Strike

For flute, bass clarinet, violin, cello and piano

David Lancaster

Strike (*Stachka*) was the first full-length feature film by Sergei Eisenstein, made in 1925.

The film depicts a strike in 1903 by the workers of a factory in pre-revolutionary Russia, and their subsequent suppression. The film is particularly remembered today for a vivid climactic sequence near the end in which the violent conclusion of the strike is cross-cut with footage of cattle being slaughtered. Eisenstein's influential essay, '*Montage of Attractions*' (in which he first outlines the concept of montage in film making) was written between Strike's production and its premiere; in this he describes the art and technique of motion picture editing in which contrasting shots or sequences are alternated or immediately juxtaposed to affect emotional or intellectual responses, usually resulting in a quickening of pace or a heightening of dramatic tension in the film.

Much of the film is devoted to images of machines and the repetitive toil of heavy industry. Another theme is collectivism in opposition to individualism, which is reflected in the scoring of my piece in that the five instrumentalists play for almost the whole duration with few significant rests or solo passages. Although this music begins with an exposed passage for piccolo it is almost entirely a collective effort where none of the protagonists gain prominence for an extended period.

The music is in three main parts: an opening section which contrasts the individual against the collective and explores different types of transition, a softly pulsing second inner part, and an extended 'montage' leading to a coda which offers a 'flashback' of the opening.

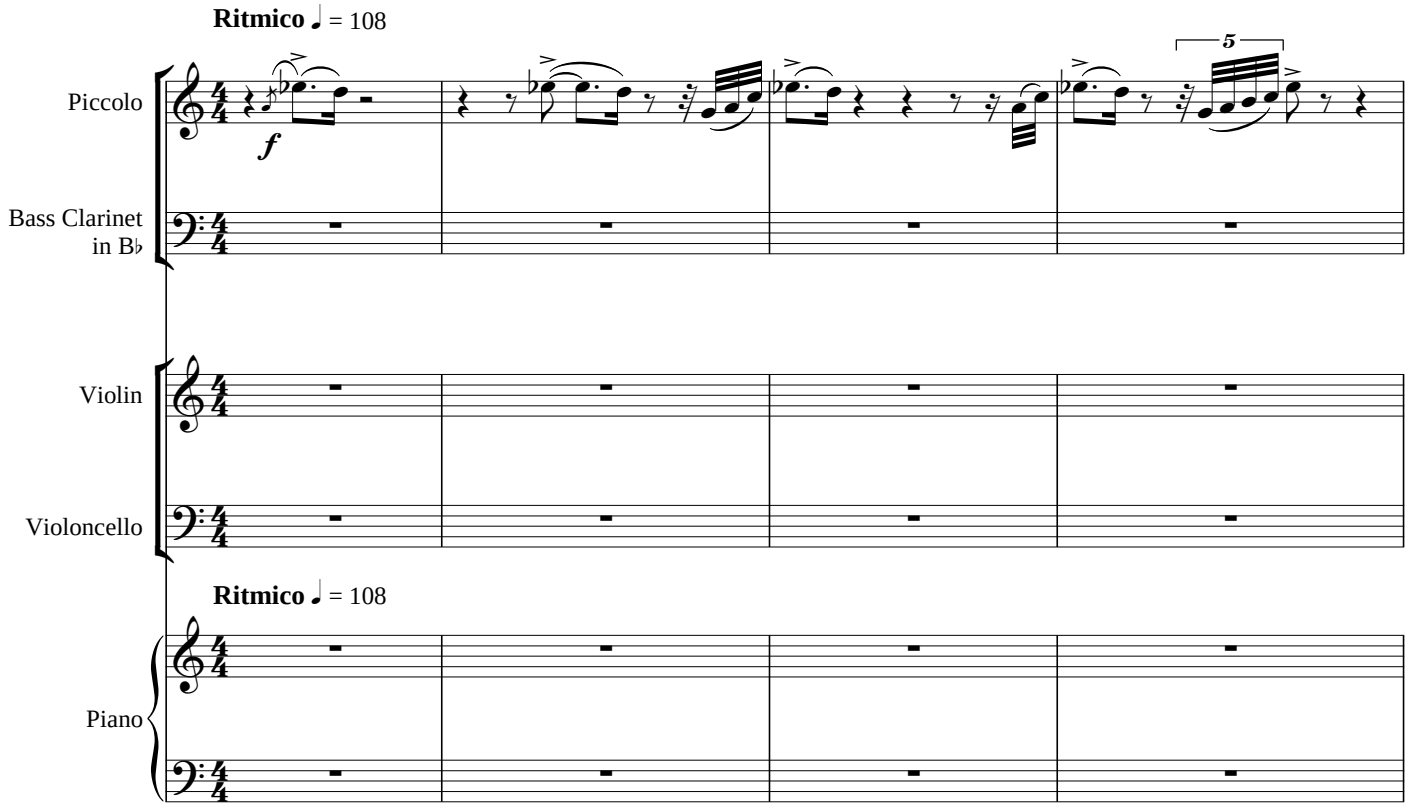
'Strike' was composed in 2014 (the thirtieth anniversary of the miners' strike in the UK), and was first performed by AMGA (Hong Kong) and Dark Inventions (York).

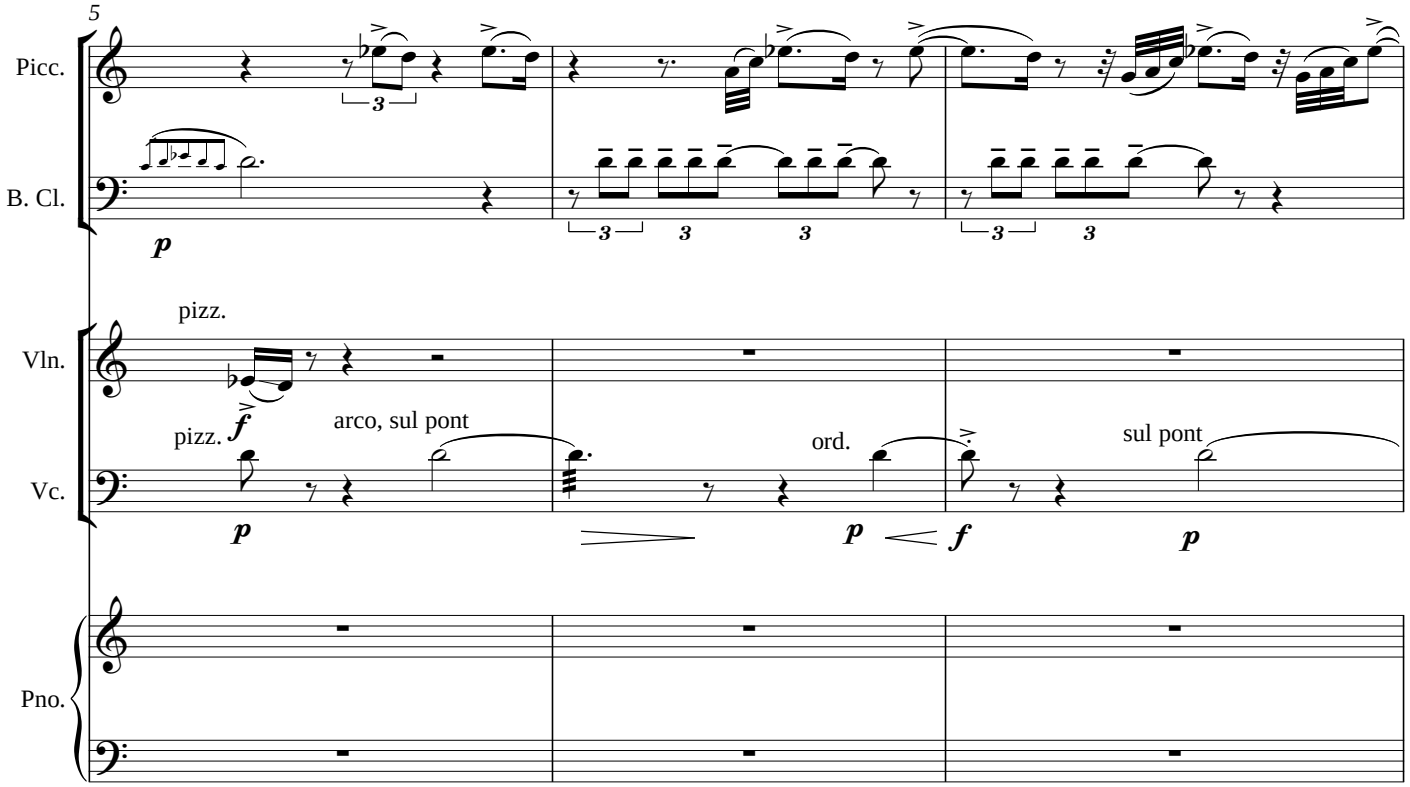
Flute (+picc.)
Bass clarinet
Violin
Cello
Piano

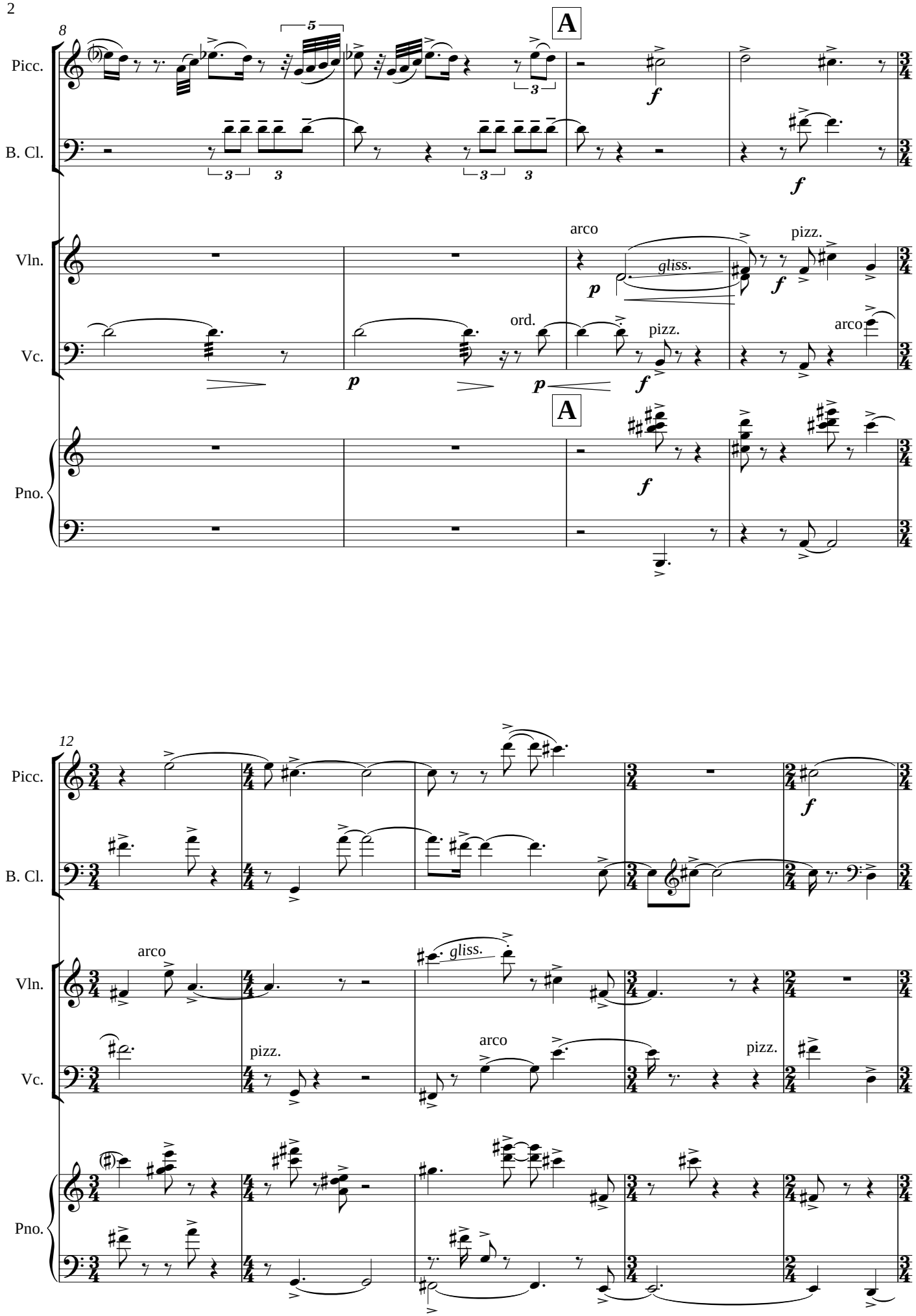
Duration: 12'45"

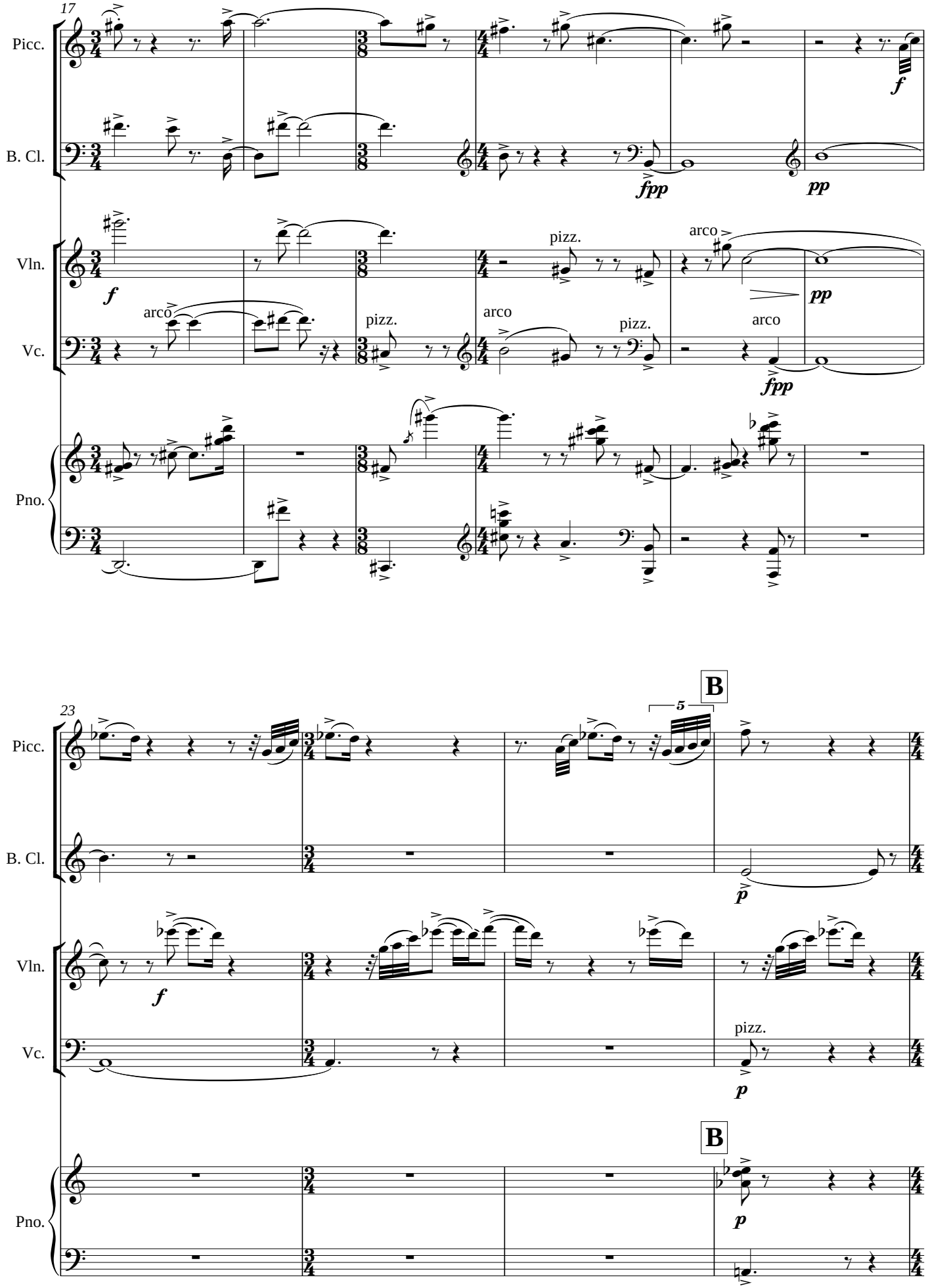
Score in C

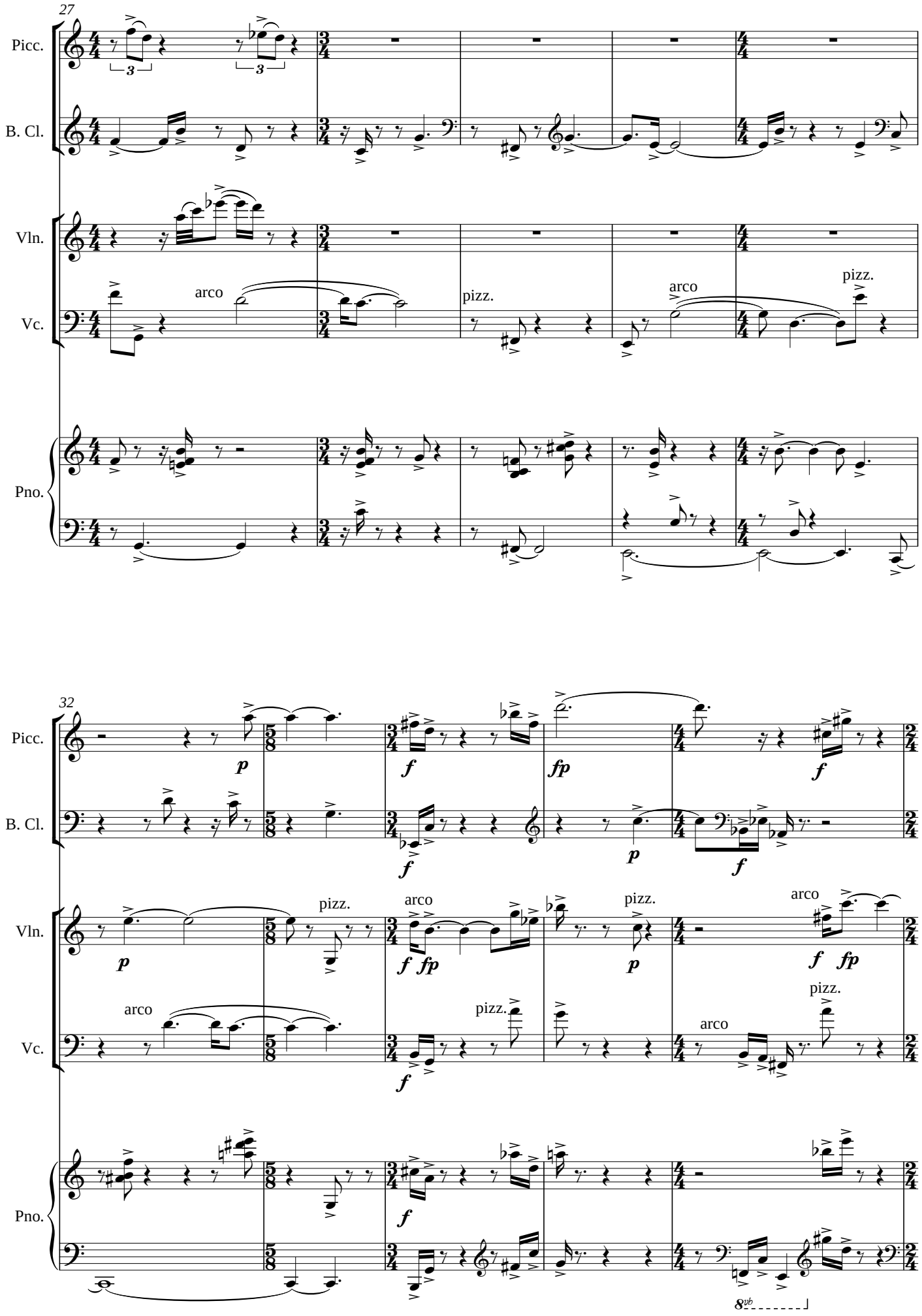
Strike

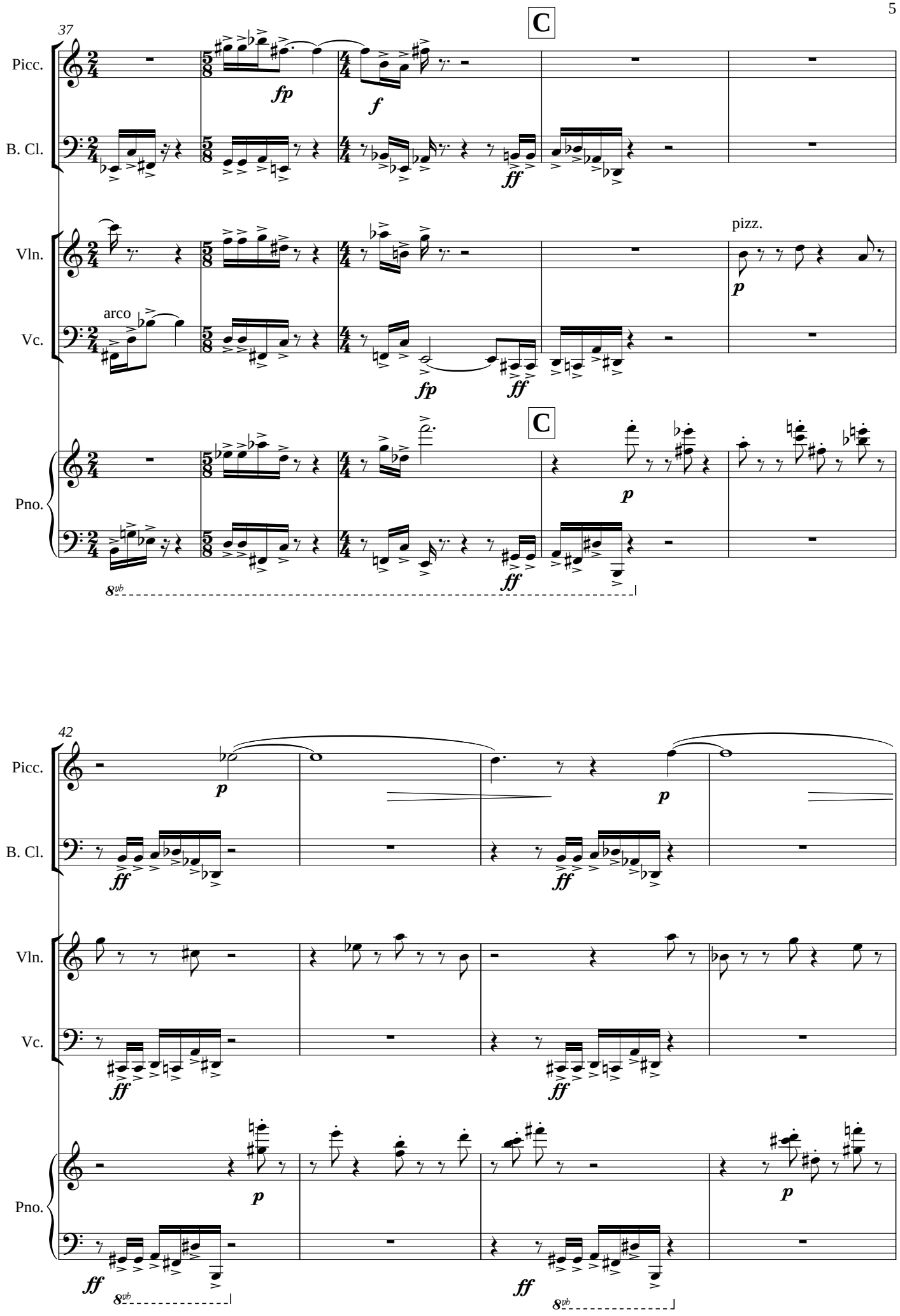


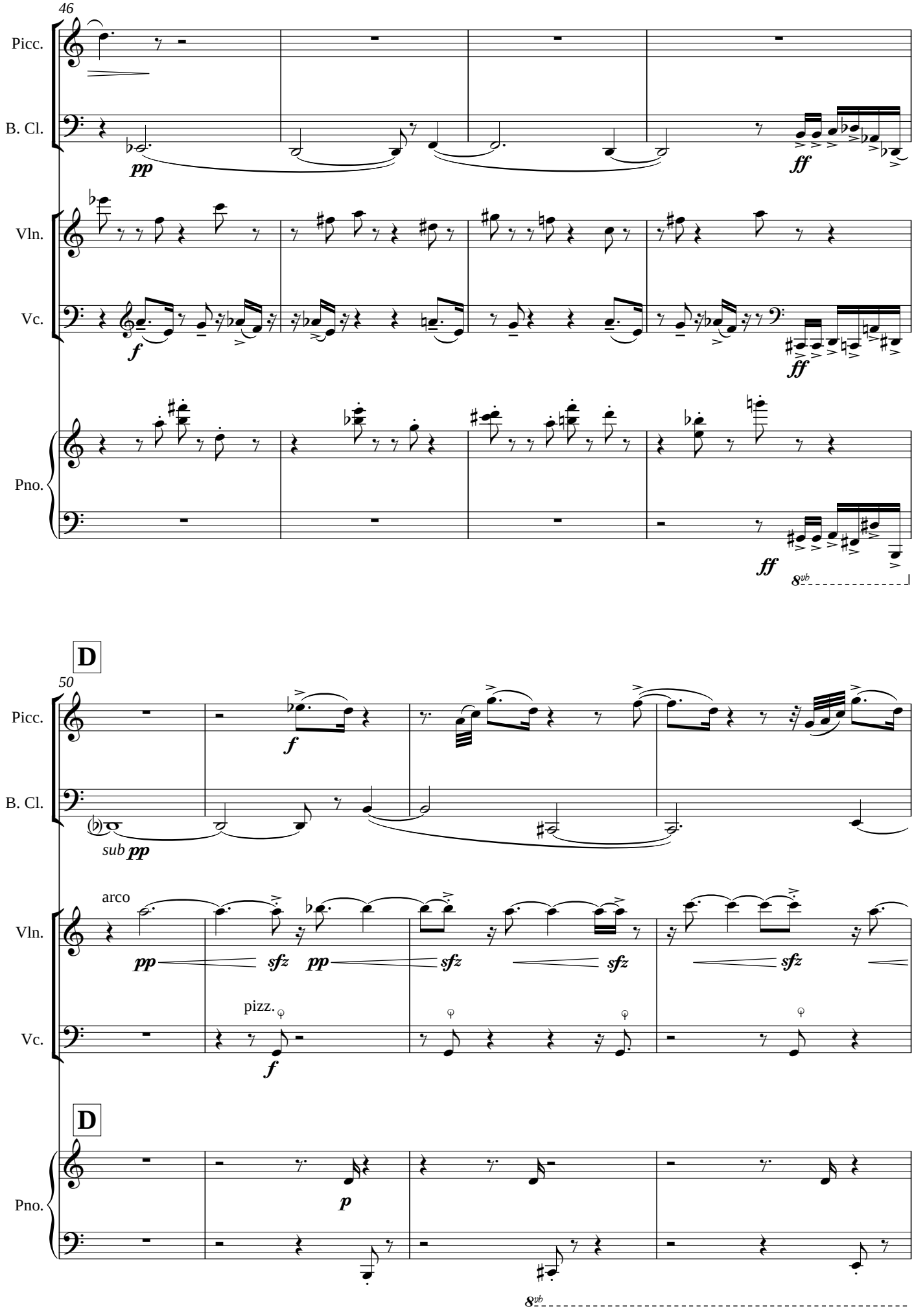


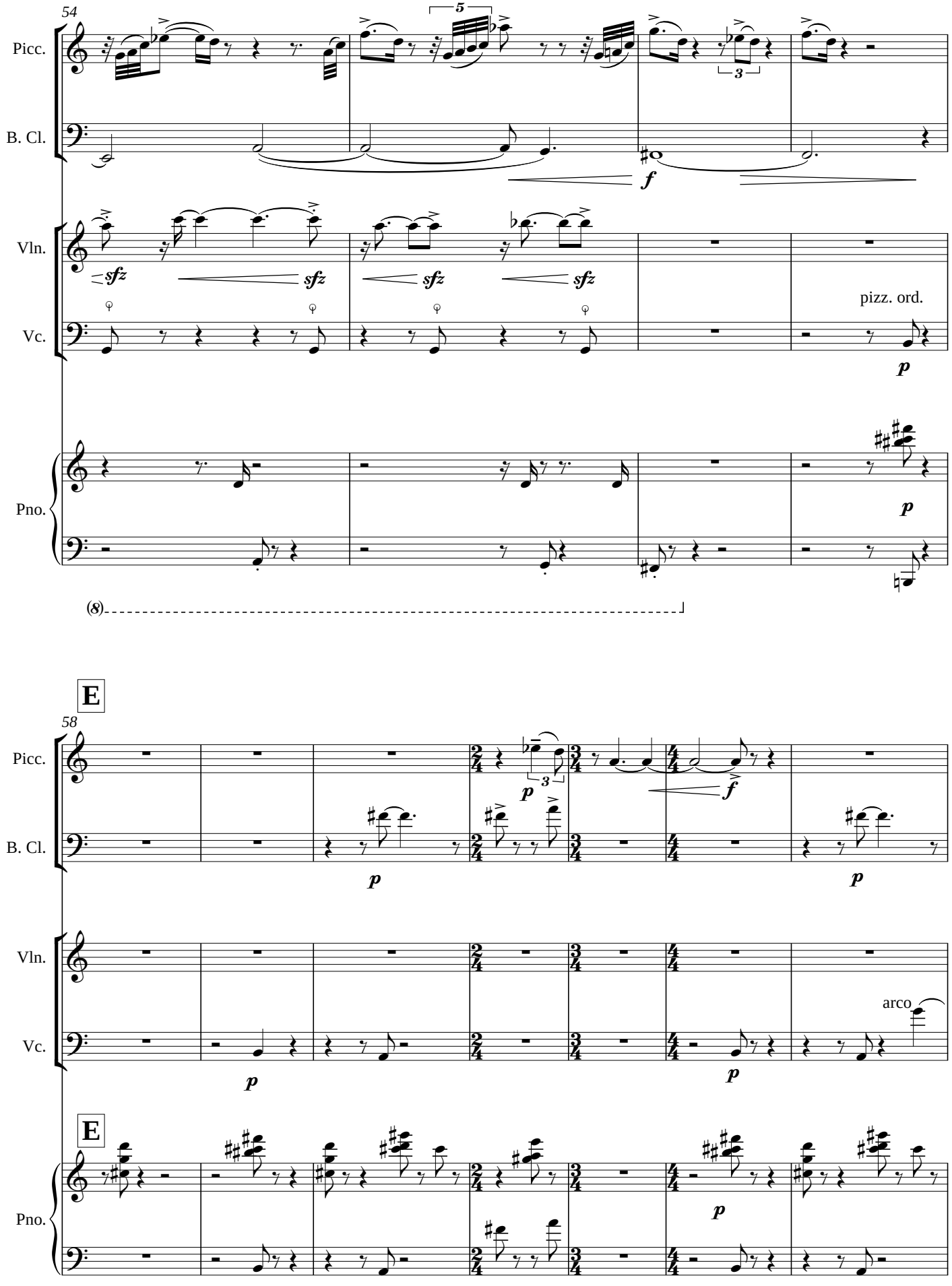

8
A
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
pizz.
gliss.
ord.
12

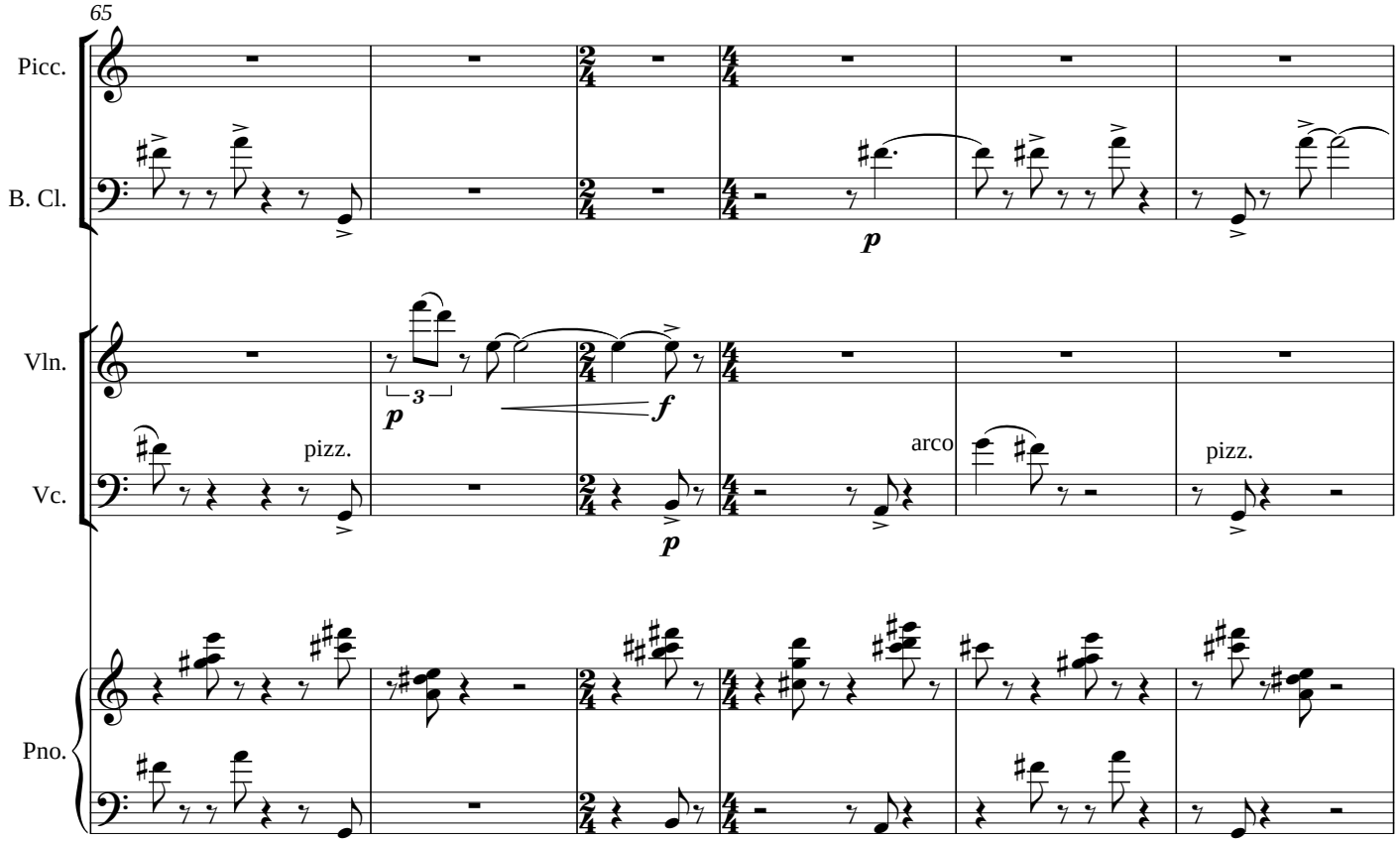

17
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
f
fpp
pp
pizz.
arco
23
B
5
p


27
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
32
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
8vb


37
C
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
fp
f
ff
pizz.
p
arco
C
8vb
42
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
p
ff
8vb


46
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
ff
f
ff
ff
8vb
D
50
Picc.
B. Cl.
sub pp
arco
Vln.
pp
sfz
pp
sfz
sfz
sfz
pizz.
Vc.
f
D
Pno.
p
8vb


54
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
5
3
f
sfz
sfz
sfz
sfz
pizz. ord.
p
p
(8)
E
58
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
3
p
f
p
p
p
p
arco
E
p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Picc.
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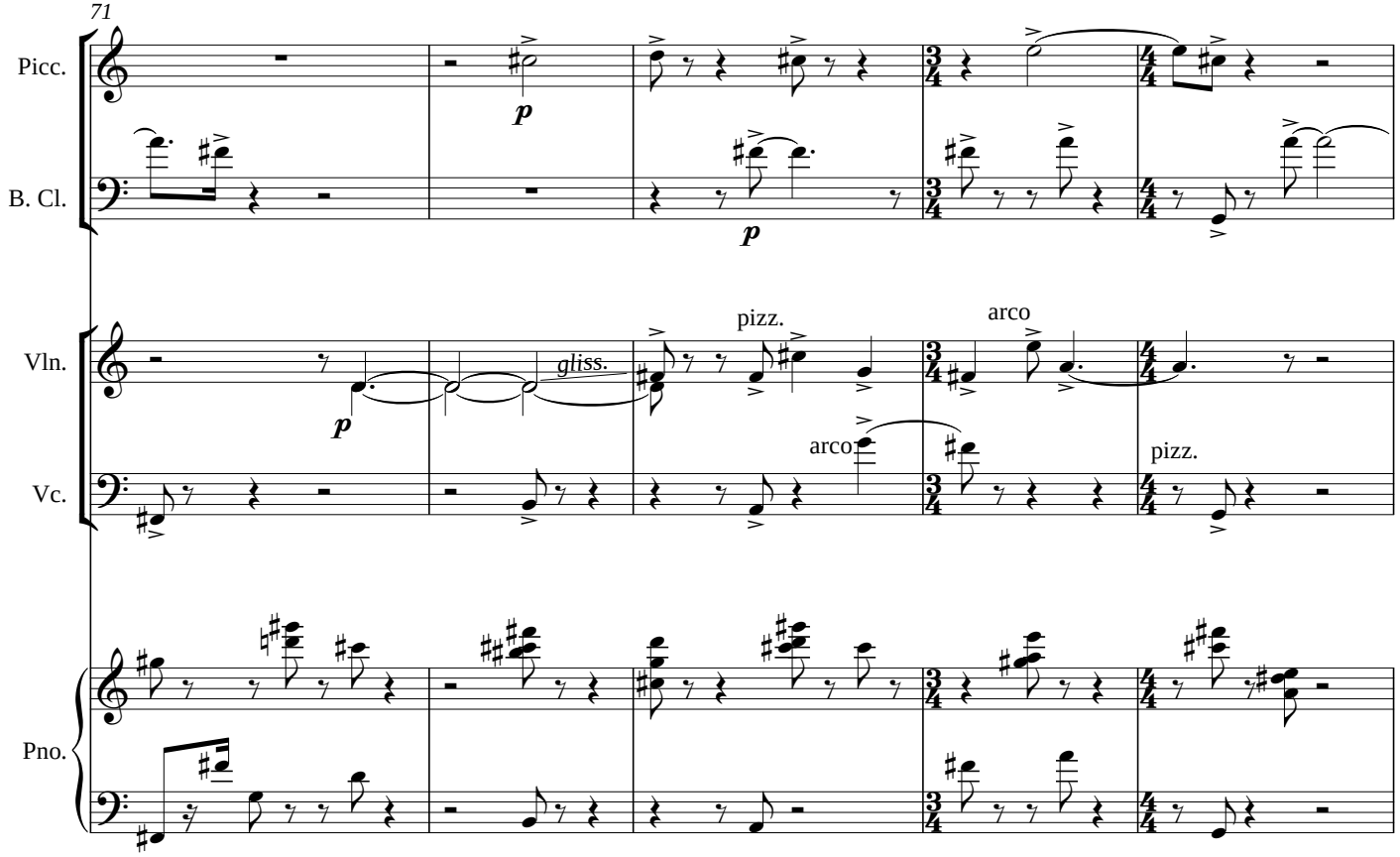
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
arco
pizz.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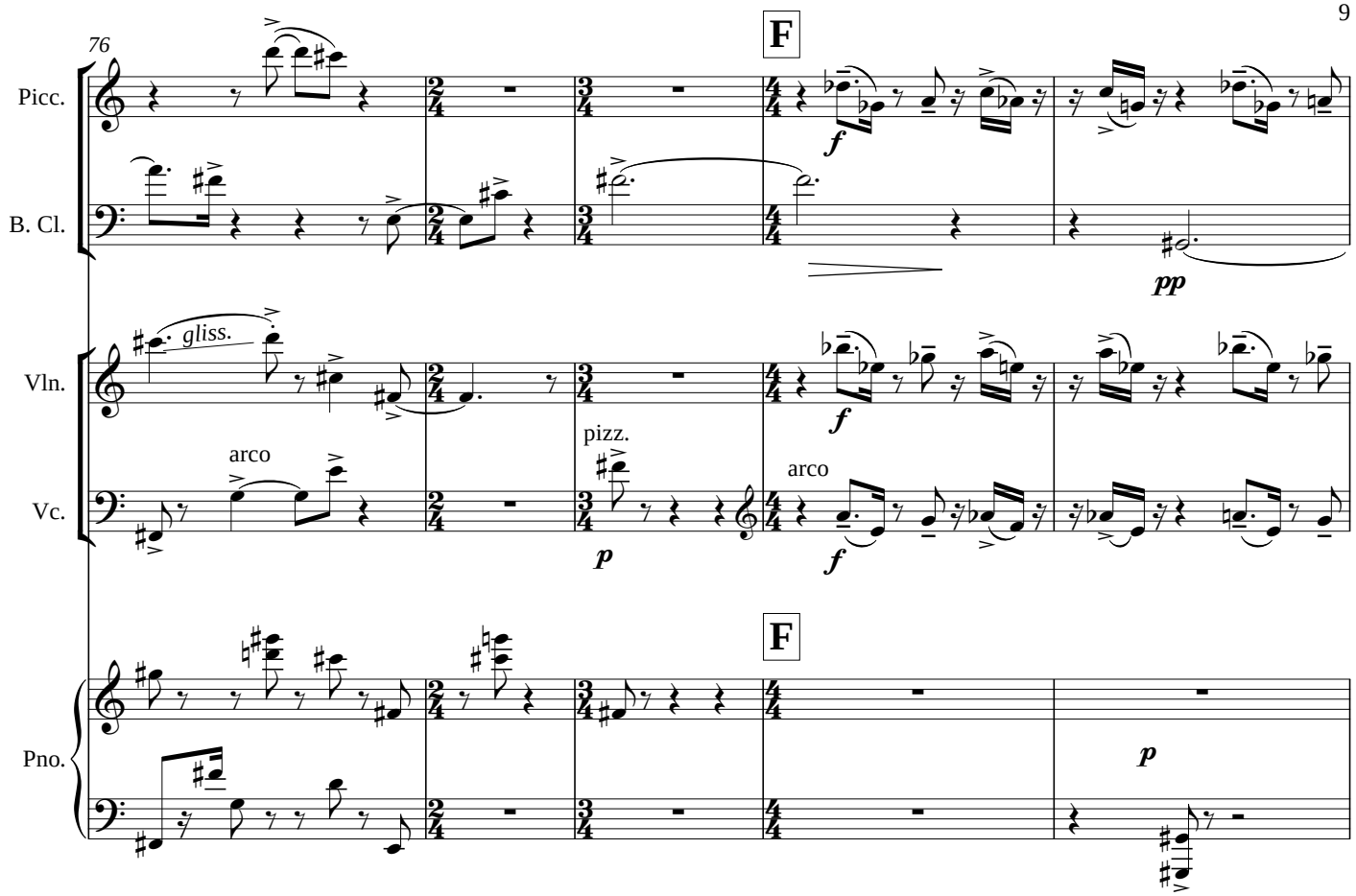
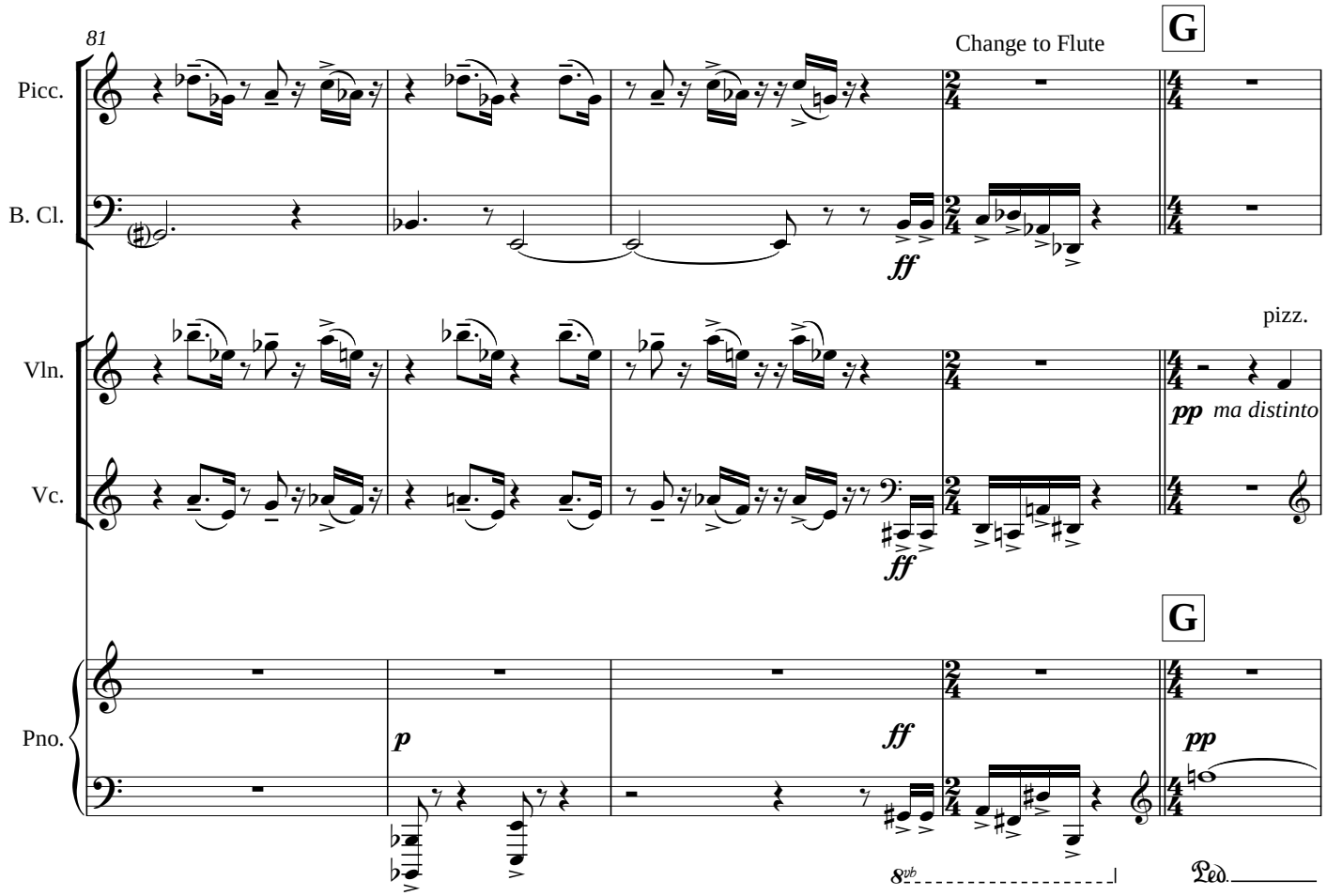
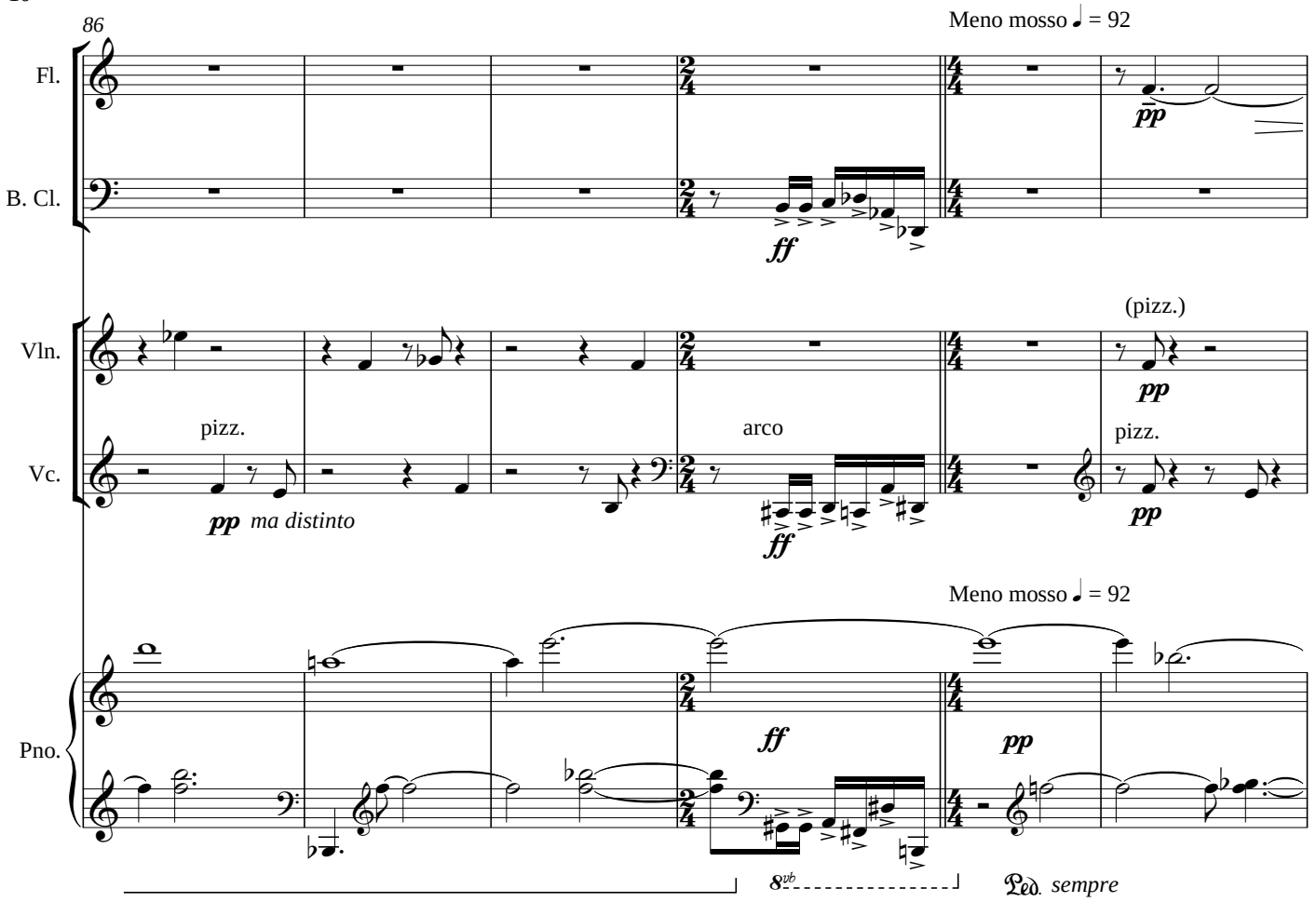
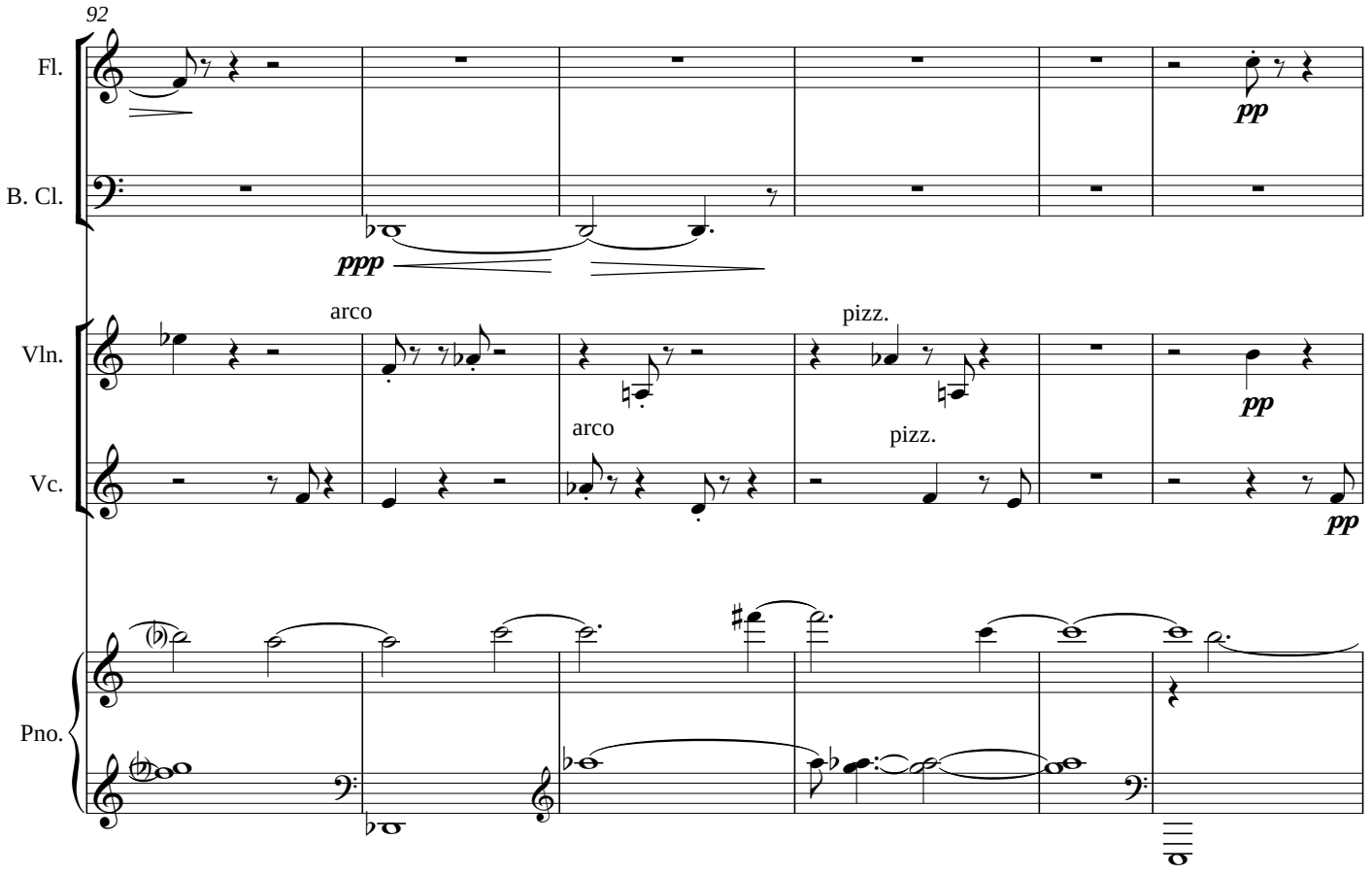
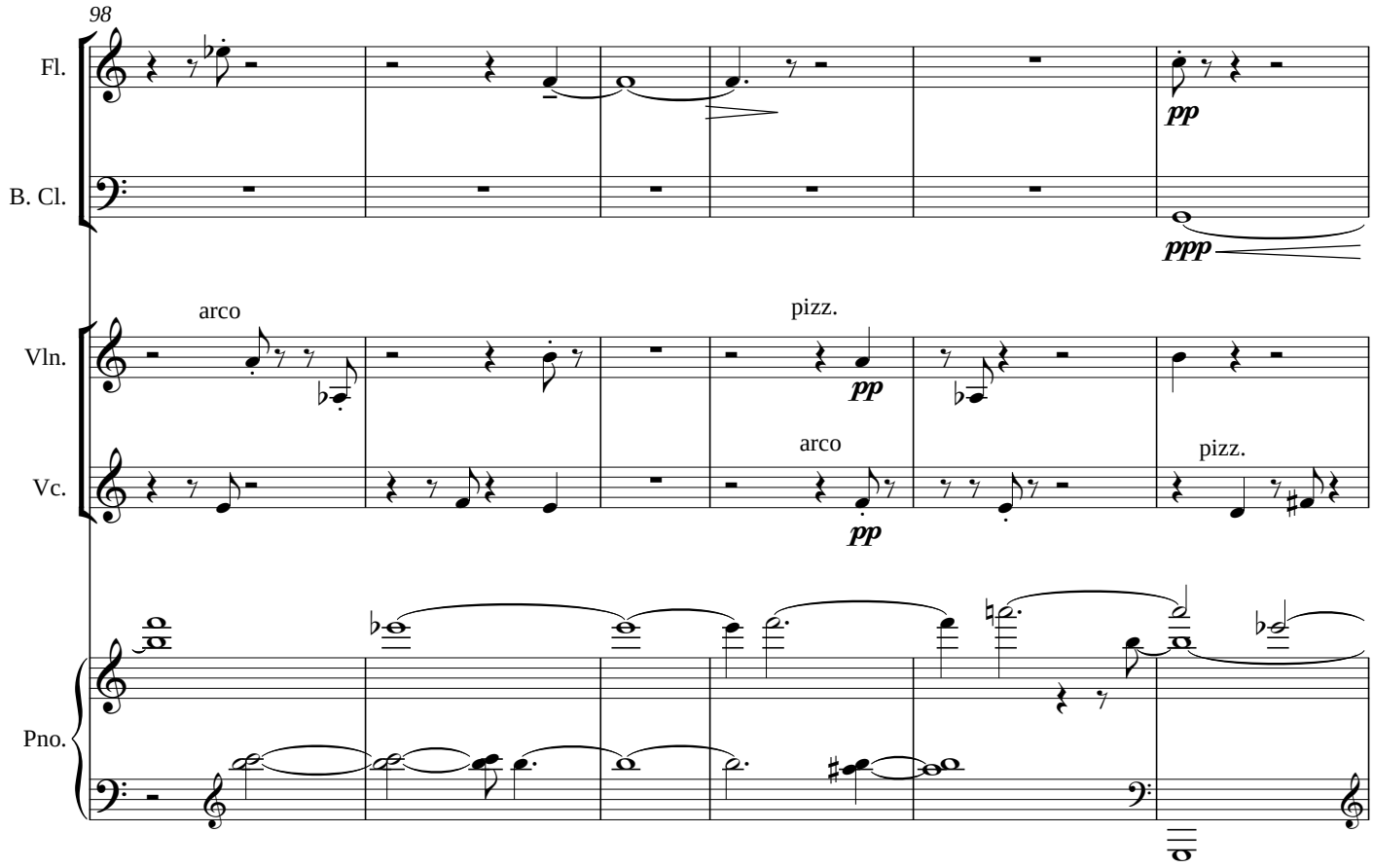
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.
pizz.
arco
arco
pizz.


76
F
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
gliss.
arco
pizz.
arco
f
pp
p
f
F
p


81
Change to Flute
G
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
pizz.
pp ma distinto
ff
G
p
ff
pp
8vb
Ped.


86
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
arco
(pizz.)
pizz.
pp ma distinto
ff
pp
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
ff
pp
8vb
Ped. sempre


92
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ppp
arco
arco
pizz.
pizz.
pp
pp
pp


98
Fl.
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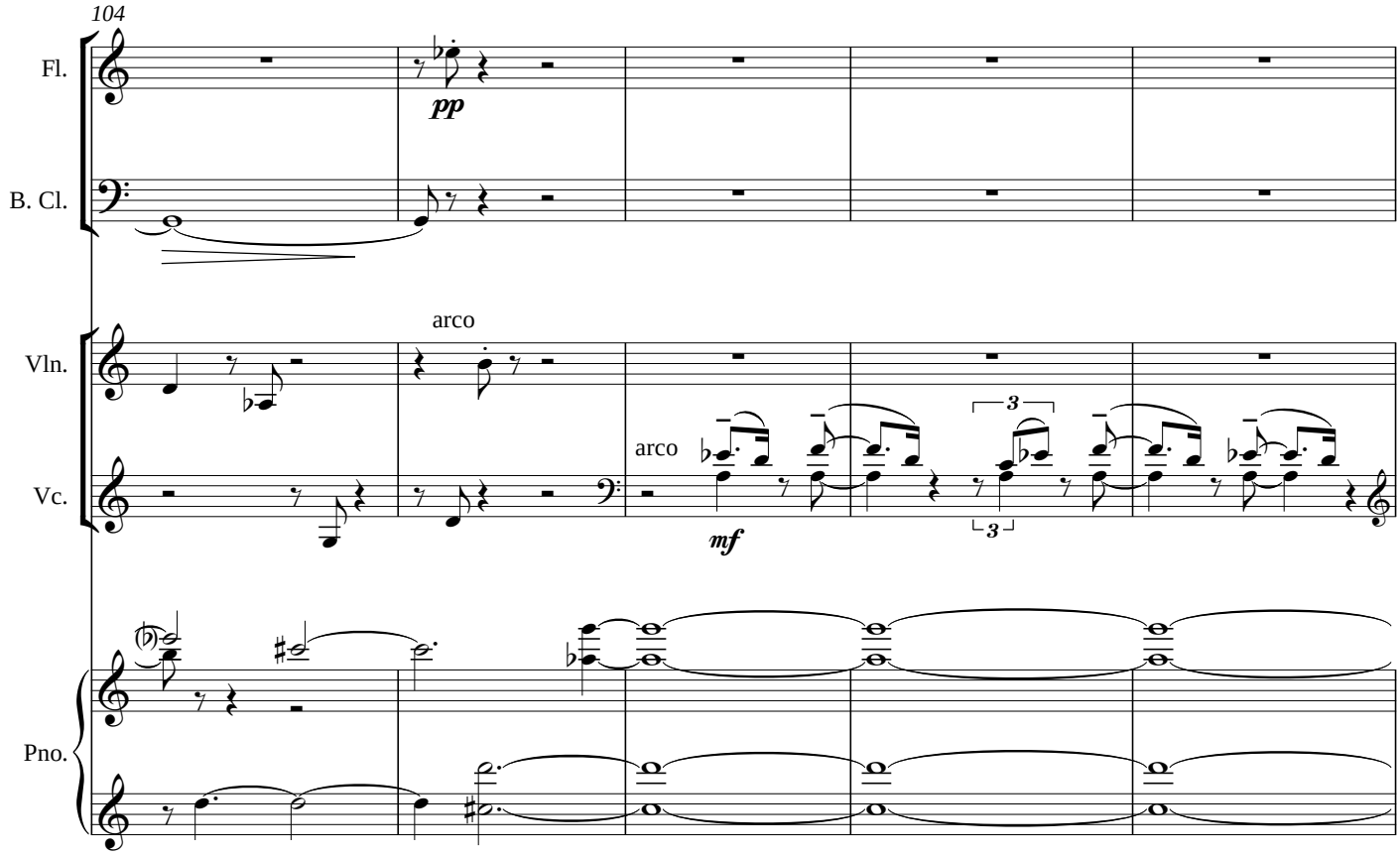
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
pp
pp
pp
ppp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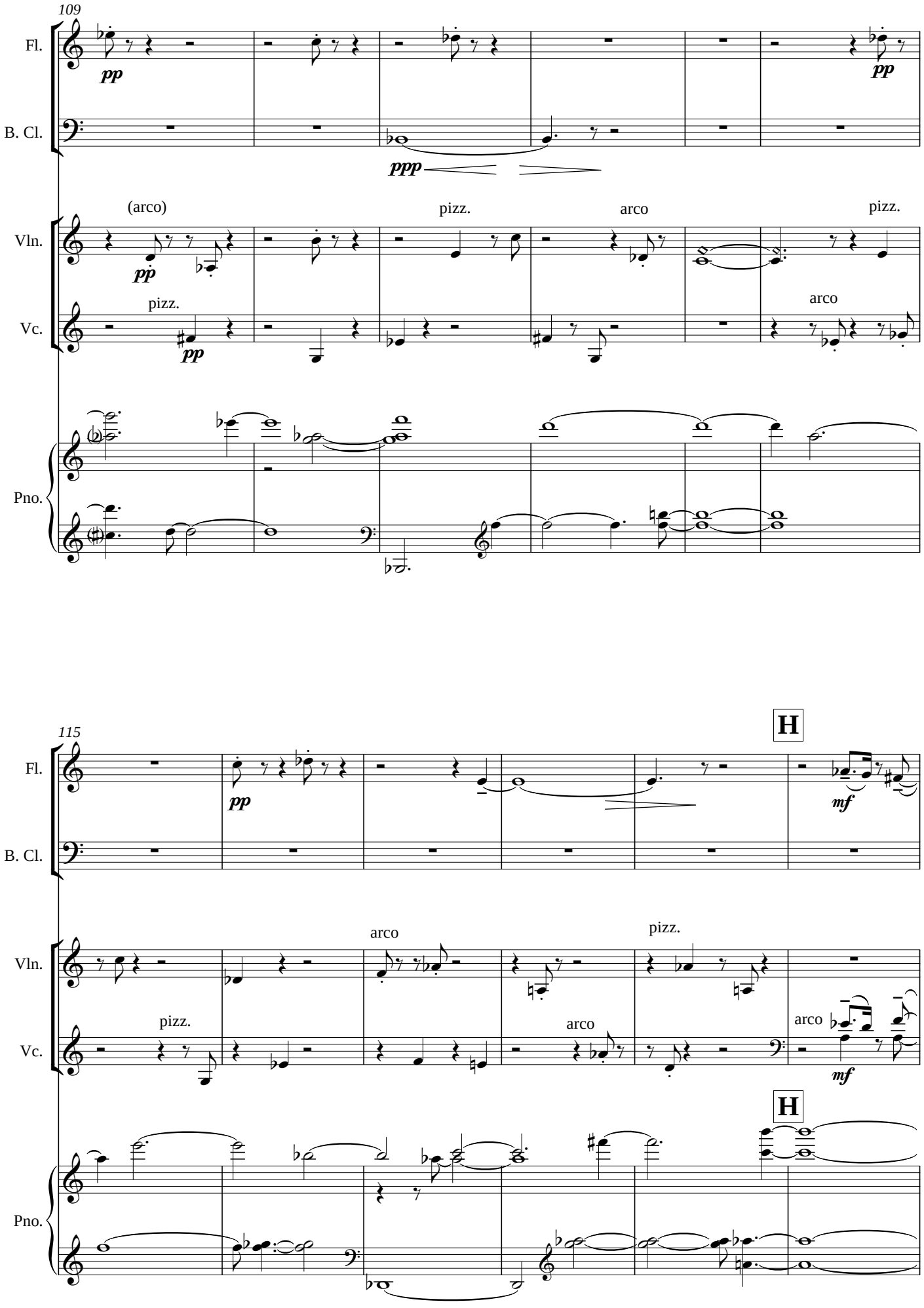
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
arco
pp
mf
3
3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Fl.
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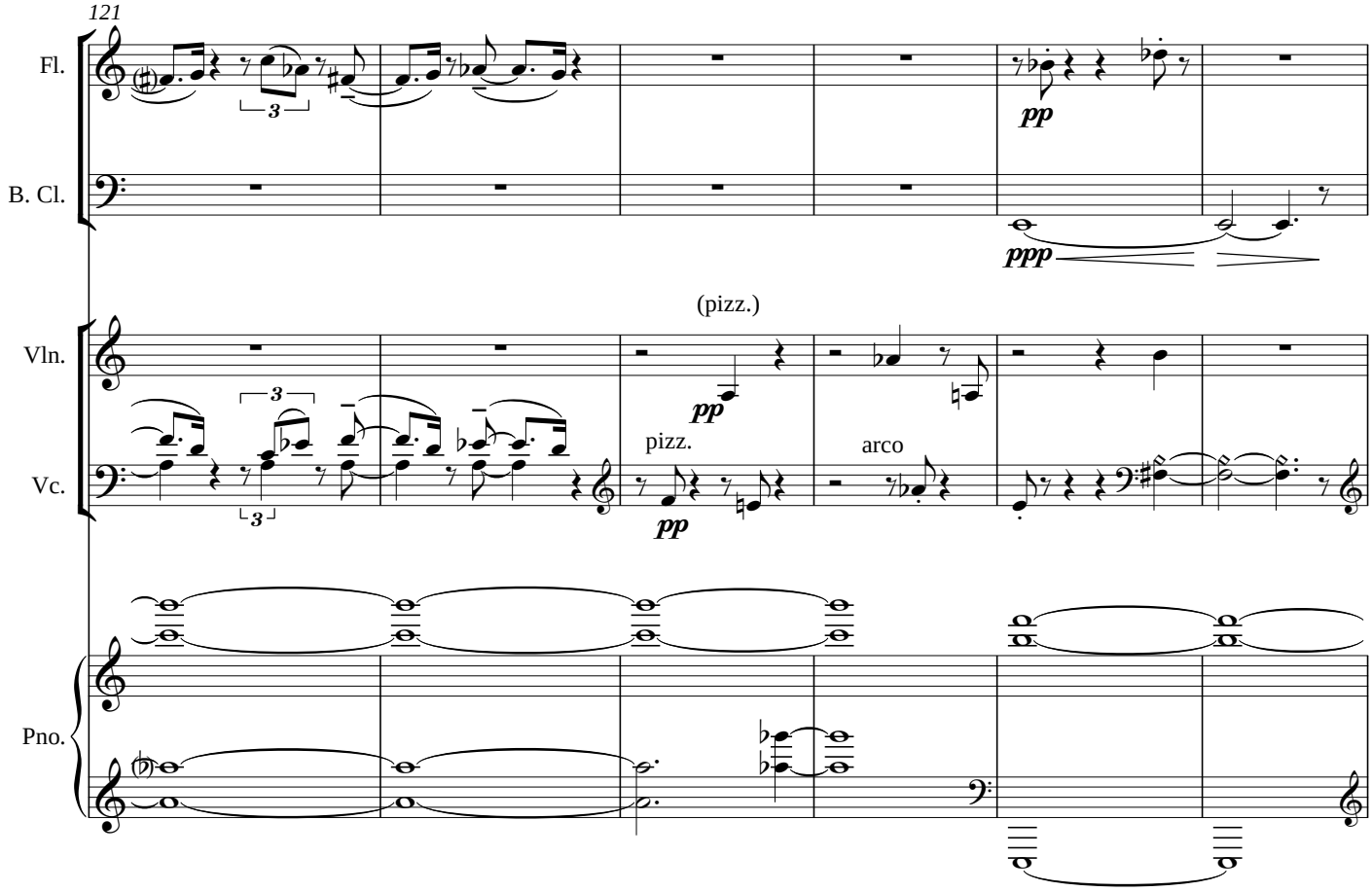
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
ppp
(arco)
pizz.
arco
115
H
mf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Fl.
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Vln.
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Pno.
(pizz.)
pizz.
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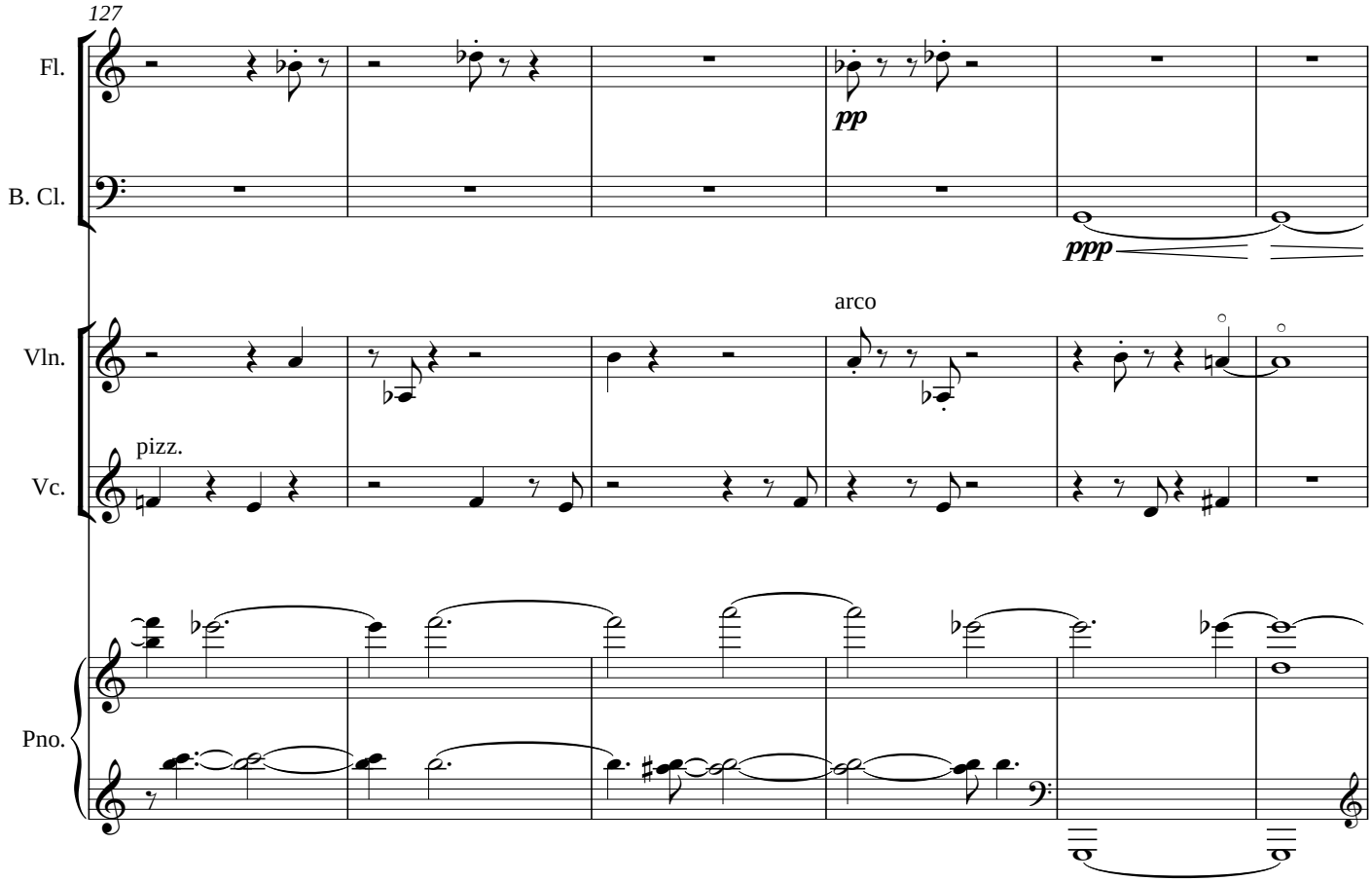
pp
ppp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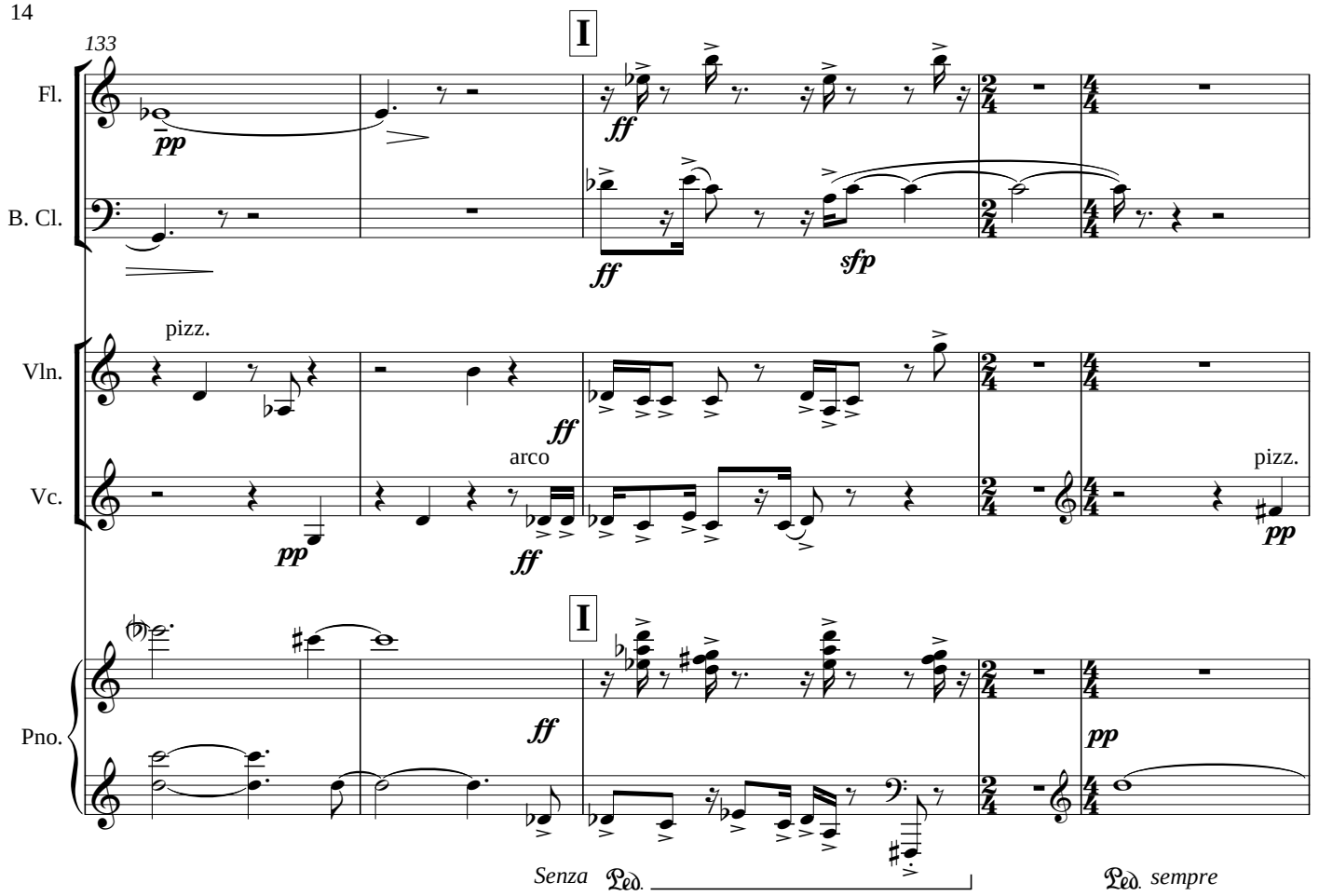
pizz.
pp
ppp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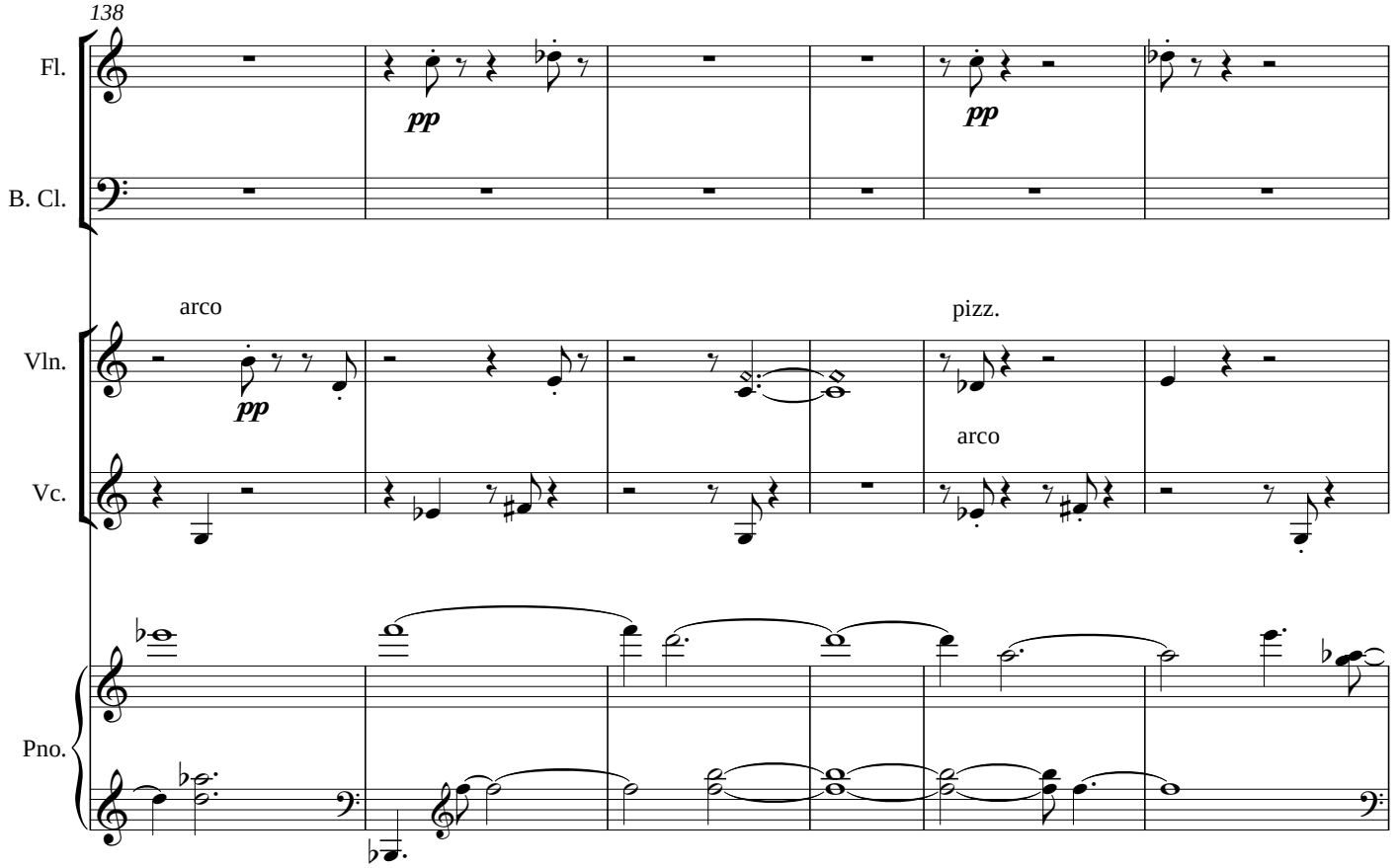
pizz.
arco
pizz.
Senza
sempre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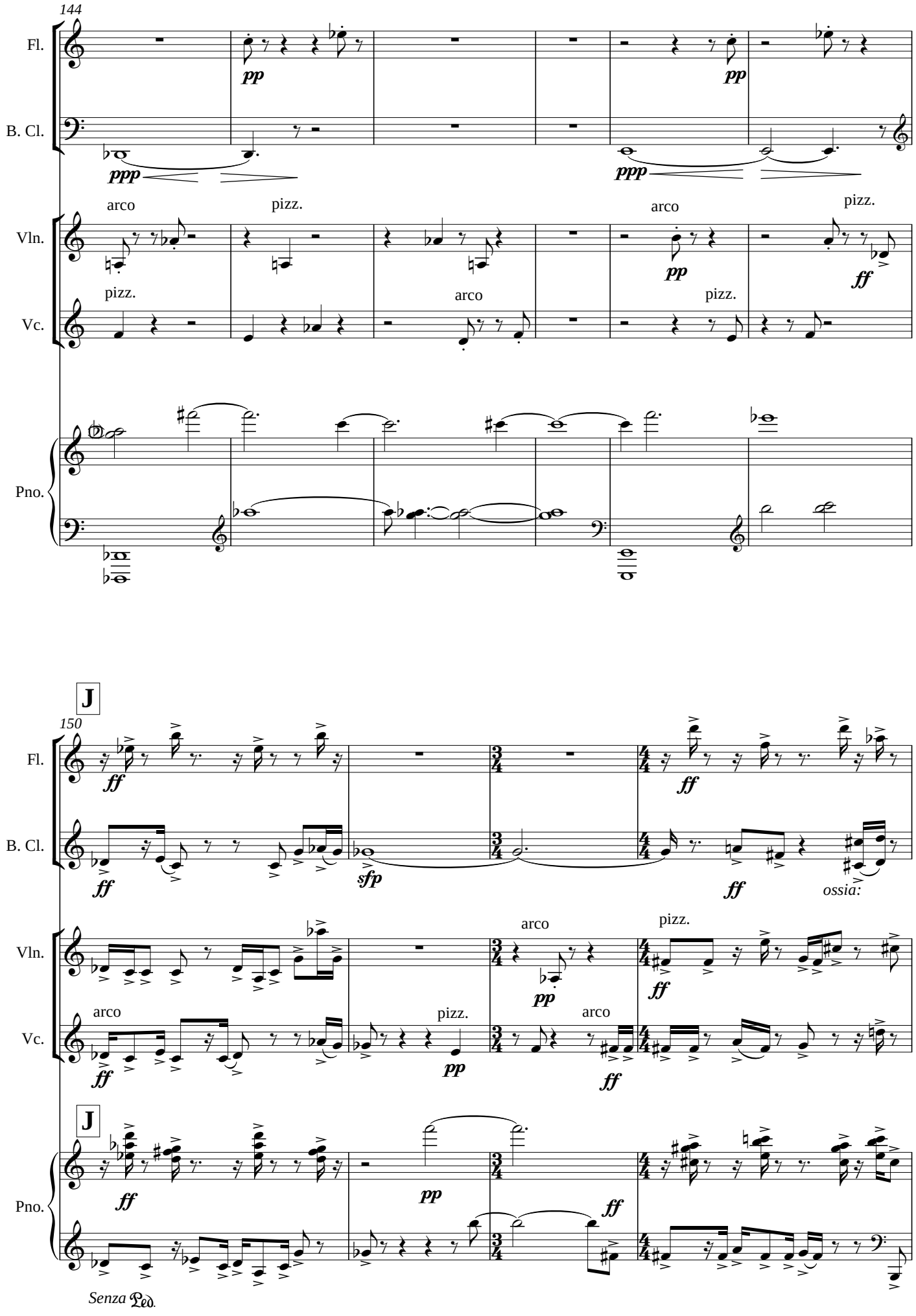
arco
pizz.
arco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Fl.
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Pno.
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ppp
arco
pizz.
ff
J
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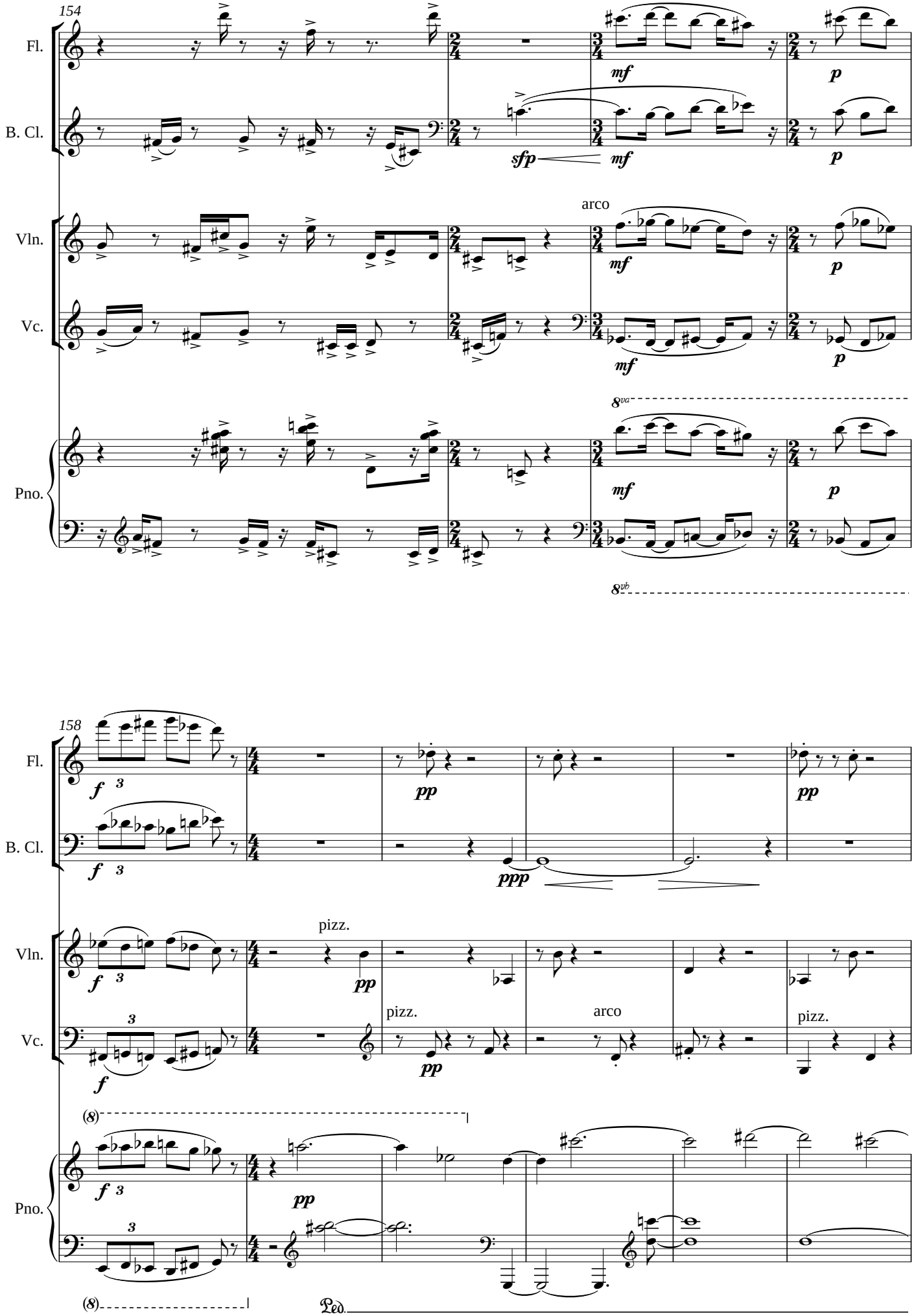
sfp
ossia:
Senza Ped.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Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
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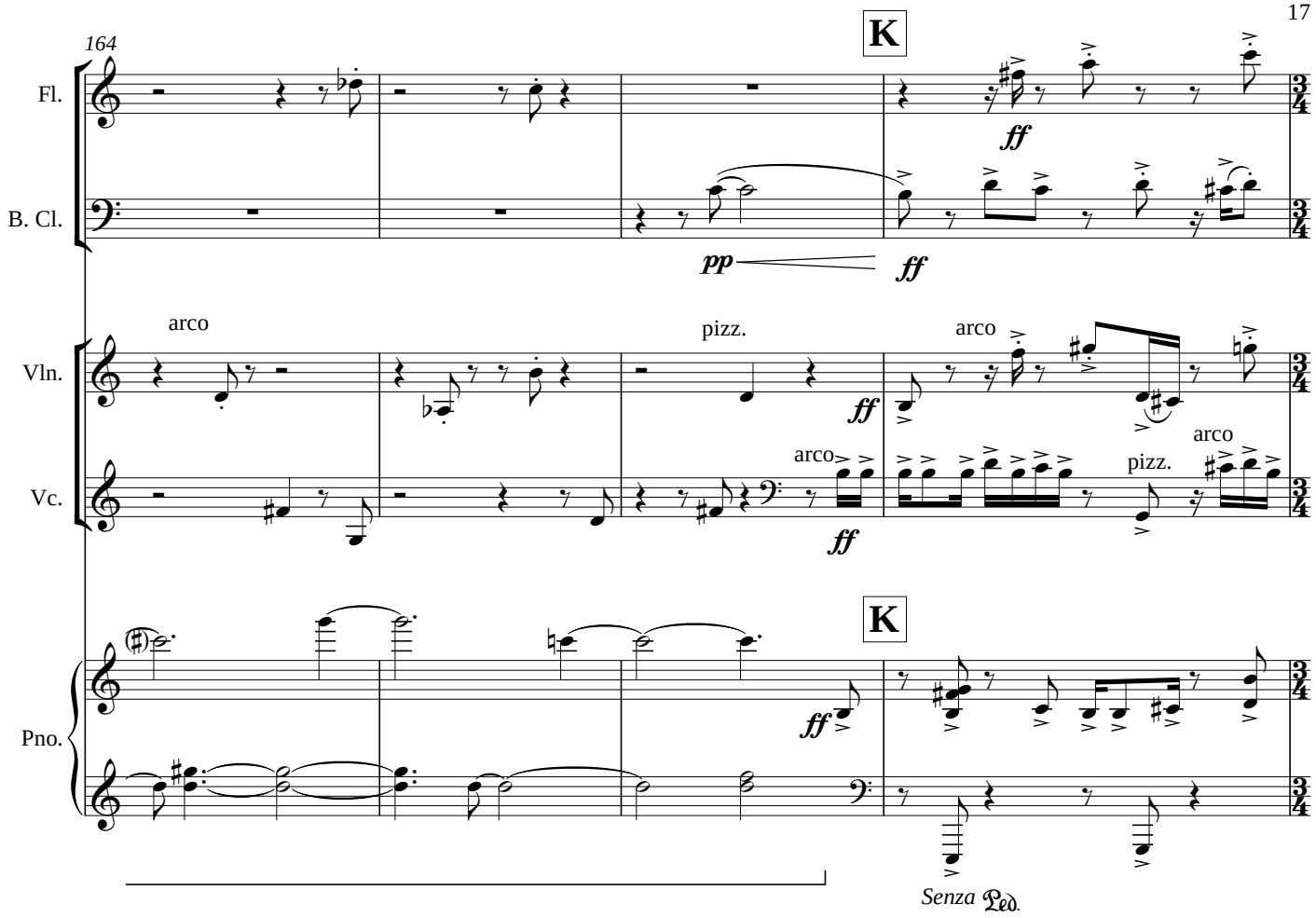
mf
sfp
p
8va
8vb
158
f
pp
ppp
pizz.
arco
(8)
Ped.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Fl.
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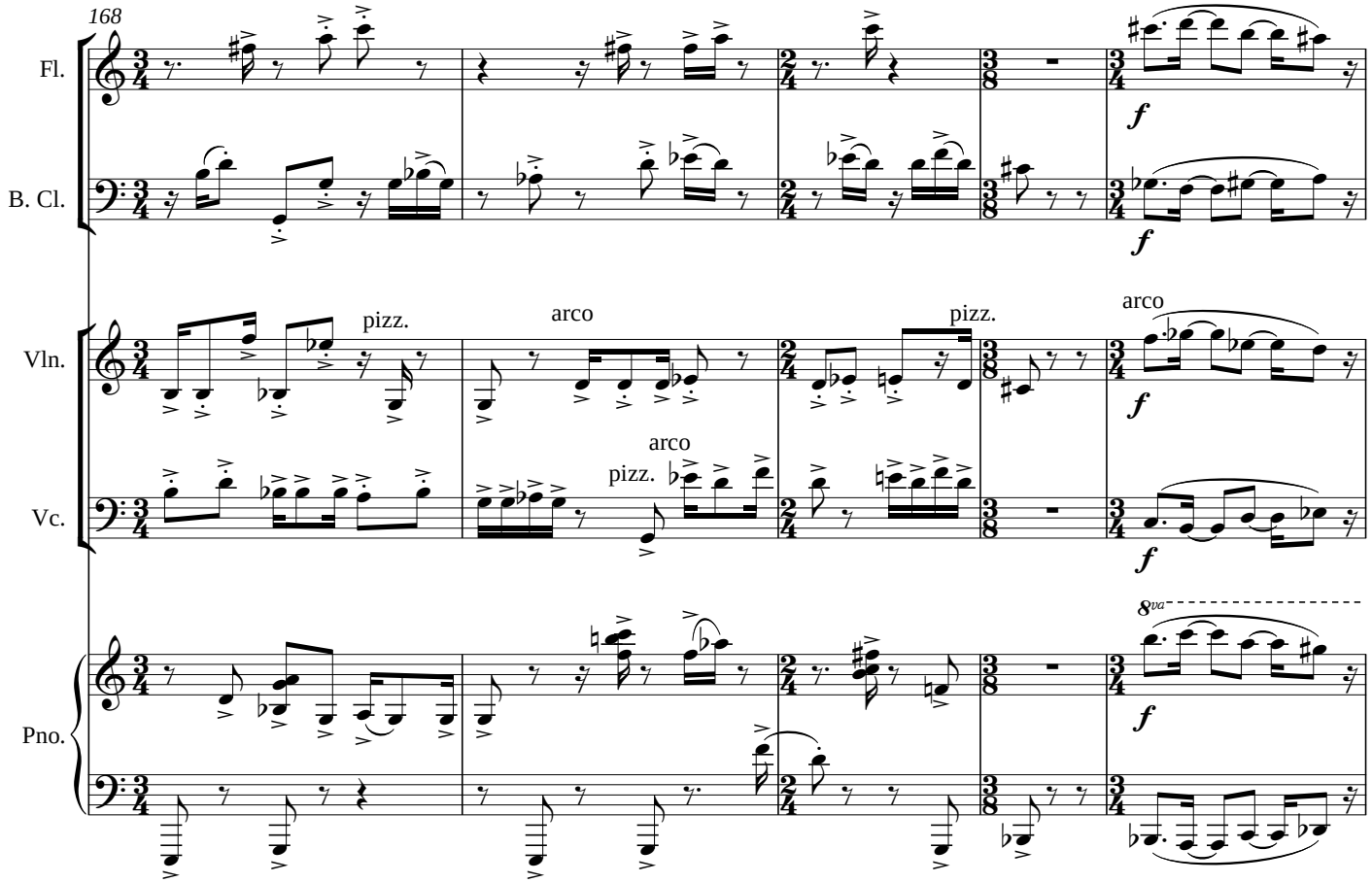
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
pp
arco
pizz.
Senza Ped.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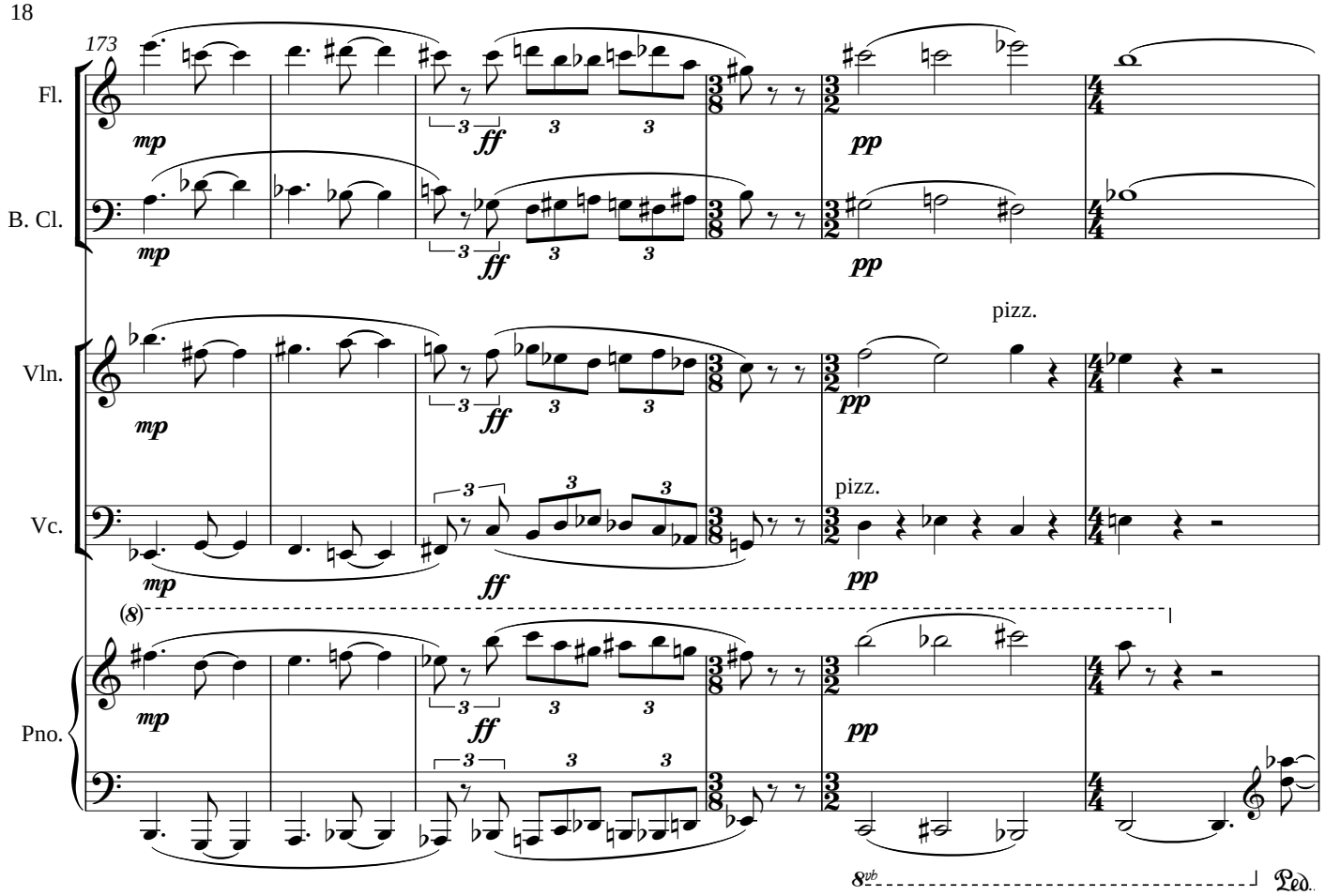
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ff
pp
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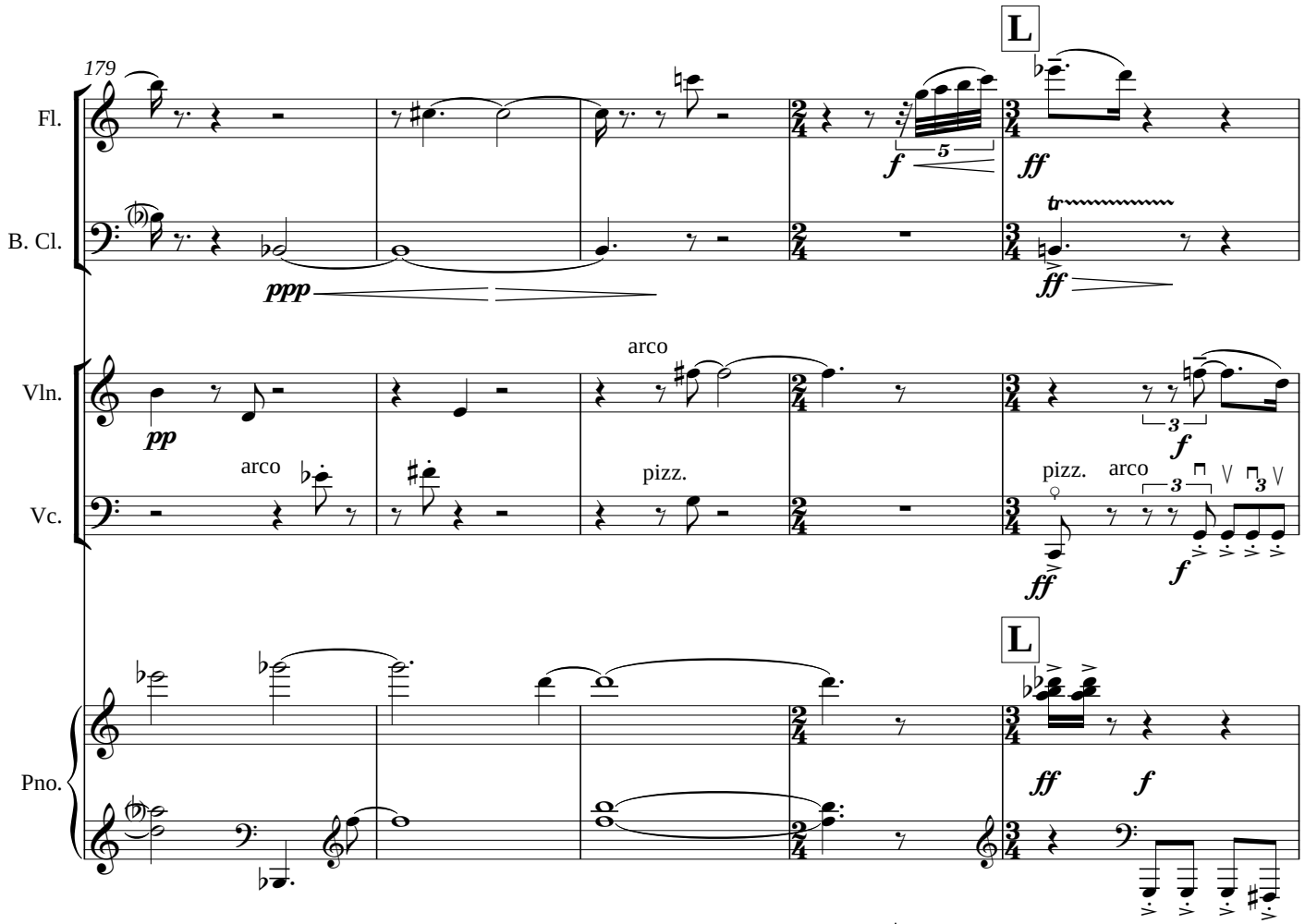
8vb
Ped.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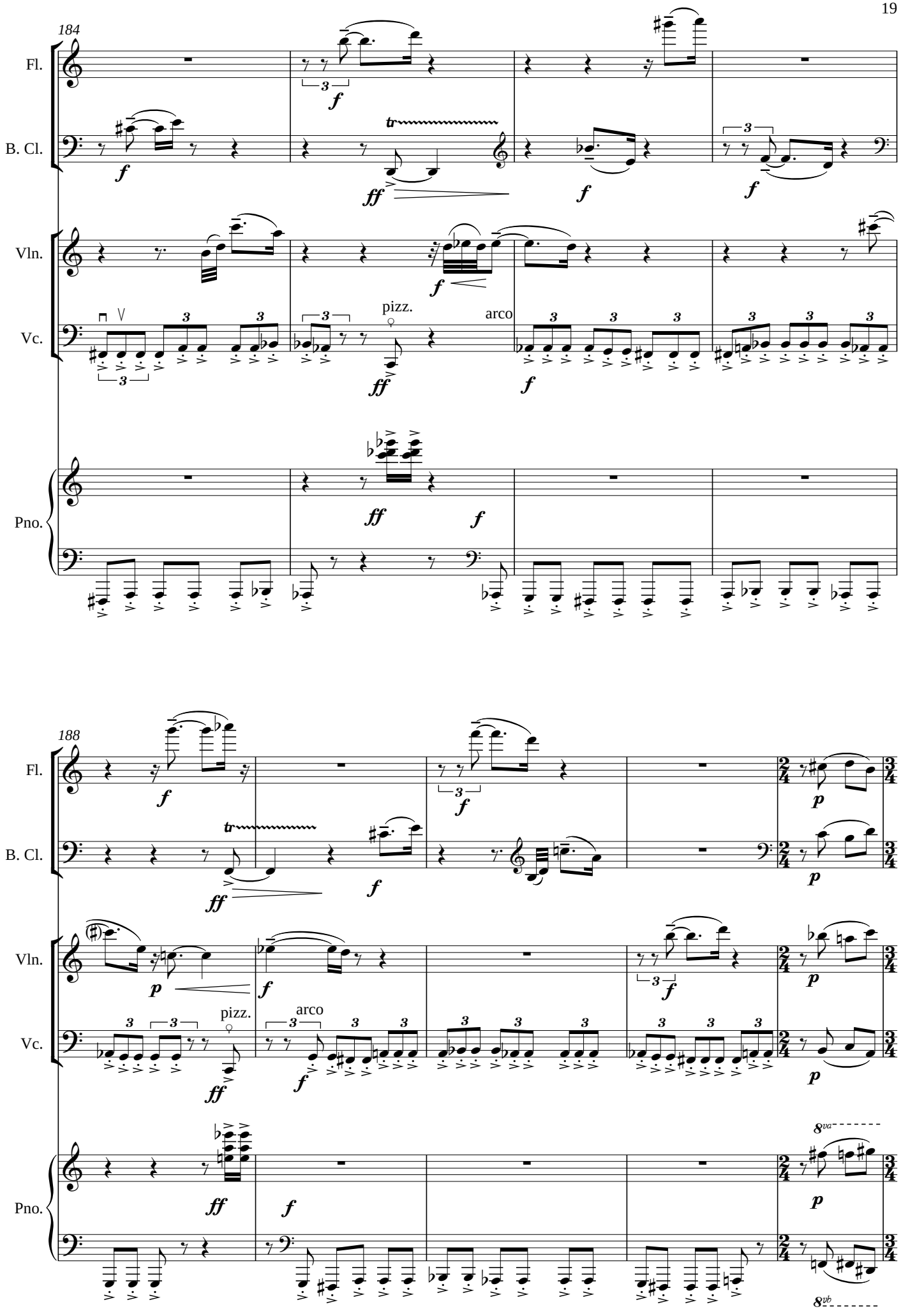
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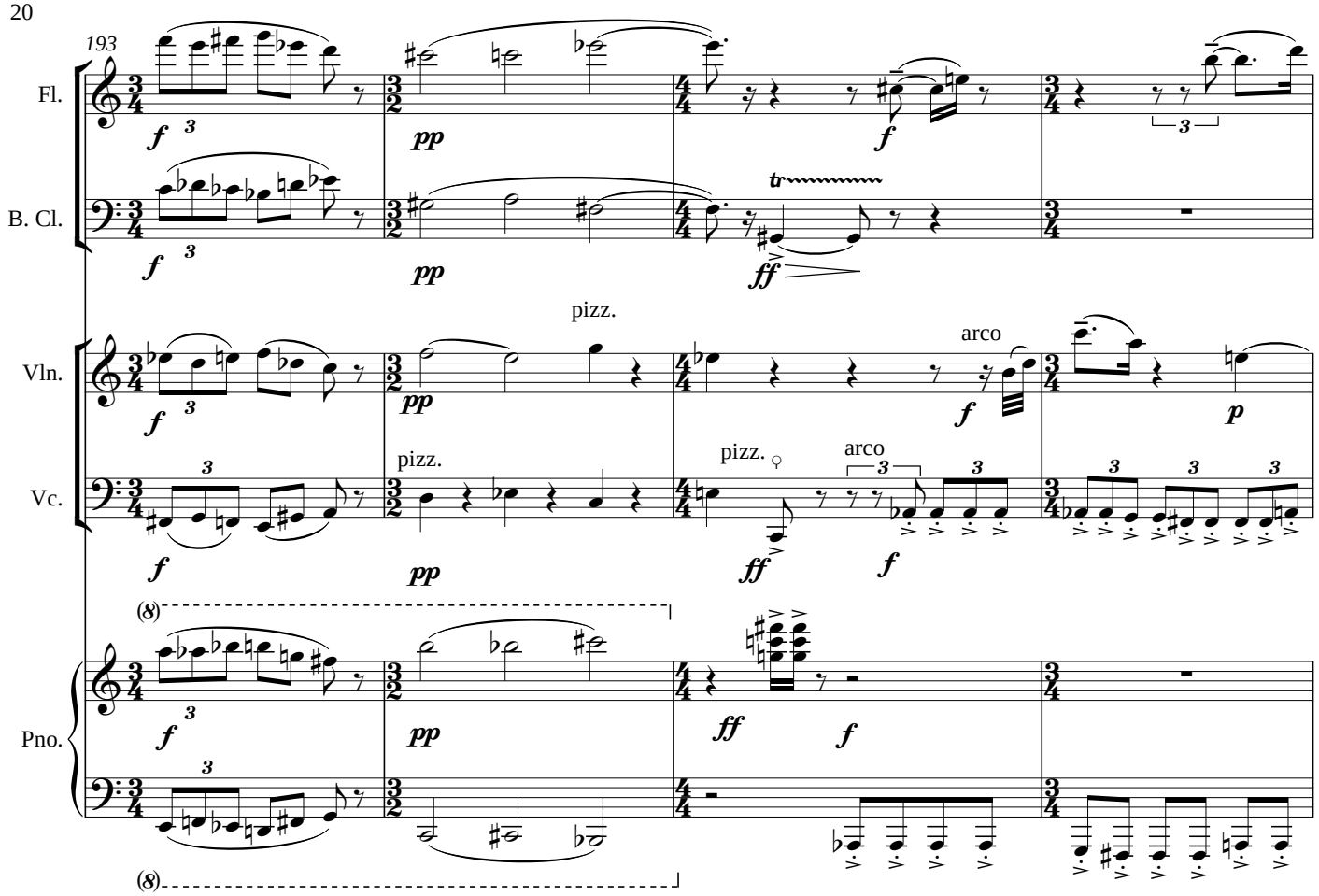
arco
8va
8vb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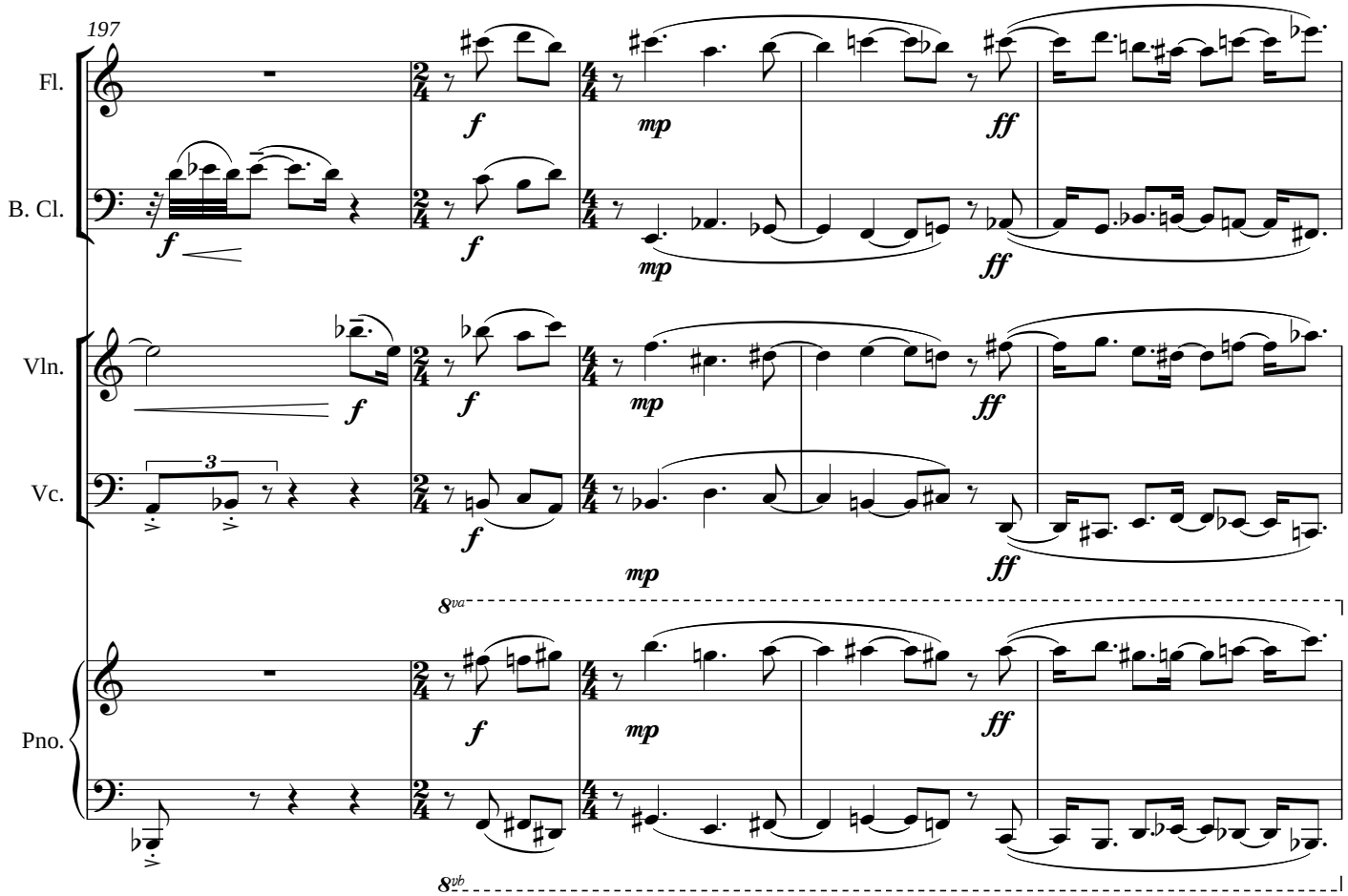
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Fl.
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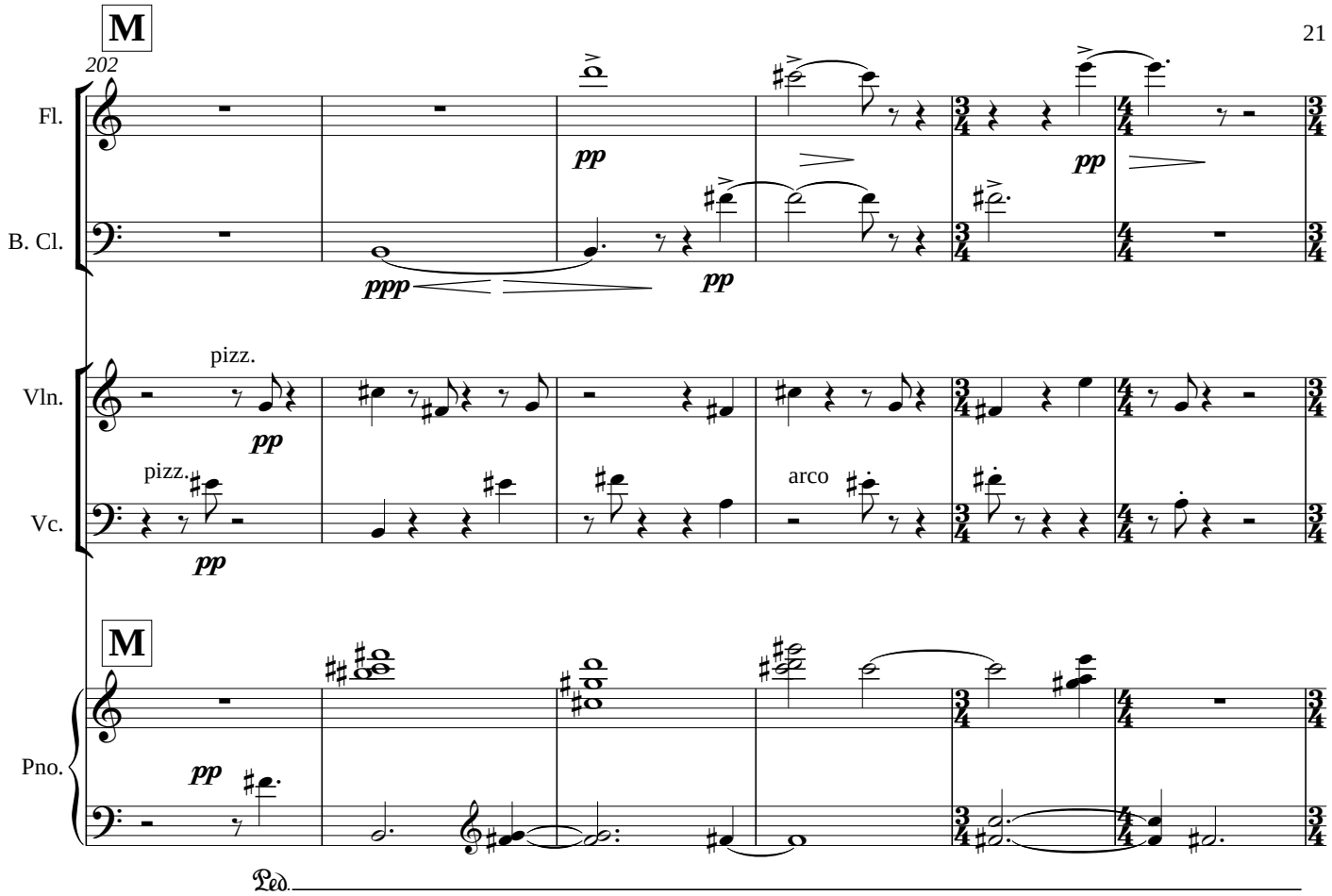
M
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Fl.
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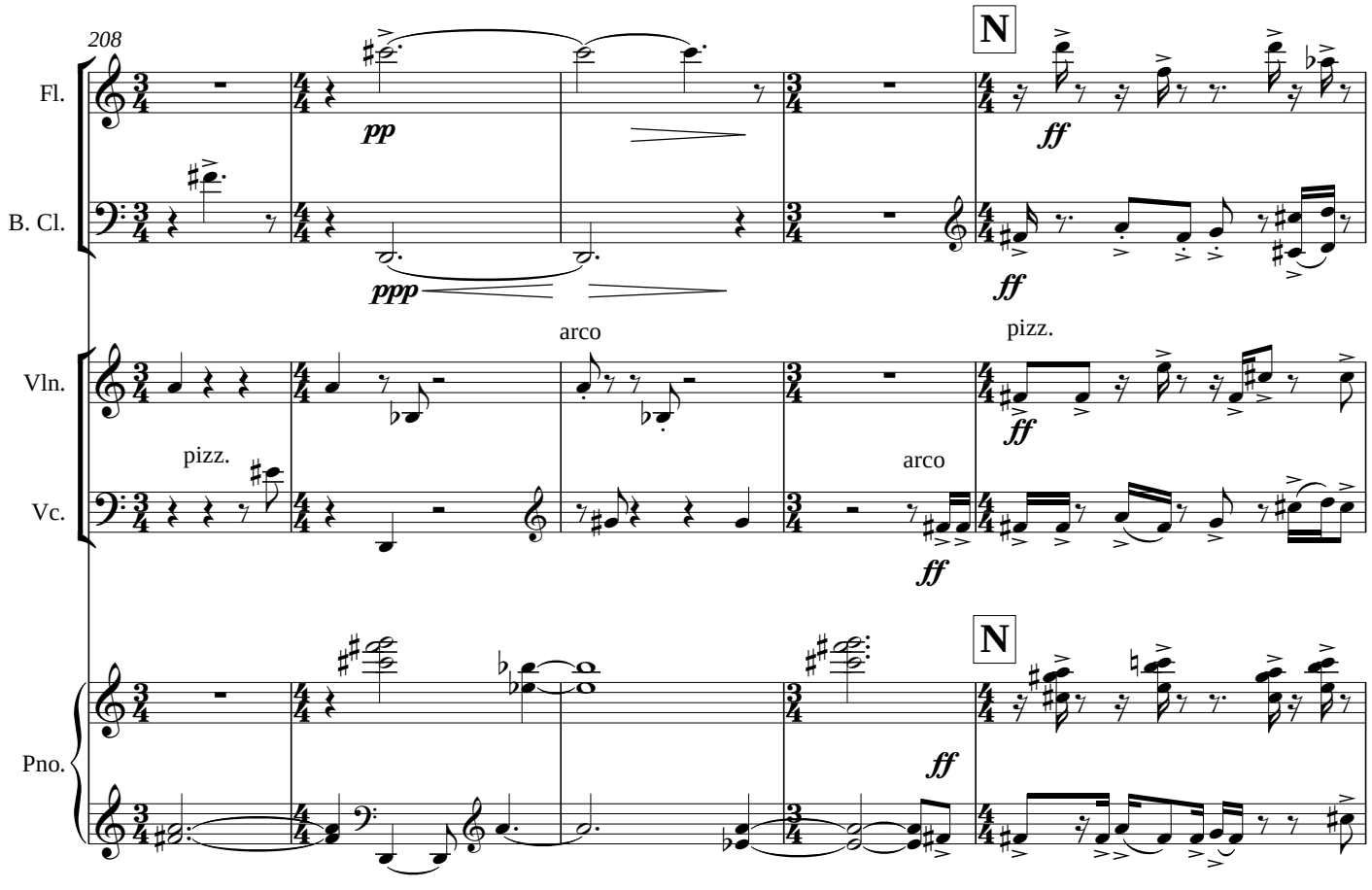
pp
ppp
Ped.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Pno.
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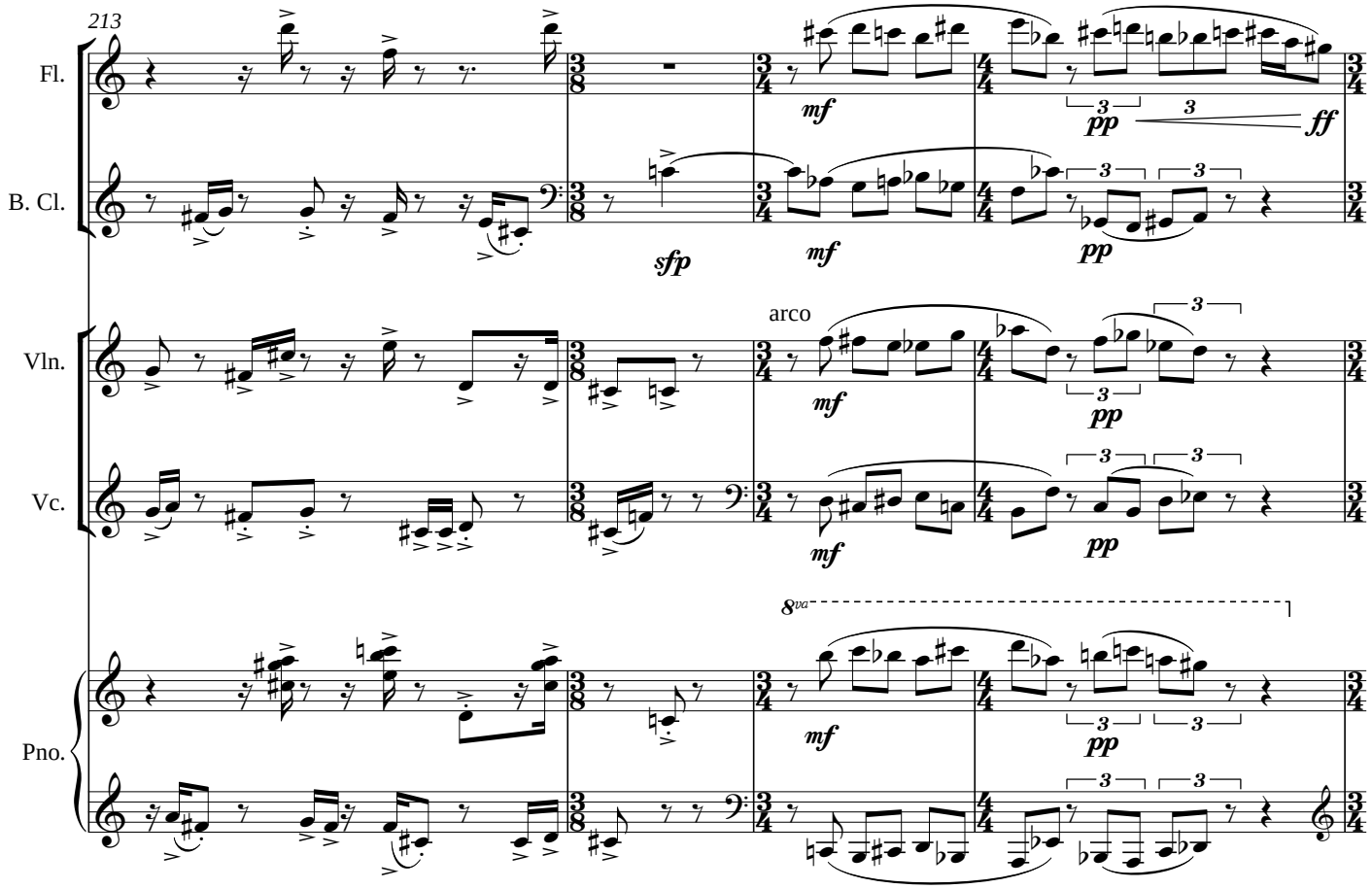
pp
ppp
ff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Fl.
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Pno.
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mf
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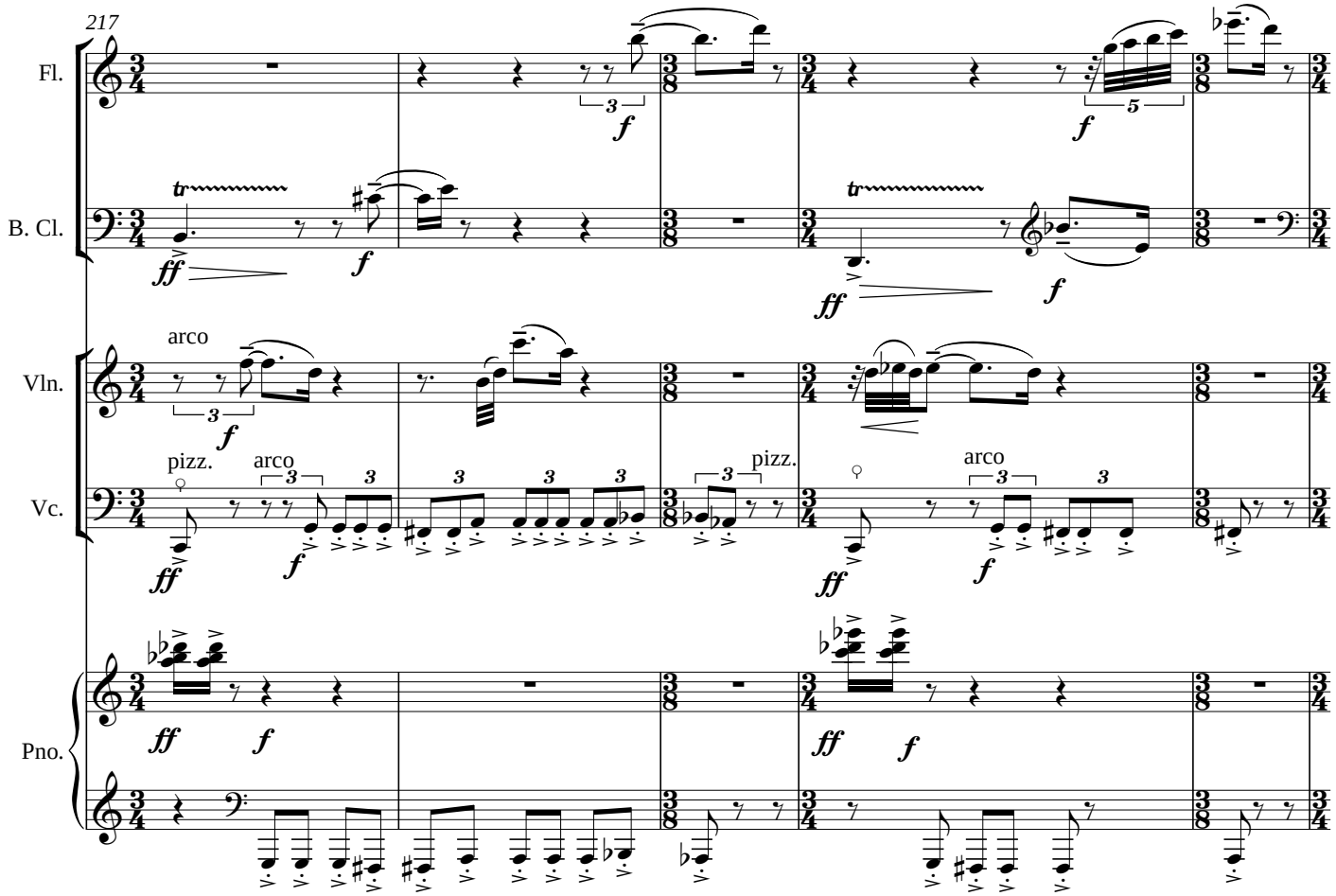
sfp
ff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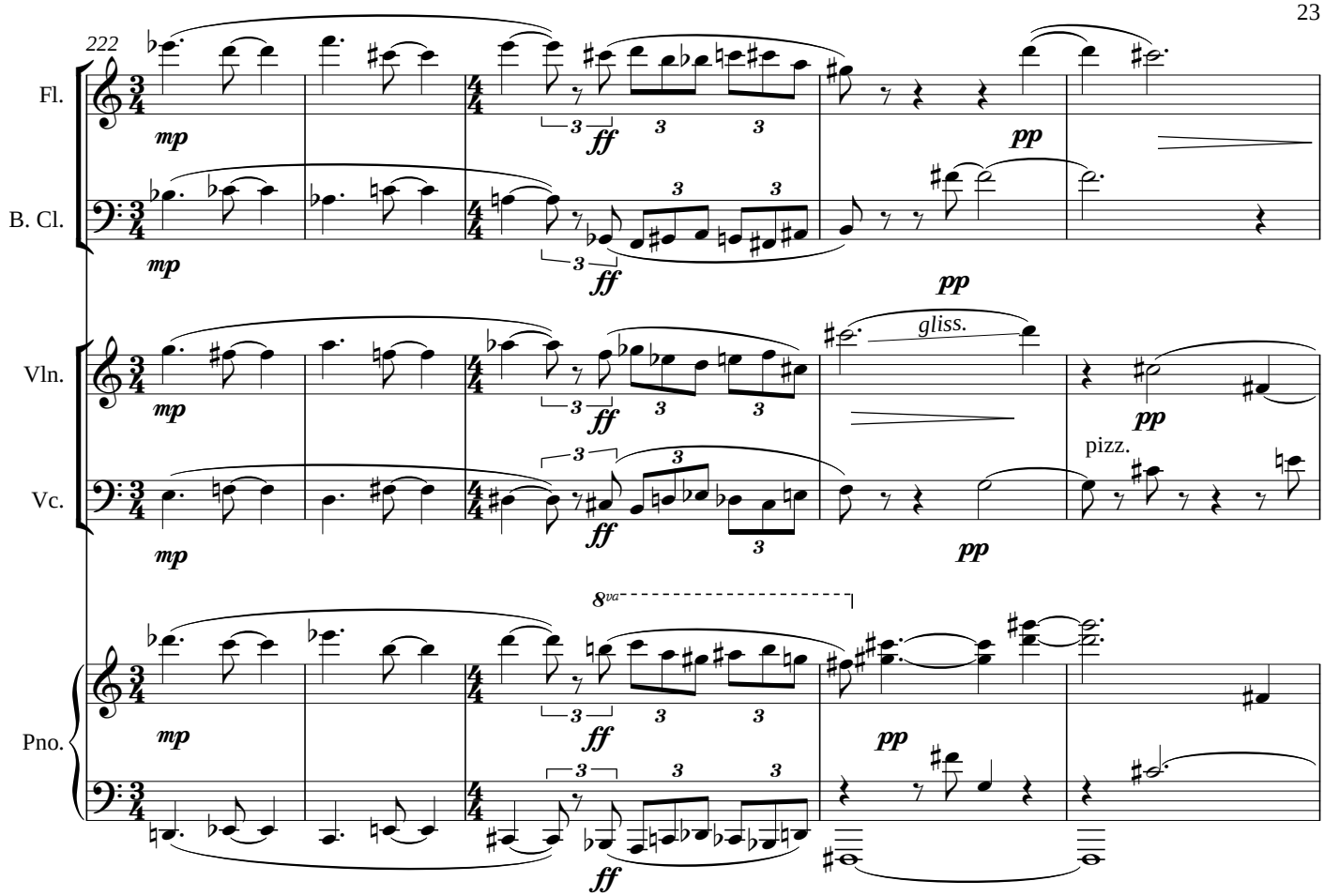
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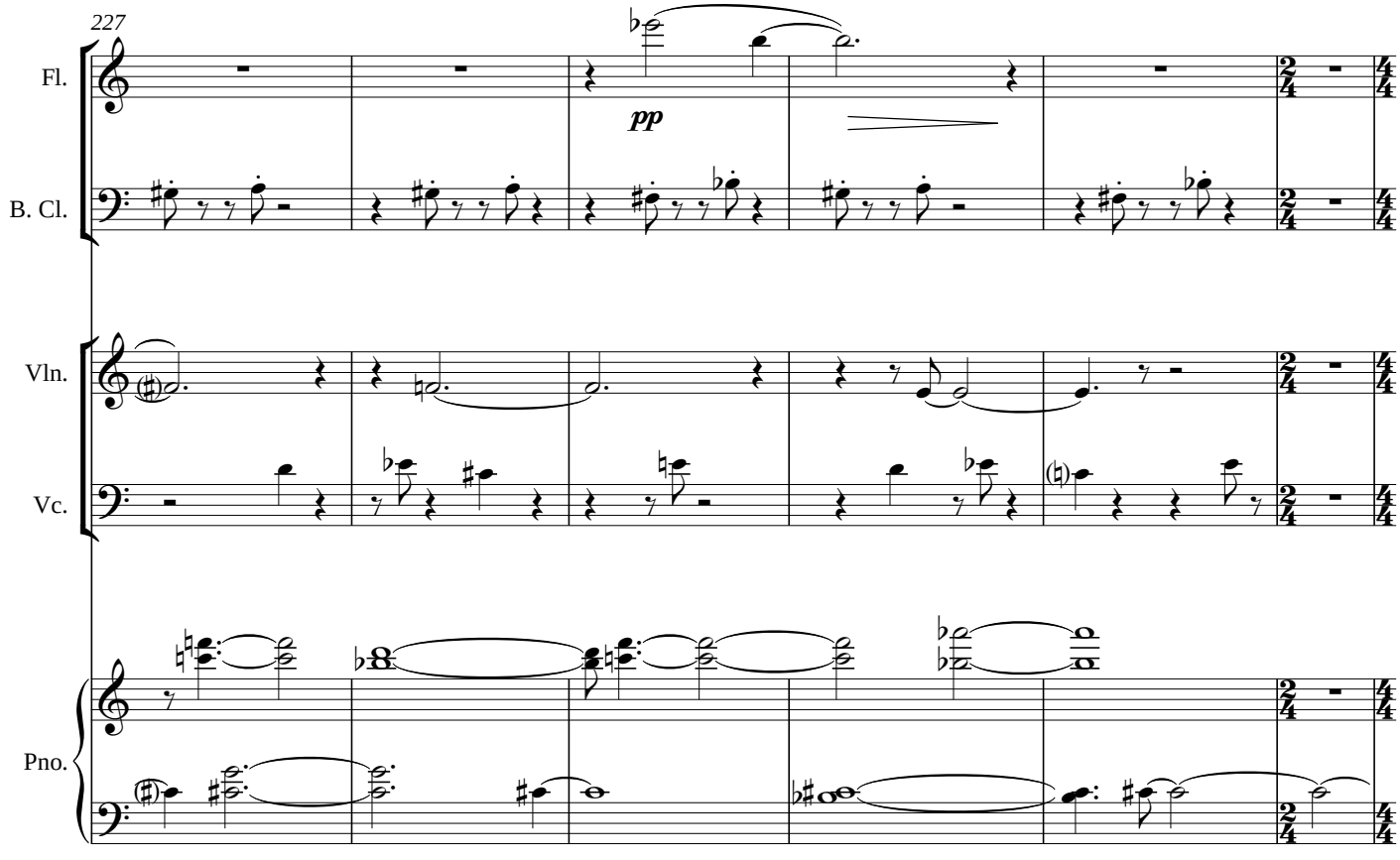
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
mp
ff
pp
gliss.
pizz.
8va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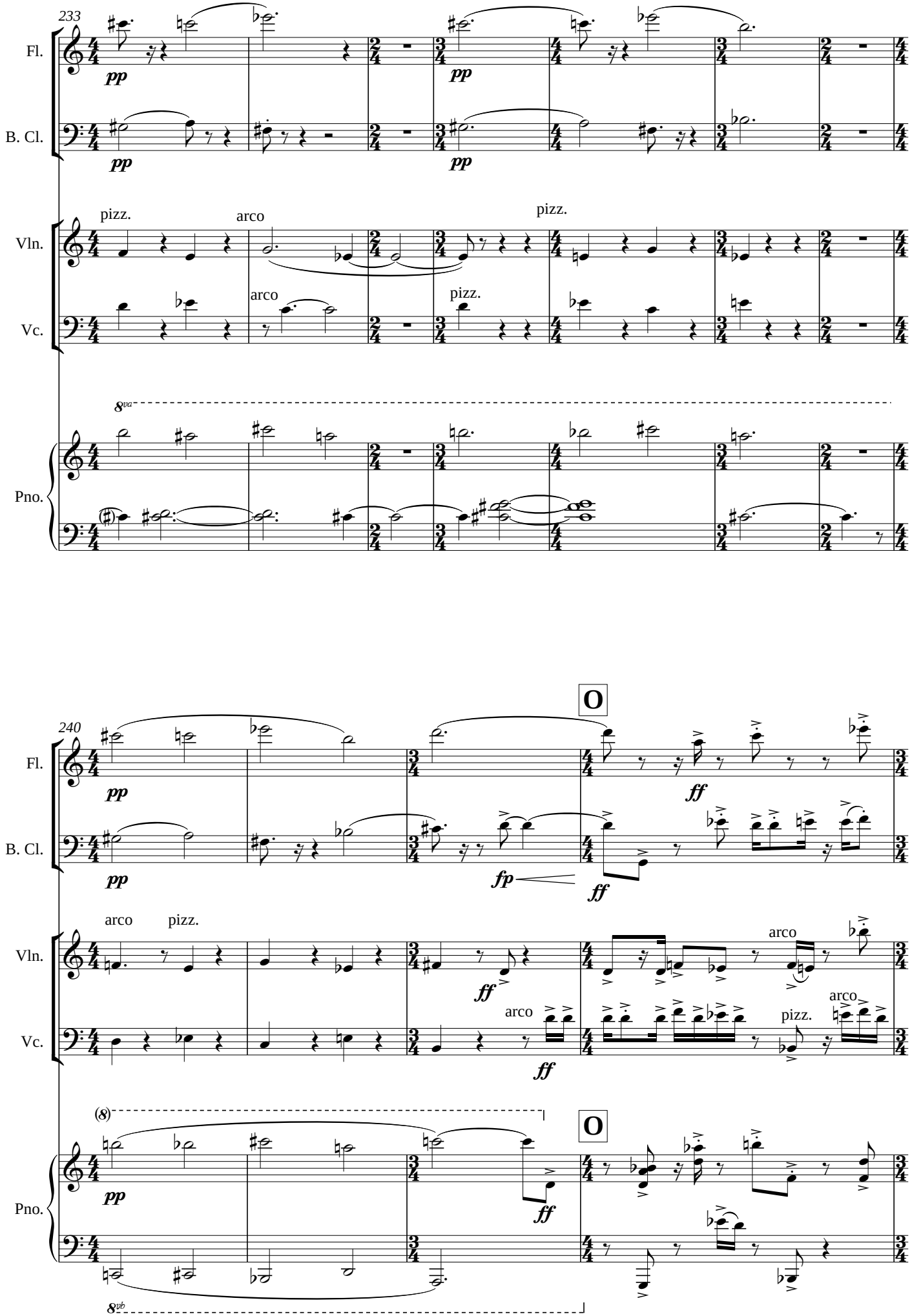
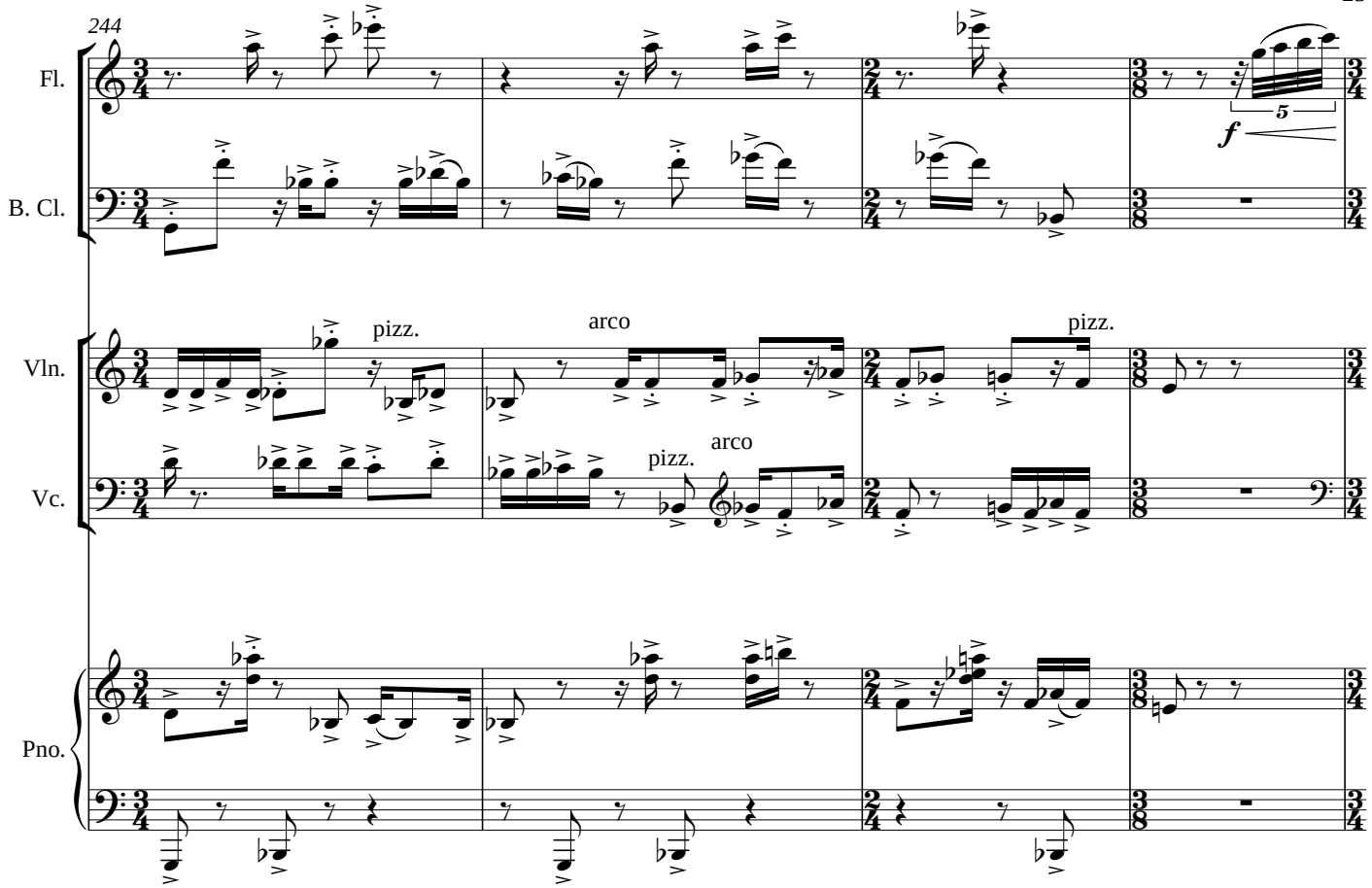
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp


233
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
pizz.
arco
8va
240
O
ff
fp
(8)
8vb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Fl.
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arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
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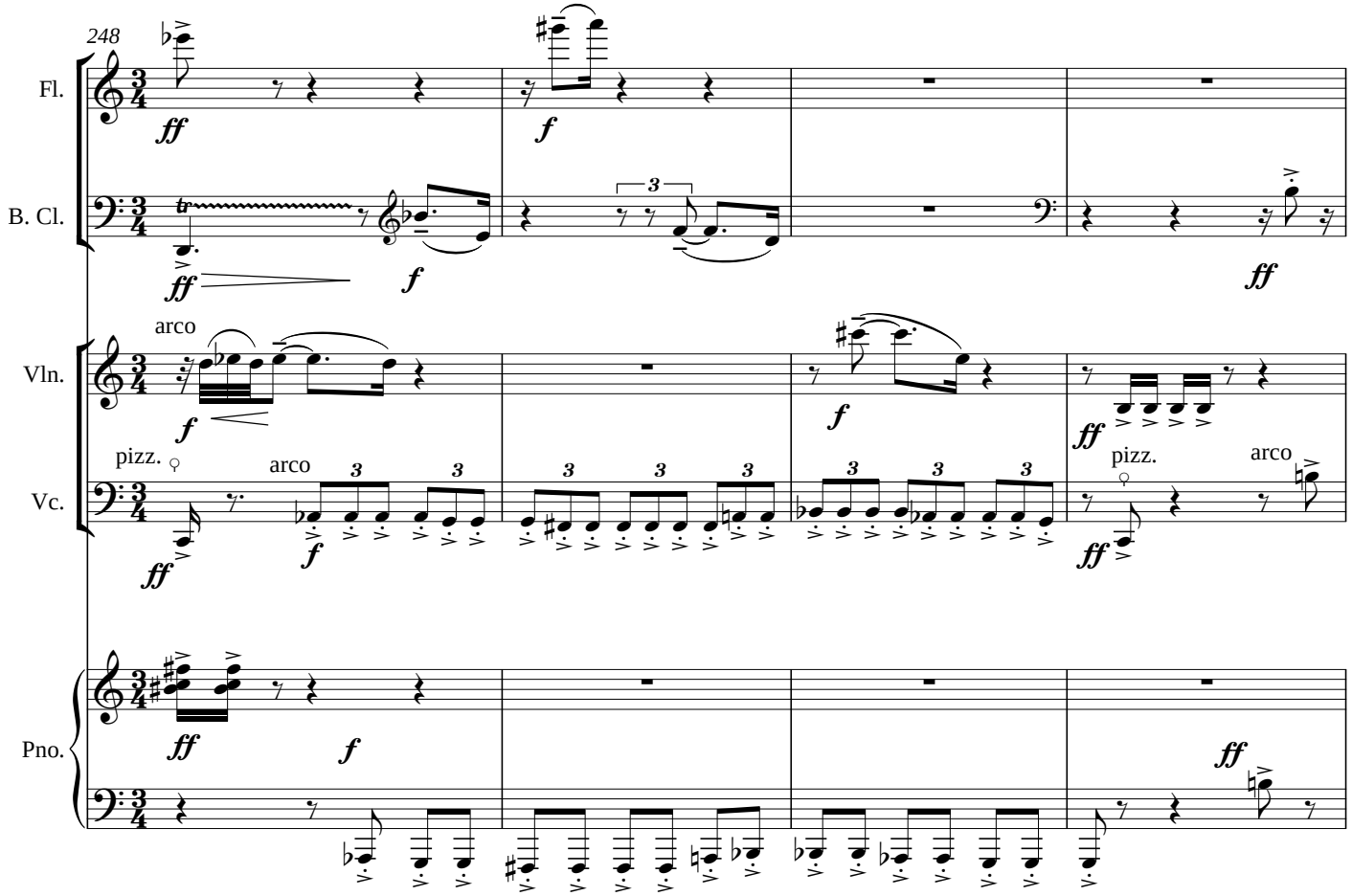
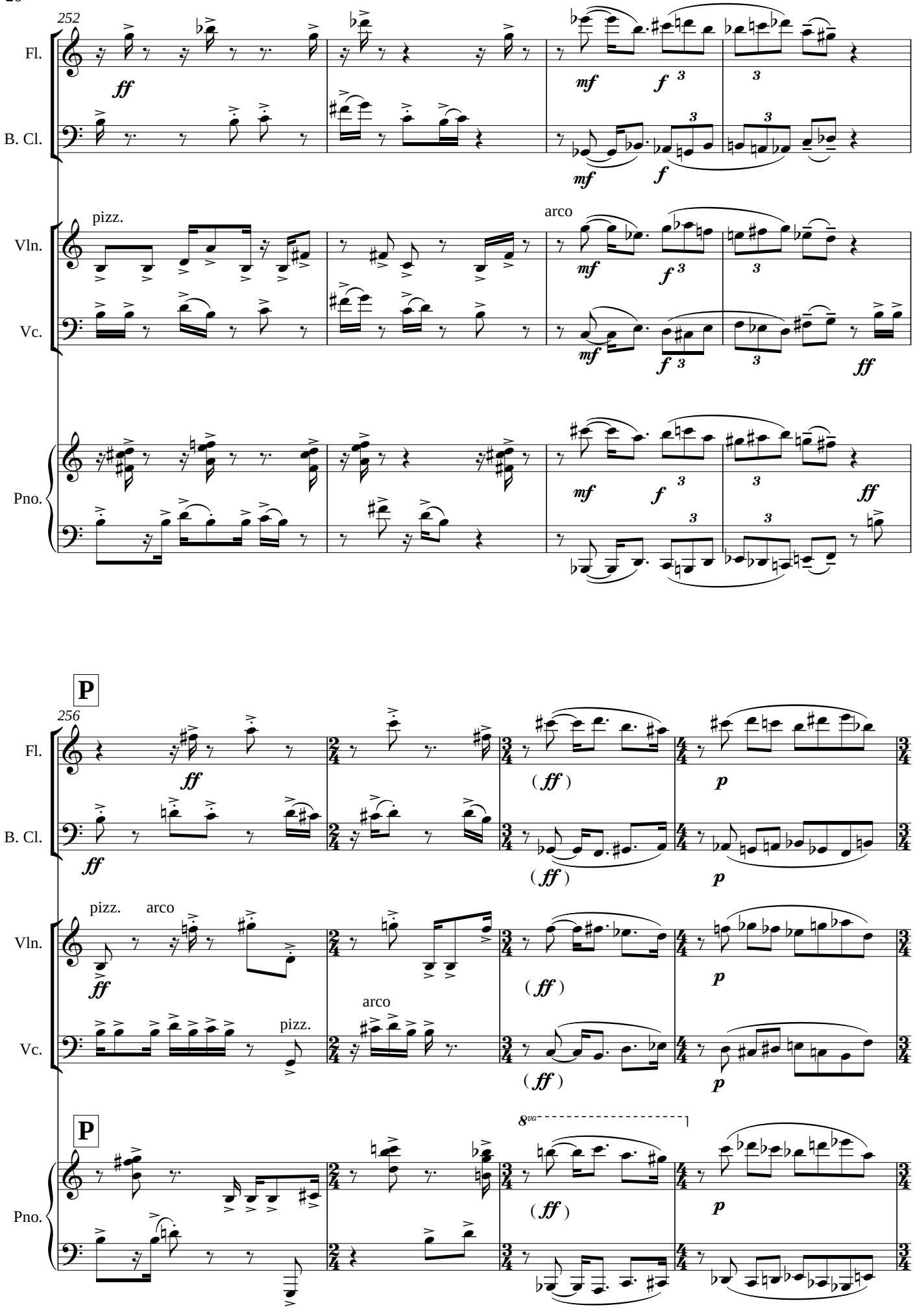
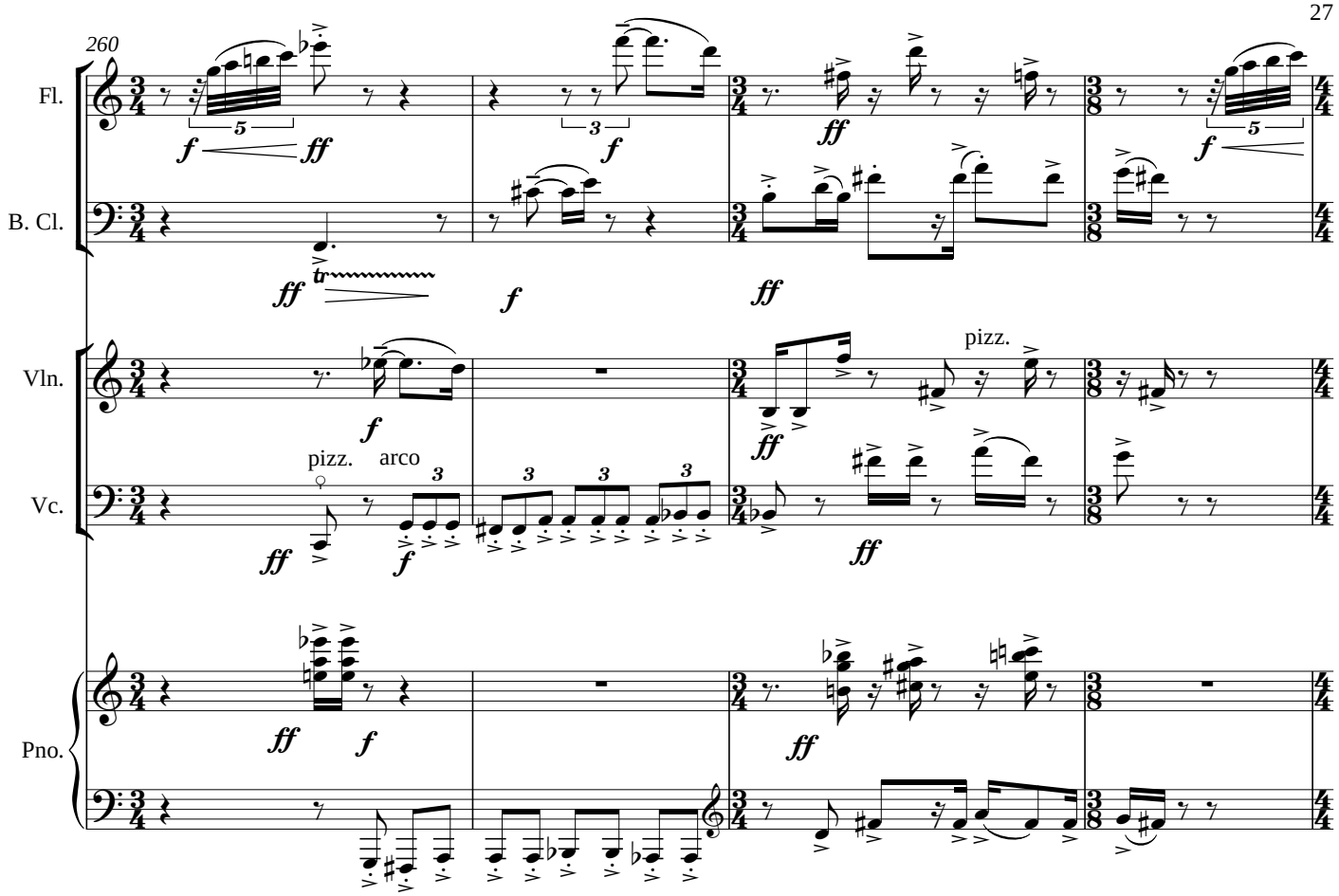
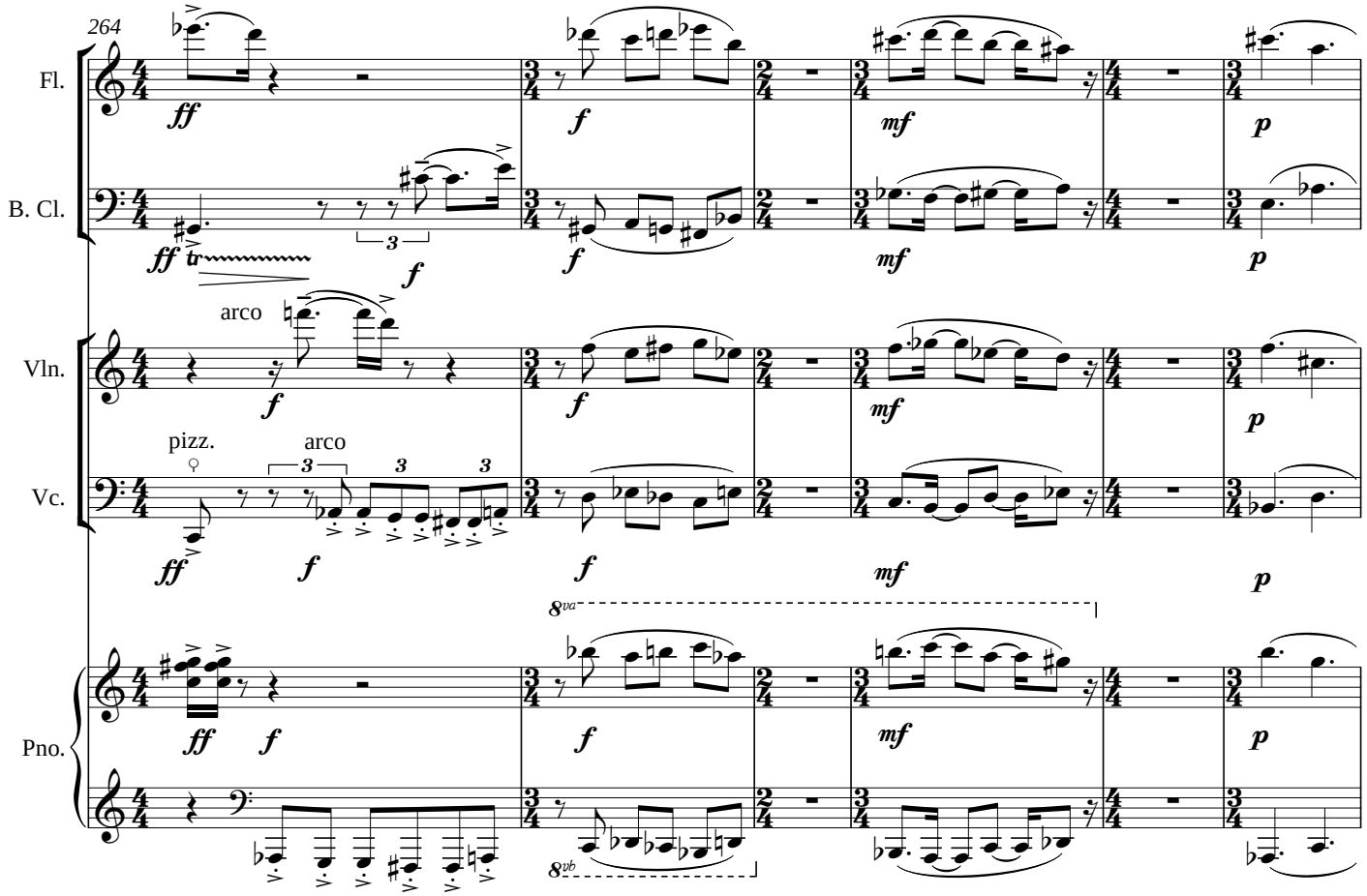
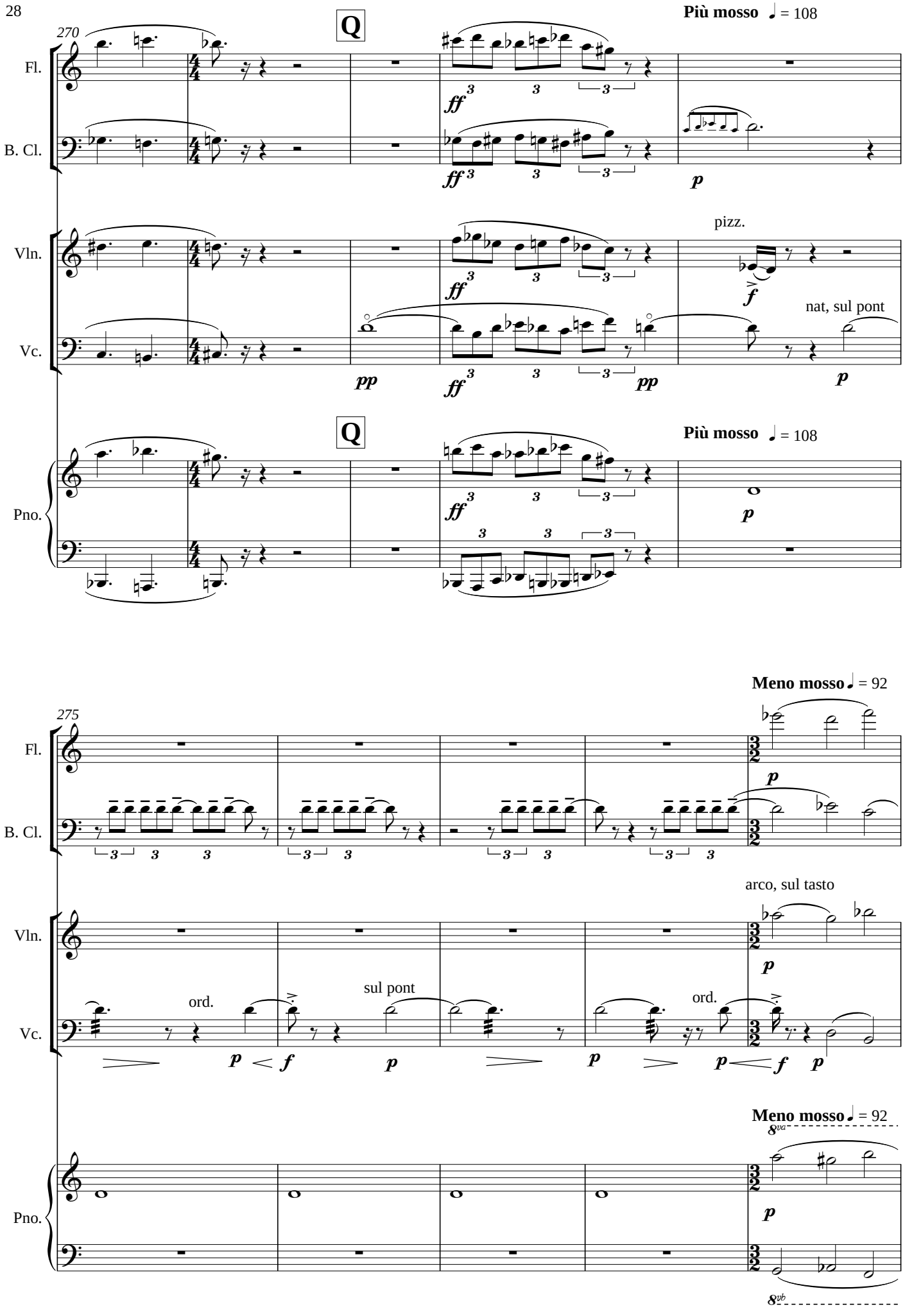
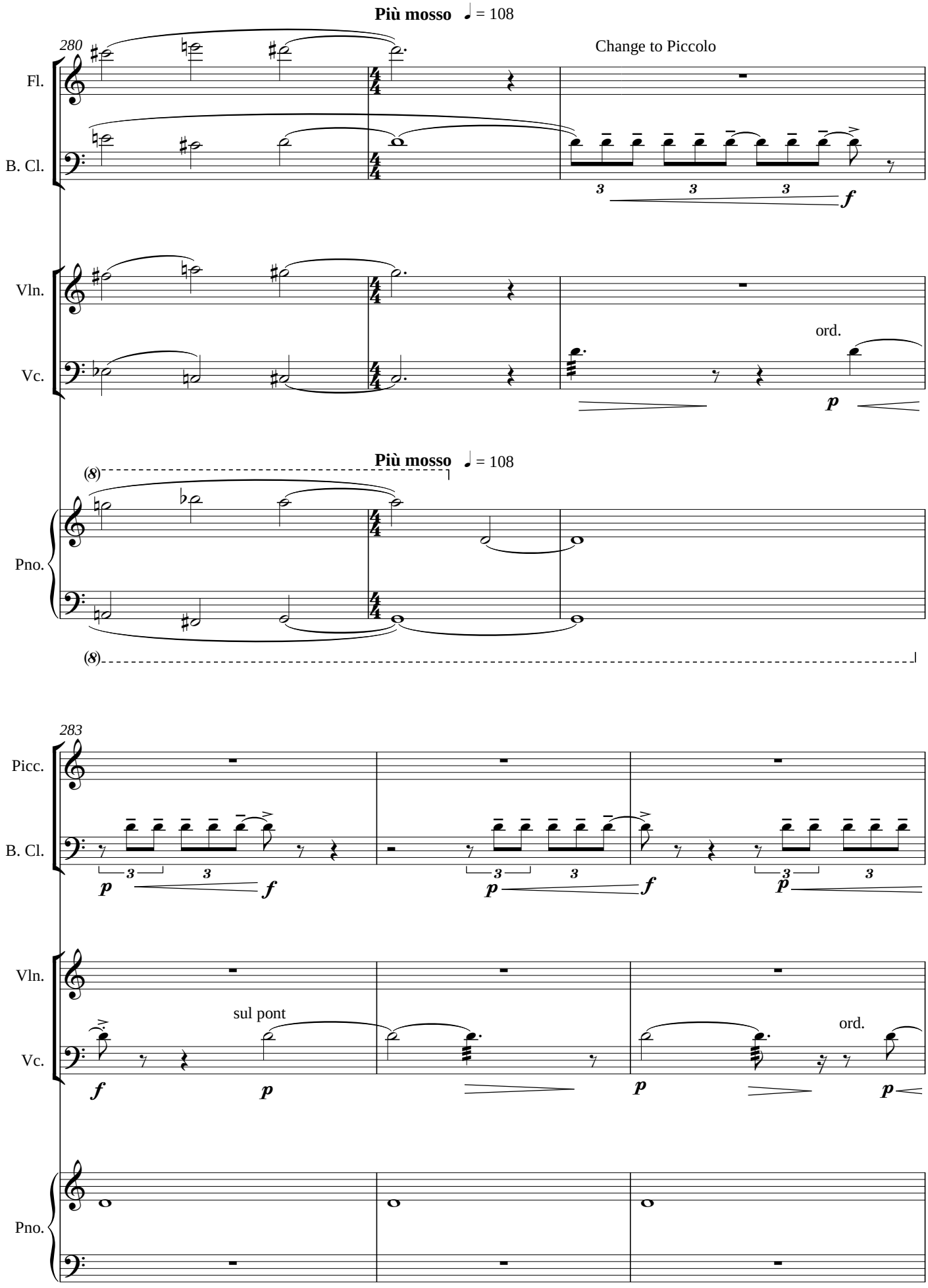

248
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
ff
f
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
3

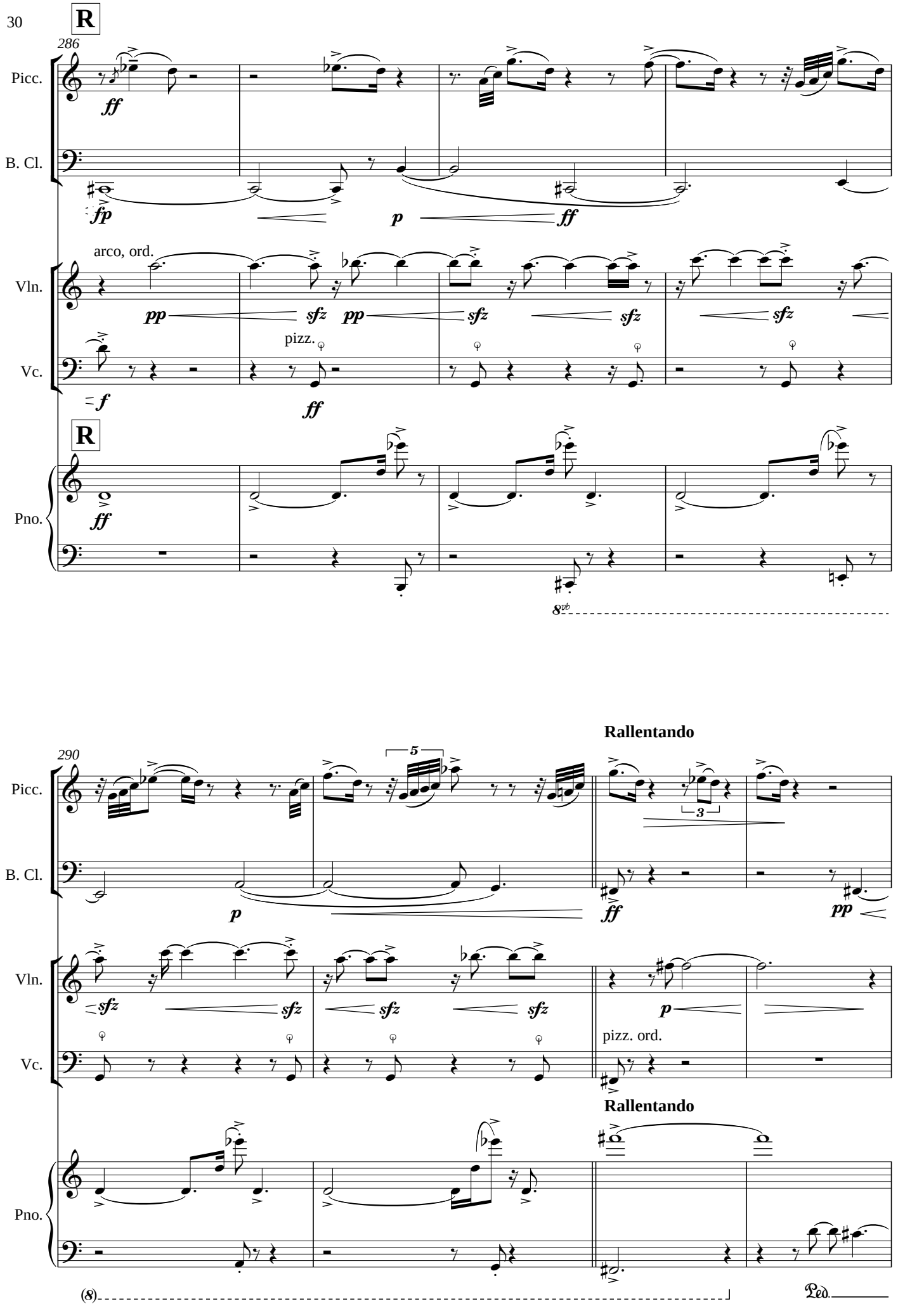

252
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
arco
ff
mf
f
P
256
(ff)
p
8va

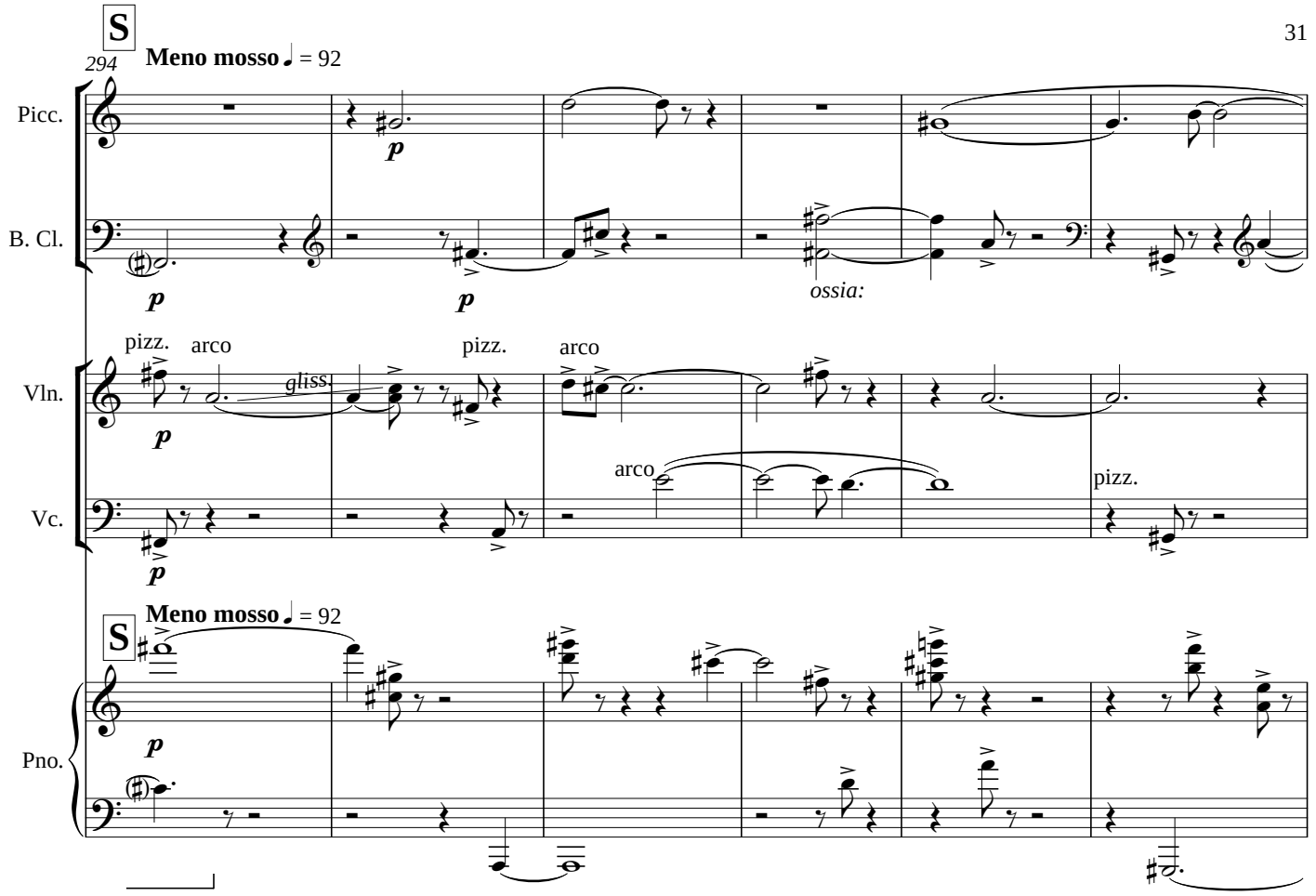

260
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
arco
pizz.

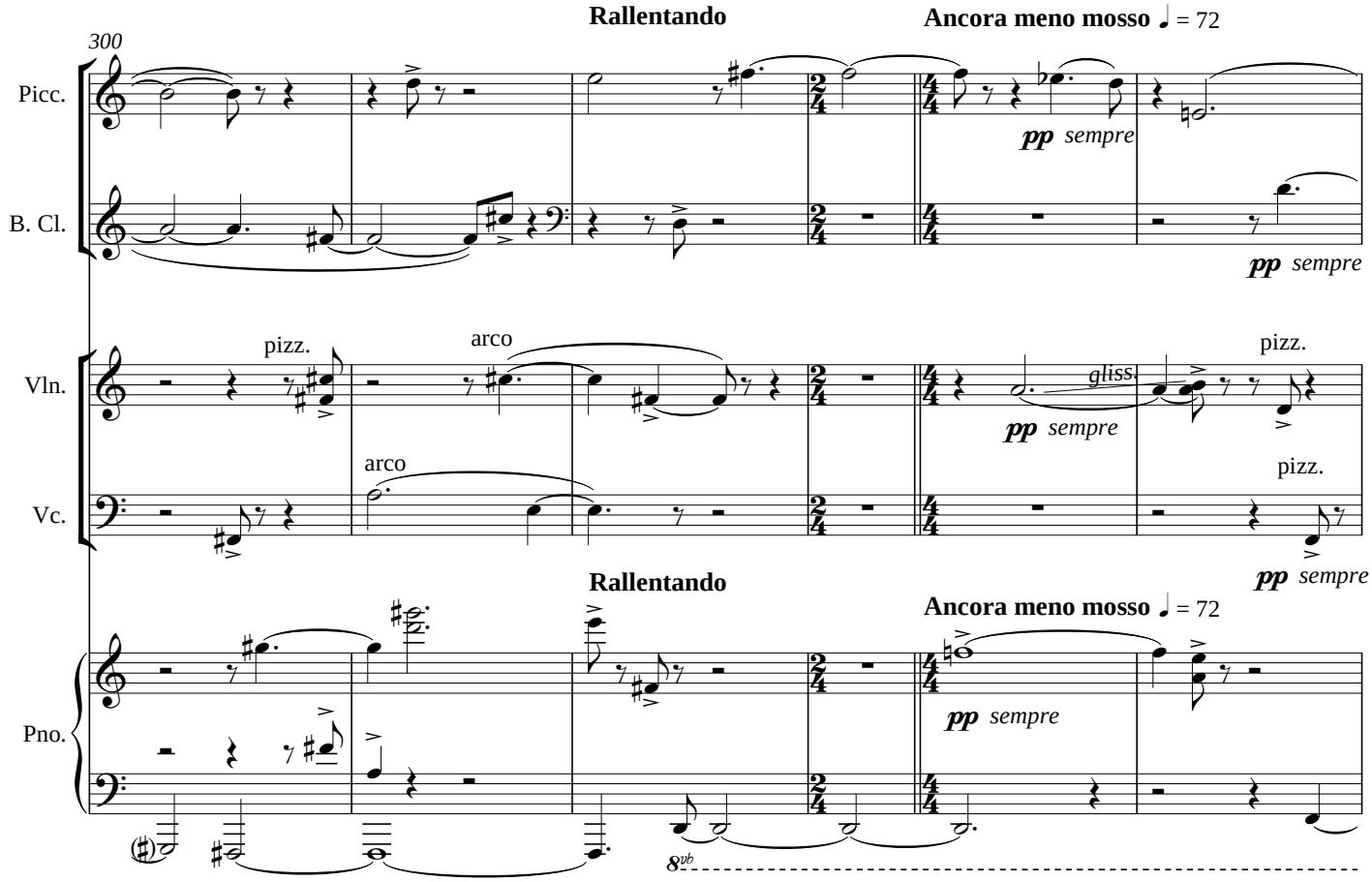

264
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
pizz.
arco
8va
8vb

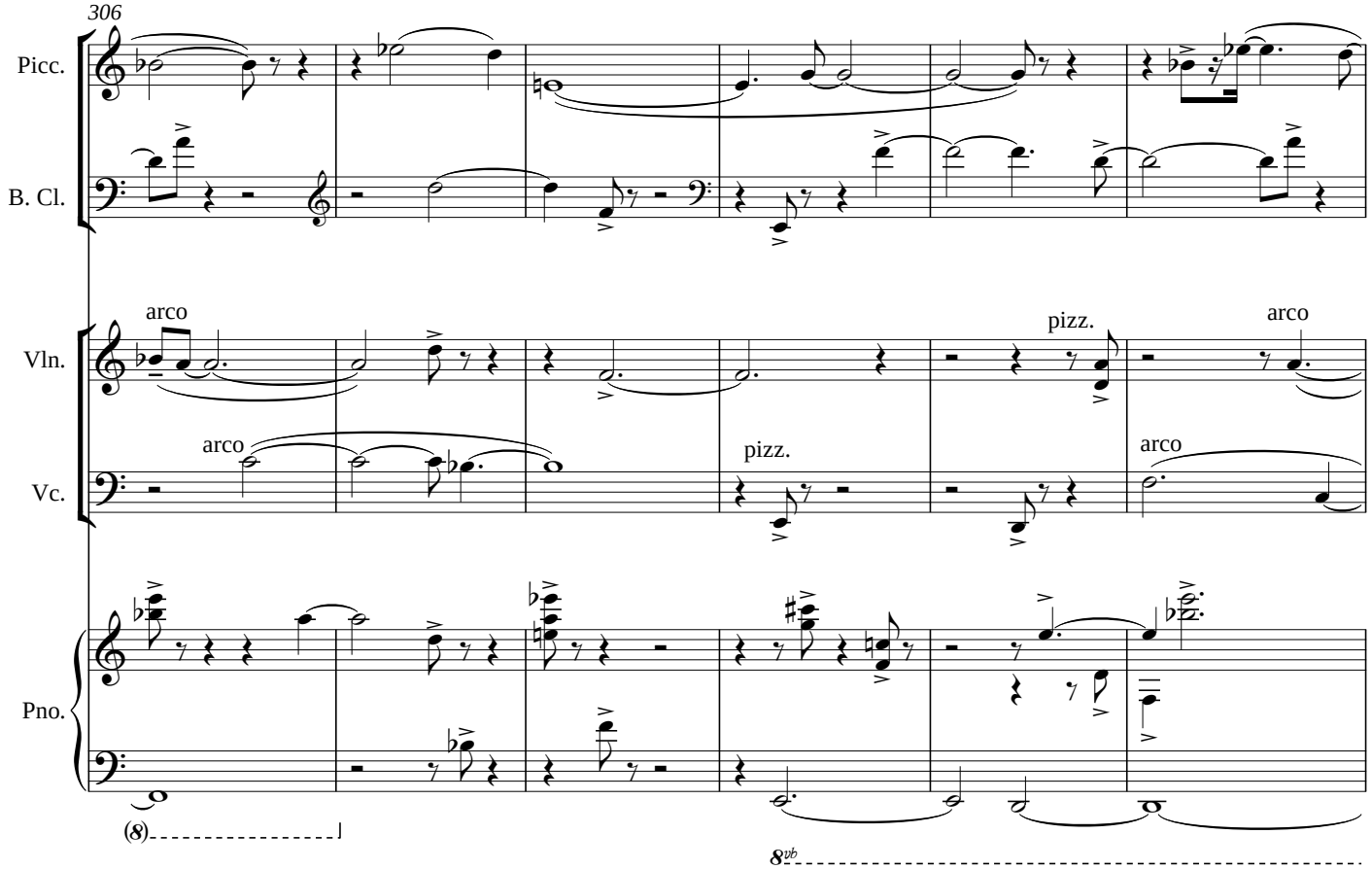

270
Q
Più mosso ♩ = 108
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pizz.
nat, sul pont
275
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
ord.
sul pont
arco, sul tasto
8va
8vb

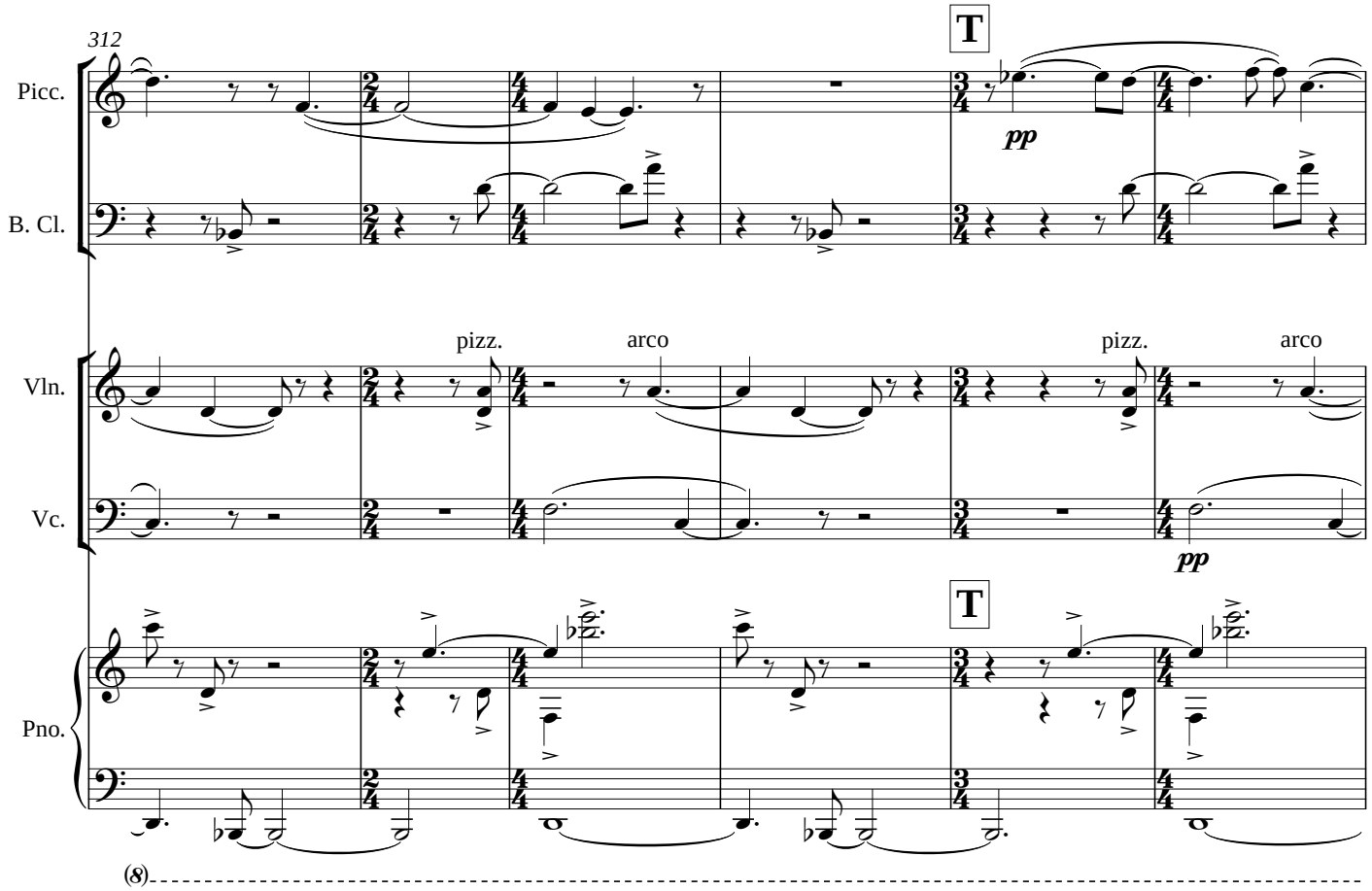

Più mosso ♩ = 108
280
Change to Piccolo
Fl.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
ord.
Più mosso ♩ = 108
Pno.
283
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
sul pont
Vc.
ord.
Pno.

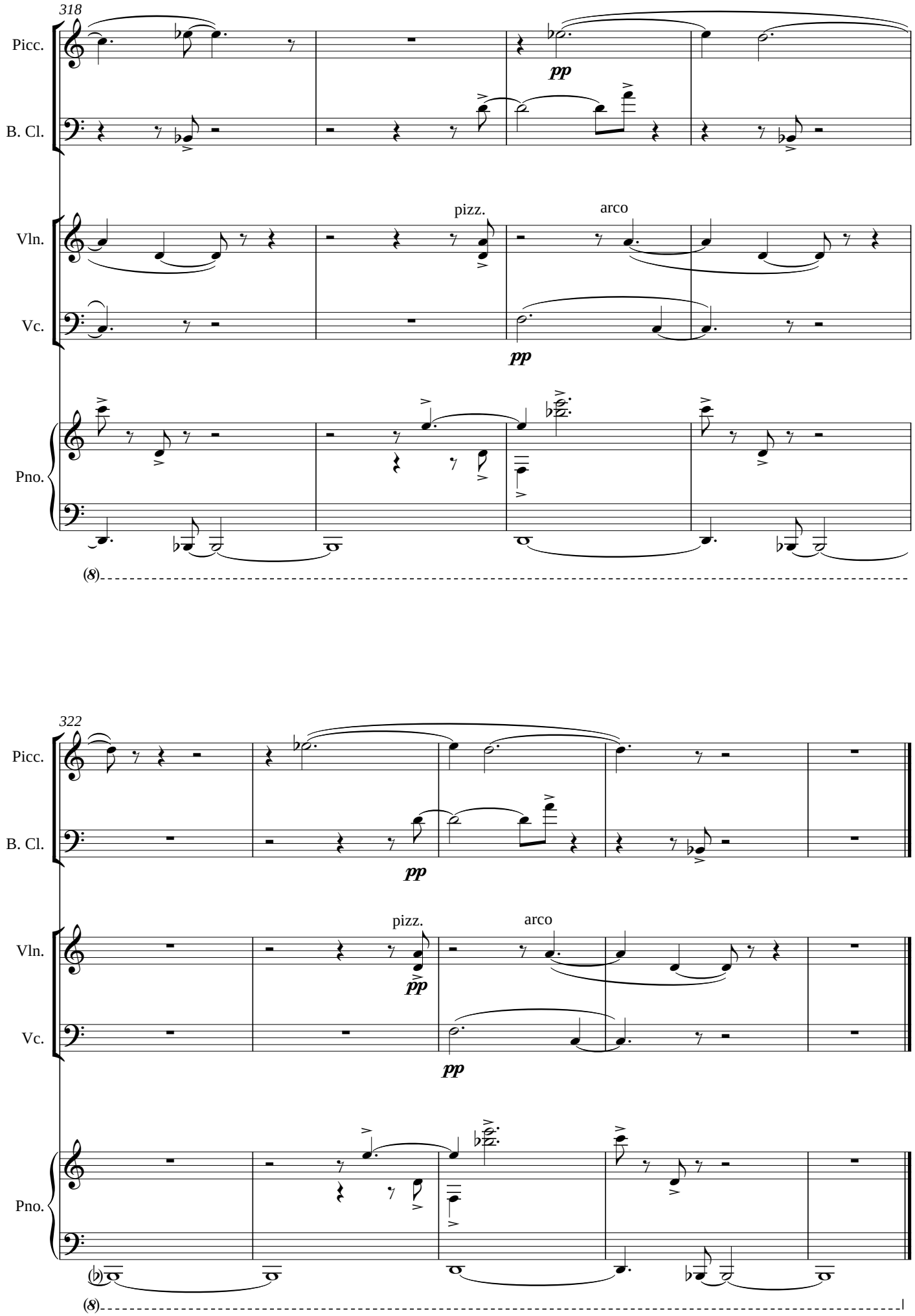

R
286
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco, ord.
pizz.
R
8vb
290
Rallentando
pizz. ord.
Rallentando
(8)
Ped.


S
294
Meno mosso ♩ = 92
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
p
ossia:
pizz.
arco
gliss.
S
Meno mosso ♩ = 92


300
Rallentando
Ancora meno mosso ♩ = 72
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp sempre
pizz.
arco
gliss.
8vb


306
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
arco
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
(8)
8vb


312
T
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
pp
T
(8)


318
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
pizz.
arco
pp
(8)
322
Picc.
B. Cl.
Vln.
Vc.
Pno.
pp
pizz.
arco
pp
pp
(8)