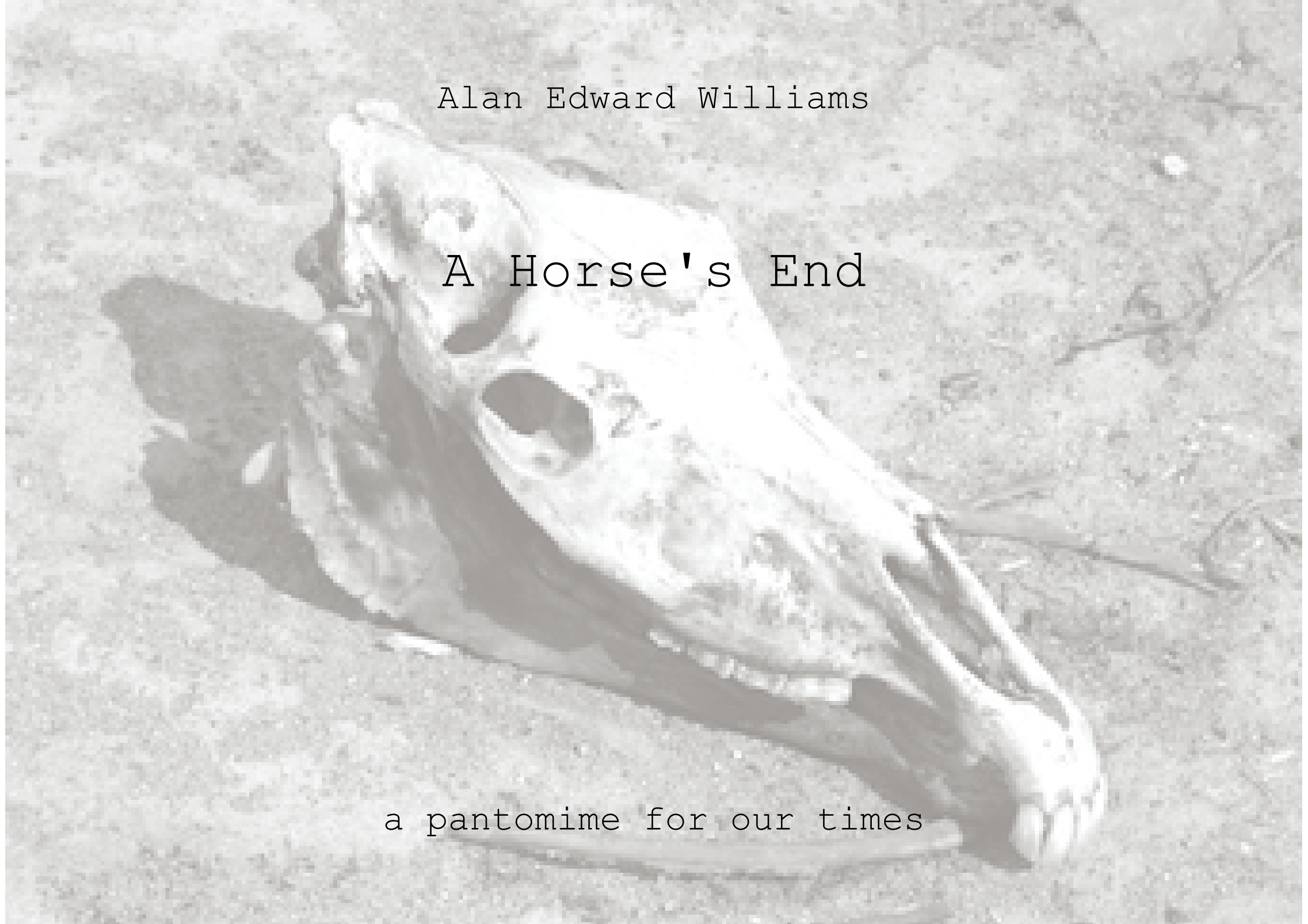
Alan Edward Williams

A Horse's End



a pantomime for our times

A Horse's End is intended to be a piece of music theatre, paying homage to the tradition of the pantomime in English language theatre, as well as to various forms of folk theatre in the United Kingdom and Ireland, particularly the Mari Lwyd tradition in Wales. The horse should be played by a seperate performer, and although most of the audience traditions are derived from pantomime, the costume for the horse should look like the Mari Lwyd (*grey mare)*. The difference is that, whereas with the Mari Lwyd a real horse's skull is used, as the horse must play the piano with its nose, this should be made of something soft so as not to damage the instrument. The horse should be decorated with union flags and ribbons in red, white and blue, which should jingle audibly when the horse moves.

The euphonium soloist is key both dramatically and musically. The euphonium is the voice of the horse, who itself remains silent.
U.K. and Irish audiences will be familiar with the elements of audience interaction from pantomime. Other audiences may need encouragement to shout out and take part, particularly during the music. They are a part of the music too.

Musically the piece takes the form of a dance suite, beginning with an Intrada, then an Allemande, swing, waltz, 90's club music and finally a *hora tiganeasca*. In this last dance, the semiquavers are swung, like a boogie-woogie. Melody instruments in the *hora* may imrovise around the notated material, but the rhythm should remain constant.

Spoken dialogue is of three types - in the *hora tiganeasca*, the text is to be shouted by the players in the marked rhythm.
At other times the players are called upon to grumble or protest audibly, but this text is unspecified.
Dialogue between conductor and soloist should be along the lines of the dialogue given here, but may be varied.

Generally, if it makes the audience laugh, do it more.

As well as the horse, there needs to be a large bucket on stage, marked 'VIN' or similar.

The score is notated in C.

Instrumentation:

Clarinet in B flat
Alto Saxophone in E flat
Euphonium (soloist, in B flat. Bass clef parts available on request)
Piano accordion (with stradella bass)
Piano
Percussion: consisting of -
marimba -4 8ve
vibraphone
tambourine (with membrane)
drum set consisting of snare, 4 toms including floor, ride, splash, hi-hat, bass drum, cow bell
referee's whistle
tenor drum, to be carried as a military drum
Violin
Viola
Cello

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Transposing instruments written in C

Intrada

♩ = 80

Clarinet in B♭

Alto Saxophone

Euphonium

Marimba

Percussion

bellows shake

Accordion

Piano

Intrada

♩ = 80

Violin

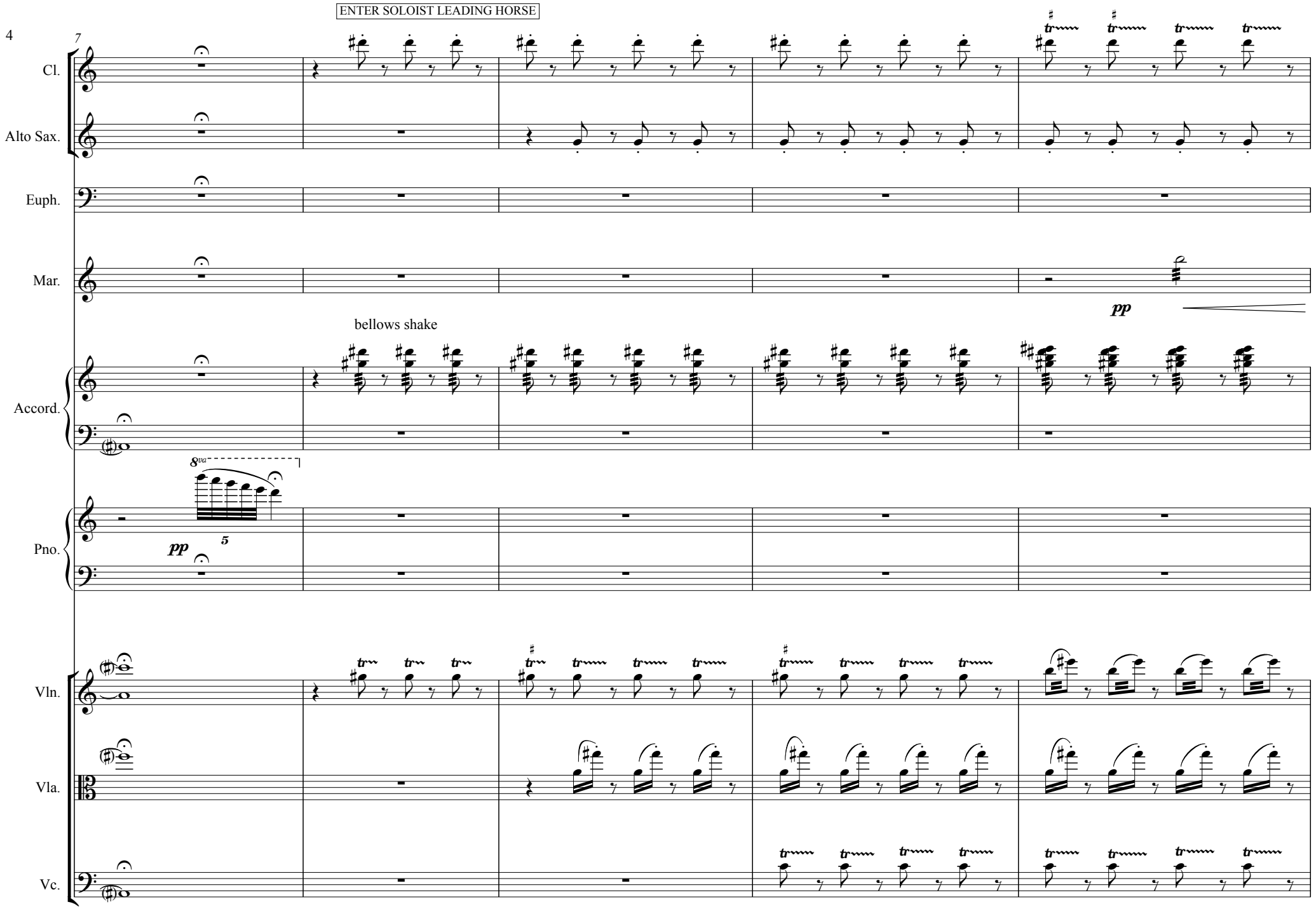
Viola

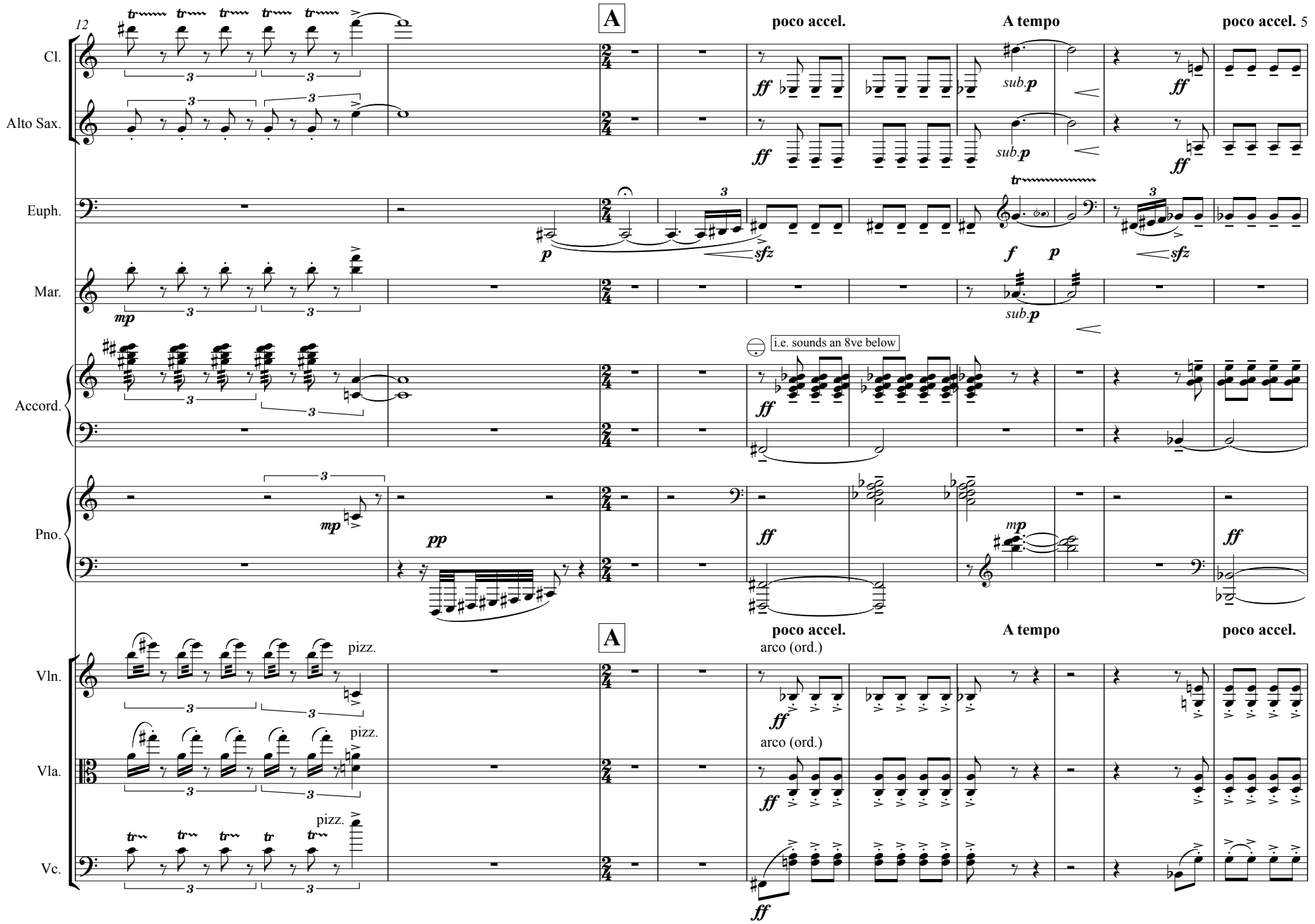
Violoncello

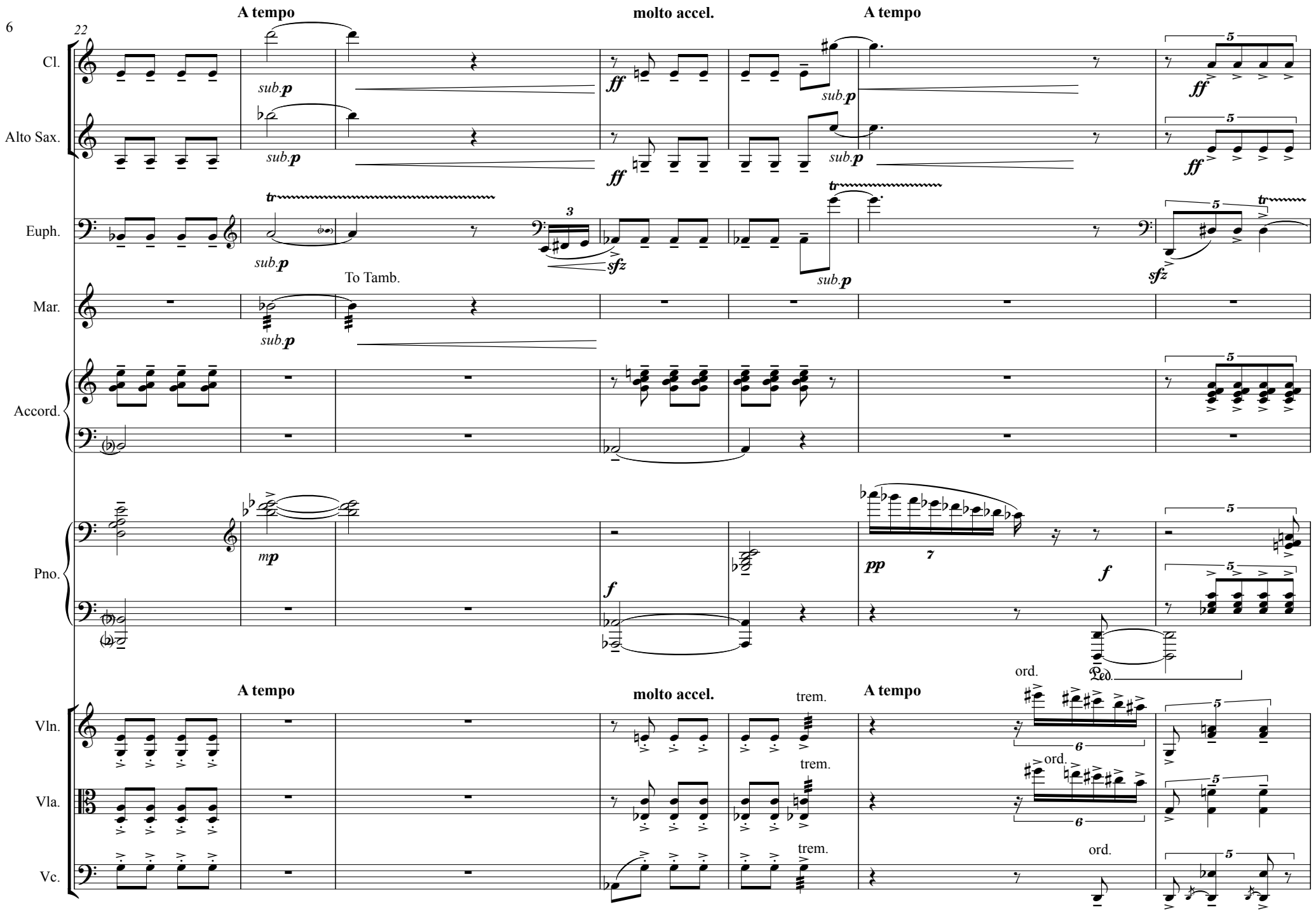
sul tasto

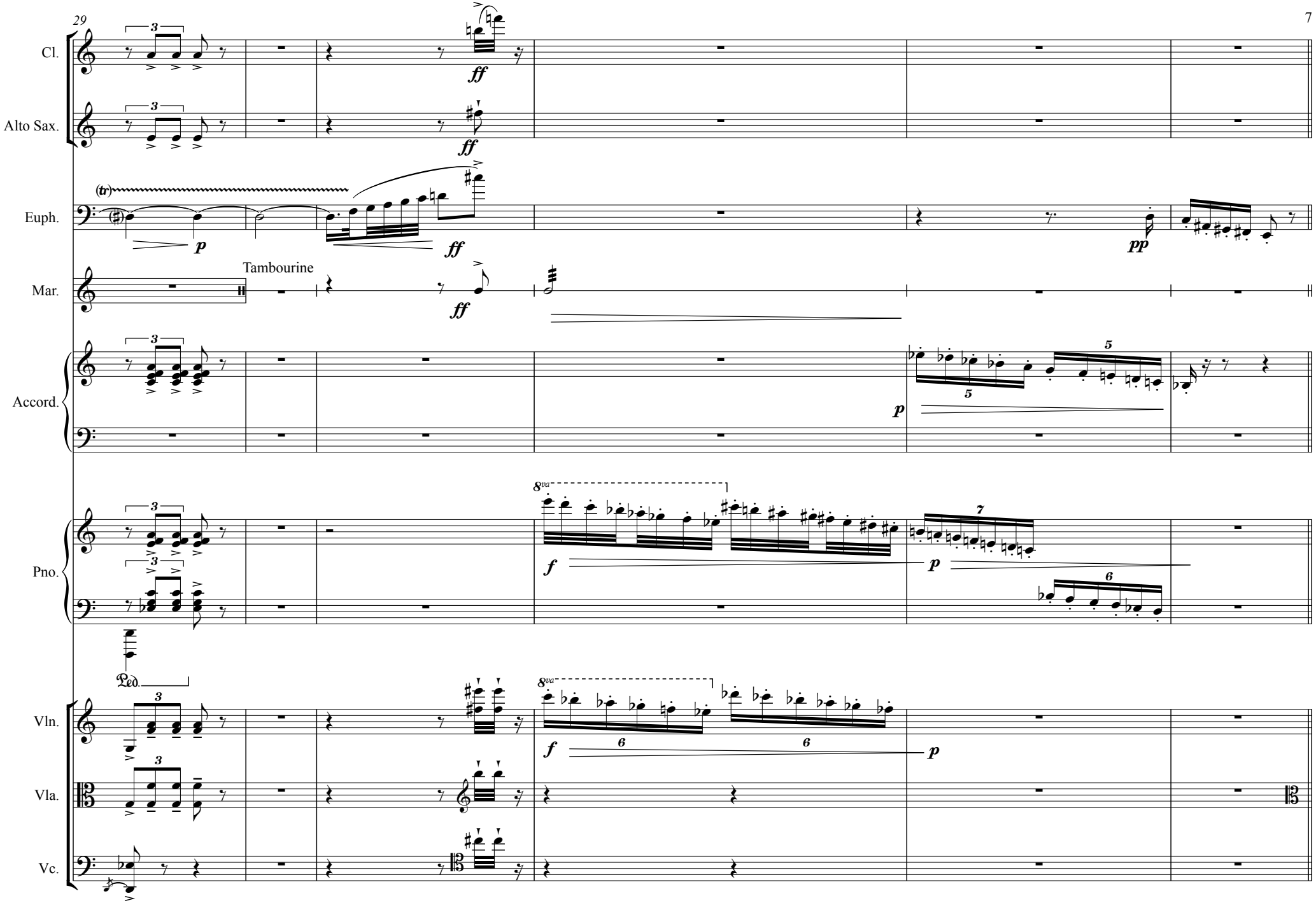
sul pont.

ord.


7
ENTER SOLOIST LEADING HORSE
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
pp
bellows shake
Accord.
8va
pp
5
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

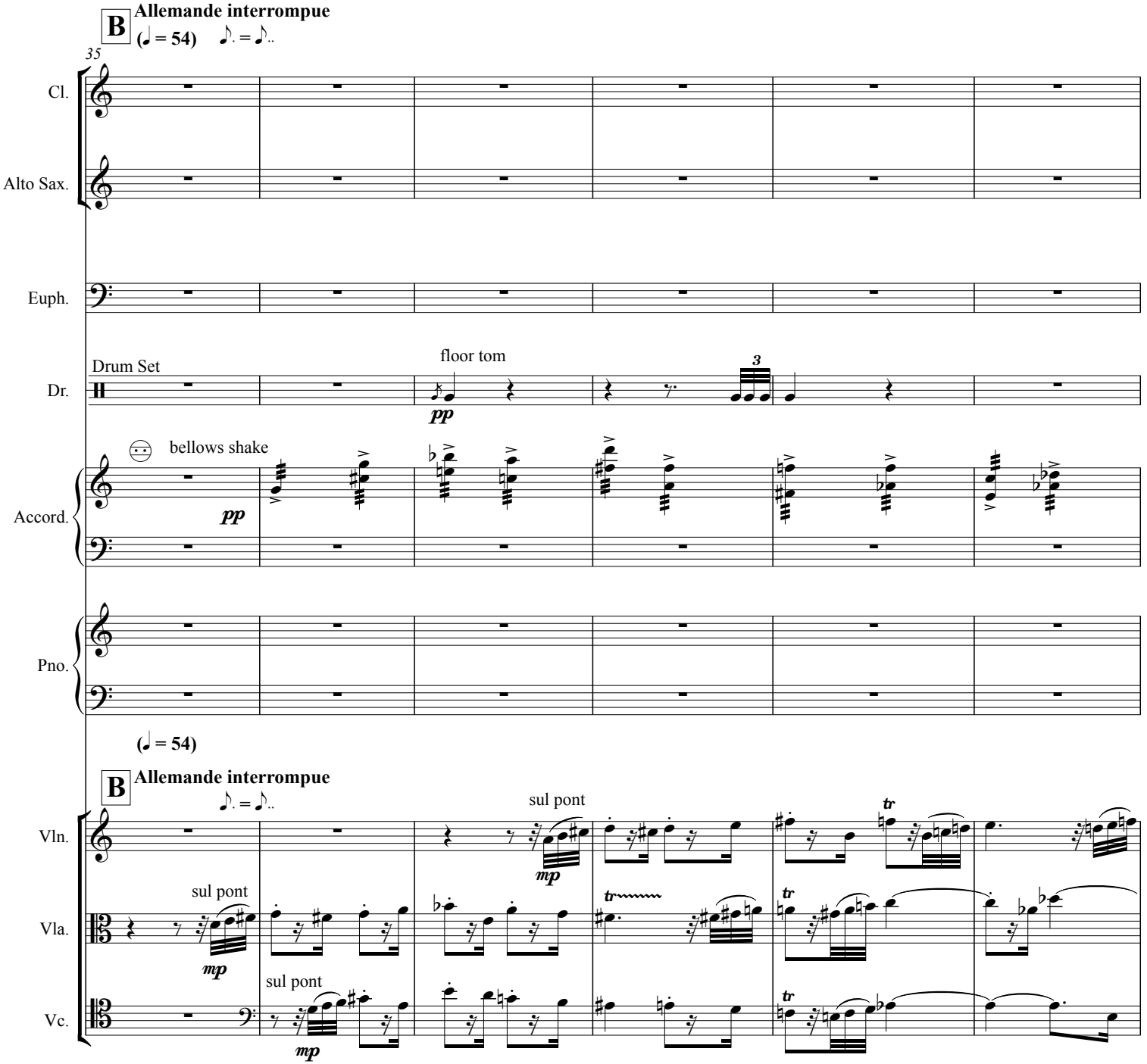

12
A
poco accel.
A tempo
poco accel.
5
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
i.e. sounds an 8ve below
pizz.
arco (ord.)


22
A tempo
molto accel.
A tempo
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
sub.p
ff
sfz
mp
pp
f
tr
To Tamb.
trem.
ord.
Ped.


Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
Tambourine
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ff
p
pp
f
(tr)
8va
Ped.

G.P. - DIALOGUE 1

Conductor (notices horse): What's this?
Soloist (shrugs) It's my horse.
Conductor: well, you can't have a horse in here. This is a serious concert, you know.
Soloist: Ah come on, he's a lovely horse, and really very well behaved. And the audience don't mind, do you?
Audience: No!
Soloist Just don't let him get at the wine. Then anything could happen...



Molto piu mosso

♩ = 144

previous quintuplet ♪ = ♩

41

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

snare d.

ride

BD

Molto piu mosso

♩ = 144

Allemande tempo, ma un poco piu

HORSE BEGINS TO MISBEHAVE

52

♩ = 58

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

- try to co-ordinate 'bombs' with horse's movements

Dr.

continue with swing feel (felt as ♩ = 150)

Accord.

Pno.

Allemande tempo, ma un poco piu

♩ = 58

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz

60

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

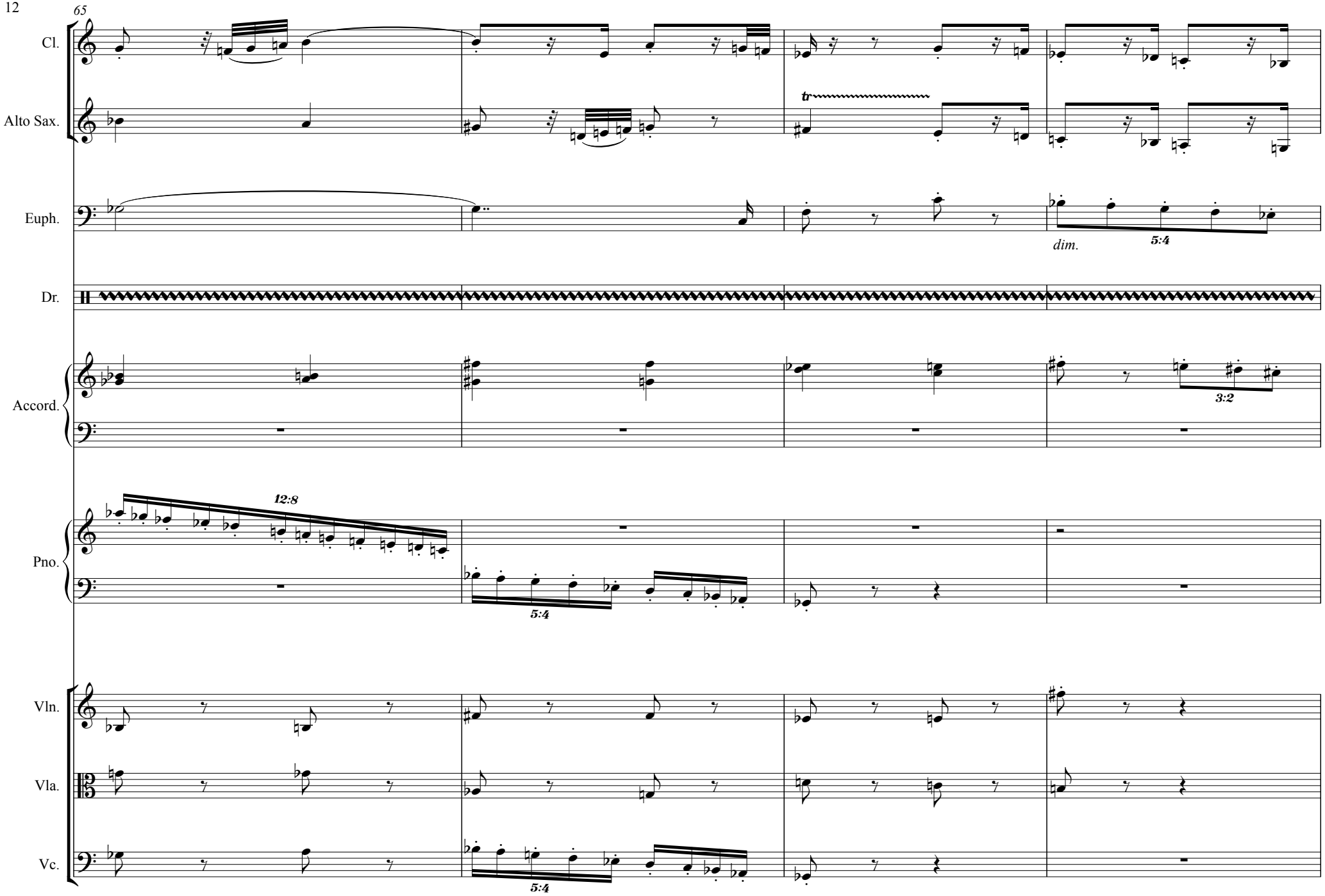
tr

tr

15:8

14:8

6:4


65
Cl.
Alto Sax.
tr
Euph.
dim.
5:4
Dr.
Accord.
3:2
Pno.
12:8
5:4
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
5:4

♩ = 144

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

3:2

15:8

5:4

toms

To Mar.

arco

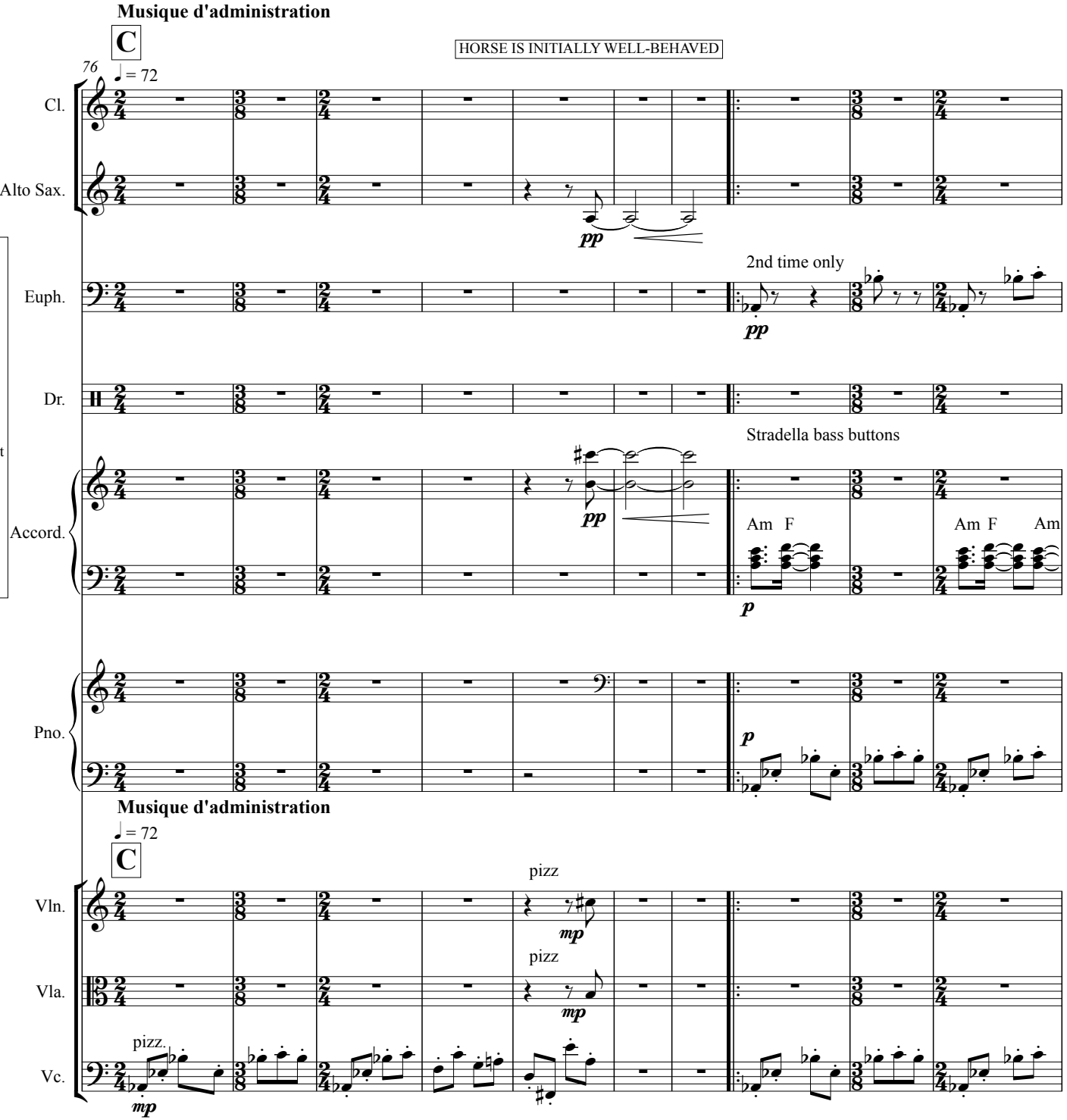
G.P. - DIALOGUE 2

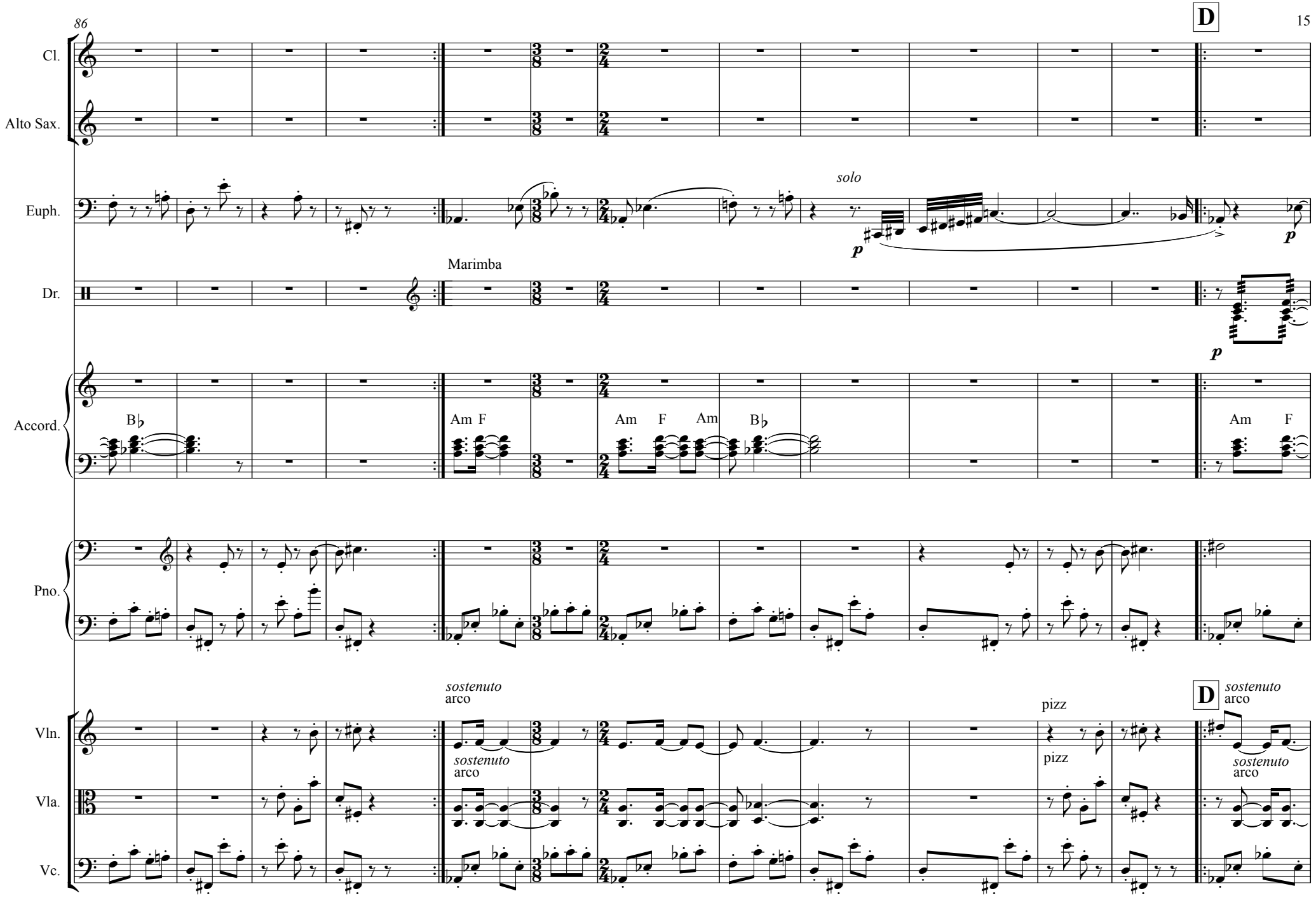
Conductor: Look, this is impossible, this is a serious concert,
I can't go on like this.
Soloist: he's just a bit over-excited, he'll calm down, won't you, Horse?
(*Horse looks at audience and shakes his head)*
Conductor: well, you can't keep him here. He's got to go.
Horse looks sad, Audience go "aah"
Soloist: No, listen, the audience love him! It'll be the next big thing
in contemporary music!
Conductor: Oh, no, it won't!
Audience: Oh, yes it will!
This exchange is repeated ad lib.
Soloist OK, look this is Luxembourg, the birthplace of democracy.
We should have a vote. If you agree to tell me if the horse goes near the bucket of wine, then he can stay on, OK? Who's with me?
And who thinks the horse has to go?

Audience vote by show of hands.

Ignore the result of the vote and proceed to letter C.

Soloist *to audience:* Remember, you have to tell me if he goes near the wine!




86
D
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
solo
p
Marimba
Dr.
p
Accord.
B♭
Am F
Am F Am
B♭
Am F
Pno.
sostenuto
arco
pizz
D
sostenuto
arco
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

HORSE TRIES TO DRINK FROM BUCKET.
AUDIENCE SHOUT WARNINGS.

99

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Mar.

Accord.

Am F Am B♭ F Am F Am

Pno.

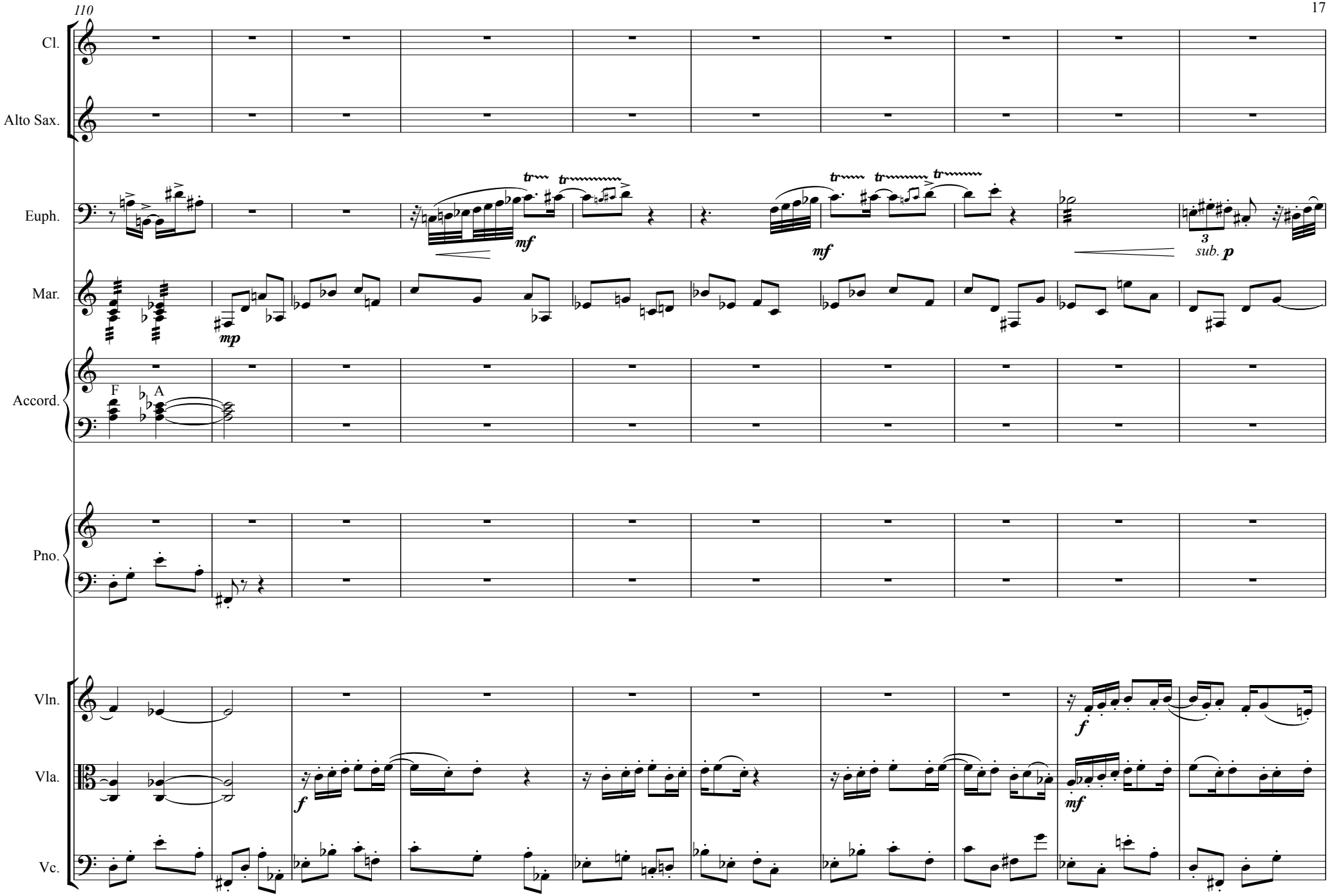
Vln.

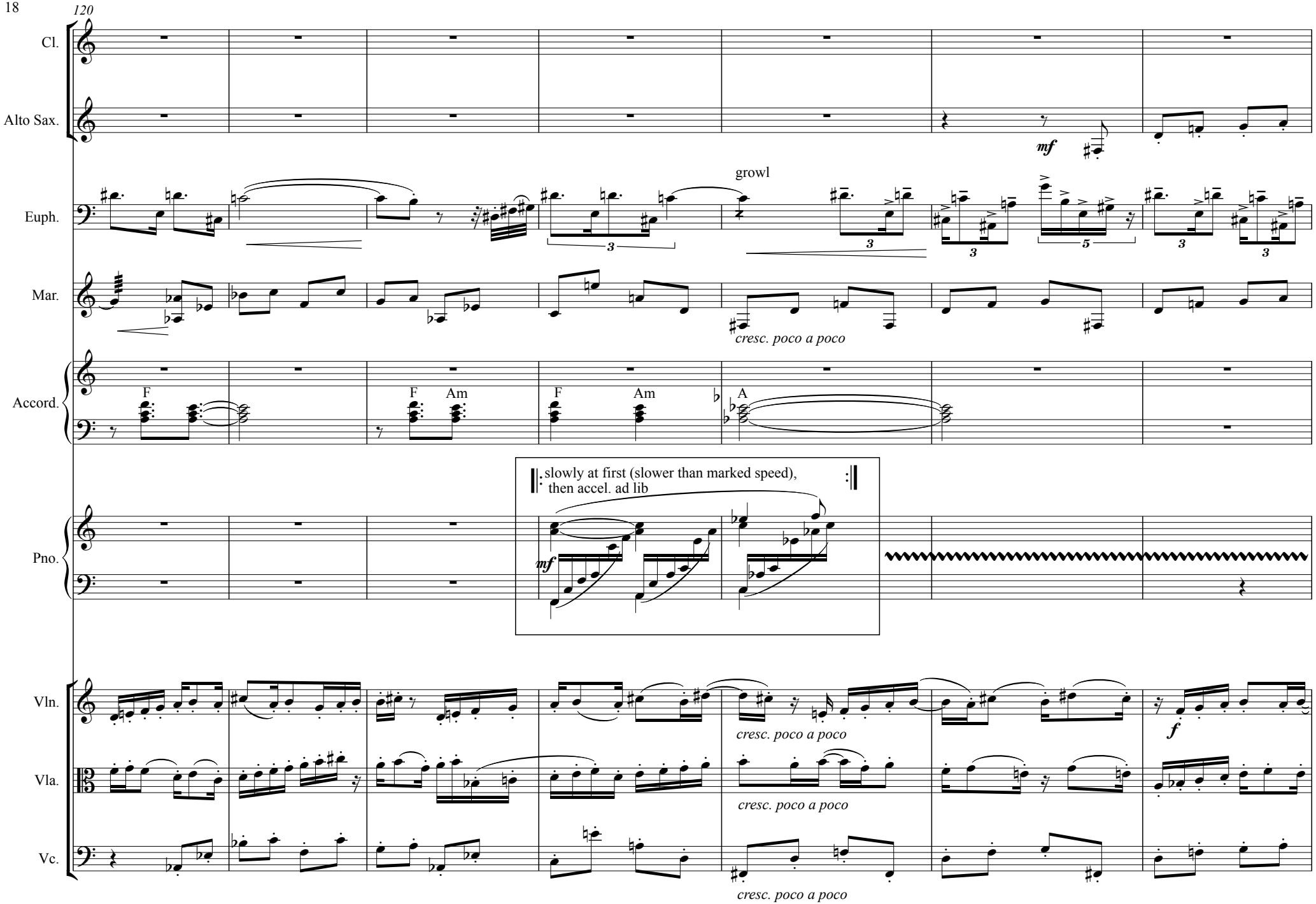
pizz arco

Vla.

pizz arco

Vc.


Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
mf
mf
3
sub. p
Mar.
mp
Accord.
F
A
Pno.
Vln.
f
Vla.
f
mf
Vc.


120
Cl.
Alto Sax.
mf
growl
Euph.
Mar.
cresc. poco a poco
Accord.
F
F
Am
F
Am
A
slowly at first (slower than marked speed),
then accel. ad lib
mf
Pno.
Vln.
cresc. poco a poco
f
Vla.
cresc. poco a poco
Vc.
cresc. poco a poco

HORSE ATTACKS PIANO

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Mar.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

mf

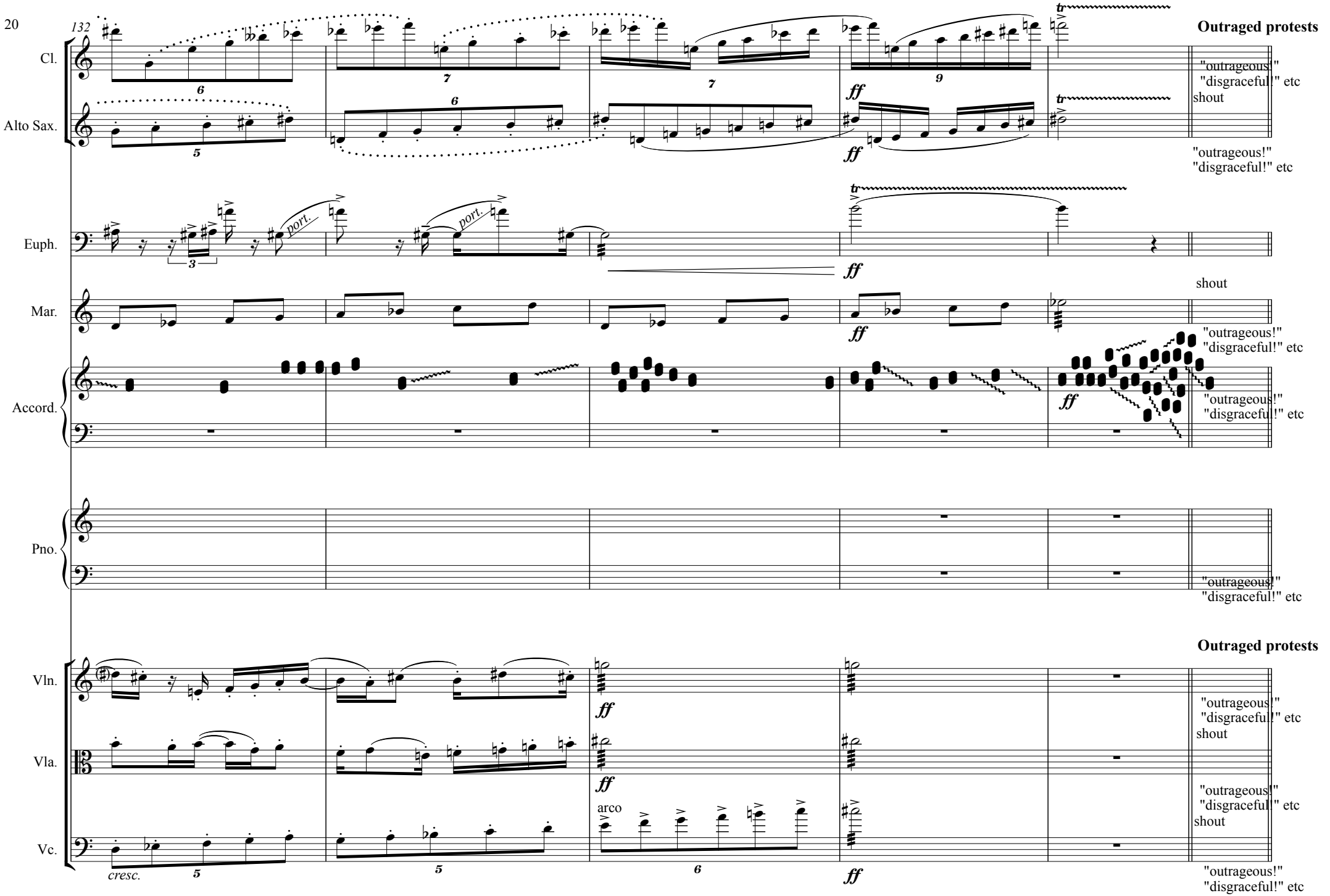
cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

F Am A♭

increasingly frantic RH clusters and slides

Horse attacks piano, preventing the 'pianistic texture' from continuing
The horse's nose plays piano clusters


132
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
Outraged protests
"outrageous!"
"disgraceful!" etc
shout
ff
port.
tr
arco
cresc.

Conductor: Right, that's it. Either he goes....or I go.
Soloist: Horse, you've let me down. I can't trust you any more.
You have to go. No, don't look at me like that. You're a very bad horse.
Audience must feel sympathy for horse here.

HORSE LEAVES MAIN PLAYING AREA BUT REMAINS VISIBLE

E **Allemande reprise**

138

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Mar.

Accord.

Muttering, spray and wipe down the keyboard, audibly touching keys

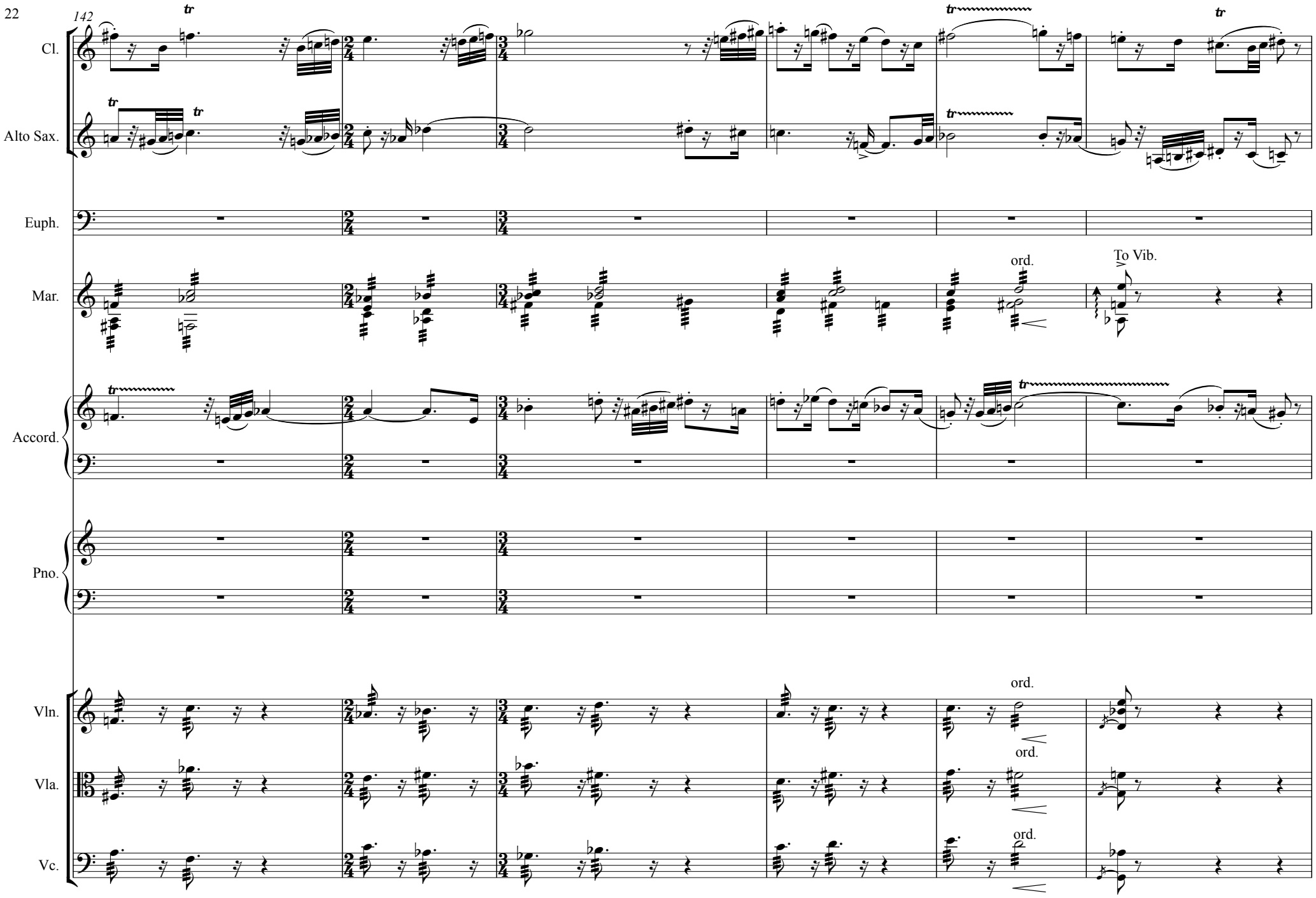
Pno.

E **Allemande reprise**

Vln. spiccato

Vla. spiccato

Vc. spiccato


142
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ord.
To Vib.

Horse's lament

F ♩ = 54

HORSE SOBS VISIBLY:
AUDIENCE SAY 'AAAAH!'

Cl.

Alto Sax.

molto doloroso e lacrimoso

Euph.

p *sfz* *mp* *sfz* *mp* *sfz* *pp* *sfz* *p*

Mar.

Accord.

Pno.

pp

Horse's lament

F ♩ = 54

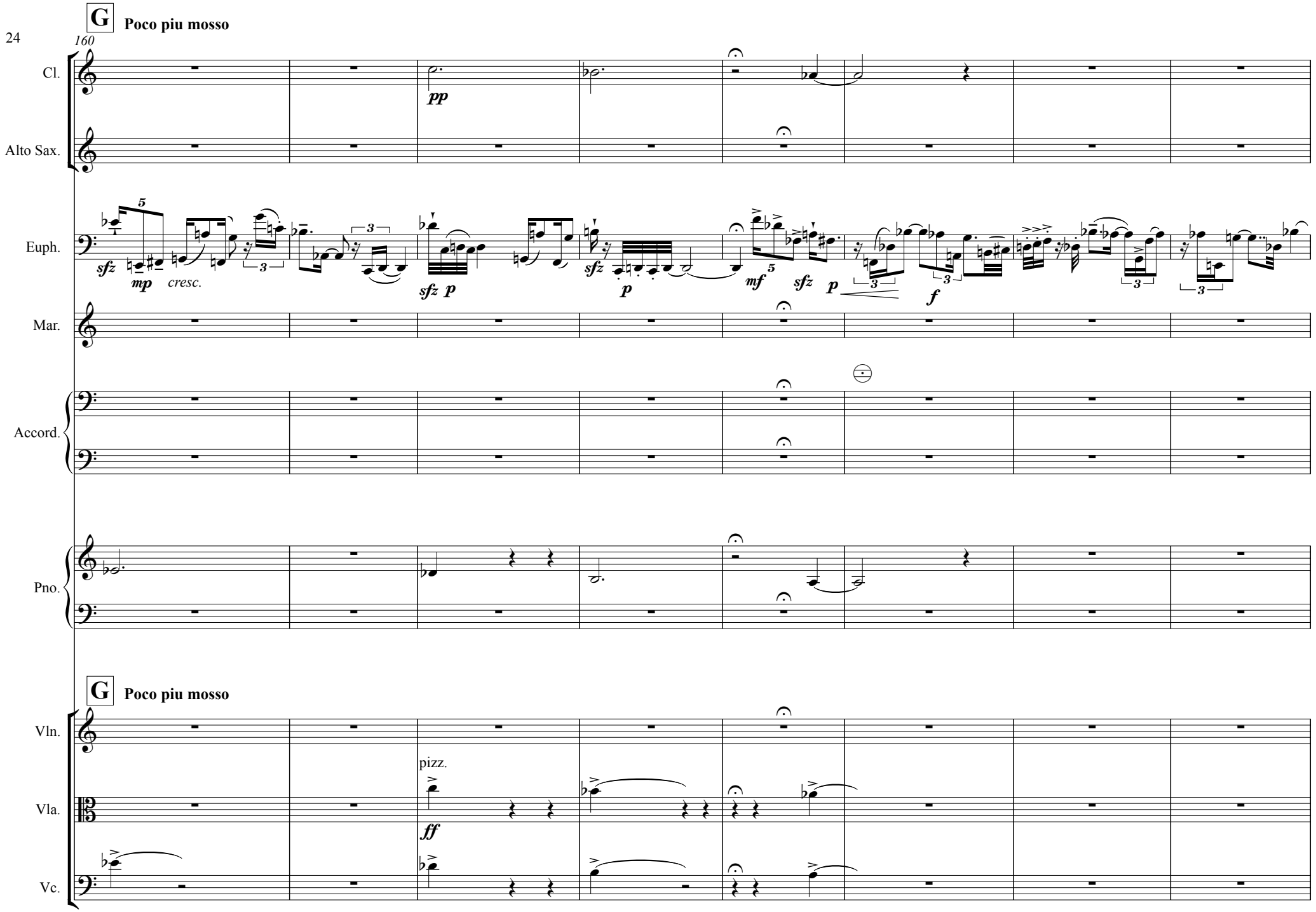
Vln.

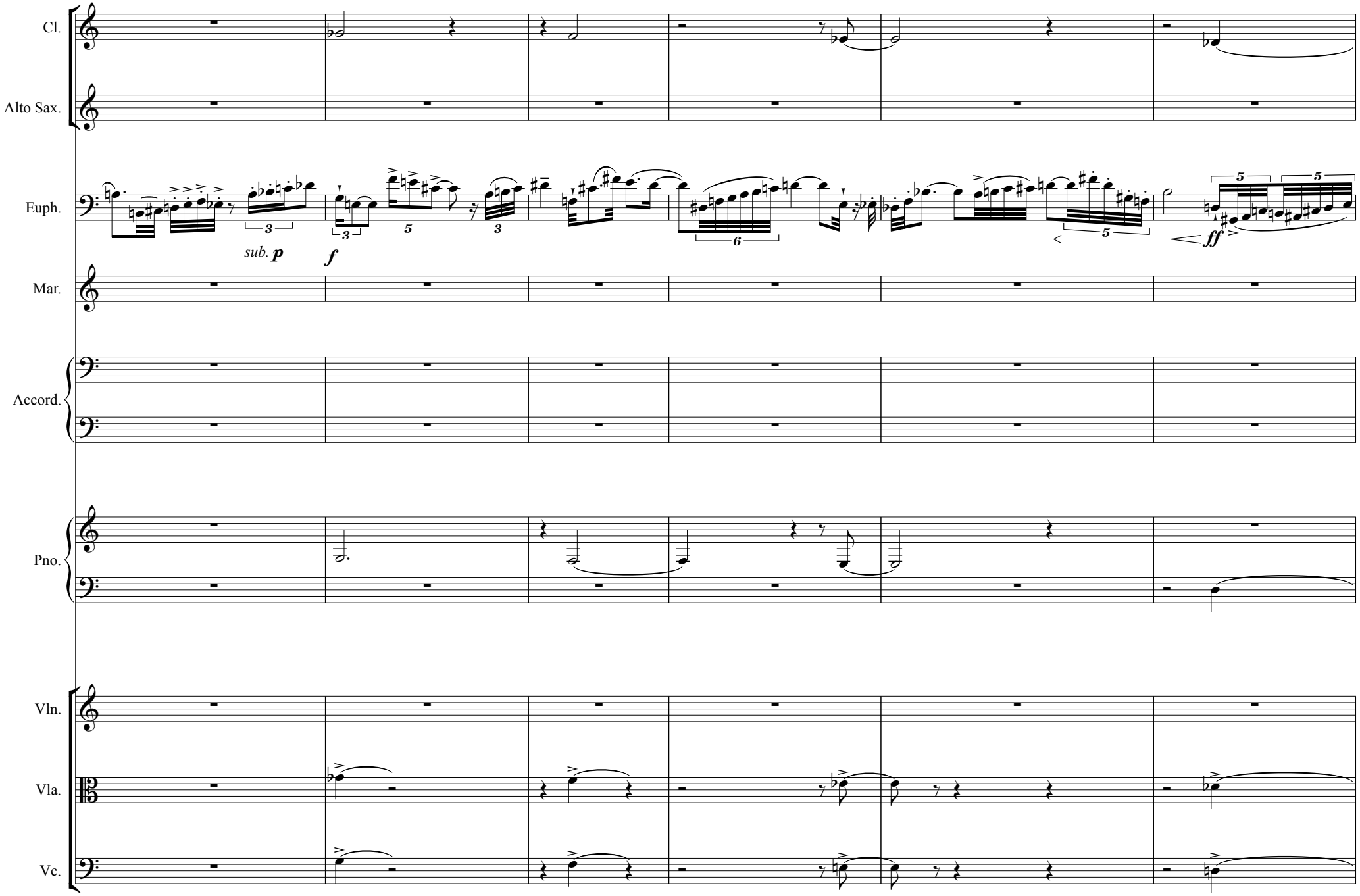
Vla.

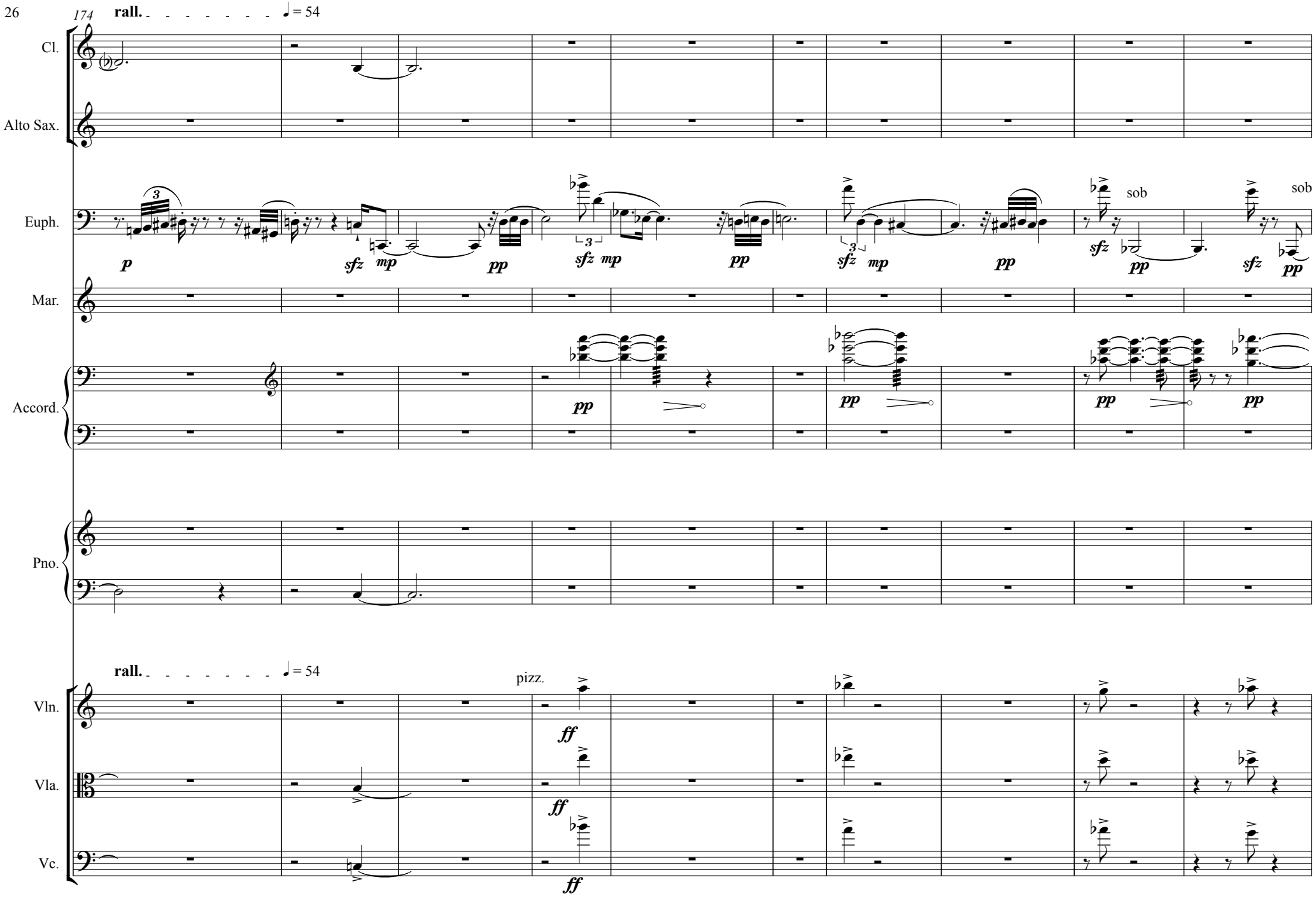
Vc.

pizz.

ff


G
Poco piu mosso
160
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp
sfz
mp
cresc.
sfz p
p
mf
sfz
p
f
pizz.
ff


Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
sub. p
f
ff
Mar.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.


174
rall.
♩ = 54
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Mar.
Accord.
Pno.
rall.
♩ = 54
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pizz.
sob
sob

184

Horse Dreams of a Waltz

H

♩ = 100

rit.

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Mar.

Accord.

Pno.

pp

sfz

ppp

6

breathy tone

sob

Vibraphone

Ped.

articulate with bellows direction only

Horse Dreams of a Waltz

H

♩ = 100

gliss.

gliss.

arco

rit.

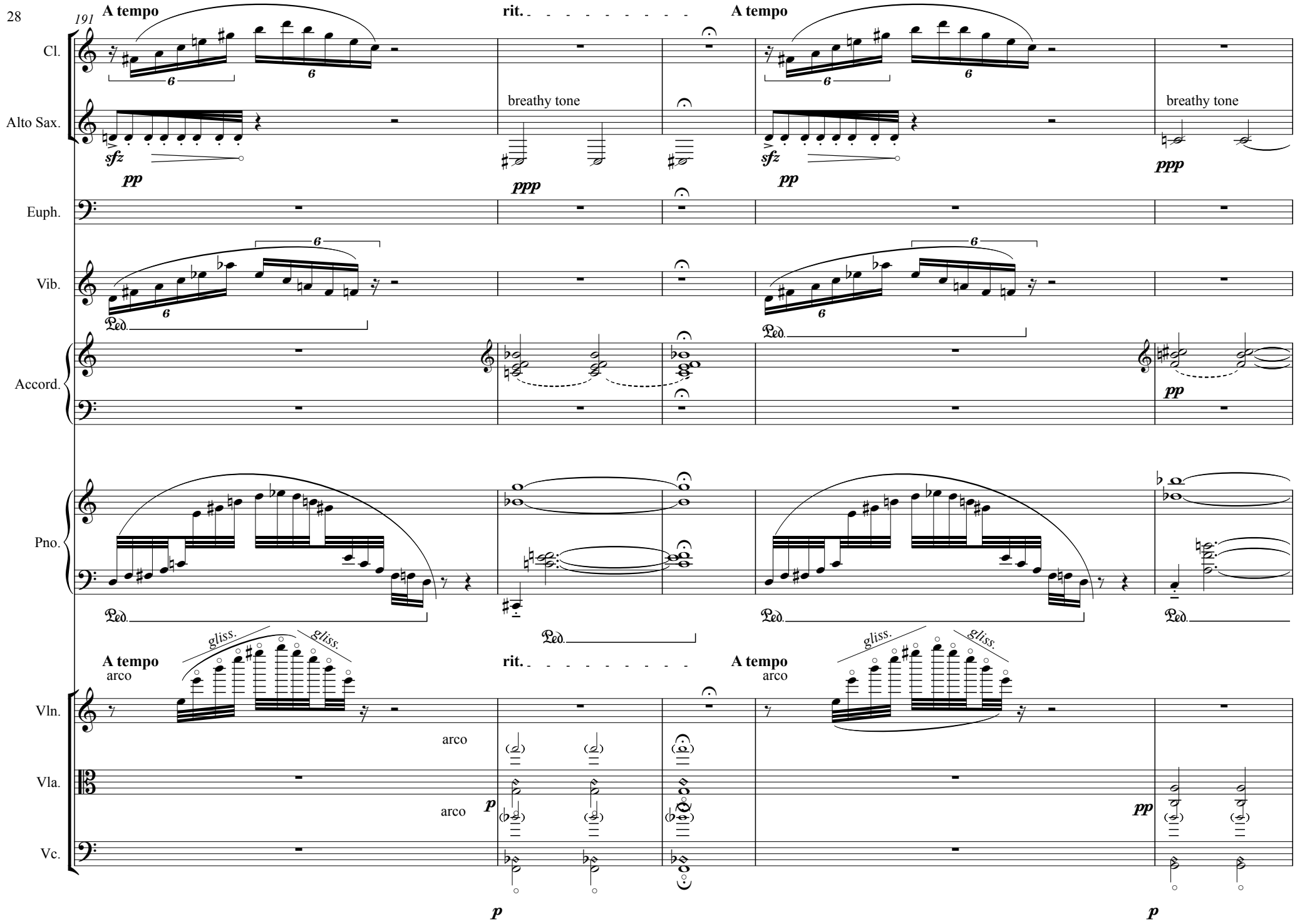
Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

arco

arco


191
A tempo
rit.
A tempo
Cl.
Alto Sax.
breathy tone
breathy tone
sfz
pp
ppp
sfz
pp
ppp
Euph.
Vib.
Ped.
Ped.
Accord.
pp
Pno.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
Ped.
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
gliss.
A tempo
arco
rit.
A tempo
arco
Vln.
arco
Vla.
arco
p
pp
Vc.
p
p

poco accel. ♩ = 112

I

Cl.

Alto Sax.

breathy tone

Euph.

Vib.

Accord.

F♯dim

Pno.

poco accel. ♩ = 112

I

Vln.

arco

gliss.

gliss.

pizz.

arco

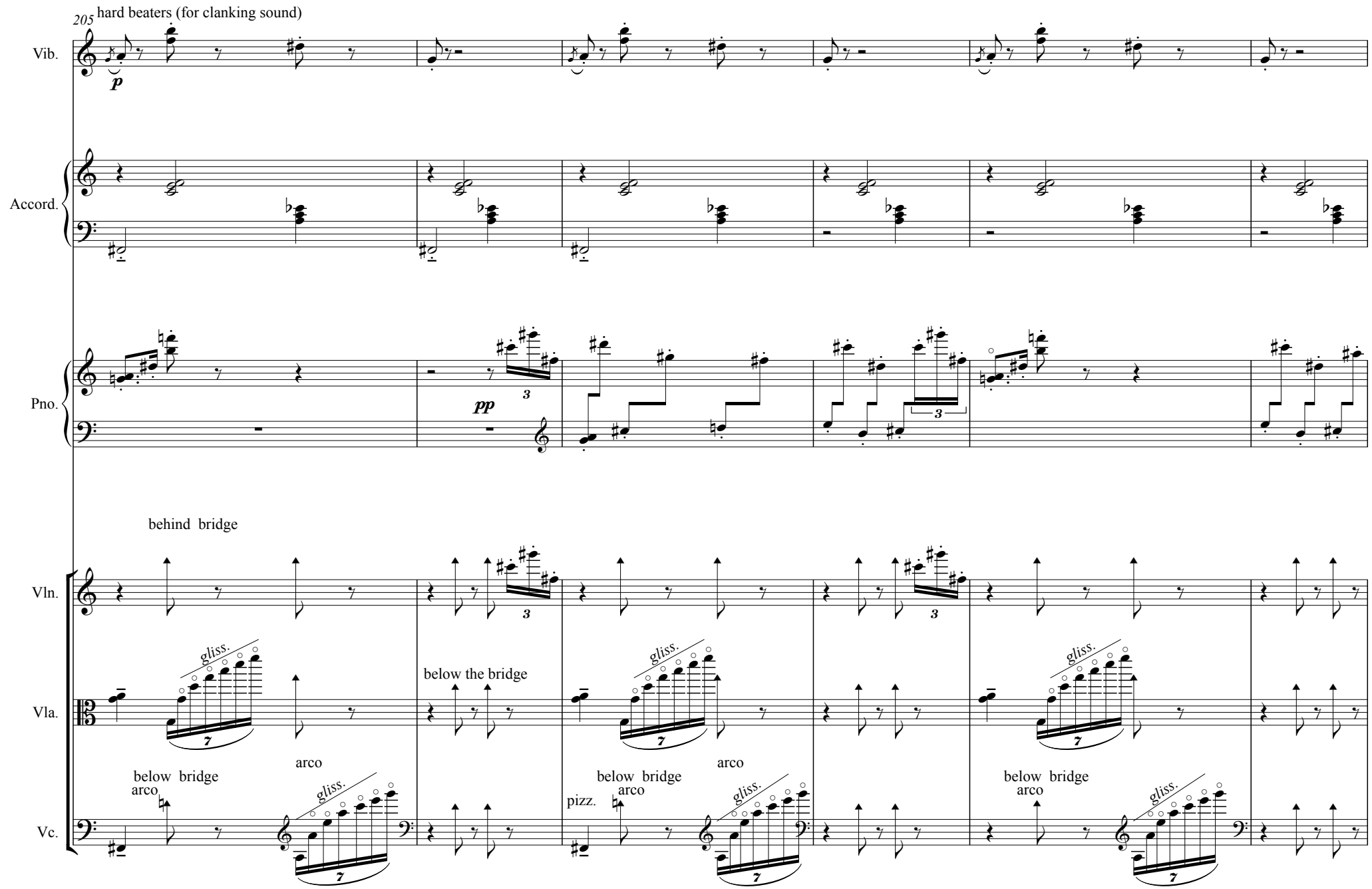
Vla.

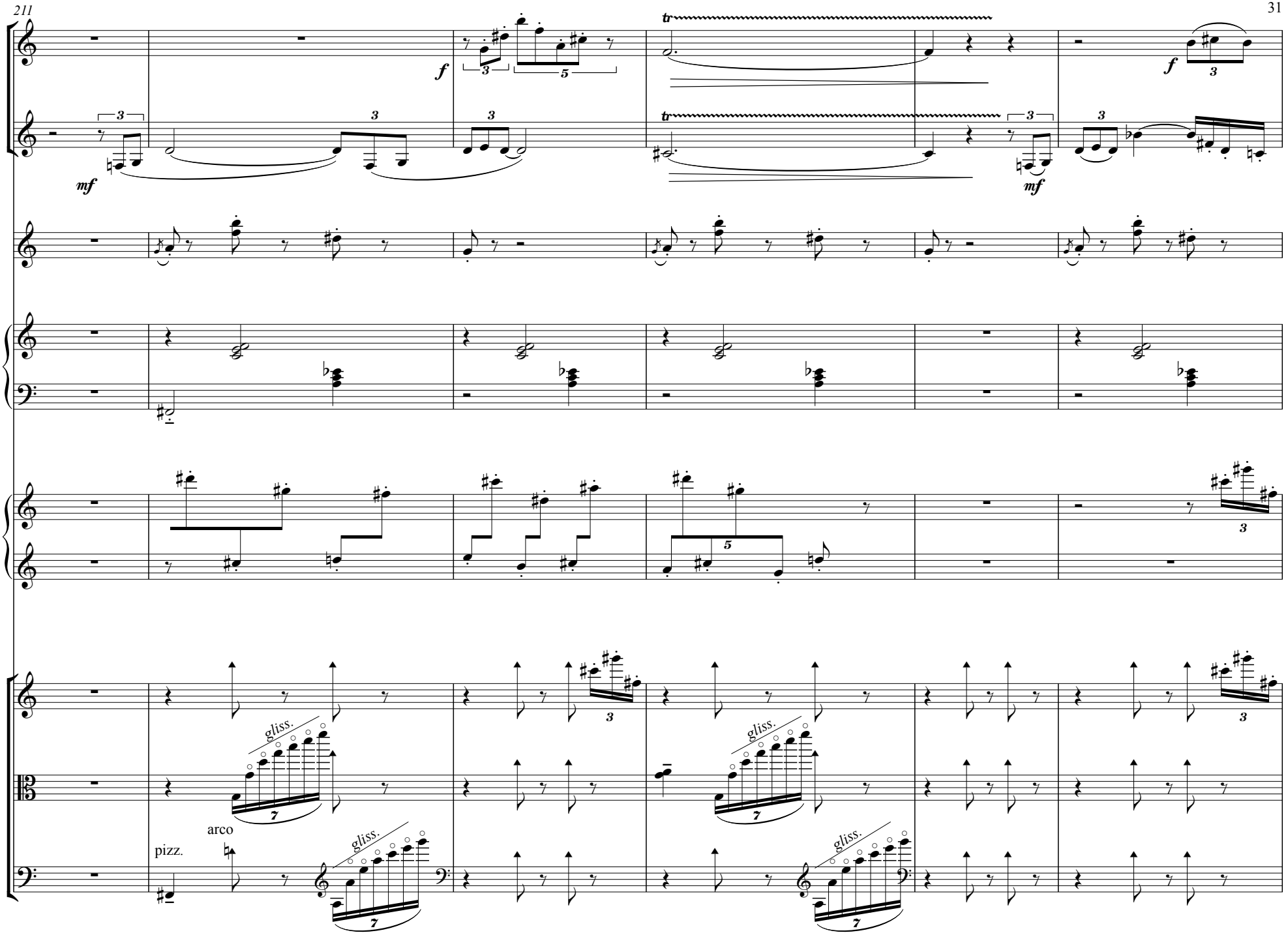
pizz.

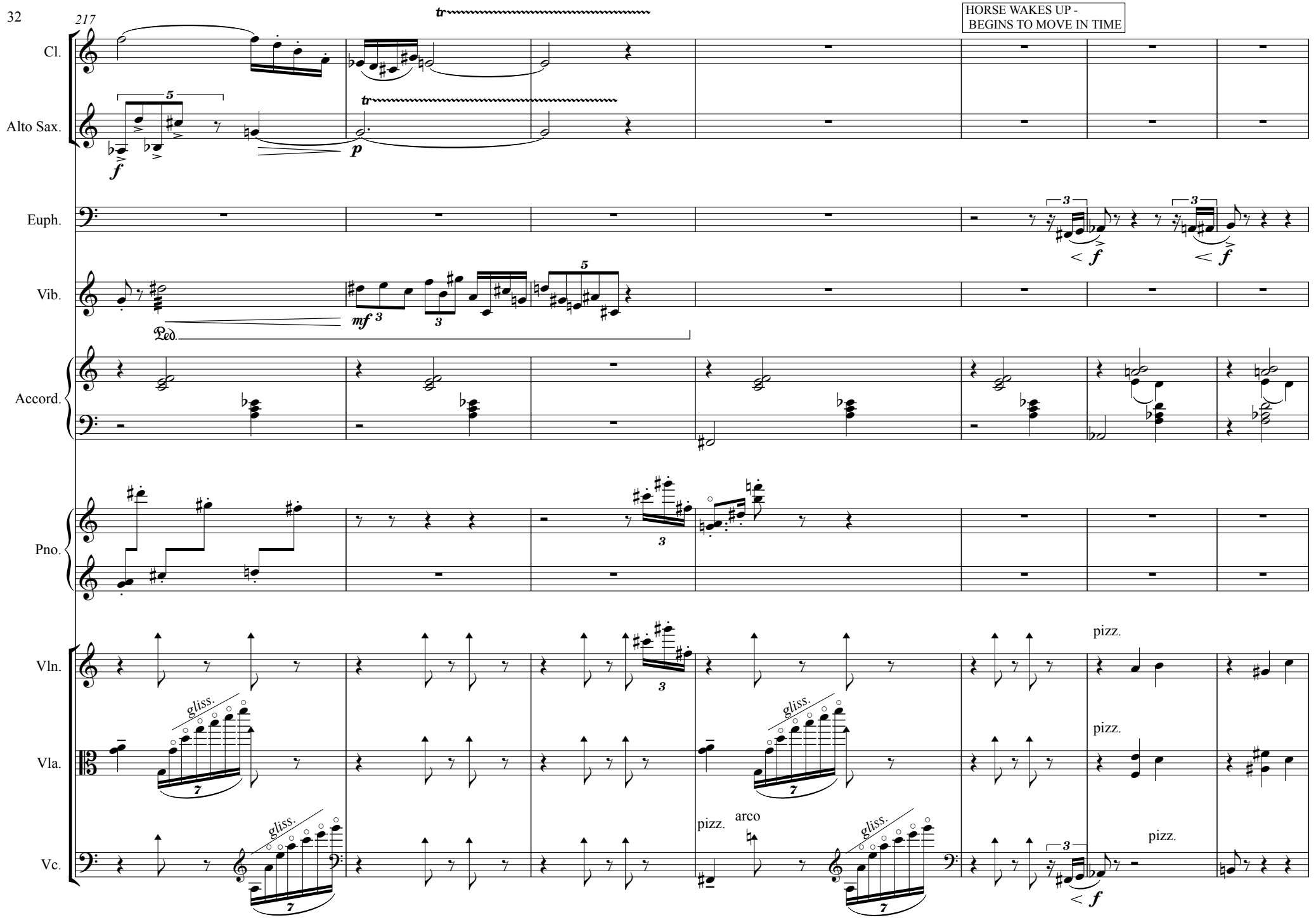
sul pont

(pizz.)

Vc.


205
hard beaters (for clanking sound)
Vib.
p
Accord.
Pno.
pp
behind bridge
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
gliss.
below the bridge
below bridge
arco
pizz.


Cl.
Alto Sax.
Vib.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
f
mf
tr
gliss.
arco
pizz.


217
HORSE WAKES UP -
BEGINS TO MOVE IN TIME
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Vib.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
tr
f
p
mf
Ped.
gliss.
pizz.
arco

♩ = 120

J

HORSE SNEAKS UP TO BUCKET - AUDIENCE SHOUT 'BEHIND YOU'

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Drum Set

Vib.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

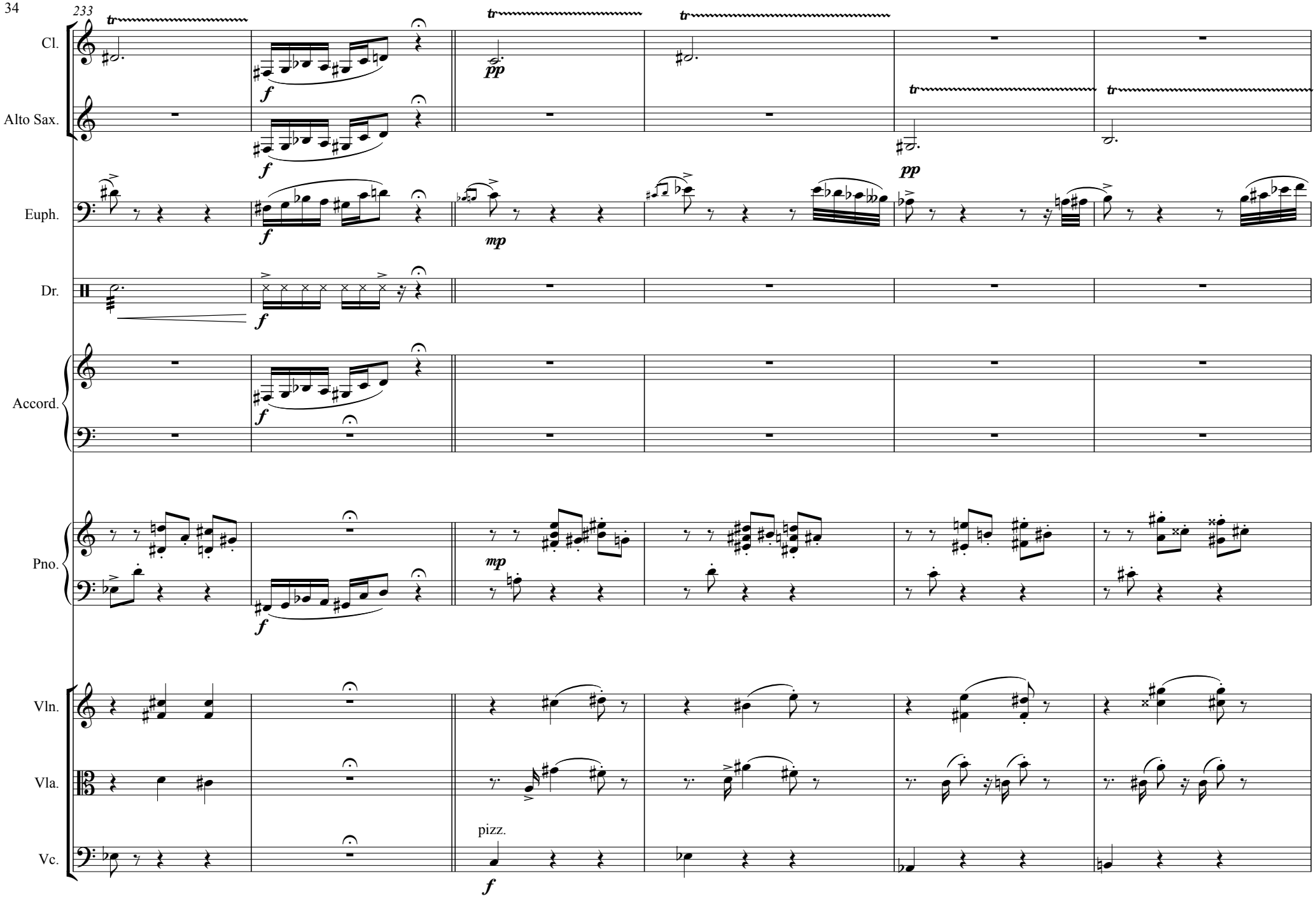
Vc.

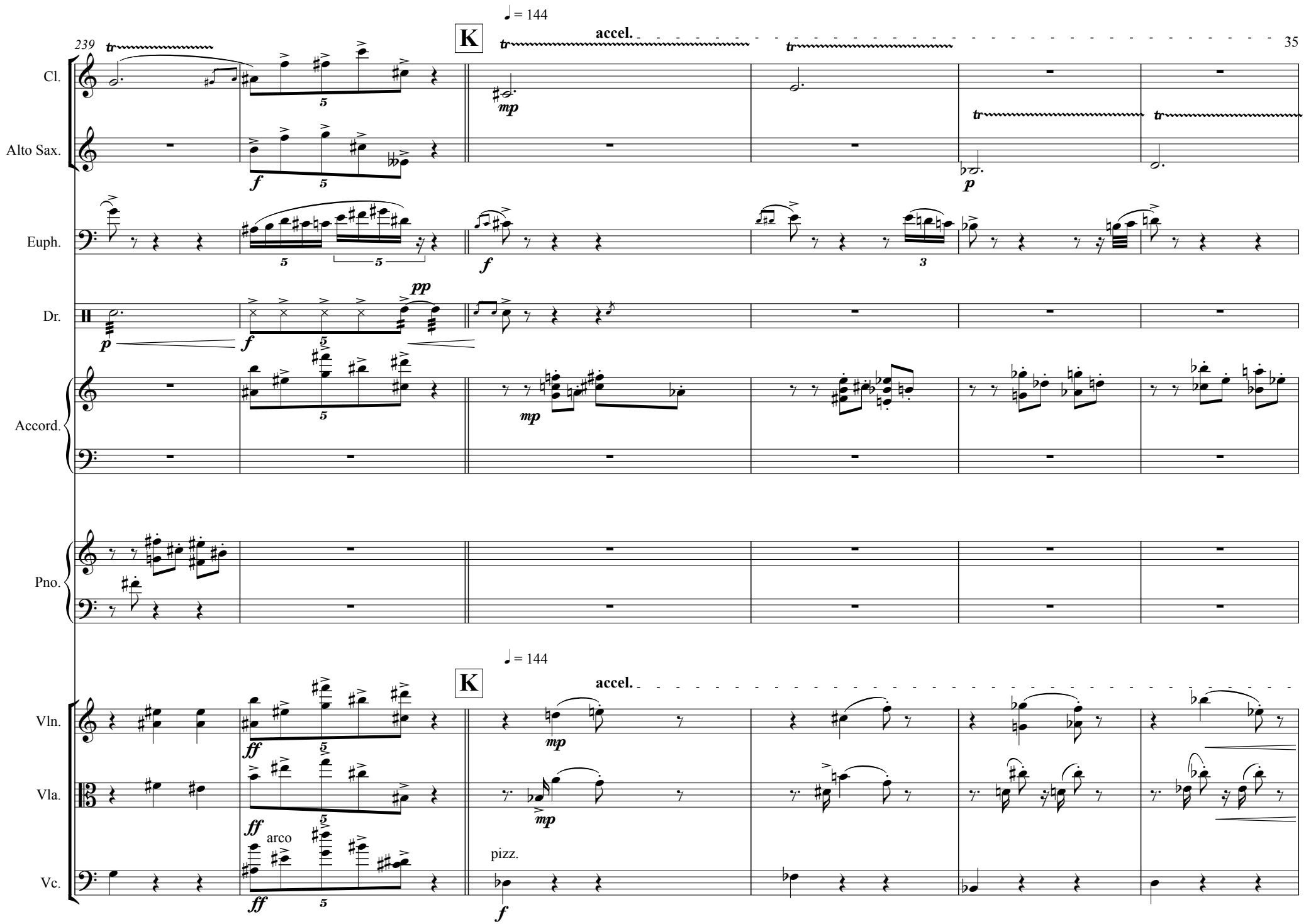
arco trem.

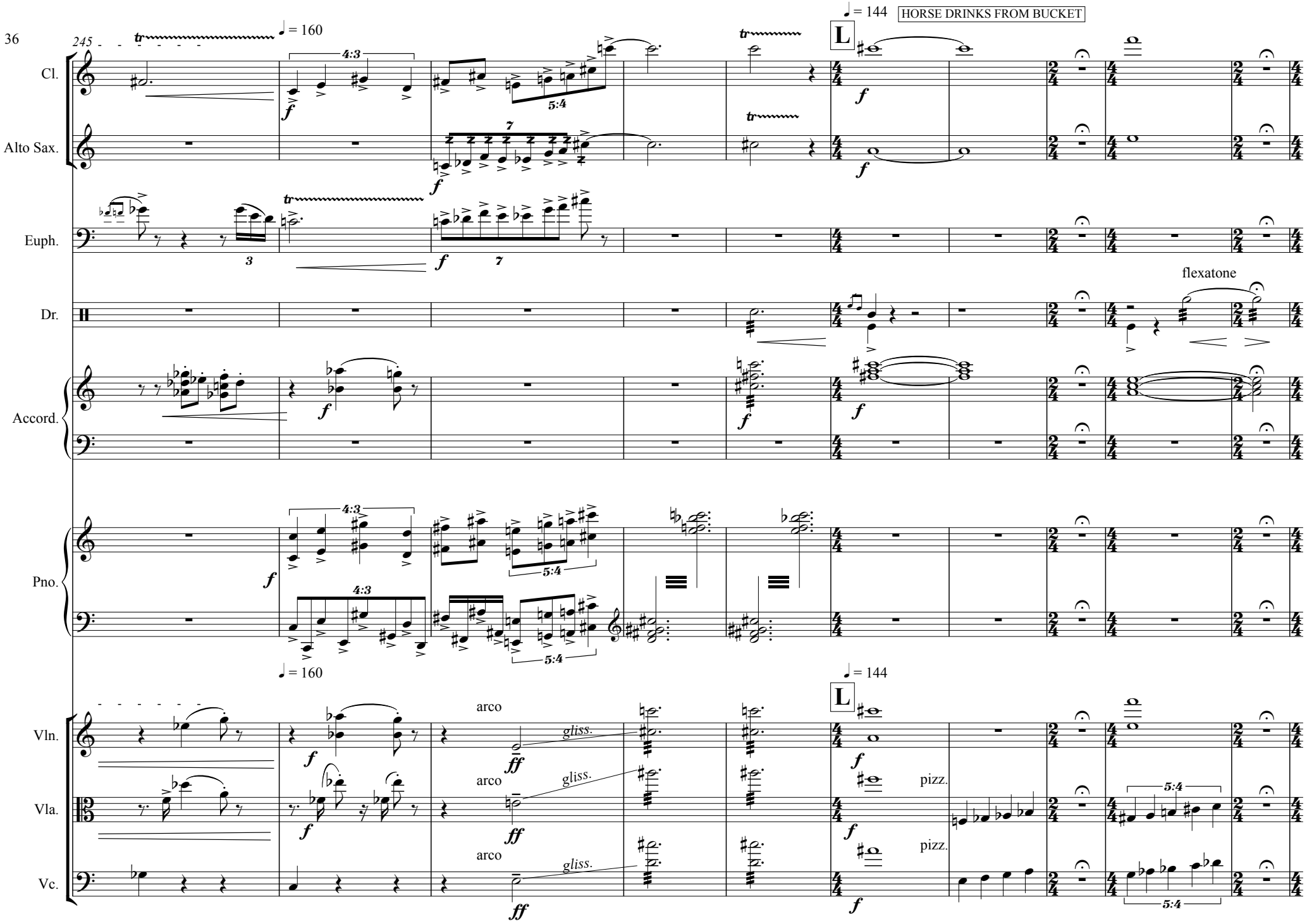
pizz.

♩ = 120

J


233
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
tr
f
pp
mp
pizz.


239
35
♩ = 144
K
accel.
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
arco
pizz.


245
♩ = 160
4:3
5:4
7
3
♩ = 144
HORSE DRINKS FROM BUCKET
L
flexatone
arco
gliss.
pizz.
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

♩ = 116

255

GP

M **Eine kleine Nacht(club) Musik**

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

vocal wah effect

mp

Dr.

mf

Accord.

Pno.

f

M

Eine kleine Nacht(club) Musik

GP

♩ = 116

Vln.

Vla.

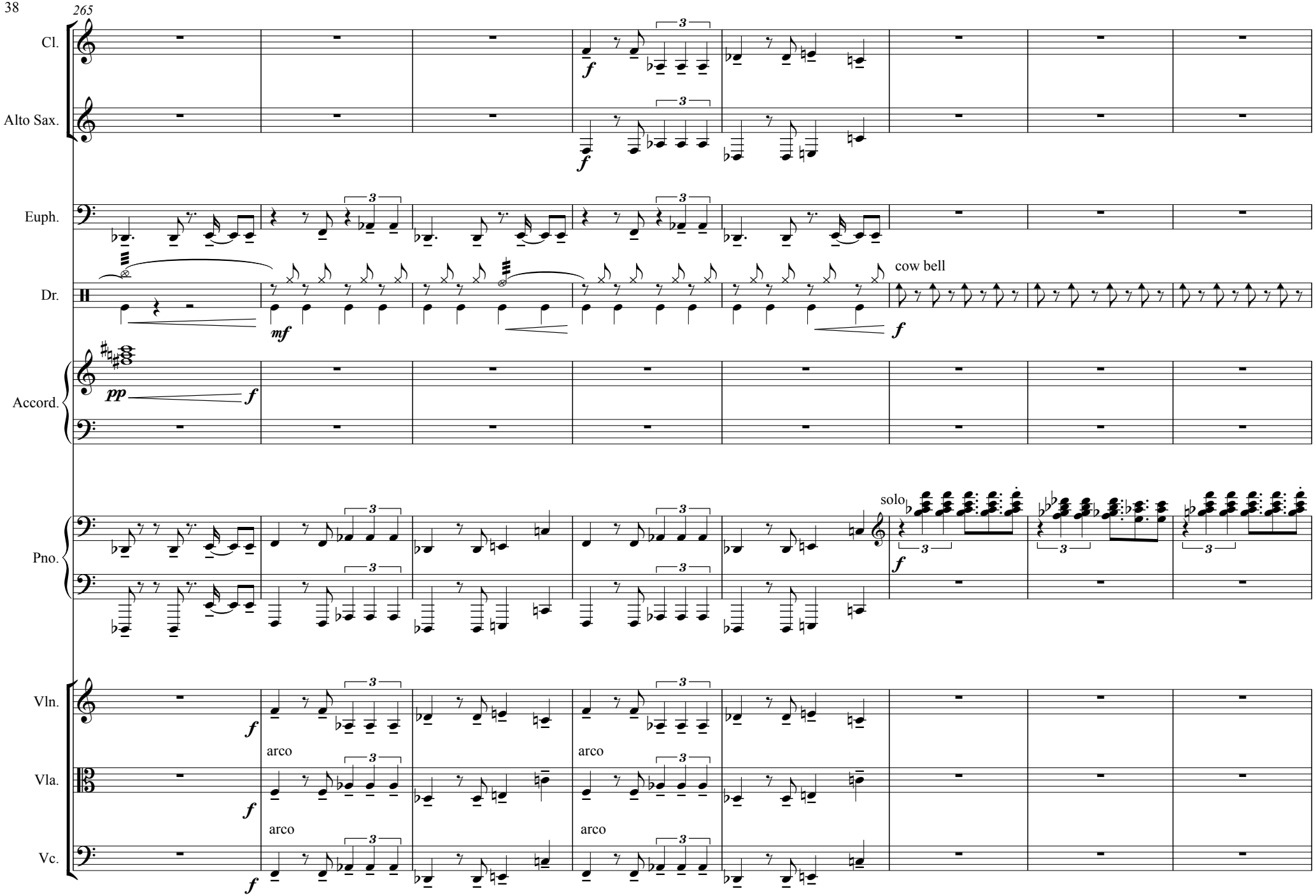
6:4

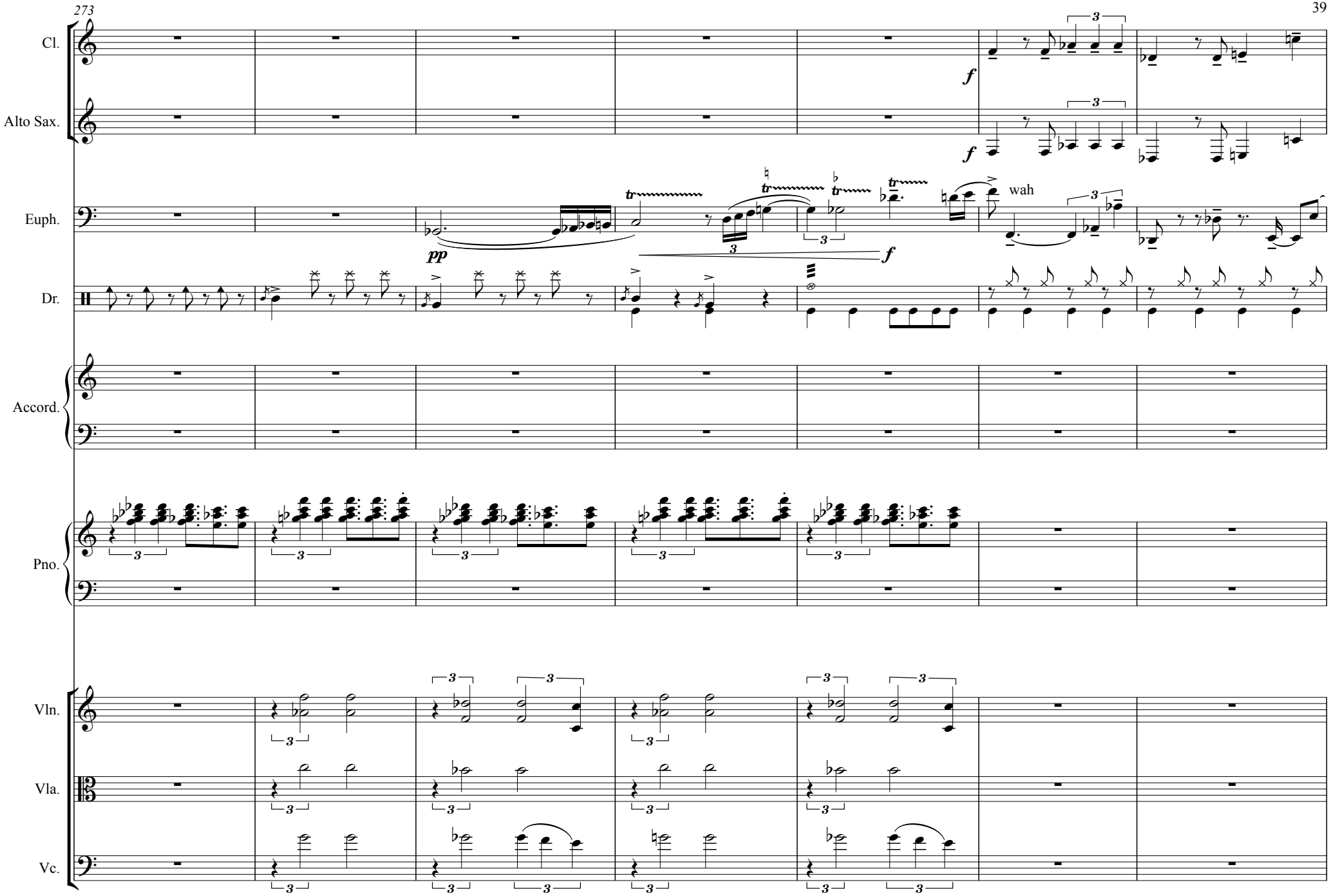
7:4

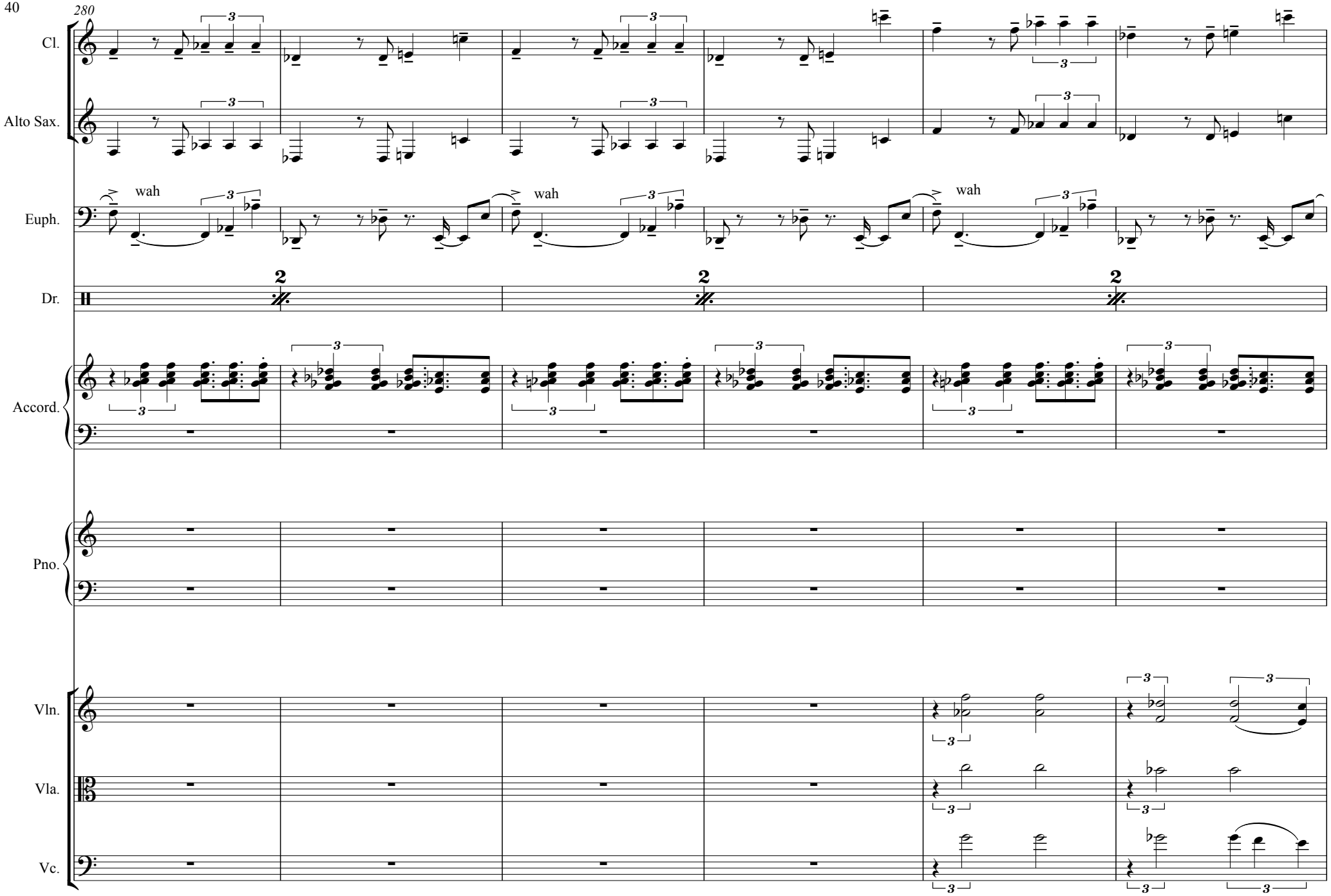
Vc.

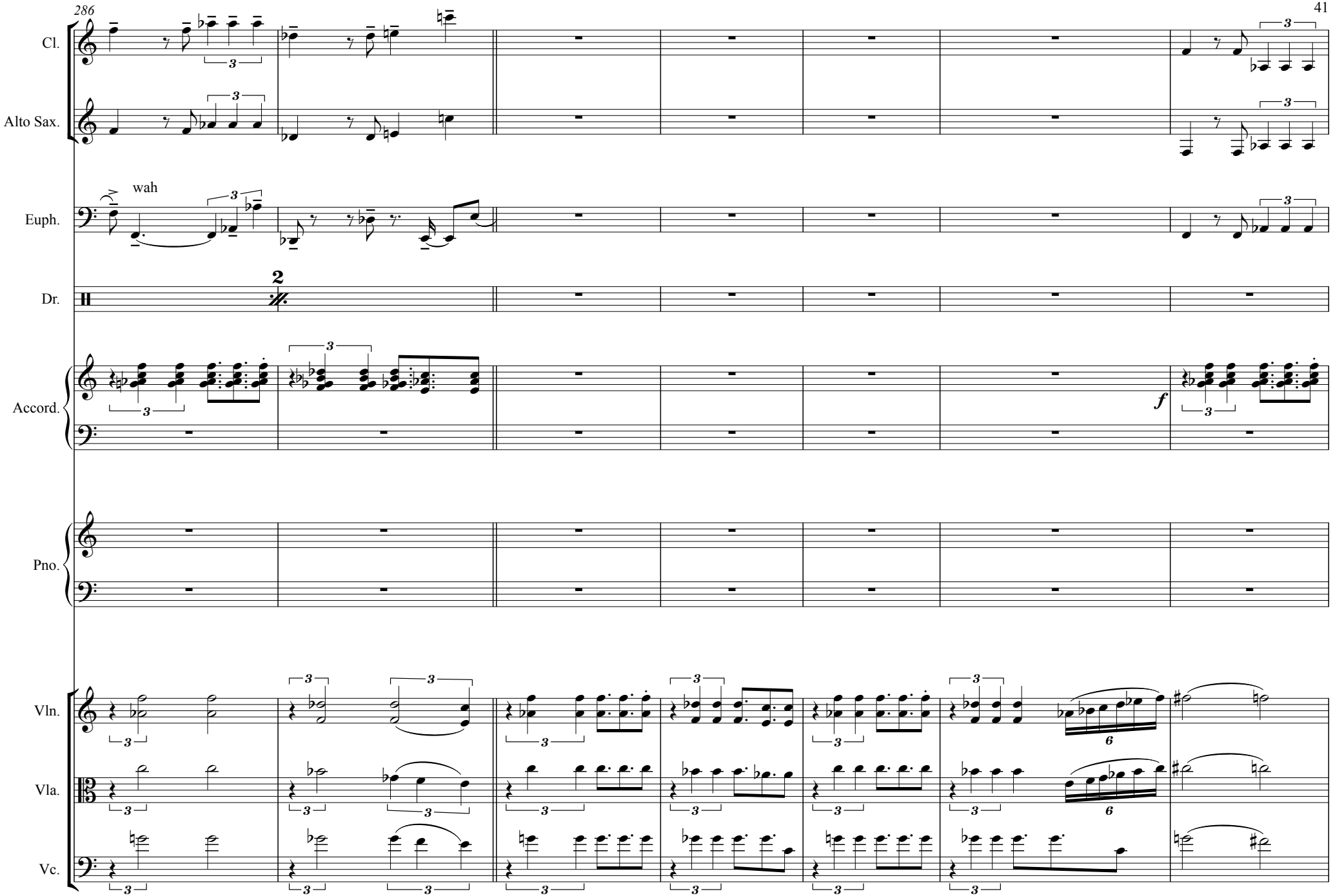
6:4

7:4


265
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
cow bell
Accord.
Pno.
solo
Vln.
arco
Vla.
arco
Vc.
arco


Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
pp
f
wah


280
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
wah
wah
wah
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.


Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
wah
Dr.
2
Accord.
f
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

293

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

all semitone trills

all semitone trills

all semitone trills

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

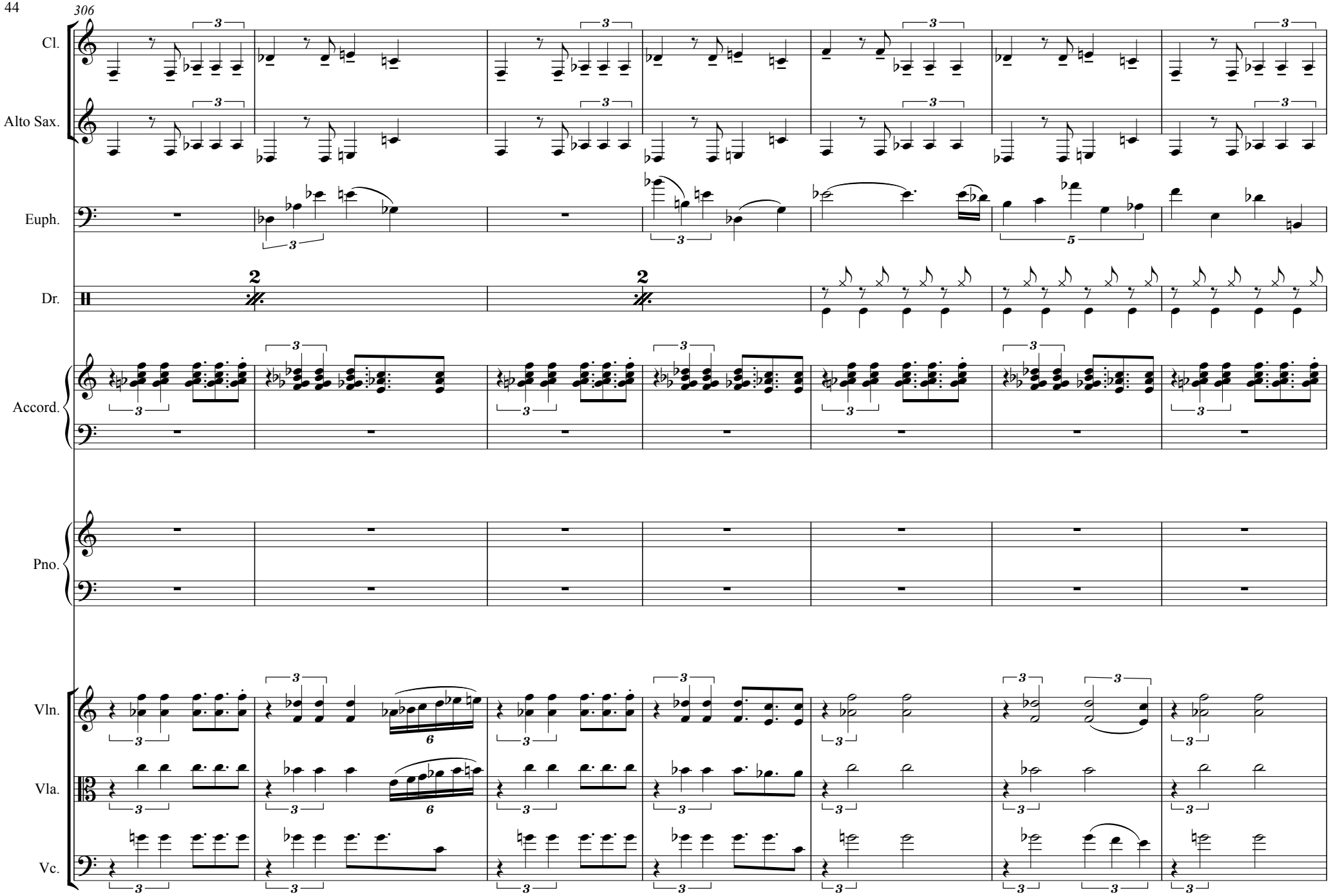
Pno.

Muffle piano with paper or similar:
sound should be like a damped cimbalom

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.


306
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.

313

poco rit.

Hora Tiganeasca: swing

N ♩ = 112

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

pizz.

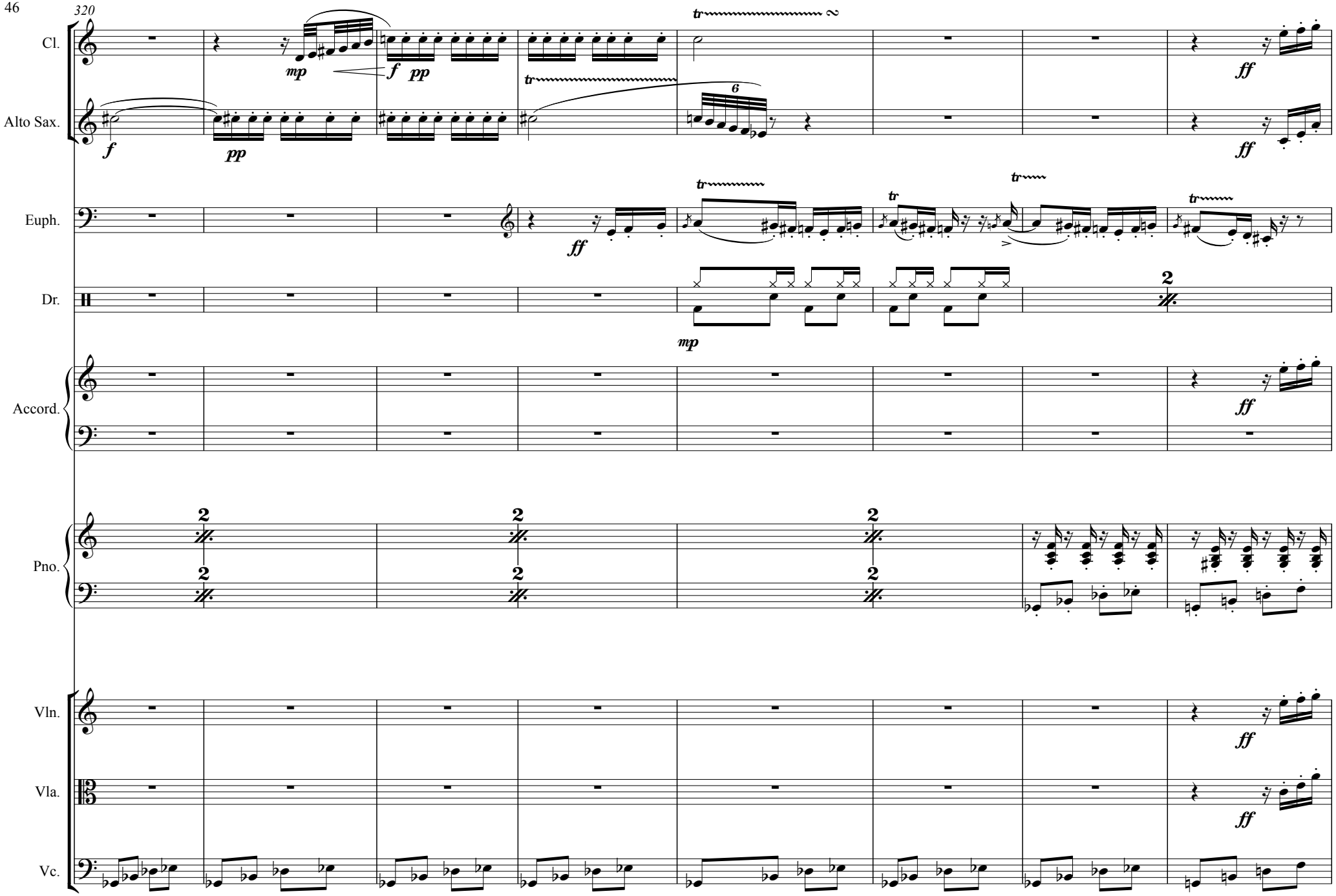
ff

mp

p

mf

tr


320
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
mp
f
pp
ff
tr
6
2

328

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

4 times

shout

No more E U re-gu-la tion!
Pol - i - ti - cians are to blame!
No more Po - lish imm-i-gra tion!
Eu - ro - pe - ans all go home!

shout

pp

p

p

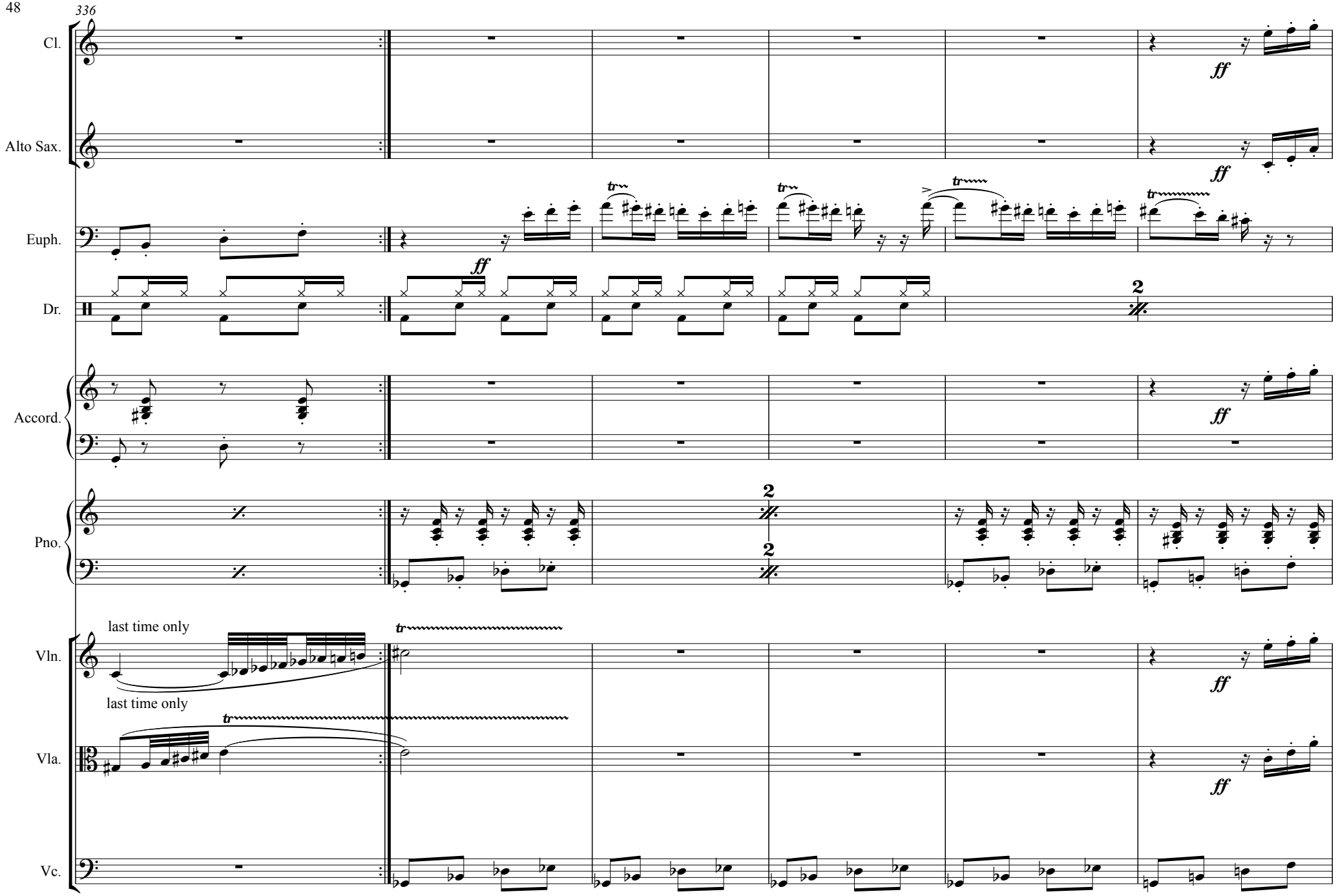
4 times

shout

No more E U re-gu-la tion!
Pol - i - ti - cians are to blame!
No more Po - lish imm-i-gra tion!
Eu - ro - pe - ans all go home!

No more E U re-gu-la tion!
Pol - i - ti - cians are to blame!
No more Po - lish imm-i-gra tion!
Eu - ro - pe - ans all go home!

shout


336
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
ff
tr
2
last time only
last time only

342

4 times

shout

We say no to straight ba - nan - as
We say no to French ba - guettes
We say no to Spa - nish on - ions
We say no to Brus - sels sprouts!

shout

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

Dr.

Accord.

Pno.

Vln.

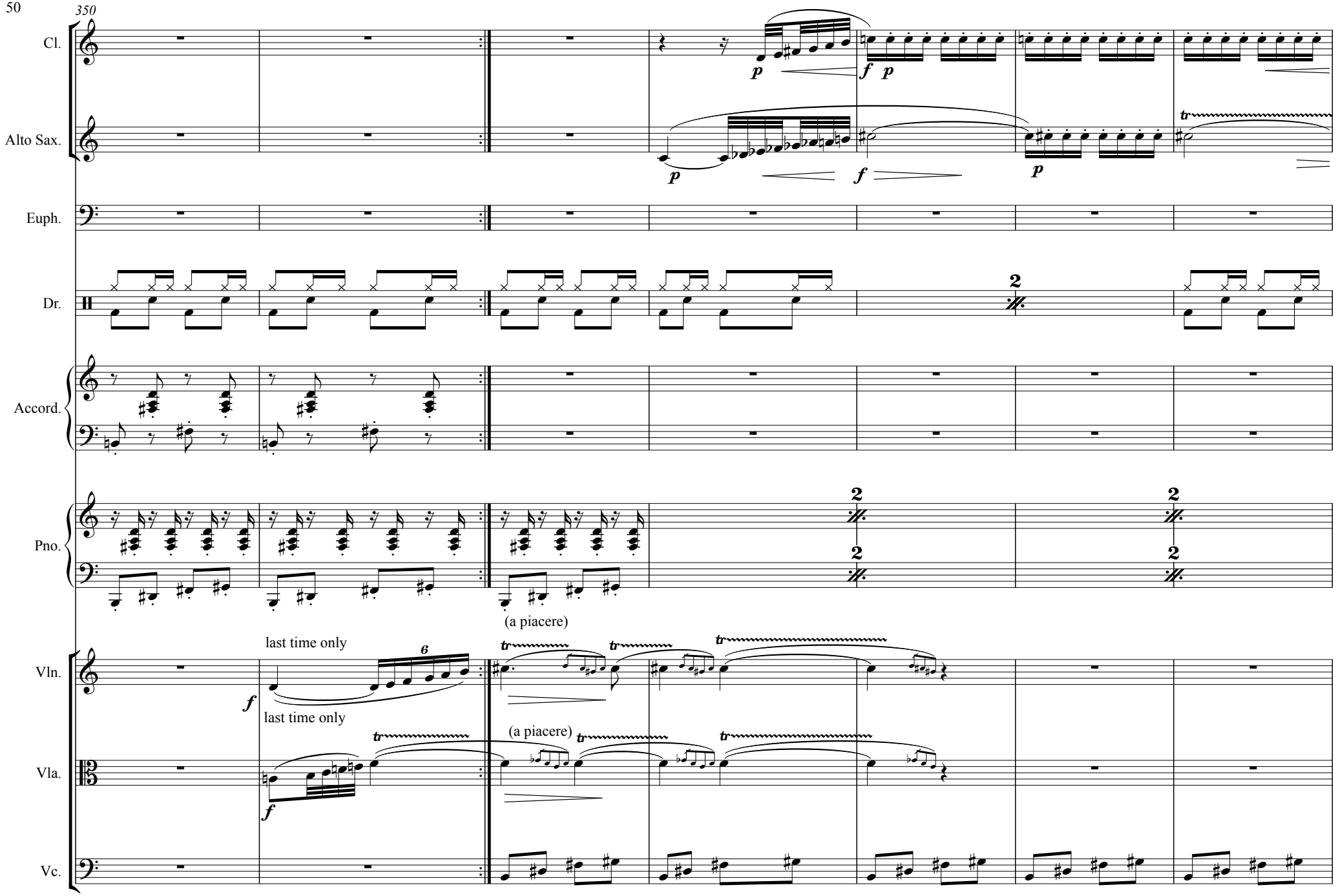
Vla.

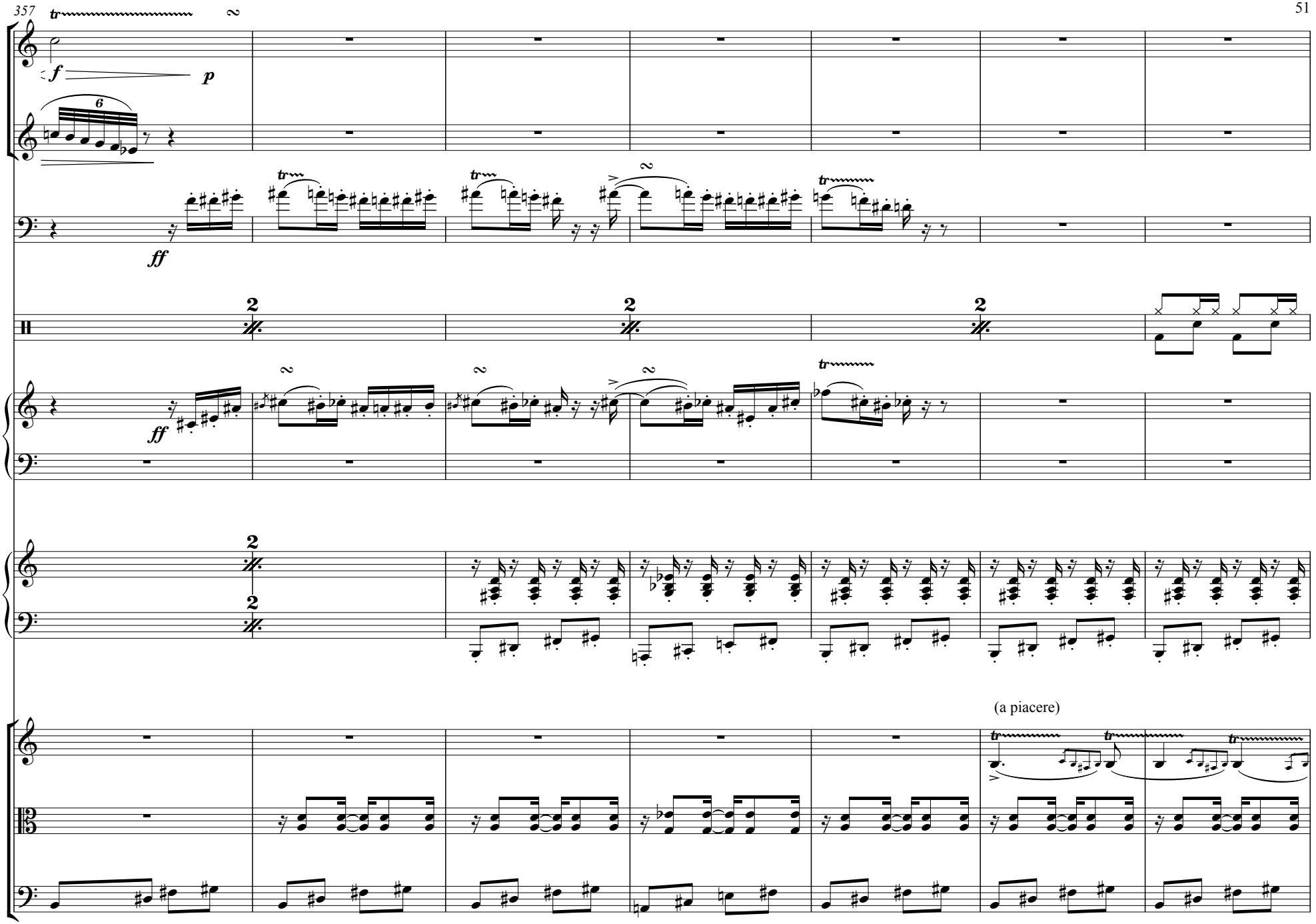
Vc.

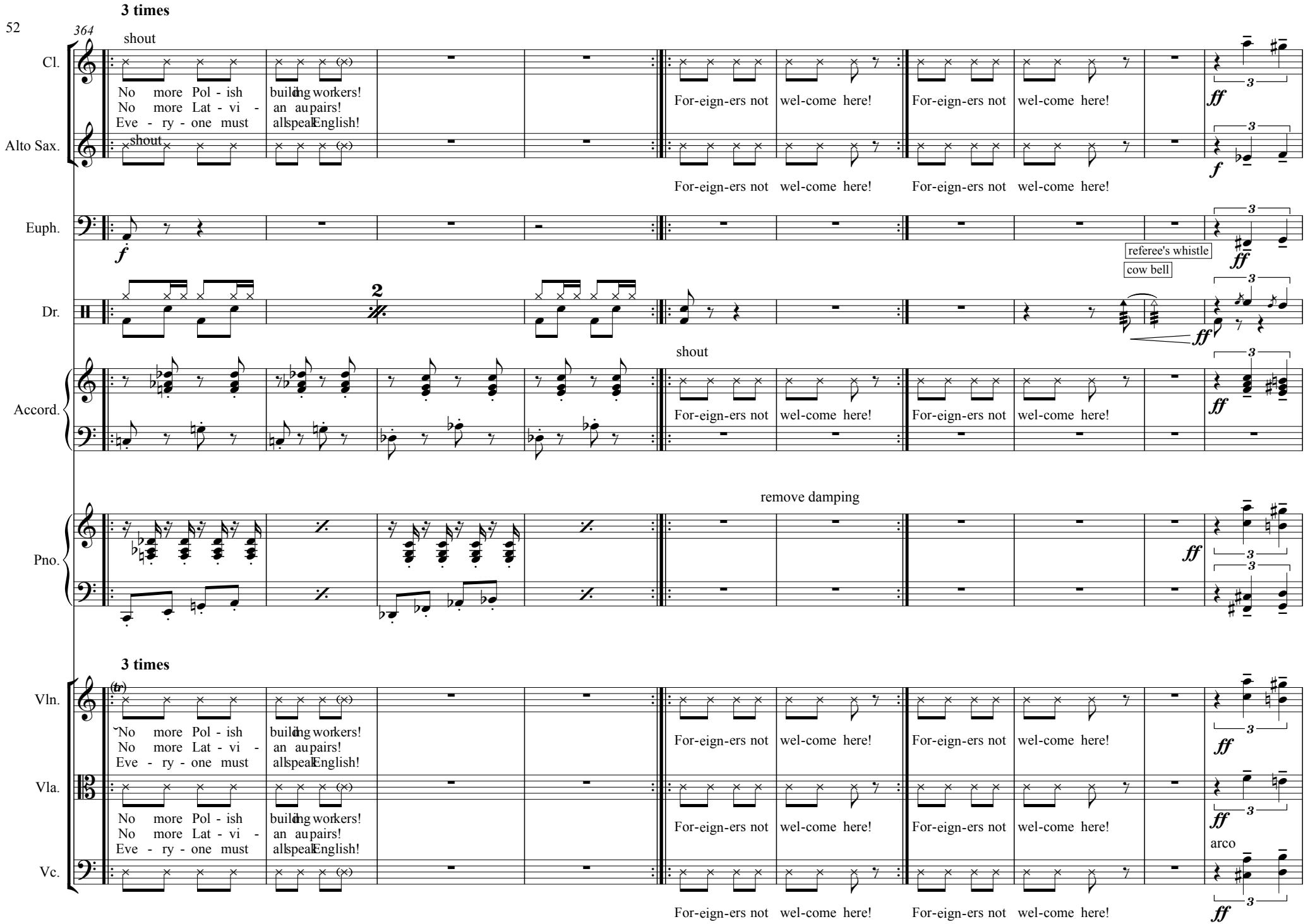
4 times

We say no to straight ba - nan - as
We say no to French ba - guettes
We say no to Spa - nish on - ions
We say no to Brus - sels sprouts!

We say no to straight ba - nan - as
We say no to French ba - guettes
We say no to Spa - nish on - ions
We say no to Brus - sels sprouts!


350
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
p
f
p
f
p
tr
2
(a piacere)
last time only
6
last time only
(a piacere)


357
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Euph.
Dr.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
(a piacere)


3 times
364
shout
Cl.
No more Pol - ish
No more Lat - vi -
Eve - ry - one must
building workers!
an au pairs!
all speak English!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
shout
Alto Sax.
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
Euph.
Dr.
2
referee's whistle
cow bell
shout
Accord.
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
remove damping
Pno.
3 times
Vln.
No more Pol - ish
No more Lat - vi -
Eve - ry - one must
building workers!
an au pairs!
all speak English!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
Vla.
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
arco
Vc.
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!
For-eign-ers not wel-come here!

374

O Cadenza (free time): Horse's Last Gasp

Cl.

Alto Sax.

Euph.

espr.

mp

Dr.

To Tenor Drum

mp < *ff*

Accord.

Pno.

Ped.

Ped.

O Cadenza (free time): Horse's Last Gasp

Vln.

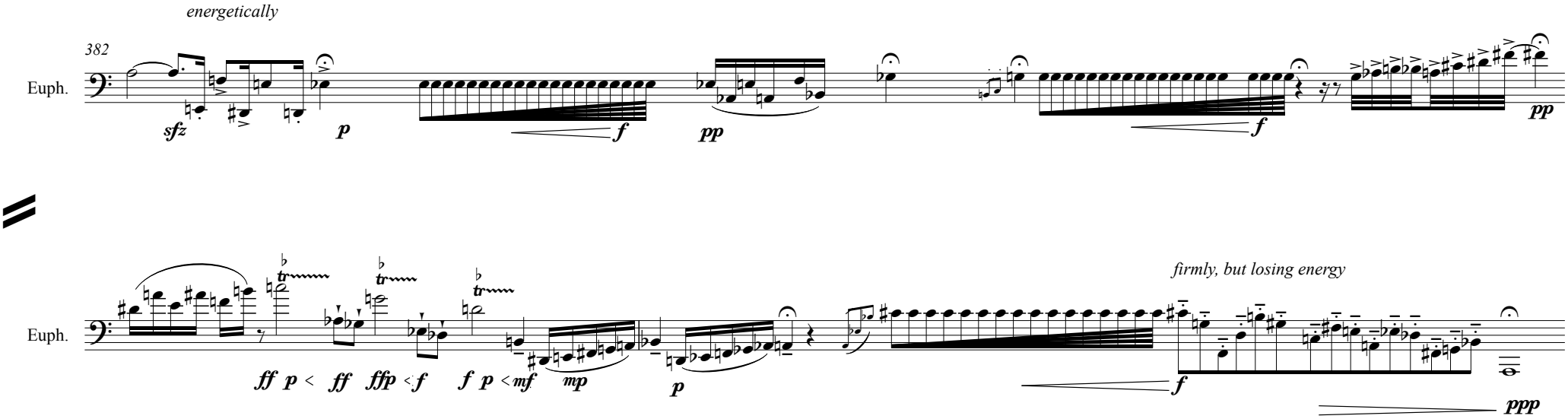
gliss.

Vla.

gliss.

Vc.

gliss.


energetically
382
Euph.
sfz
p
f
pp
f
pp
Euph.
ff p < ff ffp < f f p < mf
mp
p
firmly, but losing energy
f
ppp

HORSE COLLAPSES

Pompes Funèbres

HORSE PERFORMER IS HELPED OUT OF COSTUME.
SOLOIST AND HORSE PERFORMER CERMONIALLY FOLD COSTUME AND PLACE INSIDE PIANO.
ALL MOBILE PERFORMERS GATHER ROUND PIANO AS IF ROUND GRAVE.

ON REPEAT ALL EXCEPT CELLO AND PIANO PROCESS OFF WHILE PLAYING.
PIANIST CLOSES LID OF PIANO ON HORSE COSTUME

383

P ♩= 52 **Repeat as necessary**

Q

Cl.

Alto Sax.

multiphonic ad lib.

pp

multiphonic ad lib.

pp

Euph.

Tenor Drum

Dr.

p

Accord.

p

horse actor and soloist fold up horse costume and place inside piano

(damped by horse costume)

Pno.

p

Pompes Funèbres

P ♩= 52 **Repeat as necessary**

Q

Vln.

col legno spiccato

p

Vla.

col legno spiccato

p

solo, last time only

continue playing while others process off

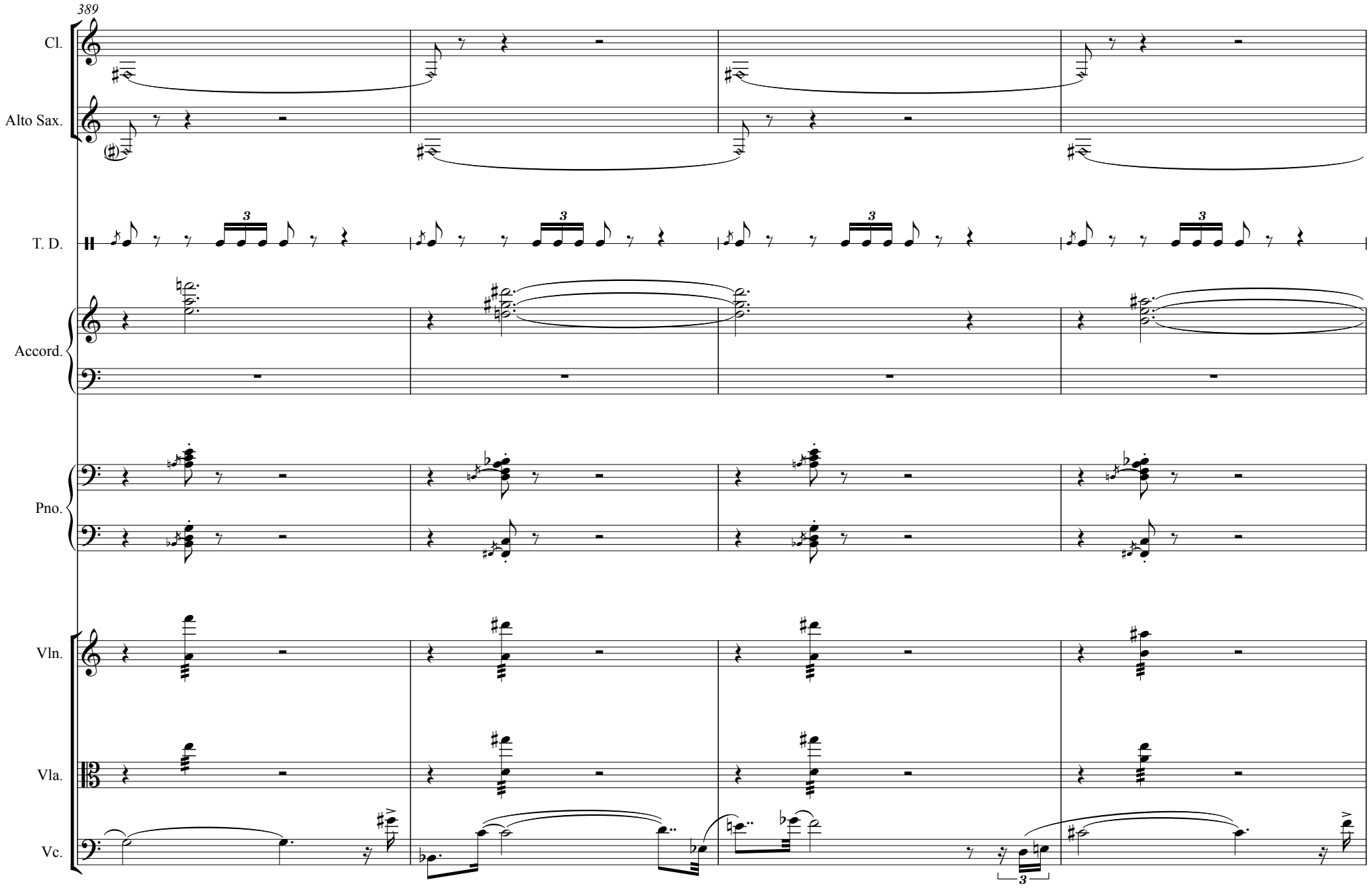
(play both repeats)

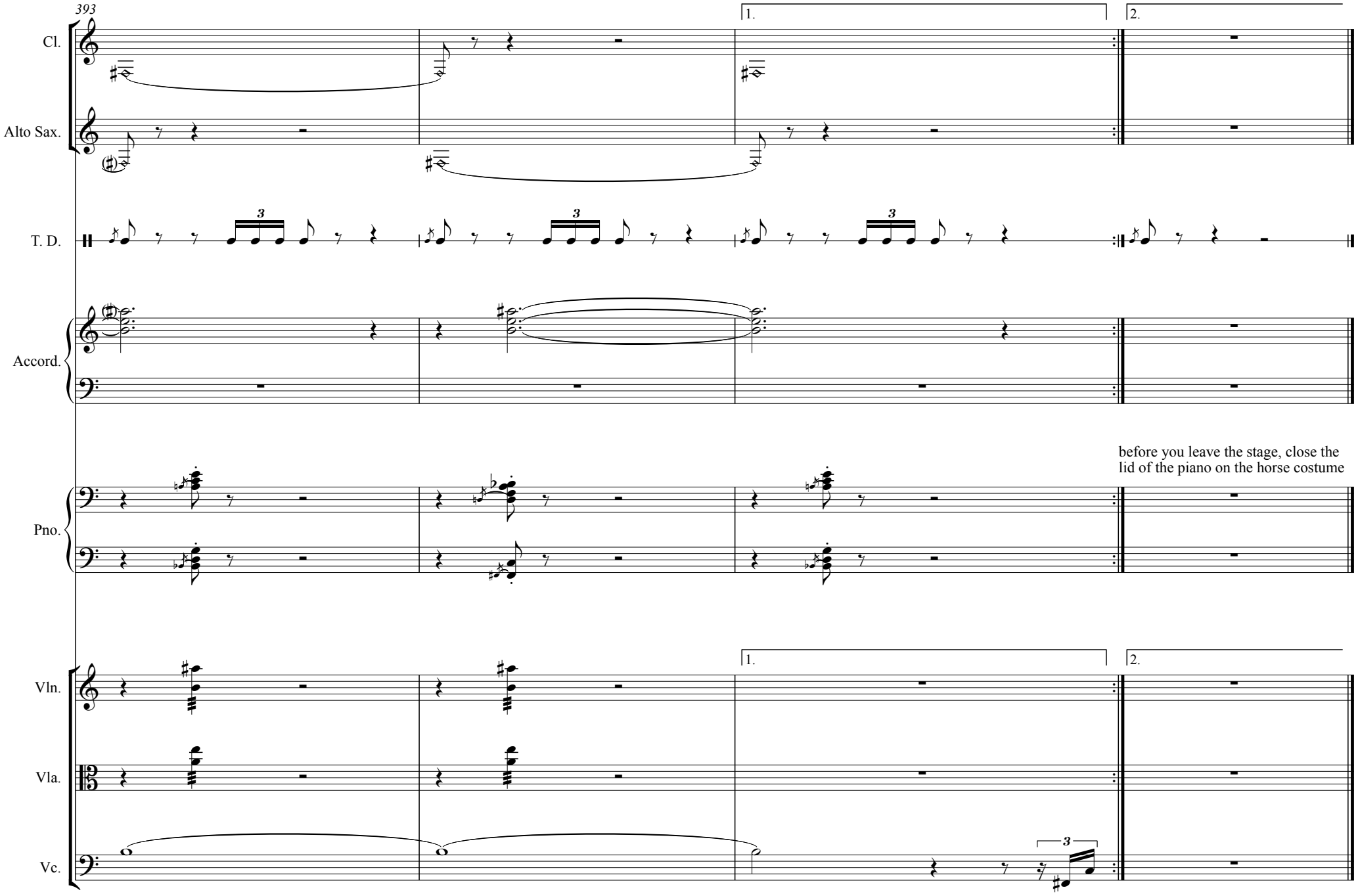
Vc.

3

3

p


389
Cl.
Alto Sax.
T. D.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.


393
Cl.
Alto Sax.
T. D.
Accord.
Pno.
Vln.
Vla.
Vc.
1.
2.
1.
2.
3
3
3
3
before you leave the stage, close the
lid of the piano on the horse costume