Under the Influence

Murray Gross

Under the Influence

Flute (doubling piccolo)
Oboe
2 Clarinets in Bb
Soprano Saxophone
Alto Saxophone
2 Bassoons
2 Horns in F

At some level, all music is about other music. Whether we acknowledge our influences or not, whether we embrace them or rebel against them, all composers must constantly re-evaluate their relationship with the past as they struggle to find their own creative voice. The "influence" referred to in the title of this piece is not alcohol or drugs, but rather a different (yet equally potent) stimulant: the music of Igor Stravinsky.

Although the astute listener will recognize many subtle allusions to melodic and harmonic material favored by Stravinsky, my goal was not to create a mere pastiche of recognizable tunes, but rather an in-depth exploration of his characteristic manipulations of rhythm, timbre, and phrase structure, offering a 21st-century perspective on his now-familiar stylistic innovations. One prominent aspect of Stravinsky's music is simply its ingenuity and wit; even his most austere works often contain elements of humor or jazz. "Under the Influence" reflects this lighthearted spirit, with its instrumentation modeled after Mozart's wind serenades (but with saxophones substituting for bassett horns).

My intent was to use the music of Stravinsky in a manner similar to that in which he himself often used the music of earlier composers. In his program notes for The Rake's Progress, Stravinsky wrote "Can a composer re-use the past and at the same time move in a forward direction? The answer…is yes." I agree.

Duration 10:30
The score is transposed

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♩ = 116 Buoyant, energetic

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in B♭ 1

Clarinet in B♭ 2

Soprano Sax.

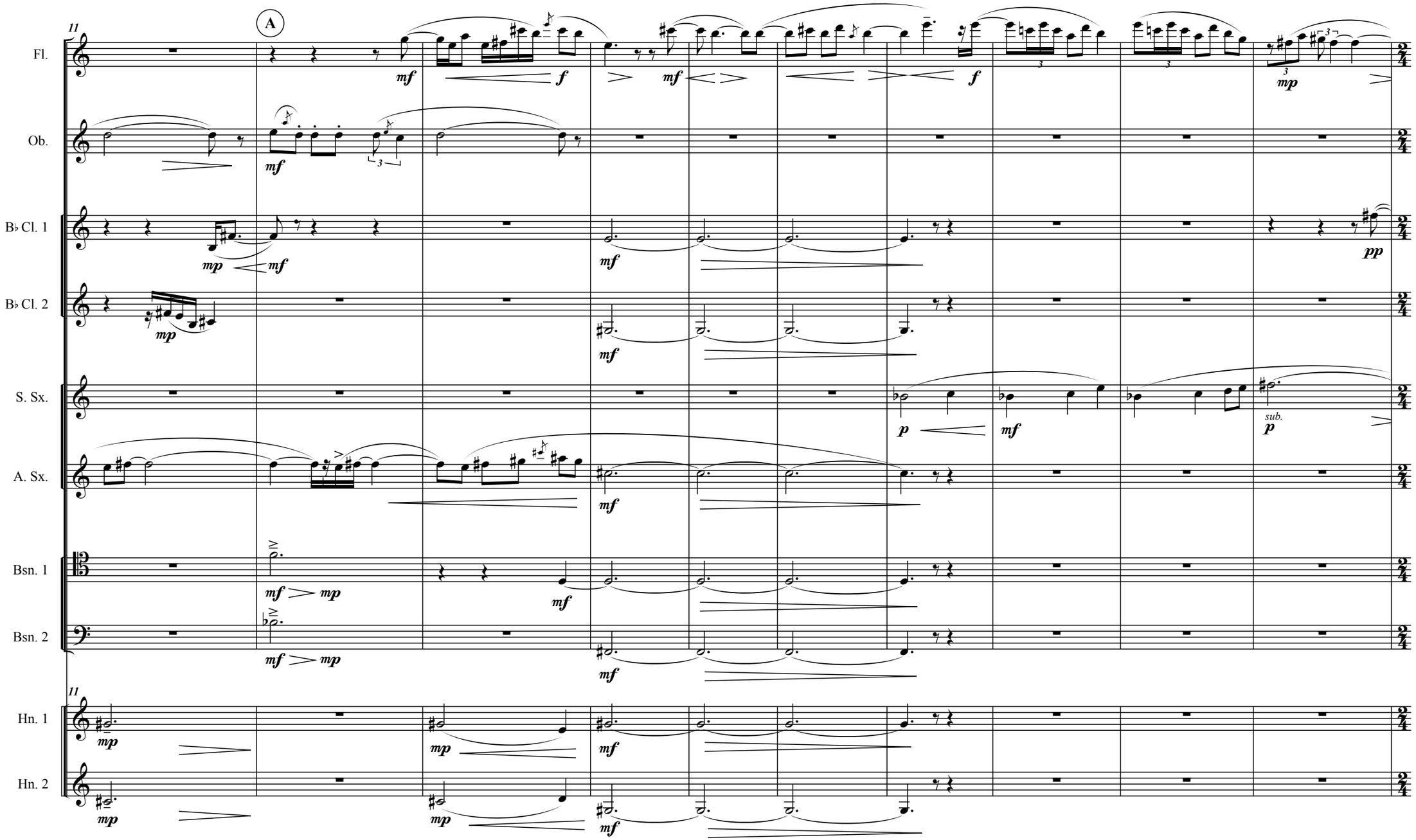
Alto Sax.

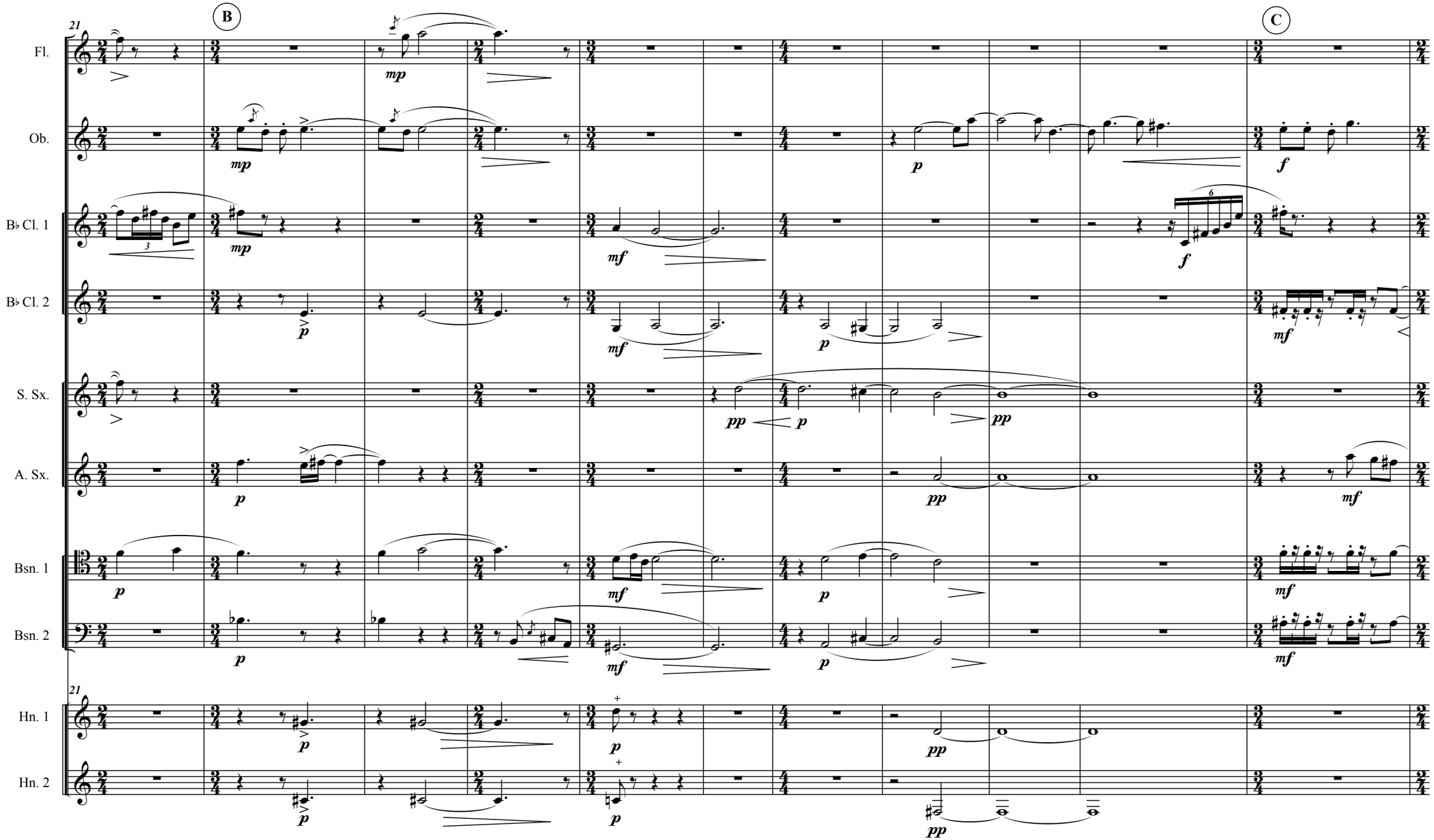
Bassoon 1

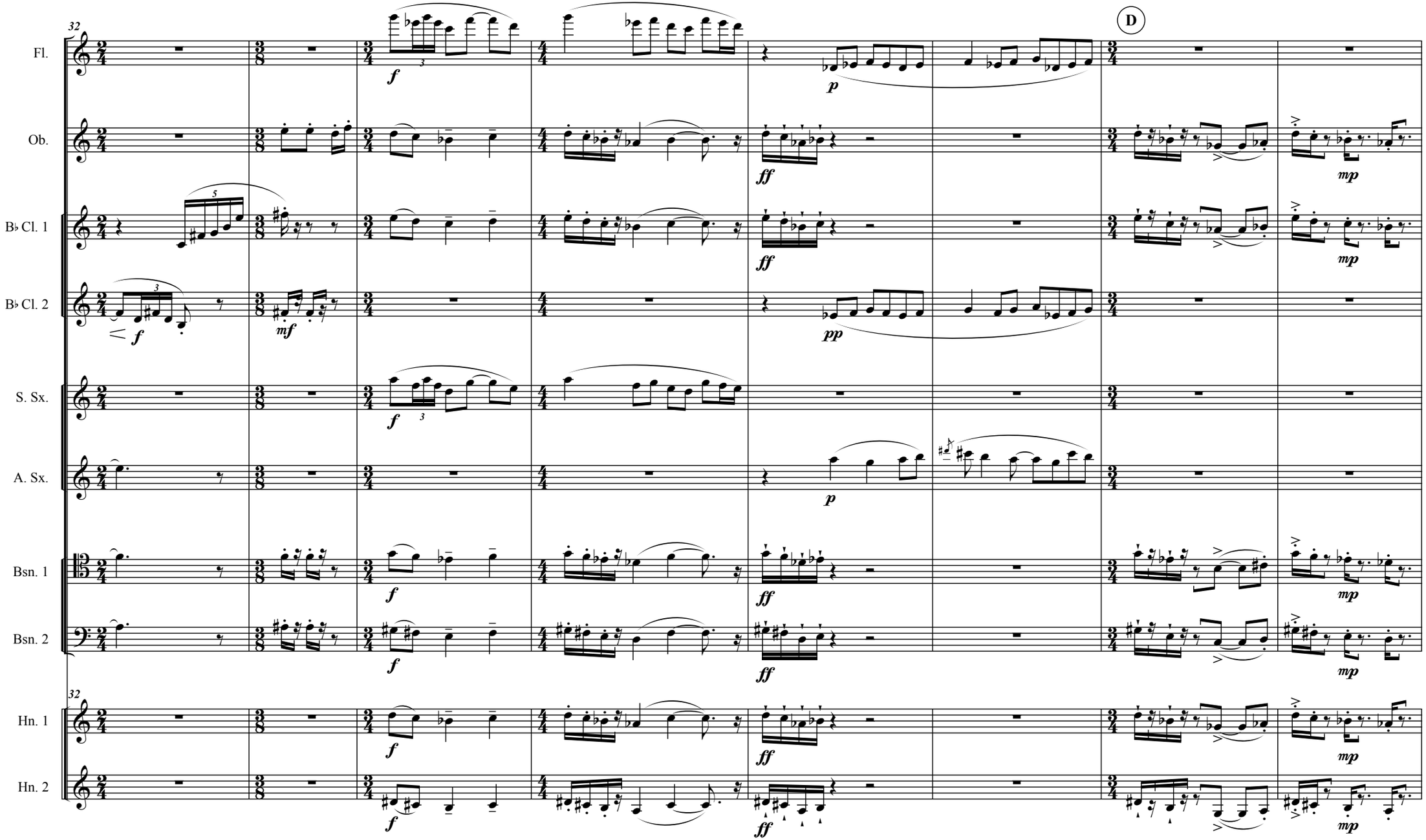
Bassoon 2

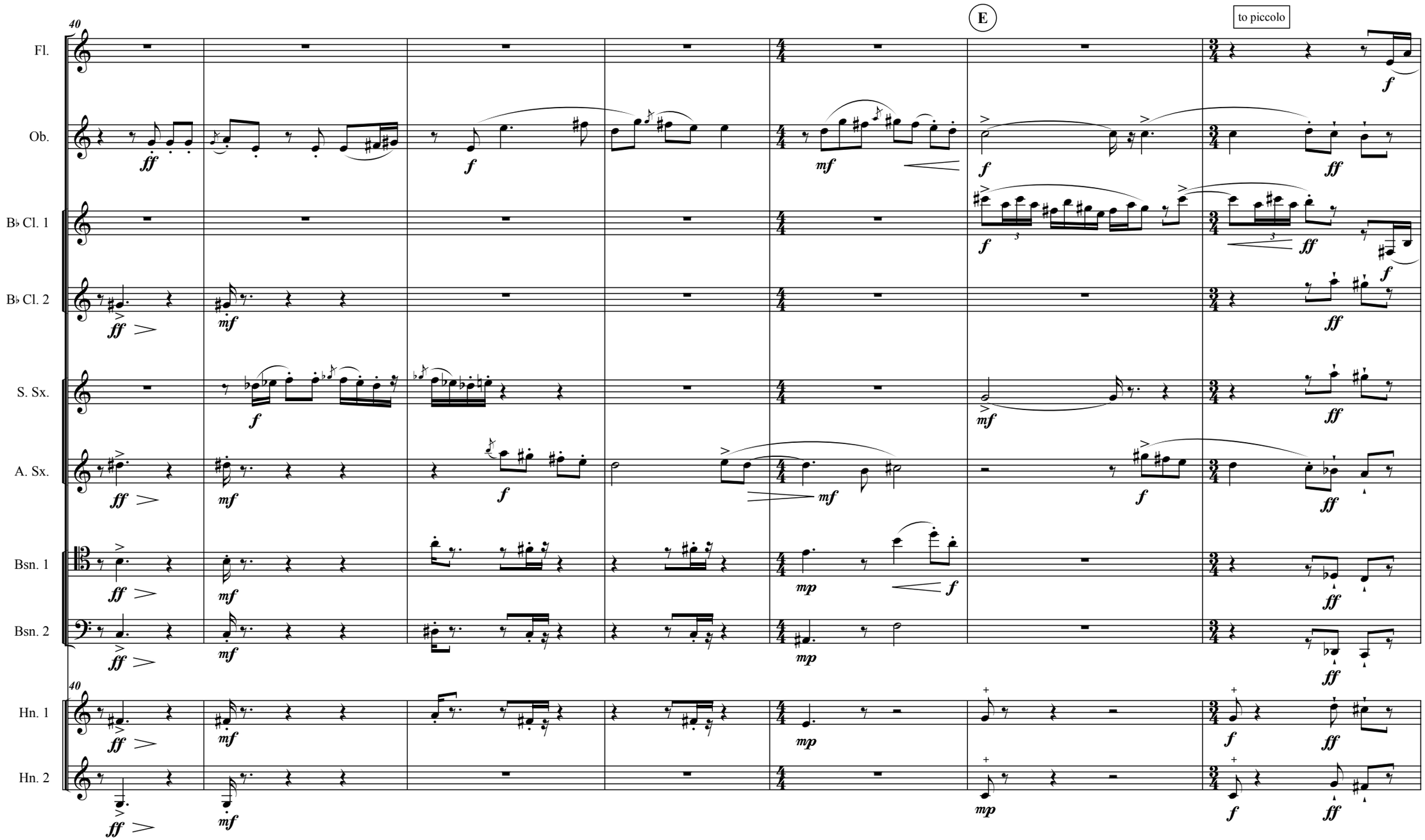
Horn in F 1

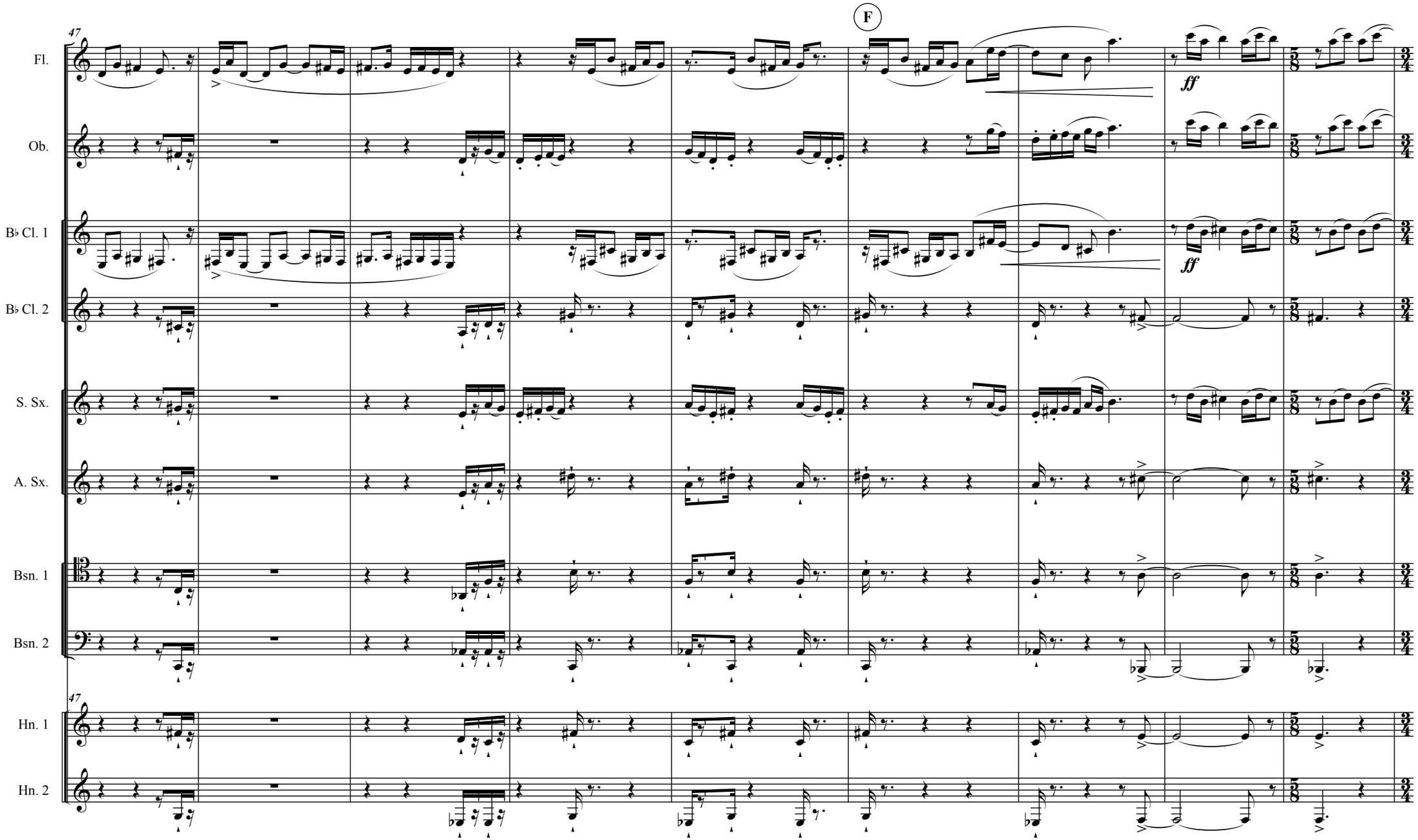
Horn in F 2

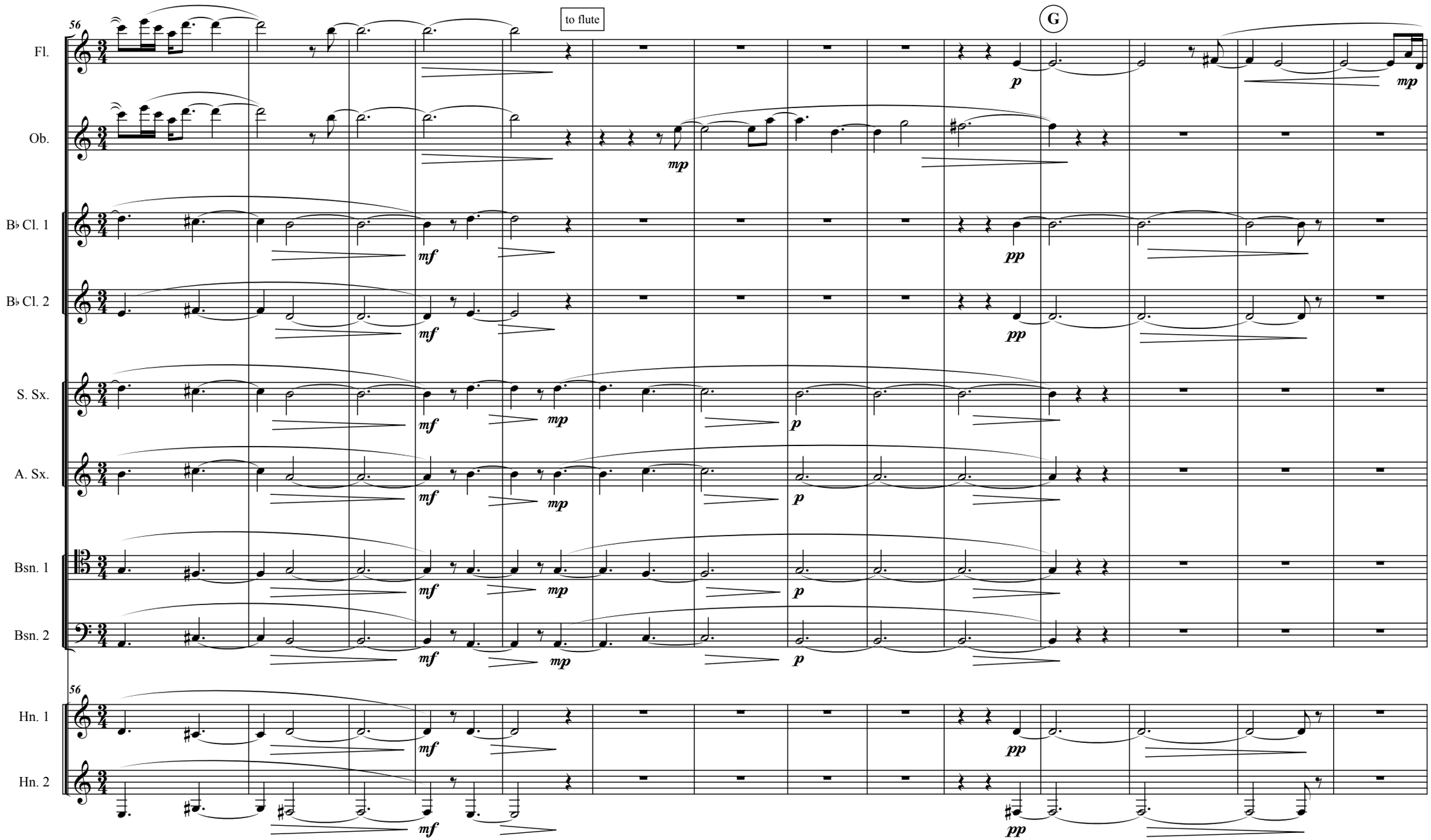

11
A
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mf
f
mp
pp
p
sub.

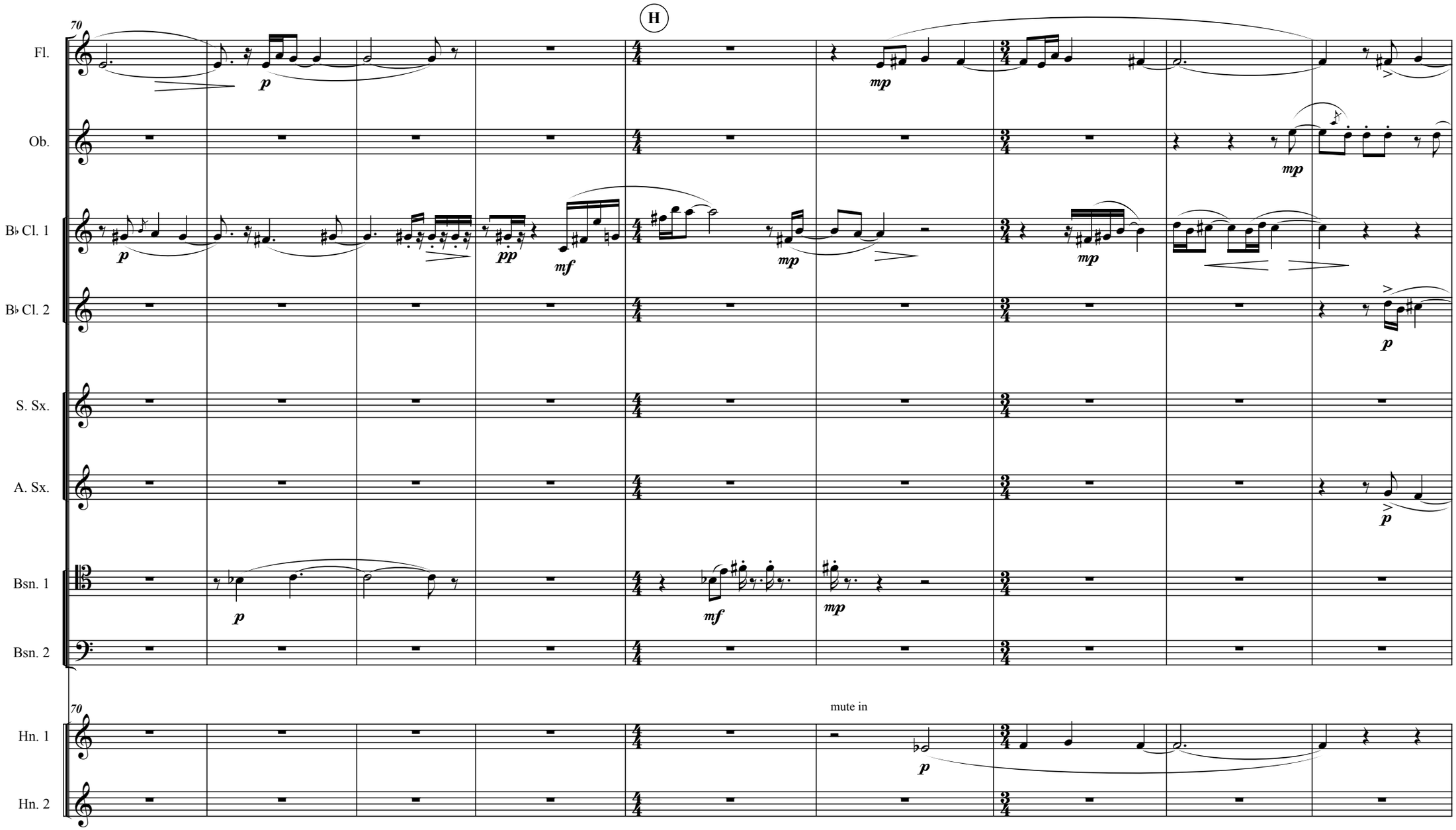

21
B
C
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
21
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

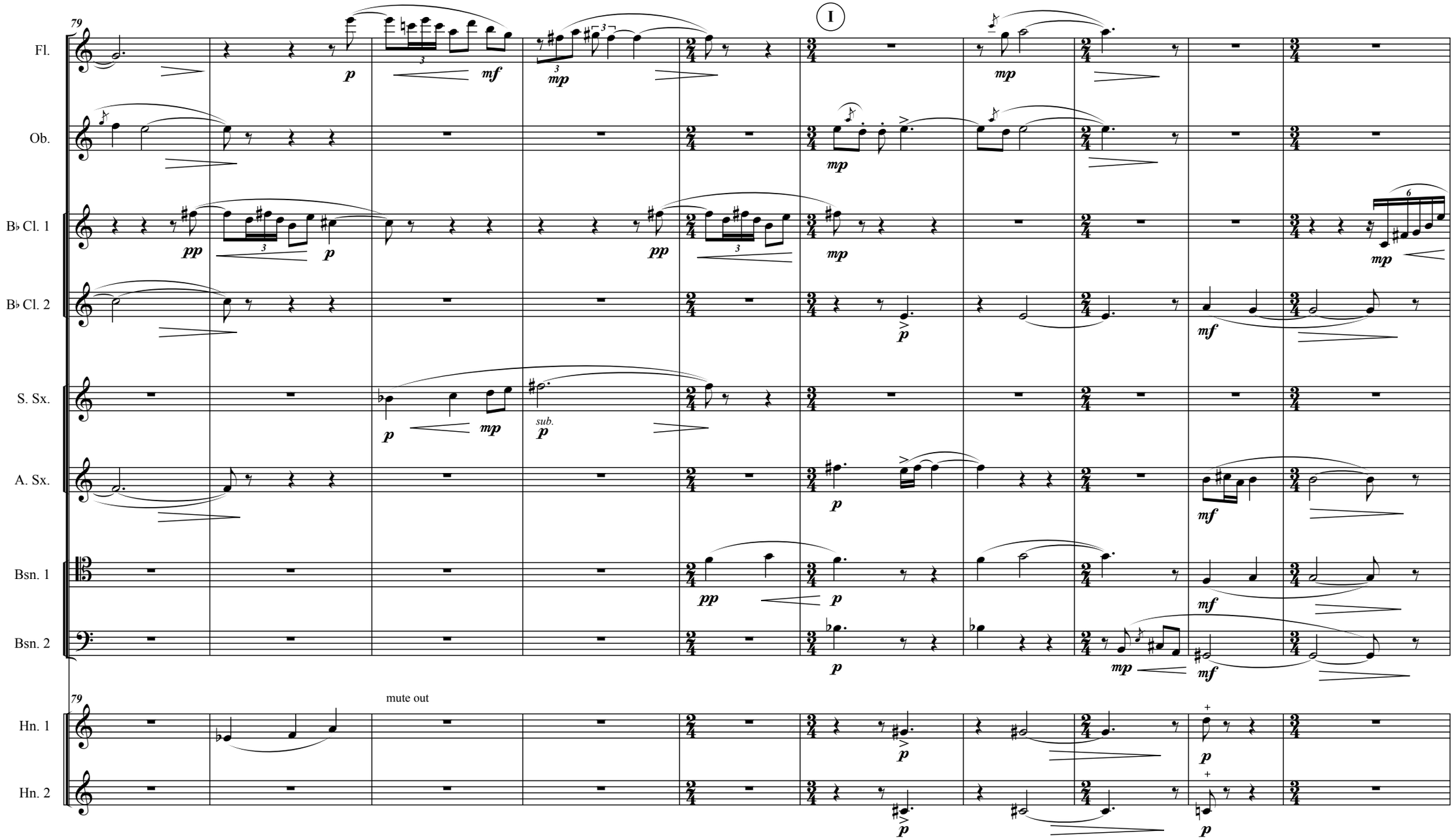

32
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
D
f
p
ff
mf
pp
mp

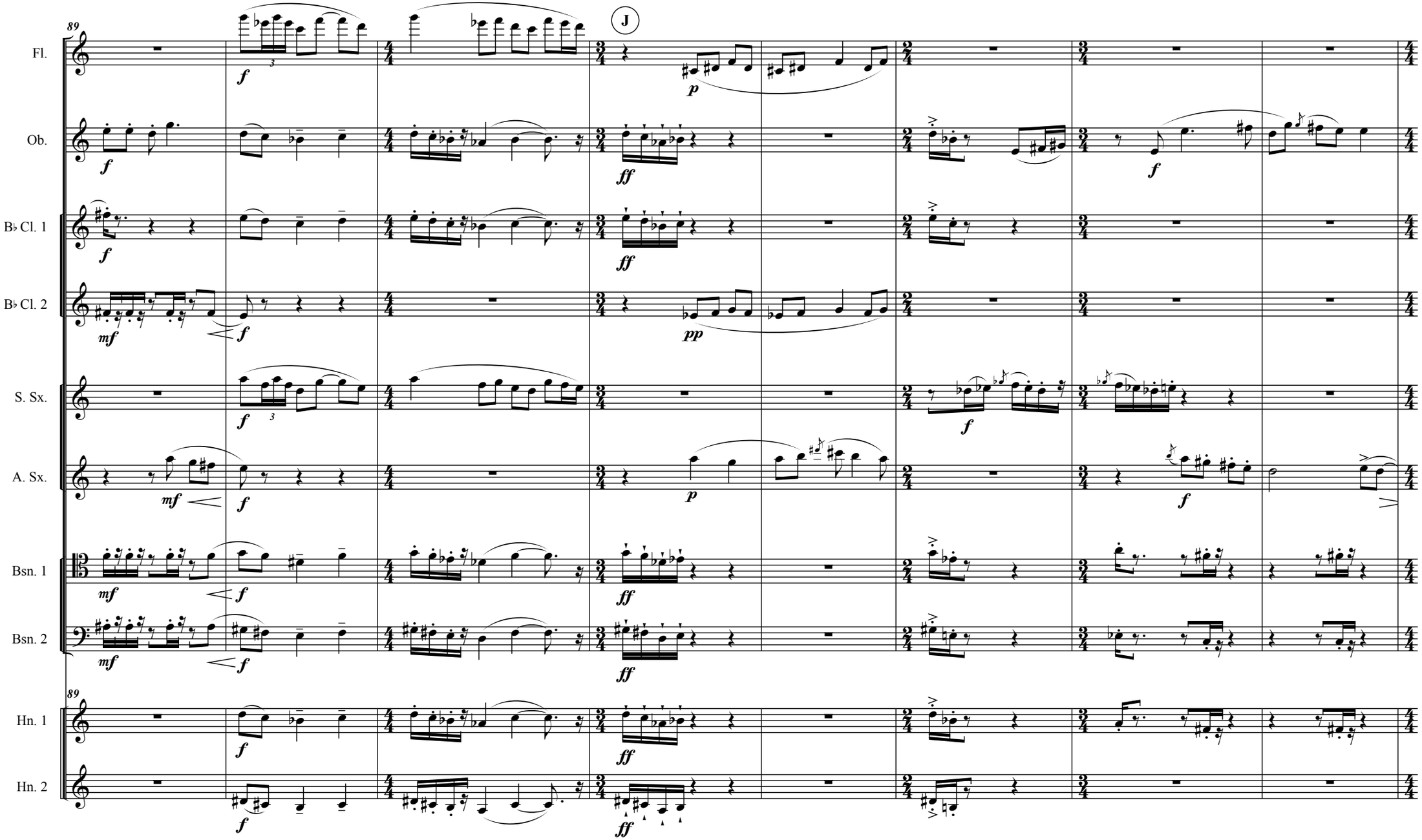

40
E
to piccolo
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

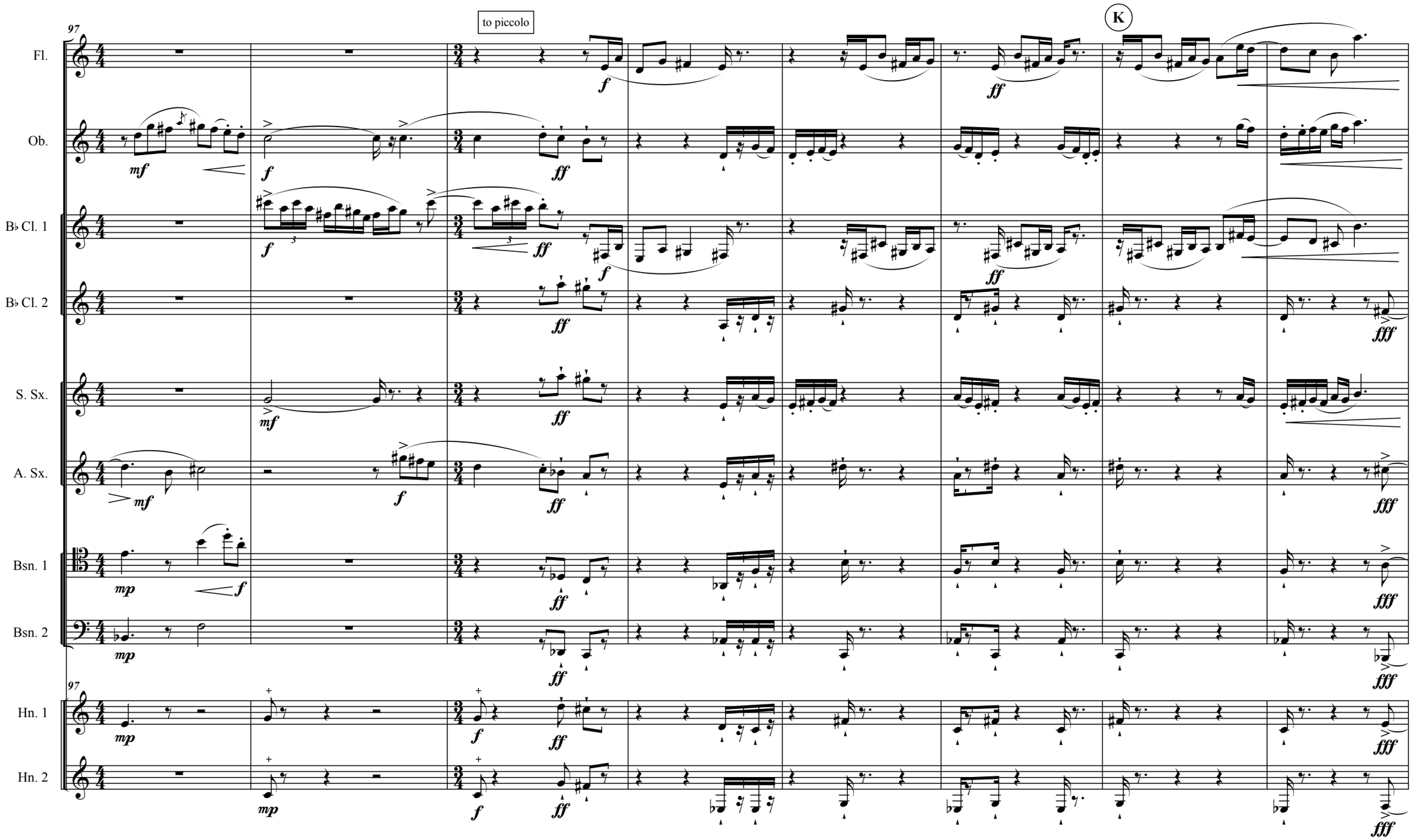

F
47
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
47
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
ff
ff

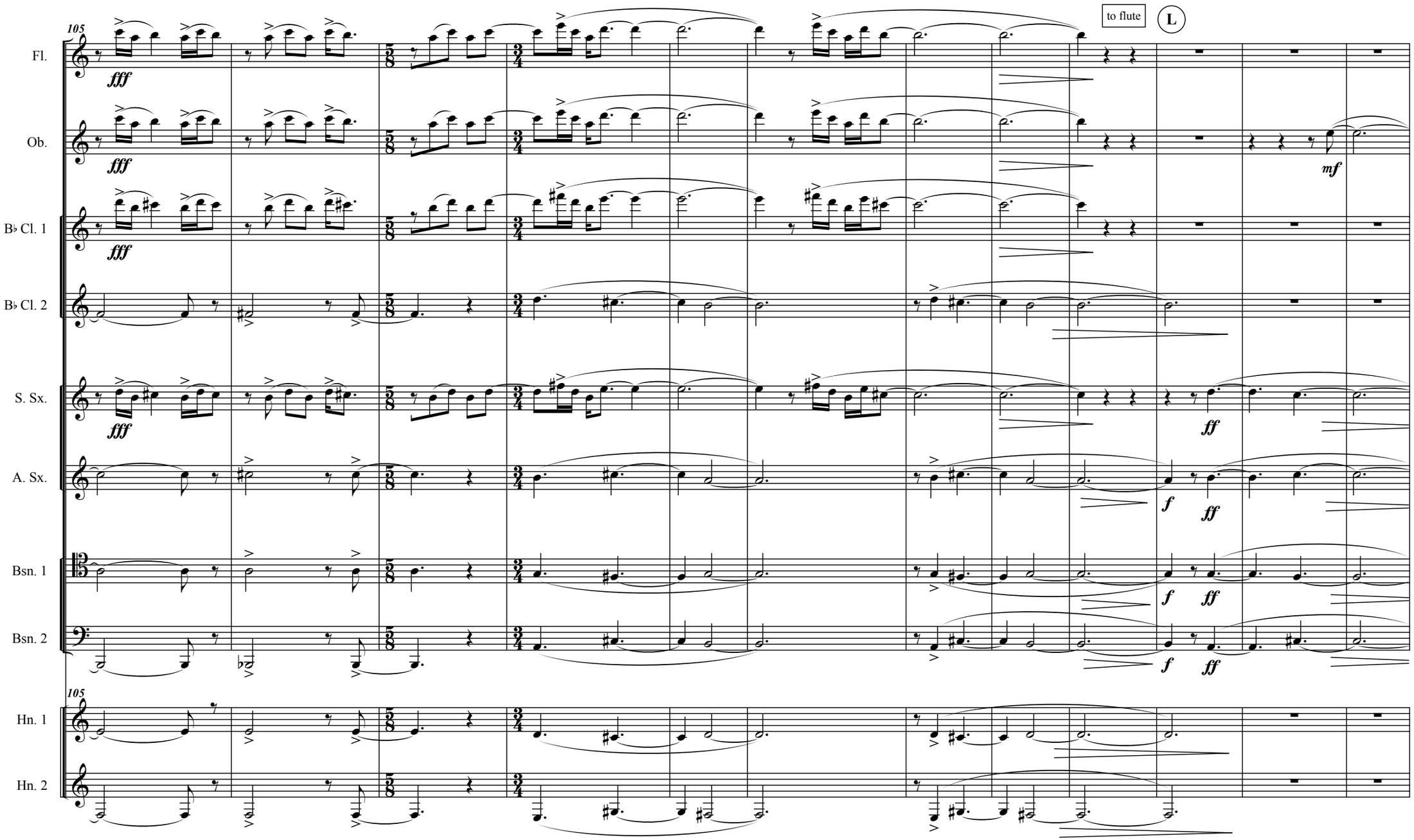

56
to flute
G
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
p
mp
mf
pp

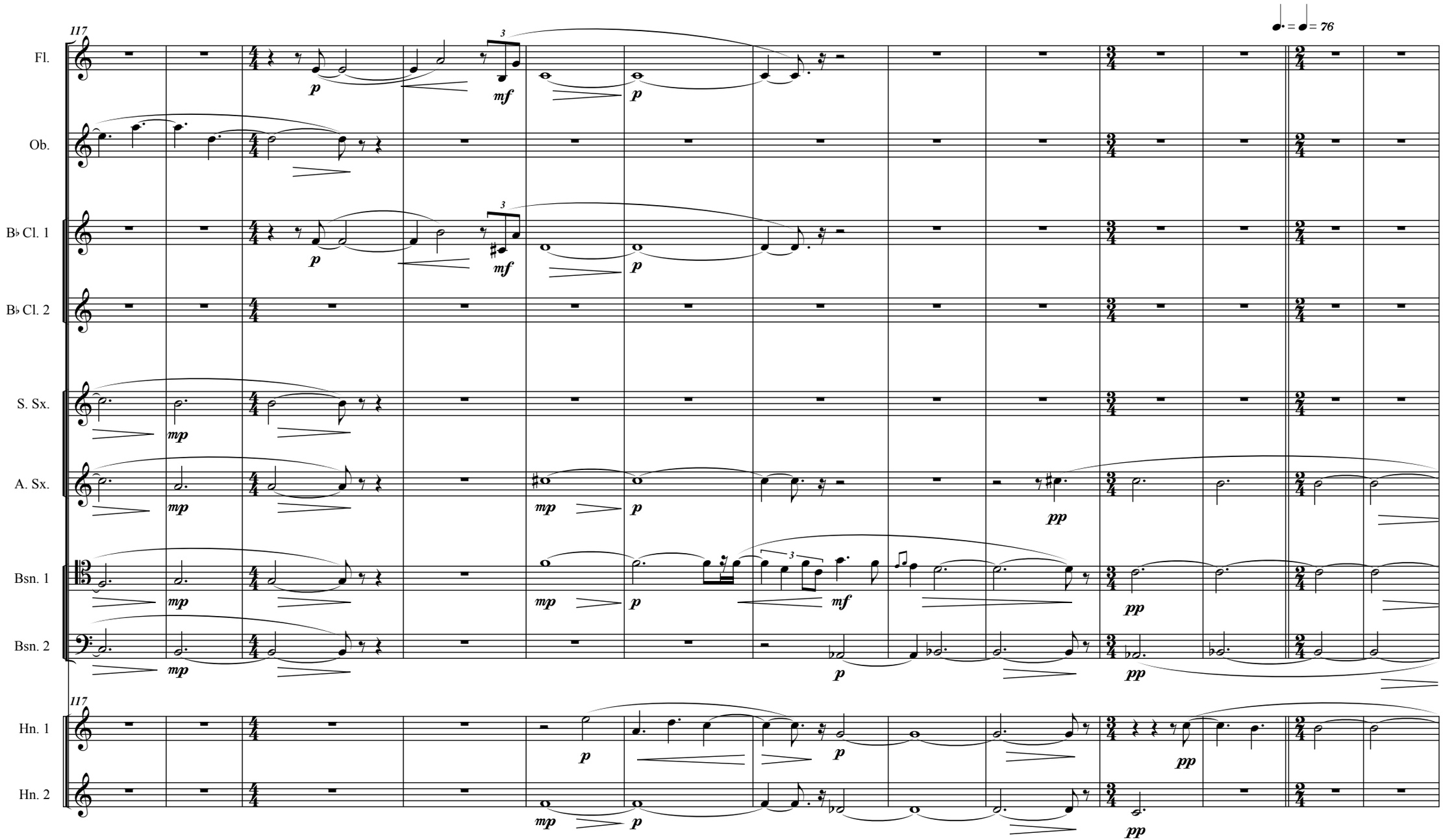

H
70
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mute in

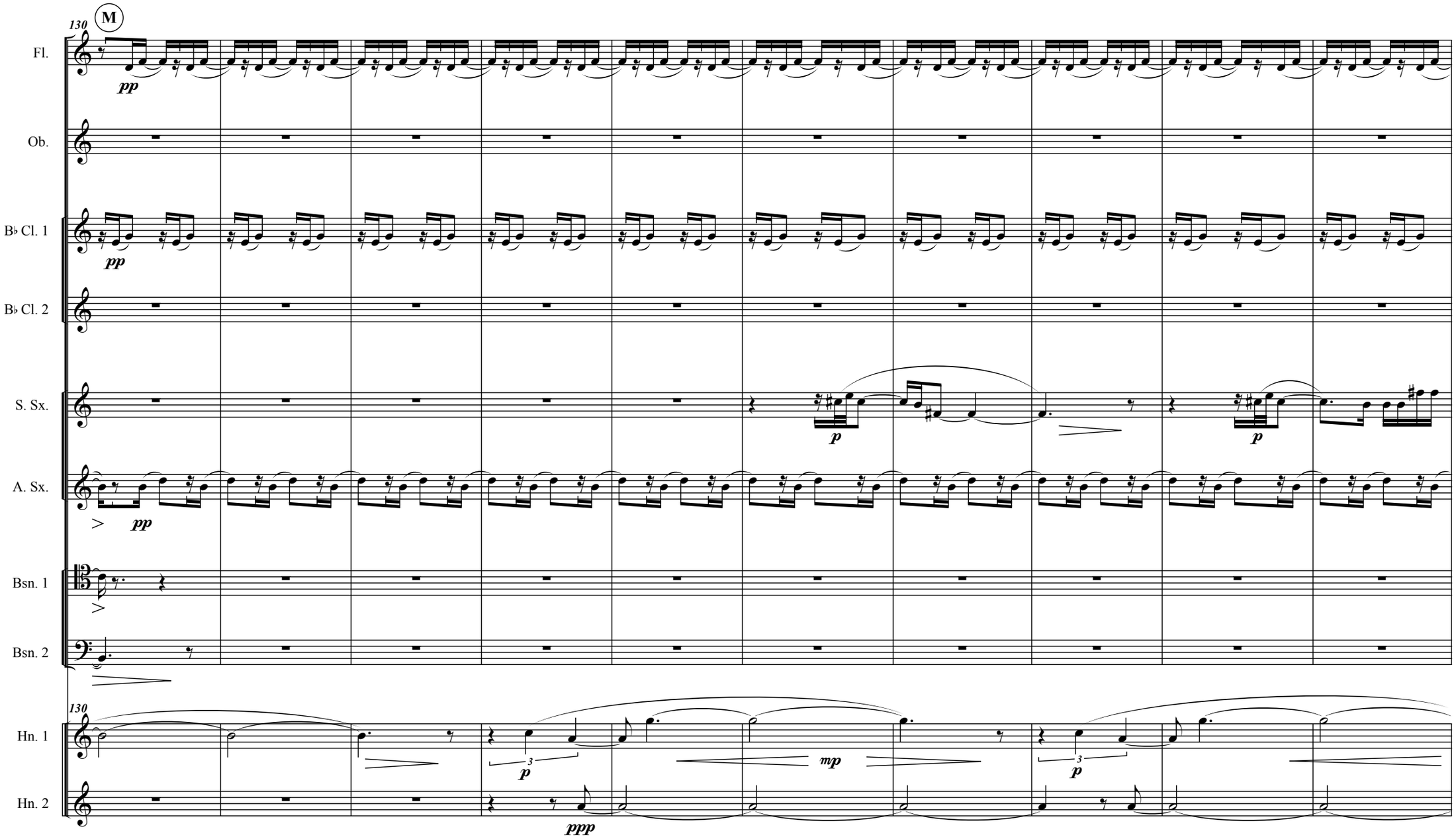

79
I
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mute out
sub.

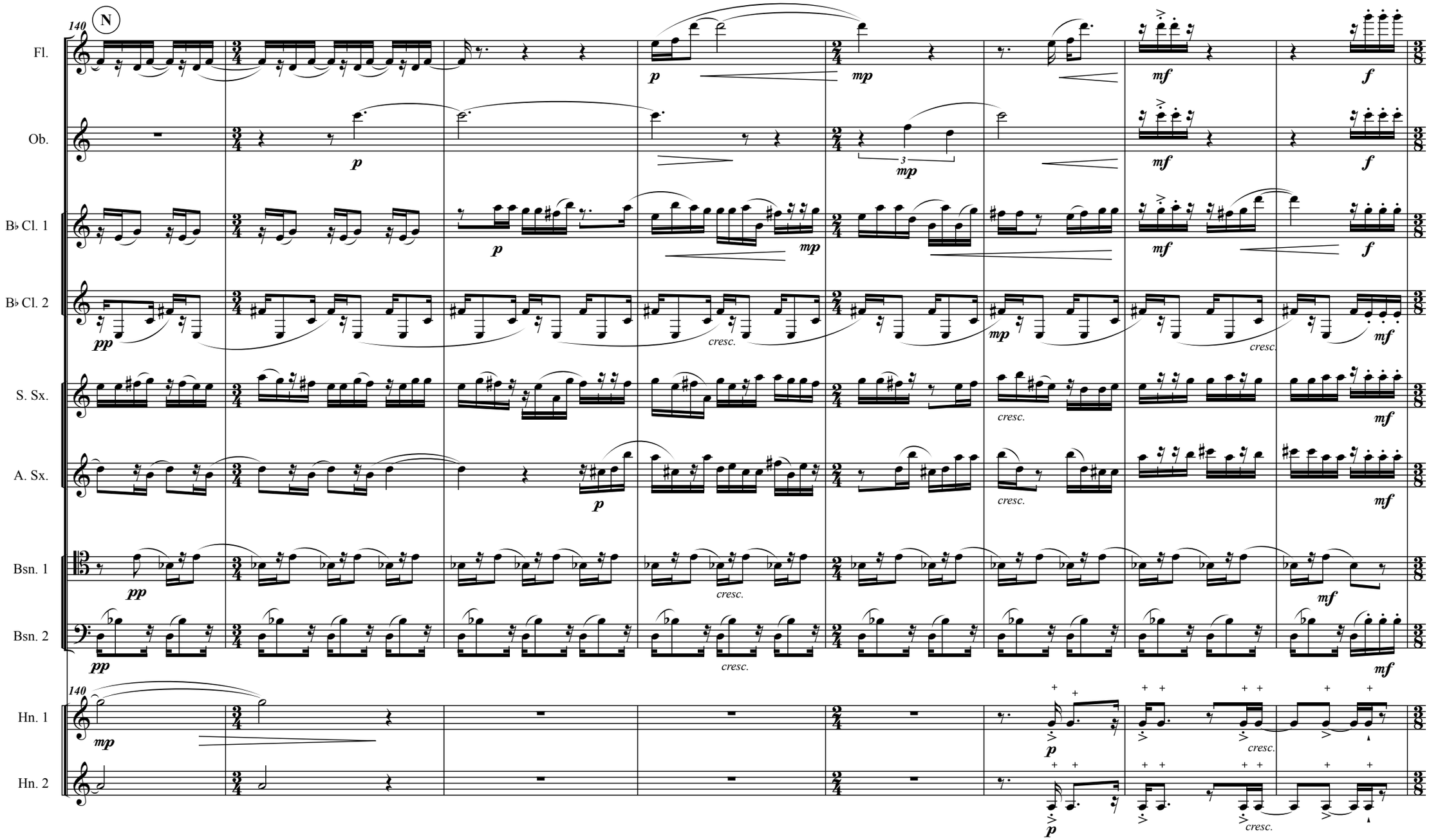

89
J
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

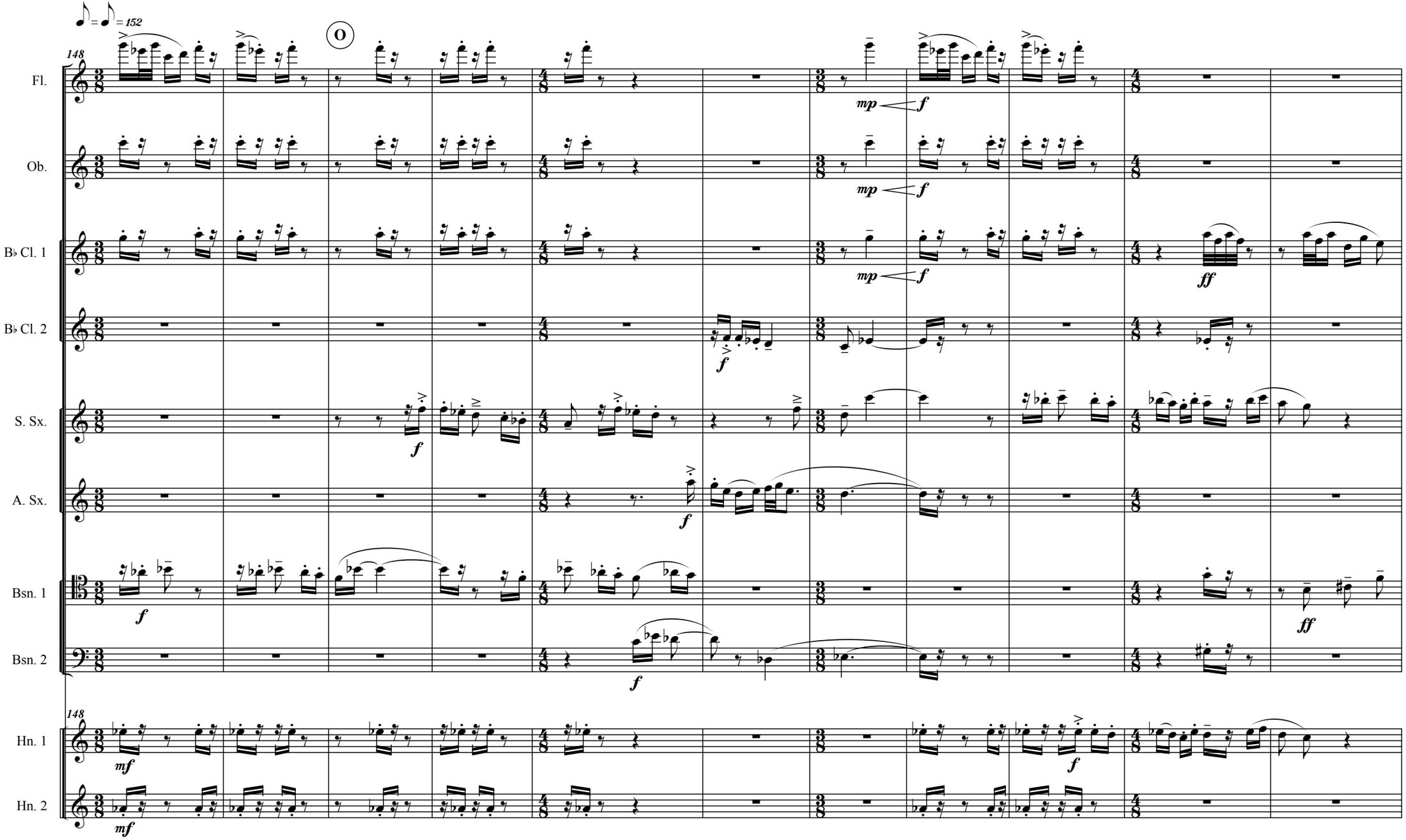

97
to piccolo
K
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

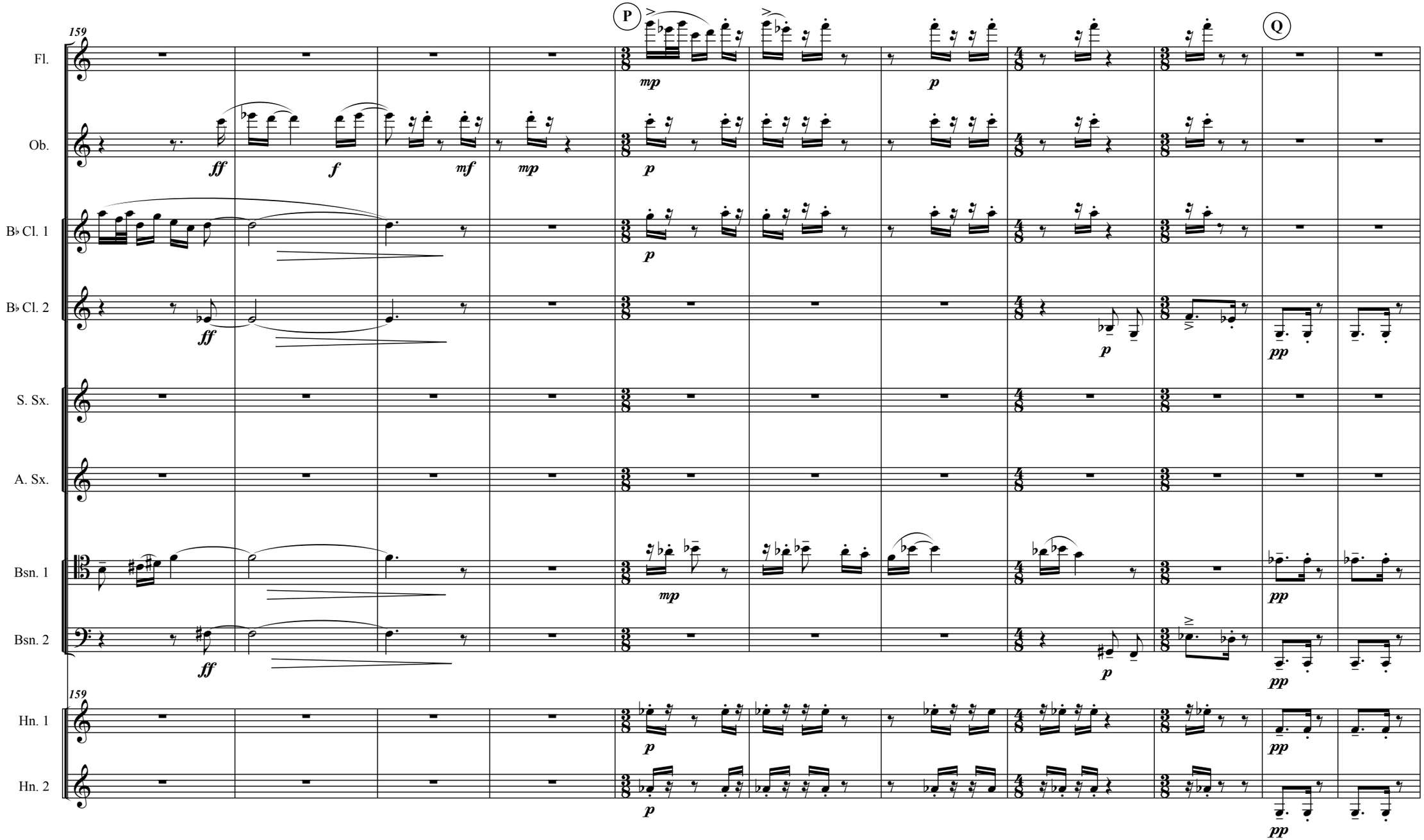

105
Fl.
fff
Ob.
fff
mf
B♭ Cl. 1
fff
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
fff
ff
A. Sx.
f
ff
Bsn. 1
f
ff
Bsn. 2
f
ff
105
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
to flute
L

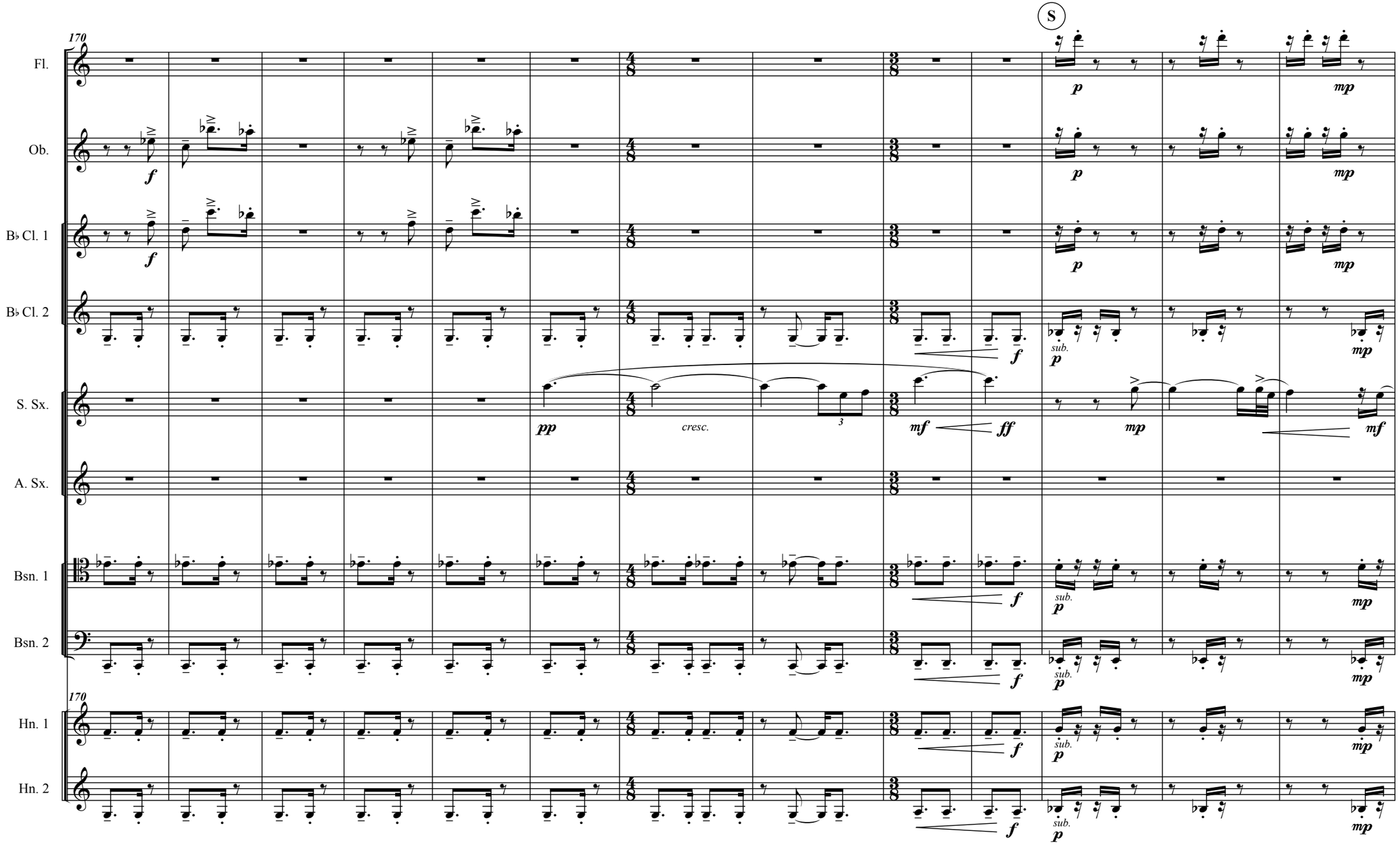

117
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
= 76
p
mf
mp
pp

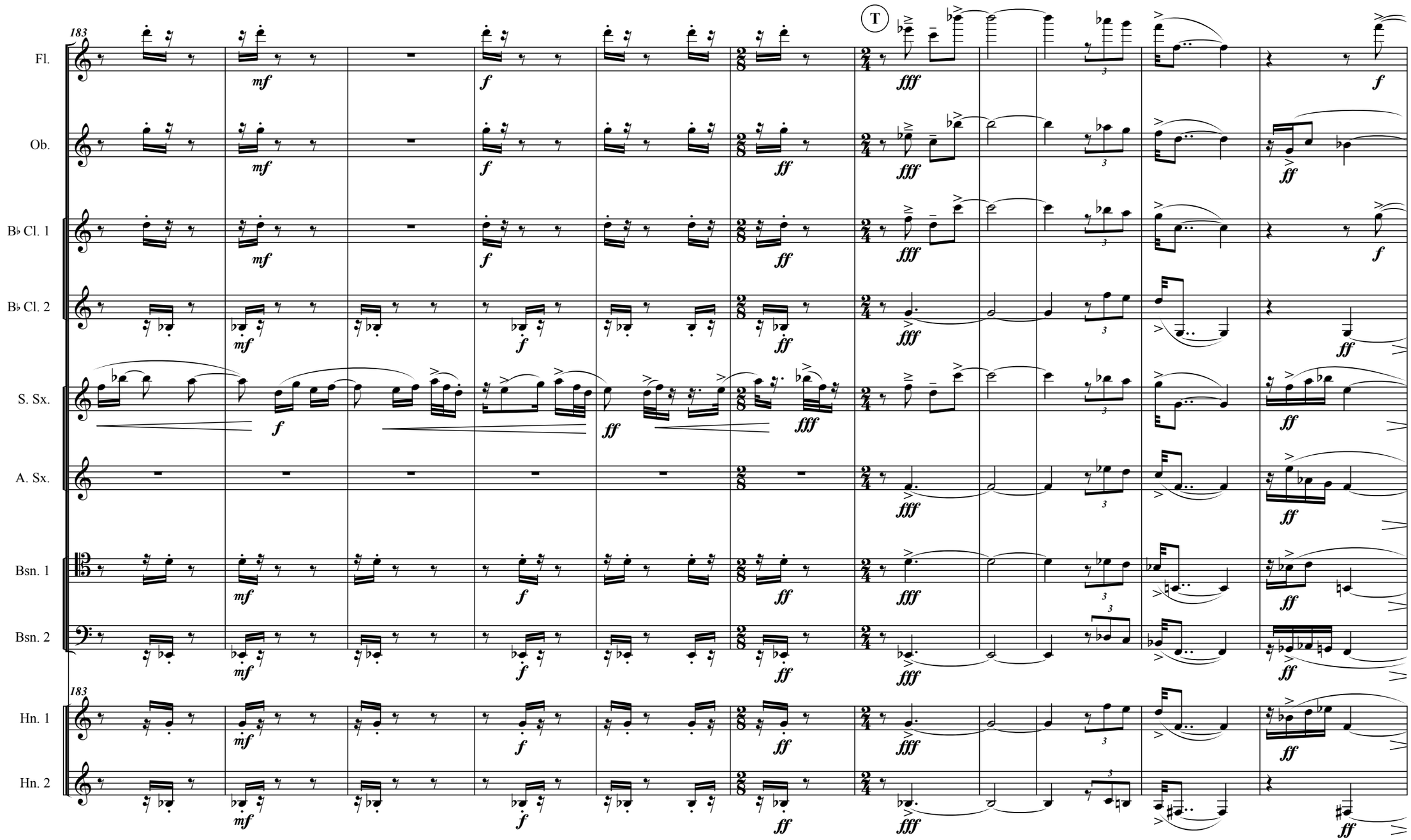

M
130
Fl.
pp
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
pp
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
p
p
A. Sx.
pp
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
130
Hn. 1
p
mp
p
Hn. 2
ppp

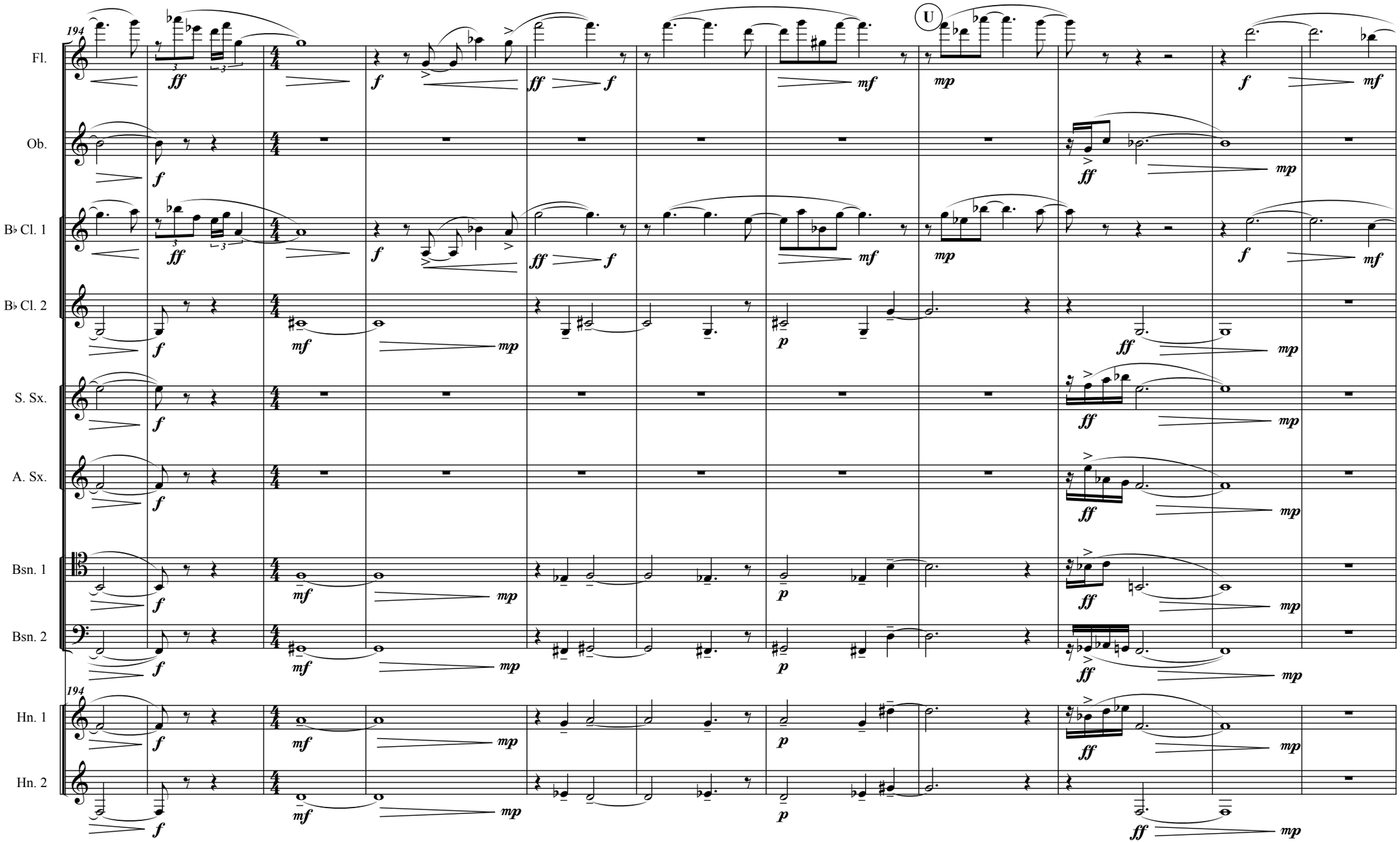

140
N
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
p
mp
mf
f
pp
cresc.

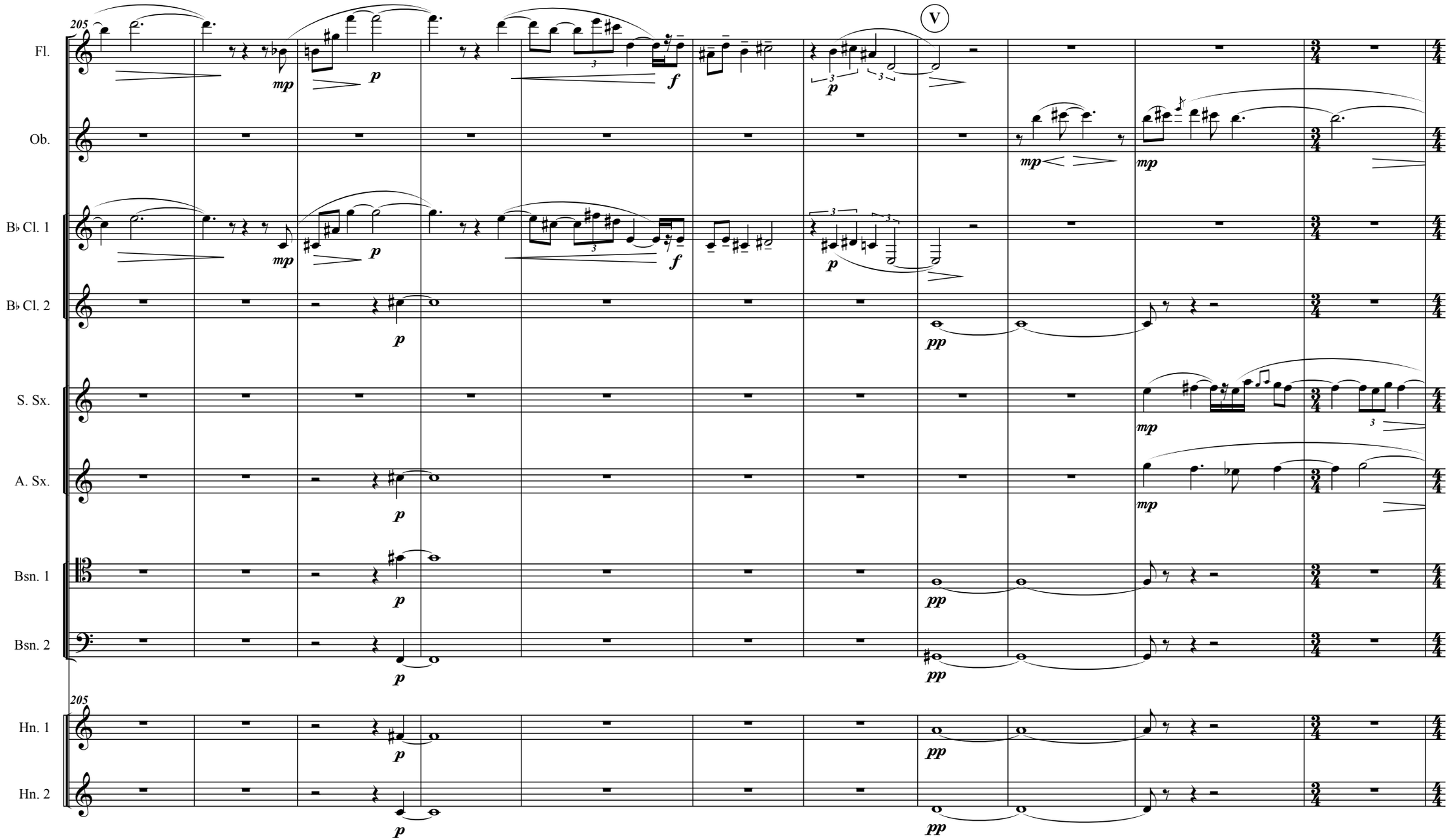

♪ = ♪ = 152
148
O
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mp
f
ff
mf

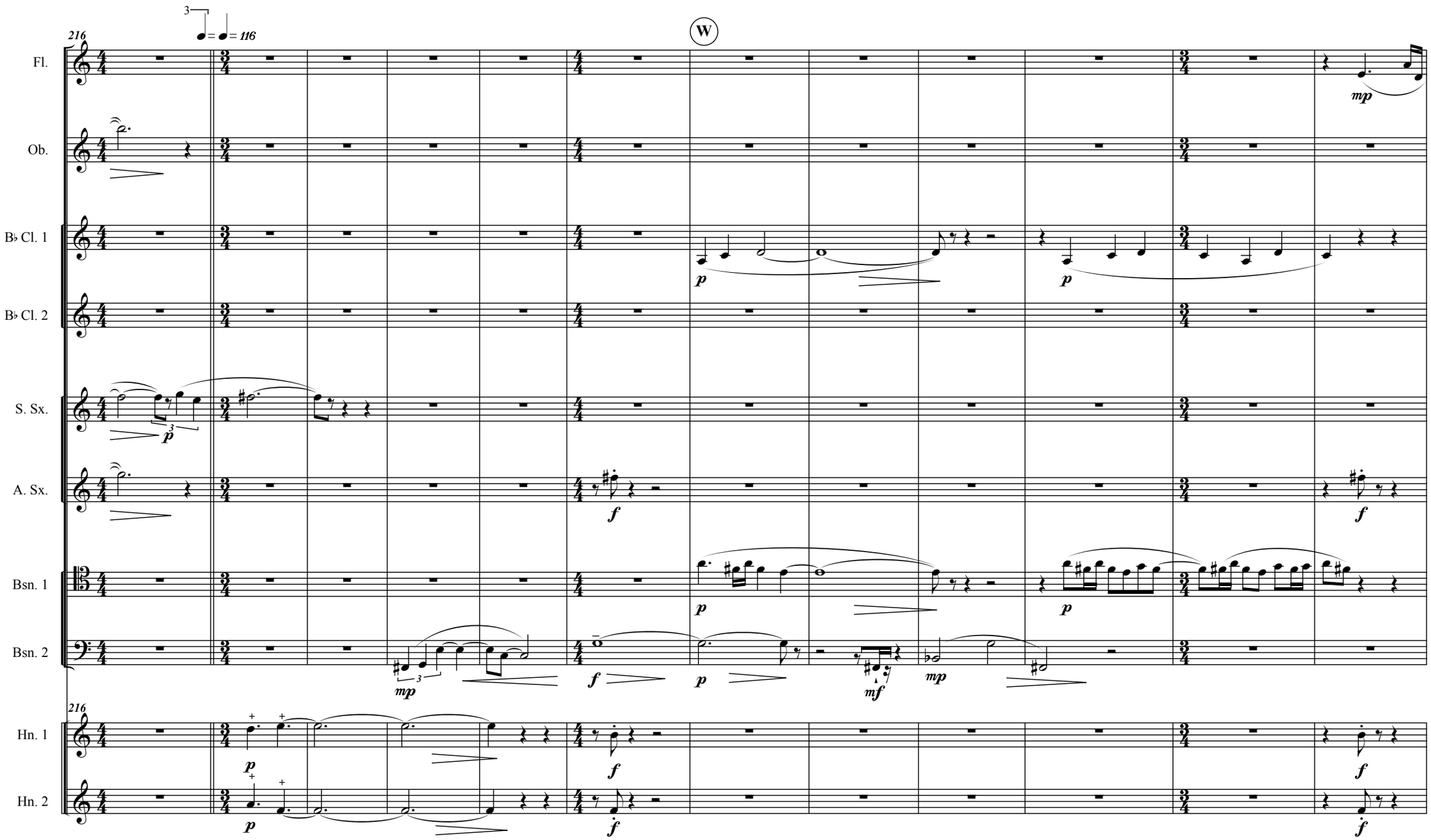

159
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
P
Q
ff
f
mf
mp
p
pp

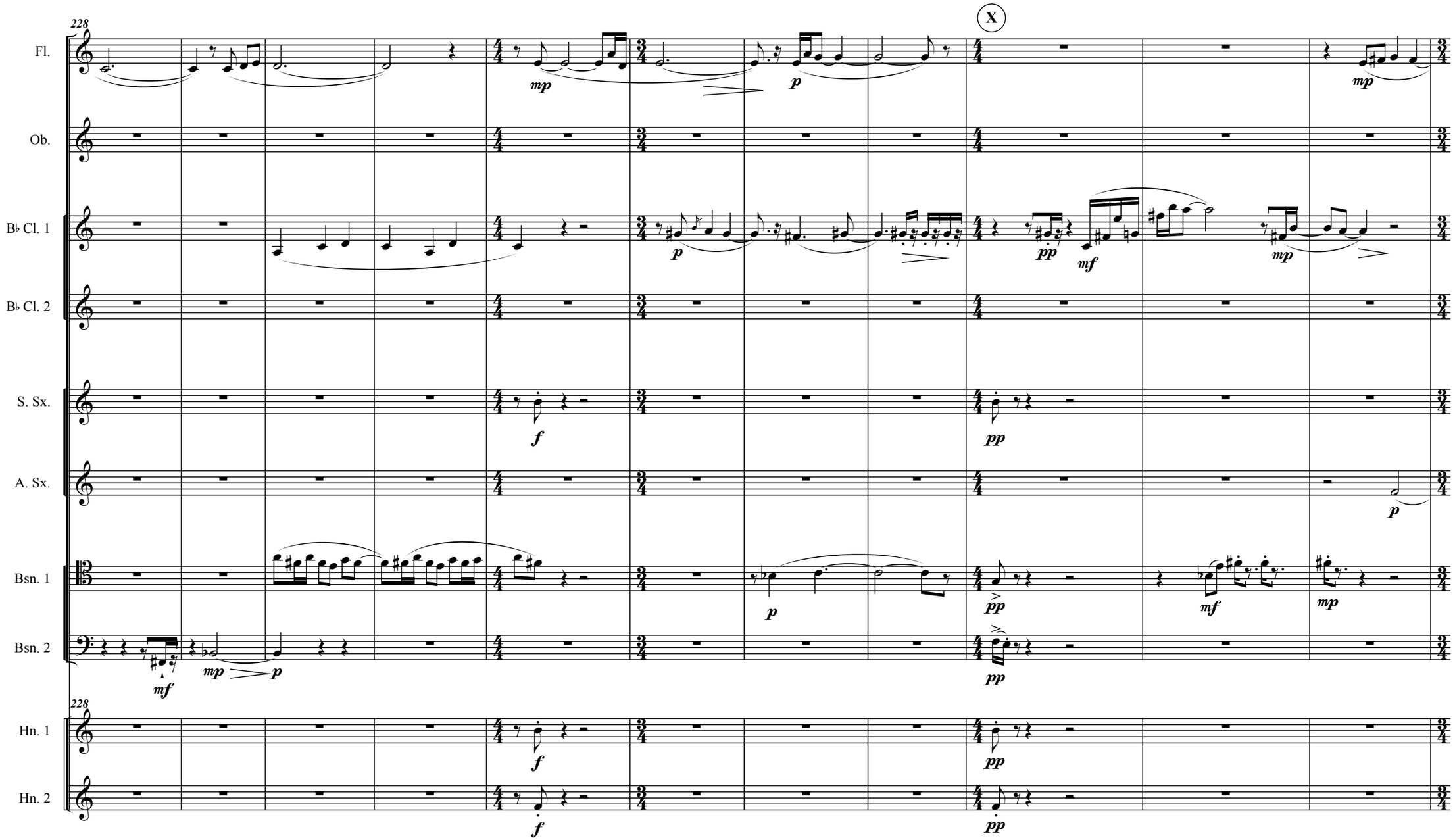

S
170
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
cresc.
sub.

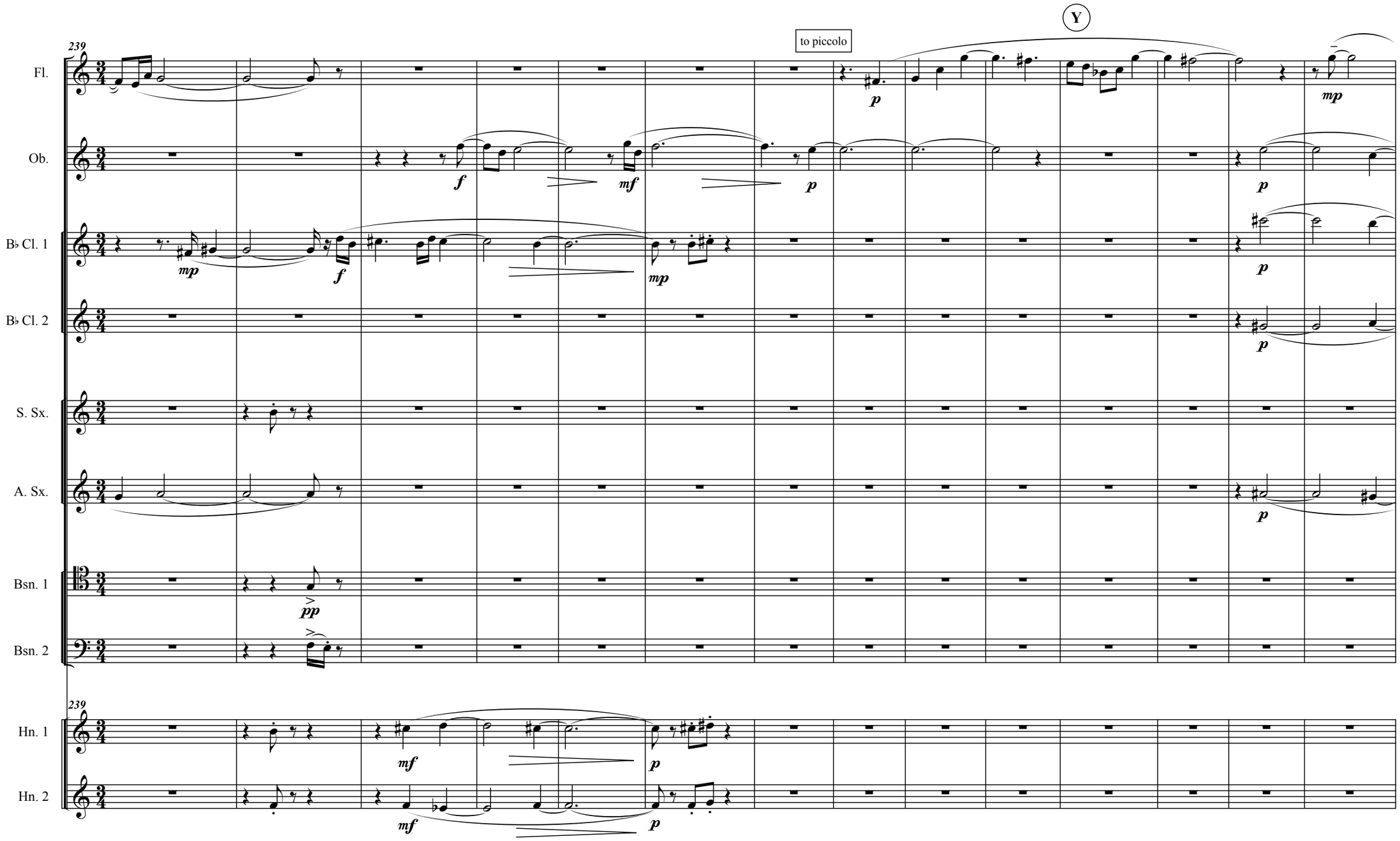

183
T
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
183
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mf
f
ff
fff

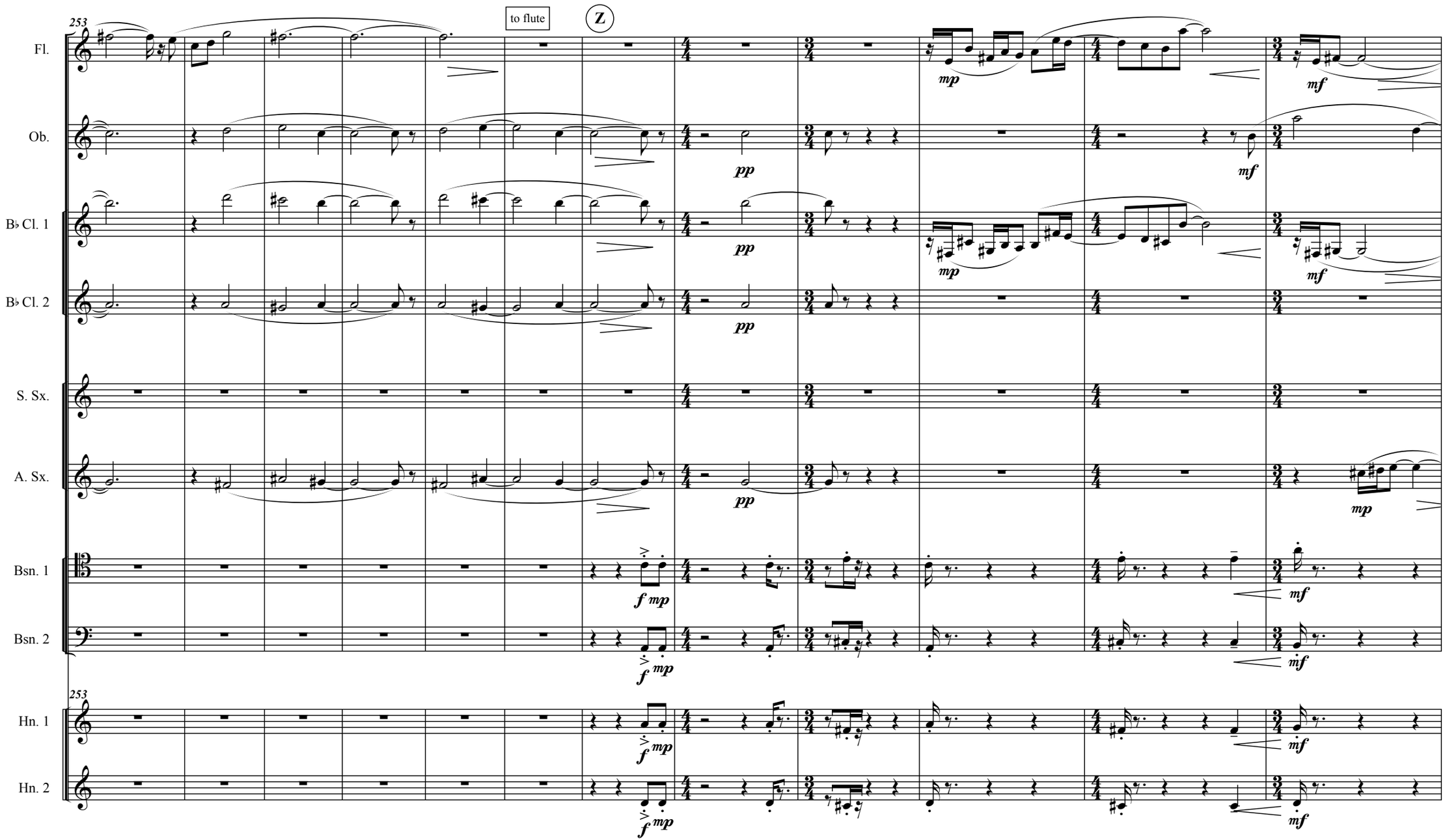

194
U
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
194
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

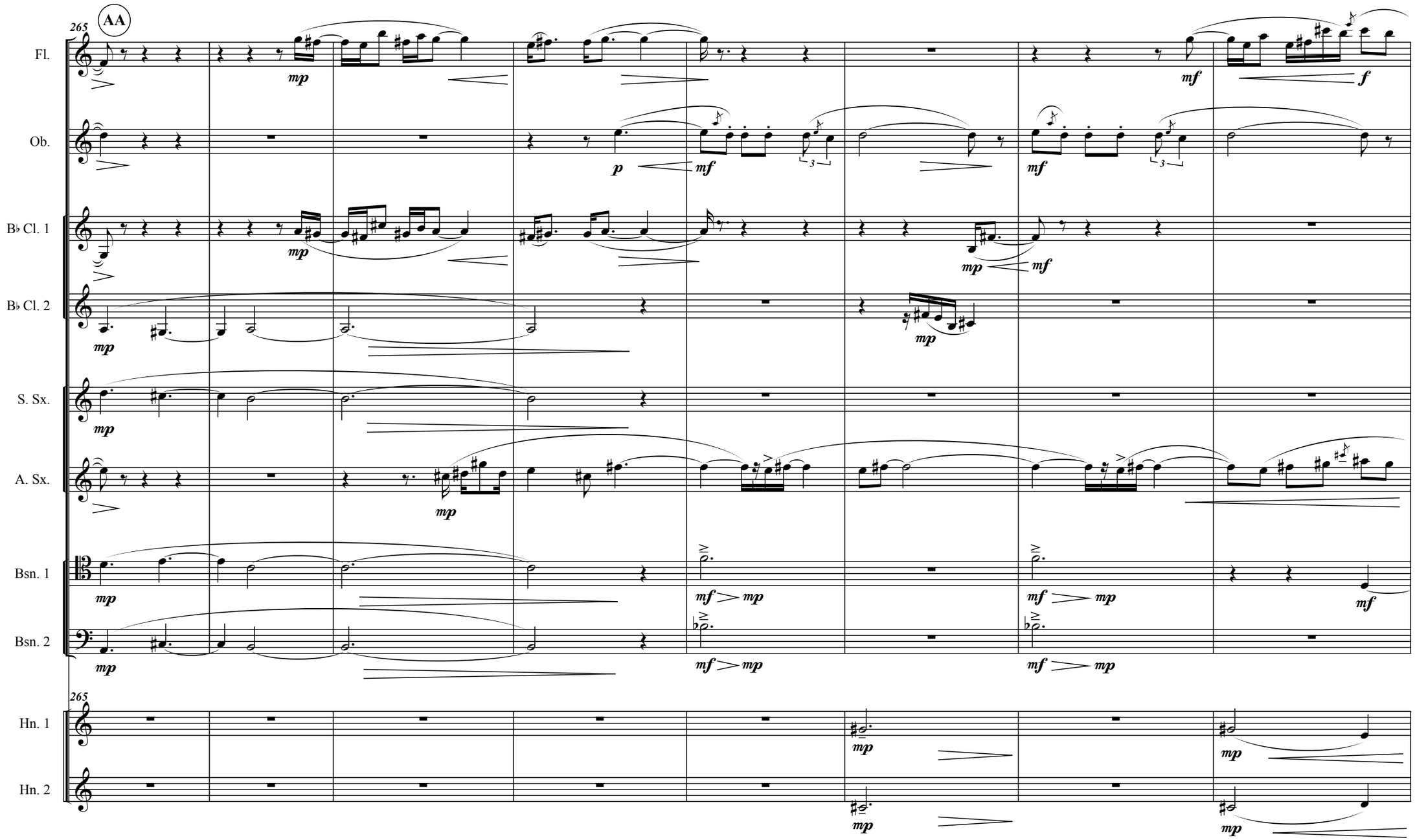

205
V
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
205
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

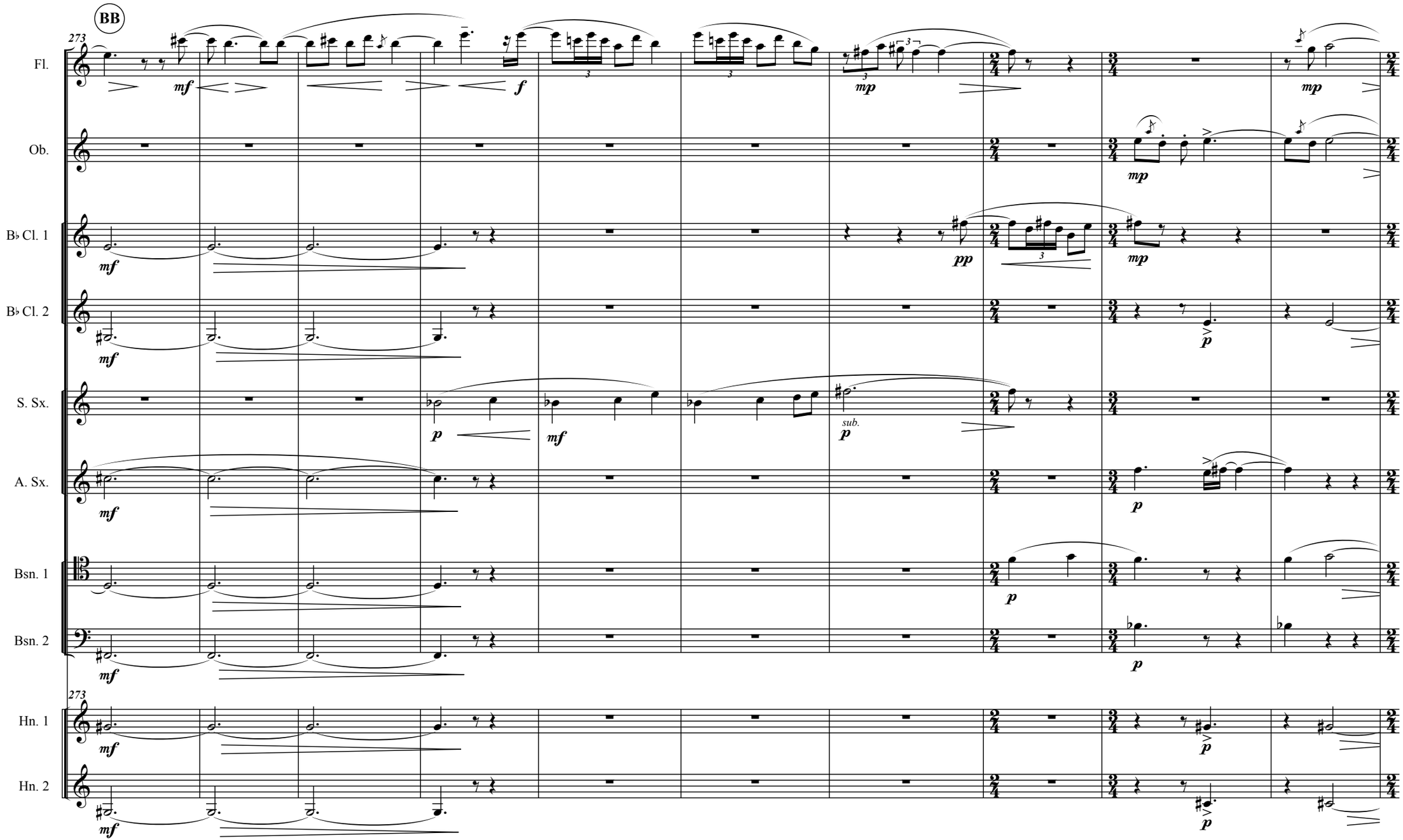

216
3
= = 116
W
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mp
p
f
mf

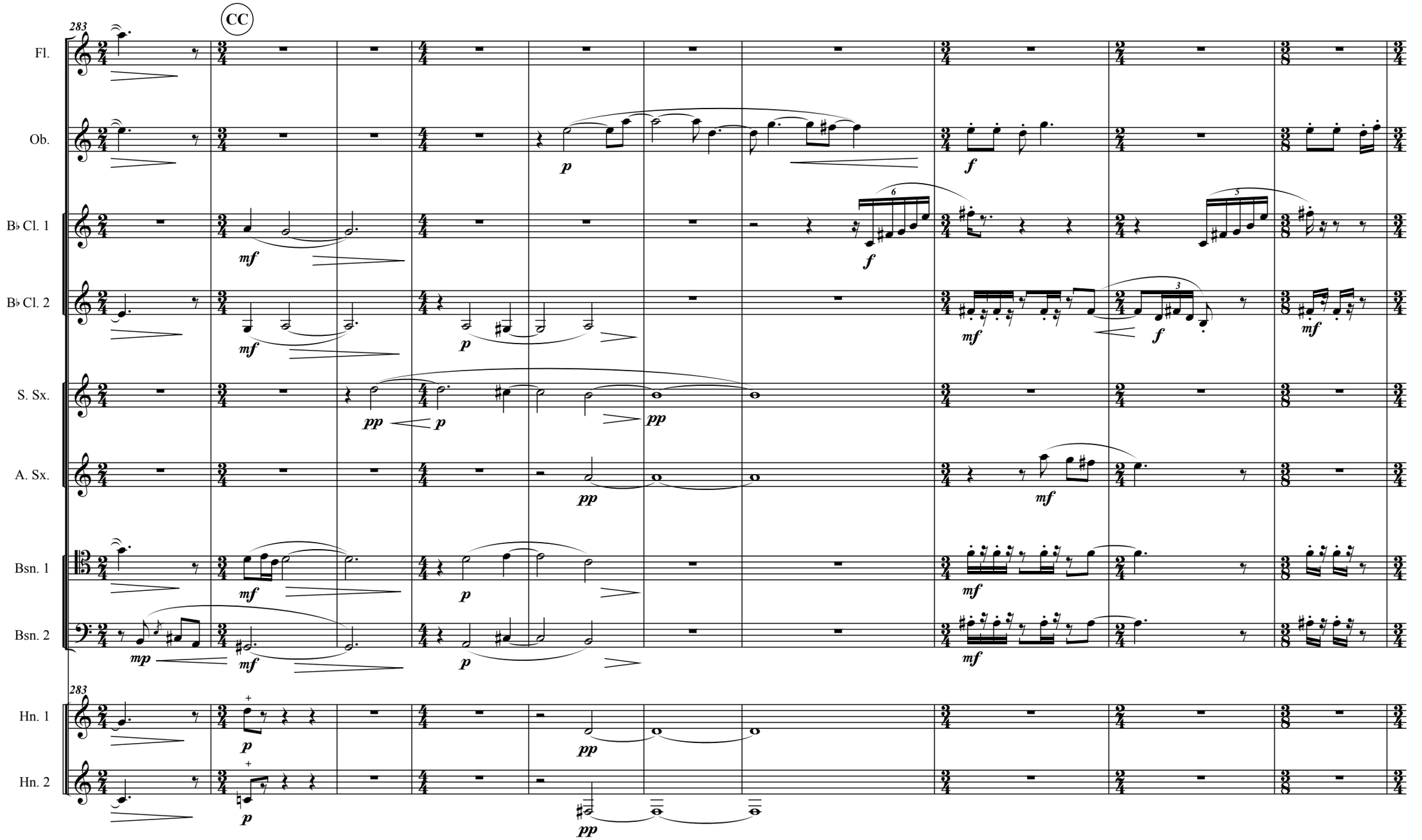

228
X
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
228
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

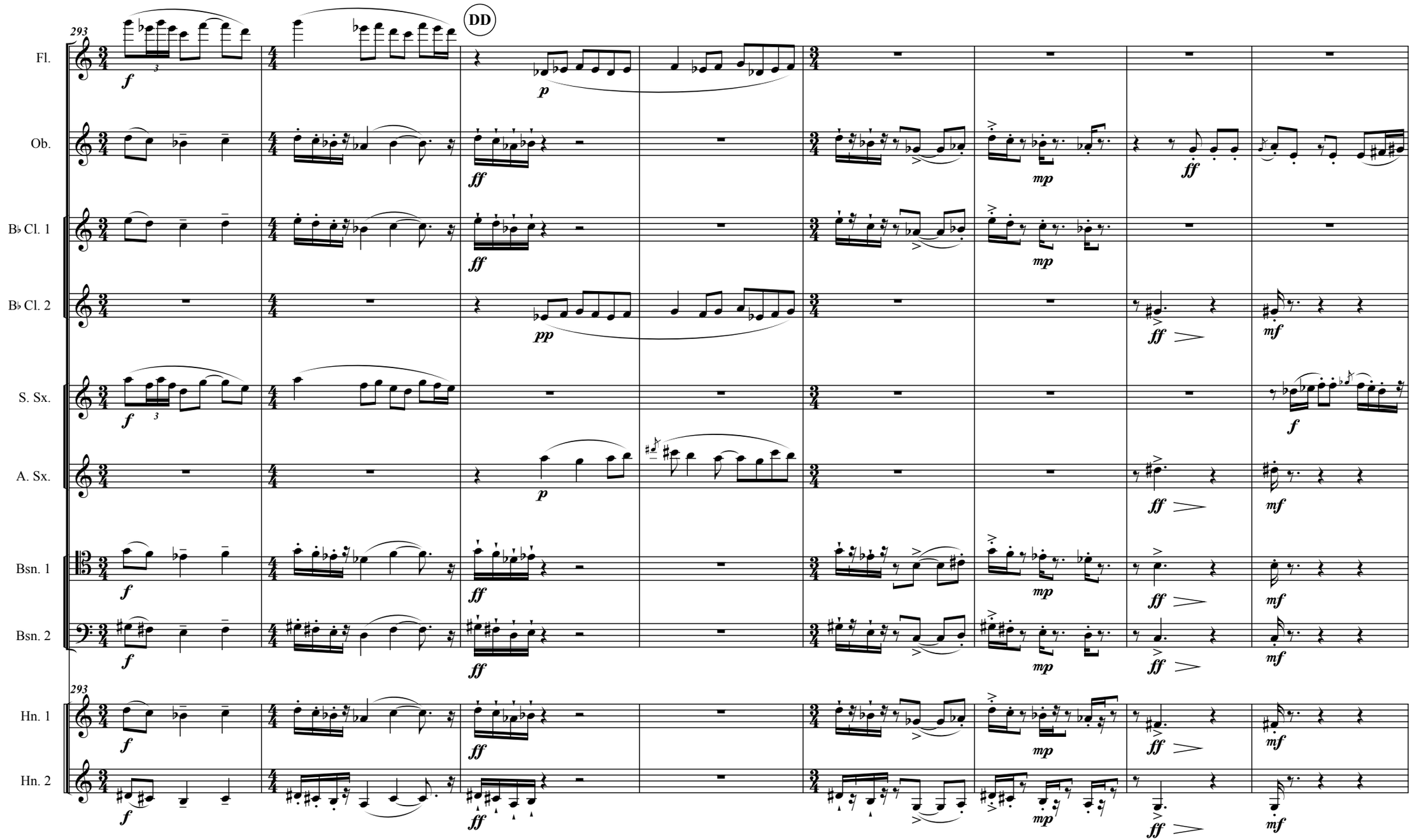

239
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
to piccolo
Y
p
mp
f
mf
pp

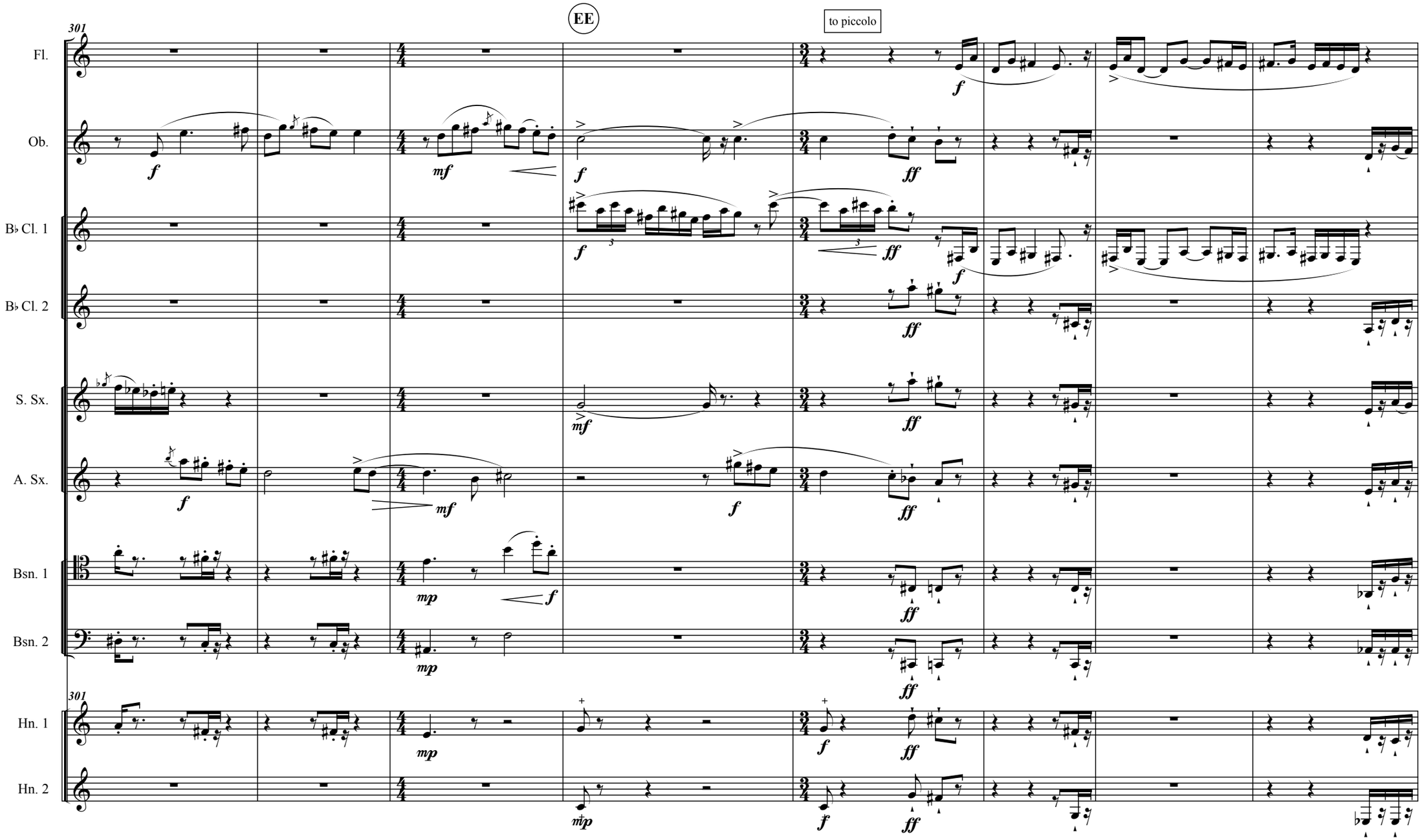

253
to flute
Z
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mp
mf
pp
f mp

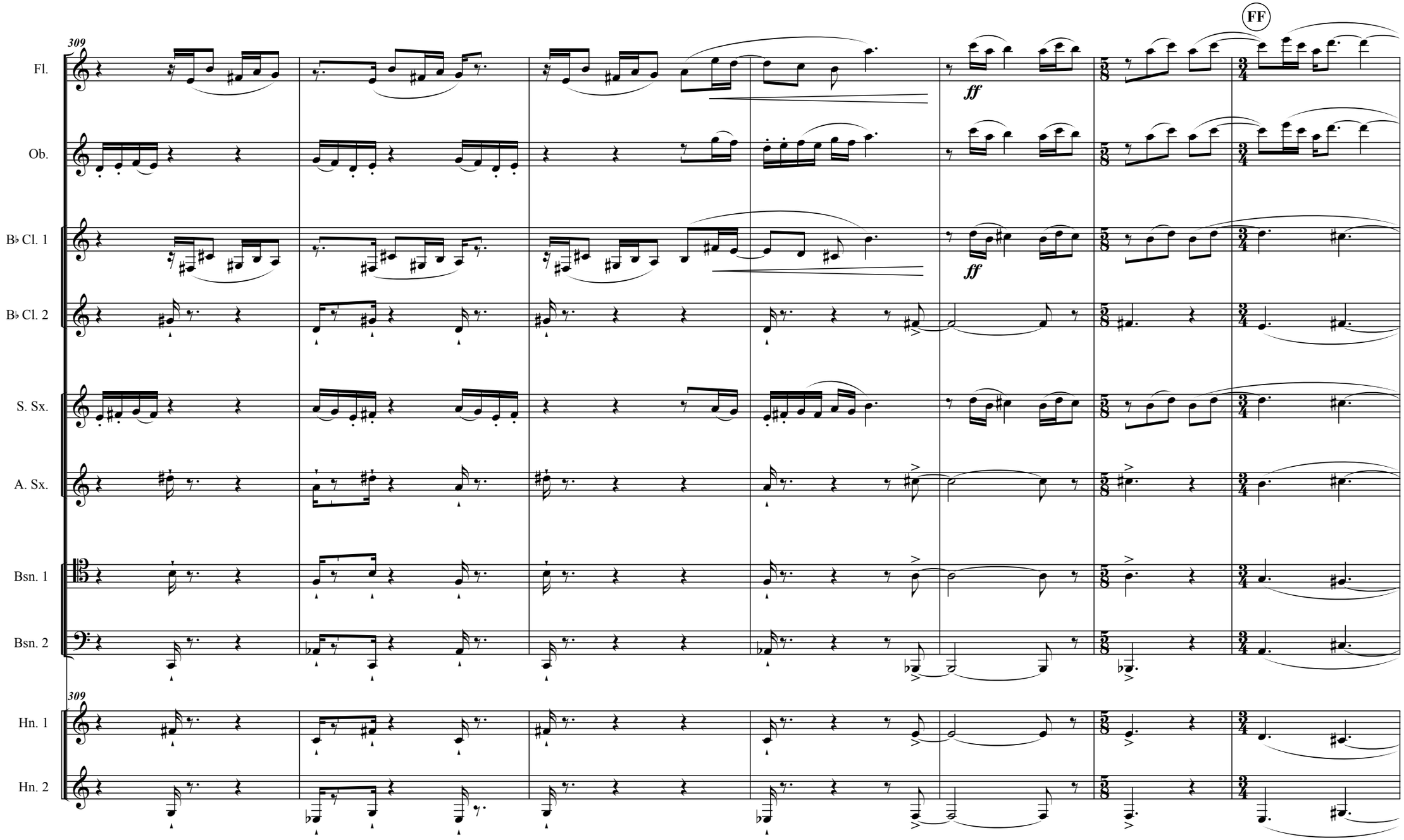

AA
265
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mp
mf
p
f

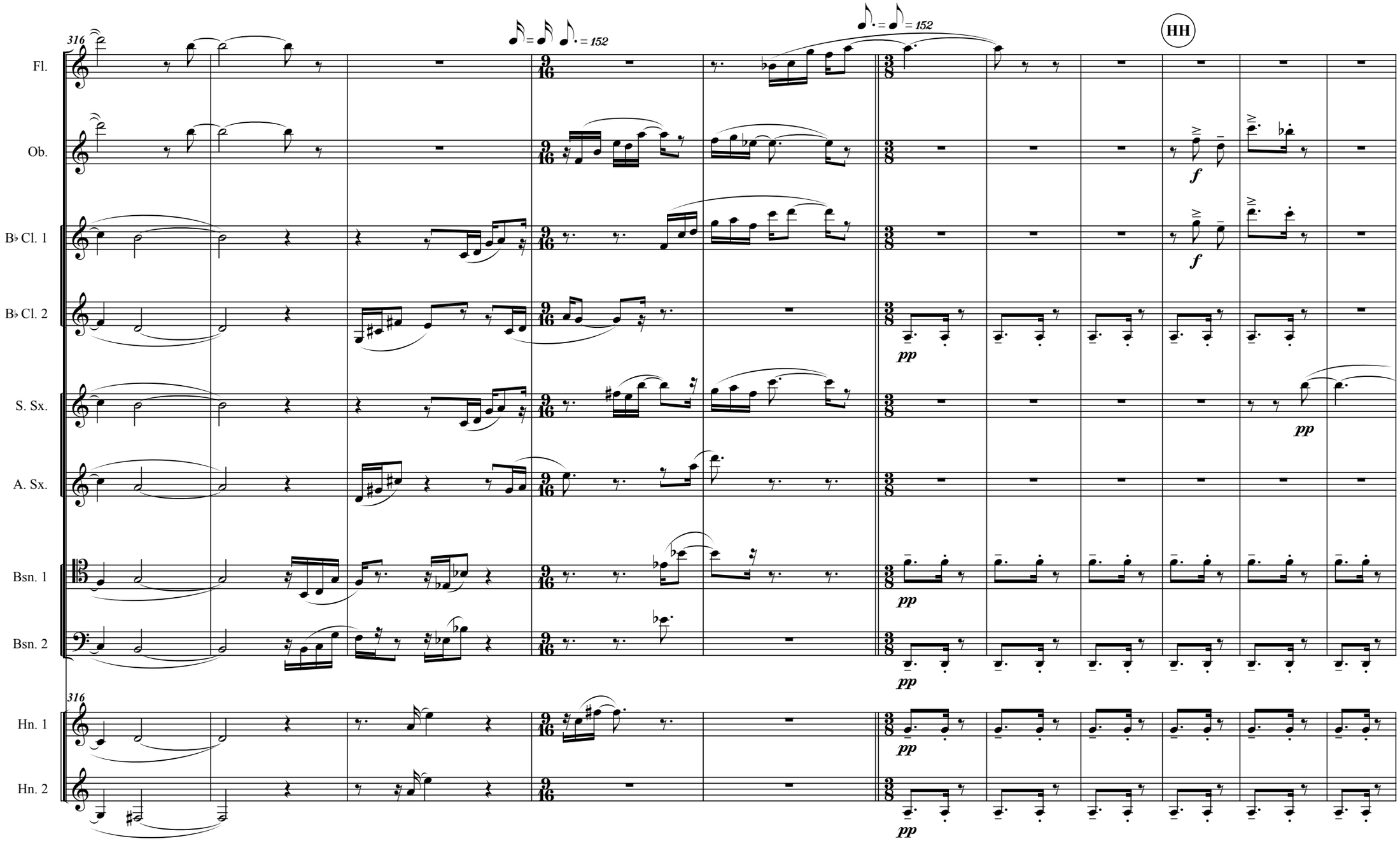

BB
273
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
mf
f
mp
pp
p
sub.

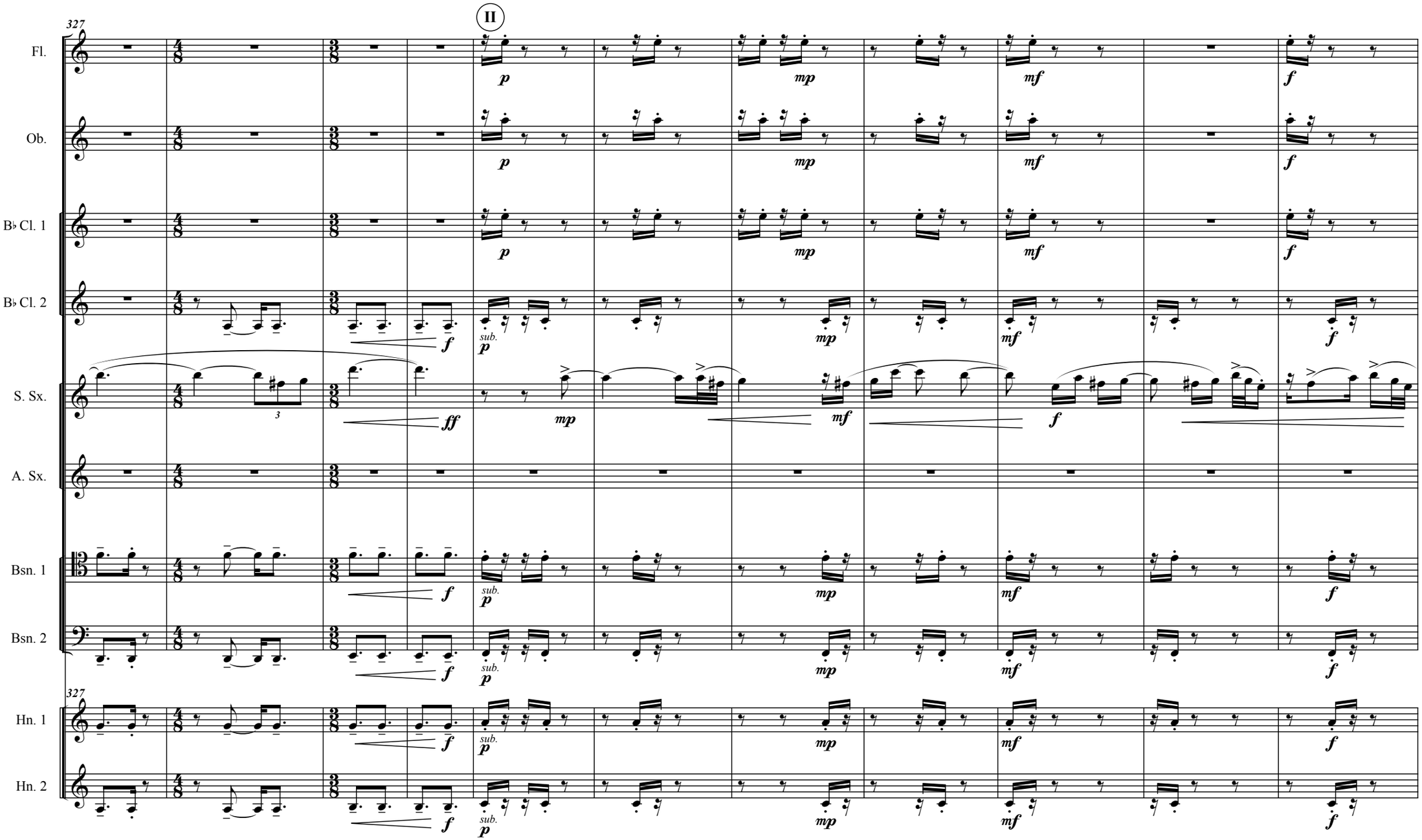

283
CC
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
283
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

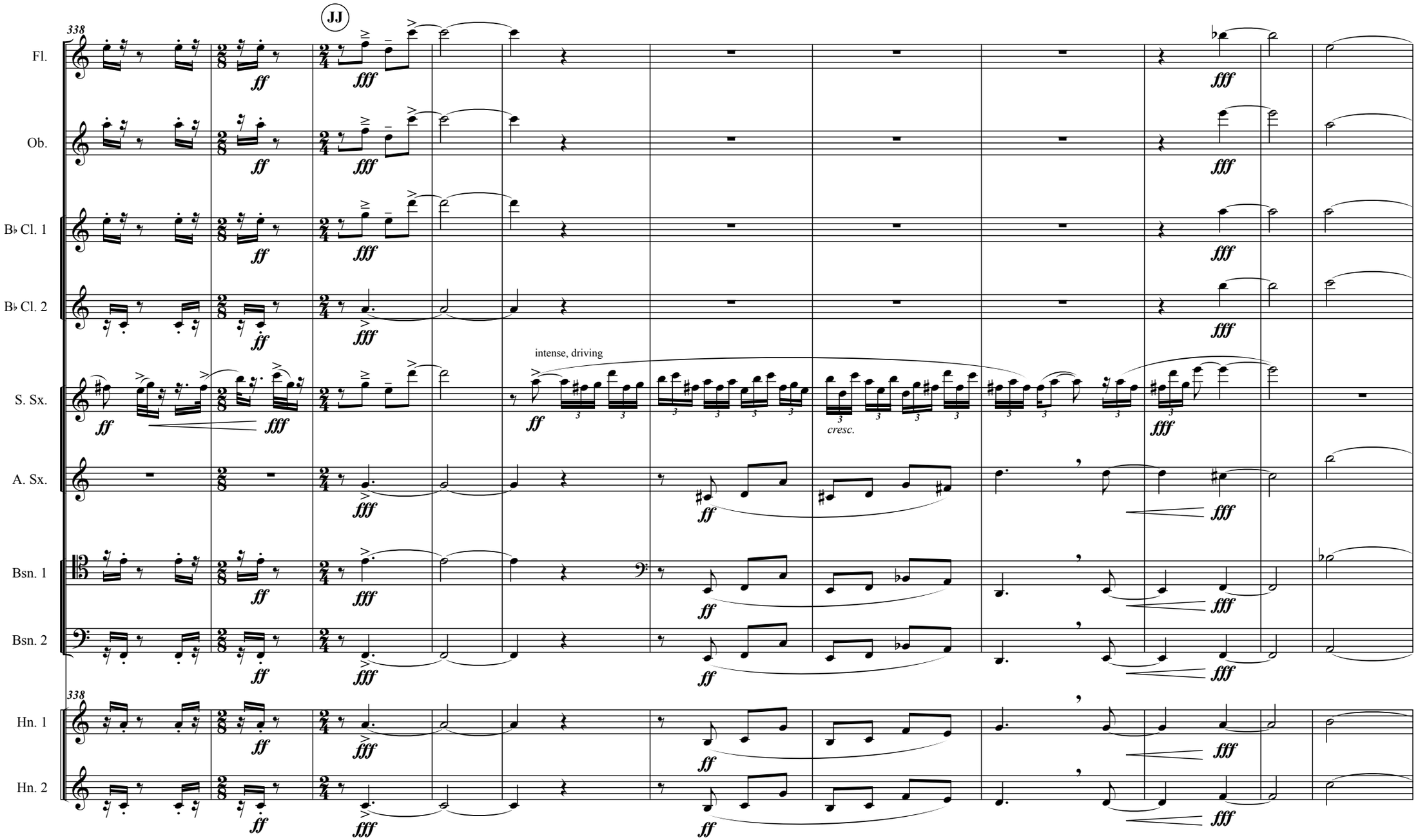

293
DD
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
293
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

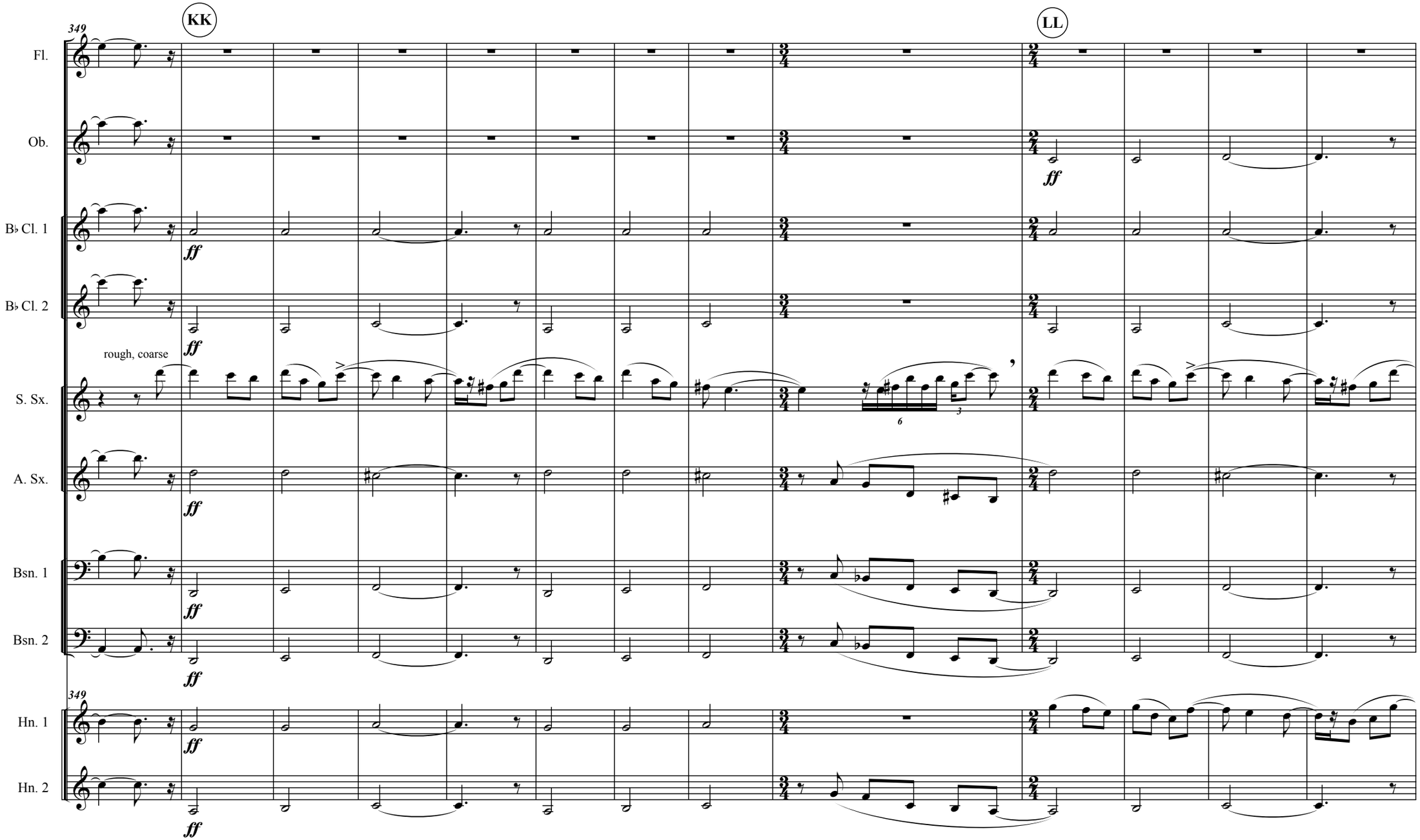

301
EE
to piccolo
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
301
Hn. 1
Hn. 2

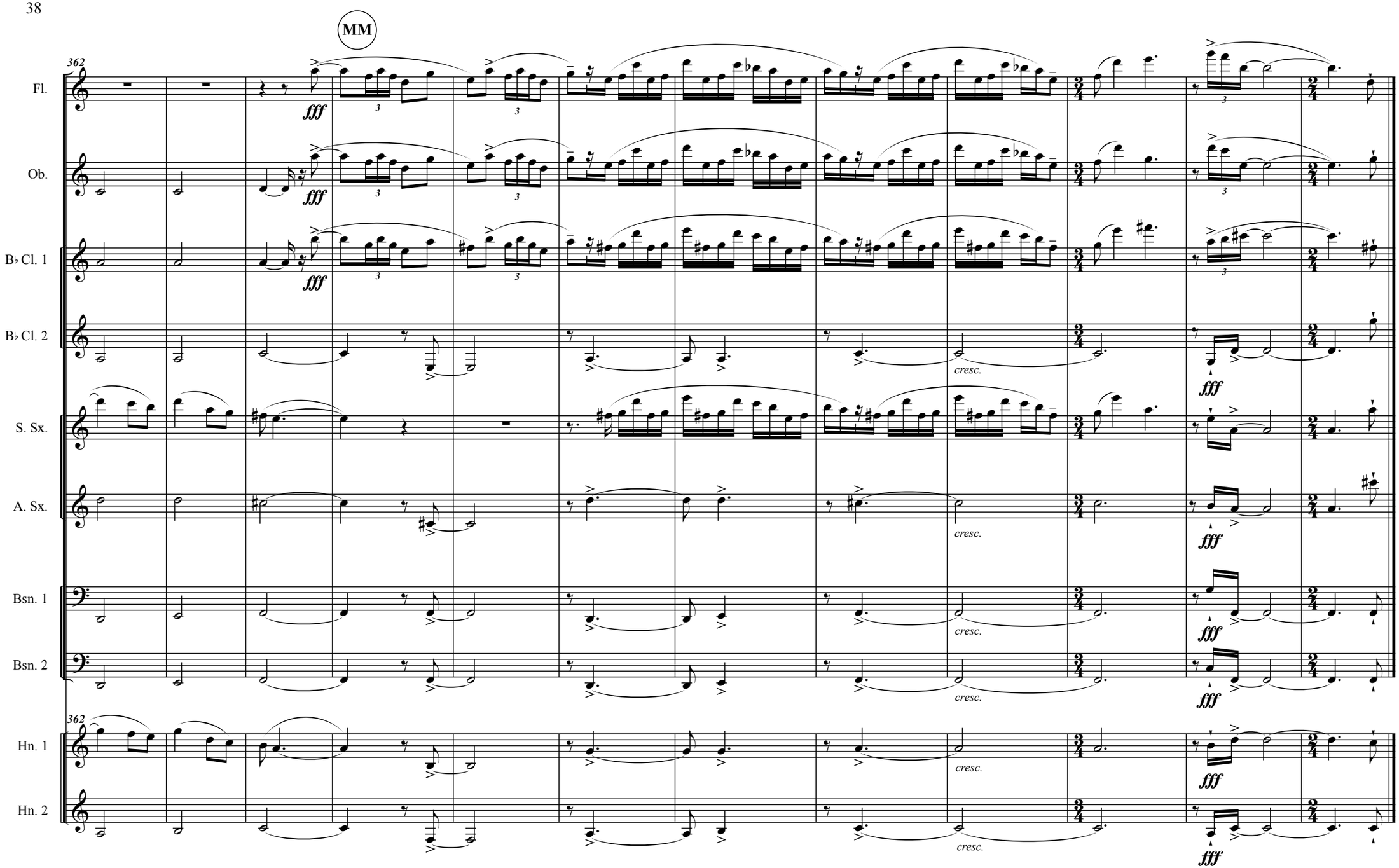

FF
309
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
309
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
ff
ff


316
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
= 152
= 152
HH
f
f
pp
pp
pp
pp
pp
pp


327
II
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
p
mp
mf
f
sub.
ff
3


338
JJ
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
ff
fff
intense, driving
cresc.


349
KK
LL
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
rough, coarse
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
349
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
ff


MM
362
Fl.
Ob.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2
S. Sx.
A. Sx.
Bsn. 1
Bsn. 2
Hn. 1
Hn. 2
fff
cresc.