Other world, which no-one owns...

For string quartet

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Stef Conner

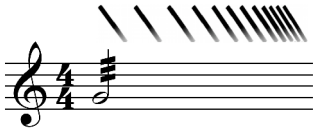
Other world which no-one owns... (2010, revised 2011)

For string quartet

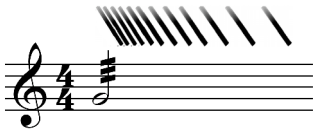
Work-shopped and performed by the Kreutzer Quartet in June 2007 at the University of York.

Duration c. 12 minutes

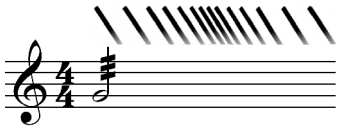
Notation Key



Bowed, non-measured tremolo, which accelerates from relatively slow repeated notes to a tremolo played as fast as possible.

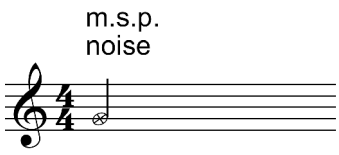


Bowed, non-measured tremolo, which begins as fast as possible then decelerates dramatically.

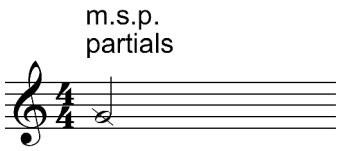


Bowed, non-measured tremolo, which begins slowly, accelerates and then decelerates.

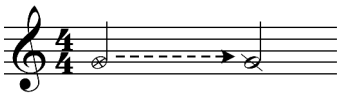
Bowed, non-measured tremolo, which begins fast, decelerates and then accelerates.



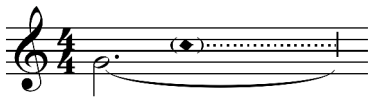
There are two degrees of extreme multo sul ponticello used in this piece: 'm.s.p. noise' and 'm.s.p. partials'. The direction 'm.s.p. noise' accompanied by a crossed note head indicates that the player should bow right on the bridge and that no pitch at all should be audible.



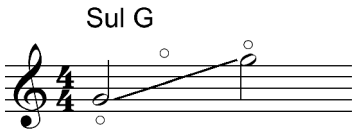
The direction 'm.s.p. partials' accompanied by a note head with diagonal strikethrough indicates that the player should bow so close to the bridge that the audible comprise mainly high harmonics of the fingered note.



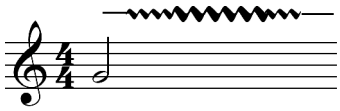
Gradual transition from one state or technique to another, e.g. *sul ponticello* to *normal.*



Player sustains stopped note while fingering an artificial harmonic above it ab lib., for the duration of dotted line.



Glissando on natural harmonics.



Controlled transition from normal vibrato to very exaggerated vibrato and back.

Abbreviations:

p.s.p	*poco sul ponticello*
s.p.	*sul ponticello*
m.s.p.	*molto sul ponticello*
p.s.t.	*poco sul tasto*
s.t.	*sul tasto*
m.s.t.	*molto sul tasto*
norm.	*normale*

Note: In whole ensemble Senza Misura sections, it is suggested that Vln. I should lead by indicating the notated conductor cues. However, when Vc. and Vla. remain in measured notation while Vln. I and II play without measure, it is more practical for the Vc. or Vla. to lead transitions into and out of pauses.

山中問答

李白

問余何意棲碧山
笑而不答心自閑
桃花流水杳然去
別有天地非人間

Mountain Question and Answer

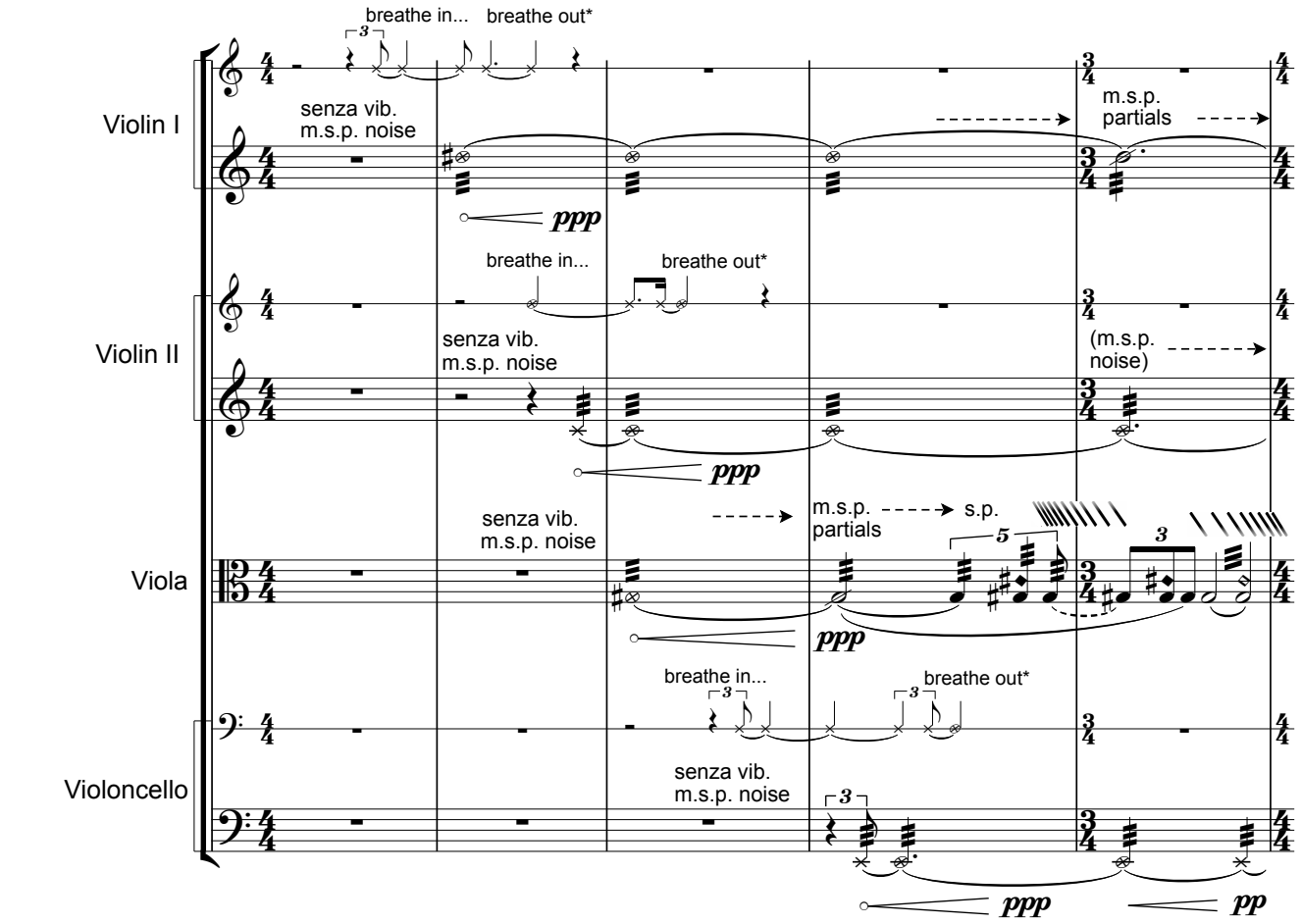
Li Bai

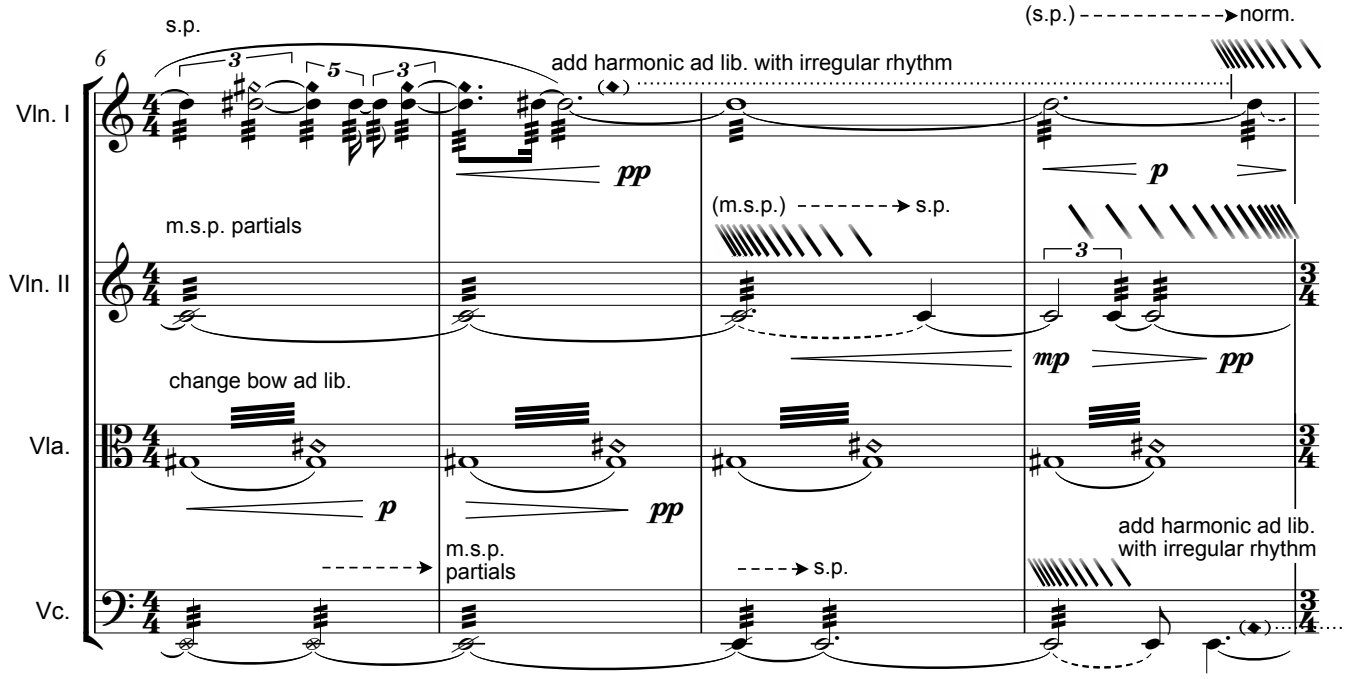
You ask why I make my home in the mountain forest,
and I smile, and am silent,
and even my soul remains quiet:
it lives in the other world
which no one owns.
The peach trees blossom,
The water flows. (Trans. Sam Hamill)

Other world, which no one owns...

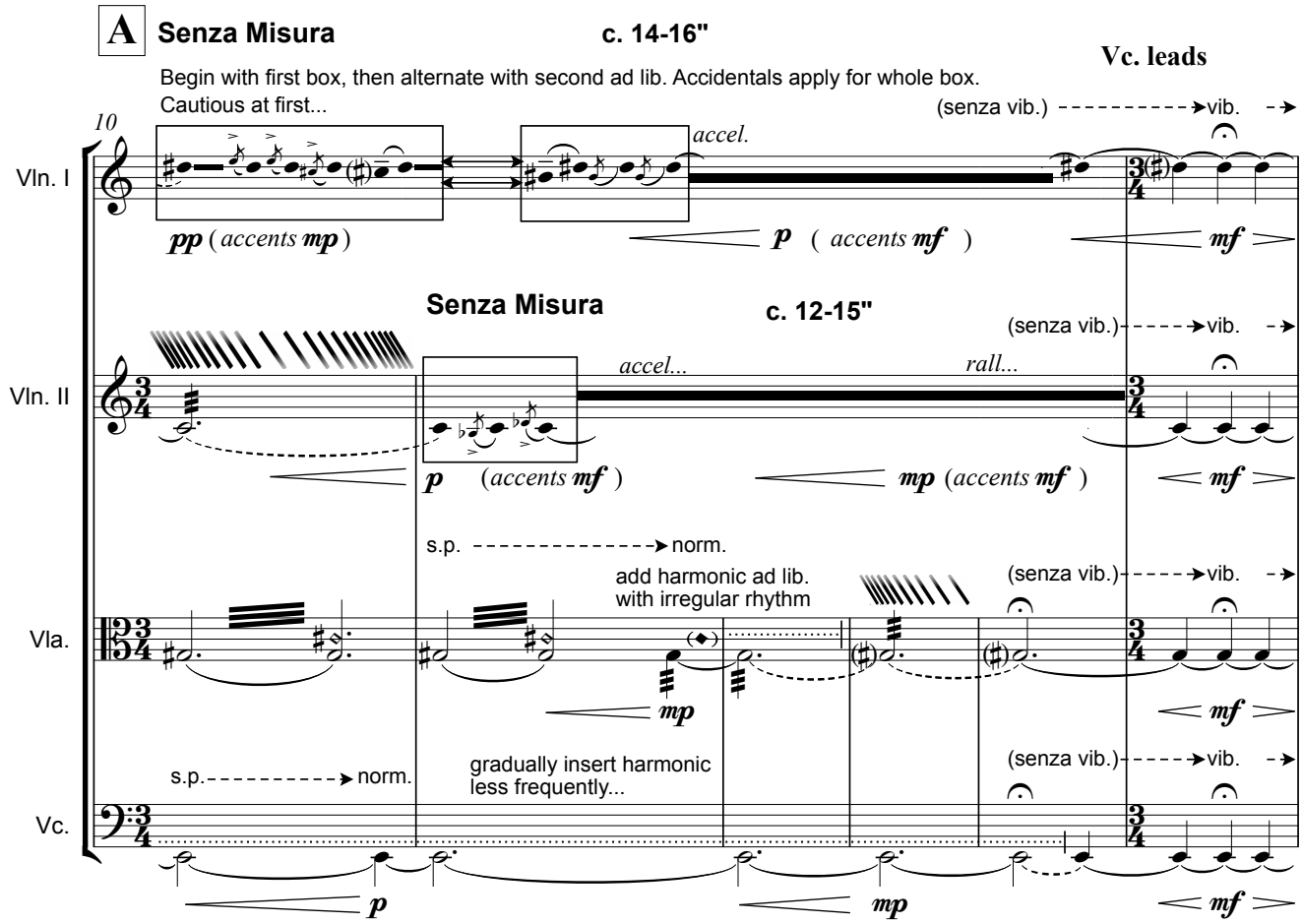
Stef Conner

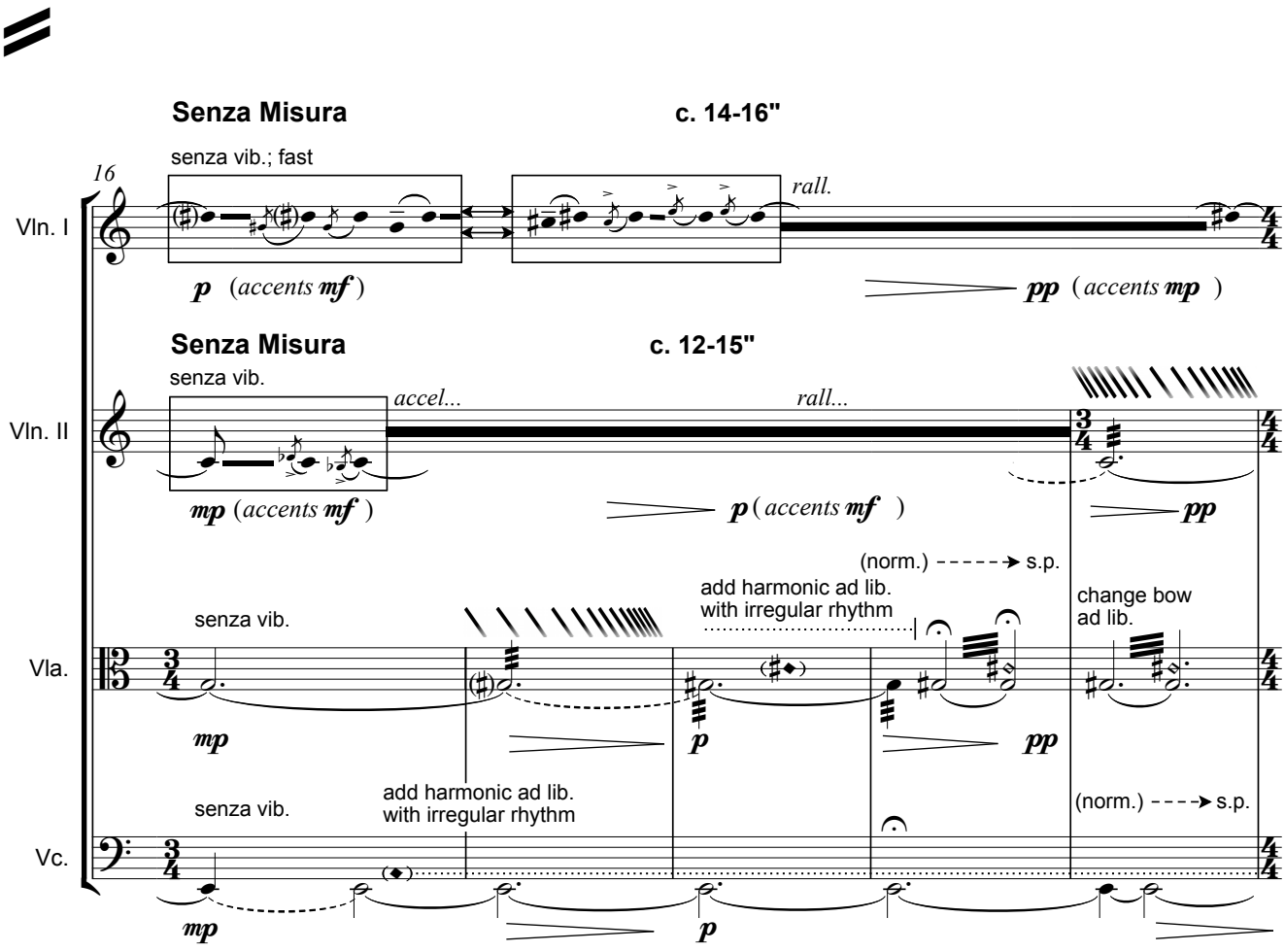
♩ = 72 **Intensely focused yet contemplative**

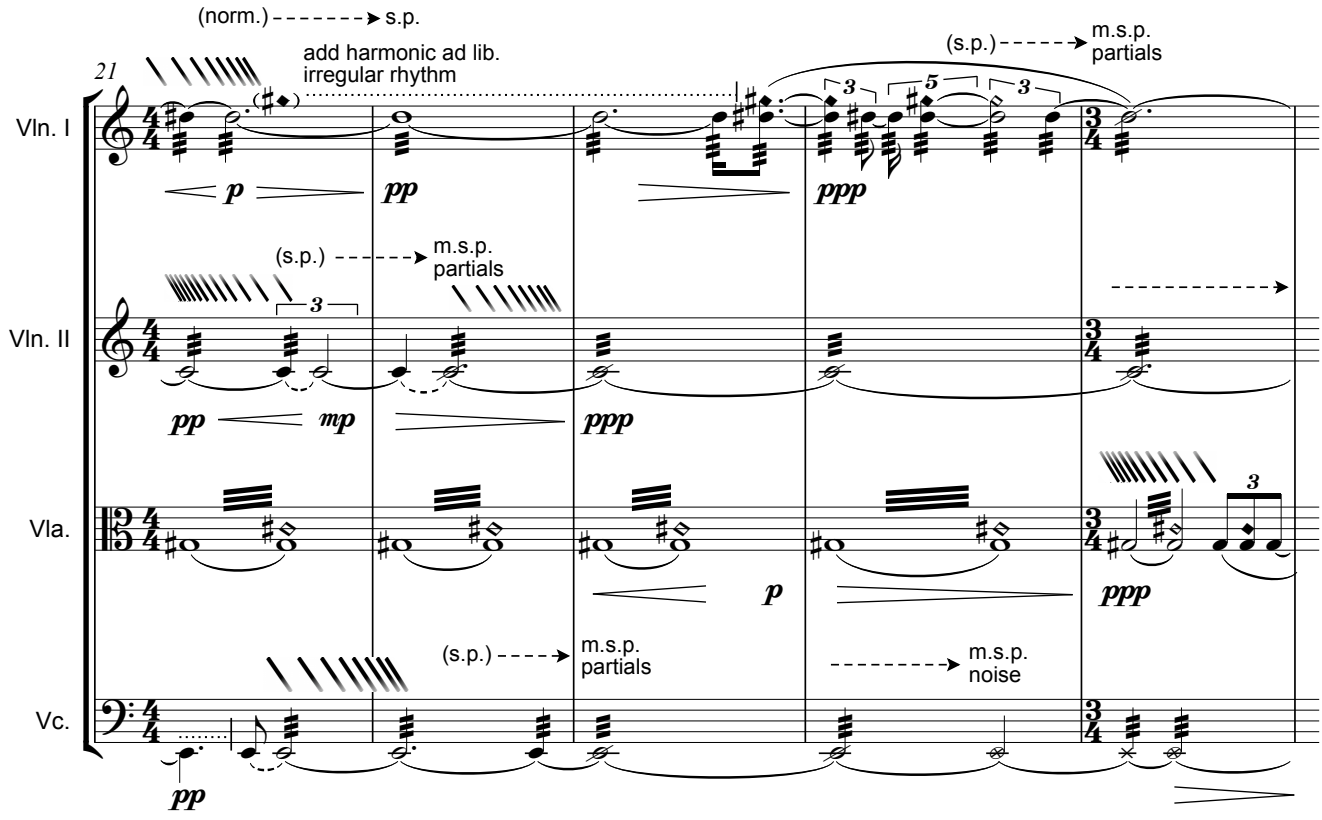


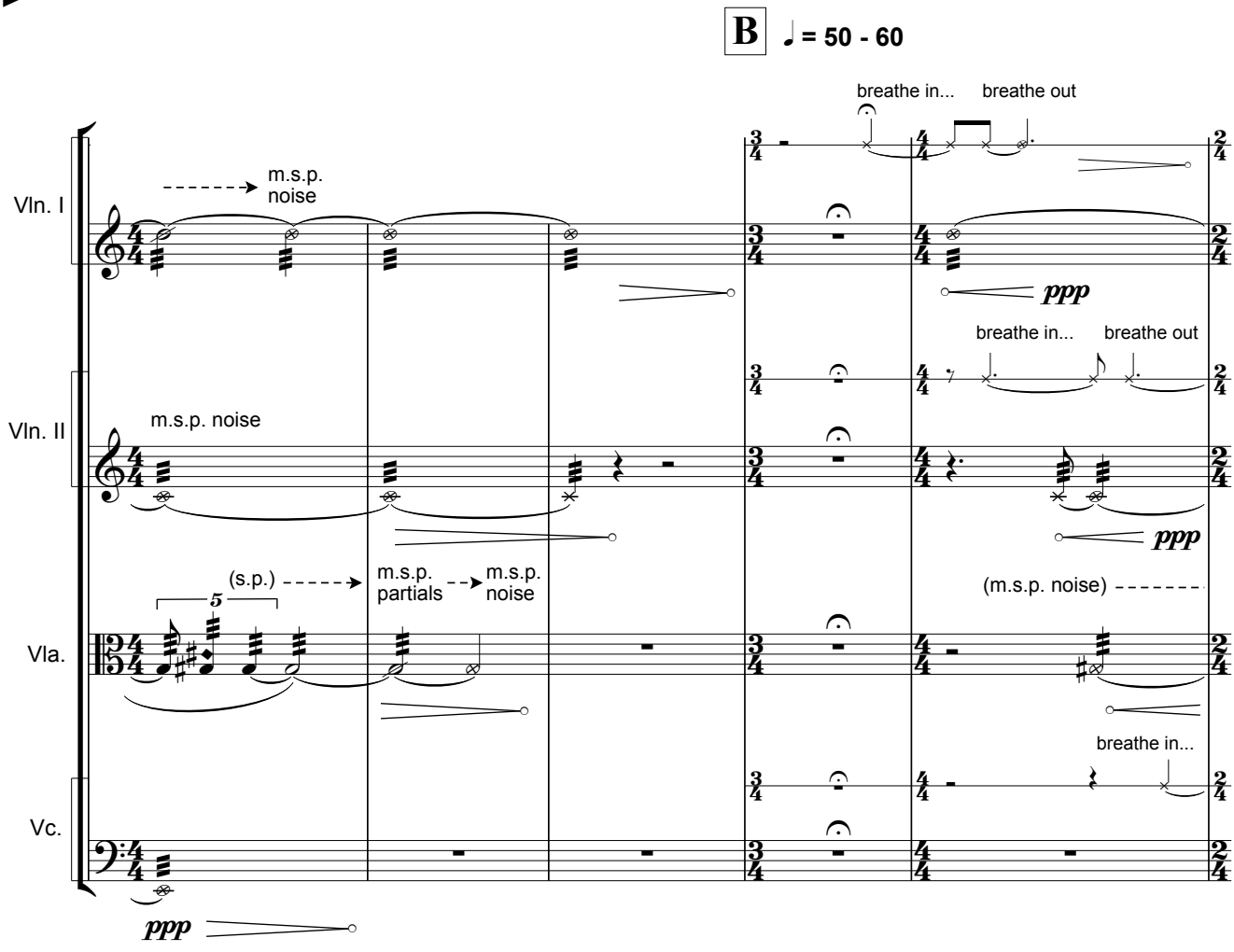


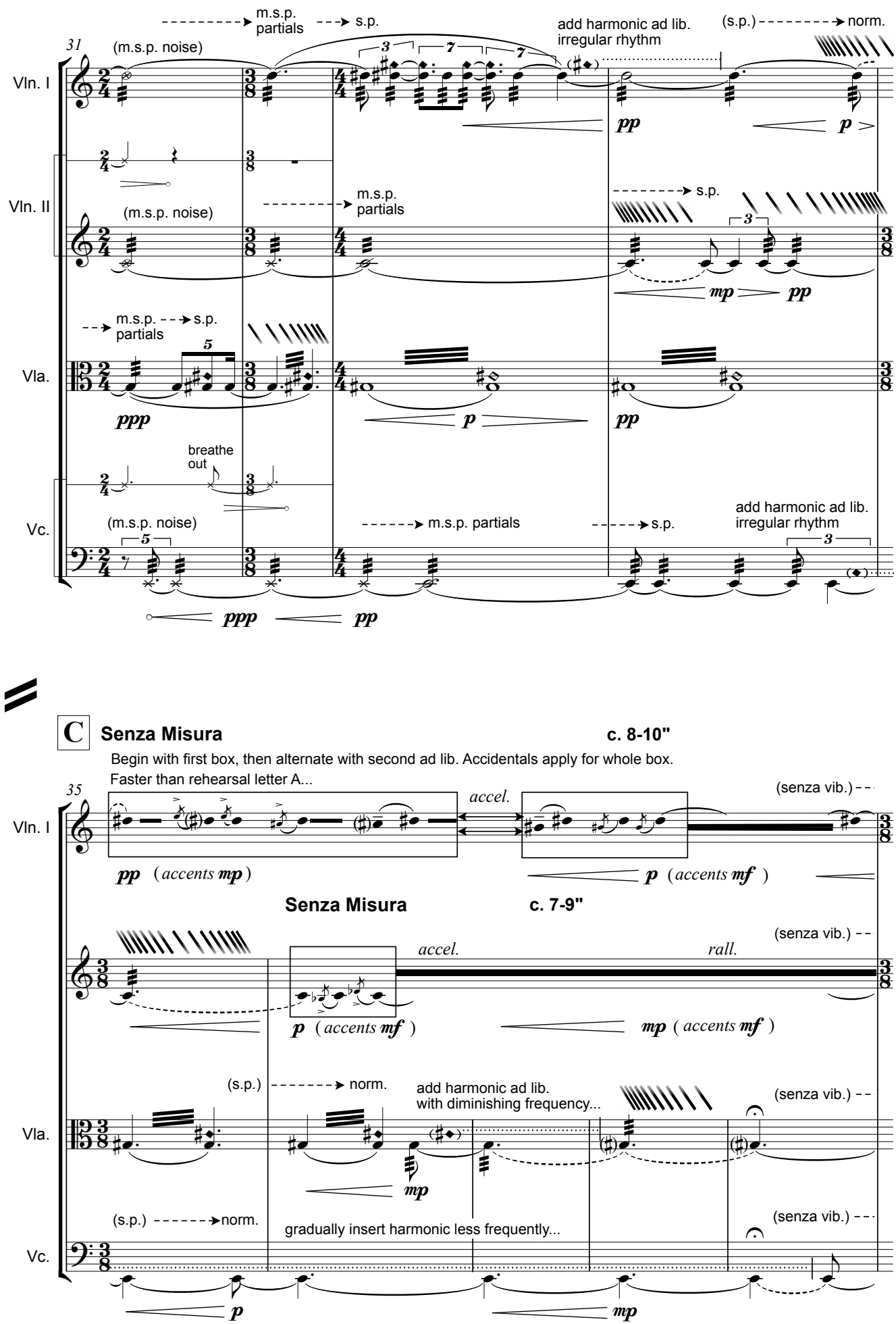
* Oral breath: calm and un-exagerrated, but slow and controlled - like a meditation exercise.
Rhythms can be a little approximate. The intention is to create an oasis-like atmosphere,
in which adrenaline seems to subside and performers' personalities are subsumed into the timbre of their instruments.

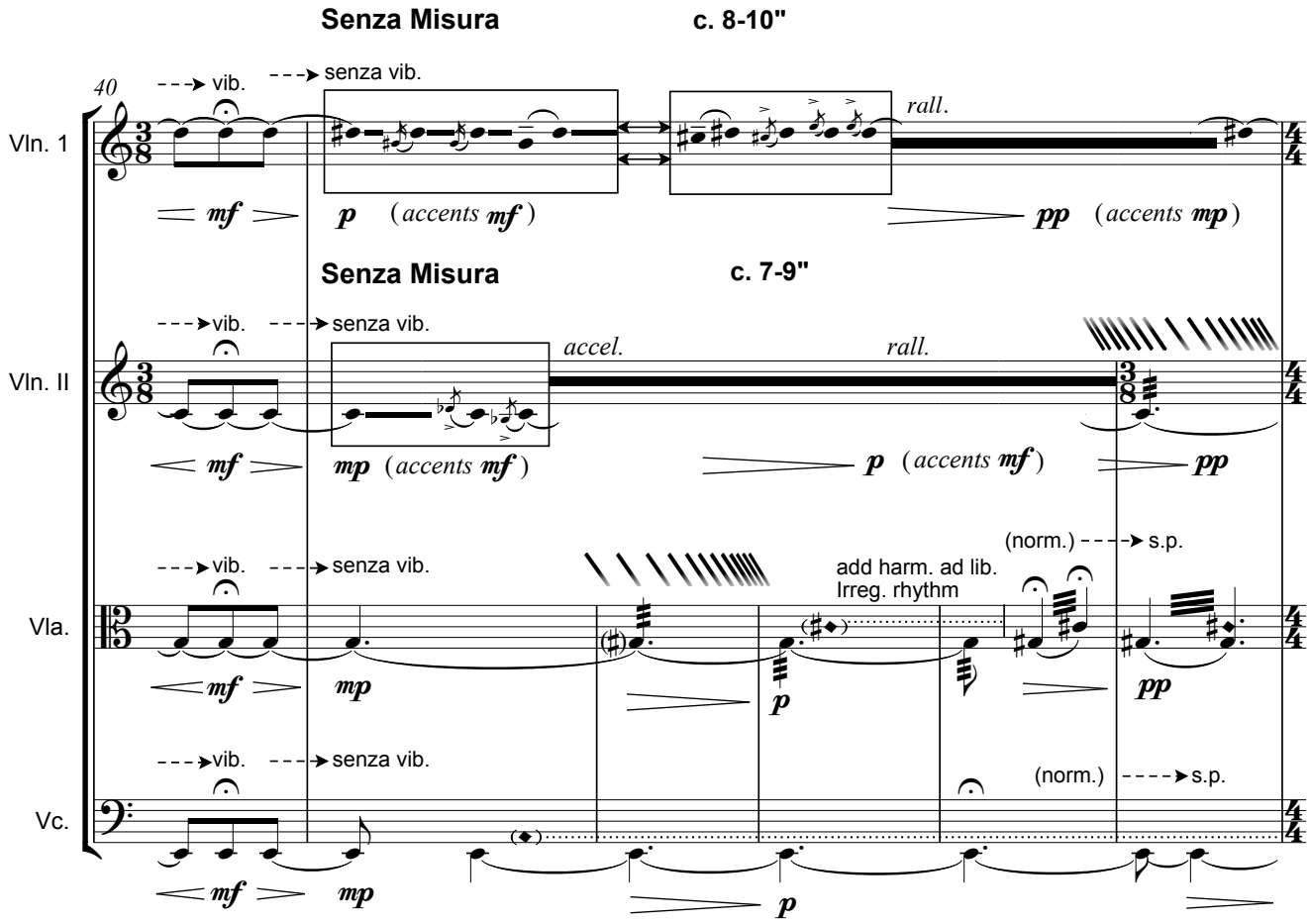

A
Senza Misura
c. 14-16"
Vc. leads
Begin with first box, then alternate with second ad lib. Accidentals apply for whole box.
Cautious at first...
10
Vln. I
(senza vib.)
vib.
accel.
pp (accents mp)
p (accents mf)
mf
Senza Misura
c. 12-15"
Vln. II
accel...
rall...
p (accents mf)
mp (accents mf)
s.p.
norm.
add harmonic ad lib.
with irregular rhythm
Vla.
mp
gradually insert harmonic
less frequently...
Vc.

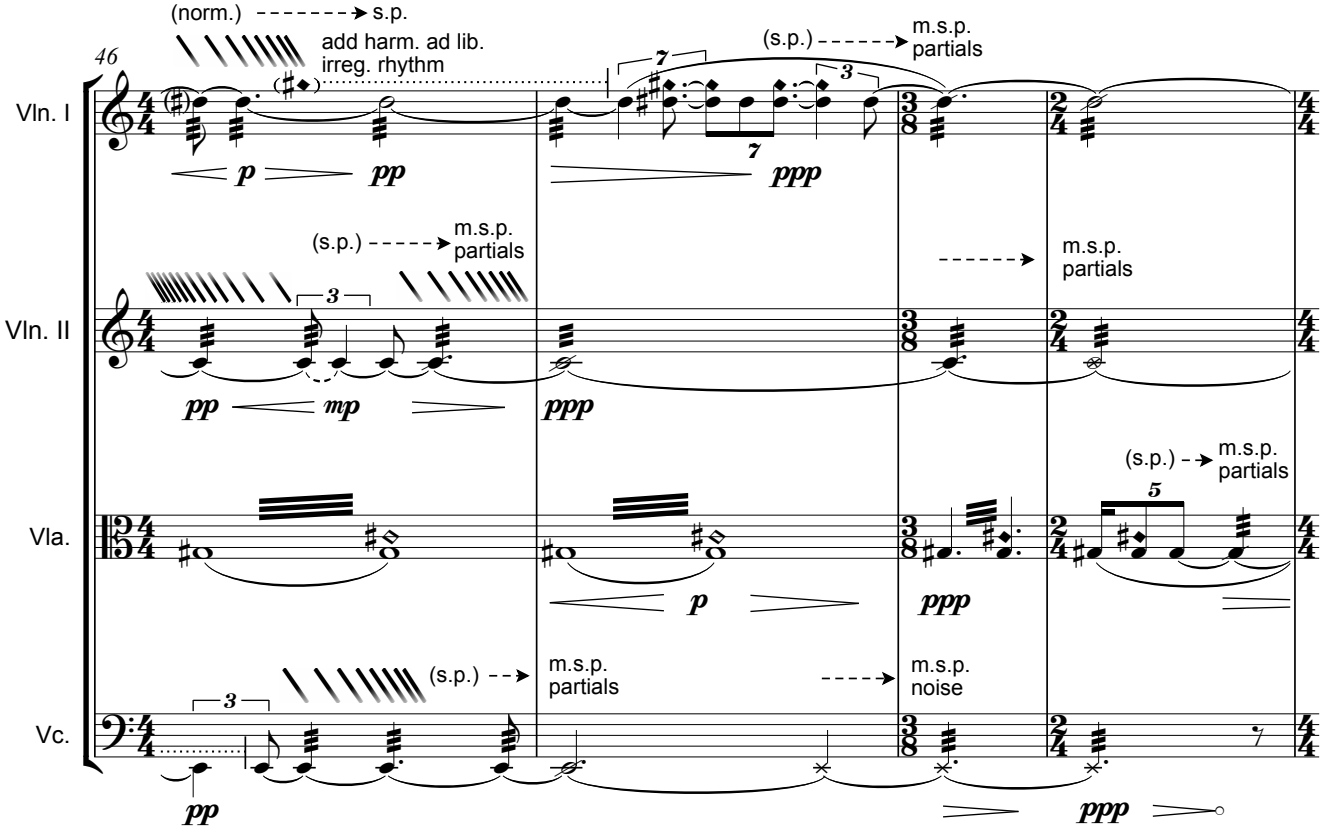

Senza Misura
c. 14-16"
senza vib.; fast
16
Vln. I
rall.
p (accents mf)
pp (accents mp)
Senza Misura
c. 12-15"
senza vib.
Vln. II
accel...
rall...
mp (accents mf)
p (accents mf)
pp
(norm.)
s.p.
add harmonic ad lib.
with irregular rhythm
change bow
ad lib.
Vla.
mp
p
pp
add harmonic ad lib.
with irregular rhythm
(norm.)
s.p.
Vc.

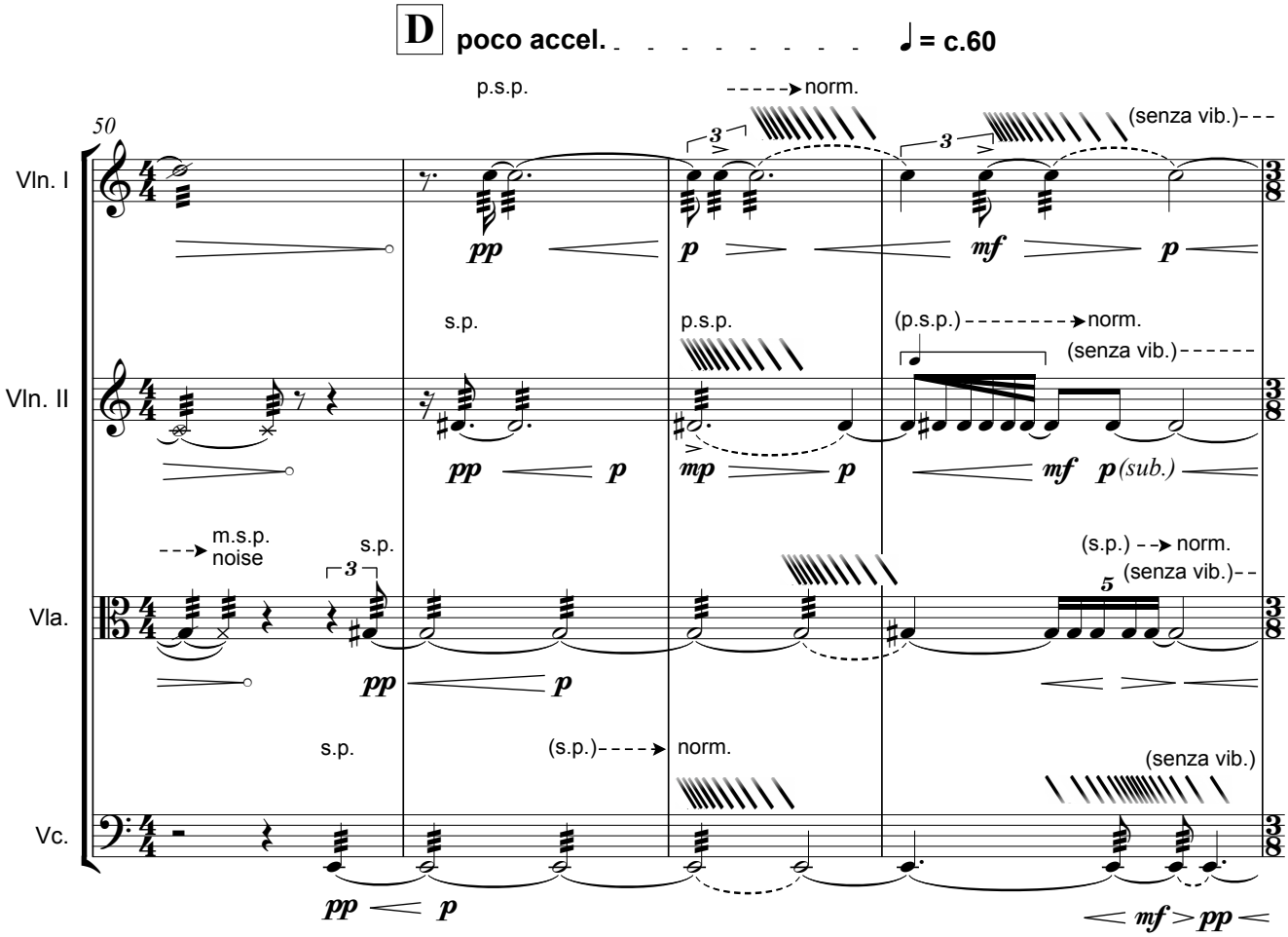

21
(norm.) s.p.
add harmonic ad lib.
irregular rhythm
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p
pp
ppp
mp
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
m.s.p. noise

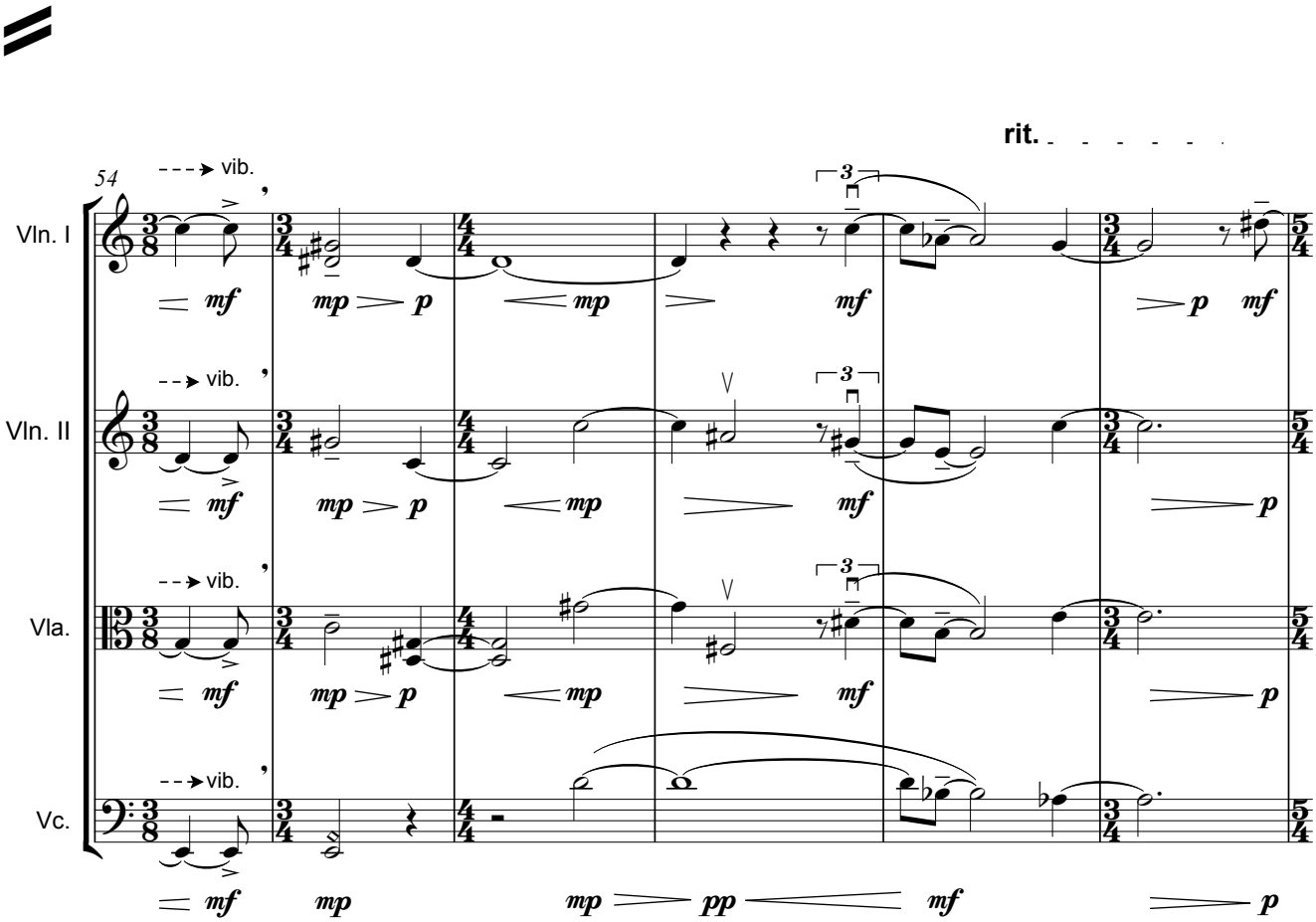

B
♩ = 50 - 60
breathe in... breathe out
m.s.p. noise
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
ppp
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials m.s.p. noise
(m.s.p. noise)

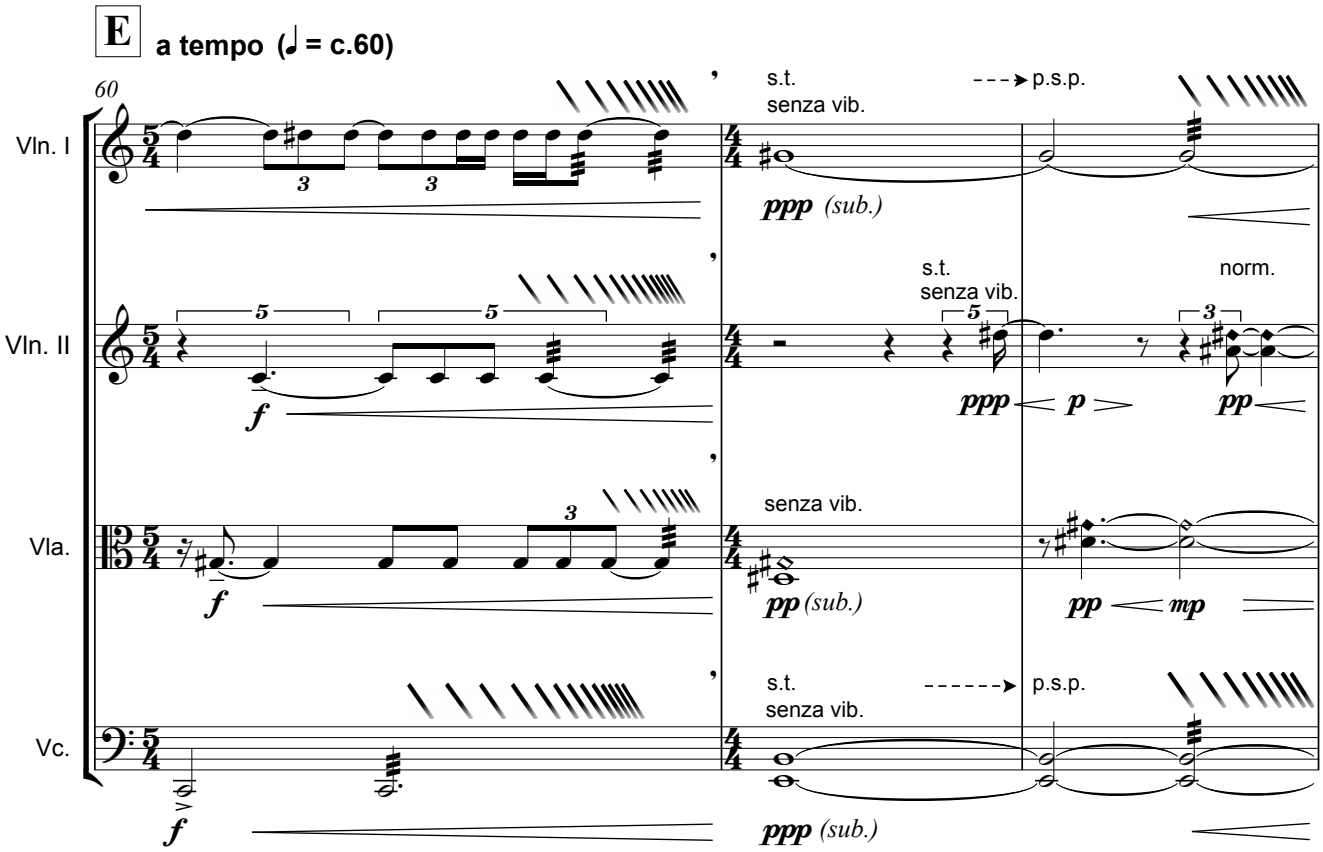

31
Vln. I
(m.s.p. noise)
m.s.p. partials
s.p.
add harmonic ad lib. irregular rhythm
(s.p.)
norm.
pp
p
Vln. II
(m.s.p. noise)
m.s.p. partials
s.p.
mp
pp
Vla.
m.s.p. partials
s.p.
ppp
p
pp
Vc.
breathe out
(m.s.p. noise)
m.s.p. partials
s.p.
add harmonic ad lib. irregular rhythm
ppp
pp
C
Senza Misura
c. 8-10"
Begin with first box, then alternate with second ad lib. Accidentals apply for whole box.
Faster than rehearsal letter A...
35
Vln. I
accel.
(senza vib.)
pp (accents mp)
p (accents mf)
Senza Misura
c. 7-9"
accel.
rall.
(senza vib.)
p (accents mf)
mp (accents mf)
Vla.
(s.p.)
norm.
add harmonic ad lib. with diminishing frequency...
(senza vib.)
mp
Vc.
(s.p.)
norm.
gradually insert harmonic less frequently...
(senza vib.)
p
mp

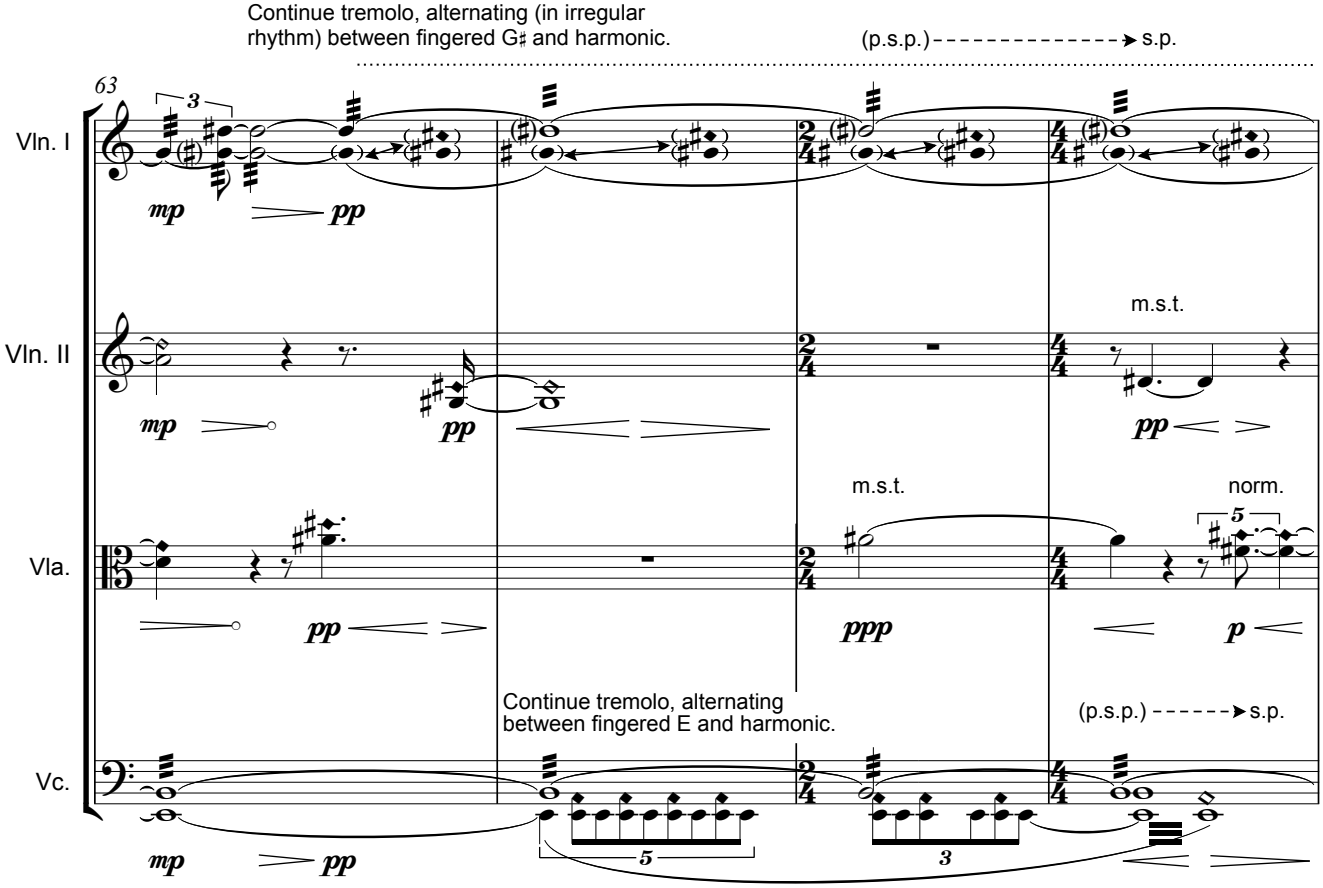

Senza Misura
c. 8-10"
40
vib.
senza vib.
Vln. 1
mf
p (accents mf)
rall.
pp (accents mp)
Senza Misura
c. 7-9"
vib.
senza vib.
Vln. II
accel.
rall.
mf
mp (accents mf)
p (accents mf)
pp
vib.
senza vib.
Vla.
add harm. ad lib.
Irreg. rhythm
(norm.)
s.p.
mf
mp
p
pp
vib.
senza vib.
Vc.
(norm.)
s.p.
mf
mp
p

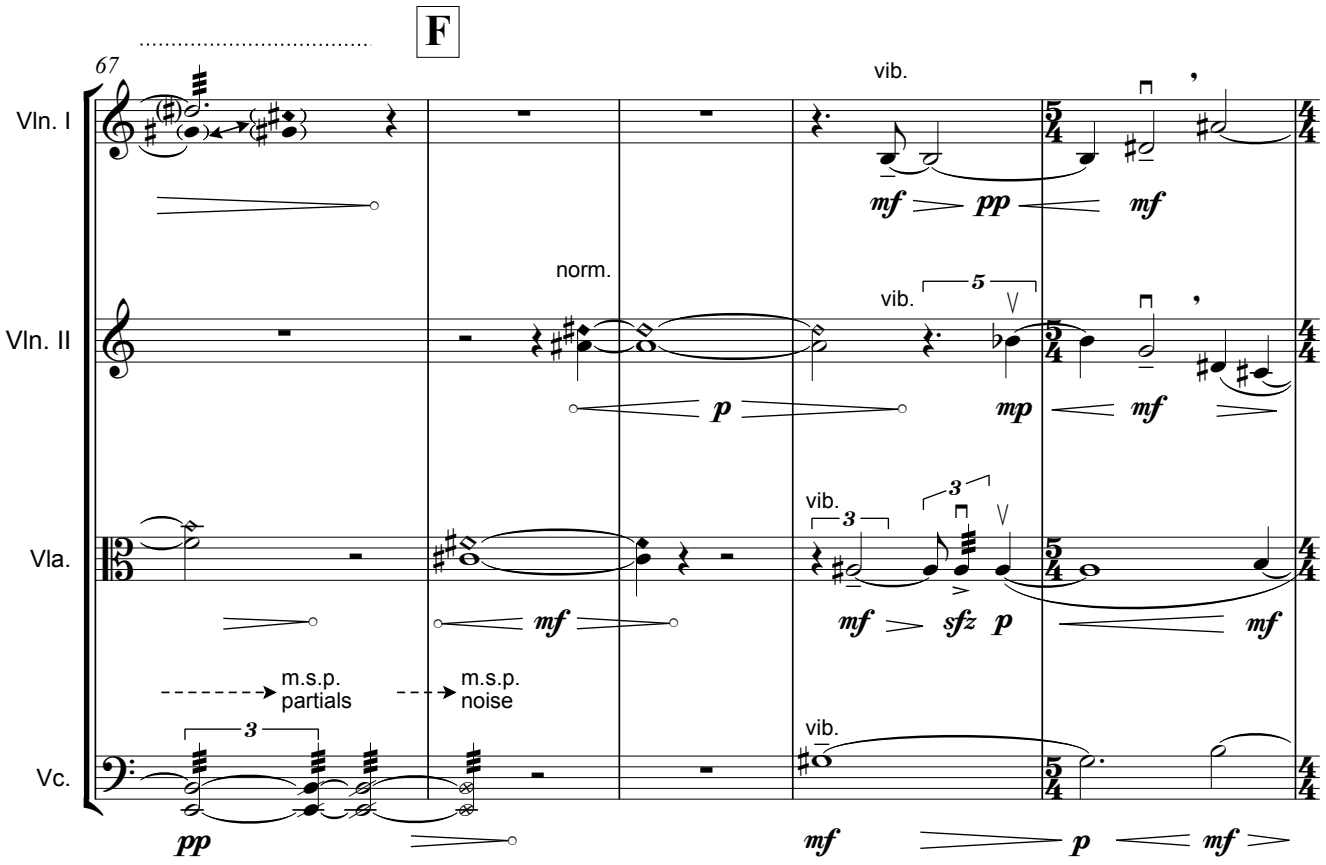

46
(norm.)
s.p.
add harm. ad lib.
irreg. rhythm
(s.p.)
m.s.p.
partials
Vln. I
p
pp
ppp
(s.p.)
m.s.p.
partials
m.s.p.
partials
Vln. II
pp
mp
ppp
(s.p.)
m.s.p.
partials
Vla.
p
ppp
(s.p.)
m.s.p.
partials
m.s.p.
noise
Vc.
pp
ppp

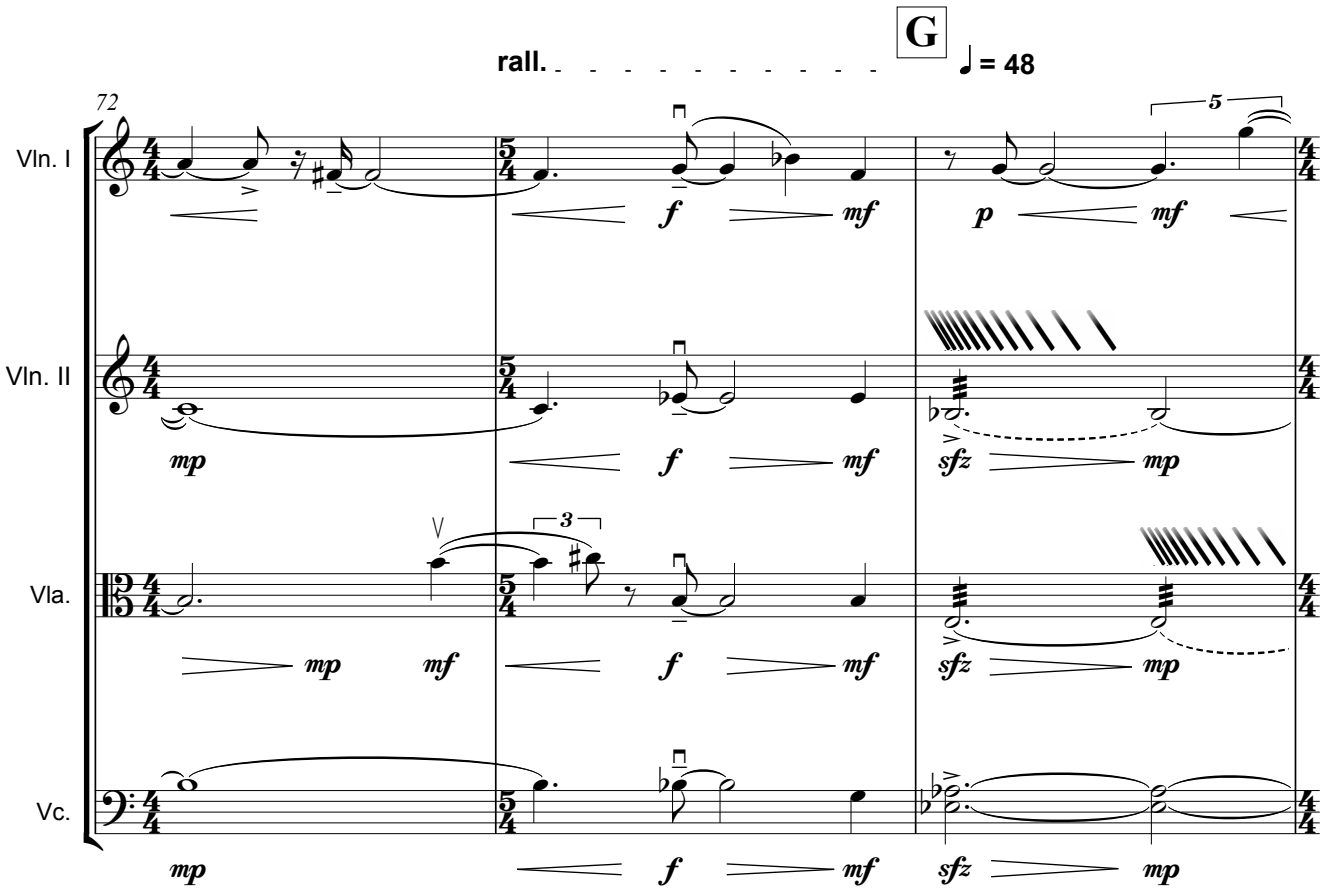

D
poco accel.
♩ = c.60
50
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p.s.p.
norm.
(senza vib.)
s.p.
(p.s.p.)
m.s.p.
noise
(s.p.)
pp
p
mp
mf
p(sub.)

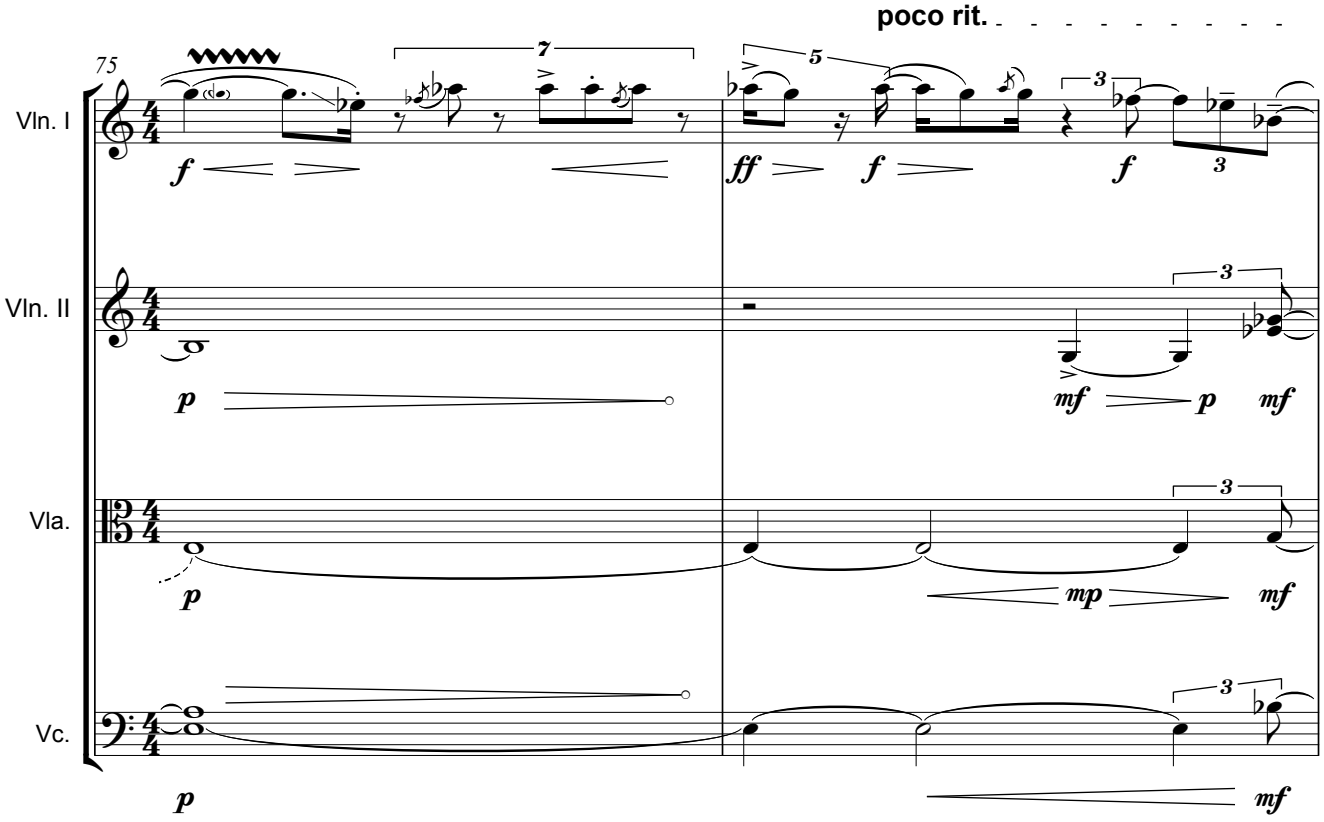

rit.
54
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
vib.
mf
mp
p
pp

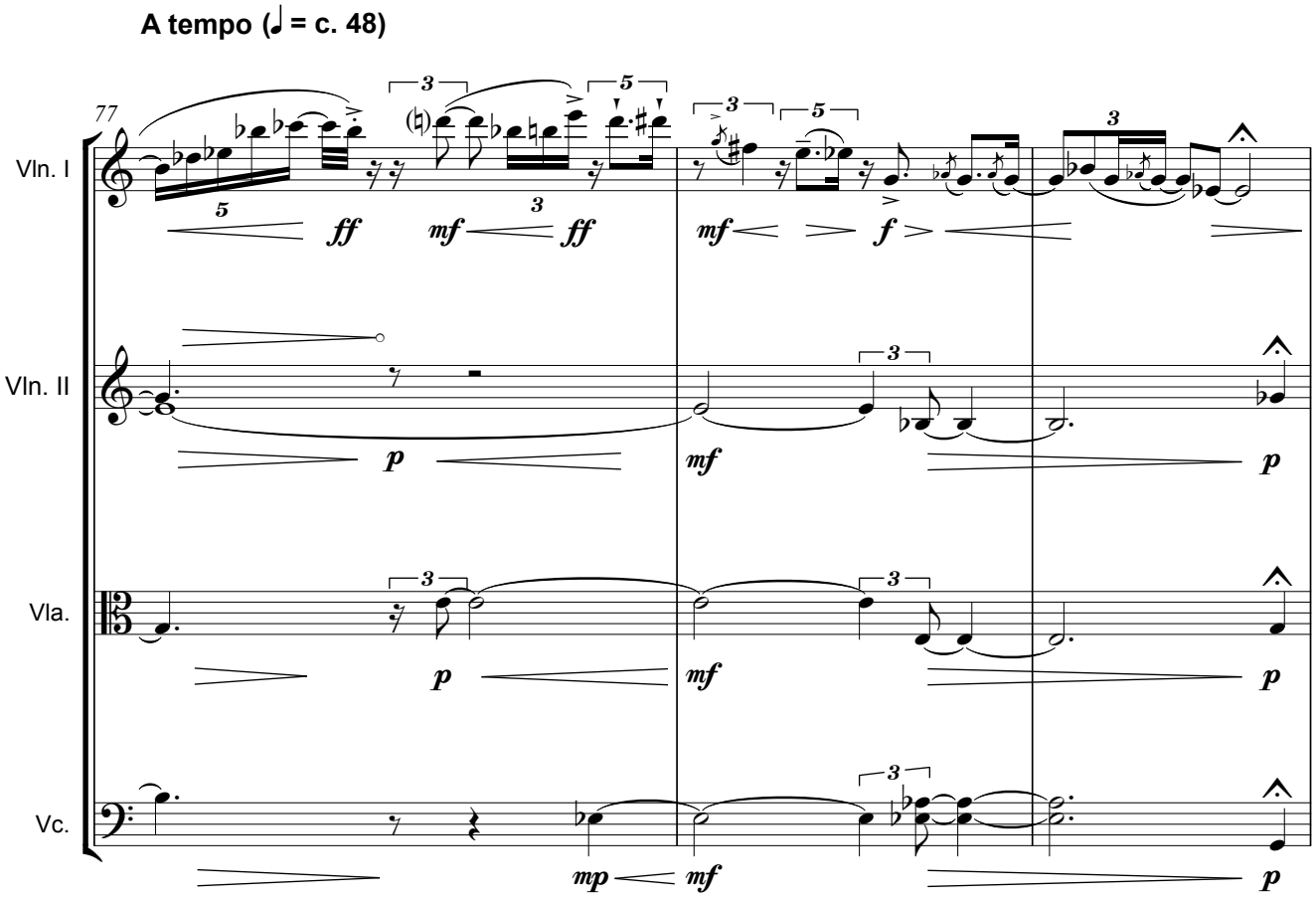

E
a tempo (♩ = c.60)
60
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
s.t.
senza vib.
p.s.p.
ppp (sub.)
norm.
ppp
p
pp
mp
f

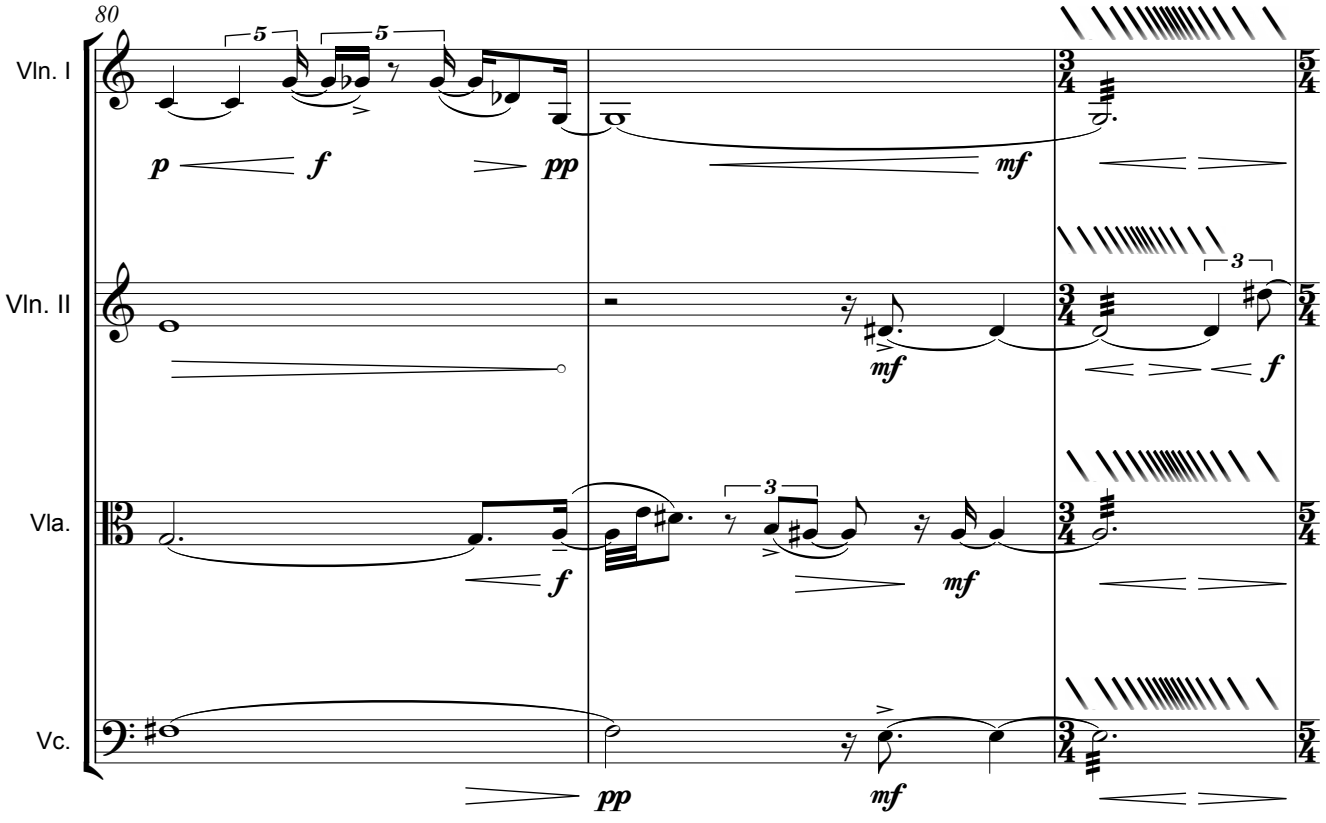

Continue tremolo, alternating (in irregular rhythm) between fingered G♯ and harmonic.
(p.s.p.)
s.p.
63
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
m.s.t.
norm.
Continue tremolo, alternating between fingered E and harmonic.
mp
pp
ppp
p

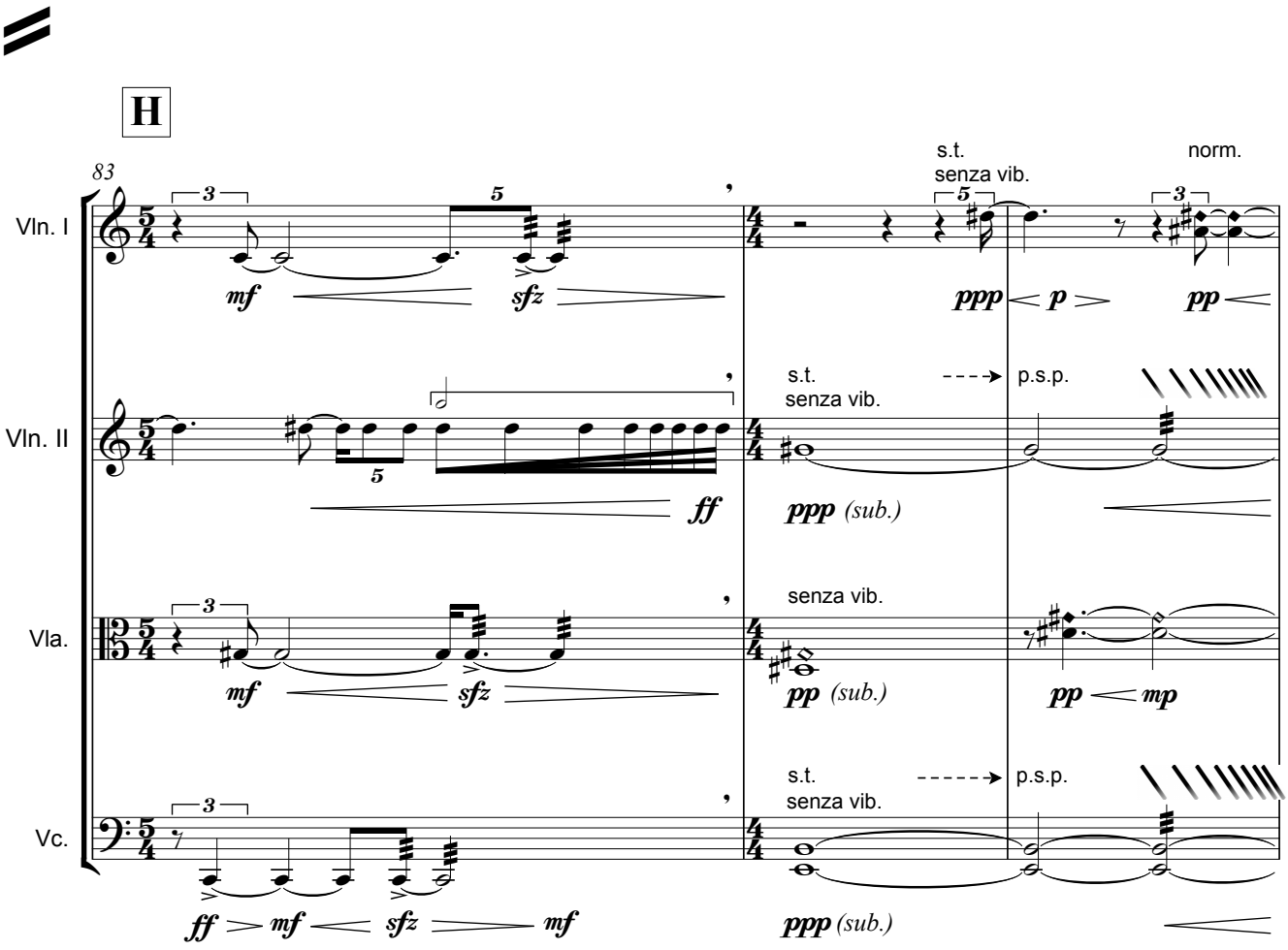

F
67
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
vib.
norm.
m.s.p.
partials
m.s.p.
noise
mf
pp
p
mp
sfz

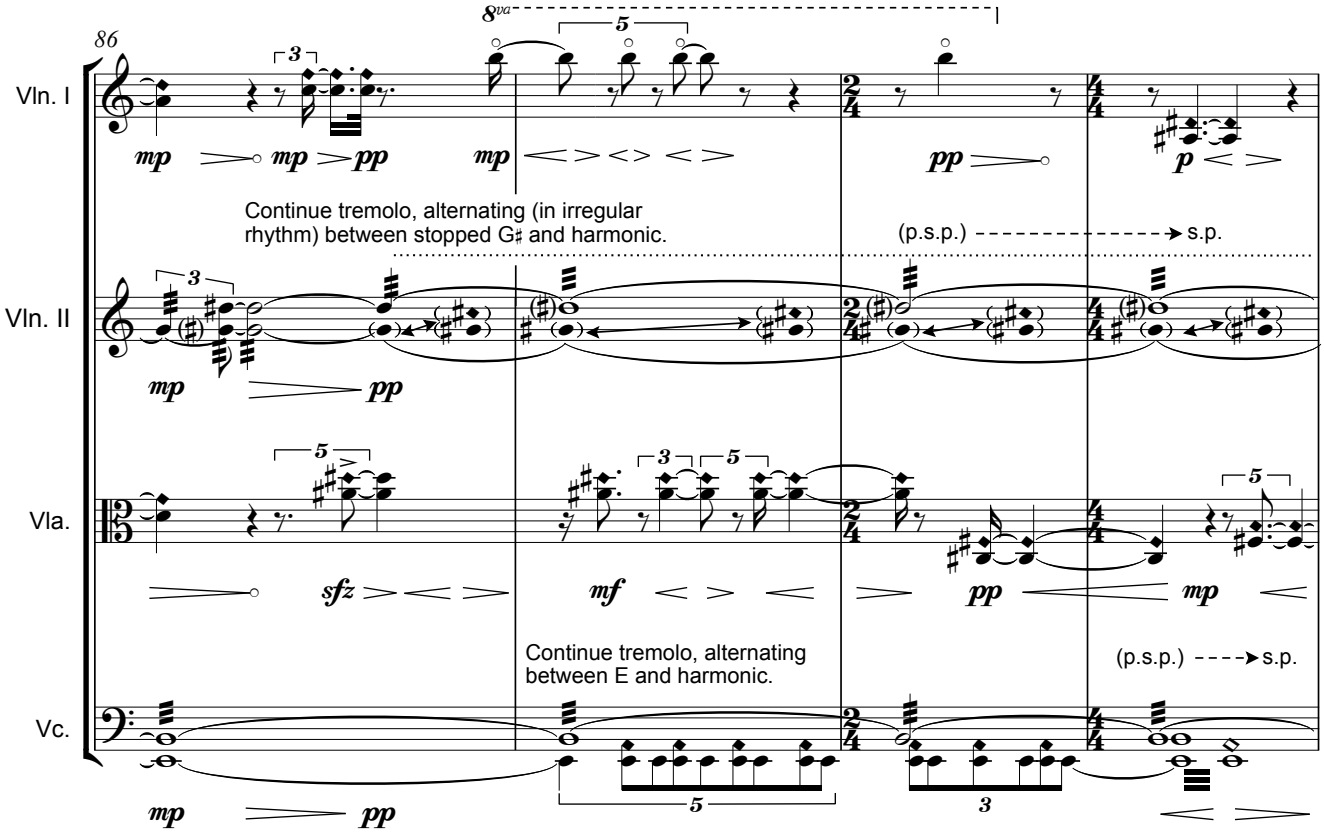

G
rall.
♩ = 48
72
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mp
mf
f
p
sfz

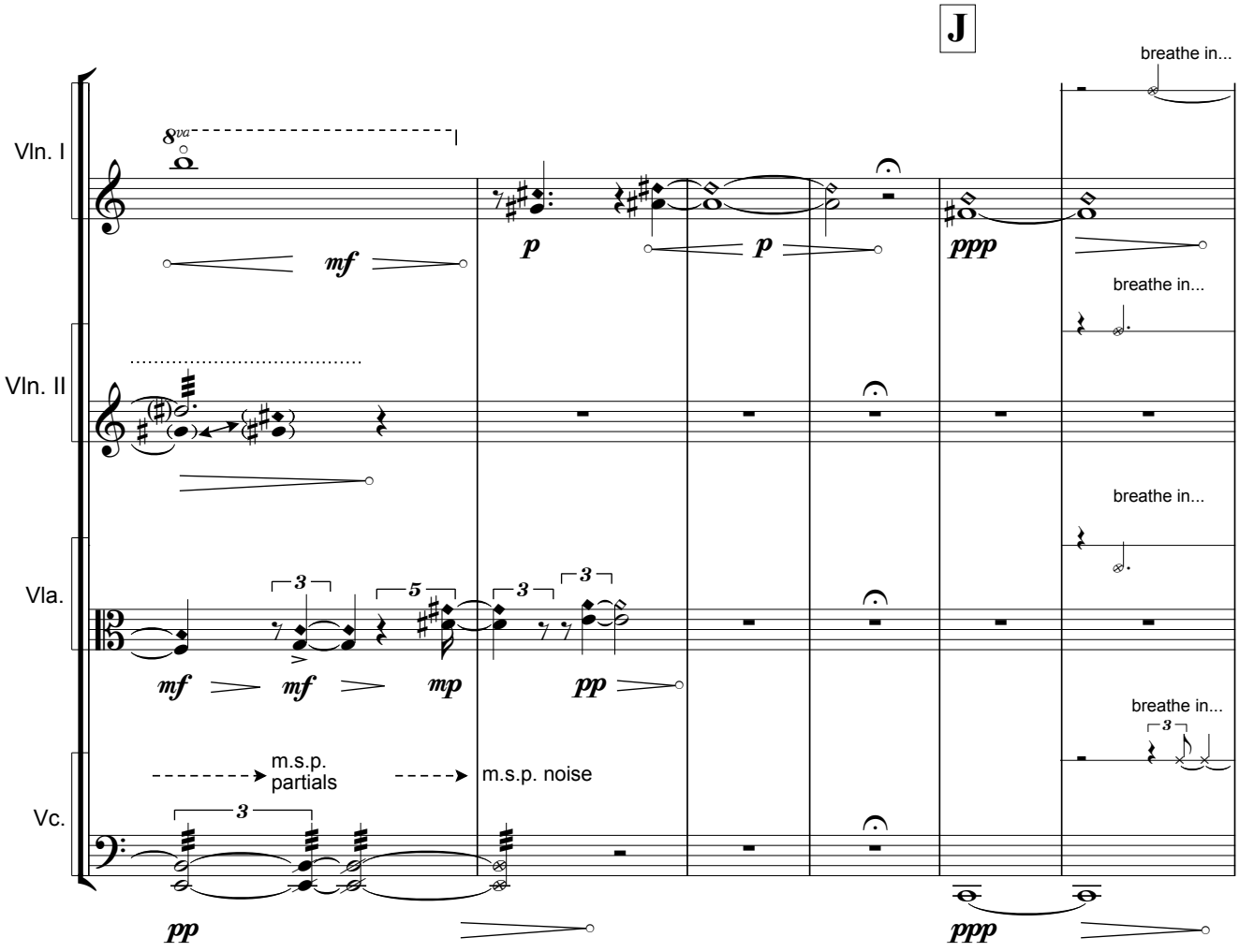

poco rit.
75
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

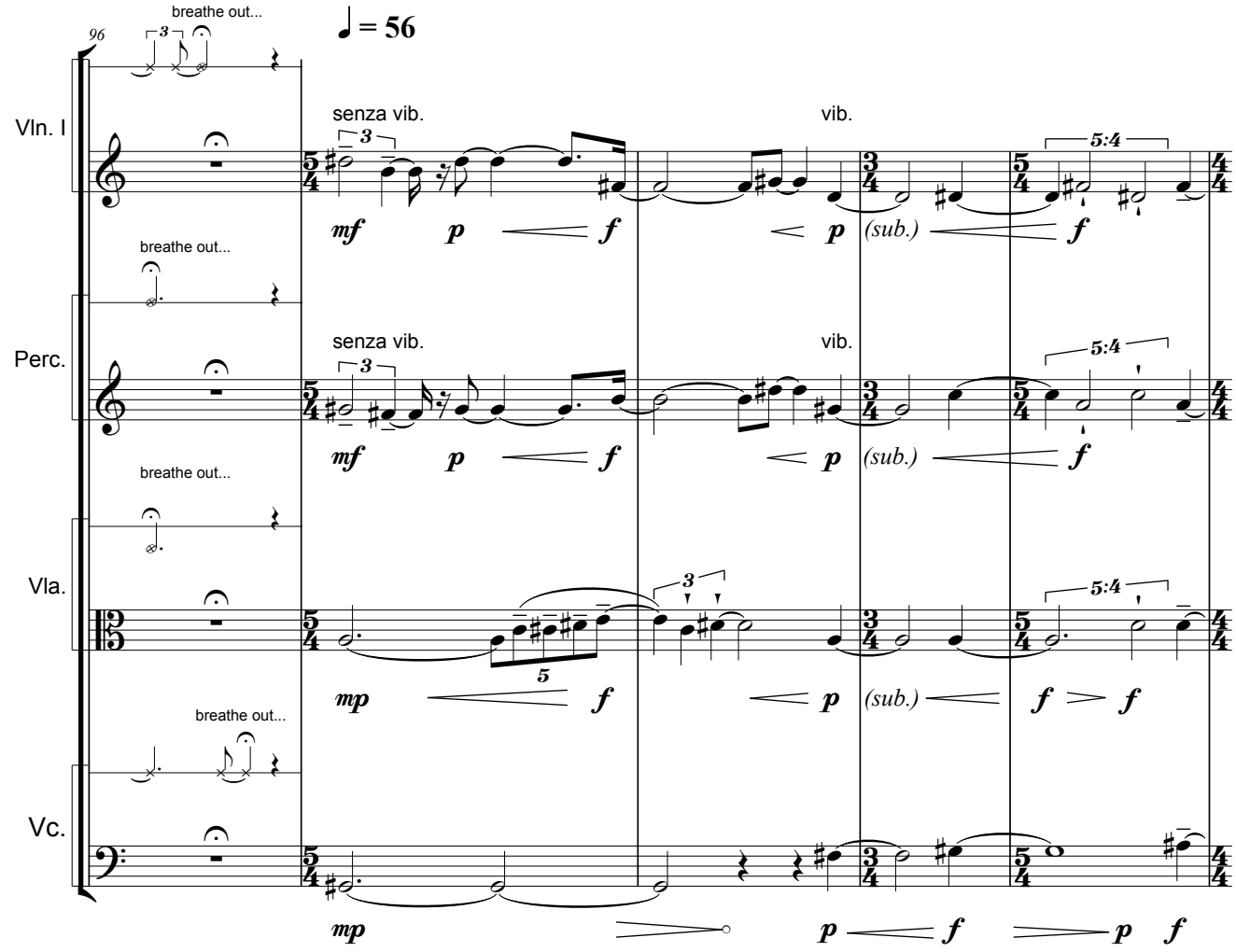

A tempo (♩ = c. 48)
77
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.

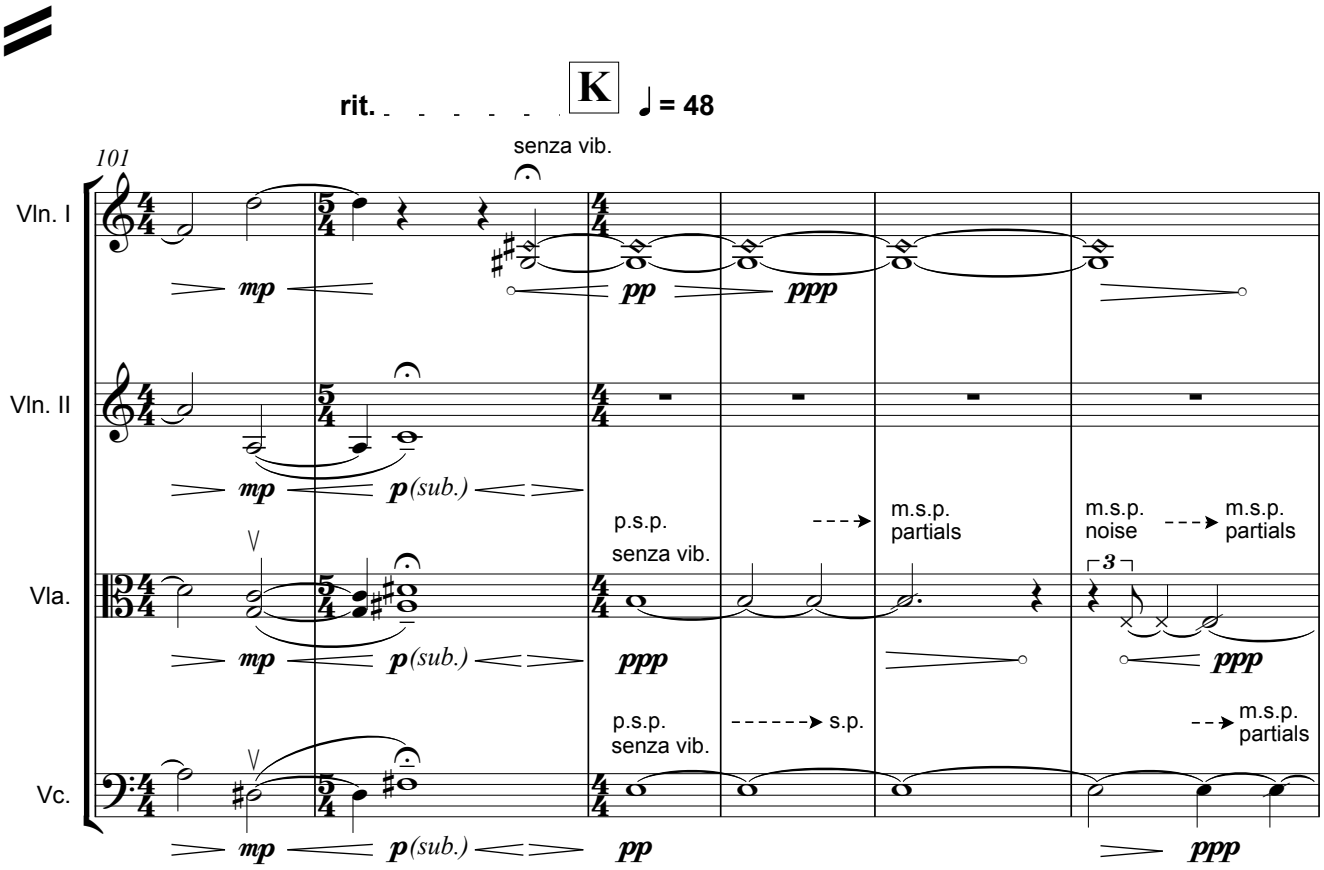

80
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p
f
pp
mf
f
mf
f
mf
pp
mf


H
83
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mf
sfz
s.t.
senza vib.
norm.
ppp
p
pp
s.t.
senza vib.
p.s.p.
ff
ppp (sub.)
senza vib.
mf
sfz
pp (sub.)
pp
mp
s.t.
senza vib.
p.s.p.
ff
mf
sfz
mf
ppp (sub.)

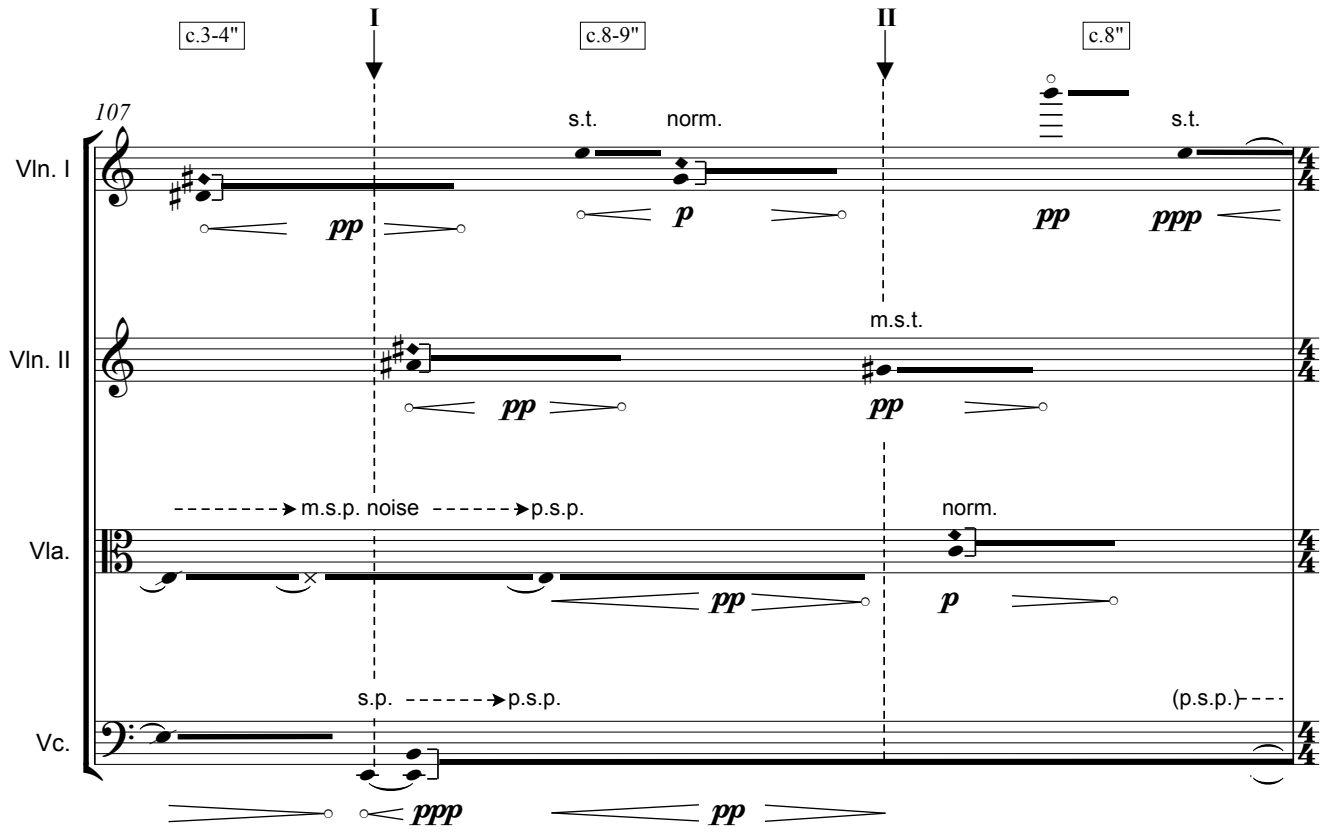

86
8va
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Continue tremolo, alternating (in irregular rhythm) between stopped G♯ and harmonic.
(p.s.p.) s.p.
Continue tremolo, alternating between E and harmonic.
(p.s.p.) s.p.

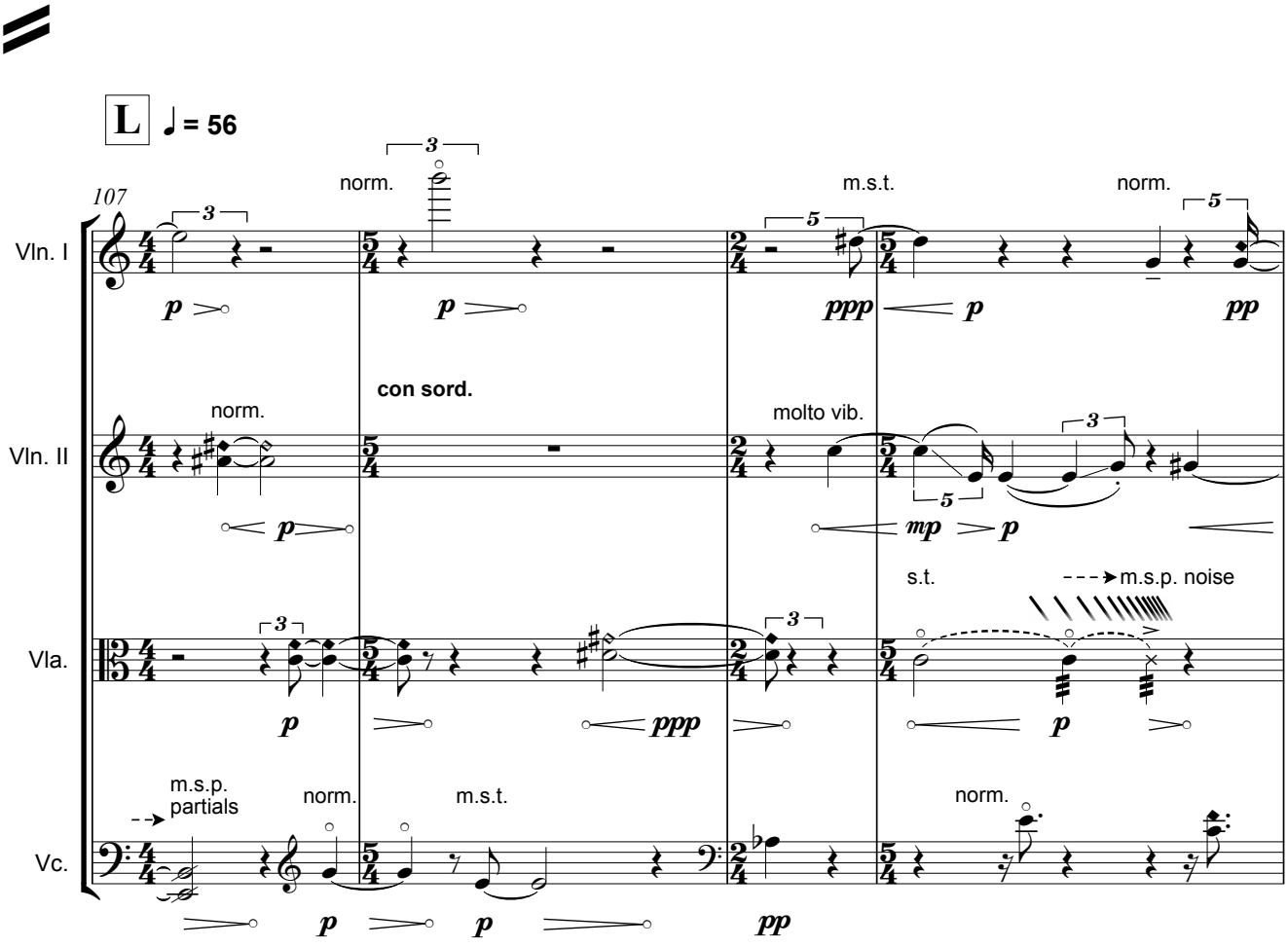

J
breathe in...
8va
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
m.s.p. partials
m.s.p. noise

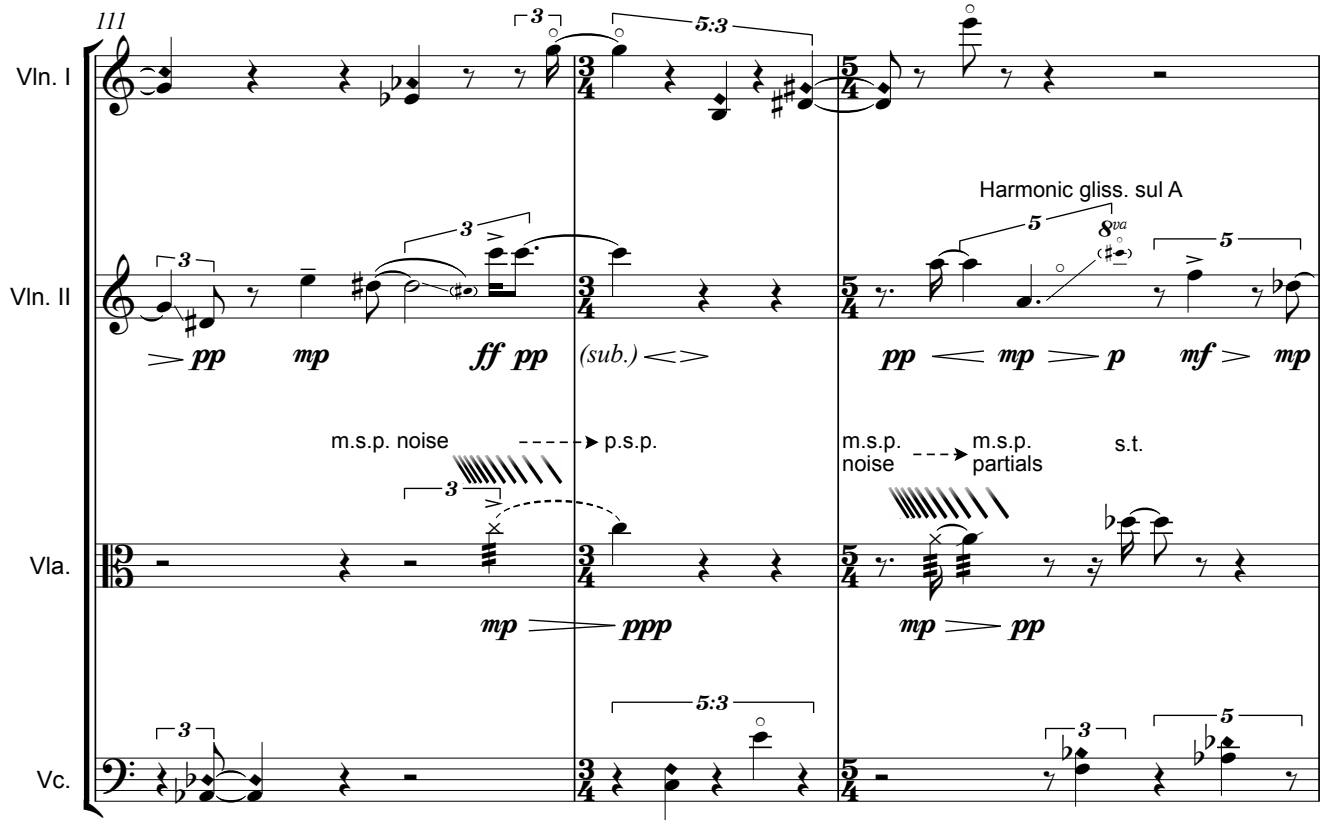

96
breathe out...
♩ = 56
Vln. I
senza vib.
vib.
mf
p
f
p
(sub.)
f
5:4
breathe out...
Perc.
senza vib.
vib.
mf
p
f
p
(sub.)
f
5:4
breathe out...
Vla.
mp
f
p
(sub.)
f
f
5:4
breathe out...
Vc.
mp
p
f
p
f

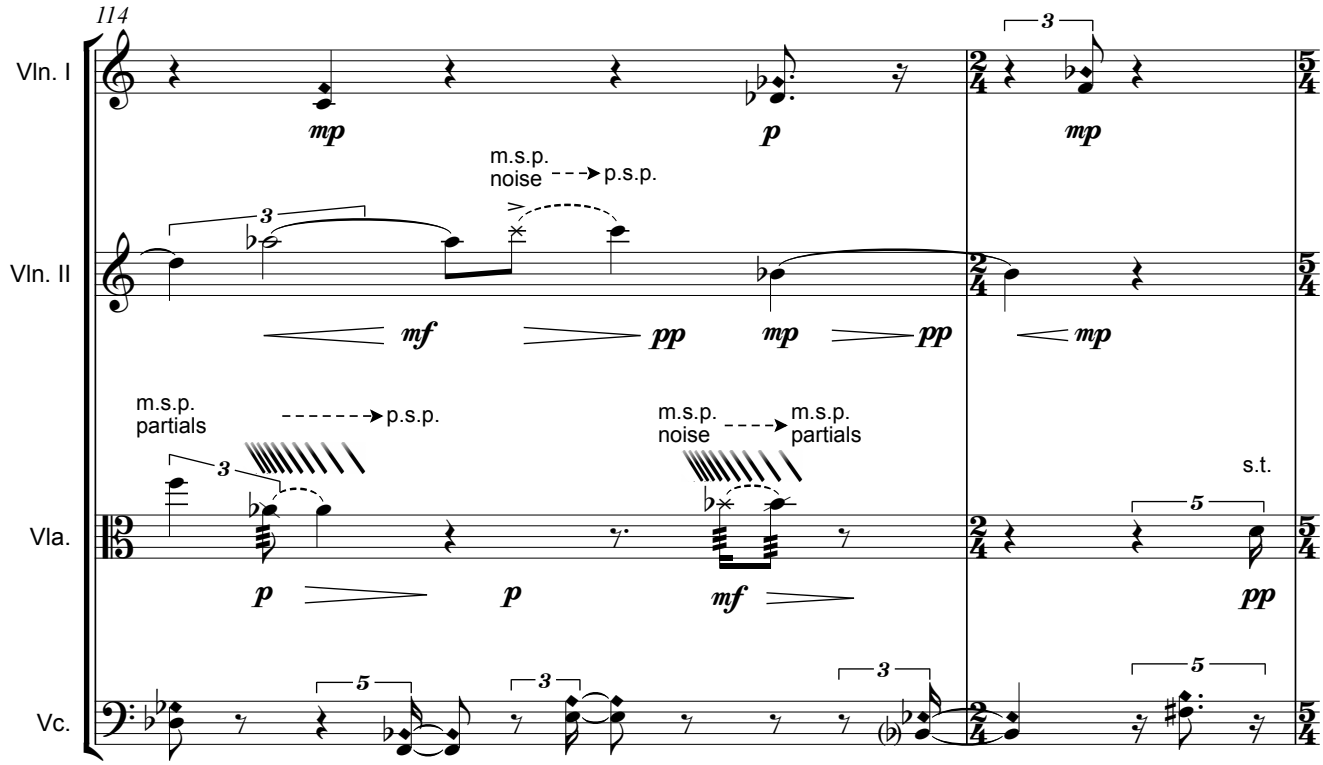

rit.
K
♩ = 48
101
senza vib.
Vln. I
mp
pp
ppp
Vln. II
mp
p(sub.)
p.s.p.
senza vib.
m.s.p.
partials
m.s.p.
noise
m.s.p.
partials
Vla.
mp
p(sub.)
ppp
ppp
p.s.p.
senza vib.
s.p.
m.s.p.
partials
Vc.
mp
p(sub.)
pp
ppp

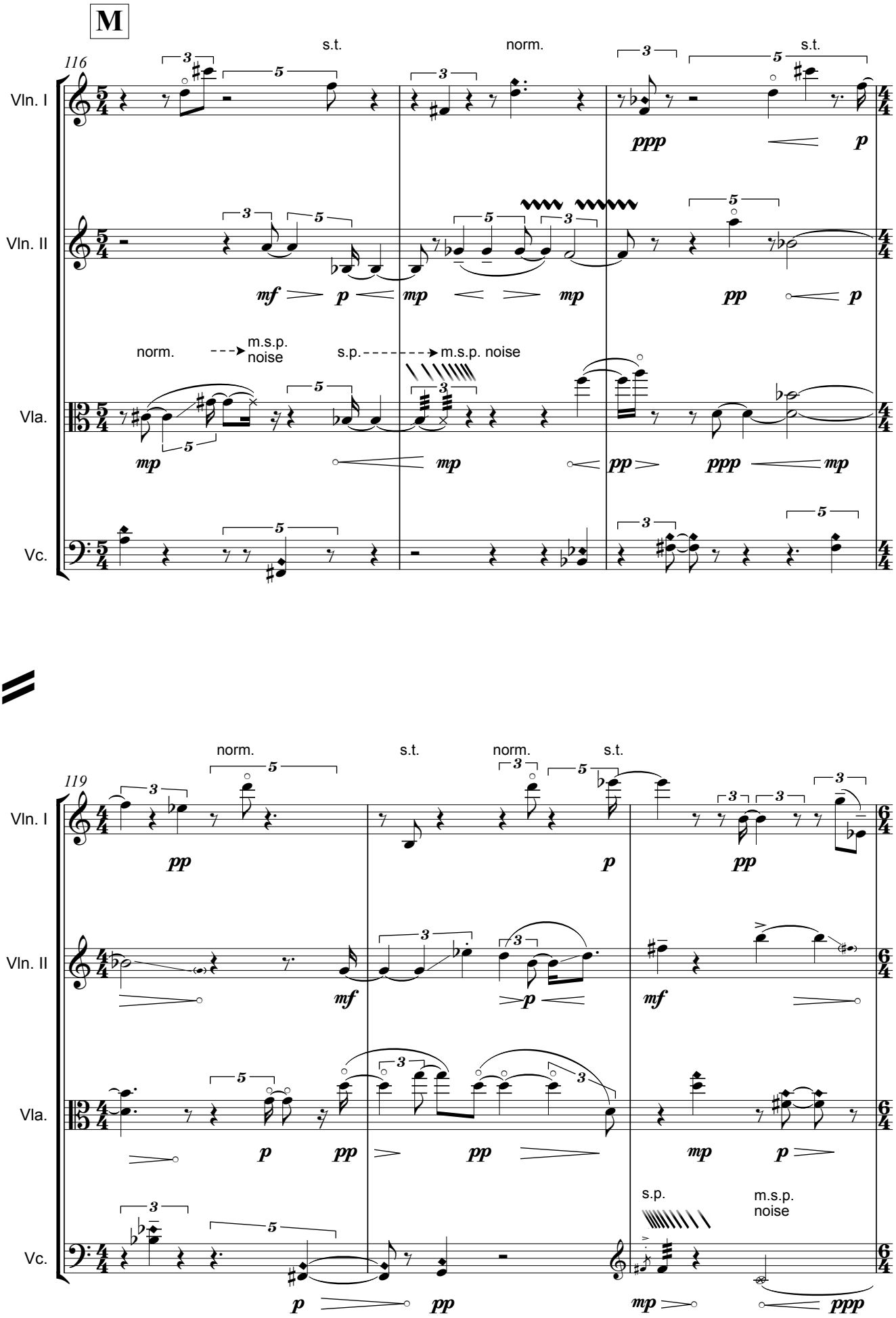
Senza Misura

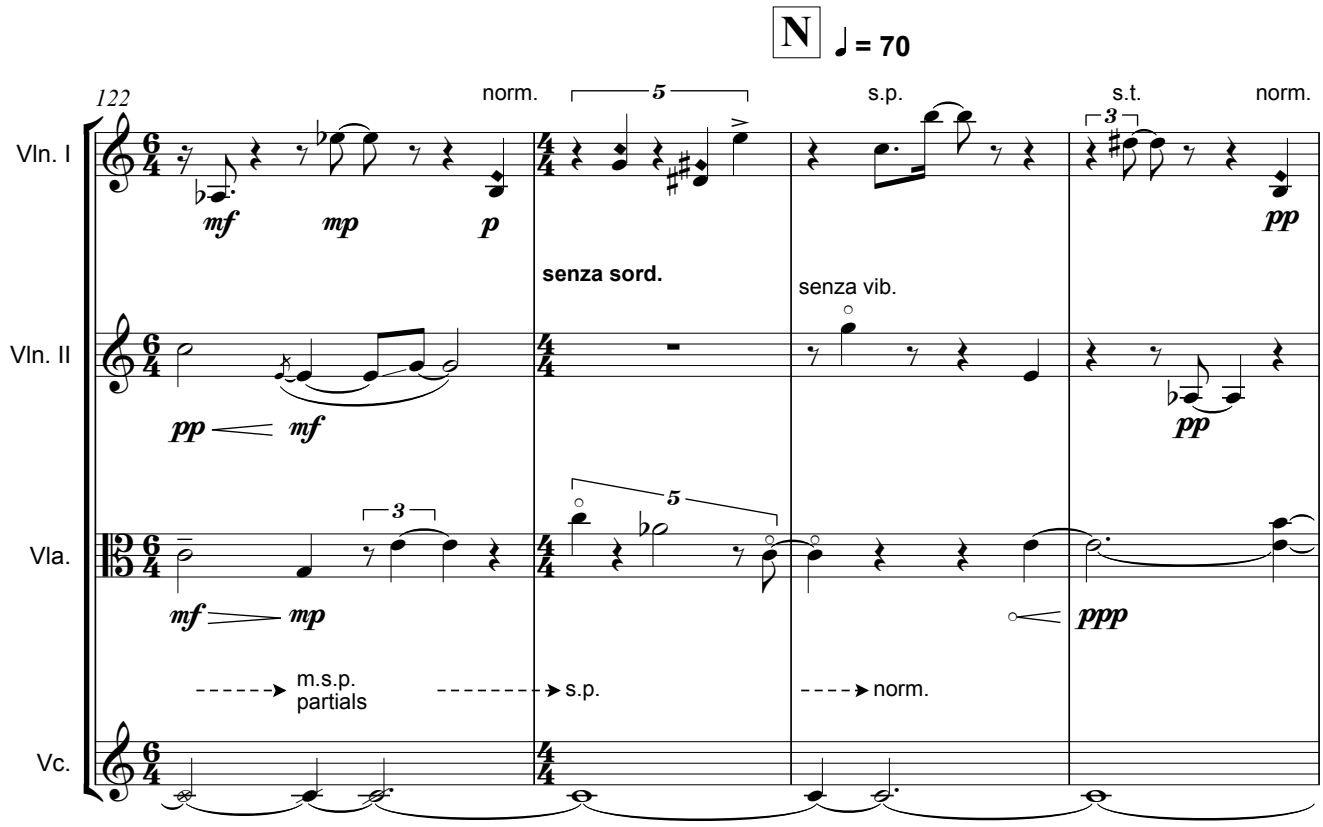


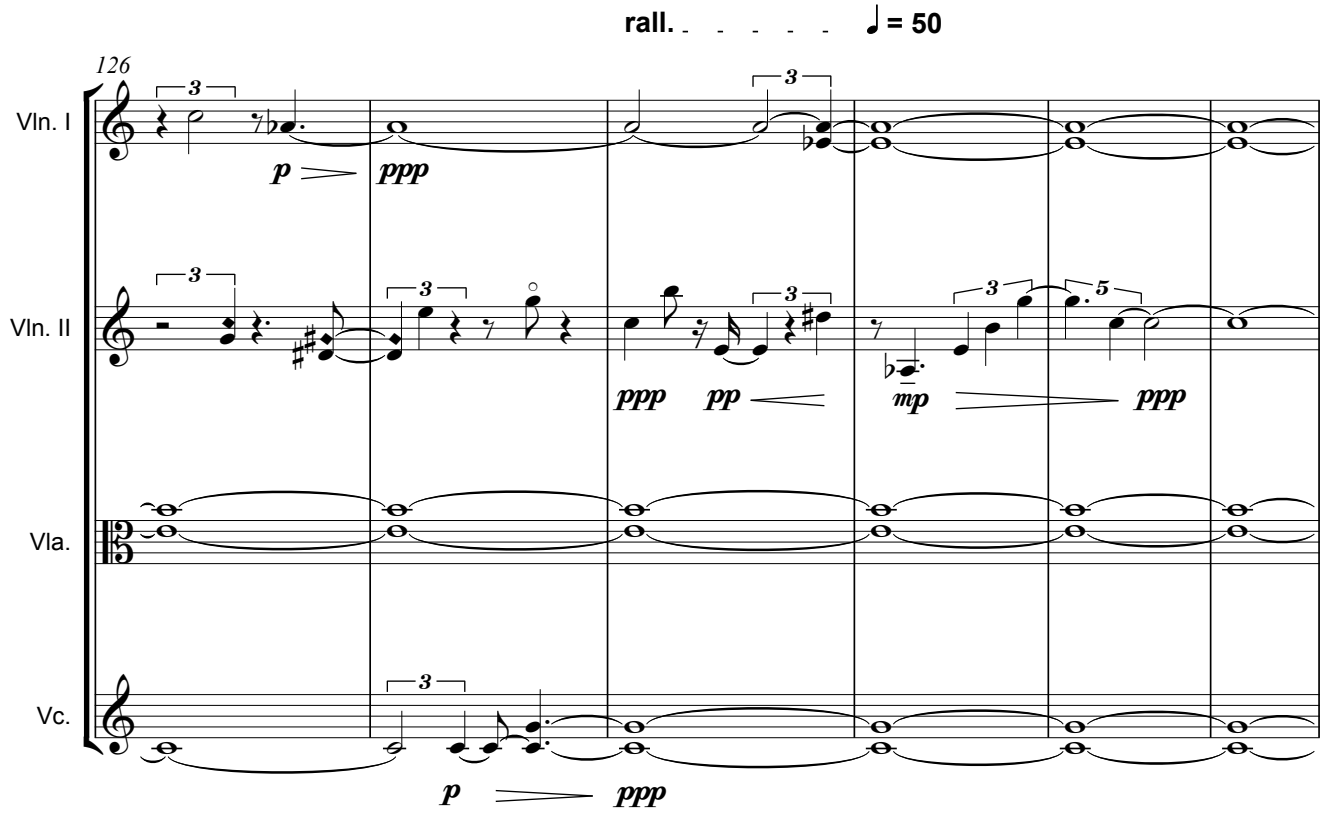


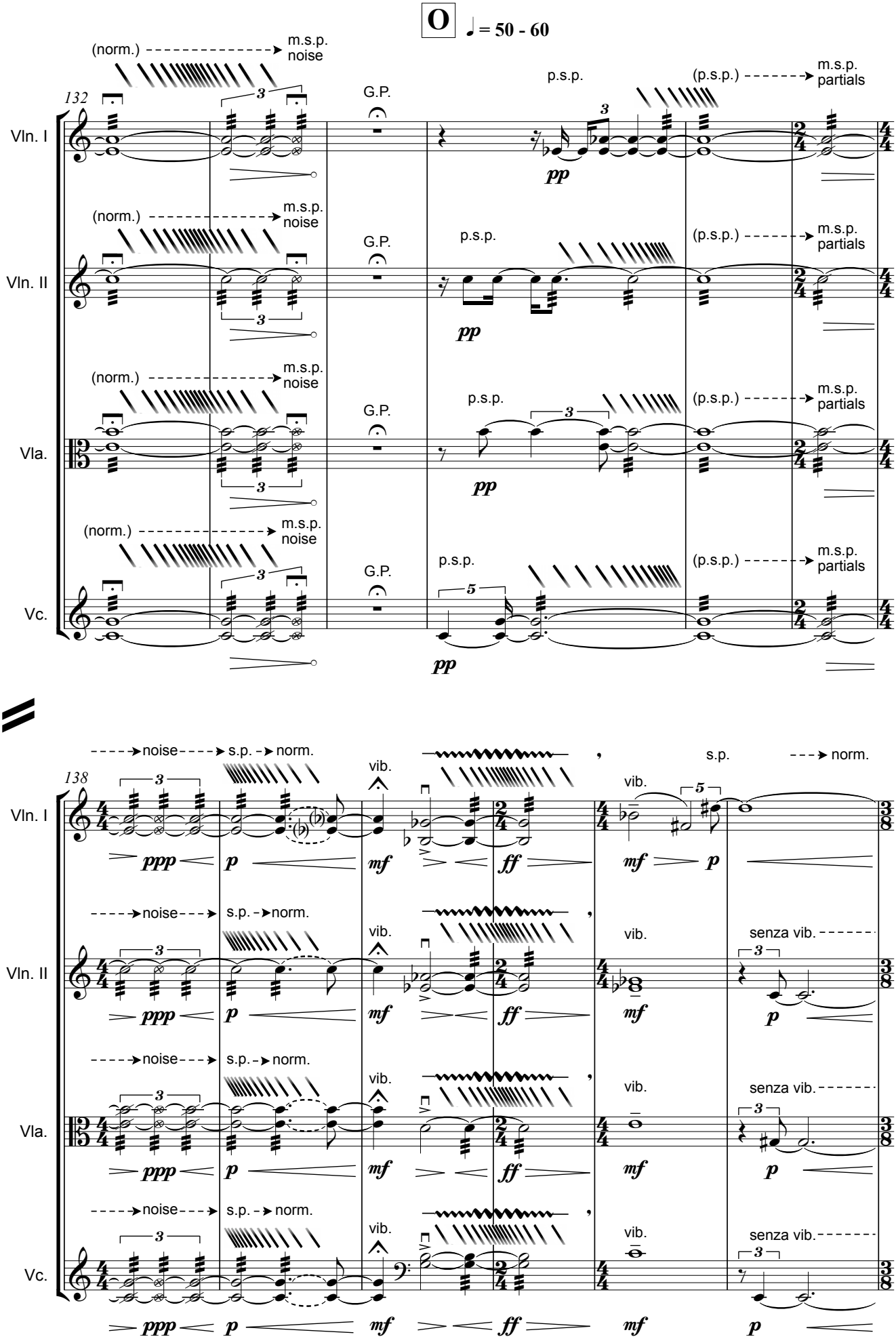

111
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
Harmonic gliss. sul A
8va
pp mp ff pp (sub.) pp mp p mf mp
m.s.p. noise p.s.p.
m.s.p. noise m.s.p. partials
s.t.
mp ppp
mp pp
3
5:3
5

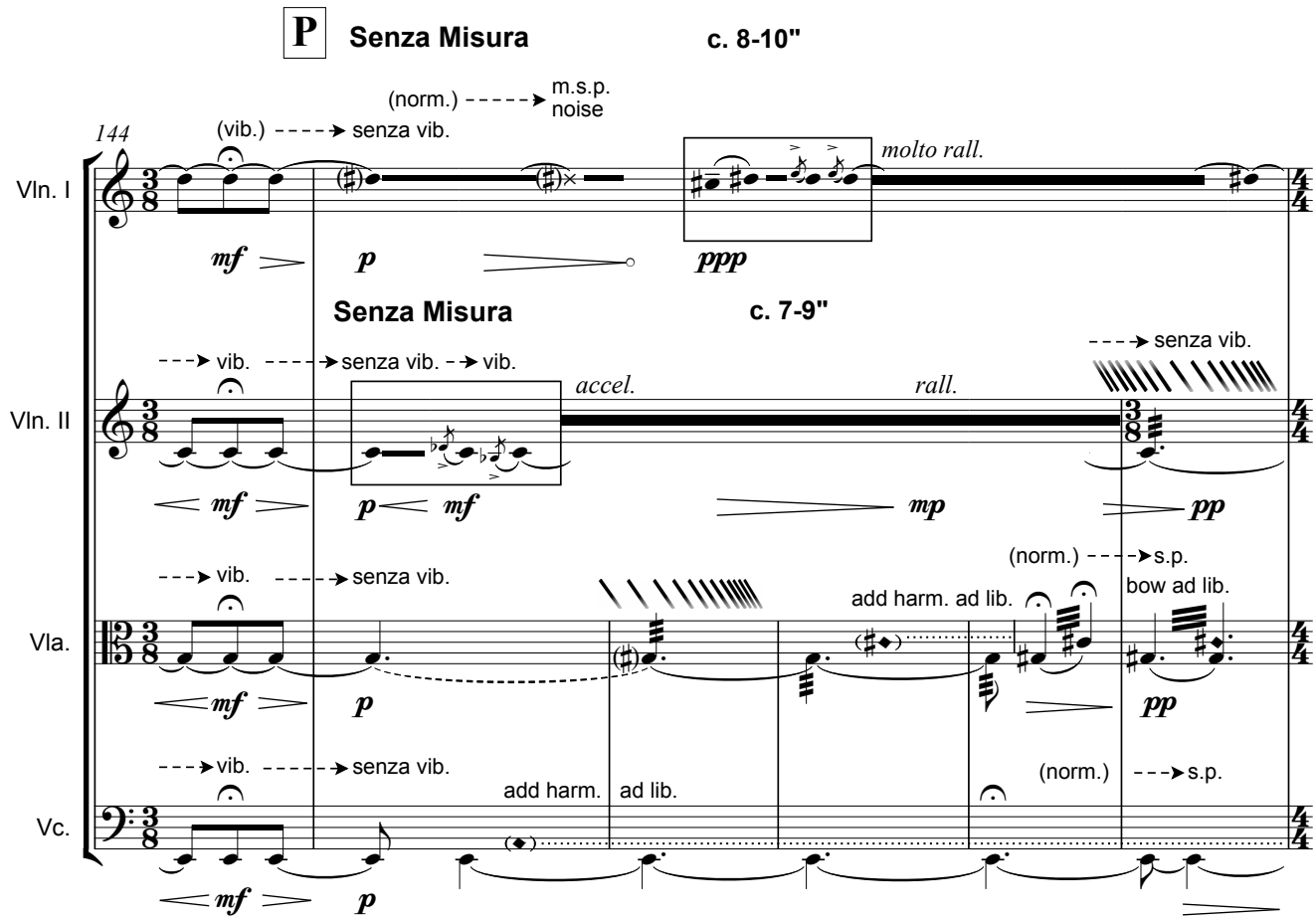

114
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
mp p mp
m.s.p. noise p.s.p.
mf pp mp pp mp
m.s.p. partials p.s.p.
m.s.p. noise m.s.p. partials
s.t.
p p mf pp
3
5

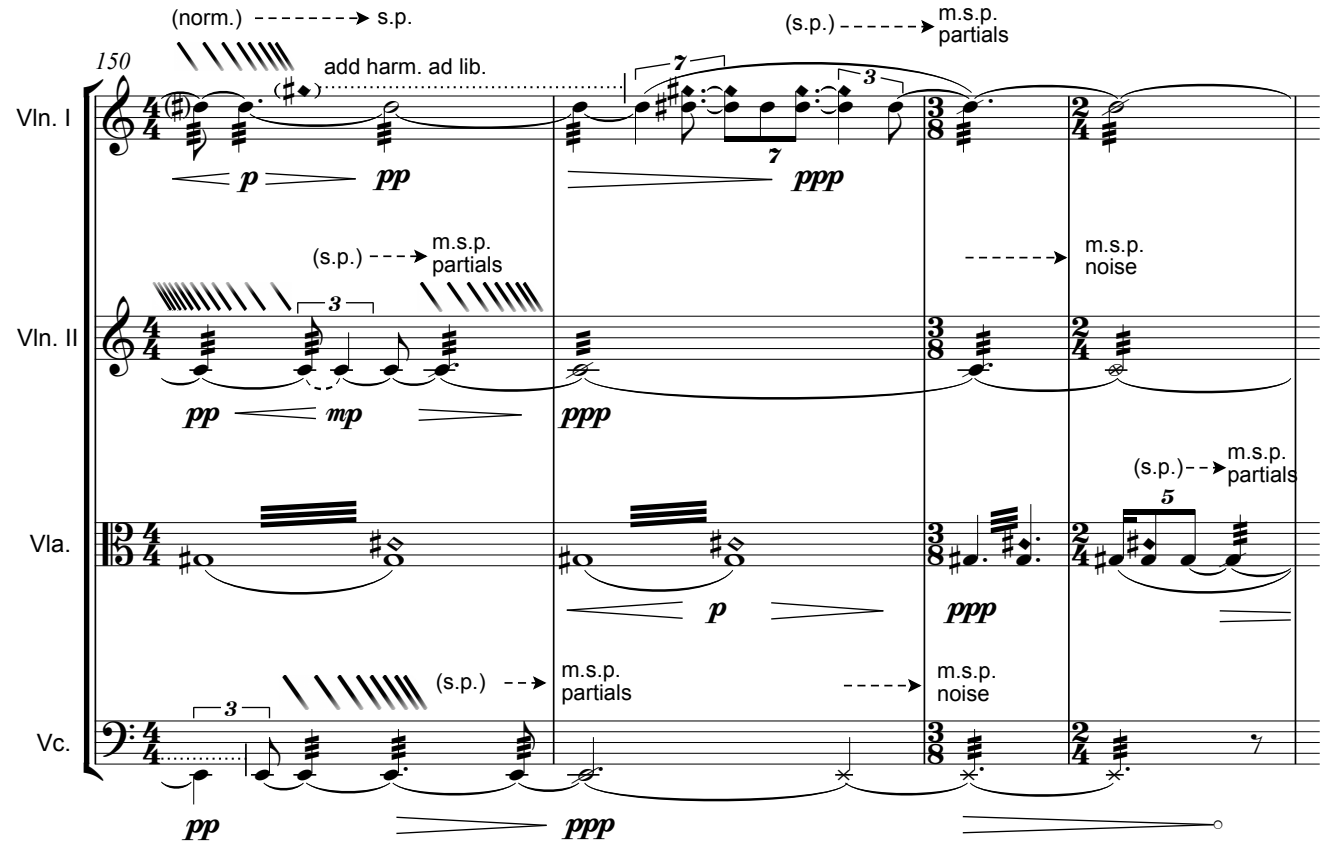

M
116
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
s.t.
norm.
s.t.
ppp
p
mf
p
mp
mp
pp
p
norm.
m.s.p. noise
s.p.
m.s.p. noise
mp
mp
pp
ppp
mp
119
norm.
s.t.
norm.
s.t.
pp
p
pp
mf
p
mf
p
pp
pp
mp
p
s.p.
m.s.p. noise
p
pp
mp
ppp

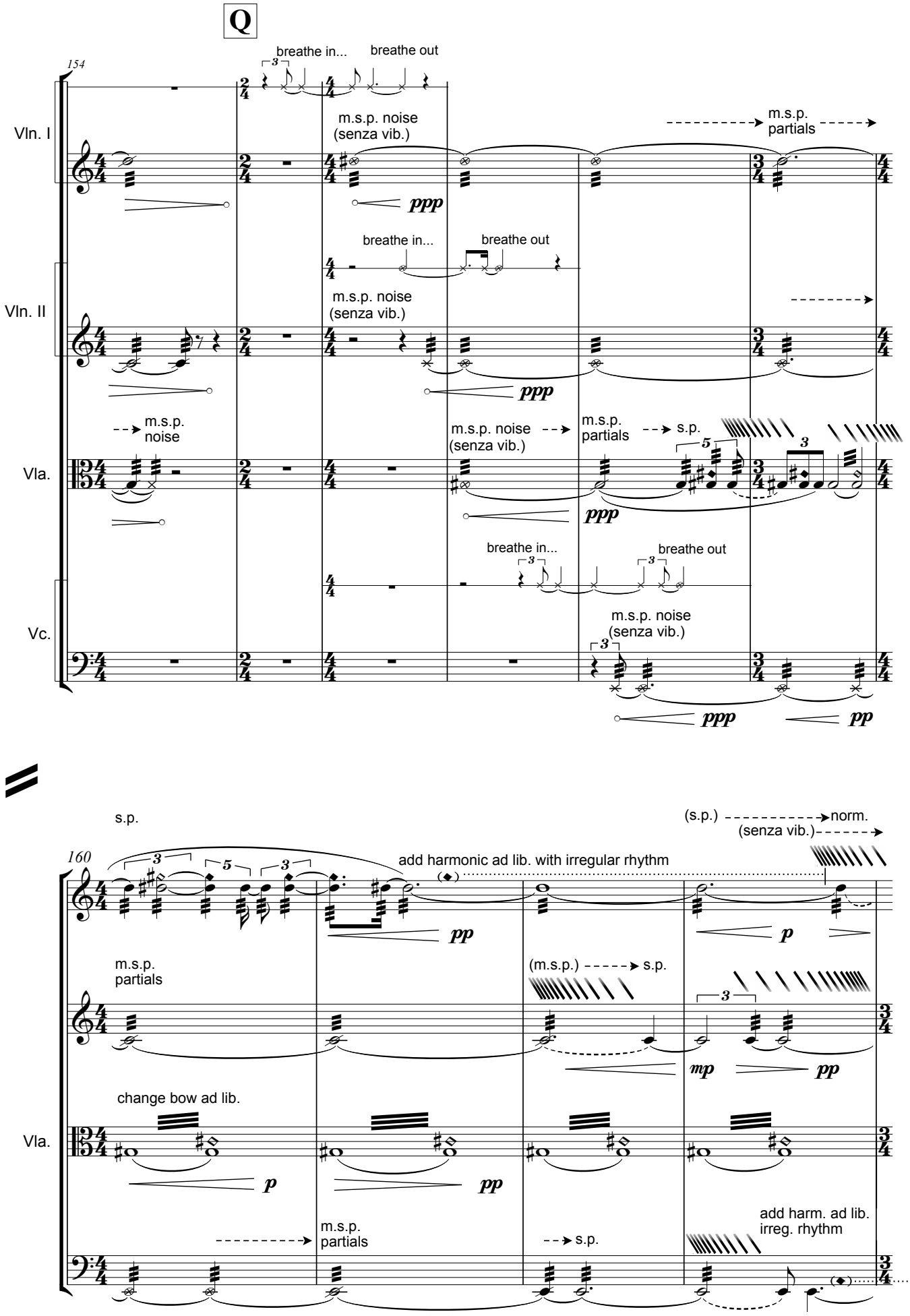

N
♩ = 70
122
norm.
5
s.p.
s.t.
norm.
Vln. I
mf
mp
p
3
pp
senza sord.
senza vib.
Vln. II
pp
mf
pp
Vla.
3
5
mf
mp
ppp
m.s.p.
partials
s.p.
norm.
Vc.

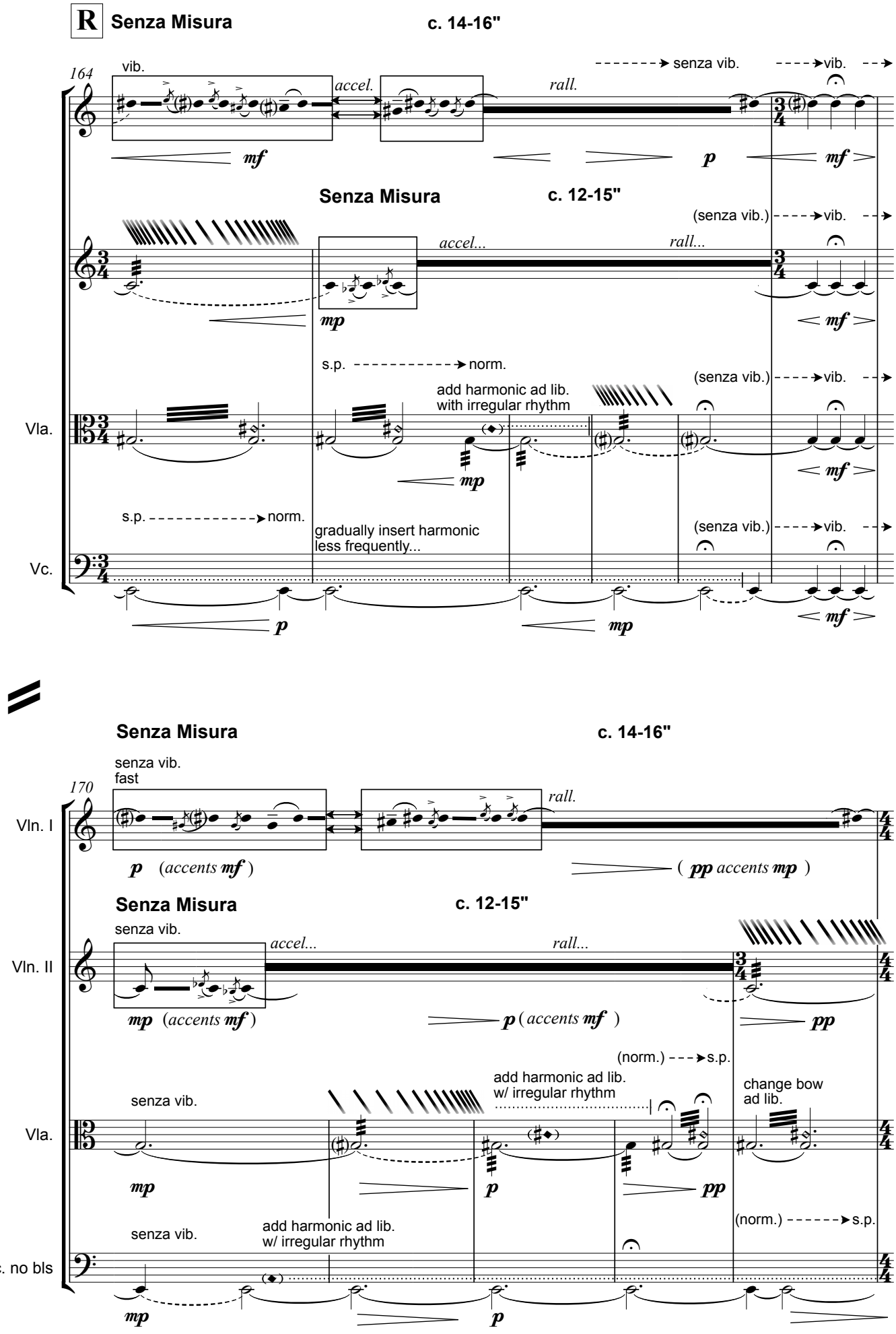

rall.
♩ = 50
126
Vln. I
3
p
ppp
Vln. II
3
5
ppp
pp
mp
ppp
Vla.
Vc.
p
ppp

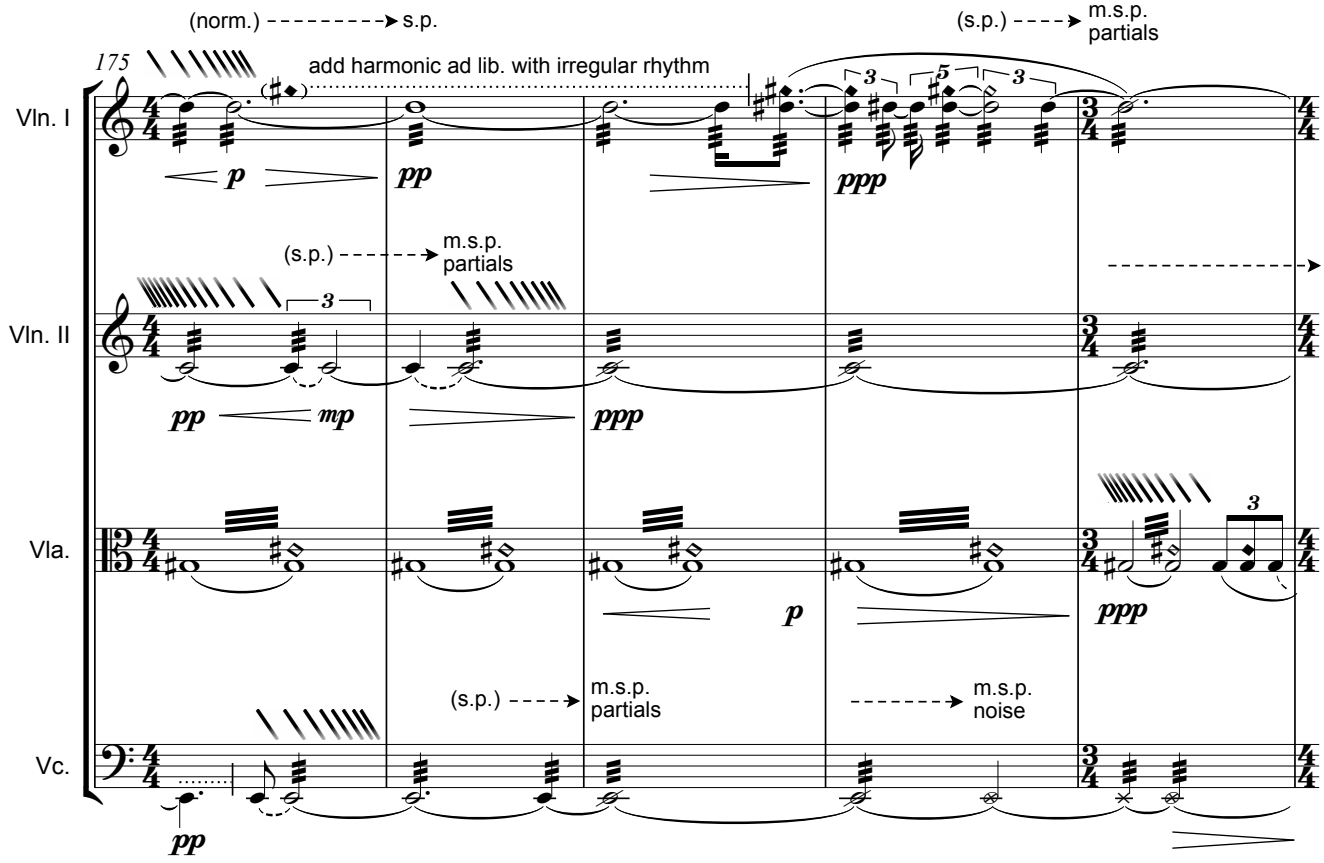

O
♩ = 50 - 60
132
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
(norm.)
m.s.p. noise
G.P.
p.s.p.
(p.s.p.)
m.s.p. partials
pp
138
noise
s.p.
norm.
vib.
senza vib.
ppp
p
mf
ff

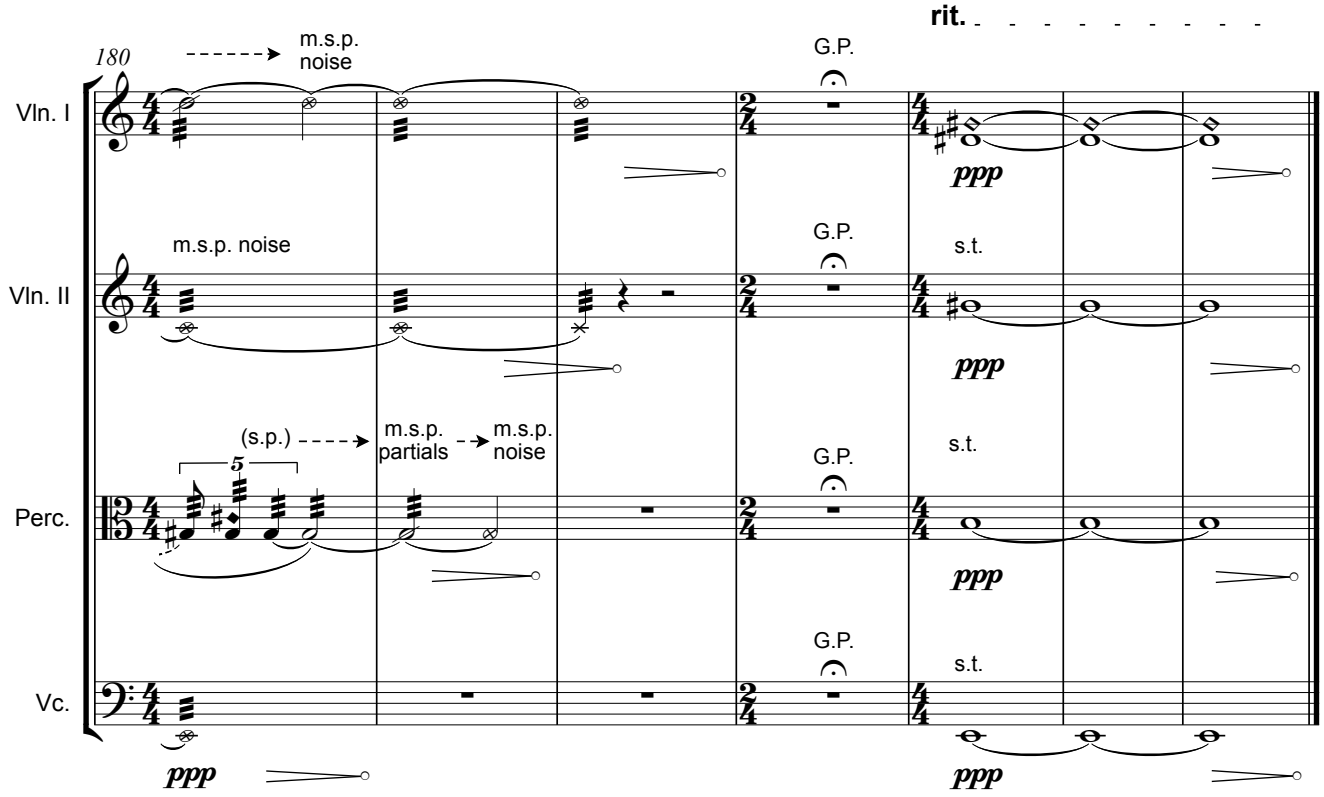

P
Senza Misura
c. 8-10"
144
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
(norm.) m.s.p. noise
(vib.) senza vib.
molto rall.
mf
p
ppp
Senza Misura
c. 7-9"
vib.
senza vib.
vib.
accel.
rall.
senza vib.
mf
p
mf
mp
pp
vib.
senza vib.
(norm.) s.p.
bow ad lib.
add harm. ad lib.
mf
p
pp
vib.
senza vib.
add harm.
ad lib.
(norm.)
s.p.
mf
p


(norm.) s.p.
150
add harm. ad lib.
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p
pp
ppp
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
m.s.p. noise
pp
mp
ppp
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
p
ppp
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
m.s.p. noise
pp
ppp


Q
154
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
breathe in...
breathe out
m.s.p. noise
(senza vib.)
m.s.p.
partials
m.s.p.
noise
s.p.
ppp
pp
160
s.p.
(s.p.)
norm.
(senza vib.)
add harmonic ad lib. with irregular rhythm
(m.s.p.)
change bow ad lib.
add harm. ad lib.
irreg. rhythm
p
mp


R
Senza Misura
c. 14-16"
164
vib.
accel.
rall.
senza vib.
vib.
mf
p
mf
Senza Misura
c. 12-15"
(senza vib.)
vib.
accel...
rall...
mp
mf
s.p.
norm.
add harmonic ad lib.
with irregular rhythm
Vla.
(senza vib.)
vib.
mp
mf
s.p.
norm.
gradually insert harmonic
less frequently...
(senza vib.)
vib.
Vc.
p
mp
mf
Senza Misura
c. 14-16"
senza vib.
fast
170
Vln. I
rall.
p (accents mf)
(pp accents mp)
Senza Misura
c. 12-15"
senza vib.
Vln. II
accel...
rall...
mp (accents mf)
p (accents mf)
pp
(norm.)
s.p.
add harmonic ad lib.
w/ irregular rhythm
change bow
ad lib.
senza vib.
Vla.
mp
p
pp
(norm.)
s.p.
senza vib.
add harmonic ad lib.
w/ irregular rhythm
Vc. no bls
mp
p


175
(norm.) s.p.
add harmonic ad lib. with irregular rhythm
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla.
Vc.
p
pp
ppp
mp
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials
m.s.p. noise


180
rit.
m.s.p. noise
G.P.
s.t.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Perc.
Vc.
(s.p.) m.s.p. partials m.s.p. noise
ppp