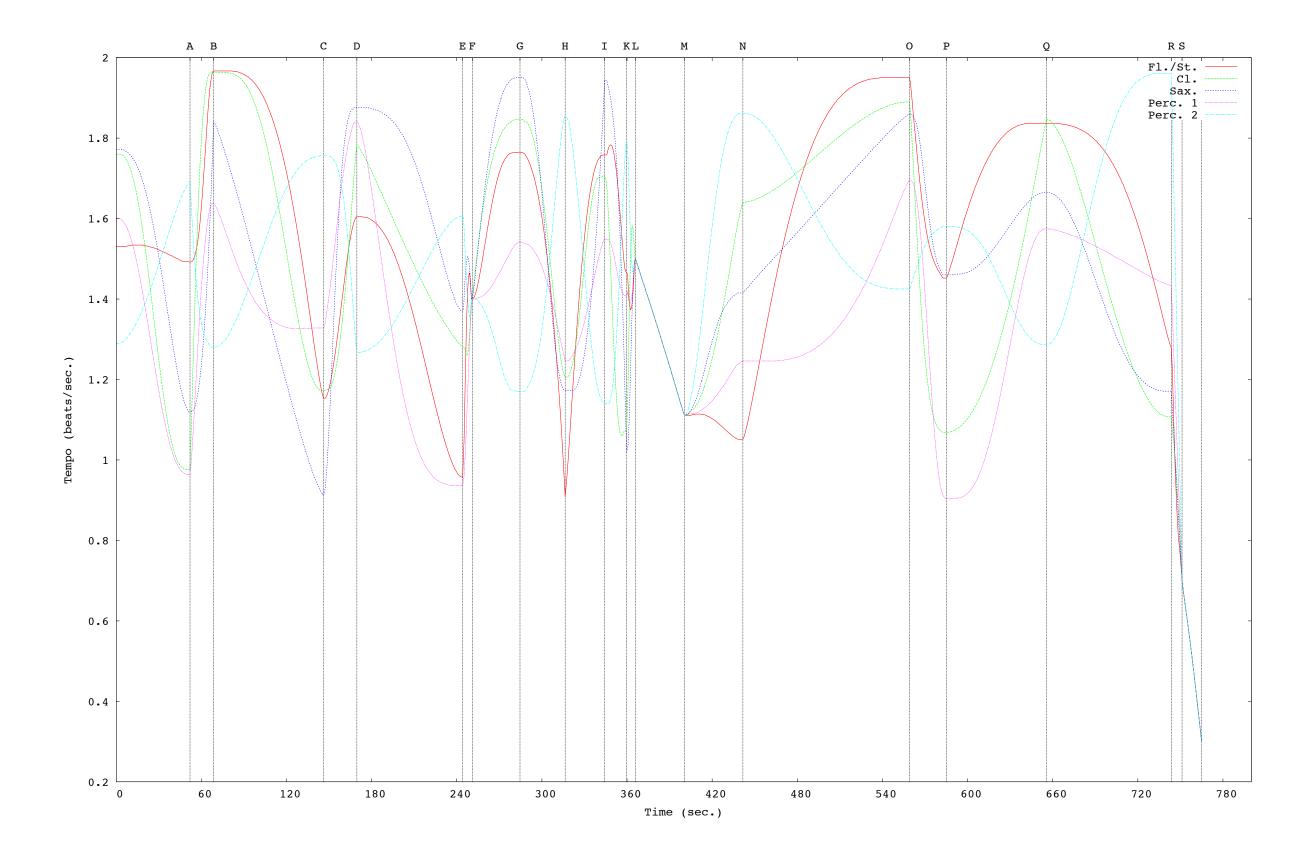
The Delicate Texture of Time

John MacCallum

For octet with clicktracks and conductor

...what I am concerned with is the delicate texture of Time, void of all embroidered events. [...] Physiologically the sense of Time is a sense of continuous becoming, and if 'becoming' has a voice, the latter might be, not unnaturally, a steady vibration; --Vladimir Nabokov, Ada or Ardor



Score

This score is transposed

Instrumentation

Flute (doubling piccolo and alto flute)

Clarinet (doubling bass clarinet)

Saxophone (doubling alto and soprano)

2 Percussion:

Each has a set of the following:

- 3 Piccolo woodblocks
- 3 Wood planks
- 3 Drums (bongos and/or Chinese toms)
- 3 Resonant metal pipes of different sizes (around 1.5" in diameter, 1/16" thick, and 18" long)

Percussion I:

Marimba

1 A# Crotale (higher octave if possible)

Percussion II:

Vibraphone with working motor

Medium tam-tam

Violin Viola

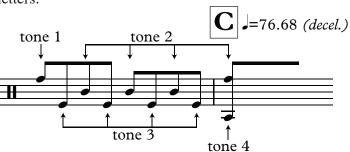
Cello

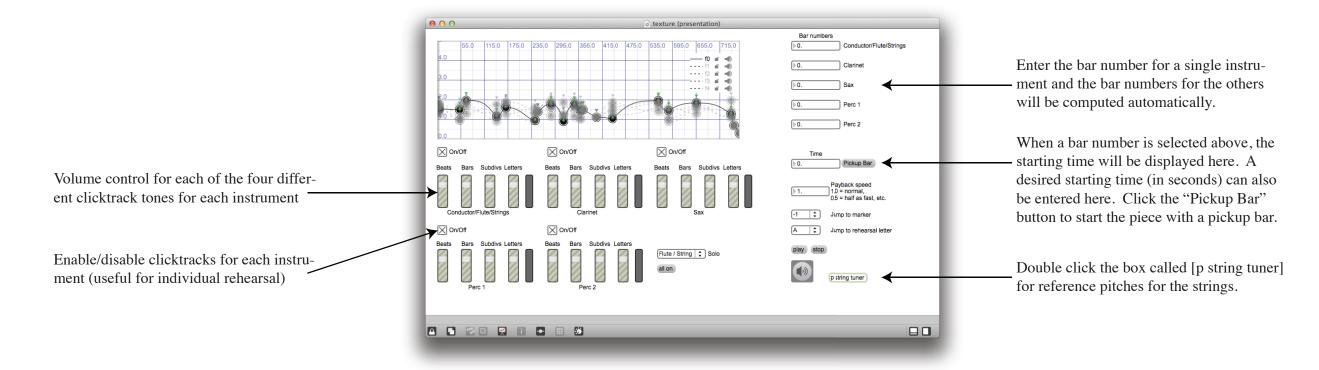
Clicktracks

The clarinettist, saxophonist, and both percussionists listen to clicktracks that vary in tempo smoothly, and independent of one another for the duration of the piece. The conductor also has a clicktrack which, like the others, smoothly varies in tempo, and keeps the time for the flute and strings. Although the piece can be done without a conductor by giving the flautist and string trio their own clicktracks, it is preferable for a conductor to be present.

The clicktracks begin with one pick-up bar for all instruments.

The clicktracks consist of 4 tones that represent the downbeat of each bar, each subsequent beat, eighth notes, and the rehearsal letters:





Notation

The score is prepared such that the horizontal position of the notes on the page represents their actual placement in time. The placement of the first beat of a bar directly on the barline, while not conforming to standard typesetting practice, is necessary for the alignment with the other parts. This convention is only used in the score---the parts that the musicians read from are notated conventionally.

Tempos are printed with one or more decimals of precision in the score so that they correspond with those as seen in the Max patch.

Accidentals

\uparrow	1/8 sharp	#	3/4 of a tone sharp
\downarrow	1/8 flat	ϕ	3/4 of a tone flat
‡	1/4 sharp	#	# plus an 1/8
4	1/4 flat	#	# minus 1/8

Strings—Scordatura

The cello should tune to the 5th, 7th, 11th, and 16th partials an A one octave below the low A of the piano (13.75 Hz). Relative to the normal tuning of the cello's strings, the C string is tuned almost a semiton sharp, the G is slightly flat, the D is almost exactly a quarter tone sharp, and the A is normal. The viola should be tuned one octave higher than the cello. The bottom two strings of the violin are the same as the middle two of the viola, while the A and E are tuned normally.

Unless otherwise indicated, notes represent the pitches to be fingered as if the strings were tuned normally.

Strings—Mutes

The piece calls for two different leather mutes, one with 3 prongs and one with 5 denoted as follows:

3 prong mute on3 prong mute off5 prong mute on5 prong mute off

The mutes can be supplied by the composer, or ordered from Marcel Saint-Cyr at http://leathermutes.com

Flute

A glissando head joint is called for, however, if the performer does not have access to one, an alternate part is available.

Air only (aeolian tone)

Tongue stop (tongue ram)

× Pizzicato (short percussive 'tuh' made by building up

pressure behind the tongue)

Alternate between two different fingerings of the same pitch

Clarinet / Saxophone

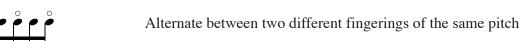
Normal slap tongue (clear pitch)

∇ Secco slap (very little pitch)

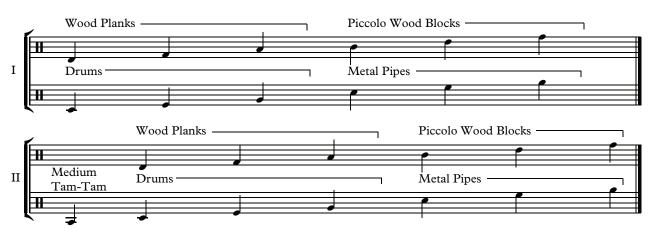
Open slap (explosive with no pitch)

Air only (aeolian tone)

× Tongue stop (tongue ram)



Percussion





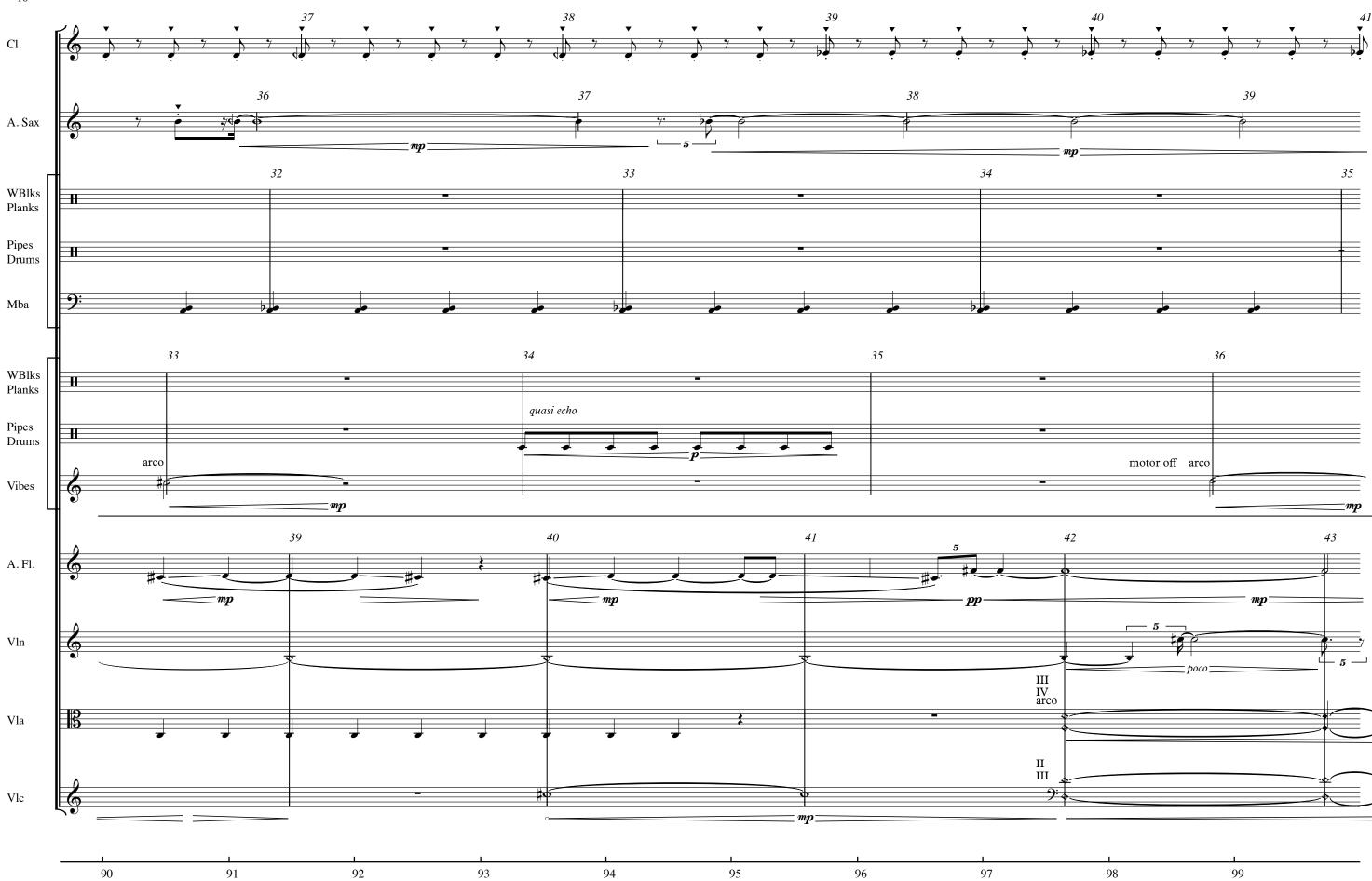










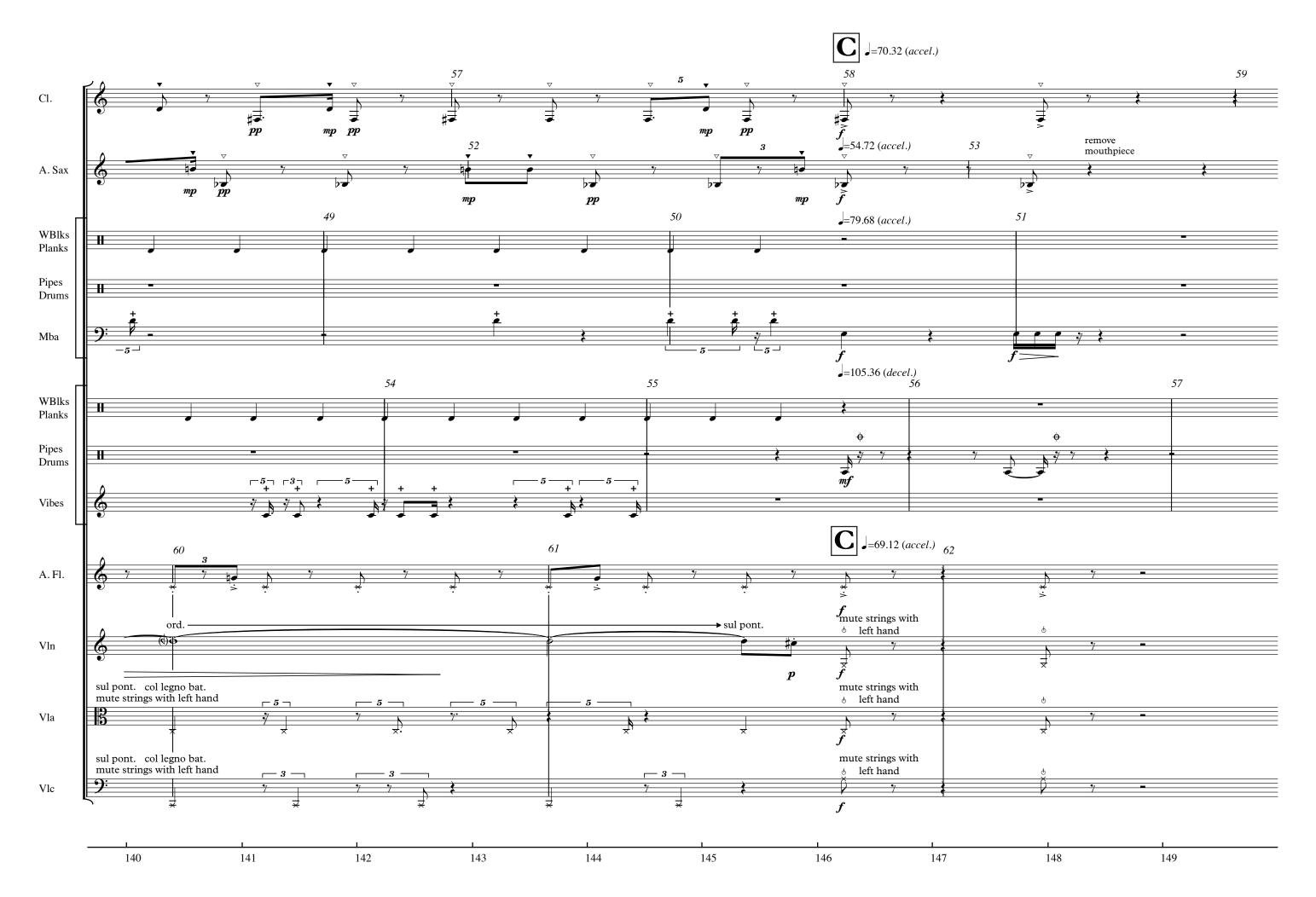




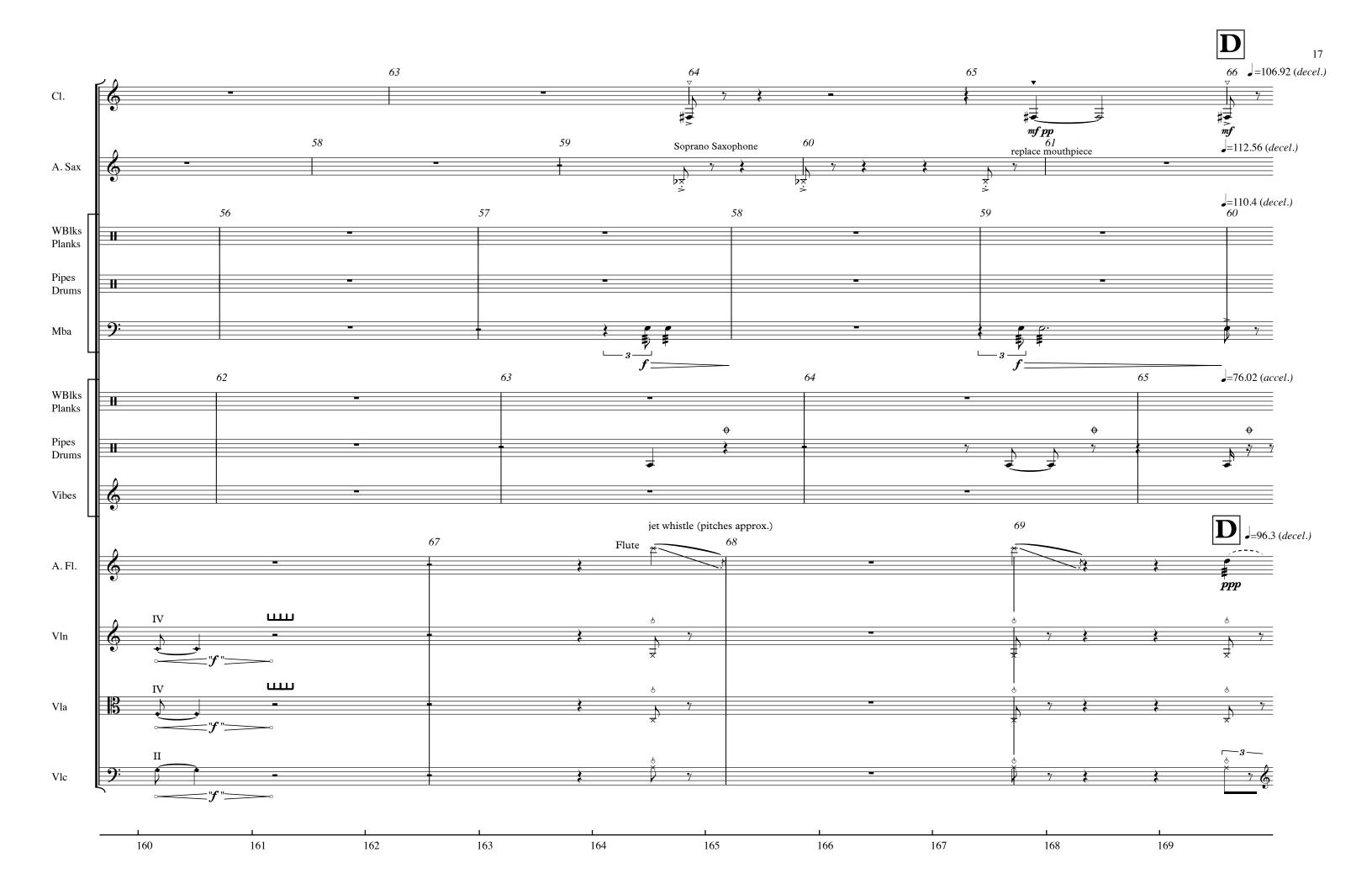






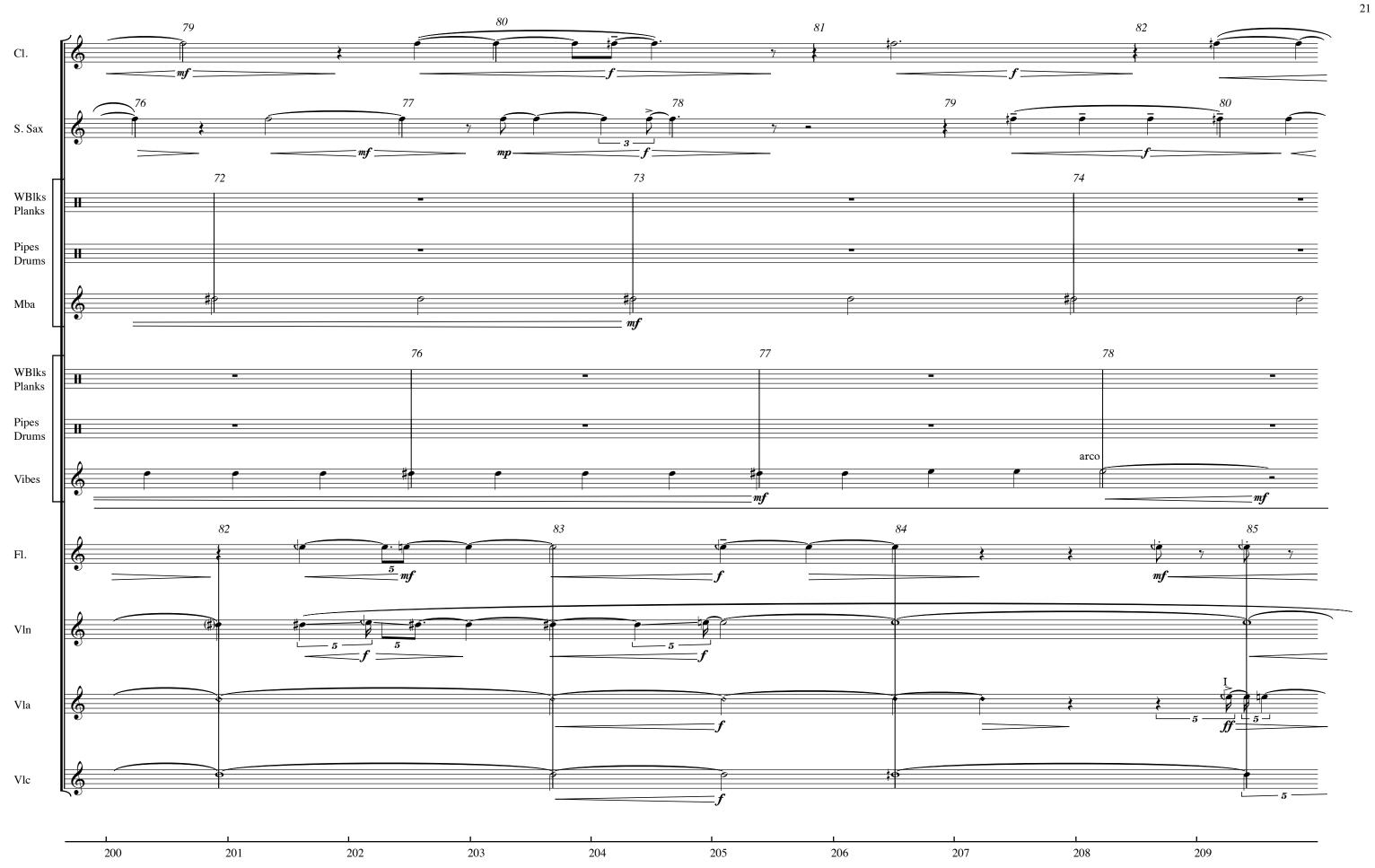


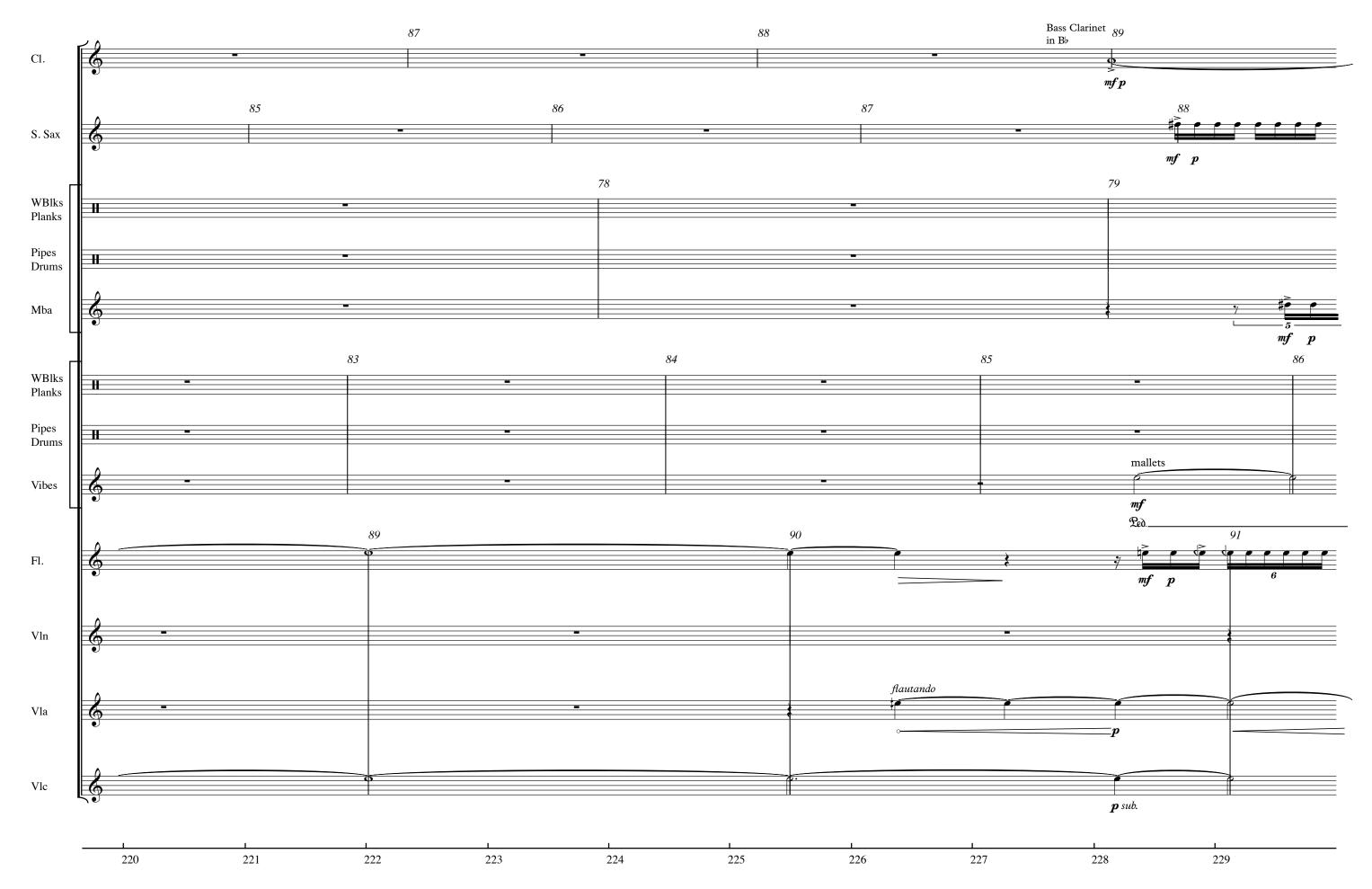




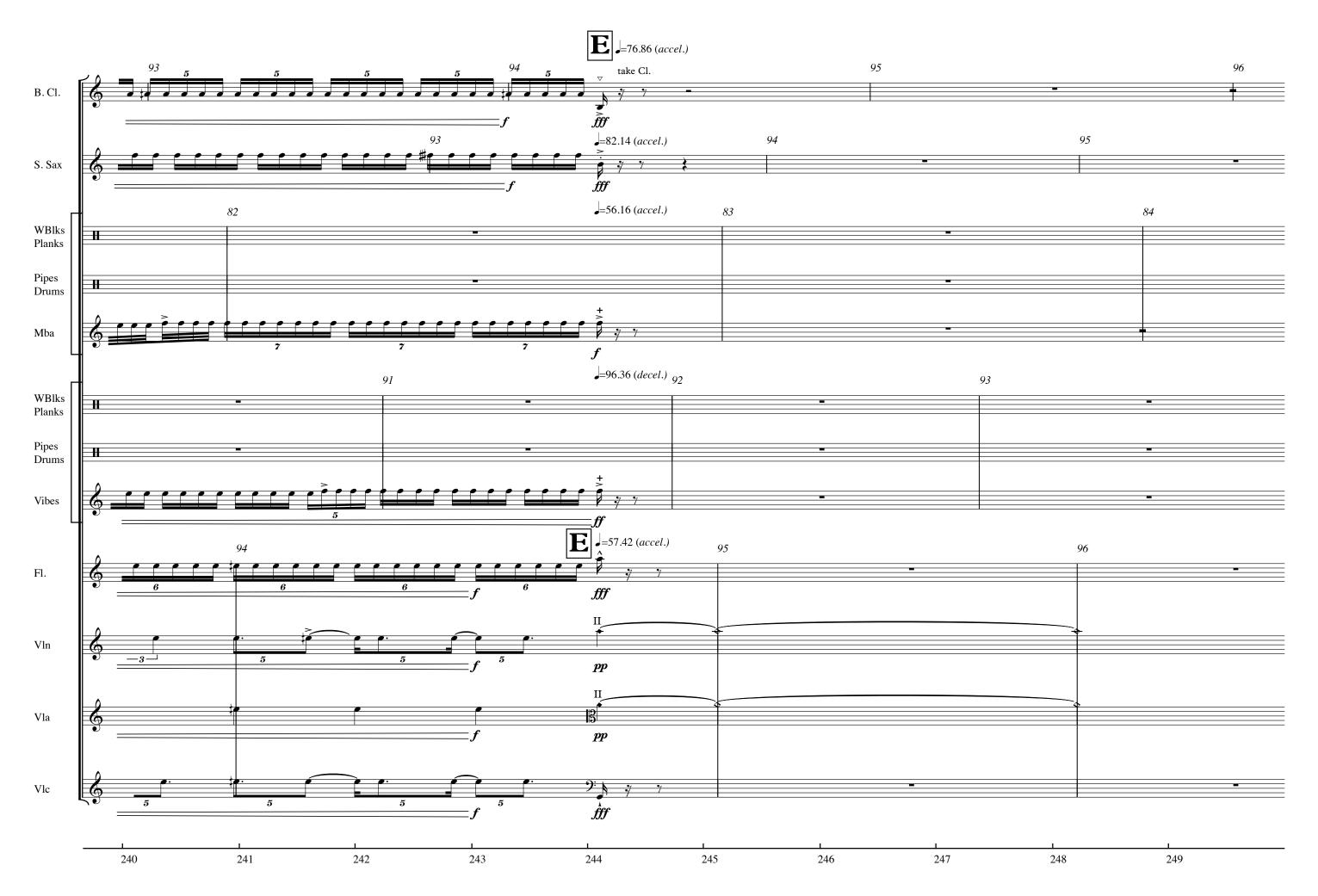


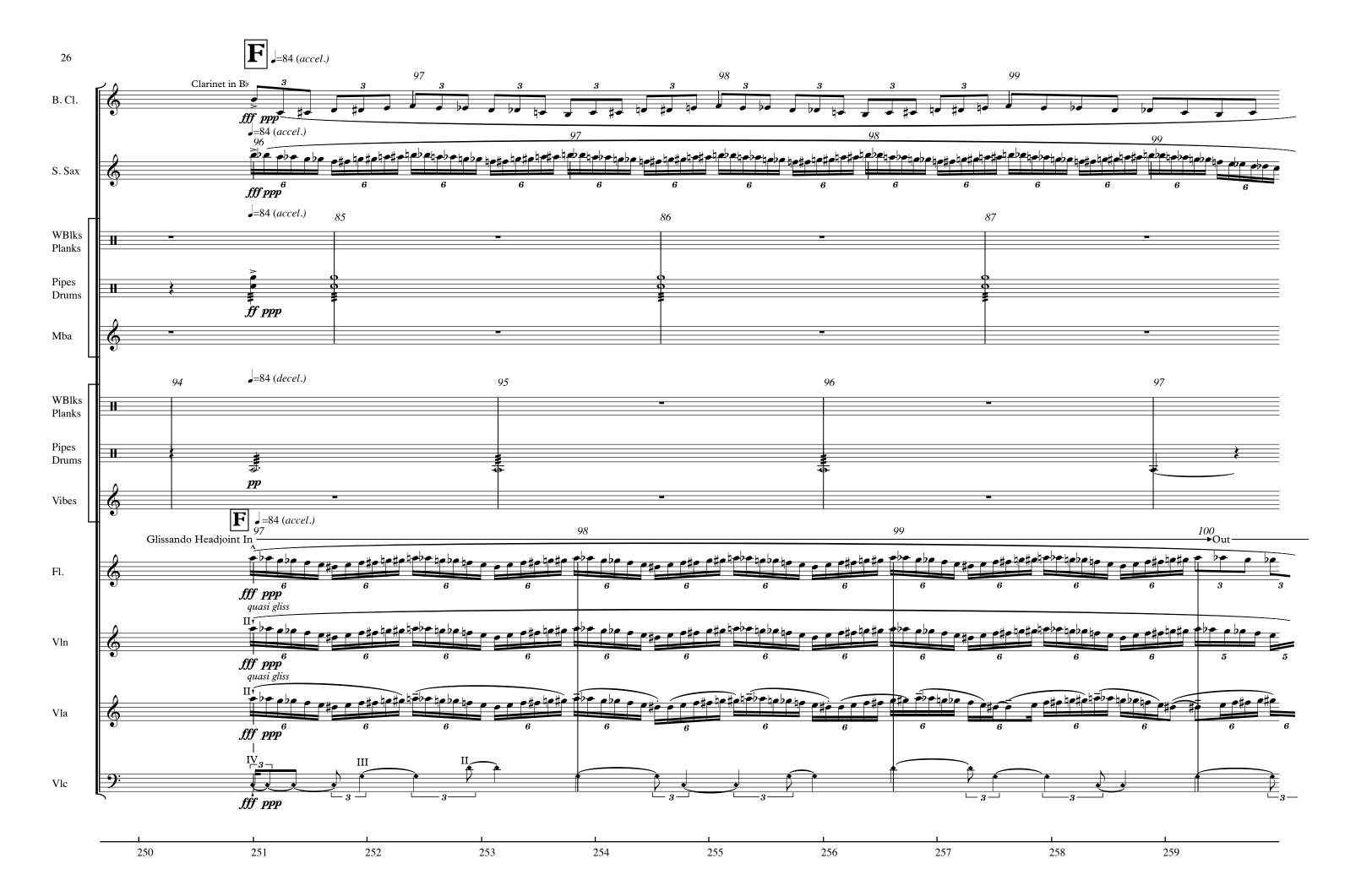


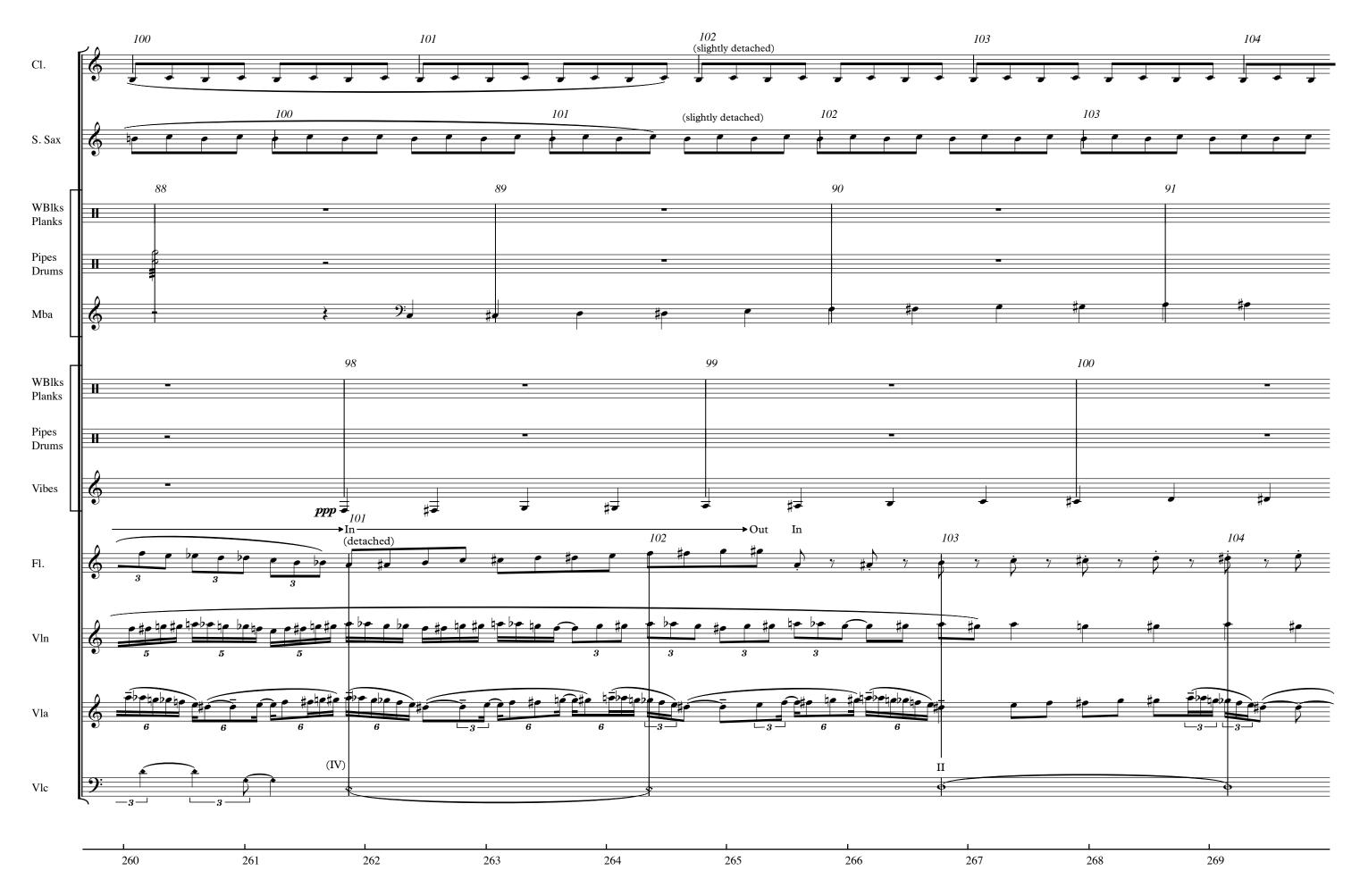


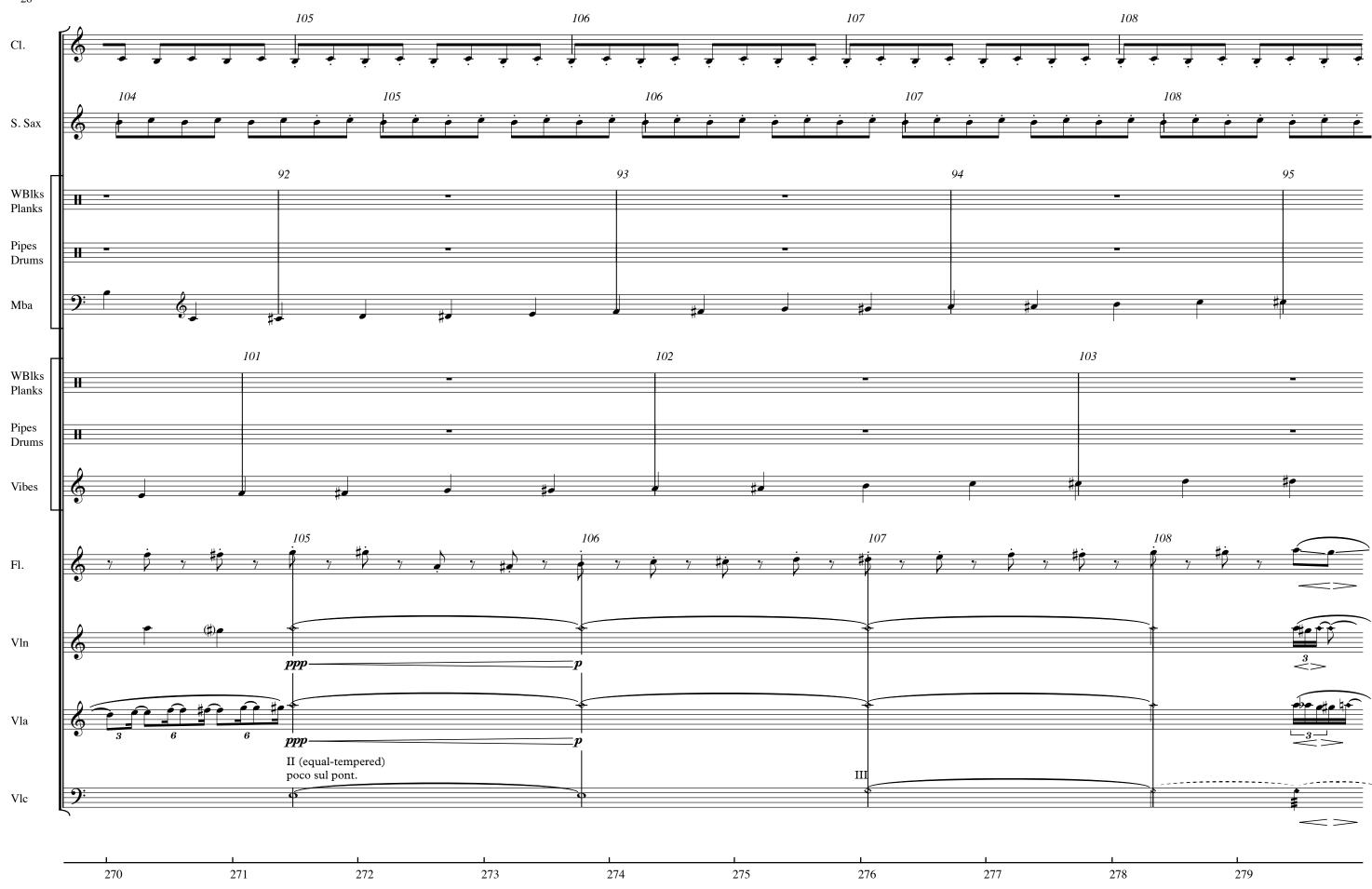




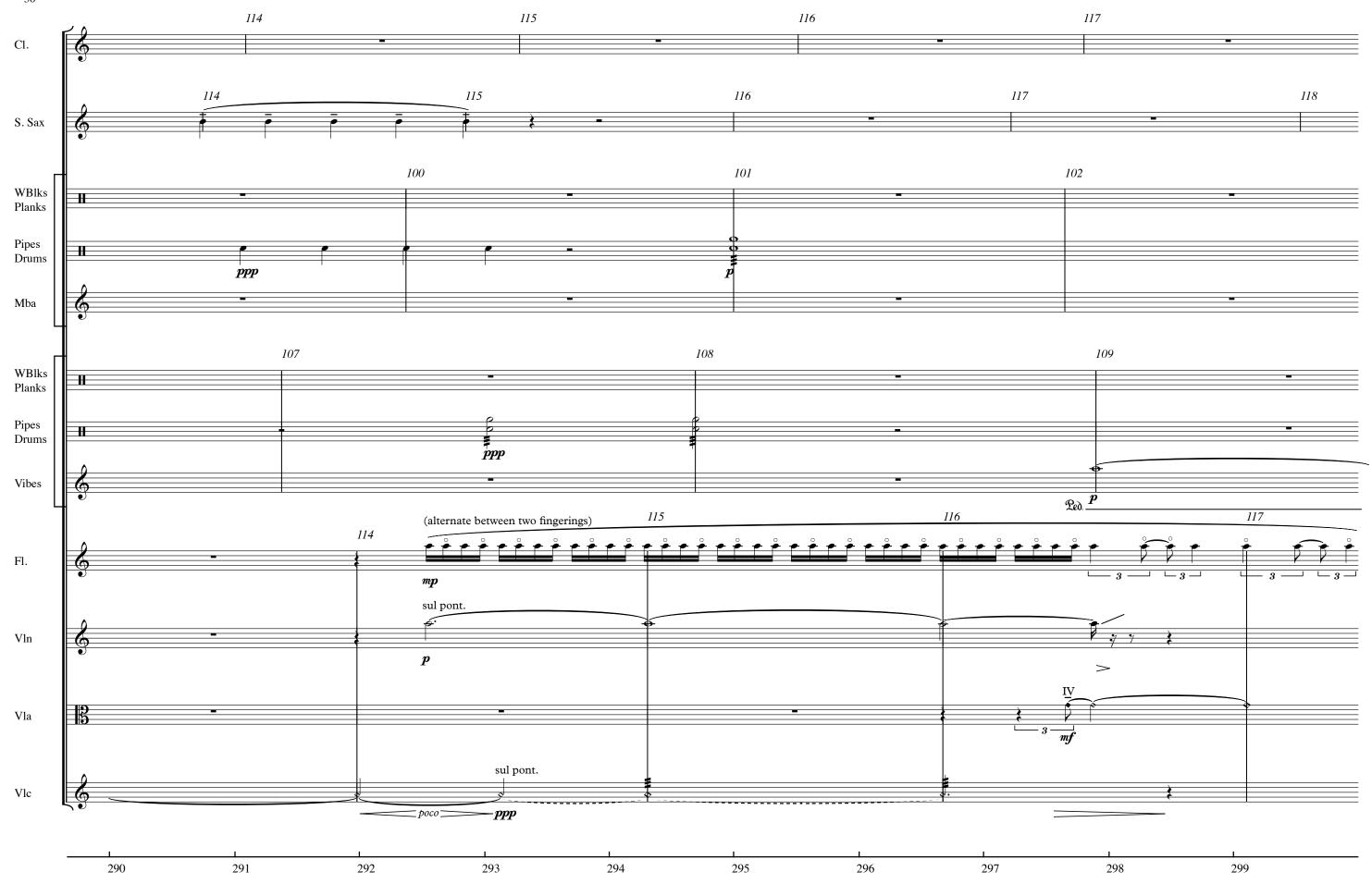


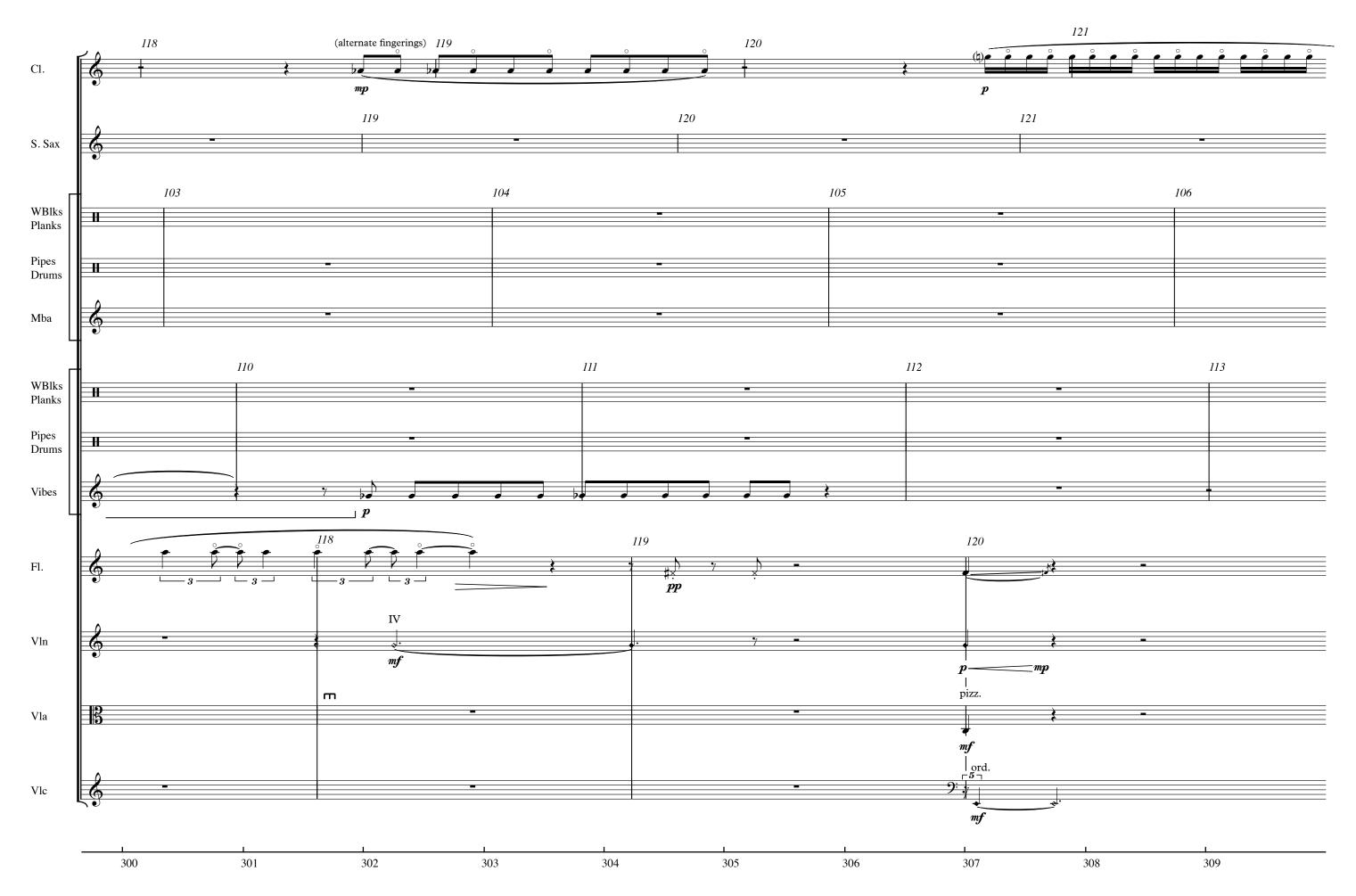




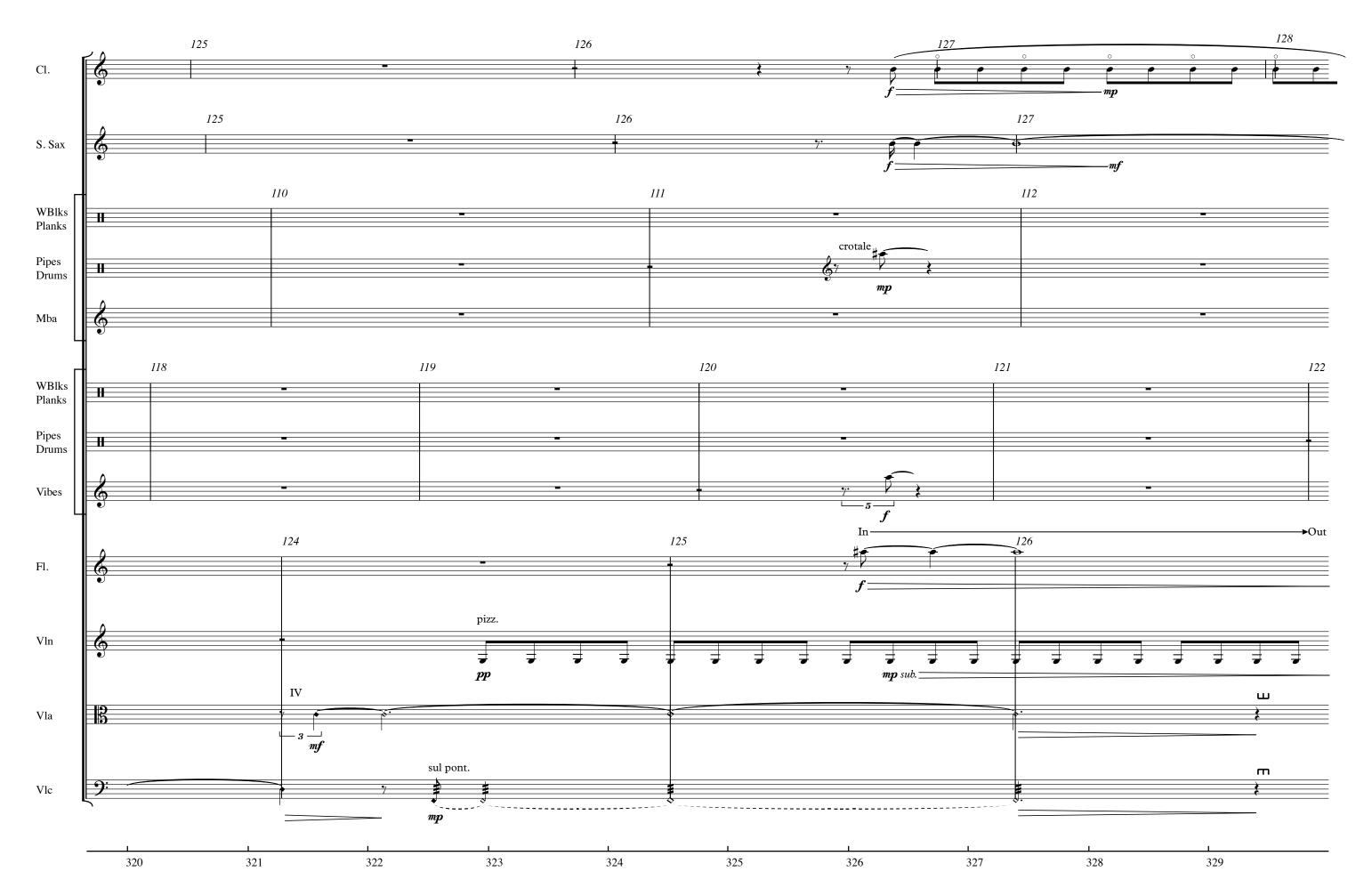












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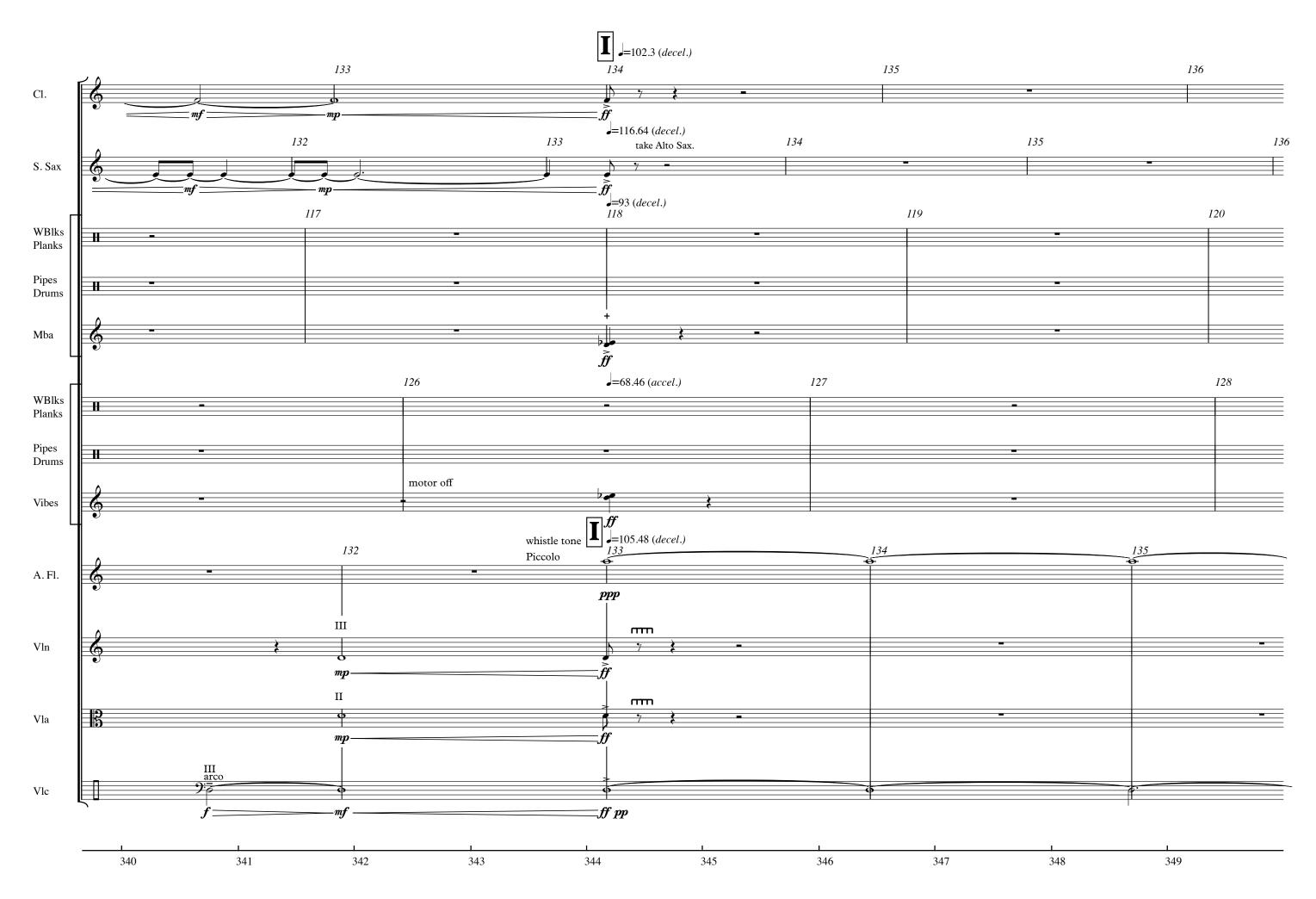
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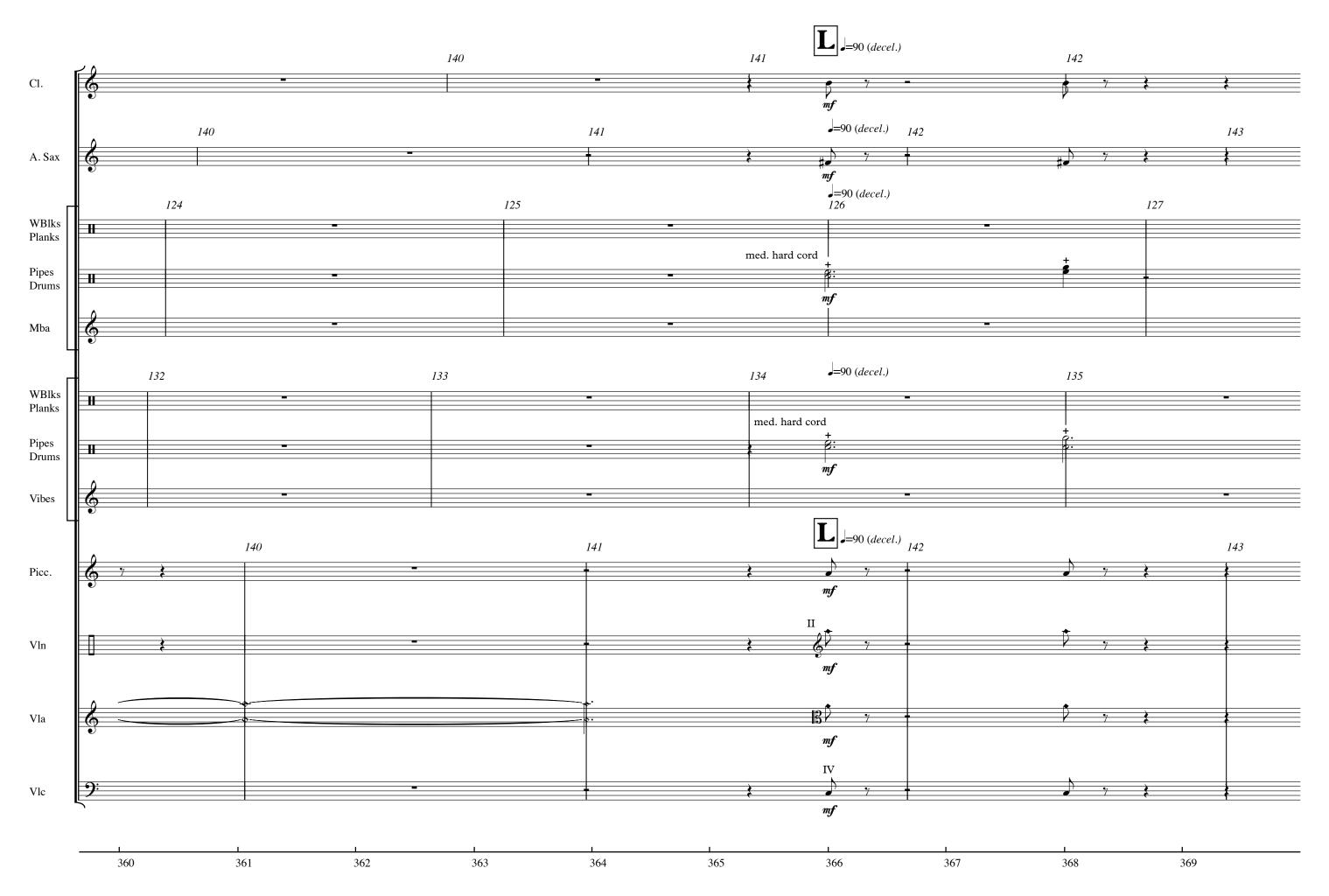
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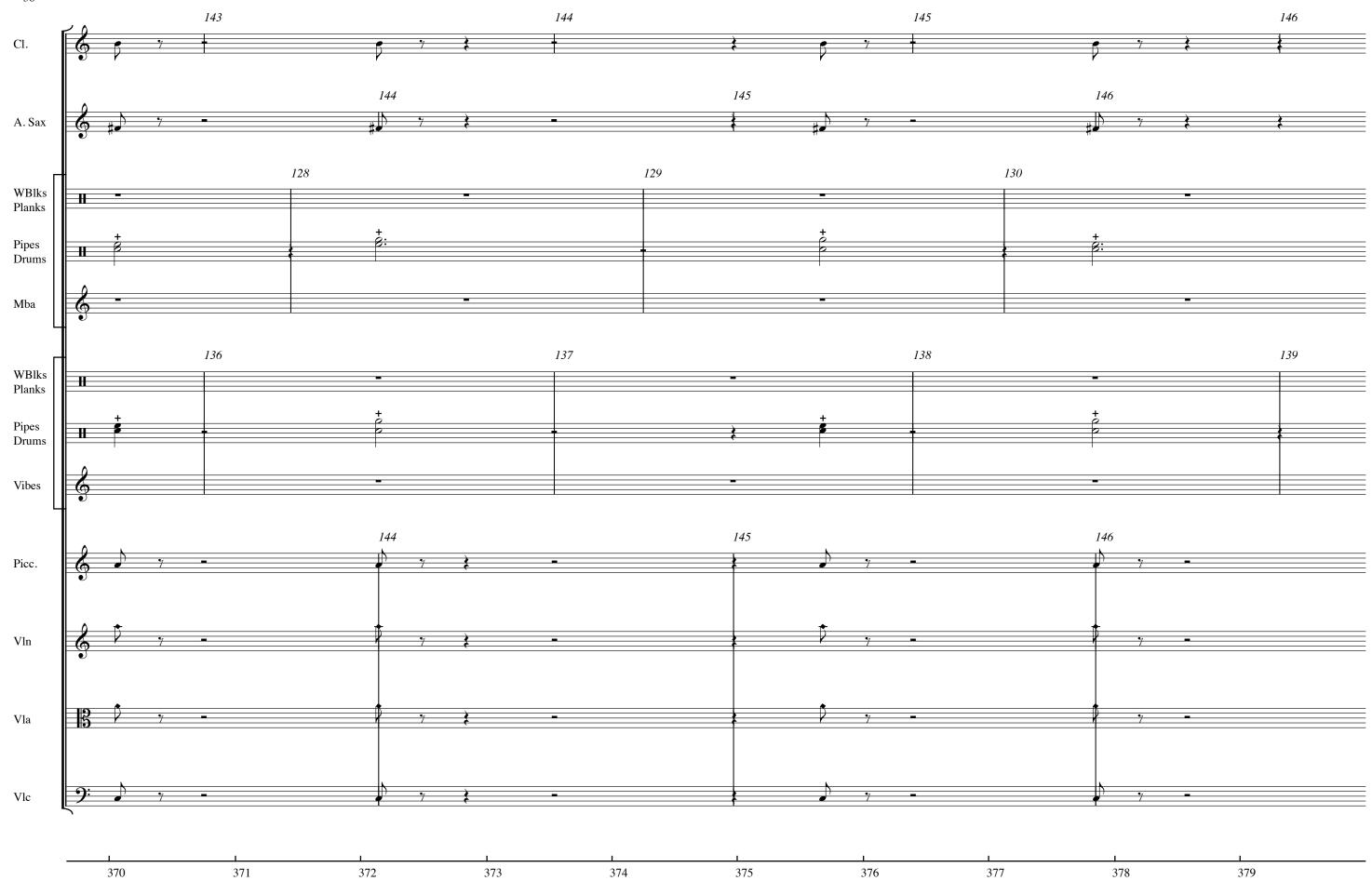
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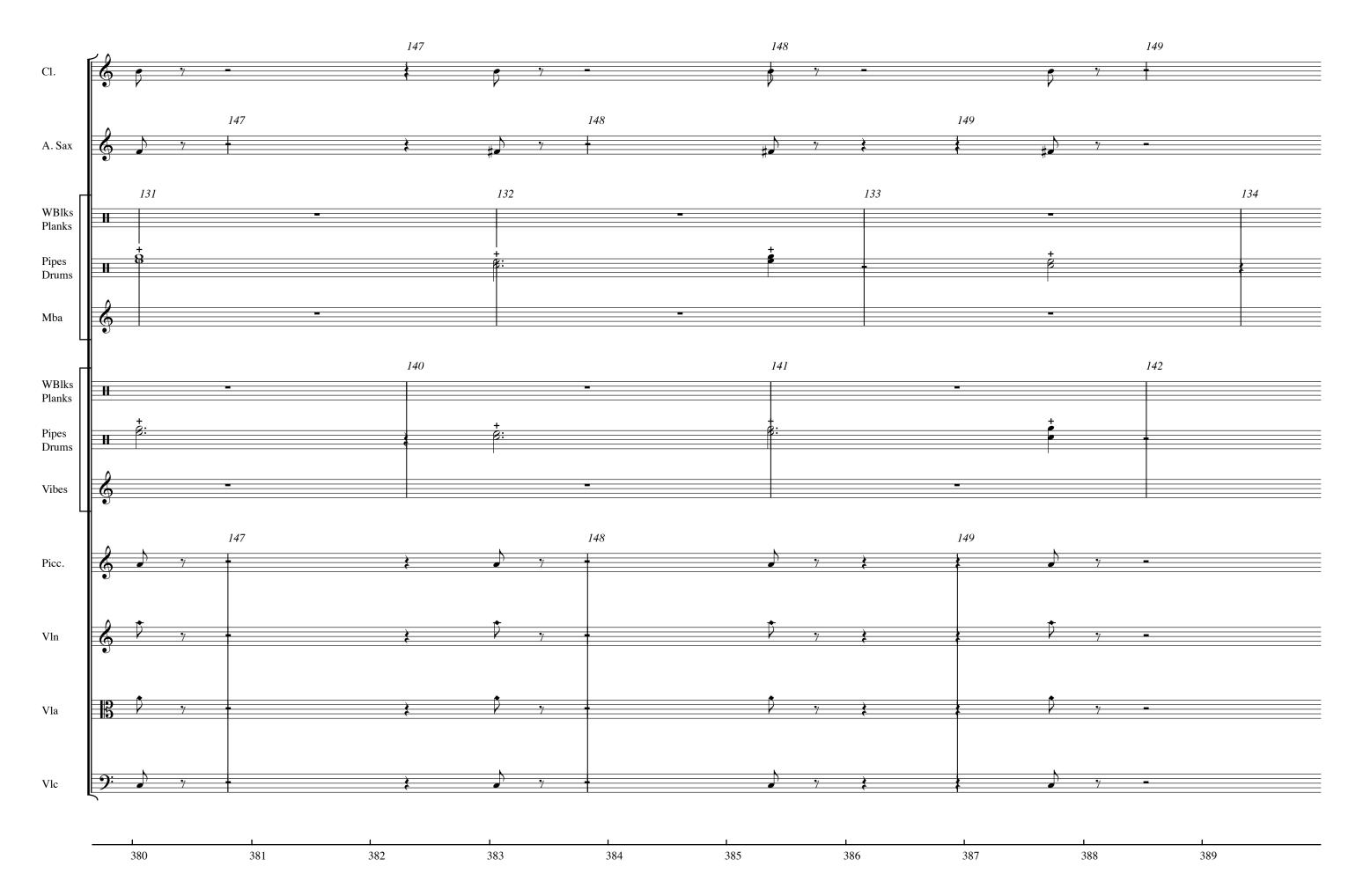
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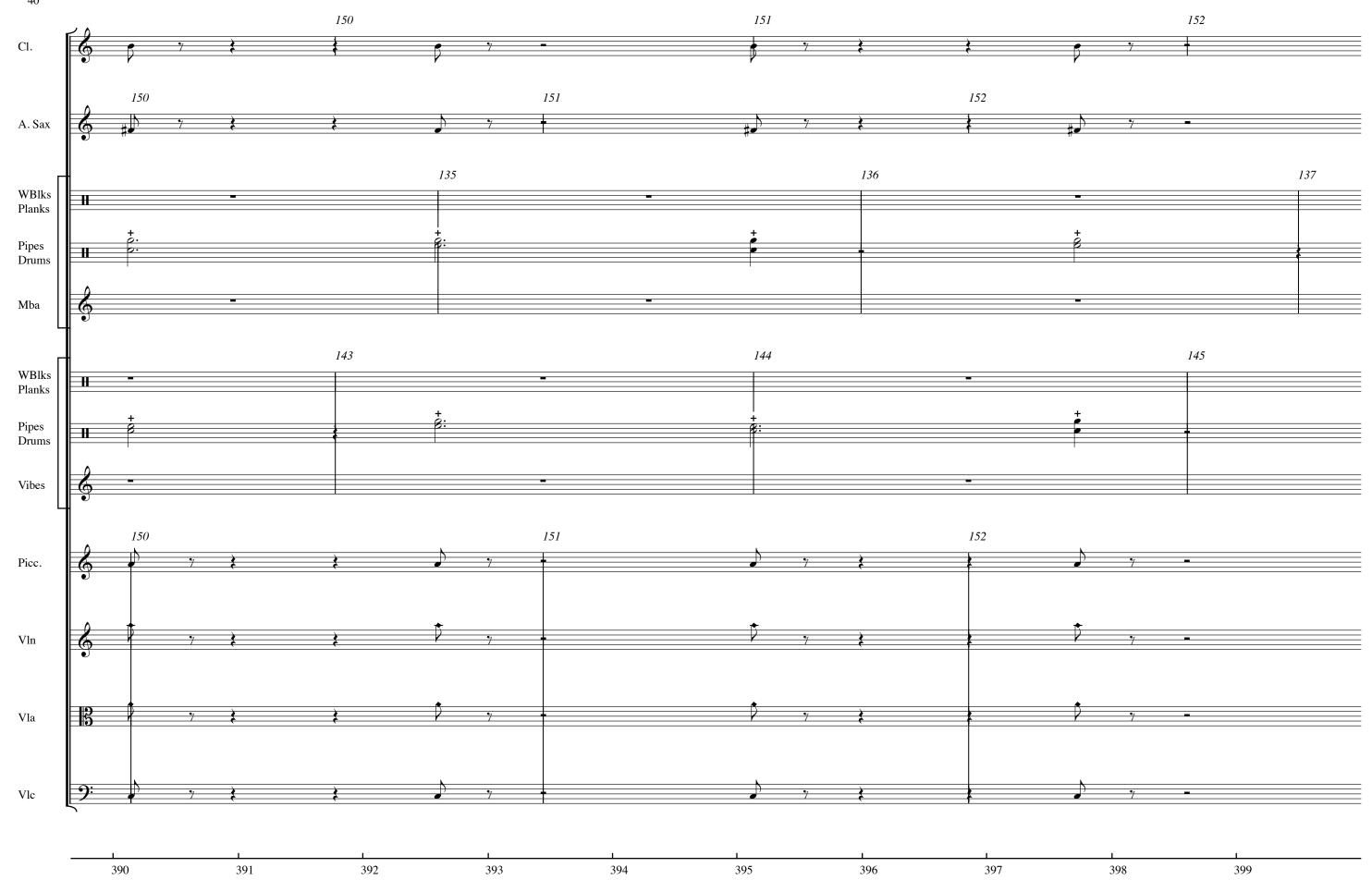
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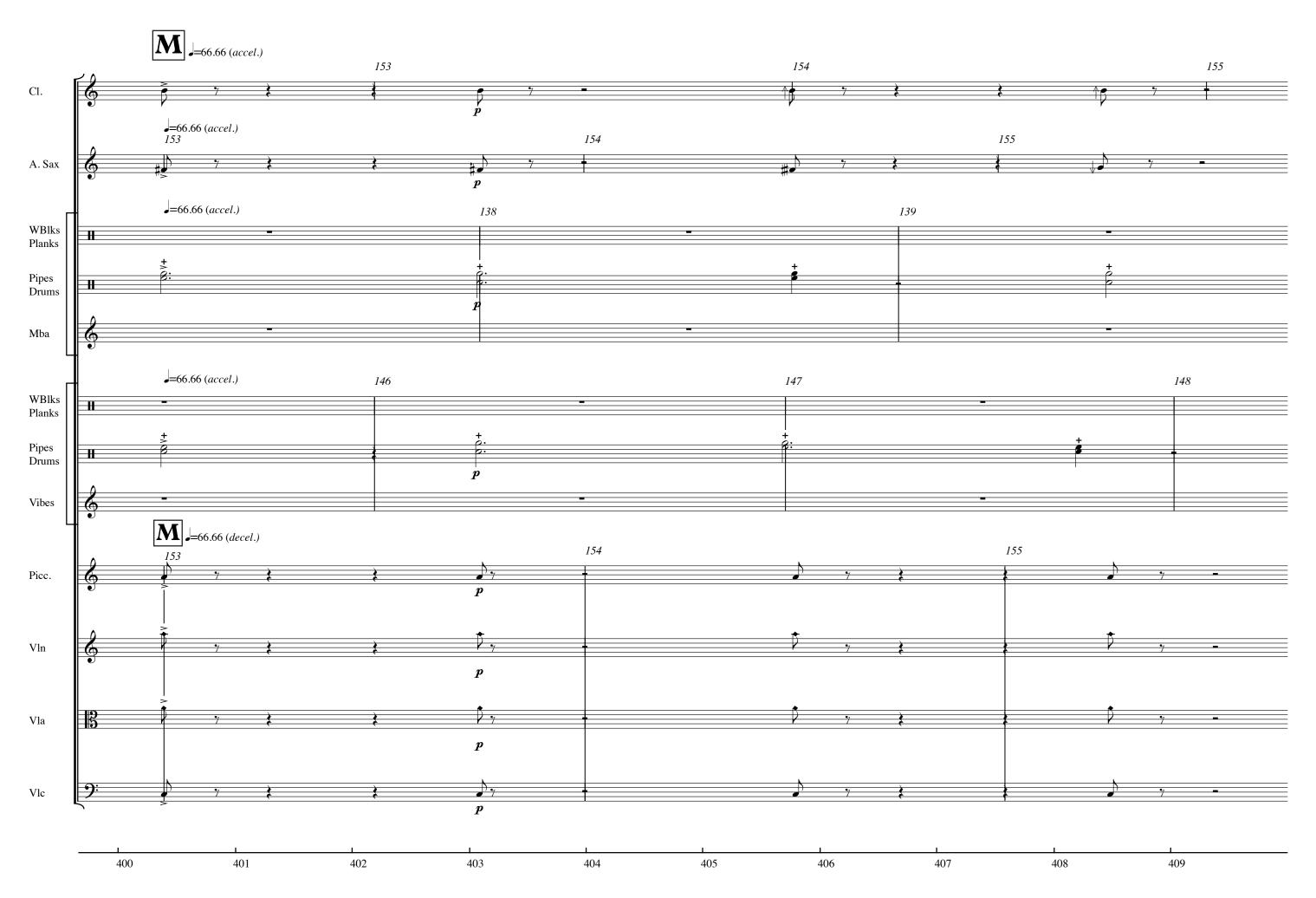


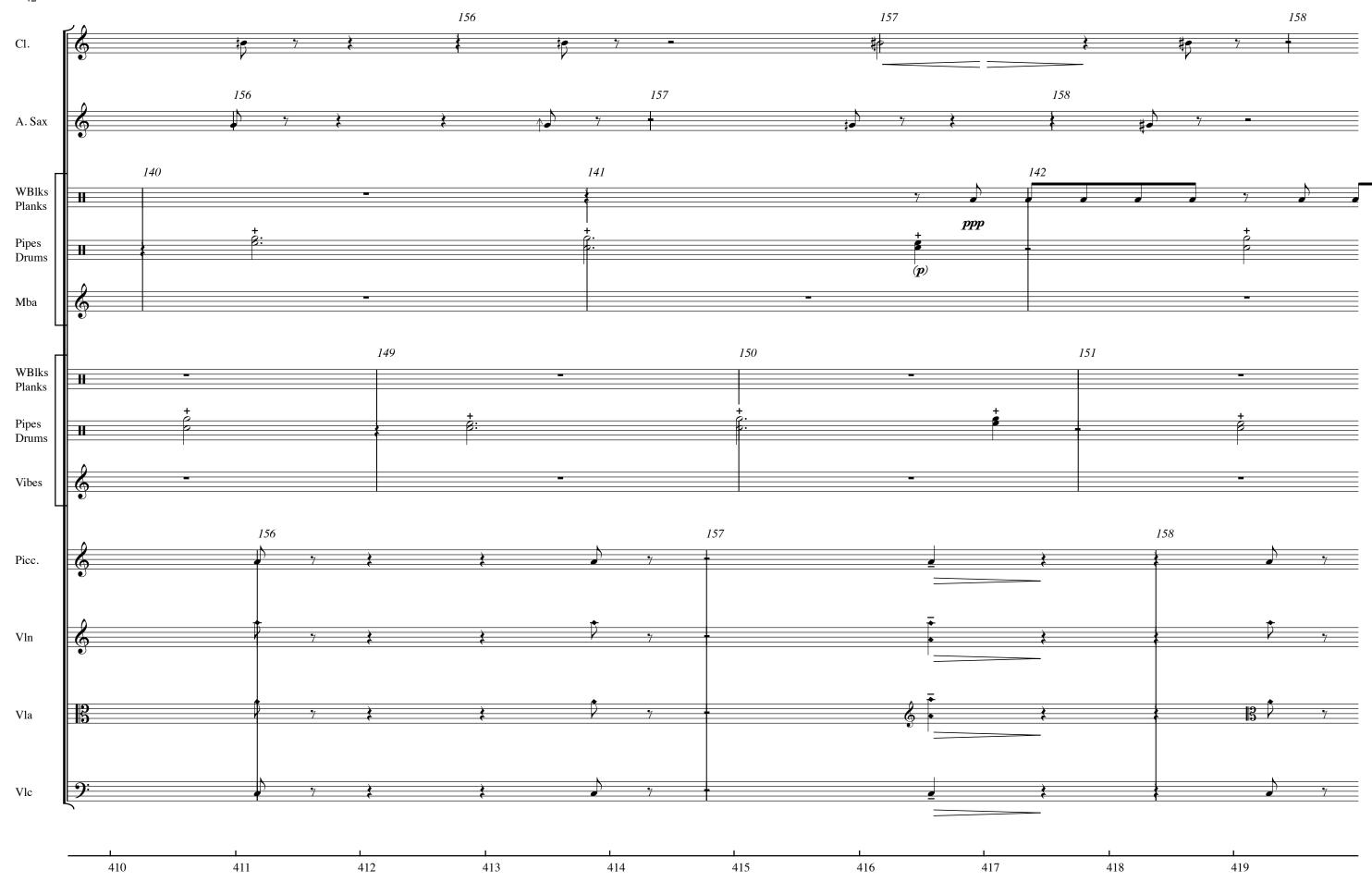


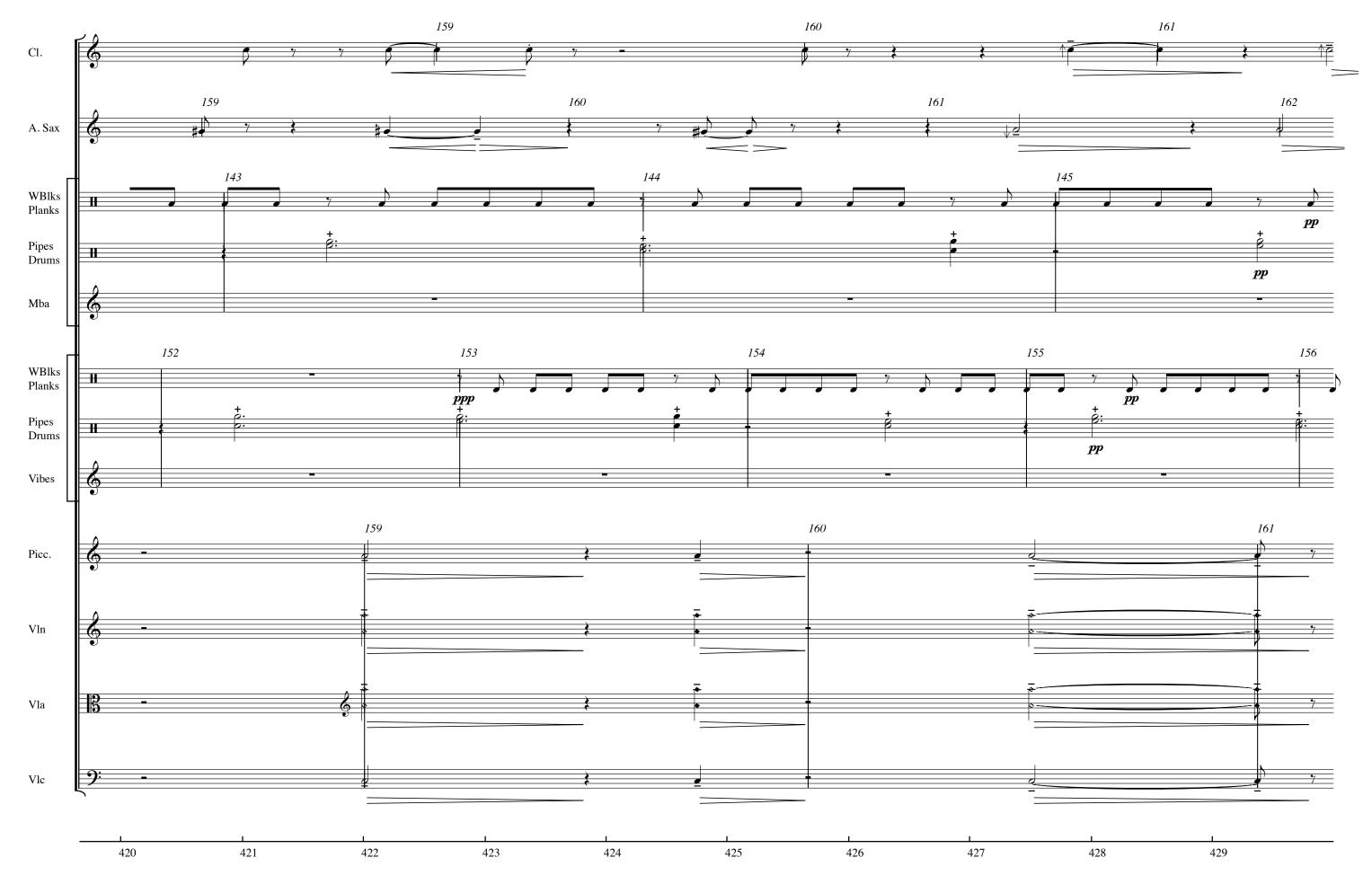




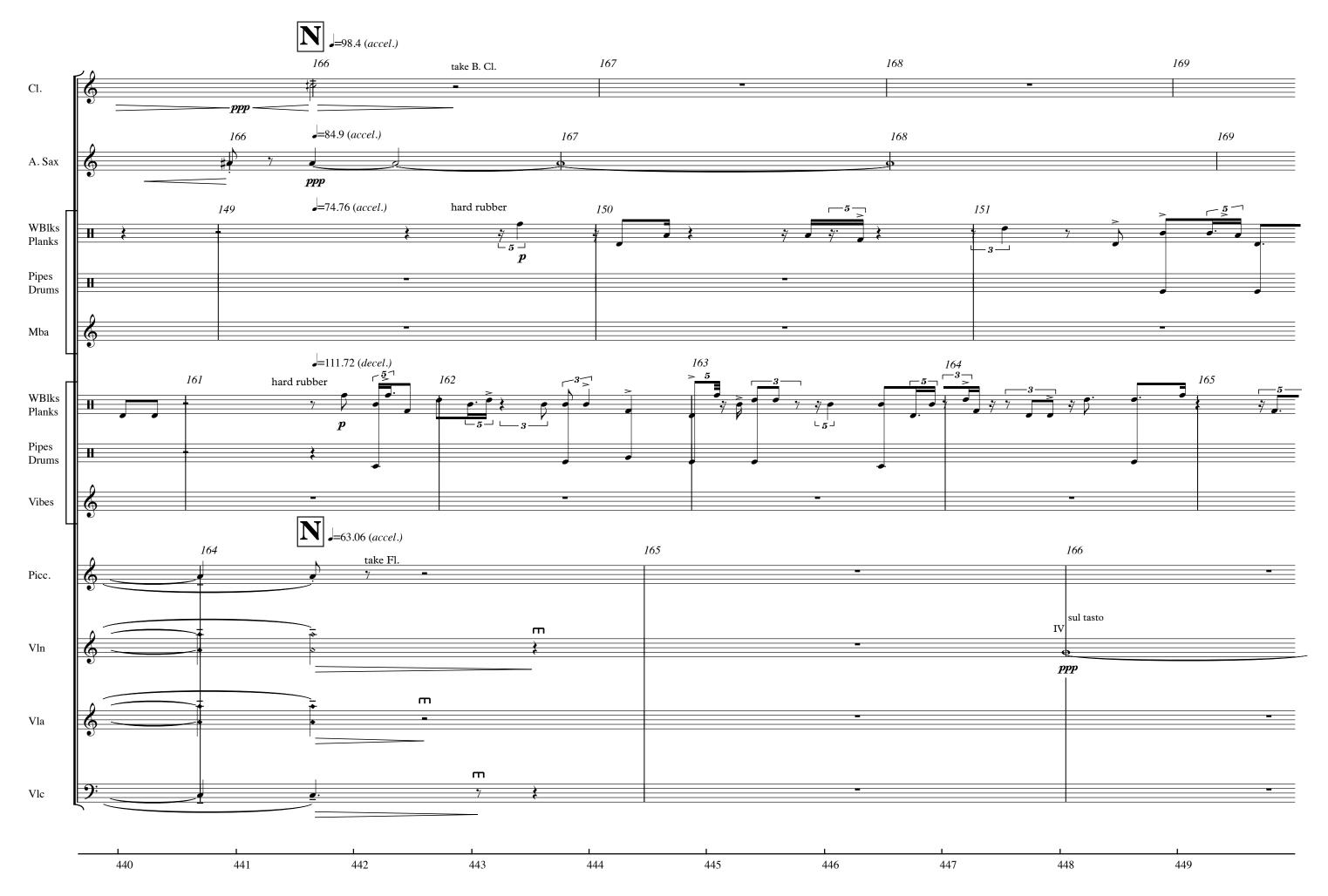




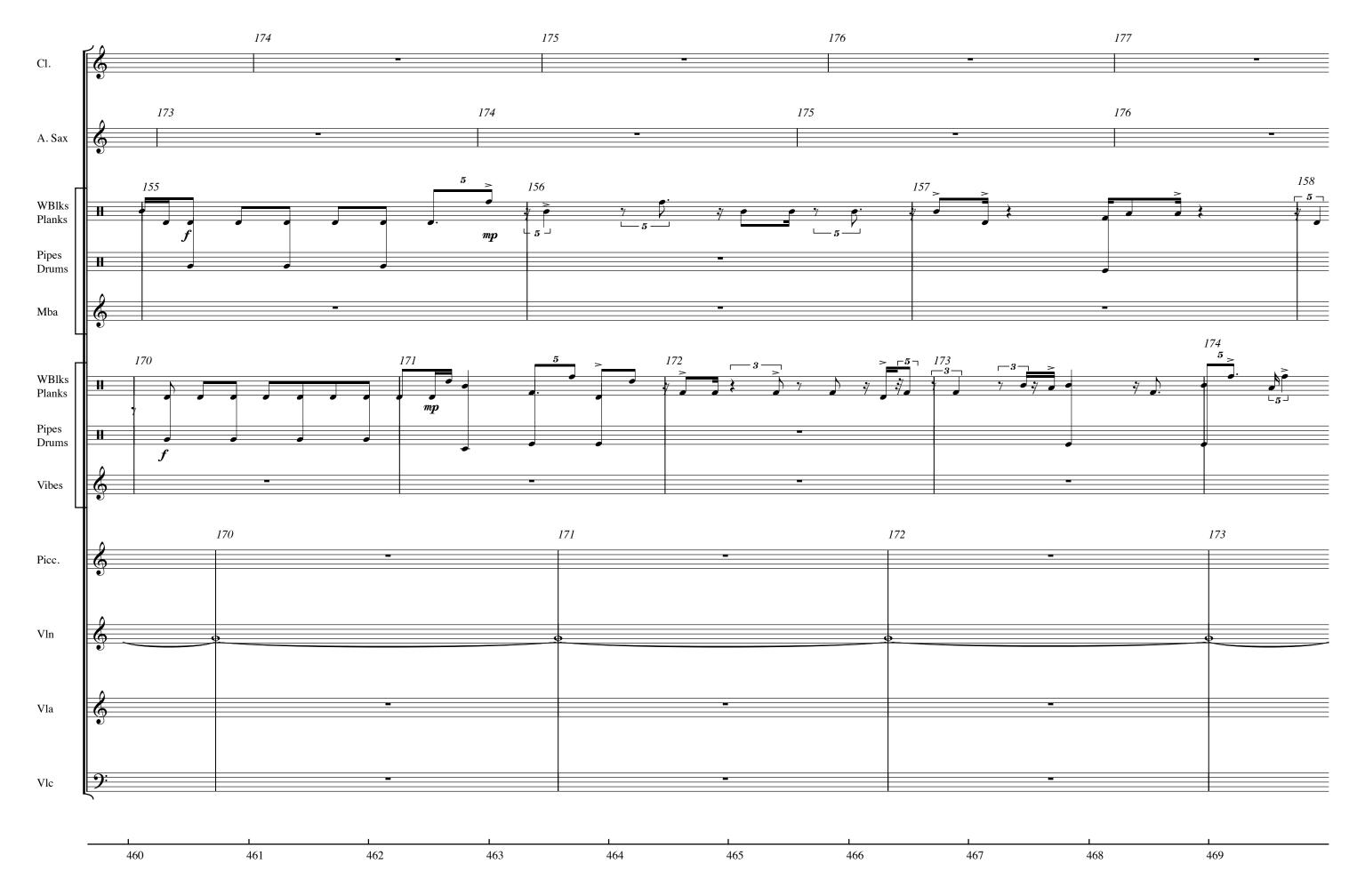










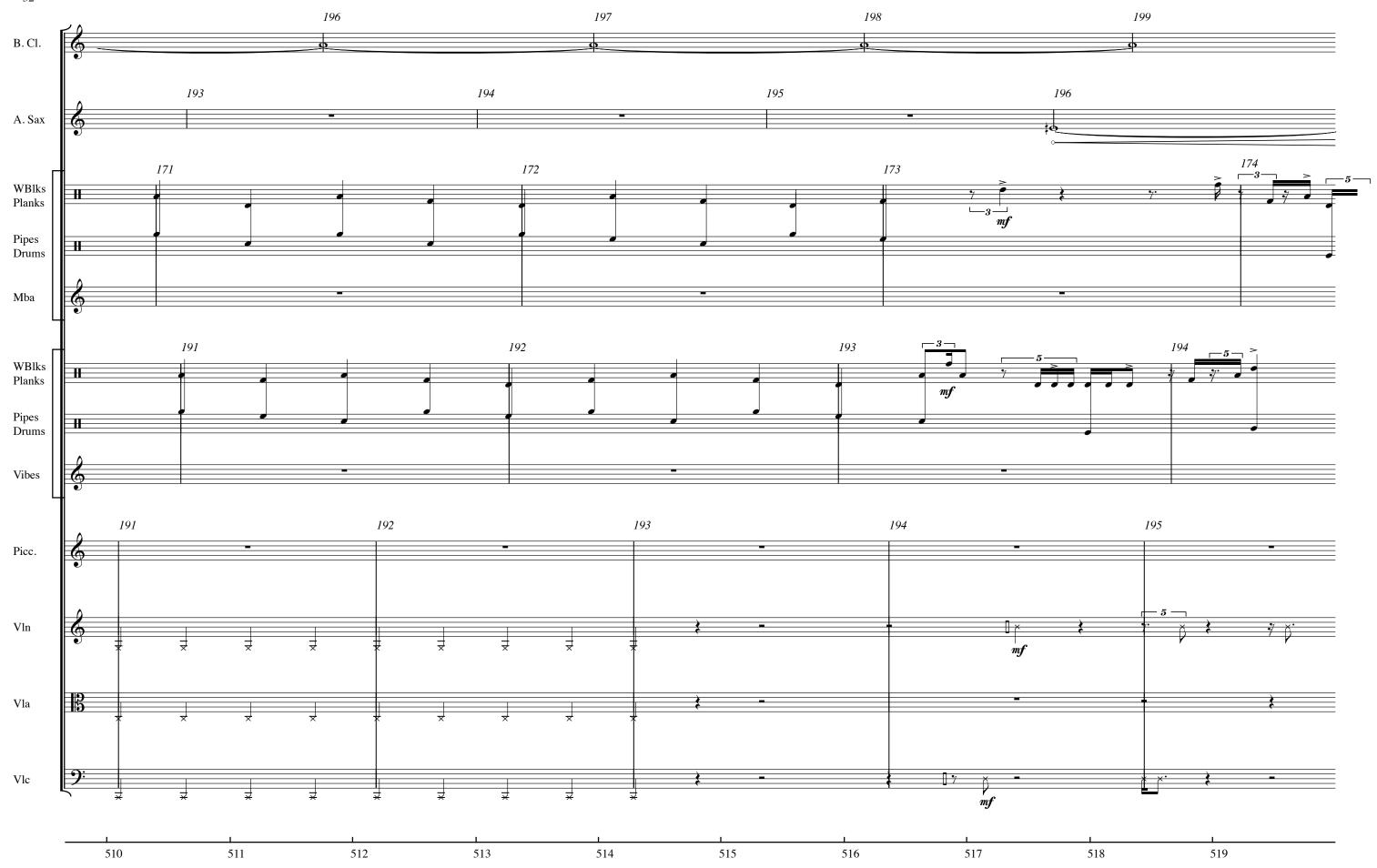


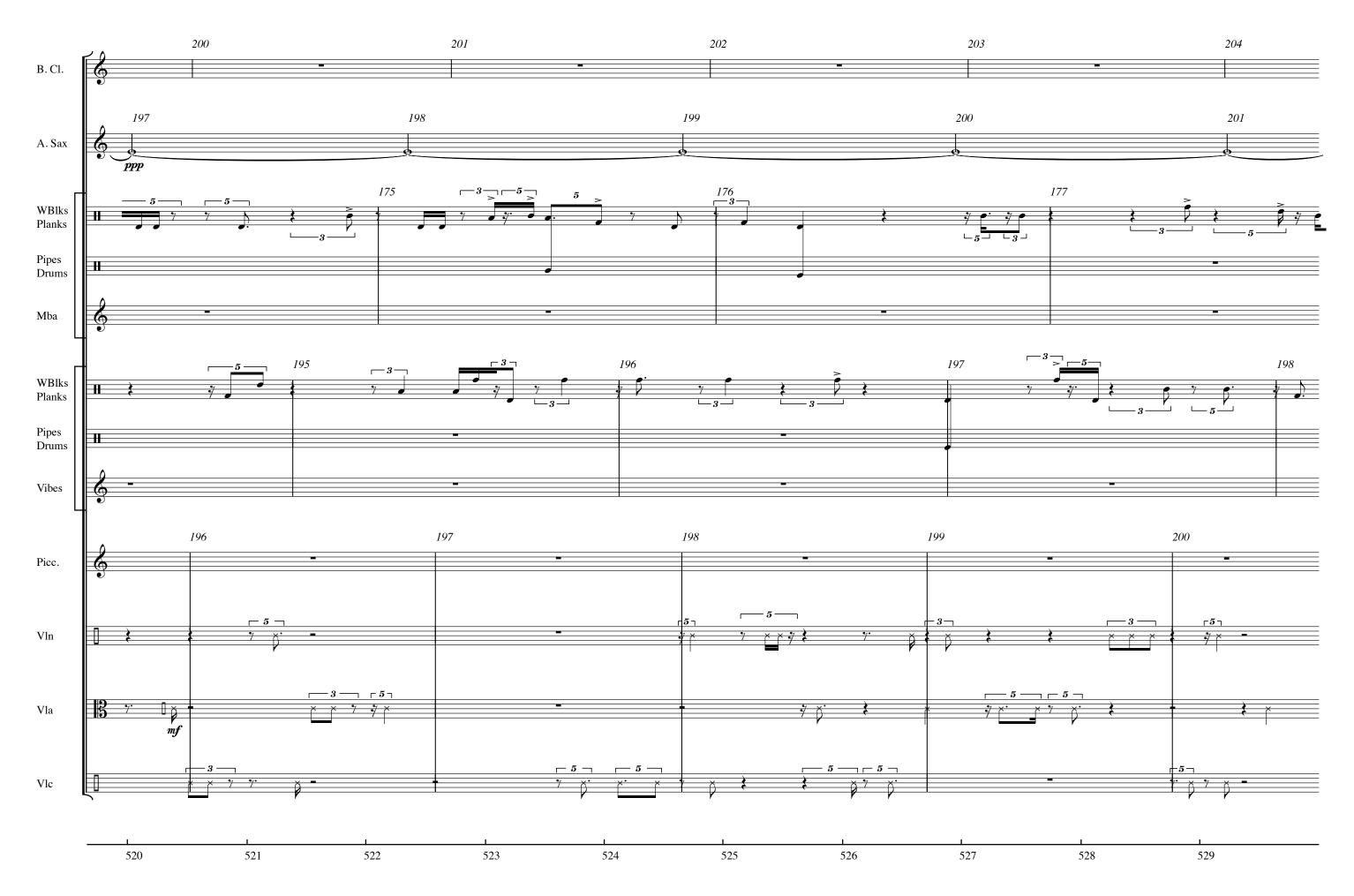




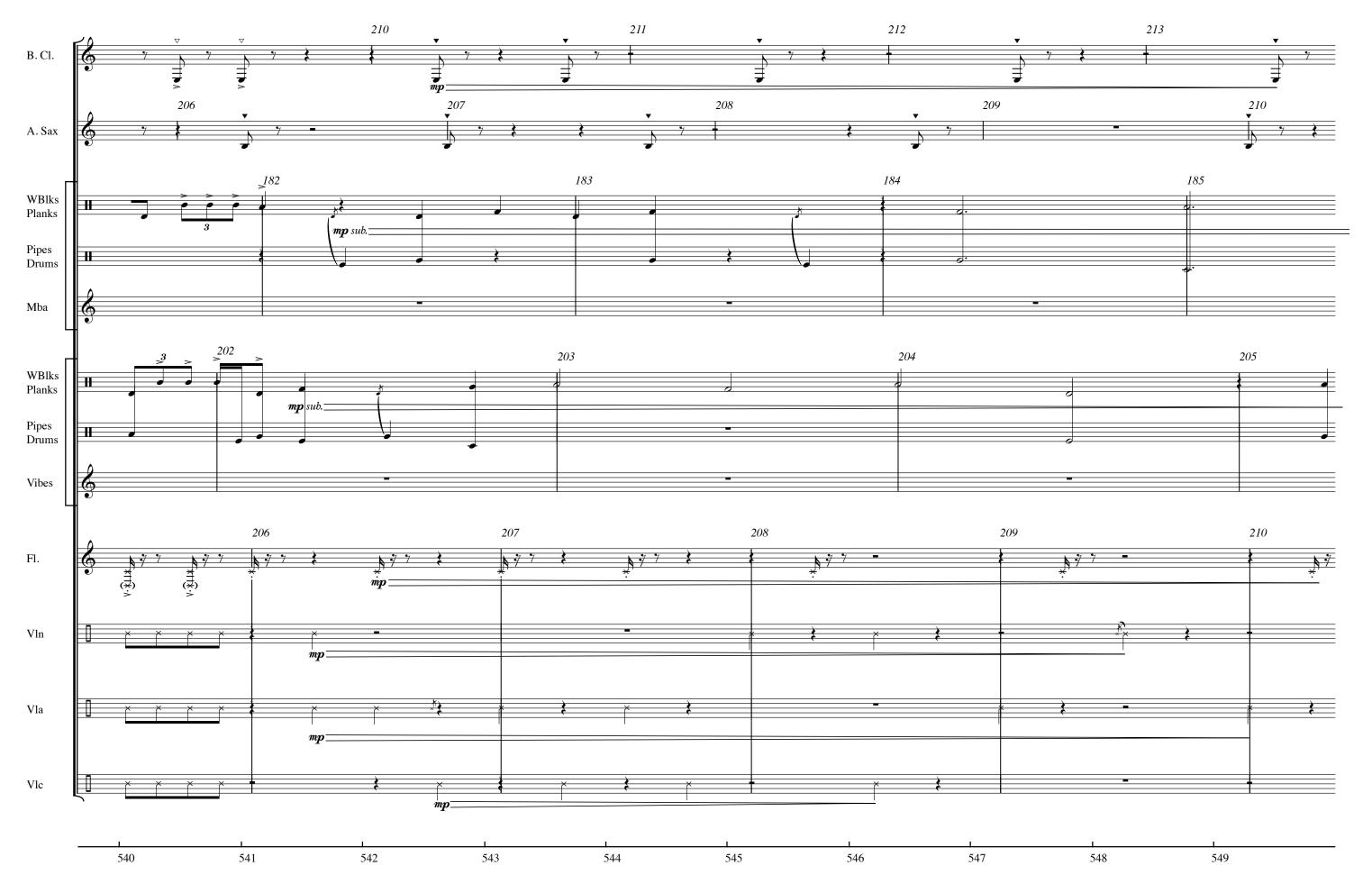






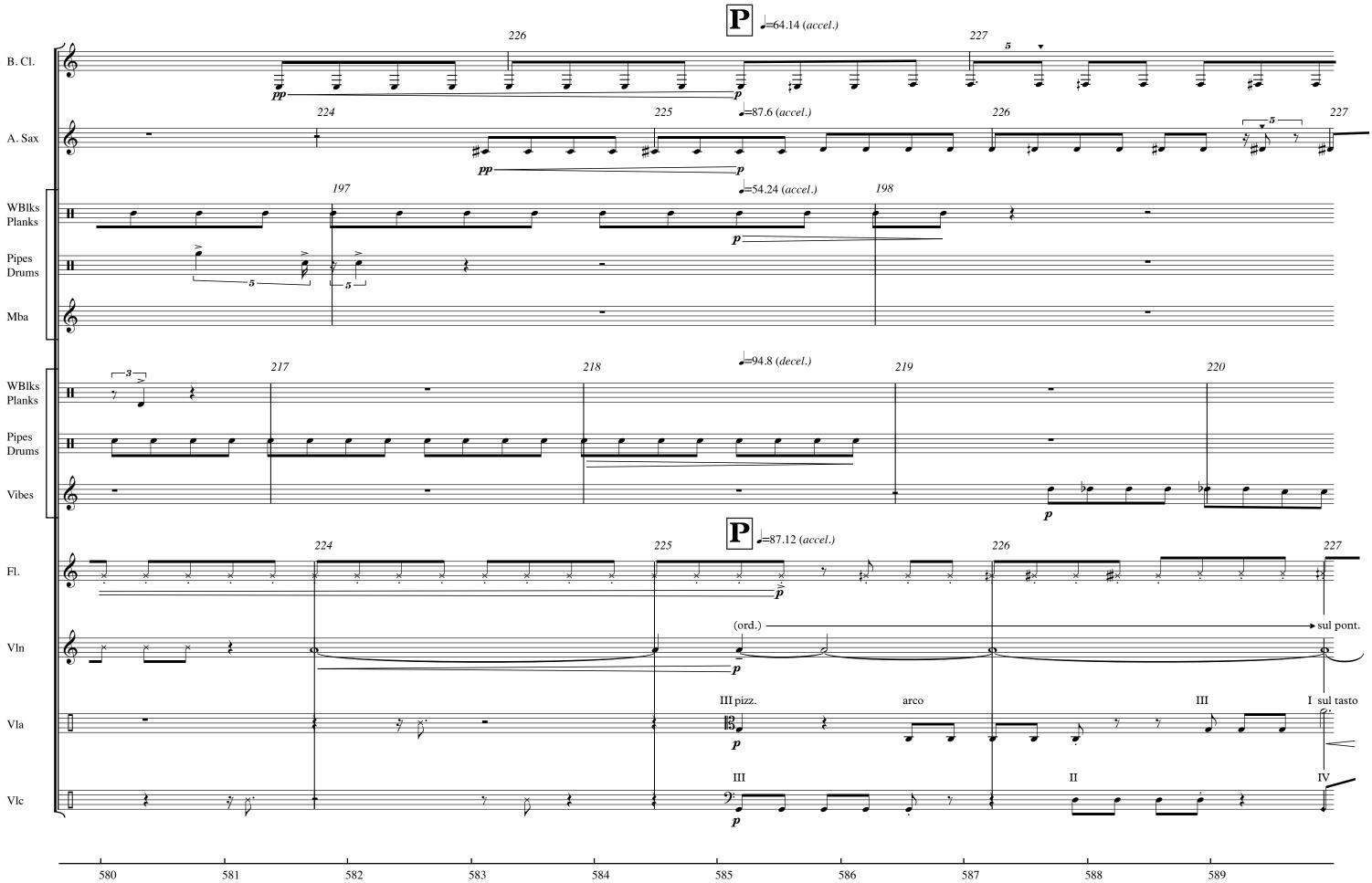


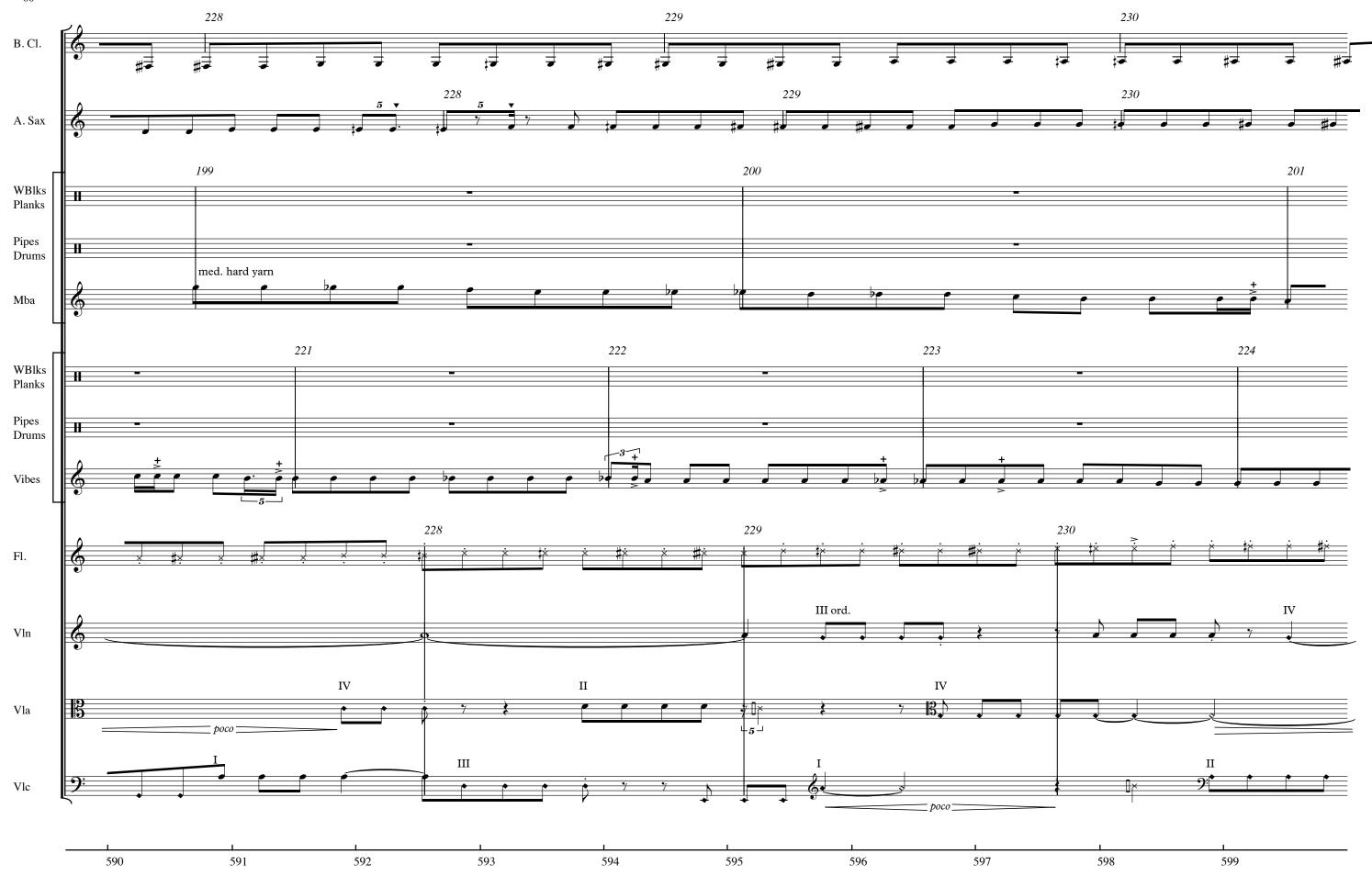














ppp

IV sul pont.



