The Seventh Wave

For Woodwind Quintet

Austin Franklin

(2016)

Program Notes

The popular myth known as The Seventh Wave claims that ocean waves tend to form into groups of seven, with the seventh being the biggest of the group. The final wave has been said to be so big that it can capsize a ship at sea, or return a sailor who has fallen overboard back to his ship. This myth, however largely proven to be false, does prove that regularities in wave patterns do often occur if weather conditions are favorable.

The formal plan of the piece is meant to represent a single composite group of waves, using texture, tempo, and thematic disposition to delineate each wave. The piece was completed in 2016 and revised throughout the beginning of 2018. It has since been selected for the Sound/Sight Art collaboration, and was the winner of the First Annual LSU Composition Student Competition.

Notes to the performer

The Seventh Wave may be performed with or without a conductor. If performed without a conductor, the tempo (and changes) from the beginning to rehearsal letter C may be increased by no more than 10 Bpm to allow for greater rhythmic accuracy and overall alignment.

From m. 7-14, the sound should exhibit an unnatural reliance to the quarter-note pulse. A slightly slower tempo during this section may be used to help achieve this effect. Straight tone is preferred throughout the entire duration of this phrase, and none of the instruments during this section should have a principal role, with the exception of the Bb Clarinet during m. 12-14.

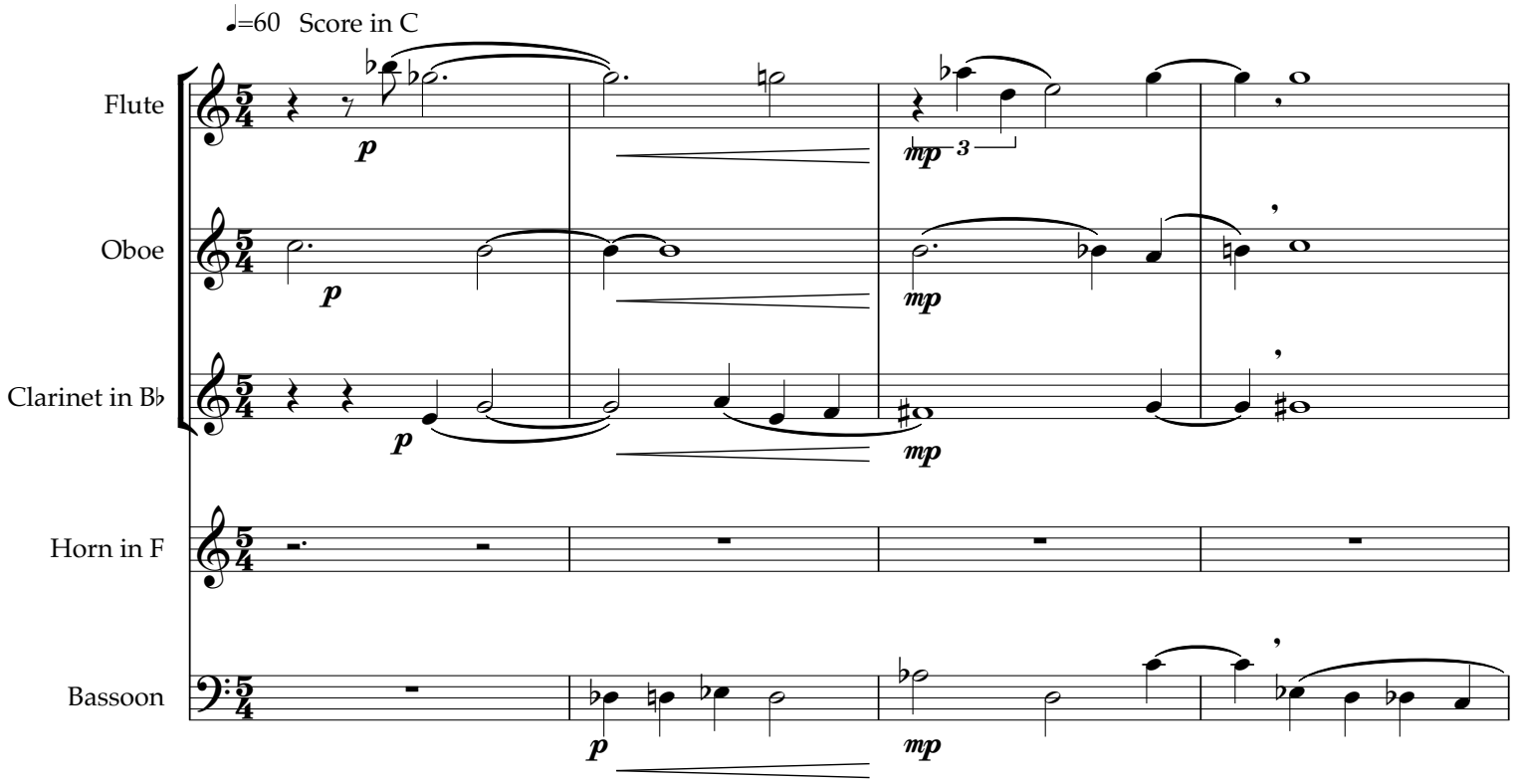
Score in C

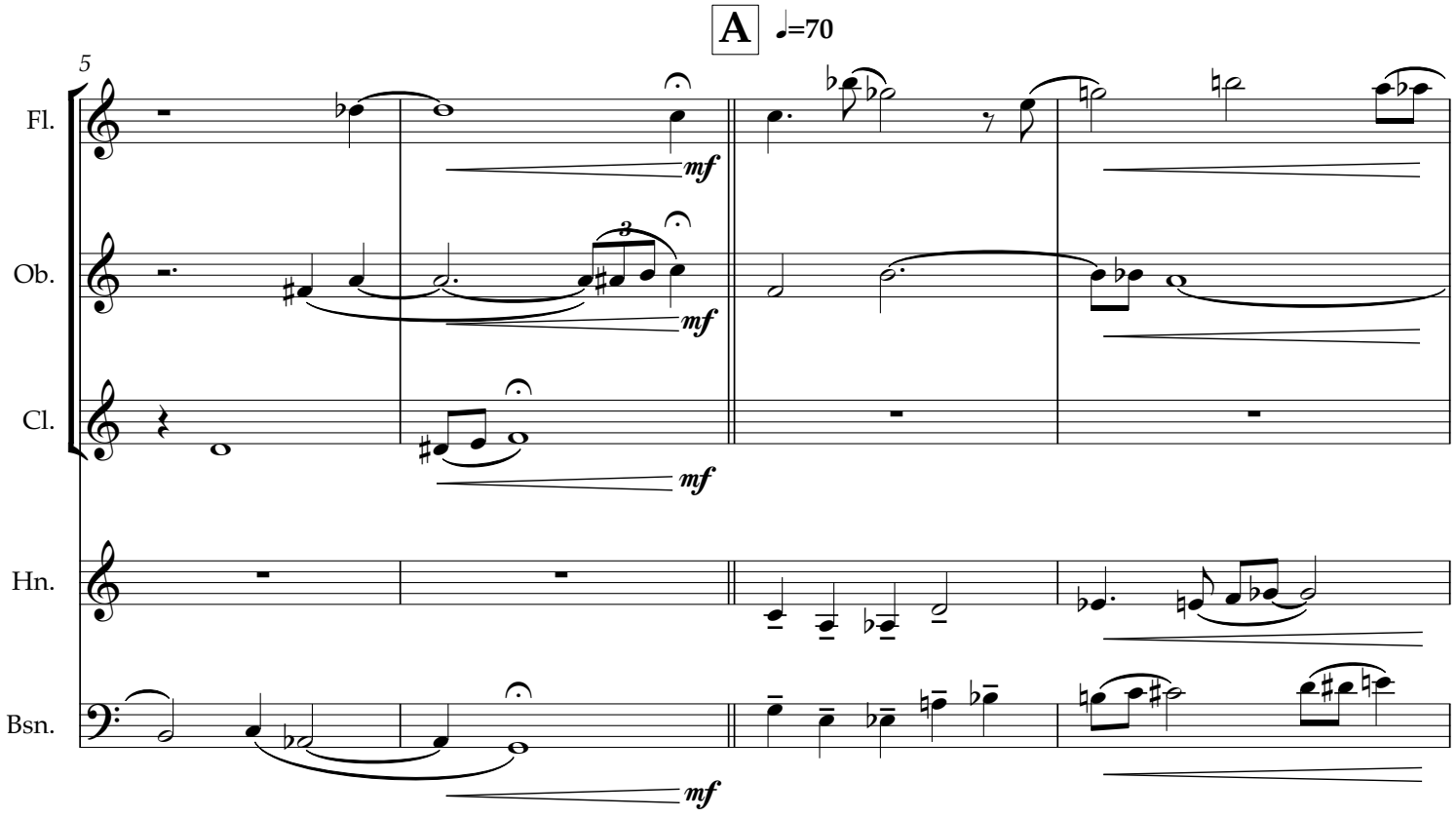
Duration: ≈ 7:00’

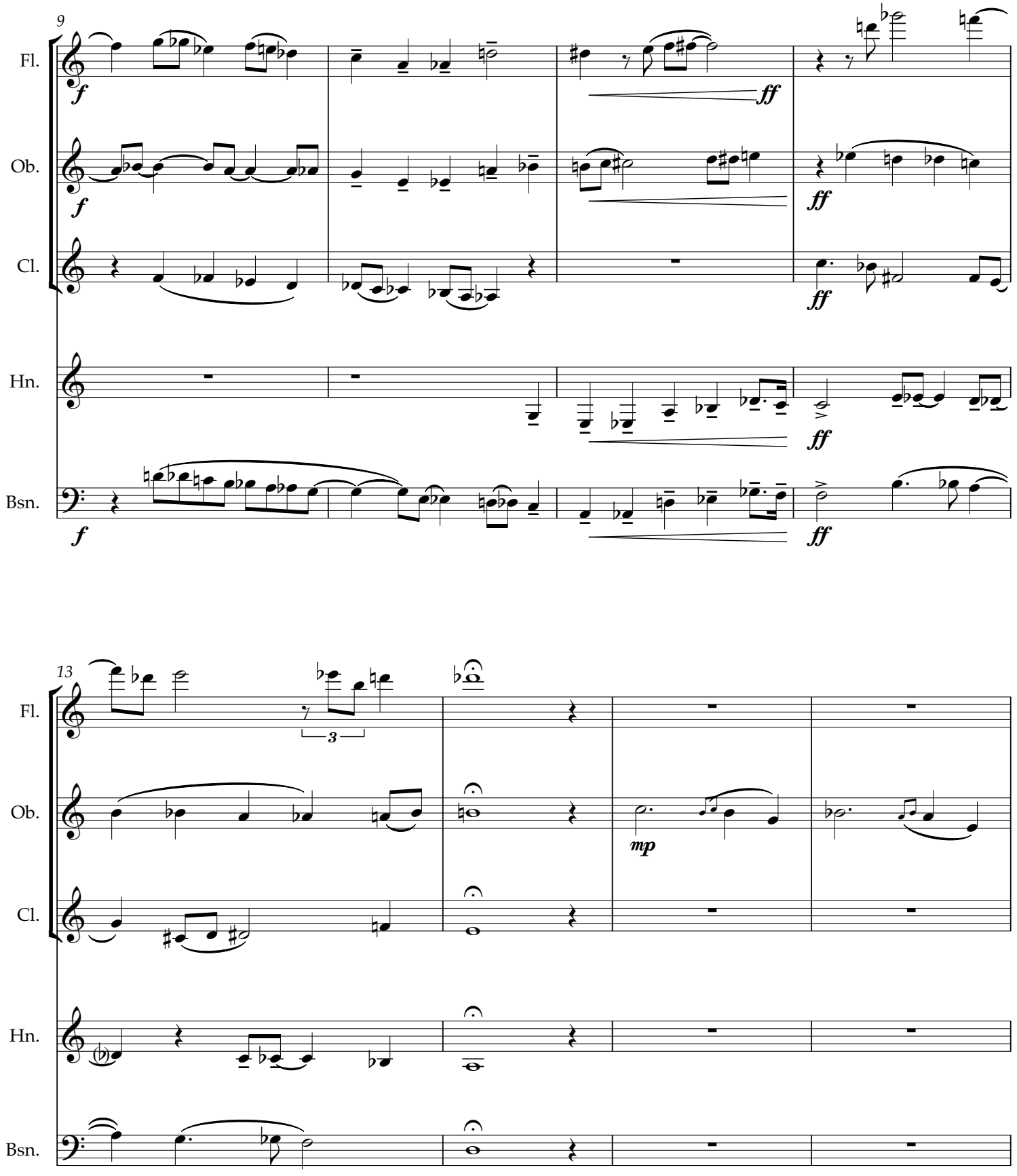
Instrumentation

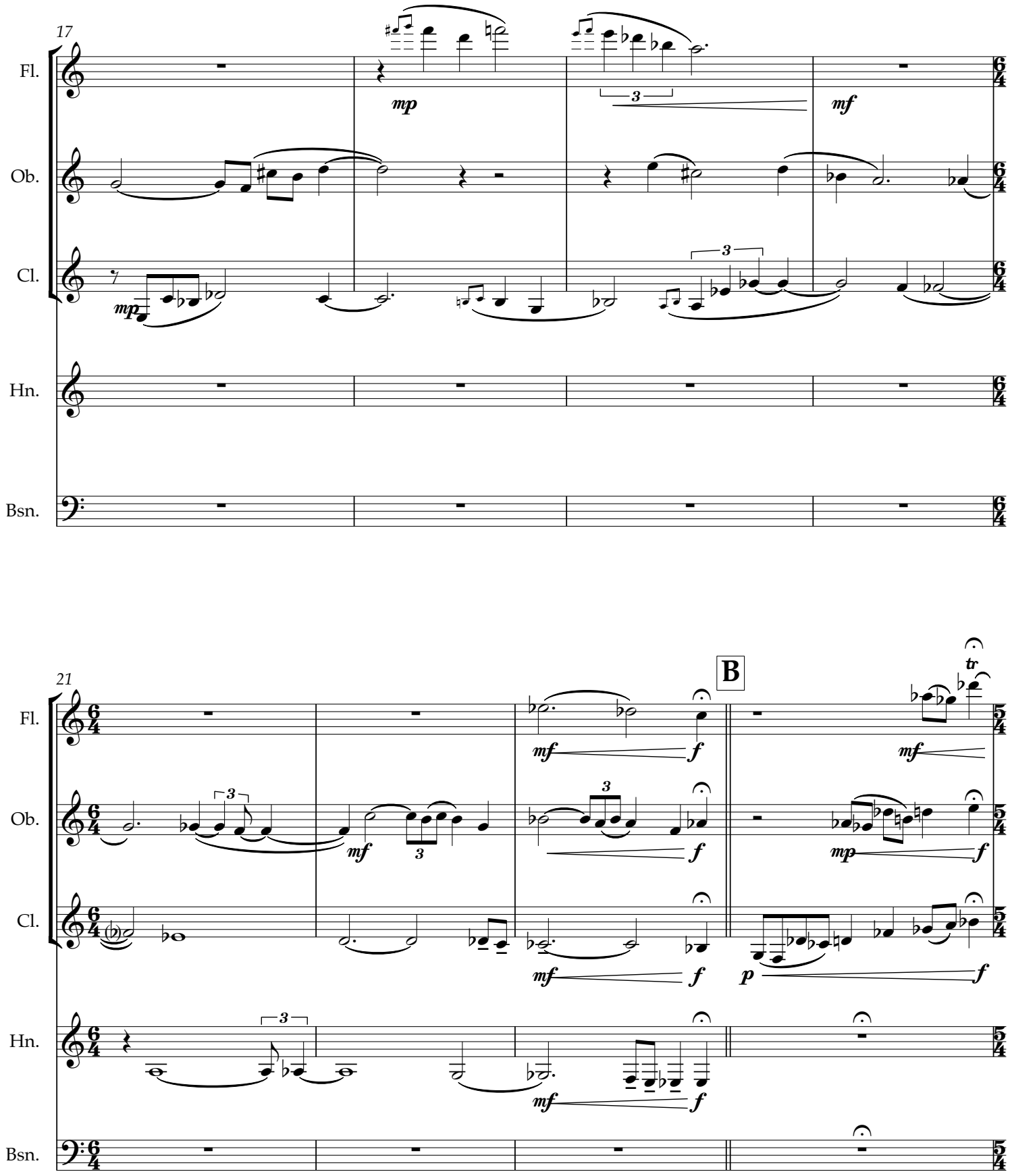
Flute
Oboe
B-flat Clarinet
Horn in F
Bassoon

The Seventh Wave

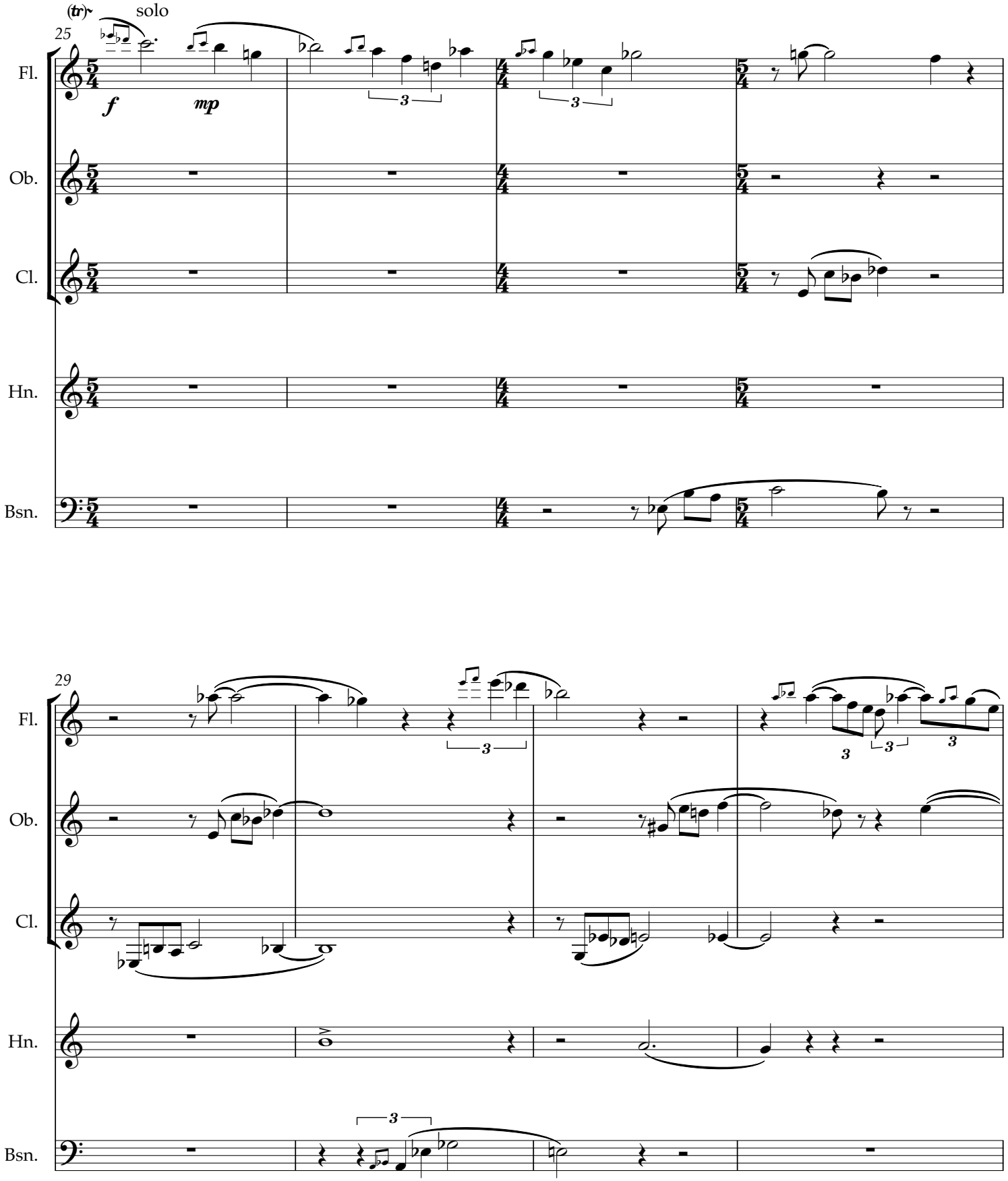


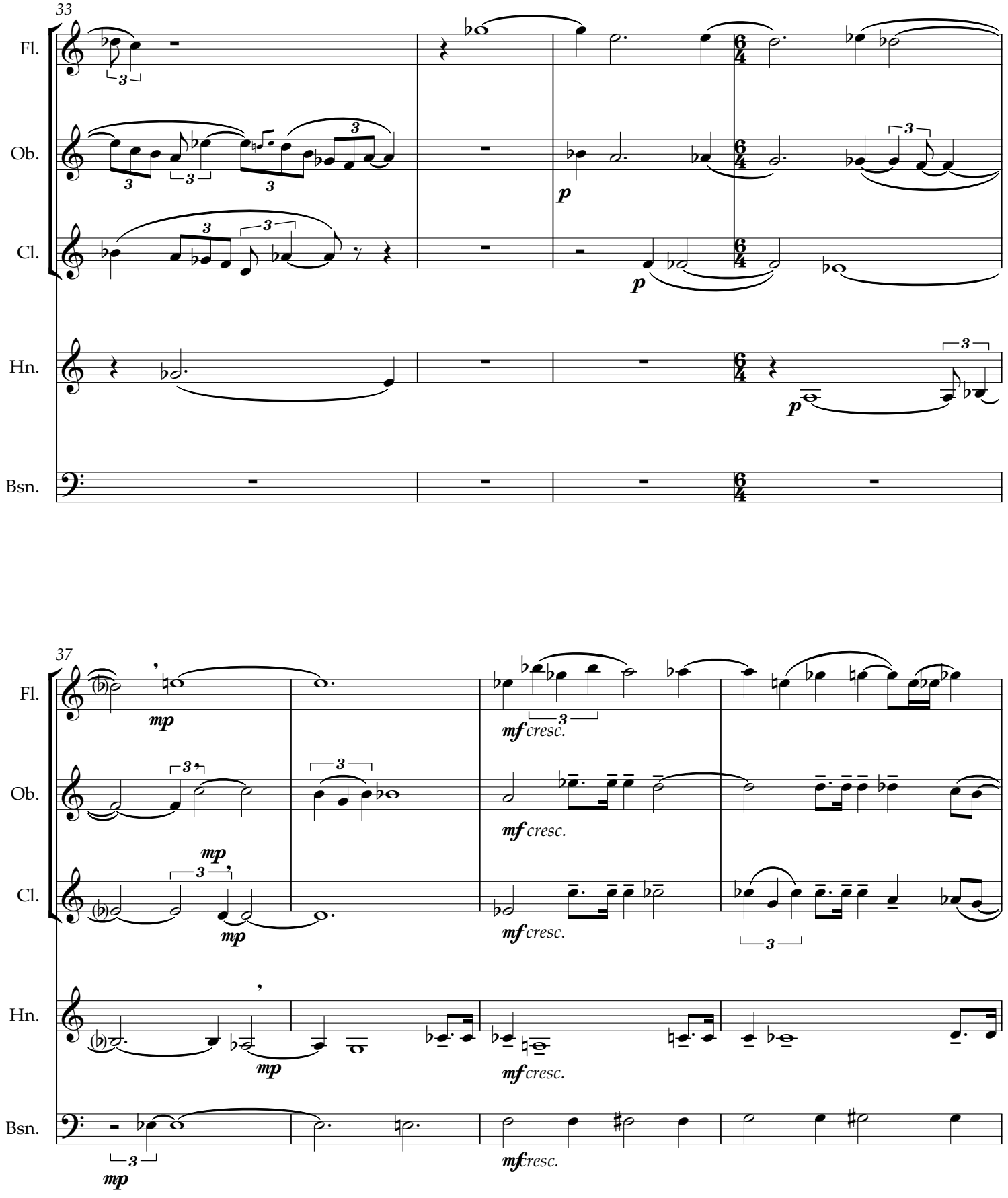


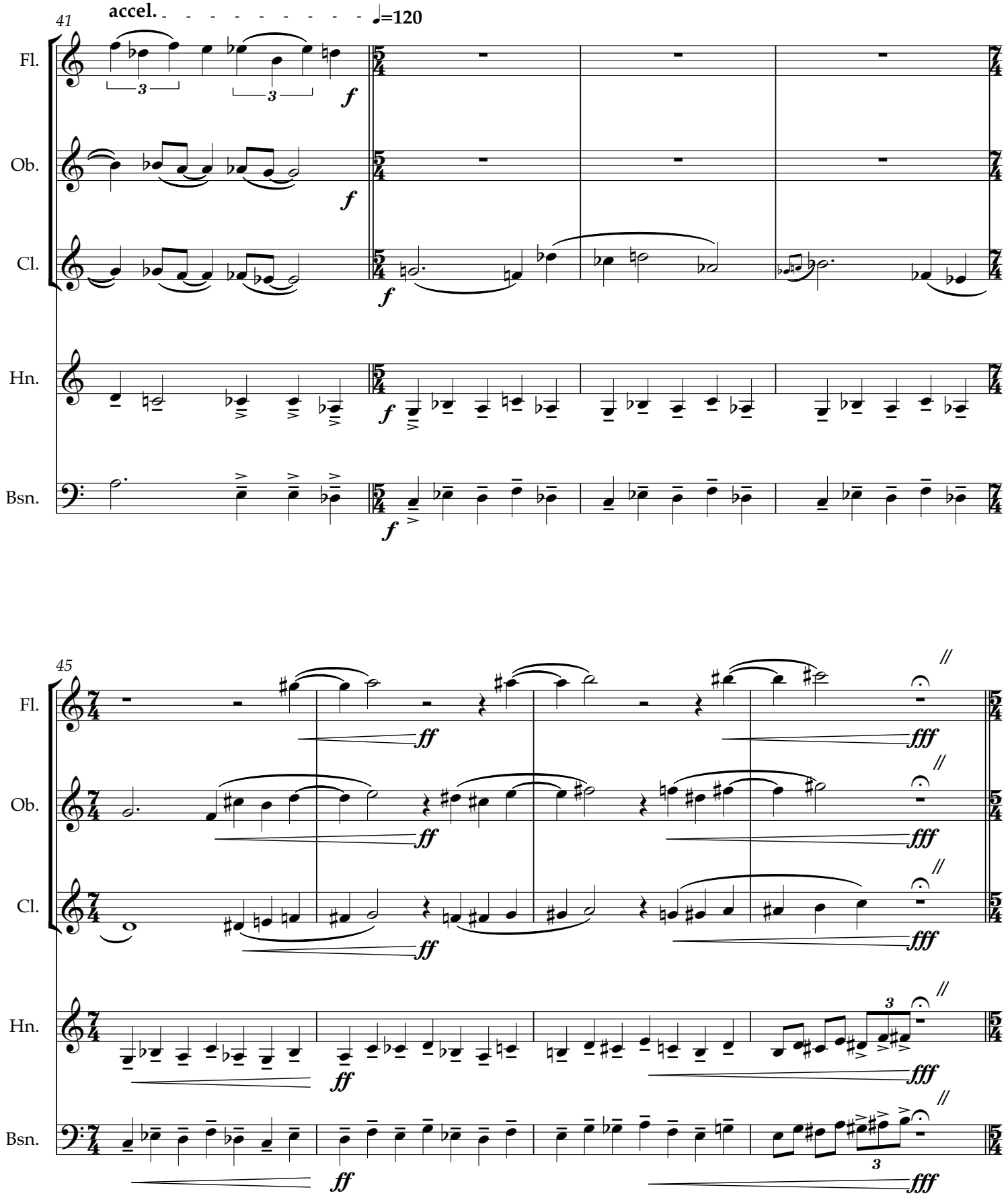

9
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
f
ff
mp
13
3

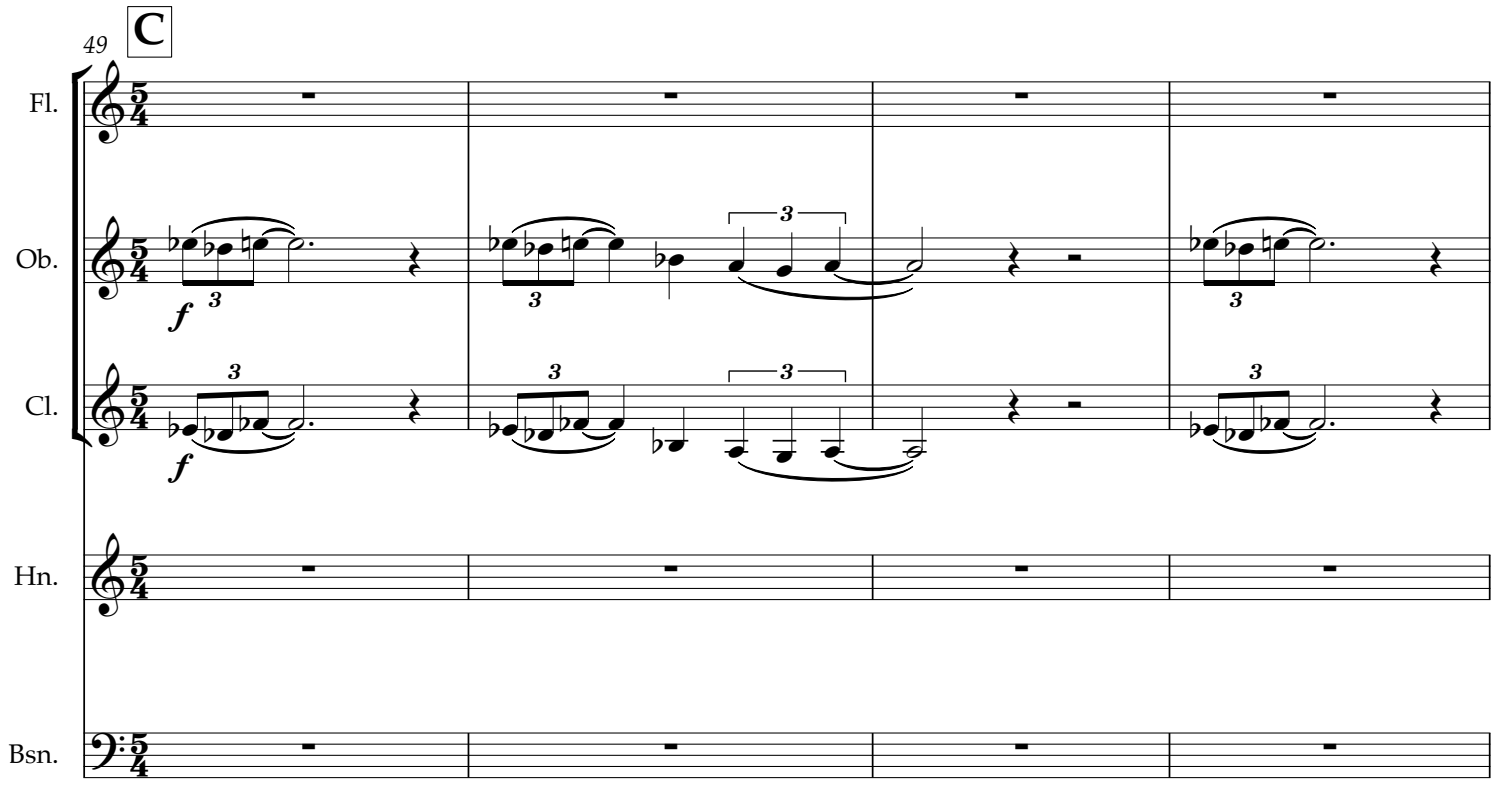

17
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
mp
mf
3
21
B
tr
f
p

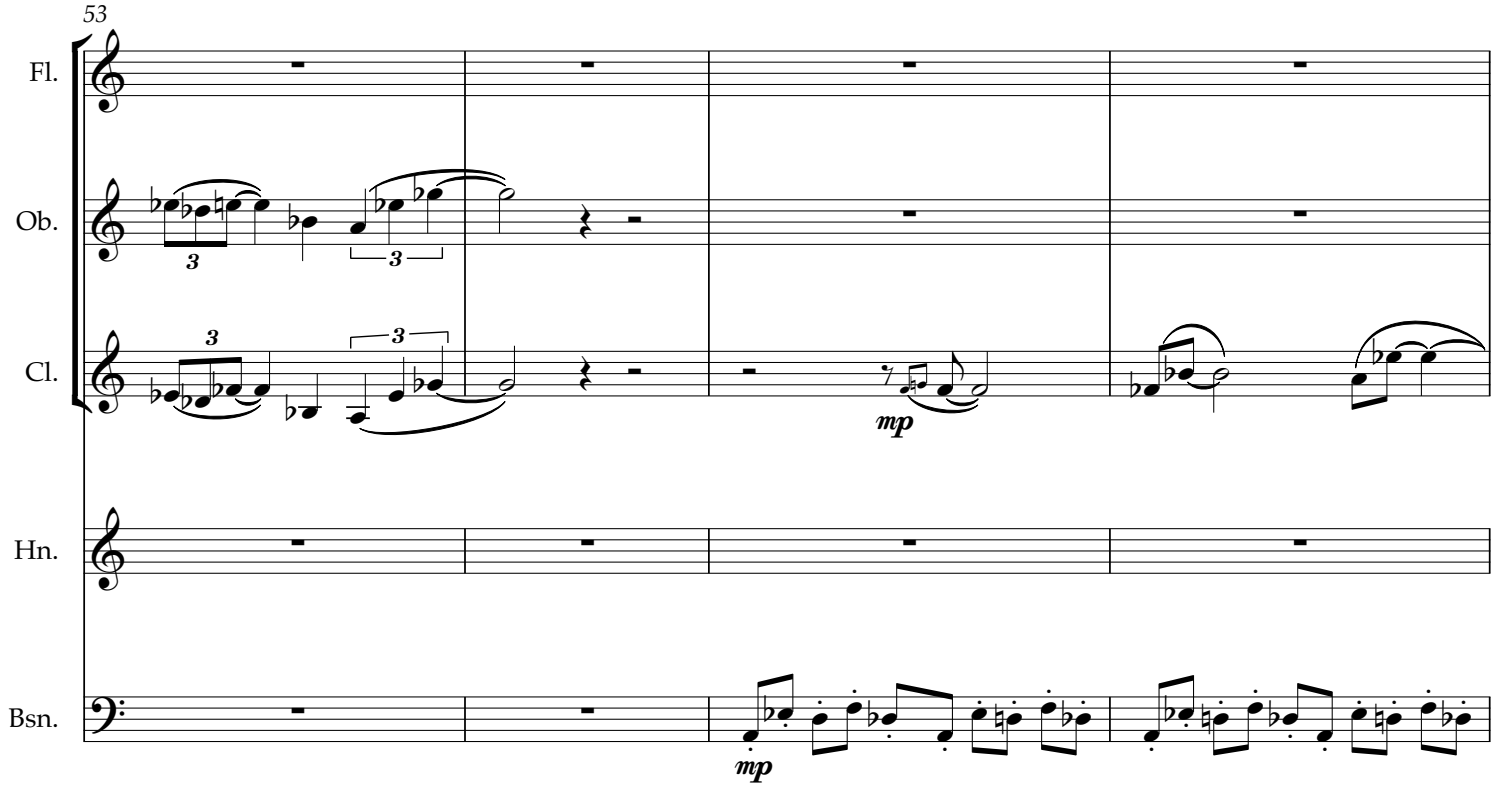
Tempo Rubato

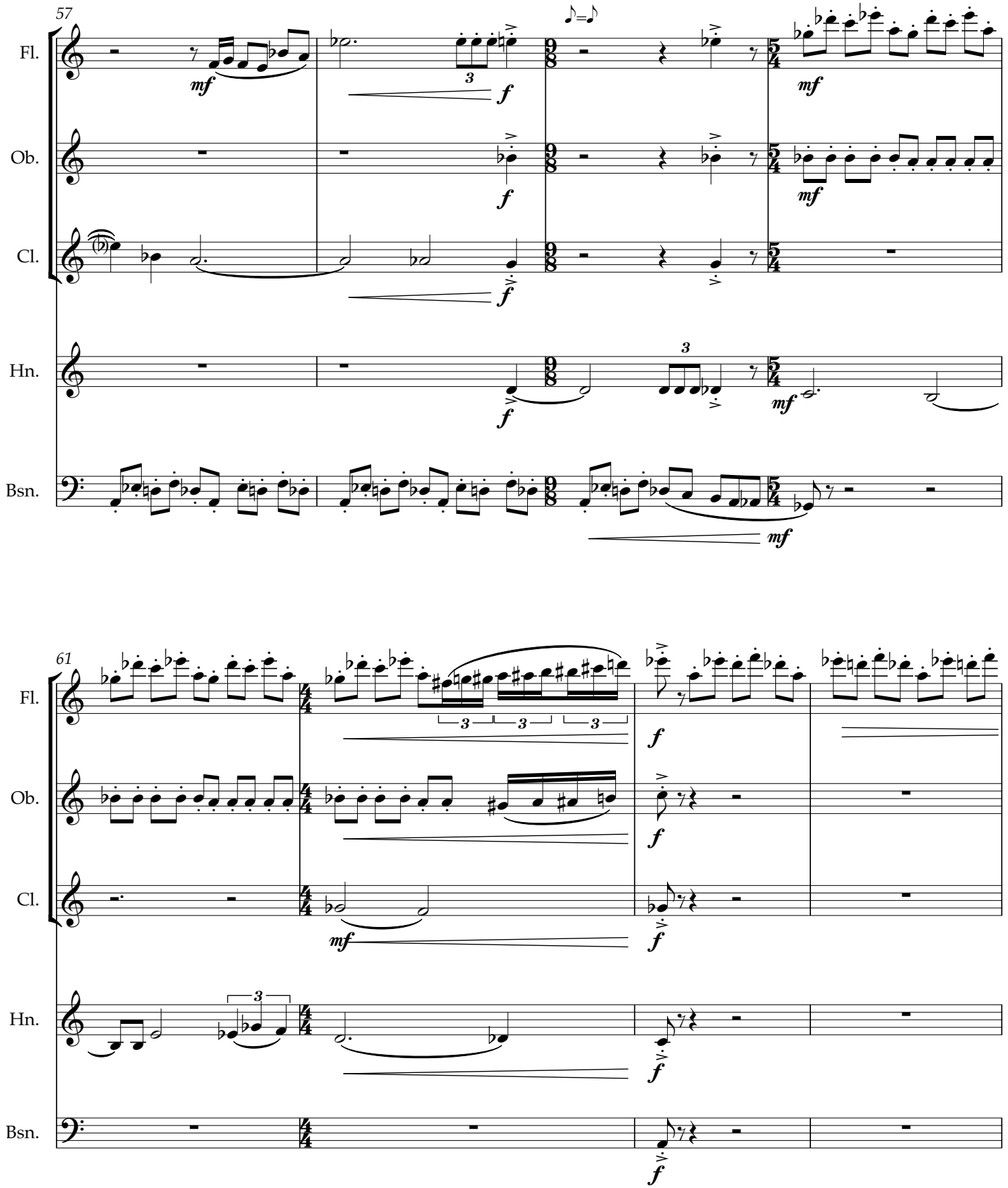


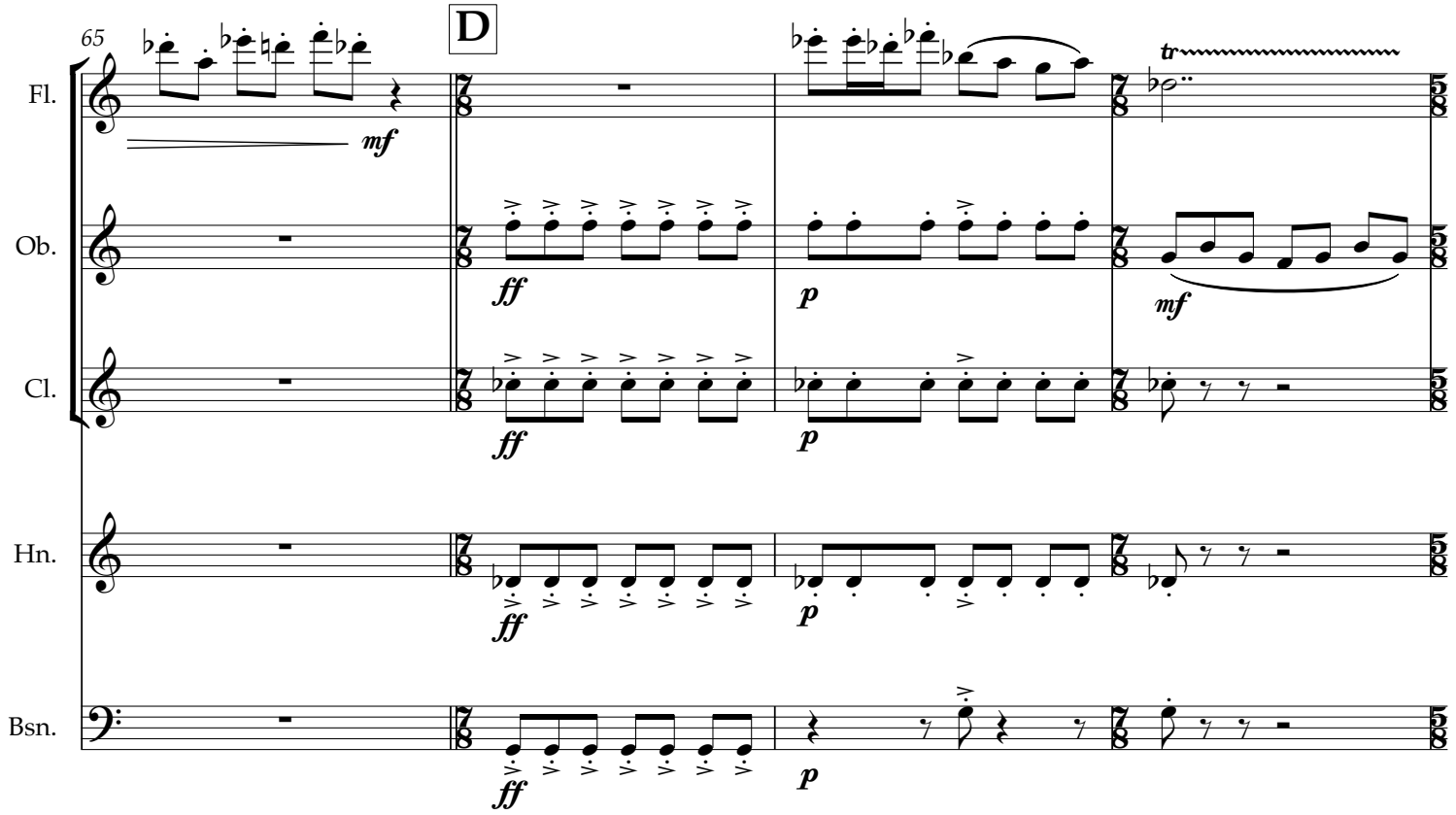

33
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
p
37
mp
mf cresc.

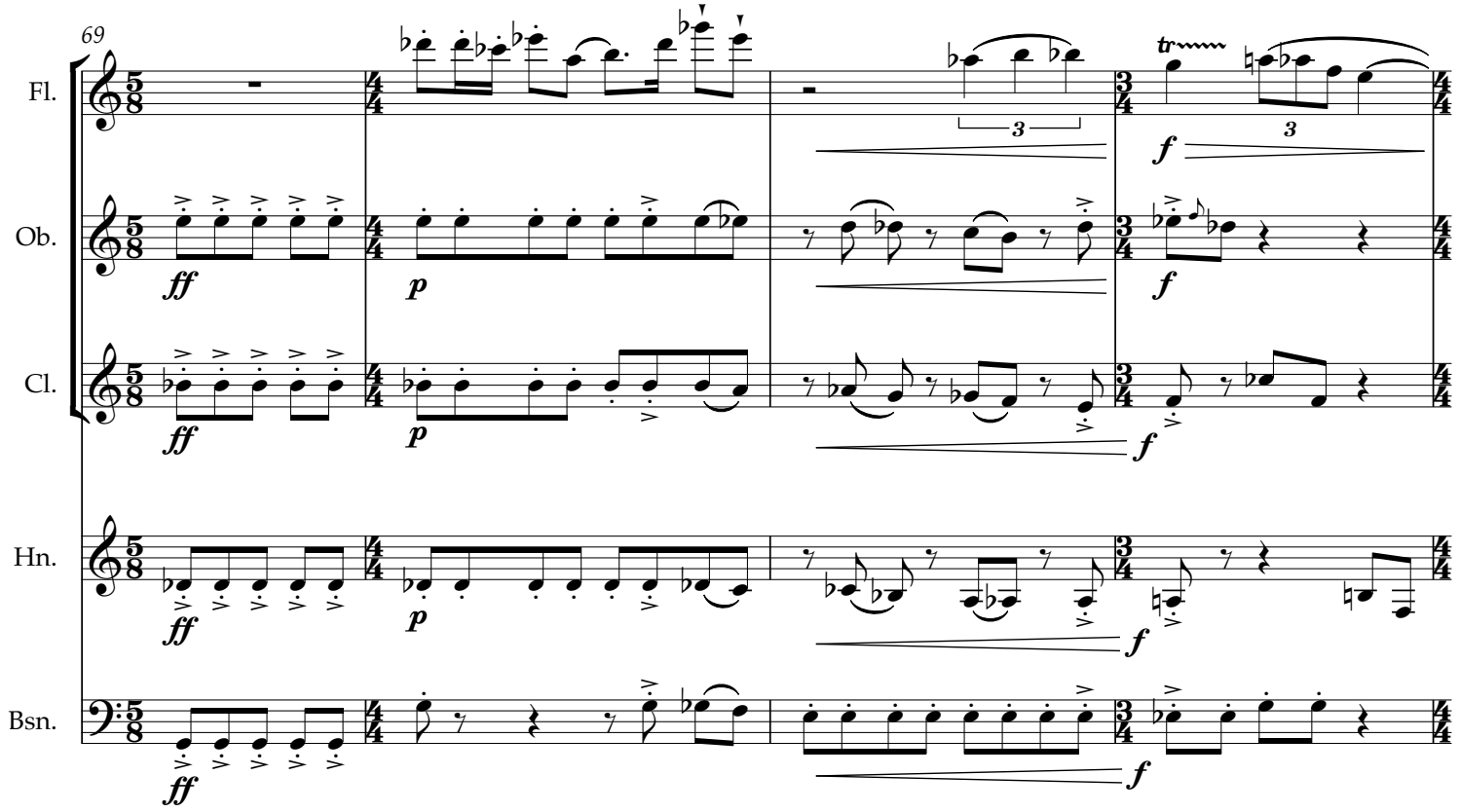

41
accel.
♩=120
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
f
45
ff
fff

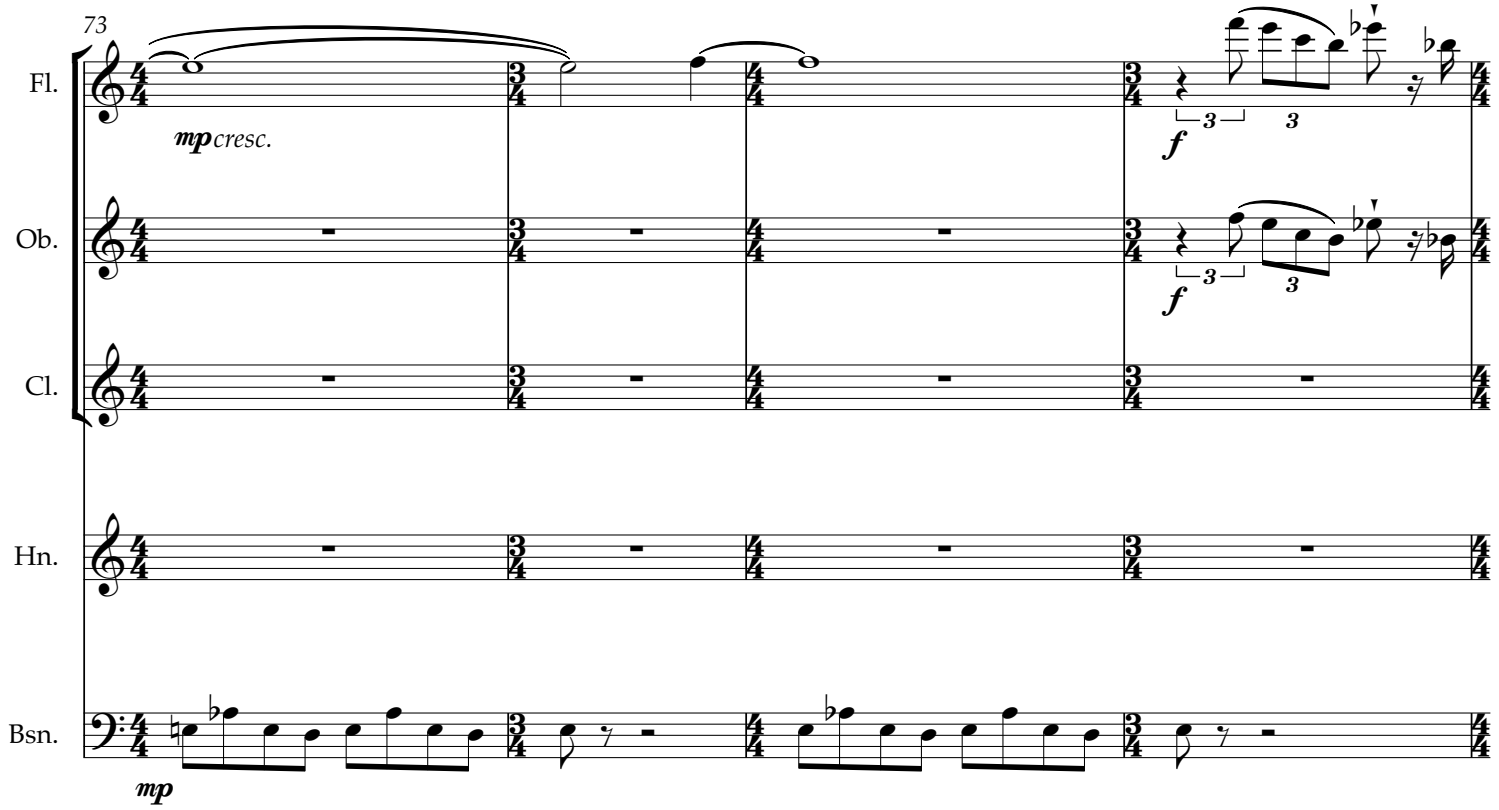

49
C
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
f
3

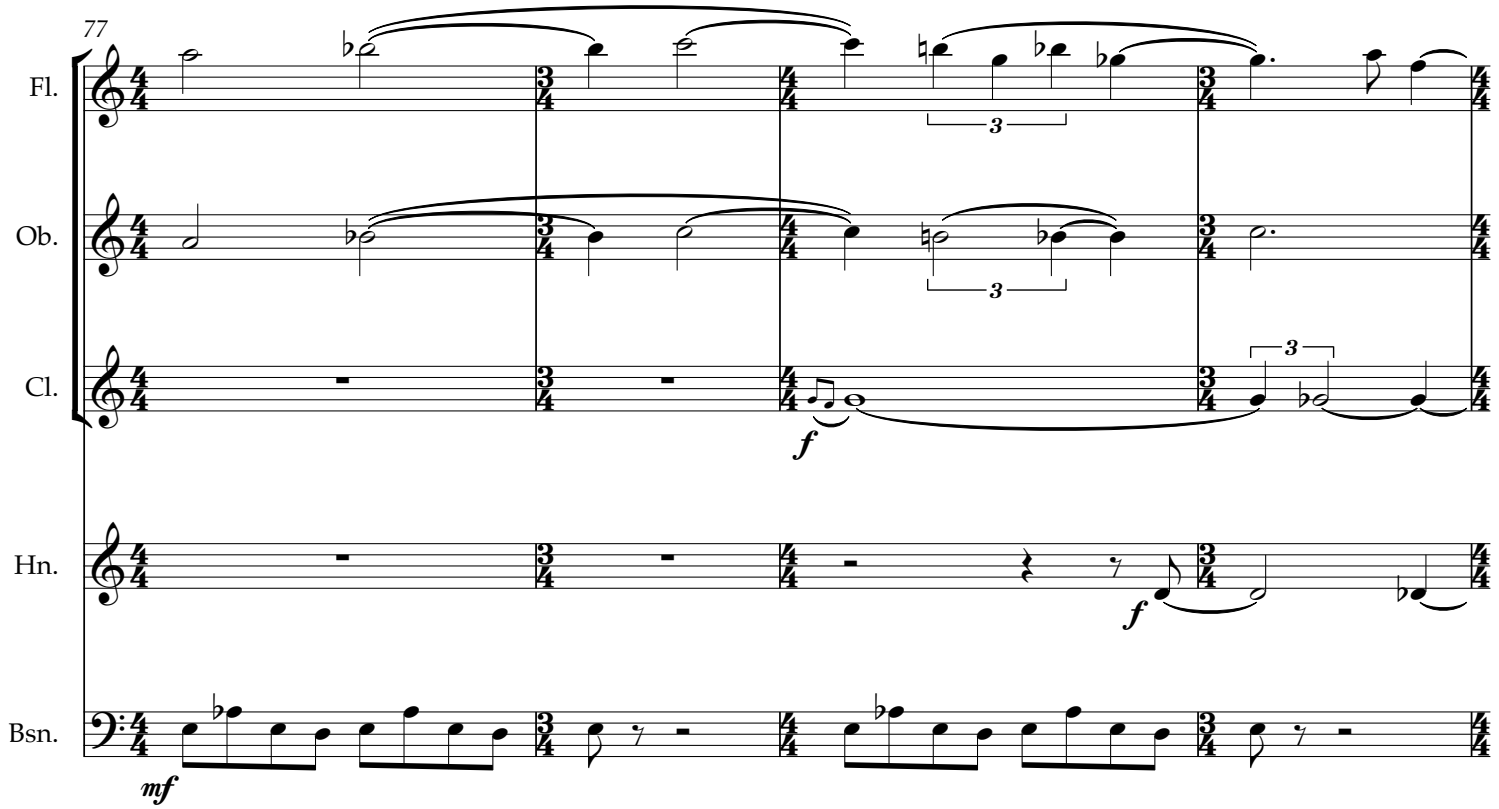

53
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
3
mp

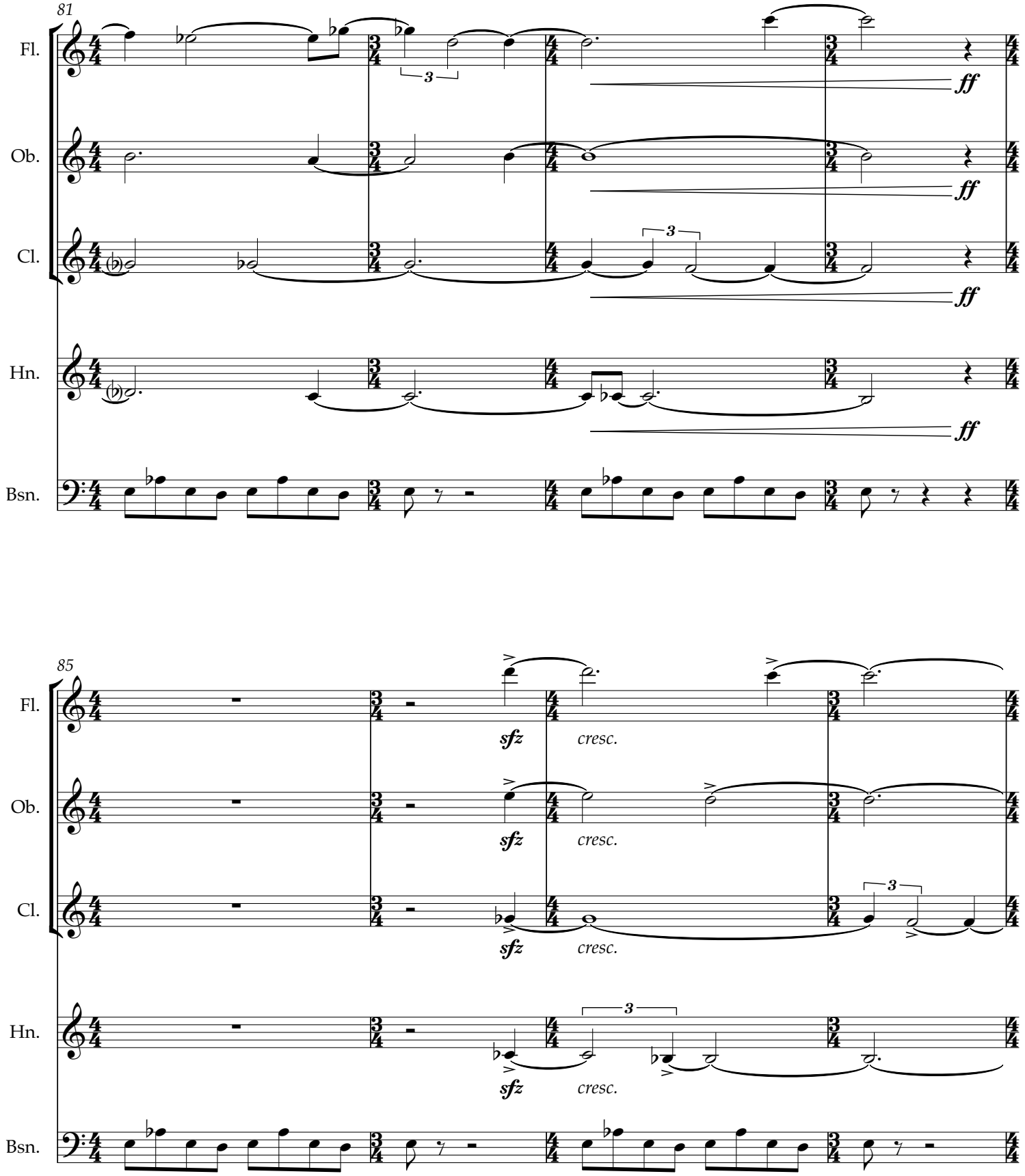

57
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
mf
f
61

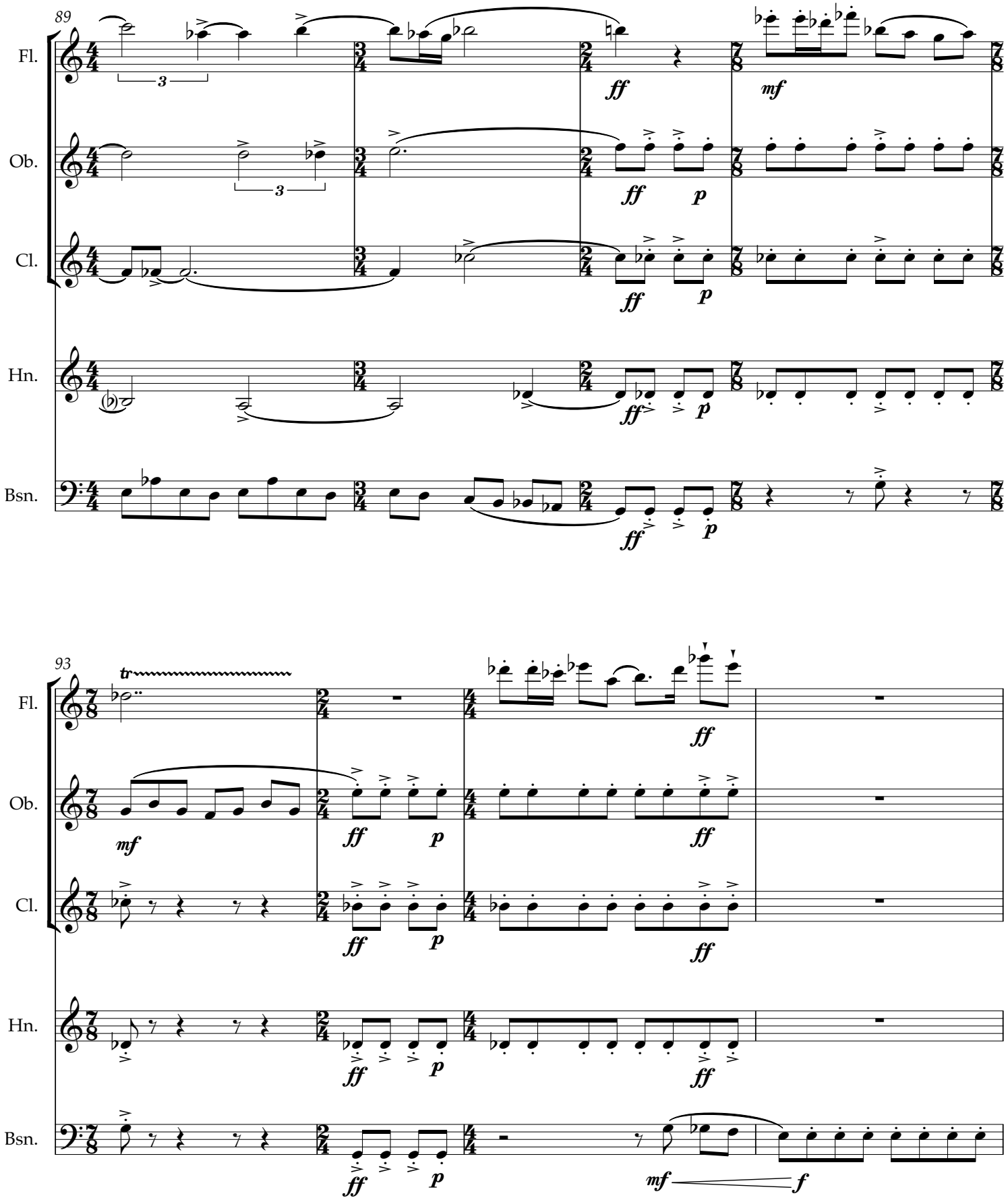

65
D
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
mf
ff
p
mf
tr

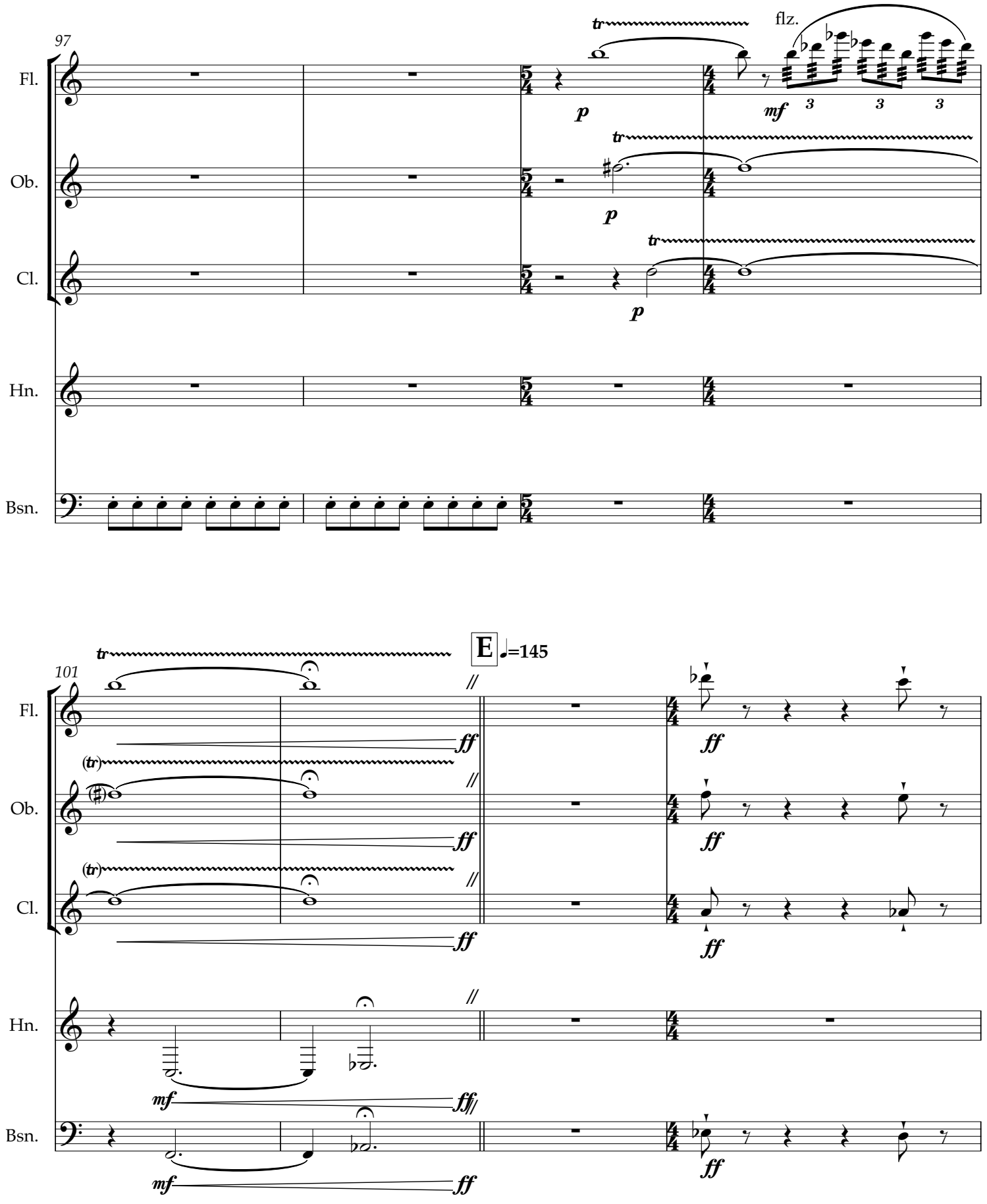

69
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
ff
p
f
3
tr

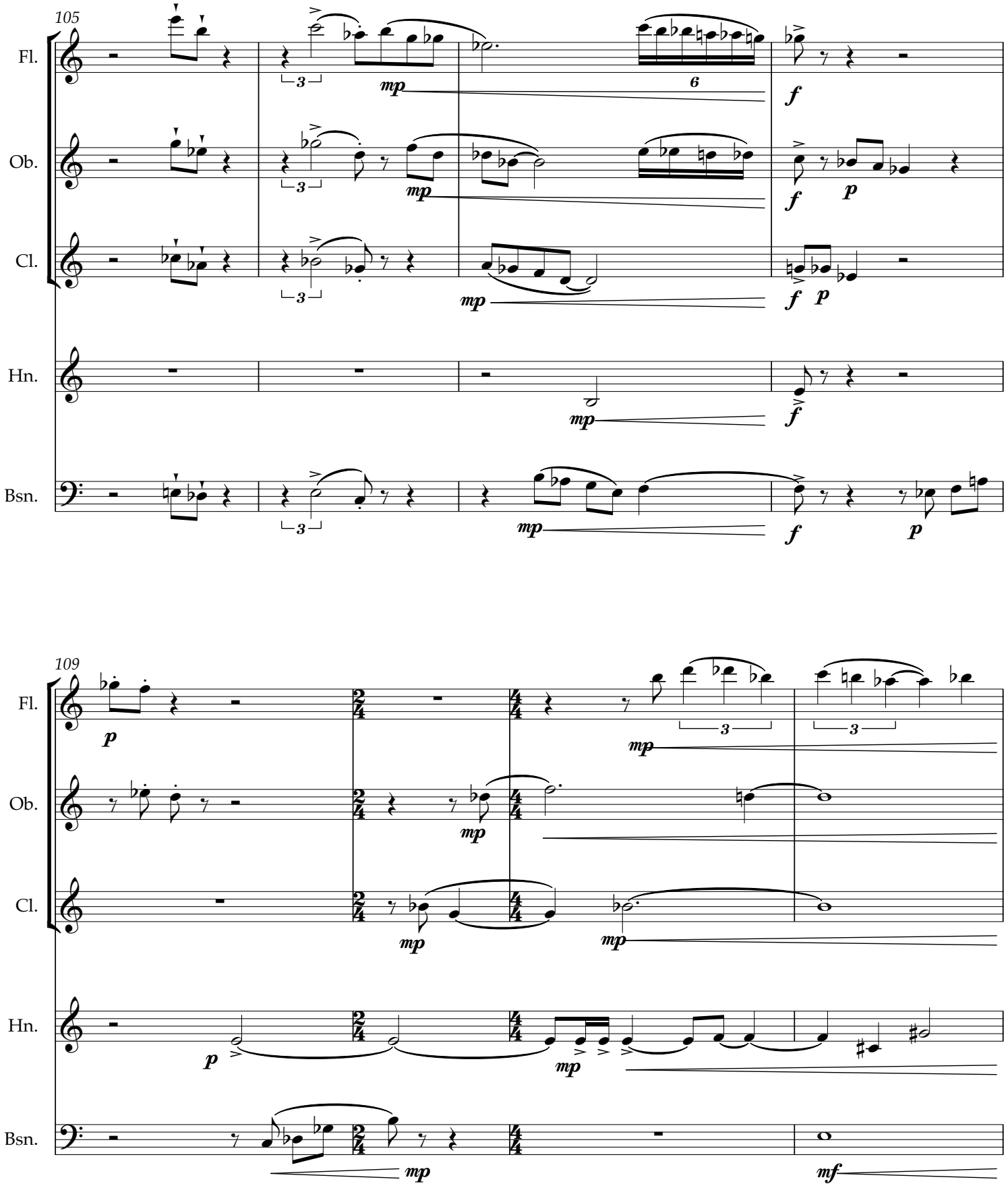

73
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
mp cresc.
f
mp

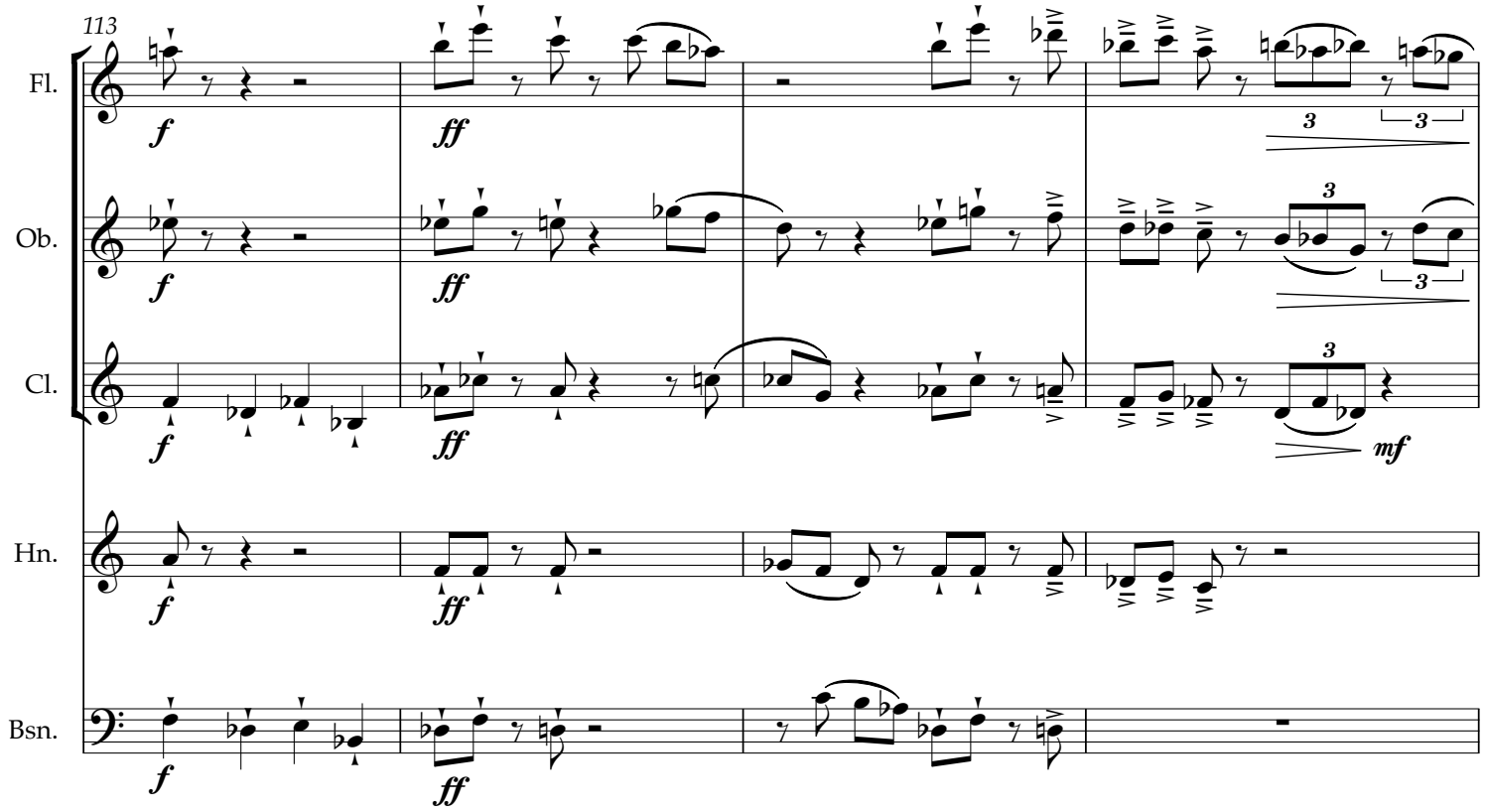

77
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
f
f
mf

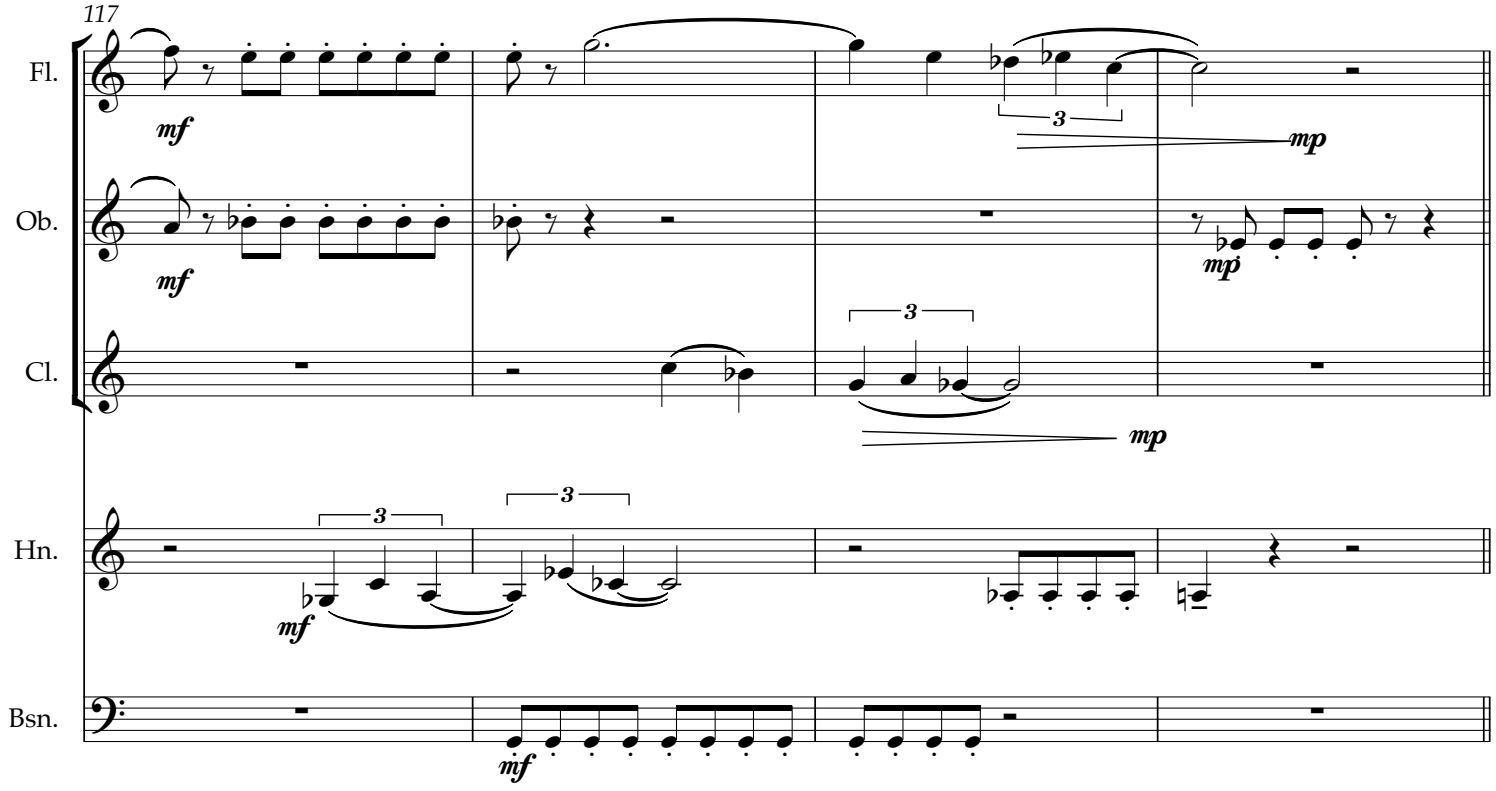

81
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
3
ff
85
sfz
cresc.

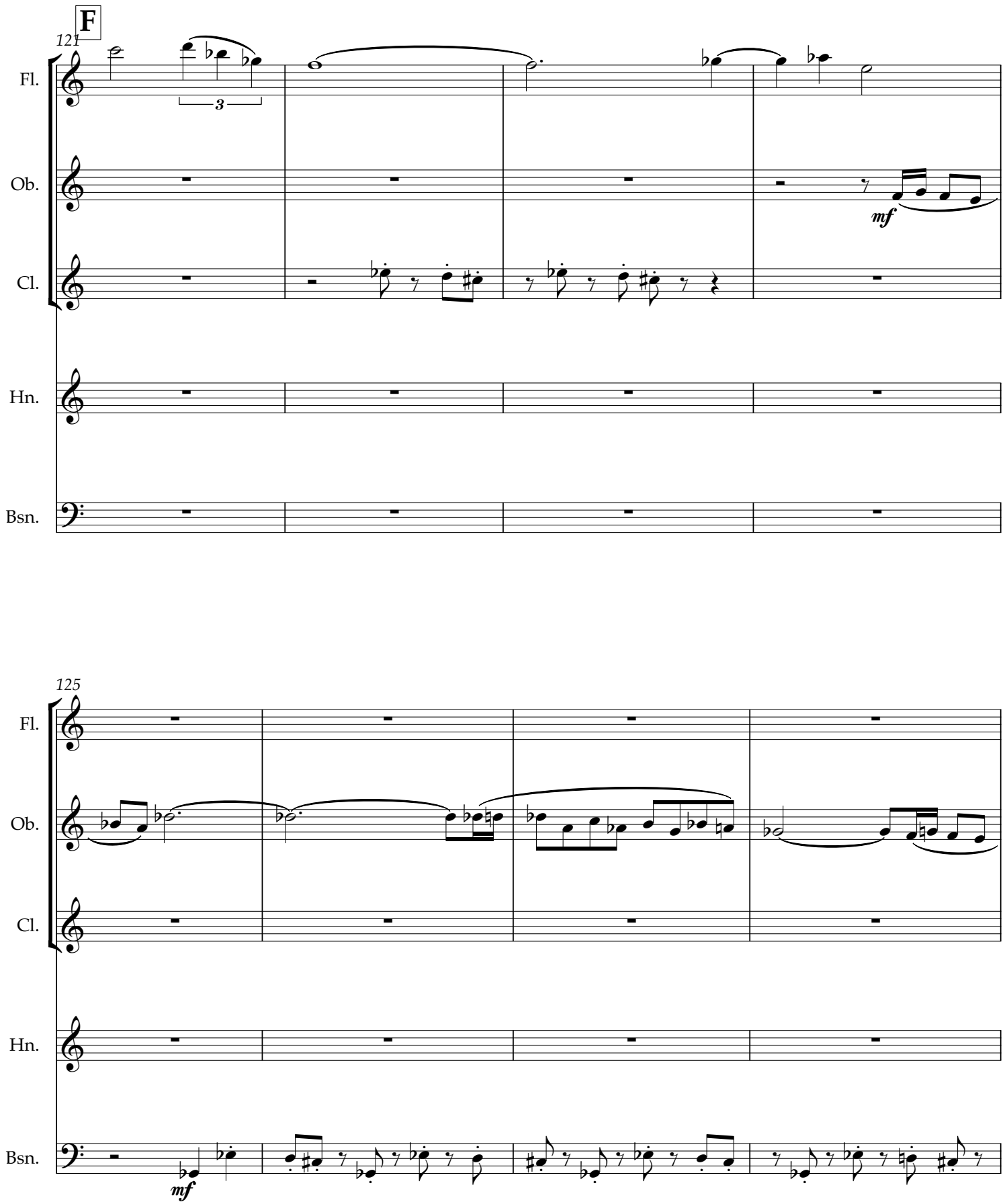

89
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
ff
mf
p
93
tr
f

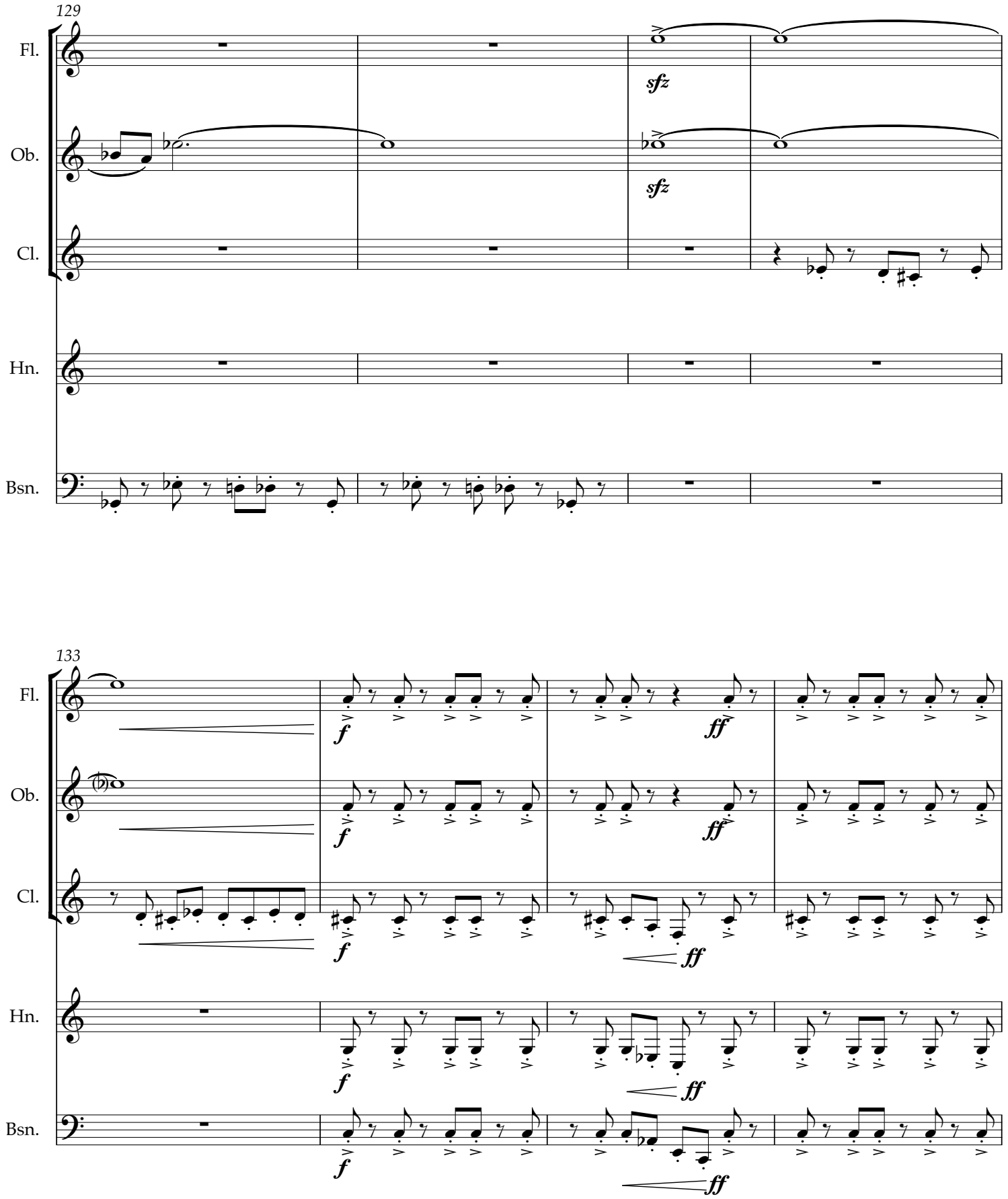

97
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
tr
flz.
p
mf
3
101
E
♩=145
ff
(tr)
mf

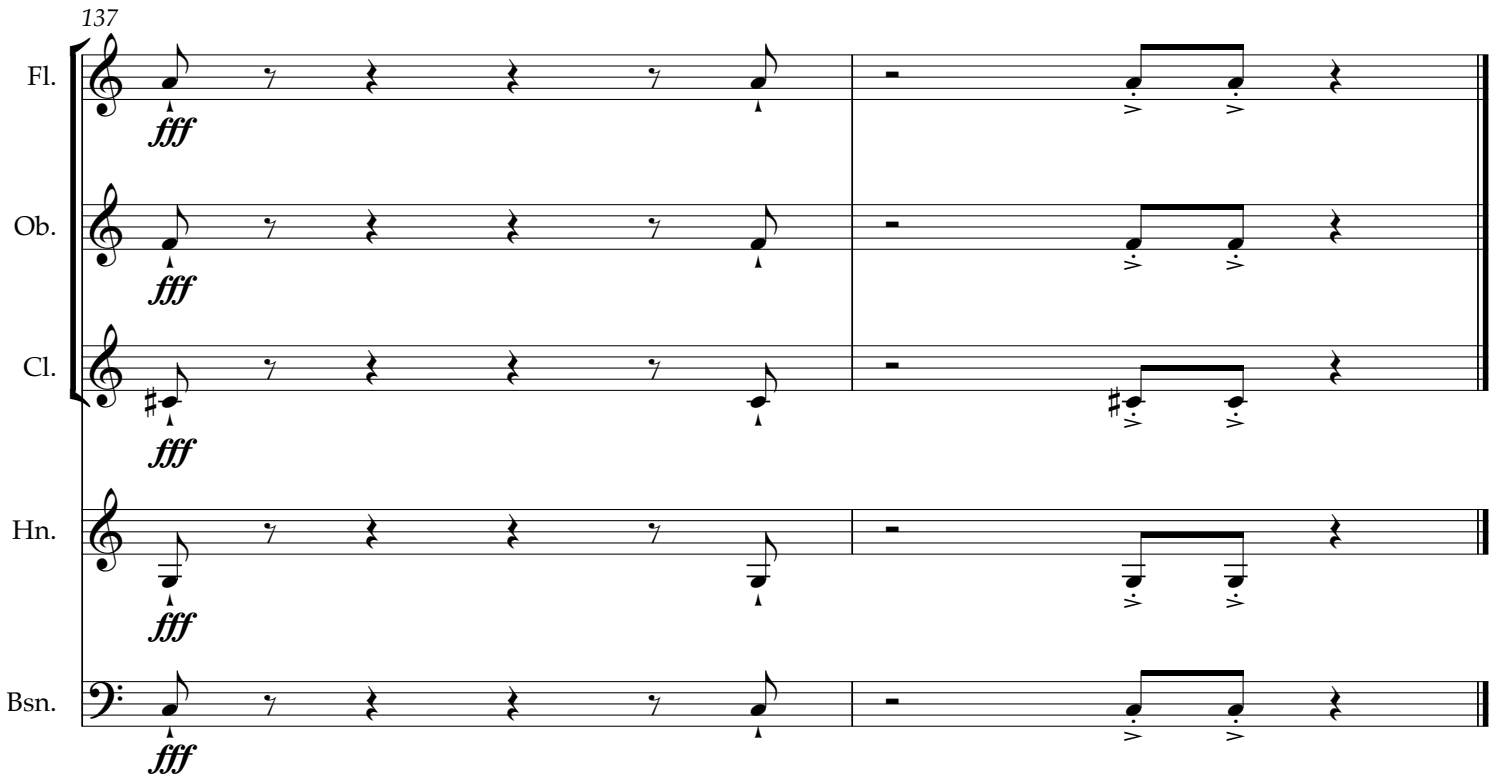

105
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
mp
f
p
109
mf


113
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
f
ff
mf


117
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
mf
mp


F
121
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
3
mf
125
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
mf


129
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
sfz
sfz
133
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
f
ff
f
ff
f
ff
f
ff
f
ff


137
Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.
fff