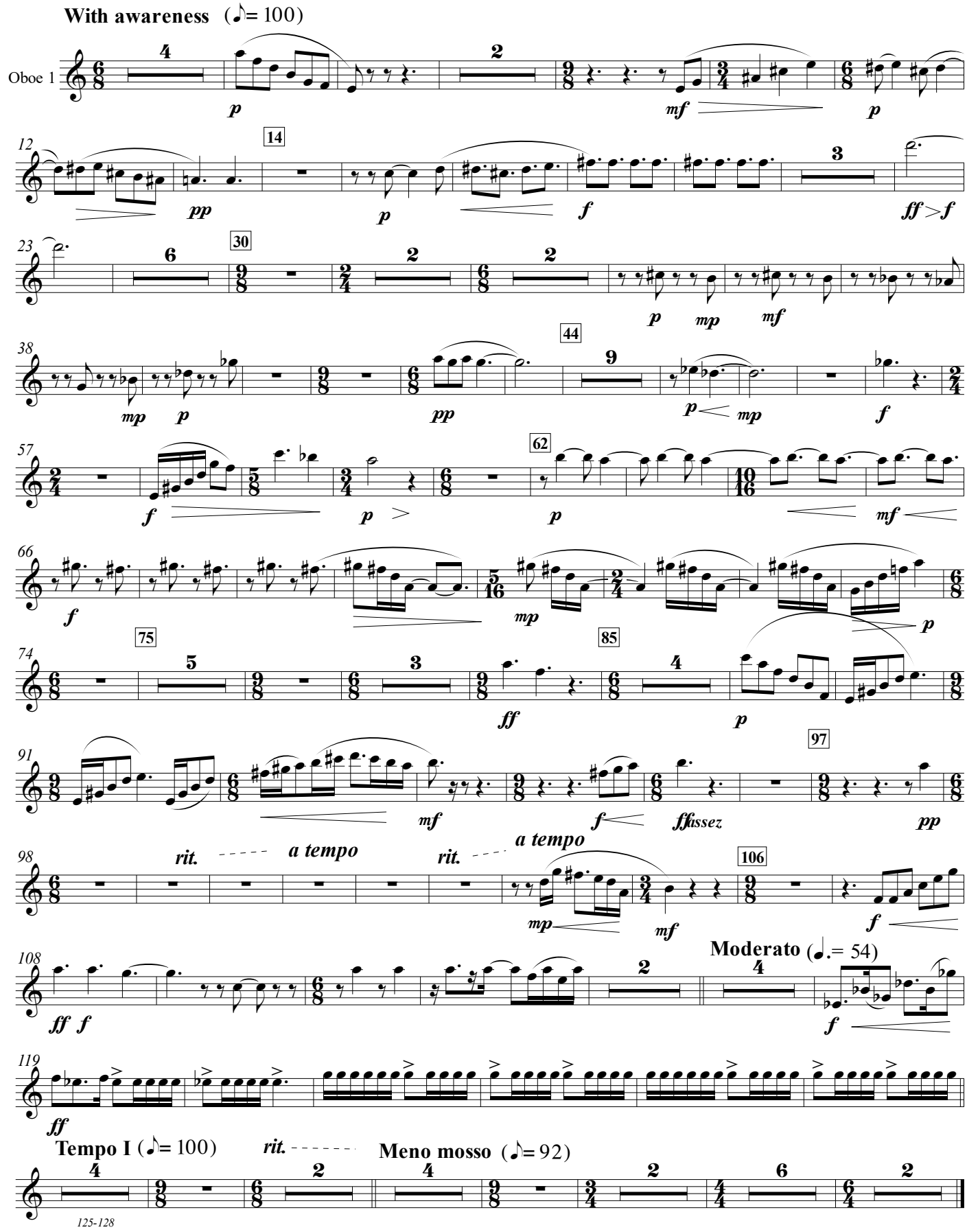II. Between Earth and Space