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Joint Supervisor: Prof Eric Clarke

Composition 2/4

Alessandro Timossi

CANTICO

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CANTICO

for solo violin and ensemble

Instrumentation:
Solo violin (baroque and modern). The baroque violin is tuned as follows: I, *e*; II, *a*; III, *e*; IV, *a*. All pitches from *g#'* downwards are notated a tone down; the pitches from *a'* upwards are notated as normal. The modern violin is tuned and notated in the normal way.
2 Violins
2 Violas
2 Cellos
Double Bass
Piano and Harpsichord (one player)

Cantico is a concerto for solo violin and ensemble that draws together the broad distinctive qualities of baroque and modern sounds. It has in fact a specific timbral duality: baroque violin, muted strings and harpsichord against modern violin, un-muted strings and piano. Both the violin soloist and the keyboard player switch between their respective instruments, with the second cello joining the harpsichord to provide the typical basso-continuo texture. A further element that differentiates the two solo instruments is the tuning: E – A – E - A for the baroque violin, inspired by early baroque scordatura practices, and the standard E – A – D - G for the modern violin. The piece switches several times between these two sound settings.

Formally, the piece adopts a three-part structure. The first is essentially an exposition made of a number of musical panels, brief episodes each presenting different musical ideas and connected to one another to form a unified musical narrative. This is followed by a repetition of the exposition, with changes particularly in the order of the panels and offering therefore a slightly different narrative. The last section presents a greater elaboration of these panels leading to both the climax of the piece and the final short recapitulation of the beginning, as a coda.

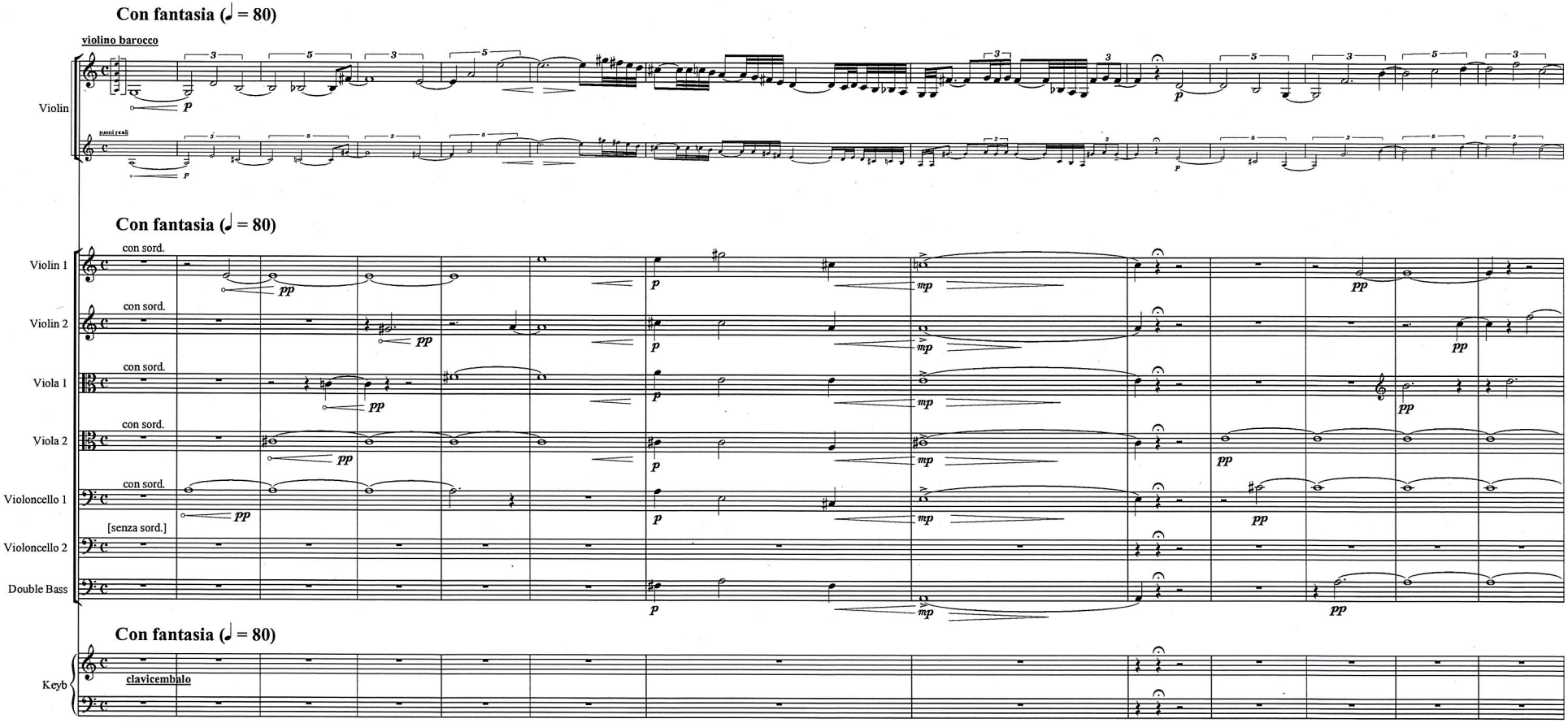
The dual-timbral changes do not coincide with the progression points of the three-arched architecture, thus creating an independent structural layering in both timbre and form. To these is associated a single process for generating the musical material. This is based on a single pitch centre (A) and the single major triad built on it, and they are both present throughout the piece as a grounding pedal sonority. On this foundation, three scalic patterns and one sequence of sixteen harmonies are generated, upon which all musical ideas are built and elaborated.

The title of the piece has, in Italian popular tradition, two very specific poetic references: the biblical *Song of Songs* and the *Canticle of the Sun* of St Francis. There are no religious inflections in the piece, but an attempt to capture both the lyricism and passion of the poetry within an overall open and serene sentiment, that is translated musically in the overarching and all-pervasive triadic pedal, a quasi-mystical and archetypal springboard for the soloist's own poetical musical journey.

a Sara Deborah Struntz

CANTICO

Alessandro Timossi



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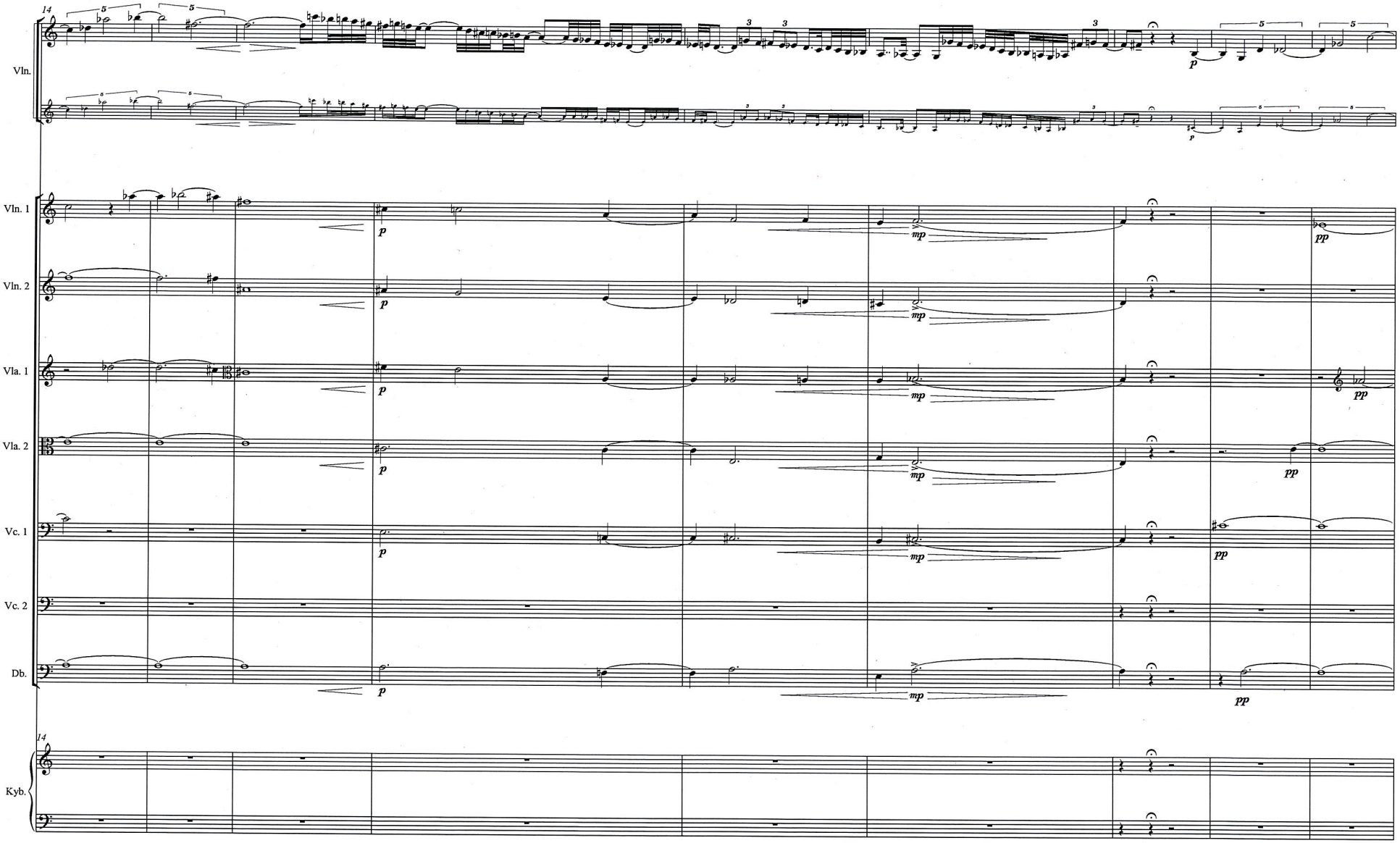
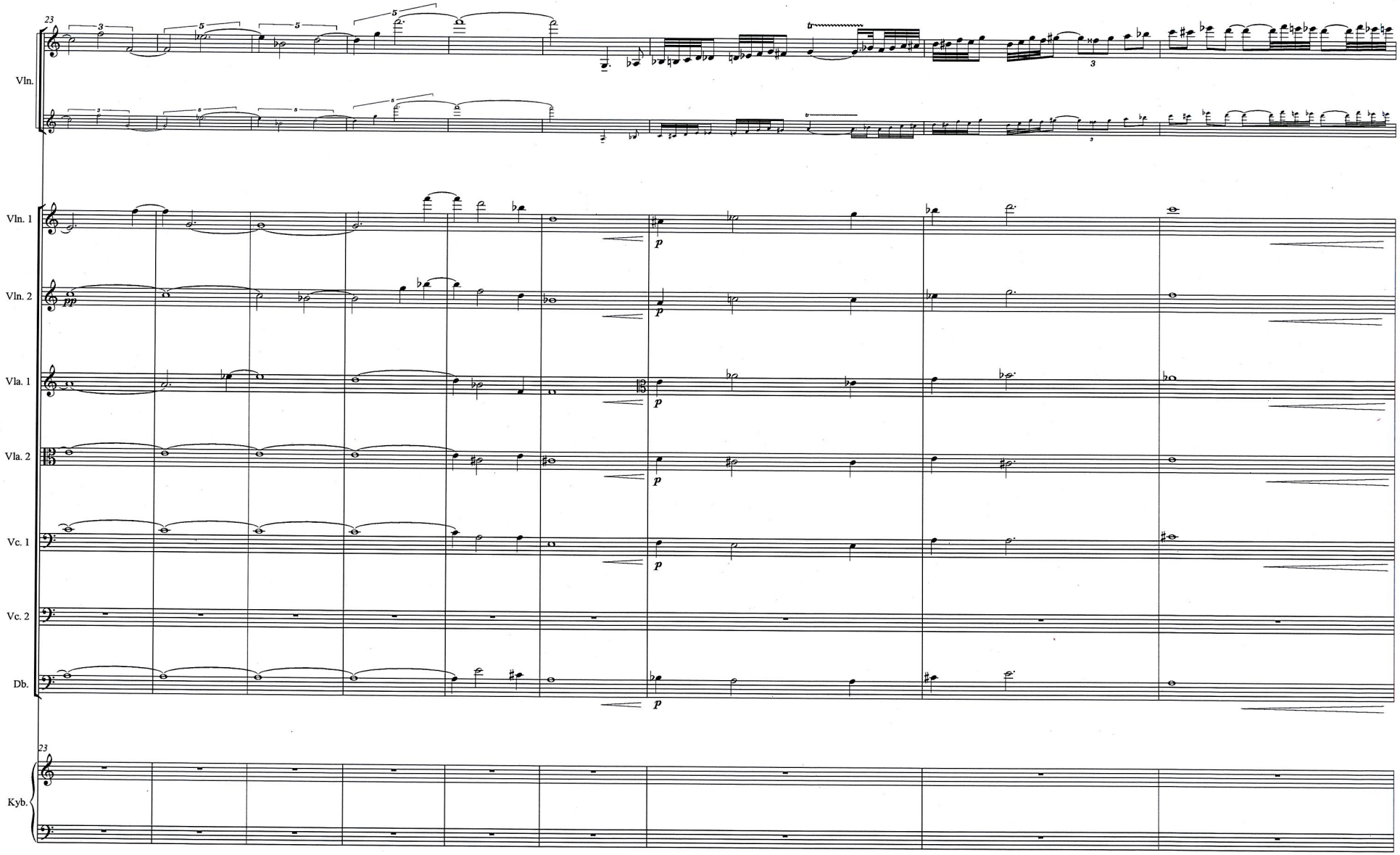
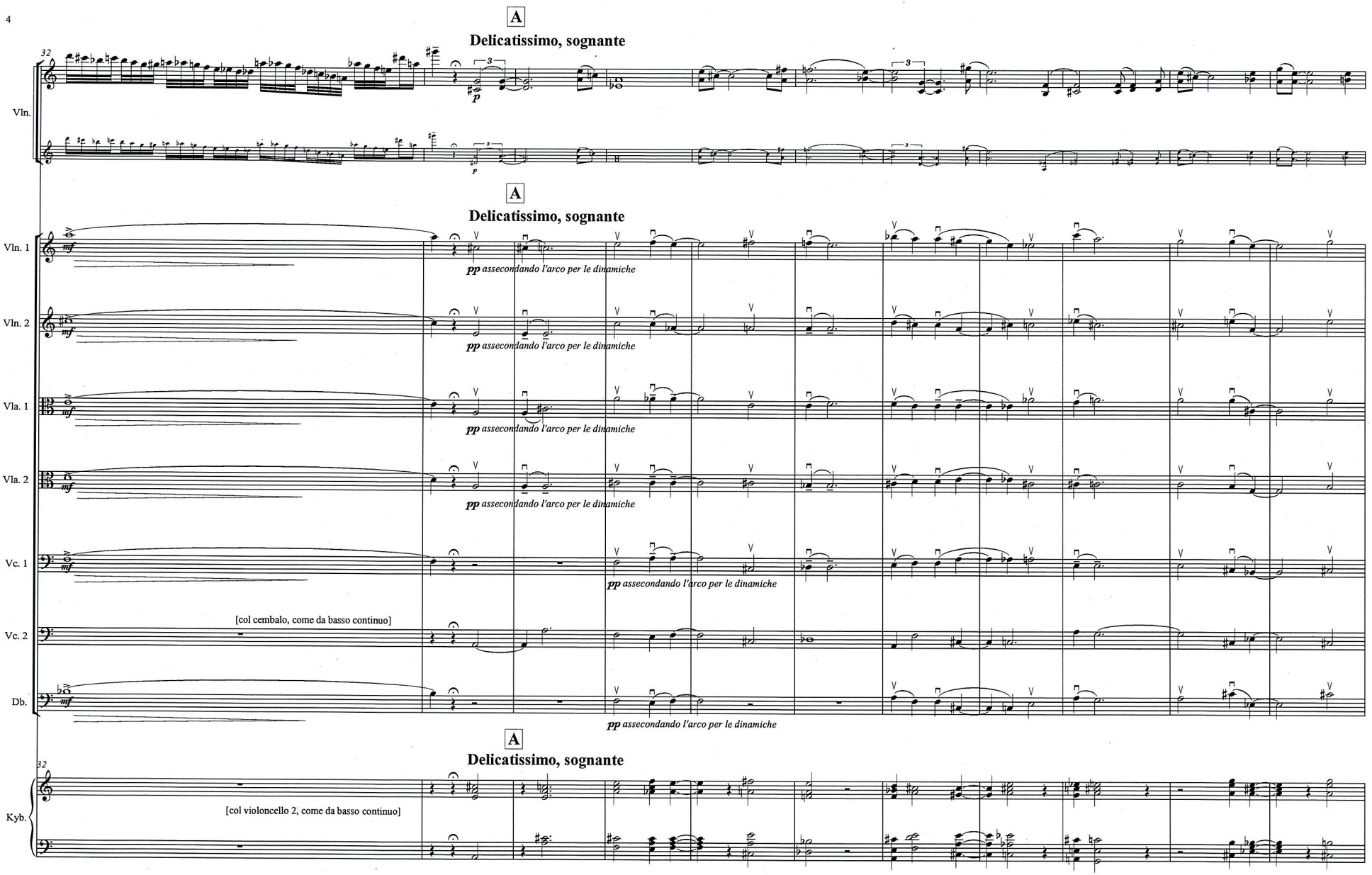
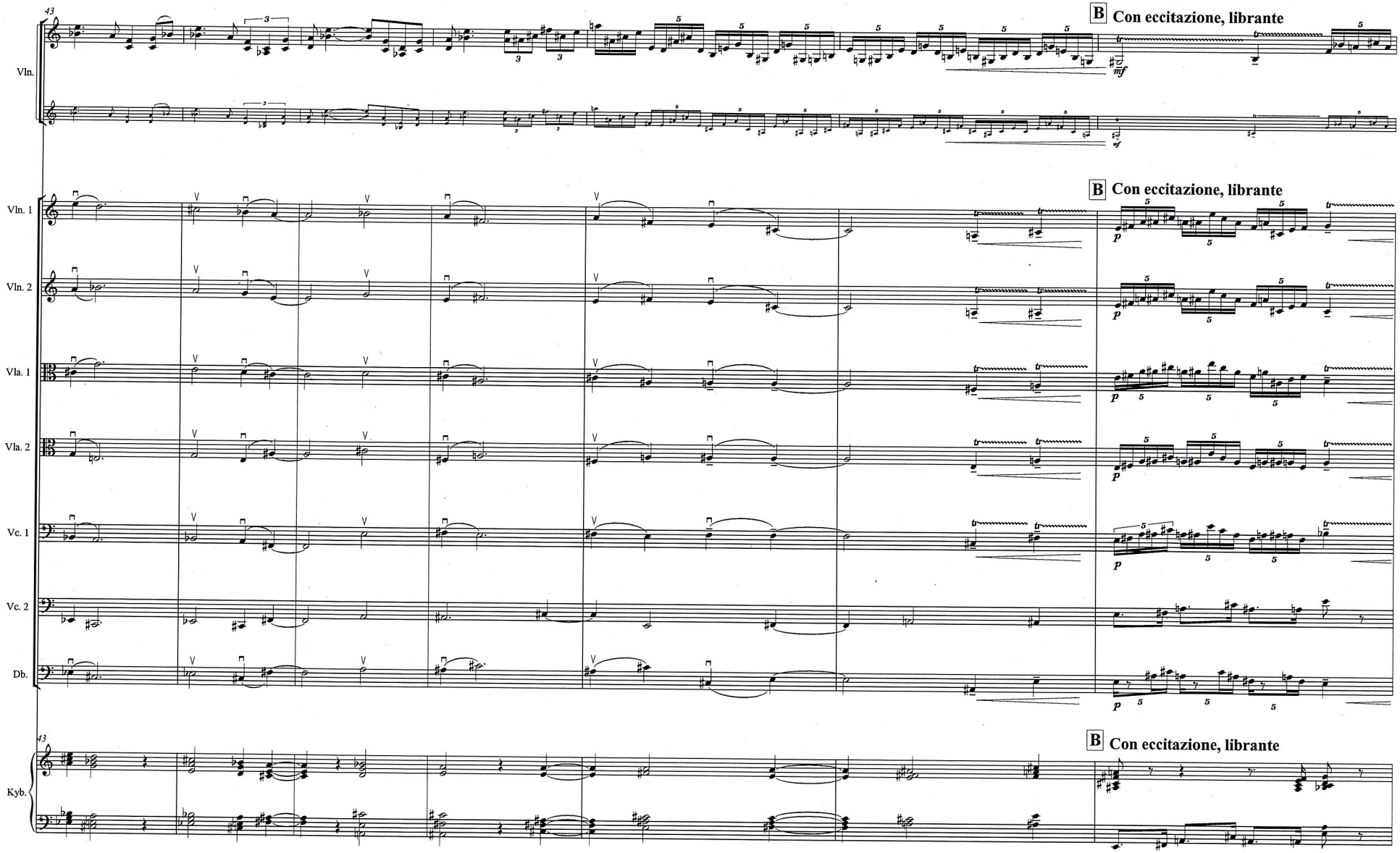
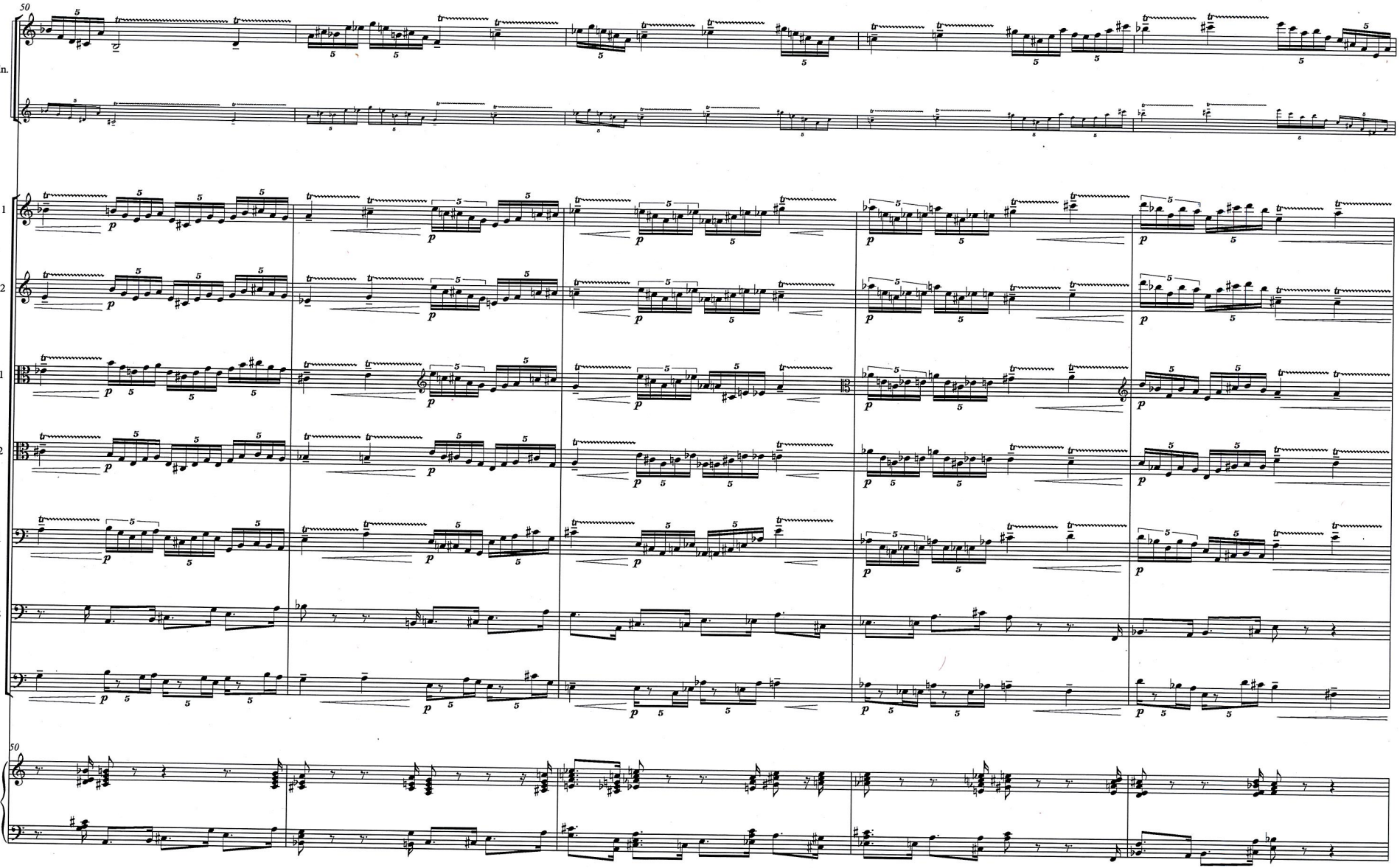
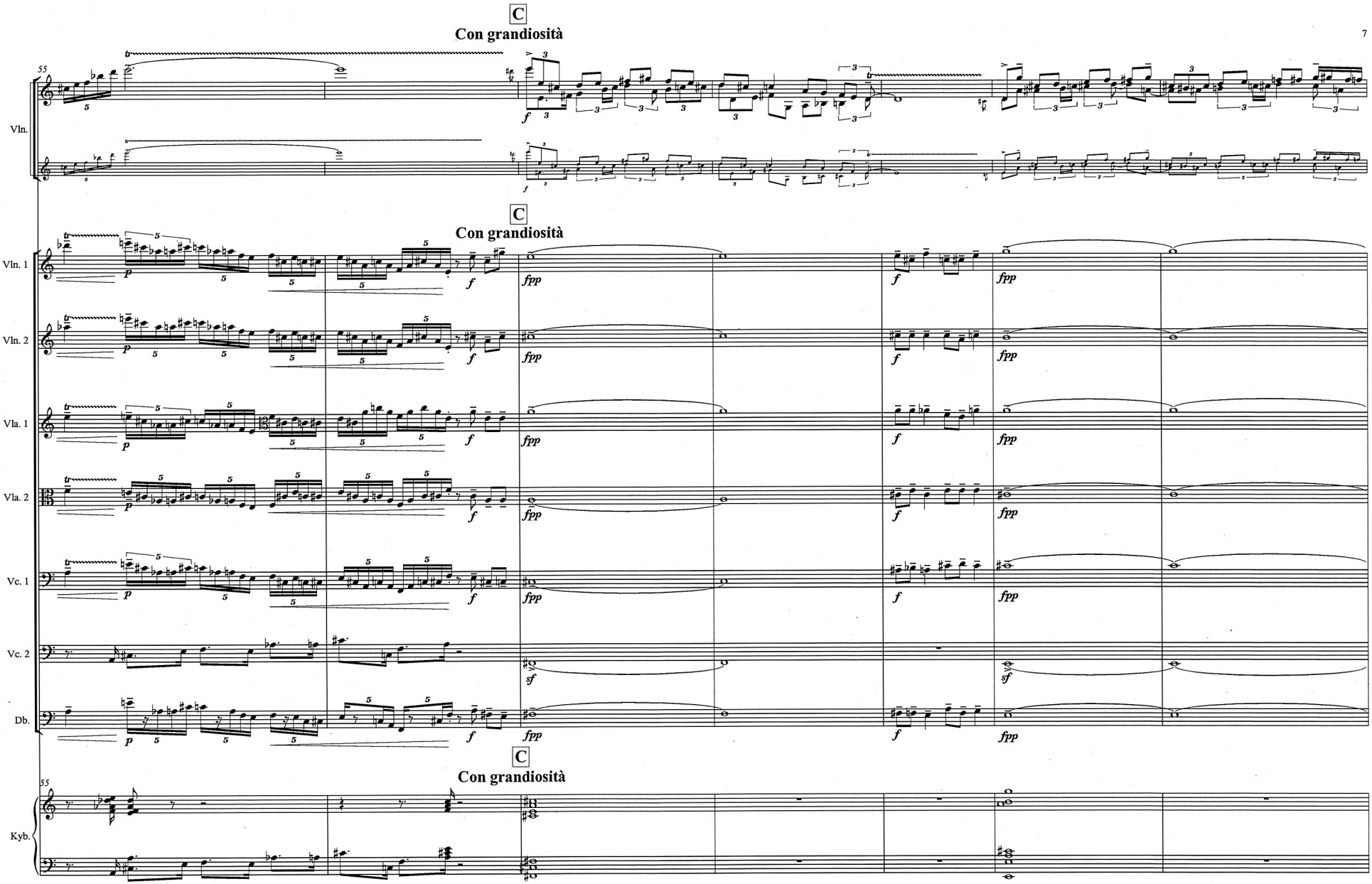

14
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
14
Kyb.
p
mp
pp

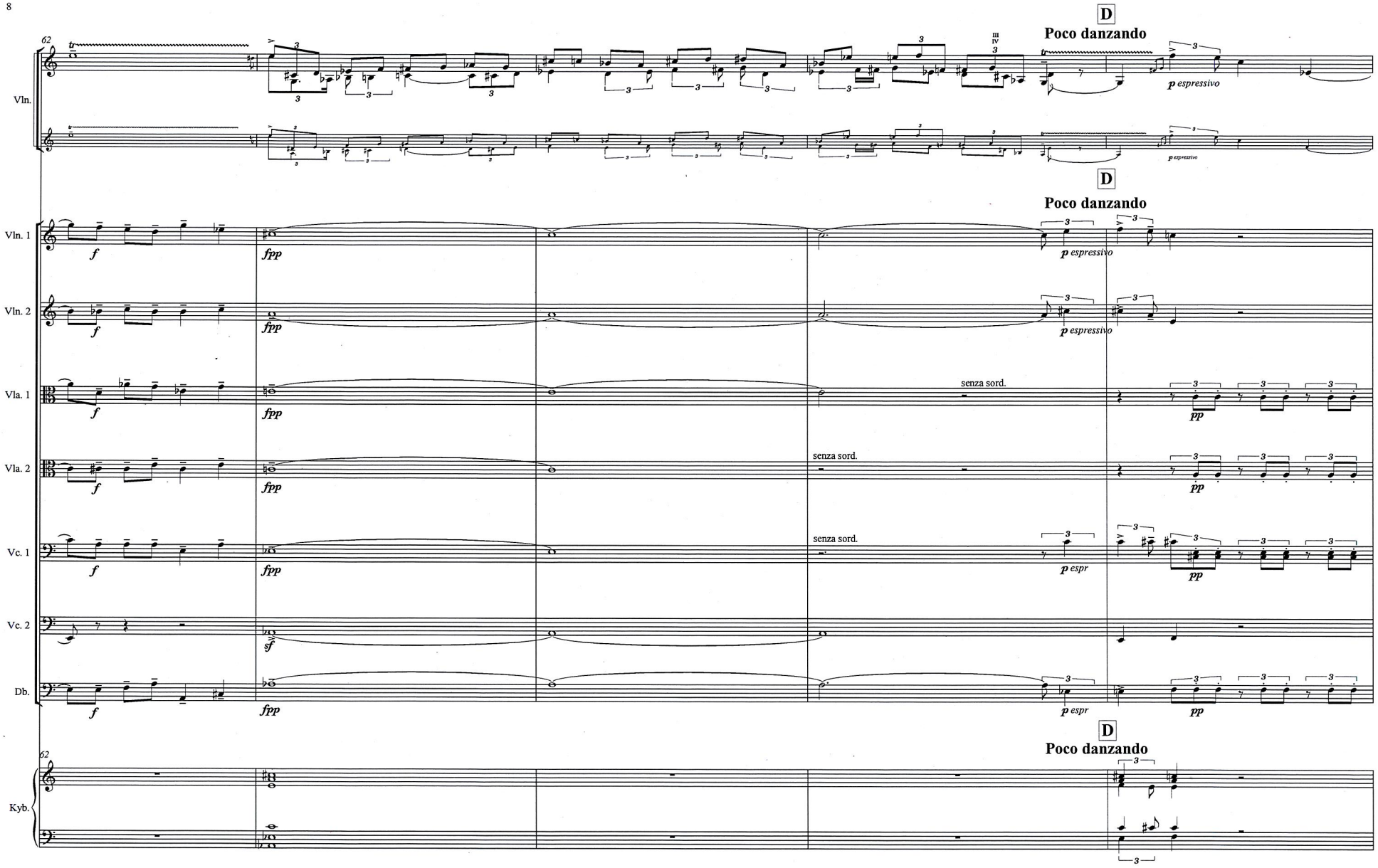

23
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
23
Kyb.
p
pp

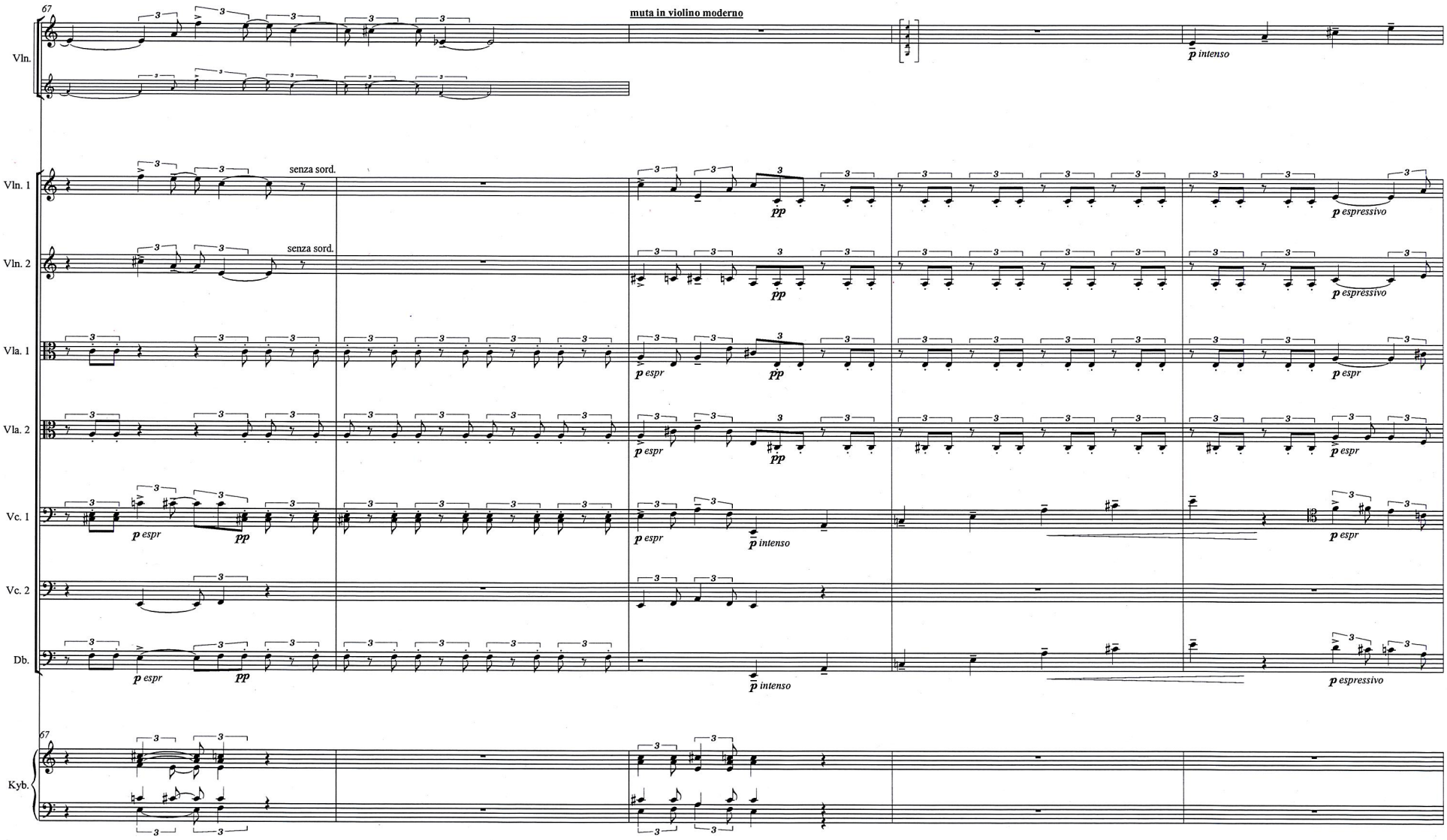

A
Delicatissimo, sognante
32
Vln.
p
A
Delicatissimo, sognante
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
mf
pp assecondando l'arco per le dinamiche
[col cembalo, come da basso continuo]
A
Delicatissimo, sognante
32
Kyb.
[col violoncello 2, come da basso continuo]

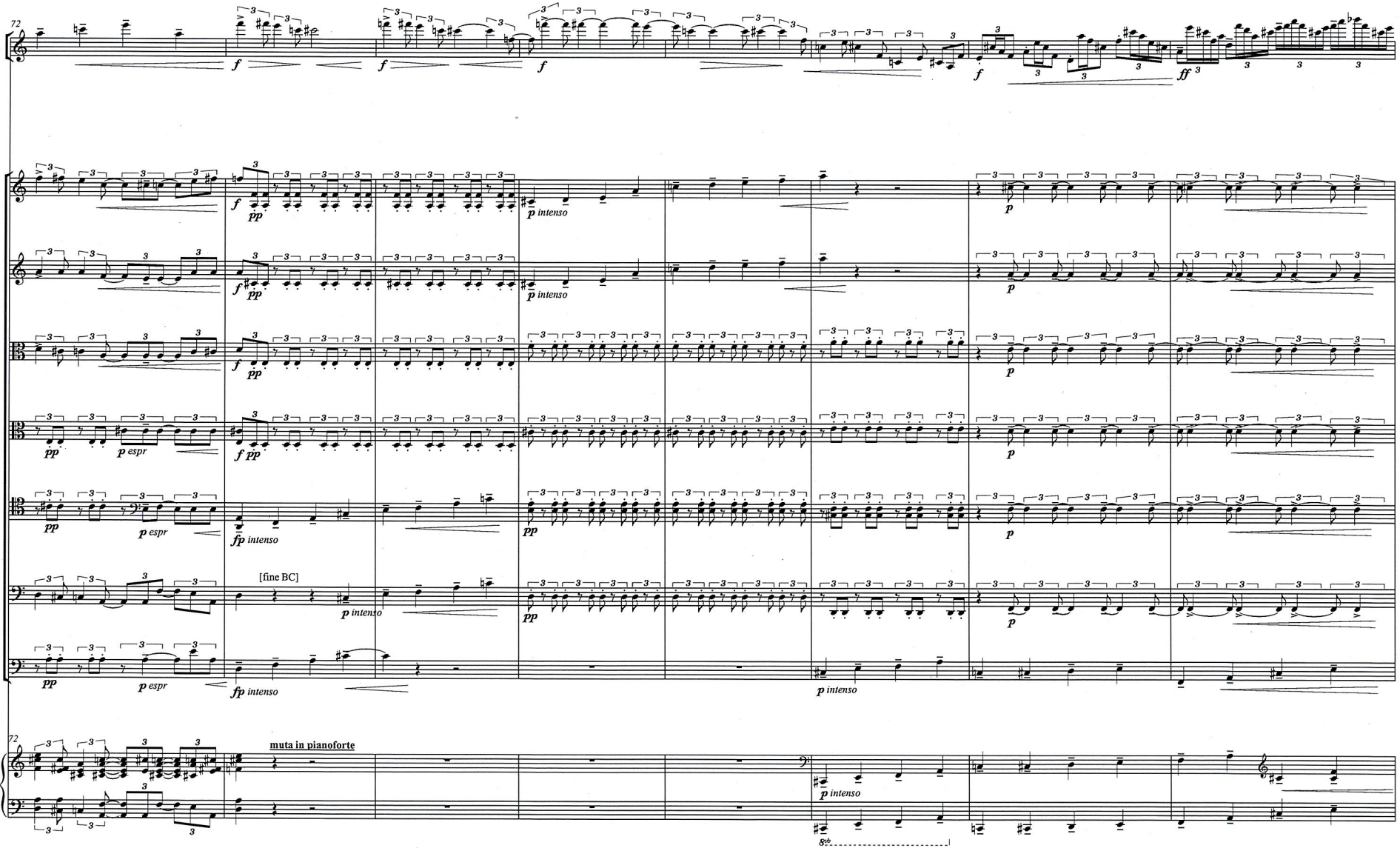

43
B Con eccitazione, librante
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
mf
p

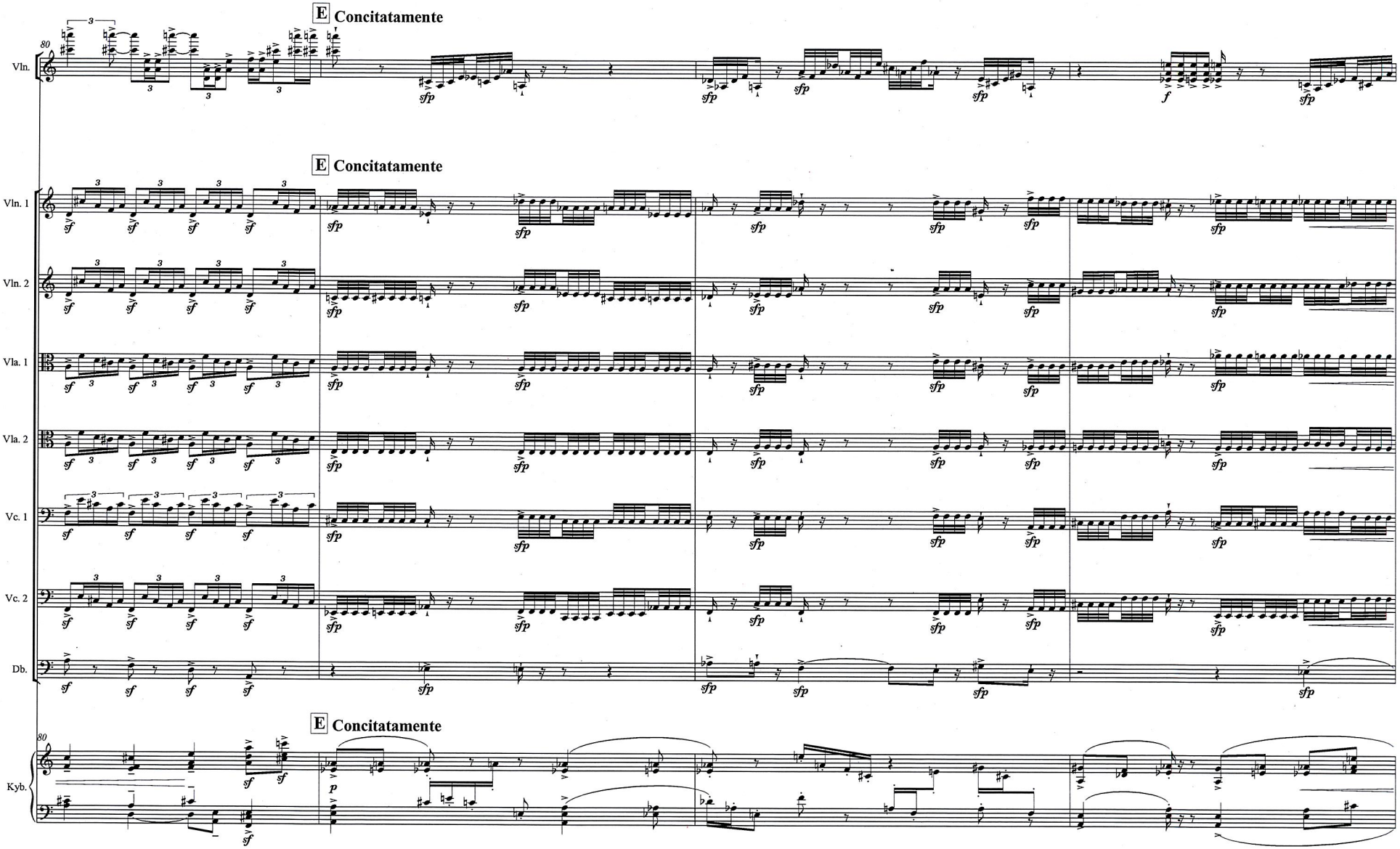

50
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
50
Kyb.

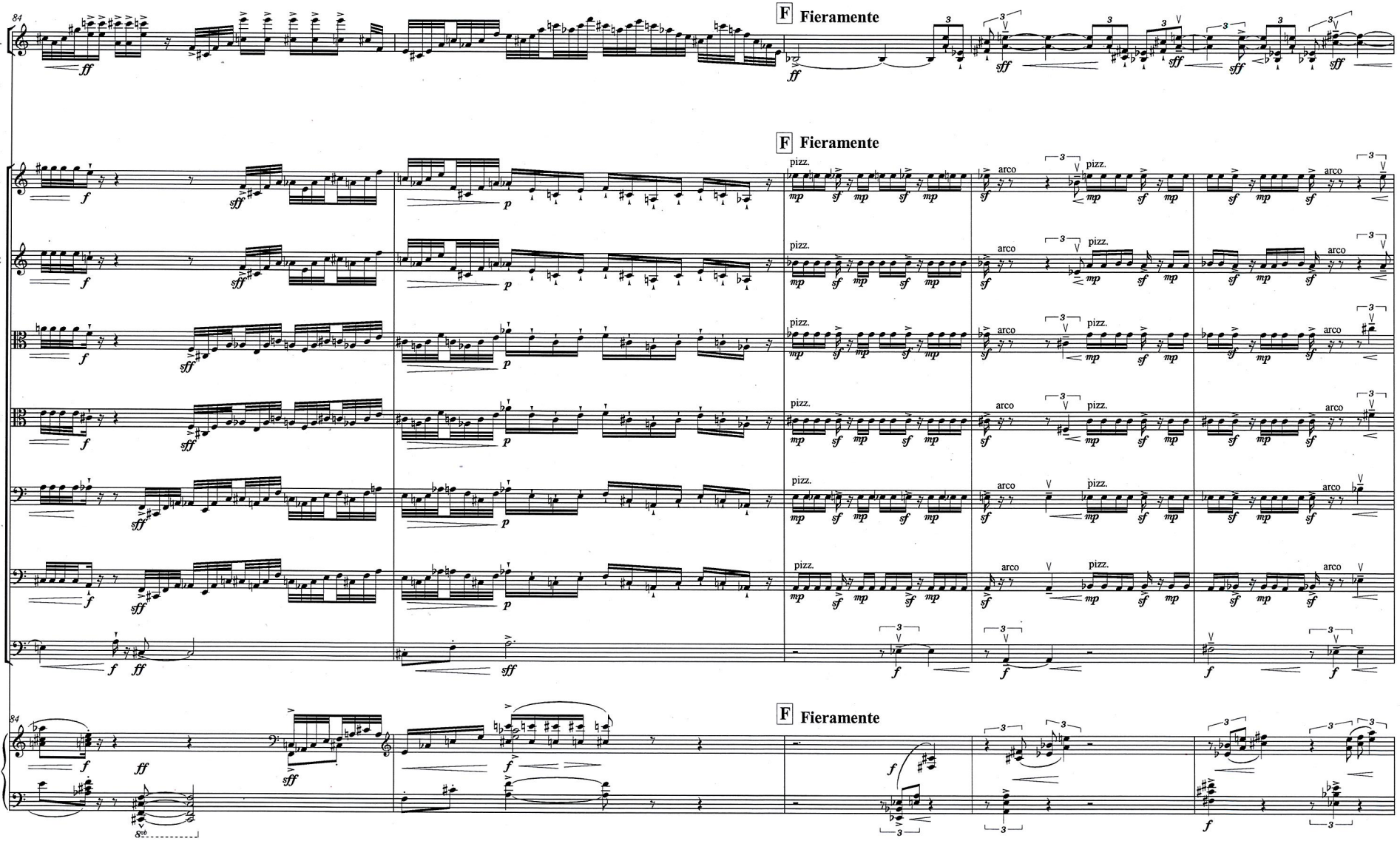

C
Con grandiosità
55
Vln.
C
Con grandiosità
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
C
Con grandiosità
55
Kyb.

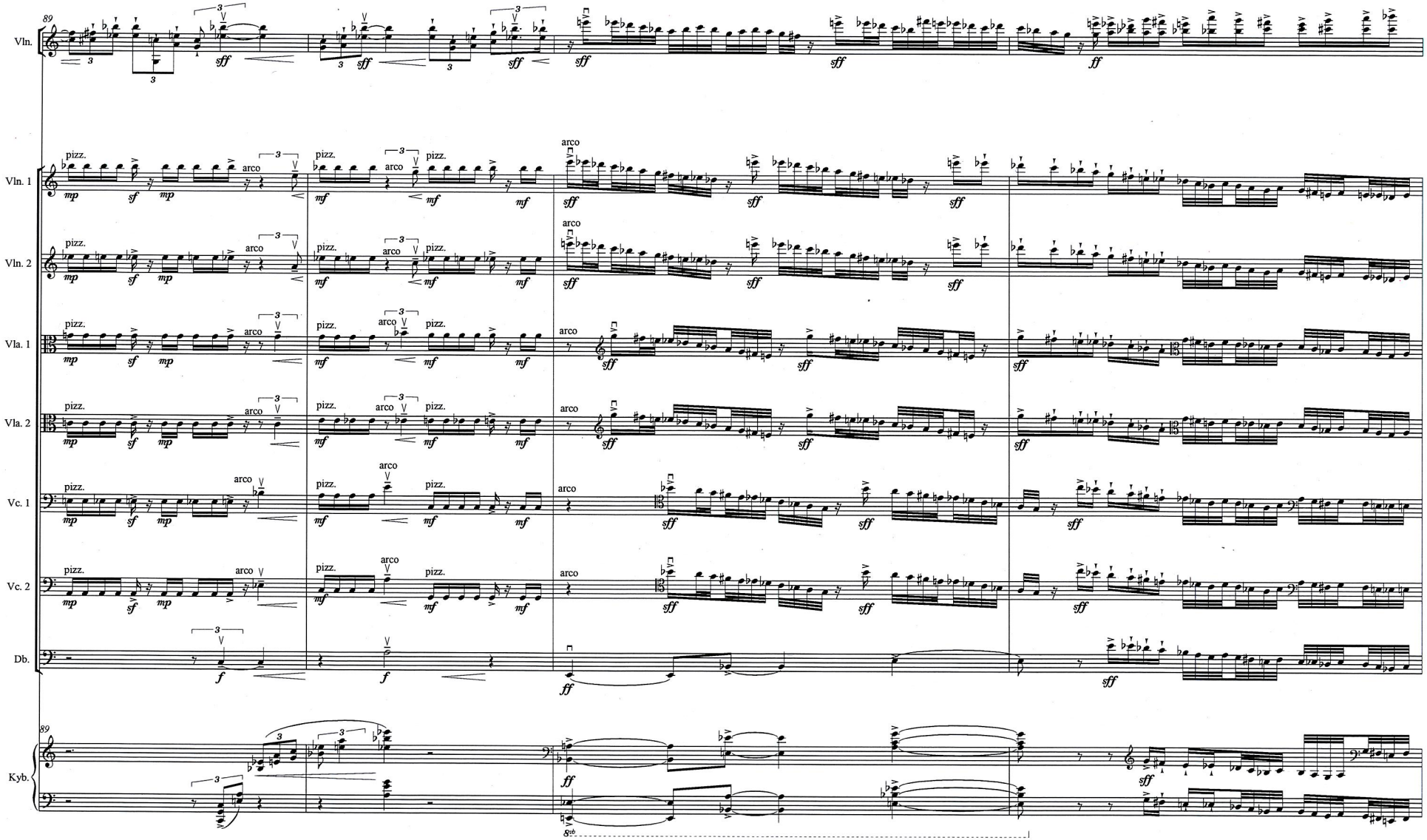

62
Vln.
D
Poco danzando
p espressivo
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
f
fpp
sf
p espressivo
p espr
senza sord.
pp
Kyb.

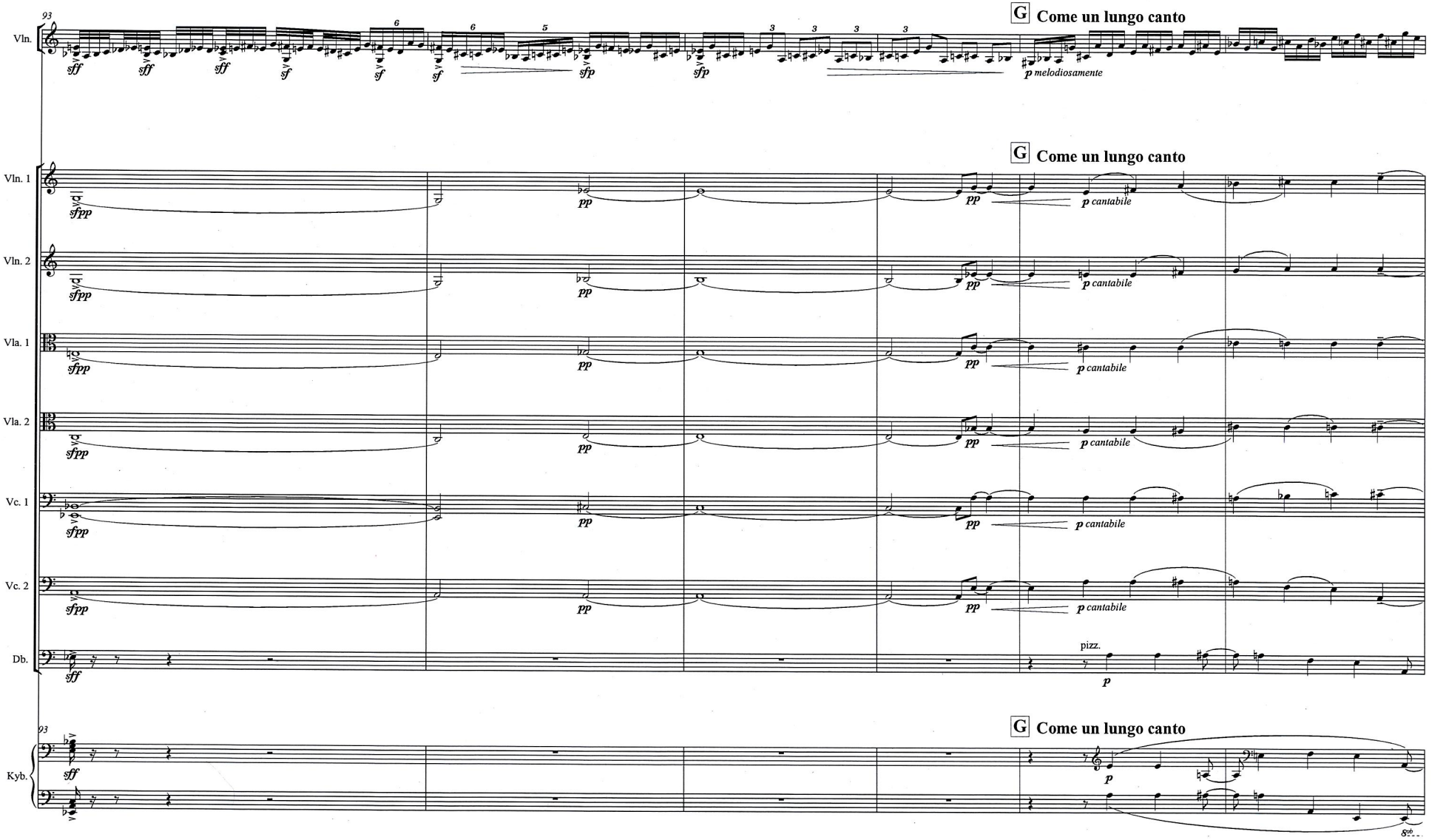

67
Vln.
muta in violino moderno
p intenso
Vln. 1
senza sord.
pp
p espressivo
Vln. 2
senza sord.
pp
p espressivo
Vla. 1
p espr
pp
p espr
Vla. 2
p espr
pp
p espr
Vc. 1
p espr
pp
p espr
p intenso
p espr
Vc. 2
Db.
p espr
pp
p intenso
p espressivo
67
Kyb.

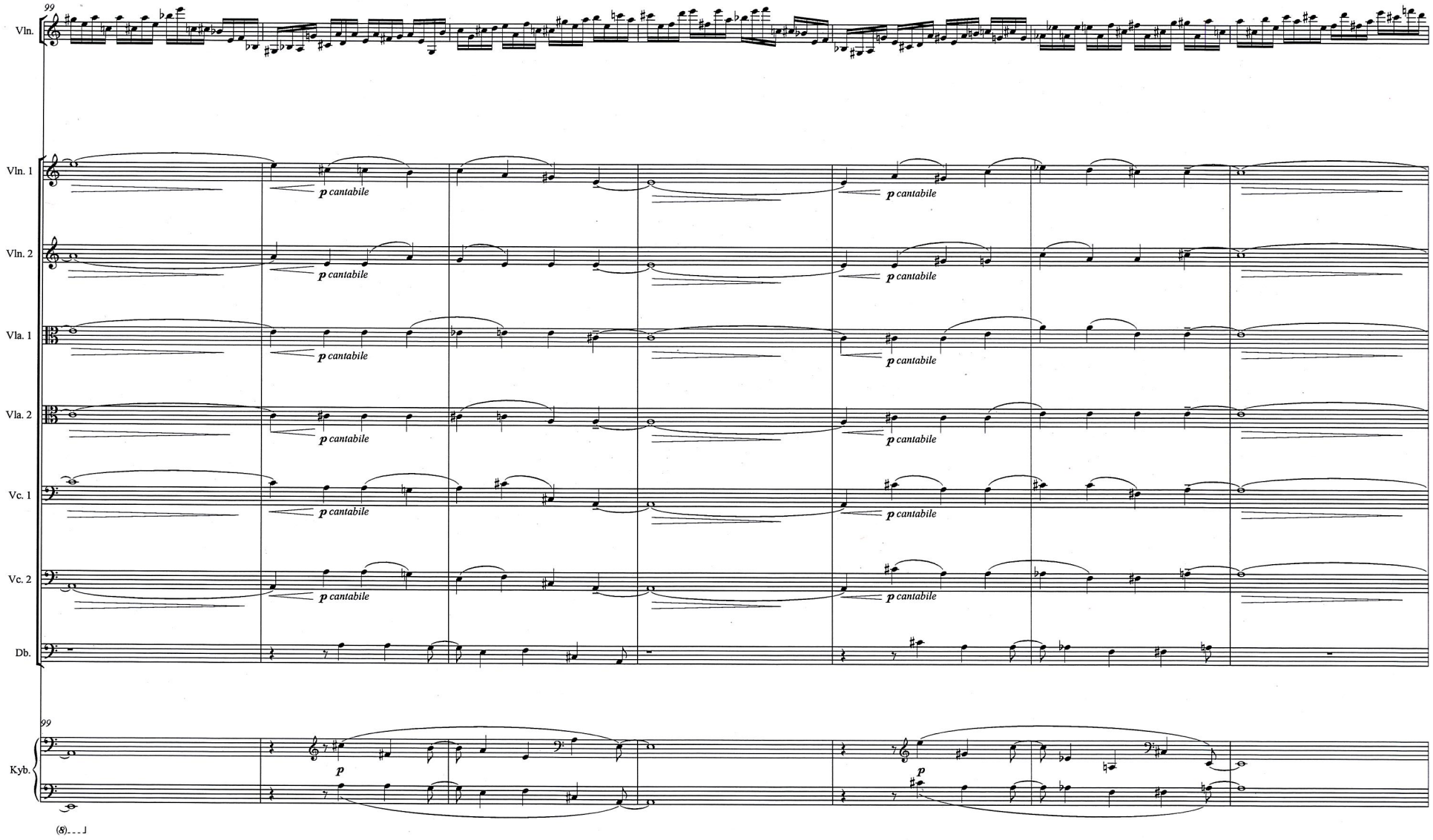

72
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
[fine BC]
muta in pianoforte
8va

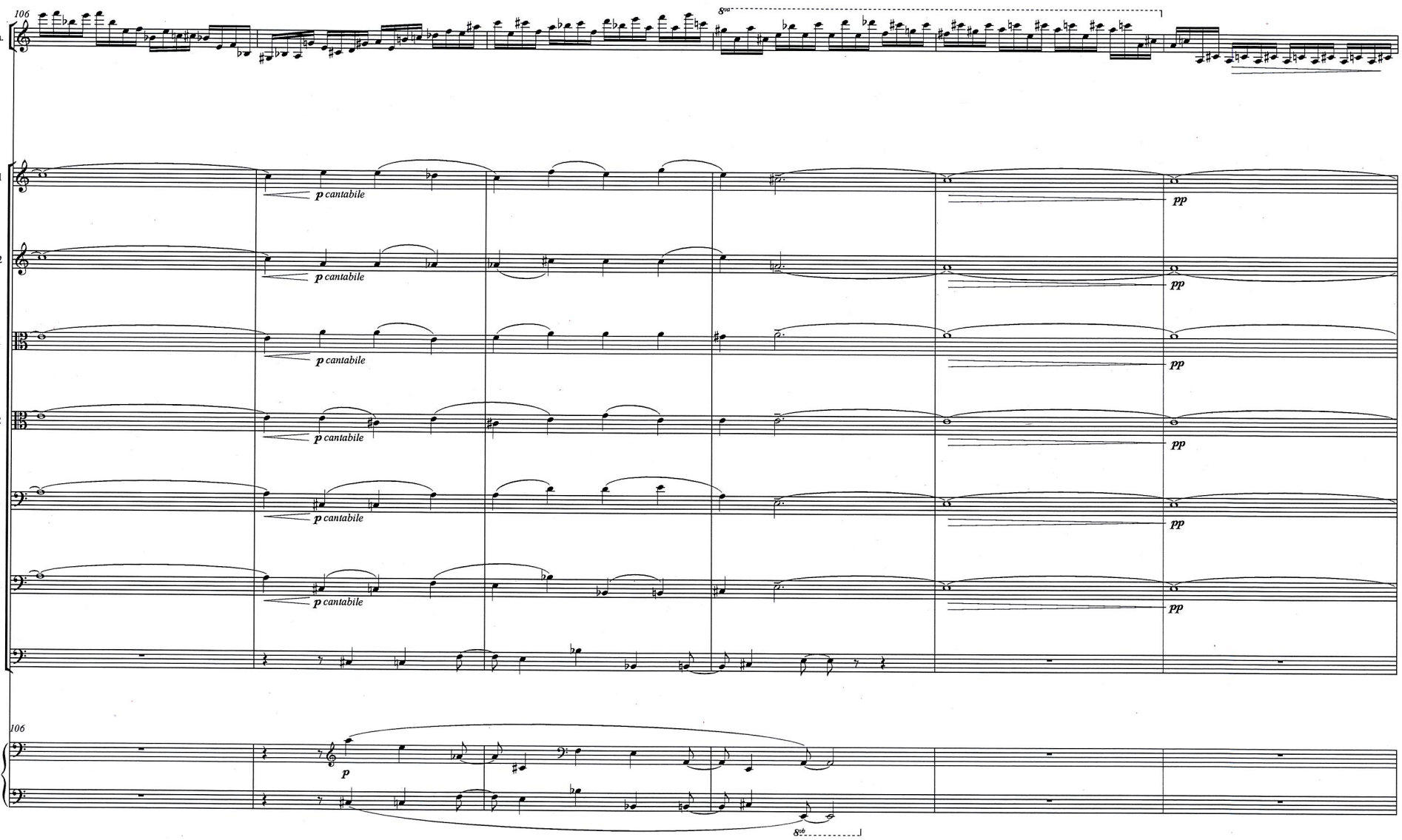

E Concitatamente
80
Vln.
E Concitatamente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
E Concitatamente
80
Kyb.

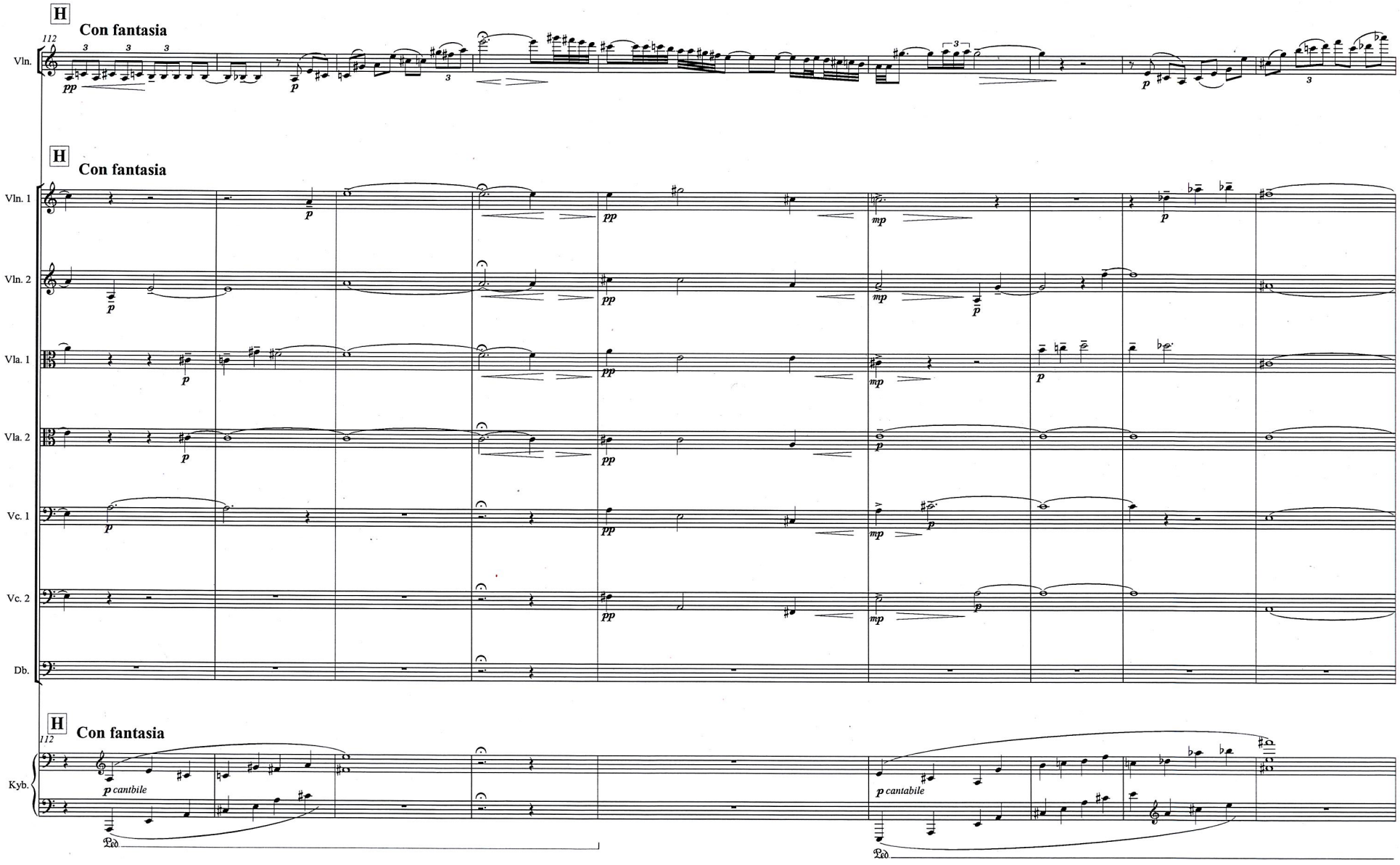

84
Vln.
F Fieramente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
pizz.
arco
Kyb.
8vb

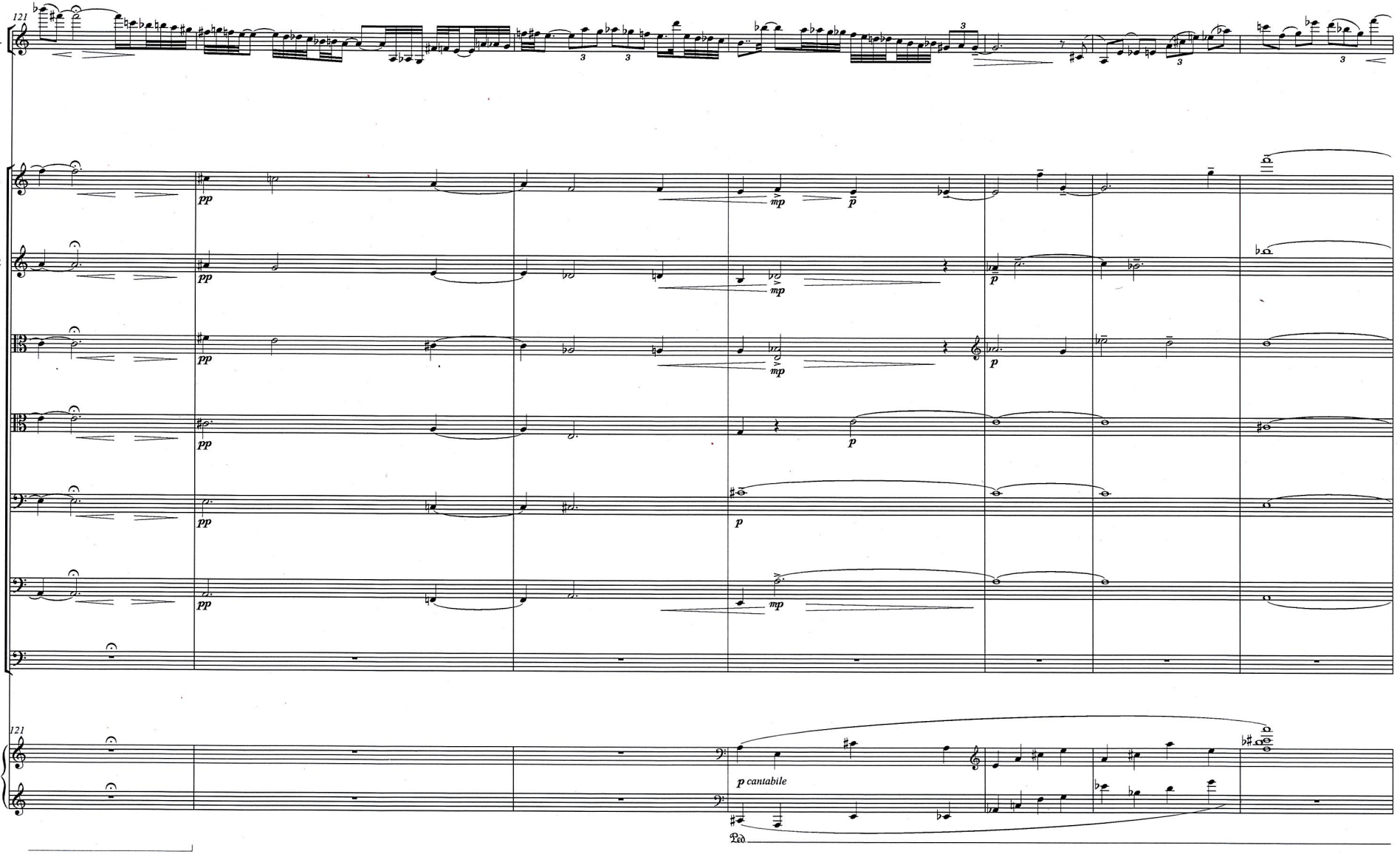

89
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
pizz.
arco
8vb.

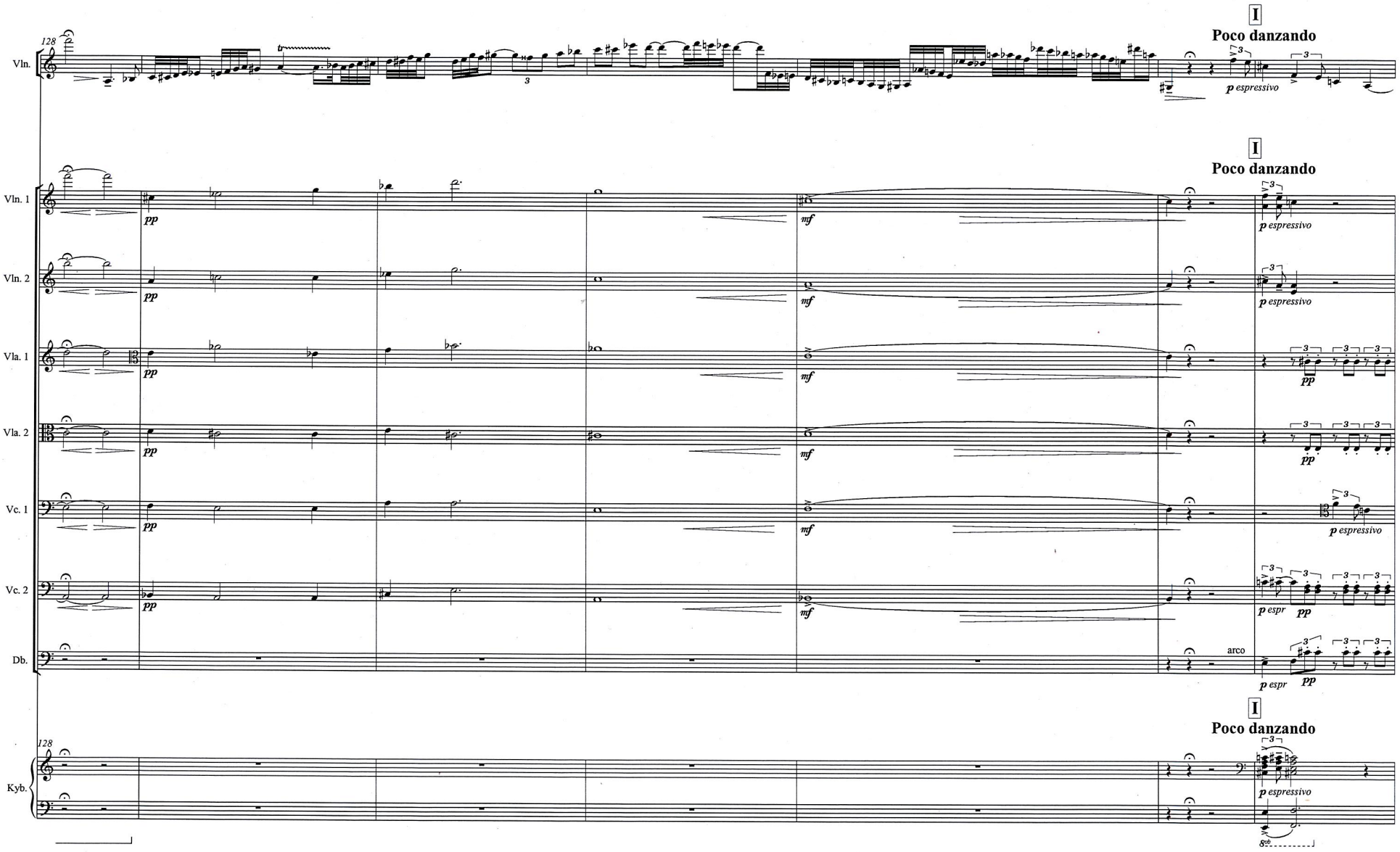

93
Vln.
sff
sff
sff
sf
sf
sf
sfp
sfp
G Come un lungo canto
p melodiosamente
G Come un lungo canto
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
sfpp
pp
p cantabile
pizz.
p
sff
93
Kyb.
G Come un lungo canto
8vb

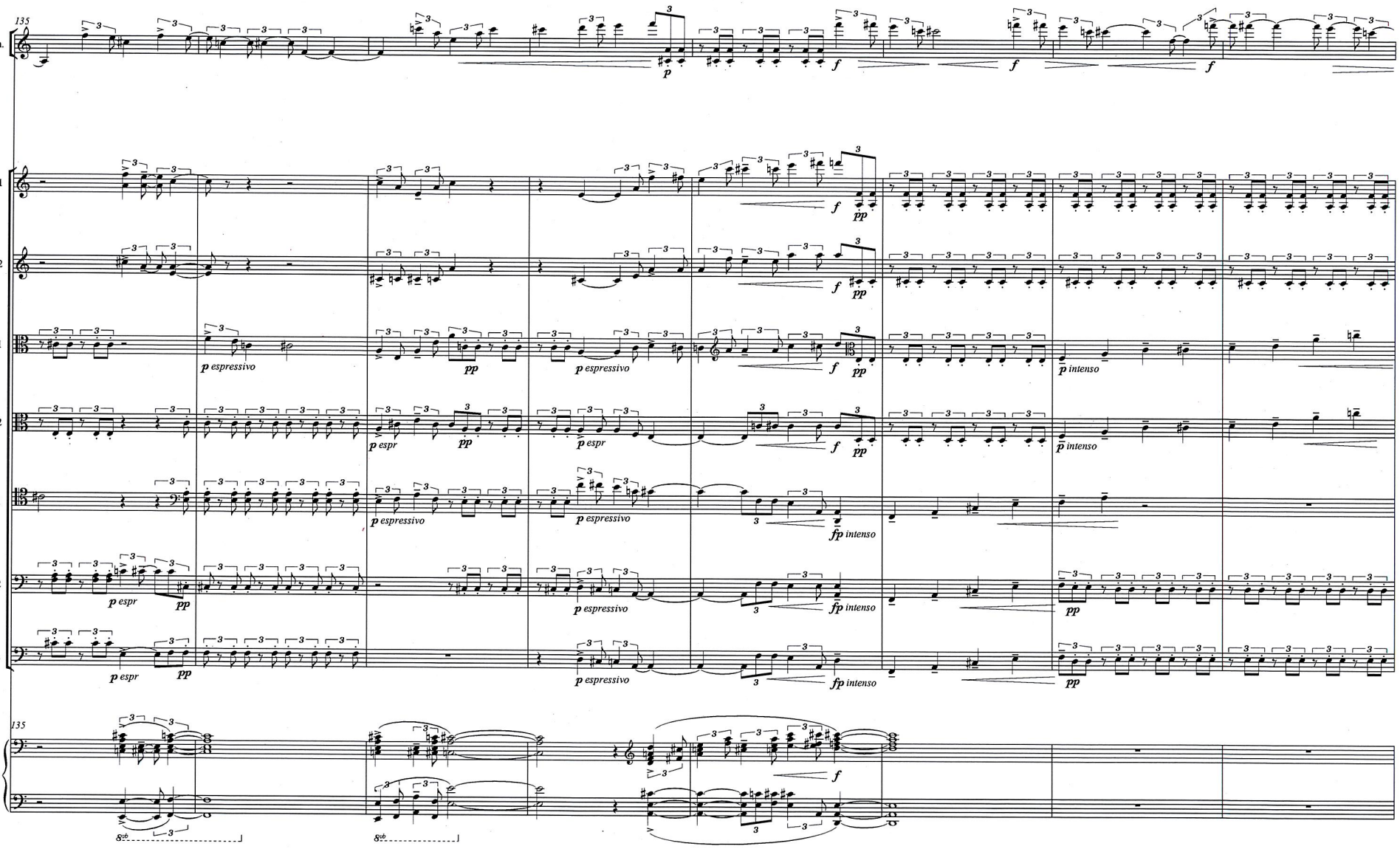

99
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
p cantabile
99
Kyb.
p
(8)

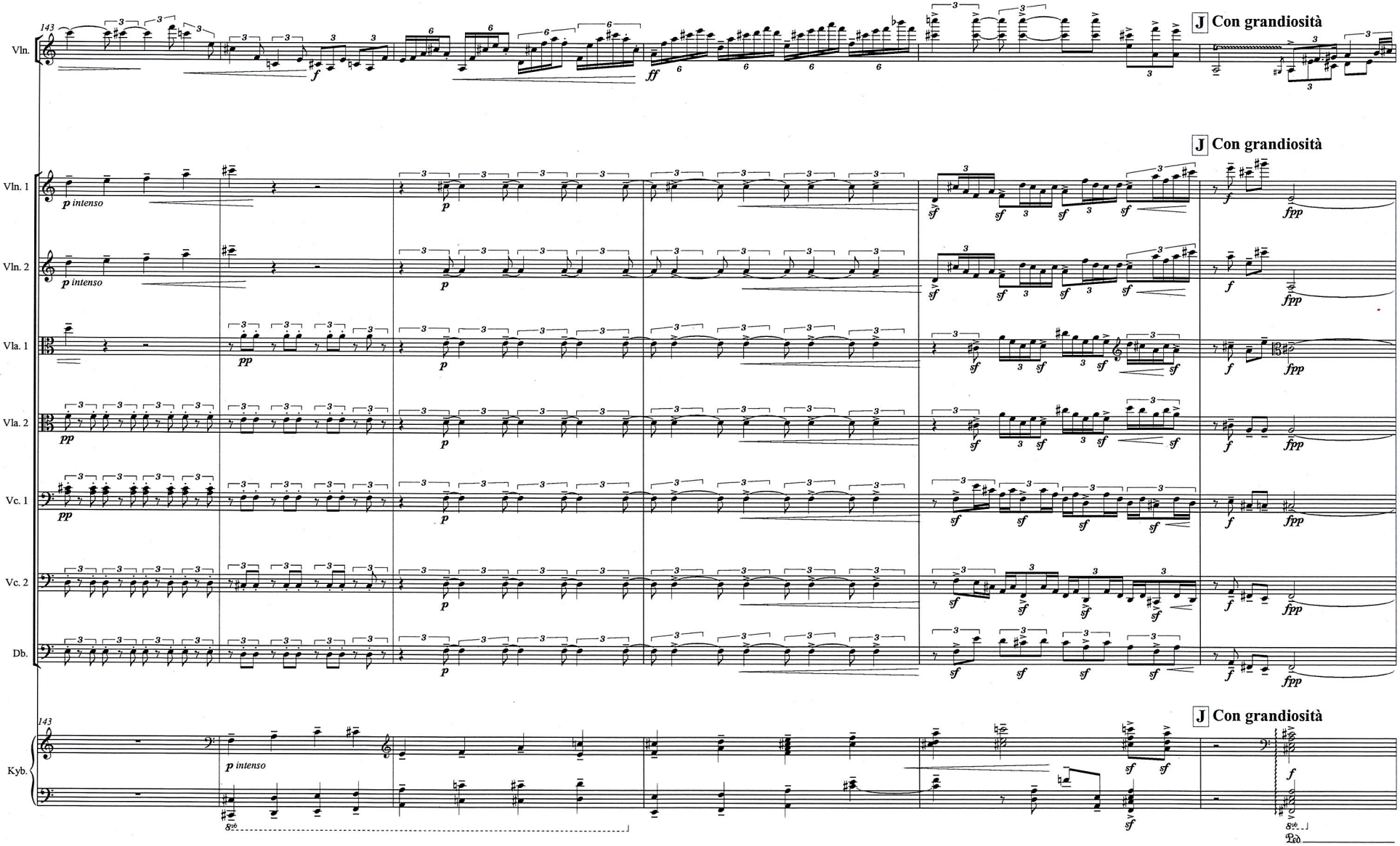

106
Vln.
8va
Vln. 1
p cantabile
pp
Vln. 2
p cantabile
pp
Vla. 1
p cantabile
pp
Vla. 2
p cantabile
pp
Vc. 1
p cantabile
pp
Vc. 2
p cantabile
pp
Db.
106
Kyb.
p
8vb

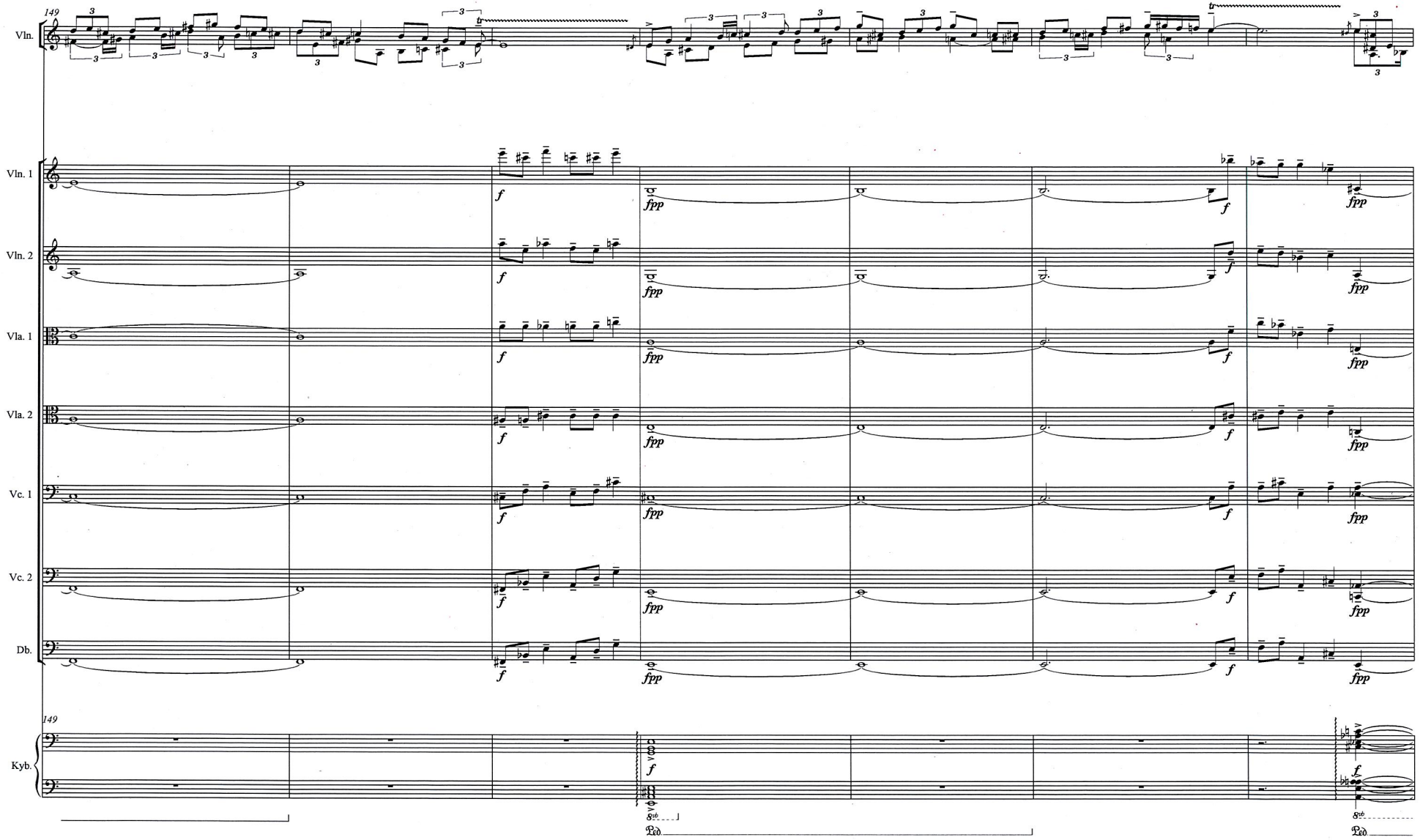

H
Con fantasia
112
Vln.
pp
p
H
Con fantasia
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
p
pp
mp
H
Con fantasia
112
Kyb.
p cantbile
p cantabile
Ped.
Ped.

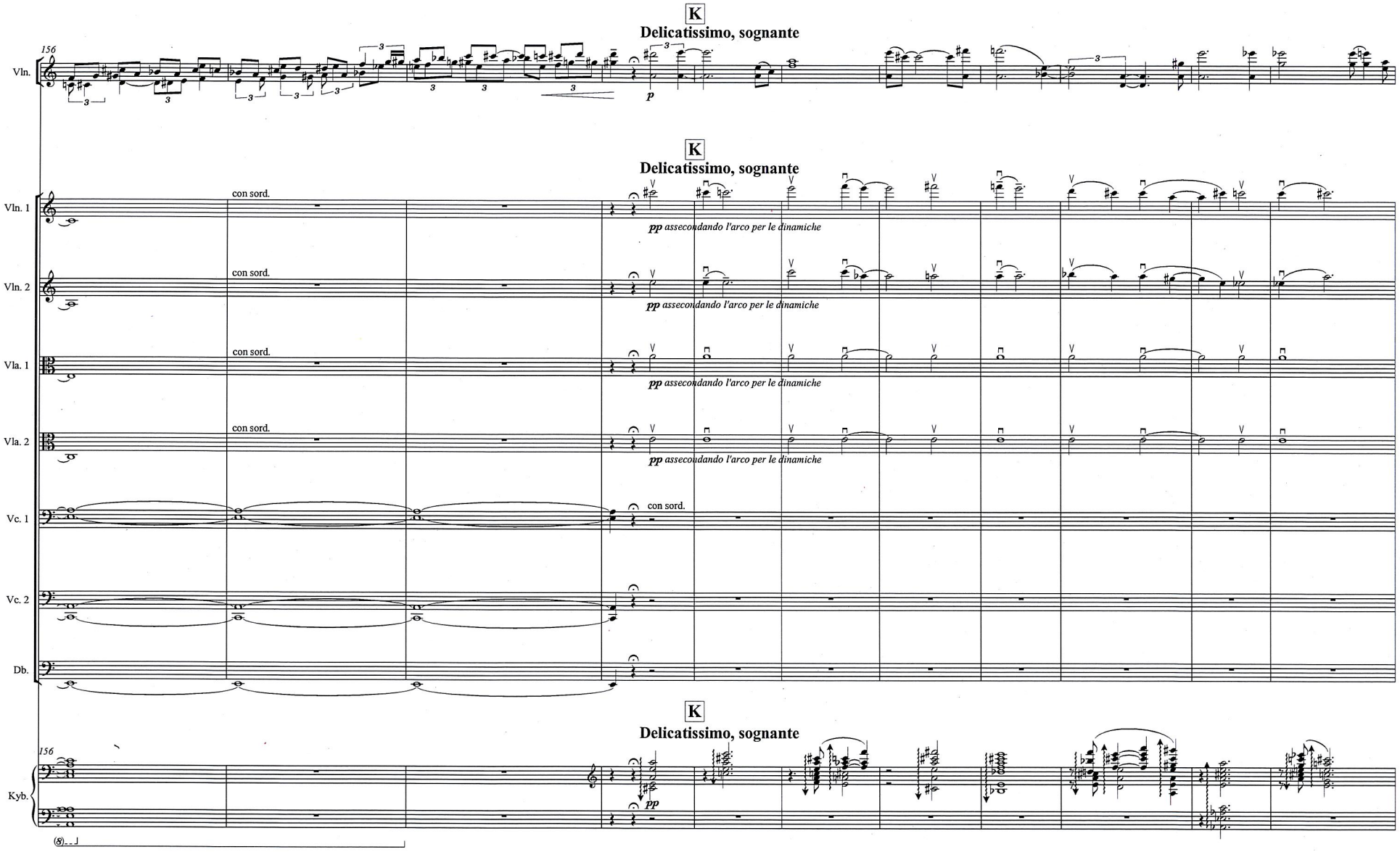

121
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
121
Kyb.
pp
mp
p
p cantabile
3

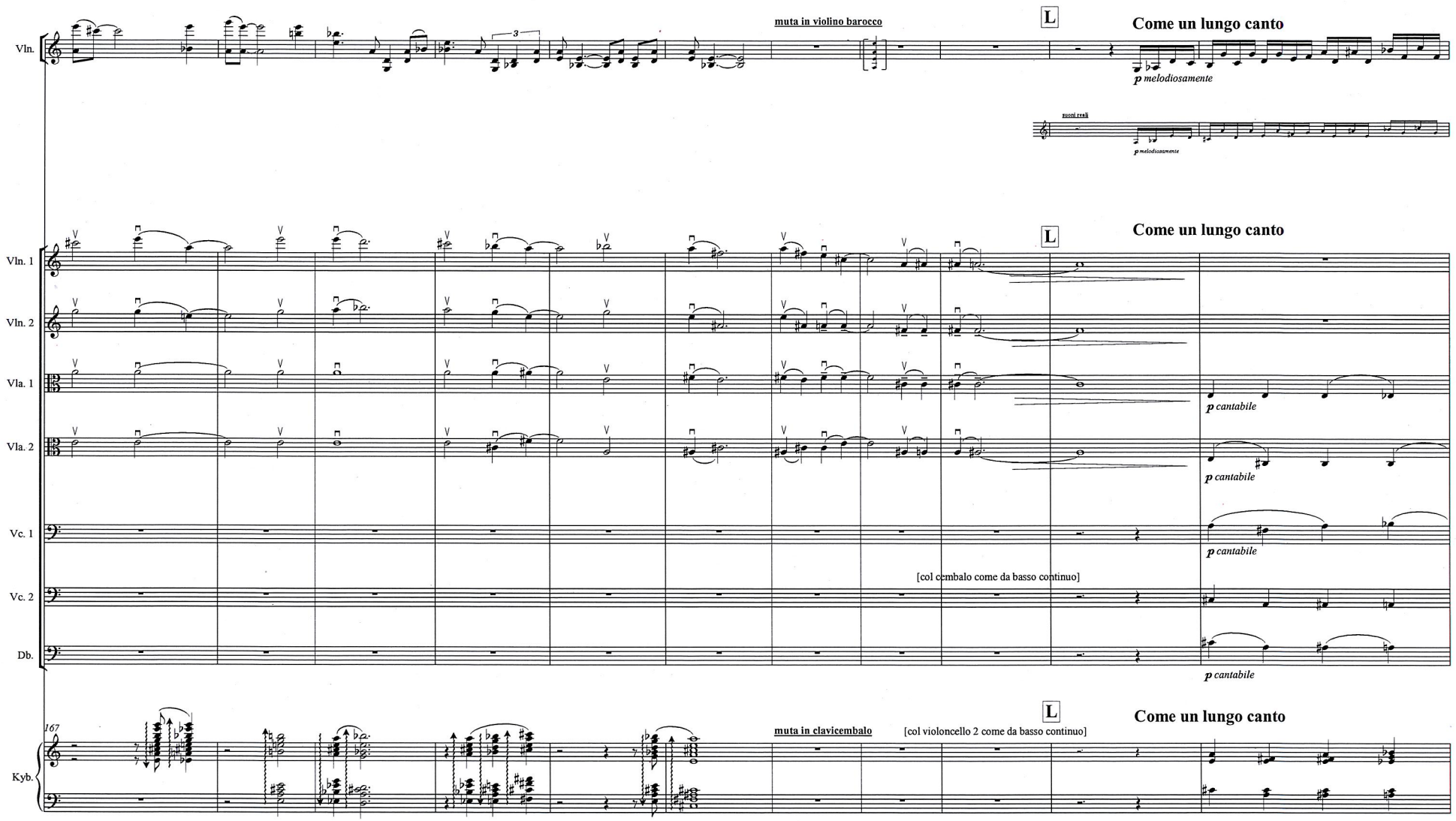

128
Vln.
I
Poco danzando
p espressivo
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
pp
mf
arco
p espr
Kyb.
8vb

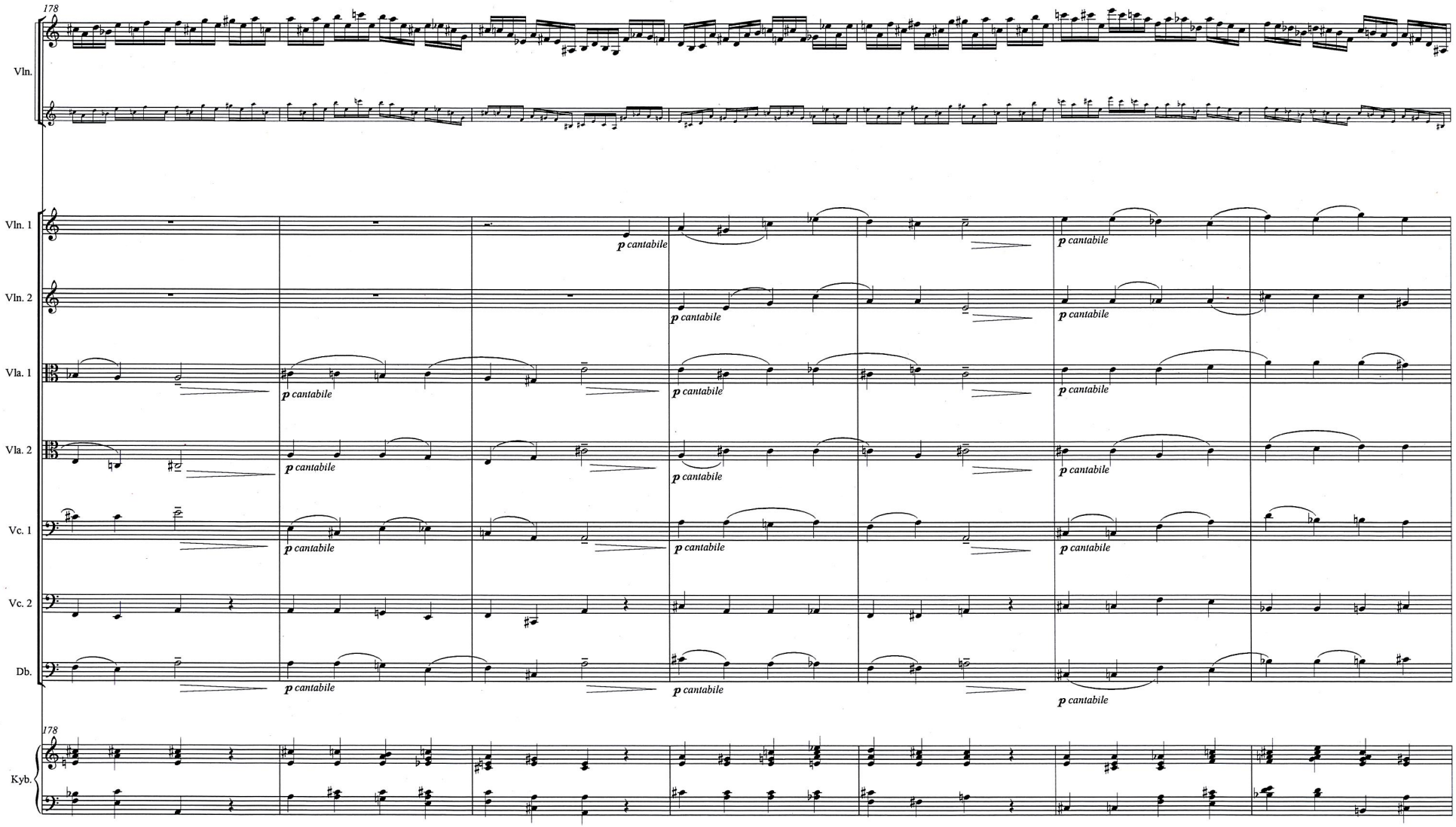

135
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
p espressivo
p espr
pp
f
fp intenso
p intenso
8vb

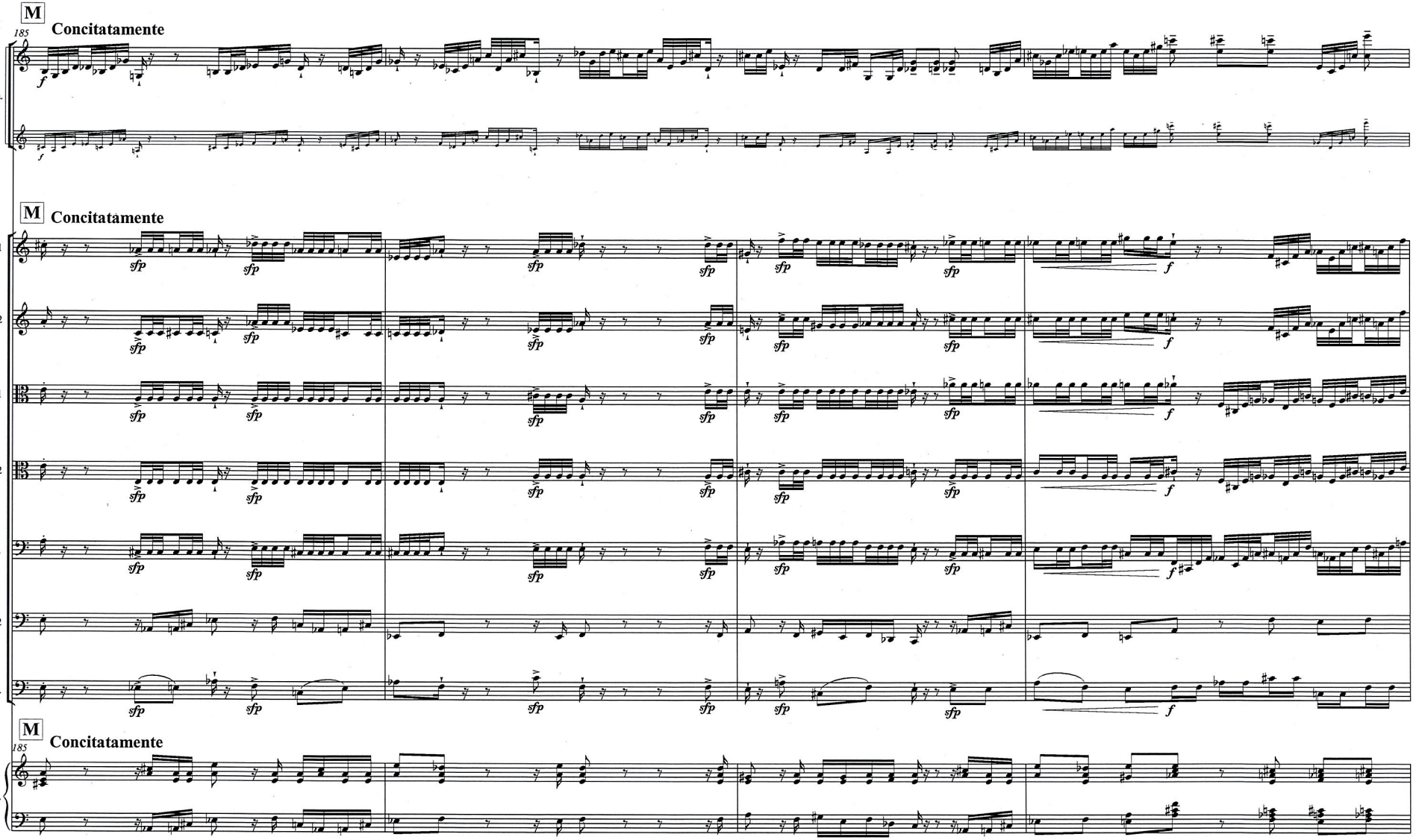

143
Vln.
J Con grandiosità
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
p intenso
pp
p
f
ff
sf
fpp

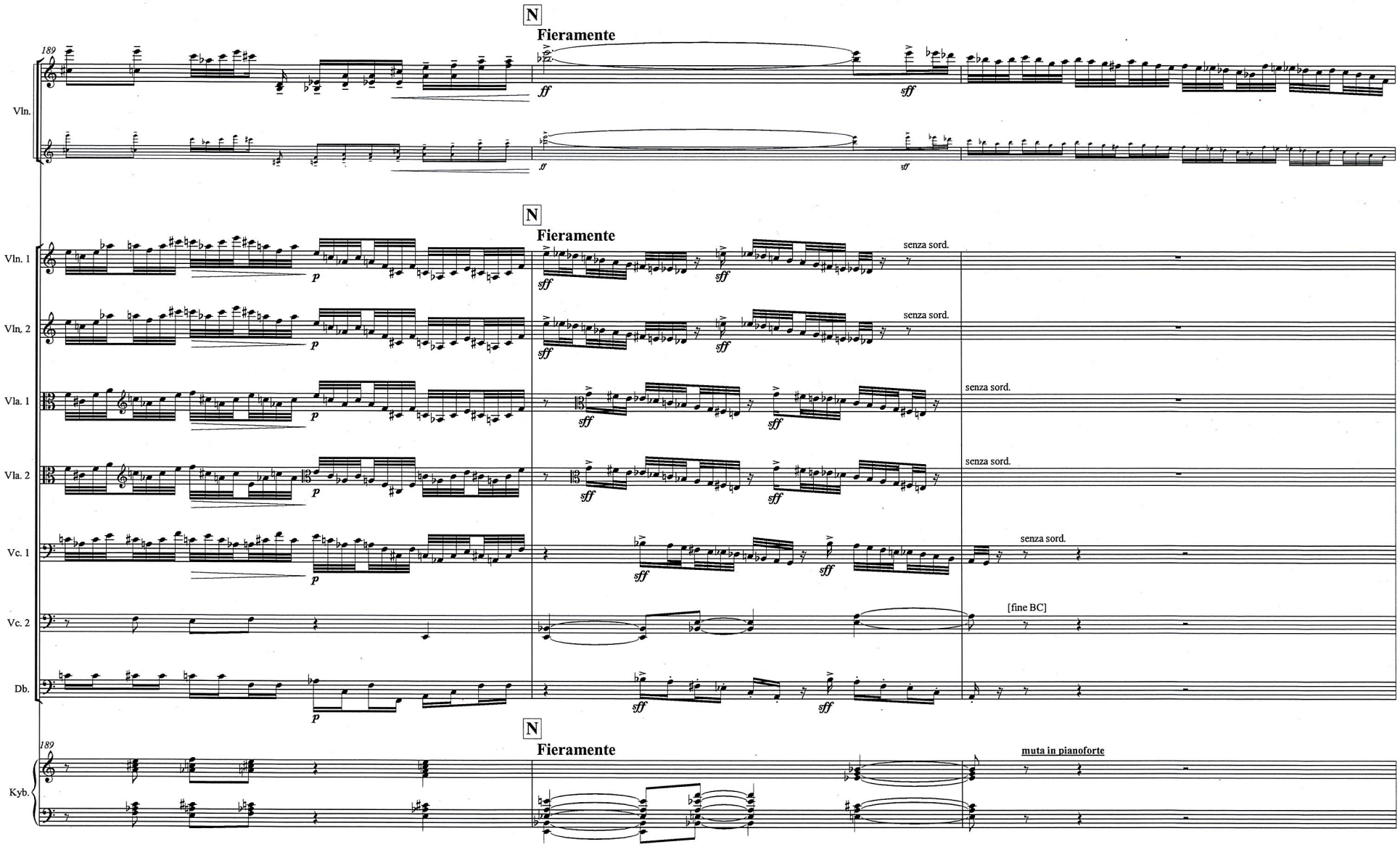

149
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
149
Kyb.
f
fpp
Ped

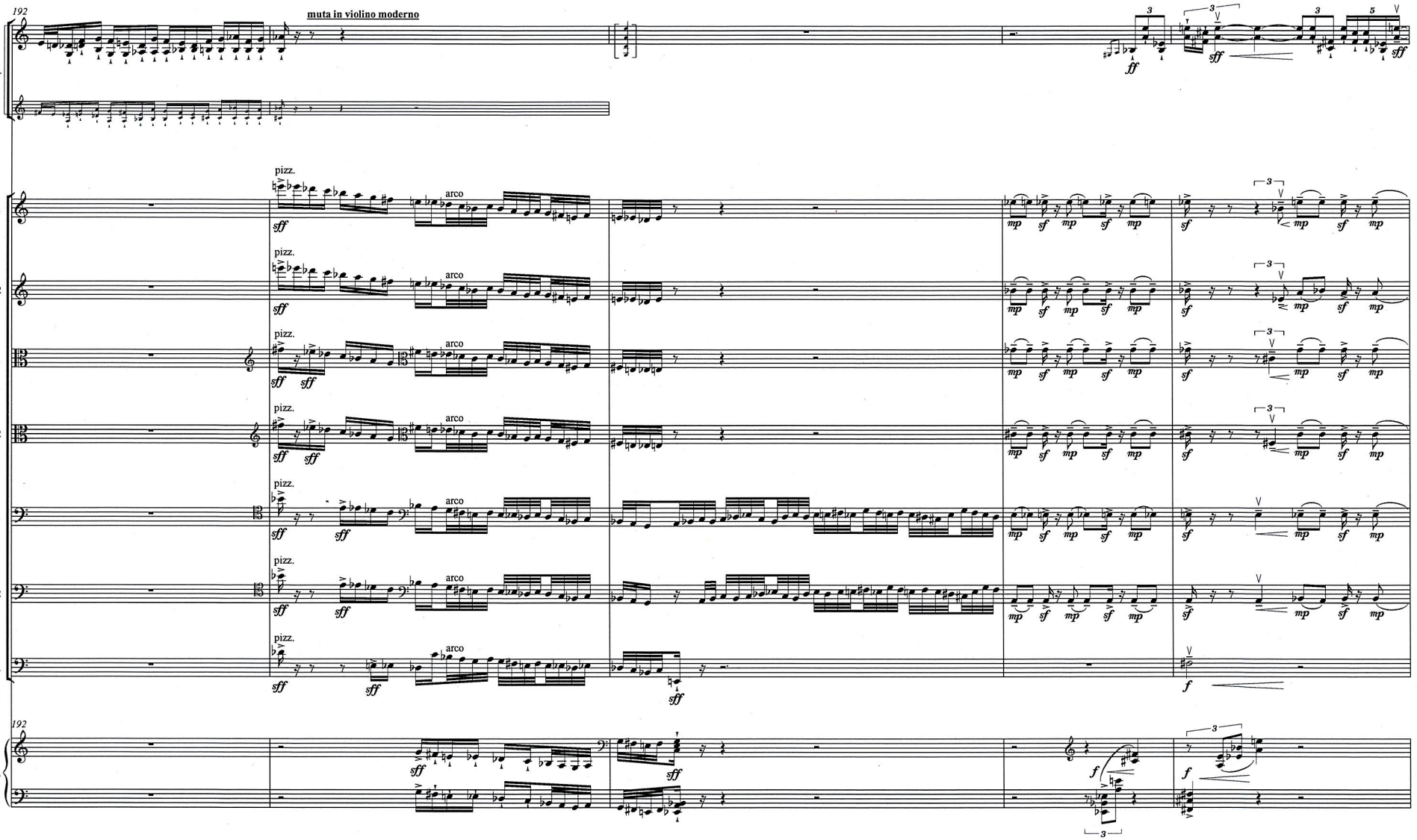

K
Delicatissimo, sognante
156
Vln.
p
K
Delicatissimo, sognante
Vln. 1
con sord.
pp assecondando l'arco per le dinamiche
Vln. 2
con sord.
pp assecondando l'arco per le dinamiche
Vla. 1
con sord.
pp assecondando l'arco per le dinamiche
Vla. 2
con sord.
pp assecondando l'arco per le dinamiche
Vc. 1
con sord.
Vc. 2
Db.
K
Delicatissimo, sognante
156
Kyb.
pp
8

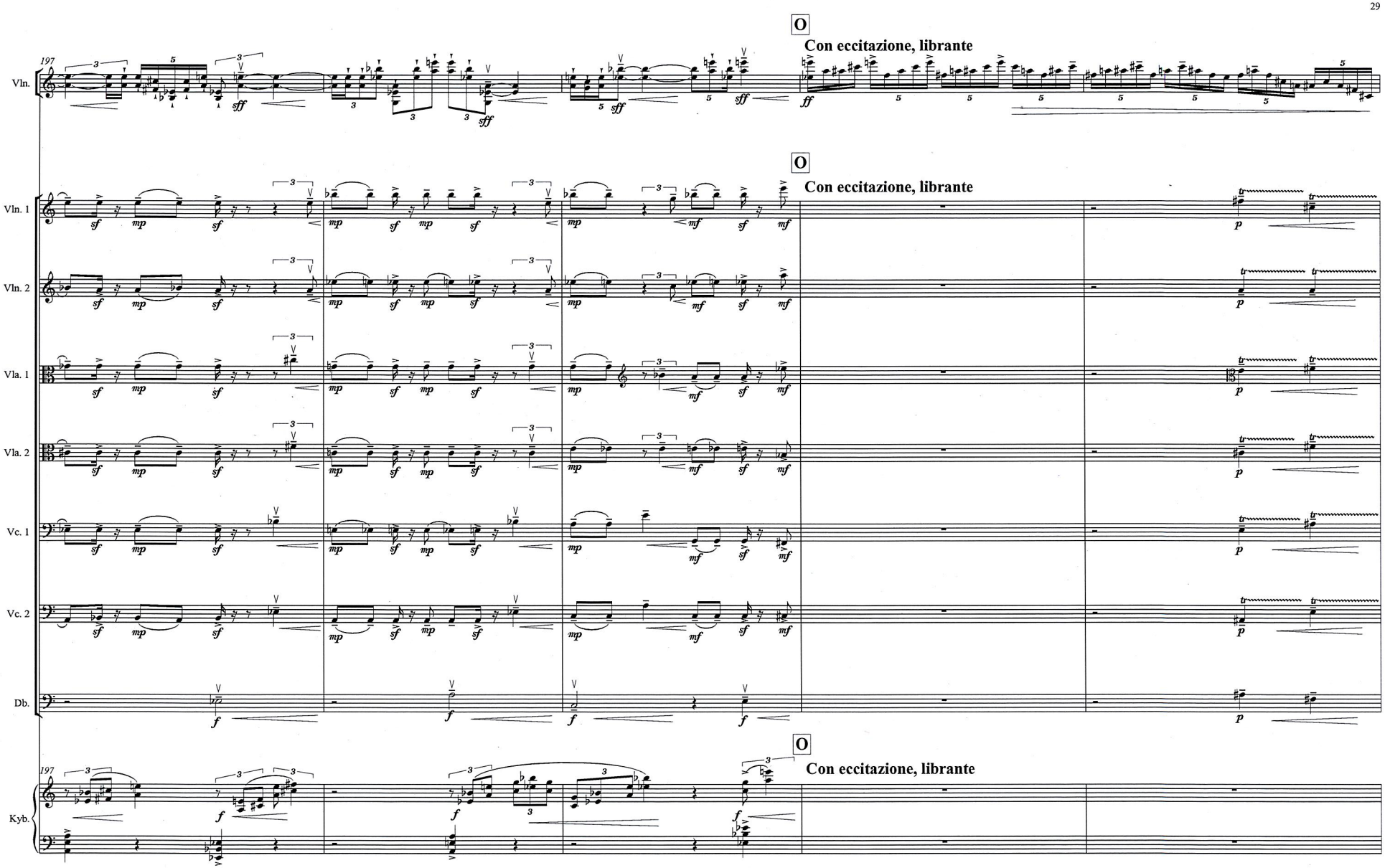

Vln.
muta in violino barocco
L
Come un lungo canto
p melodiosamente
suoni reali
p melodiosamente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
L
Come un lungo canto
p cantabile
p cantabile
p cantabile
[col cembalo come da basso continuo]
p cantabile
167
Kyb.
muta in clavicembalo
[col violoncello 2 come da basso continuo]
L
Come un lungo canto

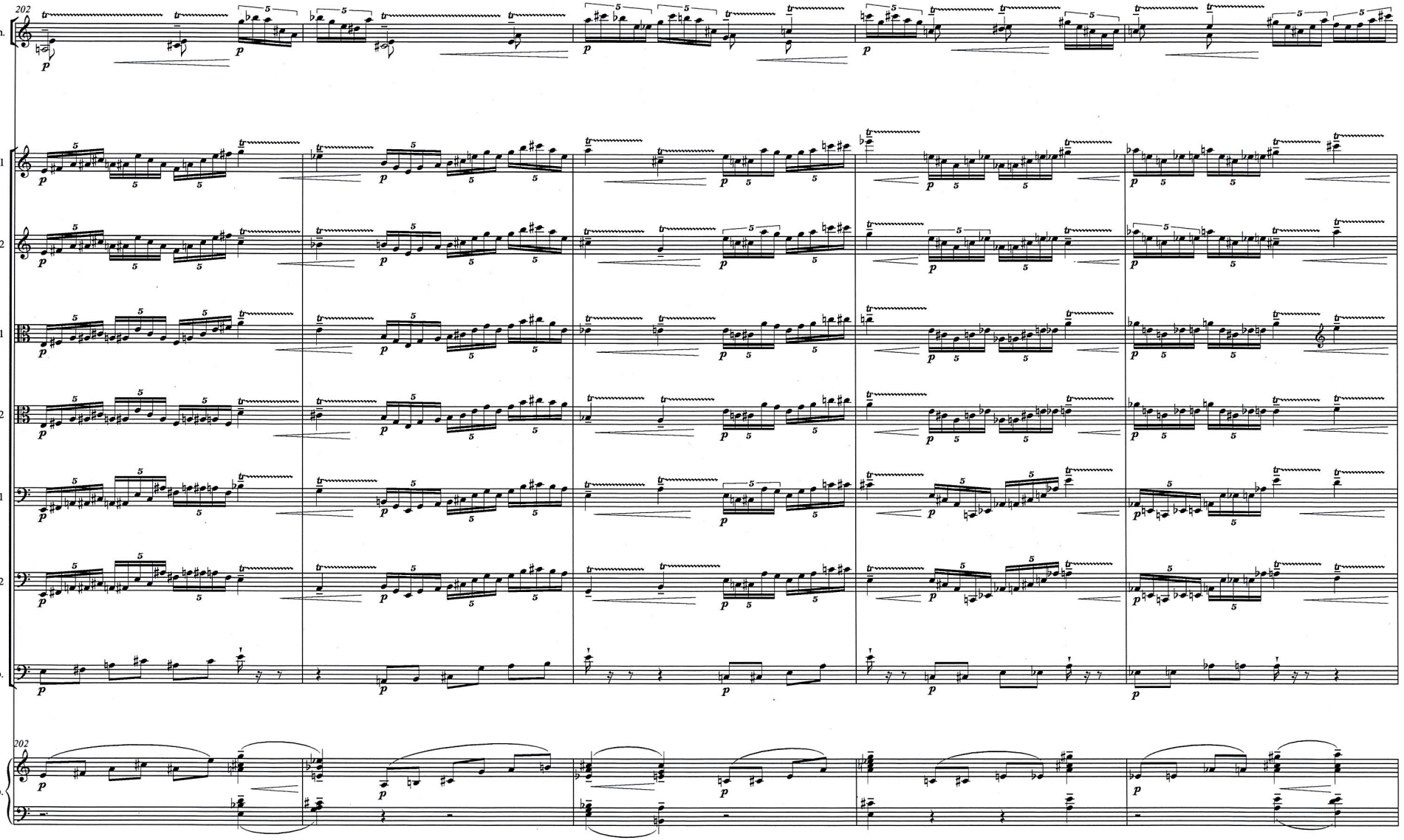

178
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
p cantabile

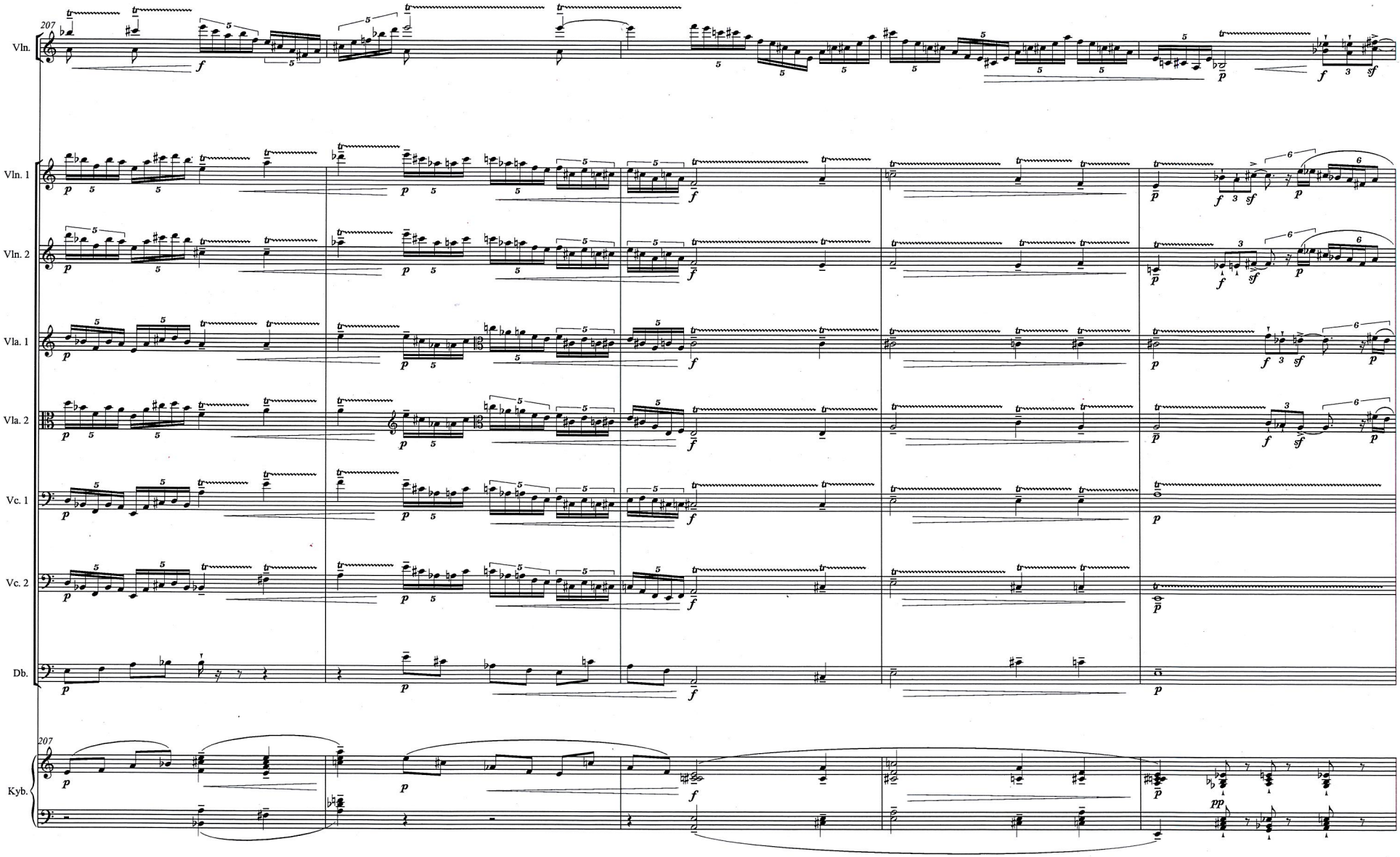

M
185
Concitatamente
Vln.
M
Concitatamente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
M
185
Concitatamente
Kyb.

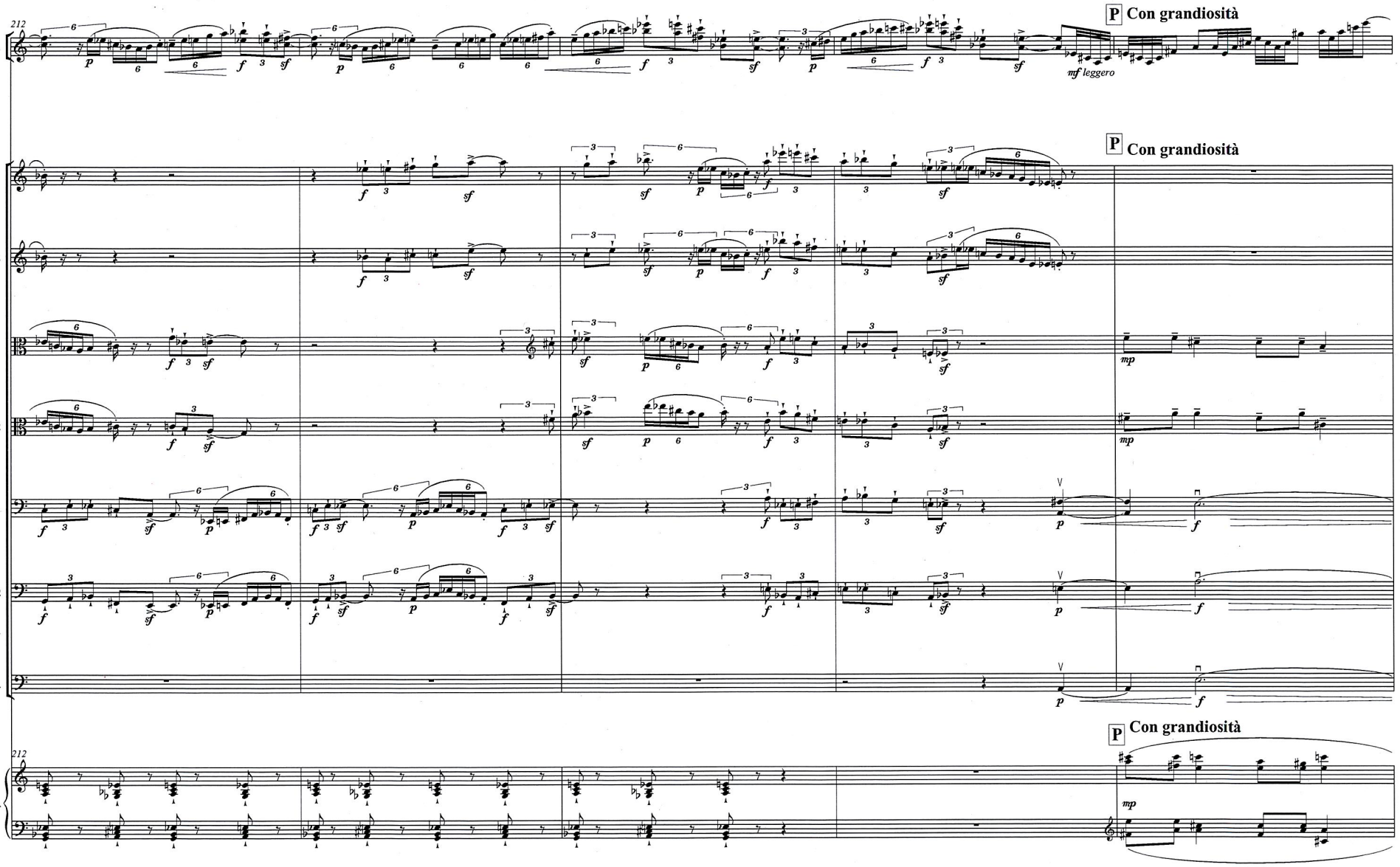

N
Fieramente
189
Vln.
ff
sff
N
Fieramente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
p
sff
senza sord.
[fine BC]
N
Fieramente
189
Kyb.
muta in pianoforte

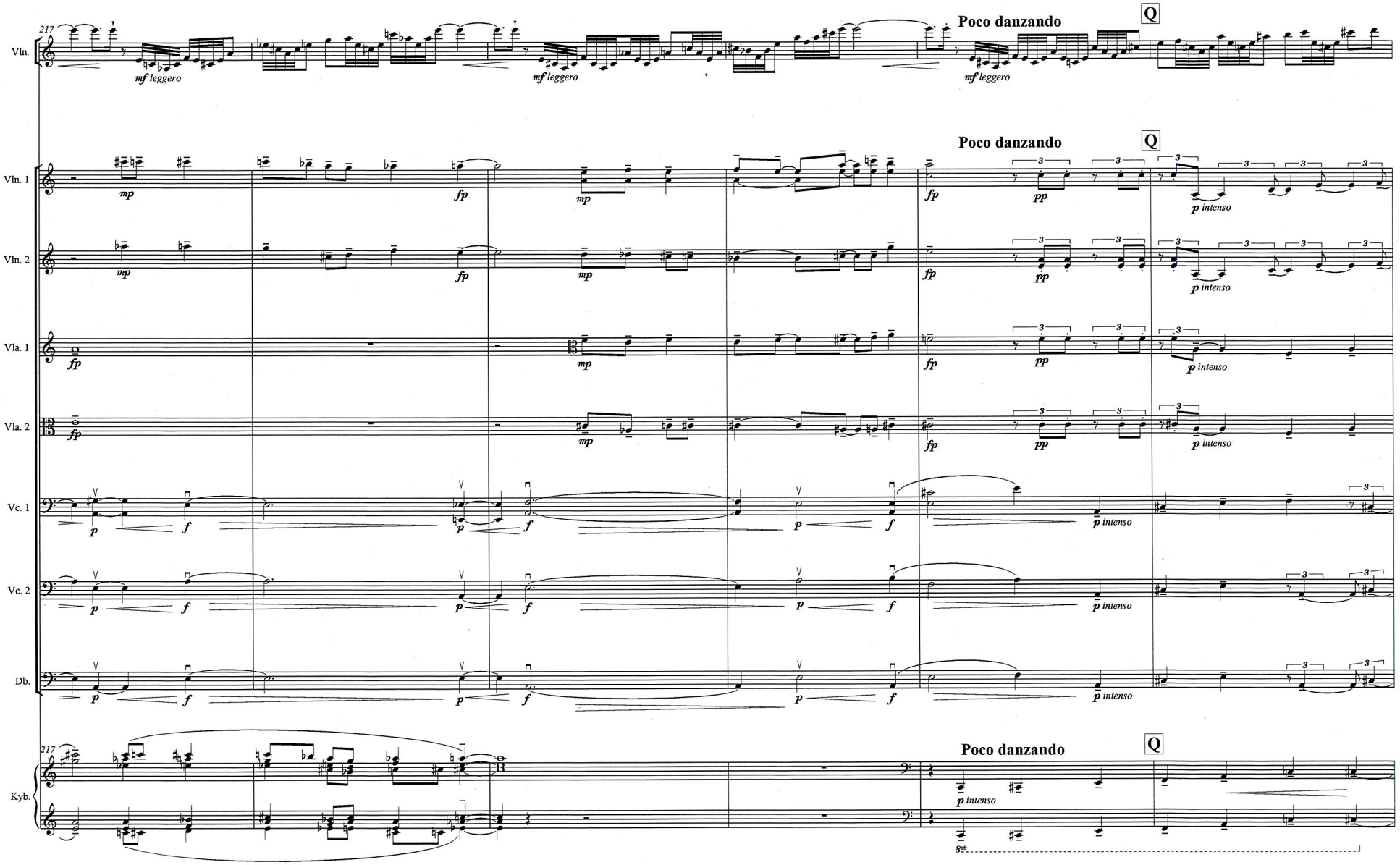

192
muta in violino moderno
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
pizz.
arco

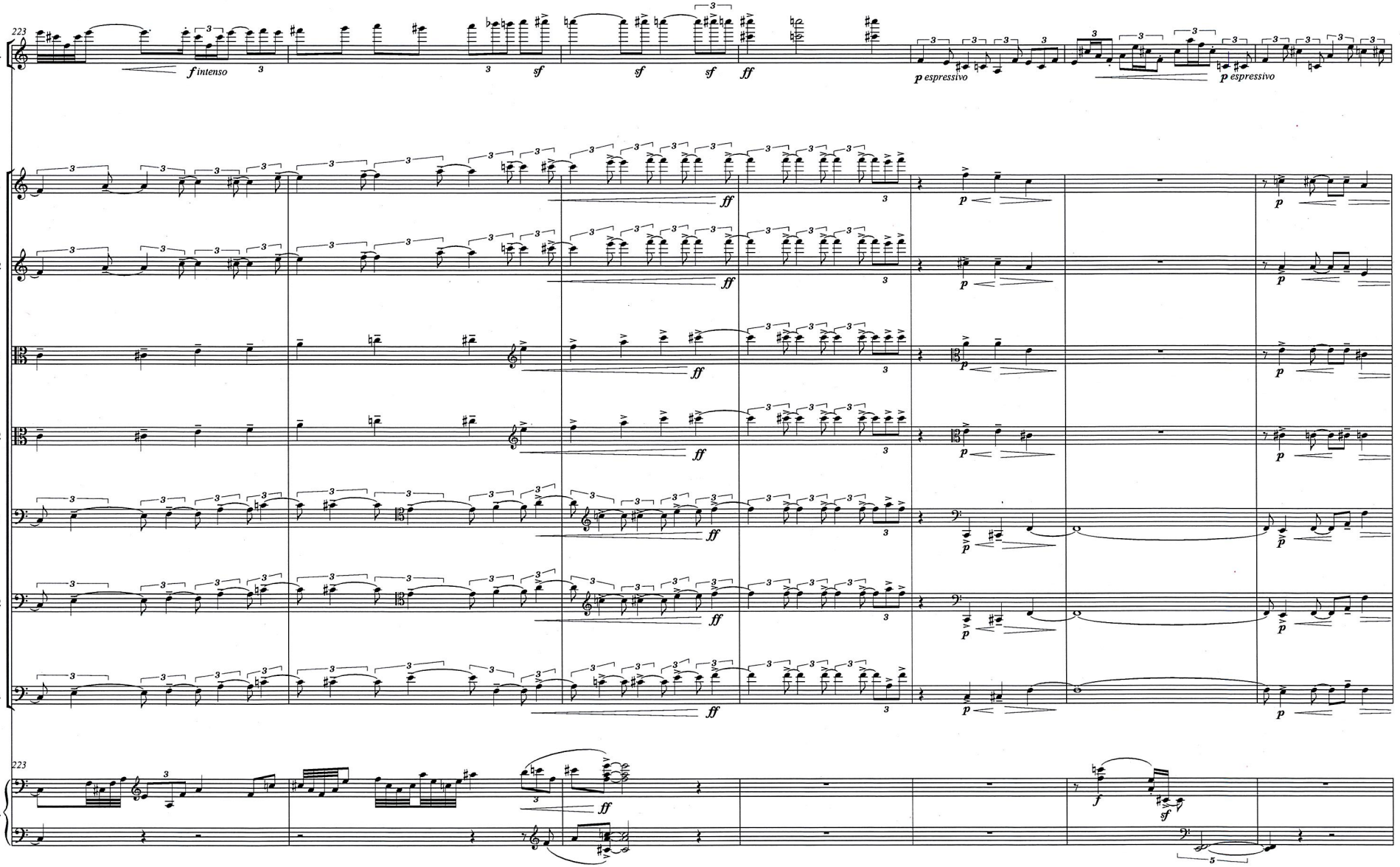

O
Con eccitazione, librante
197
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.

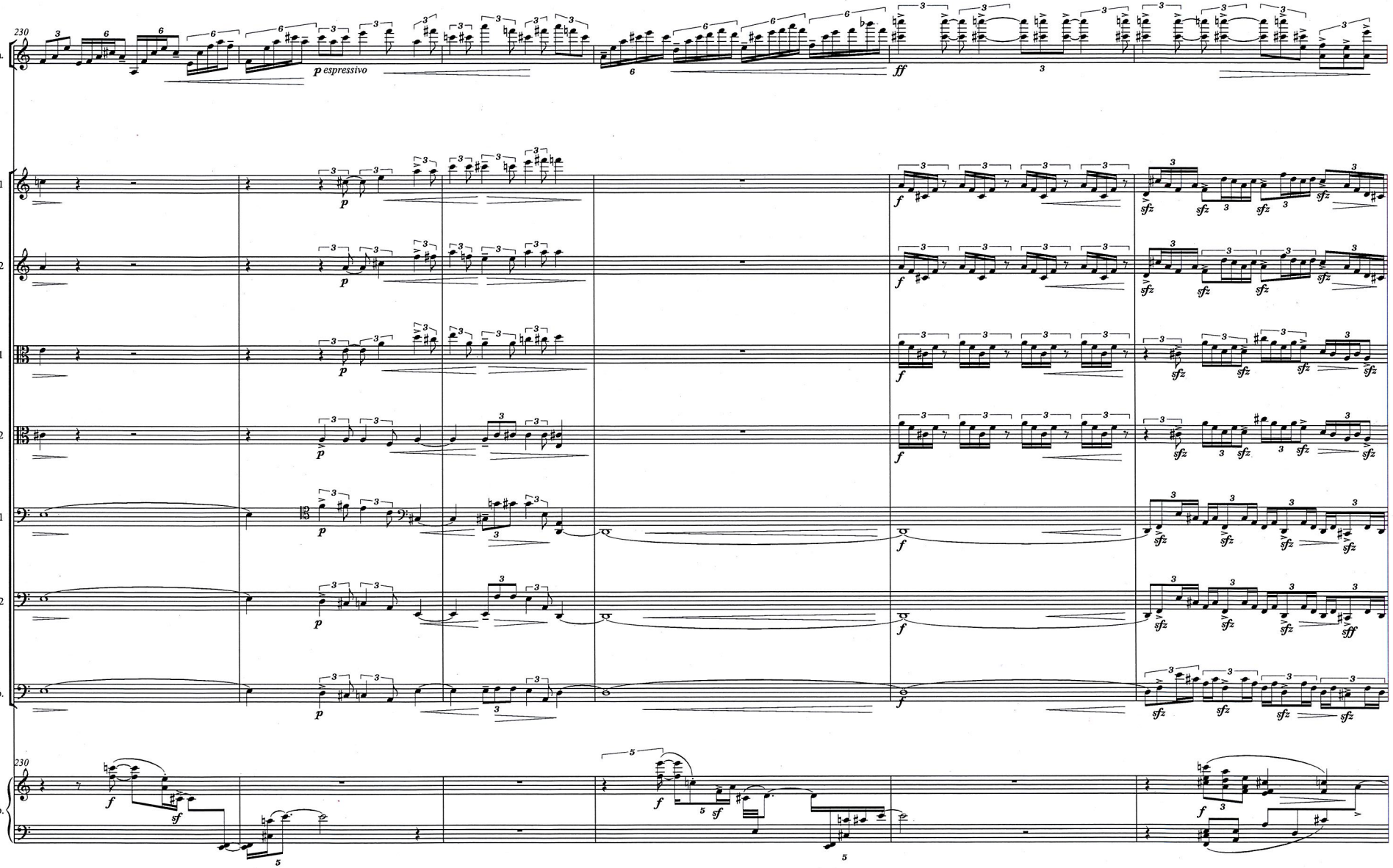

202
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
202
Kyb.

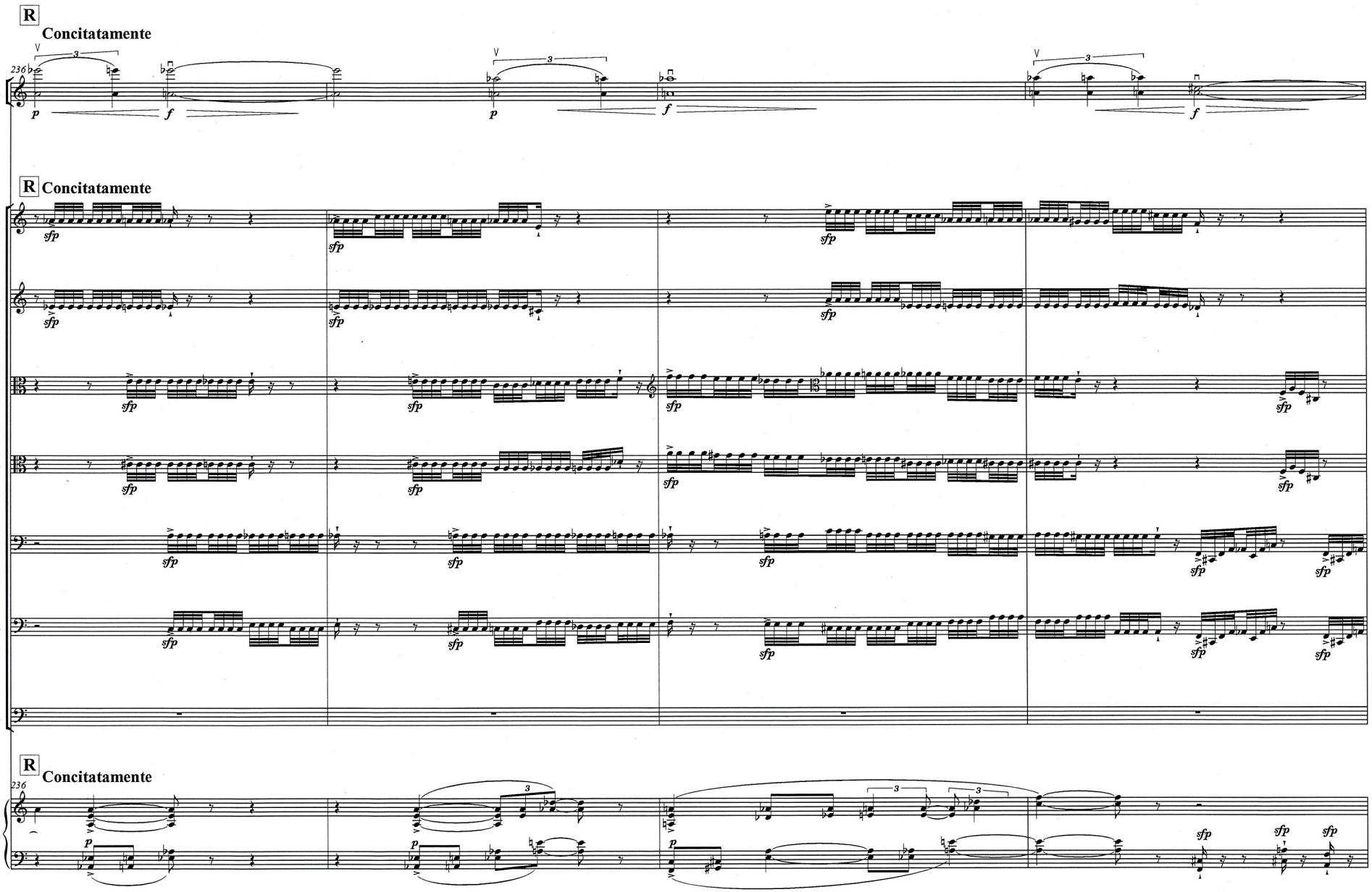

207
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
207
Kyb.

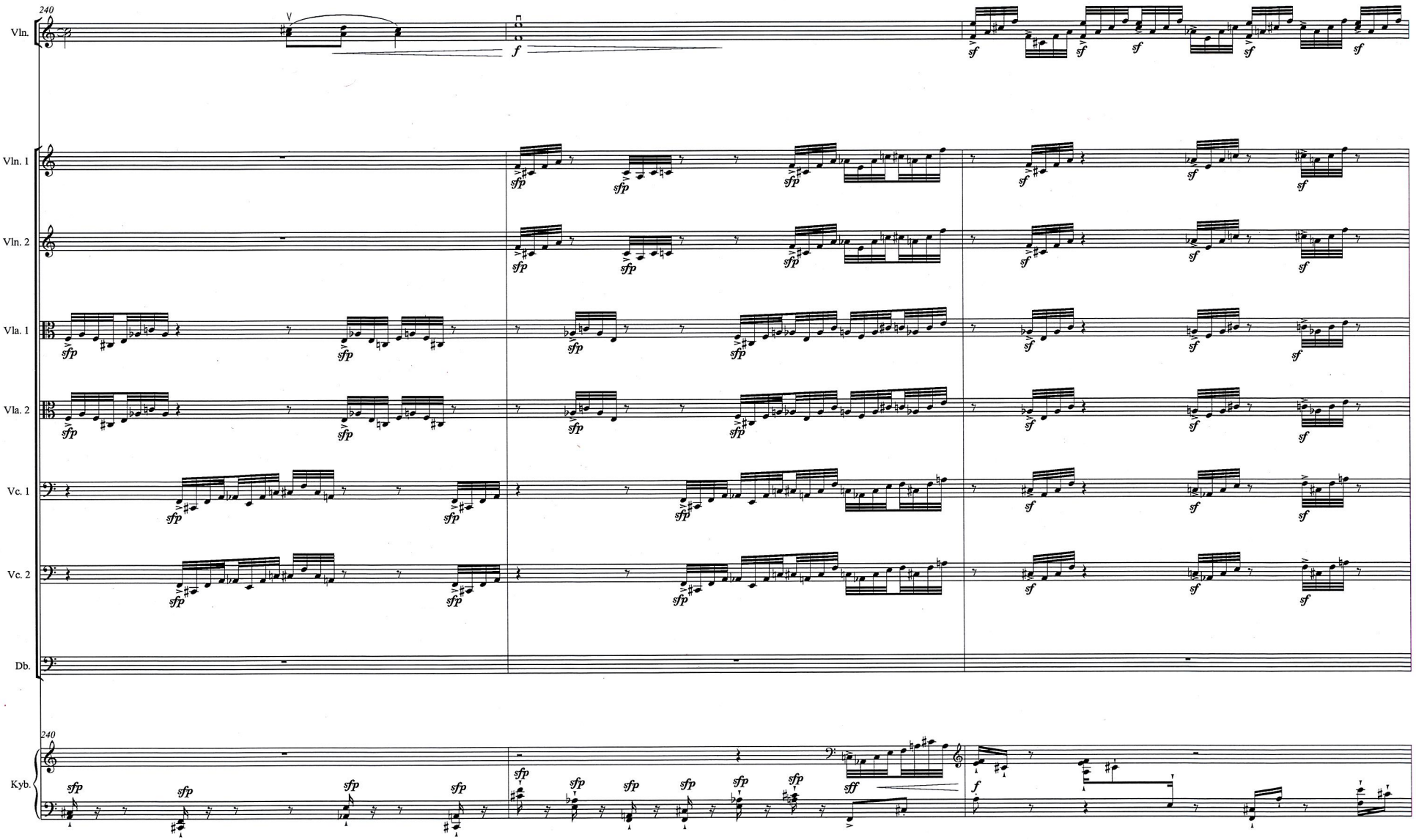

212
Vln.
P Con grandiosità
mf leggero
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.

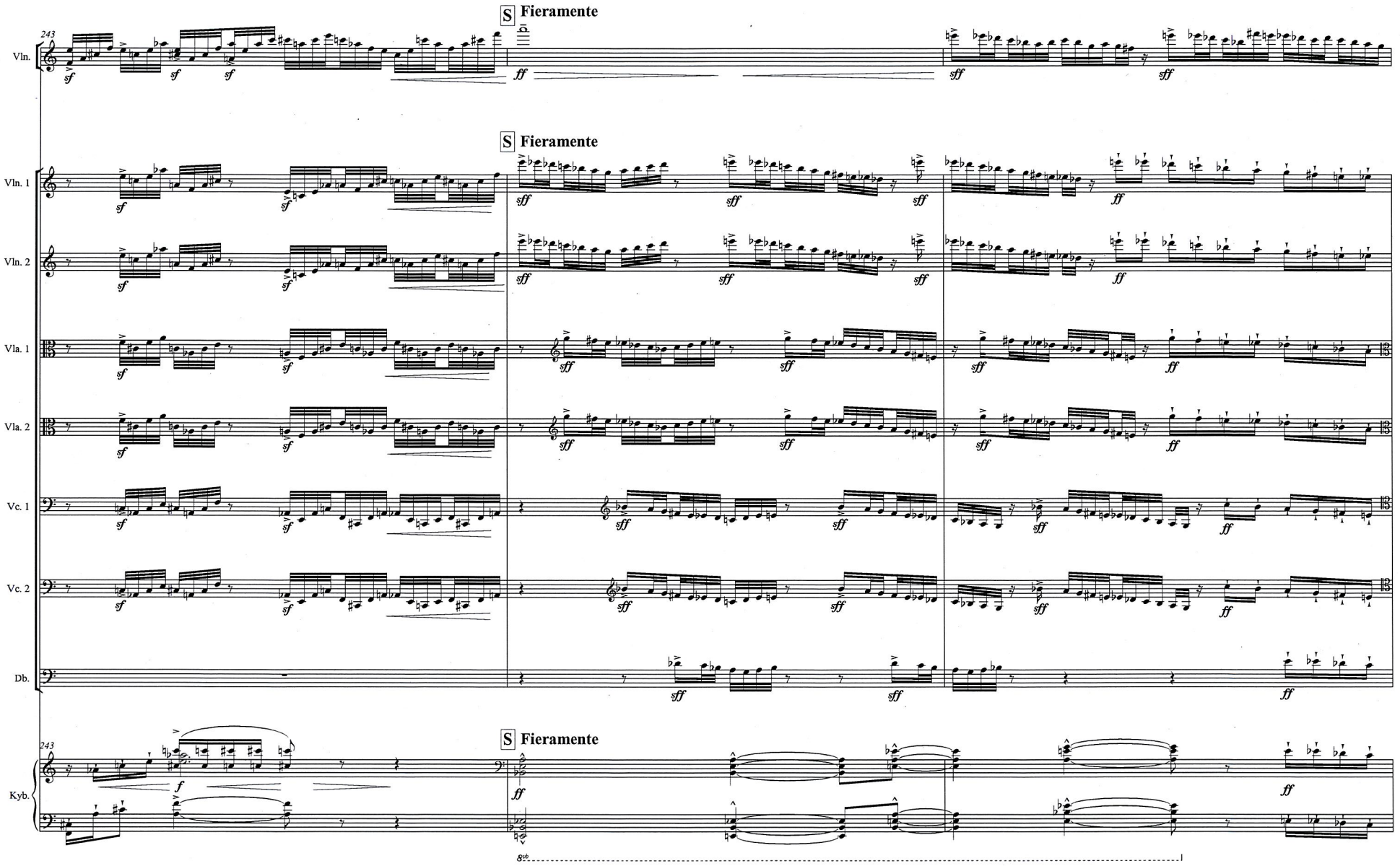

217
Vln.
mf leggero
mf leggero
Poco danzando
Q
mf leggero
Poco danzando
Q
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
mp
fp
pp
p intenso
f
p
3
217
Kyb.
Poco danzando
Q
p intenso
8vb

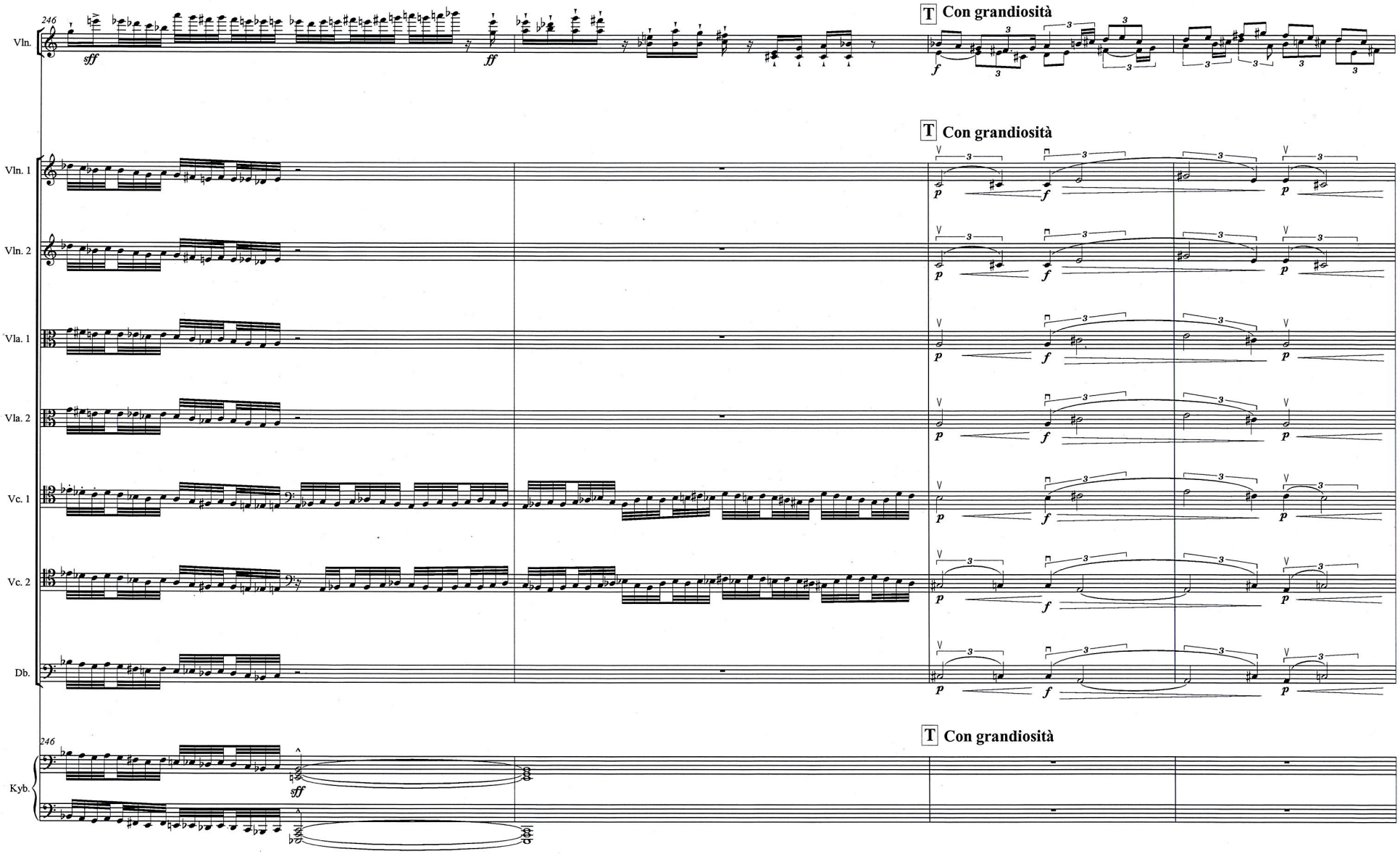

223
Vln.
f intenso
sf
sf
sf
ff
p espressivo
p espressivo
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
ff
p
223
Kyb.
ff
f
sf

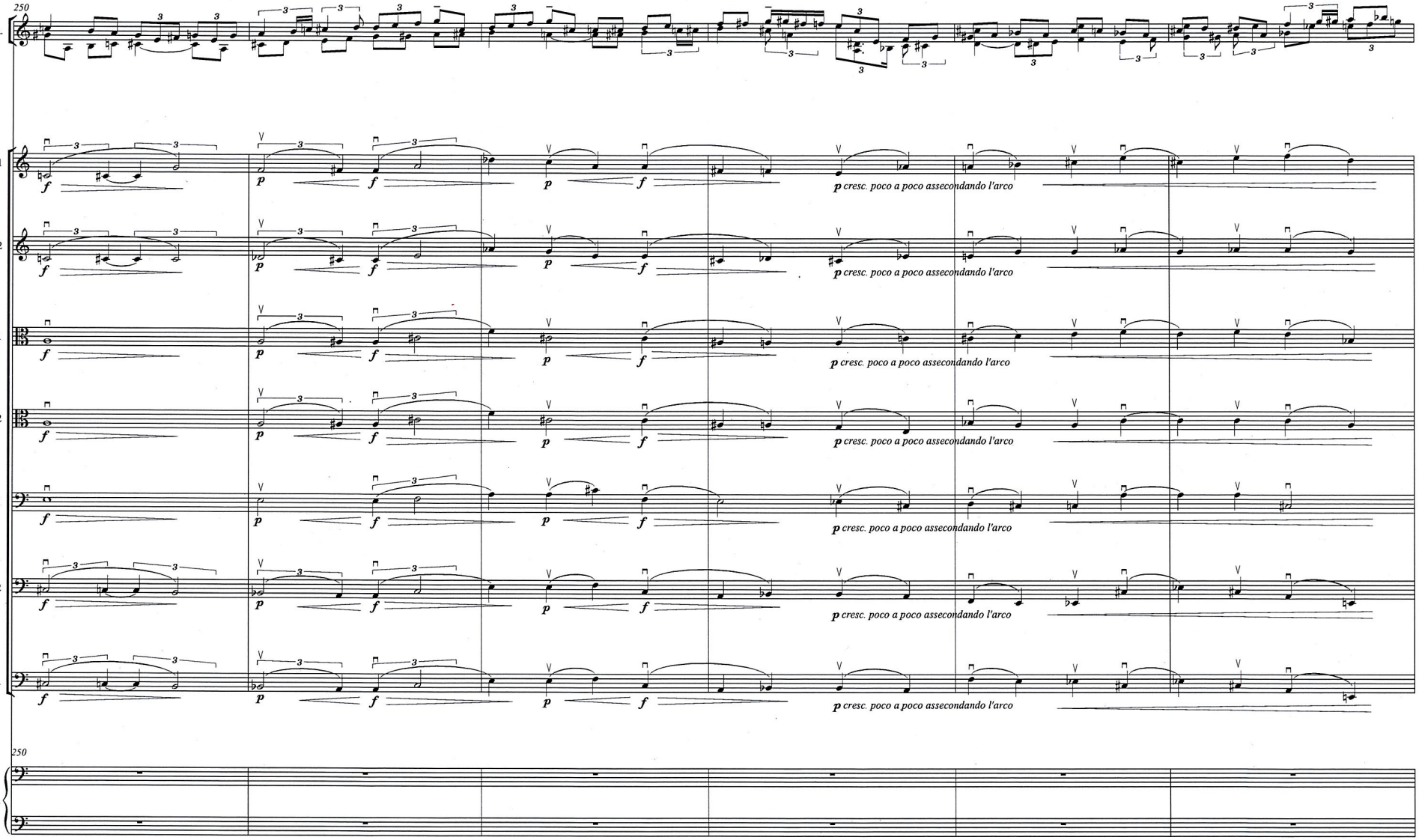

230
Vln.
p espressivo
ff
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
p
f
sf
sfz
sff

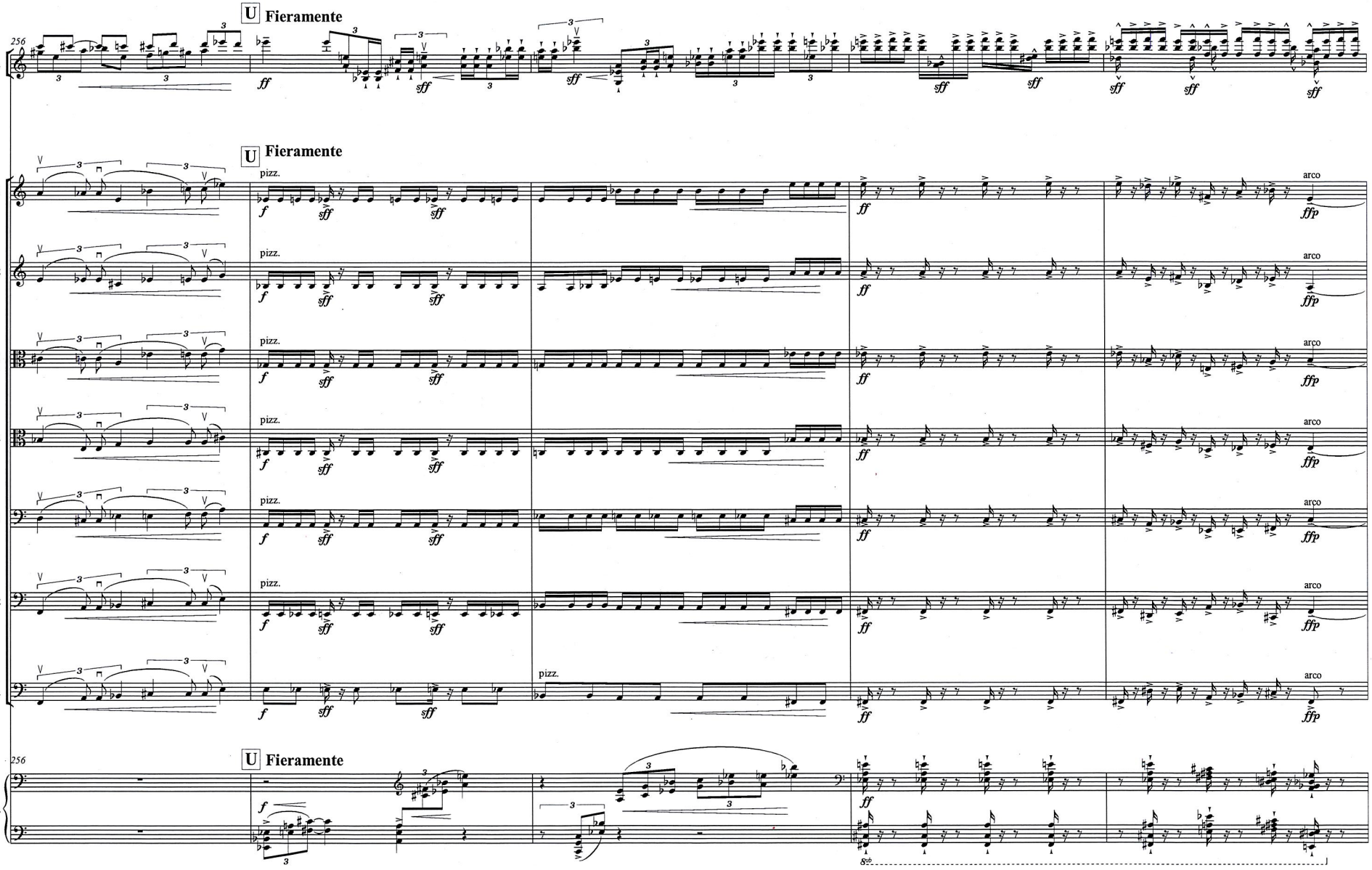

R
Concitatamente
236
Vln.
R
Concitatamente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
R
Concitatamente
236
Kyb.

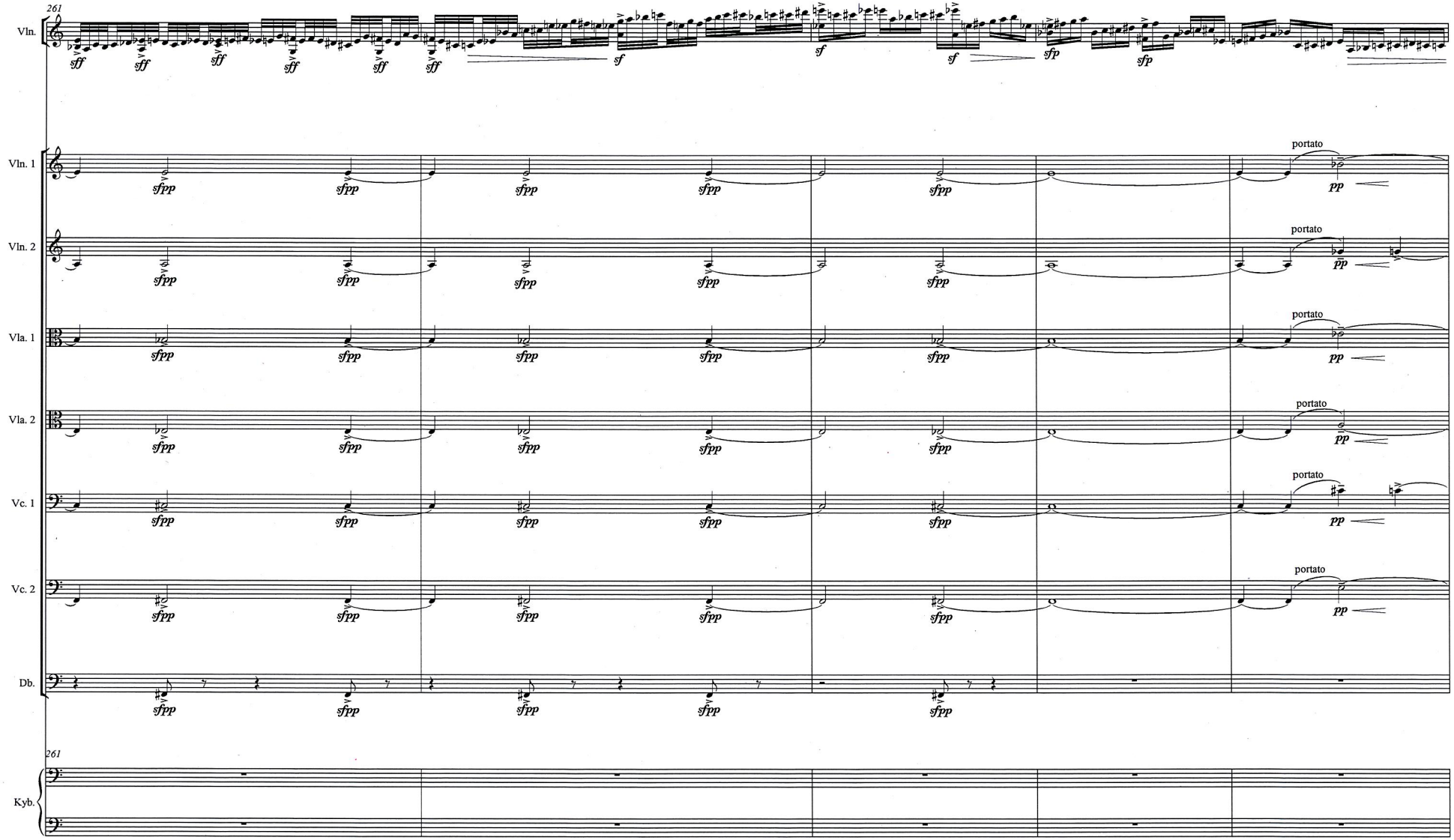

240
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
240
Kyb.

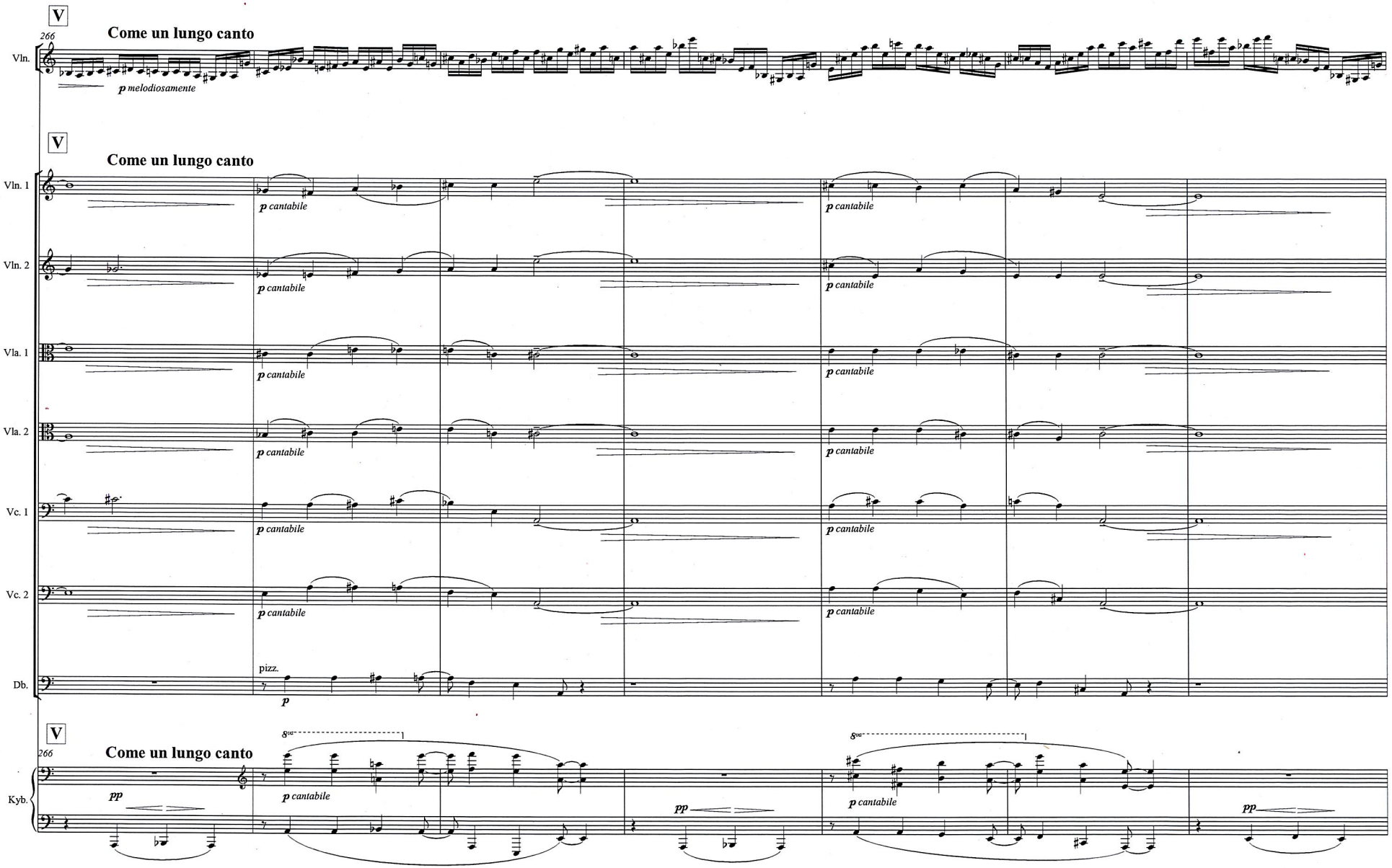

S Fieramente
243
Vln.
S Fieramente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
S Fieramente
243
Kyb.
8vb

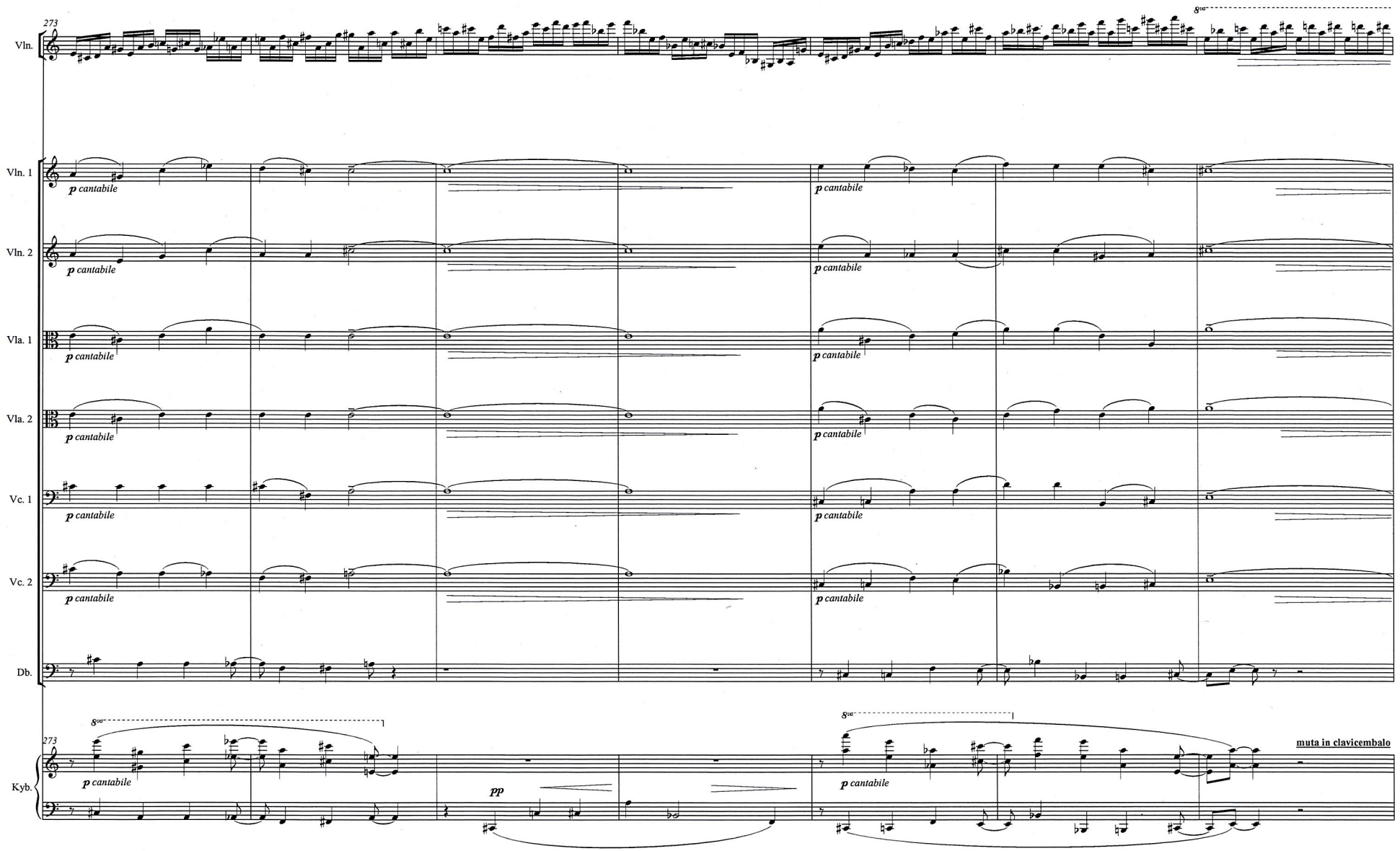

246
Vln.
sff
ff
T Con grandiosità
f
T Con grandiosità
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
p
f
p
246
Kyb.
sff
T Con grandiosità

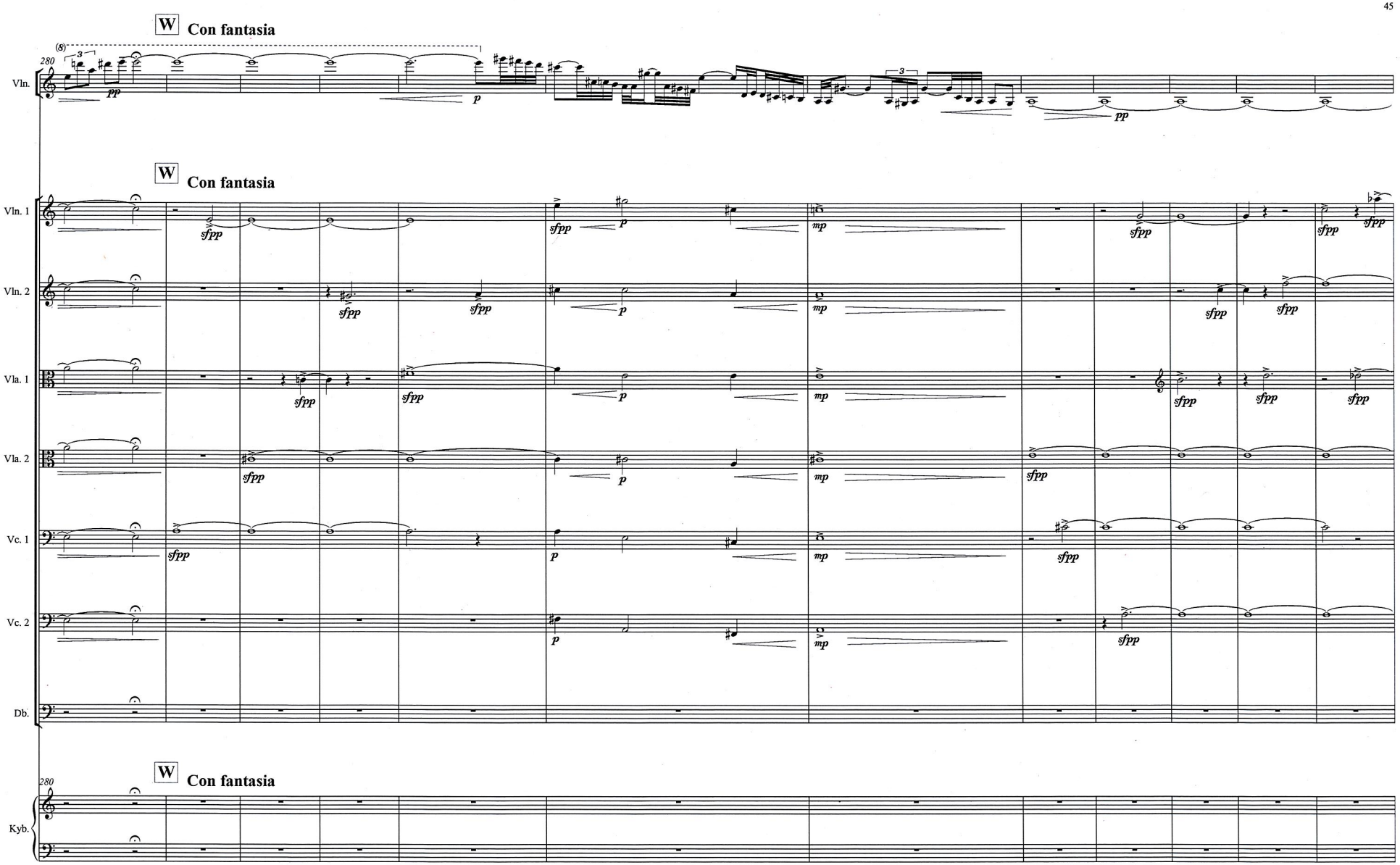

250
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
f
p
p cresc. poco a poco assecondando l'arco

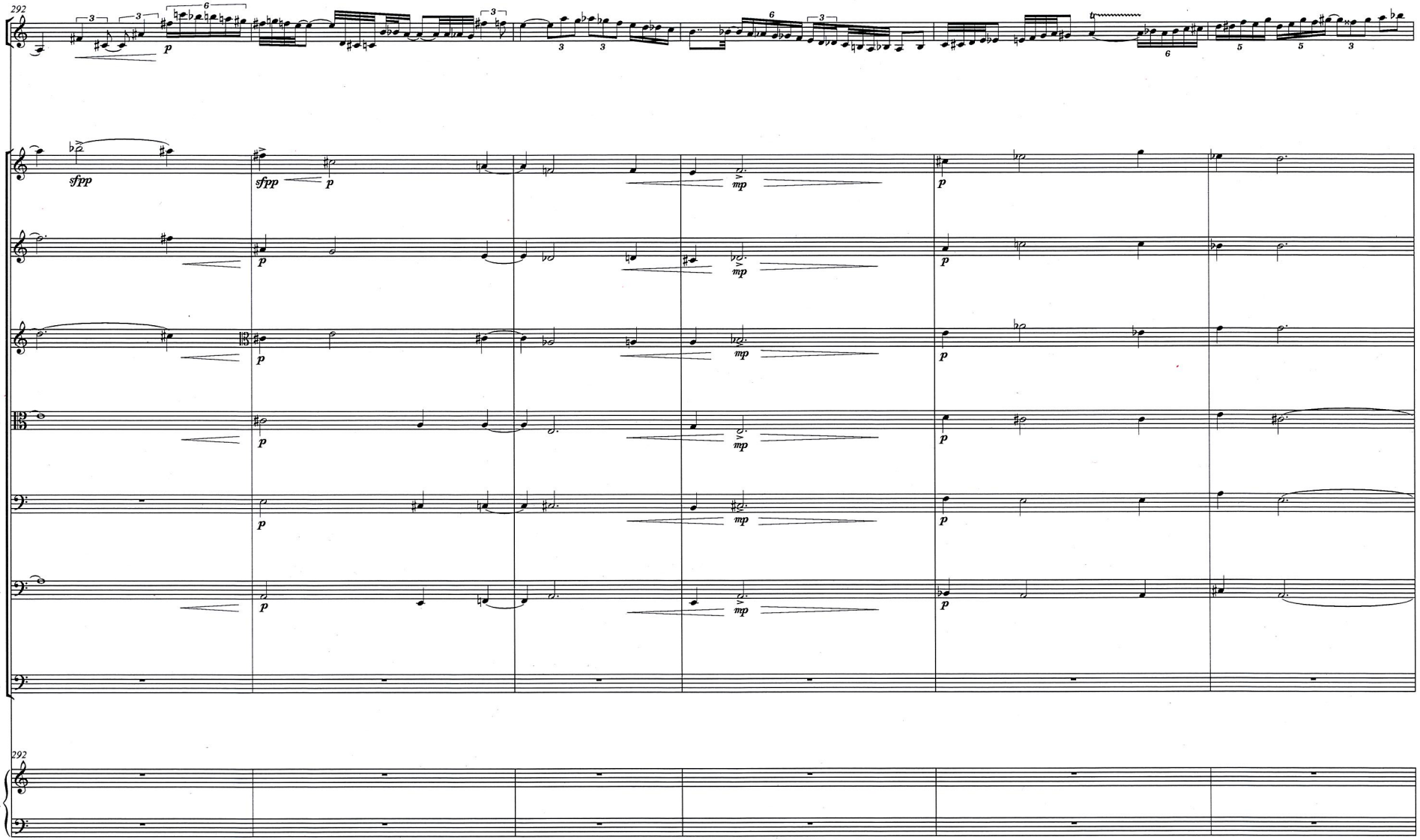

U Fieramente
256
Vln.
U Fieramente
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
pizz.
arco
U Fieramente
256
Kyb.
8va

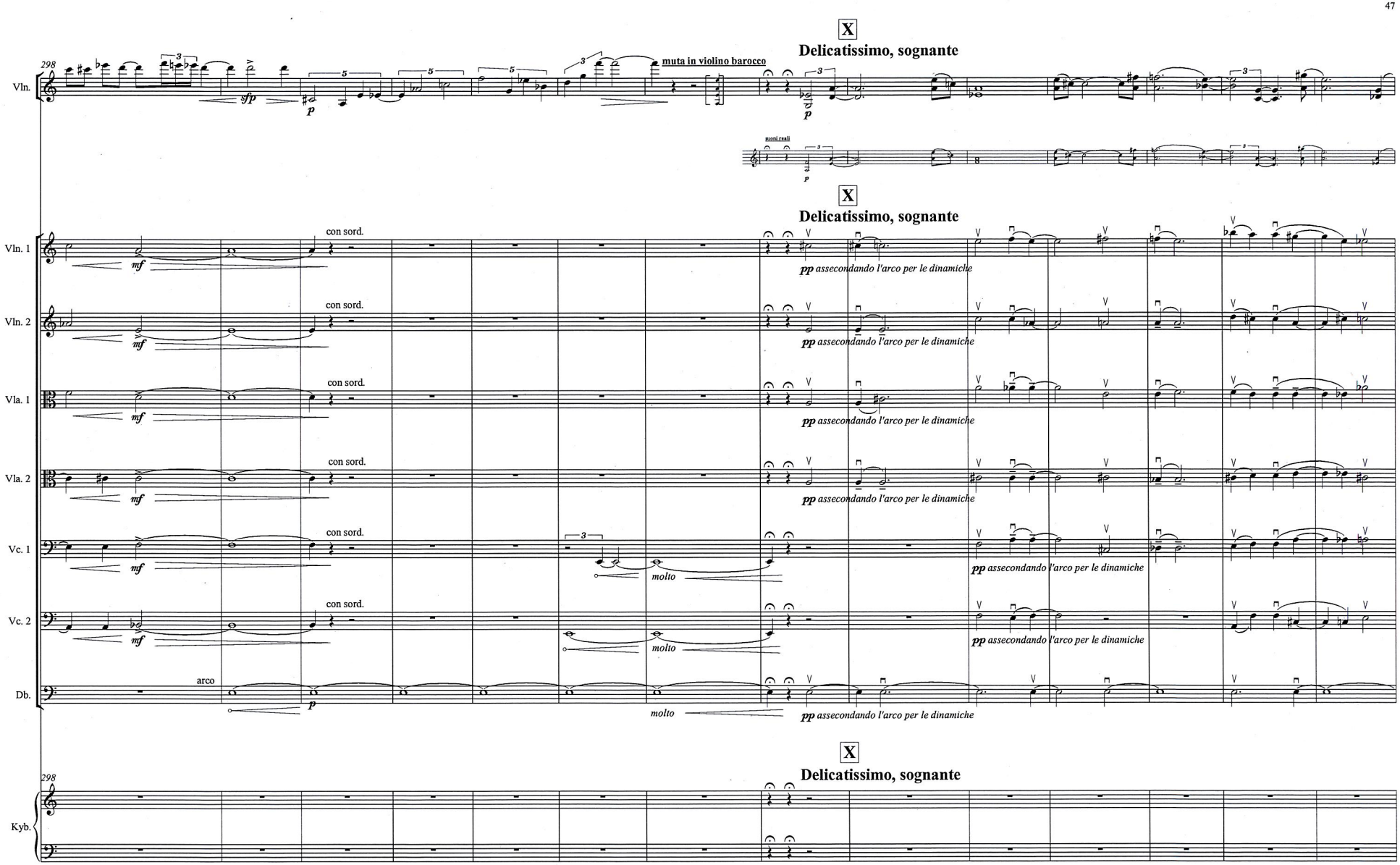

261
Vln.
sff
sf
sfp
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
sfpp
portato
pp
261
Kyb.

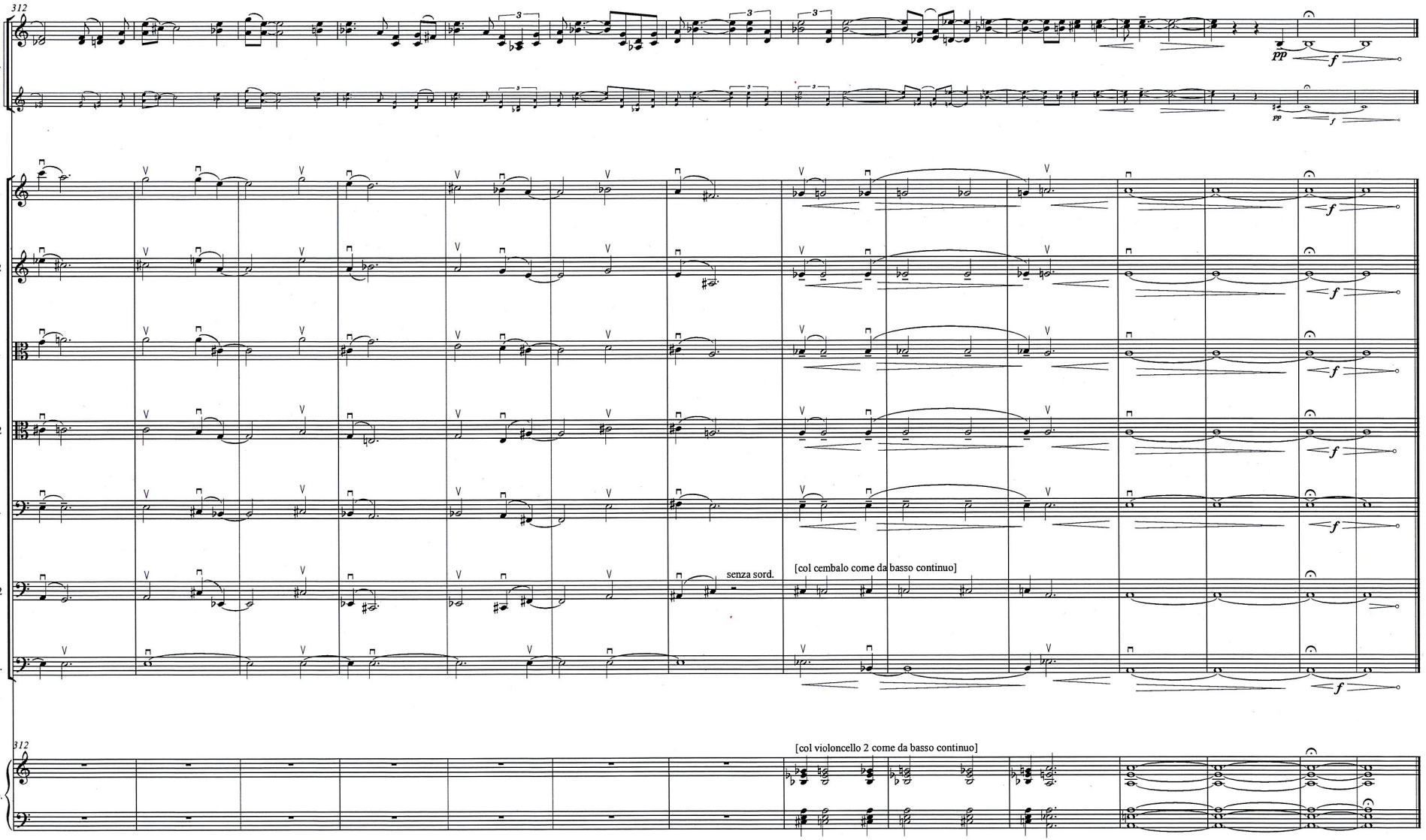

V
266
Come un lungo canto
Vln.
p melodiosamente
V
Come un lungo canto
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
p cantabile
pizz.
p
V
266
Come un lungo canto
Kyb.
pp
p cantabile
8va


273
Vln.
8va
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
p cantabile
273
Kyb.
8va
pp
p cantabile
8va
p cantabile
muta in clavicembalo


W Con fantasia
(8)
3
280
Vln.
pp
p
pp
W Con fantasia
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
sfpp
p
mp
W Con fantasia
280
Kyb.


292
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
292
Kyb.
sfpp
p
mp


X
Delicatissimo, sognante
298
Vln.
sfp
p
muta in violino barocco
suoni reali
X
Delicatissimo, sognante
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
con sord.
mf
arco
molto
pp assecondando l'arco per le dinamiche
X
Delicatissimo, sognante
298
Kyb.


312
Vln.
Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla. 1
Vla. 2
Vc. 1
Vc. 2
Db.
Kyb.
pp
f
senza sord.
[col cembalo come da basso continuo]
[col violoncello 2 come da basso continuo]