STEVEN M. CRINO

THE ALCHEMIST IN THE CITY

for Baritone
with Flute, Clarinet, Harp, Percussion, and String Quartet
(2017)

Poetry by:
Gerard Manley Hopkins

Copyright © 2017 by Steven M. Crino
All rights reserved

Instrumentation

Flute
Clarinet in Bb
Harp
Marimba
Bass Drum
Floor Tom
Tam Tam
China Cymbal
Suspended Cymbal
Baritone
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello

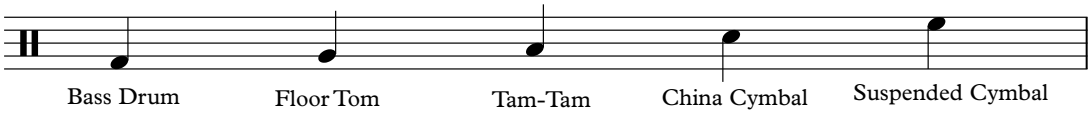
About The Work:

The Alchemist in the City is a single movement piece written for baritone and mixed octet. The piece sets the poetry of Gerard Manly Hopkins and depicts an alchemist who has reached the end of his life, and is lamenting the fact that he has failed to accomplish the two primary goals of alchemy; to turn metals into gold, and to create an elixir of immortality. He also reflects on the modernization of the city around him, where he sees that alchemy no longer has a place. With this realization, the Alchemist cannot decide whether to blame the city and modernization for turning him into this anachronism, or the pursuit of alchemy itself for leading him down a path destined for defeat. Despite being written in 1865, the themes found in The Alchemist in the City, such as failure, relevance in society, and the surpassing of old ideas, are still relevant in the world today. It was for this reason that I was attracted to the poem and feel that it should have a life in the 21st century.

Performance Instructions:

The percussion part consists of all of the instruments listed in the key below along with marimba. This percussion key is only valid with the presence of the percussion clef pictured in the key below. If this is not present, then the percussionist is playing the marimba using the grand staff notated. There are also several moments where the percussionist is asked to scrape one of the cymbals with a wooden mallet, such as a marimba mallet. This will be notated with 'x' note heads and has a written performance instruction in the score. When striking the floor tom, please use timpani mallets, not drum sticks.

Percussion Key



The Alchemist in the City

My window shows the travelling clouds,
Leaves spent, new seasons, alter'd sky,
The making and the melting crowds:
The whole world passes; I stand by.

They do not waste their meted hours,
But men and masters plan and build:
I see the crowning of their towers,
And happy promises fulfilled.

And I - perhaps if my intent
Could count on prediluvian age,
The labours I should then have spent
Might so attain their heritage,

But now before the pot can glow
With not to be discover'd gold,
At length the bellows shall not blow,
The furnace shall at last be cold.

Yet it is now too late to heal
The incapable and cumbrous shame
Which makes me when with men I deal
More powerless than the blind or lame.

No, I should love the city less
Even than this my thankless lore;
But I desire the wilderness
Or weeded landslips of the shore.

I walk my breezy belvedere
To watch the low or levant sun,
I see the city pigeons veer,
I mark the tower swallows run

Between the tower-top and the ground
Below me in the bearing air;
Then find in the horizon-round
One spot and hunger to be there.

And then I hate the most that lore
That holds no promise of success;
Then sweetest seems the houseless shore,
Then free and kind the wilderness,

Or ancient mounds that cover bones,
Or rocks where rockdoves do repair
And trees of terebinth and stones
And silence and a gulf of air.

There on a long and squared height
After the sunset I would lie,
And pierce the yellow waxen light
With free long looking, ere I die.

Gerard Manley Hopkins - 1865

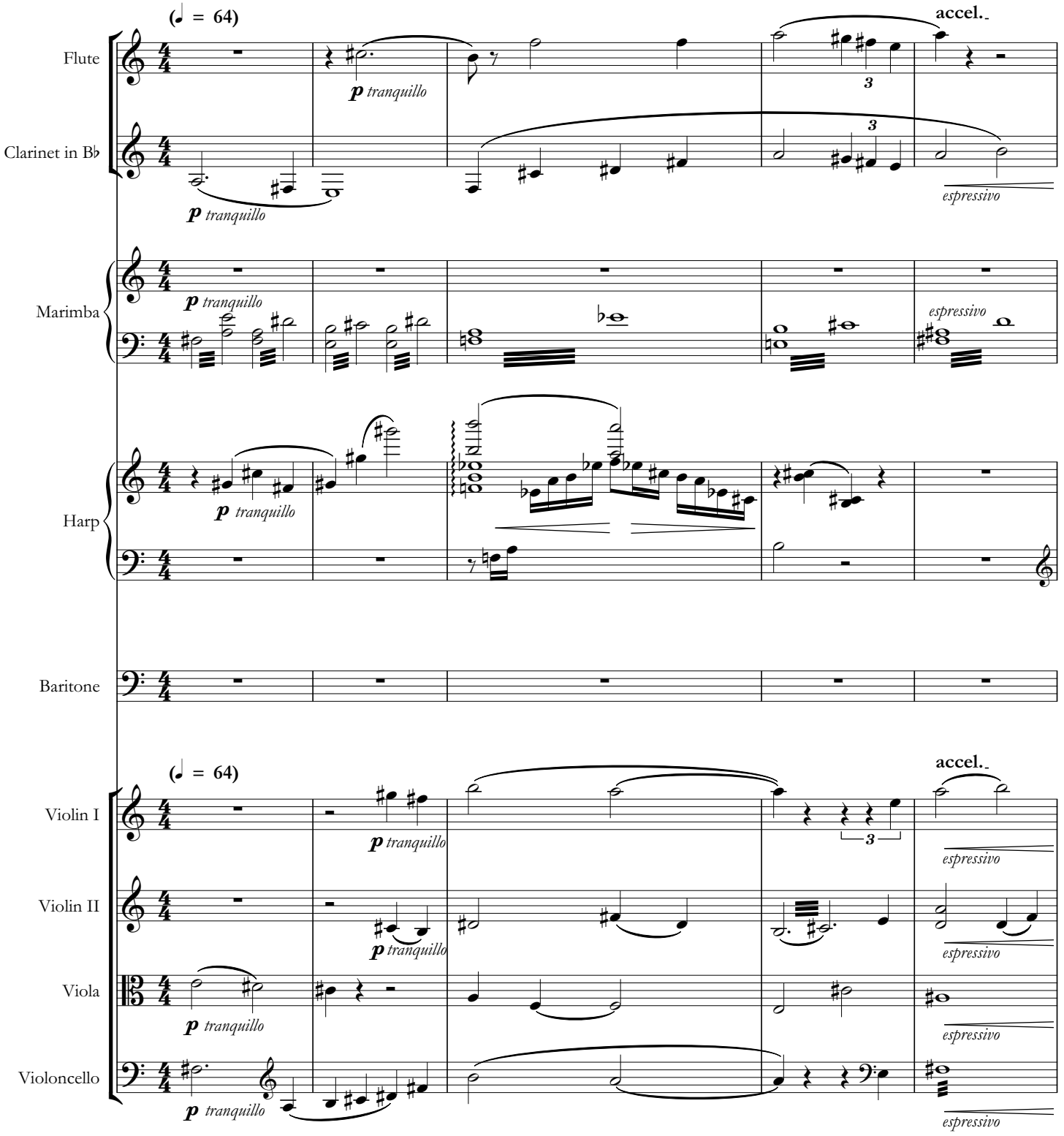
Score in C

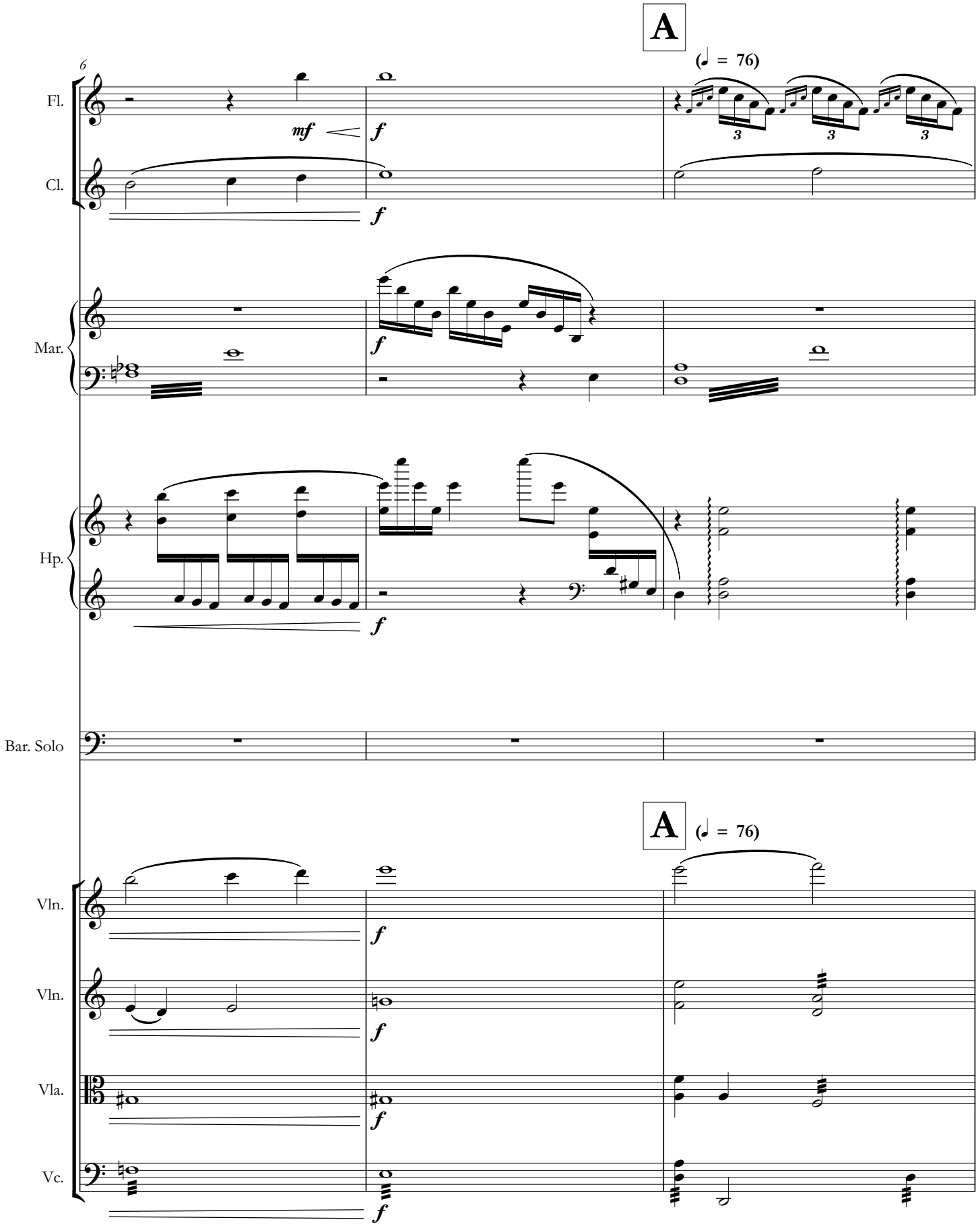
Gerard Manly Hopkins - 1865

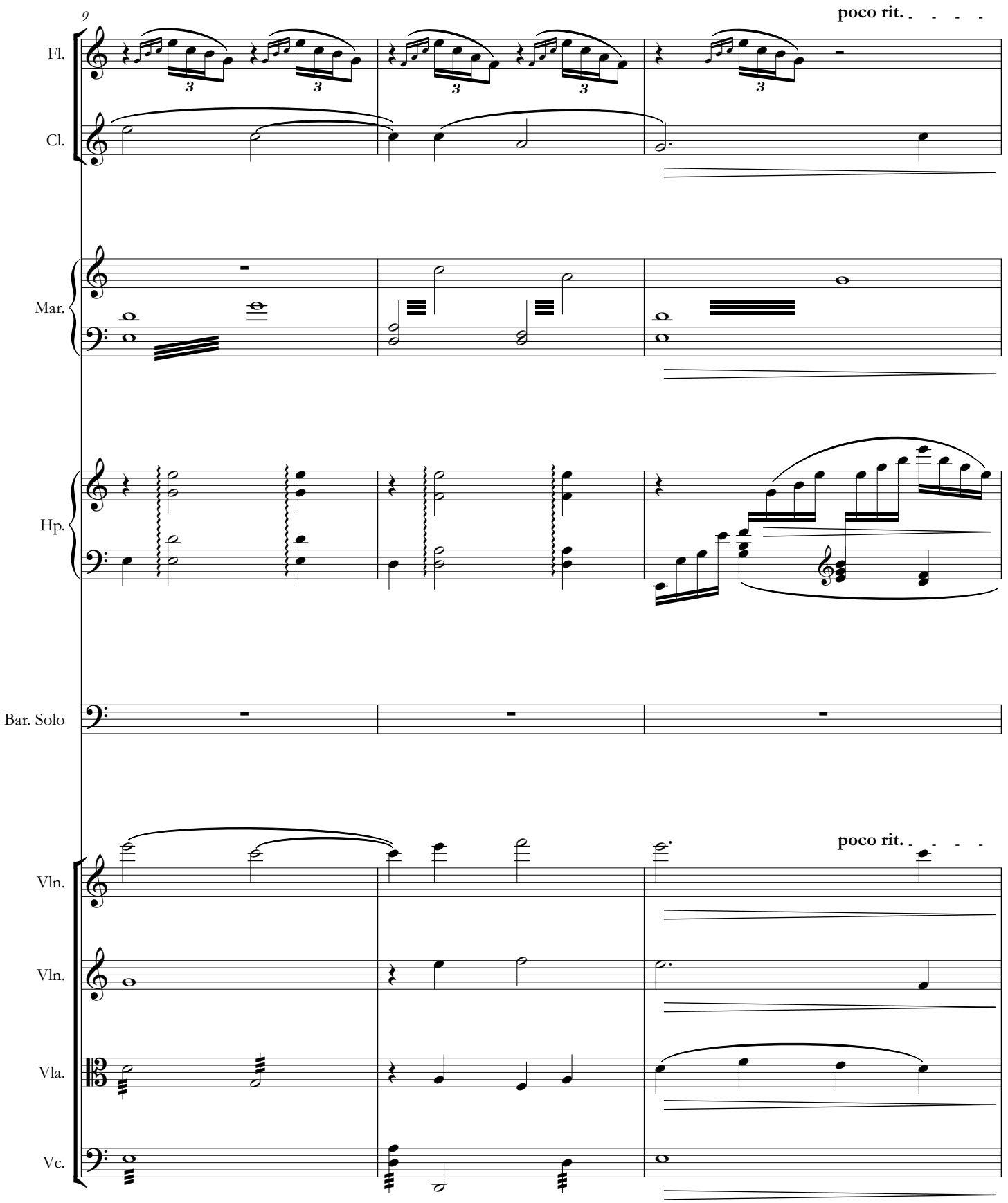
Steven M. Crino
2017

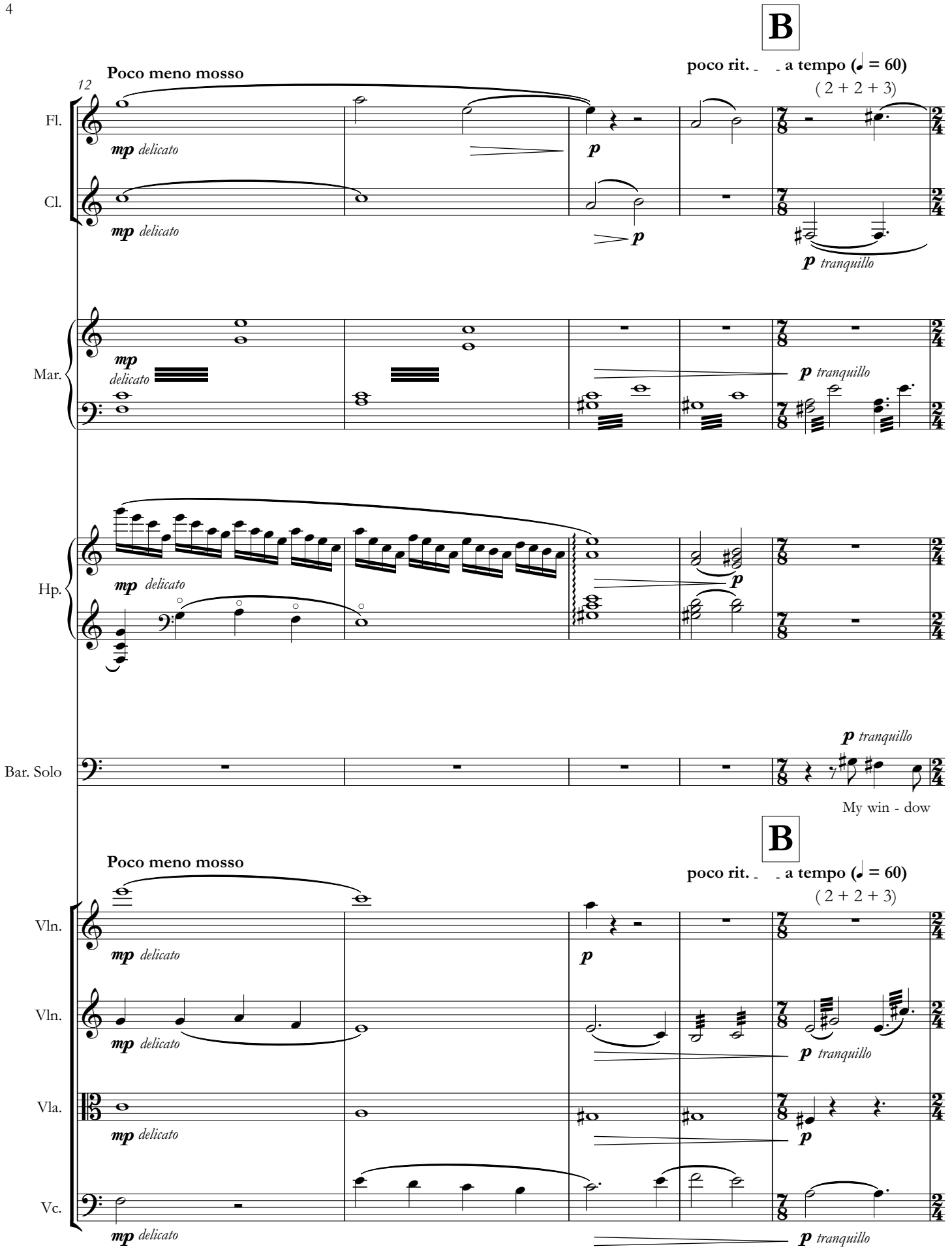
The Alchemist in the City

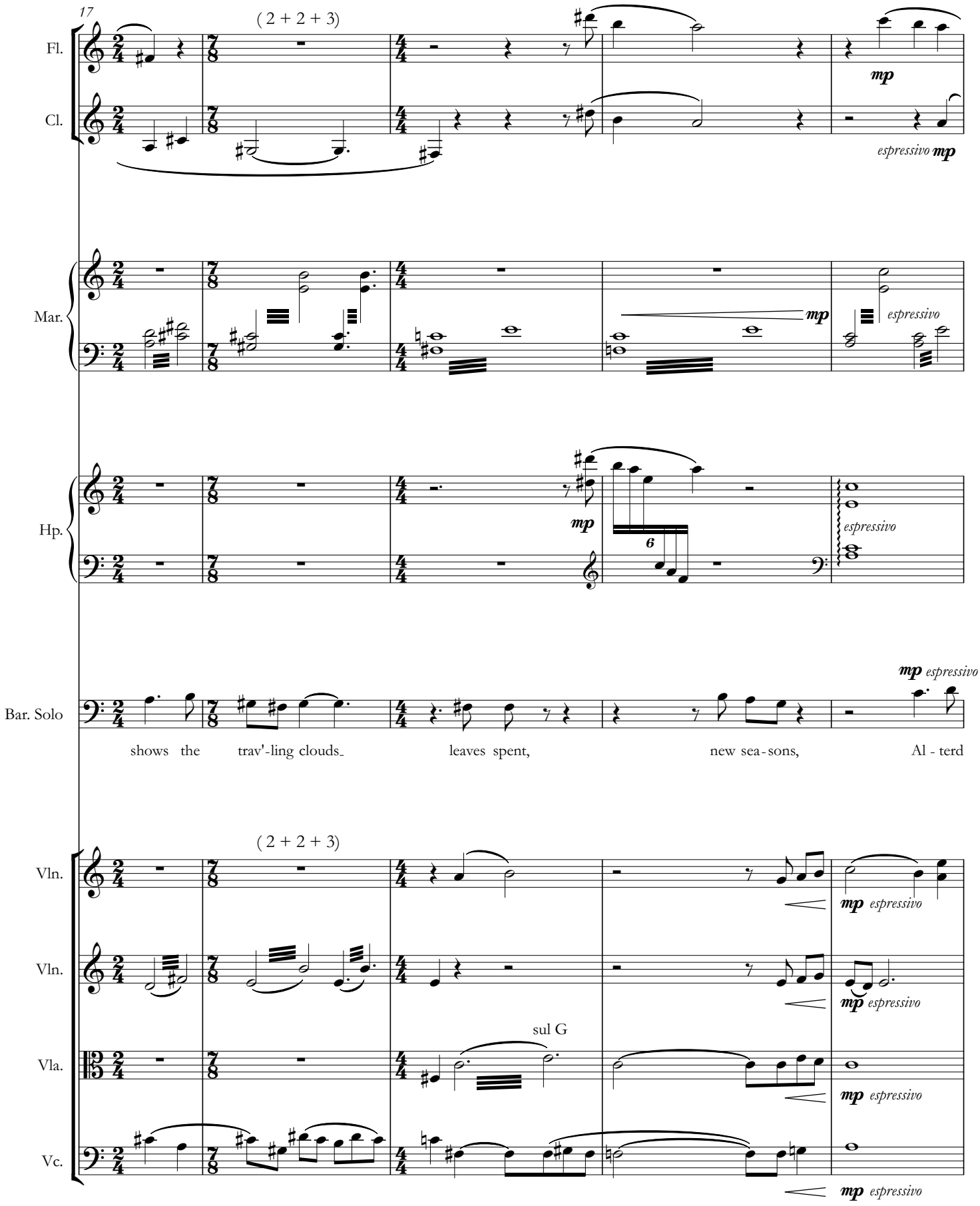
for Baritone and Mixed Octet

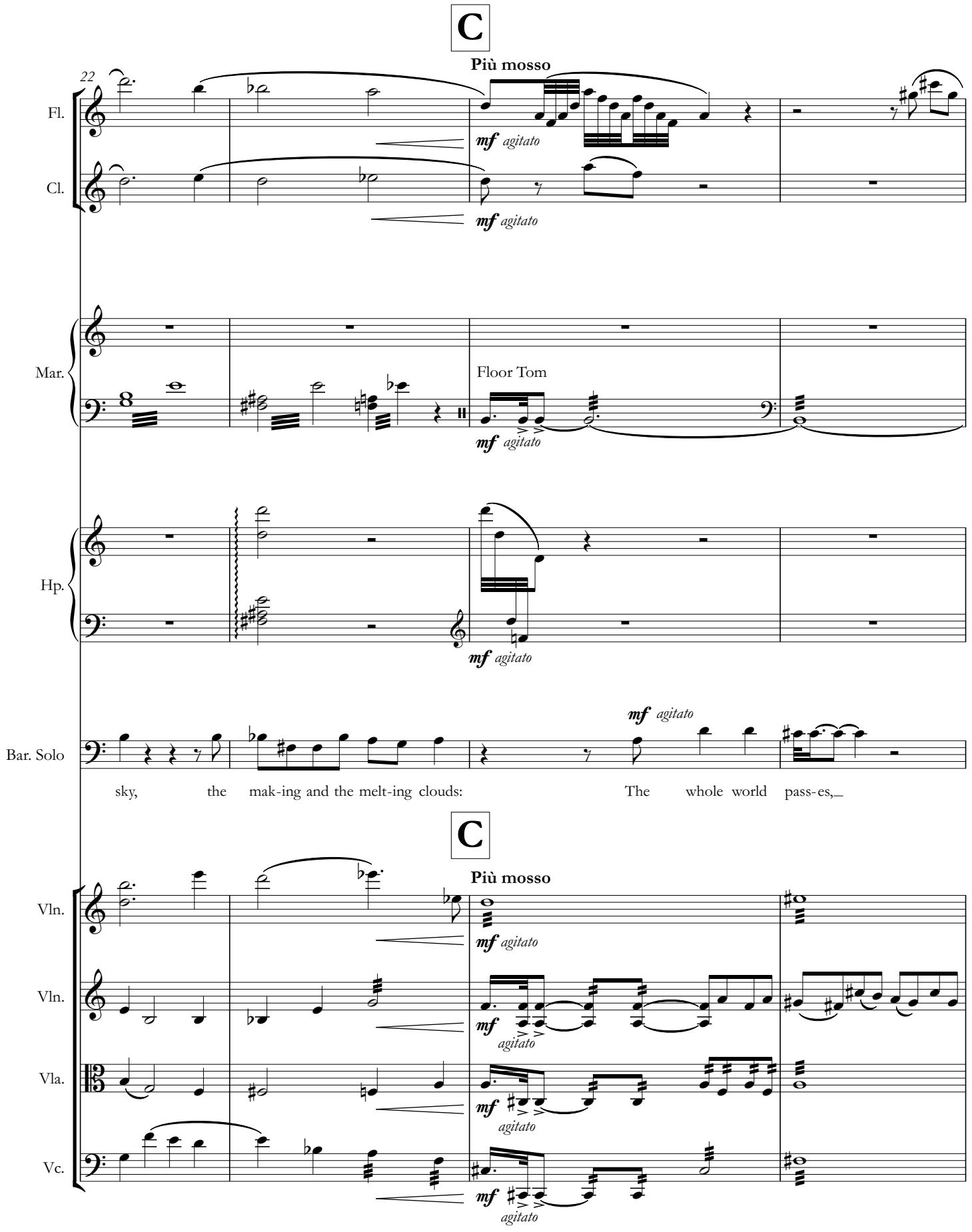


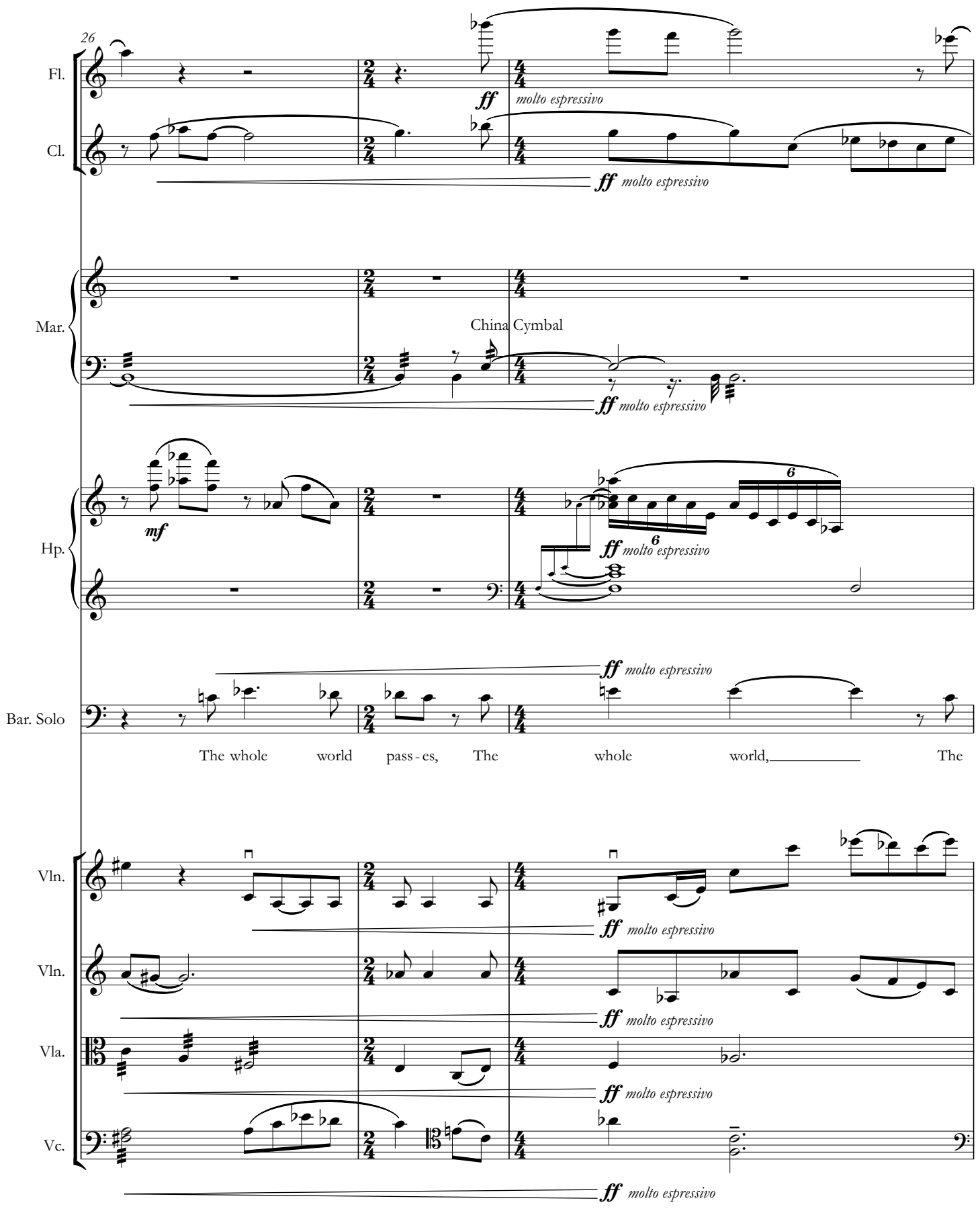

A
(♩ = 76)
6
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
A
(♩ = 76)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mf
f
3

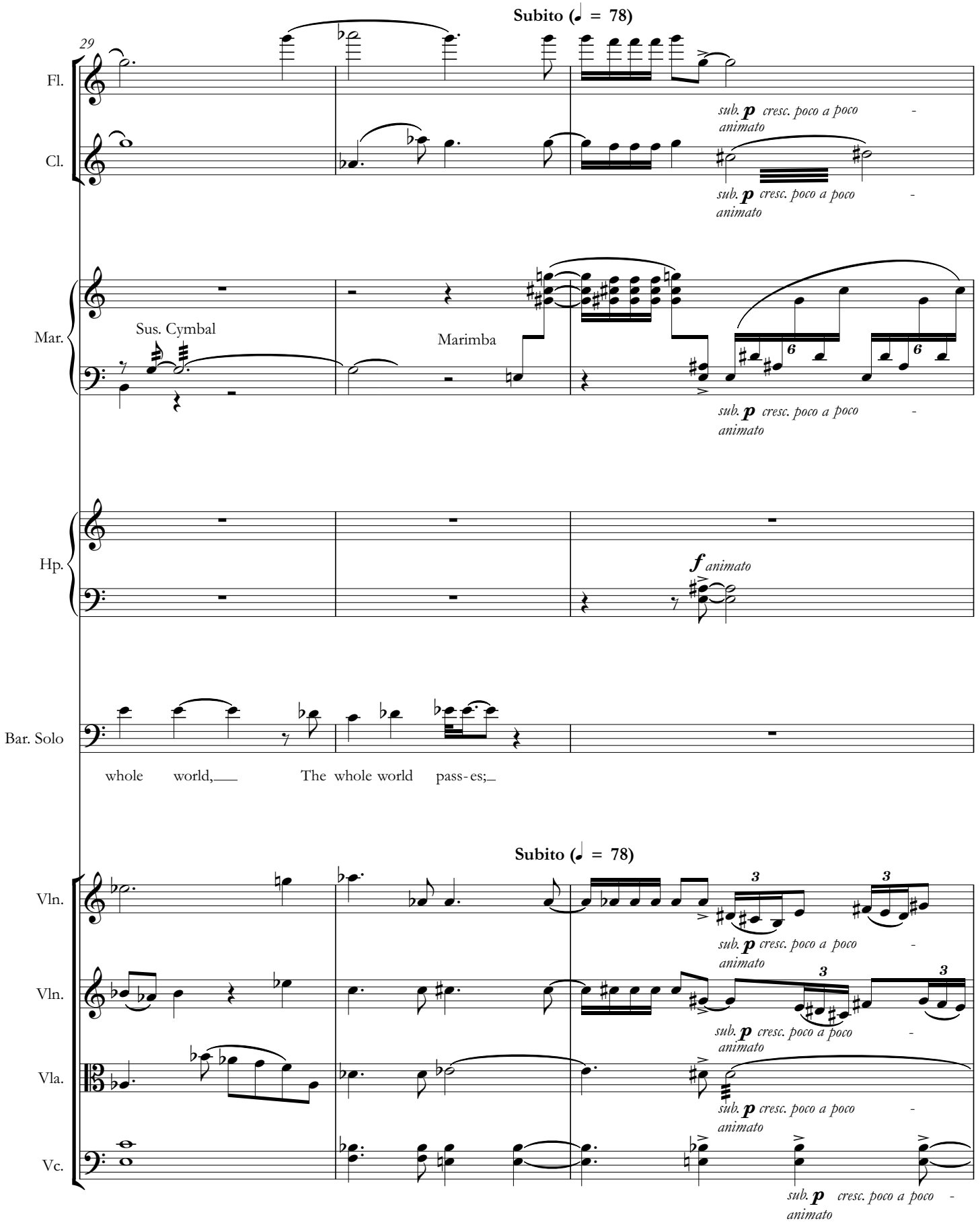

9
poco rit.
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
poco rit.
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

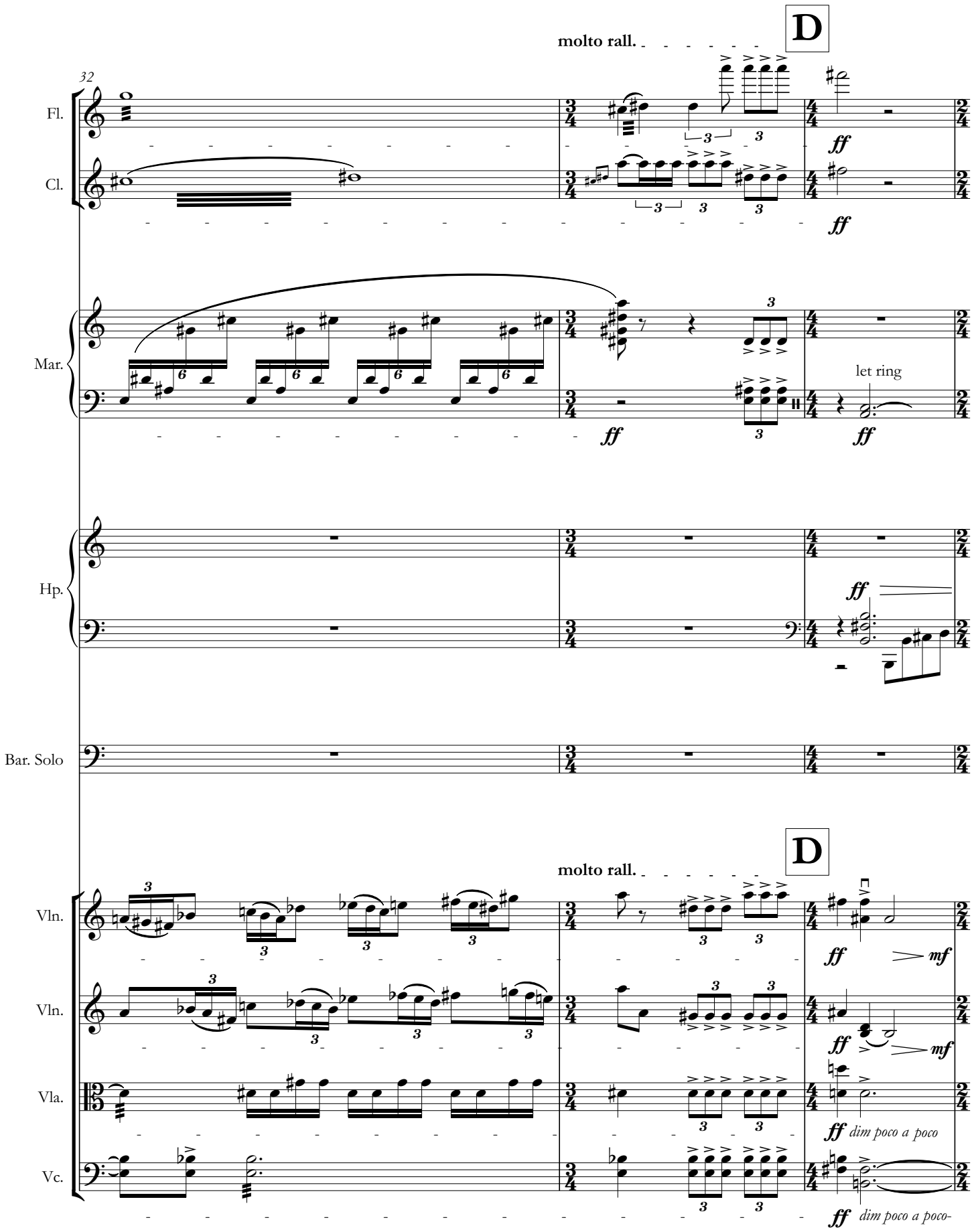

B
Poco meno mosso
poco rit. - - a tempo (♩ = 60)
(2 + 2 + 3)
12
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp delicato
p
p tranquillo
My win - dow

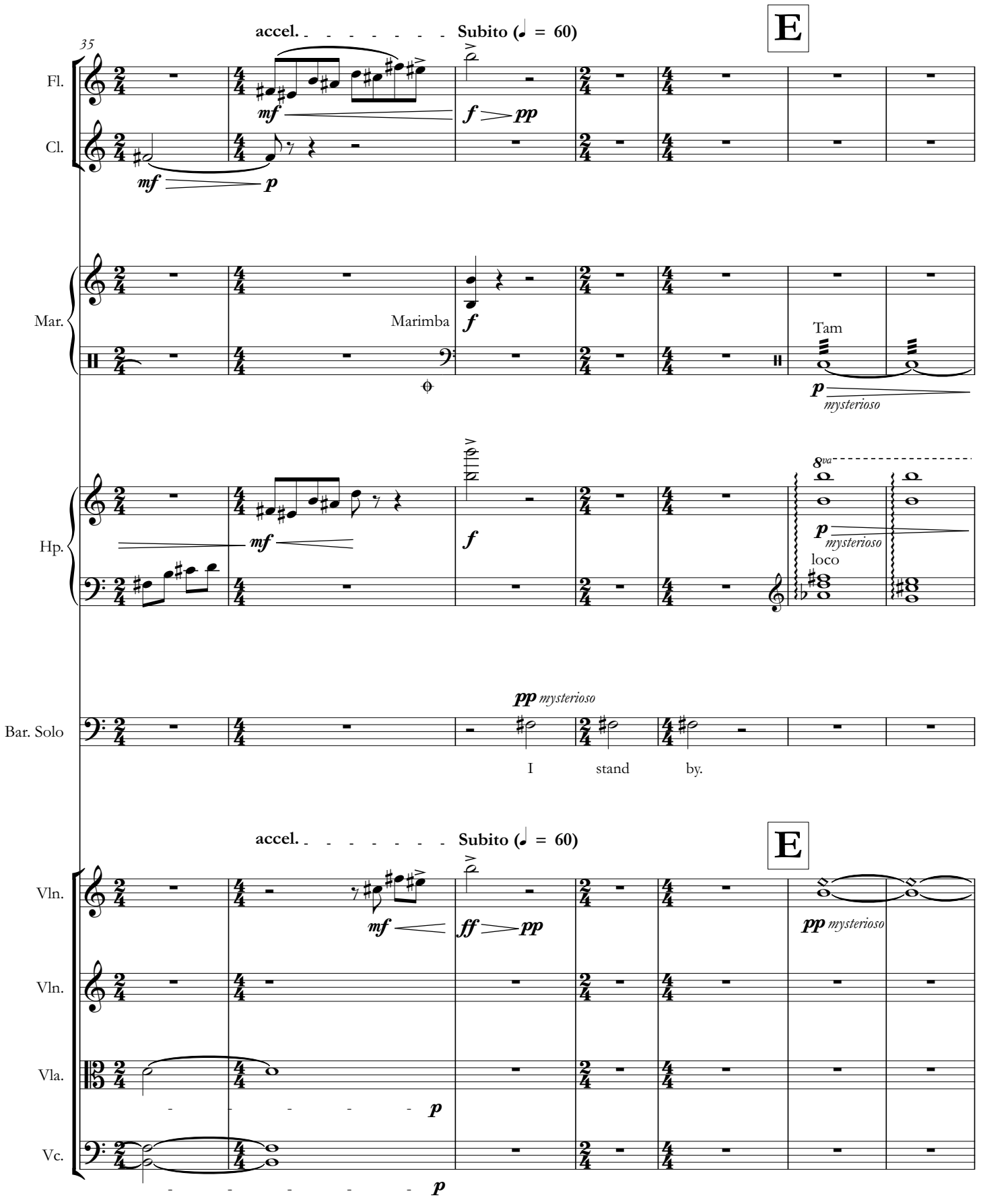

17
(2 + 2 + 3)
Fl.
Cl.
mp
espressivo mp
Mar.
mp
espressivo
Hp.
mp
6
espressivo
Bar. Solo
mp espressivo
shows the trav'-ling clouds_ leaves spent, new sea - sons, Al - terd
(2 + 2 + 3)
Vln.
mp espressivo
Vln.
mp espressivo
sul G
Vla.
mp espressivo
Vc.
mp espressivo

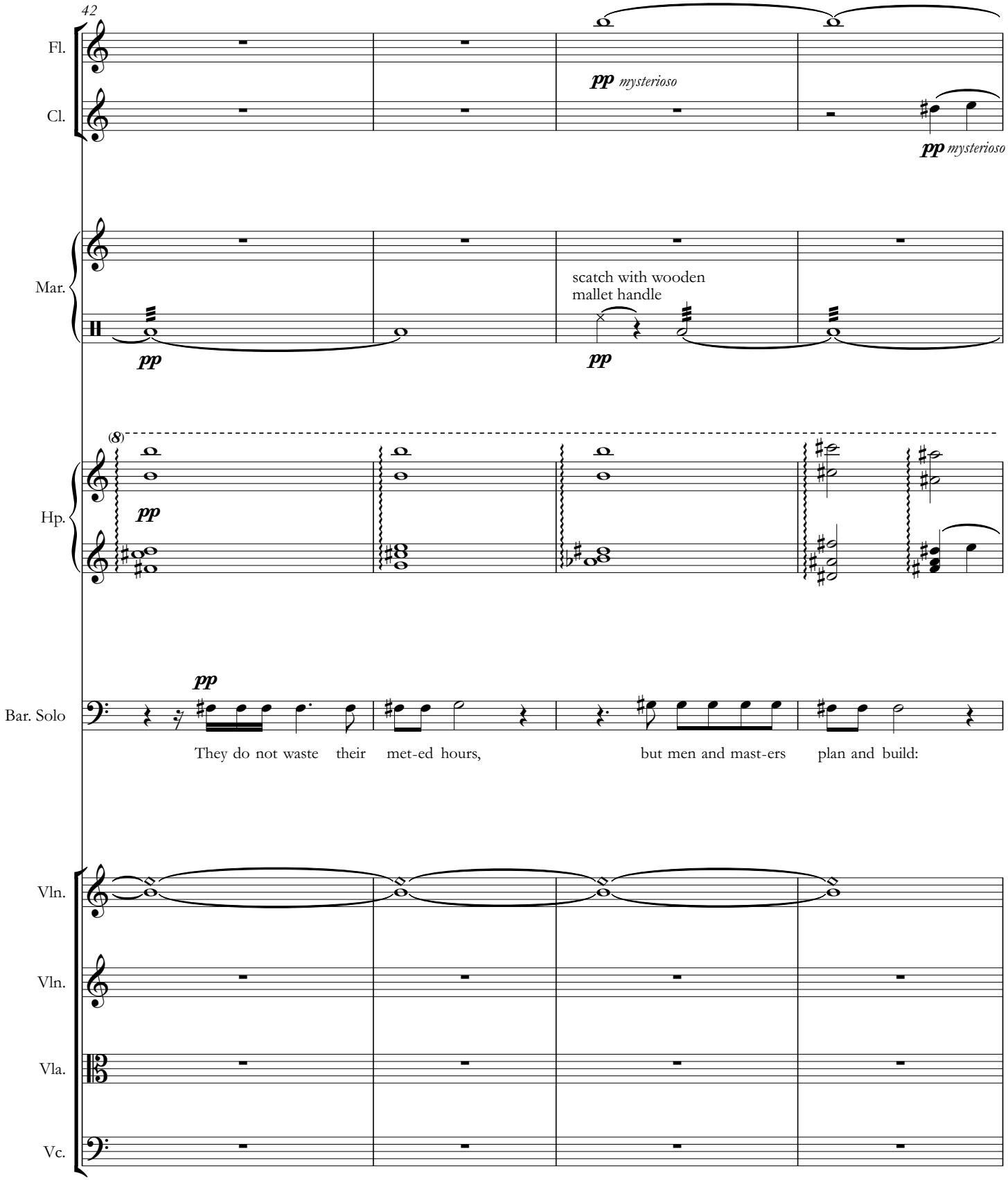

C
Più mosso
22
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mf agitato
Floor Tom
sky, the mak-ing and the melt-ing clouds: The whole world pass-es,_

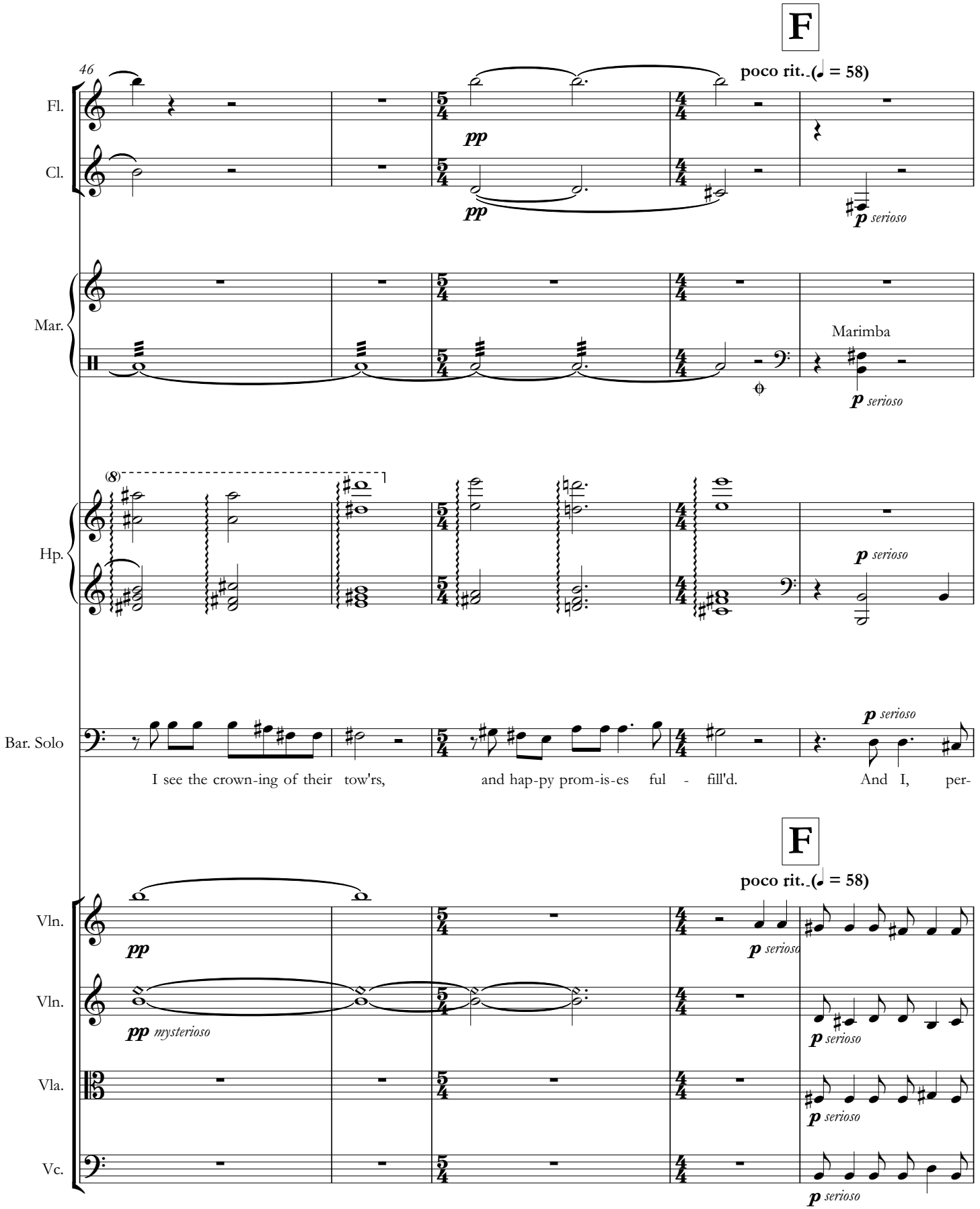

26
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ff molto espressivo
mf
China Cymbal
The whole world pass - es, The whole world, The

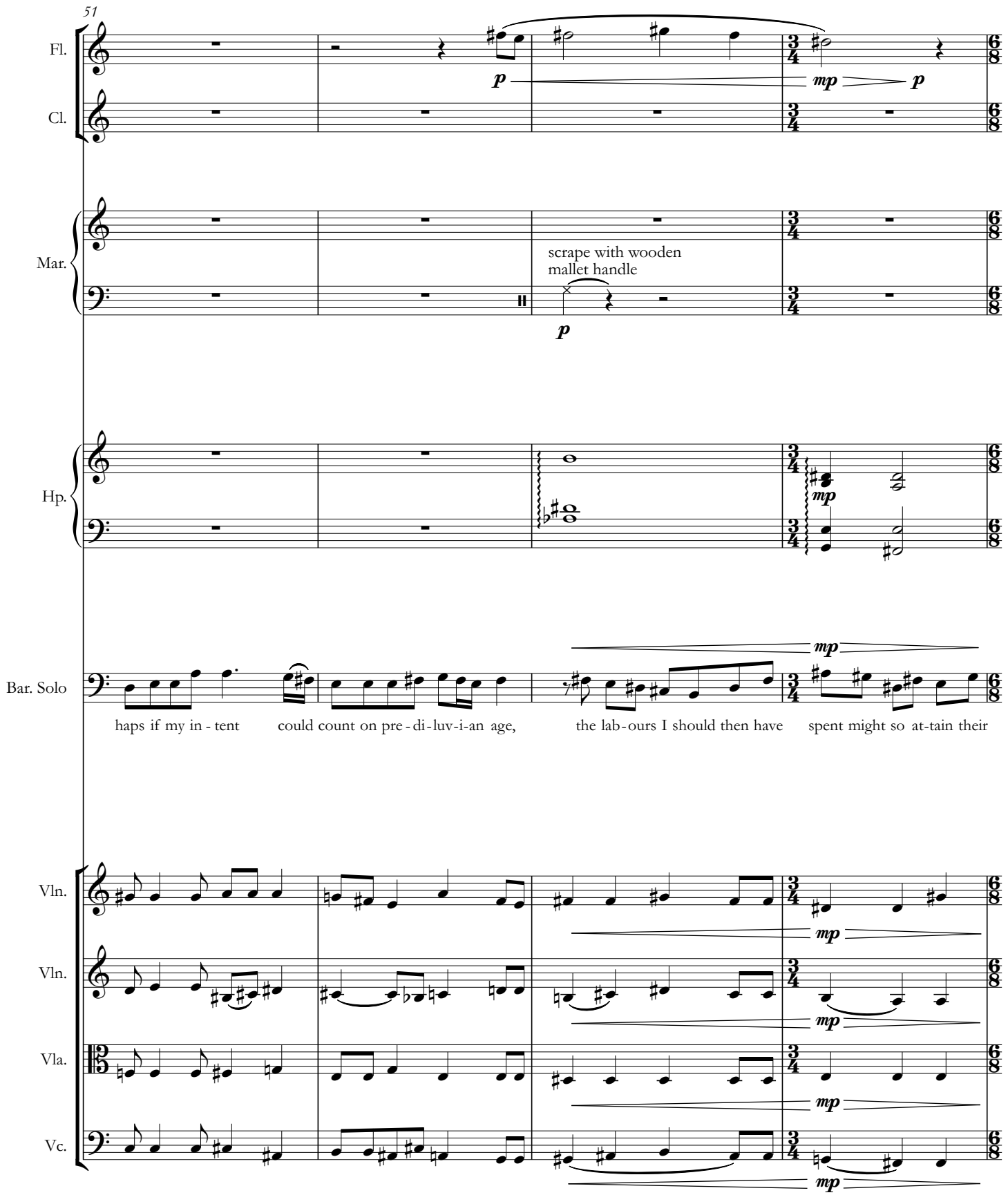

Subito (♩ = 78)
29
Fl.
Cl.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco animato
Mar.
Sus. Cymbal
Marimba
Hp.
f animato
Bar. Solo
whole world, The whole world pass-es;
Subito (♩ = 78)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

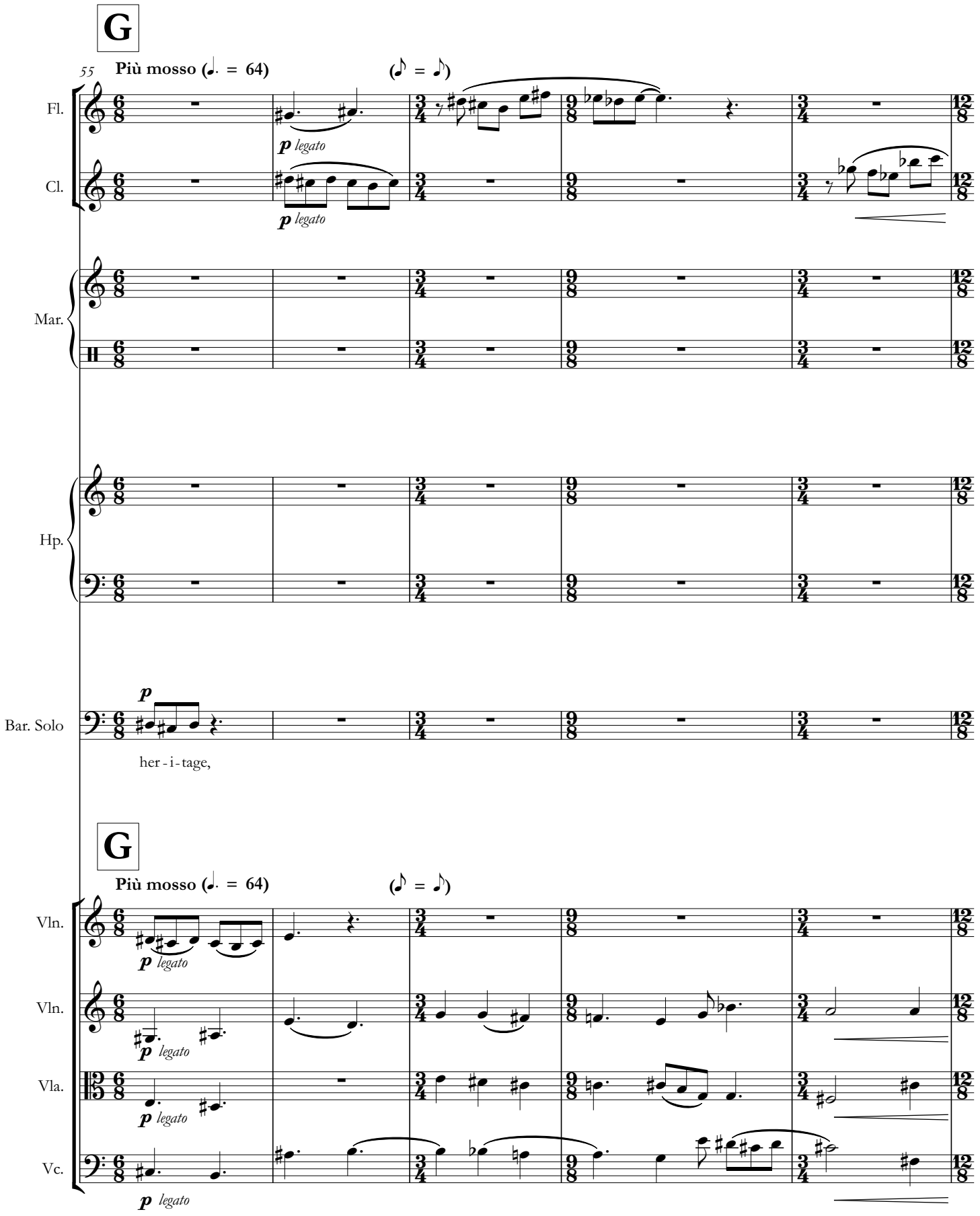

D
molto rall.
32
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
let ring
Hp.
Bar. Solo
D
molto rall.
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
dim poco a poco
dim poco a poco-

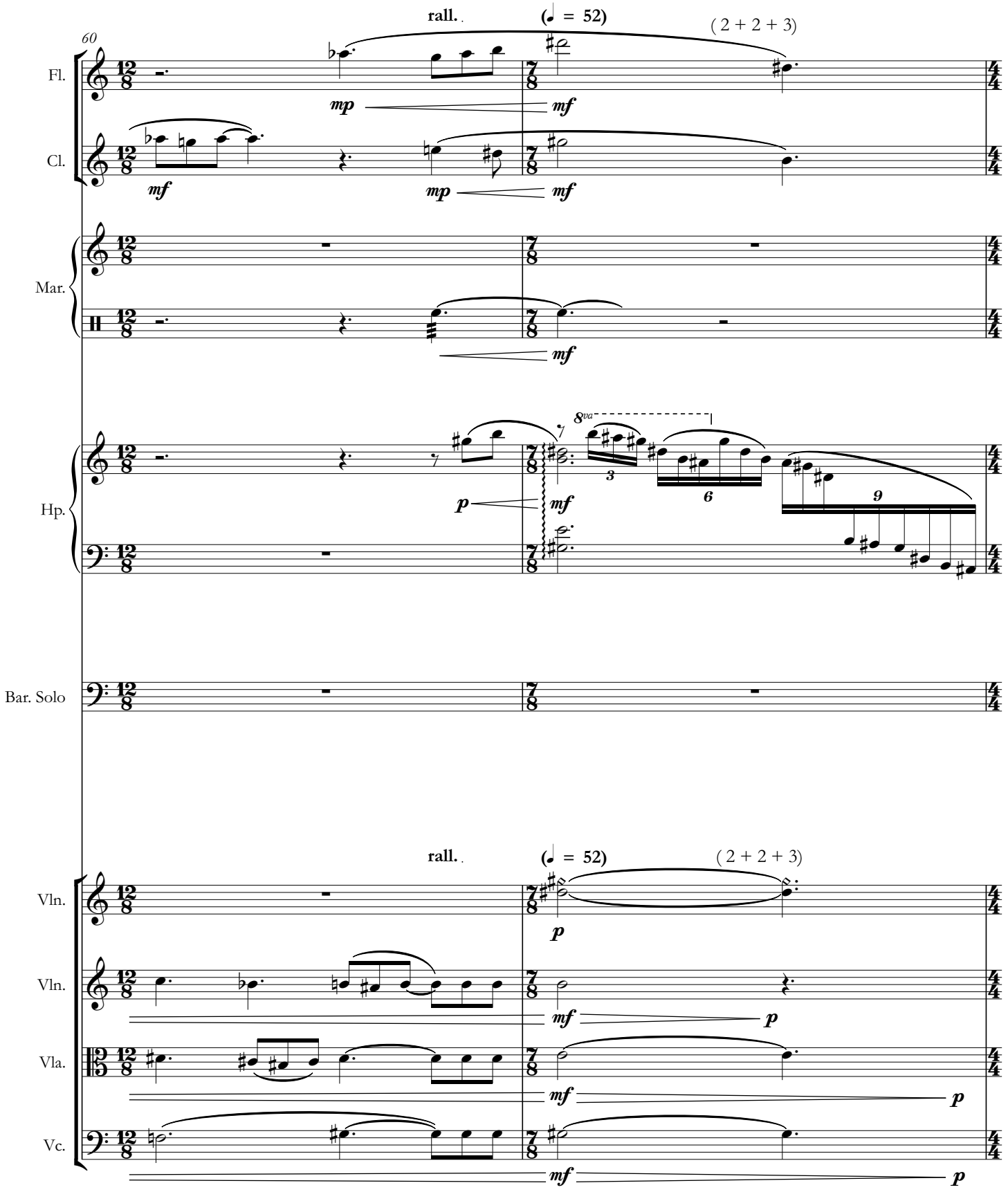

35
accel.
Subito (♩ = 60)
E
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Marimba
Tam
mysterioso
Hp.
8va
loco
Bar. Solo
pp mysterioso
I stand by.
accel.
Subito (♩ = 60)
E
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

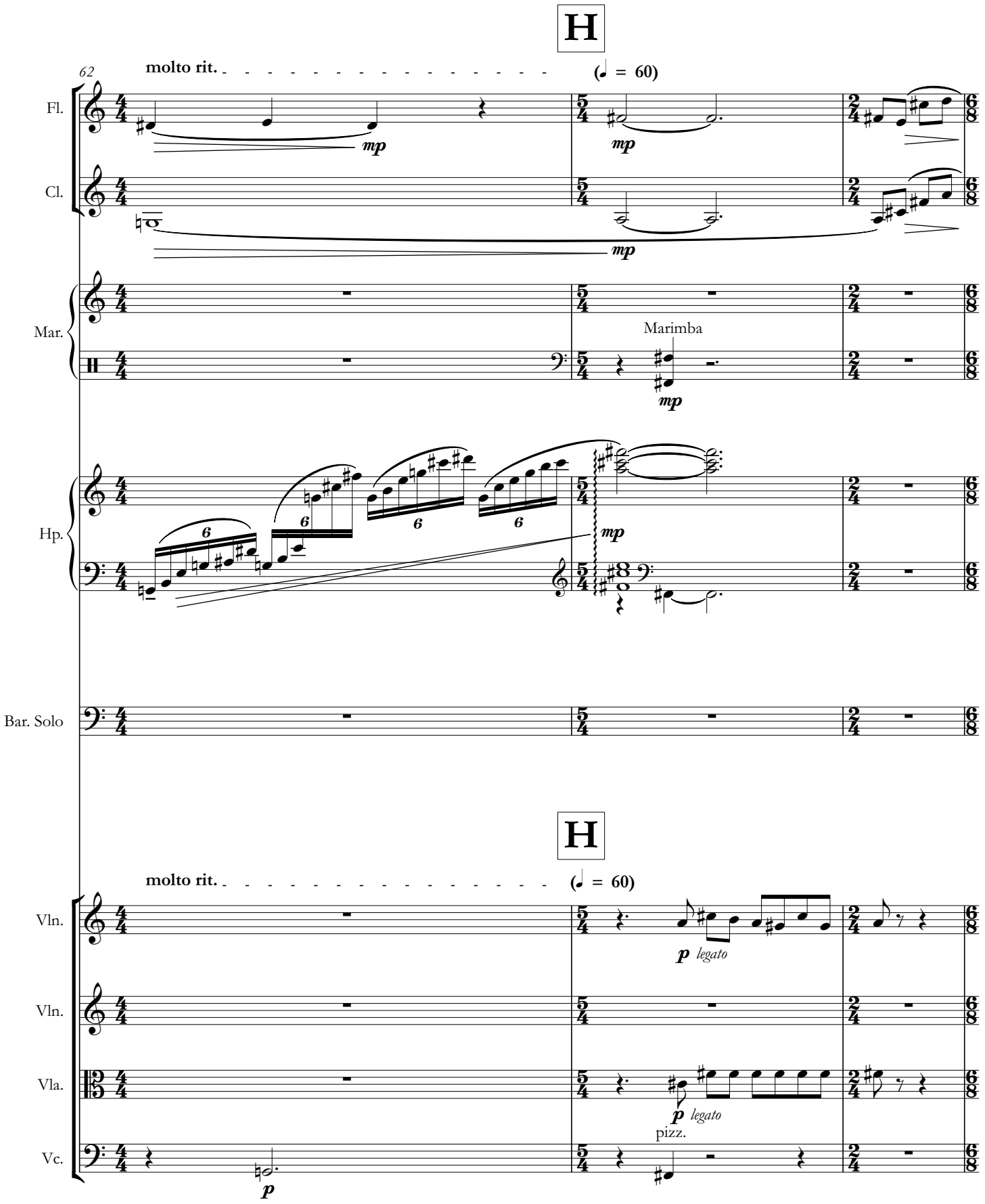

42
Fl.
Cl.
pp mysterioso
pp mysterioso
Mar.
scatch with wooden
mallet handle
pp
pp
(8)
Hp.
pp
Bar. Solo
pp
They do not waste their met-ed hours, but men and mast-ers plan and build:
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

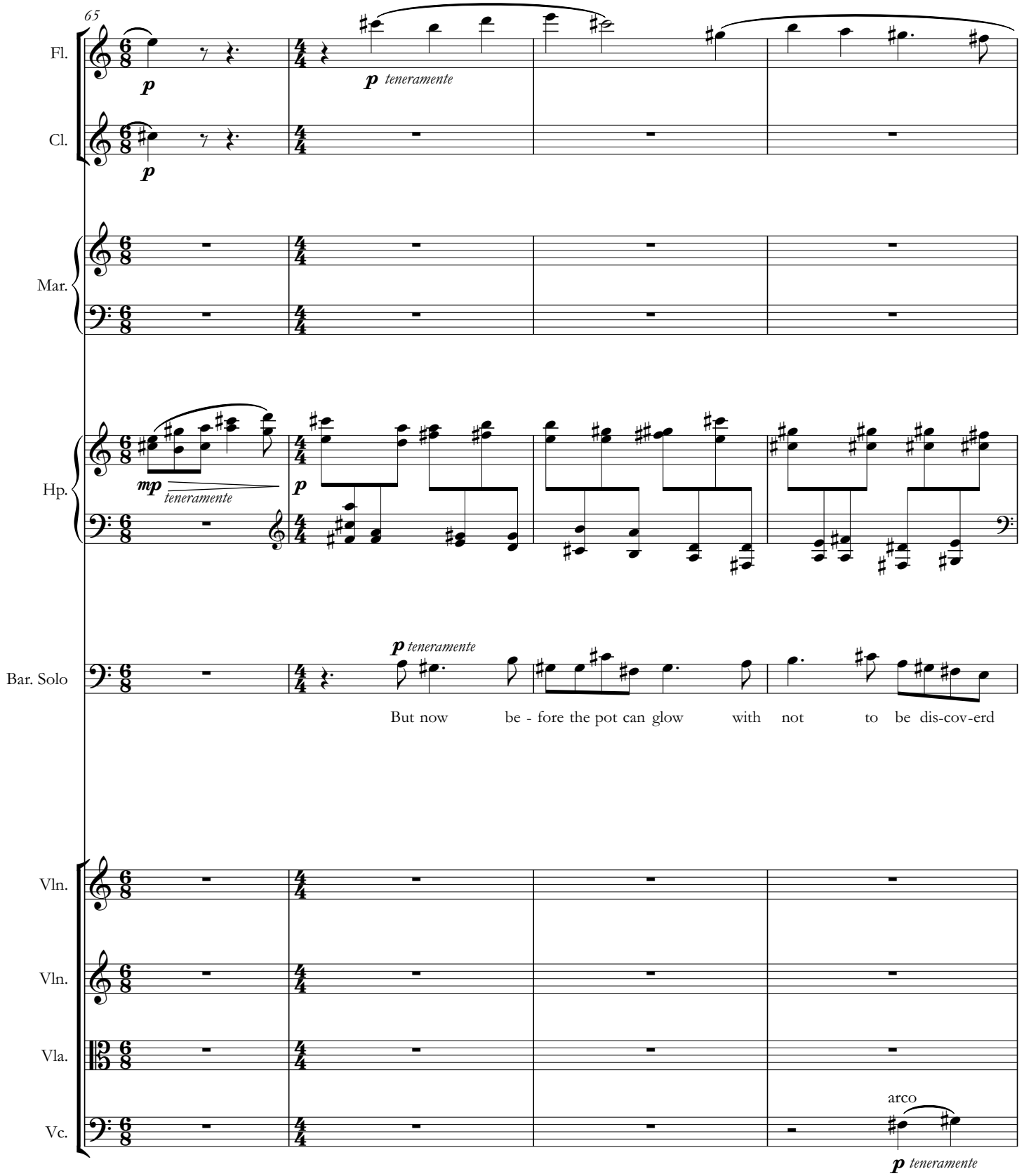

F
46
poco rit. (♩ = 58)
Fl.
Cl.
pp
pp
p serioso
Mar.
Marimba
p serioso
(8)
Hp.
p serioso
Bar. Solo
p serioso
I see the crown-ing of their tow'rs, and hap-py prom-is-es ful - fill'd. And I, per-
F
poco rit. (♩ = 58)
Vln.
pp
p serioso
Vln.
pp mysterioso
p serioso
Vla.
p serioso
Vc.
p serioso

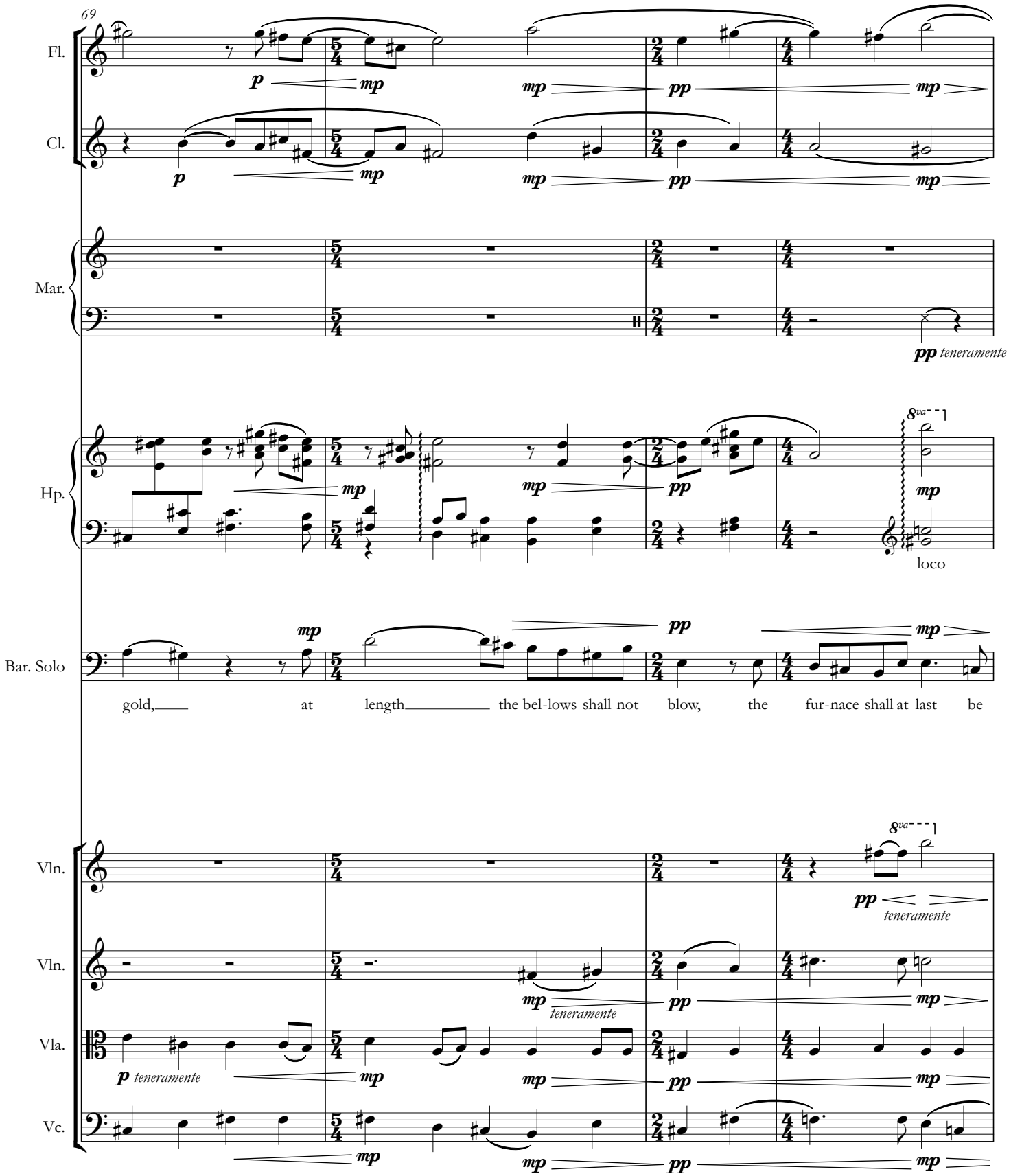

51
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
scrape with wooden
mallet handle
Hp.
Bar. Solo
haps if my in - tent could count on pre - di - luv - i - an age, the lab - ours I should then have spent might so at - tain their
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

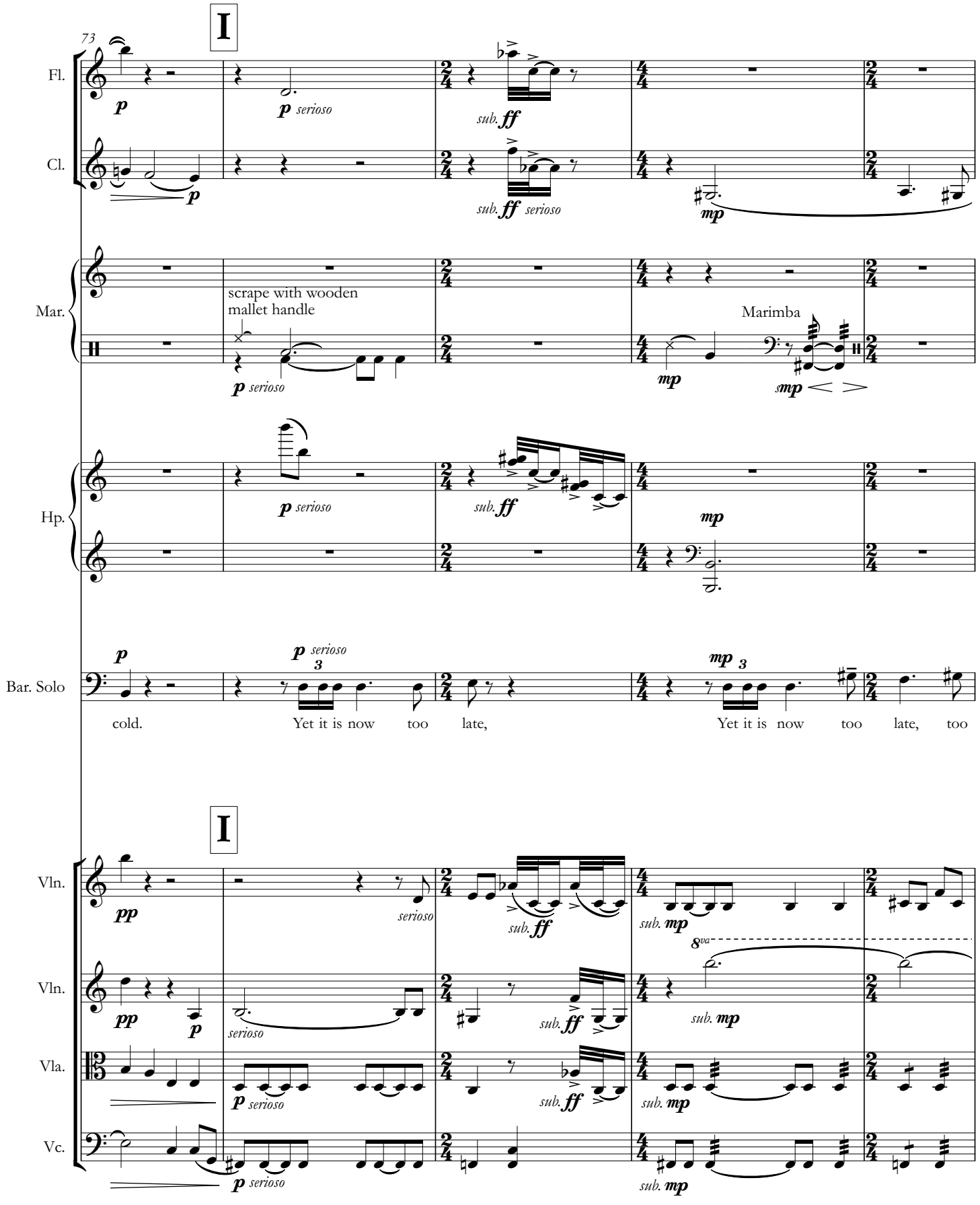

G
55
Più mosso (♩. = 64)
(♪ = ♪)
Fl.
Cl.
p legato
p legato
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
p
her - i - tage,
G
Più mosso (♩. = 64)
(♪ = ♪)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p legato
p legato
p legato
p legato

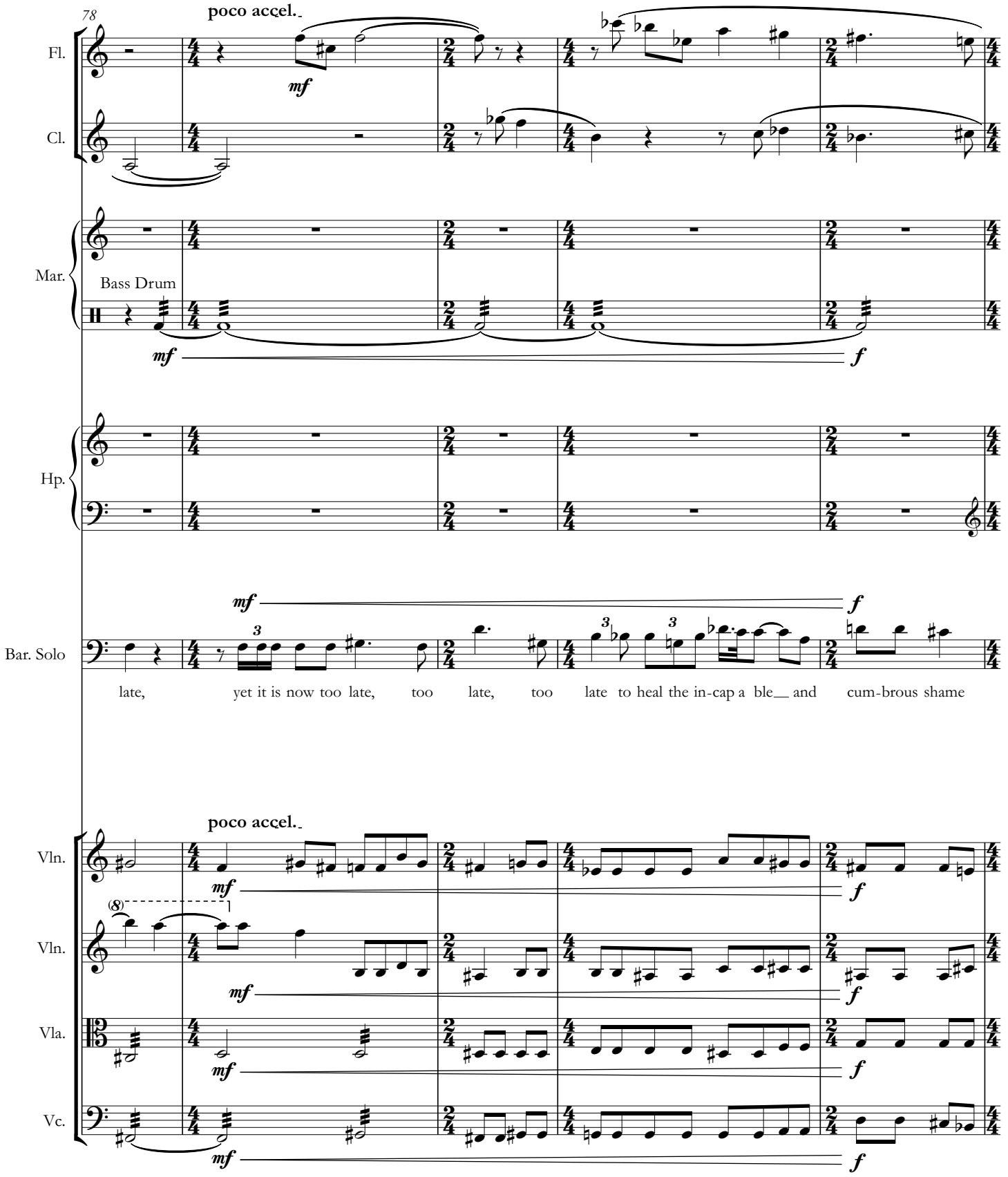

60
rall.
(♩ = 52)
(2 + 2 + 3)
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
mf
p
8va

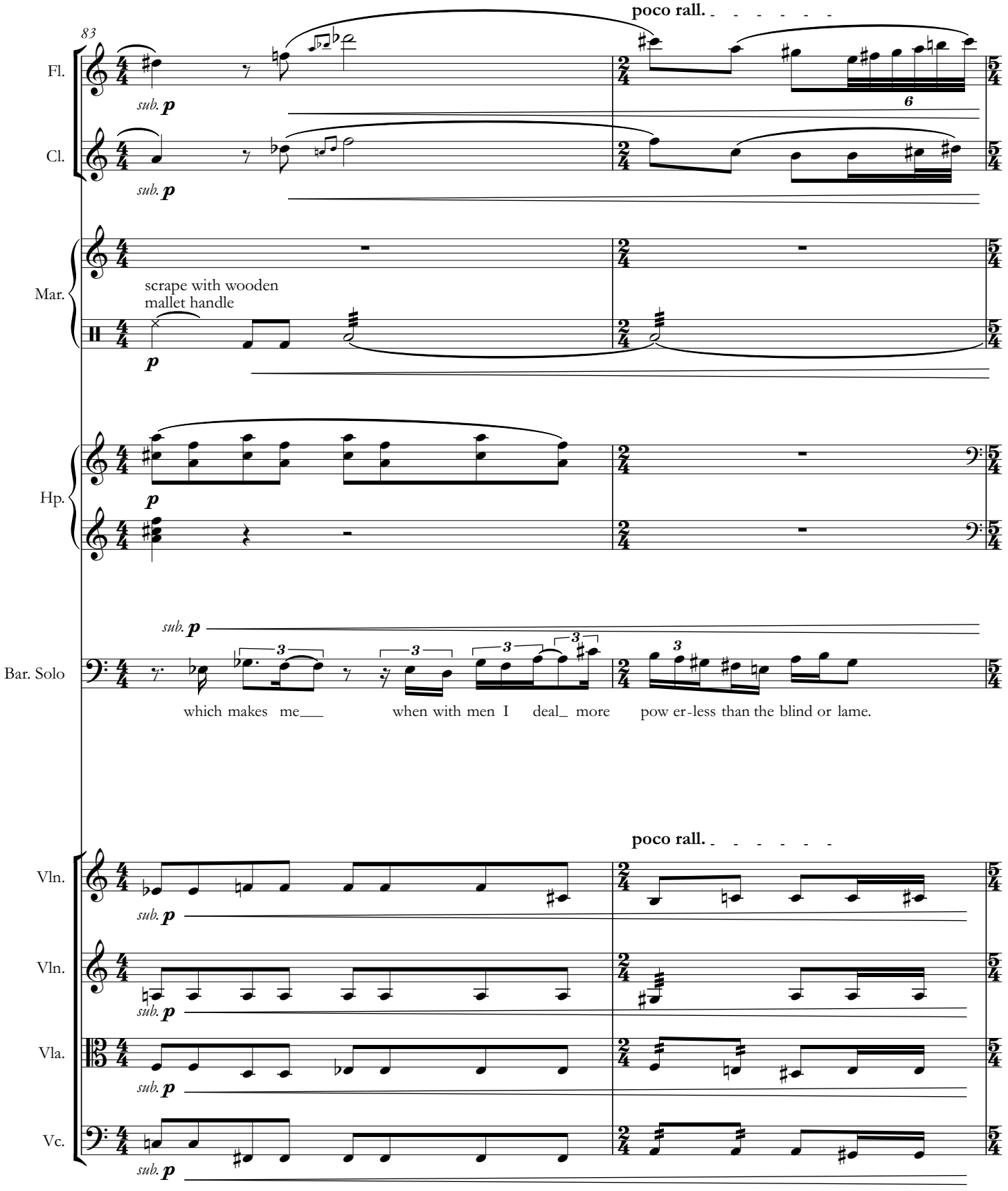

H
62
molto rit.
(♩ = 60)
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Marimba
Hp.
Bar. Solo
mp
H
molto rit.
(♩ = 60)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p legato
pizz.
p

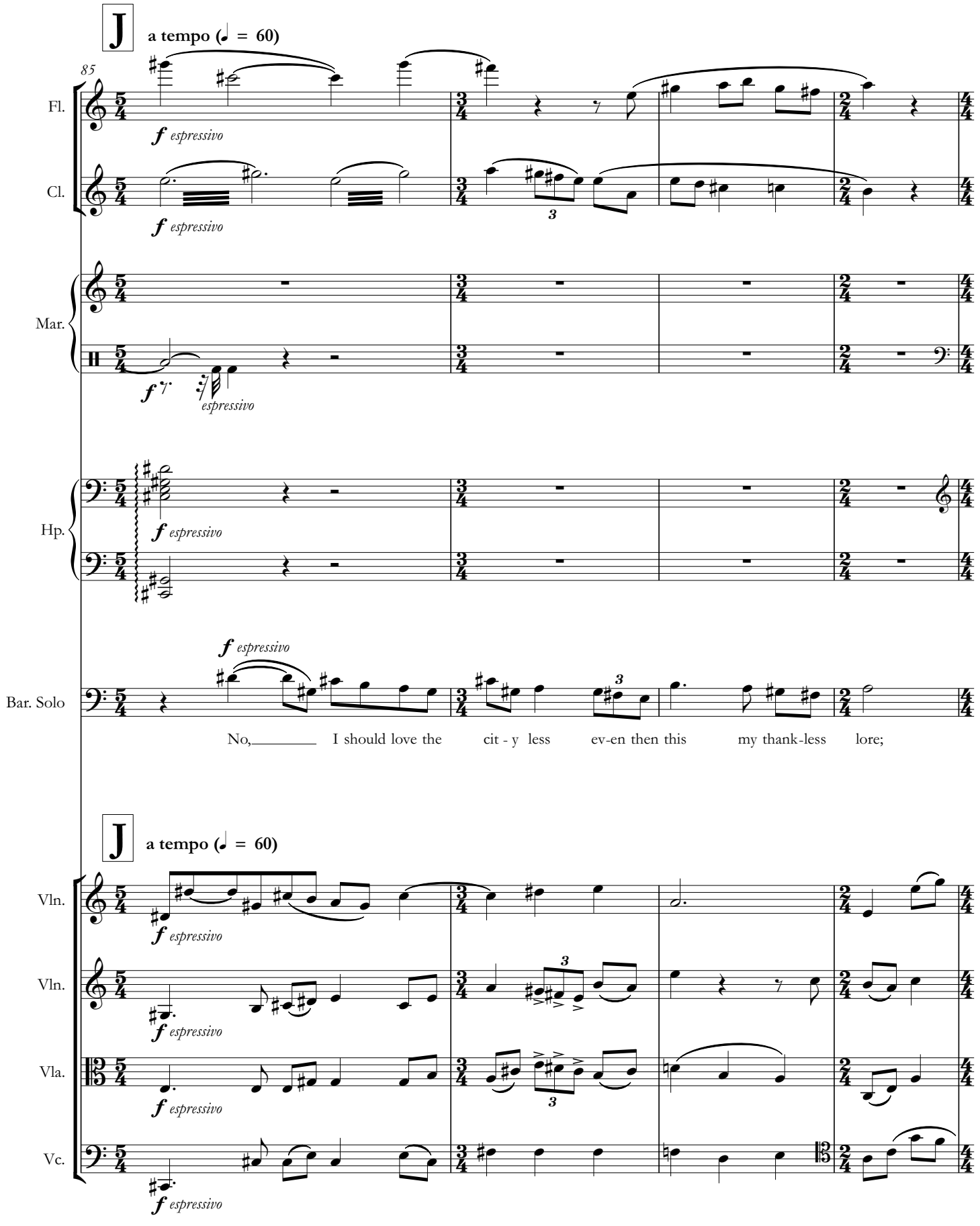

65
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
p teneramente
mp teneramente
p
p teneramente
But now be - fore the pot can glow with not to be dis-cov-erd
arco
p teneramente

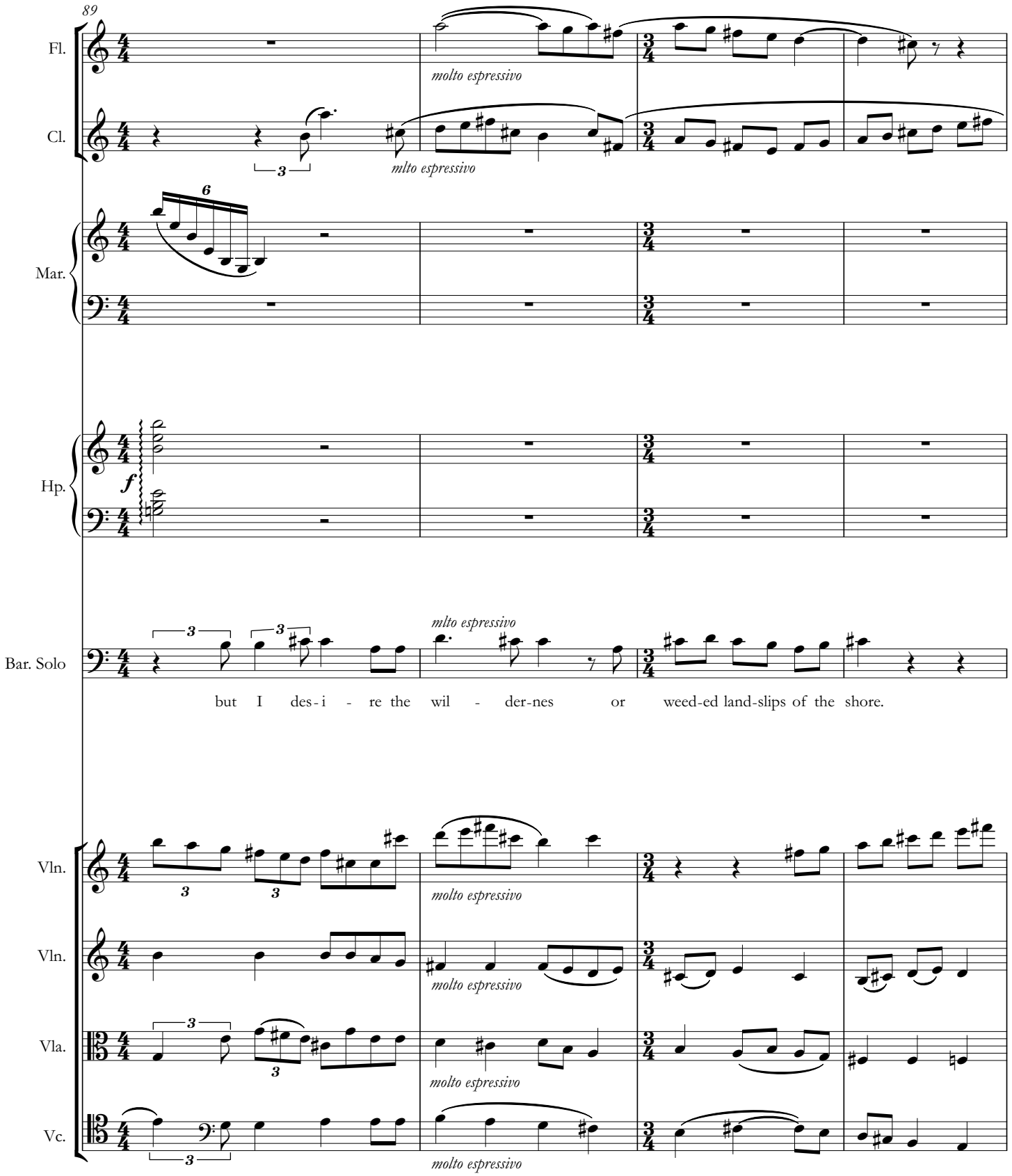

69
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
mp
pp
mp
pp teneramente
8va
loco
gold, at length the bel-lows shall not blow, the fur-nace shall at last be
p teneramente
mp teneramente
pp teneramente

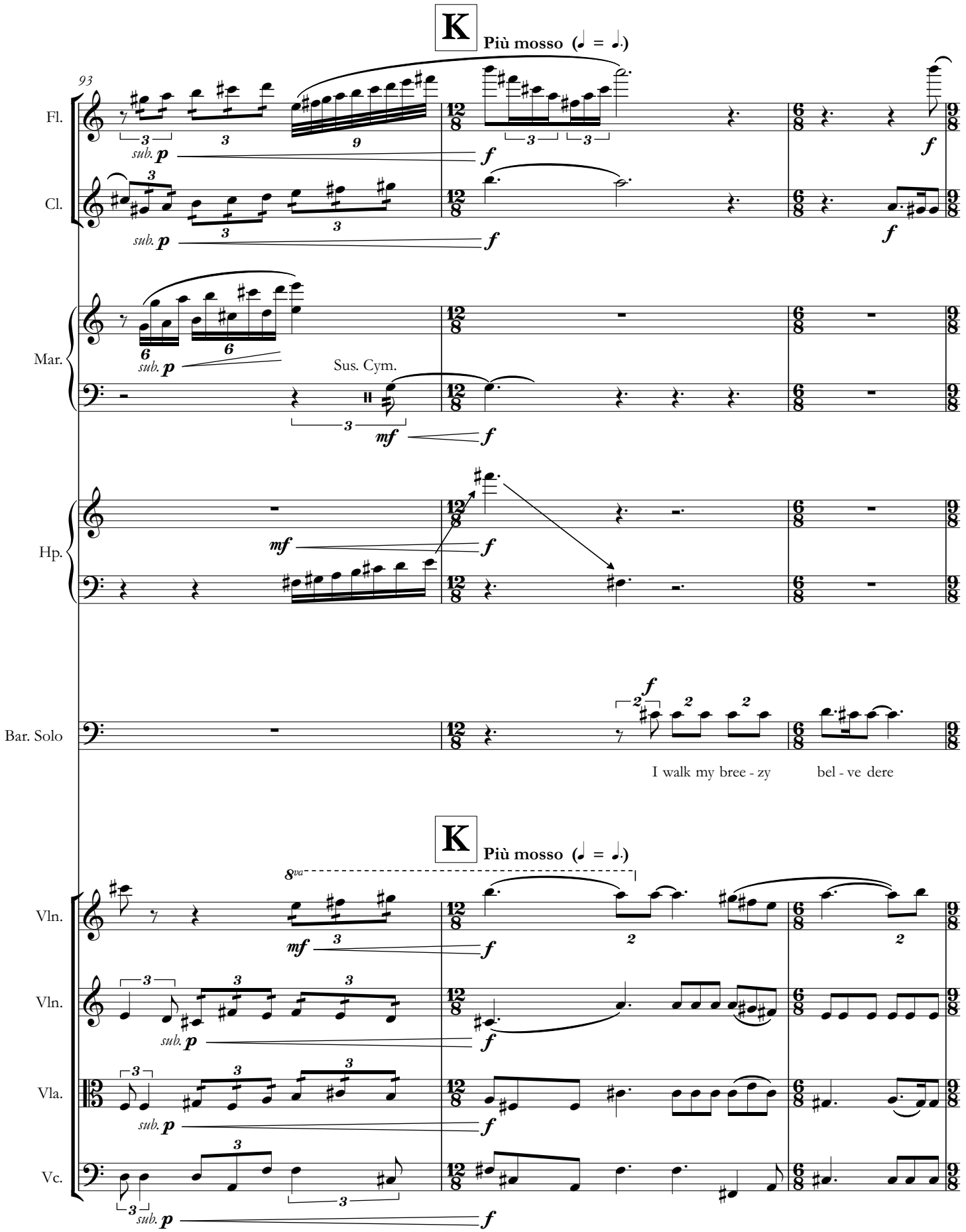

I
73
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
p serioso
sub. ff
sub. ff serioso
mp
scrape with wooden
mallet handle
Marimba
smp
cold.
Yet it is now too late,
Yet it is now too late, too
pp
serioso
sub. mp
8va

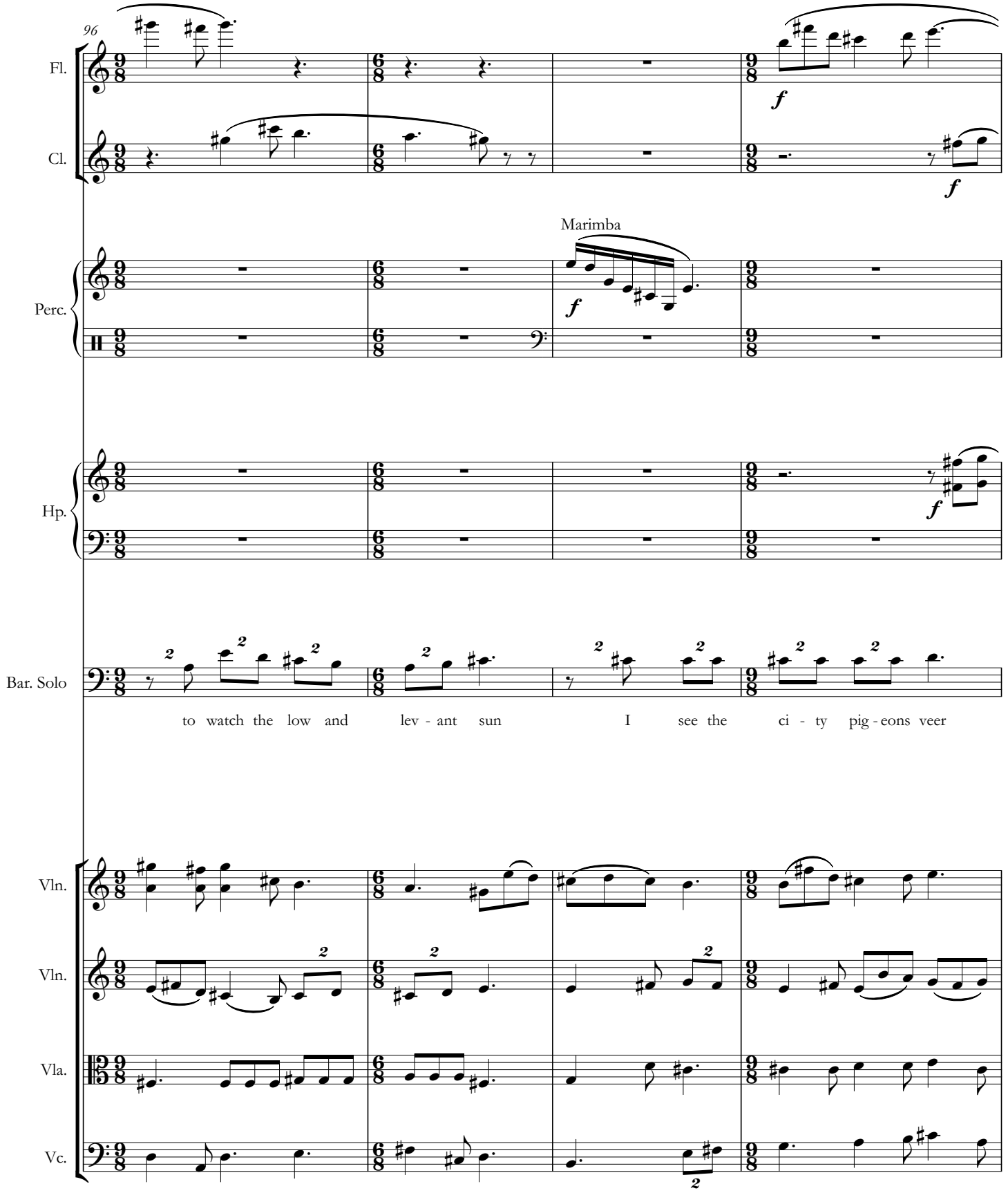

78
poco accel.
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Bass Drum
Hp.
Bar. Solo
late, yet it is now too late, too late, too late to heal the in-cap a ble__ and cum-brous shame
poco accel.
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

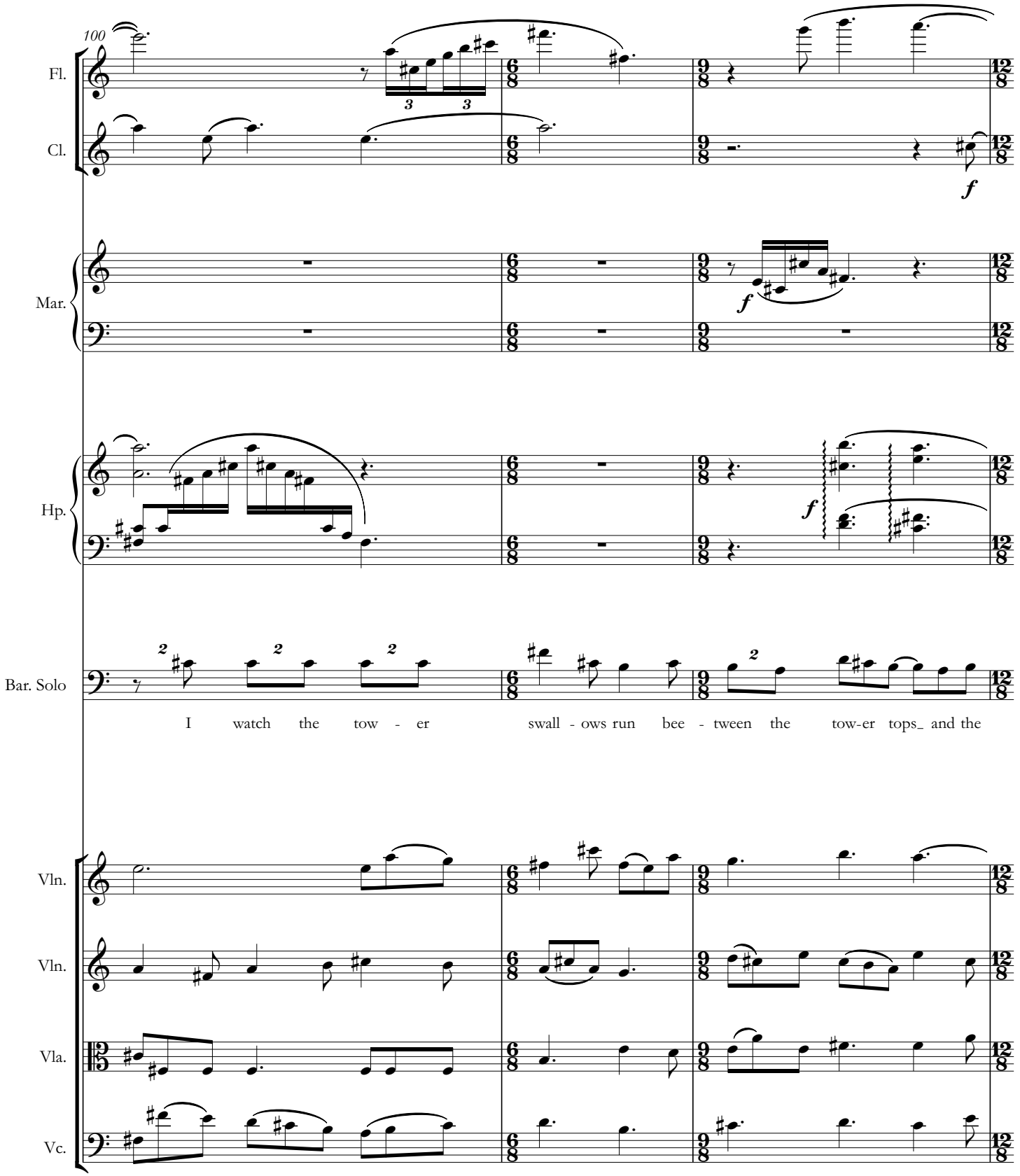

83
poco rall.
Fl.
sub. p
Cl.
sub. p
Mar.
scrape with wooden
mallet handle
p
Hp.
p
sub. p
Bar. Solo
which makes me
when with men I deal more
pow er-less than the blind or lame.
poco rall.
Vln.
sub. p
Vln.
sub. p
Vla.
sub. p
Vc.
sub. p

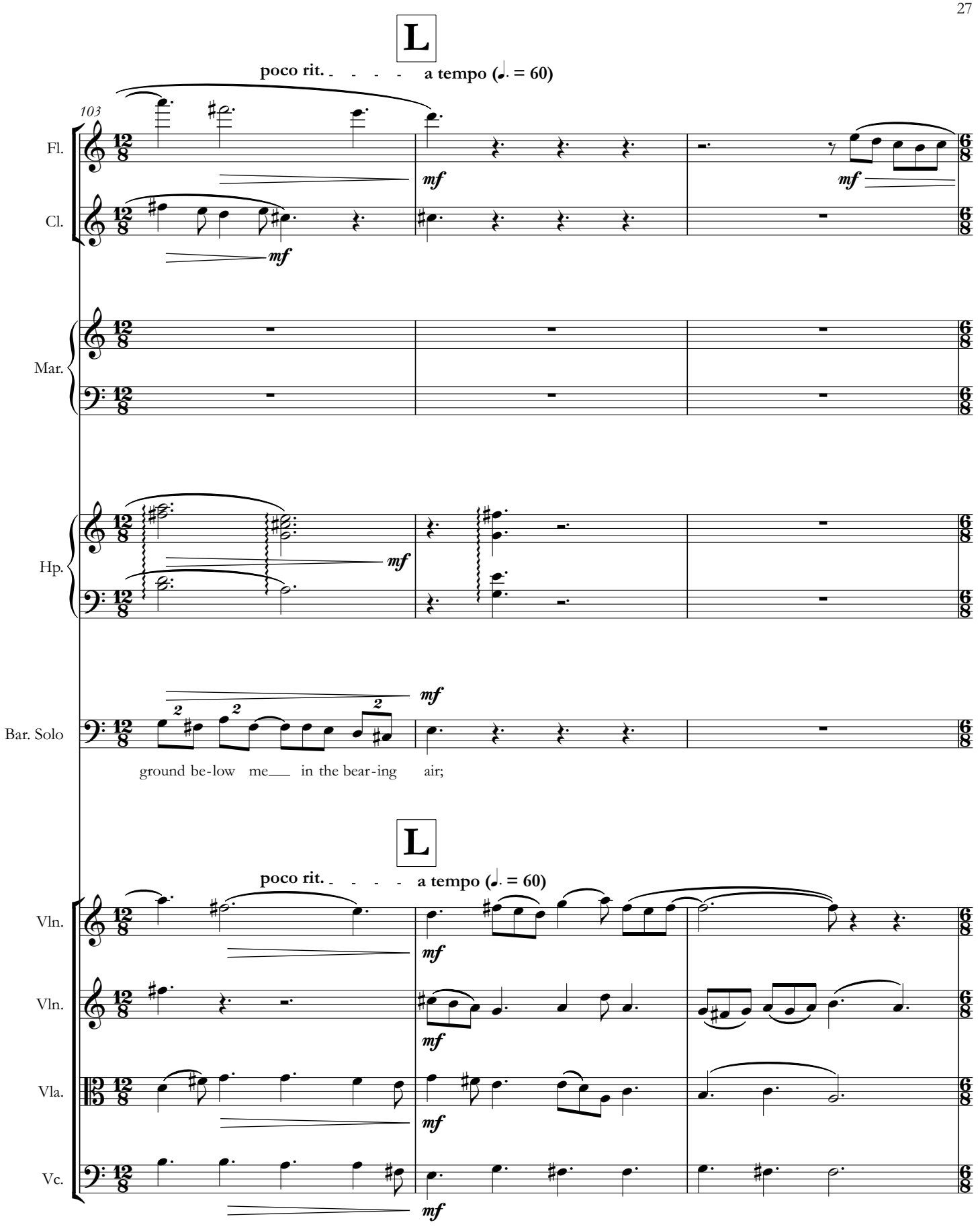

J
a tempo (♩ = 60)
85
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f espressivo
No, I should love the cit - y less ev-en then this my thank-less lore;

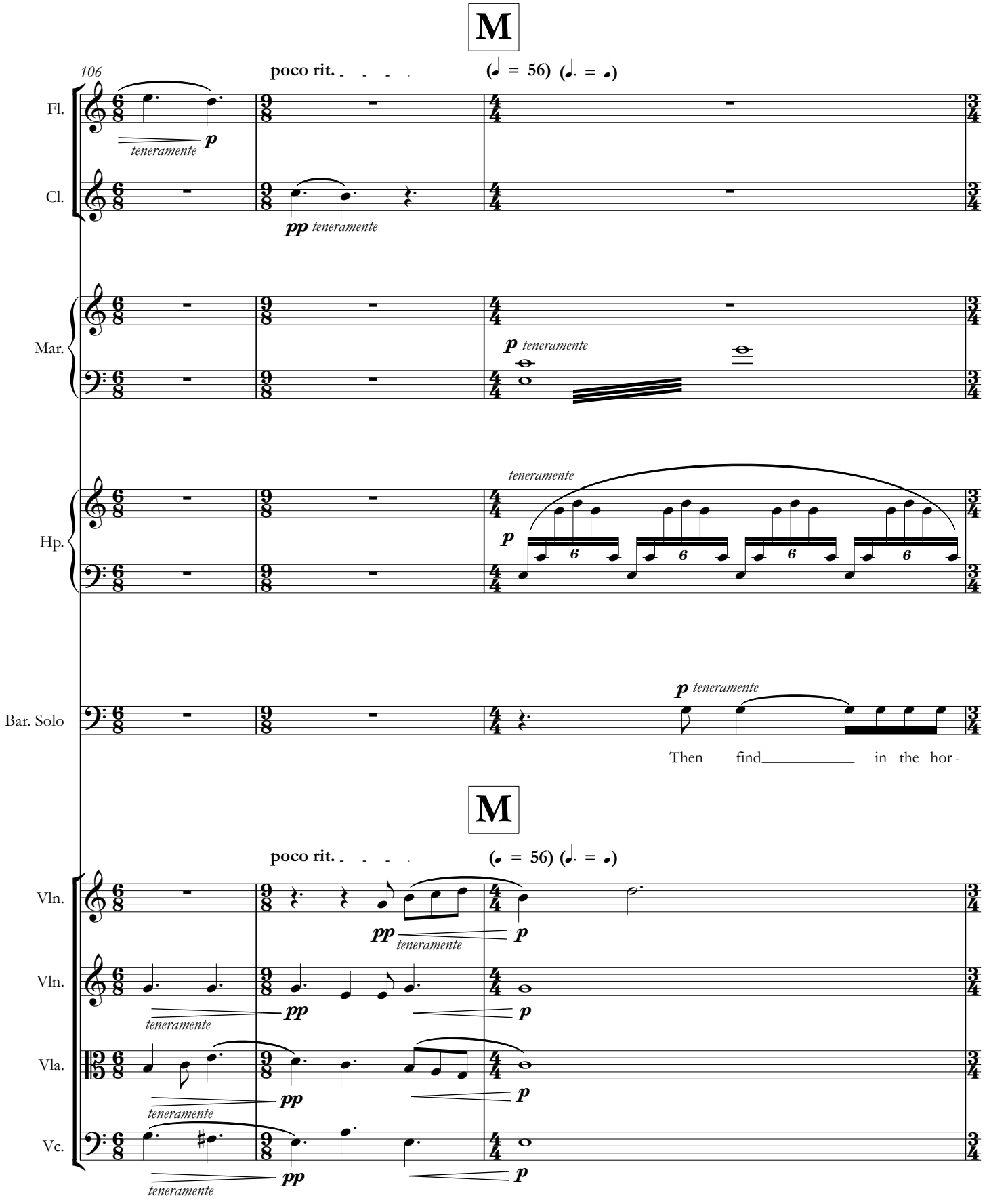

89
Fl.
molto espressivo
Cl.
mlto espressivo
Mar.
Hp.
f
Bar. Solo
mlto espressivo
but I des - i - re the wil - der-nes or weed-ed land-slips of the shore.
Vln.
molto espressivo
Vln.
molto espressivo
Vla.
molto espressivo
Vc.
molto espressivo


K
Più mosso (♩ = ♩.)
93
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Sus. Cym.
I walk my bree - zy
bel - ve dere
K
Più mosso (♩ = ♩.)
8va
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

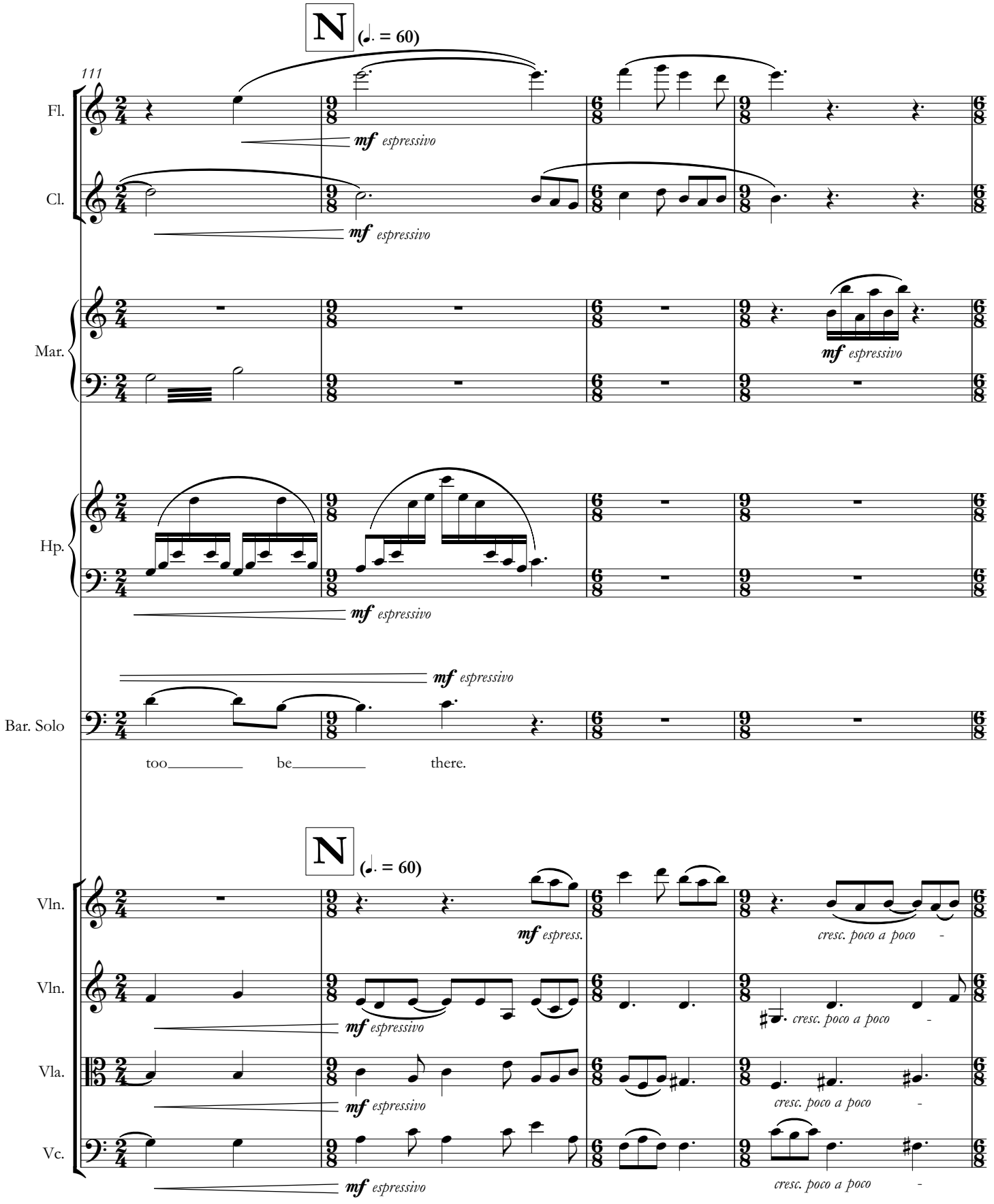

96
Fl.
Cl.
Marimba
Perc.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
to watch the low and lev - ant sun I see the ci - ty pig - eons veer
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

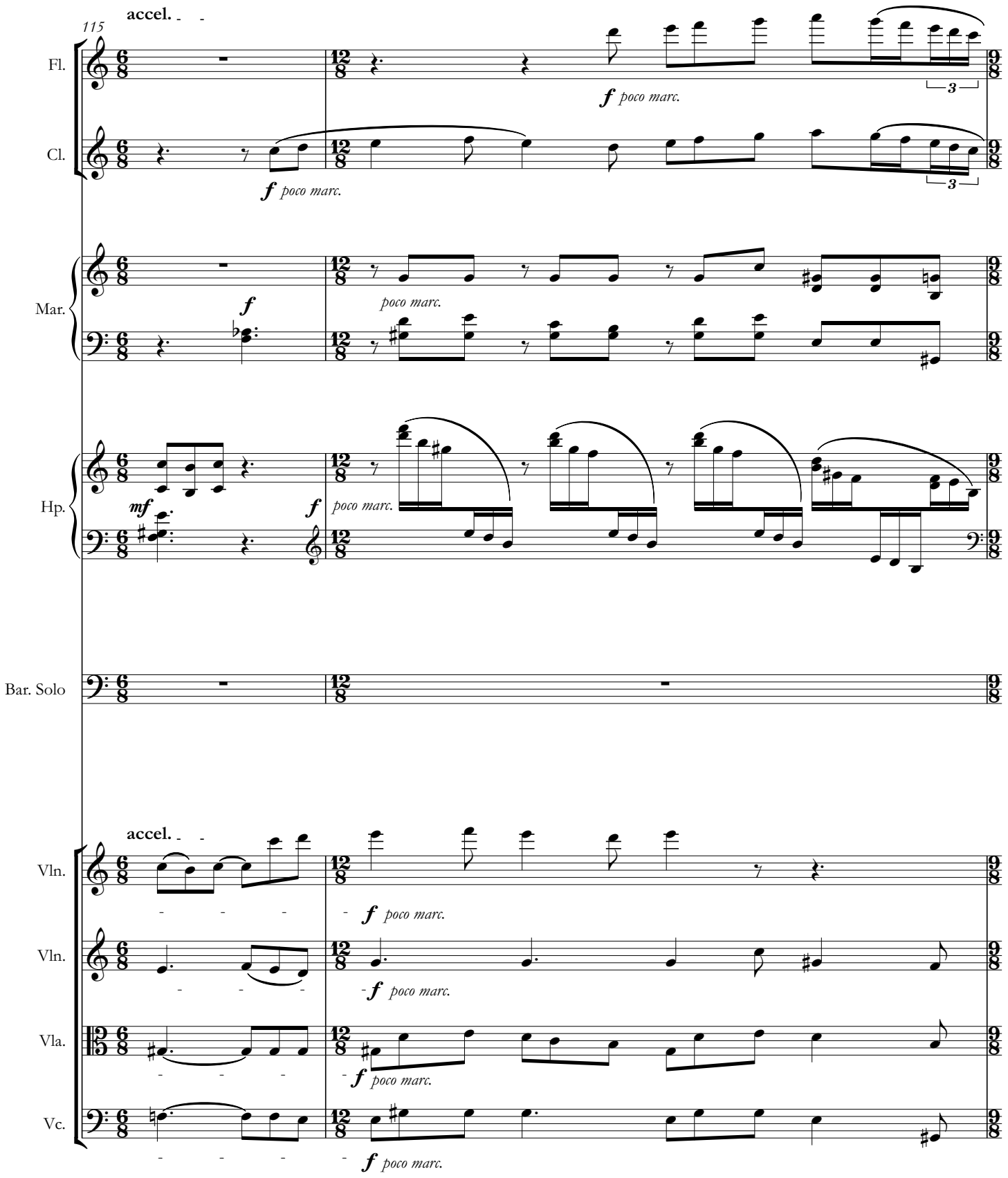

100
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
I watch the tow - er swall - ows run bee - tween the tow-er tops_ and the
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

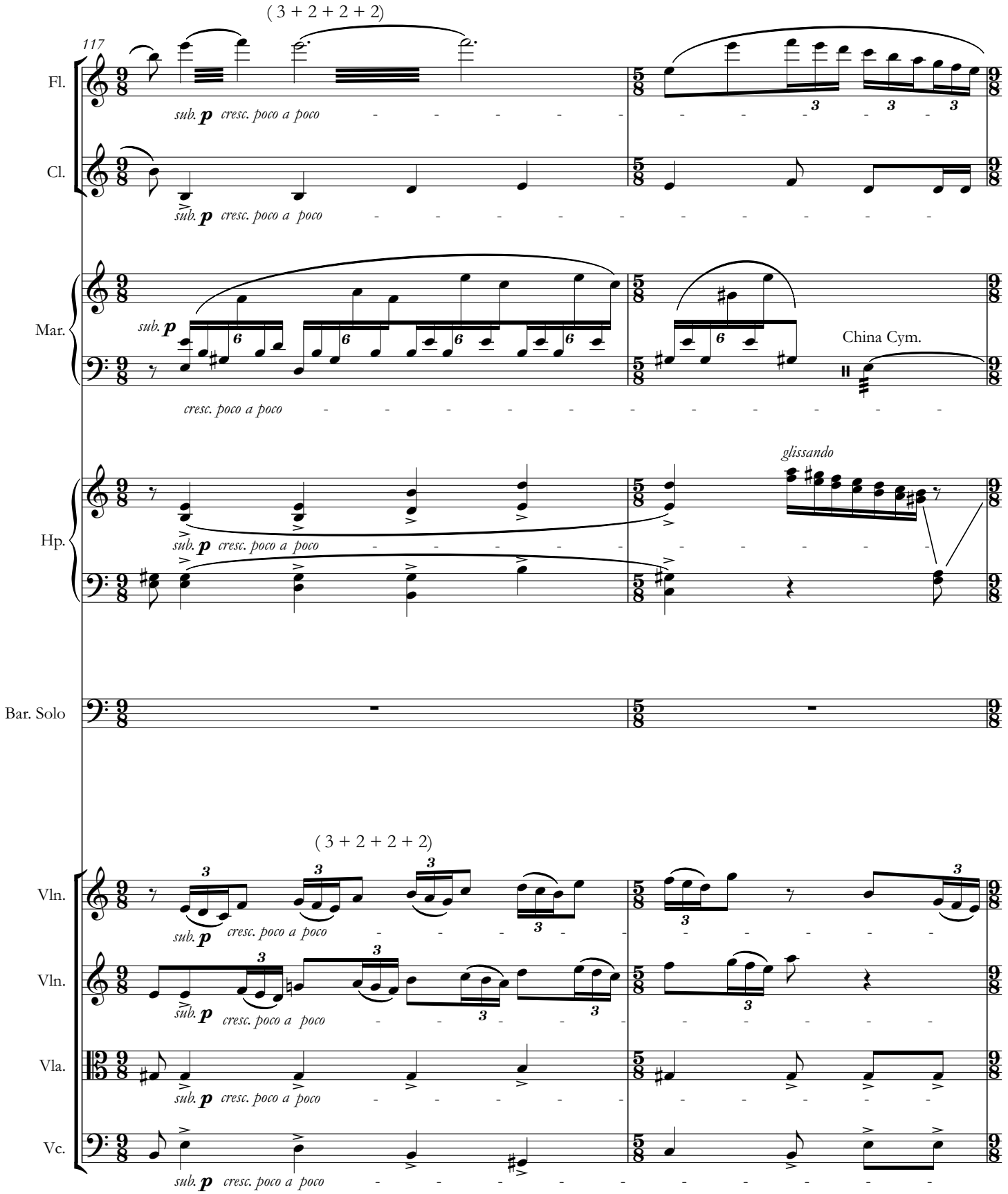

L
poco rit. - - - - a tempo (♩. = 60)
103
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
mf
ground be-low me___ in the bear-ing air;
L
poco rit. - - - - a tempo (♩. = 60)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

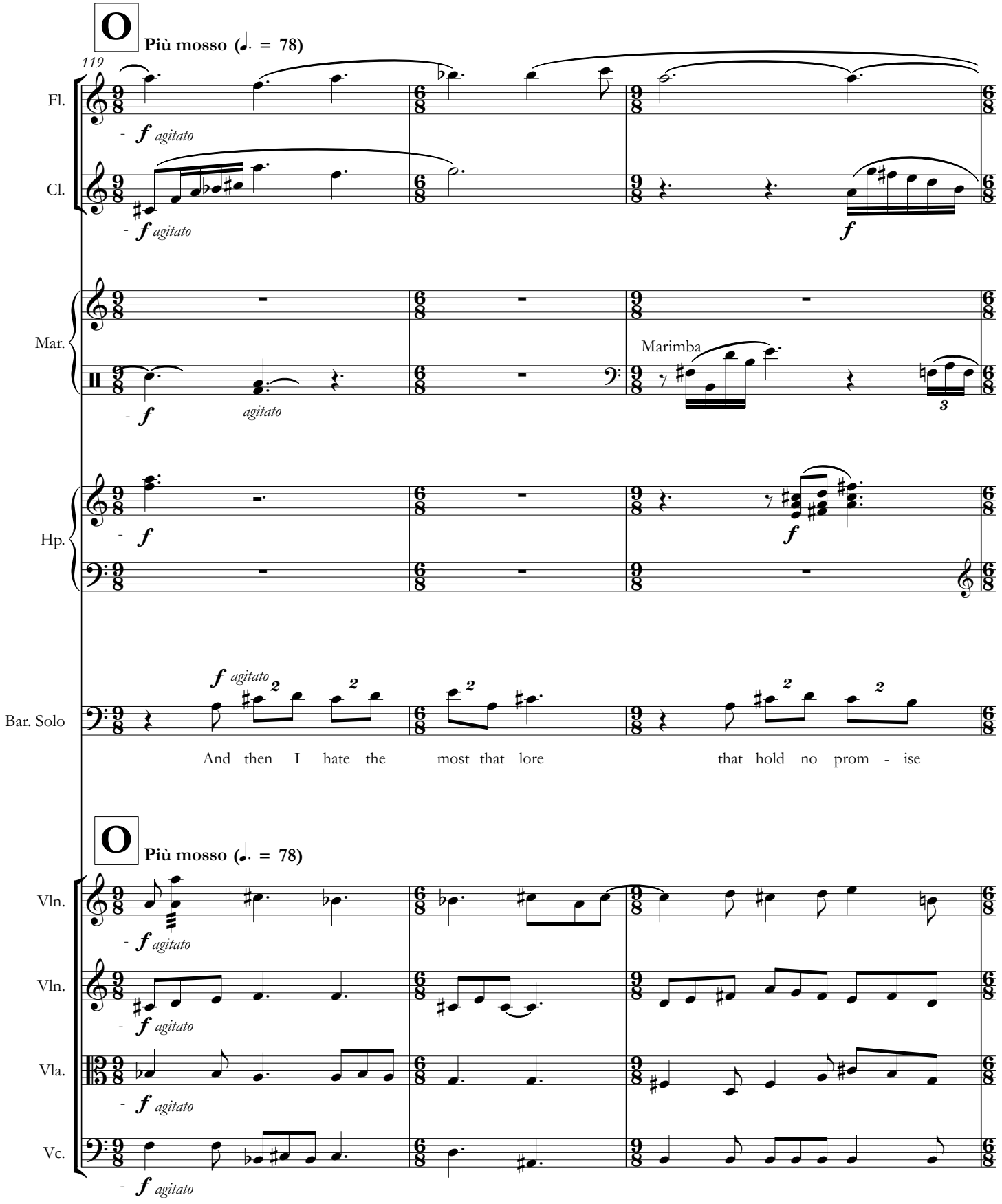

M
106
poco rit.
(♩ = 56) (♩. = ♩)
Fl.
teneramente
p
Cl.
pp teneramente
Mar.
p teneramente
Hp.
teneramente
p
Bar. Solo
p teneramente
Then find in the hor -
M
poco rit.
(♩ = 56) (♩. = ♩)
Vln.
pp
teneramente
p
Vln.
teneramente
pp
p
Vla.
teneramente
pp
p
Vc.
teneramente
pp
p

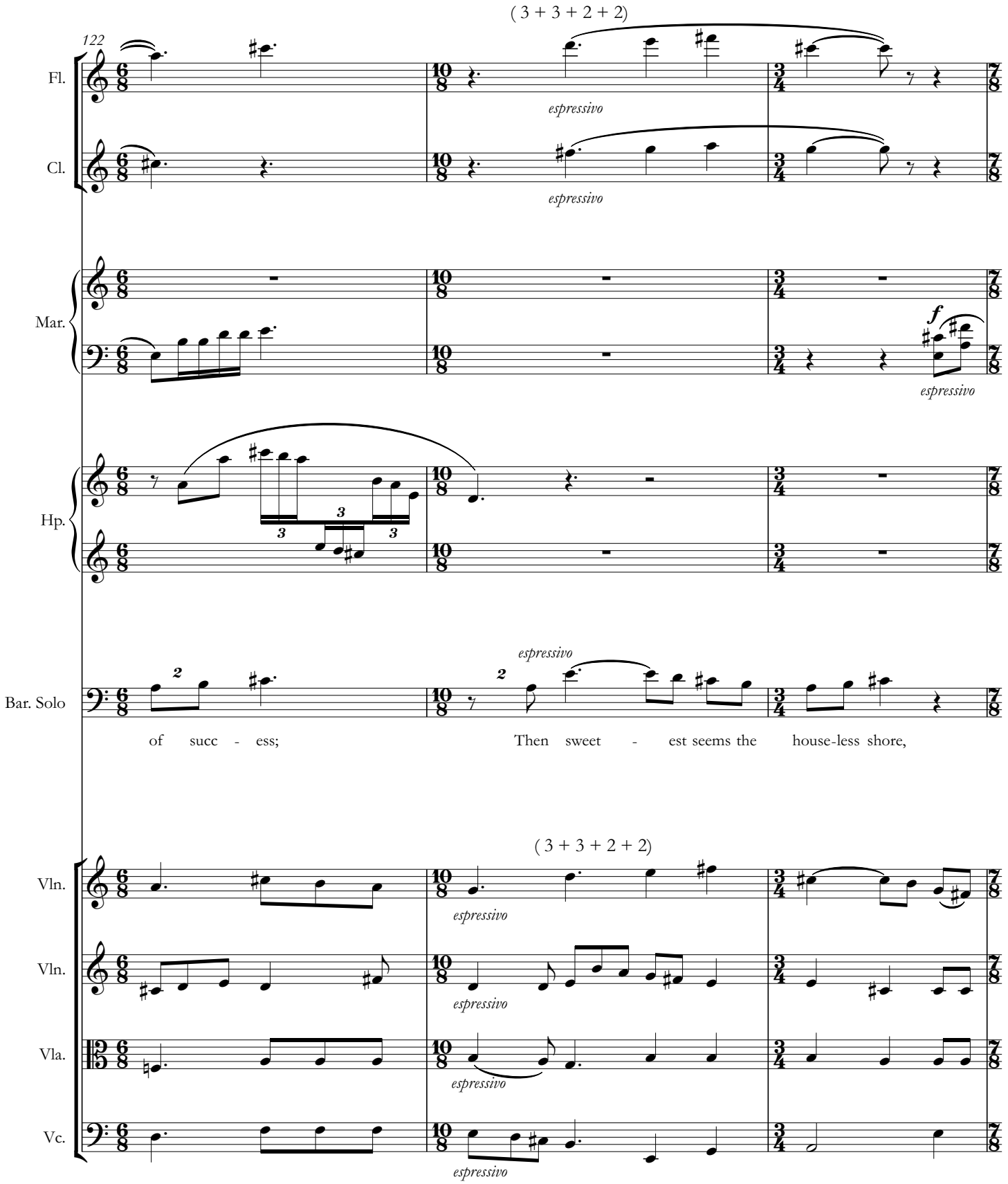
109
Fl.
Cl.
p
mp
Mar.
mp
Hp.
mp
Bar. Solo
mp
i - zon round
One spot
and hun - ger
Vln.
Vln.
mp
Vla.
mp
Vc.
mp

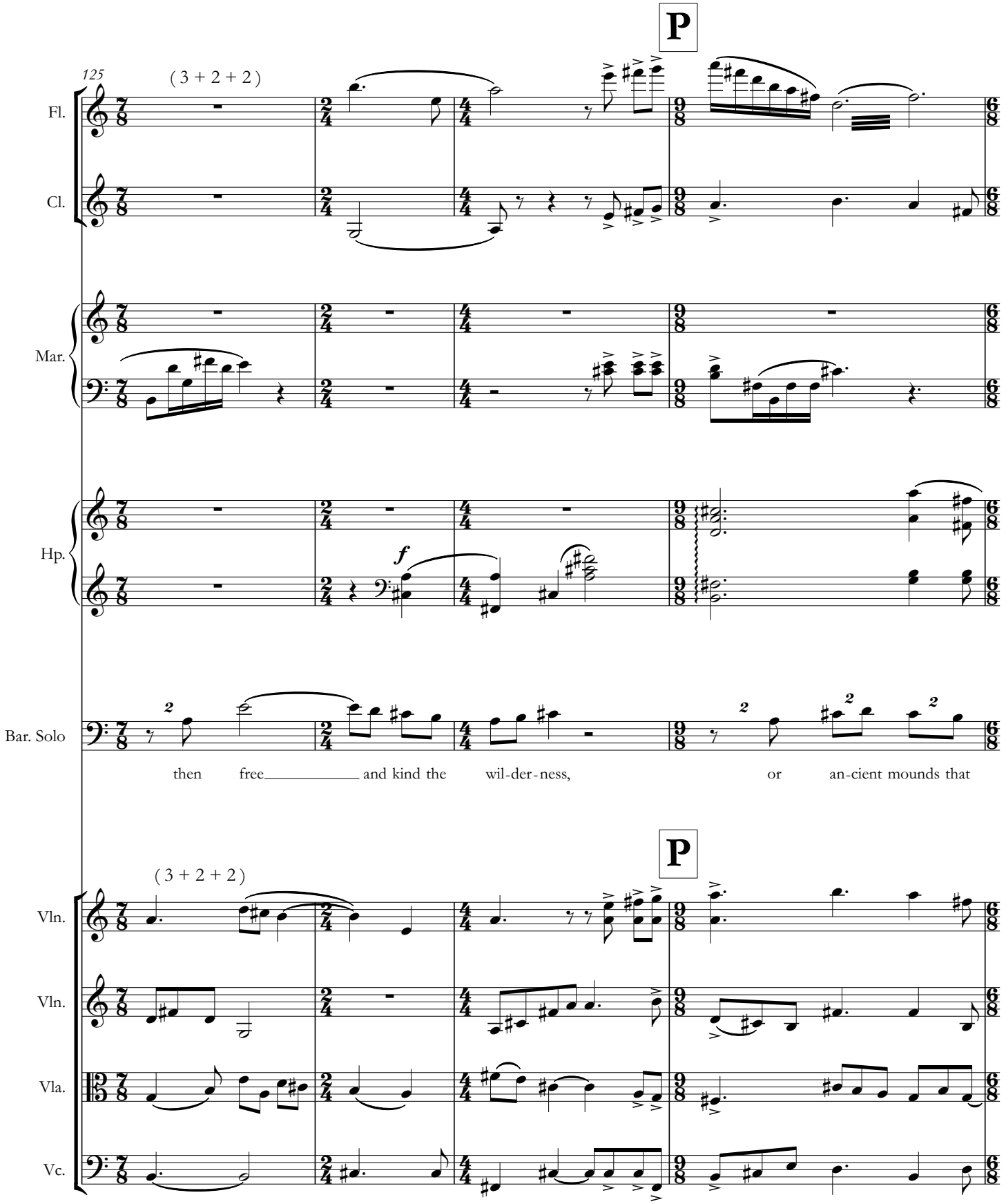

N (♩. = 60)
111
Fl.
mf espressivo
Cl.
mf espressivo
Mar.
mf espressivo
Hp.
mf espressivo
mf espressivo
Bar. Solo
too be there.
N (♩. = 60)
Vln.
mf espress.
cresc. poco a poco
Vln.
mf espressivo
cresc. poco a poco
Vla.
mf espressivo
cresc. poco a poco
Vc.
mf espressivo
cresc. poco a poco

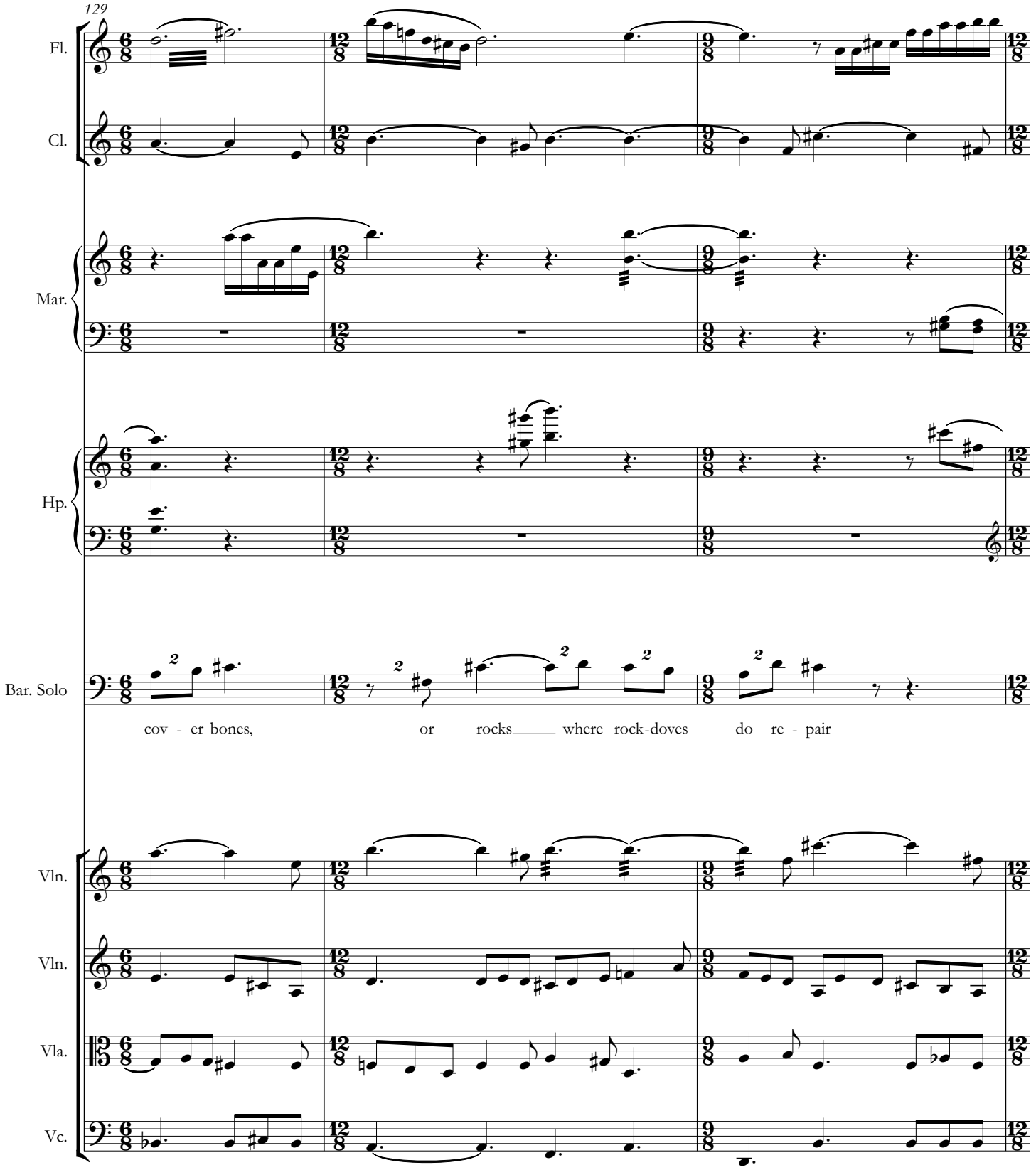

115
accel.
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f poco marc.
mf
poco marc.
3

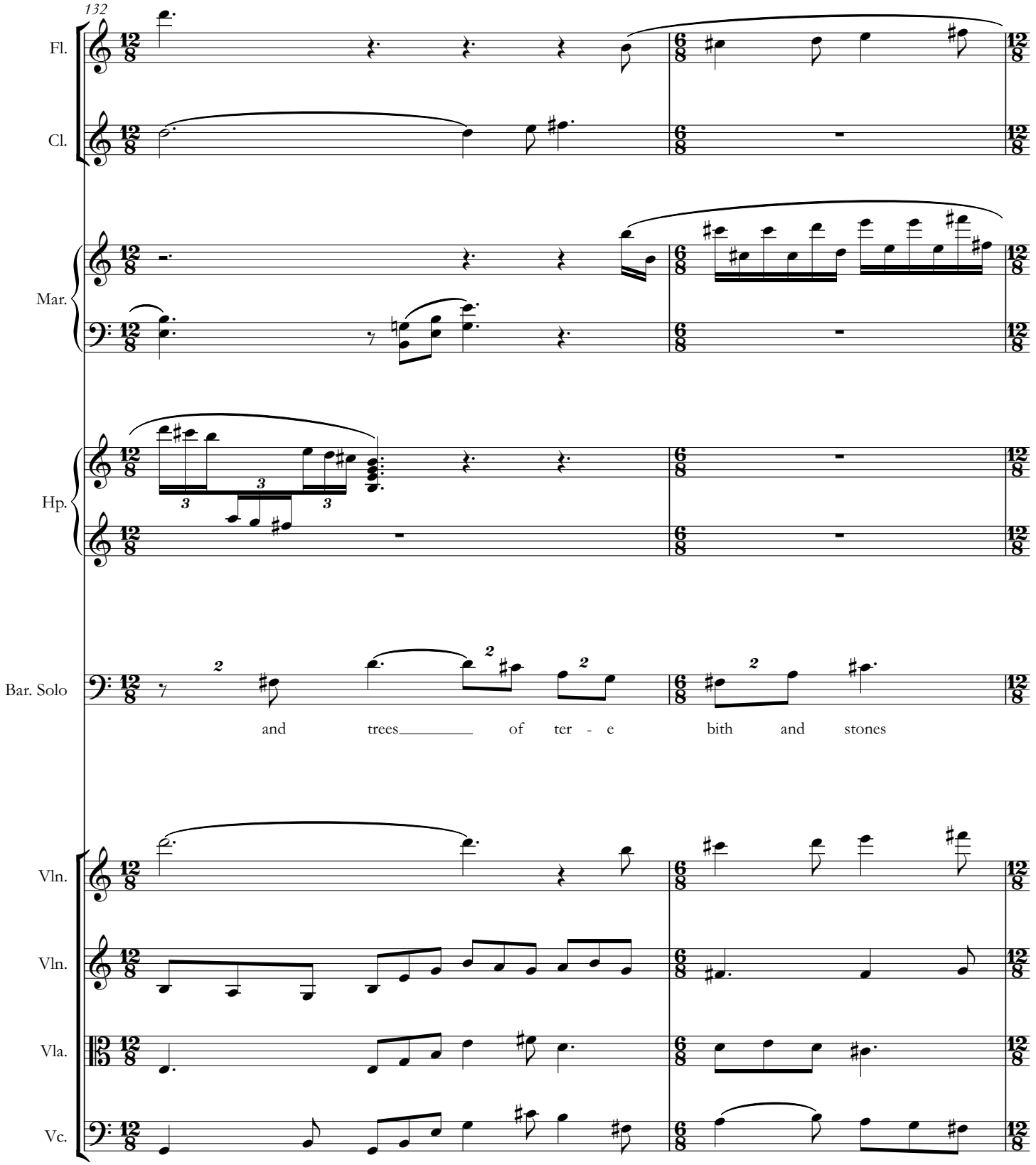

(3 + 2 + 2 + 2)
117
Fl.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco
Cl.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco
Mar.
sub. p
cresc. poco a poco
China Cym.
Hp.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco
glissando
Bar. Solo
(3 + 2 + 2 + 2)
Vln.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco
Vln.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco
Vla.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco
Vc.
sub. p cresc. poco a poco

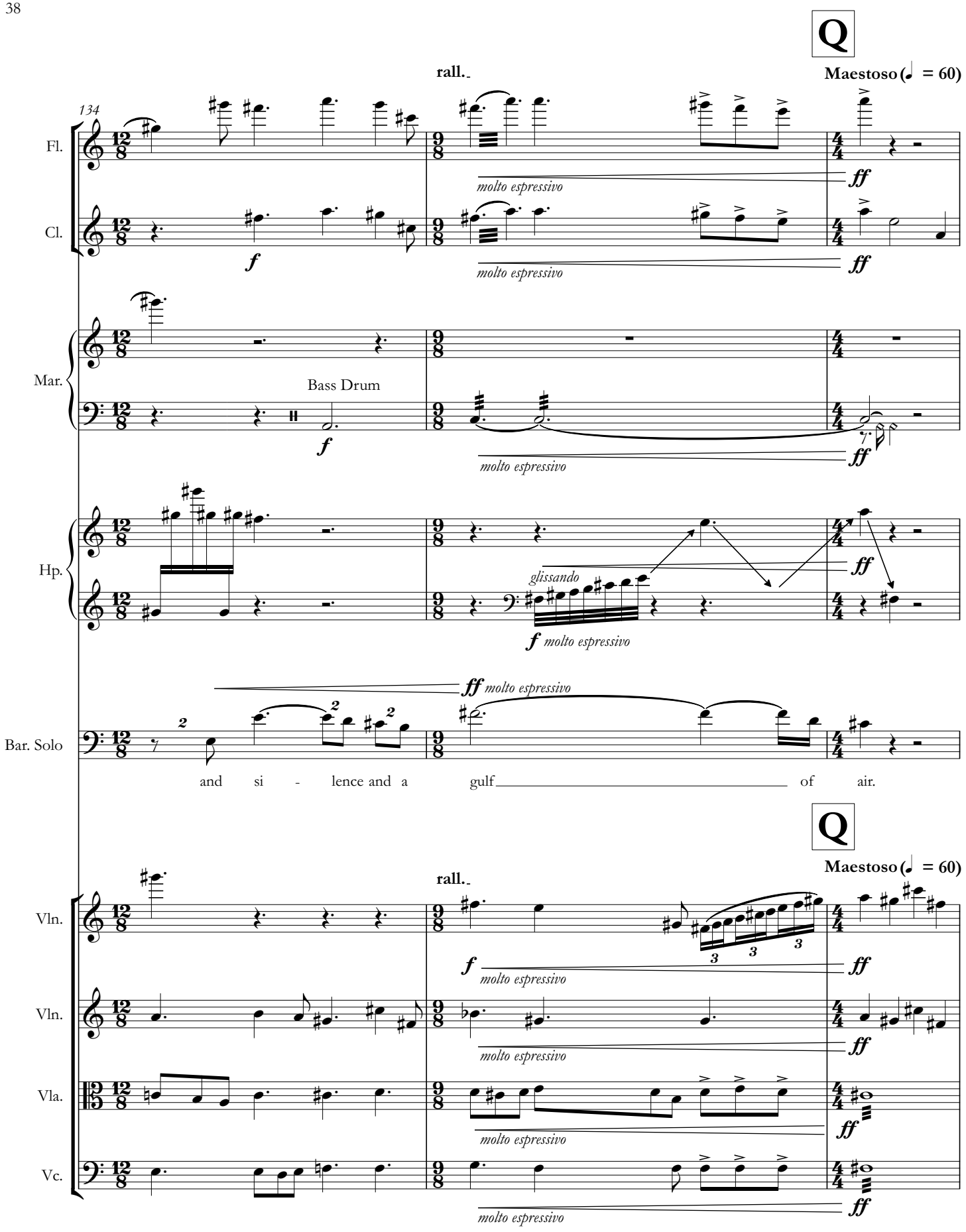

O
Più mosso (♩. = 78)
119
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f agitato
Marimba
And then I hate the most that lore that hold no prom - ise

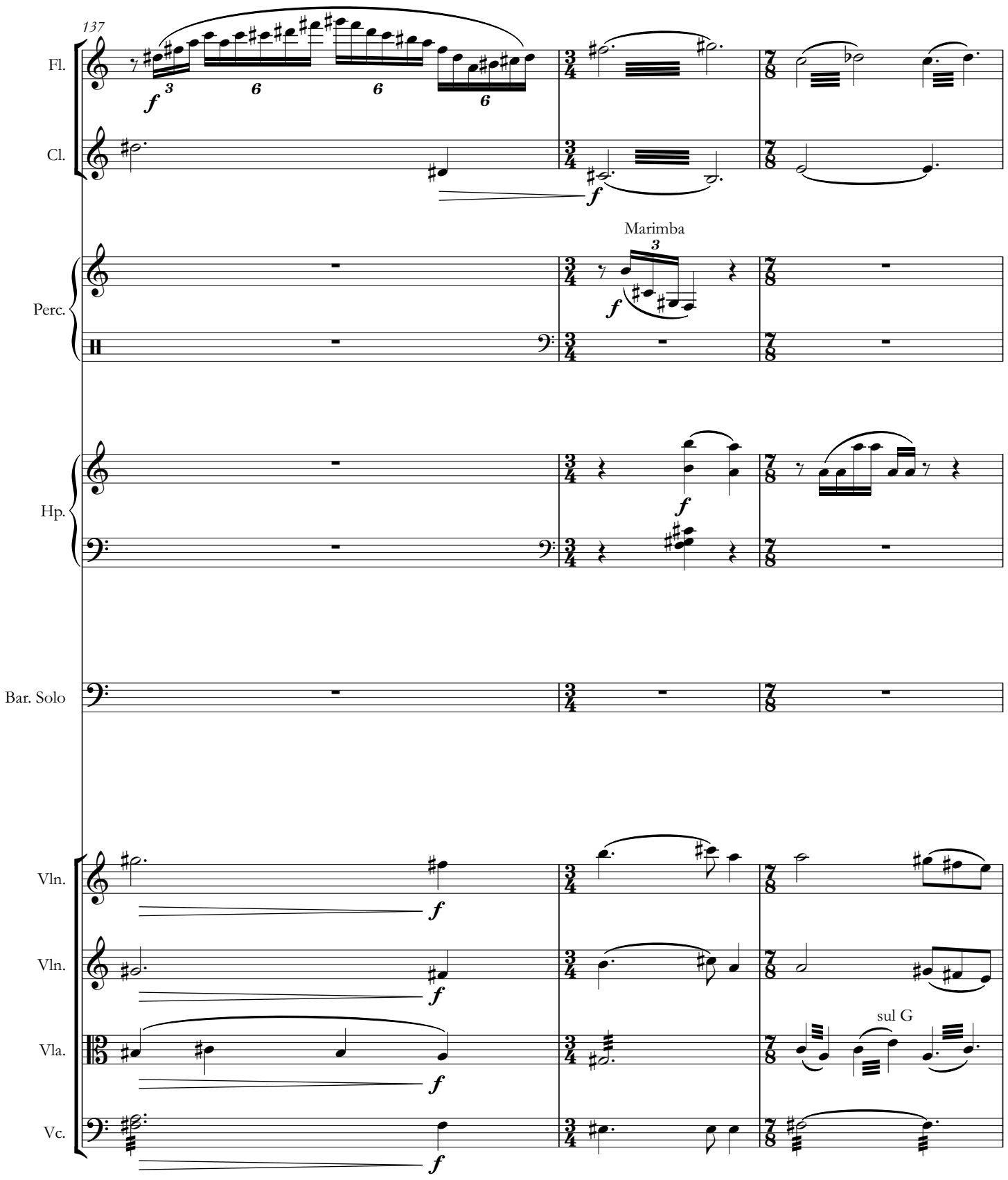

(3 + 3 + 2 + 2)
122
Fl.
espressivo
Cl.
espressivo
Mar.
f
espressivo
Hp.
espressivo
Bar. Solo
of succ - ess;
Then sweet - est seems the house-less shore,
(3 + 3 + 2 + 2)
Vln.
espressivo
Vln.
espressivo
Vla.
espressivo
Vc.
espressivo

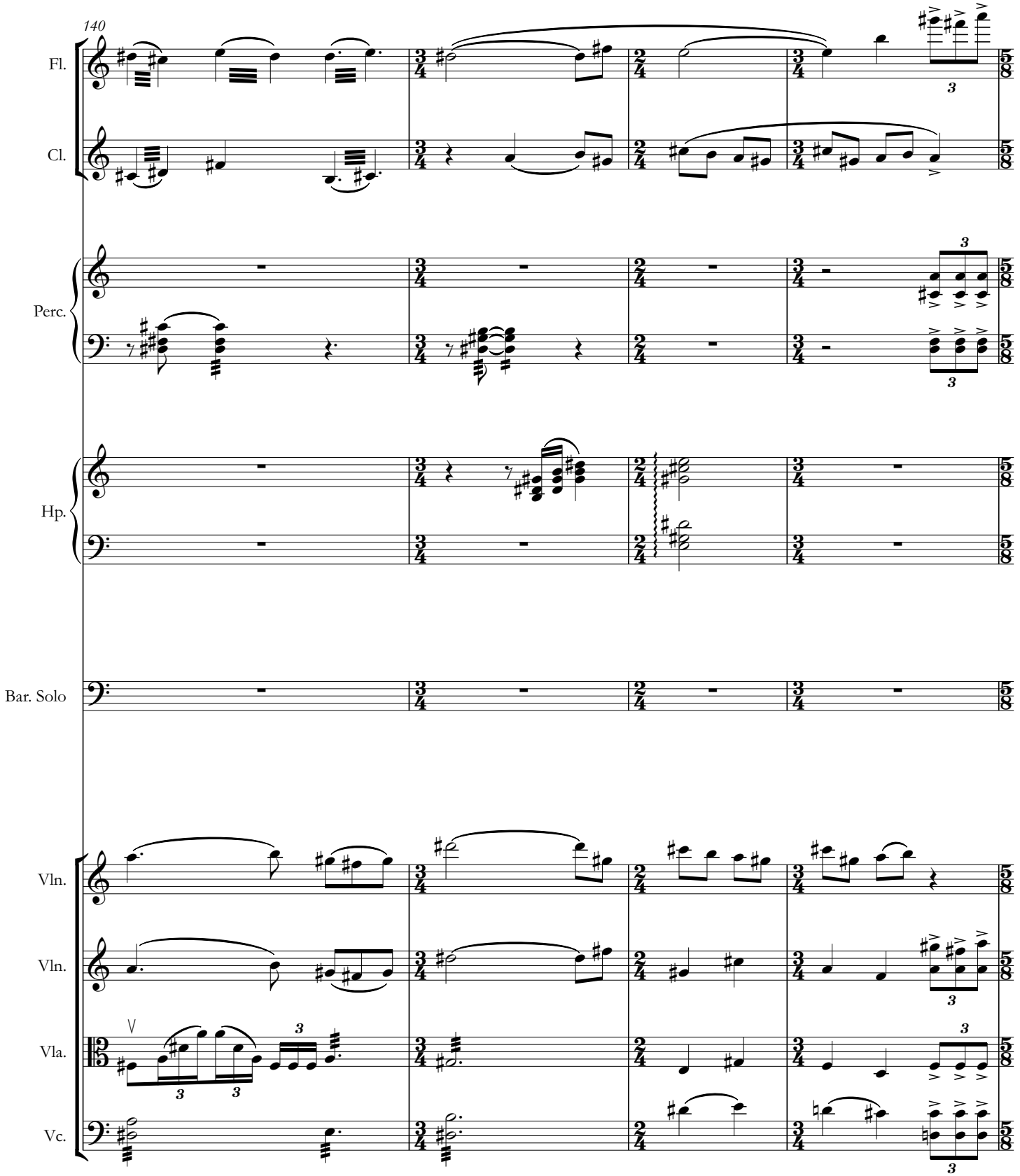

P
125
(3 + 2 + 2)
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
f
Bar. Solo
then free and kind the wil-der-ness, or an-cient mounds that
P
(3 + 2 + 2)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

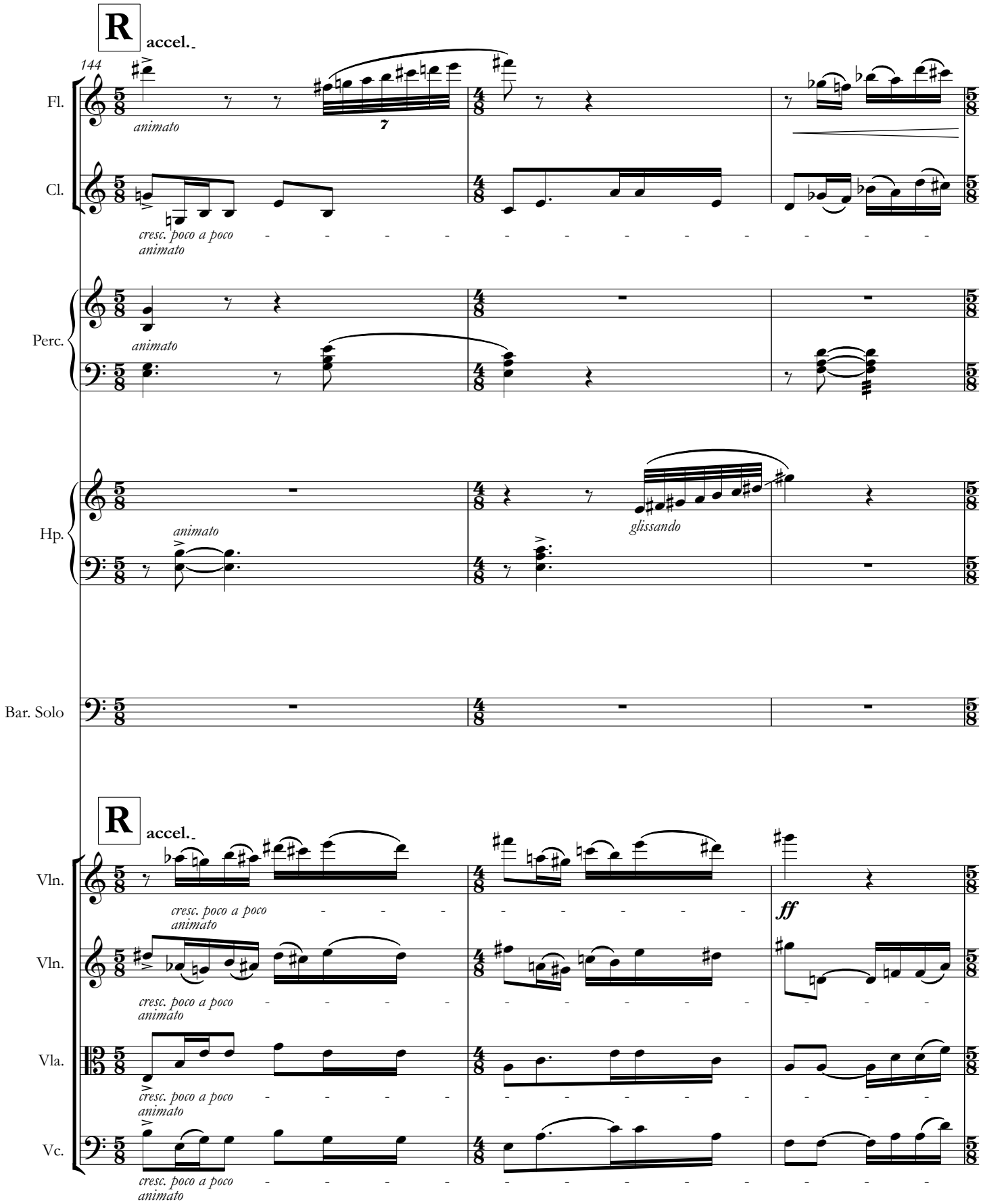

129
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
cov - er bones, or rocks where rock-doves do re - pair
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

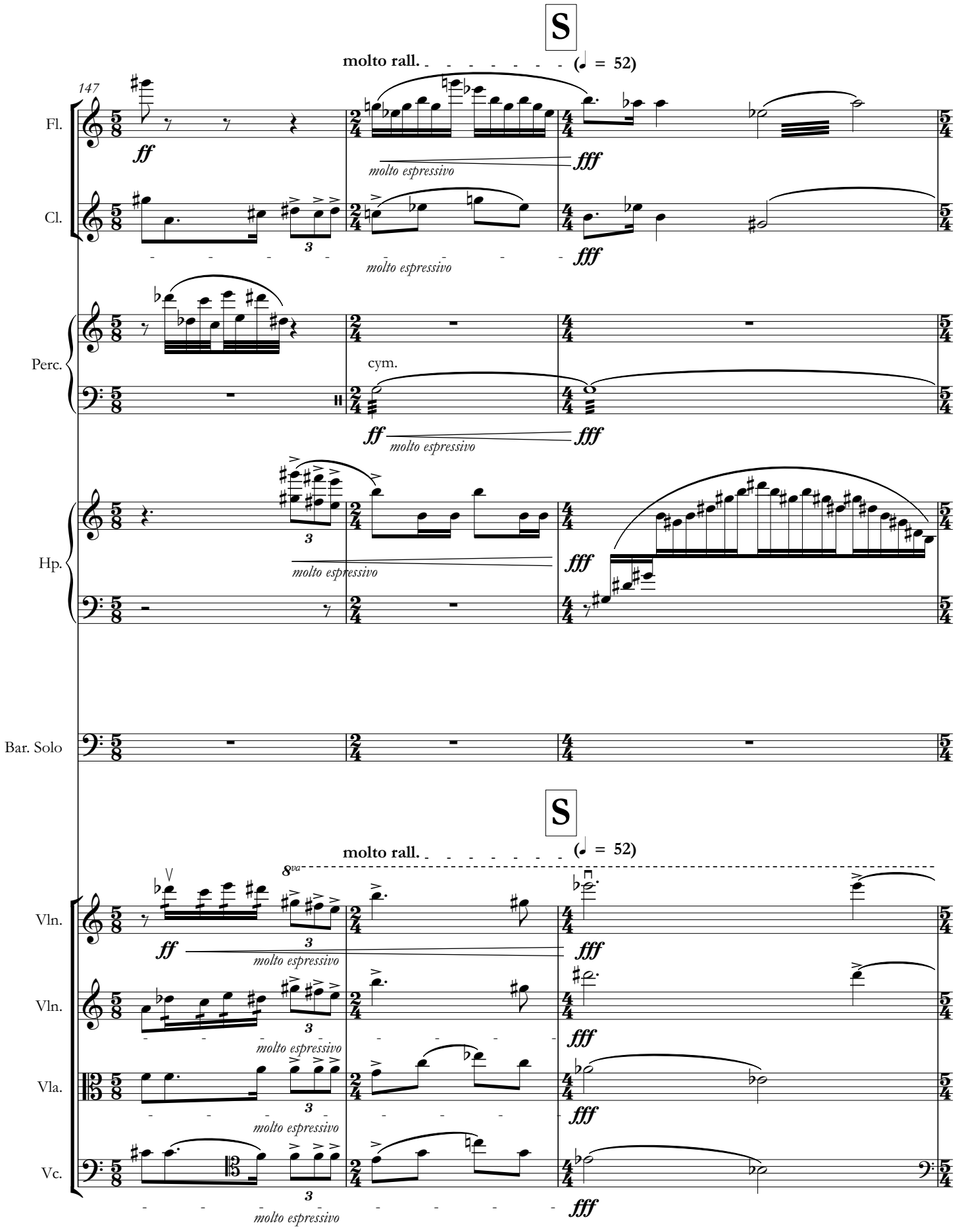

132
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
and trees of ter - e bith and stones
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

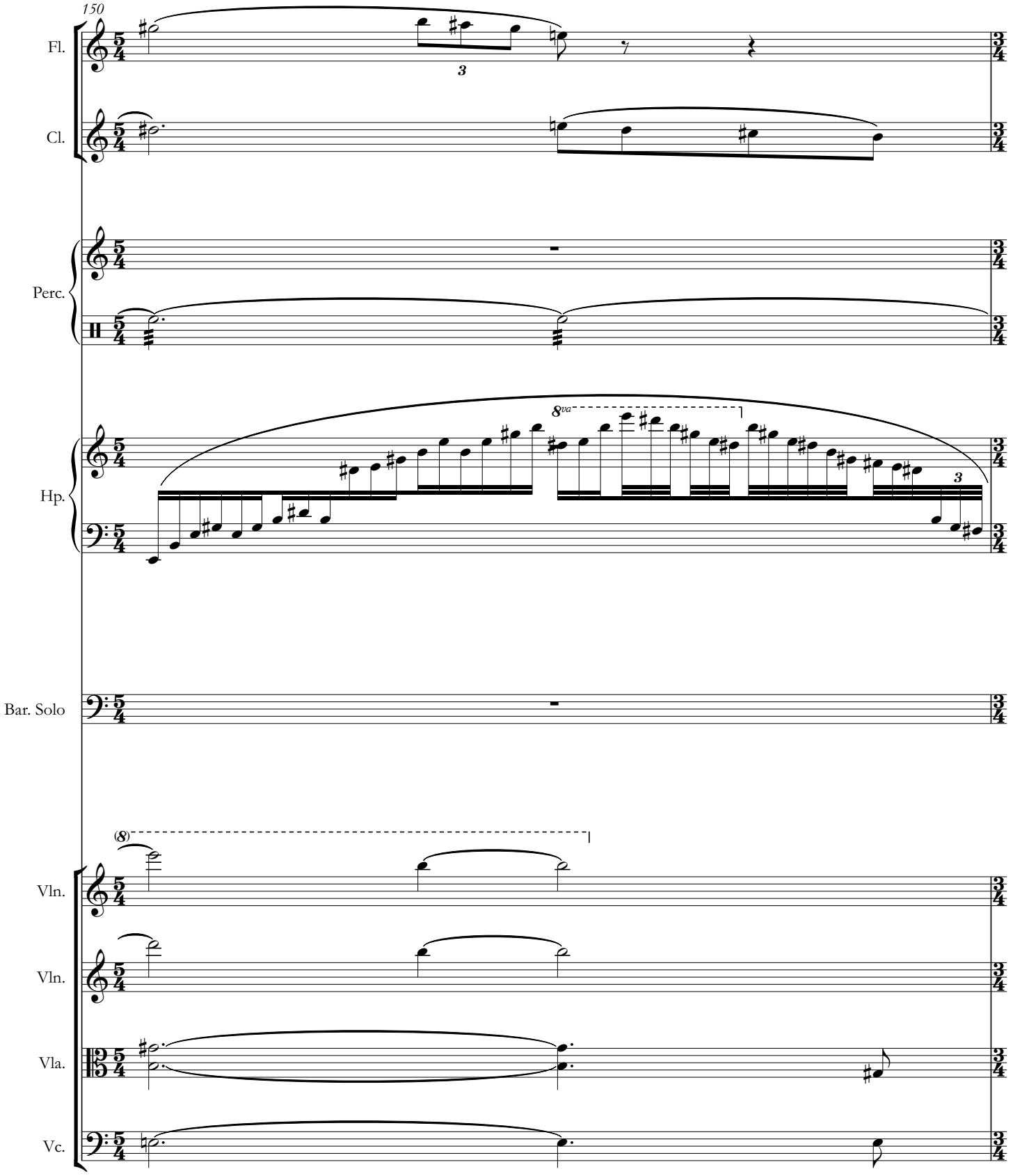

Q
rall.
Maestoso (♩ = 60)
134
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Bass Drum
Hp.
glissando
molto espressivo
Bar. Solo
and si - lence and a gulf of air.
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

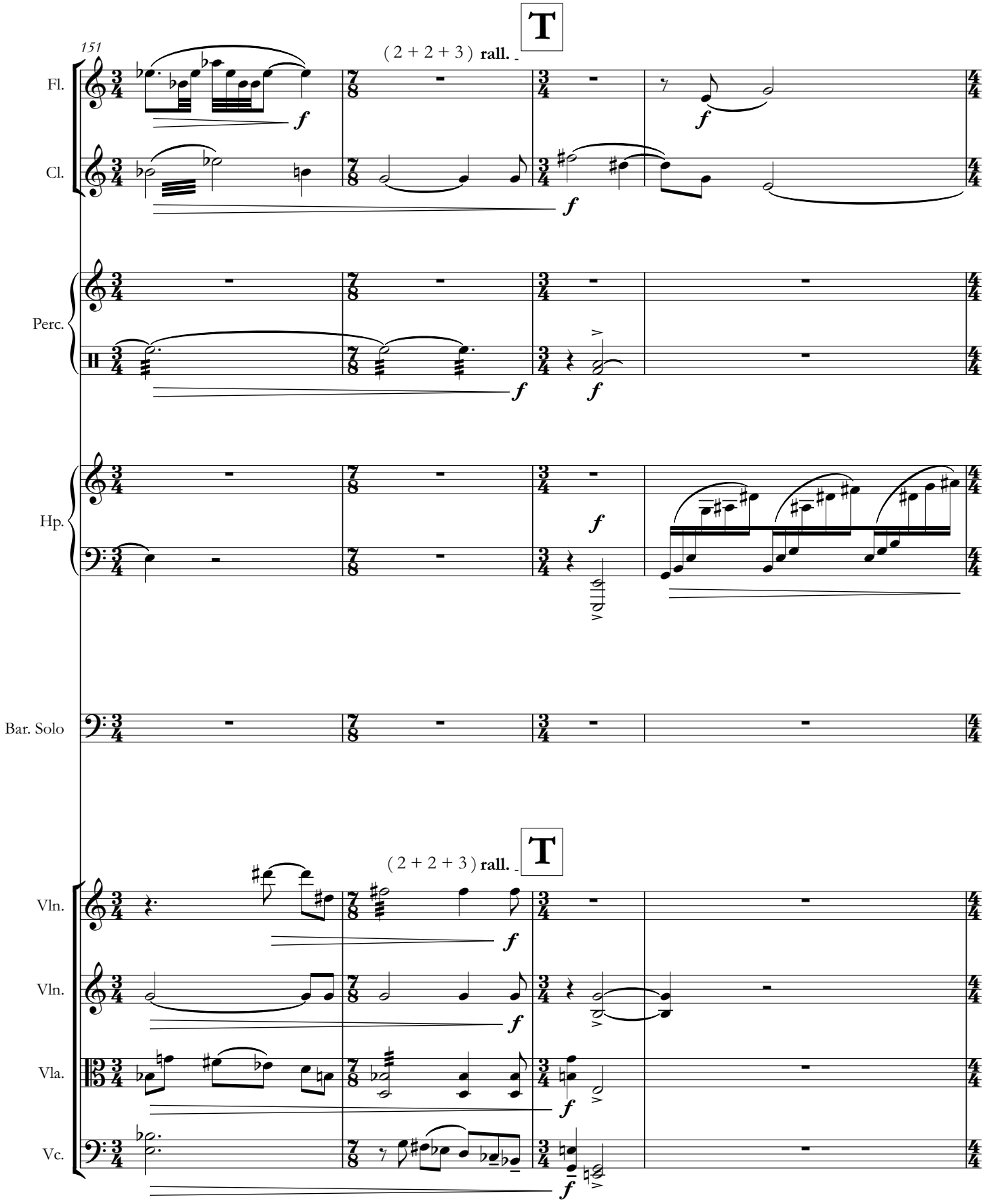

137
Fl.
Cl.
Perc.
Marimba
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
sul G
Vc.

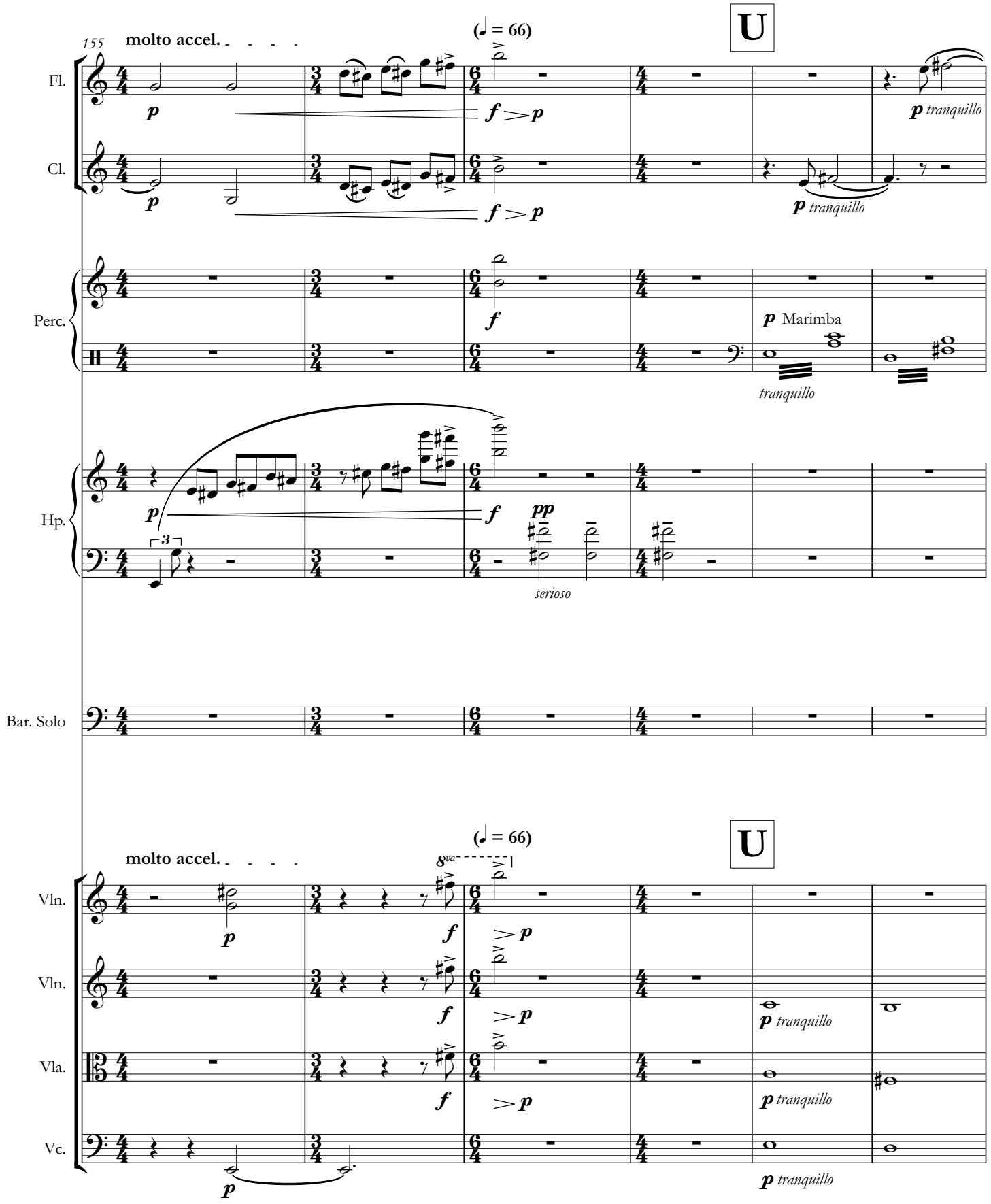

140
Fl.
Cl.
Perc.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

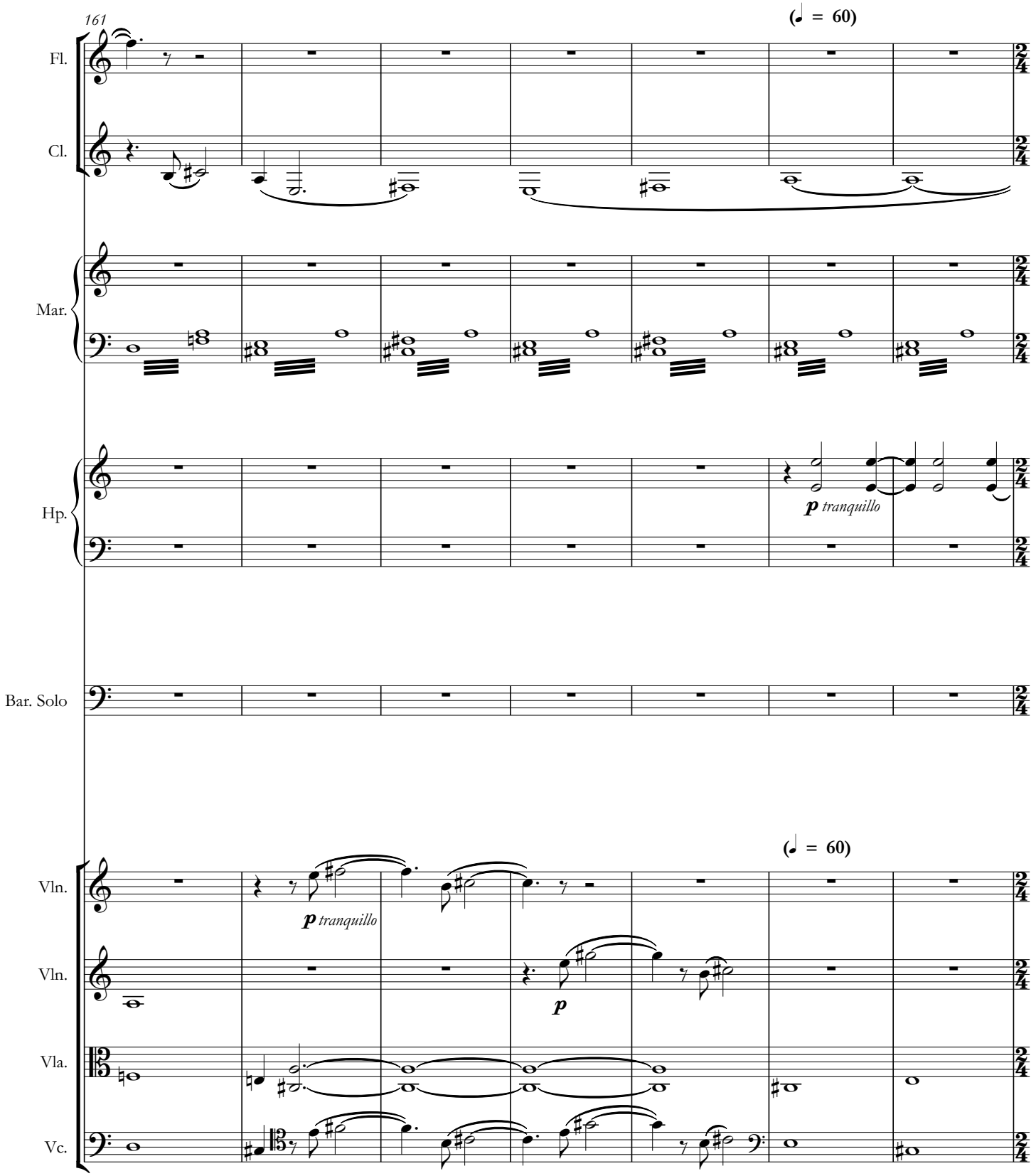

R
accel.
144
Fl.
animato
7
Cl.
cresc. poco a poco
animato
Perc.
animato
Hp.
animato
glissando
Bar. Solo
R
accel.
Vln.
cresc. poco a poco
animato
ff
Vln.
cresc. poco a poco
animato
Vla.
cresc. poco a poco
animato
Vc.
cresc. poco a poco
animato

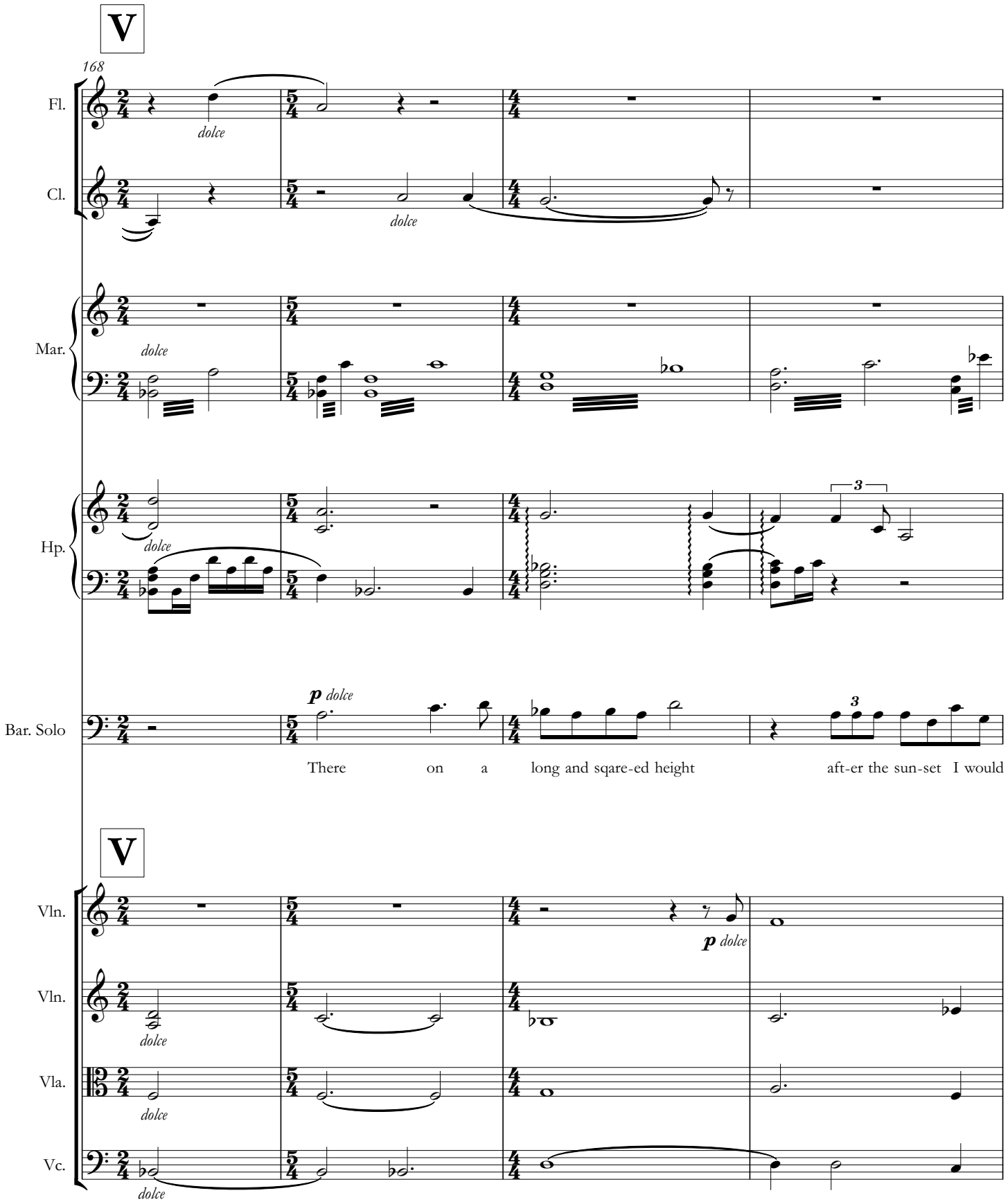

S
molto rall.
(♩ = 52)
147
Fl.
Cl.
Perc.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ff
fff
molto espressivo
cym.
8va

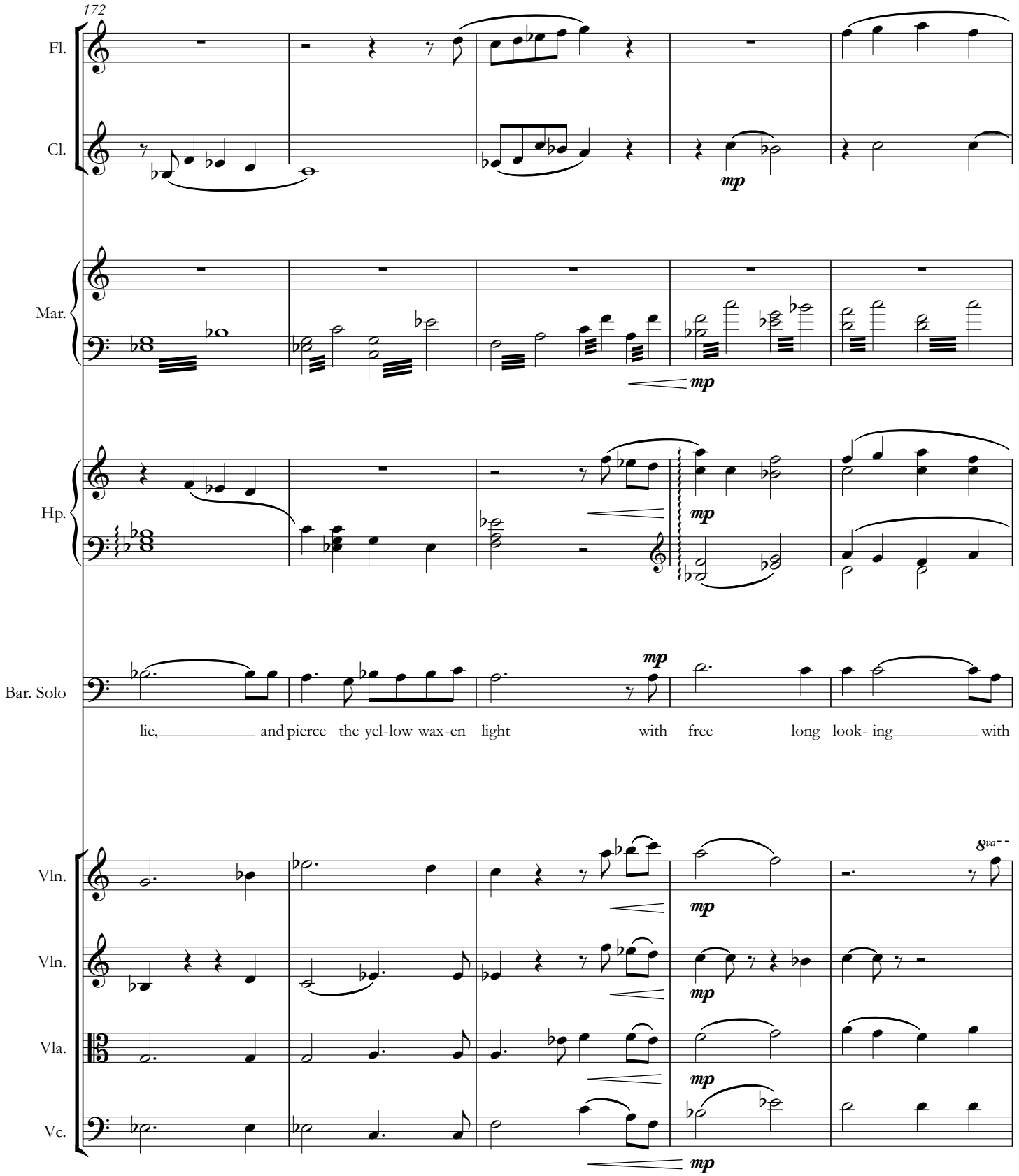

150
Fl.
Cl.
Perc.
Hp.
8va
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

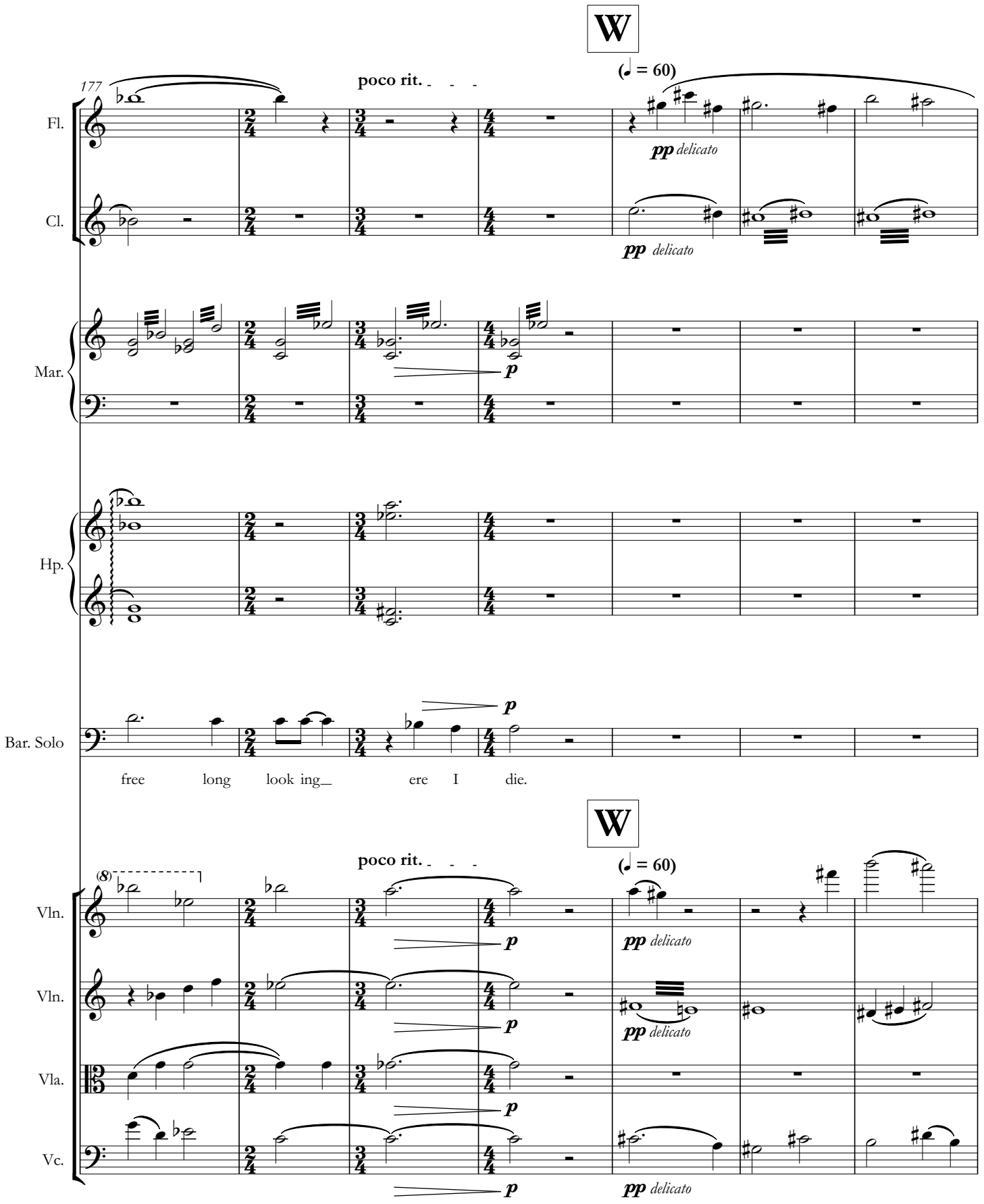

151
(2 + 2 + 3) rall.
T
Fl.
Cl.
Perc.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
(2 + 2 + 3) rall.
T

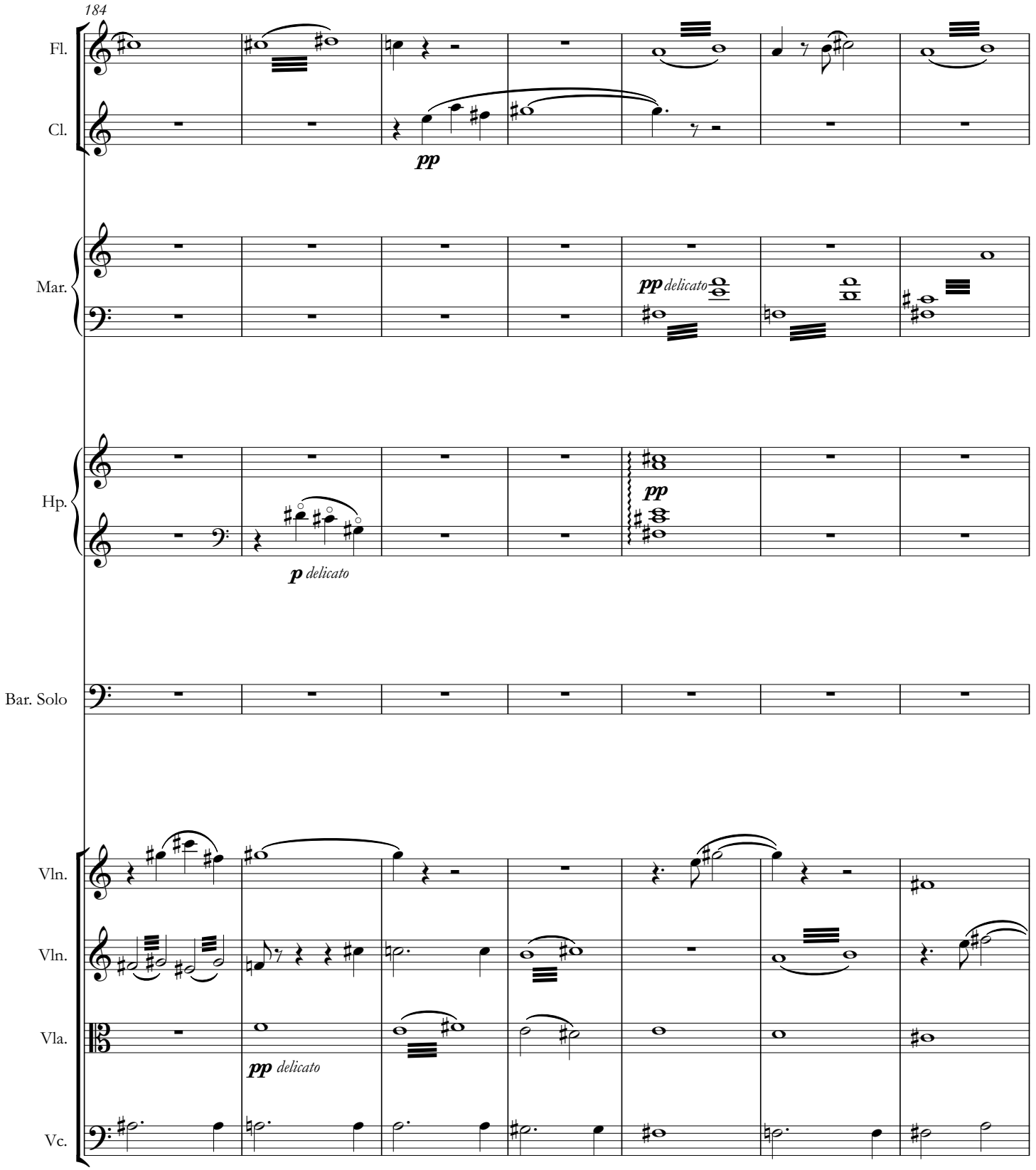

155
molto accel.
(♩ = 66)
U
Fl.
Cl.
Perc.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
f
p tranquillo
Marimba
tranquillo
pp
serioso
8va

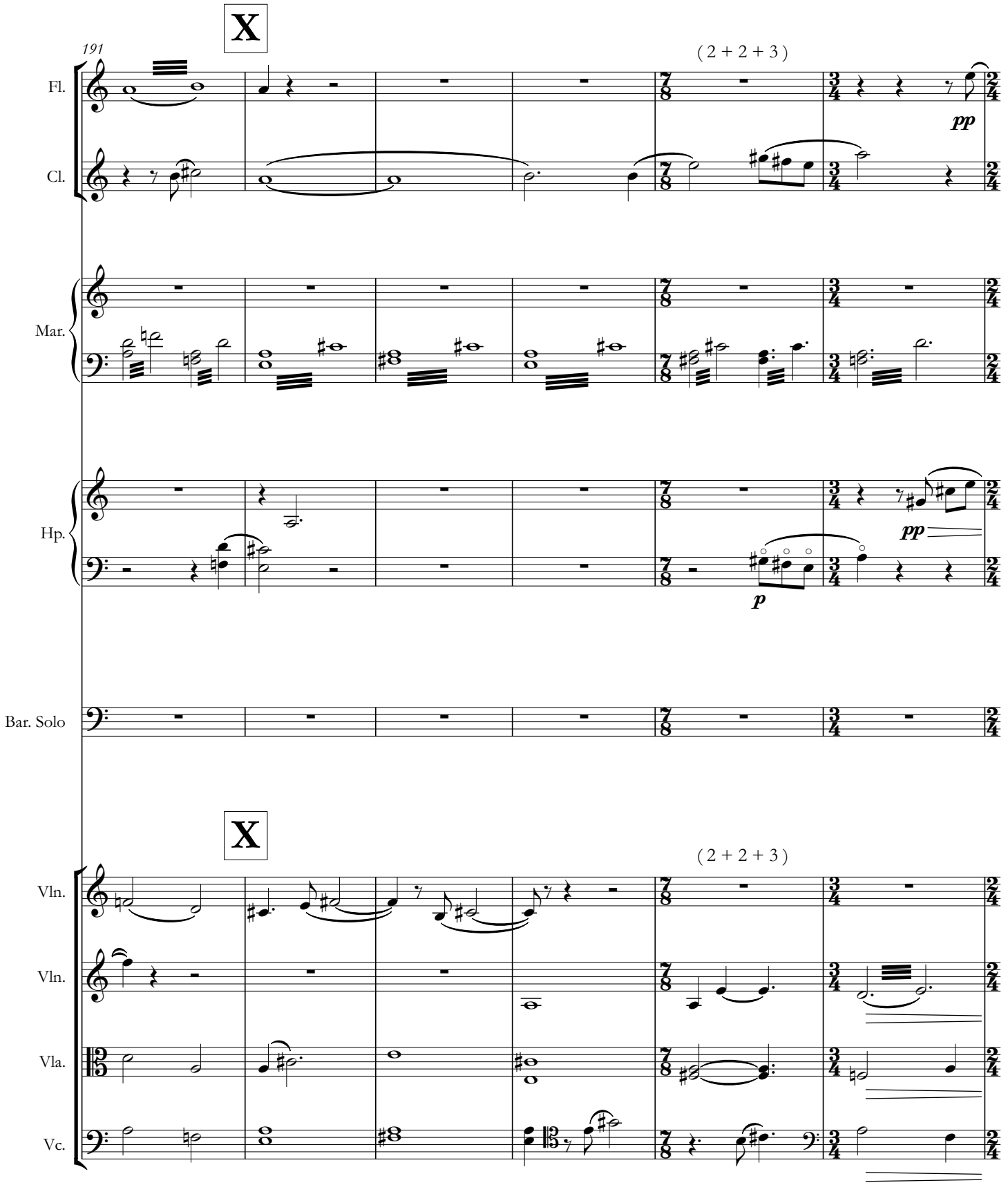

161
(♩ = 60)
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
p tranquillo
Bar. Solo
(♩ = 60)
Vln.
p tranquillo
Vln.
p
Vla.
Vc.

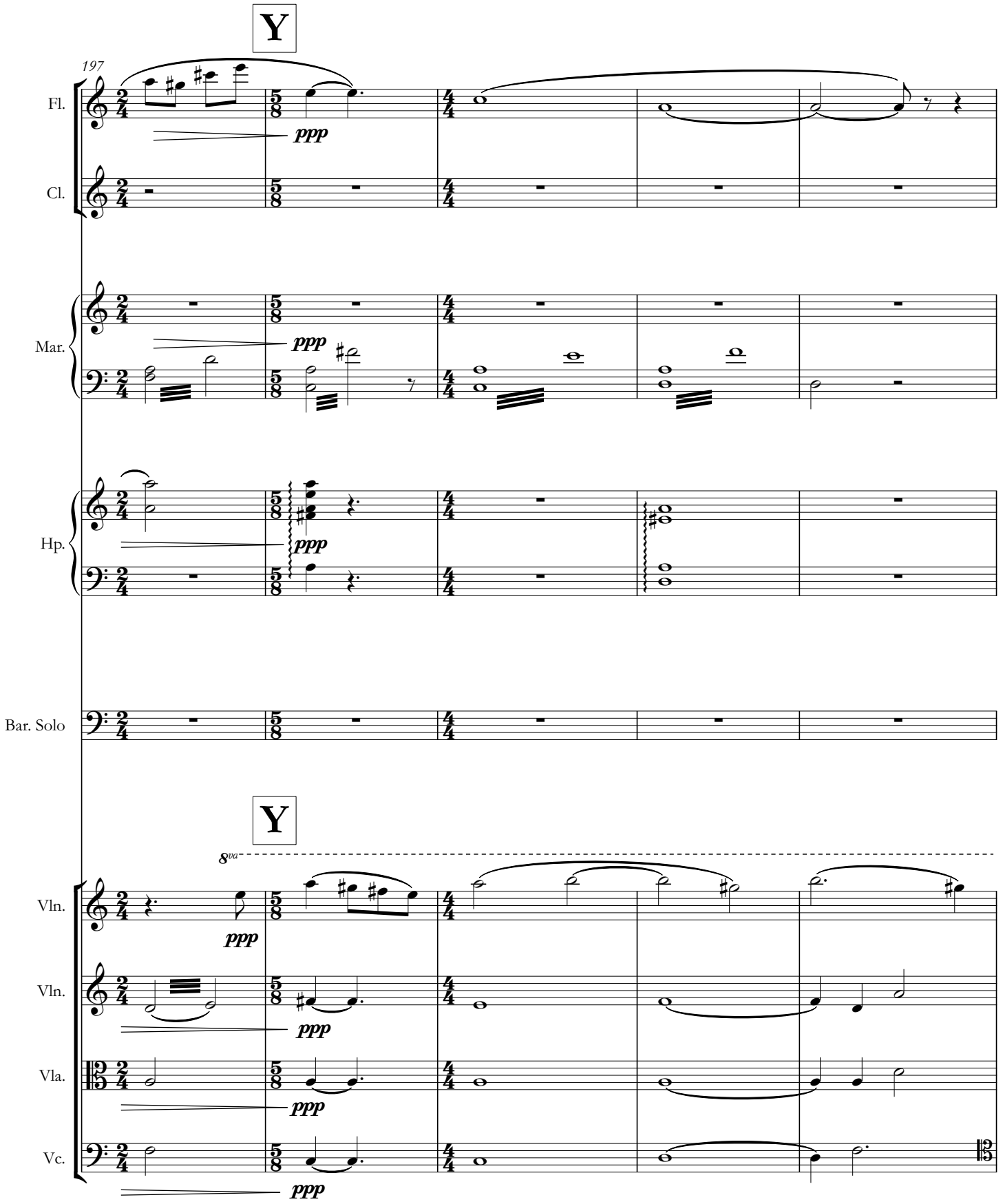

V
168
Fl.
dolce
Cl.
dolce
Mar.
dolce
Hp.
dolce
3
Bar. Solo
p dolce
3
There on a long and sqare-ed height aft-er the sun-set I would
V
Vln.
p dolce
Vln.
dolce
Vla.
dolce
Vc.
dolce

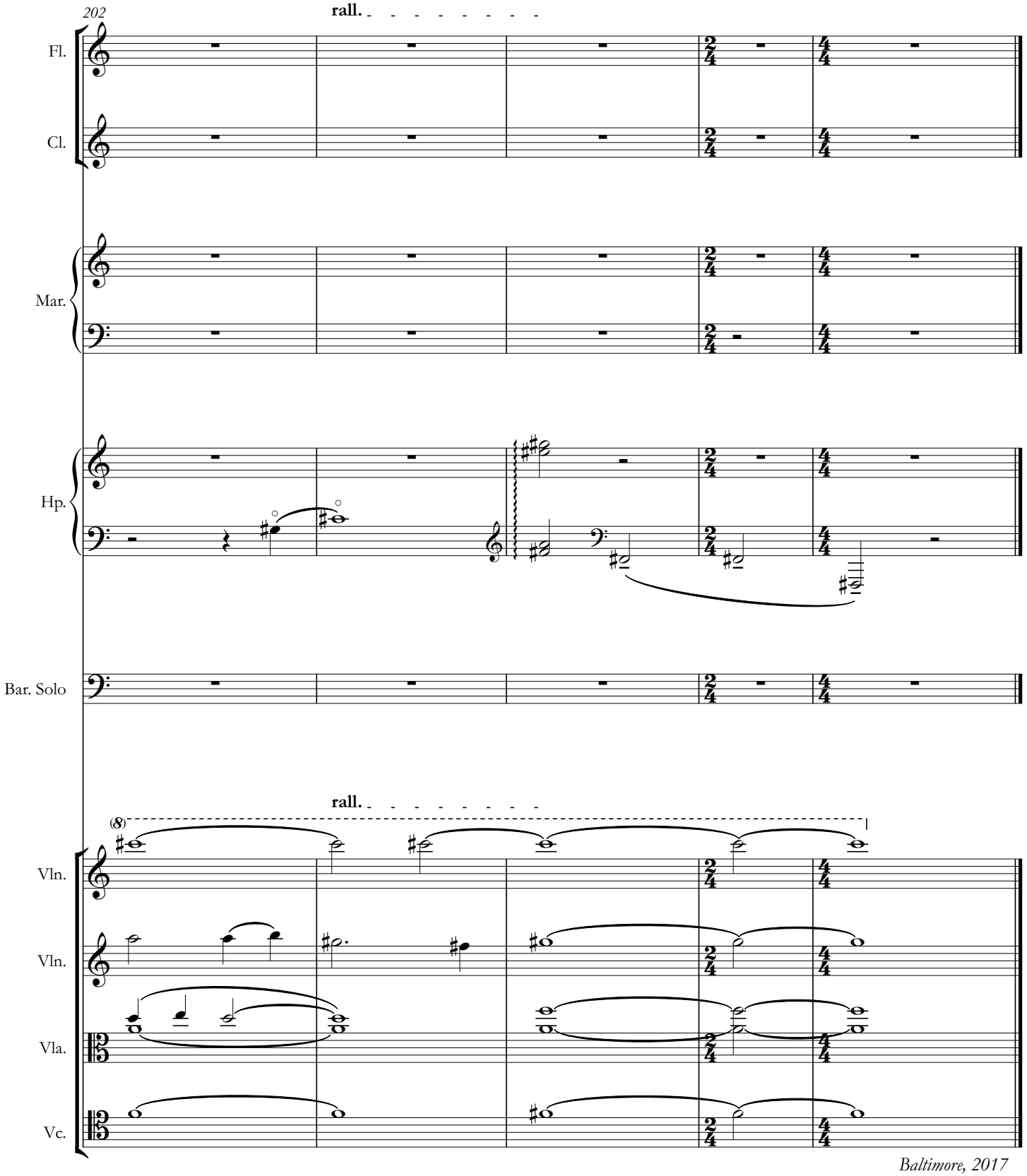

172
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
lie, and pierce the yel-low wax-en light with free long look- ing with
8va


W
poco rit.
(♩ = 60)
177
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
pp delicato
p
free long look ing_ ere I die.
W
poco rit.
(♩ = 60)
(8)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp delicato
p


184
Fl.
Cl.
pp
Mar.
pp delicato
Hp.
pp
p delicato
Bar. Solo
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
pp delicato
Vc.


X
191
(2 + 2 + 3)
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
pp
p
pp
X
(2 + 2 + 3)
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.


Y
197
Fl.
Cl.
Mar.
Hp.
Bar. Solo
Y
8va
Vln.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ppp



Baltimore, 2017