Why Not Now?

for violoncello solo and orchestra

Ben Livneh

2022

Why Not Now?

Description
Why Not Now? Is a work in two parts. It is scored for violoncello solo, strings, 1 flute, 2 clarinets, 1 bassoon, 1 trumpet, 1 French horn, 2 trombones, and timpani.

Its title is derived from the chorus of the song "Avshalom," which was written in 1969 by five of Israel's most legendary songwriters: Arik Einstein, Shalom Hanoch, Uri Zohar, Boaz Davidson and Yonatan Geffen. The urban legend goes that, because Hanoch composed the music amidst a period of intense writer's block and lack of lyrical inspiration, the five sat in Einstein's Tel Aviv apartment, in turn writing a single line of text on a piece of paper. Generously described, the final song lyrics are no more than a sequence of poetic-sounding nonsense. However, many fans of the song (and there are quite a few considering its sustained popularity in Israel over the past 50 years) find that there is something to be discovered in words that evoke emotions without necessarily having an intrinsic meaning.

In a similar light, the piece seeks to explore the raw expressive powers of music. While the various musical materials certainly interact, create tension, and are manipulated repeatedly, each is meant to function both as a part of the bigger picture and as an independent musical world in and of itself.

The piece draws on the conventions of Romantic cello repertoire as well as those of jazz and rock music.

Why Not Now? Premiered on November 27th, 2022 by the Ra'anana Youth Symphony Orchestra, featuring Ben Livneh as a soloist.

"למה לא, למה לא עכשיו?
מה שבטח יבוא רק מחר"

"Why not, why not now?
That which surely will come tomorrow"

Recording Note
The provided recording is without the timpani part. The cadenza was altered to include an improvised section.

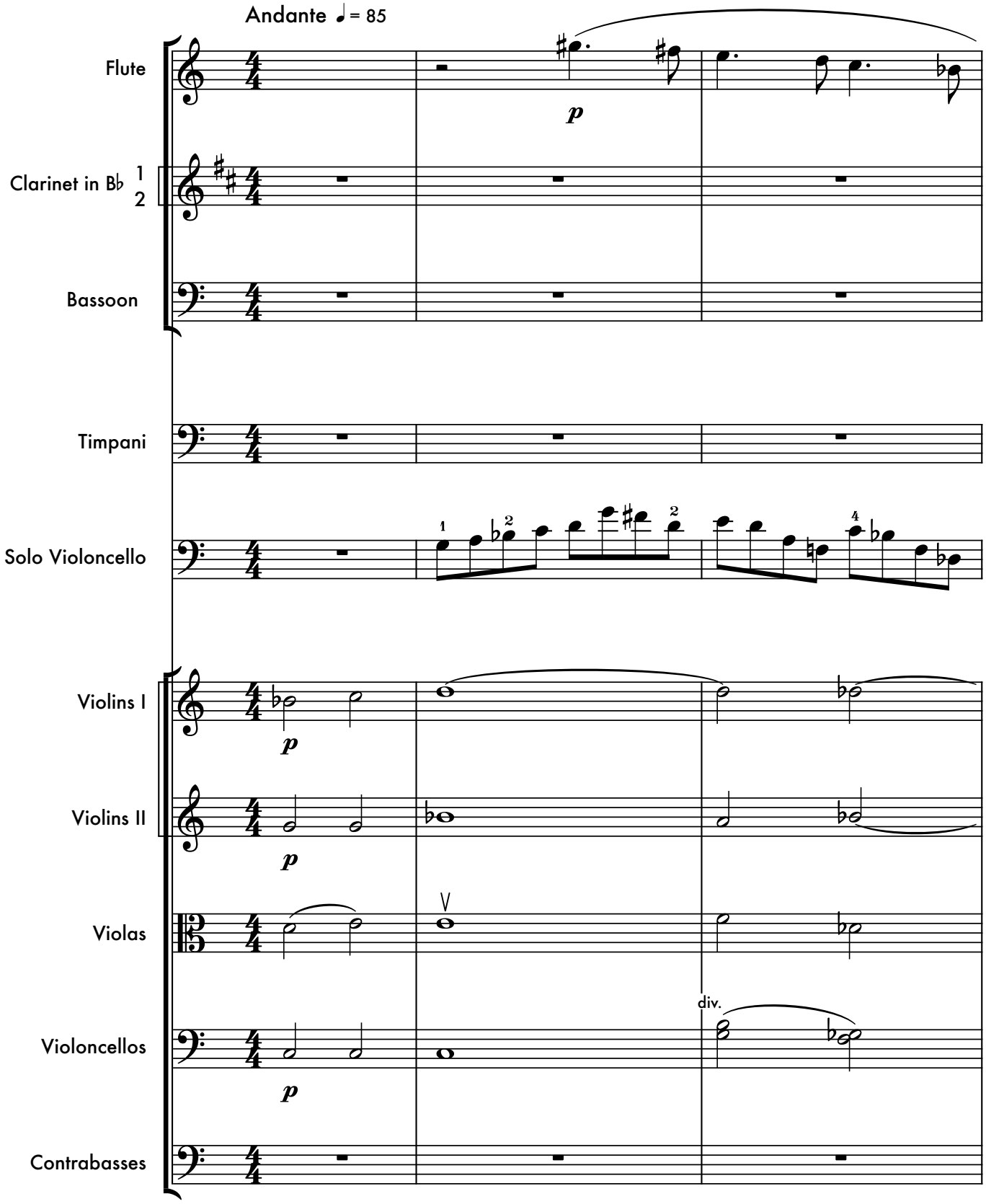
composed April - September 2022

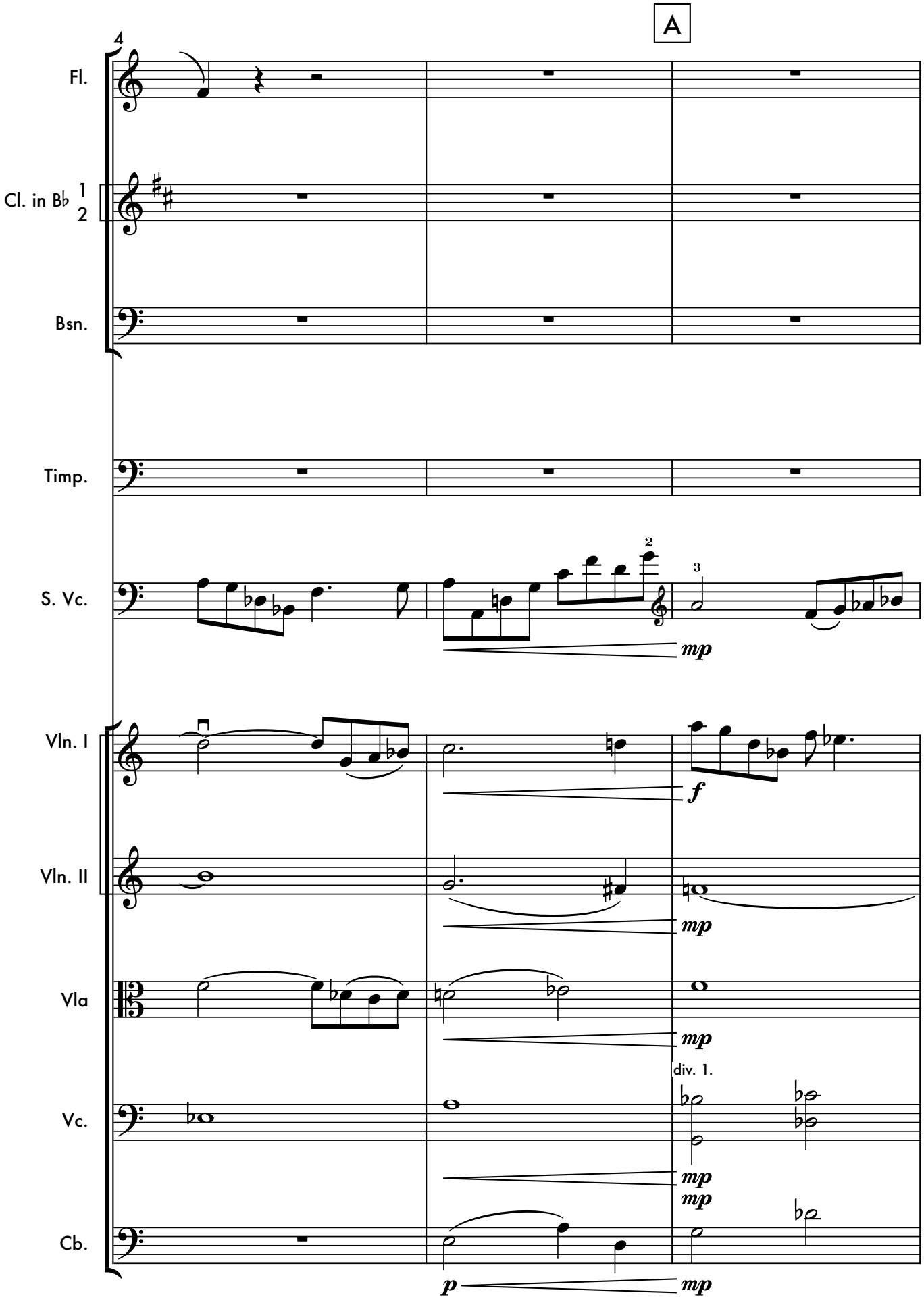
Why Not Now?

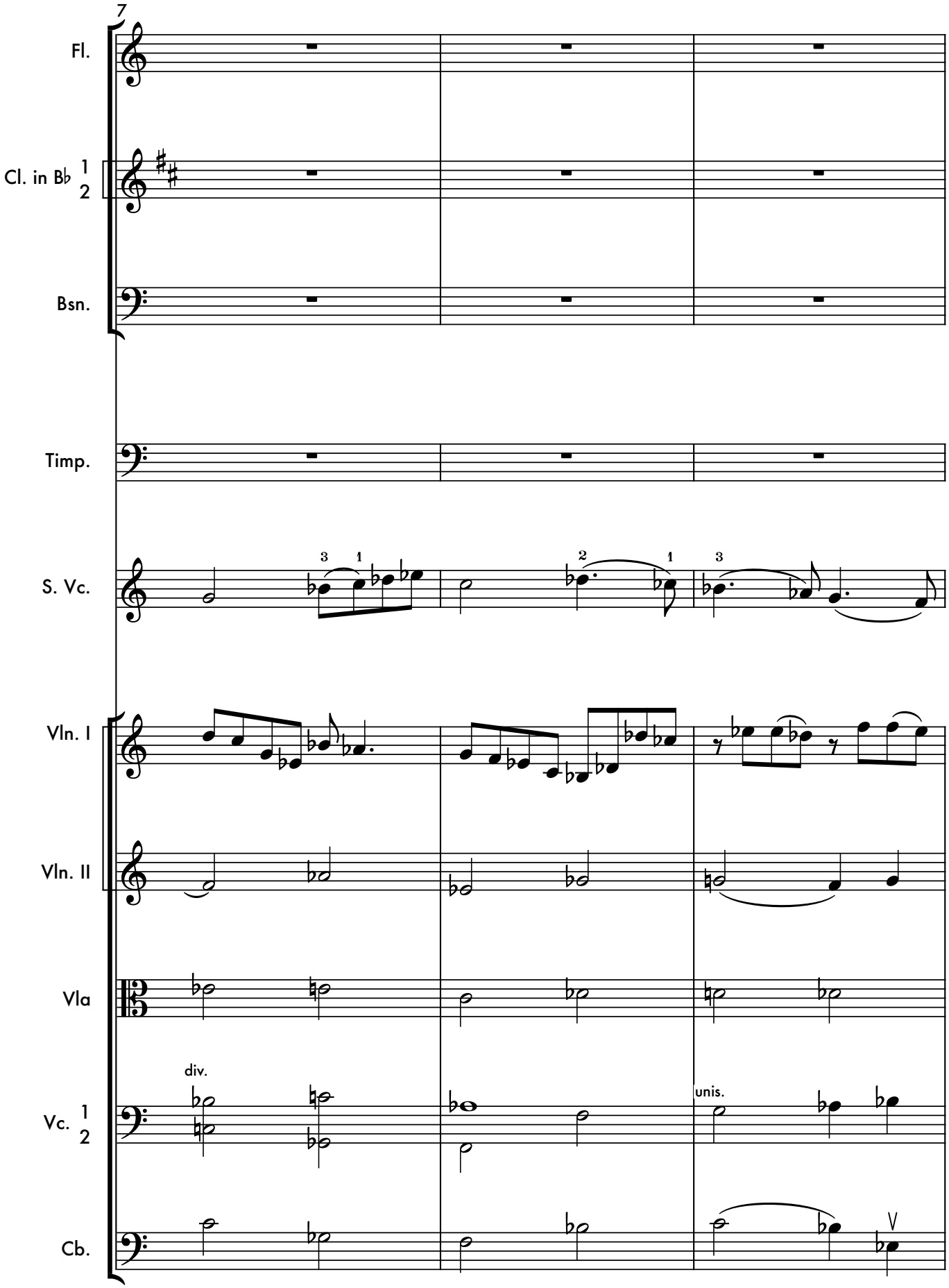
for Violoncello Solo and Symphony Orchestra

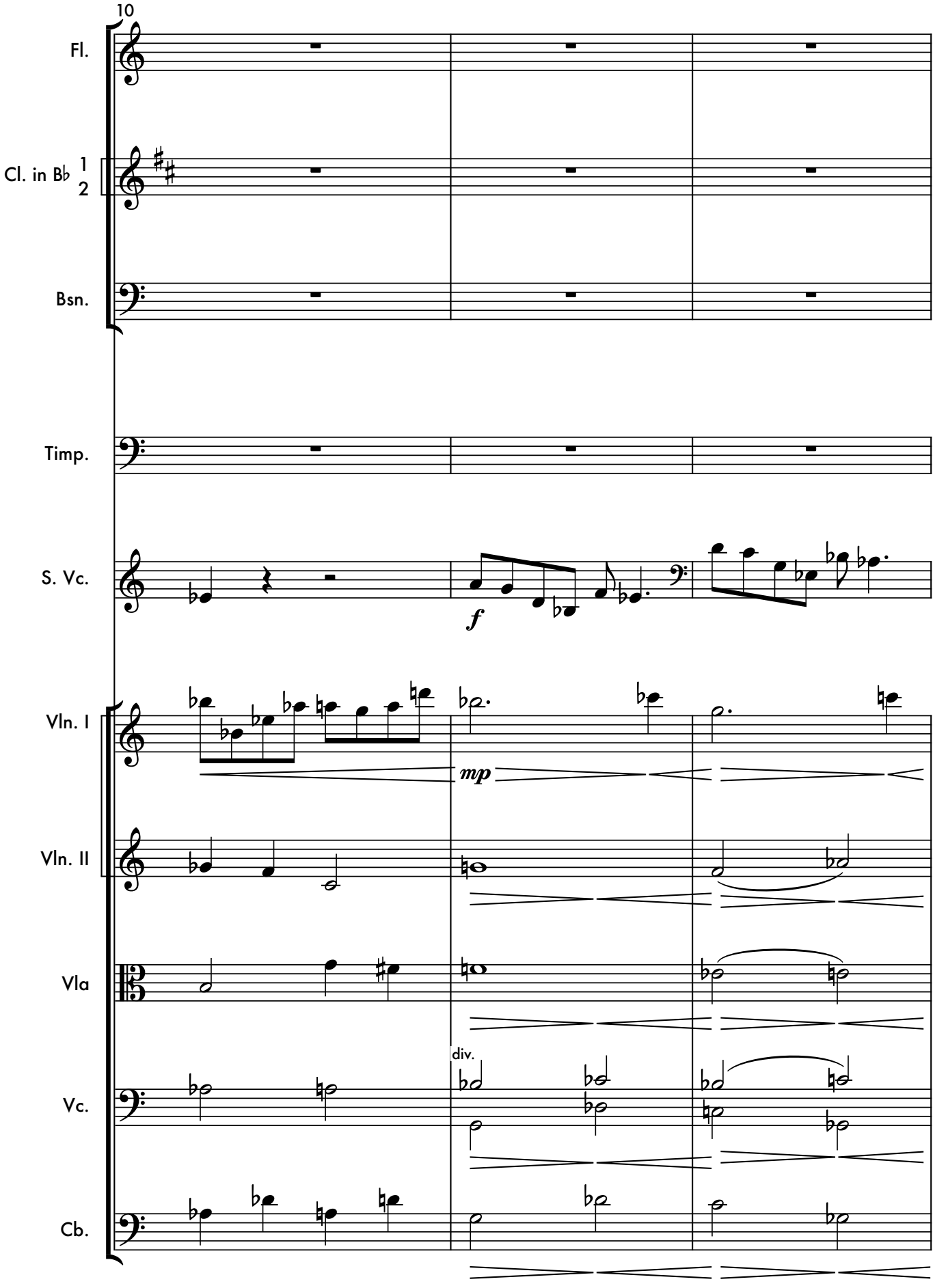
Ben Livneh

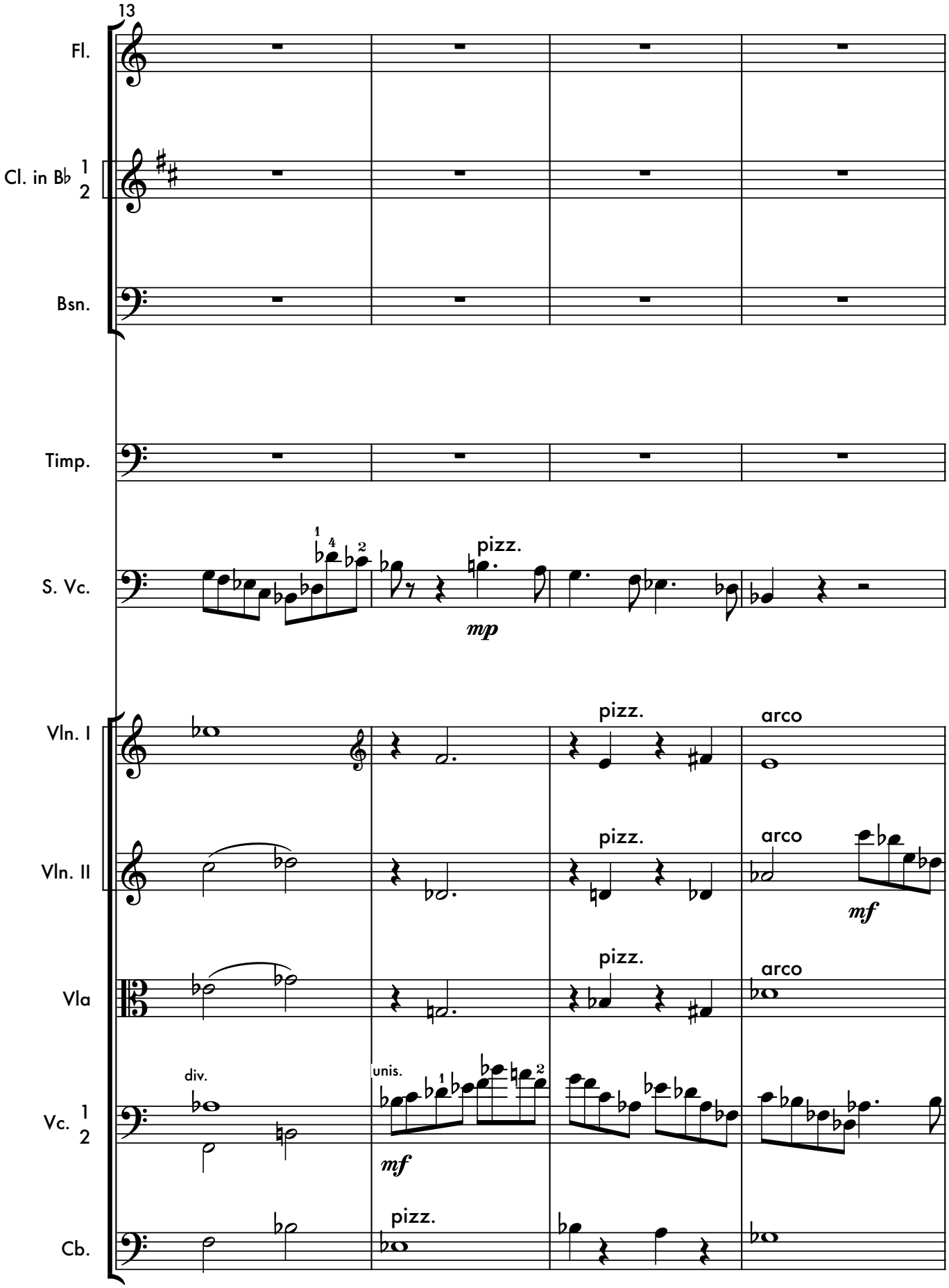
1.

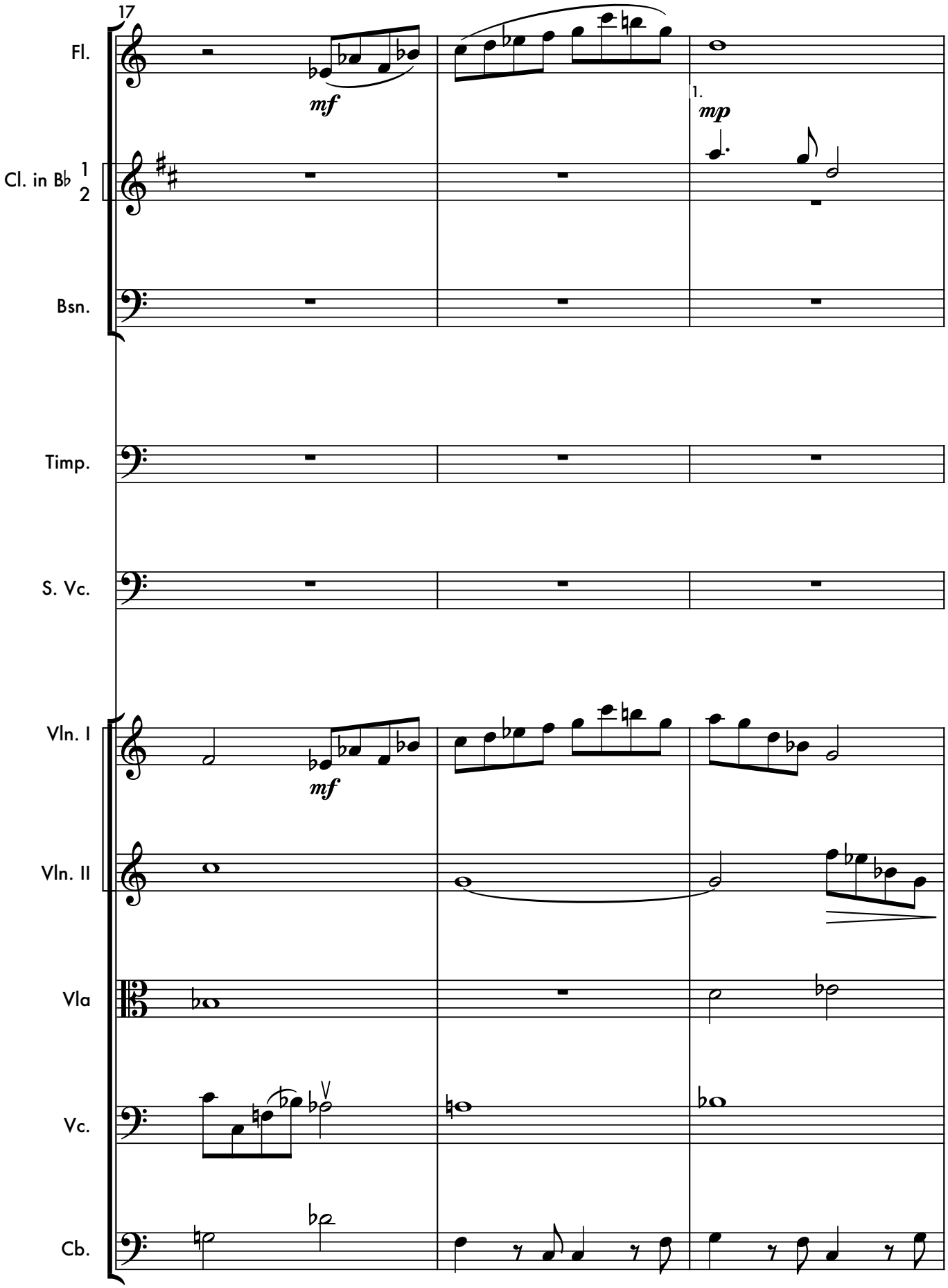


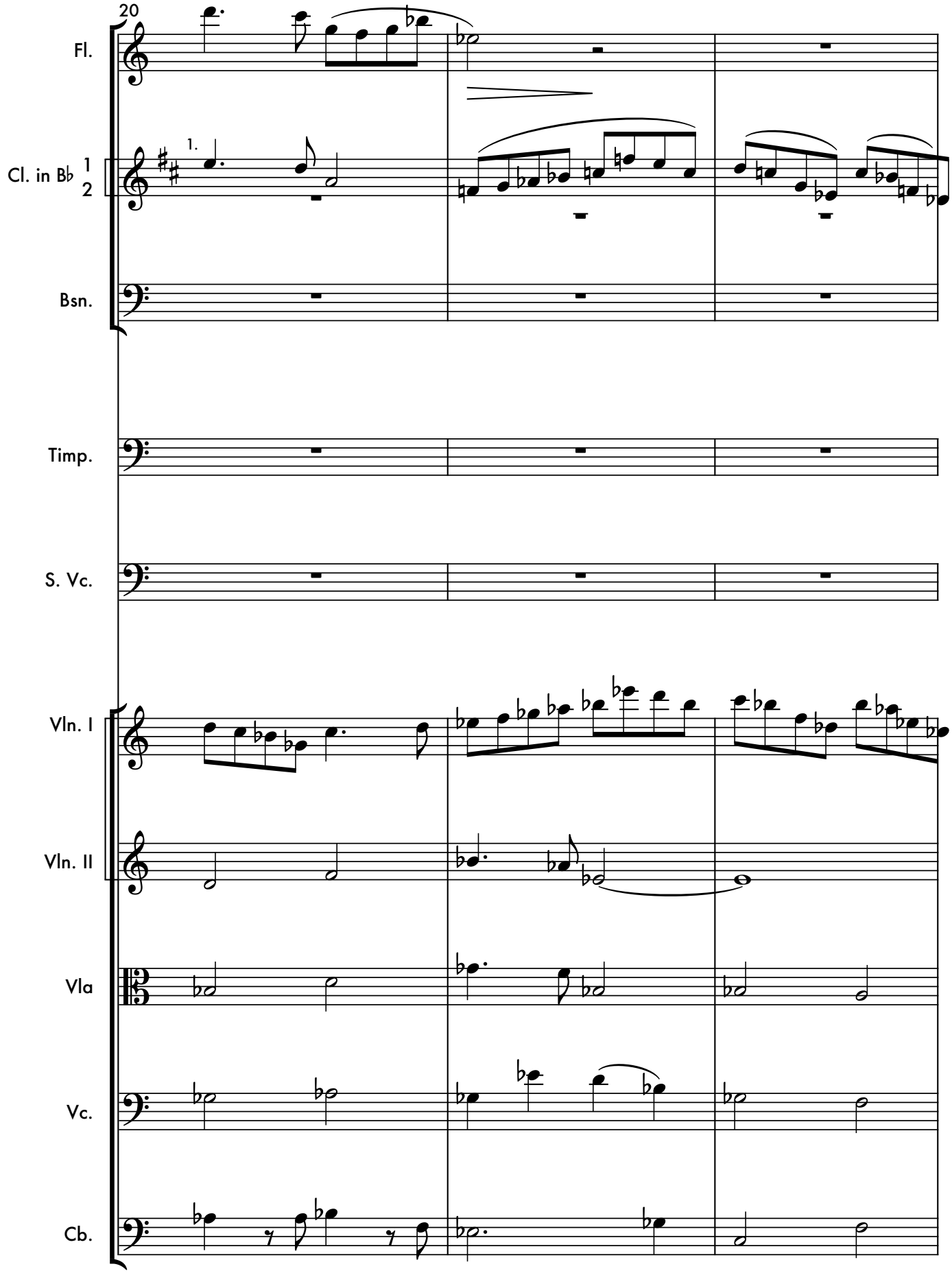

A
4
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
2
3
mp
Vln. I
f
Vln. II
mp
Vla
mp
div. 1.
Vc.
mp
mp
Cb.
p
mp

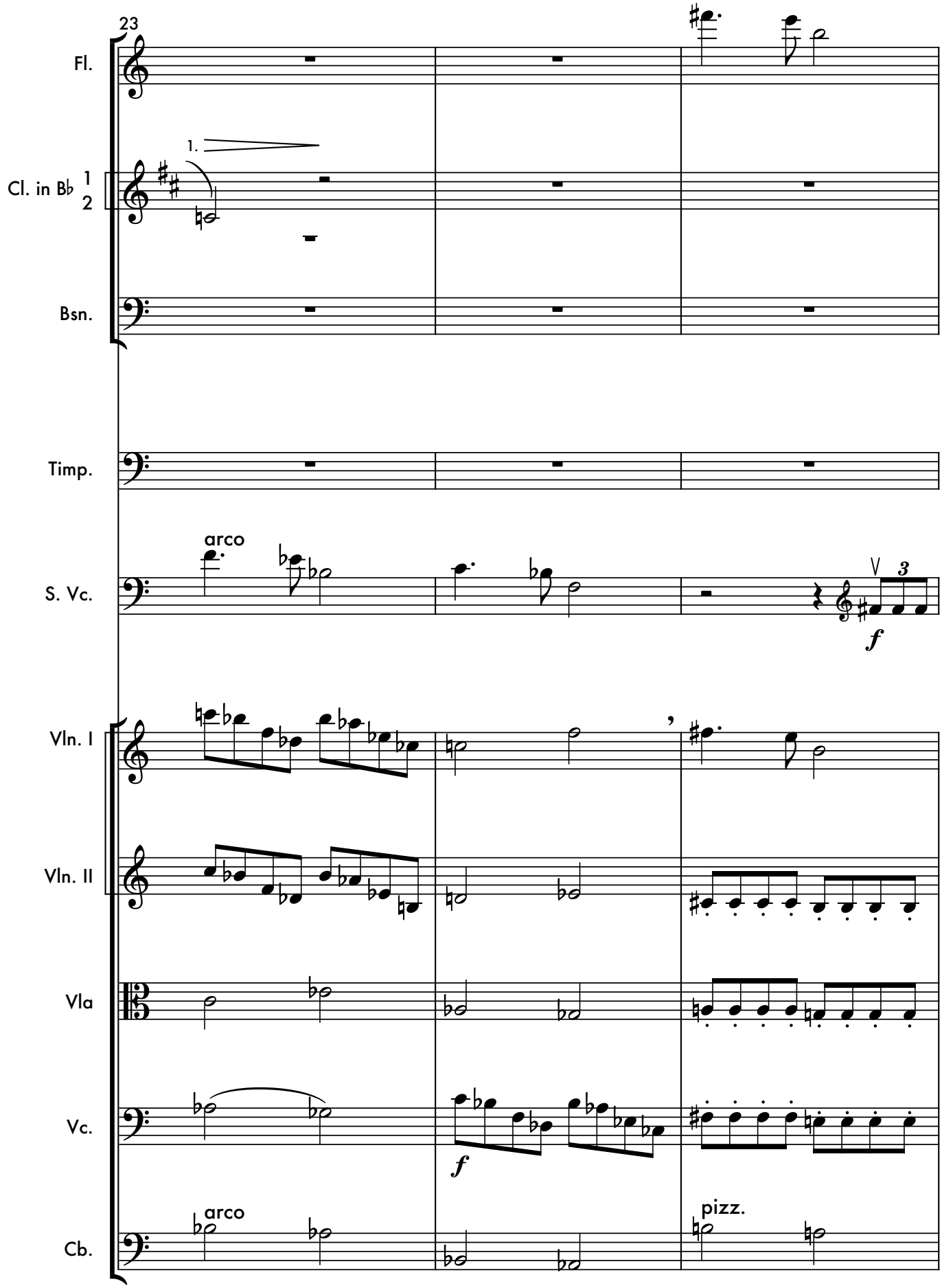

7
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
div.
unis.
Vc. 1
2
Cb.

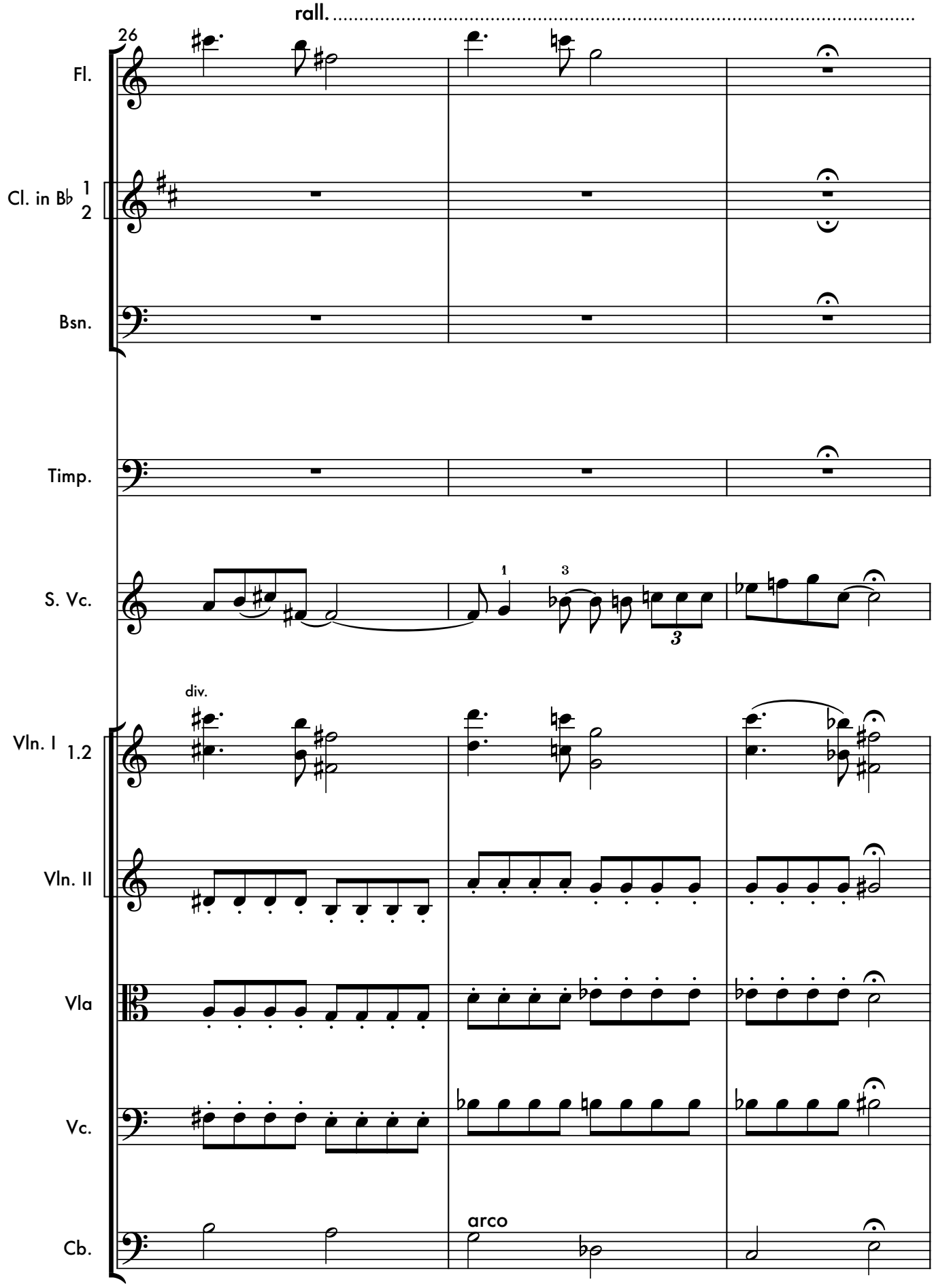

10
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
f
Vln. I
mp
Vln. II
Vla
div.
Vc.
Cb.

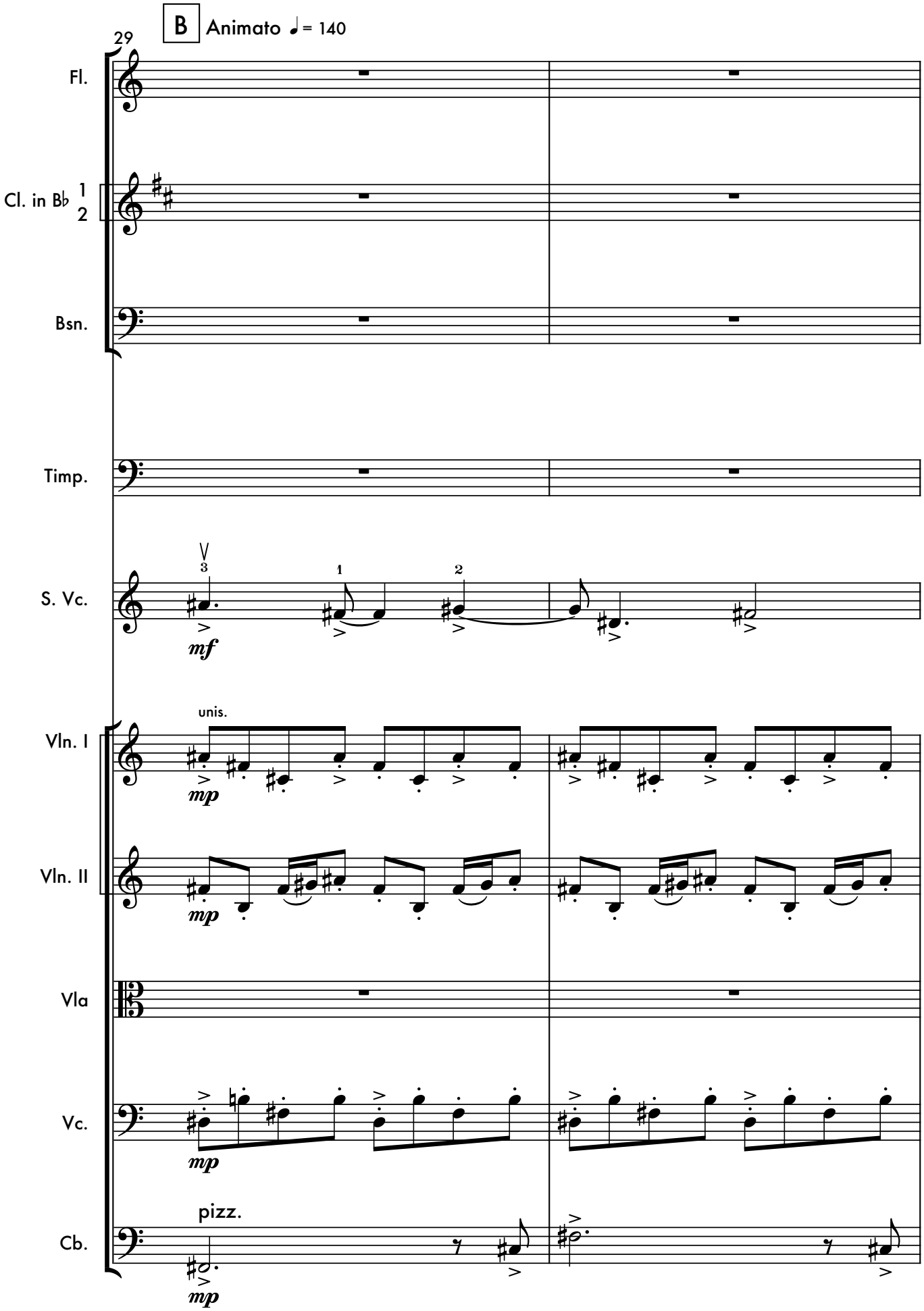

13
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1 2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
pizz.
mp
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc. 1 2
Cb.
pizz.
arco
mf
div.
unis.

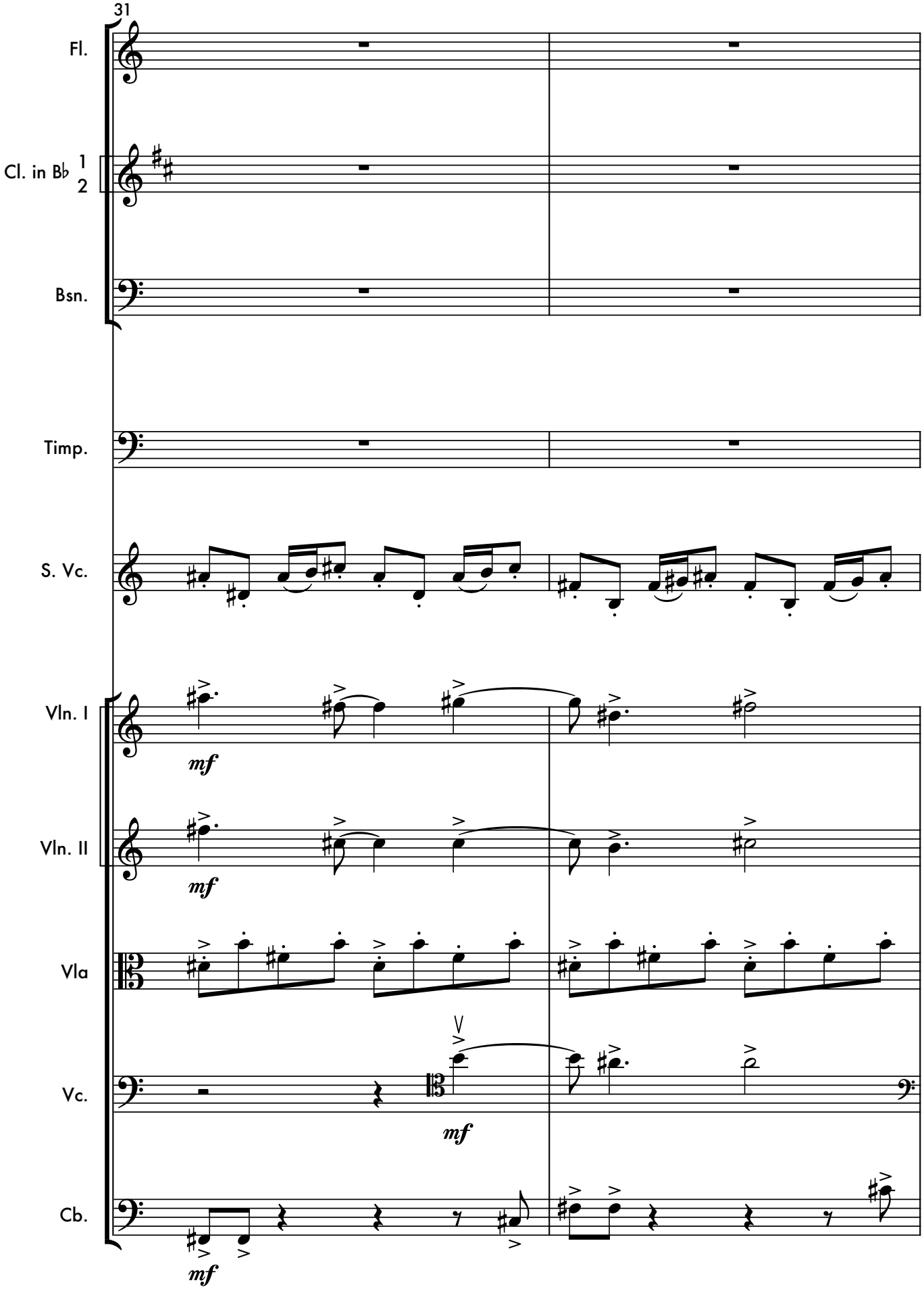

17
Fl.
mf
1.
mp
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
mf
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

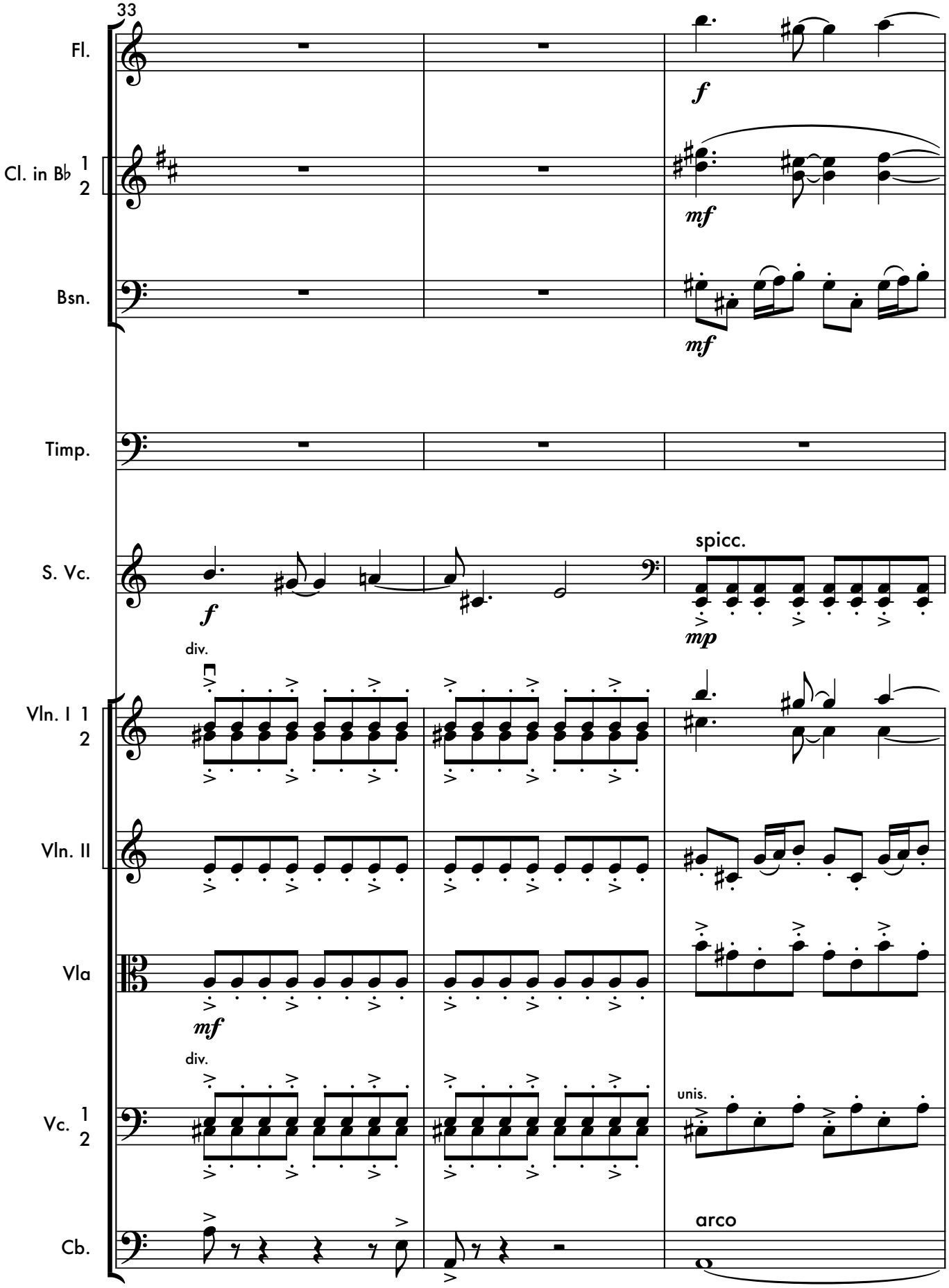

20
Fl.
1.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

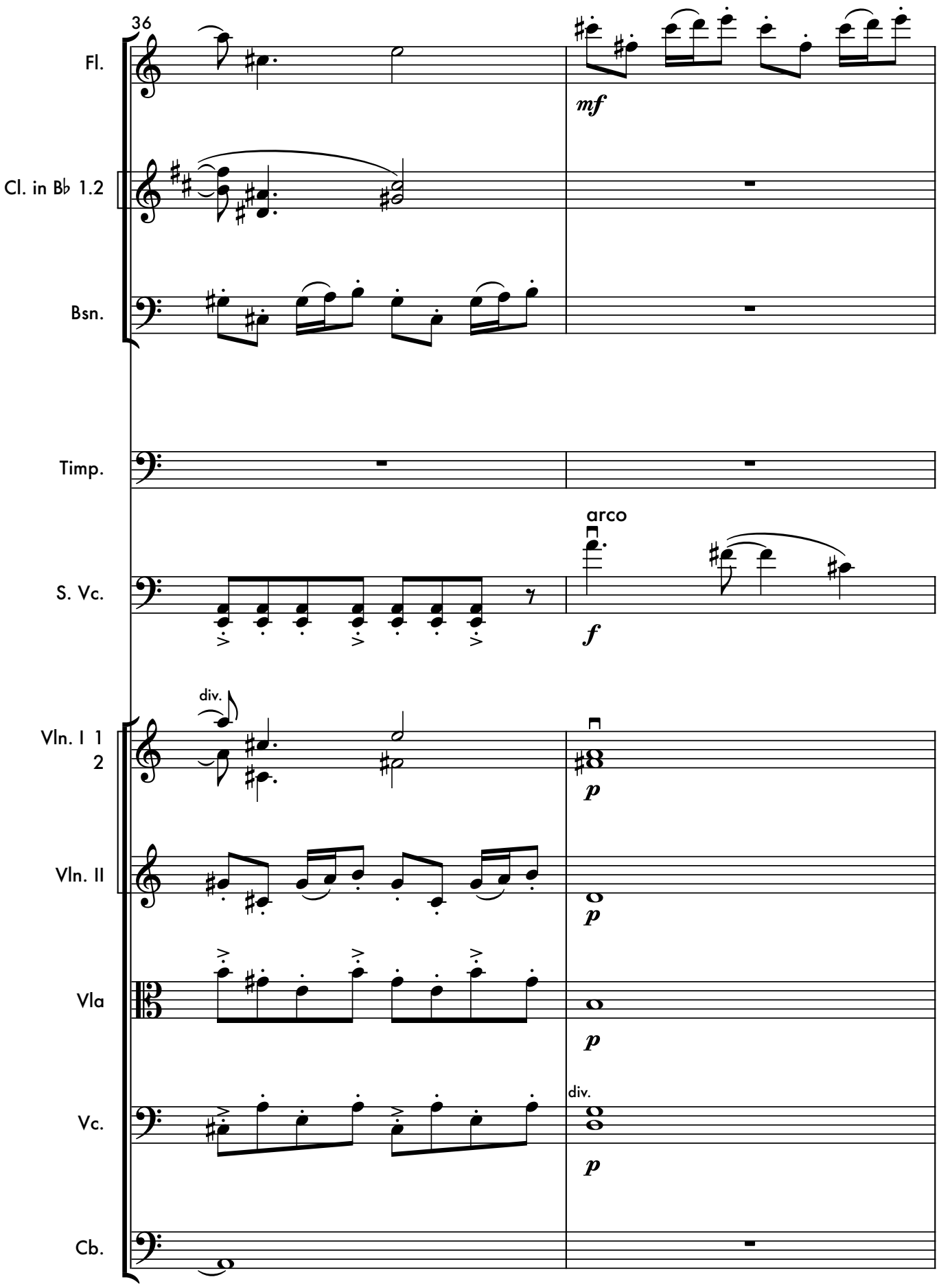

23
Fl.
1.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
arco
S. Vc.
V
3
f
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
f
arco
Cb.
pizz.

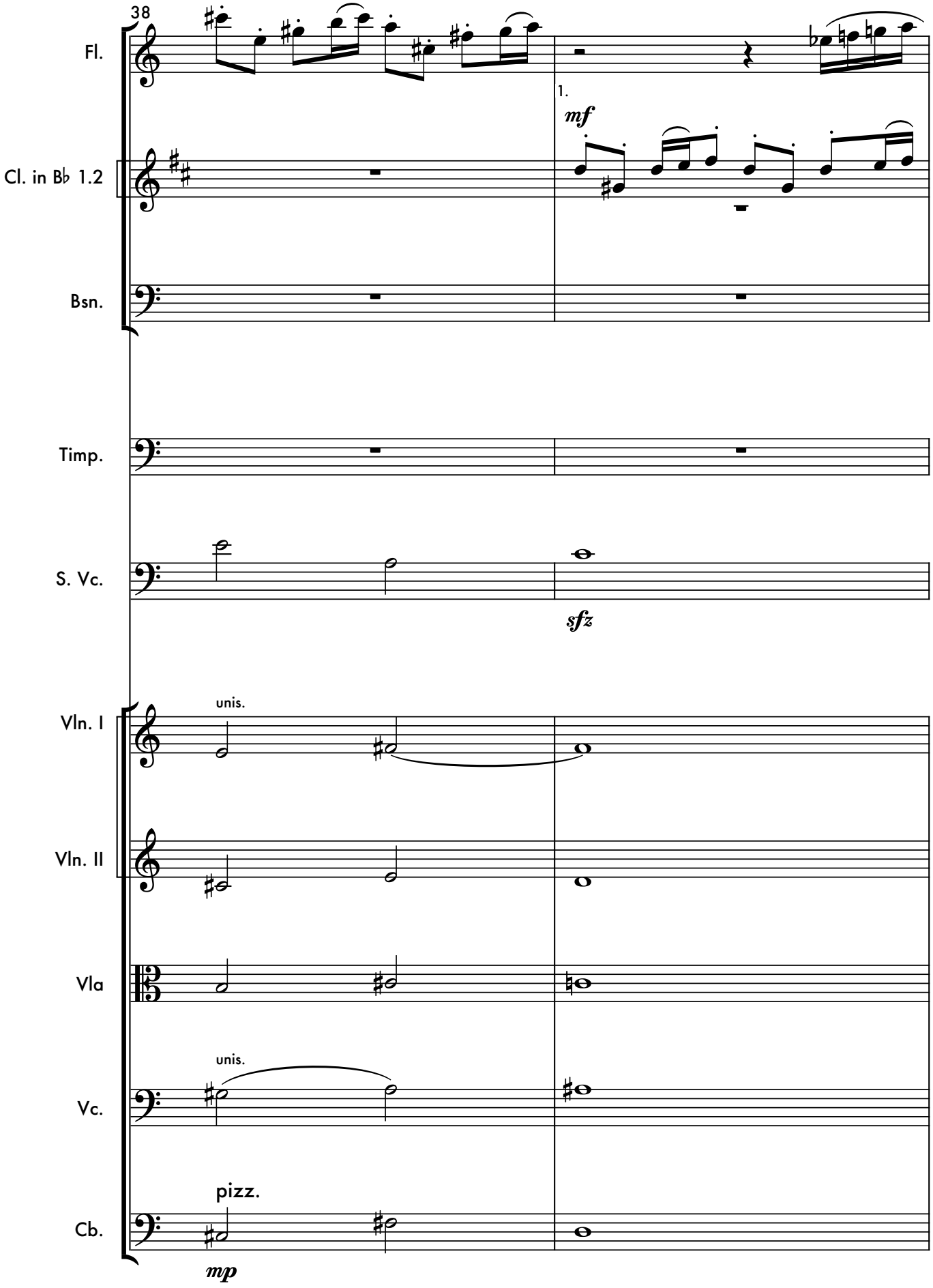

rall.
26
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
div.
Vln. I 1.2
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
arco
Cb.

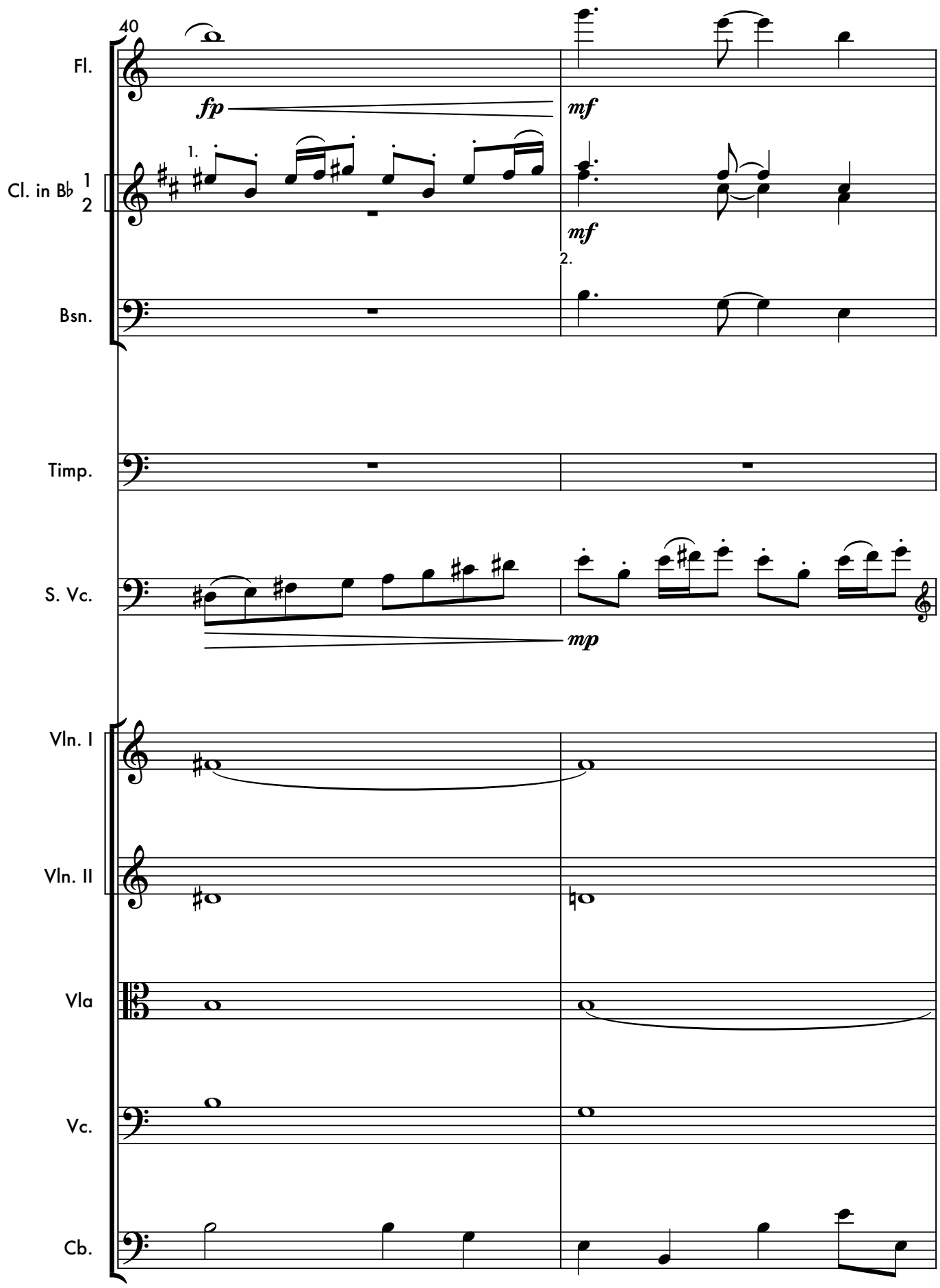

B
Animato ♩= 140
29
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1 2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
mf
unis.
Vln. I
mp
Vln. II
mp
Vla
Vc.
mp
pizz.
Cb.
mp

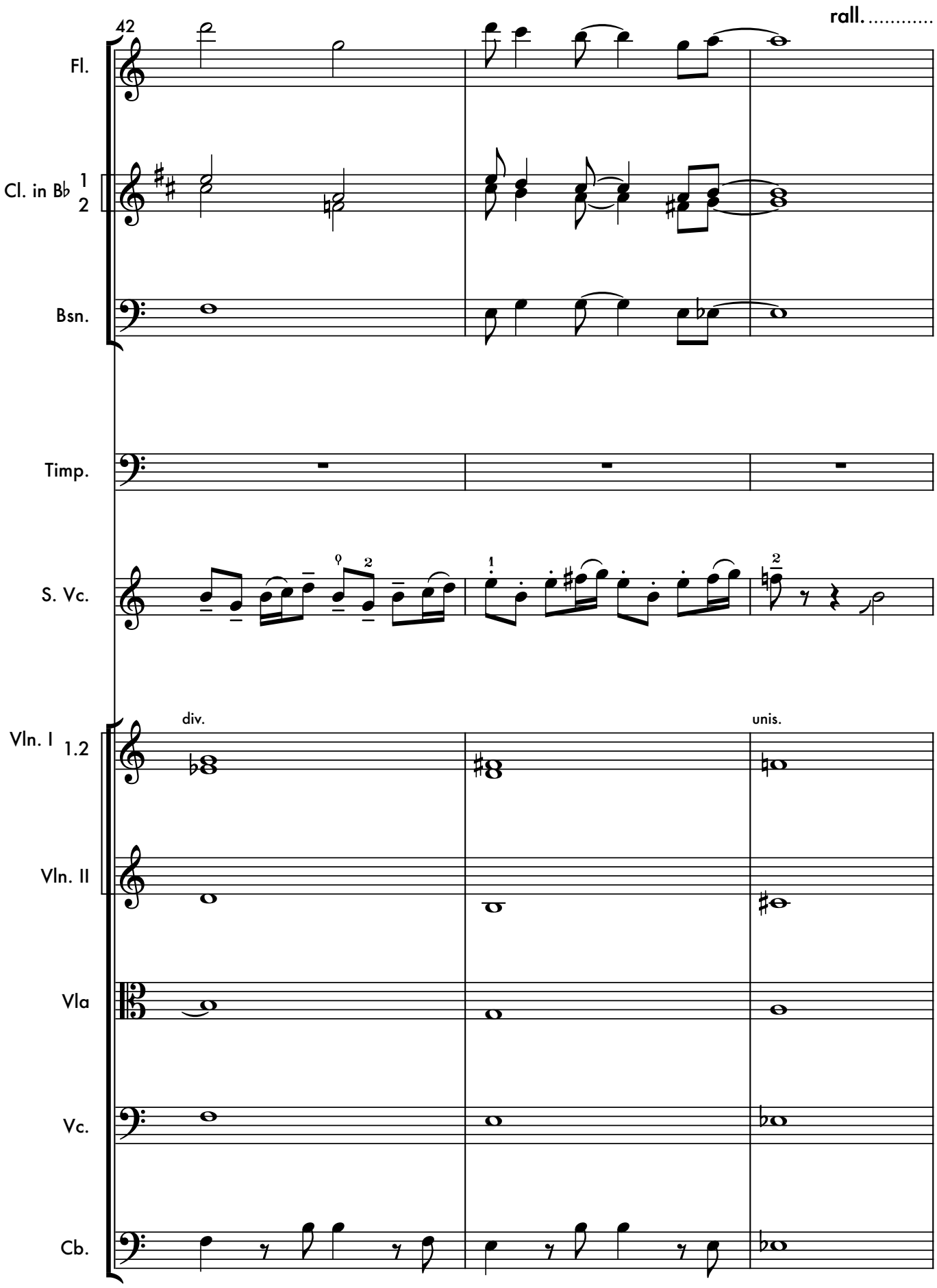

31
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
mf
Vln. II
mf
Vla
Vc.
mf
Cb.
mf

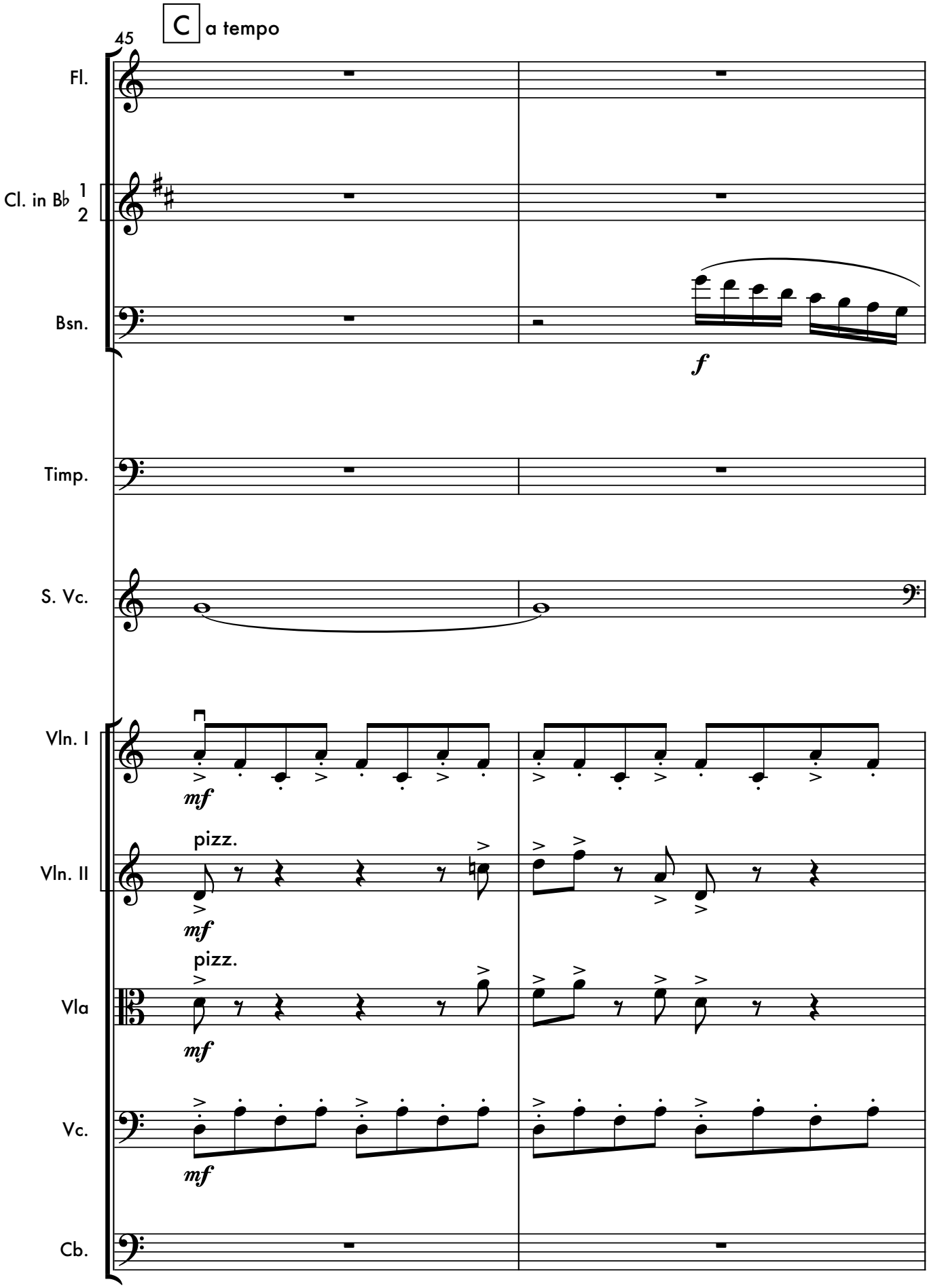

33
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I 1
2
Vln. II
Vla
Vc. 1
2
Cb.
f
mf
mf
f
spicc.
mp
div.
mf
div.
unis.
arco

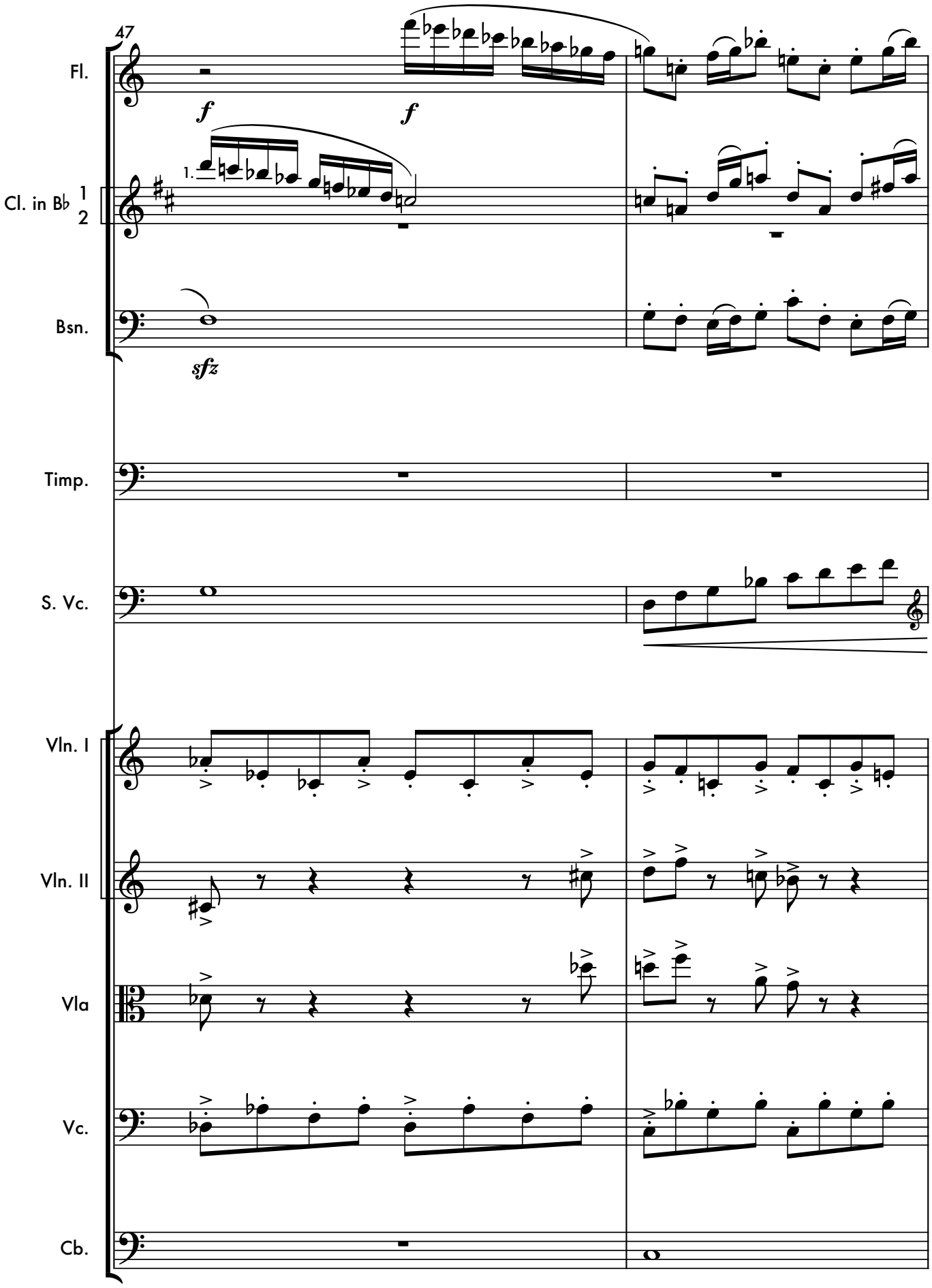

36
Fl.
mf
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
Timp.
arco
S. Vc.
f
div.
Vln. I 1
2
p
Vln. II
p
Vla
p
div.
Vc.
p
Cb.

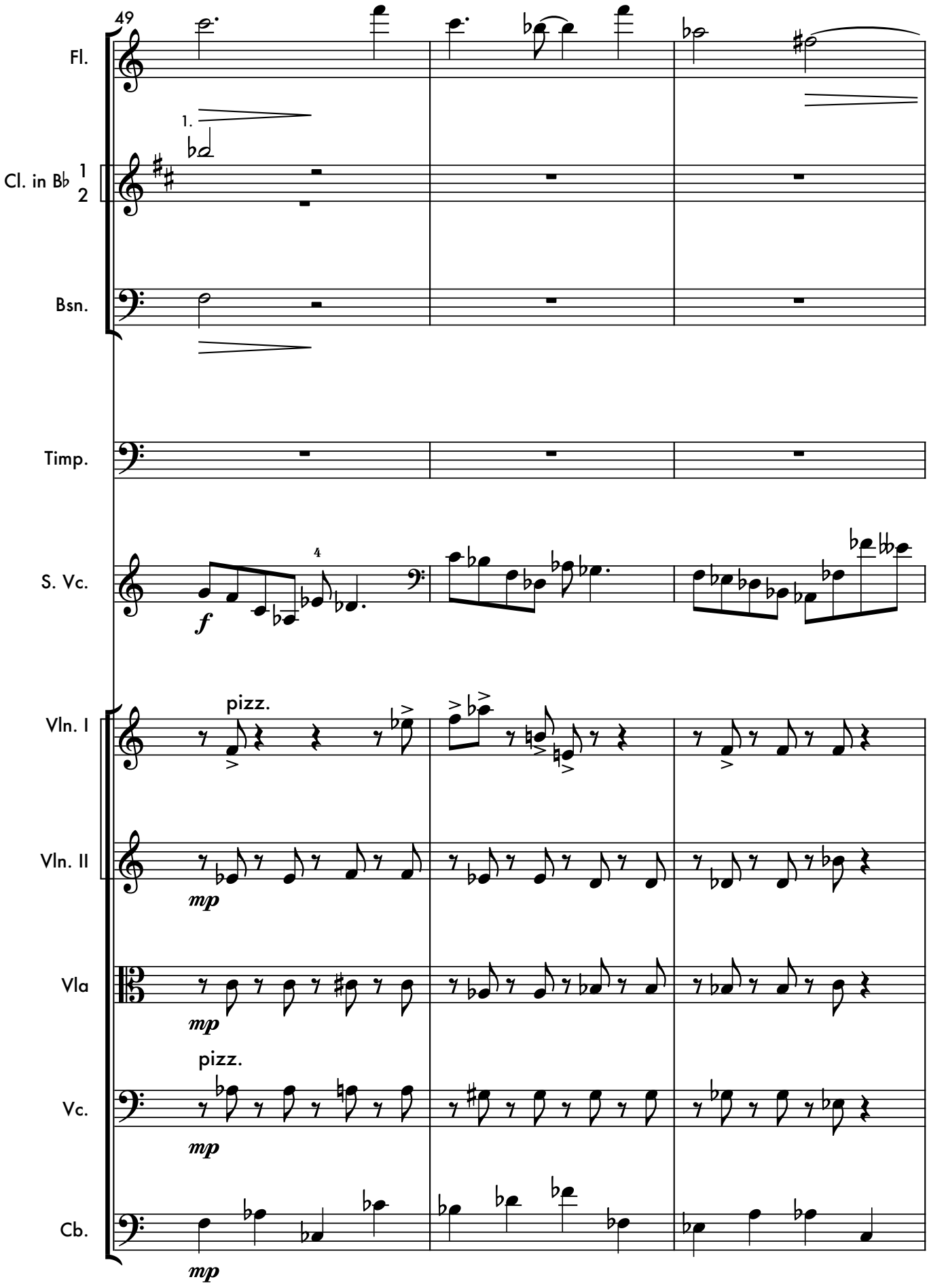

38
Fl.
1.
mf
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
sfz
unis.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
unis.
Vc.
pizz.
Cb.
mp

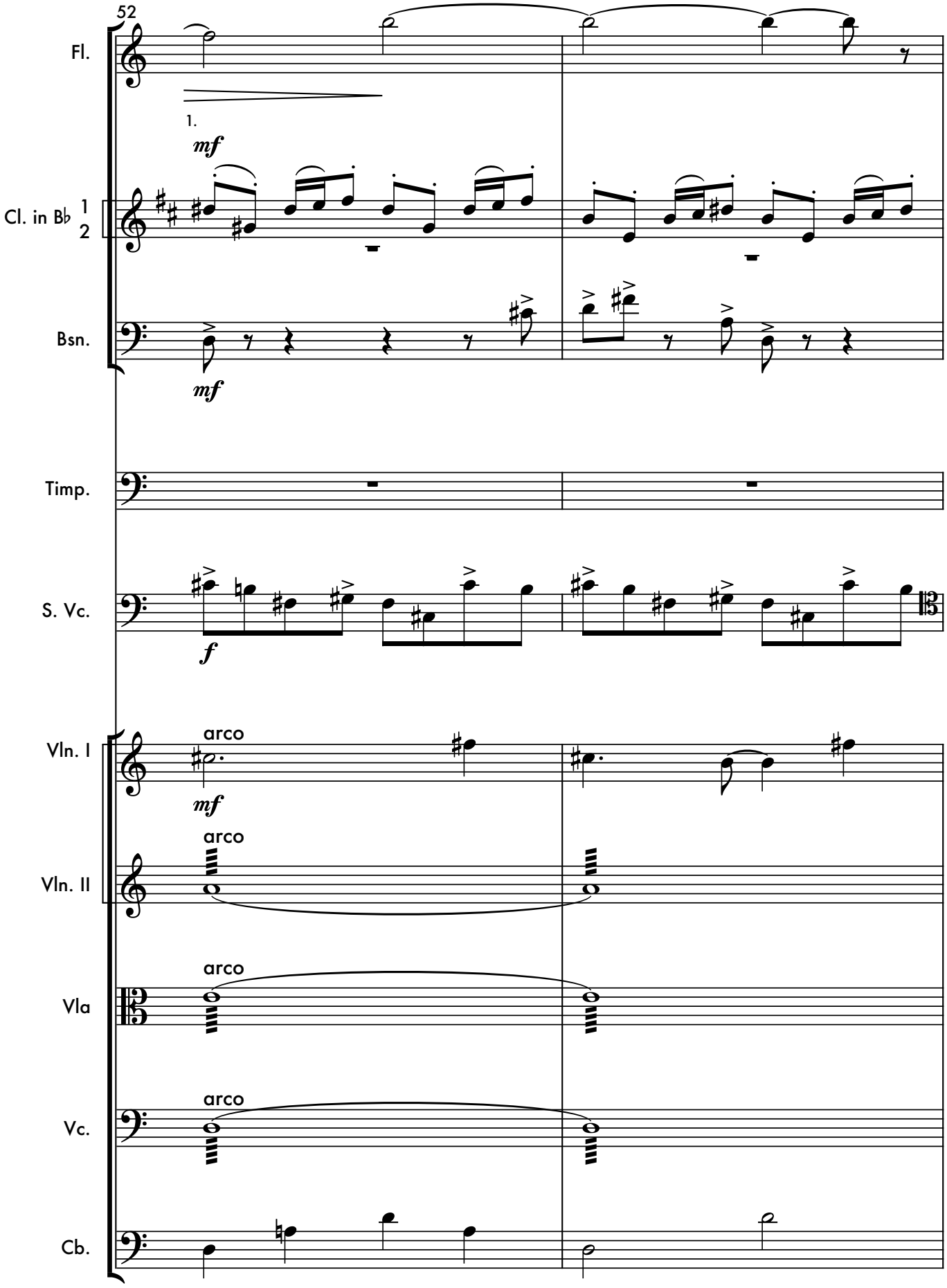

40
Fl.
fp
mf
1.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
mf
2.
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
mp
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

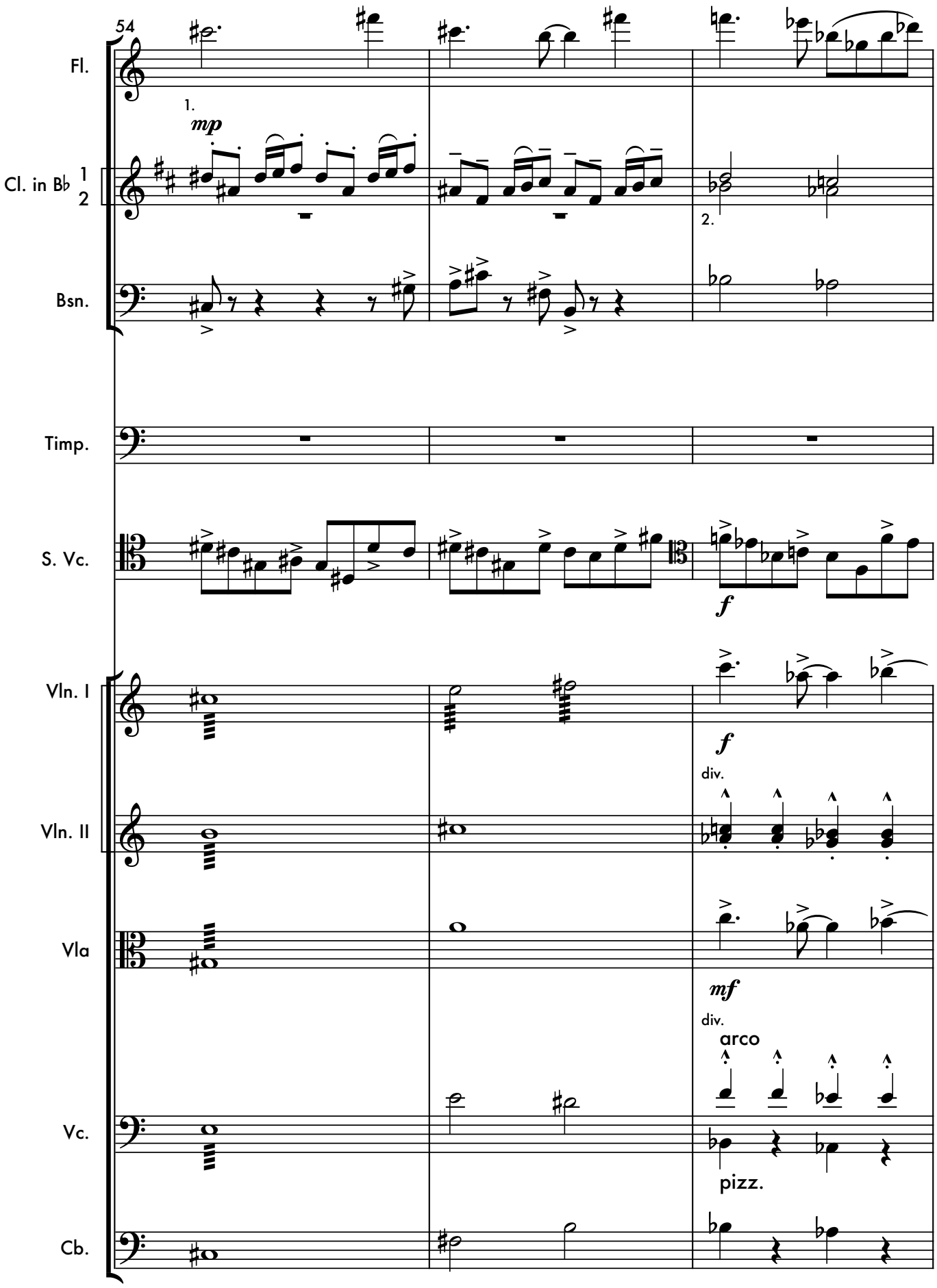

42
rall.
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
div.
unis.
Vln. I 1.2
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

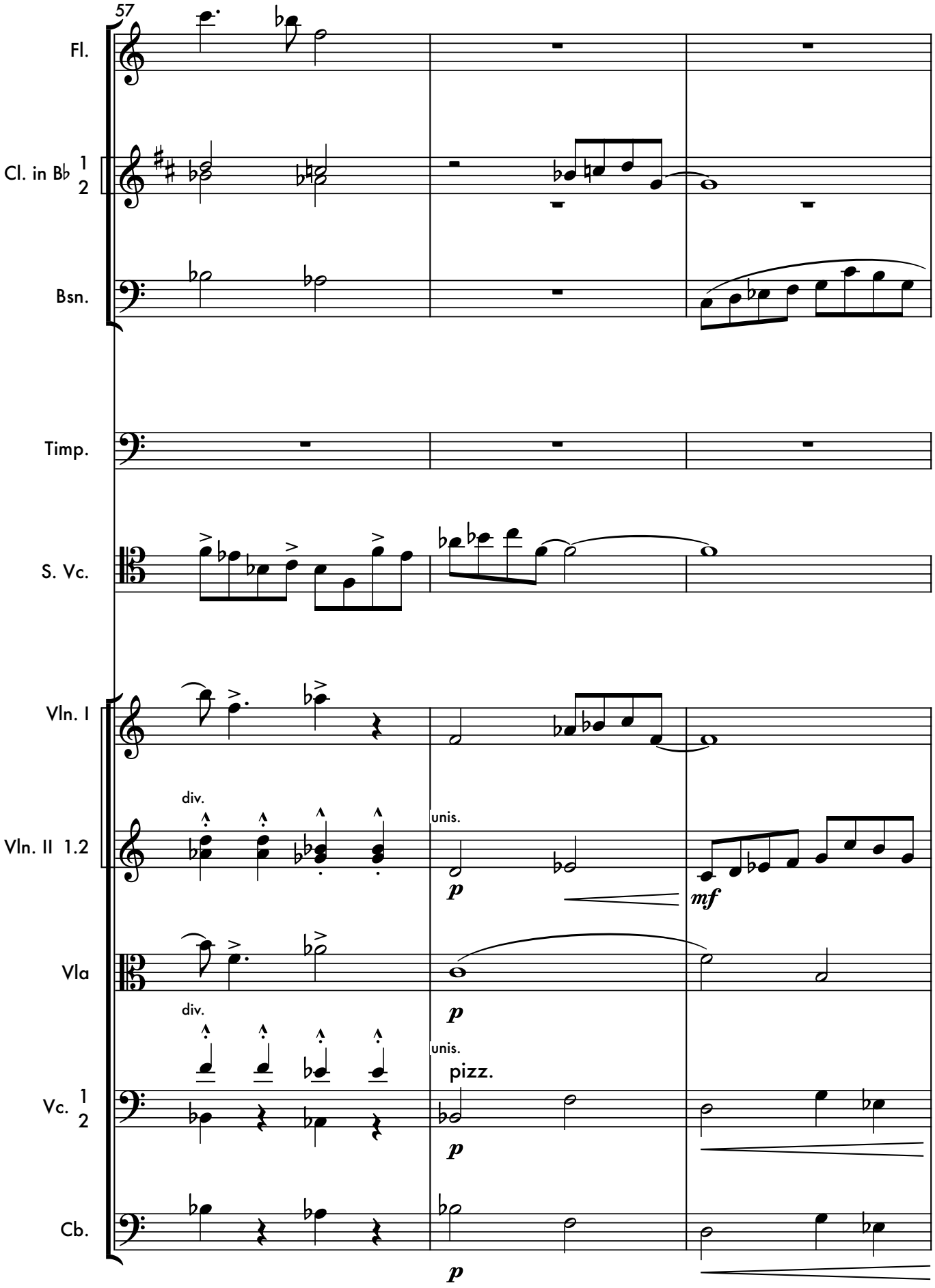

C a tempo
45
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1 2
Bsn.
f
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
mf
Vln. II
pizz.
mf
Vla
pizz.
mf
Vc.
mf
Cb.

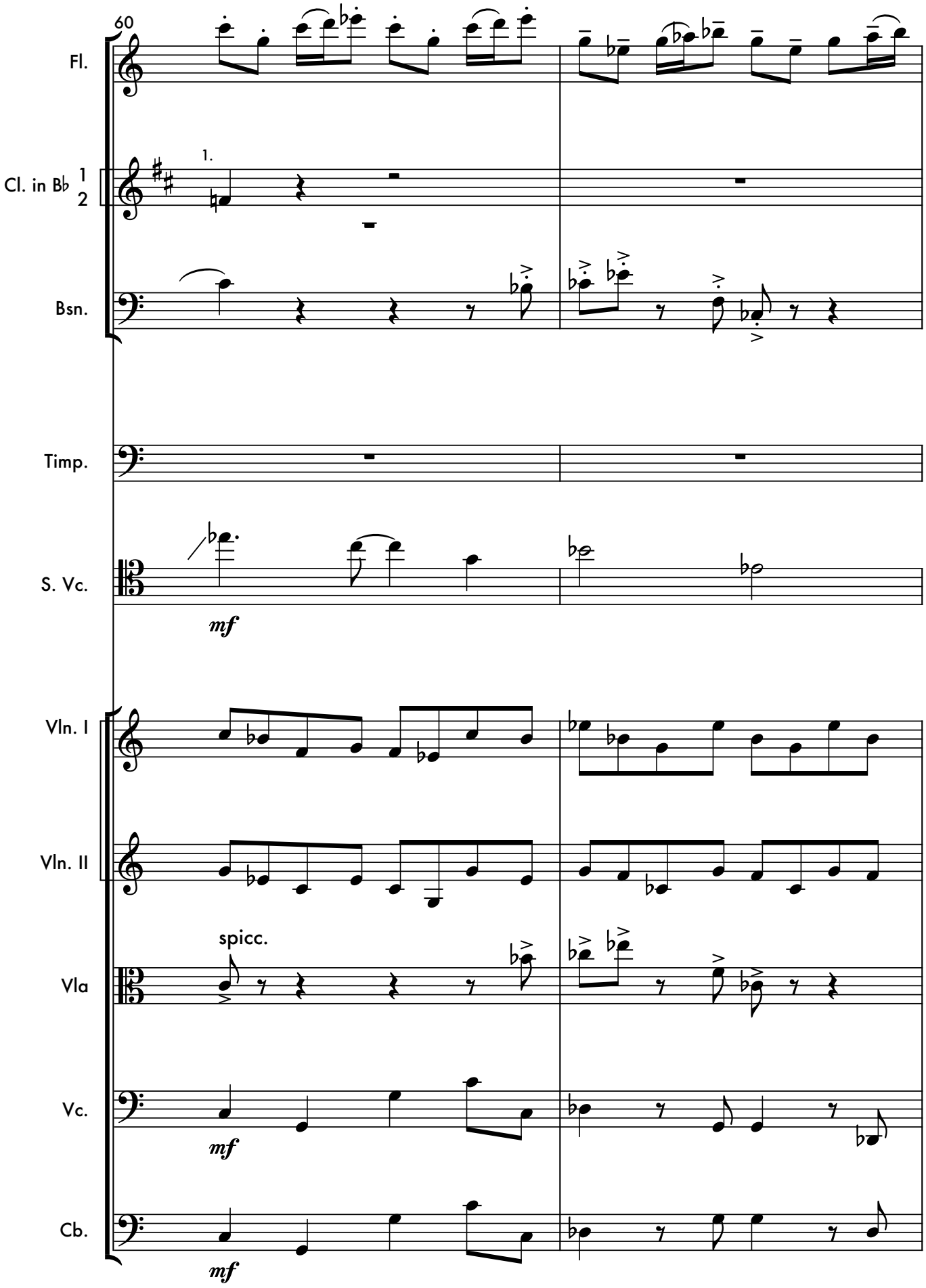

47
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.
f
f
1.
sfz

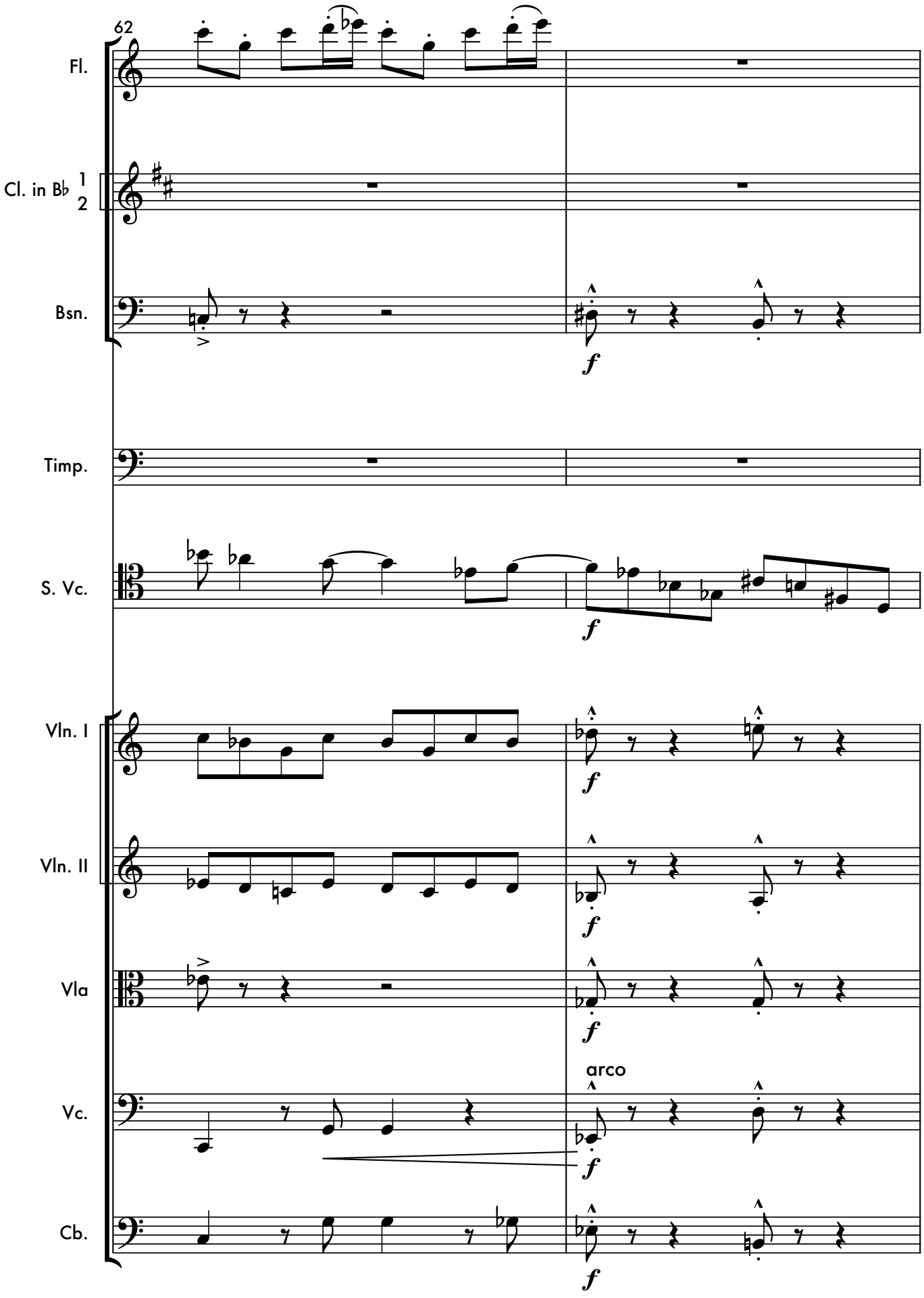

49
Fl.
1.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
4
f
Vln. I
pizz.
Vln. II
mp
Vla
mp
pizz.
Vc.
mp
Cb.
mp

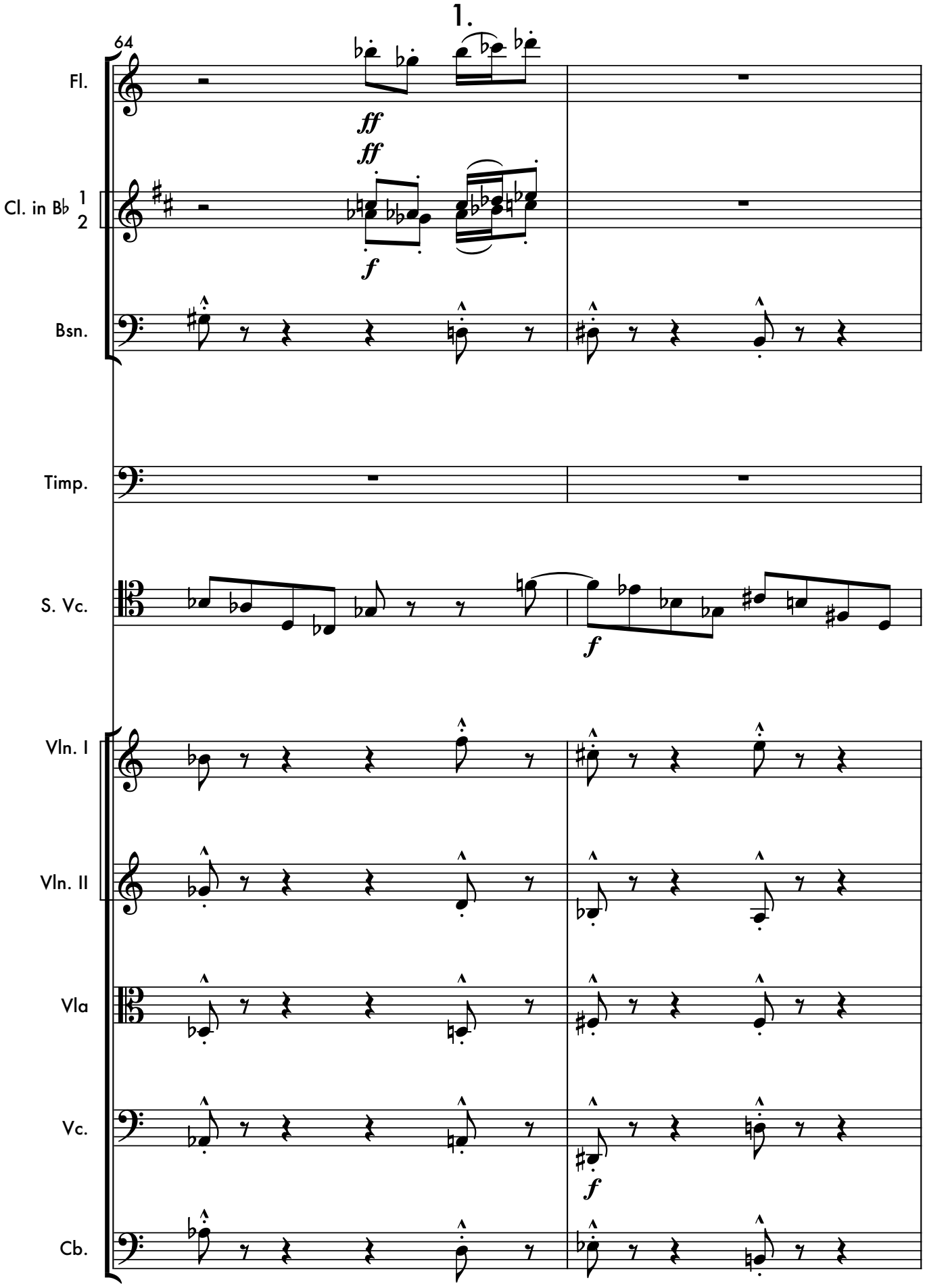

52
Fl.
1.
mf
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
mf
Timp.
S. Vc.
f
Vln. I
arco
mf
Vln. II
arco
Vla
arco
Vc.
arco
Cb.

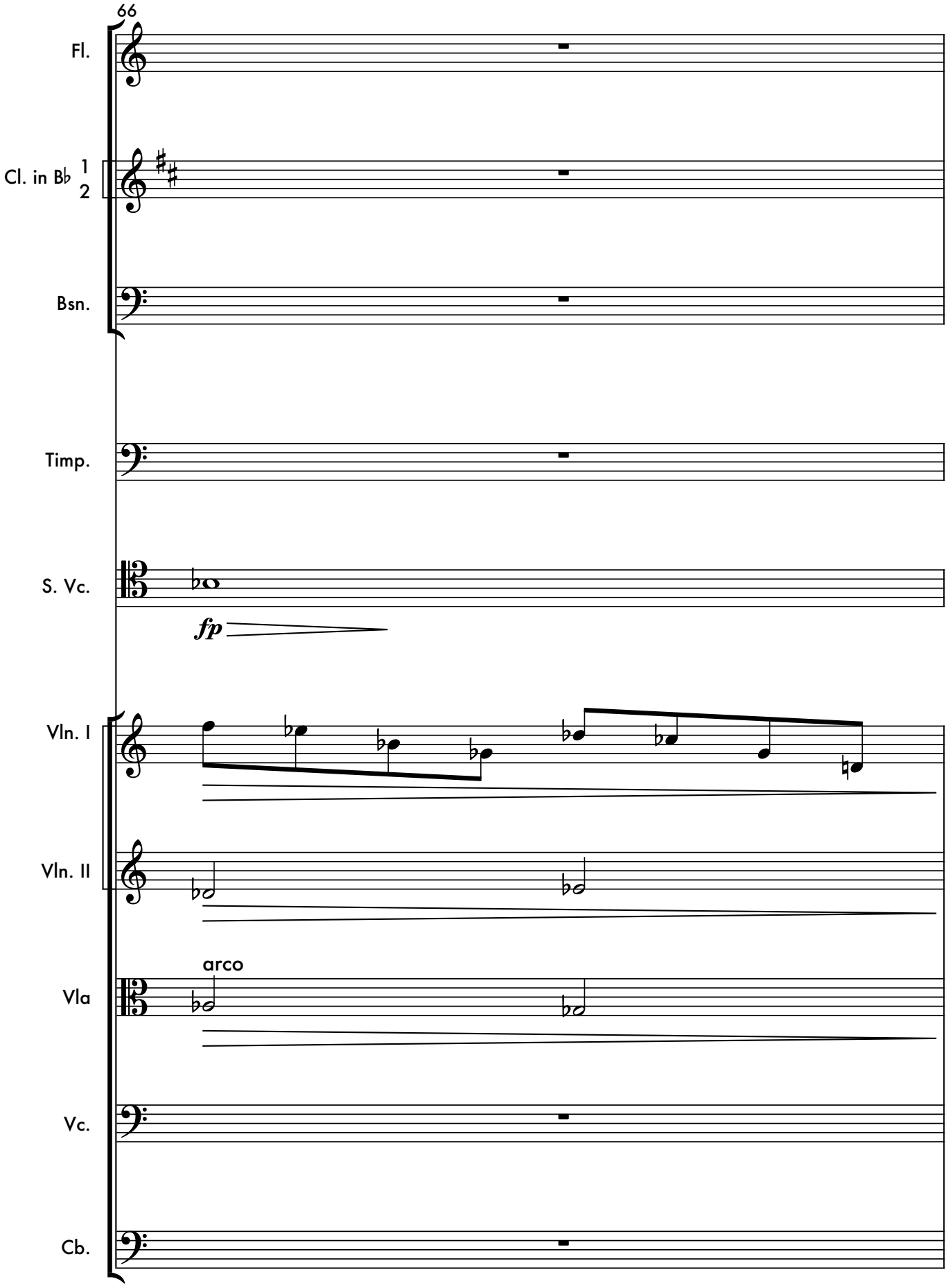

54
Fl.
1.
mp
Cl. in B♭ 1 2
2.
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
f
Vln. I
f
div.
Vln. II
Vla
mf
div.
arco
Vc.
pizz.
Cb.

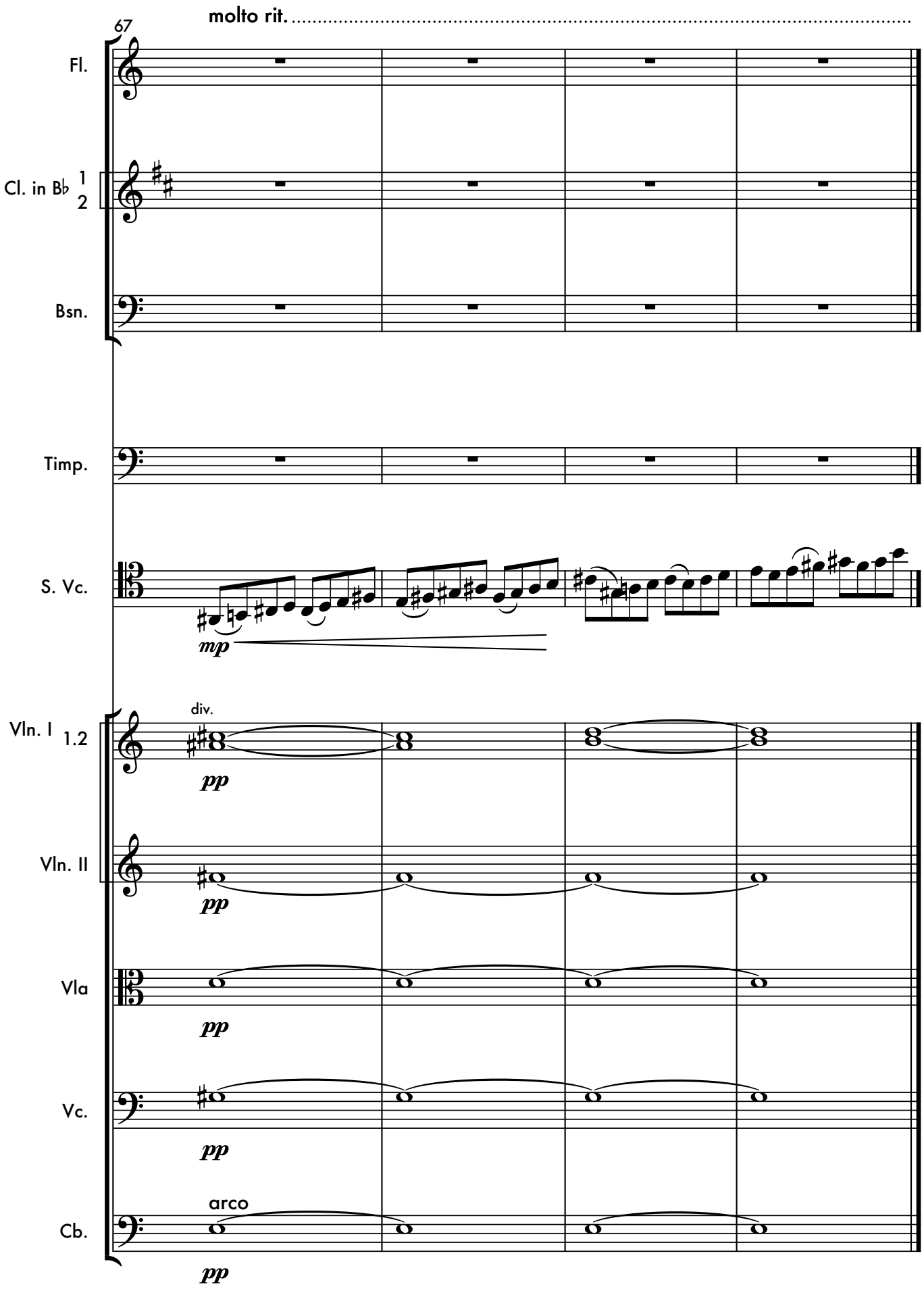

57
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
div.
unis.
Vln. II 1.2
p
mf
Vla
div.
p
unis.
pizz.
Vc. 1
2
p
Cb.
p

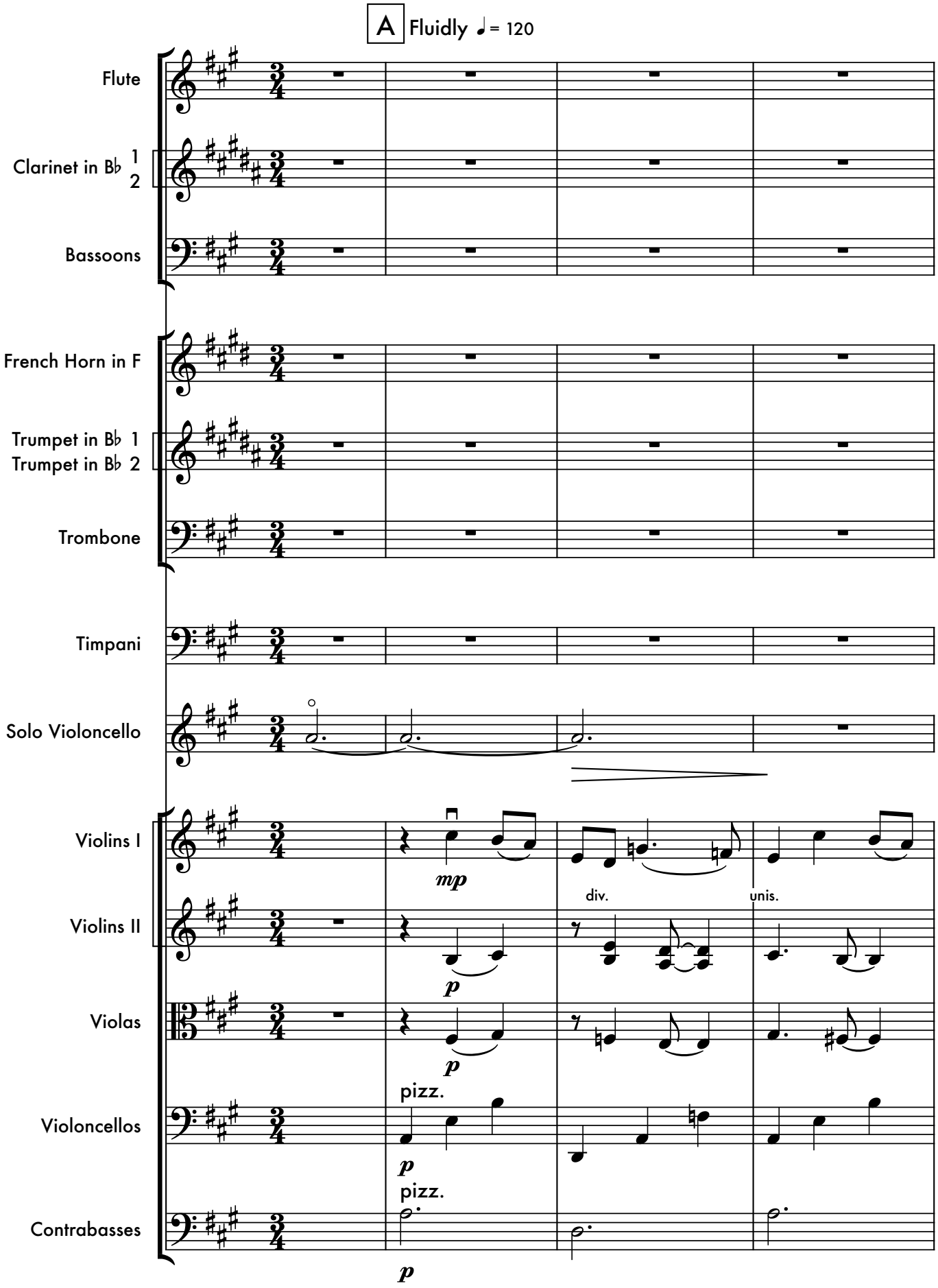

60
Fl.
1.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
mf
Vln. I
Vln. II
spicc.
Vla
Vc.
mf
Cb.
mf

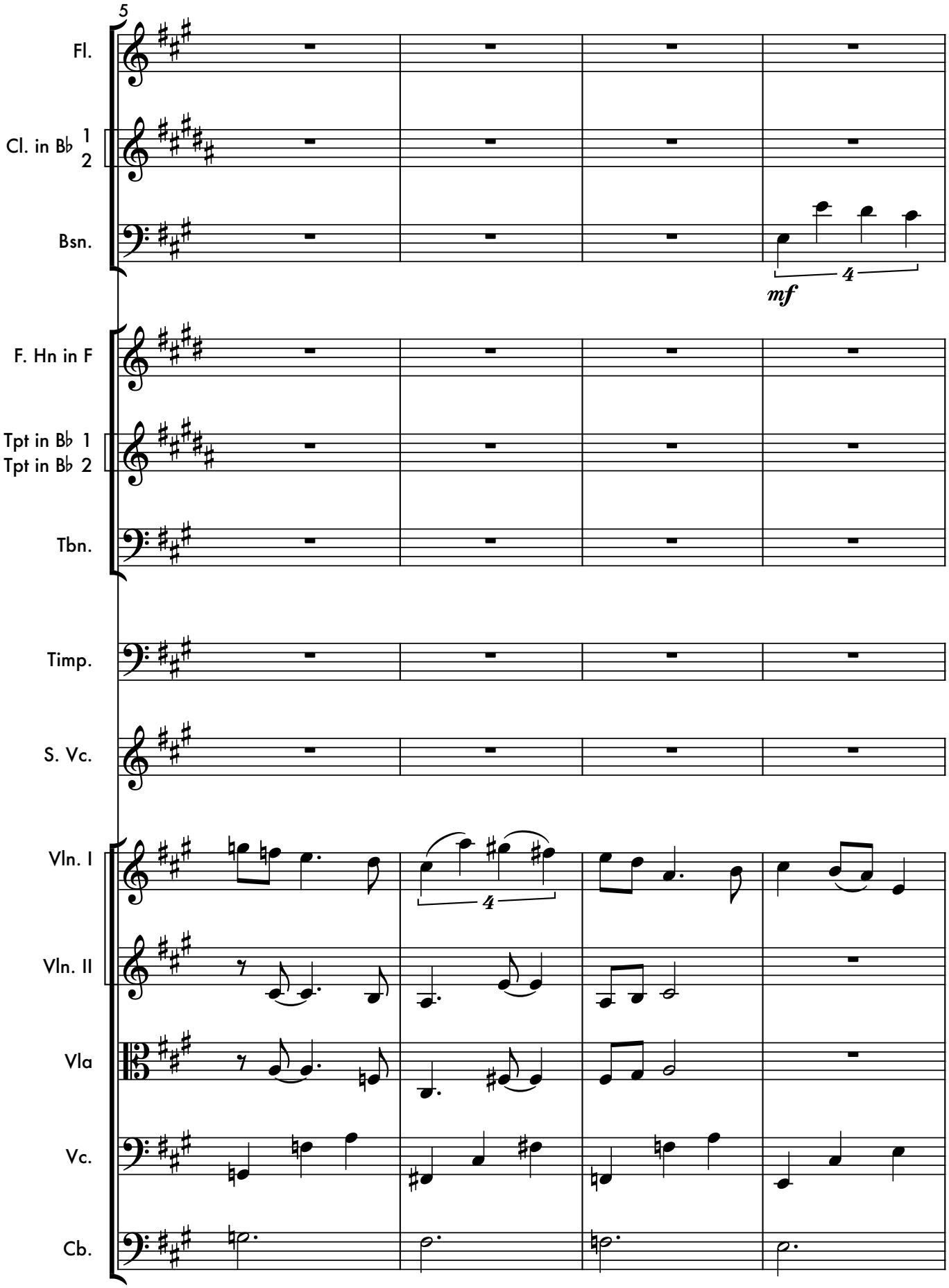

62
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
arco
Cb.

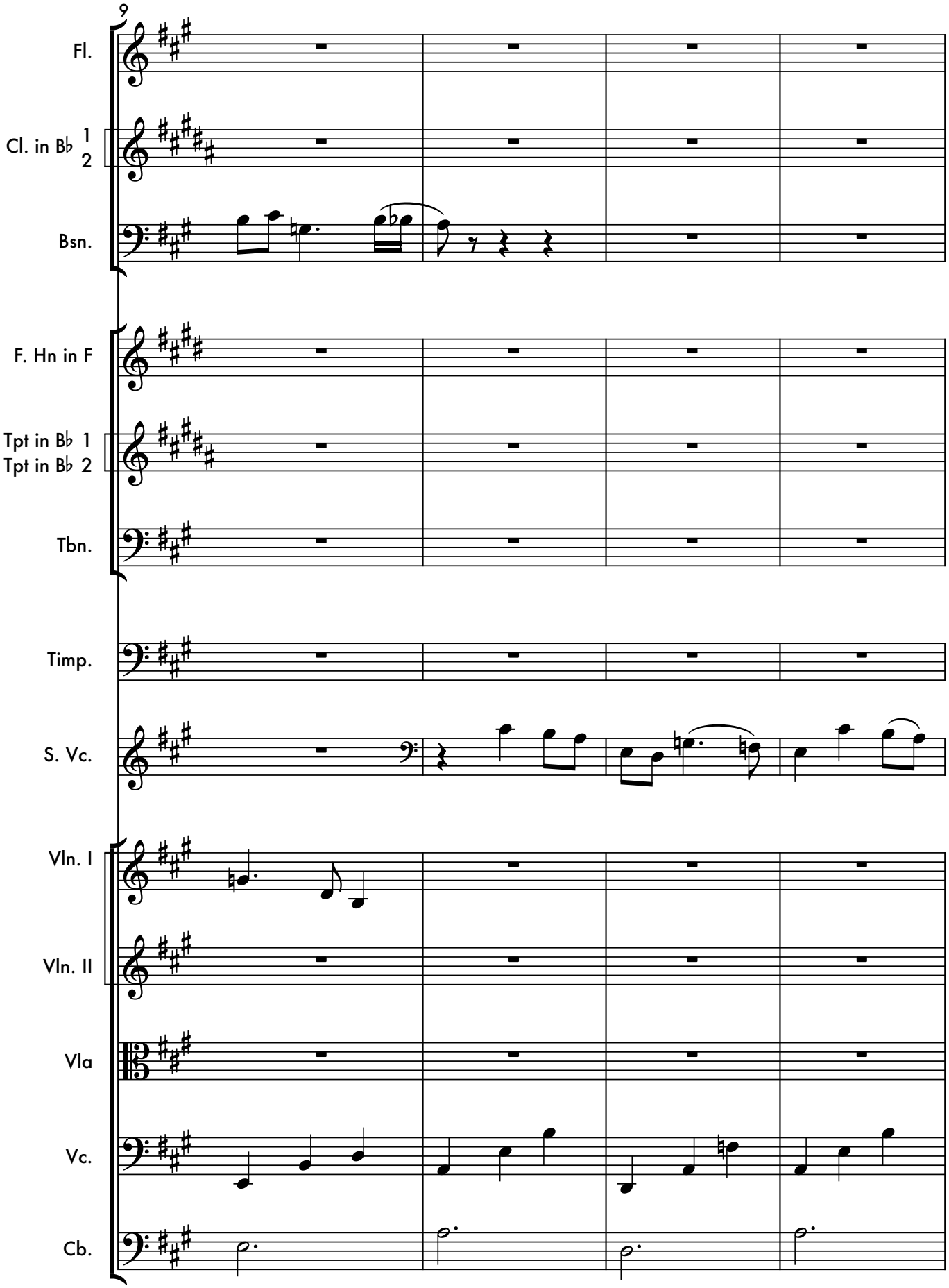

1.
64
Fl.
ff
ff
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
f
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
f
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
f
Cb.

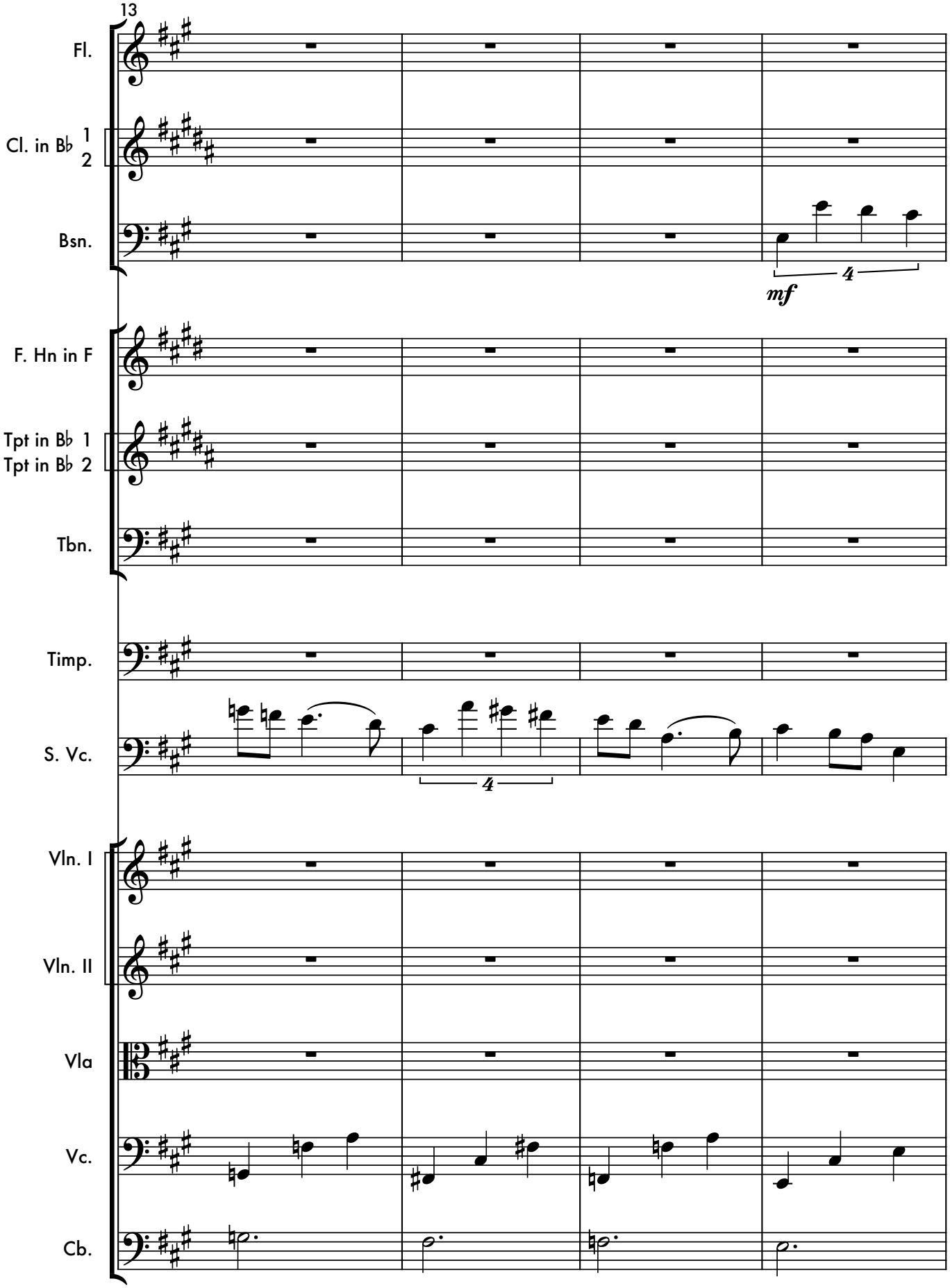

66
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
fp
Vln. I
Vln. II
arco
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

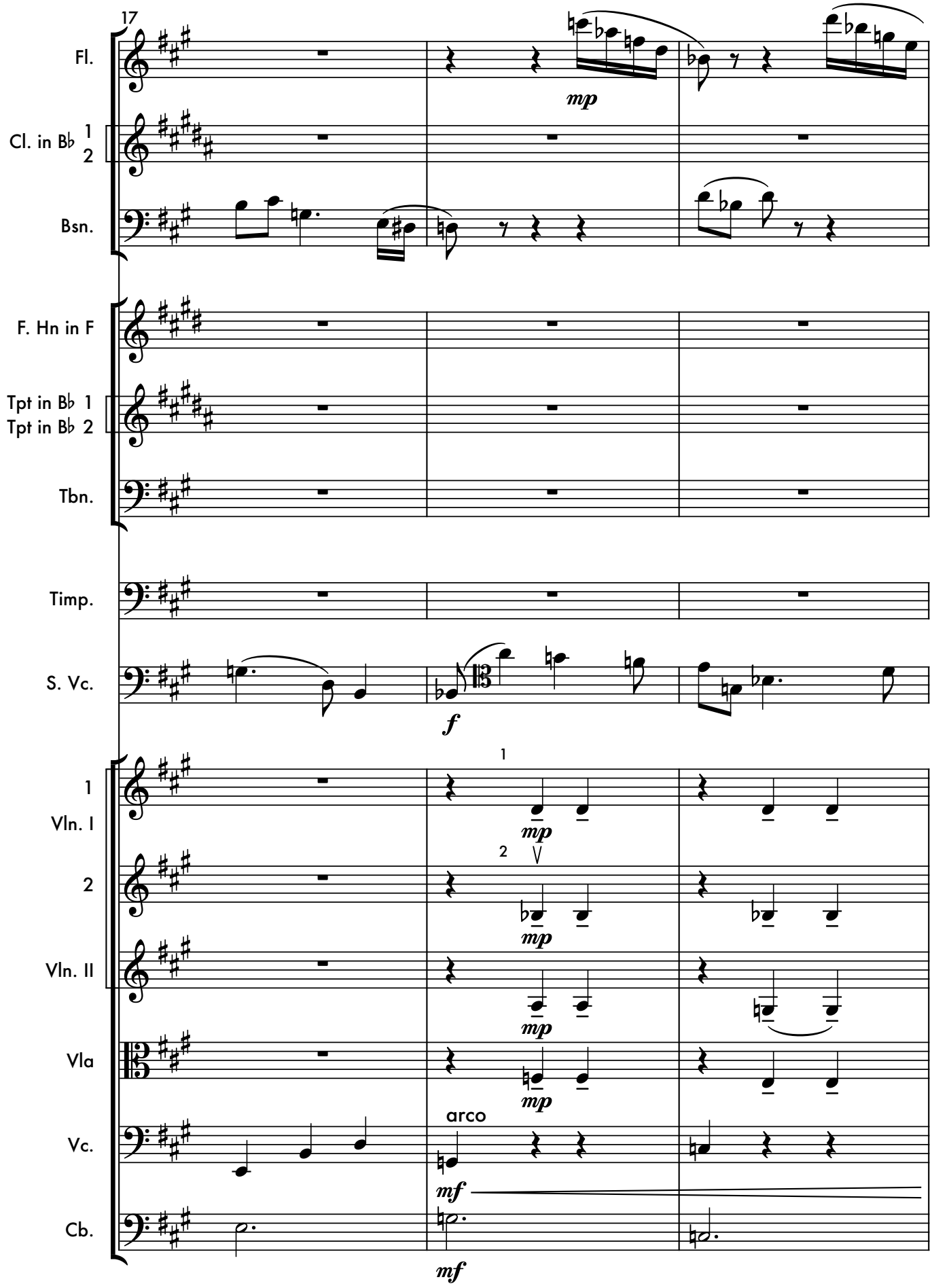

molto rit.
67
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
mp
Vln. I 1.2
div.
pp
Vln. II
pp
Vla
pp
Vc.
pp
Cb.
arco
pp

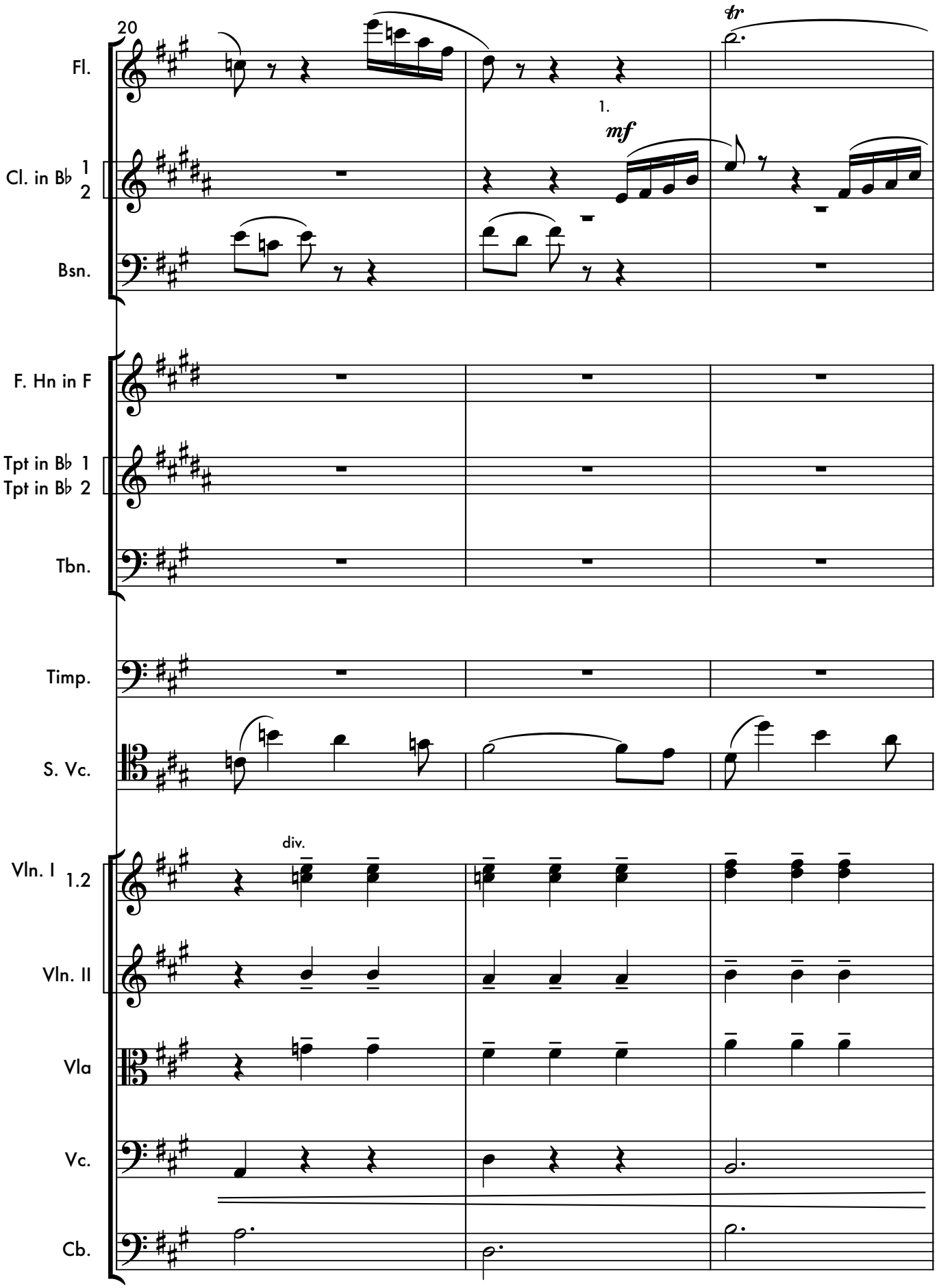

A
Fluidly ♩= 120
Flute
Clarinet in B♭ 1
2
Bassoons
French Horn in F
Trumpet in B♭ 1
Trumpet in B♭ 2
Trombone
Timpani
Solo Violoncello
Violins I
Violins II
Violas
Violoncellos
Contrabasses
mp
p
div.
unis.
pizz.
pizz.

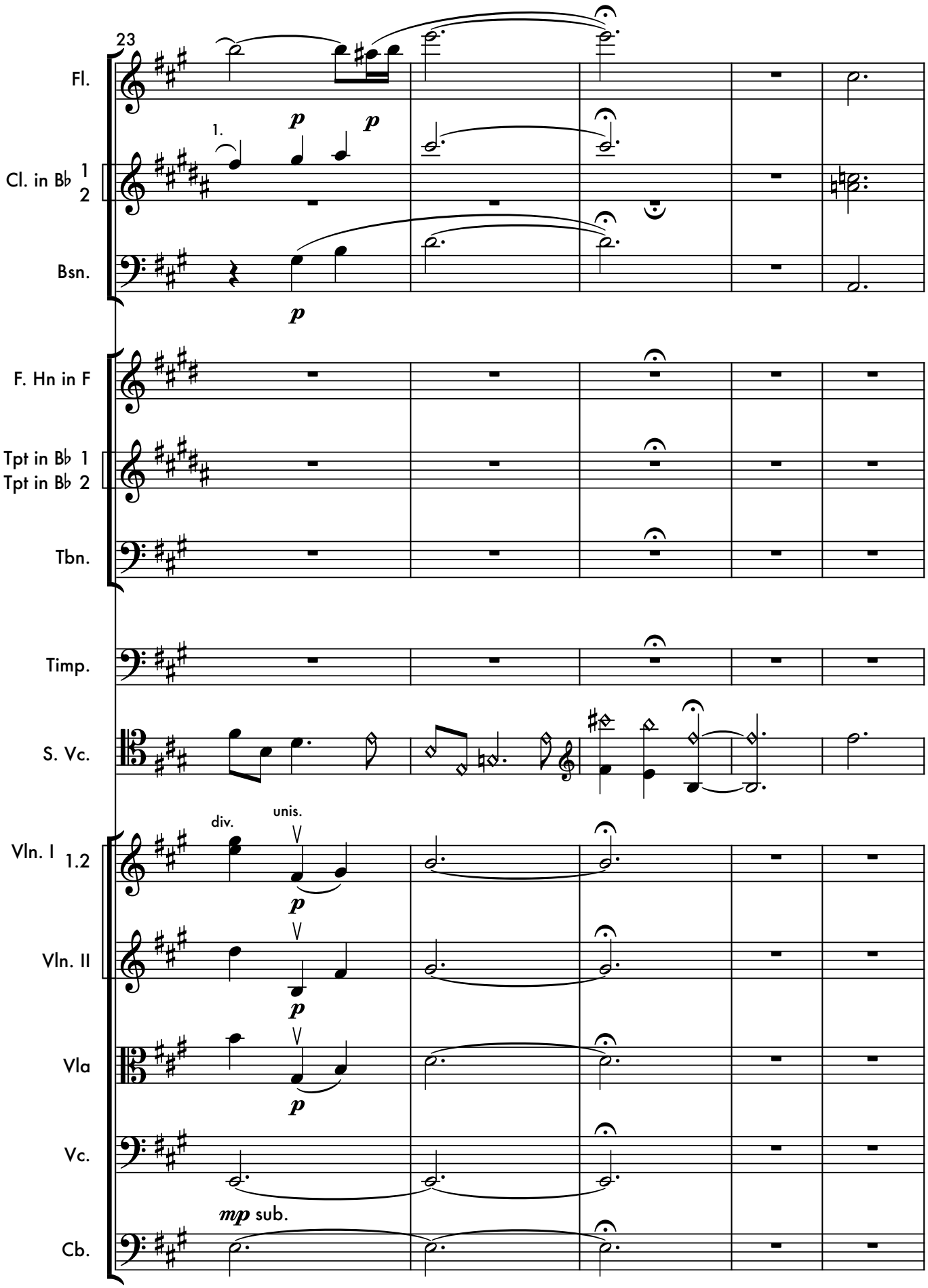

5
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
4
mf
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
4
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

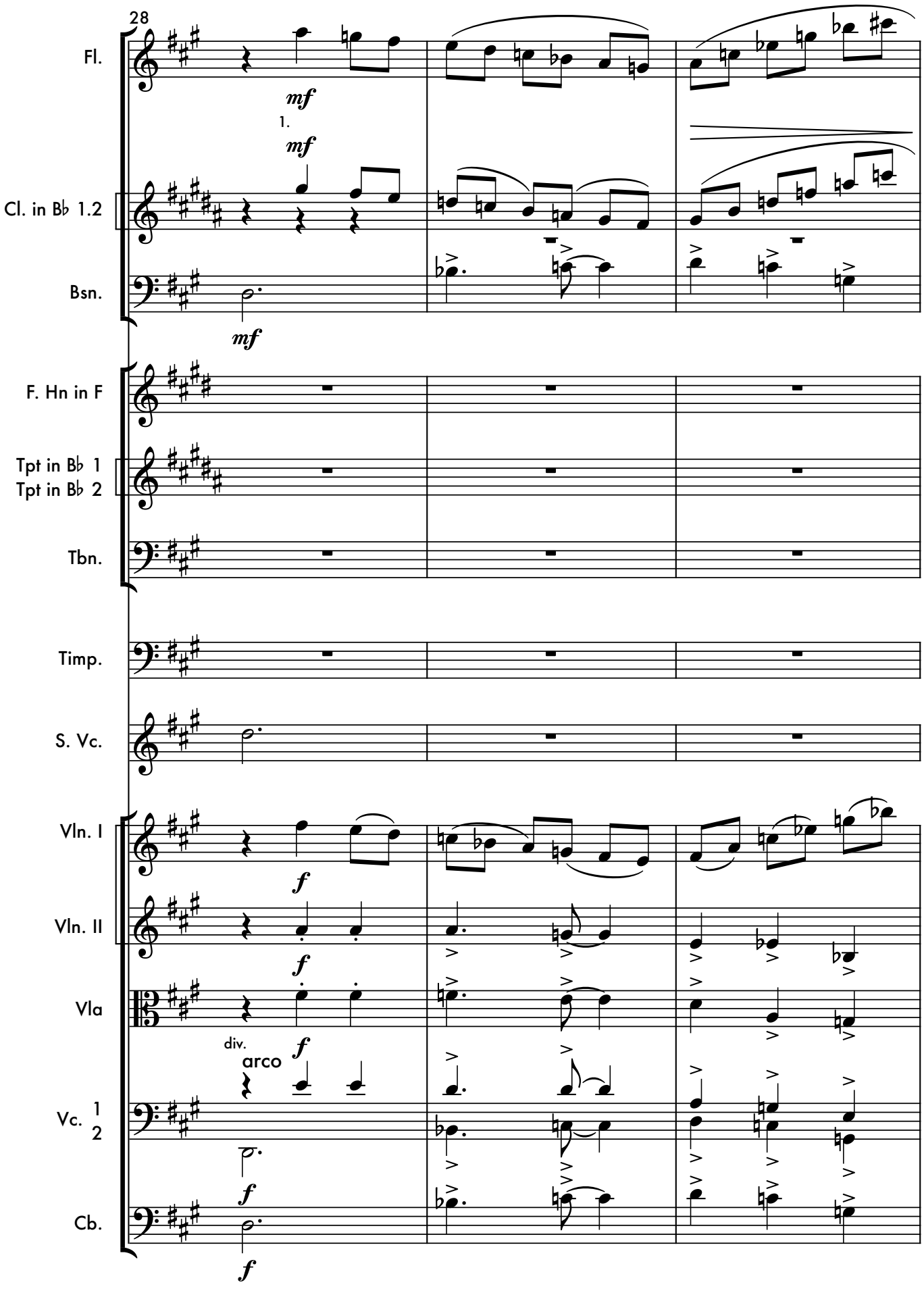

9
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

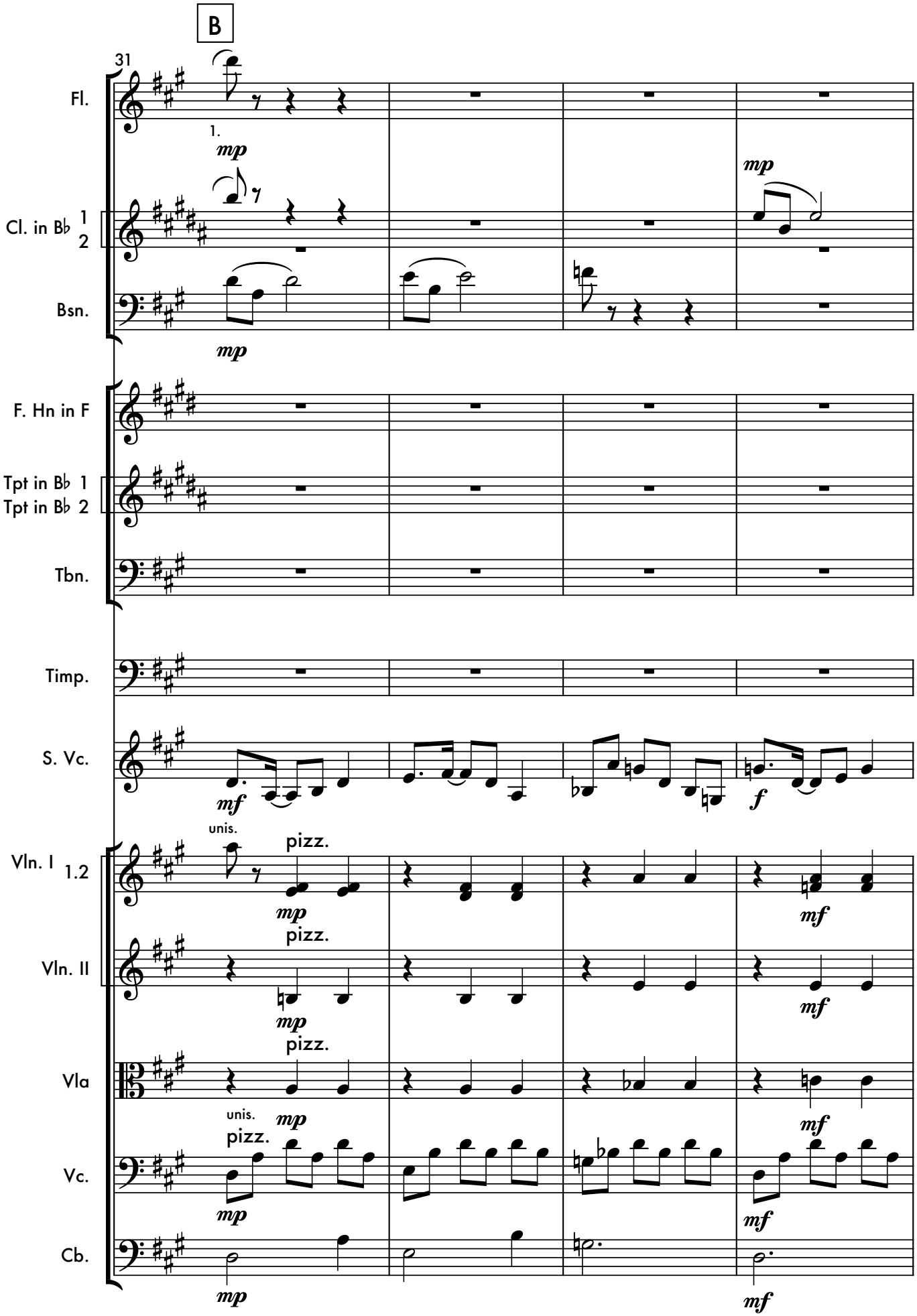

13
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
mf
4
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
4
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

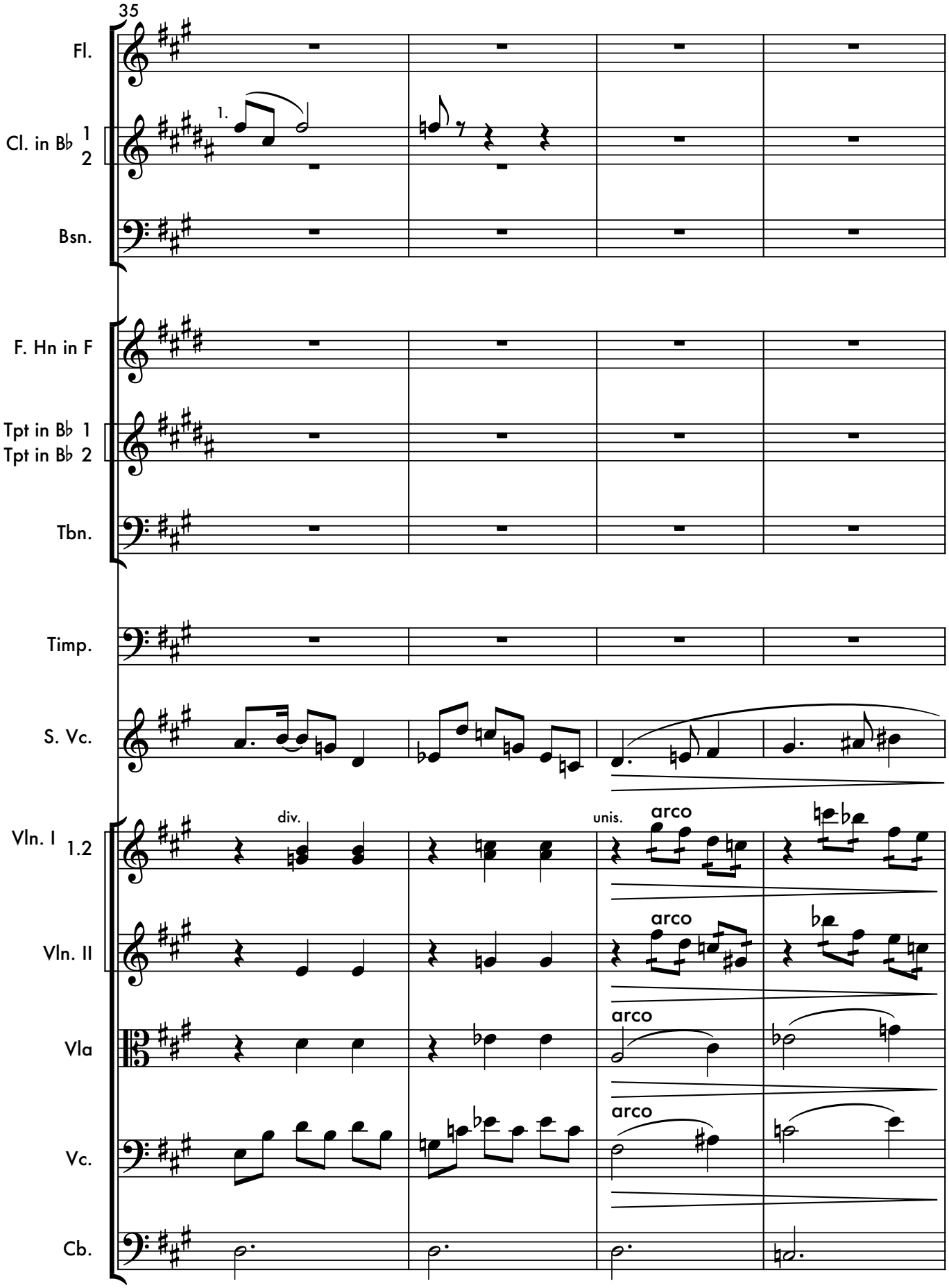

17
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
1
Vln. I
2
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.
mp
f
mp
mp
mp
mp
arco
mf
mf

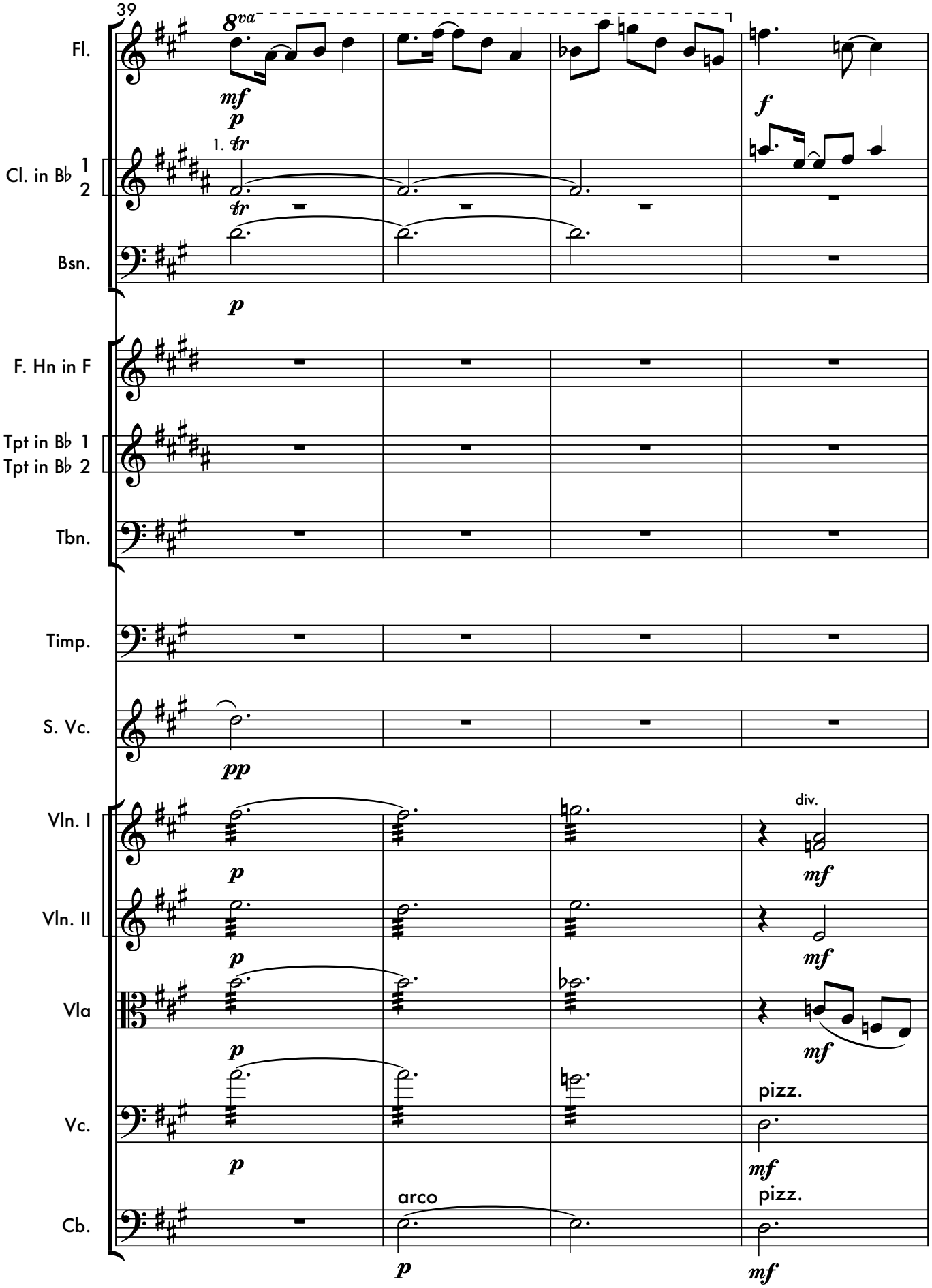

20
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I 1.2
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.
tr
1.
mf
div.

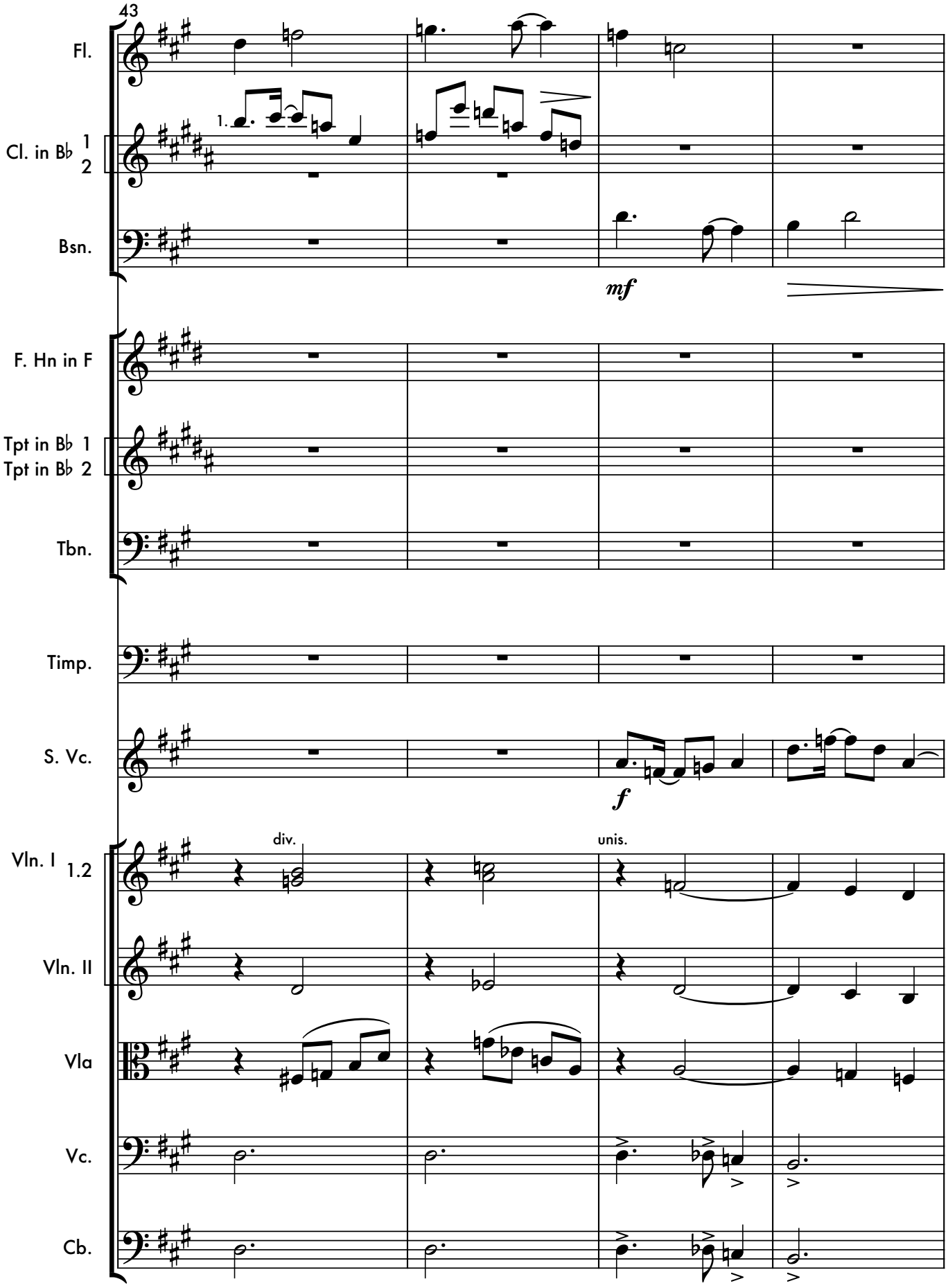

23
Fl.
1.
p
p
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
p
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
div.
unis.
Vln. I 1.2
p
Vln. II
p
Vla
p
Vc.
mp sub.
Cb.

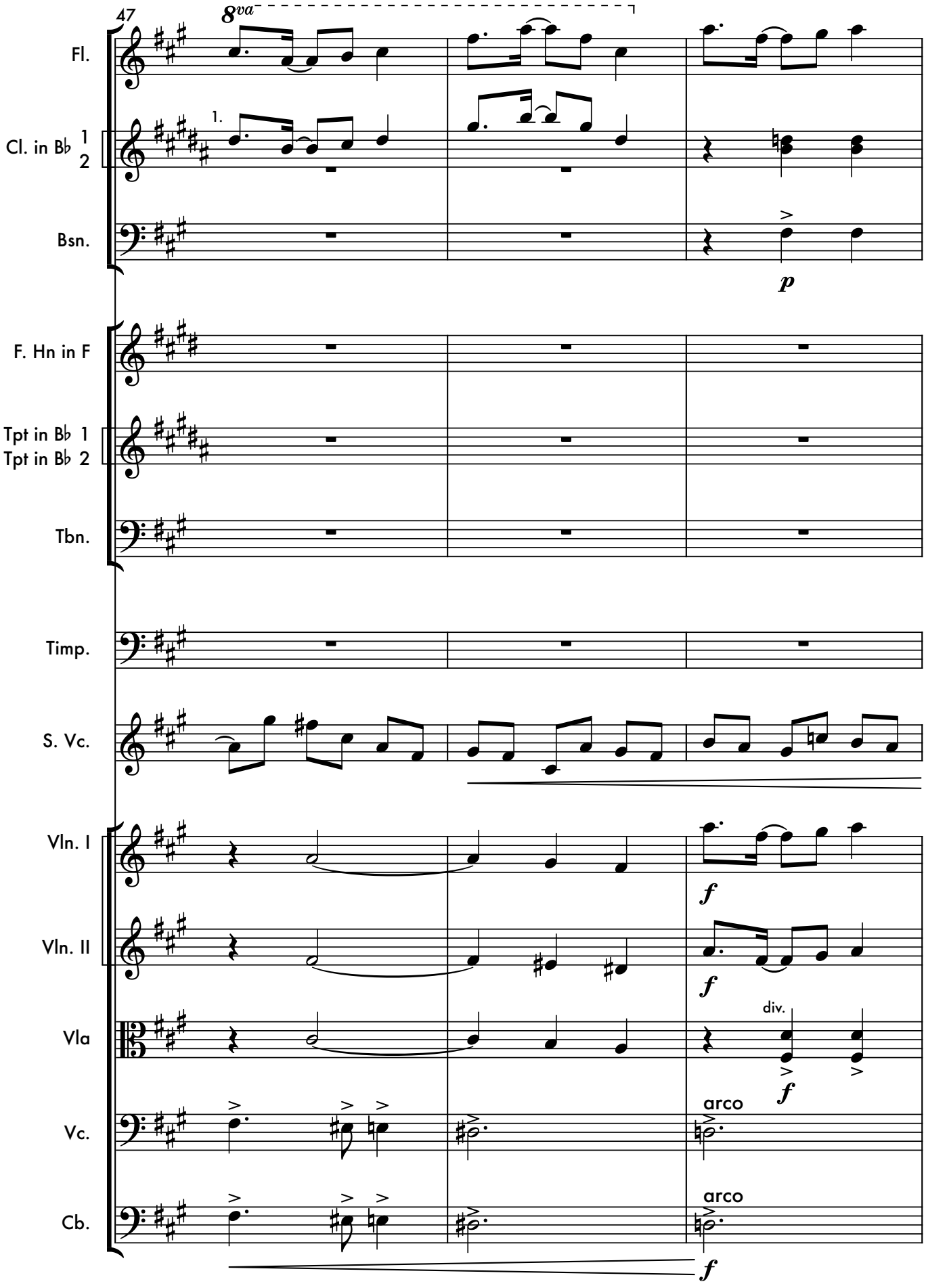

28
Fl.
mf
1.
mf
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
mf
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
f
Vln. II
f
Vla
f
div.
arco
Vc. 1
2
f
Cb.
f

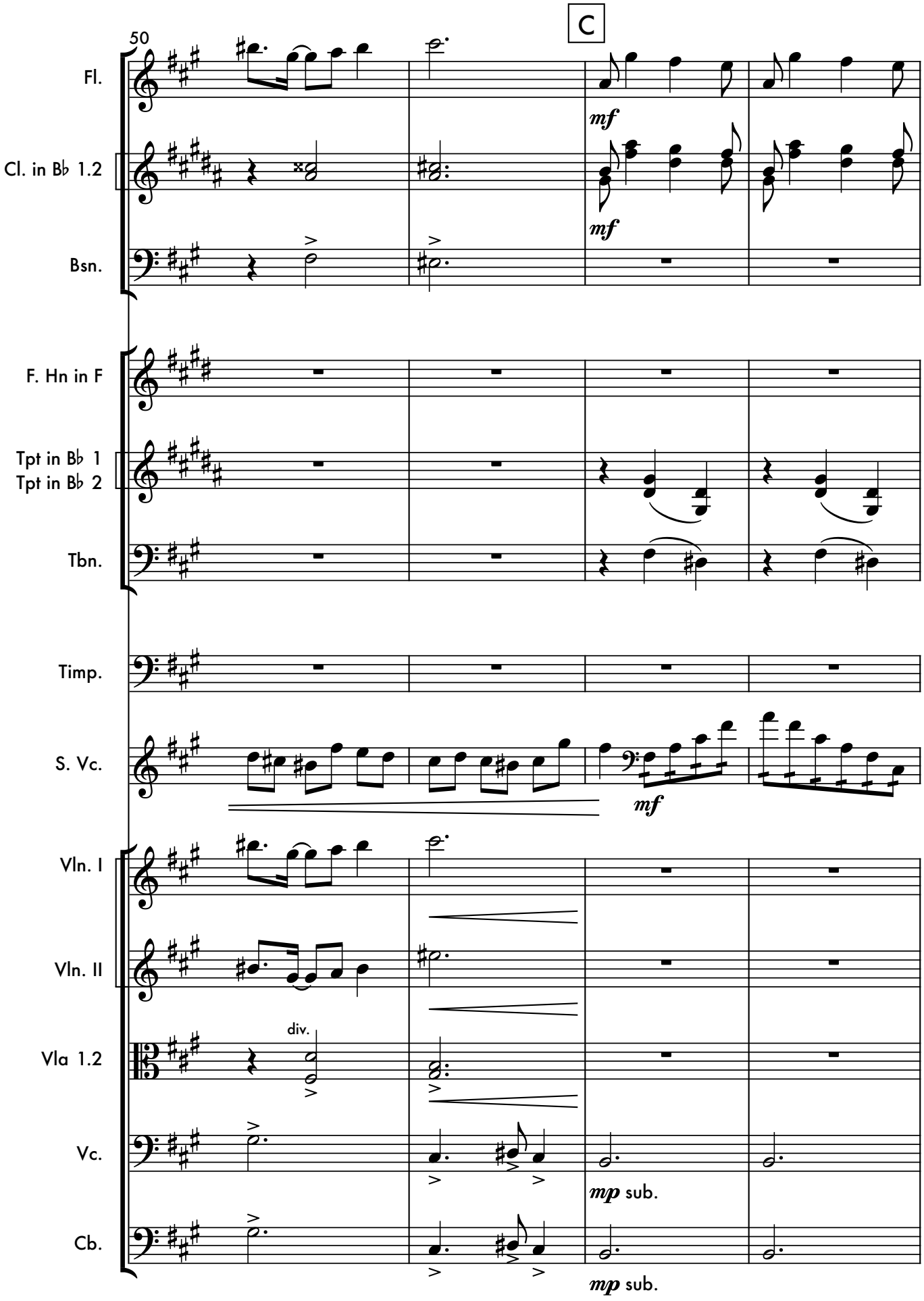

B
31
Fl.
1.
mp
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
mp
Bsn.
mp
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
mf
f
unis.
pizz.
Vln. I 1.2
mp
mf
Vln. II
pizz.
mp
mf
Vla
pizz.
mf
unis.
pizz.
mp
Vc.
mp
mf
Cb.
mp
mf

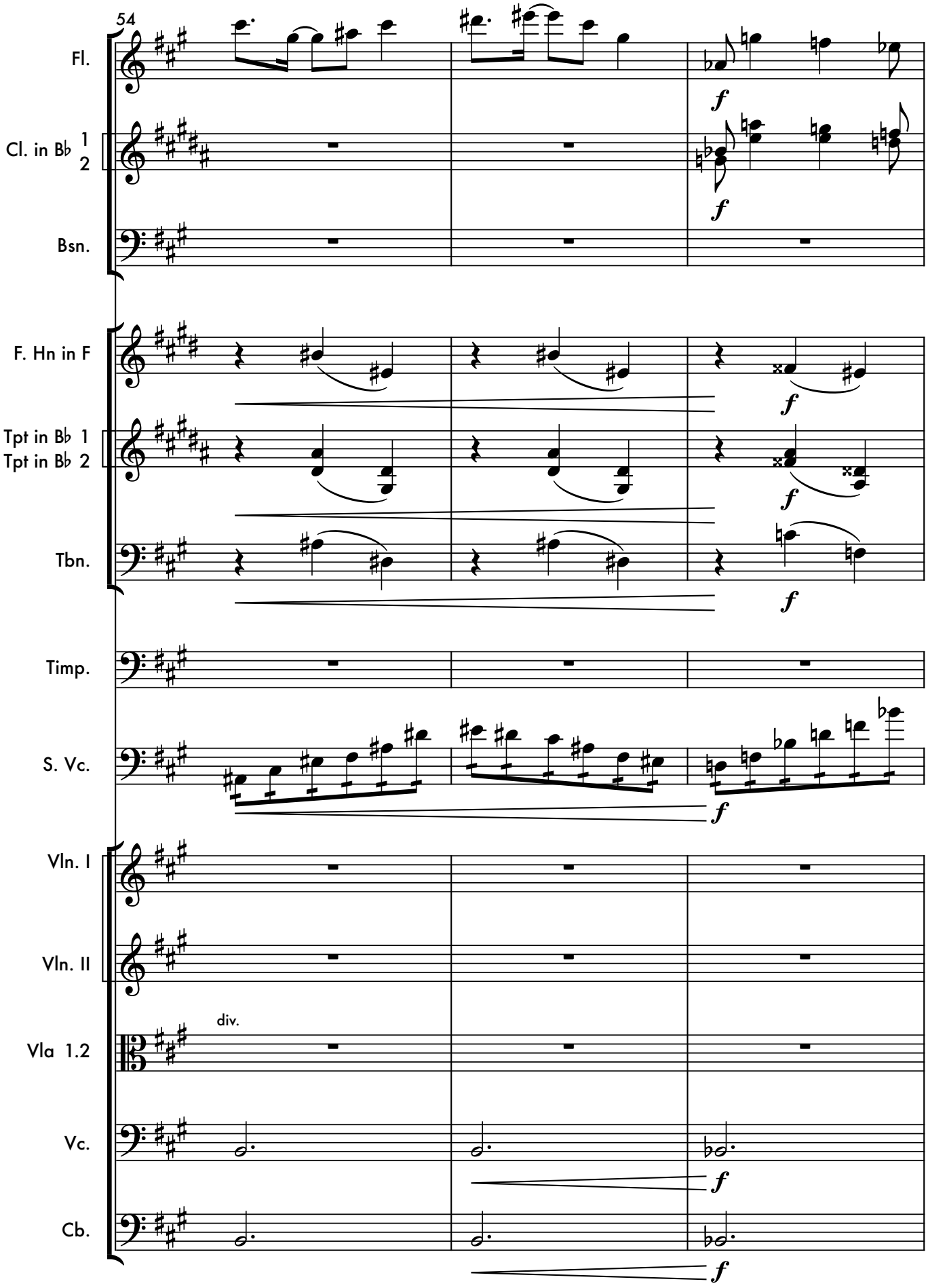

35
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
1.
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I 1.2
div.
unis.
arco
Vln. II
arco
Vla
arco
Vc.
arco
Cb.

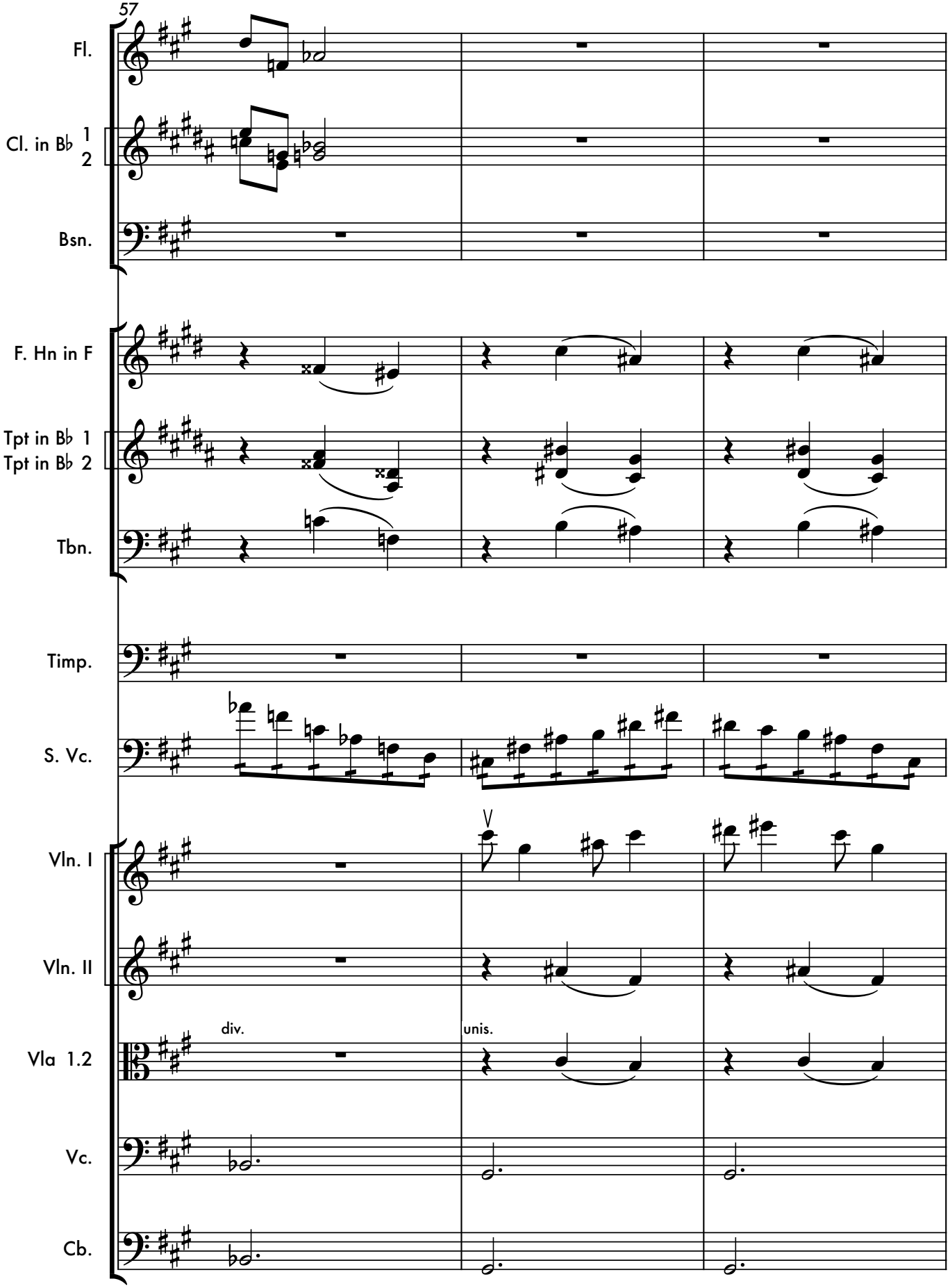

39
Fl.
8va
mf
p
f
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
1. tr
tr
Bsn.
p
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
pp
Vln. I
div.
p
mf
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
pizz.
Cb.
arco
pizz.

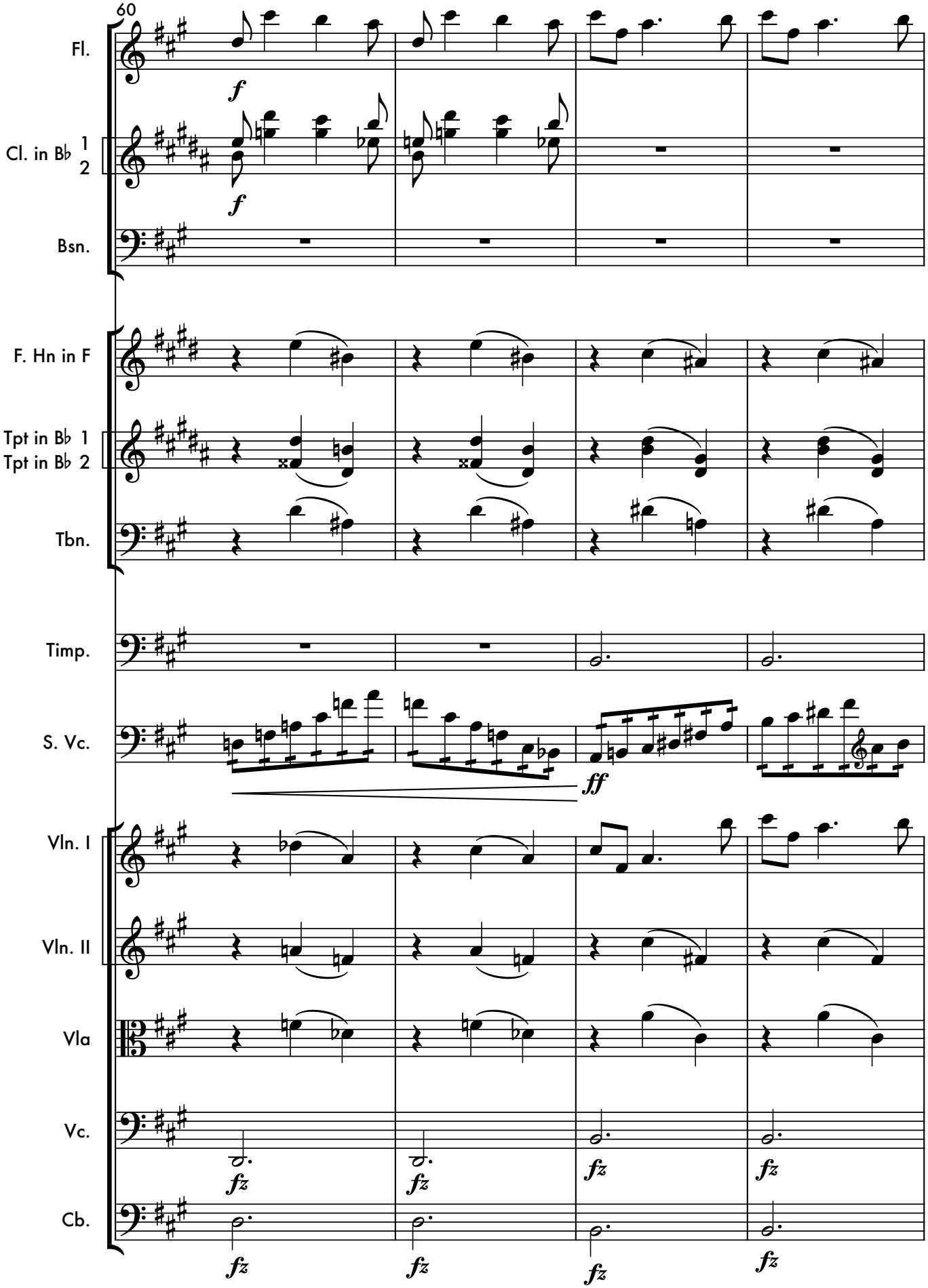

43
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
1.
Bsn.
mf
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
f
Vln. I 1.2
div.
unis.
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.

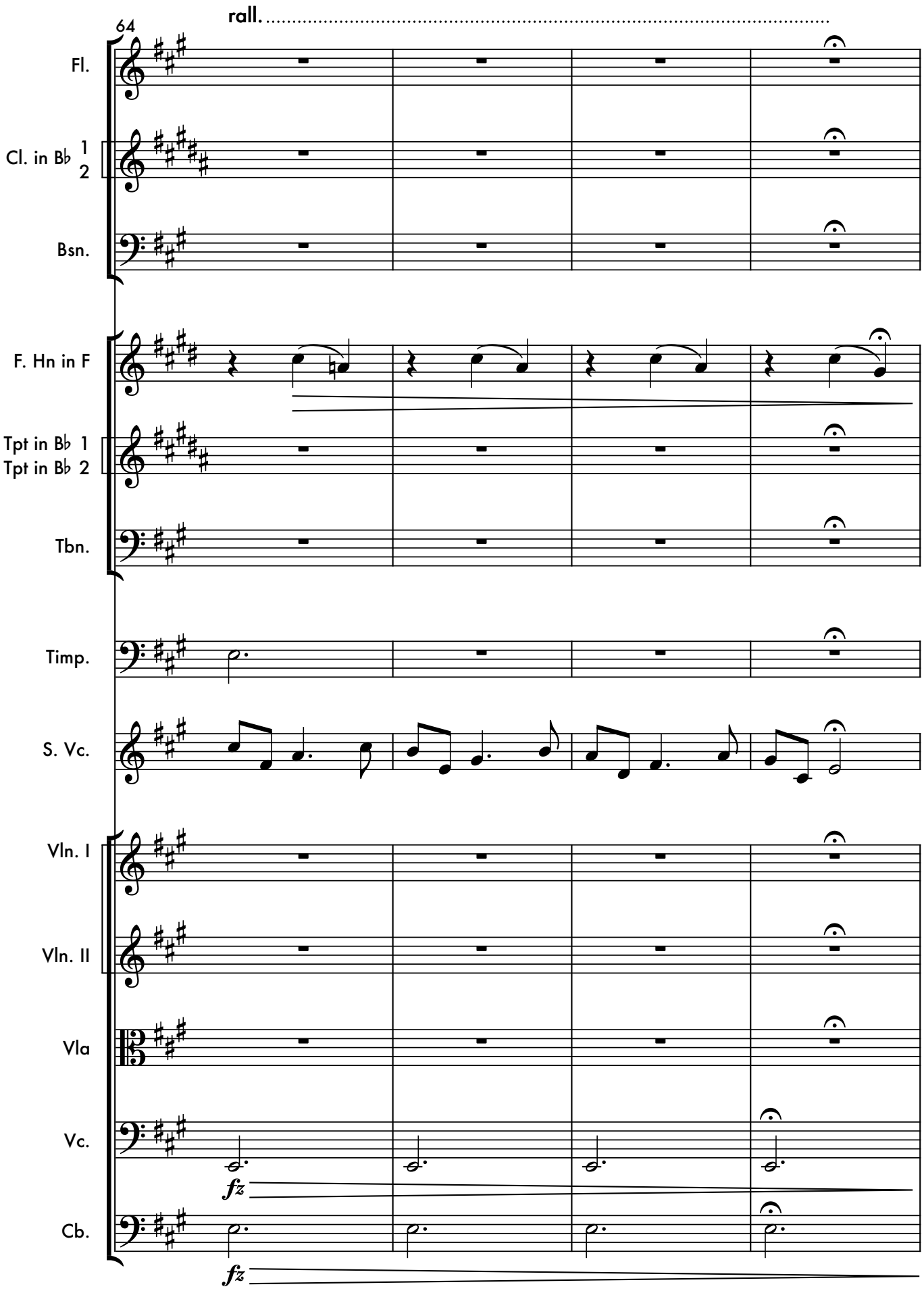

47
8va
Fl.
1.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
p
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
f
Vln. II
f
Vla
div.
f
Vc.
arco
Cb.
arco
f

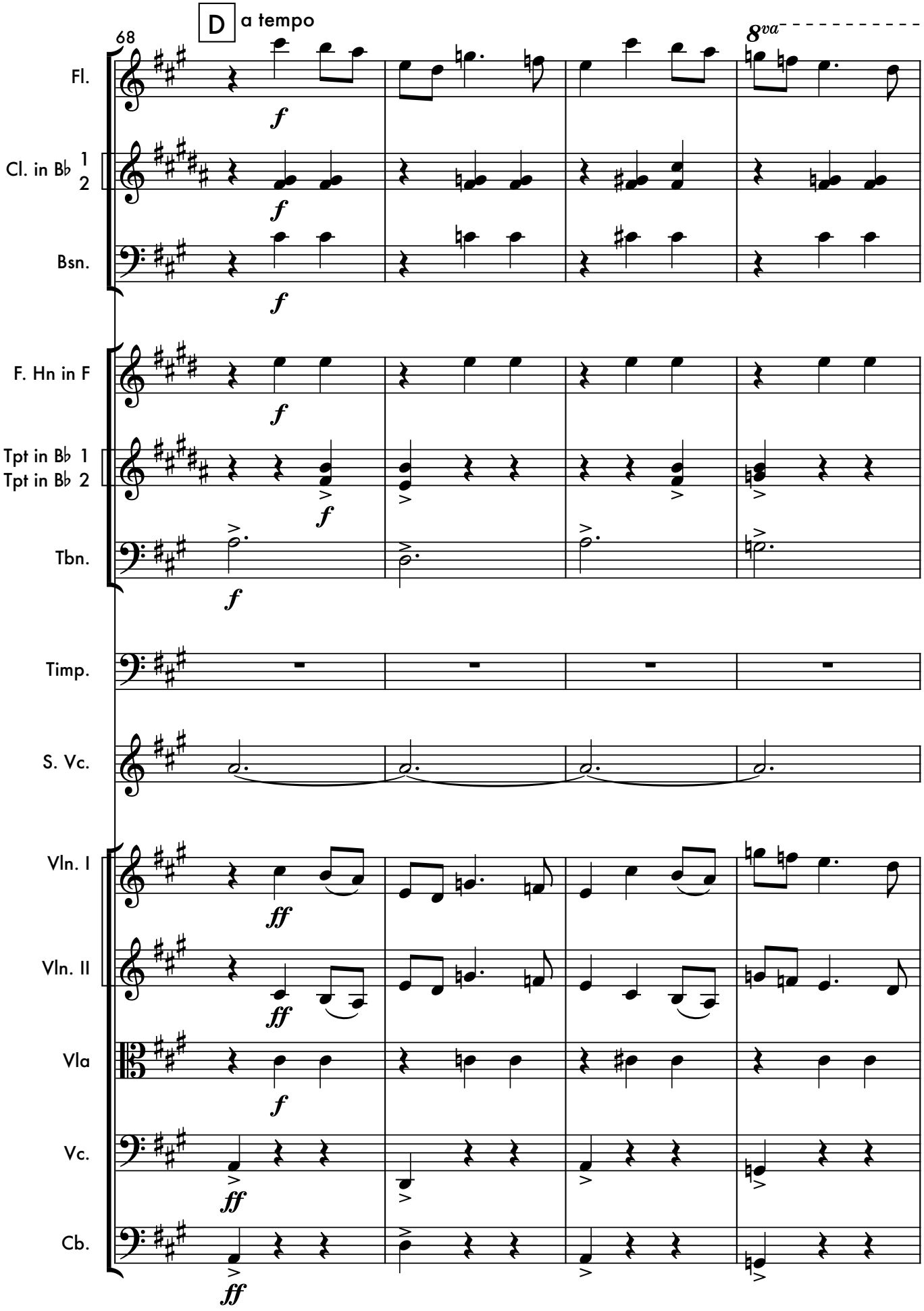

C
50
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla 1.2
Vc.
Cb.
mf
mf
mf
div.
mp sub.
mp sub.

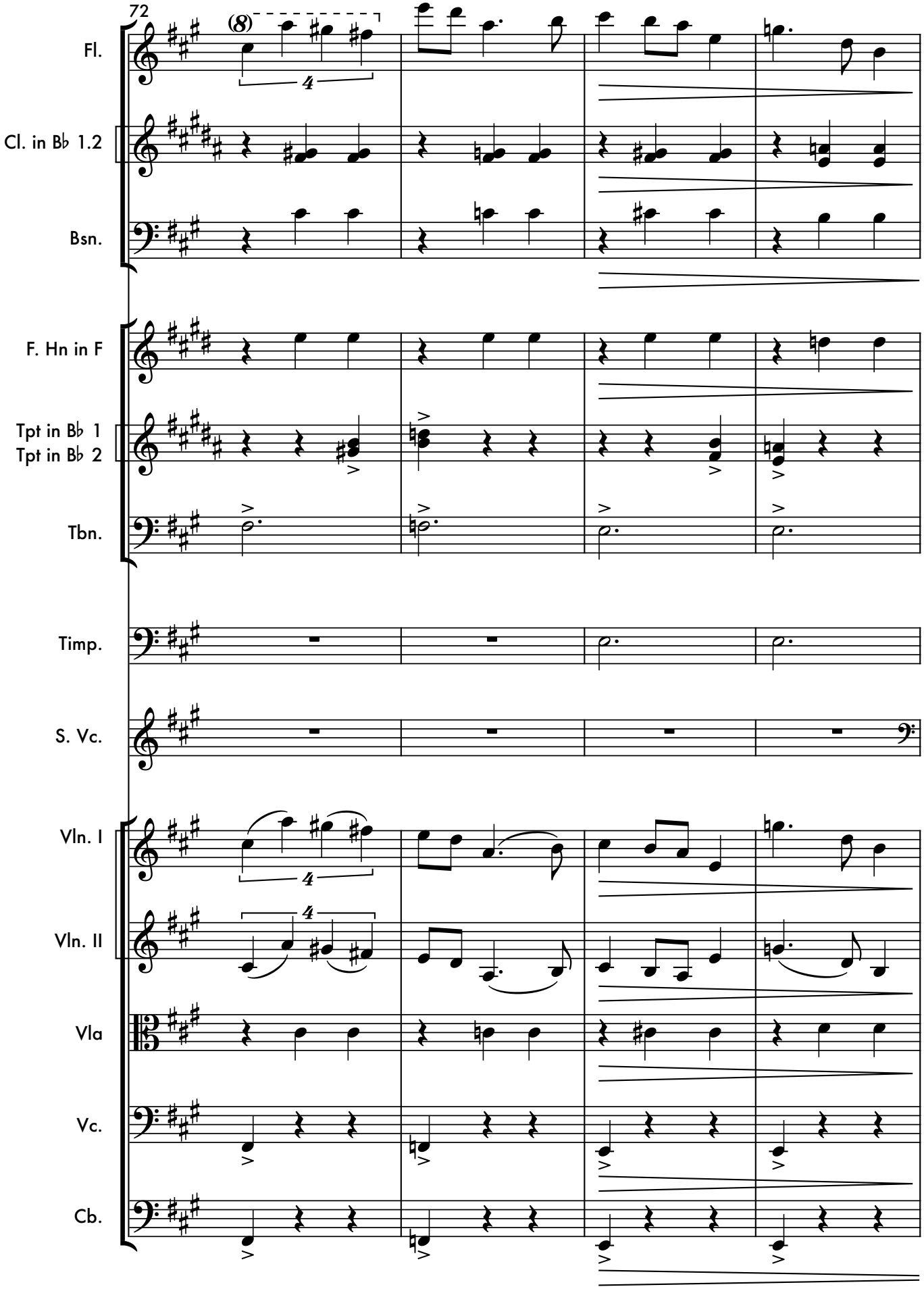

54
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
div.
Vla 1.2
Vc.
Cb.
f

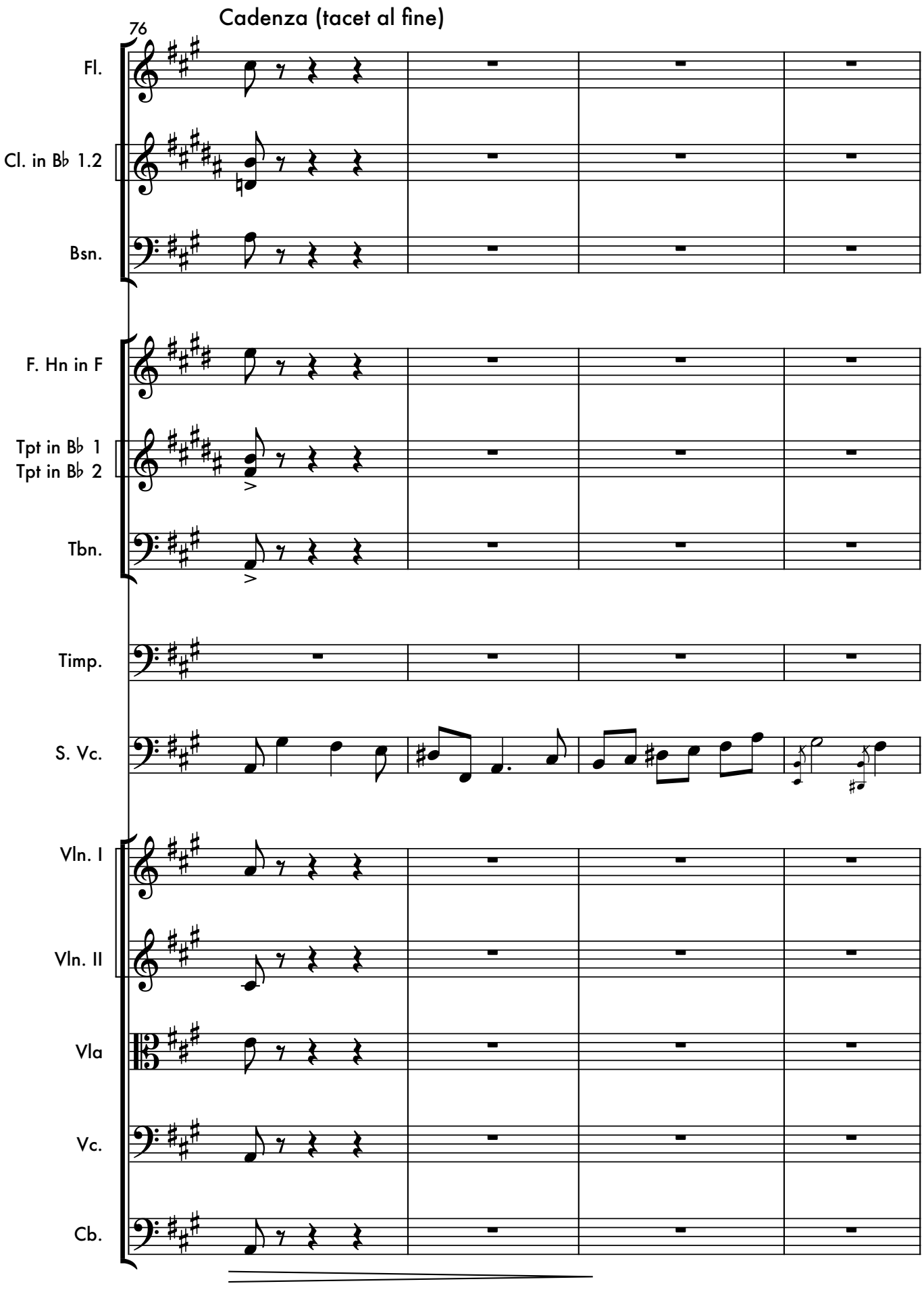

57
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
div.
unis.
Vla 1.2
Vc.
Cb.

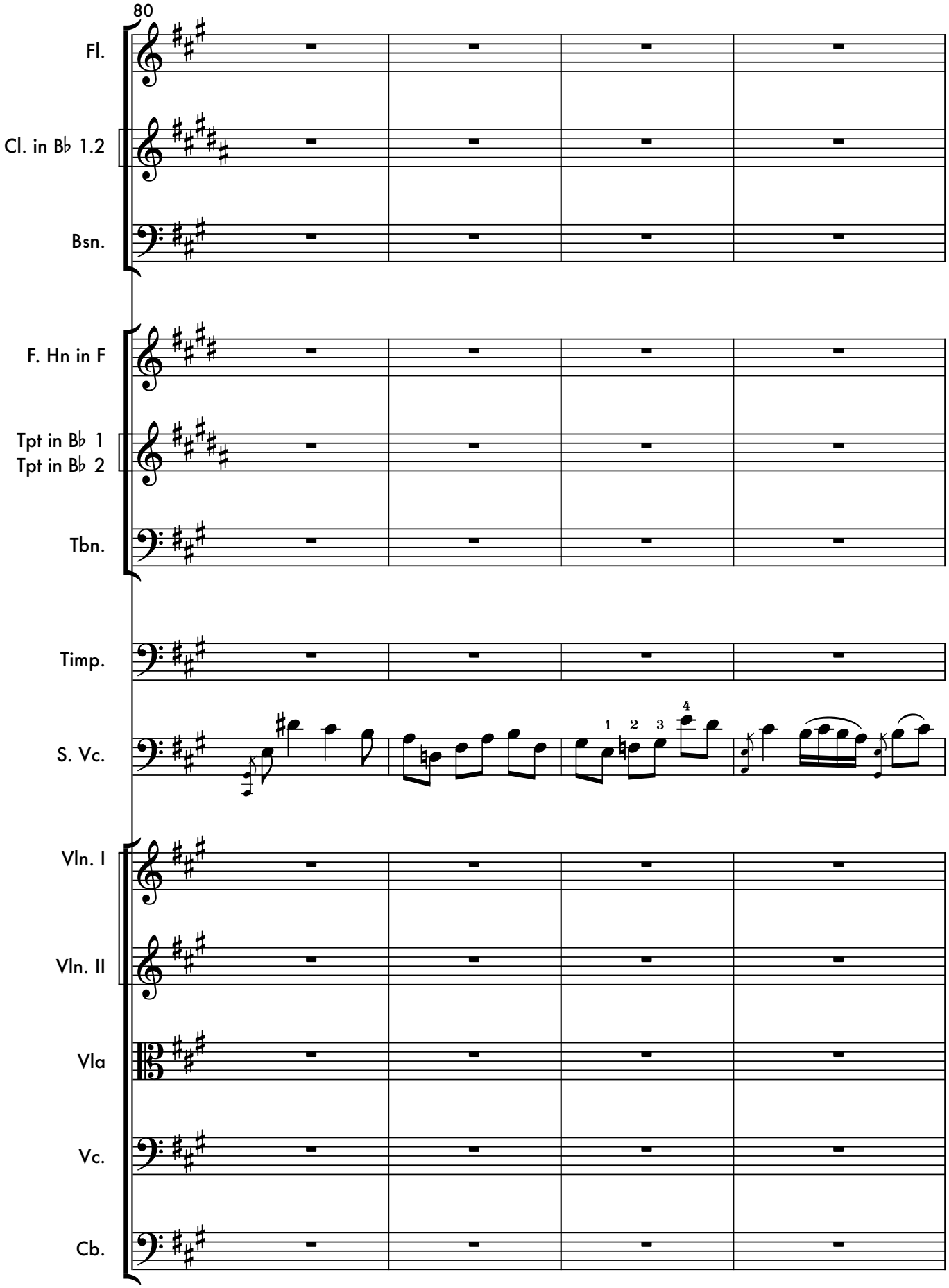

60
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.
f
ff
fz

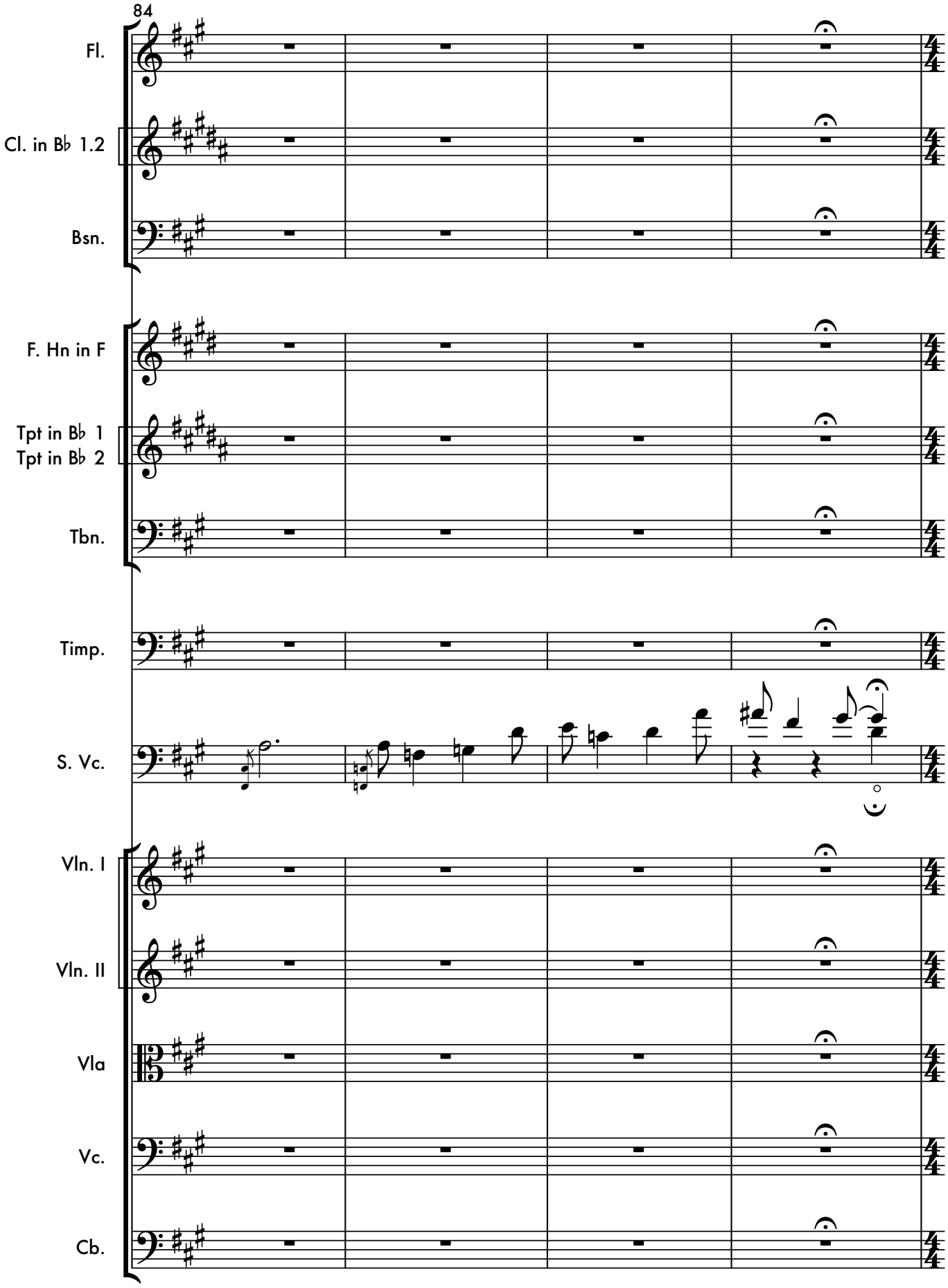

64
rall.
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
fz
Cb.
fz

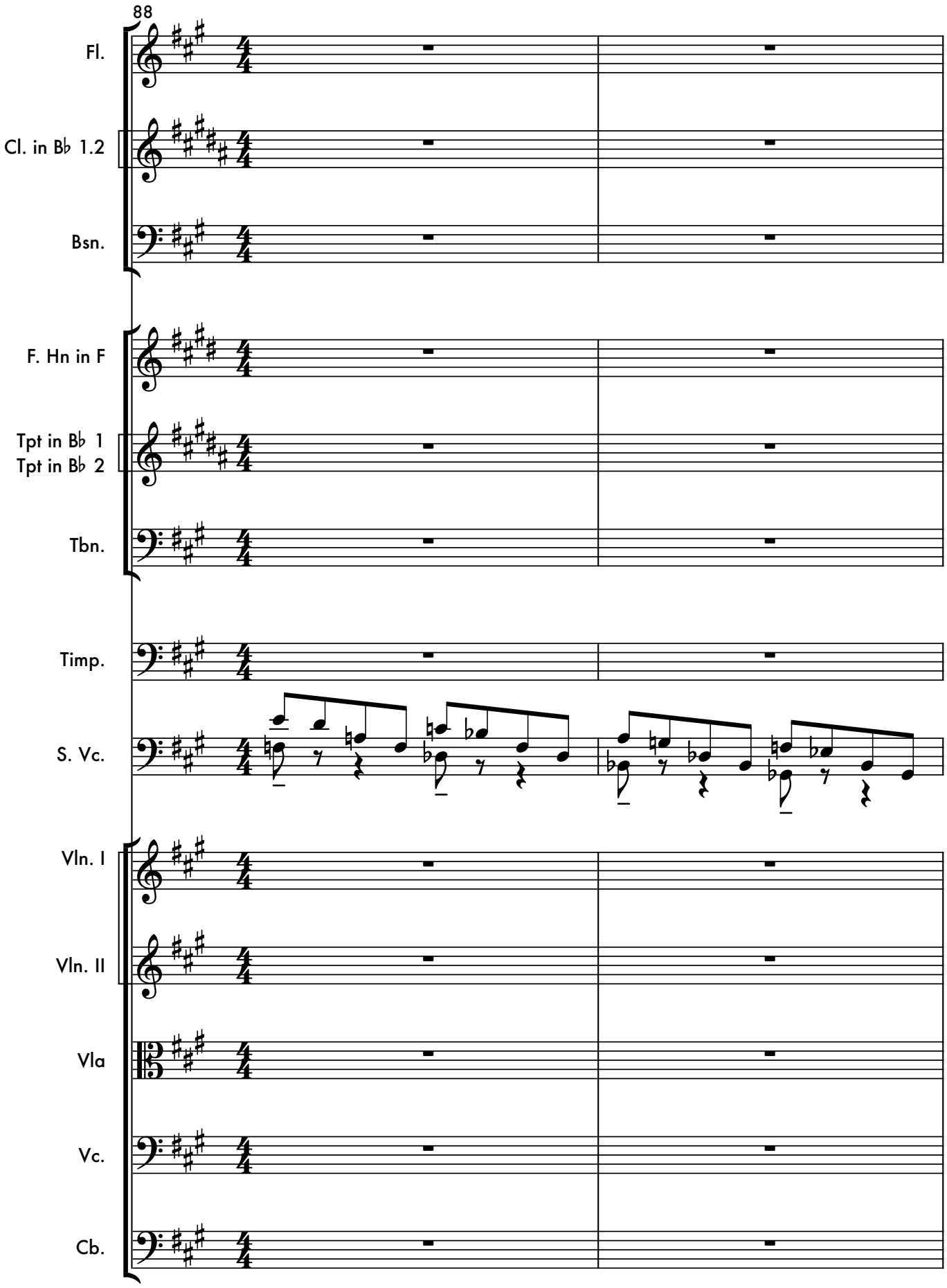

D
a tempo
68
8va
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1
2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.
f
ff

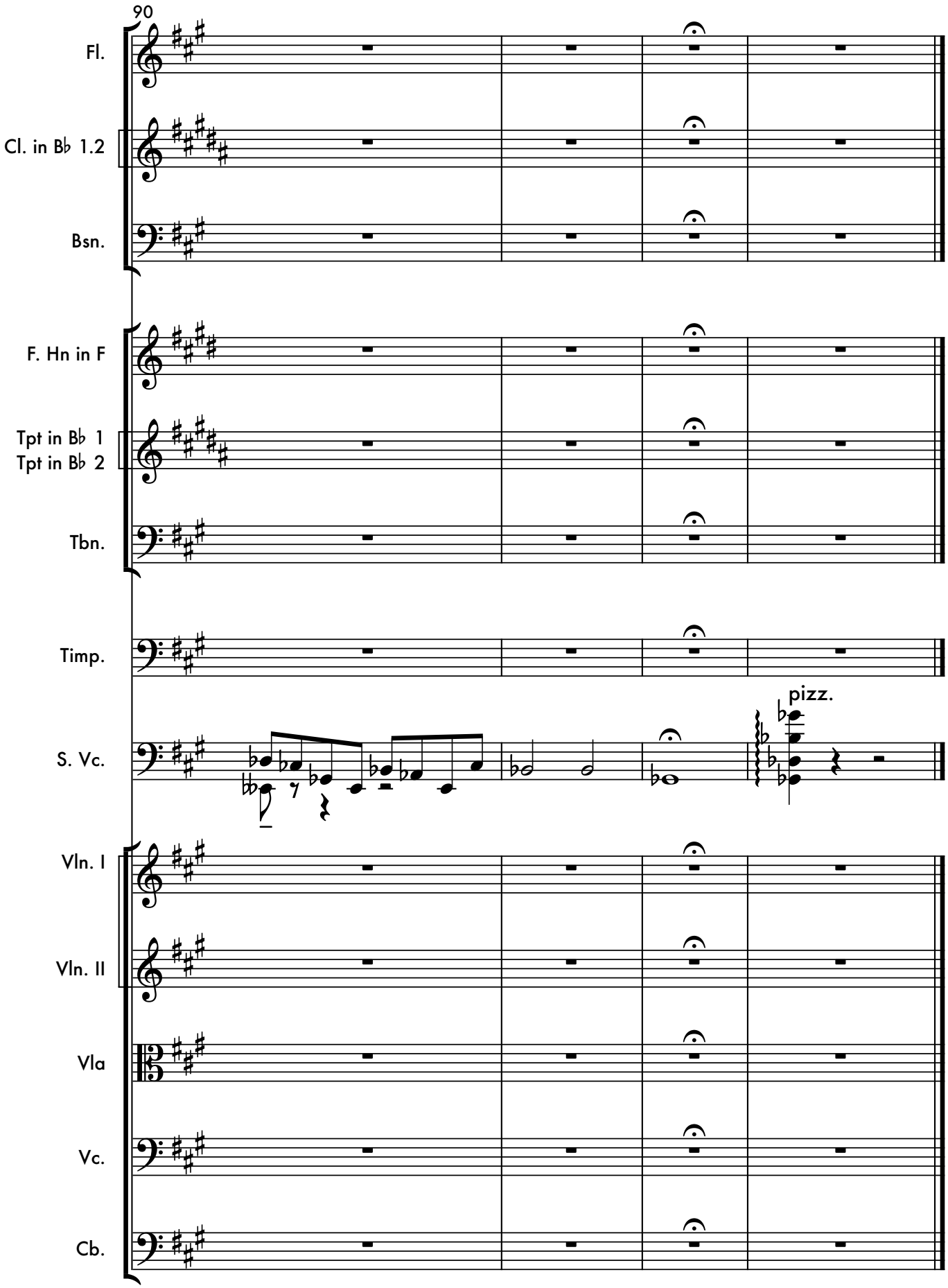

72
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.


Cadenza (tacet al fine)
76
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.


80
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
1 2 3 4
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.


84
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.


88
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.


90
Fl.
Cl. in B♭ 1.2
Bsn.
F. Hn in F
Tpt in B♭ 1
Tpt in B♭ 2
Tbn.
Timp.
S. Vc.
pizz.
Vln. I
Vln. II
Vla
Vc.
Cb.