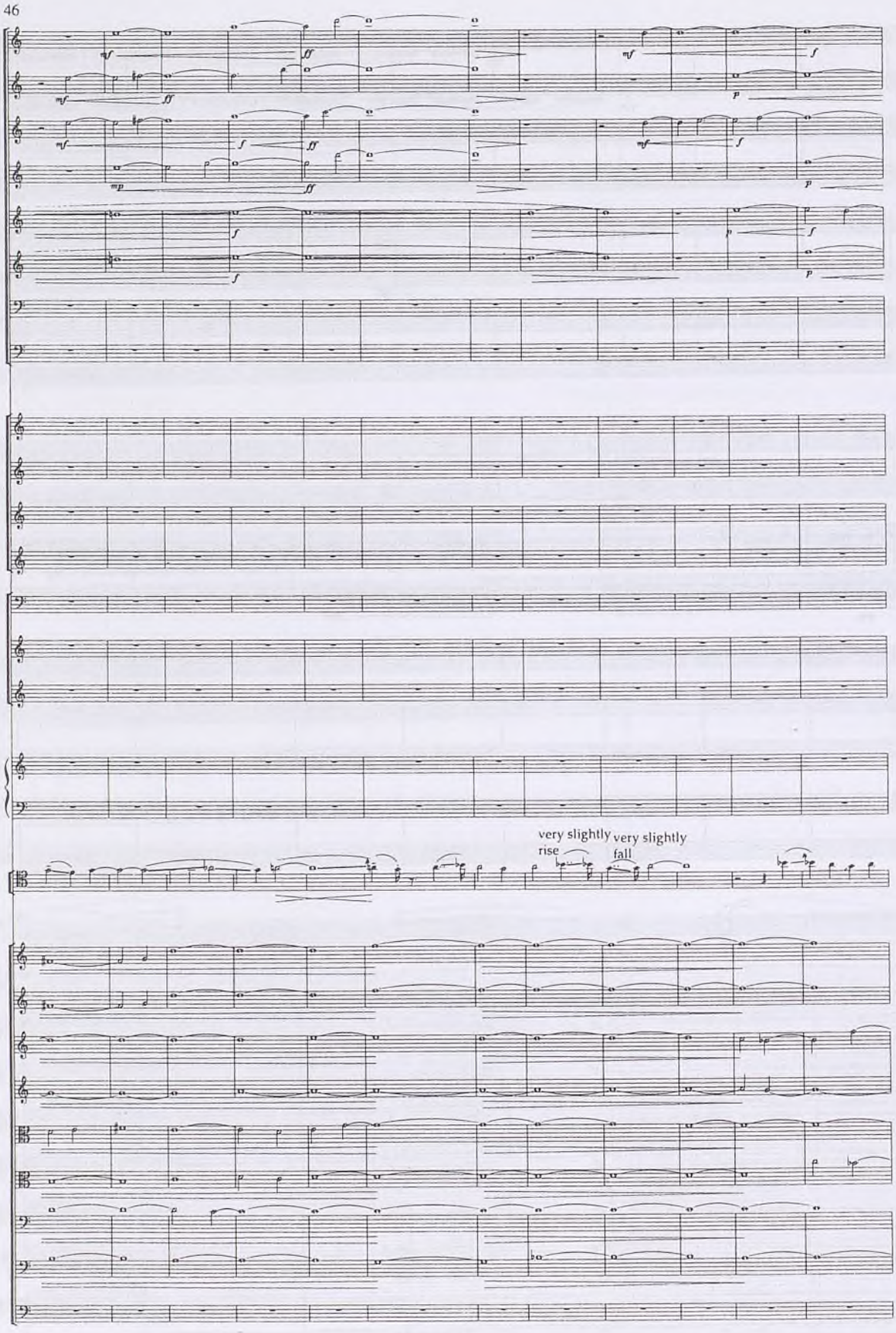

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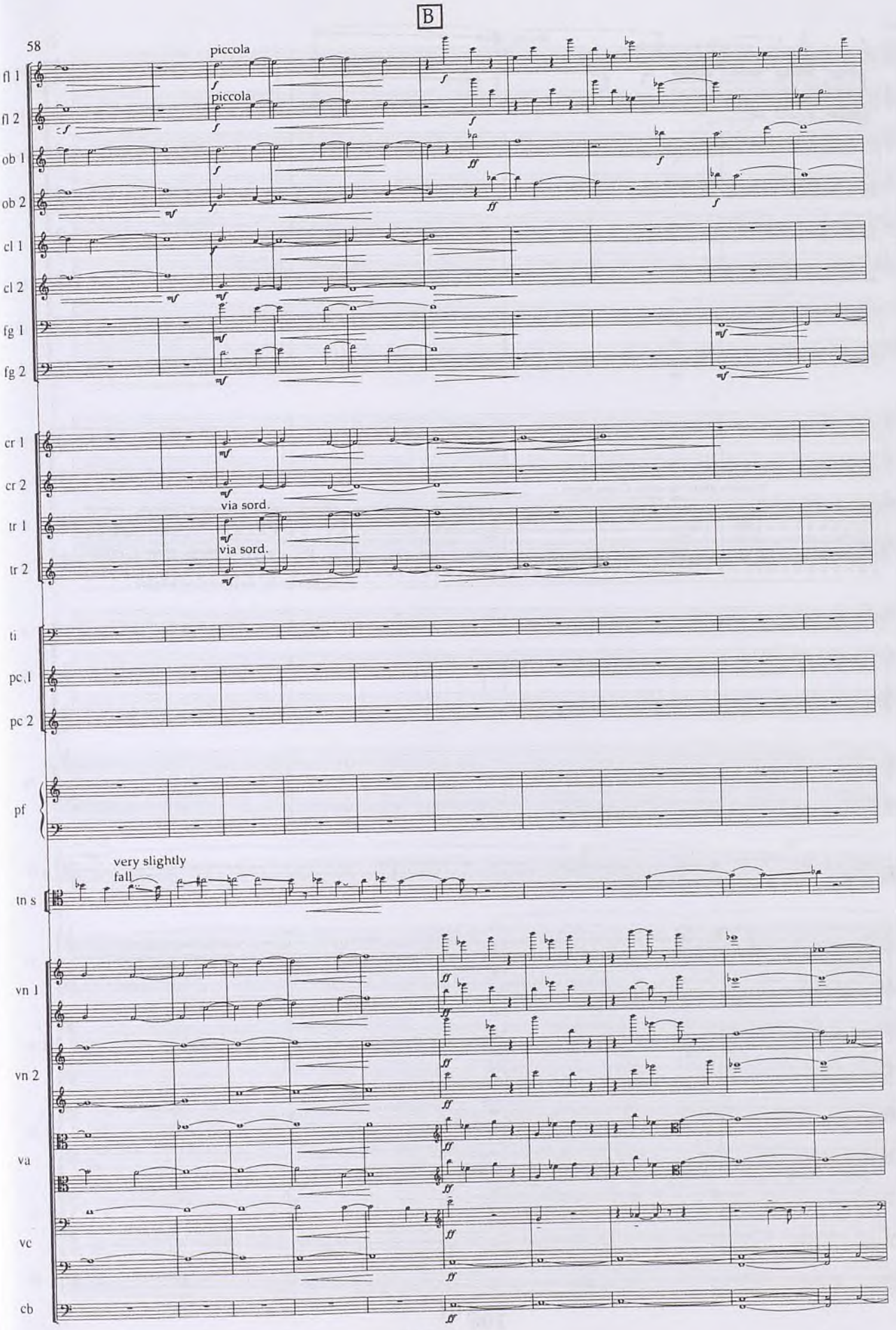

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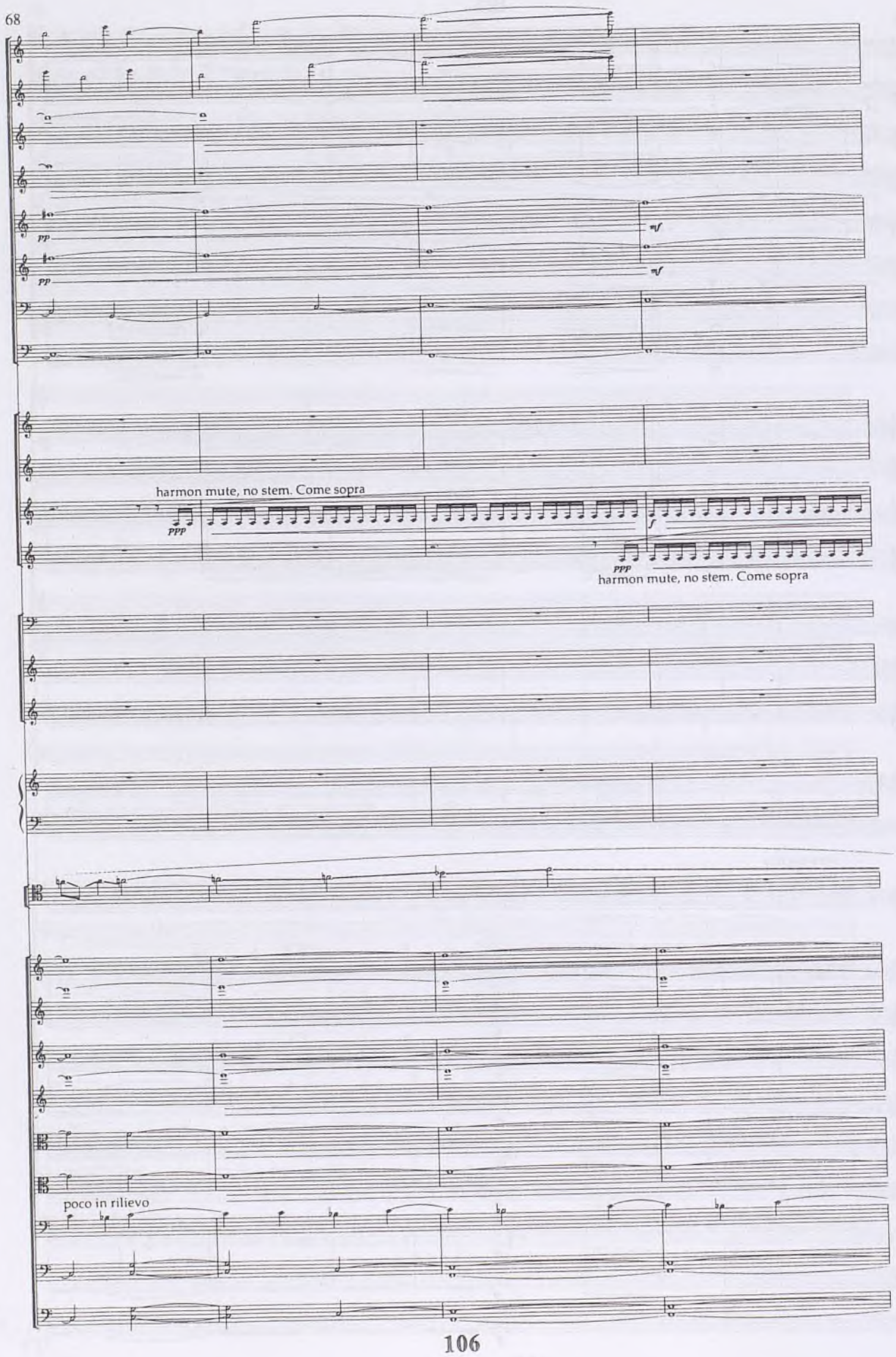

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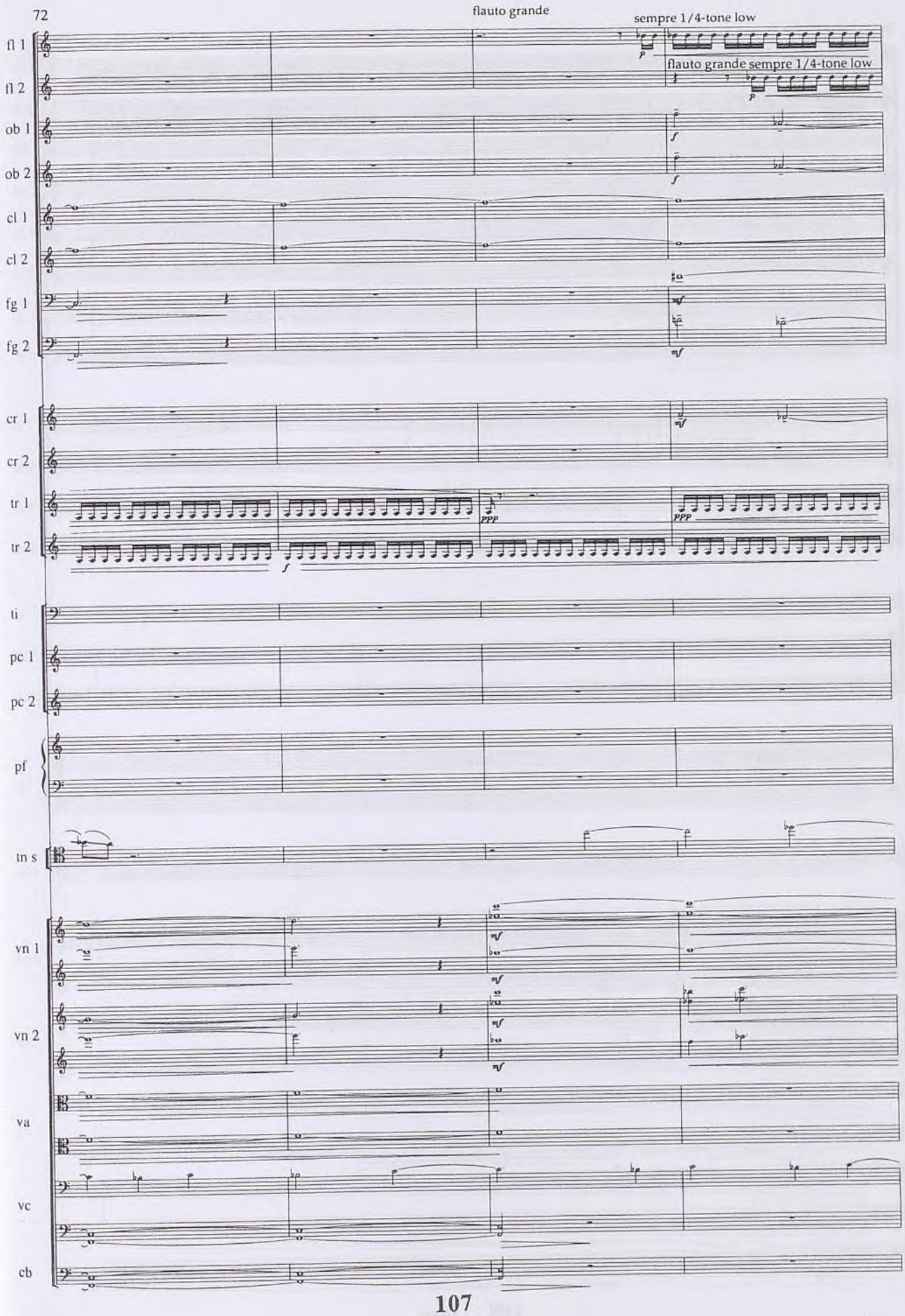

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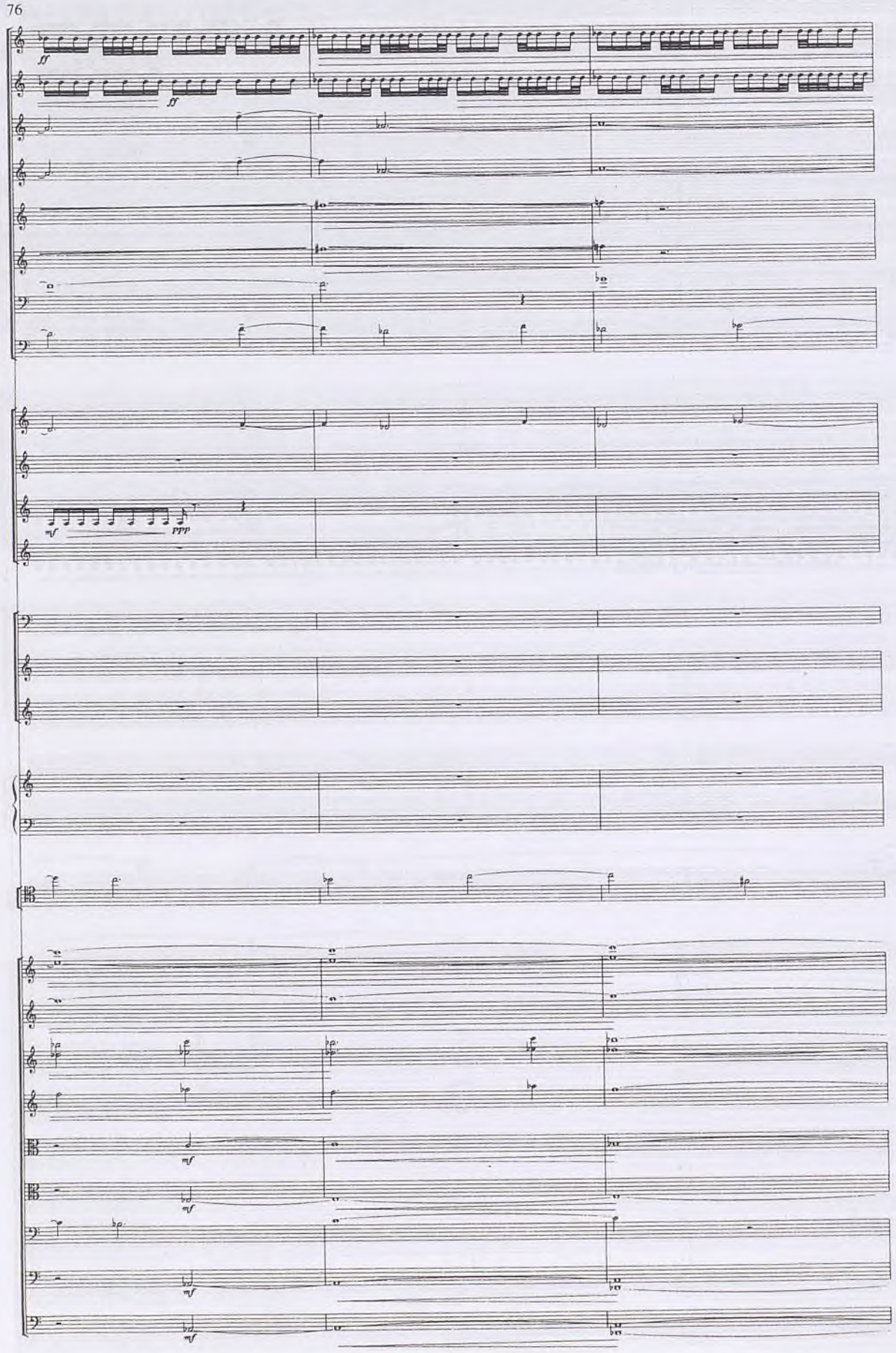

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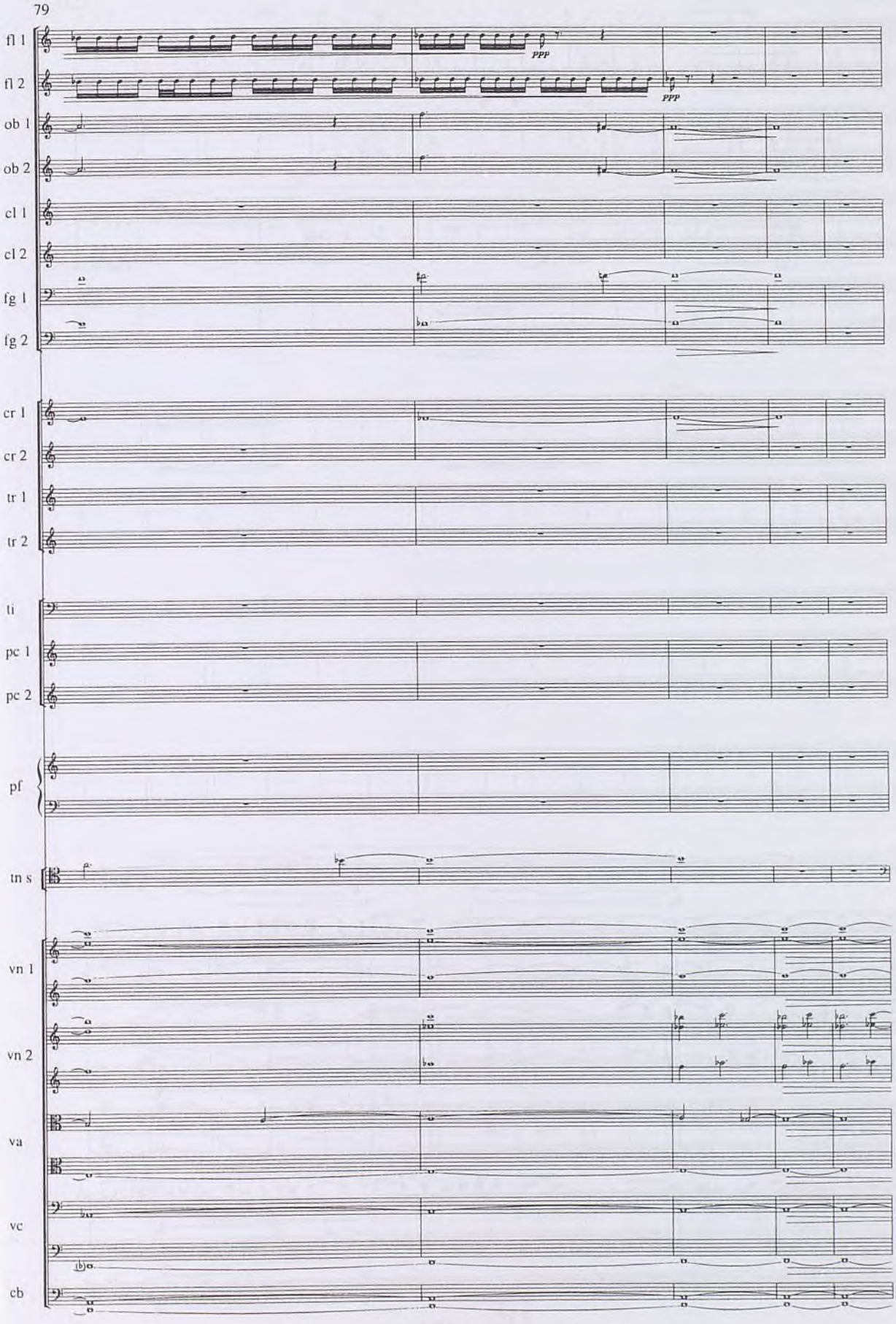

Ayuntamiento de Madrid

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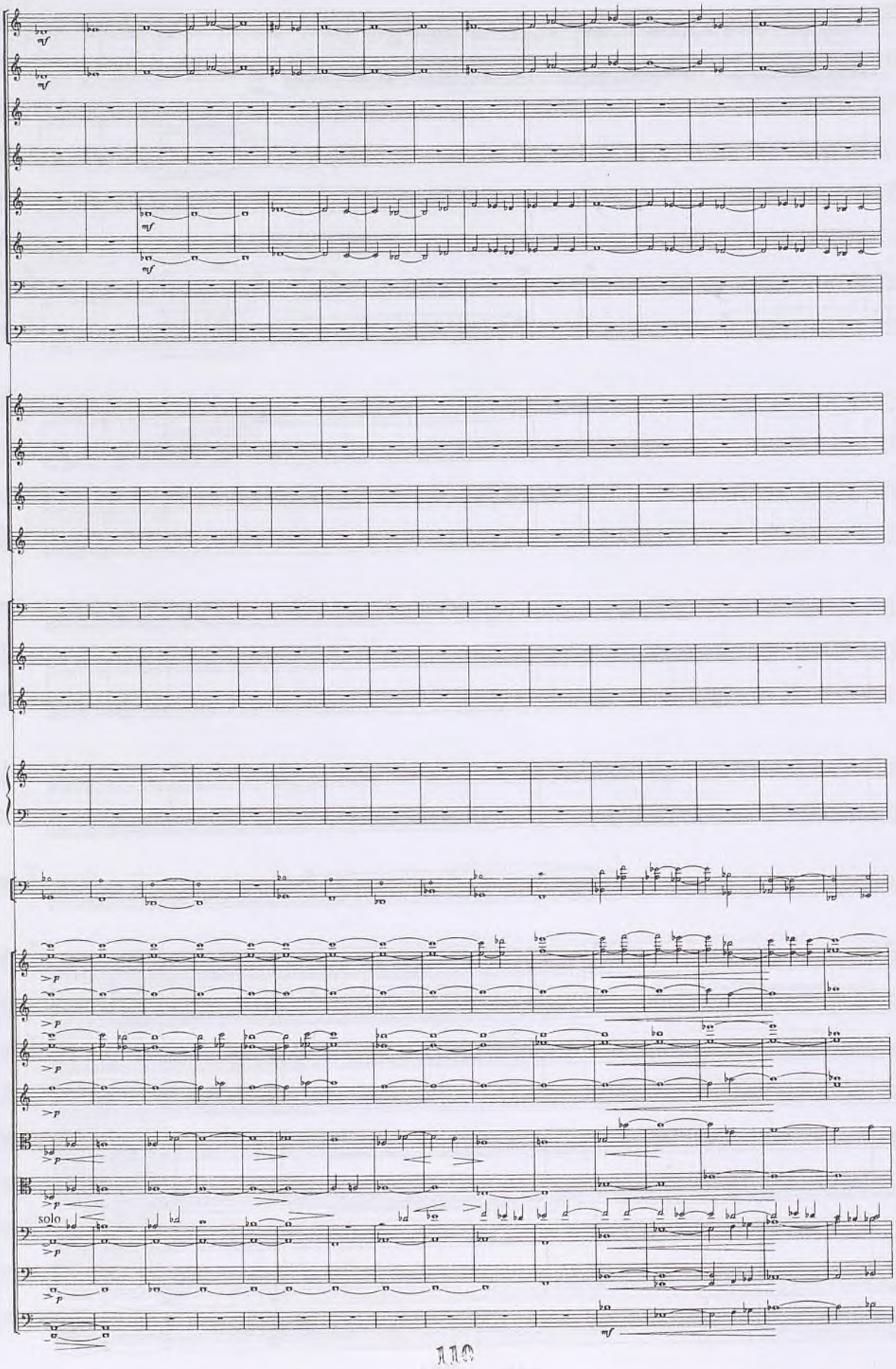

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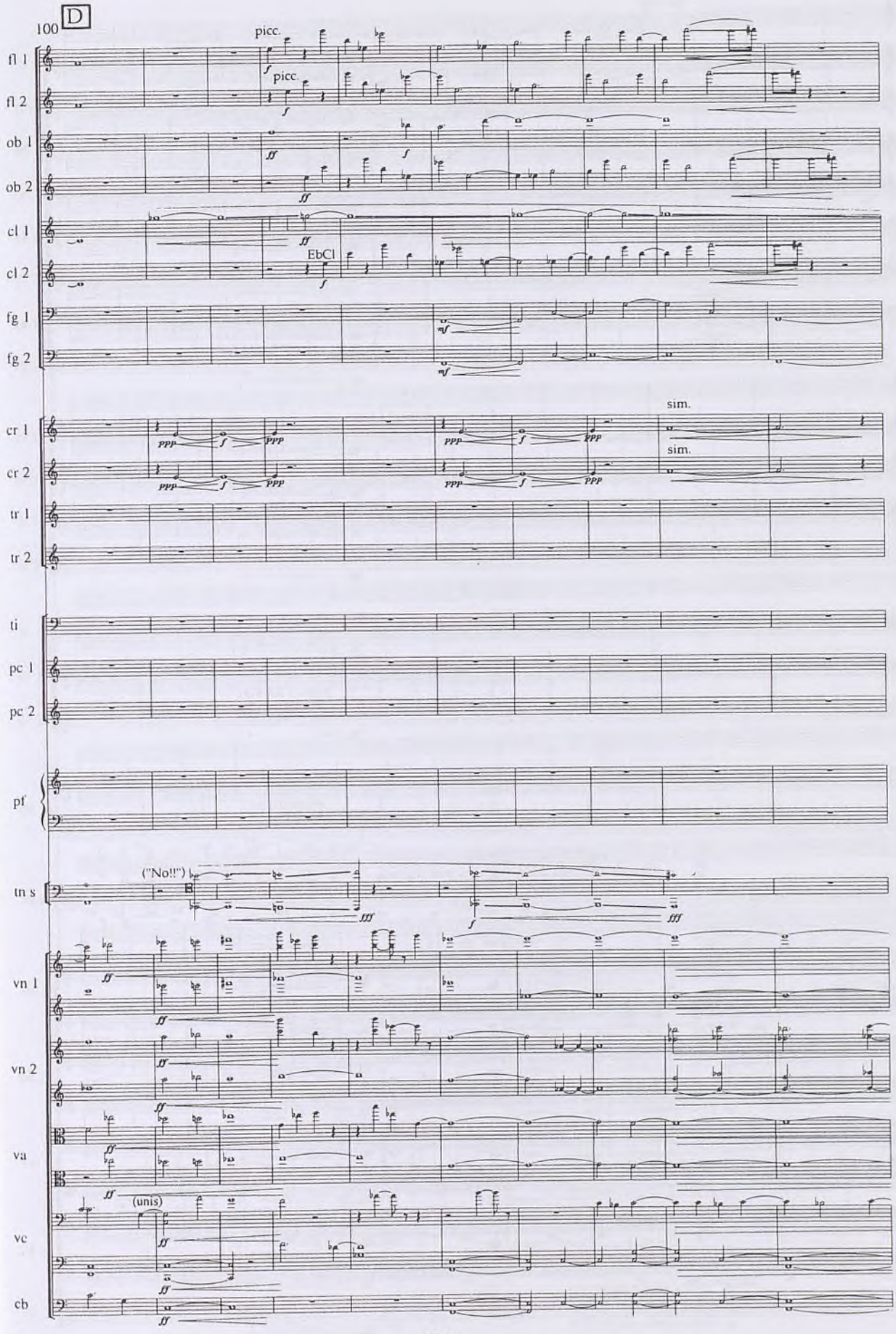

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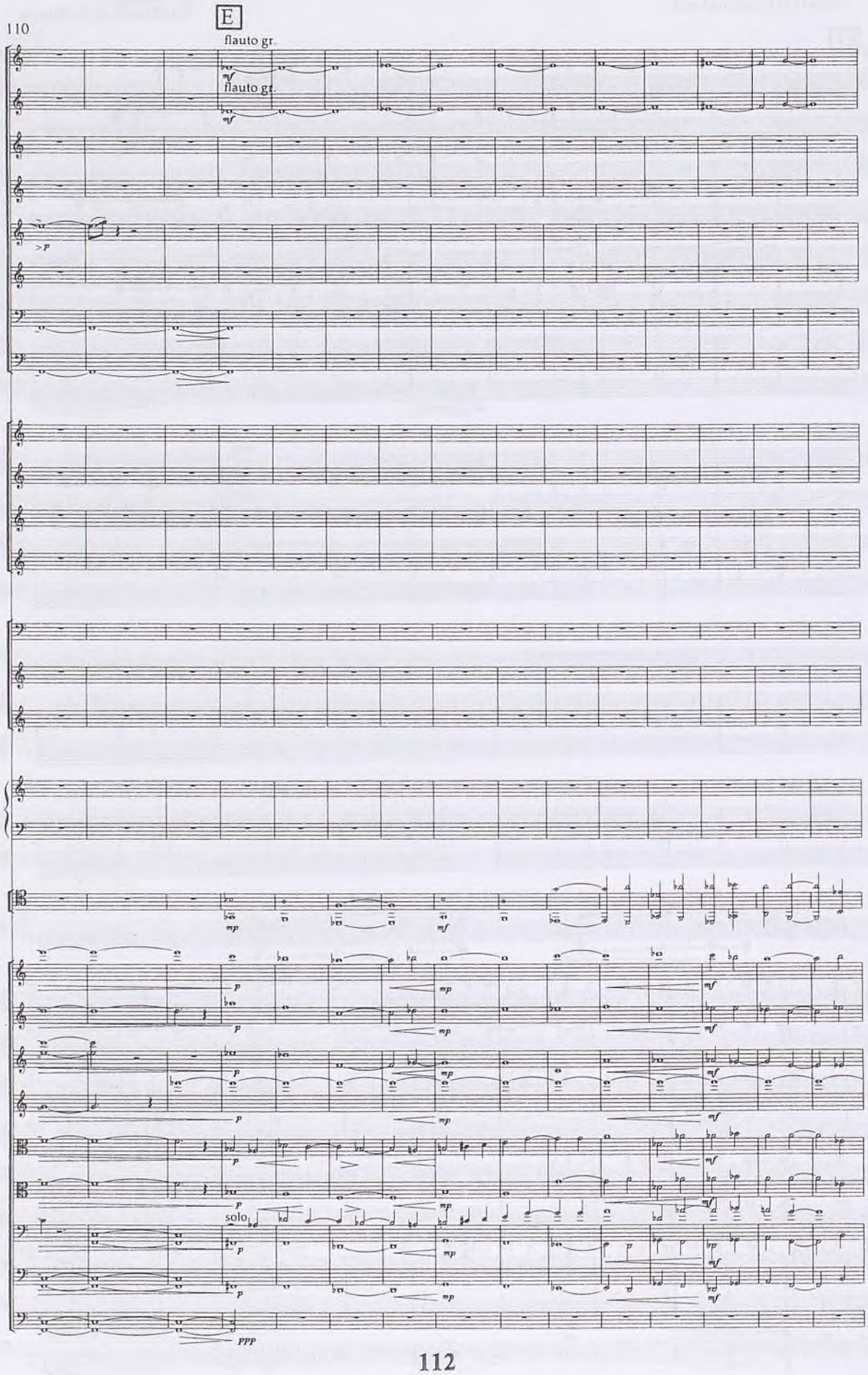

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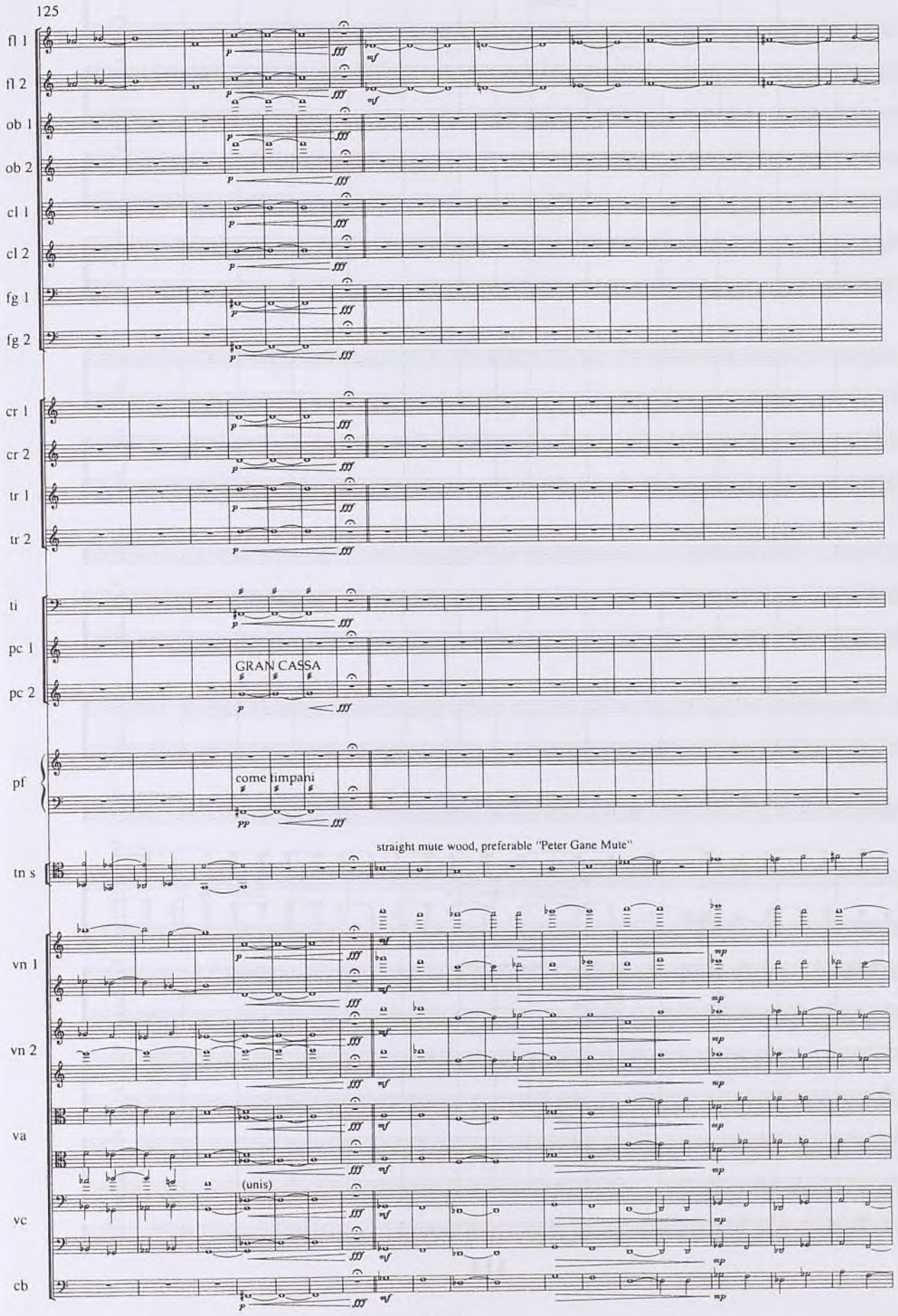

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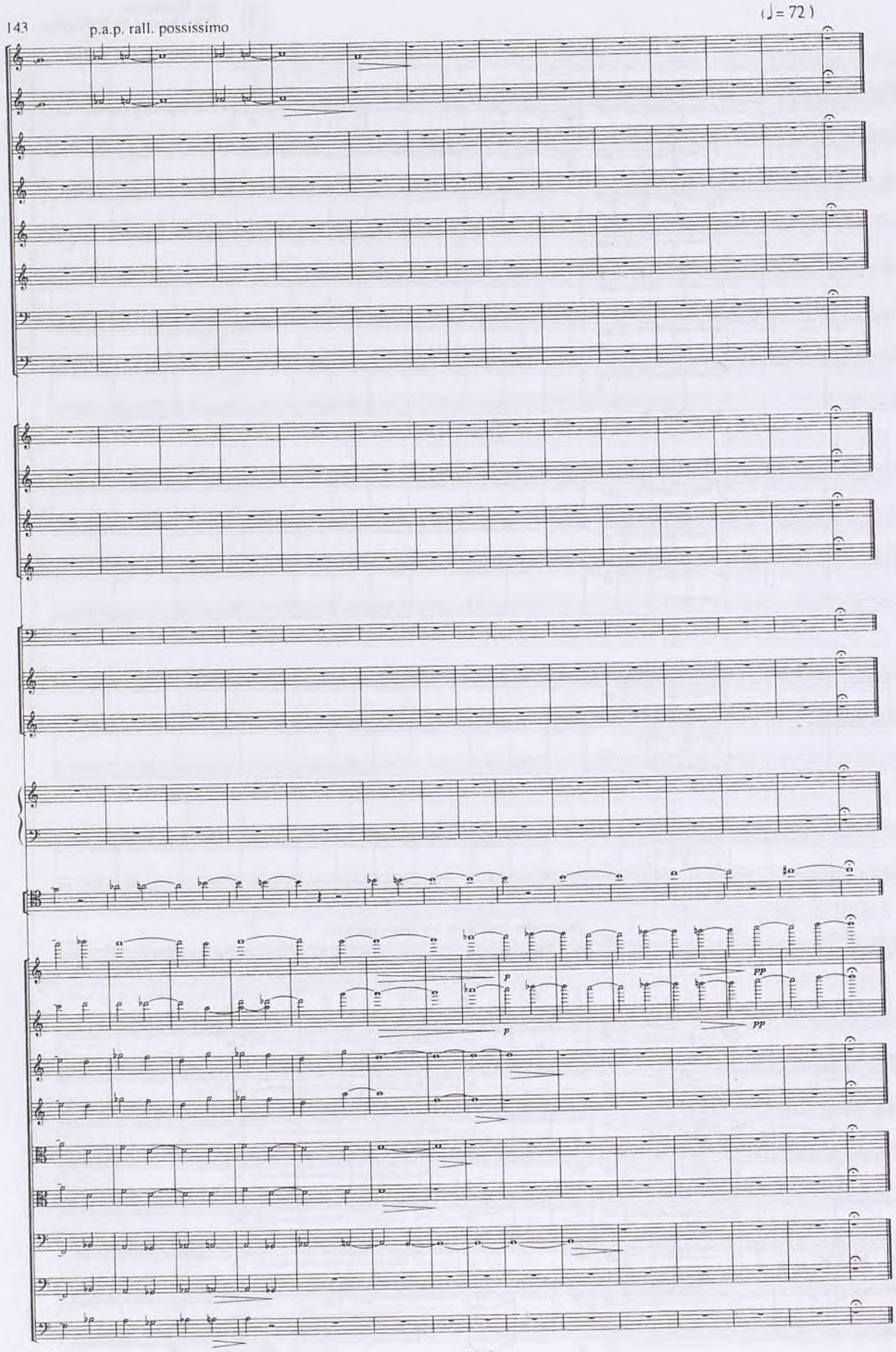

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