string quartet no. 1

je m’oppose

aaron grisez

Performance Notes:

Glissandi – In all cases where a final pitch/interval is notated, that final pitch should be preferred (in terms of accuracy/intonation) as opposed to the initial pitch/interval.

Portamento – The portamento effect should approximate glissandi. We should hear distinct pitches at each notehead, but the moments between eighth notes should be blurred.

Up Tempo Swing – This ironic interlude should come completely out of nowhere. The conventional swing eighth note should be used, but 16ths should still be straight. This moment should come out of nowhere as a non-sequitur. It is a moment of hilarity amidst the realization of the characters' doom where the three characters laugh at the absurdity of their situation.

Program Notes:

je m'oppose is a nearly literal manifestation of the internal struggle of one with internal demons. Three characters, a despot, a bullshitter, and an ignoramus find themselves in opposition with one and other. The despot (critical) is calculating and analytical. The bullshitter (creative) is cunning and political. The ignoramus (childlike) is naïve and passive.

As aggressors, the three characters fall into chaos much in the same way the three characters in Sartre's *No Exit* realize they have been sent into hell. The musical materials characteristic of each are juxtaposed in a variety of ways to mirror their conflict.

aaron grisez – 12/10/17
orange, CA

Score

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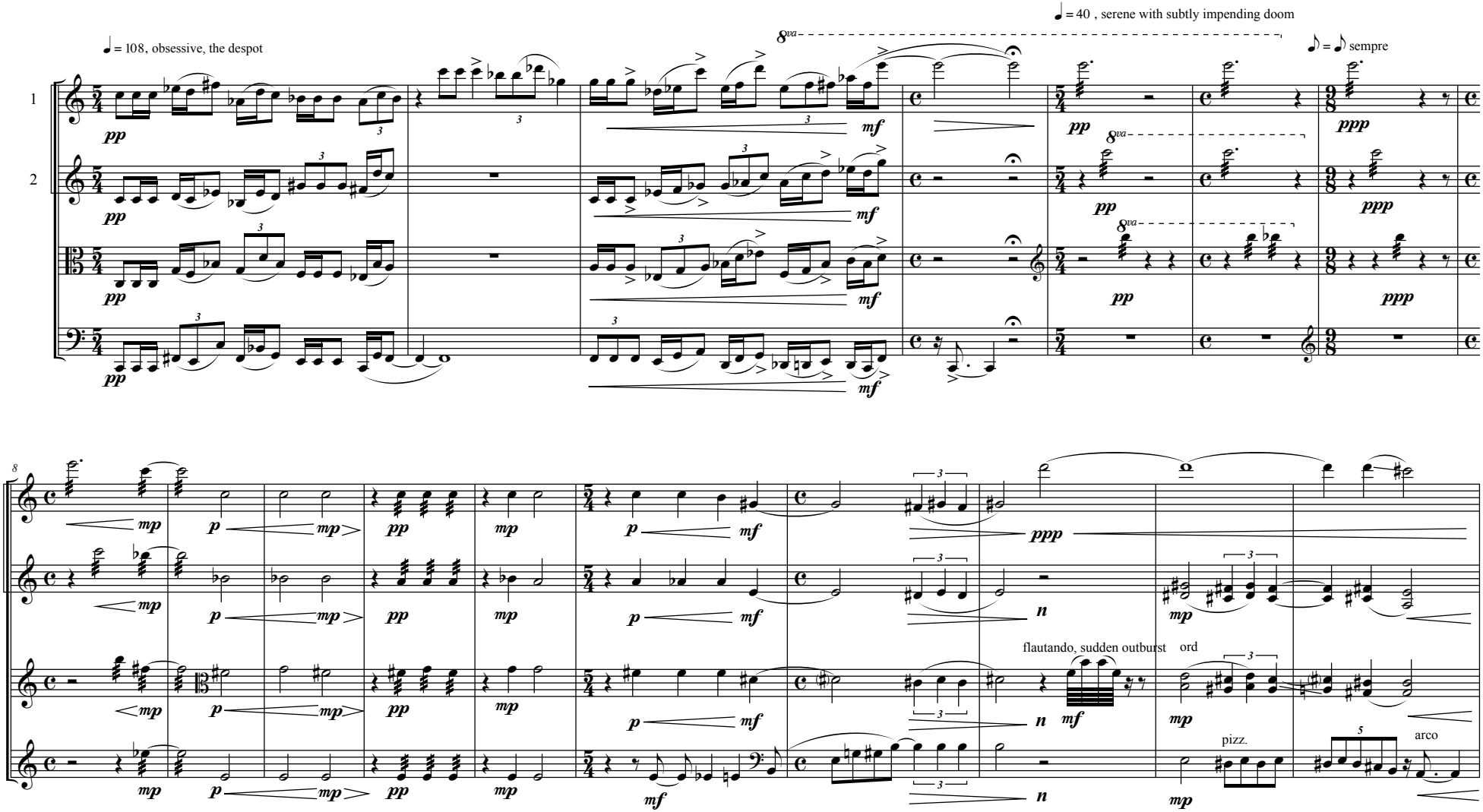
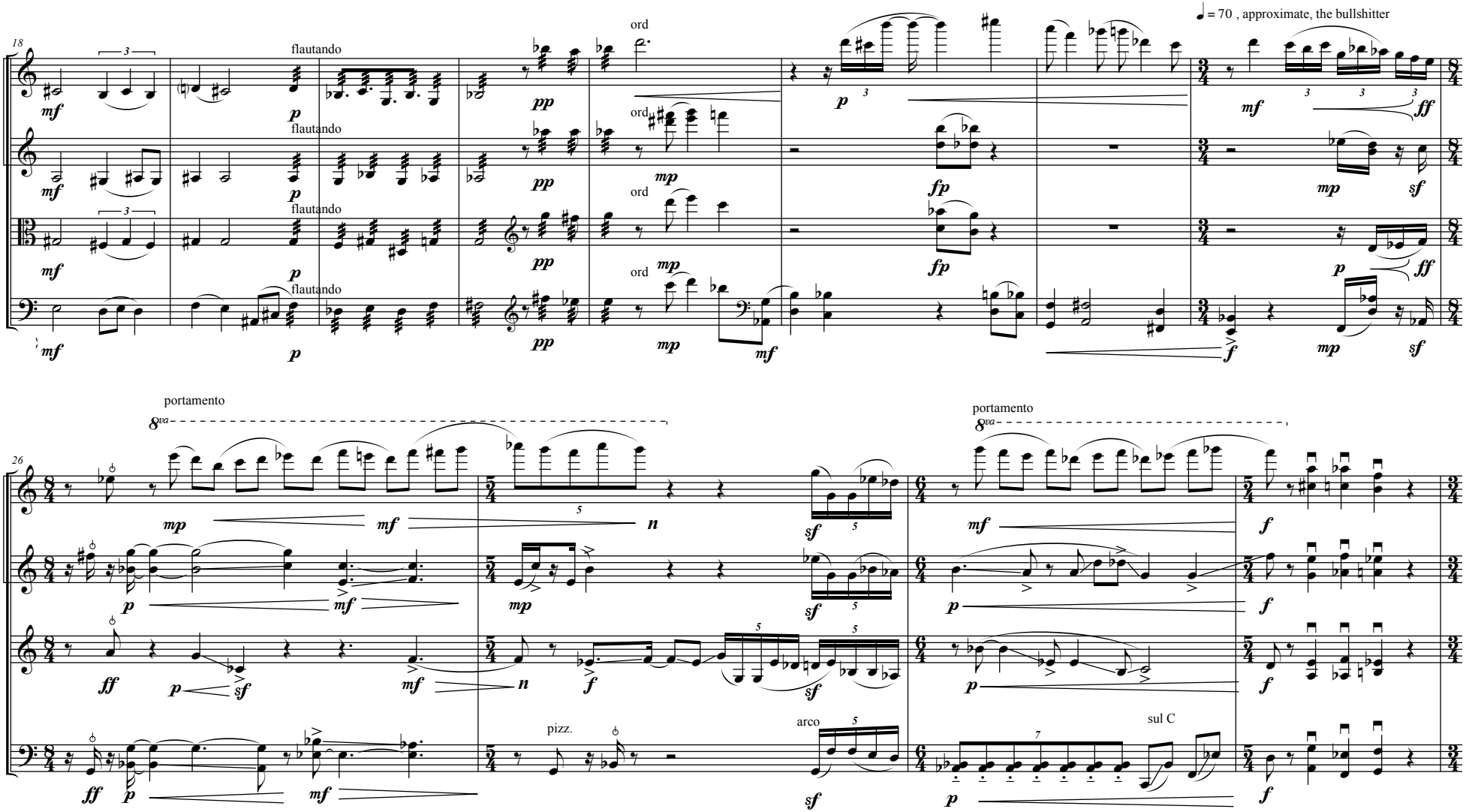
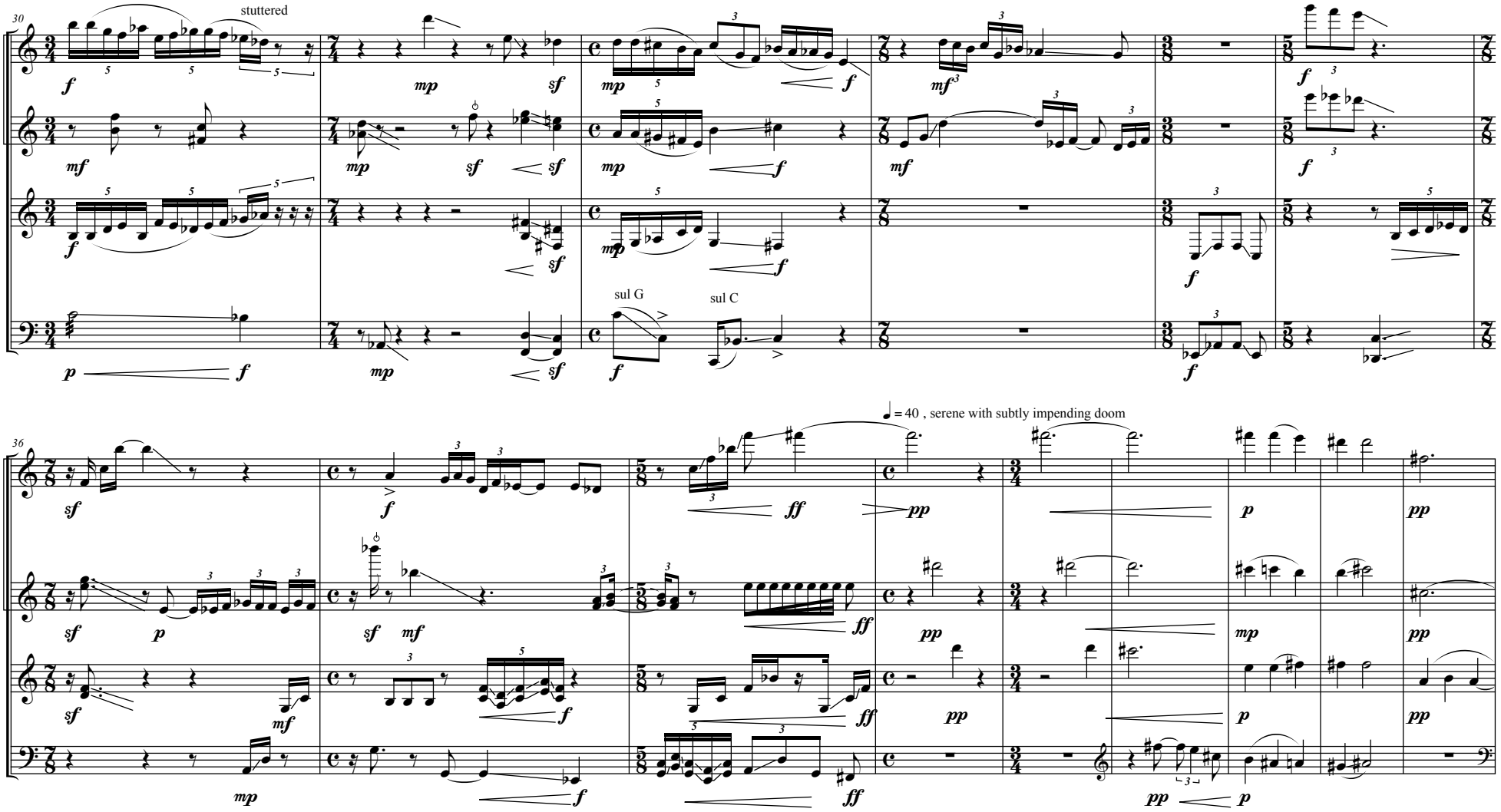
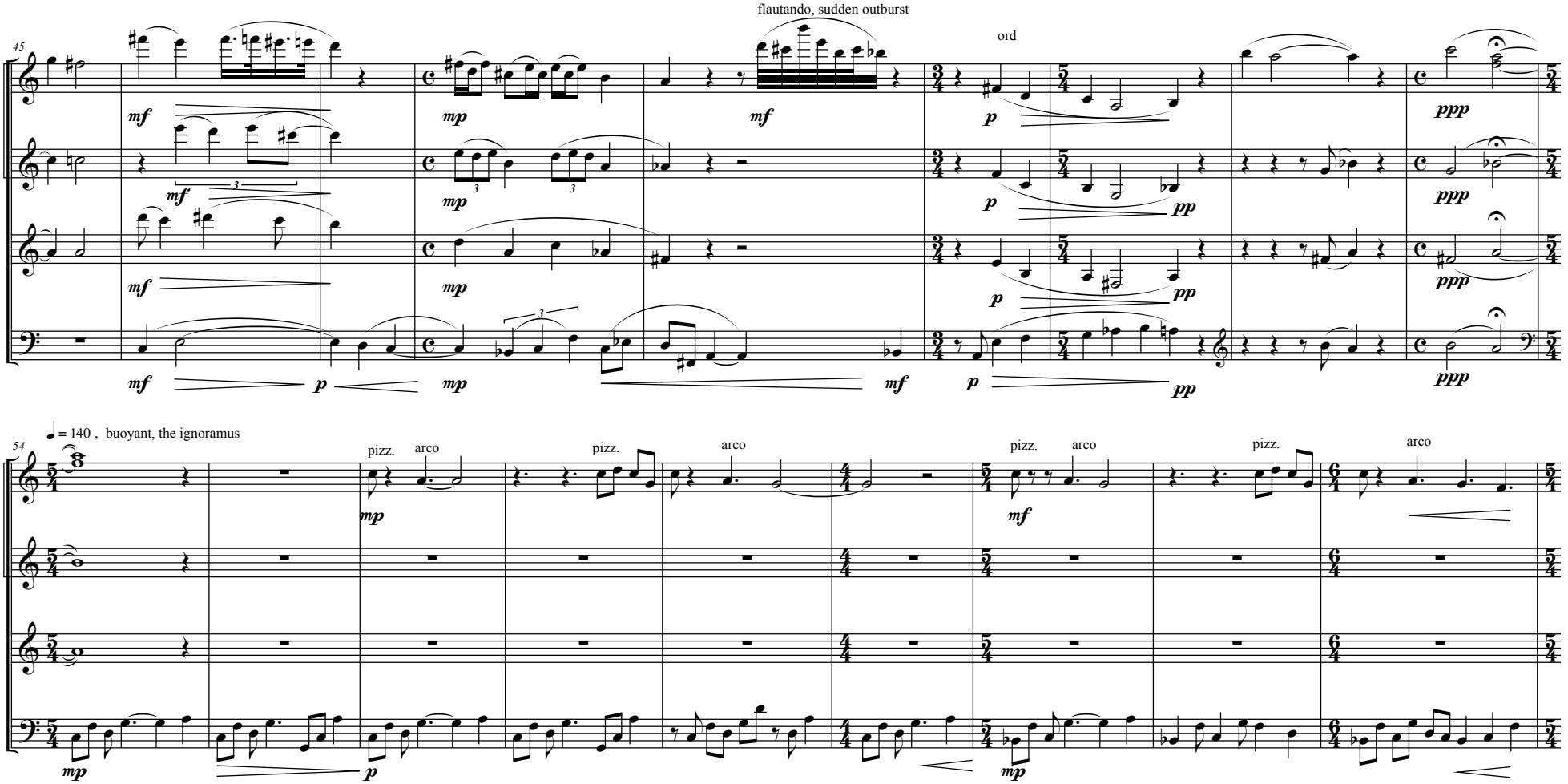
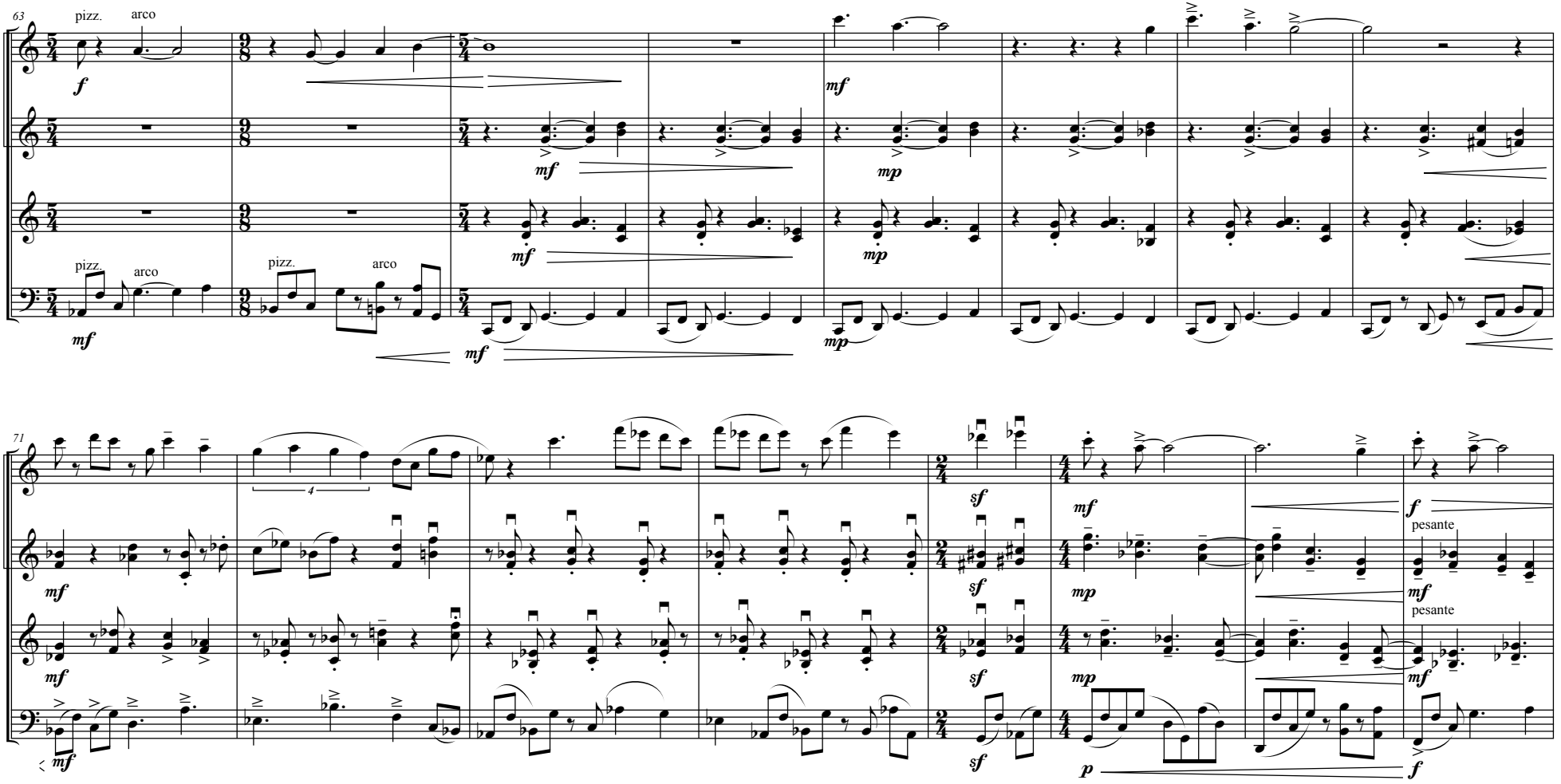
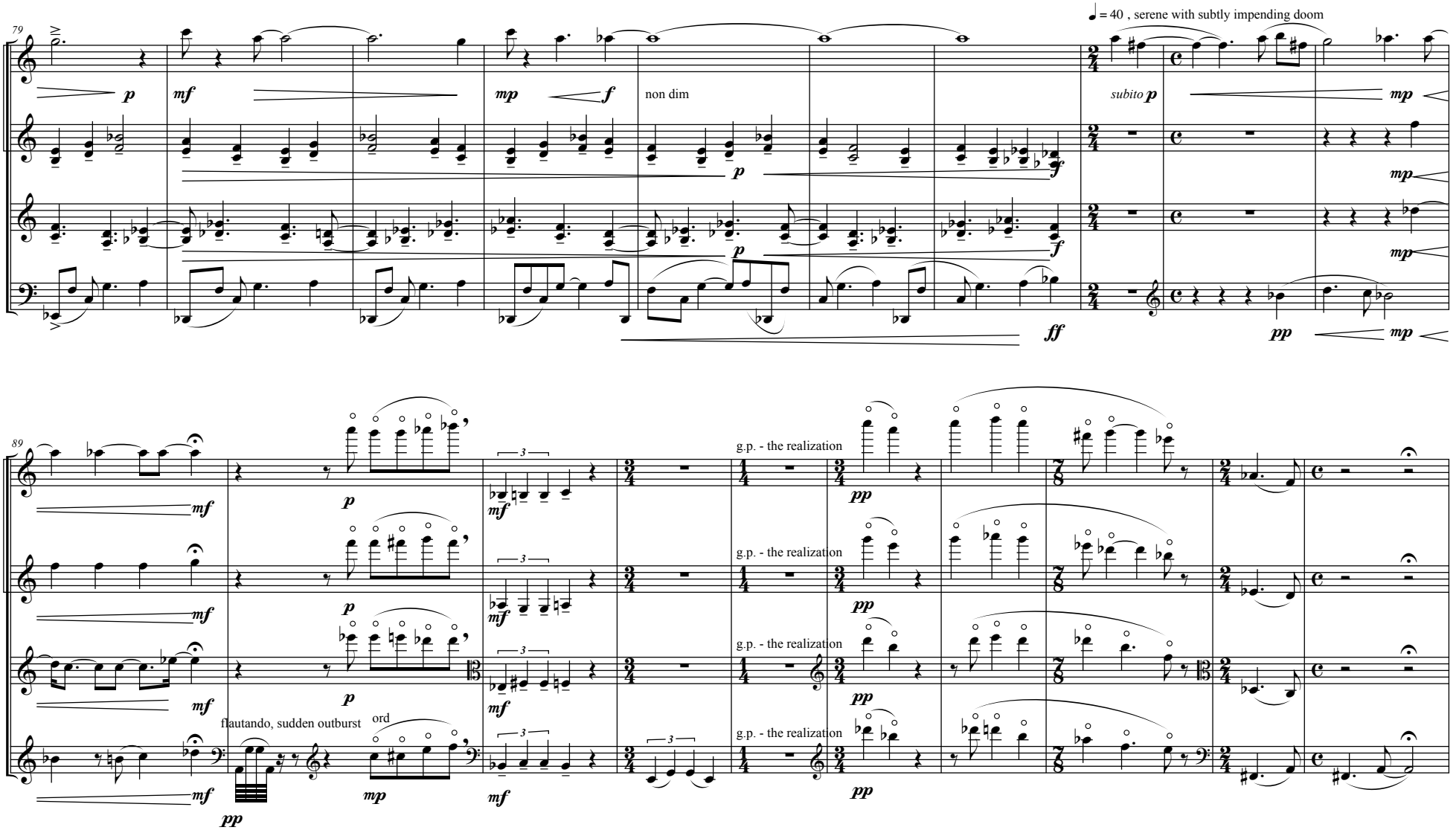



18
flautando
ord
♩ = 70 , approximate, the bullshitter
26
portamento
8va
pizz.
arco
sul C

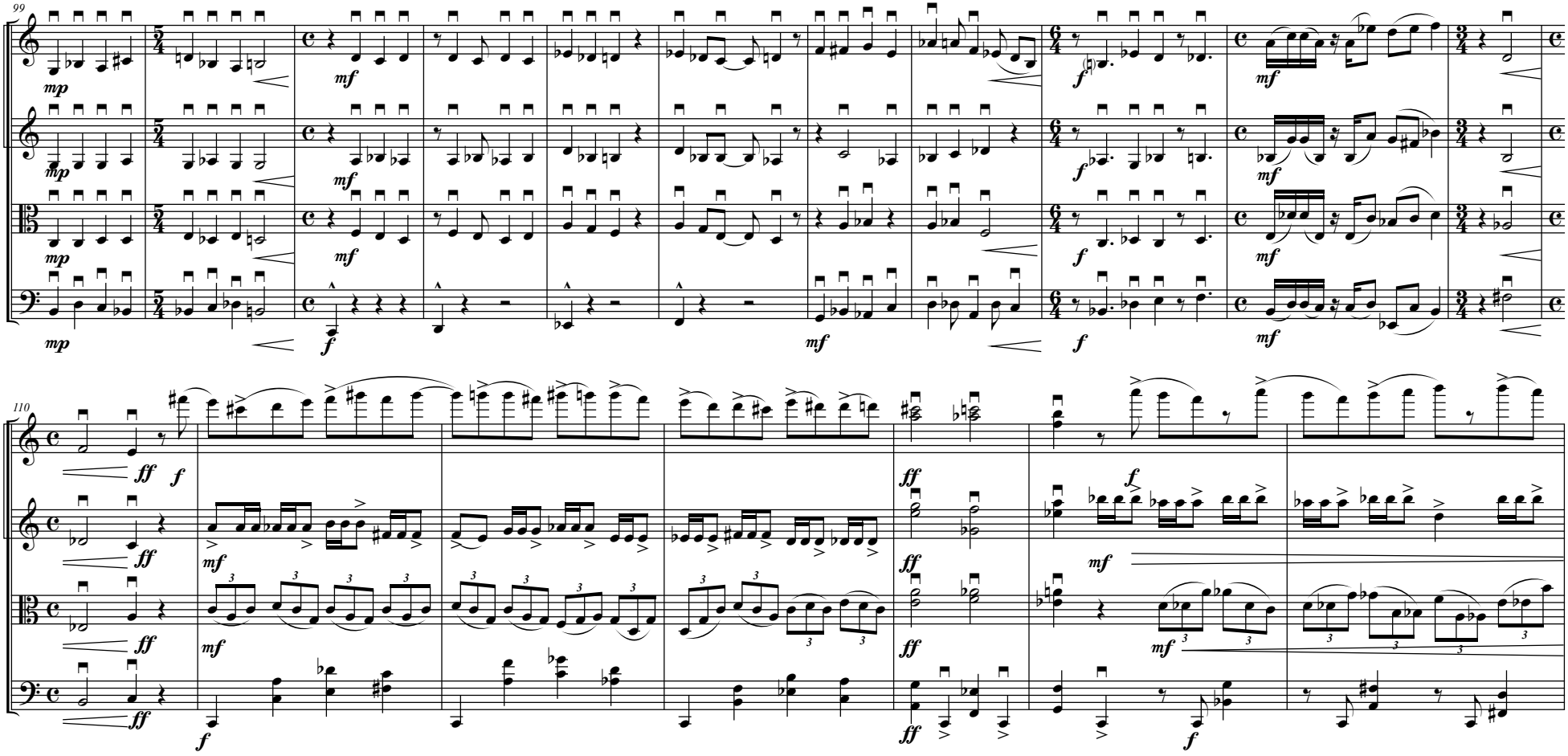

30
stuttered
sul G
sul C
36
♩ = 40 , serene with subtly impending doom

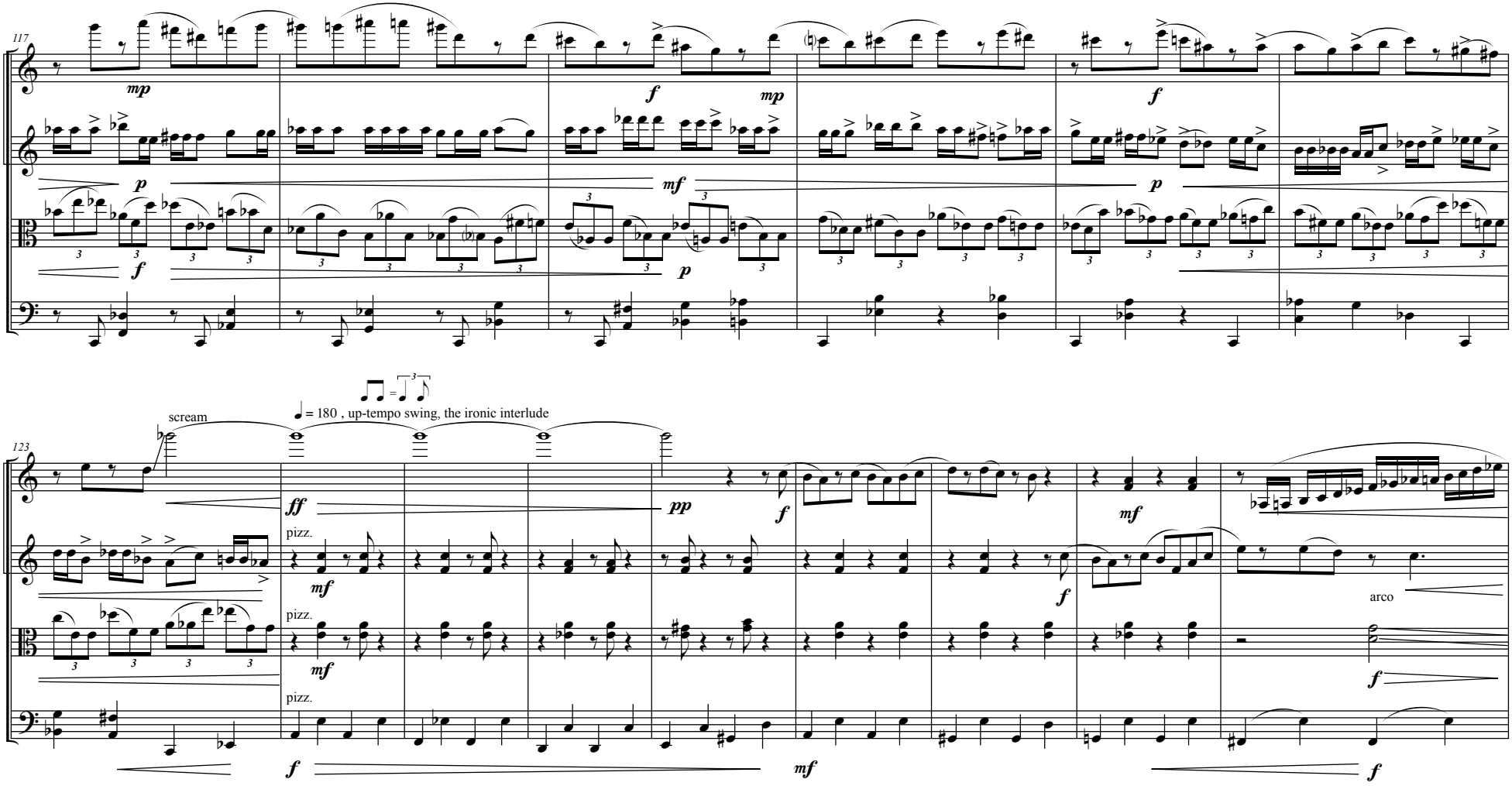

45
flautando, sudden outburst
ord
54
♩ = 140 , buoyant, the ignoramus
pizz.
arco

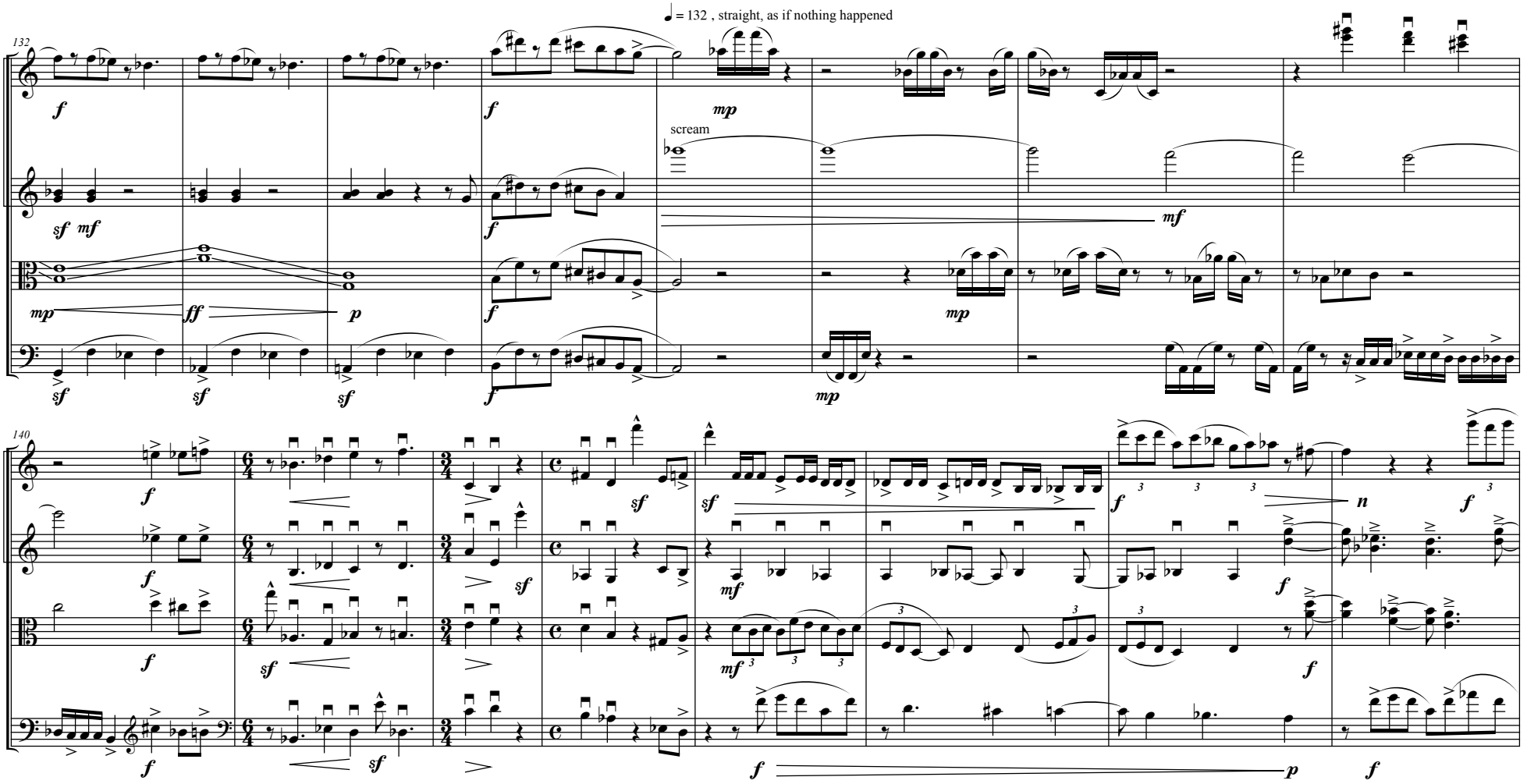

63
pizz.
arco
f
mf
mp
pizz.
arco
pizz.
arco
mf
mf
mp
mf
mp
71
4
sf
mf
f
pesante
mf
mp
mf
pesante
mf
sf
mp
mf
mf
sf
p
f

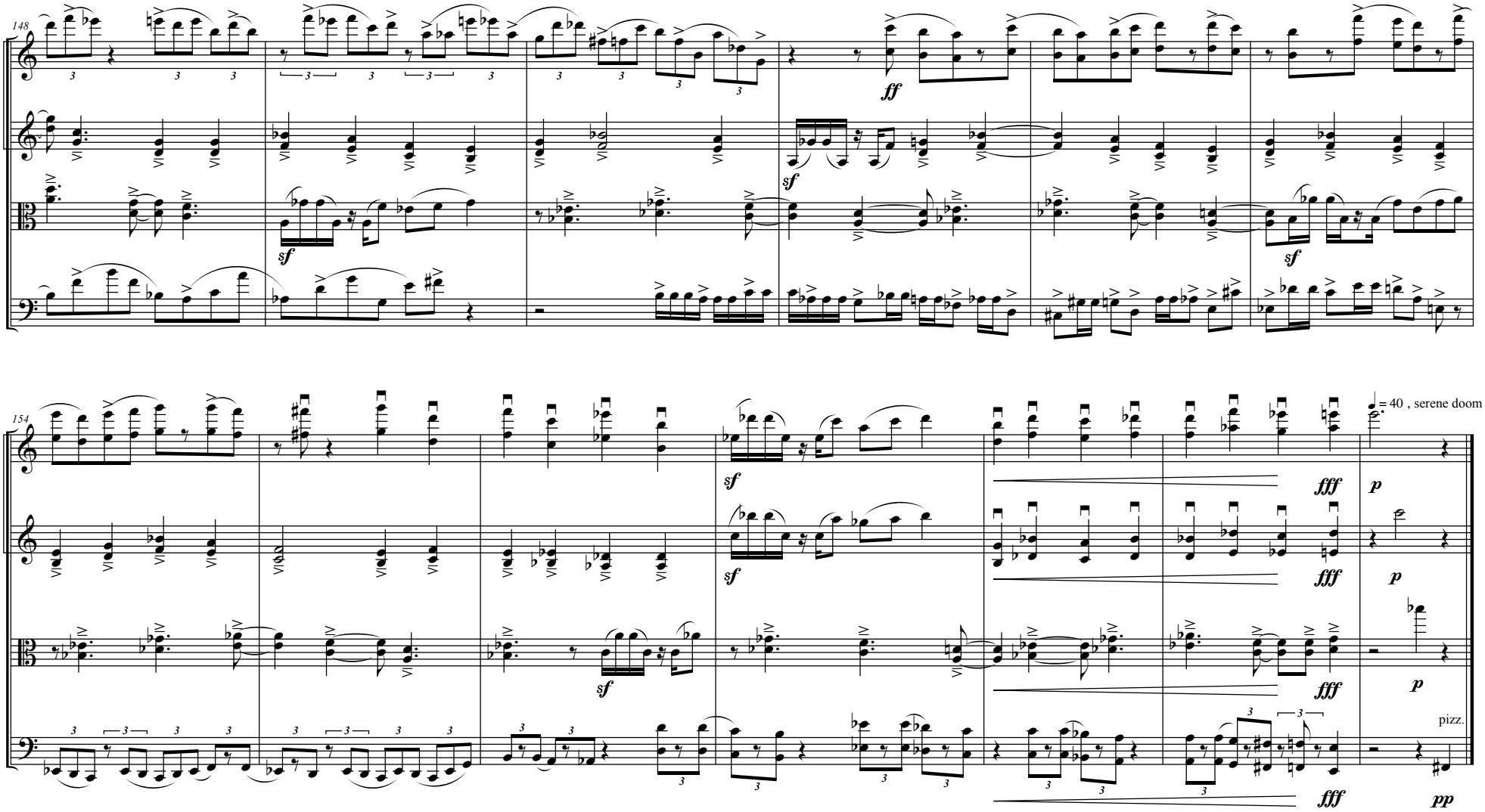

79
♩ = 40 , serene with subtly impending doom
non dim
subito p
89
g.p. - the realization
g.p. - the realization
g.p. - the realization
g.p. - the realization
flautando, sudden outburst
ord

♩ = 132, detaché, aggressive, the conflict




117
mp
f
mp
p
mf
f
p
f
p
123
scream
= 180 , up-tempo swing, the ironic interlude
ff
pp
f
mf
pizz.
mf
pizz.
mf
pizz.
f
f
mf
f
arco
f


♩ = 132 , straight, as if nothing happened
132
scream
140


148
ff
sf
sf
154
sf
sf
sf
fff
fff
fff
fff
p
p
p
= 40 , serene doom
pizz.
pp