Trumpet in B♭ 1 & 2

Charlie Barber

© Charlie Barber

Taqsim
a fantasia for orchestra

Duration: c. 4 minutes

Notes:

Throughout the score, double barlines are used to articulate the 10/8 or 10/4 rhythmic structure.

String 'divisi' sections are divided between the two players reading from the same desk

Programme note:

Taqsim – a fantasia for orchestra

A *taqsim* is a traditional form of improvised solo music that typically precedes a classical Arabic, Kurdish, Greek, or Turkish composition. Usually performed by a single instrumentalist - sometimes accompanied by a percussionist or another supporting player - it serves as a free, expressive exploration of a mode or *maqam.*

While this work draws inspiration from this centuries-old practice and retains a sense of improvisatory freedom, it is a fully composed work conceived for a modern symphony orchestra. The main melodic theme is rooted in an instrumental form of Ottoman classical music, characterized by its rhythmic structure, using a specific 10/8 rhythmic pattern.

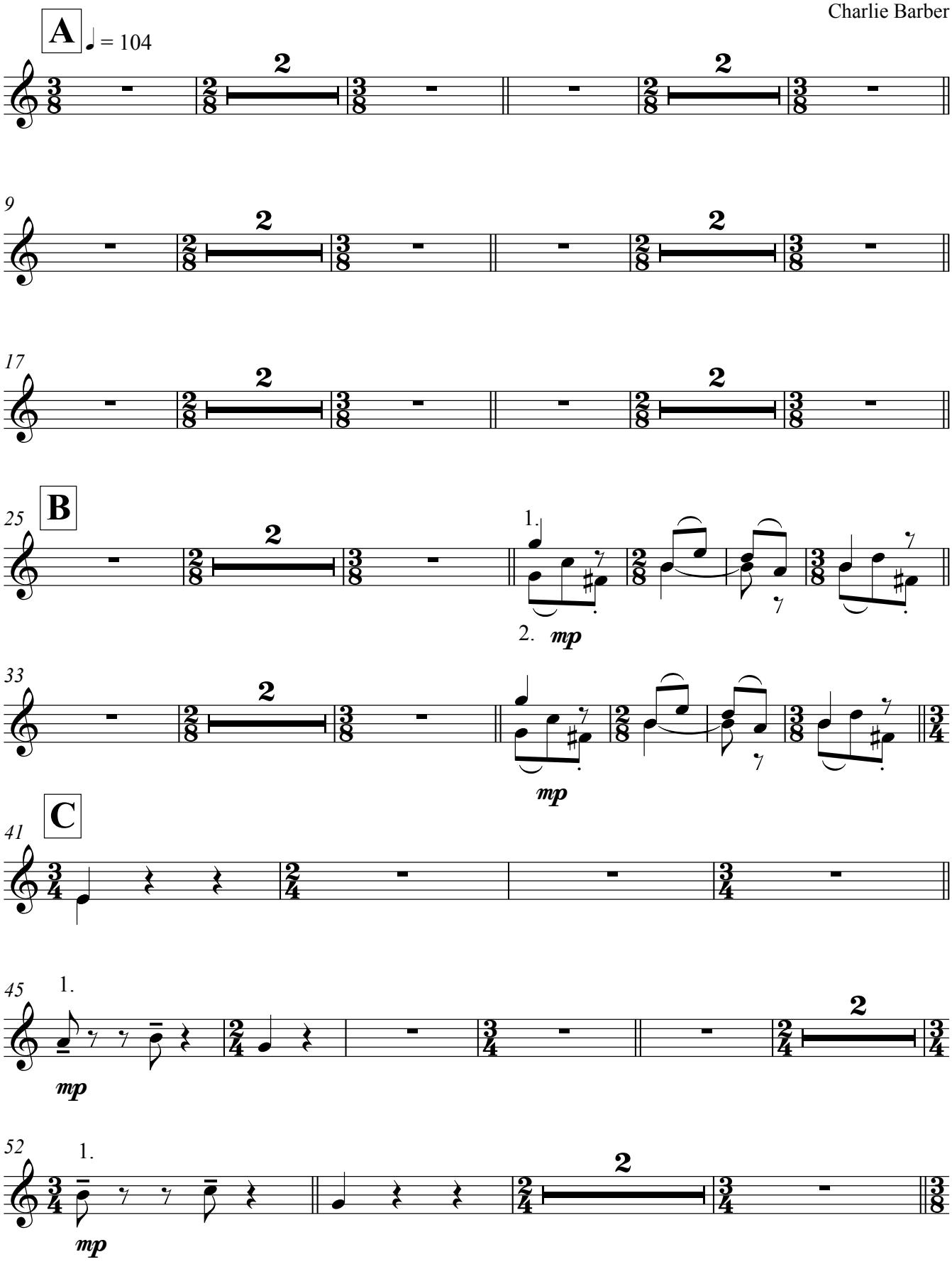
By expanding the intimate, spontaneous character of a solo *taqsim* into the rich palette of the orchestra, the piece transforms a personal act of ornamentation and discovery into a collective sonic journey - where individual instrumental voices intertwine, echo, and respond within a tapestry of rhythm and melody.

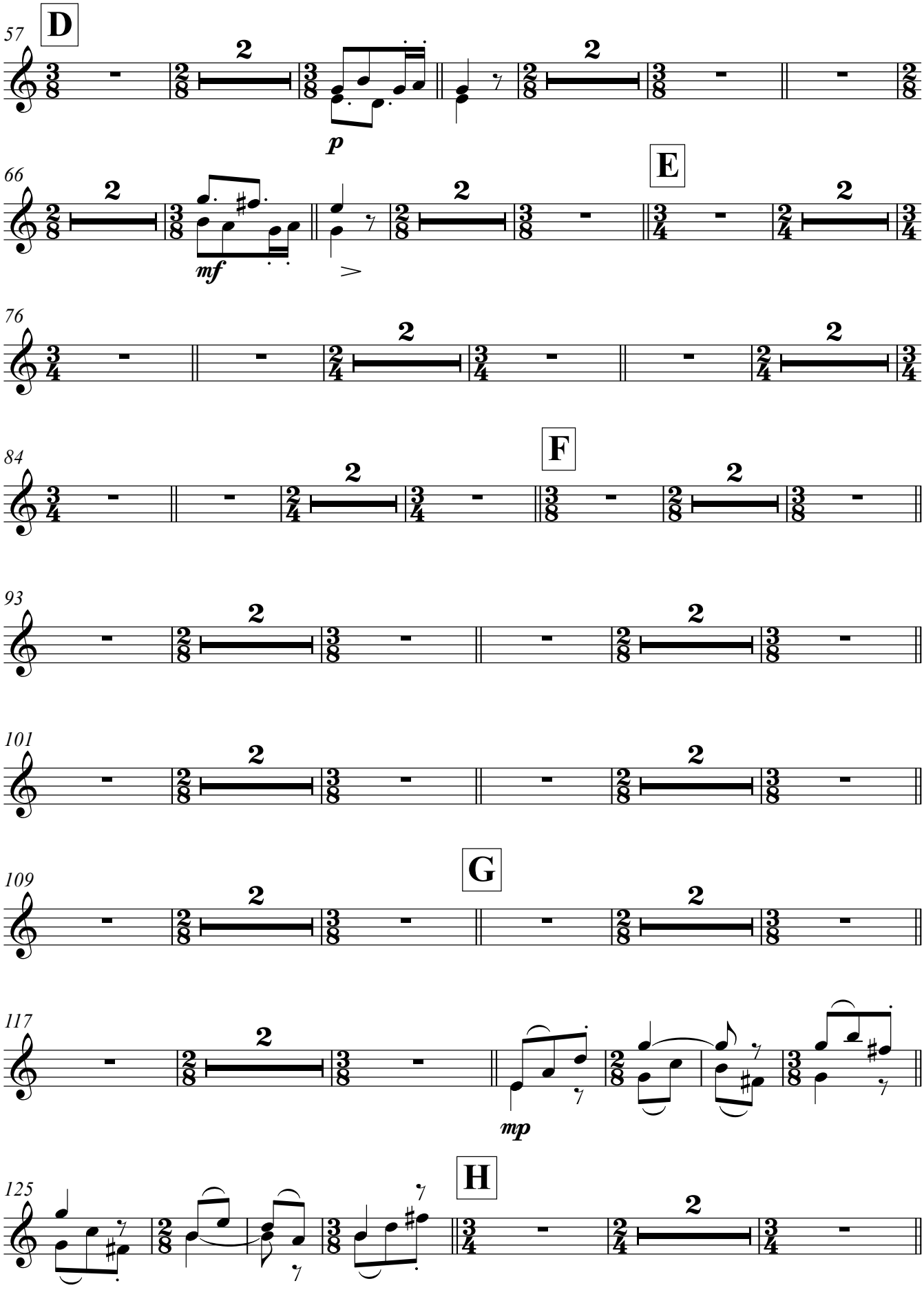
Charlie Barber, September 2025

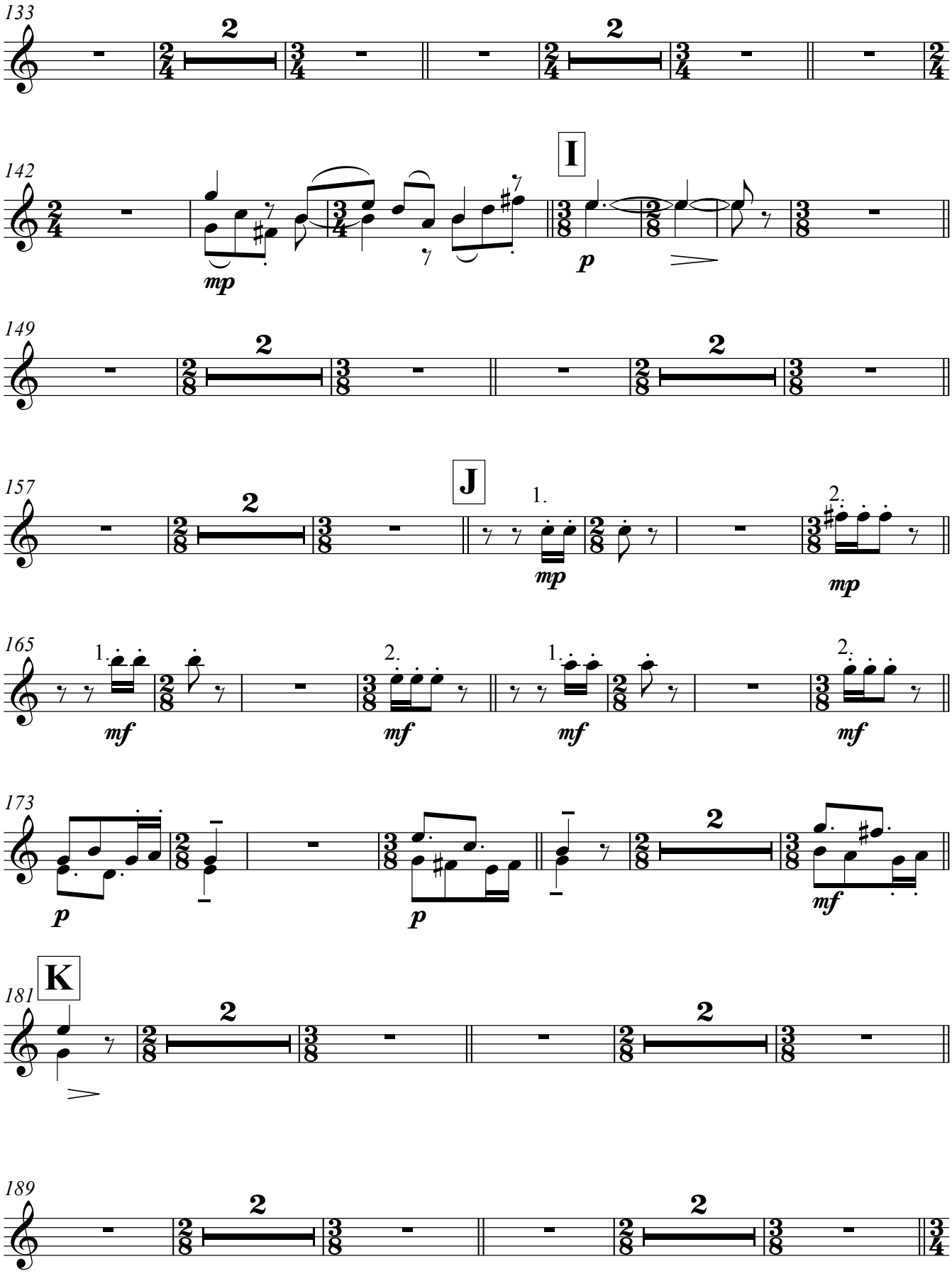
Taqsim

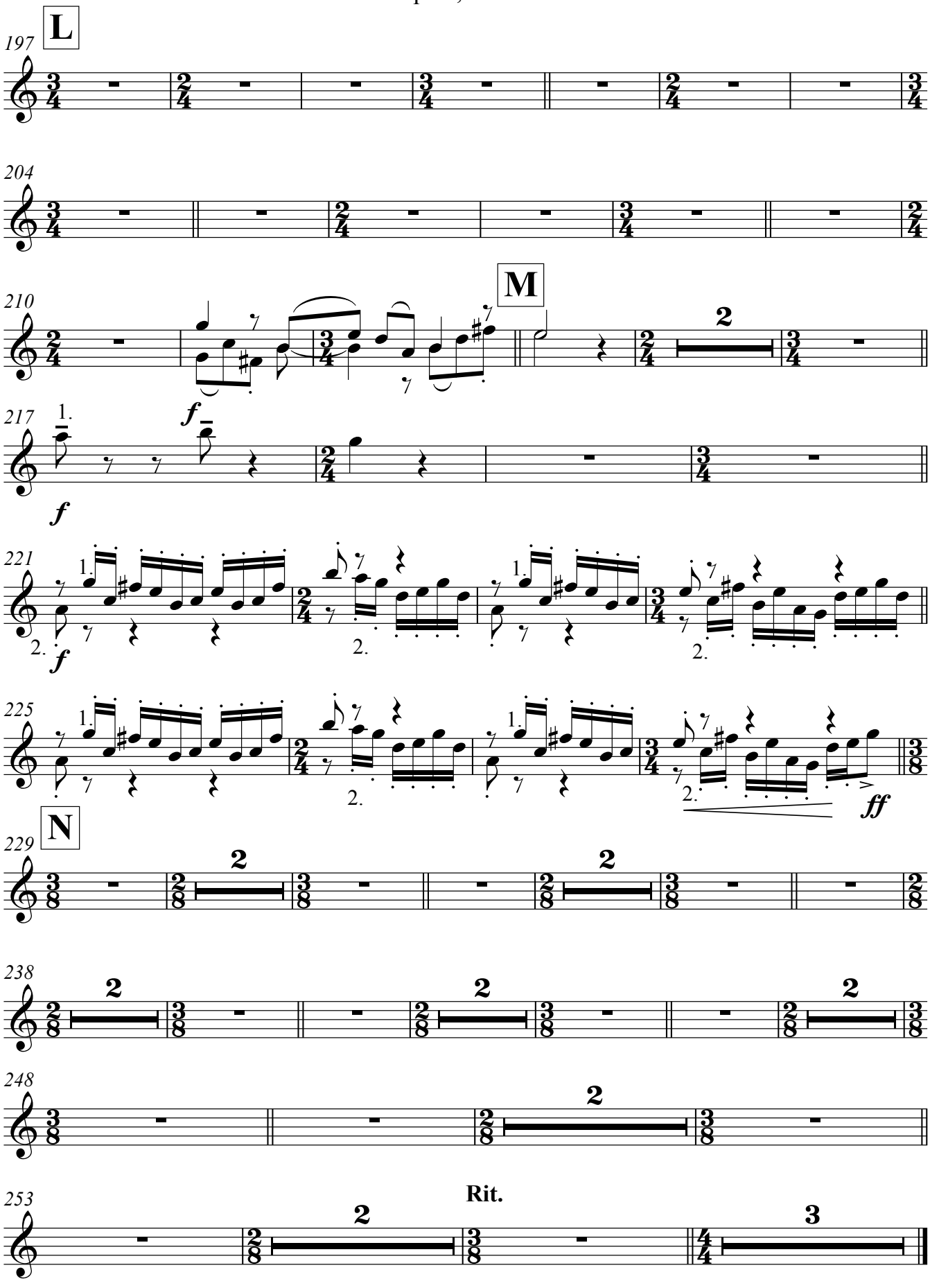
a fantasia for orchestra

Charlie Barber




57
D
2
p
66
2
mf
E
2
76
2
84
F
2
93
2
101
2
109
G
2
117
2
mp
125
H
2


133
142
I
149
157
J
165
173
181
K
189

Trumpet in B♭ 1 & 2

Charlie Barber - Taqsim, a fantasia for orchestra