Polytonalmodalyodel

for Concert Band

Bill Robinson

Polytonalmodalyodel
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Duration: about 7 minutes
Composed 1990; 2004; May 7—27, 2015; November 2023

In 1990 I wrote several works for my friend Fred Robinson who was the composer/arranger at Warner Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. Among these was a brass quintet, and also a work for jazz band, *The Popular Music of Planet X (PMPX)* in three "Books". The idea was the rather whimsical one that somewhere among the myriad planets there could be a civilization where the prime incentive for the music industry was *not mercenary*. Clearly such a planet must be far, far away. The Air Force didn't seem to appreciate the effort, and the scores and parts were returned. (When you bomb with the Air Force….you *REALLY BOMB!)*

Come summer of 2004 and I once again was writing music, and turned my attention to the Air Force music, including the brass quintet. I made many major alterations, added a movement, and had a brand new version. However, this work remained unperformed. I made another version with an additional movement, but this also sat in my files. In 2015 I decided to try again, with the last movement (*Polytonalmodalyodel*) of this brass quintet arranged for concert band, and used as the first movement of a new symphonic-scale *PMPX*. In fall of 2023, I arranged *PMPX* for piano quintet, and then *Symphony No. 1: PMPX*, with a new third movement. The four movements of the band version of *PMPX* are now offered only as separate works.

Note that this work is actually polytonal and polymodal in many places, and the themes and motifs frequently have very large intervals, much more than my usual tunes.

Considering that the music in *PMPX*, including this movement, was my personal vision of what music intended for mass consumption would be in a more ideal world, I've allowed myself to allow the influence of jazz and blues in a rather obvious manner. However, as all of my music, this is strictly in the classical tradition, with no improvisation, and to be treated in the same way as other "serious" art music—even, and perhaps especially, when it's intended to be for fun. This piece could fit on either classical or pops concerts.

Performance Notes

This work uses one musician per part, except clarinets and flutes, for which I use "solo" and "tutti" as needed. The String Bass part is for an acoustic bass, as there are bowed passages. An electric bass may not be used in its stead. Accidentals hold through the measure and not beyond. This is a C score with the usual transpositions in the parts.

Cover; painting by Salvador Dali.

Bill Robinson

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corrected to February 9, 2026 www.billrobinsonmusic.com

[C score]

Polytonalmodalyodel

[7']

Bill Robinson

Giant leaps for mankind (♩ = 105)

Piccolo
Flute 1
Flute 2
Oboe 1
Oboe 2
2 Bassoons
Bassoon 1
Bassoon 2
Clarinet in B♭ 1
Clarinet in B♭ 2
Clarinet in B♭ 3
Bass Clarinet in B♭
E♭ Alto Saxophone 1
E♭ Alto Saxophone 2
B♭ Tenor Saxophone
E♭ Baritone Saxophone
Horn in F 1
Horn in F 2
Horn in F 3
Horn in F 4
Trumpet in B♭ 1
Trumpet in B♭ 2
Trumpet in B♭ 3
Trombone 1
Trombone 2
BTbn.
Euphonium
Tuba 1
Tuba 2
Timpani
String Bass

(solo) (tutti) arco pizz.

Giant leaps for mankind (♩ = 105)

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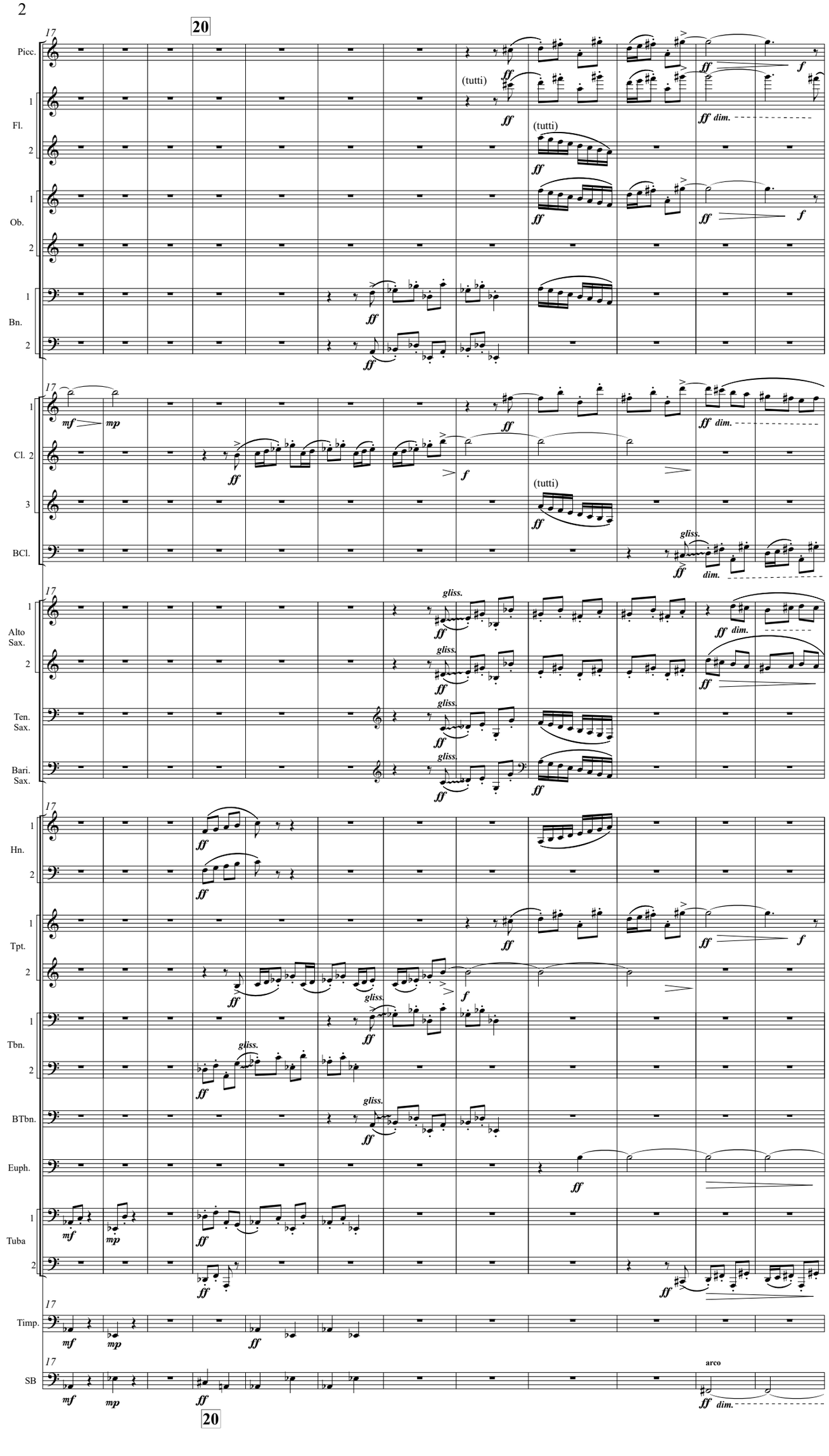
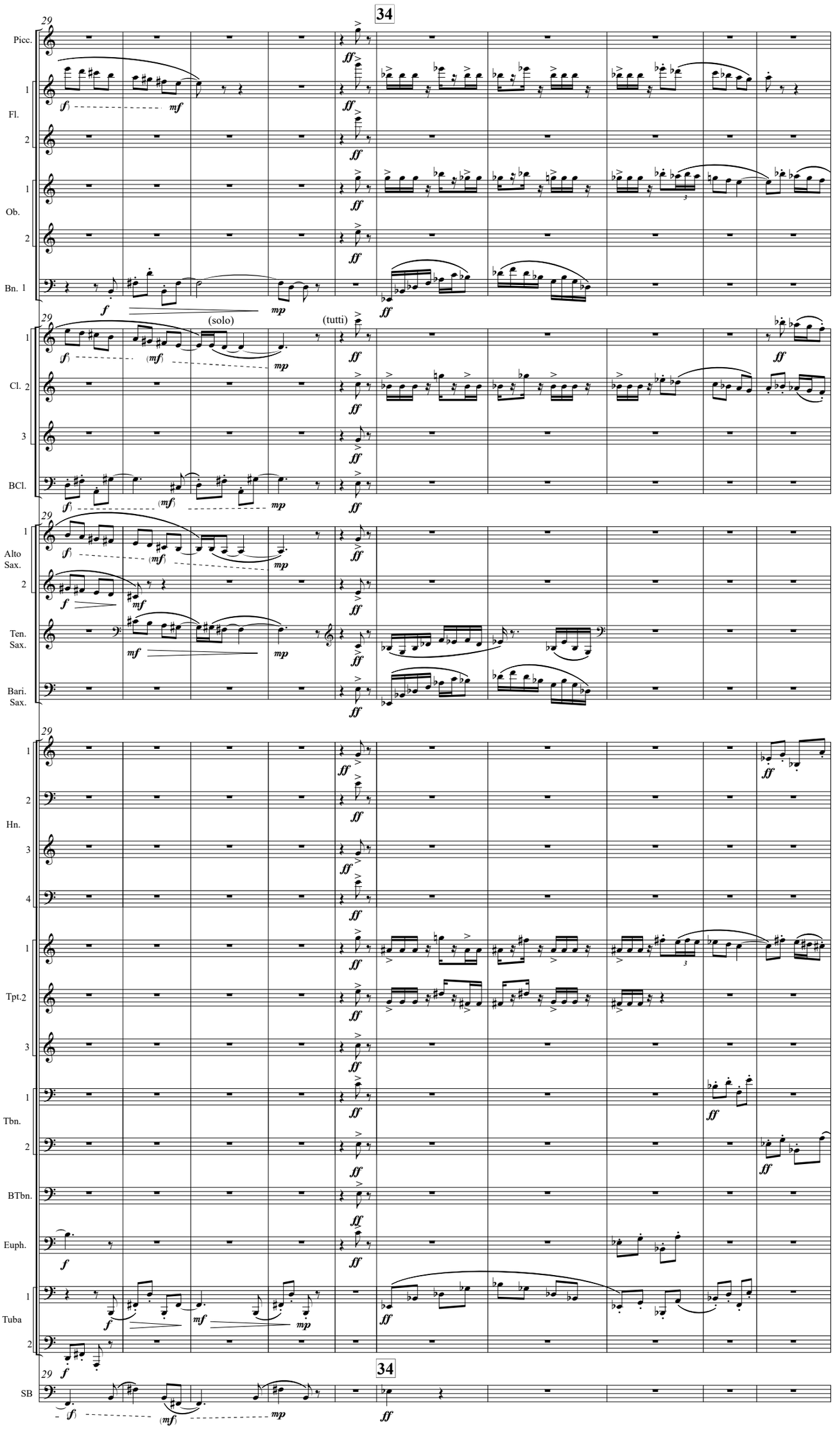
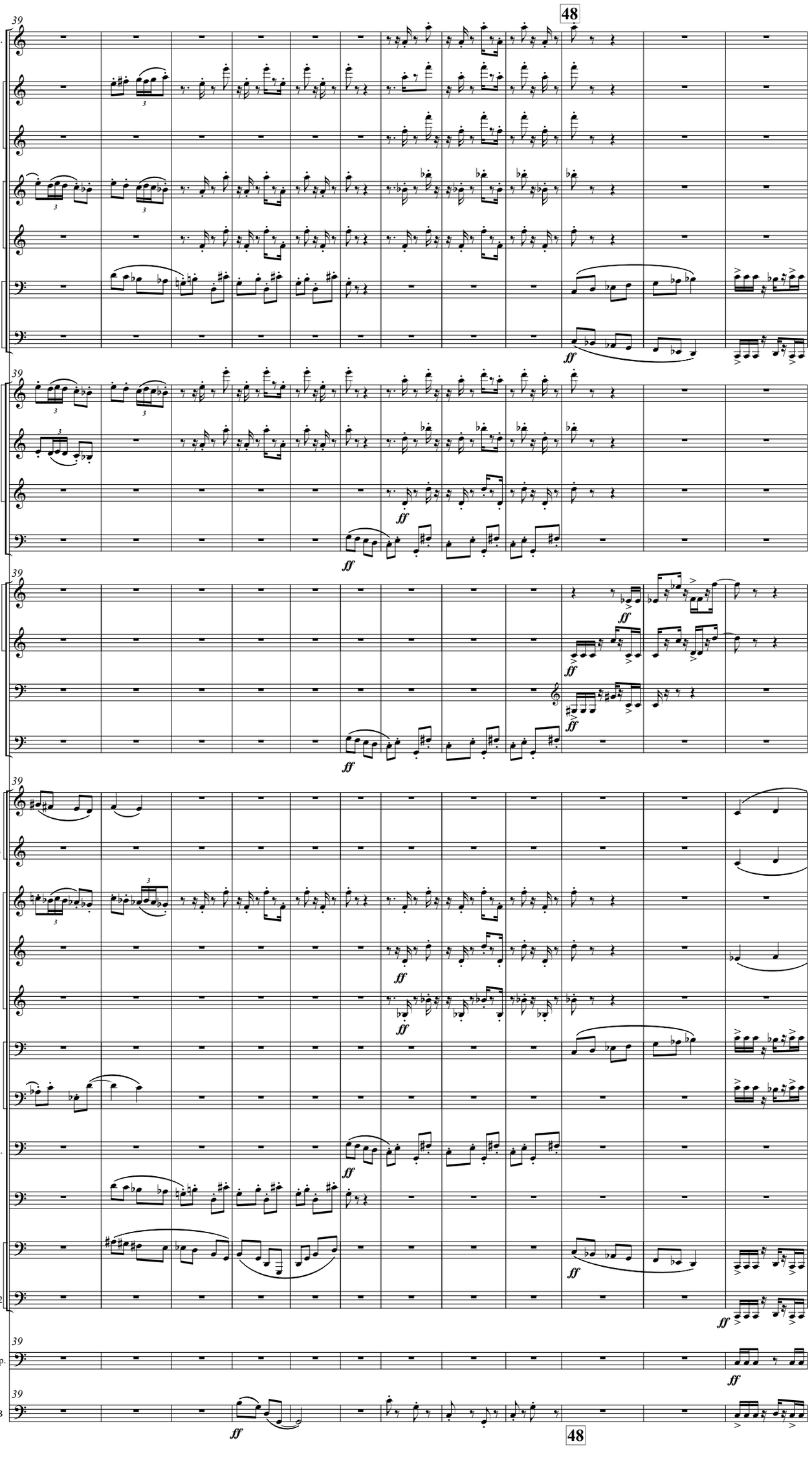
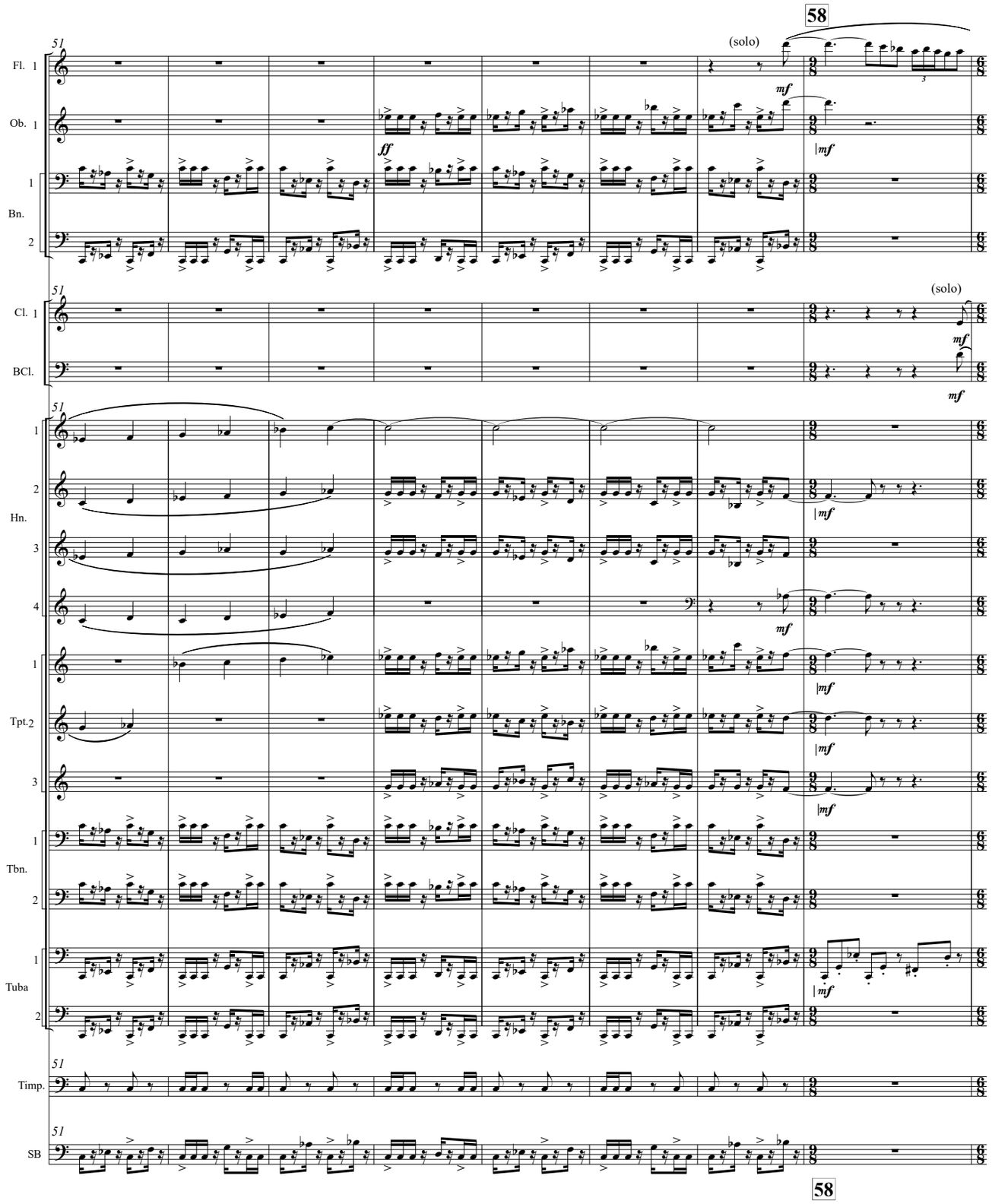
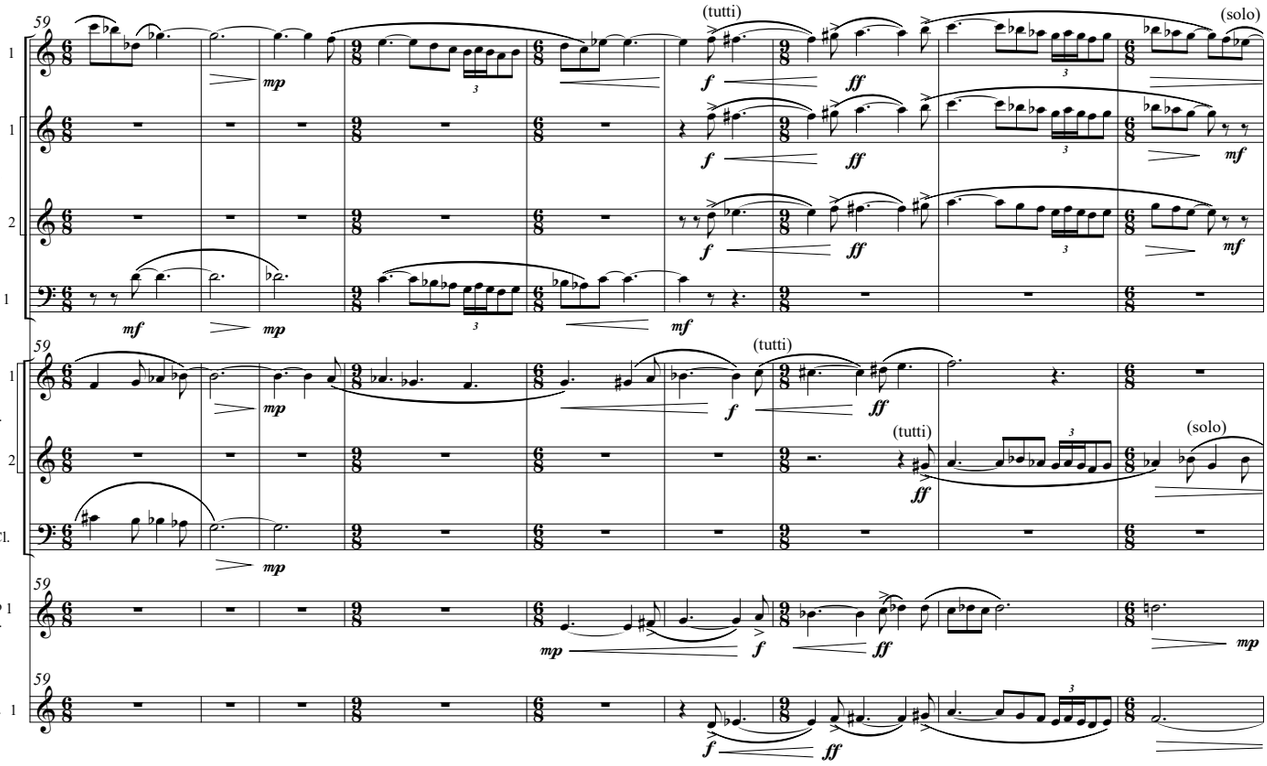
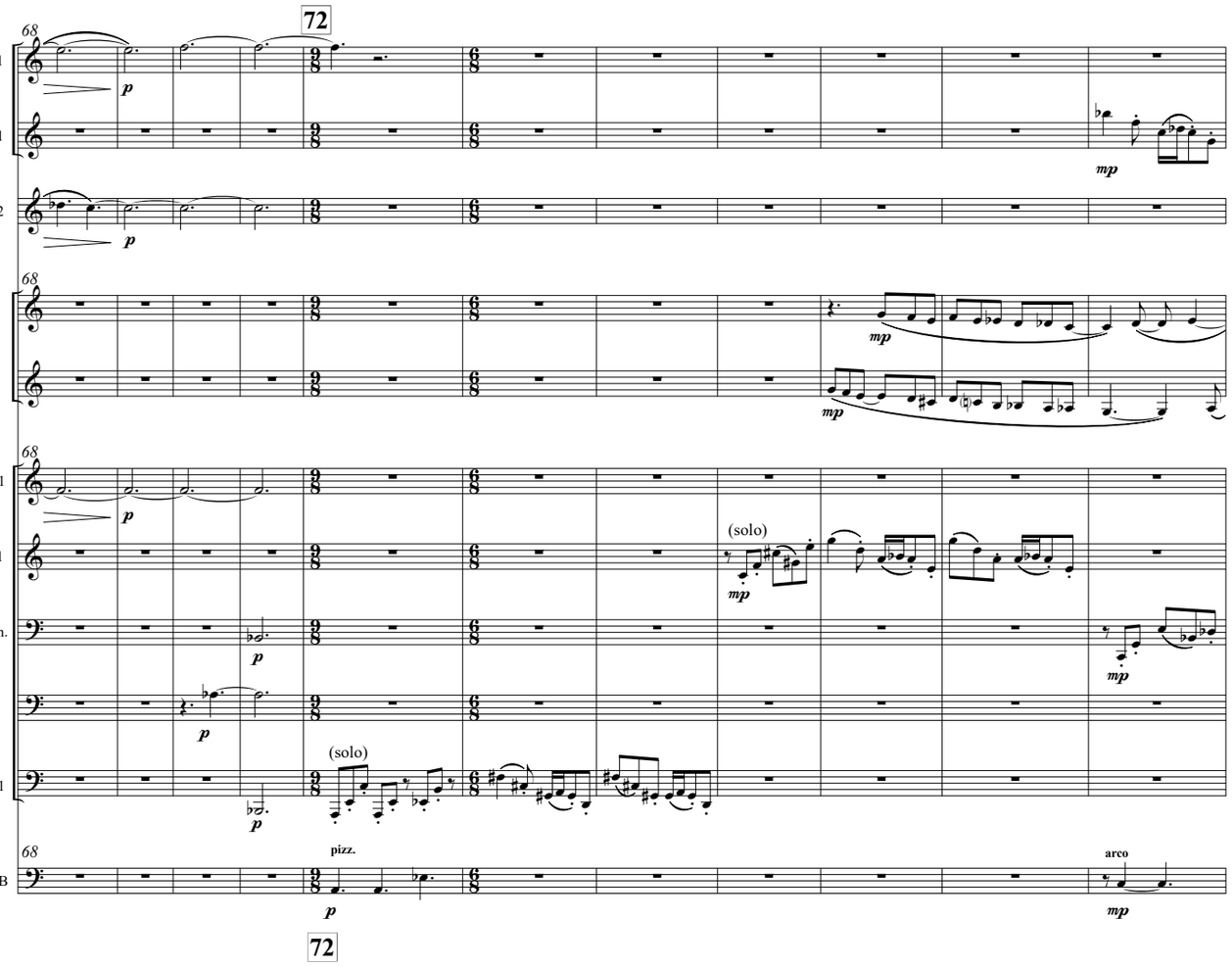

20
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
Cl.
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
SB
(tutti)
gliss.
dim.
arco
20

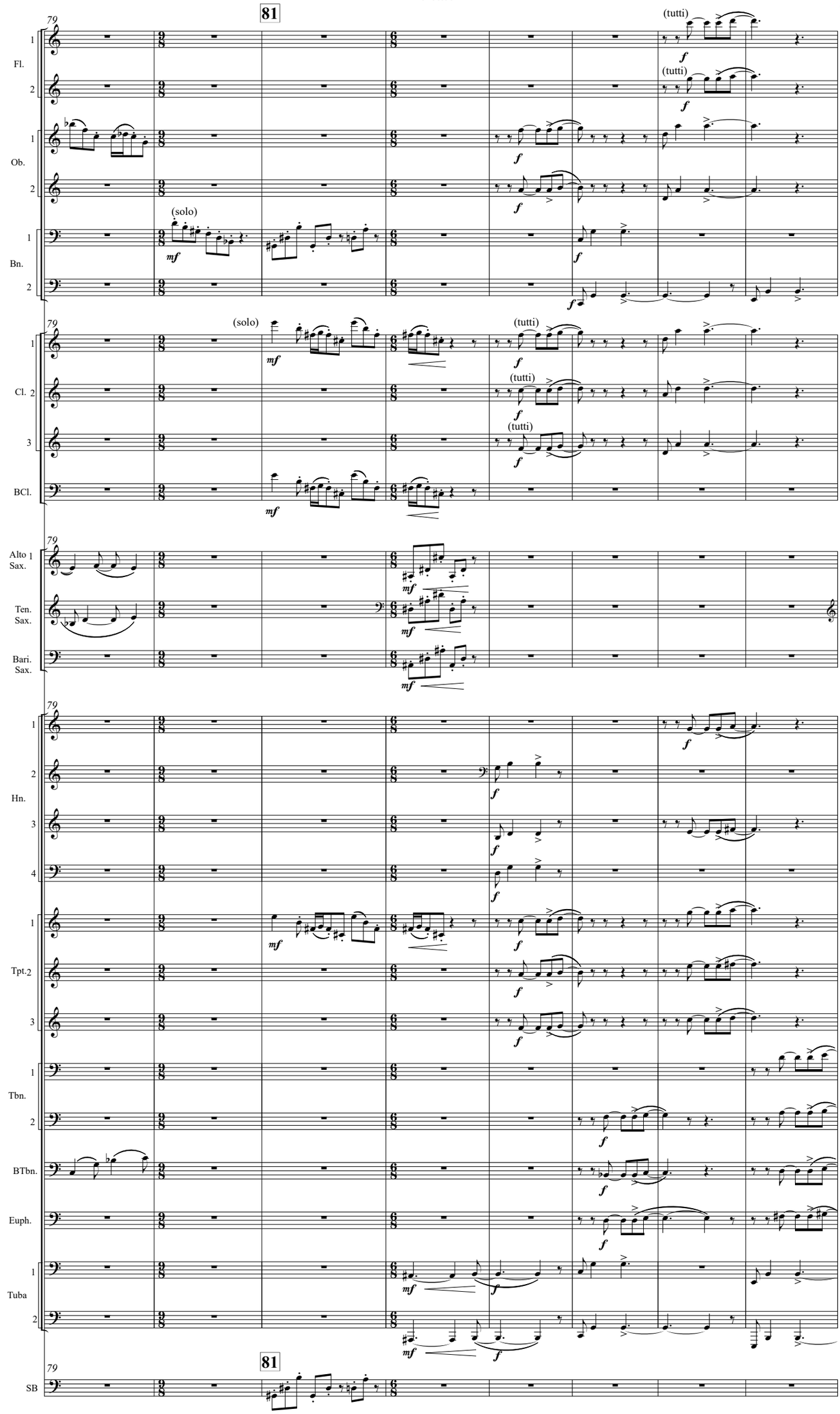

34
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn. 1
Cl. 2
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.2
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB
(solo)
(tutti)
29

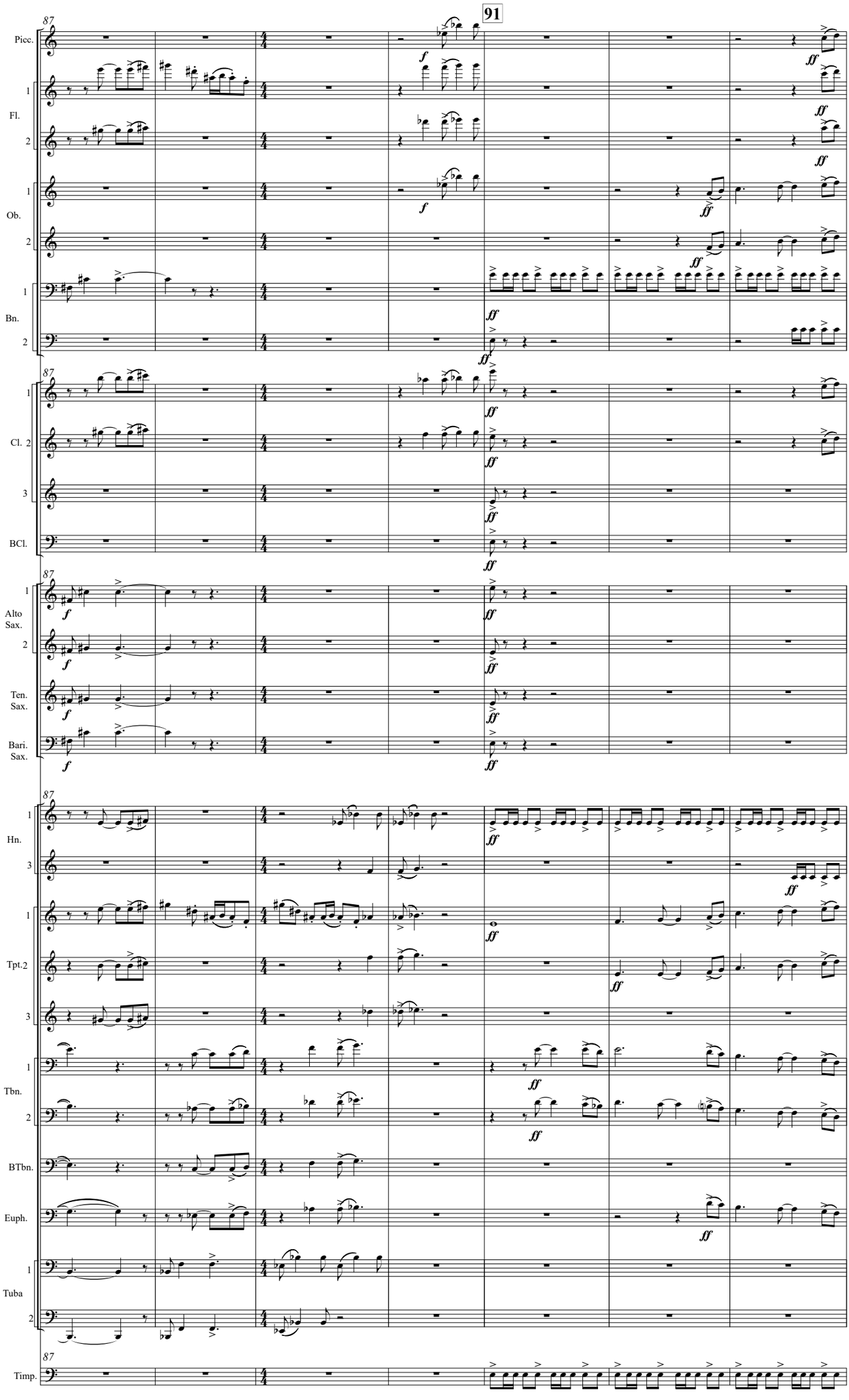

39
48
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
ff
39
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
ff
39
1
Alto Sax.
2
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
ff
39
1
Hn.
3
1
Tpt.2
3
1
Tbn.
2
BTbn.
Euph.
1
Tuba
2
Timp.
SB
48

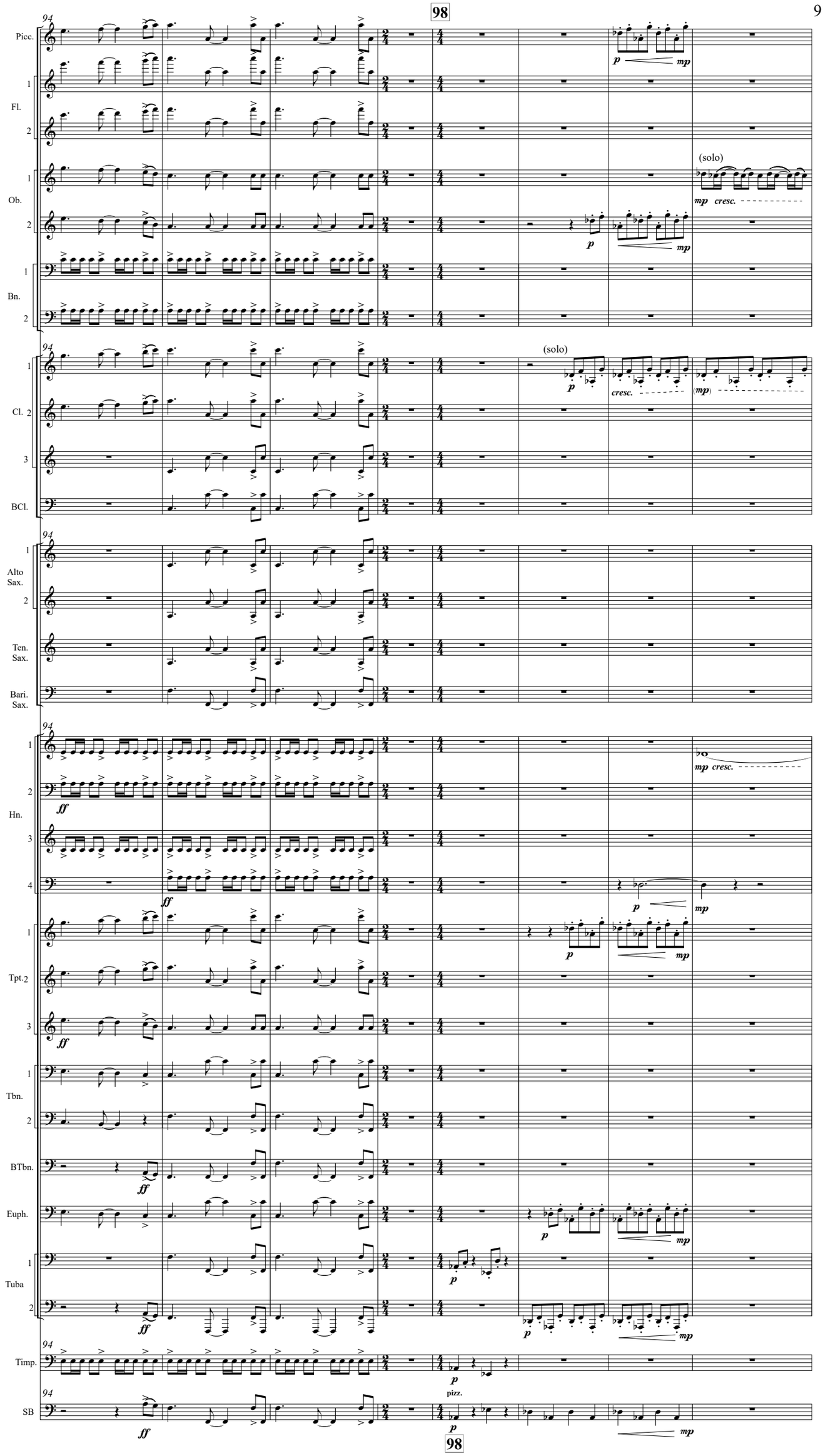

58
(solo)
Fl. 1
Ob. 1
Bn.
Cl. 1
BCl.
Hn.
Tpt. 2
Tbn.
Tuba
Timp.
SB
51
ff
mf
58

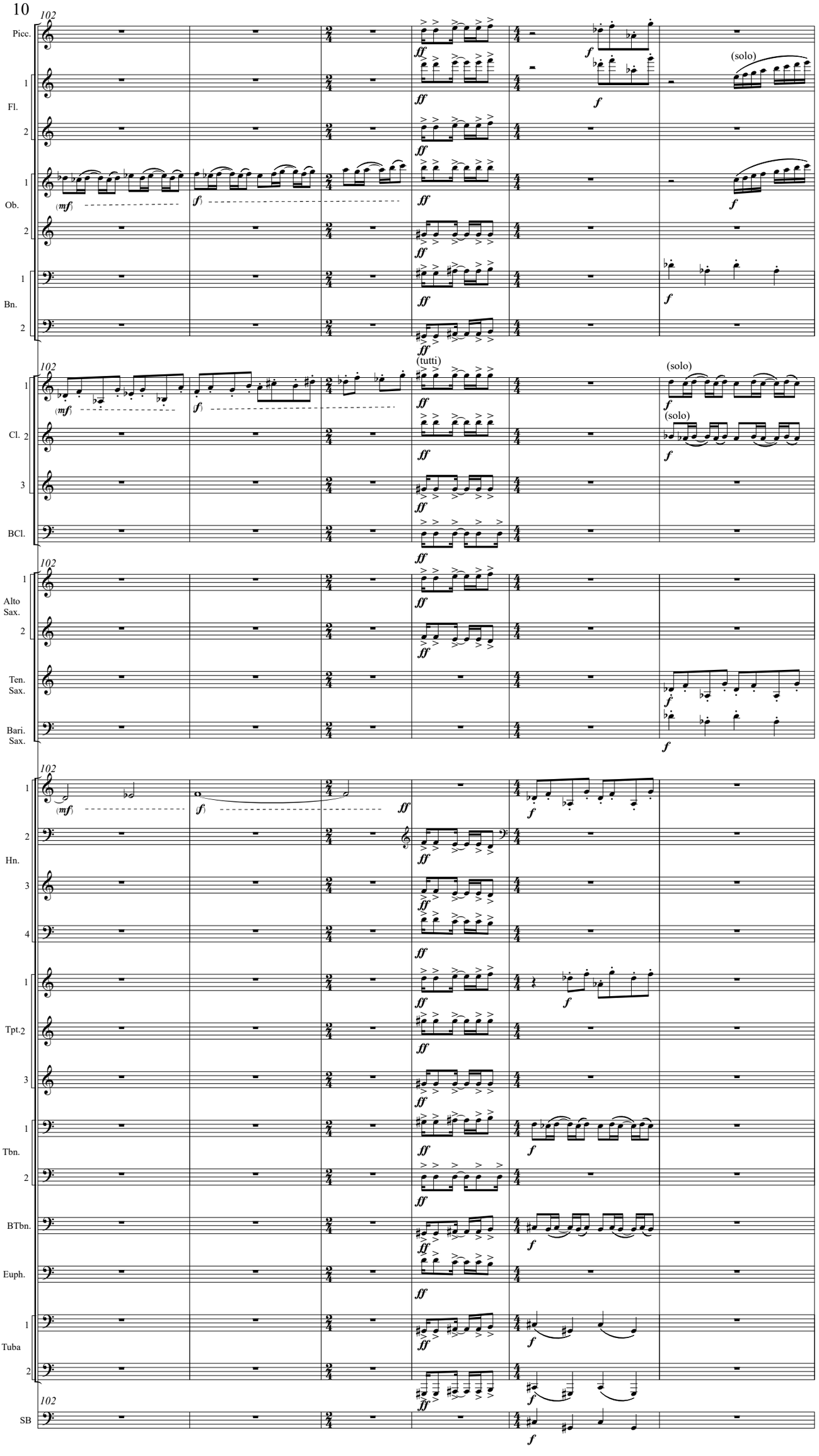

59
Fl. 1
1
Ob.
2
Bn. 1
(tutti)
(solo)
1
Cl.
2
BCl.
(tutti)
(solo)
Alto 1 Sax.
Hn. 1

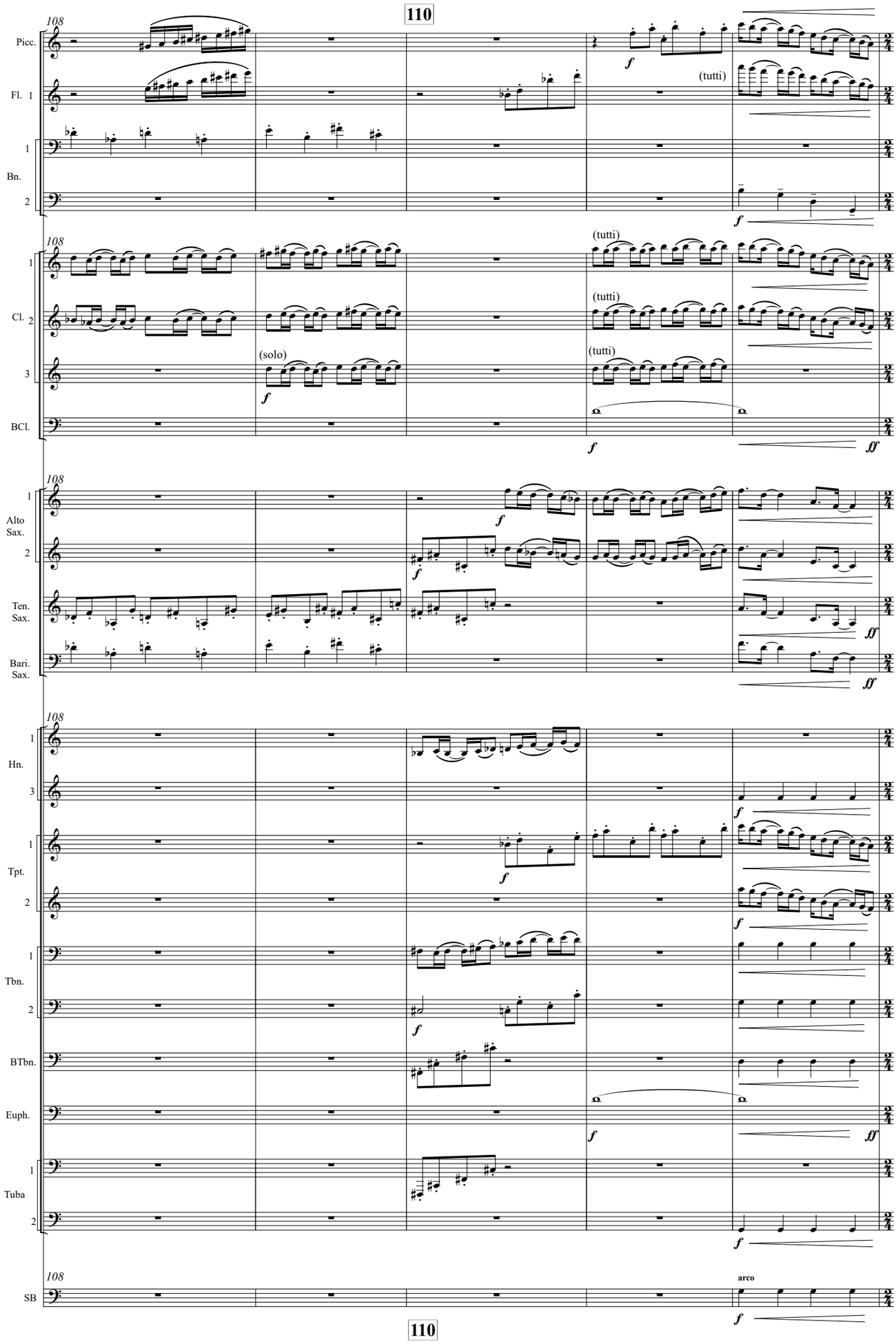

72
68
Fl. 1
Ob. 1
Cl. 2
Alto 1 Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Hn. 1
Tpt. 1
(solo)
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba 1
(solo)
pizz.
SB
arco
72

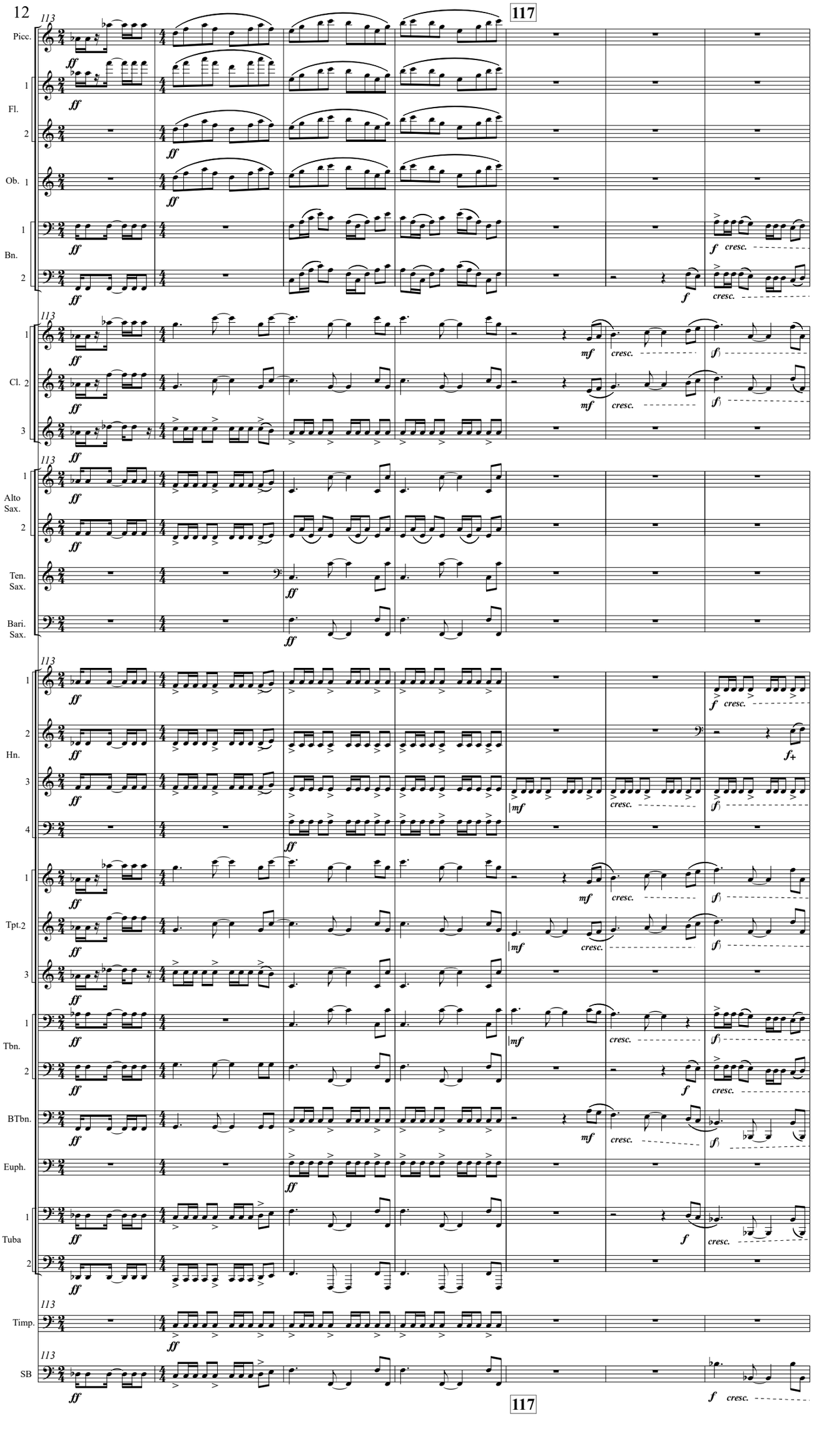

81
79
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
(solo)
(tutti)
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
Alto Sax. 1
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt. 2
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB
mf
f

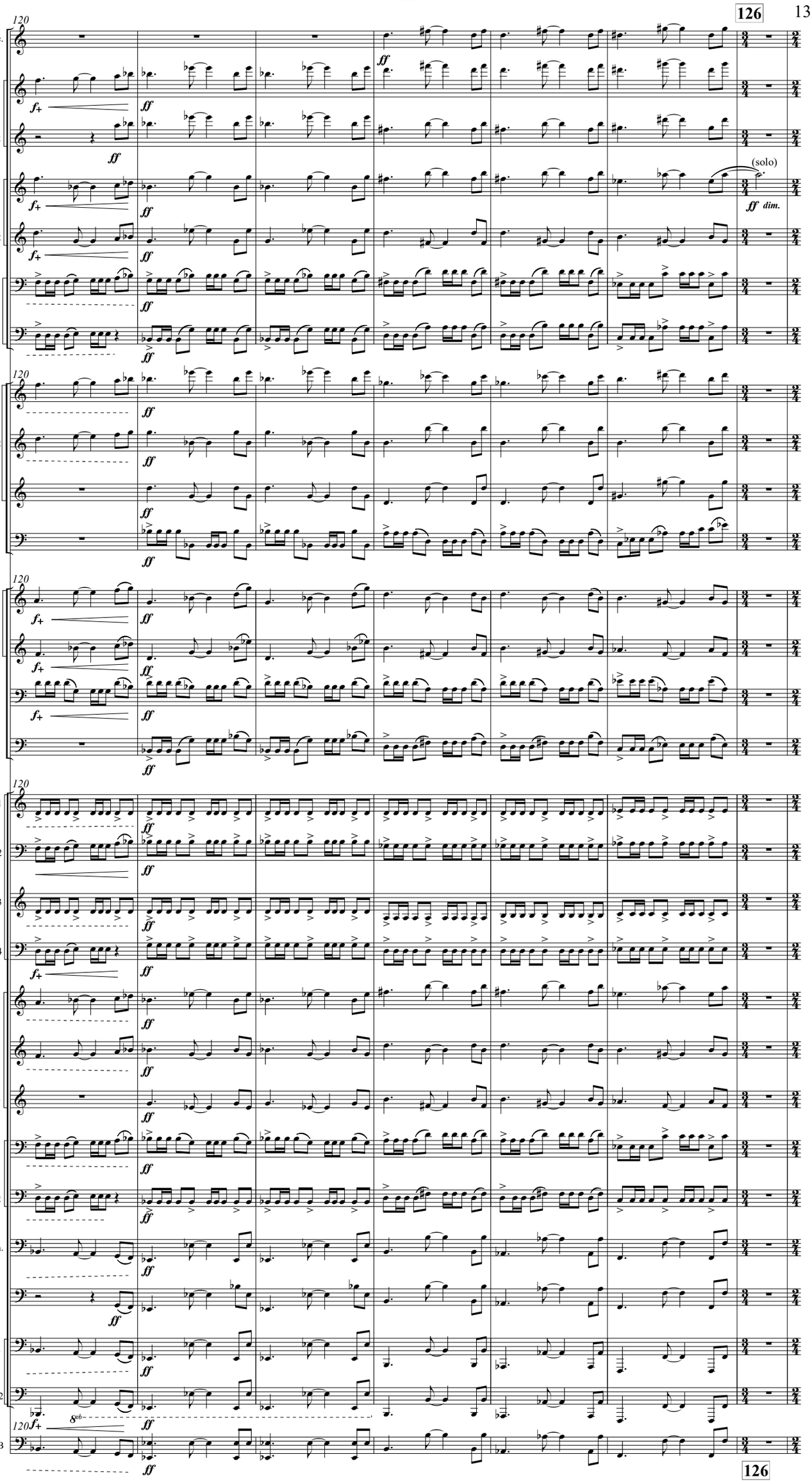

91
87
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
Cl. 2
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.2
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
f
ff

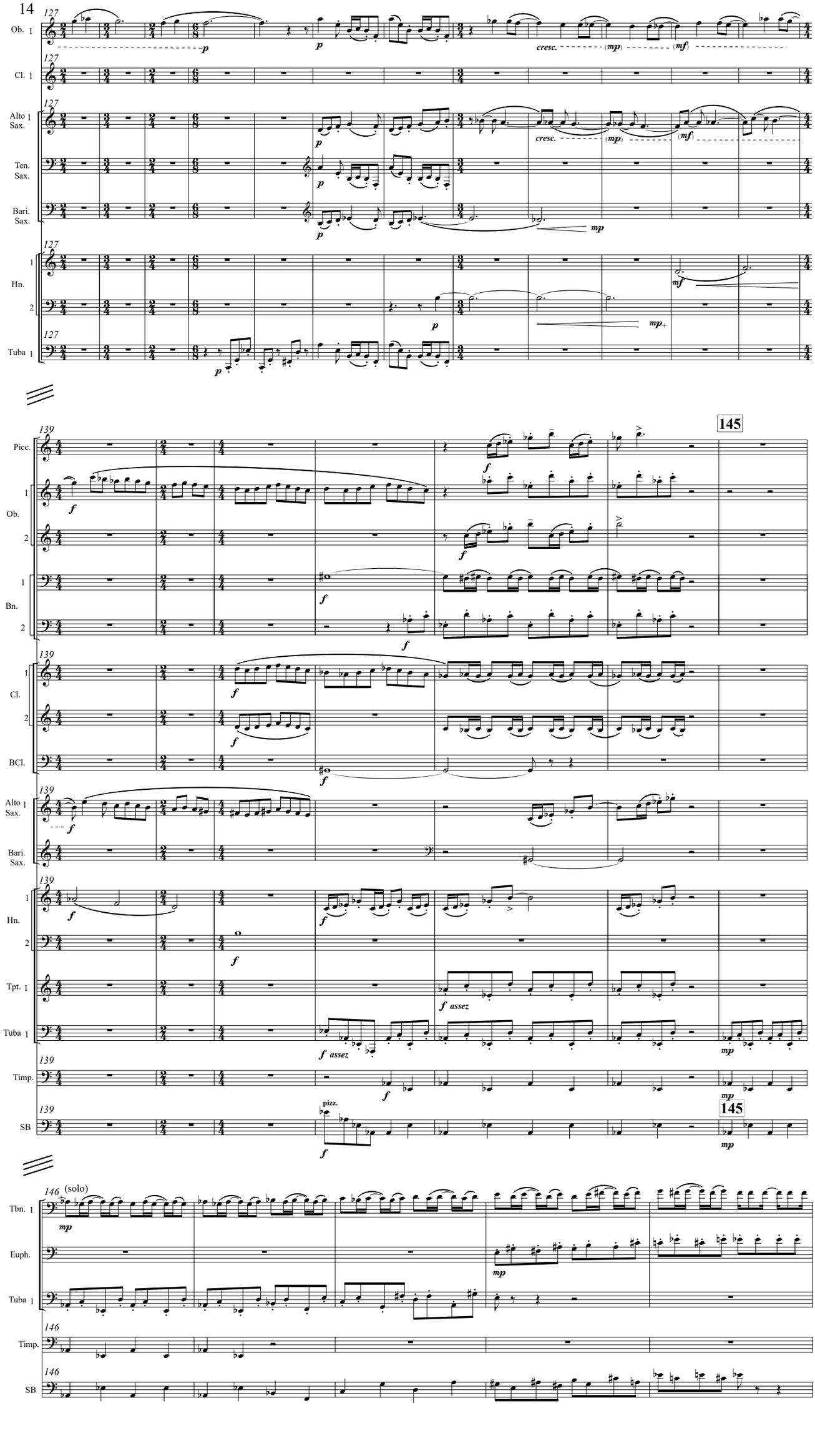

98
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
Cl.
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
SB
(solo)
cresc.
pizz.
98

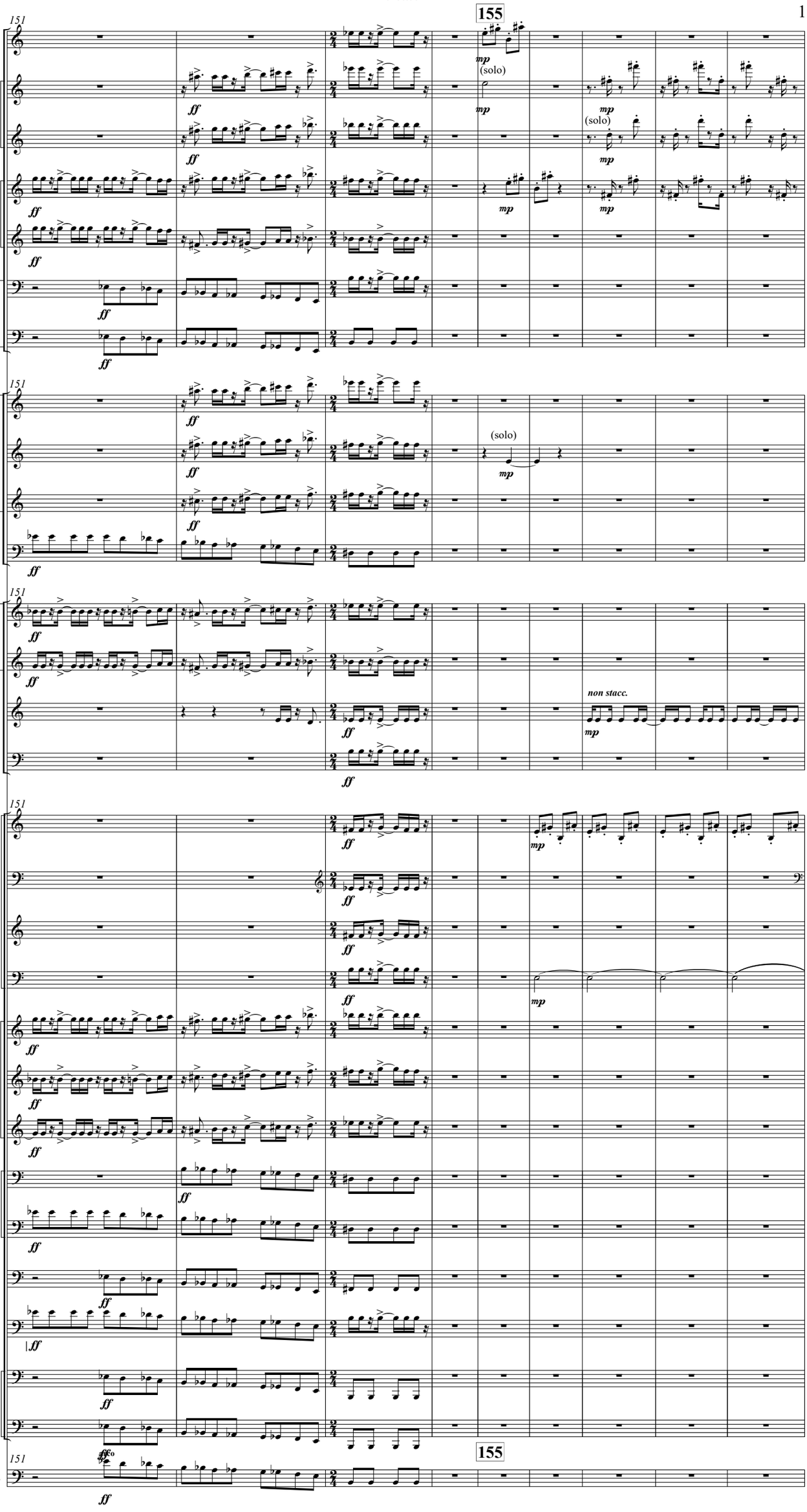

102
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
(mf)
(f)
ff
f
(solo)
(tutti)
102
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB

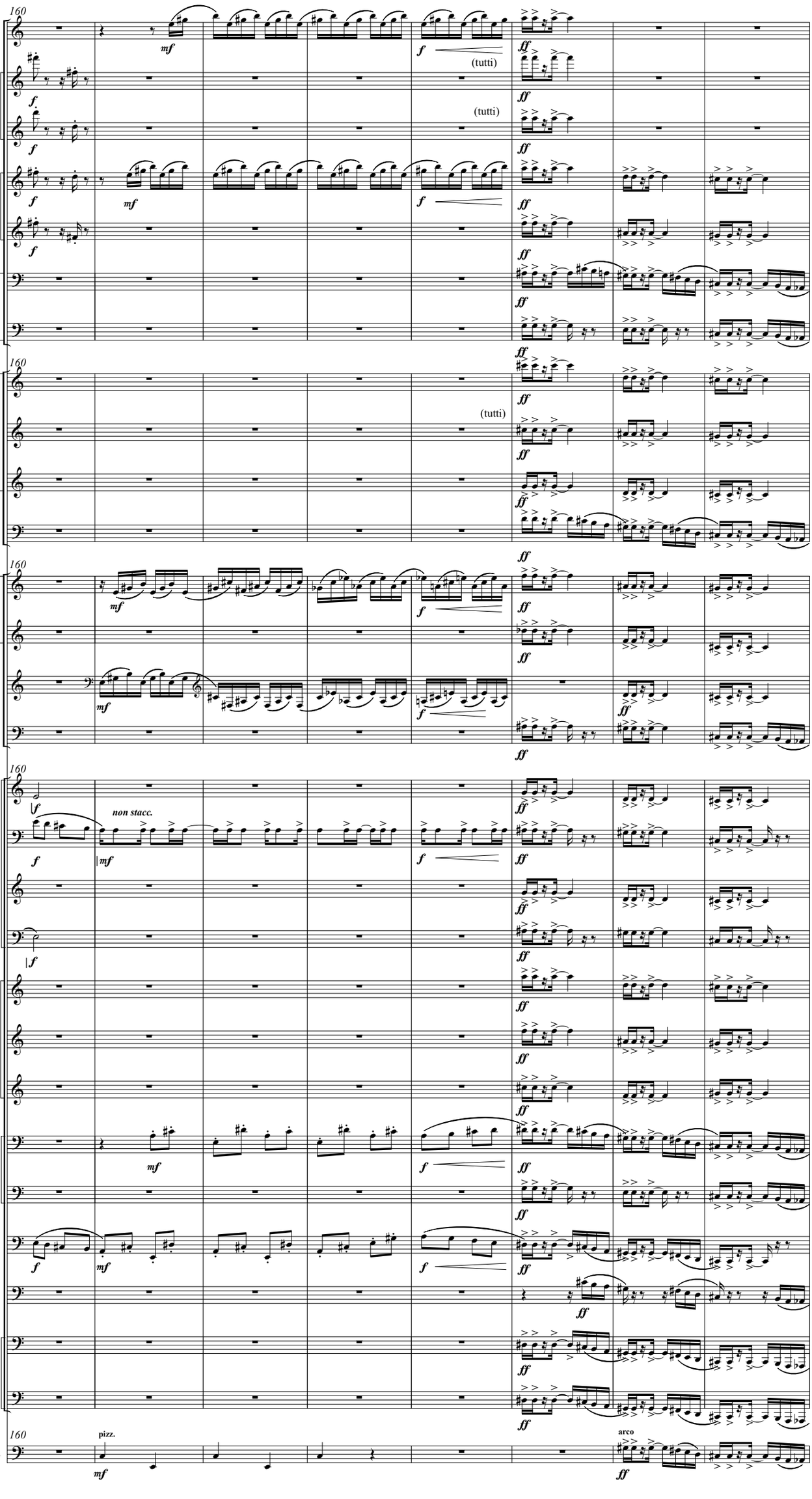

110
108
Picc.
Fl. 1
1
Bn.
2
(tutti)
f
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
(solo)
(tutti)
ff
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB
arco
110

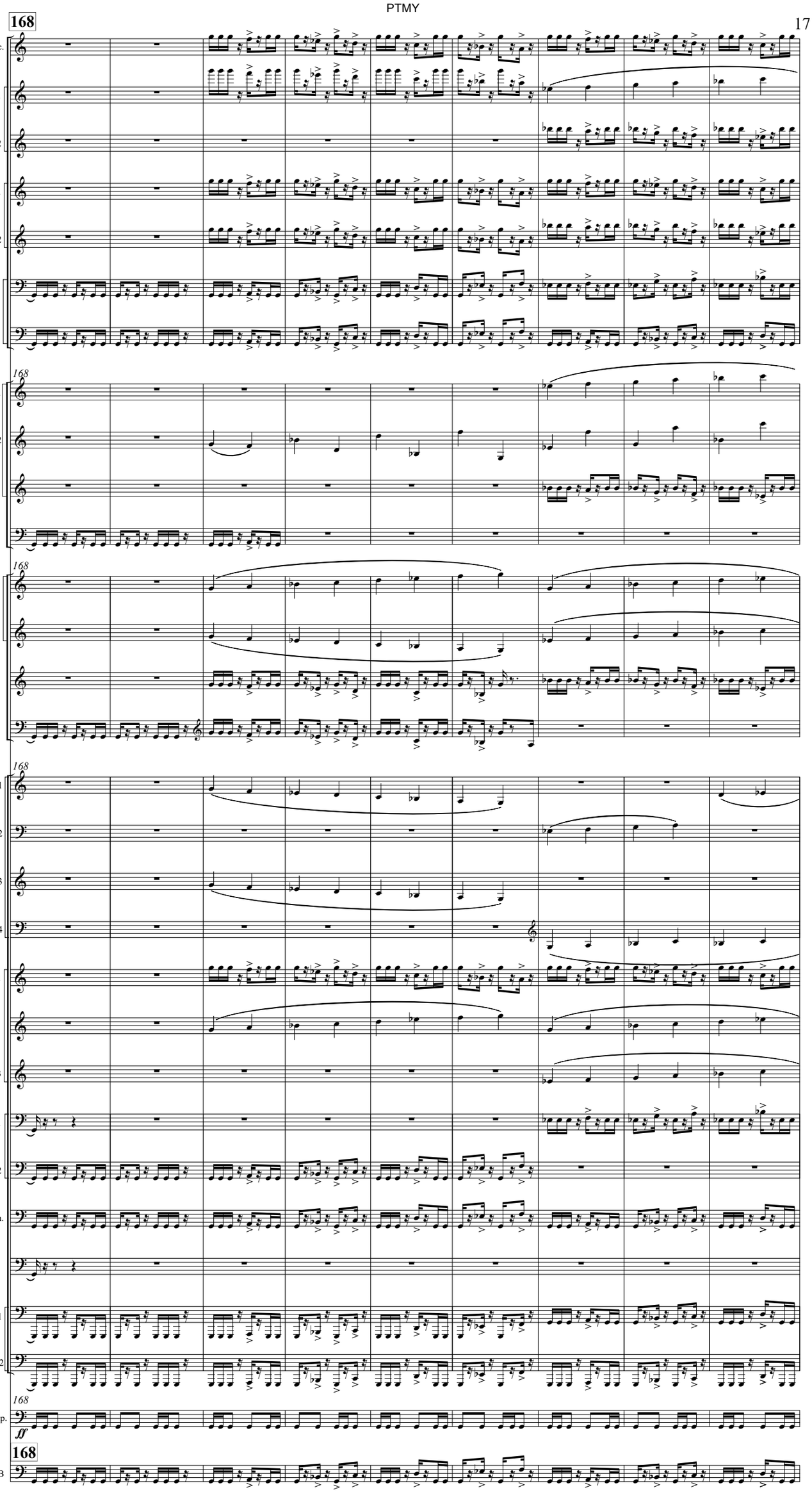

117
113
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
Cl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
Timp.
SB
ff
mf
f
cresc.
117

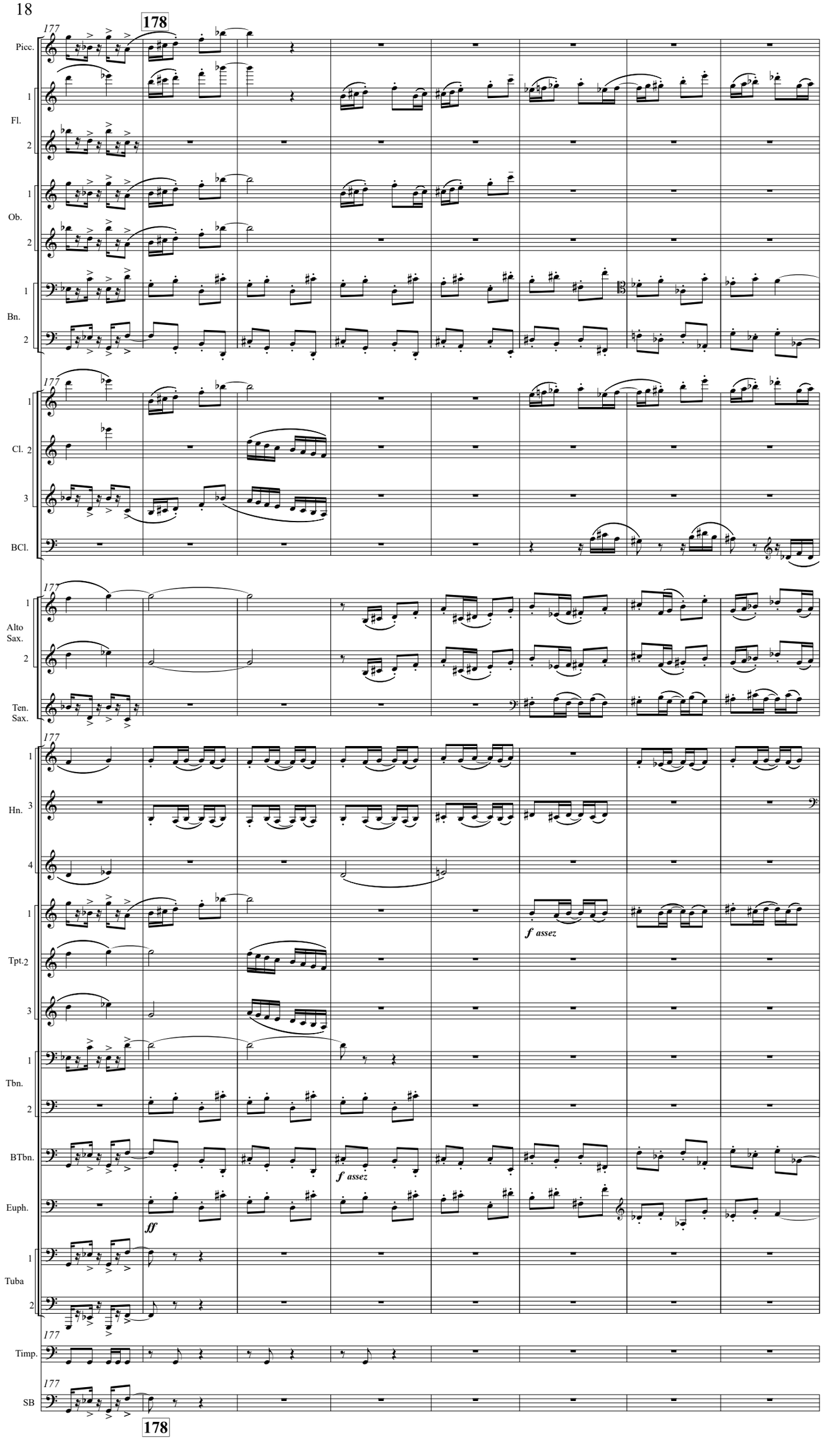

120
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
ff
(solo)
ff dim.
120
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
120
1
Alto Sax.
2
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
120
1
2
Hn.
3
4
1
Tpt.2
3
1
Tbn.
2
BTbn.
Euph.
1
Tuba
2
120
SB
126

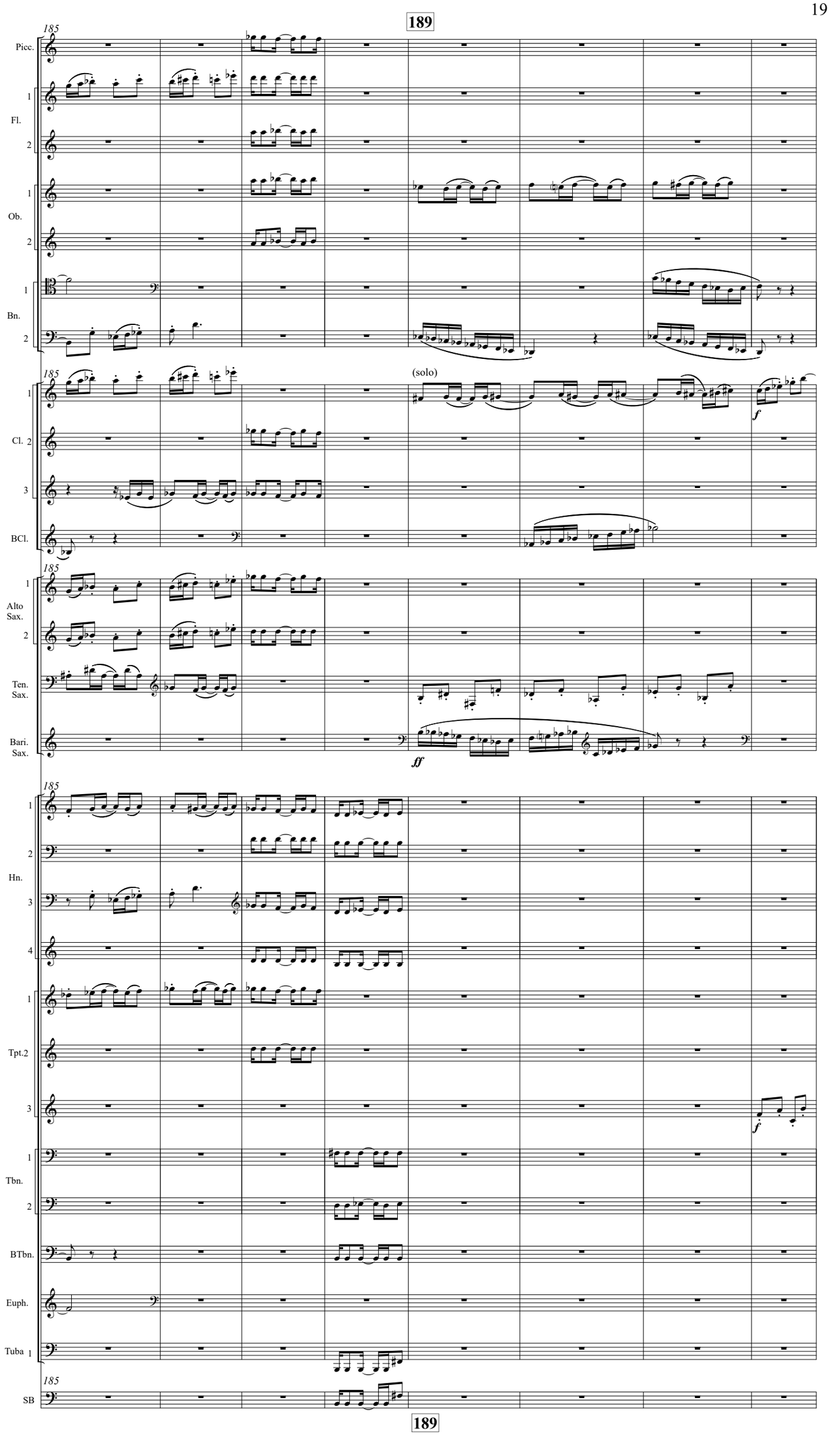

127
Ob. 1
Cl. 1
Alto Sax. 1
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Tuba 1
cresc.
(mp)
(mf)
mp
mf
mp+
139
145
Picc.
Ob. 1
Ob. 2
Bn. 1
Bn. 2
Cl. 1
Cl. 2
BCl.
Alto Sax. 1
Bari. Sax.
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
Tpt. 1
Tuba 1
Timp.
SB
assez
pizz.
146
(solo)
Tbn. 1
Euph.
Tuba 1
Timp.
SB

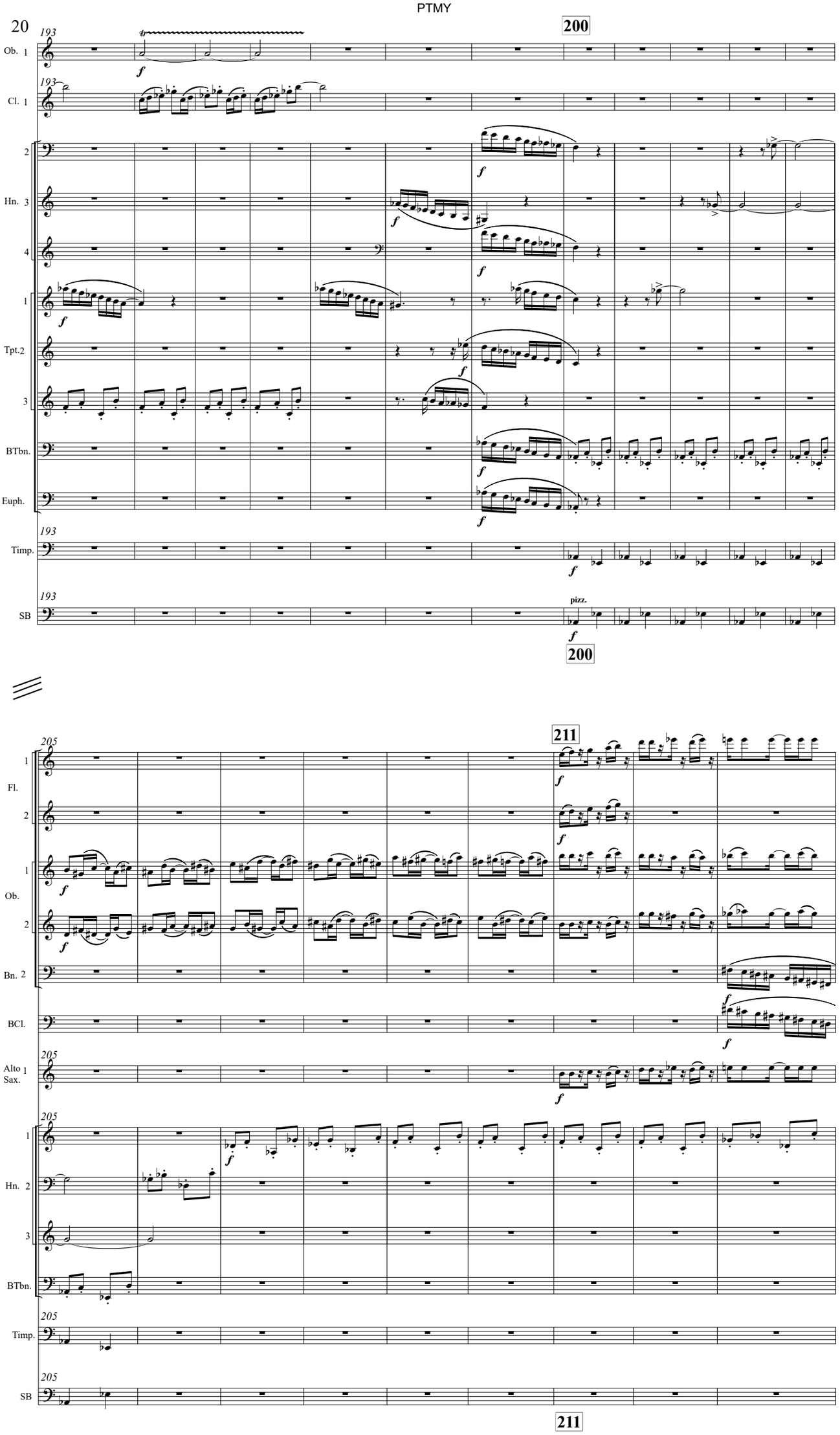

151
155
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
Cl.
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB
(solo)
non stacc.

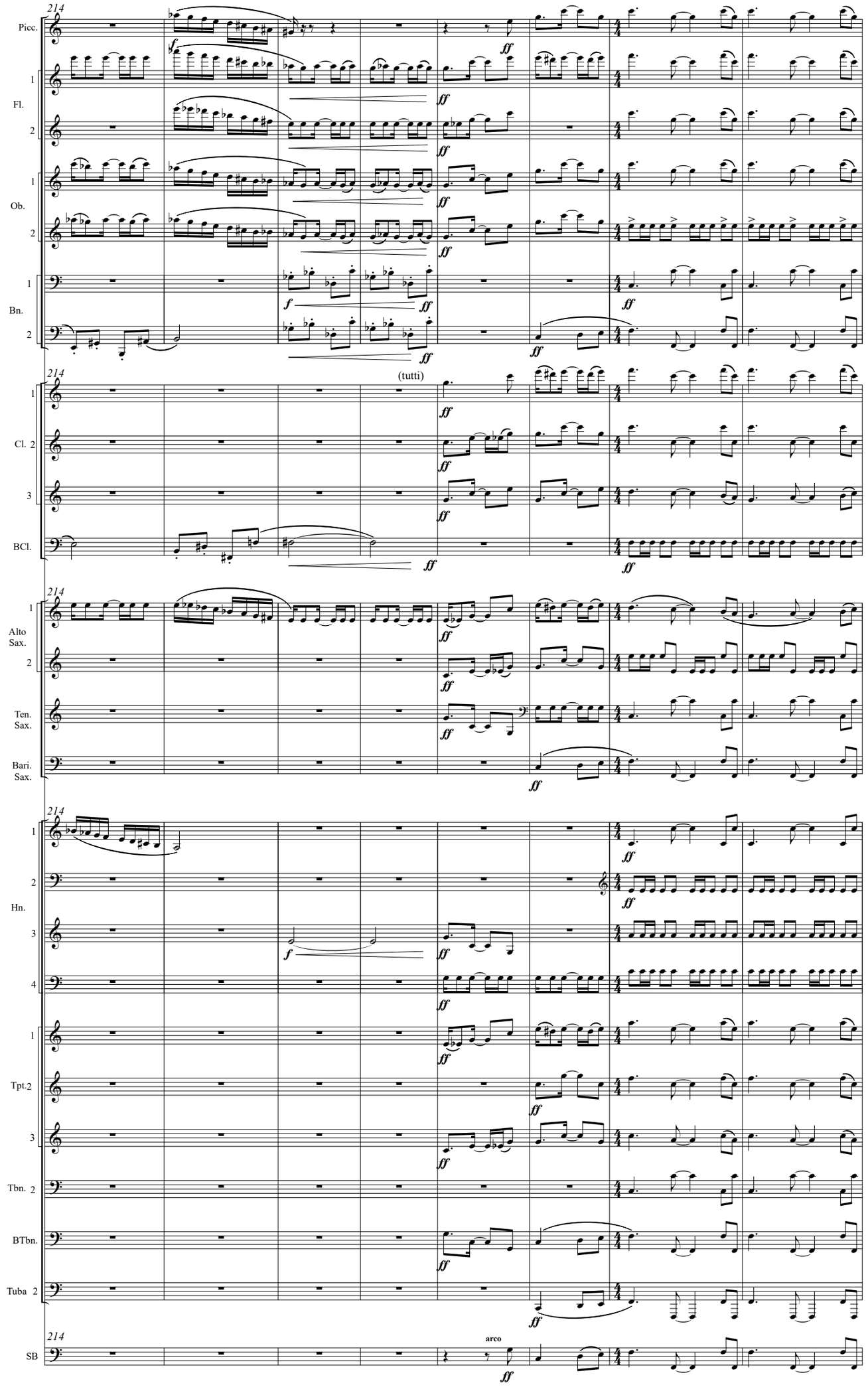

160
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
Cl.
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB
(tutti)
non stacc.
pizz.
arco

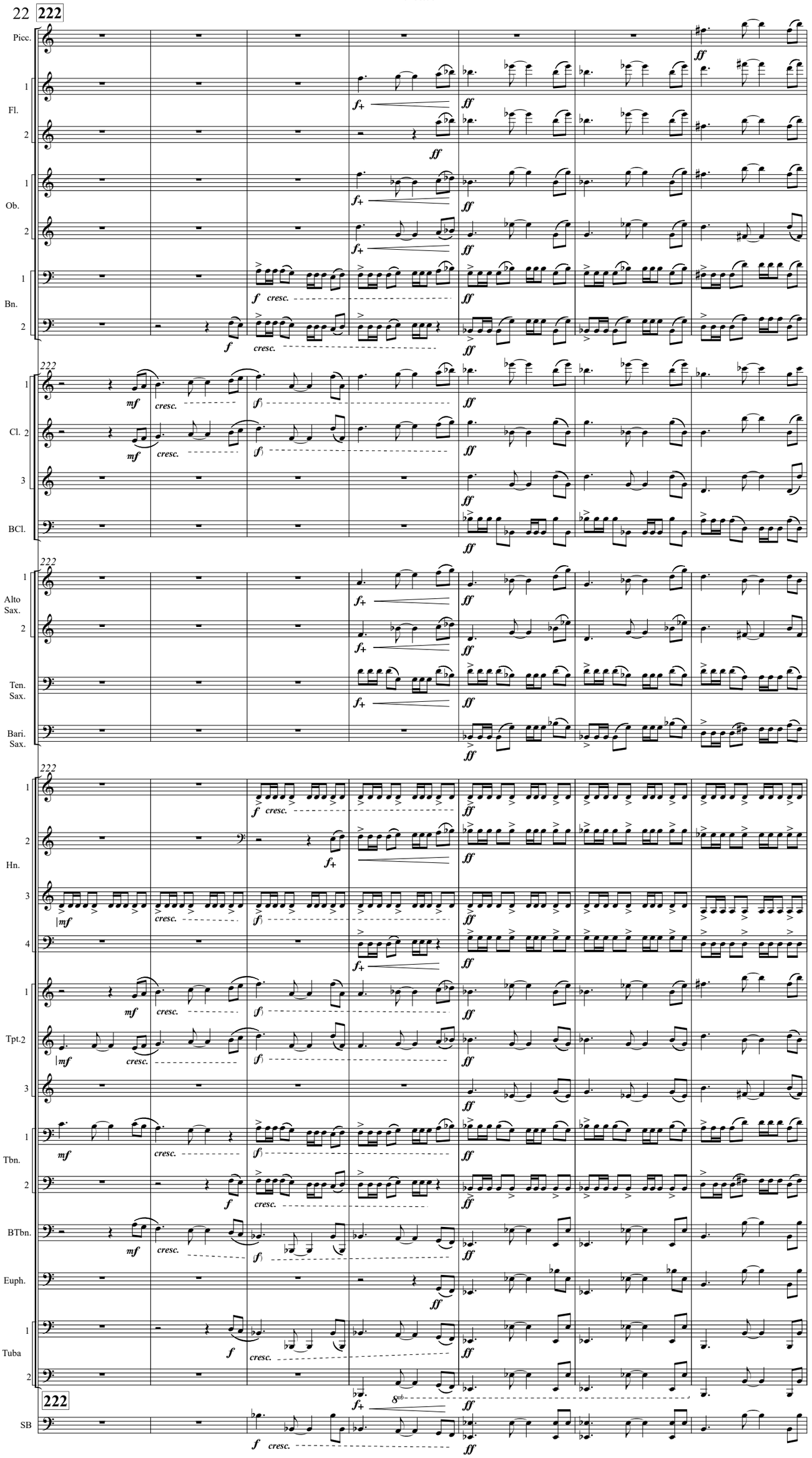

168
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
168
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
168
1
Alto Sax.
2
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
168
1
2
Hn.
3
4
1
Tpt.2
3
1
Tbn.
2
BTbn.
Euph.
1
Tuba
2
168
Timp.
ff
168
SB

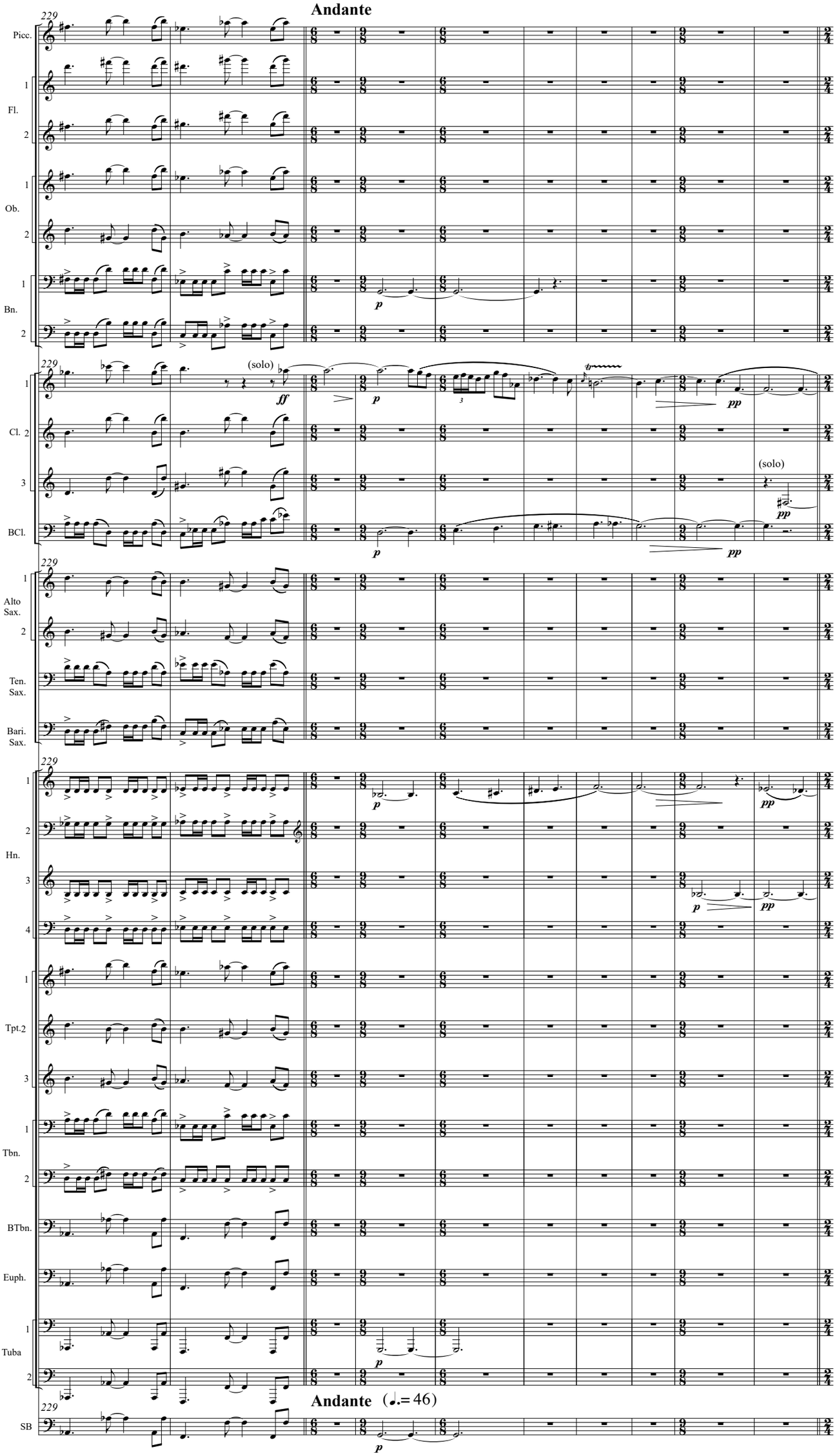

178
177
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
177
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
177
1
Alto Sax.
2
Ten. Sax.
177
1
Hn. 3
4
1
Tpt. 2
3
1
Tbn.
2
BTbn.
Euph.
1
Tuba
2
177
Timp.
177
SB
178
f assez
f assez
ff

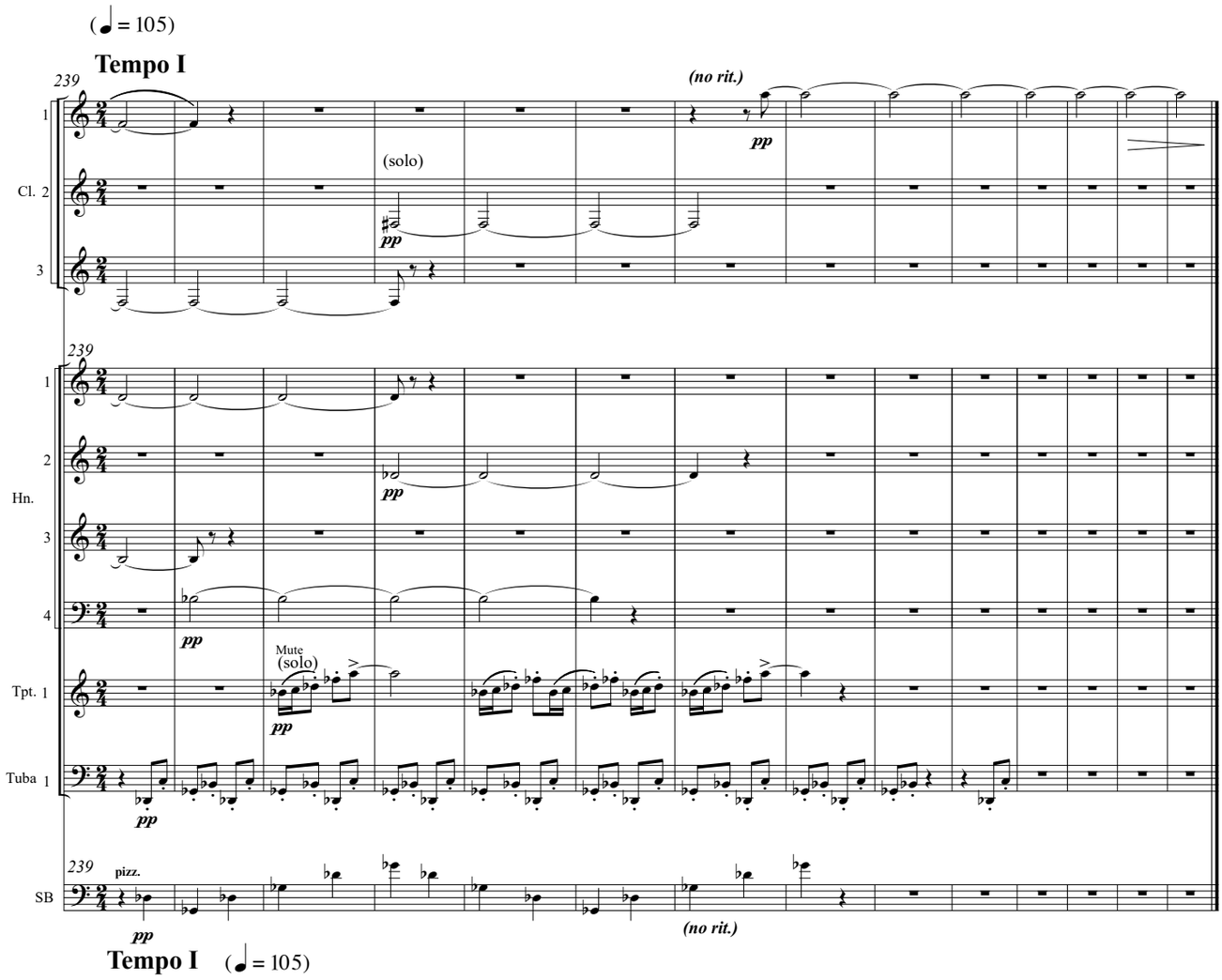

189
185
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
(solo)
f
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
ff
Hn.
Tpt.2
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB
189


193
200
Ob. 1
Cl. 1
2
Hn. 3
4
1
Tpt.2
3
BTbn.
Euph.
Timp.
SB
pizz.
205
211
Fl.
Ob.
Bn. 2
BCl.
Alto Sax. 1
Hn. 2


214
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
(tutti)
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
1
Alto Sax.
2
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
1
Hn.
2
3
4
1
Tpt.2
3
Tbn. 2
BTbn.
Tuba 2
SB
arco


22
222
Picc.
Fl.
Ob.
Bn.
Cl. 2
BCl.
Alto Sax.
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
Hn.
Tpt.2
Tbn.
BTbn.
Euph.
Tuba
SB
mf
f
ff
cresc.
8vb


(♩.= 46)
Andante
229
Picc.
1
Fl.
2
1
Ob.
2
1
Bn.
2
p
229
1
Cl. 2
3
BCl.
(solo)
ff
p
pp
(solo)
pp
229
1
Alto Sax.
2
Ten. Sax.
Bari. Sax.
229
1
2
Hn.
3
4
1
Tpt.2
3
1
Tbn.
2
BTbn.
Euph.
1
Tuba
2
p
Andante (♩.= 46)
229
SB
p


(♩ = 105)
Tempo I
239
(no rit.)
pp
(solo)
Cl. 2
Hn.
Mute
Tpt. 1
Tuba 1
pizz.
SB
Tempo I
(♩ = 105)