Charlie Barber

Improvisations & Allegro on a Theme by Handel

for string orchestra

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Instrumentation:

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Contrabass

Duration: c. 7 mins

Programme note:

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These two movements are inspired by the works of G. F. Handel.

The opening movement, 'Improvisations', is based on two bars from the Handel's *Sonata in G minor*, HWV 356a. Transposed through a cycle of fifths, the musical phrase is developed in miniature concertante form: soli viola and cello alternating with tutti strings.

The 'Allegro' section, derived Handel's Sonata for *Viola da Gamba and Harpsichord,* is in binary form: two related sections both repeated. With a slight nod to the 18th century affinity with the land of Egypt, the music gains extra energy with a vigorous, driving 13/8 rhythm of Middle Eastern origin.

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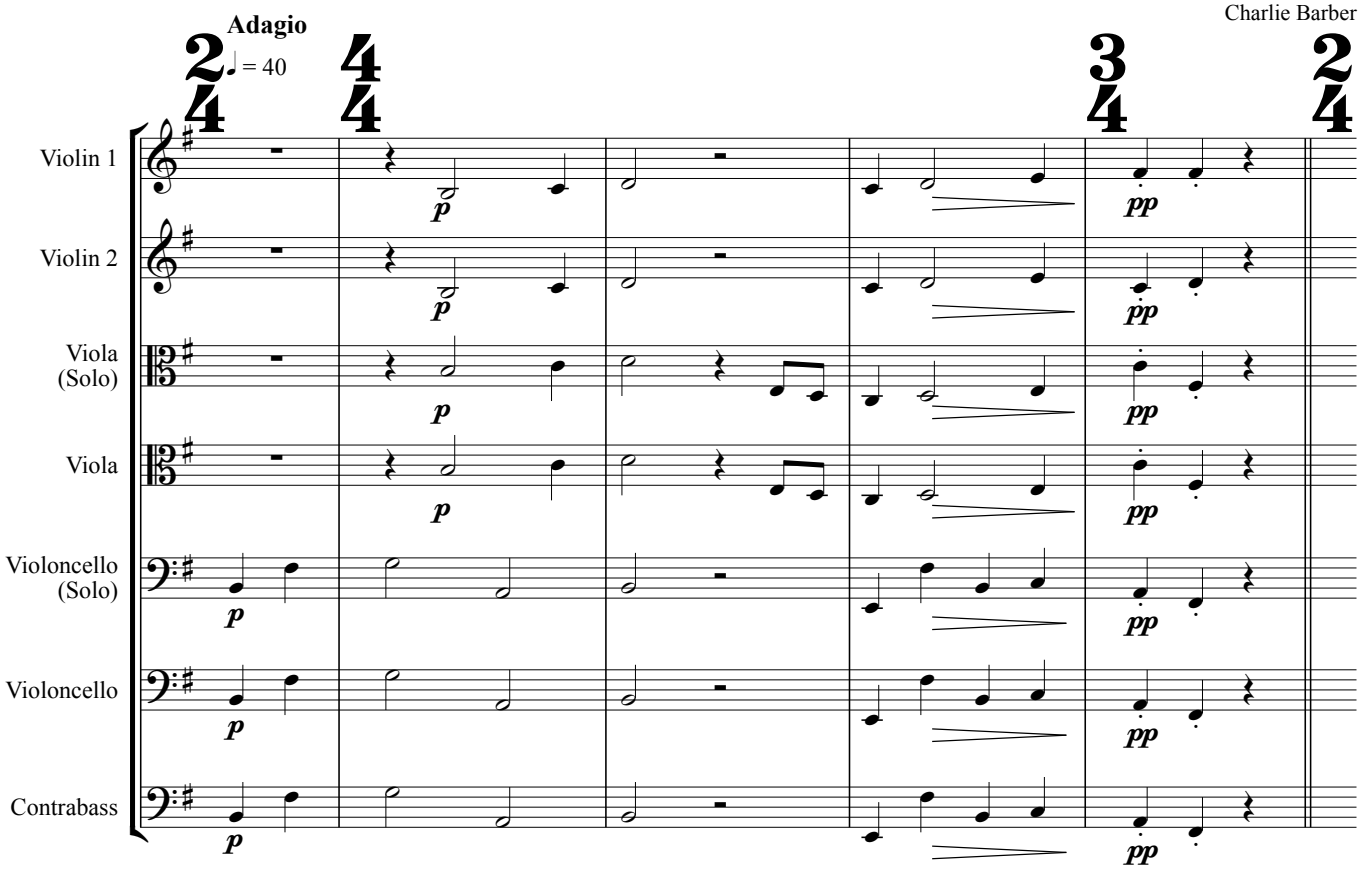
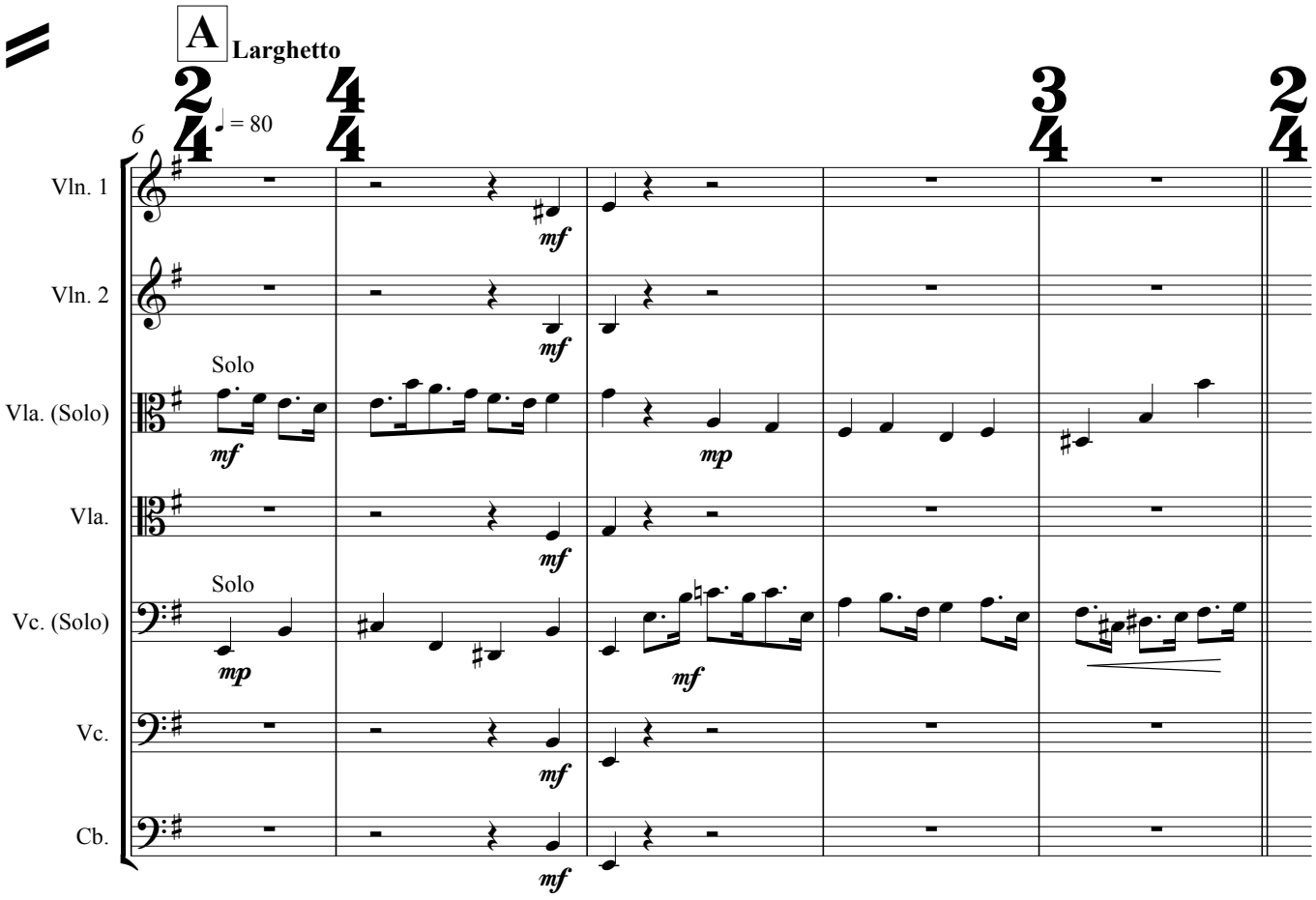
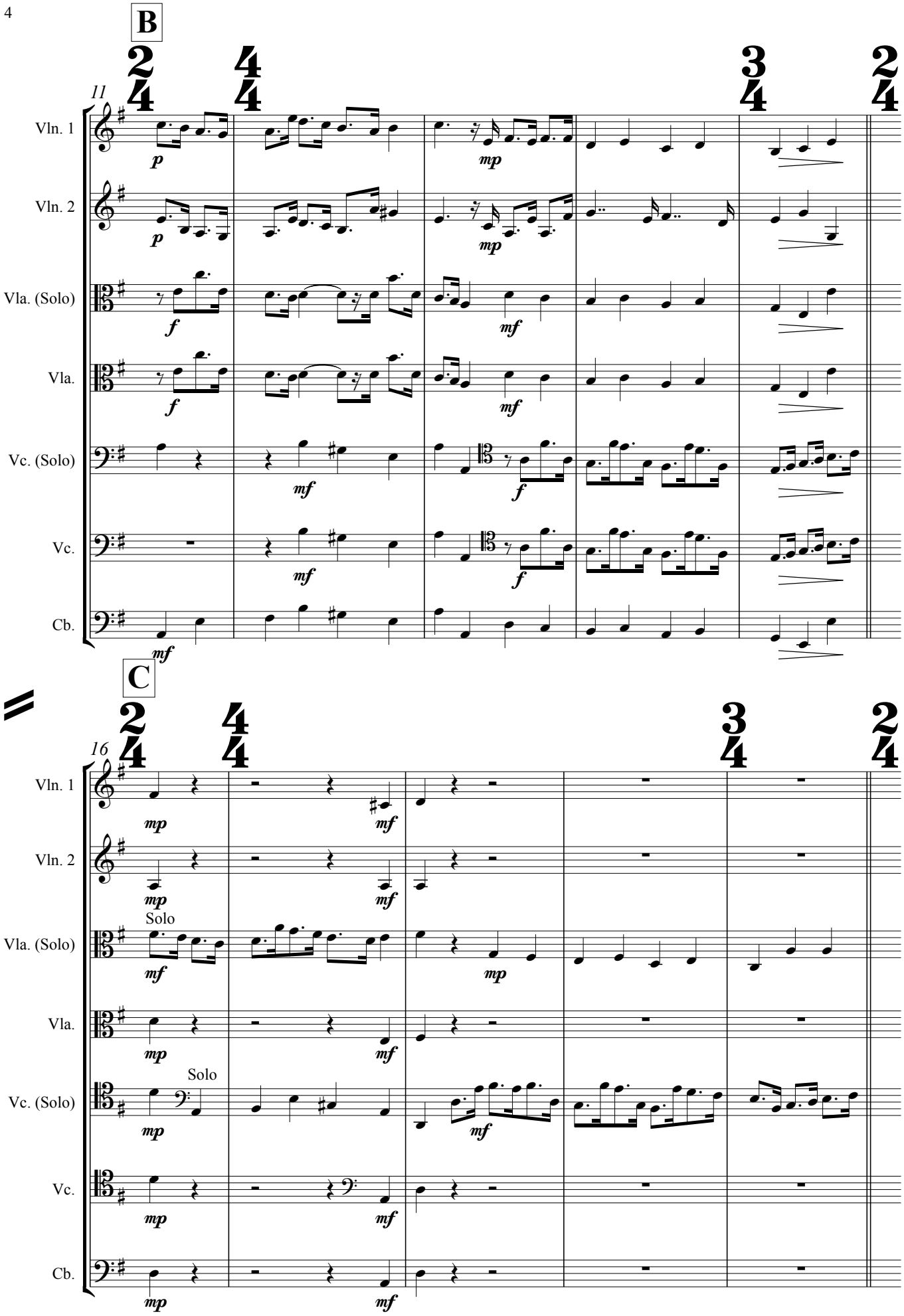
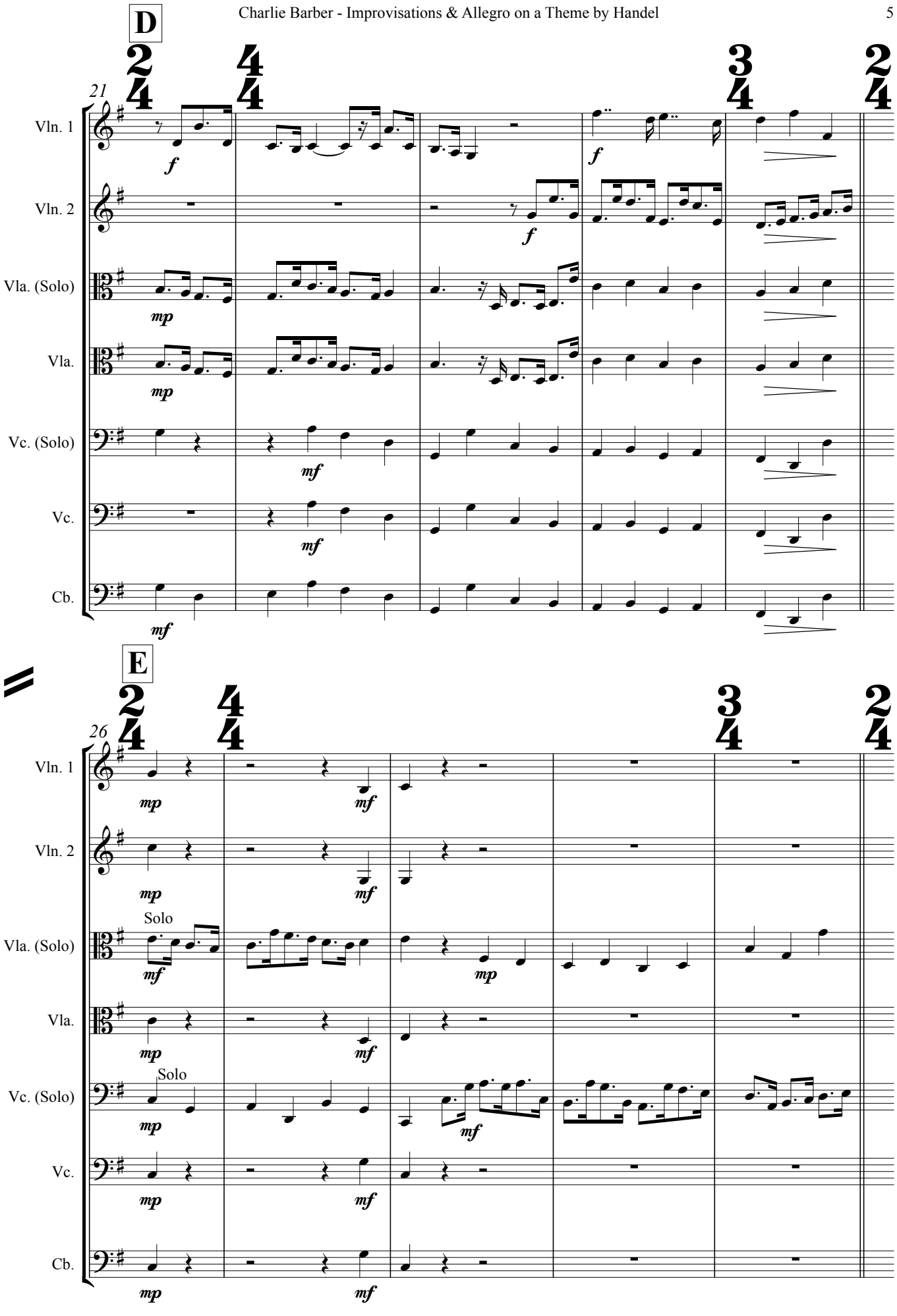
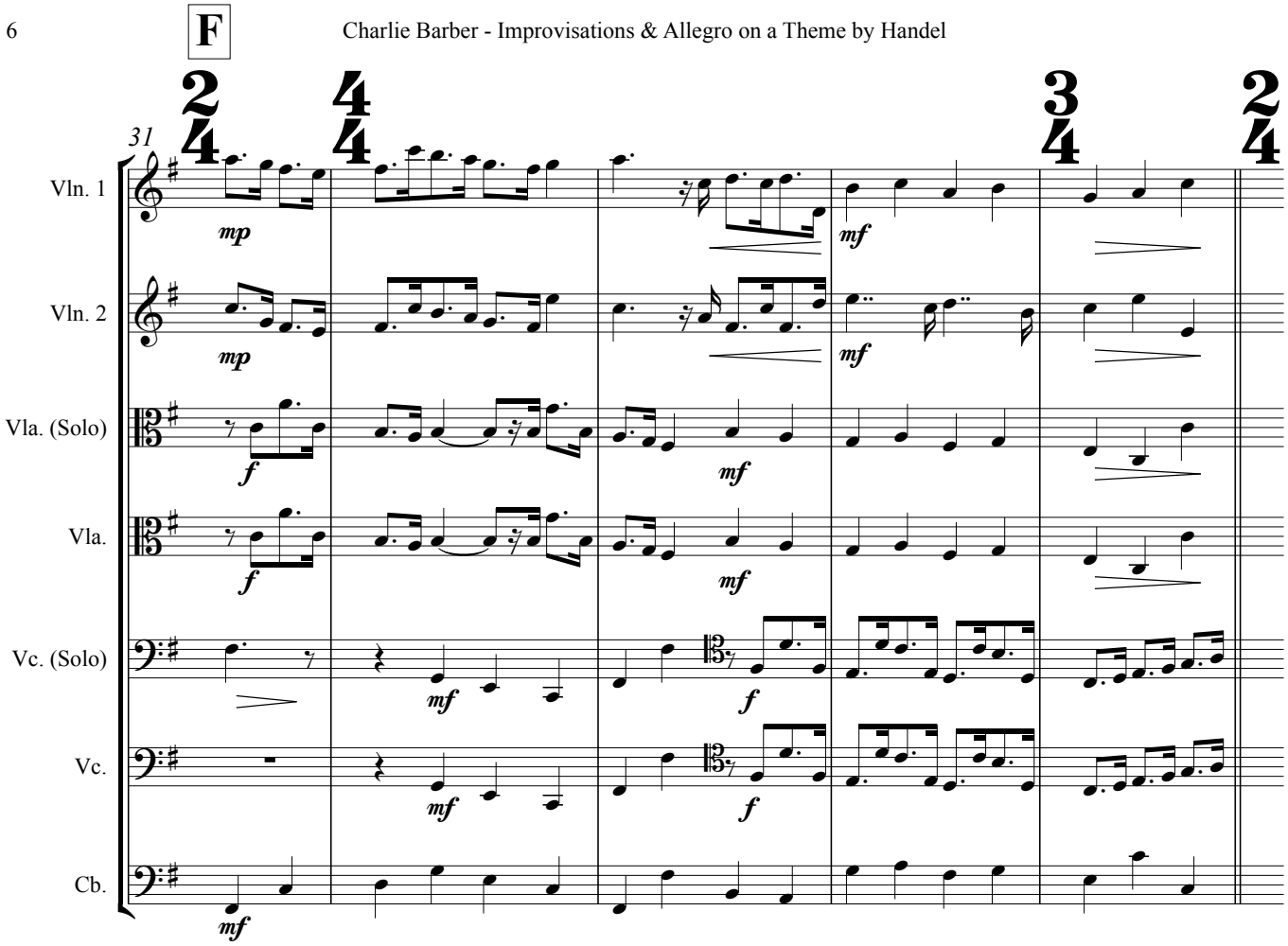
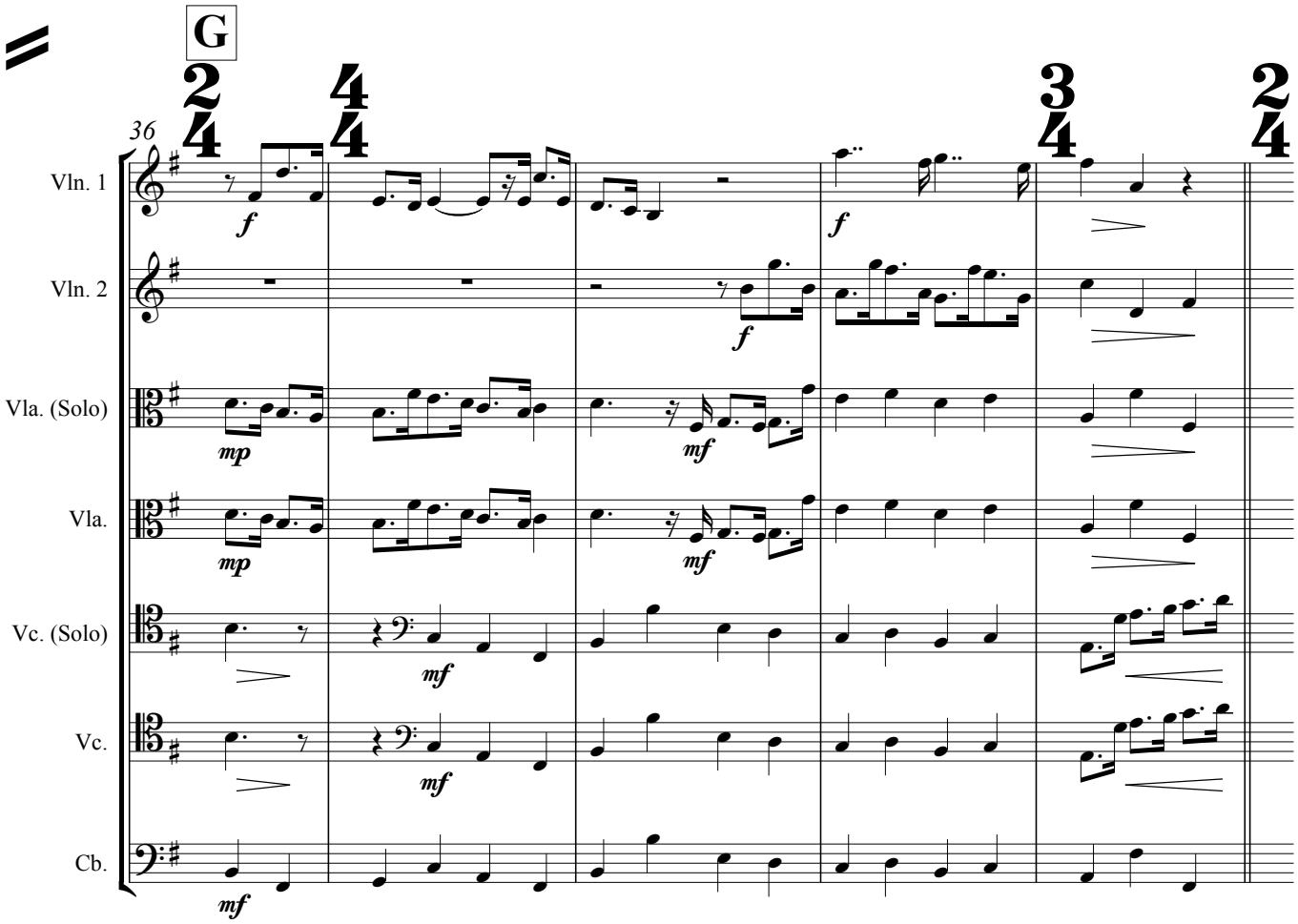


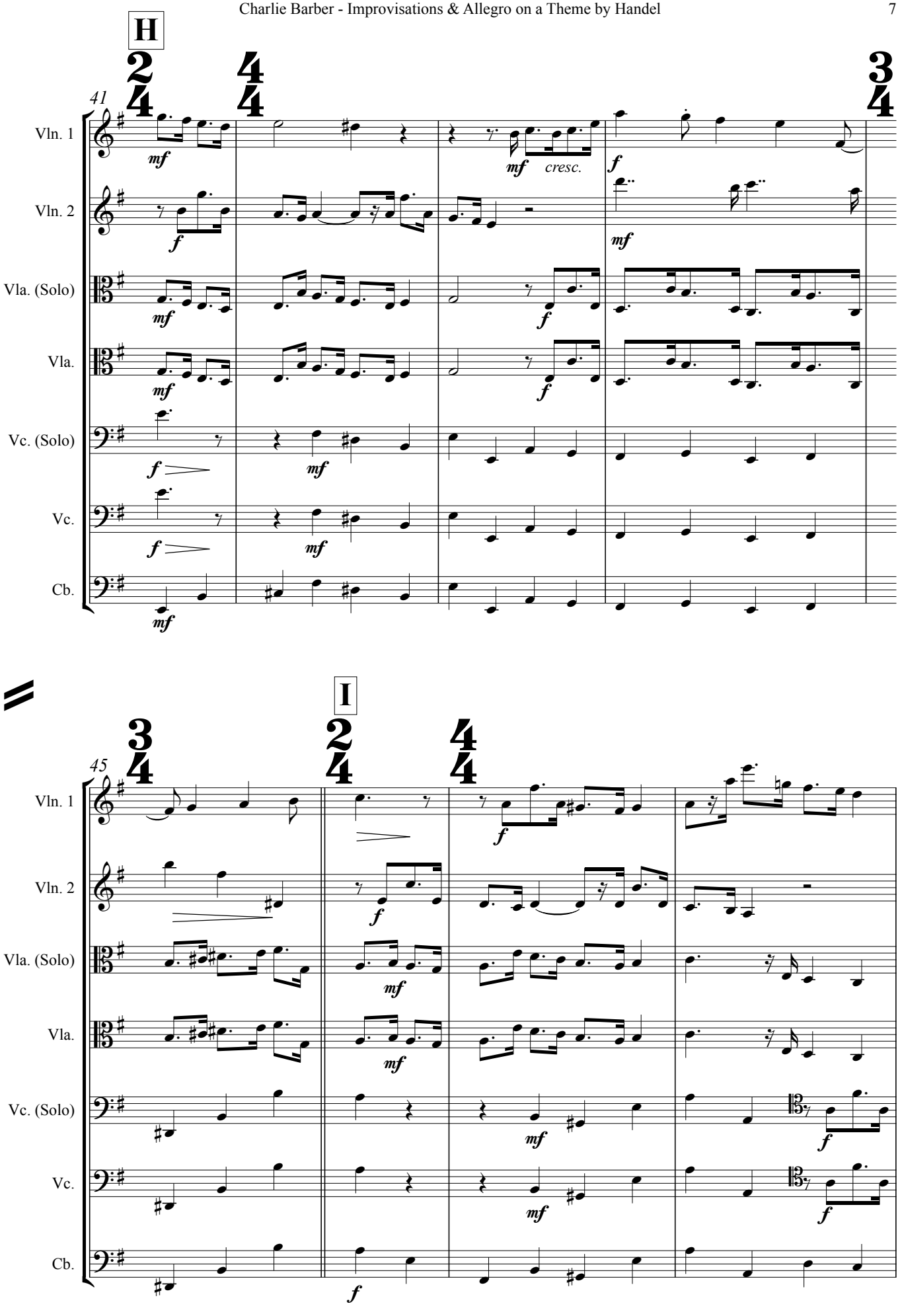


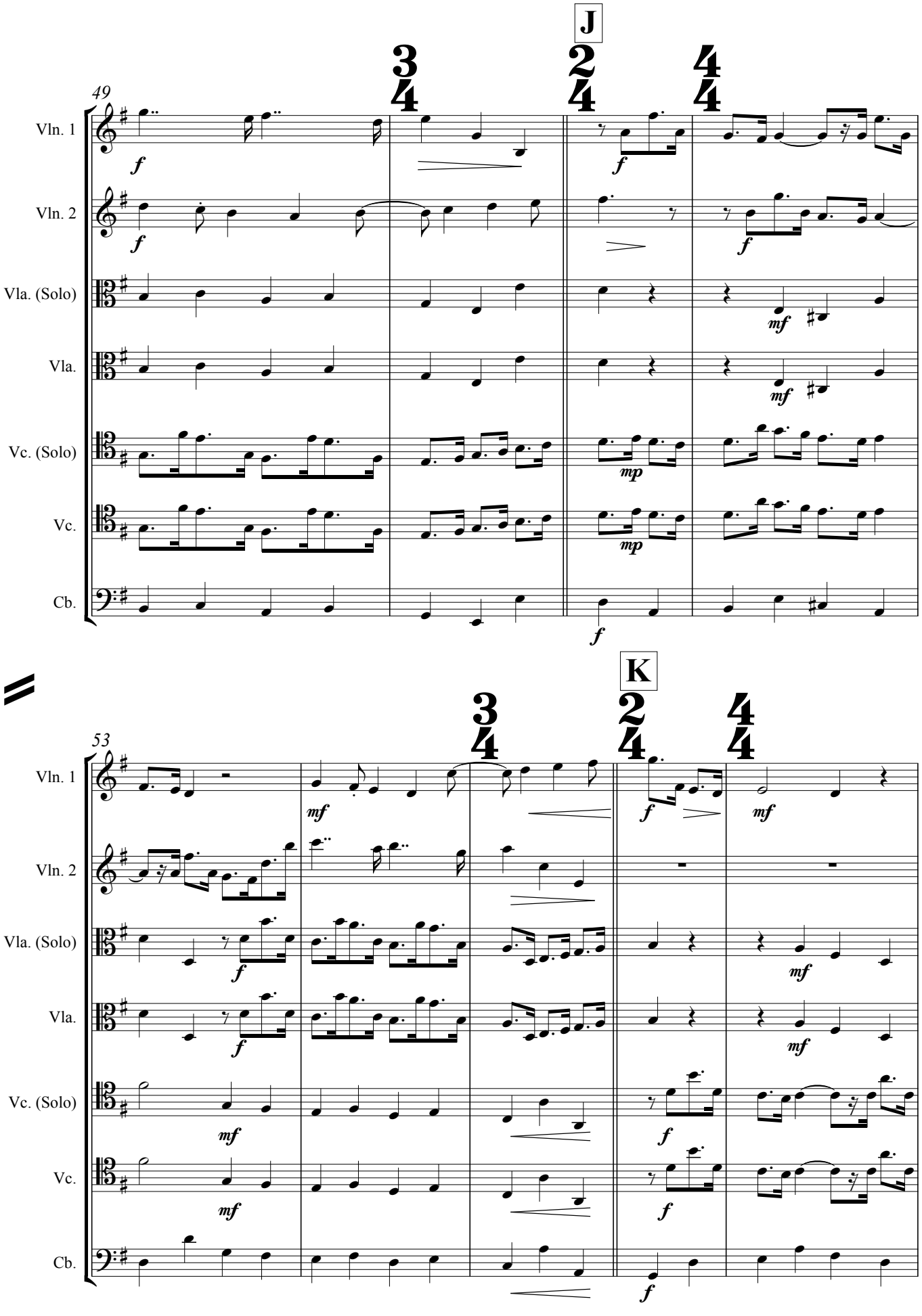

B
11
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
C
16
Solo
Solo

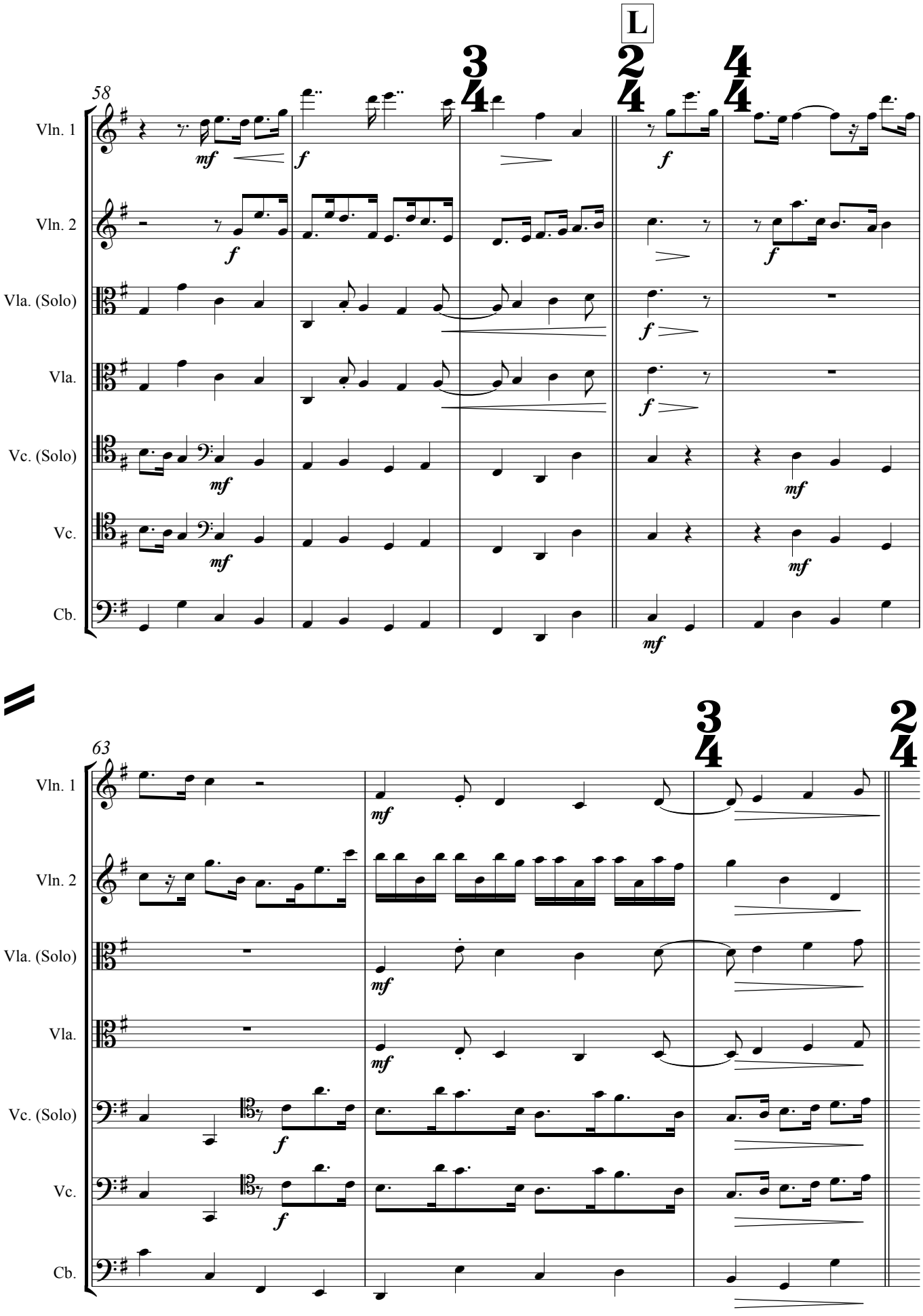

D
21
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
E
26
Solo
Solo

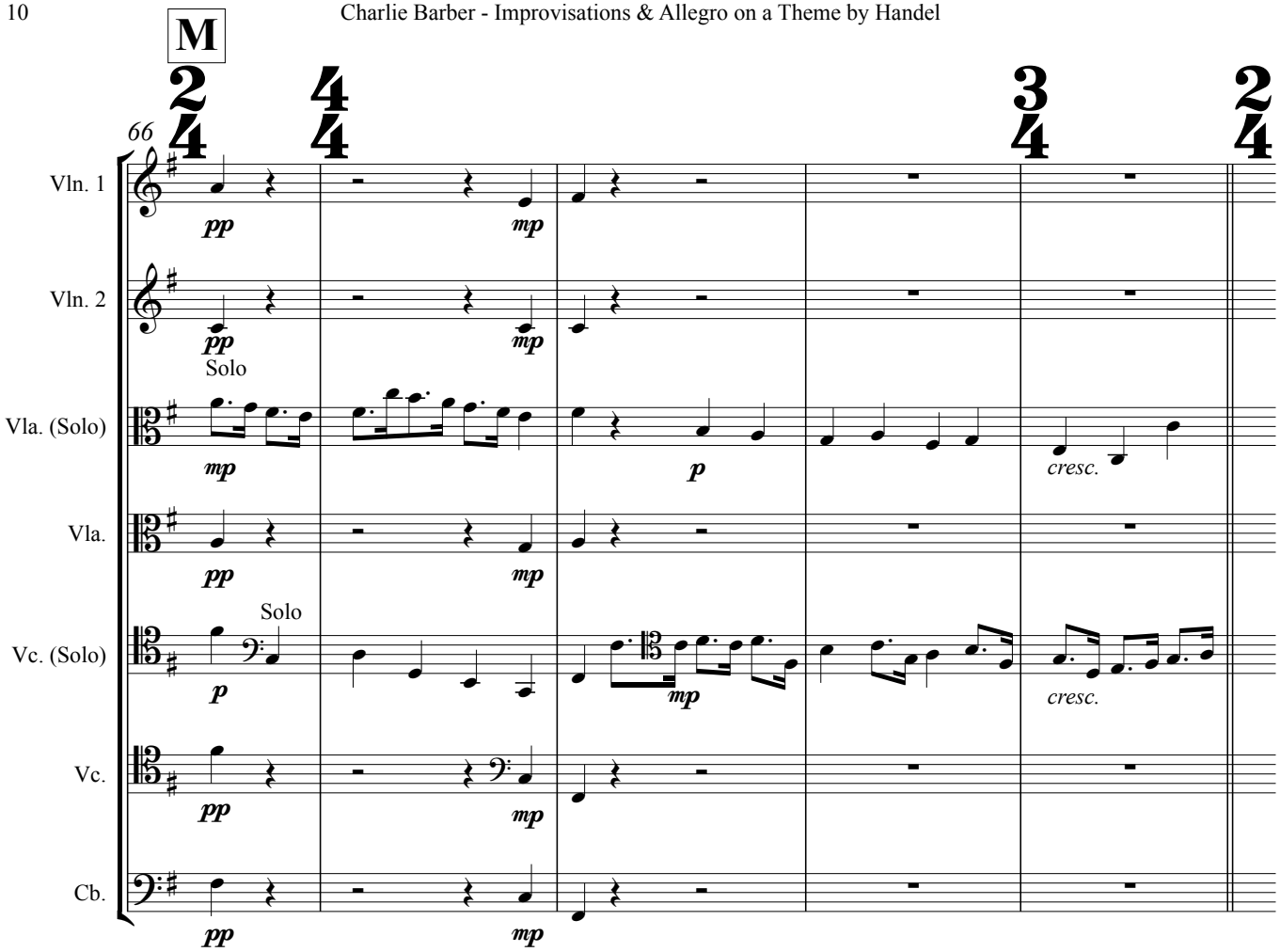

F
31
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.

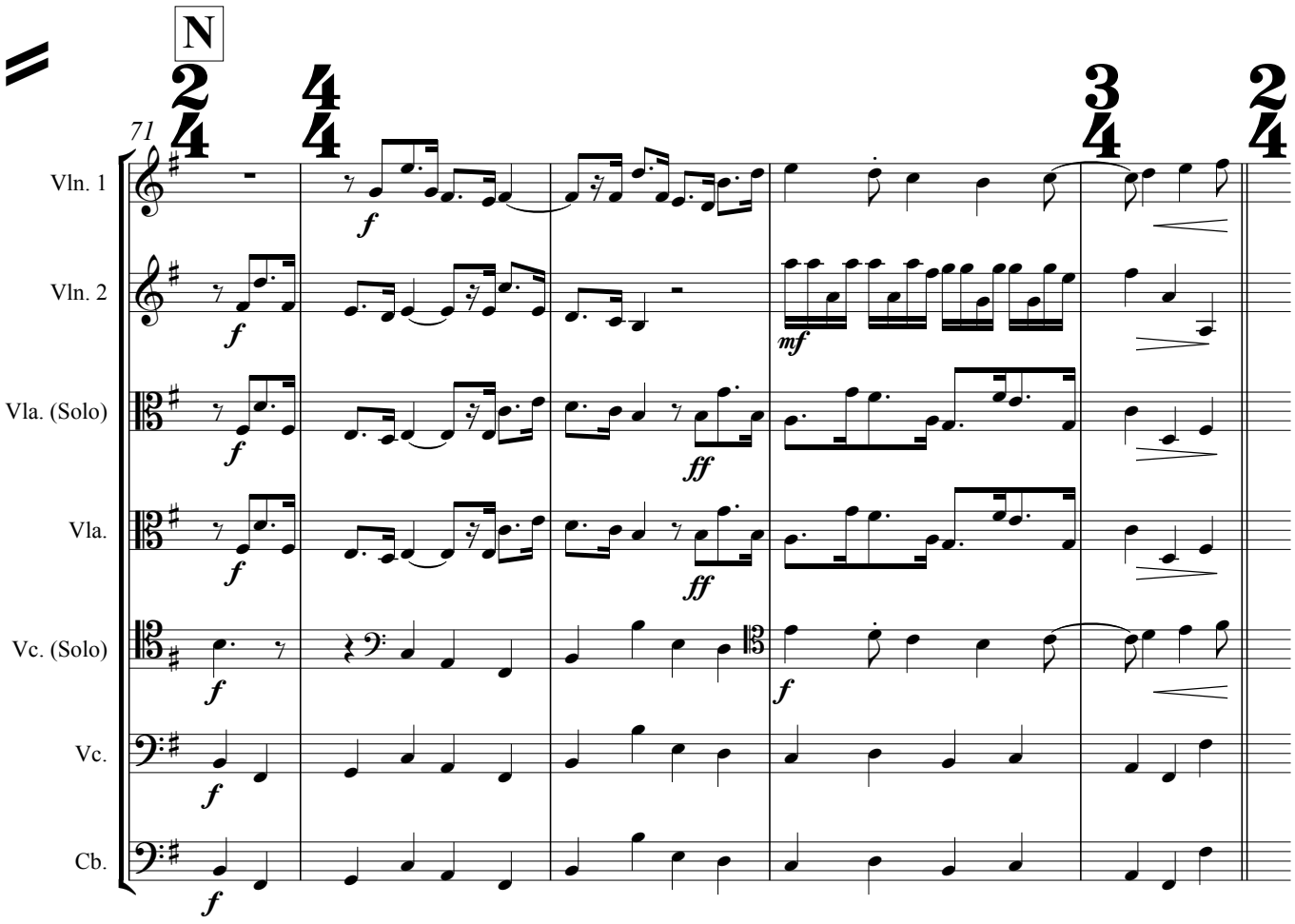

G
36
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.

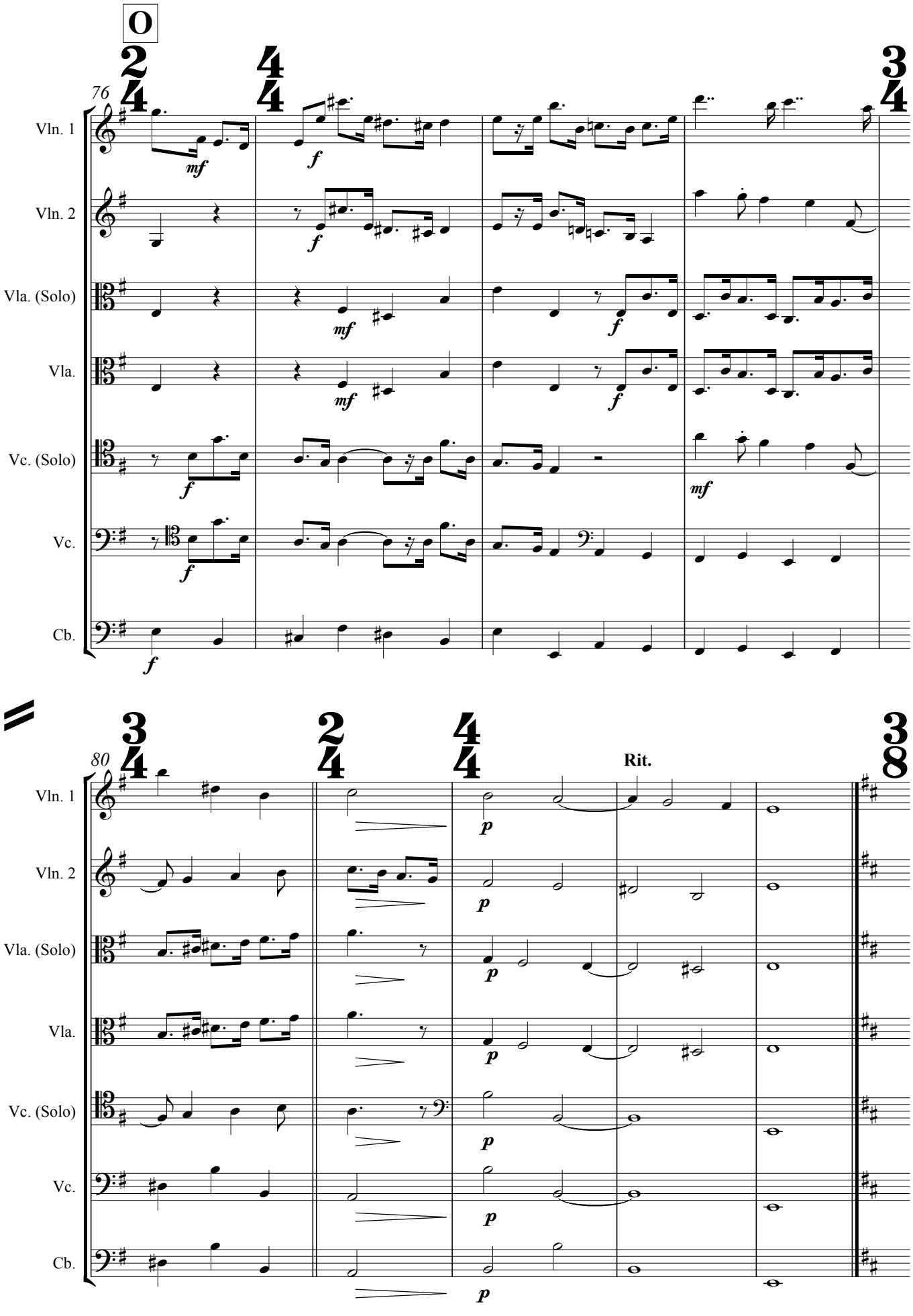

H
41
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
mf
f
cresc.
I
45

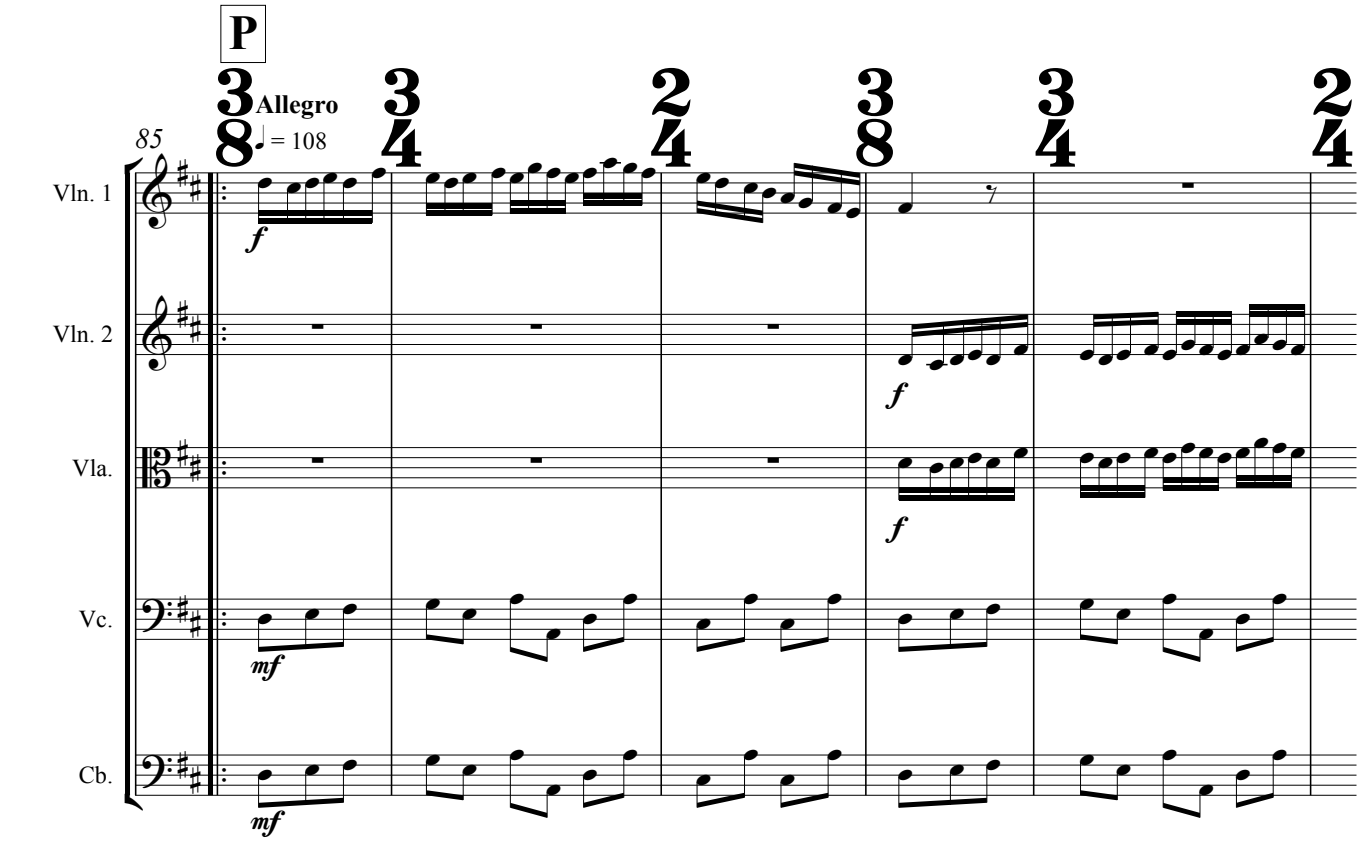

J
49
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
K
53
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.

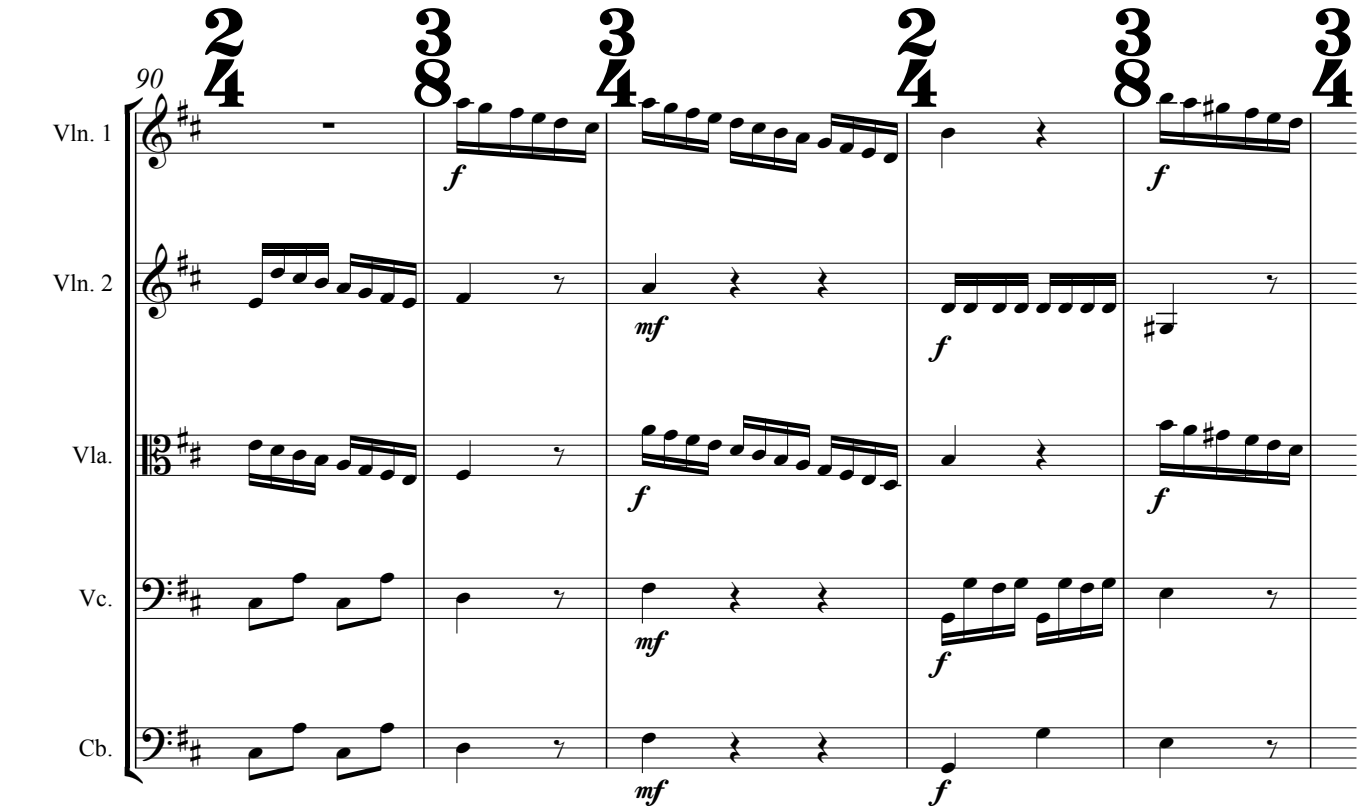

L
58
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
63

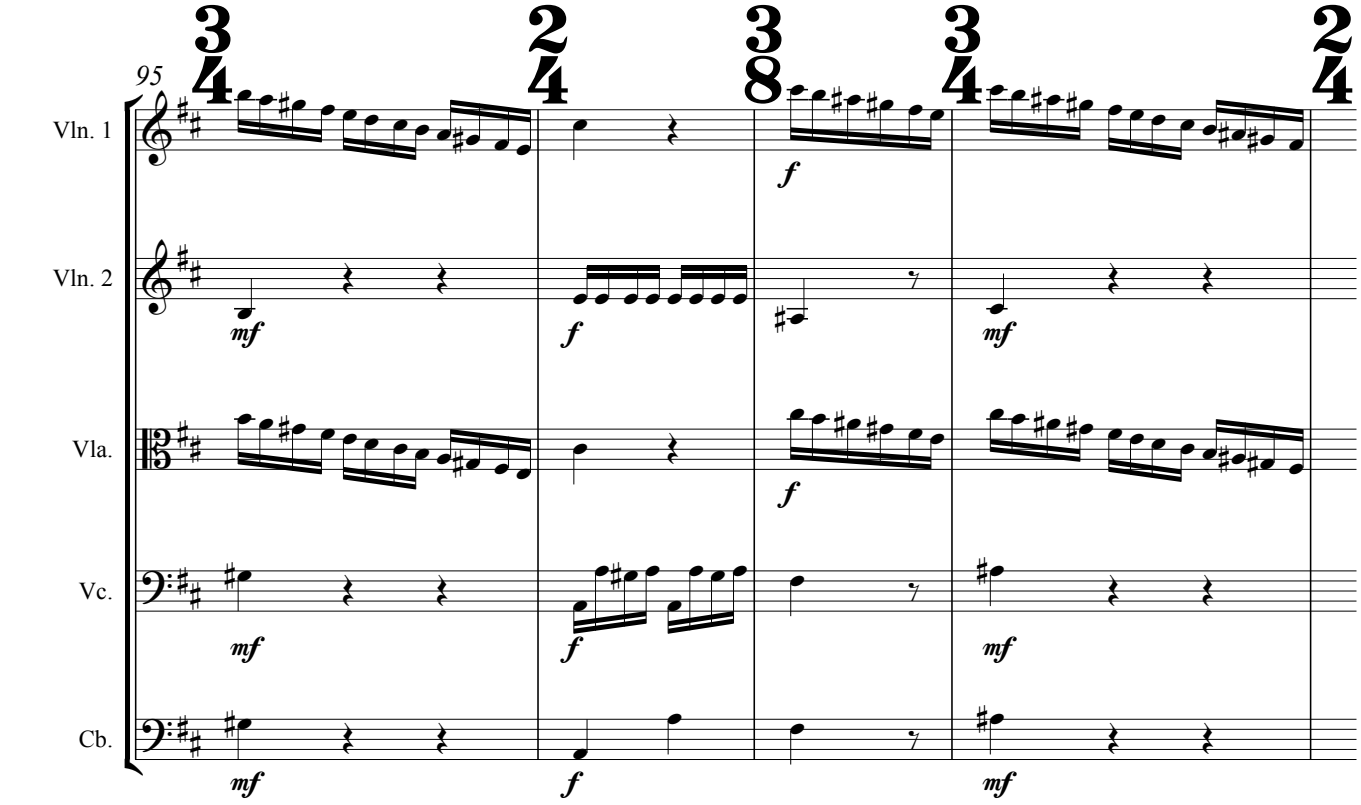

M
66
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Solo
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Solo
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
pp
mp
p
cresc.

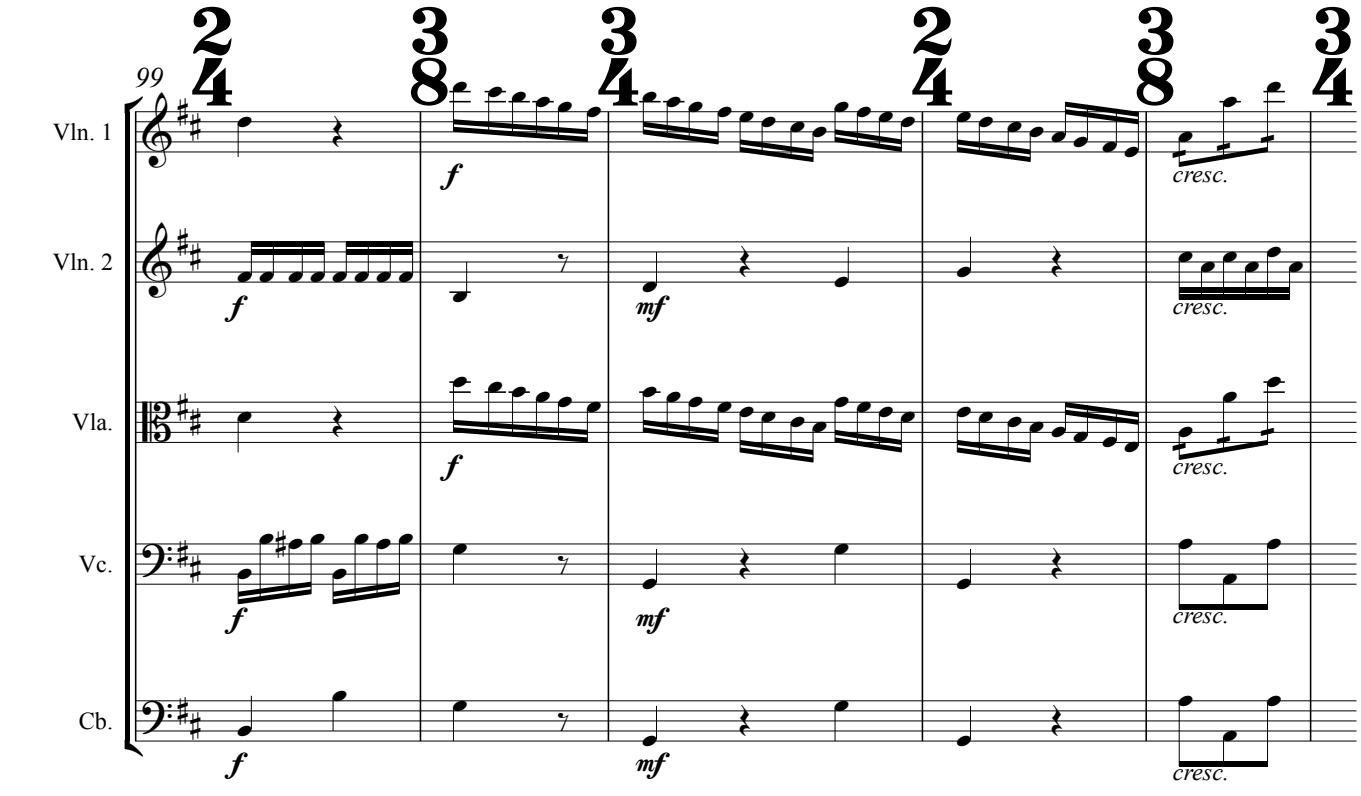

N
71
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
f
mf
ff

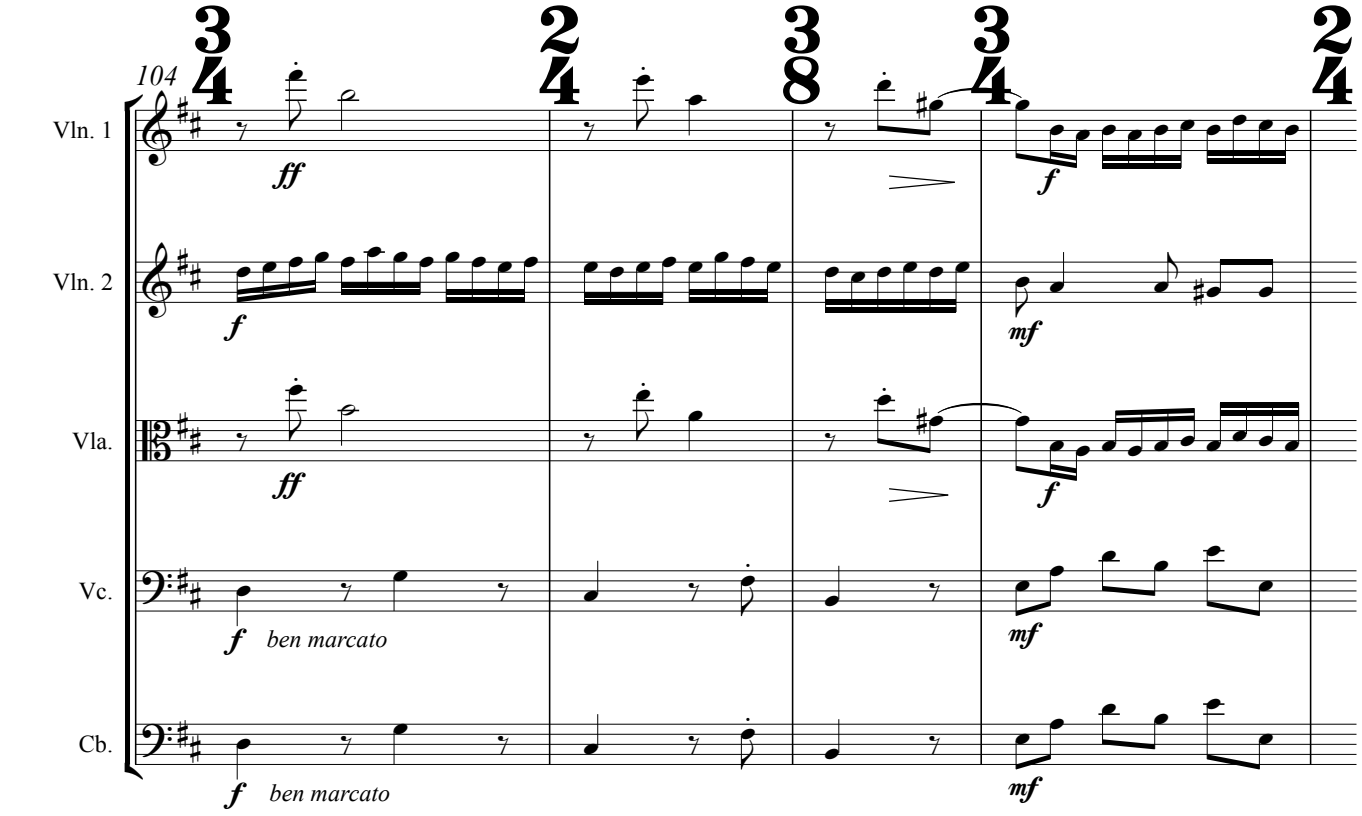

O
76
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. (Solo)
Vla.
Vc. (Solo)
Vc.
Cb.
mf
f
80
Rit.
p

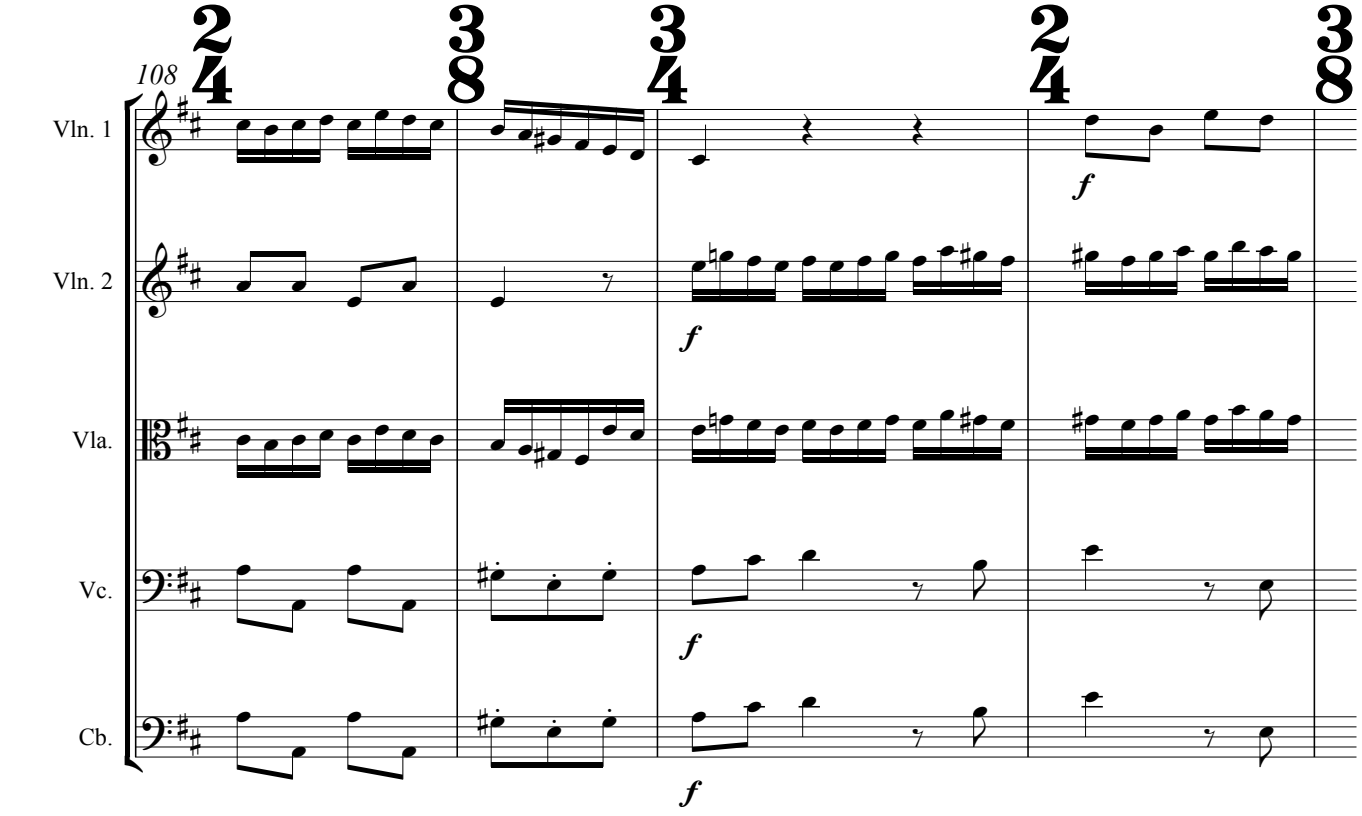

P
Allegro
♩. = 108
85
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

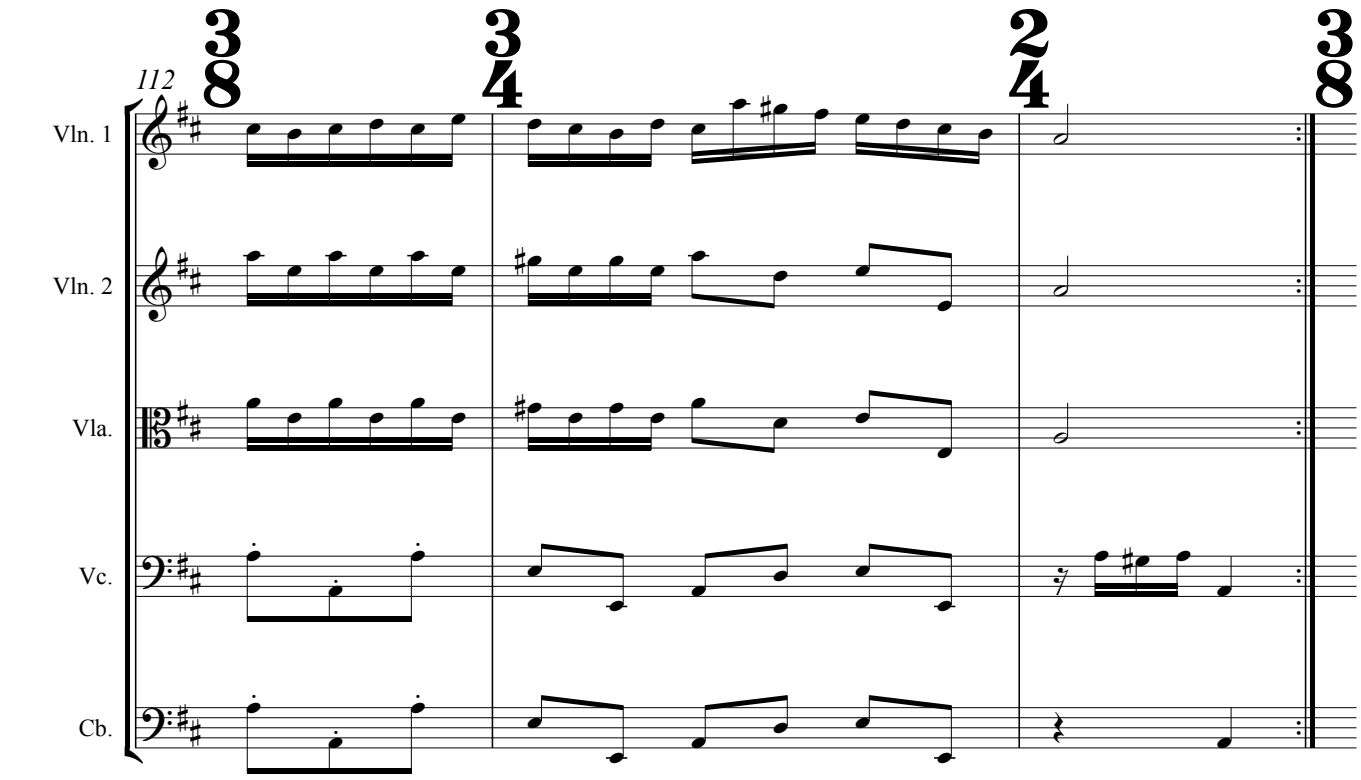

90
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

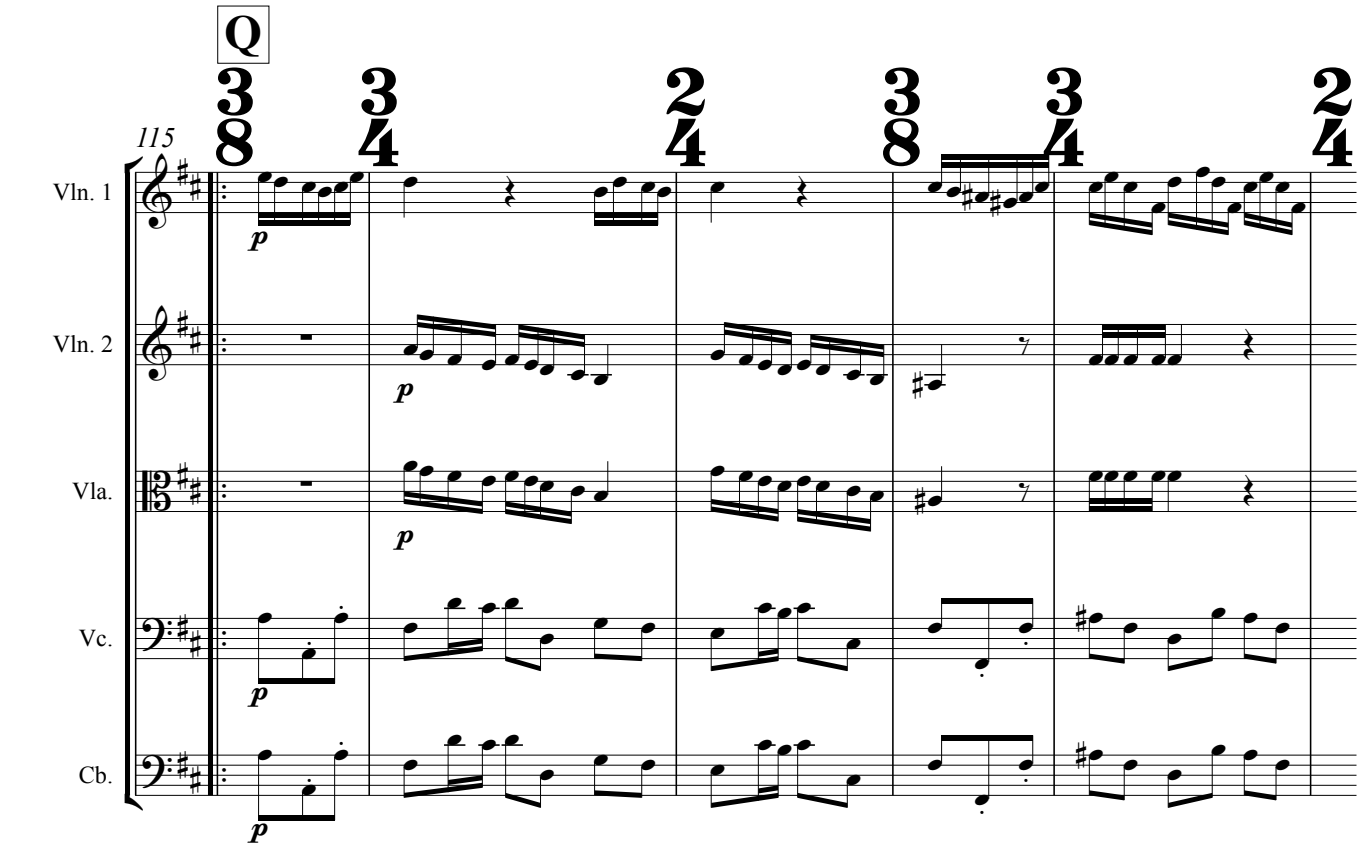

95
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
f

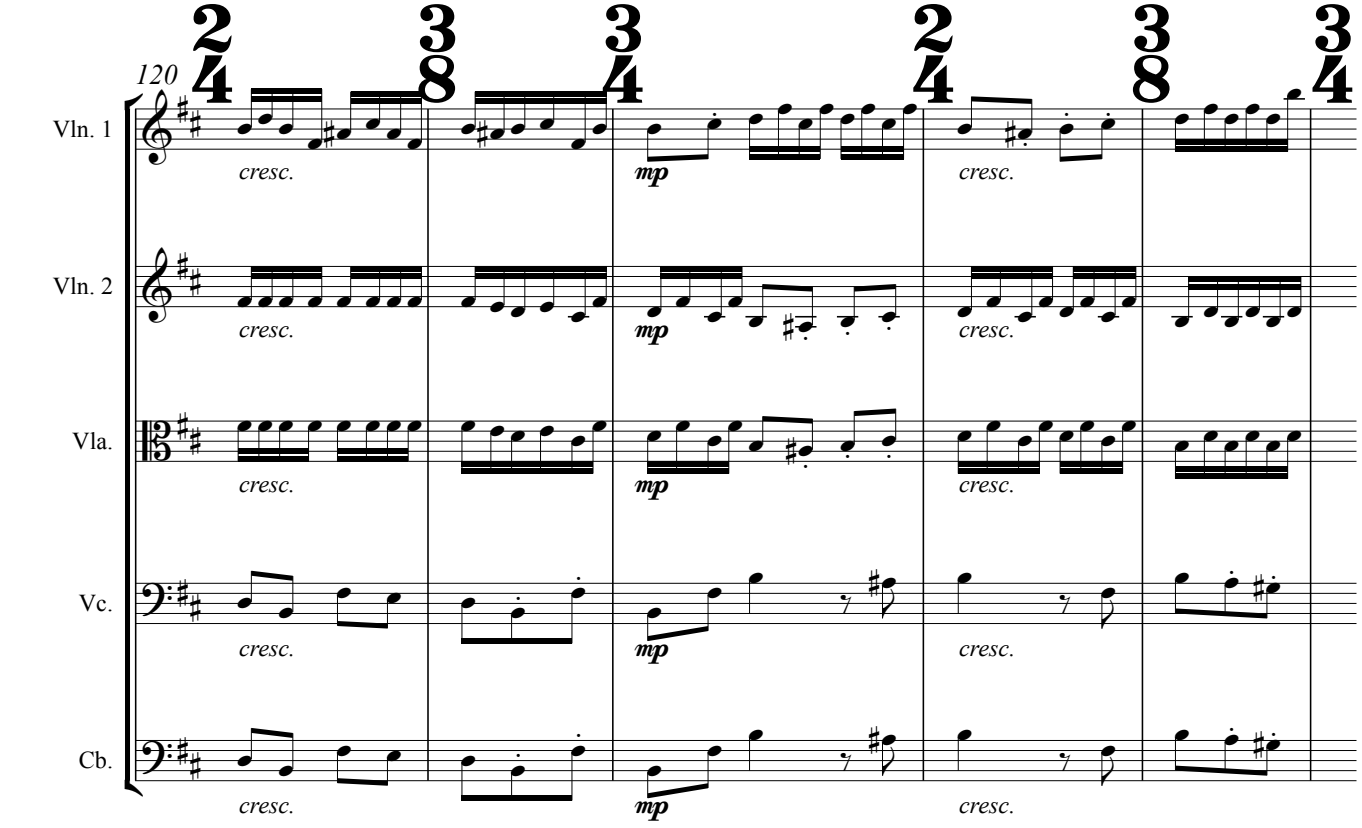

99
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
mf
cresc.

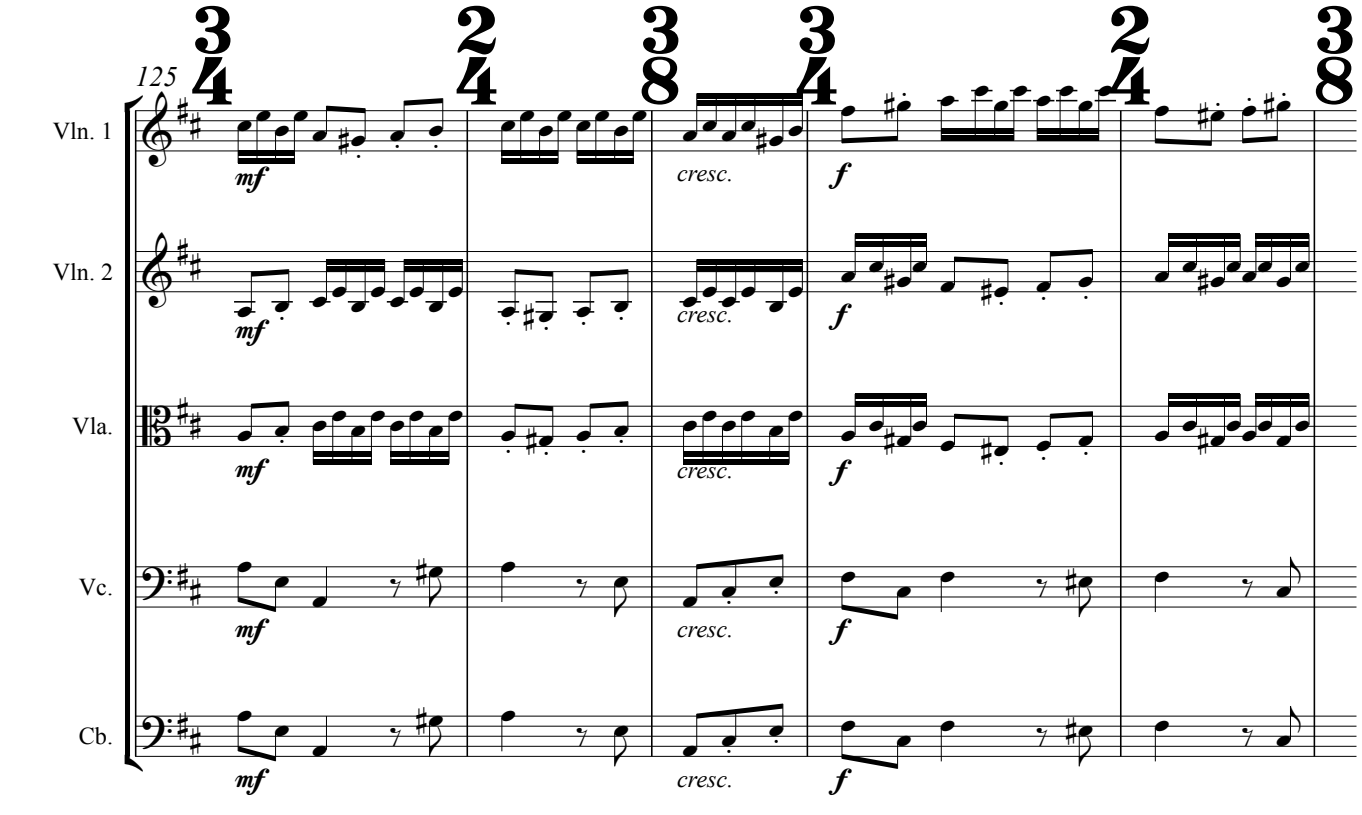

104
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
ff
f
mf
ben marcato

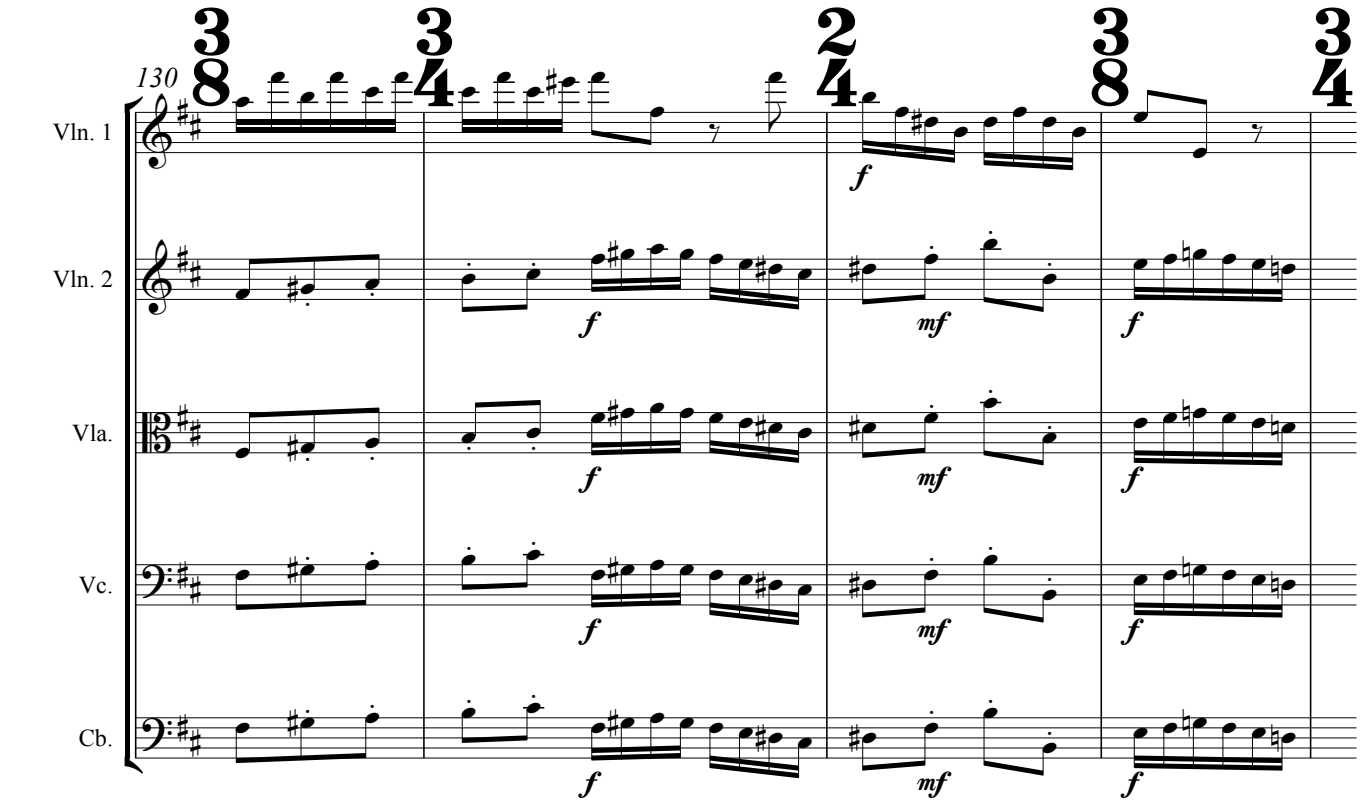

108
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f

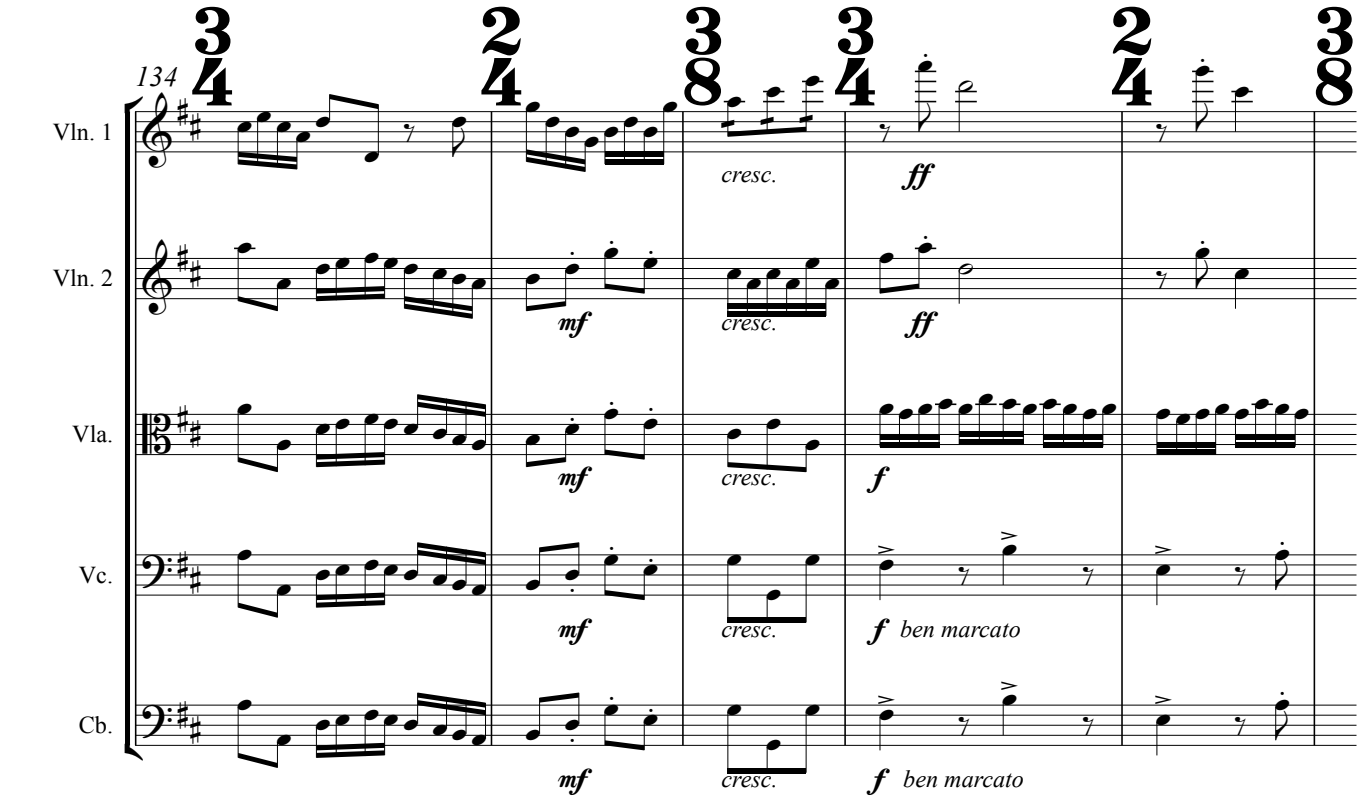

112
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.

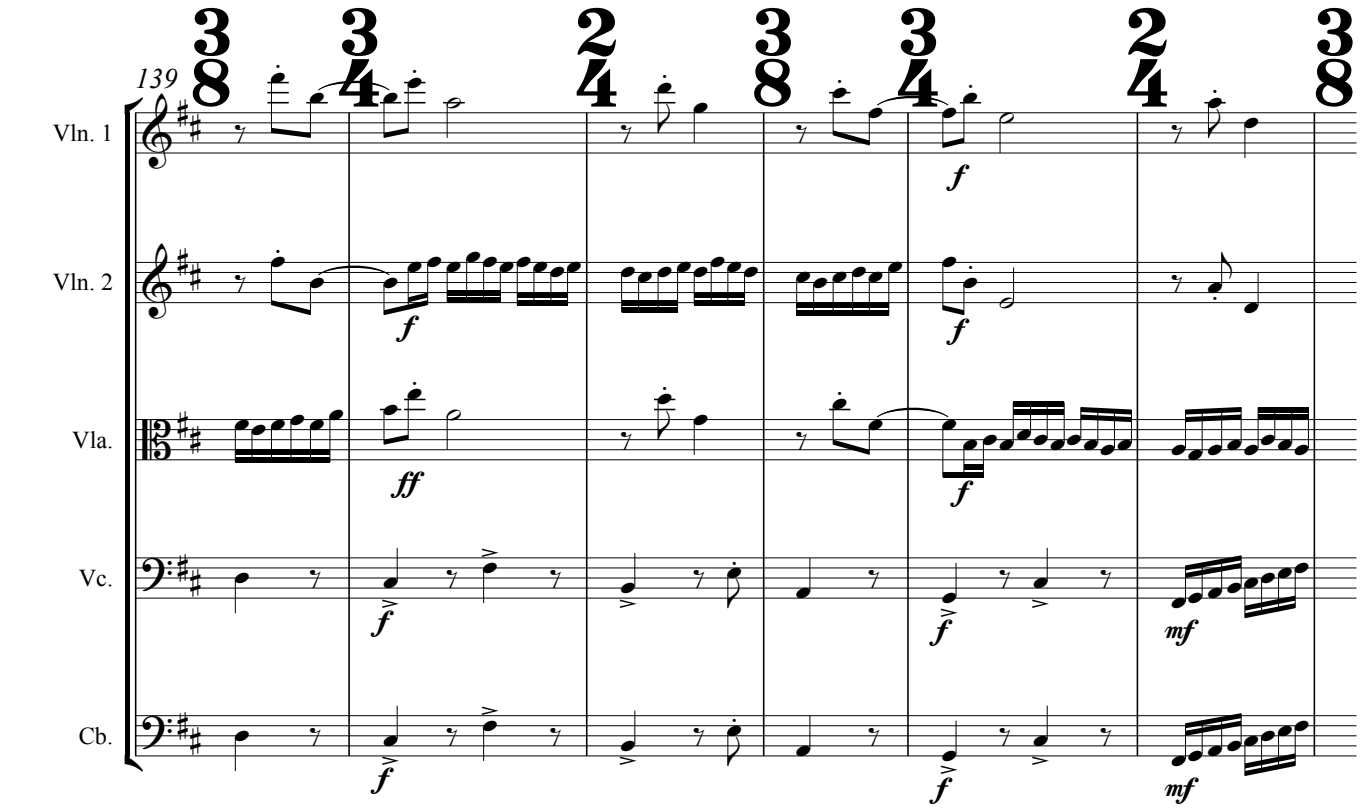

Q
115
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
p


120
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
cresc.
mp


125
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
mf
cresc.
f


130
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f
mf


134
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
cresc.
ff
mf
f
ben marcato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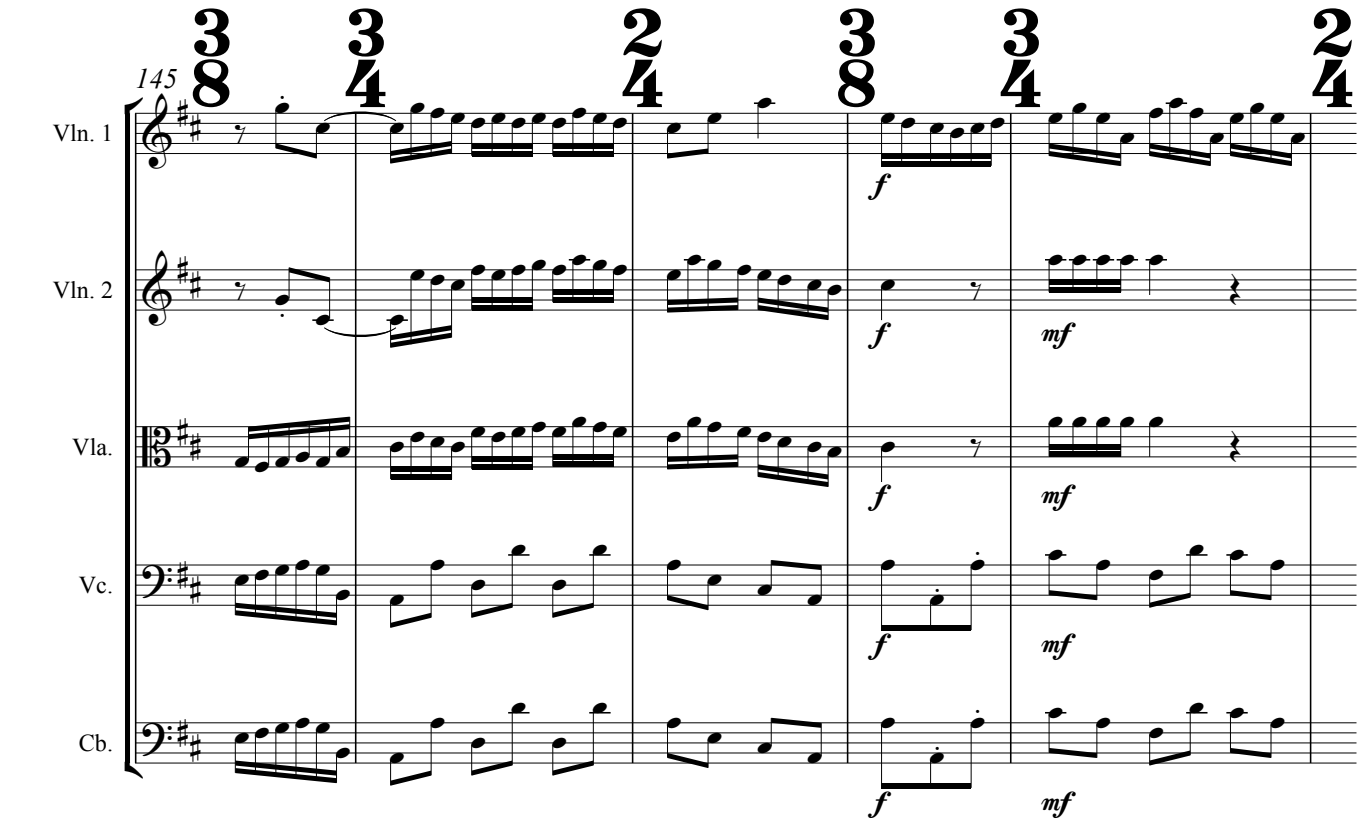
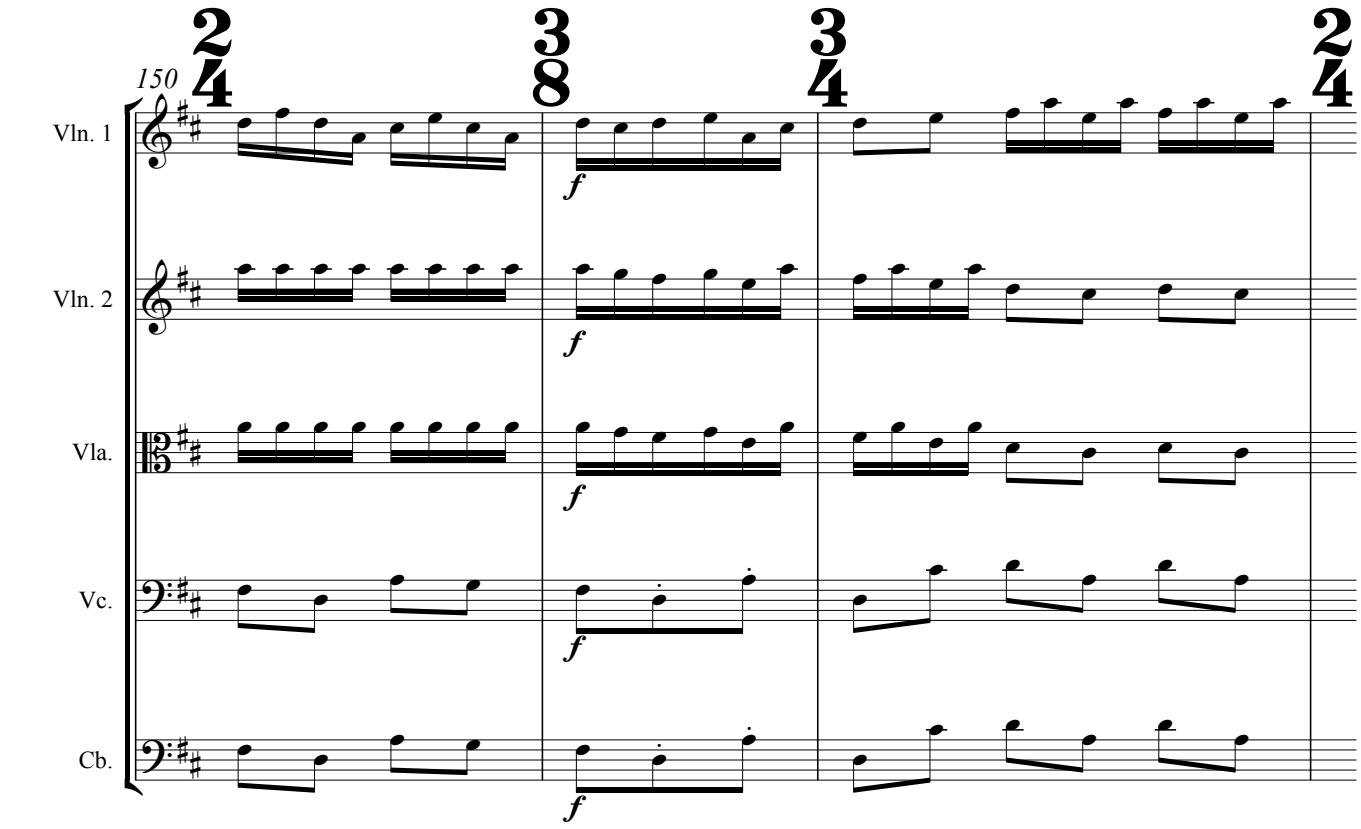
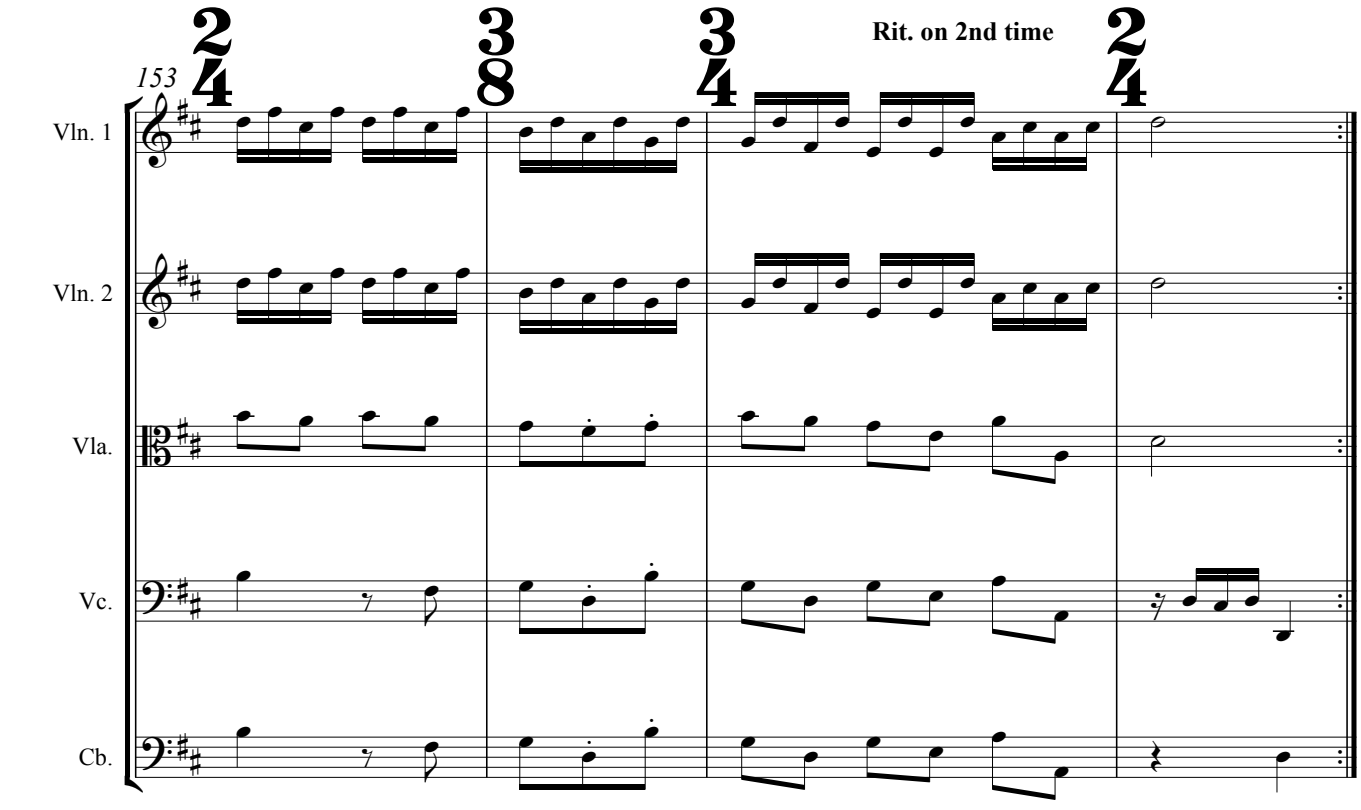
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.


145
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.


150
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.
f


153
Rit. on 2nd time
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
Cb.