Geysir

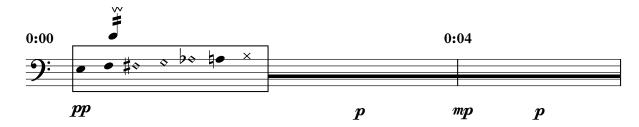
for seven pianists and electronics

Christopher Luna-Mega (2016)

Performance notes

Time

The piece must be performed with a stopwatch. Each bar is 4 seconds long and always includes a time cue:



Pitch (categories of predominance)

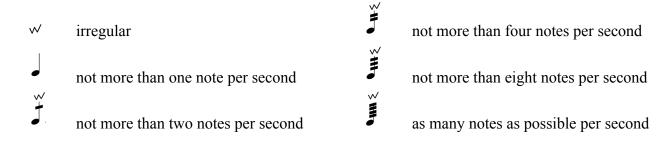


Until a new box or silence suggest a change, perform the pitches from the box considering the following categories:

- High presence
- Medium presence
- × Low presence

Rhythm (categories of saturation)

Each boxed pitch material should always be performed using either of the following rhythmic categories. The symbol \forall , indicates all rhythms performed must be irregular, never repeating pulses or rhythms):



Technical requirements

There are several options for performance of this piece, considering the availability of resources in the performance space. The options range from an abundant resource scenario to a simple setup. The following is the setup used for the premier of the piece in Old Cabell Hall, at the University of Virginia, in October 2016.

- 1 piano on stage; 3 pianos outside the concert hall, in practice rooms (sound proof) and telematically amplified in the hall.
- 7 microphones (assortment of cardioid condenser microphones, among them AKG 414 or similar)
- XLR cables
- Stage snake (minimum 8-channel input)
- 7 microphone stands
- 7 loudspeakers (placed surrounding the audience)
- Mixing board
- Laptop with a Digital Audio Workstation (Logic, Reaper, etc.)

Electronics

The electronics of the piece are seven tracks with seven frequency strata of the field recording of the geyser from which the piano parts are derived. Each track corresponds to the frequency range of each of the piano parts. The tracks are the following:

Geyser 1 (33-65 Hz) Geyser 2 (65-131 Hz) Geyser 3 (131-262 Hz) Geyser 4 (262-523 Hz) Geyser 5 (523-1047 Hz) Geyser 6 (1047-2093 Hz) Geyser 7 (2093-4186 Hz)

The electronic performer follows the score at the mixer board, mainly controlling the dynamics of the electronics and of the pianists.

The electronic tracks will be provided for performance upon request.

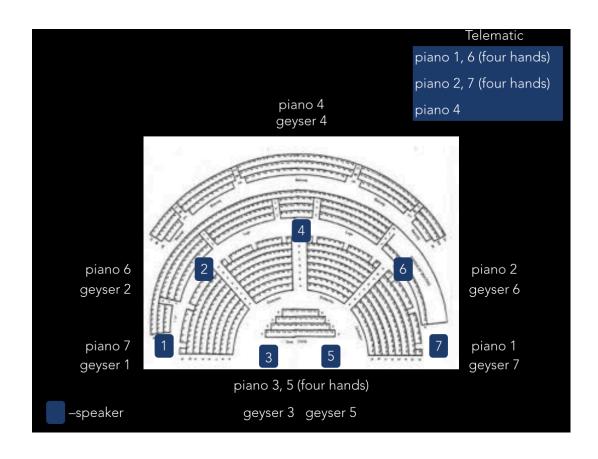
Setup

- Three of the four pianos are played four hands. The distribution of the parts are the following:

Piano parts 1 and 6	Offstage piano 1
Piano parts 2 and 7	Offstage piano 2
Piano part 4	Offstage piano 3
Piano parts 3 and 5	Stage piano

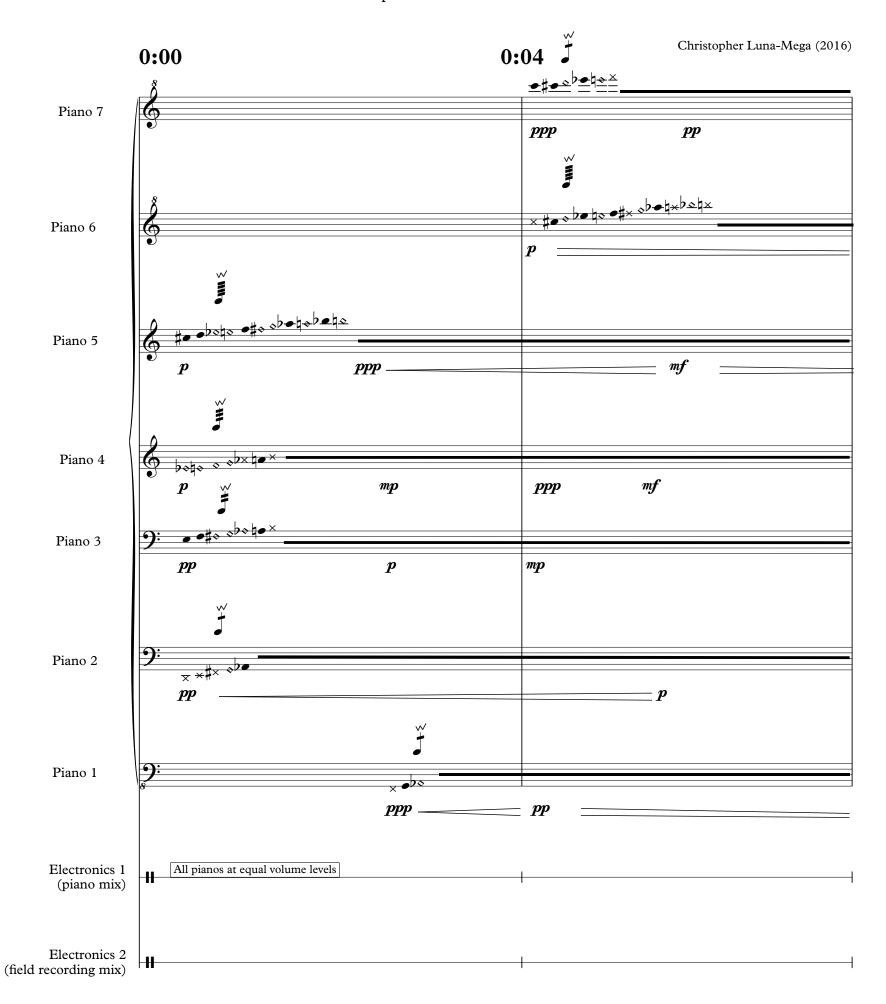
- Microphones must be as close to the strings as possible, in order to pick the minimum amount of sound from the pianist at the opposite end
- Routing of Piano parts and Electronics to loudspeakers (see diagram below):

Geyser 1 (track 1 of the electronics) / Piano 7	Speaker 1
Geyser 2 / Piano 6	Speaker 2
Geyser 3 / Piano 5	Speaker 3
Geyser 4 / Piano 4	Speaker 4
Geyser 5 / Piano 3	Speaker 5
Geyser 6 / Piano 2	Speaker 6
Geyser 7 / Piano 1	Speaker 7

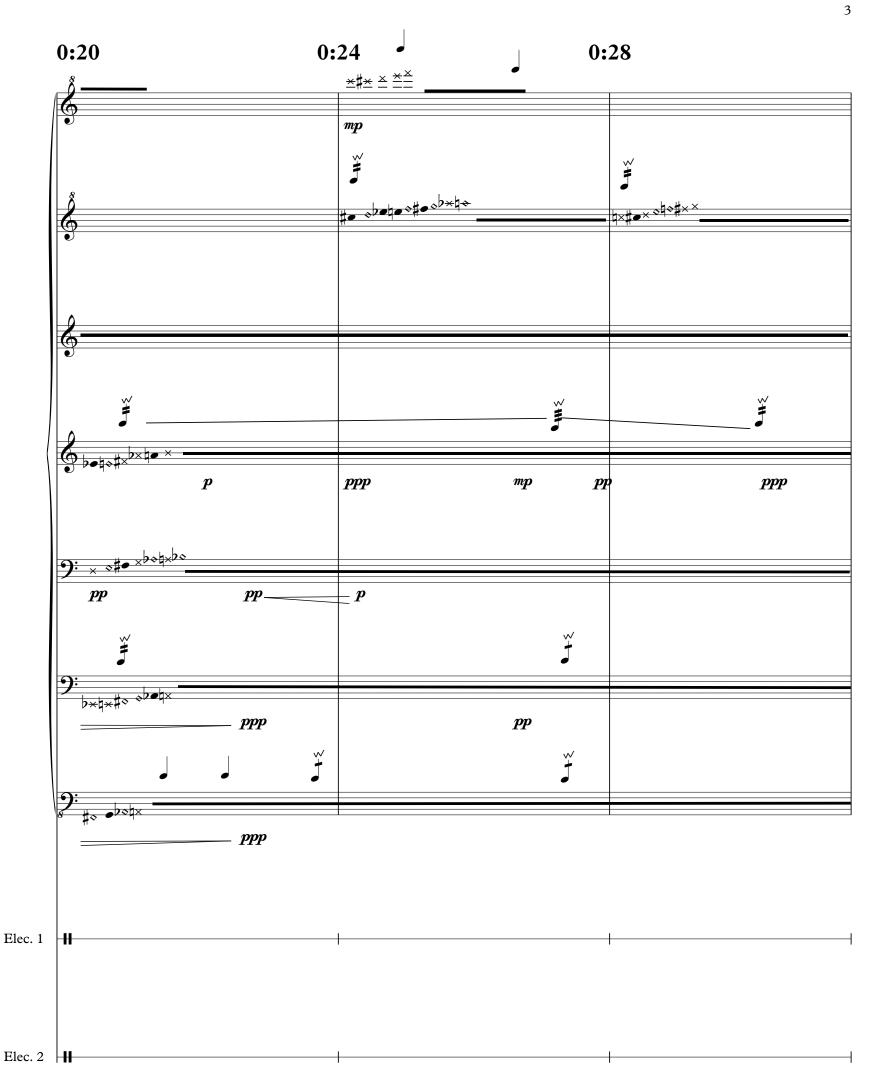


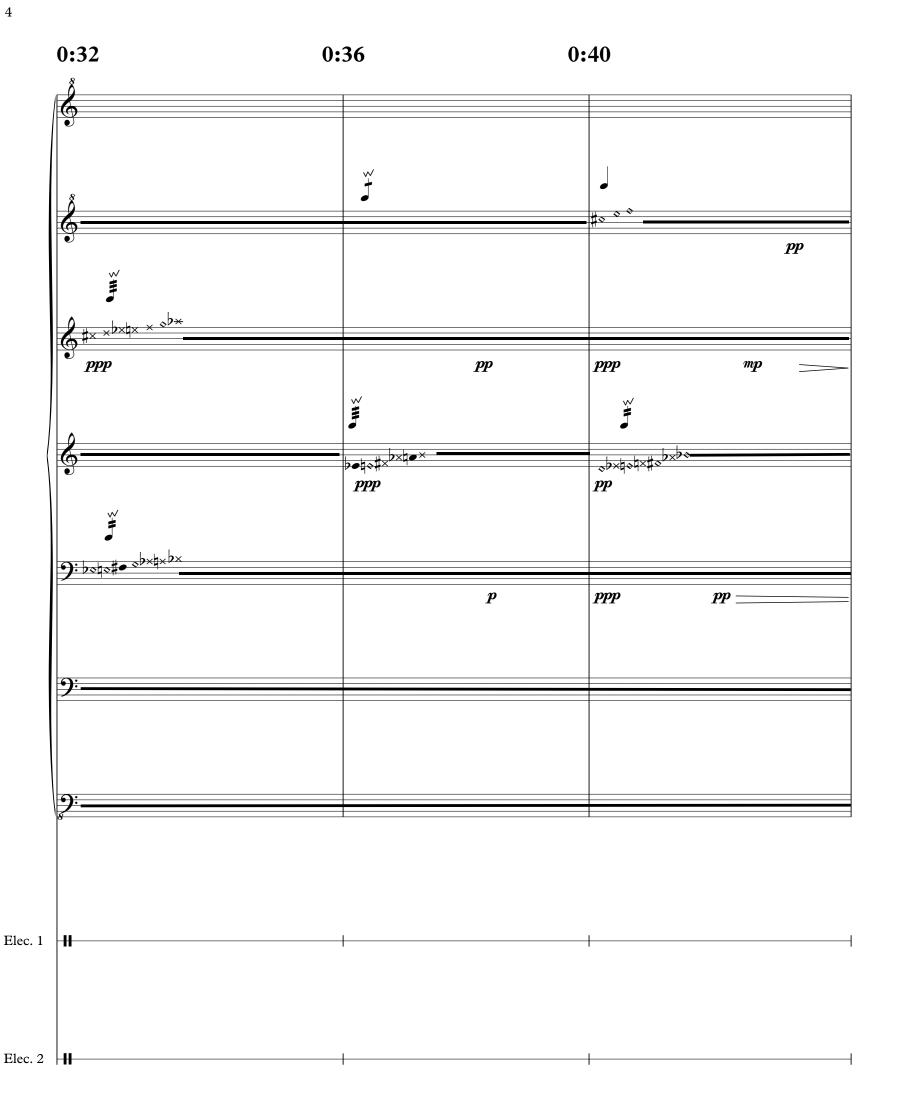
Geysir

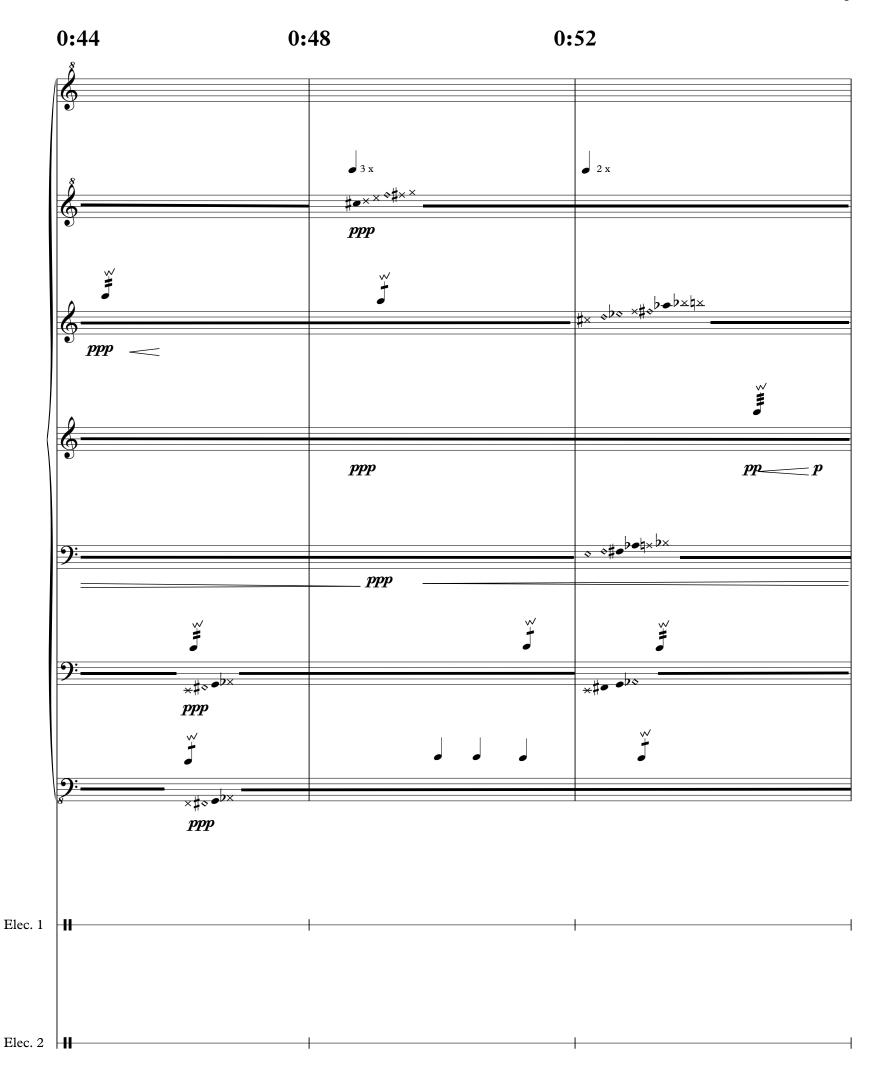
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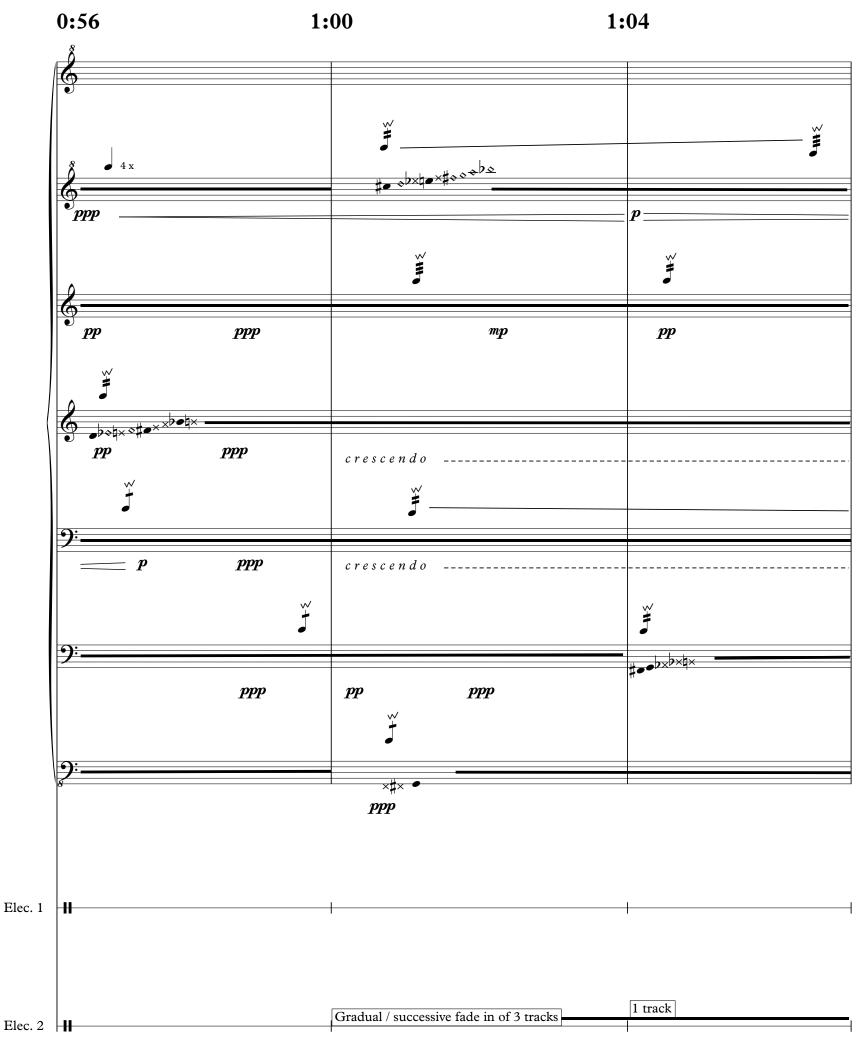




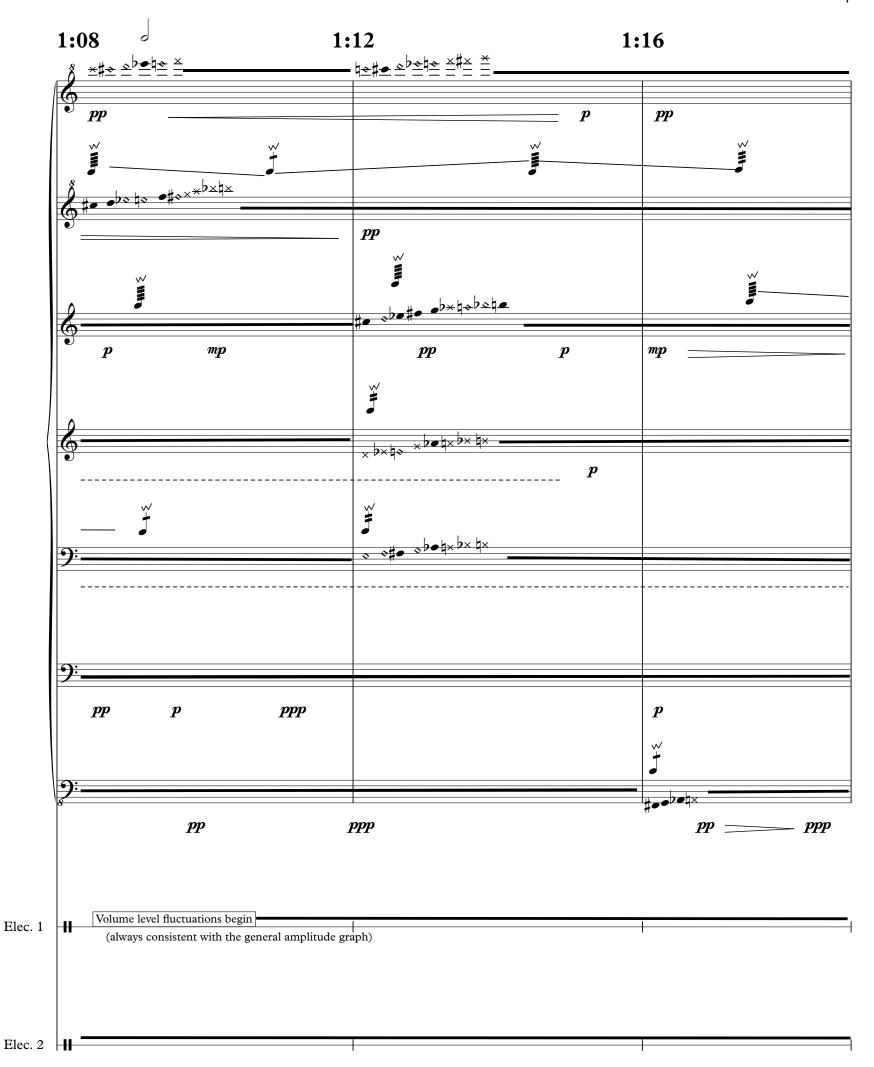


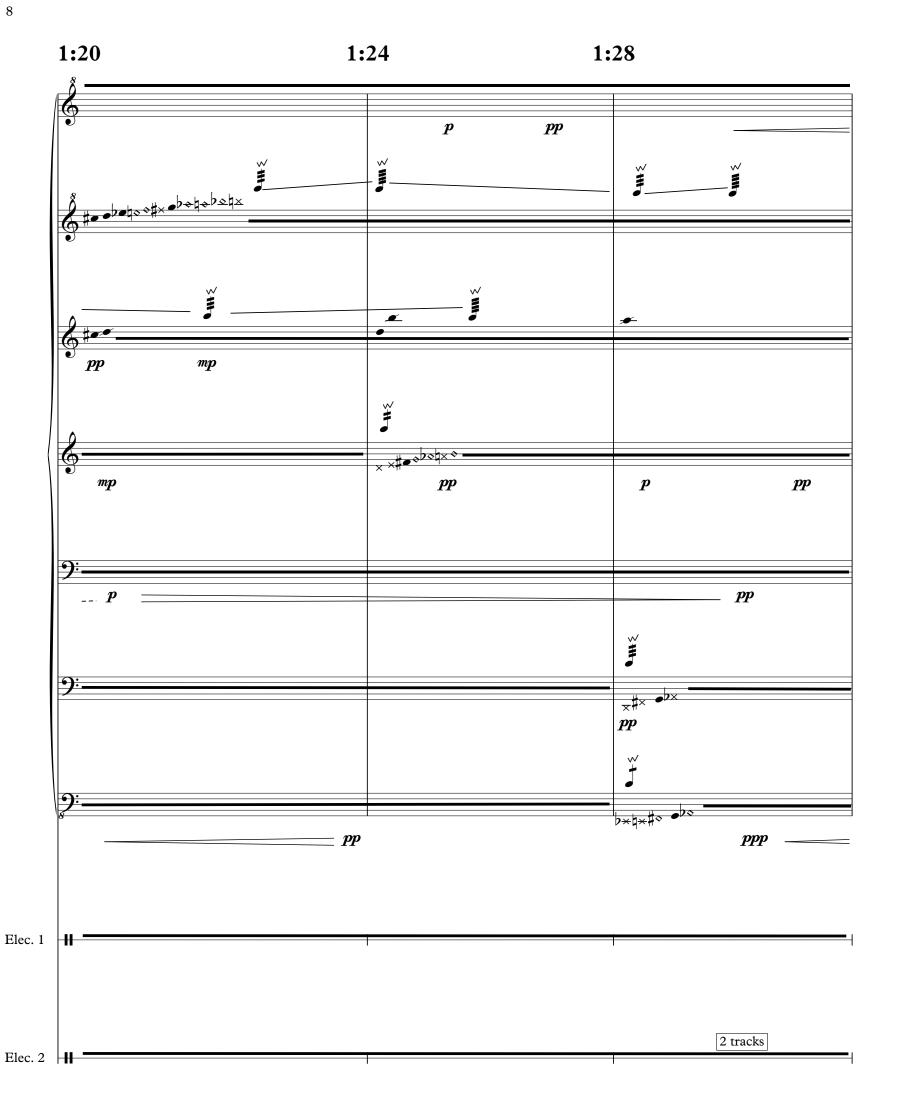


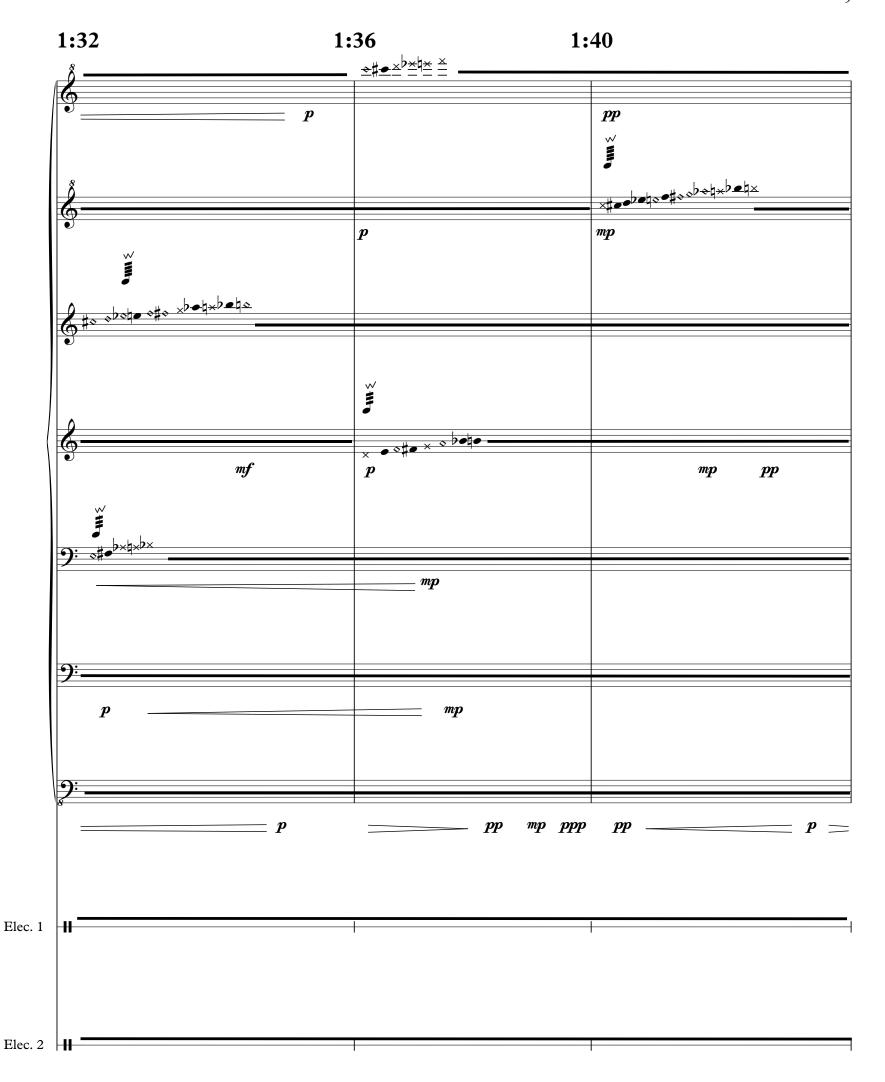


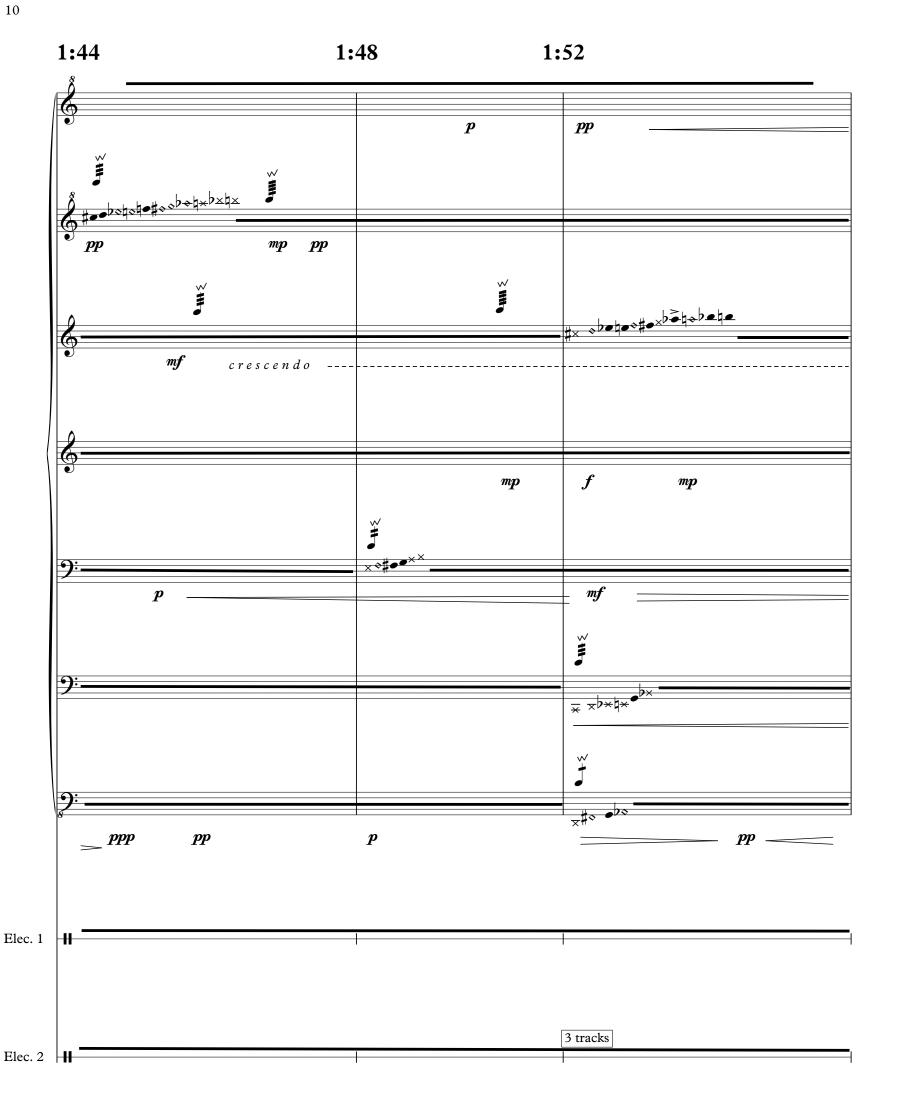


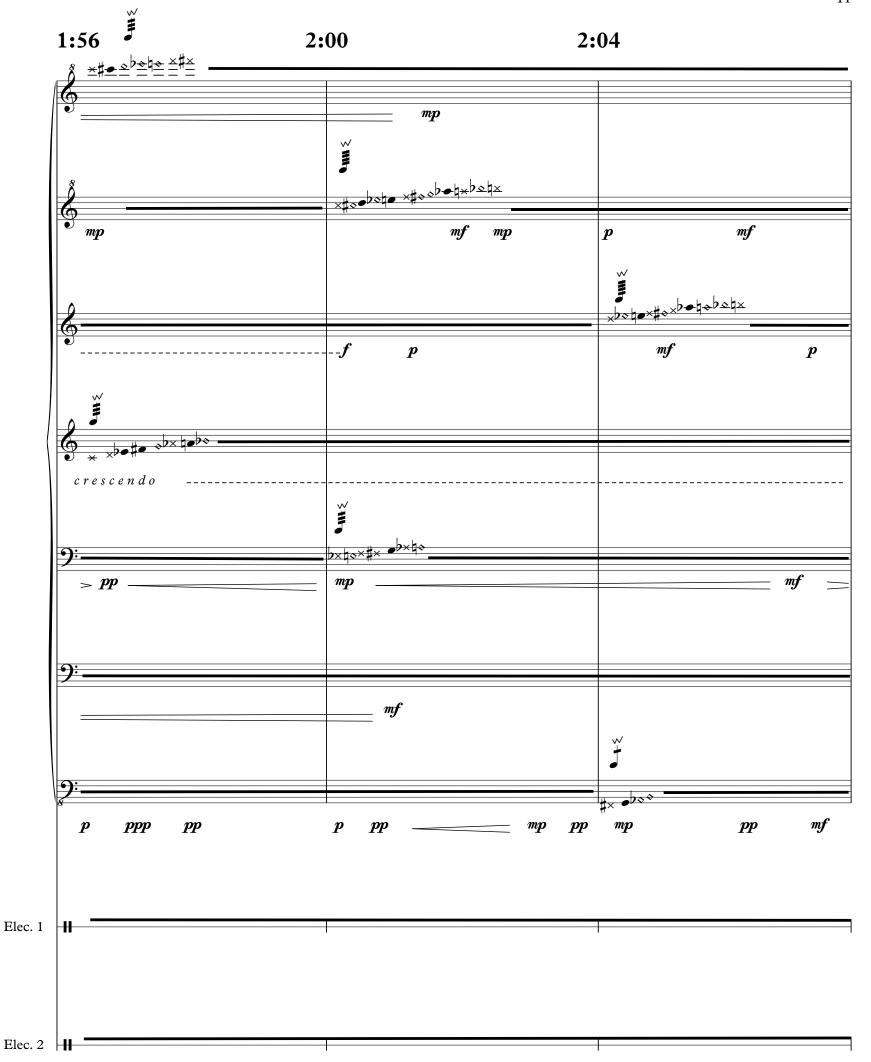
matching total dyanmic contour of the pianos, 20% softer

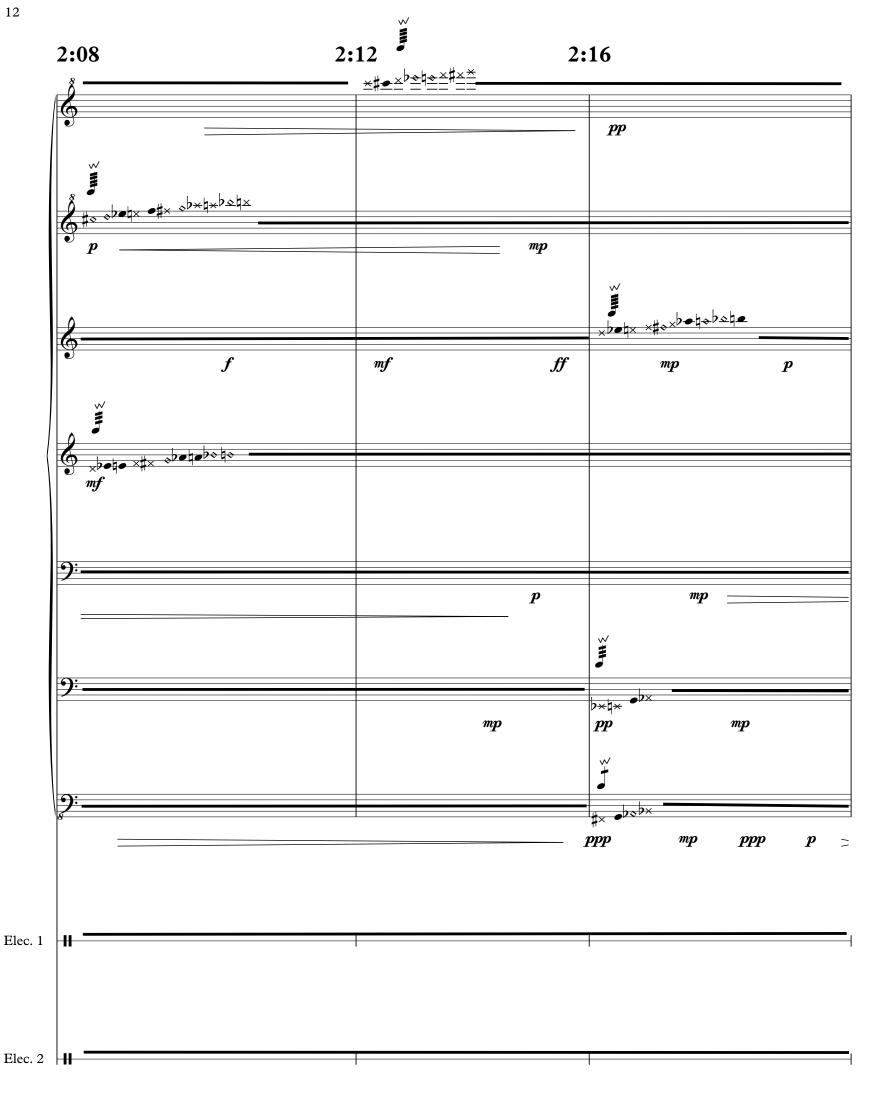


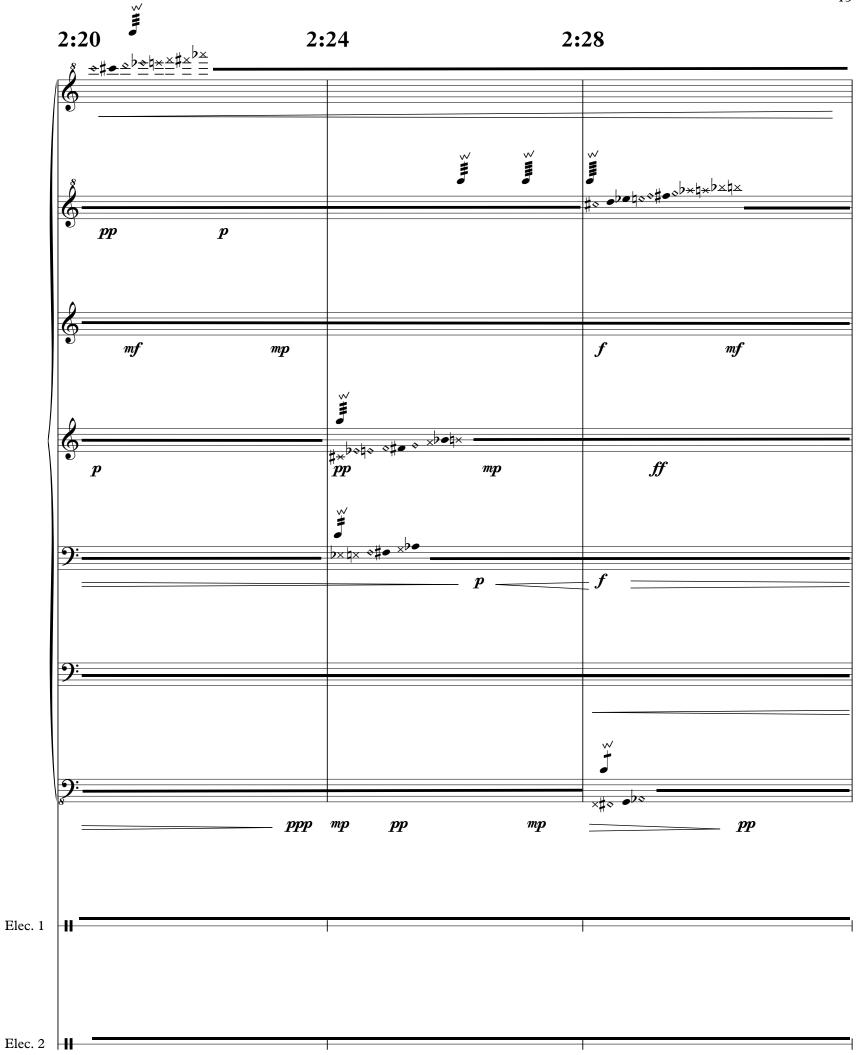


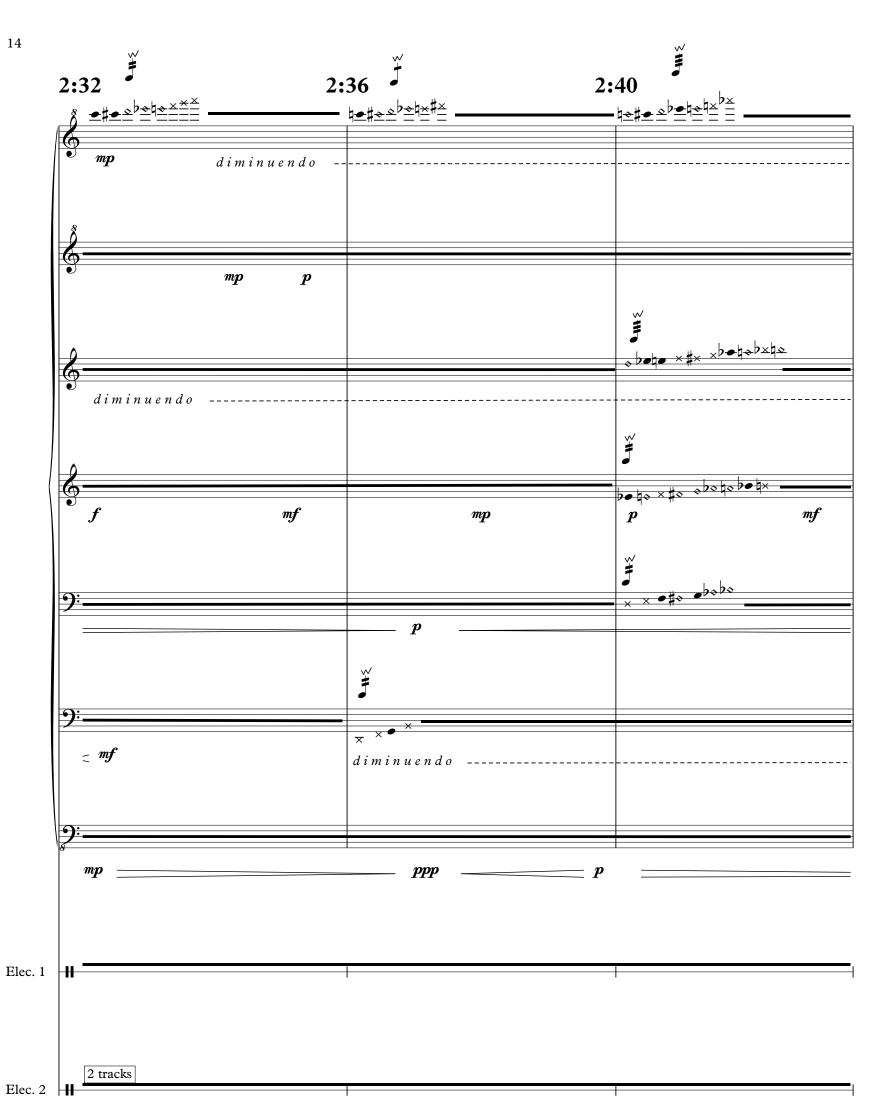


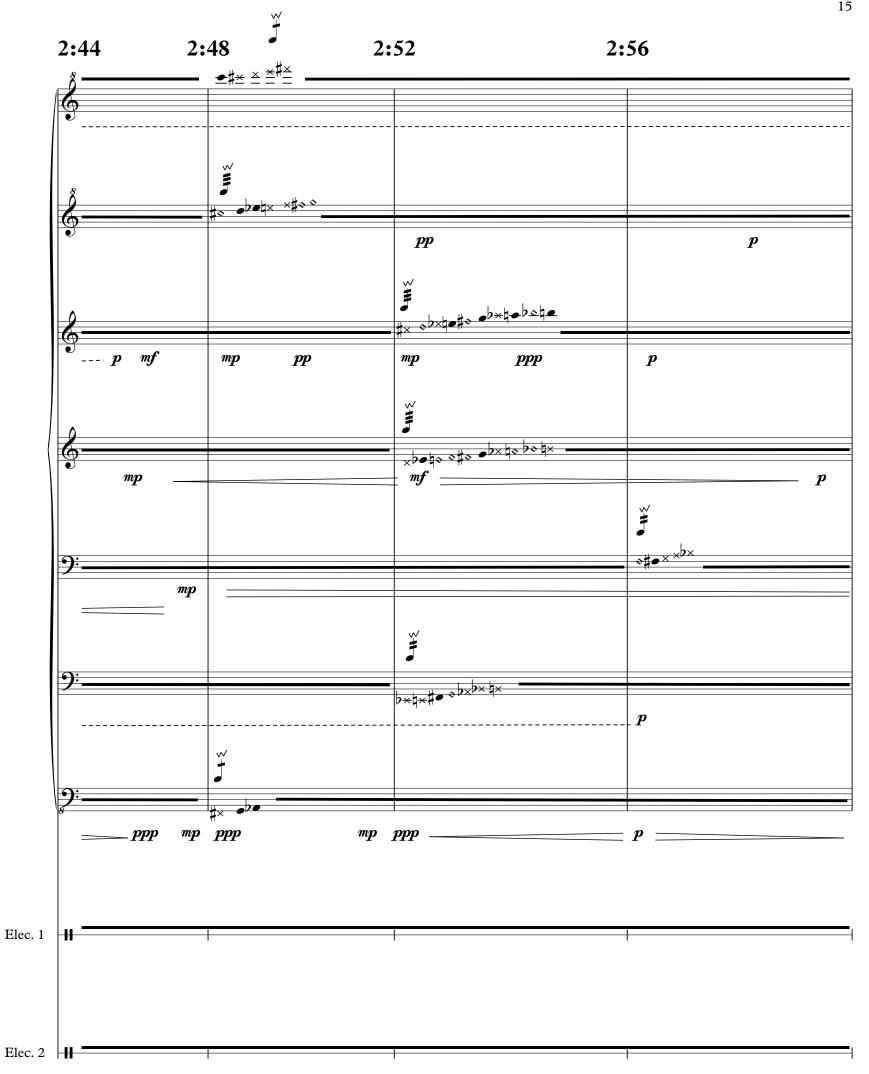


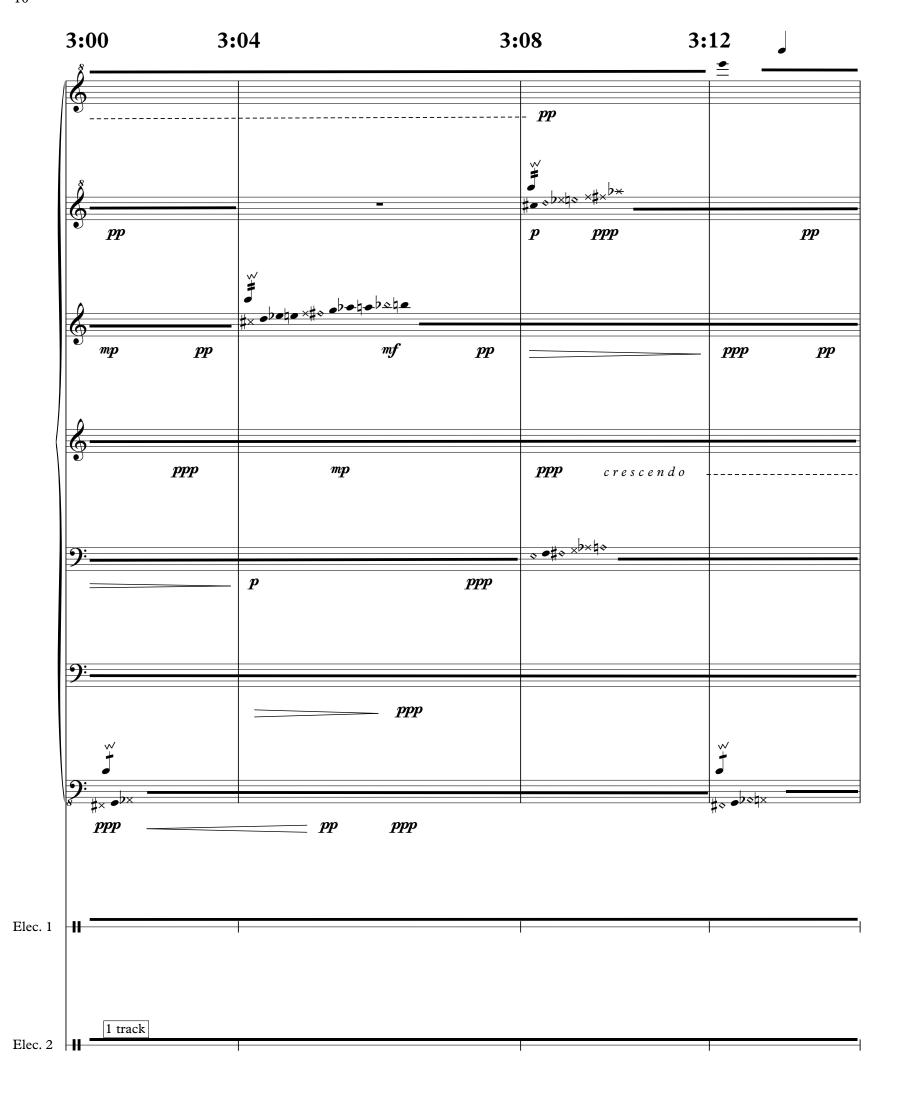


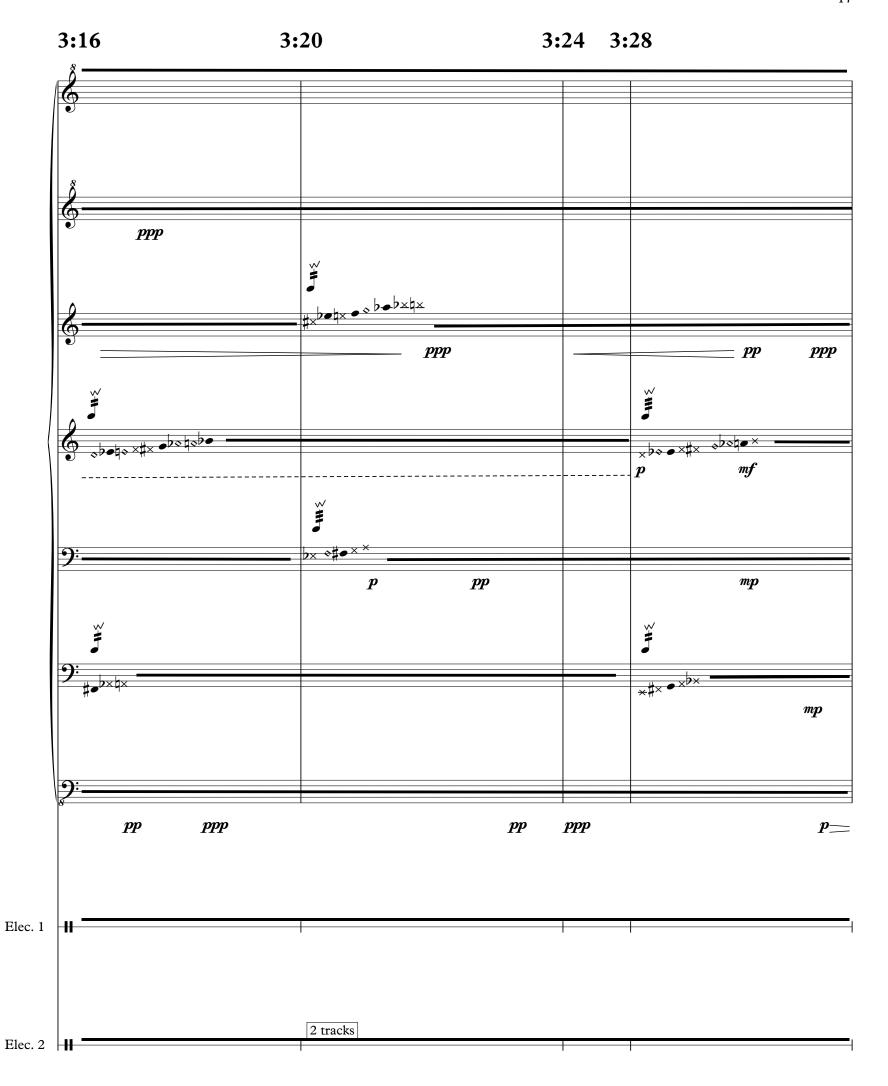


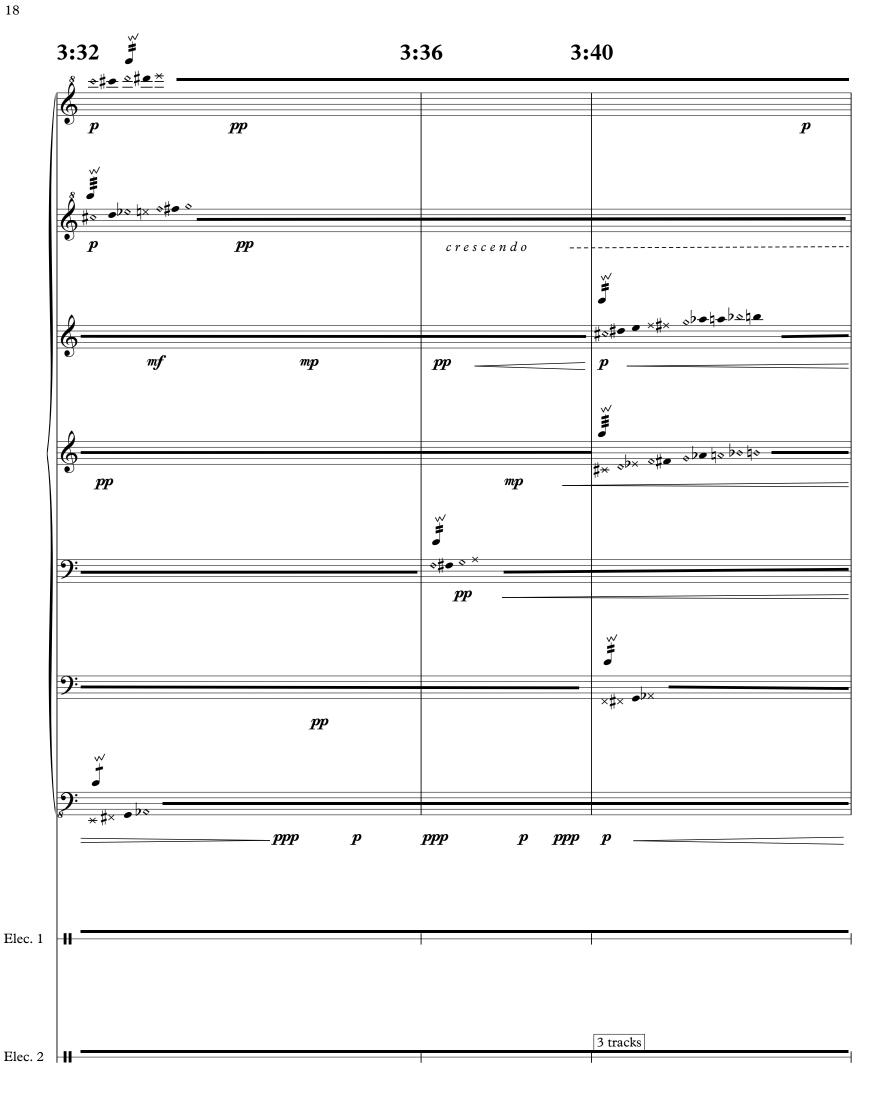




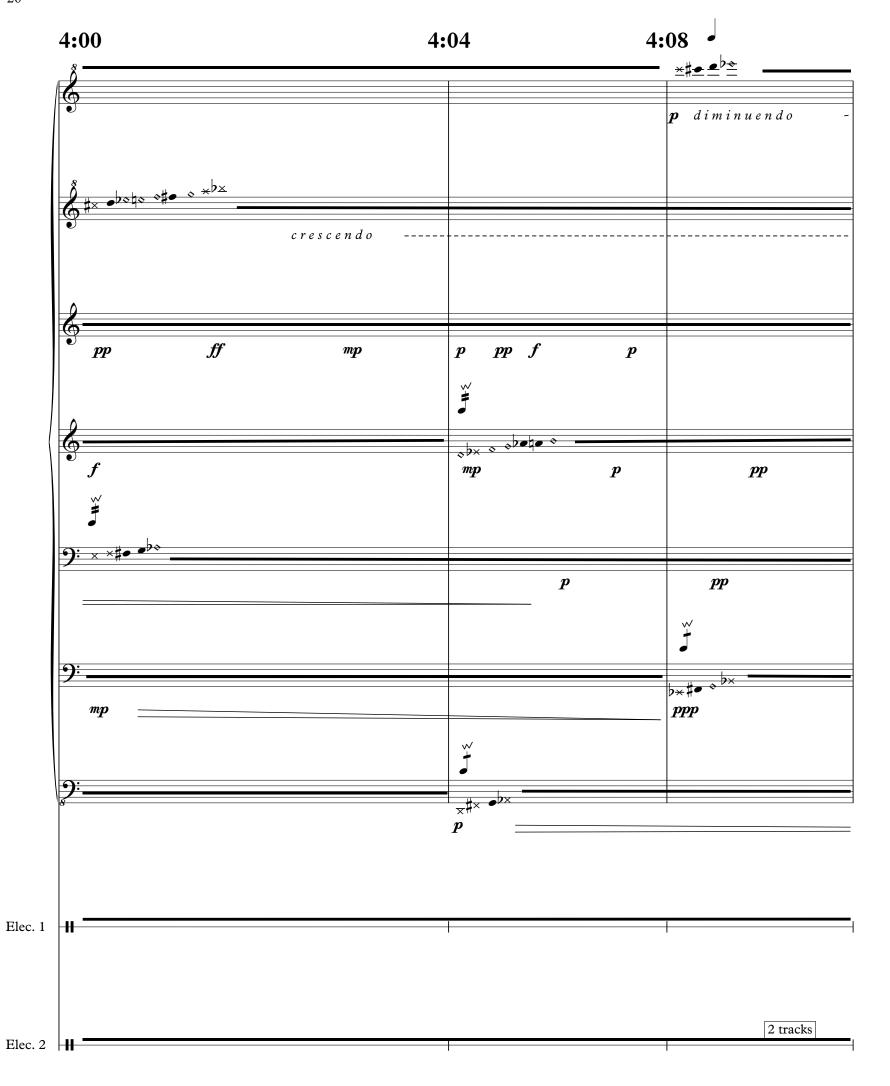


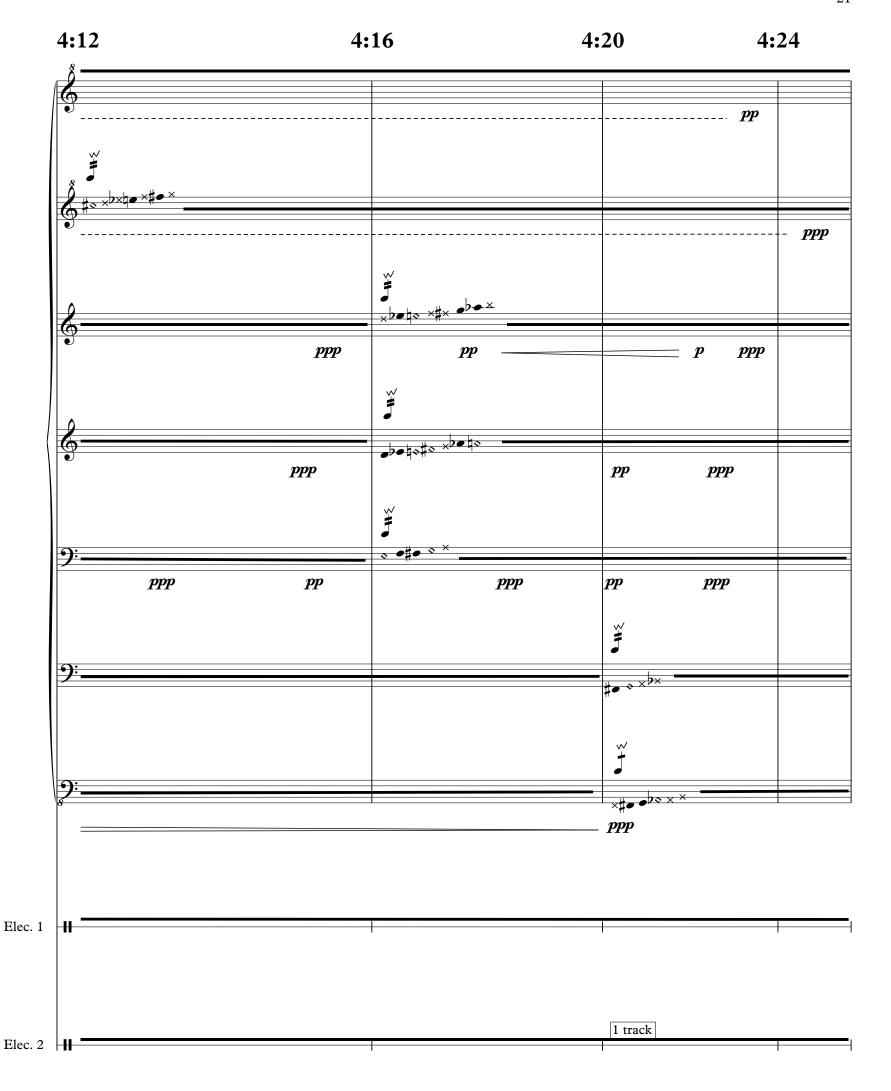


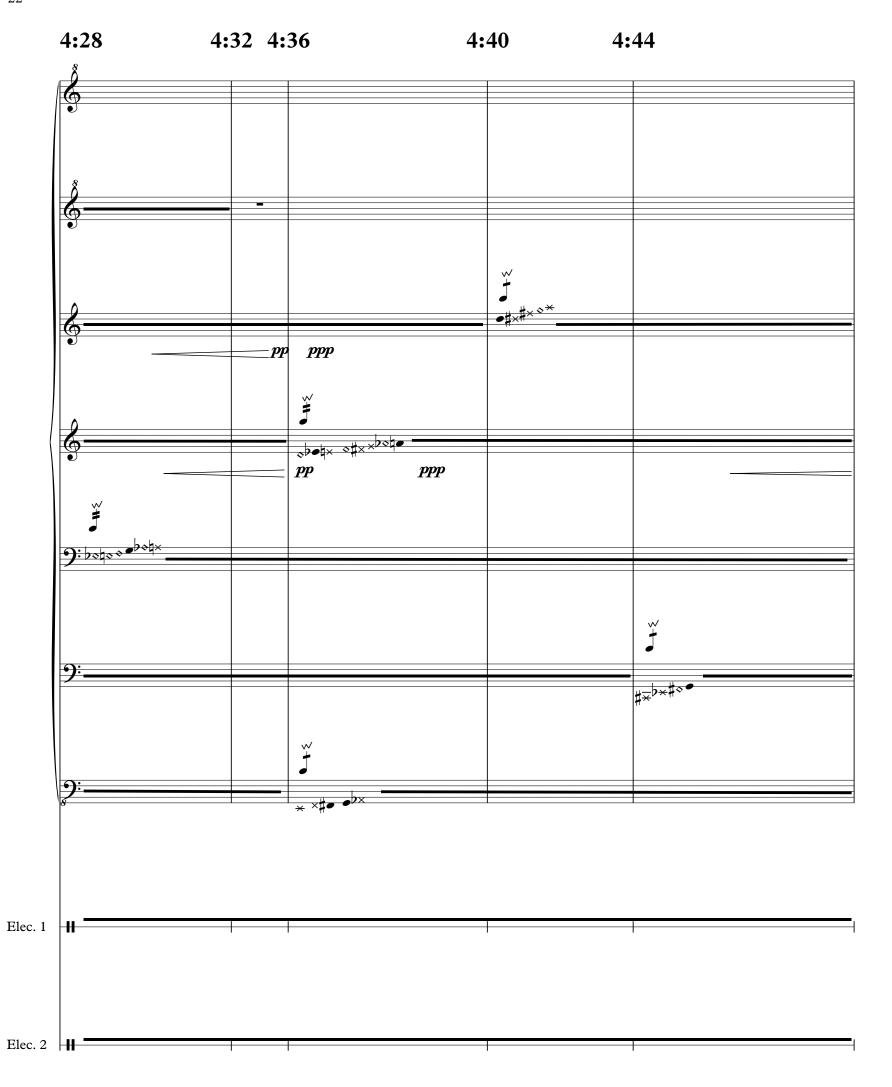


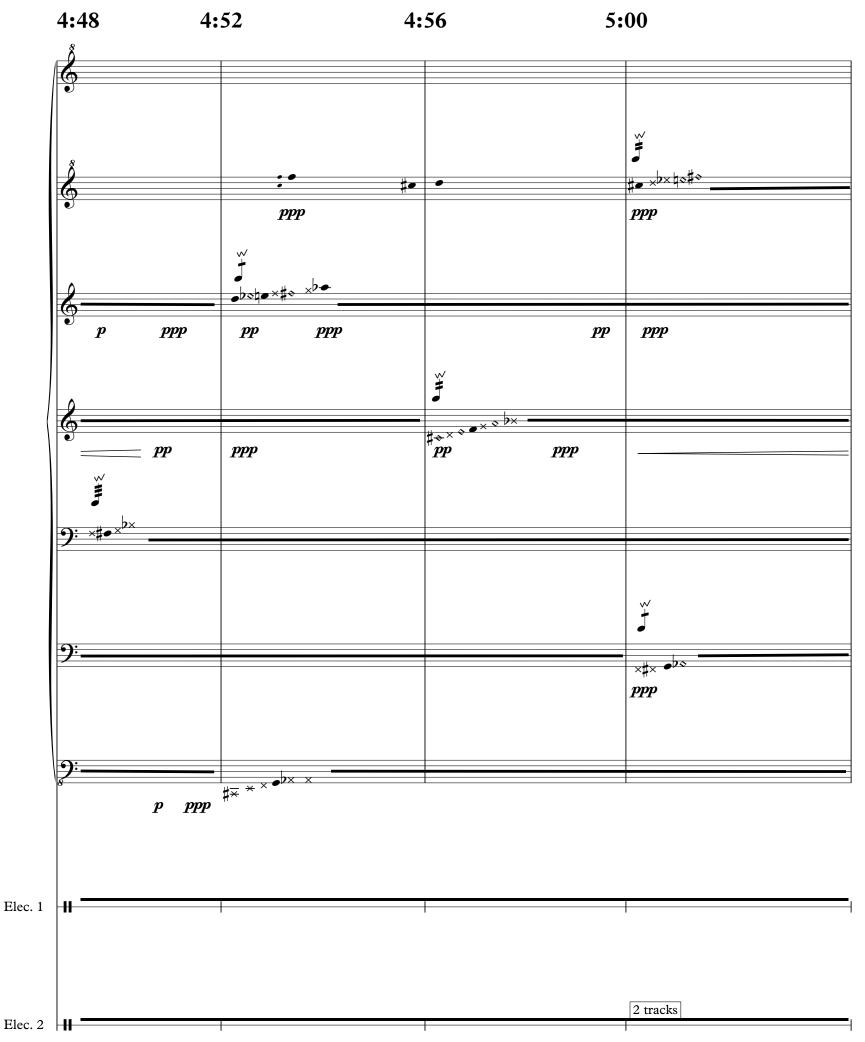




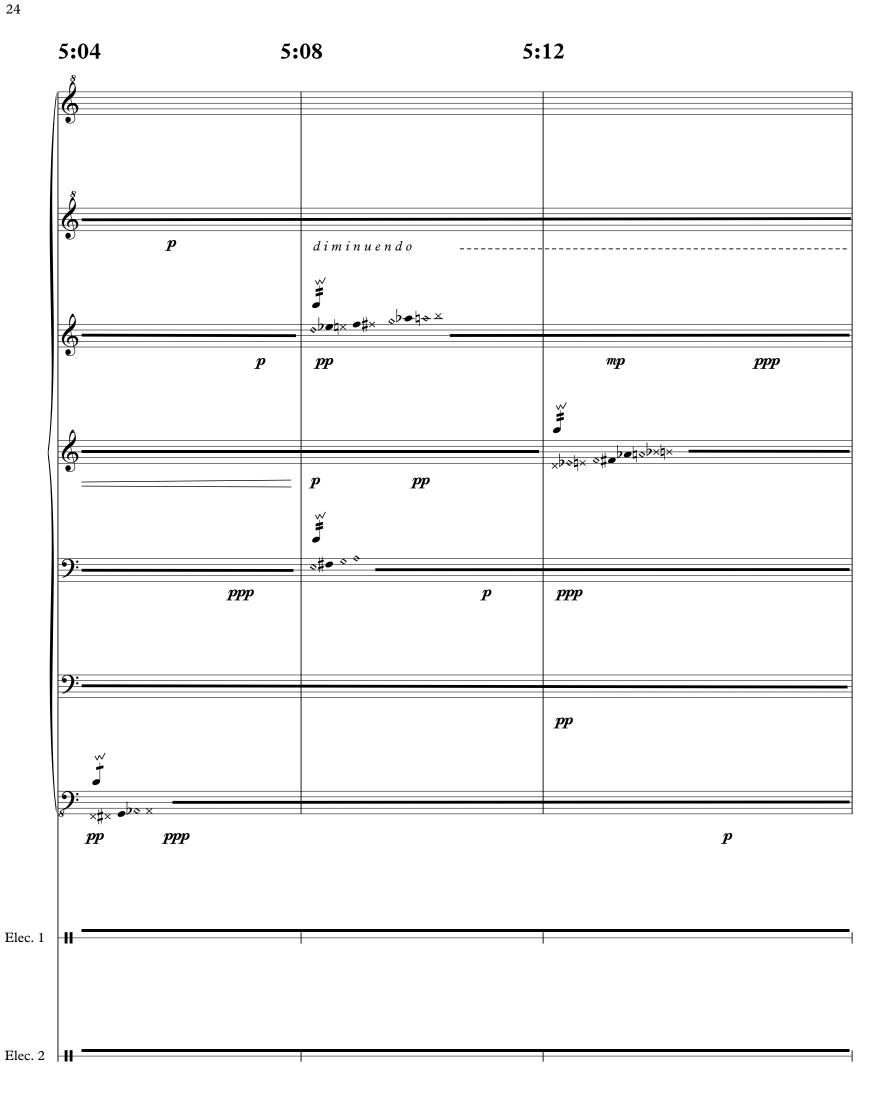


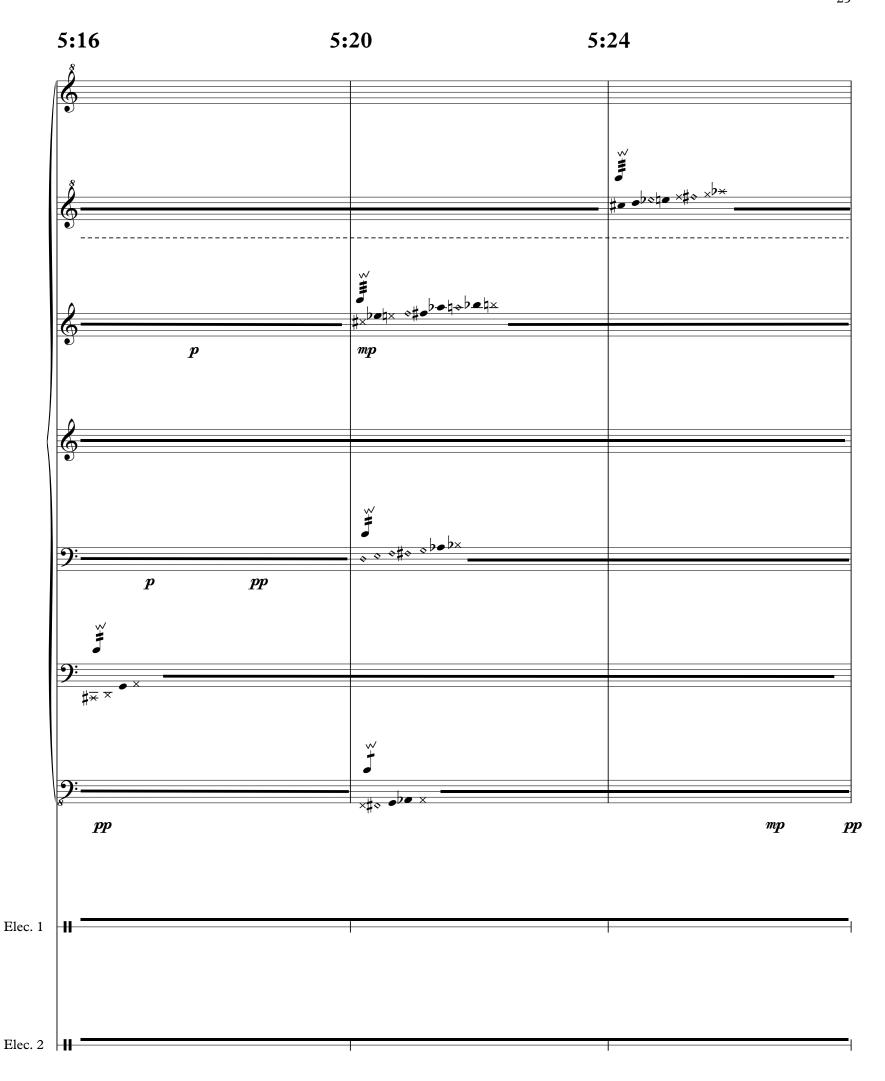


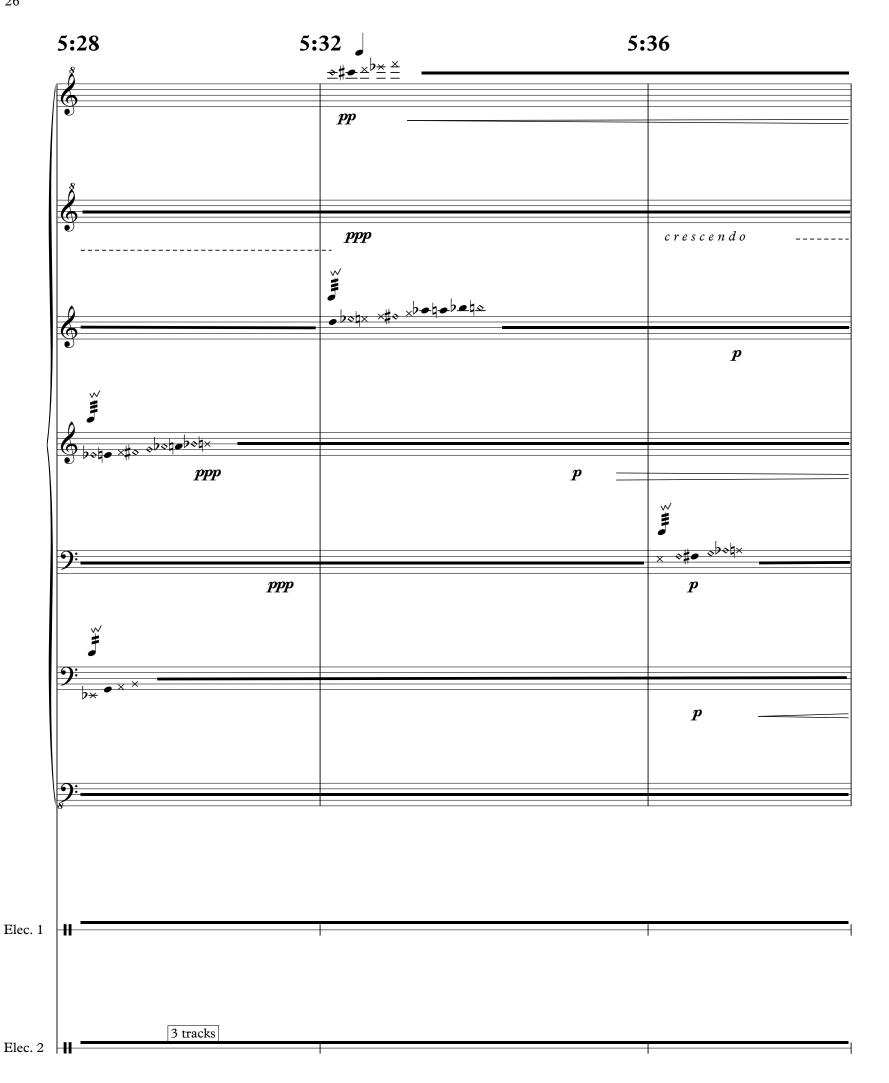




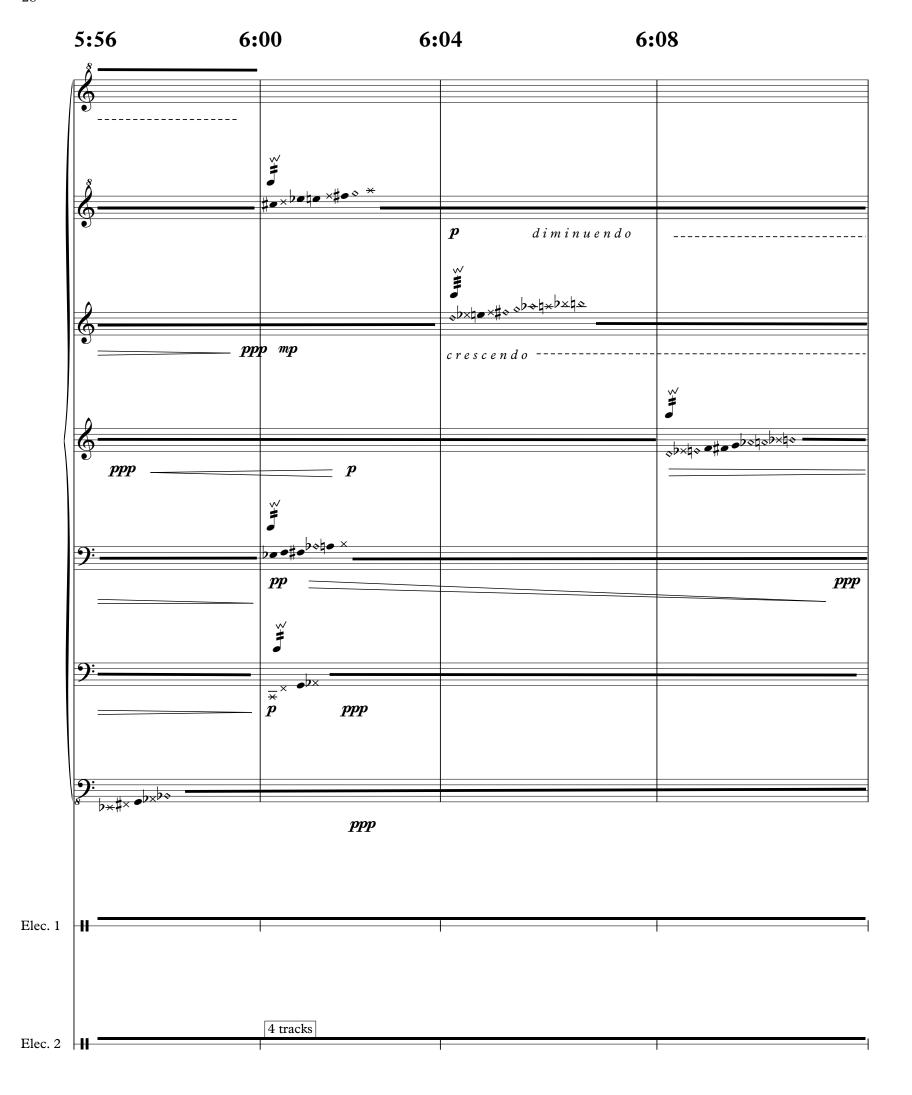
matching total dyanmic contour of the pianos, equal levels

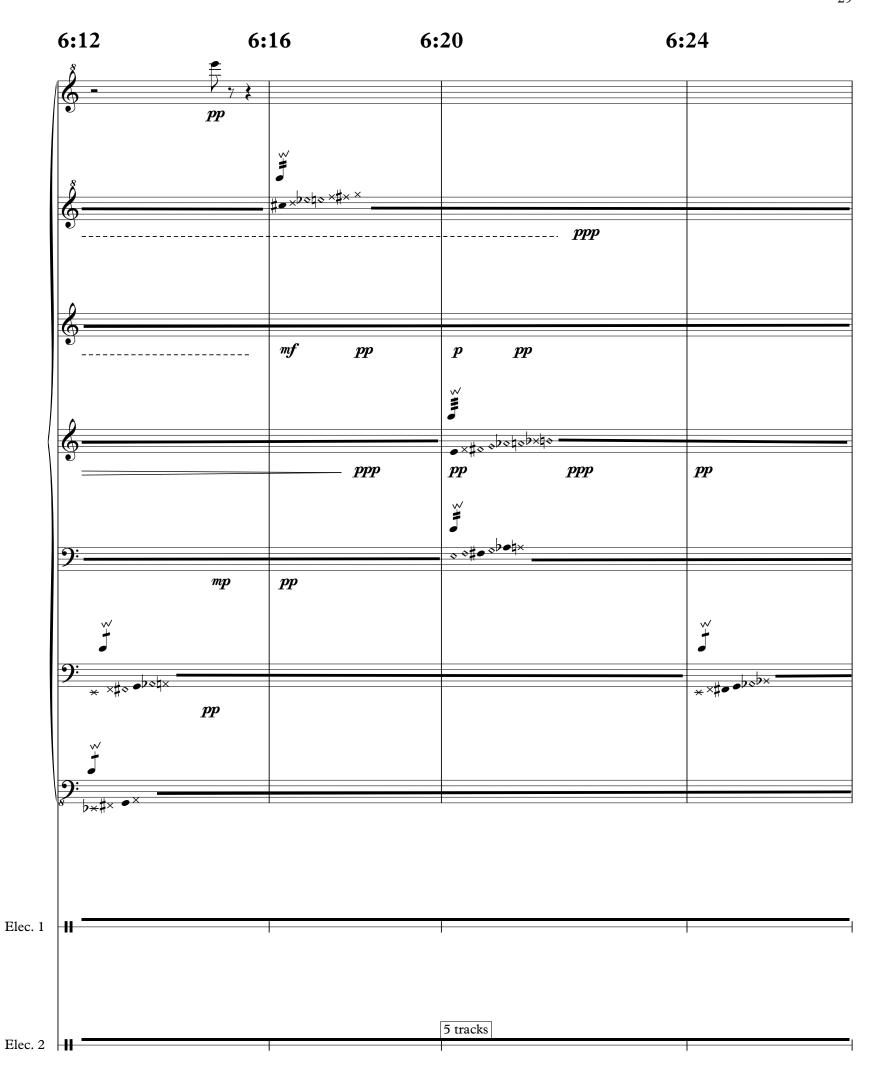


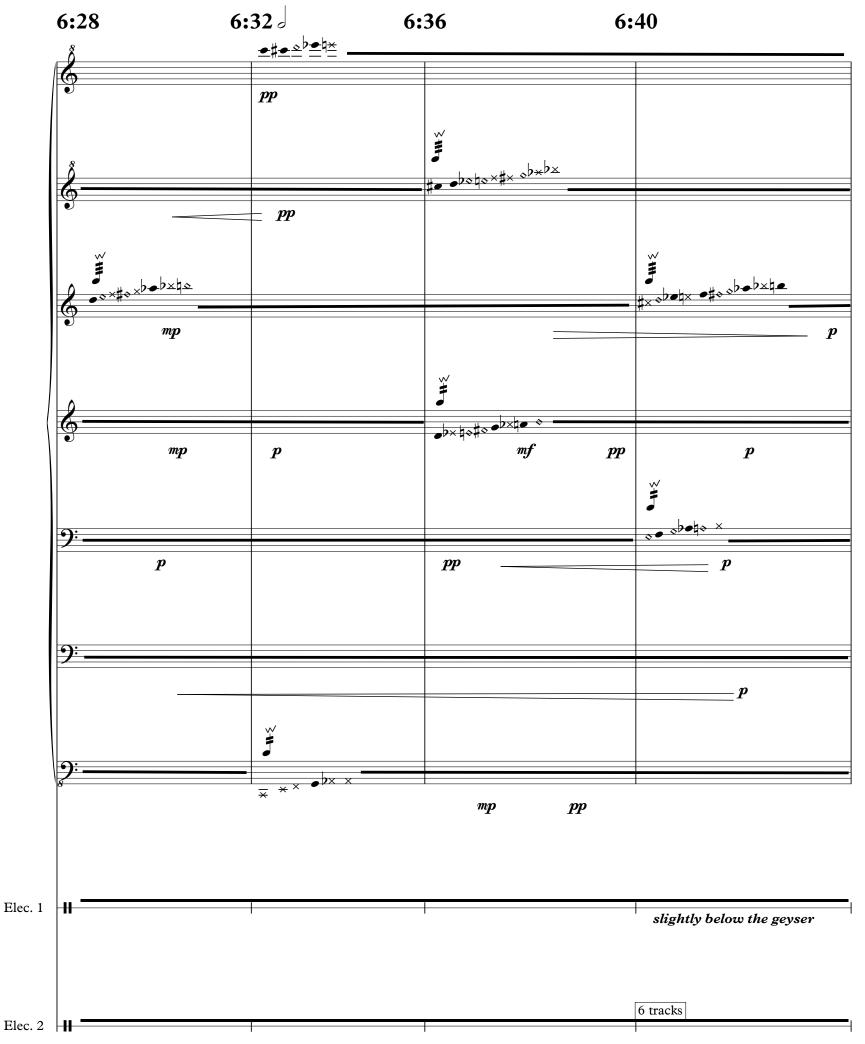












slightly above the pianos

