String Quartet

(2012/13)

Desmond Clarke

Remarks on Notation:

Decoupling of the Hands:

The second violin and viola are notated, for part of the work, on two staves, one for each hand. The upper stave is the right hand, and is notated on four lines, one for each string. The lower stave is the left hand, and shows the position of the fingers on the fingerboard.

Muted Strings:

An ‘X’ notehead indicates the left hand is to mute the string at the indicated position. This is achieved by placing multiple fingers on the string, but not pressing down onto the fingerboard. Unless otherwise specified, the note should be played on the lowest string possible.

Harmonic Pressure:

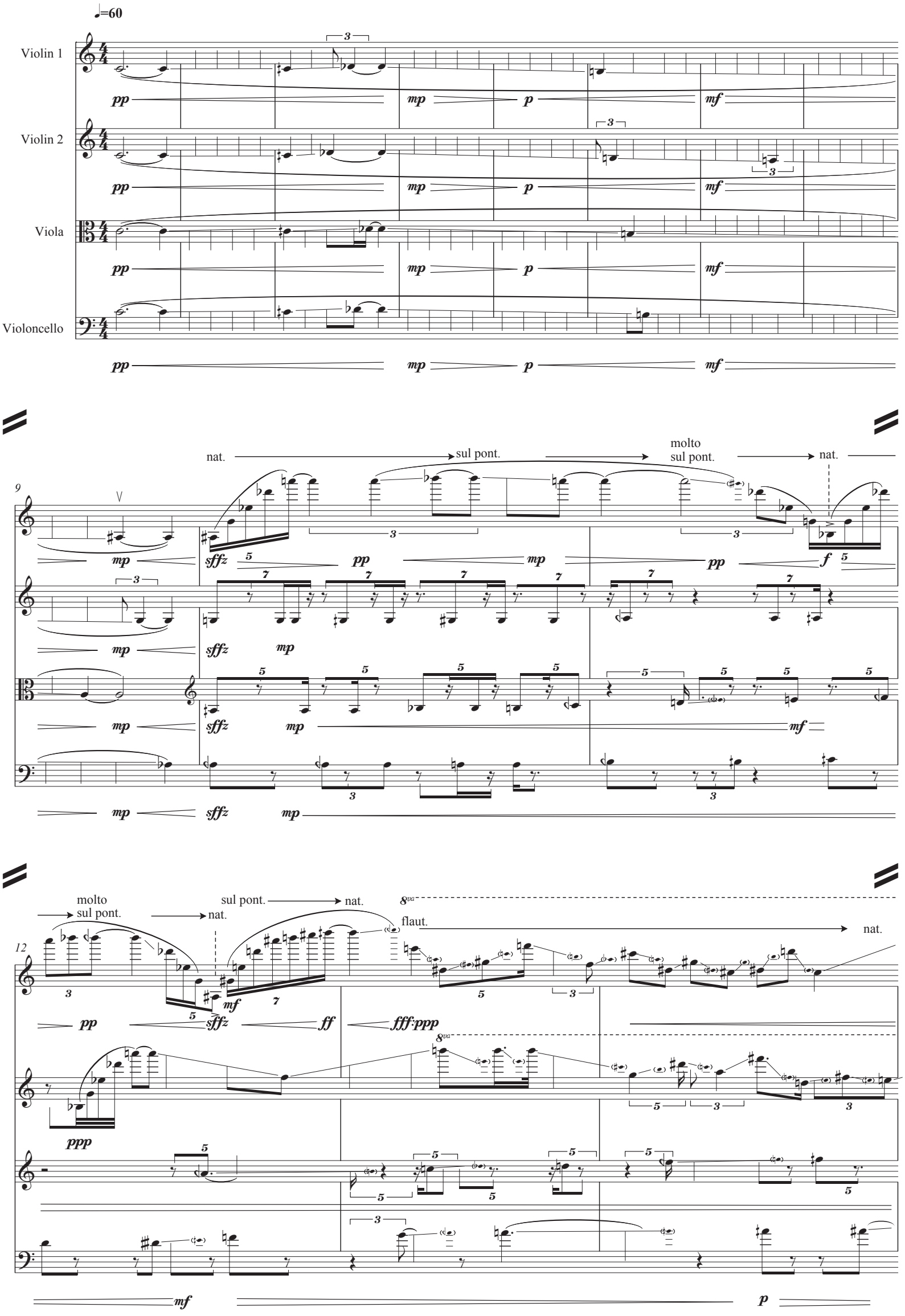
Indicated by a diamond notehead - filled and open noteheads are the same technique: open idicates a minim.

Bow-pressure sounds:

Indicated by a heavy black line above the notated pitches.

Duration: c. 16 minutes

I



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15

(8)

mp

mf

(8)

f

mp

pp

pp

ppp

ppp

18

(8)

ff

9

sffz pp

mp

II

mf

pp

ppp

II

mf

pp

ppp

21

col legno
m.s.p.→m.s.t.

pppp

ff

flaut.

nat.

III

ppppp

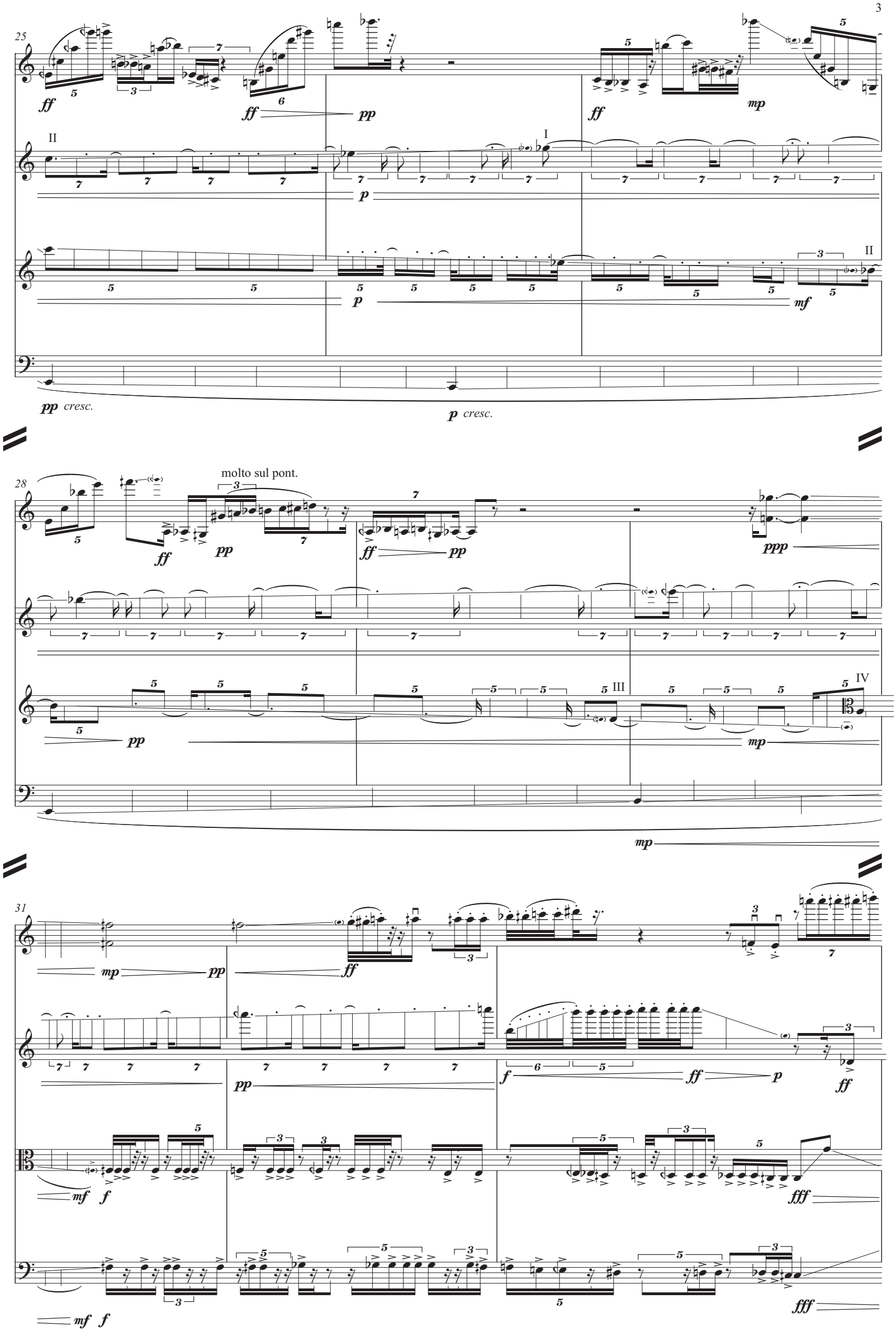
f

sffz pp

ppp

pp

IV


25
ff
pp
mp
II
I
p
mf
pp cresc.
p cresc.
28
molto sul pont.
ff
pp
ppp
III
IV
mp
31
mp
pp
ff
f
p
mf
fff

34

8va

ff

8va

ff 7 3 p

ff 6 7 6

mf 7 ff 7 5 7

3 3

mp ff pp

3 3

f ff p ppp

36

(8)

fff

(8)

fff

3

38

(8)

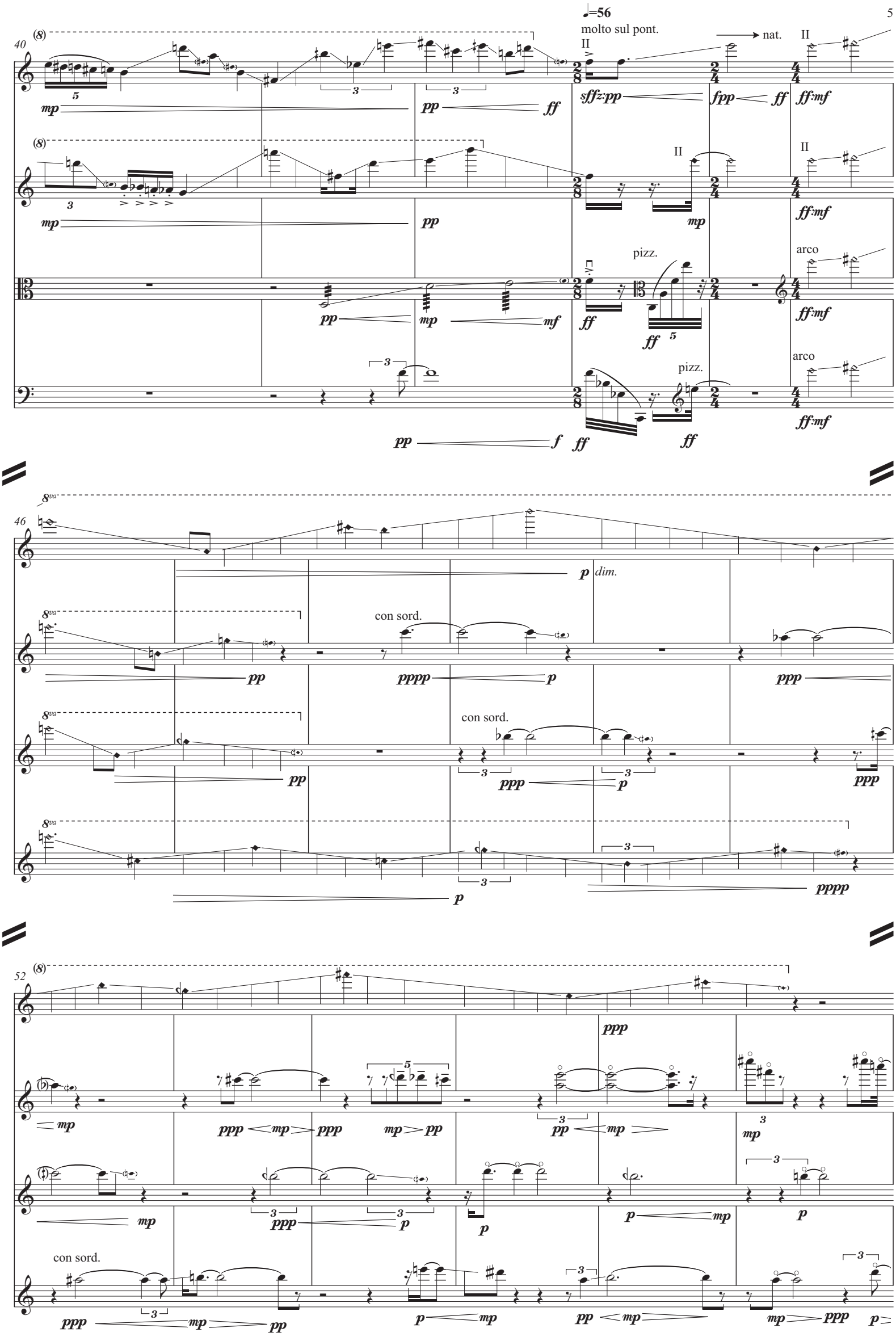
ff dim.

(8)

ff dim.

pp fff

pp fff


♩=56
molto sul pont.
nat.
II
pizz.
arco
con sord.
dim.

58

con sord.
sul pont.
pppp
nat.
pp
sul pont.
pppp
nat.
pp
sul pont.
pppp
sul tasto
pp
p
sul pont.
ppp
p
ppp
senza sord.
pp
pp

61

pppp
sul pont.
ppp
ppp
nat.
mp
pp
ppp
ppp
ppp
sul
tasto
p
pp
pppp
sul pont.
ppp
nat.
sul tasto
ppp
p
ppp
5:4

64

ppp
mp
f
mp
pp
mf
pp

II

♩=50

c.l.b.

molto sul pont
arco

pizz.

6

col legno,
molto sul pont.

arco nat.

arco

fluctuating
tremolo

col legno

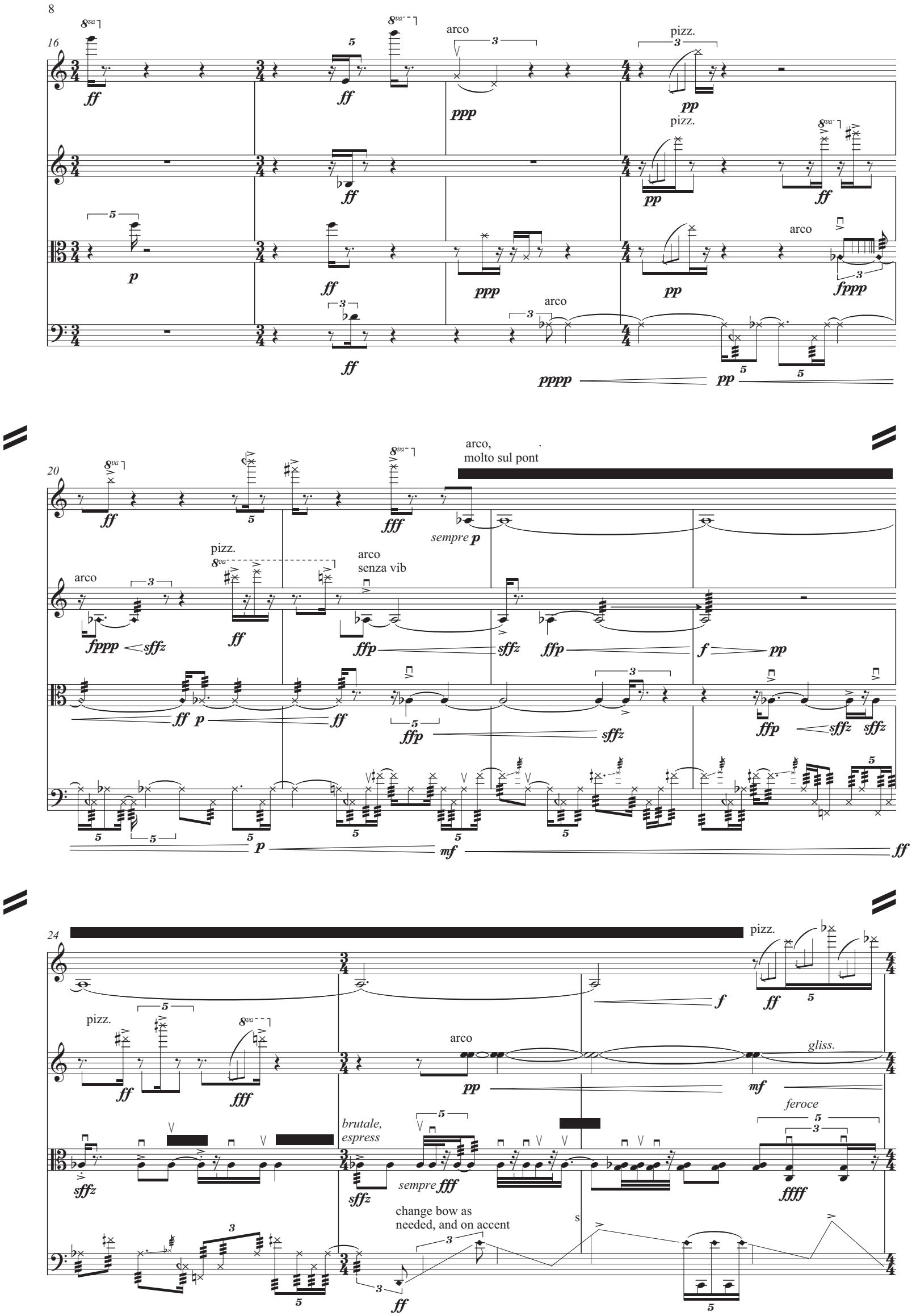
nat.

11

pizz.

arco col legno

arco


16
arco
pizz.
pizz.
arco
arco
20
arco,
molto sul pont
sempre p
pizz.
arco
senza vib
24
pizz.
pizz.
arco
gliss.
brutale,
espress
sempre fff
feroce
change bow as
needed, and on accent

27

8va

gliss.

ff

pizz.

f

sul pont.

ppp

pizz.

f

29

p

pp

arco

ppp

nat.

ppp

p

p

mp

32

arco

p

ff:mf

f

ff

fff:ff

gliss.

p

ff

mf

f

f poss.

f

f

pizz.

ff

arco

pp

p

col legno

f

ff

mf

ff

fff

35

♩=42

ppp

molto sul pont.

pppp

p pp

molto sul pont.

ppp pppp pp

mf

37

molto sul pont.

mf ppp

mf

mf:ppp mf:ppp ppp

ppp

39

nat.

f *ff* *sfz* *p* *ff*

E A D G

mp *fp* *f*

A D G C

mp *f* *pp* *f*

(II III)

gliss. *gliss.*

mf *f* *p* *pp*

41

sul pont.

ppp *ff*

E A D G

mf

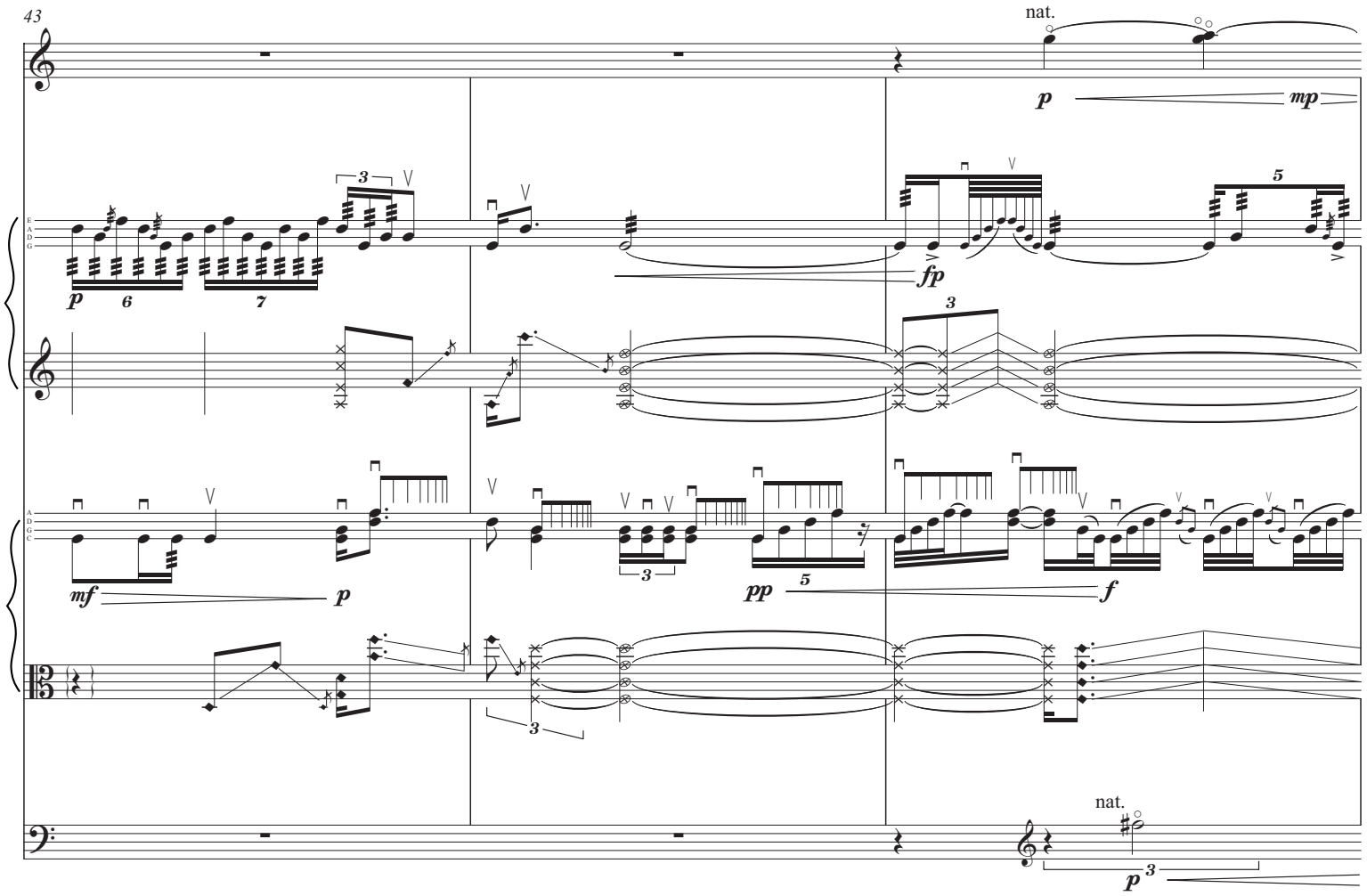
A D G C

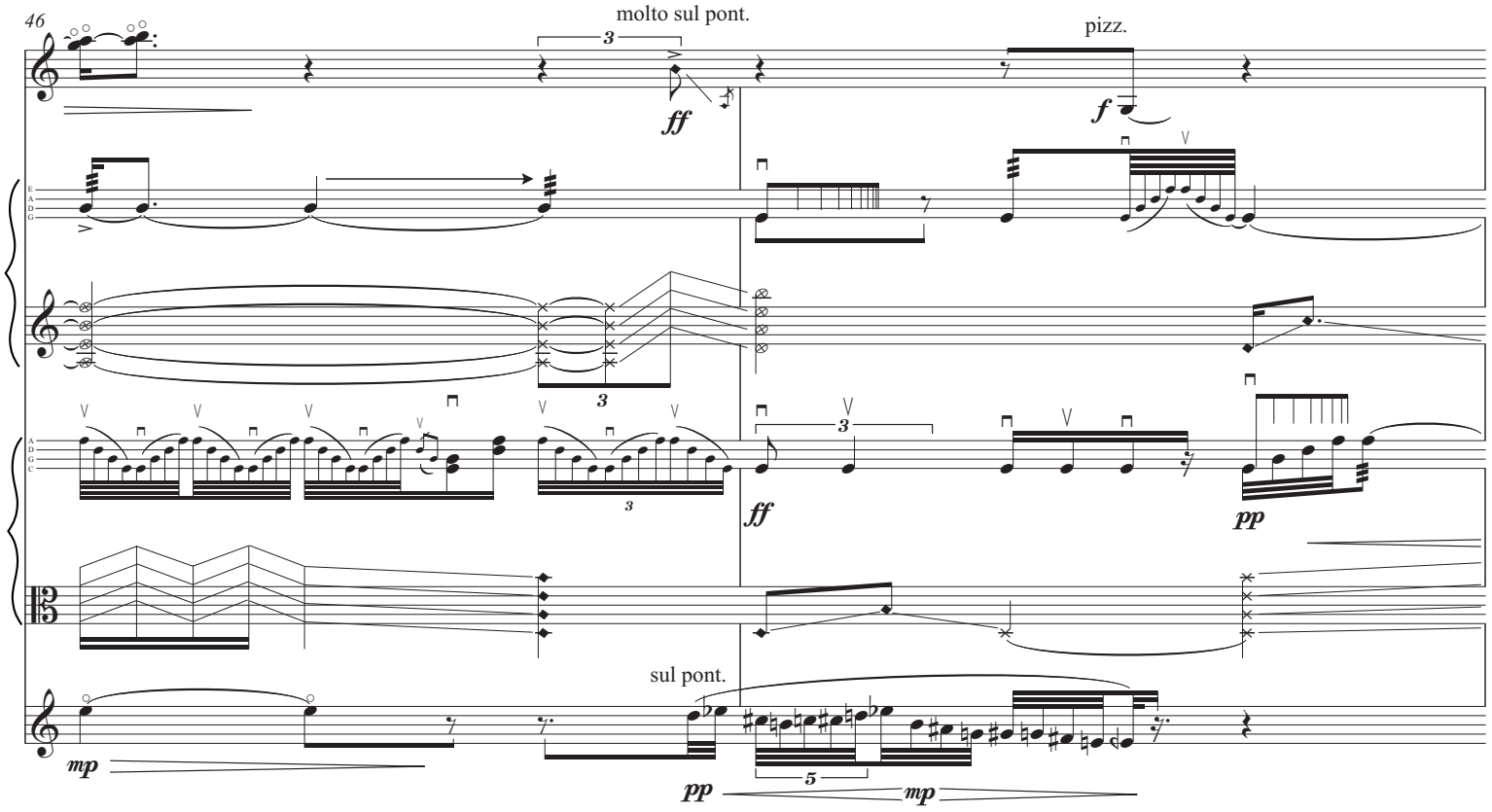
mp *f*

molto sul pont.

gliss. *gliss.* *gliss.*

mf *ppp* *f* *ppp* *pp* *sffz*


43
nat.
p
mp
3
5
fp
6
7
3
mf
p
3
pp
5
f
3
nat.
p
3


46
molto sul pont.
3
ff
pizz.
f
3
3
ff
pp
sul pont.
mp
pp
5
mp

48

pp

mf:pp

mf

p

sul tasto

pppp

50

arco

pp

mf

p

mf

fp

fp

ff

mp

pp

52

ff

f

mp

f

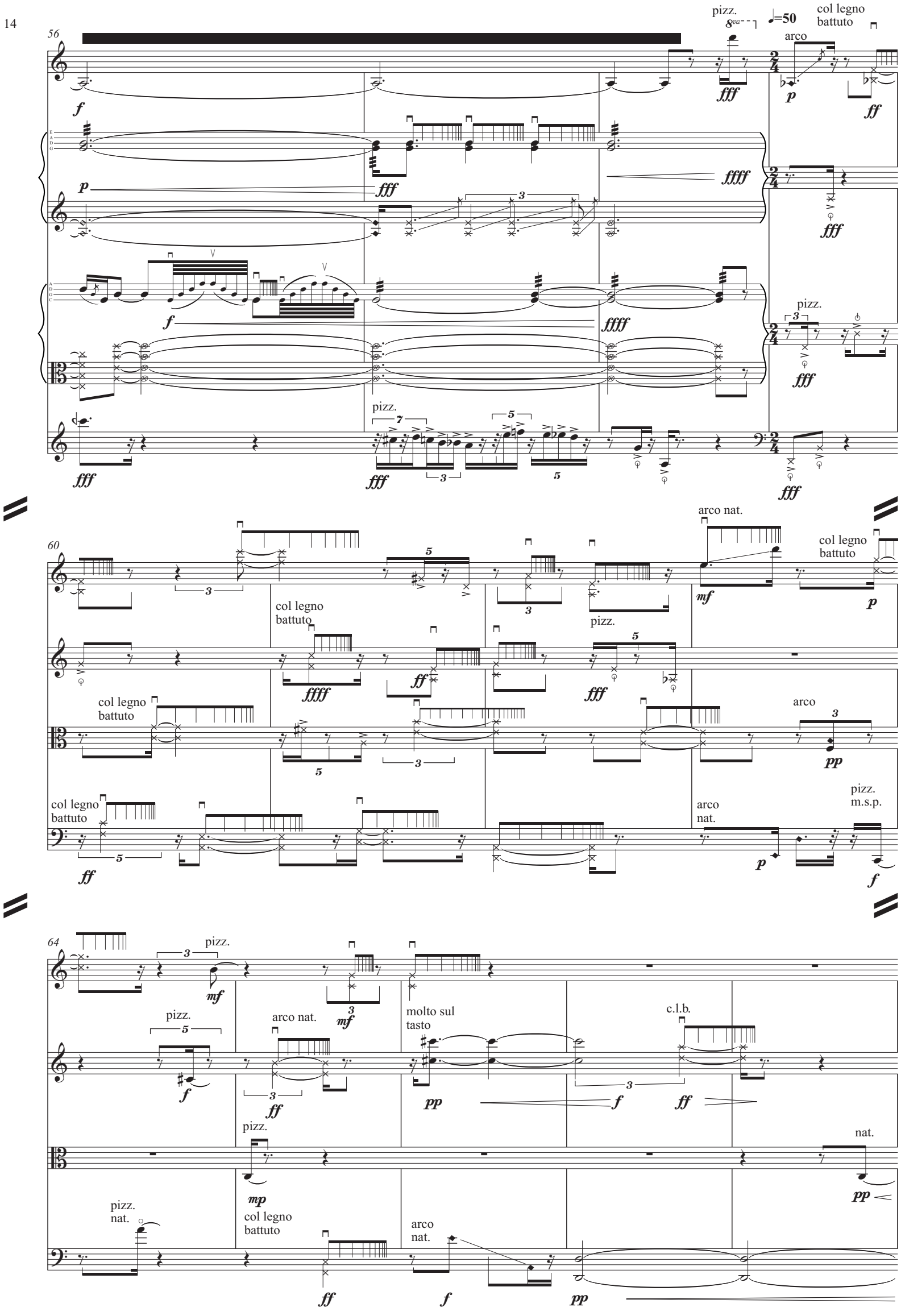
ff

p

mf

p

mf


56
pizz.
8va
♩=50
col legno
battuto
arco
60
arco nat.
col legno
battuto
pizz.
arco
pizz.
m.s.p.
64
pizz.
arco nat.
molto sul
tasto
c.l.b.
nat.
pizz.
nat.
col legno
battuto
arco
nat.

69

8va

p

pizz.

arco

f

p

sul
tasto

f

mp

p

ppp

3

p

ff

73 (8)

3

molto
sul pont.

ppp

ppp < pp

ppp < p

ppp

ppp < pp

pppp

6

6

ppp < pp

77 (8)

ad lib. undulations of less than a 1/6th tone

ppp

nat.

p

ppp

3

ppp

p

ppp

molto sul pont.

ppp < pp

molto sul tasto

ppppp

III

col legno → arco m.s.p. → c.l.

♩=55

ff p pp p ppp

c.l.

arco

ff mp ppp

arco

fff

pppp pp

col legno

arco

5

ff pp pppp

c.l.

l.b. (sub. ff)

fff ppp p mf

fff pp

col legno

arco

7

f pp pp pppp

c.l.

ff p mp ppp

c.l.

l.b. (sub. ff)

f p

col legno

ff mp ppp

molto sul tasto

molto sul pont

arco

ff p ppp ppppp

nat.

ff fff f

4

pppp ppppp pp

sul pont.

ff pp pppp pp

c.l.

ff mp p f pp

nat.

ff pp

l.b. (sub. ff)

sul pont.

nat.

gliss.

ff pp p pp ppp f

mp mf pp

ff p

l.b. (sub. ff)

c.l.

f poss. pppp

c.l.

nat.

ff mp

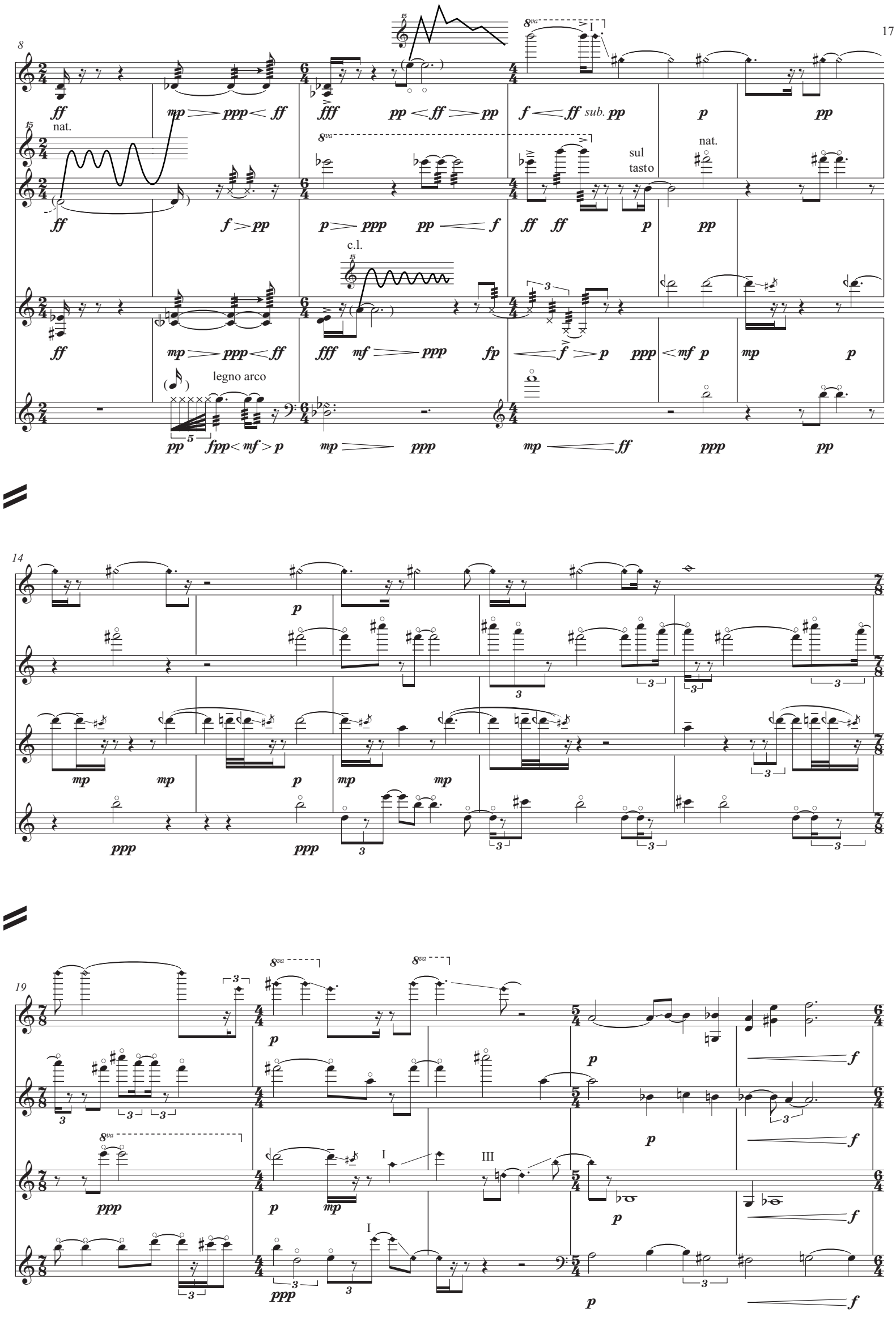
nat.

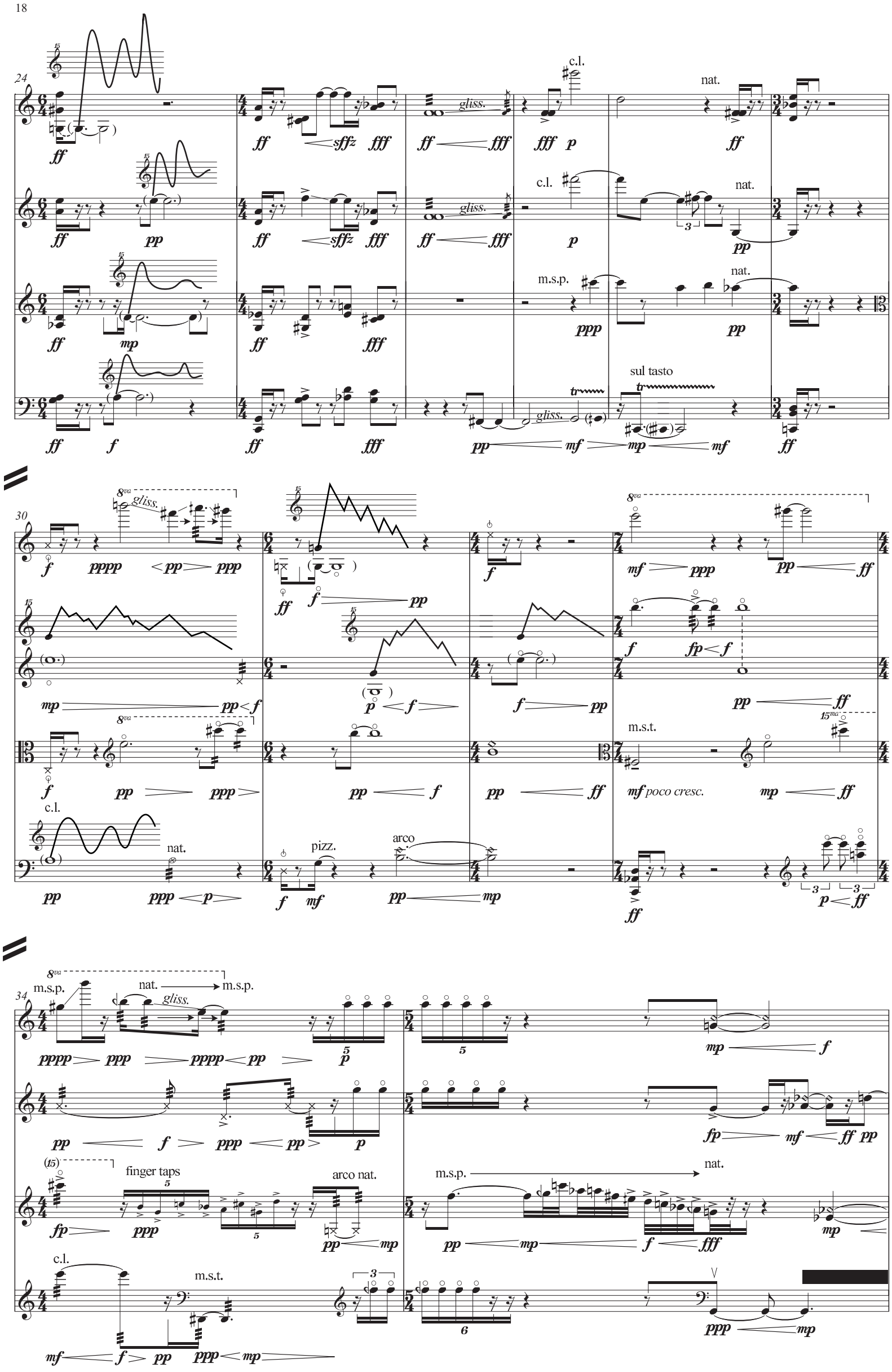
pp mf pp mp

c.l.

nat.

pp p ppp pp pppp ff p pp pp f pp f pp mf ppp p


8
nat.
sub.
sul tasto
nat.
c.l.
legno arco
14
19
I
III


24
c.l.
nat.
gliss.
m.s.p.
sul tasto
30
8va
m.s.t.
poco cresc.
pizz.
arco
34
finger taps
arco nat.

36

ppp ff fff pp ff fff ff sempre

mp mf fff ff ff sempre

f pp f fff f fff ff sempre

ppp pp ppp ff fff ff sempre

fff ff

40

ff pp

ff pp

ff pp

44

rall. ♩=50

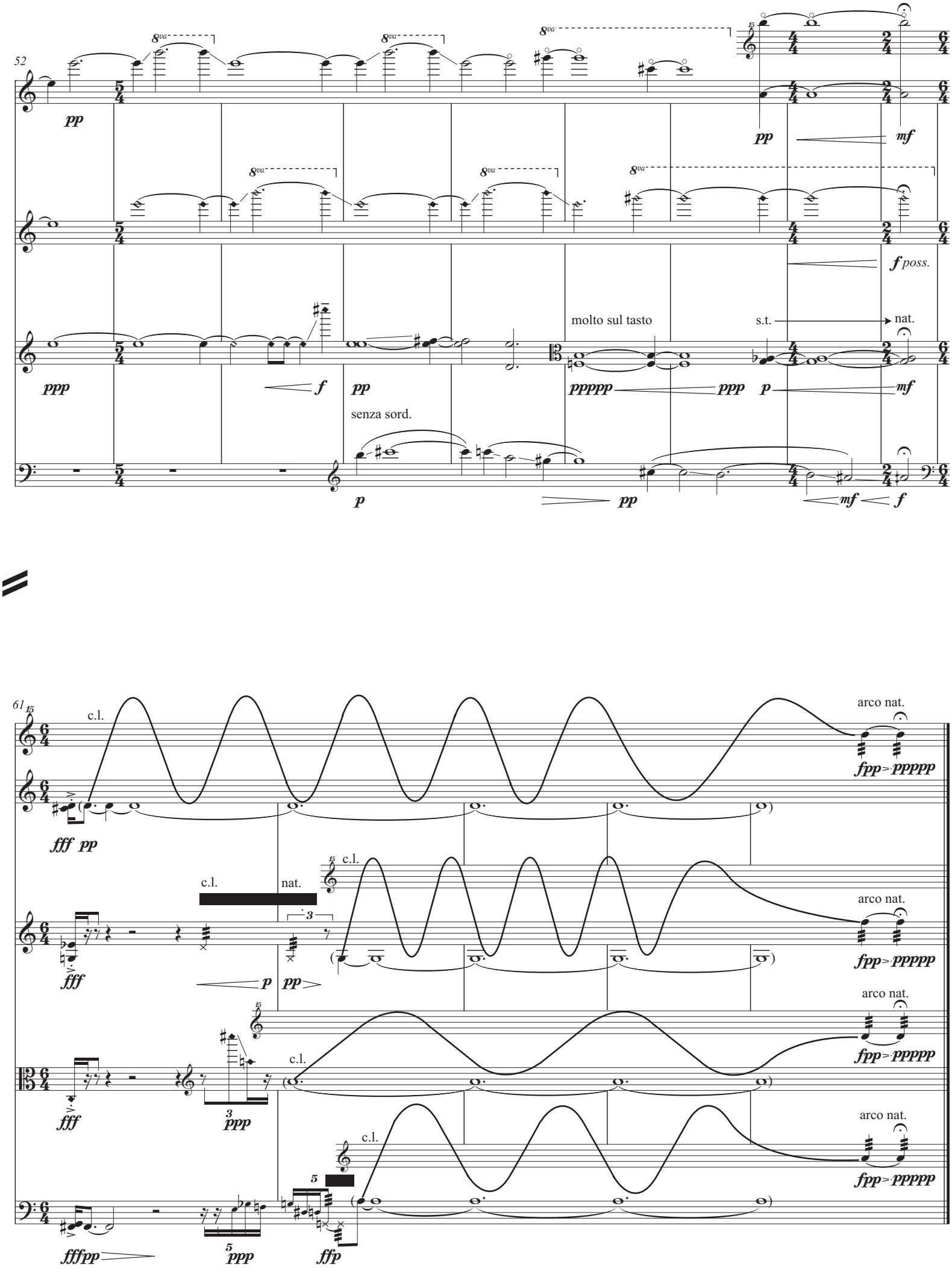
ff pp ppp p ppp p

ff pp ppp p ppp p

ff pp ppp p ppp

con sord.

p pp mp pp p ppp


52
8va
pp
mf
f poss.
molto sul tasto
s.t.
nat.
ppp
f
pp
ppppp
ppp
p
mf
senza sord.
p
pp
mf
f
61
c.l.
arco nat.
fpp
ppppp
fff pp
c.l.
nat.
fff
p
pp
fpp
ppppp
fff
ppp
fffpp
ppp
ffp