ernst krenek
edition

Streichquartett
"Nec aspera terrent"
W.o.O. 58

Partitur

Ernst Krenek

String Quartet
"Nec aspera terrent"
W.o.O. 58

Score

ernst krenek
institut

Ernst Krenek Edition
Vol. 3

Ernst Krenek
String Quartet
"Nec aspera terrent"
W.o.O. 58

Edited by
Clemens Zoidl

Score

Ernst Krenek
String Quartet, W.o.O. 58

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Vol. 3

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Vorwort

Das Oeuvre Ernst Kreneks (1900–1991) umfasst an die 300 Werke. Diese entstanden über die Zeitspanne fast des gesamten 20. Jahrhunderts und repräsentieren einen Großteil der in dieser Zeit virulenten Kompositionstechniken, von freier Atonalität, Neoklassizismus, Neoromantik, Dodekaphonie und Serialismus über elektronische Kompositionsverfahren bis hin zu den Techniken populärer Song- und Theaterstile. Ebenso breit und vielgestaltig ist das von Krenek bediente Gattungsspektrum, darunter Lieder, Bühnen- und Fernsehopern, Sinfonik, Kammer-, Chor- und Schauspielmusiken. Der öffentliche Blick jedoch verengt sich auf einen kleinen Ausschnitt davon. Viele seiner Werke sind nicht durch Ausgaben erhältlich.

Die Ernst Krenek Edition (EKE) möchte die Zugänglichkeit zu Kreneks Werken vereinfachen und der lebendigen Musik- und Theaterpraxis wissenschaftlich gesicherte Notentexte anbieten. Vorrangig werden Werke ediert, für die einerseits auf Seiten der Musizierenden und Forschenden ein Interesse besteht, für die andererseits die Herausgeber:innen aufgrund der Qualität, der Besetzungen, des musikdidaktischen Nutzens oder anderer Kriterien Potenzial sehen und die nicht durch zuverlässige Ausgaben am Markt oder in Musikbibliotheken greifbar sind. So hoffen wir, eine zeitgemäße Grundlage für ein lebendiges Interesse an Krenek und seinem facettenreichen Werk zu schaffen.

Nils Grosch

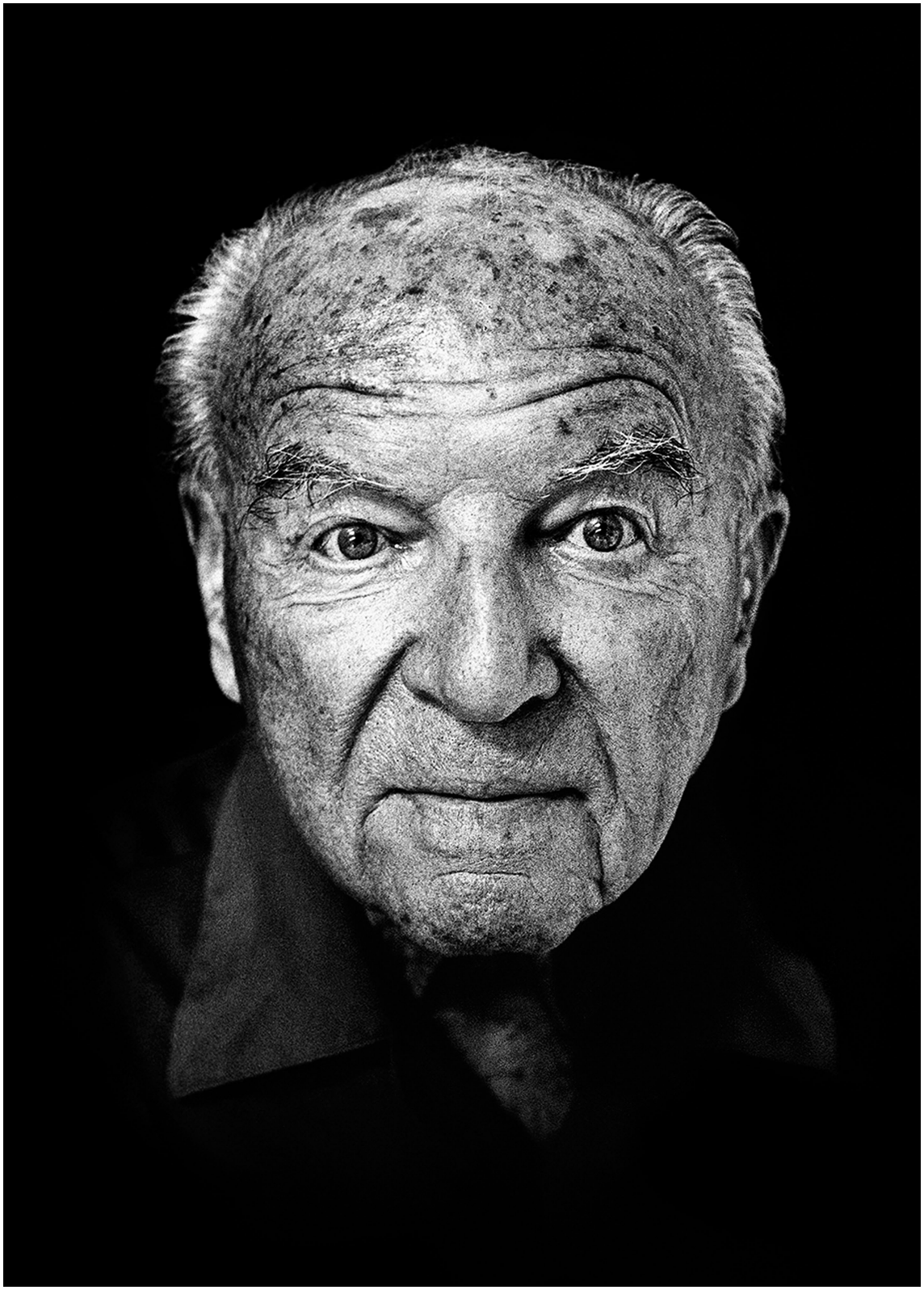
Preface

The *oeuvre* of Ernst Krenek (1900–1991) encompasses some 300 works. These were written over the time span of almost the entire twentieth century and represent a large portion of the compositional techniques that proliferated during this period, from free atonality, neoclassicism, neoromanticism, dodecophony, and serialism through electronic compositional processes up to the techniques of popular styles of song and theater. Just as wide and diverse is the genre spectrum used by Krenek, including art songs, stage and television operas, symphonies, chamber music, choral music, and theatrical incidental music. However, the public eye merely focuses on a small part of it. Many of his works are not available in published editions.

The Ernst Krenek Edition (EKE) aims to facilitate access to Krenek's works and offer scholarly approved musical texts to the active music and theater practice. Priority is given to editing works that are not to be had in reliable editions on the market or in music libraries and for which musicians and researchers are showing interest, or the editors see potential on the basis of quality, scorings, music-didactic use, or other criteria. Thus, we hope to create a contemporary basis for a lively interest in Krenek and his multifaceted works.

Nils Grosch

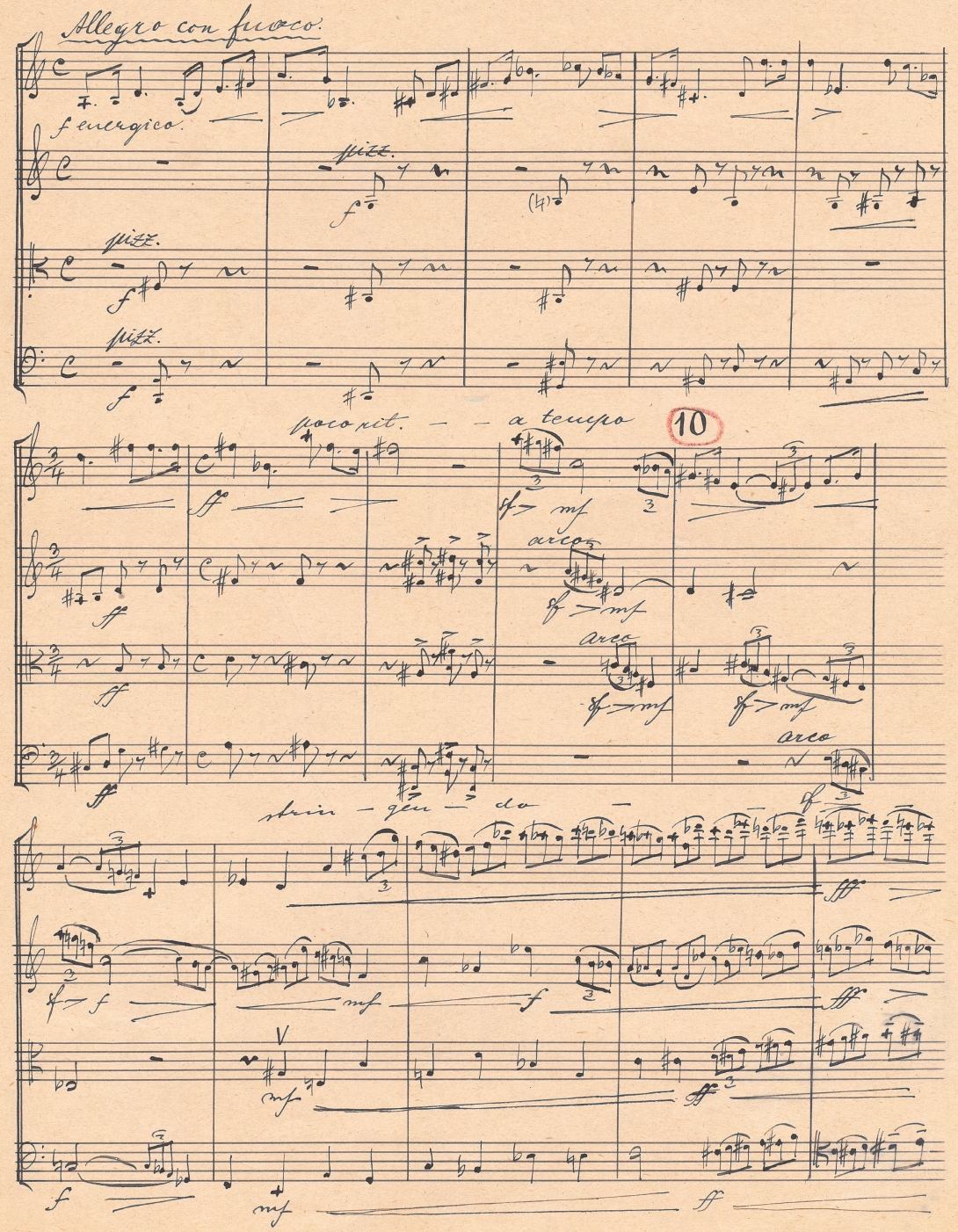
Ernst Krenek, 1988
Foto: Klaus Barisch



Motto: Nec aspera terrent.

String-Quartette

I.



Zum Werk

Der 19-jährige Krenek komponierte sein erstes Streichquartett für einen amerikanischen Kompositionswettbewerb, der mit 1000 Dollar Preisgeld lockte. Das Werk ist geprägt von der jugendlichen Frische, mit der er die Einflüsse des Kompositionsunterrichts bei Franz Schreker verarbeitete. Auf einem soliden tonalen Fundament entwickelt Krenek chromatisch schillernde Themen und Motive, die er mit Freude am kontrapunktischen Spiel durch drei Sätze zu unterschiedlichen Charakteren und musikalischen Gestalten formt. Bereits in diesem ersten Streichquartett von 1920 zeigen sich Kreneks Einfallsreichtum und sein handwerkliches Geschick. Den angestrebten Preis hat er dennoch nicht bekommen. Und in seiner sprunghaften Entwicklung, die sich in seinem nächsten, von der musikalischen Avantgarde gefeierten Streichquartett, op. 6 (1921) bereits sehr deutlich abzeichnetet, hat er dieses Frühwerk schnell zurückgelassen. Zusammen mit vielen anderen blieb es im Archiv vergessen.

About this Work

When he was nineteen, Ernst Krenek composed his first string quartet for an American competition with an enticing $1000 prize. This work shows how Krenek processed, with youthful vigour, the influences from his composition lessons with Franz Schreker. From a solid basis in tonality, Krenek develops chromatically shimmering themes and motives, which he moulds during the three movements into different characters and musical shapes, delighting in contrapuntal play. Already this first string quartet from 1920 reveals Krenek's inventiveness and craftsmanship. However, he was not awarded the desired prize. And due to his very rapid stylistic development – already clearly apparent in his next string quartet, op. 6 (1921), which was celebrated by the musical avant-garde — he quickly left this early work behind him. Together with many others it turned into forgotten archive material.

Erste Seite des Autographen.
Archiv der Ernst-Krenek-Institut-Privatstiftung. (MM 136-01)

First page of the manuscript score.
Archive of the Ernst Krenek Institute. (MM 136-01)

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WoO58_streichquartett_1920

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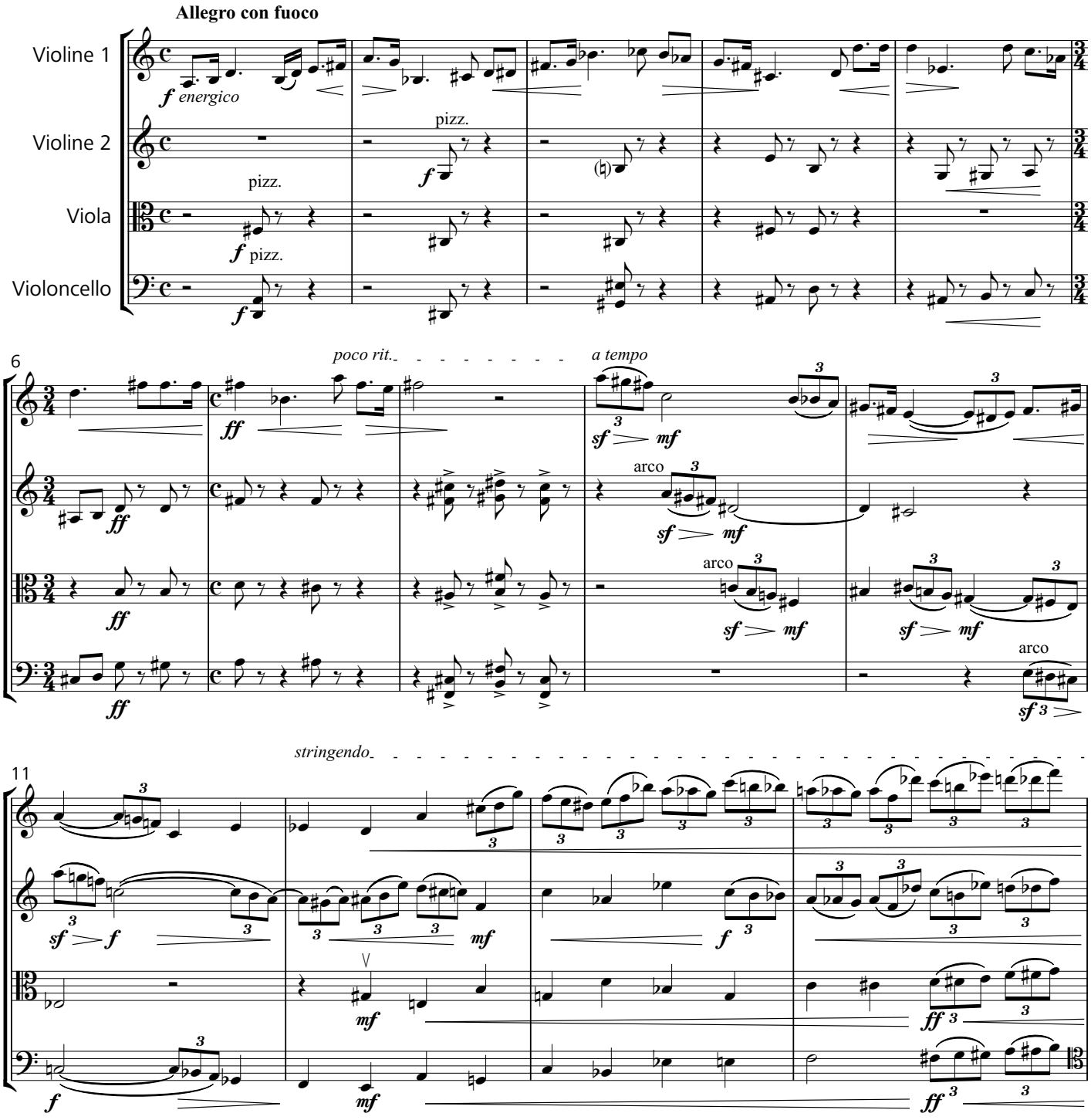
WoO58_stringquartet_1920

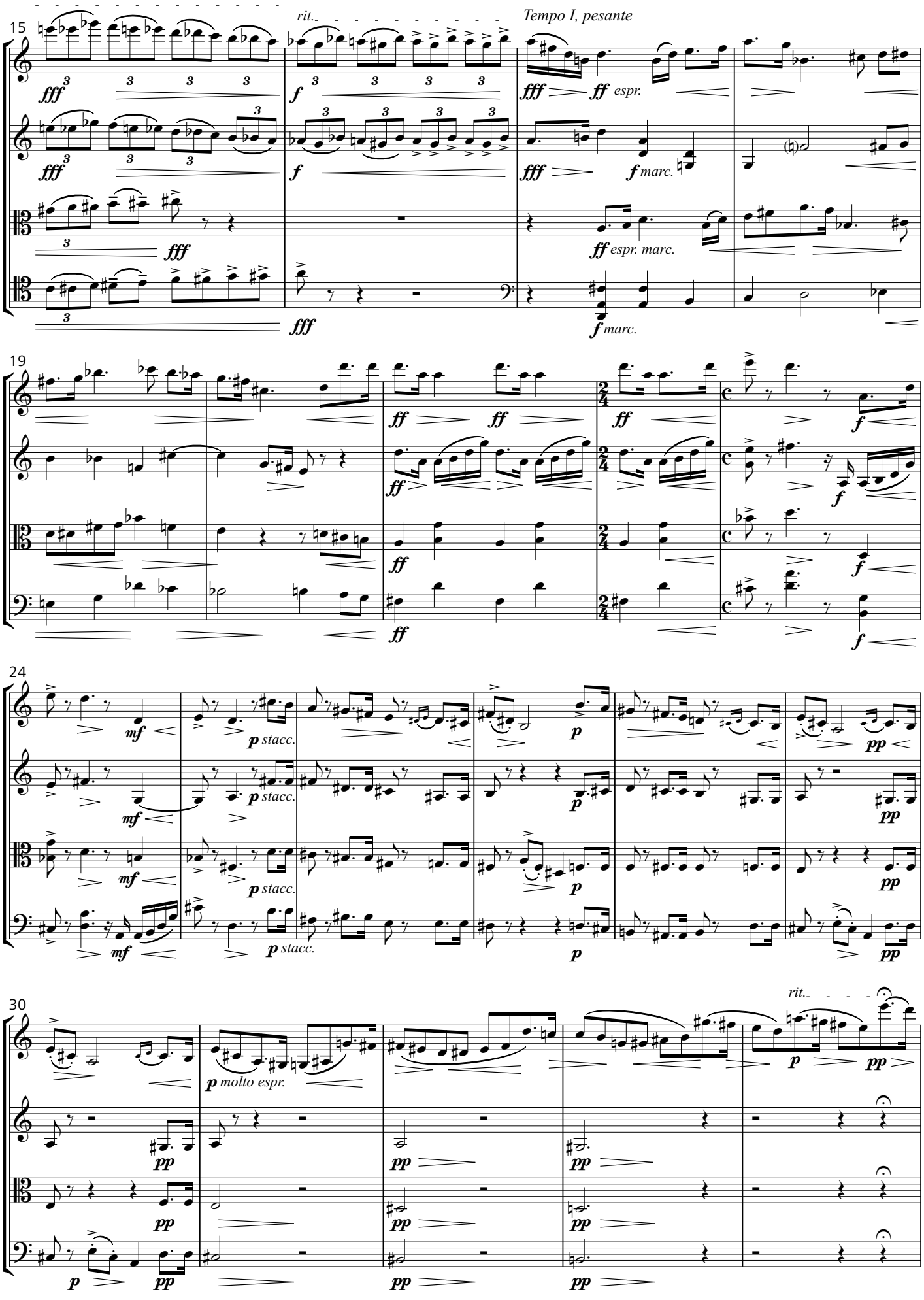
Streichquartett

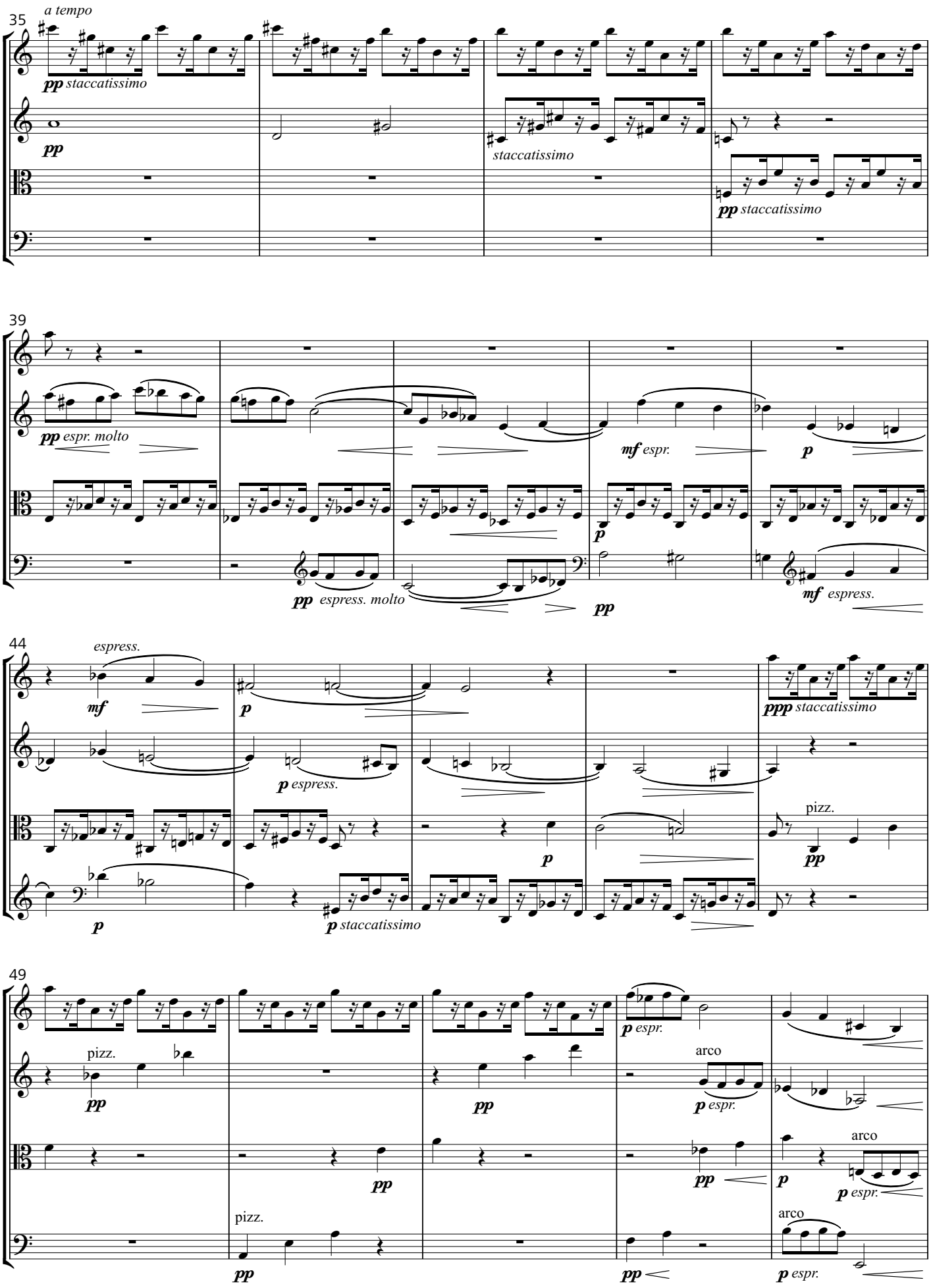
"Nec aspera terrent"
W.o.O. 58

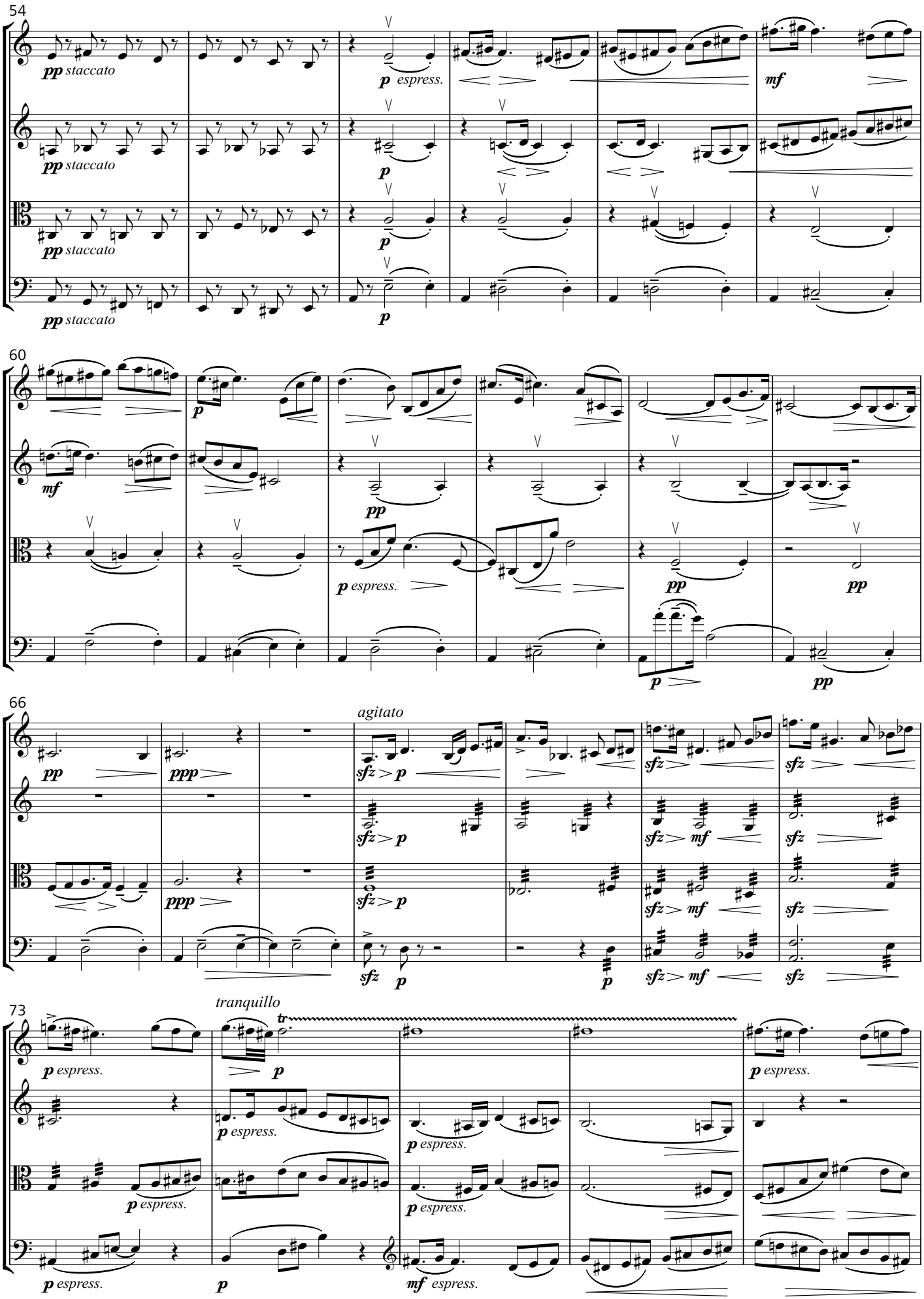
Ernst Krenek
1900–1991

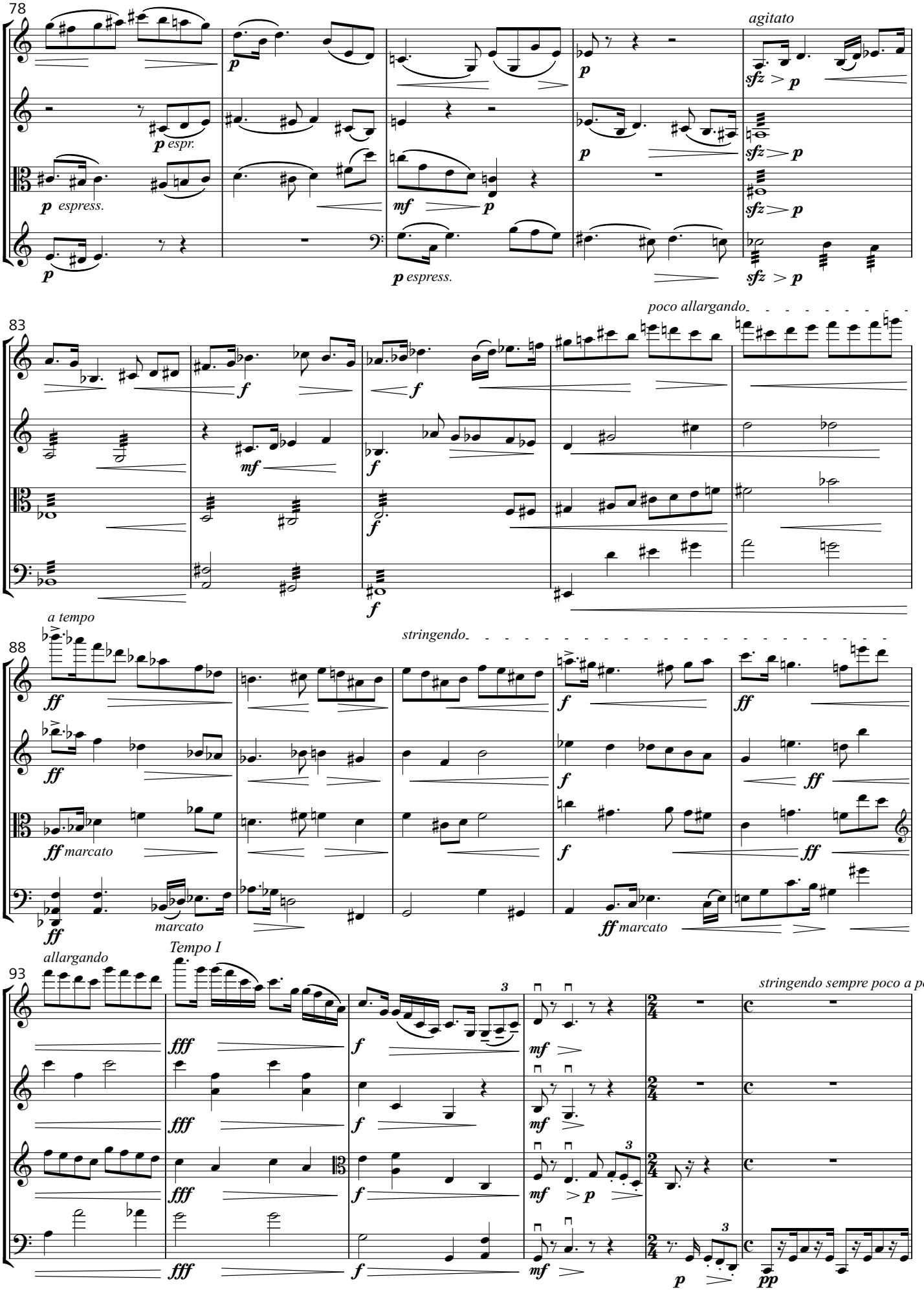
I

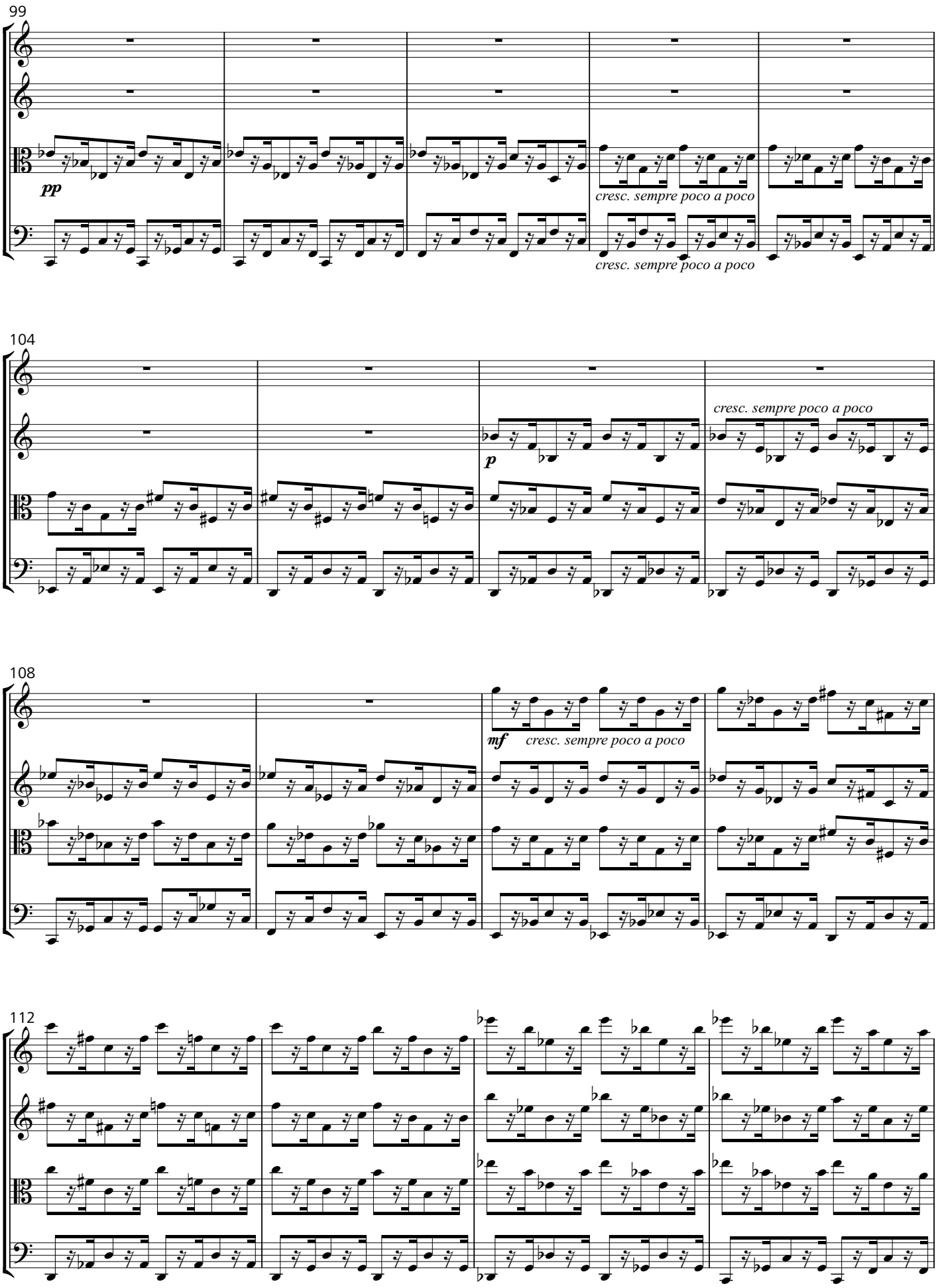


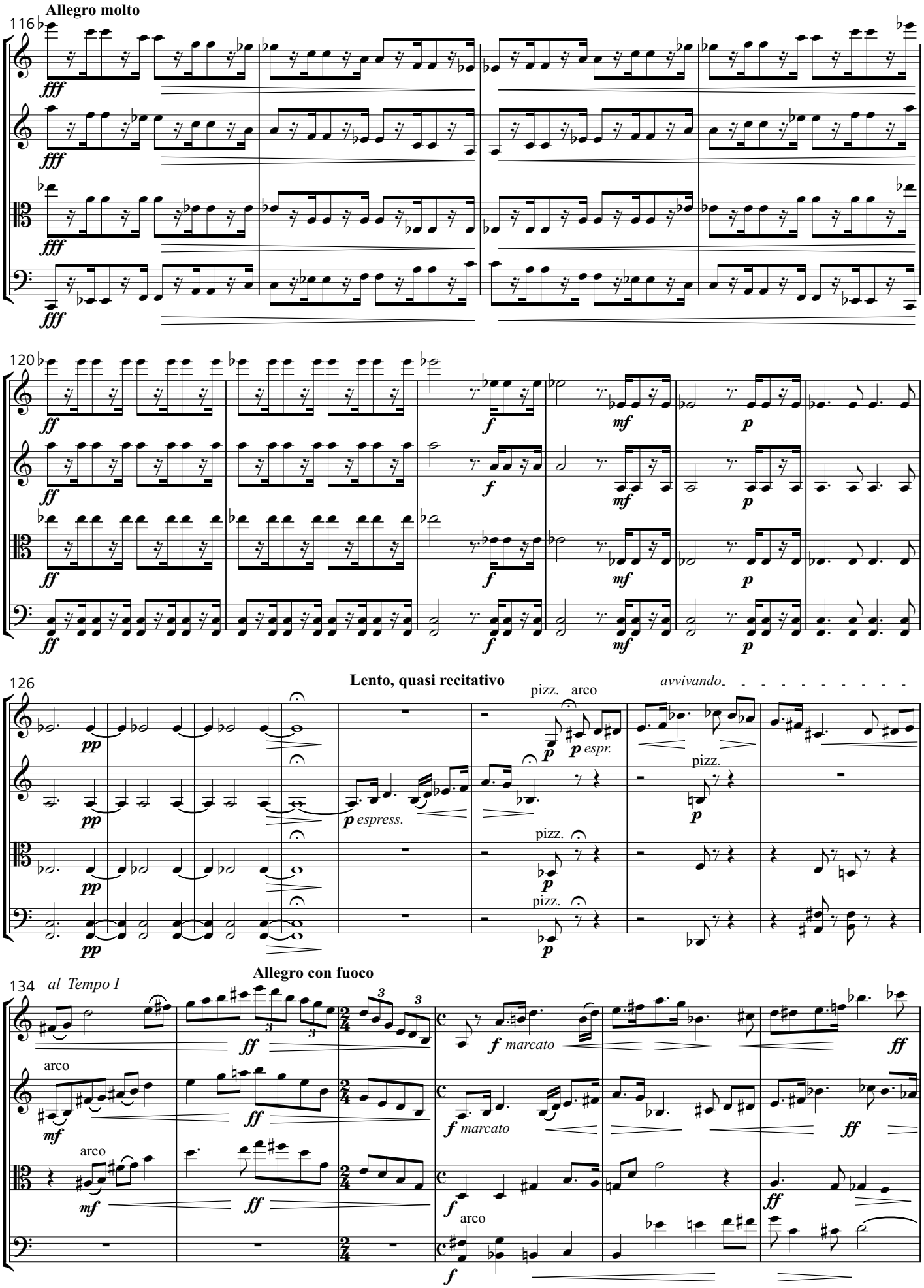

15
rit.
Tempo I, pesante
fff
f
ff espr.
f marc.
ff espr. marc.
19
ff
24
mf
p stacc.
p
pp
30
p molto espr.
rit.

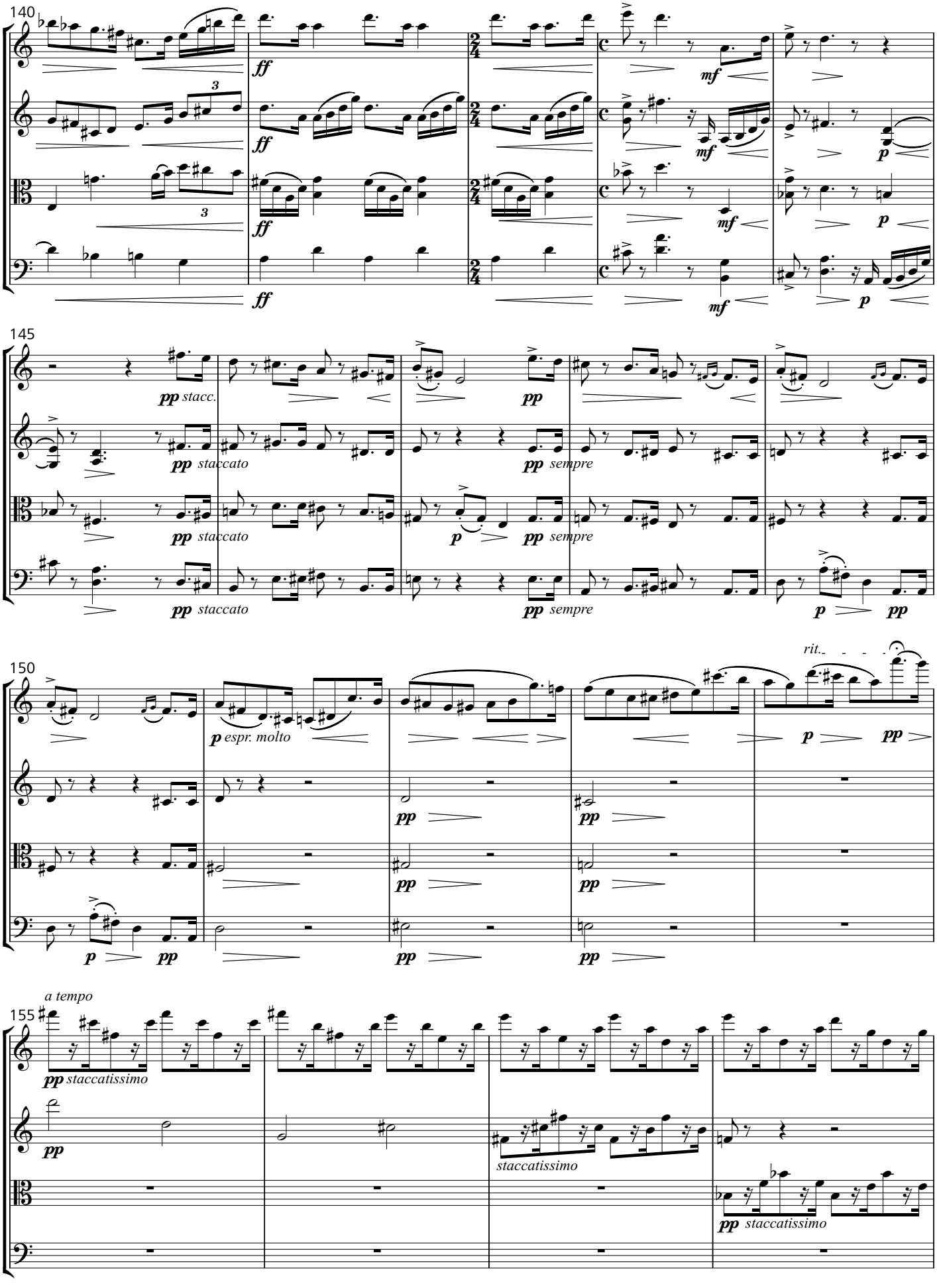

35
a tempo
pp staccatissimo
pp
staccatissimo
pp staccatissimo
39
pp espr. molto
mf espr.
p
pp espress. molto
pp
mf espress.
44
espress.
mf
p
p espress.
ppp staccatissimo
p
pizz.
pp
p
p staccatissimo
49
pizz.
pp
p espr.
arco
p espr.
pp
pp
pp
p
arco
p espr.
pizz.
pp
pp
arco
p espr.

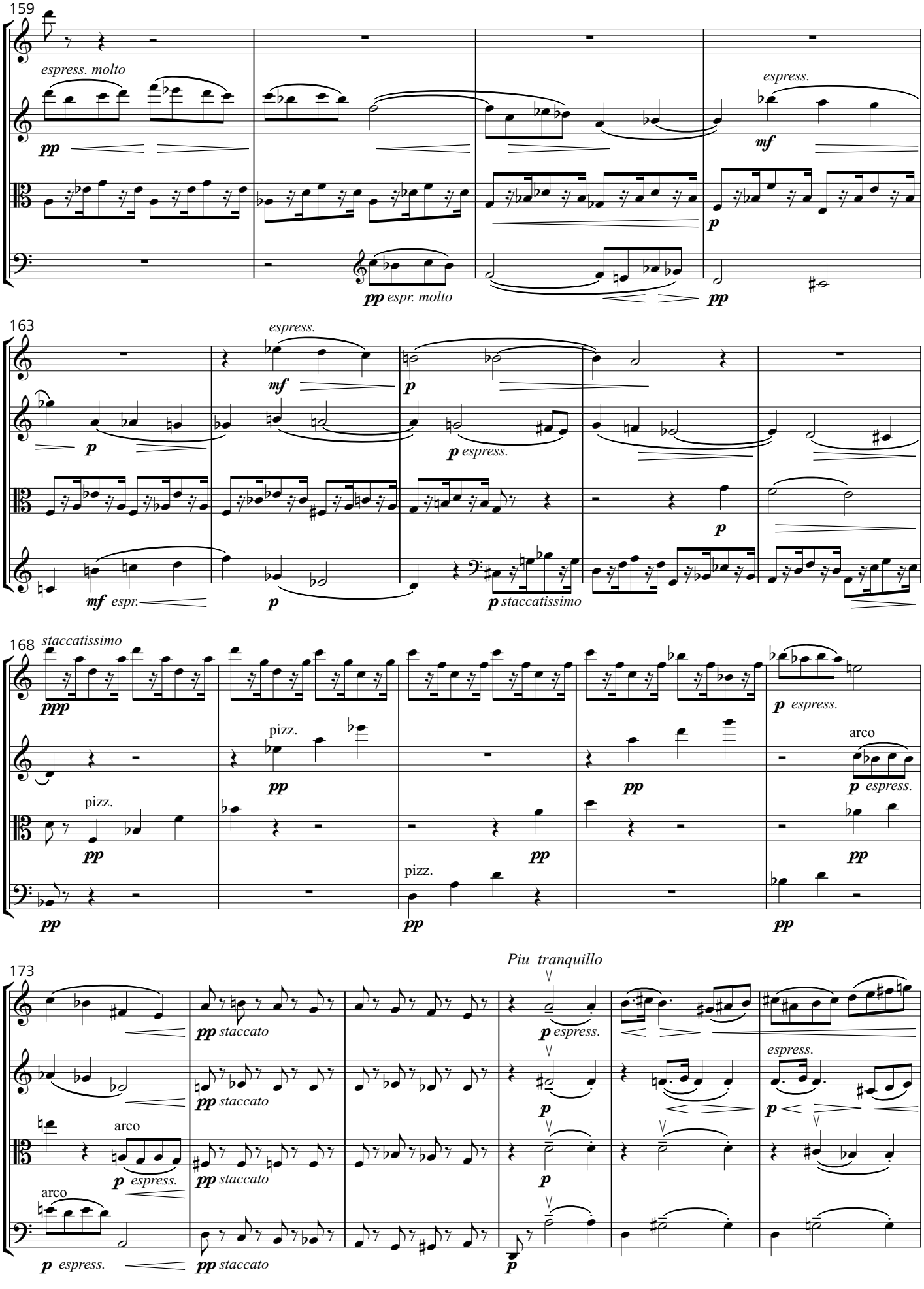

54
pp staccato
p espress.
mf
60
mf
p
pp
p espress.
66
pp
ppp
agitato
sfz
p
sfz
mf
73
tranquillo
tr
p espress.
mf espress.

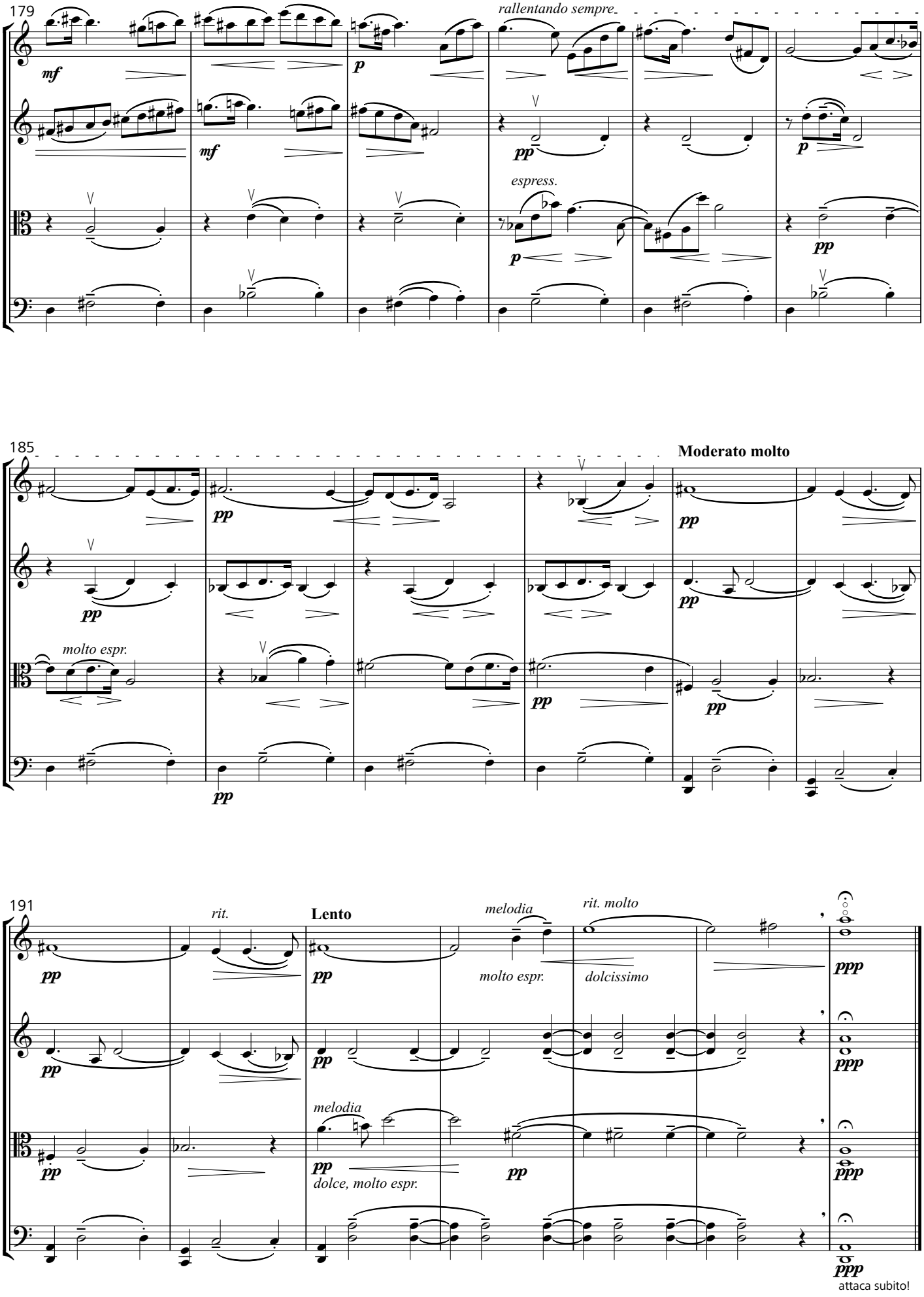

78
agitato
p espr.
p espress.
mf
sfz > p
83
poco allargando
f
mf
88
a tempo
stringendo
ff
marcato
93
allargando
Tempo I
stringendo sempre poco a poco
fff
mf
pp


99
pp
cresc. sempre poco a poco
cresc. sempre poco a poco
104
p
cresc. sempre poco a poco
108
mf
cresc. sempre poco a poco
112


Allegro molto
116
fff
120
ff
f
mf
p
126
Lento, quasi recitativo
pp
p espress.
pizz.
arco
p espr.
avvivando
134
al Tempo I
Allegro con fuoco
mf
ff
f marcato
arco

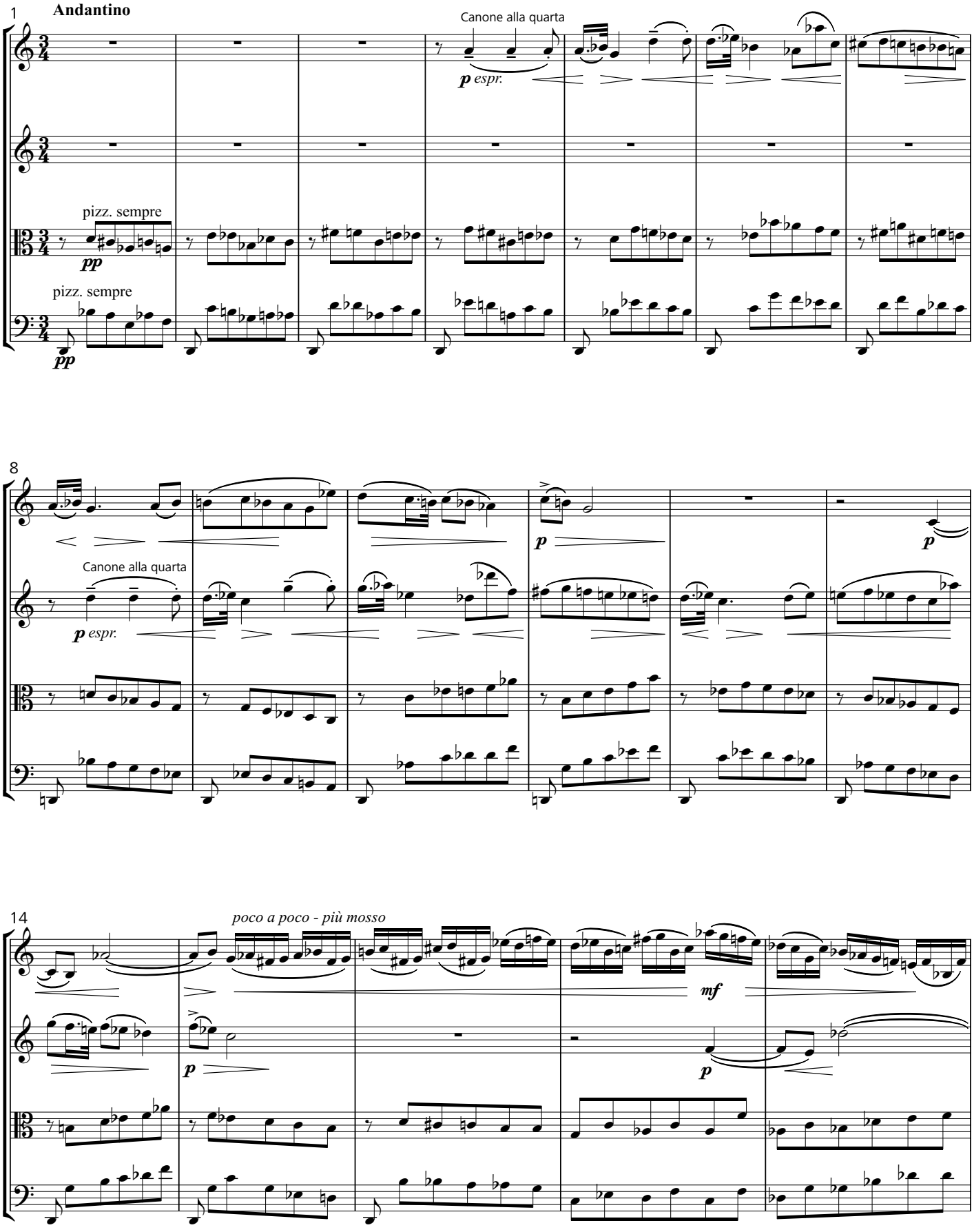

140
ff
mf
p
145
pp stacc.
pp staccato
pp sempre
150
p espr. molto
rit.
155
a tempo
pp staccatissimo
staccatissimo

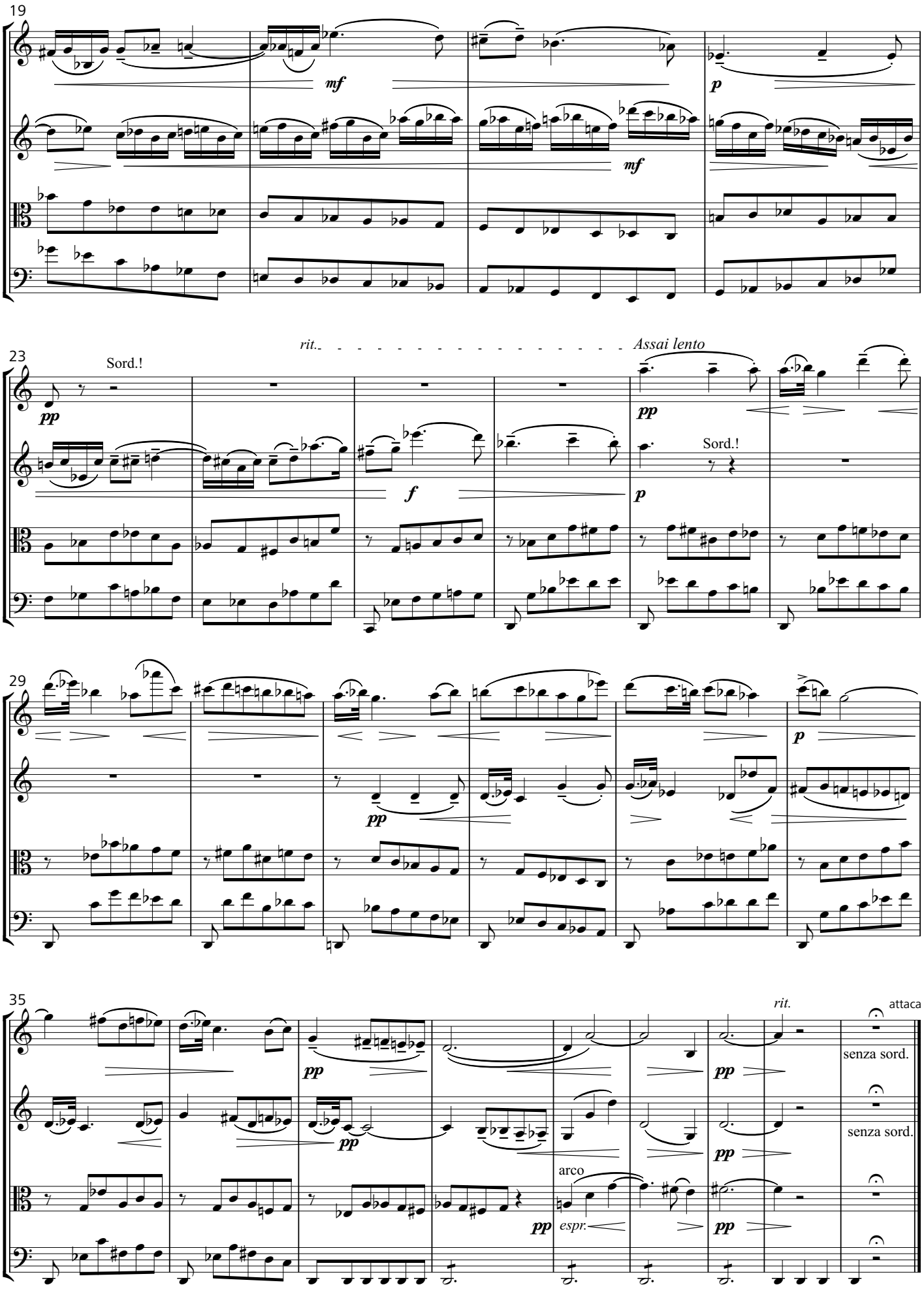

159
espress. molto
pp
espress.
mf
p
pp espr. molto
pp
163
espress.
mf
p
p
p espress.
p
mf espr.
p
p staccatissimo
168
staccatissimo
ppp
pizz.
pp
p espress.
arco
p espress.
pizz.
pp
pp
pp
pp
pizz.
pp
pp
173
Piu tranquillo
pp staccato
p espress.
espress.
p
arco
p espress.
pp staccato
p
arco
p espress.
pp staccato
p


179
rallentando sempre
espress.
185
Moderato molto
molto espr.
191
rit.
Lento
melodia
rit. molto
molto espr.
dolcissimo
melodia
dolce, molto espr.
attaca subito!

II

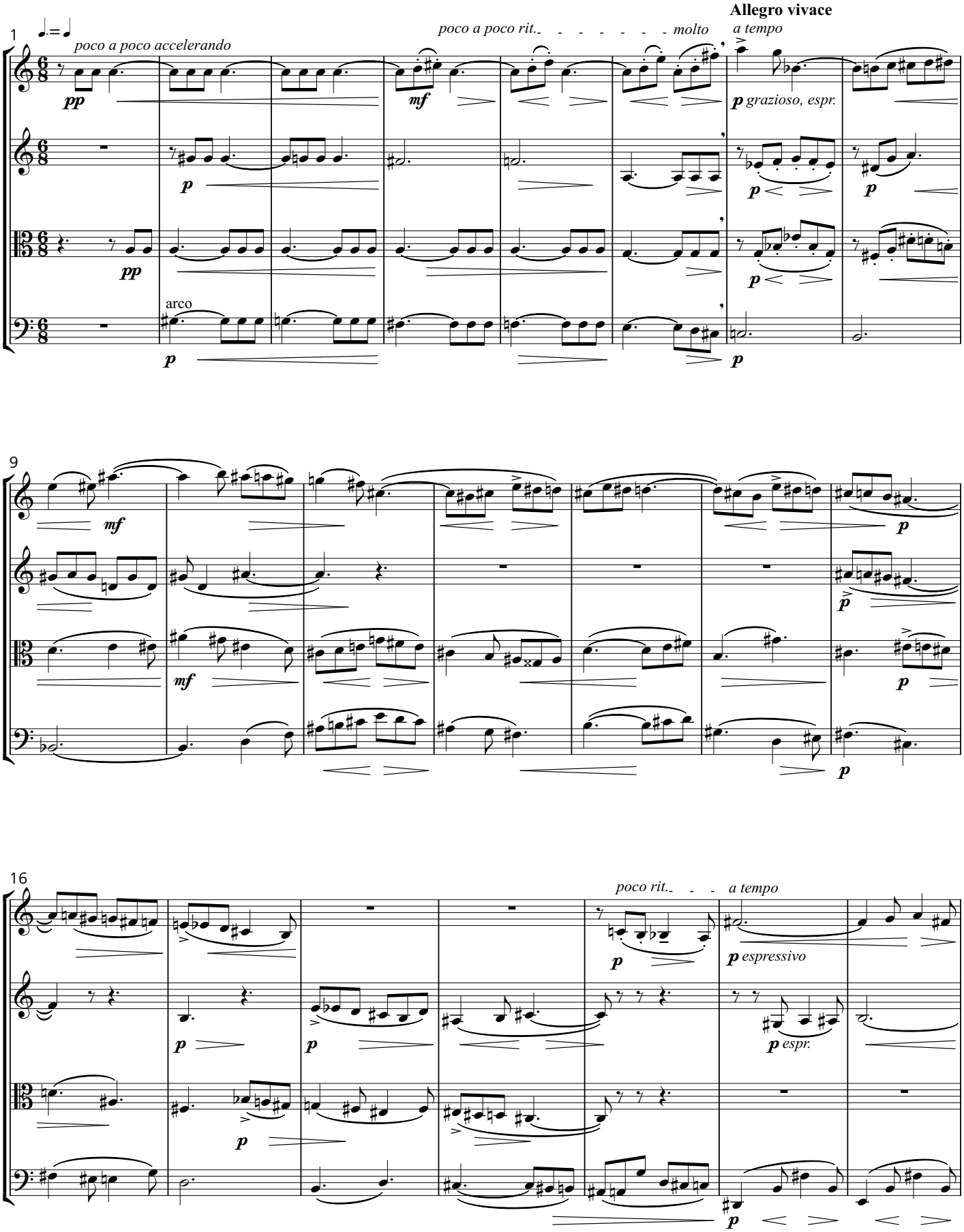
Quasi Intermezzo

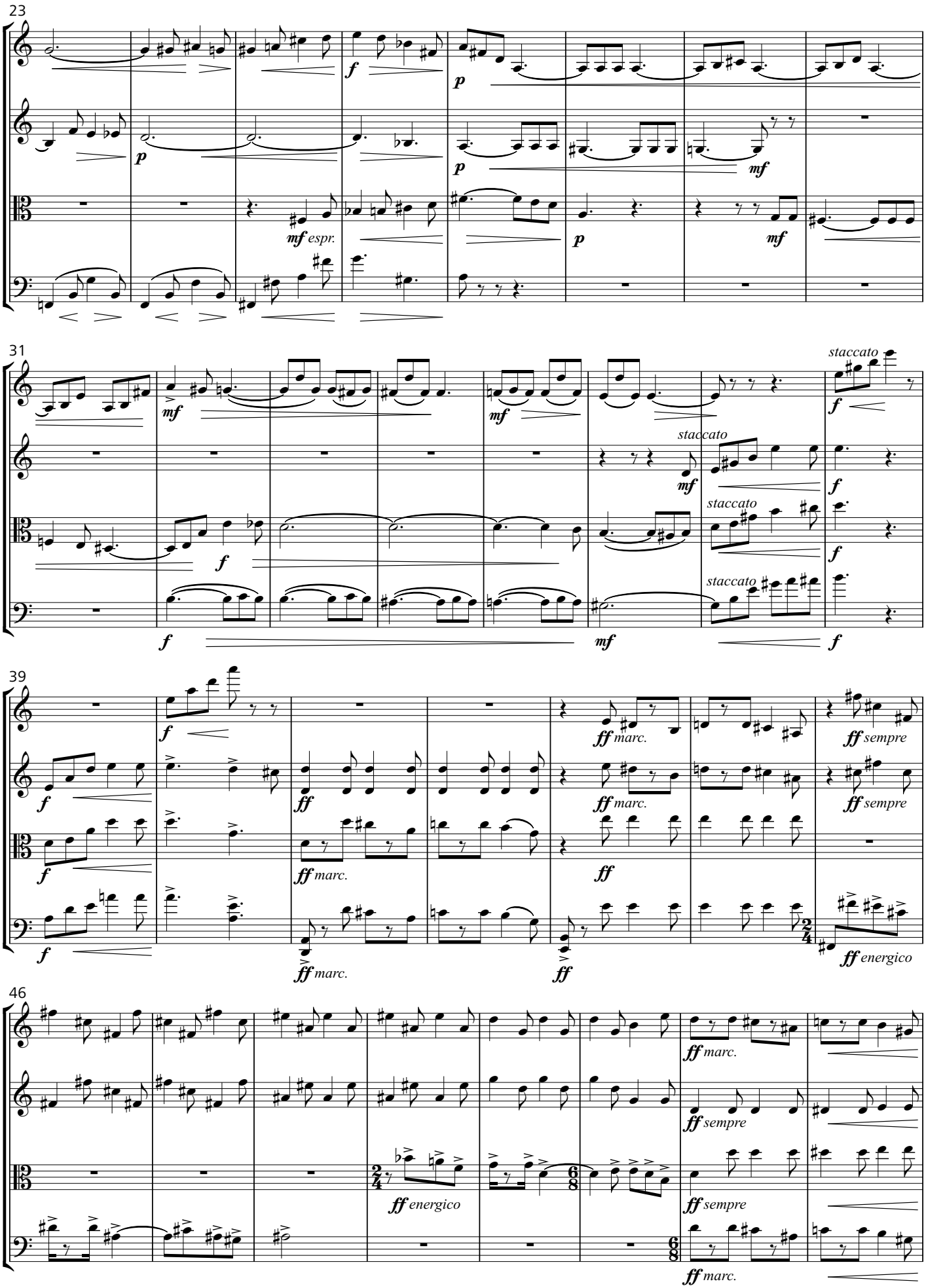


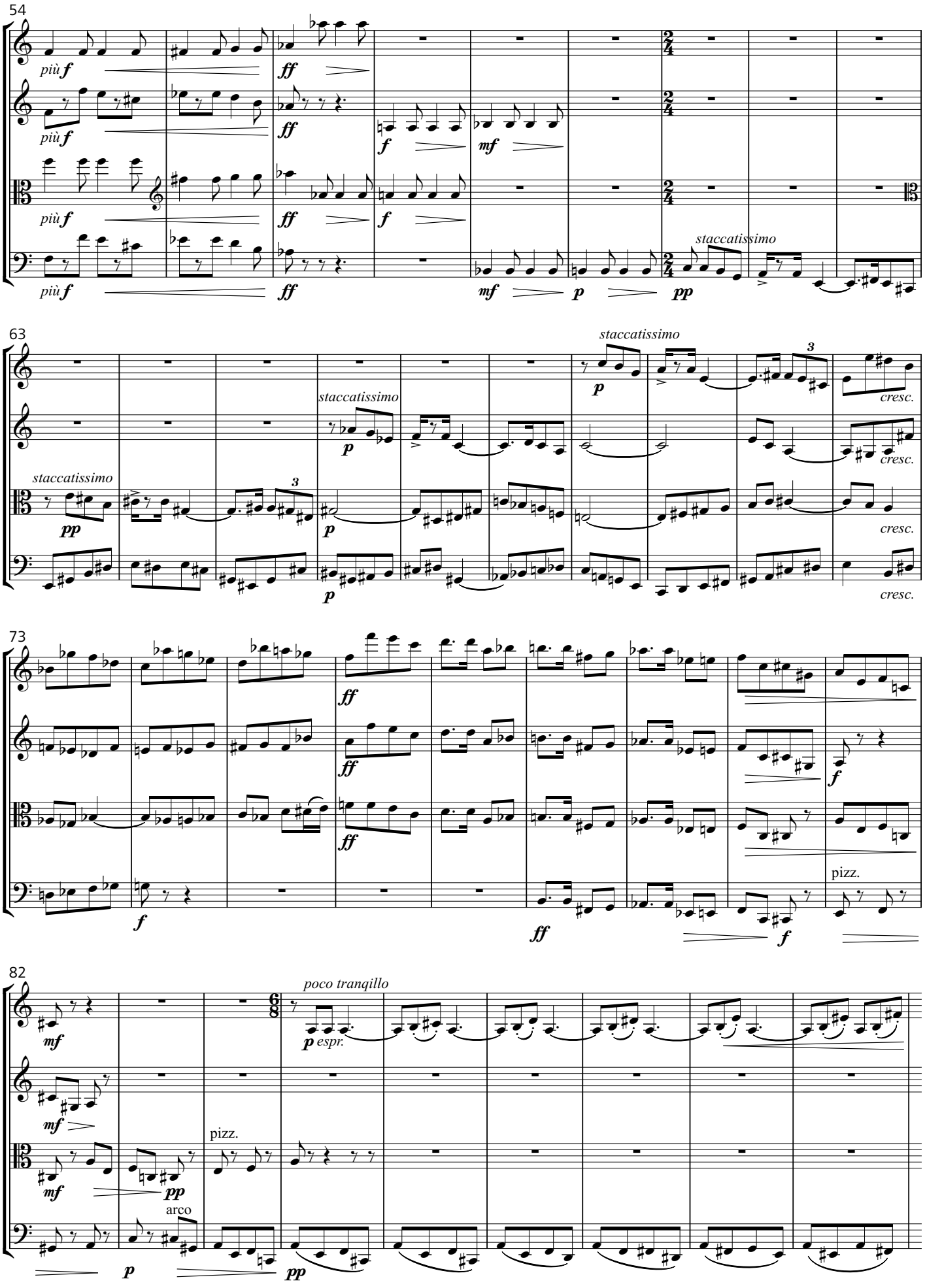

19
mf
mf
p
23
Sord.!
pp
rit.
Assai lento
pp
f
p
Sord.!
29
pp
p
35
pp
pp
arco
espr.
pp
pp
rit.
attaca
senza sord.
senza sord.

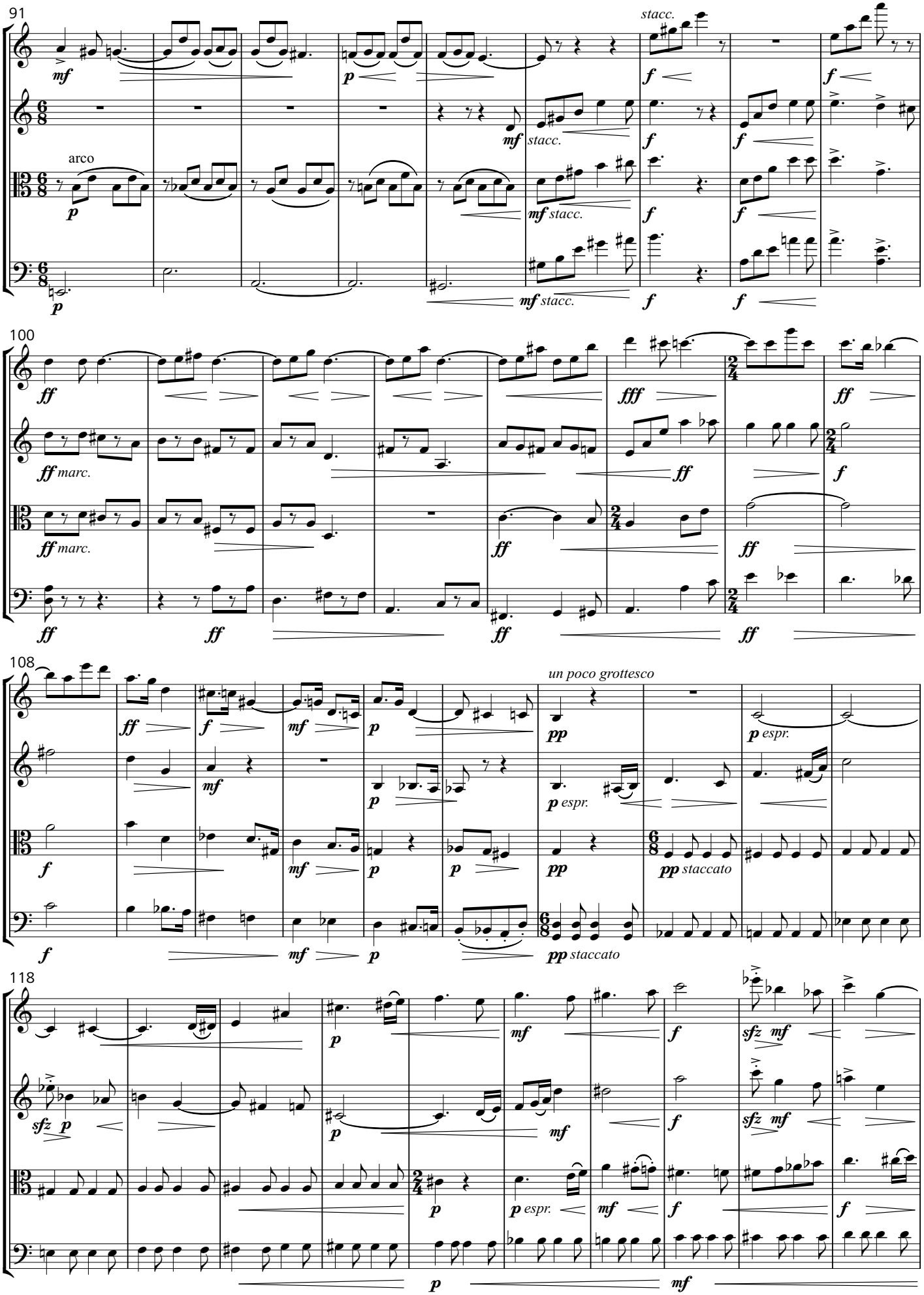
III Finale

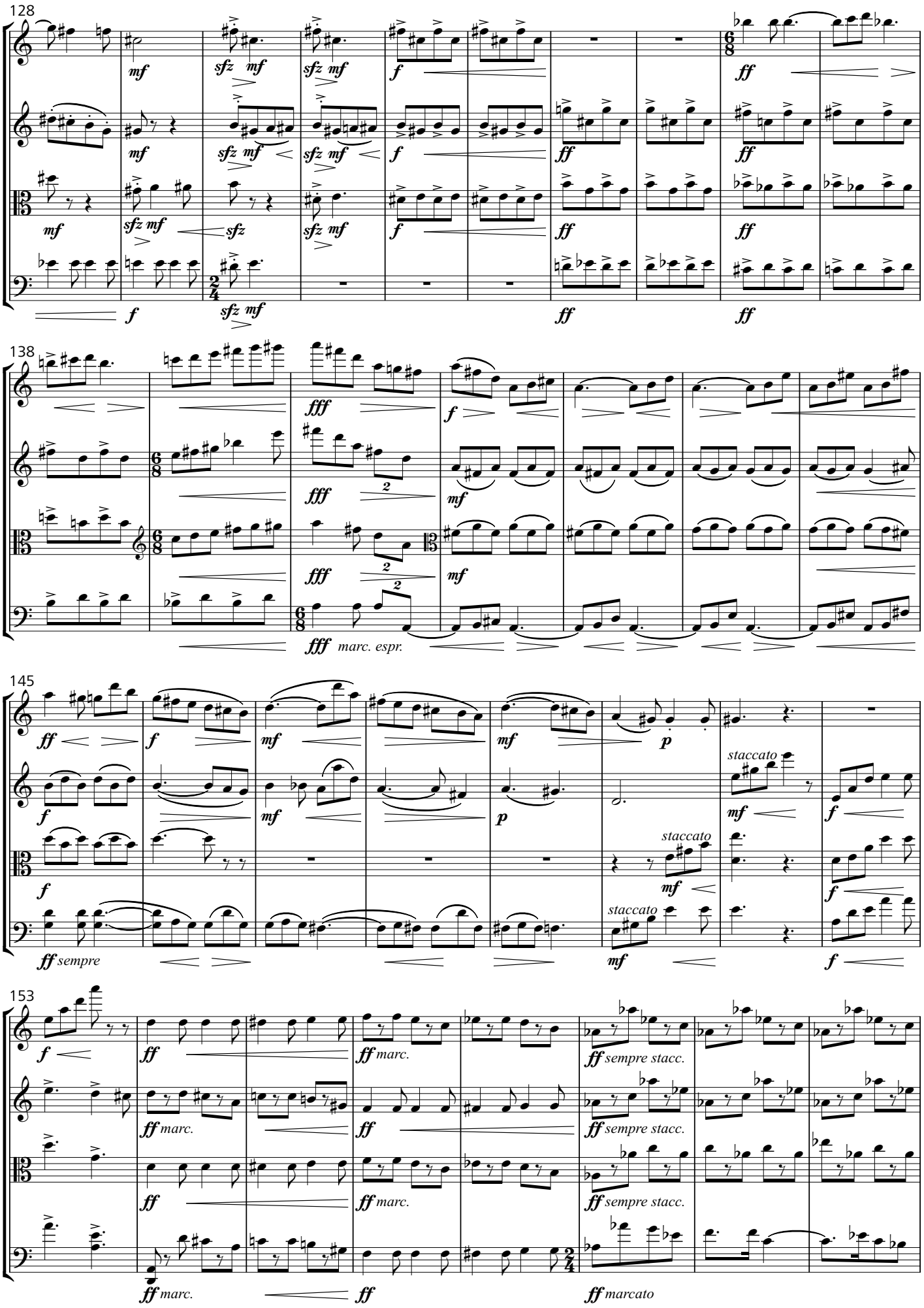
Rondo à la Capriccio

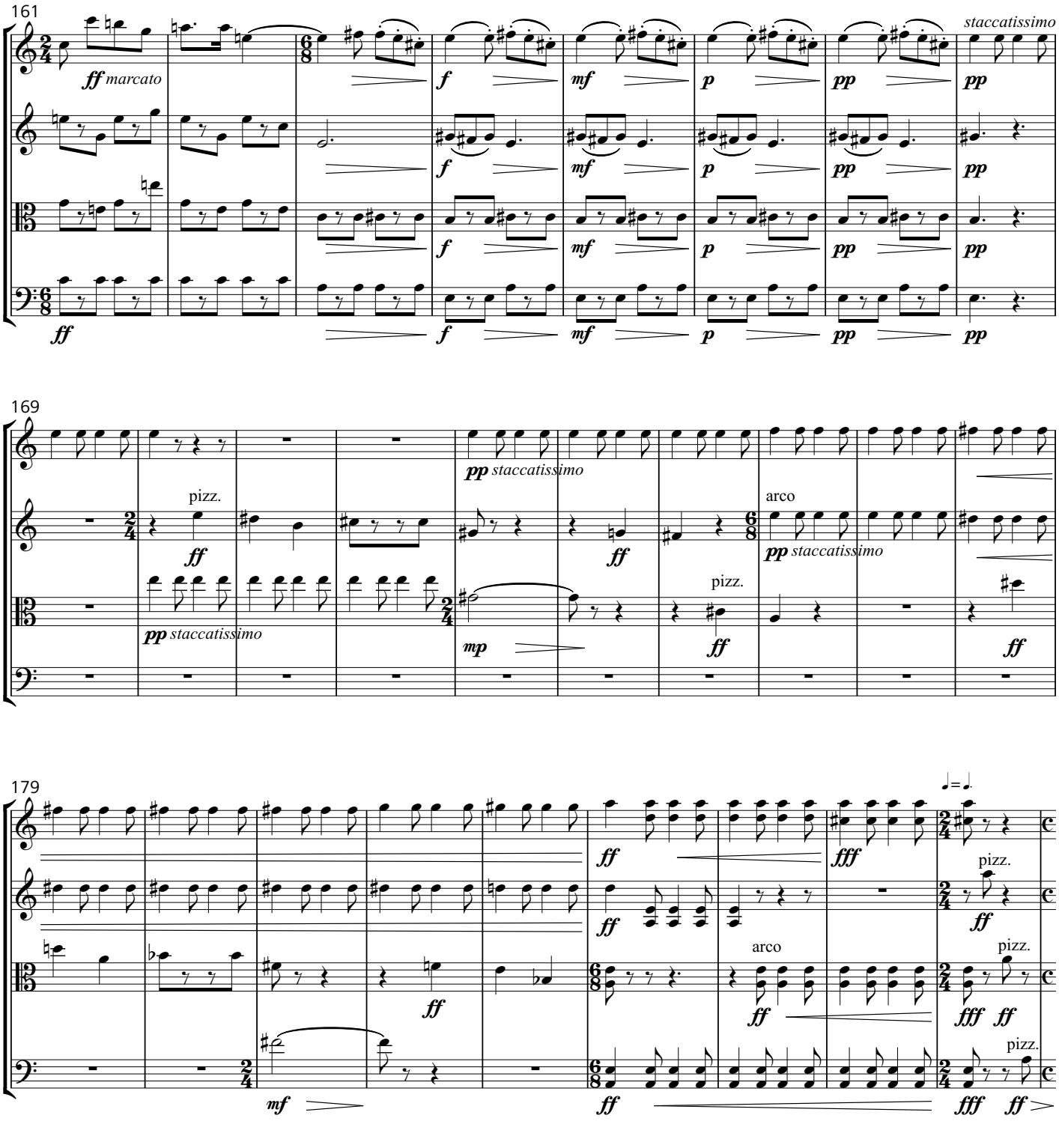


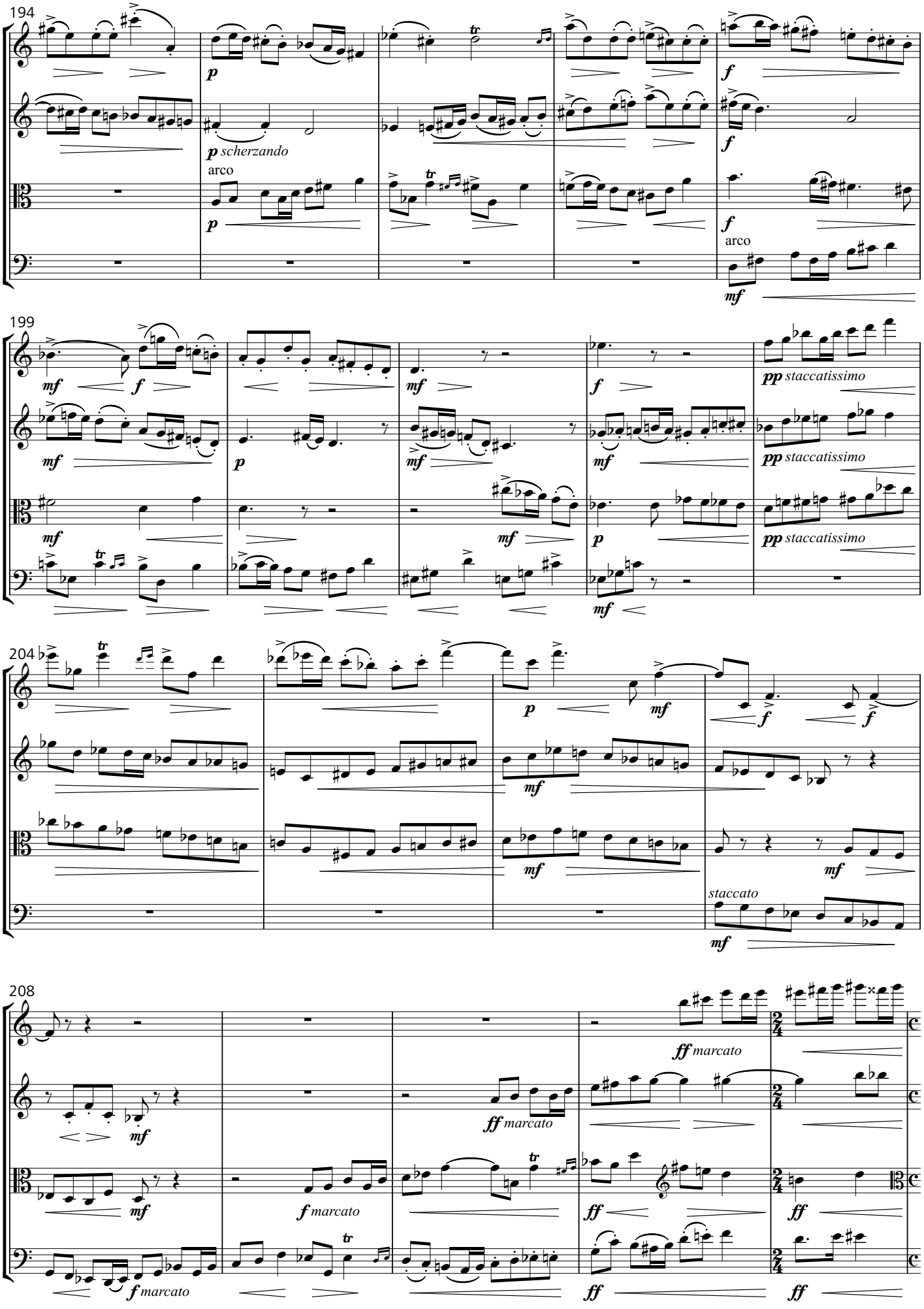

23
mf espr.
31
staccato
39
ff marc.
ff sempre
ff energico
46

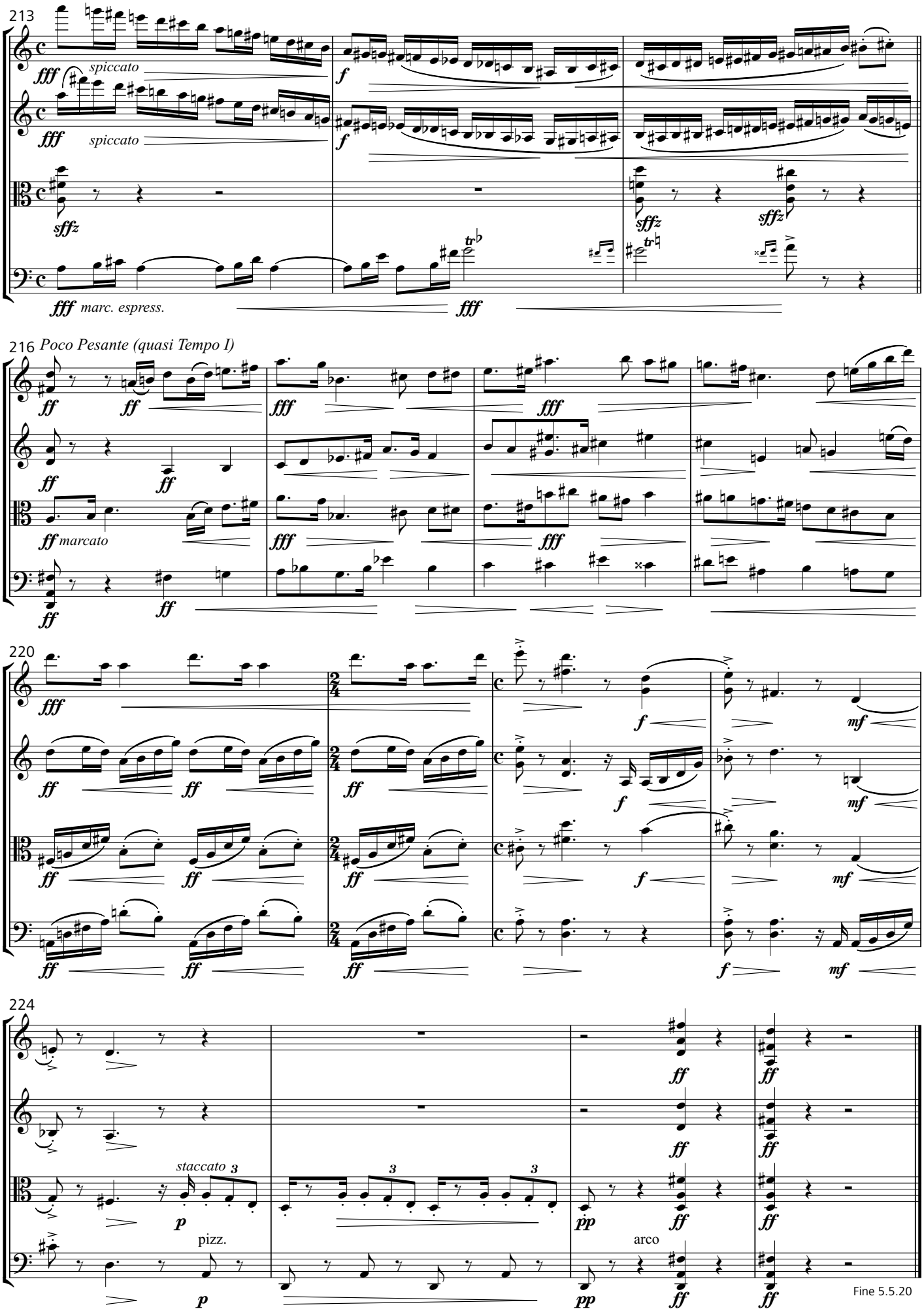

54
più f
più f
più f
più f
ff
ff
ff
f
f
f
mf
mf
p
pp
staccatissimo
63
staccatissimo
staccatissimo
staccatissimo
pp
p
p
p
3
3
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
cresc.
73
ff
ff
ff
ff
f
f
f
pizz.
82
poco tranqillo
mf
mf
p espr.
pizz.
mf
pp
arco
p
pp


91
stacc.
arco
stacc.
100
marc.
108
un poco grottesco
espr.
staccato
118


128
mf
sfz mf
f
ff
6/8
2/4
138
fff
marc. espr.
145
ff sempre
staccato
p
153
marc.
sempre stacc.
marcato


161
ff marcato
staccatissimo
169
pizz.
arco
pp staccatissimo
mp
179
fff
Fugato
Presto grazioso (♩=♩ del 2/4)
188
p scherzando


194
p
p scherzando
arco
p
f
f
arco
mf
199
mf
f
mf
p
mf
mf
p
mf
pp staccatissimo
pp staccatissimo
pp staccatissimo
204
p
mf
f
f
mf
mf
mf
staccato
mf
208
mf
mf
ff marcato
ff marcato
f marcato
ff
ff
f marcato
ff
ff


213
spiccato
spiccato
marc. espress.
216
Poco Pesante (quasi Tempo I)
marcato
220
224
staccato
pizz.
arco
Fine 5.5.20