GREGORY ROWLAND EVANS

T I Ā N S H Ū

天書

析世鑒－世紀末卷

; or, mad writings in a Book from the Sky

for twelve players

2018/19

CONTRABASS

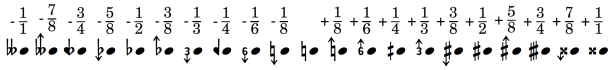
FOREWORD

Tiānshū is the name of an art installation in the form of a book by artist Xu Bing filled with meaningless glyphs in the style of traditional Chinese characters, referred to in English as "A Book from the Sky." The term tiān shū, which can be translated to mean "divine writing," originally referred to religious texts but is now used to mean "gibberish." A possible alternative title could be "Nonsense Writing." The first title of this installation, and the Chinese subtitle of this piece, can be translated to "Mirror to Analyze the World: The Century's Final Volume." I have elected to typeset the Chinese title and subtitle of this piece in traditional Chinese characters rather than simplified characters in the spirit of the traditional nature of Xu Bing's woodcut printing used in the making of Tiānshū, although it is possible that this is not the correct choice. (G.R.E.)

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Score is transposed.

Microtones:



Accidentals apply only to the pitch which they immediately precede.

c.8'

Tianshu is dedicated in admiration and friendship to Trevor Bača, Josiah Wolf Oberholtzer, and Jeffrey Treviño from whom I have learned so much.

T i ā n s h ū

天書

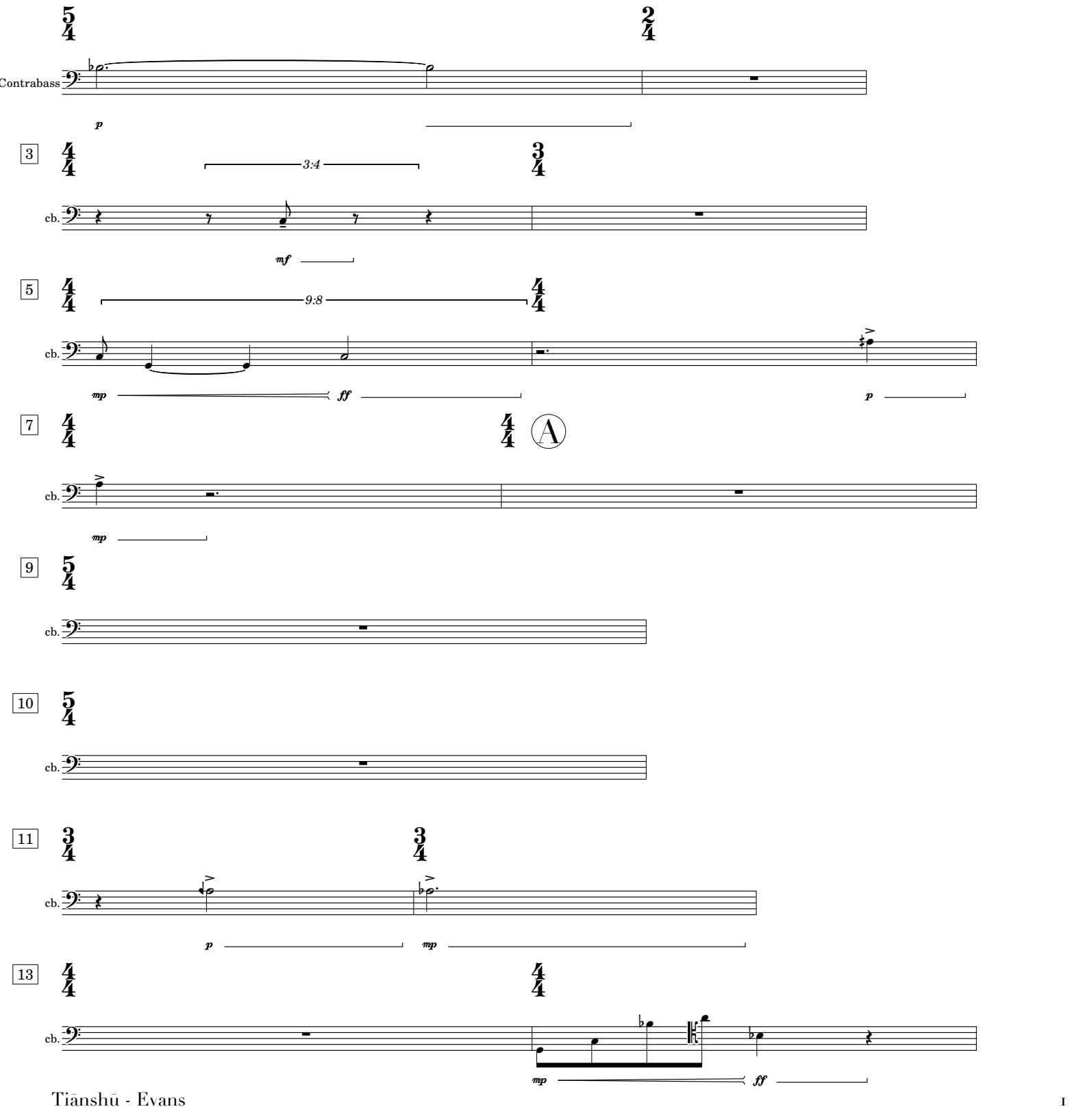
析世鑒－世紀末卷

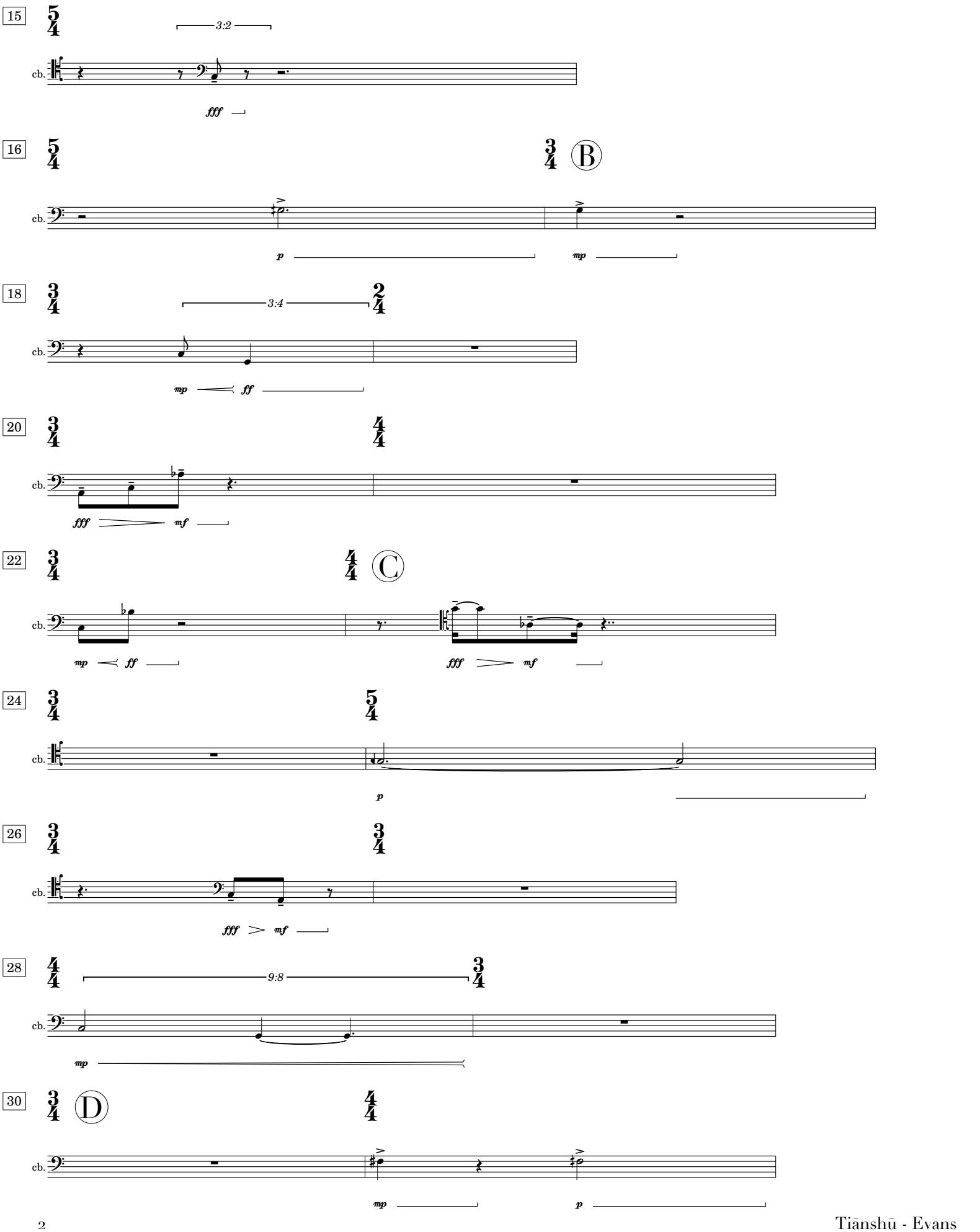
f o r t w e l v e p l a y e r s

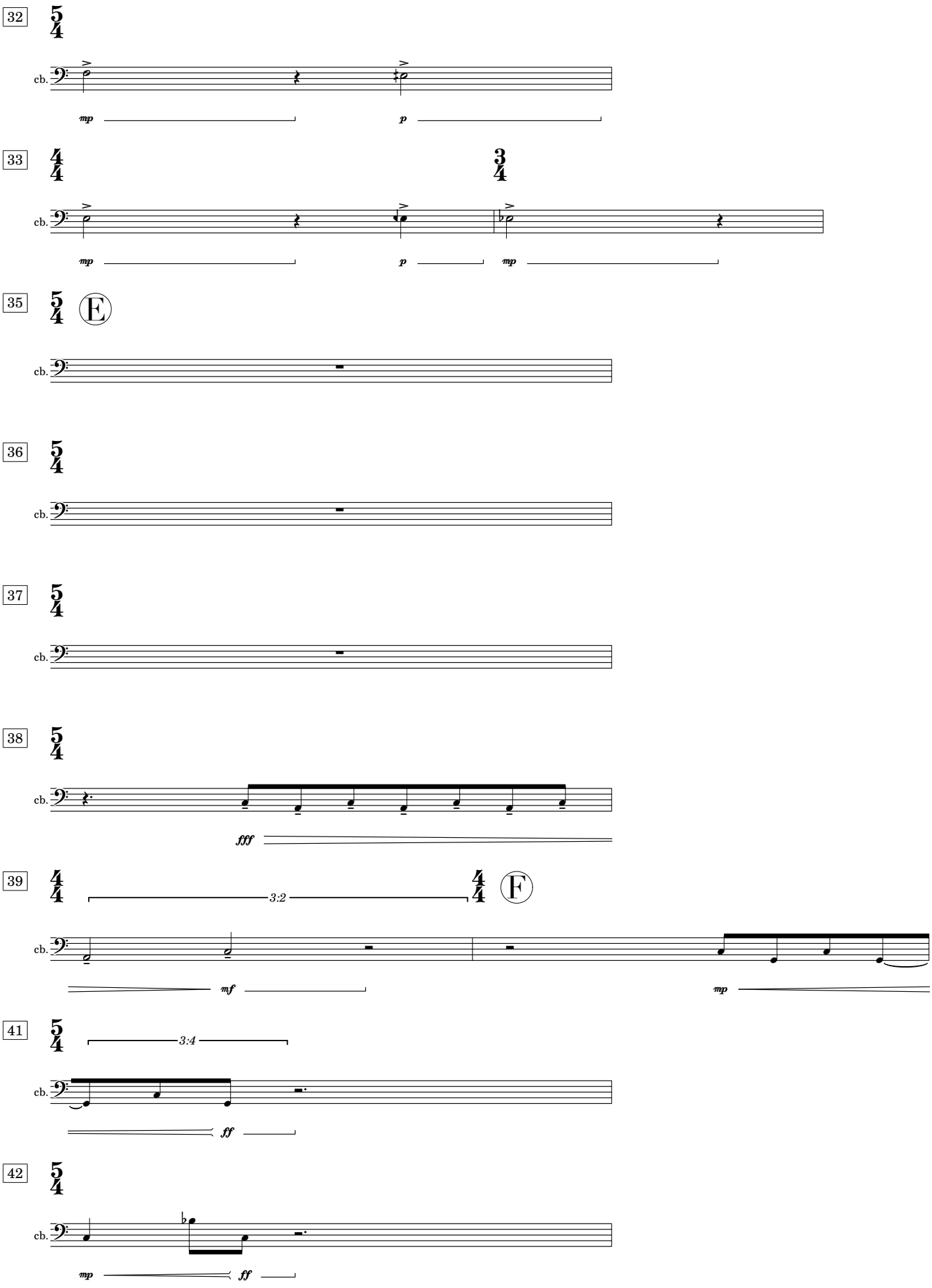
; or, mad writings in a Book from the Sky

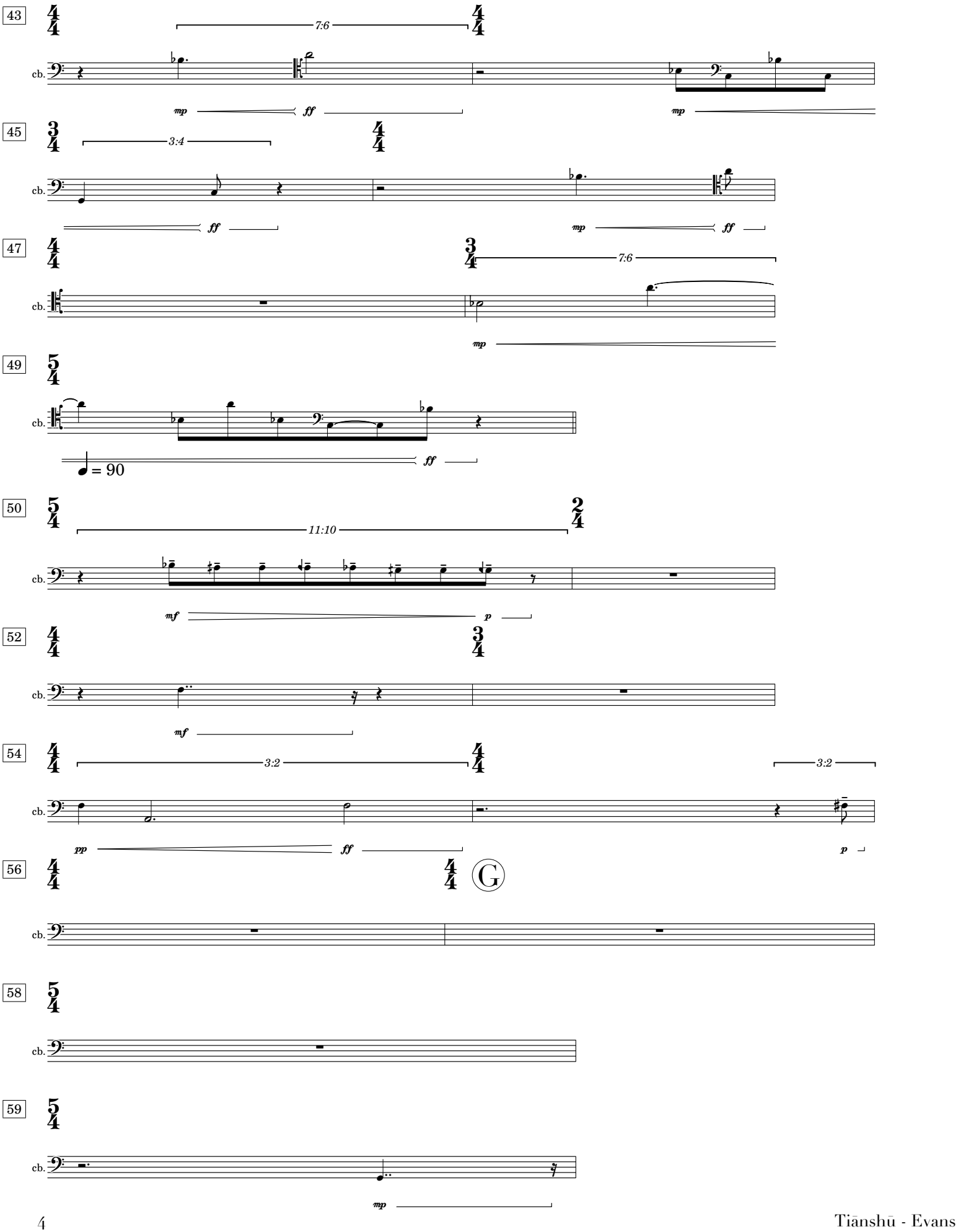
Gregory Rowland Evans

♩ = 108




15
3:2
cb.
fff
16
B
cb.
p
mp
18
3:4
cb.
mp
ff
20
cb.
fff
mf
22
C
cb.
mp
ff
fff
mf
24
cb.
p
26
cb.
fff
mf
28
9:8
cb.
mp
30
D
cb.
mp
p


32
5/4
cb.
mp
p
33
4/4
3/4
cb.
mp
p
mp
35
5/4
E
cb.
36
5/4
cb.
37
5/4
cb.
38
5/4
cb.
fff
39
4/4
3:2
4/4
F
cb.
mf
mp
41
5/4
3:4
cb.
ff
42
5/4
cb.
mp
ff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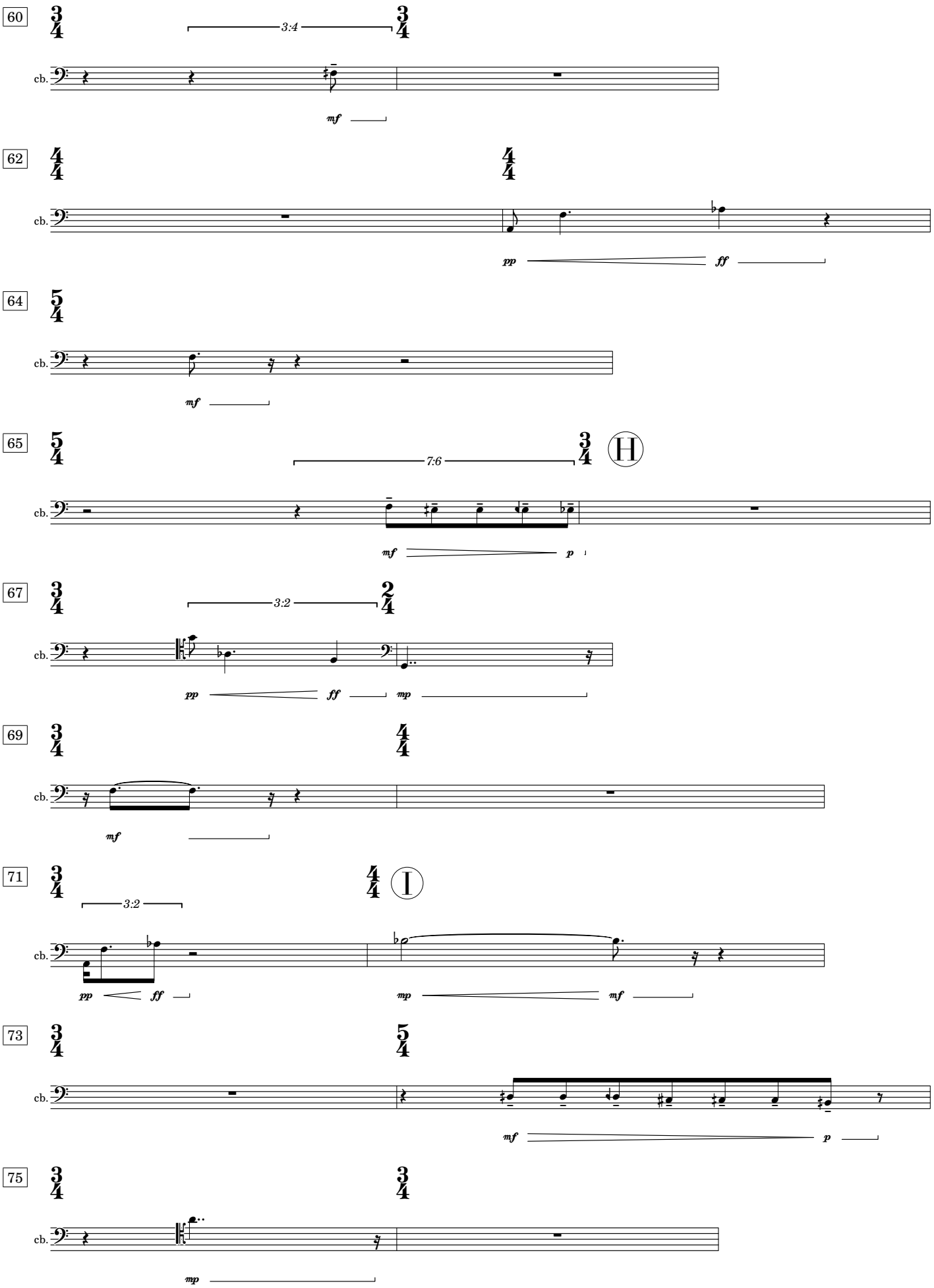
7:6
cb.
mp
ff
mp
45
3:4
cb.
ff
mp
ff
47
7:6
cb.
mp
49
cb.
= 90
ff
50
11:10
cb.
mf
p
52
cb.
mf
54
3:2
3:2
cb.
pp
ff
p
56
G
cb.
58
cb.
59
cb.
mp


60
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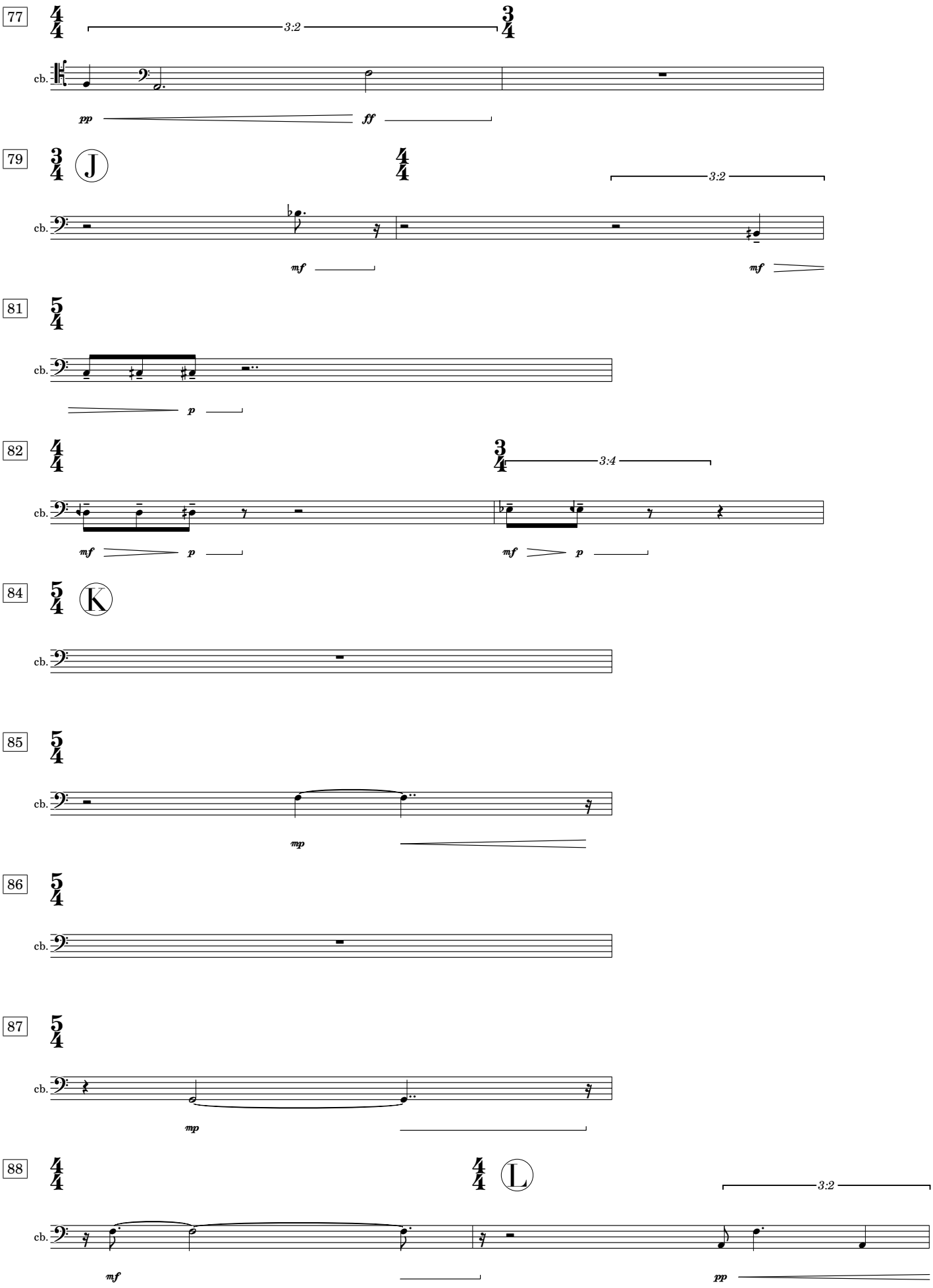
cb.
mf
62
cb.
pp
ff
64
cb.
mf
65
7:6
H
cb.
mf
p
67
3:2
cb.
pp
ff
mp
69
cb.
mf
71
3:2
I
cb.
pp
ff
mp
mf
73
cb.
mf
p
75
cb.
mp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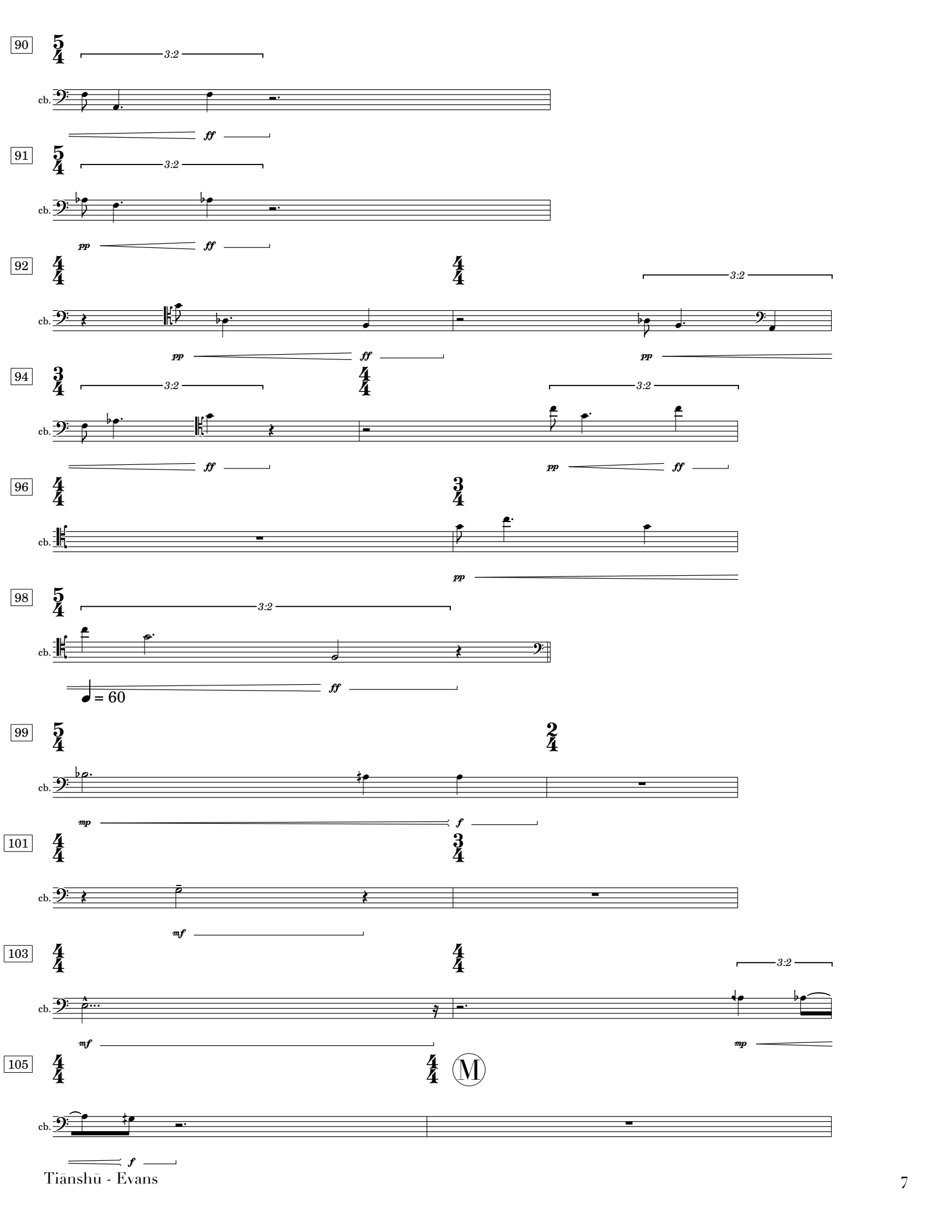
cb.
pp
ff
79
J
mf
mf
81
p
82
3:4
mf
p
mf
p
84
K
85
mp
86
87
mp
88
L
3:2
mf
pp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5/4
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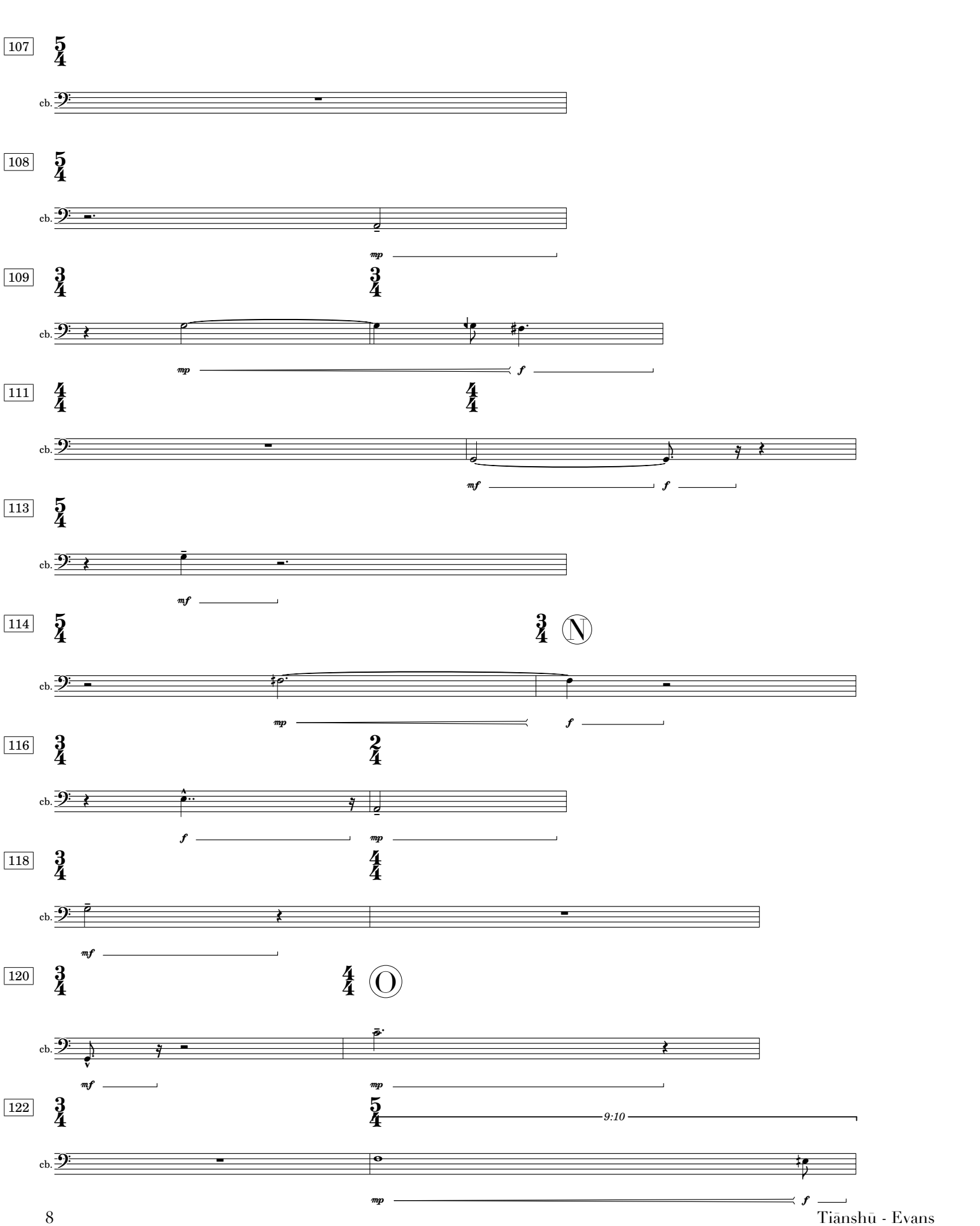
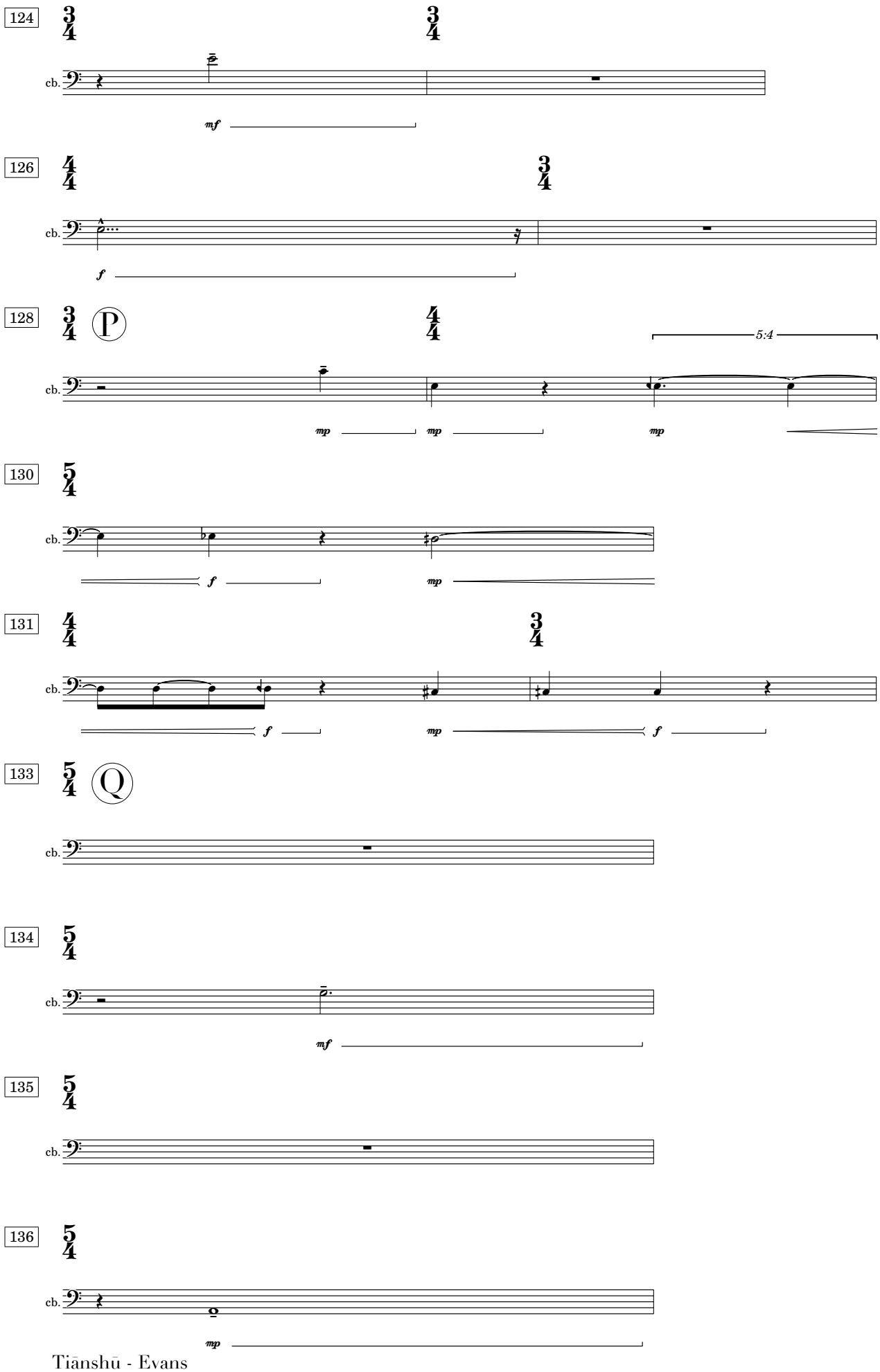
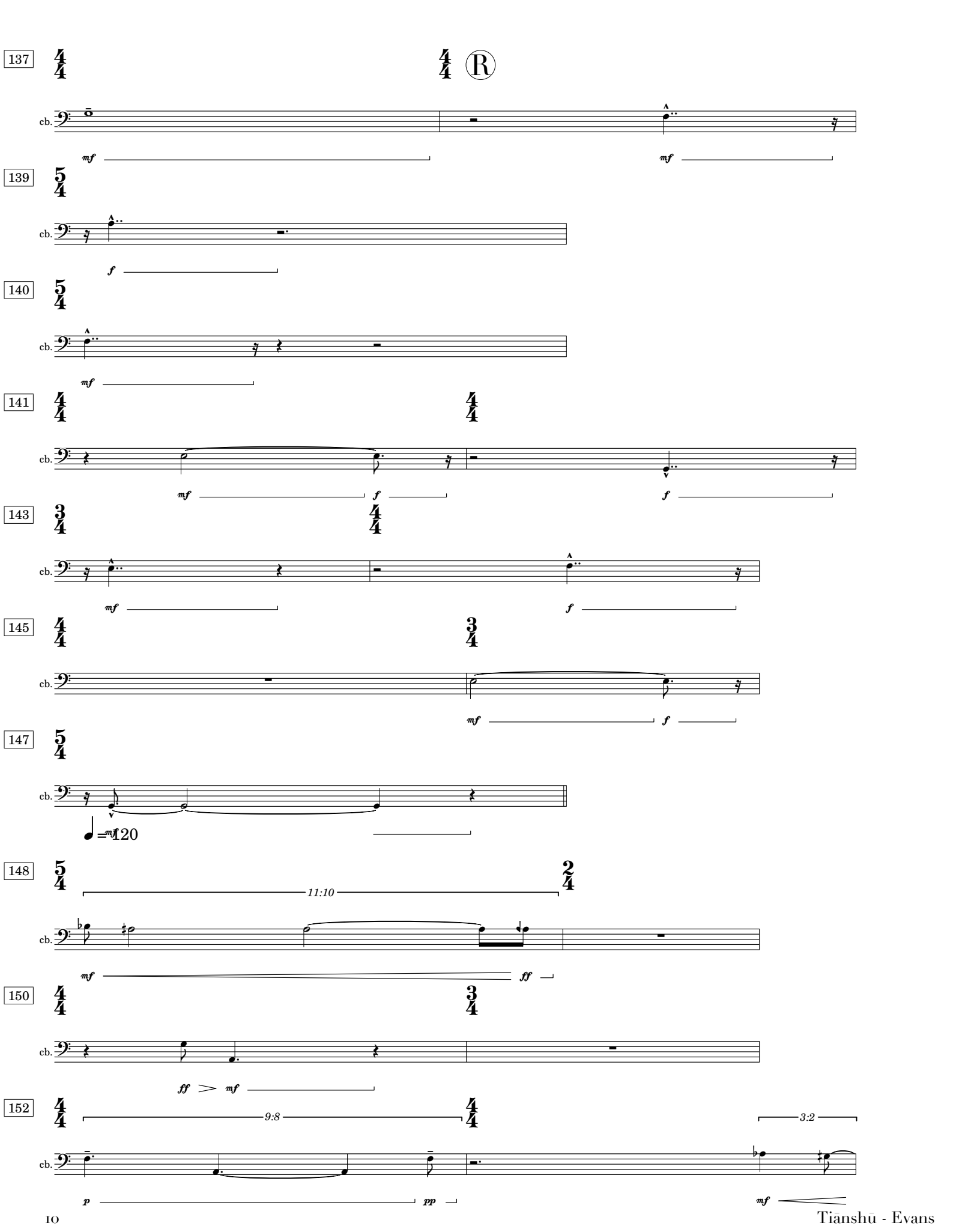
cb.
ff
91
5/4
3:2
cb.
pp
ff
92
4/4
4/4
3:2
cb.
pp
ff
pp
94
3/4
3:2
4/4
3:2
cb.
ff
pp
ff
96
4/4
3/4
cb.
pp
98
5/4
3:2
cb.
= 60
ff
99
5/4
2/4
cb.
mp
f
101
4/4
3/4
cb.
mf
103
4/4
4/4
3:2
cb.
mf
mp
105
4/4
4/4
M
cb.
f


107
cb.
108
cb.
mp
109
cb.
mp
f
111
cb.
mf
f
113
cb.
mf
114
N
cb.
mp
f
116
cb.
f
mp
118
cb.
mf
120
O
cb.
mf
mp
122
9:10
cb.
mp
f


124
3/4
3/4
cb.
mf
126
4/4
3/4
cb.
f
128
3/4
P
4/4
5:4
cb.
mp
mp
mp
130
5/4
cb.
f
mp
131
4/4
3/4
cb.
f
mp
f
133
5/4
Q
cb.
134
5/4
cb.
mf
135
5/4
cb.
136
5/4
cb.
mp


137
139
140
141
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145
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148
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152
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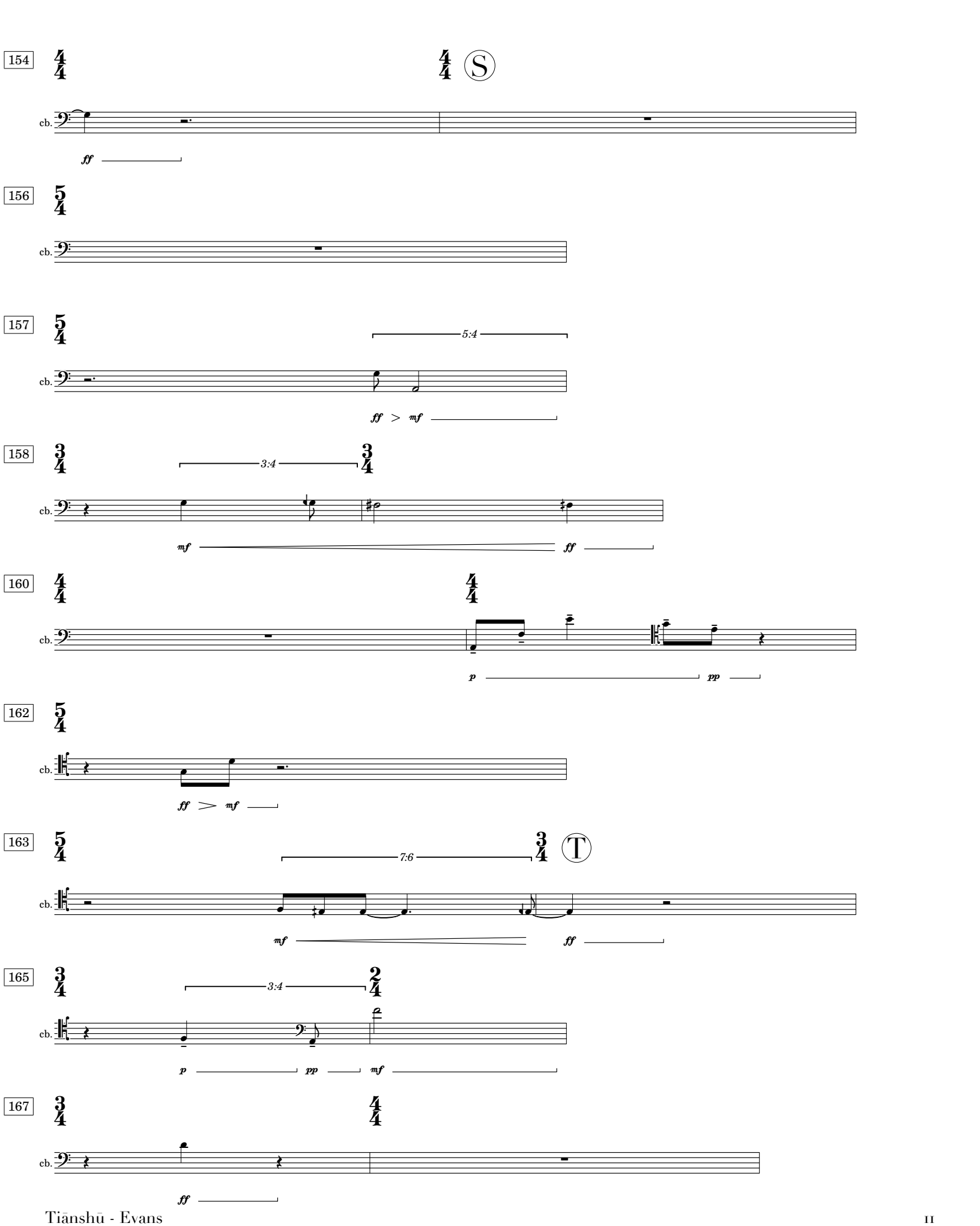
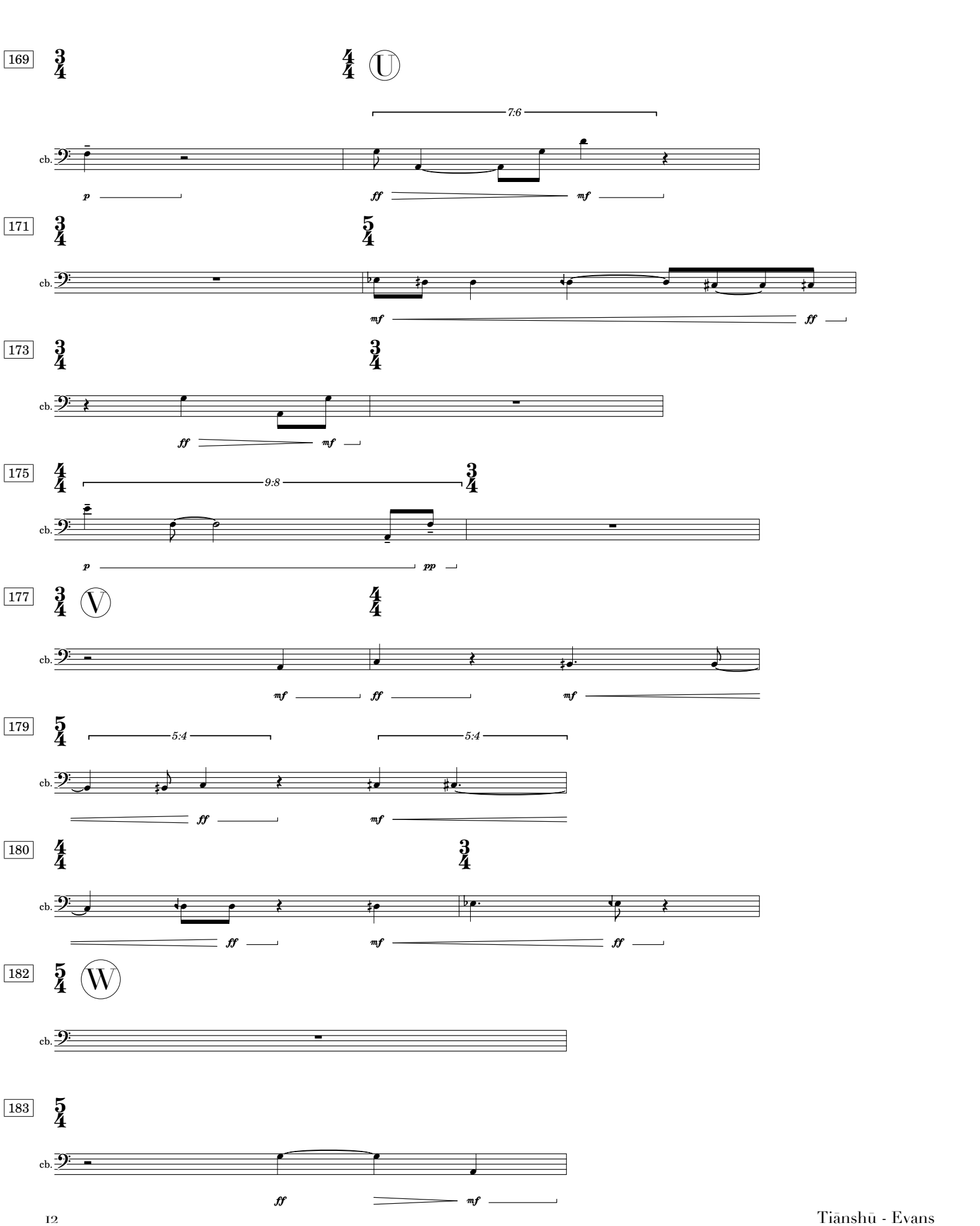
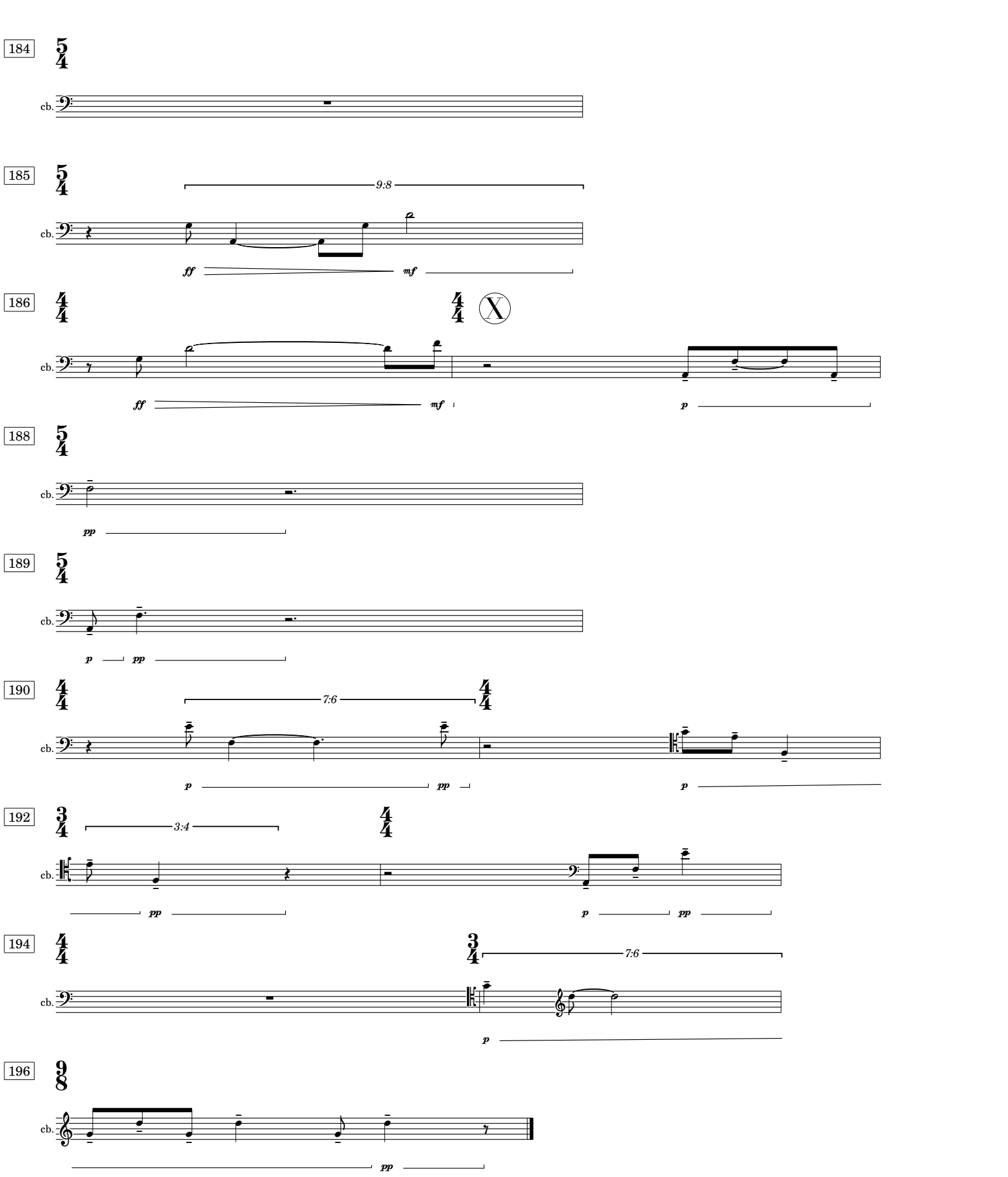
mf
f
11:10
ff
9:8
3:2
pp


154
4/4
4/4
S
cb.
ff
156
5/4
cb.
157
5/4
5:4
cb.
ff > mf
158
3/4
3:4
3/4
cb.
mf
ff
160
4/4
4/4
cb.
p
pp
162
5/4
cb.
ff > mf
163
5/4
7:6
3/4
T
cb.
mf
ff
165
3/4
3:4
2/4
cb.
p
pp
mf
167
3/4
4/4
cb.
ff


169
3/4
4/4
U
7:6
cb.
p
ff
mf
171
3/4
5/4
cb.
mf
ff
173
3/4
3/4
cb.
ff
mf
175
4/4
9:8
3/4
cb.
p
pp
177
3/4
V
4/4
cb.
mf
ff
mf
179
5/4
5:4
5:4
cb.
ff
mf
180
4/4
3/4
cb.
ff
mf
ff
182
5/4
W
cb.
183
5/4
cb.
ff
mf


184
185
9:8
186
188
189
190
7:6
192
3:4
194
7:6
196
cb.
ff
mf
p
pp

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