Enemy Suite

for Flute, Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass

2011

Ash Stemke

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Notes

Enemy Suite was composed in response to Alfred Rethel's woodcut art "Death as An Enemy."

The composer created a storyline inspired by the art and divided it into three musical sections: *Invitation*, *Arrival*, and *Departure*. The scene depicted in the art takes place during the *Arrival* section. The story is found below:

Invitation

A celebration takes place at the castle of a 16th-century nobleman. The guests are enjoying themselves and dancing to the music played by a trio of viols and a flute. Soon, a new voice joins in the dance – the character Death playing the violin. At first, Death remains disguised, hidden among the harmonies of the ensemble. However, his presence soon becomes apparent. As the music builds. Death distorts the melody and takes over the entire show.

Arrival

Some of the terrified instrumentalists follow in Death's wicked waltz while the party guests attempt to flee. Death leads the group in an awkward tango before making his final gesture and disappearing.

Departure

Sadness and Despair envelop the castle after Death's arrival and departure. Death watches from afar.

Approximate Performance Time 5'

Score

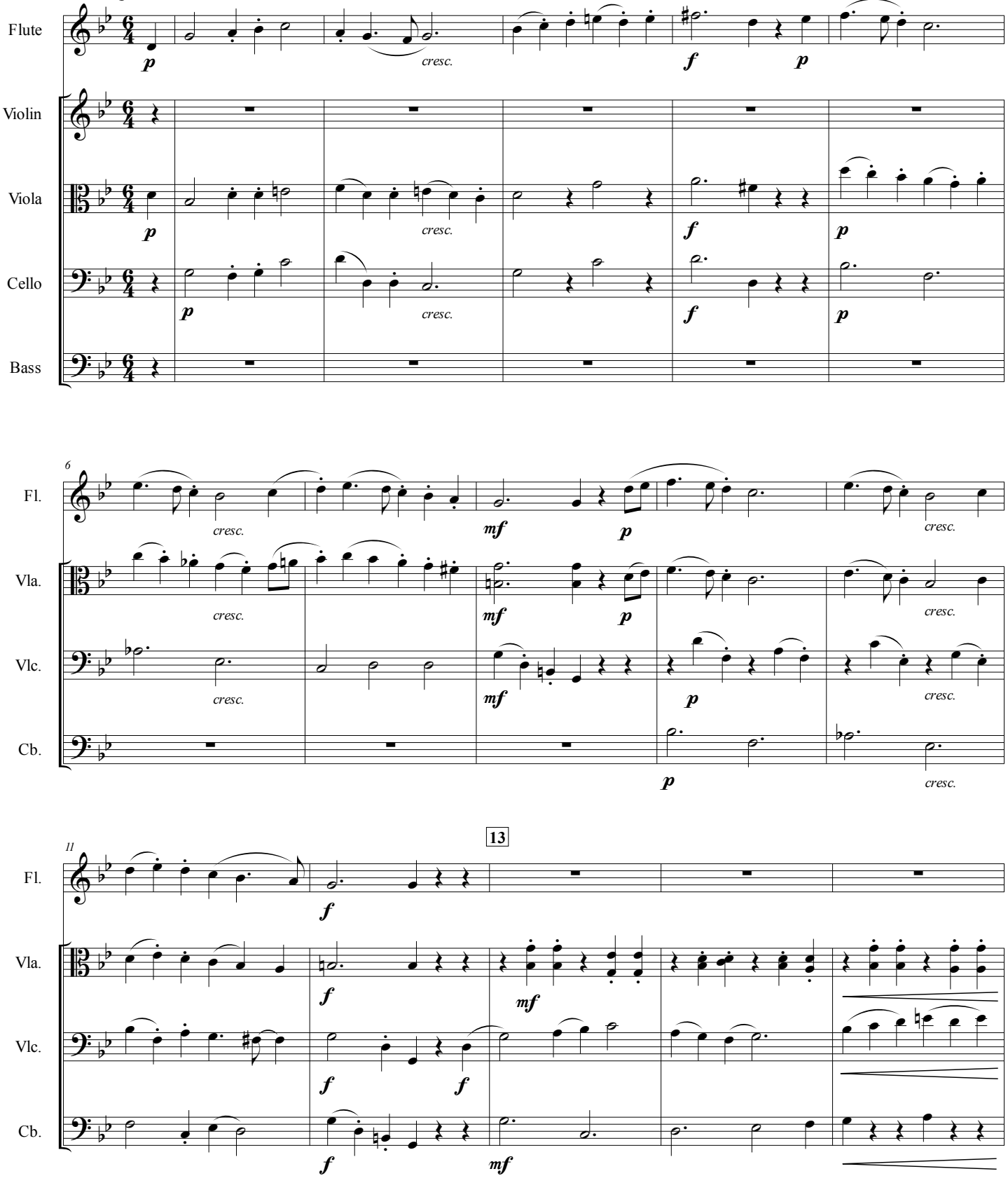
Enemy Suite

Invitation - Arrival - Departure

Ash Stemke

I. Invitation

♩. = 69



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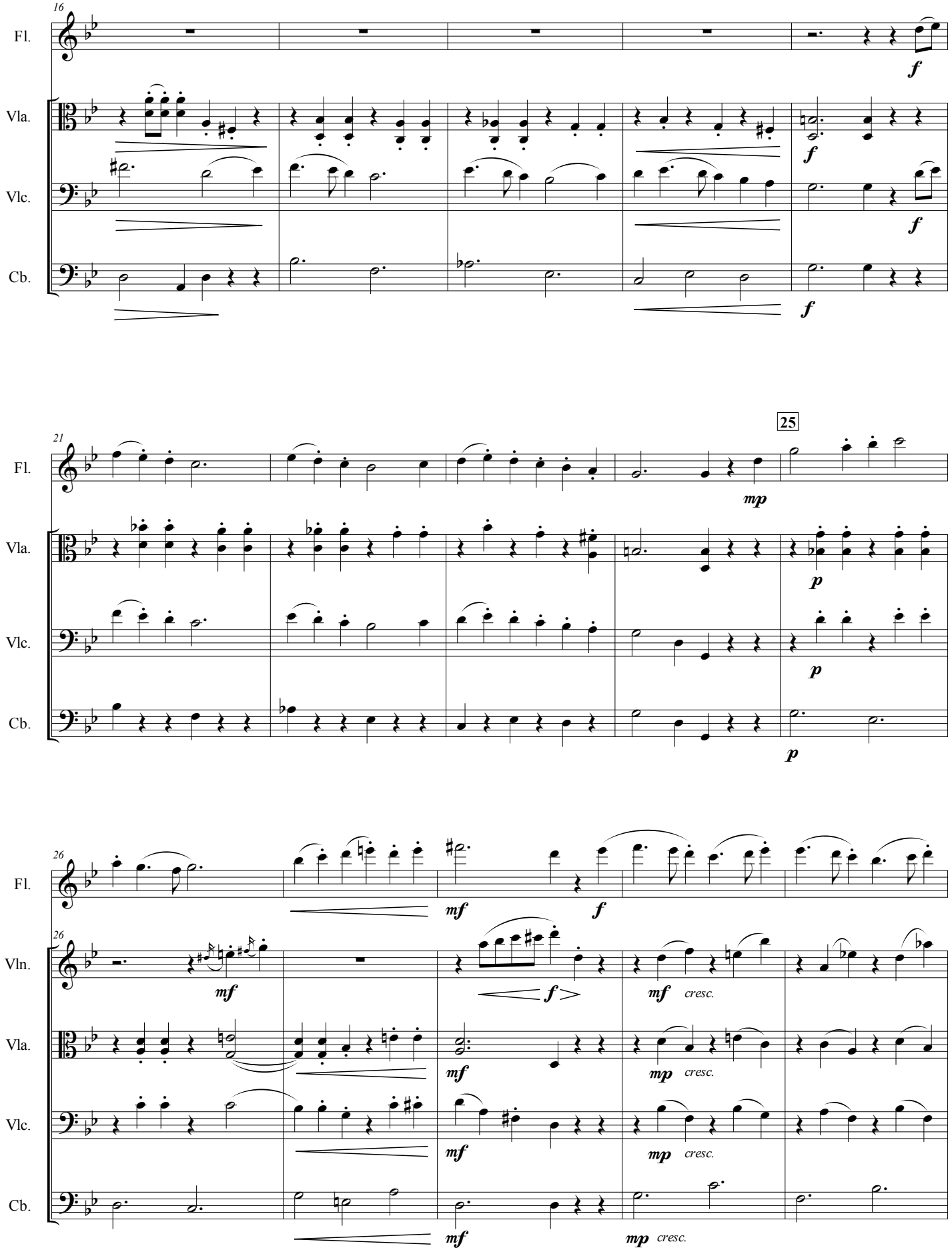
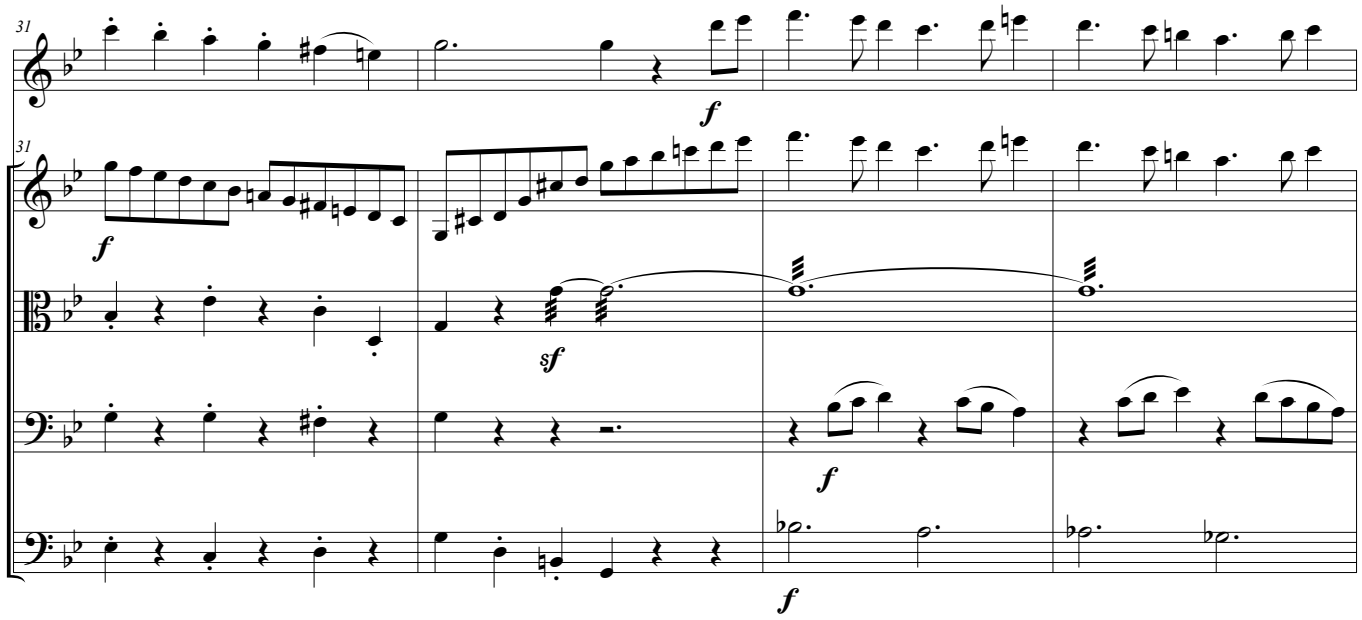
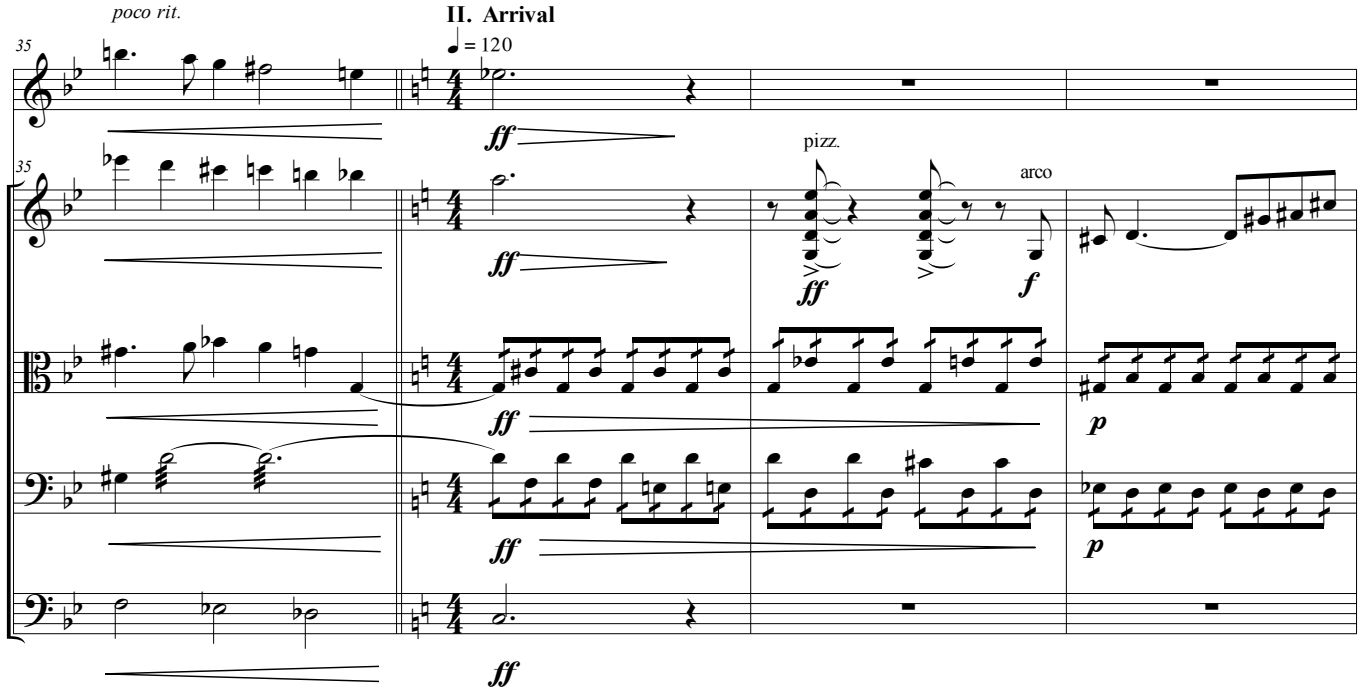
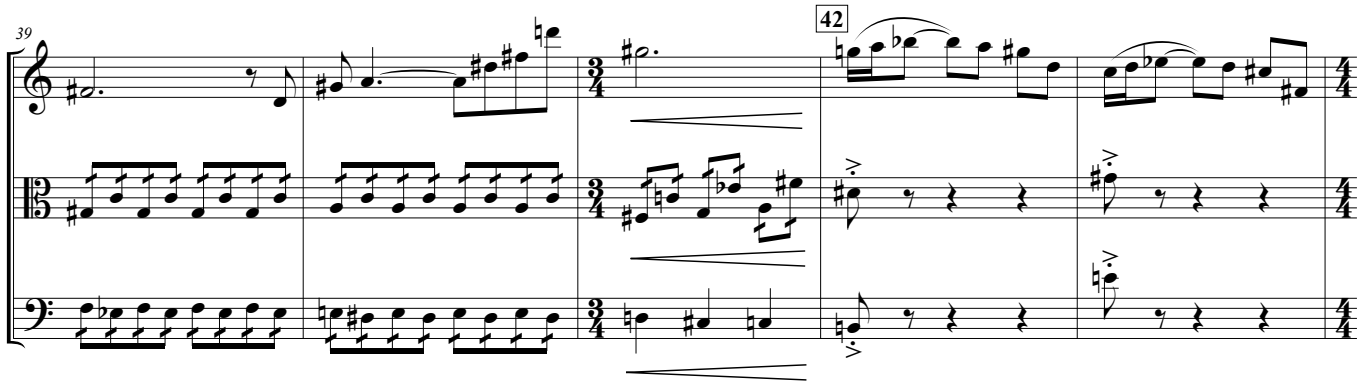
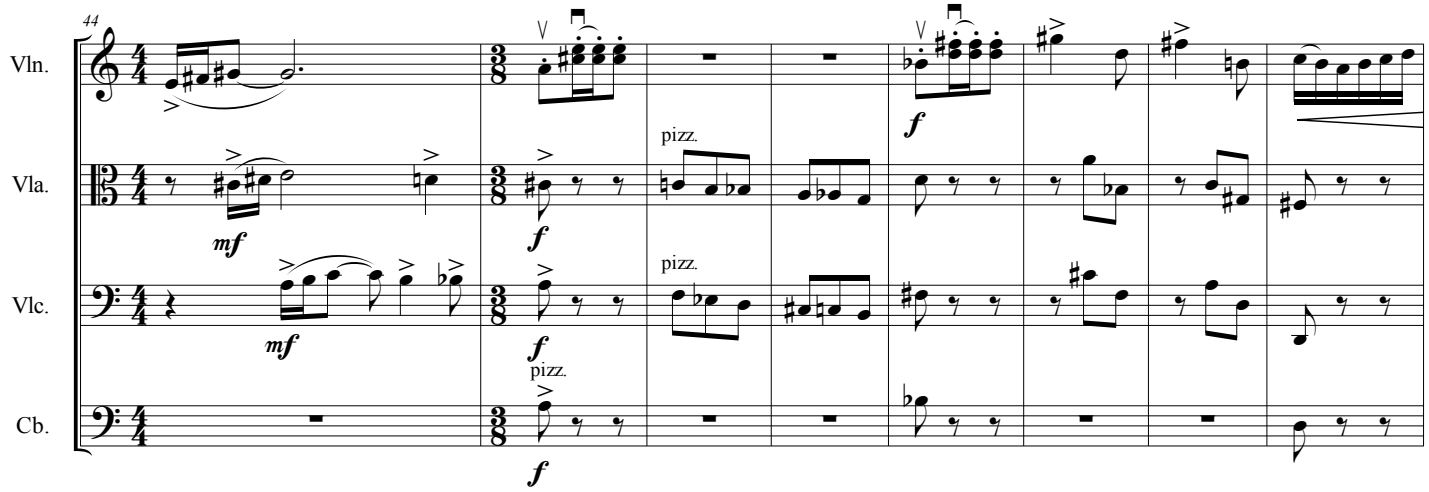
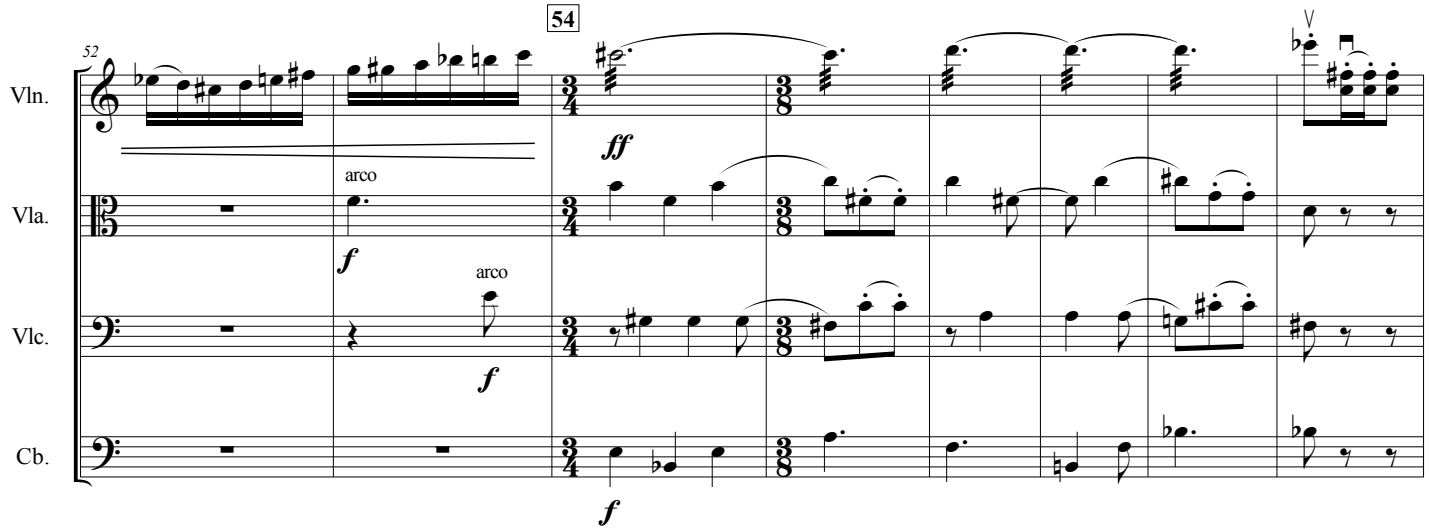

16
Fl.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
f
21
25
mp
p
26
Vln.
mf
f
cresc.
mp

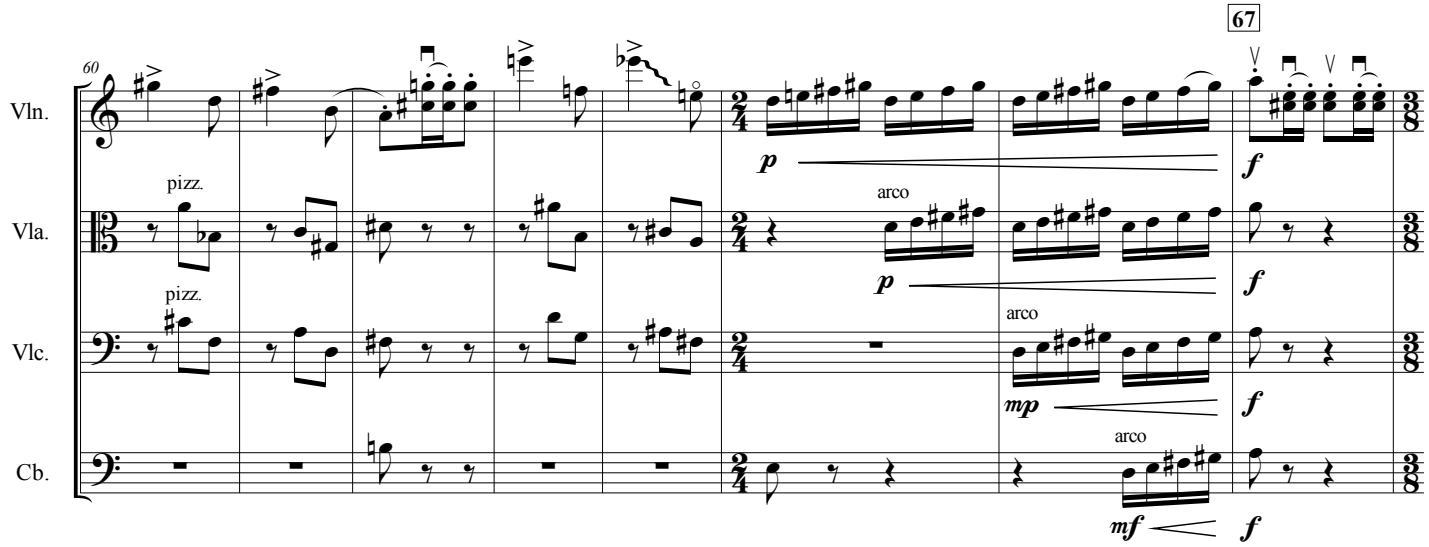

31
Fl.
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
f
sf

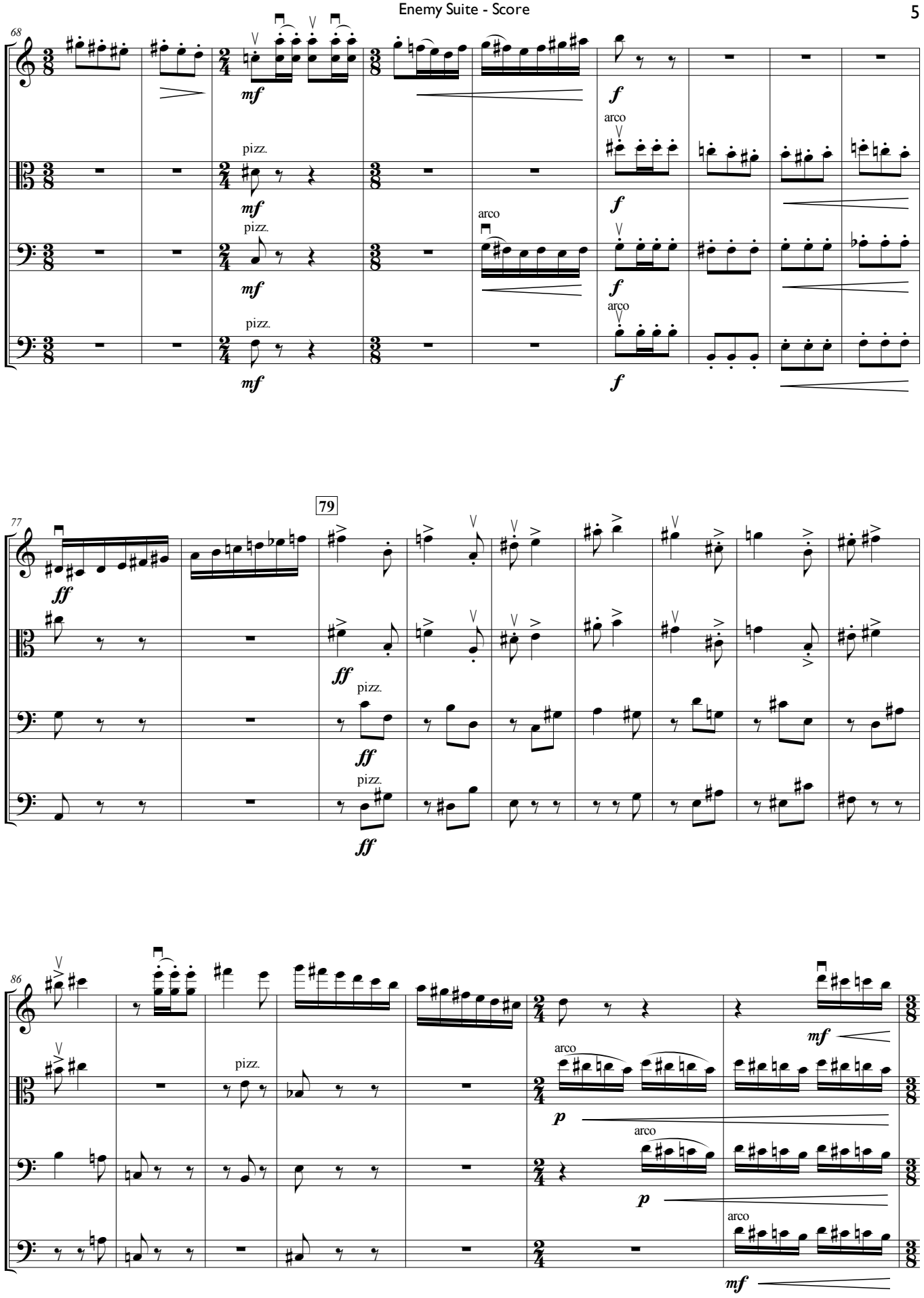

poco rit.
II. Arrival
♩ = 120
35
Fl.
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
ff
pizz.
arco
f
p

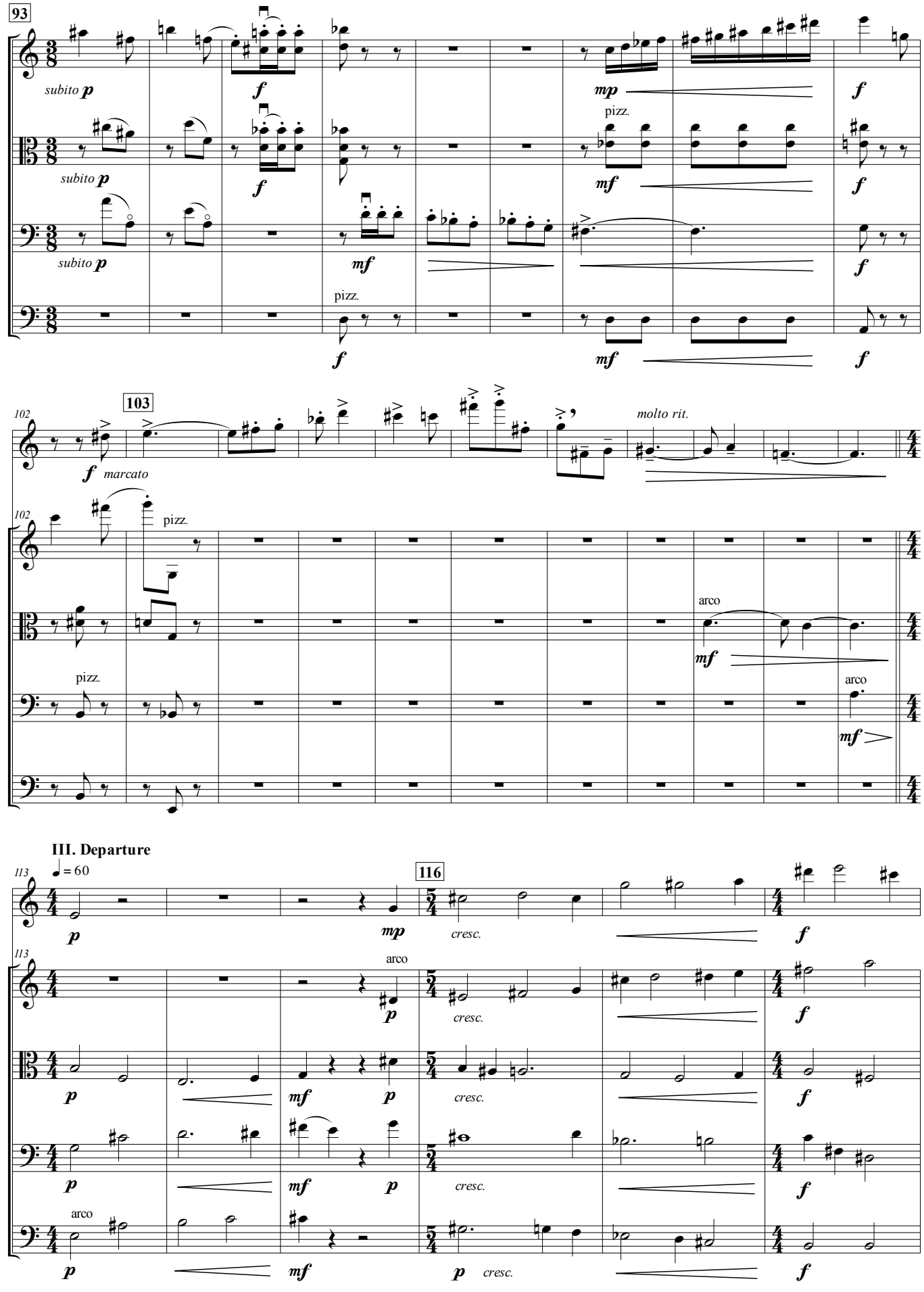

39
42
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.

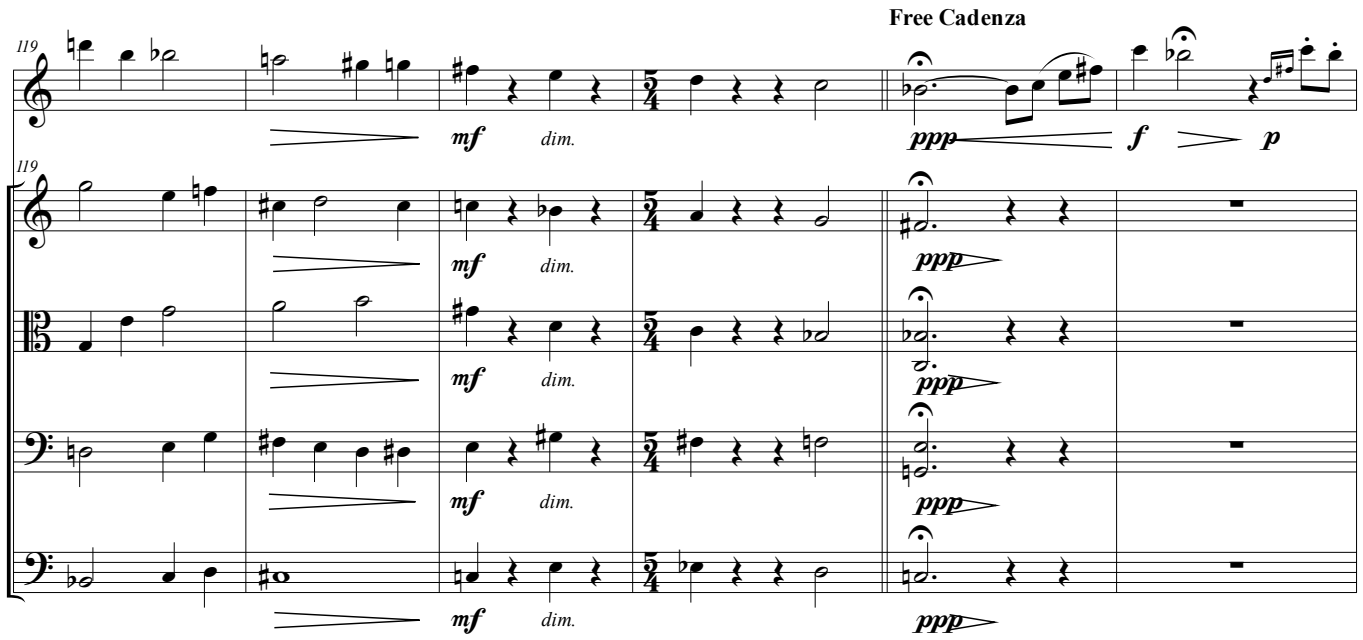

44
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
pizz.
mf
f

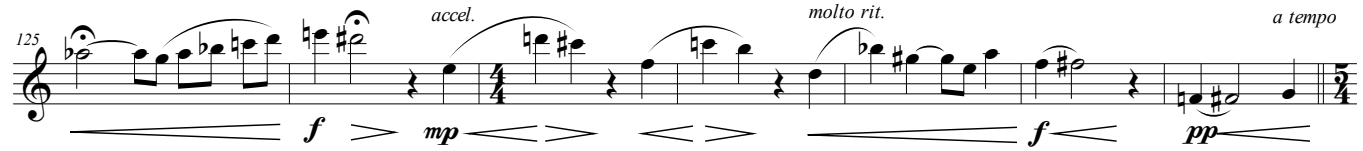

52
54
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
arco
ff
f

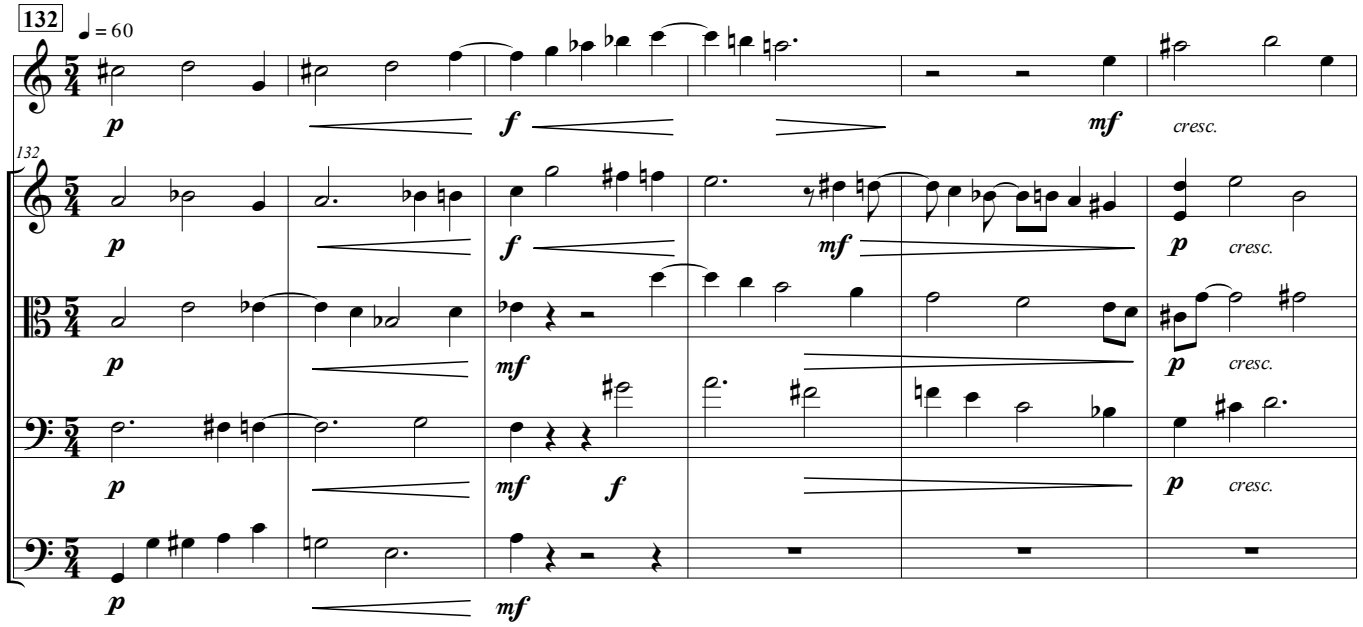

60
67
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
pizz.
arco
p
mp
mf
f

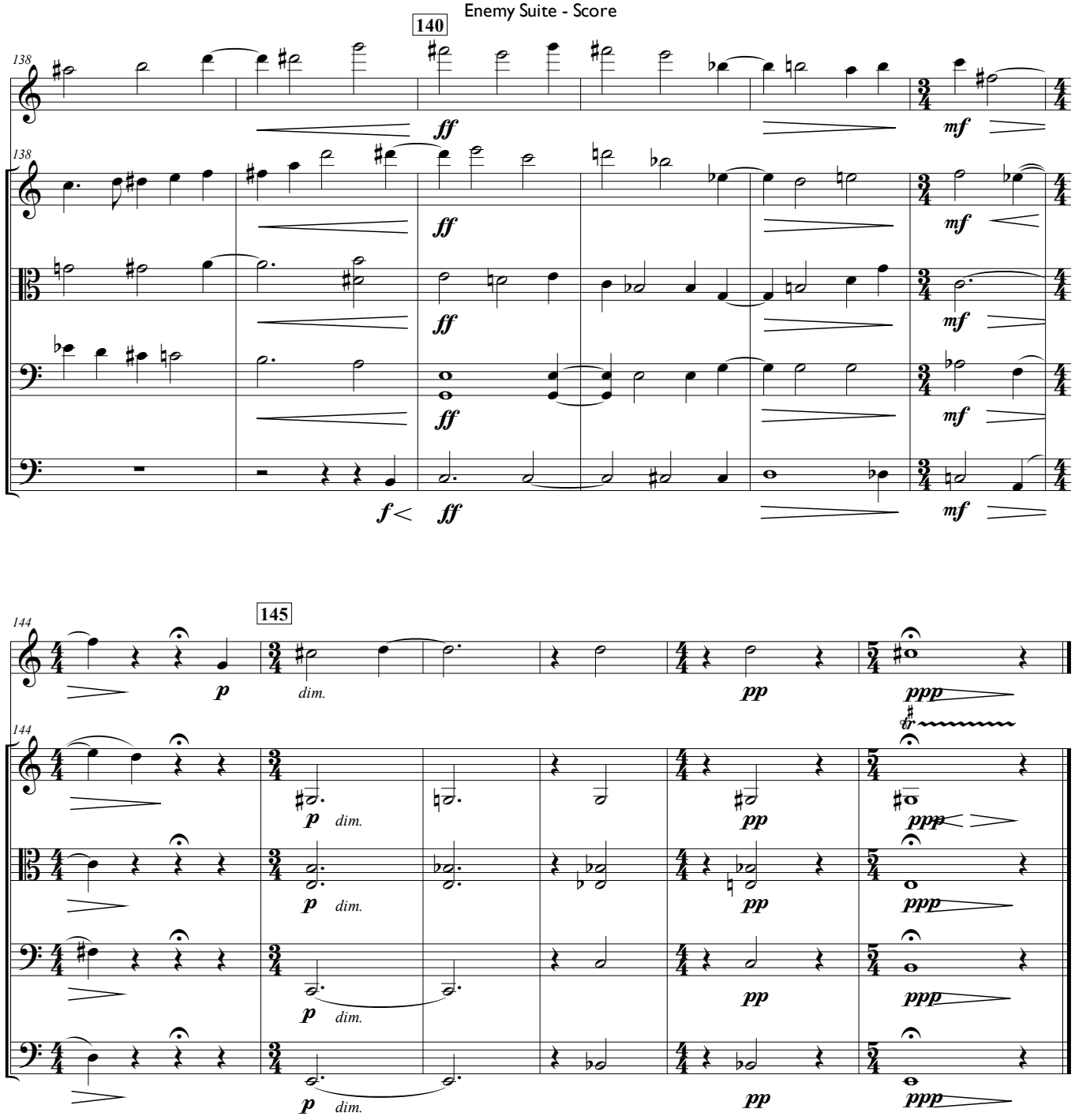

68
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
mf
pizz.
arco
f
77
79
ff
86
p


93
Vln.
subito p
f
mp
pizz.
f
Vla.
subito p
f
mf
f
Vlc.
subito p
mf
f
Cb.
pizz.
f
mf
f
102
103
Fl.
f marcato
molto rit.
102
Vln.
pizz.
Vla.
arco
mf
pizz.
Vlc.
arco
mf
Cb.
III. Departure
113
♩ = 60
116
Fl.
p
mp
cresc.
f
113
Vln.
arco
p
cresc.
f
Vla.
p
mf
p
cresc.
f
Vlc.
p
mf
p
cresc.
f
Cb.
arco
p
mf
p
cresc.
f


Free Cadenza
119
Fl.
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
mf
dim.
ppp
f
p


125
Fl.
accel.
molto rit.
a tempo
f
mp
f
pp


132
♩ = 60
Fl.
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
p
f
mf
cresc.


140
138
Fl.
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
ff
mf
f<

145
144
Fl.
Vln.
Vla.
Vlc.
Cb.
p
dim.
pp
ppp