Gwyneth Walker

A Cup of Rejoicing

for Clarinet and String Trio

A Cup of Rejoicing

duration: 3'15"

This short "musical greeting" is based on the Shaker song, "A Cup of Rejoicing."

A cup of rejoicing my Mother gave me,
'tis full to the brim, 'tis full to the brim.
Sure these are the waters Ezekiel did see,
wherein we can swim, wherein we can swim.

This is a joyous song. The new musical interpretation focuses upon celebration. One may be rejoicing in the glory of faith, raising a glass of wine with friends, or toasting a special occasion. A common element is the uplifting spirit of rejoicing. Thus, the tempo is quick, and the style is marked "playfully" and "celebratory." The strings often have upbow gestures, and even upbow glissandi. These are intended as "musical toasts!"

Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer Gwyneth Walker is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut and the musical communities of Sarasota, Florida and Randolph, Vermont.

Gwyneth Walker has been a proud resident of Vermont for many years. She is the recipient of the Year 2000 "Lifetime Achievement Award" from the Vermont Arts Council as well as the 2008 "Athenaeum Award for Achievement in the Arts and Humanities" from the St. Johnsbury (VT) Athenaeum. In 2012, she was elected as a Fellow of the Vermont Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Walker's catalog includes over 300 commissioned works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, chorus, and solo voice. A special interest has been dramatic works that combine music with readings, acting, and movement. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E. C. Schirmer (choral and vocal music) and Lauren Keiser Music (orchestral and instrumental music).

Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at www.gwynethwalker.com

for Musica Harmonia

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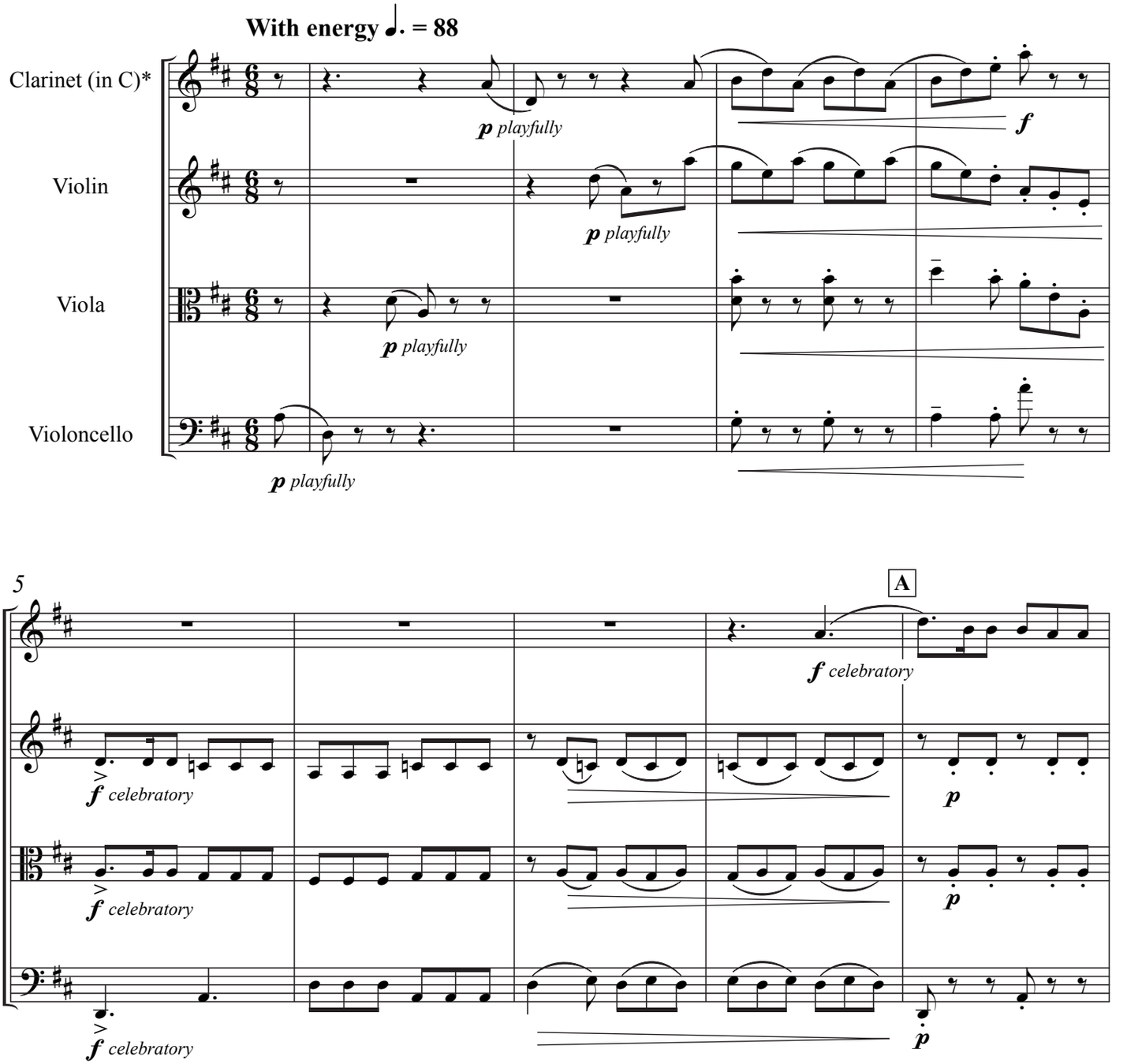

*Part in A is provided.

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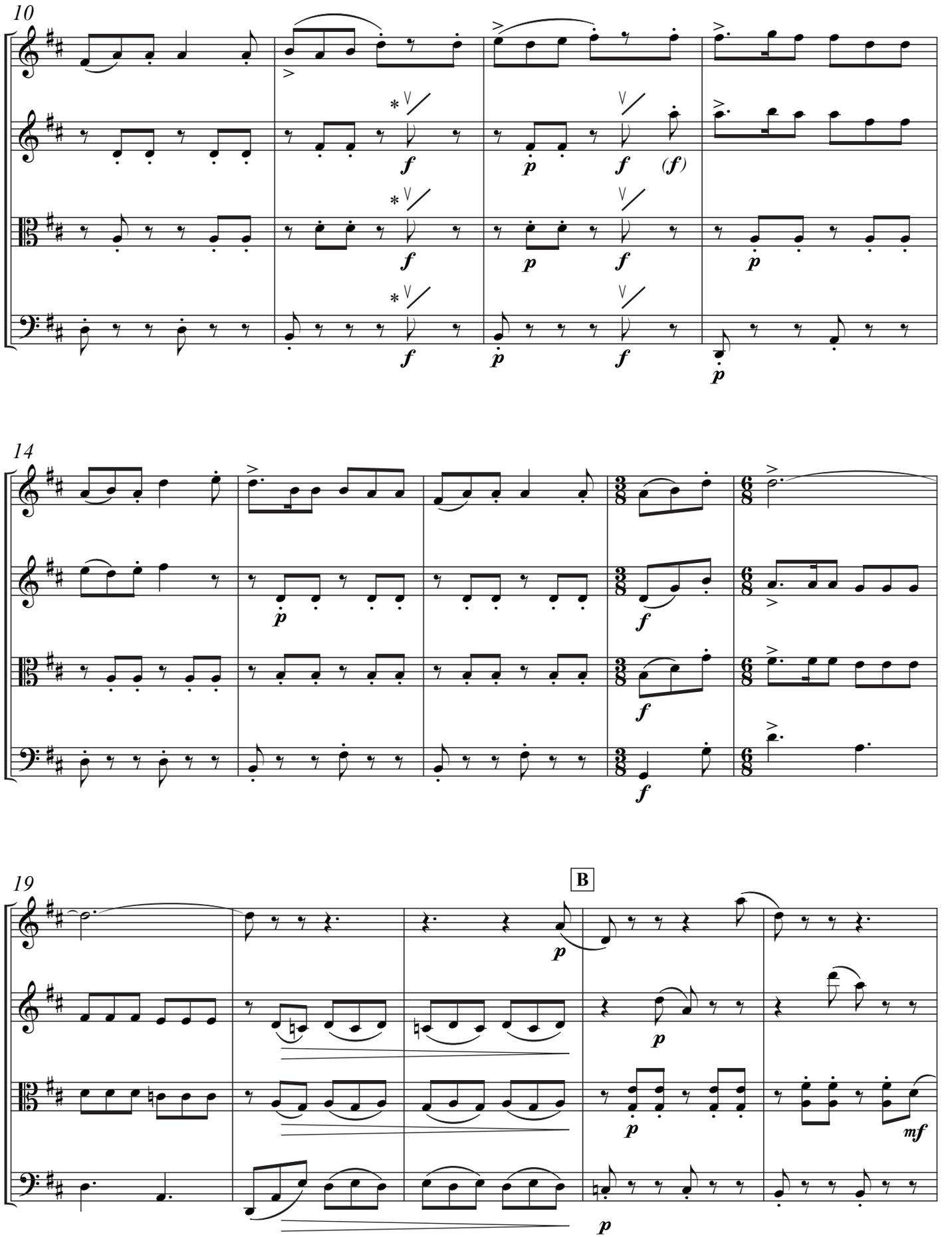
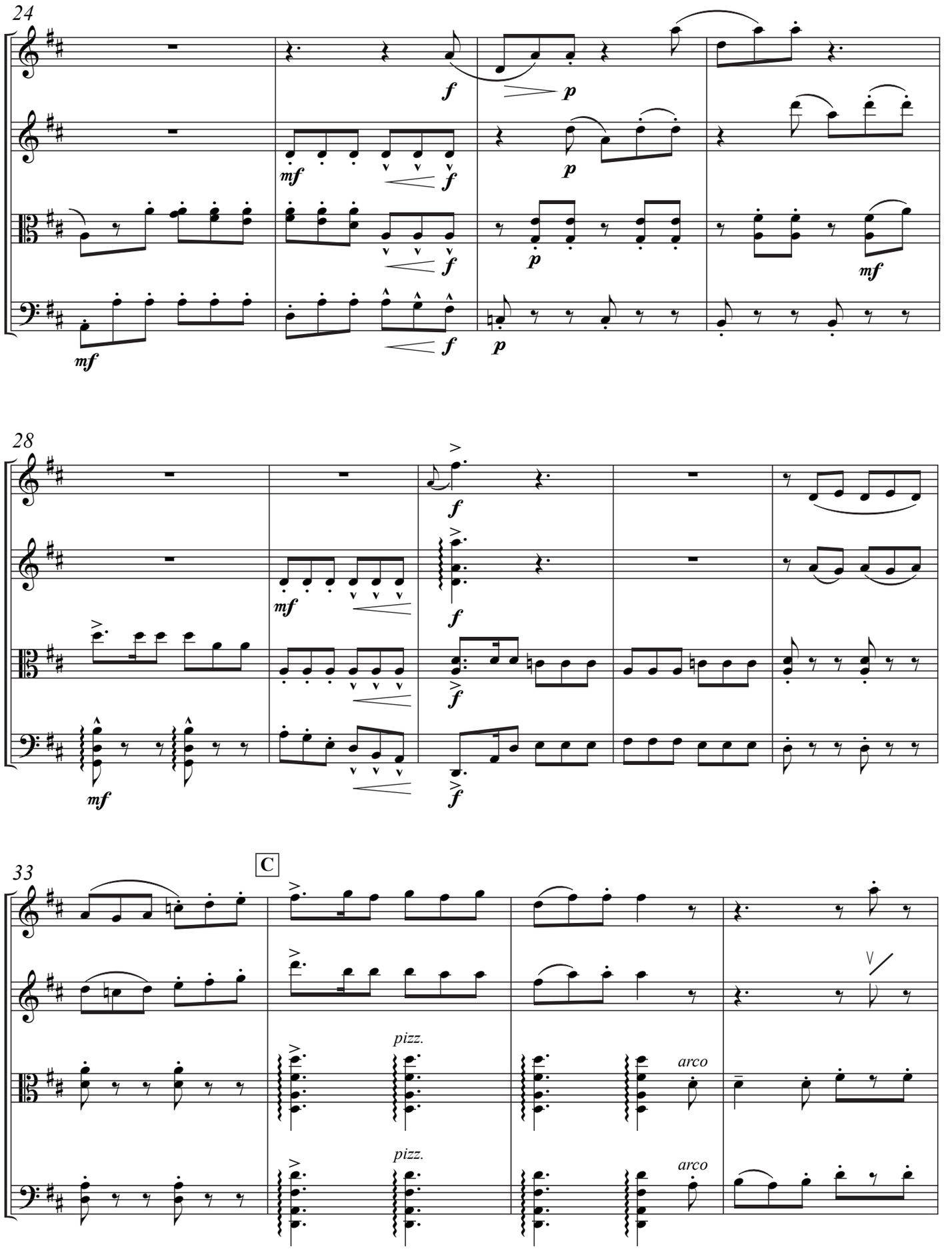
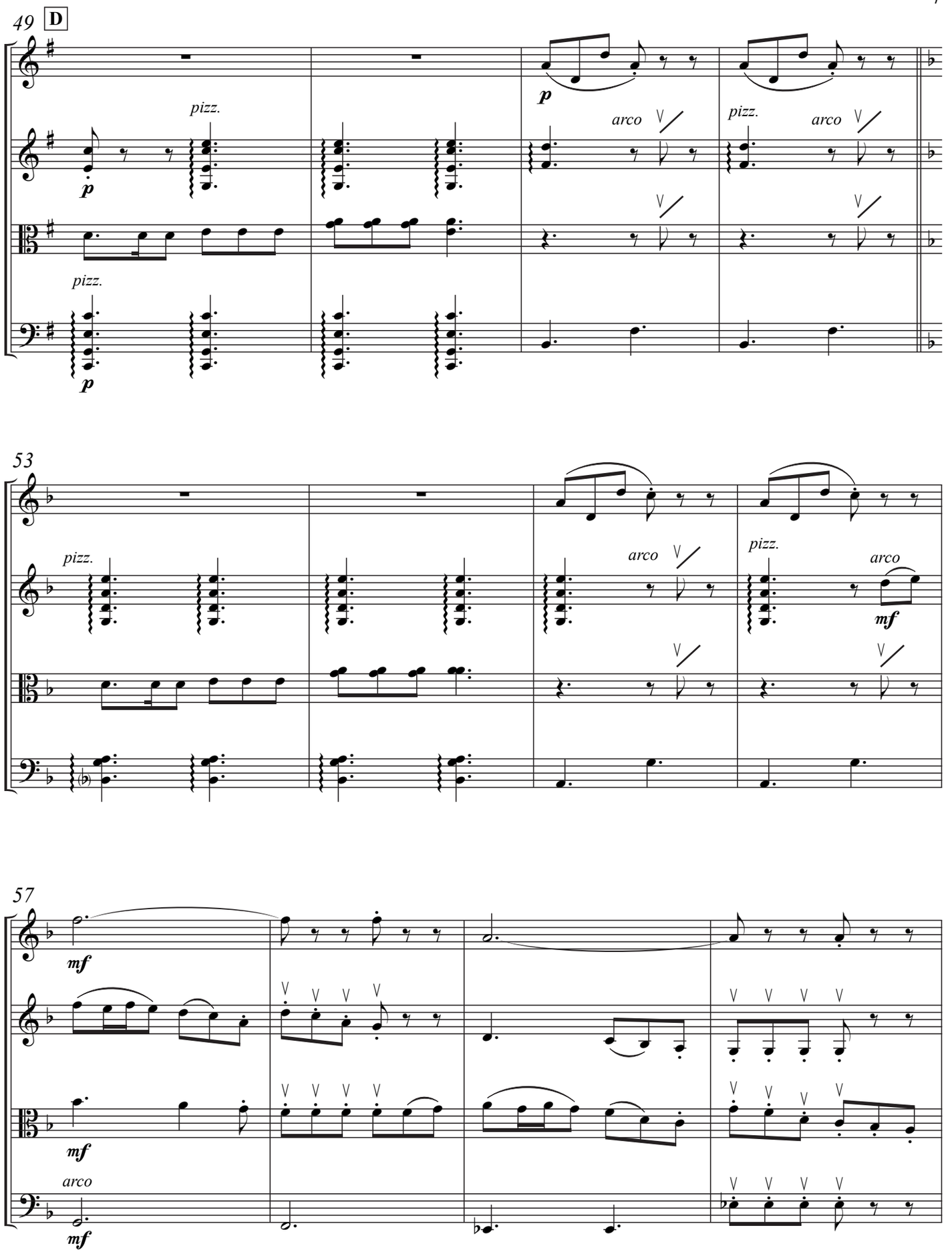
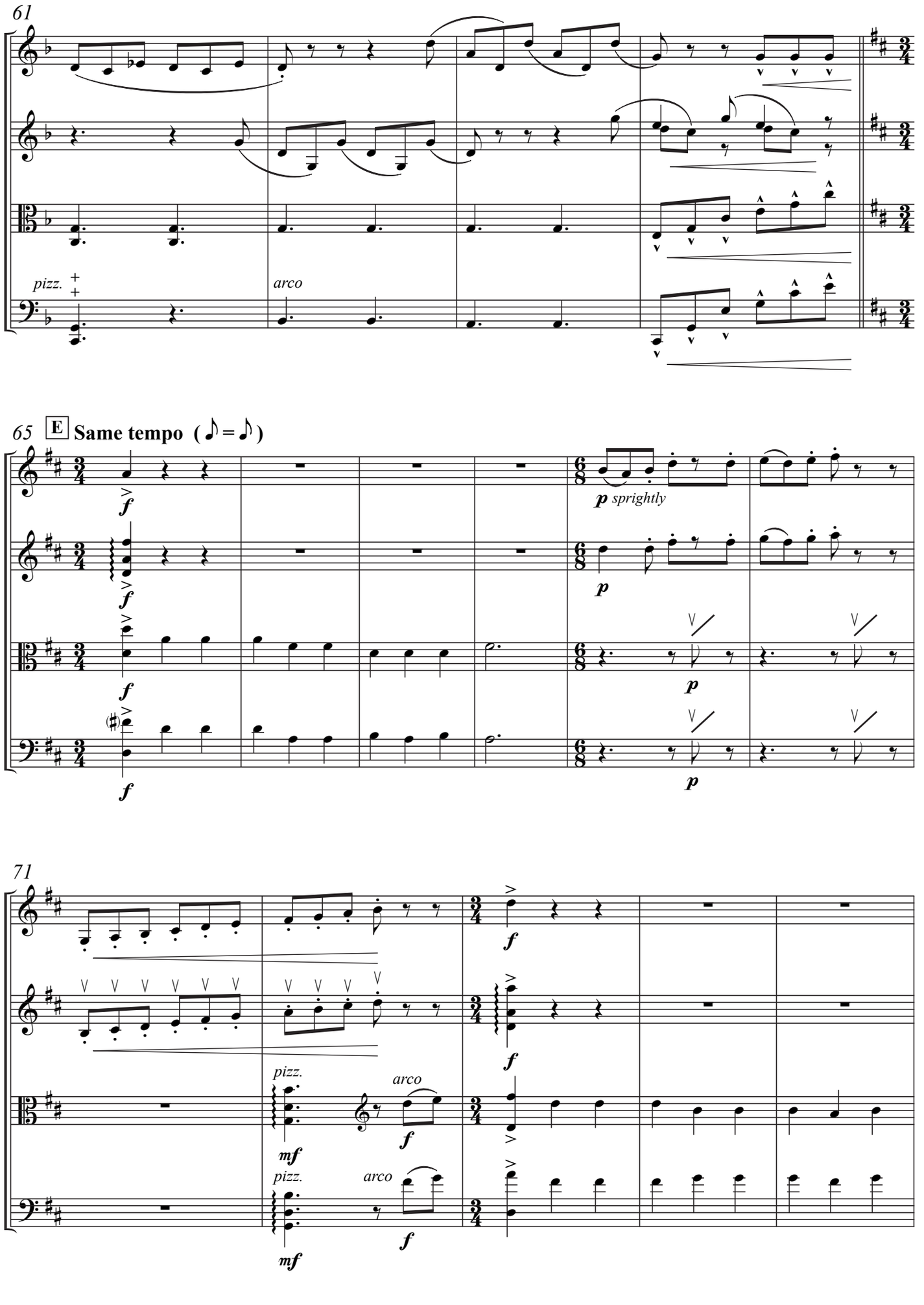
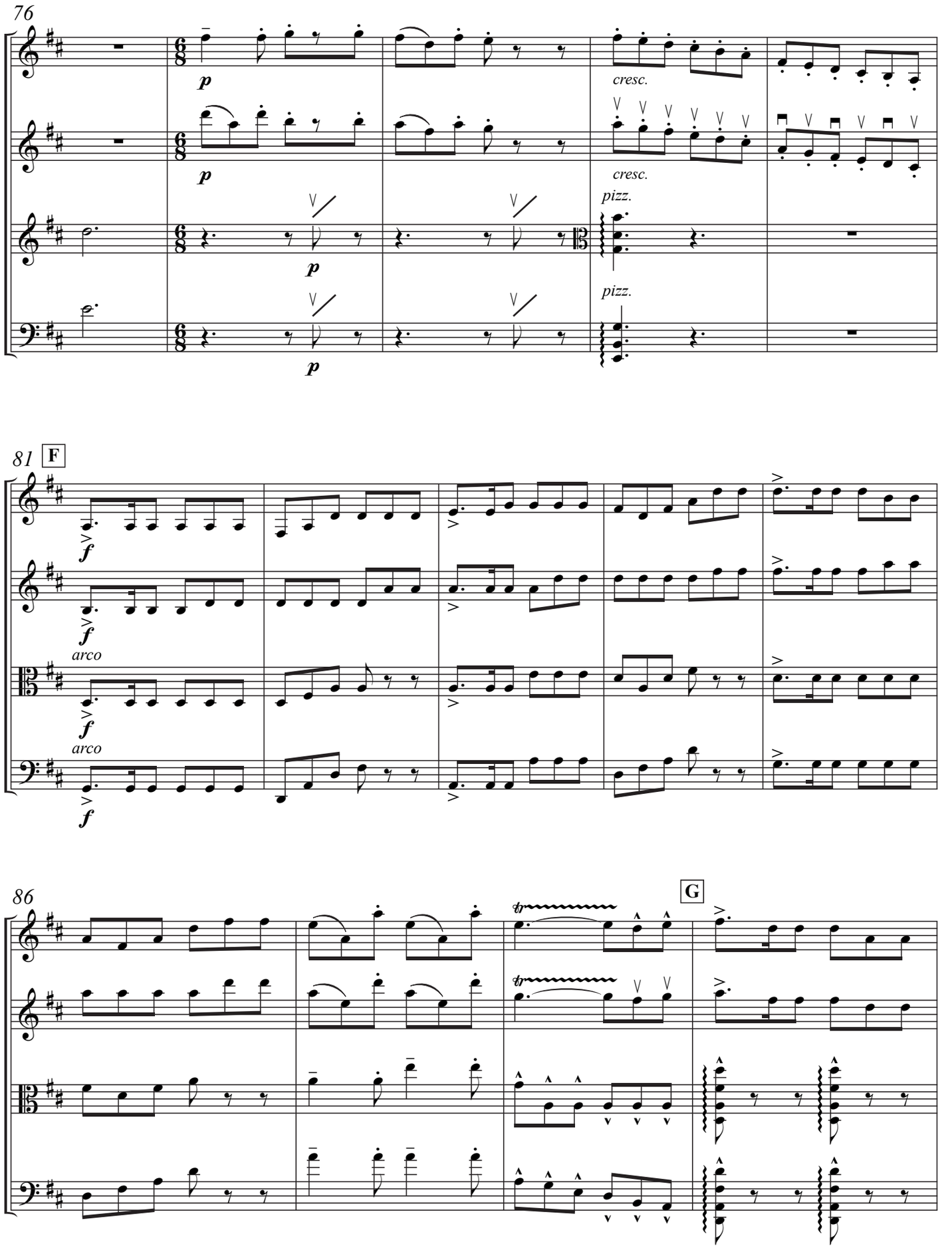


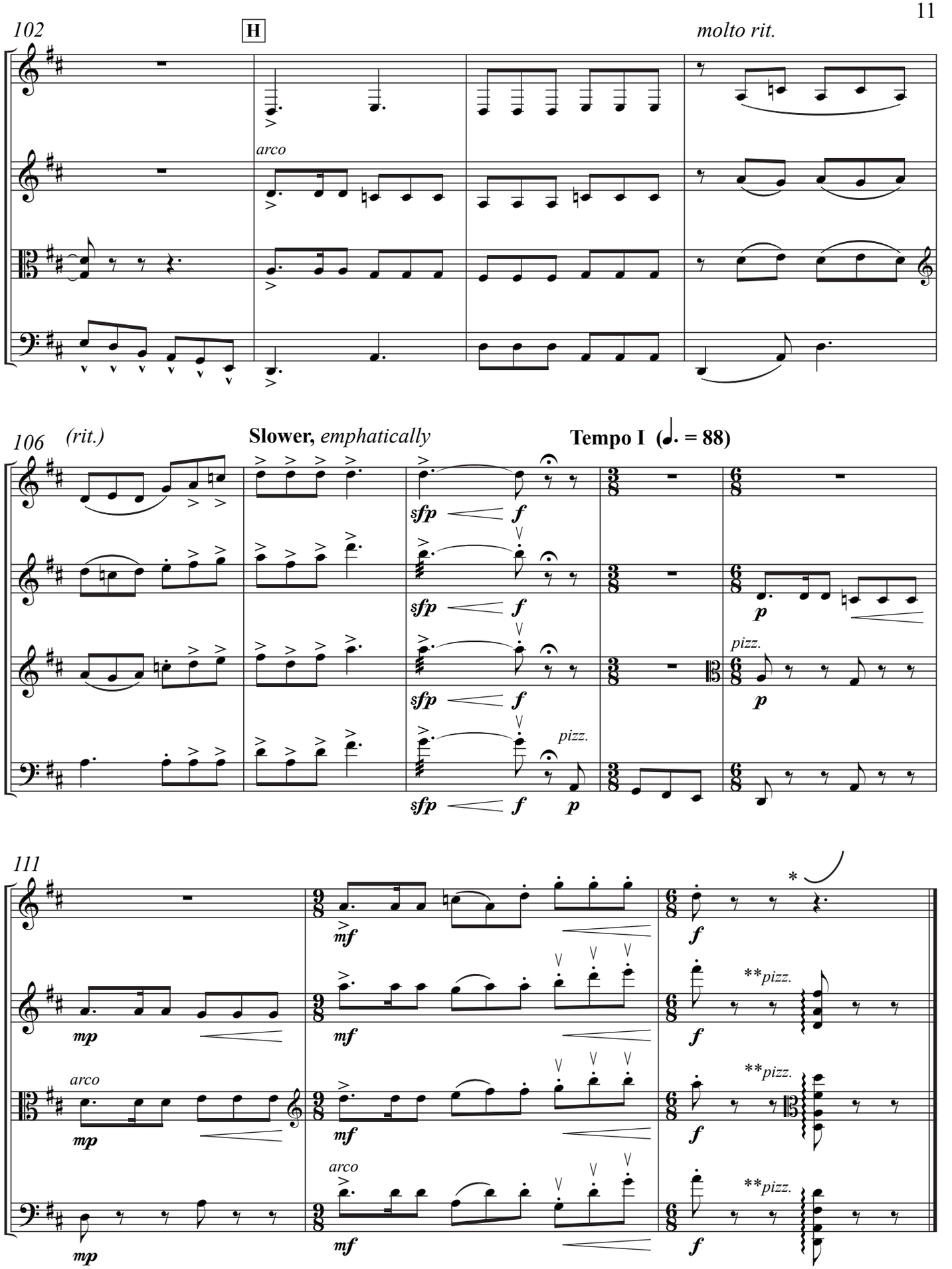
*High glissando *ad libitum,* as if giving a toast and greeting a friend.


24
28
33
C
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco


49
D
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
pizz.
p
53
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
mf
57
mf
mf
arco
mf


61
pizz.
arco
65
E
Same tempo (♪ = ♪)
p sprightly
71
pizz.
arco
mf
f


76
p
cresc.
pizz.
81
F
f
arco
86
G
tr



*Raise clarinet in a celebratory gesture, as a toast.
**An exuberant, celebratory pizzicato, as a toast.

3:15
October 31, 2012
New Canaan, Connecticut