## Eleven Moons

Craig Bakalian



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## **Foreword**

Eleven Moons is a symphonic cycle about the Earth's moon. Each moon, or movement, was inspired by an arbitrary visual display of the Moon; full, half, sliver, morning, evening, winter, cloudy, low or high on the horizon, ect... It was a personal fascination of my own innate natural inclination to simply look up toward the sky, find the Moon, and feel a simple sense of beauty. I am thinking about myself thinking about the moon as Theory of Mind would suggest. So, I feel I share my feelings about the Moon with many fellow human beings.

The Moon changes its look, but the sun remains constant. The Moon can be adored and gazed upon, but the sun cannot because of its brightness. There is no wonder as to how and why the people of ancient history characterized the Moon as female in most of the world's mythology and characterized the Sun as male. Of interest about my own minds inclination towards developing its own mythology, I began this symphonic cycle directly after my father's death. It was the difficult rise of my mother after the death of my father, as a typical Armenian family is strongly dominated by the father figure, the lunacy she displayed at the presence of his dead body, inspired a fantasy solution to my mother's intense weakness. I created my own fantasy family to work my way through my anger at my father's complete dominance over everything our family did. I meditated upon the music of these Moons to replace the weakness of my family, my family's inability to find an identity aside from my father's domination. The Moon has no name other than Moon, as the moons of other planets sometimes do, as if to name a woman with the name Woman.

Oddly, the number eleven came to me in a sleeping dream. I woke up saying the words Eleven Moons in my mind repeatedly as if to emphasis something important. It is obviously arbitrary and random as most unconcious dreams are, but I may have select this random nonsense for the nutty reason of the meaning of the eleventh hour as being working very hard and late into the night. But, I don't write music like that, I work slowly and calmly, as a long project. I take my time when I compose and I enjoy the effort. I have no late night marathons in desperation to finish any of my music efforts. So, the real reason for selecting the number eleven is that there is no reason, which is basically reality, there is no reason for anything, it just is.

I would urge conductors or music organizations to not perform all of these movements in one concert sitting. They share too much music material. It would become an endurance of listening. Not that I, in the year 2017, have established any social status as an important composer in any city of the world which would cause any music organization to put for the effort of playing all of these movements. I would recommend performing two or three at a time. And, I hope it is obvious and clear to the conductor that many of the Moons are very brash expressions, however there are Moons that are obviously sensitive and calm. Please overdo the brash, make it strong and almost to the point of being harsh. And, as in all my music, the dynamics are only recommendations, please feel free to change them, as with any slurs, articulations, and phrasings. But please do not change the tonal and rhythm patterns, or instrumentations.

The forces are big in this music. You need three flutes, one piccolo, three oboes, one english horn, three clarinets, one bass clarinet, two bassoons, one contra bassoon, four F Horns, three trumpets, three trombones, one tuba, four timpani, three percussionist; snare, suspened cymbal, bass drum, roto toms, two xylophones, two marimbas, one glockenspiel, tubular chimes, hand crank, laugh track, pity track, large crank siren, small mouth siren, tambourine, soup cans tied together, chinese blocks, whip, and large chorus of violins, violas, cellos, and double basses. Also note that most, if not all, chords in a string part are performed divided. This was a project that took me a complete year to write and engrave. There are many marks on these scores and as a human being I may have made mistakes. Please contact me at craigbakalian@verizon.net to assist me in bringing about a score free of errata.

Craig Bakalian May 1, 2017 :









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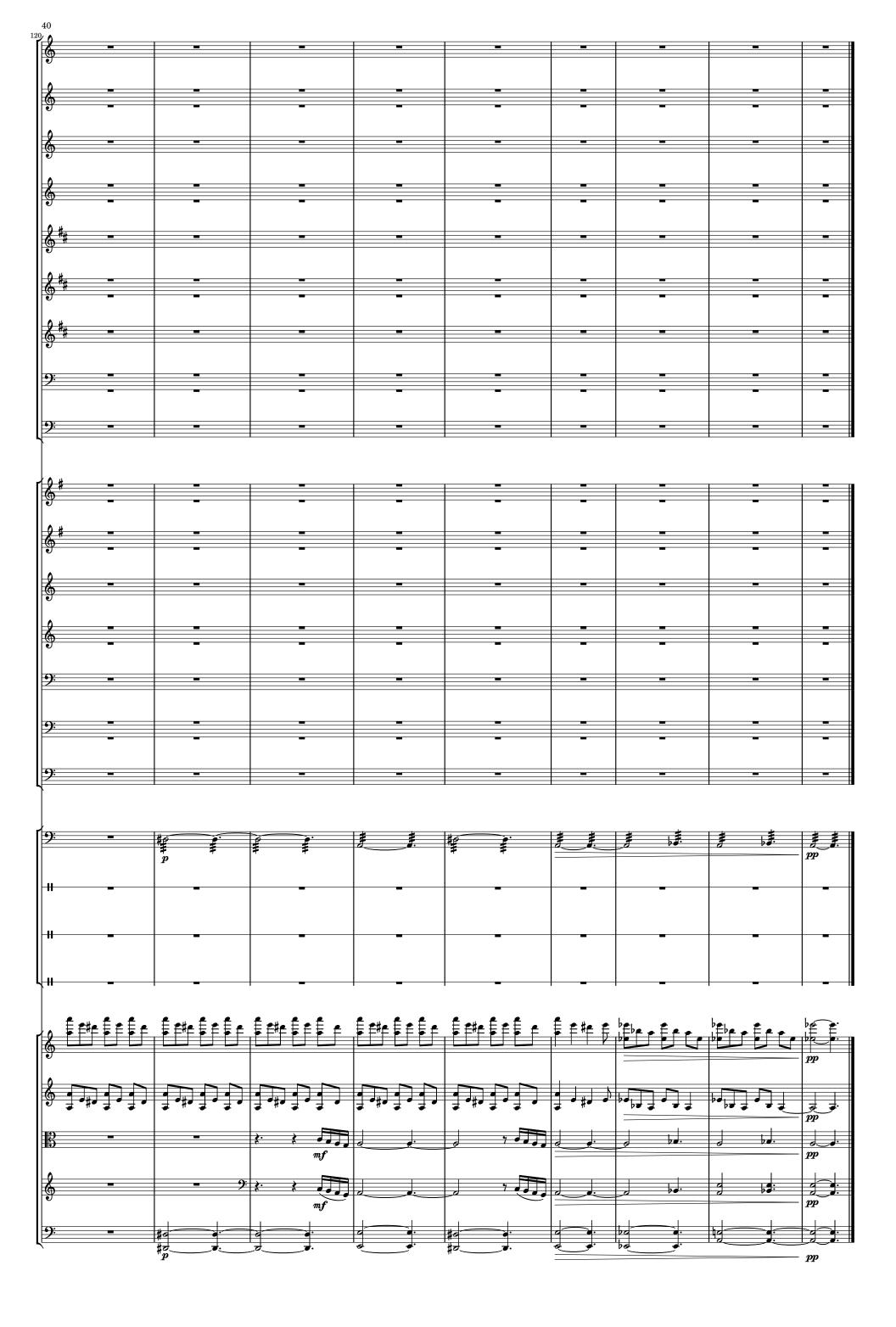














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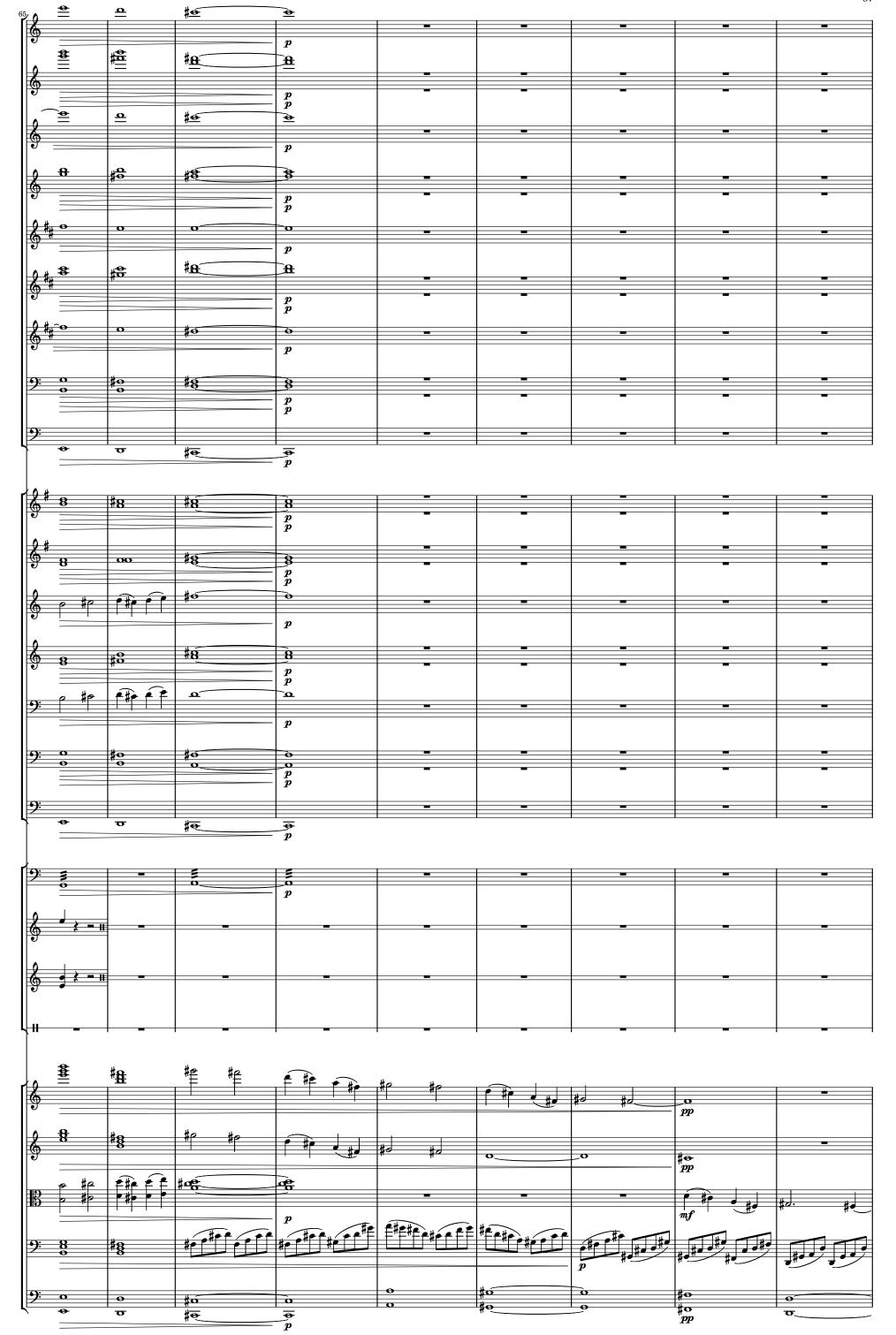






















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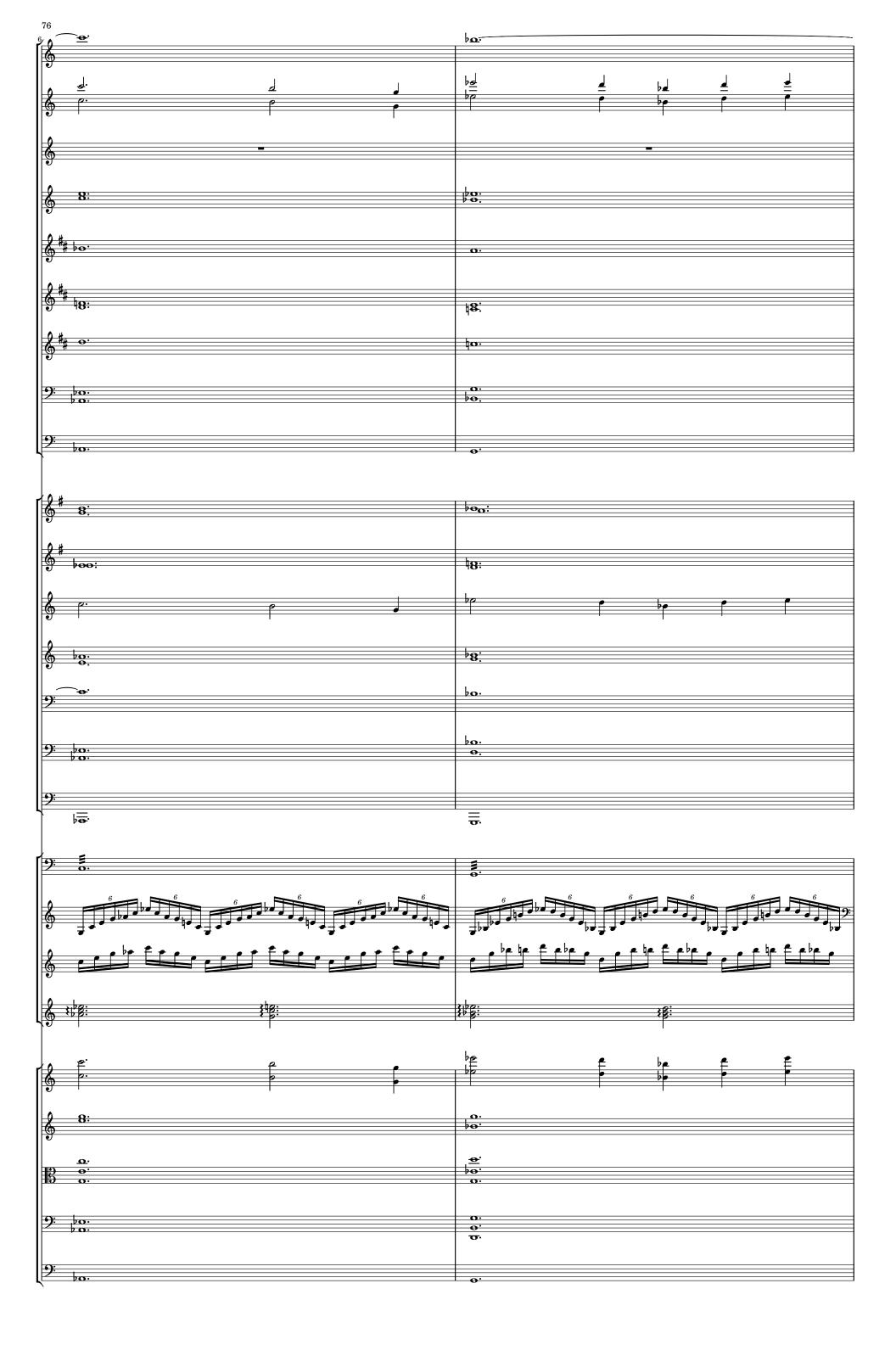










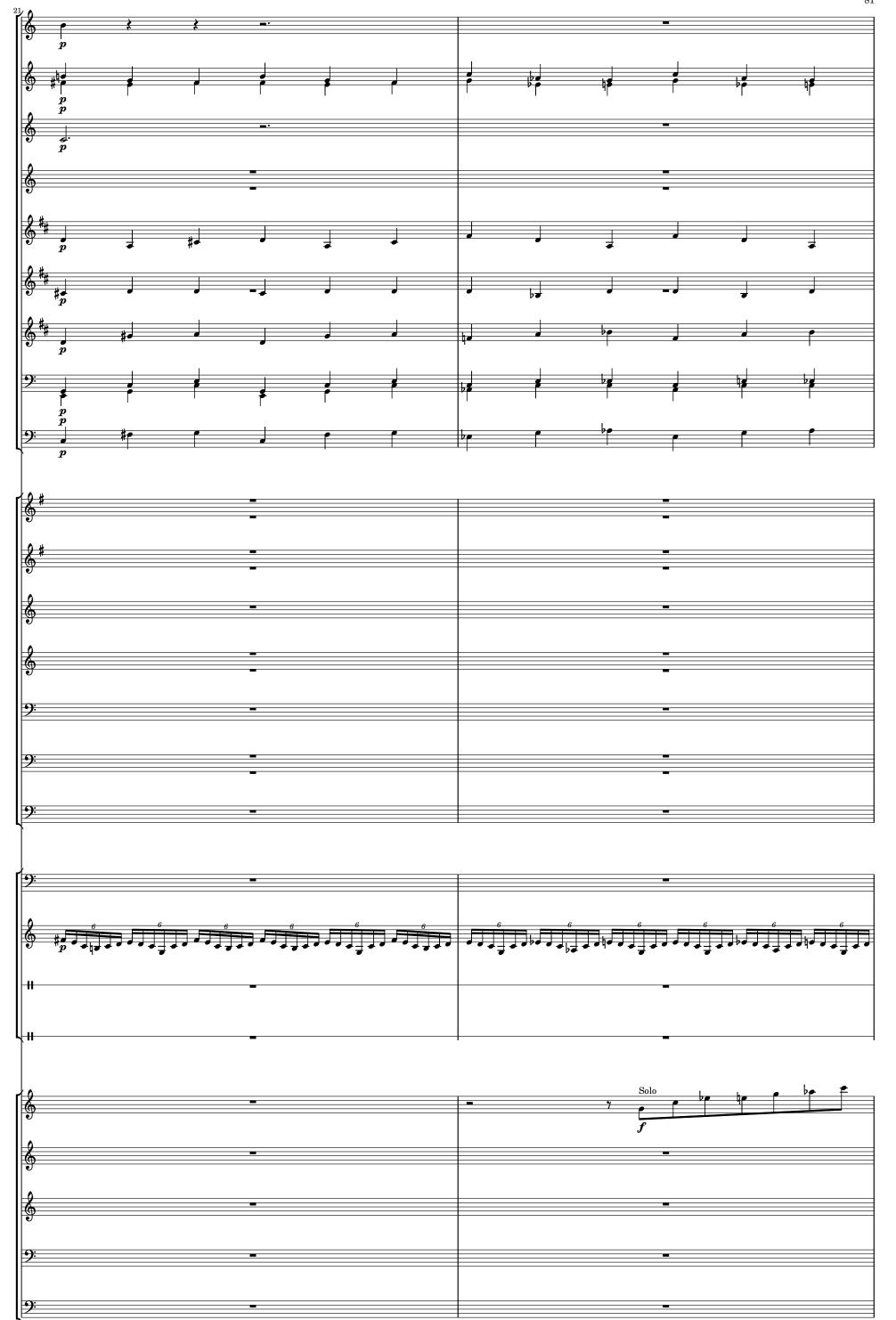














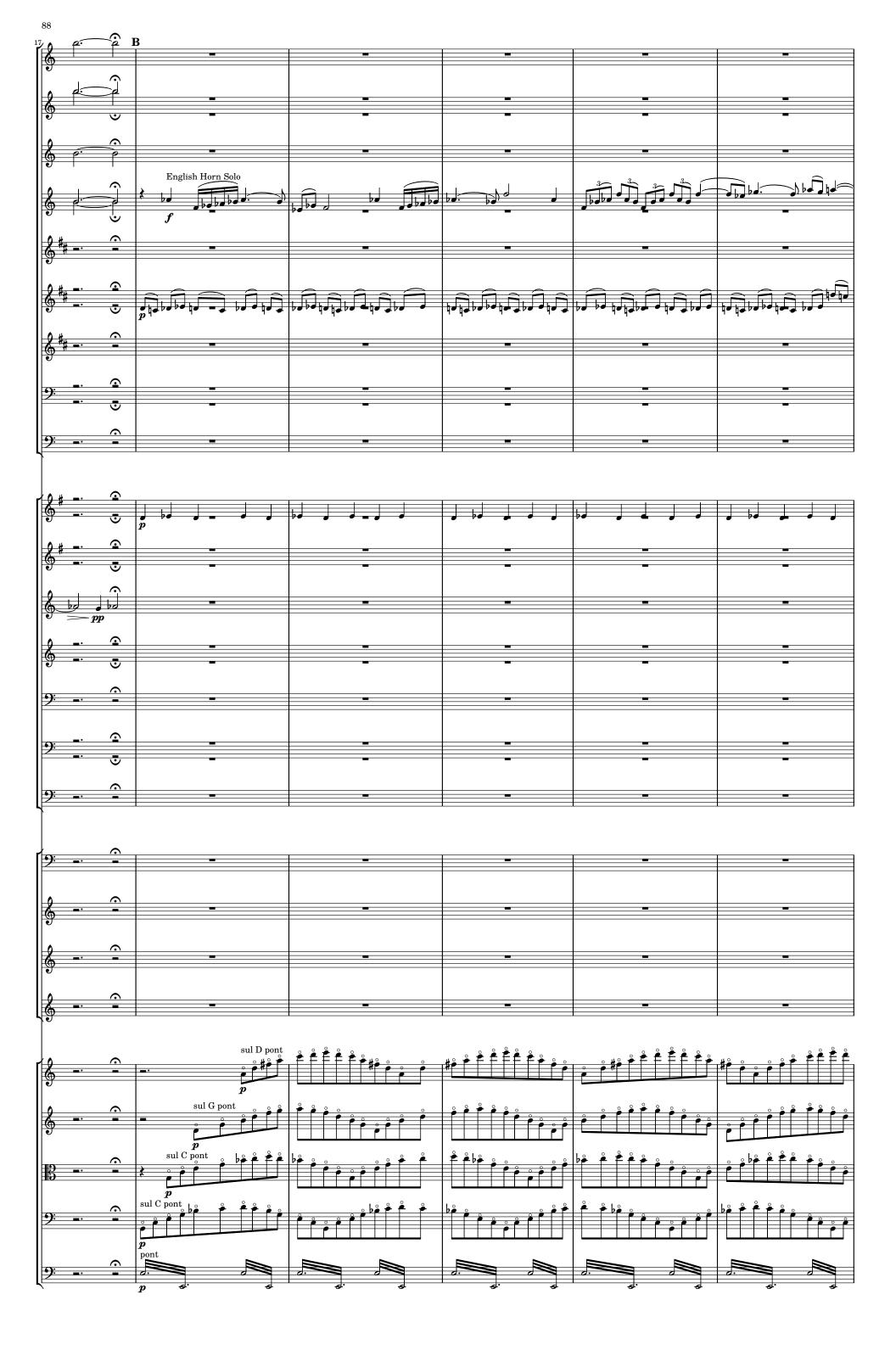
















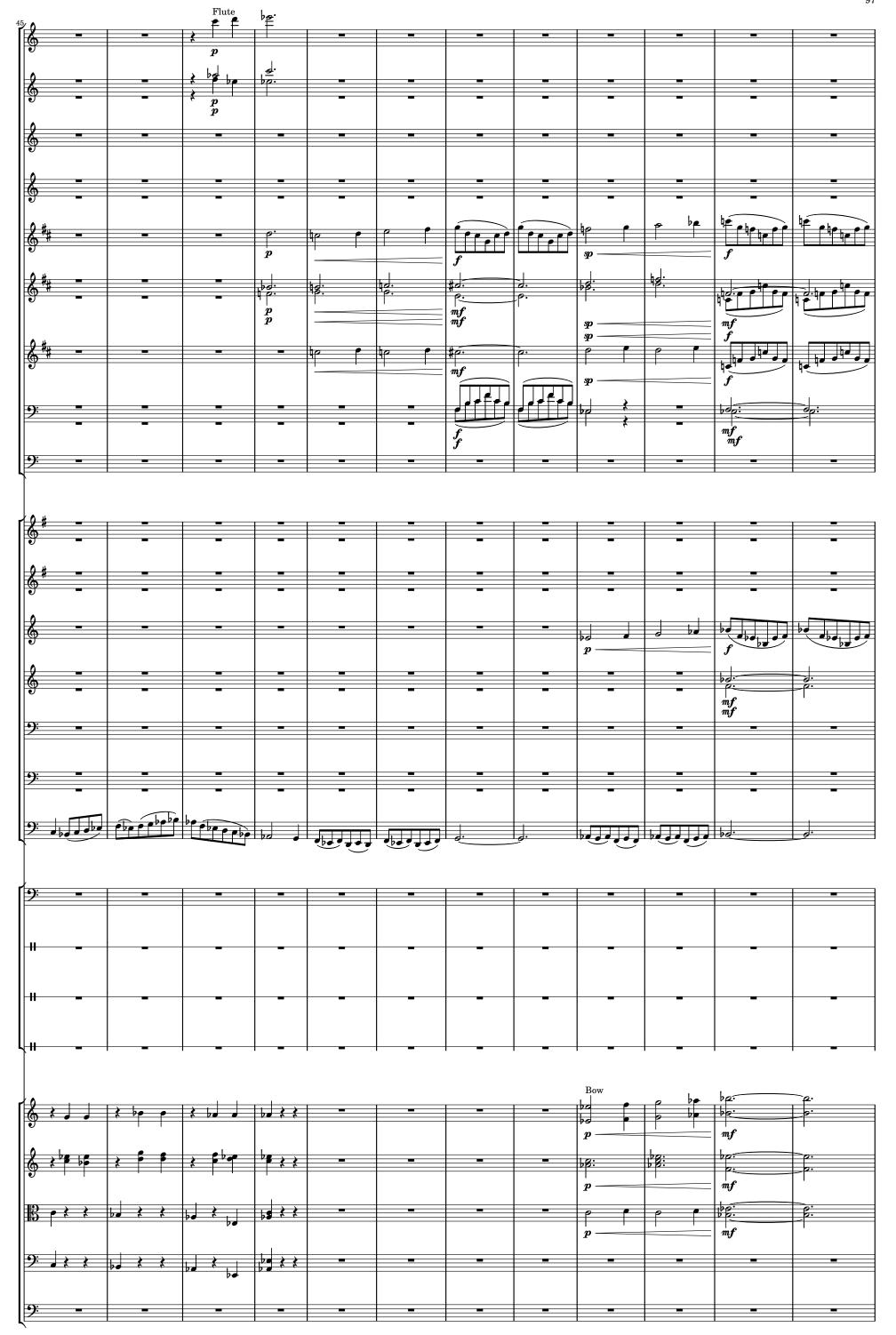


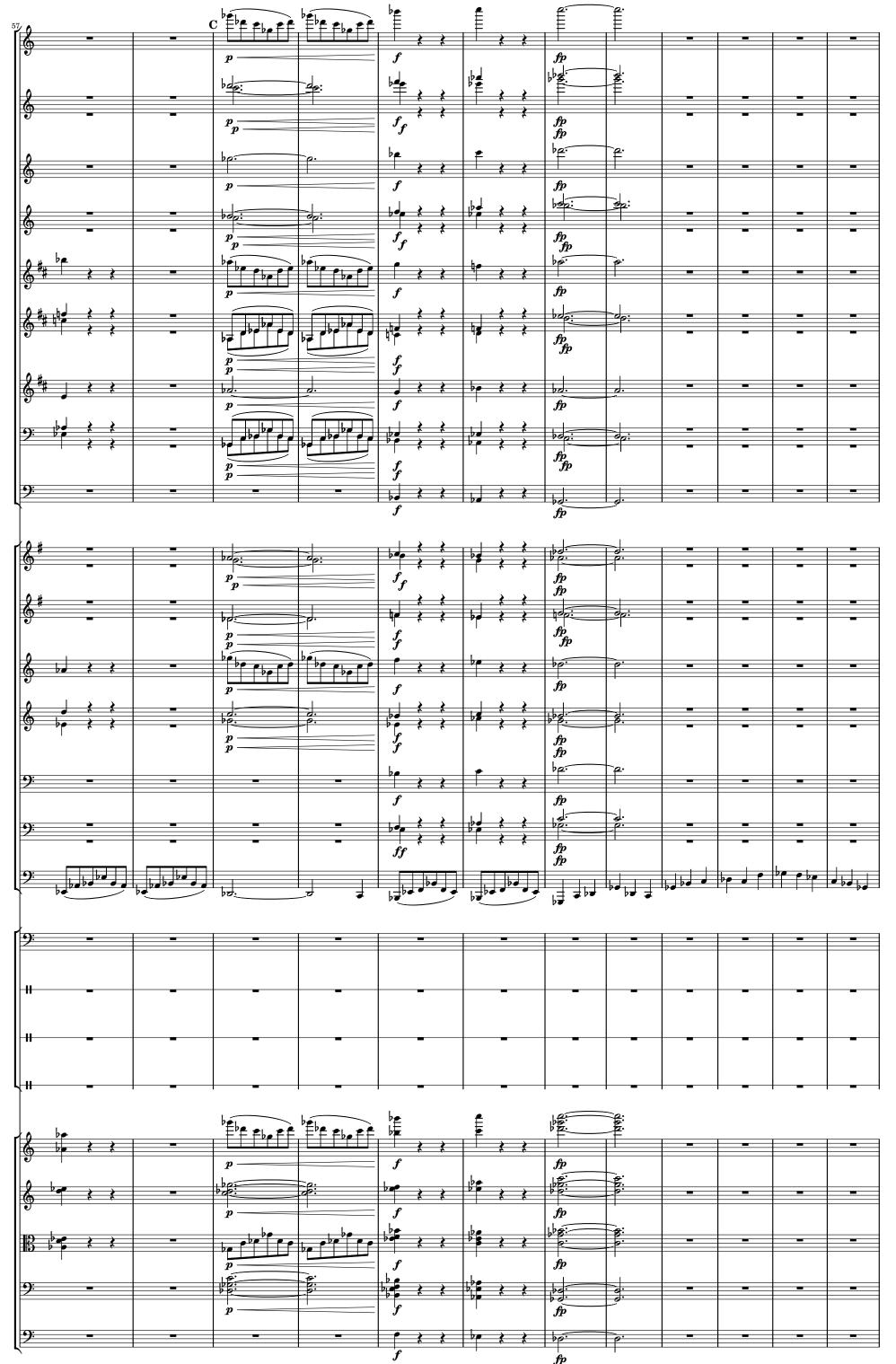














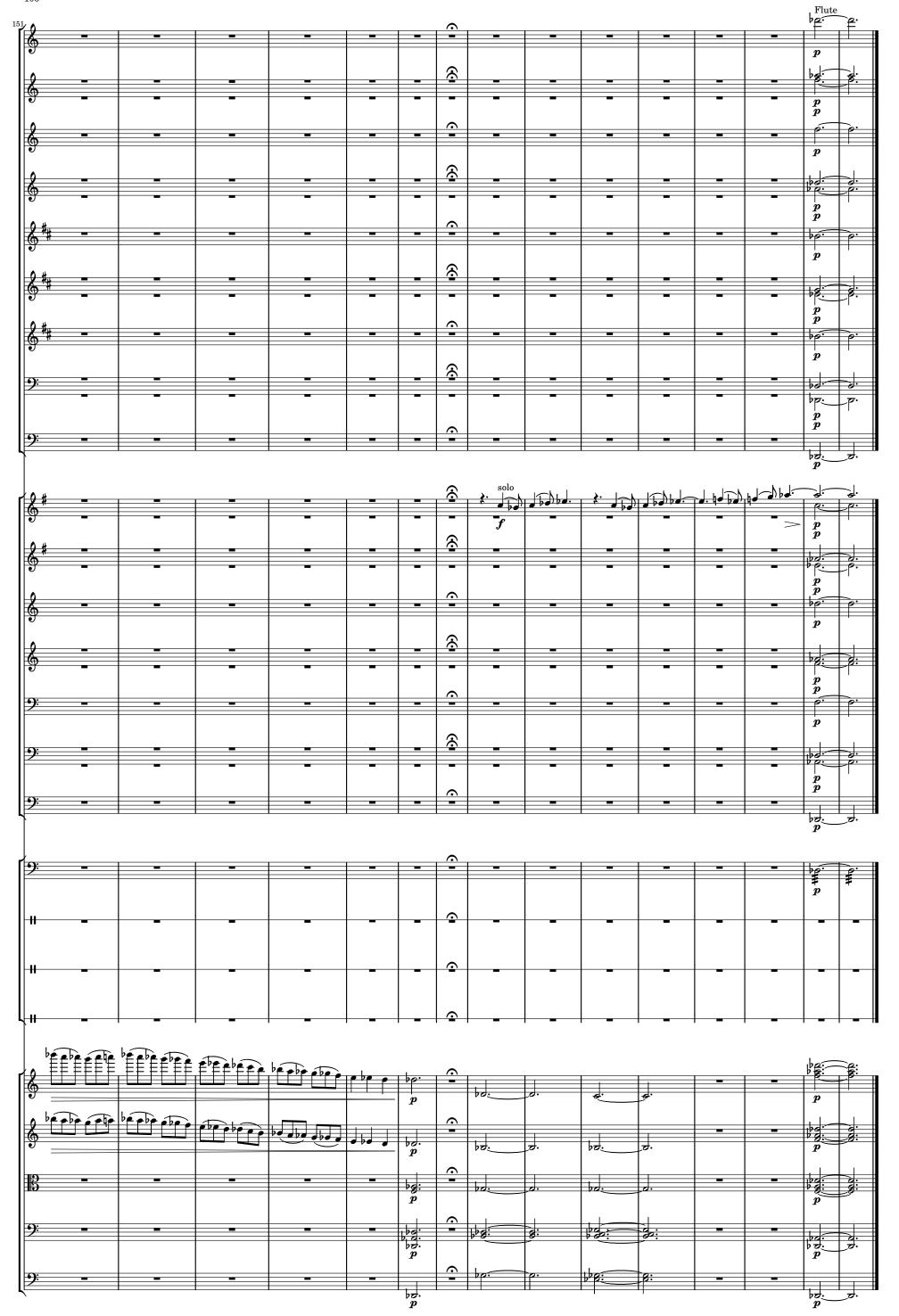


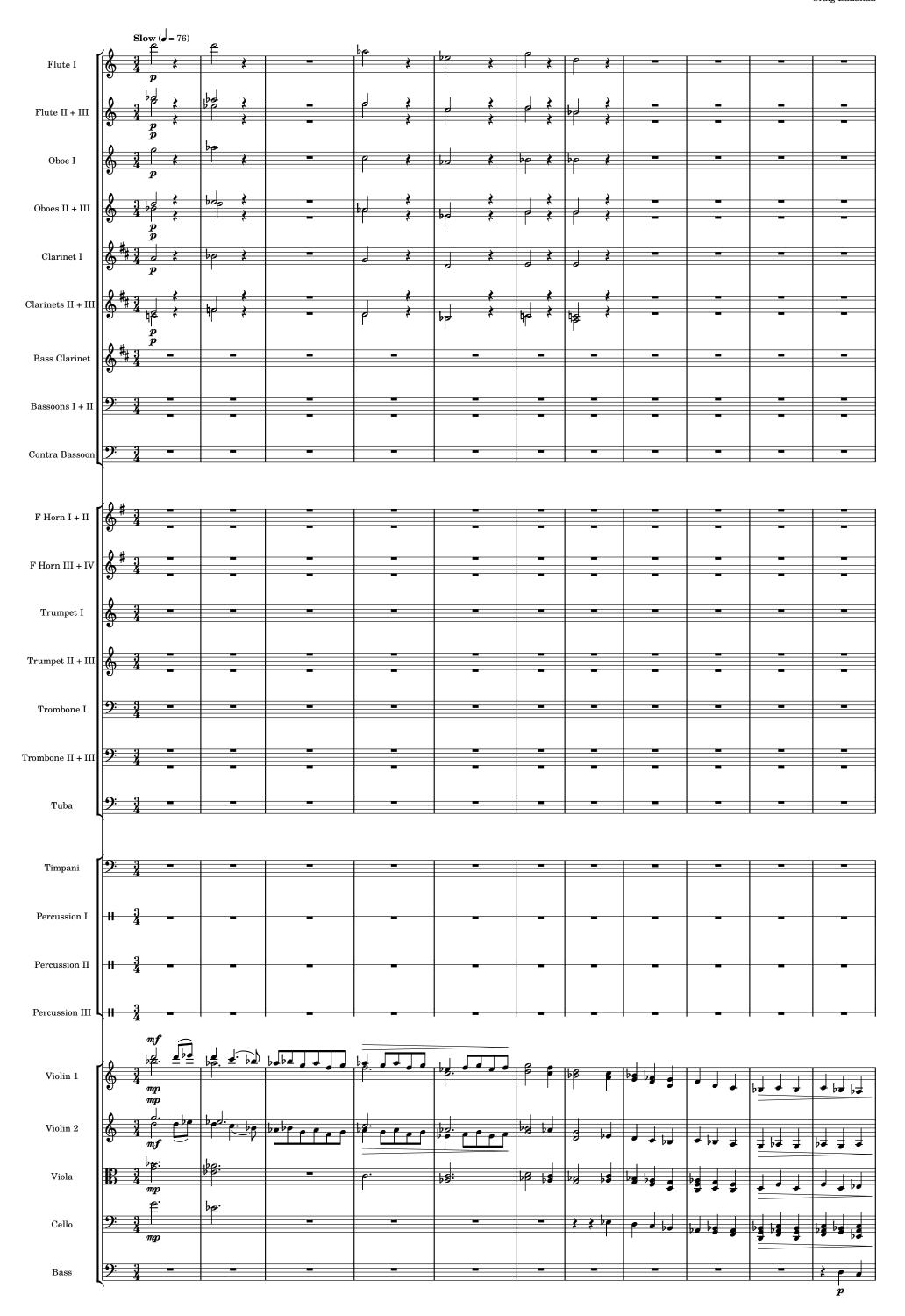
















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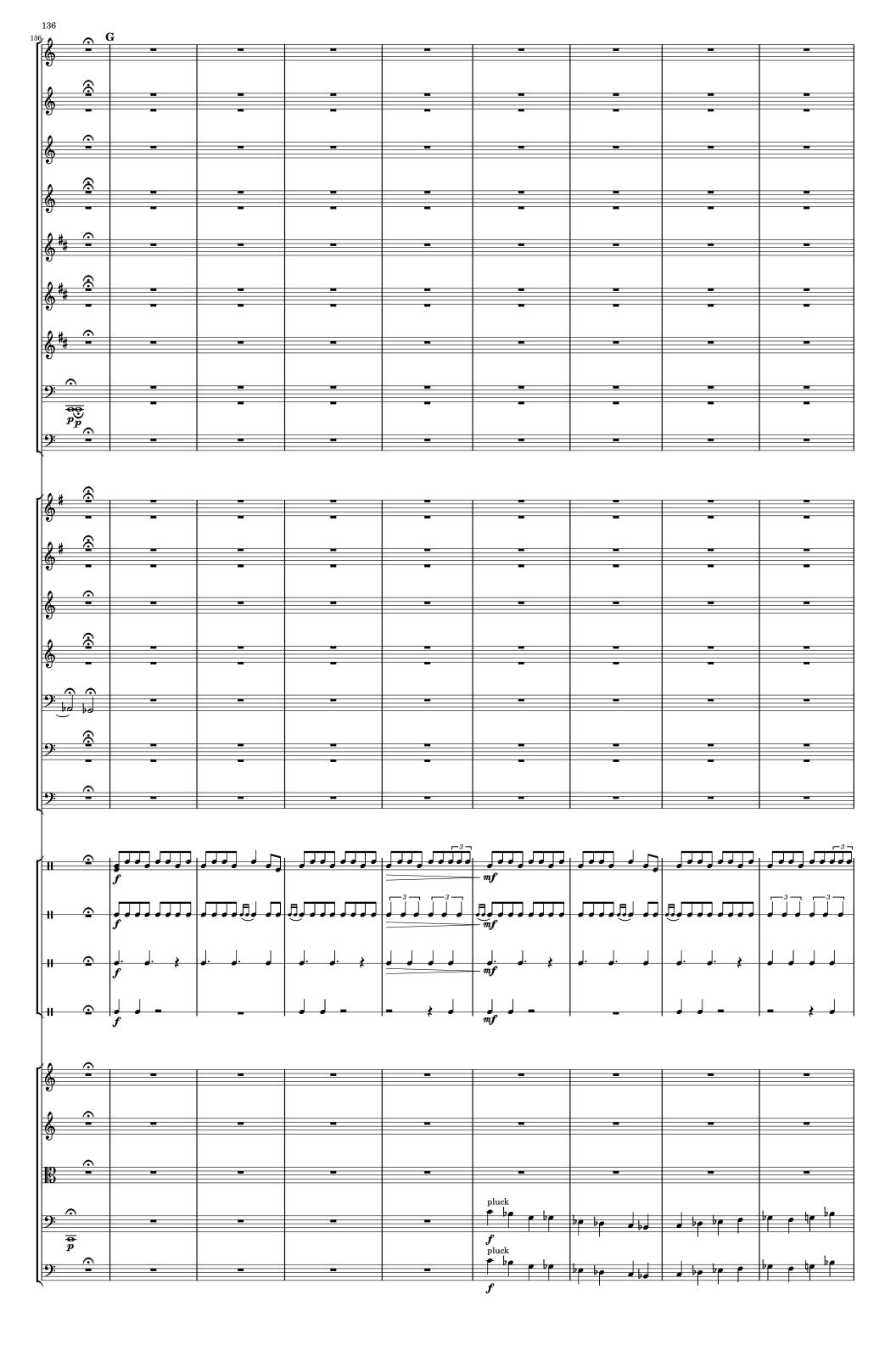










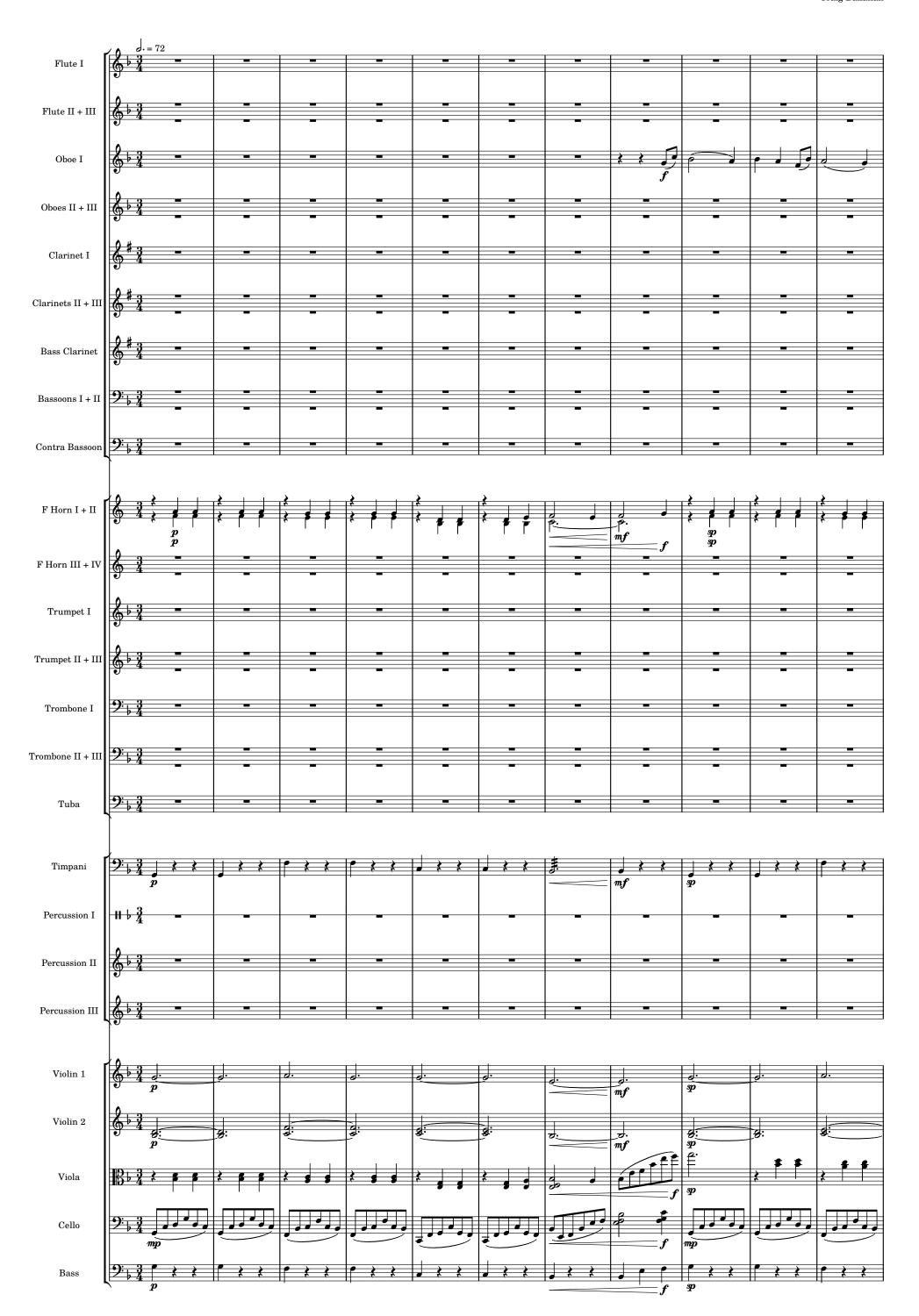










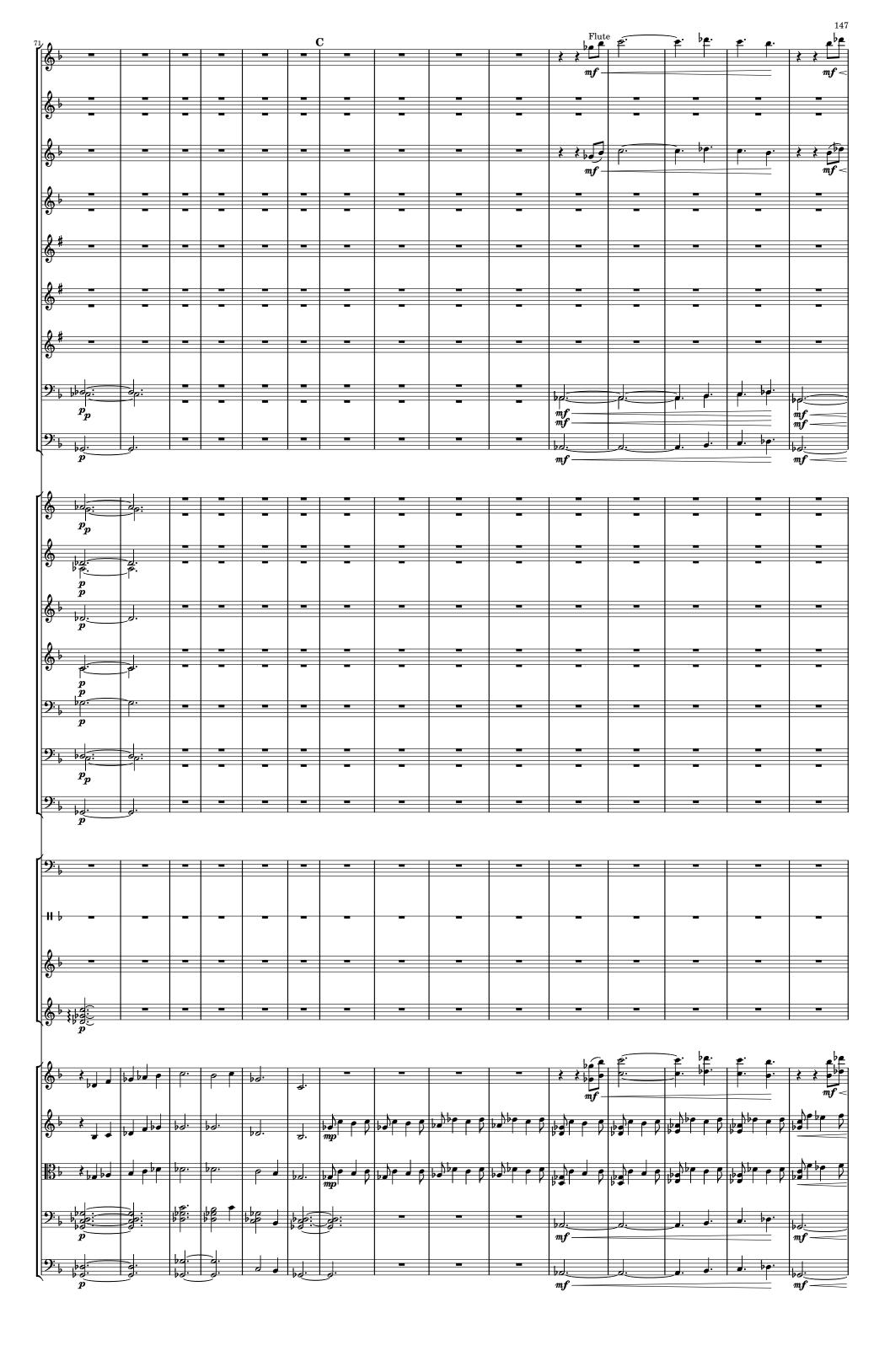
















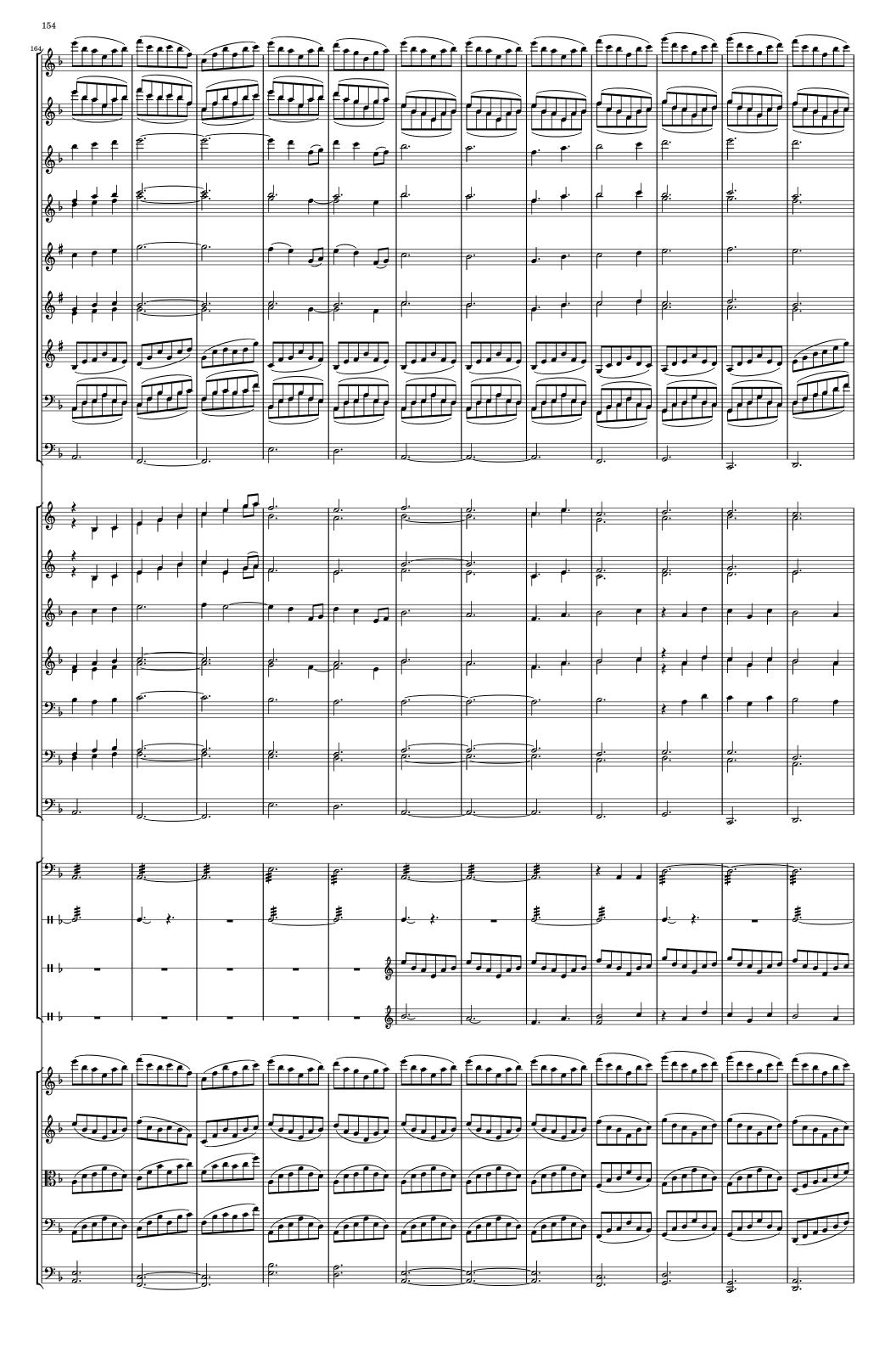
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