Something Was Small

for Baritone Saxophone, Electric Guitar, Percussion, and Piano

9m5s

Music by
DYLAN NEEDLEMAN

January 2026

Transposed Score

Something Was Small

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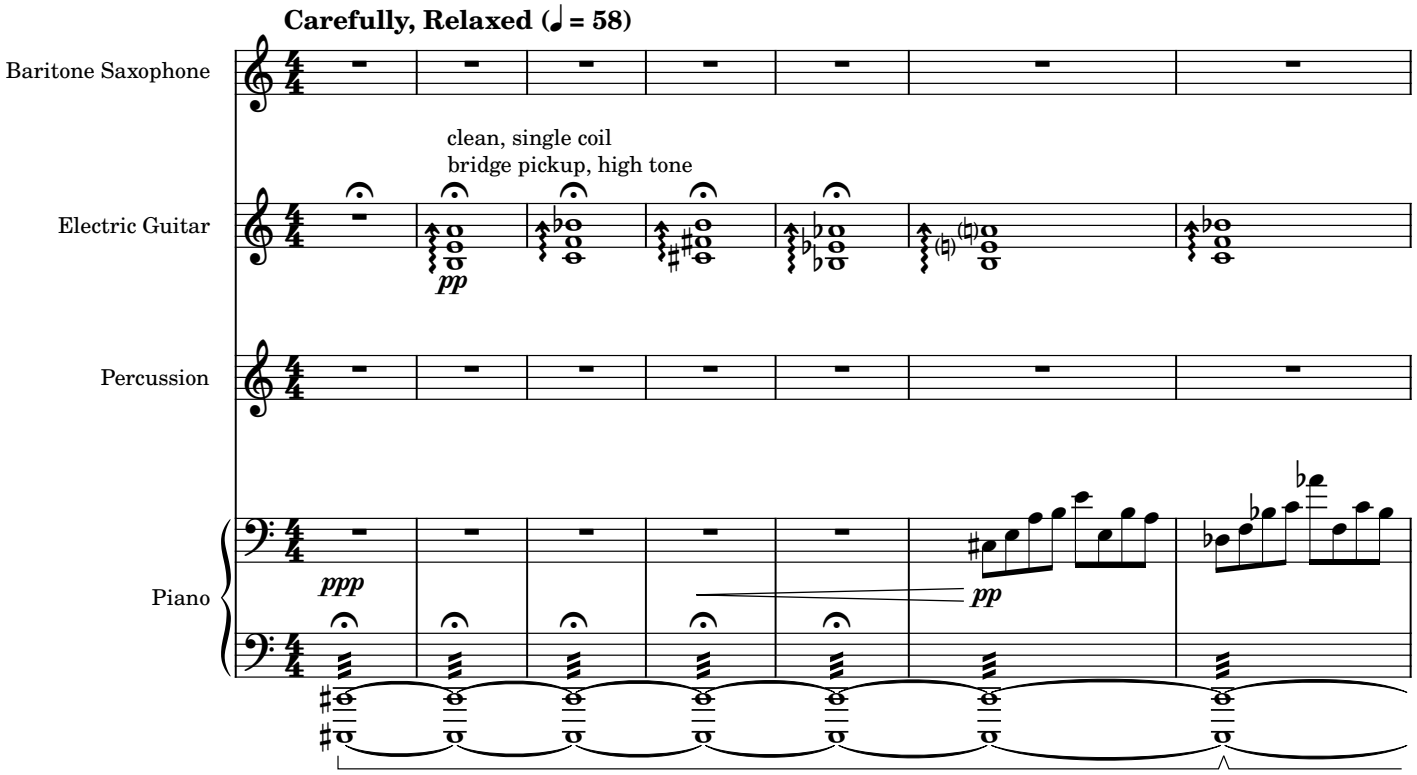
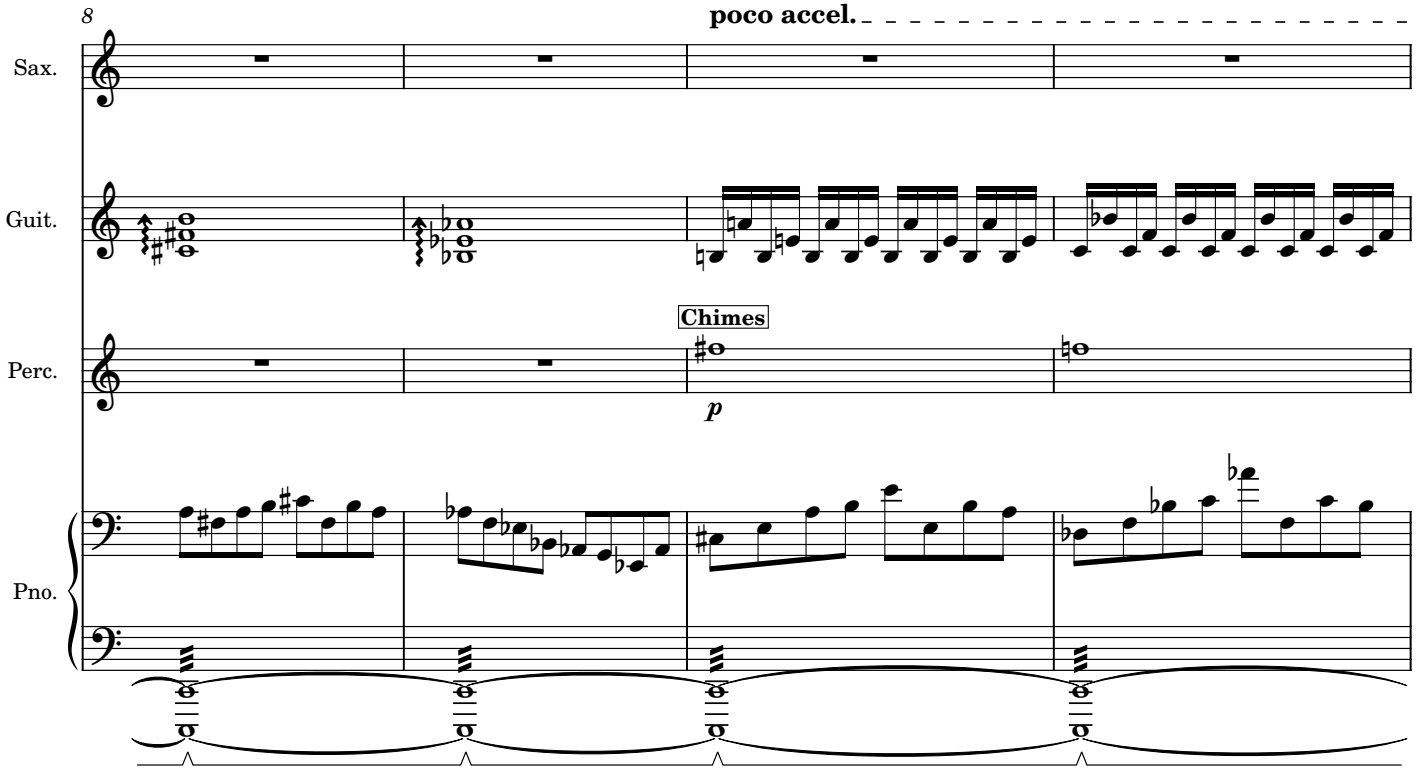
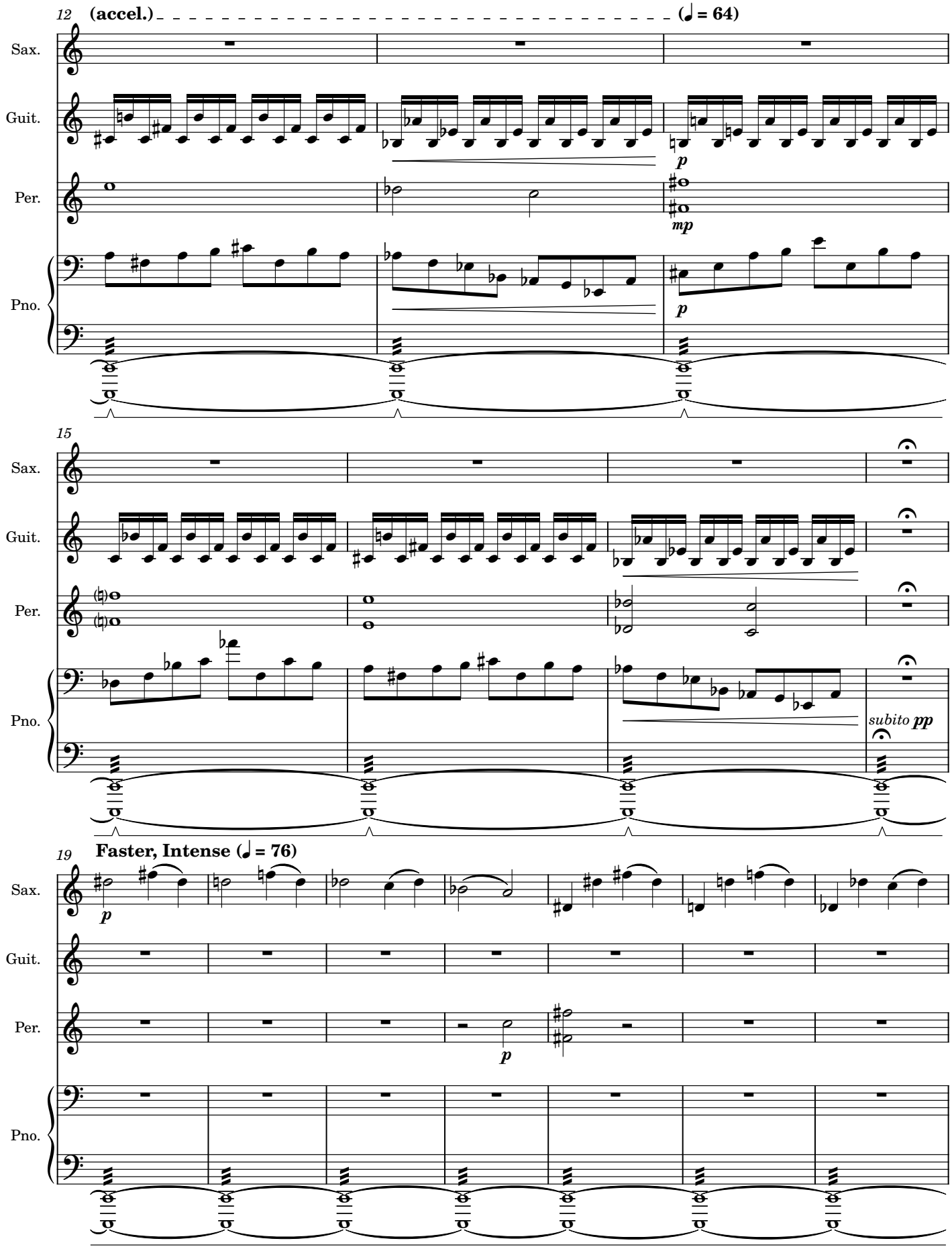
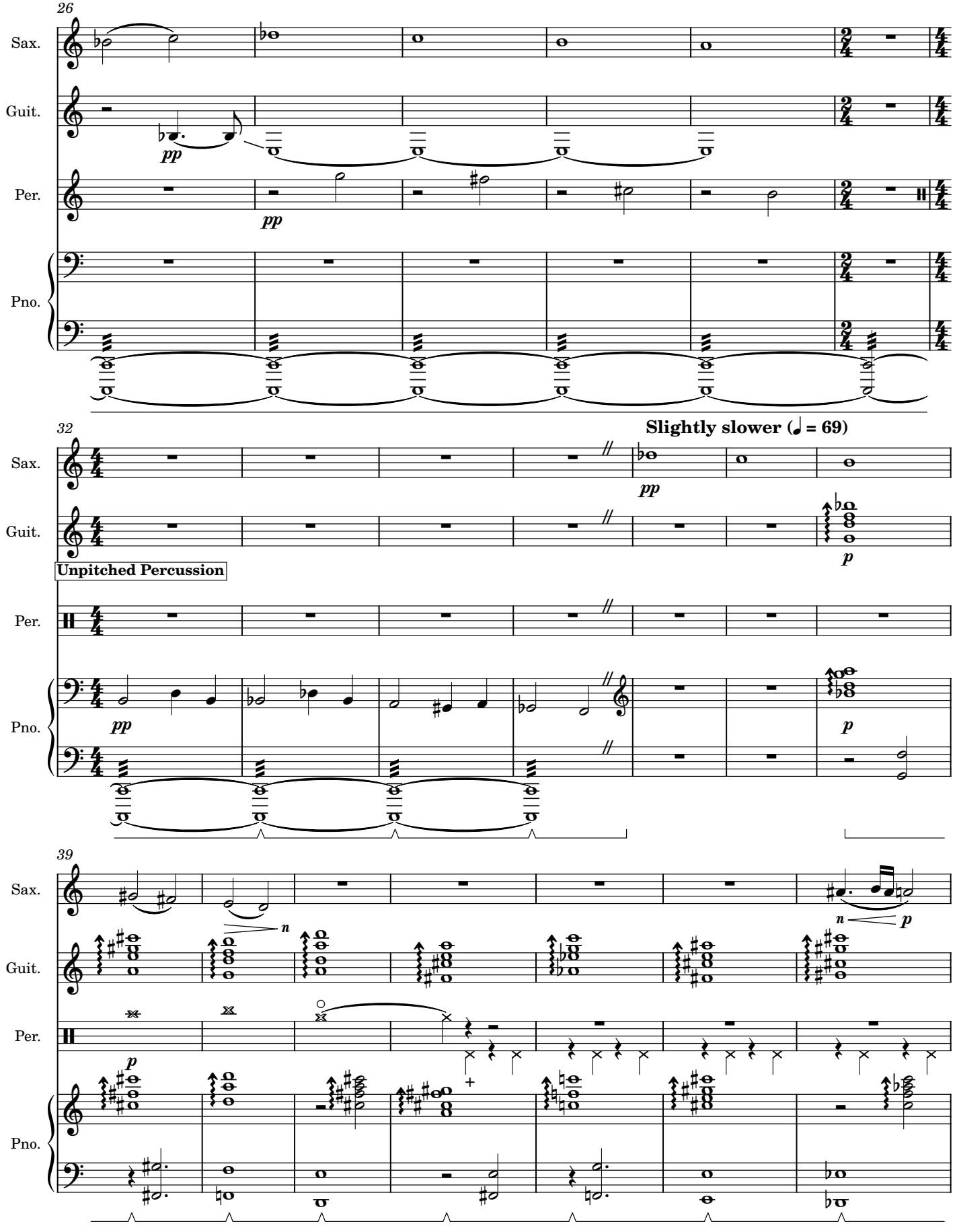
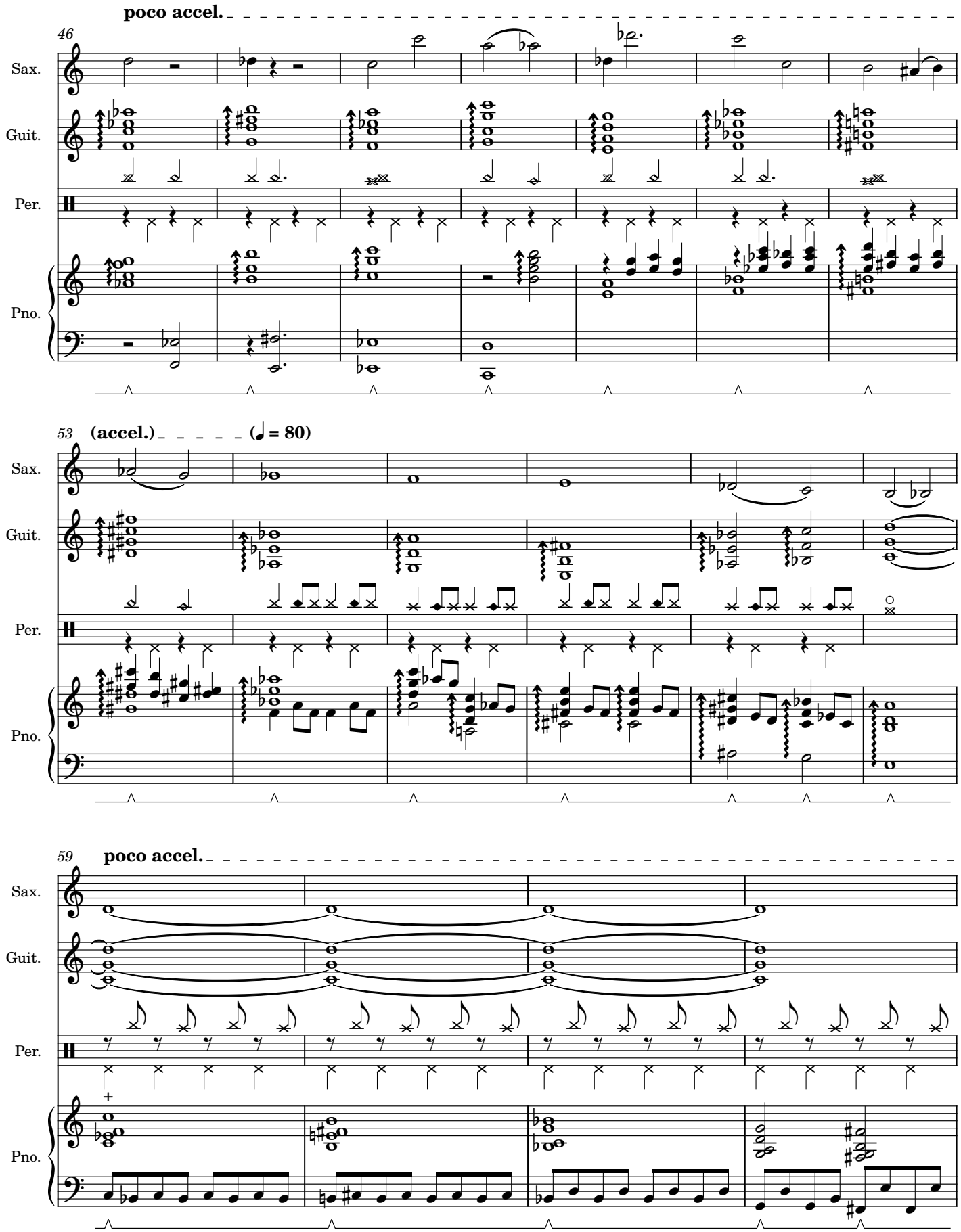
Dylan Needleman

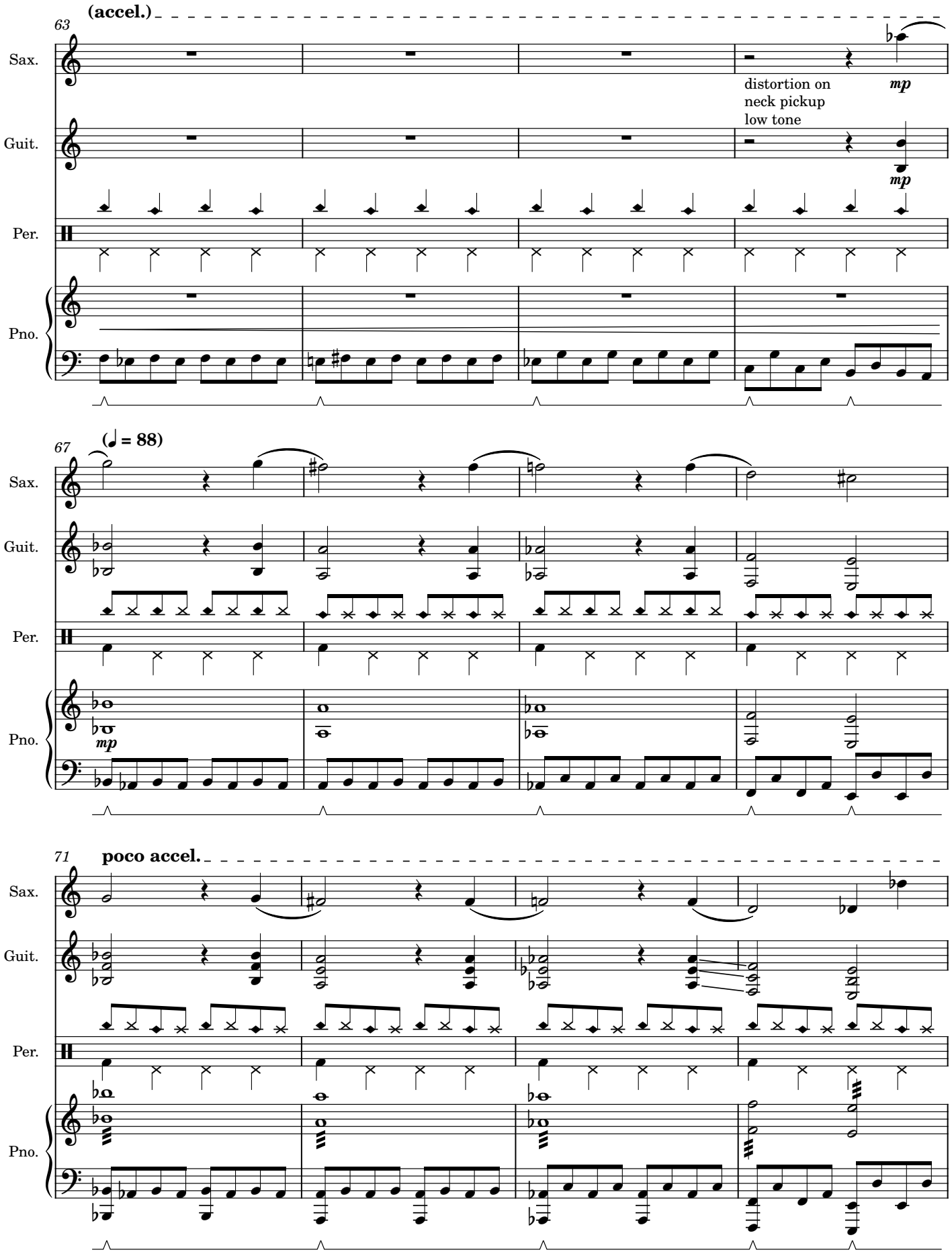


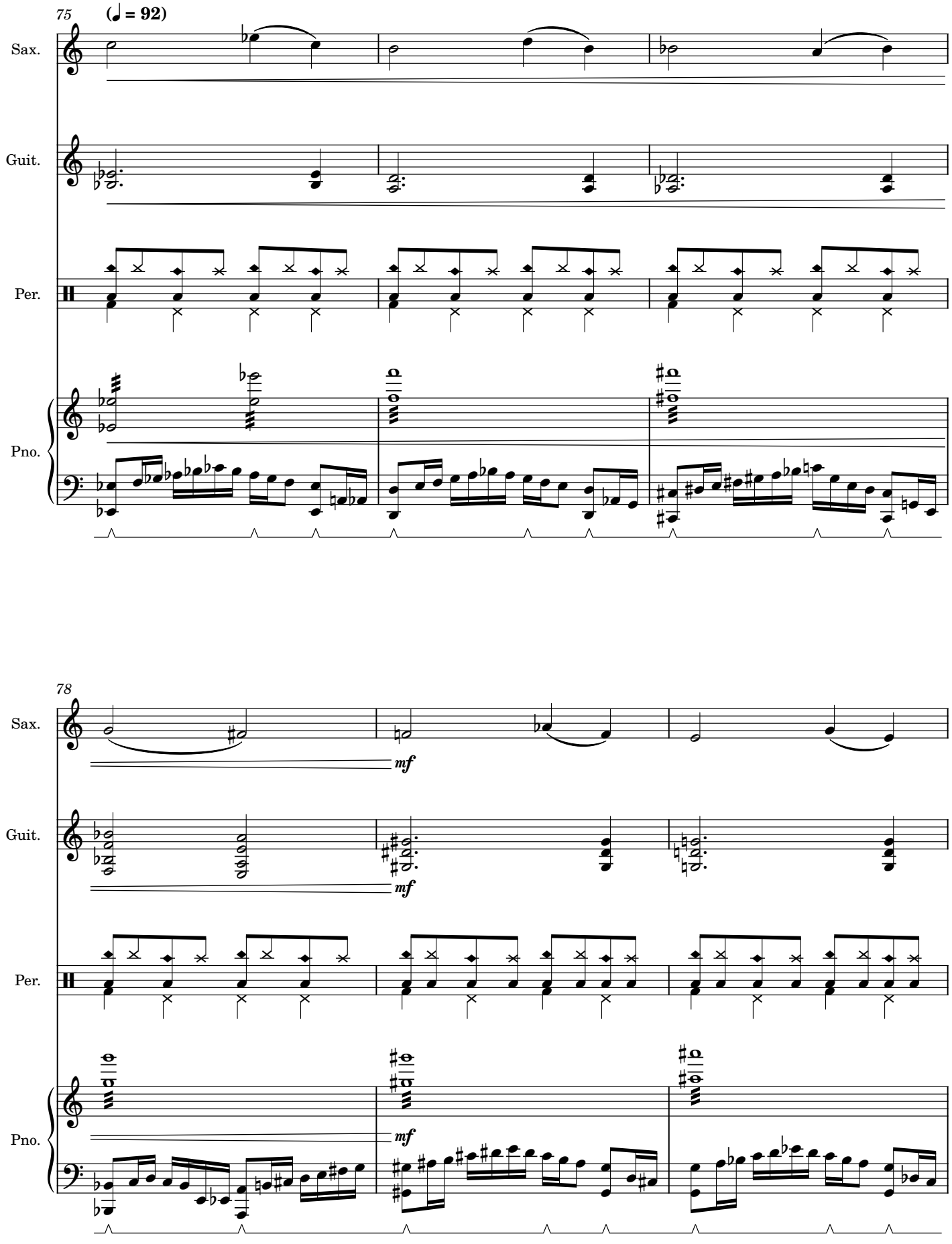


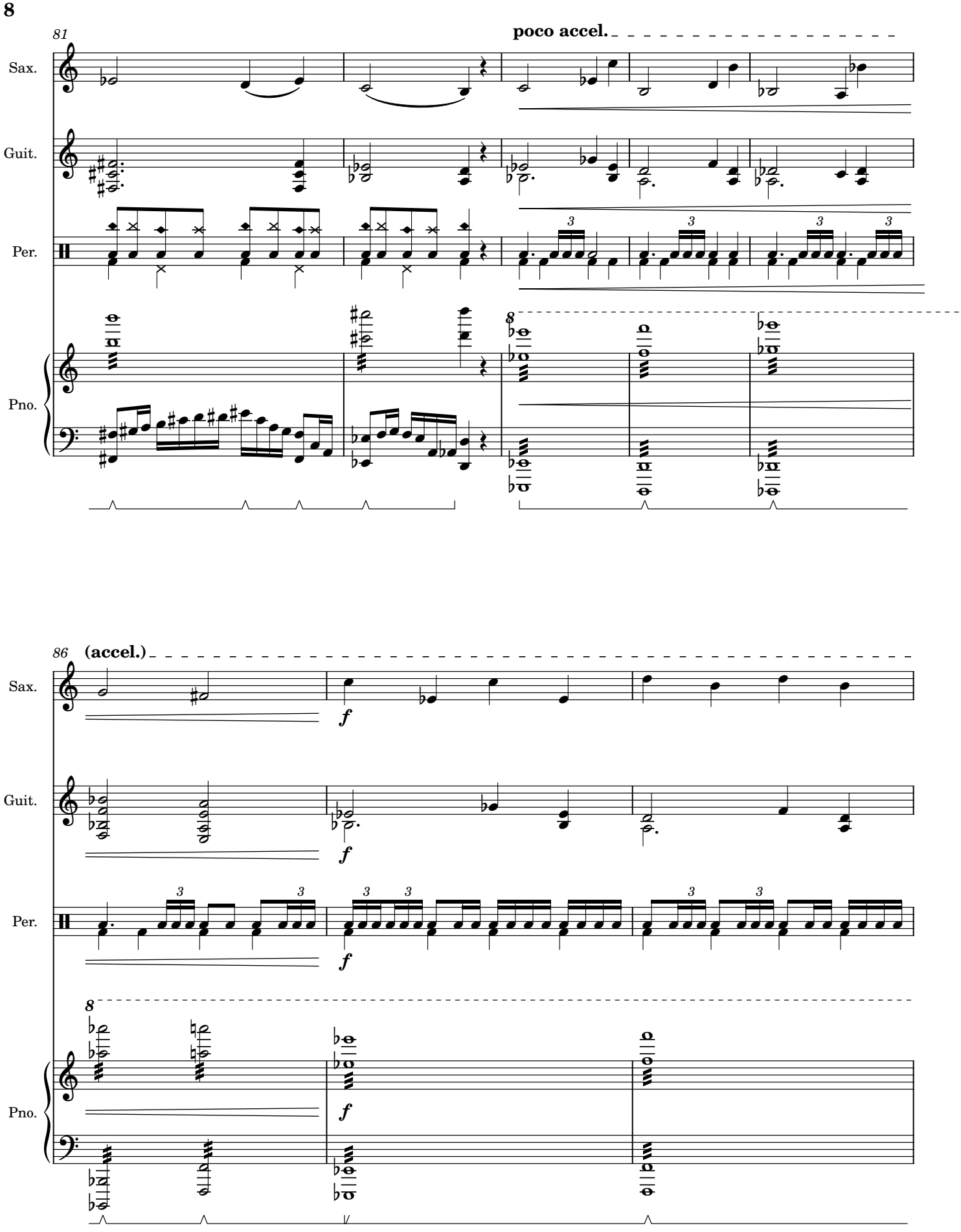

12
(accel.)
(♩ = 64)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
p
mp
p
15
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
subito pp
19
Faster, Intense (♩ = 76)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
p
p

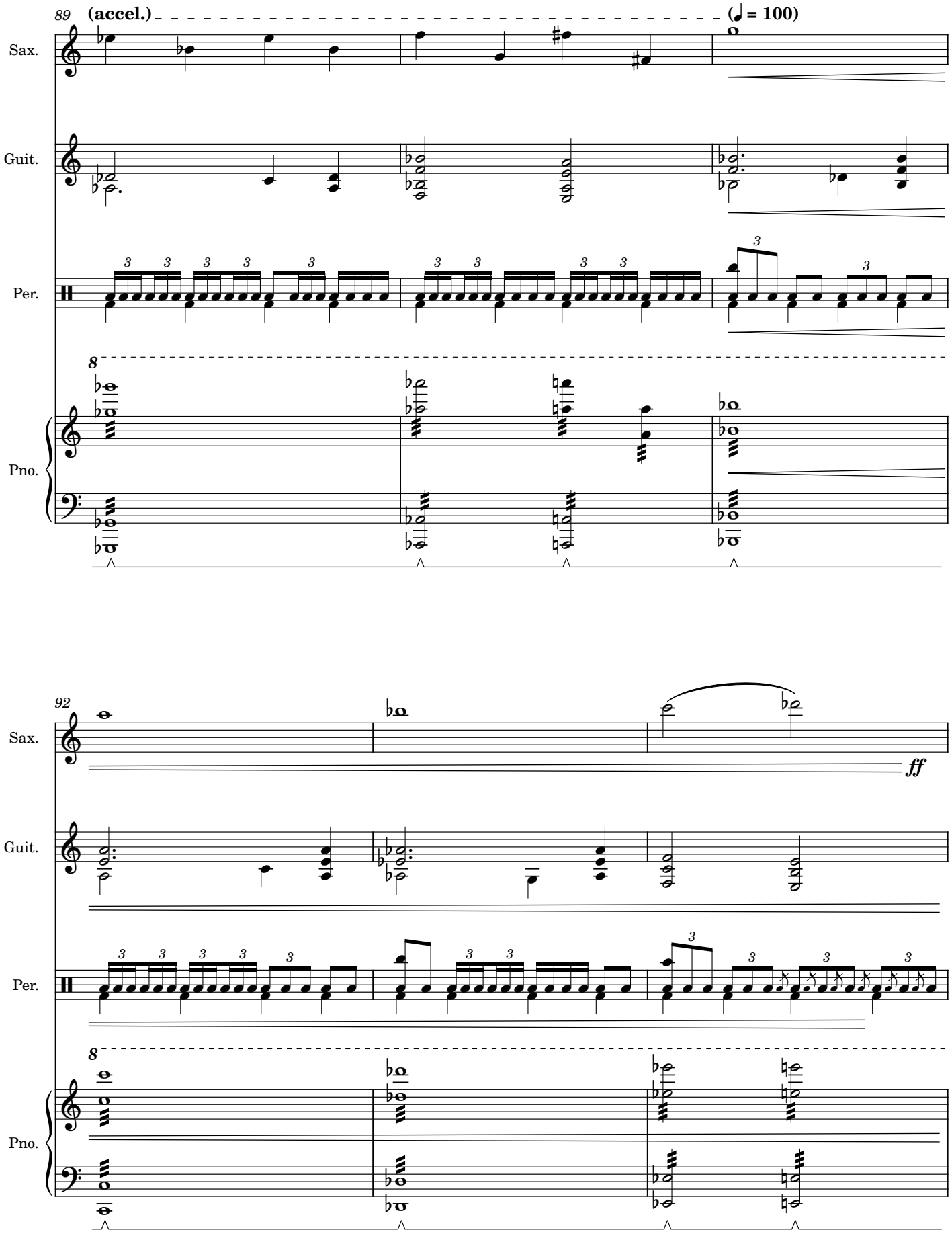

26
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
pp
pp
32
Slightly slower (♩ = 69)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
pp
pp
p
Unpitched Percussion
39
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
n
n
p
p

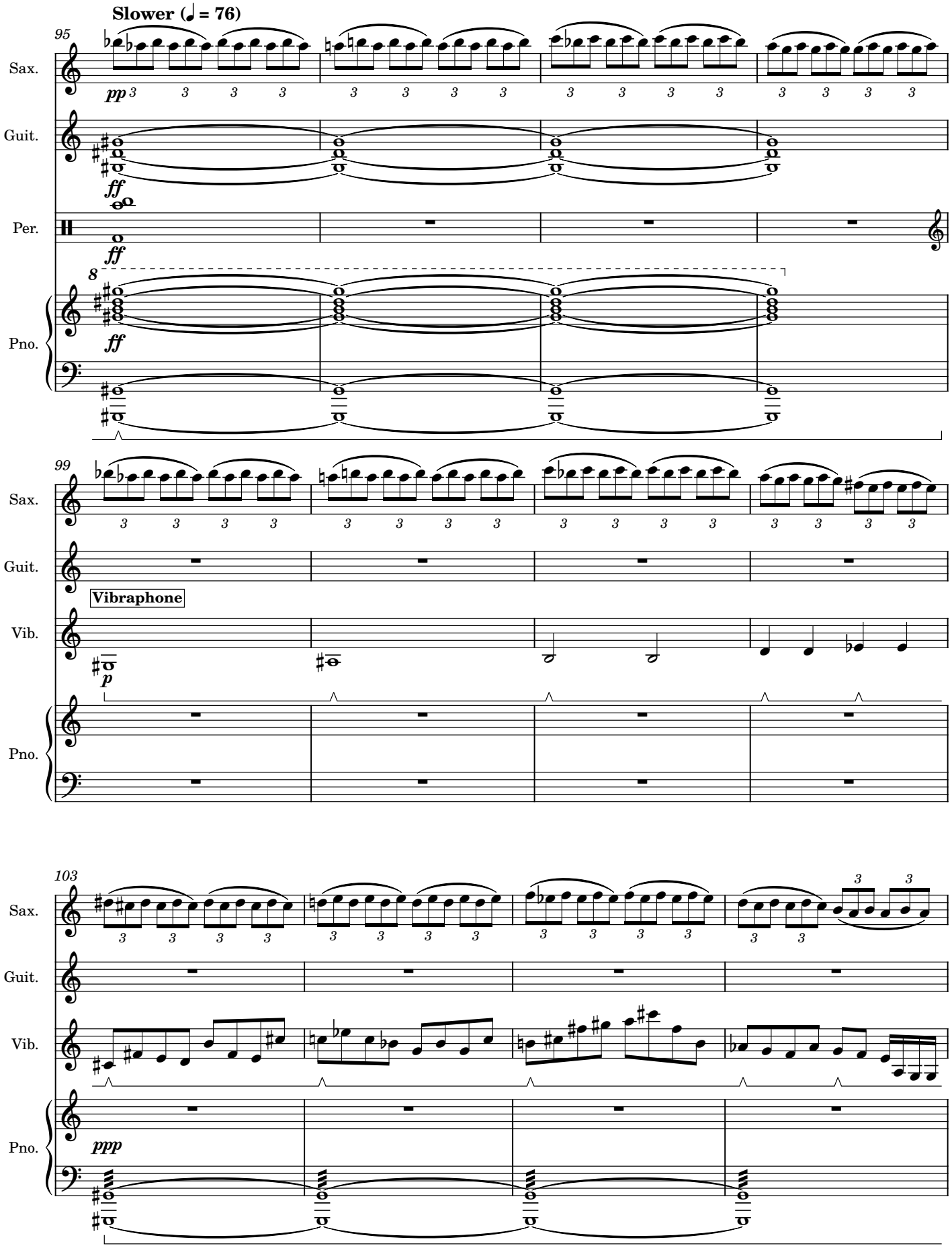

poco accel.
46
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
53
(accel.)
(♩ = 80)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
59
poco accel.
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

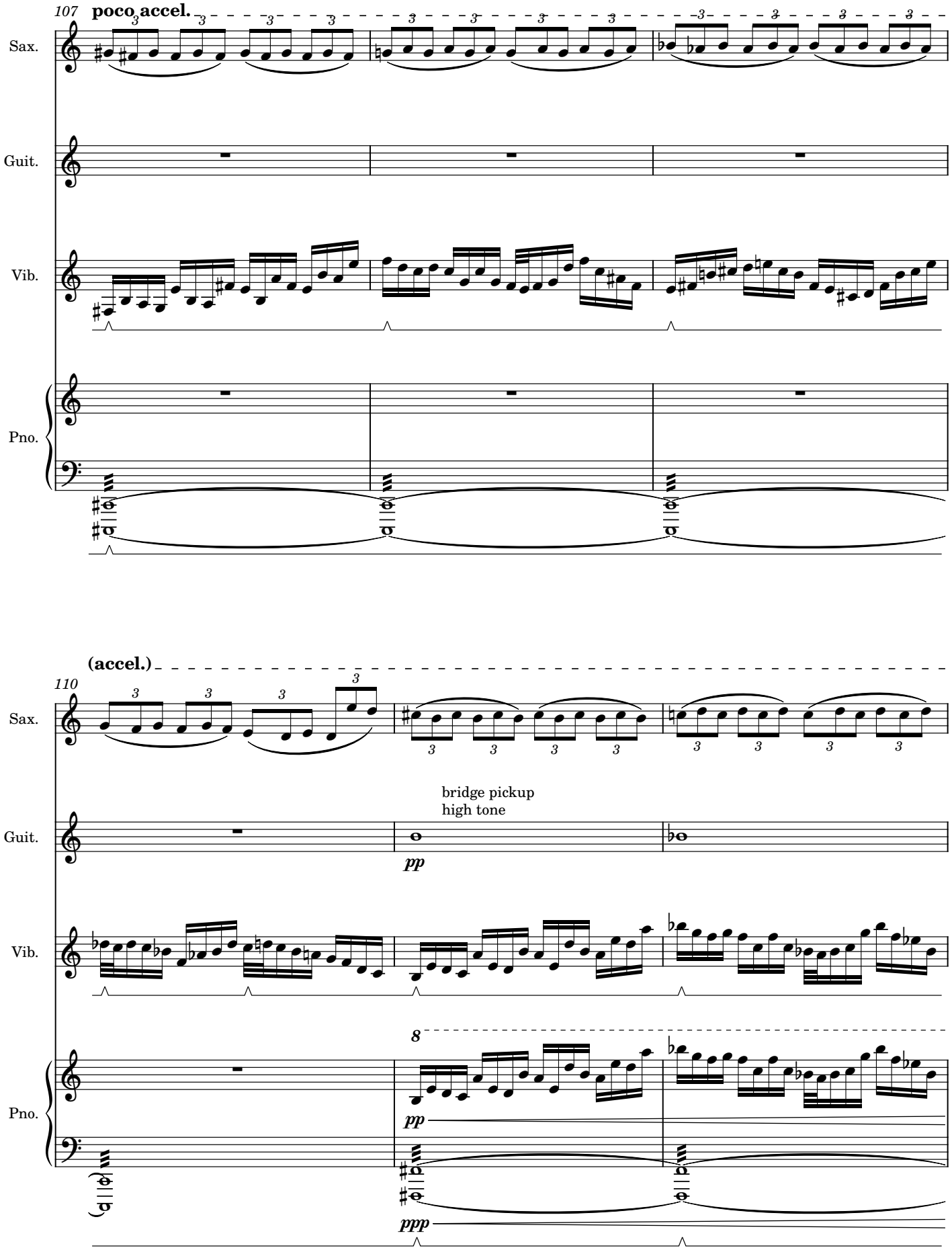

(accel.)
63
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
distortion on
neck pickup
low tone
mp
mp
67
(♩ = 88)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
mp
71
poco accel.
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

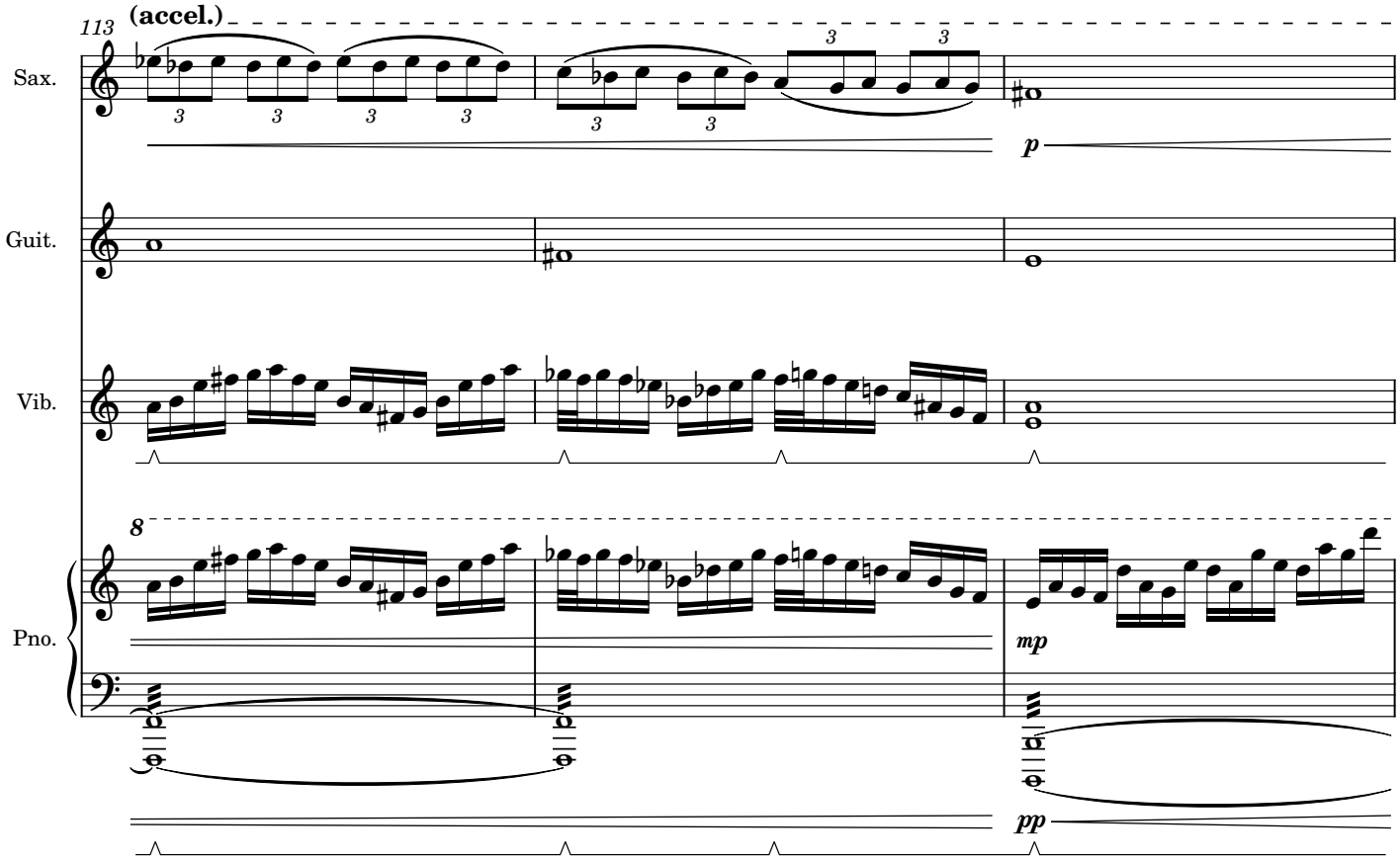

75
(♩ = 92)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
78
Sax.
mf
Guit.
mf
Per.
Pno.
mf

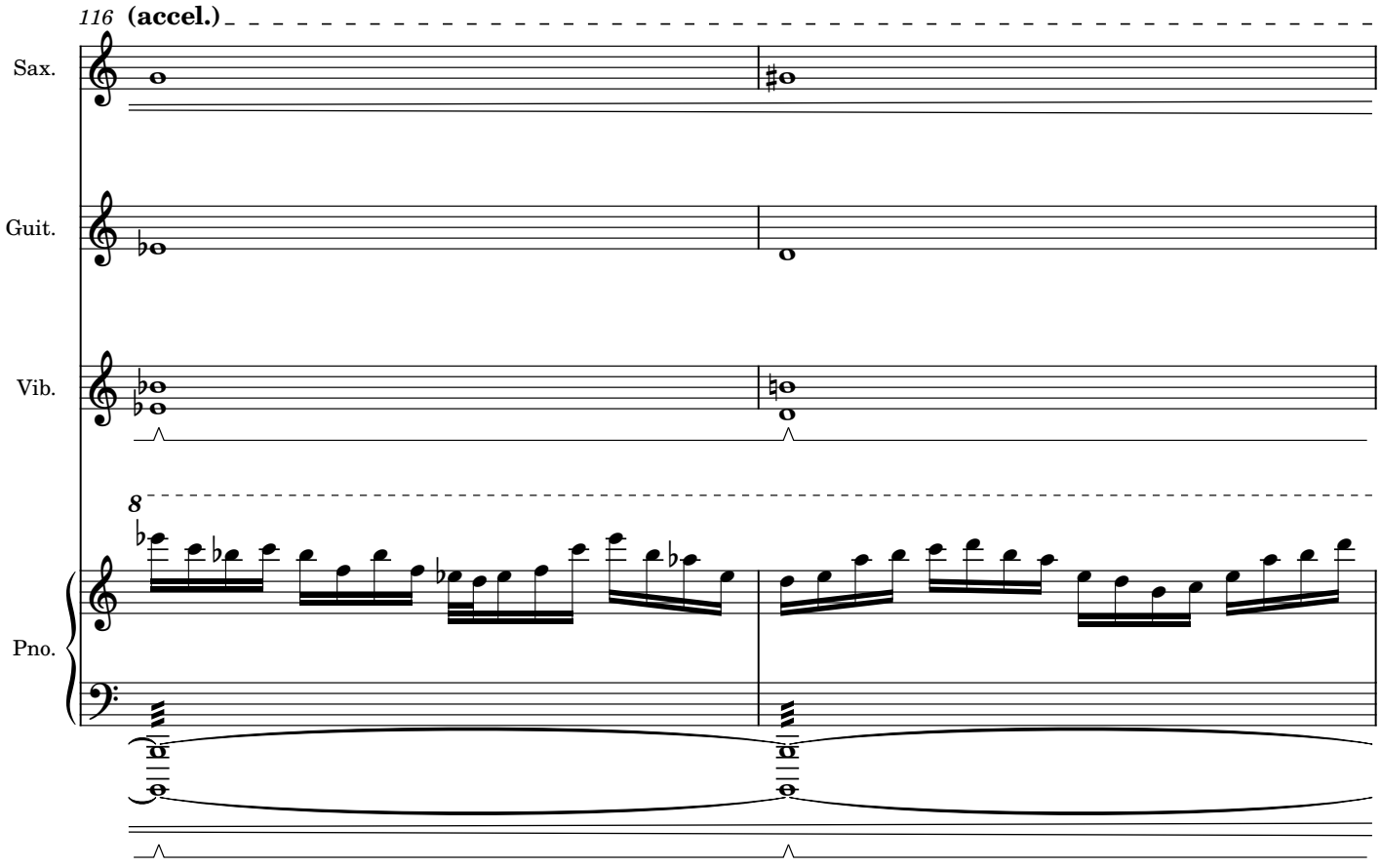

81
poco accel.
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
8
86
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
8

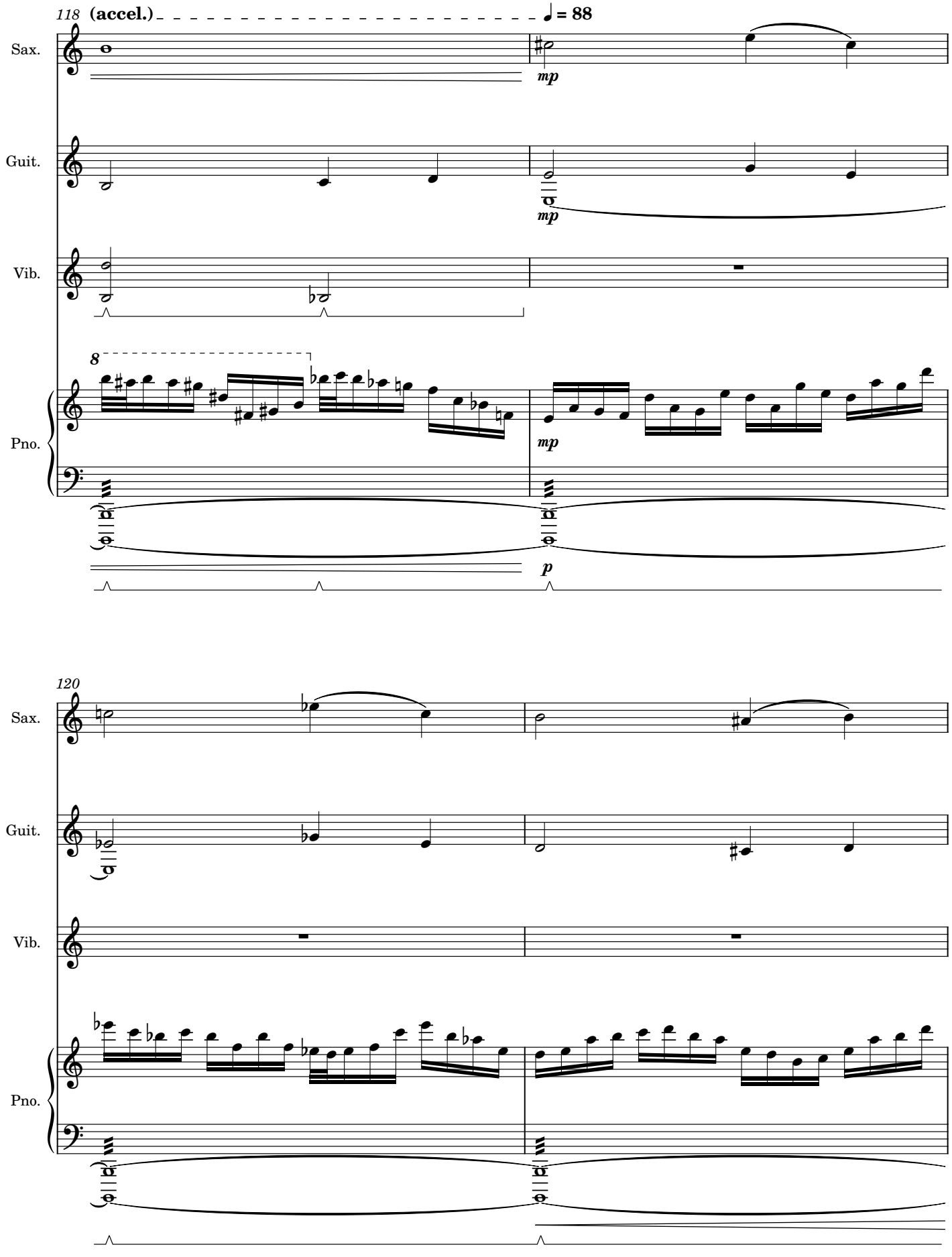

89
(accel.)
(♩ = 100)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
8
92
Sax.
ff
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
8

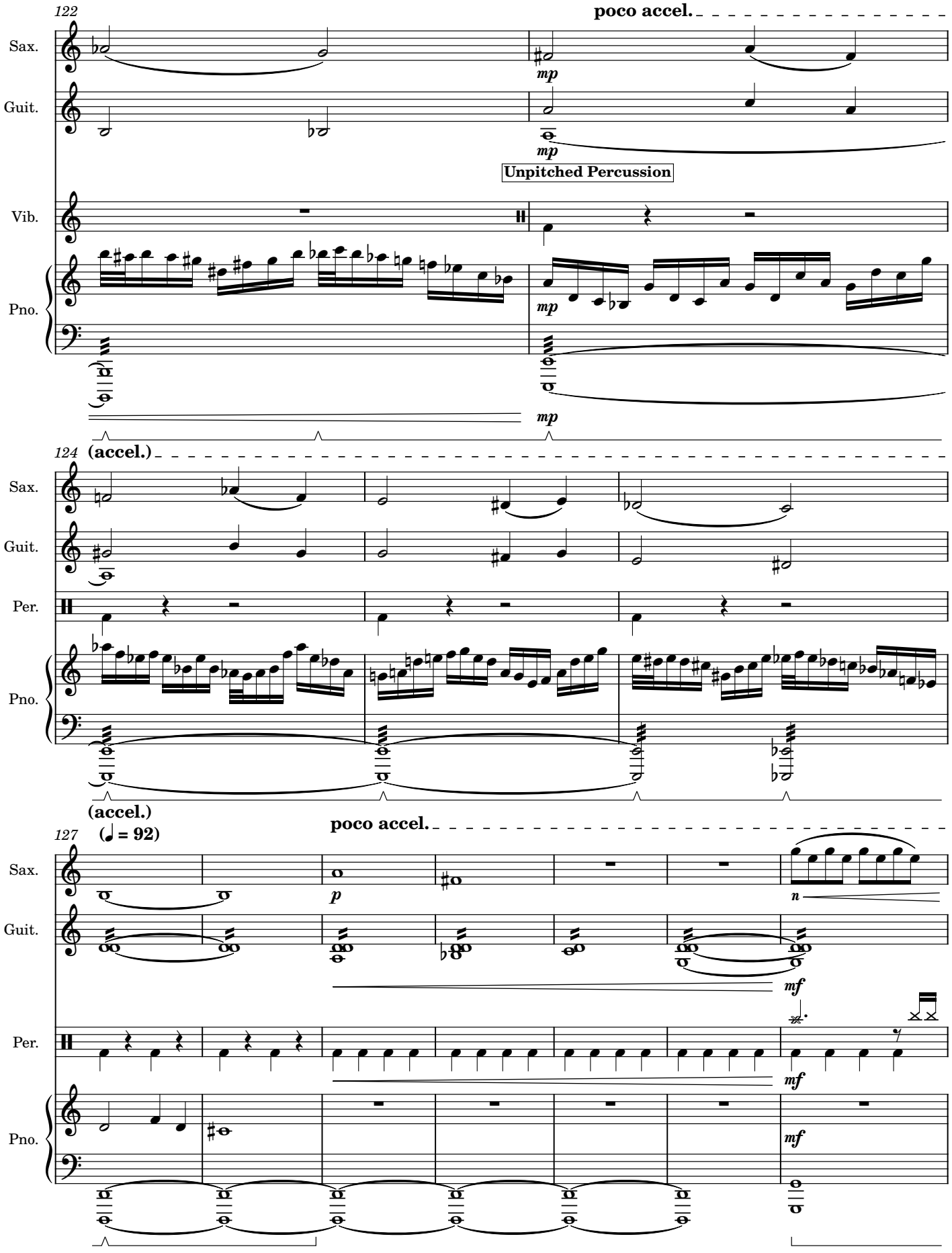

Slower (♩ = 76)
95
Sax.
pp
Guit.
ff
Per.
ff
8
Pno.
ff
99
Sax.
Guit.
Vibraphone
Vib.
p
Pno.
103
Sax.
Guit.
Vib.
Pno.
ppp

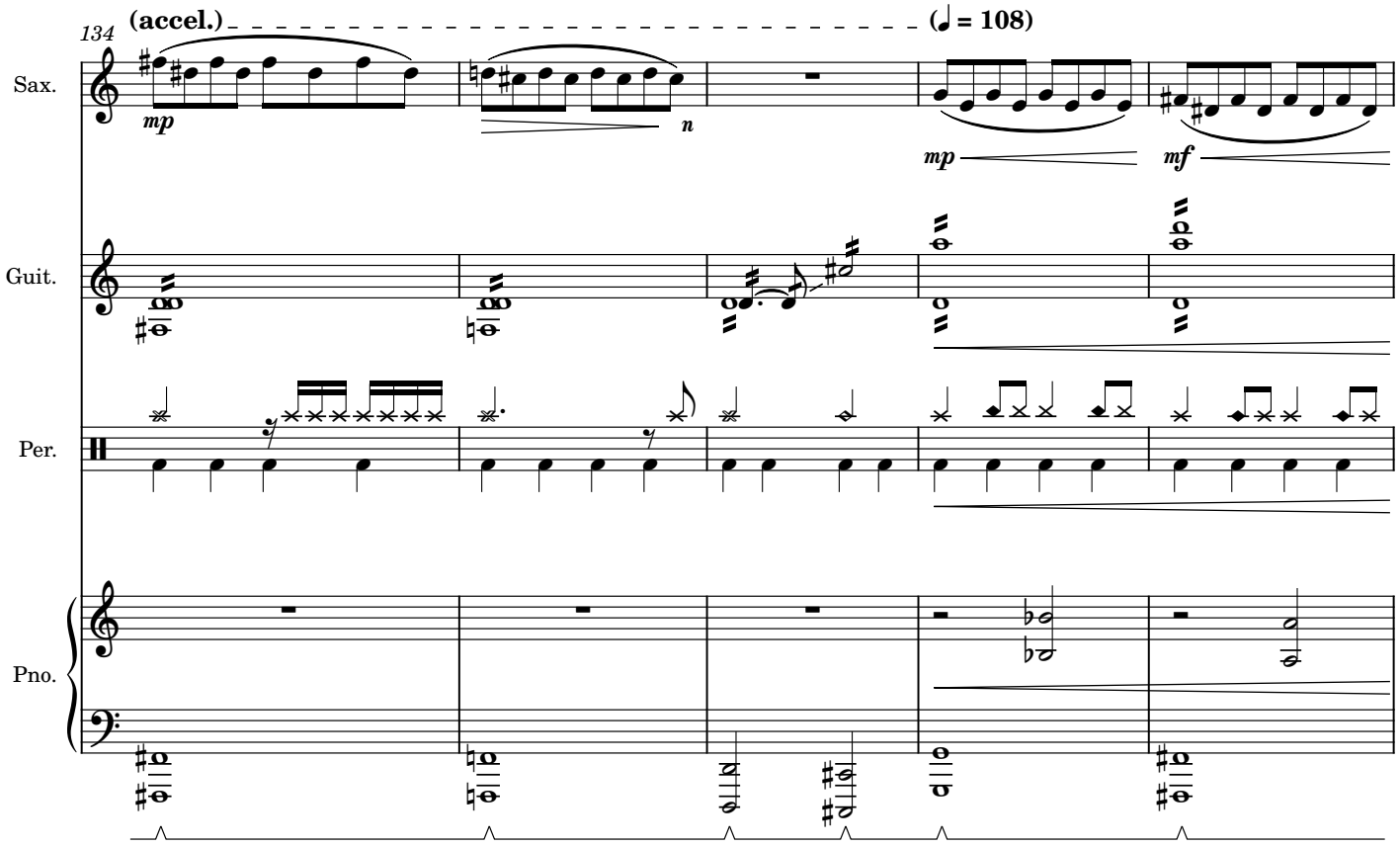

107
poco accel.
Sax.
Guit.
Vib.
Pno.
(accel.)
110
Sax.
bridge pickup
high tone
pp
Guit.
Vib.
8
pp
Pno.
ppp

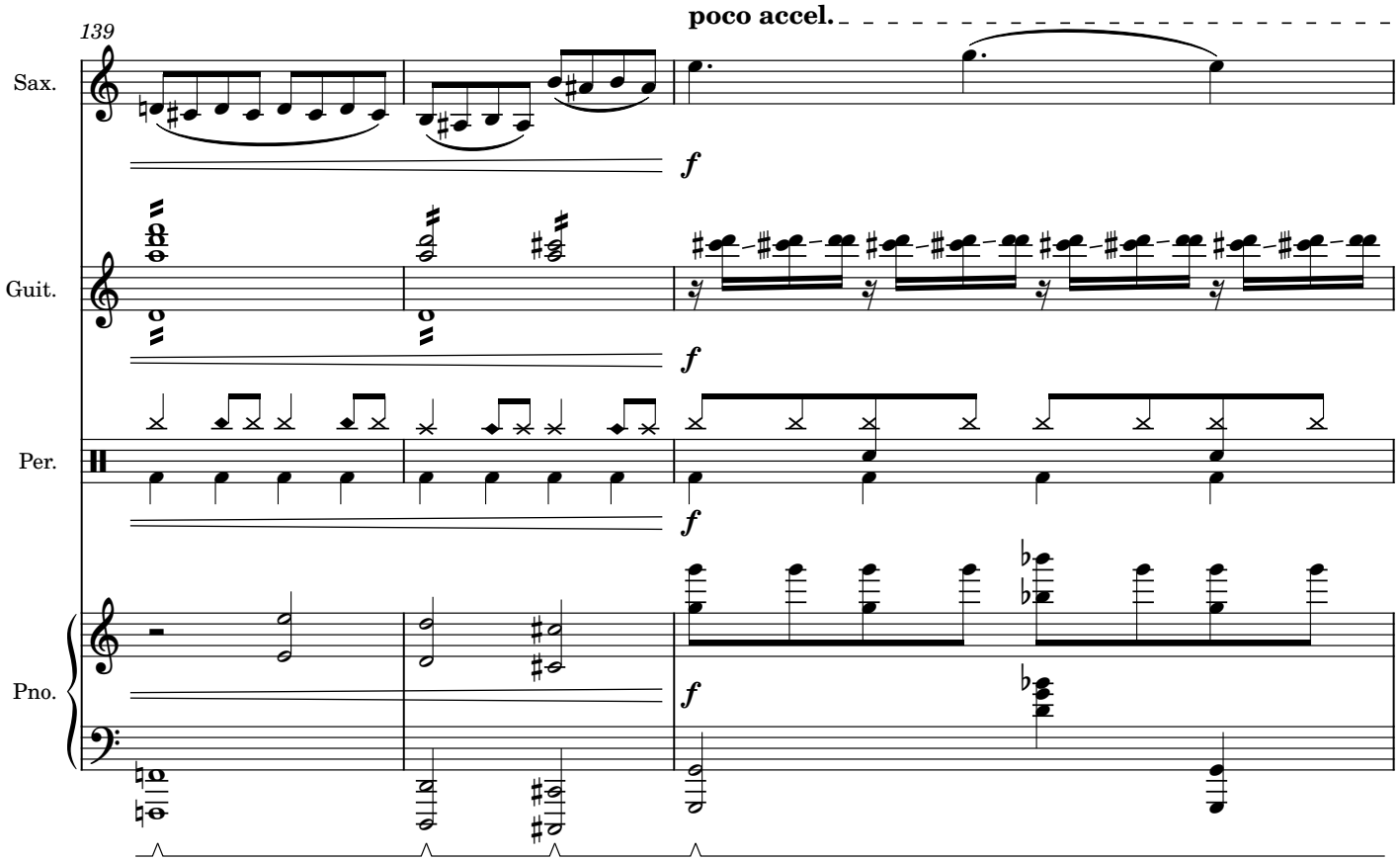

113
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Vib.
8
Pno.
p
mp
pp

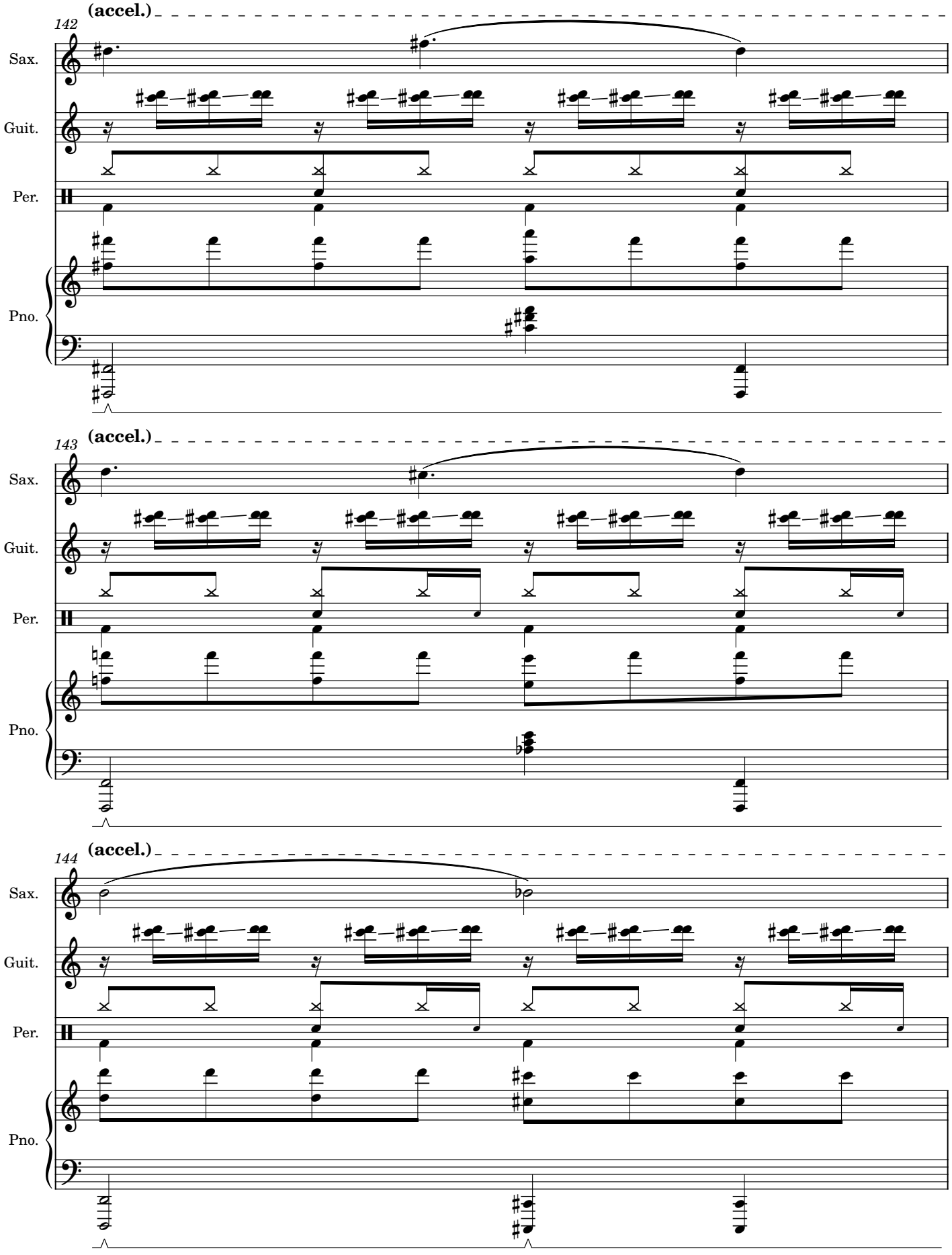

116
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Vib.
8
Pno.

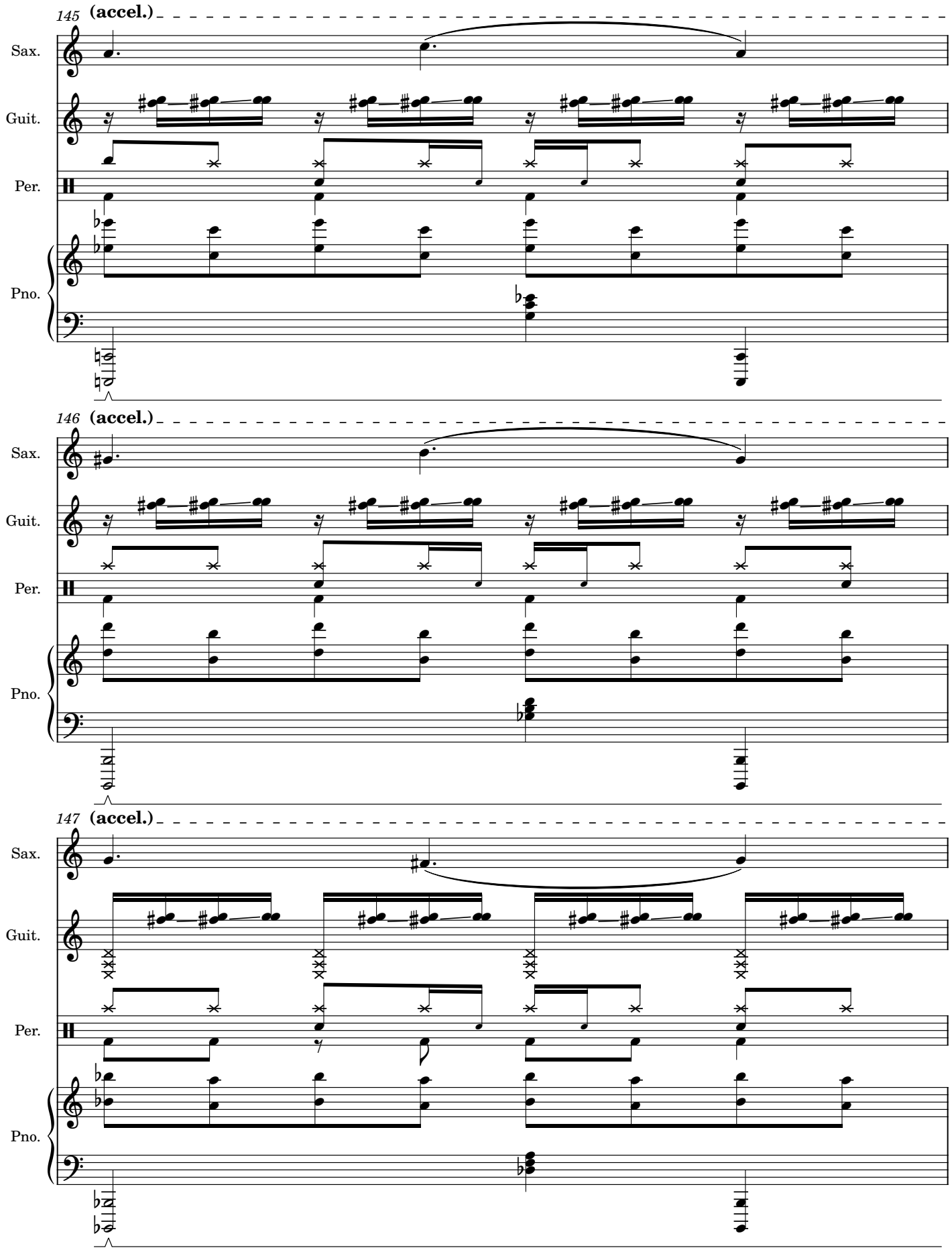

118
(accel.)
♩ = 88
Sax.
Guit.
Vib.
Pno.
8
mp
mp
mp
p
120
Sax.
Guit.
Vib.
Pno.

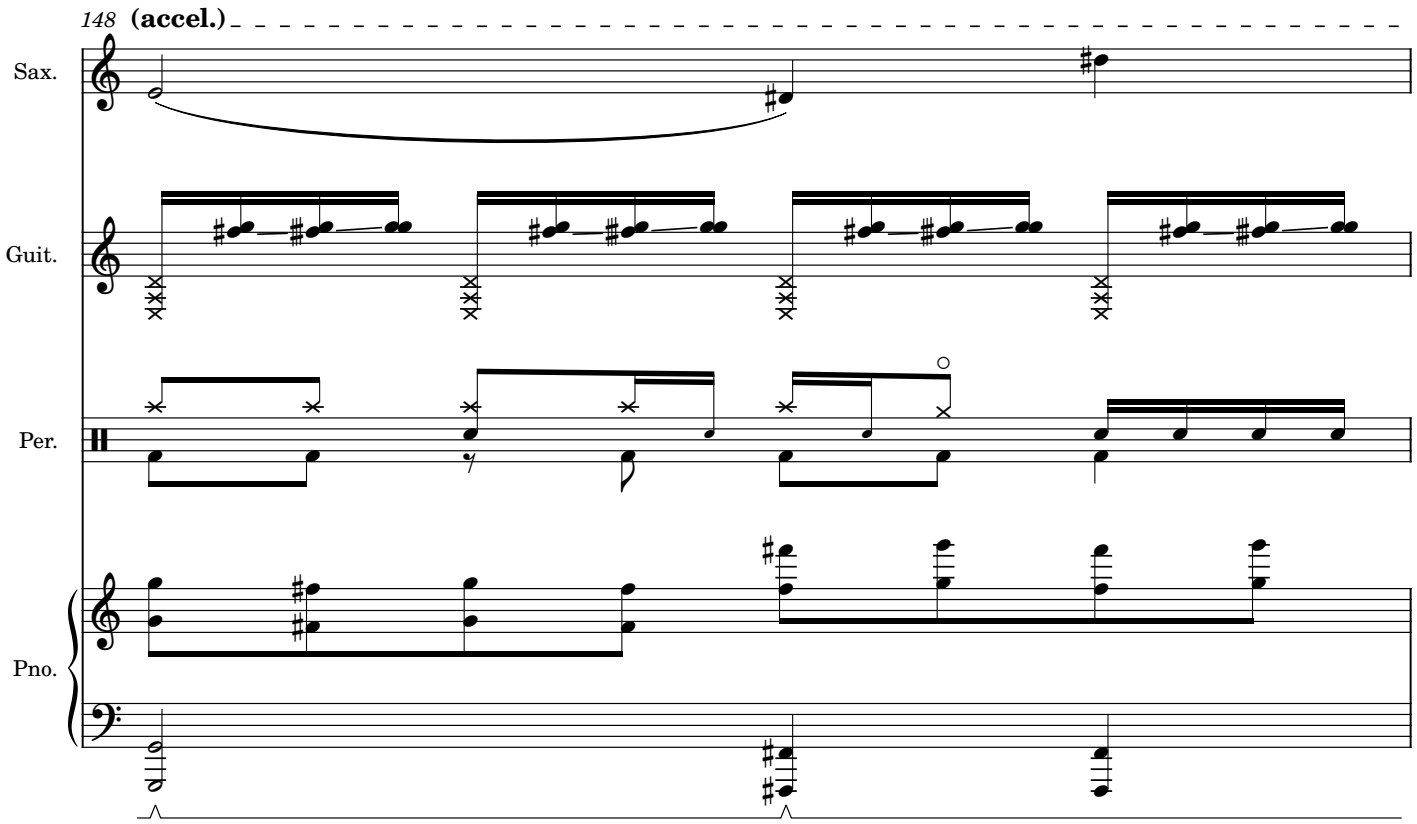

122
poco accel.
Sax.
Guit.
mp
mp
Unpitched Percussion
Vib.
Pno.
mp
mp
124
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
(accel.)
127
(♩ = 92)
poco accel.
Sax.
p
n
Guit.
mf
Per.
mf
Pno.
mf

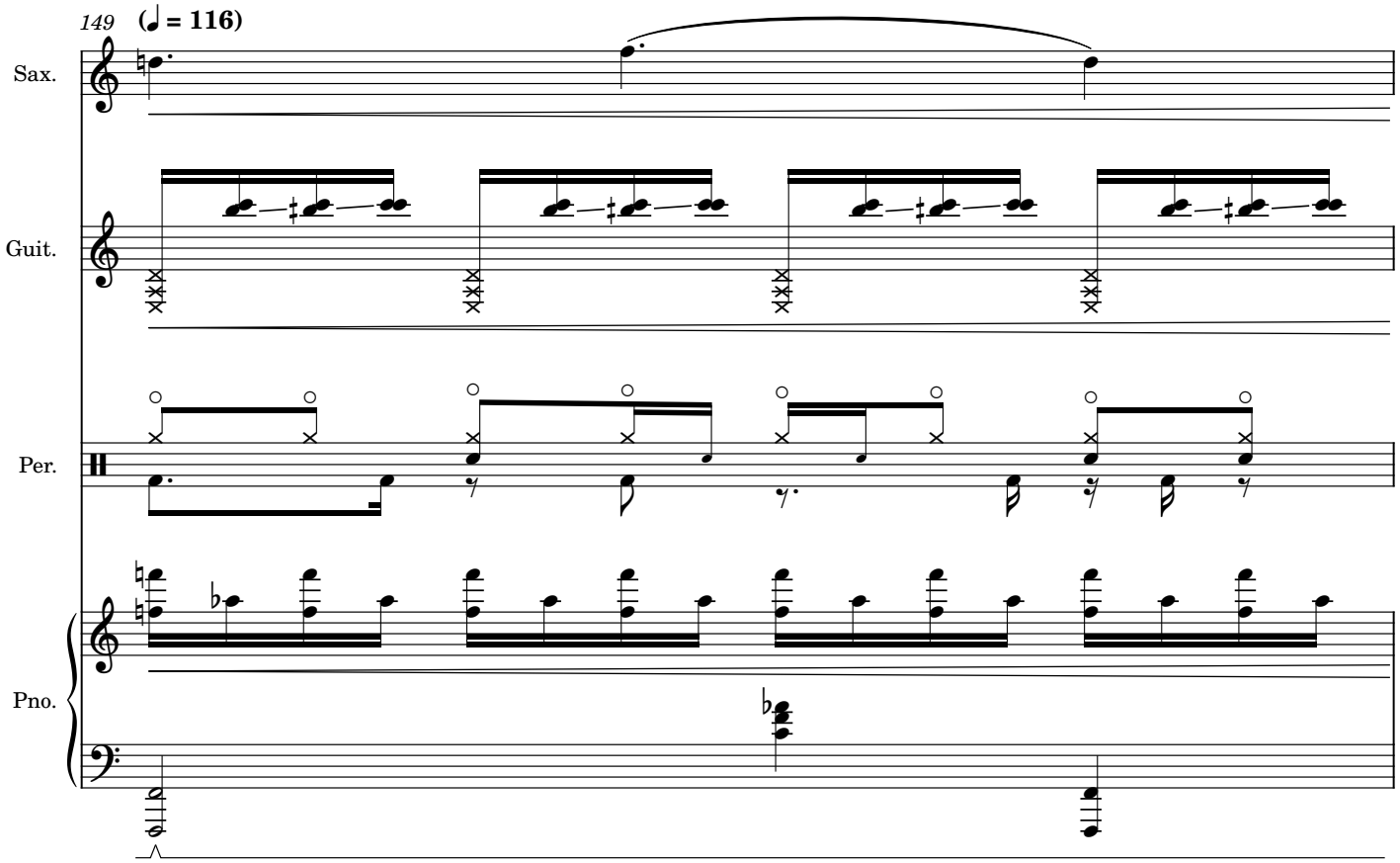

134
(accel.)
(♩ = 108)
Sax.
mp
n
mp
mf
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

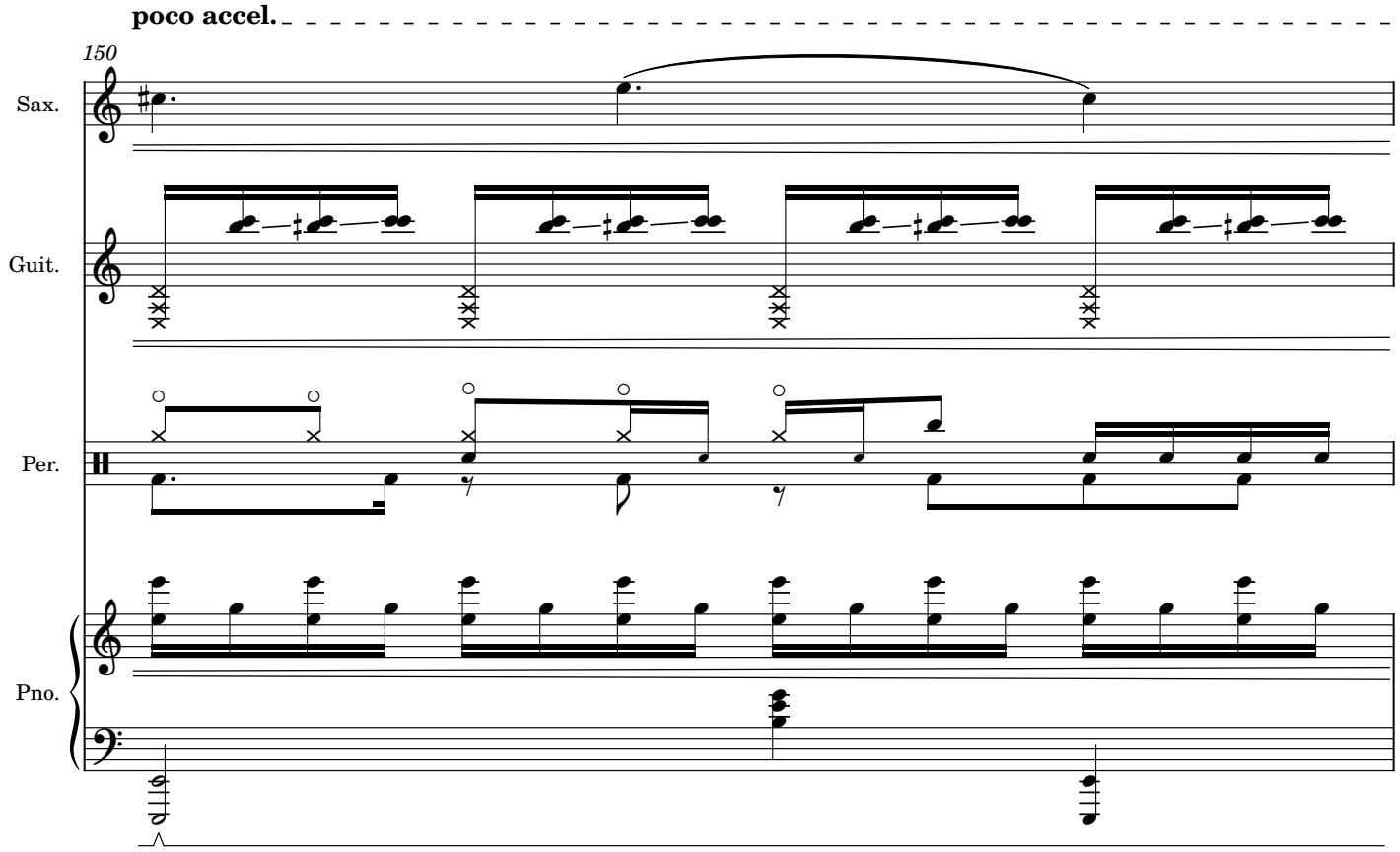

139
poco accel.
Sax.
f
Guit.
f
Per.
f
Pno.
f

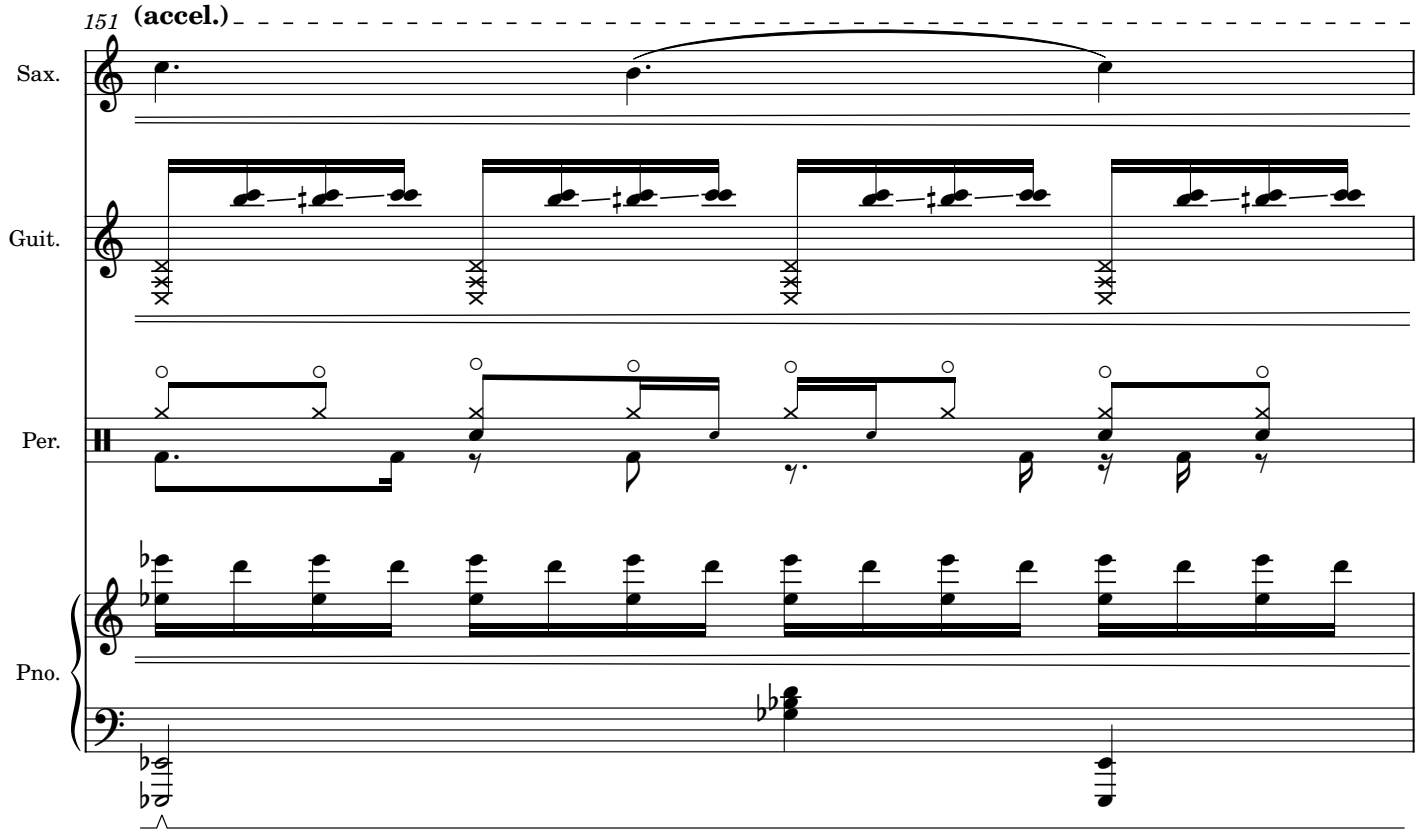

142
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
143
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
144
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

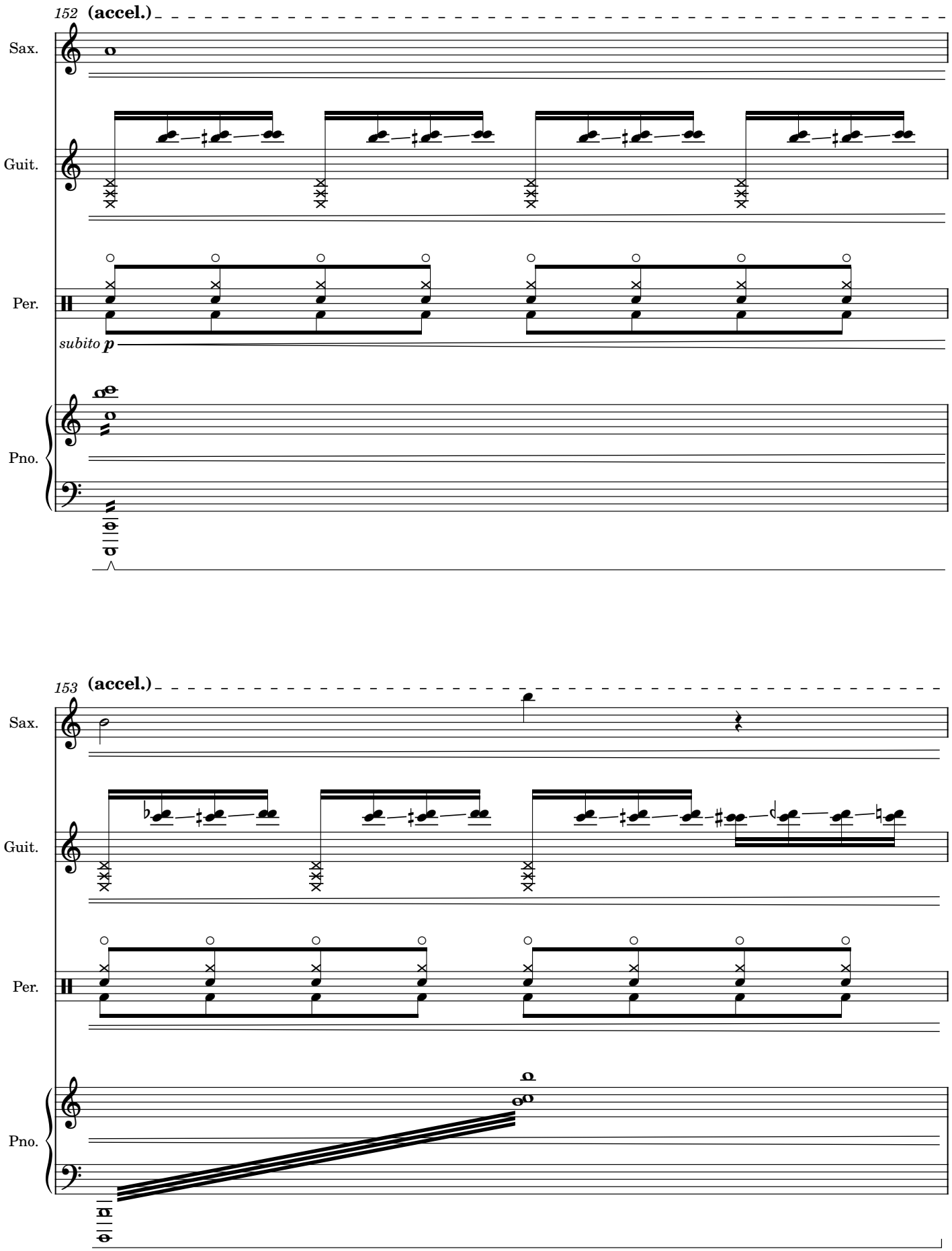

145
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
146
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
147
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

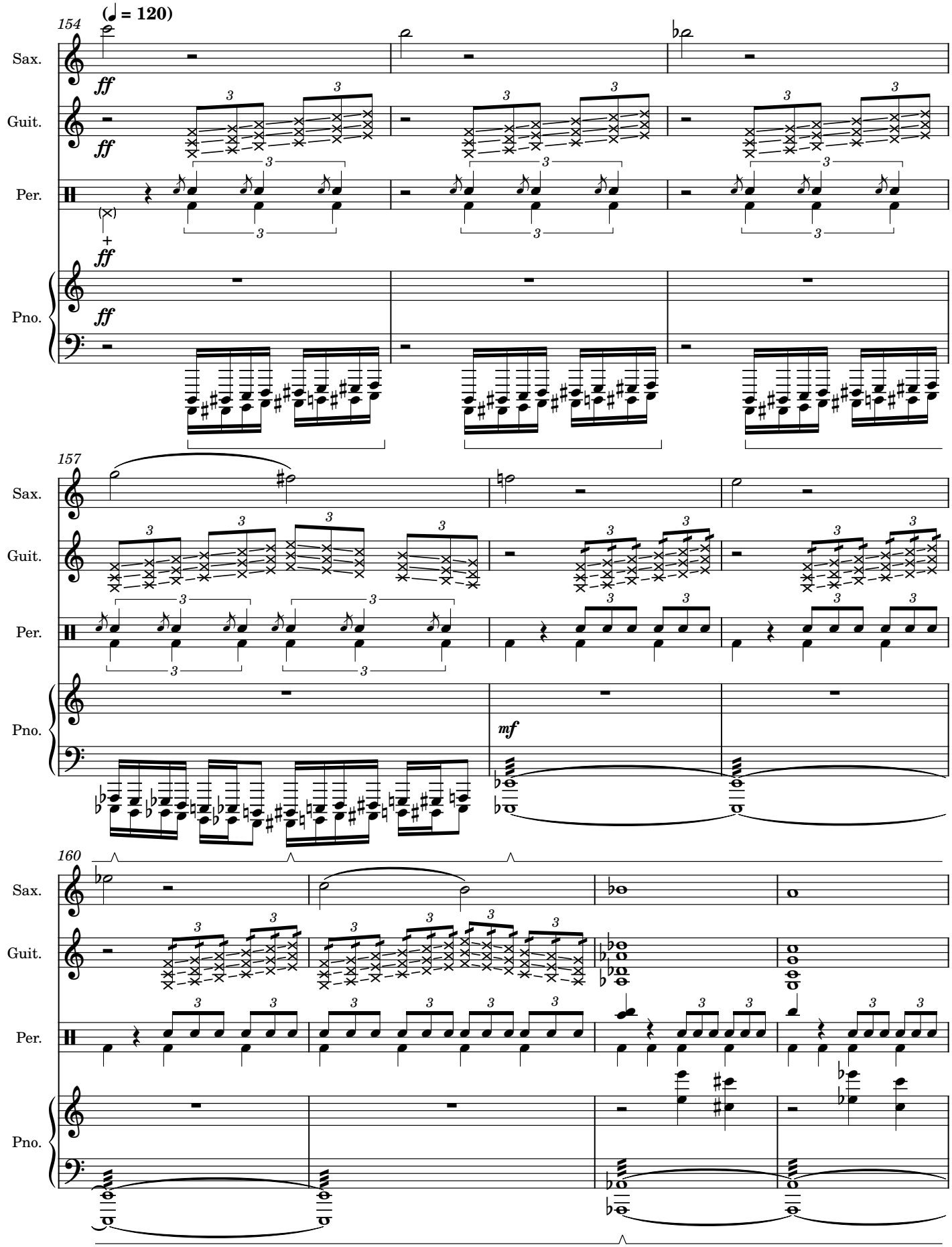

148
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.


149
(♩ = 116)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

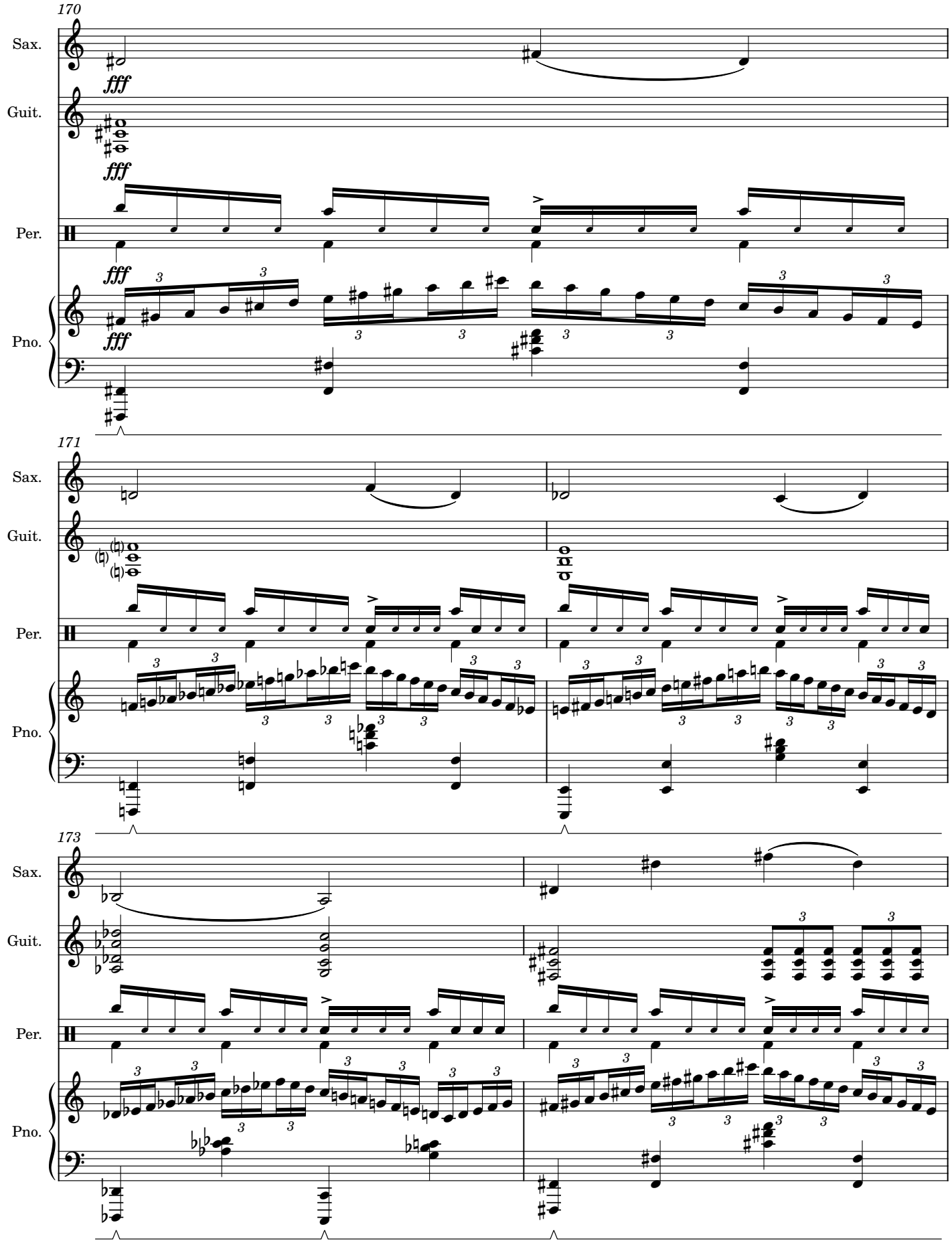

poco accel.
150
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

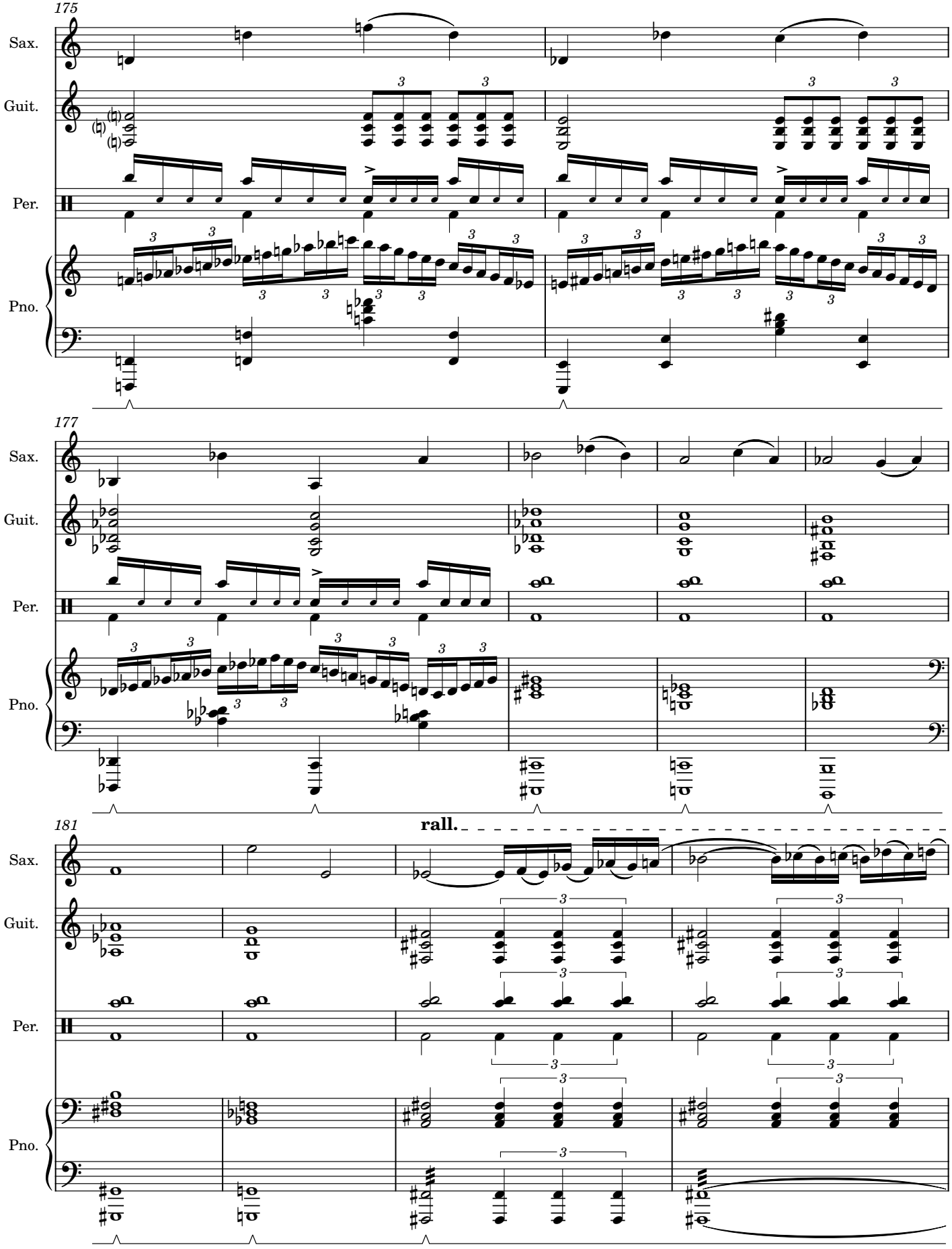

151
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.


152
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
subito p
Pno.
153
(accel.)
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

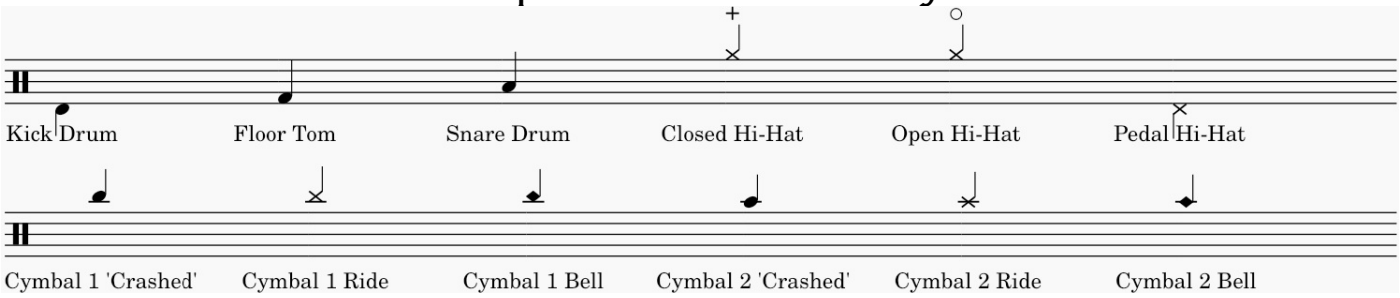

(♩ = 120)
154
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
ff
157
mf
160

164
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
3
3
3
f
ff
167
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.


170
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
fff
171
173


175
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
177
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.
181
rall.
Sax.
Guit.
Per.
Pno.

Unpitched Percussion Key



Program Notes

Something Was Small starts in the titular small place, but it cannot stay there. The piece was inspired by post-rock bands such as Godspeed You! Black Emperor. Like many post-rock pieces, *Something Was Small* is based around a single theme that is introduced and repeated throughout its length. As the piece unfurls and the theme is recontextualized, the piece must grow, both in texture and in volume, until it eventually reaches its inevitable zenith. Something was once small, but now it has changed and grown.