Symphony of Winds

Man-Ching Donald Yu

„Heavenly Justice“

for large wind ensemble, organ, and piano (2013)

duration: about 18:00 minutes

www.verlag433.de

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Program Notes

Being inspired by a modern Chinese painting “heavenly justice”, I would like to map the features of the painting onto the music by using my musical idioms. The painting is characterized by dramatic and contrasting colors and curve and distorted lines. The word “symphony” signifies the nature of sounding together of all instruments for creating mass effects throughout the course of the piece.

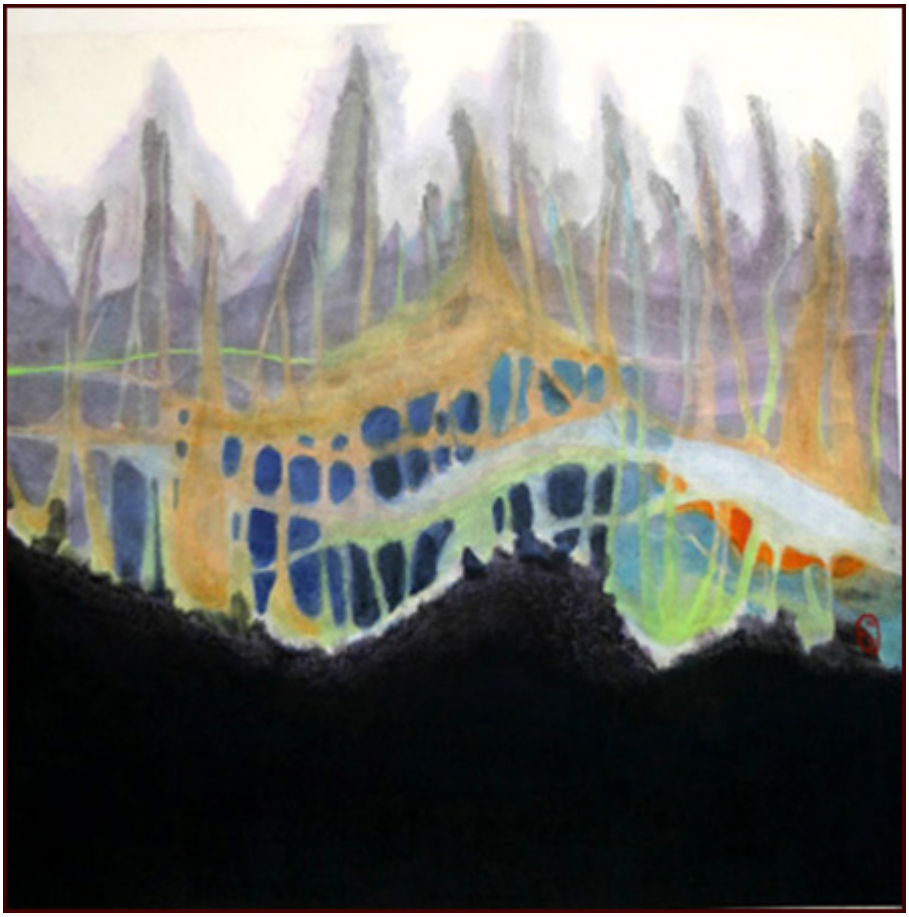
The music establishes its main materials right at the beginning, and those materials at the woodwind section gradually juxtapose and intersperse with different layers in other instrumental sections, culminating to several climatic points throughout the course of the piece and those points are more often saturated with dissonances while at the same time traversing with Chinese elements, symbolizing the darker colors at the bottom of the painting. Contrasts are well achieved by sustained tones at the organ part in the central section in which just a few instruments interplay and interact with each other, generating some subtle colors with an aid of softer dynamics. This feature refers to the upper part of the painting in which transparency can be found. Micropolyphonic techniques are reinforced near the end in which different layers show distinct rhythmic gestures, and those gesture repeats in an ostinato manner while blending with Chinese color and oriental sound. More importantly, dissonances are generated in subsequent to the interaction between different layers, contributing to substantial dramatic effects towards the end. Those are relevant to the vibrant lines, pointing sharply upwards in the painting. Finally, most of the instruments gradually drop out, leaving only a few instruments for generating a rather low density section. Soon, the piece fades out quietly in a pointillistic manner.

Instrumentation:
Piccolo
1.2.Flutes
1.2. Oboes
Eb Clarinet
1.2.3. Clarinets
Bass Clarinet
Soprano Saxophone
Tenor and Baritone Saxophones
1.2. Bassoons

1.2.3.4. Horns
1.2.3. Trumpets in Bb
Tenor and Alto Trombones
Bass Trombones
Tuba

Cymbal
Percussions (Xylophone, Vibraphone, Marimba)
Timpani
Piano
Organ or Small electronic Organ

Duration: 17 minutes

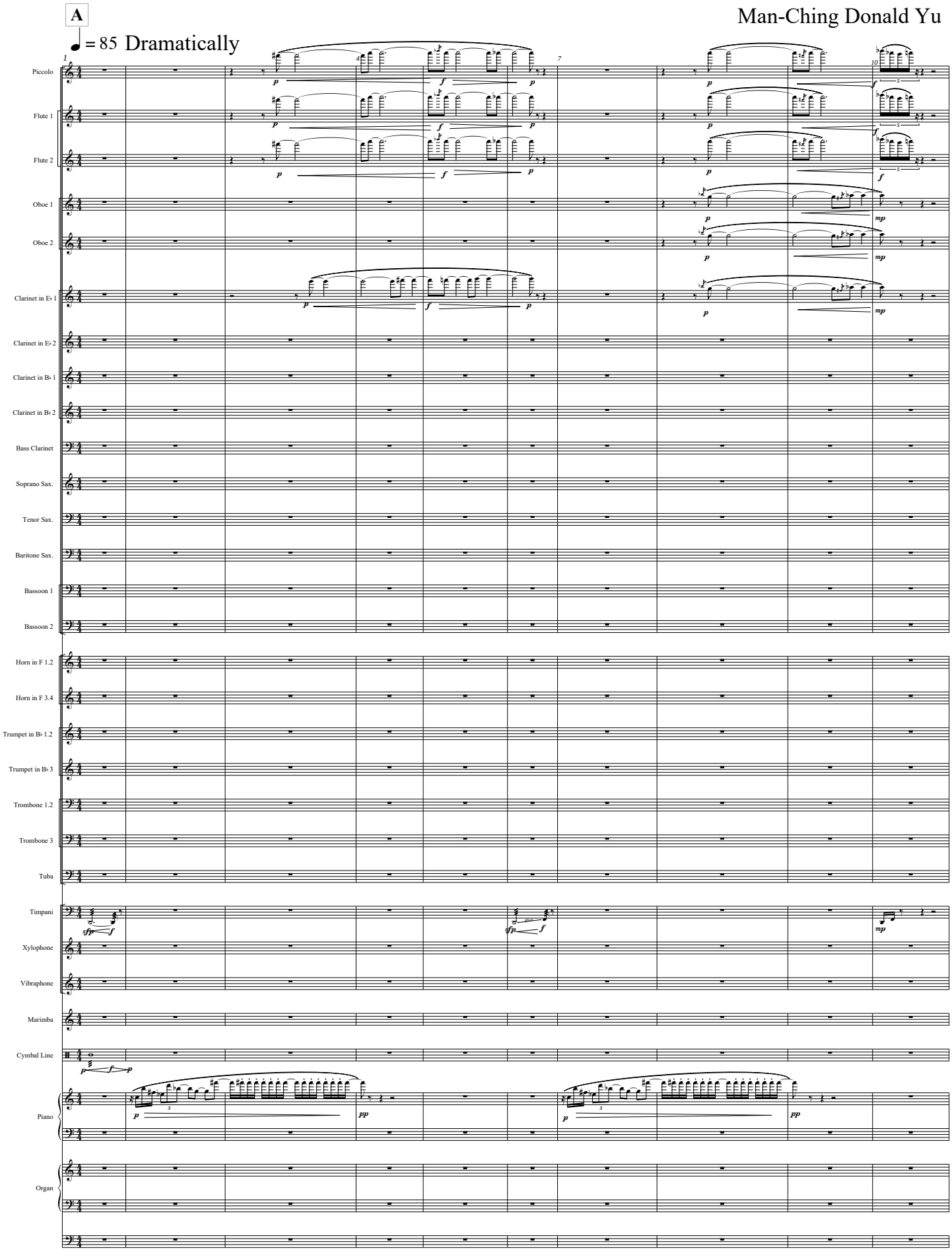


Source: *http://www.chineseartpaintings.com/Contemporary_Chinese_Art.html*

Symphony of Winds "Heavenly Justice"

Score in C

Man-Ching Donald Yu



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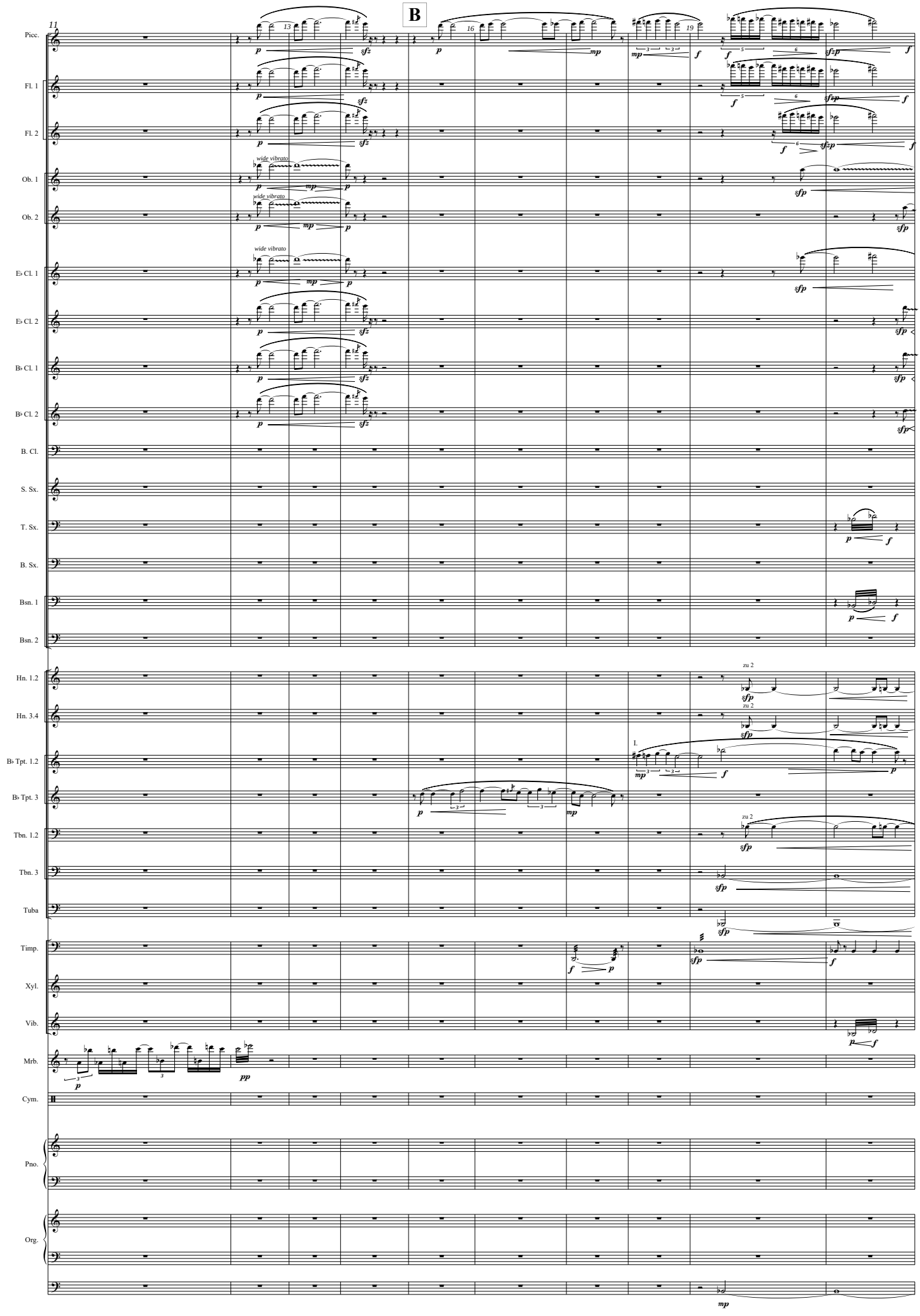

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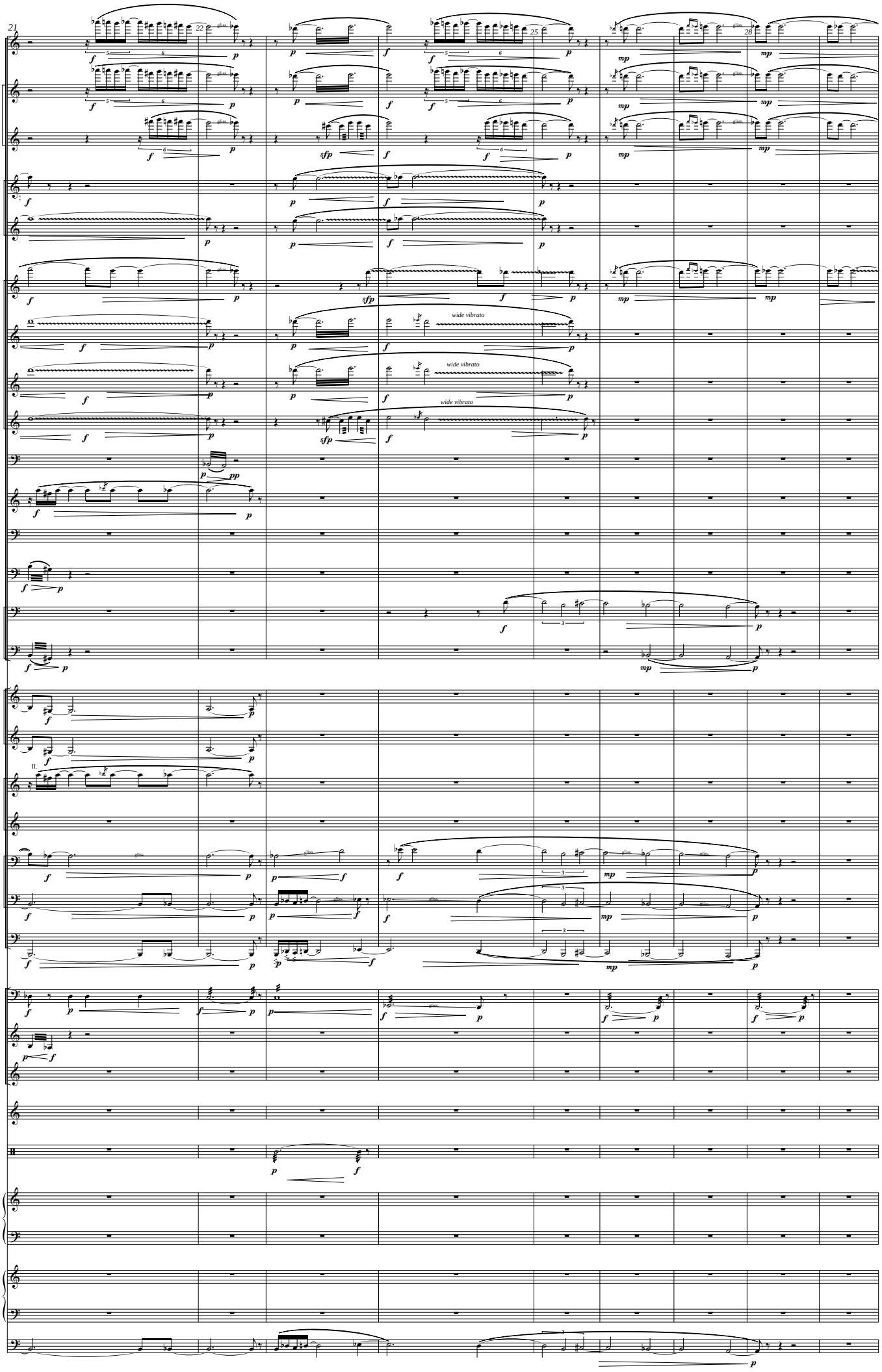

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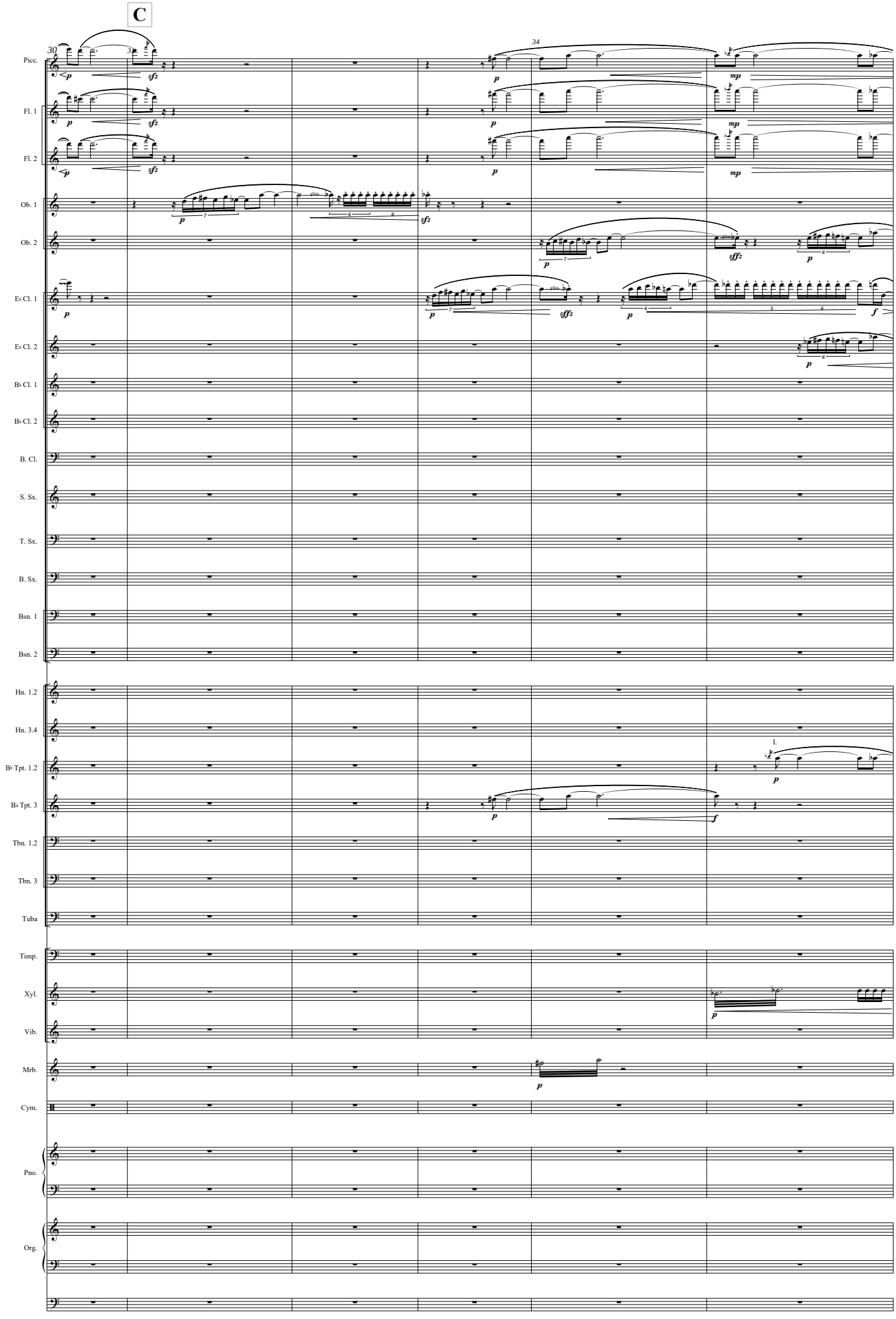

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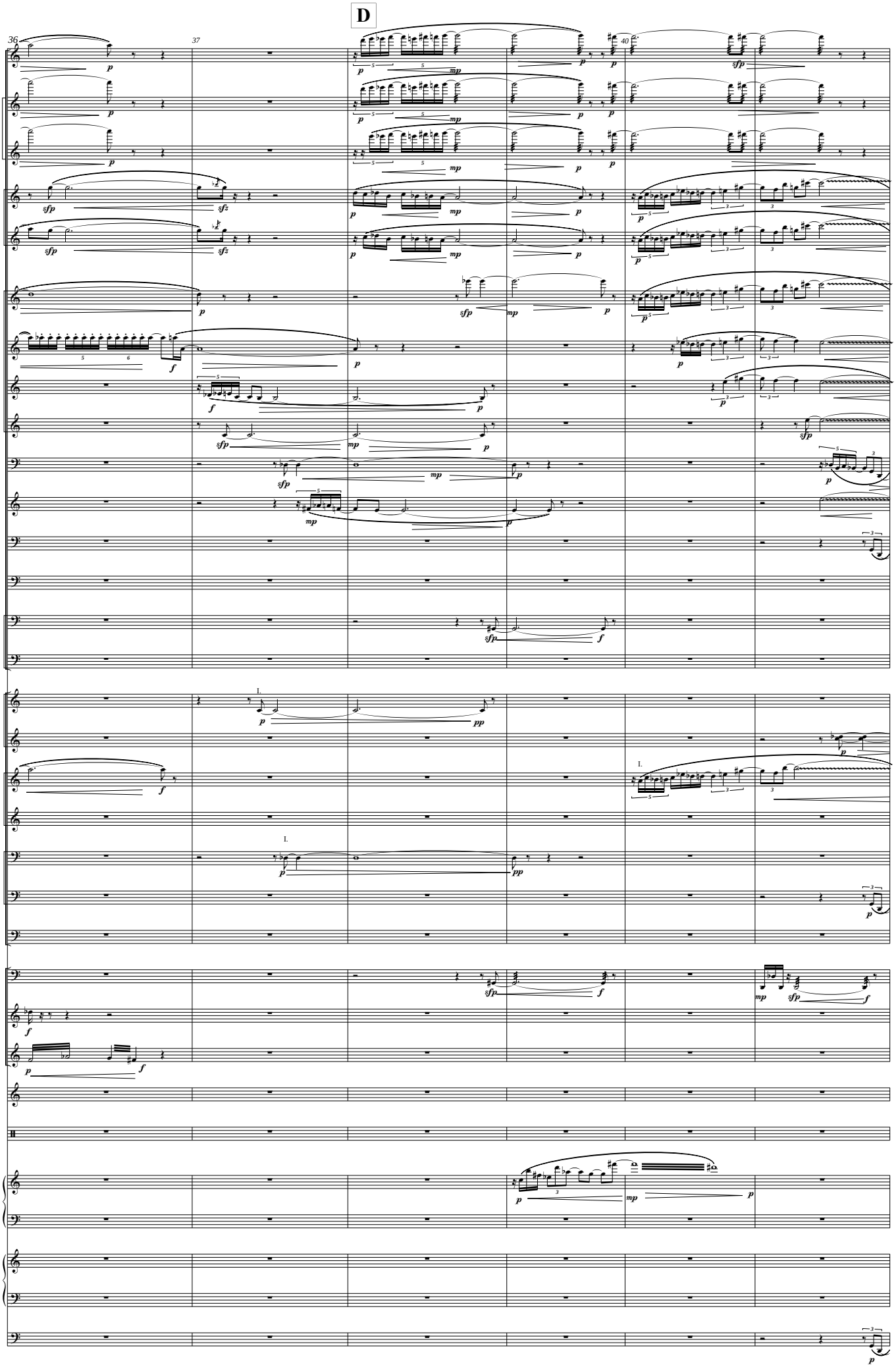

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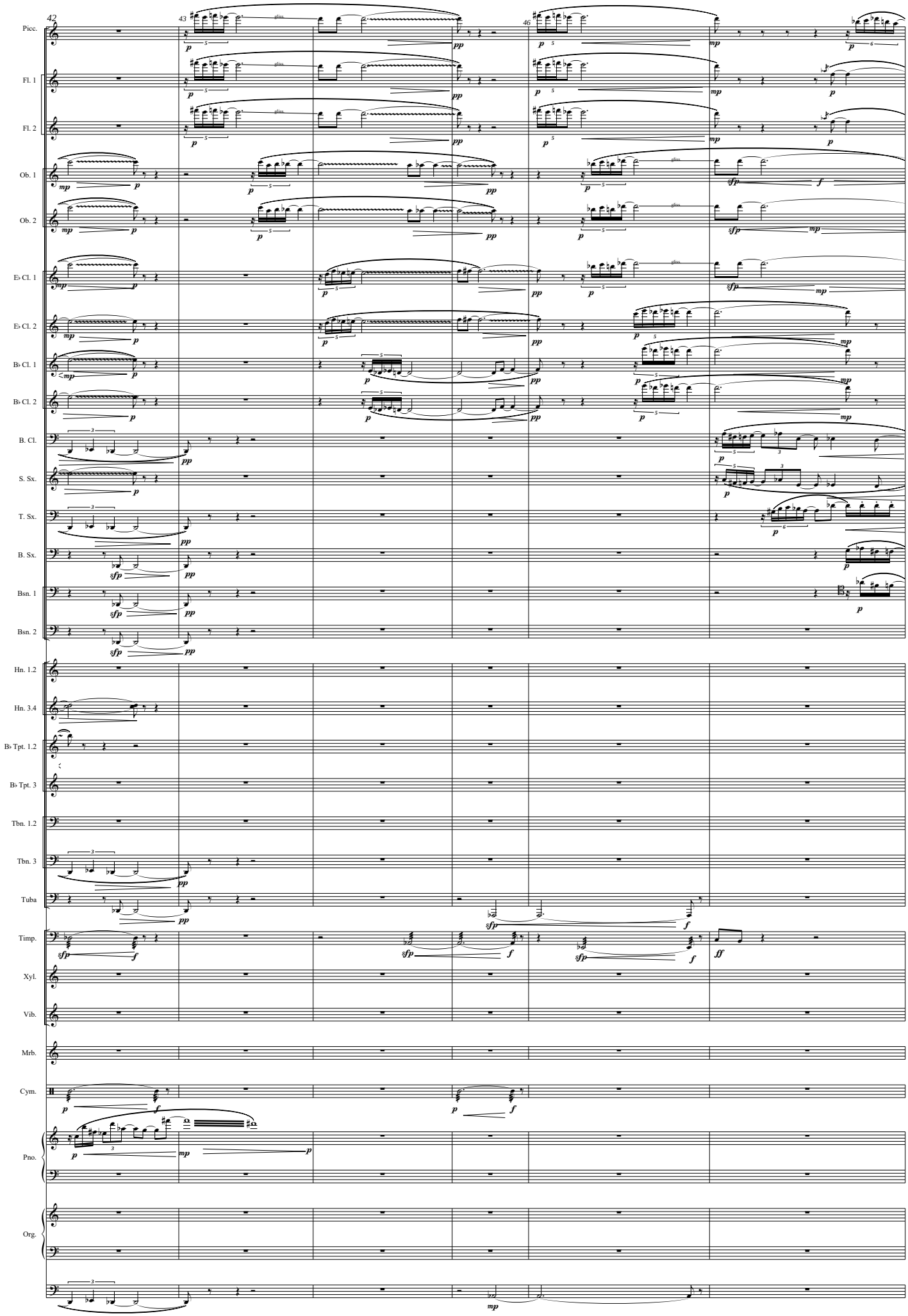

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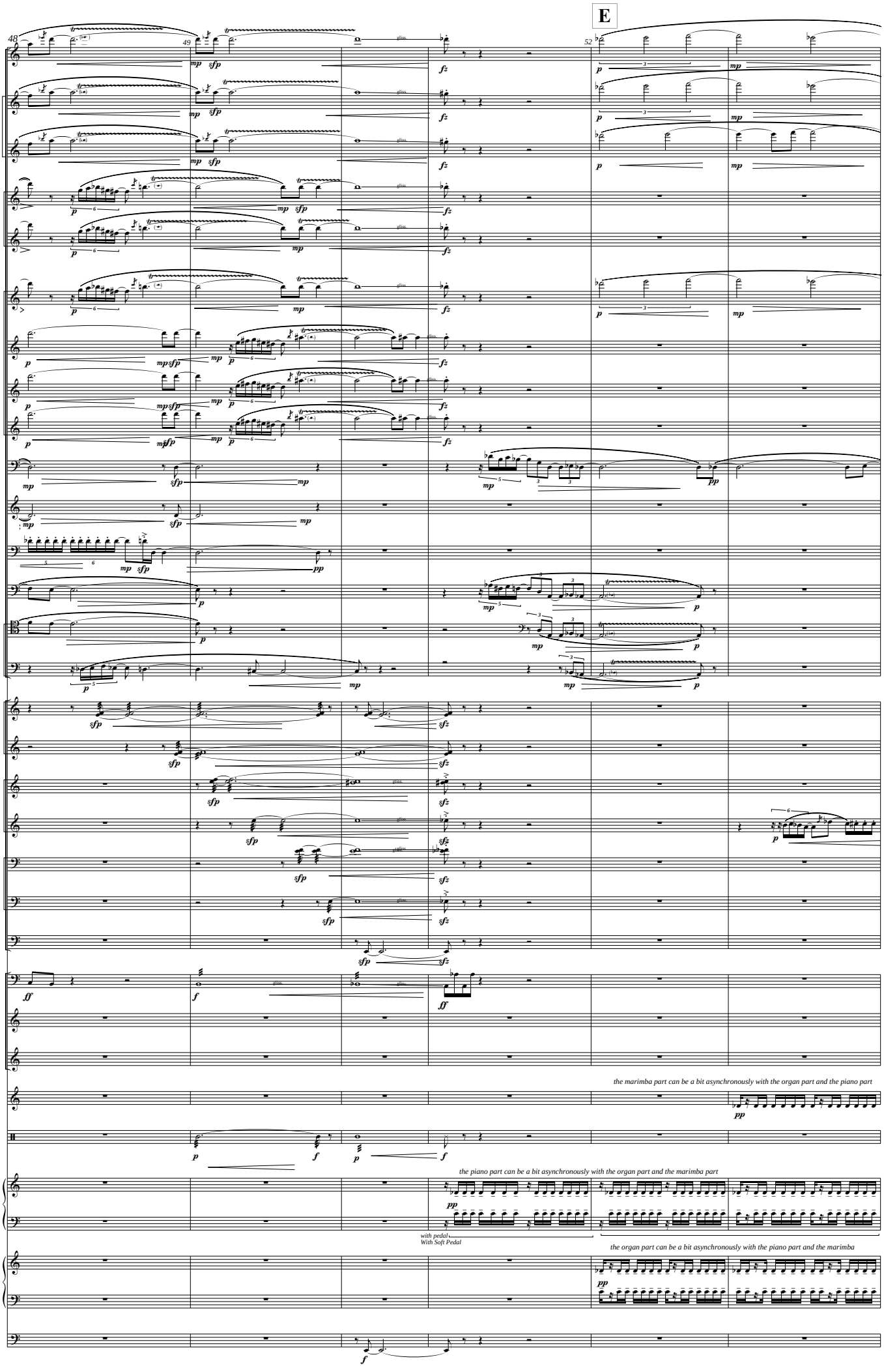

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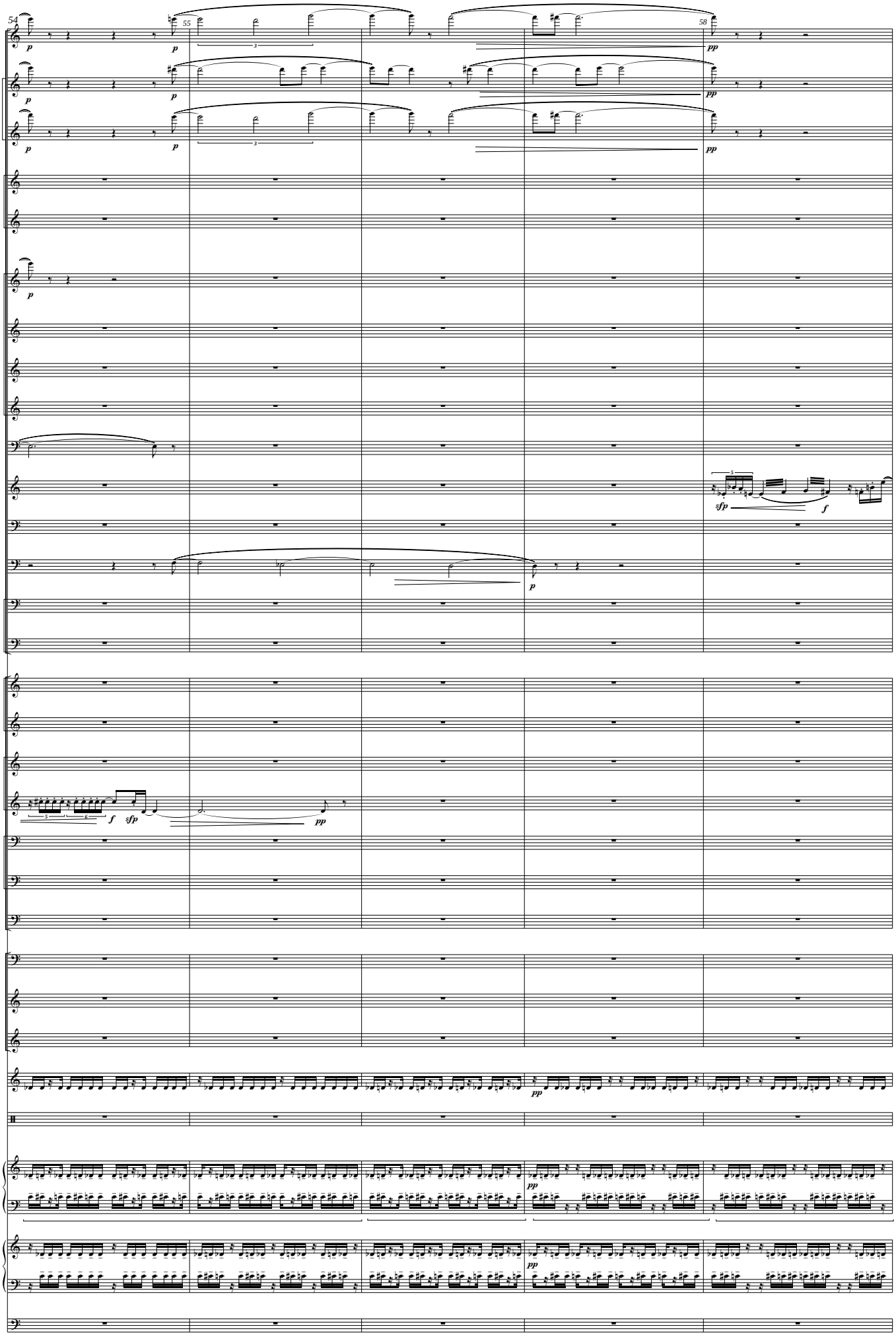

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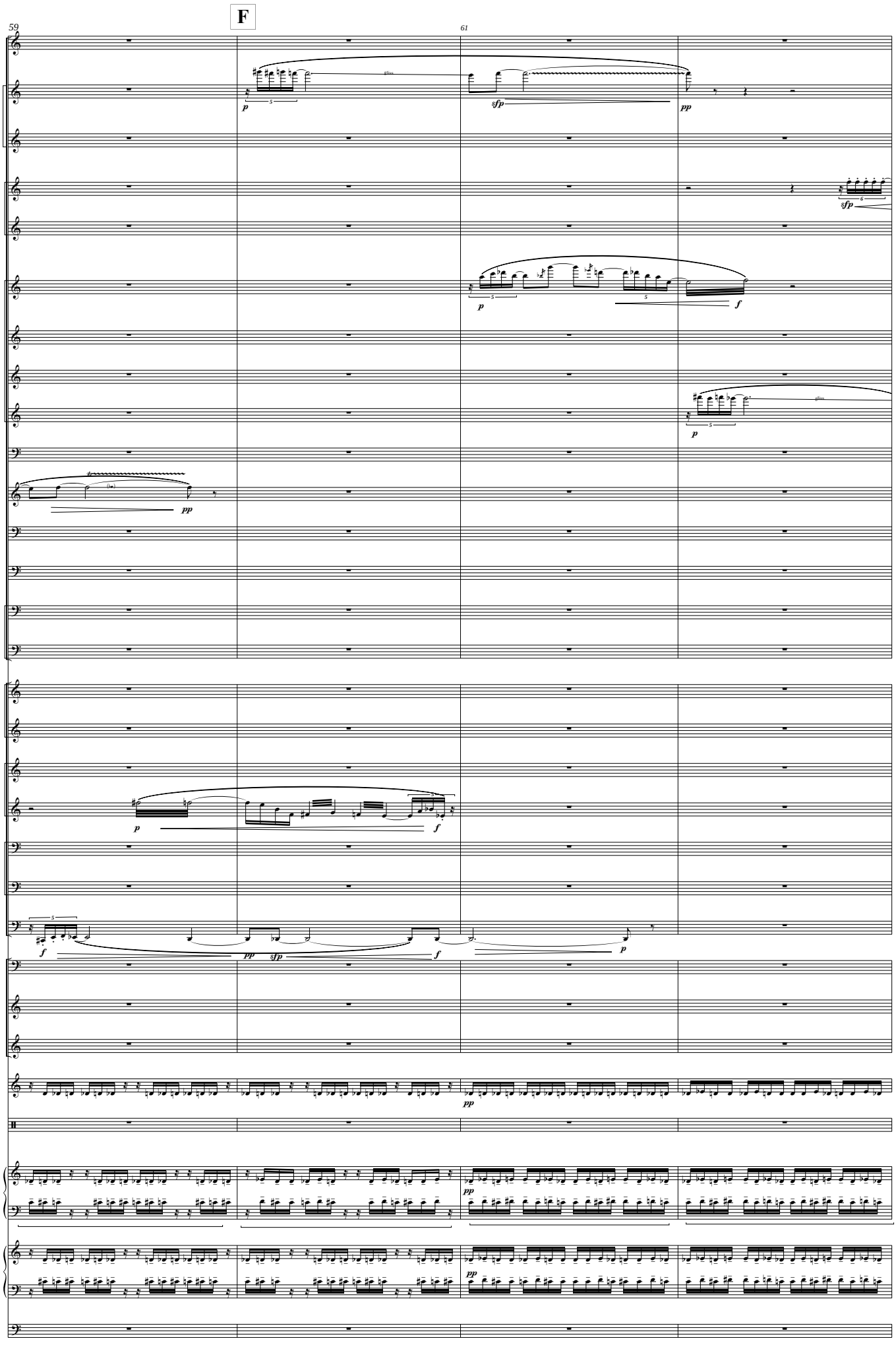

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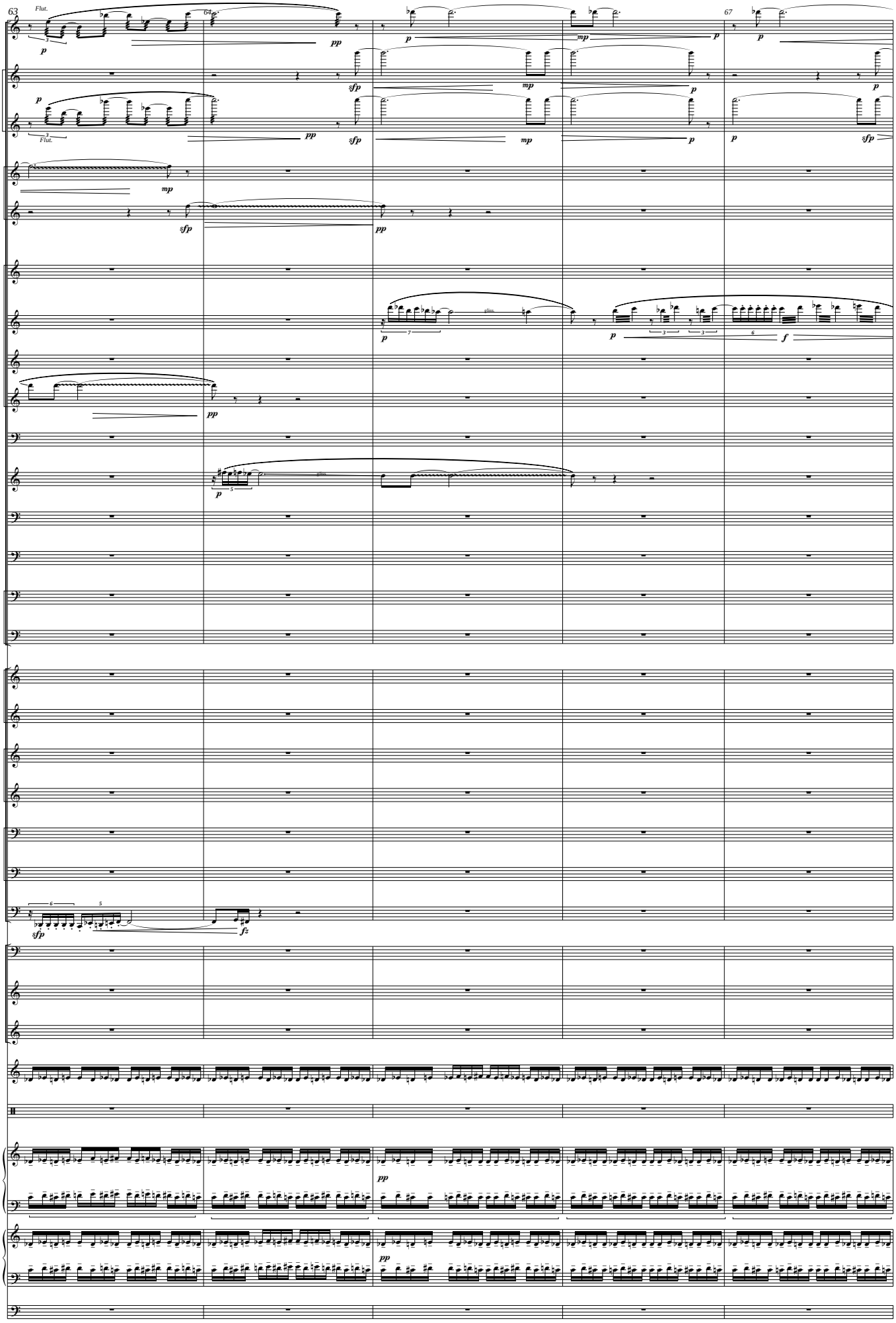

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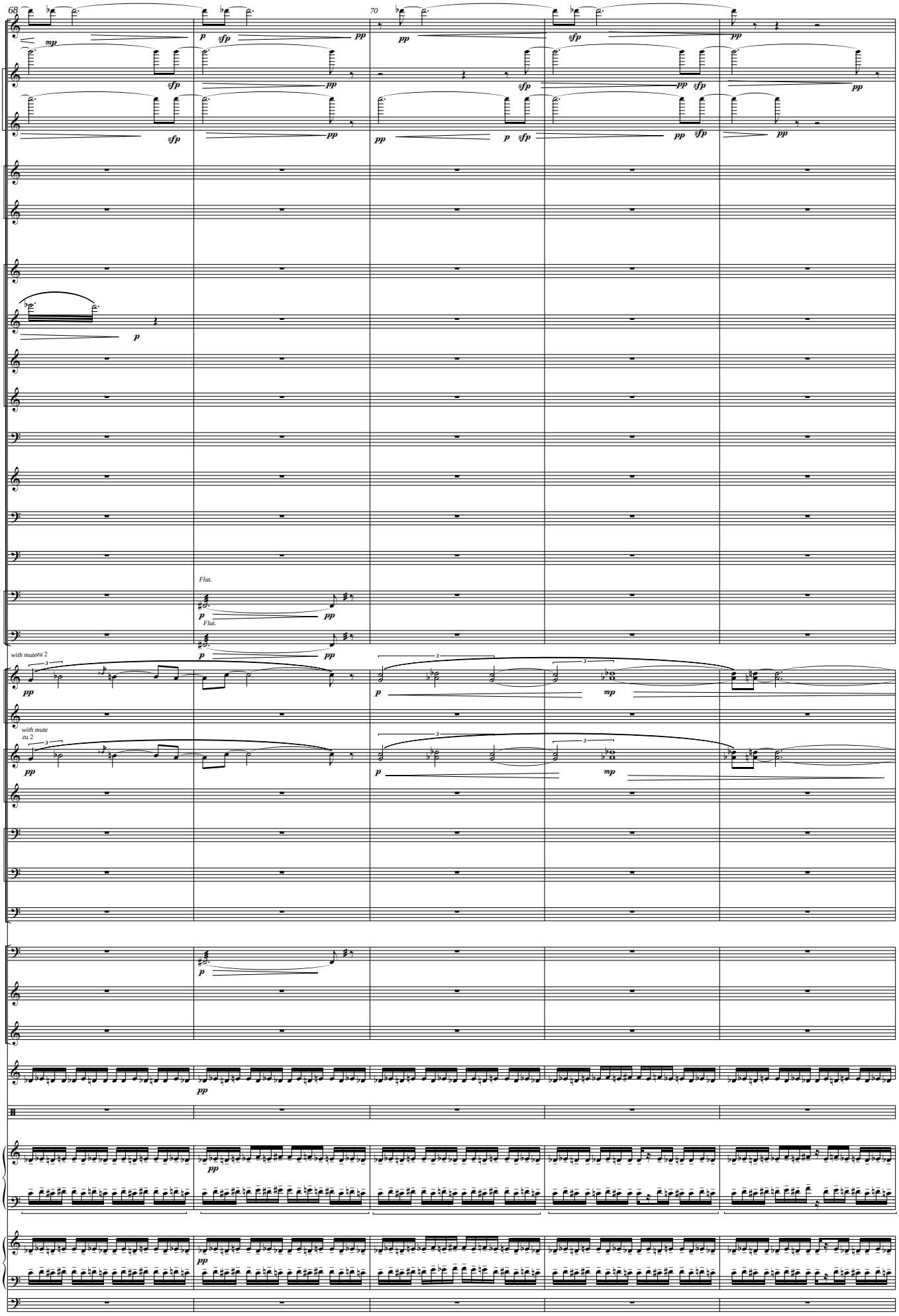

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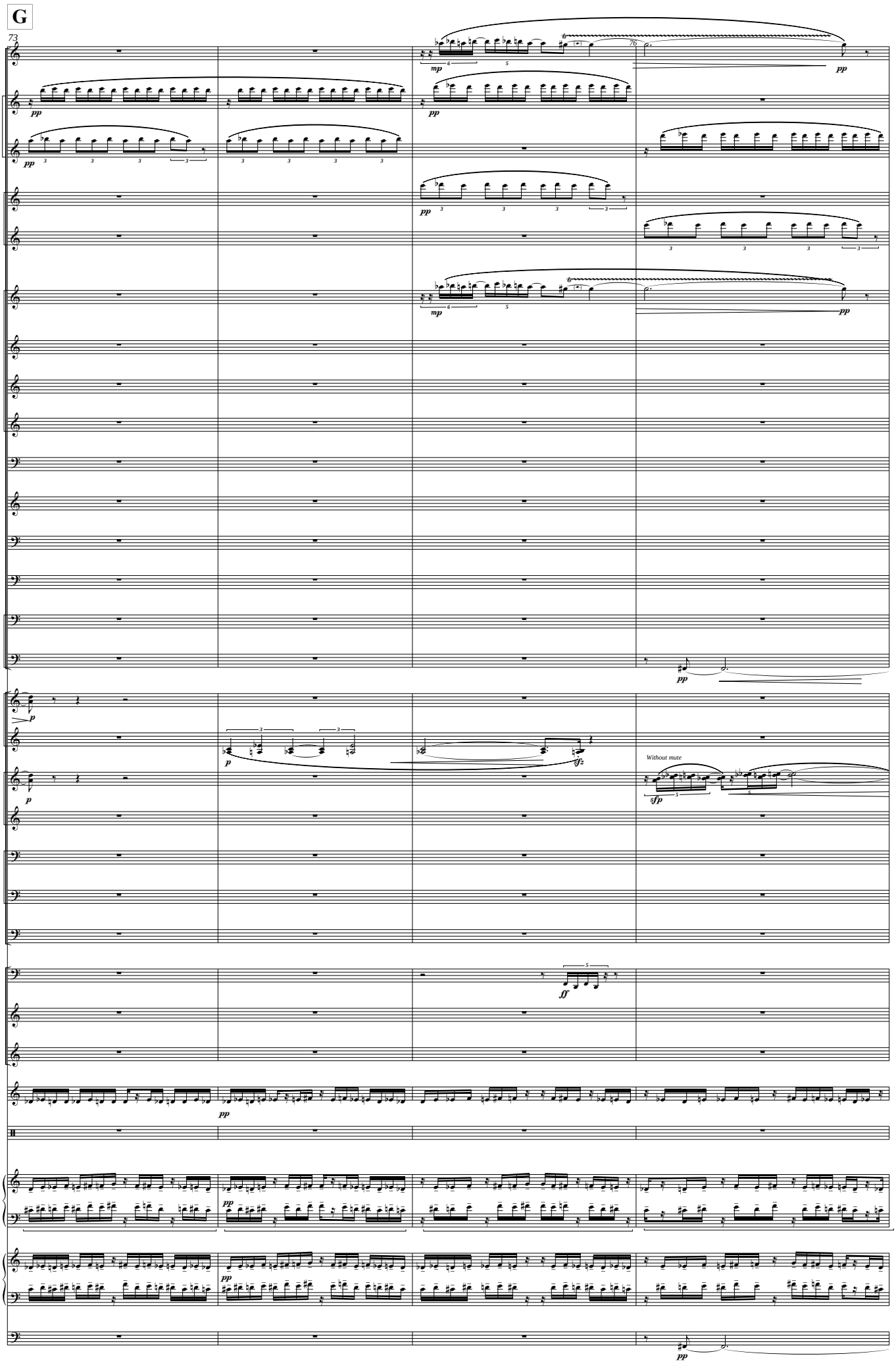

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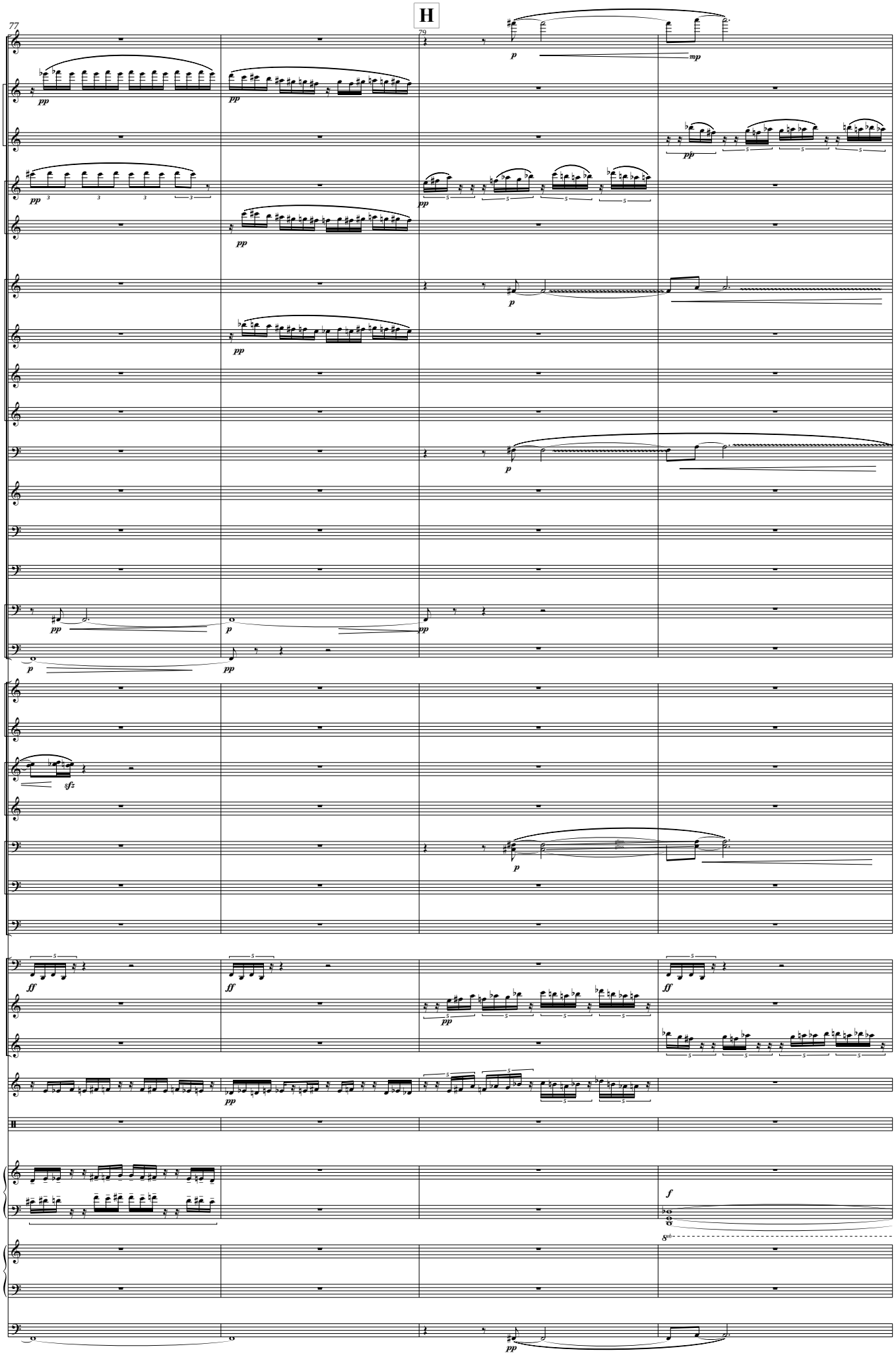

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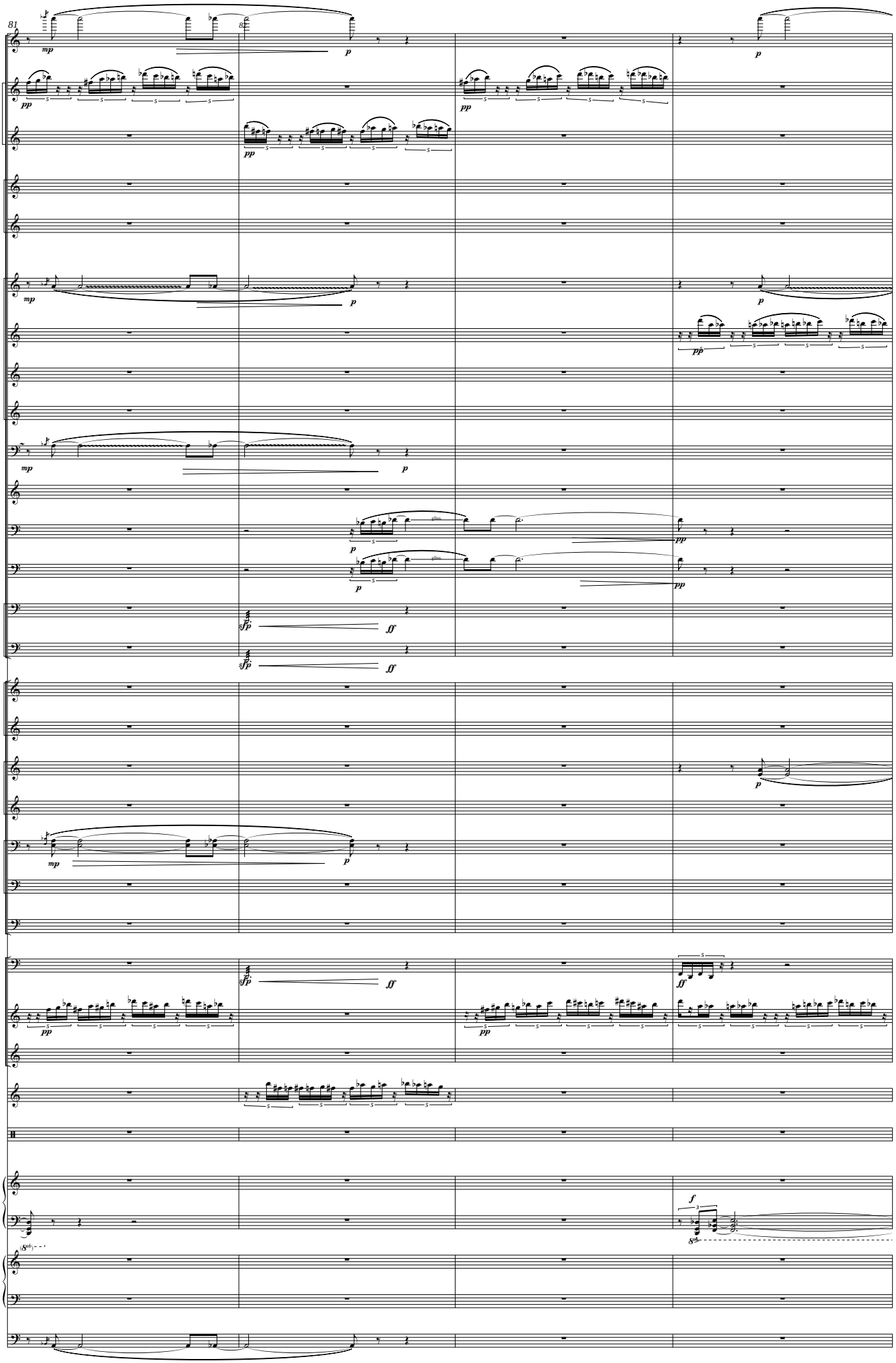

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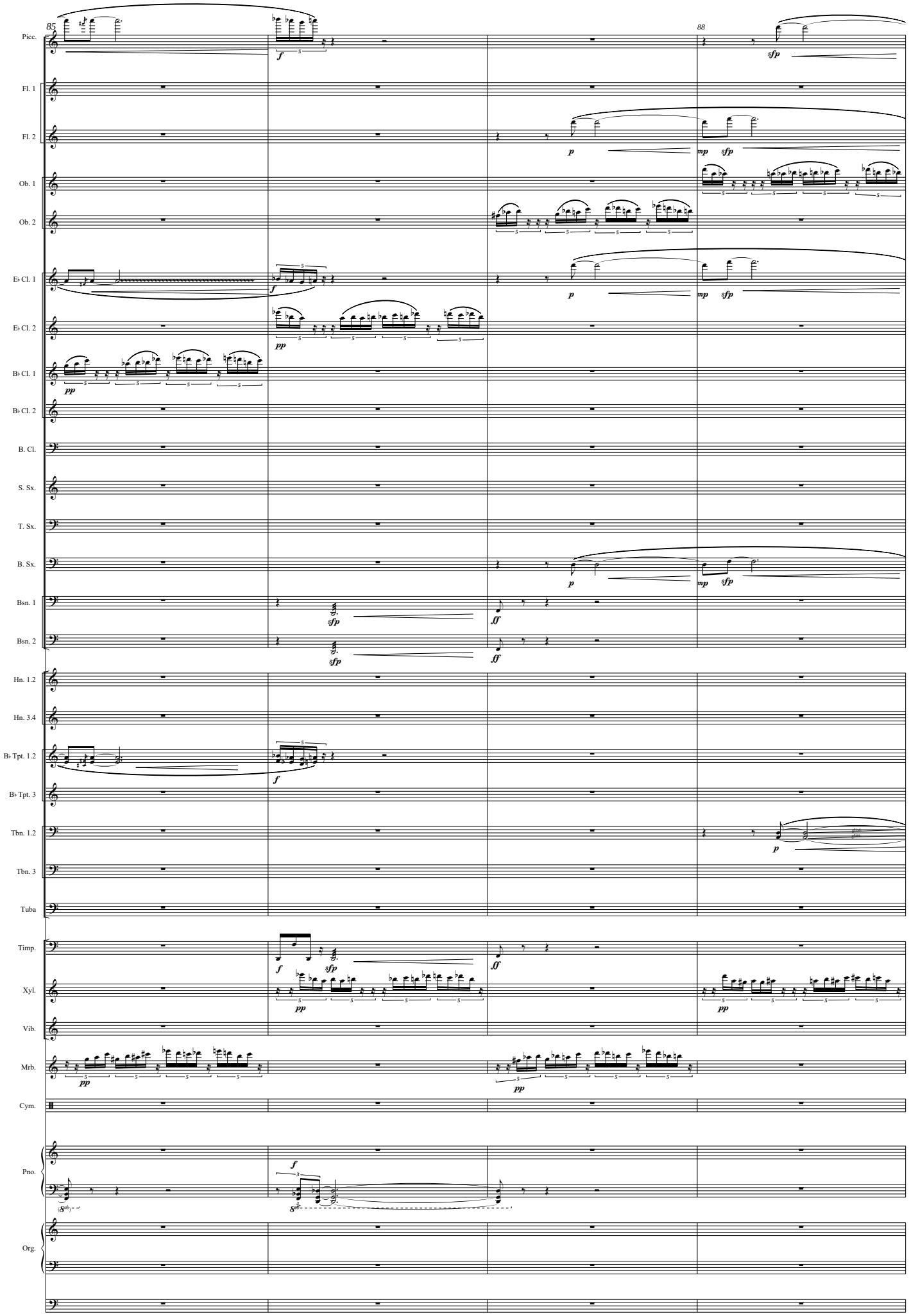

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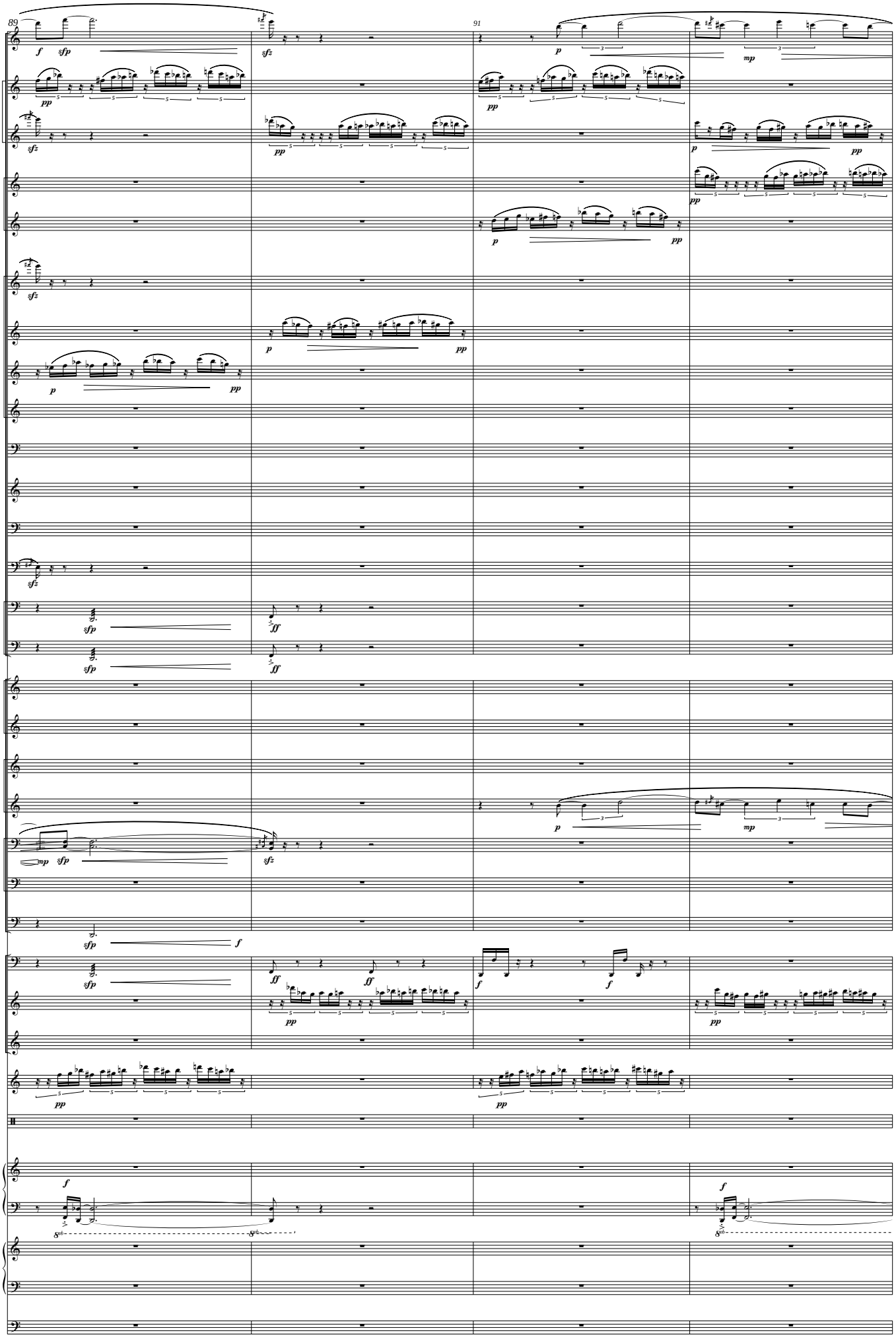

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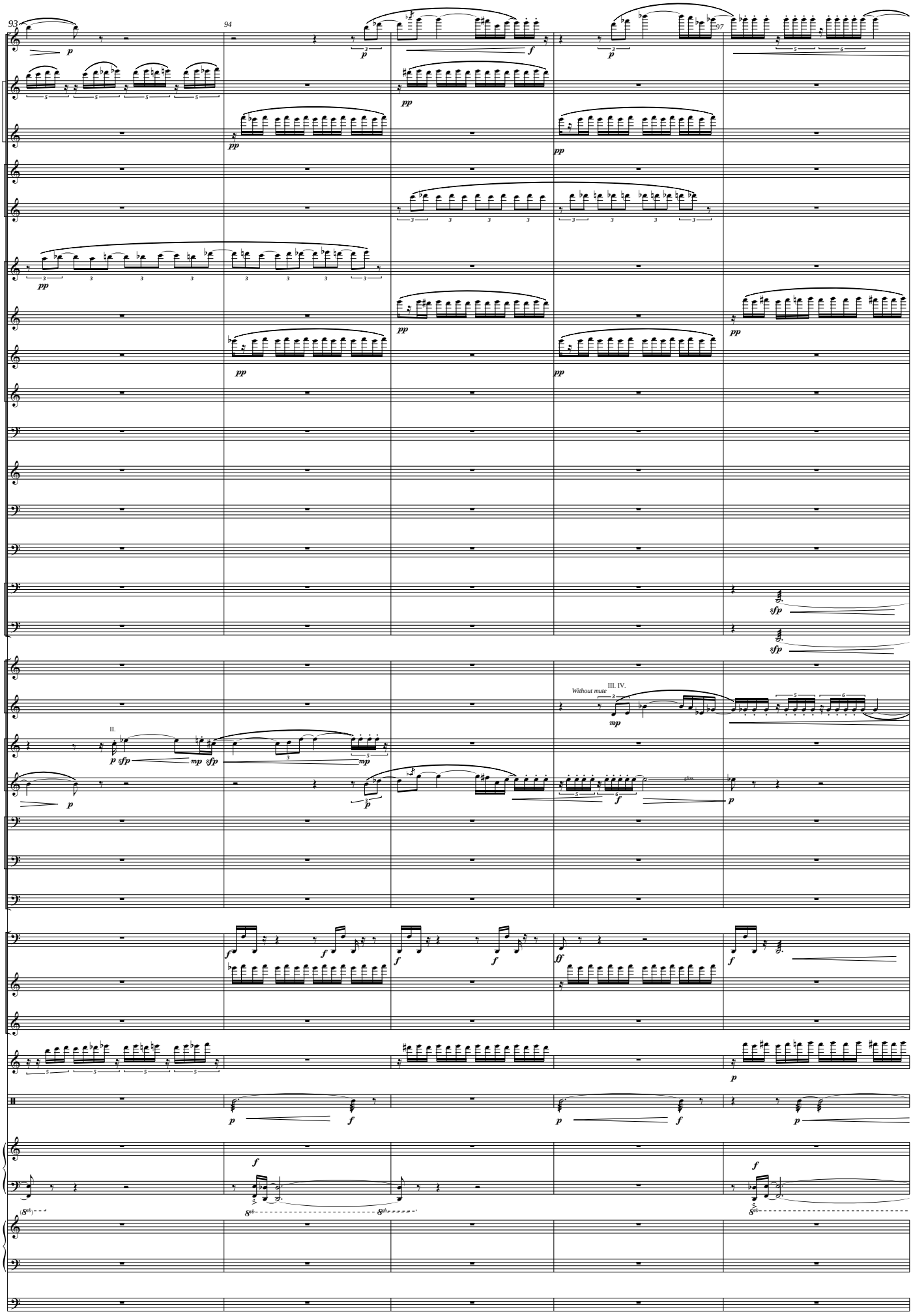

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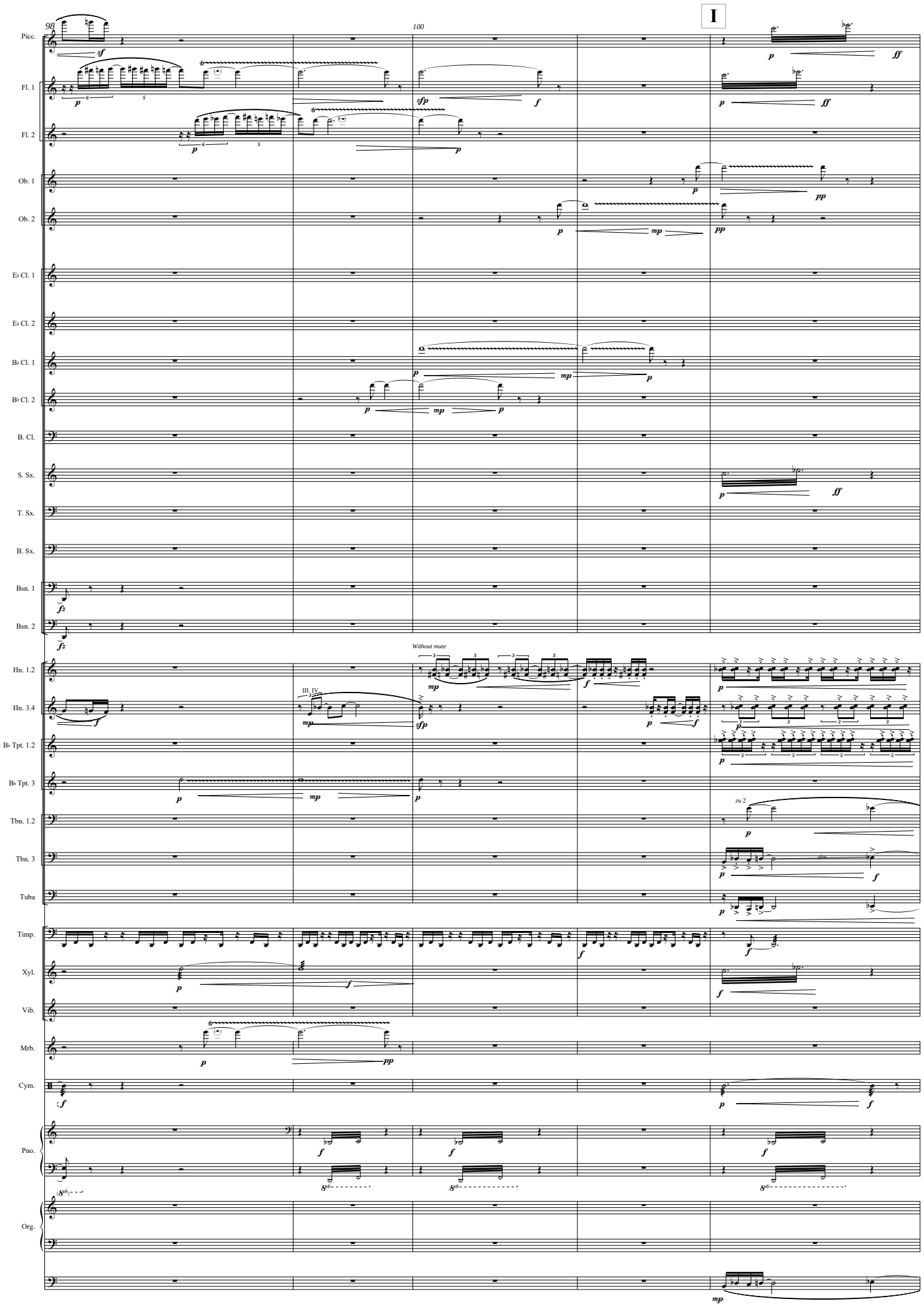

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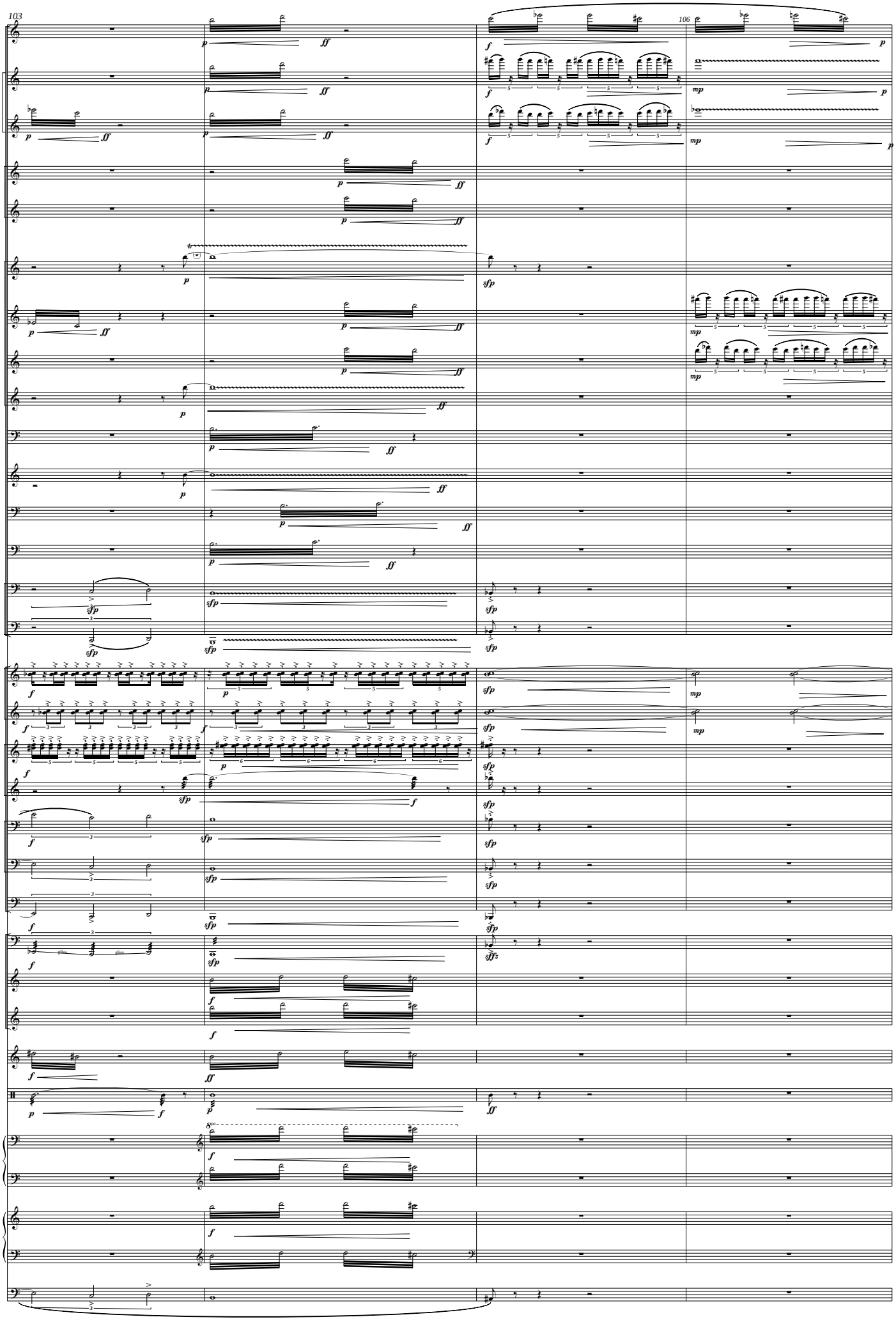

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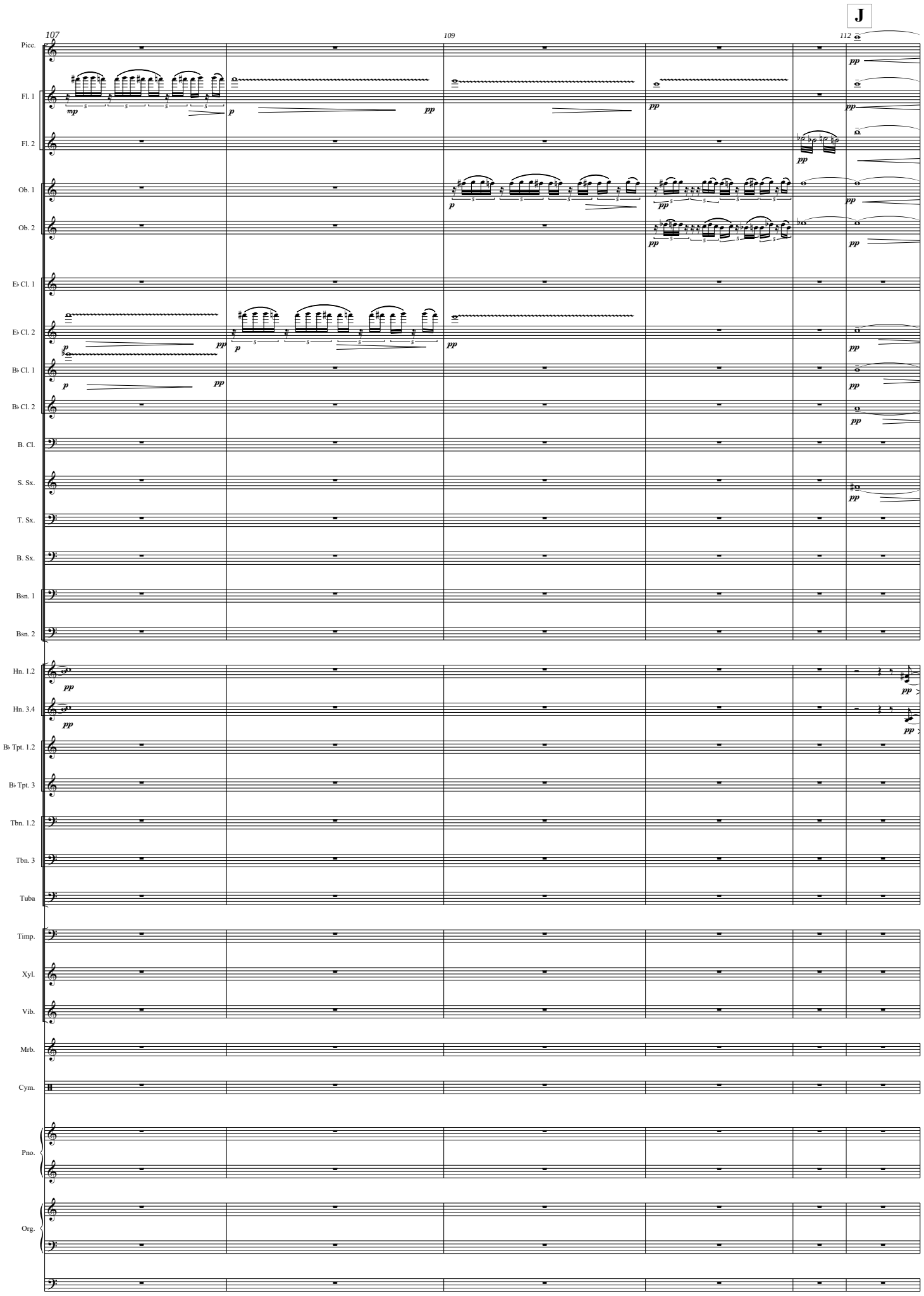

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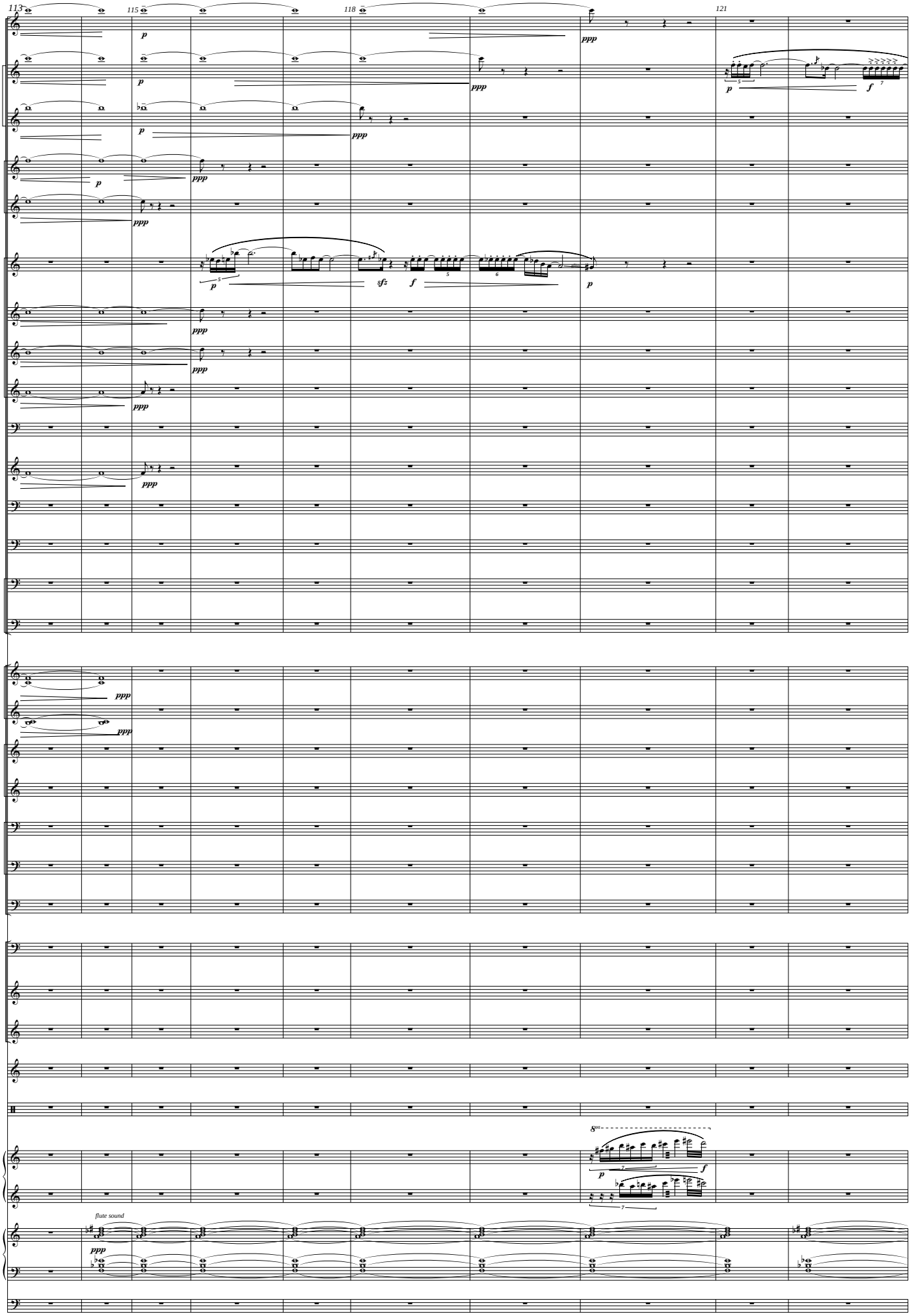

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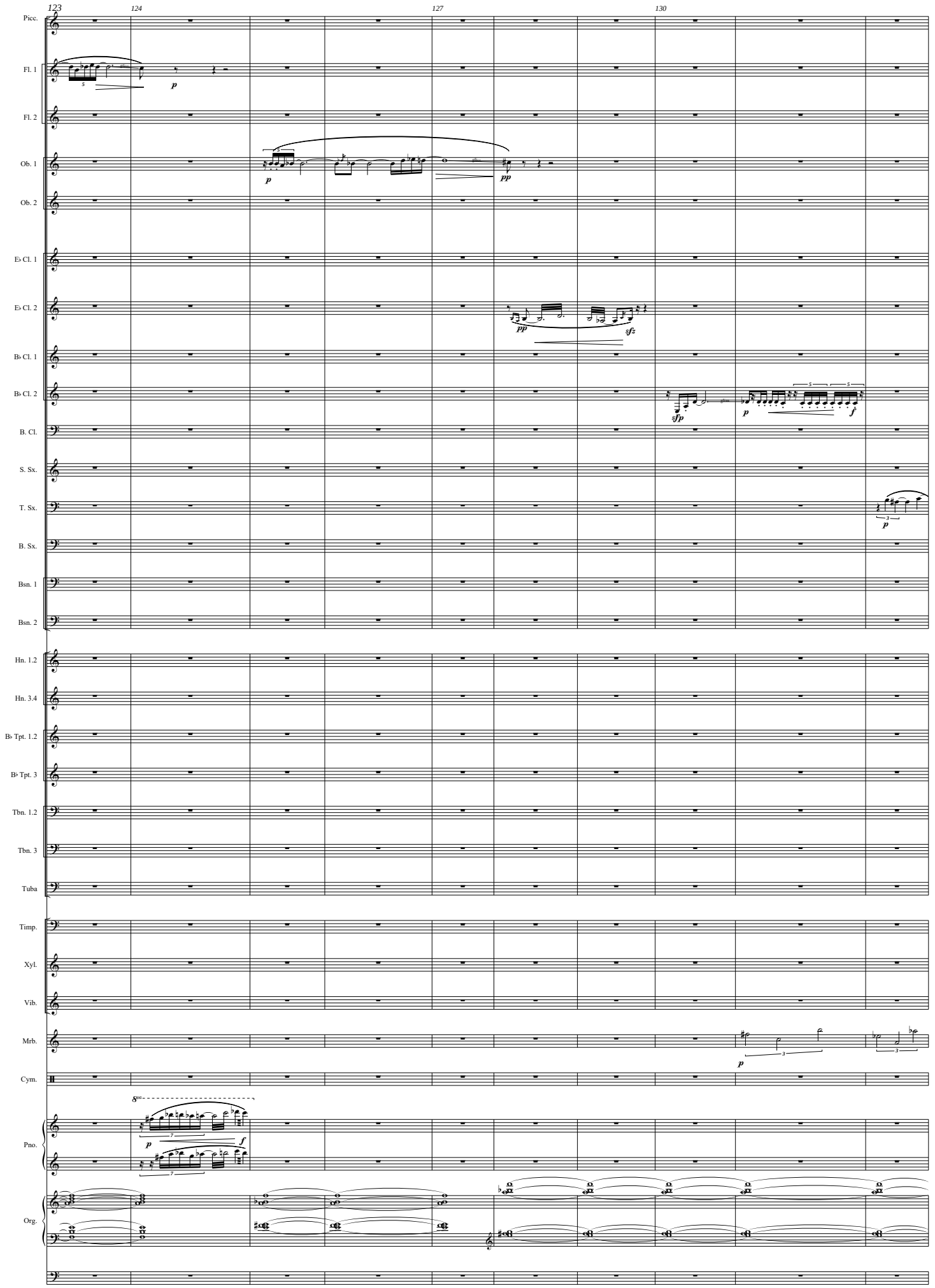

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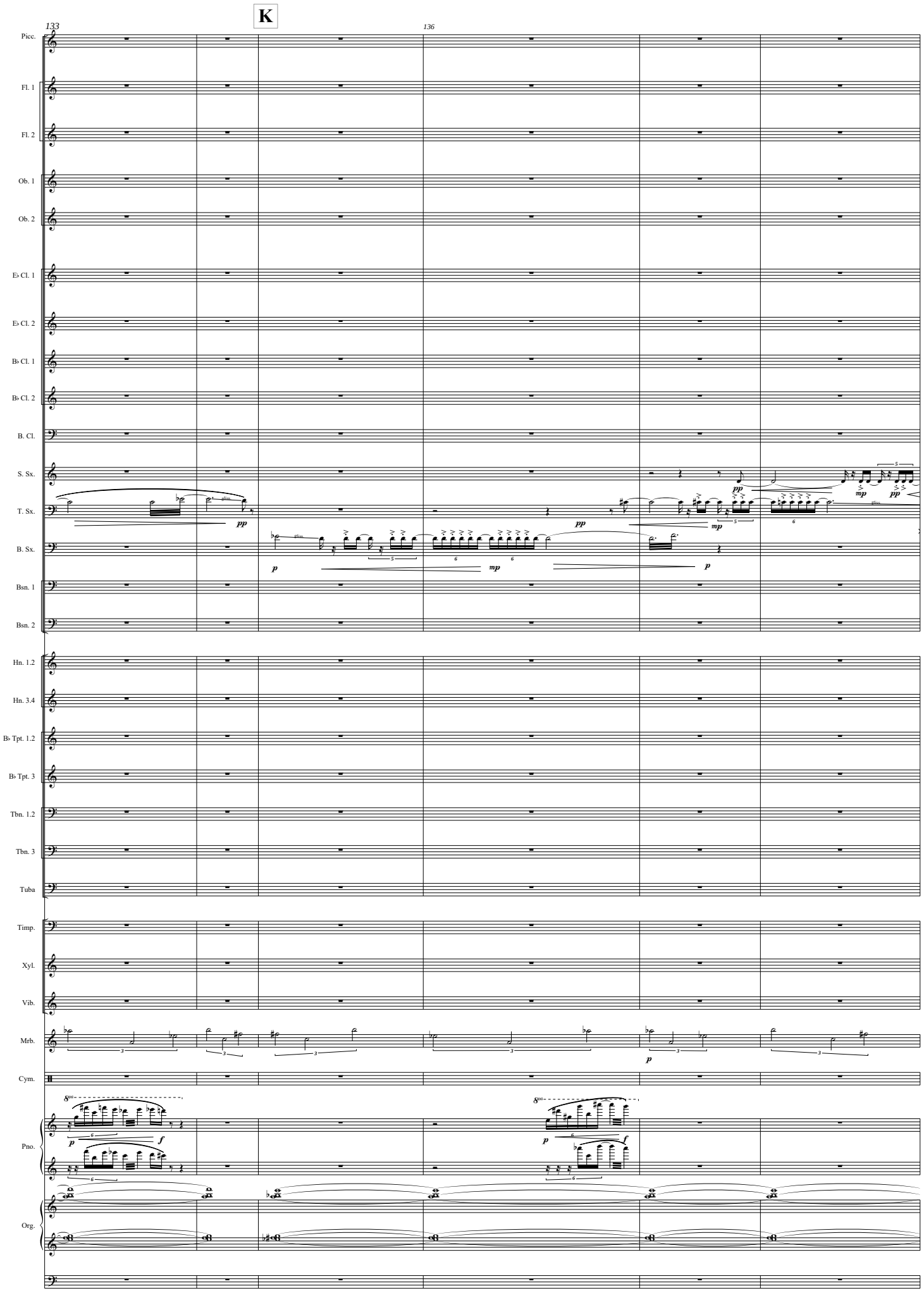

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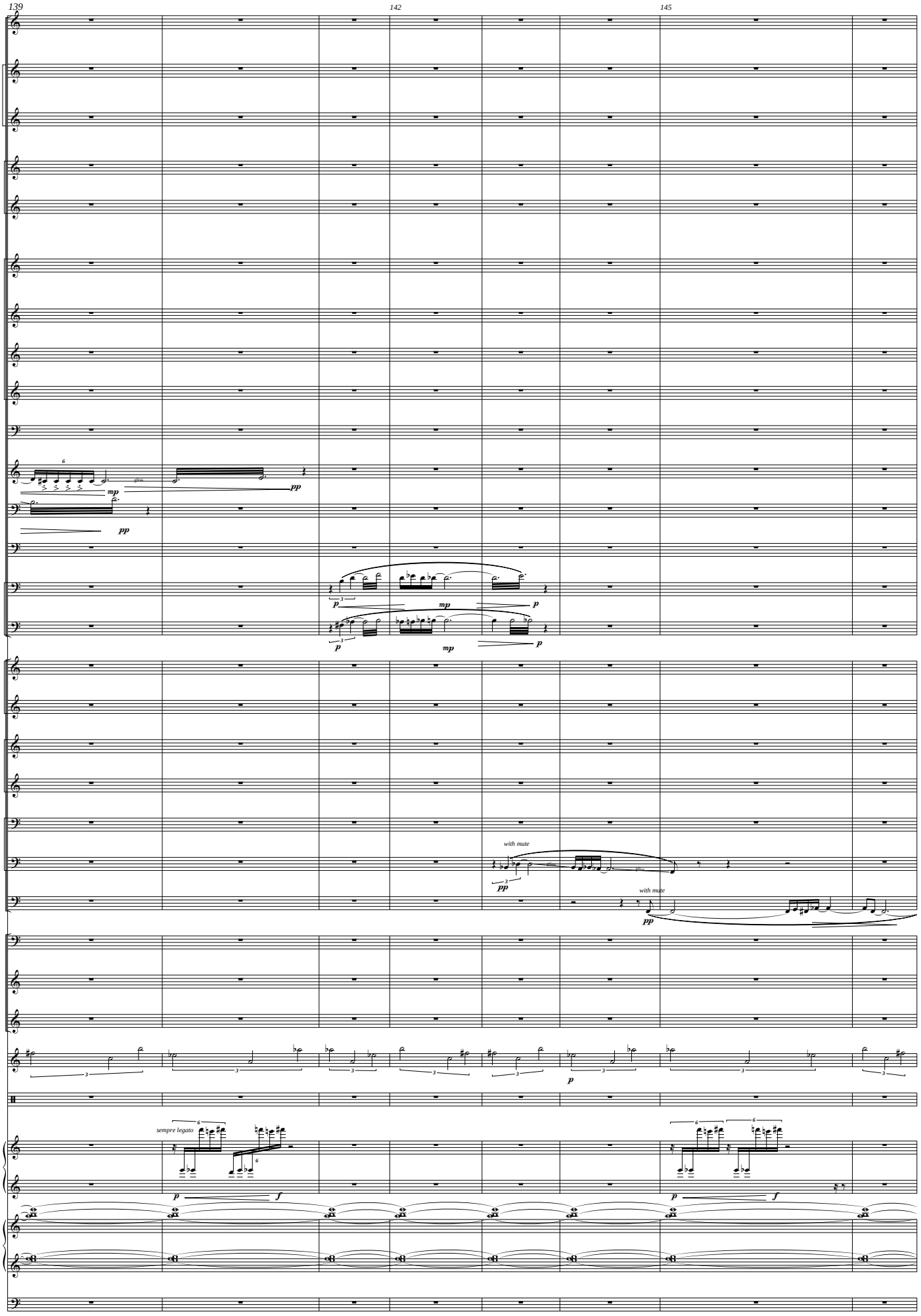

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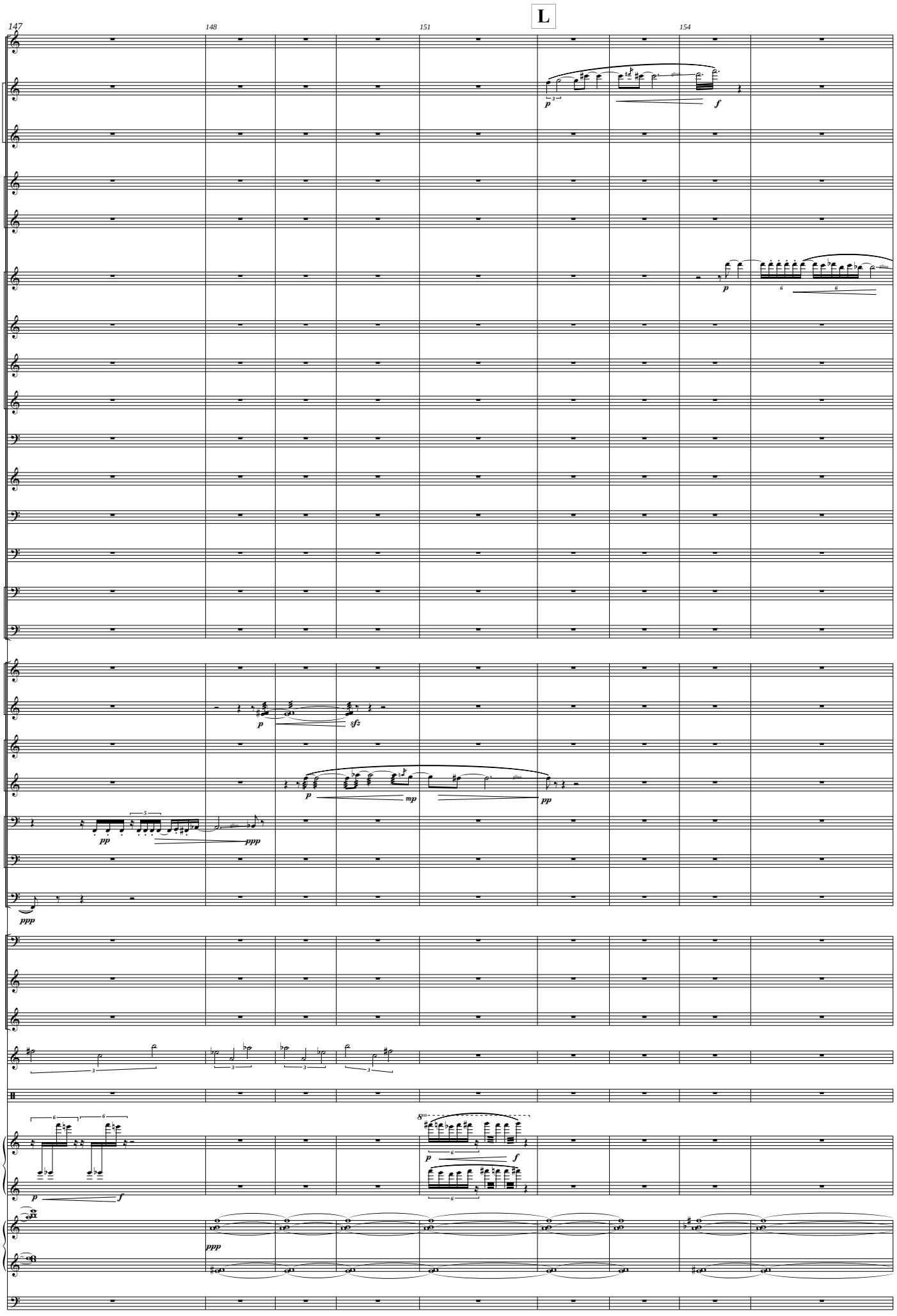

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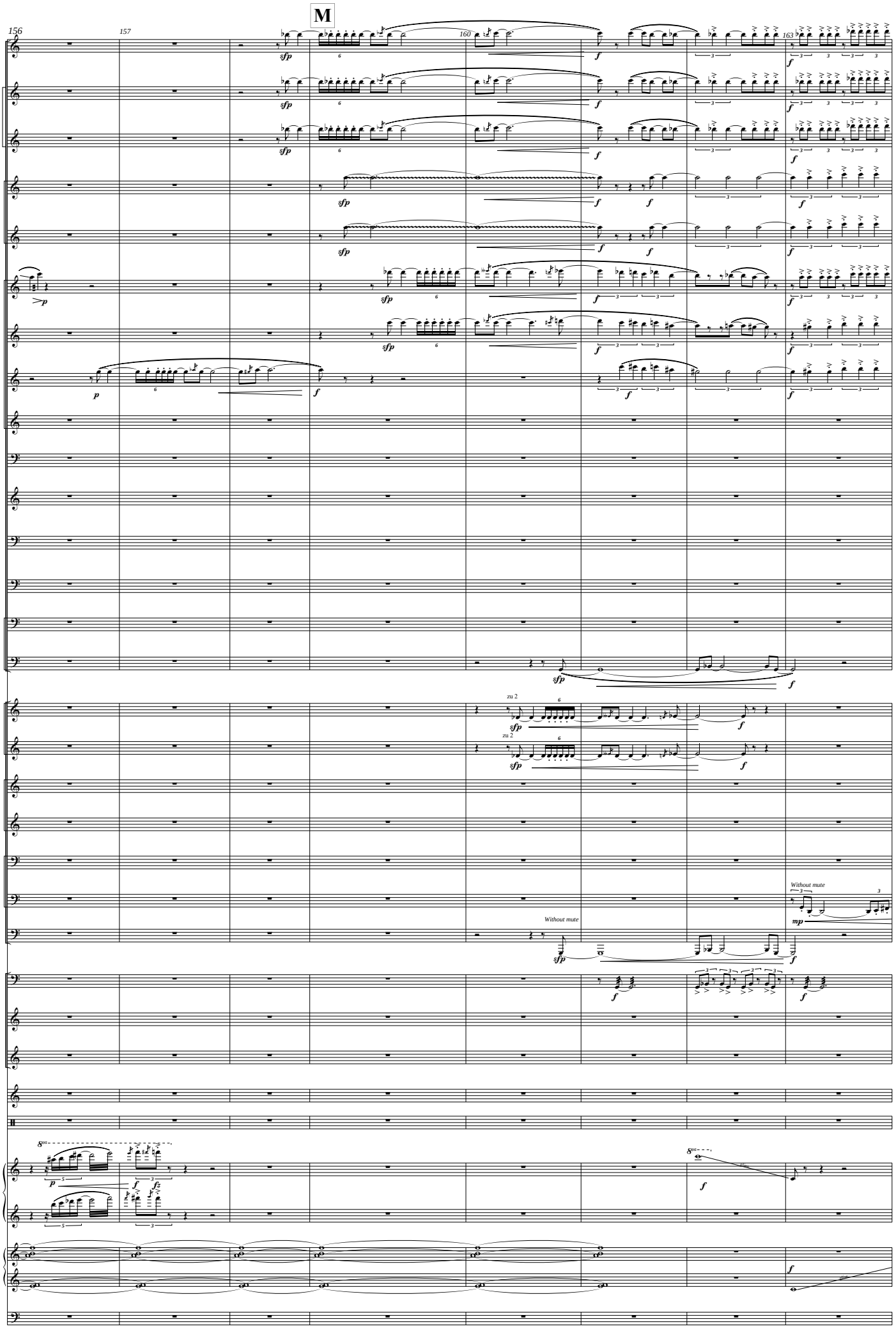

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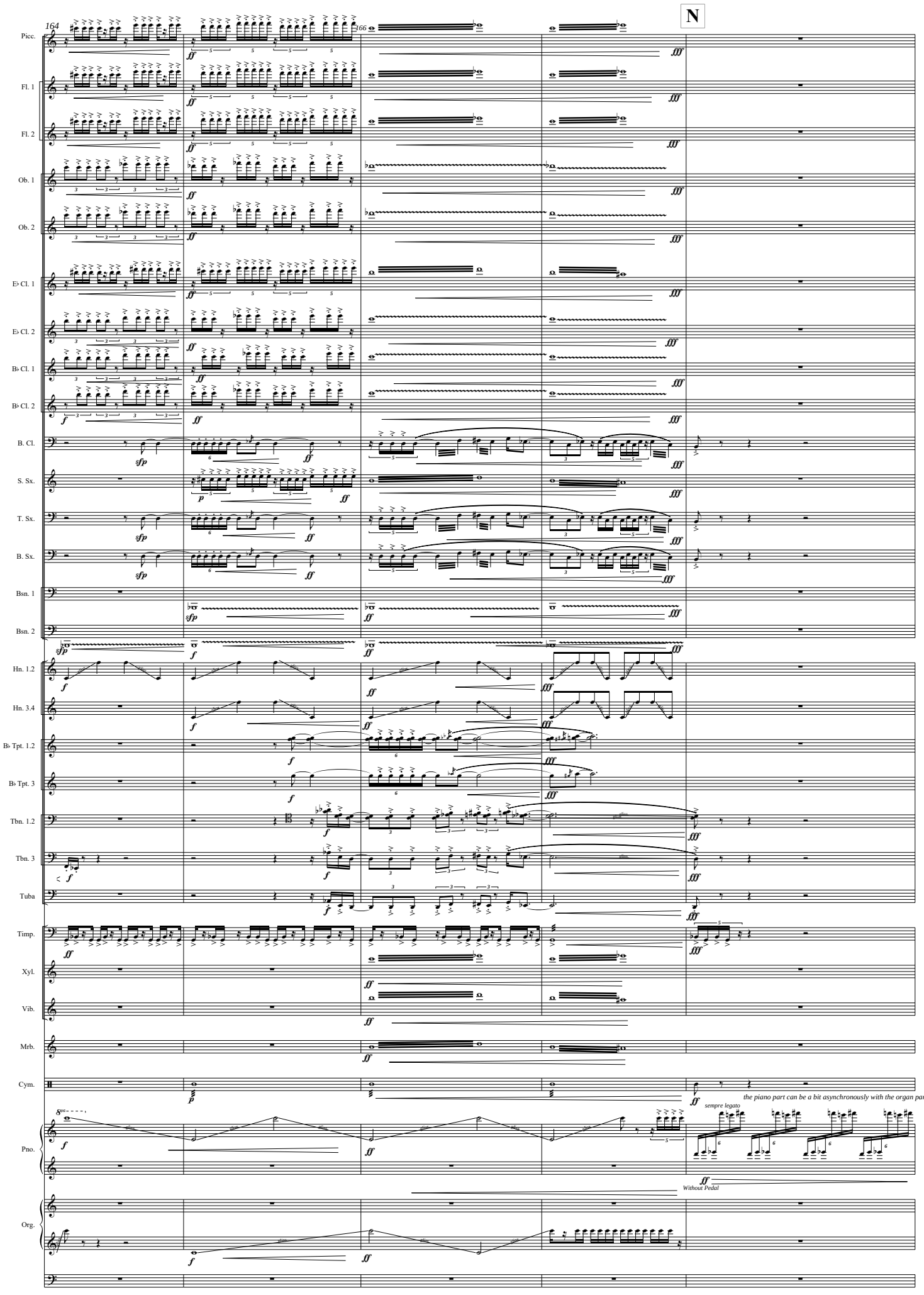

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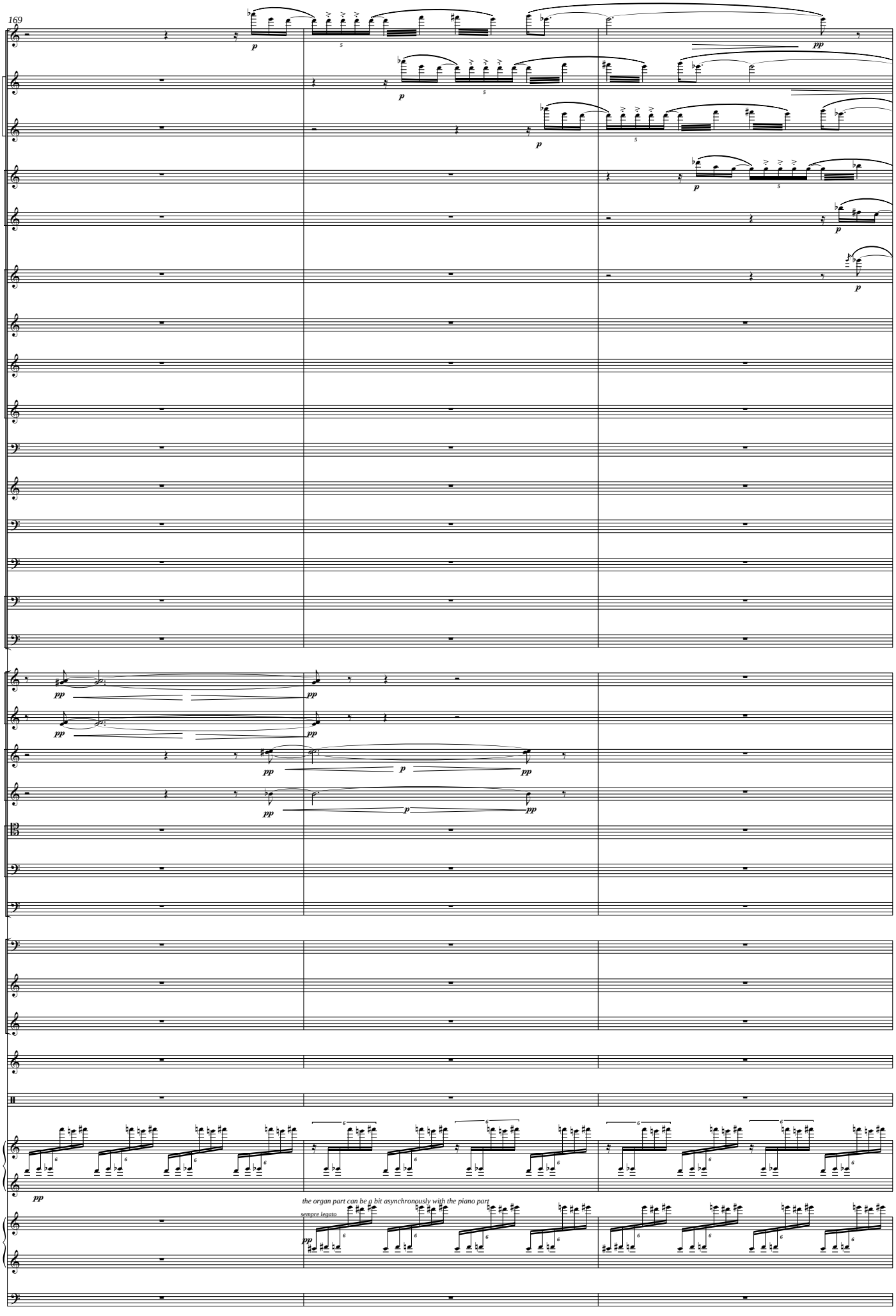

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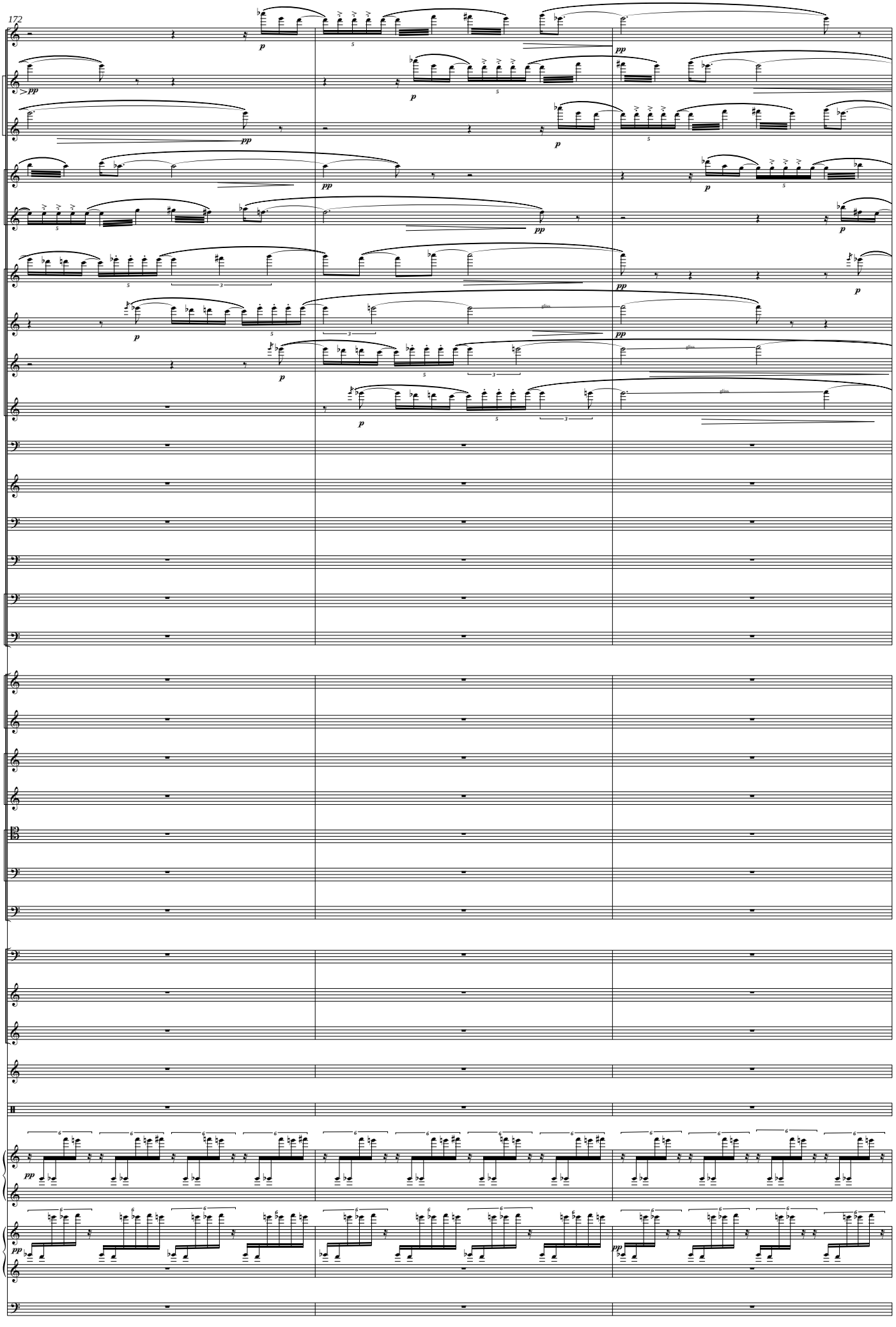

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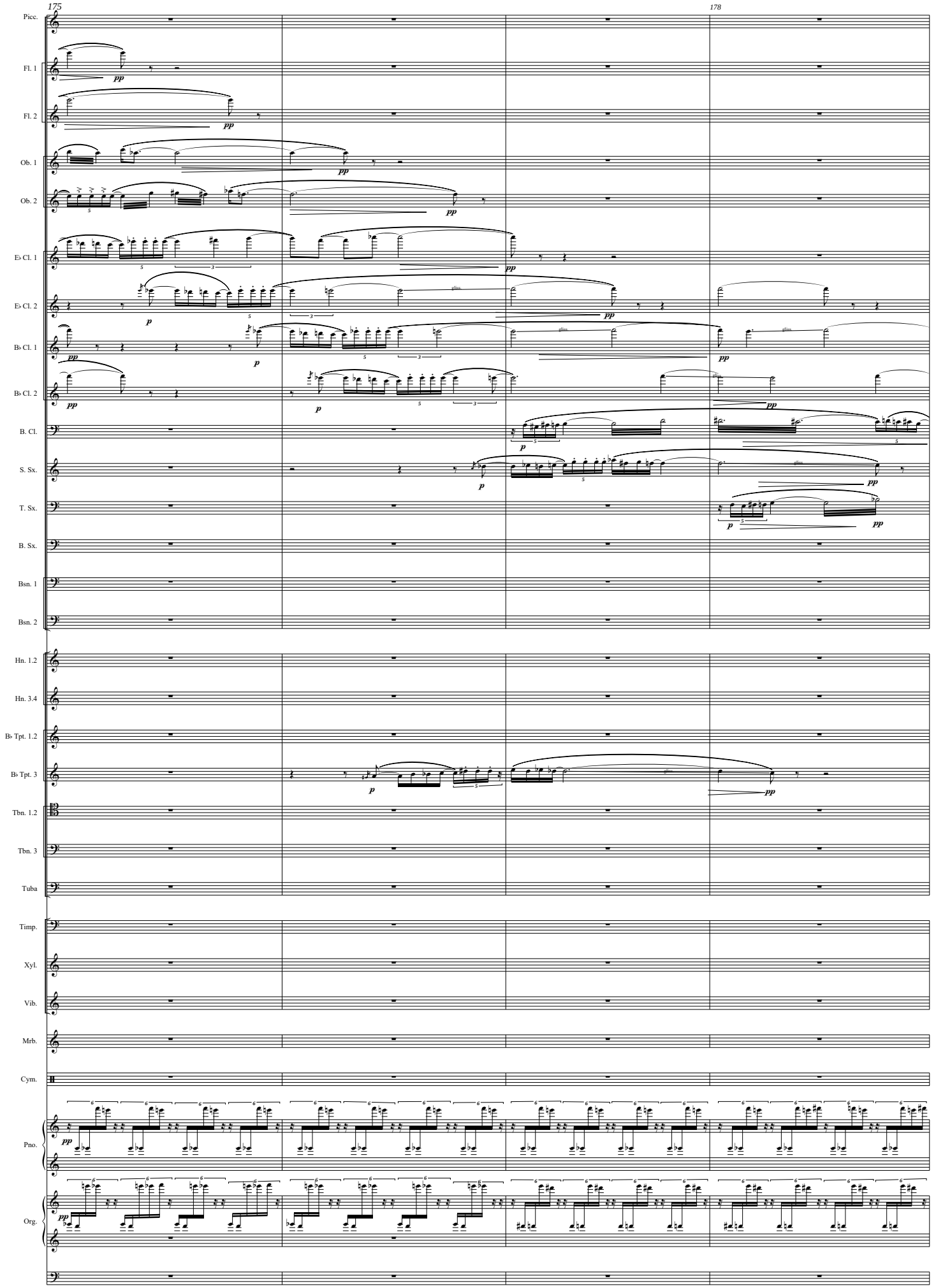

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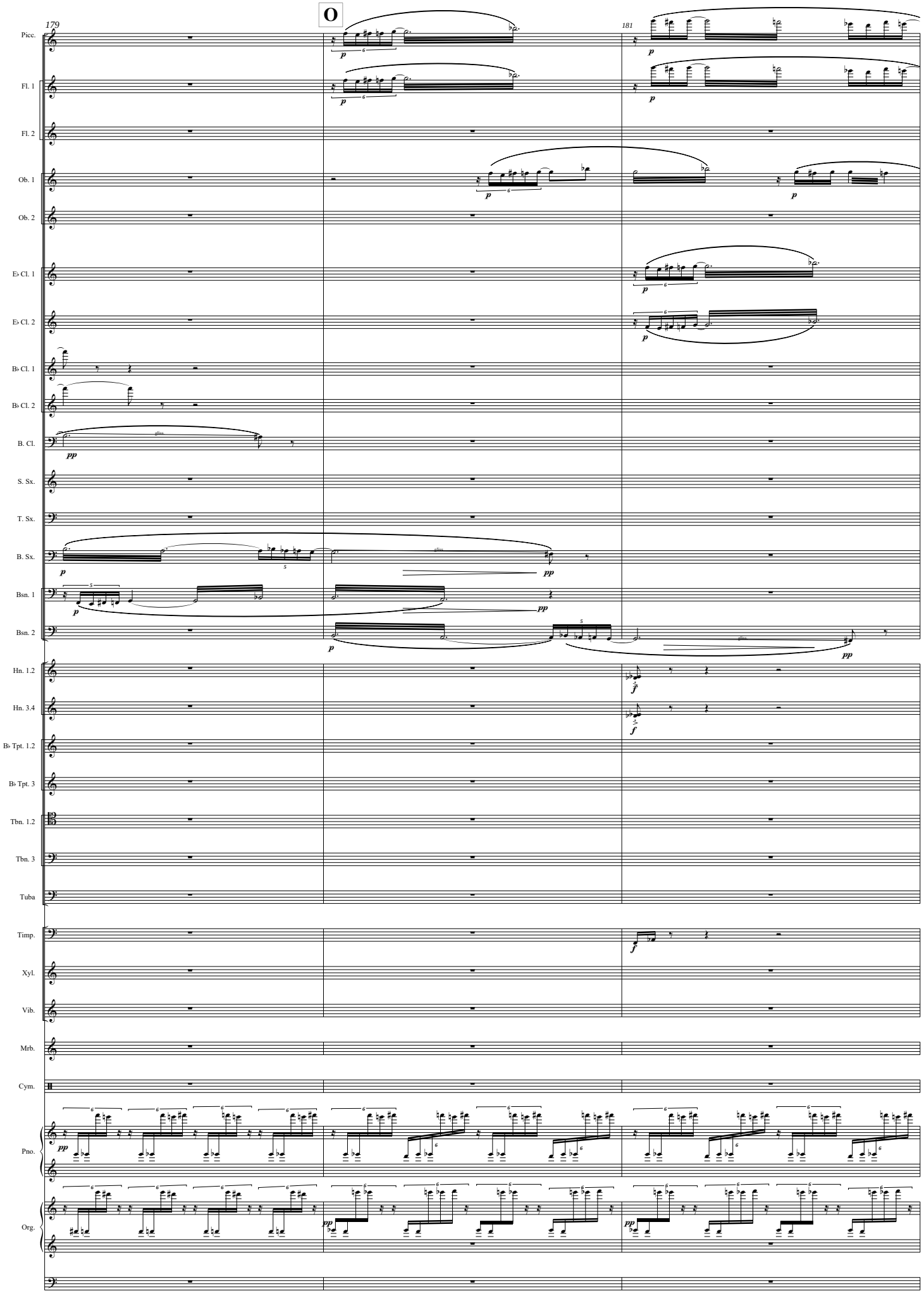

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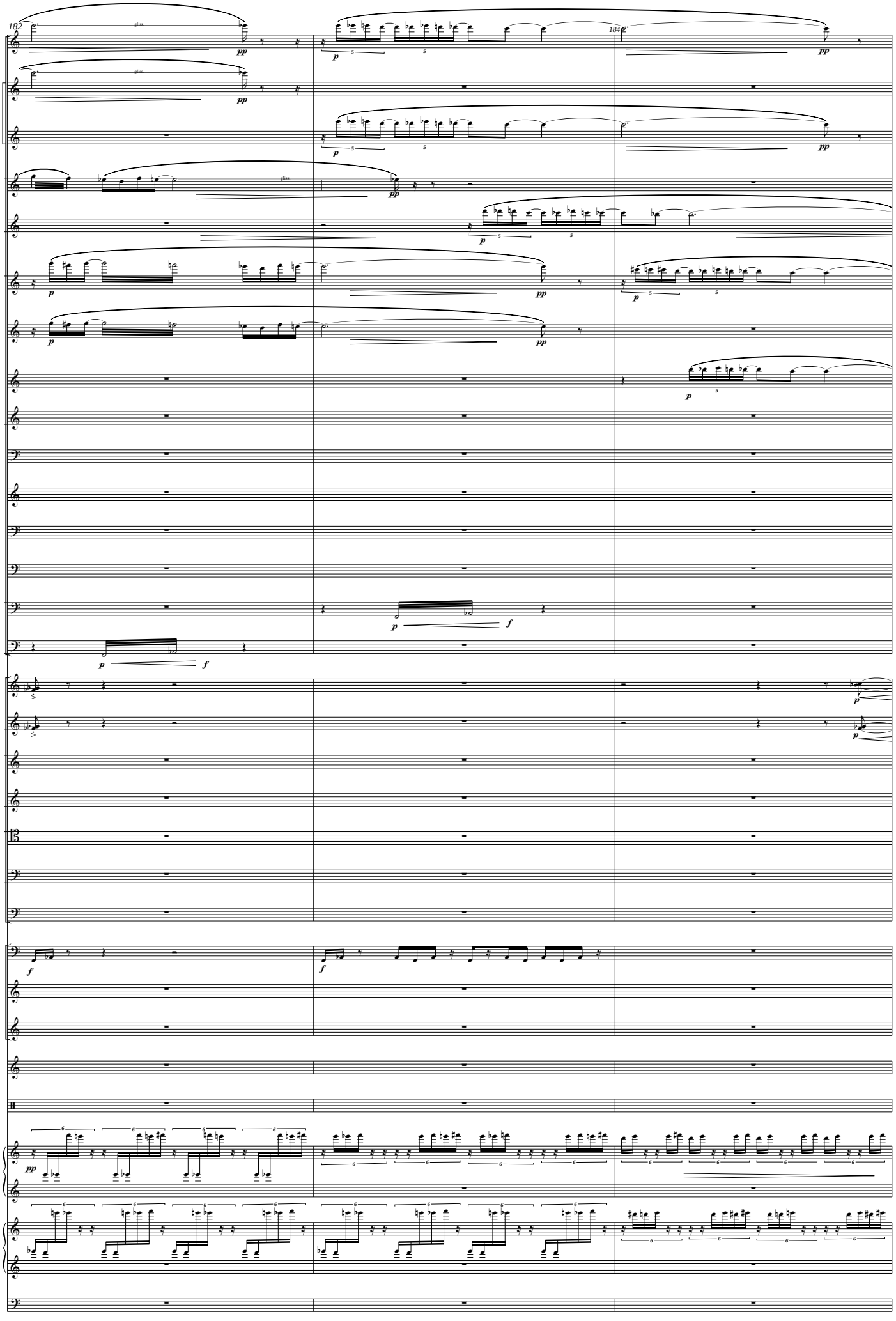

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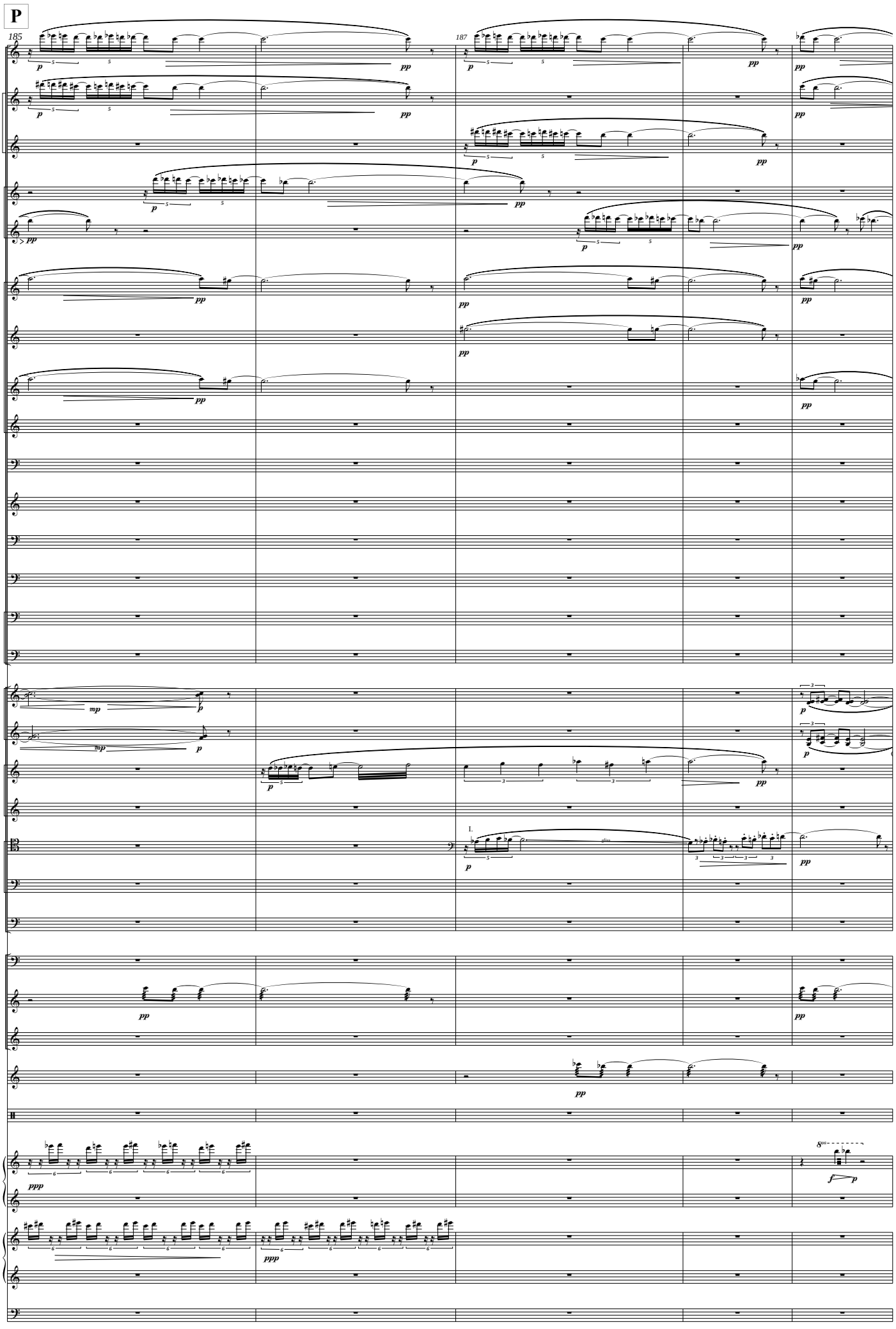

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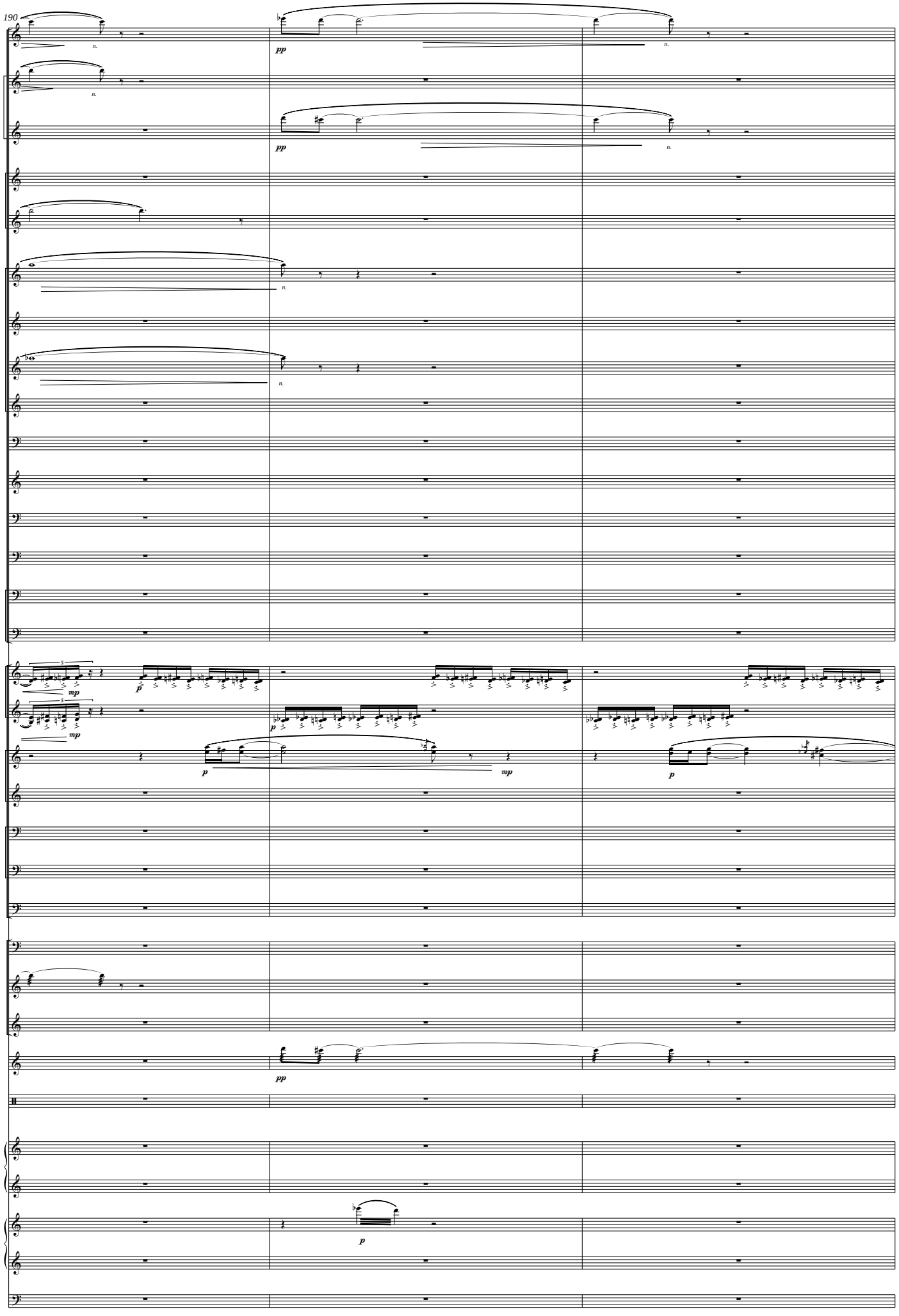

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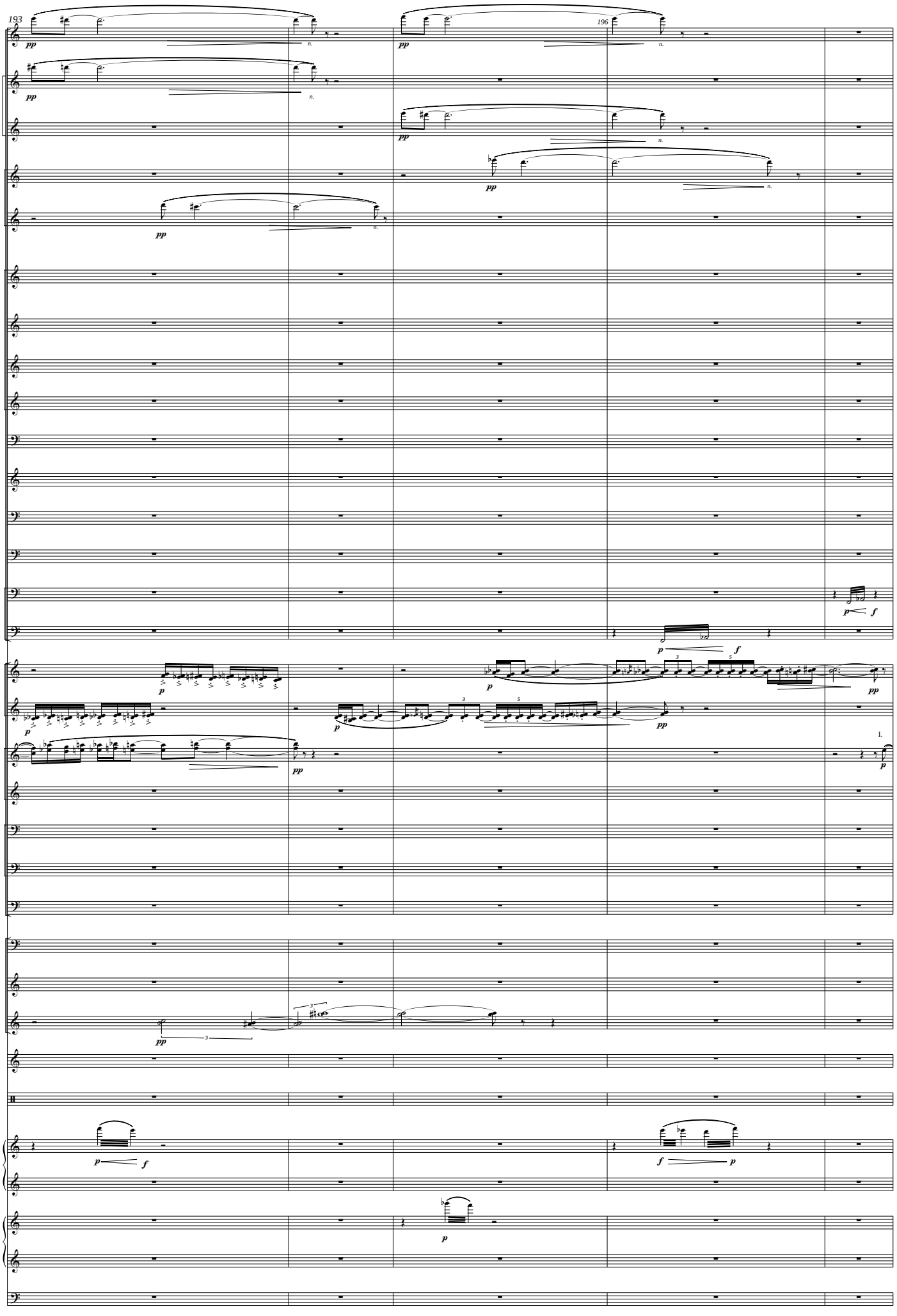

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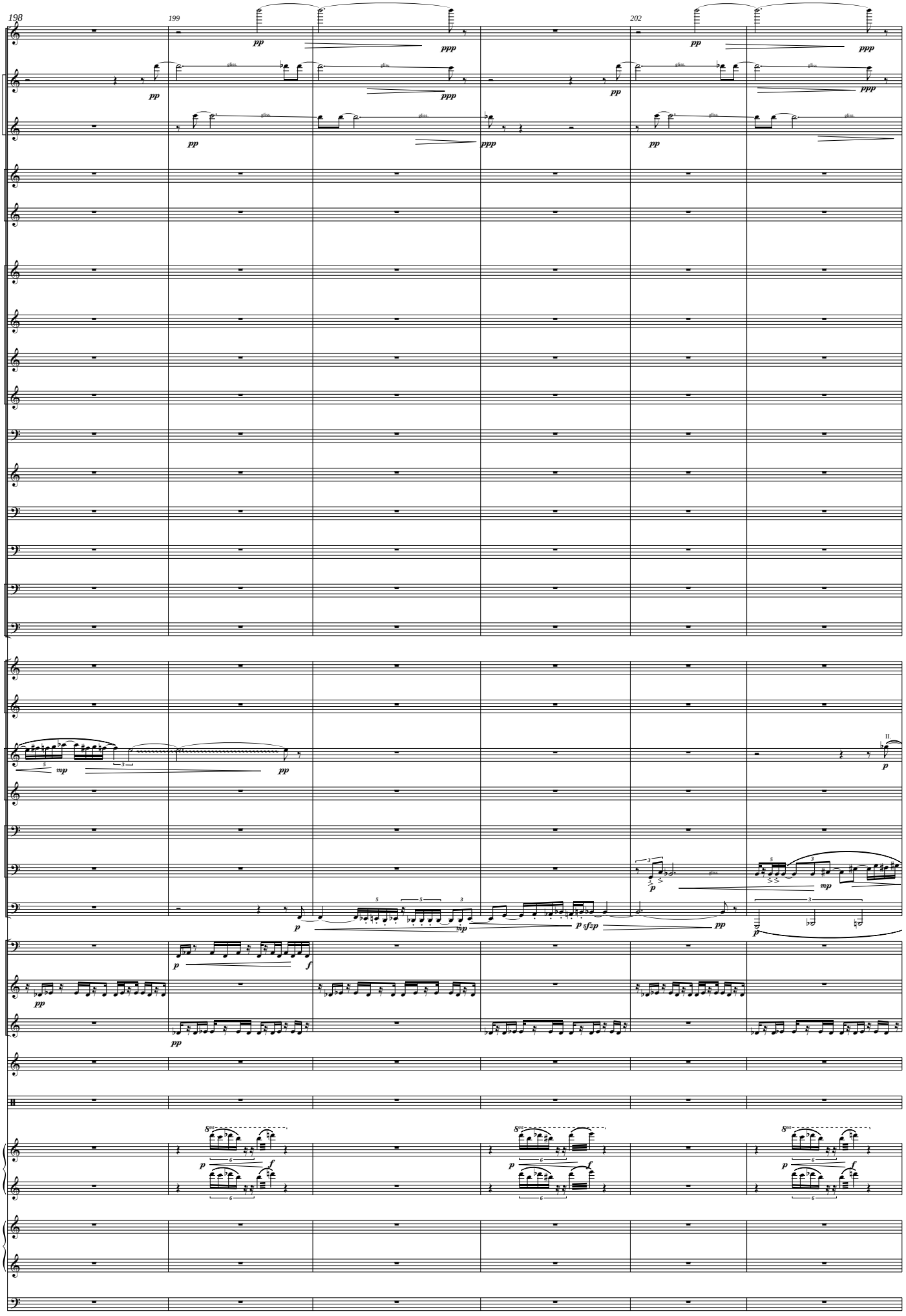

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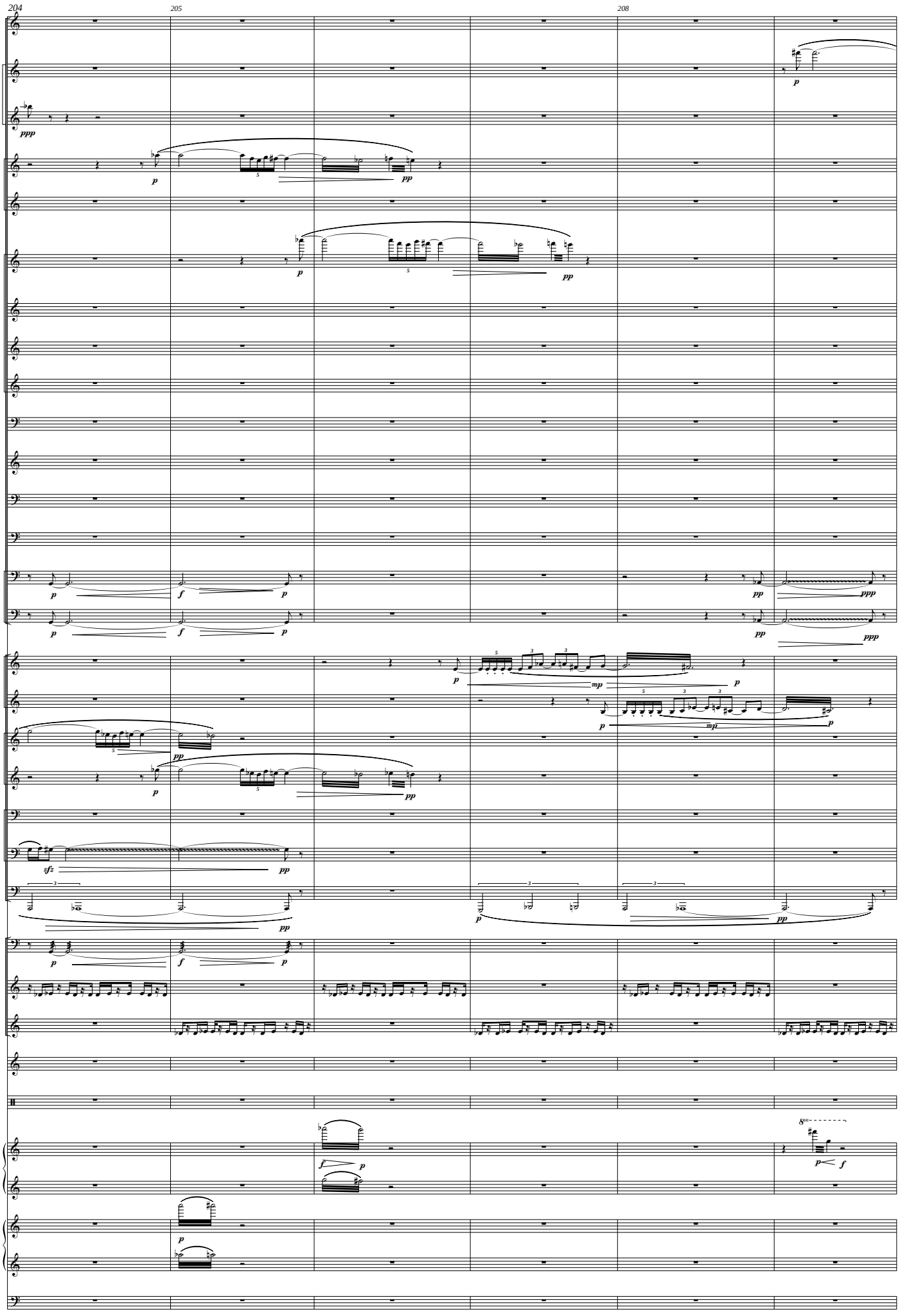

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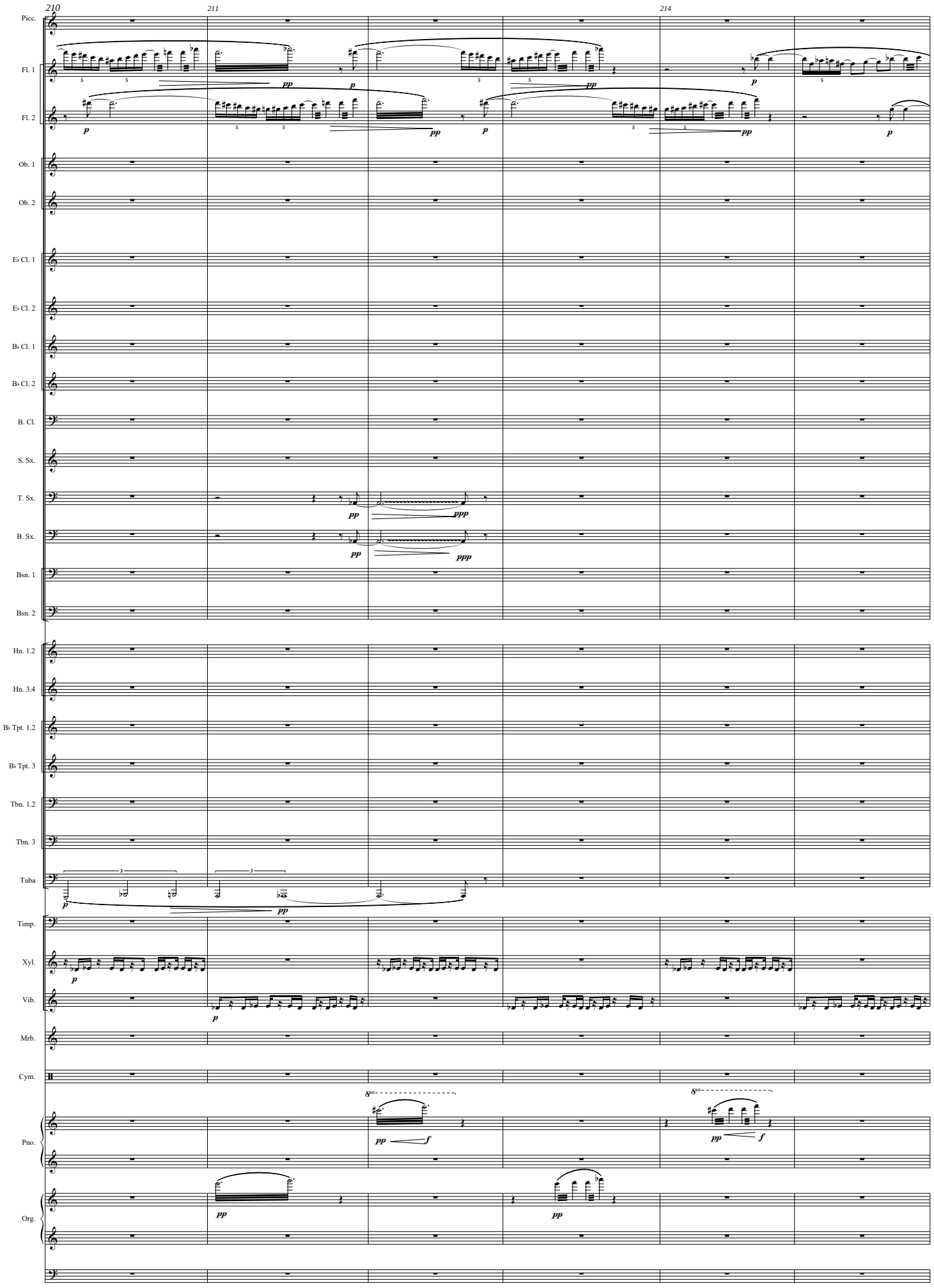

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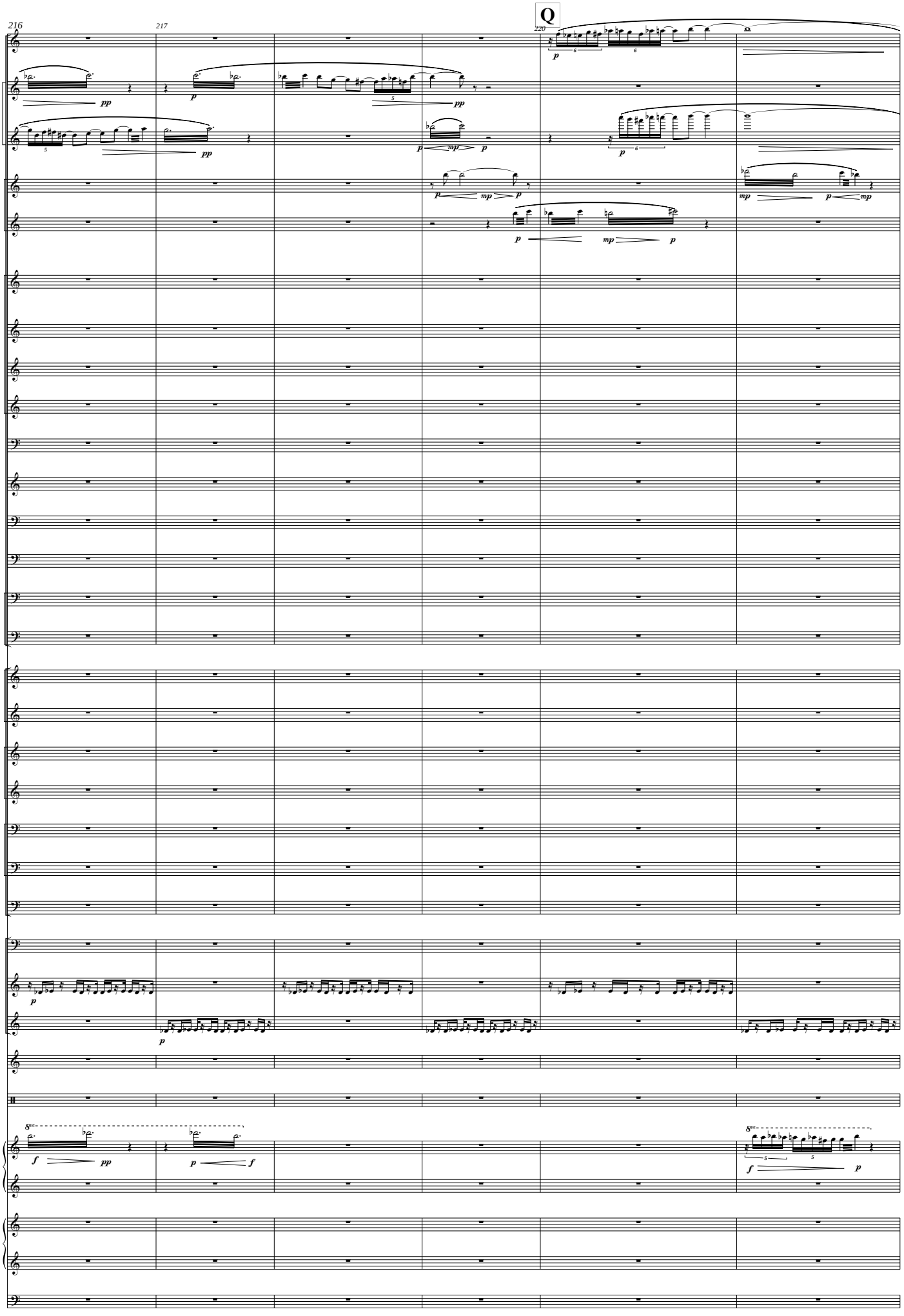

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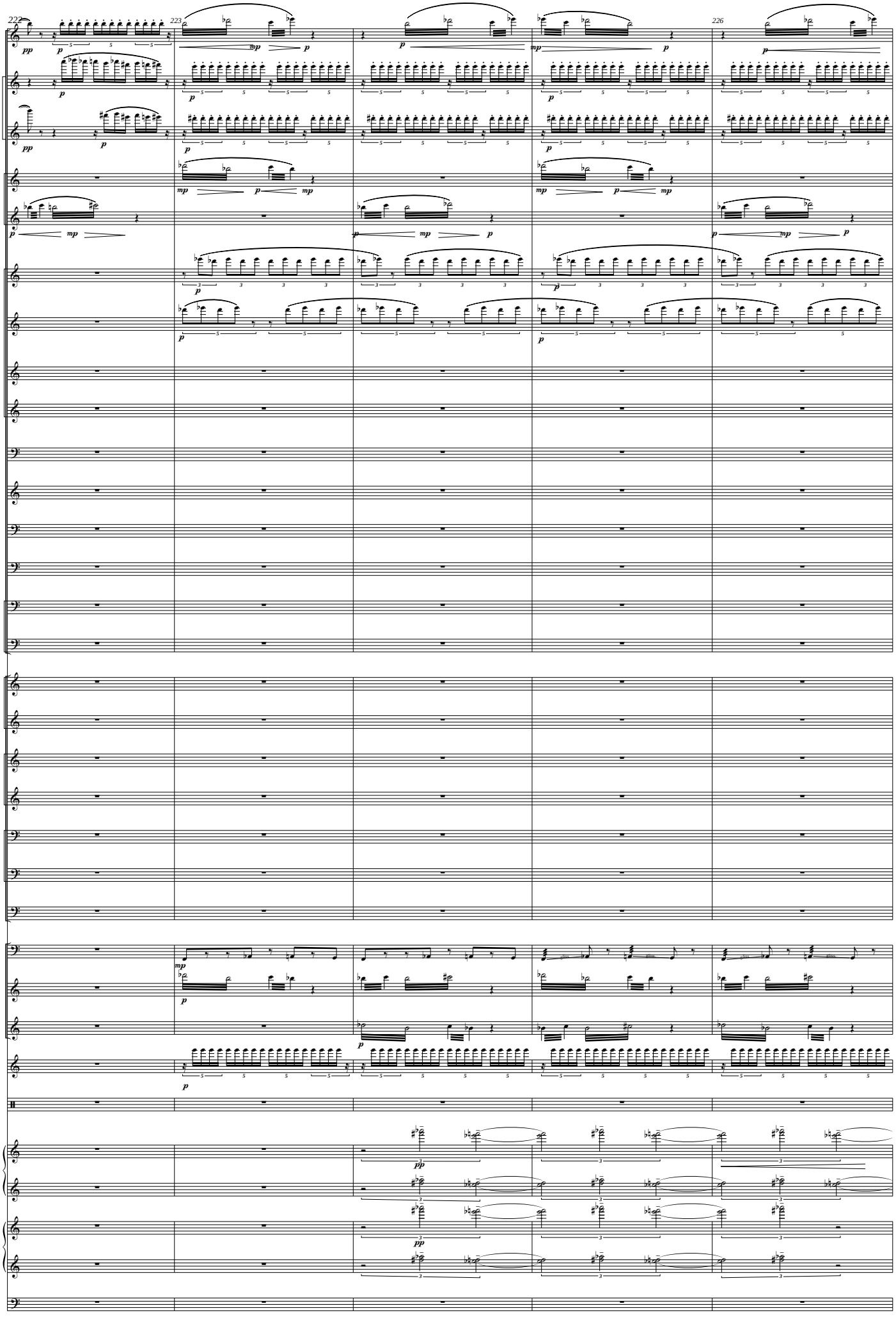

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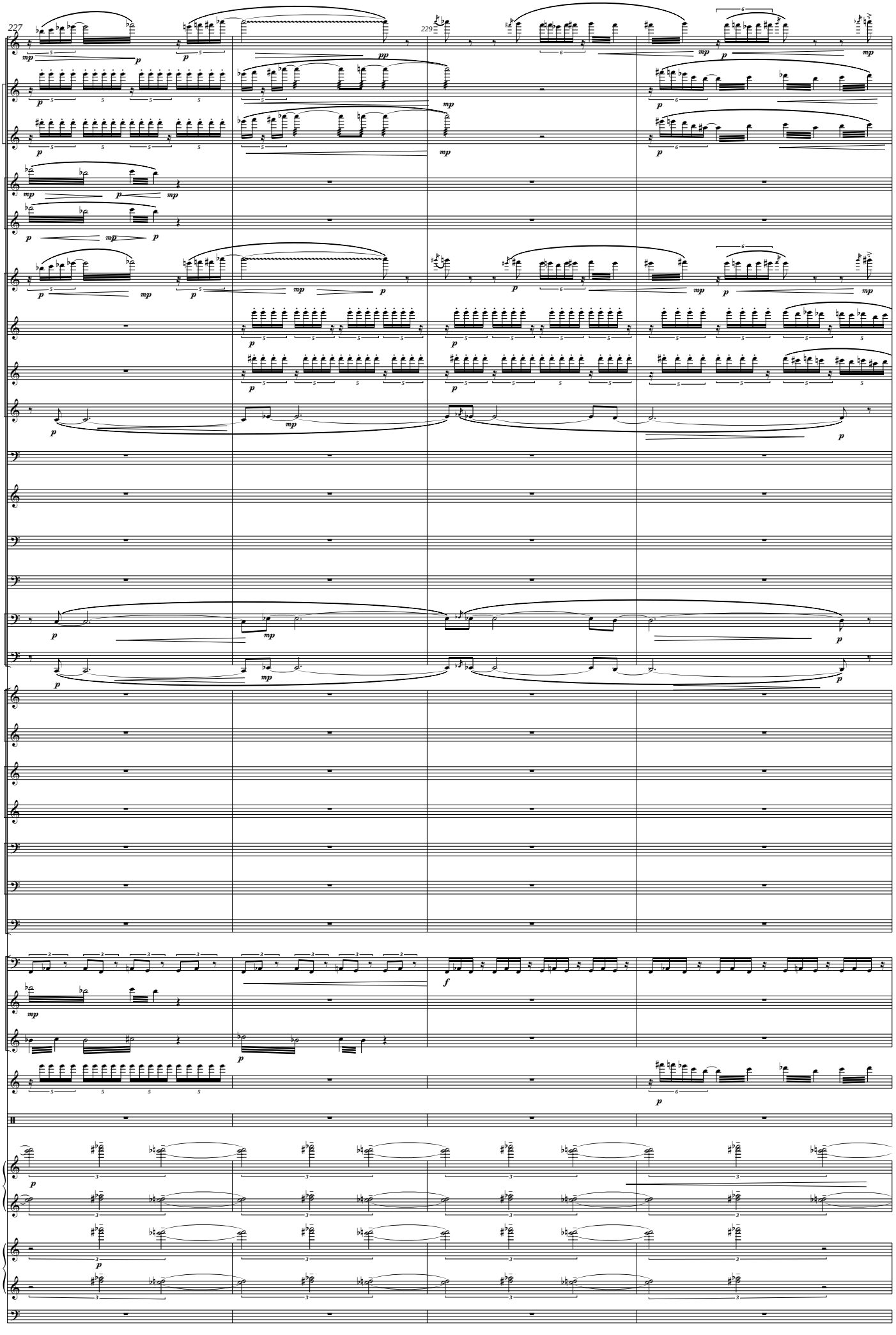

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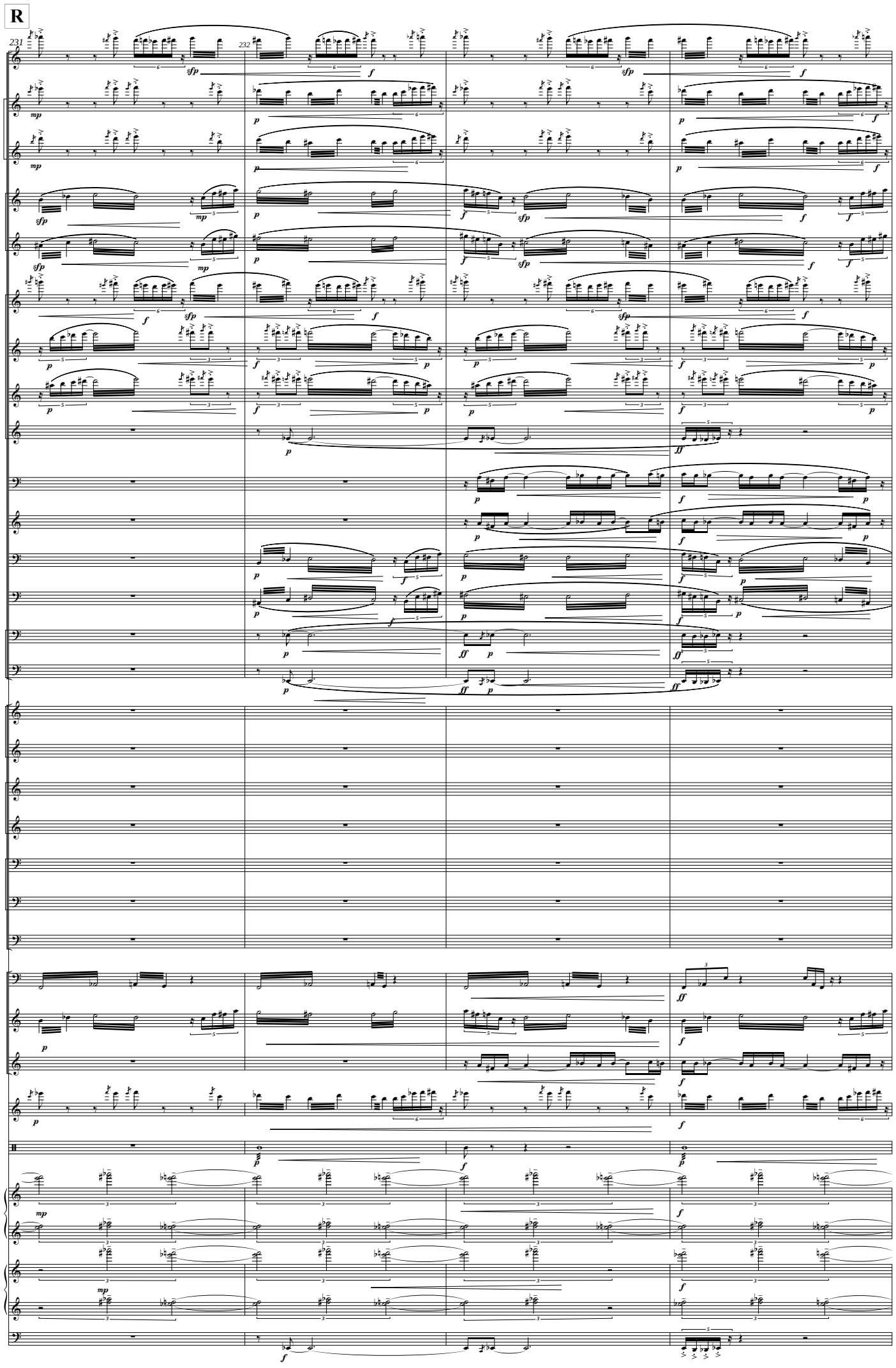

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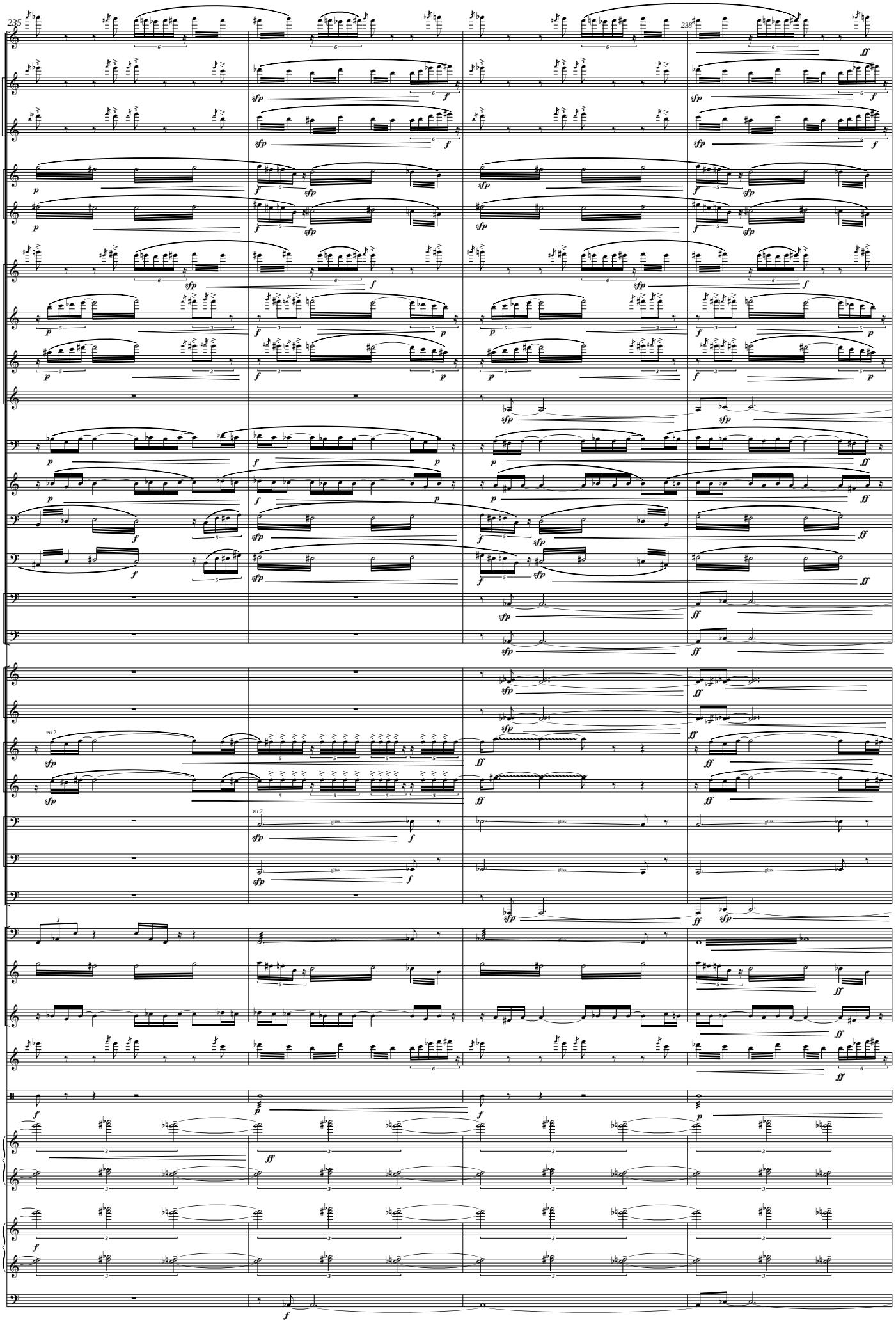

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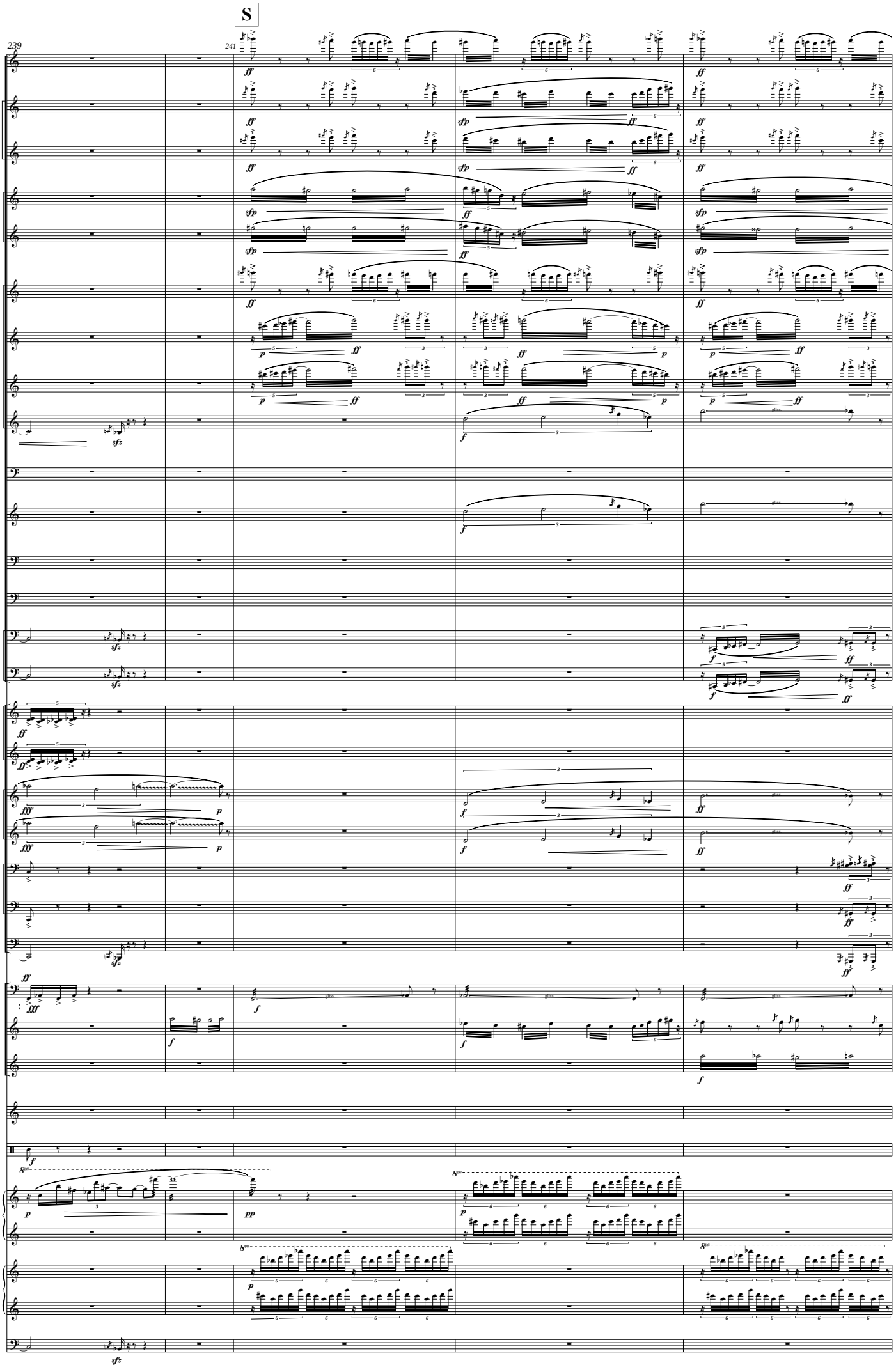

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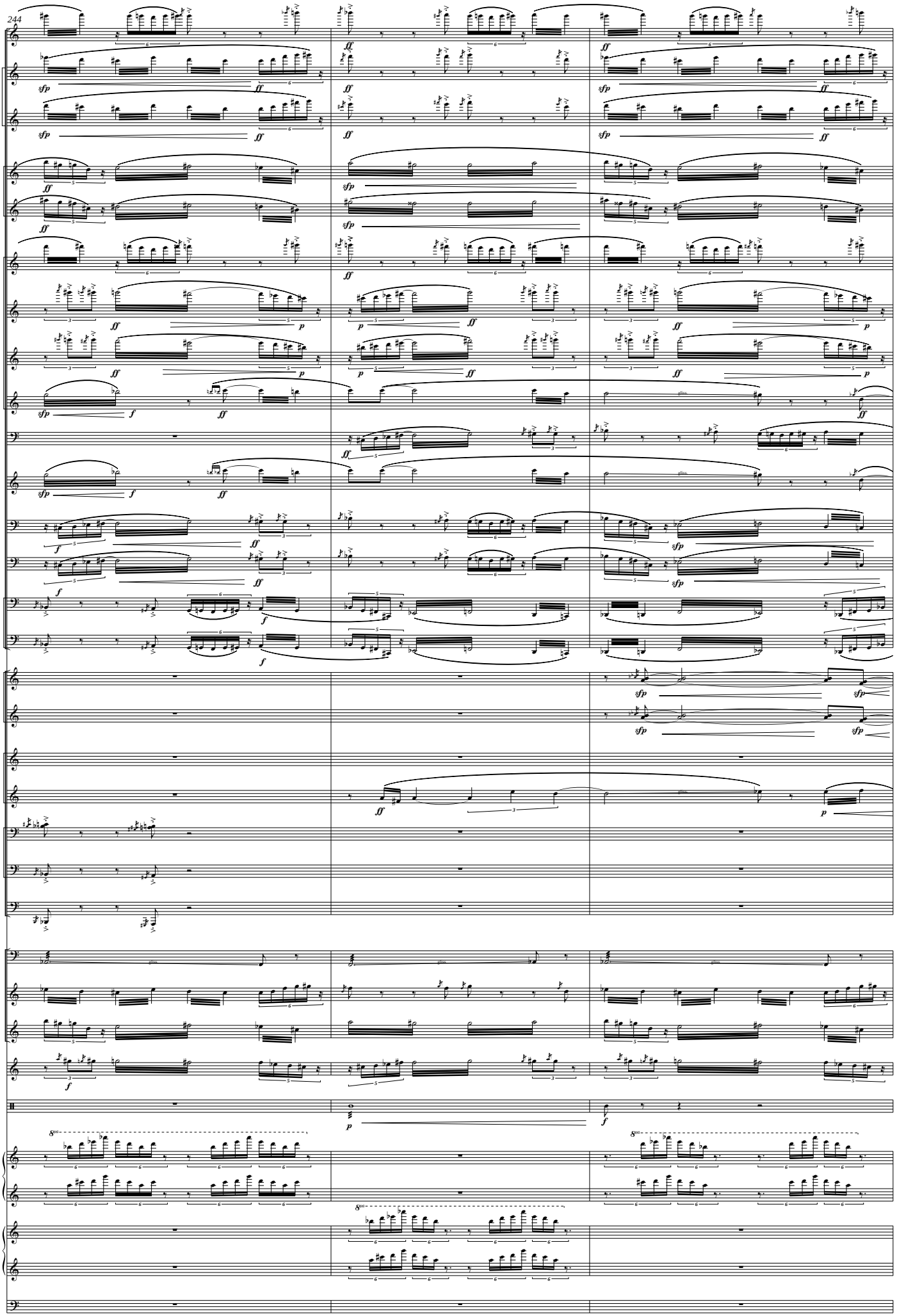

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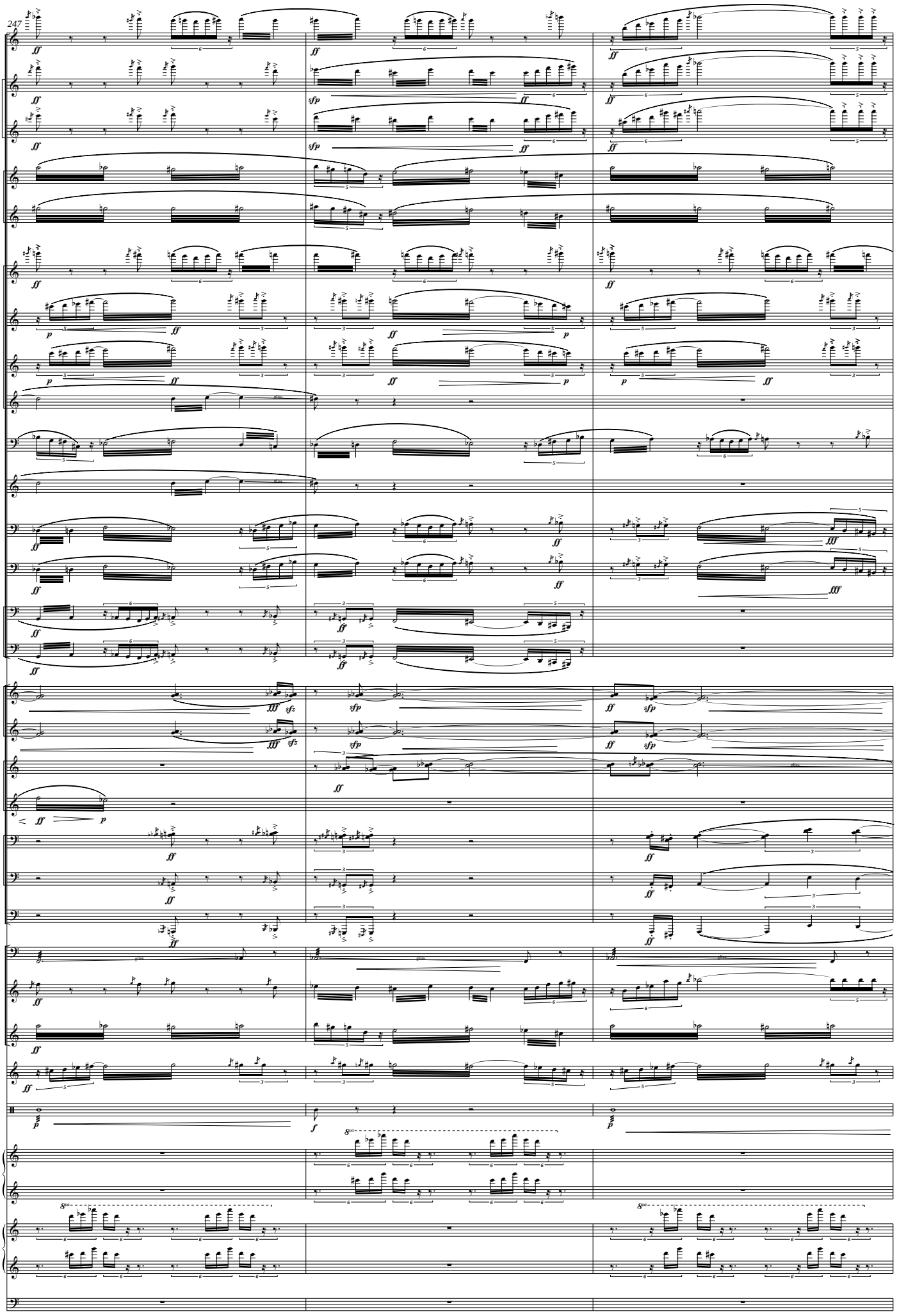

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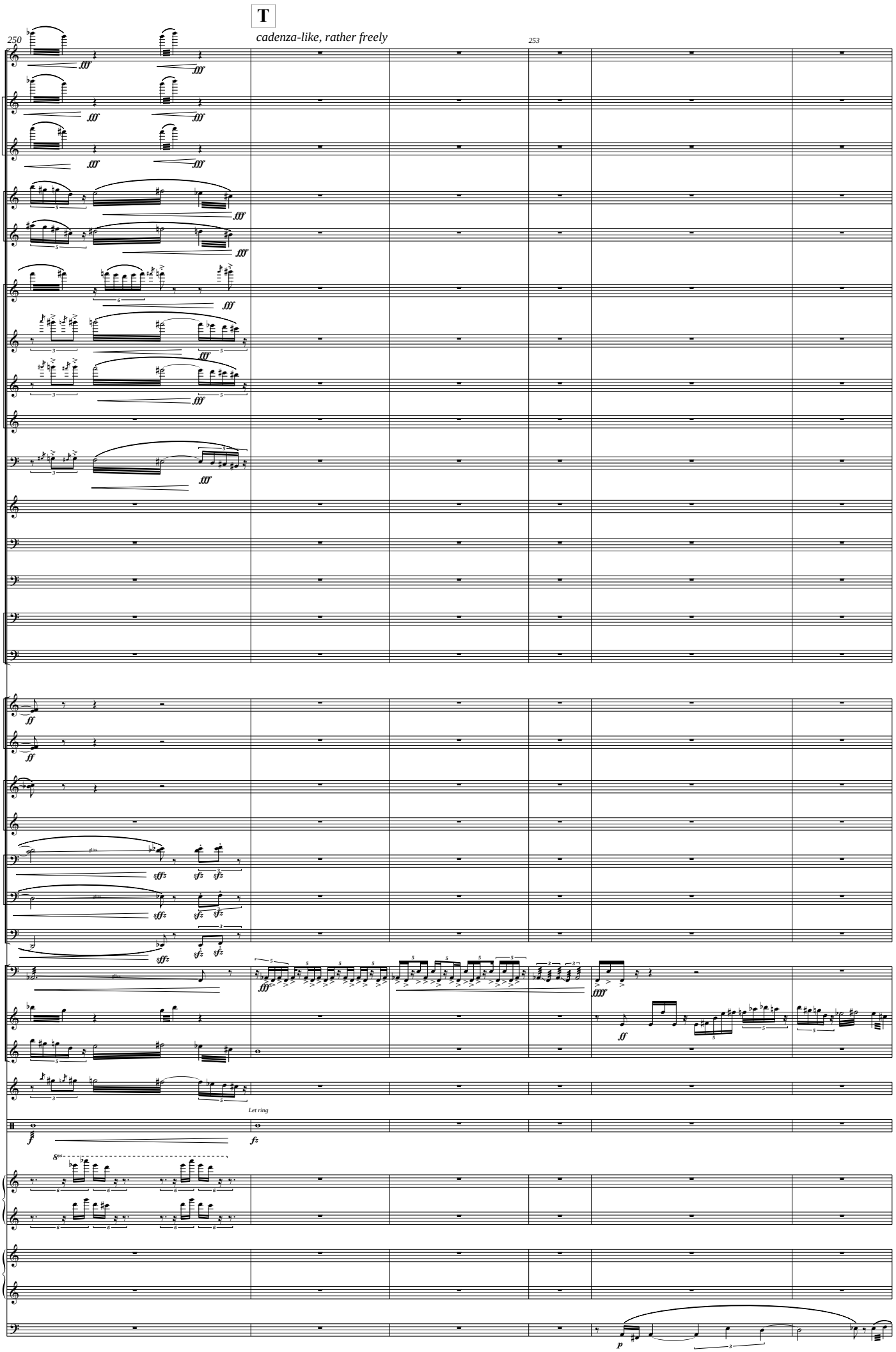

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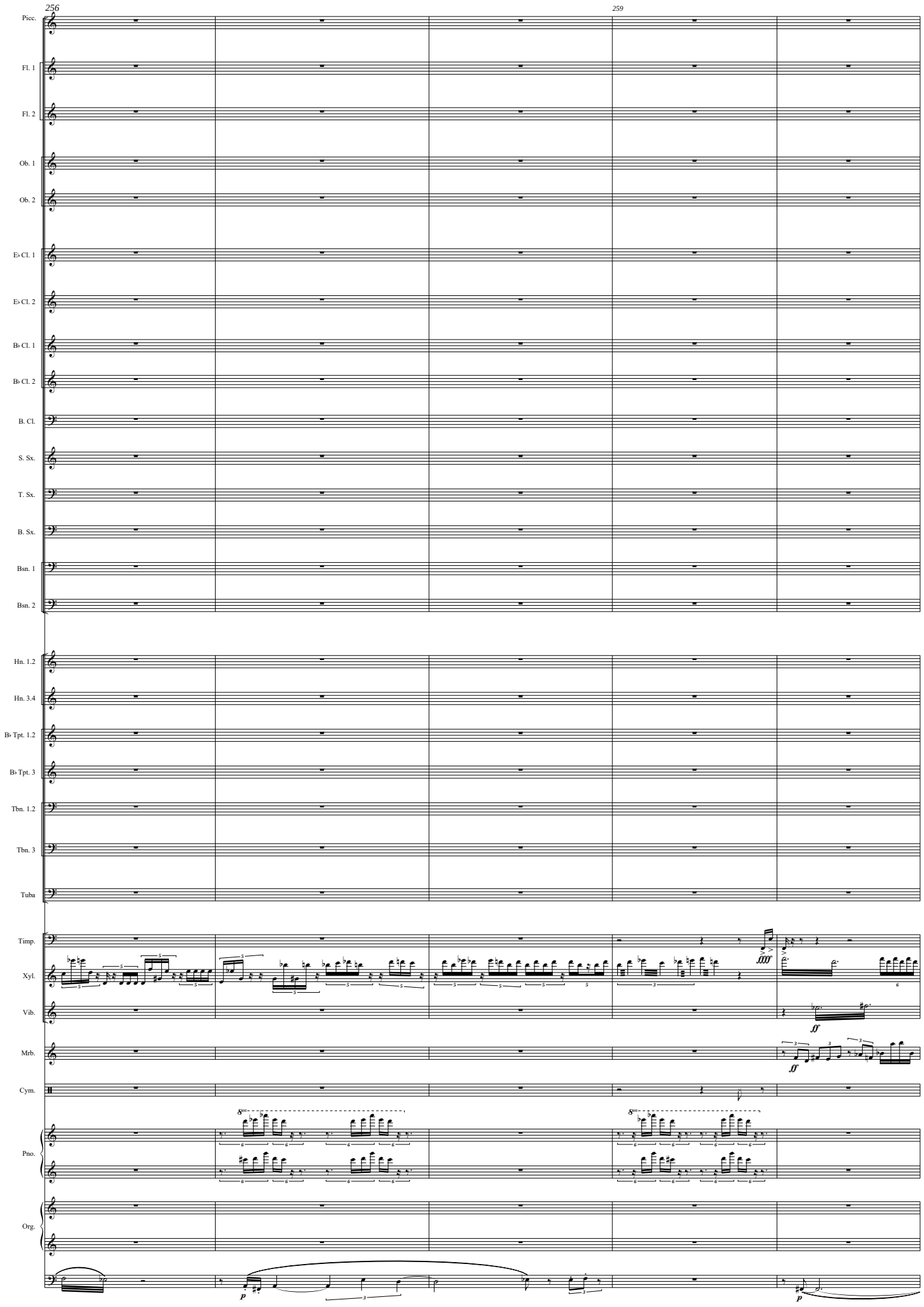

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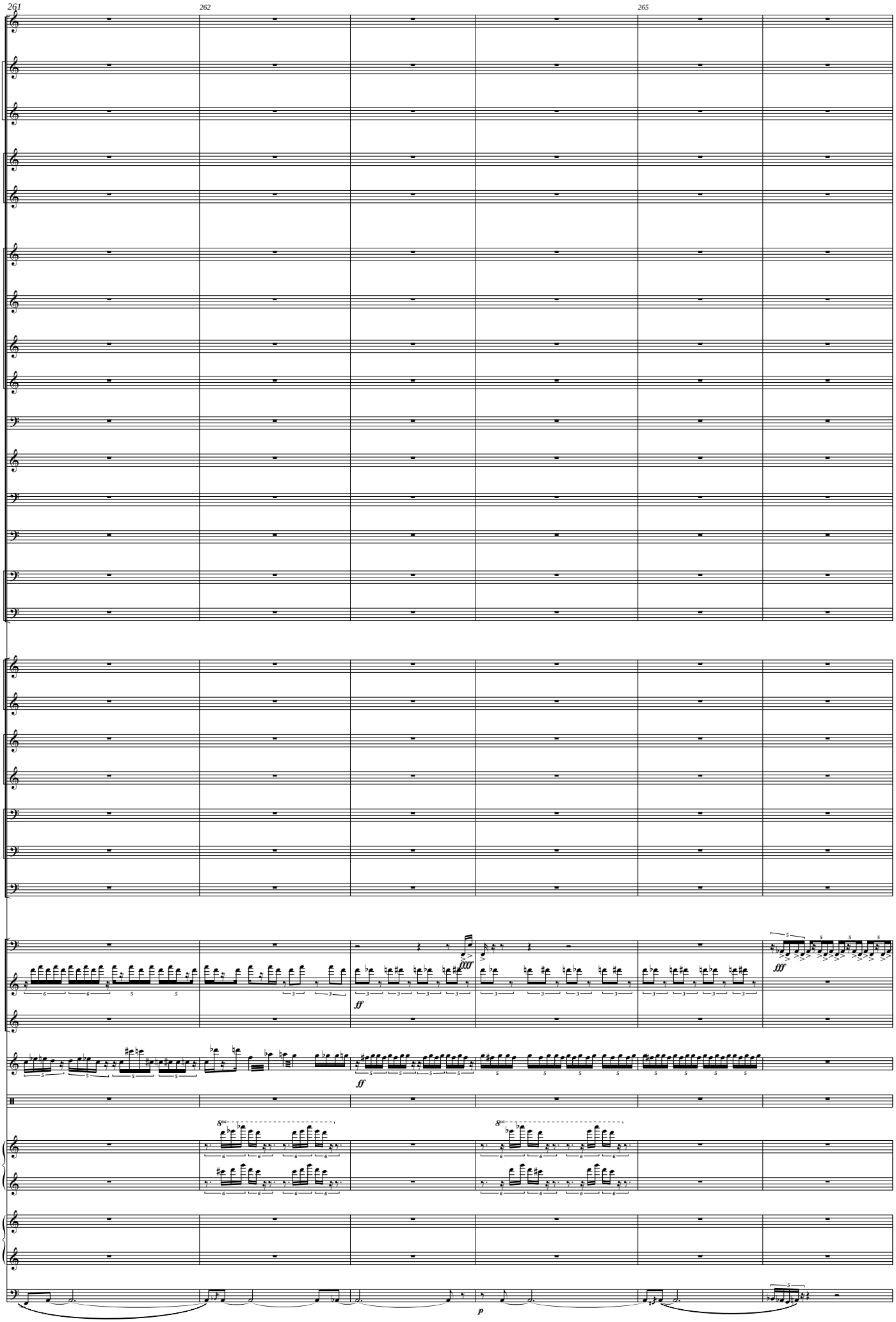

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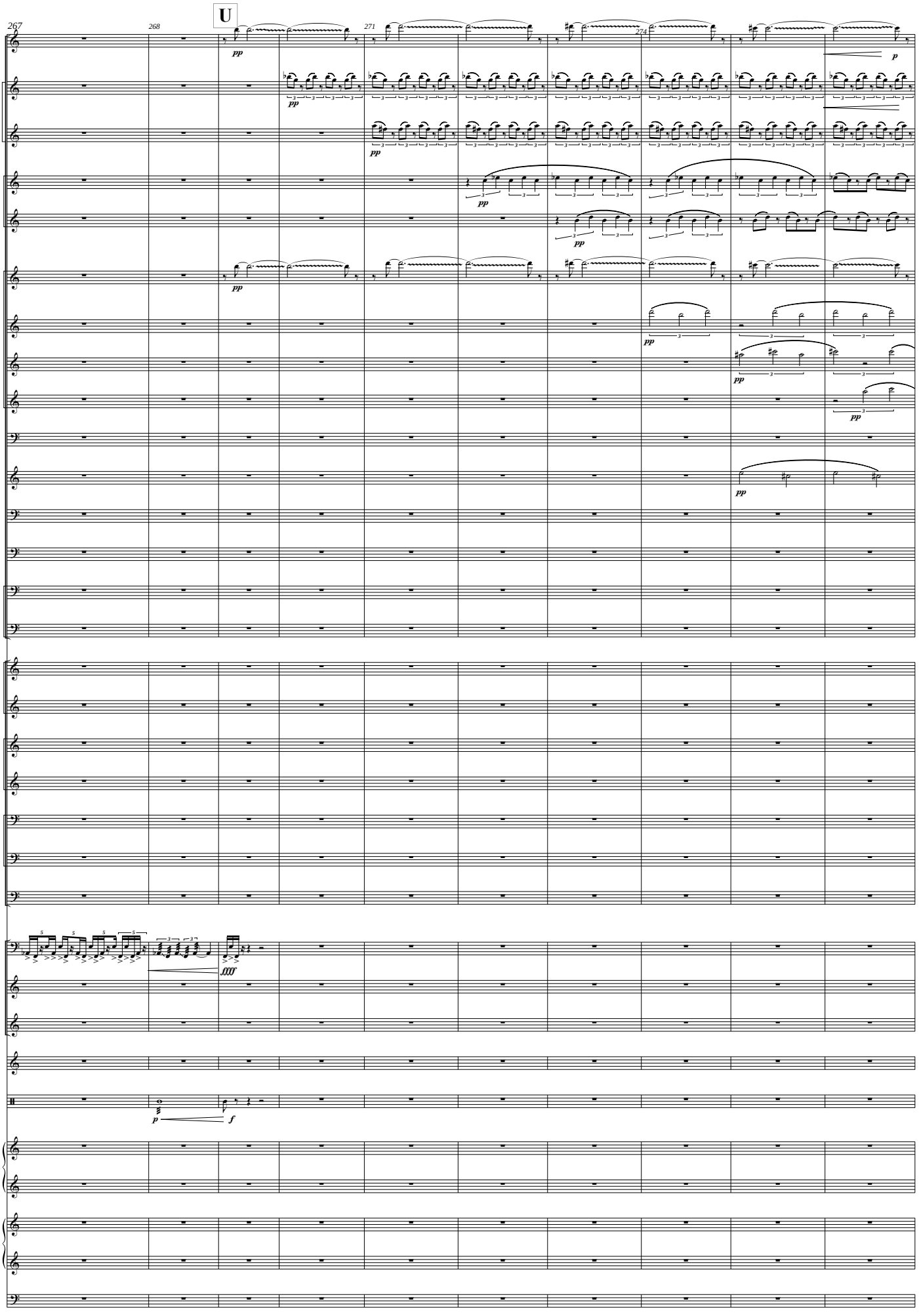

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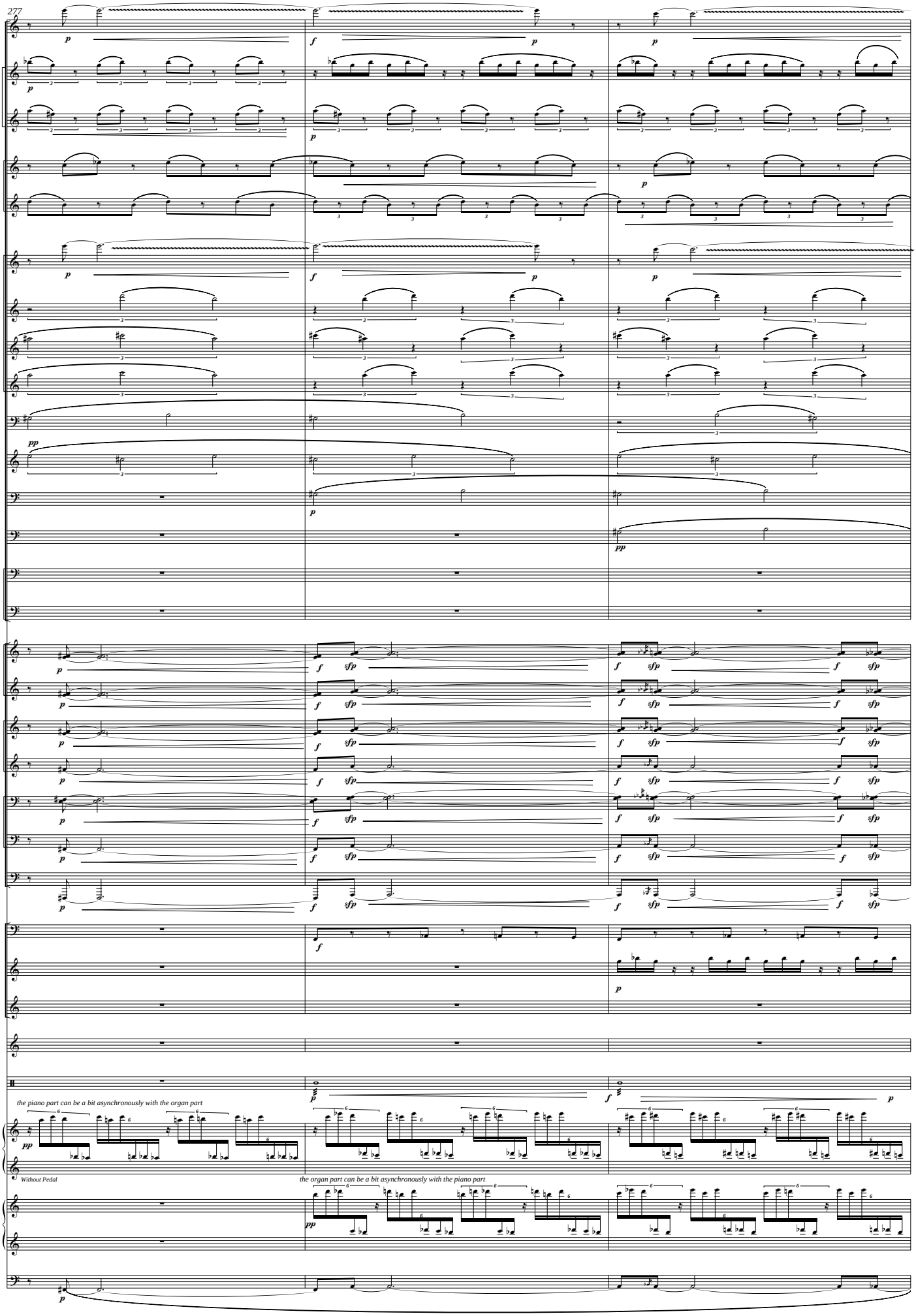

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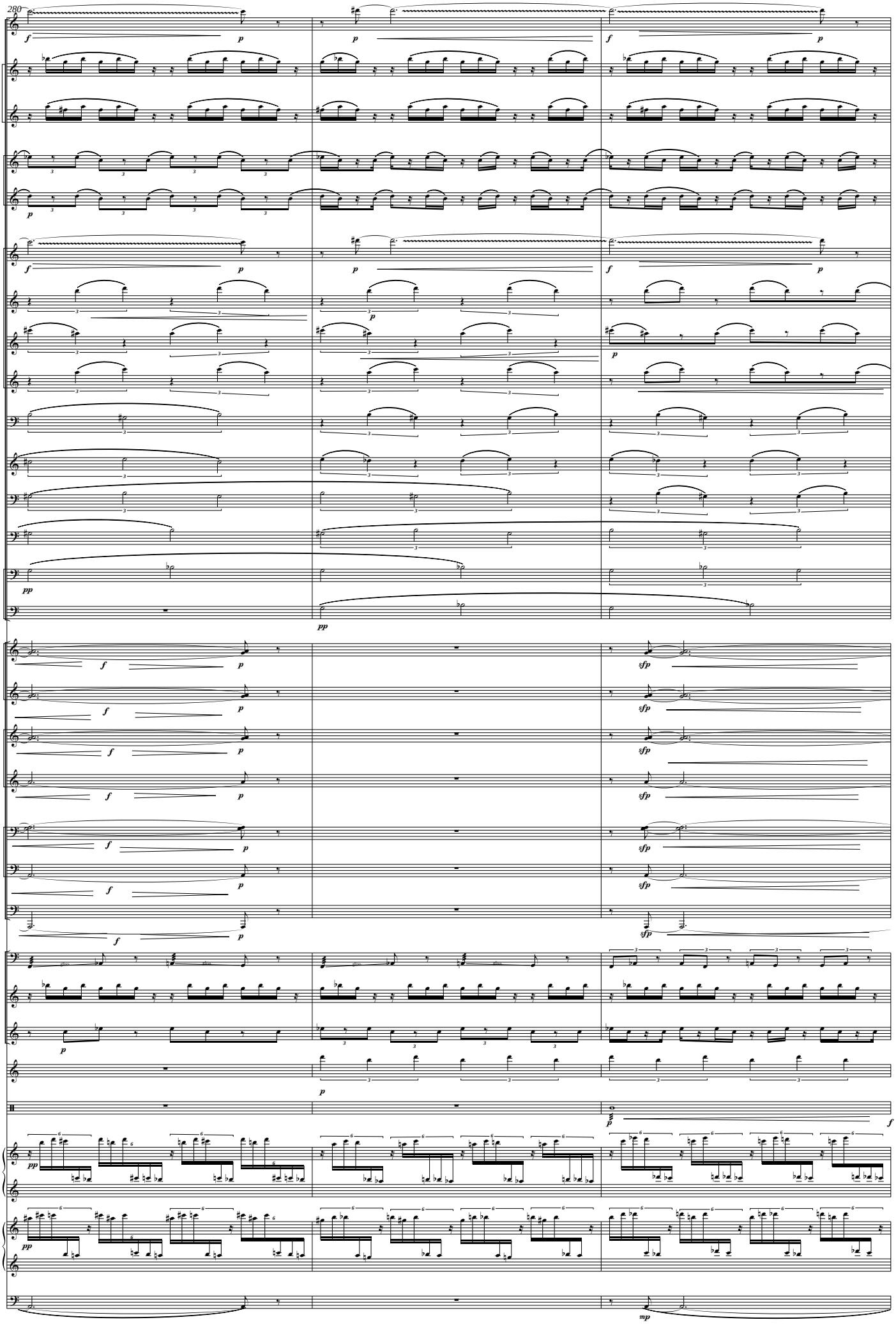

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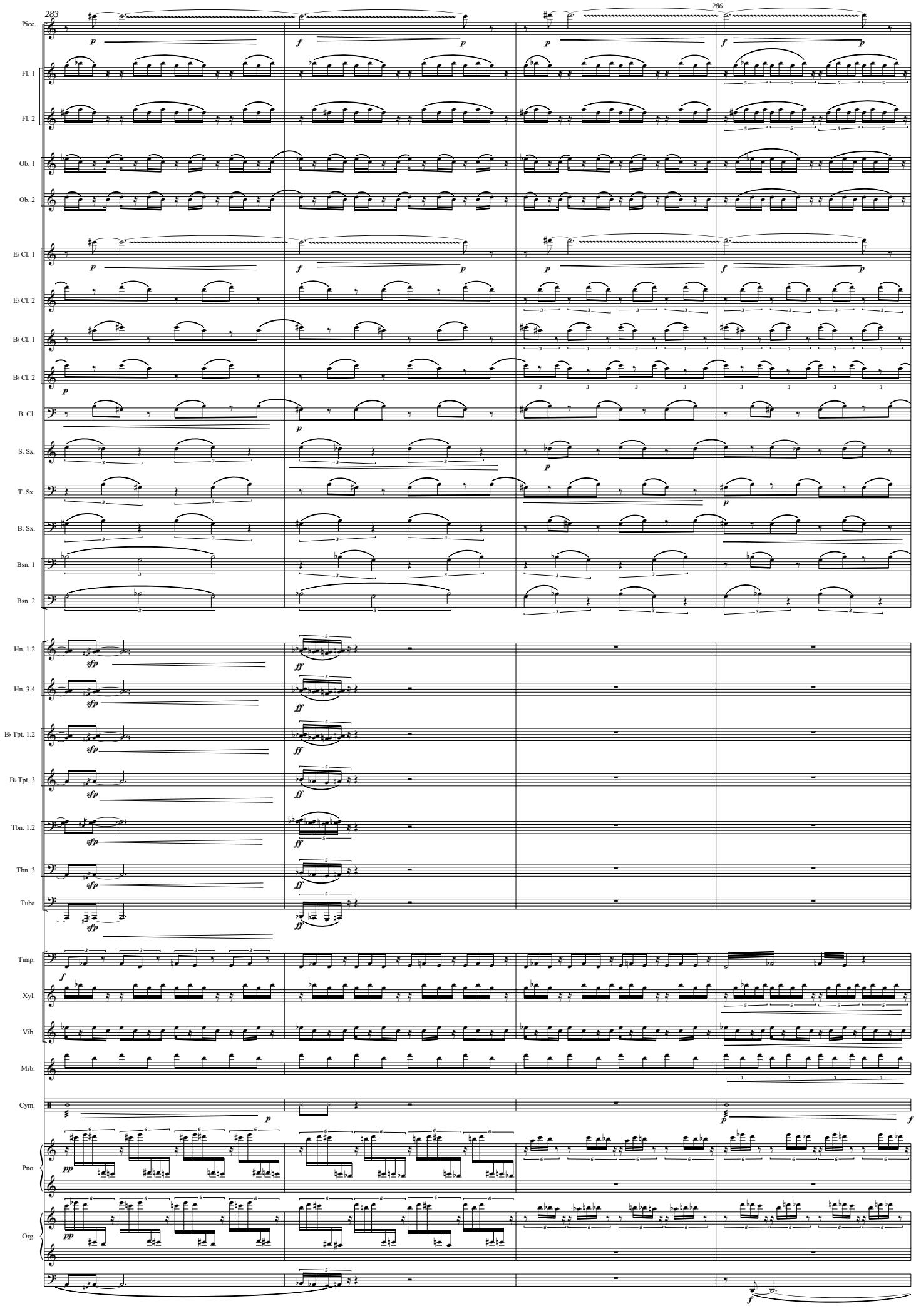

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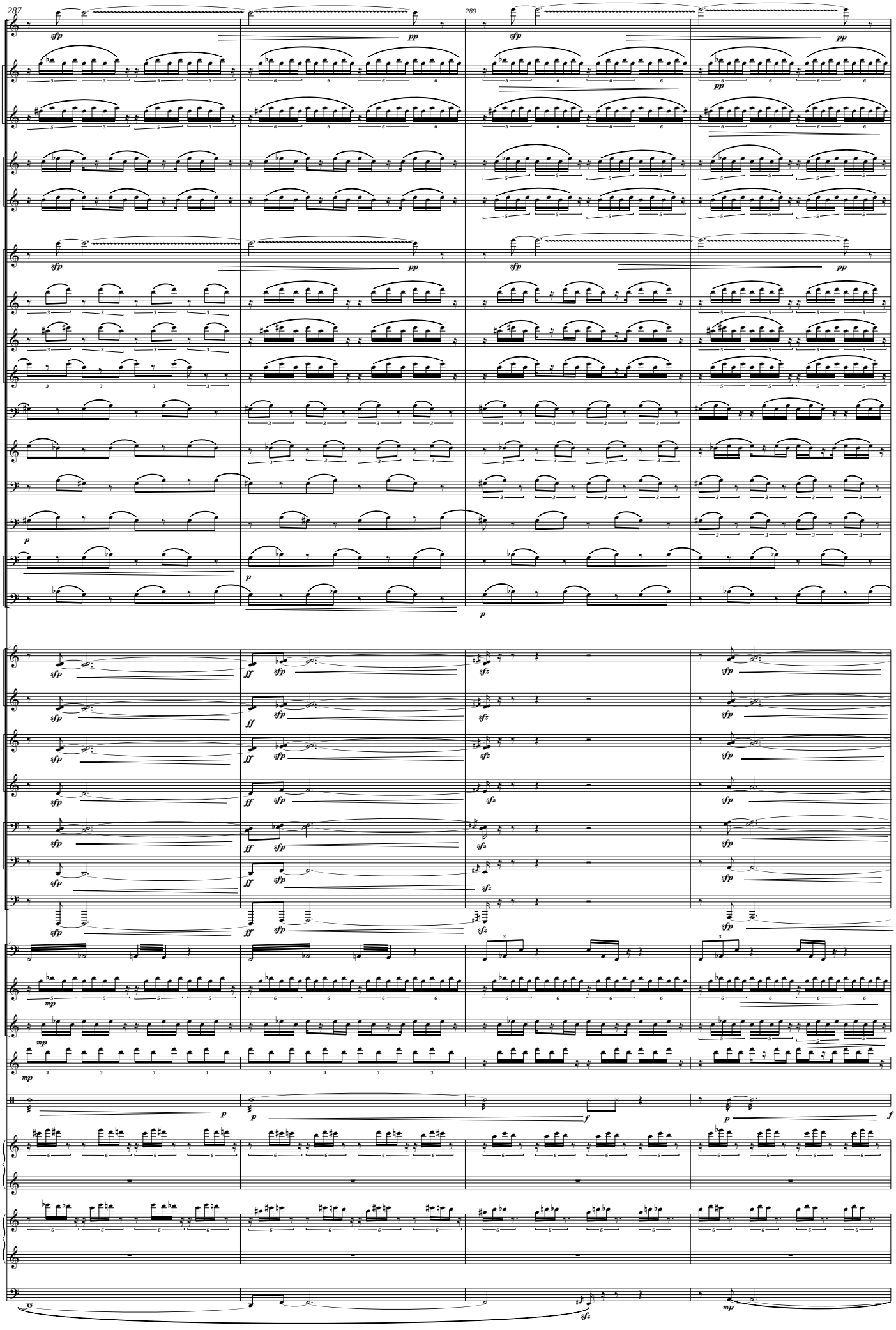

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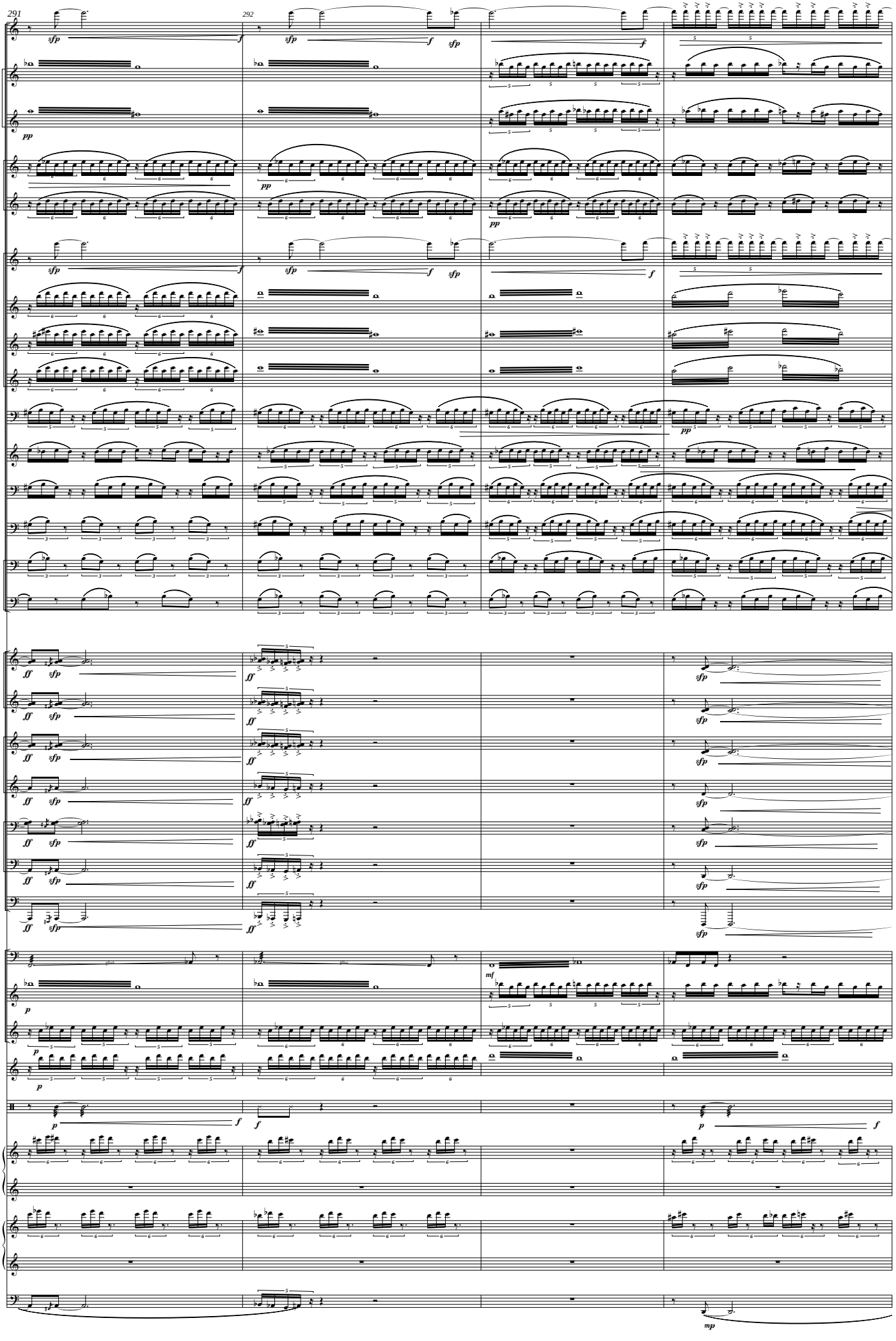

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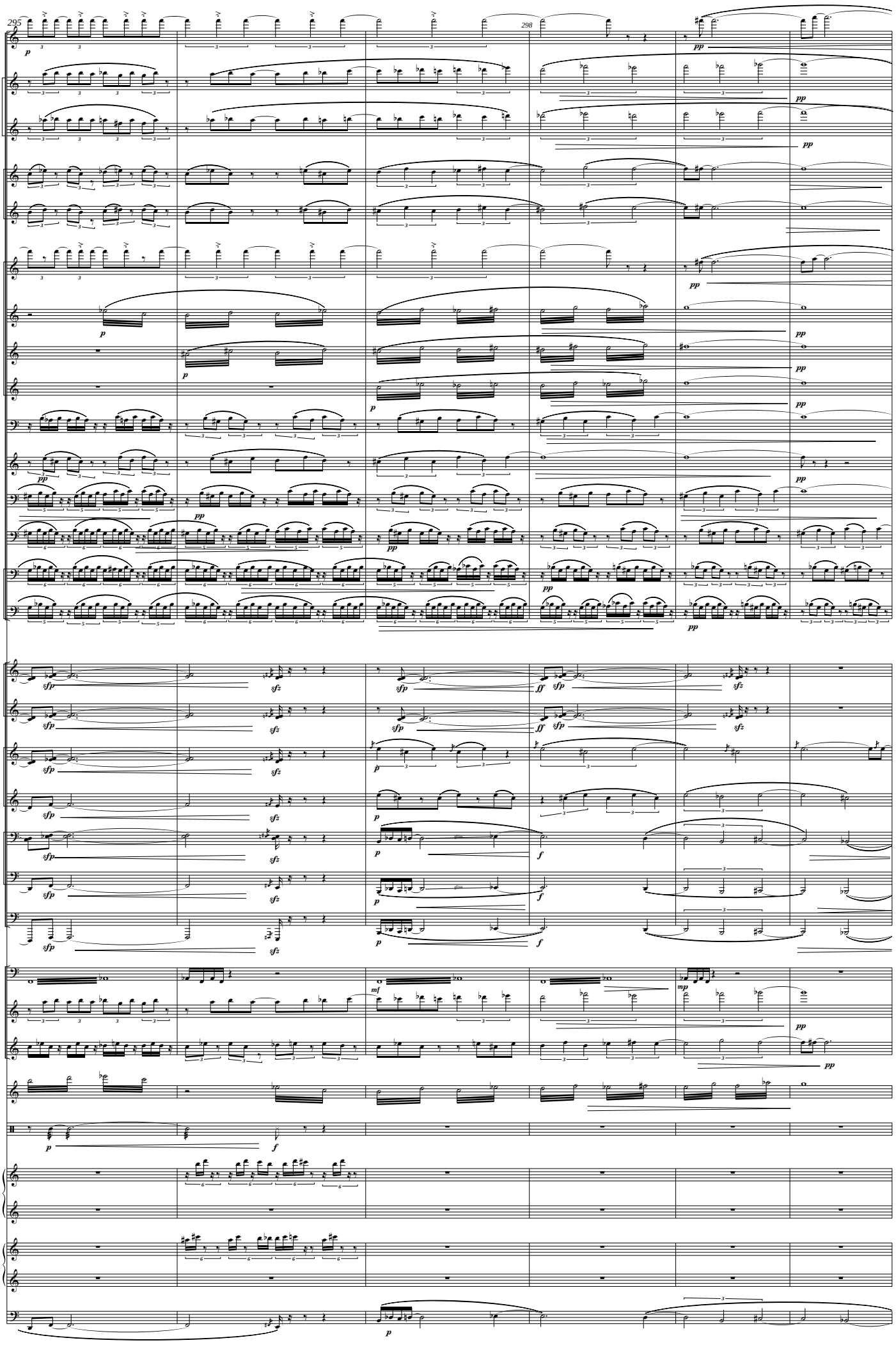

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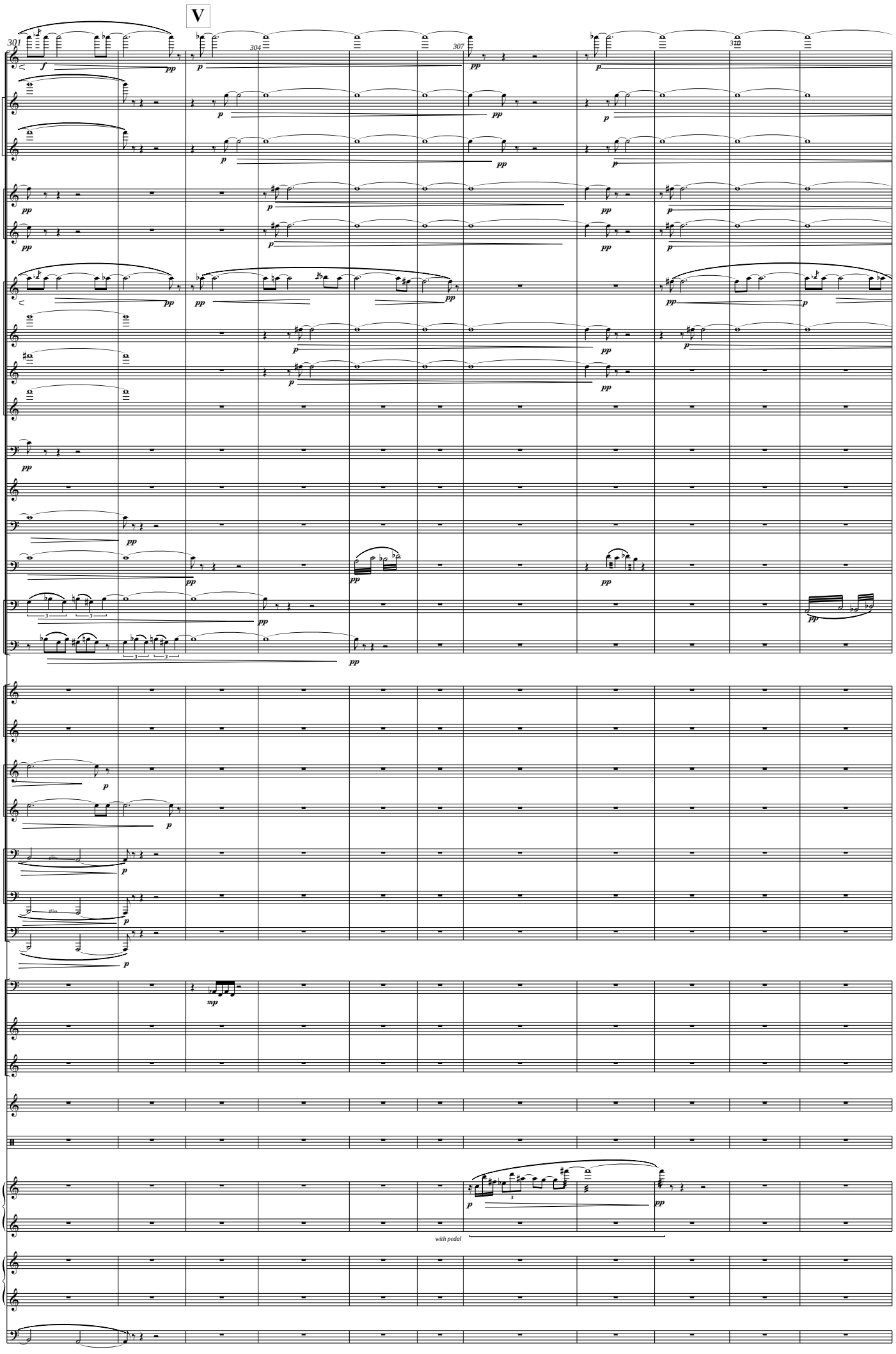

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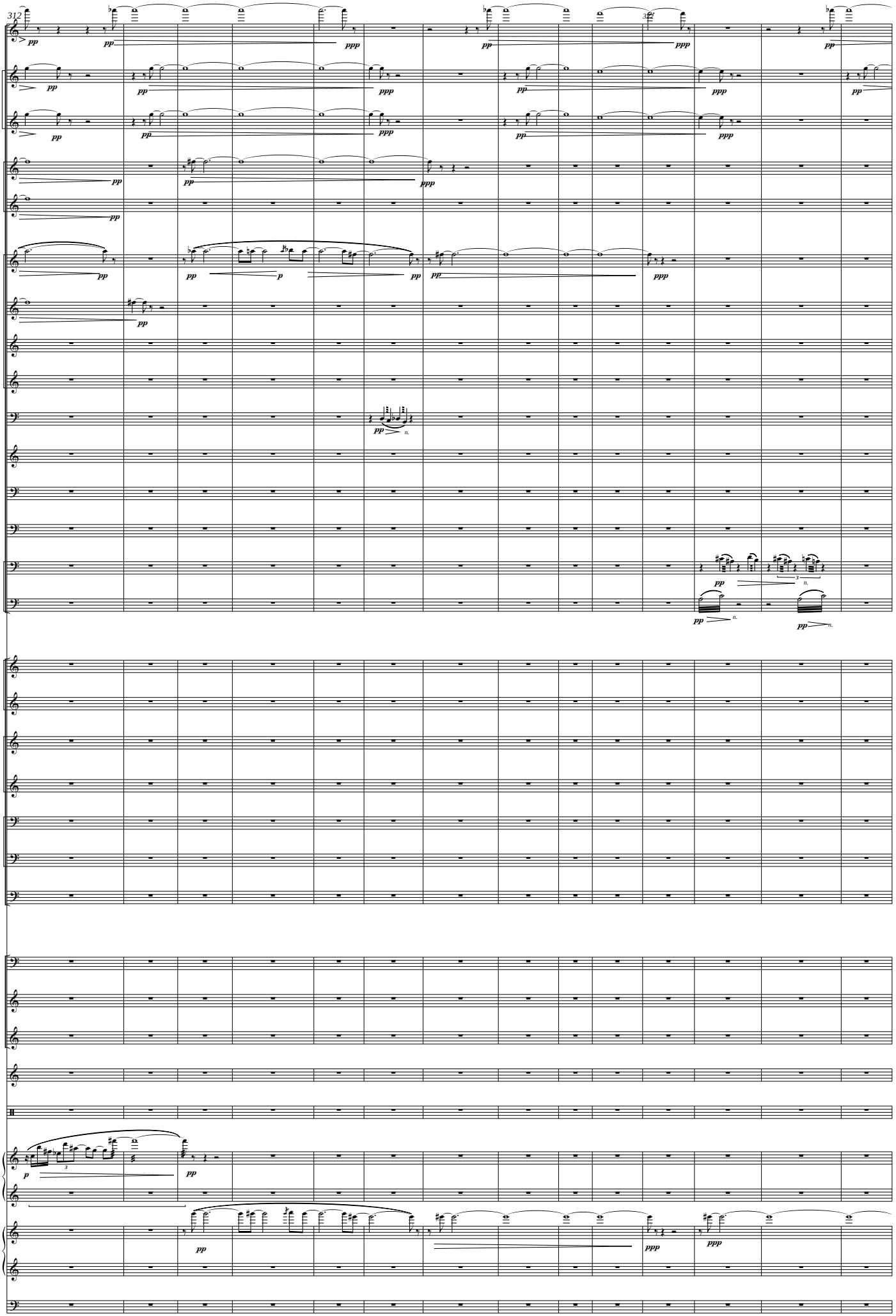

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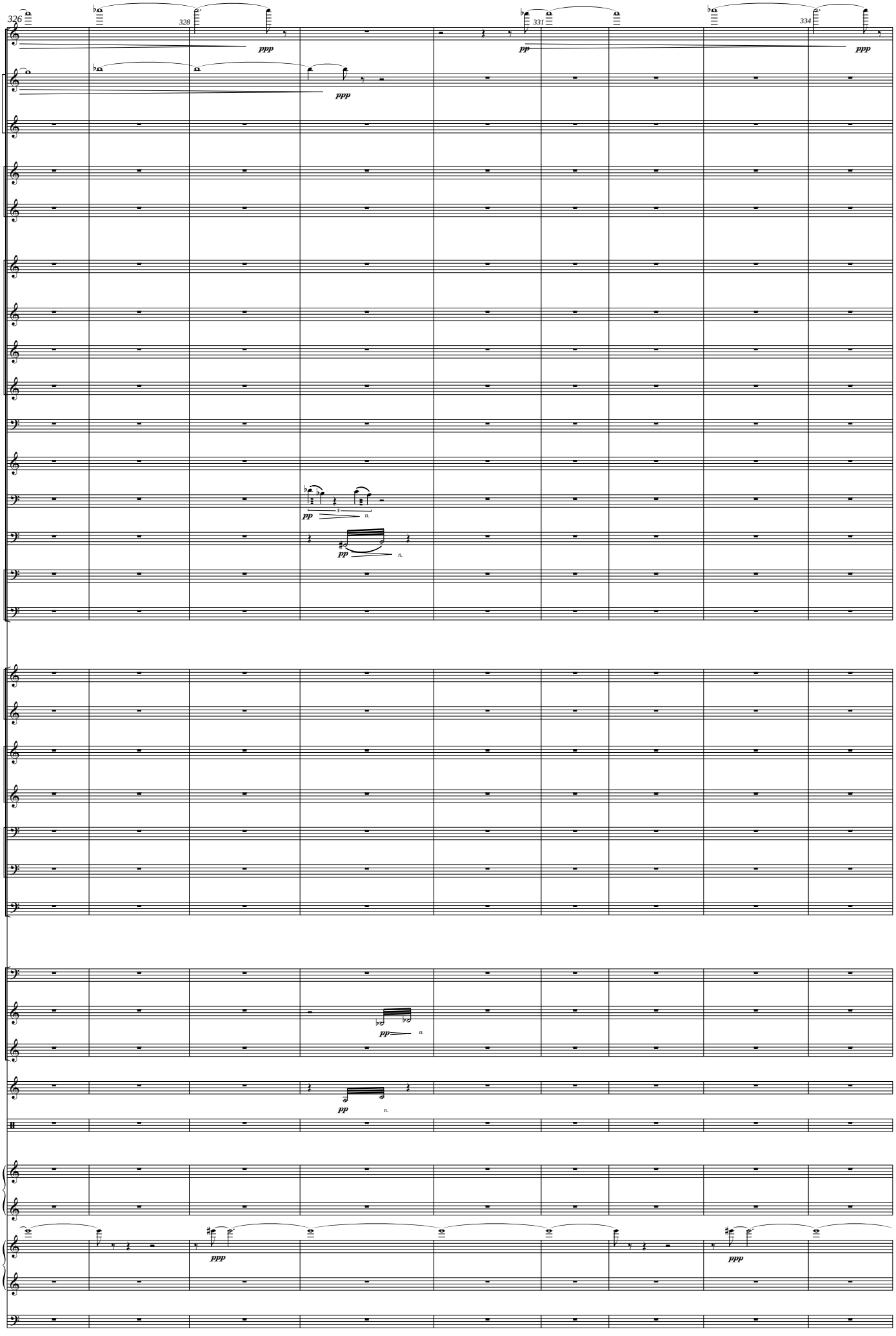

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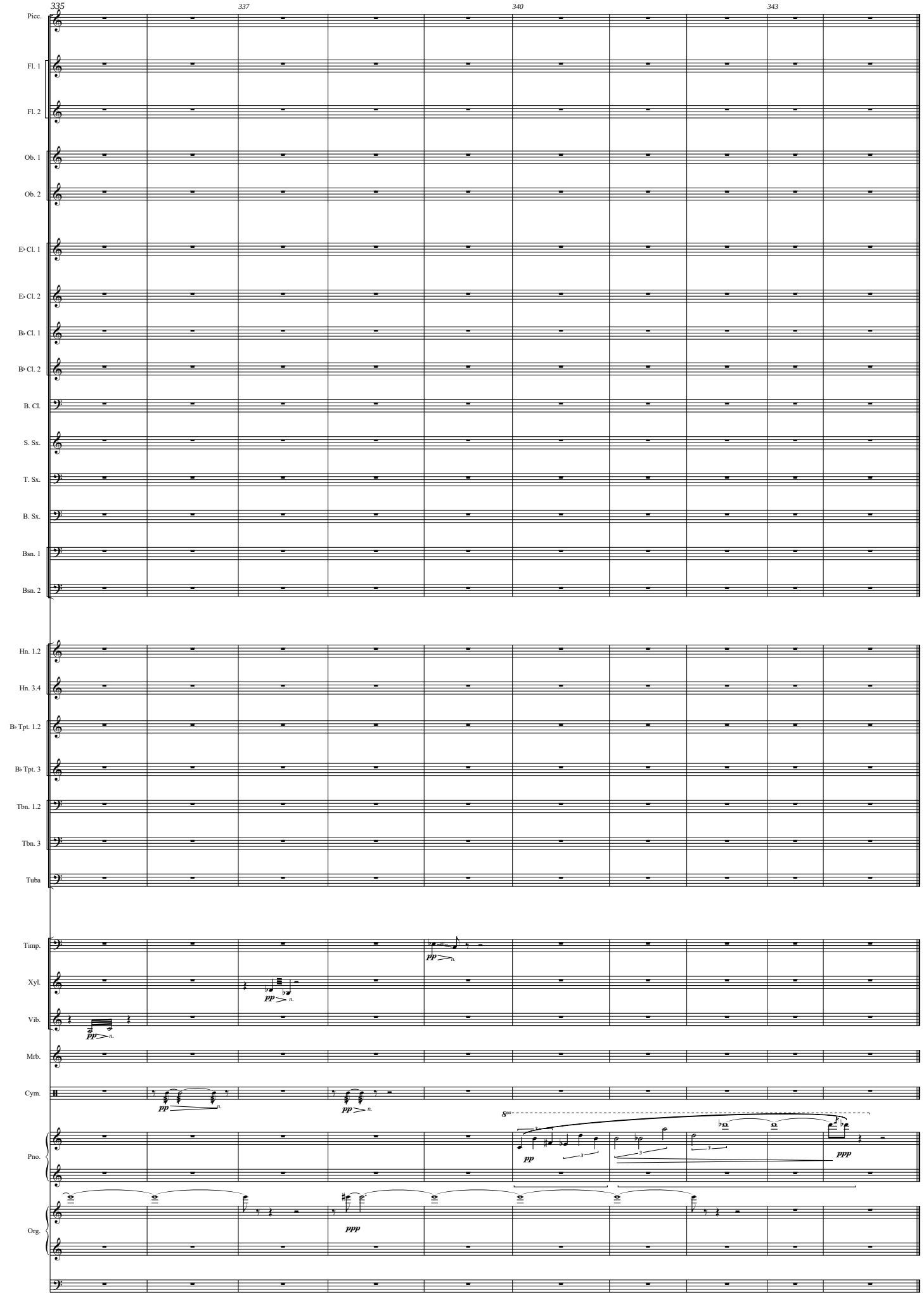

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