An object of some concern

for piano trio

Dayton Hare

This work was composed for Elly Toyoda, Ashley Bathgate, and Lisa Moore on the occassion of the Norfolk Chamber Music Festival New Music Workshop 2021

Duration c. 9'45"

Performance Notes

Trills larger than a step are used throughout, with the secondary note indicated in parenthesis.

In general, trills should be interpreted as a rapid flurry between notes, not necessarily exactly even.

Trill placement above or below the staff indicates which voice is trilling.

——→	change bow placement very gradually from one technique to another
ord.	normal bow placement
tasto	sul tasto
poco pont.	slightly sul ponticello
pont.	sul ponticello
msp	molto sul ponticello
◣	scratch tone produced by bow overpressure, increase with wedge thickness

Glissandi should begin at the start of each note value and continue until their destination.

All of the many slow glissandi throughout the piece should be played as gradually and evenly as possible.

Stems during a single-voice slow glissando either indicate a simple rhythmic marker or a bow change using the indicated rhythm, depending on whether the phrase is slurred or not.

During the slow sections, the multi-leveled dynamics in the upper piano staff are emphasized by using smaller noteheads for the tremelo voice playing pianissimo

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Program Notes

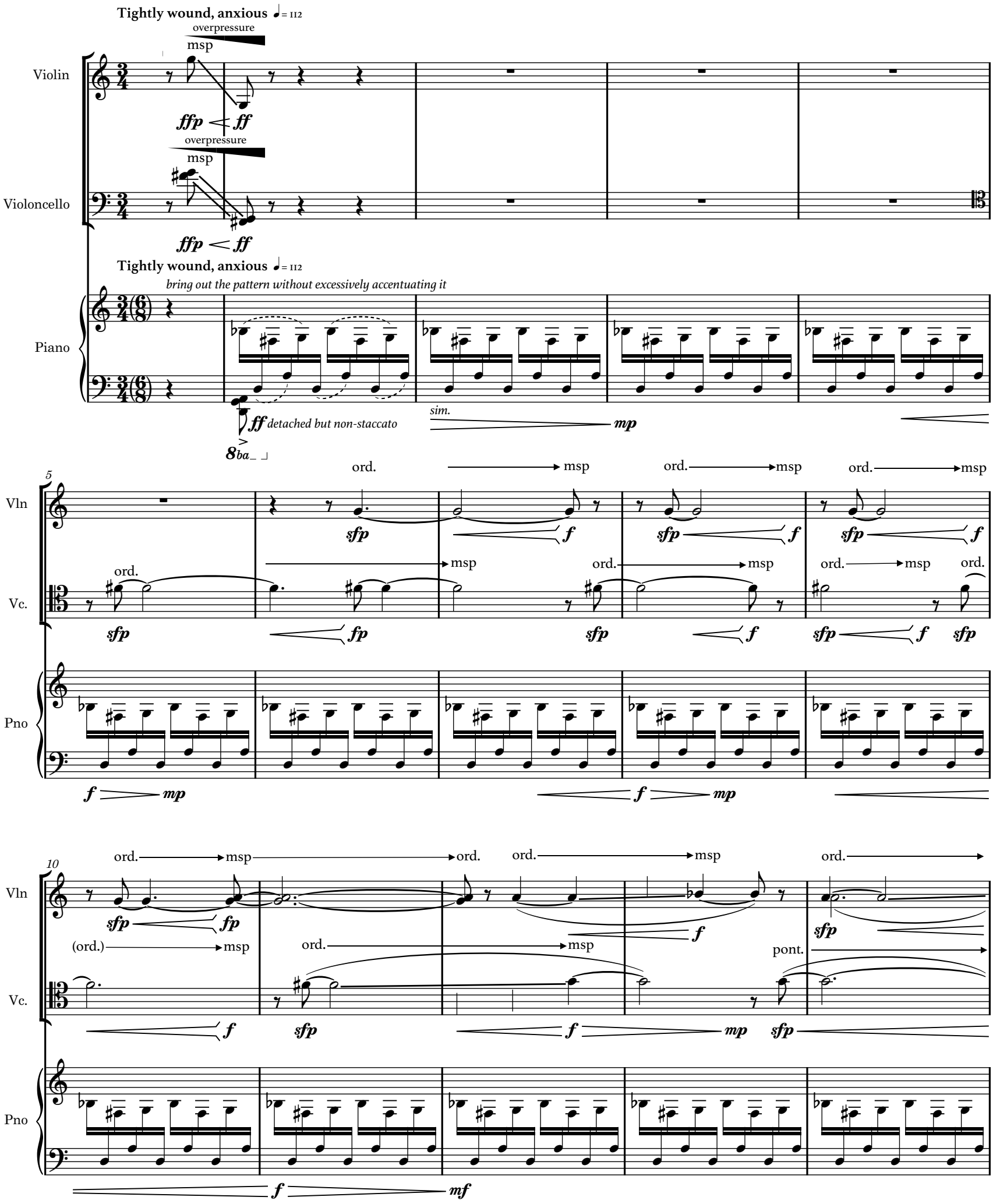
Most of my friends could tell you that I have a tendency towards understatement, especially when it comes to talking about my inner life. When I say, then, that something is “an object of some concern,” you can be sure it’s actually quite a large point of worry for me, the kind of anxiety-inducing thing I often become fixated on, turning around and around in my mind and worrying myself more all the while. This piece is about that experience of becoming stuck on a troubling feeling, in general, and about a specific worrisome fixation of mine in particular, the climate crisis. The piece opens with a violent plunge in the strings that mimics the feeling of suddenly awakening in the middle of the night, unable to breath. From there the trio propels itself forward with music that is unrelenting and obsessive, constantly straining higher and higher, threatening to snap, until finally it reaches its breaking point. This, of course, represents the experience of mounting anxiety, of becoming consumed by the feeling. But more than that, at the risk of being a bit too on the nose, I find that it also mimics the trajectory of global temperatures and the climate emergency.

An object of some concern

for the Mammoth Trio

Score

Dayton Hare



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15

Vln

pont. ord. pont. ord.

f *sfp* *ff* *mf* *sfp* *mf*

Vc.

ord. pont. poco pont.

f *mp* *sfp* *f* *sfp* *f* *p* *mf*

Pno

ff *mf*

20

Vln

pont. msp poco pont.

f *ff* *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

Vc.

msp poco pont.

p *ff* *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

Pno

sim. *sim.*

f *mp* *f*

25

Vln

msp poco pont.

f *sfp* *mf* *sfp* *mf* *sfp* *f* *sfp* *f* *sfp* *f* *sfp*

Vc.

msp poco pont.

f *sfp* *mf* *sfp* *sfp* *f* *sfp* *sfp* *f* *sfp*

Pno

mf *f*

30

Vln

Vc.

Pno

msp

tr

ff

A

(change bow as needed)

tasto

p

(tasto) pont. tasto

ppp sub.

mf ppp

sim.

ff

35

msp

mf

(tasto) msp tasto

3

f pp

mp ppp

mp pp

sim. f pp

40

p

pont. tasto

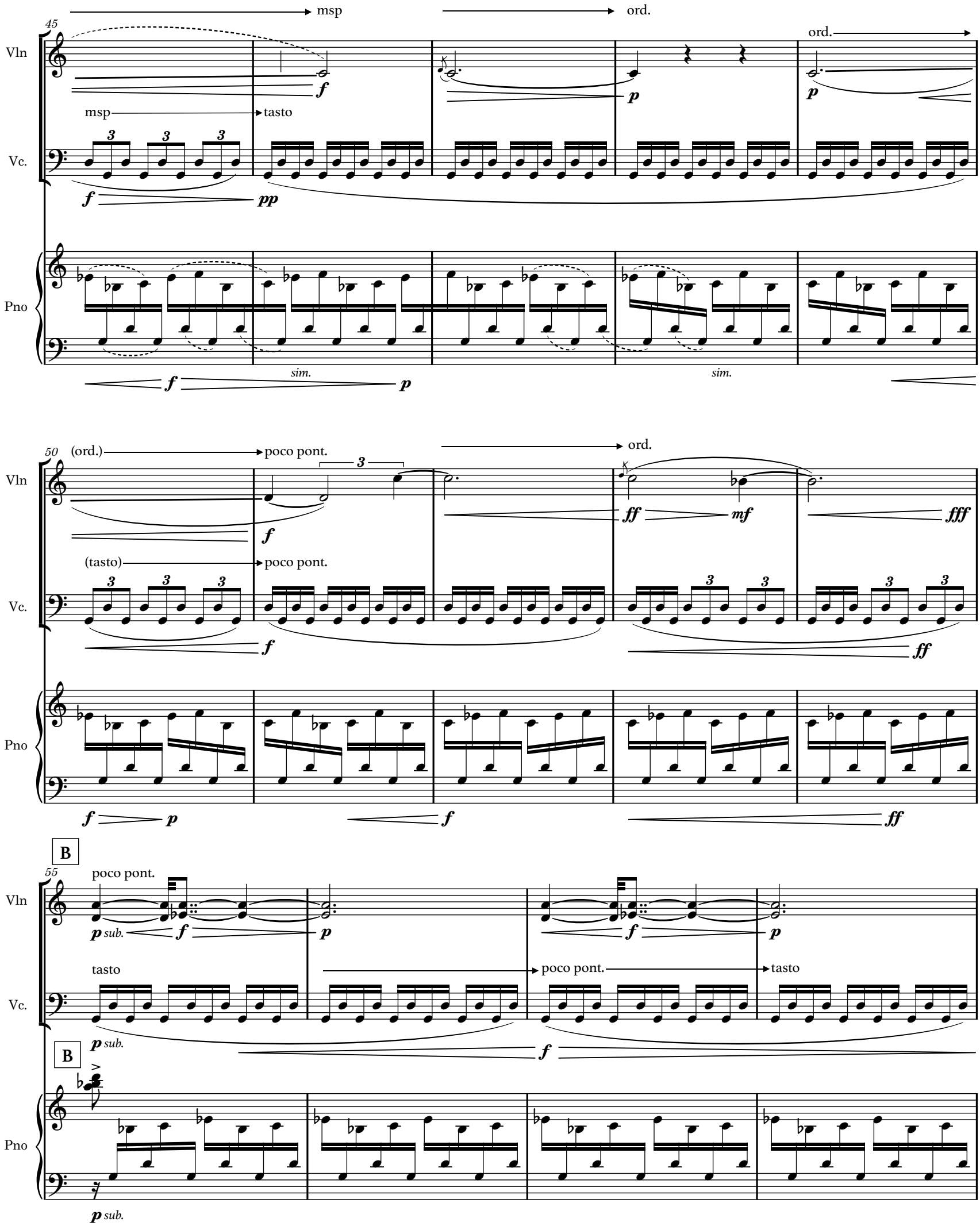
mf pp

(tasto)

sim.

ff

sim. p


45
msp
ord.
Vln
ord.
msp
tasto
Vc.
Pno
sim.
sim.
50
(ord.)
poco pont.
ord.
Vln
(tasto)
poco pont.
Vc.
Pno
B
55
poco pont.
Vln
p sub.
tasto
poco pont.
tasto
Vc.
p sub.
B
Pno
p sub.

59

Vln

Vc.

Pno

ord.

msp

sim.

64

(ord.)

msp

tasto

ord.

(ord.)

msp

sim.

69

poco pont.

ord.

msp

ord.

(ord.)

sim.

74

Vln

Vc.

Pno

ord.

pont.

msp

ord.

sim.

sim.

79

(ord.) msp

tasto poco pont.

(ord.) msp ord.

sim.

84

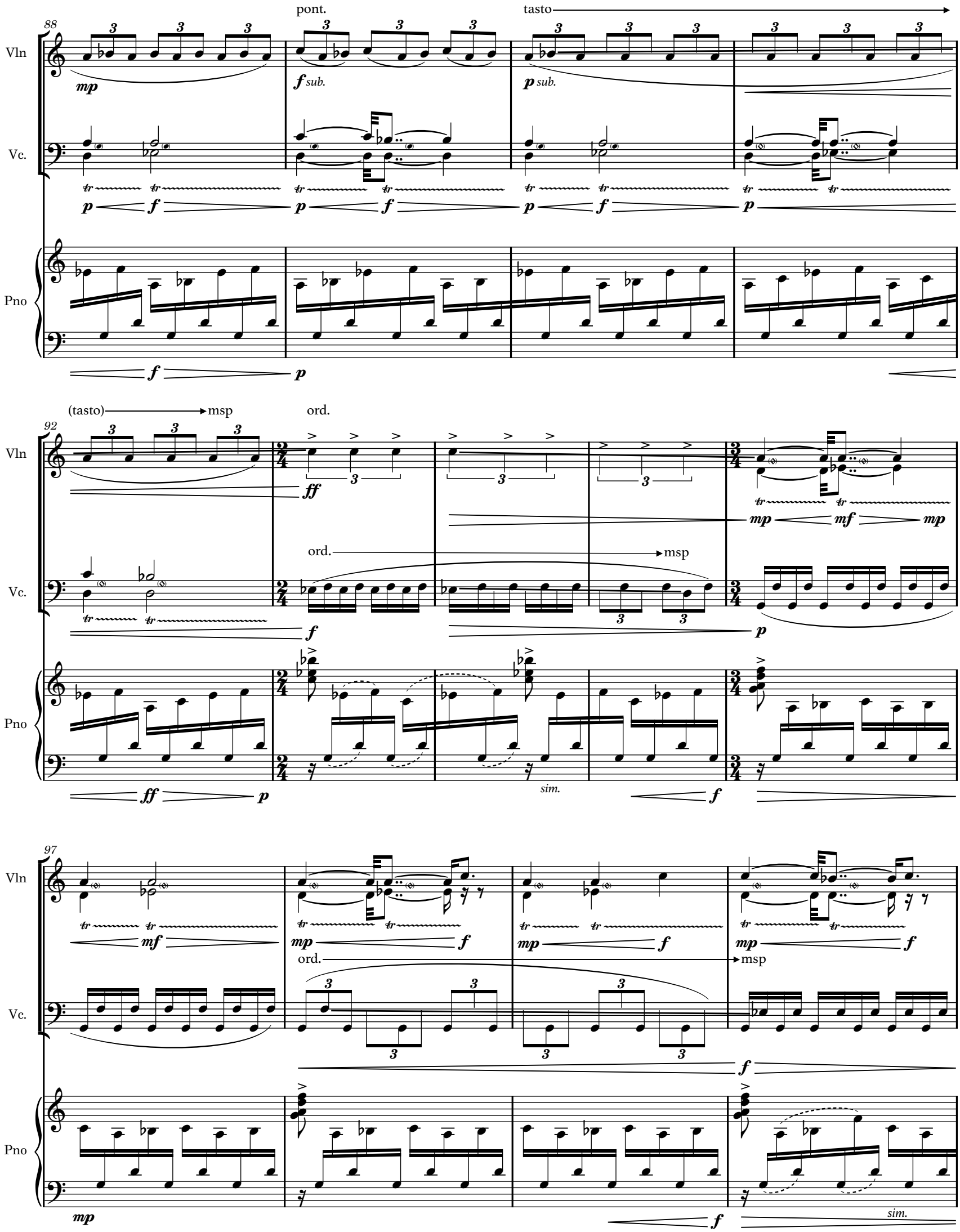
poco pont.

tasto

(ord.) msp ord.

poco pont.

sim.


88
pont.
tasto
Vln
Vc.
Pno
mp
f sub.
p sub.
p
f
92
(tasto)
msp
ord.
ff
mp
mf
sim.
97
mf
mp
f
sim.

101

Vln

Vc.

Pno

ord. msp

mp f

p sub. f

p sub. mf

mp

f mp f p

mp f

p

sim.

106

(msp) poco pont.

III

ord. msp

mp mf

p

ff

f mp ff

II

sim.

sim. ff

111

III ord.

(ord.) msp ord.

pp

f pp

ord.

II

(ord.) msp ord.

pp

f pp

pp

sim. f

116

Vln

Vc.

Pno

(ord.)

ff sub.

poco pont.

pp

ff mp ff mp ff mp pp

p

sim.

pp

C

msp

ord.

f sub.

ff

mf expressive, soloistic

ff

msp

ord.

poco pont.

f sub.

ff

mp

mf

C

f mf

sim.

f mp

127

mf

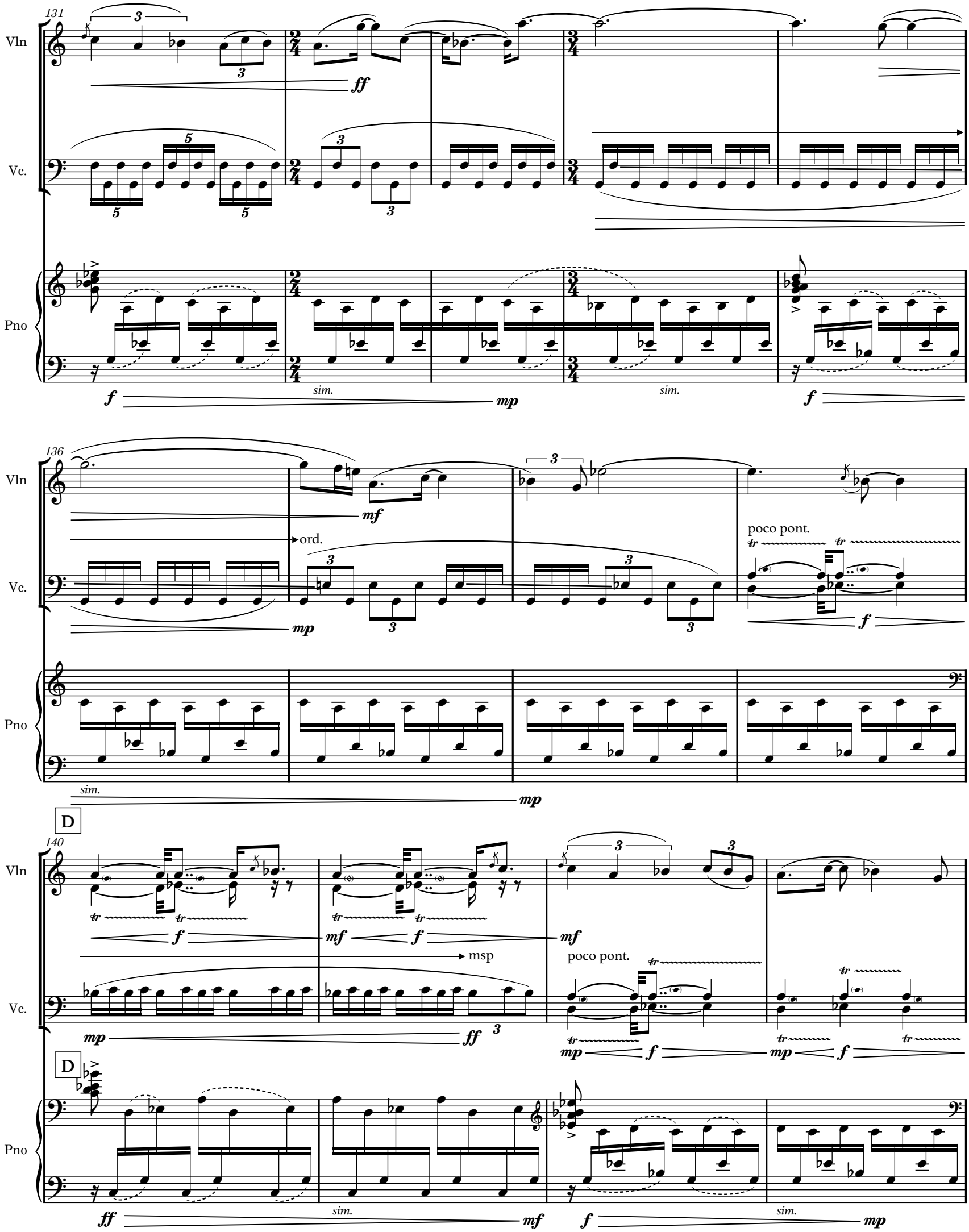
f

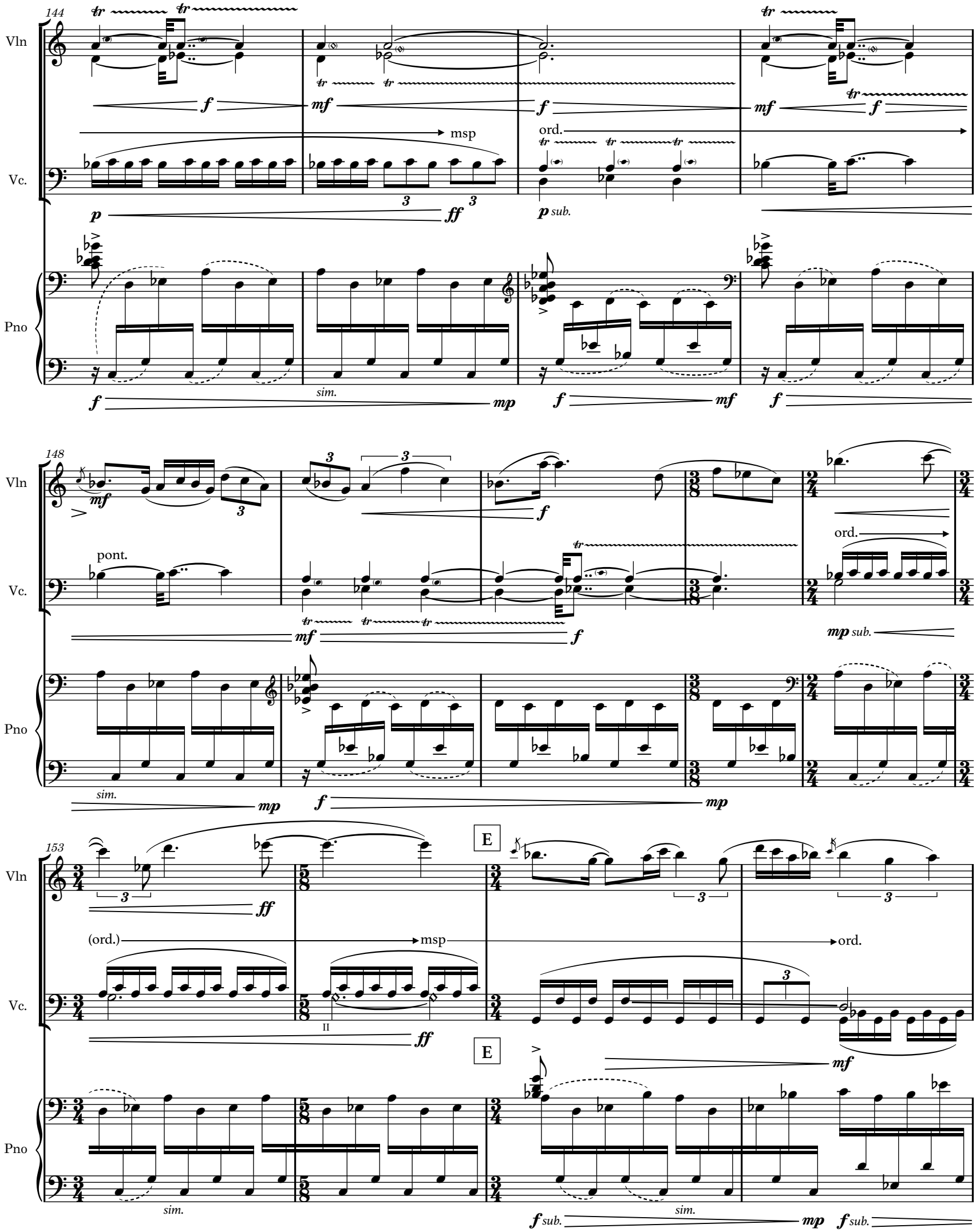
pont.

f

sim.

f mp f mf f mp f mf


131
Vln
Vc.
Pno
ff
f
sim.
mp
136
mf
ord.
poco pont.
D
140
msp


144
Vln
Vc.
Pno
msp
ord.
p sub.
sim.
148
pont.
ord.
mp sub.
153
E
(ord.)
msp
ord.
II
f sub.
mp
f sub.

157

Vln

Vc.

II

mf

f

pont.

ord.

Pno

p

sim.

161

Vln

mf

f

Vc.

pont.

III

ff

mp

Pno

ff

mp

sim.

165

Vln

mf

f

mp

Vc.

Pno

mp

170

poco pont.

Vln

ord.

Vc.

Pno

F

174

poco pont.

(2nd time only)

Vln

poco pont.

(2nd time only)

Vc.

Pno

F

sim.

sim.

179

tasto

Vln

tasto

Vc.

Pno

sub.

sub.

sub.

G

184

Vln

(2nd time only)

poco pont.

mp sub. f

p sub. f

Vc.

(2nd time only)

poco pont.

mp sub. f

p sub. f

G

Pno

mp sub. f

sim.

p sub. f

sim.

189

Vln

pont.

mp sub.

ff

Vc.

pont.

mp sub.

ff

Pno

mp sub.

sim.

ff

194

Vln

(2nd time only)

(2nd time only)

mf sub. ff

Vc.

(2nd time only)

(2nd time only)

mf sub. ff

Pno

mf sub. ff

198

Vln

msp

tr tr

fff

Vc.

msp

tr tr

fff

Pno

sim.

fff

203

H

Much slower, floating ♩= 56

as if suddenly frozen in place

Vln

tasto

ffpp mp

ffpp mp pp

shimmering

ffpp mf

II

Vc.

tasto

ffpp mp pp ffpp

I

H

Much slower, floating ♩= 56

as if suddenly frozen in place

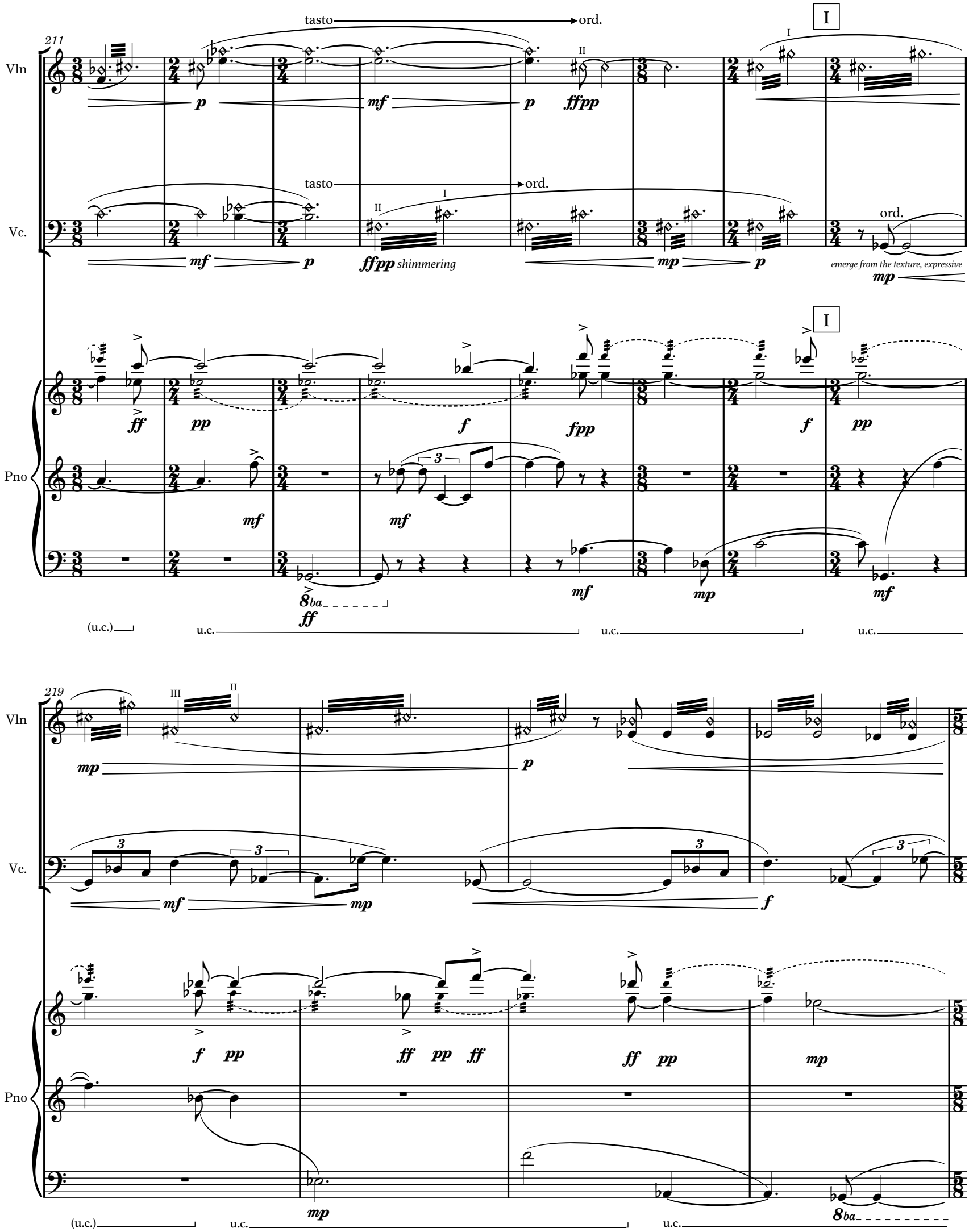
Trem. unobstrusively, but try to maintain the kinetic energy from the previous music

Pno

ff pp ff pp ff pp ff pp f ff pp mf ff pp f

Ped. una corda u.c. u.c. u.c.

ff u.c. u.c.


211
Vln
Vc.
Pno
tasto
ord.
I
II
ffpp shimmering
emerge from the texture, expressive
8ba
(u.c.)
u.c.
219
III

223

Vln

Vc.

Pno

J

pont.

IV

p sub.

ord.

IV

as if straining to reach

mf *p* *mf* *ff* *mp sub.*

ff pp *mp* *ff pp* *mp ff pp* *mf pp*

mf

mp

(8)

(u.c.) u.c. u.c. u.c. u.c.

229

II

(ord.) pont.

mp *p* *ff*

p *mp* *p* *ff*

mf pp *mf pp* *mf pp*

8va

ff

mf

(u.c.) u.c. u.c. u.c.

K

A bit faster than the beginning ♩= 128

234

Vln

tasto

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

msp

mp sub. *shifting moods, uneasy, anxiety creeping in again*

f

Vc.

tasto

msp

mp sub. *shifting moods, uneasy, anxiety creeping in again*

f

K

A bit faster than the beginning ♩= 128

Pno

L

239

Vln

ord.

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

mf

Vc.

ord.

4:3 4:3

mf

L

Pno

f

chimes, ringing

Ped.

244

msp

Vln

ord.

3 3 3

ff

f

msp

Vc.

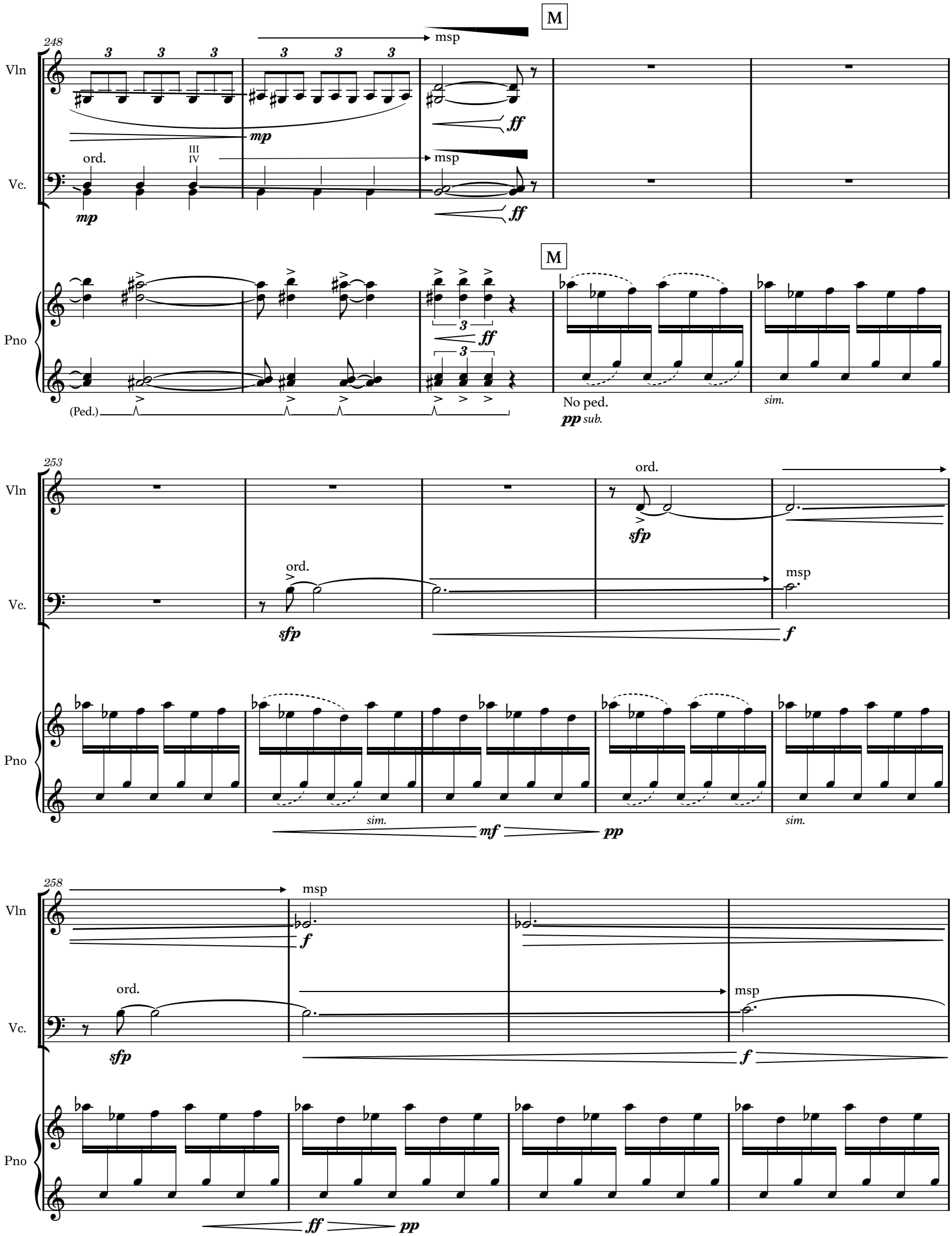
4:3 4:3 4:3 4:3

ff

f

Pno

(Ped.)


248
M
Vln
Vc.
Pno
msp
ord.
III
IV
mp
ff
(Ped.)
No ped.
pp sub.
sim.
253
sfp
f
mf
pp
258

262

Vln

Vc.

Pno

N

tasto

mp ff pp

poco pont.

tr tr

pp mf

N

sim. ff pp sub. sim.

266

pont.

Vln

Vc.

Pno

3 3 3 3 3 3

f

tr tr tr tr

pp f p mf

ff sub. sim.

270

ord.

Vln

Vc.

Pno

p

ord.

3 3 3

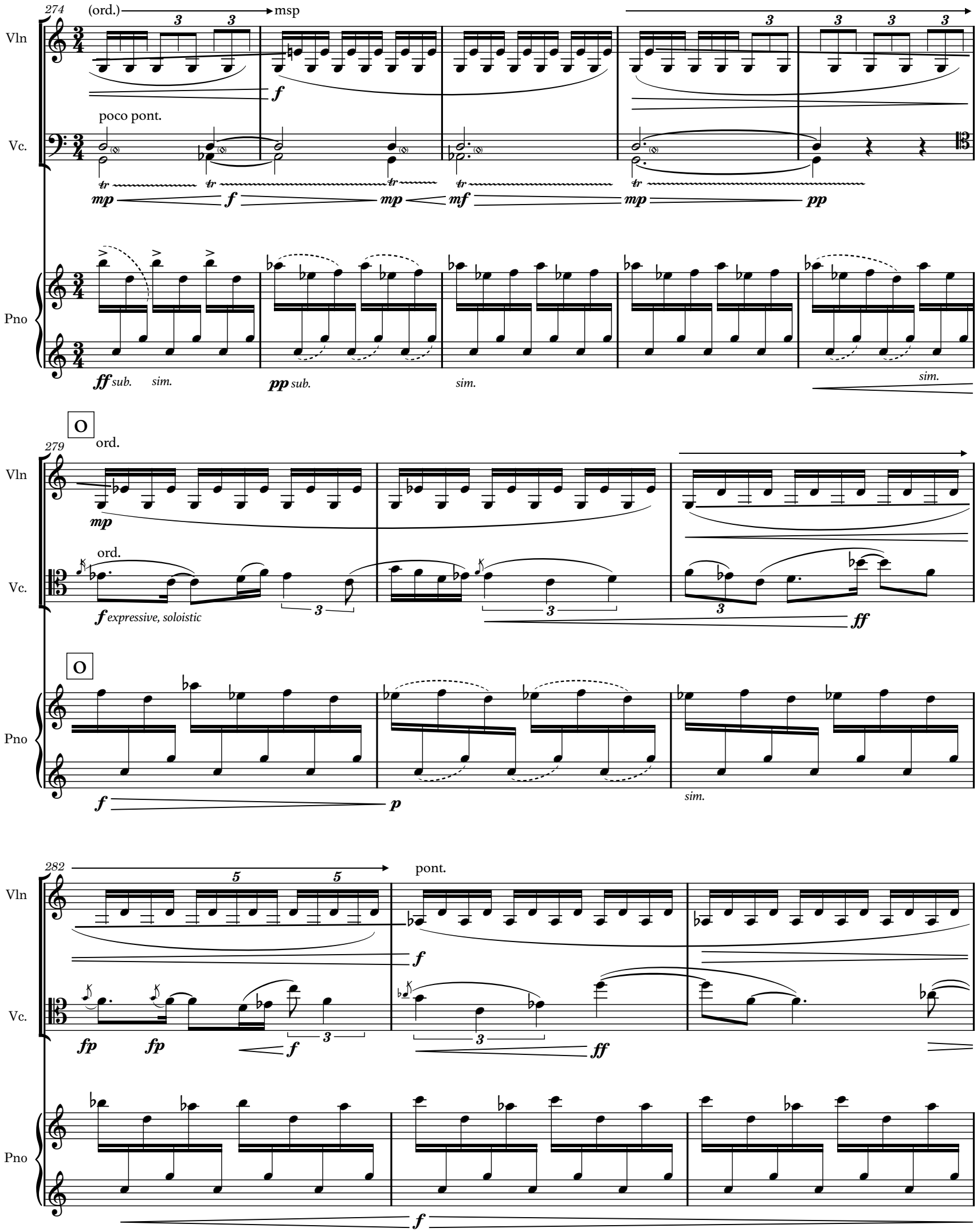
tr tr

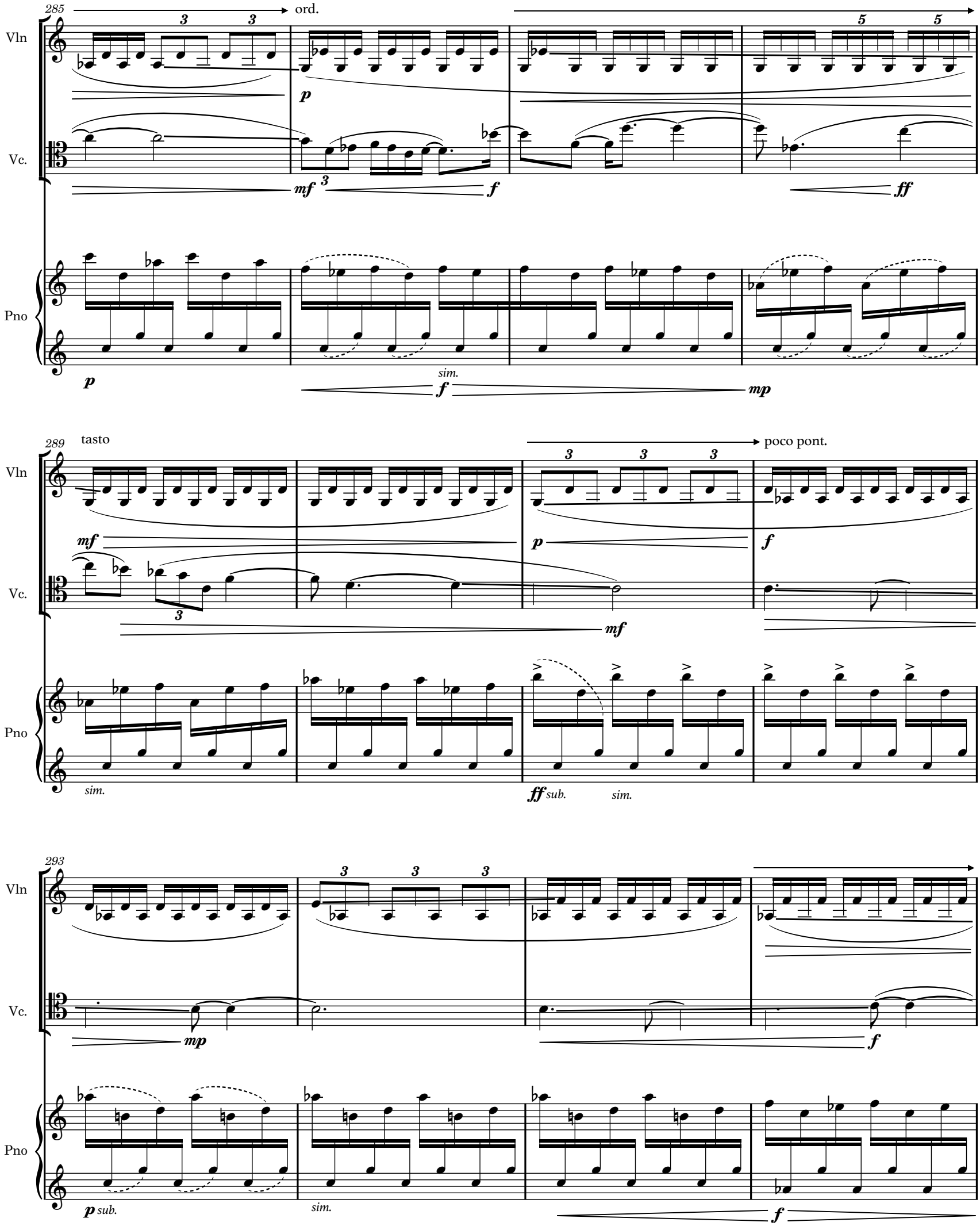
pp mf p

ff sub.

pp sub.

sim. mf mp


274
(ord.)
msp
Vln
poco pont.
Vc.
Pno
ff sub.
sim.
pp sub.
sim.
sim.
O
279
ord.
Vln
ord.
Vc.
f expressive, soloistic
ff
O
Pno
sim.
282
pont.
Vln
Vc.
fp
fp
ff
Pno


285
ord.
Vln
Vc.
Pno
sim.
289
tasto
poco pont.
sim.
ff sub.
sim.
293
p sub.
sim.

297

P

ord.

Vln

mp

Vc.

mp

pont.

f

P

Pno

p

302

pont.

Vln

f

Vc.

ord.

Pno

sim.

f

mp

sim.

306

ord.

msp

Vln

ff

ord.

msp

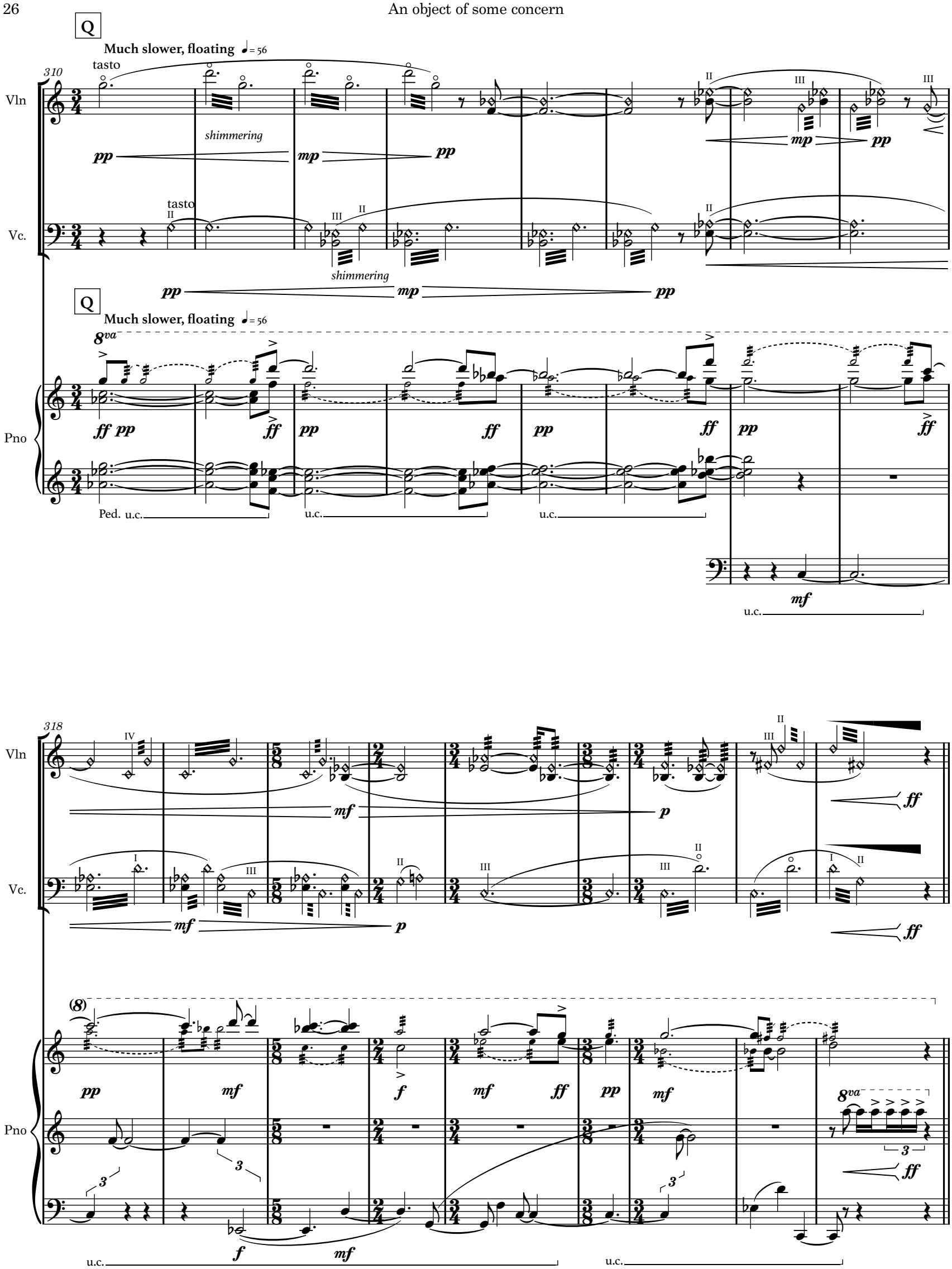
Vc.

ff

Pno

sim.

ff


Q
Much slower, floating ♩= 56
310
tasto
Vln
shimmering
pp
mp
pp
Vc.
tasto
shimmering
pp
mp
pp
Q
Much slower, floating ♩= 56
8va
Pno
ff pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
pp
ff
Ped. u.c.
u.c.
u.c.
mf
u.c.
318
Vln
mf
p
ff
Vc.
mf
p
ff
(8)
pp
mf
f
mf
ff
pp
mf
8va
Pno
ff
u.c.
f
mf
u.c.

R

Fast again, barely controlled ♩= 132

327

Vln

poco pont.

sfp *ff* *sfp*

Vc.

poco pont.

sfp *ff* *sfp*

R

Fast again, barely controlled ♩= 132

extremely anxious now

Pno

8va *both staves*

f

sim. *ff* *sim.*

msp

S

332

Vln

poco pont.

ff *f* *ff*

Vc.

msp

poco pont.

ff 4:3 4:3

f

S

Pno

(8)

mf *ff sub.* *sim.* *sim.* *mf*

pont.

337

Vln

f *ff*

pont.

Vc.

ff *f* *ff*

Pno

(8)

ff sub. *sim.* *f* *sim.*

342

Vln

like an ever-tightening cord about to snap

Vc.

like an ever-tightening cord about to snap

Pno

(8)

ff ***f***

sim.

346

msp

Vln

fff

Vc.

msp

fff

Pno

(8)

mf sub. *sim.* ***ff***

mf sub. ***ff***

mf sub. ***fff***

T

349

pont.

Vln

fp ***ff***

fp ***ff***

fp ***fff***

fp ***ffff***

pont.

Vc.

fp ***ff***

fp ***ff***

fp ***fff***

fp ***ffff***

T

(8)

Pno

fp ***ff***

fp ***ff***

fp ***fff***

fp ***fff***

fp ***ffff***

May 2021
Oyonnax